

New gym scores points at
St. John Neumann – B1

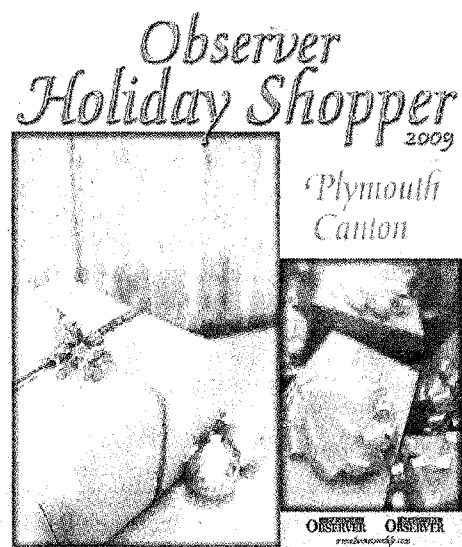
The Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers

Volume 35
Number 44

75 CENTS

CANTON OBSERVER

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2009 . online at hometownlife.com



Gift
Guide
inside

CANTON CONNECTION

Send memories

The holiday season is upon us and, through the hustle and bustle, we're asking our readers to let us be a part of their celebration.

We're asking readers to send us their favorite holiday memories and photos to the *Observer* for the special holiday edition we're planning for Thursday, Dec. 24.

Did you get a favorite gift for Christmas, or do you have a special memory of Hanukkah? Is there a special tradition your family has that makes the season merry and bright?

Share those memories with your neighbors through us. Send your items — be sure to include a photo, if you can — to *Observer* editor Brad Kadrich at bkadrich@hometownlife.com

It is our intention to make that issue a "keeper," something our readers will savor — and save.

Santa letters

Santa Claus has started to make his list, although sources tell the *Observer* that, while he's far from check it twice, he is waiting by his mailbox for youngsters' gift lists and letters.

The *Observer* wants to make sure Santa Claus knows what children would like this Christmas and is asking youngsters to send us letters to him. We will publish the letters in the newspaper during December before sending them on to the North Pole.

The letters should be sent by e-mail and include a snapshot of the child writing the letter. They can be a list of toys, a holiday greeting for the Jolly Ol' Elf or whatever information youngsters want Santa to have.

Send Santa correspondence to bkadrich@hometownlife.com and be sure to put "Letter to Santa" in the subject line. Letters can also be sent the old-fashioned way, via postal service, to Letter to Santa, c/o Brad Kadrich, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226.

Teddy toss

The Plymouth Whalers host the 10th annual Teddy Bear Toss during the Saturday, Dec. 5, game against Sault Ste. Marie at Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township.

Fans are asked to bring a teddy bear to throw on the ice when the Whalers score their first goal.

Over the previous nine years, the Teddy Bear Toss has resulted in thousands of teddy bears being collected and donated to organizations like the Children's Charities. The bears are used to comfort children at disaster scenes and during times of crisis.

DDA bolsters business with fresh ideas

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A Canton organization has persisted with efforts to bolster the township's core business strip along Ford Road, even as the task has become more daunting amid an economic downturn and sporadic criticism from skeptics.

Canton's Downtown Development Authority, created 25 years ago with a narrow focus along Ford Road between Sheldon and Morton Taylor, later broadened its scope to a 3.5-mile stretch from the Westland boundary to just west of Canton Center.

Newer projects involve rolling out a Shop Canton regional advertising campaign and hanging color-coded banners

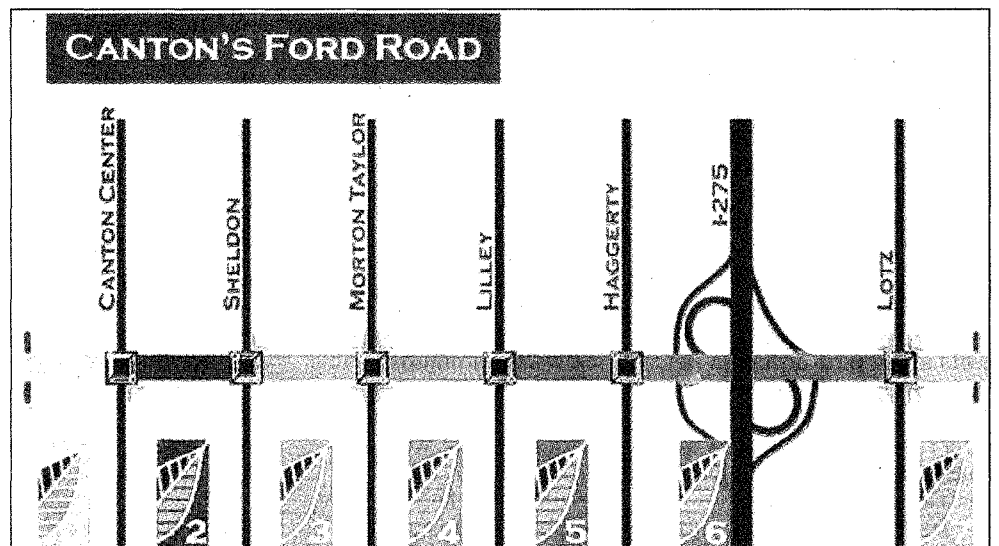
on street lamps so local retailers and officials can help consumers navigate the township's busiest thoroughfare.

Officials say the latest marketing plan helps not only big box stores but, just as importantly, the smaller, independent businesses that can get lost amid the hustle and bustle of Ford Road.

"We have a number of these small mom-and-pop stores here. We just need to let residents and people in other communities know about them," the DDA board's vice chair, Mark Waldbauer, said.

Consumers, it is believed, will more likely find and patronize a local store if they know it's in, for example, the

Please see **DDA, A2**



Canton Township's Downtown Development Authority has rolled out a new marketing plan that, among other measures, involves hanging color-coded banners along the Ford Road business strip. It's part of a strategy to help shoppers more easily find stores — large and small — in the DDA district, rather than having them potentially face a miles-long search.

Marching to new drummers

Musicians chosen for Army all-star game

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Jayesh Srivastava knew other members of the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band had played in the U.S. Army All-American Marching Band, and thought it might be a cool way to march out of his comfort zone.

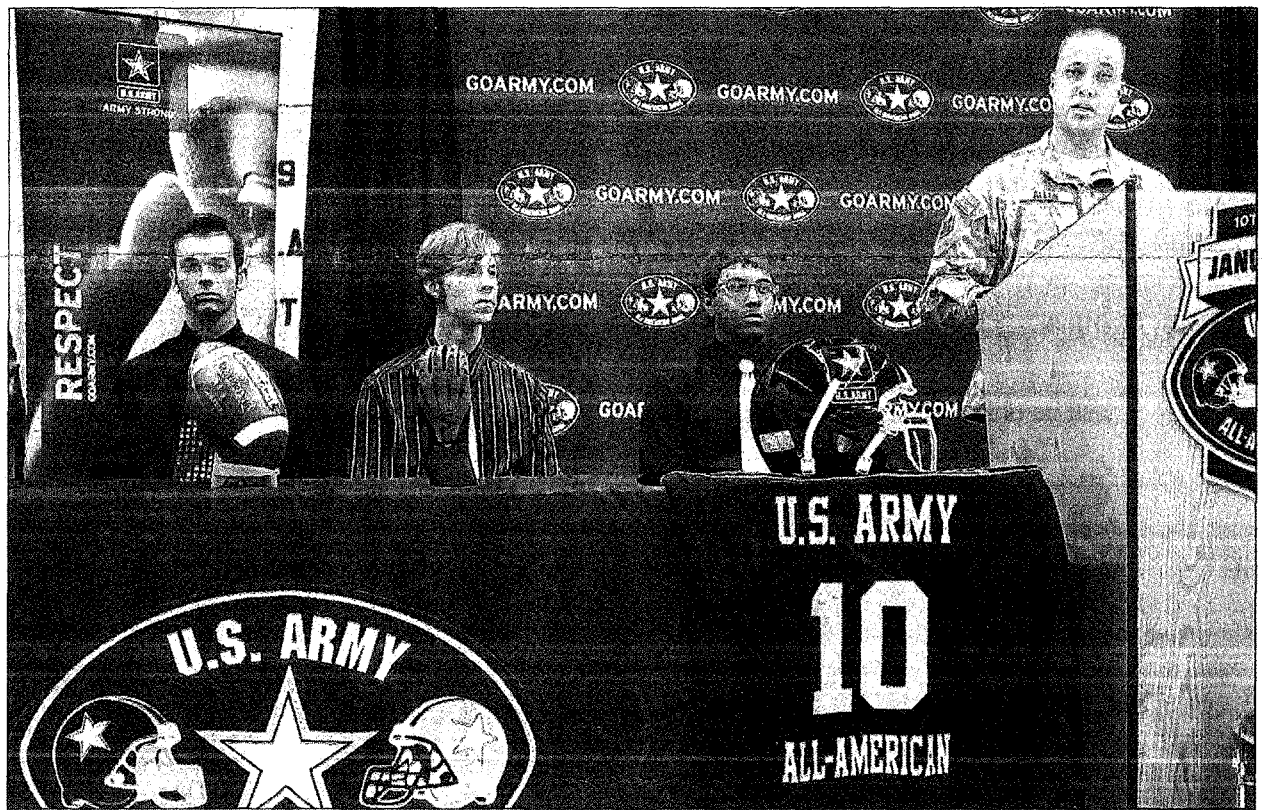
After successfully auditioning, Srivastava and two PCMB teammates get the chance to do just that when they play at halftime of the All-American Bowl in San Antonio Jan. 9. The All-American Bowl features 90 of the country's top high school football players.

Srivastava, a 17-year-old senior snare drummer at Canton High School, was chosen along with Salem High School seniors Sean Coleman (tenor sax) and Jeff Garcia (trumpet) to be part of the 97-member marching band.

"I love music and I love performing," said Srivastava, who spent four years in PCMB. "It seemed like this would be a way to step outside the traditional high school and still utilize my music skills."

The three Plymouth-Canton musicians were chosen after nominations which included a videotaped audition. PCMB, a perennial national championship contender, got as many selections as any band in the country, according to Army officials.

Their selection for the three-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Maj. Kel Allen introduces Jeff Garcia, Sean Coleman and Jayesh Srivastava, all chosen for the U.S. Army All-American Marching Band.

year-old program is a testament to the quality of the program, according to U.S. Army All-American Bowl spokesman James Pallitto.

"It's an incredible program," Pallitto said. "This isn't a fluke. These guys year in and year out are successful."

Like his teammates, 17-year-old Garcia has spent all four of his high school years in the PCMB. He said he thought auditioning for the All-American Bowl would be

fun, and performing in it would improve his skills.

"I like getting better," said Garcia, who wants to go to either the University of Michigan or Western Michigan University to study music. "I feel like it's a fun experience. I get a lot out of it musically."

Like Srivastava, Coleman had heard a lot about the Army pro-

Please see **BAND, A2**

ALL-AMERICAN MARCHERS

- **What:** U.S. Army All-American Bowl
- **When:** Jan. 9
- **Where:** San Antonio, Texas
- **Highlights:** The game features 90 top high school football players; the marching band features 97 musicians chosen from around the country, including three from the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band.

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St. Joseph Mercy christens \$43 million expansion

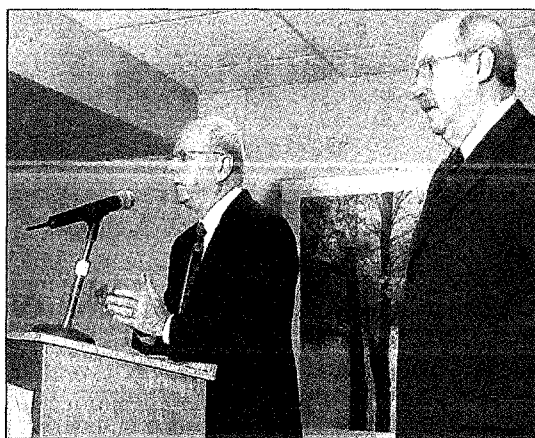
BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

An estimated 700 people turned out Sunday for St. Joseph Mercy Health System's public unveiling of its new Center for Advanced Medicine & Surgery in Canton, a state-of-the-art facility that marks a \$43 million investment in health care.

Hundreds of visitors toured the two-story, 53,000-square-foot expansion during a two-hour open house, viewing firsthand what medical officials say marks a strong commitment to area patients who need cancer treatment and outpatient surgery.

During a pre-open house dedication and blessing attended by 80 people, Dave Parr, who chairs St. Joseph's board, said the new center signals the health system's pledge to offer "remarkable medicine and remarkable care." The addition was built onto an 85,000-square-foot facility that opened 11 years ago near Canton Center and Palmer.

The first-floor cancer center is expected to open in early to mid-December, providing services such as southeast Michigan's first Rapid Arc radiation therapy. The second-story surgery center for mini-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Board of Trustees chair David Parr speaks about St. Joe's health care mission. Garry Faja is The President and CEO of St. Joseph Mercy System.

mally invasive procedures is expected to open by late spring.

Please see **EXPANSION, A2**

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BAND

FROM PAGE A1

gram, and felt like participating in it would expand his experience.

"I wanted to break out beyond what we do in marching band," said Coleman. "(Marching band) has been a very large growing experience, and I've had a lot of life experiences from it. I was pretty thrilled (at his selection). It's not a lot of people, and they're from all around the country. It's an honor."

The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band has had enormous success, winning regional, state and national honors on a yearly basis. According to the band's first-year leader, David Armbruster, Coleman, Garcia and Srivastava are "excellent examples" of that quality.

"These guys exemplify what this program is all about," Armbruster said. "Their passion just exemplifies the spirit this program represents."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-8899



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PCEP Principal Bill Zolkowski congratulates Jeff Garcia, Sean Coleman and Jayesh Srivastava.

DDA

FROM PAGE A1

"green block" between Sheldon and Morton Taylor.

Yet officials say the DDA — governed by a board of business people, at-large citizens and township officials — remains one of the township's most misunderstood entities, a quarter-century after it was created, said full-time Downtown Development Coordinator Kathleen Salla.

"Definitely, I think people are confused about what the DDA is," she said.

Here's a snapshot:

- The DDA currently collects about \$2.1 million a year in township and Wayne County tax revenues — but only taxes from new growth that occurred after the DDA district was created.
- DDA tax revenues, including money that would otherwise leave the township and go to Wayne County, can by law only be spent on projects in the DDA district along Ford Road.
- DDA projects use only the

tax revenue from the DDA district — not other sources such as the township's general fund.

- Local officials say efforts to nurture the township's main business strip also can help residential property values — especially as the housing market improves — by making Canton a place where people want to shop and live.
- Earlier DDA projects focused on improving the following: Ford Road intersections with Lilley, Sheldon and Canton Center; business strip sidewalks; the entrance to Willow Homes subdivision; a right-turn lane into Meijer; mast-arm traffic signals at intersections; and new lighting, decorative brick walls and landscaping.
- "Our major focus is to make this the most viable, vibrant area that we can," Waldbauer said.
- Aside from DDA tax revenues, business strip visual enhancements also benefited from a \$550,000 grant from the Michigan Department of Transportation.
- Projects newly started or still pending include sprucing up the Ford Road/I-275

area and installing decorative "garden" walls; burying the remaining overhead power lines from Lilley to the Westland city limit; replacing outdated business driveways with landscaping; continuing the Shop Canton campaign; and circulating a township visitor's guide to help local merchants.

"We have been tireless in our work to keep Canton vital and strong," said township Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin, who chairs the DDA. "The funds we expend on behalf of the Canton DDA are spent to make Canton's Ford Road as positive an experience as possible and to keep our businesses strong."

"Canton shoppers deserve attractive shopping centers, clean stores and parking lots, a nice-looking main street and a welcoming entrance to our community via Ford Road and I-275," she added. "Without a quaint downtown, we came to think of our downtown as a huge outdoor mall, and we have embraced the challenge to make the residents of Canton proud of their main street — Canton's Ford Road."

DDA officials also have partnered with other organizations, such as the Canton Chamber of Commerce, to market local businesses.

Some business owners outside the Ford Road corridor, including some in Cherry Hill Village, have said they seem less important to local officials than businesses in the DDA district.

But township leaders have said there are legal restrictions on spending DDA dollars outside the designated area. That said, local officials hope that shoppers who visit the DDA district also will patronize businesses elsewhere in Canton.

Stung by some criticism of its recent efforts, the DDA board hopes that skeptics will view recent projects — the color-coded banners, visitor's guide and creation of the still-evolving Web site www.shopcanton.org — as long-term efforts to improve Canton's economic strength and its property values.

"I think this is going to be really valuable down the road," Waldbauer said.

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A Judd Rigging crewman watches as the huge MRI machine is lowered through the roof at St. Joseph Mercy's facility in Canton.

EXPANSION

FROM PAGE A1

Garry Faja, president and CEO for St. Joseph and regional market executive for Trinity Health, made opening remarks to welcome a crowd that included dignitaries such as Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy and wife Jean, state Rep. Dian Slavens and Wayne County Circuit Judge Mark Slavens, her husband.

The event marked a proud day for Kathy Kasperek-Korelis, the new center's project director, who started out more than 20 years ago at the St. Joseph facility near Ford and Lilley roads.

The Rev. Dr. Tim Dombrowski, a St. Joseph mission and medical ethics specialist who in 1998 blessed the original building at 1600 S.

Canton Center, gave Sunday's blessing along with Sister Yvonne Gellise, St. Joseph's senior advisor for governance.

As Sister Gellise sprinkled holy water over the crowd, Dombrowski said, "Let this facility be a beacon to this community as a place to receive care and treatment that is caring and compassionate."

Dave McNeil, outpatient oncology chaplain, also addressed the crowd during dedication, which came just before community residents started lining up in the lobby to see the new facility.

LaJoy lauded St. Joseph for expanding the Canton facility, saying "we have enjoyed a long-standing relationship with St. Joe's and are excited about the wonderful new services they are bringing to the community."

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NEWS BRIEF

Holiday open house

New Hope Center for Grief Support in cooperation with Pulte Homes will be hosting a Holiday Open House at Northville's spectacular community of The Villas at Arcadia Ridge.

You are invited to tour two condominiums, the Charleston and Townsend models. The evening also includes raffles, a Chocolate Fountain, hors d'oeuvres compliments of Cassell's Family Restaurant, Genitti's, Riffles Restaurant, Docs Sports Retreat, and many more. Valet service provided.

The event takes place 7-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4. Cost is \$40 prior to the event, \$45 at the door (\$30 is tax deductible).

The event takes place at 49285 Freestone Drive in Northville. Enter neighborhood on Arcadia Lane off of Ridge Road between Five and Six Mile Roads. To RSVP, call New Hope Center at (248) 348-0115 by Dec. 1 or register on-line at www.newhopecenter.net

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PUBLIC SAFETY

CRIME WATCH

Intruders ransack Salem media center

A security officer notified Canton police that Salem High School's media center was broken into between 3:45 p.m. Nov. 16 and 6:15 a.m. Nov. 17. Several drawers had been ransacked, several items had been left on the floor, and the circulation desk area had been searched. A few dollars were reportedly taken. Two smaller offices also had been gone through but it didn't appear anything was missing from them.

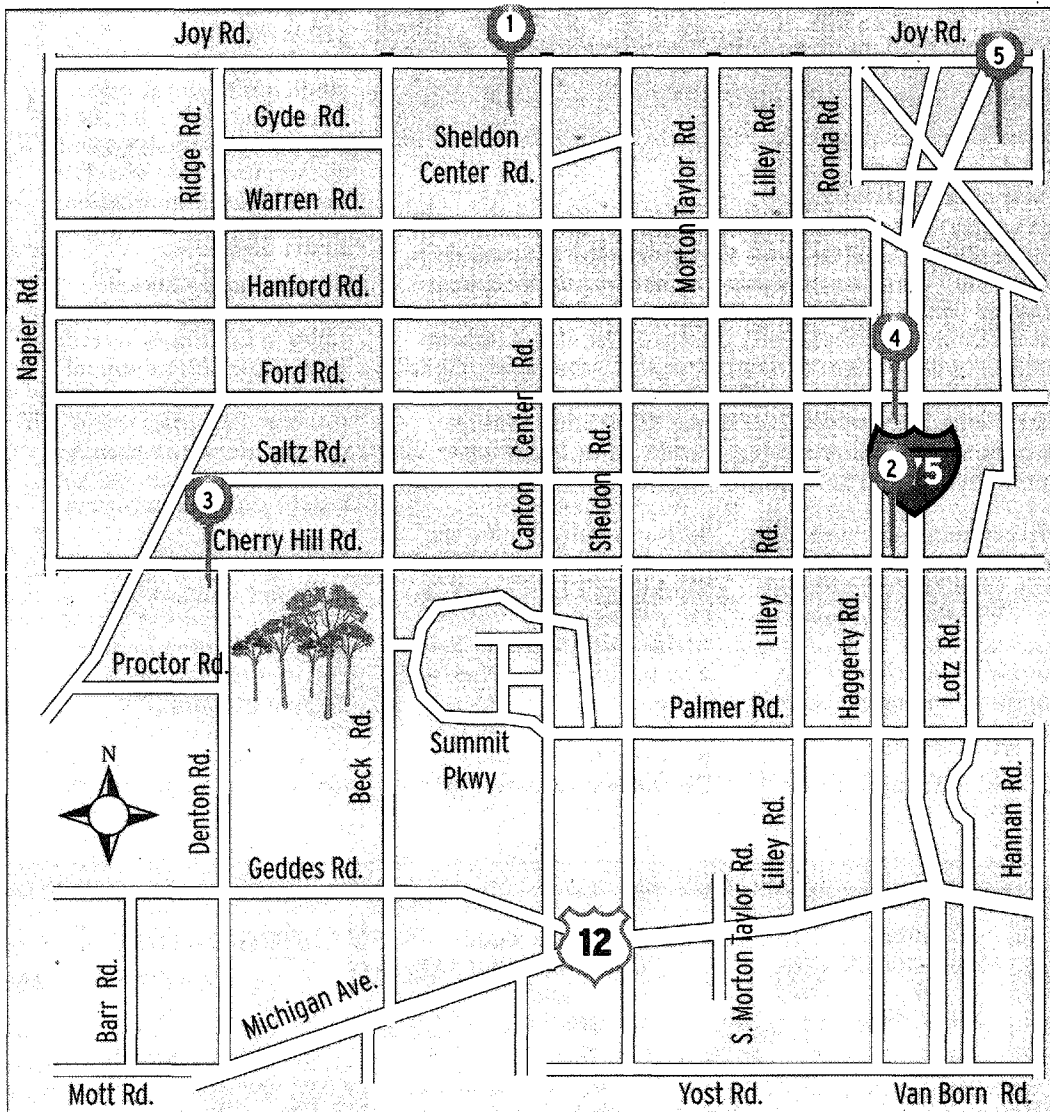
Home invasion

A house was broken into between 8:30 p.m. Friday and 1:30 a.m. Saturday after a woman dropped her daughter and a friend off at a movie theater and then went to Detroit to visit a boyfriend, according to a Canton police report. The incident happened on Williamsburg, northeast of Cherry Hill and Haggerty. The daughter returned home to find the door had been kicked in, but no one was inside the home.

According to police reports, the bedrooms had been searched, and missing items included laptop computers, a home computer and jewelry.

Money stolen

Canton police were recently sent to Pediatric Health Care, on Cherry Hill west of Denton, following reports a longtime employee may have embezzled money. A supervisor found that \$70 appeared to have been stolen from payments received one day, and a worker who initially denied any involvement eventually offered to pay the money out of her pocket.



A police report indicated that the supervisor didn't want to press charges.

Tires swiped

A man told police that the 20-inch chrome rims and Pirelli brand tires were taken of his Camaro — and the car was left on cinder blocks — while it was parked in his driveway on Maplewood, southeast of Ford and

Haggerty, between 11 p.m. Nov. 17 and 8 a.m. Nov. 18. The man told police he just bought the vehicle two months ago. He said the rims alone were valued at \$2,500.

Police reports indicated there were no attempts to break into the vehicle.

Window smashed

A man told police the driver's side window of

his 2000 BMW was broken out by someone who took his laptop computer and GPS unit. He said the incident happened between 9 a.m. Friday and 10 a.m. Saturday on Nectar, northeast of I-275 and Koppernick.

— Compiled by Staff Writer Darrell Clem from Canton Police Department reports.

Guilty pleas land two home invaders in jail

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Two Ypsilanti men charged in a June home invasion in Canton have been sentenced to prison, according to the Michigan Department of Corrections.

The pair pleaded guilty to second-degree home invasion following a late June incident that resulted in police nabbing them during a home invasion on Napier near Ford Road, on the township's west side.

Joel Allen Boyd, 24, has been sentenced to one year/seven months to 15 years in prison after he pleaded guilty in Wayne County Circuit Court. Keith Eugene List, 26, has been imprisoned for one to 15 years following his guilty plea.

The pair's decision to plead guilty in return for prison time could have averted a potentially longer stay behind bars if they had fought the charges and gone to trial. Second-degree home invasion is punishable by up to 15 years in prison.

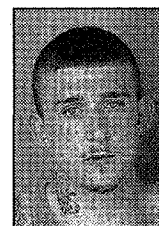
Boyd and List also had been charged as habitual offenders.

New troubles began mounting against Boyd, a prison parolee, and List, who was on probation, after they were arrested in late June for the Canton home invasion.

Their case had been sent to Wayne County Circuit Court after they earlier waived their preliminary hearings in 35th District Court.



Boyd



List

Authorities arrested Boyd and List amid accusations a surveillance team followed them to a residence on Napier, where police said the pair knocked on a door and then entered the residence.

Officers then approached the house and caught the men trying to steal property, township police said.

The men had been placed under surveillance following a string of home invasions that included Canton.

According to the Michigan Department of Corrections, Boyd had been paroled in late 2008 after serving more than two years in prison for incidents in Washtenaw County that involved resisting arrest and assaulting a police officer; felony firearms; carrying a concealed weapon; and second-degree home invasion.

MDOC records also indicate List had been placed on probation for an incident in Washtenaw County that included having stolen property worth \$1,000 to \$20,000; possession of less than 25 grams of cocaine; and trying to resist and obstruct a police officer.

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Family sets up scholarship to keep their son's memory alive

BY KURT KUBAN
STAFF WRITER

With the one-year anniversary of his death quickly approaching, the family of Dustin Piepsney has been busy making sure his name will never be forgotten.

Dustin's parents, Bill and Amy Piepsney, have set up a scholarship to honor their son, who was found dead behind their Canton home on Dec. 12. They are in the process of raising money for the scholarship, which, if all goes according to plan, will be awarded annually to a student from Canton.

According to Bill Piepsney, he and his wife decided to start the scholarship soon after their son's death.

"This is a way to give back to the community, and to also keep his memory alive," he said.

Dustin died of a single gunshot wound to the head shortly after he came home from school on a Friday afternoon. Canton police investigators concluded that he had committed suicide, something the family has never accepted. In addition to the fact that there was no suicide note, there was never any indication from anyone who knew Dustin that he was upset about anything.

In fact, Bill Piepsney said his son was involved in school, had many friends, and was also active in sports, especially wrestling. That is why they have decided to award the scholarship to a wrestler — at least for the first year.

"This year it will be for a wrestler. We could change that in the future. Maybe we will make sure it will be awarded to any athlete in the future. We really haven't figured it out yet. We're still trying to work out the details," said Piepsney, who is a 1988 graduate of Westland John Glenn High School.

The Piepsneys have approached the Canton Community Foundation to administer the scholarship for them, and it will be part of the foundation's annual scholarship program, which annually awards about two dozen college scholarships to students living in Canton.

Canton Community Foundation President Joan Noricks said the Piepsneys are hoping to get the scholarship endowed, which means they will have to raise \$10,000. If they are able to achieve that, the scholarship will sustain itself through investments.

"If they are able to get it endowed, they won't have to do fund-raisers every year to pay for it," said Noricks.

To get to that threshold, the Piepsneys have been busy hosting several fund-raisers. The latest will be taking place over the course of the next month at the U.S. 12 Bar and Grill, located at 34824 W. Michigan Avenue in Wayne. The bar will be holding a poker fund-raiser several nights a week through the end of December. They started on Monday, and are hoping to have a big turnout Thanksgiving night beginning at 8 p.m. It will feature a \$100 buy in deep

stack tournament, and will include up to a \$10,000 prize pool. There will also be a blackjack table.

"We're expecting a big crowd on Thursday," Bill Piepsney said. "We have a lot of friends in the area who have really spread the word around."

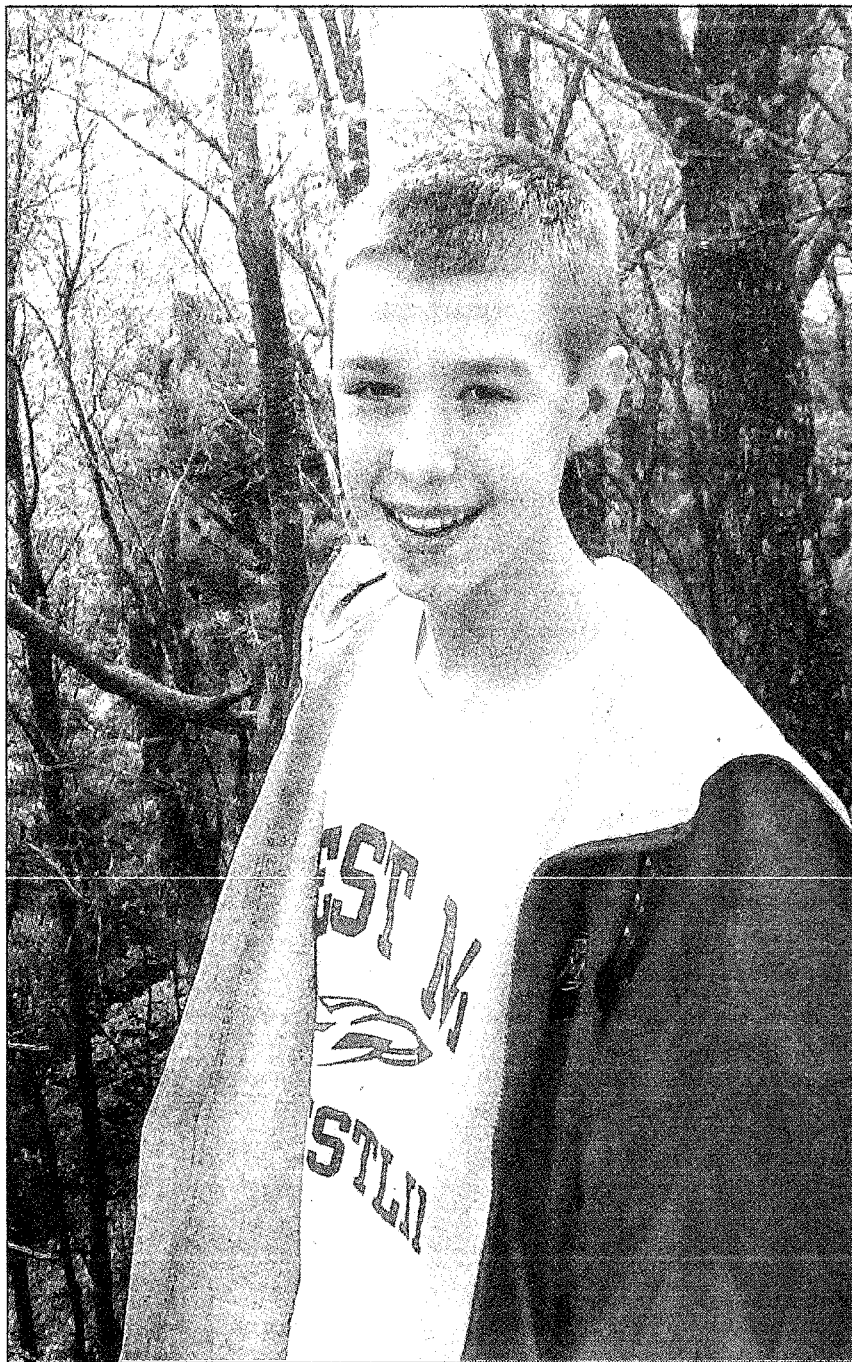
The other dates U.S. 12 will be hosting the poker tournaments include Dec. 1-4, Dec. 17-20, and Dec. 29-30. All games begin at 7 p.m. on those dates.

For those who don't like to gamble, but still want to contribute to the scholarship fund, can contact the Canton Community Foundation at (734) 495-1200 and make a donation. "These contributions will qualify for tax credits, which people can write off at tax time," Noricks said.

Noricks said students interested in applying for the scholarship can visit the foundation's Web site (www.cantonfoundation.org) after Jan. 1 and download an application. Applications for all the scholarships offered through the foundation can be found on the Web site.

The Piepsneys are still trying to cope with the loss of their son, who they believe was with at least one other person the day he died. They are hoping somebody will ultimately come forward with the truth about his death.

"There is rarely a minute that goes by, every day, that we don't think about him and what happened. We hope to find out some day. For now, we are going to do all we can to keep his memory alive," he said.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dustin Piepsney was active in many sports, including wrestling at East Middle School.

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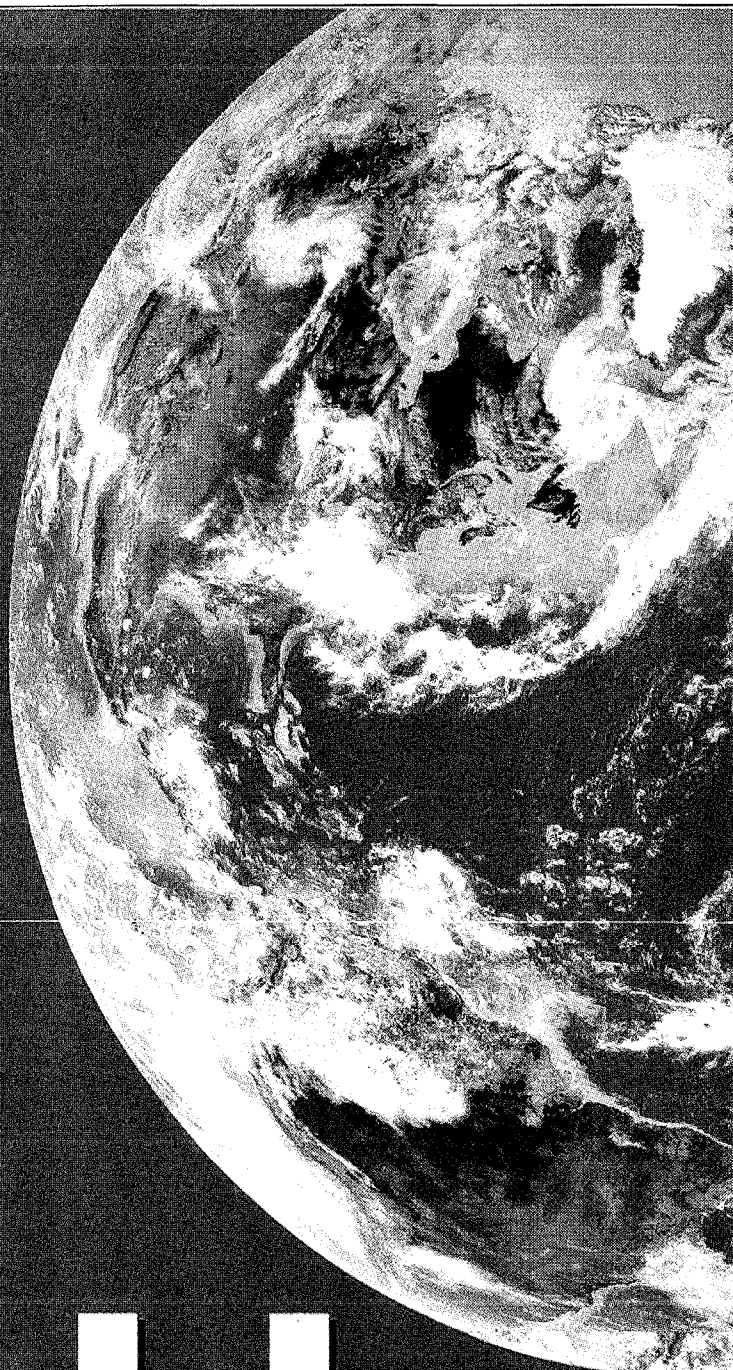
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Walking in Jesus' footsteps impacts Canton pastor

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Rev. Bryan Smith's recent travels were those of a pilgrim and not a tourist. "It was an experience that really impacted me spiritually, emotionally, physically," the pastor of Geneva Presbyterian Church of Canton said of his recent Holy Land visit.

Smith was among a group of Christian clergy, some 20 in all, who traveled as part of the Columbia Theological Seminary of Decatur, Ga., Journey of Faith program.

The program is for midcareer (ages 35-55) clergy with five or more years experience in ordained ministry. They left Oct. 28 and returned Nov. 11.

Smith, a graduate of UCLA and Princeton Theological Seminary, took some 25 prayers with him to the Western (Wailing) Wall. He noted the visit was an intense experience he's still sorting out, and has been told that process can take a long time to determine how God will use it.

He was impressed to be in the places Jesus was.

"There's something about seeing places you've talked about your whole life," said Smith, who said he realized many places were close together, and the Christian faith had its roots in a relatively small area where Jesus walked.

The travel is funded by the seminary in partnership with the Holy Land Pastoral Renewal Program of the CF Foundation. The clergy flew from Atlanta to Tel Aviv in Israel. Their itinerary included the Sea of Galilee, Capernaum, and the Mount of Beatitudes as part of an overview of Jesus' Galilean ministry. The order of their itinerary was changed a bit due to several days of rain when they arrived.

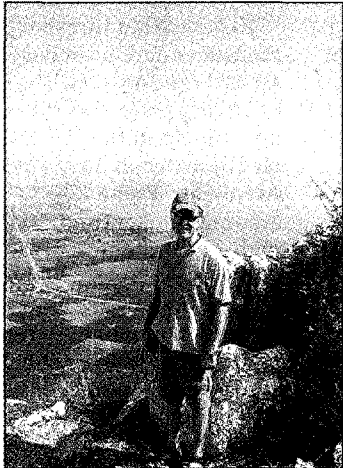
They visited Tabgha, the traditional site of the loaves and fishes, and the Chapel of the Primacy of Peter, the traditional site of Jesus' appearance to the disciples while they were fishing.

The clergy journeyed to Kursi on the eastern side of the Sea of Galilee, where Jesus is believed to have healed the demoniac swine. The clergy saw Nazareth and



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Rev. Bryan Smith of Geneva Presbyterian Church recently visited the Holy Land with a group of midcareer clergy.



The Rev. Bryan Smith with the Sea of Galilee in the background. Smith, pastor of Geneva Presbyterian Church in Canton, recently visited the Holy Land.

Mount Tabor, and took a morning walk in Jerusalem, from the Mount of Olives via the Garden of Gethsemane and the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Smith and the other clergy prayed at the Western (Wailing) Wall.

They also visited Bethlehem, including Shepherds Field, Manger Square and the Church of Nativity. There was a full-day excursion to the Dead Sea, ending with a discussion of "The Journey of Faith: Why Did God Want You Here? What Is God Calling You To Do?"

Smith found the Galilee portion to be beautiful and pastoral.

"Jerusalem is just so intense, so much activity and energy,"

he said, adding it was almost like two separate trips. The clergy participants had a two-day retreat in Georgia earlier in the year to help them prepare, learning to reflect, pray and talk things over.

The pilgrims would see a site each morning and then reflect on that. There was no professional competition, things like talking about congregation size. The focus was on the trip. "It was a great, great group," Smith said.

"I think that was a big part of the trip for me, to be present to God," he said of the trip, with mostly Presbyterian clergy joined by a Lutheran and Methodist pastor. He appreciated his family - wife Jennifer and children Julia and Joshua - allowing him to focus on the trip, as did his congregation.

Smith will schedule a couple evenings to share his experiences, one likely in December focusing on Bethlehem. "I took about 400 pictures" which will have to be narrowed down, he said. He'd also like to present information on Jerusalem, Jesus' passion and death, at Easter.

"I would love to go back," Smith said. He'd like to go with his family at some point, or take a church group with whom he could process the information at the same time.

Smith was really touched by the Mount of Olives, where Jesus prayed the night of his arrest. Trees there were there at the time Jesus lived. "There was just something about what he went through that night," he said.

He also thought more about the current situation with the Palestinians, as the clergy drove through a checkpoint at Bethlehem.

"You just have a sense of how divided people are in that land based on religion and ethnicity," Smith said. "That deeply touched me."

Smith wants to learn more about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and try to create peace there. He noted there are a small number of Palestinian Christian, not a powerful force in the region but trying to maintain witness. He met such a man, author of *Blood Brothers*, which explores such issues in an historical and theological context.

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OED989109

Halloween event boosts Y's scholarship coffers

The seats of the Penn Theater were filled with superheroes and villains, pirates and princesses.

It was Halloween at the Y, presented in part by Community Financial.

On Halloween, children and their parents were invited to see "Monster House" at the Penn, wear their costumes, and celebrate the holiday. Funds raised by the event will allow children who could not otherwise afford to participate in a YMCA program receive scholarships.

"It's part of our annual Strong Kids Campaign to make sure everyone can be part of the Y," said Josh Landefeld, YMCA executive director.

Landefeld said he often encounters people who didn't know the Plymouth YMCA existed and "are always surprised" by the fact.

"The YMCA has been around for more than 150 years in southeast Michigan, and many without the big buildings people often associate with the Y," Landefeld said. "The Plymouth Y has been part of this community for over 49 years."



JOHN KEMSKI

Hannah Glowzinski (from left), Isabelle Barone, Olivia Barone and Rachel Glowzinski strike a pose at the Plymouth YMCA's Halloween event at the Penn Theater.

The Plymouth Community YMCA provides programs designed to build spirit, mind and body for children and youth throughout the Plymouth-Canton area. Each year, more than 2,500 children participate in Plymouth YMCA programs.

"It's such a great place for kids to learn healthy habits and good values," said board member and volunteer Maria Barone, who

attended the Halloween event with her two daughters.

For more information on youth sports programs, summer and school break camps, youth volunteer opportunities, Girls on the Run, the annual Father's Day Run, and more, contact the Plymouth Family YMCA, (734) 453-2904 or visit the Web site at www.ymcadeloit.org.

Journal puts Canton among top libraries

The Canton Public Library has again been identified as one of America's top-rated libraries by Library Journal, and was one of only two Michigan libraries to receive a star rating.

The Canton Public Library received a three-star rating for the second straight year. In that time period, the library added more computer terminals, introduced programs for teens, initiated roving library assistance, introduced the Lucky Day shelf and set a new one-day circulation record.

Library Director Eva Davis was pleased by the rating.

"We are a well-used, well-loved library," Davis said. "Our staff works hard to serve our community with excellent services, programs and materials. It's nice to



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Library Journal has again honored the Canton Library as one of the country's top facilities.

have the recognition of this Library Journal rating." America's Star Libraries,

as rated by the LJ Index of Public Library Service, a national rating of public libraries and sponsored by Baker & Taylor's Bibliostat, offers an overall indication of how a library's performance stacks up to peer libraries and provides guidance on how all public libraries can better assess and improve what they provide to their users.

For more on how the stars realigned, what makes star libraries tick, and how public libraries across the United States are using the LJ Index to improve their services, access full coverage of the new round of America's Star Libraries and the entire LJ Index at www.LibraryJournal.com/ljindex2009x and in the November 15 issue of LJ.

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THURSDAY
November 26,
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Brad Kadrich, editor
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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

Make sure 'happy' is in Thanksgiving

"Happy Thanksgiving."

You've certainly heard this greeting a lot recently, and you've surely returned the greeting in kind.

And in the front of your mind, surely you mean it. Everyone wants everyone to be happy, right? And Thanksgiving is a holiday that is self-explanatory: A time to be thankful for our blessings.

But somewhere in the back of your mind, in this state at this time, it wouldn't be that farfetched to believe you're thinking, "Who can be happy right now?"

The numbers are grim. The state's unemployment rate has climbed above 15 percent. The Dow Jones average is a crap-shoot. Michigan is running record numbers in foreclosures and in job losses. People are losing their jobs and their homes.

The need is rising. Church groups and organizations like the Salvation Army are setting records for assistance. The Salvation Army, for instance, has noticed that people who were donors last year are now coming to them for assistance.

So where does the "happy" come from?

Well, it doesn't come from material possessions. Sure, they make it easier, but do they bring lasting and genuine joy? Probably not.

Doesn't true happiness come from being content with what we have — no matter how meager our possessions or how trying our circumstances?

Consider the Pilgrims, who celebrated the first Thanksgiving in the autumn of 1621. The English colonists arrived in the New World in the winter, making it very difficult for them to find food and build shelter. Most of them died the first few months in their new home, having already been weakened by their two-month voyage on the Mayflower. There were no emergency rooms or hospitals, flu shots, penicillin or even aspirin, let alone health insurance.

The Pilgrims endured more hardships and had far, far less in material possessions than the average American today; yet they gave thanks in celebration for what little they had.

As you sit down to celebrate Thanksgiving, look around. Find the blessings in your life — family, friends, children. Take stock of the things that mean the most to you.

And then put the happy in your Thanksgiving by being grateful for your many blessings.

Hitting the road? Travel safely

If you're among the estimated 1.2 million Michiganiacs planning on traveling for Thanksgiving, please do it safely!

AAA Michigan estimates that number of people in this state will travel at least 50 miles to celebrate the holiday, a number they say is on par with last year's. Sure, the economy continues to lag, but folks still tend to prefer spending the day with family, and for most that means hopping in the car. AAA Michigan says some 87 percent of state travelers will go by car.

If you do, you aren't likely to find much help at the pump. While gas prices have dropped some 17 cents in the last couple of weeks, they're still up more than 59 cents from a year ago. To make things more crowded, the 102-hour Thanksgiving holiday coincides with the state's firearms deer season, which means hunters will also be on the roads.

Here are some numbers to consider before you turn the key:

- In 2008, 61,010 deer-vehicle crashes were reported in Michigan; 12 motorists lost their lives, another 1,648 were injured.

- During the 2008 Thanksgiving holiday, 13 people died in nine fatal crashes on Michigan roads, compared with 11 deaths in 2007. Restraints were not used by eight of the victims. Alcohol was involved in 10 of the fatalities.

While we hesitate to belabor the obvious, we hope you'll enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday and then, when you hit the road, avoid alcohol, buckle up, be well rested and avoid distractions (such as texting) while driving.

Come home safely.

CANTON
OBSERVER



Brad Kadrich
Community
Editor

Susan Rosiek
Executive Editor
/ Publisher

Grace Perry
Director of
Advertising

COMMUNITY VOICE

What are you most thankful for this Thanksgiving?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



"My health and my family's health."

Sally Shiminski
Canton



"My family, my mom and dad."

Lawrence Austin
Canton



"I'm thankful for having a shelter over my head, food, and lots of friends and family."

Christina Austin
Canton



"I'm most thankful for my mom and my dad."

Adam Blazejewski
Canton

LETTERS

Thank you, Canton

On this day of Thanksgiving, we are thankful for the Canton community. After living here for over 20 years, we are relocating to Connecticut following a yearlong job search.

We leave with so many wonderful memories. We raised our two daughters here, in an outstanding school system that prepared them for Michigan State University and beyond. They are both successful, productive adults who enjoyed all the benefits of growing up in a safe and active place they will always call their hometown.

We are especially thankful for the dear friends we made sitting in the bleachers during Salem volleyball games, our neighbors on Pocatello and Weymouth Drive, our friends at the Canton Chamber of Commerce and the township, the Canton Rotary, Giving Hope Women's Giving Circle, and the Canton Goodfellows.

As we look to the future, we will always look back fondly — and give thanks for you, Canton. It has been our pleasure to live and work here. And we are going to miss you. God Bless the Canton Community.

Jim and Karyl Niemi
Canton

'Twas the Morning

After Thanksgiving

'Twas the morning after Thanksgiving, and all through our house,

I was the creature stirring, as sneaky as a mouse.

The kiddies, all cozy and snug in their beds,

The hubby's arm stretched out, across the back of my head.

While visions of cheap prices danced in my mind, I couldn't wait to get there and see what I'd find.

Carefully, I lifted the covers and slid down, Had just made it out of bed, without making a sound.

When out of the driveway arose such a clatter,

I sprang down the stairs to see what was the matter.

Away to the window, I went for a look, Peeked through the curtains, that hung on a hook.

The sun was not up yet and the moon cast its glow,

The tree was glistening white, covered in fresh snow.

When, what to my sleepy eyes should appear?

But, my best friend, with her shopping gear.

She had Starbucks in hand and two-way radios too,

Her fanny pack had wish lists that bulged and grew.

I ran to the door and opened it wide, I had to hurry and let her inside.

She smiled knowingly, when she saw my wrinkled mess,

I'd slept in my clothes, to help with readability.

I sprang upstairs, to get my purse and shoes,

I dashed right back and was ready to cruise.

My friend drove, while I looked at the fliers,

There were such good deals at Target and Meijer's.

I sipped my Starbucks and said with a smile,

"These deals only come once in a great

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats.

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while."

Now, Wal-Mart! Then, Kohl's and J.C. Penney, too.

Of course, Target and Best Buy and Limited II.

We made it to the first store just as the long lines took flight,

"Happy shopping to all and to all a good fight."

Maggie Wunderlich
Canton

Supports Turnaround plan

I am a resident of Canton and am very concerned about the current economic condition of our state. Something must be done.

Two generations ago, Michigan was a Top 10 state for economic growth. For the past generation, we have lagged the nation. Michigan is becoming economically poorer, smaller and less competitive.

In order to reverse this trend, Business Leaders for Michigan is proposing the Michigan Turnaround Plan to get our state back to being a Top Ten economic leader.

I support the Michigan Turnaround Plan because it is a comprehensive strategy to transform Michigan's economy. It lays out the case for change, sets achievable goals, identifies specific action steps and explains the impact of change. The plan will position Michigan for long-term, sustained economic growth through five strategies:

1. Changing the way the state manages its finances.

2. Right-sizing and enacting structural budget reforms.

3. Getting Michigan competitive to attract and retain jobs.

4. Making investments that create a great job environment.

5. Accelerating job growth through innovation and entrepreneurship.

I encourage you to endorse the Michigan Turnaround Plan. I also encourage your readers to read the plan for themselves at BusinessLeadersforMichigan.com and pass it along to their family and friends.

Whether you consider yourself a liberal, a conservative or someone in the middle, the Michigan Turnaround Plan provides action plans and goals behind which all Michiganiacs can unite for our state's future.

Nick Lancaster
Canton

Solution is you

A recent letter expressed a doctor's concerns for her patients; she sees their problems firsthand. "I talk to families every day who have suffered from the effect(s) of this economy." "My repre-

sentative seems to be working in direct opposition to the needs of the working families — irresponsible." "I do know we just can't ignore these problems any longer."

I understand her concern, most of us do, but I don't see the same path to a solution. She states: "I talk; I know"; and transitions to a "we" must do something. Her deep concerns turn to a scream out the window: "Somebody must do something!" And that somebody is in Washington. I don't agree.

Perhaps another example to clarify: If you see a man drowning, or a man starving, do you say: "Somebody" must do something, or do YOU do something? A wise man once gave us examples like this, and even a commandment on what to do.

The commandment was not to "Love the public as yourself," it was to "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love is a very personal act; it is one-to-one. This man worked miracles; he could have cured the ill in whole towns, whole countries. Why didn't he?

Because he wanted to give us an example of love, an example for us to follow.

The Catholic Church has a great social teaching on "subsidiarity." It says that if you have a problem, the first source of solution should be yourself. And if you see a neighbor with a problem, the first source of assistance should be you. And if together you can't reach a solution, then seek your neighborhood, then your church, then your city, etc. The government is not without a role, but it is the LAST choice. Solutions should always start with you.

Ninety percent of people are employed, only 10 percent not. Over two hundred million have insurance, only 25 do not. You don't know how to act on these big problems yourself, then get together with eight others to help the one unemployed. It starts with helping one. Talk to your neighbors, your subdivision group, your church, your city. Rally your neighbors.

You have time. Volunteer to do what you do best — fill out tax returns, cook in a soup kitchen, offer day care, work in a clinic. You have a rainy day fund. Hire an unemployed person to do work around your house. And all of this, to what impact? Read Saturday's *WSJ* article on the heart surgeon who decided to do something, and now routinely does \$100,000 surgeries for \$2,000. You CAN make a difference.

"Do something for your fellow man for which you get no pay" (Albert Schweitzer). You have a rainy day fund in case you may have needs? For many of your neighbors, it is raining. Hard. Now. "Somebody must do something?" That someone is you.

And what of our politicians? I've spoken to my representative McCotter a number of times. He recognizes that the government is not the solution to most social problems. Large programs create bureaucracy, dispassion, and large centralized expenses — a breeding ground for greed and corruption, and inefficiency. Dispassion is the key problem with the government solution; there can be no love in dispassion, only attempts at cost efficiency — regardless who pays the cost. I support Mr. McCotter's efforts. I've hired my unemployed neighbor to do work for me.

Tom Salapatek
Canton

Score! Black Friday shopping is competitive sport

BY WENDSY VON BUSKIRK
CORRESPONDENT

After Thanksgiving dinner, local football fans will hit the couch to watch the Lions play the Green Bay Packers. Avid shoppers, on the other hand, will sit down to plan an equally traditional and no less competitive game — Black Friday shopping.

New research by University of Michigan professor David Wooten suggests Black Friday shopping is similar to sport.

Wooten, a marketing professor at the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business, along with his research partner, Robert Harrison of Western Michigan University, compiled data from retail managers and more than 200 families in 19 states to create a play-by-play analysis of Black Friday.

They found that, similar to football, the annual frenzy that signals the kickoff to the Christmas shopping season has rules (no line-cutting, item hoarding or stealing from others), strategies for winning (organizing shopping teams, outmaneuvering opponents), and phases of the game (pre-shopping planning, waiting and hunting).

According to Wooten, it also consists of competitors, who relish the glory of victory, as well as spectators, who simply show up to be entertained.

POWER SHOPPERS

Local Black Friday shoppers Mandi Napolitano, her sister Melissa Brown and her aunt, Vicki Skrobot, know firsthand the thrill of the game.

Every year after pumpkin pie the trio huddles amidst a pile-up of newspaper circulars to plan their attack.

"We prepare, cut everything out, look through the papers for hours. Then, we talk on

the phone right before we all go to bed," said Napolitano, 33.

The Canton resident doesn't sleep long; her Black Friday begins at 3:30 a.m.

By 4 a.m. she has teamed up with Nicole Bielecki of Livonia and Pauline Wright of Brighton, and after a stop at Tim Horton's for coffee they head toward Westland Center.

The high school friends know just how to tackle the sales after five years of Black Friday power shopping.

"Someone goes and jumps in line and the others go and grab all the stuff. We help each other," she said.

This year, Napolitano hopes to score an Xbox for her daughter. Although she plans to spend about \$200 less than usual due to the tight economy, her shopping list is still long.

"We clear the car seats out of the car and it's full from top to bottom with stuff from all of us. We usually take my friend's minivan and it's packed," she said.

FAMILY TRADITION

Napolitano's sister, Brown, 37, graduated from Plymouth



Canton High School and now lives in Ionia, but returns to Western Wayne county for Black Friday every year. For the stay-at-home mom, shopping starts at 4:30 a.m. while it's still "pitch black" outside. Brown and her aunt stop at Biggy Coffee then head to Kohl's.

"It's kind of this mad dash all around Canton," she said. "Most people think we're nuts but it's tradition now. It's a bonding time of year."

Brown said prices are so good, it's worth battling the crowds. In fact, competition is part of the fun.

By noon, the pair have been shopping for at least seven hours. Their last and favorite stop before lunch is Parisian at Laurel Park Place.

According to Wooten's research, retailers are active participants in Black Friday.

"Advertising deals in advance is a must," Wooten said. "While shoppers are waiting in line, retailers can offer refreshments, distribute fliers featuring unadvertised bargains and provide customers with applications for store credit cards or rewards programs."

The result is a win-win for shoppers and stores.

Parisian Manager Suzy Brown said Black Friday takes exhaustive planning. The store will open at 4 a.m. tomorrow and offer all kinds of incentives like \$10-off

coupons, and more than 300 "doorbusters" including merchandise brought into the store especially for the event.

"It is very exciting to work Black Friday. Traffic patterns are generally very heavy from 4 a.m. through 2 p.m., then it tapers off in the afternoon," she said. "There is a tremendous amount of planning that begins months in advance, from proper staffing through placement of merchandise."

However hard retailers work to lure shoppers, some refuse to get in the game.

Sarah Donovan, 37, of Birmingham, has shopped Black Friday before, but this year she'll pass.

"It's crazy out there. I'm going to wait to do my shopping," she said. "I keep hearing about layaway, and I think that's a good option."

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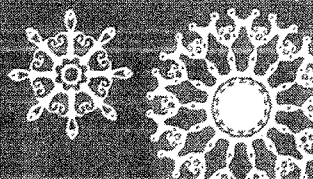
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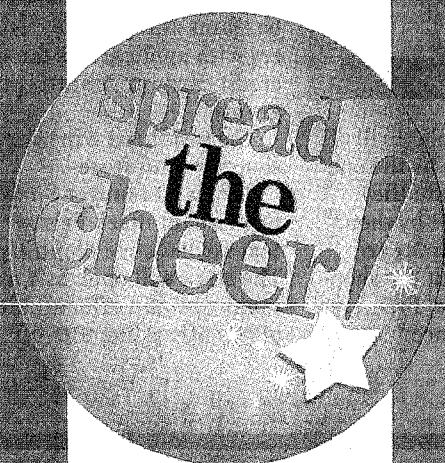
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THURSDAY
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Holiday Helpers: Recipes for the season – Food, B6

SPORTS, FILTER, FOOD & WINE

SECTION B
(CP)

Tim Smith, editor, (313) 222-2637
tsmith@hometownlife.com

HOMETOWN LIFE

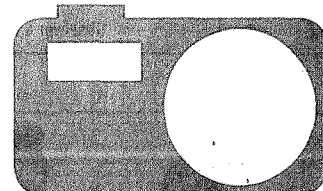


Photo galleries

Online at hometownlife.com

Bigger and better

New gym scores points at St. John Neumann

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's fitting for the Home of the Dragons to have the hottest gymnasium in town.

Those Dragons play for St. John Neumann Parish in Canton.

And beginning Friday morning — standing on a colorful, progressive new parish logo that features a fire-breathing Dragon — they'll tip it off in their new gym.

Their opponents for the 10 a.m. game will be Plymouth's Our Lady of Good Counsel in the opener of a three-day Thanksgiving hoops tournament involving eight Catholic Youth Organization seventh-grade teams.

"Having a new gym will breathe new life into the athletic program," said the Rev. George Williams, the SJN pastor overseeing the expansion and renovation since it was announced in 2001. "It's just an exciting place to play. The kids and their parents love being here."

"It's fun to watch the parents sit through practice. I think they did that anyway, but they feel more comfortable because we have bleachers and it's so bright."

And if families want to join to enjoy a facility with six baskets, two scoreboards, a high ceiling and that hand-painted navy blue-and-burnt orange logo (beautifully created by SJN parishioner Christy DeCastro), then that, Williams emphasized, will "ultimately help the parish grow."

The logo certainly is a big improvement over the old one, merely the letters "SJN" in the middle of the court.

"And you really had to be tipping the ball up to see it," noted St. John Neumann athletic director Walt Marek.

SJN TOURNEY FACTS

What: St. John Neumann Thanksgiving Basketball Tournament.

Where: In the brand new gymnasium at SJN, located at 44800 Warren Road just west of Sheldon in Canton.

Who: Eight seventh-grade Catholic Youth Organization basketball teams will christen the gym, a facility made possible by more than \$1.8 million in donations from parishioners since the parish renovation/expansion was announced in 2001.

Opening tip: The SJN Dragons start off the action at 10 a.m. Friday against Our Lady of Good Counsel of Plymouth.

Other teams: Games will continue Friday with Canton-based All Saints Catholic School, Our Lady of the Woods (Woodhaven), St. Mary's Royal Oak, Our Lady of Victory (Northville) and Our Lady of Sorrows (Farmington Hills) also competing. The tourney continues throughout the weekend, with the championship game set for 5:40 p.m. Sunday.

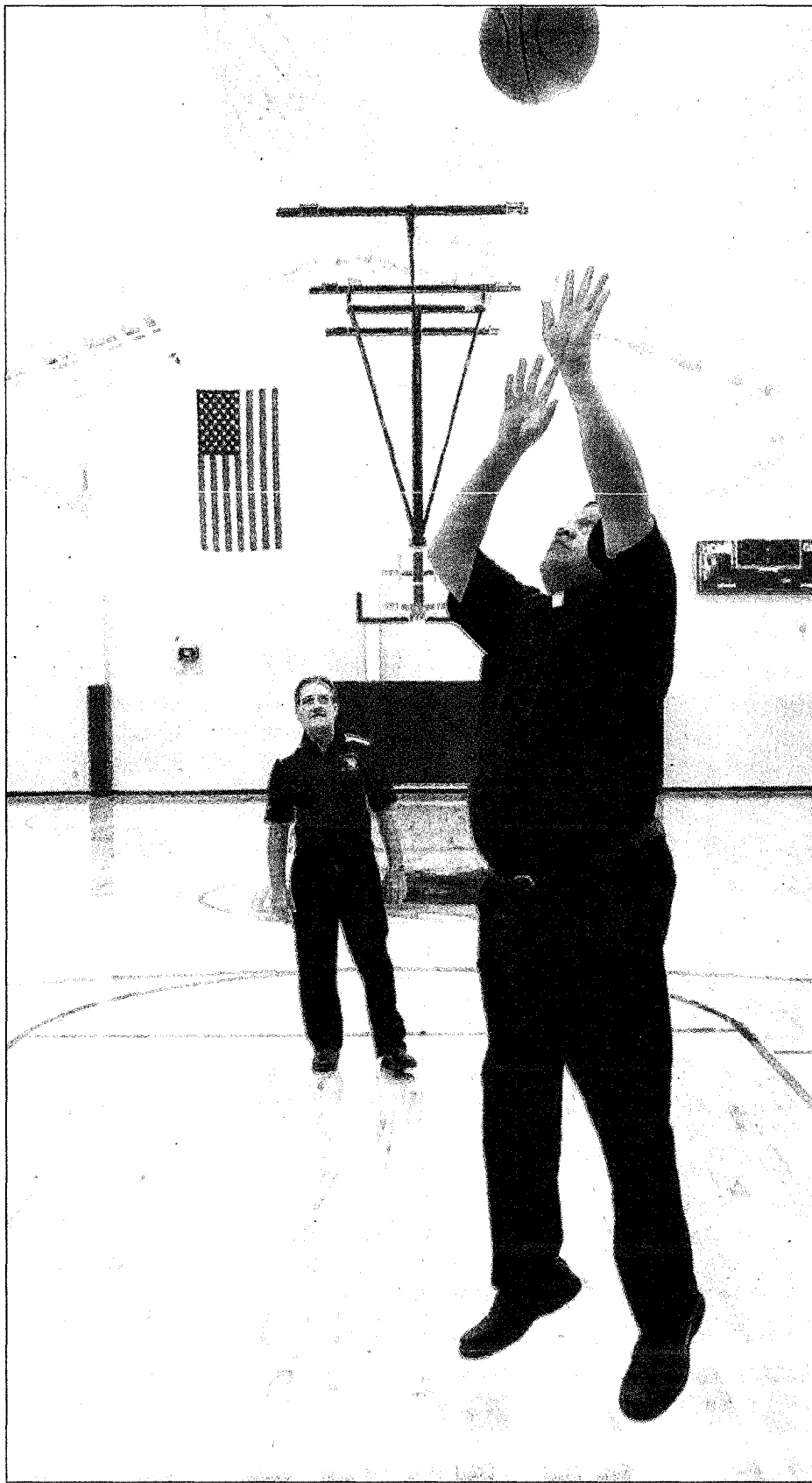
Dragons: Head coach Angelo Lanava and assistant coaches Mike Meagher and Tim Baechler lead a team including players Brayden Abundis, Brocton Baechler, Brendan Bird, Lucas Callahan, Brian Cornelius, Ryan Doyle, Joshua Jones, Nick Lanava, Sean Meagher, Justin Vitez, Wesley Weber and Gregory Williams.

reaction to the new facility has been great since mid-November when it officially opened.

"It was dedicated Nov. 11 and 12, and our first practice was the 16th," Marek said. "The kids and parents who have been in our program for a couple years walked in and their eyes just lit up like they were walking into a palace."

"That was the best feeling for

Please see **NEW GYM, B3**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

St. John Neumann Parish pastor the Rev. George Williams (foreground) tests out one of the baskets at the brand new gymnasium while athletic director Walt Marek waits for his turn.

AWESTRUCK

Williams and Marek said the

Girls tankers don't disappoint at D-1 state meet

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Just making it to a Division 1 girls swim state meet is a big accomplishment.

But athletes from the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park squads didn't want to show up and call it a day.

Swimmers competed hard and made their schools proud, even if they didn't get to go from Friday's preliminaries to Saturday's finals.

• Several Salem swimmers reached

'A few of these girls didn't have the conference meet we hoped for, but their performance at state meet cleared that up.'

ED WEBER, Canton girls swim coach

the final day at Holland Community Aquatic Center, with junior Emily Nelson placing sixth at finals in the 100 backstroke with a time of 59.72 seconds (after finishing seventh at prelims).

Sophomore Lauren Seroka finished

in ninth place Saturday in the 500 free (5:05.27) and took 11th in the 200 free finals (1:56.12) while freshman Abby Aumiller's finish of 1:01.58 in the 100 back earned her 14th place.

But the big story for Salem was a record-breaking performance by the 200-medley relay team of Aumiller, junior Ashley Micek, Nelson and Seroka on Friday. After finishing in a 16th-place tie with Northville (1:54.83), the Rocks finished 1:52.96 in the swim-off — setting a new Salem standard.

In other prelims, the Rocks 400-free relay team of sophomore Irene Li, Aumiller, Nelson and Seroka took 18th (3:46.14) and freshman Jocelyn Lamoureux finished 24th in the 500 free (5:26.23).

• Meanwhile, Canton junior Kari Schmitt just missed the cut Friday with an 18th-place time of 55.23 in the 100 freestyle (the top 16 per event at prelims reached the finals) while her teammates logged personal bests.

Please see **TANKERS, B2**

Penguins look to mesh

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

There's a mix of the new with the familiar that could propel the Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins to success in the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League.

They can only go up following a 3-14-0 record in 2008-09.

To help spur better results, the Penguins have a new coach and a handful of new players. Plus, two top players — senior forward Kara Bongiovanni and senior defenseman Shauna Siebert — are back after playing travel hockey in 2008-09.

GIRLS HOCKEY PREVIEW

"There are so many fresh faces that it will take some time to jell together as a team," said first-year head coach Mary Beth Johnson.

Although the team lost a pair of lopsided games to open the season (7-1 Nov. 18 to Ann Arbor Pioneer and 7-0 Saturday to Port Huron), Johnson expected fortunes to turn around after finally having a full roster available to play.

"Tuesday will be the first game that we will have our full roster which will help," Johnson emphasized. "The games against Ann Arbor and Port Huron, we were missing a few players."

The Penguins played Tuesday night against Walled Lake United at the Arctic Edge in Canton. Results of that game were not available as of press time due to the early holiday deadline.

In two exhibition games earlier in November, the Penguins earned victories.

"I was very happy with the way we played against Regina and (Livonia) Ladywood with only a few practices under our belt and missing some of our players," Johnson said.

Please see **HOCKEY, B3**



Kudos for U9 Sharks

The Canton Sharks U9 Boys Soccer team just completed a perfect season in the GLSL Michigan Division. The boys exhibited great team work and sportsmanship throughout the season and finished undefeated. Members of the Canton Sharks include (back row, from left) Coach Jim Siesel, Christopher Klavon, Nicklas Andrews, Bhanu Makkapatti, Tyler Turko, Michael Siesel, Coach Mark Klavon; (front row, from left) James Hansen, Austin Woelke, Thomas J Gorenflo, Drew Garby, Ryan White, Gurekmann Gill.

SIDELINES

Canned food drive

Once again, the Salem varsity boys hockey team will be holding a canned food drive to help provide sustenance for the needy.

The food drive is Saturday at Plymouth Cultural Center, when the Rocks host the Canton Chiefs in a prep hockey tilt. The game starts at 8:30 p.m. Spectators will be asked to bring a canned food item (or non-perishable boxed food) and drop it in boxes by the gate when they purchase game tickets.

There will be the raffling of a gasoline gift card during the game. For every donated food item, fans will receive a ticket for the raffle.

Fans are asked to come a few minutes early to help minimize any bottleneck at the door. For more information, go to www.hockey.salemrocks.com.

Delapaz signs

Canton multi-sport athlete Kevin Delapaz recently signed a letter of intent to play baseball for Bowling Green State University in Ohio, Chiefs head baseball coach Mark Blomshield noted. Delapaz is a senior left-handed pitcher.

Delapaz also was the starting quarterback for Canton's Division I regional finalist football team. Congratulations to Kevin on the signing.

Penguins iced

The PCS Penguins unified varsity girls hockey team fell to 0-2-0 on the young season with a 7-0 loss Saturday to host Port Huron.

Coaches, please call

It's getting close to the winter season of high school sports — actually a few prep hockey games already have been played.

So coaches or their assistants are asked to supply recaps of games, meets and matches (win or lose, home or away) to help spotlight the accomplishments of deserving student-athletes at Canton, Plymouth, Salem and Plymouth Christian Academy.

To do so, please e-mail *Observer* sports editor Tim Smith (tsmith@hometownlife.com) or leave him detailed messages at (313) 222-2637. Deadlines are Tuesday nights for the Thursday paper and Friday nights for the Sunday edition.

Precision Baseball clinic

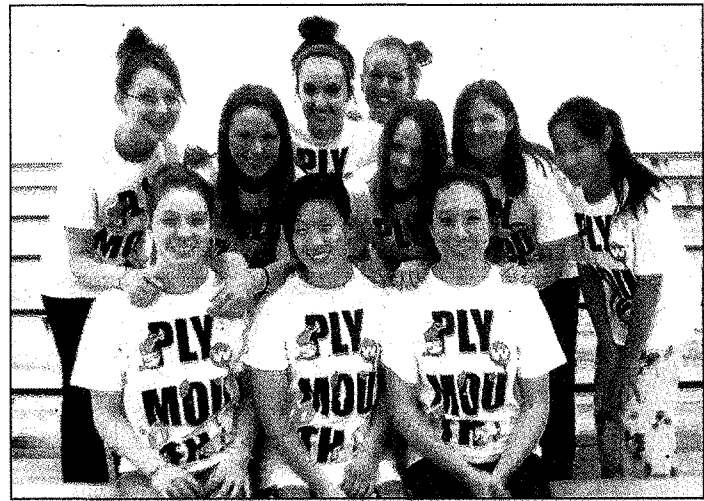
Baseball players take note: Precision Baseball in Canton recently announced an eight-week Progression Clinic on pitching, catching and hitting, to feature members of Eastern Michigan University's coaching staff.

Areas where pitchers can expect improvement include: increasing velocity and arm strength; changing speeds; improving control and learning proper warm-up techniques. Batters can increase power, hit to all fields, reduce strikeouts, make good contact and recognize a fast-ball instead of a changeup or curve.

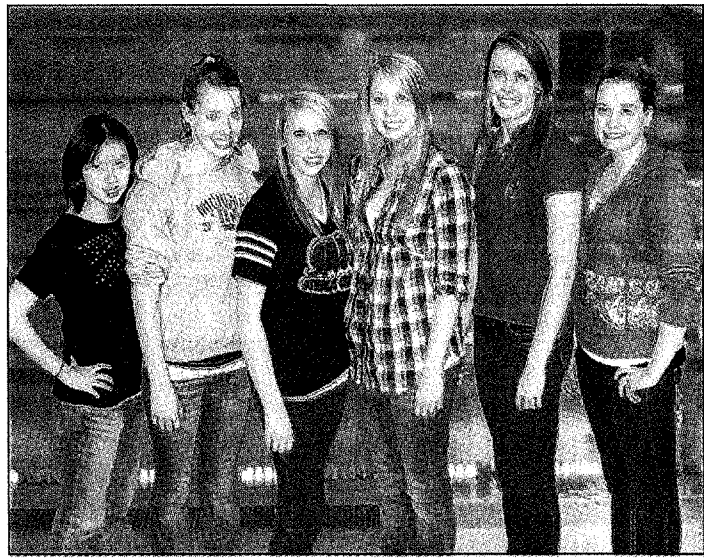
Meanwhile, in the catching department, instructors will focus on blocking, receiving, throwing, calling a game and being quick behind the dish.

All ages are welcome to sign up for the clinic, which begins Monday, Nov. 16 (4:30 to 6:30 p.m.) Sessions are every Monday and Friday and are \$15 per session, per player and \$225 for all 16 sessions if paid up front.

For more information, send an e-mail to info@precisionbaseballone.com or call (734) 459-5921. Precision Baseball is located at 7835 Market Street in Canton.



Plymouth Wildcats state qualifiers for the D-1 state girls swim meet in Holland included: (front row, from left) Chantel Cote, Sijia Hao, Michelle Chang; (back row, from left) Linda Erickson, Rachel Huhta, alternate Abby Kelly, alternate Lydia Matsun, alternate Emily Toro, Emily Weiner and Stephanie Matsui. The alternates were ready to step in case someone gets sick on a relay.



Qualifying from Salem for last week's Division 1 girls swim meet in Holland included (from left) Irene Li, Abby Aumiller, Jocelyn Lamoureux, Emily Nelson, Lauren Seroka and Ashley Micek.



Canton sent five girls to last weeks Division 1 state finals, including (from left) freshman Delaney Adams, juniors Kari Schmitt, Kayla Eyster, Sara Schmitt and Sara Krebs.

TANKERS

FROM PAGE B1

Kari Schmitt set a personal best with that time as well as with the 50 free (25.45, 29th place) while junior Sara Krebs

did the same in the 100 breast (1:11.61, 25th). Almost logging her best time was freshman Delaney Adams in the 100 butterfly (1:02.58, 34th).

Canton's relay teams didn't make it to Saturday either, but not before putting on a good showing with four of six events

resulting in personal bests.

The 200-free relay team of Kari Schmitt, junior Sara Schmitt, Adams and junior Kayla Eyster had its best time (1:44.80, 29th) while the 400-free relay of Kari Schmitt, Krebs, Adams and Eyster finished 26th at 3:50.83 — just

shy of their best (3:50.48).

"A few of these girls didn't have the conference meet we hoped for, but their performance at state meet cleared that up," said Chiefs head coach Ed Weber. "I'm very proud of the girls' effort and success.

"All of these girls will be returning next year. We look forward to another great year."

Plymouth coach Doug Schade said all seven of the Wildcats who participated in the prelims "swam well but none qualified" for Saturday's action.

Seniors Michelle Chang, Chantel Cote, freshman Linda Erickson, senior Sijia Hao, junior Rachel Huhta, sophomore Stephanie Matsui and freshman Emily Toro were part of the largest Plymouth contingent ever to qualify for the state meet.

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Give 'Pickleball' a try

Plymouth and Canton residents are welcome to sign up for a unique recreational sport being offered by Northville Parks and Recreation — pickleball.

The sport combines ping pong and badminton, with a hard paddle used to send the ball over the net. Open pickleball sessions are held at the Northville Recreation Center based out of Hillside Middle School.

Beginner to intermediate play is 1-3 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays (\$2 per person) and 10 a.m. to 12 noon Wednesdays and Thursdays (\$2). Three courts are available.

Intermediate to advanced play is 12 noon to 3 p.m. Wednesdays (\$3) and 6-8 p.m. Saturdays (\$4).

Paddles and pickleballs are provided at the center. Call (248) 349-0203 for more information.

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.responsiblesports.com.

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 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. All participants need a YMCA Youth Sports Reversible Jersey (\$15).

■ 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.ymcadeloit.org or call the office at 734-453-2904.

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Ocelot men place third in NJCAAs

BY JIM TOTH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Schoolcraft College's bid to claim the NJCAA Division I men's soccer crown fell agonizingly short Friday night as the Ocelots lost in a shootout (3-2) to Georgia Perimeter College in West Windsor, N.J.

Tied at 1-1 at the end of regulation, both teams fought their way through a scoreless overtime period before engaging in a rather entertaining shootout session.

"It was one of the craziest shootouts you will ever see," Schoolcraft head coach Rick Larson said.

Freshman Dane Laird staked the Ocelots to a 1-0 advantage just 21 seconds into the second half on an assist from YaYa Toure. The lead stood up until the 70-minute mark when Georgia Perimeter sent the equalizer past a diving Ian McDonald-Wilkins in the Schoolcraft net.

In overtime, Schoolcraft carried the play to the No. 2-ranked team but came away empty.

"I thought we had the bulk of the chances in OT," Larson said. "We had some great opportunities, but we couldn't get one to go in. They are a great team over there and they just know how to win games."

The loss put an end to an outstanding season turned in by the Ocelots, who finished 19-2-1 and allowed just 12 goals all season. "I just told them these are character-exposing moments and we worked so hard to get to this point," Larson said when asked about his postgame speech. "There's nothing to hang your heads over because we managed to have an outstanding season."

The Ocelots quickly regrouped to claim third place in the national tournament, hosted by Mercer Community College (N.J.), by posting a decisive 3-0 triumph Sunday afternoon over Louisburg (N.C.) College.

Ex-Wolverine Czarnik acquired by Whalers

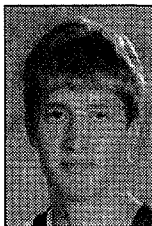
The Plymouth Whalers bolstered their roster Monday with the acquisition of Washington, Mich. native and former University of Michigan player Rob Czarnik from the Oshawa Generals.

In exchange for the 19-year-old center, the Whalers sent Oshawa a 10th-round draft pick and Windsor's conditional second-round pick, both from the 2011 draft.

"We are excited to add Robbie to our lineup," said Plymouth President, General Manager and Head Coach Mike Vellucci. "His greatest asset is his speed and we look forward to developing him for the next level."

"What a great opportunity this is for Robbie to continue his education and play in the number one developmental league for the National Hockey League."

Czarnik was selected in the third round (63rd) by the



Czarnik

of the 2006 Ontario Hockey League Draft.

But he never played in Oshawa, opting instead to play for the National Team Developmental Program in Ann Arbor. In two seasons with the NTDP from 2006-08, Czarnik scored 32 goals with 27 assists for 59 points in 114 games.

Czarnik moved to the University of Michigan program in 2008 and played there through the start of this season. In all, he scored eight goals with 14 assists for 22 points in 51 games with the Wolverines.

The newcomer will wear

NHL's Los Angeles Kings in the 2008 entry draft.

The talented player was originally selected by Oshawa in the sixth round

No. 27 when he makes his Whalers' debut 7 p.m. Wednesday at Compuware Arena in Plymouth against the Windsor Spitfires.

The Whalers then play Friday in Sault Ste. Marie before returning home on Saturday to host the Kingston Frontenacs at 7 p.m. at Compuware.

NHL callups

Whaler alums continue to be called up to the National Hockey League.

Tim and Tom Sestito were called up by the New Jersey Devils and Columbus Blue Jackets, respectively. Then goalies Michal Neuvirth and Justin Peters were summoned to the NHL.

Neuvirth was called up from Albany of the American Hockey League to the Washington Capitals; Peters came up to the Carolina Hurricanes from Albany of the AHL.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Catholic Youth Organization basketball teams will converge Friday through Sunday on St. John Neumann Parish in Canton, where a Thanksgiving tournament will officially open its new gym. A number of parishioners donated more than \$1.8 million toward the facility. Ready for the big weekend are St. John Neumann athletic director Walt Marek (left) and the Rev. George Williams.

NEW GYM

FROM PAGE B1

both of us to see that kind of reaction."

The many parishioners who donated money since 2001 undoubtedly were just as elated with the finished product.

"The parishioners were very generous and very patient, because it took so long," Williams said. "Initially, we were hoping to do a initial fund-raising effort and (then) borrow the money from the Archdiocese of Detroit."

"The Archdiocese hasn't had money the last few years. So shortly after the project started, the goal posts kept getting moved and the time tables kept getting set back."

Parishioners did come through, donating about \$1.8 million of a project estimated at just over \$2 million, with the endeavor bringing much

more than a place to shoot hoops.

There is a large, Wi-Fi-ready new youth ministries room along with conference rooms, offices, storage space and a multi-purpose room — the latter actually renovated from its former life as a cramped gym.

"When the renovation was conceived," Williams said, "we wanted to enhance our youth ministry so that included the youth room as well as the gym."

BRANCHING OUT

It's definitely mission accomplished on all fronts, with nothing but potential for good things to come.

St. John Neumann already boasts a successful feeder program to the basketball teams at Canton, Plymouth and Salem high schools.

That connection can only improve and, with the way everything turned out, both men have grand plans in

mind for the parish, especially its athletic department.

Besides CYO basketball teams for grades four-eight (including a team for girls in grades five-six), Marek said plans are to form CYO volleyball teams in 2010-11. And in December, an adult co-ed volleyball league will start up.

The positive vibe should spread beginning with this weekend's tournament.

"We're hoping that if people see the gym they might want to come here and play," Marek said. "The program is growing by leaps and bounds. They see the facilities we have."

"It's hard to sell a program when you're playing in a little matchbox gymnasium with tile floors."

He was laughing when he said that. But the new place to be for CYO basketball is no joke.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Wright sparks Wildcats over East Kentwood

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Paul Fassbender wanted his Plymouth varsity boys hockey team to get some big tests under its belt this season as a way to prepare for a tough KLAA season and state tournament.

The Wildcats passed their first such test Saturday with a 6-4 victory over East Kentwood in Grand Rapids.

"We played very well tonight," Fassbender said. "We had strong, good puck movement."

Leading the charge were Colin Wright, who scored twice and added an assist, and two-goal scorer Ryan Bauer.

"Colin Wright played an explosive game using his speed to generate multiple scoring opportunities," Fassbender said.

Wright got Plymouth on the board in the first period, scoring off a feed from Ryan Renault (one goal, two assists).

In the middle stanza, Wright set up Bauer for his first of two markers in the frame. Bauer also scored from Renault and

Pat Smiatacz, while Zach Gambrell (from Ryan Brown) also scored.

Finishing the victory with goals in the third period were Wright (from Kevin Matusiak) and Renault on an unassisted tally.

Earning the victory for Plymouth was goaltender Michael Justus.

Plymouth played its home opener Tuesday night against Monroe in a game that took place after this issue of the *Observer* went to press.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Ladywood volleyball title bid ends

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Getting to the girls state volleyball finals is nothing new for Jack Magelssen, who won 10 state Class A championships when he was at Portage Northern.

But it's a brand new experience for his Delton-Kellogg squad, which had won only two district matches and had only one winning season in school history.

In Friday's Class B semifinal, Livonia Ladywood's state tournament run came to an end as the Panthers rolled to a 25-10, 25-17, 25-18 triumph before a large and boisterous crowd at Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena.

Ladywood, which bowed out at 40-23 overall, ironically was the last team to beat the 60-6-2 Panthers — that coming in last month's Sturgis Invitational.

"We're not a big team, just a bunch of local kids who grew up together and play together," said Magelssen, whose squad faced North Branch in Saturday's championship final. "I felt they could get to the state finals, but I don't know if they knew."

"You never know when you get here. Tonight we knew we had to come out hard and set the tone of the match. We like to play ahead."

The Panthers did just that against the Blazers.

In the first set, the Panthers bolted out to a 7-2 lead and it was the Terin Norris show as the senior setter, bound for Western Michigan University, had three kills, two blocks and two ace serves.

The Panthers took control of

the second set building an 11-6 lead. The Blazers fought back to within three, 19-16, before sophomore outside hitter Adrianna Culbert served three aces and Norris once again got the set-winning kill on a dink shot just over the net.

In the third set, the Blazers jumped out to a 4-1 early advantage, but Delton once again exerted its dominance to take leads of 10-6 and 17-10.

Ladywood fought back, but it was too little, too late as Norris and Culbert combined for 11 kills to close out the match.

From Ladywood coach Erin Craggs' perspective, it was a hopeless feeling.

"I kind of told the girls just to hit hard," she said. "We were giving them free balls and it put them in a comfort zone. At the end we persevered and showed a lot of integrity."

"They (Delton) played great. They threw our offense off. They served aggressively and passed 'nails.' We weren't able to keep up."

Norris led the Panthers with a team-high 12 kills to go along with 21 assist-to-kills, three aces and five blocks.

Culbert and Carly Boehm each added nine kills, while Katie Marshall and Hannah Williams combined for 22 digs.

Senior outside hitter Claire Dezelski had a team-high 12 kills for the Blazers, while junior Katy Rooney added 11.

Sophomore setter Alexandra Hines contributed 27 assists, while senior Ashley Hines recorded a team-high 10 digs.

But the Blazers only hit at an .093 clip (30-for-107) with 20 attacking errors.

Delton, meanwhile, was 39-for-105 (.286) with only nine errors.

It's Magelssen's first trip to the state finals since 2001 and his 13th overall.

"It's nerve-wracking," said Magelssen, now in his fifth season at Delton. "The girls are handling it better than I am. I love the kids, but I'm not sure I can take many more like this."

Meanwhile, the Blazers hope to build on this year's state tournament run.

"We graduate only three seniors," Craggs said. "And they've set an awesome bar to make it back next year."

HOCKEY

FROM PAGE B1

With everybody back, the team will bank on the experience and talent of Bongiovanni, Siebert, senior defenseman Jordyn Moore and junior defenseman Sarah Coleman — all co-captains.

Other forwards include juniors Tory Campbell, Jennifer Fedon, Rebecca Majszak, Mallory Rojo and Marris Sullivan, sophomore Ellexus Montoya and freshmen Chelsea Finkbeiner and Beth Johnson.

Also back on the blue line will be junior Rhianna Fleisher. With only four defensemen, that lack of depth could pose a problem if any injuries crop up.

Meanwhile, freshman Cortny McAdoo is slated to hold down the fort as the team's only goaltender.

In addition to Mary Beth Johnson, her husband, Brad Johnson, is new to the coaching staff as an assistant coach and goaltending coach.

The third coach is Shawn Rowley, part of the Penguins program since it began.

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JUNE P. L. RANDALL

June P. L. Randall, age 84, a longtime resident of Livonia, passed away on November 22, 2009. She was born June 12, 1925 in Kennington, London, England to Gilbert and Lillian (Arnold) Parma. As a teenager June served as a Civil Defense Telephonist during the London blitz. She became a "GI" bride on October 23, 1945 when she married Leonard Randall, a member of the US Army. They were happily married for 60 years until his death in 2006. She worked at the Detroit Public Library; June helped inaugurate an audio-visual department and pioneered record cataloging rules. June worked to establish library service in Livonia; she formed the first Friends of the Library group and served on the Library Commission for 10 years. She was very active in the PTA from local to state level; she received the Michigan Life and National Life Awards. June also received the key to the city of Livonia for all of her help and hard work. She was an avid reader, loved music, and had a passion for cooking. She is survived by her children Paul (Jennifer) Randall and Celia "Rose" (Stephen) Warner; Randall-Warner; and her grandchildren Grace, Nichole, and Mallory. She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband. A memorial service was held last Wednesday at Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church in Detroit. Rev. Peter C. Smith officiated the service. Contributions would be appreciated to the Leelanau Conservancy, PO Box 1007, Leland, MI 49654 or CARE, PO Box 1871, Merrifield, VA 22116. Arrangements by: Casterline Funeral Home, Inc.

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

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OE08658429

Local church stresses service to others with St. Lucia Day event

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

It's not your typical eggs and bacon breakfast. Waiters and waitresses dressed in Swedish costume serve fruit soup and cardamom bread, ham and Havarti cheese, homemade cookies, Limpa bread and Lucy buns, while a choir sings and children, some dressed as elves, dance around a Christmas tree. "I started it 30 years ago," said Nancy Bergstrom of Farmington Hills. "No one is more surprised than I am that it's gone on for 30 years. You think, are people going to get tired of it? But they come year after year. For some people, it's the start of the Christmas season."



Members of the annual St. Lucia Singers perform during breakfast at Faith Covenant Church in Farmington Hills.

The St. Lucia Day celebration at Faith Covenant Church in Farmington Hills combines Scandinavian foods, culture, dance, songs and a lesson or two about serving others. The church is part of a denomination with roots in Sweden, where families mark the saint's day of martyrdom — Dec. 13 — with special rolls and coffee. The eldest daughter, wearing a wreath of candles on her head, serves breakfast to her relatives, recalling St. Lucia's life of service.

The Italian saint was martyred in 304 after bringing food to persecuted Christians. She wore candles on her head to light her way through the dark catacombs where they hid. High School seniors will portray St. Lucia at Faith Covenant Church's three breakfast seat-

ings on Dec. 5. They will proceed into the darkened sanctuary with their court, symbolizing "Christ's light coming into a darkened world," Bergstrom said. "It's a beautiful morning. The St. Lucia and the court dress in long white robes with wreaths of candles on their hair. It's something that is simple and beautiful. I've had people come and when the procession starts, they start weeping. It's so beautiful." Church members move the pews aside to make way for breakfast tables, the orchestra, choir and young folk dancers in the sanctuary. The event has grown from 350 people the first year to more than 1,000. There's a waiting list of some 90 people this year.

FOR CHARITY

Farmington Bakery supplies the Lucia buns made from a church member's recipe, but volunteers make the other breads and cookies. Proceeds

from the \$13 per person breakfast go to charity. This year the Detroit Children's Choir will benefit from the event. The church's Christmas shop, stocked with goodies and gifts, and a "recycle shop" of gently-used Christmas decorations, both will be open. All proceeds from the recycle shop buy Christmas gifts for children whose parents are incarcerated. "It's a community outreach," Bergstrom described St. Lucia Day. "It's a multi-generational event, which is so rare. Everyone wants to have a part." Children of the church, age 4-7 dress in elf costume and dance in a group called the tomtar. Older children folk dance or lead in the St. Lucia procession. Adults serve the breakfast or perform with the orchestra or choir. "There's something to do almost the whole way through and some kids can't wait to do the next thing," said Jeannine McFadyen of Westland, who

coordinates the event.

EAGER VOLUNTEERS

Adult church members also look forward to working at the event. "This year we have a young lady playing cello who learned to play just so she could be in this orchestra, McFadyen said. "We have a huge crew in the kitchen. We have a crew just washing dishes and they love to do that. It's almost like being in a club to work in the kitchen. "We have a gentleman who makes the coffee every year — for 30 years." McFadyen has sung with the St. Lucia Day chorus since it was started. The group learns songs in both English and Swedish, practices a month before the event and then performs at the saint's celebration and at church services the following Sunday. Like the St. Lucia procession, most of the songs refer to Christ's light or Christmas. Both Bergstrom and McFadyen said the St. Lucia Day celebration is a "fun way" to recall their church's Swedish roots. But Bergstrom also pointed out that the church today is culturally diverse. "We're multicultural. That's what's so nice about it," Bergstrom noted. The guests who attend the breakfast are equally diverse. "Some people come in from out of town," McFadyen said. "It's fascinating to see how it keeps going year after year."

For more about the church, visit www.faithcovenantchurch.org

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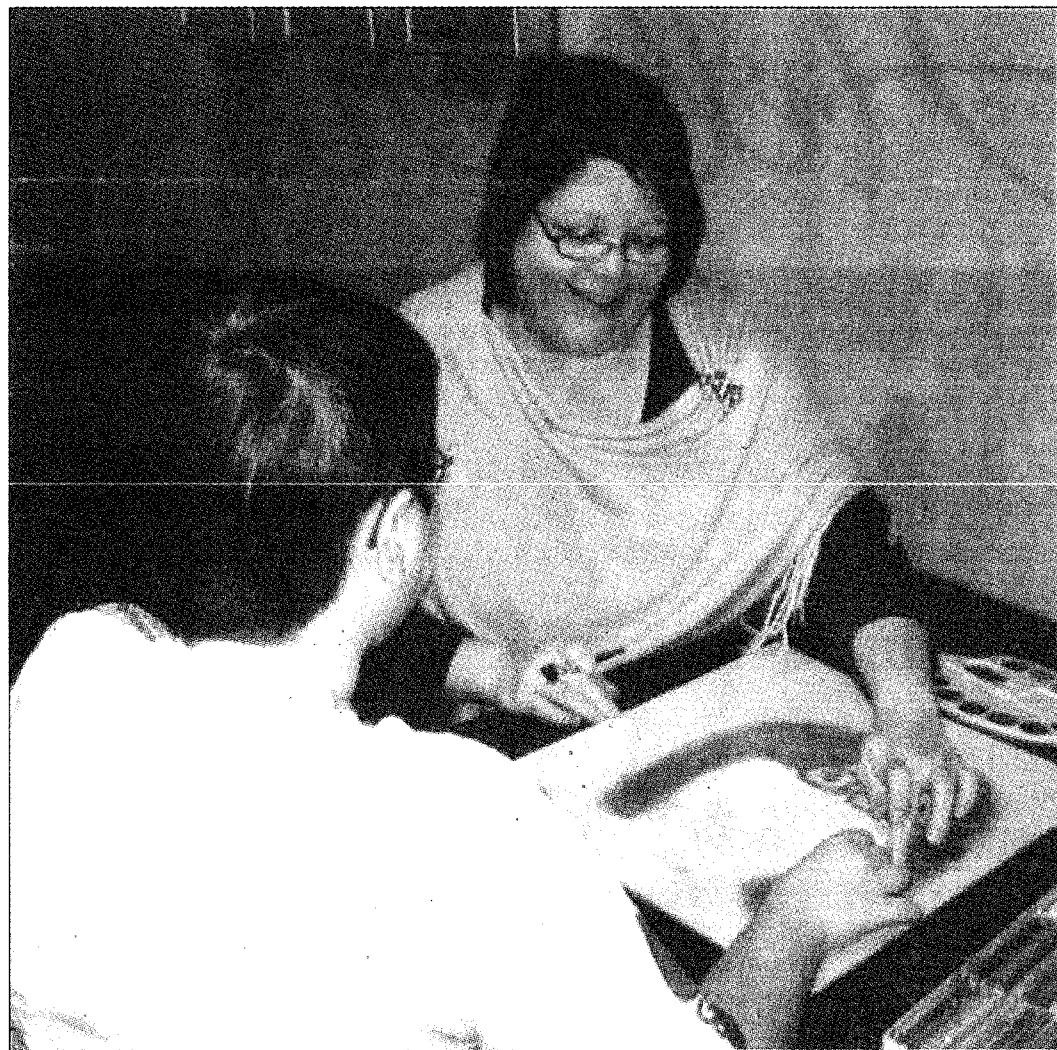
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For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 248-437-2011, Ext. 247 or e-mail: dhart@dnps.com

Canton Strictly Business

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



Donna Trombley has started Beyond Basics, providing arts, crafts and music sessions for those with special needs or who are developmentally disabled.

Bringing arts, crafts to those with special needs

Observer: Tell us about your business.

Beyond Basics: Art, music, crafts and poetry enrichment sessions for developmentally disabled/seniors with dementia. Through the exploration of art, literature and music, we hope to evoke creativity and empower each individual with the experience of personal expression. From this it is our desire that individuals will build self-awareness, self-esteem, social skills and become more community involved. Frame Works has been in the art and framing business since 1976. Having offered arts & crafts classes to the public, Frame Works is pleased to open the door to people with special needs.

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

Beyond Basics: Growing up with a family member with Down Syndrome, I began volunteering in special education programs. I continue to work and volunteer in the human service field at various capacities, with 28 years of experience.

BEYOND BASICS

- **Business Name:** Beyond Basics Program for Art & Culture
- **Business Address:** 42150 Ford Road, Canton (in the Frame Works building); 833 Penniman in Plymouth
- **Your Name and position:** Donna Trombley
- **Your Hometown:** Westland
- **Business Opened:** Oct. 1, 2009
- **Number of Employees:** 1
- **Business specialty:** Art, craft and music sessions for those with special needs or who are developmentally disabled
- **Hours of Operation:** 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2-5 p.m., with all-day sessions possible
- **Business Phone/Web site:** (734) 459-3666

I have a deep passion for the arts, and abilities that give me a desire to share that passion with others who rarely get the chance to develop their artistic expression.

Observer: Why did you choose Canton?

Beyond Basics: I wanted a community setting for integration into the community. **Observer:** What makes your business unique?

Beyond Basics: It's a small, personal, enriching experience, not just day care. The "Adventures in Art" session will focus on specific artists

or styles, exploring examples of artists' works and trying our hand at producing our own pieces. In "The World of Words" sessions, through the reading of stories and poems by many writers across the globe and throughout time, we will contemplate and discuss what effect they have on us and what meaning they bring into our lives. In the "Music Menu" sessions, our goal is to have a taste of musical expression from various cultures and time periods, and to discover the flavors that appeal to our musical palettes.

CHAMBER CHAT

Volunteers needed

On Saturday, Dec. 5, noon to 3 p.m., Shop Canton will be hosting a holiday event, "HO, HO, HO and a Whole Lot More," in the Red Block (between Sheldon and Morton Taylor) and the Green Block (between Morton Taylor and Lilley).

Santa will be there to greet the little ones at a great location inside JC Penney, and there will be Carriage Rides at the Harvard Square Shopping Center. The Stuff-a-Bus (toy donation collection) has named our own Canton Goodfellows as one of the recipients and will be at Borders Bookstore. A magician will be at Canton Cinema, face painters will be at Paul's Fine Jewelry, and a balloon artist will be at Once Upon a Child and "a Whole Lot More..." to come.

Anyone willing to give a few hours, please contact the Canton Chamber of Commerce office at (734) 453-4040 or e-mail admin@cantonchamber.com. Please include Name, Company, address, phone, cell and e-mail.

Canton Goodfellows

Canton Goodfellow's "No child without a Christmas" Collection continues through Dec. 9 at Showroom of Elegance, 6018 Canton Center Road. Bring in canned goods, nonperishable items or cash donation for the Canton Goodfellows and receive a gift from our Santa Bag. All gifts are with a retail value of \$20 or more.

December luncheon

The Canton Chamber of Commerce will host its December Holiday Luncheon on Dec. 2, at 11:30 a.m. at the Summit on the Park, 46000



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Linda Robin and Showroom of Elegance are helping the Canton Goodfellows follow through on their "No child without a Christmas" through Dec. 9. Showroom of Elegance is located at 6018 Canton Center Road.

Summit Parkway, Canton.

The cost for lunch is \$20 (advance member registration) and \$30 (non-member) and includes a full buffet lunch, beverages and dessert. This luncheon is open to the public.

December's Holiday Luncheon will feature Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Madrigal Singers and Chamber Choir. We will be collecting toys and gifts for Canton Goodfellows "No Child without a Christmas program." Each guest is asked to bring an unwrapped toy or gift.

December's Holiday Luncheon is hosted by the Canton Chamber of Commerce and is sponsored by Saint Joseph Mercy Health Systems. Seating is limited and reservations are needed. To make your reservation, contact the Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040.

Don't add to holiday anxiety by overspending

The holidays are upon us. It is also that time of year when many who are already in a difficult financial situation make things worse by overspending for the holidays. It doesn't matter if times are good or not, inevitably, Americans overspend during the holiday season.

I believe holidays are about family and friends, not gifts. In this difficult economy, it is more important than ever to have a budget for the holiday season.

Too many consumers never plan their purchases for the holiday season and find themselves paying for gifts long after the holidays are over. In fact, it's not unusual for some to still be paying off last year's holiday purchases when it's time to make this year's purchases.

It is important to be fiscally responsible. Even though the economy has improved over last year, we are still in a very difficult situation. If nothing more, look at the unemployment rate — substantially higher than a year ago and, according to many, expected to increase. In a recent report by the University of Michigan economists, job losses in Michigan will continue for another two years. In other words, no one's job is safe.



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

My advice to those who exchange gifts is to set limits ahead of time on what will be spent for gifts. Setting a maximum amount to be spent is not only a good financial move, but also can relieve a substantial amount of pressure and anxiety during this holiday season. I can't think of a better holiday gift this season than to reduce the amount of anxiety someone is feeling.

I recognize that if everyone is fiscally responsible during the holiday season, it's not good for the American economy in the short run. Our economy is consumer-based and many retailers depend upon the holiday season to make their year. However, reality is the economy is changing and many people can no longer afford the luxury of unlimited spending.

Many people are under the mistaken belief that when the economy improves — and it will — that everything will be back to normal. I don't believe that is the case. I believe we are going through a fundamental change and, as with

every other change, there will be winners and losers. The winners will be the people who are fiscally responsible. Unfortunately, there will be losers and they will be the individuals who fail to adapt to the changes in the economic environment.

The holiday season should be a time of joy and happiness, not of pressure and anxiety. So relieve the pressure and anxiety of family and friends and discuss the idea of spending limits on holiday gifts.

One last reminder, it's important to be a smart shopper. Retailers have become stricter when it comes to returns. Some retailers no longer give a refund but a store credit, while others charge a restocking fee. The bottom line is before purchasing a gift, know the retailer's specific rules about exchanges. If buying a gift card, know the terms prior to the purchase.

As we enter the holiday season, don't forget that it should bring joy and happiness, not anxiety and frustration. Good luck!

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

Sleep Well This Holiday—And All Year Long:

Yes, You Can Buy a Good Night's Sleep at the New Pure Sleep Store in Canton.

By Elena Dinverno

It sounds too good to be true: spend 30 minutes at Pure Sleep and you'll sleep better every night. But hundreds of people have already discovered the great benefits of the unique "sleep diagnostic system" offered at the new Art Van Pure Sleep store on Ford Road in Canton.

This first of its kind, standalone store offers a unique diagnostic system that fits the right "sleep system" to each individual person. The sleep system is a three-part solution that includes the proper mattress and foundation for proper support and comfort, the correct pillow to ensure correct spinal alignment, and a mattress protector to provide a clean and healthy sleeping environment.

"The #1 reason for poor sleep is stress, closely followed by the tossing and turning that comes from the wrong mattress or pillow. If you aren't waking up feeling refreshed and renewed, you are probably sleeping on the wrong mattress" said Vice President of Operations Steve Glucksman.

"In just a few minutes, our sleep diagnostic system fits you with the right mattress, foundation and pillow for your own unique body and sleep style. It takes the guess work out of choosing a mattress and brings in the science of sleep."

The National Sleep Foundation reports that 60% of us have sleep disturbance two or more nights each week, and 40% struggle with poor performance at work and drowsiness during the day because of sleep problems. In addition issues caused by weight gain, heart disease, arthritis, back pain and more can be lessened by having a good night's sleep along with proper diet and exercise.

"The staff at Pure Sleep is specially trained and committed to finding the right sleep system to give you a great night's sleep and get you on your way to better health" said Glucksman.

But what about the cost? "Rest assured, we have the buying power of Michigan's #1 Mattress Retailer, Art Van — guaranteeing

the lowest prices, best selection and complete satisfaction for every person we serve."

This holiday, the perfect gift just might be a new mattress, giving you a better night's sleep all year long.

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See Pure Sleep store for details.



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FOOD

Holiday Helpers

Recipes for the Season

FAMILY FEATURES

The holidays are upon us, which means not only are you preparing those huge meals, but you also have an endless stream of other fun and festive get-togethers with hungry guests. To help you whip up those extra special dishes during the holidays, the folks at Carnation have created some rich and creamy holiday recipes. For the early birds in your family, try Eggnog-Spiced French Toast. The added touch of eggnog spices puts just the right holiday touch on traditional French toast.

To use those leftovers, try Turkey & Cranberry Encore Salad — the combination of the uniquely creamy cranberry dressing along with fresh greens and succulent turkey make the perfect post-holiday entrée. You'll be happy for the leftovers.

Fun Mexi-Meatball Kabobs are party perfect and easy to prepare. Use skewers to make them easy to eat.

Want to be a hit at the next potluck buffet? Bring along this perfect bake and take dish, Loaded Potato Potluck Favorite. It gets its creamy texture from Carnation Evaporated milk, which is fondly referred to as "The Cooking Milk." Did you know you can substitute it for drinking milk in any of your favorite recipes?

These rich and creamy recipes are perfect for any entertaining you'll be doing this holiday season. Find even more recipes at TheCookingMilk.com.



Eggnog-Spiced French Toast



Loaded Potato Potluck Favorite



Turkey & Cranberry Encore Salad



Mexi-Meatball Kabobs

Eggnog-Spiced French Toast

Makes 4 servings

- 2 large eggs
- 1 can (12 fluid ounces) Nestlé Carnation Evaporated Milk
- 2 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 2 teaspoons rum extract
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 8 slices (1/2-inch-thick) firm, day-old bread, *divided*
- Nonstick cooking spray
- Powdered sugar
- Maple syrup (optional)

BEAT eggs, evaporated milk, sugar, rum extract, cinnamon and nutmeg in shallow dish until well blended. Place 4 slices bread into egg mixture turning over to evenly moisten both sides.

MEANWHILE, spray large skillet with nonstick cooking spray; heat over medium heat. Transfer prepared bread to skillet in single layer. Cook for 3 minutes on each side or until golden brown. Remove slices to serving platter. Repeat with *remaining* bread slices, spraying skillet with cooking spray if necessary. Sprinkle with powdered sugar. Serve immediately with syrup.

Loaded Potato Potluck Favorite

Makes 16 servings

- 8 medium potatoes (about 2 1/2 to 3 pounds total), peeled and cut into 1-inch chunks
- 1 cup Nestlé Carnation Evaporated Milk
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 2 cups (8-ounce package) shredded cheddar cheese, *divided*
- 6 slices bacon, cooked and crumbled, *divided*
- Sliced green onions (optional)

PLACE potatoes in large saucepan. Cover with water; bring to a boil. Cook over medium-high heat for 15 to 20 minutes or until tender; drain.

PREHEAT oven to 350°F. Grease 2 1/2- to 3-quart casserole dish.

RETURN potatoes to saucepan; add evaporated milk, sour cream, salt and pepper. Beat with hand-held mixer until smooth. Stir in 1 1/2 cups cheese and half of bacon. Spoon mixture into prepared casserole dish. BAKE for 20 to 25 minutes or until heated through. Top with *remaining* 1/2 cup cheese, *remaining* bacon and green onions. Bake for an additional 3 minutes or until cheese is melted.

Turkey & Cranberry Encore Salad

Makes about 8 servings

DRESSING

- 2/3 cup (5-fluid-ounce can) Nestlé Carnation Evaporated Milk
- 1/2 cup jellied or whole-berry cranberry sauce
- 1/4 cup Italian salad dressing

SALAD

- 1 bag (10 ounces) mixed salad greens of your choice (about 10 cups)
- 2 cups (about 10 ounces) cooked turkey, cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 1/2 cup (2 ounces) crumbled blue cheese
- 1/3 cup dried sweetened cranberries
- 1/2 cup chopped toasted walnuts (optional)

FOR DRESSING:

PLACE evaporated milk, cranberry sauce and Italian dressing in small jar or container; cover tightly with lid. Shake for 1 to 2 minutes. Makes about 1 1/2 cups. (Dressing can be made in advance and refrigerated for up to 2 days. Shake well before using.)

FOR SALAD:

TOSS greens, turkey, blue cheese and 3/4 cup dressing in large bowl. Sprinkle with cranberries and walnuts. Serve immediately and with additional dressing, if desired. Refrigerate any remaining dressing.

Mexi-Meatball Kabobs

Makes 30 servings, 2 skewers *each*

Nonstick cooking spray

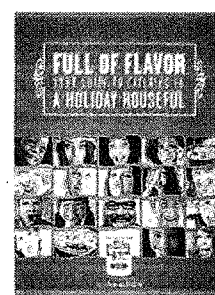
- 3 pounds lean ground beef
- 2 cups quick oats
- 1 can (12 fluid ounces) Nestlé Carnation Evaporated Milk
- 2 large eggs
- 1/2 cup ketchup
- 2 packets (1.25 ounces *each*) taco seasoning mix
- 1 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 3 large bell peppers (any color), cut into 60, 1-inch pieces
- 60 4-inch wooden skewers
- Salsa and sour cream (optional)

PREHEAT oven to 350°F. Foil-line 3 baking sheets and spray with nonstick cooking spray. COMBINE ground beef, oats, evaporated milk, eggs, ketchup, taco seasoning and black pepper in large bowl until just mixed. Form mixture into 120, 1-inch meatballs. Place on prepared baking sheets.

BAKE for 15 to 20 minutes or until no longer pink in center. Drain on paper towels, if needed.

THREAD two meatballs and one piece of pepper on each skewer. Place on large serving platter. Serve with salsa and sour cream.

To get your free Carnation "Holiday Houseful" Recipe Guide (while supplies last), go to TheCookingMilk.com.



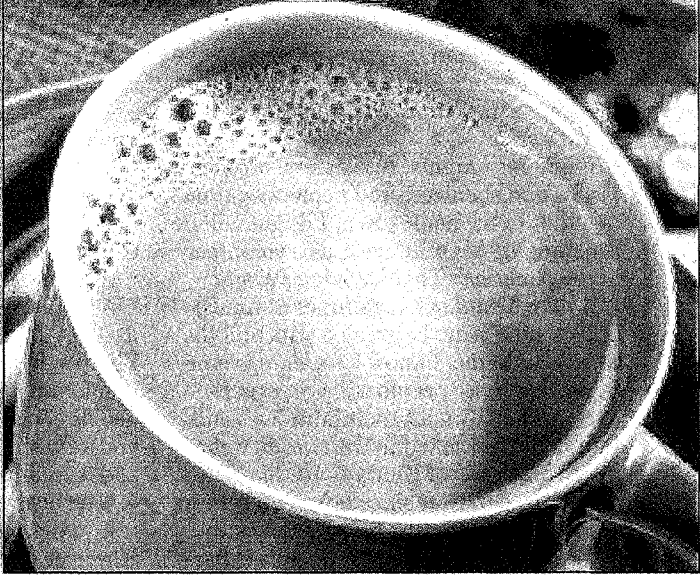
Need a chocolate fix? Try these easy snack recipes

Take a break from all that shopping after Thanksgiving Day to rest your feet and treat yourself to a chocolate snack or hot cup of cocoa.

Make these easy snack recipes Thanksgiving Eve and store until the snacking urge strikes. Fill a thermos with the cocoa drink and take along for a quick warm up while waiting outside for stores to open Friday morning.

COCOA CAFÉ OLÉ

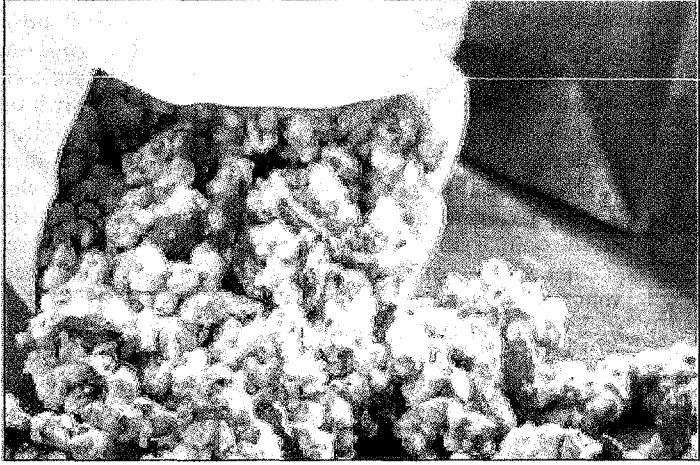
- Ingredients:**
- ½ cup sugar
 - ½ cup cocoa
 - 3 tablespoons powdered instant coffee
 - ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
 - 4 cups milk
- Instructions:**
- Combine sugar, cocoa, instant coffee and cinnamon in large saucepan. Gradually stir in milk; heat stirring occasionally, to serving temperature. Pour into mug or cup. Serve immediately. Makes 4 servings



Cocoa Café Olé

TOFFEE POPCORN CRUNCH

- Ingredients:**
- 8 cups popped popcorn
 - ¾ cup whole almonds or slivered almonds
 - 1-½ cups (8 ounce package) Heath Bits 'O Brickle Toffee Bits
 - ½ cup light corn syrup
- Instructions:**
1. Heat oven to 275°F. Grease large roasting pan (OR two 13x9x2-inch baking pans). Place popcorn and almonds in prepared pan.
 2. Combine toffee bits and corn syrup in heavy medium saucepan. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until toffee is melted (about 12 minutes). Pour over popcorn mixture; stir until evenly coated.
 3. Bake 30 minutes, stirring frequently. Remove from oven; stir every 2 minutes until slightly cooled. Cool completely. Store in tightly covered container in cool, dry place. About 1 pound popcorn. For best results, do not double this recipe.



Toffee Popcorn Crunch

JINGLE BELLS CHOCOLATE PRETZELS

- Ingredients:**
- 1 cup dark chocolate chips or semi-sweet chocolate chips
 - 1 cup white chocolate chips, divided
 - 1 tablespoon plus ½ teaspoon shortening (do not use butter, margarine, spread or oil), divided
- About 24 salted or unsalted pretzels (3- by 2inches)
- Instructions:**
1. Cover tray or cookie sheet with wax paper.
 2. Place chocolate chips, ½ cup white chips and 1 tablespoon shortening in medium microwave-safe bowl. Microwave at medium (50 percent) 1 minute; stir. Microwave at medium an additional 1 to 2 minutes, stirring every 15 seconds, until chips are melted when stirred.
 3. Using fork, dip each pretzel into chocolate mixture; tap fork on side of bowl to remove excess chocolate. Place coated pretzels on prepared tray.
 4. Place remaining ½ cup white chips and remaining ½ teaspoon shortening in small microwave-safe bowl. Microwave at medium 15 to 30 seconds or until chips are melted when stirred. Using tines of fork, drizzle chip mixture across pretzels. Refrigerate until coating is set. Store in airtight container in cool, dry place. About 2 dozen coated pretzels.



Jingle Bells Chocolate Pretzels

Recipes courtesy of Hershey's.

CITY BITES

BENEFITING CHILDREN

Livonia – Westborn Market raised \$8,200 through a monthlong “Halloween Pinup Pumpkin” campaign at its Livonia, Dearborn and Berkley stores, to benefit patients and families at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

Store patrons bought and signed the pumpkin art that featured cancer patients from St. Jude’s.

“Our customers’ generosity was fantastic,” said Alisha Person of Westborn Market, who helped to coordinate the effort. “This is the first year that we’ve partnered with St. Jude, and the response was overwhelming.”

Each store awarded a \$100 Westborn Market gift card and a hand-blown glass pumpkin to customers selected at random from those who donated more than \$5 to the Halloween Pinup Pumpkin fund-raiser.

NEW RESTAURANT

Plymouth – The Ironwood Grill is officially open. Located at 840 Ann Arbor Trail, the eatery offers pizzas baked in a wood-fired oven, sandwiches, salads, pastas and burgers, rotisserie chicken, 20 beers on tap and 40 bottled beers, and more. With big-screen televisions located throughout the bar and dining room, the restaurant is designed to bring in the sports crowd and be family friendly. (734) 667-5614

DECEMBER BLIZZARD

Tri-county – Just in time for the holidays, Dairy Queen will bring back its seasonally inspired peppermint Blizzard treat with a new name: Candy Cane Chill is the Blizzard of the Month for December.

A classic combination of peppermint candy cane pieces and rich chocolate chunks mixed with DQ soft serve, Candy Cane Chill is available at all participating Dairy Queen and DQ Grill & Chill restaurants nationwide beginning Dec. 1. The average retail price of the Candy Cane Chill Blizzard is \$3.09 for the 12 ounce, \$3.49 for the 16 ounce and \$3.99 for the 21 ounce.

DINNER COST UP

Farmington Hills – According to the Associated Food & Petroleum Dealers (AFPD), the average price to buy and prepare the ingredients for a traditional turkey dinner for 10 people is \$4.14 per person, a total of \$41.14. That’s up from \$39.70 for 10 or \$3.97 per person in 2008.


The cost is based on a standard turkey dinner and includes all the traditional trimmings: stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, yams, green salad, fruit salad, cranberry sauce, rolls, and pumpkin pie. Beverages were excluded.

“We have surveyed retailers since 1994 and found that prices kept relatively consistent until 2005, when transportation costs began to inflate food prices,” stated Jane Shallal, president and CEO of AFPD.

The survey prices reflect the average cost of items that can be purchased at supermarkets in the Metro Detroit area the week prior to Thanksgiving. Shallal said that many of the items on the traditional Thanksgiving dinner menu are on sale during this time.

“Many supermarkets offer one or more brands of turkeys and some are selling them at below cost in hopes of encouraging shoppers to come into their store for their Thanksgiving Day purchases. Shoppers can also look to some of the grocers’ loyalty programs to cut the price of their dinner even further,” Shallal said. “We urge customers to clip coupons and search the ads to check for when items they need are on sale.”

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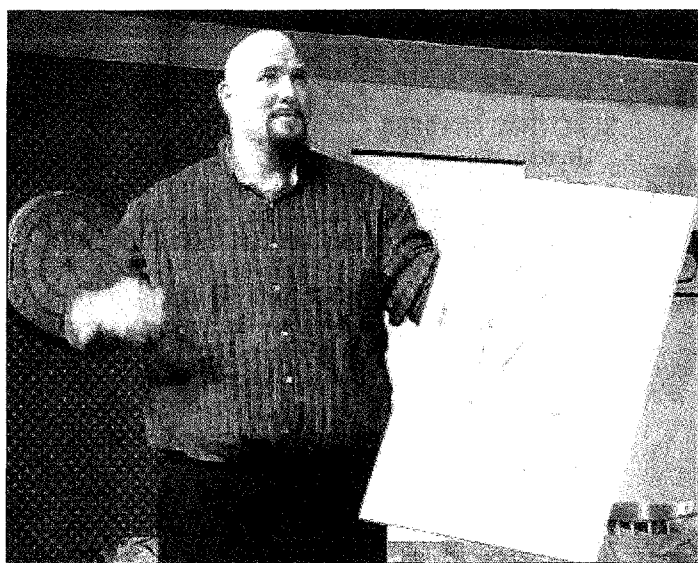


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Reuben Ellman of Westland donned a papier mache head of Henry Ford and walked in the America's Thanksgiving Parade nine years ago. Since then, he has done everything from float building to driving. He's shown here in a photo from his MySpace page, checking out a sketch.

Westland man watches annual parade from inside float

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Reuben Ellman of Westland hasn't gone home to Oscoda for Thanksgiving dinner in eight years — and this Thursday will be no different.

While his parents, two sisters, brother-in-law and six nieces and nephews gather together in his home town, Ellman will be finishing up his ninth year as a volunteer in the America's Thanksgiving Parade.

"I miss Thanksgiving dinner at times, but for nine years between 5 a.m. and the time I get home, I know I am doing something that more people will see, experience, and enjoy with their families," said Ellman, who walked in the parade wearing a "big head" of Henry Ford that first year, in 2000. Ever since he's been behind the wheel of a convertible or a float.

"I know my family up in Oscoda is having a great dinner and sharing in the day. Those thoughts and feelings keep me fed until I get to a restaurant or home to make some dinner."

Quitting time at the parade can be anywhere from 3 p.m. at the earliest to 9 p.m. at the latest on Thanksgiving Day. Ellman, who works as a data management specialist for a company called PHNS, generally works the day after Thanksgiving, making a quick trip north on the holiday an unlikely choice.

During his second year as a parade volunteer Ellman expanded his effort to include float driving and float building.

"I remember being covered in Styrofoam shavings from the numbers and glue and cloth," he said, recalling his work on the Lollipop Plane float.

"Through the years I have also worked on restoring the papier mache heads and other floats."

He's driven and spotted various floats, as well as convertibles — which he prefers — and now teaches other volunteers how to navigate in a float.

Here's Ellman's thoughts about float driving in the America's Thanksgiving Parade:

Q: Why have you continued to participate — what compels you to be a part of it?

A: I keep doing it because I love to do it. I get to tell people I am part of the Thanksgiving Day Parade. I get to tell them I am a float driver. Not too many people can say they are part of the Parade and a float driver. I do it because I love it and it's really cool.

Q: What float will you drive this year?

A: I did request a convertible. However, based on my experience and the trust and respect from the parade personnel, they know I can be put in any position and know it will be done. I will find out my position on Wednesday before Thanksgiving.

Q: Do you have a favorite float you drive?

A: My favorite float is actually the convertible. In the convertible you are in the elements like the spotter and self-propelled drivers, but you are in a sweet vehicle. Usually, there are only 10 convertibles; there are a lot more floats.

Q: What's most challenging about driving a float?

A: The most challenging. That is kind of tough. Due to the fact there are different jobs. As a float driver that drives a self-propelled float the tough part is giving up control to your spotter. You

have to rely on your spotter and trust that they will not have you drive into trouble. And staying warm. As a driver in a pull vehicle the hardest part is not getting too hot in the vehicle. Actually, the hardest part is making sure there is no one running between the tow vehicle and the float — your spotter helps with that. As a convertible driver — staying warm.

Q: Anything else you'd add about the experience?

A: I have always been a volunteer person. When I was growing up I was part of a few volunteer organizations—one allowed me to walk in all the parades. I have been a volunteer (community theatre) actor for 20-plus years. I volunteer at the Fox and Opera House theatres. I love volunteering because it allows me to do a lot of different things, see a lot of different things, and just getting out and doing. The Thanksgiving Day Parade and the Parade Company are unique in that you can volunteer throughout the year but the product you are working on is only seen one time a year and for only a short time. More people have seen me drive, though they did not know it, then have seen me act or do any other activity. What is more important is people tell me their childhood remembrances of the Parade. It really is a great time and a wonderful thing to do.

The 83rd America's Thanksgiving Parade will step off at 9:20 a.m. on Woodward Avenue and Mack and end at Woodward Avenue and Congress in downtown Detroit. See it in person or watch it on WDIV-TV Local 4. NewsTalk 760 WJR also will broadcast live from the parade.

Hear seasonal songs barbershop quartet-style

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

The Wayne chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society kicks off its busy holiday season with a new name and a public concert on Dec. 6.

"We've always done a lot of singing at Christmas — in senior homes, hospitals and sometimes we've sung at the malls and spread a little Christmas cheer," said Mark Pritchard, music vice president for the Harmonytown singers. "A lot of the singing takes place in churches."

"We added a couple of Christmas numbers that we thought were good ones. We thought, jeez, we haven't done a (public) Christmas concert in

some time. Let's see if we can find somewhere economic, so we're able to keep the price down low."

The group of approximately 25 active singers found the perfect venue at the Livonia Public Library. They'll sing at 3 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 6 in the auditorium at the library, 32777 Five Mile. Doors will open at 2:30 p.m. Advance tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3 for children, age 13 and under. They're available with a credit card by phone at (734) 743-1764. Or send a check, payable to the Wayne Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, to Frank Adams, 38300 Lana Court, Farmington Hills, MI 48335.

Include telephone number and e-mail address, along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope for the return ticket. Or request the tickets be held at will call.

"This is the first time our chapter has put on a Christmas show in many years," Pritchard noted. "We'll do *Winter Wonderland* and *White Christmas*, *Silent Night*...a lot of the standards."

Guest singers, the BCC Select Ensemble from Franklin High School in Livonia, will perform a mix of seasonal songs, as well as *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*.

"They're a nice counterpoint for us. They'll be all over the place — a little eclectic,"

Pritchard said. "They'll be singing some a cappella, which is what they share in common with us, and they'll sing some with piano. We'll make a contribution to their music program."

The Wayne chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, named its singing group Renaissance Chorus when it was formed 17 years ago. It changed the title to Harmonytown Chorus earlier this month, Pritchard said.

"We delight very much at this time of year at getting out and getting into the community. We're in a lot of towns — Garden City, Westland, Northville, Livonia — and wherever we go there is harmony."

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NY Daily News

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Student performs Brahms, Shubert in senior recital

María Lord will present a bassoon and voice senior recital, 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 28, at Thurston High School, 26255 Schoolcraft, Redford.

She will be assisted by Dianne, Colin, and Natasha Lord. Music will include compositions by Brahms, von Weber, Barber, Shuman, Shubert, and Lord.

She is a student at Thurston High School where she plays bassoon in the Honors band and tenor saxophone in the marching band and jazz band. She plays principal bassoon for the Dearborn Youth Symphony, and receives private instruction on bassoon from Robert Williams, principal bassoon of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

Lord also has participated in Redford Union's Madrigal Choir under Kevin Cushman's direction, and has performed in the Michigan All-State Honors Choir in Grand Rapids. She has sung in many languages in addition to English including Latin, German, Italian, and Tok Pisin, the trade language of Papua, New Guinea.

The recital is free and open to the public. Thurston High School's phone number is (313) 535-4000.



María Lord will perform a senior recital Saturday, Nov. 28.

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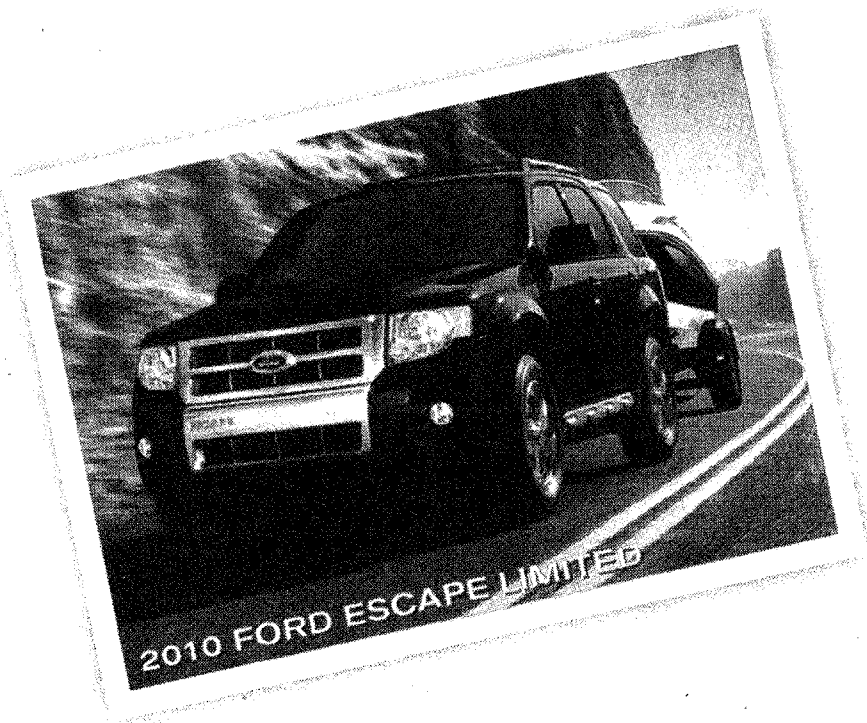
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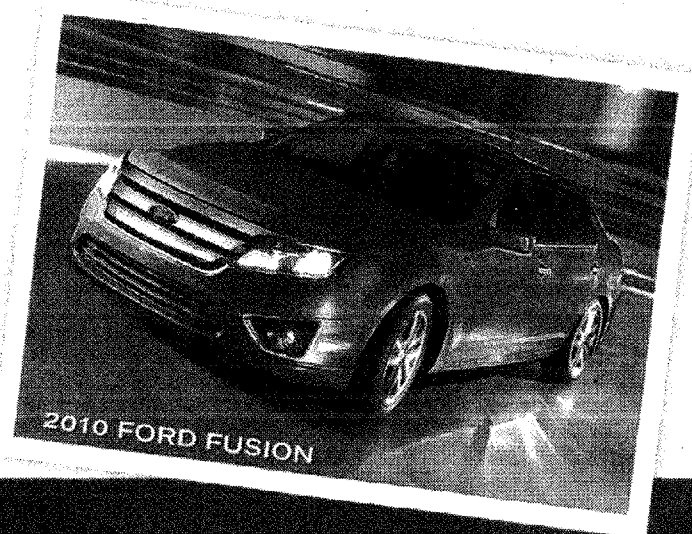
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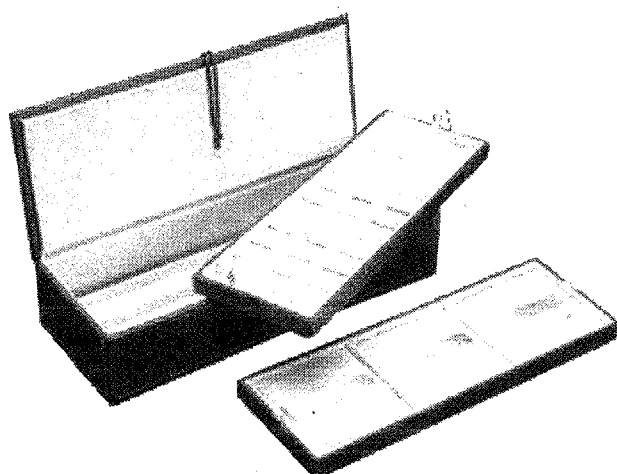
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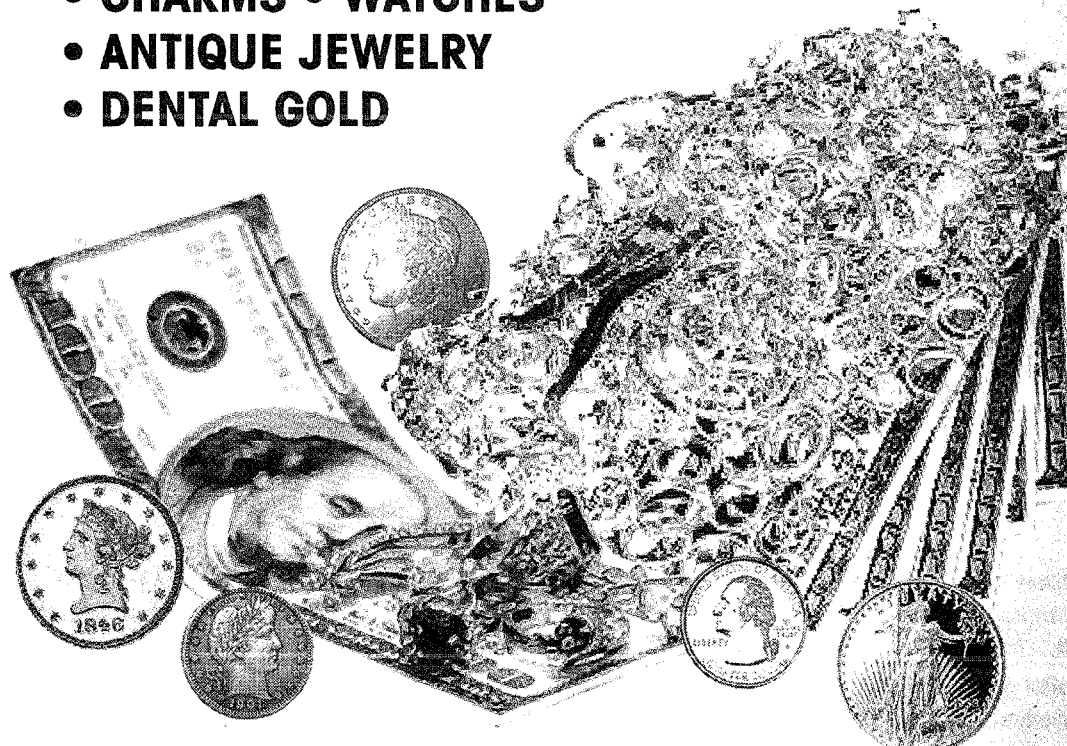
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Home weatherization help's available

Funded by the U.S. Department of Energy and the Michigan Department of Human Services, the Wayne County Weatherization program offers income-eligible homeowners free weatherization services such as installing insulation, sealing of drafts and inspection of gas appliances and checking furnaces for carbon monoxide. This program helps reduce overall housing costs for the resident while increasing energy efficiency.

While funding levels vary from year to year, there has been a weatherization program in Michigan since 1974. Each year, about 4,000 eligible homeowners and renters benefit from the program.

Any low-income homeowner or renter may be eligible if they meet current federal poverty income guidelines. Gross income in the last 90 days from application date are as follows:

Family Size	Income Level
1	\$5,662
2	\$7,404
3	\$9,155
4	\$11,025
*add \$5,400 per additional person	

The service is provided free of charge to those who qualify. Family Independence Program (FIP) and Supplemental Social Security Income (SSI) recipients are automatically qualified for the program. Before any weatherization services can be provided, the landlord or manager of the rental building must sign a landlord agreement. An application is filled out; a pre-inspection of the home is completed by a certified inspector, work is performed by a licensed contractor and a certified post inspector will inspect the completed work on the home.

To see if you qualify and how to apply for weatherization, call the local weatherization office in your area.

Wayne County Weatherization - Serving Inkster, Westland, Romulus, Canton, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Northville, Northville Township, Sumpter, Van



Buren, Huron, Belleville, Garden City, Wayne, Redford, Taylor, Livonia and Dearborn Heights. (734) 727-7297

Downriver Community Conference - Serving the Downriver Communities. (734) 362-3475

Wayne Metro CSA - Serving Dearborn, Highland Park, Hamtramck, Harper Woods and Grosse Pointe. (313) 843-2550

City of Detroit - Serving the city of Detroit. (313) 852-5634

Partners are the U.S. Department of Energy Weatherization Program and the Michigan Department of Human Services Weatherization Program.

The Oakland Livingston Human Service agency offers weatherization help in those counties. The low-income Home Weatherization program is a free service funded by the Federal Department of Energy (DOE) and administered by the Michigan

Department of Human Services (DHS). The program provides free energy conservation services for eligible low-income households.

DHS contracts with OLHSA to operate the program. The agency determines applicant eligibility, performs the necessary inspections and contracts with qualified, licensed and insured private contractors to complete the work. There services reduce energy use and lower utility bills, thus creating more self-sufficient households.

Energy savings services may include:
Combustion appliance testing
Installing ceiling insulation/ventilation
Sidewall and floor insulation
Interior sealing of major cold-air infiltration, areas utilizing blower door technology
Families and individuals who are

interested in having their home weatherized must meet current federal income guidelines, which includes gross income of everyone residing in the home at the time of application.

Recipients of FIP, SSI or SDA who have received benefits during any part of the past 12 months are automatically eligible.

Applicants must be residents of Oakland or Livingston County.

You must contact OLHSA to apply for services.

All applicants must provide proof of income for the previous 12 months.

Proof of income could include one or more of the following items:

"Award" letter from Social Security
Pay stubs with year to date totals
Letter from applicant's

employer
Unemployment check stubs
Most current W-2 or 1040 tax statement

Homeowner must provide one of the following pieces of documentation:

Recorded deed with name and address
Recorded Land Contract
Mobile home owner must provide: Title with applicant's name
Renters must have landlord: Complete and sign landlord agreement
Provide proof of ownership (see homeowner above)
Provide a couple of rental or lease agreement signed by both landlord and applicant
For more information on the OLHSA Weatherization Program, call (248) 209-2760.

Check with lawyer on spouse's signing

Q: I am wondering whether or not I can get out of a foreclosure proceeding because my wife did not sign the mortgage documents and they still foreclosed on me.

A: It all depends upon the facts, but in a recent case out of the U.S. Court of Appeals, 8th Circuit, located in Minnesota, the court found that in this particular case, the wife knew of the intent to mortgage the homestead



Robert M. Meisner

with the bank prior to its execution. The wife, in that case, retained the benefit of that mortgage by using the proceeds to pay off a previous construction

loan which she had signed and was obligated to repay and to obtain release of the construction loan's accompanying mortgage. The court also found that the bank significantly changed its position in reliance on the validity of its mortgage by lending substantial sums in exchange for the lien on the property. The court found that the couple should be estopped from now claiming that the mortgage is void in order to keep their home since they did not dispute the validity of the mortgage until four years after it was executed when they were facing foreclosure. Obviously, each case is unique on its own facts and you are best advised to check with a lawyer in your own state in regard to the possible ramifications.

HOMES SOLD - OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Aug. 17-21, 2009, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Auburn Hills	3848 Brimfield Ave 3071 Garden Ct	\$110,000 \$92,000
Birmingham	657 Coolidge Rd 519 E Lincoln St 742 Emmons Ave 982 N Adams Rd 1188 Puritan Ave	\$115,000 \$70,000 \$390,000 \$40,000 \$460,000
Bloomfield Hills	130 Guilford Rd 2078 W Bend Ct 4130 Wabek Lake Dr S	\$540,000 \$550,000 \$165,000
Bloomfield Township	6125 Gilbert Lake Rd 1330 Oxford Rd 882 Tartan Trl	\$420,000 \$300,000 \$235,000
Clarkston	6470 Enclave Dr 4517 N Eton Rd 7516 Ridge Valley Dr	\$290,000 \$225,000 \$195,000
Commerce Township	4315 Creedmore St 5330 Riverwalk Trl	\$105,000 \$195,000
Davisburg	5682 Hillshoro Rd 10850 Rattalee Lake Rd	\$38,000 \$180,000
Farmington	33933 State St	\$147,000
Farmington Hills	33437 Arnold St 34705 Bridgeman St 23719 Cora Ave 29570 Gilchrist St 24596 Glen Orchard Dr 28382 Kendallwood Dr 26124 La Muera St 21225 Parker St 28793 Petersburg St 35076 Red Pine Dr 29523 Shenandoah Dr 29615 Sierra Point Cir 23131 Tulane Ave 27996 W 11 Mile Rd	\$115,000 \$100,000 \$150,000 \$135,000 \$170,000 \$99,000 \$160,000 \$208,000 \$240,000 \$155,000 \$240,000 \$80,000 \$115,000 \$40,000
Lake Orion	431 Dell Ct 1751 S Mill Ct 587 W Pointe Ct	\$55,000 \$299,000 \$135,000
Northville	20807 E Glen Haven Cir 21620 Garfield Rd 903 McDonald Dr	\$110,000 \$395,000 \$700,000

Novi	22339 Barclay Dr 45180 Bartlett Dr 43120 Emerson Way 24015 Glen Ridge Ct 44948 Lightsway Dr 51147 Luke Ln 26348 Mandalay Cir 22264 Meridian Ln 25808 Mulberry Ln 45604 White Pines Dr	\$390,000 \$300,000 \$230,000 \$145,000 \$281,000 \$45,000 \$75,000 \$230,000 \$314,000 \$305,000
Oakland Township	2639 Quail Run St	\$170,000
Oxford	436 Cherry Hills Ct 400 Golf Villa Dr 251 Stony Lake Dr	\$149,000 \$130,000 \$215,000
Rochester	3110 Avalon Rd 3227 Greenspring Ln 2869 Hartline Dr 3808 Piccadilly Dr 805 Stag Ridge Rd 3826 Winding Brook Cir	\$73,000 \$317,000 \$138,000 \$400,000 \$186,000 \$256,000
South Lyon	61561 Brookway Dr 21018 Parkwoods Dr 795 Westhills Dr	\$315,000 \$220,000 \$175,000
Southfield	22522 Hallcroft Trl 27020 Nantucket Ct 17309 Roxbury Ave	\$130,000 \$130,000 \$48,000
Troy	3396 Cleveland Dr 1804 Hallmark Dr 1640 McManus Dr 3705 Old Creek Rd 241 Paragon Dr 133 Tacoma Dr	\$160,000 \$280,000 \$255,000 \$116,000 \$176,000 \$50,000
Walled Lake	1733 Ashley Ct 2144 Holly Berry Ln	\$147,000 \$217,000
Waterford	664 Crescent Lake Rd 393 Deer Path Trl 253 Florawood Blvd 1136 Holbrook Ave 374 Pine Creek Ct 1022 Sandpiper Dr 7078 Villa Dr 2654 Woodbourne Dr	\$41,000 \$170,000 \$99,000 \$70,000 \$150,000 \$105,000 \$103,000 \$110,000
West Bloomfield	7175 Danbrooke 6681 E Dartmoor Rd 4096 Hardwoods Dr 6241 Lynn Ct 6238 Mission Dr 6170 North Shore Dr 24818 Southfield Rd 2249 W Square Lake Rd	\$66,000 \$76,000 \$187,000 \$410,000 \$235,000 \$190,000 \$375,000 \$110,000

Real Estate Sales and Appraising

Learn about a career in residential real estate.

Attend a free one-hour seminar, or shadow a top agent to get an inside feel of the business. Seminars are at noon or 6 p.m. Mondays. To reserve a spot, contact Steve Leibhan, Keller Williams Realty International, at (248) 893-2500, 27555 Executive Drive, Suite 100, Farmington Hills 48331.

Foreclosure tours

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

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No obligation. Learn about reverse mortgages. Please RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

Foreclosure Tours

Free Foreclosure Tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner

of Middlebelt and I-96. E-mail Georgia@added-valurealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

Career Seminar

There will be a free 59-minute Career Seminar 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, at Keller Williams Realty, 36642 Five Mile, Livonia. Questions regarding start-up cost, commission and success potential will be answered. Call (734) 266-9000 to reserve your seat.

BIA

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will present a Certified Graduate course on Sales & Marketing for Remodelers on Thursday, Dec. 10, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Association Offices, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills.

Chuck Breidenstein, CAPS, of Builders Professional Group, will present strategies that will help remodelers build a positive reputation within the community and customers who will provide future leads. This course counts toward National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) designations CGA, CGR and

MCSP.

Registration is \$155 for members of the NAHBR Professional Remodelers Council, \$175 for BIA members and \$200 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at www.builders.org

Investors to meet

Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland will hold a monthly general membership meeting Thursday, Dec. 10, at MSU-Management Education Center, 811 Square Lake Road, Troy. It will include 5:30-7:15 p.m. networking; 6:15-7:15 p.m. Early Bird session; 7:15-7:30 p.m. general meeting; 7:30-9 p.m. speakers' presentation. For details, visit www.reiaofakland.com or call (800) 747-6742.

The panel of experts includes: Bruce Redman, lawyer with Redman Law Firm, specializing in real estate since 1994; Suzanne Taube, in the mortgage lending industry for the last 25 years, working for companies like Countrywide, GMAC and Kaplan; Ellen Mahoney, with Loss Mitigation Consulting Services LLC, who has more than 26 years of experience in real estate and finance providing assistance to individuals assessing options pertaining to residential real estate.

There will be a question and answer time.

Q: I am in the process of selling our house, and we are willing to give "concessions." Will the appraiser take that into consideration in terms of the purchase value of the house?

A: It all depends upon the appraiser, but it also depends upon the type of concessions that you are giving. If, for example, you are selling a condominium and are agreeing to pay assessments for a number of years on behalf of the new purchaser, that may not be something that reflects upon the value of the home. I can tell you that banks are very skeptical of appraisers these days given the mortgage meltdown and you should clear your proposed appraiser with several lending institutions, if at all possible, and make sure that your prospective purchaser has got the right person.

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 - WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Aug. 10-13, 2009, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Canton	48172 Chesterfield Dr S 46549 Crosswick	\$305,000 \$252,000
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Garden City	532 Filmore St 41630 Haggerty Woods Ct 45051 Quaker Hill Dr 3519 Riverside Dr 41815 Riverwood Ct 427 Sandalwood Rd 1960 Stonebridge Way	\$380,000 \$110,000 \$163,000 \$171,000 \$143,000 \$329,000 \$310,000
	5916 Belton St 29438 Elmwood St 32507 Florence St 5659 Gilman St 30854 Rosslyn Ave	\$23,000 \$35,000 \$97,000 \$60,000 \$55,000

Livonia	32240 Rush St 10417 Bassett St 35030 Elmira St 19535 Fitzgerald St 18362 Glastonbury Dr 11260 Haller St 18957 Harrison Ave 30235 Hoy St 9166 Newburgh Rd 29601 Puritan St 8926 Roslyn St 14615 Susanna St	\$80,000 \$180,000 \$117,000 \$256,000 \$300,000 \$179,000 \$177,000 \$200,000 \$160,000 \$158,000 \$100,000 \$160,000
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Northville	39616 Dun Rovin Dr 18355 Fiddlers Cv 40948 Knightsford Rd 19531 Northridge Dr 39498 Northwind Ct 355 Orchard Dr 310 Yerkes St	\$233,000 \$742,000 \$235,000 \$55,000 \$271,000 \$70,000 \$157,000
Plymouth	48311 Hilltop Dr E 15032 Maplewood Ln 590 S Main St 12653 Wendover Ct	\$365,000 \$150,000 \$230,000 \$290,000

Redford	46346 Westbriar Ct 12852 Brady 18239 Denby 9074 Fenton 11360 Garfield 9965 Hazelton 20428 Woodworth	\$225,000 \$9,000 \$45,000 \$78,000 \$75,000 \$63,000 \$35,000
Westland	7428 Affeldt St 39100 Forest Creek Dr 7445 Hartel St 32233 Merritt Dr	\$64,000 \$175,000 \$86,000 \$89,000

	2050 N Carlson St 38478 Palmer Rd 8168 Randy Dr 37130 Riviera Dr 2180 Stockmeyer Blvd 2656 Treadwell St 626 Van Lann St 2220 Wilshire St 7325 Woodview St 7365 Woodview St	\$80,000 \$55,000 \$110,000 \$207,000 \$76,000 \$76,000 \$35,000 \$120,000 \$35,000 \$18,000
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Challenging fun for ALL ages

Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Central points
- 5 Percolate
- 10 Eight bits
- 14 Golf club
- 15 Sawed
- 16 Racetrack shape
- 17 Dogie
- 18 Opportunity and Spirit (2 wds.)
- 20 Beeper
- 22 Crumpe
- 23 Companion
- 24 Anouk — of film
- 26 Ginza money
- 27 Interpret wrongly
- 30 Breakfast nook
- 34 Purpose
- 35 Takes a good look
- 36 Web site
- 37 Suet cousin
- 38 Fray
- 40 Tall flower
- 41 Collection of tales
- 42 Feeling miffed
- 43 Laugh at in scorn
- 45 Eighth planet
- 47 Spruce up the walls
- 48 — Nimitz
- 49 Portends
- 50 Turn pink
- 53 Frat letter

DOWN

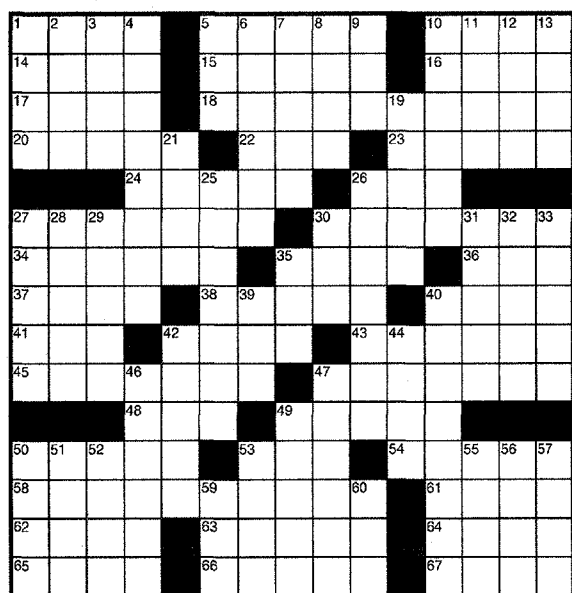
- 54 Huge-cast films
- 58 Table setting nicely (2 wds.)
- 61 Rock star, say
- 62 Poker stake
- 63 Surpass
- 64 Verne's skipper
- 65 1939 Lugosi role
- 66 Mural undercoat
- 67 Hang open
- 1 Payroll deduction
- 2 Kind of tradition
- 3 Pepsi or RC
- 4 Ultraviolet opposite
- 5 Flea hastily
- 6 Very pleased
- 7 Tally
- 8 Pedro's house
- 9 Any ship
- 10 Heifer
- 11 Actor — Montand
- 12 With a bite
- 13 Movie lioness
- 19 Tandoors
- 21 Bearing
- 25 Dowagers
- 26 Gave forth
- 27 La Scala site
- 28 Pointless
- 29 Subway hanger
- 30 Apply henna
- 31 Fall planting

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

GALAS ABLER POD
AWASH ROUGE ASU
GECKO IDIOM NAP
GASES ALIKE
OBSOLETE FRACAS
MANANA JERKS
AGAR BEADY TAPS
HERE RIA WORN
ALES FILMS OREO
FIRES PORTER
KIMONO MUNDANE
OVERT BLINI
AIL AFROS OLDIE
NEE CLONE NINNY
SSE TOWER STAVE

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- 32 Line of work
- 33 Kind of statesman
- 35 Ms. Arden
- 39 "We — not amused"
- 40 Selfish
- 42 Raw-fish delicacy
- 44 Fencer's weapon
- 46 Wild boar, e.g.
- 47 Waves of applause
- 49 Fishing lures
- 50 — B'rith
- 51 Fr. or Ger.
- 52 Game for (2 wds.)
- 53 For real
- 55 Hunch
- 56 Gin-fizz flavor
- 59 Wassail alternative
- 60 Moo — gai pan



SUDOKU

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

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!

SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

CORNUCOPIA MAYFLOWER PUMPKIN
FEAST PILGRIM PURITAN
HARVEST PLUMOUTH THANKS
INDIANS POPCORN TURKEY

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

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

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

1	8	9	6	9	8	1	2
6	2	8	1	4	2	9	8
9	2	1	8	2	9	8	6
2	8	9	9	8	2	7	6
9	1	8	4	6	2	2	9
2	6	7	9	2	1	8	9
8	9	2	8	6	9	1	2
1	9	2	2	9	7	6	8
8	7	6	2	1	8	9	2

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

N	O	H	L	O	W	X	T	P
S	I	N	R	O	C	A	D	H
S	L	M	A	E	O	V	H	S
N	L	M	A	S	X	N	V	H
V	I	A	O	C	N	R	O	C
I	X	N	T	M	S	V	A	A
C	D	R	J	A	S	V	A	C
N	W	I	A	W	O	I	S	A
I	L	L	V	I	R	I	L	H
L	D	V	W	I	R	I	L	H
L	D	V	W	I	R	I	L	H

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Deadlines:

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

Offices and Hours:

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

POLICY

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

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Building & Repair (0480)

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248-557-5595 313-292-7722

Drywall (0690)

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Dustless system.
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All Types. Interior/Exterior.
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your written quote!
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ments, garages, stores, etc.
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service. Free est. Wayne/
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Clean-up/Hauling Service

Cheapest Prices! Garages,
bsmts, attics, free estimates
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www.lacoureservices.com

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DEB'S HOME AND

COMMERCIAL CLEANING
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Insulation (1110)

QUALITY PAINTING

Exp. Work Myself. Livonia,
Plymouth, Farmington, etc.
248-225-7165

Lawn, Gardening

Maintenance Service (1230)

FALL CLEAN UP

*Lawn
Mowing *Residential Snow
Removal Call Evan at Evan's
Landscaping: (734) 329-4773

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Heavy Leaf Removal,
Snow Removal, Free Est.
J&J Lawn Care: 734-788-9185

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Paperhangers (1420)

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• Faux Finish • Plaster/Drywall
Repair • Wallpaper Removal
• Skim Coating • Deck
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Roofing (1640)

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Valleys, Chimneys, etc. Warr.
Member BBB 30 yrs. exp.
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& Trim. We beat written est.
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HOMETOWNlife.com



Apartments/

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50% off first 3 months
with approved credit.
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rooms, heat incl. \$650/mo.
50% off 1st 3 months' rent
w/ approved credit.
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CANTON - 1 bdrm, super clean

apt., all utilities incl. Must See!
\$505/mo. + 1 month security.
Call: (734) 945-6714

CANTON: Huge 1 bdrm on 5

acres next to private home,
brand new, all utilities includ-
ed. \$500/mo. 734-658-8823

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FREEDOM VILLAGE APTS.
1 bdrm Move in Special for
qualified applicants. Laundry
in unit, water incl. No Pets.
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Apartments/

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LIVONIA

Mid 5/ Middlebelt. 1 bdrm
w/laundry room in unit. 50%
off first 2 months with
approved credit. \$595/mo.
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1 Bdrm. \$575, 2 Bdrm. \$670.
First month free w/approved
credit. W/ 1 yr. lease. Walk-in
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4 unit bldg, new paint, coin
laundry, c/a. \$590 + sec. 1st
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1 Bdrm, Porches/Patios, A/C,
On-site Laundry, Basement
Storage, Gas and Water includ-
ed! \$595. 248-637-9800

PLYMOUTH: 2 bdrm, 2 bath,

washer/dryer, dishwasher, c/a,
carport, balcony, 930 sq.ft.
\$690/mo. (734) 516-5066

Apartments/

Unfurnished (4000)

Plymouth

\$300+ MOVES YOU IN!!
1 bdrm, Dogs welcome!
Private entry/single story
Beautiful community
Near Downtown Plymouth
734-459-6640 EHO
www.cormorantco.com
*call or details

PLYMOUTH (CITY) Lg

unfurnished studio
apt. rent incl all utilities. 6 mo.
lease or longer. \$585 + dep.
734-635-1079, 734-434-6686

PLYMOUTH PARK APTS

65 and older. 1 & 2 bdrm
apts available starting at
\$450/mo. including all util.
(313) 350-1270

PLYMOUTH - Prime location,

1 bdrm avail, \$580 plus secu-
rity. Near downtown. Incl.
heat. No dogs. 734-455-2835

Apartments/

Unfurnished (4000)

Plymouth

Rent Starting
at \$449
1 & 2 Bedroom Apt's.
Plymouth Manor
Plymouth House
734-455-3880
www.yorkcommunities.com

PLYMOUTH SQUARE APTS.

\$300 security deposit.
50% OFF 1ST 3 MO. RENT
with approved credit
1 & 2 bdrm, \$570 - \$705.
734-455-6570

REDFORD

1st Month Free!
Large 1 bdrm.
C/A, storage
Tons of closet space
\$590 per mo.
734-721-6699 EHO
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AFFORDABLE HOMES STARTING AT \$13,900

3 bed, 2 bath home
NEARLY 1,250 Sq. Ft. & ALL APPLIANCES, INCLUDING WASHER/DRYER
SUN HOMES AT
College Park Estates
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(888) 284-9760
www.collegepark.com
Expires 11/30/09 WAC

MANUFACTURED HOMES FOR RENT

FREE RENT PLUS 4
CHANCES TO WIN \$500!
3 Bdrm, 2 Bath Homes
Starting at \$629
NO RENT UNTIL 2010 on select homes*
Over 1,000 sq. ft. & all appliances including
washer/dryer!

Academy/Westpoint

Sun Homes
www.academywestpoint.com
1-888-272-3099

*On select homes,

All applicants must complete a credit application.
* Apply and close by 11/30/09 and you may be entered to win a
\$500 American Express Gift Card! Prospect must satisfy background
screening requirements. Expires 11/30/09 EHO

First Time Home Buyer Incentive Has Been Extended!

**Attention
Real Estate Agents,
Brokers and Builders!**

With the First Time Home Buyer Incentive being extended to April 30th, 2010, the Observer and Eccentric and the Hometown Weekly papers are here to help you attract the First Time Buyers who are eligible for the \$8,000 rebate incentive being offered by the government!

The Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Newspapers reach over 192,950* weekly readers and of these readers:

- 21,250** plan to purchase a home
- 11,500** are currently renting and planning to purchase a home

\$25.00 per inch!
(Color available at \$2.00 per inch)

This guide will also include articles explaining how the First Time Buyer's incentive works and who qualifies for it.

Deadline: Friday, November 27th, 2009

Publishes: West Oakland.....Thursday, December 10th
Wayne & South Oakland Eccentric
plus Birmingham.....Sunday, December 6th

Do not be left out of this important advertising opportunity!
Call your advertising representative today to reserve your space now!

Call: 800-579-7355
Fax: 313-496-4968
Email: oeads@hometownlife.com

*Source: THE MEDIA AUDIT June-August, 2009 **Source: THE MEDIA AUDIT June-August, 2009

YOU MAY REQUEST THAT THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC/HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS NOT SEND ANY FURTHER ADVERTISEMENTS TO A FAX MACHINE. OUR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH YOUR REQUEST WITHIN 30 DAYS IS UNWILLING. TO REQUEST THAT THE OBSERVER & ECCENT

APARTMENTS

HOMETOWNlife.com

Apartments/Unfurnished (4000)

WALLED LAKE-ON THE LAKE 1-3 bdrms starting at \$500. 1st mo free with approved credit. C/A. Close to 12 Oaks, schools & x-ways. (248) 624-5999

WAYNE: 1 bdrm. Stove/Refrigerator, Washer, Dryer. Lg. yard. Utilities incl. \$600 + security. 734-426-4792

WESTLAND: 1 bdrm. carriage house. Newly remodeled. C/A, appl, lg. yard, good location. \$500/mo. 734-721-1959

WESTLAND 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath, laundry hook-up & off street parking. \$600/mo. (248) 892-0262

WESTLAND Apts From \$499* Deposit from \$0* 1 & 2 Bdrms • Patio or Balcony • 24 Hr Emergency Maint. • Open 7 Days
Waynewood Apts 734-326-8270, EHO
*Conditions Apply
www.waynewoodapts.com

"We Work For You!"
hometownlife.com

Westland Estates "WOW"
1 Bdrms, \$475
2 Bdrms, \$615

No fine print in this ad!
-Heat/Water included
-\$10.00 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

Apartments/Unfurnished (4000)

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.

LOOK

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

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

Condos/Townhouses (4020)

FARMINGTON HILLS - Recently updated 1300 sq. ft. 2 full bed/bath, open floor plan, \$990/mo. 248-760-1055

PLYMOUTH Townhome - 2 Bdrms, Private Entrances and Basement, Washer/Dryer Hook-ups, Gas and Water included! \$750 248-637-9800

TAYLOR: Gorgeous Ranch Condo. Full bsmt, 2 car garage, fireplace. Like new off Pardee Rd. (248) 224-6696

WOODHAVEN: 2 bdrm Condo. Like new. Attached garage. Bad Credit Maybe Okay. Available Now. (248) 224-6696

Duplexes (4030)

LIVONIA - 2 bdrm, clean, immaculate, all appl, fin bsmt, A/C, garage, fenced, park close by, no pets. (734) 231-5597

WESTLAND: 2 bdrm. duplex, c/a, high efficiency furnace. Garage, lg. fenced yard. Pets Okay. 734-728-4776

WESTLAND/NORWAYNE 3 bdrm, \$599 & also 1 bdrm apt. \$399. Section 8 Okay. 248-939-1491, 734-578-0669

FREE GROCERIES plus! NO RENT due until Jan 1st 2010! 3 Bed / 2 Bath Homes from only: **\$599/mo.** All Appliances including W/D and C/A! College Park Canton MI (888) 264-4080
APPLY ONLINE www.4collegepark.com
Now Open Sat. from 10am-2pm

DETROIT, MI 4 Bdrms, 4 baths, 2 garage, central air, basement. On W. Outer Drive, 2600 sq. ft. beautiful home, finished basement, finished sunroom with heat and air, appliances and alarm included. Security Deposit Required. \$1250 313-862-7607

FARMINGTON HILLS - Sharp 2 bdrm brick ranch, finished bsmt, stove, fridge, option/LC avail. \$750. (248) 788-1823

GARDEN CITY: 3 bdrm. ranch with garage. 859 Douglas, 48135. \$975/mo. + security. 1 yr. lease. 734-502-8791

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

INKSTER - 3 bdrm, bsmt, utility room, \$500; 2 bdrm ranch, mechanic's gar, \$450. Option on both. (248) 788-1823

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

LIVONIA: 2 bdrm. All appls incl Garage. \$800/mo+ \$900 security. 1yr. lease. 12301 Camden, 48150. 734-525-5612

LIVONIA - 9111 Hugh. 3 bdrm bungalow w/fenced yard. All appl. incl. dishwasher. Pets ok. \$975 + sec. 313-779-8506

MELVINDALE: 3 bdrm, ranch, utility room, option/LC, \$8000 avail, bad credit okay. \$750/mo. (248) 788-1823

Homes For Rent (4050)

FREE GROCERIES plus! NO RENT due until Jan 1st 2010! 3 Bed / 2 Bath Homes from only: **\$599/mo.** All Appliances including W/D and C/A! College Park Canton MI (888) 264-4080
APPLY ONLINE www.4collegepark.com
Now Open Sat. from 10am-2pm

REDFORD: 1 bdrm, 1 bath, no garage or bsmt. Lg. lot/country setting. \$450/mo. 12300 San Jose. 734-777-6363

REDFORD: 1100 sq. ft. 3 bdrm. bungalow w/bsmt, a/c, fridge/stove, imm. occ. \$775/mo. Sec. 8 ok. 734-748-4331

REDFORD - 3 bdrm ranch, C/A, fenced yard, utility shed, \$830/mo + \$830 sec dep, 1 yr lease, pets ok. 734-905-2644

REDFORD: 5 Mile/Telegraph Charming, updated 2 bdrm, a/c, deck, appliances. \$750/mo. Call: 248-346-6108

REDFORD: Rent to Own. 3 bdrm, new carpet, updated, bsmt, 2 car. Down payment req. \$950/mo. (734) 678-6345

ROMULUS 3 bdrm, redorated, carpeted. \$625/mo. Ross Realty: (734) 326-8300

ROMULUS - Remodeled 3 bdrm, bsmt, 2.5 car gar, family room, option/LC, bad credit okay, \$800. (248) 788-1823

ROYAL OAK - 2 bdrm, 1 bath, oak floors, appl, enclosed yard with garage, very clean. \$650/mo. (248) 388-9536

SOUTHFIELD - 3 & 4 bdrm homes on quiet street, new carpet/paint throughout, finished bsmt. \$1300-1500/mo. (443) 465-5386

SOUTHFIELD: Birmingham Schools. 4 bdrm brick ranch, garage, a/c, new appl, bsmt. \$1250/mo. 248-521-7581

TAYLOR - 3 bdrm ranch, newly decorated, fenced yard, appl, rent w/ option to buy. \$800/mo + sec. 313-779-4732

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

WESTLAND: Spacious 3 bdrm duplex, very clean, fresh paint, new carpet, fenced, near school. (313) 418-9905

WOODHAVEN: Remodeled 3 bdrm brick ranch, fin bsmt, 2 bath, C/A, 2 car gar, option/LC avail. \$800. 248-788-1823

Homes For Rent (4050)

YPSILANTI FREE RENT! *til 01-01-10
STARTING AS LOW AS \$729 3 bdrm, 2 bath homes with all appliances incl C/A! 924 sq. ft. up to 1,452 sq. ft. Call Sun Homes at: 888-235-3517
www.4lakeview.com
Expires 11-30-2009
*some restrictions apply, EHO

Mobile Home Rentals (4070)

CAN YOU USE \$9,000? Relocate your home by 12/31/09 and receive: **\$6,000/\$9,000** (single section/multi-section)
\$100* off monthly size rent for 3 years! *Max. Sec. Rent: \$299/mo*
Apply Online at: www.relocatemyhouse.com
College Park Estates 51074 Mott Road #243 Canton, MI 48188 (888) 284-9760
www.4collegepark.com

MOBILE HOMES ON LOTS Low monthly rent. Family oriented. Used and refurbished 2 bdrm. homes for sale or rent. Inkster/Westland
Riverview Mobile Home Park (734) 721-7215

Rooms For Rent (4140)

GARDEN CITY Room for rent in my private home. \$95 a week. (734) 427-2891

INKSTER RD/CHERRY HILL Want mature person, private lg upper, furnished studio room, bar, fridge, microwave, a/c. \$95/wk. \$200 sec dep. (313) 561-3922

Rooms For Rent (4140)

LIVONIA Furnished, kitchen privileges, washer/dryer, cable, all utilities. Male preferred. \$360/mo. + \$100 deposit. 734-578-1427

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

PLYMOUTH TWP. Room for Rent. \$400/mo. + 1/2 utilities, cable. Non-smoker. 734-968-0654

WESTLAND/LIVONIA 25x40 shop with 11x14 office, security system, \$550/mo. + utilities. 1 mo. free. 313-304-6697

Commercial/Industrial For Rent/Lease (4230)

WESTLAND/LIVONIA 25x40 shop with 11x14 office, security system, \$550/mo. + utilities. 1 mo. free. 313-304-6697

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Even in these trying times, we still have the best prices!

Westland

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

Wilderness SPACIOUS!! 2 Bdrms, 1000 sq. ft. CARPORTS/ POOL WASHER & DRYER inside unit
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Plymouth

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Garden City

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

Take advantage of one of these great specials today!

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MARKETPLACE

HOMETOWNlife.com

7000-7780 Merchandise

Absolutely Free (7000)

SONY 27" Console TV with remote. Good Cond. Highland. (248) 887-1088

Auction Sales (7060)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That on 12/16/2009 at 2:00pm the following will be sold by competitive bidding at National Storage Center - Westland, 39205 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185. Unit(s) may or may not include the following: Household Items, Recreational Items and/or Misc. Goods. Unit 270 - Gary Cunningham, Unit 315-Scott Proctor, Unit 516-Craig Ellis

Household Goods (7160)

ANTIQUE Kling, maple, pineapple post, full size bedroom suite. Exc. cond, must see! \$850/best. 248-889-8526

DINING ROOM SUITE - 9 piece Henredon, table, china cabinet, hutch & 6 chairs, \$650/best offer. Call: (313) 820-9711

HARVEST TABLE, Light Oak. 4 matching chairs, ceramic tile oak top, expandable. Originally \$1500. Asking \$400/best. 734-635-1276

MATTRESS New queen pillow-top mattress. Can Deliver. \$200. (734) 444-7277

Household Goods (7160)

MISCELLANEOUS: Refrigerator \$135; Stove \$85; Dryer \$85; Ceiling Fan \$5; Dehumidifier \$45; Queen Box Spring and Mattress \$55; Maple Table \$15; Antique Chair \$5; Batman Bike \$10; Girl's Bike \$5. Call 248-465-0262.

TWIN BED - ADJUSTABLE Automatic controls, new King Coil Mattress, remote control, relaxing vibrating movement, head & foot raises in different positions, 3 yrs old, \$400/best offer. Call: (248) 790-2013

Pools, Spas, Hot Tubs (7190)

HOT TUB - (67) Jets, Brand New, DIVORCE. \$4,975. Still in wrapper. Insurance just paid, \$11,200. Loaded. Howell. 517-404-8748.

Oh Yeah!
Make your life easier... find it in your classifieds!

Business & Office Equipment (7240)

DESKS, conference table, chairs, filing & other office equipment. Excellent shape, good prices. (248) 255-5720

Musical Instruments (7510)

GALLIEN-KRUEGAR Amp Head & Cabinet. Head is 125 Watts. Cabinet is 400 Watts. Best Offer. (734) 462-0878

TRUMPET - SONARE Silver, mint shape. \$1250. (248) 225-0577

Sporting Goods (7520)

MICHIGAN ANTIQUE ARMS COLLECTORS 500 Table Show Nov 28th & 29th
Antique and modern firearms, knives. BUY and SELL. Rock Financial Showplace. 46100 Grand River. Btwn Novi/Beck Rds Admission \$6. Open to public 9am. Info: 586-465-6200

CASH PAID FOR RECORD COLLECTIONS 45's & LP's. Rock, Soul, Jazz & More. Call Justin: 734-578-3479

CASH PAID for vintage/antique (pre-1970) costume jewelry. Marcy 248-880-5700

Cats (7830)

AWESOME KITTEN 13 wks. old, needs loving home. (248) 660-6604

Dogs (7840)

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Call Classifieds today!
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GET EXTRA CASH!
By selling your vehicle or the items in your garage and attic which are collecting dust!

Advertise 1 item of merchandise for As little as \$19.99*!
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*4 line minimum, additional lines may be added for extra cost. Limited time special.

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A perfect addition to baby's scrapbook! Place your baby's photo in the Observer and Eccentric/Hometown Newspapers for Christmas and let our 912,950* weekly readers "Ooh and Haaa" over them too! This special page of "cuties" will run December 20/24.

Just \$20*
Deadline to receive ads: December 10th
Send photo and info to:
"Baby's First Christmas"
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Or email to: oeads@hometownlife.com

Elizabeth Smith
Mommy's Little Angel
Born 11/13/2009
Proud Parents
John & Sue
Livonia, MI

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*6 lines maximum. Must be prepaid. We accept all major credit cards. Photos may be mailed or emailed but must be received by 12-10-2009. No photos will be returned.

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It's right here, from the front to the back of your

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TOTALLY LOCAL COVERAGE!



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STEFK'S

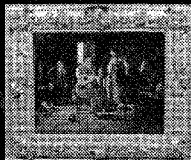
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ENCHANTING WINTER AUCTION OF FINE PAINTINGS AND DECORATIVE ARTS
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3RD, 2009; 6:00 P.M.
Doors open at 4:30

Preview Hours:

Friday, November 27th, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 28th, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Monday, November 30th, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 1st, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 2nd, 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
COMPLIMENTARY APPRAISAL CLINIC:
Wednesday, December 2nd, from 10:00 a.m.-2:00p.m.



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174 units. Some experience.
Fax resume: 248-649-0775

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Ideal for anyone who can't get
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A Difference!**



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OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
NEWSPAPERS

Help Wanted-General 5000

Construction

Fabricator & More

Construction firm in
Canton seeking willing and
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with some experience in
welding, sheet metal, and
construction. Must be able
to travel, lift 50 lbs, and
have basic handtools. OJT
training. Driver's license
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plan. Starting pay \$10-
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3-5 positions available.
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care of their homes, getting
places etc. Many locations,
many shifts! If you are at least
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Criminal history check. Must
have clean driving record.
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Professional individual to
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throughout historic club-
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care. Must be dependable,
detail-oriented. Full-Time, 3rd
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Dependable person needed for
general maintenance at a mid-
size apartment community in
Plymouth. Full-Time, benefits
included. Must live on-site.
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**RECEPTIONIST/
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Experienced req'd. Friendly
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3190 or fax: 734-525-6432

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Exp'd. with receptionist skills.
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docasbahi@yahoo.com

MEDICAL ASSISTANT, Expd.
Very busy Internal Medicine
office in Livonia. Fax resume
Attn: Christina or April
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MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Part-Time.
Must have 3 yrs. exp.
Fax resume: 734-432-5170



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centric, energetic, aggres-
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who can follow a solutions-
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with clients, have a proven
ability to close sales and
can think big to take their
place as part of our
Advertising team!

- College degree or equivalent work experience in field sales.
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We offer base + commis-
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lating and fast-paced along
with opportunities for
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Attn: OE/HTW Sales
EEOC

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WEEKLIES

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

CAREGIVER NEEDED - To do
light housekeeping and cook-
ing for 56 yr old male in wheel-
chair. \$10/hr, 2-3 hrs per day,
5 days per wk. 734-392-2040

Position Wanted 5340

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Will do hair dressing in my
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Low prices! 248-982-0930

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ence. Sharon: (734) 564-5922

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Services** 5370

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NATIVITY UNITED CHURCH
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to drop off your children and
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of your little ones. Dec 8th &
15th, 6-8pm. No Fee. Call for
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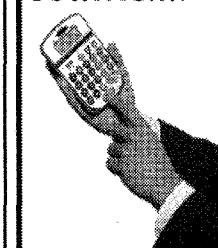
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\$75.00
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CS&R 734-425-1074

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English language learners &
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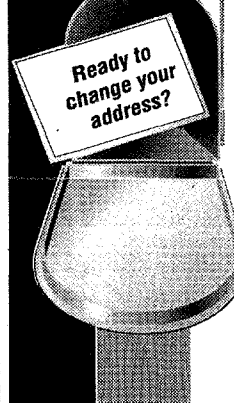
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may be...**

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and your

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realtor who is
a member of
the

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REALTOR

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FORD HAS BIG VISIONS OF SMALLER FUTURE FOR VEHICLES

AdvertisingFeature

CAReport



By Dale Buss

Ford knows, and does, small cars. Remember the original teeny Fiesta that created a mini-sensation in the U.S. market in the Seventies? And Ford's latest Fiesta subcompact is currently the No.2-selling vehicle in Europe.

So the company is better situated than it might seem for what Ford's top U.S. sales analyst, George Pipas, sees <<http://wheels.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/11/19/there-may-be-a-smaller-ford-in-your-future/?scp=8&sq=brand&st=cse>> as an irreversible trend toward smaller vehicles by American consumers. Even after a decade in which Ford generated record profits by selling high-margin SUVs such as the Ford Expedition and F-150 pickup trucks, Pipas says Ford has bet its future on small cars and "crossover" SUVs that are built on car platforms rather than truck bases, such as the Ford Edge utility vehicle and Fusion compact sedan.

"I predicted at an investor's conference back in 2003 that the best days of traditional truck-based SUVs were behind us, and that smaller, lighter, car-like utility vehicles would emerge and eventually overtake the truck-based products," Pipas told me. "I was partly right — but it happened much sooner than I'd thought."

At a recent conference in Manhattan,

Pipas also said, "Our view is, the era of excess has reached a tipping point. People are moving from conspicuous consumption to more careful consumption."

In support of his argument, Pipas marshaled not only car-sales statistics but also surveys showing that the size of new homes shrank last year after decades of rising.

Combined sales of what the industry calls the "B" car segment, basically subcompacts, and the compact "C" car segment reached 14 percent in 2004 but has climbed without interruption since then to 21 percent in 2009, Pipas said. Throw in crossovers, and the three segments that accounted for just 21 percent of sales in 2003 grabbed a combined total of 31 percent of the market last year — and Ford expects them to reach 36 percent by 2013, maybe even surpassing mid-sized cars in popularity.

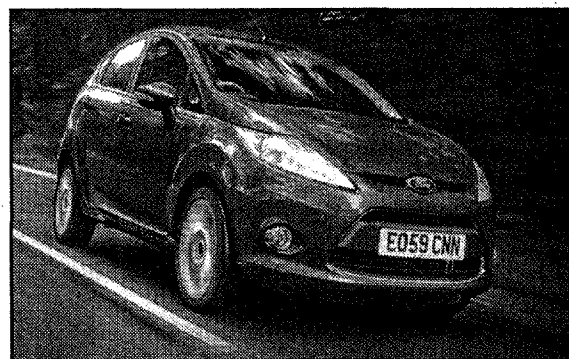
Pipas noted that "the downsizing phenomenon in the auto market largely had taken place before the midpoint of the decade." But in the recent acceleration of this trend, he cited a number of factors.

One of them is a long-term, powerful influence: The newest wave of Millennials are naturally inclined toward smaller vehicles, while many in their parents' Boomer generation are downsizing as well. Both demographic phenomena lend



Ford Fusion just won the 2010 Motor Trend Car of the Year Award.

Soon, a new U.S. Ford Fiesta will be introduced, similar to this U.K. version.



The 2010 Ford Focus has become a popular small car.



weight to the move toward smaller vehicles.

Another factor has been the \$4-a-gallon gasoline peak in the summer of 2008. Then the trend was turbocharged by the protracted recession that has simply left many American consumers without the budget to purchase larger vehicles.

"At that point," Pipas said, "undisciplined consumption came home. The recession was a wake-up call which caused some consumers to pull up on the bridle."

"Our view is that consumers are going to live more within their means in the future. And in that case they'll make thoughtful compromises between what they'd like to have and what they really need."

So while Ford has only about a 7% share of the U.S. small-car market right now, compared with Toyota's 25%, it is counting on taking bigger chunks beginning over the next few months as it introduces the new Fiesta to Americans, as well as a new-generation Focus.

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2010 CHEVROLET MALIBU



Stock #10C3041D

Body molding, floor mats, OnStar safe & sound, compact spare, power locks, tilt storage, power windows, cruise control, stereo CD, anti lock braking system.

2010 CAMARO RS



Sunroof, Convenience & connectivity package, OnStar, Boston acoustics 9 speaker, wheel locks, polysteel protection, bluetooth, power windows, power seats, XM radio, power locks, ABS, rear spoiler #10C3052D

WAS \$28,809	
EVERYONE	GM FAMILY
'27,274*	'26,106*
BUY FOR	
EVERYONE	GM FAMILY
'389*	'371*
4.9%/72 MO/\$3000 DOWN	

2009 IMPALA LS



\$4000 Rebates or 0% for 60 months

Flex fuel V8, OnStar, auto transmission, keyless entry, air conditioning, power windows, power locks, cruise, tile, 29 MPG, body molding, AM FM, stereo, CD #6523

WAS \$24,765	
EVERYONE	GM FAMILY
'19,869*	'18,847*
BUY FOR	
EVERYONE	GM FAMILY
'303*	'287*
\$1000 DOWN/4.9%/72 MO	

2009 MALIBU LS



Up To \$3,000 Rebates or 0% for 60 months

2.4 Ecotec engine, auto transmission, air conditioned, body side molding, OnStar, cruise, tile, AM/FM, stereo, CD, power locks, power windows, remote keyless entry, front & side air bags #8926

WAS \$25,555	
EVERYONE	GM FAMILY
'18,264*	'17,334*
BUY FOR	
EVERYONE	GM FAMILY
'277*	'262*
\$1000 DOWN/4.9%/72 MO	

2010 CHEVROLET TRAVERSE



LEASE PER MONTH

\$294*

Power windows, power locks, tilt, cruise, 8 passenger, stereo, CD, OnStar, ABS, Stock #1058

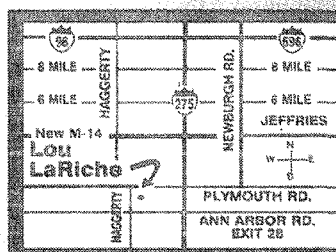
48 MO

Just Announced **0% 72 MONTH FINANCING ON MOST 2009'S**

Lou LaRiche

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*Prices and payments plus tax, title, doc. and lic - net incentives with option to purchase lease vehicle for predetermined amount at term. Disposition fee at term of lease \$395 with approved credit. All leases for 12,000 miles per year. Offer ends 11-30-09. Offers are GM employee family unless noted, otherwise \$500 has been deducted in lieu of 60 day money back offer. Traverse lease is \$1500 down, total due \$1794 with employee authorization.