

THURSDAY
March 25,
2010

The Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers

Volume 35
Number 78

75 CENTS

Choirs get to work with idol, please see A9

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CONNECTION

Blood drive

St. Thomas a' Becket Catholic Church hosts a Good Friday blood and bone marrow drive 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Friday, April 2.

There's a \$25 registration fee for processing. Donations are also being accepted to help defer the cost for others. To join, donors need only to be between the ages of 18 and 60, be willing to donate to any patient in need, and meet the health guidelines.

Register online at www.givelife.org (sponsor code CCU). For more information, call Peggy Greene or Cathy Hulett, (734) 981-1333, Ext. 18.

Bill payment

The Salvation Army Plymouth Corps has funds available for those facing shut-off with their gas and/or electric bills.

People finding themselves in a shut-off status who reside in Plymouth, Canton, Belleville or Northville, can reach out for assistance by calling The Salvation Army at (734) 453-5464, Ext. 29, or e-mail lauriearen@usc.salvationarmy.org for additional information and to schedule an appointment.

Scholarly shot

Michigan high school sophomores and juniors are being invited to apply for full scholarships to participate in the Bill of Rights Institute's Constitutional Academy, a six-week summer distance learning program that culminates with a week in Washington, D.C., and earns them three hours of college credit, the Arlington, Va.-based Institute announced.

The scholarships are being funded by the Rodney Fund in Southfield. Participating students discuss the ideals of the American Founding along with contemporary issues in weekly online reading and discussions with university scholars and other students from across the country.

Five Michigan students will receive full scholarships to participate in the program and travel to the nation's capital where they will, over the course of one week, work with historical documents at the National Archives and visit landmark sites including George Washington's Mount Vernon and Thomas Jefferson's Monticello.

To apply, students must be a junior or senior for the 2010-11 school year, meet the eligibility requirements listed on the program Web site (www.ConstAcademy.org/ApplyNow), and submit a teacher recommendation. Applications must be received by April 15.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Arunpreet Singh, Sunpreet Singh, Rani Mahal and Manpreet Mahal stand inside the Sikh gurdwara, or place of worship, in Canton. The painting in the background depicts the Golden Temple. The sign overhead reminds Sikhs to not stray from the path, no matter what obstacles they may encounter.

Census could show dramatic change for Canton Township

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Long before Canton's last U.S. Census form has been counted, certain community-defining results already are known.

Canton witnessed a decade of rapid population growth before an economic recession slowed the pace, and the community has seen burgeoning racial and cultural diversity.

Residents and township officials cite numerous reasons why Canton has grown and drawn an increasingly diverse population: Good schools. An educated workforce. A desirable location between Ann Arbor and Detroit. Global companies. Top-tier parks and facilities. A wide array of housing. A welcoming attitude.

Sunpreet Singh, a 15-year-old Salem High School student, said his parents, natives of India, chose Canton because they wanted to give him and his two siblings a good life. His family lived in Toronto but ultimately settled here.

"My parents wanted to give us better opportunities for education and life," he said. "It's a safe environment. It has nice houses and a good educational system."

Singh, a young Sikh who plans to become a cardiologist, reflects the changing face of Canton — a place where a Sikh gurdwara, or place of worship, has found a home along with two Hindu temples and numerous Christian churches.

"Canton is a very special place for the Indian community," said Rani Mahal, a mother of two who attends the same gurdwara, Singh Sabha of Michigan, as young Singh. "Canton is a very welcoming place."

U.S. Census figures appear to support her statement. Canton had 76,366 residents in 2000, and a smaller study in 2007 by the Census Bureau's American Community Survey indicated the population already had grown to 89,353.

The survey, though less comprehensive than a full Census, also contained some revealing projections about Canton's changing demographics during the seven-year period. Consider:

- Whites accounted for 83.9 percent of the township's population in 2000, compared to

75 percent in the 2007 survey.

- Asian residents made up 8.7 percent of Canton's residents during the last Census, yet the 2007 estimate stood just under 15 percent, with more than half designated as Asian Indian.

"We believe (the 2000 percentage) will double for the new Census," said Mahal, who helps people who move here from India adjust to American life through her involvement with the Indian National Overseas Congress.

- African Americans accounted for just 4.5 percent of Canton's population in 2000, but the 2007 survey indicated the percentage had grown to around 8 percent. Many blacks continued to follow the footsteps of local African-American artist Byron Reed, who moved his family from Detroit years ago.

Reed and his wife of 36 years, Maria, moved to Canton to give their two children, now successful adults, a better chance.

"I couldn't afford to move out here," Reed has said, "but I couldn't afford to stay there and raise my children."

Stacey Stevens, community organizer for the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion, said the American Community Survey results are only a snapshot of likely trends that are expected to receive better documentation in this Census year.

However, she said indications of rising numbers for groups such as Asian Indians have, at a minimum, hinted at a "population boom, so to speak" in Canton. Moreover, the 2007 survey has indicated lesser increases for population groups including Hispanics, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean and Vietnamese residents, among others.

"I think a lot of it is employment," said Anne Marie Graham-Hudak, president of Plymouth-Canton Citizens for Diversity and Inclusion, a group that has urged local government entities to make their employee ranks more reflective of the local population as jobs become available.

Graham-Hudak said many educated professionals, such as automotive engineers, doctors and corporate officials, have made their home in Canton because of its image

Please see **CHANGES, A7**

Schools moving ahead with diversity plan

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When Plymouth-Canton Community Schools officials bought into Courageous Conversations in fall 2008, the idea was to improve the district's ability to understand minority perspectives and create an environment for academic success for students of color.

On Tuesday, the Board of Education gathered for an extensive review of the district's diversity plan, which included a conversation about the merits of Courageous Conversations, a few months ahead of a decision whether to continue it.

Nothing was settled, but it's clear pretty much everyone agrees on two things: The district has come a long way, and there's still work to do.

"We're not even two years into it and I saw the data going in the right direction," board Vice President Barry Simescu said. "I'm seeing the right trends. Are we there yet? No. But we're headed in the right direction."

Tuesday's meeting wasn't only about Courageous Conversations. The board wanted an update on the district's diversity plan, the course administrators charted

when they adopted the plan in December 2007. The plan was developed to make sure the district embraced the growing diversity of the district and to increase the educational participation and achievement of all students.

THE PLAN

The plan has three components, with certain goals in each:

- Students — They provide an environment where everyone develops respect for the diversity of the people in the schools; use a district-wide curriculum to serve all learners, which provides an equal opportunity for all students regardless of their developmental level or cultural or language background; and continue to treat all students with dignity and respect.

District officials seem largely happy with the academic achievement of all of its students, including minority students. PCCS students routinely perform far better than both the state and Wayne County averages on the Michigan Educational Assessment Program tests.

That progress is also reflected in the district's overall performance on the Michigan

Please see **DIVERSITY, A7**



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Meetings will detail water rate hike

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton residents will see their water and sewer rates increase this year — it's just a matter of how much.

"We're still putting the pieces together," Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said Tuesday.

Although township officials still are crunching the numbers, they hope to release details of the proposed water-sewer rates within two weeks.

The newly proposed rates are expected to be revealed prior to three community forums that already have been scheduled to educate residents on water-sewer rates.

All three forums have been scheduled at the township's administration building, on

Canton Center Road between Cherry Hill and Palmer. They are intended to show residents how water and sewer rates are calculated and to answer any questions regarding the proposed increases.

The first meeting has been scheduled for 6-8 p.m. Thursday, April 15. A pair of meetings will be held Monday, April 19, one 3-5 p.m. and another 6-8 p.m.

Canton residents currently pay a combined water-sewer rate of \$8.20 per 1,000 gallons of water used. That breaks down to \$2.87 for the water consumption rate and \$5.33 for sewage disposal.

Those rates became effective last May and reflected what Canton officials said was the cost for providing drinking water and wastewater services

to township customers.

Local officials have said they set those rates last year to keep revenues in line with costs.

According to the township, Canton's water and sewer rates had remained steady from 2003-05 while a comprehensive study was completed to align revenues with costs of operating and maintaining the township's water-sewer system.

However, a deficit incurred during that period has prompted larger increases since then.

According to Faas, a rate forecast in 2007 by rate consultant Utility Financial Solutions recommended annual increases of 12 percent for water and 9.4 percent for sewer services through 2011.

"These estimates were based

Please see **WATER RATES, A5**

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CLARIFICATION

What follows is a reminder of a blood and bone marrow drive to benefit Canton mother Kerry Brooks and others.

- **What:** Blood and bone marrow drive.
- **Where:** St. Thomas A' Becket Catholic Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton.
- **When:** 8 a.m. to 6:45 p.m. Friday, April 2
- **Who:** To join the Be The Match marrow registry you must be between the ages of 18 and 60, willing to donate to any patient and meet certain health guidelines.
- **To donate blood you must be at least 17 years of age to donate blood. There is no upper age limit.**
- **Help:** Appointments to donate blood may be made by logging on to www.givelife.org, clicking on the "enter a sponsor code" tab and typing in CCU, or by calling Cathy Hulett at (734) 981-1333, Ext. 18, or Peggy Greene at (734) 637-8076.

No appointment is needed to join the Be The Match marrow registry — this is a cheek swab.

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

Egg hunt

Canton Leisure Services announces the annual "Pancake Breakfast with the Easter Bunny" and "The Easter Eggstravaganza," both on Saturday, March 27.

Start off the morning with a tasty pancake breakfast at the Summit on the Park Grand Ballroom, located at 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton, MI 48188, from 9-11 a.m. The buffet, provided by Summit Gourmet by Continental, will run until 10 a.m. and includes pastries, a pancake bar, sausage, juice, milk and coffee.

Registration for the Pancake Breakfast ends 8 p.m. Sunday, March 21, and is required in advance of the event, as tickets will not be sold at the door. Registration fees are \$15 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for kids ages 4-9, and \$3 for children 3 and under. Children may not attend this event unless accompanied by an adult and all attendees are required to register for the breakfast.

The annual Easter Eggstravaganza at the Heritage Park Playscape and Splash Pad, located on the east side of the Summit on the Park, will take place right after the breakfast from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., weather permitting. This festive event gives children 11 and under a chance to hunt for eggs and does not require registration. A \$5 suggested donation to the Canton Leisure Services Easter basket is greatly appreciated.

For more information on these events and everything Canton Leisure Services, visit Cantonfun.org or call 734/394-5460.

St. Michael open house

St. Michael Christian School, located at 7000 N. Sheldon Road in Canton, hosts an open house 6-8 p.m. Thursday, April 15.

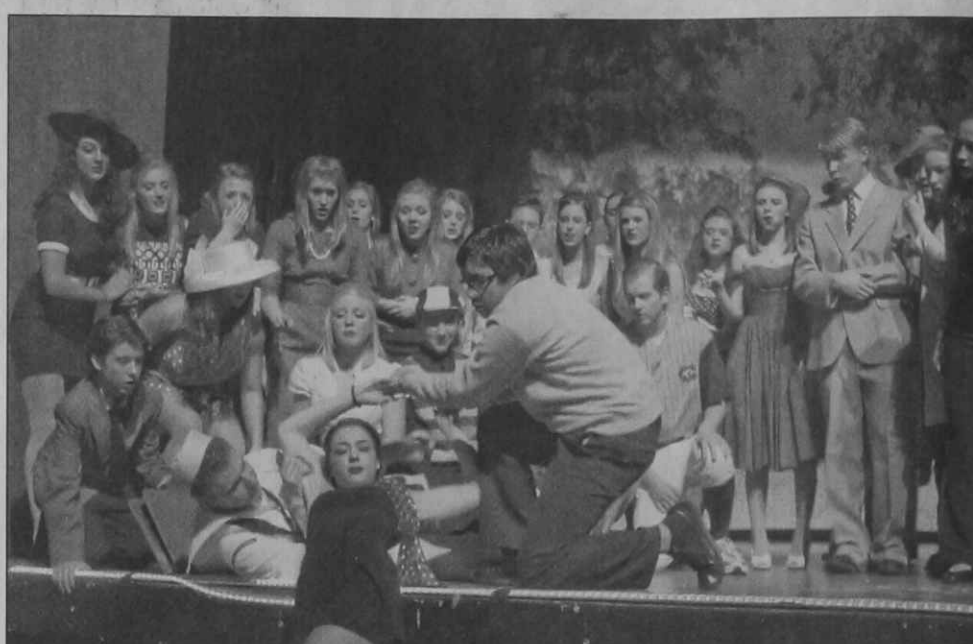
The school offers preschool and elementary, including a "Young Fives" program and all-day kindergarten. Register before April 16 and apply full registration fee toward first month's tuition.

Contact the school office at (734) 459-9720 for more information.

Summer camp enrollment

Plymouth-Canton Montessori School is offering a Summer Camp program for children between the ages of 3 and 6 years. The nine-week summer day camp, located on

AROUND CANTON



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

On stage

A 55-member cast tackles "Sweet Charity" as the Park Players wind up their spring production Saturday and Sunday at the Gloria Logan Auditorium in Salem High School. Charity Hope Valentine (Mackenzie Elliott) is an optimistic chatterbox who, despite being stuck in a dead-end job, still sees the good in everything. Performances are at 7 p.m.; tickets are \$12.

the school's campus at 45245 Joy Road in Canton, begins June 21 and ends Aug. 20.

Children have the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of theme-related projects that include lots of arts and crafts, in-house presenters, science experiments, dramatic play, cooking, picnics, outdoor time, music, stories and games.

"Our program is especially designed to meet the developmental needs of young children," said Linda Myers, summer camp director. "Our professional and experienced staff of early childhood educators offers young campers a wonderful balance of learning and play."

Full and half-day programs are available during the summer session with morning-only groups running from 8:45 to 11:45 a.m. and afternoon groups from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Full time care for day campers is also available from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. as needed.

While parents are encouraged to enroll children for the full summer camp, Plymouth-Canton Montessori accepts part-summer enrollments to accommodate families' work and vacation schedules.

For additional information about Plymouth-Canton Montessori School and the summer camp program, call 734-459-1550 or visit www.pcmontessori.org. Early enrollment is recommended to ensure availability.

Brandon speaks

David Brandon, the University of Michigan's athletic director and former CEO of Domino's Pizza, will be the guest speaker during a Canton Economic Club luncheon 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 7, at the Summit on the Park Community Center, 46000 Summit Parkway.

Cost is \$20. To register, call (734) 394-5185 by Friday, April 2.

Haiti aid

Several local music groups are coming together to play at the Concert for Haiti at the Village Theater in Canton at 8 p.m. on Friday, March 26.

The event is unticketed, but the groups are suggesting a \$15 donation per person at the door. The concert offers a wide variety of music, including Deep River Gospel Choir, Abigail Stauffer (singer/songwriter/folk), Misty Lyn and the Big Beautiful (indie/folk), Lawn Care (rock/alternative/indie), and Juice (non-traditional percussion). Funds raised will be donated to the Honor and Respect Foundation and Yéle Haiti to benefit the long-term rebuilding and education in Haiti.

The concert is being headed up by Elise Butler-Pinkham, Outreach Coordinator for Group For Entertainment, Inc., who spent two years studying cello performance at Lawrence

Conservatory in Wisconsin under the directorship of Janet Anthony.

Many local musicians have agreed to be a part of this concert. For concert updates and to make a donation by credit card, please check out the event blog at www.juiceontour.wordpress.com.

For more information, contact Elise Butler-Pinkham at ebutlerpinkham@groupfourentertainment.com or by phone at (248) 835-0544.

Good Friday breakfast

All men and boys are invited to an All-U-Can-Eat Breakfast Friday, April 2, at 8 a.m. at St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 Sheldon in Canton.

This community outreach event includes a powerful message by pastor Dave Woodby and son Zack. Tickets are \$5 and \$2 for boys 10 and under and can be obtained by calling the church office at (734) 459-3333.

Rose party

The Canton Lions Club hosts a "Millionaire's Party" April 15-17 at Rose's Restaurant.

All proceeds will benefit the Canton Lions Club and fund programs for sight- and hearing-impaired folks in Canton Township. The party runs 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. each night.

Rose's Restaurant is located at 201 N. Canton Center Road in Canton.

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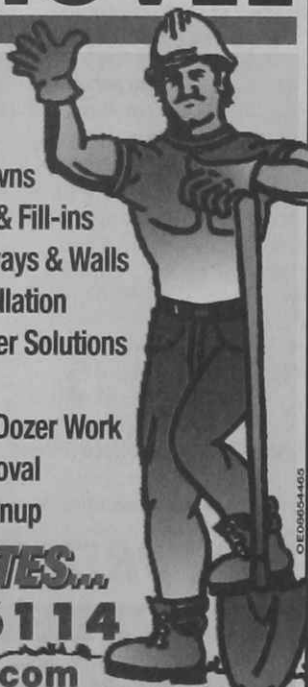
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Plymouth's Stephanie Hosko (second from right) and the other finalists in the Jif Creative Peanut Butter Sandwich contest mug for the cameras on the set of local television station CW-11 in New York.

Sandwich earns runner-up finish

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Stephanie Hosko wasn't the least bit nervous before her national television appearance on NBC's Today Show last week, and took a comedic stab at co-host Ralph Macchio to prove it. Stephanie, the 10-year-old daughter of John and Lauren Hosko of Plymouth, was in New York (and on Today) as part of her status as a finalist in the Jif Creative Peanut Butter Sandwich contest.

The national TV appearance - and a tour of NBC Studios, a visit to the Statue of Liberty and a carriage ride through Central Park - were among the highlights of Stephanie's trip to New York, a reward for being among the five finalists in the national contest.

The only downside of the trip: Stephanie didn't win the \$25,000 grand prize. She did, however, come away with a \$2,500 runner-up prize, a loss softened by the friendship she struck up with Rachel Granillo,

the California girl who won the top prize.

"I was kind of disappointed, but I was happy for Rachel," Stephanie said.

Stephanie, a student at All Saints Academy in Canton, rode to the finals of the contest on the strength of on-line voting for her "chickenchita" sandwich. She joined four other finalists at The Culinary Loft in New York, where judges tasted the five sandwiches and rendered their decision.

But that was only part of the trip, on which she was joined by her mom and grandmother, Diane Roslinski, who prompted Stephanie to enter the contest. She met Curtis Stone, a chef from the TV show "Biggest Loser," and also met General Hospital stars Anthony Geary, Jonathan Jackson and Nathan Parsons.

There were also the television appearances, including on local CW-11 and the afternoon version of Today, with co-hosts Macchio and Hoda Kotb. Before that appearance, Lauren Hosko

and her sister were explaining the "wax on, wax off" scene from Macchio's biggest movie, The Karate Kid.

When Kotb talked to Stephanie about the chickenchita, Stephanie deadpanned, "The most important part is the righty circles and lefty circles." The quip drew laughs from Macchio.

It was all part of the whirlwind trip that included rehearsals, tourist sites, the television shows and, of course, the contest.

"They had us busy pretty much from 7 to 3 every day," Lauren Hosko said. "It was a very high pressure trip, (but) Stephanie handled it like a pro. She has had an experience of a lifetime, and I hope she will carry the memories with her always."

Stephanie's response to the four-day journey was more tourist-y.

"It was just cool to see the big city and all the fancy hotels and restaurants," Stephanie said.

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Officials: Park is a safe place for students

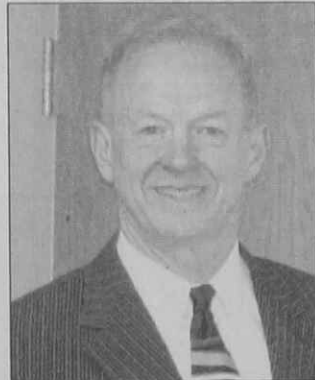
BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

After dealing with a bomb scare this week and a fight between two freshmen that left one of them hospitalized last week, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools officials this week issued assurances the district is still safe, taking the unusual step of calling a press conference to deliver the point.

Supt. Dr. Craig Fiegel, Canton Police Department spokesman Sgt. Mark Gajeski and Park Principal Bill Zolkowski talked about both incidents and steps taken to ensure students' safety.

"This incident (bomb scare), in addition to the fight that took place last week, certainly might have some people concerned," Fiegel said. "I'm here to tell you that safety is our number-one priority and our campus is a safe place for our students."

The high school park was locked down for about 75 minutes Tuesday after a female student overheard a conversation about a possible explosive device that may have been brought to school. That student reported the conversation to a teacher - "She did exactly the right thing," Fiegel said



Zolkowski

- and the district, heeding the advice of Canton Township police, locked the high schools down around 9 a.m.

Canton Township Police, using a dog brought in from Willow Run Airport, searched the area, including the district's three high schools - Plymouth, Salem and Canton. Police interviewed students and determined the bomb threat wasn't credible. A search revealed no such device.

The fight that occurred last week was between a 14-year-old Canton High School freshman and a freshman from Plymouth High School. The fight occurred March 17 at Canton High School and ended with the Plymouth freshman hospitalized with

what district officials said was a broken pelvis. Both students were initially suspended, and the Canton freshman's suspension was extended to 10 days, pending internal investigation. He could face further disciplinary action when the investigation is completed, Fiegel said.

"It was an ongoing situation between two 14-year-old boys who were egging each other on and it escalated into the fight," Zolkowski said. "It was a matter of minutes before adults, police and medical personnel were on the scene."

Both the fight and the bomb scare are still under investigation, Gajeski said.

Zolkowski, in his first year as park principal, said the park's 6,200 students attending school on a 300-plus acre park are safe. He pointed out a recently survey that said 96 percent of the district's students said they feel safe at the park.

"We try to encourage our parents, teachers and students that violence is not the answer," Zolkowski said. "We're not only safe statistically, but that's the way our students view the park."

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Vandals target vacant mobile home

1 A woman reported to Canton police that a vacant mobile home in Holiday Estates, on Geddes west of Canton Center, was broken into and vandalized.

The woman called police after learning that locks were missing from the doors of the home, which is in the process of being sold.

She found the damage on Tuesday, March 16.

Inside the mobile home, she found that vandals had burned holes in the carpet, spray-painted the walls with graffiti, torn down drywall and insulation, and broken out windows.

Pot, pipe confiscated

2 A small amount of marijuana and a pipe were confiscated from a Canton High School student Monday morning after a teacher noticed two students near an auto shop who weren't supposed to be there, according to a police report.

As the teacher approached the pair, one student was seen to have the marijuana in his hand, and the teens were taken to an administrator's office.

The initial story was that the marijuana had been found on the floor, but one student finally admitted he had bought it Saturday night while he was attending a party in Whitmore Lake.

A police report indicated the student was issued a citation, and the marijuana and pipe were taken from him.

Warrant arrest

3 Canton police took a man into custody for a felony warrant out of Detroit after township police initiated a traffic stop around 12:50 a.m. Sunday near Cherry Hill and Beck roads.

Police initially stopped the vehicle because it matched the description of a late-model Ford



Crown Victoria being sought following an earlier shooting in Inkster.

The car apparently wasn't linked to that case, but police learned that a man in the car was wanted for a felony warrant for a drunken driving incident in Detroit, according to a police report.

A woman in the vehicle was released.

Suburban swiped

4 A woman told Canton police that her 1996

Chevy Suburban was stolen from the parking lot of the Kohl's store on Ford west of Sheldon sometime between 11:40 a.m. and 1:50 p.m. March 16.

The woman said she had gone to the Kohl's store to shop and had parked about 50 yards from the front door.

Fake \$50

5 Police were called to a business southwest of Haggerty and Warren where an employee said a suspect

had tried to pass a \$50 counterfeit bill around noon Saturday.

The suspect told police she didn't know the bill was fake. She said she had withdrawn money from a Detroit bank a few days earlier and had since exchanged the larger bills for smaller bills.

The woman was released pending further investigation.

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

Ypsi man charged in lumber theft

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A rapid response by Canton police led to the capture of an Ypsilanti man charged with leading officers on a chase amid accusations he stole expensive outdoor deck boards from a local business and used a company truck to do it.

"This was a quick response by the officers to follow up on what they saw, and all of us who work here in the department kind of benefit from the success of those officers," Canton Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner



Wilber

said. "We're proud of the fact that the guys we work with are doing things to uphold what we want our department to stand for."

A 51-year-old Ypsilanti man, Robert Dale Wilber, has been charged as a habitual criminal and could face penalties ranging up to life in prison if convicted.

Police arrested Wilber following reports of a large spill of costly Trex decking boards on Michigan Avenue near Belleville Road around 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Sgt. Mark Gajeski said.

Police spotted a stolen Mans Lumber & Millwork truck on Michigan Avenue — the same truck Wilber is accused of using to haul stolen deck boards to a nearby storage unit, Gajeski said.

Authorities believe the spill occurred while the truck was being used to haul thousands of dollars of decking boards from Mans to the storage unit so the materials could be ille-

gally sold, Gajeski said.

After the spill, police say Wilber got back into the truck as township officers began chasing him toward Mans, on Michigan Avenue near Beck, where Gajeski said it is believed that a getaway car was parked while the Trex heist was occurring.

"He jumped out of the truck while it was still rolling, and it hit another company truck that was parked at the site," Gajeski said.

Police accused Wilber of trying to flee toward the back of the lumber yard, "but they chased him and caught him," Gajeski said.

Decking boards that already had been taken to the storage unit were recovered, along with the materials that had been spilled in the road. Gajeski has described the stolen vehicle as an 18-foot box truck.

Wilber was arraigned Monday in 35th District Court on charges of stealing the Mans truck, receiving and concealing materials valued between \$1,000 and \$20,000, fleeing a police officer and being a fourth-degree habitual offender.

A not-guilty plea was entered for him, and Judge Mike Gerou set a \$100,000 cash bond and ordered the defendant to return to court March 29 for a preliminary exam to determine if he should face trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

The charges against Wilber are punishable by five years in prison upon conviction, but he could face penalties ranging up to life in prison due to his status as a habitual offender.

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Market organizers hopeful for successful Sunday return

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

After drawing a crowd of 420 people to Canton's first Winter Market in February, organizers are hoping for a similar turnout when the event returns Sunday.

So what if the calendar says it's spring. It's too early for the Canton Farmers Market, open every Sunday from May 9 through Oct. 17, so organizers are sticking with the off-season theme.

"We're still calling it the Winter Market," said Tina Lloyd, market manager.

Vendors selling everything from sweets to sauces to summer sausage will gather 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. inside the old Cady-Boyer Barn, located at Preservation Park, 500 N. Ridge Road.

Organizers didn't quite know what to expect Feb. 28 when they used portable heaters to beat the winter chill and allow patrons to browse and buy.

WATER RATES

FROM PAGE A1

on Canton purchasing 3.2 billion gallons of water per year, which as we now know is higher than present actual demands due to conservation and cool, damp, summer weather," Faas said.

Early this year, the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department had indicated it would impose double-digit water increases on Canton and many other communi-

ties. But local officials have since received more financial information that still is being factored into setting the 2010 rates.

Detroit area water and sewer rates have continued to increase even though consumption has plummeted 20 percent over the past two years.

But, as Faas earlier noted, "traditional supply and demand models don't work in the water business."

Rather, as recession-weary residents have cut back on

activities such as sprinkling lawns — coupled with a damper season last year — Detroit has said lower usage has reduced the revenues it needs to repair an aging water system.

For more information on rates, call the Canton Municipal Services Department at (734) 394-5160 or log on to www.canton-mi.org and look for water billing information under the government tab.

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Symphony set for annual pops concert

The Plymouth Symphony presents its annual fund-raising concert continuing the tradition of producing a broadly popular, high-energy and entertaining event with a new twist 8 p.m. Friday, April 16, at the Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth.

This year's concert, "Hooray for Hollywood," will feature the music of the movies along with vocal performer Lizann Warner. Warner is a Vocal Impersonator whose vocal impressions include Judy Garland, Ann Wilson, Stevie Nicks, Barbara Streisand, Pat Benatar, Marilyn Monroe, Nora Jones, Cher, Cyndi Lauper, Celine Dion, Lita Ford and Grace Slick.

Music from great film scores will include *Gladiator*, *Lord of the Rings*, and *E.T.* along with several of the most memorable songs that even appeared in the big screen made famous by legendary divas Judy Garland, Barbara Streisand and Celine Dion, including, *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*, *Evergreen*, *Moon River*, and *My Heart Will Go On*.

Warner's gift for impersonating famous female recording artists has gained her much notoriety in the music and video game industry. Her voice is on the popular game "Guitar Hero III," impersonating Ann Wilson on the track "Barracuda" and Pat Benatar on the track "Hit

Me with Your Best Shot." She also sings in the Las Vegas show "Rockstar -The Tribute," impersonating both Ann Wilson of Heart, and Pat Benatar.

Tickets for the concert are \$50; tickets for the concert plus a Pre-Concert Party at the Lotus Arts Gallery are \$75.

Tickets are available at the Plymouth Symphony office at 774 N. Sheldon Road in the Plymouth Community Arts Center or on-line at www.plymouthsymphony.org.

Montessori enrollment

Schoolhouse Montessori Academy's open enrollment period is under way for infants through sixth grade. Construction of the school's new 18,000 square-foot facility will wrap up later this spring, with all classes in the 1675 Haggerty Road location this fall.

Schoolhouse Montessori Academy Canton South, on Haggerty, is located off I-275, just north of Palmer.

For more information, visit www.schoolhousemontessori.com, or call the school, currently located at 6215 N. Canton Center Road, to schedule a tour and pick up an application packet. All tours currently are done at the original location.

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Activist enters 21st House race

Republican Lori Levi of Canton filed her Affidavit of Identity with the Wayne County Clerk's office, marking her

official entry into the race for the 21st State House seat. The Wayne County district includes Belleville, Van Buren Township and most of Canton Township.

Levi is a conservative activist who said she will bring her "unique combination of business skills and limited government

principles" to the Legislature. She said she'll work to improve Michigan's economic climate for job providers and promote a high level of customer service and responsiveness to residents.

"I am running to be a voice of common sense," Levi said. "With experience as an employee, self employer and small business

owner I understand how legislation affects jobs. I get it. I understand the negative impact government policies and regulations can have on our job providers.

"I am determined to reduce the size and scope of government and return fairness to our tax system so that entrepreneurs are encouraged to start new businesses and existing businesses can expand and grow. Our government

has become an obstacle to opportunity," Levi added. "We need to restructure our state government to be smaller, focused, accountable and responsive to the people it serves. In some areas, get the government out of the way so job

providers can create jobs and teachers can teach."

Levi said preparing children for such new jobs requires changes in the education system, including equity in education

funding for schools "so that all of our children receive a quality education, regardless of



Lori Levi of Canton filed her affidavit of identity to start her run for the 21st Senate seat.

where they live. By

providing parents more choices in their children's education we will open the doors to new opportunities for many children."

"I will work to uphold the principles set forth in our Constitution including the protection of life, liberty and our 2nd Amendment rights," Levi said. "We need people in Lansing such as myself who will continue to uphold those principles and

preserve our freedoms for today and for future generations."

Growing up in a family trucking business, she said, taught her the value of a hard work ethic and commitment. Levi's

experience also includes 15 years as a top-rated customer service sales associate, lease manager at North Brothers Ford

and rental property management. Today Levi is a stra-

tegic partner at MarkerMan Productions, affiliated with AmwayGlobal. The company focuses on team development, product sales, business ownership and service to others.

She is an active member of the Canton Chamber of Commerce, recently completed a wetlands project for her neighborhood

and promotes children's safety programs and personal protection training throughout the community.

Lori and her husband Brian have four children — two together, Porscha and Brietta, and stepsons Jeffrey and Jeremy.

Brian Levi is a skilled trades machine repairman at Ford Motor Company and a UAW member for 22 years. The Levis are

active volunteers at Northridge Church.

To learn more about Lori Levi visit her website at www.lorilevi.com.

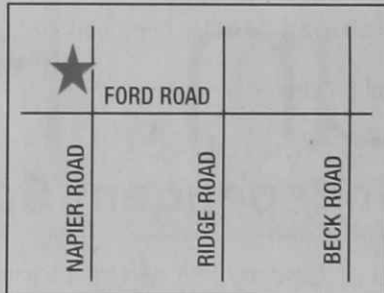


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DIVERSITY

FROM PAGE A1

Merit Exam, where the scores are higher in all groups than the Wayne County averages. Asian and white students are above both state and county averages in reading and math. Hispanic and African-American students' scores are just beneath the district average, but are still above state and county averages in math, and still above the county in reading.

One area of concern mentioned by administrators is the graduation rate, which fell slightly for white and Asian students (from 2006-07 to 2007-08), rose (from just under 80 to about 85 percent) for Hispanics, but dropped from 80 percent to just below 70 percent for African-Americans.

Administrators remain upbeat about the academic progress the district is making.

"Districts around our state are facing similar challenges," said Mike Bender, the district's director of secondary education. "We are extremely fortunate to have outstanding educators working with our students. That, combined with outstanding students and families, is a recipe for success."

• Staff — The primary goal of the plan is to make a focused effort to contact, recruit, hire and retain "highly qualified personnel with diverse backgrounds."

MAKING STRIDES?

Executive Director of Human Resources Ray Bihun said 2.85 percent of the district's teaching staff represents minorities, while 6.8 percent of the administration and better than 11 percent of building-level staffers represents minorities.

Bihun acknowledged those numbers have to get better, and detailed ways the district will attack the issue.

"We need to make a con-



Students celebrated India's culture during Workman Elementary School's recent Celebration of Diversity.

scious effort to widen our employment base," Bihun said. "Our minority staff has given us insight into how we retain minorities. They've given us their ideas and their concerns, and that has helped us."

The diversity plan calls for officials to market the district as increasingly diverse, using minority publications such as Teachers of Color, National Minority Update and Historically Black Colleges and Universities as advertising vehicles for staff openings. Job postings have been specifically targeted to minority schools and districts, and officials are relying heavily on personal contacts with potential candidates.

Bihun thinks the personal attention is working. Last year, he said, the district interviewed more than 300 minority candidates for jobs.

"Over the years, we've increased it quite a bit," he said.

Board members hope progress can continue.

"It would be a major accomplishment for our diversity plan if we can do some minority hiring for the fall," Trustee Dianne Gonzalez said.

• Community — The idea is to promote understanding and appreciation of the district's diversity through a variety

of methods of communication. Director of Community Relations Frank Ruggiero pointed to the district's P-CCS Newline and the weekly "tip sheet" his department sends out as ways of getting the word out. Those publications routinely contain information about cultural activities and issues in the district.

NEXT PHASE

As the district continues in Phase Two of the Courageous Conversations program, site-based equity teams have sprung up at 25 district buildings, teams that include one administrator and five teachers. The teams are charged with guiding professional learning and affecting school culture, policies and procedures.

And staffers have largely embraced the opportunity. Carolyn Washington, the principal at Hulsing Elementary who has been in the district

22 years, said Courageous Conversations has "been a real journey for me, being here so long and watching Plymouth-Canton change."

"One of the things we were told was we could speak our truth ... and there would be no judgment," said Washington, an African-American mother of two daughters, one of whom is a junior. "I felt uncomfortable, but that discomfort has produced growth."

Shelley Clifton of Canton, a member of the Plymouth-Canton Citizens for Diversity and Inclusion, sat through the two-hour-plus board meeting Monday and came away encouraged, though she'd like to see more details about when certain goals in the diversity plan would be reached.

"I think the schools are headed in the right direction," Clifton said. "I'd like to see more timelines with their diversity plan and how they're going to measure success. There's a lot of work to do, but they're headed in the right direction."

Board members would like the same thing, one of the reasons they scheduled the meeting in the first place.

"There was a little confusion over the role of Courageous Conversations and the overall diversity plan," school board President Steven Sneedman said. "Diversity is being talked about in our communities, and we wanted to get them in touch with what we're doing in the schools."

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CHANGES

FROM PAGE A1

and its proximity to auto-related industries and hospitals. She also pointed to religious diversity as a selling point.

"As they come here, they bring their family members," she said. "I see it as a plus."

Graham-Hudak said diversity in schools and the workplace fosters better understanding among cultures — and can only help youngsters as they face careers in an increasingly global market.

As Canton has drawn a diverse population, some public institutions already have responded. The township's public library offers DVDs, books or periodicals in 51 different languages, said Laurie Golden, the library's manager of marketing and communications.

"We have added more international language materials for children," she said, adding that the facility also has housed literacy programs to teach the English language.

Mahal, meanwhile, brought together a small group for a discussion about Canton inside the Sikh gurdwara on Canton Center Road south of Palmer. Mahal's family lives in Northville Township but formerly lived in Canton and still has strong ties to the community.

Her 16-year-old daughter, Manpreet Mahal, and Sunpreet Singh's younger brother, 12-year-old Arunpreet Singh, said they like their respective schools in Northville and Canton, and they also enjoy local activities such as India-inspired concerts in Canton's parks.



Rani Mahal, originally of India, attends the Sikh gurdwara, or place of worship, in Canton.

"It helps everybody feel kind of connected," said Manpreet Mahal, who is a member of Students Against Destructive Decisions, the National Honor Society and a school-based club at Northville High School that teaches the stock market and banking.

Arunpreet Singh, who plays trombone at Discovery Middle School in Canton, agreed. He said he is proud to call Canton his home because "it's welcoming, and there are a lot of activities."

That's not to say young Sikhs — and other students, for that matter — haven't at times felt the curious stare or heard a snide remark from others who aren't sure how to perceive them.

But, Rani Mahal said that's where cultural values, family support and the broader Indian community come into play.

"We help each other," she said. "We are all family."

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Downtown Plymouth merchants take part in the second annual Diva Day Saturday, March 27, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

A day for divas in downtown Plymouth

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Detroit-area divas will have their own day in downtown Plymouth on Saturday.

Shops will offer discounts, refreshments and contests, restaurants will have drink and meal specials, and the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, sponsor of the second annual Diva Day, will be giving away feather boas to the first 500 divas who stop by its office on Ann Arbor Trail.

Diva Day is a shopping and downtown marketing event designed to draw women to Plymouth, with more than 30 boutiques, stores and restaurants participating with the chamber. The hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Last year's inaugural Diva Day was a smashing success, with about 800 visitors, said Wes Graff, the chamber's executive director.

"We went through 500 boas in two hours, so that was good for us," Graff said. "It was a great way of getting people down here."

"These downtown shopping events for ladies are always successful," said Colleen Cannon, the owner of TranquiliTea, a tea specialty shop on Ann Arbor Trail. "They're fun."

Diva Day visitors can also bring much-needed supplies, like toiletries, gift cards, clothing and baby supplies, to donate to First Step, the agency that assists victims of domestic and sexual violence in western Wayne County and Downriver. (For donation ideas, go to the Web site www.firststep-mi.org and look at the 2010 Wish List.)

"It's a very worthy cause," said Cannon, who plans to donate part of TranquiliTea's Saturday proceeds to First Step.

Cannon is also holding a

drawing for a tea gift set that includes a tea cozy (which she made from recycled wool), a cup and saucer, tea bag holders (which she also made) and an assortment of teas.

Other Diva Day participants include Jill Andra Young Photography (visitors can get portraits of Little Divas and Diva Dogs), Sean O'Callaghan's (offering discounted appetizers and drink specials), Creatopia Pottery, sideways, Magnolia, Dearborn Jewelers, Basket Kreations, That's Awesome, Merle Norman and Salon 550.

Maps of participating businesses are available at any of the shops listed above. For more information, call (734) 453-1540 or visit the chamber's Web site, www.plymouthchamber.org.

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Working with Whitaker

Choirs share stage with 'idol' in Carnegie appearance

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Because members of the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park choirs have studied and performed so much of Eric Whitaker's music, many of them keep up with the contemporary composer on social media such as Twitter.

For a few days next month, though, they won't need to "tweet" Whitaker to know what he's doing, because he'll be directing them onstage at New York's famed Carnegie Hall. Some 45 current members, along with 11 alumni and 15 chaperones, will be in New York April 14-18 after the park's Chamber and Madrigal choirs were chosen for a special Distinguished Concerts in New York series that will have them being directed by Whitaker.

"He's one of our favorites," said choir director Jennifer Kopp, who said the choirs annually perform a good deal of Whitaker's music. "He writes interesting and complex music. To work with a world-renowned, prolific composer is the opportunity of a lifetime for these kids. To perform on the Carnegie Hall stage is also a great opportunity."

Kopp, who also took choirs to Carnegie Hall in 2004, said she discovered the opportunity while surfing the Internet. She completed the application process and sent in a CD of her choir's performance. That CD was reviewed by a committee in New York, whose members listened in a "blind audition" without knowing what choirs were from where.

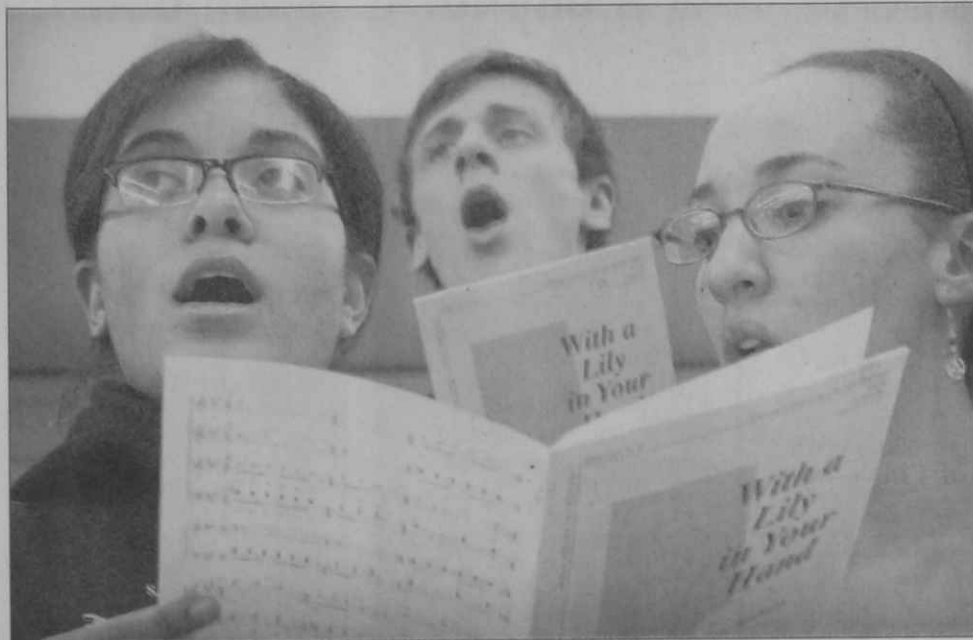
PCEP choirs were chosen along with high school and professional choirs from around the country and the world, including one from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. To prepare for the appearance, the choirs have had to learn 15 pieces of Whitaker's music, in



Sopranos Kelly Filios, Megan Larson and Jen Piper get their work in during rehearsal for their New York appearance.



The P-CEP Choirs and Festival singers are headed for Carnegie Hall in New York City. Choir members, parents and guardians gathered to learn the rules and expectations for the choir members.



Brianna Lahr and Kristie Muckles are second altos, Kyle Scanlon sings baritone, as the PCEP choir readies for its trip to Carnegie Hall in New York.

addition to their regular workload, which includes some 30 performances a year around

the community. To get ready for Carnegie Hall, students have stayed after school, endured

night-time rehearsals and basically done what they needed to do.



Choir director Jennifer Kopp, who also took a group to Carnegie Hall in 2004, said the trip is "an opportunity of a lifetime" for her students.



Tuesday night rehearsal begins. The choir leaves for New York City on April 14.

NEW YORK AT HOME

What: PCEP choirs perform Eric Whitaker music in a preview of their Carnegie Hall appearance

When: 7 p.m. Thursday, April 1

Where: Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton

Tickets: By phone at the Village Theater Box Office at (734) 394-5300 or (734) 394-5460 or on-line at www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater

"It's a lot of extra work for them," Kopp said.

The trip, which is being paid for through fund-raisers and contributions from the families of students, won't be all work. The bulk of the students' time will be spent in rehearsals with Whitaker, who doesn't allow sheet music on stage, which means the kids will have to memorize everything.

But while they're in New York, students will see two Broadway plays, including *Billy Elliott* and *The Addams Family*, which stars Nathan Lane as Gomez Addams and former *Cheers!* star Bebe Neuwirth as Morticia Addams.

"The kids are very excited," Kopp said.

While the touristy stuff will be fun, the chance to work with Whitaker — "He often writes music to poetry ... his music does a fabulous job of bringing the text to life," Kopp said — is the big draw.

Megan Larson, a 17-year-old senior at Plymouth High School who's been a choir member for four years, said working with the composer will "be like meeting an idol."

"His songs are very dissident, but they're still beautiful," Larson said. "It's an amazing opportunity, and I'm so excited."

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Extra mortgage payment an individual choice

I am frequently asked if it makes sense — in light of what has happened in the real estate market — to make an extra mortgage payment. Like most things in the financial world, there is no one correct answer. Rather, the issue is what makes sense in your individual situation. In making the decision to make an extra mortgage payment, there are some facts to consider. The first is that



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

making an extra payment will not lower future payments. In addition, one thing that to recognize by now is that real estate is not a liquid investment. Therefore, if you do make extra mortgage payments, it won't be easy to get that money back if you should need it. Prior to making extra mortgage payments, be sure that you will not need that money for short-term purposes.

Another factor to consider is that mortgage rates are at near record lows. However, that doesn't mean that other types of debt are also at historic lows. Don't consider making an extra mortgage payment if you have outstanding debt on a charge card or a higher interest rate obligation.

It is important to keep in mind that interest on your mortgage is tax deductible. When comparing interest rates, make sure you take into consideration the after-tax cost.

Deciding whether to make an extra mortgage payment is more than just a finan-

cial decision. If it was purely financial, it would be relatively easy. All you would have to do is compare the after-tax rate of return of an investment to the after-tax cost of the mortgage. However, there is another factor. Because most of us do not treat our homes purely as an investment, there is an emotional element. Whether it makes sense financially or

not, many people receive comfort in the fact that they own their home outright. After all, money is supposed to give you comfort and if it is more comforting to have your home paid off, then that is something that should be taken into consideration. Other issues to examine include:

- By not making an extra

mortgage payment, can you take advantage of an employer match on a 401(k) plan? From a purely financial standpoint, I would prefer having someone invest in a Roth IRA, where money can grow tax free, as opposed to making the extra mortgage payment. On the other hand, if someone didn't need the money and he/she was just going to buy CDs I

would be leaning toward making the extra mortgage payment. •If you're a long-term investor and you invest the money wisely you will do better than the after-tax cost of the mortgage. On the other hand, if you're just going to let it sit in the bank, then paying down the mortgage is probably a smart thing to do.

Like most financial decisions, the key is what's good for your individual situation and what allows you to sleep at night. 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 his Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.

Pathway 'Friends' gather for cleanup

The Friends of the I-275 Pathway get together for the first trail cleanup of the season noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 28, meeting in the northeast corner of the Meijer parking lot on 8 Mile and Haggerty, and working both north and south of 8 Mile.

After the long winter, organizers said, the pathway has accumulated a lot of trash and debris, so the first cleanup will focus primarily on litter pickup and general cleaning. Garbage bags, work gloves and some tools will be provided, but volunteers are encouraged to bring their own rakes, brooms, dustpans, litter spikes, or anything else to help pick up the trash.

Water and granola bars will be provided.

The I-275 Pathway is a 40-mile multi-use recreational trail that parallels the freeway in Oakland, Wayne and Monroe Counties. The trail runs through or near some of the most populated communities in southeast Michigan, including Novi, Farmington Hills, Livonia, Plymouth, Northville Township, Canton Township and Monroe. It links to many non-motorized paths in these communities, and could ultimately serve as a backbone to the entire southeast Michigan recreational trail system.

After decades of neglect, the Friends of the I-275 Pathway is working with the Michigan Department of Transportation and local governments to rejuvenate the trail and bring it up to present-day standards. Our efforts have paid off, as the Pathway is set to undergo a major overhaul this year.

For more information call Dave Duffield at (248) 994-3074 or visit the Friends of the I-275 Pathway on Yahoo! groups or Facebook.

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Plato's Closet leads the nation in the buying and selling of name brand, gently used apparel and accessories for teens and twenty-somethings.

Closet looks at fashion trends

As teens and twenty-somethings gear up for warmer weather and spring break, Plato's Closet of Canton is offering a guide of the hottest fashion trends for the spring season.

"At our store, we don't try to create new fashion trends, but rather respond to actual trends in a timely, value-oriented manner," said Paul Wells.

Wells. "All of the looks in our style guide can be achieved through a few simple wardrobe swaps or the purchase of a staple item or two, all of which can be found at Plato's Closet of Canton."

Wells said the store's unique resale concept, which allows customers to buy and sell gently-used, name brand clothes and accessories, makes it easy

for young women in the area to become eco-chic. With green-living being top of mind for many, recycling clothes is a simple way to have a positive impact on the planet while getting cash on the spot from Plato's Closet.

Wells recommends local fashionistas keep the following tips in mind when shopping for spring fashions:

- Double denim – This season, lighter, chambray-toned denim is in, not only for skinny jeans, but for a variety of items including shoes, bags, rompers, skirts and jackets. For an edgy look, don't be afraid to "double it up" by wearing it head-to-toe.
- Neutral tones – Champagne, beige, rosy hues and all shades of grey are in for spring 2010. Tees or tops in these colors can become ultra-girly with the addition of gentle ruching and intricate details like embroidered jewels, ruffles, and rosettes.
- Dressy florals – Fun, flirty and floral just in time for spring! Garden motifs have sprouted up again this season, with flowered patterns in full bloom on skirts and dresses. Dresses come in a variety of styles – T-shirt, tube, tank, or halter – something for every mood. To extend the life of any dress or skirt, wear either with a fabulous pair of leggings to create an entirely different look.
- Utilitarian adventure – Dress for adventure in olive and khaki.

Following this trend is as easy as adding a pair of soft utility pants, a scout jacket or khaki camp shirt into your closet. Choose fitted shirts and jackets for more of an effortless boy-meets-girl look than a sloppy army surplus style.

• Accessorize – This season's hot accessories include cuff bracelets, intricate cutouts (usually seen in shoes and belts), and feature colors like rose, gold, baby blue, and mint. Don't forget your woods and metals as these remain popular for jewelry and heels everywhere.

According to leading fashion publication *InStyle*, the spring season's biggest fashion perk is that "comfort doesn't have to be compromised." The magazine encourages young women to find their own warm-weather style by layering and draping pieces in jersey, cashmere or silk.

"One great feature of all of these styles is that they can easily be dressed up or dressed down to fit a particular occasion," added Wells. "They are ideal for transitioning from school or work to a night out. They also can be incorporated into looks for spring break."

Some of the top brands featured gently used and value priced at Plato's Closet of Canton include BKE®, American Eagle®, Lucky Brand®, Roxy®, Forever 21® and True Religion®.

"We make it easy for the style-savvy to update their looks for the spring season," said Wells. "Shopping at our store is like going on a treasure hunt. You never know what you're going to find."

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

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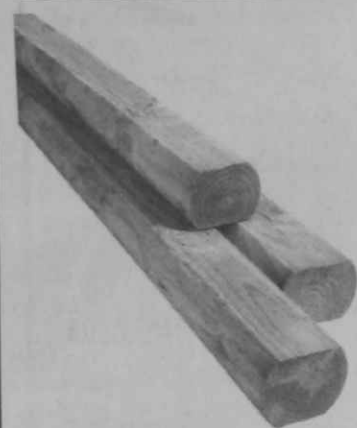


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Christmas in Action volunteers still needed

People looking to make a difference in their community get their chance to lend a helping hand and volunteer for this year's Christmas in Action event Saturday, April 24.

Both skilled and unskilled volunteers are still needed to help provide repairs to needy seniors' homes in the Canton community from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Volunteers who are skilled in the building trades are especially needed, including electricians, carpenters, plumbers, roofers and others. Unskilled volunteers are also wanted for cleaning, yard work, and painting.

House captains will coordinate the work being done at each site on the event day. Knowledgeable volunteer experts will perform electrical, plumbing, heating and roofing repairs, while teams of other volunteers will paint walls, wash windows, and do general interior and exterior spring cleaning.

The day will start with registration from 7:30-9 a.m. and a continental breakfast at the Canton Administration Building, located at 1150 S. Canton Center Road.

For more information on Christmas in Action and the clean-up event scheduled for April 24, call (734) 394-5191 or visit cantonfun.org.

OUR VIEWS

Get involved in Relay for Life

There's still time to support the American Cancer Society by participating in the local Relay for Life event, taking place from 10 a.m. May 15 through 10 a.m. May 16 at Heritage Park in Canton.

Each year, hundreds gather with their teams at Heritage Park, where they set up tents and attractions with everything from games for the kids, to refreshment stands and goodie tables.

While there's plenty to do and see off the track, the most important part is being conducted on the track itself. You see, it's where team members take turns walking laps — for 24 hours, nonstop. Each team member raises money for the event.

It's a special event, that's for sure. Many participants are cancer survivors, while others have loved ones who have been affected by the disease.

The word "hope" resonates throughout the event, especially during the evening lighting of the luminaries, which is a moving experience for all.

There is still time to get involved in this important fund-raiser in the community. The Relay for Life Canton organizers held a "team captain" meeting Tuesday, and have two more scheduled — April 13 at the Canton Public Library and April 27 at the Summit. Community members can join the movement for a world with less cancer and more birthdays by starting a new team or joining an existing team by following the links at www.relayforlife.org/cantonmi. Donations can be made to this local Relay for Life event by visiting www.relayforlife.org/cantonmi, as well.

Whether it's joining a team, forming a new team, making a donation or simply stopping by to encourage the teams through the 24-hour journey, it's a worthwhile effort that brings comfort to those who are affected by cancer.

Be part of Earth Hour, support work

Can you imagine sitting in the dark for one hour — no lights, no TV, no computer? In this day and time, that could be considered torture. We have a hard time living without our electronic gizmos.

But at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, March 27, people around the world will take a stand for our planet by turning off their lights for one hour to make a statement about their concern for climate change.

It's called Earth Hour, and since its inception three years ago, its nonpartisan approach has captured the world's imagination and became a global phenomenon. Nearly one billion people turned out for Earth Hour 2009 — involving 4,100 cities in 87 countries on seven continents.

Last year, 80 million Americans and 318 U.S. cities officially voted for action with their light switch, joining iconic landmarks from around the world that went dark for Earth Hour, including the Empire State Building, Broadway theater marquees and the Las Vegas Strip.

In the U.S., where we are already feeling the impacts of climate change, Earth Hour sends a clear message that Americans care about this issue and want to turn the lights out on dirty air, dangerous dependency on foreign oil and costly climate change impacts, and make the switch to cleaner air, a strong economic future and a more secure nation.

Every region of the United States is experiencing the impacts of climate change. A 2009 White House report found that climate changes are already affecting water resources, energy supply and demand, transportation, agriculture, ecosystems, and health.

Data released March 12 by NASA indicates that summer (December-January) surface temperatures in the Southern Hemisphere were the warmest on record. The same period in the Northern Hemisphere was the fifth warmest winter on record and globally it was the second warmest November-January on record. In North America, there were sharp contrasts.

We urge our readers to do something for your planet and flip the switch to off on Saturday evening. One hour of darkness isn't a lot to ask to help the place we call home.

CANTON OBSERVER



Brad Kadrich
Community
Editor

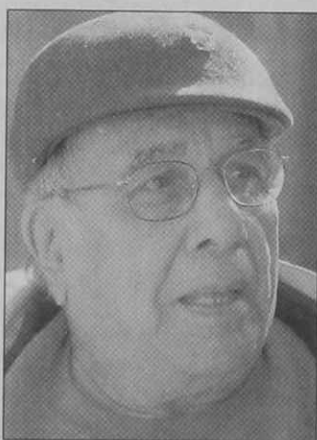
Susan Rosiek
Executive Editor
/ Publisher

Grace Perry
Director of
Advertising

COMMUNITY VOICE

If you could offer one bit of advice to your state legislators, what would it be?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



"I want the option for medical. We've got to have it."

Lee Lozano
Canton



"Attract more businesses. We need more jobs."

Michele Dickelman
Canton



"Pay the bills on time."

Todd Cunningham
Canton



"Quit. Get rid of the (political) parties. They're the problem."

David Skrzypek
Canton

LETTERS

Be aware of disabilities

March is recognized as National Developmental Disability Awareness month. It's a way to promote public awareness and help educate the community about the unique needs and issues that affect people with disabilities and to celebrate their abilities, contributions and accomplishments.

Once isolated and ignored, people with developmental disabilities are now offered greater educational, vocational and social opportunities. Today they're able to attend regular schools, hold jobs, work as volunteers and live productive lives in their communities. People with disabilities should not be feared or stereotyped.

So this month, recognize the hopes and dreams of our friends and neighbors who have a disability and also applaud the staff that makes their dreams come true. Get to know people with developmental disabilities in your congregation, your community service organization and in your neighborhood. People with disabilities are no different from everyone else. They all want, and are entitled to, a life

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats. Web: www.hometownlife.com E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com. Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

just like you and me.

Ray Schuholz
Wayne

Background checks needed

I was appalled when I learned that only 80 percent of organizations are requiring background checks on their employees. There is a Michigan Senate bill (1100) in

session that will restrict any sexual predator and any person who has been convicted of child abuse to be involved with a child care organization. I was struck by this bill, as a social worker, because of the fact that there are many organizations that still do not run background checks.

All a sexual predator needs is an opportunity to take advantage of a child and by allowing them in child care organizations they are being handed the chance. So why would we even consider letting this happen? Children deserve to be protected and have fun in a safe environment, especially in places where they go to school.

Children will learn from the environment that is shown to them, and by allowing them to be exposed to a potentially violent person, they may learn similar violence. It angers me to think of the potential danger children could be in. It is sad that we have to deal with this issue, but we do, so why not take the precautions and prevent something terrible from happening?

Emily Herrington
South Lyon

Health care bill foundation on which we can build

On Sunday, the U.S. House made history by passing a health care reform bill. The legislation represents an important first step toward fixing our nation's crumbling health care system. As a result, millions of Americans can stop fearing for their financial security when a medical emergency arises in their family.

The legislation will provide much-needed relief to Michigan's hard-working citizens. But once again, Congressman Thaddeus McCotter, who represents the 11th District, voted "no." In doing so, he put right-wing ideology ahead of the lives of his constituents.



Natalie Mosher

In the 11th District alone, according to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, the health-care legislation will:

- Give tax credits and other assistance to over 100,000 families and 12,000 small businesses.
- Extend coverage to 26,000 uninsured residents.
- Guarantee coverage to 9,100 residents with pre-existing conditions.
- Improve Medicare for 100,000 beneficiaries.
- Allow 46,000 young adults to stay on their parents' health insurance plans.
- Protect 2,100 families from bankruptcy due to unaffordable health care costs.

McCotter voted to deny relief to all of these individuals.

Americans expect their elected representatives to stand up for their interests. Mr. McCotter, however, has turned a deaf ear to them. In fact, as chair of the Republican Policy Committee, he is directly responsible for the GOP's obstructionist tactics, cheap theatrics

and spin. Worse still, he does this while he receives first-class health care as a benefit afforded to all members of Congress. Guaranteed health care is OK for him, but not for you, or me. He should be ashamed of himself.

It gets worse. Ironically, Mr. McCotter is the sponsor of H.R. 3501, legislation that would allow IRS deductions for pet care expenses. Many American households include a pet, but logic and decency do not include subsidizing these animals' veterinarian bills while denying people access to basic health care.

Last week, Mr. McCotter said, on the floor of the House, that government is "broken." If he wants to know why, he needs to look in the mirror. He has spent almost his entire adult life as an elected official. As a member of the House, McCotter has consistently sided with insurance companies and other special interests, mouthed right-wing talking points, and repeatedly voted against his constituents' welfare. McCotter and his Republican colleagues take the position that the status quo is a better alternative to the health care reform legislation. They all need to get out of their Beltway bubble and talk to real Americans who struggle to make ends meet and desperately need a lifeline from their government.

McCotter's "solution" to the health-care crisis comes straight out of the GOP playbook. He offers the usual snake-oil remedies: health savings accounts, tort reform, and allowing consumers to shop across state lines for insurance.

Health Savings Accounts are a great deal for the wealthy. These accounts will enable them to shelter even more income from the tax man. But they do nothing for the rest of us. The 50 million people with no health insurance do not qualify for an HSA. In addition, many people who are covered at work will not qualify

because their policy is not "high deductible." The GOP argument that average Americans can trust their health care future to HSAs is a cruel hoax.

"Tort reform" is Republican shorthand for slamming the courthouse door in the face of victims of corporate wrongdoing. Caps on non-economic damages — a key part of the tort-reform agenda — would be especially unfair to children, stay-at-home moms, and older Americans. Curbing the right to sue goes hand in hand with another Republican strategy, dismantling regulatory agencies that were created to help the public. It is all part of McCotter and his Republican colleagues' policy of putting corporations ahead of people.

Finally, letting insurance companies sell policies across state lines will not result in better care. These companies have no economic incentive to hold down rates or treat policyholders fairly. In fact, competition among insurers results in companies hiring people whose job it is to cancel policies, deny coverage, and fight claims. At the same time, they impose huge premium increases and tell policyholders "take it or leave it." Republican promises of "more competition" will do nothing to curb these abuses.

Americans need affordable health care. The historic legislation that just passed is far from perfect, but it represents a start and a foundation on which we can build and improve. Most importantly, it will provide much-needed relief to many Americans — children in particular — as soon as President Obama signs it. Thaddeus McCotter's vociferous opposition and "no" vote will put him on the wrong side of history.

Natalie Mosher of Canton is a Democratic candidate for Congress, challenging U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, in Michigan's 11th District.

Seniors pack it up for Kindergarten Roundup

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Ruth Torok started her morning unzipping backpacks, but within a half hour she was reversing the process.

"It's organized very well around here, people sign up real good for things like this," said the Westland resident, watching a line of senior citizens work their way along tables, stuffing school supplies into the backpacks.

Torok was among 64 seniors who gathered at the Dyer Senior Center Tuesday morning to fill the backpacks destined for Kindergarten Roundup at 11 Wayne-Westland schools next month. "We have 1,200 bags to fill," said Sally Perkins, executive director of elementary education.

Working from projections, the filled backpacks were placed in lots of 20 into bags and labeled for the different



Elaine Pollock, Marcy Borso, Shirley Baumann and Dolores Sotell work on the 'assembly line,' filling backpacks that will be given to youngsters at next month's Kindergarten Roundup.

elementaries. According to Perkins, the amount of backpacks is tied to a projected number of kindergartners for 2010-11.

"We want more students, but this is what we're looking at," she said.

Seniors at the Dyer Center have been helping assemble

the bags for about eight years. This year's backpacks contain glue sticks, crayons, books like *Kissing Hand* and *Mother Goose* to read, ABC and number charts and a welcome message from the district.

"The parents love them because it contains information for them to work with

their children over the summer," said Perkins.

For seniors, the assembly line job offers them a chance to socialize and enjoy a light breakfast and lunch. For Eleanore Walsh, it was a chance to give back to the community.

"It's going a little slow, the

zippers are harder than you think," she said.

Walsh and daughter Eleanor Addison were new to the backpack stuffing party.

Sitting next to veterans like Ed Turner, they wiggle and tugged and zipped the bags closed, but not before checking to see that each on the 11 items were in the bag.

"We came because we belong here and we want to get involved," said Walsh, a Westland resident.

Torok came with her neighbor Marion Mosier who sees involvement in the center as a way to reconnect with her children's friends' parents from school.

"I enjoy coming, it's such a great group," she said.

"I've known Ruth for years, we reconnected after I quit working," said Torok.

Chuck Heard said it was his wife, Katherine, who made him come to the center.

"She volunteered me," the Garden City residents said as he worked his way down the table filling two backpacks with goodies.

"Yes, I did. I twisted his arm," said Katherine Heard.

It was Chuck Heard's second year working filling the backpacks, while his wife has been doing it for three-four years.

"I love it," said Katherine. "I love the people. I love doing something for other people."

Mary Loughlin of Westland viewed the work as a form of exercise.

"It's fun," she said. "You do a little walking, it's good for the knees."

Even Dyer Center Director Mary Browe pitched in to help.

"Sixty-four people signed up, and wanted to do it, but I thought we'd be tramping all over each other," she said. "But they're not. They're well organized."

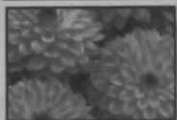
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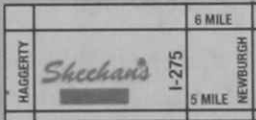
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SECTION B
(CP)

Tim Smith, editor, (313) 222-2637
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All-Observer wrestling team – B2

SPORTS, FILTER, FOOD & WINE

HOMETOWN LIFE



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Watching the final seconds of Friday's Class A state semifinal at Breslin Center are (from left) Canton seniors Kelly Larimore, Yuki Krolicki, Lindsey Winters, sophomore Jesse Larner and junior CarolAnn Sexauer. Behind the bench is the Canton student cheering section.

Chiefs deserve to try again

Every season at Breslin Center, the top girls and boys basketball teams go head-to-head with a state championship trophy within reach.

Unfortunately, only one team per sport leaves the Michigan State University venue with the ultimate prize.

Only one team's coach and selected players can truly smile in the media room under the stands when all is said and done.

The three other teams in the Final Four can only leave with mixed feelings — ecstatic to have such a successful year to make it to East Lansing in the first place, but sad to not quite reach the pinnacle.

Brian Samulski and his Canton Chiefs girls basketball team certainly fell into that category after losing a 50-47 heartbreaker to Detroit Renaissance in Friday's Class A semifinal. (By the way, so did the victorious Phoenix less than 24 hours later as



Tim Smith

they fell Saturday to East Lansing in the championship game.)

But oh, what might have been for Canton. Robyn Mack's sweet jumper from the left flank had briefly given the Chiefs a lead with less than two minutes remaining, electrifying the red-clad cheering section that came out in full, enthusiastic force to Breslin.

Of course, 1:50 in a basketball game is forever and Renaissance reminded everyone of that when Elizabeth Badgett responded by nailing a trey — yanking the magic carpet from under the feet of the Chiefs. They could not get it back.

Yet that did not diminish just how brilliant a season the Chiefs had, winning the KLAA South Division,

Please see **SMITH, B5**

SIDELINES

Hurricanes tryouts

The Michigan Hurricanes Midget AA hockey team wraps up its spring tryouts 3:30-5 p.m. Sunday, March 28, at the Compuware Arena NHL rink.

Contact Non-Parent Head Coach Lee McCarty at (734) 392-0888 or check out the Web site at www.eteamz.com/mihurricanes.

Dragons hoops

Parents, it's that time again to register your fifth-, sixth-, seventh- or eighth-grader for the Michigan Dragons summer basketball program. Go to michigandragons.com and register. The registration period ends April 16.

Spring coaches call

The spring season for high school sports is here and, as always, the *Observer* wants to spotlight the efforts and accomplishments of athletes from the Canton and Plymouth communities.

Please call sports editor Tim Smith at (313) 222-2637 with detailed recaps of games, matches or meets. Those also can be e-mailed to him at tsmith@hometownlife.com.

Deadlines are 11 p.m. Tuesday for the Thursday paper and 10 p.m. Friday for the Sunday paper.

Bucks College Cup

The second annual adidas Bucks College Cup, featuring some of the top men's soccer teams from the Midwest, will be Saturday, March 27, at Ultimate Soccer Arenas, located at 867 South Boulevard, Pontiac.

Games scheduled include: Oakland University vs. Notre Dame, noon; Michigan vs. Notre Dame, 1:30 p.m.; Michigan vs. NCAA runner-up Akron, 3 p.m.; and Oakland vs. Akron, 4:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$12 for all four games. Children 5-and-under are free. The first 750 youngsters 15-and-under will receive a free adidas Michigan Bucks T-shirt.

To purchase tickets, visit www.bucksoccer.com; or go to the Ultimate Soccer Arenas front desk or the Upper 90 Pub.

Team pics welcomed

Accomplishments recorded on the athletic field are important for everyone and the Canton and Plymouth editions of the *Observer Newspapers* would like to recognize those efforts of the individuals involved.

So if you know of a youth team, an adult recreation team, or just a handful of individuals with a unique accomplishment on the resume, contact us here in the sports department and we will gladly publish those achievements. Team photos displaying the personnel will also be accepted.

To submit information and photos, contact sports editor Tim Smith by e-mail at tsmith@hometownlife.com or by phone at (313) 222-6785.

Junior spikers wanted

The Crusader Junior Volleyball Club, run out of Madonna University, is seeking four to six players for its 13-and-under team (cannot be 14 before Sept. 1, 2010).

For more information, call MU assistant coach Brian McClain at (734) 432-5612; or e-mail bgmccain1@aol.com.

MHSAA to honor Hahn

Plymouth High School senior runner Kelly Hahn is one of 14 top student-athletes to Saturday receive college scholarships through the Michigan High School Athletic Association's Scholar-Athlete Award program.

Farm Bureau Insurance, in its 21st year of sponsoring the award, will give a \$1,000 college scholarship to 32 individuals who represent their member school in at least one sport in which the Association sponsors a post-season tournament.



Hahn

The first 30 scholarships are awarded proportionately by school classification and the number of student-athletes involved in those classes; and there are two at-large honorees which can come from any classification.

Each of the scholarship recipients will be honored at halftime ceremonies of Saturday's Class C Boys Basketball final game at the Breslin Student Events Center in East Lansing.

Commemorative medallions will be given to other finalists in recognition of their accomplishments.

The Class A Scholar-Athlete Award honorees are: Meredith Leigh Aja, Traverse City Central; Ariel Dempsey, Jenison; Nathaniel Ellsworth, Saginaw Heritage; Kelly Hahn, Plymouth; Rikki Jarvis, Oxford; Christopher Luoma, Okemos; Jordan Macocha, Oxford; Calley Murphy, Birmingham Seaholm; Katherine Pavelich, Flint Kearsley; Erin Elizabeth Riley, Battle Creek Lakeview; Jonathan Michael Roberts, Grosse Pointe South; Steven Saliga, Romeo; Alex Van Tiem, Detroit U-D Jesuit; and Matthew VanZytveld, Grand Haven.



Showing her cool, calm and collected demeanor during a 2009 race is Samantha Howell, a seventh grader at East Middle School.

SOAP BOX SAM

Canton girl wants to race to top of national charts

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

DERBY DOINGS

Who: Samantha Howell, 12, seventh-grader at East Middle School in Canton.

What: The daughter of Jim and Cathy Howell already is an accomplished young driver in the soap box derby circuit, winning a number of trophies.

2009: It was a year where she tallied the second-most number of NDR Soap Box Derby Rally Points and was victorious in November at a regional qualifier. This year, she's tied for fourth in NDR points.

Next: In May, Samantha is set to take part in a regional qualifier in Akron, Ohio where she will compete in the Super Stock division. Meanwhile, she has already qualified for July's national race.

Notable: Samantha recently was runner-up at the Detroit Autorama in the "special interest, nonmotorized" category.

Samantha Howell's impressive haul of trophies collected for her recent prowess in soap box derby dwarfs the 12-year-old Canton girl.

The East Middle School seventh-grader estimates she has won 37 trophies over a three-year span with a spunky little car she and her dad, Jim Howell, assembled.

This season could add to that list — at May's National Derby Rallies regional qualifier in Akron, Ohio, for starters — as she moves toward her goal of making it to the top of the NDR leader board. She'll compete in the Super Stock division, for those ages 9-20.

"I hope to become the No. 1 point earner some day," said Samantha in typical matter-of-fact fashion. What

did you expect from someone who named her sleek, red-and-blue car the *Butt-Kickin' Princess*?

She's getting there incrementally. In 2008, she was one race shy of qualifying for the national finals and last year was No. 2 in NDR Soap Box Derby Rally Points.

HONORING HER GRANDPA

But there is a tinge of sadness, because her biggest fan — grandpa Mike Zinda, a longtime teacher in the Clarenceville district — lost his battle with cancer last June.

"What I do is make sure my eyes are on the ball and that my game face is on to make sure I have a good chance," Samantha noted. "... Also, I do everything for one purpose, and that's because my grandfather (Zinda) died

Please see **SOAP BOX, B3**

OLGC captures first girls CYO title

Before a crowd of more than 600 cheering fans, the Our Lady of Good Counsel Girls Varsity "A" basketball team (8th graders) won the Metro Detroit Catholic Youth Organization championship on Saturday, March 13.

OLGC's first girls CYO championship culminated with a 42-26 victory over St. Isaac Jogues of St. Clair Shores in the Livonia Ladywood-hosted contest.

For the 21-1 Crusaders, contributions from many players — the case all season — helped put the icing on the season's cake.

For example, Emily Hogan

led with 10 points and four rebounds while Alyssa Dillon, Kyle Robb and playmaking point guard Rachel Winters each scored eight points. They didn't just score, either. Dillon collected six steals and Robb tallied five assists. Throw in four points and seven boards from Shannon Perry and four points and six rebounds from Jenna Reinhold and the Crusaders had the inside game to thwart St. Isaac Jogues.

Other team members who played huge roles all season long include Kayla Kavulich, Marissa Ozog, Rachel DeMarco and

Kelsey McDougall.

The 64-team tournament lasted three weeks. OLGC defeated Redford St. Valentine, Detroit Gesu, Southgate St. Pius, Novi St. James and Livonia St. Michael to reach the final.

The CYO title was just the latest success in 2009-10. The Crusaders were also St. Edith Thanksgiving Tournament champions and Mercy High School Christmas Tournament champions.

Handling coaching duties were head coach Ann Robb, assisted by Linda Reinhold and Steve Robb.



The eighth grade varsity girls basketball team at Our Lady of Good Counsel celebrates after winning its first-ever Catholic Youth Organization title. In the back row (from left) are coach Ann Robb, coach Linda Reinhold, Jenna Reinhold and Steve Robb. In the middle row (from left) are Emily Hogan, Rachel Winters, Rachel DeMarco, Shannon Perry and Alyssa Dillon. In the front row (from left) are Kelsey McDougall, Kylie Robb, Kayla Kavulich and Marissa Ozog.



Keshav Patel
Canton



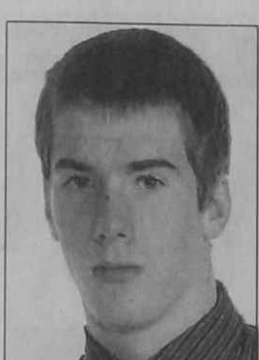
Steve Tuyo
Franklin



Laith Francis
Lutheran Westland



Anthony Pavlich
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James Roberts
Harrison



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Ben Poirier
Canton



Dustin Gajowiak
John Glenn



Jim Stuef
Harrison coach

All-Area grapplers lock up their opponents

FIRST-TEAM

Keshav Patel, Soph., Canton (103): The sophomore had an excellent season for the Chiefs, compiling a 29-14 record before sustaining a season-ending arm injury at the KLAA Championships.

"Patel came on strong for us this season," said Canton coach Cory Mancuso, adding that the dedicated youngster also is a 4.0 student in the classroom.

At the Observerland Invitational, Patel was a finalist in his weight class for one of his other season highlights.

Steve Tuyo, Jr., Liv. Franklin (112): The junior, who went 5-14 overall, finished sixth in the Division 1 finals.

Tuyo also captured the Livonia City meet, Salem Invitational and Kensington Lakes Activities Association titles.

"With the loss of so many seniors last year, Steve immediately took control of the team, and his dedication and hard work rubbed off on everyone," Franklin coach Dave Chiola said. "He showed great leadership and was more of an assistant coach than a captain."

He holds the school record for career wins (133), wins by a junior (54) and wins by a sophomore.

"We knew that he was going to be good when he was a freshman, and he hasn't disappointed," Chiola said. "Steve really dedicated himself to be All-State and was able to accomplish his goal. Along the way he was a major factor in the team's success this year."

Josh Austin, Sr., Westland Glenn (119): The senior, who went 5-11 this season, placed fifth in the Division 1 state finals, runner-up at the regional and first in the district.

He was also Observerland and Wayne County invitational champion, as well as runner-up in the Novi-Detroit Catholic Central tournament and third in the KLAA.

"Team was always first with Josh and he was second," Glenn coach Bill Polk said. "He helped his team accomplish two, almost three appearances in the team state finals over his career (along with our other seniors). That is something very special to him, probably most important than

2009-10 ALL-OBSERVER WRESTLING TEAMS

103 pounds: 1. Keshav Patel, Soph., Canton; 2. Kyle Gillies, Fr., Westland John Glenn; 3. (tie) Dan Martinez, Fr., Livonia Franklin; Richard DeMarois, Fr., Canton.

112: 1. Steve Tuyo, Jr., Franklin; 2. (tie) Jake Meadows, Jr., Livonia Churchill; Steve Wakeford, Sr., John Glenn; 3. (tie) Alec Breckinridge, Fr., Plymouth; Gabe Martinez, Soph., Franklin.

119: 1. Josh Austin, Sr., John Glenn; 2. Matt Jaisle, Sr., North Farmington; 3. Andre Sanders, Jr., Farmington Hills Harrison.

125: 1. Laith Francis, Sr., Lutheran High Westland; 2. Waleed Faraj, Sr., Canton; 3. Devin Stratton, Sr., Salem.

130: 1. Anthony Pavlich, Sr., John Glenn; 2. Justin Palka, Sr., Lutheran Westland; 3. Jordan McGuire, Soph., Franklin.

135: 1. James Roberts, Jr., Harrison; 2. (tie) James Middelditch, Sr., Salem; Mark Thompson, Sr., John Glenn; 3. Devin Ashley, Sr., Garden City.

140: 1. Donnie Watkins, Sr., Canton; 2. Travis Mann, Fr., John Glenn; 3. Charlie Kokenakes, Sr., Livonia Stevenson.

145: 1. Mike Johnson, Sr., John Glenn; 2. Nick Tomski, Jr., Farmington; 3. Josh Hatfield, Jr., Franklin.

152: 1. Brent Winekoff, Sr., Canton; 2. Matt Roos, Jr., Franklin; 3. Sean O'Keefe, Soph., Canton.

160: 1. (tie) Keith Zech, Sr., Canton; Kevin Beazley, Soph., Harrison; 2. Colin Gross, Sr., Salem; 3. (tie) Brian Miller, Sr., North Farmington; Josh Mills, Sr., Wayne Memorial.

171: 1. Curtis Castleberry, Sr., Churchill; 2. Kameron Jones, Jr., John Glenn; 3. Jake Burns, Sr., Stevenson.

189: 1. Anthony Abro, Jr., Canton; 2. Andrew Schramm, Sr., Stevenson; 3. Craig Kowalsky, Sr., Lutheran Westland.

215: 1. Ben Poirier, Jr., Canton; 2. Majd Mokbel, Jr., North Farmington; 3. Justin Roe, Jr., Farmington.

285: 1. Dustin Gajowiak, Sr., John Glenn; 2. Dylan Wells, Sr., Farmington; 3. (tie) Wally Eppler, Sr., Plymouth; Chris Bowie, Sr., Wayne.

HONORABLE MENTION

Churchill: John Shekell, Jonny Bannoura, James Locklear, Jon Locklear, Jared Buhagiar, Tyler Farnstrom, Josh Bridge; **Franklin:** Erik Czech, Ryan Derry, Zach Leuenberger, Alex O'Connor, Avery Opperman, Nick Simmons; **Stevenson:** Dan McCarthy, Nathan Keadle; **John Glenn:** Steve Shak, Danny Croft, Keven Wacker, Zach Redden, Reggie Timmons, Gerald Powell; **Wayne:** Tristian Jarosciewicz, Anwar Oliver, Jalen Jones, Brandon Whittenberg, Dimofus Renfro, Dylan Korzelki; **Livonia Clarenceville:** Michael Weiss, Coy Sillanpaa, Anthony Giordano; **Lutheran Westland:** Sean Rowe, Matt Sankey, Martin Kemp; **Canton:** Alex Eimers, Mitch Wolksi, Zach Marsh; **Plymouth:** Shadi Jammoul, Said Yousef, Jimmy Ahearn; **Salem:** Danny Kemp, Adam Turner, Blake Abbey, Austin Banfield, Tyler Gross, Dylan Hatcher, Chris Sweet; **Farmington:** Nimantha Herath, Kevin Kennerly, Tres Yarmouth, Kienwa Davis, Mannie Govantes, C.J. Hicks; **North Farmington:** Garrett Fisk, Matt Russell; **Kevin Miller, Courtney Drew, Jordan Russell; Harrison:** Evan Doyle, Evan Hahn, Dan Leeb, Sultan Hubbard, Lido Zeli; **Garden City:** Kevin Allard.

COACH OF YEAR

Jim Stuef, Farmington Harrison

his individual accomplishments. He is also a 4.1 student and is involved in to many school activities to list. I feel wrestling has done a lot for Josh and will help he be a successful young man in the near future."

Austin's overall career record is 136-64.

"The Austin family has been part of our program for several years now," Polk said. "Both Josh and his brother (Jeremiah) were the two most gifted athletes I have ever coached. I am very proud of Josh sticking with wrestling when he really wanted to be a basketball player as a ninth grader - and he was very good, too."

Laith Francis, Sr., Luth. Westland (125): The senior, who finished 52-7 overall, earned a third-place finish in the Division 4 state finals after runner-up showings at both the district and regional.

Francis captured invitational titles at Rochester Hills Lutheran

Northwest, Garden City, Madison Heights Bishop Ford (where he was MVP) and Romulus Summit Academy. He was also runner-up at the Observerland Invitational.

With a career record of 152-51, Francis also holds the school record for takedowns.

"I've very rarely have seen a wrestler with Laith's dedication and love for the sport," Lutheran Westland coach Joseph Schmidt said. "He was one of the hardest working kids I've ever coached. Laith often commented, 'Wrestling is life' and his actions supported his claim. I wish I could have 14 Laith's every year."

Anthony Pavlich, Sr., Westland Glenn (130): The Division 1 state champion posted a season record of 61-3.

Pavlich was also district, regional, KLAA, Observerland and Wayne County Invitational champion.

"Anthony has showed dedication to the sport of wrestling sense sixth grade competing year round," Polk said. "He committed himself to the sport and our program and is walking away with the first state title that John Glenn has had in 17 years. It was nice to see that Anthony was ready and confident going into his final match at the Palace."

Pavlich's career mark is 176-33. "Anthony has been on the big stage three times medaling all three years," Polk said. "He now holds the all-time win record and all-time pin record at Glenn. All his time and hard work came together in the end and he accomplished his goal. He plans on wrestling in college, but is undecided where at this time."

James Roberts, Jr., Farm. Harrison (135): Roberts compiled a record of 44-11 the past season and is 63-28 in his two years as a varsity wrestler. He is a two-time regional qualifier in Division 2. He was the runner-up at the Lakeland and Observerland meets, and he was a finalist in the OAA White and district tournaments.

"James is a hard-working athlete who continues to get better each time he steps on the mat," coach Jim Stuef said. "He is doing all the right things in the off season to reach his goal of being an all-state wrestler. Wrestling freestyle and Greco will make James a better wrestler come next winter. Our kids at Harrison are going to surprise people, because a large group, including James, know mat time is the key to creating good wrestling habits and they're willing to do what it takes to get better."

Donnie Watkins, Sr., Canton (140): Whether Watkins wrestles next season at the University of Michigan or somewhere else, he'll bring an outstanding high school career and desire to be an All-American in the NCAA to the table.

Watkins tallied a 55-4 record and accumulated more than 200 career victories to be, according to Mancuso, "one of the best wrestlers to have ever suited up for the Canton Chiefs wrestling team."

The four-time state placer capped off his brilliant career with a third-place finish at 140 at the Division 1 individual state finals. He won twice before falling 10-2 in a major decision to eventual champion Matt Dietz of Clarkston.

"He was disappointed that he was not able to finish his career as a state champion," Mancuso said. "But being a four-time state placer is a great accomplishment."

Mike Johnson, Sr., Westland Glenn (145): The senior was a state qualifier after finishing second at the regional and first at the district.

Johnson finished the year at 37-26 overall. He also placed second at Observerland and third at both the Wayne County and KLAA tournaments.

"Mike will be missed tremendously on this team," Polk said. "Even though he wasn't the star of the team each week with the group we had, he was the best leader on the team. Mike only wrestled three years in high school and is an example of what you can accomplish if you work hard and dedicate yourself."

"He definitely peaked at the right time going 18-5 his last 23 matches only losing to four state placers (state champ twice) and one other qualifier."

Johnson's career mark is 59-46. "Mike is the type of kid that would do whatever the coaches say," Polk said. "It didn't matter what weight class, who his opponent was, or where the next match was. Mike was always the first one to volunteer. We are very proud Mike helped his team to two Final eight appearances, we couldn't have done it without Mike placing his heart on the line each time he stepped into the circle."

Brent Winekoff, Sr., Canton (152): A three-time D1 state placer, Winekoff finished 60-1 for the season - No. 2 in the state for his weight class.

Winekoff, like Watkins, amassed more than 200 career wins as the 1-2 duo helped the Chiefs to plenty of team success.

At the individual finals, Winekoff earned a silver medal for the runner-up spot. His only loss of the season came in the

final against East Kentwood's Deshawn Nelson (in a close 7-6 decision).

Although just falling short of the ultimate goal for a high school wrestler, Mancuso sees big things for him at Eastern Michigan University.

"The great thing for Brent is that he is going on to wrestle at college where he will set new goals for himself and have the opportunity to reach them," the coach said.

Winekoff was Observerland champion at 160 in late January.

Keith Zech, Sr., Canton (160): The three-sport athlete finished seventh at the D1 individual finals to place for the first time, ending his high school career strong.

Zech, who went 49-11 for the season, won 5-1 over Oxford's A.J. Logan and prevailed 3-1 in overtime over Dearborn's Dino Berri.

"Our goal for Zech this year was to get him on the podium and that is what we were able to accomplish," noted Mancuso.

Another highlight for Zech was winning the Observerland Invitational, although in the 171 weight division.

Despite his wrestling talent, Zech plans to run track and field next year at Central Michigan University.

Kevin Beazley, Soph., Farm. Harrison (160): Beazley, who finished seventh in the Division 2 state meet, was 53-7, setting a school record for wins, and is 99-14 in his high school career. He is a two-time state qualifier and league champion; he also has won two titles at the Berkley and Lakeland invitational.

Beazley was the runner-up and the MVW in the upper weights at the Observerland tournament. Beazley owns school records for single-season wins, pins (35) and takedowns (197).

"Kevin loves every part of the sport, competing in three types - folkstyle, freestyle and Greco," coach Jim Stuef said. "He's also a wealth of knowledge, knowing who is tops across the nation, and he's a true fan, cheering on his collegiate favorites. Kevin will continue to get better because of his hard work and dedication to his favorite sport, wrestling. The sky is the limit; Kevin could win the state next year, and he will be ready for that challenge."

Curtis Castleberry, Sr., Liv. Churchill (171): The senior captain, who went 51-8 this season, was a state qualifier for the Chargers after earning runner-up finishes at both the district and the regional tournaments.

Castleberry also placed runner-up at the Observerland Invitational and KLAA Tournament. He was the Livonia City Meet champion.

"He just one of those kids, from his freshman year until now, that wrestled two weight classes above the weight classes where he, never complained about it. Because we were so young he did what was needed for the team."

Anthony Abro, Jr., Canton (189): Another Chief to make all-state status, Abro held his own with a 62-4 record and finished fourth at the D1 state meet.

The Canton co-captain, who is a Greco All-American, battled to defeat Southgate Anderson's

Tomas Gomez by one point after trailing by three points with six seconds left in the match.

Mancuso praised Abro for wrestling hard to find his way onto the podium "when it looked like he was beaten in the blood round."

Ben Poirier, Jr., Canton (215): The junior three-sport athlete finished 47-17 in a breakout season, highlighted by a trip to the D1 individual finals.

Despite not earning a victory at the Palace, Mancuso said it was "a great accomplishment" for Poirier to get that far after not making it out of districts the previous year.

"He went from having a losing record last season to being a state qualifier this season," noted the coach, adding that Poirier's confidence should be very strong as a senior.

Dustin Gajowiak, Sr., Westland Glenn (285): The senior, who posted a 58-10 record, placed fourth at the Division 1 state finals after taking fifth as a junior.

Gajowiak was Observerland champion, runner-up at the CC Invitational and took thirds at the regional, district and KLAA tournaments.

"Dustin is the most accomplished heavyweight wrestler in Glenn history," Polk said. "He had a great career. The top five guys in his weight class were all within a point of each other with no clear front runner. His goal was to win it all, but he should be happy that he gave it his all and battled with a very competitive group at the Palace."

Gajowiak's career mark was 141-41.

"Dustin came a long way over four years," Polk said. "His freshman year he was the third- or fourth-string heavyweight in his class. Due to his hard work he outlasted them all as they dropped off the team because wrestling was too hard for them. He is a perfect example of what can happen if you work hard and stick with this sport Dustin plans to wrestle or play football in college. He is undecided at this point."

COACH OF THE YEAR

Jim Stuef, Farm. Harrison: Stuef, who was selected for the honor by his fellow area coaches, has overseen the continued rise of the Harrison program that was nearly eliminated due to a lack of participation a decade ago. The Hawks have done very well the past two seasons. They were 21-7 in dual meets and OAA White Division runners-up this year. Harrison is 40-15 the past two years with OAA Blue Division and Division 2 district titles last year. Stuef is a product of Hazel Park High School where he wrestled for coaches Frank Staggs and Bob Morrill.

"I owe my love of teaching and coaching to men like them whom God placed in my life and, without their guidance, I would not be here," Stuef said. "God continues to bless me by bringing (assistant coach) Dave Beazley into my life and rekindling my love for wrestling. This season we had our first individual all-stater (Kevin Beazley) since 1985, and we have a great group of kids returning next season. Wrestling is alive and well in all of Farmington's high schools."

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SOAP BOX

FROM PAGE B1

and I do every race for him now."

Samantha nodded her head when asked if Zinda'd be proud of her continuing accomplishments. "I think he would be, I wish he was still here to see this."

Only five months after Zinda's death, Samantha finished first in the regional qualifying race over Thanksgiving weekend in North Carolina. That showing helped her become '09's runner-up NDR point getter.

The success that weekend gave Samantha an appetite for even more, and her dad (or mom, Cathy, for that matter) isn't about to discourage such determination.

"She's been the second-place kid, the third-place kid more times than she can count, but she kept her eye on the ball," Jim Howell said. "We're always told, if you want to be the best you have to *beat* the best."

KEEP GOING

According to Howell, his daughter needed to best a two-time national champion and a world champion to win the regional race.

"When she did that, one of the directors said 'Don't stop her now because she just joined the circle,'" Howell recalled. "And it's a tight circle, the top 10-15 drivers in the country."

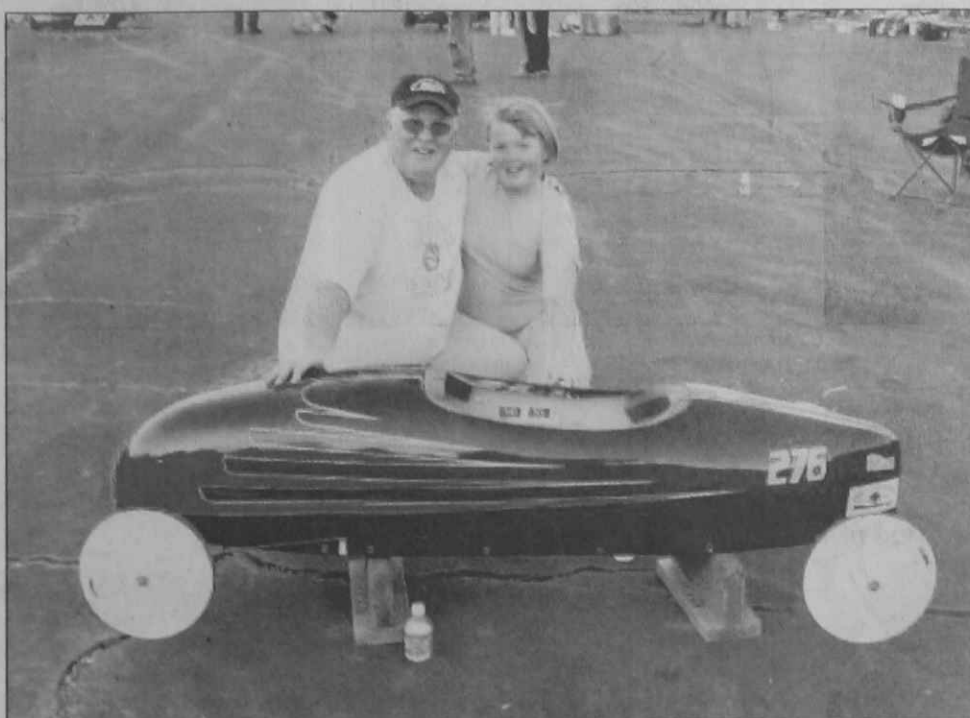
But it's not only about being a champion, or setting a big goal at the end of a 1,000-foot lane (the length of a soap box derby track) and knocking it down.

It's done with precision and gravity, with the driver almost folded in half at the bottom of the car to stay as low as possible — giving aerodynamics a chance to work.

"The lower you are you have a better chance of winning because less wind is hitting you to slow you down," said Samantha, with maturity in her voice that belies her age.

Jim chimed in with a smile. "The joke is head down, eyes up."

Samantha loves being able to do something with her dad, who in turn would rather drive all over the Midwest to another



For Canton's Jim Howell and his 12-year-old daughter Samantha, going around to soap box derby events is a fun, bonding experience.



Samantha Howell of Canton happily poses with some of the many trophies she's earned in soap box derby.

I know him now."

Jim Howell seemingly looks forward to the road trips as much as his daughter does.

"It's riding for 12 hours in the car on a Friday night to get to the race in Iowa or North Carolina, or (riding) four hours over to Cleveland or down to Akron," he said. "It's getting up at 5:30 in the morning to go race up in Saginaw on a Saturday

dent a few years back.

"Her older brother (Josh) and I had gone to the Detroit Autorama and we saw their booth," said Jim. "And I came home, we were looking at the stuff online."

Samantha interjected that "And then I came in and said 'Oh, cool.' It really sounded cool to be racing and doing other things than I usually do, like ballet and jazz dance."

Before long, she was committed to the sport, assembling her car (with plenty of help from Jim) and even having it get spruced up by Canton High School's body shop class.

Now it's tunnel vision for the sport, but that's appropriate because intense focus is a prerequisite. Any distraction, even sweaty hands on the wheel, can be costly on the downhill path from start to finish.

"(You) pay attention to your lane and your lane only," Samantha said. "It's pretty much drag racing ... for kids."

The fast lane isn't so bad after all.

For more information, go to the Web sites for NDR (www.ndr.org) or All-American Soap Box Derby (www.aasbd.org).

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Salem girls netters win at 'Midnight'

Playing well into the early morning hours Saturday, Salem's varsity girls tennis team won the third annual "Midnight Madness" round-robin doubles tournament at Huron Valley Tennis Club to launch the 2010 season.

The Rocks, coached by Lin Ware, topped the field at the four-team doubles quad with 15 points. Trailing in second with 12 points was Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard, followed by Plymouth-Canton Educational Park rivals Canton (9) and Plymouth (6).

Ware said the tournament is aptly named, considering how it started Friday at 8 p.m. and continued until 1:30 a.m. or so.

But his team displayed plenty of energy, winning gold medals (first place) at No. 2

GIRLS TENNIS

and No. 3 doubles. Salem's No. 2 tandem consisted of sophomores Anna Norman and Morgan Spencer, while seniors Ashley Davis and Rachel Norman comprised No. 3 doubles.

Salem also posted second-place finishes in four flights to nab silver medals for each. Those silver medal duos included: No. 1, senior Allie Carpenter and junior Kerry MacDonald; No. 4, senior Alex Lamb and freshman Ashley Walker; No. 6, sophomore Bansari Patel and junior Ewa Zajac; and No. 7, juniors Emily Simmons and Lindsay Spaulding.

Each of the four schools played the other three at every flight, Ware said.

Lady Ocelots finish with win

Angela Burrell's 24-foot shot at the buzzer — a three-pointer — enabled the Schoolcraft College women's basketball team to edge Kankakee (Ill.) Community College, 69-66, in the third-place consolation game of the NJCAA Division II National Championships held Saturday in East Peoria, Ill.

Schoolcraft ends its season with a school-record 33 wins to go against just two losses.

All-Tournament pick Amber Avery led Schoolcraft with 24 points and 16 rebounds.

Jasmine Brown added 12 points off the bench, while Burrell and Emelda Chew added 10 apiece.

Burrell also chipped in with a team-high seven assists as the Lady Ocelots overcame a 33-31 halftime deficit.

Shakeeta Cotton had a team-high 17 points, but shot only 5-of-20 from the field, for

Kankakee (32-3).

Demetria Ward added 13 and 10 rebounds, while Lauren Link and Khassandrae Brown contributed 11 points apiece for the Cavaliers.

Kankakee shot 33.3 percent from the floor (22-of-66) and 16-of-25 from the foul line (64 percent).

Schoolcraft connected on 26-of-63 shots from the field (41.3 percent) and 12-of-16 from the free throw line (75 percent).

The Lady Ocelots had the edge in rebounding, 45-44. Kirkwood CC (Ia.), which eliminated Schoolcraft in Friday's semifinals, 58-44, defeated Patrick Henry (Va.) in Saturday's championship game hosted by Illinois Central CC, 62-52, earning its fourth consecutive national title.

Kirkwood defeated Schoolcraft in last year's national final.

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Whalers find offense, even series

The Plymouth Whalers exploded for three unanswered goals in the second period to overcome a 1-0 deficit and the Whalers went on to defeat the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds, 5-2, in an Ontario Hockey League playoff game played Saturday before 2,743 at Compuware Arena.

The best-four-of-seven OHL Western Conference quarterfinal series is tied at one game apiece, with games 3 and 4 set for next Tuesday and Wednesday at the Essar Centre in Sault Ste. Marie.

Plymouth received excellent offensive balance in the game, with first star Phil McCrue, second star AJ Jenks and third star Tyler Seguin all scoring a goal and an assist. James Livingston and Joe Gaynor scored the other Plymouth goals.

Whalers goaltender Scott Wedgewood replaced starter Matt Hackett at the start of the second period and was also instrumental in the victory in stopping 11-of-12 shots over the final forty minutes.

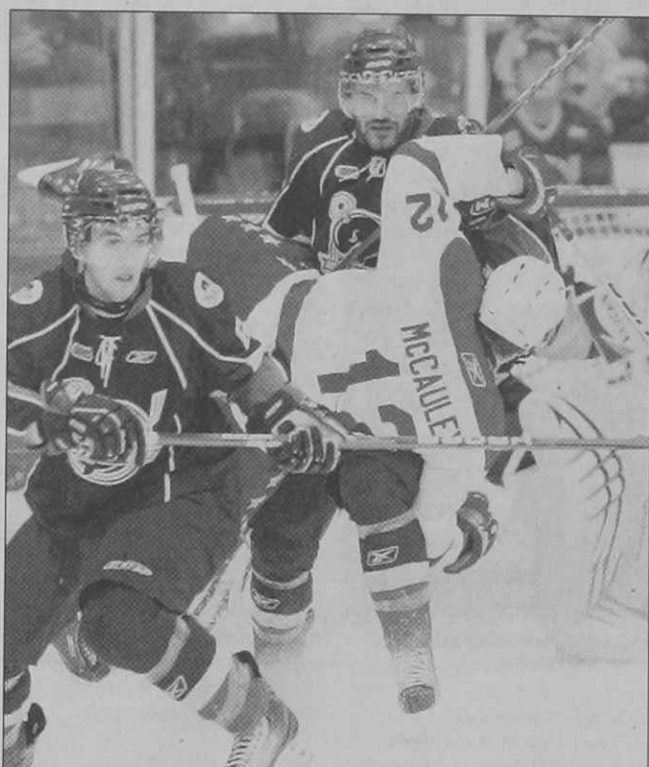
Jake Carrick and Vern Cooper scored for Sault Ste. Marie.

Carrick scored the only goal of the first period for the Soo, converting Brandon Archibald's shot from the right point in batting home the rebound past Hackett at 16:24.

Plymouth took the game over in the decisive second period, outshooting the 'Hounds, 21-5.

"We started to get a lot of shots and it was a matter of time before they started to go in," said McCrue. "Finally, we were able to break them down and get a couple of goals."

McCrue set up Livingston at 9:31 of second period to tie the game at 1-1. On the play, Livingston skated to the left circle in the Soo zone and roofed a back hand shot over the shoulder of Greyhounds



Sault Ste. Marie winger and ex-Whaler Myles McCauley goes flying in front of rugged Whalers blueliner Leo Jenner during Saturday's OHL playoff contest at Compuware Arena.

goaltender Robin Lehner.

"It was a great play by Livvy," McCrue explained. "I just gave him the puck in the neutral zone and he beat two or three guys and was able to score."

Jenks gave the Whalers their first lead at 12:44 of the period when he skated into the Soo slot, cut to the left hash mark, faked forehand and stuffed a back hand past Lehner.

McCrue scored top shelf from the severe angle at the right goal line at 19:00 of the period to give Plymouth a 3-1 lead - the first lead of more than one goal for either team in the series so far.

"We're just trying to get a lot of shots on him (Lehner) and get pucks to the net," McCrue said. "We were just shooting

for the openings and tonight they just happened to be high on him."

Plymouth won many of the battles for pucks in the second period in building the 3-1 lead after forty minutes.

"We wanted to work extra hard for 'Wedge' (Scott Wedgewood)," McCrue said. "He sat on the bench over the entire period and came in cold. So we wanted to help him out."

The only goal Wedgewood gave up was a strange one and cut the Plymouth lead to 3-2 in the third period, coming on a delayed call to Sault Ste. Marie defenseman Michael Quesnele when the puck was mishandled by the Whalers and the puck went over the goal line. The goal was credited to Vern Cooper at 12:44.

WHALERS ROMP IN GAME 3

Ryan Hayes scored two goals Tuesday night to spark the visiting Plymouth Whalers to an 8-1 triumph over Sault Ste. Marie in Game 3 of their Western Conference first-round series. Other Whalers to light the lamp included Leo Jenner, Jay Gilbert, Tyler Seguin, Garrett Meurs, Tyler Brown and Phil McCrue (who also picked up three assists). Tallying a pair of helpers was AJ Jenks while netminders Matt Hackett and Scott Wedgewood combined to stop 31 of 32 shots. Plymouth, now leading 2-1 in the series going into Wednesday night's Game 4, led 3-0 after one frame. Hayes scored both of his goals in that period, sandwiched around a power play tally by McCrue.

After the Greyhounds cut the lead to 3-1 on a second period marker by Tomas Rachunek, the Whalers scored five unanswered goals the rest of the way.

But Plymouth came right back to lead 4-2 twenty seconds later on the power play when Seguin rifled a low shot from the left circle that deflected off a Soo stick and past Lehner at 13:04.

Lehner was pulled for an extra attacker in the final minute of regulation, but Seguin blocked a shot in the Plymouth slot and the puck pinballed to Gaynor, who scored on the empty net at 19:05.

Plymouth outshot the Soo, 48-26.

The rest of the series shapes up like this:

Game 5 - Friday, March 26, 7 p.m. at Plymouth;

Game 6 - Sunday, March 28, 7 p.m. at Sault Ste. Marie (*);

Game 7 - Tuesday, March 30, 7 p.m. at Plymouth (*). (* if necessary



Players and coaches of the Redford Wolfpack are all smiles after skating their way to the Michigan Amateur Hockey Association Midget B State Championship Sunday in Burton. The Wolfpack claimed the top spot by icing the Livonia Flyers, 4-0.

Wolfpack claims Midget B crown

BY JIM TOTH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

There wasn't a hockey game this past season the Redford Wolfpack didn't feel it could win.

And for the most part, head coach Charles TenBroeck's young squad did just that as the Wolfpack, comprised of 15-17-year-olds, culminated a stellar season of play on the ice by winning the Michigan Amateur Hockey Association Midget B Championship Sunday with a 4-0 shellacking of the Livonia Flyers at Ice Mountain in Burton, Mich.

"We just have a lot of talented kids who have great passion for the sport and go out there and give it their all," said TenBroeck after watching the Wolfpack dominate their opponents over much of the season. "This was our first year together and we knew we had a talented group, but these kids just love to play hockey and they went out and really proved it."

Affiliated with the Redford Township Hockey Association, the 2010 campaign featured several highlights for the Wolfpack, who skated to an incredible 40-7-5 overall ledger and posted an overwhelming 318-116 edge in goals scored. At one point during the season, the Wolfpack strung together 19 consecutive victories.

The squad qualified for state tournament play by defeating the Berkley Brawlers 6-4 in the District Runner-up Tournament and made the most of their ensuing opportunity by chalking up five consecutive victories. The team's 6-3 triumph over Blue Water (Port Huron) in round one was followed by a similar 6-3 victory over Summitt (Fraser) the next time out. A 6-4 decision over the Livonia Flyers placed the Wolfpack in the semifinal round where TenBroeck's skaters went on to drub Capital Center Pride (Lansing), 6-0.

That set up the showdown for state bragging rights with the Flyers who were no match this time as Brady Wenson of Livonia earned tournament MVP honors by depositing two goals and spearheading the shutout victory.

"We had good goalkeeping and our defense did a great job all season," TenBroeck said. "This team has a lot of attributes. Every kid can do something different than the next. We had a good balance of play on offense and defense and that made it difficult for our opponents to match us. The games we lost this year we

lost to teams that were older than us."

In addition to Wenson's heroics at tournament time, the Wolfpack received solid contributions throughout from forwards Rory MacLennan (Livonia), Daniel Blayaert (Canton), Derek Johnson (Livonia), Michael Lesinski (Canton), Joseph Holland (Livonia), Michael Taylor (Westland), Nicholas Wiecezorek (Livonia), Steven Smoltz (Livonia), Ryan Davis (Livonia), Gordon Sparks (Livonia), Justin Pingston (Plymouth), defensemen Justin TenBroeck (Livonia), Dakota Lucas (Redford), Michael Abdo (Livonia), Eric Gabrian (Bloomfield Village), David Smith (Westland), Jeremy Atkins (Livonia) and goalkeepers Justin Gizinski (Davidson) and Brandon Djuric (Livonia).

"Before the season started every kid wrote down three individual goals and three team goals," TenBroeck said. "My personal goal was for the team to get to the state tournament and, if we could reach that, I knew if we played our best we were the team to beat."

"We're built to do well at tournaments because we're so deep," said TenBroeck, who saw his skaters back up those words up by going a perfect 13-0 in the three tournaments they participated in. "We have so many goal scorers on this team and just had the right kids playing in the right positions. Every kid on the team did everything the coaches asked of him."

Johnson finished as the team's top offensive gun, compiling 100 points on 51 goals and 49 assists. Thirteen of his points were tallied during the five-game state tournament, including a goal and two assists in the deciding game.

Holland finished second on the team in goals with 37 and a total of nine players (MacLennan, Lesinski, Wiecezorek, Smoltz, Wenson, Sparks, Pingston) tallied 20 or more on the season.

Djuric and Gizinski combined to record nine shutouts in goal and were supported by a stifling defense that kept opponents' scoring chances to a minimum.

"The kids played like you wouldn't believe all year long," said Jim Blayaert, who served as an assistant coach on the squad, along with Doug Johnson. "In the tournament they played like a team and that was the biggest difference. They are just an extremely talented bunch of kids who love to play hockey."



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MU swept by Ohio Dominican

The Madonna University women's softball team suffered its first double-header setback since March 14, 2009 on Saturday as host Ohio Dominican won both ends, 4-3, and 5-0.

Kaylee Crislip belted a 3-run homer in the bottom of the sixth inning to give the Panthers a one-run triumph in the opener.

MU's All-America pitcher Jess Irwin suffered her first loss in nine decisions, allowing four runs (two earned) on four hits. She struck out seven and walked four.

Rachael Kethe went 2-for-3 with an RBI, while Cat Sidor (Livonia Churchill) drove in the other run for MU.

Winning pitcher Erica Sutter (3-4) worked the first six innings, allowing just four hits and one earned run. Shana Etter got the save despite give up a run on two hits.

In the nightcap, Maria Staton (5-5) pitched a complete-game, four-hit shutout for the Panthers, who improved to 10-13 overall.

Losing pitcher Hallie Minch (Garden City) fell to 5-3 overall. She allowed four earned runs on seven hits and a walk.

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Dynamic Boxing Club trainer Todd Vickers applies hand wraps to 7-year-old Julian Sierra before the recent Fight Night.

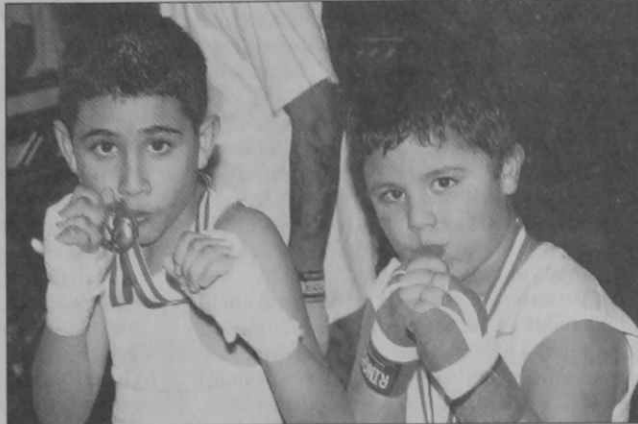
Here's Canton's 1-2 punch

It was "same bus, same school but different gyms" for young fighters Julian Sierra and Arnoldo Tostado last month at Dynamic Boxing Club's annual Fight Night before a packed crowd.

Julian, age 7, a second grader at Hoben Elementary in Canton who fights out of Westland's Dynamic Boxing Club, went toe-to-toe for three rounds against Hoben fourth-grader Arnoldo, age 9 — who competes out of the Warriors Boxing Club in Southwest Detroit. The schoolmates didn't know they'd be meeting up on Fight Night, largely because they go to the same school and the annual event pits top fighters from one facility against the other.

"Julian Sierra could not believe that not only was Arnoldo there but he would be his first opponent for his debut fight," said Fight Night spokesman John Cassar.

According to Cassar, it was a positive to see how kids



Arnoldo Tostado (left) and Julian Sierra, who both attend Hoben Elementary School in Canton, recently opposed each other at the annual Fight Night at Dynamic Boxing Club in Westland.

parlay discipline and teaching learned from dedicated trainers like Paul Soucy, Todd Vickers, Roger Coon and Chad Jaquillard.

"(They) should be commended for their time and hard work into these kids," Cassar continued. "Dynamic Boxing Club not only teaches boxing

lessons, but also touches (on) life lessons (such as) discipline, training and focusing on goals."

After such an experience, Julian and Arnoldo "now have a little more to talk about on their bus ride to school besides football, baseball and recess," added Cassar.

SMITH

FROM PAGE B1

KLAA Western Conference, then districts, regionals, state quarterfinals. Only Detroit Renaissance defeated Canton during the regular season, in overtime, and that was the very team that squashed the Chiefs' title quest.

As numbing as the conclusion of Friday's game was for the team and its "Reddy Zone" fans (many supporters of the boys basketball team, coached by Jimmy Reddy, cheered on the girls throughout the postseason), the disappointment and pain should subside over time.

Certainly, Canton seniors Lindsey Winters, Alyssa Cottrell, Yuki Krolicki and Kelly Larimore won't have another chance.

But much of the core of a 24-2 juggernaut team will be back, with the special postseason run tucked away in its collective back pocket. How about junior twin forwards Kari and Sara Schmitt? Don't forget Mack, who will only be a junior next season. Other returnees from Samulski's deep rotation with a Breslin encore in mind will be forwards Kayla Bridges, CarolAnn Sexauer and guard Melanie Pickert. All three will be seniors in 2010-11. Sophomore reserve guard Jesse Lerner also will be back.

So will Samulski and a talented cast of assistant coaches led by the venerable Bob Blohm.

Those coaches will try to temper the girls' enthusiasm, reminding them about a little something called the regular season.

Don't fool yourself, though.

It's a good bet that Canton's coaches also are secretly wishing next season was here already.

Tim Smith is sports editor of the Plymouth and Canton Observers. He can be reached at (313) 222-2637 or via e-mail at tsmith@hometownlife.com.



Hot stuff

The St. John Neumann Catholic Youth Organization Dragons No. 1 junior varsity boys basketball team recently won the 5th/6th Grade Division championship with a regular season record of 11-1. Members of the Dragons include: (front row) Jared Redman, Evan Voyles, Gavin McAuliffe, Jase Kochan and Pete Caravallah; (back row) Jacob Donnelly, Kenny Topolovec, Connor Wingate, Trevor Nowaske, and coaches Ryan Voyles, Ian Wingate, Brian Naszradi and Jim Nowaske.



Dragons did it

St. John Neumann in Canton had both Dragons Catholic Youth Organization boys basketball teams win their respective league titles. Pictured is the Dragons' No. 2 junior varsity squad, which won the 5th/6th Grade Division championship with a 9-0 regular season record. Members of the team include: (front row, from left) Corey Vitez, Corey Cremer, Aaron Garbarino, Isaac Emminger, Joseph Vespaziani and Ryan McAuliffe; (back row, from left) Danny Lanava, Nich Upsur, Brendan Doyle, Lou Baechler and coach Tim Baechler. Not pictured is coach Angelo Lanava.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

The tragedy is that less than half of those persons who are denied benefits file an appeal. Thus, many thousands of people who deserve benefits never receive them.

Those denied can appeal on their own, but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

Attorney J.B. Bieske has represented only Social Security Disability clients for over 20 years. That is the only type of law he practices. And, he personally meets with all clients and appears himself at all court hearings. Many large firms assign clients to young associate attorneys with much less experience.



In addition to practicing only Social Security Disability law Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject. He also has been interviewed on various radio and television programs and has given speeches to many groups.

Bieske's office staff consists of paralegals and secretaries who are also highly experienced in assisting him with Social Security Disability cases. And they are extremely helpful in answering questions with regard to the status of clients' cases and administrative procedure.

Attorney Bieske welcomes you to call him to determine if you may be

eligible for these benefits. He offers free phone or office consultations. If Bieske represents you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

In a recent radio interview attorney Bieske explained that many people are not even aware that they are eligible for Social Security Disability benefits. These are not the same as Workers' Compensation benefits. It is possible to receive both benefits at the same time. If you have an illness or injury (whether or not related to your work), are under 65 and unable to work full-time you may be eligible. Social Security Disability benefits are based on your work record or your deceased spouse's work record (Widow's/Widower's benefits).

Bieske represents clients from all over the state of Michigan. Call him at 1-800-331-3530 for a FREE consultation if you have been denied. Or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits call him for FREE advice.

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Canton Strictly Business

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

CHAMBER CHAT

Consultant helps businesses get results

Observer: Tell us about your business, including the types of services and/or products you feature?

Borg: Over the past 28 years I have worked with my clients and helped them to run their businesses more successfully. As a peak performance advisor to small and mid-size businesses, I identify the primary areas where most companies are underperforming and show them how to implement more productive and profitable ways to get results.

The consulting, coaching, speeches, and customized training programs I deliver focus on marketing, sales, customer service and employee performance. My client list includes hundreds of companies, organizations and small businesses. Over the span of my speaking career, I have trained thousands of program participants in Canada, Saudi Arabia and throughout the United States. I am the author of two books, *Making Service Count – Leveraging Customer Satisfaction to Make Your Small Business More Profitable* and a second book, *How to Keep a Positive Attitude in a Sometimes Negative World*.

I also am the author of the special report – The 13 Fatal Mistakes that Small Business Owners Make and How to Avoid Them.

My business articles have been published in over 47 countries and have appeared in local publications such as Crain's Business, the Detroit Free Press. Currently published on Ezine Articles.com, Office Line Magazine and Customer Service Manager On-line Magazine. I have a Bachelor's Degree in Administration and a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Eastern Michigan University. I have been married to my wife, Elizabeth, for 22 years and we have a miniature schnauzer named Tegan. In my spare time, I like to polish my 55 Chevy, garden, exercise and read.

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

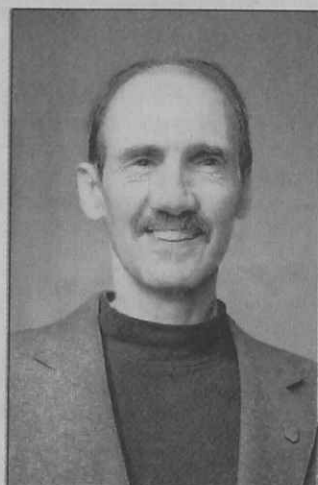
Borg: I was working for a training company and kept getting requests for me to do specialized coaching and training programs that the parent company did not do. I saw a need and went about filling it.

Observer: Why did you choose Canton?

Borg: I saw it as a growing area and figured it would be a good place to work and live.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Borg: I help small business think outside the box and take action to become more profitable. Too often business owners are limited by what they think they can't do rather than what they can do. I help them break the mold of



Tom Borg

their thinking and stretch the boundaries of how they can do a better job with their marketing, sales, customer service and communications.

Observer: How has it changed since you opened?

Borg: The way we do business. The internet has changed everything. Today there are online seminars, coaching, audios, videos. The internet has opened up access to knowledge and learning that makes it very easy to gain information about how to run their businesses more effectively. What hasn't changed is the way we learn how to do things differently. That is we must change our thinking then change our habits. The hard part is changing our habits- That is how I help my clients. I show them how to implement the ideas that change the way they do things. In a nice way I hold them accountable and as a result, they reach their business goals.

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

Borg: Early in my career, I was flying back to Detroit, Michigan on Delta Airlines. After landing in Knoxville to connect with my transfer flight, I checked in at the airline counter and was unpleasantly surprised. At the time I had boarded my originating flight in Dallas, my baggage had been improperly checked to Chicago. Realizing there were only a few minutes before the plane on which I was connecting would be leaving, I anxiously asked the agent if my baggage could possibly be transferred to this flight. He said, "Mr. Borg, (I like being called by name) I'll see what I can do." He then left the counter. He still hadn't returned when the final boarding call for Detroit was given. I reluctantly boarded and sat despondently waiting for the plane to leave without my baggage. Unexpectedly, the pilot announced that our flight would be momentarily delayed while they transferred a passenger's bag to the flight. The door suddenly opened and onto the airplane walked the agent I had spoken to

TOM BORG CONSULTING

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Business Opened: 1982

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Your Business Specialty: Marketing, sales and customer service training and consulting

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earlier. He looked around the airplane, saw me sitting in my seat, and came over to me. He knelt down next to me and as I looked at him I could see beads of sweat on his forehead. (I knew he had been up to something!) He said, "Mr. Borg, I want you to know I have personally transferred your bag to this plane. You will be able to pick it up in baggage claim in Detroit. Have a great flight. At the Detroit baggage claim, my bag was the first one to arrive on the conveyor belt. It was like going to heaven without even dying. Now that's what I call service! This agent figured out a solution to my dilemma. He was a problem solver. This experience showed me first hand what customer/client service was all about.

Observer: How has the recent economy affected your business?

Borg: It has caused business owners to start looking for other answers to grow their business. In the past if you kept on doing what you always did, you kept on getting what you always got. Today, if you keep on doing the same things as you have done in the past, you will get less, even will go broke! The companies that are staying in business have been doing a lot of things right, however, in 2010 the only way to grow is to change with the times.

Observer: Any advice for other business owners?

Borg: They must get out of the box with their thinking. They need to start looking for new and different ways to meet and exceed their customers and clients expectations. If they can identify how to do this and follow through, they will grow their business.

Observer: What's in store for the future of your business?

Borg: Blue sky and green grass, the opportunities are endless! I will continue to learn how to change with the times and adapt my business to that paradigm. It is just a matter of identifying the companies that want to grow and helping them do it.

Annual auction

The Canton Chamber of Commerce announces its annual Dinner Auction, to be held 7 p.m.-midnight Saturday, April 17, at Burton Manor in Livonia. The annual event is the largest fundraiser for the Canton Chamber of Commerce.

"This is always such a fun event. We have Silent, Live, and Raffle auction items, entertainment and lots of activities planned throughout the evening," said Dianne Cojei, president, Canton Chamber of Commerce. "Take Me out to the Ball Game" is this year's theme, which offers a lot of possibilities for all of our Baseball Fans."

Last year's event drew a crowd of over 400 attendees and featured over 250 prizes from categories such as Home-style, Travel & Entertainment, Sports & Leisure, Electronics, and many more. This year's auction is expected to draw a similar crowd and has already collected many great prizes that will be up for bid. New in 2010, a "Detroit Tiger Suite" comes with 18 tickets and 3 parking passes. Also up for auction is 2 airline tickets to anywhere in the continental United States American Airlines flies.

The auction will also feature special guest, former Detroit Tigers pitcher Dave Rozema, who pitched for the Tigers from 1977 through the 1984 World Series.

Tickets are \$75 per person and are available to the public; admission includes full buffet dinner, open bar, entertainment, and the opportunity to participate in the Live, Silent, and Raffle auctions. For more information, please contact the chamber at (734) 453-4040. This year's auction is sponsored by Jack Demmer Ford, Inc. and other local businesses.

Recycle for free

Scrap Dog Recycling hosts a one-day free event, "Businesses Recycle for Free," 2-6 p.m. Wednesday, March 31, in the Canton Chamber of Commerce parking lot, 45525 Hanford Road.

Do you have old business or personal financial records? Outdated literature and brochures? Any other office paperwork that does not need to be shredded but you don't want to leave in a dumpster or by the curb? Scrap Dog Recycling will be accepting all of these items at no charge. They are an insured and bonded company that will take your material directly to their paper processing facility for immediate processing. Visit their Web site (www.scrapdogrecycling.com) for a list of all paper products that will be accepted.

Secure confidential paper shredding is available by appointment. Contact Kevin Riley at (734) 664-6721.



Former Detroit Tiger pitcher Dave Rozema will be the special guest at the annual Canton Chamber of Commerce Auction April 17 at Burton Manor in Livonia.

After hours

High Velocity Sports Group hosts the Canton Chamber of Commerce's April Networking Coffee with Showroom of Excellence being presenting sponsor.

The coffee takes place Thursday, April 15, from 7:30-9 a.m. Come and join the Chamber for this great networking event and meet many local business people. High Velocity Sports Group is located at 46245 Michigan Ave. The coffee is free to chamber members and only \$10 for non-members.

Reservations are required, please contact the Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040.

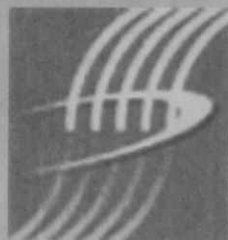
Franchising seminar

Hear four franchise experts discuss "Futures in Franchising" when the Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts the free seminar 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 27, in the Canton Chamber Board Room, 45525 Hanford in Canton.

SBA expert Randy Jones, franchise attorney Kelly Hayes, franchising consultant Terry Coker and Curves franchise owner Kim Scartelli will discuss the futures in franchising. First-time entrepreneurs who are considering business ownership through franchising should attend with their spouse or business partners. You will hear about financing a franchise, the laws of franchising, how to work with a consultant to identify the right franchise fit and exactly what it's like to own a franchise.

There is no cost to attend, but reservations are requested. Call Terry Coker at (734) 459-4121.

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For more information, please visit our web site at
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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Bright Side

Bright Side Dental of Canton, Sterling Heights and Livonia, announced the opening of their fourth office in Royal Oak.

The new dental facility is located near the corner of Rochester Road and 13 Mile Road with approximately 2,800 square feet of space to manage all of your dental needs.

The Royal Oak office will be offering full mouth X-rays and exams to all new patients for only \$35.

Bright Side Dental, founded in Sterling Heights, has grown to four locations with 12 dentists and seven hygienists and built a strong reputation of providing gentle dental care to patients for the past 30 years.

Bright Side Dental is a mem-

ber of the American Dental Association and the Michigan Dental Association and offers a full array of dental and cosmetic services while providing same-day emergency care.

For more information about Bright Side Dental or to schedule an appointment, visit www.BrightSideDental.com or call (800) PAINLESS.

New promotion

MontAd, a full-service marketing agency, announces that Rita Siedlaczek has been promoted to vice president, account supervisor. The announcement was made by Al Haberstroh, president, MontAd.

Siedlaczek has been with the agency for over 20 years in a variety of positions, most recently as senior account executive. In her new role,



Siedlaczek

as well.

"MontAd has continued to grow, even in this challenging economy, and Rita has played an integral role in that success," Haberstroh said. "She has a unique ability to assess her clients' marketing needs and to create programs that help them achieve their marketing goals. We are confident that her talents and hard work will help fuel the continued success of the agency."

Siedlaczek and her family make their home in Canton.

Siedlaczek will continue supervising major accounts and adds additional business development and agency administrative responsibilities



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ART

Lotus Arts Gallery

Location: 995 West Ann Arbor Trail, downtown Plymouth
Details: 3rd annual Michigan Local Artist Exhibit runs through March
Contact: (888) 889-4ART (toll free) or (734) 453-5400

Northville Art House

Time/Date: April 2-24
Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville
Details: "Mudville USA," an installation by Eric Mesko; with reception and artist talk, 6-9 p.m., April 2
Coming up: Dollmaking class taught by Charlie Patricolo, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., April 24-25. The two-day class costs \$100, along with a \$10 kit fee. Registration is available now
Contact: (248) 344-0497 or visit www.northvillearts.org
Village Theater at Cherry Hill
Time/Date: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Monday-Friday, through March 29
Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton
Details: Works by Plymouth resident and self-taught artist Tony Roko on display
Contact: (734) 394-5300

AUDITIONS

University of Detroit Mercy

Time/Date: 7 p.m., March 29
Location: 4001 W. McNichols, Detroit; in Studio 164 in Reno Hall
Details: Non-equity auditions for the theater's 2010-2011, 40th season. Provide a recent headshot, resume and two monologues: one classical and one modern. RSVP at the theater's Facebook page; search "UDM Theatre Company" on Facebook
Contact: Greg Grobis at grobisgj@udmercy.edu or at (313) 993-3273

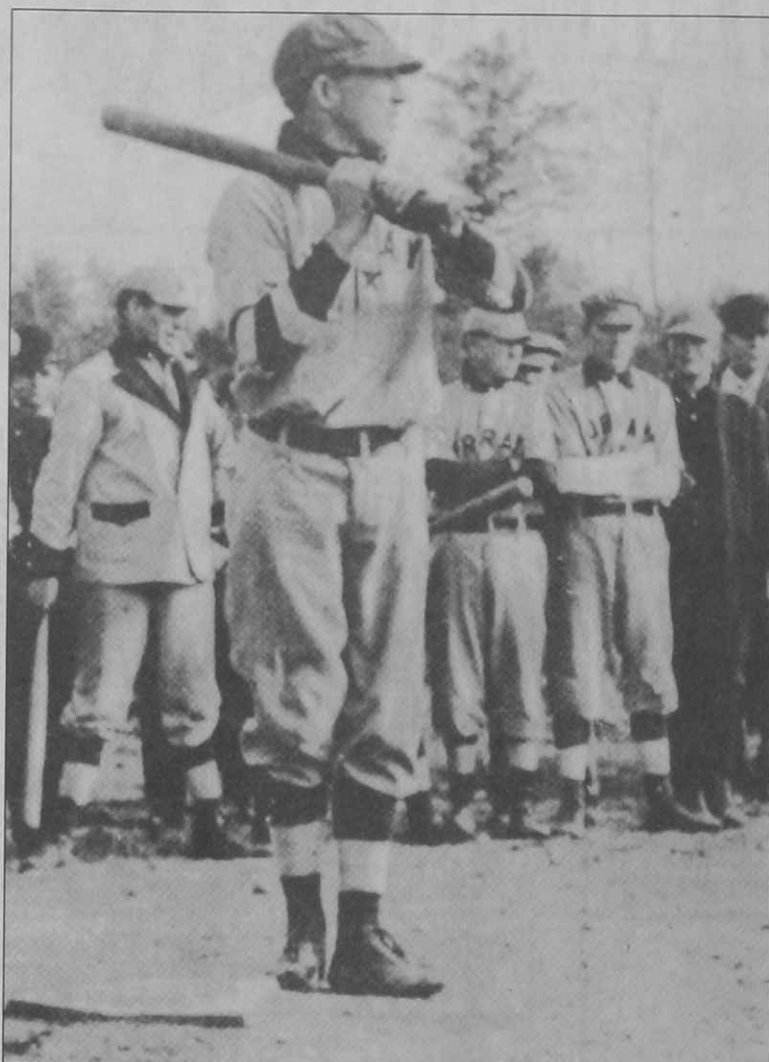
COMEDY

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Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays
Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale
Details: Improv most nights. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays
Contact: (248) 327-0575; www.gocomedy.net

JD's House of Comedy

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



Mudville USA by Eric Mesko opens April 2 at Northville Art House.

Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays, Open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays
Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia
Details: Myq Kaplan, through March 27
Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex.com

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle

Time/Date: 3rd Annual International Comedy Festival - Laugh Detroit, through March 27
Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak
Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

CONCERTS

The Ark

Time/Date: Altan, March 25; Paul Thorn, March 26; South Memphis String Band, March 27; Gemini, March 29; The Fabulous Thunderbirds, March 29; Celtic Crossroads, March 30; Bitch, March 31

Location: 316 South Main, Ann Arbor
Contact: (734) 763-8587; www.theark.org

Detroit Institute of Arts

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

JWH Center for the Arts

Time/Date: 6:15-6:45 p.m., open mic sign up; performances, 7 p.m.
Location: 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth
Details: BaseLine Folk Society open mic is for acoustic, folk and traditional musicians. Admission is \$5. BaseLine Folk Society open mic runs every third Saturday of the month through May
Contact: Mike Mullen, founder, mjmmullen@yahoo.com

Magic Bag

Time/Dates: The Killer Flamingos, March 26; Bob Schneider with Steve Palmer, March 27; The Beggars record release, April 2; Bump, April 3; The Mega 80's, April 9, 17 and 24; Mackinac

Island's Last Waltz, April 10; Deadstring Brothers CD release, April 16; The 30th Anniversary Tour, An Evening with The Church, April 18; The Hard Lessons, April 23; Greensky Bluegrass, April 30
Location: 22920 Woodward, Ferndale
Contact: (248) 544-3030, www.themagicbag.com

Seligman Performing Arts Center

Time/Date: 8 p.m., March 27
Location: 22305 West 13 Mile, on the campus of Detroit Country Day School, Beverly Hills
Details: The Chamber Music Society of Detroit presents Steven Isserlis, on cello and Dénes Várjon, on piano, 8 p.m., March 27, in a program that consists of sonatas by composers Barber, Dohnanyi, Schumann and Chopin. Tickets range from \$43-\$75; students pay \$25
Coming up: Richard Goode on piano, 8 p.m., April 10; repertoire includes Bach, Haydn and Schumann. Tickets range from \$43-\$75; students pay \$25
Contact: (248) 855-6070

Trinity House Theater

Time/Date: Gemini, 8 p.m., March 27, tickets \$15, \$12 for subscribers
Location: 38840 West Six Mile, Livonia
Contact: (734) 464-6302, www.trinityhouse.org

FAMILY

Bakers Keyboard Lounge

Time/Dates: 2-5 p.m. Sundays
Details: Jazz for Kids Program
Location: 20510 Livernois Ave., Detroit
Contact: (313) 345-6300, www.bakerskeyboardlounge.com

Detroit Institute of Arts

Time/Dates: 2 p.m. Sundays
Details: Target Family Sundays, storytelling, performances, free with admission
Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit
Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

Detroit Zoo

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through March; open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. beginning in April
Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak
Details: Admission is \$11 for adults 15 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 14; children under 2 are free.
Coming up: Bunnyville, featuring treats, games, crafts, live entertainment and more, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., April 3. Bunnyville visitors who bring a canned or other non-perishable food item to be donated to Gleaners Community Food Bank will receive a reduced admission price of \$5, parking not included.
Contact: (248) 541-5717

Marquis Theatre

Time/Dates: 2:30 p.m. all shows; Saturday, March 27, April 10, 17, 24 and May 1; Monday-Friday, April 5-9; and Sunday, March 28, April 11,

18, 25 and May 2

Location: 135 E. Main, Northville
Details: "Peter Cottontail," tickets, \$8.50, ages 3 and up
Contact: (248) 349-8110, www.northvillemarquistheatre.com

FILM

Penn Theatre

Time/Dates: "Up in the Air" 7 p.m. and 9:05 p.m., Friday-Saturday, March 26-27 and 5 p.m. and 7:05 p.m. Sunday, March 28
Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth
Details: \$3 admission
Contact: (734) 453-0870, www.penntheatre.com

Redford Theatre

Time/Date: 8 p.m. March 26 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., March 27
Location: 17360 Lahser, Detroit
Details: "Rio Bravo," with John Wayne, Dean Martin, Ricky Nelson and Walter Brennan, admission \$4
Coming up: "Spartacus," with Kirk Douglas, Laurence Olivier and Tony Curtis, 8 p.m. April 2 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., April 3
Contact: www.redfordtheatre.com

MUSEUMS

Cranbrook Institute of Science

Time/Date: "Artology: The Fusion of Art and Science at Cranbrook" showcases the work of artists whose creations intersect with science; through June 4
Location: 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills
Contact: (248) 645-3200, <http://science.cranbrook.edu>

Detroit Science Center

Time/Date: "Black Holes" in the planetarium; "Accidental Mummies of Guanajuato" through April 11
Location: 5020 John R, Detroit
Contact: (313) 577-8400, www.detroitsscience-center.org

Greenfield Village

Time/Date: "Good Design: stories from Herman Miller" through April 25
Location: 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn
Details: The touring exhibition explores the problem-solving design process employed at the world-renowned West Michigan-based furniture company Herman Miller Inc. Developed in collaboration with the Muskegon Museum of Art, the exhibition draws upon The Henry Ford's Herman Miller Design Collection, a comprehensive archive of the company's innovative processes and products, most of which have never been on public view.
Contact: (313) 982-6001 or thehenryford.org

Please see **GET OUT!**, B9

Downtown Plymouth

March 27

10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sponsored by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce



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Many of the participating businesses will be donating a portion of their Diva sales to First Step Abuse and Violence Center. They will also be collecting much-needed items for the Center. For a donation wish list go to <http://www.firststep-mi.org/donate>.

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RESTAURANTS

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Look the for yellow & turquoise balloons



Steven Isserlist will play cello March 27 at the Seligman Performing Arts Center, in Beverly Hills.

GET OUT!

FROM PAGE B8

Historic Greenmead

Location: 20501 Newburgh, Livonia
Contact: (248) 477-7375

Plymouth Historical Museum

Time/Dates: "Show and Tell Collectibles" exhibit, through June 13
Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth
Coming up: "Show and Tell" takes on a new dimension at the Plymouth Historical Museum when collectors display their collections and possibly sell an item or two. "Show and Tell... and Sell" Showcases will be held 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, April 17, and May 15. The museum is still looking for collectors for these events. Details and an application can be found on the Museum's Web site at <http://www.plymouthhistory.org/Events.html>.
Contact: (734) 455-8940, www.plymouthhistory.org

THEATRE

Barefoot Productions

Time/Dates: May 7-9, 14-16 and 21-22
Details: "Steel Magnolias"
Location: 240 N. Main, Plymouth
Contact: (734) 582-9688; www.justgobarefoot.com

Comic Opera Guild

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, April 8-10 and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 11
Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton
Details: "Sally," a 1920 hit, tells the story of an orphan dishwasher who gets a chance to dance in the Ziegfield ballet. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$17 for senior citizens and youth, except on April 8 when all seats are \$15
Contact: Visit www.CantonVillageTheater.org and click on box office or call (734) 394-5460.

Inspire Theatre

Time/Dates: 7:30 p.m. March 26-27 and 3 p.m. Sunday, March 28
Location: Warren Road Church, 33445 Warren Road, Westland
Details: "Once Upon a Trunk," a musical comedy revue
Contact: (734) 751-7057

Oakland Community College

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 26-27 and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 28
Location: The Orchard Ridge Campus, Orchard Lake Road, just south of I-696, Farmington Hills
Details: "Black Comedy," tells the story of a young man who tries to impress his fiancée's father while hilariously dealing with a power failure and the ensuing confusion among his invited and uninvited guests; tickets are \$8 general admission, \$5 for senior citizens

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Glowing wire brings puppet forms to life

Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts presents Darwin The Dinosaur, an innovative blackout theatre experience, 4 p.m., Sunday, April 18 featuring eye-popping, larger-than-life, glow-in-the-dark crayon drawing-like characters.

The story begins with Professor Henslow, a famous scientist with magic powers who is in the process of bringing to life his newest creation and dinosaur friend, Darwin. The story tells of Darwin's

experiences as he explores his new world, encountering many different types of creatures — Verla, the gangly ostrich; Peche, the beautiful fish; and Brutus, the menacing red dinosaur. In the end when Brutus threatens Professor Henslow, Darwin is forced to make a decision that ultimately leads him to discover the true meaning of love.

Darwin The Dinosaur is performed in the dark, using bright electroluminescent

wire (EL wire) on costumes and inventive puppet forms. Electroluminescent wire is a thin, flexible copper wire coated in a phosphorescent substance that glows when AC current is applied to it. EL wire glows in a variety of different colors at a high efficiency — a few hundred feet of EL wire can run on two AA batteries for hours.

Through a unique combination of puppetry, dance, storytelling and technology, co-directors, co-creators and co-choreographers Ian Carney and Corbin Popp of CORBIAN Visual Arts and Dances strives to rethink conventional theatre. They originally met as dancers in Twyla Tharp's Broadway show, *Movin' Out*. They discovered their mutual love of art, theatre and technology, and created CORBIAN Visual Arts and Dance to develop puppetry-based creatures, educational workshops and original theatre.

The show is family-friendly and recommended for those

The show is family-friendly and recommended for those age 7 and up. Music Hall has extended its "Family Pack Deal," allowing two adults and two children to be admitted to the show for \$35. Individual tickets are \$7 per child and \$17 per adult and are available at Music Hall box office, or at www.ticketmaster.com.

age 7 and up. Music Hall has extended its "Family Pack Deal," allowing two adults and two children to be admitted to the show for \$35. Individual tickets are \$7 per child and \$17 per adult and are available at Music Hall box office, or at www.ticketmaster.com.

Music Hall is located at 350 Madison, Detroit. (313) 887-8500



Darwin the Dinosaur comes to Music Hall for the Performing Arts April 18.

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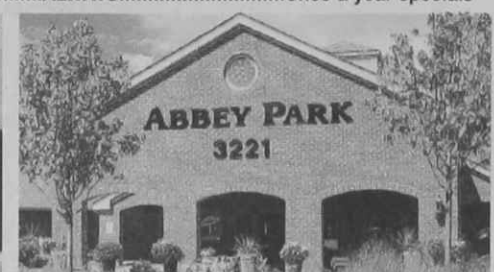
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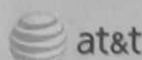
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SIMON

Kids: Get ready to rock at Parisian fashion show

BY SHARON DARGAY
OSE STAFF WRITER

Kids Day is a fashion show, rock concert, and clothing sale all rolled into one big event Saturday, March 27 at Parisian, in Laurel Park Place, Livonia.

"Kids Day is a semi-annual event that we do. We haven't done a fashion show in a few years. We opted to put one together. I think customers are excited that we're bringing the fashion show back," said Jill Engel, Parisian special events coordinator.

The children's apparel sale — which

offers a 20 percent discount off the purchase of \$25 or more, a 25 percent discount off the purchase of \$50 or more and a 30 percent discount off the purchase of \$75 or more — runs Friday-Saturday, March 26-27.

The fashion show starts at noon in the mall. Approximately 50 youngsters will model spring fashions, holiday outfits and clothing for vacationing over spring break.

"The models are children of our associates. Others are children of customers who shop in the store," Engel noted.

ROCKER MOMS

The Mydols, a rock band consisting of four musician-moms, will perform immediately following the fashion show. They'll play such songs as "Hula Twist," "Dinosaur Rock," and "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" off their upcoming CD release, *Family Rules*.

The Mydols previously released three CDs with rock music geared toward adults.

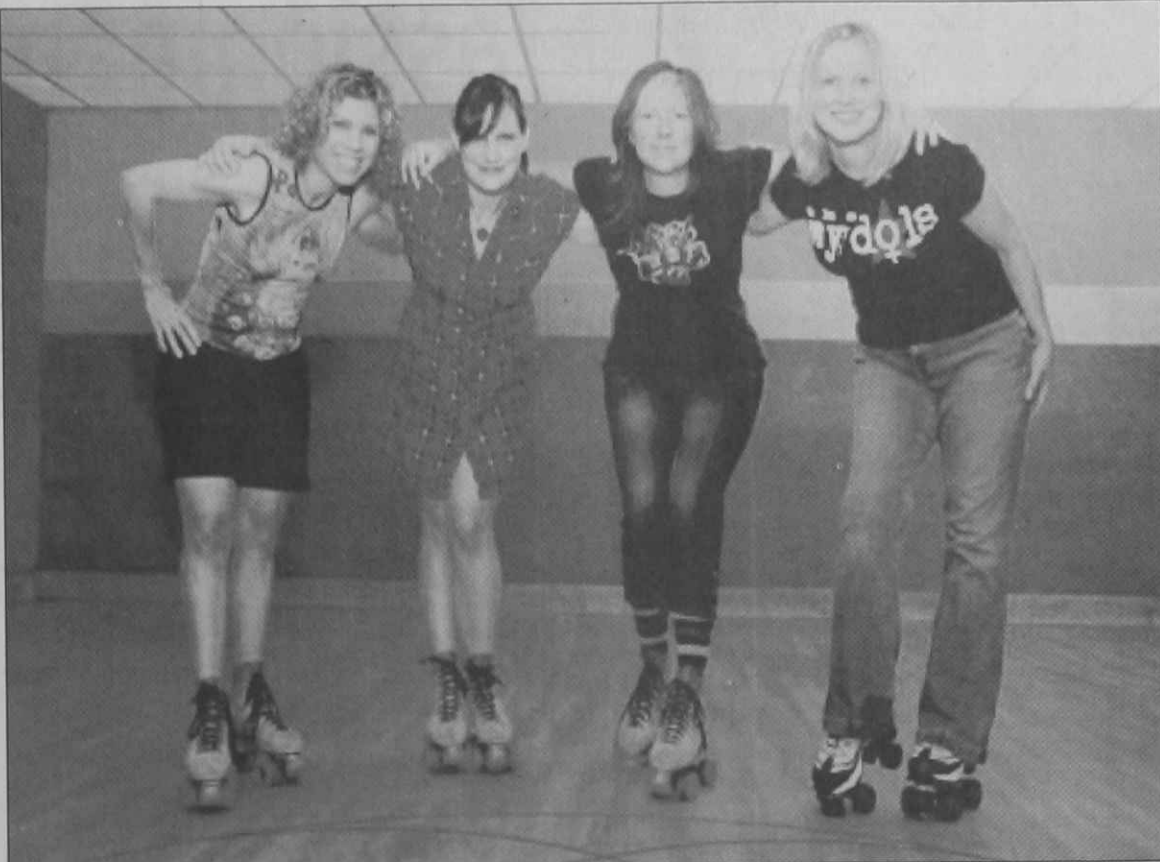
"For the longest time we viewed ourselves as a band for moms and in the last year we've started playing exclusively for mom and kids," said Mydols founder Judy Davids, of Royal Oak. The other members are April Boyle of Pleasant Ridge, Wendy Von Buskirk of South Lyon and Laura Sporn of Royal Oak.

"The sound of our band is more kid-friendly now. After years of playing in bars and getting home at 2 a.m., it's really nice to play music that kids and moms like and dads as well."

The group now plays in libraries, festivals and family events. The foursome also will appear in an upcoming episode of *Gene Simmons Family Jewels*, a reality show about the former KISS rocker on A&E TV.

"About five years ago we were in *People Magazine* and a kid working for MTV contacted us. He thought we would be a cool idea for a TV series. That kid went on to be the producer and director of *Family Jewels*," Davids explained their connection with the reality show.

Looking for a casual outfit for spring break? The fashion show at Parisian during Kids Day will offer ideas for vacation, school and spring holiday attire.



The Mydols will perform at Kids Day at Parisian, in Laurel Park Place, Livonia.

FUN ACTIVITIES

In addition to the fashion show and the Mydols performance, Parisian will offer continuous activities from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the children's department. Participants include Michigan Youth Football, Indigo Salon and Day Spa, Max & Erma's Restaurant, Borders, D & M Art Studios, John Casablancas Modeling School, Tail Waggers USA and Pump it Up.

"There will be a football toss and Tail Waggers will set up a bowling lane," Engel said. "The art studio is from Canton and participated with us this past fall. The kids will be able to do an art project in the store."

Tail Waggers, an animal welfare organization from Livonia, will be on hand with a bowling game, promoting its annual fall bowl-a-thon, and will feature its pet cadet program for children.

Laura Zain, Tail Waggers' founder, said pet cadets get involved in animal welfare by raising money or collecting pet food for the organization.

"We encourage them to do something

for the organization's benefit, to help animals directly," she said. "We give everyone a membership card, put their name on it and Tail Waggers' phone number. If someone sees an act of cruelty they can comfortably call me."

Last week a youngster did. The Westland boy had seen other children shooting pellets at a dog chained to a fence.

"He had participated in one of our events. Bless his heart. He was nervous," said Zain, remembering the call.

"I went out there myself. The dog was chained to the fence. I spoke with the owners and let them know we'd check up on them."

For more about Kids Day at Parisian call (734) 953-7500.



Just in time for Easter, Parisian will show spring children's attire during a fashion show at Kids Day.

Find thousands of used books, DVDs, CDs at Bookstock in Livonia

Metro Detroit's largest used book and media sale, with all proceeds benefitting literacy and education projects, will run Sunday-Sunday, April 18-25 at Laurel Park Place, located on Six Mile, east of I-275 in Livonia.

A true book lover's paradise, Bookstock will sell thousands of donated used books, DVDs, CDs, books on tape, magazines and records at bargain basement prices. Savvy shoppers and collectors can get first crack at the Bookstock Pre-Sale from 8:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m., Sunday, April 18. There is a \$10 admission charge for the Bookstock Pre-Sale only.

Bookstock runs noon-6 p.m. Sunday, and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday. Books will be sold at half-price on Sunday, April 25, the last day of the sale.

This year, Bookstock will host Celebrity Author Evenings, which will include the premiere of an exhibit by renowned photographer Linda Solomon, "Show Us Your Favorite Book in Photographs," that features snapshots by area students reflecting on what their favorite book means to them. The Celebrity Author Evenings will begin at 7 p.m. and will feature:

- Michael Rosenberg -- *War As They Knew It: Woody Hayes, Bo Schembechler and America in a Time of Unrest*, Monday, April 19
- Devin Scillian -- *Memoirs of a Goldfish*, Tuesday, April 20
- Linda Solomon -- The premiere of the photo exhibit "Show Us Your Favorite Books in Photographs," Wednesday, April 21
- Rochelle Riley -- *Raising a Parent: Lessons My Daughter Taught Me While We Grew Up Together*, Friday, April 23

Bookstock has generated nearly \$450,000 for literacy and education programs throughout Oakland County and Detroit over the past seven years. More than 600 volunteers work together throughout the year to organize and staff the weeklong Bookstock sale.

For more information about Bookstock, call the Bookstock hotline (248) 645-7840, ext. 365 or visit www.bookstockinfo.



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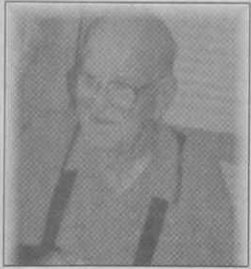
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FREDERICK R. BERRY

March 19, 2010. Age 91 of Plymouth. Loving husband of the late Shirley. Beloved father of Carl (Lucy) and Elaine (Tom) Goebel. Proud grandfather of five and great grandfather of ten. Funeral services were held Wed, March 24 at Vermeulen Funeral Home 46401 W Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth. Mr. Berry was a long time member of the Plymouth Elks, the Plymouth Rock Masonic Lodge and the Scottish Rite Shriners. He was a retired engineer from Michigan Bell and a lifetime member of the "Pioneers". To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

DOLORES G. GRECH

Age 91, of Plymouth, formerly of Westland, died March 18, 2010 at Angela Hospice in Livonia where memorials may be made in her memory. Funeral services were held Saturday. Dolores was born February 5, 1919 in Malta the daughter of Joseph and Lucy (Azzopardi) Gatt. She married Joseph M. Grech in Detroit on October 2, 1937. She was formerly a custodial engineer with the Livonia schools. Preceding her in death were her parents, husband, and a brother, Manuel Gatt. Surviving are children, Rita (Bill) Bryant of Livonia, Tony (Pat) Grech of Roscommon and Phyllis (Norman) Tritten of Plymouth; eight grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; sister, Mary Gatt of Saline and a sister-in-law, Mary Cameron of Northville. Walsh Funeral Home, Roscommon 989-275-3600.

OBITUARY POLICY

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

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OE08658429



Priest will start St. Colette assignment this summer

BY JULIE BROWN
O&E STAFF WRITER

The Rev. Gary Michalik is looking forward to serving as pastor at St. Colette Catholic Church in Livonia. He's been pastor at St. Theodore of Canterbury Catholic Church in Westland the last 12 years.

"I see it as an opportunity for new challenges, new ways of offering my ministry," said Michalik, whose successor at the Westland parish hasn't yet been announced. "Hopefully we'll know something around Easter" for St. Theodore's pastor.

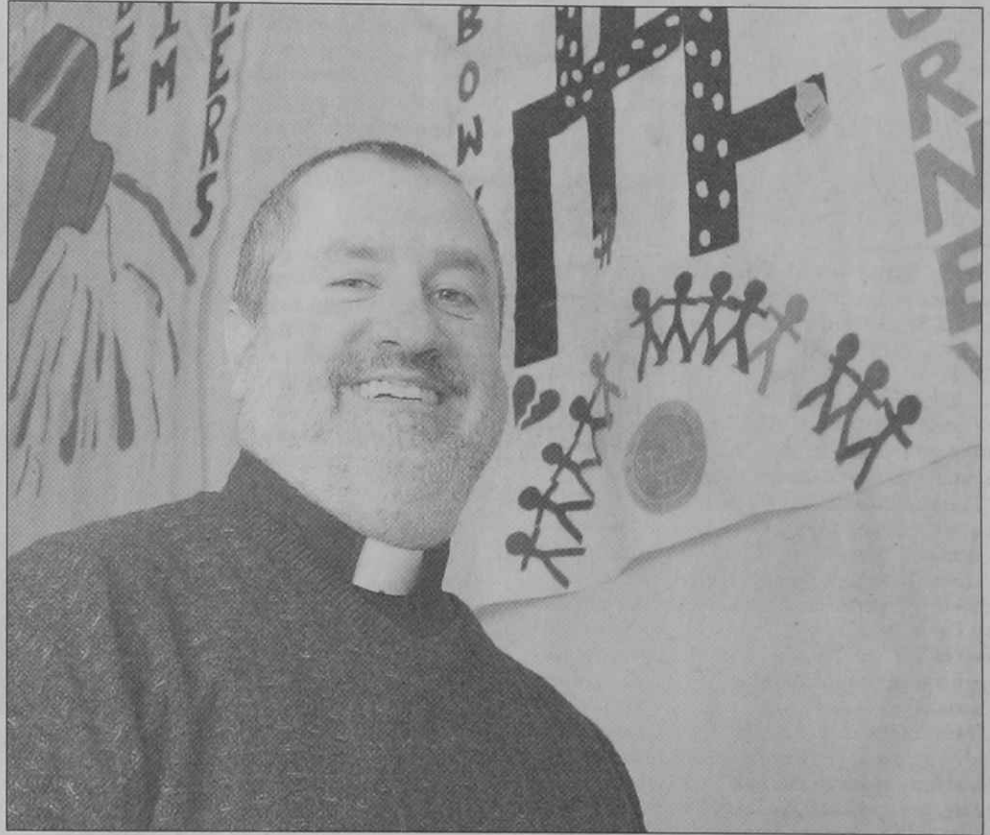
He's been a priest for almost 30 years, having been ordained June 21, 1980. "I've had wonderful opportunities and met many wonderful people," he said of his years as a priest.

Michalik, 57, grew up in southwest Detroit, attending St. Andrew parish. "My parents were always actively involved in their church. For us, church was like a second home."

He considered a service-type career like teaching as a young man, but upon college graduation felt a call to the priesthood. Michalik, who will start July 2 at St. Colette, earned a bachelor of arts degree in religious studies from what's now the University of Detroit Mercy. He also earned a master of divinity degree from St. John's Seminary when it operated in Plymouth Township.

Michalik has a brother who lives with his wife in Livonia and worships at St. Aidan Catholic Church. The pastor also has a niece and her family in Redford as well as a nephew and his wife in Beverly Hills. Many cousins, aunts and uncles round out the family.

In his free time, Michalik enjoys live theater, movies, history, vacationing, dining out, and "being with family and friends."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Rev. Gary Michalik will be the new pastor at St. Colette, in Livonia.

READY TO SERVE

He's had a couple meetings with the Rev. Henry Roodbeen, who's retiring from his ministry at St. Colette, and with the St. Colette staff. The Livonia parish is a bit larger than his current parish, and Michalik looks forward to serving.

Priests are eligible for retirement at age 70, so he could finish up his work at St. Colette.

"Just the ministry of priesthood, but that's a lot right there," Michalik said of gifts he brings to the Livonia parish.

Roodbeen will miss the 40-year-old parish, where he's served for 16 years. He's been a priest for 35 years.

"The hard part is going to be leaving the people," said Roodbeen, who will move

'I see it as an opportunity for new challenges, new ways of offering my ministry.'

REV. GARY MICHALIK, coming to St. Colette Church

to Salem Township upon retirement. "It's the people I'm going to miss. They help you grow in your faith, too."

CHURCH OUTREACH

He's focused on teaching people about blessings. "We've done a lot of things for the poor," Roodbeen said. That includes building homes for poor people overseas and other foreign mission work.

St. Colette Church holds a monthly food drive for inner-city Detroit parishes,

and also provides school supplies to Detroit students. Some women of the parish, upon learning that lightweight blankets were needed at night even in the tropics, began to sew such coverings for babies, children and adults. The women also use pillowcases to make dresses for girls.

"So they really have come forward in 16 years to respond to the poor," Roodbeen said. Hurricane Katrina and the more recent Haitian earthquake also found St. Colette worshippers responding generously.

Roodbeen leaves the parish in good hands. "He's going to have to be his own man," he said of Michalik, noting his experience at St. Theodore. "He's going to put his own stamp on the parish."

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

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OE0862992

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www.redfordaldersgate.org OE0862996

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Celebrate Easter with a bunny breakfast or brunch

If you want to spend more time with the family hunting for eggs than cooking them next weekend, consider making reservations now for Easter brunch on Sunday, April 4.

Or combine a visit with the Easter Bunny and other fun activities visit with breakfast.

Children can make a craft, watch clowns make balloon animals and see the Easter Bunny, all while also eating pancakes at Canton Leisure Services' annual bunny breakfast, 8-11 a.m., Saturday, March 27, at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton.

Afterwards, they can join the hundreds of other kids and their parents at the free Eggstravaganza in Heritage Park.

"Registration doesn't fill up as quickly for this as it does for the Santa breakfast," said Jason Lombardo, recreation specialist. "There are still spots available, but we're trying to get a final count on Friday."

Lombardo encourages parents to sign up for the breakfast by Thursday, March 25, but said he'll likely take a few late registrations on early Friday morning.

He expects more than 200 individuals will register for the breakfast, which will include a buffet of breakfast pastries, pancake bar, sausage, juices, milk and coffee from 9-10 a.m.

No tickets will be sold at the door and children must be accompanied by an adult. All attendees must pay for admission.

Cost is \$15 for age 13 and up; \$10 for age 4-12 years; and \$3 for ages 3 and under. Register by calling (734) 394-5460.

No registration is needed for the Eggstravaganza afterward.

"There are two different egg hunts and a craft outside as well. We'll have pony rides — at an additional cost — and a petting farm, and strolling characters," Lombardo noted.

Youngsters exchange the eggs they collect for a chocolate bunny.

"The kids have a blast. It's a feel good event."

The Eggstravaganza is free, but Canton Leisure Services suggests a \$5 donation per family to offset costs.



PLYMOUTH BREAKFAST

The Golden Fox at Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center, located on N. Territorial, west of Goffredson, in Plymouth, also offers a bunny breakfast, 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, April 3.

Tickets are \$17 per person, age 2 and up for a breakfast of Danish, blueberry and banana nut muffins; mini bagels with cream cheese, assorted doughnut holes and sliced pound cake, assorted sugar cereals with milk, fresh fruits, golden hash browns, golden silver dollar pancakes, banana bread, French toast without nuts, breakfast-style pizza, macaroni and cheese, omelet stations, waffle station, ice cream sundae bar, juices and hot chocolate.

The breakfast includes games, crafts, a helicopter egg drop and golf cart rides (weather permitting), and a visit by the Easter Bunny. Register online at www.foxhills.com; (734) 453-7272

AT THE MALL

The Livonia Jaycees sponsor a bunny breakfast from 9-10:30 a.m., Saturday, March 27 at Laurel Park Place, 37700 W. Six Mile, Livonia.

Leo's Coney Island will provide the breakfast of eggs, bacon, sausage, hash browns, juice, and coffee that will be served in the food court. Tickets are \$5 per person and include

breakfast, Easter activities, and giveaways. Space is limited to the first 200 people.

Tickets are available for sale at the Laurel Park Place Management office, the Livonia Chamber of Commerce offices, and Parkside Credit Union, located at Plymouth and Levan roads. Tickets will also be available at the door.

EASTER DAY BRUNCHES

•Andiamo Livonia, 38703 Seven Mile, Livonia, offers a brunch buffet from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and dinner from 4-8 p.m. Cost is \$24.95 for adults, \$14.95 for kids, 5-10, and free for kids under 5. The menu includes an omelet station, carving station, breakfast specialties, gourmet dessert table, and classic Andiamo Italian fare. (734) 953-3200 for reservations.

•Hawthorne Valley Country Club, 7300 Merriman, Westland, serves breakfast items from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. and dinner items from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. The Easter Bunny will be on hand for the buffet, which will include scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, hash browns, French toast sticks, biscuits and gravy, rolls, orange juice, carved top round of beef, baked chicken, ham, fish, Polish sausage, Valley Meatballs, Mostaccioli, whipped and sweet potatoes, vegetables, salads, fruits and sweets. Adults pay \$16.95; children, 10-4, pay

\$9.95 and age 3 and under eat for free. Register by calling (734) 422-3440 or online at www.hawthornevalley.com

• The Inn at St. John and Five Restaurant, 44045 5 Mile, Plymouth both offer special Easter fare.

The conference center at the Inn is taking reservations for seatings at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. The buffet includes a pasta station, meat station, seafood, desserts, breakfast station, children's station and bread and cheese station. Cost is \$38 for adults, \$33 for senior citizens, age 62 and up, \$12 for children, 5-12 and free for children 4 and under. Make a reservation at (734) 414-0600.

Five Restaurant will serve a plated brunch from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. The four-course meal includes such items as Ginger Pear Braised Beef Short Rib Wellington, Alaskan salmon, French Quarter Omelet, Butter Pecan Waffle, a vegetarian option and more. Cost is \$40 per person. Call (734) 357-5313 for reservations.

• Longacre House, 24705 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, offers brunch beginning at 1 p.m. Cost is \$30 for adults, \$20 for children under 12 and free for those 3 and under. For an additional \$20 adults can play a round of 18 holes at Farmington Hills Golf Club after brunch, which will include a special order omelet station, carving station, dessert tables and more. Make reservations at (248) 477-8404.

• One Under Banquet Center, 35780 Five Mile, Livonia, has brunch seatings at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. The menu includes a carving station with ham and prime rib, chicken, pork roast, fish, tortellini, mashed potatoes, a vegetable medley, rice, salads, a made-to-order omelet station, desserts and more. Pop, coffee, juice and tea are included. Cost is \$18.99 for adults, \$13.99 for seniors, \$8.99 for children, 10-5 and free for ages 4 and under. All children, 4 and under, will receive a free coloring book and crayons. Make reservations by calling (734) 464-5555.

CITY BITES

Chili lovers

Livonia — Got a favorite chili recipe? Tail Waggers USA challenges you to put your chili concoction up against other recipes in the Chili, Hoops & Hounds chili cook-off, 1 p.m., Sunday, March 27, at the UAW Local 182, 35603 Plymouth Road.

The cook-off will benefit Tail Waggers, a Livonia-based animal welfare organization that not only rescues animals.

Cost of entering the cook-off is \$25. Participants will receive a signature Chili, Hoops & Hounds apron and a chance to win a prize. Grand prizes will be awarded in each of the three categories: red meat, white meat and vegetarian. The People's Choice Award, voted on by the general public, will be a Char-Broil Commercial Series 3-Burner Quantum LP Grill valued at \$399.

Chili cooks can register for the event by calling Marilu Reznik at (248) 231-2842 or by e-mailing her at tailwaggersusa@aol.com.

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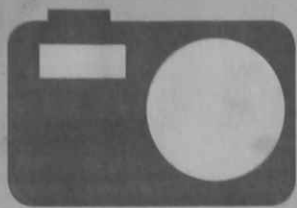


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THURSDAY, March 25, 2010

hometownlife.com



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

Spring great time to fix up home, pros agree

BY JULIE BROWN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Nicki Wilson of Interiors by Decorating Den was eager to answer questions at the Canton Home Improvement Expo.

The Pittsfield Township resident has had the business, which serves Canton, for 23 years. She does furniture, including upholstery, as well as custom window treatments.

Stopping by at the Summit Saturday, March 6, was Dianne Wilder of Canton. "A bunch of my friends are coming," said Wilder, part of a handicrafts group that does Salvation Army volunteer work at the Summit. "I need a lot of work done on my house. It's 40 years old."

Wilder wanted a couple chairs reupholstered and Wilson was able to answer her questions. "My husband's probably interested in the insulation and that kind of thing," Wilder said.

Wilson said, "Red is in. Purple is in. The primary colors are in." She was glad she came to the March 6-7 Expo, offered by Canton's Building and Inspection Services Division, the Canton Chamber of Commerce and the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*.

Wilson added bright colors are coming on strong for spring, and plum and brown remain popular. "More casual," she said of home interior looks. "Mixing old things and new things together."

Those "old" items can actually just look old, she said.

"It's a great opportunity to get your name out," she said of the Expo. Wilson finds business picks up in the spring when people want new looks. "They're tired of the winter, want to change things around."

Nearby was Will Cronkhite of Garden City, a staffer for Garden City's Town 'N' Country Hardware. He's been there almost six years.



"We're really busy with the paint area in the spring," he said, adding lawn and garden is also busy. Barbecue season is coming right about now.

"Now it's starting to pick back up," he said of business at Town 'N' Country, in business nearly 53 years. "We don't blame anyone for watching their money."

He and colleague Aaron Bohns of Garden City were answering questions, including about the Weber grills they'd brought to the Summit. The aptly-named Summit line was represented by a stainless steel model, also available in other colors.

"That's just the four-burner," Cronkhite said. "They make a six-burner also."

They had fire pits, a kettle grill, and a wood

burning stove. The stove has up to 30 percent or up to \$1,500 back as a tax credit, Cronkhite said.

"We sold a lot last year at the end of the year," he said, adding that business is still going strong.

Also among vendors at the ninth annual Expo were Jason Benward of Canton and Sam Stukel of Plymouth representing Horton Plumbing & Remodeling of Plymouth.

The men had brought a toilet, a tub with shower enclosure and even a running faucet. They also had a sump pump to display.

"Remodeling is huge," Benward said. "They're staying home and improving their houses which is where we come in."

People are spending on bathrooms, kitchens and basements. Some replace water heaters or sump pumps. Low-flow toilets are popular, Benward added.

Interiors by Decorating Den can be reached at (734) 528-2657, nicki@DecoratingDen.com, www.decdens.com/nickiwilson. It is an independently owned franchise.

Town 'N' Country Hardware, 27740 Ford Road, is on the north side of Ford between Middlebelt and Inkster in Garden City. It can be reached at (734) 422-2750, www.etonncountry.com. Horton Plumbing and Remodeling is at 1382 S. Main in Plymouth. It can be reached at (734) 455-3332, www.hortonplumbing.com.

Solar growth likely in future

Q: Our association is somewhat energy minded but hasn't got the money to deal with some of our plans concerning, for example, solar power. Do you have any information?

A: While you are always able to seek local financing,



Robert Meisner

I have been advised that at least one major bank in California will be kicking off a financing program specifically designed for community associations' solar energy projects this coming spring. The bank has been cultivating relationships with their appropriate contractors in anticipation. You may wish to contact the following e-mail site for more information: <http://msquire.wordpress.com/2009/11/14/solar-energy-for-community-associations-or-contact-your-local-legislator>.

Q: I am a condominium developer and have heard about a recent change in VA requirements as well as Fannie Mae requirements regarding condominium projects. Do you have any information?

A: Yes, effective Dec. 30, 2009, Fannie Mae will no longer accept FHA-approved condominium projects for conventional mortgage loans. Fannie Mae will continue to purchase FHA secured loans secured by condominium units located in an FHA approved project that are delivered with the project type code UFHA-Approved Project. Fannie Mae will require that all conventional mortgages secured by units in condominium projects meet Fannie Mae's project eligibility requirements. Also, the VA has announced its rescission of the VA policy regarding acceptance of HUD/FHA approvals of condominium projects. In addition, effective Dec. 7, 2009, the VA will no longer accept HUD/FHA condominium project appraisals in lieu of VA project review. However, condominiums previously accepted by VA, based upon HUD/FHA acceptance, will continue to be acceptable to VA. You are best advised to consult with your lawyer in terms of how it affects your project.

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

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of December 7-11, 2009, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Auburn Hills 786 Amberwood St \$139,000 3016 Carly Ct \$47,000 3545 Lexington Dr \$165,000 208 Raleigh Ave \$90,000 2447 Snellbrook Rd \$50,000	Beverly Hills 18258 Beverly Rd \$305,000 32840 Robinhood Dr \$248,000	Birmingham 1440 Birmingham Blvd \$261,000 1424 Chapin Ave \$133,000 1952 Oak Ave \$275,000 1806 Pierce St \$457,000 1309 Shipman Blvd \$205,000 1897 Stanley Blvd \$210,000	Bloomfield Township 1800 E Tahquamenon Ct \$205,000 520 Hillboro Dr \$254,000 2464 Mulberry Sq \$62,000 213 N Berkshire Rd \$308,000 7475 Old Mill Rd \$171,000 4222 Orchard Way \$267,000 2625 Roxie Rd \$88,000 2285 Rutherford Rd \$215,000 177 S Berkshire Rd \$140,000 6572 Spruce Dr \$181,000 6821 White Pine Dr \$207,000 1883 Wingate Dr \$280,000 3015 Woodcreek Way \$465,000 5104 Woodlands Ln \$110,000	Clarkston 6623 Andersonville Rd \$90,000 5464 Boulderwood Rd \$450,000 5344 Guyette St \$110,000 10160 Hadley Rd \$205,000 1367 Timber Ridge Ct \$152,000 6456 Heron Park Way \$412,000 4870 Lakeview Blvd \$50,000 5968 N Bay \$140,000 34 N Holcomb Rd \$140,000	Commerce Township 8016 Flagstaff St \$500,000 330 High Bank Ct \$210,000 3094 Ravinewood Dr \$271,000 585 Sherbrooke St \$150,000 5517 Starwood Ct \$135,000	Davisburg 2645 Woodcreek Ln \$183,000	Farmington Hills 29263 Autumn Rdg \$215,000 37674 Blossom Ln \$197,000 33645 Cadillac St \$154,000 21313 Collingham Ave \$59,000 30906 Country Ridge Cir \$195,000 28705 Eton Gin \$225,000 31070 Evergreen Ct \$223,000 26789 Holly Hill Dr \$273,000 31711 N Marklawn St \$120,000 31018 Pine Cone Dr \$278,000 30797 Randlewood Club Dr \$163,000 25070 Skye Dr \$211,000 33643 Vista Dr \$156,000 36600 W 13 Mile Rd \$65,000 30475 W 14 Mile Rd \$53,000 21430 Waldron St \$74,000 37880 Wendy Lee St \$104,000	Keego Harbor 2229 Willow Beach St \$165,000	Lake Orion 1075 Cottonwood St \$208,000 3027 Maplewood Ct \$33,000 3786 Rolling Hills Rd \$155,000	Lathrup Village 18778 Roseland Blvd \$115,000	Millford 960 Adams Rd \$225,000 851 Bird Song Dr \$80,000 1367 Timber Ridge Ct \$279,000 1892 Wixom Trl \$170,000	Northville 203 Debra Ln \$145,000 21110 Rosewood Ct \$785,000	Novi 45059 Bartlett Dr \$82,000 28507 Carlton Way Dr \$133,000 22427 Cranbrooke Dr \$90,000 41863 Mitchell Rd \$212,000 223 Wainwright St \$131,000	Oakland Township 5864 Murlfield Dr \$633,000	Orford 3511 Tremonte Cir N \$85,000 3560 Estate Dr \$200,000 2118 Fernlock Dr \$180,000 1840 Manatee Ln \$261,000 680 Phillips Dr \$165,000 1455 Roy Rd \$95,000 15539 Stratford Dr \$108,000 19609 Villa Dr N \$45,000 30065 Wildbrook Dr \$63,000	Troy 409 Ashlawn Ct \$430,000 4234 Carson Dr \$382,000 3422 Colwell Dr \$165,000 2048 Connolly Dr \$205,000 1638 Crestline Dr \$182,000 6068 Glyndebourne Dr \$152,000 967 Kirts Blvd \$60,000 2122 McIntosh Dr \$225,000 3212 Newbury Pl \$160,000 1974 Rolling Woods Dr \$340,000 887 Wesley Dr \$245,000 1559 Witherbee Dr \$116,000	Walled Lake 2135 Park Place Dr \$57,000 2167 Park Place Dr \$55,000 1167 S Eddie St \$80,000 1041 Superior St \$155,000	Waterford 3730 Baybrook Dr \$120,000 3615 Brookdale Ln \$106,000 3880 Covert Rd \$275,000	West Bloomfield 4908 Crestbrook Dr \$96,000 1246 Eason \$93,000 5490 Elizabeth Lake Rd \$43,000 6421 Elizabeth Lake Rd \$15,000 2731 Gatewood Dr \$90,000 6925 Hatchery Rd \$75,000 1365 Hillcrest Dr \$65,000 4051 Lake Front St \$143,000 333 Lake Meadow Dr \$105,000 335 Lake Meadow Dr \$130,000 1160 Lakeview St \$40,000 35 Lochaven Rd \$30,000 5779 Lochleven Dr \$69,000 300 Marion Ave \$75,000 20 Pine Tree Ridge Dr \$67,000 7120 Pontiac Lake Rd \$137,000 3928 Reseda Rd \$100,000 5845 Rowley Dr \$185,000 5948 Southward Ave \$114,000 5776 Williamsburg Ct \$89,000	White Lake 9547 Buckingham St \$145,000 8889 El Dorado Dr \$185,000 8750 Elizabeth Lake Rd \$127,000 8909 Glasgow Dr \$110,000 602 Rumson Ct \$312,000 11163 Sugden Rd \$135,000	Wolverine Lake 707 Los Arboles Dr \$120,000
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HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 30 to Dec. 4, 2009, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Canton 44259 Brandywine Rd \$140,000 3991 Brighton Ln \$127,000 48265 Chesterfield Dr S \$279,000 50290 Colonial St \$260,000 44118 Cranberry Dr \$160,000 8790 Elmhurst St \$184,000 48300 Gylde Rd \$210,000 1464 Hampshire Rd \$128,000 6432 Kennesaw Rd \$320,000 44434 Palmer Rd \$169,000 6548 Raintree Ct \$215,000 44433 Ridgefield Rd \$137,000 353 S Village Way \$136,000 2995 Stanton St \$255,000 45308 Thornhill Rd \$285,000 6409 Trafalgar Dr \$305,000	Garden City 33280 Alvin St \$100,000 31620 Brown St \$80,000 1157 Deering St \$80,000 154 Harrison St \$55,000 33200 Hennepin St \$64,000	Livonia 9537 Arcola St \$95,000 10016 Arcola St \$120,000 14802 Country Club Dr \$145,000 15028 Fairfield St \$16,000 15394 Fairlane Dr \$188,000 31291 Grandon St \$110,000 35758 Grennada St \$131,000 37253 Ladywood St \$137,000 19471 Osmus St \$115,000 16559 Penn Dr \$168,000 14107 Riverside St \$160,000 37587 Scone Ct \$25,000 15624 Sunset St \$135,000 14935 Taylor Blvd \$50,000	Northville 40429 Beechwood Ct \$361,000 47257 Curtis Rd \$159,000 16844 Dundalk Ct \$170,000 525 Fairbrook St \$14,000 39701 Golfview Dr \$320,000 46569 Greenridge Dr \$320,000 411 Horton St \$268,000 16124 Jupiter Hills Dr \$218,000 41378 Lehigh Ln \$62,000 16028 Morningside \$121,000 17775 Stonebrook Dr \$980,000 42420 Waterfall Rd \$260,000	Plymouth 46082 Academy Dr \$259,000 9094 Countrywood Dr \$287,000 608 Kellogg St \$236,000 44434 Marc Trl \$163,000 40528 Orangelawn Ave \$193,000 1320 Palmer St \$205,000 11859 Sycamore Dr \$93,000	Redford 14748 Beech Daly Rd \$26,000 9256 Berwyn \$95,000 18228 Centralia \$69,000 18288 Delaware Ave \$77,000 25731 Dover \$75,000 17341 Five Points St \$15,000 9902 Hazellone \$31,000 18268 Lennane \$15,000 18822 Wakenden \$24,000	Westland 35071 Barton St \$59,000 7359 Cavell St \$31,000 38475 Chestnut Ln \$79,000 34240 Florence St \$85,000 6700 Geronimo St \$109,000 32123 Harvard St \$85,000 8253 Milburn St \$85,000 7506 N Hawthorne St \$121,000 7777 Ritz Ave \$96,000 446 S Hawthorne St \$73,000 38667 Shelby Dr \$161,000 1731 Stieber St \$72,000
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REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

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 or for information, contact Steve Leibhan, Keller Williams Realty International, at (248) 893-2500, 27555 Executive Drive, Suite 100, Farmington Hills 48331.

Homebuyers

A free Homebuyers Educational Seminar will be held on Thursday, March 25, at 7 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center, provided. Register online at www.MiHomeBuyer.info or call (248) 747-8653.

Top seller

Jeff Duneske, an associate broker with Remerica United Realty, was awarded with 2009 Top

Selling Agent at his office. This month, Duneske also celebrates his 10th anniversary in the profession. He was a Novi firefighter for 10 years and also completed the Eagle Scout Award.

Duneske lives in Novi where he has been a lifelong resident, with wife Joy and two daughters, Kayla and Khloe.

Career Seminar

Keller-Williams will hold a Career Seminar 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 15, at 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. Call (734) 459-4700 to reserve a free seat.

Candidates would benefit from previous experience or successes in: service industries, account management, retail sales, small business operations, marketing or event planning.

Seminar includes: cost vs. income potential, available training, company profit share, commission structures.

Challenging fun for ALL ages

Thursday

PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Ave. cousin
5 Night flyers
9 Place to surf
12 Slayer of Adonis
13 Toronto Blue —
14 Before
15 Like a file
17 Limerick locale
19 Amaze
21 Currier's partner
22 Droplet
24 Shoe width
25 Pamplona shout
26 Olive in the comics
27 Full of passion
29 You, to Pablo
31 AMA members
32 Laugh sound
33 Deja —
34 Homo sapiens
35 Quaker pronoun
36 Gets smart with

- 38 Ring champ of the 1970's
39 White Sox org.
40 — a jam
41 Worry
42 Puerto —
44 Hunter's trophy
46 Fragrant stick
48 Uses a parachute
51 Library sect.
52 Sombre evergreens
54 Kind of belt
55 Messy place
56 Coral islets
57 Bakers' meas.

DOWN

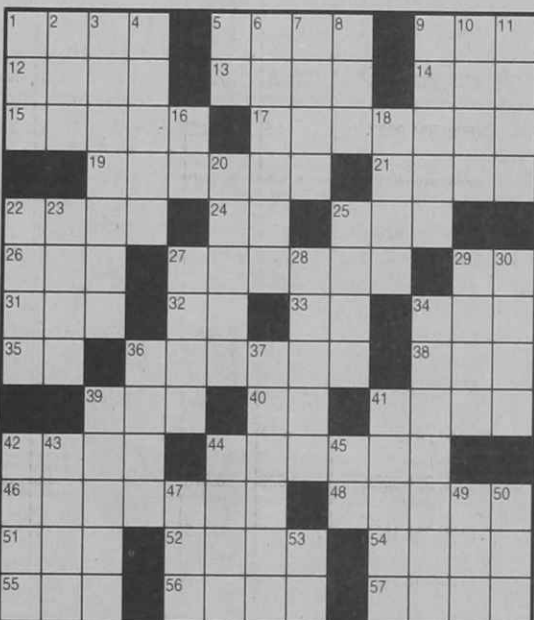
- 1 Consumer org.
2 Old card game
3 Barbarians
4 Cringe at
5 Vit. C source
6 Lamented
7 Orpheus' harp
8 NNW opposite
9 Drive recklessly

Answer to Previous Puzzle

DUCK AWED UMP
OHIO RARE CAR
MONA GRAB LAY
HELIUM TEAM
AGE CST
GESSO AD AWLS
REG RAISE EYE
ROTE PM ASSET
POE BRO
EDAM REPOSE
ZOO AWOL NETS
ANN HILO EROS
GSA ANEW RENT

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- 10 Sea eagle
11 Motel offerings
16 Egg qty.
18 Cheerful tune
20 Round numbers?
22 Trunk or torso
23 Bronte governess
25 Burden
27 Moby Dick pursuer
28 Olympic contest
29 Narrative
30 Appliance
34 Takes vows
36 Gin-fizz flavor
37 Tough and wiry
39 "Star Trek" physician
41 Luau
42 Barbecue favorite
43 No future
44 Yachting
45 16 oz.
47 The Big Apple
49 Lick
50 Urban rds.
53 Retirement income



SUDOKU



Fun By The Numbers

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

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

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

SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORD IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

acrobat children elephant games tent
big top circus enjoy lion tightrope
carousel clowns entertainer stilts trapeze

WORDS READ UP, DOWN, ACROSS & DIAGONAL

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

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

8 7 9 1 9 2 6 2
6 9 1 8 2 5 9 1
2 2 6 7 9 1 8
1 6 8 2 8 9 2 9
2 9 9 6 1 8 2 7
2 9 7 2 8 9 1 6 6
9 1 2 7 2 8 6 9 8
9 8 6 8 9 2 7 1
7 2 9 1 6 2 8 9

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

8 0 9 5 3 8 7 2 4 0 X
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

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3030



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Corner lot. Swim Club.
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nice backyard. Choose your
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price. Sam: 313-477-5881

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3 bdrm, 2 bath, attached
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200 N. Center

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per side or \$29,000 asking
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2 car, bsmt. Stevenson High
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200 N. Center

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C/A, balcony, fireplace, car-
port, private entrance. Rent
incl. utilities & condo fee. Mo.
to mo lease, pets okay.
\$1000/mo. (313) 531-4363

Duplexes **4030**

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3 bdrm from \$599 & also 1
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2 bdrm lower with c/a. \$750.
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Homes For Rent **4050**

CANTON: 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath,
basement, appliances. Credit
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CANTON Condo 2 Bdrms,
bath, Ford/Sheldon area.
Gas/Water Included \$850.
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acre, 4 bdrms, 3 baths, hard-
wood floors, bsmt, rent to
own. \$1200, 734-658-8823

Homes For Rent **4050**

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DEARBORN HEIGHTS: 2
bdrm, appl, bsmt, gar, \$725.
CANTON: 2 bdrm, appliances,
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DEARBORN HGTS 3 bdrm
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Very clean, 2 bdrm, 1 bath,
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Call Todd 248-535-2300

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Westland Schools, Option/LC
avail, \$650. 248-788-1823

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1000 sq. ft., appliances, Lg.
backyard, \$900/mo. (248) 342-0314

Livonia: 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath brick
ranch, finished bsmt, appls,
freshly redecorated, no pets.
\$1200 + sec. 313-530-2622

LIVONIA: Newly decorated 2
bdrm, 1 bath, appliances, car-
peted, 1.5 car garage. No pets.
\$750+ sec. (248) 345-6544

Homes For Rent **4050**

LIVONIA - Remodeled 3 bdrm
ranch, family rm, covered back
porch, 2.5 car gar, option/LC
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Ranch. Large family room.
Deck w/large fenced backyard.
\$975/mo. (734) 844-3521

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2 bath, appls, lawn & snow
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Must See. 734-464-6304

WAYNE: 4 bdrm, 1.5 bath, 1.5
car garage, fenced, basement,
1600 sq.ft., \$800/mo. \$1200
security. 734-722-4317

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3 bdrm, 2 bath, bsmt, gar, fam-
ily rm, fireplace, wood floors,
new kitchen. (248) 568-6119

WESTLAND - 2 bdrm ranch,
freshly painted, C/A, \$650.
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bsmt, \$725. (734) 837-7355

WESTLAND: Ford Rd area, 3
bdrm ranch, 1.5 bath, bsmt,
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no pets, \$900. 734-591-9163

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Newer kitchen appl. Fenced.
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		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.	Other
1st Choice Mortgage Lending	(734) 459-0782	4.75	0	4.25	0	J/A
Accurate Mortgage Solutions	(800) 593-1912	4.75	0	4.25	0	J/A
America Financial Group	(248) 974-8087	4.75	0	4.125	0.5	J/A
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	4.875	0	4.25	0	J/A
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Client Services by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	4.5	1.25	4	1	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	5.125	0	4.5	0	J
Cornerstone Community Financial	(800) 777-6728	5.125	0	4.375	0	J/A/F
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	5.125	0	4.5	0	A
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	4.99	0	4.5	0	J/V/F
First State Bank	(800) 372-2205	5	0	4.375	0	F
Gold Star Mortgage	(800) 784-1074	4.75	0	4.125	0.5	J/A/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage	(800) 991-9922	4.625	0.875	4.125	0.5	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	5	0	4.375	0	J/A/V/F
Michigan United Mortgage	(810) 844-2222	4.75	0.75	4.25	0	A
Mortgages by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	4.5	1.25	3.875	1.625	J/A/V/F

Above information available as of 3/19/10 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculations & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com. Key to "Other" Column - J = Jumbo, A = Arm, V = VA, F = FHA & NR = Not Reported. All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders. 

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Garage Sale! Items for
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corations, rugs, clothes, and
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Friday to Sunday, March 26-
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Antiques, Collectibles,
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Artesian Dr. Btwn Southill &
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formal, cherry Table, 6 chairs,
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Originally \$10,000, asking
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Household Goods **7160**

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table w/3 additional leaves
opens to 8 ft., one captain
chair and 3 mate chairs,
\$150. Glass front China cabi-
net, oak, 3 doors on top, 3 on
bottom & silver tray, \$150.
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dates to early 1900s, \$100.
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set- round oak formal table,
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\$700. Italian leather sofa bed,
U-shaped, w/end tables &
lamp, \$700. Exercise equip.,
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Dogs **7840**

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time for Easter. To good
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34, 200lbs, sexy single mom, looking
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SWF, 53, 5'7", 135lbs, NS, pretty. A
good person. Easy to be with, down-
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values and morals, with a lot to offer to a
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seeks educated, professional male, 40-
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for coffee or a drink. ☎311355

CURVACEOUS
SWF, 47, 5'7", 150lbs, hazel eyes, dim-
ples, enjoys r&b music, jazz, dancing,
dining out, blues, sports. Seeking SBM,
21-42, with similar interests, for friend-
ship first, possibly more. ☎283605

ARE WE A MATCH?
SBF, 36, 5'8", 150lbs, looking for a SBM,
35-45, who likes movies, dining, con-
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☎324444

SEARCHING FOR A MAN...
40-60, who's looking for commitment,
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woman, bright, spunky and pretty. Only
Jewish men please. ☎962317

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SBF, 30-something, 5'7", laid-back,
down-to-earth, seeks open, honest, loy-
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LTR. No games, race open. ☎310218

COULD YOU BE THE ONE?
Bright, spunky, pretty SF, 47, educator,
outgoing, pretty eyes, wishing to meet
a kind Jewish man, 45-60, who's look-
ing for commitment, love and laughter.
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MUST LOVE GOD
SBF, 56, 5'2", full-figured, beautiful, me-
dium complexion, long hair, looking for
a nice, young SBM, 49-55, who is em-
ployed, honest, loyal, just an all-around
sweet person. ☎328795

SEEKING MR. RIGHT
SBF, 37, 5'5", nurse, mother of three,
Christian values, NS, social drinker,
seeks SM, 32-50, race open, with similar
values. ☎310924

SINGLE DAD WELCOME
PBF, 40, looks younger, attractive, in-
dependent, loving, caring, enjoys working,
dining out, quiet times at home. Seeking
handsome, well-built, warm-hearted,
considerate WM, 38-43, to share what
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Will train. Valid Driver's License required.
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Help Wanted-General 5000

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SUMMER HELP
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WAIT STAFF Full & Part-Time
Apply at: Starting Gate 135 N. Center St., Northville

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

DATA ENTRY OPERATORS
Exp. req. d. PT. Days & afternoons. Southfield. Call for appt. 248-559-0200

LEGAL SECRETARY
Full-Time for Farmington Hills Insurance Defense Law Firm. Some exp. required. Please fax resume to: 248-406-8001

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Livonia dental office currently seeking well-qualified, exp'd Dental Assistant to join our established general dentistry practice. 25-30 hrs/wk incl eve & Sats. Fax resume clearly noted as being for the dental assistant opening, to: 248-777-8717

ORTHODONTIC ASSISTANT
Needed for friendly orthodontic office in Canton. Part time, Mon, Tues, Wed; must have friendly outgoing personality. Exp preferred, but not required. Duties incl chairside assisting. Call Mary: 734-459-4430 or Fax resume: 734-459-5954

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

CHIROPRACTIC ASSISTANT
Duties include clerical work, some billing, taking patients to rooms and learning x-rays. Requires good communications skills, friendly & outgoing personality. Must be mature & responsible & have computer skills. 20 hrs/wk. Mon-Wed-Fri, 8:34-12:30pm Tue. & Sat. 8:45am-1:30pm. 27527 Joy Rd. Westland. 734-522-5501

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Allergy Office-W. Bloomfield/Livonia. 20-24 hrs/wk (Mon, Tues, Thurs, alternate Sat am) Exp. Mandatory Cover Letter, Resume + Names of References MUST be included with application. Fax 248-932-0182

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST
Experienced, 24-28 hours per week in Livonia. Fax resume: 734-464-9797

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST
Full-time for busy internal medicine office. Great pay, benefits & hours. No holidays or weekends. Exp. necessary. Call Lisa (313) 561-4540

P.A. or N.P.
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Help Wanted-Medical 5060

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Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080

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Help Wanted-Sales 5120

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SALES REPS
\$440/wk + Commissions No experience necessary. Apply at: www.TruGreenJobs.com EOE/M/F/D/V/AA

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

HOME CARE PROVIDER
For Female, FT/Live in preferred. Westland, exp. ref's req. Female preferred. Email: patricia.linnas5@gmail.com

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