

CONNECTION

A \$50,000 pitch

Owners of Kickers to transform Diamonds into 'high energy' sports bar

Roman feast Antonio's Cucina Italiana,

Antonio's Cucina Italiana, located on Canton Center just south of Ford Road, invites the public to a "Roman Feast" — a special evening of food and wine beginning at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 22. It will be a celebration of the best of Italian culture and family cooking with an Italian Roman feast.

Enjoy a four-course menu of Antonio's signature foods paired with great wine — featuring the awardwinning wine of Celani Family Vineyards of Napa Valley, which is owned by Vicki and Tom Celani who will be the special guests.

Proceeds from the event will benefit survivors of the recent earthquake that devastated much of the Italian countryside.

Space is limited for the event, so call for reservations at (734) 981-9800.

Indigo Girls

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The Indigo Girls, who are on the road promoting their new release, Poseidon and the Bitter Bug, this spring/summer and will be in Ann Arbor on Wednesday, April 22, at the Michigan Theater. The group is partnering with the Humane Society of Huron Valley, which serves Canton Township, and are asking for donations of pet food. According to a statement, the

Indigo Girls realize many p owners have be faced with tough

realize many pet owners have been faced with tough decisions about

caring foi

their pets

BY TONY BRUSCATO

A new fare and flair will be coming to the Canton Sports Center restaurant next month.

The owners of Kickers Restaurant in Livonia — Billy and Pete Stoyanovich — will turn the current Diamonds eatery into a sports venue at the end of May.

"We're going to be adding 25 plasma TVs, have tent parties and bring in live bands to create some energy," said Duane Owens, marketing and promotions manager for Kickers. "There will also be a new menu there, including our house favorite at Kickers, prime rib.

"While Kickers is the ultimate first date with the dining room, comedy and dance club, the new restaurant will be a dress casual, high energy sports bar," he said.

Canton Leisure Services Director

Ann Conklin said the contract for Diamonds ends May 25 and the township decided to go out for bid. She said the owners of Kickers developed a strong proposal.

"Their financials were stronger, their initial investment of capital was stronger and they are going to expand the business, which we thought was in the best interest of the Canton community," Conklin said. "They are going to spend \$50,000-\$60,000 on some major renovations. The new operators have an intent to capitalize on what surrounds the restaurant — the softball diamonds owned by the township and the privately run ice rink and soccer facilities — with a strong sports theme."

Diamonds restaurant is open from 4-11 p.m. and closes several days a week during the winter season. Kickers owners plan to expand the menu to include lunch, possibly breakfast during the softball season, and stay open all year long. That could mean more revenue for Canton Township, which has owned the softball complex since 1999.

"We are guaranteed \$55,000 a year from Kickers or 13 percent of the gross sales," Conklin said. "The best we've ever made is \$50,000, and Diamonds only offered us 10 percent of the gross.

"The Kickers people have great ideas to open for lunch, which is a great opportunity for added revenue," she said. "And they're talking about adding comedy and cross promotions with the Village Theater (at Cherry Hill)."

Owens said community involvement will be a part of the plan for the new restaurant, just as at Kickers which allows nonprofit groups to raise money by selling tickets for comedy nights.

"The typical nonprofit makes

\$1,500-\$4,000 an event," said Owens. "Last year, nonprofits raised over \$300,000. We'll be doing something similar for nonprofit groups in Canton at the new restaurant."

The name of the restaurant has yet to be established. Owens said they will take over May 26 and begin operations May 29 in outdoor tents while renovations inside take place. He said the restaurant should be open the first week of June.

The restaurant name Kickers has significance for the Stoyanovich brothers. The Crestwood High School graduates both went on to become college football kickers — Pete at Indiana University and Billy at Michigan State. Pete Stoyanovich played in the NFL with the Miami Dolphins, Kansas City Chiefs and St. Louis Rams, while Billy kicked in the Arena Football Team. Both wore No. 10.

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



'Rocky Dust Gal'

Local distributor's organic products replenish the soil

BY KURT KUBAN OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Earth Day is a big deal to Maria Wine. In fact you might even say taking care of the planet is a 365day-a-year effort for the Canton resident and mother of four.

While she does all the things most environmentally-conscious people do, such as recycle and conserve on water, she is also concerned about the soil. That is why a couple of years ago, she decided to start using organic fertilizer in her garden. In particular, she started using Gaia Green products, which she discovered during a trip to Canada. The Western Canadian-based company sells a number of oddsounding products, including fruit bat guano and worm castings - in other words, bat and worm excrement - and glacial rock dust. Wine had such success with the products, she decided to start selling them here in America, and she is now the only distributor in the entire Midwest. The products have received Michigan Department of Agriculture approval and are safe to use anywhere in your garden or lawn "My kids and our pets run around outside all summer long. I don't have to worry about them getting sick from any chemicals because there are no chemicals in these products. Everything is natural," said the 52-year-old Wine, who lived in Plymouth before moving to

GAIA GREEN PRODUCTS

Canton's Maria Wine is the Midwest's only distributor of the Gaia Green products. Her organic products can be purchased at Plymouth Nursery and Lucas Nursery in Canton, or can be ordered directly through her by calling (734) 667-2936 or e-mailing rockdustgal@yahoo.com. For more

Indigo Girls

due to foreclo-

sures and job losses, the same reason the HSHV started a pet food assistance program last October called Bountiful Bowls.

"Michigan has been one of the hardest hit states in this recession, and we've seen a large increase in pets being relinquished because of economic circumstances. It's heartbreaking for people to lose a job and then have to decide if they can afford to keep their pet," said Deb Kern, marketing director of HSHV.

Items most sought by the HSHV include high quality, nutritional dry cat and dog food in small bags (i.e., Science Diet, Iams, Eukanuba, Purina), high quality canned cat food, and gift cards to pet supply stores.

To learn more about the HSHV and Bountiful Bowls pet food assistance program, including how to apply to receive the supplements, visit www.hshv.org or call (734) 662-5585. For more information about the Indigo Girls and their tour, visit www.indigogirls.com.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Maria Wine, known as the 'Rock Dust Gal,' distributes worm castings and bat guano, as well as glacial rock dust.

information about the products, visit www.gaiagreen.com.

Canton. "In fact, my kids really like to help me apply the products to our garden. We mix a few spoonfuls of rock dust in potted plants, around flowers and just sprinkle it into the grass."

According to Wine, adding Glacial Dust (mineral-rich sediment collected from the remnants of receding glaciers) to the soil, for example, isn't just good for the soil — its minerals are also excellent for the plants that grow in the soil. That means it's great for gardens and ultimately those who eat the produce.

"Instead of giving your kid a vitamin, you give this stuff to your plants and they will be healthy the way they should be. It will be healthy food," she said.

Having grown up on a 50-acre farm just outside of Ann Arbor, Wine has always had an appreciation for the relationship people have

Please see GREEN, A7

Volunteers needed to repair homes owned by seniors

Index

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BY TONY BRUSCATO OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's Extreme Makeover Home (Canton) Edition. Similar to the popular Sunday night ABC television show, in which a crew is given a week to rebuild a home for a needy family, Canton's Christmas in Action chapter does much of the same type of work — but in one day.

"It's the fifth year we've been doing it," said Jim Cisek, president of the Canton Christmas in Action chapter. "So far we've repaired 37 houses absolutely free of charge for financially strapped senior citizens or somebody severely handicapped.

"Sometimes all we do is repair flower beds, rake and cut bushes," he added. "At some homes we replace asphalt and concrete driveways, put in new hot water tanks and furnaces or install new windows ... whatever it takes to help somebody in need."

What it does take is plenty of volunteers. Depending on the weather, Cisek said they get from 100-250 people to help on the one-day project. Christmas in Action is looking for volunteers to meet at Canton Township Hall at 7 a.m.

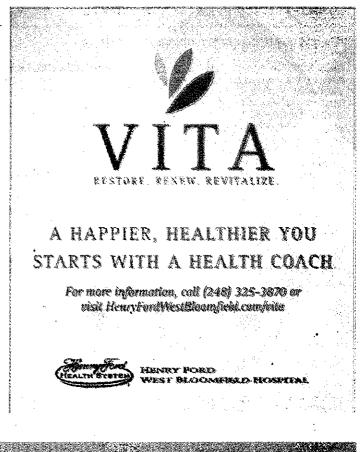


Volunteers for Canton's Christmas in Action chapter pose in front of one of the 37 homes they have fixed up over the last four years. They will be at it again on Saturday, and are in need of more volunteers.

Saturday for a work day that will end at 5 p.m. "We're looking for skilled and unskilled volunteers," Cisek said. "We also get teens who need

Please see VOLUNTEERS, A7

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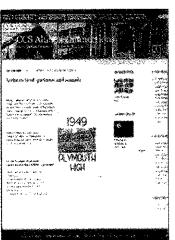


LOCAL NEWS

online at hometownlife.com



615 West Lafavette Detroit MI 48226



The school district's new Web site is aimed at bringing alumni into the fold. or Mark Even lit cigars to cel-

District launches Web site aimed at P-CCS alumni

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

When the Plymouth-Canton school district launched its new alumni Web site recently, there's no evidence Steven Sneideman

ebrate the birth. But the pair undoubtedly felt like proud new parents. Sneideman, a Board of Education trustee, and Even, the district's technology consultant, were the driving forces behind P-CCS Alumni Connections, a Web site the

Onwireless

district hopes will draw interest - and, to a lesser extent, perhaps some donations - from alumni around the country.

"It started out as being about money, maybe, but then [] we realized how much more it could do," said Even, a P-CCS alum himself. "There's a lot (on the site) already, and yet comparatively speaking (to what it could become), there's almost nothing there. The 10 structure is there and now we can keep filling up the container. It's exciting.

The previous board had added a development (fundraising) position, but it was cut in a round of budget reductions. The district's development budget dropped ** from \$175,000 to some \$50,000, according to Sneideman.

Since Sneideman had an interest in that area, he start- $w_{\rm c}$ ed looking into ways to manage it in the tighter economy. One of the things he discovered, he said, was the district wasn't doing much reaching out to alumni.

Sneideman believed alumni were an important asset, not 🗍 just for donations, but for things like guidance and even job opportunities for current students.

"We didn't have a good mechanism for reaching out," Sneideman said. "We wanted ... to continue alumni reachout, not just for money, but to bring them back in for other τ_{1} things. (But) it needed to be done at low cost or no cost." N.

Using a printed newslet- \mathcal{D} ter was cost-prohibitive, Sneideman pointed out, so attention went to the Internet, where the district already had a Web site. What the district also had was a contract with Harris Connect Inc., a Virginia firm that put together a 2007 Alumni Directory.

The company had its own Web site and, maybe more importantly, some 8,000 email addresses for alumni That got Sneideman and an ad hoc committee thinking 10 about an electronic newsletter. Mark Even looked at a

Introducing Friends& Famil

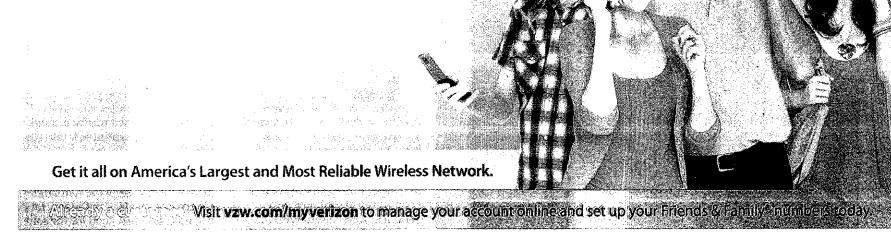
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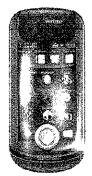
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variety of universities and other entities to see how such $_{\odot}$ a thing was done.

Eventually, the official home page for Plymouth-Canton alumni was born. The page offers sections for alumni "what are you doing" notes, historical archives (there's one cool video from 1945 put to music from the same era), image, video, audio, newspaper stories and alumni "Memories."

There's also a place where the district partners with the Educational Excellence Foundation so alumni can donate to the district. And all submitted information flows through Harris Connect's Web site as a sort of filter, from which school district officials pick and choose to add to their site.

"Harris is doing the heavy lifting," Even said. "Harris already had the whole mechanism set up ... it was easy to use that service."

One of the things Even likes about the site is the way it can get even current students involved. The district's video team, a Web team and photography students have all contributed to the site, and some history students will produce a special project over the summer, Even said.

Goals for the site, according to Sneideman, include building an Alumni Committee, offering online merchandising opportunities, coordinating reunions, establishing links with online social networking sites such as Facebook and MySpace. com, and expanding student

com, and expanding student involvement. "We hope to load it with more and more content," Sneideman said. "We don't know what alumni have in their attics. I'm sure they have some pretty good stuff. It will be a growing, breathing thing we hope will continue." Check out the site at www. alumni-plymouth-canton-schools.net.

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Plymouth High fundraiser

The Plymouth High School baseball and football boosters will host a Texas Hold 'em fund-raiser April 23-30 at the Shark Club on Ford Road in Canton. The event will feature cash games and blackjack, and will have cash payout to players. The PHS baseball and football programs receive 50 percent of the proceeds. Times for the fund-raiser are Saturday and Sunday from 4 p.m.-2 a.m. and Monday through Thursday 6 p.m.-2 a.m

Year in review

The Canton Board of Trustees will host a study session at 7 p.m., on Tuesday evening. The main topic of discussion will be to review 2008. They will specifically look at the performance of the Public Safety and Human Resources departments and the executive director, John Santomauro.

Leisure Services registration

Canton residents can begin registering for spring/summer 2009 Leisure Services programs and classes online starting Wednesday, April 22, at 6 p.m. Interested individuals can register at http://leisure.canton-mi.org, where complete course descriptions are also available in the Discover catalog, which was recently mailed to Canton residents.

Road rally

Leadership Canton's upcoming Road Rally fund-raiser will take place Saturday, April 25 at 5:30 p.m. at the Rotary Clock in Heritage Park. Leadership Canton is raising money for First Step (www. firststep-mi.org), Open Door Ministry (www.opendoorfoodministry.com) and Leadership Canton Alumni Fund.

The fee is \$35 per person and includes road rally, Tshirt, dinner and refreshments. The rally is limited to 30 cars, with 4-6 passengers per car (minimum of four people per car). There are still sponsorship, participant and sign maker opportunities available.

For more information about the event visit http://roadrally. cantonchamber.com, or contact Deb Zevalkink at (734) 394-5188.

Senior safety meeting

Relations Coordinator, will coordinate all Senior Safety Coalition meetings. This month's agenda will include an update on community policing, and address any comments and concerns.

Lincoln/Reagan Day dinner

The Wayne 11th **Congressional District Republican Committee** (Wayne 11th CDRC), which serves Canton. Garden City. Livonia, Northville, Northville Township, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Redford and Westland, will host a fund-raising Lincoln/Reagan Day dinner on April 30 at Laurel Manor, 39000 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia.

The evening's featured speaker is Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ron Weiser and the keynote speaker is Tim Skubick of Michigan Public Television's Off the Record. The doors open at 6 p.m. and the program begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$50 per person, \$90 per couple and a table of 10 is \$450.

Weiser, founder of the real estate company McKinley Associates, retired as the CEO and chairman in 2001 to become the U.S. Ambassador to the Slovak Republic. Since his return from the foreign service in 2005 he has been actively involved in political campaigns and non-profit work.

Skubick is anchor and producer of the weekly public TV series Off the Record. He has anchored this weekly public TV series since 1972 and is the longest serving member of the state capitol press corps. The show is seen on Michigan Public Television stations and has an audience of 100,000 viewers each week.

For more information or to buy tickets, contact Pattie Coughlin at (248) 474-3525 or Coughlanlvn@att.net, or Carl Berry at (734) 354-6075 or xcop97@wowway.com.

Little Lambs enrollment

Little Lambs Christian Preschool, which provides a Christ-centered education for 3, 4, and young 5 year olds, is now accepting applications for the 2009/2010 school year. Every Tuesday evening in April the school will host an



Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 19, 2009

cash bar along with the music of Mark Edwards (singer/ songwriter), The Shawn Riley Band (performing a tribute to the music of the fifties), The Paisley Fogg (featuring Motown and the sixties sounds of America), British Beat 66 (British invasion sixties music), and 2 Dayz Gone (eighties rock n' roll).

Tickets are \$20 and will be available at the door or in advance by contacting Tom Birchler at tbirchler@twmi. rr.com or John Birchler at johnbirchler@wideopenwest. com.

Farmers Market to open

Preparations are underway for the opening of the Canton Farmers Market third season on Sunday, April 26 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Bartlett-Travis House, located at 500 N. Ridge. It will then be open every Sunday from April 26-Oct. 25 rain or shine at this historic site.

New and returning vendors will offer a wide-variety of merchandise, as it becomes available, including: fresh fruits and vegetables, bread, baked goods, flowers, herbs, jellies, jams, cider, honey and much more. New vendors this season with Michigan-made products, include Aunt Violets Cottage offering mosaic tile work; Sansonetti Gourmet Foods offering pasta sauces, appetizers, mustards, barbecue sauces, salsa, and dipping oil; Sun River Natural offering homemade bath salts and lotions.

Returning vendors include Baubles by Barb, Boblin Honey, John the Wood Guy, Just for Fun, Kapnick Orchard, Linda's Lighthouse Beads, Paluch Farm, Parran's Greenhouse and Farm, Skin Essentials, Vena's Greenhouse and West Farm.

Special activities are planned for the opening including the Spice Up Your Summer Cook Off Series challenge, featuring the Best Burger Blowout, where all you closet chefs can show off your culinary skills. While at the market, be sure to purchase a Farmers Market tote made from recycled materials, while supplies. The public is encouraged to attend and there is no admission to enter the Market.

Canton Farmers Market is

always looking for new and unique vendors to add to our outdoor market, especially meat, cheese, seafood, and dairy vendors. Applications are still being accepted for the 2009 season. Vendor market applications and registration forms are available at leisure. canton-mi.org or by contacting the market manager at spavlo@canton-mi.org or (734) 398-5570 extension 5.

Relay fund-raiser

The Westwood Community Church is doing a Relay for Life fund-raiser on May 5 all day at Carvel Ice Cream, 41990 Ford Road, Canton. A percentage of the proceeds will go to Relay for Life, which is scheduled to take place May 16-17, 2009 at Heritage Park. For more information, call (734) 983-9120.

Teacher's art

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill will be showcasing the art works of a number of talented art teachers from the Plymouth-Canton Community School District. The exhibit, on display through April 26, features artwork from several gifted teachers representing all levels of the district from elementary to high school, as well as alternative education.

The Gallery@VT is featuring a selection of art in an array of media: paintings, sculptures, drawings, print making, fiber, mixed media, and photography. Many of the teachers are artists who exhibit frequently and are award-winning at the state and national levels. Many of these exhibited pieces will also be available for purchase.

The featured artists include Susan Fisher, Judy Hanson, Craig Linderman, and Graham Martin.

"This wide breadth of work on display exemplifies the many talents of the Plvmouth-Canton Community School District faculty," said Jennifer Tobin, Canton Arts Coordinator.

The exhibit is free and open to the public 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Monday-Friday, and during public performances at the theater. For more information call (734) 394-5300 or visit canton-mi.org/villagetheater.

plymouth.org.

Volunteers are sought to help clean up the shoulders along Geddes Road and Beck Road on Saturday, May 2, at 9 a.m. for the Adopt-A-Road program. Picking up the trash and debris from the roadside and ditches not only makes the area look better, it also cuts down on pollution of the soil and water that occurs during runoff.

Wayne County trash bags and reflective vests will be supplied for the morning event. Call Greg Greene at (734) 855-6192 or see www.

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gcgreene.biz for more information and to volunteer.

'The Pajama Game'

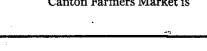
Local theater group Spotlight Players will present the musical comedy "The Pajama Game" between April 24 and May 9 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. Showtimes are 8 p.m. with a Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$13-\$18. To RSVP call (734) 394-5300.

Tickets can also be purchased online at www.spotlightplayersmi.org.

Concert to end hunger

The Birchler Family will host its "Jammin To End Famine" concert to benefit Kids Against Hunger (www. feedingchildren.org) on Friday, April 24 at Monaghan's Knights of Columbus, 19801 Farmington Road in Livonia (www.livoniakofc.com). Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Enjoy pizza, salad and a

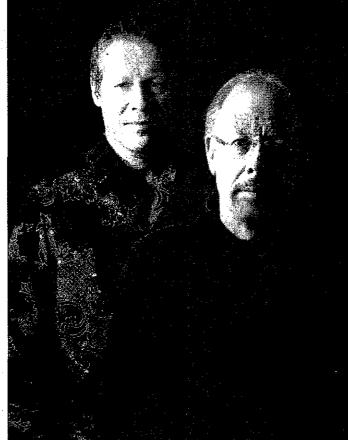
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The Tequila Mockingbirds

The Tequila Mockingbirds will bring their classic rock sound to Canton's Village Theater at Cherry Hill on Friday, May 1 as part of the theater's First Friday Concert series. Tickets for the show, which starts at 8 p.m., are \$12 and can be purchased online at www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater, at the Village Theater box office or at the front desk of the Summit on the Park. For more information on The Teguila Mockingbirds, visit the group's Web site at www.myspace.com/tmbirds.

open visitation between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. Contact Shari Jackson at (734) 414-7792 for more information. LLCP is located at 8500 N. Morton Taylor Road, just south of Joy Road, inside Charisma Life Church. You can visit the school's Web site at www.pbc-

Adopt-A-Road clean-up

The Canton Senior Safety Coalition will meet at 2 p.m., Wednesday, April 29 at the Canton Police Department, Conference Room C.

Sgt. Mark Gajeski, who is the department's Community





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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 19, 2009

EDUCATION

MEET THE CANDIDATES

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These are the profiles of the three candidates who are vying for the one-year term on the Wayne-Westland Board of Education in the May 5 school election. The candidates are incumbent Steve Becher and challengers Angela Hoops-Cossey and John Goci.

Goci: Business experience will benefit WW

1. Why are you seeking a position on the Wayne-Westland Board of Education?

I am committed to seeing our children reach their full potential. Giving back to the community means everything to me. My extensive business experiences give me insights into the financial and administrative sides of the school district. I will bring to the school board strong leadership skills, dedication, and the ability to solve problems effectively. 2. What qualities or skills do you believe you would bring to the board, if elected?

I will bring a business sense to the district and the community. My tireless work ethic with strong leadership, dedication and effective problem solving are skills I have developed and can offer as a school board member. I am the parent of middle school and elementary students, I understand the challenges facing our students.

3. What do you see as the issues facing the school district at this time?

1. Active parental Involvement is critical for children to succeed in school and achieve high academic standards. 2. As a business owner, I understand the importance of building partnerships in the community. Partnerships provide greater opportunities

JOHN GOCI Who: John Goci, 39, of

Family: Married with four children

Education: 1988 graduate of John Glenn High School, attended Schoolcraft Community **College and Henry Ford** Community College 1989-92 **Community Involvement:** Patchin Elementary PTA, Wayne Chamber of Commerce, Westland Chamber of Commerce, Wayne Lions Club.

for students and greater resources for schools.

3. Funding. We need to make sure that teachers have adequate facilities, educational materials and the necessary resources from the administration. Funding should also be directed to individual student needs, including children with special needs.

4. How would you address those issues?

1. The school board must take the lead to encourage active parental involvement and reach out to parents who feel less connected.

2. We need to build partnerships with our local community businesses and organizations. We must not overlook the value of small organizations and individual volunteers who can enrich children's education.

3. I would work with the school administration and elected representatives to restore the millions they recently cut out of our budget. I would like to pursue other sources of funding, such as charitable gaming.

5. Are you seeking the endorsement of organizations or individuals in your bid for a seat on the board? If so, who?

I have interviewed with the Wayne-Westland **Education Association for** their endorsement, but the most important endorsement to me is the one that is given by the people that live in our community 6. What do you want voters to

know about you?

I have lived and worked in Wayne Westland area for 30 years. I was raised and educated and have chosen to raise and educate my family here. I have a huge stake in our schools and our community as a citizen, parent and employer. I will always put our kids first and I will make sure that our teachers have the necessary material and facilities to give our kids the best education.

Becher: Experience to serve people

1. Why are you seeking a position on the Wayne-Westland Board of Education?

I believe that my five years on the Wayne-Westland Board of Education - four of which I

have served as Treasurer gives me the experience and knowledge to best serve the people of our district. The critical financial dilemma facing public schools today demands experienced people familiar with school funding to lead their districts forward. I believe that I have that experience and knowledge. We must keep our district and our money well managed while providing a first class education for our children. 2. What qualities or skills do you believe you would bring to the board, if elected?

I believe my unique qualities bring knowledge and experiences that no other candidate brings to the board. My wife and I are both retired teachers from the Wayne-Westland Community School district. We both taught elementary as well as middle school. Both my children attended Wayne-Westland schools from kindergarten through graduation from John Glenn. I also served a threeyear term as president of the teacher's union. 3. What do you see as the issues facing the school district at this time?

The major issues facing the school district are adequate funding, especially for the districts like Wayne-Westland with declining enrollment,

STEVE BECHER Name: Steve

Becher, 63, Wayne Employment: Retired teacher from Wayne-Westland (30 years)

Family: Married with two children

Education: Graduated from high school in 1964, received a bachelor of science degree in 1969, master of arts degree in 1972 and educational specialist degree in 1984, all from Eastern Michigan University, Levels 1, 2, 3 Michigan Association of School Boards Board Certifications, 2004-2005

Community involvement: Chairman of the Food Distribution Program, City of Wayne, 5 years; Member of the Wayne Zoning Board of Appeals, 17 years; member of the City of Wayne Local Officers **Compensation Committee, 6** years; Treasurer of the Wayne-Westland Board of Education, 4 years; member of the Wayne-Westland Board of Education. 5 years; treasurer of the Metro Wayne Democratic Club, 6 years, and former member of the Wayne Kiwanis Club.

preparing our students for the new state high school graduation requirements and repairing the trust between the district and some members of the

community regarding the unpleasantness of the strike and recall movement. 4. How would you address those issues?

The board must be willing to lobby our state representatives to ensure that fair and equitable funding be given to Wayne-Westland. We must provide all assistance necessary to ensure that all our students are able to pass the new rigorous demands of the state high school requirements. We must be visible in the community reminding our citizens of ALL our successes and what a great district we are. 5. Are you seeding the endorsement of organizations or individuals in your bld for a

seat on the board? If so, who? I am seeking endorsements of all registered voters in our district. I believe that I have

been a valuable member of the board for the past five years and I hope the voters will agree.

6. What do you want voters to know about you?

I am a doer. I have lobbied our state legislators for more money for our district. I have attended nearly 100 activities on behalf of the board during this past year, promoting our district. I believe that I am fair and open to new ideas and thoughts about improving our district. I am always available to answer questions from my constituents. I believe that my record speaks for itself and I am asking for your support.

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

Why are you seeking a position on the Wayne-Westland Board of Education?

I am currently a teacher at Huron Valley Catholic School, a private school in Ypsilanti, but have taught in public and charter schools as well. I hope to, in the near future, serve in the administration aspects of a school. My decision to run for the school board comes from a personal interest in school government, a desire to put children first and provide quality education for all, and to ensure that the fine arts remain a part of the curriculum. 2. What gualities or skills do

2. What qualities or skills do you believe you would bring to the board, if elected?

The qualities and skills that, I feel, suit me well for this position are: (1) my chosen career and the knowledge I have acquired from teaching in public, charter, and private schools; (2) my attention to details, organization, and ability to listen,

ANGELA HOOPS-COSSEY

Who: Angela Hoops-Cossey, 29, of Wayne Employment: Band/music teacher at Huron Valley

sion

Catholic School in Ypsilanti. Family: Married with a sixmonth-old daughter Education: 1997 graduate of John Glenn High School; bachelor's degree in music education, 2001, Western Michigan University; master of science degree in educational leadership, 2007, Madonna University Community Involvement: Centers on her teaching profes-

communicate, and provide constructive feedback; and (3) my supportive, yet achievement-oriented, style of leadership.

3. What do you see as the issues facing the school district at this time?

The top three issues that I feel we are faced with are: (1) the budget crisis, (2) the loss of students, and (3) class size.

4. How would you address those issues?

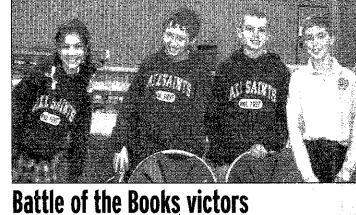
The budget crisis affects all other areas of school management and I would take action on this issue by carefully monitoring our revenues and reviewing the amounts allocated to certain projects and categories. I would expect that, with hard economic times, we would need to keep our visionary goals in mind and make decisions for increased student achievement. I would also encourage district residents and school officials alike to write our legislators about our funding before even more cuts are made under Gov. Granholm's recent school aid proposal. With regard to the loss of

students, I would propose that we conduct an exit survey to determine the reasons families are leaving so we have some kind of data for analysis and decision making purposes. Class size is an expensive issue to discuss, but I do feel that smaller class sizes

can be afforded through a strategic budget plan that sets it as a top priority and there is substantial research that shows a relationship between class size and standardized test scores. 5. Are you seeking the endorsement of organizations or individuals in your bid for a seat on the board? If so, who? As of now, I have not

pursued endorsements. 6. What do you want voters to know about you? I am a qualified,

organized, and hardworking candidate who has experience in education. My focus is on the betterment of education for students and the community.



All Saints Catholic School hosted a Battle of the Books for its sixth graders on Thursday, April 2. The winning team was the Reading Red Wings comprised of (pictured) Olivia Sanabria, Nolan Gerou, David Bindon, Connor Schumrick from Mr. Arnould's class. They won Border's gift cards and earned a pizza party for their whole class. Runners-up were the Red Hot Readers (Nick Peterson, Glenn Piot, Megan Makarewicz, Kailey Savona) from Ms. O'Connor's class, who earned a giant Hershey chocolate bar. The battle was a culmination of eight weeks of reading and preparation with the top two teams 'battling' for the championship with their knowledge of eight selected books.





(C) **A5**

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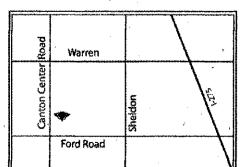
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EDUCATION NOTES

Former educator honored

Canton resident Sandy Downs will be honored as 2009 Woman of Distinction by the Plymouth-Canton chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International Society with a dinner at Fox Hills on May 5.

Downs is retired from Plymouth-Canton Community Schools where she taught math for 35 years. She has participated and been recognized nationally for development of Outcome Based Education, especially in math. She has served on and chaired North Central Accreditation teams. She received the school district's Extramiler Award in appreciation of her work.

At the local Delta Kappa Gamma level she has served as vice president, secretary, and chairwoman of the chapter's scholarship committee. She coordinated the group's annual fall craft show which produces the funds for local high school scholarships.

At Canton High School, Downs served on the curriculum and text selection committees, cheerleader coach and hiring committee.

In retirement, Sandy continues her interest in young people but has also taken up the production of fine handmade costume jewelry.

Open house/science fair

All Saints Catholic School will host a spring "Open House" and "Science Fair" on Thursday, April 23. Stop by either between the hours of 9 a.m.-2 p.m. or 6-8 p.m.

Visitor will have the opportunity to meet with school staff and view the science projects completed by the school's fifth through eighth grade students.

For more information, contact Barb Martin at (734) 459-2490. All Saints Catholic School is located at 48735 Warren Road, in Canton.

VBPS community HUG

Two years ago, concerned community members of the Van Buren school district came together to Help Unity Grow and the community HUG was born. The first year more than 700 students, parents, and community leaders joined hands in a symbol of strength and unity. Last year more than a thousand members of the community gathered to share in the commitment to Protect Everyone's Access to Community Education (PEACE).

This year there is a call for "A Day of Caring" as the HUG continues to gather momentum during hard times and stand together for a bet-

> Come in for your

ter community.

This year the HUG committee has partnered together with the Salvation Army for a community food drive that will run through May 2, the day of the 2009 Community HUG, which will take place at Belleville High School.

"This year the HUG committee wanted to do more than create a positive symbol," said Paul W. Henning, communications specialist with Van Buren Public Schools and co-chair of the event. "We are keeping the pancake breakfast and HUG that were popular the last two years and adding the food drive to help the families in need during these difficult economic times."

They will also be adding a community resources expo on the day of the HUG.

All donations to the food drive will benefit community residents in need. Items needed include dry and canned foods, and personal care items (baby wipes, baby wash/shampoo, toilet paper, paper towels, soap, toothpaste, etc.).

Canned food and supplies can be dropped off at any of the following location during the month of April at the administration building, and various schools in the district. For more information contact Henning at (734) 697-9123, ext. 225 or The Salvation Army at (734) 453-5464.

Student wins award

Several Canton students were successful in the recent Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition sponsored by the Michigan Section of the Mathematics Association of America, which is in its 52nd year. More than \$20,000 in scholarships is awarded each year, ranging from \$250 to \$2,600. Students take a two-part examination from topics in high school mathematics.

Canton High's Willa Chen received a \$250 Scholarship and Nicholas J. Wasylyshyn received an honorable mention.

Salem High's Akshay A. Amin, Nikita Consul, Peter Su, and Scott X. Su all received a \$250 scholarship. Natasha Consul, Suray D. Nagaraja, and Jason C. Yu received an honorable mention.

The official Web site of the competition is www.svsu.edu/mmpc and contains all information about the program including scheduling, registration materials and previous exams with solutions. Part I of the competition is given in the fall of each year. Contact your high school mathematics teacher if you are interested in taking the exam next year. The Michigan Section's web site is www.michmaa.org.

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with the earth. She wishes more people understood the impact they have on the soil, especially those who use chemical or synthetic fertilizers, which she says is like adding poison to the soil and harmful in the long run.

VOLUNTEERS

community service hours. We will work rain or shine because we have a lot to do."

Some of the skilled services needed include electricians,

Wine, also know as Rock Dust Gal, likes to quote Theodore Roosevelt, who she says once said: "A nation that destroys its soil, destroys itself."

She hopes more people turn to organic products, whether they are from her or some other source.

"I know we have a lot of smart people who care about their yards, their bodies, their

carpenters, plumbers and roof-

needed for cleaning, yard work

Pete Nestor, owner of Pete's

ers. Unskilled volunteers are

Stump Removal in Canton,

removing tree stumps.

afford to do the things

has volunteered all five years

"A lot of older folks can't

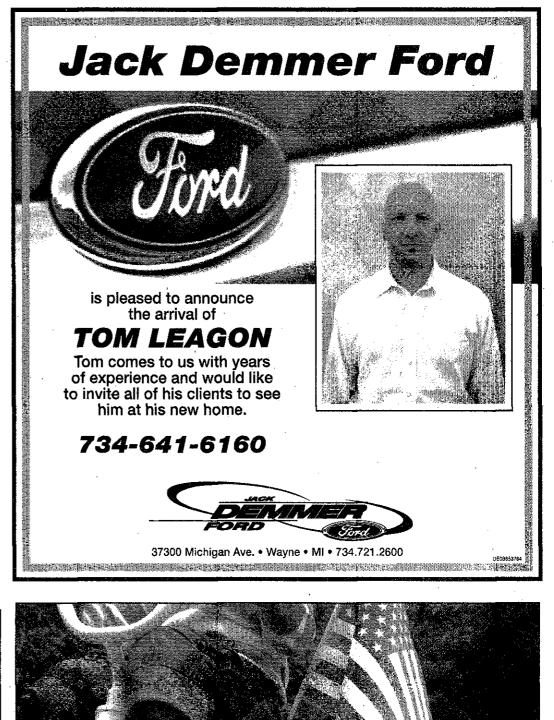
and painting.

world," she said. "Now is the time to start making choices to take care of the Earth. It's the only one we have."

Wine will be at the Green Street Fair in Plymouth May 3-4 with her products: For more information on how glacial rock dust, bat guano or worm castings can be used in your garden, e-mail Wine at rockdustgal@yahoo. com or call (734) 667-2936.

(Christmas in Action) does," Nestor said. "I enjoy helping people out, the satisfaction of taking care of some folks who can't do it themselves. It's giving back to the people of Canton."

Anyone interested in volunteering can call (734) 394-5191 for more information.



(C) **A7**

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Cheer for the hometeam, read today's SPORTS section



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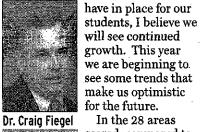
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LEAP progress means MEAP success for our students

f you read the MEAP results story in the April 5 issue of The Observer, you know that Plymouth-Canton Community Schools had another solid year on this important state evaluation exam.

These things do not happen by accident, and this year's scores (and our upward trend of academic achievement) are the result of hard work and planning by our entire team. That starts with our Board of Education and includes our teachers, staff and administration.

While we are extremely pleased with our scores, we always are exploring ways to improve. With the outstanding curriculum and support we



scored, compared to the Fall 2007 results, P-CCS posted an increase in 21 areas, stayed the same in five areas and declined in only two areas. In the five areas where the district remained the same, four of the areas already had 89 percent of the students or more proficient.

In grade six (total English Language Arts) P-CCS students declined one point to 89 percent proficient, and in grade eight science declined to 89 percent from 91 percent proficient in Fall 2007.

Of particular note, 100 percent of the students in grade four at Bird Elementary were proficient in math. At Tonda, 100 percent of the students in grade three were proficient in math, including 14 students with disabilities.

I believe one of the main reasons for the gradual increase in scores is the implementation of the Literacy Early Achievement Program just four years ago. Since that time there has been a 3-percent decrease in students with learning disabilities and a 5-percent decrease in students with speech and language disabilities district-wide.

That difference was noticeable in this year's MEAP results, and we expect the impact to be more dramatic each year.

For those of you who are not familiar with the LEAP program, it was developed to put strong focus on literacy development in the early school years. The idea is that if students read and write well, they will do well in all subject areas. To accomplish this, additional staff was added to the kindergarten and first grade classrooms

in all 16 P-CCS elementary schools. As one of Michigan's best school districts, we must constantly change and evolve to stay on top. That's hard work and the staff in this district has proven they are capable of meeting the challenge. This community should be extremely proud of the work its school district is doing to educate children. To view a complete list of MEAP scores, please visit the MEAP page on the district's Web site at http://www.pccs.k12.mi.us/district/meap/meap.asp

Dr. Craig Fiegel is Superintendent of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. He can be reached at (734) 416-2700.

Boerma right pick to head Plymouth-Canton bands

s the Associate Director of Bands at the University of the recent past. I worked with the Plymouth-Canton high school bands, and I was always extremely impressed with the quality of Amy Boerma's instruction and musicianship.

Before coming to Michigan, I had known about the Plymouth-Canton high school band program for decades. Although its marching band continues to place in the finals of the national championships, its Wind Ensemble's notoriety has become that of mediocrity when compared to years earlier, when this band would perform at the Midwest International Band & Orchestra Clinic, the Michigan Music Conference, and other prestigious events.

Those who pay close attention, however, notice that the middle two bands, under the direction of Amy Boerma, have earned straight first-division ratings at all district and state festivals since she arrived 14 years ago, an accomplishment achieved by none of her colleagues.

Music teachers throughout Michigan now discuss the Plymouth-

Canton band program because of its marching-bandheavy lopsidedness, not because of the quality of the overall program. Plymouth-Canton has become known throughout Steven Davis

the nation as the quintessential model of dysfunction, based upon poor administrative and booster leadership. Recent events make it apparent that the community needs to become aware of the legacy that is being killed.

Although Amy Boerma was hired 14 years ago as the Co-Director of Bands (equal to the other director), administrative personnel changes several years back caused her to be overlooked as the obvious person to lead the program when the last two marching band directors were hired. Ask any leader in the high school and university band world who should have been leading this program for the past eight years; Boerma has always been the obvious choice.

Although Boerma is already a faculty member, she decided to apply for Assistant Principal Julie Kaminski, to avoid being passed over again. I know for a fact that several nationally respected university Directors of Bands then wrote letters of recommendation to the administration, urging them not to overlook her again.

Unbelievably, the administration chose to fail the search and hire neither Boerma nor Montoya after two outside applicants backed out of the process at the last minute.

In their attempt to feebly justify not hiring Boerma, the administration is now organizing a witch-hunt against her.

Let me preface the following information with the fact that I have not been in recent contact with Amy Boerma about these issues. I have, however, heard from an extremely reliable source that one of the current attacks being orchestrated against Boerma claims she has spoken unprofessionally to band parents about her previous colleagues' decisions (or lack thereof) regarding the direction of the band program.

As has been the case with every this position, at the encouragement of band director who has taught in the

Plymouth-Canton schools, when the administration refuses to act upon obvious problems, relevant discussions with boosters inevitably happen, since these parents have historically had more influence on the administration than the school's own teachers. For some shocking reason, Mrs. Boerma is suddenly being reprimanded for these alleged communications, despite the fact that her colleagues have done the same for years with no retribution.

While I believe it is true Boerma has voiced repeated concerns to the administration about the steady decline in the quality of leadership and instruction, as evidenced by a consistent and dramatic drop in student audition scores, it is clear that her concerns for the students have fallen on deaf ears.

Almost humorous is the reprimand Boerma recently received regarding an analogy made in her class. For some reason, one or two students in the back row of her band misheard the analogy and reported to the administration that she called another student an inappropriate name. Anyone who has taken even a moment to get to know Amy Boerma knows she adores her students as if they are her own kids and would never say anything to hurt them. Over 25 other students in her class then wrote letters to the administration, stating that, in fact, Mrs. Boerma did not call a student this name.

For 14 years, Amy Boerma has earned PERFECT evaluations from her administrators. This year, when finally put in charge of the program on an interim basis, Boerma's organization of the program has been superb. Her students' musical successes speak for themselves.

S. S. W. M. Williams and M. Martin, Number of Society of Societ

Amy Boerma is the obvious choice to lead this program out of its slump. It's time for the athletically-minded administration to wake up and do the right thing for music education, not basing philosophy on an activity that helps with the mastering of synchronizing feet, and stop using Amy Boerma as its scapegoat for its flailing program.

Steven D. Davis is a former Associate Director of University Bands, University of Michigan and is Director of Bands, Conservatory of Music and Dance at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

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LOCAL NEWS

Love stories

BeckRidge Chorale brings 'upbeat' program to life in annual spring spectacular

BY BRAD KADRICH Observer staff writer

Matt Landes' initial reaction to being asked whether he's nervous about his upcoming solo performance in the BeckRidge Chorale's concert, Love Stories, was to shake his head and say, "Maybe a little."

Then he smiled. "OK, a *lot*," the Plymouth resident said, laughing.

Landes will take on Stephen Sondheim's Marry MeA Little when the chorale takes the stage at Northville High School for its annual spring spectacular April 24-25. It's the first time Landes has even auditioned for a solo, much less sung one, but the song choice brought out the volunteer in him.

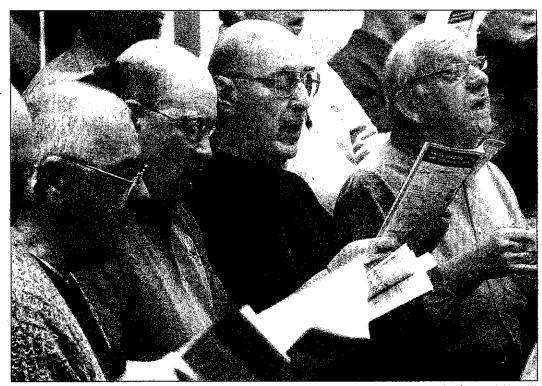
"It's a song I've always liked ... a pretty song," Landes said. "It goes well with the theme of the show. I wanted it in the show, whether I sang it or not."

The theme of the show is Love Stories, though choral director Michael Gross is quick to point out they're not the "sad, lamenting" love songs.

In fact Gross, for some 30 years the choir's musical director/conductor, said the concert will be an uplifting one that will continue a string of upbeat performances the group has put in lately.

Gross chose the playlist from among music he likes. The concert features Sondheim, Henry Mancini, Cole Porter and others.

"It's all just based on music I like," said Gross, who assumed his position in



Norm Kindred, Tom Schwartz, Bill Kondoff and Stan Kovacheff rehearse for the BeckRidge Chorale's spring concert.

SPRING FLING

What: BeckRidge Chorale's annual spring concert, Love Stories
When: 8 p.m. Saturday, April 25; 4 p.m. Sunday, April 26
Where: Northville High School, 45700 Six Mile
Cost: Tickets are \$16 and \$13
Details: Visit www.beckridgechorale.org or call (734) 416-9885

1978. "These aren't sad love songs, they're fun songs. All of our concerts have been upbeat this year."

The upbeat tempo of the show appeals to choir members, as well. Kathy Norred of Livonia has been a choir member for some seven years, and she likes the fact the chorale "does something different every time."

"I love this one ... it's a very jazzy type of program," said Norred, who now sits on the BeckRidge Board of Directors. "It's growing on all of us — the songs, the melodies. It has some old classic tunes mixed in with some new."

The BeckRidge Chorale was founded in 1973 as the Plymouth Community Chorus. The group has been a silver medalist in Johnny Mann's Great American Choral Festival, twice toured Washington, D.C., with invitational performances at Washington's National Cathedral and has been invited to perform at the National Cherry Festival in Traverse City.

The troupe has also performed with the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra and the Birmingham/Bloomfield Symphony. Its community service concerts include benefit performances for Children's Hospital of Detroit, Angela Hospice, The Salvation Army and the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute.

In 2006, the Plymouth Community Chorus became the BeckRidge Chorale in order to recognize the organization's regional outreach in serving all of

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Ford Rd. 1 Mile West of IKEA southeast Michigan and specifically the communities of Plymouth, Canton and Northville. The name "BeckRidge Chorale" reflects this regional emphasis by combining "Beck" and "Ridge" — two major roads passing through all three communities.

The group's 110-voice choir will tackle Love Stories, up some 15 percent in membership, according to Gross.

"People are getting back to things in their community and things they enjoy doing," he said. "Instead of getting caught up in the (bad) news, they're going out and having fun."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com (313) 222-8899



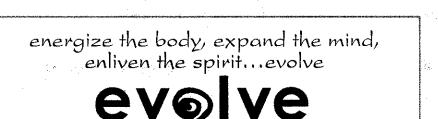
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Nancy Whitecar accompanies the BeckRidge Chorale as members get ready for their annual spring concert.



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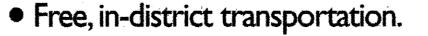
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LOCAL NEWS

Single-stream curbside recycling to begin this week

BY TONY BRUSCATO **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

With Earth Day coming Wednesday, Canton Township officials thought it the perfect time to begin efforts to increase curbside recycling by instituting single-stream recycling starting with trash pickup this week.

Currently, the recyclables are picked up by Canton Waste Recycling in a two-compartment truck. The operator has to manually sort through the materials in the green bin at the curb, with newspaper separated from cans, glass and plastics.

Single-stream recycling involves putting all the recyclable materials together in the green recycling bin - no need to separate - with all of it dumped into a single garbage truck, where it will be sorted at a newly constructed recycling facility in Huron Township.

"There are more materials accepted in this program than we had before," said Tim Faas, Canton's municipal services director. "That's something residents have been asking for. "We want to make this as

simple as possible for resi-

RECYCLING DOS AND DON'TS

Acceptable recycling materials: Cardboard, junk mail and office paper, household plastics/ jugs/bottles (numbers 1-7), steel, tin, aluminum cans, clear glass, plastic bags, newspapers, catalogues, and magazines Unacceptable items: Colored

glass, household cleaners, medical waste, flammable liquids, paper milk or juice cartons, paint cans, wood items, styrofoam containers/packing

dents. You don't have to squash the cans and remove the labels and take off the neck rings and remove the caps," he said. "And there's no cost increase to the residents. Through negotiations with Canton Waste Recycling, in exchange for an extension to the contract, we were able to build in singlestream recycling into the current price structure."

Among the items that will now be accepted are cardboard, paper board, magazines, catalogues, phone books and household plastics with numbers 1-7 on the bottom of the container.

"If one recycling bin isn't

Visit us online at

hometownlife.com

enough for your particular home, you can put additional materials into a clear, plastic bag and set it inside or adjacent to the bin," Faas said. "You can't just put out the clear plastic bag because the drivers need to see the green bin. That's their visual clue to stop the truck and pick up recyclables. Otherwise they might think it's garbage."

Paul Denski Jr., owner and president of Canton Waste Recycling, said recycling bins that contain materials that aren't recyclable will be left at the curb.

'It is of the utmost importance that we rely on each and every citizen in the community to put only the correct materials in the bin," Denski said. "The goal here is to have 100 percent reclamation of everything put in the recycling bin."

Information on the new program, which begins Monday, and which materials are accepted, is on Canton Township's Web site at http:// www.canton-mi.org/municipalservices/ss_recycling.aspx.

Questions can also be directed to Canton Public Works at (734) 394-5150 or Canton Waste Recycling at (734) 397-5801.

Flintstones, Jetsons top symphony concert list

Ever wonder what might happen if the Stone Age Flintstones ever met the futuristic Jetsons?

Music lovers get the chance to find out Friday, April 24, when the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society presents a benefit concert, "Couch Potato Pops," at the Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth.

The concert, which starts at 8 p.m., will help support the symphony's concert season and "numerous music education programs" the society brings to the Plymouth, Canton and Northville communities, said Beth Stewart, executive director of the symphony.

"Friends of the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra are generously donating their services to support us," Stewart said. The concert will "help us raise funds to keep these programs going strong.

The concert, under the direction of music director and conductor Nan Washburn, features



Conductor Nan Washburn leads the Plymouth Symphony in a benefit concert Friday at the Penn Theatre.

such TV classics as theme songs from The Untouchables, Peter Gunn, Hawaii Five-O, Miami

Vice, L.A. Law, Dynasty, Dragnet and others. Concert-goers will also be able to sing along, Stewart said, to themes from shows like Cheers, Friends, Howdy Doody, Beverly Hillbillies and Gilligan's Island. The concert

will also feature serious music such as classical music used for television from themes from Masterpiece Theater and Monty Python.

New Liberty Bank and Lotus Arts Gallery host a Pre-Concert Bash at Lotus Arts Gallery from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$100 per person, including the pre-concert party and concert (\$75 if you just want the concert). Tickets may be purchased by contacting the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society office at (734) 451-2112, by visiting the secure Online Box Office on the Web at www. plymouthsymphony.org or in person at 470 Forest Avenue, Suite 18, Plymouth.



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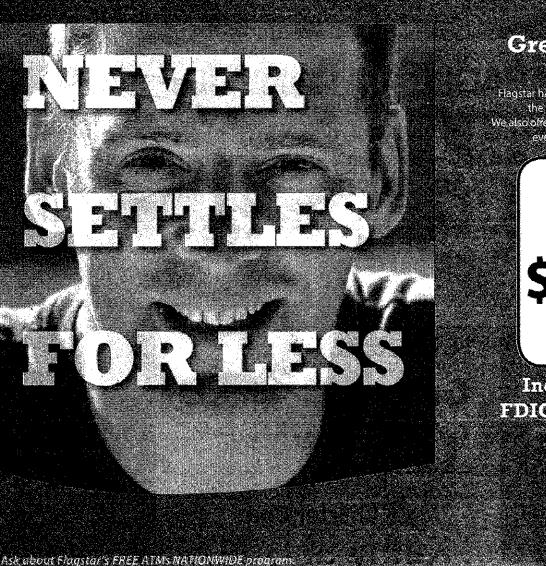
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LOW-CARB DIET MAY SACRIFICE FRESH BREATH

If you are eating a diet that is low in carbohydrates to lose weight, you may have a problem with bad breath. It is estimated that nearly 63% of people on low-carb diets suffer from halitosis. The reason for this rests with the fact that a certain amount of carbohydrates is necessary for the body to effectively burn fat. Without these needed carbs the body must modify the way it burns fat by producing iketonesi which are the chemicals that impart a bad odor to breath. If you are a fan of diets such as the South Beach Diet or the Atkins Diet, you may want to brush more often, drink more water, and chew more sugarless gum.

If you are bothered by this condition, don't be shy about discussing bad breath with your dentist. Professional care is always the best course to pursue when unusual symptoms occur. We're here to offer our patients comprehensive, gentle, family dentistry, including dietary advice, routine maintenance care, restorative work, and cosmetic approaches to enhance any smile. All our staff members are exceptional in their care of every patient who comes through our doors at 496 W. Ann Arbor Trail. Ste. 201, Plymouth. Please call us at 734-453-9413 for an appointment. We are located one block east of Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth. P.S. Another effective way to fight

halitosis is to scrape the tongue daily, from back to front.



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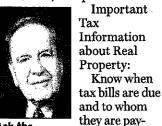
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Notice of delinquent taxes available for a fee

Each week, Wayne County Treasurer Raymond J. Wojtowicz will be using this column as a regular forum to inform you about the tax process and to answer the questions most frequently asked about property taxes.

Always remember that your property is your most precious asset. Do not risk losing it for nonpayment of property taxes. If in doubt, ask questions.



Ask the Treasurer

Raymond Wojtowicz

If you do not receive a summer and/or winter tax bill, call the city, township or village treasurer where the property is located and request a tax bill. At the same time, check to make sure the treasurer has your correct mailing name and address. Do not send a check in the mail and assume that the check reached the treasurer. Q: How do I apply to receive notice of delinquent taxes if I am not the owner of the property?

able. Do not

assume that

the seller will

pay the taxes in

the year of sale.

A: Any person who wishes to receive notice of delinquent taxes may pay a \$5 annual fee for each property by Feb. 1 to the county treasurer. Contact this office and request a Subscription Address Notice Form. You must specify on this form the parcel identification number, the address of the property, and the address to which the notice will be sent. Return the completed form to this office along with a \$5 fee for each property you are requesting notice of delinquent taxes. For further information, contact our Tax Information at (313) 224-5990.

Q: How can I get a copy of a tax record? A: The Michigan Freedom of Information Act as amended by 1996 PA 553 regulates and sets requirements for the disclosure of public records by all public bodies in the State.

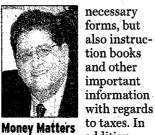
An individual may request public documents under the Freedom of Information Act by submitting their request

Filing tax return electronically gets an earlier return

Q: Dear Rick: I filed my federal tax return over a month ago and I still have not received my refund. I read that you should get your refund back within two to three weeks. What should I do?

A: According to the Internal Revenue Service, if you file a return using the traditional paper method, it takes approximately six weeks to receive your refund. If you file electronically, it typically takes half that time to get a refund. Therefore, the first question is how did you file your return? If you filed by paper in mid-March you can expect your refund by the end of April. On the other hand, if you filed electronically, you should have received your refund by now and it is time to be proactive. The IRS has an excellent

Web site in regards to taxes. Not only can you obtain all



Rick Bloom addition, site offers

access to the status of your refund. Go to www.irs.gov and click on "my refund." If the IRS has already sent you your refund and you have not received it, then you could have a problem. It is possible that your refund, if it was mailed to you, got lost in the mail or worse, someone got to the mailbox before you. In those situations, call the IRS.

The IRS has become easier to deal with and is taxpayerfriendly.

Q: Dear Rick: Every

time I open my bank statement I am hit with new fees. In addition, I'm receiving very little interest on the money I have in the bank. Recently, a friend of mine opened an account at a credit union. Do you recommend credit unions and are they as safe as banks?

A: I have no problem with credit unions. I believe that many people should consider using them. The first thing to understand about credit unions is they are nonprofits and operate in the best interest of their members. If you have an account at a credit union, you are a member, in effect, vou are part owner. Because members are part owners, credit unions tend to have lower fees and pay higher interest rates on deposits than a traditional bank. Furthermore, when you

need a loan — mortgage, home equity line of credit, new car loan or personal loan — credit unions tend to be more competitive than your traditional bank.

Just as a bank insures your account to \$250,000, the same applies to credit unions. The only difference is the money in a bank is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) while money in a credit union is insured by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA). Both of these agencies are quasi-government agencies and backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government. Your money is safe.

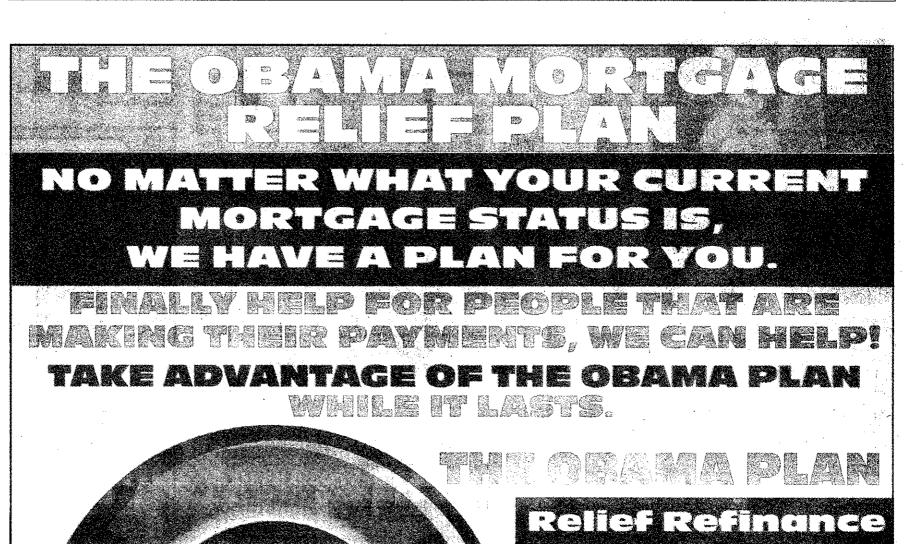
One myth about credit unions is they are difficult to join. Although in the past that may have been the case, it is no longer true. Virtually, anyone can join a credit union. There are many credit unions in southeast Michigan and, although, you may not be eligible to join every one, as some do restrict membership, it should not be difficult to find a credit union. Visit the National

Association of Credit Unions Web site – www.joinacu.org – to search for credit unions that you are eligible to join.

Credit unions offer virtually the same services that banks do including ATMs.

In today's difficult economic times where people are attempting to get better rates of return on their money while keeping their fees low, credit unions are an option to consider.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at moneymatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit Rick's Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.

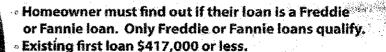


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for public records of the Wayne County Treasurer to: Terrance A. Keith, Chief Deputy Treasurer, Wayne County Treasurer's Office, 400 Monroe, Suite 550, Detroit, MI 48226.







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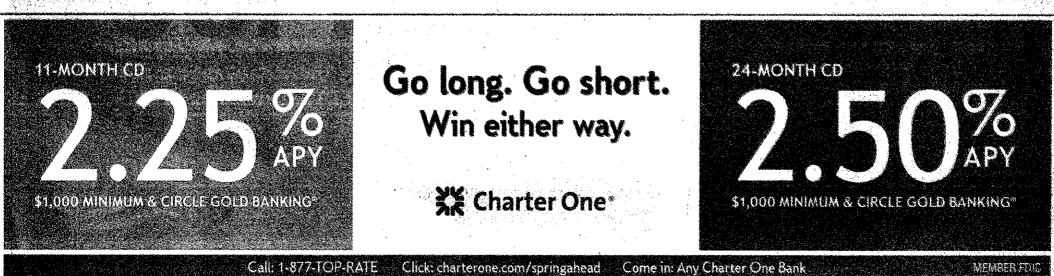
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- New loan will not have Mortgage Insurance.
- Max LTV 105% (Can borrow 105% of the value of the home).
- Prime Residence, Second home, and Investment properties allowed.
- As long as new payment is not 20% or more than current payment, income does not have to be proven.
- Appraisal may not be required. Some homes will receive an appraisal waiver. If required, Underwriter will condition.
- No minimum income requirement unless payment is 20% or more than current payment.

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Local gymnasts vault to glory

The Canton-based Splitz Gymnastics team's history of excellence continued at the 2009 State Meet for Level 8, 9 and 10 gymnasts held March 28 and 29 in Grand Ledge.

Several Splitz competitors qualified for the national regionals, which are being held this weekend in Muncie, Ind., and April 25 and 26 in Findlay, Ohio.

Nine of the team's 10 Level 8 athletes qualified for regionals. Alyssa Peters of Canton placed second on vault and floor and was the state champion in the all-around with a score of 37.275.

Hills finished third on the vault and was state champ on the bars (9.35), the beam (9.45) and in the all-around (37.125).

Canton's Kate Jung was third on the beam and the all-around and was the state titleist on bars with a score of 9.25.

Ann Arbor's Katie Radulovic placed second on the bars and fourth on the floor; while Ann Arbor's Corey Wellik was fourth on bars.

gymnasts earned state championships in single events:

Taylor Cortis of Farmington Ypsilanti's Tori Huehn (9.40 on floor); Canton's Nikki Pilmer (9.35 on bars); and Plymouth's Jeani Hatkow (9.425 on floor). Hatkow also placed fourth on the vault.

All four Splitz Level 9 competitors qualified for the regional portion of the national competition.

Canton's Lindsey Russell took eighth on vault and third on floor. Canton's Kelsey Stamm placed seventh on vault,

uneven bars and beam; and fourth in the floor exercise and the all-around. Northville's Lindsay

Williams took eighth on bars and the all-around.

And Kayla Spicher of Canton was the state champion on the uneven bars, registering a 9.575. Two Level 10 performers

competing in their first state meet also qualified for regionals. Among them was Canton's Megan Valentini, who placed third on beam and eighth on floor.

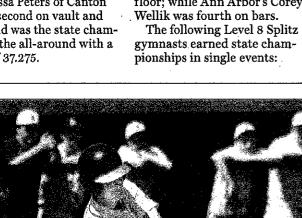
The team's head coach is Eileen Spicher, the owner of Splitz Gymnastics. Gym America third

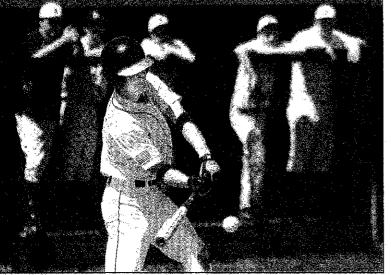
Three local Level 8 gymnasts helped Ann Arbor-based Gym America to a third-place finish at last month's state meet.

Jacquelyn Bryden, a seventh-grader at West Middle School, won the vault (9.5) and floor exercise (9.4) and placed fourth in the allaround.

Olivia Ozeranic, a seventhgrader at East Middle School, earned a silver medal on the vault (9.45) and a bronze on the beam (9.225) before placing fourth in the all-around competition.

Paige Wright placed fourth on the beam (9.225) and eighth on the floor (9.20).







'Cats on the prowl

After Tuesday's double-header with Lake Orion got rained out, Plymouth's baseball team returned to the diamond Friday when it hosted a double-header with Chippewa Valley under cloudless, blue skies. At right, Luke Mirandi is pictured rounding third and headed for home during action in the opening game. In the above photo, Alex Minch takes aim at a low fastball. Unfortunately, results of the double-header were not available at presstime.



GAME WRAPS

Chiefs sweep Tigers

Canton's baseball team 🐲 improved to 4-2 Thursday afternoon by sweeping Belleville, 4-1 and 10-0. The Tigers slipped to 0-7.

Senior right-hander Dane Staples dominated Belleville in the opener, limiting the Tigers to two hits while striking out four in five innings. Junior center-fielder Kevin Delapaz ripped a pair of hits and junior third baseman Andrew Tidwell contributed a two-run double.

Delapaz stifled the Tigers' bats in the nightcap, which was limited to six innings due to the 10-run mercy rule. Offensively, the Chiefs were led by Delapaz (two hits, three RBI), Alex Dixon (two hits, two runs) and Nick Tomilenko, who chipped in with a pair of hits.

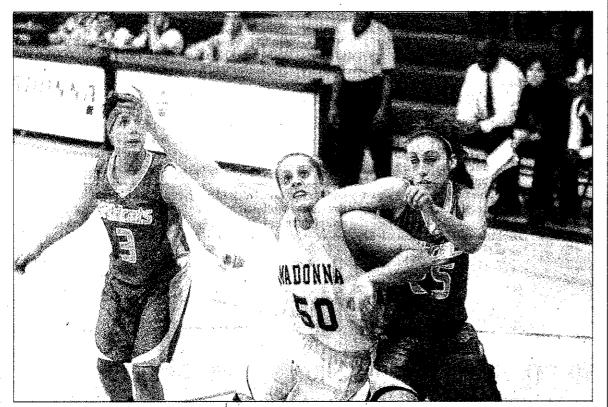
Rocks split twinbill

Salem's baseball team evened its record at 3-3 Thursday after splitting a double-header at Fowlerville.

The Rocks won the opening game, 6-2, behind a strong mound effort from senior southpaw Sam Ott, who struck out seven in six innings of work while allowing just three hits. Ott improved to 2-0.

The winners' 11-hit attack was paced by Dave Hales, who drove in three runs on two hits. Ott and Joe Posler also ripped a pair of hits for Salem, which scored a pair of runs in the second, third and fourth innings. Fowlerville scored single runs in the fourth and sixth innings.

Salem was flawless in the field while Fowlerville



MADONNA SPORTS INFORMATION

All-America honors for Olech

Madonna University's Kim Olech (No. 50), a graduate of Plymouth High School, was recently named to the NAIA third-team All-America squad following an outstanding inaugural season with the Crusaders. Olech is the first MU player to be named to an All-America team since Sarah Thompson was selected to the second team in 2005. Olech, an All-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference first-team selection and the recipient of the WHAC's "Newcomer of the Year" award, led MU in scoring (11.5 points per game) and her 10.4 rebounding average was 14th in the nation. She also led the WHAC in blocked shots with 1.5 per contest. She registered 13 double-doubles for the Crusaders, who finished 15-17.

Salem netters turn in gold effort in Monroe

The Salem girls tennis team won the Monroe Olson Classic on April 11 by

racking up 21 points, seven more than co-runners-up Canton and Monroe (14 points each).

Livonia Ladywood and Detroit Cass Tech both notched 12 points in the eight-team tournament.

The Rocks went 8-1 in singles competition. No. 1 player Alli Carpenter went 2-1 while No.

2 Linda Ling, No. 3 Anna Norman and No. 4 Morgan Spencer all went 3-0.

In doubles competition, the No. 1 duo of Ariel Rojo and Rachel Norman; and the No. 3 tandem of Katie Fletcher and Ashley Davis turned in 3-0 effort. The Rocks' No. 2 doubles team of Kerry MacDonald and Victoria Brotz; and the No. 4 team of Bethany Haller and Rachel Pawlowski went 2-1.

Carpenter

Rounding out the standings were Monroe St. Mary's Catholic Central (nine points), Livonia Franklin (eight) and Farmington Hills Harrison, which compiled five points.

The Rocks won the competition despite the absence of several regular players.

made three errors.

The Rocks dropped the nightcap, 8-6, despite a strong plate effort from Ott, who went 3-for-3 with a pair of doubles.

Justin Bashi suffered the loss on the mound for \cdot the Rocks, who traveled to Davton, Ohio, on Saturday to play a twi-night doubleheader in the city's minorleague baseball stadium.

Canton basketball team honored for academics

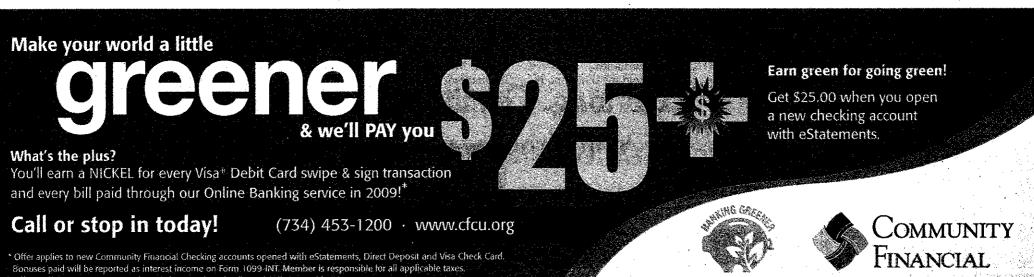
The Canton girls basketball team, which finished 20-3 and won a Class A District title, was recently lauded for its work in the classroom.

The Chiefs finished with the third-highest team grade-point average (3.766) among all Class A schools.

Traverse City Central was first with a 3.78 GPA while Rochester Stoney Creek was second with a 3.77 mark.

Canton is coached by Brian Samulski.

Canton Agape Christian earned honorable mention recognition in Class D as the Wolverines registered an impressive 3.397 team grade-point average.



Offer expires May 30, 2009; see branch for complete details. Federally insured by NCUA.

Hulett named coach

Canton native Erin Hulett was recently named head coach for the Brimley High School softball team. Brimley is located in the Upper Peninsula near Sault Ste. Marie.

Hulett graduated from Livonia Ladywood in 2004. She was voted the Blazers' most valuable player and earned all-District and All-Catholic league honors her senior season.

She went on to play four

years of collegiate softball at Lake Superior State University, where she received the Bud Cooper Coaches Award for leadership in sports, academics and community. She also was a two-time recipient of the LSSU Team Leadership award, which is presented to the player that emphasizes hard work, team leadership and teammate support on a daily basis.

Canton football camps

Three Canton High School football camps will be held in June.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

The Canton Chiefs Skills Camp for kids in grades seventh through ninth will be held June 8-11 from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$35. To preregister, contact coach Richard Mui at (248) 229-2738.

The Canton Chiefs Wing-T/3-4 Football Camp for kids in grades 10th through 12th will be held June 16-18 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.. The cost is \$30. To pre-register, contact coach Tim Baechler at (734) 455-7691.

The Canton Chiefs Fundamental Football Camp

will be held for kids entering grades third through sixth June 22-25 from 9 a.m. to noon. The cost is \$75. To preregister, contact Enza Lanava at (313) 300-1173.

Plymouth football

skills camp

The 8th Annual Plymouth Football Skills Camp will be held Monday, June 22, through Wednesday, June 24, at the PCEP turf stadium.

Fifth- through ninth-graders will go from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

and 10th-through 12th-graders will go from 7-9 p.m.

The cost of the camp is \$40, which includes a T-shirt and three days of instruction.

Each camper will need cleats and a water jug to participate. For more information, visit www.plymouthwildcats.com or

call (734) 582-5696. Wildcats football

parents meeting

There will be a mandatory informational meeting for all levels of the Plymouth High School football program on Tuesday, June 2, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Plymouth High School gymnasium.

Parents will be given all of --d the necessary paperwork for their student-athlete to participate in the upcoming football season.

Parents will also receive booster information and there will be Wildcat merchandise on sale before and after the meeting.

For more information, visit www.plymouthwildcats.com.

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North Contraction

A CONTRACT

MU's Irwin sets strikeout record

Jess Irwin bettered her own single season strikeout record Friday as the Madonna University women's softball team improved to 17-1 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference with a pair of wins at Siena Heights University.

Irwin struck out 11, raising her season total to 227, and allowed just two hits and two walks in six innings as MU captured the opener, 8-0.

The Monroe sophomore is now 21-5 overall.

Offensively, Cat Sidor (Livonia Churchill) went 2-for-4 with two RBI, while Tori Turner added two hits for MU.

Rachael Kethe, Kathleen Smiley and Kelly Lesko also knocked in runs for the 17thranked Crusaders.

In the nightcap, Ashley Shay went 2-for-2 with a homer, while Tedi Johnston went 2-for-4 with an RBI as MU downed the Saints, 5-2.

Sidor and Lesko also knocked in runs for the Crusaders, who improved to 39-7 overall.

Winning pitcher Hallie Minch (18-2) allowed just three hits, walked one and struck out eight.

The loss drops Siena Heights

to 11-31 overall and 1-13 in the

WHAC. MADONNA 8-8, UM-DEARBORN 0-3: Pitcher Jess Irwin recorded both wins as the Crusaders (37-7, 15-1) team swept both ends of a WHAC doubleheader Wednesday at home against University of Michigan-Dearborn (11-12, 8-6).

Irwin tossed a one-hitter in the opener as the Crusaders downed the Wolves in a five-inning mercy, 8-0. Irwin struck out 10 and allowed four walks.

Offensively, Cat Sidor went 2-for-3 with three RBL while Kathleen Smiley went 2-for-3 with two RBI. Kelly Lesko also added two his and an RBI. Irwin came to the rescue in relief of starter Hallie Minch as the Crusaders rallied from a 2-0 deficit after three

innings to beat UM-Dearborn, 8-3. Minch, the freshman from Garden City, was roughed up for two earned runs on six hits in 3.1 innings.

Irwin (20-5) came on and worked the final 3.2, allowing one earned run on three hits. She struck out seven and walked two.

Sidor and Brittney Scero (Canton) each went 3-for-5 with two RBI apiece.

Smiley clubbed a 2-run homer in the fourth inning and Ashley Shay contributed a solo shot in the fifth. Tedi Johnston also had two hits for MU

Danielle Stabnau went 3-for-4 with an RBI for UM-Dearborn.

Former Chiefs Little, Khasawneh contribute to Crusaders' DH split

Livonia Franklin High grad Chris Boertje played the spoiler role Thursday as the No. 12-ranked nightcap en route to a 12-2 victory. Madonna University baseball team settled for another double-header split with Siena Heights.

The junior right-hander from Westland threw a five-hitter as

in the fifth cut the deficit to 2-1. MU unloaded for 15 hits in the Kevin Zerbo (Farmington Hills Harrison) went 3-for-3, including his ninth and 10th homers of the year, to go along with four RBI to lead MU's offensive attack.

Future Titan

Plymouth resident Kathleen Weishar recently signed a Letter of Intent to run cross country and track for the University of Detroit Mercy. Weishar, who attended Our Lady of Good Counsel and Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard, was accepted into UDM's five-year physicians assistant Masters program.

Emenhiser promoted to Madonna head hoop coach

League of their own

Livonia's Jones, Wixom's Snow set the standards

B2 (CP)

Siena Heights earned a 2-1 victory over the Crusaders in the opener.

Boertje used a mix of fastballs and curveballs to improve to 3-4 to keep MU off balance. He struck out four and walked three.

MU starter Trent Pohl (2-2) who went six innings, allowed just three hits. He walked four and struck out three.

Mark Pauwels had an RBI groundout in the first and Kevin Harrington added an RBI single in the fourth to account for both of the Saints' runs.

Ryan Morrow's RBI groundout

Dominic Benavides, Shawn Little (Canton), Aaron Hacias and Tarik Khasawneh (Canton) each added two hits for the Crusaders, who improved to 29-6 overall and 8-4 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference (tied for first with Indiana Tech).

Winning pitcher Robert Fraser, a freshman from Westland John Glenn, improved to 3-0 by going the first 5.2 innings. He allowed just hits, walked two and struck out two.

Siena Heights, meanwhile, falls to 16-24 and 4-8.

Madonna University Director of Athletics Bryan Rizzo announced earlier this month that Noel Emenhiser has been selected as the Crusaders' new head men's basketball coach.

Emenhiser, who has been serving as the department's assistant athletic director since October of 2008, will assume his new duties immediately, taking over for Myron Brown, who completed the 2009 season as the interim head coach.

He replaces his fatherin-law, Chuck Henry, who resigned during the season.

"It is very exciting to see our all-time leading scorer take over the program," Rizzo said. "Noel is a highly motivated coach who will put all his energy into building a winning program. I am confident that we have made a great choice for Madonna University.'

Emenhiser - whose 2,198 career points lead the Madonna record books - just completed his second season as the top assistant on the coaching staff. His work with the perimeter players has led

MU to two of its most successful seasons in program history, including a berth in the 2008 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference tournament.

Emenhiser spent four years at Madonna and then played one year in Portugal, playing professionally with the Sporting Club of Braga.

"I am excited about being a part of the Madonna University family," said Emenhiser following the announcement. "It is a great privilege to be a part of vision that the athletic

department has for studentathletes and the community."

Emenhiser inherits a team that lost just three seniors following the 2009 season and finished fifth in the WHAC.

"This is a great choice for Madonna," said former MU head coach Bernie Holowicki, who recruited Emenhiser to MU as a student-athlete. "He is great with kids and is probably the best recruit I ever had at Madonna. He was not only a great player, but a great coach and a great guy."

S'craft coach nabs 4 new recruits

BY BRAD EMONS **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The Schoolcraft College men's basketball program hopes to be back on the road to redemption following the signing of four new recruits for the 2009-10 season.

The Ocelots, 7-22 last season and 3-24 in 2007-08 under coach Randy Henry, have added two players from Redford Thurston High and two others from Allen Park.

Henry's biggest catch is firstteam All-Observer selection Greg Morgan of Thurston, a 6-foot guard who averaged 14.5 points and 4.4 rebounds while shooting 53 percent from three-point range.

Also in the fold is Morgan's teammate, 6-5, 225-pound forward Cameron Mitchell; 6-4 Trevor Zacny and 6-6 Aaron Felsner, both of Allen Park.

"Morgan can shot the 'three' and can take the ball to the basket," Henry said. "He's real muscular and is not scare to go to the basket.

"Mitchell is a tough guy inside, not afraid. He's got to get more acclimated to get the ball in his hands. He's capable of scoring. He's got good strength and can jump. He played football."

Zacny, according to Henry, can play three different positions.

"He's multi-faceted, he played the point all year and has great vision running the floor," the Schoolcraft coach added. "He's near a 20-point scorer. He plays hard and loves the game."

Felsner, meanwhile, will help give the Ocelots some post presence.

"He can play inside, but can also hit the jumper at the free throw line," Henry said. "He's played mostly with his back to the basket. I also like his tenacity to rebound."

The combination of Zacny and Felsner could have an immediate impact.

Henry also said that Livonia Churchill's 6-7 senior center Cameron Norscia will also join the Ocelots as a walk-on.

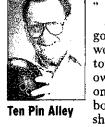
he name Pam Jones appears at or near the top of practically every leaderboard in just about every bowling center in which she has competed in league or tournament play.

And Jones has now added two more venues to her list.

On March 28, the Livonian bowled in the Michigan Women's State Tournament in Bay City where she rolled a 299 game in doubles competition at Eastland Lanes. Her series was 726.

Only a week earlier, Jones fired a 279 in the team event at Monitor Lanes.

"They told me that nobody would top that 279 game," Jones said. "I told them 'we'll



word as she topped her own score with only a stubborn 7-pin short of perfection on the

Krista Snow, Justin Snow, Tim son-ending pizza bash. see about that.' Bishop and Mark Konopatski.

'This win was very special to me, by winning while bowling with my two kids," he said. "That feeling is very easy to relate to for those of us who have raised our own children, while giving them the opportunity to excel at bowling and be able to enjoy the sport for many years to come.

■ Mayflower Lanes in Redford boasts one of the top men's senior leagues with the Wednesday Men's Senior Classic.

Metropolitan Lincoln-Mercury was the second-half winner and defeated first-half champ Hunt's Ace Hardware for the overall championship in the season finale roll-off.

Hunt's squad is comprised of Larry Best, Ozzie Hovsepian, Abe Borborian, Jesse Macciocco and Walt Witkowski.

Mayflower Lanes also offers some great summer action with the Detroit Tigers Party in the Park mixed league.

The \$15.95 per week fee includes three games of bowling, free

league record sheets and sea-

And on Saturday, Aug. 29, each bowler also receives a ticket to the Tampa Bay game at Comerica Park, a pass to the Pepsi Porch party, burgers, dogs, cole slaw, chips, soda, along with 90-minute unlimited party prior to 4 p.m. start.

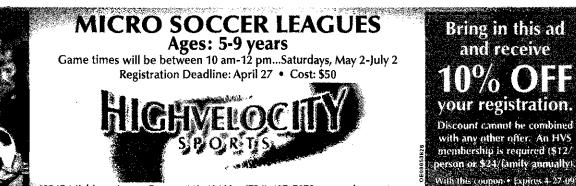
The league features a threeperson combo (male or female) and short 15-week season.

For more information, call (313) 937-8420.

■ If you ever get out to Minneapolis, you might want to stop in at Lake Bryant Lanes.

I had the opportunity this winter to visit my son, Rick and his family. We made it a must-do on our trip, as they are known far and wide for their wonderful breakfasts, They also have eight very old-style lanes complete with overhead telescores and decor that takes you back in time to another era. Just find Lake Bryant and you'll be there.

Al Harrison is a resident of Southfield, and a member of the Detroit Bowling Hall of Fame and the Bowling Writers Association of America. He can be reached via email at tenpinalley710@yahoo.com.



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Al Harrison final ball.

Wixom's Lee Snow also has left his indelible mark in high places in both league and tournament competition, recently led his team to the championship in the Ray Melnick Invitational Tournament held at Oak

Lanes in Westland. Lee's team was comprised of

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0

Jones made good on her

LOCAL SPORTS

Football is secondary in NFL player Shaw's life

BY BRAD EMONS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Jacksonville Jaguars linebacker Tim Shaw is going against the grain when it comes to the perceived NFL lifestyle, which is sometimes clouded by the glitz and glamour.

Shaw, who spent his first season in the NFL with the Carolina Panthers after going in the fifth round, believes he has a greater purpose in life.

"It's not about what kind car you drive, all the type of possessions you have," said the former Livonia Clarenceville High standout, who went on to play at Penn State. "Having all those fancy things is not my thing. I feel like I should be doing more with the position I have and the platform I've been given as a professional athlete."

And as long as he's on the NFL stage, he's going to prune away the material things that may get in his way and plant some worthy seed.

As part of a group from Score International, Shaw embarked last month on a five-day outreach mission to San Jose, Costa Rica.

Shaw was accompanied by three fellow NFL players and a pair of team chaplains from the Jaguars and Tampa Bay Buccaneers, respectively.

"I was thinking about doing a trip to fit my football schedule and I had a conversation during the last week of the season with our team chaplain, Anthony Johnson, during our team bible study,' Shaw said. "He suggested Score International. It's a group that uses athletes to share the gospel and do projects."

Shaw, ever the workout warrior going back to his days at Clarenceville, found the perfect mission on the



Members of the Score International construction group including former Livonia Clarenceville standout Tim Shaw (far right), take a break during their recent mission trip to Costa Rica.



PHOTO COURTESY OF XAM SPORTS

Tim Shaw remains devout in his faith and hopes he made a difference during his recent mission trip to Costa Rica as part of a group with Score International.

outskirts of San Jose. Joined by Jaguars quarterback Paul Smith, defensive back Nate Jones of

the Miami Dolphins and offensive lineman James Lee of the Bucs, the group's task was to erect a security fence around the perimeter of a piece of property that will eventually house a bible school, soccer field and gymnasium.

"We had to build the fence because of the all crime around," Shaw said. "I had never done anything like this before. It was amazing.

The fence was constructed in roughly in two days and it was done old-fashioned way.

"We used manual post hole diggers — mixing concrete, using shovels and wheelbarrows," Shaw said. "We were dead tired and hurting by the end of the day, but there was a great sense of good

will and joy. To be able to see the fence go up and see your work finished was cool.'

Shaw, born in England, had visited Europe, but had never been to Latin America.

San Jose, located in the Central Valley, is the capital and largest city in Costa Rica (population 346,000) with an elevation of 1,161 meters above sea level. Temperatures hovered near 80 during the work day before cooling off at night.

The NFL players also got a chance to visit the rural enclaves on the fringe of San Jose. It was an opportunity to get a first-hand look at the poverty and depravity of life.

"It was an eye opener, it

blew me away," Shaw said. "Gates and bars around every building, every window. I'd never been anywhere like that. It was a new experience, one of the most humbling things to see. It adjusted my perspective on things and how important it is to be thankful what we have here."

The Score International team then visited an area what Shaw was and the players were told was simply called, "The Hole."

"We had to drive to the top and drop back down into a place where there were Nicaraguan refugees," he said. "We gave out food. It was a rough area of town. Kids were kicking a ball around, but it was a rolled up into plastic bag of trash. We went to a school where we gave out three or four Rubix Cubes. You'd had thought to them it was a bar of gold."

During his one season in Carolina, Shaw got involved with the Boys & Girls Clubs in Charlotte. He plans to do the same in Jacksonville where he was signed late last season as a free agent for the final four games. Shaw played exclusively on special teams where he recorded three tackles.

Shaw vows his mission will intensify, which is to spread the word of God and help those in need.

(a) A set of the se

"There's a bigger picture," said Shaw, who is currently in Jacksonville during the off-season doing voluntary workouts. "Just to see how blessed I am — I feel there's so much more I'm going to do because God has put it into my heart. The people I met the relationships and I made on this trip were amazing. It adjusted my perspective on things and what is really important."

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B3 (CP)

Extreme-ly good

Inter

The Club Extreme ASICS U16 volleyball team finished first at the nine-team Club Extreme U15/16 AAU tournament held last month in Novi. Pictured are (bottom row from left) Haley McNiven (Plymouth), Auldon Sweeney (Plymouth), Ashley Williams (Farmington), Meghan Ronayne (Farmington Hills Mercy), Lindsey Fox (Northville), Rachel Zinkosky (Northville) and (top row) coach Danielle Pfeffer.

THE WEEK AHEAD

9/10 Invite, 9 a.m GIRLS TENNIS PREP BASEBALL Monday, April 20 Monday, April 20 Churchill at Plymouth, 4 p.m. Salem at South Lyon, 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 22 Wayne Memorial at Plymouth, 4 p.m. South Lyon East at Salem, 4 p.m. Canton at John Chan, 4 p.m. PCA at Oakland Christian . 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 21 PCA at Southfield Christian, 4:3 Wednesday, April 22 4:30 p.m. Canton at Plymouth, 4 p.m. Novi at Salem, 4 p.m. Canton at John Gienn, 4 p.m. Thursday, April 23 Friday, April 24 Canton at Stevenson (DH), 4 p.m. Canton at Wayne Memorial, 4 p.m. Friday, April 24 John Gienn at Plymouth, 4 p.m. Northville at Salem, 4 p.m. Plymouth at Northville (DH), 4 p.m. Churchill at Salem (DH), 4 p.m. Saturday, April 25 Salem at Milan (DH), 11 a PREP SOFTBALL 11 a.m. Canton at Franklin, 4 Monday, April 20 Saturday, April 25 Plymouth at Monroe Invitational, TBA City Baptist at PCA, Tuesday, April 21 PCA at Baptist Park Christian, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 22 Canton at Plymouth, 4 p.m. Salem at Salem/Huron Invitational, 8:15 a.m. Canton at Brighton Quad, 8:30 a.m. **BOYS GOLF** Novi at Salem, 4 p Friday, April 24 Plymouth at Northville (DH), 3:30 p.m. Churchill at Salem (DH), 4 p.m. Canton at Stevenson (DH), 4 p.m. Monday, April 20 Canton and Plymouth at Brighton Invitational at Oak Pointe G.C., 9:30 a.m. Saturday, April 25 Plymouth at Mercy Invitational, TBA Tuesday, April 21 Salem at Farmington Invitational at Huron Meadows G.C., 9 a.m. Wednesday, April 22 Salem at Cheisea Invitational, 9 a.m. BOYS AND GIRLS Northville at Salem at Fox Hills G.C. TRACK AND FIELD Friday, April 24 Tuesday, April 21 Plymouth at Churchill, 3:30 p.m. Canton at Livonia Franklin at Idlewild G.C., 3 p.m. Salem at South Lyon East, 3:30 p.m. PCA at Greenhills, 4:30 p.m. Plymouth at John Glenn, 3 p.m. BOYS LACROSSE Wayne Memorial at Canton, 3:30 p.m. Monday, April 20 Salem at Canton, at Friday, April 24 Salem boys at Rainer Relays at N. Farmington, TBA PCEP junior varsity field, 8 p.m. South Lyon at Plymouth at Saturday, April 25 PCA at Greenhills Relays, TBA Canton at Holly PCEP IV Stadium 6 n.m. Wednesday, April 22 Canton at Plymouth, 7 p.m.

Friday, April 24 Canton at Saline, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 25 Okemos at Plymouth, 2 p.m. GIRLS LACROSSE Monday, April 20 Lady Warriors at Brighton, 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 22 Waterford at Lady Warriors at PCEP JV field, 7:30 p.m GIRLS SOCCER Monday, April 20 Oakland Christian at PCA, 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 21 Canton at Plymouth, 7 p.m. Salem at Novi, 7 p.m. Parkway Christian at PCA, 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 23 Wayne Memorial at Canton, 7 p.m. lymouth at Churchill, 7 p.m. South Lyon at Salem, 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 24 Canton at A.A. Pioneer, 7 p.m. Dexter at Salem, 7 p.m. COLLEGE BASEBALL Sunday, April 19 Concordia at Madonna, 1 p.m. Friday, April 24 Madonna at Aquinas, 1 p.m. Saturday, April 25 Aquinas at N COLLEGE SOFTBALL (all double-headers) Sunday, April 19 Davenport at Madonna, 1 p.m. Thursday, April 23 Siena Heights at Madonna, 4 p.m. Friday, April 24 Cornerstone at Madonna, 4 p.m. Saturday, April 25 Aquinas at Madonna, 1 p.m



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June 15-19 9:00 am - 12:00 pm June 15-19 9:00 am - 11:00 am June 15-19 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm June 22-26 9:00 am - 12:00 or 3:00 pm June 22-26 9:00 am - 12:00 or 3:00 pm June 22-26 9:00 am - 11:00 am July 6-10 9:00 am - 3:00 pm July 6-10 9:00 am - 12:00 pm July 13-17 9:00 am - 12:00 or 3:00 pm July 13-17 9:00 am - 12:00 or 3:00 pm July 20-24 9:00 am - 12:00 pm July 27-31 9:00 am - 12:00 or 3:00 pm July 27-31 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm 9:00 am - 12:00 or 3:00 pm Aug. 3-7 Aug. 3-7 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Aug. 3-7 9:00 am - 11:00 am

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NEIGHBORS

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Stamp show highlights educational hobby to stick with

BY JULIE BROWN O&E STAFF WRITER

B4

A little bit of history will come to town soon in the form of the Plymouth stamp show.

"You get somebody who's got a real interest in history," club member Ed Dubin of Belleville said. He enjoys postal history of the World War I era, things like American troops in France. and the Polar Bear forces in Russia.

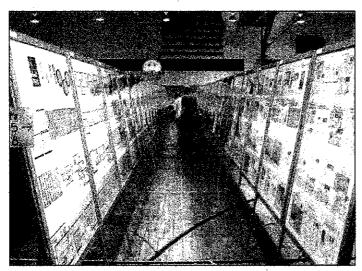
Other collectors focus on space or the postal history of their town; one local collector focuses on Plymouth, which was once the BB gun capital of the world. "It's really an urge to own part of history," Dubin said. "That's what stamps and covers are."

This is the 40th year for the Plymouth Show put on by the West Suburban Stamp Club, and it's going strong.

Show dates are Saturday and Sunday, April 25-26, at Central Middle School, Main and Church streets in Plymouth. Show hours are 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Admission and parking are free.

Dubin, who's handling





Show goers look at the various world class exhibits on display at last year's show. This year's event will be Saturday and Sunday, April 25-26, at Central Middle School in Plymouth.

publicity for the show, noted the popularity of "Stamps in Your Closet" with expanded hours this year. Experienced collectors and dealers can give you an idea of the value of a collection and how to sell it. Often, that's useful when people inherit a collection.

"They get all these stamp albums and they don't know what to do with them," said Dubin, a Ford Motor Co. retiree. The service is firstcome, first-served, and he said people last year were

patient.

The show will feature 2,400 pages of exhibits, 40 dealers from the U.S. and Canada, U.S. U.N. and Nordica Post Offices, seminars and society meetings, There will be a Saturday cachet bourse (exchange), and youth program. The Plymouth event is a qualifying show for the American Philatelic Society's annual Champion of Champions competition.

CHILDHOOD HOBBY

Dubin started collecting stamps at age 9. "Oh, my gosh, that's 50-plus years ago." Many collectors get an album as a child "and just kind of grew from there.'

Collecting often drops off when people are in high school or college, but they pick it up again later. The West Suburban Stamp Club has a number of women, Dubin said, as well as some junior stamp collectors of middle school or high school age.

Another local collector is Sandy Strzalkowski of Redford, who's handling show chair duties this year, a job that's traded off. She joined the club about 10 years ago after her husband got his childhood stamp collection back and took their son to the Plymouth show.

"Before that, I did not collect at all," said Strzalkowski, a financial adviser. She began going to shows and "started getting the courage to talk to dealers about this and that."

She now collects covers, canceled items showing British postal history. Strzalkowski finds quite a bit in that category, because we're so close to Canada and there are ties between Canada and Great Britain.

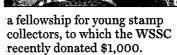
She noted it's more unusual for a family to collect stamps. The couple's son, now 23, is in the Army and will travel from California for the Plymouth show. "He is taking a long weekend just for the show," his mom said.

COLLECTOR TO CURATOR

One local former junior collector, who was a stamp dealer at a young age, went to Georgetown University. "He has stayed with the hobby," Dubin said of Alex Haimann, now a curator for the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C., and active in the American Philatelic Society. Haimann will be the banquet speaker for the club in Plymouth the show weekend. The society is promoting



Club members Andrew Mazzara and Bill Chase at the 'Stamps in your Closet' table offer advice on collections.



"Alex kind of grew up in our club," Strzalkowski said. She's pleased Haimann advocates so much for younger collectors, as the hobby needs that. "It can be a very relaxing hobby, I think," she said. "I've learned a lot as people talk about their collections." She appreciates learning about history and cultures she wouldn't otherwise know. "It's a great learning opportunity, especially for youth," Strzalkowski said.

In addition to the Plymouth Show, the club meets the first and third Friday of the month at the Plymouth Historical Museum at Main and Church streets in Plymouth. Doors open at 7 p.m. and meetings include social time, a program and stamp auction. "You get to talk with people who have the same passion you do, which is fun," Dubin said.

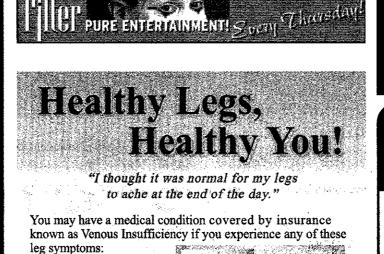
Strzalkowski said the show will draw 600-800 people, especially from Michigan, Ohio and Indiana, on

Saturday. Sunday attendance drops a bit. The show has been held at the same location" each year.

In conjunction with the show, the club is offering for sale a colored cachet cover celebrating the 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth. Each cover will have one of the recently issued four Lincoln commemorative 42 cent stamps, with a special show cancel picturing Lincoln's likeness.

Collectors can purchase the covers at the show or by mail for \$2 each, or \$5 for a cover with all four Lincoln commemoratives. To order by mail, send a check or money order plus a No. 10 SASE to WSSC, c/o Diane Gorney, Box 700049, Plymouth, MI 48170.

Call (734) 699-1026 for additional show information. Advance registration available at the club Web site: http:// www.plymouthshow.com. The event is the only Michiganqualified American Philatelic Society national show in the 30-show "World Series of Philately" circuit.



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5

THE TREATMENT OF RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS TODAY

Over the past five years, physician thinking on the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis has undergone a great change. For years the motto was "go low, go slow," meaning that since medications used in rheumatoid arthritis were potentially dangerous to the liver and immune system, a physician should use these drugs with caution. Starting with a small dose and increasing the amount only after months of use on the previous level was the standard practice. Investigations of this approach revealed that patients' rheumatoid arthritis continued to progress despite therapy. Other studies showed that a more vigorous, response with quicker use of newer drugs at high doses gave much better results. These newer drugs included the Anti-TNFs, Rituxan, and Orencia, Furthermore, . when these drugs were combined with methotrexate, the resolution of joint swelling and pain often was prompt and persistent. At present, the consensus in the medical community is that physicians should treat rheumatoid arthritis as soon as the diagnosis is strongly suspected or reasonably confirmed. This approach is particularly important early in the onset of the disease. The stronger the therapy and the earlier it is begun, the more likely the physician will be able to control the arthritis Changes in the way of treating rheumatoid arthritis Illustrate how science, constantly questioning and always investigating, leads to better care. www.drjjweiss.yourmd.com

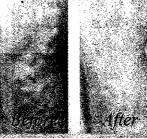
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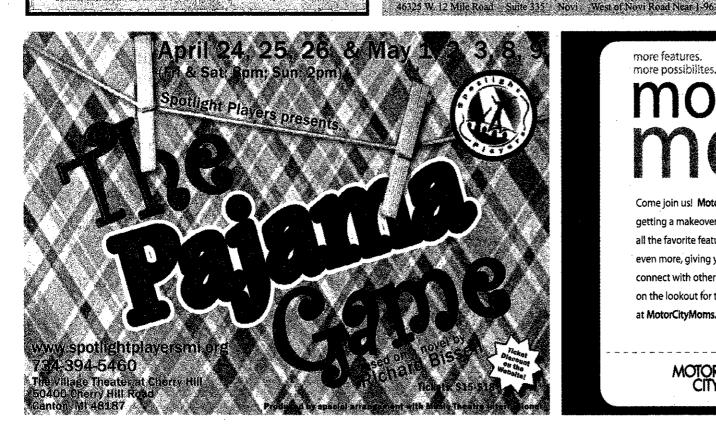
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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 19, 2009

NEIGHBORS

Students earn designation as a Michigan green school

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN O&E STAFF WRITER

The lunchroom at Our Lady of Good Counsel School probably won't be any less noisy than it was before Easter break, but it sure promises to be greener.

Starting Monday, students will measure and weigh the waste from their lunches. There should be less because for weeks they've been learning about reducing, reusing and recycling. That not's a new concept for the 624 students in kindergarten through eighth grade. The junior high has been recycling paper since 2001. The effort is one of a dozen reasons Our Lady of Good Counsel recently earned a Michigan Green School designation, a state program which began with Gov." Jennifer Granholm signing the Michigan Green Schools Act in May 2006. Private and public schools must achieve at least 10 of 20 energy-saving and environmental tasks.

Throughout the school, students have been busy conducting energy audits of classrooms. In Marcia O'Malley's first-grade class, groups of students were quietly working on posters instead of playing during indoor recess.

GETTING INVOLVED

"The kids have been very involved," said Kay Reilly, principal of the school in Plymouth Township. "We have two teachers, Marcie O'Malley and Kaelah Lesnau, who are especially involved with kids to reduce their trash and understand their impact on landfills. We planted a native Michigan garden last year and hope for it to be in full bloom soon. We also adopted a polar bear, an endangered species, and hosted an ecology speaker



who spoke about wild woodlands and brought a possum. We are committed to this. It's part and parcel of what we do every year."

This year the school hopes to reduce waste even further during its Eco-Friendly Lunch Week April 20-24, in recognition of Earth Day Wednesday, April 22.

Will Taylor always brings a sandwich in a plastic bag for lunch but is switching to a recyclable container. He and Robert Barnes and Brendan West were proudly displaying their poster in the school library. The images of endangered animals such as tigers, elephants and bears were recycled from magazines. Will wishes people would stop hunting these species.

Cara Forfinski and Regan Thorp were just as concerned about endangered animals. They were showing off their Save the Earth poster made for Pat Rossow's third-grade class. Flipping through magazines they found a photograph of gorillas.

'The whole week is to create a focus for kids to be more aware of what they can do to become eco-friendly," said Reilly. "They're encouraged to bring lunches in Tupperware

School volunteer Laurie Catanzaro gathers lunchroom trash at Our Lady of Good Counsel School. The school hopes to reduce lunchroom waste during its Eco-Friendly Lunch Week April 20-24.

and reusable materials. We're also going to integrate math projects, religion, social studies and science with protecting God's creation. If we change kids' attitudes, we're going to change the next generation. We're big into being good stewards of God's creation. If we can make kids aware of being good global citizens, we realize that's the key to getting people to change their behaviors."

Reilly hadn't thought about lunchroom waste until O'Malley brought her concerns about the Styrofoam trays to the principal's attention.

CAN-DO ATTITUDE

"She told me the trays were filling up landfills. I started looking and found recycled cardboard trays which are a little more expensive but the reduced costs of a new pizza vendor nearly offset the expense. We did not have to raise the prices of lunch," said Reilly. "I told the teachers 'We can do this."

O'Malley's class actually did an experiment to see if the recycled trays break down. The first-grade teacher is always looking for ways to introduce lessons about saving the environment whenever possible. The 28-year-old

Canton woman is going for a master's degree in ecological teaching at Lesley University in Massachusetts. As part of the graduate program, she spent three weeks in Maine studying habitats. It was a life-changing experience that she brought back to the 6- and 7-year olds to inspire them. On the floor in one corner of the room friends Rebecca Espinoza, Gabby Price and Amberley Schmude were putting the finishing touches on a poster. They were learning water bottles were bad for the environment. A bin of crayons sat nearby.

"We need to start forming habits early, to start small to get as close to zero waste as possible," said O'Malley before Easter break. "Today I opened lunch boxes and found lots of plastic bags with pretzels, yogurt cups, plastic utensils. The plan is to weigh the waste before and after to notice the difference. We're going to take the food scraps out to Maybury Farms, banana peels, for the pigs. These kids are going to be our leaders and need to work on problem solving. We want to get them excited about nature and where they live with science demonstrations, projects like hiking. Last October, we picked up trash along Tonquish Creek and found more than half (of the trash) could be recycled." Dylan Snyder recycled the

plastic bags and candy wrappers he found into a poster. "This is what you don't want if you want to keep the earth

healthy," said Dylan, 6, as he held up the trash-filled poster on saving the earth. For more information about

the Michigan Green Schools designation, visit www.michigangreenschools.us.

ichomin@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2241



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

First-grade teacher Marcie O'Malley is leading the green revolution at Our Lady of Good Counsel School in Plymouth Township.

(*)





NEIGHBORS

online at hometownlife.com

The

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The Senior Alliance will host Public Hearing

Sessions for input regarding the FY 2010- FY 2012

Multi-Year Plan for services to persons age 60 and

older in Western and Southern Wayne County.

Monday, June 8, 2009

The Senior Alliance

3850 Second Avenue, Suite 201

Wayne, MI 48184

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Romulus Senior Center

36525 Bibbins

Romulus, MI 48174

2:00-3:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 18, 2009 **Dozier Recreation Complex**

> 2025 Middlebelt Inkster, MI 48141

2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

The Multi-Year Plan draft will be available online

May 15, 2009 at http://www.TheSeniorAlliance.org

Written comments accepted until June 11, 2009.

For more information, call

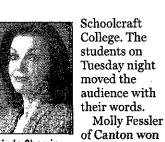
734.727.2070

Local students give peace a chance

ll that the young students were trying to say was give peace a chance, as one by one they read their award-winning essays Tuesday night at Unity of Livonia. The event concluded the search for today's brightest minds to speak out against war and find pathways to peace through conflict resolution.

It was a special night for

the high school and college students who were recognized by Citizens for Peace, sponsors of the competition, and it was a special night for me because I was invited to speak about the importance of writing and how it can make a difference. The students reminded me of the Vietnam War era when students across the country held sit-ins on campuses like



of Canton won Linda Chomin first place in the high school division for her

essay on peacemakers, Nelson Mandela and Sophie Scholl, a young student who spoke out against the Nazi party during World War II and eventually was executed. She wrote that war is caused by fear and can only be eradicated through understanding.

Fessler was one of the student journalists who wrote for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers series last year.

"I used their words to show they were successful in creating pathways to nonviolence," said Fessler, a 16-year old junior at Plymouth High School. "They were still able to speak out and make peace even with adversities.²

In this day and age Fessler has taken a different path. In September 2008 she founded her high school's peace club. Richard Fessler is very proud of his daughter. He sat in the audience snapping photos as

the winners received their awards.

"She's very talented and a thoughtful young writer," said Richard Fessler. "She has a strong interest in writing. She's a peace activist."

State Senator Glenn Anderson said he was proud to be in the company of folks whose mission is peace. "The young people recognized tonight are great examples and have such a positive impact."

BOOKS ON PEACE

Rosemary Doyle, a member of Citizens for Peace, told the audience how the idea for the essay contest came about late last year. The group has spent the last couple of years assembling the Peace Collection of more than 500 books available at the Livonia Civic Center Library. Doyle was hoping to create awareness of the collection by encouraging the students to use the books as a resource for their essays. When the group first started researching books on peace they found war topics were far more prevalent.

Lauren Schwarz, a Madonna University student, quoted Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in her essay, which won first place in the college division. She wrote that lack of respect and under-

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Highland Park Housing Commission is requesting proposals for Professional Architectural Services to implement the Capital Fund Program, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Funds, Fair Housing Act and ADA Compliance Certification. A Request for Qualifications packet can be obtained by an email to general@highlandparkhc.org or by mail at the address listed below. All final proposals must be submitted by April 30, 2009 at 5:00 pm EST by mail

Attn: Dorene Jamerson, Highland Park Housing Commission, 13725 John R. Street, Highland Park, MI 48203, (313) 868-4500 phone.

Publish: April 12 and 19, 2009

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PEACE AT HOME

the essay.

perspective."

Annie Robbins, a second year

nursing student at Washtenaw

Community College, admitted

the question - How do nonvio-

- when she began research for

Robbins, "We all have the same

basic needs. We need an under-

standing of the other person's

Arthur Burse, an 11th

grade student at University

Preparatory High School in

lent practices promote peace?

"It starts at home," said

to not knowing the answer to



school category of the Citizens for Peace essay contest. Vincenza Mueller,

the group's vice president, presented Fessler with the award on Tuesday.

Molly Fessler, a junior at Plymouth High School, won first place in the high

Two of the winners couldn't standing leads to war. People attend Tuesday's nights celneed to educate themselves ebration. A friend of Raja Alabout religions and cultures to promote a culture of non-Meraisi, a senior at Universal violence. Violence begets vio-Academy Detroit, read that lence. Peace begets peace.

violence is never the key to any solution. Nonviolence is the only solution to every problem. Al-Meraisi won second place in the high school division.

George Mills concluded the program by reading the essay by Kevin Szawala, a graduate student at Wayne State University.

We must realize we are all the same race, the human race."

The night was filled with good advice for all of us. If only we would heed their words.

Linda Ann Chomin is the health and community life reporter for the Observer & Eccentric. She can be reached at Ichomin@hometownlife.

J.h

and the line of

Service Se

Detroit, took third place in the high school category with his com or (313) 222-2241. essay about choosing nonviolent practices over violence. Severe back, sciatica and leg pain guide that you should know about ... available free Have you tried pills, injections, therapy, surgery or massage?

Shane L. Stanley, DC, is offering The Severe Back, Sciatica, And Disc Pain Guide for local residents suffering from severe back, sciatica and leg pain. Discover why your treatments have failed and a possible new solution that most doctors have not heard of.

Call 1-800-469-3618 (24-hour recorded message) or go to: www.midischerniation.com



B6 (*)

NEIGHBORS

MILESTONES



Ursum-Brady

The Rev. Kimberly Ursum nd Floyd Brady announce heir engagement. The bride-to-be, formerly rom Livonia, attended Bentley High School and graduated from Churchill High School. She attended Michigan State University.

Her fiancé, from Flint, eceived his G.E.D. from Carmen-Ainsworth Adult Education.

They met at Family Worship Center in Swartz Creek. The Rev. Ursum is youth pastor and her husband-to-be is worship eader there. The couple will wed in July 2009 in the Flint area.

Nicole Christine Van Bynen and Timothy O. Estheimer announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Randy and Ellen Van Bynen of Canton. She attended Salem High and Eastern Michigan University, and is a branch manager for Chase Bank.

Her fiancé, son of Donald and Charlotte Estheimer of Southgate, attended Melvindale High and Napa Valley College. He owns Primo's Pizza in Allen Park. A May 2009 wedding is planned at North Congregational Church, Farmington Hills.

BIRTHS

IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

The Observer Newspapers wants to know what's going on in your neighborhood. Send items to Linda Chomin, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226-3124 or Ichomin@hometownlife.com.

HELP AVAILABLE

Food is available for those in need during this economic crisis. Trinity Church in Plymouth is once again offering a food pantry in April. Deadline is Thursday, April 23, for the Trinity Church Food Pantry on Saturday, April 25. Recipients must reserve a pick-up time in advance by calling (734) 459-9557 Monday-Thursday, April 20-23. Trinity Church is at 10101 W. Ann Arbor Road, west of Beck, Plymouth,

A weekly drop-in Food Cupboard (non-perishable items) is available 10 a.m. to noon Saturday mornings at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 16360 Hubbard, Livonia.

SOCCER BENEFITS

Garden City High School soccer is hosting a no limit Texas Hold 'em tournament Saturdays, April 25 and May 2, at Bumpers Bar and Grill on Newburgh in Westland. The tournament will be a fund-raiser to help support the soccer teams at Garden City High School. It costs \$30 to buy in with one \$20 rebuy. Dealers will be provided. The cash payout will be determined by the participation. The event starts at 1 p.m. with check in from noon to 12:45 p.m. For more information, contact Coach Torni at gcvsoccer@aol.com or (734) 522-4094.

BARBERSHOP CONCERT

The Renaissance Chorus holds its spring show 7 p.m. Saturday, May 9, at Sacred Heart Byzantine Church on Six Mile, east of Middlebelt, Livonia. Tickets are \$15, \$14 for seniors, and available by calling Frank Adams at (248) 477-2782.

This year's show features a retrospective of songs the chapter sang over the years including Under The Boardwalk, Dream A Little Dream, Lida Rose, America the Beautiful, and Are You Lonesome Tonight. Additionally, the show spotlights a step-out quartet and the guest quartet, Chordiology, the 2007 district champions. Past members also will be recognized.

The chapter always is looking for new members who enjoy singing. It will hold a guest night 7:30 p.m. Tuesday May 19, at Kirk of our Saviour Church on Cherry Hill, west of Newburgh in Westland. It welcomes all men - even those who simply enjoy singing along with the radio or who like the harmony of different voices. Prospective members do not need to be a music major or know how to read music.



Gus is looking for his 'forever home.'

B7

(*)

DOG OF THE WEEK

Gus is the featured dog at Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption this week.

He's 3 1/2 years old and is very affectionate. To learn more about adopting Gus, call Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption at (866) 438-

Adoption days are scheduled noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 2, at Pet Supplies Plus, 29493 W. 7 Mile, Livonia, and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 3, at Canton Pet-Co, 43435 Ford Road.

at Pets & Bets, a fund-raiser for no-kill rescue groups 1 p.m. to midnight Saturday, April 25, at Bentley's Restaurant, 5586 Drake, south of Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield.

Admission is free from 1-6 p.m., and pets

Michael Donat Deschaw was born Oct. 13, 2008, at University of Michigan Hospital, Ann Arbor.

Van Bynen-Estheimer

His parents are Genevieve Leclair and Ryan Deschaw of Plymouth.

Proud grandparents are Diane Leclair of Plymouth, Teresa Deschaw of Plymouth, Don (Barb) Leclair of Plymouth and Larry (Wanda) Deschaw of Plymouth. Great-grandparents are June and Herb Lazarus of Venice, Fla., Chris and Mary Seward Whitmore Lake, Barb and Don Leclair of Knoxville, Tenn., and Gus and Thelma Deschaw of Lincoln Park.



Michael Donat Deschaw

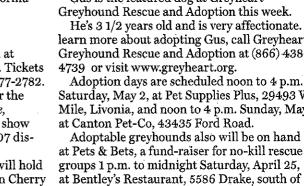
Alyson Giuliana Masters was born March 10, 2009 at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, Livonia. Proud parents are **Che** and April Masters of Westland.



Alyson Giuliana Masters

STEVEN M. HYDER, Attorney, P.O.

Box 373, Whitmore Lake, MI 48189



are welcome. Tickets for the evening activities are \$20 for casino only, \$30 dinner only, \$50 for both. They're available in advance. For details, call (248) 636-PETS or visit http:// PETSandBETS.org.

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

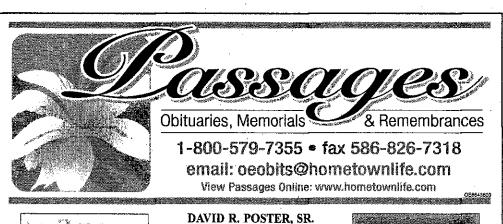
Meadow Brook Theatre A Professional Theatre Located on the Campus of Oakland University EXTENDED STAYHOTELS presents



April 22 - May 17, 2009

Come see this Hysterical Musical Comedy by the creator of Cats and *The Phantom of the Opera*





Age 70. Of Luzerne, former-

ly of Westland. Passed away Tuesday, April 14, 2009 at

home surrounded by his wife

and children. He was born April 17,

1938 to the late John and Cecilia of

Wayne, MI. He was employed by Hayes Wheels of Romulus as a

machinist and served in the Army for 10 years. In 1960, he married Nancy

Winnie. He is survived by his wife;

his children, David R. Jr. (Debra) and

Cynthia L. (Matthew) Bartz of Westland, Brien S. (Judith) of

Commerce Twp., Joseph F. (Donna)

of Canton and Nanette L. of

Westland: three brothers, four sisters,

children. He was preceded in death by

his parents and brothers John, George,

and Thomas. Visitation will be Sunday, April 19 from 5-9 p.m. and

Monday, April 20, 3-9 p.m. with a Rosary Service at 7 p.m. at Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 34567 Michigan

Ave., Wayne, MI. Funeral Service will

be Tuesday, April 21 at St. Mary Catholic Church, 34530 Michigan

Ave., Wayne, MI where he will lie in

grandchildren, five great-grand-



ALYCE MARIE COLE

Age 87, lifetime resident of Bloomfield Hills. April 14, 2009. Loving wife of the late Howard. Dear mother of Dr. Susan Gail Cole, Douglas (Peggy) Cole, and Linda (Jay) Donaldson. Cherished grandmother of Howard, Cynthia, George, Kathryn, and Lauren. Alyce is also survived by her sisters Edith Nielsen, Mary Lou (Jack) Pascoline, and Ellen Brown. Funeral service Monday, April 20, 2009 - 11 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 1589 W. Maple Rd., Birmingham. Alyce will be in-state at 10:00 a.m. until time of service. The family will receive friends Sunday 2-7 p.m. at Modetz Funeral Home, 100 E. Silverbell Rd., Orion. Private family interment at White Chapel Cemetery. Suggested memorials to Beaumont Hospice or Mental Illness Research Assoc. (MIRA) Onl ine guestbook www.modetzfuneralhomes.com



BARBARA M. DAVIS

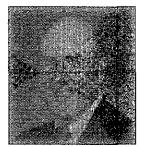
Of Grand Blanc, formerly of Plymouth, Michigan, age 76, died peacefully Saturday, April 11, 2009. Barbara resided at Clare Bridge of Grand Blanc. Barbara was born July 29, 1932 in Elgin, IL to Monroe and Eleanor Thompson. She was the youngest of five girls. After graduating from Olivet Nazarene College with a degree in Education, Barbara married Edward Davis on December 22, 1955. They lived in Grand Rapids, MI for several years before moving to Plymouth. Following a short teaching career, Barbara was a secretary and homemaker. She enjoyed needlework, gardening, antiquing and traveling with friends. Barbara was a long time member of Detroit First Church of the Nazarene located in Far mington Hills, MI. She was the "unof-ficial greeter," always smiling and greeting people with a warm hello. She is survived by daughters, Melinda Weber and husband Larry of Flushing, beth Hillman and husband Brian of Sherman Oaks, CA; grandchildren, Emily Weber, Grant, Troy and Tate Hillman. She is also survived by sisters, Juanita Thompson and Virginia Carron. She was preceded in death by husband, Edward Davis, as well as sisters, Lucille Thompson and Dorothy Chellew. The family would like to offer their sincere gratitude to Dr. Braver, the entire Clare Bridge staff and Home & Hospice Advantage. The love and care they gave to our mother will always be remembered. Those desiring may wish to make a donation to the Alzheimer's Association in her memory. Barbara will be buried along side of her hus-band in Plymouth, Michigan. Your condolences may be shared with the family at swartzfuneralhomeinc.com

state at 9:30 a.m. with Mass at 10 a.m. Interment with Military Honors will be at 2:30 p.m. at Fort Čuster National Cemetery in Augusta, Michigan.

RUSSELL P. ROBINSON, JR. Age 80. 2/8/29-4/3/09, served in Korean War 1950-1953 - Chosin Reservoir Campaign,

retired from sales at New York Carpet and Clyde's Carpet, did route sales for Cook Coffee, Sanders and Awreys Graduated from Franklin High 2006 with grandson Raymond P. Jr. Beloved husband (58 yrs) of Gayle L. Dear father of Kathleen M. (Paul) Law, Linda L. Cinader (Laura Moore), Debbie A. (Gary) Fox, Mary K. Robinson (formerly Sturm), Rickie G. Judy), Randy J., Raymond P. Sr. Robert P. (Monique Ulrych), Ronald G. (Heather) and the late Russell C. Also survived by 16 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, one brother, four sisters and one deceased brother. Interned at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, MI. Funeral Mass was at St. Bernardine Siena Catholic Church. www.griffinfuneralhome.com

WARD TO DE CAMERANDO A. S. Shur Surger, Mr.



GEORGE E. SCHUBERING

April 15, 2009. Age 86, peacefully at home in Bingham Farms. Proud vet-

eran US Navy serving dur-ing WWII. Retired after 34 years as an account executive for Levi Strauss & Co. Former board member of the Birmingham YMCA, the Birmingham Lions Club and the Venice, FL. Rotary Club. Beloved husband of Margaret L. (nee. Netzorg) for '60 years. Dear father of Susan Flynn Thomas) and Rebecca McNaughton Jack). Grandfather of Maddie, Sarah and Grant. Brother of Terry Koerns, Marian Shadler (Larry), Lewis Schubering and Lonna Mentzer (John). Uncle of David Netzorg and many nieces and nephews. Family will receive friends at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward Ave. (btwn 13-14 Mile), Tuesday 3-8 p.m. Funeral service Wednesday 11:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1589 W. Maple Rd., Birmingham. Visitation begins at church 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers family suggests memorial tributes to Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, 24359 Research Northwestern Highway, Suite 225, Southfield, MI 48075. View obituary and share memories at

www.DesmondFuneralHome.com ADESMOND See



ROBERT H. WATKINS

Age 65 of Westland. Passed away at home January 6, 2009. Please join family and friends for a celebration of Bob's Life at V F W Harris-Keher Post No 3323 (Wayne Rd. & Avondale) on April 25th from 12-3 pm. Arrivals may begin at 11 am.

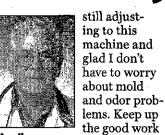


Loyal readers drop a note on washers, refrigerators

hanks to the several dozen readers who have dropped me a note these past two weeks. You have kept me busy.

Staying with the subject of clothes washers, here's what Marlene had to say after she followed my advice:

Hi, Mr. Gagnon, I thought I would report back to you on what I did purchase and my thoughts so far. I did go with your suggestion and bought a Speed Queen top loader. Again, having had a front loader for nine-plus years it has taken time to readjust my washing habits. I think this is the biggest adjustment people have to make either way they go. They should understand that the two washing methods are very different. With the top loader, I love the fact that I can just drop in the clothes and add to it if needed and it's much easier on the back. There are no fancy bells and whistles on this machine but I find I have only used two of the four modes for washes. I am finding I must be overloading this machine because the clothes get all tangled up. Still working on that. I am appalled by the amount of water it uses but I wonder how my front loader washed with so little. I also find the clothes are damper than they were with the front loader. I really liked the spin power on my old machine. I could also put more clothes in the front loader. I didn't get the Speed Queen front load model because the door was so small and low in front. On my old washer the front door opened for easier access. I'm



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

Craig's list and a repair man picked it up for parts. I'm glad parts of it may have a new life and it didn't end up in a land fill.

you do. I really

appreciate

reading your

column. PS.

I put my old

machine on

Connie writes: "Joe, you have helped me in the past and I need some advice on purchasing a new refrigerator. I currently have an 18 cubic foot Amana refrigerator that is over 22 years old (always trouble free). I have always believed if you purchase a quality product you will have many years of service-free problems. I am looking to buy a new 22 cubic foot refrigerator now, with a top freezer and just a simple ice maker, in Bisque. Those all seem to be difficult criteria. because most new refrigerators now are either side by side or French door styled, and the color options frequently are only stainless steel, black or white. I finally decided I would purchase a Whirlpool refrigerator hoping this was a quality product. When I went to the Internet I found hundreds of 2009 complaints regarding the melting of the relay switch (which I know was a recent

GARDEN CALENDAR

and Using," at 7 p.m., April 22, at Rosemarie's Massage, 595 Forest, Suite 6A, Plymouth, \$3 fee includes refreshments made from herbs. (734) 591-0209 or e-mail to vlhicks@ aol.com.

Yard Scraps to Garden Treasure Advanced Master Gardeners and composters Nancy Perry and Luann Davis of the Canton Garden Club, will talk about using inexpensive vermicomposting methods to enrich soil and reduce waste, at 7 p.m., April 22, at the Canton Public Library, 1200 South Canton Center, Canton. Register for the free program by calling

massive recall), and lots of complaints about the ice makers. In addition, many people are stating the interior shell is cracking because of shrinkage to the insulation underneath. They are saying Whirlpool does not consider this to be a warranty issue, because they consider this a "cosmetic" issue. Joe, what brand refrigerator would you recommend as a quality product, for an average consumer who can't afford a \$3,000-\$5,000 refrigerator with all the bells and whistles they seem to be adding to them now? Thank you for your advice."

My dear readers, you make it very difficult for me to recommend brand name products to you. I wish I could with a certain amount of assurance that the product you buy will last for years with trouble-free service. To be dead honest with you, I can't anymore. I, like you check out the complaints logged on the Internet and they just reaffirm the many columns I've written in the past 20 years. At one time I was so ashamed of the unethical repair companies there used to be in my industry. I did something about it but the quality of today's products is a detriment I will not be able to cure. Stay tuned.

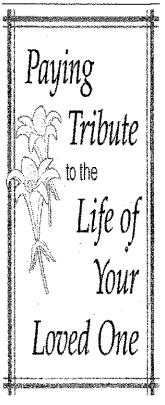
Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600 and Sundays at 2 p.m. on WDTK 1400. You can e-mail your problems and guestions on appliances to appldr@twmi. rr.com

als, climbing vines, herbs, scented geraniums, edible offerings such as strawberries, rhubarb, onion and shallots sets, seed potatoes, and other plant varieties will be sold. MBGNA members may attend a party and plant sale from 3-7 p.m., Friday, May 8. Along with volunteers and area Master Gardeners providing information and advice at the plant tables, local garden experts and MBGNA staff will offer free demonstrations on a variety of garden topics Saturday and Sunday: Karlee Shafer, edible garde

88 (*)

MARGARET MYERS (NEE SZASZ)

Age 84, of Garden City, MI, passed away peacefully on April 13, 2009 surrounded by family members after a courageous battle with dementia. She is survived by her loving husband of 61 years, Charles, beloved daughters, Betty Myers. Sharon Myers Shaw and Susan Myers Probert, grandsons Christopher & Alexander Probert, brother Andrew Szasz Jr. and nieces Debbie, Suzie, Betty, Kathy and Kelly. Margaret was the proud, supportive wife and mother to her family members who remember how she loved to play the accordion, garden and cook. Margaret was the child of Hungarians who came to live in West Virginia and was greatly loved and will be missed by her family and friends. Services were held. Arrangements by the Santeiu & Son Funeral Home.







BENNETT W. ROOT, SR.

Long-time resident of Birmingham, died peacefully Monday, April 13, 2009 at St. Mary's Hospital in Grand

Rapids, MI. He is survived by loved ones Barbara Evans, his four children, Ben Jr., Tom, Jim and Anne, daughters-in-law Helen, Laura and Kathy, nine grandchildren and six great grandchildren. He was married to Mary E. Mayfield of Flint, MI. Ben was born in Birmingham to Edwin and Eloine Root on April 24, 1917. After graduating from Birmingham High chool and University of Michigan (BS Chem. Eng. '37), he worked at Exxon, assisting in the development of synthetic rubber. He and Mary, his wife of sixty years, wed in May, 1941. In 1942, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy, studied meteorology at MIT and served as a Lt. jg. in the Pacific Theater. After the war, he returned home to raise his family on Webster St. and Bradford Rd. Until his retirement, Ben worked at the U.S. Rubber Co. (Uniroyal) Jefferson Avenue plant where he developed prototype and enterprise computer based quality management systems in conjunction with IBM. He served his community as a member of the Birmingham Planning Board, a member of the Birmingham School Board and a Vestryman at St. James Church. He was a lifetime member of the Senior Men's Club. Ben, a trumpeter in the Michigan Marching Band, loved classical music, especially opera. He was also particularly fond of gardening, cultivating bonsai and serv-ing as a caretaker of a portion of the gardens at the Cranbrook Institute of Art. Services will be held at St. James Episcopal Church, Maple Avenue, in Birmingham on Tuesday April 21 at 11:30 a.m. Remembrances may be to Clark Retirement made Community-Benevolent Fund, 1551 Franklin Rd., Grand Rapids, MI 49506. [Matthysse-Kuiper-DeGraaf Funeral Home, Wyoming, MI.].

OBITUARY POLICY

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

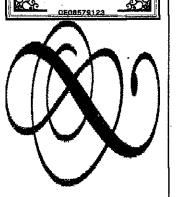
Deadlines:

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

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

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Jennifer Musztuk 586-826-7318

For more information call: Jennifer Musztuk 586-826-7115 Charolette Wilson 586-826-7082 or toll free 800-579-7355 ask for Jennifer or Charolette



22650 Ford Road at Outer Driver in Dearborn Heights, (313) 278-4433; and 155 Maple at Jackson, Ann Arbor, (734) 332-7900.

If you have an item for the garden calen-

dar, submit it at least two weeks prior to

the event to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@

Janet Macunovich, co-founder and

senior instructor of the Michigan

add color to the garden at 3 p.m.,

Sunday, April 19, in the Ann Arbor

Visit local English Gardens stores at

6370 Orchard Lake Road at Maple,

West Bloomfield, (248) 280-9500:

School of Gardening, shows how to

hometownlife.com.

At English Gardens

Water solutions

store.

Beth Rowley, owner of Landscape Beauty by Design, will offer practical, water-saving advice on mowing, fertilizing and watering your lawn at 7 p.m., April 21, at the Canton Public Library, 1200 South Canton Center, Canton. She'll also talk about creative landscaping to save water. The program is free, although registration is required. (734) 397-0999. Herbs

Vicki Hicks Home and Garden Services will present "The Wonderful World of Herbs: Growing, Preserving

(734) 397-0999. Worms!

Kids, grades 4-6, can learn how to recycle food waste with live worms and learn how to maintain their own pet worm bin, at a free class, at 2 p.m., April 25, at the Canton Public Library, 1200 S. Canton Center Road. Registration required, call (734) 397-0999. Plant sale

The University of Michigan Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum (MBGNA) will hold its 29th Annual Spring Plant Sale 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday, May 9, and noon to 4:30 p.m., Sunday, May 10, at the Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor. Nearly 25,000 pots of perennials, native plants, accent annu-

Kris Adler, pruning, 11:45 a.m. 12:15 p.m. Saturday. Janet Macunovich, perennial combinations, 12:30-1:30 p.m., Sunday, \$5 per person; \$3 for U of M students; free for MBGNA members; call (734) 647-7600 to register. T.J. Smith, rain barrels, 2:45-3:15 p.m., Sunday. Children's activities 1:15-4 p.m., Saturday. For more information, visit www. mbgna.umich.edu or call (734) 647-7600.

9:30-10 a.m. and 10:15-10:45 a.m.,

Nicole Lloyd, container gardening,

e,

,

Saturday.

11-11:30 a.m. Saturday.

REUNION CALENDAR

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

Birmingham Groves Class of 1969

40th high school reunion will be at 6:30 p.m. Friday, July 24, 2009, at The Community House in Birmingham. Contact Sue (Dickson) Carlson at (248) 737-1398 or grovesclassof69@aol.com for more information.

Brighton High School Class of 1989

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

Cass Technical High School Class of 1959

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

Class of 1969

Planning a reunion. Contact Kayninilu@aol.com or Kathy Shoebridge @ Klivingston@nu-core.com. Dearborn Heights Riverside Class of 1967

A 42-year reunion is planned for Sept. 18-19, 2009. Event includes: Friday night graduate-only gettogether with pizza and salad (\$10) at DeLuca's, 27424 W. Warren Road, Westland; Saturday night dinner at Joy Manor, 28999 Joy Road, Westland, Tickets

for Saturday event are \$35 per person. Contact Gerry Porta for more information at (734) 718-9401 or gwiatr@gmail.com.

Detroit Blessed Sacrament

Class of 1952

Planning a high school reunion on June 27, 2009. Looking for classmates, Call Shirley Boots at (734) 525-8746,

Detroit St. Brigid

Class of 1959

Planning a reunion and looking for classmates.

Contact szonyek@att.net with any information about classmates.

Detroit schools

Planning a mini reunion for anyone who graduated from Bagley Elementary in January 1957 or Post Junior High School in January 1960 in Detroit. If interested, call Gloria Weinman Little at (248) 352-9114 or e-mail to Marlene Kutnick Yamron hahatdc@ yahoo.com. The reunion is planned for Feb. 27, 2009. Henry Ford II

Class of 1982

Looking for classmates to attend a reunion picnic. on June 6, at Stony Creek MetroPark. A reunion also is planned for 2010. For details, contact Gwynne (Doemer) Bambach at (248) 740-9759, ford21982@aol. com or visit www.classreport.org.

Detroit St. Casimir High School Class of 1959

Planning a Sept. 13, 2009, class reunion. All upper and lower classmates invited. Contact Judy (Zimski) Coogan at JudyCoo@hotmail.com or (734) 675-0148 or Pete Rakowski at PJcruisin@wowway.com.

St. Thomas

Reunion for anyone who attended Detroit St. Thomas Apostle, 7 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Oct. 24, 2009, at The American Polish Cultural Center, 2975 E. Maple, Troy. There will be a complete sit-down dinner including all drinks and music. The cost per person is \$45. For information, call Rose Ann Filar-Novik at (248) 770-1271.



(CP) **B9**

U.S. Half Dimes 1873 & Older\$5 to \$5,000	\$2 1/2 U.S. Gold\$135 to \$3,000
U.S. Nickels 1883 & Older\$5 to \$5,000	\$3 U.S. Gold\$600 to \$10,000
U.S. Three Cent Pieces 1889 & Older\$5 to \$5,000	\$5 U.S. Gold\$200 to \$5,000
U.S. Two Cents 1873 & Older\$5 to \$5,000	\$10 U.S. Gold\$450 to \$10,000
U.S. Indian Head 1¢ 1909 & Older50¢ to \$5,000	\$20 U.S. Gold\$900 to \$25,000
U.S. Large Cent 1857 & Older\$8 to \$10,000	Buying 1 oz. Gold (Krand, Eagle, Maple)per \$930 ea. & up
U.S. Half Cent 1857 & Older\$20 to \$10,000	Proofs\$1,500 to \$50,000
	Platinum 1 oz\$1,000 & up
\$1 Silver Certificates (before 1958)Up to \$2,000	Commemorative Gold\$150 to \$5,000
\$2 & \$5 Bills (before 1967)Up to \$1,000	Bust \$ 1794-1804\$500 to \$25,000
Original Packs (before 1967)Up to \$30,000	Seated \$ 1840-1872\$100 to \$25,000
ConfederateUp to \$500	Trade \$ 1873-1885\$50 to \$10,000
Large Size	Morgan \$ 1878-1921,\$11 to \$20,000
Obsolete MoneyUp to \$250	Peace \$ 1921-1935\$11 to \$1000
	ALL GOLD SCRAP JEWELRY WE BUY ALL CURRENCY

OPEN: MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:45 AM - 4:30 PM • SATURDAY 10 AM - 2 PM RICH STILES BUYS MILLIONS OF DOLLARS WORTH OF COINS AND CURRENCY ANNUALLY AND OUR NATIONAL RETAIL SALES AFFORD YOU THE OPPORTUNITY TO CASH IN AT TODAY'S HIGH PRICES.



Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 19, 2009

Celebrate Mother's Day at area Metroparks

Treat mom to a special day at the Metroparks on Mother's Day weekend. Special programs on Mother's Day weekend are: "That's My Mom," Saturday, May 9, at 1 p.m., Kensington Metropark Farm Center near Milford/Brighton. Visit the moms and their newborn

NOTICE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

WEEDS TO BE CUT ON LOTS IN THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: On or before May 1, 2009, it shall be the duty of every owner, occupant or person having charge of any land within the Township of Plymouth, Michigan, to cut and destroy noxious weeds before they reach a seed bearing stage and to prevent such weeds from perpetuating themselves or becoming a detriment to public health, or shall cause the same to be done. Failure to comply with this notice and Section 32.050 of the Plymouth Township Ordinance means that the Township will enter upon such lands and mow the weeds and bill the property owners for the service, as provided in Section 32.070 of the Plymouth Township Ordinance.

The Charter Township of Plymouth will begin mowing all unmowed lots or plots of land on May 15, 2009, without further notice to the property owners.

> Joe Bridgman, CMC Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth

> > OEC

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Publish: April 12, and 19, 2009

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PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit Bids for Moving Bentley and Tonda Elementary Schools.

Bidding documents may be picked up at the office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335 on or after April 12, 2009. Bids will be received until 10:00 a.m., local time on Wednesday, April 22, 2009 at which time they will be opened and read publicly at the Plymouth Canton Community School, E.J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170. Bids received after this time and date will be returned. Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope supplied by McCarthy & Smith, Inc. and Faxed proposals will not be accepted.

There will be a Pre-Bid Meeting and Site Walk-Through on Wednesday, April 15, 2009 @ 1:00 p.m. at the Tonda Elementary Cafeteria located at 46501 Warren Road, Canton, MI 48187. Questions regarding the scope of the project may be addressed to Mr. Doug Underwood of McCarthy & Smith, Inc. at (248) 427-8400. Plymouth Canton Community Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids received and to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding documents. This project is to be bid at the prevailing wage rate.

The bidder shall disclose any familial relationship as required by the State of Michigan on the proposal pricing form. This form must also be signed and notarized in order for the bid to be accepted.

Board of Education Plymouth-Canton Community Schools THOMAS WYSOCKI, Secretary Publish: April 12 and 19, 2009 babies at the Farm, and learn how these moms provide for their babies. Then make a craft for your mom or a special person. Fee: \$3 per child. Registration is not required. For additional information, call (248) 684-8632 or (800) 477-3178.

"Welcome Home Bird Bash: Celebrating Migratory Birds," Sunday, May 10, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Marshlands Museum and Nature Center of Lake Erie Metropark in Brownstown. Come for early bird or lazy afternoon walks, speakers, special exhibits, craft sessions and more. Donations appreciated. For the schedule of activities, call (800) 477-3189 or (734) 379-5020. "Horse-Drawn Hayrides,"

Kensington Metropark Farm Center, near Milford/Brighton, Sunday, May 10, noon to 4 p.m. Visit the farm animals, and then take mom on a relaxing horse-drawn hayride past the fields and through the woods. Hayrides are \$3 per child, \$5 per adult. For more information, please call (248) 684-8632

or (800) 477-3178 "Mother's Day Wildflower Hike," Sunday, May IO, at 1 p.m., Activity Center of Hudson Mills Metropark near Dexter/Ann Arbor. Take a guided hike to discover the spring wildflowers in the park. Fee: \$2 per person, moms are



CITY OF PLYMOUTH PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED USES OF 2008 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS

Pursuant to Federal guidelines, the City of Plymouth is announcing its objectives and possible uses for developing projects using \$29,850 of un-programmed year 2008-2009 Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.

OBJECTIVES:

- To provide benefits to senior citizens.
 To provide benefits directly to persons of low/moderate income and/or areas in which at least 51% of the residents are of low/moderate income.
- 3. To maintain a high level of performance in the management of all CDBG funded programs while offsetting administrative costs to the General Fund

PROPOSED YEAR 2008-09 PROJECTS:

The City currently has \$29,850 of un-programmed 2008-2009 CDBG funds that must be spent by December 31, 2009. City Administration has identified the following potential project for use of these funds:

1.	Installation of ADA compliant entry doors at the west and south entrances to Plymouth City Hall		\$29,850
BLIC I	FARING:	TOTAL	\$29,850

Citizens are invited to comment on the proposed project listed above, and to suggest other projects. All projects must meet one of the Federal CDBG objectives.

A public hearing for the purpose of receiving comments on the proposed uses of 2008-2009 un-programmed CDBG funds, and additional suggestions for use of said funds, will be held at the Plymouth City Commission Meeting on May 4, 2009 at 7:00 pm in the City Commission Chambers located on the second floor of City Hall at 201 S. Main Street.

> Linda J. Langmesser, CMC City Clerk

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Publish: April 19, 2009

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free. Pre-registration required. For additional information or to register, call (800) 477-3191 or (734) 426-8211.

"Mother's Day Teas," Sunday, May 10, at 1 p.m., Oakwoods Metropark Nature Center near Flat Rock. Treat mom to a fun program on the history of tea including a variety of teas to sample. Fee: \$4 per person. Pre-registration required. For more information, call (800) 477-3182 or (734) 782-3956. "Rookery Watch," Sunday,

May 10, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Wildwing Lake of Kensington Metropark near Milford/ Brighton. Come to the Wildwing Lake boardwalk near the Nature Center to look through spotting scopes at the great blue herons building their nests. For more information, call (800) 477-3178 or (248) 685-0603.

"Toddler Trek with Mom," Sunday, May 10, at 2 p.m., Belle Isle Nature Zoo in Detroit. Enjoy a simply sense-stimulating walk with your toddler while searching for the feels, smells, colors and sounds of nature. Pre-registration required. For additional information or to register, contact the Nature Zoo at (313) 852-4056. A Metropark interpreter offers this program at the Belle Isle Nature Zoo, operated by the Detroit Zoological Society.

A vehicle entry permit is required to enter any Metropark and is \$20 annually for regular admission, \$12 annually for seniors, or \$4 daily. General information can be found at www.metroparks. com or by calling (800) 47-PARKS.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

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

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

> Joe Bridgman, CMC Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth

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

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PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for *Diving Board Platforms for Salem High School Pool*. Specifications and bid forms are available by contacting Dan Phillips in the PCCS Purchasing Department at (734) 416-2746. Technical questions can be directed to Harry Lau of the PCCS Maintenance Department at (734) 416-2970. A pre-bid meeting will be held at the Salem High School Pool, 46181 Joy Road, Canton 48187, on Wednesday, April 22, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. Sealed bids are due to the E. J. McClendon Educational Center (attn: Salem Diving Platforms), 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48187 on or before 10:00 a.m., Monday, May 4, 2009. A notarized familial disclosure statement and valid bid bond must accompany all bids. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

> Board of Education Plymouth-Canton Community Schools THOMAS WYSOCKI, Secretary



25% OFF any single item Valid thru May 2nd Not Valid in Combination with Any Other Coupon or Promotion

Take

Publish: April 12 and 19, 2009

As With All Winters, Spring Brings Forth Renewal And Rebirth!

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 Arbors • Trellises • Obelisks • Bistro Sets • Wood Benches
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- FREE SEMINAR Author/Advanced Master Gardener Janet Macunovich Saturday May 2nd 1-2:30 pm Please Call for Reservations Seating is Limited

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I would think the place was cool even if I didn't own it

Owner

Lou Mascolo

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 19, 2009

(LWReGc-B9) (CP)

BII

HEALTH & FITNESS

Parkinson's series informs patients

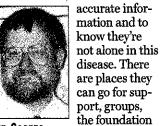
BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN ... O&E STAFF WRITER

When Harry Knitter was diagnosed with Parkinson's 18 years ago he and his wife Nancy knew nothing about the disease. He had been walking the dog and noticed the left side of his body felt weaker. It took a while to rule out possible causes but eventually he learned he had the disease which causes the loss of dopamine-producing cells in the brain. The news came when he was 55-years old. At a loss to understand what was happening to him, Knitter and his wife Nancy sought help from the Michigan Parkinson Foundation. They attended a series of lectures on living with the disease and found hope. Beginning April 28, patients and their families can learn about the chronic, progressive neurological disorder during educational programs held on five consecutive Tuesdays from 1-3 p.m. at the Livonia Senior Center.

"At first the medication seemed to help," said Nancy Knitter of Rochester Hills. "We thought he could do okay then he started to require more medication and began having some of the side effects.

By 2001 Harry Knitter decided on deep brain stimulus surgery and ended up writing the book, Never Give Up: New Hope for Parkinson's Patients. Nancy co-founded the Rochester Parkinson's support group with Pat Yarnold who was diagnosed at age 21 after becoming involved with the Michigan Parkinson's Foundation. She scheduled the speakers and facilitates the Litonia series.

"When Harry was diagnosed there wasn't much out there," said Knitter. "We went and learned a lot. These days people are coming forward shortly after being diagnosed. We want to give people good and



Dr. George the foundation to direct you to different doc-

tors. Everyone is different. My husband never had a tremor, always rigidity. Today he's doing well. He still can get himself dressed and showered."

Parkinson's patients need to stay positive and informed.

"Doctors work with you as an individual looking at your symptoms and try to address those and over the years as those change," said Knitter. "Progression varies from person to person. Some stay at one stage for the rest of their life. Others progress at varying rates but there is help. At the Foundation we like to say, You may have Parkinson's disease but it doesn't have you. You still might be able to enjoy golf if you play."

Dr. Edwin George has seen the advances in Parkinson's treatment over the years which have improved quality of life. He saw his first patient as a resident in 1987. Today the neurologist serves on the faculty of the Wayne State School of Medicine and treats patients in the university's health center which is part of the DMC. A movement disorder specialist, George also has a PhD in pharmacology so stays up to date on the latest medications. He'll present an overview of Parkinson's Disease which can cause rigidity and slowness or difficulty in movement.

"Parkinson hinders the brain's ability to send messages and make movements happen," said George of Bloomfield Twp. "I'm going to talk about the loss of neurons and why some people lose those neurons. We all lose some as we age, but people with Parkinson lose half of them. There could be a genetic cause and family history. We don't totally understand what those genes do. The other 9 out of 10 (patients) don't have those genes. There probably are some other genes not identified that make people susceptible."

Even though research on the cause is still ongoing physicians today have many more medications to treat the disease.

"People do very well for many years and years longer than they used to because of medications and surgery. We have maybe more than 3 times as many medications now," said George. "All medications have side effects in somebody. One patient may tolerate side effects, some not so now we have other medications which do the same thing, and we have a number of medications to control side effects.

"The other big advance is in surgical treatment. Before CAT and MRI scanners we were unable to access deep parts of the brain. We can now implant very fine wires and provide stimulation in areas to control the motor system. Other areas are still emerging and still experimental. In medications we'd like to find something to stop the loss of the neurons to slow or modulate the progression of the disease. Encouraging is the surgical area where people are trying to implant cells to take the place of lost neurons. Stem cell is thought to be very useful but not established yet. There's also research going on to genetically modify the supporting cells around the dopaminic neurons."

Physicians have learned a great deal over the years about the complexities of the disease by treating patients.

"There are other things affected like blood pressure,

the gastrointestinal system. We have ways to manage these non motor symptoms of Parkinson's disease," said George who also sees patients at the John Dingell Veterans Administration Hospital. "There's a greater incidence of depression and memory problems. A lot of benefit can be obtained from physical, occupational and speech therapy, and lifestyle changes. How much difference it makes to get exercise. Patients can benefit from regular activity for constipation and blood regulation, and drinking plenty of fluids. With some medications they need to pay attention to protein intake. Some types of protein interfere with medication getting to the brain." The Michigan Parkinson

Foundation was founded in 1983 to support patients trying to decipher the myriad of information surrounding the disease. The nonprofit organization was actually an outgrowth of the Living with Parkinson's Disease series starting April 28 in Livonia.

"The series was first presented in 1982 when there was nothing for people with Parkinson in Michigan at this time. Patients were saying we want a support group, an organization and we ended up developing the foundation. We now have over 50 support groups in Michigan. The program helps to provide



Nancy Knitter facilitates a series on Parkinson's at the Livonia Senior Center beginning April 28. Her husband, Harry, was diagnosed with the neurological disorder 18 years ago at age 55. The Rochester Hills couple are strong supporters of the Michigan Parkinson Foundation.

people with good information to get them started in understanding the complexity of the disease. Everybody's course is different. It's very frustrating to have because you don't know what's going to happen from day to day."

Pre-registration is required for the Living with Parkinson's Disease series. There is a fee. Call (800) 852-9781

For information about the Rochester support group, call Nancy Knitter at (248) 8528464 or Pat Yarnold at (248) 652-4620. Ruth Butler facilitates the Livonia group and can^{*} be reached at (734) 421-4208.

The Michigan Parkinson Foundation is based in Bingham Farms and can be reached at (248) 433-1011. The organization holds a walkathon and 5k run May 17, at Northville High School to raise funds. For more information, visit www.parkinsonsmi.org.

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



BOTSFORD CANCER CENTER



Community Open House

See Our New Facility. Hear from Cancer Experts.

Saturday, April 25, 2009 • 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Botsford Cancer Center physicians will be offering presentations throughout the day to the public. The times and subjects of each presentation are:

- 10:30 AM Craig Gordon, D.O., F.A.C.O.I., Clinical Oncology Associates, will present New Ideas in Breast Care.
- **11:30 AM** Ted Tenenbaum, Cancer Center Administrator and the Radiation Oncology physicians, will present an overview of the **Radiation Oncology Services**.
- 12:30 PM Richard Zekman, D.O., The Oakland Medical Group will present Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma.
- **1:30 PM** Michael Berkovic, D.O., FA.C.O.I., The Oakland Medical Group, will be providing an update on **Lung Cancer**.

Each presentation will allow time for questions from the audience.

27900 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills On the campus of Botsford Hospital, Grand River at 8 Mile. For additional information, call 248.442.7986. You have verifiable income sources that support the monthly mortgage payment, even if that income has recently been reduced. allowed in certain circumstances.

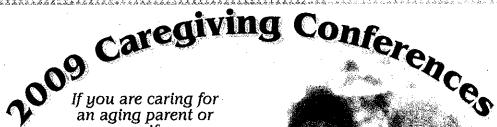
Delinquency <u>IS NOT</u> a requirement for eligibility

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42705 Grand River #201 - Novi, MI 48375



If you are caring for an aging parent or spouse or if you are a member of the sandwich generation-this event is for you!

Learn about giving care, finding resources & ways to cope with challenges

Four Dates and Locations to Choose:

Saturday, April 18, 2009 - 9:30am to 1:00pm St. Thomas Aquinas Church 5780 Evergreen Detroit MI 48228

Wednesday, April 22, 2009 - 5:30pm to 9:00pm Redford Community Center 12121 Hemmingway Redford MI 48239

Saturday, April 25, 2009 - 9:30am to 1:00pm Wayne County Community College 21000 Northline Road Taylor MI 48180

Monday, May 4, 2009 - 5:30pm to 9:00pm Summit on the Park 46000 Summit Parkway Canton MI 48188



Learn from our

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- Alzheimer's & Dementia

- Legal & Financial Issues

- How to Manage Stress

- Medicare/Medicaid

Veteran Benefits

- Nutrition for Seniors



Presented by: Adult Well-Being Services 313-359-0736, Caregiver Ministry Network 313-866-1443, CSSWC/Retire & Senior Volunteer Program, Neighborhood Legal Services- Elder Law & Advocacy Center 313-937-8291 Redford Township, The Information Center 734-282-7171, The Senior Alliance 734-727-2031 Wayne-Metropolitan Community Action Agency 313-843-2550 x 233, Wayne County Senior Citizens Services 734-727-7357 Call Any of the above phone numbers if you have any conference questions!

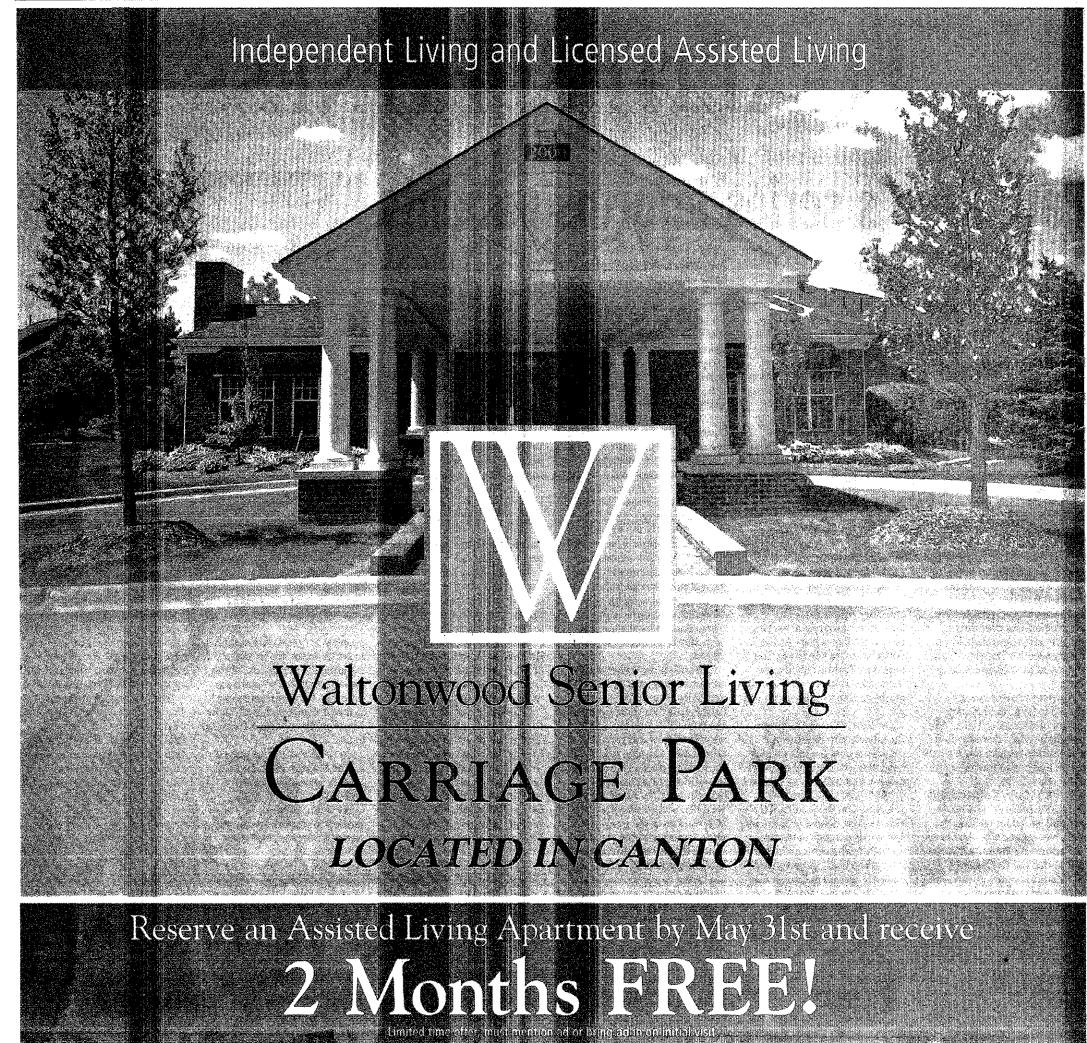
Partial Funding by the Senior Alliance & Detroit Area Agency on Aging

Register for this FREE EVENT at the conference!

Oakwood Hospital Health Screening Vendor Tables • Door Prizes • Giveaways! • Free Massages and Refreshments • Free Parking

(CP) (B10-LWReGc) Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 19, 2009

B12





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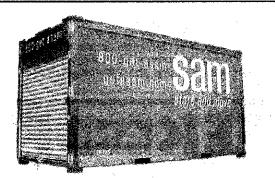
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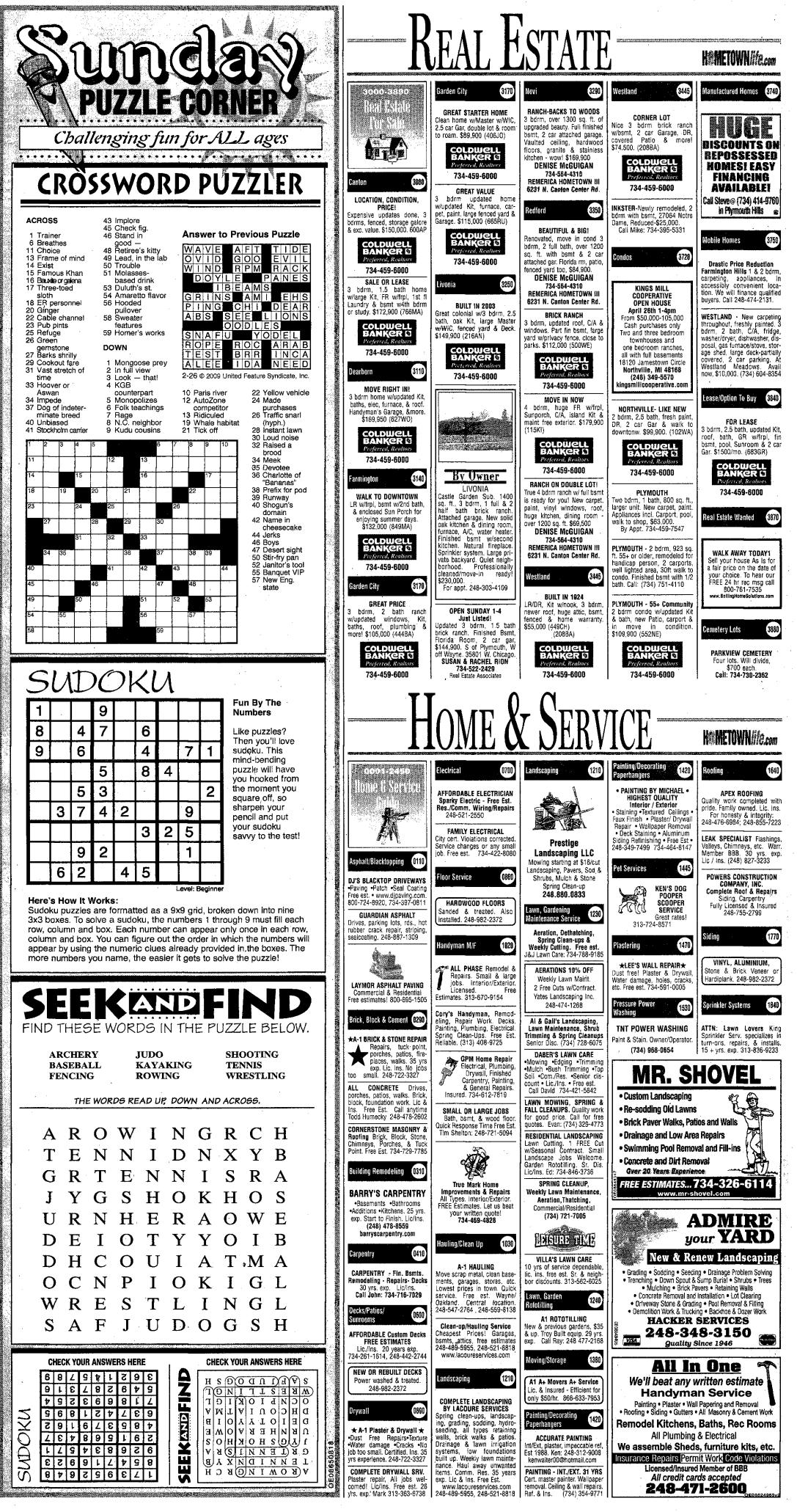
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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

VERY ATTRACTIVE

SBPF, 37, mother, looking for attractive, sexy, tall, dark-complected, employed, intelligent BM, 33-50, for friendship possibly leading to LTR. 22282115

WiDow Widowed WF 54", 125bs, blonde/greeh, down-to-earth, enjoys/line dining, musicats. Seeking SWM, 85-74, with schilar interests, for possible relationship. 1312020

CLASSY LADY SWF, 70 years: young, 56°, NS, average height, brownbrown, enjoys fishing, movies, travel, seek-ing honest SWM, 70-75, NS, who is not boastiu hut is well-droomed. Sense of humor a must Life is is well-groomed. Sense of humor a must. Life is ne-way street and I don't have time to back up. a one way 23307314

LOOKING FOR SOUL MATE Hi, I'm a 50 year lot wide with dark blonds hair, blue eyes, and I wear glasses. I enjoy reading, music, old movies, going up north, museums, historical places, quiet evening at home, and gardening. I have a good sense of humoi and love to laugh. I am also a very caring and considerate person. 2713/067

AFFECTIONATE WOMAN SWF, 59, enjoys oraft shows, flea markets, movies, dining, camping, sports events, Looking for SWM, 60-71, for fun and friendship, maybe more, **12306561**

DIVORCED? GETTING ONE? DWF, 55°, 1200s, long bionde/blue, well-propor-tioned, very feminine, attractive, self-employed. Seeking SWM, 48-58, 61°+, 2250s+, good sense of humor, energetic, traveler, outdoorsman, adventurer, manly genteman. 17692549 DIVORCED? GETTING ONE? "5" 120bs iono bionde/blue wel

HARD WORKER SEEKS SAME shioned BM, 29-49 SBF, 44, N/S, mother, seeks old-fashioned BM, 29-49, N/S, homebody, to explore all life has to offert I enjoy reading, bike rides, playing tennis. 2274519 SBF. 44, N/S, mo TAKE A CHANCE ON ME

SWPF, 48, educated, H/W proportionate, seeks edu-cated, professional male, 40-55, N/S, with sense of humor. Let's meet for coffee or a drink. 2311355

SEEKING MR. RIGHT SBF, 37, 5'5', nurse; mother of three, Christian values, N/S, social drinker; seeks SM, 32-50, race open, with similar values, **17310924**

TIRED OF BEING ALONE TIRED OF BEING ALONE DBF; 60; 5'3", full-figured, N/S, loving, independent, intelligent, down-to-earth, great sense of humor, en-joys going aut and romantic evenings at home. Seek-ing S/DBM, 50+, with similar qualifies and interests, who wants to enjoy the rest of life with no drama. 3311763

LET'S GET TOGETHER Sexy, mature, Intelligent BF, 35, 5'5", 130lbs, seeks mature, intelligent man, for casual dating and friend-ship. 52:57824

GOOD SENSE OF HUMOR? WF, 48, 53', brown/brown, has pets, N/S, great sense of humor, looking for WM, 45-56, who likes dhing out, museums, movies, reading and more, to do things with the total of the sense of the sense of the sense with the total of the sense of the sense of the sense the sense of the sen museums, mov with. 22290581

HOMEBODY SEEKS SAME SBF, 44, 527, 1680s, black hair, brown eyes, light complexion, N/D, N/S, enjoys movies, bowling, din-ing, plays, concerts, reading. Seeking SBM, 39-51.

ARE YOU THE ONE? AHE: TOU THE ONE? SF. 41, 5'4", dark complexion, brown eyes, short hair, looking to meet an honest, loval, funny man, 37-55, to spend a lot of time together. **17289947**

CURVACEOUS dimples, enjoys r&b

SWF, 47, 57" 1550s, hazel eyes, dimples, enjoya r&b music, jazz, dancing, dining cut, blues, sponts. Seek-ing SBM, 21-42, with eimikar interests, for thendship first, possibly more. **33263605** VERY DOWN-TO-EARTH

SBF, 37, 5'5", 125lbs, slim build, enjoys nice walks in the park, movies, bowling, basketball games. Seeking SBM, 30-43. **27299111**

ARE WE A MATCH? SBF, 38, very shapely, NS, light drinker, very inde-pendent, loves movies, sports, shooting pool, dining, Seeking SBM, 354, very independent, who enjoys life, movies, etc. **177397**3 LADY OF QUALITY SBF, 30-somathing, 57", laid-back, down-to-earth, seeks open, honest, loyal, faithful professional man, \$5-56, for LTP, No games, race open. 22310218

SEEKING COMPANIONSHIP

Attractive SWF, 5'5', 125bs, fun-loving blonde, retired would love the companionship of a pleasant gente-man, 65-75. **27891247** SEARCHING FOR A MAN ...

GREAT EXPECTATIONS Good looking SBF, hwp, Intelligent, mature, spiritual, seeking a SM, 577 + 40-50, physically fit, good look-ing inside and out, loving, who likes inseeling, for friendship first leading to LTR. 27147056

COULD YOU BE THE ONE? Bright, spunky, pretty SF, 47, educator, outgoing pretty eyes, wishing to meet a kind Jewish man, 45 80, who's kooking for commitment, love and laughter Bright, spu outgoing, man, 45-

LOOK NO FURTHER SBF, 16, 54⁺, king black hair, fight brown eyes, wants to meet that SBM, 19-22, who is tired of playing games. **33**311011 one special. 22113198 DBF SEEKS LTR

Attractive, thick BF seeks LTR with totally unattached male, 48-65, not into games. Must be ready to start a new found friendship and see where it goes. Ballroom dancing is a plus. 17310736

WARM SMILE WARM SMILE SBF, 21, N/S, looking for SM, 21-40, for friendship first, possibly more. Call me, let's talk and get to know each othert 27297187

PLUS-SIZED LADY ... PLUS-SIZED LADY... 34, 200lbs, saxy single morn, looking for SM, 37+, for friendship and dating leading to LTR. Is this you? Call met **17217234**

ACTIVE WOMAN SWF: 58, dark hair and eyes, N/S, social drinker, likes bowling, bingo, garage sales, furniy movies and more. If you would like to meet for colfee, let me know. 17262181

HELLO THERE Asian woman, 5'2', 180ibs, silm, attractive, health-conscious, vegetarian, N/D, N/S. Enjoye dining, movies, culet times. Seeking clean-out, fit, attractive, respectful, professional Asian or White male for dating and possibly more. 27113801

A WOMAN OF CLASS SWF, 68, looks younger, in search of a SWM, 62-69, who likes movies, dining, theater. Is it you? 12271085

DOWN-TO-EARTH Easygoing DWF, early 50s, would like to meet a re-ally nice WM, 50-65, with the same qualities, minimal baggage, to share the ups and downs of life. Seeking possible LTR. **Tr279171**

GREAT SENSE OF HUMOR SWF, 27, mother, enjoys swimming, walking, nature, being outdoors. Seeking similar SWM, 23-45, for com-panionship. **73:282578**

LET'S GET TOGETHER SBF, 54, 5'6', NS, enjoys life's simple pleasures. Seeking SB/WM, 48-62, NS, for friendship or more. 19282444

MUSICAL GIRL Christian WF, 19; enjoys playing guitar, singing, going to church and more. Looking for SM, 19-25, who enjoys the same things. 37292258

OUTGOING BF, 24, student, looking for BM, 35-45, to go out and have tun with. Friendship first, hopefully leading to neve fun with. LTR. 22292940

CALLING ALL GOLFERSI WiWF, 62, seeking goller, best friend, 62-70, must be honest, N/S, and active. Looking for LTR, don't delay call now. 1976914

PRETTY EVES SBF, 33, voluptuous in all the right places, enjoys life, long walks, intellectual conversation. Seeking SM, 30-50, similar interests. #2298970

BicAUTIFUL MAKEUP ARTIST Sincere, kind SWF, 53, proportionate, 56°, 124bs, professional, attractive, intelligent and educated, loves music, dancing, motorcycles, outdoors, movies and creative pursuits. Seeking attractive gentieman, 42-63, with like interests/qualities, for friendship/LTR. #920/001

SEEKING SAVED MAN SBF, 27, N/S, seeks one good man, 29-51, N/S, no games, who enjoys movies, bowling, church, for friendship first. 27265509

ARE YOU SEEKING? DWF; 60s, 5'2', Italian, brunette, attractive, well-dressed, sincere, loving, optimistic, likes theater, travel, dining, fitness, Wishing to meet N/S WM, 60-72, fitnancially secure, easygoing, good morals, loves family, for dating, **17630306**

GET TO KNOW ME Loving, open-minded SBF, 60, 145lbs, attractive, en-joys music, dining, concerts, travel, ISQ honest, com-passionate SM, 57-65, N/S. Possible LTA. **17963760**

I NEED A LOVE to keep me happy, Attractive, classy, delightful, charming WF, 49, no kids, seeks SWM, 45+, no kids, N/S, fun, loving, caring. **T586059**

SEEKING A GENTLEMAN

WF, 5'9", blond/blue, would like to meet a young-at-heart WM, 40-70, to hang out with, date and have a good time with. **17310164**

HITHERE! Mature SBF, 50, seeks sexy, handsome SWM, to develop a lasting relationship and maybe more. Let's meet soont 12/258278

MUST LOVE WRESTLING Full-figured, shapely BBF, 33, forely, seeks SWM (only) who enjoys wrestling, tootball, hockey, flehing, going to the movies for friendship first and maybe more, 12:266699

VERY LOVING PERSON Looking for a spontaneous, professional male, 25-40, race open, who is willing to go and have fun.

1273294 COUNTRY GIRL COUNTRY GIRL. COUNTRY GIRL Good-natured, classy, attractive, fun-loving SWPF, 54, platinum/blue, 5'5", HW-proportionate, enjoys travel, horseback riding, exercise, dancing, Seeking SWM, 55-65, NS, W0rugs, for serious retationship. If you love motorcycles call me. **12759845**

ARE YOU HERE? SBF, 61, enjoys going out, having fun, denoing, play-ing, laughing, and enjoying life. Seeking an honest SBM, 66-62, with varied interests, for possible LTR.

STILL SEEKING Very cute SBF, 57, 5'3", 122bs, Interested in fit, good-looking, confident male, 45-59, N/S, intelligent, sincere, down-to-earth, who wants to commit to some-

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SEEKING A FRIEND

SBM, 40, 6'3", 2401bs, wants to meet a down-to-earth SBF, 35-42, who is easy to get along with, for friend-ship, maybe more. 127303036

SWM SEEKS SBF

DWM, 37, NS, no kids, looking for SBF, 46+, to get to know. I'm a cool dude who cooks and has a good

WANT TO TALK? Sexy SBM, 35, N/S, light brown eyes, long hair, look-ing for SBWF, 18-24, to chat with. I like movies, dining, just chilling out. 13303045

NOT A GAME PLAYER

SWM, 46, smoker, no children, searching for a special lady, 28-42, who doesn't play games, loves the out-

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU

WM would like to meet a nice woman, 20-55, to de-velop a relationship with hopefully. If interested, give me a call. **13303066**

THE ONE TO CALL THE ONE TO CALL BM, 42, 5'8', 165lbs, enjoys all sports, bowling, walks in the park, quiet nights at home and barbecues. Lock-ing for an attractive, honest lady, 21-49, to go out and have fun with. \$3303275

A GREAT GUY Good-natured, good-looking SWM, 41, energetic, versatile, fun, passionate, into boating, casinos, flea markets. Seeking conversation SWF, for conversation

A LOT TO OFFER SBM, 43, 53°, 143lbs, grown children, enjoys fishing, boating, curings, working on cars. Seeking SB/WF, 21-45, for friendship first, maybe more. **17303815**

MOVING FORWARD

SWM, 39-years-old 5'8, thin and fit, N/S, light-blue

eyes, brown hair, open-minded and caring. Interests: film, music, and literature. Looking for friendship possi-bly leading to a more serious relationship. 23304387

SEEKING REAL WOMAN SM, 38, 6'2", brown/brown, likes cooking, danoing, watching sports and more. Looking for an easygoing female who is honest and secure. **73305549**

SEEKING LATIN LADY SEEKING LATIN LADY WM, 6'3", dark/blue, with great sense of humor, likes sports, movies, concerts, dining out. Would love to meet a Hispanic temale, 18-50, for dating, possibly more, **27308881**

SO WE MATCH? SM likes skating, music, horseback riding, going to

bars and spending time at home. Would like to meet a woman, 39-48, who is nice and likes going out. 17308942

GENUINE NICE GUY WM, 45, 61", blond/blue, N/S, social drinker, honest, caring, compassionate and a great listener, likes most kinds of movies, quiet times at home, music, travel and watching the Steelers play football. Seeking te-male, with similar qualities and values. Age, weight and race unimportant, just be a sincere person with Christian values. 27308313

LET'S GO OUT

BM, 5'9', 170lbs, medium build, looking for an intel-ligent female, 30-45, who likes to go out and have a lot of fun. **27309637**

NO DRAMA

SBM, 42, 5'9", 175/be, N/S, caramel complexion, en

joys the outdoors, movies, dining, Seeking SBF, 25-45, who is not into drama. 23309519

FULFILL MY LIFE SBM, 42, 627, 280lbs, short black/brown, dark complexion, loves Italian food, traval, time at home. Seeking that special, sexy, hill-figured woman who is

honest, caring, sincere, romantic, spontaneous, com-passionate, and ready for a relationship. 22309096

CALL ME

BM likes going to movies, having a good time, dining out and more. Looking for a lady, 24-52, who wants to go out and have fun. 23309673

A WALK AND A TALK

Try this easygoing, lovable SWM, 50, good listener, who enjoys book stores, coffee shops, nature and concerts. I seek a like-minded counterpart for where

IMMATURE WM, 61, good-looking, good sense of humor, interest-ed in politics, sports, the arts, tood. Seeking BF, 45-63. Glasses a plus. **127278802**

LET'S HAVE SOME FUNI

SBM, 20, 6'5", N/S, seeks attractive BF, 19-28, N/S, to

SEEKING A LADY

SEEKING A LADY SWM, 75, wants to meet an active WF, 55-70, who likes dancing, walks, movels, travel in the US. Will re-spond to all, 127474642

SOMEONE SPECIAL SBM, 61, 61*. H/W proportionate, brown eyea, beautiful smille, affectionate, getting ready to retire, homeowner, loves fishing, vegetable and flower gar-dens, antiques, walks in the park. Seeking SF, 45-63; 27295048

LONELY AND READY

SWM, 55, average build, Italian, Virgo, N/S, looking for a SWF with similar qualities and who's ready for a serious relationship. Call me if interested. Redford.

have some fun and kick it with! 25265907

ever it goes, 22200890

11860305

and connection. 22176478

doors, is honest, aaring, loving. 27302998

job. 22303043

110

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

LET'S MEET SOON! SWM, 44, 190ibs, vary good-looking, vary fit, I have a good jab, seeks nice woman, 25-44, to spend time with, leading to serious LTR. **57247784**

A SPECIAL GUY DWM, 58, 5'10", handsome and secure, seeks honest S/DWF, wisense of humor, who enjoys travei, gandle-light dinnes, plays, darcing, concerts, bearing? and movies, Friendship, possible LTH **17269646**

WORTH YOUR CALL! WORTH YOUR CALL! DM, 58, 577, 135lbs, necently retired, hoping to meet a petite WF, late 40e-late 50s, who enjoys classic cars, motorcycles, animais, outdoors, quiet times at home, Seeking SF, 48-59, for possible relationship. T312442

LONELY, GENUINE HEART SBM, 29, no children, light smoker, seeks sexy, attrac-tive SF, 20-31, who wants to see the real side of me.

MAXIMUM RETURN ON.... your invastment. SBM, 5'8', seeks mature, level-headed, down-to-earth female, 30-45, for fun, dating and possible LTR. 17293135

WM, 45, 55", short brown hair, grown kids, enjoys music, playing guiltar, travel. Looking for similar SF, 35-45. **17236097**

FUNNY & ATTRACTIVE

FUNNY & ATTRACTIVE SWM, 44, 57", likes outdoor activities, cooking, mov-ies, kids, animals. Seeking SWF, 30-45, to spend time together. **27297143**

LET'S MEET SBM, 49, 5'11", works as a DJ, loves movies, basket-ball, skating. Looking for similar SF, 29-40. 2312103

LOOKING FOR MZ RIGHT WIWM, 45, 5117, 220hs, is easygoing, fur-loving, en-joys a variety of activites, indeor/outloor. Looking for LTR, with the right person. **17265340**

LETS GET GOING! SWM 40s, attractive, good shape, great listener, en-joys good conversation, friendship, spontaneous fun, and laughter, seeks personable SWF for dating and more. 12128302

EASYGOING Sharp, sociable SWM, 45, with good character and pleasant personality, likes the outdoors, fishing, mo-tor sports etc. WLTM SWF, for dating and fun times. 19187614

LIFE IS TOD SHORT Very athletic SBM, 37, 5'9', 175bs, loves volunteer work, pets. Seeking nice-looking, fit BF, 28-36, with sweet personality. **17:274599**

SERIOUS WOMAN WANTED

SEM, 46, looking for that special persona for LTR, someone who enjoys walks, movies, sporting events, cuddling at home. Please be shapely, independent and know what you want in life. <u>T5692418</u> FEMININE LADY WANTED

Attractive SWPM, 48, 5'10", 190lbs, N/S, never married, loves outdoors, going to church, traveling, family time, candle light dinners, movies, long walks, holding hands, good conversation, seeking swe lady, 30-50, for possible LTR. 2291990 eet, femininé

SEEKING EBONY WOMAN Attractive SWPM, 41, seeking BF for dating. New to area and looking to explore the city. Sense of humor, easygoing, attractive, HW proportionate, affectionate, established, likes to travel. **172(2027)** WORTH & CALL

WORTH A CALL Attractive SBM, 35, seeks lady, 18-35, attractive, laid-back, for dating, friendship, poseible LTR. You won't be disappointed! **12283615**

WORTH THE CALL SBM, 41, N/S, seeks open-minded, fun, nice young lady, 21-50, to spend some time together and get to know. 32283851

WANTED: ONE NICE GIRI. SHF, 46, 510", average build, likes going out and having fun, movies, parties, just chilling and relaxing. Seeking SH/AF, tate 30s, for possible relationship. 17289039

YOU NEED ME SBM, 43, slim, well-groomed, attractive, seek attrac-tive, slim lady to get to know, for dating, maybe more. You won't be disappointed! **2291112**

QUALITY TIME TOGETHER SBM, 42, 63*, 200ber, no chicren, light smoker, looking for SBF, 35-45, who enjoys bowling, movies, shooting pool. 37291188 IS THIS LOVE? SWM, 34, 170ibs, 59°, into Church of Satan, the ma-cabre, theater, movie ortigue, music and living. For-mer musician seeking woman, 25-40, into the occult and ritual. 72392520

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12269770

SINGLE DAD WELCOME

PBF, 40, looks younger, attractive, independent, k ing, caring, enjoys working, dining out, quiet times home. Seeking handsome, well-built, warm-hearte pendent, lov-julet times at home. Seelong nandsorme, weirburg, mann har to of considerate WM, 38-43, to share what life has to of fer. 2298002

LET'S GET TOGETHER!

Sexy SBF, 40, N/S, seeks fun and with WM, 35-80, for triendship first, maybe more. 12/270132 HEART OF GOLD

SBF, 39, 5'6", average build, smoker, enjoys cross-word puzzlee, old-school ilfestyle, movies, dining. Seeking sthietc, active BM, 30-42, 6'+, smoker, for friendship, possible romance. 17266442

LET'S DANCE IN THE RAINI Pattie SBF, 36, 150lbs, brown eyes, mother of two, enjoys cooking, music, church. Looking for SM, 35-75. 12281372

GREAT-LOOKING BF. 35, seeks serious, mature, financially secure man to LTR. Call me; you won't be disappointed! 2283172

BEAUTIFUL SBF... 37, seeks SWM, 30-60, who is spontaneous and knows how to have tun. Casual relationship first, mayba leading to more. 37271683

ONE GOOD WOMAN LEFT SBF, 47, 517, tul-ligured, NS, likes rollerskating, ca-noeing, exercise, theater, travel. Seeking a gentleman, 45-70, who is healthy, tun-loving, financially secure, looks decent. **17287305**

A POLISHED DIAMOND Attractive, sexy BF, 34, seeks true gentleman. You won't be disappointed when we meet! 22287057

ONLY SERIOUS NEED REPLY Volptube SBF,42, volid like to meet a nice, seen-bus SBM, 35-50, who would like to become acquaim-ed with a woman and who is ready, willing, and able to commit. **17273603**

A NEW BEGINNING SBF, 47, 544", likes action movies, swimming, dancing, plays, outdoors, just having tun. Seeking SBM, 45-55, for triendship or more. **37289151**

PETITE AND CUTE

SWF, 35, great sense of style, very friendly, would like to meet a SWM, 38-45, who will love me for me. 12294943

THAT SPECIAL ONE SBF, 39, enjoys movies, walks in the park, picnics, just chilling. Looking for SBM, 39-45, for possible relation-ship. **17295025**

SEEKING STRONG BM Can you handle me? SBF, mid 40s, heathy and beau-flul, seeke strong, baid BM, 40-82, who knows how b handle his own business. I'm laid-back, gente, soft. 7295569

HONEST & DOWN-TO-EARTH

Cute, outgoing woman, 40, loves animals, the out-doors. Seeking honest, clean, honorable, compas-sionate gentleman, 40s-early 50s, for friendship, dat s, the outsionate gentieman, 40s-early 50s, for mendship, dat-ing, possible LTR. **17295421**

SEEKING A MATURE MAN Attractive SBPF, 35, N/S, N/Drugs, would like to meet respectable, happy SBPM, 25-50, to enjoy life togeth-er. 2300680

TAKE A CHANCE SBPF looking for SBM, 45-57, with no children at home, who likes to have a good time. I enjoy going to movies, dhing out, the park, outdoor and indoor activi-ties. Let's develop a friendship first, possibly leading to more. **TT306228**

MUST LOVE THE LORD

pass if on,

SBF, 18, 5'8', gospel singer, God-fearing, tooking for similar SB/HM, 18-27, for possible relationship. 22311174

TAKE A CHANCE!

SWF, 30, middle school art teacher, likes nature, mu-sic and learning new things. ISO nice gentleman, for dating and to share life together. **17233845** LADY IN THE WOODS

SWF, 50, locks younger, blondehzzei, 65°, average build, educated, dog lover, classy, saesy and fun, seeking compatible, outdoorsy, rugged, good-hearted make to share the good things in the. Livingston county.

CHOCOLATE TREAT

Refined, romantic, creative divorces, enjoys an edeo-be itestyle. Professionally employed, very youthrui and fun loving, 60s, enjoys dining, travel, music, the arts, tamily and friends. Seeking fit non-smoking gentie-men 50. #2741197

man, 50+. 2281197 DOWN-TO-EARTH Asian woman, 52°, 110/bs, silm, attractive, indepen-dent, loving, caring, enjoys movies, fine dining, travel, quiet times at home. Seeking very handsome W/AM, 47-56, IVS, clean-shaven, HW proportionate, for friendship first. **\$7281229**

IN SEARCH OF a man with a positive outlook for deting, dining out, and companionship. I'm a SWF, 58, 5'8'', HWP, and I enjoy walks, cycling, skling, snowshoeing, and more. 17289898

ENJOYS THE OUTDOORS BF, 5'5", 150lbs, ilkes cooking, listening to music, camping and more. Would like to meet a man to enjoy life with. 36-60. 17284318

ZOOMER SEEKS ADDED ZIP SWE 55.

SWF, 55, passionate about life, enjoys the outdoors, good political discussions, dancing, more. Would love to meet a man engaged in life. 53-70. **12284371** SINCERE AND HONEST Happy SF, loves country music, dancing. Looking for honest, sincere SW/BM, 30-60, children ek, for friend-

ship first. 2284932 MATURE MAN WANTED

SBF. 33. 5'4' 33, 5'4", 115lbs, caramel complexion, brown short blonde hair, wears glasses. Seeking tall, muscular SBM, 25-40, who enjoys bookstores, mov-les, dining, water. 27257856

KEEP COOL KEEP COOL SBF, 19, 5'3", looking for cool, down-to-earth, attrac-tive SB/HM, 18-25, who keeps it real. **12/28/7598**

PRETTY COMIC BOOK NERD SWF, 21, red hair, blue eyes, 510°, 165bs, mature bodymind, looking for a lonely handsome man, 20-30, race open, clean-cut, open-minded who are 30, race open, clean-cut, open-minded, make me laugh and who is with 12292913 I NEED LOVE

I NEED LOVE Fun-loving, down-to-earth, outgoing, smart SBF, 20, loves having fun. Seeking SBWM, 18-30, who shares my lust for life. 12300110 CLASSY LADY

SBF, middle-aged, attractive, enjoys dining, movies, plays and bowling, seeks a SM, 48-69, N/S, good sense of humor and good values/morals. **17207254** SEEKING SBM COMPANION

I'm short and cute, brown eyes, black hair, honest, funny good cook, very sincere. I hope to find a friend/ companion to enjoy things with. Preferably 55-75. Life is too short - have fun with me. **27302311**. SEEKING LOVING KINDNESS?

SEEKING LOVING KINDNESS? SBPF, 55, 547, Interested in developing new triand-ships, maybe more. Seeks energetic SM, 40-65, NS, who koves reading, midnight picnics, walking, and ex-citing conversations. Must have good SOH and sel-worth. **TP282618**

HOPING WE CLICKI SBF, 23, 51", 105lbs, wants to meet SM, 30-68, for trendship first, possibly more. Call me, let's talk. 27307550

IT COULD BE ME! SWM 35.6' browo/blue; muscular build looking for cial SF, 18-31, to hang out with and get to know. special SF 2294679

SEMI-RETIRED SBM, 41, 61", 220bs, NS, light drinker, likes movies, music, danois, dining out, travel, bowing and relaxing at home. Seeking SWF, 21-60, with similar interests, to settle down with. 2223532

LET'S TALK SWM 40 5'5" loves Looking for a female '5", loves to partyl Looking for a female 18-35, for friendship first, possibly more if it develops! 2294946

TALK TO ME!

SM. 36, 6'2", 210bs.

210 bs, medium build, loves working out. eet, loving, caring, kind SW/BF, 35-45. 500king & 77294942 MATURE WOMAN WANTED SBM, 38, 61", 207ibs, dark complexion, no kids, IVS, NDrugs, looking for SBF, 29-40, with same qualities. No dramal **37295452**

TAKE A CHANCE WM, 39, likes cars, all kinds of music, having fun, mov-ies and more. Looking for a woman, 30-59, to have fun with. 22296181

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS WM, 62°, 200bs, light brownblue, NS, dean-shaven, down-to-earth, looking for a temale, 25-45, H/W pro-portionate, NS, for dating, **15/296310**

LET'S TALK BM looking for BF, 26-54, with good sense of humor, who loves bowling, long welks and more. 33296604

THELOF CAMES? THELOF CAMES? Intelligent, attractive guy, 38, 6', slim, seeks woman, 30-40, slim/average build. I like movies, music, sports, concerts, etc. Open to new trings you might like. Look forward to your call **27297179**

LET'S GET TOGETHER BM, 61", 22016s, would like to meet a woman, 25-48, who knows what she wante in life, for fun, dating, com-panionship and possible LTR. \$299087

SEEKING A GIRLFRIEND SBM, 35, 6'3", 186lbs, brown eyes, likes singing, travel, basketball. Seeking similar woman, 20-35. 22299411

LET'S TALK SWM, 39, 6'3", NS, dark/bue, enjoys sports, movies, dining. Seeking attractive SB/HF, 18-50, for possible relationship. **13239949**

NO DRAMA SBM, 36, 5'11", 165lbs, slim build, medium complex ion, weil-groomed, D/D-free, N/D, spiritual, drama-free no children, independent, formantic, college-educated family-oriented, seeks cute, slim, down-to-earth fe-male 30.49, **T7299907**. nariny-criented, seeks cl. male, 30-49. 22299975

ARE YOU MISS RIGHT? SBM, 42, 510°, 225lbs, light-complected, from Detroit East Side, businese owner,NS, N/D, N/Drugs, no dra-ma, homeowner, seeks strong woman, 25-35, who is sexy, determined, assertive and together. 12700038

TALL, DARK, HANDSOME SHM, 39, seeks quiet, artistically creative woman, 49-61, with a beautiful mind. I hope you are the right onel 27300709

WINTER SPORTS Single DWM, 42, 61", 218lbs, hardworking, easygo-ing guy, Likes movies, bowling, and winter sports. Looking for SWM, 35-42, for dating, **27301662**

SBM, 42, looking for positive, intelligent SF, 32-48, with no negativity in her life. Call, let's see if we click **13301956**

CUTDOORSMAN BM, 57", 1650s, likes boating, swimming, basketball, fishing and entyoling like. Looking for a very intelligent, nice, honest, easygoing female, 30-50, who likes to have tun. 17302424

THE ONE FOR ME SBM, 38, 5'8", athletic bulld, seeks attractive lady for dining, movies, taking walks, reading poetry and more. **1302986**

YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE! Handsome, mature gent SWM, 50, traditional values, romantic, and thoughtlu, enjoys cultural events, an-tiguing, short trips, etc. Seeking SWF for friendship and companionship. 27176497 **GOOD BETTER BEST!** SWM, 49, 5'9', 195lbs, is nuts about nature, enjoys the outdoore, fishing, stc. Seeks compatible SWP, to have and hold. **17992943**

TRUE GENTLEMAN

WM, 75, would like to meet a female, 65-75, N/S, for friendship, companionship and more. 22293604 LET'S MEET FOR COFFEE

SWM, 70s, 5'4", N/S, would like to meet a lady, 65-72. I enjoy taking walks, riding bikes, taking trips. Seeking SWF, 62-75, for friendship, maybe more. 27275970

RETIRED SWM, 65, smoker, wants to meet a SWF, 48-67, pre-fer heavyset, for friendship first. I love cooking, devol-ing time to a loving companion. 33284754 SINGLE DAD

WM, 57", 150bs, brown/brown, medium build, two children, ilkes the outdoors, working on cars, having fun. Looking for a good, down-to-earth, honest, attrac-tive WF, 23-33, for dating. **17284933**

WELL-ROUNDED

DWM, 59, retired gentieman of independent means, emotionally/tinanoially secure, honest, ectedic, NS, seeks silender, physically fit woman who loves the outdoors. **32284895**

KEP IT REAL SWM, 55, 5'10', 150lbs, father of two, homeowner, wants to meet slender, average female, 25-45, who likes music, art, just hanging out. **17:287896** TALL AND ATHLETIC

TALL AND ATHLETIC SWM, 49, 627, 200lbs, partime personal trainar, browrblue, degreed, outgoing personality, enjoys outdoors, working out, new activities, seeking frendly SF, age/ocation open. 2531308

WANTED: NEW BEST FRIEND

Fun-loving, humorous SWM, 57, 6', seeks attractive, slim, HW proportionate woman, 35-55, prefer N/S. I love outdoors, fishing, gardening, movies, museums 12299425

CALL ME! SBM, 50, 195lbs, 6'1", physically fit, likes working out, plays, movies, concerts, bowling. Looking for SF, 45-52, for possible relationship. **37289336**

ARE WE A MATCH? SWM, 61, N/S, looking for a lady, 55-64, who enjoys If general taking walks, shopping, movies, the arts, card games. 22/301709 LET'S TALK SBM, 52, N/S, locking for a SBF, 45-56, 180-200ibs, to spend some time with and get to know. Friendship possibly leading to more. 33305831

READY FOR A RELATIONSHIP

Male, 50, tail, silm, attractive, brown/brown, no bad vould like to meet a nice, sweet, kind female 40-70. 12287,161

CALL ME! Honest, hard-working SWM, 510°, in search of hon-est, sweet, gentle SWF, 28-35. Friendship first, we'll take it from there, I enjoy mountain climbing, travel, life In general. **1309098**

MUSCULAR AND ATHLETIC

Tail, athletic SWM, 48, 62°, 2001s, brown/blue, no de-pendents, college-educated, clean-cut, good sense of humor, outgoing, seeks fitendly SF for fun. Age/oca-tion open. **37887540**

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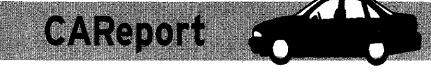
With sharp lines

and a clean, sleek surface, the Saturn Sky offers

a European look. Add to that decorative hood

Saturn Sky: A Great American Roadster

Advertising Feature





By Kevin Koloian For Avanti NewsFeatures and AllOpinionsAlltheTime.com

The Saturn Sky Roadster is basically a more stylish and a \$3,000 more expensive version of the Pontiac Solstice with more standard amenities.

The Sky may share its chassis and powertrain with its corporate cousin, the Pontiac Solstice, but that's where the similarities end.

The Sky has razor-sharp lines, which creates an aerodynamic-looking design. The Solstice's shape is more rounded without as much definition. The Solstice still looks nice -just not as sporty as the Sky.

There's good reason the Sky has a distinct look that separates it from the Solstice. The Sky's exterior reflects the virtual facelift of Saturn. This aggressive look is shown from the Aura sedan to the Outlook SUV. The new visage is especially evident at the vehicle's angular front end.

The Sky's beautiful body also evokes images of the 1960s European roadsters it was inspired by, with a contemporary touch, of course. Keeping with the Euro-roadster's formidable formula, the Sky is rear-wheel drive, with two seats, a cloth top and a reverseopening clamshell hood. No bells and whistles here.

The base model's 2.4-liter 4-cylinder engine makes the Sky just about as powerful as its rival the Mazda MX-5 Miata. It comes as a five-speed manual transmission, but is also available as an automatic for those who would rather have convenience than control.

There are two trim levels available for the Sky, the base model and the Red Line, which tops out at about \$30K. Standard equipment for the base model: 18-inch wheels, a manual cloth top with a glass rear window, automatic headlights, keyless entry, cruise control, power windows and mirrors, air-conditioning and a six-speaker audio system with a CD player.

The Saturn Sky Red Line caters more to those who seeking a thrill ride with a sporttuned suspension, performance tires and a standard limited-slip rear differential. Sporty handling aside, it's similarly equipped to the standard Sky, but has special interior and exterior styling details.

The cars now offer a powerful sevenspeaker system with an MP3-compatible indash CD changer as well as the option for satellite radio. The eye-pleasing, Premium Trim package adds leather seating, a leatherwrapped steering wheel with mounted audio controls, and metallic-trimmed pedals.

Either model you choose gets relatively good gas mileage. The standard Sky gets 19 miles per gallon in the city and 25 on the highway, while the Red Line comes in at 19 mpg in the city and 28 mpg for highway driving.

Steering is precise and remains tight when thrown into a corner. The ride can get a little choppy when go over rough road surfaces, though.



The weight of the car coupled with soft suspension makes it dip and dive, but its handling is still balanced with plenty of grip.

Although roadsters aren't designed to have roomy cabins, the Sky boasts enough room for taller occupants to sit comfortably with 43 inches of legroom and 39 inches of headroom. A wraparound dash, high-sitting windows and bolstered seats give drivers their very own commanding cockpit.

The interior is driver-focused with easy-touse controls and displays. And with its chrome and shiny black surfaces combined with optional leather seats, the driver is rewarded in style.

The Sky's manually operated fabric roof folds under a clamshell cover behind the passenger compartment leaving no visible evidence the car has a top stowed away.

Raising the top seems a bit tedious as it requires anchoring two bolts at the rear -- one on either side of the car. Saturn engineers should have borrowed from the Mazda Miata's manual top design, which can be raised or lowered while sitting in the car, instead of the repetitive entering and exiting just to feel the breeze in your hair. What if you're bald?

In addition, the Sky's trunk area, which the top folds into, can hold very little with the top down and provides just 5.4 cubic feet of space with the top up. But, then again, as soon you vents that hints at its dynamic performance and you've got a real head-turner.

decide you want a roadster you sign away your rights for cargo space.

Anti-lock disc brakes and stability control are standard equipment, as is OnStar. Side airbags aren't offered on any Sky roadster.

In National Highway Traffic Safety Administration crash testing, the Sky scored four stars out of five for both front- and sideimpact tests.

The Sky is equipped with a Passenger Sensing System, which automatically turns off the front passenger airbag based on the passengers' weight and position in the seat. Other safety and security features include remote keyless entry system including a panic alarm, and engine immobilizer with the PASSKey III theft deterrent feature.

If you a want a comfortable roadster that isn't short on style reach for the Sky, you won't be disappointed.

Kevin Koloian covers General Motors for Avanti NewsFeatures and allopinionsallthetime.com. Distributed by Fracassa News Group @2009, Fracassa Communications.

The Saturn Sky Vehicle class: Sports car. Power: 4-cylinder engine. Mileage: 19 city / 25 highway. Where built: Wilmington, Del. Price as tested: \$25,660.







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