

THURSDAY
October 22,
2009

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Newspapers

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75 CENTS

CANTON OBSERVER

online at hometownlife.com



Softball-loving
senior citizens
stay in the
game - B1

CONNECTION

Town hall

State Representative Dian Slavens (D-Canton) is hosting an informational town hall meeting on Monday, Oct. 26, at 6:30 p.m. in Canton for residents to learn how mass transit and public transportation options can create jobs and grow the economy in Western Wayne County.

Topics to be covered by guest presenters include high-speed rail, light rail and bus rapid transit, including Slavens; state Rep. Marie Donigan (D-Royal Oak), a member of the House Transportation Committee; Carmine Palombo, Southeast Council of Governments; and John Swatosh of the Regional Transit Coordinating Council.

The town hall meeting takes place at the Summit on the Park Community Center Professional Development Center, 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton.

Ford fest

Ford Road's Fall-tastic Family Fun Fest, presented by the Merchants of Canton's Ford Road and WMGC 105.1FM, takes place noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25, with a special Emagine kids movie at 11 a.m.

The event takes place in the Home Depot parking lot in Ford Road's Orange Block. It's open to kids of all ages and anyone who loves fall. The event includes:

- At 11 a.m. Canton's Emagine Theater will have a special showing of "Spookly the Square Pumpkin." Kids in costume get in for only \$2.

- Trick or Treating at participating merchants in Orange and Brown Blocks. A shuttle will transport families to participating nearby merchants and back to the Home Depot Parking Lot.

- Noon-2 p.m. Magician "The Amazing Clark" will perform on the Canton stage.

Voter guide

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County has prepared a non-partisan Voter Guide for the Nov. 3 general election. Voter Guides for the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education are available at the public libraries as well as on the League's Web site, www.lwvnnw.org.

The League of Women Voters features non-partisan candidate information, and the Voter Guide provides an easy vehicle for the voters to compare the candidates.

Both Comcast and WOW have committed to re-broadcast the Candidate Forum that the League sponsored on Oct. 8 for the school board election. The dates and times for the airtimes will also be available on the League's Web site.

Canton eyes roads, jobs as budget fixes

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Socked by declining revenues, Canton officials expect to dip into the township's budget surplus, ditch local road projects and leave several jobs vacant in 2010 as they move cautiously toward a new spending blueprint.

The financial outlook appears even gloomier for the following year, when local officials predict the fallout

from declining property values and tax revenues could force even deeper cost-cutting measures.

Amid a stubbornly persistent economic downturn, the seven-member Canton Township Board of Trustees in November is expected to approve a new, conservative budget reflecting the harsh realities of a money shortfall that already has devastated many Michigan cities and townships.

"I certainly like our position

almost better than any other community in the state of Michigan," township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said. "We're just going to have to continue to work hard at being good stewards of the people's money."

Local officials concede it will be a challenge for a township that saw its general fund surplus swell from \$2.8 million to nearly \$7.5 million from 2005 to 2008. But new worries have arisen:

- Tax revenues for 2010 will have

dipped \$2 million, from \$35.6 million to \$33.6 million, in two years, Finance Director Rick Eva said.

- State-shared revenue plunged from \$6.1 million to \$5.1 million during the same period.

- The township's police budget had a sharp decline in its fund balance, plummeting from \$4 million to just \$100,000 during the two-year period, Eva said. The department did

Please see **BUDGET FIX, A3**

Back yard to big house

Growing church tries to 'lead by example'

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A Canton church that started as a small group meeting in Alex Rahill's back yard in 2002 has grown into an 800-member congregation worshipping inside a 21,000-square-foot brick building on the northwest corner of Haggerty and Warren.

It's called lifechurch, but don't be fooled by the small "l" in its name. "There's something big going on inside those walls," 26-year-old member Jeff Packer of Canton said.

Packer and others describe lifechurch, part of the rapidly growing Evangelical Covenant Church, as a welcoming place where they can dress casually, talk frankly about real-life problems and watch a rock band perform Christian and secular songs. Rahill, the lead pastor, incorporates the music into his sermons to get his message across.

"I don't have to put on a front and be somebody I'm not," Packer said. "It's hard to show up on a Sunday without having something tug at your heart."

Just in time for Halloween, a band performance of Michael Jackson's *Thriller* is coming to the Sunday, Oct. 25, services.

Rahill, 46, said lifechurch draws members from Canton, Plymouth, Livonia, Westland, Redford, Garden City, Farmington, Dearborn and other communities. After its backyard beginnings, the congregation leased space in elementary schools before moving in April to a site that formerly housed a construction firm and warehouse.

The stylishly decorated church houses a large worship area and stage, a cafe, basketball goals, children's rooms for age-appropriate activities, and a place where nursing mothers can comfortably tend to their newborns while watching services on a television screen.

"We look kind of like Starbucks. We try to create a barrier-free facility to God," said Rahill, who has four

SUNDAY SERVICES

- **What:** lifechurch Canton
- **Where:** 7001 Haggerty, Canton
- **When:** Sunday services are at 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m., and a third service at 12:30 p.m. will begin Nov. 1.
- **Phone/Web site:** (734) 927-1175; www.lifechurchcanton.org

children with wife Marcie.

Rahill and five other pastors try to be relevant in ministering to their largely youthful congregation, unemployed auto workers, foster parents, debt-ridden families, recovering substance abusers — anyone who needs help or inspiration.

"We've had marriages healed here," Rahill said. "The church is a place where people can find friendship and meaningful relationships, a place where they can be real."

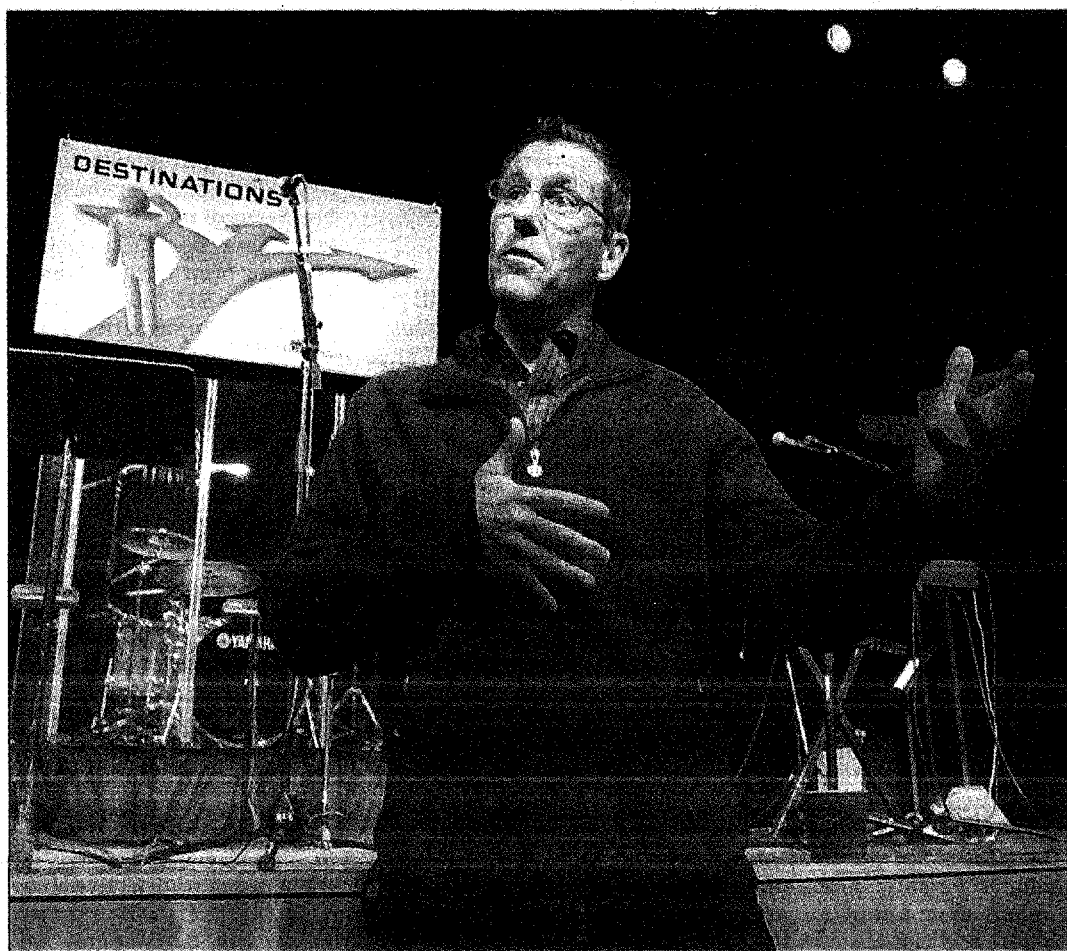
Although lifechurch is a Christian church, Rahill said people who have no religious background or who aren't sure what they believe are welcome.

"People are allowed to belong before they believe," he said.

Rahill said lifechurch started out mostly as a congregation of teens and people in their 20s. "Then they started bringing their parents."

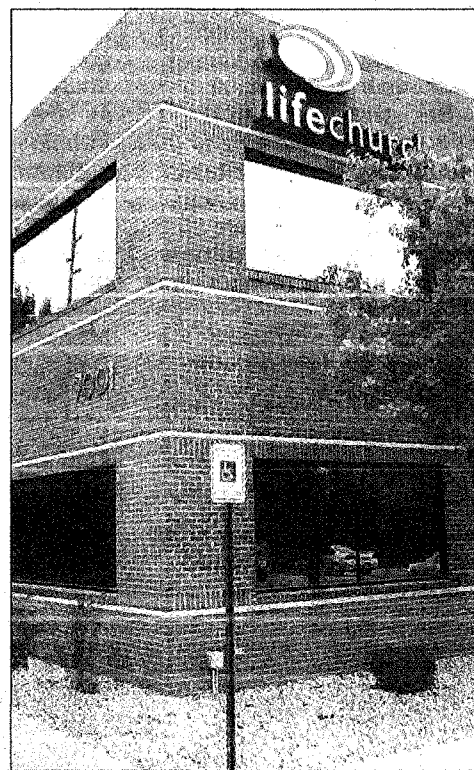
Some services incorporate rock and popular music, and Rahill said the performance of *Thriller* will include smoke machines and dancing. He said even someone as talented as Michael Jackson had struggles in life, and Rahill examines the lyrics in popular songs to teach his congregation.

Please see **CHURCH, A3**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Pastor Alex Rahill, in the auditorium of the church, talks about the contemporary music used in worship services.



Lifechurch is located on Haggerty Road at Warren.

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Canton couple lauded for wetlands project

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A Michigan Department of Environmental Quality official has praised the "entrepreneurial spirit" of a Canton couple who bought an eight-acre site behind their house and transformed it into a state-protected wetlands.

"It's the first time to my knowledge this has happened in southeast Michigan, where I've worked for 14 years," MDEQ district supervisor Andrew Hartz said.

His remarks came Monday as Lori and Brian Levi unveiled a newly created wetlands where more than 700 trees and bushes have been planted — and new grass sown — behind their house on Morningside, in a neighborhood southwest of



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hanford and Canton Center. "It looks great," Hartz said, as township and state officials

joined the Levis for a Monday

Please see **WETLANDS, A3**

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AROUND CANTON

"Around Canton" is designed to announce upcoming events taking place in the community. Items will run on a space-available basis. Send details to bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Sock drive

The Canton Senior Center is currently holding a Sock Drive throughout the entire month of October as their annual Make a Difference Day project. Area residents are encouraged to "Sock It To Us" and donate new socks in men's, women's and children's sizes.

Donated socks that are collected at the Center will be distributed by human service agencies and shelters throughout Wayne County. New socks in all sizes, styles, and colors can currently be dropped off at the Senior Center 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the Parkview Room, located in the Summit on the Park at 46000 Summit Parkway.

To learn more about the Canton Senior Center's Make A Difference Day project or to donate new socks or to make a monetary donation for the purchase of new socks, call (734) 394-5485.

Skate for food

The Canton Goodfellows and Skatin' Station II are partnering in an effort to raise food for charity.

"Skate on Your Can" food drive takes place 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 11, at Skatin' Station II, 8611 Ronda in Canton. Skaters get ice time for free with a donation of three canned good or non-perishable items. All proceeds go to Canton Goodfellows.

For more information, visit the Web site www.skatinstation2.com or call (734) 459-6401.

Chieftettes clinic

The Canton Chieftettes are hosting a Pom Pon Clinic for kids ages 5-14 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14, at the Canton High School gym in the Phase III building.

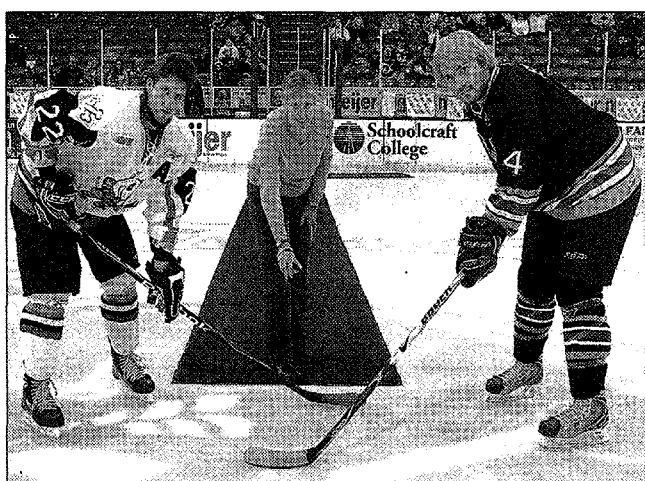
Kids will learn a pom routine and a short dance routine. Cost is \$45 per child and includes a T-shirt, poms and a snack. Discounts are available for additional siblings and for participants of the August 29 clinic. Parents are invited to watch their daughters perform at 2:30 p.m. All girls attending are invited to perform at a Canton Varsity Basketball game Dec. 11.

Registration is from 11-11:30 a.m. the morning of the clinic. Visit our Web site at www.cantonchieftettes.com to pre-register and save \$5 before Nov. 13. Registration is limited to the first 100 participants.

For more information e-mail pomclinic@cantonchieftettes.com

Craft show

St. Thomas a'Becket Church, located at 555 S. Lilley in Canton, is accepting applications for its annual Christmas Craft Show, 9 a.m.



Pink out

Breast cancer survivor Mary Beth Bloom, the land parent of Plymouth Whalers defenseman Leo Jenner (right, in blue) dropped the puck before last year's Whalers Pink Out! The Plymouth Whalers annual Pink Out! For Breast Cancer Awareness happens Saturday, Oct. 24 at 7:05 p.m. against the Belleville Bulls at Compuware Arena. The Whalers will be wearing special pink jerseys for the event and the entire team will be dying their hair pink. The game-worn pink jerseys will be auctioned off the night of the Pink Out!

to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5.

All interested crafters should e-mail stabcraft-show@yahoo.com or call (734) 981-1333.

Corriveau coffee

State Representative Marc Corriveau is hosting a coffee hour 5:30-6:30 p.m. Nov. 30 at Parthenon Coney Island, 39910 Ford Road, in Canton.

For more information, call (734) 981-0200.

First Step program

Judith Barr, Associate Director of First Step, will present a program on domestic violence on Oct. 29, 2-3 p.m. at the Canton Public Library.

First Step is a local resource offering free services to individuals affected by domestic violence and sexual assault. October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and First Step believes that prevention and awareness are key components to ending violence in our communities.

This program will be held in the library's Purple Room. It is free, no registration is required. For more information, visit www.firststep-mi.org or www.cantonpl.org. The Canton Public Library is located at 1200 S. Canton Center Road in Canton.

Cabaret night

Come to the cabaret! The Spotlight Players' version, that is. For one night only, the group is taking The Biltmore Studio at The Village Theater and transforming it into an intimate night club.

Six vocalists will take you on a musical journey through some of Broadway's great shows, including numbers from Anything Goes, Fiddler on the Roof, The Sound of Music, Company, Hello, Dolly!, Oklahoma and Kiss Me Kate.

"Come to the Cabaret" takes place 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24. Cabaret-style seats are limited so purchase tickets now! Come tap your toes to classic tunes while enjoying a beverage from the cash bar

and finger food from the concession stand.

The performance takes place at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton. The Village Theater has free parking is handicap accessible.

Tickets are available by phone at the Village Theater Box Office at (734) 394-5300 or (734) 394-5460 or online at www.canton-mi.org/village-theater or in person at The Summit on the Park or at the door. Box office opens one hour prior to show-time. Tickets are \$15.

For more information about Spotlight Players or Spotlight on Youth productions call at (734) 480-4945 or visit www.spotlightplayersmi.org.

Breast cancer fund-raiser

Sue Turner and two of her dearest friends will be walking in the Michigan 3-day to raise money for Susan G Komen Breast Cancer Research. The event is one in which they will walk a total of 60 miles over the course of three days, training hundreds of miles to get ready for this weekend-long event.

The three wanted to do their part in fighting against the disease. They've created a cookbook for people to enjoy and also at the same time contribute to a great cause. In order to accomplish their goal, they gathered recipes from friends and family.

"The title of the book just seemed to fall into place ... '3 Friends, 3 Reasons (for walking the 3day), 3 Hearts,'" Turner said. "Our team name for the walk is 'BE BOLD.'" "BE BOLD" is a statement of power. BE BOLD to fight for what you believe in; BE BOLD to go beyond your comfort zone ... the list is endless."

The book consists of 400 wonderful recipes. Including the trio's signature cookie "Be Bold! Chocolate Peanut Butter Bites."

Each book is \$15.

Additional shipping charges may apply for non-local buyers.

For more information, contact Turner at turner-crew@comcast.net or (734) 812-2937.

Girls want to scrap

Canton Newcomers will be hosting "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun," a two-day drop, as their fall fund-raiser.

This fun-filled event will feature amazing "make and takes," as well as exciting raffles and door prizes. You can look forward to working with a talented and spirited group of scrappers.

Space is still available, contact Laura Malone on (734) 945-0749, or visit www.cantonnewcomers.org. Ticket cost is 2-days for \$50 or 1-day for \$30, meals and drinks are included. The drop will be held on Friday, Oct. 23, from noon to midnight and Saturday, Oct. 24, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Women's expo

Holiday Women's Expo hosted by the Polish National Alliance Women's Division hosts a Holiday Women's Expo Nov. 1 at All Saints Catholic School on Warren between Beck and Ridge roads in Canton.

Come shop and relax, light lunch available. Polish pierogies for sale. Call Gloria (734) 422-1731 or Barb (734) 634-7780.

Health Screening Clinic

Meijer Pharmacy, located on Ford Road at Canton Center, will be holds its monthly health screening clinic 8 a.m. to noon Thursday, Oct. 29. Cholesterol, diabetes, and liver function screening are available at a very affordable cost.

Appointments are required; contact the pharmacy for details at (734) 844-2733.

Hospice volunteers

Compassionate Care Hospice is a community-based organization committed to providing excellent hospice care for patients and their families. The group is currently seeking caring and dedicated individuals to provide support by being a friendly visitor to patients in the Western Wayne County area. Training is provided.

For more information, contact Ann Christensen, Volunteer Coordinator, toll-free (888) 983-9050 or e-mail at achristensen@cch-net.net.

Church crafts

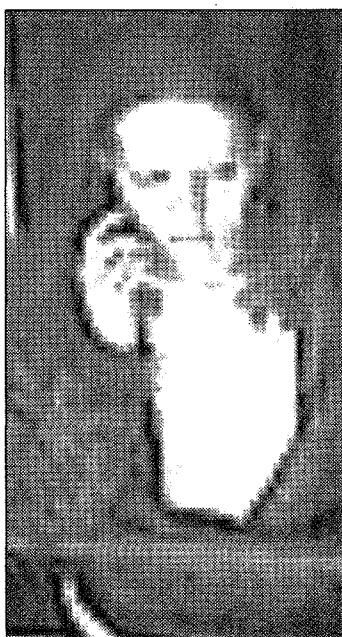
Connection Church (previously Tri-City Christian Center) is currently accepting applications for its annual Holiday Craft Fair 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 5.

Connection Church is located at 3855 Sheldon in Canton, north of Michigan Ave.

For more information contact Katy Reitz, (734) 693-5656 or katyreitz@mac.com



The identity of this woman, suspected of credit card fraud, is being sought by Canton police.



Canton police are asking the public's help in identifying this woman suspected of credit card fraud.

Police seek identity of credit card fraud suspect

Canton police are seeking the public's help in identifying a woman or women suspected of credit card fraud at local stores.

Police obtained two photos from surveillance cameras at local stores following recent incidents of credit card fraud.

Due to the similarity of the woman in the photos, authorities believe it may be the same person.

Anyone who has information on the identity of the suspect is asked to call the Canton Police Department at (734) 394-5400.

Anonymous tips also may be made to Crime Stoppers by calling (800) SPEAK-UP or logging on to www.1800.speakup.org.

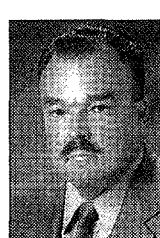
Crime Stoppers will pay up to \$1,000 for a tip that leads to the arrest of the suspect or suspects.

'Bittersweet': WW language survives governor's veto

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Wayne-Westland school officials are breathing a sigh of relief after finding out that the \$54 million Gov. Jennifer Granholm vetoed in signing the new State School Aid Act did not include the \$6.5 million in enhanced school aid the district receives.

"The news is bittersweet," Superintendent Greg Baracy said.



Baracy

His comments came during an exchange with State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, who spoke to the school board about the budget difficulties in Lansing and the effect on local school districts.

Baracy credits LeBlanc, State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, and State Rep. Marc Corriveau, D-Northville, in helping preserve the "Wayne-Westland language," money the district has received in lieu of millage disallowed with the start of Proposal A.

Baracy said it was "horrifying" to learn that the money had been stripped from the governor's proposed budget, but the lawmakers, working with the district's lobbyist, David Ladd of Kelley Cawthorne, were able to get the language into the House bill and keep it there through the Senate and several conference committees.

"The process they had to go through was huge, I know how tough it was to restore this language," he said. "I want people to understand that it was no easy task. I can't tell you how

much we appreciate what you did. The children of Wayne-Westland will have a better education because of it."

While the district hung on to the \$6.5 million, it did lose the \$2.2 million through a \$165 cut in per pupil funding, and according to LeBlanc, "it's very likely that very soon there will be a proration." Last Thursday, the governor was informed that revenue estimates show the State School Aid Fund being short \$264 million, which could result in an addition \$165 per pupil cut.

"You may wish to continue to delay your budget," LeBlanc said. "Whether the legislature can act quick enough to stave out the proration, I'm not sure. There's some interest."

LeBlanc also told school officials that school bus inspections have been included in the State Police budget, but there's no funding. That may be addressed when it goes to the governor for her signature.

"This has been a very difficult year, state revenue is 21 percent less than last year," said LeBlanc. "This process has been magnified because of what our state is experiencing. Our revenue continues to decline at an alarming rate and we don't know where the bottom is."

LeBlanc added that he believes residents of the district understand what is going on in Lansing. In other times, he would have been "roundly criticized for not bringing home the bacon."

"We did bring home the bacon, there just wasn't a lot of it," he said.

"This whole budget crisis, there's no end in sight," Baracy said. "There no longer is a status quo."

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WETLANDS

FROM PAGE A1

afternoon ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The Levis bought the property a few years ago to keep out residential development on natural land largely overgrown by invasive vegetation. They found a perfect use for it after learning that Lowe's Home Improvement needed a wetlands-mitigation site after building a store in Canton.

The couple hired Preiss Outdoor Service & Supply Co. to remove old vegetation including diseased ash trees, European buckthorns, cottonwoods, ailing American elms and thick patches of poison ivy. Just this fall, Preiss planted red maples, sycamores, silver maples, pin oaks and swamp white oaks; dozens of shrubs such as American elderberry, hawthorn and dogwood; and a forested seed mix for native herbs and grasses.

Although Hartz said the MDEQ-approved wetlands site will take "at least a couple of growing seasons" to mature, the land is now protected from residential development opposed by the Levis and many of their neighbors.

Preiss owner Eric Preiss said his company moved over 80,000 yards of dirt and planted more than 700 trees and bushes.



This new state-protected wetlands in Canton will mature in coming years.

"I think they did a great job," Lori Levi said.

The state now has a conservation easement to protect the property, located near the Fellows Creek. Moreover, Hartz said the land will be monitored and invasive vegetation removed.

In all, the project required five environmental and construction permits from MDEQ, Wayne County and Canton Township. Although the Levis still own the property, they have transferred certain rights to the state to protect the wetlands.

Greg Greene, a township planning commissioner and Downtown Development Authority member, commended the Levis for their efforts.

"I'm pleased that they took the initiative and worked through

the system to get what they wanted," he said.

The Levis have said they aren't against development, but they said the earlier housing proposals didn't fit in with their neighborhood and could have disrupted a peaceful atmosphere residents had come to expect.

Township officials have said the land already had limited development potential due to nearby Fellows Creek and the floodplain. Officials said the project amounted to an appropriate project both for Lowe's and the neighborhood.

"It's great for all the homeowners," township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said. "It's a win-win situation."

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BUDGET FIX

FROM PAGE A1

take on some major projects, such as a much-needed expansion of the prisoner area.

The fire department's budget surplus fell less dramatically, from \$3.6 million to \$2.1 million.

Moreover, township officials are bracing for sharper declines in property tax revenues after the Board of Review convenes during the first quarter of next year, Eva said.

"We are anticipating a fairly substantial decline in the taxable value," he said. "That will dictate the revenue shortfall we will have to address."

Even so, Eva said residents in 2010 will not see any significant changes in services they have come to expect.

"We are not cutting services," he said.

The budget also doesn't include any layoffs, Eva said, although the number of full-time employees is expected to fall from roughly 369 to 363 as local officials choose not to fill vacant positions. One of those includes Deputy Police Chief

Patrick Nemecek's post, which becomes vacant in January when he replaces retiring Public Safety Director John Santomauro.

To be sure, local officials remain concerned about the police department's declining fund balance. One measure that will help includes a township board decision to set new tax rates that boosted the police millage by a quarter-mill while reducing the general fund millage by the same amount.

LaJoy vowed that local officials, despite challenging economic times, will not gut public safety services in a township that prides itself as being among the state's safest communities.

"We fully intend to keep it safe," LaJoy said.

Meanwhile, the newly proposed general fund budget, which could be adopted as early as Nov. 10, is balanced at \$25.1 million amid plans to siphon \$800,000 from a surplus that Eva said had grown to nearly \$7.5 million. He said local officials, if possible, will try not to use the entire \$800,000, but that's

the amount included in the budget blueprint.

One way the township plans to cut costs in 2010 centers on trimming \$2.4 million that would have been spent to fix certain intersections and help the county with road maintenance, Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said. That could mean a bumpier ride for local residents, but officials said the troubled economy has forced spending cuts.

Local officials next year had initially planned to upgrade areas such as the busy Palmer-Sheldon intersection — a project that likely won't happen for now.

"That was going to be the big one (for 2010)," Faas said.

While the township faces difficult times, LaJoy said the situation could be much more grim.

"I think the people who have worked here over the years have done a really good job of running as lean and efficiently as possible," he said. "It certainly bodes well for us now."

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Eric Preiss talks about his company's work on the wetlands site.

CHURCH

FROM PAGE A1

"Whatever the song is, we piggyback on that theme," he said.

Sunday services are at 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m., and a third service at 12:30 p.m. will begin on Nov. 1.

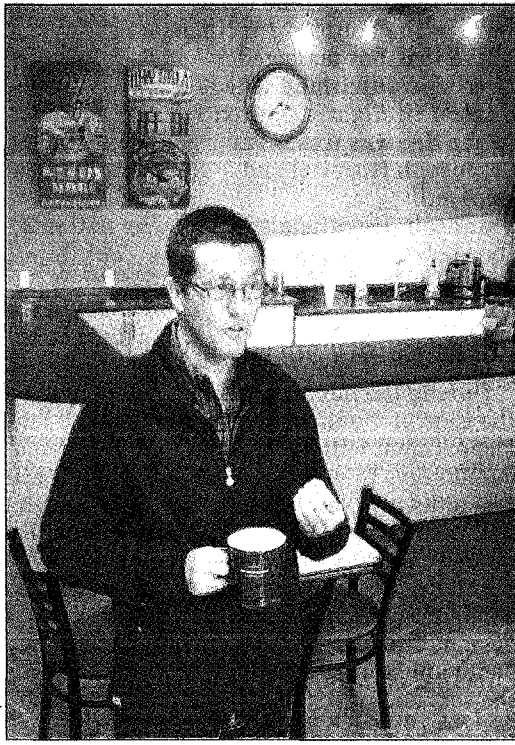
The church teaches by example. Rahill said congregation members drive in a mobile soup kitchen to deliver food to the homeless in Detroit, a city where lifechurch also has a sister church, Messiah Church.

"Church is not a product you consume, but a commitment you engage in," Rahill said.

To that end, services may include not only rock music, but videos, drama and props. One time, Rahill started up a motorcycle and drove it across the stage to demonstrate how people need to turn a key in their own lives in order to move forward.

"This church is so real," said 23-year-old member Jennifer Kompoltowicz of Plymouth. "I've been to churches before where I leave and wonder what they were talking about. When I go to lifechurch, I can apply it to everyday life. It helps me learn to be a better person."

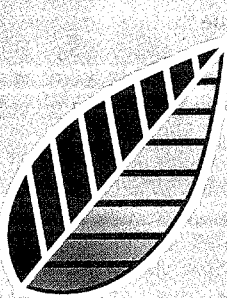
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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Pastor Alex Rahill of lifechurch, in the coffee lounge area of the church.

SHOP CANTON'S



Fall-Tastic Family Fun Fest

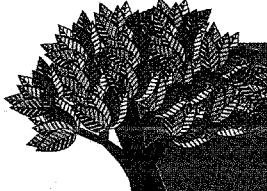
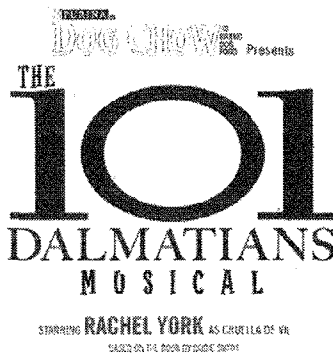
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25TH FROM NOON - 3pm
AT THE HOME DEPOT PARKING LOT - FORD ROAD'S ORANGE BLOCK
EVENT GOES ON RAIN OR SHINE!

- Kids in costume can see "Spookly the Square Pumpkin" for only \$2 at 11am at the Canton Emagine Theater
- Trick or Treating for kids of all ages at participating merchants in Orange and Brown Blocks. Have your Trick or Treat card stamped by all of the merchants and you'll go into a drawing for special gifts. Shuttles will transport families to and from The Home Depot lot to Trick or Treat locations. Merchants will have coupons and information for the adults too.
- Noon - 2pm Performances by The Amazing Clark Magician
- Kids: Home Depot's Craft's Workshop- Create and take home the project you make! Adults: Home Depot will be hosting clinics running from Noon - 3pm on- Tiling, Installing a Ceiling Fan, Interior Painting, and Crown Molding
- Magic 105.1 WMGC and Mitzi Miles will be hosting the event. They'll have Trick or Treat bags for the kids, Scary/Friendly Storytelling, Skeleton Hoop Game, Magic Haunted Mingo (bingo).
- Pumpkin Painting, Face Painting, Climbing Wall, Inflatables, FREE cider and donuts
- Fun with **ZAP ZONE**
- Stop by the SHOPCanton Gazebo for your coupon bag!

Register to win tickets to
"The 101 Dalmatians Musical" playing
at The Fox Theatre Nov 17-22.

SPECIAL OFFER: The first 25 people to present a receipt from a Canton retailer for a purchase of \$15 or more spent on 10/23-10/25 will receive one FREE travel mug. Receipt to be presented at Shop Canton Gazebo.

Participating
Trick or Treat Merchants
Ashoka Indian Restaurant
Bob Evans Restaurant
Carrabba's Italian Grill
Comfort Suites
Fairfield Inn
Gordon Food Service
Hampton Inn & Suites
Emagine Canton
Home Depot
Logan's Roadhouse Restaurant
Parthenon Coney Island
Sam's Club
Starbucks
Walmart
Zap Zone/Glo Golf



www.shopcanton.org

SHOPCanton

PUBLIC SAFETY

Firefighter treated for burn after RV blaze

A Canton firefighter burned through his turnout gear was the only injury victim of a garage fire Friday on Haggerty in Canton.

Canton Public Safety's dispatch center received several 911 calls shortly after 4 a.m. When firefighters arrived, they found a recreational vehicle on fire, a blaze that had spread to the garage, which housed a pickup truck.

Firefighters quickly extinguished the blaze, but the RV and the truck were believed to be a total loss. The garage suffered extensive damage in the fire, which also did damage to portions of the house.

The residents of the home were in the house at the time of the fire, but managed to escape unharmed. The Canton firefighter injured in the fire was treated at St. Joseph Hospital and released.

Canton fire officials said they believe the fire was accidental and originated in the RV.

Public safety survey

During the next few weeks, the Canton Public Safety Department will be mailing out surveys to 4,000 random residents in Canton. Surveys will be evenly distributed among Canton's four community policing areas.

The 12-question survey is designed to give Canton residents an opportunity to rate the services of the police and fire departments. The survey

also asks residents for their opinion as to which areas they feel are most important for police to concentrate their efforts.

Survey results will be tabulated, and Public Safety officials will evaluate them based on benchmarks established from the same survey conducted in 2006. Results will also be used to develop a plan of action to address issues that may arise from the survey.

Look for the results to be published around the first of the year in the Canton FOCUS newsletter, through the local media, and on the department's Web site at www.cantonpublicsafety.org.

New medical tool

The Canton Fire Department has added a new medical tool called the EZ IO for paramedics to use on patients.

This new life-saving device is used when normal means of intravenous (IV) access fails. The EZ IO is a special needle that is inserted into a leg bone so that IV fluid and medication can be delivered to critically ill or injured patients.

Although the procedure itself is not new, the special needle and driver, which resembles a small cordless drill, are. Canton fire officials call the EZ IO "faster, safer and more efficient when seconds count during a medical emergency."

Woman tries to steal gas station air pump

1 An employee of the BP gas station southwest of Sheldon and Joy told police that a woman tried to steal an air pump shortly before 10 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 15.

The employee said the woman entered the station, got change for a dollar and drove her yellow Chevy Cavalier to the air pump, where she was seen opening her trunk and trying to break the pump from its cement block by rocking it back and forth.

Her actions could be seen on a store videotape.

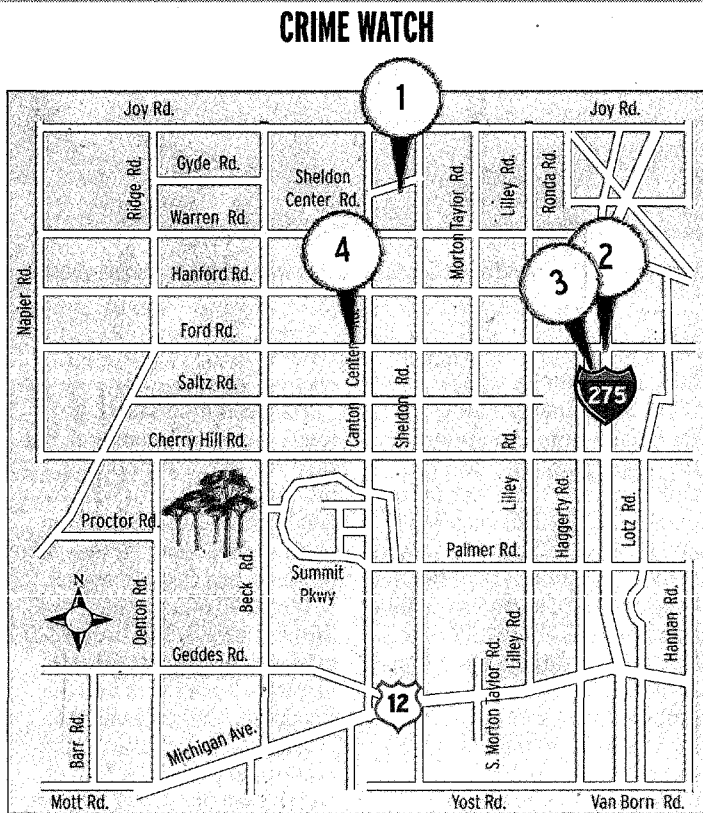
At times, the woman also moved her car to make it appear as though she was putting air in her tires, a police report said.

The suspect was described as a white female with blonde hair and wearing a pink hooded sweat shirt with white lettering, blue jeans and white tennis shoes. She also was described as 5-foot-6 or 5-foot-7 and heavy-set.

At one point, someone else appeared on the videotape, but police said the pair left without getting the air pump.

Fake money passed

2 A customer at the Tim Horton's store on Ford east



of Haggerty passed a counterfeit \$50 at the drive-through window around 9:30 p.m. last Friday, an employee told police.

The customer placed a \$2.11 order for coffee and a doughnut and handed the worker the counterfeit bill, according to police reports. The employee gave the driver his change, noticed the bill had smeared ink on it and called for the

manager, but the driver drove off.

The employee told police the driver appeared to be driving a four-door silver Lincoln. The driver was described as a "pudgy" male in his mid-30s wearing glasses.

Truck stolen

3 A Dodge Ram 1500 pickup truck was stolen from the Bowery Grille & Pub, on

Ford Road east of Haggerty, between 9 p.m. last Friday and 12:45 a.m. Saturday, a police report said.

A man told police he and a friend had gone to the bar in the pickup and that his friend placed the keys in a hooded sweat shirt that he then put on the back of a chair.

The men were talking to some women at the other end of the bar, and when they started to leave the bar they noticed the sweatshirt was gone. They went outside and the truck was missing.

Suspicious visitor

4 A woman who had company staying at her house told police she was missing several items, including expensive jewelry.

The woman lives on Radnor, northwest of Ford and Canton Center, and she said she had as many as 50 family members as house guests during two weekends in October. The visit was centered around a family get-together for a wedding.

The victim told police she noticed that two laptop computers were missing from a basement, as well as \$10,000 in jewelry from a master bedroom.

A police report described the woman as distraught.

Groups set slate for annual senior safety seminar

The Canton Senior Safety Coalition, Canton Leisure Services and Canton Public Safety have scheduled their annual Seniors: Safe, Sound & Secure seminar for senior citizens on Tuesday, Nov. 17, from noon to 3 p.m., at the Summit on the Park.

This year's event will include guest speakers, exhibits, games and raffles. Topics to be covered include information on Crime Stoppers, Navigating the Internet and Social Networks, the 2010 Census and more. Fire and police personnel will also speak and

provide handouts.

This free event also includes lunch and dessert provided by Heartland Health Care and Assisted Moving.

For reservations, contact the Canton Senior Desk at (734) 394-5485.

I Felt Immediate Relief from Low Back Pain!

"I came in because my lower back hurt so bad that it interfered with my daily life. My first adjustment was amazing and I felt relief right away! Since beginning care, my improvements have been outstanding. I feel like my active self again and I feel happier and healthier! Thank you for making my experience pleasant and for being so helpful."—Kelly Techentin



We love when our patients share their experience of great results with others—thanks, Kelly! We want our community to understand that while chiropractic certainly doesn't treat any conditions, it does correct the underlying cause of many symptoms so that our patients experience tremendous relief and results.

Your nervous systems is the communication network of your body. If there is interference to the normal functioning of your nervous system, then your body won't work properly. We locate and correct areas of nerve interference to restore normal communication between your brain and your body so that healing can take place naturally.—Drs. Tucker and Stacie Ford

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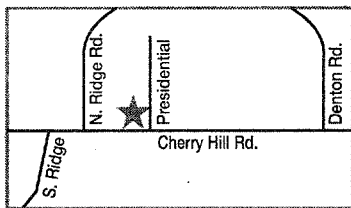
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Hours: Mon-Wed 6am to 6pm, Thu-Fri 6am to 7:30pm, Sat 8am to 7:30pm, Sun 10am to 4pm

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CITY OF PLYMOUTH LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2009

Notice is hereby given that a General Election will be held in the City of Plymouth on Tuesday, November 3, 2009 from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time. At that time candidates for the following offices will be voted upon:

CITY COMMISSIONER (Four Positions to be vacated November, 2009)

PLYMOUTH-CANTON SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER (Three regular positions and One Partial Term Ending 12/31/2011)

"PROPOSAL SECTION - WAYNE COUNTY" PROPOSITION O OPERATING MILLAGE RENEWAL

To renew the millage authorized in 2000, shall Wayne County be Authorized to continue to levy this millage at the estimated 2008 rollback Rate of 9.9529 (about 95 cents per \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for ten More years (2010 through 2019), and proceeds used to continue Existing County services, including programs for arrest, detention and Prosecution of criminals, juvenile court and related services, public health, Recreation, County parks, job training, senior citizen services, and Programs for meeting medical needs of the poor, the disabled, and the aged? This renewal is projected to generate \$43,495,573 in 2010.

YES

NO

STATEMENT AS REQUIRED BY ACT 278 OF PUBLIC ACTS OF 1964 Amending the Property Tax Limitation Act

I, RAYMOND J. WOJTOWICZ, Treasurer of Wayne County, Michigan, do hereby certify that, as of August 12, 2009 the total of all voted increases in excess of the tax rate limitation established by Section 6, Article IX of the Constitution of the State of Michigan, as amended, and the years such increases are effective on property in the County of Wayne are as follows:

WAYNE COUNTY Wayne County, Michigan			
Taxing Authorities	Date of Election	Voted Increases	Years Increase Effective
County of Wayne	August 8, 2000	1 mill	2009
Wayne County Jail	August 6, 2002	1 mill	2011
Wayne County Parks	August 2, 2005	0.25 mills	2010
Wayne County Community College	November 6, 2001	1.5 mills	2010

SCHOOL DISTRICTS			
Taxing Authorities	Date of Election	Voted Increases	Years Increase Effective
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools	September, 2004	18 mills	2014

(non homestead only)

Raymond J. Wojtowicz
Wayne County Treasurer

Absentee ballot applications may be requested in person from the Clerk's office, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI, or by calling 734-453-1234, ext. 234 or 225. Absentee ballots will be issued to qualified absentee voters in person in the Clerk's office from 8:00 a.m. - until 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 31, 2009. On Monday, November 2, 2009, qualified voters can receive their ballots and vote them in the Clerk's office until 4:00 p.m.

Individuals with disabilities who require special accommodations to participate in this election should contact 734-453-1234, ext. 234 or 225.

PRECINCTS AND LOCATION

PRECINCTS #1, 2, 3, 4 Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer Street

Linda Langmesser, CMC
City Clerk

OCC Expo delivers facts, fun for seniors

Health screenings, demonstrations, expert speakers and a meet and greet with the star of *Ethel Merman's Broadway* at the Gem Theatre attracted hundreds of visitors last Friday to the *Observer & Eccentric* and *Hometown Newspapers* Senior Health & Living Expo at Oakland Community College in Farmington Hills.

Experts delivered presentations on income and tax strategies, when is the right time to make a move, stress management, massage therapy, yoga, dental care and nutrition.

The OCC Nursing School provided free health screenings.

Popular stops for expo goers was the chocolate fountain offered by Independence Village Waterstone, free massages and morning coffee by Starbucks along with the 40 exhibit booths.

The expo was presented by the *O&E* and *Hometown Newspapers* in partnership with Oakland Community College, AM580 Motor City Favorites and V98.7 FM.

Exhibitors included The Preservation of Affordable Housing — 920 On the Park and 8330 On the River, Abbey Park at Mill River, AM 580 Motor City Favorites, American House Senior Living Residences, Ameriprise Financial, Bath Fitter, Bergman Porretta Eye Center, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, Botsford Hospital, Brookside Senior Living, Chelsea Retirement Community, Denopt Inc., Erickson Living/Fox Run, Fluke Hearing Instruments, Garan Lucow Miller P.C., Gem & Century Theatres, HeathQuest's Back & Neck Solution Centers.

Also exhibiting Heartland Healthcare, HearUSA, Hug Center for Hearing, Humana, Huron-Clinton Metroparks, Innovative Hearing Services, Jack W. Bolling, P.C., Medical Diagnostics, Medilodge, Metlife Bank, Midwest Financial Consultants, Inc., National Multiple Sclerosis Society (Michigan Chapter), Oakland Community College, Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens, Optimum Hearing Care, Oreck Clean Home Centers, Planned Home Improvement, Saturn of Farmington Hills, Senior Helpers, Senior Village Management, Stevens Worldwide Van Lines, Trinity Senior Living Communities, University of Michigan Livonia Vein Center (Livonia), V98.7 and Waltonwood Senior Living.

A spring expo is planned for May 2010 at the ViStaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.



PHOTOS BY DAVID REED

Members of The Farmington Red Hattitudes (a local Red Hat Society Chapter) meet and greet Rita McKenzie, star of "Ethel Merman's Broadway" at the Gem. Pictured (from left) are Hattitudes members Harlean McGrath, June Mahle and Renae Banks, McKenzie, Red Hatter Dorothy Bruce, Steve Nesbitt, house manager at the Gem and Red Hatters Polly Varhol and Shirley Ziemba. Ziemba is Queen (leader) of the Farmington Red Hattitudes which meets the third Wednesday of the month for lunch at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills.



Botsford Commons, a senior living community in Farmington Hills, was among the exhibitors at last week's expo.



Greeting guests at the chocolate fountain is Doug Waller from Independence Village Waterstone. He talks with Reta Alexander from Redford Township.



Bill Joyner, of Livonia, talks with Pat Krolikowski at the Planned Home Improvement booth at last week's expo. The Westland-based business, founded in 1969, is now owned and operated by the third generation of Kwolecs - Mike and Mark.

WHAT'S ON YOUR PLAYLIST?

Music. We love the beat, the bass and the lyrics. But is that all there is? Often songs become popular because they give voice to the needs, struggles and hopes in our lives. Our playlists are filled with music that inspires, motivates, comforts and moves. Come rock out with us as Eastfield Collective plays five hit songs that fill playlists around the world. Join us as we listen to the heart, consider the truth and feel the beat of the music around us.

Join us for our new series **mylife**

Mylife 2009	
Use Somebody	11.01.09
Kings of Leon	
Show Me What I'm Looking For	11.08.09
Carolina Liar	
Overcome	11.15.09
Creed	
Never Say Never	11.22.09
The Fray	

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OCT. 25TH
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THURSDAY
October 22,
2009

Page, A6 (C)

Brad Kadrich, editor
(313) 222-8899
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

Kids the focus as holidays grow near

The Plymouth Salvation Army is changing its approach to the holidays, dropping its Adopt-a-Family program and shifting its focus to what officials hope will be a more equitable Christmas for the families they serve.

It's a new idea officials believe will allow more people to give while trying to provide a merry Christmas to some 2,500 youngsters they're hoping to help.

And with the need rising on an almost daily basis in the Plymouth-Canton community, finding better ways to spread the help on a more equitable basis is a necessity. Since they're asking donors to their new "Adopt an Angel" program to stick as close as they can to a \$50 limit, Salvation Army officials are hoping to do exactly that.

Consider this: Last year, one extraordinarily generous donor outfitted one adoptee family's home with two full bedroom sets. Other families, while still receiving help, got much less. Not everyone can afford to offer that much help, and donors who can help at that level have plenty of outlets to do so, what with church groups and other charitable organizations all seeking assistance, especially at the holidays.

What the Plymouth Salvation Army, which serves the needy in Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Belleville, hopes to accomplish is simple: Give 2,500 kids a merry Christmas. Here's how it's going to work: Donors will know whether they're buying for a boy or a girl and what age group, and all donated gifts will be placed in the Salvation Army's toy shop, which officials have renamed "Toy Town."

Toy Town will be set up to resemble a toy store in the Salvation Army's gym, and parents of needy children will be able to shop in the store.

As always in a community that never ceases to amaze with its capacity for generosity, plenty of organizations have already jumped on the "Adopt an Angel" bandwagon. Unisys will run its annual toy drive and PEO International will adopt 50 angels — and other community organizations will work in concert with the Salvation Army to make sure as many children have a happy holiday as possible.

Both the Plymouth and Canton Goodfellows will work with the Army, cross-referencing their lists of needy families in an effort to eliminate duplicate effort, thereby increasing the numbers of children who benefit.

Salvation Army officials are taking a degree of heat from some quarters, with some critics saying they're abandoning families in a time of need. It's an unwarranted criticism, considering the numbers of people on the Salvation Army's call sheet.

They've got the Thanksgiving program coming up, where families can get help with a traditional Thanksgiving meal. The food pantry is still active, and the Salvation Army next month will again kick off its annual Red Kettle campaign, the largest fund-raiser for an organization that spends 365 days a year helping people pay rent, pay utilities, and clothe and feed their children.

And they're not the only ones. Around the community, Rotarians, Kiwanians, Lions, Goodfellows, veterans groups, churches and other civic organizations are focused on one thing: Helping the community at large and children in particular.

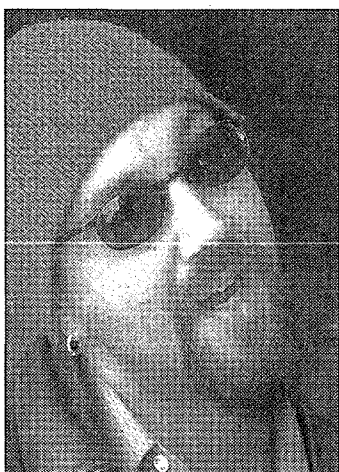
The light shines a little brighter on their efforts toward the holidays, simply because it's a more noticeable effort at a higher-profile time of year. But there's a simple truth about all of these organizations:

None of them needs a reason to help, because they're always there.

COMMUNITY VOICE

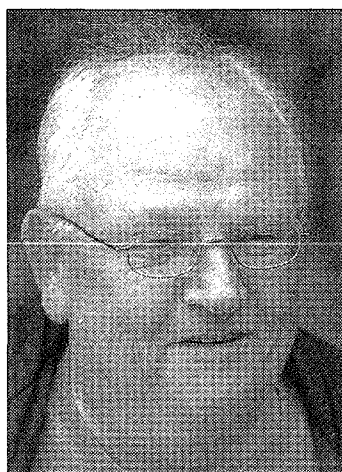
Do you feel better or worse about the economy than you did a year ago?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



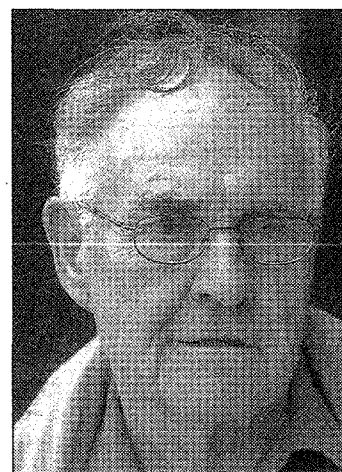
"I feel about the same as I did a year ago."

Jeffrey Goshorn
Canton



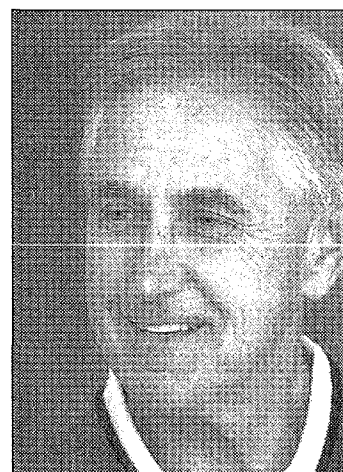
"Better. My 401-k is getting better."

Jerry Mac
Canton



"Better. There are indications things are turning around somewhat, and I personally have a lot of confidence in the president."

Fred Zabkiewicz
Canton



"Better. It seems like people are starting to spend a little money, and the stock market is improving. The job market still needs some work, though."

Richard Pasieka
Canton

LETTERS

Spelling Bee thanks

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to the sponsors, participants and audience for the 2009 Spelling Bee fund-raiser for the Plymouth Canton Community Literacy Council, Inc. held on October 14 at Yazaki North America.

All proceeds will be used to help adults in our community gain proficiency with reading, writing, and speaking the English language. It was a fun night of competition, enced by the wonderful voice of Chris Butzlaff, with 13 teams of spellers.

Congratulations to the Spellbinders from Community Financial who took first place, otherwise known as Sue Bellaire, Brynn Paskauchas, and Barb Johnson. The Spellbound team from the Plymouth District Library took second place (Mary Mackie, Vicki Sisteck and Susan Stoney), and for several rounds it was anyone's guess which team would win.

This event is significant for at least two reasons, one being that there are always more people who need tutoring than there are tutors available. All proceeds from this event will be used to train tutors, provide materials for tutoring, and to coordinate services.

The other is that even though we are suffering the effects of a sluggish economy, we matched and surpassed last year's donations; and we did it because more sponsors participated than ever before, and they did it at levels they could afford. We had 45 sponsors in all!

Heartfelt thanks go to our Gold sponsors — Yazaki North America, Inc., Alphagraphics, and Michigan Educational Credit Union. Also thanks to our Silver Sponsors — Barone Law Offices, PLC, Canton Chamber of Commerce, Friends of Canton Public Library, Friends of Plymouth District Library, Plymouth District Library, Rotary Club of Plymouth (Noon), Blackwell Ford, Inc., Community Financial, Inline Chiropractic, New Liberty Bank, Plymouth Rock Lodge #47, Telcom Credit Union, and Tonda Elementary School. Thank you to the Bronze Sponsors — Allan Levy/IRIE Caribbean Restaurant, Creatopia Pottery, Laginess Insurance Agency, Max & Erma's Restaurant, Comfort Keepers, Genuine Toy Company, Leo's Coney Island, Mayflower Towing, 1999 Tavern, and Showroom of Elegance.

And last but not least, 19 businesses and individuals joined us as Friends of Literacy.

A special thank you goes out to Terri Goehmann from Mayflower Towing who was not only a sponsor with real dollars, but who dressed up in a bee costume and cheered loudly to help the Canton Chamber of Commerce win the first-place Spirit award!

Joyce Silagy

Co-Chair 2009 Spelling Bee
Plymouth Canton Community Literacy Council

Inclusion action plan

The Strategic Planning Committee for the Plymouth Canton Citizens for Diversity and Inclusion has been working through the summer to develop an action plan to further Inclusion in the life of our communities.

We are focusing on education, law enforcement, public representation, history, employment practices in public institutions, and community life. We aim to forge better relationships among neighbors, celebrating our rich diversity.

We have created mission and vision statements and begun drafting a strategic plan

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. Web: www.hometownlife.com E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com 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.

to guide our efforts for positive change in our communities. We will present a preliminary draft for community comment at an open meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 29, in the DuBois Theater in Canton High School, 8415 Canton Center Road, Canton.

You can also check out www.miroundtable.org and click on Plymouth Canton Initiative for more information or call (313) 870-1500. Thank you to all who are helping us to create a more welcoming community. Working together we can make a difference.

Stan Olszewski

Plymouth Township

Loren Khogali

Plymouth

Naren Balasubramaniam

Canton

Gail Guann

Canton

Budget in Lansing

To say that Sen. Mike Bishop is holding the Michigan Budget hostage is a mild understatement of what is actually happening. The House has forwarded their bills to Senator Bishop who was to send them on that very day. Instead Sen. Bishop is holding on to them because he is "afraid" that the governor will VETO them.

It is apparent that the governor was deliberately not included in the "so-called" negotiations between the speaker of the House, Rep. Andy Dillon, and the Republican leader of the Michigan Senate. The fact that Sen. Bishop has not forwarded the bills having to do with the "Promise Scholarships," "The State Police" and "Medicaid Funding" along with other things which could be a short-term fix is illegal.

Sen. Bishop should stop trying to prove that he is above the law.

Remember, folks, he wants to be the next attorney general of the State of Michigan. So Sen. Bishop Send the bills along and stop pretending that you have a right to stop everything and the present attorney general has an obligation to stop you.

But then he is running for governor, right!!!

Deborah Goldberg
Farmington

New state revenue needed

I have been reading articles and hearing news stories about the Michigan state budget crisis, which is very real indeed.

However, too many of the cuts seem to affect seniors adversely. Major cuts in programs and services for the elderly, disabled

and vulnerable among us are unacceptable. Programs for children in need must also be maintained.

Instead of severe cuts to programs for seniors and others in need, it would seem prudent to look for new revenue streams, such as taxes on bottled water (1 cent per bottle surely should not be a hardship; tap water is, after all, available). Taxing vending machine pop and junk foods, as well as closing tax loopholes, such as on those on international phone calls are other examples of options.

Please urge our legislators in Lansing to deal wisely with this budget crisis in a way that continues to provide assistance to those among us who are in need. Thank you.

Anna Marie Horn
Livonia

Work application reform needed

The key to economic recovery is jobs. I think everyone knows that by now. Getting a job requires submitting an application either in person or online. I've only applied online for years. And over time, I've spent literally hundreds of hours completing applications and submitting resumes to many employers' sites.

Every employer has their own format and information requirements which is fine, but all the data required is almost always the same data that exists in the Michigan Works database already. For those who have never been unemployed, completing a Michigan Works profile is required before one collects unemployment claims. Yet, as candidates hunt for open positions, all candidates need to populate each employer's forms with the same data that already exists in Michigan Works. It is a huge waste of time, slows the application process, and almost certainly results in data inaccuracies. The application process can be streamlined if employers could just link data structures in Michigan Works to their own forms, which would reduce the colossal and ridiculous waste of time. It should be a requirement, not an option, of Michigan companies.

Technically, this problem is similar to hundreds of suppliers conducting e-commerce with a few large companies within an industry — like the automotive OEMs. Suppliers simply map their systems (SAP, Oracle, whatever) to the OEM's system using industry standardized Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) formats. This is pretty basic stuff for IT folks, once they have the formatting standards. In my opinion, this approach should be investigated immediately to help the thousands of folks in Michigan apply for the many new positions coming in the next couple years.

As a job seeker, I estimate 90 percent of my time is spent cutting and pasting the same data into each employer's specific format, so I've come to believe that standard employment information formatting should be put into an ISO document, much like EDI and other computing technical standards are — which would afford the unemployed a far greater ability to apply for open positions rather than spend their days cutting and pasting text.

If you have similar frustrations searching for jobs, write your representatives — make some noise about it. Help launch work application reform. It is your time that this initiative will save.

John Miller
Northville

CANTON
OBSERVER



Brad Kadrich
Community
Editor

Susan Rosiek
Executive Editor
/ Publisher

Grace Perry
Director of
Advertising

Family-friendly local Halloween activities

BY WENDSY VON BUSKIRK
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Michigan's economy may be struggling, but Halloween is something we don't scrimp on. Here's a roundup of local Halloween happenings.

HALLOWEEN JAM

In downtown Farmington, Trick-or-Treating is part of a larger Streetscape Jam celebration 12:30-4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24. Grand River Ave. will be closed between Grove Street and Farmington Road, and downtown merchants will pass out candy 2-4 p.m. Festivities also include live music, street performers, food tents and a Farmers Market at Sundquist Pavilion. The event, meant to celebrate the Farmington Streetscape Project, kicks off at 12:30 p.m. with a ribbon cutting ceremony between Sunflour Bakehaus and Rocking Horse.

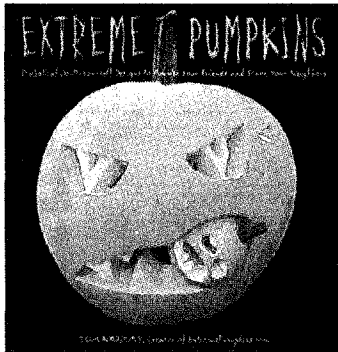
Annette Knowles, executive director of the Farmington Downtown Development Authority, said downtown stores have been passing out candy for years.

"It's a tradition," she said. "Kids love to dress up and come out, and it's a really good opportunity for businesses to get exposure."

About 400-500 children are expected if weather permits.

GREAT PUMPKIN CAPER

Kellogg Park, adorned with 25 scarecrows decorated by residents and community organizations, is the seat of Halloween festivities in down-



Tom Nardone will sign his book and demonstrate pumpkin carving at Borders in Ann Arbor.

town Plymouth during The Great Pumpkin Caper 5:30-7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 30. There, costume contests for children will be held 6:15-7 p.m., with prizes awarded for scariest and most creative costumes in two age categories — five years old and under, and six and above. New this year is a pet costume contest, with registration at 5 p.m. in Kellogg Park.

Teri Fry, executive director for the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce, said 1,500-2,000 children Trick-or-Treat in Plymouth every year.

"Pretty much all of the merchants pass out candy," she said. "It just brings people to downtown Plymouth."

FALL-TASTIC FUN

For the first time this year, the Charter Township of Canton will stage a Fall-Tastic Family Fun Fest, noon-3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25 in the parking lot of Home Depot. The Magic 105.1 team will take the stage with storytelling, prizes, and interactive games

like Skeleton Hoop and Magic Haunted Mingo. There will also be Halloween music, cider and donuts, a magician, pumpkin painting, face painting, inflatables and a climbing wall. Children can pick up a Trick-or-Treat bag, then visit merchants in the Orange and Green blocks to fill it with candy. Adults can stop by the SHOPCanton Gazebo for coupons.

"It's a new event to help showcase some of our merchants along Ford Road, and acquaint people to all we have to offer here," said Kathleen Salla, coordinator for the Downtown Development Authority.

HALLOWEEN USA

Leave it to Michigan to spread Halloween cheer across the nation. Halloween U.S.A., a rapidly-expanding business that opens temporary storefronts in several states, is headquartered right in Livonia. The seasonal shops sell decorations, party supplies and gear for virtually any costume you can imagine. Superheroes, from Wolverine to Wonder Woman, are hot this year for all ages. If you want to stock up for 2010, locations in Canton, Livonia and Westland will hold closeout sales the day after Halloween. The Royal Oak storefront,

on Woodward Ave. between 11 Mile and 12 Mile, is open through Nov. 2. Visit www.halloweenusa.com.

IKEA

Michigan's only IKEA is located in Canton, and the home goods giant has spooktacular plans for Halloween. From 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31, IKEA associates will pass out candy throughout the 30,000-square-foot store. Children are encouraged to wear costumes. IKEA is located at 41640 Ford Road. Call (734) 981-6300 or visit www.ikea.com.

EXTREME HALLOWEEN

If you need ideas for your Jack O' Lanterns, stop by Borders Ann Arbor 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 23 as the bookstore hosts extreme pumpkin carving with Tom Nardone, a Troy businessman and creator of the popular Web site www.extremepumpkins.com. Nardone will demonstrate some of his new diabolical ideas with power tools and pumpkins, and autograph copies of his book, "Extreme Halloween." Borders Ann Arbor is located at 3140 Lohr Road. Call (734) 997-8884.

MALLS & MAINSTREETS

Just Face It

LUSH Fresh Handmade Cosmetics is offering Macy's shoppers something special during one day sales events in October, November and December. Spend \$40 or more on LUSH products and get an exclusive LUSH Just Face Kit free. The unique "pick and mix" kit contains a solid cleanser, two toner tabs, and moisturizer. Each kit is tailored for individual skin types during a skincare consultation. Shopping days will be held Oct. 23-24; Nov. 17-18; and Dec. 8-9.

Dior Divas

Christian Dior Cosmetics, Smooth Jazz V98.7 and Ambassador Magazine will present the Third-Annual Smooth Style Masquerade Ball Beauty Bash 7-11 p.m. Friday, Oct. 23 at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham. The gala includes red carpet photos, Dior make-up artists, a fashion show by Diva, live smooth jazz, strolling hors d'oeuvres, vendor booths and a cash bar. In addition, the identity of the 2009 Lighthouse Dior Diva and for the first time, Distinguished Gentleman, will be revealed. Tickets, \$45, benefit Oakland County's Lighthouse PATH, where homeless women and children live in a safe, nurturing environment for two years. The first 200 to purchase tickets at www.neptix.com will receive a swag bag. For more information, visit www.smoothjazzdetroit.com.

Costume Rentals

Looking for an extra special costume this Halloween? Try The Parade Company. Thousands of adult-sized costumes from America's Thanksgiving Parade are available for rent year round and include a creative line-up of everything from pirates to toy soldiers to princesses. Costume rental prices range from \$35-\$65, adult sizes only. All proceeds benefit The Parade Company. For information or to reserve your costume, call (313) 432-7835 or visit www.theparade.org. Founded in 1984, The Parade Company is a not-for-profit organization governed by the Michigan Thanksgiving Parade Foundation whose board of directors is comprised of key civic and corporate leaders in the greater Detroit region. The Parade Company is celebrating 83 years of Parade tradition in Detroit.

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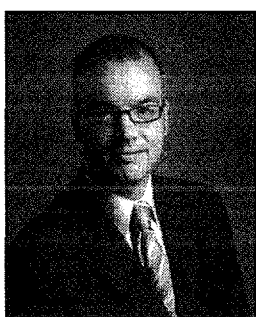
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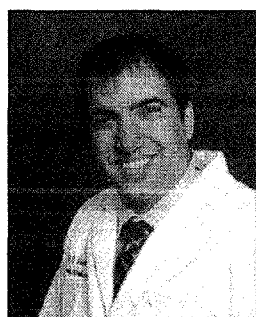


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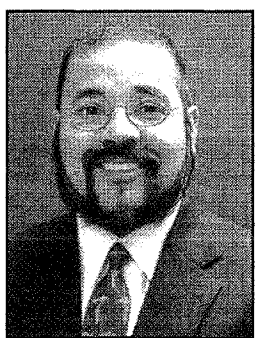


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SECTION **B**
(CP)

Tim Smith, editor, (313) 222-2637
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Local cooks serve up vegetarian holiday feast - Food & Wine, B8

SPORTS, FILTER, FOOD & WINE

HOMETOWN LIFE

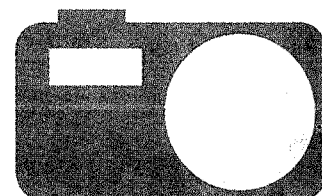
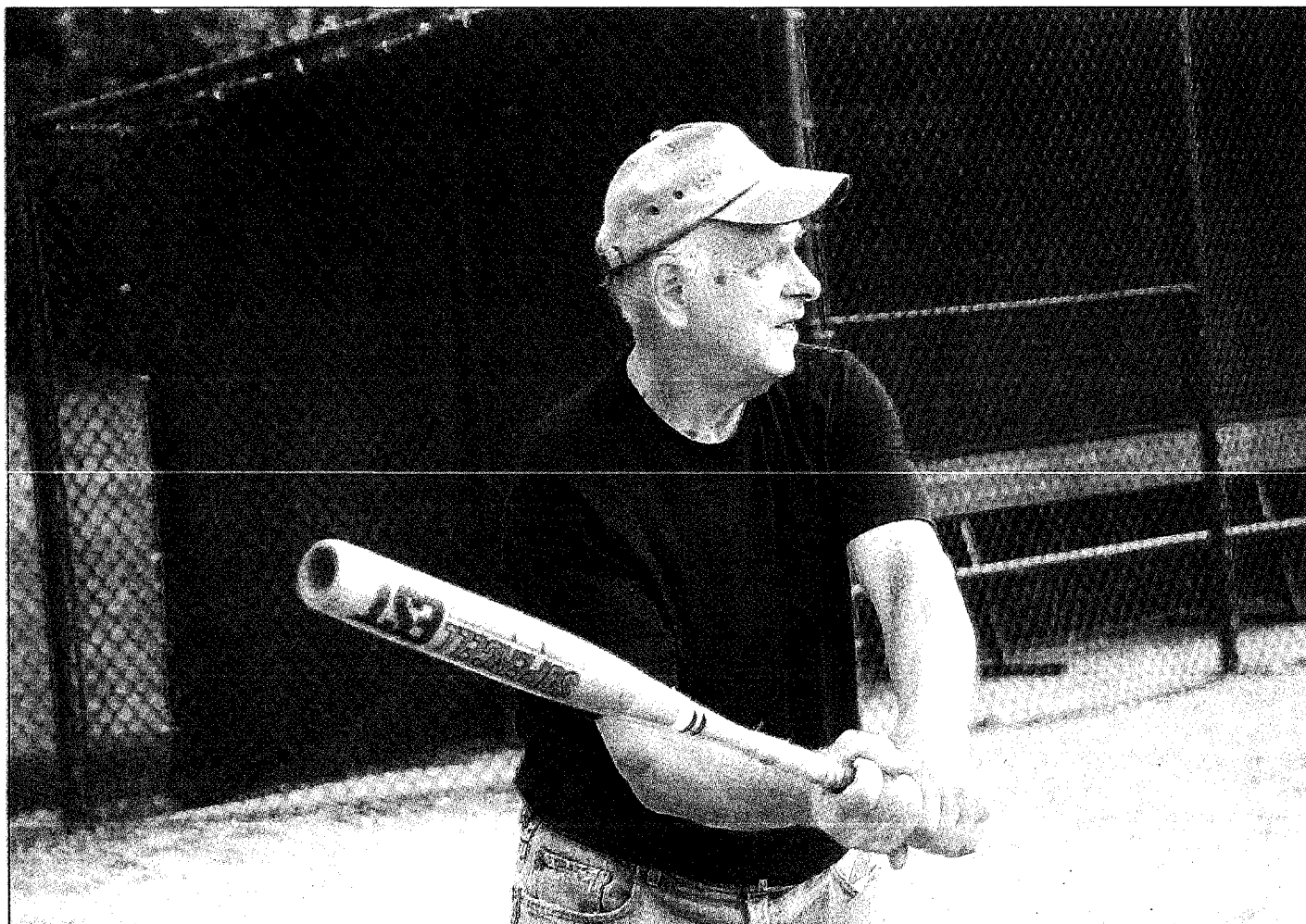


Photo galleries
Online at hometownlife.com



Getting ready to take a cut is Miron "Mike" Stolaruk of Canton, one of a group of senior citizens who enjoy turning back the clock by playing softball every Wednesday in Plymouth Township.

OLD-TIMERS DAY

Softball-loving senior citizens stay in the game

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Miron Stolaruk took a healthy swing at one of Don LaMay's pitches and held up his hand.

"Wait a minute," said Stolaruk, a 76-year-old from Canton who is nicknamed Mike. "All I do is swing and I get winded."

LaMay, 76, served up some consolation before letting another offering go toward Stolaruk.

"Take your time," Livonia's LaMay said. "No one's in a hurry."

After catching his breath, Stolaruk smacked a hard grounder into left field at Plymouth Township Park.

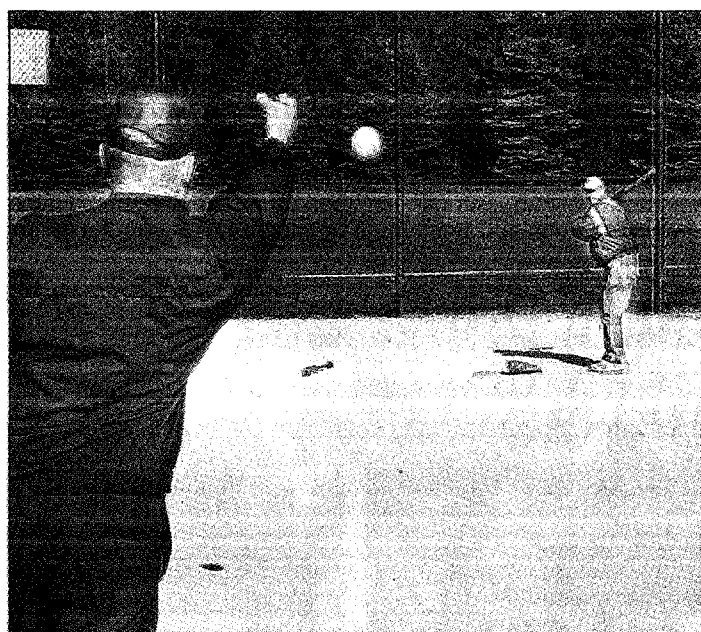
He was smiling again.

It's all part of the Wednesday morning routine for a bunch of guys in their 70s and even early 80s who convene from spring until the snow flies at the park to play some softball.

LaMay, who graduated in 1951 from long-defunct Livonia Bentley, was the guy who in 2007 initiated the weekly sessions at the McClumpha Road-Ann Arbor Trail facility.

ANYTHING GOES

With the third year of the informal softball group ending



BOB MOSHER

After all the stretching and kibitzing, it's time for some serious softball. Here a pitcher sends one toward home plate where John Finch of Livonia gears up to hit it.

soon, anywhere between 10-20 guys come out. They do some stretching with physical trainer Stephanie Montera and then take to the diamond.

Depending on how many turn out, their Wednesdays entail anywhere from batting practice to actual games. Every week has plenty of banter, not to mention lunch at a nearby coney island.

"I try not to miss it," said Canton's Bob Mosher, who at 69 is one of the youngsters of the group. "The guys here are pretty die-hard."

Other regulars include Westland's Bud Welcher and Dick Horie and Livonia's Bill Lloyd — all in their mid-70s.

Horie and Lloyd played baseball at Bentley with LaMay, but they couldn't make it to

the park on this particular day. Neither could the group's elder statesman, 83-year-old Rick Price of Plymouth.

"We have a guy (Price) who is 83 years old," LaMay said. "He just had eye surgery, so he has to watch getting out in the sun."

SOMETHING NEW

The Plymouth Park venture began after LaMay and others felt they needed a new softball outlet.

In recent years, many of them had played in a 65-and-over softball league at Victory Park in Canton. That league suddenly was becoming too competitive for the older guys.

So LaMay got the green light from Plymouth Twp. public service coordinator Susan Vignoe to use the fields. Then, all that was needed was recruiting buddies who like him have played ball (baseball in their younger days) since they were kids.

"For most of us, what's important is to come out, play ball and have a good time," LaMay said. "So I told the guys that I'd try to start an over-75 league."

Interest in his plan didn't take off immediately.

Please see **SOFTBALL, B2**

Canton hangs on, survives Wildcats

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Didn't they do that before?

Just like their first volleyball matchup this season, Canton Tuesday night grabbed the first two games against Plymouth before letting the visiting Wildcats even the KLA South match at 2-2.

And, in deja vu fashion, the Chiefs again took care of business in the deciding game.

"It's the same thing we did to Plymouth last time, take them to five games and have to work for our win," said Chiefs head coach Mary Kryska following the 3-2 triumph. "That only kills us because it's that much more energy and physical pounding on them."

OUT OF THE GATE

Canton (24-8, 7-2 in the South) came out all fired up even more than usual for the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park rival matchup because it was "Senior Night."

"They were very excited (about playing on Senior Night), but in the third game they ran out of steam," Kryska continued. "They get this mentality that they can

win, the game's already over and they don't finish."

According to Canton senior outside hitter Jordan Kielty (22 kills, 16 digs, 15 assists), the Chiefs wanted to win on the special occasion. But she had a qualifier.

"It's against Plymouth, so it's already motivation to win because it's a cross-campus rivalry," Kielty said. "And Senior Night you want to go out with a bang, even though we have another home game on Thursday."

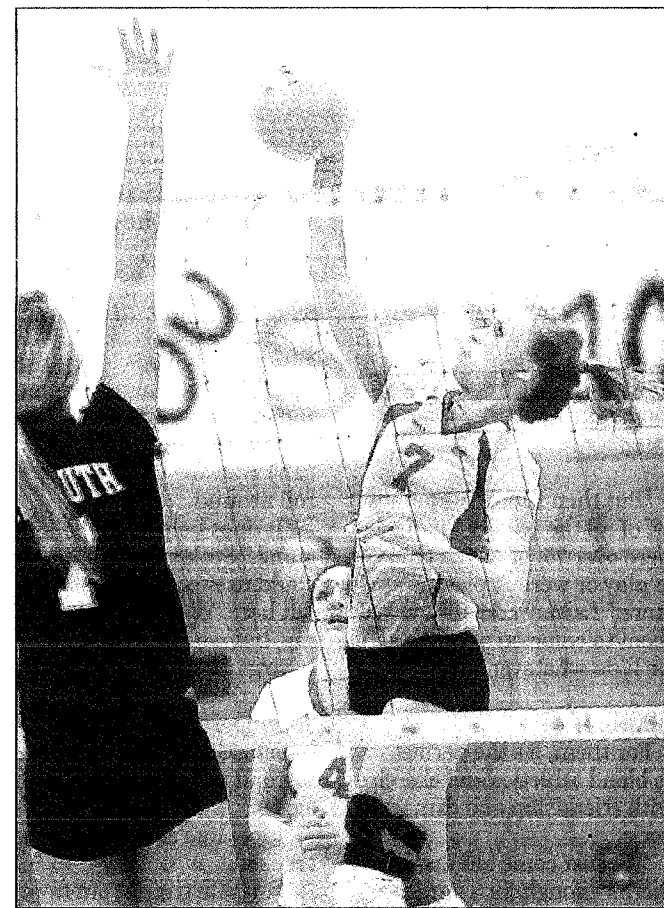
Kelly McCausland, head coach for Plymouth (22-9-1, 5-4 in the South), said her team "battled back strong" to square the match after losing 25-22, 25-17 in the first two games.

Plymouth evened things with 25-22 wins in Games 3 and 4 before falling 15-11 in the fifth game.

"In the first two games, which seems to be our weakness whenever we lose games, it was because of our serve-receive," McCausland noted. "So we went back into the huddle after Game 2 and that was our main focus."

"Once you serve-receive the ball, pass the ball, everything else follows. In Games 3 and 4 we did exactly that."

Please see **VOLLEYBALL, B3**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton senior Jordan Kielty (right) concentrates on hitting the ball past the block of Plymouth senior Kelly Smoltz during Tuesday's contest.

Early break sparks Rocks to district win

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Under the bright lights at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's varsity turf field Monday night, the soccer ball fluttered toward Plymouth goalkeeper Kyle Brindza.

The varsity boys district opener between the Wildcats and Salem wasn't even two minutes old when that ball glanced off Brindza's fingertips as the keeper came out trying to retrieve a floating shot. The ball then slowly bounced into the goal behind him.

That marker — the first of two scored by Salem junior midfielder Dan Martin — put the Wildcats in a tough spot and they never recovered.

The Rocks took a 3-0 lead into halftime and came away with a 3-1 victory to move on to Wednesday's district semifinal at Northville.

'TOTALLY UNEXPECTED'

Following the contest, Martin said

he was "just trying to get around the defender but I got lucky and it slipped through the keeper's hands. It was totally unexpected."

"Those were two great goals by Dan Martin," said Salem head coach Ed McCarthy. "He came through in the biggest game of the season. That was fantastic."

According to Plymouth head coach Jeff Neschich, whose team finished 10-7-2 overall, Martin's goal took the wind out of his team's sails for the opening 40 minutes.

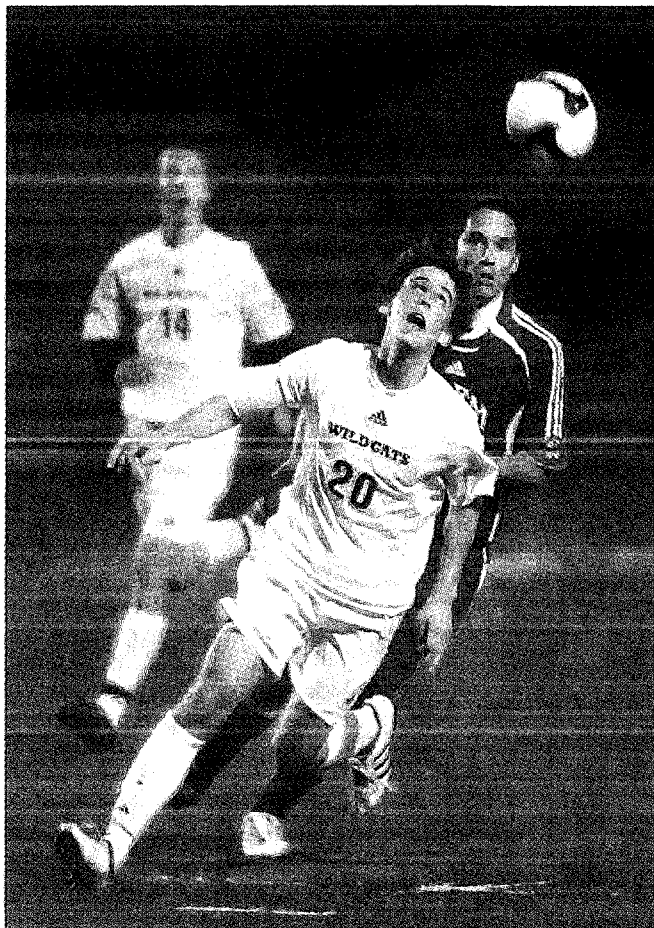
Neschich said Salem's second goal (at 22:28) by senior forward Sal Savage also was due to a defensive miscue.

Savage picked up a long through ball and got around defenders and Brindza before ripping a low shot into the goal.

DEFLATING

"When you give up two and they

Please see **SOCCER, B3**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Going all-out to gain possession of the ball Monday night are Plymouth's Michael Ambrose (No. 20) and Salem's Sal Savage.

Chiefs blank John Glenn

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton opened the Division 1 boys soccer districts with a 3-0 whitewashing of Westland John Glenn Monday night at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

The Chiefs (11-7-3) scored two first-half goals and were never in much danger of falling to the Rockets, with Canton goalkeepers Kai Walther and Brandon Laabs facing minimal action (1 save each).

"I thought we did a good job to create scoring opportunities and we had three really nice finishes," said Canton head coach George Tomasso. "It's nice to start off scoring goals and keeping the ball out of our net."

Freshman midfielder Danny Ovesea got Canton on the board about 10 minutes into the match, converting a nice pass from Shean Krolicki.

Ovesea then was fouled inside the box, and the Chiefs were awarded a penalty kick. Senior defender Jon Dugan scored on the PK, and it was 2-0 with just two minutes to go in the half.

Chipping in the third goal for good measure was sophomore forward Mitch Posuniak, with the assist going to senior midfielder Kevin Zemanski.

With the win, Canton advanced to Wednesday's district semifinal against the winner of Monday's Garden City-Detroit Western International matchup.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Pre-game exercises essential

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

What's wrong with a little special motivation for old guys to want to leave the comfy confines of their living rooms in order to play some softball?

'I am having a great time talking with the guys and helping them out. I actually think I'm probably getting more out of all of this than they are.'

STEPHANIE MONTERA, physical trainer

Park near McClumpha Road and Ann Arbor Trail.

Montera has a background in physical therapy. But it was through her day job as a life insurance agent that she was recruited to help guys like one of her customers (Livonia's Don LaMay) properly limber up before running, throwing and swinging a bat.

"Yeah, if I say, 'OK guys, let's get together and do these stretches' they'll say they don't need it," said the 76-year-old LaMay, who like most others in the unorganized softball group is a lifetime ball player.

With a smile and a wink, he goes on to say something that perhaps would be considered politically incorrect if not coming from an old-timer.

"But if you get a pretty girl out here," he joked, "no matter what you do, they'll come over and they'll join in."

Montera is flattered by all the sweet talk. And she's just thrilled to be able to help them loosen up enough to avoid

Providing just that is 28-year-old physical trainer Stephanie Montera, enlisted by the organizer of a weekly softball group — it's not exactly a league — that gets together every Wednesday at Plymouth Township



PHOTOS BY BOB MOSHER

Physical therapist Stephanie Montera leads senior softball players Tom Tomkiewicz (left), Bud Welcher and John Finch (right) in stretching exercises before the players take the field at Plymouth Township Park.

pulled muscles and other injuries that septuagenarians can expect if not properly warmed up.

"I am having a great time talking with the guys and helping them out," Montera said. "I actually think I'm probably getting more out of all of this than they are."

"They brighten my day and get me started with a smile every Wednesday. I can only hope to be as active, happy and entertaining when I am their age."

FITNESS AND FUN

According to Montera, the whole connection with LaMay's softball group (he organized it

in 2007) began during casual conversations between the insurance agent and client.

She told LaMay that she had been a physical trainer during college and had taught senior citizen fitness classes.

"In talking to Don, I learned that the team might need some help getting them to continue with daily stretches to help prevent injuries," Stephanie said.

She also provides some informal counseling about issues that resonate with senior citizens, such as Medicare and long-term care planning.

"Through meeting weekly with the guys and helping them stay healthy," Montera said, "I can also talk to them about

ways to protect their families and plan for the best possible retirement years."

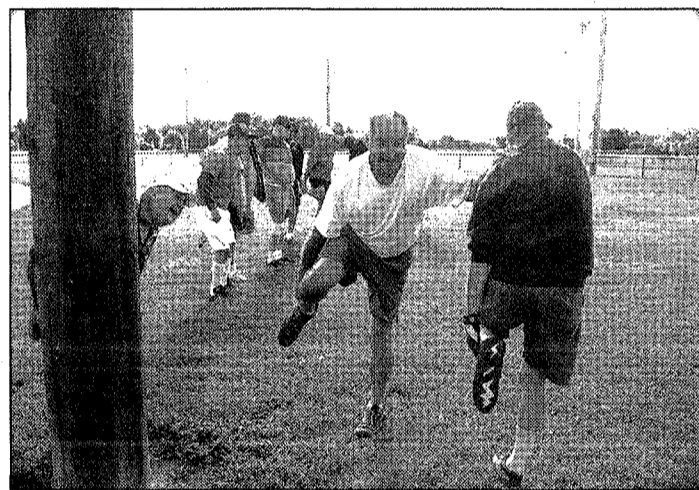
That's all well and good. But LaMay and his buddies still have some softball on their plates.

"We play ball to get some exercise," he said. "If we get enough guys, we'll make up two teams to play. If we get enough to play three teams, we'll play with three teams."

"If we don't get enough guys to make teams, we'll just do batting practice."

Of course, not without going through the paces with Montera.

tsmith@hometownlife.com



Leaning on a softball buddy during pre-game stretches is Westland's Bud Welcher. Among players enjoying the scene in the background is Canton's Tom Valleau.

SOFTBALL

FROM PAGE B1

"But then I took the names off of all the rosters I had who were over 75, or weren't able to play or weren't playing anymore," LaMay added. "I asked them to come on out here and we'll do whatever."

MIXING IT UP

For them, it's the perfect way to blend athletics and exercise with friendship and camaraderie.

"We just come out and if there's enough for a game we play a game," said Mosher, a retired manufacturing engineer at Visteon. "If not, we just hit balls and that's what we're doing today."

With a laugh, Mosher added, "We don't have enough for one team, let alone two."

Swinging at pitches and

shagging fly balls isn't quite as much fun as playing a game. But Stolaruk, a former teacher in Livonia Public Schools, still can't wait for Wednesdays to roll around.

"It does help to get you going," Stolaruk said. "We could use more guys coming out here. We've been practicing, but we need a few more to have games."

Westland's Ernie Dinatale, 76, enjoys the Wednesdays, but stops short of saying the softball makes him feel young again.

"I feel like an old man," he cracked.

Dinatale trotted out to the softball field after a couple of hours of swimming and cardiovascular exercises at a nearby gym. He recently had both knees replaced.

But he still plans on playing in a competitive softball league this winter in Florida, where he'll stay sharp until the



Camaraderie is the name of the game every as shown here by (from left) John Finch of Livonia, Bud Welcher of Westland and Livonia's Tom Tomkiewicz.

LaMay group reconvenes in 2010.

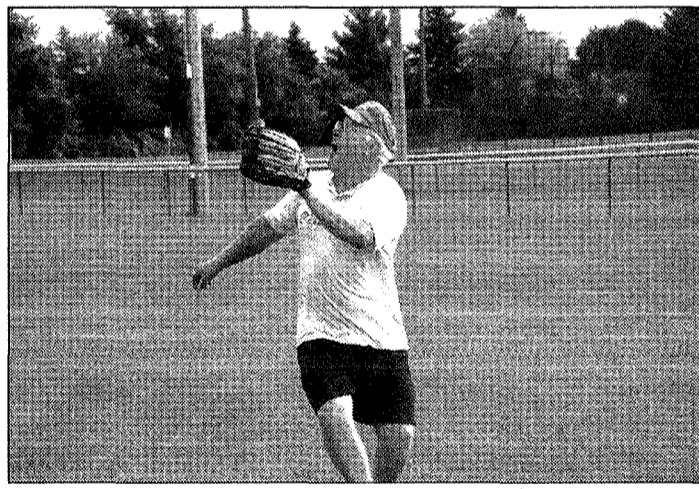
DOING ENOUGH

And as long as the grizzled veterans stay in the game, that's fine with LaMay.

"I'm concerned about

getting these guys off the couches," he said. "Instead of sitting home watching TV right now, they're out here playing ball."

No matter the turnout, there's always room for more. There's always a spot for somebody who finds out about LaMay's group, as Mosher did in 2008.



Tracking a fly ball is Livonia's Don LaMay, who orchestrated the weekly softball sessions that take place Wednesdays at Plymouth Township Park.

"I hadn't played for 50 years until last year," Mosher said. "Some of them have played all their life and are now in the 70s."

"Here's a place where we're pretty much on the same page. ... We can all do a little, we can run a little, we can throw a little, hit some."

As it turns out, a little is

just enough for these softball seniors to keep the flame of youth alive.

It's not too late to start planning for the 2010 season. Anybody who is interested in joining the group should e-mail Don LaMay at bentleydon@sbcglobal.net.

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Windsor goalie stymies Whalers

Windsor rookie goaltender Troy Passingham stopped 29 shots Saturday for his third shutout of the season, while veterans Adam Henrique and Greg Nemisz scored one goal apiece as the Spitfires defeated the Plymouth Whalers, 4-0.

Richard Panik and Justin Shugg scored Windsor's other goals in the Ontario Hockey League game played before 2,601 at Compuware Arena. The Spitfires improve to a

league-best record of 9-3-0-1 and have won three games in a row. Plymouth is now 7-5-0-0.

Nemisz started the scoring at 3:23 of the first period with his 10th goal of the season.

Wellwood picked up a loose puck on the left wing in the Plymouth zone and found Nemisz in the slot.

Perhaps the key goal came at 0:12 of the second period. Taylor Hall carried the puck deep into Plymouth terri-

tory to the left goal line and found Richard Panik at the left circle, who buried a shot in the top shelf over the shoulder of Plymouth goaltender Matt Hackett.

Henrique (a New Jersey draft) increased the Windsor lead to 3-0 after 40 minutes.

Shugg scored the only goal of the third period when he batted home a second rebound past Hackett at the left wing side of the goal.

PREP GOLF

Murphy cards 171

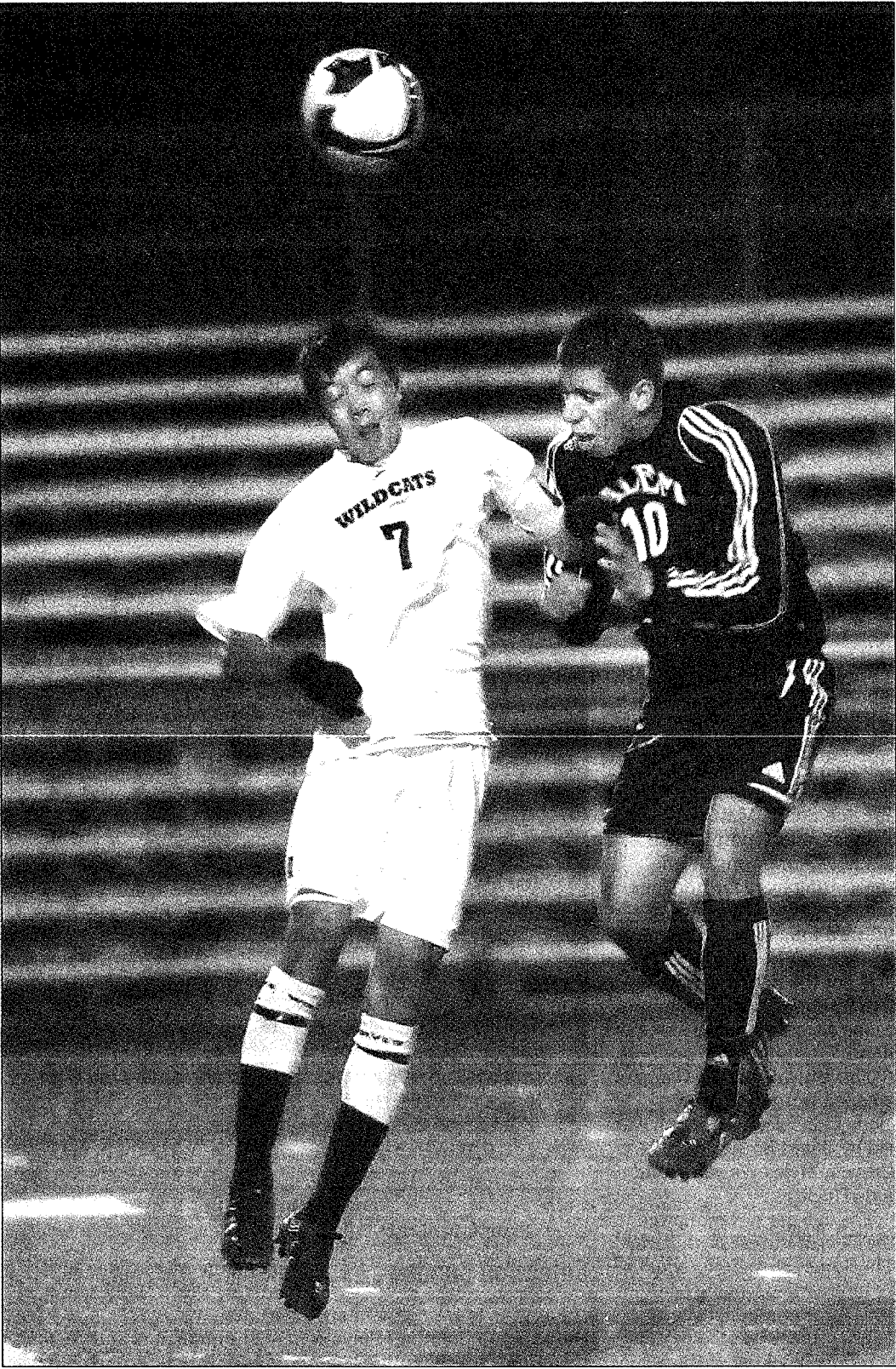
Plymouth freshman golfer Kelsey Murphy registered a 92 on Friday and a 79 on Saturday, finishing 15th for individual-only qualifiers during last weekend's MHSAA

Division 1 girls golf finals hosted by Michigan State University's Forest Akers West

Rochester, led by individual medalist Christine Meier, captured the team title with a two-day total of 343-342-685 to place ahead of Saline (367-

342-709), and both Rochester Hills Stoney Creek (366-358-724) and Grosse Pointe South (371-353-724).

Meier, who carded rounds of 73-74 for a 147, was eight shots better than runner-up Gabby Yurik of Stoney Creek.



Battling for a 50-50 ball during Monday night's district boys soccer game are Plymouth's Vinh Nguyen (No. 7) and Salem's Mohammad Pourmandi.

SOCCER

FROM PAGE B1

really didn't make a good play," Neschich said, "... it was hard to bounce back from that.

"He (Brindza) wants that one (the first goal) back. He's played so good for us all year. Hey, it was a mistake."

"There weren't many mistakes by Salem during the first half.

The Rocks (16-4-4) came with waves of offensive pressure and had a wall of defenders protecting senior goalkeeper Sasa Miskovic, preventing the Wildcats from putting much together.

"I thought in the first half we were outstanding," McCarthy said. "We created a lot offensively and defensively we were great not giving up any shots."

Speedy senior midfielder Alex Tramel sparked the Rocks with several dashes into Plymouth territory. Late in the half, Tramel found senior midfielder Lachlan Savage with a pass and Savage in turn

centered a feed to Martin in front.

Martin chipped in his own rebound with 1:16 left to make it a three-goal spread.

BETTER EFFORT

Plymouth came out much stronger after the intermission, putting an extra forward up top.

That contributed to the Wildcats' lone goal with 29:44 left in the match.

Senior defender Dan Jasewicz was tripped up in the box trying to move in on Miskovic.

On the subsequent penalty kick, senior midfielder Vinh Nguyen rifled the ball into the top left corner.

But the closest the Wildcats would come to cutting that deficit to 3-2 came with about 19 minutes to go.

A hard shot by Plymouth junior forward Ian Griffiths bounced off the right post.

"We had a strong second half," Neschich said. "The boys should be proud of the way they played. We made a few adjustments."

Despite the season-ending loss, Neschich said the year

was a very good one for his team.

"It was our best finish so far," he noted. "To finish in second place with a 7-2-1 record in the league (KLAASouth) was awesome. The kids really did well."

ADSDIT INJURED

The win was a costly one for Salem however. With just over three minutes to play, Salem senior midfielder Dan Adsit sustained an undisclosed injury to his left knee.

Adsit was tackled hard by Griffiths before somersaulting and hitting the turf.

McCarthy wasn't pleased to lose a key player like that in the waning moments of a game that was already decided.

"It was a huge blow, I'm very upset," McCarthy said. "I think the game was far too rough for a 3-0 and 3-1 game, especially late in the game. I wish the referee had called it tighter."

"That was disappointing to lose such a great player like that. Our odds of winning on Wednesday simply go down."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

VOLLEYBALL

FROM PAGE B1

THRILLS AND SPILLS

She said her team just couldn't come up with the knockout punch in the clincher.

"I think there were some crucial plays that we needed to do, I needed a big swing on the outside," McCausland said. "We couldn't seem to get that going in the fifth game as well as the fourth game."

"But other than that, both teams, whenever we show up we both show up to play. We play aggressive."

That's quite an understatement the way players were tumbling, diving and racing to the back wall of the court to retrieve balls and continue lengthy rallies that thrilled the bipartisan crowd.

Plymouth actually jumped out to a 6-2 edge in the opener and still led 16-13 when Canton senior libero Lauren Macuga (36 digs) stepped to the serving stripe.

Macuga reeled off four points, three hammered home by Kielty off of sets from senior setter Traci Breitmeyer (13 digs, 22 assists) to help even the score. Canton pulled away from that point on.

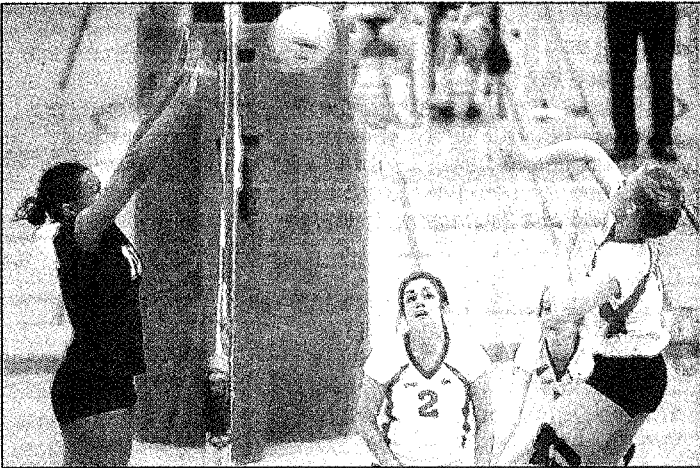
Game 2 was pretty much all Canton, with Breitmeyer serving two aces among her three service points to get it started.

Chipping in with a three-point run was Macuga to make it 10-4 and the serving of sophomore middle hitter Alaina Turner (a four-point string including two aces) gave the Chiefs a commanding 18-10 advantage.

NET PRESENCE

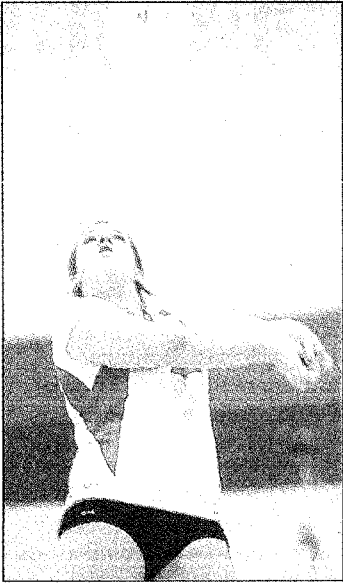
Helping Canton's cause in that game was sophomore outside hitter Kristen Muir (17 kills, 18 digs for the night), who showed her ability to thump — registering five kills.

But Game 3 put the



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Going up to block a scoring bid by Canton's Jordan Kielty (far right) during Tuesday's match is Plymouth's Alex Roberts (left). Watching for the Chiefs are Traci Breitmeyer (No. 2) and Kelsey Lindberg.



Making a play on "Senior Night" for Canton is Torry Riley, one of eight players honored before the match with Plymouth.

Wildcats in the win column, partly due to a four-point serving run by senior setter Katie Salo (29 assists, 18 digs) to open it up.

The Chiefs eventually caught Plymouth (16-16). But strong blocks at the net by senior middle hitter Kelly Smoltz (8 kills, 8 blocks), junior middle hitter Alex Roberts (7 blocks) and sophomore middle hitter Jessica Scott helped keep Canton from starting an offensive

splurge.

The Wildcats continued to thrive in Game 4 with more of the same. Roberts blocked Kielty for a key point and so did Scott on Muir.

Going head-to-head, Smoltz got the better of Kielty with a timely block at the net for Plymouth's 24th point and junior outside hitter Kayla Bridge (10 kills, 18 digs) drilled home the clinching point.

Muir's five-point run to start Game 5, however, put Plymouth in a tough spot it could not recover from.

Other Plymouth standouts included junior outside hitter Dana Risi (10 kills) and sophomore defensive specialist Lindsay Stemberger (25 digs).

SENIOR NIGHT

Before the match, eight Canton seniors and their parents were introduced while individual top memories were announced.

Flowers also were presented to co-captains Kielty and Macuga, Breitmeyer, defensive specialist and co-captain Leah Powers, right-side hitter Anna Larner, outside hitter Kelsey Lindberg, middle hitter Allison Trapp and outside hitter Torry Riley.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

IN BRIEF

Time to register for YMCA leagues, classes

The Plymouth Family YMCA is offering plenty of leagues and instructional classes this fall and winter, as detailed below:

- YMCA Fall and Winter Basketball leagues are forming for children, ages 4-11. The fall session will take place from Nov. 2 through Dec. 18 with the winter session slated from Jan. 19-to-March 26, 2010.
- There will be one practice and one game (Friday nights) per week. The cost is \$73 for program members or \$105 for community members who register by the Oct. 22 deadline. All participants need a YMCA Youth Sports Reversible Jersey (\$15). Programs are filled on a first come-first serve basis, so hurry in.
- There is something for everyone this Fall at the Plymouth YMCA. Registration is ongoing for Girls Volleyball Clinics (for ages 8-10 and 10-12), Basketball Clinics (for ages 6-7 and 8-9), Sports Sampler Class (for ages 3-5) and Little Dragons Martial Arts (for ages 4-7).

For more information on YMCA leagues and programs, check out www.ymcadowetroit.org or call the office at 734-453-2904.

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Offers may change on November 15th, 2009. See Associate for details.

PREP GRID PICKS					
Week 9					
Friday, Oct. 23					
Luth. Westland (3-5, 3-2) at Det. Urban Lutheran (2-6, 1-3), 6 p.m.	Urban Lutheran	Urban Lutheran	Luth. Westland	Urban Lutheran	
Redford Union (4-4, 4-1) at U-D Jesuit (3-5, 1-4), 6 p.m.	U-D Jesuit	U-D Jesuit	Union	U-D Jesuit	
Livonia Churchill (2-6, 0-5) at Livonia Stevenson (5-2, 5-0), 7 p.m.	Stevenson	Stevenson	Stevenson	Stevenson	
Farm. Harrison (5-3, 4-2) at Roch. Stoney Creek (5-3, 4-2), 7 p.m.	Harrison	Harrison	Stoney Creek	Harrison	
Farmington (5-3, 3-3) at North Farmington (2-6, 1-6), 7 p.m.	Farmington	Farmington	Farmington	Farmington	
Salem (2-6, 2-3) at Canton (7-1, 5-0), 7 p.m.	Canton	Canton	Canton	Canton	
Plymouth (6-2, 3-2) at Adrian (7-1, 5-0), 7 p.m.	Plymouth	Adrian	Plymouth	Adrian	
Livonia Clarenceville (4-4, 3-1) at D.H. Annapolis (6-2, 3-2), 7 p.m.	Annapolis	Annapolis	Annapolis	Clarenceville	
Livonia Franklin (4-4, 2-3) at Hartland (4-4, 2-3), 7 p.m.	Franklin	Franklin	Hartland	Franklin	
Redford Thurston (6-2, 5-0) at River Rouge (2-6), 7 p.m.	Thurston	Thurston	Thurston	Thurston	
Dearborn Edsel Ford (7-1, 4-1) at Garden City (0-8, 0-4), 7 p.m.	Edsel Ford	Edsel Ford	Edsel Ford	Edsel Ford	
W.L. Western (3-5, 1-4) at Westland Glenn (7-1, 4-1), 7 p.m.	Glenn	Glenn	Glenn	Glenn	
Wayne (3-5, 1-4) at W.L. Central (7-1, 5-0), 7 p.m.	Central	Central	Central	Central	
Last week	12-2 (.857)	12-2 (.857)	11-3 (.786)	10-4 (.714)	
Overall	76-28 (.731)	80-24 (.769)	72-32 (.692)	80-24 (.769)	

Canton boy bags 1st deer

Canton sixth grader Travis Stott already knows what it's like to successfully nab a deer. Travis, 11, who attends Pioneer Middle School, recently used a bow to nab the doe during the 2009 Michigan Youth Deer Hunt.

The event marked somewhat of a quandary for Travis, according to his dad, Dave Stott. The father noted that Travis — a happy go lucky, kind-hearted friend of animals — had to decide whether to put his love for fresh venison above his love for animals while hunting from a tree stand in Mecosta County.

He decided to go ahead with the venture. Dave Stott then enlisted Ed Perdue to help Travis in his first attempt at bow-hunting. Perdue is a professional hunting guide with the Powder Horn Ranch in Hersey, Mich.

Perdue not only guided young Travis to his first successful deer hunt, but the entire event was captured on video and presented to the Stotts on a commemorative DVD.

Also part of the family hunting excursion was Travis' older brother, 13-year-old Jacob.

Young Lions gridders impressive

The Canton Lions varsity youth football team rolled to a 36-12 victory over the Garden City Chargers on Oct. 11.

On the first offensive play from scrimmage, James Hall dashed 65 yards for his first of four touchdown carries on the day.

Andrew Hunt was explosive as defensive nose guard with several sacks, a blocked punt, and two blocked extra points.

Other solid defenders included Ben Cockrum, who broke up a key Chargers pass; Sam Rizzo, who had an interception; Robert Daoud, who recovered a fumble for a touchdown and Kenny Arnold, who had numerous tackles.

"Defensively, we played as well as we have all season," said head coach Chris Tidwell. "Our defensive coordinator, Mike San Millan really worked with the boys this week on a solid game plan."

"They had their best week of practice this season and it translated onto the field."

Notable game offensive blockers included Dykiece Pruitt, John Schumaker, Manmeet Singh, and Daniel Paulot. Additional defensive featured tacklers were Austin Fisher, Forrest Hall, Devon Wade, and LeValle Steeple.

■ The Lions junior varsity improved to 4-2 behind a running attack led by Daniel Kilgore and Charles Turfe.

The O-line was opening gaping holes in the Cougars defense leaving huge alleys for the backs. Jackson Austin, Isaac Jackson, Jake Stropes, Jakob Wickens, Matthew Wayne, and Richard Lenczewski make up, arguably, one of the best lines in the league. The defense flew to the ball all day making it difficult for the Garden City offense to get anything going. William Bode had a sack in the game, while Allante Wheeler had the biggest hit of the day on a kick return. Eric Daniels and Keith Gillespie added key tackles in the contest.

■ The freshman Lions dominated from the beginning, building a large lead in the second quarter, and never looked back on their way to a 32-7 victory.

Everyone contributed to the victory and were led on defense by Mason Lamarand, Jack Underwood, Carter Kahl, Wesley Askew, Ryan Cassidy, Cody Tapp, and Adam Abdallah.

The offense received strong quarterback play from C.J. Wieloch and was led by strong blocking from Ethan Balogh, Preston Sokol, Matthew Pelukas, and Devin Farmer.

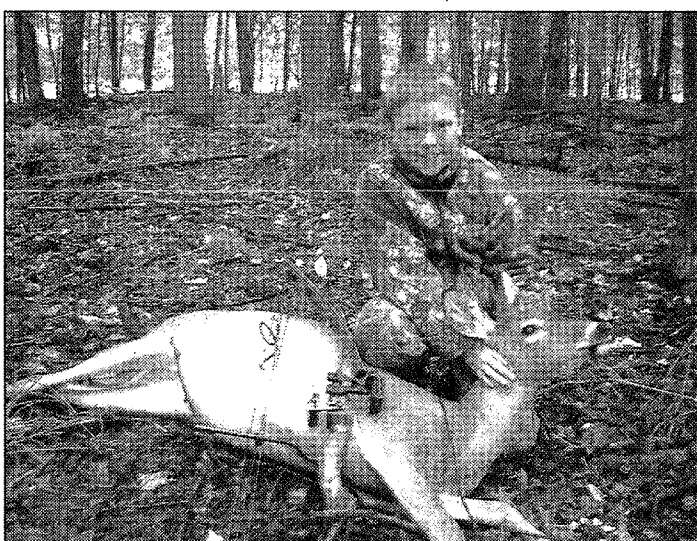
Victor Abraham, Jr. led the scoring by recording four touchdown runs, including a 90 yard touchdown run late in game.

■ For the fifth consecutive week the junior freshman Lions have shut out their opponent.

This time it was the Cougars who fell victim to the tenacious Lions defense, which was led by David Bowen, Justin Crouch, Myles Wagstaff, and Kyle Hurley.

The defense never allowed the Cougars to cross midfield. The Lions offense was equally as impressive, scoring on their first three possessions.

The offense was led by outstanding blocking of Kameron Arnold, Preston Parana, Nathan Hunt, and Michael Linderman. The Lions offense had scoring runs by Bennett Austin, Steven Shoats Thomas, Justin Reynolds, Darrell Harding Jr., and Jerome Nichols.



Canton's Travis Stott, 11, poses with the doe he hunted with a bow at the 2009 Michigan Youth Deer Hunt.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Selection Sunday

Fox Sports Detroit will air the MHSAA Football Playoffs selection show beginning at 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25.

The 30-minute program, hosted by FSN's Mickey York and Trevor Thompson, will provide a rundown of the 256 teams that have qualified for the MHSAA Playoffs, as well as their first round matchups and game sites. The show will air again that evening at 10:30.

The qualifiers and pairings will also be posted to the MHSAA Website at the conclusion of the program.

Club Extreme spikers

Novi Christian Community Center, 45301 W. 11 Mile Road (corner of Taft), will again host Club Extreme Volleyball. The program intends to "create an opportunity for girls to participate in a challenging yet rewarding environment."

Tryouts for the 2009-10 Club Extreme Asics team begin Nov. 1 and continue on Nov. 8. Interested players must pre-register with the AAU (www.aausports.org) prior to tryouts.

For more information, go to www.cteamz.com/clubextreme or send an e-mail to clubextremevolleyball@yahoo.com.

Plymouth YMCA eyes grant

Liberty Mutual will soon donate a \$2,500 Responsible Community Grant to 20 youth sports organizations demonstrating their commitment to doing the right things on and off the playing surface.

The Plymouth Family YMCA is hoping to be one of the recipients.

"The Liberty Mutual Responsible Sports program targets many of the issues we see happening at youth sporting events by shining a positive light on what it means to be a responsible coach and a responsible sports-parent," said Greg Gordon, vice president of Consumer Marketing at Liberty Mutual. "Beyond that, Liberty Mutual is making a significant financial contribution to support the efforts of local organizations like Plymouth Family YMCA."

The ongoing, community-based program offers meaningful, easy-to-use educational resources for youth sports parents and coaches, including access to on-the-field game and practice preparation tools as well as self-paced online courses filled with learning tools, videos and topics addressing youth sports issues.


The Responsible Sports program, including community grants, comes at a crucial time for communities where youth programs are under pressure from increasing numbers of participants, limited volunteer activity and mounting program-administration costs.

Through the resources provided by the grants, it is hoped that "our organizations thrive even under challenging circumstances."

For more information, contact the YMCA at (734) 453-2904 or go to www.responsibleports.com.


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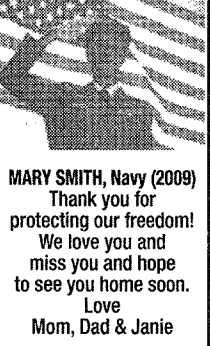
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REMEMBER THE SACRIFICES
OF AMERICA'S VETERANS



MARY SMITH, Navy (2009)
Thank you for protecting our freedom!
We love you and miss you and hope to see you home soon.
Love Mom, Dad & Janie


The Observer & Eccentric will be publishing a special Veteran's Day page honoring the service of Veteran's, past & present.

This is the perfect opportunity to honor the Veterans in your life who have served our country so bravely.

Publication Dates:
Thursday, November 5th in the Hometown Weekly Newspapers - Sunday, November 8th in all the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers
Deadline: Friday, October 30th

We join the rest of the nation on Veterans Day in remembering the sacrifices of American's veterans and expressing our appreciation of their service.

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BY SALLIE JUSTICE
CORRESPONDANT

Knowing where to turn when you need help and accepting help when it is available can be life changing. Alvin Fouché cares for his 94-year-old mother Julia Fouché in his Oakland County home because he does not want her living in a nursing home. It has not been easy but he does it because he wants the best for her.

Julia is in the advanced stages of dementia and most days does not know who her son is. Early on, Fouché contacted the Area Agency on Aging 1-B, and was connected to supportive services and programs to help him manage some of the responsibilities associated with caring for his mother.

"The support I have received has been a life saver," said Fouché. "I don't know what I would do without it."

On Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings Fouché takes his mother to Sheltering Arms Adult Day Service, a program of Catholic Social Services of Oakland County, where Julia participates in social activities, such as games, current events, exercise and music. She also has a good lunch and a snack throughout the day. A SMART bus comes to get Julia to take her back home at about 3 p.m.

Julia's visit to Sheltering Arms makes it possible for Fouché to work about five hours each day.

A former environmental engineer and business owner, Fouché now manages a flexible work schedule by doing carpentry and home modifications for various clients. This allows Fouché to care for his mother.

"It's not easy," he said. "I need to

make a living but right now Mom is my priority."

FINDING HELP

Caregivers like Fouché can learn about resources, products and services that are available to assist them at the Area Agency on Aging 1-B's 10th Annual Solutions for Family Caregiver Expo, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 24, in the Diamond Ballroom at the Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave., in Novi. The event is free, parking is free and complimentary morning refreshments will be provided.

"Caregivers often find themselves facing enormous responsibilities and are not aware of the services available to assist them or where to turn for help," said Tina Abbate Marzolf, chief executive officer, AAA 1-B. "The Caregiver Expo provides access to experts, information, and resources under one roof, and the opportunity for caregivers to give and receive support from other caregivers."

At the expo, guests can attend expert presentations on topics ranging from Alzheimer's Disease, to managing caregiver stress to legal tips. More than 100 exhibitors will be on hand representing businesses and nonprofit organizations that provide products and services to assist caregivers.

The Caregiver Expo is sponsored by Henry Ford Health System, Kroger Pharmacy, the Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Newspapers, and 16 other sponsors.

For more information about the Area Agency on Aging 1-B and the Caregiver Expo, please call 1-800-852-7795, or visit www.aaa1b.com.



Passages

Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances

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email: oeobits@hometownlife.com

View Passages Online: www.hometownlife.com

MARGARET AULT

Age 90, October 19, 2009. Beloved wife of Forrest; dearest mother of Marcia Waters, Eran Deran, Forrest II (Anne) and Heather Webb (Richard); loving grandmother of Rebecca (Larry) Smith, Sarah (Bradley) Imhoff, Audrey (Mark) Ullrich, Hannah (Tim) Clough, Ashley and Rick Webb; great grandmother to Cara and Kelsey Smith, Morgan and Gretchen Ullrich, Phineas and Thurston Imhoff. She is also survived by Lena Uptigrove, Laura Ann Roberts and many nieces and nephews. A memorial visitation will be Thursday 4-9 pm at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home. Memorial Service will be Friday 12 pm at the funeral home.

www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com

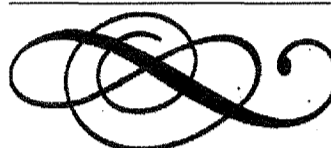
JOHN LYNCH HANLEY III

Age 69, of Fowlerville, died October 15, 2009 in Howell. He was born Dec. 19, 1939 in Detroit to John L. and Eleanor (Carland) Hanley Jr. He was a 1958 Graduate of Clarenceville High School. He married Barbara (Harrington) in 1983. He worked for Consumer's energy as a welder for 30 years. He was a Charter Member of 2 Ham Radio Clubs, Member of the Emergency Management team of Iosco County for several years thru the 90's, Member and sat on the Board of Directors at Iosco County Sportsmen's Club, life member of NRA and an accomplished Drummer. He is survived by his wife: Barbara sons: John L. IV of Sterling Heights, Patrick Charles of Victoria British Columbia, Michael Andrew of Garden City, 4 Grandchildren: Jason, Breanne, Alyssa, and Brandon. Visitation was held on Monday October 19 at 1-8PM. Services were held Tuesday October 20, 2009 at 11AM at Niblack Funeral Home, Dillingham Liveness Chapel, Fowlerville with Pastor Tom Tarpley officiating. Interment will be at Highland Cemetery.

www.niblackfuneralhome.com

BETTY J. KRAUSS

Age 72, October 19, 2009. Loving mother of Philip "Happy" (Jennifer) and Craig (Masami) Krauss. Dear grandmother of Philip "Trey", Adrian, Jimmy, Allen and Renee. Beloved sister of Joy Kinun and Jerry Parks and the late Bill Wood and the late Bob Parks. Betty was a member of Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church and retired from the Ford Motor Company. Visitation Friday from 3-9pm at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 W. Six Mile, Livonia. Saturday visitation at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Rd., Livonia from 10 am until her funeral at 11 am. Burial at Lenawee Hills, Tecumseh. Memorials may be made to the church or the American Cancer Society in her honor.



MATILDA A. LACONIS

Age 95, of Farmington, Michigan. October 17, 2009. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME, Farmington.

RICHARD C. MILLER

80, of Flat Rock MI, joined his loving mother, Mildred Ballard, wife, Martha Jean Miller and his brother Robin (Butch) Miller on October 18, 2009. Dearest brother to Joan (Robert) Avery and loving father to Gene (Doreen) Miller, Jill (Curtis) Oxendine-Collins and Gene (Jill) Stewart. Adorned grandfather of Stephanie Oxendine, Rebecca Collins and Haley Miller. Memorial services held at the VFW Hall at 1055 S. Wayne Rd. on October 26 from 1-3pm.



PHYLLIS ANN QUARTUCCIO

October 17, 2009 Age 84 of Wayne. Beloved wife of the late Joseph. Dear mother of Michael (Connie), Josephine (Jimmie) Schewe, Larry (Julie). Grandmother to Michael (Judy), Doug (Leslee), Jennifer Schewe, Anthony, and Leslie (Anthony) Keller. Great grandmother of Eric, Bradley, Tyler, Hayley, Brett, Cameron, Colin, Tori, Taylor, Bryson, Jacob, and Aubrey. Memorial service was held Wednesday 1pm from The Uht Funeral Home, Westland, with a gathering from 11am-1pm. Cremation rights were accorded. Family requests memorials to St. Jude Hospitals. Please view memorial and send tributes at www.uhtfh.com.

JOSEPH CLYDE ROBERTS

Age 89. October 17, 2009 of Dearborn. Beloved husband of Norma. Loving father of Marjorie Roberts, Mary Beth (Edward) Fest and Jeffery Roberts. Also survived by two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Visitation was held Wednesday at Henry Ford Village Chapel. Arrangements by the Dearborn Chapel of the Vorn Funeral Home. Obituary/guestbook at: www.vornfuneralhome.com

OBITUARY POLICY

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

Deadlines:

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

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

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com

or fax to:

Attn: Obit's c/o Char Wilson

313-496-4968

For more information call:

Char Wilson

586-826-7082

or Liz Keiser

586-977-7538

or toll free

800-579-7355

ask for Char or Liz

OE08658429

May peace
be with
you in this
time of
sorrow.

Your Invitation to Worship

CATHOLIC

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Tridentine Latin Mass
St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8
38100 Five Mile Road
Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200
Mass Schedule:
First Sat. 7:00 p.m.
Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m.
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M. OE08625544

St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church

St. Genevieve School - PreK-8
29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220
(East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries)
MASS: Tues. 7 p. Wed., Thurs. 9 a.
Sat. 4 p, Sun 11a

St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church

32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616
(between Merriman & Farmington Roads)
MASS: Mon. 8:30 a, Fri. 8:30 a,
Sat. 6 p, Sun 9a OE08625546

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525
Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER
(734) 455-3196 OE08625520

LUTHERAN-ELCA

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN, ELCA

Farmington Hills 23225 Gill Rd. 248-474-0584

SATURDAY WORSHIP • 5:30 PM

Sunday Worship & Sunday School

9:00 AM TRADITIONAL/CHORAL SERVICE
10:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL - ALL AGES
11:15 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

NURSERY AVAILABLE

BILL & LAUREN KIRSH-CARR, PASTORS OE08625586

Timothy Lutheran Church

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation
8820 Wayne Rd.
(Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)
Livonia • 427-2290

Jill Heather, Pastor
10:00 a.m. Family Worship
(Nursery Available) OE08625555

UNITED METHODIST

Redford Aldersgate

2 blocks South of Plymouth
United Methodist
10000 Beech Daly 313-937-3170
9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sunday School
11:00 - Contemp Family Worship
www.redfordaldersgate.org OE08625427

ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

30450 Farmington Road • Farmington Hills
www.orchardumc.org
248-626-3620

Worship: 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Childrens Education provided during both services

Pastors: Carol J. Johns, Jim Braid, Margo Dexter

OE0865897

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

St. James Presbyterian Church, USA

25350 West Six Mile Rd.
Redford (313) 534-7730
Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M., Sunday School - 10:15 A.M., Thursday Dinners - 6:00 P.M., Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm
Nursery Care Provided • Handicapped Accessible
Rev. Paul S. Bousquette OE08625548

ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI
(between Merriman & Farmington Rds.)
(734) 422-0494

Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am

Traditional Service 10:30 am

Visit www.rosedalegardens.org

For information about our many programs OE08625573

GREEK ORTHODOX

NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

39851 West Five Mile, Plymouth Twp., MI
Sunday Services
Matins 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am
Rev. Fr. George Vagoris
Parish Office 734-420-0131
Office Hours M-F 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
www.nativitygochurch.org OE08658419

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96
734-522-6830

Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional

Sunday/Bible Class 9:45 am

Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413

Staffed Nursery Available

Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dean Davenport
Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden OE08625507

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY
313-532-2266 REDFORD TWP.

Worship Service 9:15 & 11:00 A.M.

Sunday School 9:15 & 11:00 A.M.

Nursery Provided

The Rev. Timothy R. Halboth, Senior Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor OE08625517

Risen Christ Lutheran

David W. Martin, Pastor

46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth (1 mile W. of Jackson)

(734) 453-5252

Worship 8:15 & 10:45 am

Sunday School 9:30 • Adult Bible Study 9:30

Nursery Care Available. All are welcome. Come as you are.

www.risenchrist.info OE08625520

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-1360

WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M.

website: www.stpaulsilivonia.org OE08625520

CONGREGATIONAL

North Congregational Church

36520 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills

(bet. Drake & Halsted) (248) 848-1750

10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School

Faith - Freedom-Fellowship

Ministers

Dr. Mark P. Jensen Rev. Mary E. Biedron OE08625587

PRESBYTERIAN

Fellowship Presbyterian Church

Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.

Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire

Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church

16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road

Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org OE08625511

For Information regarding this Directory,
please call Donna Hart at 734-582-8342 or e-mail: dhart@dnps.com

Canton Strictly Business

BUSINESS MILESTONES

Best and brightest

Community Financial has been named for the fourth consecutive year as one of "Metropolitan Detroit's 101 Best and Brightest Companies to Work For." The credit union was one of the top companies selected, from more than 1,000 nominations and over 400 applications submitted. The annual award and program is presented by the Michigan Business and Professional Association.

"We are proud to acknowledge the commitment, mutual respect and superior member service of all our team members who made this award possible," said Bill Lawton, Community Financial's president and CEO. "Also our ongoing training programs, leadership development and decision making processes help us maintain a talented and dedicated team."

The award program was established to honor companies that recognize employees as their greatest asset.

Participants are required to fill out an extensive survey and winners are selected based on independent research that evaluates each entry on a variety of best practices in human resource management.

"Community Financial's goal is to provide team members and their families with the resources they need to protect and enhance their financial security and to balance the priorities of work and personal life," added Lawton. "At the same time, Community Financial and its team are committed to enhancing the financial well-being of our members. I feel fortunate to work for a great company and with great people — focused entirely on



Home, new home

Owners, staffers and various other folks took part in the ribbon-cutting when Planet Dance moved to its new home recently. The business is now located at 44314 Cherry Hill in Canton. More on the studio is available at its Web site at planetdancestudio.com

helping others!"

Headquartered in Plymouth, Mich., membership in Community Financial is open to anyone who lives, works, worships, volunteers or attends school in the Michigan cities, townships or counties of Plymouth, Canton, Northville, Novi, Alpena, Otsego and Montmorency.

Art sale

Drop by Canton's D & M Art Studio for a look at some of the finest artwork this area's talented artists produce.

D & M officials call the collection "a joy to see and if you are looking for just the right

piece of art to warm up a room or an affordable gift come early and often as the selection will be replaced as items are sold."

Three Cities Art Club Fine Arts Exhibition and Sale runs through Saturday, Nov. 14, and will be open during store hours.

In addition to beautiful fine works of art for sale at great prices, there will be art supplies, note cards and prints available for purchase. The event is sponsored by long-time contributor to Three Cities Art Club, D & M Art Studios, who offers art lessons, summer art camps for kids and home school classes. D & M Art Studio

is located at 8691 N. Lilley Road, about 1/8 mile south of Joy Road in Canton, and is open noon to 9 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

For further information about the show or the art club, contact Marilyn Meredith weekdays at (248) 557-3800, Ext. 123 or via e-mail at threecitiesartclub@hotmail.com

Braille books

For the fourth year, Seedlings Braille Books for Children is offering holiday greeting cards in 11 beautiful designs. New this year, Seedlings is offer-

ing two sizes of holiday cards — favorites from past years and a new pleasing little size of 4-1/8" x 5-1/2". Once again, the holiday cards are created by Pumpernickel Press and priced at \$16 per box of 16 large cards and \$10 per box of 10 smaller cards.

All designs are fine art embossed cards, made from premium grade, environment friendly recycled paper, printed with soy inks and Made in the USA — including the packing material. The cards are also packaged by occupational training workshop patrons.

Holiday greeting cards can be purchased at Seedlings' office, 14151 Farmington Rd., Livonia from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Call 734-427-8552 for directions and more information. Please visit Seedlings website, www.seedlings.org/donate.php, for a look at some of our new designs.

Seedlings Braille Books for Children is a Livonia non-profit organization dedicated to increasing the opportunity for braille literacy by providing high quality, low cost children's literature in braille bringing the gift of literacy to blind children locally and around the world.

Food for good causes

Hiller's Markets is changing it up again. Two new dishes will appear in the prepared foods cases at all seven Hiller's grocery stores, including its Plymouth location, offering shoppers good food for good causes.

Tony Payne's Buffalo Chili and Samira Cholah's potato chop, kibbie and eggplant salad will be available at Hiller's

through Oct. 19, with 100 percent of profits from sales of Buffalo Chili benefitting the Agree Foundation at Temple Israel, giving birthday parties to children of battered and homeless mothers. One hundred percent of profits from sales of potato chop, kibbie and eggplant salad will go to the Chaldean Foundation's Adopt a Refugee Family Program, helping Iraqi refugees resettle safely in America.

The following schedule indicates the individuals, dishes and their causes remaining in the program's initial launch. All sales of these dishes will send money to their respective charities. Jim Hiller is considering extending the program through the new year, in an effort to bring back the first few dishes and send more donations to worthy causes.

• Through Nov. 2: Lisa Diggs' corn and smoked whitefish fritters and Danialle Karmanos' tuna pasta; Causes: Gleaners Food Bank and DKWIO

• Nov. 3-Nov. 16: Janice Cherkasky's diabetic apricot salad and Jeff Loeb's pasta; Causes: Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and Hiller ALS Center at WSU

• Nov. 17-Nov. 30: Deena Lisak's corned beef and cabbage and macaroni and cheese; Cause: the Achievement Center at the Multiple Sclerosis Society

• Dec. 1-14: Robbie Timmons' turkey meatloaf and Paula Tutman's DISH TO COME; Cause: CANTER and Children's ToothFairy Foundation

• Dec. 15-Jan. 1, 2010: Joy Cantor's pasta with Thai peanut sauce and tofu; Cause: SASHA Farm

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

Fashion retailer kicks off 'Tell Us Your Story' campaign

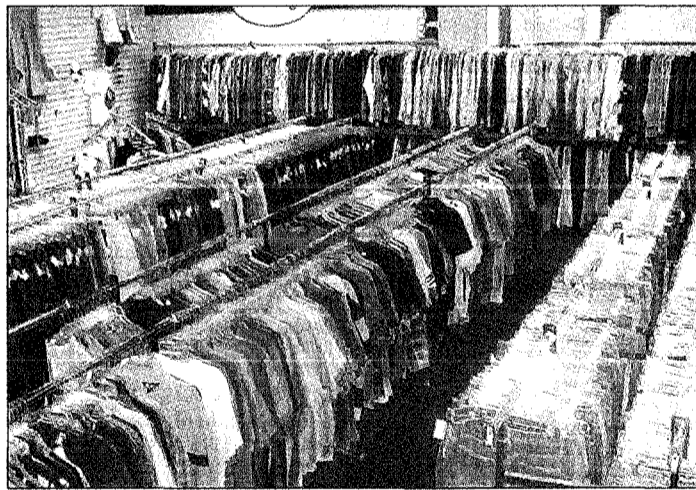
Plato's Closet of Canton, just like any business, wants to make sure its customers are happy. What makes Plato's Closet different is its "Tell Us Your Story" campaign, which was launched so that local teens and twenty-somethings can make their voices heard.

"With such television shows as Project Runway and America's Next Top Model growing in popularity, we recognize that the young people of this community have their fingers on the pulse of the fashion industry," said Paul Wells of Plato's Closet of Canton. "We want to hear about their experiences with our store, so that we can tailor our assortment of styles and service to better meet their needs."

As part of the campaign, Wells is asking local shoppers to share their opinions. All customers have to do is visit the Plato's Closet Web site at www.platoscloset.com and click on the "Tell Us Your Story" icon.

In addition to adding their own story, shoppers can also view other submissions from teens and twenty somethings across the nation. There's also the option to post a corresponding picture of a favorite Plato's Closet outfit.

"We love reading our shoppers' input. And, this campaign is an advantageous tool for the success of our busi-



ness. It really gives us a better sense of the types of items and brands they like to find in our store," added Wells. "The pictures are so great to see, too! They're a testimonial of the high quality and style of our clothes and accessories that our customers enjoy wearing."

Just this past summer, the campaign was expanded to include television commercials that feature actual customers and store employees remarking on their Plato's Closet experience. Shoppers can view the testimonials on the company's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/platoscloset

"The teens and twenty

somethings of this area are the face and voice of Plato's Closet of Canton," said Wells. "They are a community in and of themselves, and this campaign is our way of letting them know just how much we value their feedback."

Plato's Closet of Canton buys and sells gently used, name brand clothing, as well as accessories and other teen items. Some of the favorite brands typically carried at Plato's Closet include American Eagle, Bebe, Express, Mossimo and H&M.

For more information about Plato's Closet of Canton, please contact Paul Wells at (734) 459-5029.

CHAMBER CHAT

Chamber fund-raisers

Join us at Rose's Restaurant Oct. 29-31, from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. for a Texas Hold'em fund-raiser to be held in a private, smoke-free environment. There will be a full service bar, late night menu and a midnight pizza buffet in the lounge.

"This is a great way to support the Canton Chamber of Commerce and have fun while doing it," said Dianne Cojei, president of the Canton Chamber of Commerce.

For more information on this event, go to www.cantonchamber.com click on forms & flyers and go to Rose's Restaurant Fund-raiser and get all the details.

• Also on Oct. 27, from 5-9 p.m., you can turn your pasta into cash for the Canton Chamber by printing the flier on the Chamber Web site and presenting it to your server at Rose's Restaurant. The Canton Chamber of Commerce will receive 15 percent of net purchases made that evening.

BOOST YOUR LOCAL ECONOMY... SHOP LOCAL

What kind of community do you want to live in? How we spend our money makes a difference in the wellness of our residents and the overall success of our businesses.

Each time you shop, your decisions will impact your local economy. Choose locally owned businesses that are truly invested in your community's future!



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Online at www.hometownlife.com

The Observer, Eccentric & Hometown Newspapers proudly supports this message.

FILTER

Dogs can parade in costume for good cause

Can we ever get too much Halloween fun? No, say Friends of Canton's Dog Park and Crimboli Nursery.

They've teamed up to present "Howling for the Dog Park, noon-3 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 24 at Crimboli Sweetwater village, 50145 Ford Road, Canton.

This dog-friendly event is designed to provide families with a fun-filled afternoon while supporting and building awareness for Canton's future dog park.

Planned activities for this pet-friendly event, include hayrides, live entertainment, free kids attractions, tasty treats, and pumpkins available for purchase from Hawk Farms.

The Humane Society of Huron Valley also will also be on hand for those looking to adopt a new four-legged friend into their family.

The howling costume contest also will involve the entire family and their furry companions. Participants are invited to dress up their pets and themselves in scary, funny, or just downright cute costumes for a chance to win prizes.

To provide a safe recreational opportunity for participating dogs, all pet-owners must show proof of current vaccinations and be licensed by the local government where the dog's owner lives. Proof of residency will be required.

Canton Leisure Services along with the Friends of Canton's Dog Park are working together to create a three acre off-leash dog park in Canton. Their goal is to raise \$60,000 to build a year-round puppy playground that will be located off Denton Road, just north of Cherry Hill Road. The fenced-in field will allow dogs to play and run free, allowing for socialization and recreation in a safe environment. Separate sections will be created for large dogs of more than 20 pounds, and smaller dogs.

For more information on the Howling for the Dog



A pug dressed as a bug: Humans and dogs alike can wear costumes to Howling for the Dog Park.

Park or the Canton Dog Park, visit cantonfun.org or call the Canton Park's Division at (734) 394-5310.

Hear live music in intimate setting at Village Theater

"The Atomics," known for getting audience members on their feet and to the dance floor, will perform Friday, Nov. 6, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton.

The group, with its members coming from diverse musical backgrounds, has played in coffee houses and local pubs throughout southeast Michigan. The Atomics draws from all music genres for its set list.

The performance, a part of the First Friday Studio Series at the theater, starts at 8 p.m. in the Biltmore Studio, an intimate setting for live music. A cash bar will be available and all seats cost \$12. This and all First Friday Studio Series performances are general admission and will take place in the Biltmore Studio, an intimate setting for experiencing live music. A cash bar will also be available.

Buy tickets at www.cantonvillagetheater.org.



The Atomics will perform Nov. 6 the Village Theatre at Cherry Hill in Canton.

Tickets can also be purchased at Summit on the Park by phone at (734) 394-5460 or in person. The Summit's box office hours are 8:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. To purchase tickets at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill box office, stop by during box office hours 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The Village Theater ticket office will also be open one hour before to each performance.

Athletic events support breast cancer research

If you're a breast cancer survivor, you can watch the Detroit Pistons take on the Oklahoma City Thunder for free at 8 p.m. Oct. 30 at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

And if you like hockey, see The Whalers hockey team "pink out" on Oct. 24 to raise awareness of breast cancer.

The Pistons teamed up with the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute to raise awareness of breast cancer prevention, screening and early detection; and to recognize breast cancer survivors at its season home opener. Survivors will receive a special pink T-shirt in addition to complimentary tickets for the game. Their friends and family can buy discounted upper level seats for \$15, \$5 of which will go to the Karmanos Cancer Institute.

Breast cancer survivors also will be able to participate in pre-game and halftime activities. They'll form a fan tunnel to welcome the players on the court, be involved in player introductions and be on the court during the National Anthem.

The Pistons' pink night at the Palace is just the start of a season-long emphasis on charitable causes. The team will recognize one cause per month with a home game devoted to raising funds and awareness.

"Hosting a rare October regular season game presented us with a great opportunity to get involved in National Breast

Cancer Awareness month and contribute to a cause that touches everyone," said Tom Wilson, president and CEO of the Detroit Pistons. "Obviously, we hope to make a nice contribution, but more so, we see this as a great platform to raise awareness for research, early detection and prevention of a disease that affects hundreds of thousands of people each year. We think it is going to be one of the most special opening nights we have ever had."

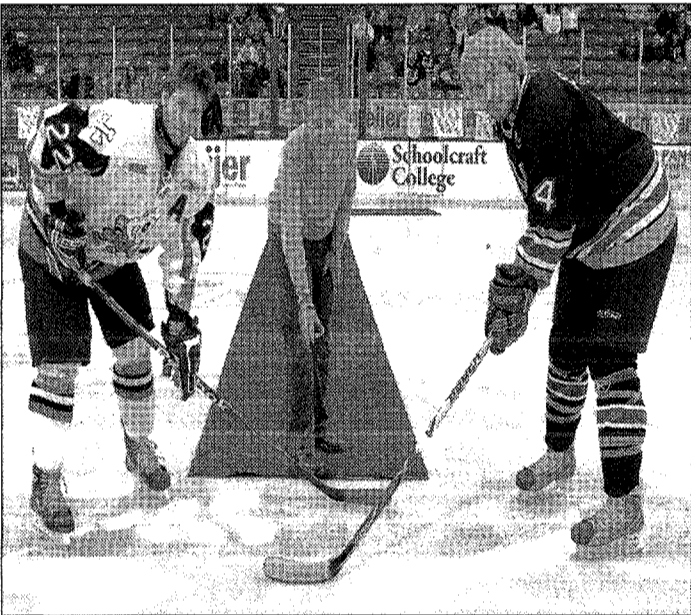
The series continues with a military salute in support of Veterans as part of the Pistons' Nov. 11 Veterans' Day home game. As the season progresses other beneficiaries will include Society of St. Vincent De Paul, rewarding volunteerism and the Pistons Care Telethon.

To register for free tickets and to order the specially priced tickets, visit Pistons.com or call The Palace Box Office at (248) 377-0100.

MORE PINK

The Whalers hockey team will be in pink from head to toe at its game against the Belleville Bulls, 7:05 p.m., Oct. 24 at Compuware Arena, 14900 Beck, Plymouth.

Players will wear special pink jerseys, which will be auctioned, and will sport pink hair. The proceeds from the jersey auction, along with the 50/50 raffle and Hines



Breast cancer survivor Mary Beth Bloom drops the puck at last season's "Pink Out!"

Park Chuck-a-Puck will also go to the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute.

Team members had their hair colored at Lucky Hair Company earlier this week, giving them a few days to show off their new hair color.

"We did the same thing last year," said Plymouth defenseman Leo Jenner. "Doing this a couple of days before raises awareness. People get to see you out in public and it raises questions. We can tell the public why we're doing it and support the cause at the same time. (In the end) that's what it's all about."

Last season's first Whalers Pink Out! drew an unprecedented response from fans, according to Pete Krupsky, director of communications and community relations.

For more information visit www.compuwarearena.com

STATE OF MICHIGAN, PROBATE COURT, COUNTY OF WAYNE, File No. 2009-745948-DE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

Estate of Brion Robert West, Deceased.
Date of Birth: March 2, 1959.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:

The decedent, Brion Robert West, who lived at 38410 Cherry Hill Road, Westland, died October 23, 2006.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Leslie Sprague, named personal representative or to both the probate court at 1305 CAYMC, Two Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI and the named personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Personal Representative: Leslie Sprague, 219 Welch, Houghton Lake, MI 48629, (989) 422-6416

Publish: October 22, 2009

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ORIGINAL SCORE BY STEPHEN TRASK, EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS COURTNEY PLEDGER, SARAH RADOLYFF, DAN KOLSRUD, KERRY KOWANSKY
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BASED ON THE "CIRQUE DU FREAK" SERIES OF BOOKS BY JACOB SHAN
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PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED
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FOOD & WINE

Healthful holidays

Local cooks serve up plant-based foods for tasting

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

If you can't say vegetarian and tasty in the same breath, you're the perfect candidate for Jeanie Weaver's annual holiday tasting party.

"It gives them an eye opener to really how good they can eat and not have the flesh component, if that's what they choose," Weaver described the "Vegetarian Holiday Tasting Extravaganza" that she founded 22 years ago.

The community event on Nov. 8 will bring together local cooks — some of them members of the Seventh-day Adventist church — who will serve favorite non-meat holiday dishes, from appetizers to entrees to desserts.

"The biggest reason I started doing this was as an educational venture. You're not sitting through a lecture. You'll look and see how it's done. If you make notes, and ask questions and look at how they're displayed, you'll come away with 50 different meal plans for vegetarian holiday dinners," Weaver said. "They'll show you ways to serve a vegetarian dish and make it beautiful and festive."

Weaver, who coordinates the annual tasting hopes the word "vegetarian" doesn't discourage meat-eaters from attending the event.

"I don't set out to make people vegetarian. I set out to help people eat better. That means moving more toward plants."

Diehard meat-eaters will learn how to include more plant-based foods into their diets; vegetarians will broaden their repertoire of meatless dishes; and everyone will learn to serve a substantial, tasty holiday meal without meat.

"Cooking vegetarian around the holiday can be a challenge. We're in America where (the

22 ANNUAL VEGETARIAN HOLIDAY TASTING EXTRAVAGANZA

What: Taste more than 50 non-meat dishes

When: Sunday, Nov. 8

Where: Metropolitan Adventist School Gym, located on Haggerty, just north of Five Mile, Plymouth

Details: Three seating times, 11 a.m., 12:45 p.m. or 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$14 for adults and \$6 for children, age 6-12. Make checks payable to Metro SDA School and send to "Holiday Tasting," 695 N. Ridge road, Canton, MI 48187-4635. If you don't reserve tickets, call (734) 420-4044 the day of the event to check for ticket availability

Cookbooks: A booklet of the recipes used will be available for \$8. A paperback book with 15 year's worth of Extravaganza recipes costs \$25 and a CD with ebook with 20 year's worth of meals costs \$12.

Contact: Visit www.veggieholiday.com or call the hotline at (248) 446-9176

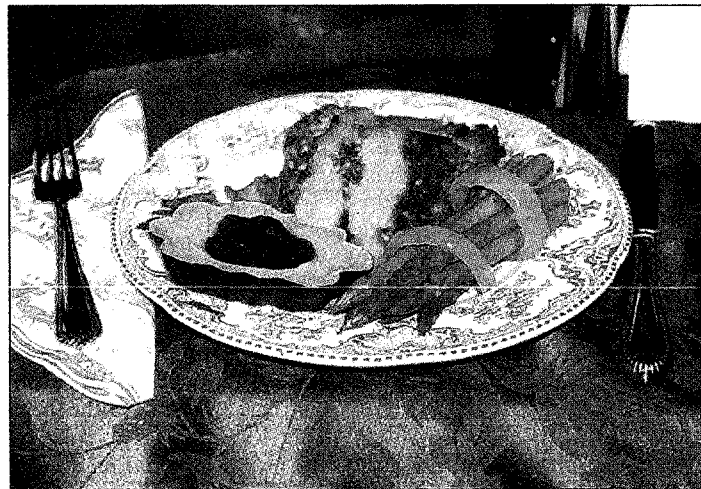
holiday table) is based around meat."

MORE THAN BEANS

Inexperienced vegetarian cooks often know little about preparing satisfying and tasty foods and vegetarian cuisine is stereotyped as "a salad and bowl of beans."

Weaver said the Extravaganza will turn that notion upside down.

"Many of the patties and wonderful twists on meatless meatballs give you a meaty feel in the mouth and protein. It's different than just eating a plateful of rice and pasta."



Asparagus, squash and a meatless loaf make a festive holiday plate.

Weaver's had her share of "scary vegetarian" dishes while eating out. At a recent medical gathering with her husband, who's both a surgeon and lifelong vegetarian, the non-meat fare consisted of a baked potato and pasta.

"It was a fancy place and he was supposed to be an inventive chef, but he didn't know anything about cooking plant-based foods."

BECOMING VEGETARIAN

Weaver, who is self-employed as a fitness trainer, got her first taste of vegetarian cooking while in a Seventh-day Adventist boarding school when she was a teen-ager.

"They don't serve meat. After six weeks I went home on break and ate a steak like I used to. I got so sick."

When she returned to school, she worked in the kitchen and learned to make meatless loafs and patties that help add balance and variety to a vegetarian diet. Weaver, who volunteers as a physical education teacher in a Seventh-day Adventist school, earned a bachelor's degree in health and nutrition and a master's of special education. Her three children, ages 26, 23 and 20, are vegetarian and have assisted with the Extravaganza

through the years.

Joy Hyde of Livonia is one of Weaver's many friends who cook for Extravaganza every year.

She gave up meat years ago while working for a company that was located near a meat packing plant.

"The trucks would pull in with pigs and the only thing that came out were the dump trucks going down the street and spewing liquid ... taking parts to the rendering company ... the smell was horrendous."

Hyde tests her recipes — some are adapted from meat-containing entrees — on her husband, a life-long vegetarian.

She'll make Middle Eastern chick pea patties, watercress and cauliflower soup and an apple-cranberry casserole for the Extravaganza.

"It can add up. It can be costly," said Hyde, who, like the other volunteer cooks, pays for her own ingredients. "But we want people to know health principles. Our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit. We should take care of our bodies."

Look for 250 new recipes in the newly released *Feast from the Heart* cookbook, available from the Community Living Centers of Farmington.

Compiling a cookbook, with recipes from chefs, friends,

and family members is a 20-year tradition for the nonprofit organization that runs group homes, apartments and independent living programs for the developmentally disabled.

"It was a nice thing the women's auxiliary decided would be a great fundraiser," said Ronald Weber, development and marketing manager. "Every time we put one out the recipes are brand new. We print up to 600 books. We go after recipes from staff, parents, sibling. It's original recipes — not pulled out of books."

The organization publishes a new cookbook every three to four years. Chef Milos Cihelka of Golden Mushroom fame submits several recipes for each new book. "He's a big supporter of the organization. Every time we ask he submits recipes."

Weber said the organization has sold its cookbook at the Farmington Farmer's Market and

may attend a few Christmas bazaars.

"It's a nice thing to build involvement by people outside the area," he said, adding that the book "always sells out."

Community Living Centers of Farmington has 120 residents and 94 staff members. It runs 10 facilities in Farmington, Farmington Hills, Southfield and Royal Oak.

"It's a step program to get them to become independent. They start in a group home setting and then go into independent living. We have a couple of managed apartment buildings."

Clients who are able to live on their own move from a managed setting into an apartment building where Community Living Center staff routinely visits.

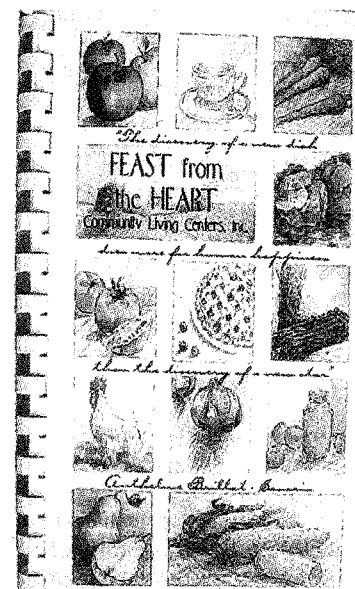
"Most of them do work and we offer them transportation. Most people are here for life," Weber said. "They don't pay anything. The state funds 65 percent of the cost and the rest comes from fundraising."

For more about Community Living Centers of Farmington visit www.clchomes.org

To buy *Feast from the Heart* cookbook, call (248) 478-0870. A \$12 donation includes shipping.

Community Living Centers is located at 33235 Grand River Avenue, Farmington.

— Sharon Dargay



Community Living Centers of Farmington is selling this new edition "Feast from the Heart" from its popular cookbook series.

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THURSDAY
October 22,
2009

REAL ESTATE

online at hometownlife.com

SECTION C
(*)

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

Push on to extend first-time buyer credit

BY JULIE BROWN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Gary Reggish is an optimistic guy. The Livonia resident, a Realtor and president of the Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors, hopes Congress will extend the first-time home-buyer tax credit past its Nov. 30 expiration date. The National Association of Realtors has been working to that end, said the owner of Remerica United Realty in Novi.

"The government has been receptive. They have not committed," he said, adding state and local Realtor boards are also pushing for the extension which allows first-time buyers up to \$8,000 or 10 percent of the purchase price as a tax credit for a home bought.

Realtors would like to see the provision extended to all buyers, he said. Time's drawing close now as work must be done in time for a Nov. 30 closing.

"They need to get off the fence and go buy," Reggish said. "Now's the time."

Interest rates and prices are low, he said.

The NAR has provided Congress with documentation the credit has boosted the housing market and lowered inventory, Reggish said. "We're heading towards stabilization. Stabilization of the housing market is crucial. It is the key element."

That ties into WWOCAR's Jump Start initiative to bring new jobs to Michigan.

"We absolutely need small business growth," he said. Michigan's below average for startups for small business, which nationwide generates 70 of all jobs.

Independent contractors in real estate, insurance and other fields don't show up in unemployment totals, he said, and don't collect unemployment. He and others want new jobs to replace those lost in manufacturing.

Mary McGaw, mortgage loan officer with Bank of America out of Canton, agreed the provision's needed beyond Nov. 30. "It definitely is a good thing," said



McGaw, a Westland resident. "We've been seeing quite a few more people coming in."

She said 85 percent of her customers are first-time buyers. "There's really been a lot of advertising on it," she said of the provision. "Realtors are doing a big push."

Buyers get \$8,000 or 10 percent of the purchase price as a tax credit. "By all means, I think it's done a lot for everyone. It's definitely improving," she said of the housing market. "We are having multiple offers on homes."

Prices aren't what they once were, although McGaw said some are going for above the listing. Some are short sales, sold for less than the buyer owes.

Congressional action could soon follow.

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, said in a statement, "I support the tax credit and want to see it as a stand alone bill. I oppose attempts to tie this helpful tax credit to legislation that will be harmful to our recessed economy."

Many taxpayers who purchase a home this year will qualify for an \$8,000 federal tax credit. The refundable first-time home-buyer credit is a major tax provision in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Time is running out to qualify for this credit.

Here are 10 things the IRS wants you to know about the first-time homebuyer credit:

To be considered a first-time home-

buyer, you - and your spouse if you are married - must not have jointly or separately owned another principal residence during the three years prior to the date of purchase.

You cannot claim the credit before there is a completed sale and purchase of the residence. The sale and purchase are generally completed at the time of closing on the purchase.

To qualify for the credit, the completed purchase must occur before Dec. 1, 2009.

The home must be located in the United States.

The credit is either 10 percent of the purchase price of the home or \$8,000, whichever is less.

The amount of the credit begins to phase out for taxpayers whose modified adjusted gross income is more than \$75,000 or \$150,000 for joint filers.

The credit is fully refundable. A home-buyer with no taxable income, who qualifies for the credit, may file for the sole purpose of claiming the credit and receiving a refund. The credit will be paid out to eligible taxpayers, even if they owe no tax or the credit is more than the tax owed.

The credit is claimed on IRS Form 5405, First-Time Homebuyers Credit.

Taxpayers can claim the credit for a qualified 2009 purchase on either their 2008 or 2009 tax return. For those who have filed a 2008 return, a Form 1040X, Amended U.S. Individual Income Tax Return can be filed in order to get a refund in 2009.

The credit for qualified 2009 purchases does not have to be repaid, as long as the home remains your main home for 36 months after the purchase date.

Qualified taxpayers who have been considering a main home purchase may find extra incentive from this tax credit to buy now so they can complete the purchase before the Dec. 1 deadline.

For more information on this and other key tax provisions, visit the official IRS Web site at IRS.gov/Recovery.

Not obeying court order serious business

Q: I have been in a lawsuit against my homeowners association where I have represented myself. The association has gotten an injunction against me continuing to maintain a barbecue pit on the side of my home. What happens if I decide not to honor the court's order? Will I be fined, etc.?

A: I suggest that you contact an attorney immediately to further advise you on the ramifications of you not

complying

with the

court order,

and whether

it should be

appealed.

On the other

hand, generally

speaking, a

court order

disobeyed

by a party can result in a contempt proceeding by the court, which would include not only fines, but potential incarceration, depending upon the nature of your violation. That is not something to play with, and you are best advised to comply with the Court Order while preserving your appeal rights, should you wish to do so.

Q: I am a member of a homeowner association, and believe that one of our directors has absconded with funds. I am trying to get a copy of the financial statement of the association, and want to look at the books and records, but am being denied access. What can I do?

A: Typically, homeowner associations are nonprofit corporations and the Nonprofit Corporation Act and, presumably, the bylaws of your homeowner association give you the right to review the books, records and, perhaps, the minutes of the association. You should write a letter to the Board of Directors demanding access to these records, but be specific as to what you want to look at. Absent a proper response, hire a lawyer, and if necessary, seek recourse in circuit court to compel the Board of Directors to allow you access to the books and records.

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.

HOMES SOLD - OAKLAND

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real-estate closings recorded the week of July 13-17, 2009, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Auburn Hills

4187 Blue Heron Dr \$282,000
2887 Edina Jane Dr \$82,000
106 Oakmont \$80,000
2066 Walnut Rd \$129,000

Beverly Hills

15581 Amherst Ave \$198,000
16236 Beechwood Ave \$155,000
16265 Beechwood Ave \$175,000
32950 Bellview Trl \$155,000
18432 Riverside Dr \$273,000
16207 Wetherby St \$240,000

Birmingham

1115 N Old Woodward Ave #5 \$330,000
1762 Webster St \$365,000

Bloomfield Township

1763 Golf Ridge Dr \$145,000
756 Palms Rd \$875,000
4246 Sandy Ln \$455,000
6380 Sunningdale Dr \$265,000
6350 Telegraph Rd \$37,000
2520 W Hickory Grove Rd \$501,000

Clarkston

5957 Forest Grove Ct \$267,000
4984 Oak Park Dr \$49,000
6511 Ridgeview Dr \$95,000
8165 Woodview Rd \$331,000

Commerce Township

4046 Heatherwood Dr \$217,000
5290 Huron Hills Dr \$270,000
252 Phoenix St \$30,000
4418 Ravinewood Dr \$140,000
5354 Seminole Ct \$242,000
1881 Thorndale St \$138,000
1560 Vanstone Dr \$150,000
5000 White Tail Ct \$50,000

Davidsburg

13883 Rattalee Lake Rd \$80,000
12143 Windcliff \$173,000

Farmington

24185 Farmington Rd \$168,000
36491 Saxony Rd \$158,000

Farmington Hills

36940 Aspen Dr \$280,000
32450 Chesterbrook St \$110,000
32301 Coffey St \$180,000
31109 Country Blf \$95,000
30971 Country Ridge Cir \$184,000
29043 Creek Bend Dr \$332,000
22390 Diamond Ct \$360,000
30212 Fink Ave \$98,000
39205 Grand River Ave \$36,000

35872 Johnston Rd \$163,000

35455 Lone Pine Ln \$164,000

37846 Rhoswood \$320,000

28367 Ridgebrook Rd \$144,000

37243 Timberview Ln \$53,000

38167 Turnberry Ct \$513,000

35097 Valley Forge Dr \$168,000

Lake Orion

47 Eagle Ridge Rd \$145,000

3643 Green Meadow Ln \$195,000

32 Highland Ave \$300,000

Milford

1076 Eagle Nest Dr \$150,000

204 Hickory St \$185,000

875 Rockwood Ct \$186,000

Northville

43824 Westridge Ln \$170,000

Novi

45508 Addington Ln \$324,000

23902 Avery Ln \$100,000

21572 Chase Dr \$355,000

22455 Haverdale St \$314,000

24522 Olde Orchard St \$50,000

39901 Sandpoint Way \$190,000

27255 Victoria Rd \$270,000

42589 Wimboltown Way \$238,000

Oakland Township

4871 Georgetown Dr \$147,000

5776 Paint Valley Dr \$220,000

Oxford

3726 Country View Dr \$106,000

495 E Peninsula Ct \$260,000

75 Pineview Ct \$160,000

180 State St \$205,000

643 Welchview Ct \$308,000

Rochester

1160 Great Oaks Blvd \$230,000

1169 Krista Ct \$388,000

366 Maywood Ave \$325,000

1383 Pebble Ridge Dr \$525,000

1014 River Mist Dr \$235,000

Rochester Hills

1365 Chestnut Cir \$220,000

3140 Davenport Ln \$277,000

195 Eastlawn Dr \$167,000

658 Glasgow Ct \$148,000

3691 Hogue Ave \$50,000

170 Manor Way \$100,000

1055 Paint Creek Ln \$90,000

133 Stratford Ln \$99,000

2788 Tallahassee Dr \$118,000

733 Ten Point Dr \$237,000

1830 Westridge Dr \$430,000

South Lyon

1108 Appaloosa Ct \$190,000

26623 Daria Cir W \$80,000

29931 Hunters Ln \$214,000

320 Whipple St \$124,000

Southfield

28780 Fairfax St \$76,000

28491 Glasgow St \$49,000

9233 Eastwind Dr \$33,000

19010 Hilton Dr \$130,000

28935 Murray Crescent Dr \$90,000

18602 W Nine Mile Rd \$172,000

23657 Phillip Dr \$60,000

27075 Pierce St \$110,000

27232 Red Leaf Ln \$57,000

17302 Roxbury Ave \$60,000

17565 Roxbury Ave \$50,000

29702 Somerset Dr \$87,000

25430 Southfield Rd \$38,000

5000 Town Ctr \$46,000

20975 Virginia St \$119,000

18301 W 13 Mile Rd \$17,000

26683 W Carnegie Park Dr \$39,000

Troy

1302 Burns Dr \$180,000

1963 Freemont Dr \$225,000

3350 Kilmer Dr \$63,000

6550 Livorno Rd \$100,000

3344 Paddington Dr \$268,000

1227 Provincial Dr \$620,000

2713 Roundtree Dr \$35,000

3219 Troy Dr \$144,000

670 Troy Valley Dr \$240,000

Walled Lake

1630 Commerce Pines Dr \$212,000

2157 Hidden Meadows Dr \$79,000

2121 Park Place Dr \$70,000

2171 Park Place Dr \$58,000

628 Pine Tree Ct \$190,000

1233 Vollmers St \$260,000

Waterford

1682 Colonial Village Way \$40,000

3199 Coventry Dr \$156,000

478 Lakeside Dr \$73,000

4351 Louella Dr \$95,000

1066 Meadowlark Dr \$85,000

3125 Roseanne Ln \$95,000

1166 Sherwood Forest Ct \$150,000

West Bloomfield

6510 Apple Blossom Trl \$331,000

6435 Brookview Ln \$145,000

6435 Buxton Dr \$138,000

7436 Camelot Dr \$150,000

6589 Cardinal Place Ct \$174,000

7189 Cottonwood Knoll St \$120,000

7474 Franklin Ridge Ln \$219,000

4174 Gateway Cir \$128,000

6947 Manderson Ter \$210,000

6202 Odessa Dr \$150,000

6939 Orchard Lake Road \$69,000

6223 Orchard Woods Dr \$270,000

4731 Patrick Rd \$182,000

4267 Pinehurst Dr \$258,000

1070 Rolling Ridge Rd \$285,000

6425 Tamerlane Dr \$114,000

7623 Watford Dr \$400,000

White Lake

1130 Fairview Dr \$110,000

276 Horizon Rd \$100,000

127 N Williams Lake Rd \$136,000

760 Robar Cir \$110,000

8136 Springdale Dr \$100,000

8170 Timber Trl \$115,000

State forms Affordable Housing Investment Fund

The Michigan State Housing Development Authority recently announced the creation of the Michigan Affordable Housing Investment Fund, a new program that will allow MSHDA to encourage local banks and other financiers to support the development and preservation of affordable rental housing in the state through the end of 2010.

Beginning Oct. 1 and continuing through Dec. 31, 2010, MSHDA may deposit up to \$250,000 with any Michigan regulated financial institution making a new investment in Low Income Housing Tax Credits related to a MSHDA-financed project. A participating bank investing in LIHTCs already receives an opportunity for a return on the LIHTC investment and potential Community Reinvestment Act credit for the investments. This new program adds the prospect of receiving MSHDA deposits as a result of the investment.

The program is part of a broad effort by MSHDA to improve the state's rental housing stock, make housing costs more affordable, rebuild cities and create jobs.

"Affordable housing and keeping and attracting jobs are major concerns to Americans across the nation," said MSHDA Executive Director Keith Molin. "Michigan is moving forward to help employers, developers, lenders and families plan their strategies as we create more successful communities."

Under the terms of the Michigan Community Fund, participating banks can directly invest in a stand-alone MSHDA-financed development or in a LIHTC investment fund that is investing in MSHDA financed developments. An investment in either the 4 percent or 9 percent LIHTC program will be eligible for MSHDA deposits. The properties must be located within the state of Michigan.

The plan requires all participating banks to be a financial institution:

•Fully licensed to conduct business in the state of Michigan;

•Holding any and all applicable certifications of compliance with the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, the Community Reinvestment Act, the Fair Credit Reporting Act, the Truth in Lending Act, and any other federal or state regulation related to the lawful operation of the financial institution, and;

•Whose deposits are FDIC insured.

•And whose minimum participation is \$250,000.

The MSHDA deposit:

•Shall be evidenced by a newly created investment account in the form of a Certificate of Deposit or similar instrument which shall provide for a market rate of return on the investment;

•Shall have a negotiable maturity date specified in the Certificate of Deposit or other document with no guarantee of renewal;

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- 1 To date (2 wds.)
- 6 Wild guess
- 10 Lath
- 14 Perp's need
- 15 Forum garb
- 16 Moon phenomenon
- 17 Bolt for a girder
- 18 Fragrance
- 19 Nefertiti's god
- 20 Gladiator's hello
- 21 Space station environment (2 wds.)
- 24 Bravery
- 26 Sports palaces
- 27 "Snow" veggie
- 28 Wilds a machete
- 30 More ticked off
- 33 Hoofs it
- 34 Irritate
- 37 Hot — oven
- 38 Retail centers
- 39 Faint, with "over"
- 40 Desperado's piece
- 41 Common rental
- 42 Decorative vessels
- 43 Comes in second
- 44 Battery size
- 45 Volcanic rock
- 48 Most agile
- 52 Totally amazed
- 55 Pig's digs
- 56 Minnows

DOWN

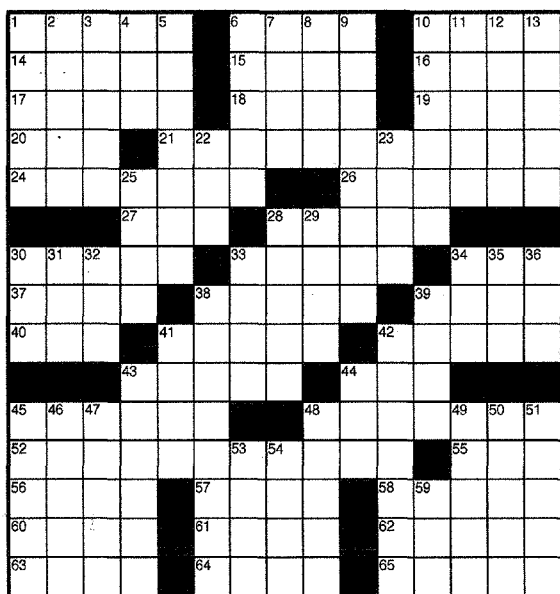
- 57 Post-kindergarten
- 58 Gauguin's prop
- 60 Ocean bird
- 61 Similar
- 62 Movie part
- 63 Acorn, to an oak
- 64 Bakers' meas.
- 65 Male voice
- 1 Fergie's first name
- 2 Martini garnish
- 3 Half a sawbuck
- 4 "Honest" fellow
- 5 Classier
- 6 Blizzard
- 7 Hubbub (hyph.)
- 8 Eager
- 9 Army quarters
- 10 Removes a goatee
- 11 Livy's tongue
- 12 Queen of the Misty Isles
- 13 Theater awards
- 22 NASA counterpart
- 23 Places of refuge
- 25 Receptive
- 28 Foxes' prey
- 29 Choir member
- 30 Hang loosely
- 31 Buckeye st. campus
- 32 Turned chicken

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

LOIS BOONE CODE
ARCH ANNEX OBEY
PEAR SELVA LIKE
PODIATRY CLOSED
ELIS RTES
JACKAL REASSERT
ORA SLEEK SUSHI
NORI EASES STIR
AMEND ROYAL ENE
HAYFIELD PADRES
RAGS ALMA
OOZING FLIPPANT
LOON STAIN PEAK
ALOG OWING ERGO
FAME NOTES ROSS

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- 33 Use hip boots
- 34 Peace gesture
- 35 Constantly, to
- 36 Really big tees
- 38 Abuse
- 39 "The Bridge on the River —"
- 41 Battery word
- 42 Heartfelt
- 43 Wore well
- 44 Mimic
- 45 Neonates
- 46 Conscious
- 47 Trawler gear
- 48 Scrapes, as a knee
- 49 German industrial center
- 50 Pool member
- 51 Mary — Moore
- 53 Genres
- 54 Porcelain flaw
- 59 Stretchy bandage



SUDOKU

1	8	2	6		9			4
	5				8			3
7	3	6		2		8	1	
		7						
					7	6	3	1
					4	9		
6		9	7		4	3		5
5	1		8				2	7
4	7		2	5	3			6

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

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

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

SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

APERTURE FILM PHOTOGRAPH
CAMERA FLASH SHUTTER
CHEMICALS FOCUS TRIPOD
DARK ROOM LENS VIEWFINDER

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

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

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

9	6	1	8	5	2	8	7
7	2	4	9	6	8	1	9
5	8	3	7	1	7	6	2
8	7	6	2	7	9	1	9
1	8	9	1	8	6	9	7
2	7	9	1	9	8	7	6
6	1	8	9	2	7	9	8
8	9	2	8	7	1	7	9
7	9	7	6	8	9	2	1

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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

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Thursday edition..... 2:00 p.m. Tuesday

Offices and Hours:

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

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4000-4980

Apartments/
Unfurnished

4000

CANTON DUPLEX

3 bdrm, 1350 sq. ft., bsmt, ready mid October, \$975/mo. Call: (734) 455-1215

CANTON: Huge 1 bdrm on 5 acres next to private home, brand new, all utilities included. \$600/mo. 734-658-8823

DETROIT/OLDE REDFORD AREA. 2 bdrm townhome, bsmt, appl, water, \$650/mo + security. Call: (734) 717-5091

FARMINGTON AREA

Adult community 55+, quiet country setting, heat/water incl, \$590/mo, pet okay. Call: (734) 564-8402

FARMINGTON HILLS 23078 Middlebelt Rd.

Spacious 1-2 bdrms, C/A, from \$525. 50% off 1st 3 months with approved credit. (248) 473-5180

FARMINGTON HILLS FREEDOM VILLAGE APTS.

1 bdrm Move in Special for qualified applicants. Laundry in unit, water incl. No Pets. (586) 254-9511

FARMINGTON MANOR APTS.

Deluxe studio & 1 bedroom, carpet, \$300 security, 50% off first 3 months with approved credit. (248) 886-0868

Apartments/
Unfurnished

4000

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

GARDEN CITY - 2 bdrm apts, upper/lower units avail. Heat & water incl, updated & remodeled. (248) 474-3005

LINCOLN PARK, Lowest rent, pool is now open, Deluxe 1 & 2 bdrms, quiet, safe, balconies. Call: (313) 386 6720

LIVONIA

Mid 5/10/12/15/18/21 bdrm w/laundry room in unit. 50% off first 2 months with approved credit. \$595/mo. 248-521-1978

LIVONIA - Near Middlebelt/

Plymouth. 1 bdrm, remodeled, storage space, heated, appl. \$500/mo. 248-473-8331

PLYMOUTH

1 Bdrm. \$575. 2 Bdrm. \$670. First month free w/approved credit. W/ 1 yr. lease. Walk-in closets. (734) 455-1215

PLYMOUTH - 1 bdrm, in a 4 unit bldg., new paint, coin laundry, c/a. \$595/mo, plus security. (231) 392-6373

PLYMOUTH: 3 bdrm, 2 bath, washer/dryer, dishwasher, c/a. 1325 sq.ft. 1 car garage. \$975/mo. (734) 516-5086

PLYMOUTH

\$300 moves you in! 1 bdrm, \$597/mo. Single story, private entry Washer/dryer hook-ups Storage, dogs welcome! 734-459-6640 EHO www.cormorantco.com *call for details

PLYMOUTH RENT STARTING AT \$529

1 & 2 Bedroom Apt's. Plymouth Manor 734-455-3880 www.yorkcommunities.com

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REDFORD

1st Month Free! 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

Apartments/
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4000

WESTLAND A \$0 MOVE-IN!

Warren/Middlebelt, Lg 1 bdrm. Free Heat/Water. Starting at \$550/mo. 734-459-1160

PLYMOUTH-OLD VILLAGE

1 bdrm upper, avail now, no pets, non smoking, \$475/mo. Call: (734) 216-1045

PLYMOUTH PARK APTS

65 and older. 1 & 2 bdrm apts avail. \$500/mo including all utilities. (313) 350-1270

PLYMOUTH - Prime location, 1 bdrm avail, \$580 plus security. Near downtown. Incl. heat. No dogs. 734-455-2635

WESTLAND Apts From \$499*

Deposit from \$0* 1 & 2 Bdrms • Patio or Balcony • 24 Hr Emergency Maint. • Open 7 Days

WayneWood Apts 734-326-8270, EHO

*Conditions Apply www.waynewoodapts.com

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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 734-722-4700 Mon.-Fri. 9am-7pm Sat.-Sun. 10am-4pm

WESTLAND First Month Free!

1 bdrm - \$460/mo. walk-in closet, private entry. Near Ford Plant 734-721-6699 EHO www.cormorantco.com

WESTLAND Hickory Woods Apts.

\$224 MOVE IN! 1st Month Rent Free (for qualified applicants) 1 Bdrm-\$550* 2 Bdrm-\$625

FREE GAS AND WATER (734) 729-6520 *Short term leases avail.

WESTLAND Park Apts.

FREE RENT 2 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath, \$565. 936 Sq. Ft. 1 Bdrm, \$490, 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 (734) 729-6636

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Rent Starting at \$519 • 1 & 2 bedroom apts. with fireplace. (734) 261-7394 www.yorkcommunities.com

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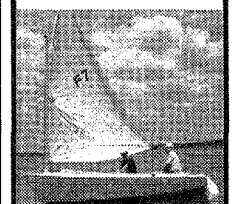
WESTLAND

Hickory Woods Apts. \$224 MOVE IN! 1st Month Rent Free (for qualified applicants) 1 Bdrm-\$550* 2 Bdrm-\$625

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CANTON: Clean 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, bsmt, fenced yard. No smoking. Available now! \$975/mo. (734) 981-5953

APARTMENTS

HOMETOWNlife.com**Homes For Rent 4050**

FARMINGTON - 1800 sq. ft. ranch, attached gar, lg master suite, 4 yr old house, no bsmt. \$1300/mo. 248-563-1733

GARDEN CITY: 3 bdrm, 2 bath, finished bsmt, 2 car garage, fenced in yard, \$995/mo. (313) 590-0474

GARDEN CITY: 3 bdrm, brick ranch, basement, garage, \$825/mo. + 1 1/2 mo. security deposit. 734-421-3635

GARDEN CITY - New carpet, 3 bdrm, 2 bath. Some appliances. Finished bsmt. Fenced yd. \$1000/mo., 734-844-8620

GARDEN CITY: Refinished 3 bdrm, a/c, bsmt, fenced yard. No pets. \$850/mo. + 1 1/2 sec. No Sec. 8. **248-417-1210**

INKSTER: 3 bdrm brick ranch, new furnace, utility room, \$600; 3 bdrm, ranch, \$550. Option. **(248) 788-1823**

LIVONIA: 1 person house. Extremely clean. \$500/mo. \$700 deposit. No pets. 1 yr. lease. 989-657-3494

LIVONIA - 1200 sq. ft. freshly painted 3 bdrm, detached gar, new carpet. Appli, fenced yard. \$950/mo, 248-342-0314

LIVONIA - 9111 Hugh. 3 bdrm bungalow w/fenced yard. All appli. incl. dishwasher. Pets ok. \$895 + sec. 313-779-8506

LIVONIA: Brick ranch, 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, bsmt, FL room, 2 car garage, C/A, no pets, \$899/mo + Security. 734-674-8153

LIVONIA - Immaculate 1 bdrm, carpet, blinds, appliances. No smoking/pets. \$475/mo, 248-681-6115; 248-921-2084

LIVONIA (NW) - By Rec Center. Brick ranch, 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, 2+ car gar, updates, fin bsmt. \$1325/mo, 248-347-7684

Homes For Rent 4050

MELVINDALE: 3 bdrm, ranch, utility room, option/LC, \$8000 avail, bad credit okay. \$800/mo. **(248) 788-1823**

REDFORD: 1100 sq. ft 3 bdrm bungalow w/bsmt, a/c, fridge/stove. Imm. occ. \$825/mo. Sec. 8 ok. 734-748-4331

ROYAL OAK (N) 13/Greenfield. 3 bdrm, lg fenced yard, W/D, fridge, stove, air, \$780/mo. Call: **(248) 740-9836**

SOUTHFIELD - 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, updates throughout, full basement, huge yard, from \$1100/mo. 248-880-2534

SOUTHFIELD - 4 bdrm, 2 bath, bsmt, washer/dryer incl. Near 8 Mile & Inkster. \$900/mo + \$900 deposit. 254-379-4126

WESTLAND - 1250 SQ. FT. 4 bdrm, 2 bath, finished bsmt, garage, appli, C/A, DR, LR. \$1250/mo, 248-231-0074

WESTLAND: Ford Rd. area. 3 bdrm ranch, 1.5 bath, bsmt, newly decorated, c/a, no pets. Rent Special. 734-591-9163

WESTLAND: Newly remodeled 3 bdrm, 2 bath, no pets. \$850/mo. \$850 security. Section 8 ok. (734) 341-6599

WESTLAND/ROMULUS - 2-3 bdrm, redcarpeted, carpeted. Starting at \$450/mo. **Ross Realty: (734) 326-8300**

WOODHAVEN - Remodeled 3 bdrm brick ranch, fin bsmt, 2 baths, C/A, 2 car gar, option/LC avail. \$850, 248-788-1823

Homes For Rent 4050

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STARTING AS LOW AS \$599
3 bdrm, 2 bath homes with all appliances incl C/A! 924 sq. ft. up to 1,452 sq. ft!
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*some restrictions apply, EHO

Mobile Home Rentals 4070

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Living Quarters To Share 4120

FARMINGTON HILLS Professional roommate. Furnished, immaculate, convenient, safe, \$375 incl. util., cable, internet, cleaning serv. 813-205-9926

PLYMOUTH-DOWNTOWN Room w/ lock, close to library (free internet), \$400/mo + sec. 1/2 electric. (734) 502-8737

Rooms For Rent 4140

GARDEN CITY: Furnished room, cable TV, a/c, microwave, fridge. No deposit. \$100/wk. Call: 734-421-2326

LUXURY MOTELS - Low Rates, Fairlane 248-347-9999, Royal 248-544-1575, Days 734-427-1300, Comfort 248-504-5080.

NORTHVILLE or PLYMOUTH Downtown, 1st week with full deposit. Furnished sleeping rooms. Newly decorated. \$85 weekly. Security deposit. 734-355-6453, 248-305-9944

Office/Retail Space For Rent/Lease 4220

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

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Commercial/Industrial For Rent/Lease 4230

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		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.	Other
1st Choice Mortgage Lending	(734) 459-0782	4.875	0	4.25	0	J/A
Accurate Mortgage Solutions	(800) 593-1912	4.875	0	4.25	0	J/A
Americus Mortgage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	5	0	4.375	0	J/A
BRINKS Financial	(800) 785-4755	4.5	1.5	4.25	0	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	4.625	0.875	4.125	1.5	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	5.125	0	4.5	0	J
Cornerstone Community Financial	(800) 777-6728	5.125	0	4.5	0	J/A/F
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	5	0	4.375	0	A
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	4.99	0	4.375	0	J/V/F
First State Bank	(800) 372-2205	5.25	0	4.625	0	F
Gold Star Mortgage	(800) 784-1074	4.75	0.375	4.25	0	J/A/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage	(800) 991-9922	4.75	0.25	4.25	0	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	5.25	0	4.625	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	4.875	0.5	4.375	0	J/A/V/F
Michigan United Mortgage	(810) 844-2222	4.5	1.375	3.99	2.125	J/A
Shore Mortgage	(800) 678-6663	4.75	2	4.25	2	J/A/V/F

Above Information available as of 10/16/09 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000

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

rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com. Key to "Other" Column - J = Jumbo,

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GM-BACKED STARTUP BRINGS 'FLEX' ETHANOL CLOSER TO REALITY

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CAReport



By Dale Buss

Coskata Inc. pushed toward the front of the pack of second-generation ethanol producers last week by firing up its new "semi-commercial" facility for manufacturing cellulosic ethanol in Madison, Pa., near Pittsburgh. The move represented a huge step for the company that was originally brought into the limelight nearly two years ago by General Motors, which took an initial minority stake in the Illinois-based concern.

And by striking a blow for the future of ethanol fuel at a time when it has fallen into some economic and political disfavor, Coskata is helping to revitalize prospects for GM's huge fleet of vehicles that are powered by gasoline-ethanol blends. GM and Ford continue to expand the number of their products that run on the fuel and still have tied major portions of their "green" propulsion programs to corn- and cellulose-based ethanol.

The opening of the facility moves Coskata closer to building a full-scale commercial plant, which it anticipates opening by late 2012.

And the Pennsylvania plant, with annual capacity of about 50,000 gallons of ethanol, "gives us a proof statement and demonstrated capabilities," William Roe, said Coskata's CEO. "We've put our

head down and for the last year have completed a lot of the deliverables that have to be done in order to do this on a commercial scale."

Coskata already has been delivering small quantities of cellulosic ethanol to GM for use in its test fleet in Milford. That was one of the early markers laid out by Roe and his colleagues when GM originally touted the startup's product and technology as a promising development in America's efforts to break free of dependence on foreign oil.

GM has been preoccupied with other things lately, but Coskata has stayed on task. The company long ago validated its technique for using bacteria to produce "flex" ethanol from numerous feedstocks, including not only wood biomass but also agricultural waste, sustainable energy crops, construction waste and even certain municipal wastes.

Roe said that Coskata believes the Pennsylvania plant will help demonstrate that the company can produce the fuel commercially for \$1 a gallon or so, its long-declared cost goal that analysts say would make flex ethanol cost-competitive with gasoline. And Coskata's technique is as much as 7-times as "energy-positive" as the fossil fuels used in its production. Nor is it



Fuels that can run on gasoline-ethanol blends, like this Chevrolet HHR, are still a big part of General Motors' "green" future -- as well as present.

particularly thirsty when it comes to water requirements for production.

Coskata also has managed to stay largely out of the way of the economic and political storm that has battered the corn-ethanol industry over the last year or so. And its funding has remained adequate thanks to other major investors including the venture capitalist Vinod Khosla and the Blackstone Group investment firm.

Now, Roe said, Coskata is moving full-speed ahead toward building full-scale facilities on its own or with big partners who might supply feedstocks, or are interested in the ethanol output, or both. For example, Coskata is working with Florida-based U.S. Sugar to explore the possibility of using wastes from sugarcane production and processing to fuel an ethanol plant.

Roe noted that Congress has been helping GM and Ford's Flex Fuel fleets by mandating demand for Coskata's end products. In 2007, Congress established a quota for gasoline marketers to blend 100 million gallons of advanced biofuels into gasoline by next year.

Roe maintained that Coskata is on a timetable that puts it at or near the pole position in the developing flex-ethanol industry. "The differentiators for us are the simplicity of our approach and our cost points, both operating and capital [costs] and the speed with which we can get this to market on a commercial scale as advertised," he said. "I think we'll be among the first out there operating plants at the scale and cost points that we've targeted for the last few years."

He also believes that Coskata may be in a position to consider being acquired or launching an initial public offering of stock within a few years. "We owe our investors an exit, and there are a couple of ways to do that," Roe said. "We're not in any big rush. The road to an IPO, for example, is one of continually hitting your marks and doing what you say you're going to do -- combined, of course, with the status of the investment markets themselves."

"No one would have dreamed of an IP in this space six months ago, but an IPO now may make a lot of sense at some point."

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