

THURSDAY
August 13,
2009

The Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers

Volume 35
Number 14

75 CENTS

Fitness a 'Snap' in Canton - Strictly Business, B11

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CONNECTION

Board hopes

Unless something changes before 4 p.m. Friday, all four incumbent Plymouth-Canton Board of Education trustees will be on the ballot for November's school board election.

Trustees Judy Mardigian, Barry Simescu and Tom Wysocki all filed petitions with the Plymouth Township clerk's office to run for the three full-time board seats they currently occupy.

Mardigian and Wysocki seek their third terms, while Simescu seeks his second.

John Jackson filed for the remaining two years of a term to which he was appointed to replace former trustee Mark Slavens, who resigned immediately following his election two years ago when he was appointed to a Wayne County judgeship. Jackson will run unopposed.

Joining the incumbents on the ballot for the three four-year terms are Larry Martin, Eric Bacynski and Angela Davis of Plymouth Township. Martin has run before; Davis and Bacynski are seeking school board seats for the first time.

Candidates have until 4 p.m. Friday to withdraw their names from consideration.

Path progress

The Michigan Department of Transportation hosts a meeting tonight (Thursday) for local residents and anyone else interested in the state's plans to reconstruct a bike lane along I-275.

MDOT representatives will talk about the project to revamp the bike path between Michigan Avenue and Hines Drive this fall. The meeting takes place 6-8 p.m. at Fellows Creek Golf Club, 2936 S. Lotz.

The \$4 million project is set to start in October, halt for the winter, then resume in the spring. Completion is expected in the fall of 2010. The project is designed to reconstruct the bike path, repair pedestrian bridges, upgrade signs and install signals at some intersections.

Junior Miss

Plymouth-Canton Junior Miss is looking for contestants to participate in this year's program, which takes place Friday, Nov. 20 at the Cherry Hill Village Theater in Canton. Senior girls who will graduate from high school in 2010, reside in Plymouth or Canton and are interested in participating should go to the www.ajm.org Web site and register as a contestant.

The program is for senior girls who reside in Plymouth or Canton, no matter which high school they attend.

Questions should be directed to Marissa at pcjrmiss@yahoo.com. Officials are also still looking for volunteers who would be interested in helping with the program.

Worthy of worship

Methodist church is fabric of members' lives

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As the historic Cherry Hill United Methodist Church in Canton celebrates its 175th year, lifelong member Dorothy Richards, 76, fondly remembers her childhood days going to Sunday School.

"I used to walk or ride my bike a half-mile to get here. We had excellent Sunday School teachers," she said, sitting in the fellowship hall. "I can't think of going anywhere else. It's become a good habit."

Richards, who chairs the trustees committee, remembers when sweet corn grew around the church, which stands on Ridge Road south of Cherry Hill as a proud reminder of the township's more rural past.

"I was baptized here, and I've never turned away," Richards said, smiling.

Like Richards, 59-year-old Bob Simmons of Inkster is a third-generation member of the church.

"I was raised here, so it's my family," he said. "I feel kind of an ownership."

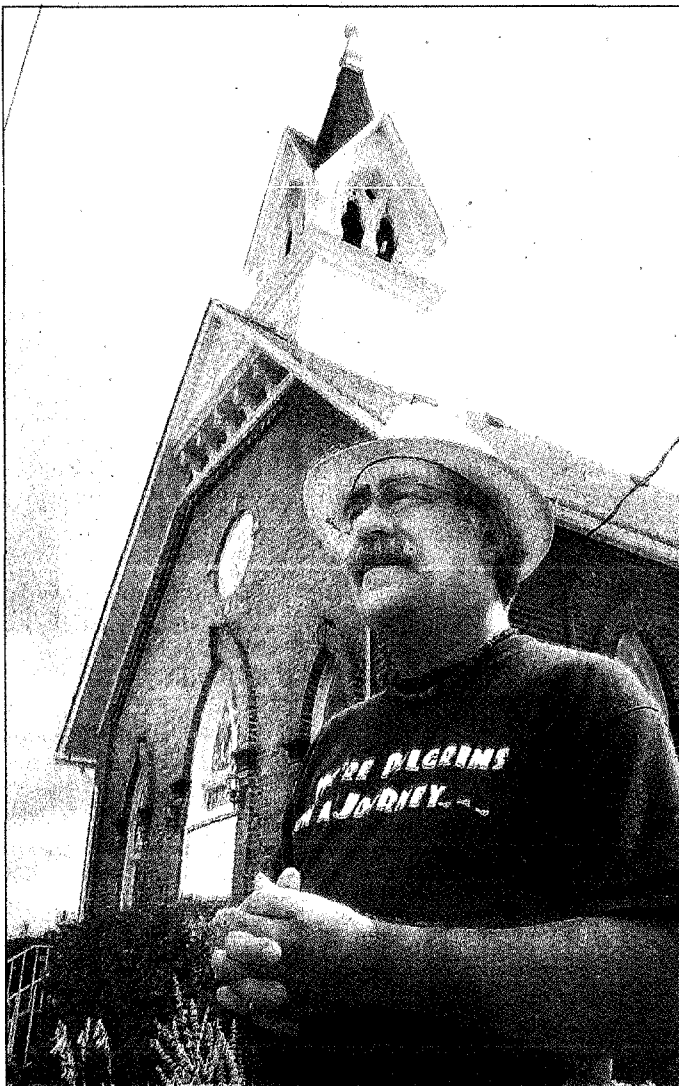
The congregation began meeting in 1834 in local homes, and members say the first church, a clapboard building on the Ridge Road site, was erected a year later. Folklore has it the small gathering place caught fire before it was replaced in 1882 by the existing church, which boasts a red brick exterior, a white steeple and a basement where meticulously painted wall murals depict stories from the Old and New Testaments.

"We really do embrace the Methodist (teachings) of open hearts, open minds and open doors," Simmons said.

To that end, a Jewish congregation, Bet Chaverim, has used the church for years for meetings on one Saturday each month.

The Rev. Merlin Pratt, who this month marks his one-year anniversary with the church, can walk to the next-door house he shares with wife Kay, pastor of Faith United Methodist Church in Belleville. He hopes to draw more people into the fold of his 52-member congregation, which comes from communities

Please see **CHURCH, A2**

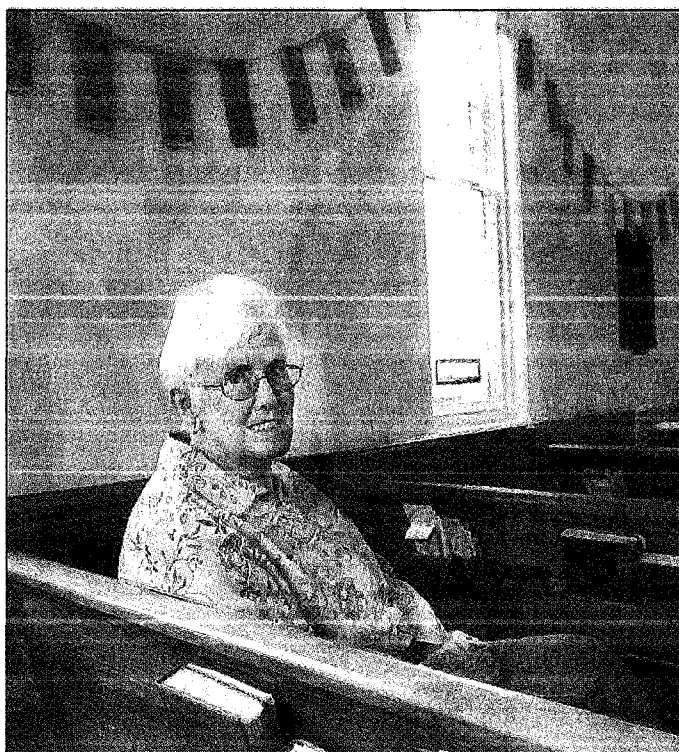


PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Rev. Merlin Pratt is the minister at Cherry Hill United Methodist Church, which is celebrating its 175th anniversary this year.

CHURCH SERVICE

- What: Cherry Hill United Methodist Church
- Where: 321 Ridge Road, south of Cherry Hill, in Canton
- When: Sunday services start at 10:30 a.m., after the 9 a.m. adult Sunday school. Children attend their Sunday school during the 10:30 a.m. service. Thursday night prayer meetings are at 7:30 p.m.
- Details: For more information, visit www.cherryhillumc.org or call (734) 495-0035.



Dorothy Richards has been a member of the church her entire life. This is where she sits each Sunday morning.

No deal yet, more talks set for teachers

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When Plymouth-Canton Community Schools teachers get back into the classroom next month, they'll be doing it without a new contract.

Talks between the teachers union and the district, which started back in April and have spanned more than half-a-dozen negotiating sessions since, aren't scheduled to resume until late September.

However, the district's personnel chief — while declining to get into specifics — said he doesn't expect any long delays and expressed confidence a deal will be reached.

"We don't have a contract yet," acknowledged Ray Bihun, the district's executive director of human resources. "There are always issues. People want different things in contracts. It's the nature of bargaining."

Charles Portelli, president of the teachers union, could not be reached for comment.

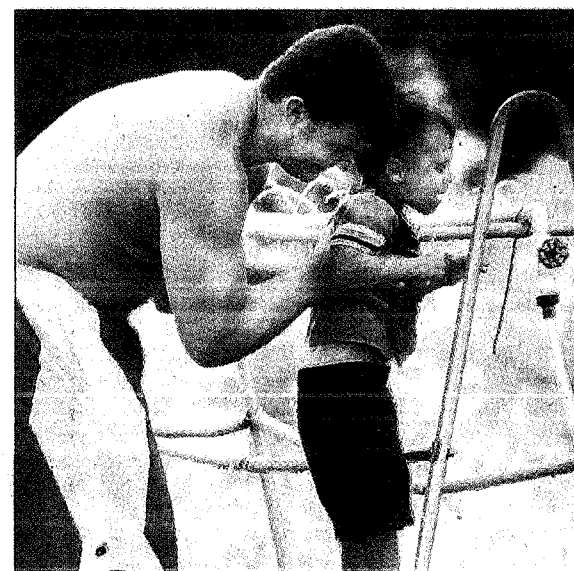
The contact between the district and the Plymouth-Canton Education Association expires Aug. 31. Since talks aren't scheduled to resume until late next month, teachers will return to classrooms for the first day of school — a half-day scheduled for Sept. 8 — working under the provisions of the current pact.

One consequence of the lack of a deal is the inability to establish the full school calendar, which schedules breaks and other aspects of the school year. The calendar, according to Bihun, is a negotiated item during contact negotiations and won't be set until a contract is reached.

"We have a tentative calendar, and the first month is set," Bihun said Tuesday. "The rest of it can't be set until there's a contract."

Bihun said he expects the deal to be done soon after negotiations resume late next month.

"We absolutely expect to get a contract," he said. "Things are going well, we're trying to understand each other, and we'll get a contract, hopefully by late September or early October."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Drink up

Former Canton Chief football player Justin Sneddon holds 2-year-old Louis Smedley up for a drink of water during Tuesday morning football practice. Louis is the son of assistant coach Bob Smedley. Justin is volunteering to help out during football practice, and hopes to begin school soon to become a firefighter. For more on the first week of football, please see our story on page B1.

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Man pleads guilty to sex charges

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A former Canton man has pleaded guilty to charges he sexually assaulted young boys and took more than 100 pictures found by police in his Sumpter Township home.

Frederick Allen Pindzia, 59, faces sentencing Aug. 27 by Wayne County Circuit Judge Bruce Morrow after pleading guilty Monday to three counts each of first- and second-degree criminal sexual conduct involving a boy under 13 years old, six counts of child sex abuse activity and one count of distributing obscene material.

Pindzia, described by police as a former youth mentor and Boy Scout leader, could face penalties ranging up to life



Pindzia

in prison on charges involving boys 8 to 15 years old.

Canton police announced the latest developments 13 months after they executed a search warrant in July 2008 at Pindzia's home in Sumpter Township, acting on information from a teenage boy who said Pindzia sexually assaulted him several years earlier.

Pindzia lived on Marlowe Street in Canton when some of the criminal sexual activity occurred.

When the allegations arose last year against Pindzia, then-Canton police Sgt. Rick Pomorski had commended

one young boy who reported the sexual assaults.

"I have to give the victim a lot of credit," Pomorski said. "It can be very difficult at times to do the right thing, so I give him all the credit in the world."

On Tuesday, police Sgt. Mark Gajeski said the boy told a school counselor who initially contacted Westland police. They, in turn, contacted Canton authorities.

Police seized more than 100 photographs and video tapes in Sumpter Township, and authorities said some of them dated back to 1999 when Pindzia lived in Canton.

Pomorski had said police "believe he established a pattern of criminal activity."

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Demand sends township scrambling for more recycling containers

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton residents hurriedly scooped up nearly 500 recycling bins from the township treasurer's office since late June, quickly depleting supplies and prompting local officials Tuesday to order another 1,000 containers.

"We plowed through them pretty fast," Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin said.

Residents have embraced a new, single-stream recycling program that began in April, allowing households to put all their recyclable materials in the same bin. Trustee Pat Williams said some of his neighbors are putting as many as three of the 18-gallon containers at the curb.

McLaughlin hopes the next batch of recycling bins will arrive within a couple weeks at township administration offices, near the Canton Public Library on Canton Center Road between Cherry Hill and Palmer. Treasurer's office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Township officials decided Tuesday to offset their costs by charging \$10 — rather than \$7 — for the recycling bins. The price is comparable to what is charged by several nearby communities.

Residents bought 349 recycling bins in July alone, an uptick from the 224 bins the township sold just one month earlier, McLaughlin said.

Municipal Services Director Tim Faas attributed the increasing interest to the single-stream program and efforts by local officials to educate residents about the need to recycle and reduce the waste stream.

As an alternative to buying more recycling bins, residents also may buy large, clear, plastic bags, place their recyclable materials in them and put them at the curb, officials said. Officials said places like Ace Hardware sell the bags.

"That's a reasonable alternative at low cost," Williams said.

McLaughlin again said recycling efforts will only be truly successful if consumers buy products made from recycled materials.

The township's hauler, Canton Waste Recycling, will pick up cardboard and paper bags; nonwax coated paperboard; magazines and catalogs; junk mail; office paper; phone books; newspapers; pots and pans; steel and tin cans; clear glass; aluminum cans; plastic jugs or bottles marked with a 1 or 2; household plastics marked with numbers 3 through 7; and plastic bags.

Unacceptable items include paper milk and juice containers; Styrofoam; propane tanks; paint cans; colored glass; medical waste; flammable liquids; household cleaners; chemicals; and wood items.

For more information, go the township's Web site at www.canton-mi.org.

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CHURCH

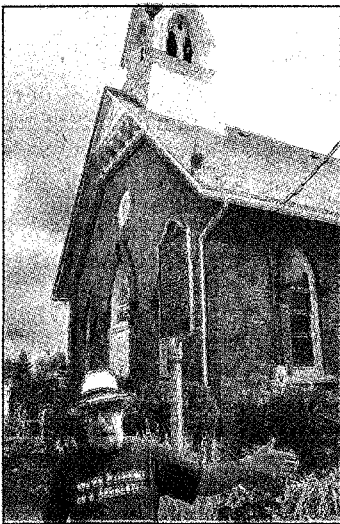
FROM PAGE A1

such as Canton, Livonia, Westland, Plymouth, Redford, Ypsilanti, Inkster and Belleville.

Pratt said some people mistakenly believe the church is a historic building not being used. To be sure, it has received historic designations from the township, the state of Michigan and the National Register of Historic Places, but 80 pastors later it still is a place of worship.

Marcus Swift, one of the area's first settlers and a traveling preacher, was the first minister. Moreover, Pratt has learned that one of his ancestors, Hobart Dubois, was church pastor around 1842.

Pratt was appointed pastor after he and his wife had done missionary work in Jamaica. Since then, some members of



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Rev. Merlin Pratt talks about the history of the church.

his congregation have returned to that country to take clothing to the poor. They also have assembled school supplies in backpacks for students, and they have helped Habitat for Humanity build homes for

families in need.

"This is a nice place to work," Pratt said of the church, "and the people here are good folks."

The congregation has marked its 175th year in simple ways. Members had a Family Fun Fest last Saturday including food and activities, and they had a Bible School just this week.

Pratt sees his responsibilities as helping to grow the congregation in hopes the church can survive for years to come.

"We want it again to be a center of the community," Pratt said. "We want to attract new families with children."

Maybe those children, like Richards, will one day look back fondly on their early days in church. Even now, she describes it as a welcoming place where people can feel comfortable.

"We try to accept everyone," she said. "People take away a happy feeling from here."



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DU students shown above: Shontea, Matt, Elona, Donna, Alyssa and Mike

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Chiefettes car wash

Auto owners who don't have time to wash the car themselves can count on the Canton Chiefettes for help.

The Chiefettes Pompon Teams do the work for you at their annual car wash fundraiser 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15.

For your convenience the Chiefettes will be washing cars at both the Fast Lane Oil Change located on Canton Center Road north of Ford Road and at the Mobil gas station, located at the corner of Warren and Sheldon roads. Donations will be accepted and are appreciated.

Historical auction

The Canton Historical Society hosts an auction fundraiser Aug. 23 at Preservation Park (the former Bartlett-Travis House property).

Viewing of items starts at 10 a.m.; the auction starts at 11 a.m. Items to be auctioned include farm equipment, household items, artifacts (masks, drums, etc.) and other items of interest.

The auction is being organized and service donated by J.D. Auctions of Plymouth. Cash or credit card purchases only; no checks.

Health screening

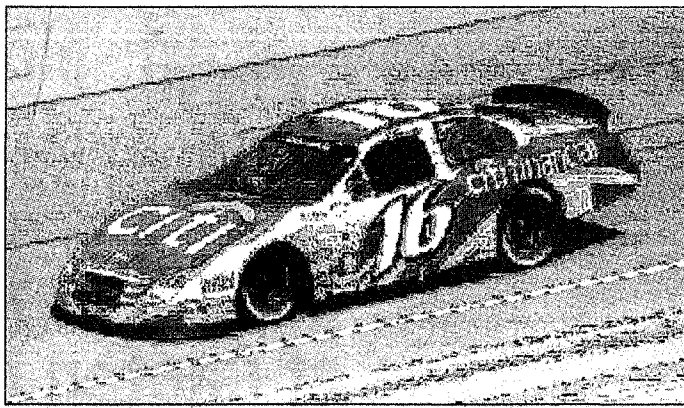
Meijer Pharmacy, located on Ford Road at Canton Center, will be holding their monthly health screening clinic 8 a.m. to noon Thursday, Sept. 3.

Cholesterol, diabetes, and liver function screening are available at a very affordable cost. Appointments are required; please contact the pharmacy for details at (734) 844-2733.

Pageant time

Applications are now being accepted for the 2009 Miss Wayne County Scholarship Pageant, an official Miss America preliminary. Young women who live, work full time, or attend school full time in Wayne County and are between the ages 17 and 24 are eligible.

Areas of competition include and interview, lifestyle and fitness in swimsuit, evening gown, talent and on-stage question. The winner will represent Wayne County at the 2010 Miss Michigan pageant in Muskegon as well as receive



Revving up

CitiFinancial's Canton branch hosts the CitiFinancial show car 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 14. Throughout the day, CitiFinancial will provide refreshments and CitiFinancial Racing giveaway items. CitiFinancial will be the primary sponsor on a variety of Roush Fenway Racing entries in all 35 NASCAR Nationwide Series events in 2009. In addition, Citi will become a major associate sponsor on all Roush Fenway Racing teams, including the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series entries of Greg Biffle, Carl Edwards, Matt Kenseth, Jamie McMurray, and David Ragan. CitiFinancial is located at 41812 Ford Road in Canton.

a cash scholarship.

Call (734) 367-0560 or send an e-mail to sheilamaci16@aol.com to request an application. They also can be found on the Miss Wayne County Web site at www.miss-waynecounty.com.

The deadline for entry is Aug. 17. The pageant will be held Saturday, Sept. 12, at Livonia Churchill High School.

Orchestra auditions

The Celebration Youth Orchestras, the youth ensembles supported by the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society, conduct auditions for next season Aug. 14 at Evola Music in Canton.

The four ensembles of the Youth Orchestra include Celebration Youth Symphony for advanced students in winds, brass, percussion and strings; Celebration Flute Choir for to intermediate and advanced flute students, which in addition to playing on CYO concerts also performs for a variety of events throughout the community; Celebration Sinfonia for intermediate-level string students who are ready for more challenging repertoire and wish to continue building ensemble skills; and Celebration Strings for younger string players who wish to learn ensemble playing skills such as playing in a section and listening and following a conductor.

More audition information can be found on-line at www.celebrationyouthorchestras.org

PCA golf outing

A golf outing to benefit Plymouth Christian Academy, a preschool through 12th grade educational organization serving the Plymouth-Canton and surrounding communities, is being held Monday, Aug. 24, at Fox Hills Golf Club in Plymouth.

The 18 hole scramble tournament on the Golden Fox course will have an 8:30 a.m. shotgun start. Cost is \$100 per golfer and includes 18 holes of golf with a cart, lunch, prizes, course contests, silent auction and keynote speaker. Sponsorship and advertising opportunities are also available.

Jim Nill, vice president/assistant general manager of the Detroit Red Wings, is the keynote speaker and featured guest for this event. The goal of this golf outing is to establish an exciting day of golf that raises money for a locker room expansion project at PCA.

For more information, contact Julie Dart, PCA director of Development, via e-mail at JDart@plymouthchristian.org

Sweetest Day dance

PLAV Post #166 and VFW Post #6695 will co-host a Sweetest Day Dance 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Oct. 17, at the VFW Post located at 1436 Mill in Plymouth.

Tickets, which are tax deductible, are \$10 each and are available at the VFW lounge/club room. Entertainment will be provided

by Benny Spear, of Benny and the Jets (specializing in '50s and '60s music) along with Greg Jaqua (an Elvis impersonator). There will be door prizes offered throughout the evening along with a cash bar.

For more information, call (734) 459-6700.

Tiny Tots Preschool

The Salvation Army Tiny Tots Preschool still has openings for classes beginning in September.

There are three classes available: Monday-Wednesday-Friday mornings from 8:45-11:15 a.m. for 4-year-olds; Tuesday-Thursday mornings from 8:45-11 a.m. for 3 year olds; and Tuesday-Thursday afternoons from 11:30 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. for 3 or 4 year olds.

Tuition is \$130 a month for the Monday-Wednesday-Friday class, and \$95 a month for either Tuesday-Thursday class. There is a one time registration fee of \$35.

For more information, call (734) 453-5464 or view the Salvation Army's Web site at www.misalplymouth.org.

Chiefettes clinic

Youngsters who would

like to be a Junior Canton Chiefette have their chance. The Chiefettes are hosting a Kids' PomPon Clinic for children ages 5-14 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29, at the Canton High School gym in the Phase III building.

Cost is \$40 per child and includes a T-shirt and snack. Discounts are available for additional siblings. Parents are invited to come see their daughters perform at noon and all girls attending the clinic will be invited to perform at the Chiefettes annual variety show on Sept. 19.

Registration is from 8:30-9 a.m. the morning of the clinic. Pre-register at www.canton-chiefettes.com before Aug. 27 and receive a \$5 discount. Registration is limited to the first 100 participants.

For more information e-mail PomClinic@cantonchiefettes.com

Scrapbooking fund-raiser

The Salvation Army of Plymouth and Creative Memories consultant Cassie Hull are teaming up to host an all-day Scrapbooking event to help raise funds for the Salvation Army's Coats for Kids program.

Those interested in scrap-

booking can join us for the Sept. 26 event, called Croptoberfest, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. at a cost of \$35, which includes 12 hours of scrapbooking, meals, and a goodie bag. There is also a half-day option of six hours for \$20.

For more information, or to register, contact Cassie at the Salvation Army at (734) 453-5464, or by e-mail at cassiekh@gmail.com. Those unable to attend can still help the Coats for Kids program by donating \$15 to help purchase a coat for a child in need. The Salvation Army is located at 9451 S. Main St. in Plymouth.

Cutest baby

Personalized Nursing LIGHT House sponsors its first Cutest Baby Contest during the Plymouth Fall Festival Sept. 11-13. Winners will be announced Sunday, Sept. 13 at 5 p.m.

Parents should send one 5x7 (or smaller) picture with the required \$10 entry fee by Sept. 1. Mail entries to Cute Baby, c/o Teresa Smith, 575 S. Main, Ste. 6, Plymouth, MI 48170. Child must be 36 months old or younger.

For more information, call (734) 451-7800.

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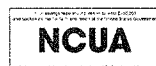
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CRIME WATCH

Intruder targets Haggerty Shell station

1 An intruder broke into the Shell gas station on Haggerty just north of Ford about 3:20 a.m. Tuesday, police said.

Officers arrived to find one of the doors smashed out, but no suspects were in the building. They found miscellaneous change on the floor, and the intruder had taken the cash register and numerous cartons of cigarettes.

A surveillance camera showed the intruder to be a black male wearing a short-sleeved shirt, a black baseball cap with an MLB logo, black pants, black shoes and a pair of gloves. He had what appeared to be a small crowbar hanging out the side of his pocket.

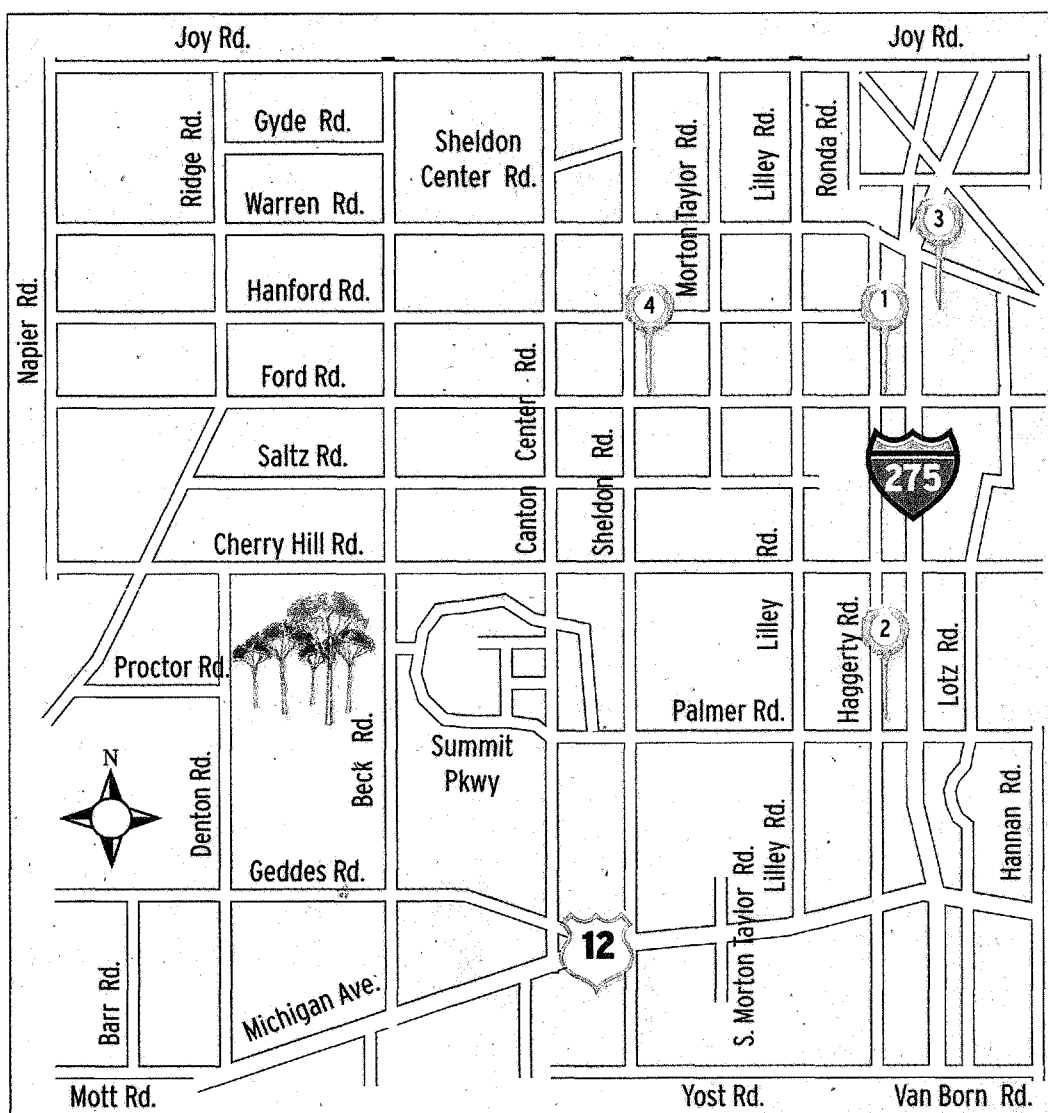
Anyone who has information is asked to call the Canton Police Department at (734) 394-5400 or Crime Stoppers of Michigan at 1-(800) SPEAK-UP for a possible cash reward.

Home invasion

2 Police were sent to Meadow Wood Town Homes on Stacy, east of Haggerty and north of Palmer, on a report of a home invasion that was reported about 4:20 p.m. Friday.

A maintenance man was working when he was approached by a man who said the residence of a woman he knew had been broken into. The man said the intruder stole the woman's medication and rent money.

A police report indicated the intruder may have gotten into the residence through a window where a screen had been bent.



Cash stolen

3 A woman told police that an estimated \$250 was missing from her apartment on Cambridge, south of Warren and east of I-275.

She told police she had placed the money on the top shelf of a closet and that someone took it between 2:15 p.m. Aug. 3 and 12:30 p.m. Aug. 4.

The woman also told police she had returned home on Aug. 1 and found one of her folding chairs in her bathtub.

Penney pilfer

4 A female employee of the J.C. Penney store on Ford Road, east of Sheldon, could be facing criminal charges after she was accused of taking money from the store, a police report indicated.

A store loss prevention employee told police he had reviewed a store security camera, and he saw the woman taking money on several occasions between July 6 and July 17. The employee said the woman put the

money in her pocket.

The suspect had been working for J.C. Penney since February 2008. The loss prevention employee said he spoke with her and she admitted taking the money, saying she was having financial problems but that she wanted to repay it.

Police went to the woman's residence and said she confessed. Possible charges are pending.

— Compiled by Darrell Clem from Canton Police Department reports.

Lightning strikes pair of Canton homes

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Lightning strikes caused damage to two Canton Township homes Saturday as weekend storms rolled across southeast Michigan.

No injuries were reported in either incident.

A lightning bolt hit a residence on Rolling Ridge Court, northeast of Warren and Canton Center roads, and was blamed for an attic fire shortly before 11:20 a.m. Saturday, Fire Chief Michael Rorabacher said.

The township's fire and police departments responded to a 911 call.

"Upon arrival, firefighters reported smoke and flames coming from the attic of a single family residence," Rorabacher said. "One occupant was home at the time of the fire and was able to exit safely."

The female resident reported hearing lightning strike, and the home lost power, the fire chief said. "She went outside

to investigate, noticed smoke coming from the attic and called 911."

Firefighters gained access to the attic through the ceiling and doused the fire. Rorabacher said no damage estimates were available, but the house sustained substantial fire damage to the attic and smoke damage throughout the rest of the home.

The second incident happened about 2 p.m. Saturday on Holmes, southwest of Warren and Canton Center roads.

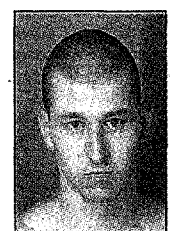
"A resident called 911 to report a lightning strike to the home," Rorabacher said. "Fire crews responded and found no fire; however, lightning did strike the chimney causing damage to the home, including the water heater and sump pump."

Elsewhere across the township, some residents reported scattered flooding mostly in back yards, Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said, but he wasn't aware of any other storm-related damage.

Suspect arraigned in purse-snatch try

With the help of several tips called in to the Canton Police Department, detectives were able to make a positive identification of the suspect who attempted to steal a woman's purse at Arctic Edge Ice Arena in Canton Aug. 3.

Ann Arbor resident Justin Daniel Price, 22, was arraigned Monday at 35th District Court in Plymouth. Price is being charged with one count of Assault with Intent to Commit Robbery Not Armed, a 15-year felony; one count of Larceny in a Building; and 4th Habitual Offender, punishable by life if found guilty of pri-



Price

mary offense. Magistrate Eric Colthurst ordered bond to be set at \$30,000 or 10 percent. Price's preliminary exam is scheduled for Friday, Aug. 21, at 35th District Court in Plymouth.

Surveillance cameras captured photos of the suspect walking through Arctic Edge, where he attempted to steal the woman's purse, at approximately 6 p.m. After a slight struggle, the suspect ran out of the building.

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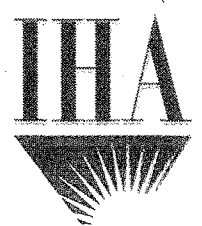
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Weekly newspaper's owners share commitment to hometown news

The northern Vermont countryside is beautiful, and it's easy to see why the state is called the Green Mountain State. Our travels took us through Hardwick, Vt.,



Julie Brown

last week and my husband and I had to stop in at the offices of *The Gazette*, the local weekly newspaper. We were greeted by Susan M. Jarzyna, who owns the paper with husband Ross Connelly, as we perused the many New England Press Association award plaques on the wall. We met the hard-working staffers, who work on computers but still manage to convey a sense of Norman Rockwell's New England.

Susan called down Ross, who came down to greet us before returning to editing duties. It was a Tuesday, a deadline day before Wednesday publication and we didn't want to impose. Still, the chance to talk newspapering during our visit to see my cousin, Jerry Ralya, in nearby Craftsbury Common was too tempting to pass up.

Susan and Ross are part of a dying breed, independent newspaper owners. Fewer Michigan papers are locally owned, although I sensed the fiercely independent Vermonters, and perhaps other New Englanders, like to know firsthand just who is providing their news. It's good to be able to argue a point over a cup of coffee at the local eatery.

Susan and Ross, from Massachusetts, bought the paper in 1986. She gave me with pride the 100th anniversary edition from 1989, which detailed its history and didn't even gloss over an earlier owner's anti-Semitism. I also paid my 75 cents for the previous week's paper, which had such front-page headlines as "Police to receive federal stimulus grant to hire new patrol officer," "Vermont Milk Company owes town money, among others," and "Excess rain, little sun stymie hay and corn crops."

The rain dried up the week we arrived, although we can't take credit. We certainly enjoyed seeing my cousin, who last visited for Christmas in 2001, meeting his girlfriend and her daughter, and riding to the top of Mt. Mansfield for some photo lessons from Jerry's girlfriend, an excellent photographer. (We passed on Ben and Jerry's — too many cars and too many calories.)

Another highlight was seeing the Craftsbury Chamber Players, with many Juilliard-trained musicians and others with impressive credentials proving classical music can be lively. When I got home, I got to thinking about newspapering and just how important papers like Hardwick's *Gazette* are.

We read the *Boston Globe* during our visit, a paper that's seen its share of financial woes lately, as has much of the newspaper industry. Susan told me the *Gazette* is holding its own both financially and journalistically, even as larger dailies in bigger Vermont cities struggle.

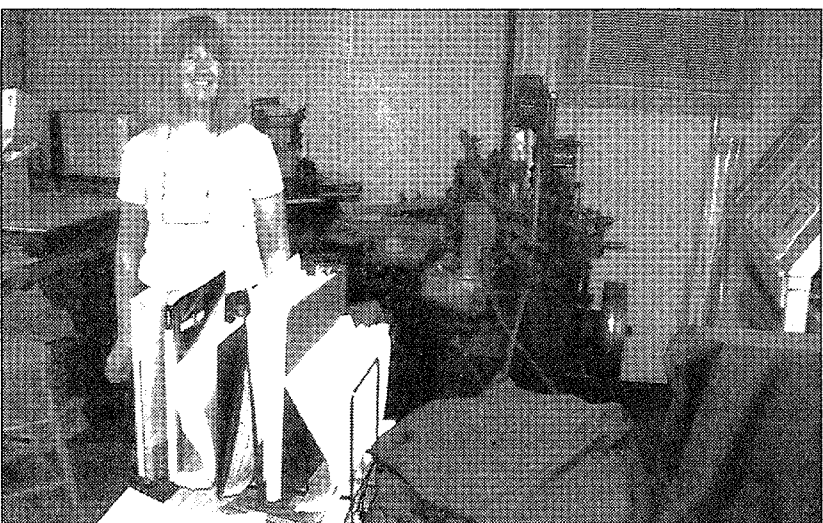
The *Gazette* had its share of advertising from local businesses, and I like to think their owners appreciated knowing about things like the new patrol officer and the milk company owing money. Part of the idea of vacations is to rest and rejuvenate.

We tend to think of that in terms of our personal lives, and that's certainly important. It matters in our work lives, too, and I came back to work with a renewed sense of determination to provide as much local news of good writing and reporting quality as I could.

Our newspaper isn't a mom-and-pop operation like the one in Hardwick, Vt., but I think Jarzyna and Connelly, its co-editors and owners, have lessons to teach us. The daily in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, says it covers that Canadian island "like the dew." In these days of troubled times for newspapers, I think

it's important to remember the value of hometown news and provide it consistently. That's what I learned on my summer vacation.

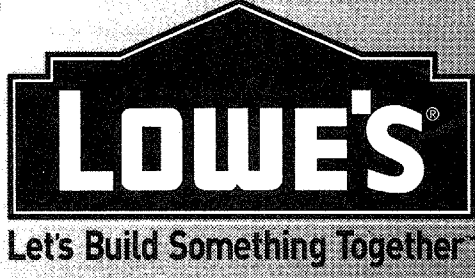
Julie Brown of Plymouth Township is presentation editor for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. She can be reached at (313) 222-6755 or via e-mail at jcbrown@hometownlife.com.



Susan Jarzyna takes a break from deadline duties at *The Gazette* in Hardwick, Vt. She and her husband own the weekly paper. It's now printed in neighboring New Hampshire (the linotype no longer used), but concentrates on covering its Vermont community.

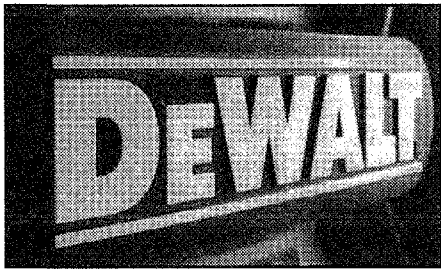
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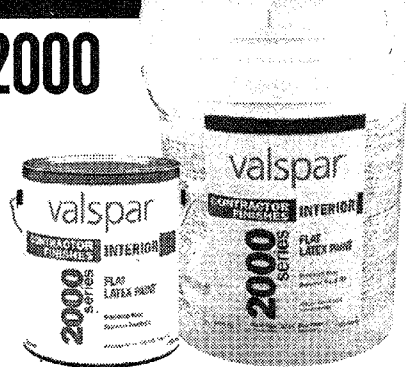
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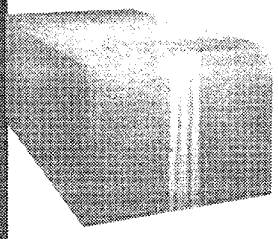


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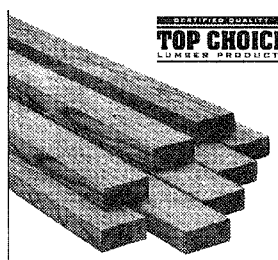
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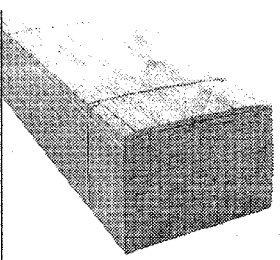
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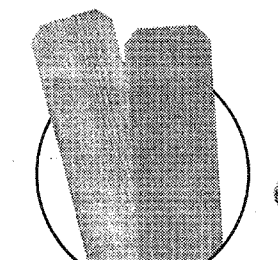
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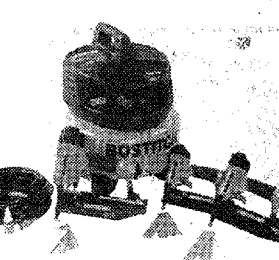
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No double trouble: Twin Eagle Scouts set high standards

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Brothers Alexander and Steven Watts, 18, of Plymouth Township received their Eagle Scout honors Saturday.

The identical twins are going into their senior year at Plymouth Canton High School. They started as Cub Scouts. "They've gone through it together," mom Cindy Watts said of their many years in scouting. "We didn't know how they would get their Eagle. True to their style, they finished up pretty much to the day."

Alexander did Salvation Army projects for the corps serving Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Belleville. He collected canned goods door to door and in grocery stores. He gathered some 1,500 pounds of food, enough to feed more than 300 families.

Steven's project included bottle drives, with proceeds used to purchase lumber and build sturdy wooden benches outside Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth Township for quiet time. The boys' Troop 781 is chartered out of OLGC.

Their parents are Darwin and Cindy Watts, who also have two older married daughters. Alexander and Steven are already planning for their careers and college.

"They both are looking at Norwich University. It's in Vermont," Cindy Watts said of her sons, who are interested in military service and criminal justice degrees. "We were very proud of them. We knew it was going to happen."

Both were highly motivated to reach Eagle, the highest rank in Boy Scouting, she said.

"They seem to always go above and beyond what's required."

Both boys play Canton High lacrosse, and run cross country (Steven is captain, as well as swim team captain).

Both are also on Canton Congress student government. The family worships at St. Michael Lutheran Church in Canton.

She's pleased with the leadership of Scoutmaster Francis Kearney and the dads who run Troop 781. Kearney now lives in the Tucson, Ariz., area as a retiree. The new Scoutmaster is Bill Hoefling, and he was also helpful.

The troop leaders do a good job of teaching youth leadership skills, camping and first aid, Cindy Watts said. Steven was proud of doing a two-mile swim.

Alexander and Steven went on a high adventure trip off Florida, called Sea Base. The island is owned by Boy Scouts of America. Participants kayak to the private island, and spend two weeks "living off the land and putting their Boy Scout talents to use."

They have exceeded the number of required merit badges.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6755



Twins Alexander (left) and Steven Watts of Plymouth Township recently achieved Eagle Scout rank. They are entering their senior year at Plymouth Canton High School.

Districts wait, wonders about school aid bill

Author appearance is a coup for Plymouth library

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

More than a month into the new budget year, school officials around the state are wondering when and if lawmakers will be able to reconcile their differences between themselves and Gov. Jennifer Granholm in coming up with a new state School Aid Act.

According to Wayne-Westland Schools Supt. Greg Baracy, "There hasn't been a whole lot of movement" of late.

"As we are being told, it could be September or October before the bill is passed," Baracy said in response to a question from Trustee William Gabriel. "As you know, we are required to pass a balanced budget by July 1, but we don't know what the bill will look like or if revenue will be attached. Most likely, there will be no new revenue."

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Superintendent Craig Fiegel told Board of Education members Tuesday night the state is still looking at a shortfall of some \$50 million, and a potential cut of some \$100 per pupil this year in the district's foundation grant.

"If you use \$100 as the number, that's \$1.9 million from a budget we've already set," Fiegel told board members.

Wayne-Westland officials have been watching what's happening in Lansing closely because the more than \$6 million in enhanced funding it receives is in jeopardy. The money was axed in the governor's proposed bill. The district has been getting the money to make up for millage discounted when Proposal A took effect in 1994. If officials unable to convince lawmakers to put it back in the bill, it could plunge the district into deficit.

Baracy told the school board this week that the state's per-pupil funding will remain frozen and reiterated that the state will use a majority of the federal stimulus money to fill the holes in the School Aid Fund. However, it won't be able to fill all of the holes and "millions and millions will have to be cut in categorical" to make up the difference, he said.

While the federal money had been earmarked for construction, Baracy said it's being used to shore up the School Aid Fund and stave off chargebacks and a projected cut of \$110 per pupil for the 2008-09 budget year. He added that school districts will face even tougher times when the stimulus money runs out in two years. At that time, the state will have to roll back school aid payments to handle the deficit. Analysts have indicated that school districts could lose as much as \$600 per pupil at that time.

"Revenue is continuing to decline in Michigan," he said. "The only way out is going to have to be cutbacks and revenue enhancements. We can't cut our way out of this structural problem. It's a huge issue and bold steps need to be taken."

For its part, Wayne-Westland has formed a 21st Century Committee made up of residents, parents, staff and administrators to look at ways to reinvent the district while shaving some \$10 million in expenses. The committee began meeting in June and is schedule to bring its report to the school board next year.

"We might be better off than some, some might be better off than us," Baracy said. "We have to face reality. We have to work together to save ourselves."

Residents can keep tabs on what the committee is doing by visiting the district's Web site at www.wwcsd.net, where minutes of the committee meetings and PowerPoint presentations made to it are posted.

School board Secretary Martha Pitsenbarger told her colleagues that she believes Wayne-Westland is one step ahead of other districts by forming the committee.

"We need more people to become aware of what's happening," she said. "I'm glad to see we've set things in motion to make that happen. It's sad to see the state of our economy, but we still have kids who need an education. Hopefully, things won't be so dismal in the future."

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

Author Bich Minh Nguyen, who wrote *Stealing Buddha's Dinner*, will speak 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, in a visit offered by the Plymouth District Library.

"This will be her only Detroit stop," said Sue Patterson, adult services librarian. "We are just so thrilled."

The author's appearance will be at the nearby Penn Theatre on Penniman, next to The Gathering in downtown Plymouth. The move was made from the library to accommodate more listeners for the free presentation.

"We really do want to fill the Penn," Patterson said.

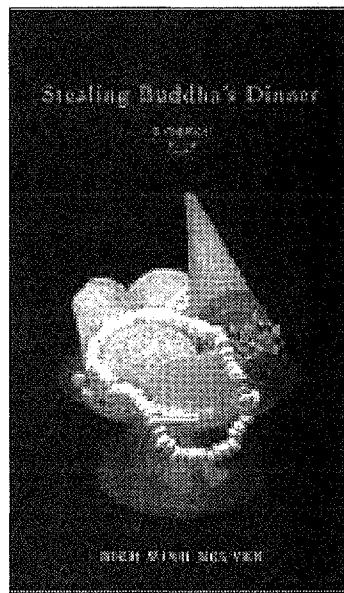
Stealing Buddha's Dinner is a memoir in which the writer was eight months old when her father brought her and her sister out of Vietnam in 1975. The family relocated in Michigan, where young Bich (pronounced "bit") wrestled with childhood questions of assimilation into American culture.

Patterson noted additional information on the author's visit will appear in

Author Bich Minh Nguyen, who wrote *Stealing Buddha's Dinner*, will speak 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, in Plymouth.

the Plymouth District Library mailed to all Plymouth addresses. Information will also be on the library Web site, www.plymouthlibrary.org.

- By Julie Brown



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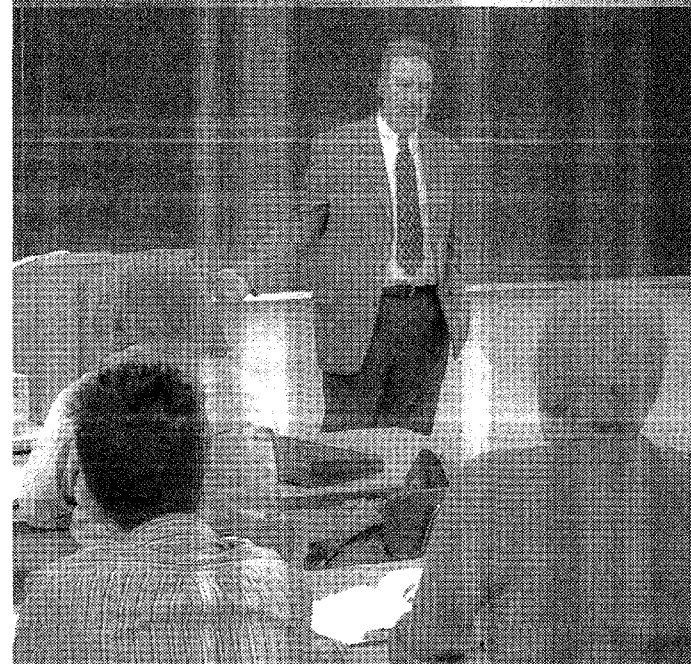
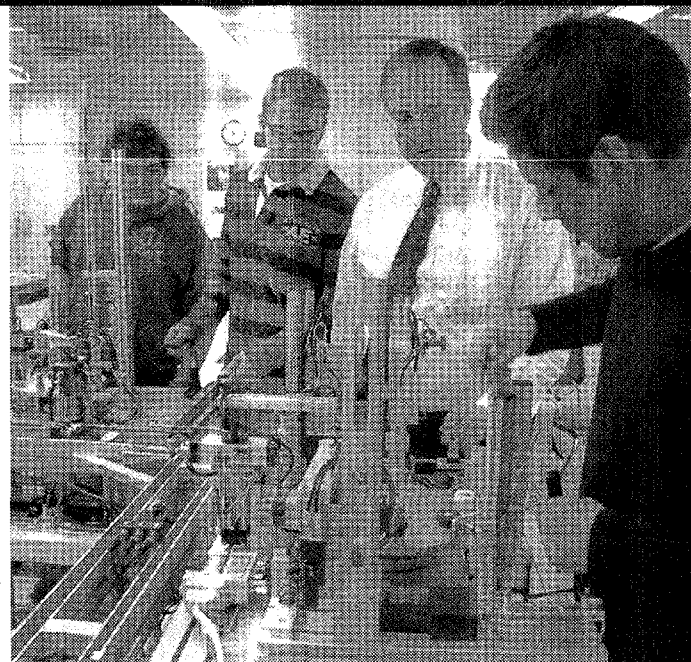
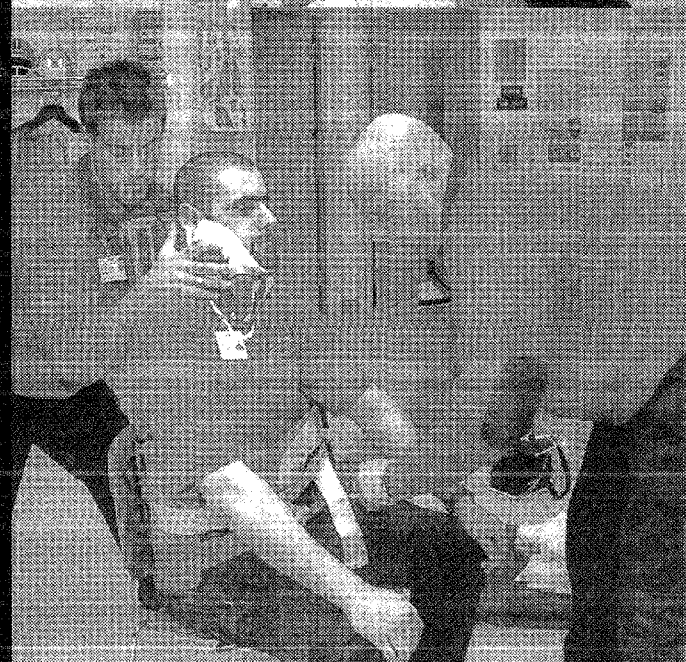
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BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

"People don't realize how small you feel when you're out



Jon Cope, 14, got a kiss from this unidentified lady at the end-of-race party following his first Port Huron-to-Mackinac race last month.



But technology has changed the experience since Darrell Cope sailed his first Port Huron-to-Mackinac. Now, there's a satellite-guided navigation system on board, he said, whereas years ago, "you pretty much had to dead-

mjachman@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2405

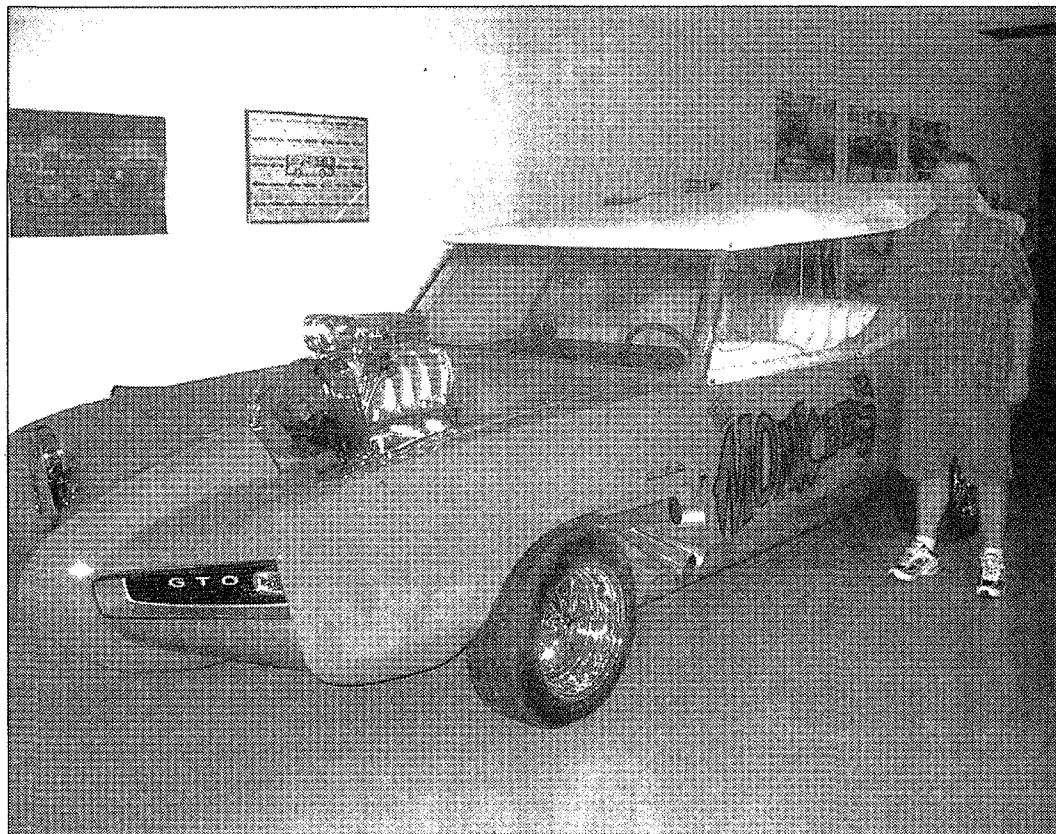
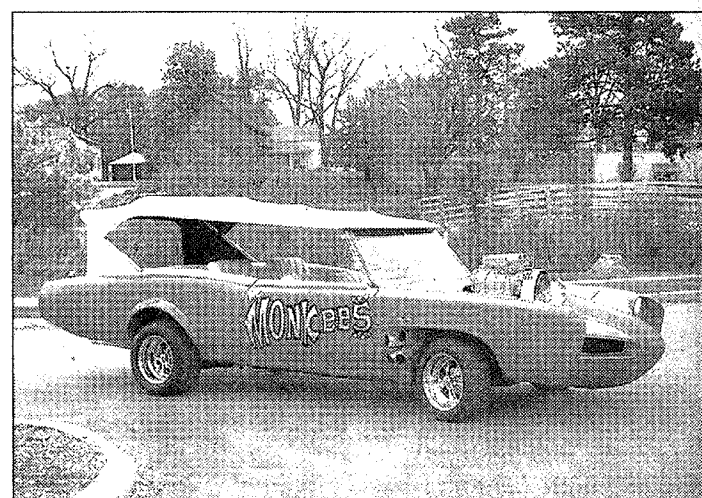


PHOTO BY LIA ANDREASS

Mel Guthrie of Northville, a 1978 Plymouth-Salem High School grad, stores the Monkeemobile in a Livonia garage that also houses other Monkee memorabilia. The 1966 GTO gets a lot of attention every time he takes it out.

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
CORRESPONDENT

Guthrie declined to say how much he paid for the Monkeemobile, referring to the cost as "a lot." The convertible is in mint condition featuring a tilted forward split two-piece windshield, shiny silver Cragar mag wheels and tons of extra details like the big block engine on the hood that was dropped in making it powerful enough to pop



This photo of the Monkeemobile was taken at Nankin-Mills during a recent excursion.

In one year, Guthrie says, he put 1,600 miles on the famed hot rod.

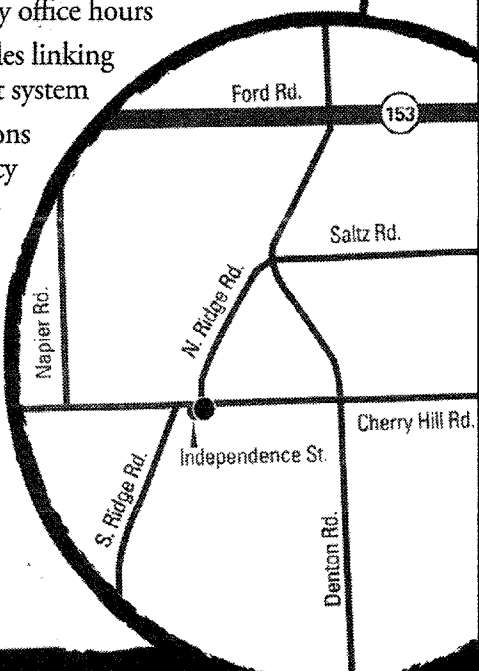
It's hard to say which car is nicest, but listening to the Monkees belt out their theme song over the radio of the Monkeemobile, the decision seems a little easier.

The Woodward Dream Cruise takes place from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday along Woodward Avenue from Detroit to Pontiac.

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W-W bus drivers are tops in skills competition

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Ed Fischer isn't ready to give up driving a school bus anytime soon, at least not until he's the Wayne County school bus driving champion.

But Sandy Leopardi has news for Fischer, it's going to be a while before that happens. Leopardi, the two-time champion, isn't ready to give up driving "Old Yeller" just yet.

"I love driving a school bus," the Westland resident said. "I love my job and the best part is my Walker-Winter students. Whenever I get bumped off the route for a while and come back, they tell me, 'Don't leave us.'"

Wayne-Westland was among 11 school district to have teams at the regional competition, held in May at Northville High School. In addition to Leopardi and Fischer finishing in the top three, the team scored its fourth consecutive first-place finish in the regional competi-

tion.

"Sandy and Ed have been in the top four for several years. They've been the top scorers to lead off the team for five years," transportation director Scherice Roark said. "This is a great team building event that puts a more positive light on transportation."

The regional competition includes a 25-question written portion that tests the driver's knowledge of state law and an oral pretrip test in which drivers must point out and say 90 different things they must check before driving the bus in eight minutes.

The competition doesn't end there. Drivers put their bus driving skills to the test, doing such things as parallel parking and maneuvering through a diminishing clearance in which the bus is driven between two arms which narrow from eight inches from the wheels to two inches.

"You have to be perfect, you can't hit the cones because



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wayne-Westland Community Schools bus drivers Sandy Leopardi (left) and Ed Fischer show off the awards they received in the Wayne County School Bus Driving Championship. Leopardi placed first while Fischer was third in the competition.

that would be like hitting a car," Roark said about the parallel parking. "The object is to get zero demerits. If you get 50, you're done."

Leopardi and Fischer drive the flat-nosed transit buses. For

the regional competition, they used buses from Plymouth-Canton because Wayne-Westland's buses have a shorter wheelbase. At state competition, the twosome were the only transit drivers among the 42

contestants.

At regional, Leopardi scored 641 out of a possible 700. Last year, she was "phenomenal," amassing the highest score ever in regional with 649, according to Roark. She has won the regional competition two years running and placed eighth in this year's state competition.

Fischer, a Wayne resident, finished fifth last year and moved up to third in regional this year with a score of 577. He ended up finishing 14th in the state contest.

Leopardi started with the district in June 2002 and Fischer in March 2003, both as substitute bus drivers. According to Roark, the district's bus drivers start as subs and are hired as positions become available.

Leopardi had worked as a waitress and bartender for years before going back to school. She was trying to decide what she wanted to do when a friend suggested bus driving.

"My friend told me I was

great with kids and thought it would be perfect for me," she said.

Fischer had been in the printing business for 25 years when he was laid off. He went to truck driving school and did that for a while before moving over to driving a school bus because the job offered "long-term benefits and security."

"I like it mostly because of the kids," said Fischer, who's married and the father of four children.

Leopardi also is married and has three children.

Both agree that the worst time of the year is winter, especially when they have to go out and clean off their buses, but the good times are when you have a child who challenges them but by the end of the school year is giving them a hug.

"Every day is different, you drive and get to enjoy the day," Fischer said. "When you're in the bus, you're the boss."

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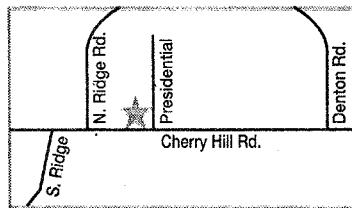
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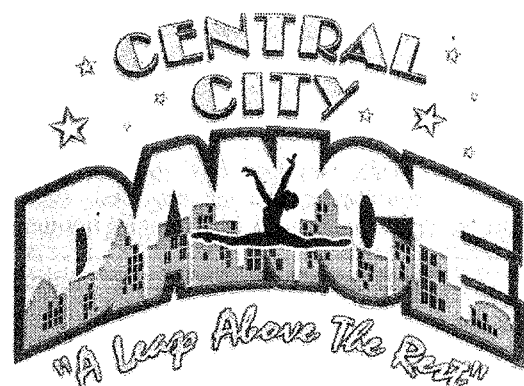
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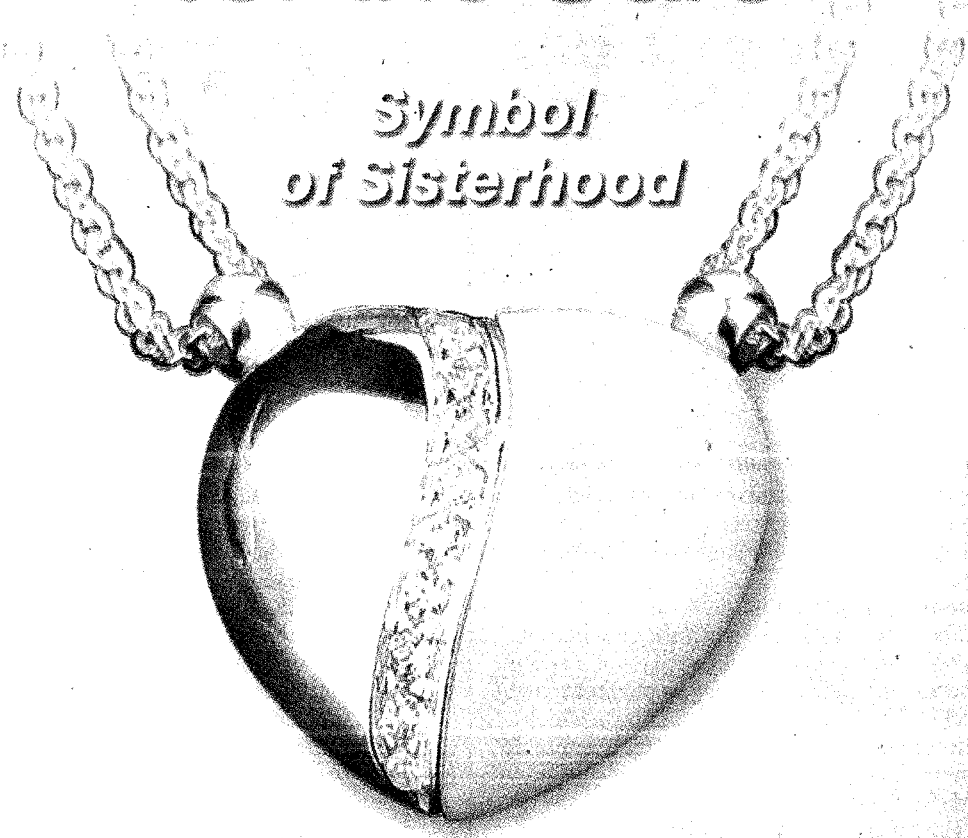
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THURSDAY
August 13,
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Brad Kadrich, editor
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bkadrich@hometownlife.com

LOCAL OPINION

online at hometownlife.com



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

OUR VIEWS

Studying joint dispatch system makes good sense

Canton Township officials have decided to study the feasibility of having a joint dispatch system with Livonia.

Talks of consolidating the police and fire dispatch systems for the two communities began earlier this year as officials started looking for opportunities to cut or share costs while still providing good service.

The two municipalities will seek proposals from consultants who will soon analyze the project and make recommendations on efficiency, facility infrastructure, staffing levels and organizational structure, including a governing body.

The study will also look into the financial implications including project start-up costs, long-term financial plans, and the potential short- and long-term financial impact on both municipalities.

We applaud Canton and Livonia officials for taking this first step.

Livonia Police Chief Robert Stevenson and Canton Public Safety Director John Santomauro said in a joint statement that both communities need a new police and fire radio system so it only makes sense to look into what could be achieved by teaming up.

We agree.

Residents and business owners have had to cut costs and do more with less in this challenging economy, and government should do the same.

Besides a potential reduction in overall operating costs, possible benefits of consolidation include state-of-the-art technology and increased opportunities for grant money.

Already Livonia and Canton have been awarded a \$500,000 federal grant toward the consolidation project from the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act.

Of course saving money isn't as important as saving lives so the study will need to show that a joint system won't cause a decline in service or threaten the safety of the residents of either community.

And, it may make sense to also study the feasibility of bringing other neighboring communities into a joint dispatch system.

We are eager to see what the study shows. In the meantime, we hope officials continue to look for ways to save taxpayers money while maintaining the quality of life residents have come to expect.

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS

Here's a look at what readers are saying about stories on our Web site, www.hometownlife.com:

• In response to the story "Driver offers pennies for his thoughts on seat belt ticket":

localguy394 wrote:

"No one, including the government, has to accept anything they don't choose to as payment. People, businesses, and government entities do so for your 'convenience' as long as you follow THEIR conditions. And considering you wanted to be an arrogant retard about the whole issue, I wish they would tell you EXACTLY what to pay your now-larger fine with."

booksenkatz wrote:

"Yes, you should have worn the seat belt. But it's sad when a government entity won't accept government-issued currency as payment for a ticket. Why do they pick and choose which coins are acceptable? Either all are acceptable or none."

MrScott wrote:

"Hate to say it, but suck it up dude ... You knew you were supposed to wear a seat belt, you didn't, and you got caught. The sixty-five dollars is not as bad as a speeding ticket. You spent time to get the coins, and then count it all only to be turned down - now to get paper money and pay a late fine - probably more time and trouble than it was worth, eh?"

CANTON OBSERVER



Brad Kadrich
Community
Editor

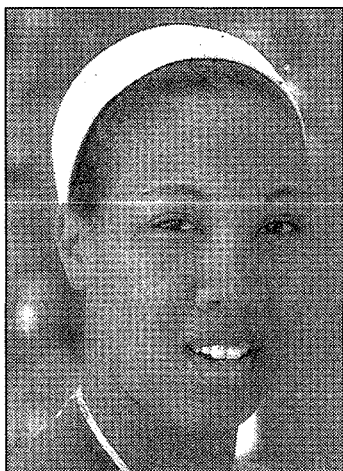
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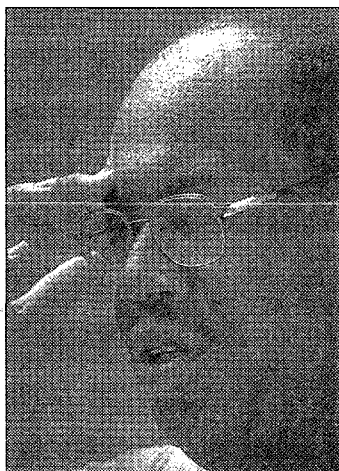
"Do you think the country needs major health care reform? Why or why not?"

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



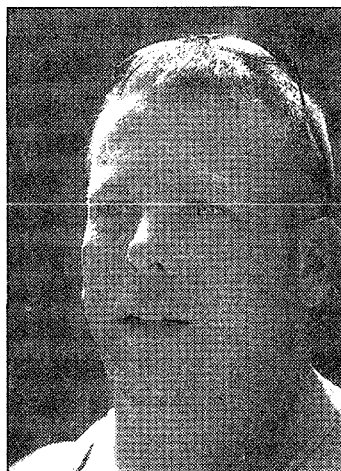
"Yes, because a lot of people don't have it. But I'm not with that whole government-run health care either."

Katrina McAddley
Canton



"Definitely. Most people can't afford it. A lot of people are laid off and unemployed."

William A. Gilmore
Detroit



"Yes, I do. There's not enough help for senior citizens, and companies are making us all pay more money."

Dave Branch
Canton



"Yes, I do. I think it has become unaffordable for everyone and for companies to provide it to their employees."

Mary Ann Focht
Canton

LETTERS

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor.

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

Submit letters via the following formats.

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Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com.

Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

\$200 per month in the early '70s was BIG money. I wish the Canton land owners a similar prosperity.

All people that consume oil (each and every one of us) should be cheering on this type of entrepreneurship.

Edmond Loselle
Canton

Legalize marijuana

The height of hypocrisy and inconsistent thinking is allowing alcohol usage to be legal and yet wasting police man-hours and missing the potential to gain tax revenue due to marijuana use continuing to be illegal.

I have smoked marijuana, as have most of the people reading this paragraph, and add to that group, judges, most police officers and our current president. I am sick of reading reports in this paper about kids being busted for getting caught with a joint, not to mention the awful long-term negative ramifications in terms of employment applications and student loans. If all our police have to do is arrest people for wanting to mellow out then let's get rid of them and cut some administrative costs.

Violent crime prevention should be the focus of police efforts, not socialist moral control. The time has come to legalize this substance and gain sorely needed tax revenue just as we do from alcohol, cigarettes and gambling.

I have asked state Rep. Marc Corriveau to support such legislation and would urge readers to call his public office number, (517) 373-3816, and do the same.

Kevin A.C. Lambert
Plymouth

Support health reform

The America's Affordable Health Choices Act would provide significant benefits to those of us who reside in the 11th Congressional District.

Under the provisions of this act, 9,800 seniors would avoid the doughnut hole in Medicare Part D, up to 12,000 small businesses could receive tax credits to provide coverage to their employees and 43,000 uninsured individuals would gain access to high quality, affordable health insurance.

There are also measures in the act which will reduce health care costs, increase competition among health care insurers and require that our health care dollars be used more efficiently. Affordable health care for all and the better use of health care dollars — that's a goal we should all be able to agree on.

It's time for our political leaders to stop playing politics and solve the health care crisis. It's time for Americans to stop paying more and getting less. Therefore, I encourage

other concerned constituents of Congressman Thaddeus McCotter to call him at (734) 632-0314 and let him know we need him to support health care reform rather than obstruct it.

Catherine Neill
Plymouth

Misleading claims

In the debate on the massive government health care rationing plan, some obnoxious and ludicrous statements are getting parroted.

One of the most misleading claims a crisis exists because 50 million Americans lack insurance coverage. The truth behind this number reveals no crisis.

According to the Census Bureau, an average of 46 million Americans lack insurance coverage on any given day during the year. Of those 46 million, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates 20 to 30 million go without coverage for an entire year.

Of this number, the CBO says that 15 percent are eligible for coverage under existing government programs bringing the number down further. According to an economic study from Stanford University, one-quarter to three-quarters of those people can afford insurance but chose to spend their money on other products and services. This means four to 19 million Americans do not have insurance and cannot easily get it.

So 94 to 99 percent of us have or can get health insurance. Contrast this with President Obama's proposed plan which he says would cover about 97 percent of Americans.

Leave it to our elected representatives to falsely cry "crisis" and then propose to spend a trillion dollars (for starters) to get us to where we are right now.

Steve Sutton
Farmington Hills

Stop irresponsible spending

I am disgusted by U.S. senators and representatives spending our hard-earned money, which they take from us in the form of taxes, fees, surcharges, inflation and, in the form of higher prices resulting from legislation Congress passes. They continue to take from us, all to give to a select few. And those few are not usually those in need.

Congress continues to pass legislation — many times 1,000-page bills — affecting all our lives without reading what is in the legislation. The bills should be shorter and simpler. Lengthy bills tend to contain harmful or costly items — many times not discovered until it is too late. Congress forcefully rushes legislation without providing time for full and complete debate and discussion. Our representatives continue to vote against the people's wishes. They believe they are smarter than we are. They are not.

We will decide how we want to spend our money, not you. Congress needs to stop spending like fools. We work hard for our money and don't appreciate the lack of integrity of U.S. senators and representatives. Stop the irresponsible spending. Stop treating our money as if it's Monopoly money.

As former U.S. Rep. Dave Crockett learned from a constituent in the early 1800s, taxpayers' money is not for Congress to give away. Call your senator and representative and tell them you have had enough.

Scott Freeman
Farmington

Lotz lament

This past Saturday I was trying to drive from Sheldon and Cherry Hill (on Cherry Hill) and was just east of Sheldon when I realized I could not go north on either Lilley or Haggerty, so I continued on to Lotz and turned north from Cherry Hill.

The condition of Lotz was totally deplorable. There was a small parade of cars following behind me, obviously trying to get to the same destination. We crawled at a speed of no more than two miles an hour, as the road was so full of ruts and potholes, you'd have jangled all the nuts, bolts, and who knows what all, if you dared go any faster.

We wormed our way from the right side of the road to the left if it looked like the tracks were any better. Of course, encountering oncoming traffic necessitated moving back to the right side of the road.

This is a dangerous situation and I don't understand why foresight and forethought wasn't used by putting a substantial layer of gravel down on Lotz and/or grading that road, since it seems to be the only north/south road east of Sheldon.

If someone in the road commission of either Wayne County or Canton could give me a plausible explanation, I'd be happy to listen, but it would have to be an awfully good one. This kind of danger to cars, to oncoming traffic, etc. is inexcusable. I wonder if any of them have tried to drive on it.

I'll wait for the answer.

Nancy Austin
Canton

Obeys leash laws

A reminder to pet owners: Please keep your dogs on leashes and/or fenced in the yard.

I am a dog owner and a walker. I have always had a fear of the unleashed pet. I sometimes turn around and walk out of my way to ensure I don't meet up with the unleashed dog.

I just found out my neighbor, a senior citizen, was attacked on his routine walk. A trip to the hospital, and he must return to his doctor does not help my fear of the unleashed pet. Thank goodness he doesn't have heart problems.

Please, I don't want to be told he'll lick you to death, or this animal is harmless. My fear is real and a leashed dog is the law.

Cindi Heintzelman
Canton

Yes to oil

Concerning the potential for drilling oil wells in Canton, I have to relate a true story. My stepmother was approached by a drilling company requesting permission to drill on her property along the Boardman river near Traverse City. This was an extremely pristine nature area next to her summer home.

After several meetings with the drilling company she reluctantly agreed. The lure of extra income was too strong to overcome for a widow on a fixed income.

After the well was put into operation, one could hardly notice it was there. The drilling company COMPLETELY restored the land to its previous condition (grass, trees and shrubs). Except for the small pump, shield by Arborvitae, and the low hum of the motor (not noticeable when the wind blew), it was easily overlooked.

The well provided my stepmother about \$200 per month for almost 20 years. Pretty hard to beat that kind of investment. The

Arhaus offers tips on table seating

With homes shrinking and the open floor plan becoming more popular, the traditional dining room is not so "traditional" anymore. The kitchen is taking its place for everyday dinners and special occasions. As a result, dining tables are designed to adapt to the occasion and seating too.

Today's dinner tables come in all shapes and sizes, and are multi-purpose; an everyday piece can be made into a dinner party for eight with the flip and twist of the table-top or addition of leaves. Seating can be casual and then dressed up for the occasion with seat covers or slipcovers (depending on the design).

"Seating," says Gary Babcock, vice president of merchandising and fashion, Arhaus Furniture "is the most important furnishing in the space. You want guests to be comfortable so they can thoroughly enjoy the experience, which often times goes well beyond dinner and into lengthy conversation while still seated at the table."

COMFORT IS KEY

Comfort should be top of mind when selecting seating, but don't ignore personal style.

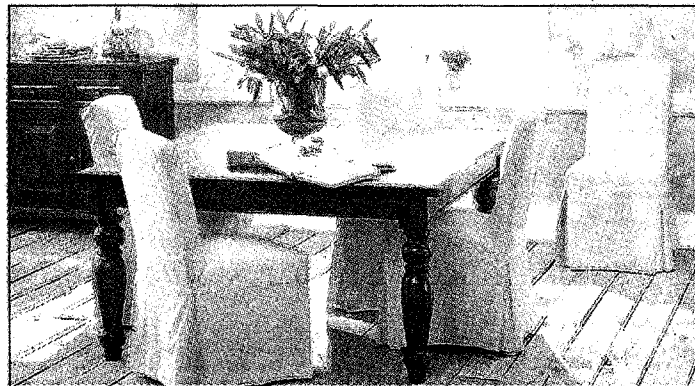
Cozy and classic is the slipcovered dining chair, called Alaina at Arhaus. Sans arms, this style is sophisticated and sumptuous with a fully padded frame — seat cushion and seat back, which is also higher for added support. Consider buying an alternate set of seat covers in a different color.

MIX AND MATCH

When selecting fabrics for special occasion covers, pick unique patterns, but ones that complement the existing color palette in the space.

"You can mix a stripe with a check or a floral print as long as it ties in your existing color scheme," Babcock says. "And, don't be afraid to mix and match different styles. This is how you'll create a unique look."

At Arhaus stores, designers pair an overly-proportioned modern dining table with classic, but similar in scale bistro chairs and they have even set a rustic wood table with six contemporary high back leather seats.



Arhaus sells "Alaina" chairs for the dining table.

FUNCTION A PLUS

Look for seats that do double duty and can be pulled from the dinner table into the living room for conversation after the meal.

"With homes shrinking," says Babcock, "multi-purpose seating is becoming a must."

Designers for the retailer often suggest classic styles like a leather bucket chair — used tableside as a captain and later as a lounge (with optional ottoman) in the living room.

"A slipcovered chair works well too," says Babcock. "Just remember, when picking covers, make sure it is a match in both spaces."

KEEP SCALE IN MIND

Consider the size of your space and the furnishings in it, particularly the table as you shop for

perfect seats. Is the table square? Round or rectangle? Is it large? Is it a more dainty design? Does the top open up to more space or does it come with leaves?

Make sure seats are not only proportioned correctly to your table, buffet and wall unit (for dinner and tableware), but also fit in and around the table.

"Always allow for 24- to 36-inches between your chair and the wall or furniture behind it," says Babcock. For captain style chairs, double-check measurements as the design is typically larger in scale.

For more information, call (866) 4ARHAUS or visit arhaus.com. Arhaus has 32 store locations, including its Ann Arbor Store in the Arborland Shopping Center, 3755 Washtenaw Avenue.

It's almost here!

Sign up for the 2010 Ikea Catalog at www.Ikea.com or call the Canton store at (734) 981-6300 and choose "catalog hotline" from the list of options. You'll receive the book in the mail. The Canton store is located on Ford Road west of I-275.

Kids Day

If the kids are groaning about back-to-school shopping, take them to Parisian at Laurel Park Place in Livonia Saturday, Aug. 21.

Parisian Kids Day fun runs from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. in the children's department, with activities from Max & Erma's restaurant, Zap Zone Extreme, Borders Express, Livonia Family YMCA, Lightning Speedway, Pump It Up, Just Baked Shop, D&M Art Studios, Michigan Youth Flag Football, Tail Waggers USA, Sweet Dreamzzz Inc., and Boys & Girls Club of Southeast Michigan.

Companion Pet Rescue will have pet adoptions on hand.

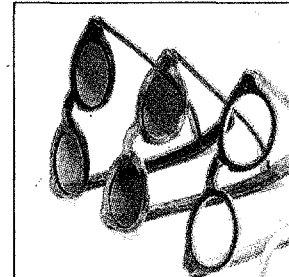
Mom and Dad will find bargains Aug. 21-22 at the Parisian Kids Day promotion. If they spend \$25, they get 20 percent off; for \$50 get 25 percent off; \$75 nets a 30 percent savings.

Laurel Park Place is located at 37700 West Six Mile, Livonia. (734) 462-1100

BRIEFS

Dropping prices

Selective Eyewear Elements, (SEE) the country's largest family-owned boutique fashion eyewear retailer is selling a portion of its inventory, normally priced at up to \$399 for \$169-\$199, including prescription lenses. Its sunglasses collection, which runs \$129-\$329 a pair, now costs \$99 a pair.



Eyeglasses, model #1681 from Selective Eyewear Elements (SEE).

"I grew up and prospered in Michigan, and am incredibly sensitive to the problems in our local economy," stated SEE's founder, Richard Golden, pointing out that SEE's new price structure is a response to Michigan's economy.

The Michigan based company was founded in 1998 and has since grown to 26 stores from coast to coast.

"SEE has always been a great value. Our collection has always been priced at about half of what consumers would expect to pay for like quality and fashion. We've just adjusted the prices even more to do our part in making an essential item more affordable," Golden said.

SEE's collection includes an eclectic and unique assortment of eyeglasses. SEE's buying team looks for artisans who are turning out the most creative, innovative and unique designs. If it isn't "special," it doesn't make the cut.

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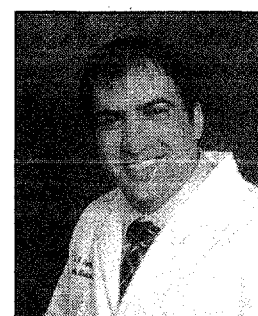


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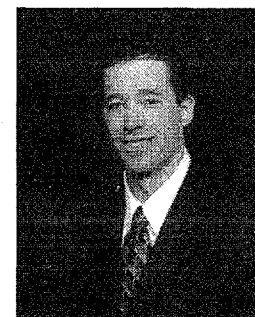


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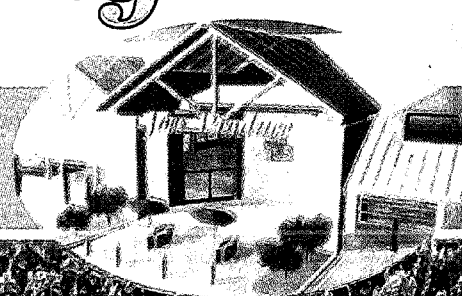
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Mallon has new role for Solheim Cup



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Meg Mallon (right) shares a laugh with Mercy student photographer Maddy Asta at the 19th annual Meg Mallon golf outing Monday at Western Golf & Country Club. Asta's job was to photograph each foursome with Mallon.

BY DAN O'MEARA
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's still golf, but it's a different perspective from that which Meg Mallon is accustomed. Instead of being a player, the veteran of 23 years on the LPGA Tour will be an assistant captain for the U.S. team in the Solheim Cup next week.

"It will be kinda fun to see it from this side," she said. "I'll be far more nervous as an assistant captain than I ever was as a player."

"When I'm playing, I can focus on the next shot and what I need to do. This time I'm worried about pairings and players rather than my golf game."

Mallon was in town Monday at Western Golf & Country Club in Redford for the 18th annual golf outing that bears her name and benefits her alma mater, Mercy High School.

She leaves Friday for Chicago and the week-long Solheim Cup in which the Americans are favored to beat the Europeans.

Mallon's job, and that of fellow assistant cap-

tain Kelly Robbins, is to help team captain Beth Daniel, but most of her work is already done.

The duties of an assistant captain "are a lot more than you think," Mallon said, adding it was a two-year process of planning and preparing.

She had a lot to say in selecting the U.S. team, because she was the only one of the three still on the tour.

"It's a big effort for the captain," Mallon said. "We're trying to make her life and that of the players as easy and seamless as possible."

"During the week of the event, we're also two more sets of eyes if Beth needs to make any changes to the group."

Besides fulfilling her role with the Solheim Cup team, the past year was a difficult one for Mallon, who dealt with the death of her sister, Tricia, from cancer and injuries that limited her playing time.

After withdrawing from a tournament last July with a shoulder injury, Mallon didn't play the rest of the year.

Please see **MALLON, B2**

SIDELINES

TV show taped live

The public is invited to attend a live taping of the *From Glory Days* TV show at the Woodward Stage in Ferndale during the Woodward Dream Cruise Saturday.

The show is based on Farmington Hills author Kurt David's book *From Glory Days — Successful Transitions of Professional Detroit Athletes*.

The TV show features former Pistons, Tigers, Red Wings and Lions, focusing on their transitions from pro sports and what they're doing now.

David's guest Saturday will be former Lion and NFL Hall of Famer Lem Barney. The show will be taped at 2 p.m. David and Barney will sign copies of the book afterward.

The Woodward Stage is located on Woodward Avenue, two streets north of Nine Mile Road.

O&E golf postponed

Last Saturday's Observer & Eccentric Women's Golf Open at Livonia's Whispering Willows was suspended shortly after it began because of rain and lightning.

The tournament has been rescheduled for Saturday, Aug. 22, according to Whispering Willows golf pro Paul Worley.

Last call

The Motor City Pirates U-13 KVBSA independent travel baseball team will be having open tryouts from 10 a.m. to noon Sunday at their home field, UAW Local 735, located at 48055 Michigan Ave., Canton MI 48188. For more information, contact Head Coach Angelo Lanava: alanava@wowway.com or (734) 395-3355.

Hole-in-one club

Fox Hills in Plymouth was the site of six hole-in-ones during July.

On July 11, Ed Valliere of Grand Rapids used a wedge on the 88-yard No. 10 hole at the Strategic Fox.

The Golden Fox hosted aces by Brighton's Steve M. Zerws (on July 20) and Kentucky resident Todd Fischer. Zerws, 52, used an 8-iron on the 144-yard No. 3 and finished with a score of 83. Fischer's ace was on the 170-yard No. 12; he used a 5-iron for his shot.

Also scoring an ace at the Golden Fox was Canton's Renae S. Kelly on July 18. She used a driver on the 105-yard No. 14.

Canton's Patrick Lukasik, 56, scored a hole-in-one on July 19 at Fox Classic-Lakes No. 2. He used a 5-iron to ace the 162-yard hole and finished with a score of 93 for the day.

On July 18 at Fox Classic-Lakes, 72-year-old Brian Stouffer of Ann Arbor collected a hole-in-one. He used a 9-iron to ace the 115-yard No. 5 hole and finished with a round of 115.

Fishing club meeting

The monthly meeting of the Huron Valley Sportfishing Club will be at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 20, at American Legion Post 200, located at 11800 Michael Street, Taylor (take Brest Road west off Telegraph Road to the hall).

The featured speaker will be C. J. Baker, charter captain and Silver Streak representative. He will discuss the science of and bring in the newest UV activated spoons and spinner blades for display and purchase.

Food and drinks available, along with 50/50 and fishing tackle raffles.

For more information, e-mail rmontre@juno.com.

Red-hot reps

First practices fuel competitive fires for Observer-area gridders

BY THE OBSERVER SPORTS STAFF

After weeks of informally lifting weights and perusing the playbook, area high school football players officially got going Monday on the first day the Michigan High School Athletic Association permits formal team practices.

Despite furnace-like temperatures, squads coolly made their way through the myriad conditioning and football drills as preparations continue for season openers in two weeks.

Coaches remain optimistic that 2009 could be the year. But first, their teams had to get through the week. So far, so good.

Following is a recap of how some of the sessions are progressing:

CANTON

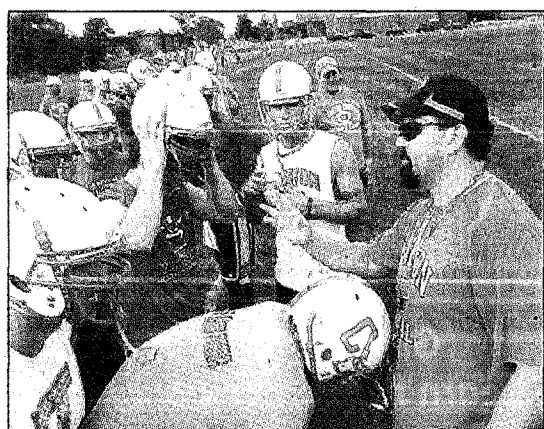
Storms and scorching heat on the eve of official high school football practice didn't dampen enthusiasm at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park as Canton's Chiefs opened practices.

"Everybody looks good with no pads on," said veteran Canton head coach Tim Baechler, following Tuesday's session. "So we'll start learning more about a few of our positions, a few of our players on Thursday."

Today is when the Chiefs will don shoulder pads and begin full-contact drills, with 15 days to go before the Aug. 28 season opener at Brighton.

Baechler said both the Monday and Tuesday practices focused first on defensive basics and then moved over to going over various offensive formations.

Please see **FOOTBALL, B3**



Canton varsity football coach Tim Baechler talks to his players about upcoming drills during Tuesday's practice at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Garden City grider Greg Emery runs through offensive drills during the first couple of days of practice. The Cougars will open the 2009 regular season Friday, Aug. 28, at Dexter.

Michigan Rams split pair in AABA tournament

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Michigan Rams' promising start to the All-American Amateur Baseball Association Tournament took a slight left turn Tuesday afternoon as Martella's Pharmacy of host Johnston (Pa.) held on for a 2-1 triumph at Point Stadium.

Pitcher Ryan Zamiskie tossed a three-hitter as Martella's improved to 2-0 in 16-team, double-elimination 20-and-under tournament.

The Rams, coming off an impressive 14-4 opening-round win over the Toledo (Ohio) Monarchs, fell to the loser's bracket at 1-1.

Zamiskie went all nine innings, striking out five and walking only two while hitting a batter.

"He (Zamiskie) did a nice job," Rams

manager Rick Berryman said. "He changed speeds, kept ball away and we had 13 ground ball outs. But we could have hit the ball better and kept the ball in play."

Pinch hitter Pat Kohl drove home Mike Pelekanos, who had doubled, with the game-winning run in the seventh inning to break a 1-all deadlock.

Chris Rasky's RBI single scoring Colin Harrington, who also doubled, gave Martella's a 1-0 lead in the top of the third, but the Rams answered in the bottom of the third when Madonna University's Nick Plinka (Livonia Stevenson) reached base on an error and scored on Brett Mazmanian's single.

In the bottom of the seventh inning, the Rams were poised to take the lead, but Aaron Cieslak was tagged out at home trying to score from third on a

wild pitch by Zamiskie.

"The ball bounced back off the backstop perfectly to the catcher," Berryman said. "I saw another game tonight at the Point and I saw five or six that didn't bounce that way."

Rams starter Brady Cooper, who went 7.1 innings, took the loss for the runners-up in the Livonia Collegiate Baseball League, who fell to 2-14 overall. Cooper struck out eight, walked one and allowed eight hits before being relieved by Ryan Abraham, who struck out three in 1.2 innings.

The Rams played again at noon Wednesday at Roxbury Park in the loser's bracket against New Orleans. Visit www.hometownlife.com.

RAMS 14, MONARCHS 4: Catcher Brett Mazmanian, out of Kankakee (Ill.) Community College, went 4-for-4,

including a double, with six RBI and two runs scored Monday as the Michigan Rams rolled to a seven-inning mercy rule victory over the Toledo (Ohio) Monarchs in the opening round of the AAABA tournament at Johnston's St. Michael Field.

The Rams, who lost two of three exhibition games to the Monarchs this summer, jumped out to an 11-2 advantage through three innings and never looked back.

Mazmanian had plenty of support offensively as the Rams chased Monarchs starter Kacy Dwornik (Bowling Green). Toledo also committed four errors.

Lead-off batter Aaron Cieslak, who started the game with a double up the gap, went 2-for-4 with two RBI and

Please see **RAMS, B2**

MALLON

FROM PAGE B1

"My sister was ill and in December I went to Pennsylvania to stay with her and help her, which put my game in the background," she said. "I put my priorities in order, and my family has always been my first priority. "My sister and I were close. She was No. 5 (in a family of nine kids) and I was No. 6. She was my idol growing up. I was glad I could spend the last three months with her." Mallon returned to playing golf at the end of April; however, she suffered a back injury during a tournament in New York and has been trying to get back on track. "It's been a very inauspicious beginning to the year,"

she said. "Some times you have to take what life gives you and deal with the rest." Mallon will restart her playing career in two weeks at the Canadian Open. She has played in five events this year and hopes to get in six more by the end of the year. "It's not the kind of year I wanted," she said. "I work on conditioning; unfortunately, my body yelled at me a bit. I had to get back in shape. Then I didn't get my rhythm back, and I didn't play as well." Mallon, who has won 13 tournaments and is among the all-time top money winners on the tour, isn't contemplating retirement yet. "I've always told myself I'd play as long as I was healthy and competitive," she said. "I haven't been the last four

years now, but there have been some extenuating circumstances whether it was my healthy, my sister's or my mom's. "I still have the desire to work at it. Every athlete says they'll know when it's time, but I haven't quite gotten there yet." Mallon, who moved from Arizona to Florida in 1999, is still fond of her home state and was looking for a summer home in northern Michigan this week. "This is my home," she said. "In 2004-05, we were hit by three straight hurricanes in Florida, and I thought, 'I need to be in Michigan these months.' "Plus, I'll be closer to my family, and I have a lot of friends who go up there for vacation. And why not? It's a

great vacation place. "Wherever I've gone — all over the world — you can't get much better than Michigan in the summertime." Mallon has been loyal to Mercy, returning each summer for the event that had raised \$620,000 for the school prior to this year. "They make it so easy for me," Mallon said of the people at Mercy. "I just come in and do the event. My brothers, John and Paul, have done so much. Without them, it would be hard to do, not living here. They don't have kids who went to Mercy, but they've treated it as a labor of love. "I had such a wonderful experience at Mercy High School, and the friends I have for life are ones I made at Mercy. It's the easiest and most fun day I do."

RAMS

FROM PAGE B1

three runs scored to spark a 13-hit Rams attack. Left fielder Steve Anderson, a Northville High grad and tournament pickup from the LCBL member Blue Knights, also went 2-for-4 with two RBI. Jason Forster chipped in with two hits, two RBI and two runs. Ryan Abraham also scored three times, while Kyle Vesey crossed home plate twice. Joe Barnes also contributed an RBI. Winning pitcher Tom

Hansen, a left-hander from Madonna University, went all seven innings, allowing four runs on four hits to pick up the win. He struck out four and walked six. "He (Hansen) was not necessarily wild, but the umpire had a weird strike zone and they (the Monarchs) walked seven, too," Rams manager Rick Berryman said. "He threw 115 pitches. It was a gutsy performance and it keeps a lot of our other pitchers fresh that we can save down the line for the tourney. "It was a good start for us. We did not make any errors."

Check out the bargains at area garage sales inside today's Classified section

TEE TIME

Your local golf guide

Shaking It Off

How to forget about a bad shot and finish with a great score

By Susan Smiley

No matter what level of golfer you are, chances are you've made a bad shot at some point during a recent round — the errant drive, the chip that falls short of your target, or the planned layup shot that goes "kerplunk" right in the middle of the water hazard. There is no reason that a bad shot — or even a bad hole — should spoil a good round of golf. The trick is learning to mentally shake off the negative and focus on the positive. Keep in mind the bad shot is over, done, finished. Now it is time to step up to your ball and make a great shot. "I know that a lot of times, I've been able to beat people in the long run not because I was more talented than my opponent but because I had a

positive attitude," said Randy Erskine, PGA Professional at Great Oaks Country Club in Rochester. "My attitude was better even though my talent was not better. There are a lot of people with less talent who produce because of their attitude toward golf. And that goes right to other things in life too." Erskine's dad taught him from a young age to always think of the glass half full. Growing up, he read several books about positive thinking and over the years he has applied what he learned to his golf game. Recently, Great Oaks CC hosted the 93rd Michigan Women's Amateur and the champion, Britney Hamilton (Lake Orion), came from behind to get the win. During the final round of match play, she was down three holes to her opponent at the turn. Hamilton,

who is also a positive thinker, told herself to just relax and play her game on the back nine. Her strategy worked well and by the time she got to the 17th tee, she only trailed by one. Despite hitting her ball in the water, she won the hole and then sunk a long putt on 18 to win the tournament. "After I hit into the water, I thought I still had a chance," Hamilton said. "I thought if I could hit my next shot well, I had a good chance to win the hole." That's the kind of thinking that wins championships — and makes golf a whole lot more enjoyable. Most golfers, Erskine said, have expectations that are much too high. No one is ever going to win every single tournament that they enter. And no one is going to have a great score

every time they tee off. So stop being so hard on yourself! "People have to have realistic goals," said Erskine. "Goals are only accomplished 25 percent of the time. So you should shoot your handicap only 25 percent of the time. Once you realize that, it helps you to forget about the bad shot or the bad hole or even the bad round." Another thing Erskine often reminds his students; you can only control your own game and what you are doing. No one can control how their opponent is going to play. "If you play your best and you still lose — which has happened to me many, many times — you just have to shake your opponent's hand and feel good about your own game that you went out and played as well as you could on that day," Erskine said. "If

you beat yourself up, that is very bad for your golf." In fact, Erskine will not tolerate negative talk from his students. There is to be no self-bashing during the golf lesson. "When my students start talking in a negative fashion, I hold my hand up because I just don't allow that," Erskine said. "It helps them to stay positive and it helps me. You get a whole lot more accomplished when you come into a lesson with a positive attitude." "Now sure, you are going to have bad times. Everyone does. If you know they are coming, it is not as hard to accept when it does." Susan Smiley is the Member Services Manager for the Golf Association of Michigan.

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FOOTBALL

FROM PAGE B1

The coaching staff gave players as many water breaks as necessary to cope with the 90-degree temps. But stifling heat wasn't about to be any kind of excuse for not getting after it during drills and sprints.

"It's like that for every kid in the state, they're not acclimated to this heat yet," Baechler explained. "It's not their fault."

"... the poor kids, Mother Nature played a trick on them. They've been working hard and they're in shape, but not for 90 degree heat."

As for water consumption, the players were urged to drink 10 to 12 "big glasses" after leaving practice, Baechler said.

SALEM

Later on Tuesday afternoon, first-year Salem head coach Kurt Britnell presided over a crisp Day 2 of drills and instruction.

"On the hip, through the shoulder, that's what I want right there," said Britnell to senior quarterback Jake Peterson, working on his rollouts.

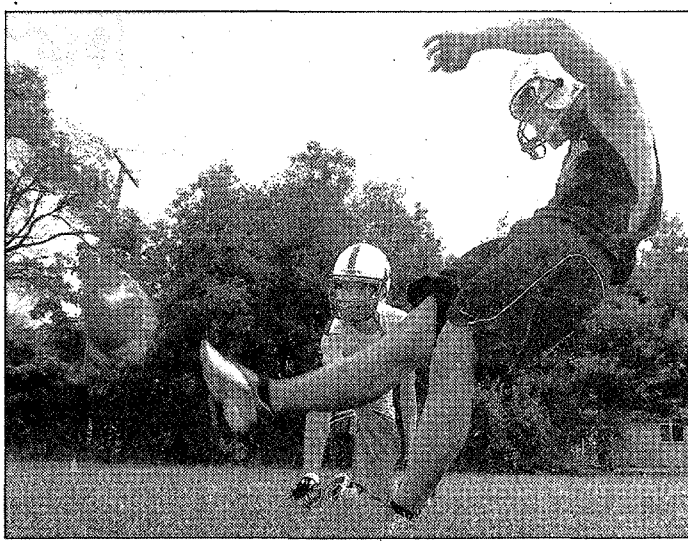
A few minutes later, Britnell — a former Salem quarterback himself — kept the pace going during drills where Rocks' tailbacks worked on hitting gaps with speed.

"Let's go, reps, reps, reps," he said.

During a rare break in the practice, Britnell reiterated the importance of a fast pace.

"We want to keep everything up-tempo, non-stop and stay to the time frame we have and within that time frame we're coaching them on the fly," Britnell said. "It's just to get an up-tempo pace so they get used to that."

Britnell, who was offensive coordinator at Plymouth before taking over the Canton helm, is eager to get the 2009 season going on Aug. 28 against the neighboring Wildcats.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton place-holder Chris Merbler steadies the football as Nick Dibendetto practices kicking field goals on Tuesday.

Of course, the first "opponent" of the year was the heat.

"Heat is not a concern," he continued. "Our managers are constantly walking around giving them water, they're always getting H2O during practices."

PLYMOUTH

Not too far from the Rocks, early afternoon practice got going for the Plymouth Wildcats.

"We're just trying to work hard and get better every day and every practice," said assistant coach Terry Sawchuk. "We're working on all phases of our team."

Sawchuk said the team's preparation for the season opener against Salem is not curtailed by the intense heat and humidity endured during the opening sessions.

"It seems like it's always hot this time of year," he emphasized. "You just have to keep educating your kids on how to hydrate the night before and stay hydrated all through the day, work with the trainers."

Plymouth players are told to gulp tons of water all day, and a gallon of the stuff at night — along with at least one Gatorade "to replenish those electrolytes."

The Wildcats, under the helm of head coach Mike

Sawchuk, also are looking forward to getting the season started in just over two weeks against Salem.

"They're over there working hard," Terry Sawchuk said. "So it will be a heck of a game."

COVENANT

The greatest concern on Day 1 for head coach Darren Blockett and his staff at Redford Covenant was numbers.

Eleven players, enough to field just one side of the football, took part in the opening day of practice as the Spartans look to improve on their 5-4 ledger of a year ago. That roster number is down considerably from the past two seasons when 19 players suited up in 2008 and 25 in 2007.

"Our school is down in students overall, so we're doing sort of a co-op with (Detroit) Consortium trying to get our numbers up," explained Blockett.

The youthful Spartans who did practice encountered some sweltering conditions as the thermometer Monday afternoon topped out at 87 degrees.

"They were hot, but we gave them plenty of water breaks," Blockett said. "Of all the days to get hot. But they fought through it."

One bright spot on the day

— Blockett said the Spartans may have found their quarterback to lead them in '09.

THURSTON

The first couple of days can be a little agonizing for coaches, as well as players, as repetitiveness often takes center stage in setting up formations, making adjustments and finding the right timing in running productive plays.

Redford Thurston head coach Bob Snell is a long way from declaring his Eagles are playoff bound, but just one day of practice brought some smiles usually reserved for much later in the practice sessions.

"We were pretty crisp, and that's not a usual thing," Snell said. "Most of the time we're pretty spent just trying to get everyone in position."

Heat proved to be a concern, but Snell and the coaching staff averted any health issues by serving up plenty of water breaks.

"It was nasty because we hadn't been conditioning in this type of heat all summer," Snell said. "That's the worst if you're not used to it."

GARDEN CITY

Ground zero with an equal opportunity to perform is where every member of Garden City's football team found itself Monday for the opening day of practice.

"We're getting a lot of reps in and looking at different kids," said Cougars head coach Mike Salter. "Everybody is starting with an equal chance to go out there and get playing time and contribute."

The Cougars will be eager for a turnaround this year as the 2008 season produced just two victories. Salter said how quickly the Cougars pick up schemes in running the base offense and base defense will go a long way in determining just how successful the team can be in '09.

"It takes time, but the quicker they pick it up, the better we can be," Salter said. "There's a

lot of teaching going on now. We started slow, but things picked up nicely and we had a much better practice."

REDFORD UNION

What a difference a day makes?

Just one day after struggling to gain any continuity, head coach Miles Tomasaitis saw a completely different performance from his youthful Panthers.

"Monday we sucked, and Tuesday we didn't suck as bad," Tomasaitis summed up. "Some things I felt we should have done, and done pretty well, we didn't. Then all of a sudden it just clicked and we moved forward very nicely."

"The heat wasn't really as bad as it was supposed to be and that probably helped," he went on. "But we gave them plenty of water and plenty of breaks."

Tomasaitis will look for continued progress as the Panthers look to bounce back from a difficult '08 season that produced four victories in nine starts.

NORTH FARMINGTON

Monday is offensive day for the Raiders, so they were installing the bread-and-butter plays of the offense on the first day, according to coach Todd Schultz.

"You get kids in helmets, get them to the right spots and see they're working hard and doing their assignments," Schultz said. "That's pretty much the key when you don't have pads on. We were happy with the guys. They knew their stuff and were hustling."

"It was a good day to get working in the heat, because we haven't had any all summer and we'll be strapping on the pads Thursday."

"It was a good start. We weren't happy with the way the season ended last year. It's another chance to start anew."

FARMINGTON HARRISON

John Herrington began

his 40th season coaching the Hawks when practice started Monday. He's the only head coach they've had since the school opened in 1970.

"I've got a lot of coaching help; I delegate more authority, and they're doing a good job," he said.

"As far as it getting harder, maybe a little bit on the legs when you're out there for 5-6 hours, but I get excited about (coaching)."

"You try to put kids in the right positions and try to get the most out of their talent. Every team is different, so it's always fun."

"In the morning, we worked on offense, and I was pleased with the way the offensive line seems to be coming around. The defense is a little behind, but it's the first day. The defense is not going to look good until we get in pads."

FARMINGTON

It was a long first day for the Falcons, but they accomplished a great deal, according to coach John Bechtel.

"There was a lot of organization involved," he said. "We passed out equipment first thing in the morning. The kids had their first meeting at 10:15. Then we had lunch and another meeting."

"In the afternoon, we practiced; then we had another meeting and another practice. The kids were here from 8 in the morning til 9 at night, but we got an awful lot done and a lot in."

"There was a lot of learning going on. We try to get as much content and form in as we can before real football starts Thursday. That's what we try to accomplish, and I think we met our goals."

"The kids are here four weeks before school starts and that's not easy. It shows great commitment on their part to be out there when it's summer and they have a lot of other options. It's a real credit to the players when their buddies might be sitting by the pool."

Annual Mary Angela Run set for Aug. 16 at OCC Orchard Ridge

The Mary Angela Run committee is preparing for its seventh annual event to honor and remember Mary Angela DiGiovanni.

This year's event will benefit Angels' Place, a non-profit which provides housing and services for people

with developmental disabilities.

The run will start at 9 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 16, at the Oakland Community College Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills. The event offers chip-timed 5K and 10K runs and a one-mile fitness walk and

children's run.

The event, which has raised approximately \$40,000 yearly, is a way to honor the memory of 23-year-old Mary Angela DiGiovanni, who was involved in a fatal car accident in January of 2003.

Mary Angela was a University of Michigan Public Health student with a desire to improve health care and help people in need. Her family has pledged that her life will continue to reach out and help others.

The standard entry fee of \$25 or

\$50 for a Mary's Angel sponsorship, which includes a Mary's Angel T-shirt and recognition on event signage. Participants may register in advance or Sunday beginning at 7:30 a.m. For more information or to register, visit www.angelsplace.com.

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Junk! MOVING!! Everything
MUST GO!

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Harlowshire between 8 and 9
Mile, Farmington Rd. and
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(8/15), 9-?? Skis, TVs, book-
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golf clubs, bar stools, house-
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W of Levan, N of 6 Mile.

LIVONIA - Everything priced to
go! Aug. 13-15th, 9-4pm.
36132 Ladywood, btwn 5 & 6
Mile, off Levan. Household
items, jewelry, brand new kid's
toys & games and much more!

LIVONIA Aug. 14-15, 9am-
4pm. 19552 Gill Rd. 7
Mile/Farmington. Tools, sport-
ing goods, clothing, kitchen
items, TOYS, VCR tapes,
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LIVONIA Estate Sale. 8/14 &
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7:30-4 and Sun., 1-5. 19235
Bethany St.

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August 13th and 14th, 9am-
4pm. 49255 Hunt Club Ct., in
Fox Pointe Subdivision/East of
Ridge, between Powell and N.
Territorial. Baby items, includ-
ing crib, glider rocker, brand
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Ottar. Items: Home, Kids,
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RELIGION CALENDAR

Religion calendar items appear on Thursdays on a space available basis. To submit an item, e-mail sdargay@hometownlife.com or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette-2nd Level, Detroit, MI 48226, Attn: Sharon Dargay. Item must include the venue address and phone number and any admission costs for events. Items must be submitted at least a week in advance of publication. For a complete listing of events online please go to hometownlife.com.

AUG. 13-19

Bethany

West and Downriver chapters team up for a ride on the Detroit River with the Portofino Boat Cruise, 8-11 p.m., Aug. 14. Tickets are \$30. Call Kathy M. at (734) 513-9479. Bethany West's Monthly Breakfast Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Aug. 15 at Leon's, 30149 Ford Road, south side (next to Tim Horton's) in Garden City. All separated, divorced and singles welcome; for details call Kathy M. at (734) 513-9479.

Family film

See "Lion King" at dusk, Aug. 14, at Bethel Baptist, 29475 Six Mile, Livonia. (734) 525-3664; www.bethel-livonia.com

Vacation Bible school

Boomerang Express, an Australian theme program, runs 6-8:15 p.m., Aug. 17-20, at Nativity United Church of Christ, 9435 Henry Ruff at West Chicago, Livonia. The program is for children who are preschool age through 6th grade during the 2008-2009 school year. Call to register (734) 421-5406.

AUG. 20-26

Book bag giveaway

2-5 p.m., Aug. 23, at Plaza Lanes, 42001 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. Way of Life Christian Church is sponsoring the outreach. Backpacks with school supplies will be given to the first 100 children who register. Registered children also may bowl. Their parents and other adults may bowl for \$5. The price includes shoes. For more information call Ron Spencer at (734) 697-6107.

ONGOING

AWANA

Every Wednesday night Faith Bible Church offers an AWANA program for children from kindergarten through fifth grade at Faith Bible Church, 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. Drop children off or stay for a Bible study offered to parents from 7-8:30 p.m. For more information, call (248) 426-0096.

Classes/study

■ New Life Community Church, 42200 Tyler, Belleville, offers a jobs seminar, 8-9 a.m., Fridays, a reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m., Sundays. (734) 846-4615
 ■ Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, is hosting a Tai Chi Class by Sam Purdy, Wu Style Tai Chi. This meditative form of Martial Arts is designed to reduce stress and is great for over-all health memory and balance. Everyone is welcome from beginning to experienced participants at any time. Classes continue every Monday. Cost per class depends on number of participants. For information or to reserve your space, call (248) 701-1587 or (248) 626-3620. Visit www.orchardumc.org for updates.

■ Adult and English as a Second Language literacy classes are available for those who want to improve reading, writing and English conversational skills. Open to age 18 and over. Trained tutors available for day or evening. For information, call Merriman Road Baptist Church in Garden City at (734) 421-0472. Leave your name and phone number and someone will contact you.

■ Scripture studies, from 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the lower level of Our Lady of Loretto Church, Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford. Call (313) 534-9000.

■ Learner's Bible study, 7 p.m., Mondays, in Room A101, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville. Call (248) 374-5920.

■ Learn Qigong, the ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine - a safe and effective way to rid the body of toxic pathogens and years of painful emotions - at Livonia Unity, 28660 Five Mile. Classes include: Monday movement Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday Qigong meditation, 10-11:15 a.m., and Friday Therapeutic Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m. Call (810) 813-4073 for more information or send e-mail to gary@energeticarts.org.

■ Bible study, 7 p.m., first and third Thursdays, at St. Michael the Archangel Church, located at the southwest corner of Plymouth and Hubbard Roads. The informal classes are open to all interested persons regardless of religious affiliation. To register, call (734) 261-1445, Ext. 200.

■ Bible talks, 4 p.m. Sundays at the Friendship Center, 1119 Newburgh, Westland. Call (734) 728-9157.

■ Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Livonia invites adults with developmental disabilities and special needs to attend a new Open Arms Bible class the second Monday of the month at the church, 34567

Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia. The class will include songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun. Contact Judy Cook at Emmanuel, (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to elc-ed@arounddetroit.biz.

■ Tuesday Ladies Bible Study from 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays, at Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile. \$15 registration fee includes interdenominational study materials. Child care available for children through age 5. Call (248) 348-7600.

■ A study/discussion group focuses on relationship with God and that of other religious groups and philosophical and scientific issues that might impact faith, at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 26701 Joy. A group at 10:30 a.m., Thursday examines early writings not included in the Bible as well as other versions, extensions and controversies concerning Christianity. Led by interim pastor Larry Hoxey. (313) 274-3820.

Concerts

■ Rush Hour concert series continues every Tuesday with gathering and refreshments at 5 p.m., concert 5:30-6 p.m., featuring performances by local and national jazz artists at Metropolitan United Methodist Church, 8000 Woodward, Detroit. Free. Visit www.metroumc.org.

Fellowship dinner

Dinners will resume Sept. 18 at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Cost is \$8. Call (313) 534-7730.

Films

10 a.m. Wednesday Kids Matinees and 4 p.m., Saturday family movie, at Kenwood Church of Christ, 20200 Merriman, Livonia. Guitar Praise game precedes the film on Saturday. Children in second grade or younger can play prior to the film; those in third grade and up can play after the movie. Pizza will also be served following the movie. All events are free. (248) 476-8222

Hall rental

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

■ St. James Presbyterian, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. For information call the church at (313) 534-7730

Prayer

■ Music, singing, prayer at 7 p.m. Thursdays at St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through entrance #2, at the back of the church. For more information, call Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656, or Geri at (734) 464-8906.

Friendly Garden City welcome pleases pastor, her family

BY JULIE BROWN
O&E STAFF WRITER

The Rev. Pam Beedle-Gee, new pastor at First United Methodist Church of Garden City, preached her first sermon at the church July 5.

Beedle-Gee started her new post July 1, coming from Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, where she was an associate pastor. She's a graduate of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Ill., with master's of divinity and master's of Christian education degrees.

For her undergraduate work, Beedle-Gee studied at Wayne State University, earning a bachelor's degree in social work.

She's married to John Beedle-Gee, and the couple has six children in a blended family ranging from 44 down to 21.

"I was definitely called to the ministry," said Beedle-Gee, who's living with her family in the Garden City parsonage.

She had her children, and her youngest daughter was 4 when she began the ministry process, "when God started working on me."

"I think God prepares you for the job," she finds God prepares you for where you're sent. "I certainly think that I have gifts God's been developing in me throughout my lifetime." Younger pastors have gifts for ministries they're sent to as well, she said.

She did some college work, and studied more at WSU when her children were young. She raised kids and went back to school again for ministry.

First United Methodist Church of Garden City has 304 members. "We really need young families. We would like to invite young families to come and be a part of our community."

She's still learning about



The Rev. Pam Beedle-Gee is the new pastor of First United Methodist Church of Garden City.

the church. "The sky's the limit. There's so much we can do." She's listening to a lot of new ideas, thinking about the future and keeping the church vital.

"That's really what my focus is at this point. It's a great time for new people to come and join us in those efforts."

The church didn't do vacation Bible school this year, and its pastor and others would like to look at that for the future. Children and youth are far more savvy now, Beedle-Gee finds. "How we teach them can't be the same old rote memorization methods. We need to really think about that as we plan ministries with them and for them."

She's a quilter in her free time, and has nine grandchildren and one due close to Christmas. "So we're expecting almost literally a Christ child for Christmas. We put a lot of value on family."

She also gardens a bit. They're still "living in the land of cardboard" as they unpack and settle into their new home.

Grosse Pointe also has a lot of mom and pop stores, like Garden City. The convenience of malls and large stores is appreciated, especially by her

college-age daughter.

"Everyone here has been really, really friendly." Needing a new doctor or knowing where to buy groceries, they've gotten answers.

"Everybody has just been so friendly and open and hospitable." They went to an ice cream social at the nearby Maplewood Center for local seniors. "We had a great time. We've explored the (Garden City) park a little bit, which is absolutely lovely."

"We've only been here a little while and we're still unpacking." They're not close to the lake anymore, and miss that. "Each community has its own special feel about it."

People wave on the street, which she likes. "Not every community is like that. That's just very, very special."

Her congregation is accepting of a woman pastor. "I don't have to fight some of those stereotypes that other women pastors have to fight. I do know it's still out there."

Some women clergy have to "earn our bars, or earn our credentials." Beedle-Gee recalls church history in which Jesus started church with women in homes.

"Women were the ones in charge of the homes." Men didn't lead until after the time of persecution, when the role became more public.

"People forget women were the ones who got the church going in the beginning."

She spent six years at her last church, and hopes for a nice long stay in Garden City, "that the people here and I will be able to do some good work together. Hopefully, we'll be here for awhile."

Services are at 10 a.m. Sundays with Beedle-Gee preaching weekly, and all are welcome. The church is on Merriman at Maplewood, between Warren and Ford roads in Garden City.

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WILLIAM J. BURTON

Age 85, August 10, 2009. Beloved husband of Mary. Dear father of Daniel (Joanne), Richard (Marianne), Renee (Karl) Myrand, Thomas (Tracie) and Curtis (Carol). Grandfather of Jeff, Lisa, Anthony, Marie, Sarah, Jennifer and Zack Burton and Lauren Myrand. Great-grandfather of Hannah and Joey Burton. Brother of Theresa Boucher, Shirley Bower and Annette Maxwell. Visitation Thursday 5-9pm and Friday 1-9pm with a 7pm Scripture Service at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster (between Ford and Cherry Hill). In state Saturday 9:30am until 10am Mass at St. Raphael Catholic Church, 31530 Beechwood (at Merriman, 2 blocks north of Ford). www.santeiufuneralhome.com

DOROTHY L. COLLINS

Age 75, of Warren, August 2, 2009. www.SimpleFuneralsInMichigan.com



NANCY E. HARRISON

Of Livonia, died August 8, 2009, age 83. Beloved wife of Leo. Dear mother of Pam (Scott) Socia, Kimberly and John. Grandmother of Nicole, Scotty, and Tommy. Dear aunt of Fay, Helen, Shirley and Dale. Cousin of Chuck Edwards, Sharon and Sue. Visitation Manns-Ferguson Funeral Home 17000 Middlebelt (S. of 6 Mile) Wednesday 2 to 8 p.m. Services Thursday at 11 a.m. Memorials suggested to American Lung Association. Share a memory at www.mannsfuneralhome.com

MARY JOSEPHINE MARTIN

Age 93 formerly of Farmington Hills passed away August 6, 2009 in Harbor Springs, MI. She was born July 17, 1914 in Kansas. She was an artist and homemaker. Mrs. Martin is survived by her children Gregory, Jonathan, and Susan (Larry) Thurston; four grandchildren; eight great grandchildren. She is predeceased by her husband Charles. A family memorial service was held Tuesday at Oak Chapel at Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens cemetery in Novi, MI.

ELSIE L. NYYSTI

Age 81 of Farmington Hills passed away July 28, 2009. Dear wife of the late Tenho; loving mother of Margaret Zakrisson, Robert, Caroline (Paul) Riddell, Marcia (Thomas) Bozek and the late Richard. She is also survived by 8 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great grandchild. Private funeral services were held at the Glen Eden Memorial Park Chapel; Reverend Art Ritter presided. Memorial contributions may be made to Meadowbrook Congregational Church, 21355 Meadowbrook Road, Novi, MI 48375
Heeney-Sundquist.com

MARIE C. PERRAS

August 10th, 2009, age 86 of Westland. Dear mother to Dan (Karen), Jim (Lori Miles), Cathy (George) Paskauchas, and Robin (Pat) Mulroy. Sister to Robert Johnson. Loving grandmother to nine and nine Great Grandchildren. Memorial mass at St. Mary Catholic Church of Wayne, Saturday, August 15th at 11am. Cremains will be buried at St. Hedwig Cemetery after Mass. Family request memorials to Right to Life or American Life League. Please view memorial and send tributes to: www.uhthf.com.

May You
Find
Comfort in
Family &
Friends

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.)

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800-579-7355

ask for Char or Liz

OE08658429

Faithful flock to church grotto for prayer and reflection

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
CORRESPONDENT

A small statue nestled in a manmade grotto at Our Lady of Good Counsel Roman Catholic Church is drawing visitors day and night.

The image of Our Lady of Lourdes sits atop a mound of stones tucked into what looks like a cave opening, overlooking a waterfall and above rows of candles lit by believers asking for God's favor. Construction began in December and it was dedicated two months ago.

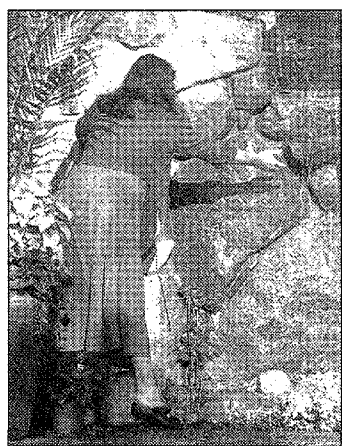
The grotto was built at the request of an parishioner who recently visited Lourdes, France where Jesus' mother is said to have appeared to a 14-year-old peasant girl, Bernadette Soubirous, 151 years ago.

Our Lady of Good Counsel pastor the Rev. John Riccardo said the woman "experienced a powerful encounter" and asked if a grotto could be built at the church on North Territorial and Beck in Plymouth Township.

"I said, 'I don't have the money' and she said, 'What if I gave you the money?' And other folks came forward and made it possible totally by donations," Riccardo said.

At the same time, a group of his parishioners were going on a pilgrimage to Lourdes.

"Countless miracles happen of extraordinary testimony of spiritual and physical cures," Riccardo said, adding that people wait for hours to approach the grotto in France. "We built a grotto so people



Kathy Malloy of Plymouth Township touches the water falling in the grotto and blesses herself.

can come here and to remind them of what happened there."

Today, between six million and eight million pilgrims from around the world visit Our Lady of Lourdes in France. Bernadette was canonized as a saint following numerous miracles accepted by the Catholic Church.

"The real miracle is to have our eyes open to really understand what God has done in Jesus and that His love is so great and that we can be in a deep and profound relationship with Him and experience eternal life with Him," Riccardo said.

Recently a group of people gathered, as they do most mornings, after 8 a.m. Mass at Our Lady of Good Counsel to say a rosary, a group of prayers recited while meditating on various times during Jesus' life on earth.

"When I pray here it's a delicious prayer and I get fed

every time," said a woman who asked to remain anonymous.

"The Blessed Mother and Jesus open the scriptures in a way that you never know," she added.

Laura Sovel, who led those who gathered in prayer, said the grotto is a "powerful witness of our Blessed Mother's intercession that people brought from their treasure to honor her and give us a place to bring our prayers and petitions to find quiet time with the Lord. It's such a peaceful place to pray."

Holy water from Lourdes, France — as well as other places where the Blessed Mother is said to have appeared — has been added to the waterfall at the grotto. In fact, the statue was brought back from Lourdes by the parish's pilgrims.

"The power of prayer continues to go on," explained Kathy Malloy, a Plymouth Township resident who also attended the rosary recitation.

ST. BERNADETTE

Behind the group praying, stood a small white statue, depicting St. Bernadette, sitting among the multitude of flowers that surround the grotto. The setting is breathtaking with a stand of pines as the backdrop and a brick walk leading to the statue and waterfall.

The waterfall has a particular significance, because Bernadette was reportedly asked by the Blessed Mother to dig in the ground and drink from the water of the spring she found. At first the water



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The faithful gather at the grotto after Mass and pray the rosary.

was muddy, but the stream became increasingly clean. As word spread, this water was given to medical patients and numerous miracles were reported. During one of the reported apparitions, Mary reportedly asked for prayer and penitence for the conversion of sinners.

PLACE OF PRAYER

Riccardo said he had "two experiences" at the new grotto. He shared one: "I was there with 25 or 30 folks who had gone with me on this pilgrimage last October," he said. "We were praying the rosary and out of nowhere I heard this gentle motherly rebuke that just said, 'You are not expecting anything near enough from this.' So, I'm going to start expecting a lot from this. It's great to see the number of people who come

to pray there asking for the intercession of Mary and a deeper relationship with God.

"It's not a place of beauty, but a place of prayer. It's a fitting place for folks to do what I call wasting time with God. Good friends are people with whom you love to waste time. That's how prayer should be. I want to waste time with God and his friends the saints," he said.

The Blessed Mother has a special place for the parishioners of Our Lady of Good Counsel, because the church is named after her.

"But, we don't worship Mary, we honor Mary. That doesn't take away from God," Riccardo said. "Through no one did God do anything greater than Mary (who gave birth to Jesus). I'm always mindful of Mary's last recorded words in scripture

about Jesus at Canna," he said. "She says, 'Do whatever he tells you.' I pray that while people are here they will be able to hear the voice of God in a clear way in their lives. Someone used to say that Mary's greatest joy is to take our hand and place it in the hand of her son. She leads us to Jesus. There's a bumper sticker that annoys me. It says: 'Obedient women never make history,' when in fact it's because of the obedience of this woman that there is history. There would be no history if Mary had not said 'yes.' We would have no future or hope, because it was through her that Christ is born. There is no human person who had done anything that can remotely compare with the significance of Mary."

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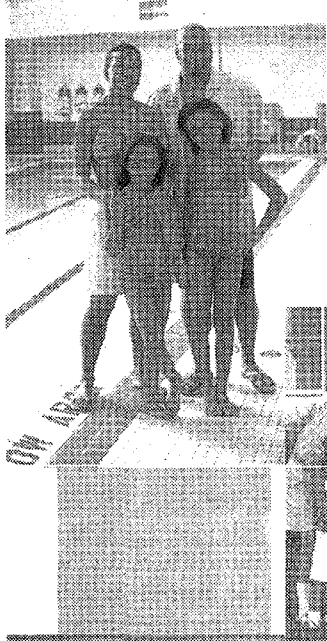
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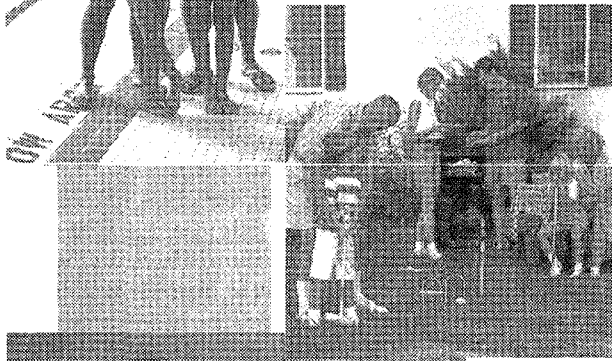
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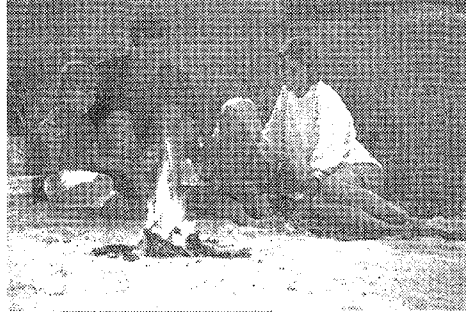
Family Fun Contest



Show us how your family spends fun family times together and you could win a \$60 gift certificate from Beans & Cornbread Souful Bistro in Southfield, MI. Simply take a photo of your family fun along with a brief caption explaining the family activity.

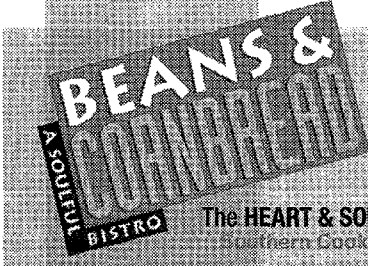


As a bonus, if you include the Observer & Eccentric Newspaper, Hometown Newspaper, or Beans & Cornbread Souful Bistro in the photo, you're entered for a chance to win movie passes.



All entries will be judged based on fun and creativity. Email pictures to: cbjordan@hometownlife.com with the subject line "Family Fun" or mail to Choya Jordan, Observer & Eccentric Newspaper, 615 W. Lafayette Blvd, 2nd Level, Detroit, MI 48226.

Contest runs July 26 - Aug 23, 2009. Winners will be notified. Pictures may be selected for publication. Pictures will not be returned. Pictures size must not exceed 10 MB.



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OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
NEWSPAPERS HOMETOWN
WEEKLIES

See cats up close and in the ring at Tonkinese show

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

If cars aren't your thing, try cats this weekend.

The Cat Fanciers Association's cat show, sponsored by the Tonkinese Breed Association, runs 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 15-16 at the Allen Park Community Center, 15800 White Street in Allen Park.

All-breed and specialty judges will evaluate the cats each day.

Rachel Anger, a judge from Canton, describes the Tonkinese as a cross between the Siamese and Burmese, "with the addition of aqua eye color."

A "designer breed" developed in the 1960s, "is moderate in structure, loves to be a lap cat and adores his owners."

"For most Tonk owners, the real defining trait of the breed is the Tonkinese personality," she said. "A Tonk is two types of cat in one body. They play fetch, climb cat trees and fly through the house at warp speed. The second mode is cuddly and loving. They are dog-like in that they require and demand attention."

"They love riding on shoulders and may head-butt to get your attention."

An intelligent breed, the Tonkinese come in 12 different colors.

As a judge, Anger follows a set of standards when judging. She said the Tonkinese is one of the most difficult breeds to judge.

"The difficulty with Tonkinese is there should be no extremes."

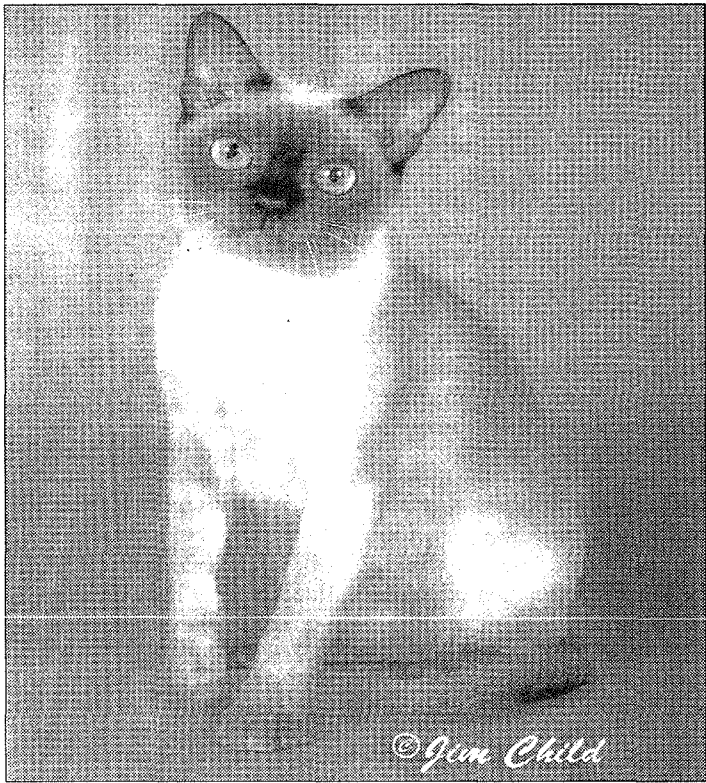


PHOTO BY JIM CHILD

GRC Wenlock Serenade, DM, is a female grand champion cat.

When you look at a Tonkinese you should see neither a Siamese nor a Burmese, but a unique moderate breed with its own look."

The show will include other breeds, such as Persians, Maine Coons, and Orientals, as well.

Exhibitors and breeders will be on hand with information, to answer questions and with a close-up view of their cats.

Visitors can watch judges in the ring or walk the exhibit all looking at felines in this benched show.

Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors and \$3 for children. Infants and toddlers are free.

Parking is free and the hall is non-smoking.

Founded in 1906, The Cat Fanciers' Association has been devoted to the promotion and protection of all cats.

Musical raises funds for Lyric Theatre

The Madonna University Lyric Theatre presents three performances of *Forever Plaid*, 7:30 p.m., Friday-Saturday, Aug. 14-15 and 4 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 16, in Kresge Hall on the Madonna campus, 36600 Schoolcraft, Livonia.

Tickets are \$12 general admission, \$10 for students and seniors, and \$8 for groups of 12 or more. Proceeds benefit the MU Lyric Theatre.

The show, directed by Steve Krupa, will feature high school students Chris Brody, Brendan Burke, Jim Murray and Dave Wilkins. Musical director is M. Scottie Moilanen.

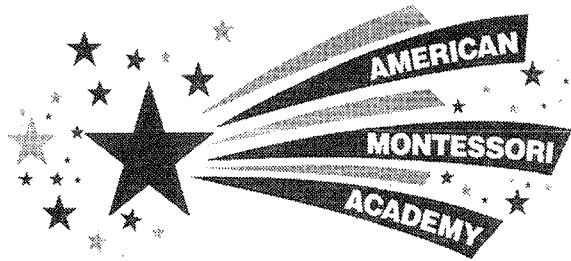
Forever Plaid is the early 1960's story of four young working class guys, each in their 20's and

at odds with the world and love, who are about to achieve their dream of becoming The Plaids, a close harmony singing group. On the way to their first gig at the airport "Fuselounge," their 1954 Mercury is struck by a bus load of Catholic School girls. Forty years later, heaven allows the quartet to return to Earth so it can put on the performance that it never gave in life.

The production includes such songs as *Three Coins In The Fountain*, *Love Is A Many Splendored Thing* and *Shangri-La*.

For more information or tickets call (734) 432-5715.

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Drive, walk or gawk your way through Dream Cruise

BY SHARON DARGAY
OGE STAFF WRITER

Love it or hate it, the 15th annual Woodward Dream Cruise — presented this year by Motor City Casino — is ready to roll.

Public and private parties are planned all weekend up and down the road, also known as M-1. Cruisers have already begun driving the route from Eight Mile to “the loop” in Pontiac and back again, offering a nightly show for the locals who station their lawn chairs and picnic blankets in parks, parking lots and adjacent green spaces.

There are a myriad ways to experience the Cruise — from behind the wheel, from the sidelines or from inside a restaurant or bar along the route.

If you’ve got a classic car, try driving. There’s no better way to both participate and observe other cruisers close-up. But be prepared for some stop and go traffic — patience is the key — and exhaust fumes. So, keep your inhaler handy if you have one.

If you’re a white knuckle driver in traffic, try begging a passenger seat from someone you know with a classic car and relax during the ride.

I’ve done it both ways, first as a passenger in my brother-in-law’s 1954 Mercury and then behind the wheel of my parents’ mint condition 1975 VW camper.

Being a passenger was pure fun. Driving was a bit more nerve-racking — I couldn’t really gawk at other cars — but seemed to take on a more prominent role in this annual historic event.

Even if you don’t own an antique vehicle, you can cruise on Woodward. Just make sure you stay to the left, giving up the curb side lanes for the classics.

If you forget it’s Dream Cruise weekend and you unwittingly find yourself on Woodward like I did a few years ago (“Hmmm...what’s with all this traffic?”) be patient, courteous and inch your way to a turn lane. Take a north-south road like Greenfield on the west side of Woodward or Crooks on the east side of Woodward. Even mile roads get a bit congested along the Woodward corridor during the Cruise, so the best place to cross Woodward is on I-696 in the Royal Oak-Pleasant Ridge area.

DON'T WANT TO DRIVE?

Try walking the route. You’ll see cars, people, parties and entertainers and you’ll have a better chance of stopping for a bite to eat, as you make your way through the throngs of other revelers. Remember where you parked the car on an adjacent street.

My favorite walking routes are downtown Ferndale and from 11 Mile to Webster (12 1/2 mile) or 12 Mile to Normandy (13 1/2 mile). There’s plenty of action along the way, lots of places to eat, including a food court in Memorial Park on 13 Mile. You won’t have to worry about indulging because you’ll walk off the calories.

If you’d rather stay put and watch everyone else drive or walk be prepared to stake out a place along the route early on Dream Cruise day. Look for green spaces just north of 12 Mile on the west (Berkley) side of the road. Or at 13 mile at Memorial Park on the northeast corner. Try south of Lincoln (10 1/2 mile) on both sides in Royal Oak and Huntington Woods, and south of I-696 in Pleasant Ridge.

You can spend most of the day in just one community, both watching the cars on Woodward and then participating in official cruise activities. Here’s an overview:

FERDALE:

■ Join the Ferndale Woodward DreamCruise Fast Friday VIP Party 6-9 p.m., Friday, Aug. 14 at Rosie O’Grady’s, 259 W. Nine Mile. Your \$10 donation will go to FernCare, a clinic that offers free medical care to the uninsured or under-insured. Rosie’s will serve an appetizer buffet and Bricktown Station will play all evening. Get tickets at www.fernecare.org

■ The official ribbon cutting ceremony begins at 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 14 on East Nine Mile in downtown Ferndale. Nelson House, who started the Dream Cruise as a fund-raiser for a children’s soccer field in 1995, is the guest speaker.

■ The 9th Annual Ferndale Emergency Vehicle Show is a display and a cruise of nearly 100 police, fire, military and EMS vehicles on Saturday, Aug. 15. Demonstrations include K-9 and Jaws of Life.

■ Classic Vehicle Show is held in conjunction with Cruis’n Legends of Ford on Saturday, Aug. 15. Browse the show or enter your own car into the show. It must be 25 years or older. Advance registration is \$20, available at www.ferndaledreamcruise.com. Day of entry is \$30.

■ See classic Ford vehicles at the Cruis’n Legends of Ford show on Saturday, Aug. 15. Or enter your own Ford — it must be 25 years or older — for a \$25 advance entry fee. \$30 registration on Cruise day.

■ If a Ford Mustang is your preferred mode of transportation, check out Mustang Alley Friday-Saturday in downtown Ferndale. The registration period for Mustang owners who want to show their vehicles has ended. But visitors can browse among the cars on display.

■ Live entertainment on three stages. Bands play from 3-7 p.m. Friday, noon-7 p.m., Saturday, and noon-3 p.m., Sunday on the West Nine Mile stage; a mix of performers take the stage from noon-6 p.m. Friday and noon-7 p.m. Saturday near City Hall on East Nine Mile; entertainment runs 3-6 p.m., Saturday on the Woodward Avenue stage.

■ “RetroFest” on West Nine Mile will feature Super Speed Car Racing and a Bungee Jump, along with vendors. An expanded “Kids Play Zone” will include four Tim’s Toyz moonwalks, arts and crafts, face painting and temporary tattoos. See 40 hairstyles in a bee hive hairdo contest noon-5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 16.

For continuously updated information, visit www.FerndaleDreamCruise.com.

PLEASANT RIDGE

Brandon Calhoun opens the “Blues BBQ” at 6 p.m., followed by Big Daddy Fox and a screening of “Abbott & Costello Meet Frankenstein” at approximately 8:15 p.m., Friday, Aug. 14 in Stevenson Park, located at Woodward and Oakland Park.

ROYAL OAK

■ Guitarist George Friend and legendary stand up bass player “Pistol” Pete Mitgard perform at a kick off party Friday, Aug. 14, for the over 21 crowd at Four Green Fields, located in the Northwood

Shopping Center at Woodward and 13 Mile. Doors open at 9 p.m. Drink specials and giveaways all night. For more information call Four Green Fields at (248) 288-2088.

■ Most of the action happens Saturday, Aug. 15 in the Kids Zone in Pioneer Park, north of Normandy on the west side of Woodward, and at the classic car show and food court in Memorial Park, at the northeast corner of 13 Mile and Woodward.

■ Know Advertising’s Dream Cruise block party is a bit off the beaten path, but a perfect spot to get away from the crowd on Woodward and still celebrate car culture. Three bands will play and food catered by Holiday Market and Turkeyman, will be available for purchase. No alcohol will be allowed. The party, runs from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15 on West street, adjacent to Know Advertising. The company is located on 11 Mile, east of Woodward near the railroad viaduct.

BERKLEY

■ Catch the CruiseFest Parade at 6:30 p.m., Friday, Aug. 14, on 12 Mile between Woodward and Greenfield.

■ Children’s activities run from 6-9 p.m. Friday in downtown Berkley.

■ Dance with other young adults at the street dance, sponsored by the Tri-Community Coalition, from 7:30-9 p.m. Friday.

■ Bands perform 7:30-11 p.m., Friday on 12 Mile and Robina.

BIRMINGHAM

■ Classic cars will be stationed along South Old Woodward on Saturday, Aug. 15. Event day registration is open to individual cars, model year 1978 and older, after 10:15 a.m. at the registration tent at South Old Woodward and Brown. Day-of parking is \$25, based upon availability and on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information about Cruise Event parking in Birmingham, visit www.birminghamcruiseevent.com.

■ Live entertainment runs all day Saturday in the area where Woodward and Old Woodward come together. WCSX has teamed up with Washtenaw Community College and Glendale Auto Supply to help build a 1967 Ford Mustang Shelby GT500 from the ground up. Tickets are \$15, with proceeds to benefit the Salvation Army Staples Center and the National Kidney Foundation.

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

■ See classic cars displayed at the Mercedes-Benz of Bloomfield Hills dealership on Woodward just south of Big Beaver.

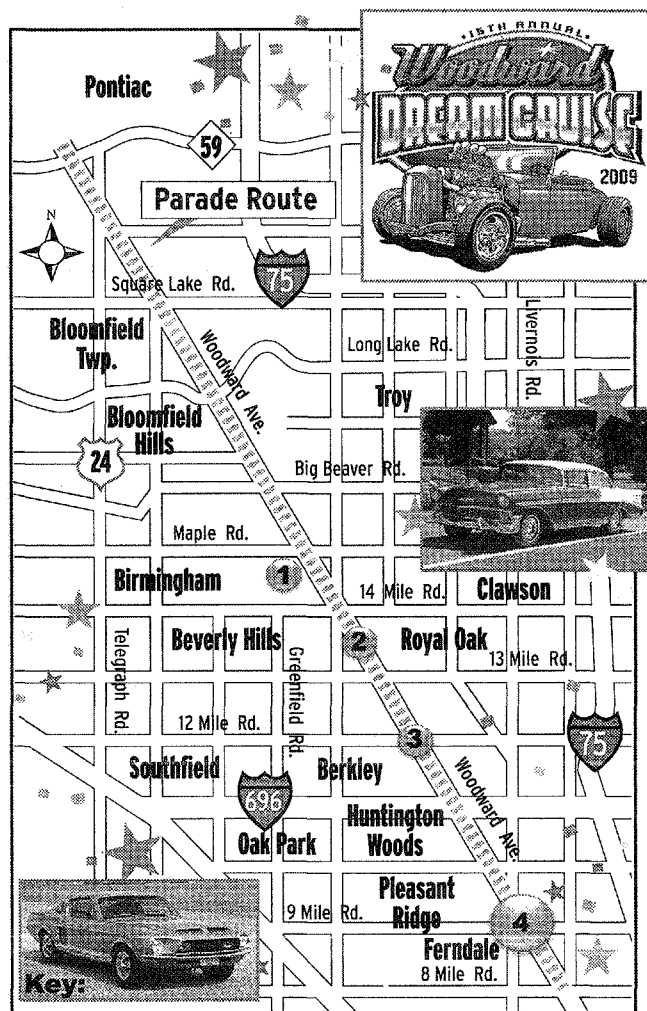
PONTIAC

■ D.J. Phil Brown spins the music for a sock hop from 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday, Aug. 14. Live music starts at 1 p.m., Friday, Aug. 14,

with the last band taking the stage at 9 p.m.

■ Live music continues starting at 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15. Thornetta Davis takes the stage at 7 p.m., followed by Rare Earth at 9:30 p.m.

■ Visit the swap meet from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., both days on Water Street at Mill.



1. Children’s activities will include face painting and a bounce house in Birmingham.
2. Royal Oak parks offer everything from kids’ activities to food courts.
3. Twelve Mile Road in Berkley will close for day-long activities, including a classic car parade at 6:30 p.m.
4. The busiest venue of them all: The Dream Cruise kicks off in Ferndale, which also offers kids’ activities, a contest and vehicle shows.

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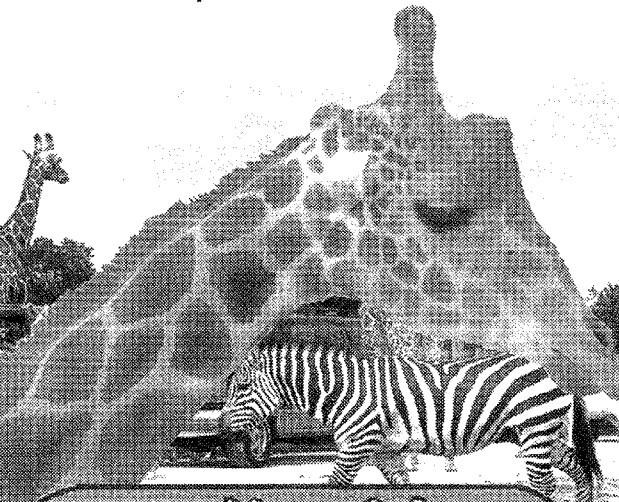
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WILD SUMMER DAYS

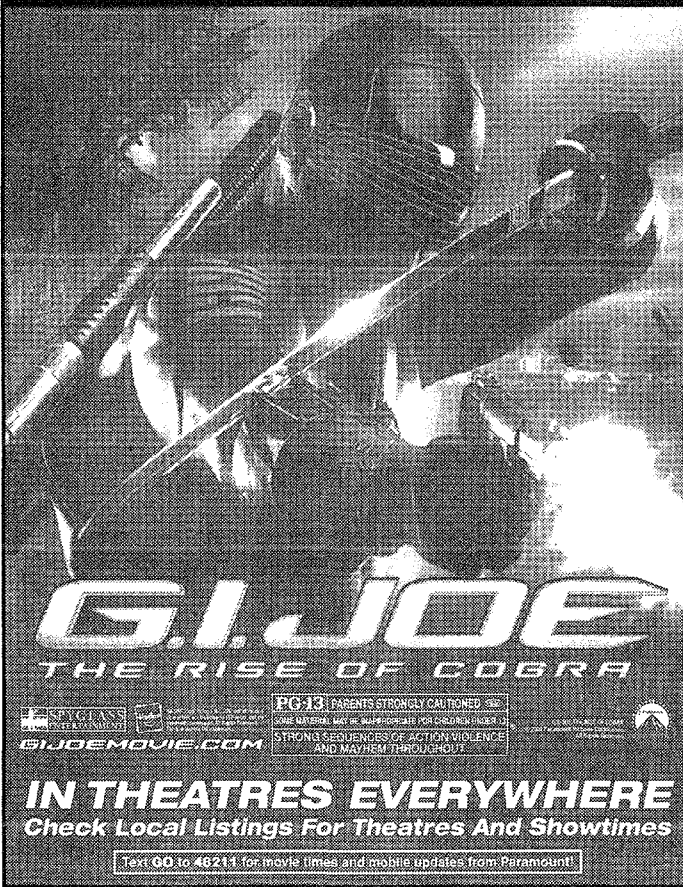
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ART

Lotus Arts Gallery
 Time/date: "Impression & Expressions: Exploring Modern Printmaking," through Aug. 29. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.
 Location: 995 West Ann Arbor Trail, downtown Plymouth
 Contact: (888) 889-4ART (toll free) or (734)453-5400

Northville Art House
 Time/date: "Detroit - Perceived Image," the work of Darel Deneau, through Aug. 22. Gallery hours are 1-5 p.m., Thursdays-Saturdays, 1-9 p.m., first Fridays only
 Location: 215 W. Cady Street, downtown Northville
 Admission: Free
 Contact: (248) 344-0497, or visit www.northvillearts.org

CAR, CRUISE EVENTS

Botsford Commons "Cruise In" classic car show
 Time/date: 4 p.m. to dusk, Friday, Aug. 28
 Location: Botsford Commons, 21450 Archwood Circle, Farmington Hills
 Details: Fifth annual event, cars, free outdoor concert with big band sounds
 Contact: (248) 477-7400

COMEDY
DTE Energy Theatre
 Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., Friday, Aug. 21, Jeff Foxworthy, tickets \$59.50 and \$35 pavilion and \$15 lawn
 Location: 7774 Sashabaw Road, Clarkston
 Contact: (248)377-0100, Palacenet.com

Go Comedy!
 Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays
 Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale
 Details: Improv most nights. Three original sketch comedies 8 p.m. Thursdays: Jeremy Conn and Garrett Fuller, both of Garden City, in their one-act comedic play, "Travel Earth Timeshares," through Sept. 24. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays
 Contact: (248) 327-0575; www.gocomedy.net

JD's House of Comedy
 Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings
 Location: 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield
 Details: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday
 Contact: (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com

Jazz Cafe at Music Hall
 Time/Date: 9 p.m. third Thursdays
 Location: 350 Madison Ave., Detroit
 Details: Show Up, and Go Up, open call, free
 Contact: (313) 887-8532, www.jazzcafedetroit.com

Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia
 Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays, Open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays
 Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia
 Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex.com

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle
 Time/Date: Open Mic 8 p.m. most Wednesdays
 Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak
 Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

Palace of Auburn Hills
 Time/Date: Frank Caliendo/Bill Engvall, Oct. 24
 Location: 1 Championship Drive, Auburn Hills
 Contact: (248) 645-6666 or Palacenet.com

CONCERTS
Callahan's Music Hall
 Time/Date: Tommy Castro, 8 p.m. Aug. 13, \$25; 8 p.m. Aug. 14, Linda Ruth Band, \$5 at door; Spencer Bell Legacy Project Concert, 3 p.m. Aug. 15, \$15.
 Location: 2105 South Boulevard, south of the Palace, Auburn Hills
 Contact: www.atcallahans.com, (248)858-9508

Canton jazz series
 Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Fridays through Aug. 28, at locations along Ford Road.
 Details: Doug Cassens, Aug. 14, at Super Bowl; Tumbao Bravo, Aug. 21, at Centre Village; Bugs Beddow Band, Aug. 28, at Sam's Club
 Contact: (734) 394-5460

Detroit Institute of Arts
 Time/Date: Friday Night Live concerts, 7 & 8:30 p.m.
 Location: 5200 Woodward Ave
 Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

DTE Energy Music Theater
 Time/Date: Jimmy Buffett and The Choral Reefer Band, Aug. 13; MC Hammer with Coolio and Tone Loc, Aug. 14; Crue Fest 2 with Motley Crue, Aug. 15; Randy Travis with Keith Anderson, Aug. 16; Demi Lovato with David Archuleta and Jordan Pruitt, Aug. 18; B.B. King with Robert Cray Band, Aug.

19; The B-52s, Aug. 20; blink-182 with Fall Out Boy & Panic at the Disco, Aug. 22; Kenny G, Aug. 23; Creed, Aug. 25; Soul Asylum with Seven Mary Three and Sponge, Aug. 27; Dennis DeYoung - The Music of Styx with Rock Symphony, Aug. 28; Eddie Money with Pat Travers, Aug. 29; Lil Wayne with Young Jeezy, Soulja Boy, Drake, Aug. 30; Michael W. Smith, Sept. 4; Tesla, Sept. 5; Darius Rucker with Luke Bryan, Sept. 17

Farmington concerts
Riley Park
 Time/Date: Rhythmnz in Riley Park concerts start at 7 p.m. Fridays
 Location: Riley Park in downtown Farmington
 Details: Billy Mack & The Juke Joint Johnnies play Rockabilly on Aug. 14
 Renegade, a country music cover band, plays Aug. 21; and Volebeats, a legendary Detroit-area band known for its vocal harmonies, wraps up the series on Aug. 28
 Contact: www.DowntownFarmington.org

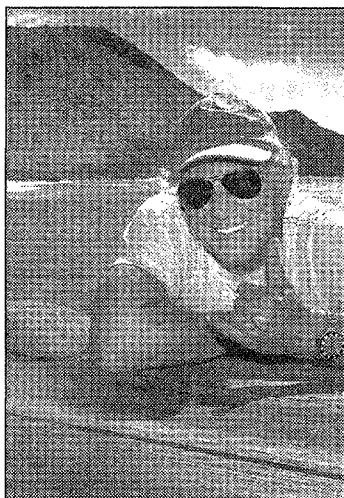
Farmington Hills concerts
 Time/Date: "Stars in the Park" Thursday nights through Aug. 27
 Location: Heritage Park, 24915 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. Rain-out site, Costick Center
 Details: Bomb Squad play music of the 70s and 80s Aug. 13 and Seriox and Friends offers a Motown Review Aug. 20. The series ends with Uprizin's swinging Caribbean rhythms Aug. 27. No alcohol or pets are allowed in Heritage Park
 Contact: (248) 473-1857, www.fhgov.com

Focus Hope
 Time/Date: 2-8 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 22
 Details: Hot Summer Nights Music Festival, a free concert, features Paul Miles the Blues Man, Ortheia Barnes, Lola Morales, the Carolyn Striho Bande, Wojamm and Shiron Denise and General Population, with WAE and Peace. The mobile hip hop museum also will be on site. Family-friendly event with children's activities, moon bounce and face painting
 Location: 1355 Oakman Boulevard, Detroit
 Contact: (313) 598-0408

Livonia music series
 Time/Date: 7 p.m., Thursdays through Aug. 27
 Details: Stewart Franke with soul music on Aug. 13 and Dezie McCullers in a jazz concert Aug. 20. Both shows scheduled for Civic Center Park, Five Mile and Farmington Road. The series ends Aug. 27 with the Livonia Symphony Orchestra at the Livonia Community Center, Five Mile and Hubbard
 Contact: (734) 466-2540

Magic Bag
 Time/Dates: The Why Store, Aug. 14; 40oz. to Freedom, Aug. 16; AJA: A Tribute to the Music of Steely Dan, Aug. 21; The Mega 80's, Aug. 22; Buckwheat Zydeco with Josh Charles, Aug. 25; The Original Wailers, Aug. 26; Echoes of Pink Floyd, Aug. 28
 Location: 22920 Woodward, Ferndale
 Contact: (248) 544-3030, www.themagicbag.com

Meadow Brook Music Festival
 Time/Dates: George Thorogood & The Destroyers/Jonny Lang, Aug. 16; Heaven & Hell with Coheed and Cambria, Aug. 21; Peter Frampton, Aug. 22; GetBack! The Cast of Beatlemania, Aug. 29; O.A.R. with special guest Brett Dennen, Sept. 4
 Location: 3554 Walton Blvd Rochester Hills
 Contact: (248) 377-0100, Ticketmaster.com



Jimmy Buffett performs tonight, Thursday, Aug. 13, at DTE Energy Music Theater.

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- 2 Admission tickets to the "Rock-n-Roar" Tailgate Party – 4:30 p.m. to 7:05 p.m. Meet and autograph session with former Detroit Tiger greats including Dave Bergman, Dan Petry and Dave Rozema
- 2 "Be a Tiger for Kids" T-Shirts

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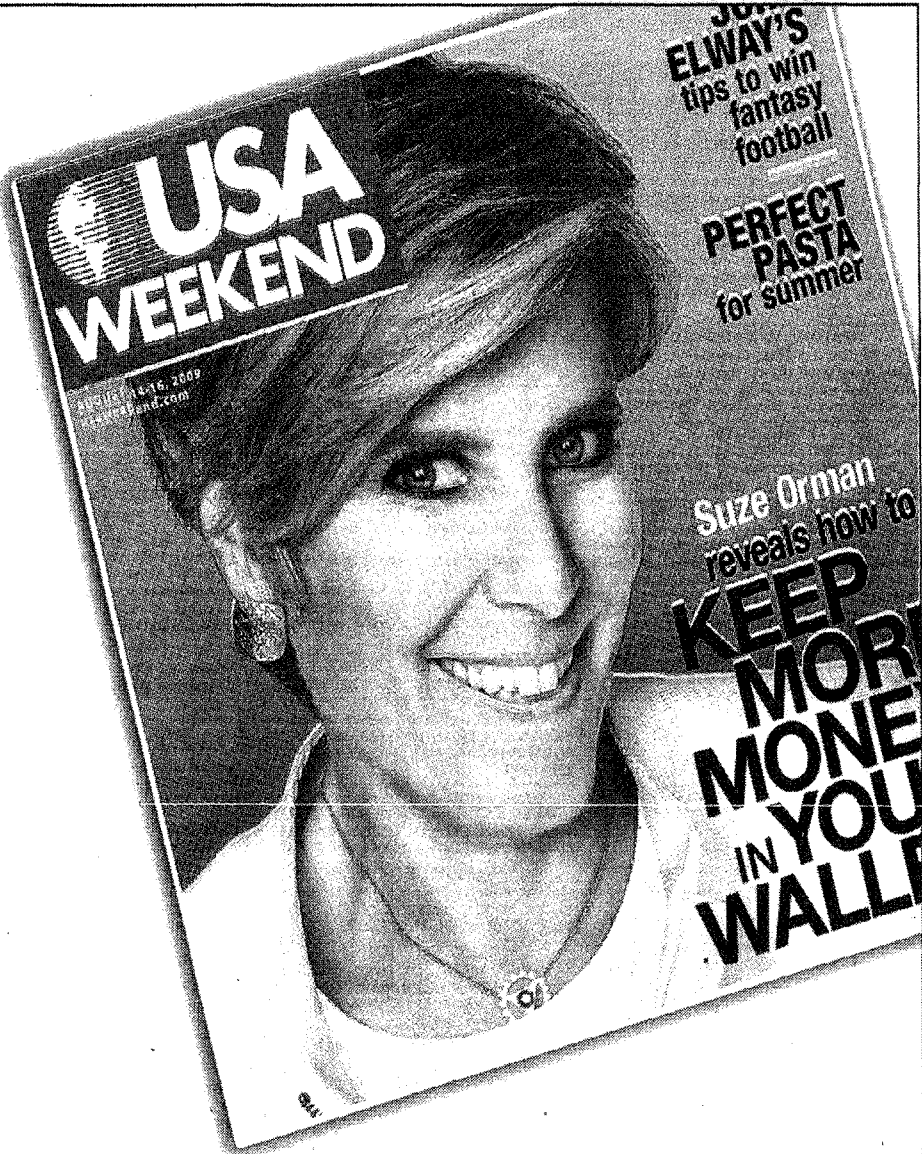
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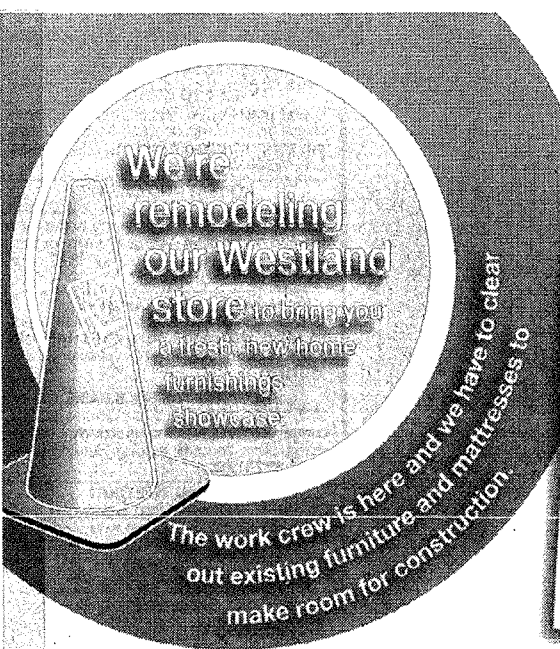
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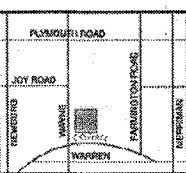
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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

GOOD SENSE OF HUMOR?

WF, 48, 5'5", brown hair, has pets, N/S, great sense of humor, looking for WM, 45-55, who likes dining out, museums, movies, reading and more, to do things with. ☎280581

MUSICAL GIRL

Christian WF, 19, enjoys playing guitar, singing, going to church and more. Looking for SM, 19-25, who enjoys the same things. ☎292258

GET TO KNOW ME

Loving, open-minded SBF, 60, 145lbs, attractive, enjoys music, dining, concerts, travel, ISO honest, compassionate SM, 57-65, N/S. Possible LTR. ☎963760

HONEST AND CARING

Sensitive SBF, 41, 5'5", likes Bon Jovi and Van Halen, spaghetti dinners, gardening, hockey and baseball, old movies, arts and crafts, picnics, reading. Looking for a gentleman, 45-57, nice open, for friendship. ☎318717

TAKE A CHANCE ON ME

SWF, 48, educated, HW proportionate, seeks educated, professional male, 40-55, N/S, with sense of humor. Let's meet for coffee or a drink. ☎311355

HOMEBODY SEEKS SAME

SBF, 44, 5'2", 165lbs, black hair, brown eyes, light complexion, ND, N/S, enjoys movies, bowling, dining, plays, concerts, reading. Seeking SBF, 39-51. ☎294368

ARE YOU THE ONE?

SF, 41, 5'4", dark complexion, brown eyes, short hair, looking to meet an honest, loyal, funny man, 37-55, to spend a lot of time together. ☎299047

CURVACEOUS

SWF, 47, 5'7", 155lbs, hazel eyes, dimples, enjoys life music, jazz, dancing, dining out, blue, sports. Seeking SBF, 41-42, with similar interests, for friendship first, possibly more. ☎293695

VERY DOWN-TO-EARTH

SBF, 37, 5'5", 125lbs, slim build, enjoys nice walks in the park, movies, bowling, basketball games. Seeking SBF, 30-43. ☎299111

ARE WE A MATCH?

SBF, 38, very shapely, N/S, light complexion, very independent, loves movies, sports, drinking, pool, dining. Seeking SBF, 35+, very independent, who enjoys life, movies, etc. ☎299793

LADY OF QUALITY

SBF, 30-something, 5'7", laid-back, down-to-earth, seeks open, honest, loyal, faithful professional man, 35-55, for LTR. No games, race open. ☎310218

SEARCHING FOR A MAN...

40-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. I'm a 47-year-old who's hot, spunky and pretty. Only Jewish man please. ☎962317

SEARCHING FOR YOU

Mature woman would like to meet a gentleman who wants to enjoy life and have a good time. I know what I would like to do for the rest of my life. ☎219518

BEAUTIFUL SBF...

37, seeks SBF, 30-50, who is spontaneous and knows how to have fun. Casual relationship first, maybe leading to more. ☎271683

PETITE AND CUTE

SWF, 35, great sense of style, very friendly, would like to meet a SBF, 30-45, who will love me for me. ☎294943

THAT SPECIAL ONE

SBF, 39, enjoys movies, walks in the park, picnics, just chilling. Looking for SBF, 39-45, for possible relationship. ☎295026

SEEKING STRONG BM

Can you handle me? SBF, mid 40s, healthy and beautiful, seeks strong, bald BM, 40-62, who knows how to handle his own business. I'm laid-back, gentle, soft. ☎295568

HONEST & DOWN-TO-EARTH

Cute, outgoing woman, 40, loves animals, the outdoors. Seeking honest, clean, honorable, compassionate gentleman, 40s-early 50s, for friendship, dating, possible LTR. ☎295421

SEEKING A MATURE MAN

Attractive SBF, 35, N/S, ND/Drugs, would like to meet respectable, happy SBF/M, 25-50, to enjoy life together. ☎300680

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. ☎310924

SINGLE DAD WELCOME

PBF, 40, looks young, attractive, independent, enjoys eating, enjoys working, dining out, quiet times at home. Seeking handsome, well-built, warm hearted, considerate WM, 36-43, to share what life has to offer. ☎298002

SEEKING A REAL MAN

Retired SBF, 48, likes the internet, watching tv, shopping, visiting friends, picnics, taking walks, parks, dining, hanging out with friends. Looking for a SBF/M, 29-58. ☎314707

ARE YOU OUT THERE?

SBF, 36, 5'4", 160lbs, brown hair, drama-free, disease-free, looking for SBF/M, 35-60, to talk to. I like movies, music, hanging out, travel, having fun. ☎317137

COULD YOU BE THE ONE?

Bright, spunky, pretty SF, 47, educator, outgoing, pretty eyes, wishing to meet a kind Jewish man, 45-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. ☎230684

ONE GOOD WOMAN LEFT

SBF, 47, 5'7", full-figured, N/S, likes roller skating, canoeing, exercise, theater, travel. Seeking a gentleman, 45-70, who is healthy, fun-loving, financially secure, looks decent. ☎297305

A POLISHED DIAMOND

Attractive, sexy BF, 34, seeks true gentleman. You won't be disappointed when we meet! ☎287057

ONLY SERIOUS NEED REPLY

Voluptuous SBF, 42, would like to meet a nice, successful SBF, 35-50, who would like to become acquainted with a woman and who is really, willing, and able to commit. ☎273593

A NEW BEGINNING

SBF, 47, 5'4", likes action movies, swimming, dancing, plays, outdoors, just having fun Seeking SBF, 45-55, for friendship or more. ☎289151

GREAT SENSE OF HUMOR

SWF, 27, mother, enjoys swimming, walking, nature, being outdoors. Seeking similar SBF, 23-45, for companionship. ☎282578

LET'S GET TOGETHER

SBF, 54, 5'8", N/S, enjoys life's simple pleasures. Seeking SBF/M, 40-62, N/S, for friendship or more. ☎282444

OUTGOING

BF, 24, student, looking for SM, 25-45, to go out and have fun with. Friendship first, hopefully leading to LTR. ☎292940

PRETTY EYES

SBF, 33, voluptuous in all the right places, enjoys life, long walks, intellectual conversation. Seeking SM, 30-50, similar interests. ☎299870

CALLING ALL GOLFERS!

WAF, 62, seeking golfer, best friend, 62-70, must be honest, N/S, and active. Looking for LTR, don't delay call now. ☎376914

WEST SIDE BEAUTY

Professionally employed in the beauty field, SWF, 56, slender, 54, seeks a gentleman, 44-52, HW, many interests including music, movies, cultural events, camping, and most things outdoors, light smoker, for friendship leading to relationship. Sincere responses only. ☎230791

SEEKING COMPANIONSHIP

Attractive SBF, 55, 125lbs, fun-loving blonde, retired, would love the companionship of a pleasant gentleman, 65-75. ☎891247

DOWN-TO-EARTH

Easygoing DWF, early 50s, would like to meet a really nice WM, 50-65, with the same qualities, minimal baggage, to share the ups and downs of life. Seeking possible LTR. ☎279171

ACTIVE WOMAN

SWF, 58, dark hair and eyes, N/S, social drinker, likes bowling, bingo, garage sales, funny movies and more. If you would like to meet for coffee, let me know. ☎262161

MATURE MAN WANTED

SBF, 33, 5'4", 115lbs, caramel complexion, brown eyes, short blonde hair, wears glasses. Seeking tall, muscular SBF, 25-40, who enjoys bookstores, movies, dining, water. ☎287856

I NEED LOVE

Fun-loving, down-to-earth, outgoing, smart SBF, 20, loves having fun. Seeking SBF/M, 18-30, who shares my lust for life. ☎300110

SEEKING SBF 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. ☎302311

SEEKING LOVING KINDNESS?

SBPF, 55, 5'4", interested in developing new friendships, maybe more. Seeks energetic SM, 40-65, N/S, who loves reading, midnight picnics, walking, and exciting conversations. Must have good SOH and self-worth. ☎282618

TAKE A CHANCE

SBPF looking for SBF, 45-57, with no children at home, who likes to have a good time, I enjoy going to movies, dining out, the park, outdoor and indoor activities. Let's develop a friendship first, possibly leading to more. ☎300228

MUST LOVE THE LORD

SBF, 18, 5'8", gospel singer, God-fearing, looking for similar SBF/M, 18-27, for possible relationship. ☎311174

LOOK NO FURTHER

SBF, 18, 5'4", long black hair, light brown eyes, wants to meet that SBF, 18-22, who is tired of playing games. ☎311011

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, spontaneous it goes. Ballroom dancing is a plus. ☎310736

SEEKING A GENTLEMAN

WF, 59, blonde, would like to meet a young-at-heart WM, 40-70, to hang out with, date and have a good time with. ☎310164

TIRED OF BEING ALONE

DBF, 50, 5'3", full-figured, N/S, loving, independent, intelligent, down-to-earth, great sense of humor, enjoys going out and romantic evenings at home. Seeking SBF/M, 50+, with similar qualities and interests, who wants to enjoy the rest of life with no drama. ☎311753

SOPHISTICATED LADY

SBF, middle-aged, attractive, laid-back yet serious-minded and responsible, enjoys dining, movies, plays and bowling, seeks a SM, 48-68, N/S, responsible, good sense of humor, with good values and morals, for serious relationship. ☎207254

PLUS-SIZED LADY...

34, 200lbs, sexy single mom, looking for SM, 37+, for friendship and dating leading to LTR. Is this you? Call me! ☎217234

VERY CUTE

SBF, 58, 5'3", 122lbs, interested in fit, good-looking, confident male, 45-60, N/S, intelligent, sincere, down-to-earth, who wants to commit to someone special. ☎118198

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, financially secure, easygoing, good morals, loves family, for dating. ☎638089

I NEED A LOVE...

To keep me happy, attractive, easy, delightful, charming WF, 49, no kids, seeks SBF, 45+, no kids, N/S, fun, loving, caring. ☎568059

KEEP COOL

SBF, 19, 5'3", looking for cool, down-to-earth, attractive SBF/M, 18-25, who keeps it real. ☎287598

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 other! ☎287187

PRETTY COMIC BOOK NERD

SWF, 21, red hair, blue eyes, 5'10", 165lb, mature body/mind, looking for a lonely handsome man, 20-30, race open, clean-cut, open-minded, who can make me laugh and who is witty. ☎292913

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

HARD-WORKER

SWM, 45, 5'5", short brown hair, grown kids, enjoys music, playing guitar, travel. Looking for similar SF, 35-45. ☎296097

A GREAT GUY

Good-natured, good-looking SWM, 41, energetic, versatile, fun, passionate, into boating, casinos, flea markets. Seeking conversation SBF for conversation and connection. ☎176478

A SPECIAL GUY

DWM, 56, 5'10", handsome and secure, seeks honest SBF/W, wise sense of humor, who enjoys travel, candlelight dinners, plays, dancing, car, party, boating and movies. Friendship, possible LTR. ☎289549

CALL ME!

SWM, 45, likes sports, working out, cooking, bodybuilding. Looking for a similar lady for LTR. ☎319016

SINGLE, HANDSOME WM

Marketing professional, part-time personal trainer, tall, athletic, muscular, 6'2", 205lbs, 49, brown hair, degreed, looking for an attractive woman, with a great personality, who is friendly, positive, active and fun. ☎982364

CUTE, CUDDLY COWBOY

Wise and kind SWM, 46, enjoys simplicity, art fairs, flea markets, festivals. Seeking the company of a lady with similar interests. ☎200489

SEEKS A SWEETHEART

SBF, 57, 5'10", 182lbs, medium brown complexion, clean-shaven, short hair, glasses, two grown sons, many interests including jazz, R&B, soul, playing pool, bowling, walking by the water, for concerts. Seeking attractive, loving, caring female, 38-62. ☎317257

CAPHRICORN

SBM, 5'11", 170lbs, medium complexion, likes sports, concerts and much more. Would like to meet a woman, 25+, who is easygoing and has a nice personality. ☎318588

I PROMISE THAT YOU...

won't be disappointed. SBF, 59, 190lbs, likes working out and spending time with that special person. Would like to meet a secure, goal-oriented woman, 20-46, with a nice personality. ☎318591

HAVE FUN WITH ME

SWM, 45, 5'11", 230lbs, brown hair, N/S, ND/Drugs, looking for SF, 30-65, race open, who enjoys walks, bike riding, intelligent conversation, board games, classic movies, dining out or cooking at home and romantic evenings at home. ☎318819

I'LL KEEP IT REAL

BM, 6'1", 185lbs, brown eyes, likes movies, concerts, cooking and much more. Would like to meet a secure, attractive, goal-oriented HBF, 21-45, for dating. ☎318792

EASYGOING

SBM, 38, 5'4", likes movies, jazz concerts, walks in the park, quiet moments at home, playing pool. Looking for SF, 35-45. ☎318935

WISHES DO COME TRUE

SWM, 6', 210lbs, short brown hair, short beard, seeking SWHF, down-to-earth, easygoing, honest, nice, petite to plus-sized, 35-60. ☎318936

LONELY AND READY

SWM, 55, average build, Italian, Virgo, N/S, looking for a SBF with similar qualities and who's ready for a serious relationship. Call me if interested. Redford. ☎860305

WORTH THE CALL

SBM, 35, no kids, looking for a SBF, 24-34, N/S, for good friendship possibly leading to more. Call me! ☎318056

IF INTERESTED, CALL

SWM, 43, 5'7", 180lbs, red/green, secure homeowner, would like to meet a WF, 35-45, to get to know and date, possibly leading to more. ☎318518

EASYGOING

Sharp, sociable SWM, 45, with good character and pleasant personality, likes the outdoors, fishing, motor sports etc. W/ILM SWF, for dating and fun times. ☎187614

FEMININE LADY WANTED

Attractive SWFM, 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 sweet, feminine lady, 30-60, for possible LTR. ☎291990

KEEP 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. ☎287896

MAXIMUM RETURN ON...

your investment. SBF, 5'8", seeks mature, level-headed, down-to-earth female, 30-45, for fun, dating and possible LTR. ☎293165

LET'S GET GOING!

SWM 40s, attractive, good shape, great listener, enjoys good conversation, friendship, spontaneous fun, and laughter, seeks personable SWF for dating and more. ☎126902

SEEKING EBONY WOMAN

Attractive SWFM, 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. ☎262579

LET'S MEET SOON!

SWM, 44, 190lbs, very good-looking, very fit, I have a good job, seeks nice woman, 25-44, to spend time with, leading to serious LTR. ☎2477

Canton Strictly Business

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

BUSINESS MILESTONES

Fitness can be a 'Snap' decision

Observer: Please tell us about your business:

Snap-Fitness: Snap-Fitness Canton is a 24/7 state-of-the-art health club, located at Geddes and Canton Center Roads, offering residents a "fast, convenient and affordable" alternative to traditional big-box fitness centers. We offer the same great workout experience as those larger, fancy clubs, but at a fraction of the price, including such amenities as personal trainers, showers, tanning, and personalized services.

Our difference is that we're small and nearby, so members can get in and get out fast, and still get a quality workout. The goal is to be the best value in town, saving you money and time while still helping you achieve the results you want!

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Snap-Fitness: Snap-Fitness Canton is unique because it provides a full range of fitness equipment right in your neighborhood. It is like having a commercial gym in your home. Snap's popularity is due in part to member-friendly policies. These include the option to belong month-to-month without signing a long-term contract, and the ability to freeze the membership for up to three months during times when you're not planning to use it.

Each member is provided a personalized keycard, making access easy even during unstaffed hours, to any of Snap's nearly 900 clubs in the United States, Canada and India. Inside, each club is stocked with cardio and strength-training equipment identical to that found in big-box clubs, as well as free weights. In addition, the new Canton location has several cardio bikes which provide the rider with an interactive experience to help challenge the riders and see achieve



The folks at Snap-Fitness Canton celebrated earlier this year with a ribbon-cutting, attended by employees, Canton Chamber of Commerce members and local residents.

SNAP-FITNESS CANTON

- Business Name: Snap-Fitness Canton
- Business Address: 4011 S. Canton Center Road, Canton
- Your Name & title: Donald David, owner
- Your Hometown: Plymouth, MI
- Business opened when: May 15, 2009
- Number of employees: 4
- Business Specialty: Health and Fitness
- Hours of operation: 24 hour facility
- Business phone and Web site: (734) 398-SNAP (7627) | snapfitness.com/cantonmi

desired results faster.

Every member receives a free fitness assessment valued at \$100, plus free instruction and a workout

plan. In addition, a Personal Web Page provides access to an Online Training Center where workouts can be created, modified and tracked; an Online Nutrition and Meal Planning program that recommends daily caloric intake and menus based on personal goals and preferences; and a confidential health risk assessment that results in a Personal Wellness Plan with tailored recommendations on how to lower health risks and achieve fitness faster.

In these tough economic times people still value their health, we want to help by giving them more for their money and contributing to the health and quality of life in our community.

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

Snap-Fitness: I was interested in opening a Snap-

Fitness because I wanted to help people live a healthy lifestyle. I believe the easier it is for people to develop healthy habits, the more apt they are to be successful. At Snap-Fitness Canton, we are dedicated to helping people reach the goal of a healthy lifestyle.

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

Snap-Fitness: We decided to locate in the Canton community in order to provide the people living, working and visiting the area access to "fast, convenient and affordable" fitness services.

Million-dollar challenge

In an effort to help the community and area renters, Sean Cragg and Gold Star Mortgage Financial Group have partnered with area real estate professionals to help put \$1 million back into the local economy and new homebuyers' pockets.

This goal will be accomplished by providing education and assistance concerning the purchase of a home to at least 125 first-time homebuyers by Nov. 30.

Two events will be held in August; Aug. 19 at Washtenaw Community College in Ann Arbor and Aug. 20 at The Summit On The Park in Canton. Attendees will have a chance to win an Apple itouch. The seminars are free and open to the public. Advanced registration is required and a free credit report and credit analysis will be provided for registered attendees. Call (866) 249-2145 to register.

In February, President Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. One provision of this legislation is the Homebuyer Tax Credit, a reimbursement of up to \$8,000 available to first-time homebuyers. While this credit has been embraced by many Americans since its passage, a major stumbling block to its full utilization persists.

According to a survey released by the National Association of Realtors, nearly 50 percent of all homebuyers were unaware that a tax credit of up to \$8,000 currently exists for qualifying parties. Of those Americans actively shopping for a home, fewer than one in five knew about the credit and planned to use it when buying a home.

Individuals who have never owned a home as well as those who haven't owned one during the past three years are eligible

for this year's Homebuyer Tax Credit. The modified adjusted gross income for a member of either of these groups is limited to \$75,000 for single taxpayers and \$150,000 per married couple. Individuals whose earnings exceed these amounts may be eligible for a partial credit and should contact their accountants for additional information.

For information about these seminars, or the tax credit, contact Sean Cragg at 734-585-7040.

Leadership forum

WARM Training Center and Paragon Leadership International are teaming up to launch an innovative one day leadership forum for emerging leaders in environment, energy and sustainability seeking real-life leadership development experience.

The event takes place at Next Energy's Detroit headquarters, 461 Burroughs Thursday, Oct. 15. To register and for more detailed information go to www.paragon-lead.com/EnE/ or call (877) 264-6200.

Paragon Leadership's Environment and Energy EPPRENTICE Experience will bring next-generation talent together with their peers and competitors to solve some of the most critical issues facing the energy industry in a "learning while doing" hands-on experience. WARM Training will provide a real-world project for two teams of EPPRENTICE participants to work on, culminating with awards to the winning teams.

Additional topics on the EPPRENTICE Experience™ agenda include expanding an alternative energy business, increasing the recycling efforts throughout cities in Michigan and creating strategies for diversifying manufacturing businesses into alternative forms of energy such as wind.

CHAMBER CHAT

BYOB Party

Indigo Salon and Day Spa hosts a "BYOB" (Bring Your Own Blow Dryer; Bring Your Own Brush) party 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 27.

The open-house event will feature fun, food and education on perfecting your style at home. Learn the tricks and tips of today's trends; bring a new client and receive entry to win a beauty makeover.

There is no charge for the event. RSVP by Aug. 25 by calling (734) 961-3245. Indigo Salon and Day Spa is located at 50545 Cherry Hill in Canton.

Golf outing

The Canton Chamber of Commerce's annual golf outing takes place Tuesday, Aug. 18, at Pheasant Run Golf Club of Canton. This event is open to the public, and there are packages for purchase. Golfers and volunteers are needed.

• Golf for Four Package, \$550- Includes golf with cart for four, continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, beverages on the course, Buffet dinner, prizes, gift package and more.

• Individual Golf, \$150- Includes golf with cart, continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, beverages on the course, Buffet dinner, prizes, gift package, and more.

• Dinner Only, \$35

"Our golf outing offers a great opportunity to reward employees and/or potential clients, and helps to promote your business while supporting camaraderie amongst your employees," said Dianne Cojei, president of Canton Chamber of Commerce.

If you are interested in purchasing a sponsorship, contact the Chamber at (734) 453-4040.

Major Sponsors of this event are Hines Park Lincoln Mercury, Jack Demmer Ford, Inc., Lou LaRiche Chevrolet and Yazaki North America, Inc.

Office Depot Show Car

Office Depot hosts a car show 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 12, at Office Depot-Canton, 45580 Michigan Ave., in Canton.

The event will feature the Office Depot #14 Car. Participants can "spin the wheel to win," there will be racing simulators, and will receive an official #14 Car gift with any \$15, \$50 or \$150 purchase.

Consumer expo

The Canton Chamber of Commerce and Canton Downtown Development Authority present the bi-annual Consumer Expo on Thursday, Sept. 24, at the Summit on the Park. The expo will be held from 5-7:30 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jason Lewkut of Canton Computers got a little help from Martha Snow while setting up for last year's Consumer Expo. The next event is set for Sept. 24 at the Summit on the Park.

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

The Consumer Expo is held twice annually in February and September, and features over 60 businesses from the community who display their products and services to the public. Participating businesses include banks, insurance agents, travel agents, pet services, carpet cleaning, and many more. Each vendor gives away a door prize, admission is free and the expo is open to the public. The Consumer Expo is sponsored by Waltonwood of Carriage Park & Cherry Hill and Xuereb Snow PC.

Maps/directories

The Canton Chamber of Commerce Community Maps and 2009 Chamber Directories are available at the Canton Chamber office.

The Canton Chamber Map includes a map of Canton with all streets and points of interest on one side and a Wayne County Map on the other side. The 2009 Directory includes information about the Canton Community as well as phone listings for State and Local Governmental Departments.

The Canton Chamber Directory also includes a member Buyer's Guide, Membership Directory, information on Chamber Membership and a complete listing of Chamber Community Events.

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PRIZES!
Prizes will include:
gas grill, boy's bicycle,
girl's bicycle, gas cards,
restaurant gift cards!

For additional information: **734.728.6100**

Capuchin farm project serves harvest dinner

If you love locally grown and in-season produce, get your ticket now for Earthworks Urban Farm's second annual Harvest Dinner on Saturday, Sept. 12.

Earthworks Urban Farm is a project of the Capuchin Soup Kitchen in Detroit.

The event will start at 5 p.m., with a social hour in the garden, light appetizers and a garden tour.

The dinner made of southeast Michigan foods will follow at 6 p.m., at Gleaners Food Bank, a longtime Capuchin Soup Kitchen partner, at 2131 Beaufait, Detroit.

Tickets run \$15-100 on a sliding scale.

"Folks are welcome to pay what they feel it is worth, or they are able to pay," said Patrick Crouch, Earthworks program manager.

The organization encourages ticket-holders to buy an additional \$25 admission for someone who can't afford to attend the dinner.

Grace Lee Boggs, a longtime Detroit activist for sustainable communities and social justice, will be the guest speaker.

The menu will include



Earthworks supporters gather for the first annual Harvest Dinner in 2008.

dishes made from recipes submitted by many of Earthwork's partners. Organizations such as SEED Wayne, the Greening of Detroit, and the Detroit Black Community Food Security Network plan to

submit a favorite in-season recipe for the occasion.

"We will be trying to source as much as possible from our gardens, but all will at the very least be in season, and locally grown," Crouch noted.

Local chefs assisted by Earthworks' teen farmers (Youth Farm Stand) and local volunteers, will make the dinner.

Ticket information is available online at www.cskdetroit.org/earthworks



Volunteers pitch in at Earthworks Urban Farm, a project of the Capuchins.

or calling (313) 579-2100, ext 204. Or send a check by mail along with a registration form — available online — to 1264 Meldrum, Detroit, MI 48207. Write checks to "Capuchin Soup Kitchen" with the number of tickets and "Harvest Dinner" noted in the memo line. Reservation deadline is Friday, Sept. 4.

PITCHING IN

Earthworks welcomes volunteers to help plant, weed and harvest its gardens. Volunteers also teach local youth about the importance of healthy living and mentor young adults involved

in Earthwork's Youth Farm Stand program.

Other tasks include extracting and bottling honey, making jam, pouring handbalm and beekeeping.

Individuals may attend any volunteer work sessions; groups should schedule time a day in advance.

Volunteers help tend the gardens from 9 a.m.-noon Wednesdays and Saturdays (except holiday weekends), during the growing season. Adult mentors may visit the Growing Healthy Kids program from 4:45-7:30 p.m., Thursdays and the Youth Farm Stand program from 4:45-7:30 p.m., Tuesdays. The organization makes jam in October and November.

All volunteers meet at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen at 1264 Meldrum, Detroit. For more information about Earthworks Urban Farm, visit www.cskdetroit.org/EWG/index.cfm Or call (313)-579-2100, ext 204.

For more information about the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, which was founded in 1929, visit www.cskdetroit.org.

— Sharon Dargay

CITY BITES

Cruisin' for charity

Dream Cruise — Westborn Market's 2009 Champagne Cruise promises an elegant yet casual evening of chilled champagne, live music, dancing, a taste fest of delicious food from the best area restaurants and plenty of classic car watching. The event, which raises funds for Forgotten Harvest, runs 6-10 p.m. Friday, Aug. 14, at the Westborn Market on Woodward, located between 11 Mile and Catalpa in Berkley.

The event includes music by the Sun Messengers and a taste fest from Brio Tuscan Grille, The Great Lakes Coffee Roasting Company, The Henry Ford, Maggiano's Little Italy, Mitchell's Fish Market, Party Cakes, PF Chang's, The Ritz Carlton and Westborn Market.


Tickets are \$150 per person and available at www.forgottenharvest.org.

Forgotten Harvest rescues more than 12 mil-

lion pounds of food annually by collecting surplus prepared and perishable food from a variety of sources, including grocery stores, fruit and vegetable markets, restaurants, caterers, dairies, farmers, wholesale food distributors, and other Health Department-approved sources. This donated food, which would otherwise go to waste, is delivered free of charge to 150-plus emergency food providers in the metro Detroit area.

Sweet option

Northville — Sweet 220 Pastries and Specialty Cakes, located at 133 W. Main, Ste. 220 (Inside Northville Square) plans to open for business this month. It will offer a variety of french pastries, cookies, macaroons, biscottis, cupcakes, whole cakes and brownies and bars. Made-to-order crepes and fresh pizza rolls and calzones will be available daily as well. The bakery caters as well. (248) 305-7900



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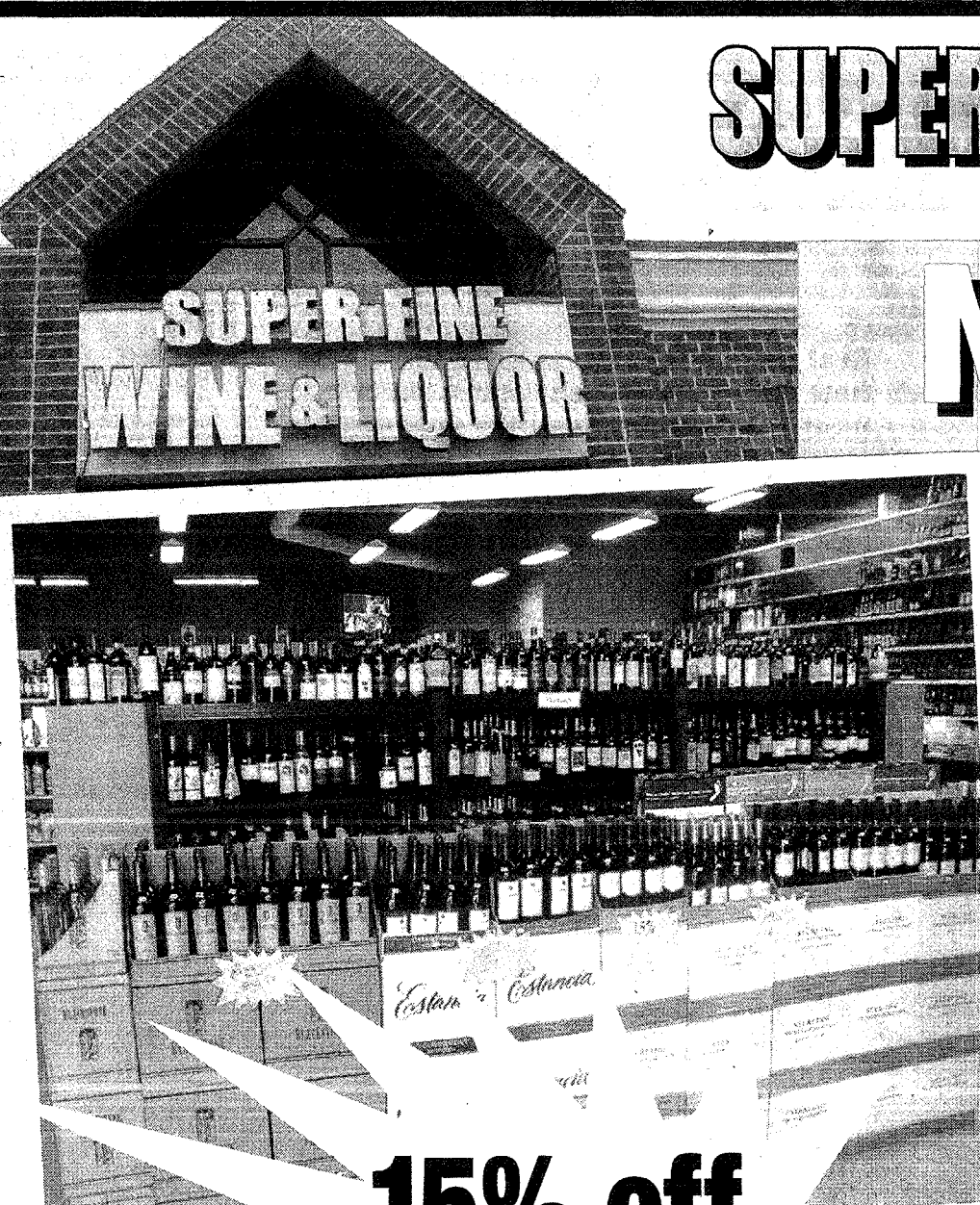
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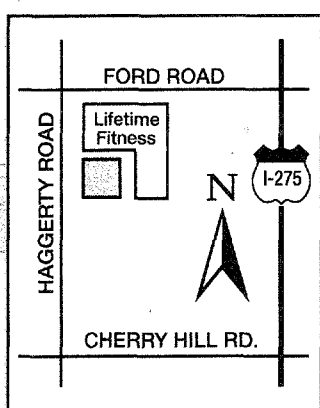
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Julie Brown, editor, (313) 222-6755
jcbrown@hometownlife.com

Grads garner scholarships from Realtor association

The Metropolitan Consolidated Association of Realtors, based in Troy, awarded 24 scholarships to top graduating seniors recently.

The Realtors Association Scholarship Fund award ceremony was held, providing a venue to recognize the academic and community achievements of the students and offering students and Fund trustees the chance to meet outside of the interview process.

"It's always a blast talking to these remarkable young men and women," Fund trustee Joe Scalici said.

This year's crop of scholarship award honorees come from a variety of local high schools and will be going to, among other places, the University of Michigan, Michigan State University and Wayne State University.

This year's student winners are: Treesa Antony of Novi, Novi High School; Angela Bailey of Utica, Utica High School; Currie Barich of Birmingham, Marian High School; James Bowden of Southfield, Southfield Lathrup High School; Victor Braciszewski of Ferndale, Ferndale High School; Alexis Crosswell of Berkley, Berkley High School; Sarah Donaldson of China, Marine City High School; Joseph Fanelli of Shelby Township, Lutheran High School North; Sarah Gaubatz of Rochester, Stoney Creek High School; Subha Hanif of Rochester Hills, Rochester High School; Caitlin Kiesel of Royal Oak, Royal Oak High School;

Also, Michelle Landis of Royal Oak, Royal Oak High School; Dana Litz of Sterling Heights, Adlai Stevenson High School; Lisa Lull of Troy, Avondale High School; Samantha McKenna of Royal Oak, Royal Oak High School; Jessica Page of Sterling Heights, Henry Ford II High School; Mollie Pozolo of Rochester Hills, Rochester High School; Patrick Sanders of West Bloomfield, Andover High School; Jeannie Schott of Berkley, Berkley High School; Samantha Singer of Shelby Township, Eisenhower High



The 2009 scholarship award honorees come from a variety of local high schools and will be going to, among other places, the University of Michigan, Michigan State University and Wayne State University.

School; Karianne Sophiea of Berkley, Ferndale High School; Elizabeth Stinson of Royal Oak, Royal Oak High School; Kathryn Van Ham of Richmond, Richmond High School; and Hannah Walsh of Sterling Heights, Adlai Stevenson High School

The Realtors Association Scholarship Fund provides scholarship awards to students deemed worthy and qualified by the Board of Trustees. The purpose of the Scholarship Fund is to encourage local high school seniors to continue their formal education at Michigan institutions of higher learning.

The Fund was established in 1973 by the South Oakland County Board

of Realtors (SOCBOR), and the first awards were presented in 1984. Since that time, SOCBOR merged with the Birmingham-Bloomfield, Rochester and Macomb County Associations of Realtors to form the Metropolitan Consolidated Association of Realtors (MCAR), serving Oakland County and Macomb County communities.

Scholarship awards are based on scholastic record, class standing, financial need, character and leadership, school activities, community service and the students' work record. Applicants must be Michigan residents, a graduating senior from a high school within the jurisdiction of MCAR or a prior award winner enrolled as an undergraduate student

in a university, college or institute in Michigan with studies leading to a degree or diploma.

Contributions are solicited from individual MCAR members, MCAR and affiliated companies and corporations. Awards are made from the income of the Fund only.

The Metropolitan Consolidated Association of Realtors (MCAR) is a trade association protecting the rights of private property owners while serving as the primary resource for Realtors in Oakland and Macomb counties. MCAR members adhere to a strict Code of Ethics, established by the National Association of Realtors. The Web site is www.MCARonline.com.

Flawed land description a problem

Q: I am a seller of property where the offer to purchase given to me quantifies the quantity of the land but fails to indicate its location. Is that an enforceable contract?

A: Probably not. Based upon a similar case where a contract of sale described the land as



Robert Meisner

"187.5 acres in land, lot 170, Sumter County, Georgia, and containing 8,167,500 square feet of land, more or less," the court held in that Georgia case the land

description was insufficient and allowed the buyer to walk. The question in many states is whether the courts will articulate clear standards for the admission of extrinsic evidence to save flawed land descriptions. In the Georgia case, the court allowed the introduction of extrinsic evidence to supply the detail needed to satisfy the Statute of Frauds, but only if the contract revealed the intent to sell a particular tract of land. The key may even consist of a vague description of the property location. The words in the case described, however, failed to comprise the key because they provided no clue as to the location of the property within the specified land lot. Again, it is important to be as specific as possible with respect to your land description.

Q: Our law firm charges the same hourly rates for all of its attorneys although, I understand recently, they are considering dropping the rates for newer associates. Is this a customary practice?

A: I am aware of some community association law firms, that have charged in the past, the same hourly rate irrespective of the experience or know how of the attorney. I suspect that those law firms or law firm are now changing their policy and readjusting their hourly rates for attorneys who are either fresh out of law school or do not have the normal experience necessary to deal with community association matters without expending additional time. Also, it is important to recognize whether the law firm charges on a hourly basis in tenths of an hour, quarter hours or some other method, because it can have a significant effect on the amount of fees that are actually charged to a client irrespective of the hourly rate. Some firms represent they charge a relatively low hourly rate but then bill a quarter hour for a phone call or a set amount for a phone call irrespective of the length of that phone call, which can result in much higher fees being charged to the client than would appear from the hourly rate being charged. Generally speaking, in dealing with lawyers as well as any other person or entity, you get what you pay for and, as the old saying goes, those who charge the least know best what they are worth.

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

BRIEFS

New professional

Weir Manuel Realtors announced that agent Penny Toth has joined the Weir Manuel team. Toth has been a Realtor for more than five years and was formerly with Century 21 Town & Country.

She particularly enjoys helping first-time buyers: "I love to educate these new buyers and arm them with knowledge before the process even starts. This eliminates all the guesswork."

Weir Manuel Realtors is a leading real estate company providing brokerage and property management services in Southeast Michigan. Its Web site is at www.weirmanuel.com.

Real Estate as a Second Career

A seminar for individuals considering real estate will be held each Saturday at noon at Home Smart Realty, 20853 Farmington Road. Call (248) 426-6754 to reserve your seat. Offered by Home Smart Realty.

Foreclosure tours

Tour foreclosed homes in the Farmington and surrounding areas every Sunday at 1 p.m., offered by Home Smart Realty, 20853 Farmington Road. Call (248) 426-6754 for information and registration.

Investors

Learn about short sales (discounting a mortgage) and loan modifications, presented by Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland on Thursday, Aug. 13, at 5:30-9:30 p.m. at MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Seminar free to members. \$20 nonmembers. Call (800) 747 6742. (www.REIAofOakland.com)

■ Come to a seminar to learn the mechanics of doing a short sale. Presented by Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland on Monday, Aug. 17, 6-9 p.m. at Royal Oak Senior Center, 3500 Marais, Royal Oak. Cost \$29. Call (800) 747-6742. (www.REIAofOakland.com)

BIA

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan's NAHBR Professional Remodelers Council presents a seminar on "Financial Planning" on Wednesday, Sept. 9, from noon to 1:30 p.m. at Association Offices, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills.

Brad Hinkson of Hinkson Construction, Inc. and NABHR chair, will moderate the presentation. There is no charge for council members and \$15 for guests. Advance payment is required. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at www.builders.org.

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan's Sales & Marketing Council (SMC) will hold a Real Estate Continuing Education course on Thursday, Sept. 10, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at BIA Offices, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills.

Lori Chmura of Middleton Training will present the course that meets the requirement for six hours of Real Estate Continuing Education. Registration fees are \$60 for SMC members, \$80 for BIA members and \$125 for guests. Continental breakfast and lunch included.

For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at www.builders.org.

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan will present an overview of the Michigan Uniform Energy Code (MUEC) on Thursday, Sept. 17, from 9-10:30 a.m. at Association Headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills.

Registration fees are \$55 for Green Built™ Council members, \$75 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members and \$95 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at www.builders.org.

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real-estate closings recorded the week of May 4-8, 2009, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Beverly Hills

19125 Devonshire St \$220,000
30345 Leemoor St \$149,000
31662 Robinhood Dr \$360,000
16187 Wetherby St \$240,000

Birmingham

1812 Bowers St \$180,000
1715 E 14 Mile Rd \$30,000
985 Emmons Ave \$145,000
831 Madison St \$250,000
748 Westchester Way \$289,000

Bloomfield Hills

780 Windemere Ct \$525,000

Bloomfield Township

5133 Nob Hill Ct \$258,000
805 S Pemberton Rd \$105,000
542 S Spinningwheel Ln \$180,000
1191 Timberview Trl \$160,000
3036 W Ridge Ct \$502,000

Clarkston

6921 Almond Ln \$90,000
6867 Balmoral Ter \$95,000
7253 Bluewater Dr \$85,000
7172 Elderwood Cir \$220,000
665 Hawkmoore Dr \$435,000
5063 Hilltop Ct \$450,000
6549 Horncliffe Dr \$135,000
4511 Parnell St \$254,000
5144 Pine Knob Ln \$132,000
5235 Pine Knob Trl \$83,000
8482 Ranch Estates Rd \$235,000

Commerce Township

9308 Robertdale \$69,000
8524 Royal Woods Dr \$430,000
5163 Timber Ridge Trl \$140,000

Davisburg

5555 Bentwood Ln \$261,000

Farmington

11771 Davisburg Rd \$120,000

Farmington Hills

33660 Hillcrest Dr \$87,000
21243 Robinwood Dr \$115,000

Franklin

23027 Canfield Ave \$17,000
22835 Lisa Ct \$239,000
31446 Orchard Crk \$27,000
29830 W 12 Mile Rd \$42,000
21661 Waldron St \$141,000
30796 Woodstream Ct \$145,000

Franklin

32704 Ravine Dr \$350,000

Keego Harbor

2201 Maddy Ln \$90,000

Lake Orion

181 Emerald Chase Dr \$75,000

Millford

704 Duchess St \$106,000
842 Panorama Dr \$125,000
132 Shelley Dr \$145,000

Novi

45333 Bartlett Dr \$294,000
23966 Greening Dr \$280,000
22398 Heatherbrae Way S \$173,000
24291 Jamestowne Rd \$416,000
47212 Northumberland St \$225,000
47122 Scarlet Dr S \$185,000
22032 Sunflower Rd \$185,000
44766 Yorkshire Dr \$152,000

Oakland Township

4705 Goodison Place Dr \$455,000
2810 Hadden Rd \$298,000
517 Whims Ln \$136,000

Oxford

1247 Somerville Dr \$139,000

Rochester

1471 Werth Dr \$325,000

Rochester Hills

2478 Blockton Rd \$190,000
786 Box Canyon Ct \$295,000
1874 Bromley Ln \$203,000
300 Prospect Dr \$158,000
985 Stag Ridge Rd \$190,000
568 Tennyson \$135,000

South Lyon

1136 Fountain View Cir \$94,000
311 Scott St \$110,000
157 Wellington Dr \$122,000

Southfield

20905 Andover Rd \$80,000
16175 Fairview Cres \$87,000
26652 Franklin Pointe Dr \$40,000
21550 Midway Ave \$110,000

Troy

313 Bracken Dr \$300,000
4125 Drexel Dr \$415,000
1797 Hillman Dr \$179,000
2921 Lanergan Dr \$315,000
2434 Milverton Dr \$149,000

Walled Lake

27208 Chesapeake Cir \$125,000

Waterford

6032 Graper Dr \$105,000
4580 Kempf St \$117,000
3048 McCormick Dr \$38,000
310 N Winding Dr \$65,000

West Bloomfield

6242 Andrea Ln \$85,000
5422 Deerfield Village Dr \$150,000
5072 Langlewood Dr \$210,000
3462 Lone Pine Rd \$205,000
7448 Millwood \$300,000
3234 Pine Lake Rd \$240,000
7480 Victoria Rd \$351,000
6533 W Knollwood \$280,000
7025 Yorkshire Ct \$440,000

HOMES SOLD-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the residential real-estate closings recorded the week of April 27 to May 1, 2009, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Canton

2015 Antique Ct \$417,000
1840 Barclay Ct \$219,000
1624 Centennial Dr \$375,000
402 Filmore St \$135,000
381 Harbor St \$225,000
50107 Harding St \$105,000
50127 Harding St \$104,000
6433 Kennesaw Rd \$305,000
6555 N Canton Center Rd \$600,000
44256 N Umlerland Cir \$135,000
358 Pinehurst Dr \$336,000
210 Princess Dr \$157,000

Garden City

6940 Deering St \$36,000

Livonia

35880 Bobrich St \$185,000
31781 Brettton St \$80,000
20204 Deering St \$78,000
20301 Hugh St \$144,000
30961 Orangelawn St \$115,000
32240 Washington St \$101,000
9659 Wayne Rd \$72,000

Plymouth

42011 Brentwood Dr \$130,000
11781 Chandler Dr \$360,000
9138 Countrywood Dr \$315,000
9146 Manton Ave \$181,000
51059 Plymouth Ridge Dr \$424,000
10237 Trailwood Rd \$193,000

Redford

17310 Brady \$55,000
18451 Centralia \$55,000
18231 Delaware Ave \$71,000
25907 Lyndon \$60,000
9406 Telegraph Rd \$777,000

Westland

36154 Canyon Dr \$60,000
6519 Chirrewa St \$120,000
7340 Cochise St \$68,000
2501 Eardman Ct \$90,000
8304 Melvin Ave \$30,000
8125 Randy Dr \$50,000

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

Challenging fun for ALL ages

Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- Pond makers
- House part
- Sister of Helios
- Europe-Asia range
- Boo-boo
- Nautical mile
- Only
- Actress — Miles
- Gawk at
- Single (2 wds.)
- Riverbank burrower
- Square of glass
- Life story
- Caravan members
- Fuel source (2 wds.)
- Maintains
- Two couples
- Lyric poems
- Free of
- Book jacket ad
- April 15 org.
- Mishmash
- Broom companions
- In the sky
- Pileups at work
- Billows of smoke
- Off-road vehicle
- Dots in "la mer"
- Evening serenader
- Seer's dreams

DOWN

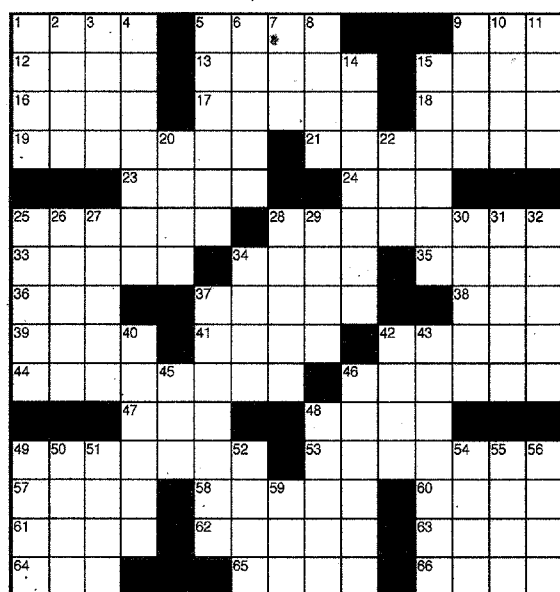
- Type of luck
- Locale
- Scratches
- Railroad car
- Pine exudations
- Speak publicly
- Hockey great
- Lather
- MIT grad
- Alley Oop's girl
- Proofer's word
- Kind of pie
- Indiana town
- Greer and Roach
- vous plait
- Locust bean
- Saint Teresa's town
- Intern
- Overthrow attempts
- Not theirs
- Common phrase
- Daring

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

EAGER TABS BODY
THOLE AVES ROUE
TASKS LOAN EMMA
ABS ICONS LAPPS
IBSEN PATHS
REPUTE TRUTH
ITER MAORI SAS
TORNADOWARNINGS
ENS BRAND BOUT
BOOTY SPIRES
SYRUP FLASK
STOUT BUOYS EPA
WADI SUFI SPLIT
AGES EGOS ERECT
PELE ASST DORKY

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32 Winding curves
34 Horsewhip
37 Low-budget films (2 wds.)
40 Approved
42 Stein fillers
43 Most crowded
45 British inc.
46 Electrician's gripping tool
48 Dorm coverers
49 Not-so-funny Marx
50 On board ship



SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

BEDS GURNEY SURGEON
DOCTOR HOSPITAL SURGERY
EMERGENCY NURSE WHEEL CHAIR
GOWN STITCHES X-RAYS

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

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

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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

REAL ESTATE

HOMETOWNlife.com

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Real Estate
For Sale

Open Houses



Livonia
15412 Williams
Beautiful 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath, hardwood floors, finished bsmt., 2 car gar. Remodeled kit, w/natural slate floor, remodeled main bath, and new windows 2008. Assum. FHA mortgage at 6% w/22 yrs. remaining. Open house Aug 15-16 & 22-23, 2pm-5pm \$157,900 or poss. 1 yr. lease w/option. Call 734.632.0321 or 313.530.6714

Berkley **3047**

WHY PAY RENT?
LAND CONTRACT
\$737/mo. 6%, 30 yr. 2 bdrm, 1 bath, 1.5 gar., lg fenced yard, bsmt. 3817 Griffith. 248-252-1861

Detroit



MAGNIFICENT VIEWS
1300 E Lafayette, high floor, SE corner. 2 bdrm, 2 bath, in unit W/D, 24 hour door man, 2 swimming pools and weight room, \$75,500/negotiable. Call: (313) 433-4745

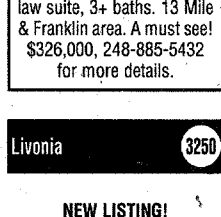
Farmington Hills

GORGEOUS LANDSCAPE
1.5+/- acres, 3 bdrms, 2 baths, 2 car heated gar, with pool & hot tub, 50x20' patio w/awning. Large kitchen, hardwood floors & carpeting. \$279,500. 248-478-4628

Farmington Hills **3145**

By Owner
NEED A FRESH START?
Beautiful contemporary home on 1 acre. Exclusive neighborhood, bright open floor plan, 5 bdrm, 1 room can convert to mother-in-law suite, 3+ baths, 13 Mile & Franklin area. A must see! \$326,000, 248-885-5432 for more details.

Livonia



NEW LISTING!
Open Sunday 1-4
Updated 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath brick ranch. Family rm w/fireplace. Finished bsmt. 2 car attached gar. \$184,900. S of Plymouth, W of Wayne, 35601 Leon. **SUSAN & RACHEL RION**
734-522-2429
Real Estate Associates

NW LIVONIA

Raised 2-3 bdrm, 1 bath ranch, lot 70x200, 1 car detached garage w/workshop, \$64,900 LC terms, can also lease for \$700/mo. 586-219-7880

Manufactured Homes **3740**

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Commercial/Retail For Sale

CANTON - Busy Michigan Ave corridor. New 5100sf building, completely occupied. 4.5 acre site has room for another 15,000sf building. \$1,400,000. #2615853. Bela Sipes 734-669-5813, 734-747-7888 Reinhardt Commercial.

Mobile Homes

CANTON - Royal Holiday Park, all senior park. 39500 Warren Rd. Must see to appreciate! 2 bdrm, 2 bath, W/D, expando in living room, beautiful lawn, C/A. For appt. (734) 453-7351

Lakefront Property

HOWELL - 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, 2 full kitchens, finished walkout, large lot, all sports private lake. \$419,000. (313) 410-7285

Cemetery Lots

Farmington City Cemetery
2 plots for sale, lot N 75, graves 3 & 4. Asking \$450 each. Call: (248) 408-7781

GLEN EDEN

Garden of Faith, 4 plots. Value \$5200, sell all for \$3000/best. Leave Msg. (231) 544-3805

Commercial/Industrial/Retail For Sale

IRS SALE
9-10-2009, Restaurant building, 6308 N. Wayne, Westland Minimum Bid: \$24,604.23. www.irsales.gov

APARTMENTS

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Real Estate
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Apartment/Unfurnished

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Adult community 55+, quiet country setting, heat & water incl. \$675/mo. (734) 564-8402

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Spacious 1 bdrm C/A from \$525. 50% 1st 3 mo rent with approved credit. 248-473-5180

FARMINGTON HILLS

ANGIE APTS.
NO APPLICATION FEE
FREE HEAT! 1 bedroom \$505. 9 Mile/ Middlebelt 248-478-7489

FARMINGTON HILLS

FREEDOM VILLAGE APTS.
Call for 1 & 2 Bdrm Specials
Luxury 1 & 2 bdrm. Laundry in unit. Water incl. No Pets \$585-695/mo 586-254-9511

Apartment/Unfurnished **4000**

FARMINGTON HILLS
Furnished apt. available for short term lease. Creekside Apts. 248-474-4400. E.H.O.

FARMINGTON MANOR APTS.

Deluxe studio & 1 bedroom, capon. \$300 security, 50% off first 3 months with approved credit. (248) 888-0868

FARMINGTON PLAZA APTS

Luxury 2 bdrms, A/C, pool. New kitchen & baths, laundry rooms, heat incl. \$650/mo. 50% off 1st 3 month's rent w/ approved credit. (248) 478-8722

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GARDEN CITY - Updated 1 bdrm apt., a/c, laundry. Electric, gas & water included. \$575/mo. 248-346-6108

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1 \$597, 2 bdrm \$780
Private entry/patio C/A, attic storage, Pets ok 1 bdrm deposit \$300* (734) 459-6640 EHO www.cormorantco.com *call for details

PLYMOUTH-OLD VILLAGE

1 Bdrm. \$575, 2 Bdrm. \$670
First month free w/approved credit. W/ 1 yr. lease. Walk-in closets. (734) 455-1215

PLYMOUTH-OLD VILLAGE

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Apartment/Unfurnished **4000**

Plymouth
Rent Starting at \$529
1 & 2 Bedroom Apt's. **Plymouth Manor**
Plymouth House
734-455-3880
www.yorkcommunities.com

PLYMOUTH-SHELDON PARK

Spacious 1 Bdrm Units, \$565. \$300 Security, 50% off 1st 3 Months Rent w/ good credit! Call: (734) 455-6570

PLYMOUTH-OLD VILLAGE

1 bdrm upper, private entry, walk to downtown, pets ok. \$590 + sec. 734-658-7248

REDFORD

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Large 1 bdrm.
C/A, storage
Tons of closet space - \$590 per mo.
734-721-6699 EHO
www.cormorantco.com

WALLED LAKE-ON THE LAKE

1-3 bdrms starting at \$500. 1st mo free with approved credit. C/A, Close to 12 Oaks, schools & x-ways. (248) 624-5999

WAYNE: 1 bdrm. Stove/Refrigerator, Washer, Dryer, Lg. yard. Utilities incl. \$600 + security. 734-426-4792

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• Close to I-96 • Open 7 days a week
Franklin Square Apartments
www.FranklinSquareApts.com
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REDUCED PRICES
Manufactured HOMES FOR RENT
Located in Canton
Starting at \$699/mo
ONE FREE MONTH on Select Homes
3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, Appliances included.
924 to 1456 sq. ft. available.
Pets welcome.
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www.academywestpoint.com
Restrictions apply. Expires 8/31/09

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HOMETOWN*life.com*

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WESTLAND : 1-2 bdrm, Special-\$450 & up. Heat/Water incl. 1 mo free rent w/ acceptable credit. (734) 779-9800

WESTLAND
2 bdrm, 1.5 bath.
Close to schools. \$600/mo.
(248) 892-0262

WESTLAND Apts From \$499*
Deposit from \$0*
1 & 2 Bdrms
• Patio or Balcony
• 24 Hr Emergency Maint.
• Open 7 Days
Waynewood Apts
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*Conditions Apply
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Westland Estates "WOW"
One Bedrooms from \$475

No fine print in this ad!
-Heat/Water included
-\$30.00 Application Fee
-\$200 Deposit w/ Credit

New Resident's Only
734-722-7700
Mon.-Fri. 9am-7pm
Sat.-Sun. 10am-4pm

Apartments/Unfurnished **4000**

WESTLAND
First Month Free!
1 bdrm - \$460/mo
A/C, private entry
Near Ford Plant
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www.cormorantco.com

WESTLAND
Hickory Woods Apts.
\$224 MOVE IN!
1st Month Rent Free
(for qualified applicants)
1 Bdrm-\$550*
2 Bdrm-\$650
FREE GAS AND WATER
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*Short term leases avail.

Westland Park Apts.

LOOK

FREE RENT
2 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath,
\$595, 936 Sq. Ft.
1 Bdrm, \$520,
728 Sq. Ft.
\$200 Security Deposit
Heat and Water Incl
(New residents only
with approved credit
No Pets, C/A, Vertical
Blinds, Intercom.
Appliances include
dishwasher.
Very clean Apartments
Excellent Maintenance
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Apartments/Unfurnished **4000**

Westland
VENNY PINES APTS.
Rent Starting
at \$449
• 1 & 2 bedroom apts.
with fireplace.
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michiganhouseandrentals.com

WESTLAND: Quite area, 2 bdrm, fresh paint, washer/dryer incl. Carport. \$750/mo. (586) 412-1597.

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2 bdrm, upper flat w/ updated kitchen, LR/DR, full bsmt., 1 car. Gar w/ opener, just steps from downtown. Credit check/ references, 1 yr lease.
\$795/mo + utilities.
Call Jim Stevens
(234) 416-1201

Flats **4040**

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Garage Sales **7110**

BLOOMFIELD HILLS
Antique Pillars, Garden Arch,
Ironrite, Furniture, Plus/Kids'
Size Clothes, Toys, Huge Dog
Crates, MORE! Fri., 9am-6pm,
Sat., 9am-4pm.
3509 Wedgewood

GARAGE/ESTATE SALE - Aug.
14-15 9am-4pm. NO CHECKS!
Maple and barn red dining set
w/ 4 chairs and hutch; chairs;
Christmas; science fiction; old
tools; garden hardscape;
futon; tables; cross-country
skis.....tons more! 3083
Westman Ct. btwn Long Lake
and Square Lake, W. of Adams.

Bloomfield Village Garage
Sale - Antiques, furniture and
other household items. Aug.
14th ONLY, 9-4pm. 2629
Amberly Rd. West of Cov-
ington, btwn 15 and 16 Mile.

CANTON Central Park South
Sub-Wide Garage Sale. Thurs.
8/13 - Sat 8/15, 9am-4pm.
West of Beck, North of
Geddes. Lots of great things!
Includes exercise equipment
and 14' alum boat w/trailer.

CANTON Garage Sale- 7989
Kaiser St., CANTON, S of Jo.
E of 275 & E of Haggerty, via
Koppernick. Thurs.-Sat., 8/13-
8/15, 9am-6pm. Furniture to
Junk! MOVING!! Everything
MUST GO!!

CANTON - Leisure furniture,
paddle boats, swing sets,
accessories, etc! 8561 Ponda
Drive. (734) 927-3400. Come
down & check out the fun!

CANTON: Thurs-Sat. Aug. 13-
15. Tons of stuff. 6544 Kings
Mill Dr. W. of Beck, S. of
Warren.

DEARBORN HEIGHTS: 6588
N. Vernon, W. of Telegraph, S.
of Warren. Household & misc.
items, clothes, Beanie Babies
& lots of Aug 14-16, 9-5pm.

DETROIT: Whicker patio set,
a lounge, clothes, wine shelf
and more. 8/15-9-4pm, At City
Mission, 20405 Schoolcraft
btwn Burt Rd & Evergreen Rd.

FARMINGTON HILLS: Aug.
13-14, 8am-5pm. Furniture,
collectibles, household items,
37450 Chesterfield Crt., N. of
13 Mile, W. of Halsted.

FARMINGTON HILLS Multi-
Family Sale. 33653
Harlowshire between 8 and 9
Mile, Farmington Rd. and
Coffax. Thurs. (8/13)-Sat.
(8/15), 9-?? Skis, TVs, book-
case & coffee table, house-
hold items, clothes, toddler
bed, toys & more!

FRANKLIN Estate/Garage
Sale. House full, everything
must go! No reasonable offer
refused. Something for every-
one. Too much to list! Wed-
nesday, 10am-5pm. 30355
Rosemond, 1 block east of
Inkster, north side of
Northwestern Hwy.

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Garage Sales **7110**

HOWELL: Gigantic Garage
Sale! U of M memorabilia,
roll top desk, golf clubs, bike
and hundreds of sweat and
tee shirts, never worn.
Christmas items, hundreds of
other items. No junk. 4046
Southwoods at Coon Lake
Rd. 9-5, Thurs, Fri and Sat.

LIVONIA: Aug 13-14, 9-3pm;
Aug 15, 9-12pm. Books, toys,
golf clubs, bar stools, house-
hold & more. 18448 Renwick.
W of Levan, N of 6 Mile.

LIVONIA: Aug. 14-15, 9am-
4pm. 19552 Gill Rd. 7
Mile/Farmington. Tools,
sporting goods, clothing, kitchen
items, TOYS, VCR tapes,
books, TV. WE HAVE IT ALL!!

LIVONIA Estate Sale. 8/14 &
8/15. 9am-5pm. 33636
Hathaway. Furniture, tools,
kitchen items, and much
more. Everything must go!!

LIVONIA: Everything priced to
go! Aug. 13-15th, 9-4pm.
36132 Ladywood, btwn 5 & 6
Mile, off Levan. Household
items, jewelry, brand new kid's
toys & games and much more!

LIVONIA: Fri. & Sat. 9am. 1st
Sale. Antiques, table, lamps,
chairs, pictures. 35811
Parkdale/Arthur. Off Plymouth
& Levan or Wayne Rd.

LIVONIA Furniture, kitchen-
ware, sofas, beds, and much
more. No early birds. Sat.,
7:30-4 and Sun., 1-5. 19235
Bethany St.

LIVONIA GARAGE SALE
Fri - Sun, 10-5pm. 32730
Norfolk, 8 Mile & Farmington.
Tons of misc items!

LIVONIA: Huge Sale! Wom-
en's plus size (like new),
teaching books, toys, boy's
clothes, household items,
bead jewelry. 8/13, 9-4pm.
35685 Middleboro 48154

LIVONIA: Multi-Family. 32539
Washington. E/Farmington, W/
Joy. Aug. 13-15, 9-5. Infant,
kids, teen household items, etc

NORTHVILLE: Multi-Family
Sale. Thurs-Sat. Aug. 13-15,
9-4. 1075, 1051 Allen Dr. Off
Novi Rd., N. of 8 Mile.
Household, furniture, toys,
Brio, videos, books, drum set,
home school, Waldorf play
stands, blackboard, Beanie's.

NOVI: 27243 Victoria. Napier,
S/Grand River. Aug 20-21, 9-
5. Like new baby girl clothes
0-2T. Household, adult clothes
& furniture. Priced to sell!

NOVI: Household items, furni-
ture, snowmobile helmets, TV,
electronics & clothing. 8/14-
8/16, 9-5pm. 22653 Cran-
brooke, 9 Mile & Haggerty.

NOVI: Sony radio, GE
microwave, weights, solid oak
table, mirrors, snowblower &
misc. Aug. 14-15, 10-4.
41211 Todd Ln. Off
Meadowbrook, btwn. 8-9
Mile. Charrington Green.

PLYMOUTH: Fri-Sat. Aug. 14-
15, 9-6. Antiques, furniture,
household items, kid's stuff.
Corner of Mill & Park St. Btwn.
Ann Arbor Tr. & Plymouth Rd.
S. of Tim Horton.

PLYMOUTH Garage Sale
August 13th and 14th, 9am-
4pm. 49255 Hunt Club Ct., in
Fox Pointe Subdivision/East of
Ridge, between Powell and N.
Territorial. Baby items, includ-
ing crib, glider rocker, brand
name baby clothes through
3T. Also, seasonal items and
teaching materials.

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Ann Arbor Tr. & Plymouth Rd.
S. of Tim Horton.

Garage Sales **7110**

PLYMOUTH: Huge Multi-Family Sale!
Fri-Sat, Aug 14-15, 10-4pm.
686 Herald. Household items,
baby clothes & much more!

PLYMOUTH HUGE Sale Aug.
14-15, 8am-6pm. Decor
baby, antiques, DVDs, crafts,
sports cards, electronics,
household and much more!
10017 Spies Ct.

PLYMOUTH: Small Appli,
household, jewelry, nice
women's summer shirts,
Japanese items, misc. 1411
Woodland Place, S of Ann
Arbor Trail, btwn Harvey &
Sheldon off McKinley. Aug 14-
15, 10-4pm.

PLYMOUTH TWP - Estate
Sale, 9216 Baywood, off Ann
Arbor Rd. W of Sheldon. Thurs.
5-8pm; Fri-Sat, 10-4pm. **ALL**
RETO -70's & earlier; house
packed with treasures & good
useful items, great prices!

REDFORD: 100 yr. old barber
chair, antique styling station,
antique Victrola cabinet, glass-
ware, furniture, shelving units,
lots of books. Lawnboy lawn-
mower, mirrors, you name it!
Fri. 9-5, Sat. 12-4 Sun. 9-5.
15331 Garfield. 5/Beech area.

REDFORD Huge 3-Family
Sale. 26850 Lyndon. 8/14-
8/16, 9-5. Collectibles, crafts,
comic books, furniture, toys,
baby items & MUCH MORE!

REDFORD - WVNA
NEIGHBORHOOD SALE.
Borders I-96/Telegraph, Beech
Daly, Western Golf Course.
Aug 14-16, Fri-Sun, 9-6pm.

SOUTH LYON From Condo to
Motorhome. Entire household
w/furnishings, tools and col-
lectible crystal. 61957
Ticonderoga Dr. Unit 5. Aug.
14, 15 and 16, 8am-5pm.

SOUTH LYON Large Family
Garage Sale/Tanglewood Sub.
Kid's clothes (sizes 4-6),
bikes, baby items, home
decor, household, rollaway
beds, women's clothes (SM),
men's clothes (L & XL), &
more! Aug. 14 & 15, 9-4.
23854 Shinnecock Dr.

WESTLAND -3 family garage
sale! From baby clothes up to
household goods. 8/13-8/15;
9-4pm. 38316 St. Joe,
Palmer/Nebraska area.

WESTLAND Aug 14-16, 9am-
3pm. 7292 Haller, off of
Warren Rd, btwn Middlebelt
and Inkster Rds. Dishwasher,
furniture, weight bench,
household goods and more!

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Premium, 12K, \$22,998
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T-BIRD 2002 Black/black,
hard top, 28K, \$18,998
AVIS FORD
(248) 355-7515

TAURUS 2002
Leather, moon, \$5,998
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(248) 355-7515

TAURUS 2007
\$9,998
AVIS FORD
(248) 355-7515

TAURUS SE 2007 V6, power
seats, spoiler, 30K, \$10,997
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

TAURUS SEI 2003
Wagon \$6,998
AVIS FORD
(248) 355-7515

TAURUS X LTD 2008 Loaded,
low miles \$21,998
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

THUNDERBIRD 2004 hard
top, 65K, Classic, \$14,500
TYME AUTO: (734) 455-5566
tymeauto.com

TORINO 1971
Red, hot and ready to roll.
\$5,981 Stk. P20884
DEALER
734-402-8774

Honda 8520

ACCORD 2006
Black, runs like new, looks
great! \$11,481 Stk. 9C1137A
DEALER
734-402-8774

Jeep 8535

WRANGLER SPORT 2006
4x4, 6 cyl, winch, 8,800
miles, \$15,995
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

Lincoln 8560

LINCOLN LS 2002
V8, loaded \$7,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

LINCOLN LS 2006
V8 Sport \$19,798
AVIS FORD
(248) 355-7515

TOWN CAR 2000 - Signature
series. Good cond., 93,000
miles. Gray/brown. Asking
\$5,499. 248-568-9291

TOWN CAR CARTIER 2000
Moon, 52K \$9,995
AVIS FORD
(248) 355-7515

Lincoln 8560

ZEPHYR 2006 Moon, chrome
wheels \$18,998
AVIS FORD
(248) 355-7515

Mazda 8580

MAZDA 6 2006
Deep red, moonroof, sporty,
low gas mileage, low miles
\$13,995 Stk. P20872
DEALER
734-402-8774

Mercury 8600

GRAND MARQUIS 2003
Red, loaded, excellent condi-
tion, priced to sell! \$7,481
Stk. 9T9308A
DEALER
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MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS
LS 1992. Original owner, only
45,000 miles, gar kept. Asking
only \$3500. (734) 674-3294

MILAN PREMIER 2007
Leather, low miles, certified
\$13,995
Bill Brown Ford
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MILAN PREMIER 2008
\$15,998
AVIS FORD
(248) 355-7515

MONTEGO 2005
Luxury, 31K, \$12,798
AVIS FORD
(248) 355-7515

MONTEGO 2007 Leather, cer-
tified, low miles \$14,955
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

SABLE 2006 - Leather
moonroof, immaculate, \$7500
TYME AUTO (734) 455-5566
tymeauto.com

SABLE PREMIER 2008
Leather, 16K, certified,
\$18,955
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

Pontiac 8680

BONNEVILLE SSEI 2000
Silver, 60K, \$7,495
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

G-6 2008
Loaded, 5 to choose \$10,998
AVIS FORD
(248) 355-7515

G-6 COUPE 2007
Red, 21K, \$14,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Pontiac 8680

GRAND AM GT CPE 2003
Moon, red, only \$4,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
PONT, BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

GRAND PRIX GTP 2005
Leather, power moon, loaded
\$11,955
Bill Brown Ford
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GRAND PRIX GXP 2006
Black, V8, \$16,495
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PONT, BUICK, GMC
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PONTIAC SOLSTICE CON-
VERTIBLE 2008 9,000 miles,
looking for someone to
assume lease. (248) 320-7904

SOLSTICE CONV 2007
Black, low miles, extra clean,
summer fun is calling!
\$17,481 Stk. 9T9113A
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\$16,998
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has many cars priced \$2000
& under. Can finance anyone.
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4 door, auto, air \$9,998
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Crimson Red, Power Options,
CD & Sunroof! Sporty Meets
Economic! Just \$12,995!
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Saturn 8700

AURA 2007
Auto, air, 28K, \$14,495
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PONT, BUICK, GMC
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4 door, auto, air \$9,998
AVIS FORD
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ION 2006
Crimson Red, Power Options,
CD & Sunroof! Sporty Meets
Economic! Just \$12,995!
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L WAGON 2004
Low miles \$8,994
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VUE 2005
Red, 38K, moon \$12,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
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CAMRY 1999
Silver, safe, reliable, sharp
\$4,981 Stk. 9T9269A
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Crimson Red, Power Options,
CD & Sunroof! Sporty Meets
Economic! Just \$12,995!
888-372-9836

Toyota 8720

COROLLA 2006 4 door, auto,
A/C, clean! \$9,996
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

SOLARA 2005
Glacier White, CD, Alloys,
ABS and Power Options!
Great On Gas! Just \$13,995!
888-372-9836

Lou LaRiche
888-372-9836

Volkswagen 8740

CABRIO 2000 Convertible,
red, auto, air, 1st \$3600 takes,
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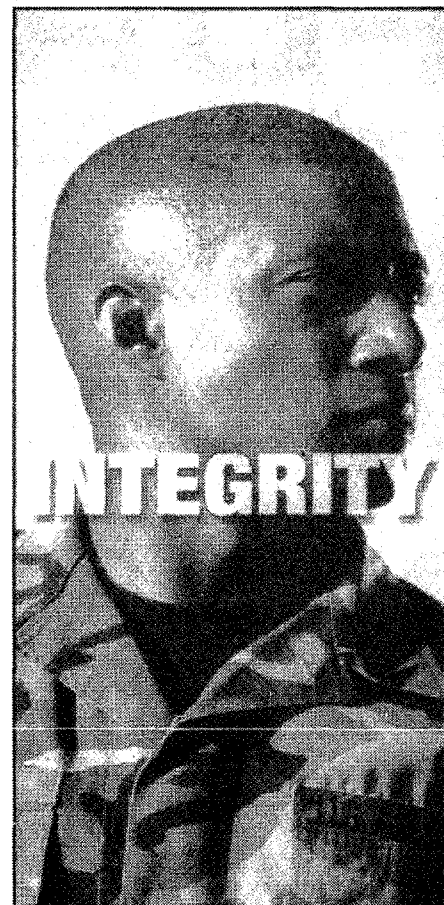
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<p>WE ARE YOUR CASH FOR CLUNKERS HEADQUARTERS</p>			
<p>2009 DODGE CHARGER SXT</p> <p>BUY for \$19,990</p> <p>MSRP \$26,900 w/\$1000 down</p> <p>BUY PAYMENT \$309 mo.</p>	<p>2009 CHRYSLER 300</p> <p>BUY for \$20,690</p> <p>MSRP \$27,515 w/\$1000 down</p> <p>BUY PAYMENT \$319 mo.</p>	<p>2009 JEEP® LIBERTY SPORT</p> <p>BUY for \$18,290</p> <p>MSRP \$24,040 w/\$1000 down</p> <p>BUY PAYMENT \$279 mo.</p>	<p>2009 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY</p> <p>BUY for \$21,590</p> <p>MSRP \$30,215 w/\$1000 down</p> <p>BUY PAYMENT \$339 mo.</p>

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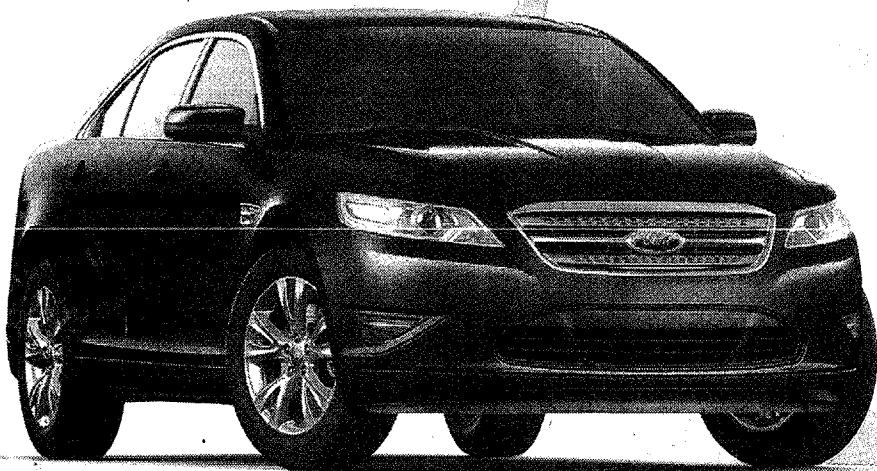
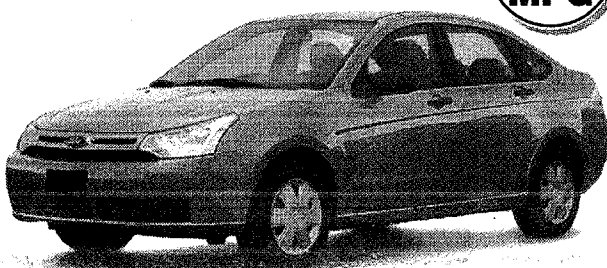
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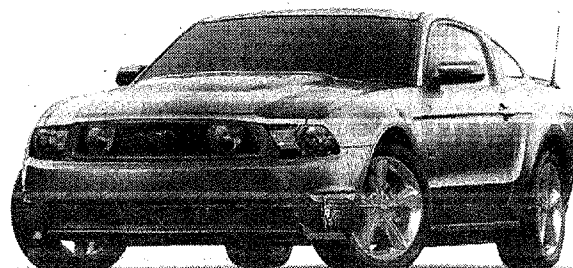
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