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PUBLIC SAFETY, A4

Hometown Life WOMAN SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE



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December 2, 2010

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CONNECTION

Goodfellow papers

The Canton Goodfellows hit the streets Saturday with their annual newspaper sale fund-raiser.

The sale is performed every year, Goodfellows officials said, to "make sure every child in Canton may feel the joy of Christmas."

Canton Goodfellows and their volunteers will be visible throughout Canton with their annual custom-designed Goodfellows newspapers in hand.

"We ask you to support our fund-raiser for food, necessities and toys for our own children of Canton," said Noreen Rybar, who co-chairs the annual sale with fellow Goodfellow Karl Zarbo. "We are respectfully asking the good citizens of Canton to assist with the newspaper sale. Please do what you feel you can do to support (the sale). We will have a better community for your efforts."

Also, anyone able to adopt a child for Christmas can call Nancy Spencer at (734) 397-8975 or e-mail her at johnan-cysp@aol.com.

Get hold of Heise

State Rep.-elect Kurt Heise, who won the race to replace outgoing Rep. Marc Corrivue in the state House 20th District, is starting to get the lay of the land and get his



Heise

team in place. In addition to beginning to fill out his Lansing staff, Heise, of Plymouth Township, Heise has announced his office will be located in Room N699 in the Anderson House Office Building. His main Lansing number will be (517) 373-3816 and his toll-free number will be (855) REP-KURT, (855) 737-5878. Constituents will also be available via e-mail at kurt.heise@house.mi.gov.

"As promised, our team will hit the ground running on Jan. 1," Heise said.

Rotary Santa

The Canton Rotary Club helps welcome Santa to town when the Jolly Ol' Elf's helicopter flies in at 10:45 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at Roman Forum Restaurant, 41601 Ford Road in Canton.

Santa's elves will serve pizza while children and parents visit with Santa. Each child receives a photo with Santa, with a clown and face-painting sponsored by Walmart-West of Canton.

Cost is \$5 for children 3-13 (children under 3 are free). Admission for adults is \$8.

Slavens coffee

State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, invites residents to join her for a cup of coffee and conversation from 9-10 a.m. at the Canton Big Boy, 45250 Ford Road, or 5-6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 6, at the Brown Bag Deli, 562 Main, in Belleville.

Win or lose



The Plymouth students cheered their team Saturday during its 21-13 loss to Lake Orion.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wildcats' final loss doesn't diminish fans' pride

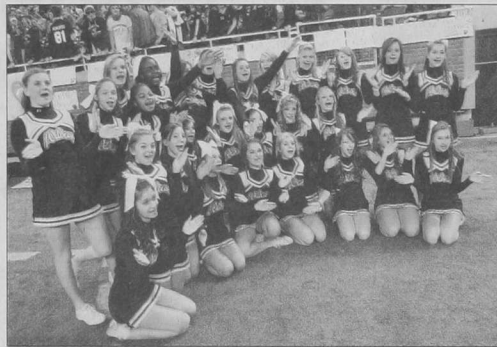
BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

They stood and cheered boisterously when their Plymouth Wildcats stormed through the cheerleader-held banner and took the field Saturday for the Division 1 prep football state championship game against Lake Orion at Ford Field.

More than two hours later, when the Dragons had pinned a 21-13 defeat on the Wildcats, the couple of thousand Plymouth faithful stood and cheered just as loudly, an ovation tinged with sadness, but bursting with pride.

"I'm heartbroken, because they worked so hard and they made it so far," said Sandy Cartwright, a Wildcats fan and friend of the family of Plymouth's Nick Brindza, perhaps the best kicker in the state. "We're so proud they made it this far."

It was a day of pride for Wildcats fans, with their team finishing up perhaps one of the toughest runs in football memory. At one point during their five-game march to the state



Wildcat cheerleaders show their team spirit.

title game, the Wildcats beat three teams either ranked No. 1 when they played them (fierce campus rival Canton) or had been ranked No. 1 at some point (Novi-Detroit Catholic Central and Rockford).

Their fans showed the support of that drive Saturday, with sev-

eral hundred spicing up a pregame sendoff at the school, then perhaps a few thousand making the trek down I-96 to Ford Field, streaming into the stadium an hour or more before the game.

Please see **FANS, A3**

Church volunteers spruce up eyesore

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Already worried about declining property values along Carriage Hills, a mostly well-kept street near Morton Taylor and Warren, residents feared one dilapidated house had worsened their situation, especially for those trying to sell their homes in a troubled market.

A wooden fence had collapsed. Ailing trees needed removing. Uneven patio

blocks leading to the front door posed safety issues. Large bushes and tall weeds had overtaken part of the yard. Trash and other debris littered the property.

"It was kind of the eyesore of the neighborhood," said Hook Hook, an ordinance officer for the Canton Police Department.

Not anymore. Hook arranged for Canton-based Crosswinds Church to spruce up the exterior of the now-vacant house after

church leaders contacted police and indicated their interest in a charity project.

Just recently, about 40 church volunteers spent a chunk of their Saturday cutting down damaged trees, removing or trimming bushes, fixing fallen fences, ripping out old patio blocks, cleaning out gutters, scooping up trash and piling most of the refuse into a 15-yard Dumpster provided by Canton Waste Recycling.

Please see **EYESORE, A2**

Canton Center completion halts traffic snarls

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Signaling relief from years of traffic snarls and culminating a \$4.5-million project that began last spring, former two-lane Canton Center Road has finally opened with five lanes from Cherry Hill to south of Palmer Road.

Motorists began using the widened road last Friday, though Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said Tuesday that temporary lane closures still may occur as construction crews finish work on traffic signals.

"It should have a minimal impact on things," he said.

Canton Center's opening of five lanes signals an end to construction-season traffic snarls and ushers in a much-improved road officials say has long needed widening.

"It means less congestion on one of our busiest north-south roads," Faas said. "It's our main north-south road, and to be two lanes in a community of 90,000 people just didn't cut it."

Rani Mahal can attest to that, as she and others — especially this construction season — faced traffic problems going to worship at the Sikh gurdwara, or place of worship, on Canton Center south of Palmer. Mahal said her travels from Northville Township to the gurdwara will be much easier.

"It's big time to me. It's going to be really helpful," she said. "It's a very big deal."

Aside from being too small, Faas also said the road's condition had deteriorated, raising safety concerns as a growing number of motorists scrambled to get to places such as subdivisions, township hall, the public library, Heritage Park, St. Joseph Mercy Canton Health Center and the Summit on the Park.

Road conditions should be "much safer" now that motorists have two northbound lanes, two southbound lanes and a center turn lane, Faas said.

Canton Center's widening marked the township's largest road project this year — a \$4.5-million effort that became the community's first road work to secure federal stimulus dollars.

The work also involved installing new storm sewers alongside and beneath Canton Center; installing mast arm traffic signals; and reworking Civic Center Boulevard, which runs between township hall and the library, to better align it with a subdivision entrance across the road.

Last spring, just as the work was starting by Madison Heights-based Site Development, Inc., Bill Serchak, township staff engineer, had warned that "it's going to be a difficult summer."

It was, in many ways.

Traffic became especially difficult

Please see **TRAFFIC, A3**

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Mark Hook, a Canton Police Department ordinance officer, stands in front of the once-dilapidated house that Crosswinds Church members fixed up after talking with him about their desire to perform a charitable project.

EYESORE

FROM PAGE A1

"They worked wonders," next-door neighbor Ken Korinec, 67, said. "They were very efficient."

Hook said the house had caused neighborhood blight for more than a year. He had issued citations to a woman who used to live there, but he said she had suffered a closed-head injury, cared for a bed-ridden sister and seemed overwhelmed.

Rather than taking her to court and causing more grief for the woman — who has since moved to an apartment — Hook was trying to find a more compassionate solution when Crosswinds Church stepped in.

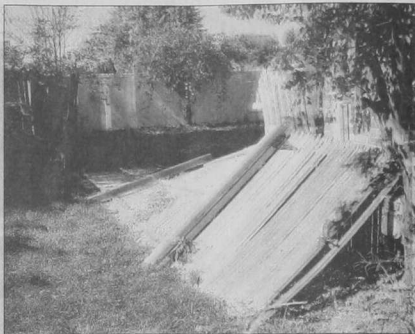
"They had a small army of people come out," he said.

The Rev. Jon Beyer, pastor of the 250-member church on Cherry Hill between Beck and Canton Center, said volunteers view it as important to care for neighbors and follow the Bible's teachings of helping others in need.

"We want to try to provide a service beyond the walls of our church and in our community," Beyer said. "We want to exist to serve."

He said it's often easier for a church to focus its attention internally rather than become "outward focused" in helping others, "but we believe that's a true reflection of God's heart."

Hook said the Carriage Hills project was the second time he had received help from



A fence had literally fallen down on the property that came to the attention of a Canton ordinance officer and Crosswinds Church.



Volunteers bagged up debris and also put it in a Dumpster after cleaning up a dilapidated property in Canton.

Crosswinds Church.

Canton Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner said the cooperation between the church and Hook points out that charitable hearts and a dedicated ordinance officer can — and do — make a tangible difference.

"The story is a great testa-

ment to the tremendous asset our faith-based organizations provide to our community and to Mark's foresight to mobilize those assets to fix a problem that threw up every roadblock imaginable," Schreiner said.

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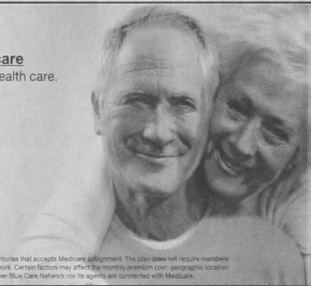
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BeckRidge organizes Random Act of Culture

Shoppers at Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi were surprised Sunday when nearly 500 singers from throughout southeastern lower Michigan gathered in front of Macy's for a Random Act of Culture.

"The idea was generated by the Knight Foundation. In Philadelphia, the Philadelphia Opera Society gathered 650 singers to sing the Hallelujah Chorus in Macy's," said Michael Gross, artistic director of the BeckRidge Chorale. "Nancy Whitecar, our Assistant Director sent me an internet link to watch the performance. I wrote her back and said let's do it."

The BeckRidge Chorale chose Silent Night as their song for a Random Act of Culture.

"We did this very quickly," Gross said. "We started contacting singers within our circle of friends and the ball began rolling."

A few of the organizations represented included BeckRidge Chorale, Cherry Hill Singers, Sounds of Canton, Belleville Community Chorus, Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, East, West and Central Middle Schools, Livonia Stevenson High School, University of Michigan Musical Society, Madonna University Choir, St. Aidan of Livonia, First United Methodist Church of Plymouth and Angela Hospice.

"It was a blast!" Gross said. "We sang Silent Night without any accompaniment, but during the last two verses, a piccolo player in



Kelly Fifield and Judy Spriggs from the BeckRidge Chorale pass out tags to singers involved in a Random Act of Culture.

the audience began playing along with us. I was touched by the age diversity in those who came out.

"I have never believed the arts belong to a specific generation," Gross added. "The arts engage us throughout our lives." Gross said this is a very busy time for the BeckRidge Chorale as they put the final touches on their

annual Christmas Concert, "Wrapped Up With Strings!" Tickets are still available for performances on Saturday, Dec. 4, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 4, at 4 p.m. at Northville High School in Northville.

Tickets range from \$12 to \$18 and are available online at www.beckridgechorale.org or by calling (888) 459-4887.

AROUND CANTON

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

Health seminar

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts a health care reform seminar presented by Dean Clemons, vice president of Meadowbrook Insurance Agency to explain near-term changes and Blue Cross-specific implications with guest speaker Barb Kellman, director of operations for Blue Cross Blue Shield Managing Agency. The event is scheduled 4-5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8, at the Canton Chamber of Commerce, 45525 Hanford in Canton.

Seating is limited, and reservations are required. There's no admission charge for chamber members.

Call the chamber office, (734) 453-4040.

Crafts and baked goods

St. Thomas a'Becket Church hosts its 20th annual Holiday Craft Show and Bake Sale on Saturday, Dec. 4 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. More than 75 crafters will be on hand to help you find those one-of-a-kind gifts for your family and friends. In addition, there will be a bake sale featuring many delicious home-baked goodies.

Admission is \$2 and children under 12 are free. Lunch will also be available for purchase. St. Thomas a'Becket is located at 555 S. Lilley Rd. on the southwest corner of Lilley and Cherry Hill in Canton.

For more information visit the church's website at www.abecket.org

AAUW meets

The Plymouth/Canton branch of the American Association of University Women will host its monthly meeting on Dec. 2, at 6 p.m., at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon in Plymouth (just north of North Territorial).

The meeting will feature the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's (P-CEP) Madrigal Singers. Many other fun activities are planned to start the holiday season.

Light refreshments will be served.

AAUW is dedicated to advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. AAUW membership is open to all. For more information, contact Esther Nelson at enelson1c@att.net or (734) 981-4938.

St. Nick Frolic

The countdown to Christmas has begun, and with it comes the Canton Senior Center's Annual St. Nick Frolic.

Area seniors are invited to the Summit on the Park's Grand Ballroom on Dec. 8 from noon to 4 p.m. for a luncheon. The event will include prizes, entertainment and of course a fabulous holiday meal.

The Summit Gourmet by Continental will be serving turkey and dressing with gravy, mashed redskin potatoes, vegetable salad, desert and beverages. Door prizes will be handed out and excellent entertainment will be provided by Jerry Robotka and the Madrigal and Chamber Singers of the Plymouth Canton

Community Schools.

Register at the Summit front desk. Ticket prices are \$13.95 for residents and \$18.95 for non residents. The Canton Senior Center can be found in the Parkview Room of the Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit Parkway.

For more information about The St. Nick Frolic event, call (734) 394-5484 or visit www.cantonfun.org.

Healing Hearts

Attorney Thomas Novak will speak about Corrections, Law and the Family in a program Monday, Dec. 13, sponsored by Hope 4 Healing Hearts Inc.

The program will be at Kirk of Our Savior, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland, and will include a question-and-answer session.

Novak first volunteered to work with offenders in 1984 as a college student. Since then he has continued to volunteer with offender-related organizations and has served on the board of two non-profit groups.

He also has worked for seven years as a parole/probation Officer for the Department of Corrections and earned a law degree in 2003. He has seen and felt the effects of his own brother-in-law's two prison terms. Questions for Novak, a graduate of the University of Michigan and the Thomas M. Cooley Law School, can be submitted in advance so he can provide more complete answers.

Hope 4 Healing Hearts meets 6:30-8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Mondays of the month at Kirk of Our Savior. For more information or to submit questions, call Bonnie Hiberer at (734) 734-646-2237 or by e-mail at Bonnie@hope4healinghearts.com.

Service of Lessons

St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon Road in Plymouth, announces its annual Service of Lessons and Carols for Advent, to be held Sunday, Dec. 12, at 4:30 p.m.

The service, which follows a format popularized by King's College of the University of Cambridge, England, alternates readings from Scripture with the singing of songs and carols appropriate for the season of Advent. Members of the church's music ministry, including Children's and Youth choirs, Handbell Choir, Parish Choir, and contemporary group SonShine, will come together to present the music for the service, under the direction of Minister of Music Julie Ford.

Although the concert is free of charge, attendees are encouraged to give generously to a free-will offering. Benefits from the concert will be donated to the Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan.

Gleaners, which was founded in Detroit in 1977, distributes more than 28 million pounds of food annually through its five Metro-Detroit distribution centers.

St. John's Service of Lessons and Carols for Advent is part of the church's concert series, Resounding Art in a Sacred Space. For more information on this program, the concert series, or the parish, please telephone (734) 453-0190, Ext. 16, or visit the church website at www.stjohnsplymouth.org

Salon cuts hair to fuel food drive

Helping charities has become just about as routine as cutting hair at Cookie Cutters Haircuts for Kids, a business at 44308 Cherry Hill in Canton.

Cookie Cutters recently collected about 100 items of non-perishable food for the Gleaners Community Food Bank's distribution center in Taylor.

Clients who brought in two cans of food received \$3.95 off a child's haircut.

"It was a huge success," store manager Wendy Machcinski said.

About 50 clients participated.

"It's a win-win situation," owner Scott Biggs said.

Anastasia Demopoulos said. "Clients receive a discount off our service and, in turn, we are able to give back to the community."

Cookie Cutters also has previously collected diapers for the Detroit Area Diaper Bank and, this year, hopes to participate for a second year in the Toys for Tots program.



Wendy Machcinski, manager of Cookie Cutters Haircuts for Kids, stands near a food collection for Gleaners Community Food Bank. The store has participated in several charity drives.

FANS

FROM PAGE A1

The Wildcats had lots of other support, too, with the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band on hand to provide a musical boost and their own cheerleaders leading the crowd in tumultuous cheers. Like their football brethren, the cheerleaders were making their first appearance at

Ford Field.

"This is the best time of high school, getting to cheer at Ford Field," Plymouth senior captain Anastasia Demopoulos said. "The crowd is huge, and all of our fans here are amazing."

That's what it's about for Ann Marie Sammillan of Canton. She was among the fans — some wearing their Canton red or Salem blue/white — who made the trip. Sammillan is a Salem graduate who cheered Canton High School during the

Chiefs' Ford Field appearance a few years ago.

She's got a son who goes to Salem High School now (and a daughter who attends Livonia Ladywood), and she knows it's all about community.

"It's a rare occurrence," she said Saturday. "It doesn't happen very often. When (your team) makes it, you lift the whole community up. It's very exciting."

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TRAFFIC

FROM PAGE A1

during special events such as Liberty Fest due to construction-area issues, but mostly Canton motorists seemed to take the work in stride and, as officials had hoped, drivers appeared to keep their eyes on

the prize.

"I'm happy that they actually completed the road work in the time that was allotted," Serchak said. "I would say that overall I was pleased with their progress, and we certainly have a nice road."

The construction season also brought improvements to intersections such as Cherry Hill and Haggerty, Cherry Hill

and Lilley, and Beck and Ford.

Meanwhile, Faas and Serchak said next year's major road project in Canton will be the widening of Sheldon Center between Warren and Joy, another multimillion project officials say will bring significant relief to a ragged, car-rattling section of road.

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PUBLIC SAFETY

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CRIME WATCH

Shot fired

Canton police are investigating reports that a shot was fired just before 11:30 p.m. Saturday night at The Crossings, an apartment complex southeast of Joy and I-275.

No one was injured. No other details were available as the investigation was continuing.

"We are following up on some information that might be related to the shot being fired," Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner said.

Apartment break-in

A woman who lives on Village Green, northwest of Cherry Hill and Haggerty, notified police after someone apparently broke into her apartment between 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Nov. 23.

The woman returned home and noticed that her door — and the door to a neighbor's apartment — were ajar. She left the building and called 911.

Police responded but found no one in the apartments. The woman said someone had gone through her apartment, but she didn't immediately notice anything missing.

The neighbor, meanwhile, had been away when the

break-ins occurred. Police checked with him, and it didn't appear immediately that anything had been taken.

Home invasion

A Canton man contacted police to report what appeared to be an attempted home invasion at his residence in the 42600 block of Keystone, southwest of Ford and Lilley roads.

The man left home about 7:30 a.m. Nov. 22 and returned home around 4 p.m. to find that someone had tampered with the door of his residence.

However, it appeared no one got inside the home, and appeared to be missing.

Pot citation

A Canton High School student was issued a citation to appear in 35th District Court after he was found with a small amount of marijuana at school on Nov. 23, according to a police report.

School officials contacted police after the student was alleged to have in his possession a large Ziploc bag that contained items including a small amount of marijuana, police said.

The student denied the marijuana was his and said he didn't know how it had gotten in the bag that was in his possession. At one point he claimed he had been set up.

Police asked to search his car, where they found a pack

of rolling papers and a glass smoking pipe, according to police reports.

He initially told police the pipe was a relative's but then admitted it was his.

The student was facing an appearance in court for possession of marijuana and related paraphernalia. He also was facing disciplinary actions at school.

Warrant arrest

Township police stopped a vehicle for having a loud exhaust about 2:15 p.m. Nov. 23 on Sheldon Road near Ford.

Police reports indicated four occupants were told to get outside of the vehicle, and one was ultimately arrested for outstanding warrants. He was wanted in Westland for fraud and driving with a suspended license. He also was wanted in Dearborn for parking violations.

Canton police arranged to turn the suspect over to Westland police near the dividing line between the two communities.

Garage raided

A man told police someone broke into his garage on Warren west of Beck between Nov. 22 and 24, taking items such as tools, a television, stereo equipment and a generator.

The man indicated to police he had locked the garage door.

— By Darrell Clem

Judge: Hospital not place for 'harmless night out'

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Law enforcement officials have a message for ghost-hunters, history buffs and thrill-seekers who might be considering a trip to the Northville State Hospital: Don't go there.

An increase in trespassing at the 400-acre property in Northville Township, much of it by area teenagers and young adults, has alarmed Judge Michael Gerou at 35th District Court in Plymouth, who said he doesn't want to see young people get into legal trouble over what they might consider a harmless night out.

The hospital property is in a bad state of disrepair and is dangerous, the judge said, and township police make regular arrests there.

"It can be very, very expensive for them and it can also give them a criminal history," Gerou said of trespassing defendants, adding that the "vast majority" of people in his courtroom charged with hospital trespassing are young adults with no criminal history.

Gerou, one of three judges at the court, said he was given 10 or 12 hospital trespassing cases in a single day last week.

Northville Township Police Chief John E. Werth, who is also the director of public safety, said his officers arrested 78 people on trespassing charges at the hospital in October and November.

The maximum penalty for trespassing is 93 days in jail and a \$500 fine. Gerou said those charged in district court can expect to be sentenced to several days on work detail and fines and costs of \$400 or more.



Judges at 35th District Court are discouraging people from trespassing on the grounds of the Northville State Hospital (on Seven Mile in Northville Township).

"The consequences are pretty significant, and it's a criminal offense, and you only have a clean record once," he said. The cases are usually decided through plea agreements, Gerou said; none of the hospital trespassing cases he's seen have gone to trial.

Werth and Gerou said there's typically an increase in trespassing by thrill-seekers around the time of Halloween. Aside from Halloween-season incidents, Werth said, hospital trespassing overall increases slightly from year to year.

The hospital on Seven Mile, formally known as the Northville Regional Psychiatric Hospital, was closed by the state in 2003. The property, the target in 2008 of a failed annexation attempt by the city of Livonia, is owned by Northville Township, which is bound by a consent judgment to tear the buildings down within eight

years, Werth said.

The property is also visited by would-be thieves looking for scrap metal to sell, Werth said. Scrappers are also regularly arrested there, he said.

It's also been the site of more dangerous activity, the chief said. An armed trespasser accidentally shot himself in a leg, and ended up losing it, a few years back, and a would-be scrapper was once wounded by a shotgun blast fired by a security guard working for the previous owner, a local developer.

Werth said the property is constantly monitored and that police make extra patrols at times when trespassing activity is likely to increase.

"There's nothing on that property that is worth seeing," Werth said. "We have a zero-tolerance policy on anybody who is trespassing on that property."

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Friday – 5:30 – 6:50 pm
Saturday & Sunday – 2:00 – 3:20 pm
(Check www.livoniahockey.org for schedule changes & prices)

Hundreds of People Cash In at the Livonia Roadshow Yesterday!

By Jason Delong
Treasure Hunters Roadshow
STAFF WRITER

Yesterday at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, hundreds lined up to cash antiques, collectibles, gold and jewelry in at the Roadshow. The free event is in Livonia all week buying gold, silver antiques and collectibles. One visitor I spoke with

"It is unbelievable, I brought in some old coins that had been in a little cigar box for years and some old herringbone necklaces and in less than fifteen minutes I left with a check for \$712.37."

yesterday said "It's unbelievable, I brought in some old coins that had been in a little cigar box for years and some old herringbone necklaces and in less than fifteen minutes I left with a check for \$712.37. That stuff has been in my jewelry box and dresser for at least 20 years." Another gentlemen brought an old Fender guitar his father bought years ago. "Dad had less than fifty bucks in that guitar." The Roadshow expert that assisted him, made a few phone calls and a Veterinarian in Seattle, Washington bought the guitar for \$5700.00. The seller continued, "I got another \$150.00 for a broken necklace and an old class ring, it's

Gold and Silver pour into yesterdays Roadshow due to highest prices in 40 years.



Above • A couple waits with anticipation while Roadshow expert examines their antiques and gold items. The Roadshow is at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center this week.

not everyday someone brings six thousand dollars to town with your name on it."

Jeff Parsons, President of the Treasure Hunters Roadshow commented, "Lots of people have items that they know are valuable but just don't know where to sell them.

Old toys, trains, swords, guitars, pocket watches or just about anything old is valuable to collectors. These collectors are willing to pay big money for those items they are looking for." This week's Roadshow is the place to get connected with those collectors. The process is free and anyone can

brings items down to the event. If the Roadshow experts find items their collectors are interested in, offers will be made to purchase those items. About 80% of the guests that attend the show end up selling one or more items at the event.

Antiques and collectibles are

not the only items the Roadshow is buying. "Gold and silver markets are soaring," says Archie Davis, a Roadshow representative. "Broken jewelry and gold or silver coins add up very quickly. I just finished working with a gentleman that had an old class

"If you go to the Roadshow, you can cash-in your items for top dollar. Roadshow representatives will be available to assess and purchase your items at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center through Saturday in Livonia."

ring, two bracelets, and handful of silver dollars... his check was for over \$650.00. I would say that there were well over 100 people in here yesterday that sold their scrap gold."

One gentleman holding his check for over \$1250.00 in the lobby of the event yesterday had this comment, "I am so happy I decided to come to the Roadshow. I saw the newspaper ad for the event and brought in an old German sword I brought back from World War II and some old coins and here is my check. What a great thing for our community. I am heading home now to see what else I have they might be interested in."

The Roadshow continues today starting at 9am. The event is free and no appointment is needed.

Collectors desire vintage military items, Items from both U.S. and foreign origins from the Civil War, World War I, World War II, Spanish-American War, Revolutionary War and Calvary times have great value. Items such as swords, daggers, medals, hardware bayonets, etc.



All sports memorabilia is in high demand including: Pre 1970's baseball cards; autographed baseballs, footballs & basketballs; jerseys; signed photos; etc...



Roadshow Coin and gold expert Paul Dichraff examines a large presentation of coins, gold and collectibles.



Here is how it works:

- Gather items of interest from your attic, garage, basement, etc There is no limit to the amount of items you can bring
- No appointment necessary
- If interested in selling, we will consult our collector's database to see if a buyer exists. 90% of all items have offers in our database
- The offer is made on the spot on behalf of our collectors making the offer
- If you decide to accept the offer, we will pay you on the spot and ship the item to the collector. The collector pays all shipping and handling charges
- You get 100% of the offer with no hidden fees



The Treasure Hunter's Roadshow event continues through Saturday in Livonia.

www.treasurehuntersroadshow.com

The Roadshow is featured this week:

Nov. 30th - Dec. 4th

Tuesday - Friday: 9AM - 6PM and Saturday: 9AM - 4PM

FREE ADMISSION

Radisson Hotel & Conference Center

17123 Laurel Park Dr. N, Livonia, MI 48152

Directions: (734) 464-1300 Show Info: (217) 726-7590

Cash in with the power of the International Collectors Association
Treasure Hunters Roadshow represents over 5000 members worldwide who are paying TOP DOLLAR the following types of items.

• **COINS** - Any and all coins made before 1964. This includes all silver and gold coins, dollars, half dollars, quarters, dimes, nickels and pennies. All conditions wanted!

• **GOLD & SILVER** - PRICES AT 40 YEAR HIGH! for platinum, gold and silver during this event. Broken jewelry, dental gold, old coins, pocket watches, Kruggerands, Gold bars Canadian Maple Leafs, etc.

• **JEWELRY** - Gold, Silver, Platinum, diamonds, rubies, sapphires and all types of stones, metals, etc. Rings, bracelets, necklaces, all others including broken jewelry. Early costume jewelry wanted.

• **WATCHES & POCKET WATCHES** - Rolex, Tiffany, Hublot, Omega, Chopard, Cartier, Philippe, Ebel, Waltham, Swatch, Chopard, Elgin, Bunn Special, Railroad, Illinois, Hamilton, all others.

• **TOYS, TRAINS & DOLLS** - All types of toys made before 1965 including: Hot Wheels, Tonka, Buddy L, Smith Miller, Nylint, Robots, battery toys, Mickey Mouse, train sets, all gauges, accessories, individual cars, Marklin, American Flyer, Lionel, Hafner, all other trains, Barbie Dolls, GI Joe, Shirley Temple, Characters, German, all makers accepted.

• **MILITARY ITEMS, SWORDS** - Civil War, Revolutionary War, WWI, WWII, etc. Items of interest include swords, badges, clothes, photos, medals, knives, gear, letters, The older the swords, the better. All types wanted.

• **ADVERTISING ITEMS** - Metal and Porcelain signs, gas companies, beer and liquor makers, automobile, implements, etc.



Silver and Gold Coin Prices Up During Poor Economy.
Collectors and Enthusiasts in Livonia with \$200,000 to Purchase Yours!
Got Coin? It might be just the time to cash in. This week starting Tuesday and continuing through Saturday, the International Collectors Association in conjunction with Treasure Hunters Roadshow will be purchasing all types of silver and gold coins direct from the public. All are welcome and the event is free.

Top Five Items To Bring

- Gold Jewelry
- Silver Coins
- Gold Coins
- Sterling Silver
- Pocket Watches

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From a single item to complete collections, the most sought after types of coins are:

- Any coins dated prior to 1820, especially those dated 1700's
- High Grade Early Coins
- Graded Coins
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- Gold Coins with C, D, O and CC mint marks
- Rare Dates
- Complete Coin Type sets
- Rare Paper Currency



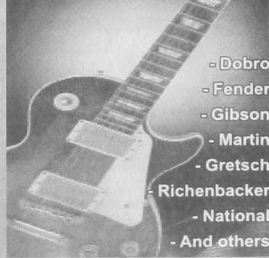
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Arts for the holidays

Partnership for the Arts & Humanities thinks tickets make good gifts

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Jill Engel has conversations like this all the time, far more often than she'd like, actually.

Recently, she was talking to a friend who told her she was thinking about taking her children to see "Grease" at the Fox Theatre in downtown Detroit. Engel, the director of the Partnership for the Arts & Humanities in Canton, asked the friend if she'd ever been to a play at Canton's Village Theater.

The friend said, "No." The veterinarian who treats Engel's family pets, told Engel she loves the symphony, but is hesitant to travel to downtown Detroit to hear the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Engel, knowing the Plymouth Symphony plays at the Village Theater, asked the vet if she'd ever been there.

The vet said, "No." That surprised Engel, who has been beating the drum for the arts in the community since being hired last summer, because among the top cities from which patrons visit the theater are places like Northville, Ypsilanti, Dearborn, Belleville and Farmington Hills.

"It (Village Theater) has complimentary parking, there's an ice cream parlor right across the street, tickets are cheap (\$10-\$15) and there's not a bad seat in the house," an astounded Engel said. "We get (crowds) from all over southeast Michigan and there are people in Plymouth and Canton who don't know about it."

With the Partnership a little more than halfway (some \$13,000) to its \$25,000 fund-raising goal for its annual appeal, Engel said she thinks the arts in Canton provide an easy solution to the question: What do I get (someone) for



Spotlight on Youth puts on 'In the Nick of Time: A Red Mistletoe Mystery,' Dec. 9-12 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. Spotlight on Youth is an initiative of the Spotlight Players, one of the theater's resident groups supported by the Partnership for the Arts & Humanities.

WAYS TO GIVE

There are a variety of ways to support the Partnership for the Arts and Humanities:

Donor Society: Opportunity for individuals and corporations to support the arts. Contributions start at \$25.

Program Sponsor: Some 15,000 programs are distributed during a season. Sponsorships range from \$300 to \$2,000.

Event, Group, Public Art and Seat sponsors: Packages can be tailored to suit funding needs.

Donations: Anyone interested in simply making a gift to the Partnership for the Arts and Humanities, can go to www.partnershipforarts.org to donate on line or send your donation to P.O. Box 871722, Canton, MI 48187-9998.

Christmas.

The Village Theater, Engel said, provides a variety of gift-giving opportunities for the holidays. A number of resident groups — Spotlight Players, Forever After Productions,

etc. — make the theater their home. The Plymouth Symphony, BeckRidge Choral and Canton Concert Band host performances there. And other various acts — magicians, artists and musicians — stage

their shows at the Village Theater.

Tickets to shows like that, Engel believes, make for a much better experience than going to see a movie or out to eat.

"If you give a gift where a family sees a show, and that experience reaches out and touches them, you've given them so much more," Engel said. "It can be a gift that can last a lifetime."

That's the Partnership's position on the arts in general. That's why Engel and others are pushing the arts so hard — in addition to the chance to raise money. They believe the arts enhance community life. The Partnership is trying to make that happen in a variety of ways. For instance, the



An expanded display at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton gives the Partnership for the Arts & Humanities, and director Jill Engel, more visibility at the theater.

websites of the various residence groups are linked to the Partnership's website (www.partnershipforarts.org). That's also where potential donors can find information on how to help.

Engel also worked with Village Theater director Jennifer Tobin to expand the Partnership's presence at the theater. Where a single box with donation envelopes used to whisper the auspices of the Partnership, a much larger exhibit now shouts them, featuring a display with brochures, newspaper clippings, photos and, yes, the donation envelopes.

"I think people need to see a face, see what's available," Engel said of the new exhibit. "With the box, they didn't know what it was."

Tobin said the Partnership spent its formative years figuring out what it needed to be, and now those associated with it can do the work they want to do.

"When any organization starts out, you think you're

one thing, and then you find out things you should be doing," Tobin said. "You get pushed and pulled in a lot of directions. But I think (the Partnership) is coming into its own. The beauty is any money given to them, very little of it stays with them. Everything else is put back out to work in the community."

With the myriad of groups it supports, and the number of grants it hands out (some \$87,500 in 2009, another \$48,275 in 2010), Engel believes people should know what the Partnership is, and she wants to help them learn.

"I feel like I have this big secret, and when word gets out, people are going to know what the Partnership is, and what the Village Theater is, and they're going to want to go," Engel said. "We are making Canton such a better community. How many communities have a theater, or are making the arts this kind of a priority? This sets us apart."

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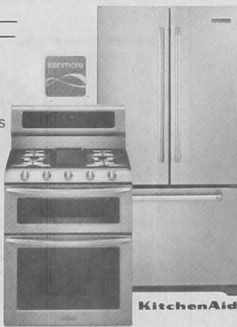
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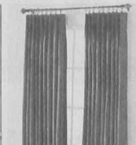
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The Rev. Leo Patalinghug, author of 'Grace Before Meals', will cook and talk about the importance of family meals Friday at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Plymouth.

Priest feeds body, soul in cooking demo

BY SHARON DARGAY
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Catholic priest who hosted the Food Channel's Bobby Flay in a fajita making contest last year will demonstrate how to feed the flock Friday at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Plymouth.

The Rev. Leo Patalinghug, author *Grace Before Meals*, a cookbook that combines recipes, spiritual thought and prayer, will present a cooking demonstration and serve samples at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, at the church, 47650 North Territorial. Tickets are \$20 per person or \$35 per couple. They're available by e-mailing to misiakc@olgparish.net or by calling (734) 435-0326, ext. 243.

His appearance will help raise funds to send a group from the parish to World Youth Day in Madrid, Spain next year.

"Every couple of years it's held in a different country. The Pope comes out and meets youth of the Catholic Church. We have a group of 14 going. We've been fund-raising for a year," said youth minister Colleen Misiak. "We're really excited about this one. Fr. Leo talks about the importance of eating together and spending time with family and friends.

That is key to what we as Catholics are. Meal time is special."

Misiak saw Fr. Patalinghug for the first time on the Food Channel's *Throwdown with Bobby Flay*. The celebrity chef issued a cooking challenge to the priest, who has his own food Webisode series and a show on a Catholic television station. He's also a member of the faculty at Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md.

"He was praying the rosary while awaiting the judging," Misiak recalled the *Throwdown* episode. "It was really great."

Since then Misiak has become a fan and many others in the parish share her enthusiasm. The church had sold 300 tickets by Monday.

"Half of the people calling are men. The guys are loving this. And some of the women are bringing their sons," she said. "It will be a warm environment, set up so that it's very hospitable."

Copies of Fr. Leo's book will be available for purchase at the demonstration.

For more information about Fr. Patalinghug, visit www.gracebeforemeals.com

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Friends to gather for candlelight vigil

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Members of the Compassionate Friends know the holidays are tough times for people who've lost loved ones, especially children.

In an effort to help with the grief, The Compassionate Friends, Western Wayne County (Livonia) Chapter, sponsor their 14th annual Worldwide Candle Lighting ceremony in Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth Sunday, Dec. 12, in conjunction with Children's Memorial Day.

"The holidays are especially difficult for parents who have lost children," said committee member Gail Lafferty. "This candle-lighting ceremony honoring them helps their memory live on." The ceremony will include the dedication of at least two trees decorated with ornaments featuring the children's names, a candle-light vigil, a reading of the children's names, poetry and songs.

The local ceremony includes the candle-lighting at 7 p.m. in conjunction with the world-wide

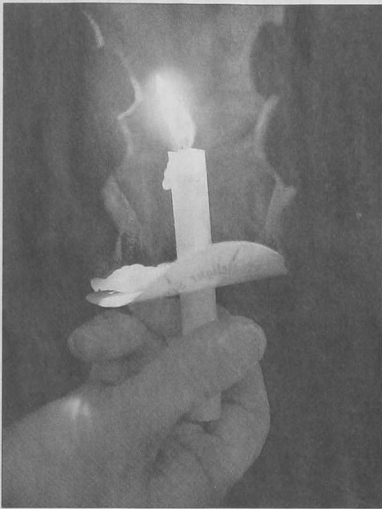
candle-lighting. The idea is that, as candles burn down in one time zone, they're lit in another, creating a 24-hour memorial.

Recognized in communities around the world, International Children's Memorial Day is already officially sanctioned by the U.S. Congress.

"Hundreds of families will gather near a tree specially decorated with the names of children who have died too soon," Lafferty said.

The vigil annually includes the reading of the names of those lost too soon. Organizers are recommending people arrive by 6:30 p.m.

Friends and family are invited to the remembrance and candles will be provided. You do not have to attend to register your child. Anyone with a name they'd like read, or who wants more information about the event, can call or e-mail candle-lighting committee members Gail Lafferty or Rhonda Temple, tcf-candlelight@yahoo.com or (734) 778-0800.



The Compassionate Friends Candle Lighting ceremony is set for downtown Plymouth's Kellogg Park 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12.

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

Check details on holiday 'bargains'

The holiday shopping season has arrived. Now that Black Friday and Cyber Monday have come and gone, consumers can expect to be inundated with all sorts of deals over the next month.

Some deals really can save money while others have the opposite effect — costing more money than intended. Therefore, consumers need to

be cautious before taking advantage of any so-called deals.

It seems that listening to radio or watching TV this time of year, advertisements claim consumers can

buy now and pay in six months or even a year. Although that sounds great, the devil is in the detail. In some of these deals you may not have to make a payment for six months but that doesn't mean the interest does not accumulate. In many of these deals interest rates are very high. In the no-payment-now deals, even if there is no interest, be extremely cautious of the terms. Some of these offers are written in a way that if you are one day late when the money is due, substantial interest and penalties kick in. Therefore, before taking advantage of one of these deals, understand the terms, particularly how interest accrues and the consequences of being late on a payment.

This also is the time of year that many retailers offer special discounts if you sign up for their charge card. Taking advantage of discounts is something to consider.

Whenever signing up for a new charge card, the primary focus should not be on the rewards. Rewards, just like discounts, are nice, but they are not the primary focus. First focus on how interest is calculated. Some charge cards no longer have a grace period which means that you start paying interest from the date of purchase. Interest charged on charge cards averages in the 18 percent range. Therefore, the interest that you could be charged could offset any discount you receive. In addition, know the annual fees. Some charge cards will have no annual fees where others can be expensive. Always know what the membership fee is prior to signing up for a charge card.

Don't get persuaded to overspend or take advantage of something that sounds too good to be true.

The holidays are not about who spends more money but rather about truly appreciating and spending time with those that we love.

Don't sign up for anything without reading the fine print. 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.

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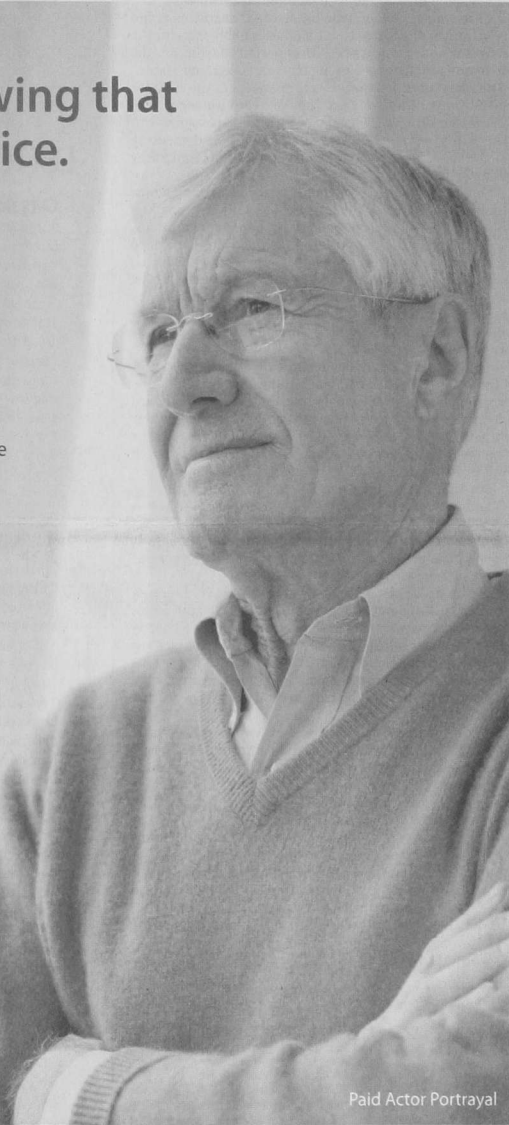
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OUR VIEWS

What's next? School board must come together on process

Now that the four Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education trustees have engineered the removal of school Supt. Craig Fiegel, they need to be ready to answer the next question.

What's next?

Judy Mardigan, John Jackson, Dianne Gonzalez and Adrienne Davis forced through a plan to strip Fiegel of most of his duties last week, and install Deputy Superintendent Ken Jacobs as the district's new chief operating officer. Why they didn't simply force Fiegel out, as the board did a few years ago with Kathleen Booher, is a question only the four of them can answer.

In setting up Jacobs, who has devoted nearly his entire adult life to the district and unquestionably loves it, the four got under way a transition period Mardigan, the treasurer and longest-serving trustee, called "inevitable." And like it or not — and several members of the community who still don't believe they've heard an acceptable reason for dumping Fiegel voiced loud displeasure with this latest move at last week's school board meeting — the move is made and the board must now find a way to make it work.

One has to question the manner in which the plan outlined by Jackson, in which Fiegel basically remains as a figurehead while Jacobs runs the day-to-day operations, was formulated. Jackson admitted a couple of board members met with corporate counsel Gary Collins, who provided a written opinion that was handed to the three dissenting board members — Secretary Nancy Eggenberger, President Steven Sneiderman and Vice President Barry Simescu — on the day the plan was announced.

Such meetings may not technically violate the letter of the state's Open Meetings Act, but they certainly disrespect the spirit. Not including the other three board members smacks of divisiveness, and denying their request to delay the action until it could be discussed by the seven members as a whole was not only childish, it was obstructionist.

But that's not where people's efforts should lie now. What's done is done, and the seven board members — including Eggenberger, Simescu and Sneiderman — must find a way to heal the fracture. They've got to find a way to solve the issue, once and for all, of finding a superintendent they can live with.

The board needs to decide what they want in their new leader. Jacobs is not a long-term solution; he's put in his retirement papers and is scheduled to depart shortly after the start of the 2011-12 school year. The rules say he can work for the district if he's willing to put off his pension (an extra time he puts in will not count toward his pension), but the board shouldn't put him in that position.

Board members need to come up with a process that lands them a top quality candidate to replace Fiegel. They need to hire the right firm that lands them a solid field from which to choose, a field that should include candidates who understand the complicated funding issues faced by schools in Michigan.

They need to do it in public, and allow the public some input into it. None of the four who engineered the stripping of Fiegel last week answered any questions about why the move was made, something that angered local residents who have the biggest stake in the process.

And they need to accomplish it by doing something they haven't been able to do much of lately. Working together.

COMMUNITY VOICE

How far along are you with your holiday shopping?

We asked this question just before Thanksgiving at the Canton Public Library.



"We're looking at starting this (Thanksgiving) weekend."

Ryan Conrad
Canton



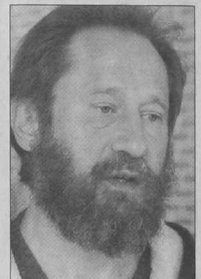
"I am probably a third of the way done."

Tisha Baker
Canton



"I haven't started yet."

Spiro Karras
Canton



"I haven't done any. I've been unemployed for two years, so consumer spending is not going to happen."

Glenn Wallis
Canton

LETTERS

Cuts not enough

John Anthony's cheap shot comment at Todd Caccamo was uncalled for and irresponsible. I think he owes him an apology. It begs the question who is really playing politics here?

Caccamo's questions obviously struck a nerve and the best Anthony could do was to try to deflect it because he doesn't have a good answer. Caccamo's schedule and presence doesn't have anything to do with his capability to do his job effectively since working virtually is an accepted practice in this day and age.

Mr. Anthony needs to grow up and figure out how to work productively with everyone on the board or it may be necessary to replace him.

Gerry Wright
Canton

Tougher choices needed

As I read the Sunday edition and learned that the township was once again raising taxes instead of the tougher choice of layoffs I shook my head in amazement.

When will the leaders of this township learn that the people of Canton should not bear the brunt of paying for all these township employees? Has it ever occurred to the township leaders that the tougher choice of layoffs is what should be happening within the township, not the raising of taxes to the people that already pay some of the highest taxes in the state today?

Why are the police so protected from these layoffs when I have seen one patrol car in our neighborhood in the 3.5 years we have lived here? Even the outside auditors say this is not the route to go, that tougher measures will be needed to avoid budget problems.

Then I open my mail from Saturday only to find a threat from the police department for a false security alarm on Oct. 10 of this year. My son running late for school and forgot to deactivate the alarm and it went off. I called the alarm company to assure them that everything was OK. To my amazement, the police department still showed up some 15 minutes later. When I mentioned to the officers that I had called the alarm company per our agreement with them, here is what the officer said: "I know, we got the message from the alarm company but we were in the area so we thought we would come by anyway."

This is more than frustrating to my wife and I as now we get a warning that we will be fined or even prosecuted if this false alarm happens again? Is this not part of the protection that we are paying for with our yearly taxes for police coverage? To me this is no more than a smokescreen to try and lump additional costs onto the already burdened taxpayers of this township!

I run a company on the west side of the state and we have had to make the difficult choice of laying off people to get our budgets in line and assure the survival of our company. When will the leadership of this township learn that all raising taxes will do is force more of the people that are already barely making it in these tough economic times to sell or be foreclosed upon and this will lead to even less revenue for the township coffers?

As for the police department, you should be thankful that some of the people in Canton can still afford to pay for alarm system coverage as this is a detriment to would-be thieves thus lowering your workload. But no, all you can think of is ways to generate more revenue by hitting your employers (the taxpayers) with ridiculous threats!

Due to my job, our family has been blessed with the option of being able to stay and live in this township or the option of moving out and living elsewhere. I believe this threat we just received

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.

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com.

Read or comment online:
www.hometownlife.com

Deadline: Letters must be received by 10 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

from the Canton Police Department has just helped us make up our mind. It was nice while it lasted but we will be looking for greener pastures and leave these high taxes and threats to someone else.

Tim Rood
Canton

Walmart kudos

Against my better judgment, I decided to go to the Walmart on Michigan Avenue for their midnight sale on Thanksgiving night.

What a great decision! Walmart was organized and everything was thought out ahead of time. Upon entering the store, we were handed a store map with the location of sale items. The checkout lines were orderly and moved quickly. Shoppers were pointing out sale items to other customers. No pushing or arguing.

Many thanks to store management and the sales force for their hard work to make this a success in their newest location.

Barbara Frenchek
Canton

Unethical discussion

Near the end of the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education special meeting Nov. 22, board member John Jackson spoke about a "critical point" that needed to be addressed quickly. He mentioned that a myriad of problems could occur and loom larger in 2011 if action was not immediately taken. He also mentioned that meetings had taken place between two board members prior to this gathering and that these two members of the board wanted a swift solution. Three members of the board strongly suggested that the proposed changes be first discussed at a workshop on Dec. 7 to allow the excluded school board members an opportunity to engage in dialogue pertaining to this important change in the role of our current superintendent. The idea of further discussion was voted down and then a vote on this "critical point" was taken.

Dr. Fiegel's job description was reduced, a new COO position was created and Ken Jacobs was placed in that COO position. This monumental change took place in mere minutes, in spite of three board members expressing that they felt uncomfortable voting with only last-minute knowledge of the plan. I believe this "critical point" was initially created by the vote that did not renew Dr. Fiegel's contract. Now these two members want to appear as heroes by solving the problem they created. This new administrative structure would not have been necessary if, a month ago, the four board members would have voted to retain our current superintendent.

Will this change cost the district money? Did the four board members that voted for the changes have prior knowledge of this plan? If not, wouldn't

they, too, be concerned about voting on something so important to our system without allowing for a thorough discussion? If these four members did have prior knowledge, is this an ethical way to work on the Plymouth-Canton school board?

We know the search for a new superintendent will cost, minimally, \$30,000. These so-called heroes must be held accountable for what their handling of such "critical points" will cost our children, our community and our district.

While I understand that this move was done legally, I feel that the way it was expedited was unethical. I can't imagine what these two or four members will do next. I will continue to attend meetings and I encourage others to do the same.

Kay Kane
Plymouth

Saddened and appalled

To say that I am disappointed and stunned by the actions of four of the seven PCCS board members at the Monday night meeting would be a gross understatement. More accurately I am saddened, appalled and, as a concerned parent, I refuse to remain silent any longer.

Initially I began to attend the board meetings due to my concern over the seemingly poor decision made by the four members in question not to extend Dr. Fiegel's contract. I was simply searching for valid and rational answers in regards to why they had chosen to vote against his extension.

My curiosity and concern quickly developed into disgust and outrage especially after Monday night's blatant ambush of the other three board members with yet another irrational and potentially harmful decision. Despite my indignation over the decision to now limit Dr. Fiegel's responsibilities and appoint Ken Jacobs as acting COO during the critical transition, I am most furious about how the four members have chosen to go about presenting and approving their proposal.

I could not state it more clearly other than to echo Nancy Eggenberger's powerful comment: "we are not a board of two, we are a board of seven." The fact that a couple of the board members along with the "school board's general counsel" met to discuss this option led this reader to believe that there is an underlying and possibly devious motivation behind the decision.

Is our community not already divided over the issue of Dr. Fiegel's pending departure? Now the division has dramatically developed in a sad and disheartening direction. Steven Sneiderman, Barry Simescu and Nancy Eggenberger's pleas to the falsehearted four requesting a "workshop session" to further explore this decision fell on deaf and pompous ears. Am I mistaken or should assessments of this enormity get explored and discussed with the inclusion of all seven board members?

Transitions of this kind are difficult in any scenario. The refusal to answer questions regarding the decision against renewing Dr. Fiegel's contract coupled with the most recent unscrupulous performance at Monday night's board meeting has fertilized the growing division of our community.

How sad it is when people like Judy Mardigan, Dianne Gonzalez, John Jackson and Adrienne Davis are appointed as representatives to foster and care for the growth and well being of our children's educational futures and use that opportunity to manipulate, plot and design their own agendas. Perhaps Ms. Mardigan should heed her own advice and recommend to the other three that they all "keep focused on areas that are important to the district" and not their personal agendas.

A concerned and disappointed parent.

Carrie Madison
Plymouth

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS



The following are excerpts from readers participating in our online forum for discussing issues. In Your Voices. Find more comments or join the discussion on the Web at hometownlife.com.

• In response to "Fracture in school board breaks wide open,"

"The only thing 'big' about these four individuals is their sense of ego, arrogance, hypocrisy, and entitlement ... time to send Mardigan and Davis packing ... how dare they commandeer our school board for their personal and political gain, good article, Mr. Kadrich, this group has crossed the line, this grand-standing distraction tactic is designed to divert attention away from their inability to secure a teachers contract, these four are union backed members that are ineffective as negotiators, what a terrible example they are setting for our kids ... let them answer the question of why Dr. Fiegel's contract was not renewed? it is time to put our student's interests first, enough of this self-centered power tripping!"

Noxema

"Jackson admitted Monday there have been meetings between 'some board members' and board attorney Gary Collins, but Eggenberger, for one, said she's never discussed the issue with Collins."

Are there records of these "meetings"? How many board members were present at once? This appears to be a violation in spirit, if not in fact, of the Open Meetings Act.

While I have had my disagreements with Board members and administration on many topics, this whole situation has a very bad smell at a time when the teachers' contract is not settled, a significant portion of the administration is retiring and the funding cliff is just months away.

Can someone please explain to me how this mess is enhancing student achievement?

LarryMartin

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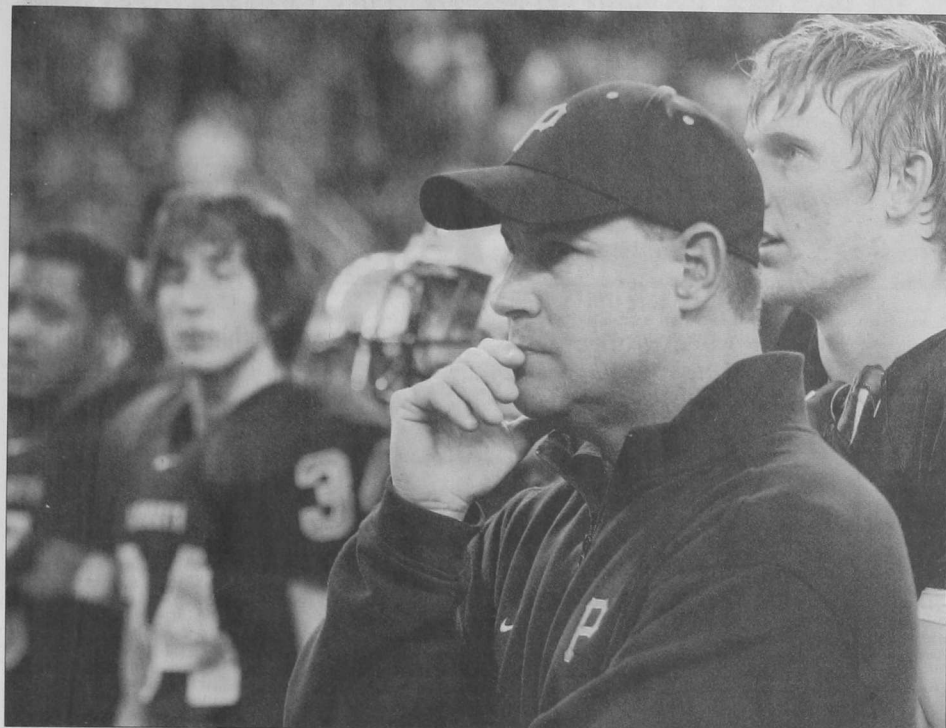
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The season is over, Plymouth head coach Mike Sawchuk and the team watch as Lake Orion celebrates their win. Several Wildcats later called the defeat a painful ending to the best and most memorable season of their football careers.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem girls cagers to learn on the fly

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Call it trial by fire, if you will. Salem's varsity girls basketball team will feature plenty of newcomers as the 2010-11 season tips off Friday night at Farmington Hills Mercy.

"We'll roll kids in and out. We're a little bit on the young side," veteran Salem head coach Fred Thomann said. "We've got to find out how they're going to perform at the varsity level and we'll go from there."

Those youngsters — there are only three returning letter-winners — will quickly experience what the varsity level is all about.

Thomann, starting his 28th season, said his team's early season schedule is as tough as it gets.

PREVIEW – PART 2 Salem follows the Mercy game with contests at Brighton and Ann Arbor Huron and a home game against Dearborn Divine Child.

Playing stronger teams early is by design, because it tends to help the squad gird up for late-season challenges in the division, conference and state tournament.

"The last two years we haven't fared well with wins and losses in the front part of our season, but it's really helped us as we went through our division," Thomann said.

TRANSITION TIME

In the 2009-10 season, Salem finished 13-8 overall and second in the KLAA Central.

But Thomann lost a number of players from that squad, led by All-Observer standouts Sara Stone (now at Eastern Michigan) and Brett deBear (at Albion).

Other key players who graduated include Rachel Norman and Tabitha Mann.

"It's going to take a little bit of time for this team to evolve," Thomann said.

He has only one senior, guard Heidi Schmidt, and she'll be leaned on heavily. So will returning junior guard Katelynn Krause and returning sophomore forward/center Breanne Beaver.

"I expect both (Schmidt) and Kaitlynn to be the leaders on the floor, especially since they both play the guard position," Thomann said. "Both are excellent competitors. They really play hard and they play with a sense of purpose."

Schmidt will be called on to score some points, while Krause is described as a good ballhandler and playmaker.

Junior Bri Berberet, who led the Salem junior varsity in scoring in '09-10, also will start at guard.

DUO IN THE PAINT

In the low post, two players who Thomann will rely on for points and rebounds are 5-11 Beaver and 5-10 junior forward Jenny First (another top JV player last year).

He said Beaver already has shown plenty of progress from her freshman season.

"She's an excellent athlete and will be responsible for a lot of the inside work that needs to be done on our squad," Thomann stressed. "She's way ahead of last year. And she's only going to get better as the season goes on."

First is an inside player who can drain some jumpers, too.

"They complement themselves," Thomann

Please see **SALEM, B3**

FOILED IN FINALS

Plymouth's first title bid scorched by Ford-tested Dragons

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth Wildcats' magical postseason ride hit the Ford Field wall Saturday against Lake Orion and senior running back Marques Stevenson.

By the time the Wildcats discovered Ford Field is just another place to play football, and that playing for a Division 1 state championship game is just another game, they were too far behind to muster one more big comeback.

A 21-3 halftime deficit turned into a 21-13 defeat, with head coach Mike Sawchuk admitting that the Wildcats "came out a little awestruck in the first half."

"We were awestruck, like coach said," noted senior kicker Kyle Brindza. "And we needed to get that out of our system before the game ... it ended up not happening."

One big reason for that was the running of Stevenson, who broke several big runs after bouncing off Plymouth linemen. He scored

twice (once on a 36-yard run) and gained 186 yards.

"We had him wrapped up a few times and he wiggled away," Sawchuk lamented. "A lot of those runs were where we didn't squeeze the trap down."

"We got trap blocked and nobody touched him ... We didn't play fundamentally sound in the first half."

SOMETHING MISSING

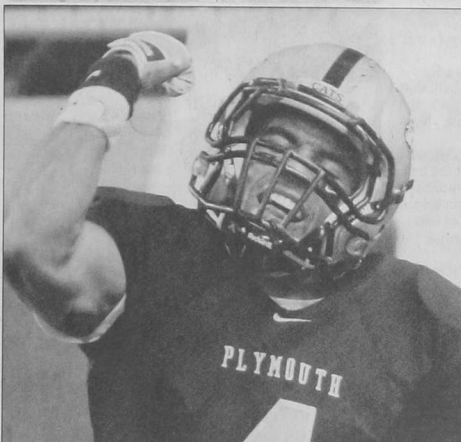
Right from the outset, it didn't seem like the same confident bunch of Wildcats that scored with seconds left to knock off Rockford in the D1 semifinals.

The Dragons, a Ford Field finalist in 2008, played more at ease in the major league setting from the opening kickoff.

"That was probably our advantage, having been here," said Lake Orion head coach Chris Bell. "Our goal was to start fast, then use the environment. That's what we did, and it was huge."

Concurring was Stevenson, who

Please see **FINALS, B2**



After scoring on a dazzling 46-yard punt return in the third quarter, Plymouth senior Victor Hicks celebrates. It would be the only time his team reached the end zone against Lake Orion.



The new Fab Five, perhaps? Canton varsity girls basketball players (from left) Sara Schmitt, Kari Schmitt, CarolAnn Sexauer, Kayla Bridges and Melanie Pickert show off future colors on National Signing Day.

They'll split up for college

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The team that wins together signs to play college sports together.

In what might be a unique situation, five seniors from Canton's girls basketball team came to the high school on National Signing Day last month and made their collegiate intentions known — with four members of the quintet signing necessary paperwork while the fifth came out as a show of support.

Another rarity is that the players on a very successful prep cage squad (Final Four in 2009-10) will be going to four universities on scholarships and playing four sports.

• Kari and Sara Schmitt wore Ohio State University red-and-gray, each inking a full-ride to play women's hockey for the Buckeyes.

• CarolAnn Sexauer's collegiate threads of choice included a purple-and-gold Central Michigan University sweat shirt. Once her

Please see **CANTON, B3**

Canton icers hang on, edge Rocks

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Salem and Canton renewed their hockey rivalry Saturday night at the Plymouth Cultural Center before a near-capacity crowd.

But for a while, the host Rocks didn't show up — ultimately costing the team as Canton earned a 3-2 KLAA South victory.

"We kind of waited until the second half of the game to really decide that we should start playing," said Salem head coach Ryan Ossenmacher. "Canton is a very good team so if you wait to start playing, unfortunately you have the result that we had tonight."

The Chiefs (2-0, 1-0) broke a 1-1 tie on an unassisted, shorthanded goal by forward Garrett Bryden and took a 3-1 lead into the final frame.

The third period belonged to the goalies, although the Rocks did get one past goalie Spencer Craig when forward

BOYS HOCKEY

Ryan Quigley scored his second of the game on the power play at 1:01 of the frame.

Forward Mark McGee (two assists) took a slap shot from the blue line that Craig turned aside. But Quigley knicked in the rebound. Also assisting was forward Michael Manser.

Salem cranked up the heat to try for the tying goal. But Craig (25 saves) stymied an end-to-end rush by Quigley and sprawled to stop forward Matt Downey on the doorstep.

The Chiefs also tested Salem netminder Brandon Price (38 saves), but could not come up with an insurance goal.

Canton went in on a 2-on-1 rush, with Bryden setting up forward Matt Cox for a backhandler. But Price somehow got in front of the shot.

Both goalies held serve the rest of the way, including late pressure by the Rocks.

Canton was called for a penalty with 2:17 left and Ossenmacher soon pulled Price to make it a two-man advantage. With about 20 seconds to go in regulation, McGee ripped a slapper from the left point that Craig got his left pad on.

GETTING THROUGH IT

According to Majszak, grinding out a one-goal game and surviving such a rally will only help his team down the road.

"If we start doing that now," Majszak said, "if we're getting through games like that right now, toughening it out and getting the job done ... everything's only going to get better from here on out."

Ossenmacher said his team (1-1, 0-1) needs to work for 51 minutes the way it did in the final stages on Wednesday, Nov. 24, in a big 5-4 win over Novi.

As for the way Price battled

Please see **HOCKEY, B3**



A last team photo for the 2010 Plymouth Wildcats, including the Division 1 finalist trophy (held by coach Mike Sawchuk). In spite of the 21-13 loss to Lake Orion, it was a great season.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Plymouth quarterback Shaun Austin launches a pass, despite pressure from Lake Orion's Andrew Shafkalis. Blocking for Austin is Michael Olevnik (right).

FINALS

FROM PAGE B1

stressed that the Dragons, in '08 (a loss to Rockford) "were so taken aback by just being here" and the experience itself.

"Now we came here on a mission, just win the game," he said. "We just so happened to be playing at Ford Field, it's not that big of a deal."

Lake Orion's defense stopped the Wildcats cold in the first series of the afternoon.

The Dragons (13-1) then quickly scored to quiet the large throng of Wildcats fans.

Senior quarterback Cole Schaefer scampers 23 yards around the left end for a touchdown just 3:27 into the game.

"We take pride in saying, we don't get trapped, we don't like to get trapped," Sawchuk said. "They took it to us. They were the aggressor in the first half."

Plymouth couldn't get its running game going (the Wildcats were outgained 186-109 in the first half) and that put more of the onus on junior quarterback Shaun Austin to move the team through the air.

Austin (17-of-28, 138 yards) did lead a drive that resulted in a 43-yard field goal by Brindza, with first-down tosses of eight and 24 yards to seniors Mike Olevnik and Brennan Beyer.

Brindza's three-pointer was the second longest in MHSAA history; he later boomed a 70-yard punt to come within one yard of tying the record in that category.

But Stevenson finished Lake Orion's next two series with touchdown runs, of three and 36 yards, respectively, to give Plymouth a huge mountain to climb after the intermission.

LET'S DO THIS

"We never quit," said Sawchuk, whose team finished 11-3. "We went into halftime saying hey, we got another half of football to play, shake off the cobwebs and let's go to work."

The Wildcats stonewalled Lake Orion's first drive of the second half and soon got the spark they needed.

Senior Victor Hicks, who missed almost the entire Rockford game due to an injury, short-hopped a bouncing punt from Kyle Searle near midfield.

Hicks then stutter-stepped until finding a seam and hit it hard, romping down the right sideline for the TD to make it a 21-10 game just 1:30 into the stanza.

"We knew they were going to get the football in the second

half (and) we knew we had to three-and-out them and we did," Sawchuk said. "... And then for Vic to make that electrifying play it boosted our confidence, definitely."

Plymouth started moving the ball again midway through the third and their fans sensed the "team of destiny" might yet be heard from.

But on fourth and four near midfield, Austin needed to move the sticks. He threw to senior receiver Jake Morris, but officials ruled he didn't get to the first-down marker and Lake Orion took over on downs.

SO CLOSE

"I was standing right there and I thought we were about a half-yard over, to tell you the truth," Sawchuk said. "Same thing when we went for fourth down the other time, I thought we got a couple bad spots. But that's football."

Plymouth still trailed 21-10 when senior Donte Fox recovered a Lake Orion fumble at the Dragons' 45, once again pumping up the Wildcats' hopes.

The offense couldn't reach the end zone, although Brindza did hit a 28-yard field goal with 9:54 remaining to potentially make it a one-score game.

"We made a couple adjustments in the second half, shut them out," Sawchuk said. "But I thought their defense played really well."

Unfortunately for Plymouth, the offense didn't get the ball back except for one successful series as Stevenson helped Lake Orion collect key first downs and start counting down to victory.

Brindza later said it stung to come so far and so close, only to not grab the prize.

"We just shot ourselves in the foot in the first half," Brindza said. "If we had two more minutes or three more minutes we had that game."

Still, after taking care of Canton, Novi-Detroit Catholic Central and Rockford, even a bitter loss in the finals won't minimize that Plymouth football now is a force to be reckoned with.

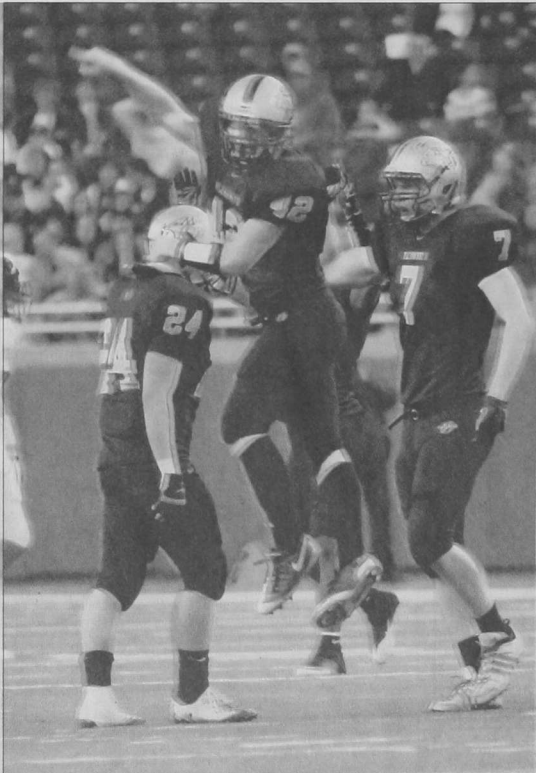
"I told the seniors and everybody else, hey, you got yourself in some trouble now because this is the expectation," Sawchuk said. "This is where we want to be every year, so now you're going to have to work harder and harder and harder."

They'll certainly do that, but the first title in school history will just have to wait.

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Plymouth Wildcat senior Brennan Beyer twist and turns to escape Dragons Alex Fine and Adam Gros (right). Beyer was one of a number of standouts during Plymouth's epic postseason.



The entire Plymouth sideline and cheering section went wild after a fumble recovery in the third quarter — and so did these players, seniors Anthony Rhodes (No. 24), Brennan Beyer (No. 7) and Phillip Schultz (No. 42).



Senior Kyle Brindza's magic foot even works under pressure from Lake Orion's Shane Kelly. Brindza nearly tied records for the longest field goal and longest punt in the history of MHSAA's finals.



Running after making one of his five catches Saturday is Plymouth senior Michael Olevnik. He finished second in receptions to senior Thomas Afetian, who caught six.

Painfully close

Crushing defeat hurts, but Wildcats will fight on

For years to come, Shaun Austin will look back with pride and joy on the 2010 football season.

But in the aftermath of Plymouth's crushing 21-13 loss to Lake Orion in the Division 1 state final at Ford Field, it might seem like years for the pain to subside — for junior quarterback Austin and the rest of the Wildcats.

The red-eyed Austin choked back emotion in his voice as he tried to answer a question in the corridor outside the room where the victorious Dragons were doing a press conference.

His anguish-laden words came slowly.

"The hardest thing in the world," Austin said, "is to look a senior in the eye and tell them your sorry. That you couldn't get it done. We were almost there."

Austin, who connected on 17 of 28 passes but could not complete another amazing

rally, might have personally felt the undue amount of burden for the loss.

But he needn't have. He was a key factor in the team making it that far to begin with, for one thing.

ALL FOR ONE

And, as is the case with most winning high school football teams — and Plymouth definitely now joins rival Canton among the elite programs in the state — everybody is in it together no matter what.

"I love all my teammates, this is the best year I've had in football all my life," said standout senior receiver/defensive end Brennan Beyer. "We all play for each other, which is why I think we got to this point."

Beyer will carry Plymouth's incredible, inspirational run to the D1 finals with him as he goes to Ann Arbor, where he will play football for the University of Michigan. He might become a Wolverine, but he'll remain a Wildcat at heart.

Coach Mike Sawchuk, the head of Plymouth's football family, also spoke with emotion in his voice and he recalled his locker room postgame talk to the team.

"First of all I told them I love them," Sawchuk said. "And I do, I love each and every one of my players."

"I spend more time with them than I do my own family. I wouldn't have it any other way because I love what I do."

WHAT A RIDE

There was plenty to love about how Sawchuk's team took it up a notch as soon as the playoffs began.

Remember, nobody expected much out of Plymouth this postseason. Not with No. 1 ranked Canton in the way. This was supposed to be the Year of the Chiefs, who pretty much crushed every opponent on their schedule.

But the Wildcats knocked off Saline and then stunned Canton with a 17-7 victory in the second round.

"After we beat Canton, we thought we could play with anybody," said Sawchuk earlier, during the Plymouth press conference. "That's when the light kinda came on and we started believing in each other, and playing for each other and caring about each other."

Then came the upset victory over defending champion Novi-Detroit Catholic Central and a miraculous, last-second game-winning TD toss from Austin to Beyer in the state semis against Rockford.

That alone should help Austin cheer up as he gets ready for the 2011 season.

There's more work to do, one more step to take.

After having the victory cup within inches of their lips, the Wildcats won't give up the fight now.

Sawchuk won't let them.

Tim Smith is sports editor of the Plymouth and Canton Observers. He can be reached at tsmith@hometownlife.com.



Plymouth junior Faris Abraham reacts as the clock shows less than two minutes to play. The championship dream is about to come up short.



2010 PeeWee AA Plymouth Stingrays

The benevolent '98 Plymouth Stingrays Pee Wee AA travel hockey team includes the following: front row (from left) Ted Austin, David Kiers, Brendan Guziak, Trevor McManus, Josh Wilk, Ryan Radwan, Joe Mancinelli and Max DiCiccio; back row (from left) Carson Pakula, Zac Osaer, Grant Reszczyk, Riley Brass, Evan Newel, Alec Allen, Zack Finzel, Bailey Thompson and John Sladic.

Their biggest goal is to give

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When youth hockey coach and former U.S. Marine Dave Brass approached his players on the '98 Plymouth Stingrays about a community service project the team's enthusiasm was overwhelming. And so the Stingrays are combining hockey and goodwill this Sunday, beginning with the 2:30 p.m. game at Plymouth Cultural Center. After the Pee Wee AA travel team's game, the Stingrays and U.S. Marines will head over to Hermann's Olde Town Grille in Plymouth — a Toys for Tots drop-off location. Players, coaches, families and friends will bring gifts to drop off at Hermann's (195 W. Liberty Street, near Mill Street) and then there will be a chance to meet U.S. Marines and get in on a Christmas auction. Proceeds from the latter will go to Toys for Tots. According to Brass, the

team picks a charity to help out every holiday season. You might have seen some of the Stingrays recently ringing those Salvation Army bells at local Kroger stores, for example. This season, the squad jumped at the chance to do even more to give back. "These boys are given an awful lot in their lives, let alone hockey," said Brass, whose son Riley is on the team. "Which is a very expensive sport in and of itself (with) equipment, ice fees, travel expenses. "So to see them rally around such a great cause with no prodding, knowing that they are so fortunate, makes everything we do as parents and coaches very rewarding." **TEAMING UP** Off-ice strength and conditioning coach Jim Radwan (his son Ryan is a Stingray) said doing such projects helps the team become more unified. "Hockey is the ultimate

team game, assists are worth as many points as goals," Radwan said. "So a 'me-first' attitude doesn't breed success on the ice. "The coaches and parents on this team have always taught this philosophy to the kids, beginning at a very young age." Other coaches (and hockey dads) are assistants Rob Reilly, Mike Osaer, Paul Wilk, Joe Mancinelli and Dave Austin. Radwan credited the players for doing for others while scoring on the ice with plenty of team success. According to Radwan, working with the Marines, Toys for Tots, Hermann's and Salvation Army "are just a couple of ways for our boys to appreciate what they have and help others to experience the feeling that others care about them, too." "It's these kind of things that will stick with all of us long after youth hockey is a memory," Brass noted.

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HOCKEY

FROM PAGE B1

to keep his team in the game, Ossenmacher said that kind of performance from his goalie is becoming the norm. "He's played well in our last two games," Ossenmacher said. "We beat Novi, who is perennially a top team in the state. And he made some big saves in that game, he made some big saves tonight." Canton took a 1-0 lead early in the first period on a tally by senior forward Matt Rodgers. Assisting were senior forwards Phil Baciak and AJ Rosales. McGee then set up Quigley to make it a 1-1 game entering the first intermission. The Chiefs took a 2-1 edge on the goal by Bryden and it

was 3-1 after two thanks to a power-play goal by forward Taylor Baker (from defenseman Josh Dickinson and forward Brandon Grillo). **CANTON WINS BIG:** Canton's ices stayed on a roll Monday night, as the Chiefs routed South Lyon 8-3 to improve to 3-0 overall and 2-0 in the KLAAs. The Chiefs netted three goals in the first to offset an early 1-0 South Lyon lead. Parker Pakula found the back of the Lions net on a power play, with assists by Brandon Grillo and Duggan Tear. Bradley Cee then broke the 1-1 tie with his first goal as a member of the Canton varsity. Making it 3-1 was Taylor Baker, from Garrett Bryden and Jordan Smith (1 goal, 1 assist). The onslaught continued in the second, with goal scorers

including AJ Rosales (from Matt Rodgers), Smith, Bryden and Pakula's second of the night to make it a 7-1 game. Phil Baciak then scored his first goal of the season, from Brandon Schlegler and Josh Dickinson. Goalie Spencer Craig made 19 saves and earned the win, although freshman Robbie Beydoun stepped in midway during the game and was stellar with 18 stops. **WILDCATS TIE:** A power play goal early in the third period by Justin Bauer lifted Plymouth to a 1-1 tie with Brighton on Tuesday. Linemates Zach Gambrell and Tyler Sanders assisted on the goal, which helped the Wildcats improve to 0-0-2. The Wildcats next host Livonia Franklin (3 p.m. Saturday at Computware Arena).

CANTON

FROM PAGE B1

Canton days are over, she will go to CMU and play softball for the Chippewas. • Even though Melanie Pickert didn't sign that same day, she will do so in February to play soccer for the University of Iowa. That couldn't keep her from throwing on a blue-and-yellow Hawkeyes sweatshirt and taking part in the fun. • And then there's the only one of the bunch who will play basketball in college. That would be Kayla Bridges, slated to go to Wayne State University and proudly wearing a green Warriors' hoodie. "It's a credit to them and who they are, as people, competitors and athletes," said Chiefs' head coach Brian Samulski. "To have a group like the Schmitts, and Kayla, and Melanie and CarolAnn, I understand it's a once in a lifetime kind of thing. "You may be involved in athletics your whole life and we may never see anything like that again, five athletes going Division 1 or 2 with different sports."

THEY'LL BE KEYCUES

The Schmitts joked about playing for a program that is despised in University of Michigan territory. "I know being in Michigan no one likes Ohio State, but I'm excited," said Kari Schmitt. Twin sister Sara shrugged that off. "Most people don't like it (OSU), but hey, Michigan doesn't have one." Although U-M does have a women's hockey team, it is a club program and not the serious kind of stuff the Schmitts will encounter with Ohio

State. Sexauer's basketball swan song is now under way with Canton, but she has plenty of softball to look forward (including next spring with the Chiefs). Central Michigan was "a perfect fit" and not too far from home, so she jumped at the chance. Getting an opportunity to celebrate their futures together also made her smile. So does still having this season to help the Chiefs once again reach Breslin Center. "It just shows the diversity and it's cool that everyone with all the different personalities and different talents can all come together and achieve one goal," Sexauer noted. "It's really fun to play with all of them."

CLOSE TO HOME The lone collegiate cager, Bridges, said there were a couple other D2 schools interested in bringing her on board. But in the end, she picked Wayne State because of proximity to home and quality academic programs. "They have a really nice program and it's close to family," Bridges said. "I'm a big family person, so that's important. "... It's the complete package between the sports side and the academic side and where they were located. So, the decision was really easy." Bridges said there was no way she would miss out on signing with her longtime friends and teammates. "I've been with these girls since my freshman year, so to see each of grow and make

that decision to go on to college, being together that was really important because we started together," she said. "I think it's only right that we finish together, too." Pickert, meanwhile, said the group signing shows how committed the players are about the future as well as committed to each other as friends and high school teammates. **THEY'RE UNITED** "We are all united under the fact that we love to compete and in a very competitive manner," Pickert said. "We all share that same goal and that's what brings us together. "We play for each other and that's why we're so passionate." She said she decided on Iowa because she wanted to go to a Big 10 school and because a couple of her club soccer teammates will be going there. "Iowa stood out to me because how much interest they showed and how homelike it was for me," Pickert added. "The campus is awesome, I'm pumped to play there next year." Kari Schmitt said gathering for National Signing Day "shows how much we work hard at what we do and how much we love what we do." "It's fun that we're all together and all. It was a lot of fun signing all together." "It's fun that we're all together and all going someplace different," summed up Sara Schmitt. "But we'll all keep in touch." There's sure to be a lot of future road trips.

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SALEM

FROM PAGE B1

said. "Jenny is an excellent shooter and Breanna is an excellent finisher." Also expected to see plenty of minutes are junior forward Kate Heitmeier (5-9) and junior guard Kynisha Dean (5-4). Meanwhile, the coach is looking forward to how two promising freshmen adjust to the varsity. Those are 5-11 forward Hannah Nowaske and guard Kayla Kavulich. "They both look good," Thomann said about Nowaske and Kavulich.

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Recycle this newspaper

Notice is hereby given that on Monday, December 20th, 2010 TATE & CO. Auctioneers, Executive Administrator for Extra Space Storage, will be offering for sale under the judicial lien process, by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: **Extra Space Storage, 6729 N Canton Center Rd., Canton, MI 48187 @ 9:00 A.M.**

C82	Angela Kolhagen	Household goods, furniture, appliances, etc.
C89	Thomas McLeod	Office goods, furniture, appliances, etc.
D111	Ryan Oddo	Household goods, furniture, appliances, etc.
I338	LeeAnn Decker	Household goods, furniture, appliances, etc.
J347	Tracy Looper	Household goods, furniture, appliances, etc.

Publish: December 2 and 9, 2010 060872028 - 2x3

LEGAL NOTICE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
2010 WINTER TAXES

Winter Taxes are due **December 1, 2010** and payable through **February 14, 2011** without penalty. Additional information appears on the reverse side of your tax statement. **MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH.** Payments can be made at the Township Hall during regular working hours, Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the **Treasurer's Office.** After hours payments can be placed in the 24 hr **WHITE DROP BOX** located along the circular drive. The **Treasurer's Office** will be open **December 31, 2010 from 8:00am to 2:00pm.**

RON EDWARDS, Treasurer
Charter Township of Plymouth
9955 Haggerty Rd
Plymouth, MI 48170

Publish: December 2 and 30, 2010 060872107 - 2x3

Fibromyalgia?

"Free Report Reveals The Shocking Truth About the "secret" Treatment Your Doctor Probably Doesn't Know...And Likely Hopes You Never Learn..."

— A new, free report has recently been released that reveals the "untold story" behind fibromyalgia pain. Fibromyalgia misdiagnosis and mistreatment is rampant and leads to countless years of unnecessary suffering. This free DVD reveals a natural procedure that is giving fibromyalgia sufferers their "lives back." — with "miraculous" results for many. If you suffer from fibromyalgia you need this no B.S., no "gimmicks" free report that is giving hope to fibromyalgia sufferers everywhere. For your free copy, call toll-free 1-888-650-3033 or visit urifibro.com to register.

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STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF WAYNE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
AMENDMENT TO WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM ORDINANCE
SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE
NUMBER C-2010-14

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NUMBER C-2009-10, CODIFIED AS SECTIONS 73.040 A, C, AND H AND 73.050 A AND B OF ARTICLE I, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH; PROVIDING FOR WATER RATES; PROVIDING FOR SEWER SYSTEM RATES; PROVIDING FOR VIOLATION AND PENALTY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR PRESERVATION OF EXISTING CHARGES, RATES AND ENFORCEMENT ACTION(S); PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDAINS:

Ordinance C-2009-10, codified as Sections 73.040 A, C and H and 73.050 A and B of Article I of the Code of Ordinances of the Charter Township of Plymouth are amended to read as follows:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENTS TO ORDINANCE.

73.040. Water Rates.

A. Consumption Rates. This section provides for the new Consumption Rates.

B. Unchanged.

C. Minimum Water Rates. This section provides for the new Minimum Water Rates.

D. through G. Unchanged.

H. Other Charges. This section provides for the new Consumption Water Rates.

73.050. Sewer System Rates.

A. Sewer Disposal Use Rates. This section provides for the new Sewer System Rates.

B. Minimum Sewage Rates. This section provides for the new Minimum Sewage Rates.

SECTION 2. VIOLATION AND PENALTY.

This section provides that any person or entity that violates any provision of this Ordinance may, upon conviction, be fined not more than Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars or imprisoned not more than Ninety (90) days, or both, in the discretion of the court.

SECTION 3. REPEAL.

This section provides that all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY.

This section provides that any unenforceable section can be severed from the rest of the Ordinance.

SECTION 5. SAVINGS CLAUSE.

This section provides that adoption of this Ordinance does not affect proceedings, prosecutions for violation of law, penalties and matured rights and duties in effect before the effective date of this Ordinance.

SECTION 6. PUBLICATION.

This section provides that the Clerk for the Charter Township of Plymouth shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This section provides that this Ordinance, as amended, shall take full force and effect upon publication.

Copies of the complete text of this Ordinance are available at the Clerk's office of the Charter Township of Plymouth, 9955 N Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, during regular business hours.

JOSEPH BRIDGMAN, MMC
CLERK
Introduced: September 28, 2010
Adopted: November 16, 2010
Effective: December 2, 2010
Publish: December 2, 2010 060872028 - 2x3



Passages

Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances
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WALTER CHARLES ARSNEAULT

Age 75, November 18, 2010. Walter is survived by his wife Margaret "Mickey" Arsneault and children Edward (Kelly) Arsneault, Cheryl Foreman, Susan Miles, Tim (Tina) Foreman and the late Gary Foreman. Grandfather of Aimee, Alex, Nicole, Sean, Tarrah, Megan, Kayleigh and Nicki. Please visit: www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com

SHARON COTTON 1942 - 2010

Passed away suddenly of a massive coronary. She was a long time resident in the Redford/Farmington Hills area and for the past 10 years has resided in Sun Lakes, AZ. She was a teacher of Business Education and Vocational Director at Redford Union High School from 1965 through 1981. In the fall of '81 she started as an Associate Professor at Schoolcraft College where she taught in the Business Department. She retired in 2000 as a full Professor and was awarded Professor Emeritus status. Over the years she taught many students and made numerous friends, both on the high school level and at Schoolcraft College. She leaves a brother, Gordon, and a great number of friends who will miss her every day. Her body was willing to medical science for research on Diabetes. There will be a Memorial Service set at a later date in Sun Lakes, AZ.

HELEN J. KUBON

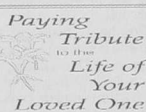
Of Westland, Michigan. Age 81, passed away November 29, 2010. Helen was born May 1, 1929 in Detroit, Michigan to Percy and Maleta (Forbes) Harris. Survivors include her children Daniel (Sharon), Mark, Anna (John) Stewart, Beverly Bellestri and Linda (Ray) Hess, 12 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren. Helen is preceded in death by her husband of 60 years, Victor and her daughter in law Kathy. A Traditional Farewell will be held Thursday December 2 at 11:00 AM at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Howell, with prayers at 10:00 AM at Borek Jennings Funeral Home, Lamb Chapel. Memorial contributions are suggested to Capuchin Soup Kitchen. Envelopes will be available at Borek Jennings Funeral Home, Lamb Chapel where the family will gather with friends on December 1 from 2-8 PM. Please leave a Message of Comfort to Helen's family by calling 877-231-7900, or sign her guestbook at www.borekjennings.com.

MARLES C. LOMAS

November 30, 2010 Age 90 of Westland. Beloved wife of the late George Sr. Dear mother of George Jr. (Jane). Loving grandmother of George (Mina), and Sarah (Jeff) Perry. Gt. Grandmother of Patricia and Theodore Perry. Funeral services from the UH Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood Rd. Westland, Thursday 1pm. Visitation at the funeral home Wednesday 2-8pm. Burial will take place at Cadillac Memorial Cemetery. Please view memorial and send tributes at www.uhfh.com.

LOIS M. MAKI

Age 82, of Livonia, MI, passed away November 29, 2010. Arrangements by: Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington.



ELAINE ROSEMARY (HEITKAMP) GOLDEN

Age 59 (formerly of Coldwater) died November 22, 2010 at her home in Flower Mound, TX. She was born July 12, 1951 in Chickasaw, OH to Ernest Heitkamp who survives in Minster, Ohio and Rose (Prenner) Heitkamp who is deceased. Elaine worked as a Project Specialist for Xerox Corporation. Survivors include: Husband, Dan in Flower Mound, Texas; Sons, Corky (DeAnn) of Flower Mound, TX, and Andy of Saipan, Grandsons, Jack and Nate of Flower Mound, TX; Sisters, Gayle (Don) Heitkamp of London, OH, Peg (Jim) Schmiesing of Minster, OH; Brother, Mark (Beth) Heitkamp of Cincinnati, OH along with 10 Nieces and Nephews. Friends may call at the Hogenkamp Funeral Home-Coldwater on Friday, December 3, 2010 from 5 to 8 pm. Burial will be in St. Elizabeth Cemetery, Coldwater. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the TGEN Cancer Foundation at <http://tgenfoundation.org/NetCommunity/>. Condolences may be left at hogenkampfh.com

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Observer & Eccentric
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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A menorah is aglow in Kellogg Park, in downtown Plymouth.

Candle lighting, latke dinners mark Jewish Festival of Lights

Jewish families throughout southeastern Michigan lit candles Wednesday in observance of the eight-day holiday of Hanukkah, which runs through sundown, Thursday, Dec. 9.

Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights, commemorates the victory of Judah Maccabee and his small band of followers over the Syrian army in 165 B.C. It also marks the rededication of the central Jewish Temple in Jerusalem. Tradition holds that at the time of the rededication, only one oil lamp — with just enough fuel for one day — was found for use near the Holy Ark that held the Torah scrolls, but miraculously the oil lasted for eight days.

In Jewish homes, families celebrate by lighting a candle in a Menorah — or candelabrum — each evening of the holiday until all eight are lit. Special foods prepared during Hanukkah include latkes — potato pancakes — and jelly-filled doughnuts. Youngsters receive "gelt," which consist of chocolate or real coins and gifts. A favorite game involves spinning a four-sided pot called a dreidel.

Celebrating isn't limited to the home. Here's a sampling of local events:

• Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills, plans a family latke dinner, 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8. Call (248) 851-5100.

• The Birmingham Temple, 28611 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills, offers a potluck dinner at 6 p.m., followed by a family service at 7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 3. Participants bring the main dishes and the temple will provide latkes and fixings. After the dinner, Rabbi Tamara Kolton will lead youngsters in a special menorah lighting ceremony. Light will be the theme of the celebration that will include games and songs. (248) 477-1410

• Congregation Beit Kodesh, 31840 Seven Mile, Livonia, sets its Hanukkah Party for 6 p.m. Dec. 7. Attendees bring their own menorahs and the synagogue will supply the candles. Includes food, games and prizes. The date for advance registration has passed. At the door price is \$10.

• Congregation Beth Ahm, 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield, will celebrate with a candle-lighting at 6 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7. The Sisterhood and Men's Club co-sponsor the event. Participants bring a menorah and candles to mark the Festival of Lights with others in the congregation. The dinner will feature a latke bar with traditional and sweet potato latkes, applesauce, sour cream, mushrooms in wine sauce, cranberry sauce, marshmallow fluff and salmon mousse. Cookie decorating, crafts and singing will follow the dinner. \$5 per person. RSVP by Dec. 2 to (248) 851-6880.

• Temple Kol Ami, 5085 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield, will start its "Bim Bam Shabbatukah" celebration at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, with a family-friendly Shabbat service, followed by a congregation-wide candle-lighting, latke nosh and songs. Cost is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children. RSVP to the temple at (248) 661-0040 or e-mail to julie@tkolami.org.

• The Shul, 6890 W. Maple, West Bloomfield, offers a Hanukkah Concert, 4:30 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5, featuring the Kosher Gravy Company — musicians who mix rock, blues, jazz and folk music. The event includes a pasta, soup and salad bar, menorah lighting ceremony, Moonbounce and other fun. Cost is \$18 per adult; kids under 13 are admitted free. RSVP to www.theshul.net or call (248) 788-4000.

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www.nativitygocchurch.org (CEB11200)

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10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School
Faith - Freedom-Fellowship Ministers
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For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 248-437-2011, Ext. 247 or e-mail: dhart@dnps.com

STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, December 2, 2010

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Contact Editor, Brad Kadrich

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8899

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CHAMBER CHAT

Fond farewell

The chamber hosts an open house/reception as officials say good-bye to retiring director Dianne Cojei, who leaves after 10 years of service.

The reception is 4-7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9, at the Canton Chamber of Commerce, 45525 Hanford.

For more information, call the chamber, (734) 453-4040.

Holiday party

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts its Chamber Holiday Party 7-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, at Keller & Stein Florist & Greenhouses, 42158 Michigan Ave.

Cost is \$10, and reservations are required. The party is sponsored by Bovitz, CPA, P.C., Community Financial, Huntington Bank and Oakwood Healthcare Systems, with wine tasting compliments of Holiday Market.

To make reservations or for more information, call (734) 453-4040 or e-mail admin@cantonchamber.com

December luncheon

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts its December Holiday Luncheon 11:30 a.m. Dec. 1, at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton. The cost for lunch is \$20 (advance member registration), \$30 (non-member) and includes a full buffet lunch, beverages and dessert. This luncheon is open to the public.

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



Grand opening

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Friday, Nov. 19, by MSA Delivery Service in Canton to celebrate their new location. MSA Delivery Service is located at 4290 Hannan Road in Canton. Attending this event were employees, Canton Chamber of Commerce members, Canton Township officials and local residents.

unwrapped toy or gift.

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

Transfer student open house

Lawrence Technological University hosts a Transfer Student Open House 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7, in the Buell Management Building Atrium, 21000 W. Ten Mile in Southfield.

Students can meet with program directors. Eligible students will be advised and admitted - all in one day! Application fees will be waived when you apply at this event.

To RSVP, call (248) 204-3160, e-mail admissions@ltu.edu, or register online at onthespot.ltu.edu.

Health care reform

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts a Health Care Reform Seminar 4-5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8, with guest speaker Barb Kellman, director of operations, Blue Cross Blue Shield Managing Agency. The seminar will discuss near-term changes and Blue Cross-specific implications. There is no charge to attend.

To RSVP or for more information, e-mail admin@cantonchamber.com or call (734) 453-4040. The Canton Chamber of Commerce is located at 45525 Hanford.

Super-secret spa sale

Indigo Salon, Spa & Boutique hosts a Super Secret Spa sale 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15, at the spa, located at 50545 Cherry Hill in Canton.

To RSVP and for more information, call (734) 961-3245 or visit the salon's website at www.indigosalonanddayspa.com.

Super lawyer

Mark W. Jane, a lawyer for Butzel Long, was among the attorneys named to the 2010 Michigan Super Lawyers list.

Super Lawyers is a listing of outstanding lawyers from more than 70 practice areas who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement.

Super Lawyers selects attorneys using a rigorous, multiphase rating process. Peer nominations and evaluations are combined with third party research. Each candidate is evaluated on 12 indicators of peer recognition and professional achievement. Selections are made on an annual, state-by-state basis.

New loan officer

Marvin Rankin of Canton has joined Charter One as a Mortgage Loan Officer. His office is in Birmingham.

Rankin originates a wide range of home financing programs, including both conventional and government loans. He specializes in construction financing and is a certified construction analyst.

Rankin has been in the mortgage business for 22 years. He came to Charter One from Paramount Mortgage, where he was a vice president/mortgage lender. Previously he was with Michigan Citizens Bank. He has also worked for the Rural Development Agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and for the Veterans Administration with its Loan Guaranty

Home Loan Program. Rankin graduated from Alcorn University with a bachelor's degree in economics and a minor in money and banking.

"Charter One is committed to the mortgage business and, specifically, to growing our home financing operation in the Michigan market and throughout our retail banking geography," said Ellen Steinfeld, Senior Vice President in the bank's Home Lending Solutions division.

Holiday workshops

Registration has begun for all Holiday Workshops at D & M Art Studios in Canton.

The schedule starts with Christmas Kids Only Fine Art Gift Giving Workshops Dec. 18, 9-11 a.m.; noon-2 p.m. and 3-5 p.m.; and Dec. 23 from 10 a.m. to noon and 1-3 p.m.

The studio offers a ceramic workshop Dec. 8 from 5:15-6:15 p.m., followed by after Christmas four- and two-hour Drawing and Painting Workshops Dec. 28-30.

There is a special drop-off day Wednesday, Dec. 22, anytime between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at \$10 per hour.

Stop in, call (734) 453-3710 or check the studio's website (www.dmartstudio.com) for dates and times for regular fall classes, home school classes and workshops.

Business mixer

The Inn at St. John's five Restaurant hosts the next Plymouth Business-2-Business Mixer 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7.

There are no fees for the mixer, no groups to join. Participants should bring business cards for exchanging with fellow business owners in the Plymouth, Canton, Northville and surrounding

areas.

The Inn at St. John's is located at 44045 Five Mile in Plymouth.

To RSVP or for more information, call (734) 455-8722.

Singing for supper

Holiday music will ring out loud and clear for shoppers at Hiller's Markets on the first weekend in December. While they load their carts with groceries, they will be entertained by a host of singers hoping to raise money for their budget-strapped school and community choirs.

The twenty choirs taking part have reserved 30-minute time slots between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. to perform at five participating Hiller's locations, including the Plymouth store. Shoppers can make donations in \$1, \$5 and \$10 amounts to the participating choirs at Hiller's registers and Hiller's Markets has pledged to match the donations.

Justin Hiller, the vice-president of Hiller's Markets, explained that the program had been developed to help combat the massive budget cuts to music programs in schools.

"Music education in kids' lives has been shown to enhance learning - even in academic subjects like math and reading - and also to build self-confidence," he said. "It is essential to keep music programs strong. This is a way we can help, and at the same time entertain customers as they shop."

Choirs singing at Hiller's Plymouth store, located at 15455 N. Haggerty, include Madonna University (11 a.m.), St. Edith's (11:45 a.m.), Plymouth Christian Academy (12:30 p.m.), Cantata Academy (2 p.m.) and St. Edith's again (2:30 p.m.).

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ENTERTAINMENT

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Sugar plum fairies, mice, toys dance onto stage this weekend

BY SHARON DARGAY
OGE STAFF WRITER

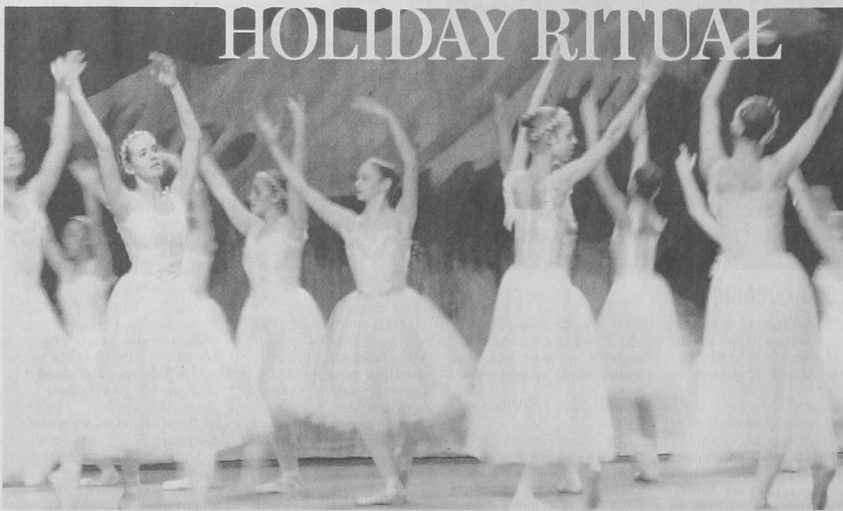
Dawn Greene has taught and directed *The Nutcracker* for 26 seasons, but finds a fresh twist to the Tchaikovsky ballet every year. "Sometimes we change according to the dancers we have," said Greene, artistic director for the Plymouth Canton Ballet Company. "The 'Flowers' and 'Snow' are usually all the same. The costumes we get might be different."

"We don't do Mother Ginger," she said, referring to the dancing gingerbread house in the ballet's second act. "Instead of doing Mother Ginger, we do a clown. And we don't do 'The Land of Sweets.' We do 'Magic Kingdom.'"

"My daughter used to be with the Cincinnati Ballet and when Clara leaves to go back home at the end of the ballet, they would have a hot air balloon they would get into and float up."

Although the music is the same from year to year, different dance and staging interpretations, as well as a changing cast keep *The Nutcracker* a fresh and favorite way to start the holidays.

"I think it is because it is the start of Christmas. There is a Christmas tree, the magic of toys coming to life," said Greene, explaining the ballet's popularity. "The neat thing about it is if you go with a child and see that child's face brighten, it brightens it for you, too."



Dancers from the Plymouth Canton Ballet Company perform "The Nutcracker" with live music by the Plymouth Canton Symphony Orchestras.

MEET THE DANCERS

Her company will dance to live music by the Plymouth Canton Symphony Orchestras at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 4 and 2 p.m. Dec. 5 at Salem High School Auditorium, 46181 Joy, Canton. Tickets are \$19 for adults and \$13 for children. Tickets for the "Sugar Plum Parade" are \$3 and allow youngsters to meet the approximately 70 dancers from age 8 and up who will be on stage after the performance. They're all available at www.plymouthcantonalballet.org.

Dancers come from throughout southeastern Michigan, from a variety of studios. Greene holds rehearsals for *The Nutcracker* on Sundays only, so the work won't interfere with studio lessons.

"The children aren't just with their own (studio) dancers. They meet different dancers. They make it a community project rather than a studio project."

Greene teamed with the Plymouth Canton Symphony Orchestras on *The Nutcracker* performance 13 years ago, a

benefit for the dancers who must train themselves to listen for subtle changes in tempo.

"They have to be prepared. They have to listen. It's great," she said.

IN LIVONIA

Performers from Bunny Sanford's School of Dance in Livonia will get a taste of both recorded music and live sound when they perform the ballet this month.

They'll dance several excerpts from *The Nutcracker* during the Livonia Symphony

Orchestra's "Suites and Treats"

concert at 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at Clarenceville High School Auditorium located on Middlebelt, between Seven and Eight Mile Roads. Tickets are available at the door, at all Livonia libraries, Livonia Drugs and Love's Bakery. The cost is \$17 for adults and \$5 for children and students.

The dance studio will perform the entire ballet, with more than 70 dancers, to recorded music at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 18, at Stevenson High School,

33500 6 Mile, Livonia. Tickets are \$7. They will be available at the door or by calling Bunny Sanford's School of Dance at (734) 464-7440.

"We've done it a couple of years with the symphony. I think (the dancers) enjoy it. It adds a little something different for them to do, another experience," said Renee Liske, a member of the studio's parent organization.

"It's a kid-friendly performance," she added.

The production length has been shortened just enough to accommodate younger ballet buffs.

A sampling of other *Nutcracker* performances:

- The Michigan Classic Ballet Company, 11 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Dec. 4 and 3 p.m. Dec. 5 at Mercy Auditorium, 29300 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for senior citizens and children. A *Nutcracker* Tea runs 1:30-2:30 p.m. Dec. 5 and costs \$15 per person. Buy tickets at michiganclassicballet.com.

- The Moscow Ballet presents the "Great Russian Nutcracker," 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 19 at the Fox Theatre in Detroit. Tickets range from \$27.50 to \$350. They are available at Olympia Entertainment, com, the Fox Theatre and Joe Louis Arena box offices, Hockeystown Authentics in Troy (without service charge) at all Ticketmaster locations and Ticketmaster.com and www.nutcracker.com. To charge tickets by phone, call (800) 745-3000.

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www.HolidayCraftExtravaganza.com



Dave Albrecht of Farmington Hills works in the Oakland Community College Potter's Lab.

See thousands of ceramic pieces at annual college show

Ceramics artists from Plymouth and Farmington Hills will be among the 135 potters who will show and sell their works at Oakland Community College's 35th annual Potter's Market, Dec. 3-5 in Madison Heights.

Advanced ceramic students at the college's Royal Oak campus and guest potters present the show, which will include more than 40,000 pieces of pottery this year.

Plymouth potter, Kathy Sandberg, has been an invited guest potter at The Potters Market for five years.

"There's absolutely nothing like The Potters Market," she said. "It really is a must do for pottery lovers and I just love to be part of it."

Sandberg, also one of the founders of the Plymouth Potters Guild, works hand in hand with the other potters in organizing and staffing the market. She said she feels "a wonderful sense of sharing and camaraderie" at the show.

"I feel honored to be part of the whole scene."

When Dave Albrecht came to the Potters Lab at the Royal Oak campus, it was to fulfill a dream deferred. Although he was a fine art major in college, he worked in the corporate world, finally returning to his college love of pottery and sculpture after retirement. When he first got to the Potter's lab about eight years ago, he served as a lab assistant/clay maker. Meanwhile he worked out his own pottery style of creating sculpted pagoda and lantern style outdoor sculptures and even organized a clay sculpting group. This group met on Fridays with a

live model. This is the fifth year that Albrecht will show his inspired "temples" as well as other pieces at the Potters Market.

Jack Adelman of Farmington Hills has shown his works at the Potter's Market for three years. Adelman, 86, developed an interest in pottery 16 years ago. He started taking classes at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center and began working in the Potters Lab at OCC seven years ago.

"I really enjoy the opportunity to work alongside other artists at OCC," Adelman said. "It's a very creative environment."

His pieces have striking, colorful high gloss glazes and forms that include fluting.

A cake decorator professionally, Robert Crisp of Farmington Hills creates dragons in clay at the Potters Lab. He applies detail to the sculptures that he hand builds by using a cake decorating tube.

Show hours are 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at United Food and Commercial Workers Union Hall, 876 Horace Brown Drive, one block south of 13 Mile, between I-75 and John R. Admission is free and parking is free. Because of the crowds, no strollers are permitted.

A special preview sale of the Potters Market runs from 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2. Admission to the preview sale is \$10.

For information call (248) 246-2686 or visit www.thepottersmarket.com

ART

Art & Ideas

Time/Date: Saturdays, 1-7 p.m., through Jan. 29, 2011

Location: 15095 Northville Road, Plymouth Township, between eastbound and westbound 5 Mile intersections

Details: "Time Tells All" holiday-season art exhibition, a multi-artist retrospective of 2010 exhibitions. Artwork on display through Jan. 29, 2011, free

Contact: (734) 420-0775 or visit www.artandideasgallery.com

Detroit Artist Market

Time/Date: 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, through Dec. 23

Location: 4719 Woodward Ave., Detroit

Details: Annual Art for the Holiday Show includes jewelry, glass, metal, ceramic, photography, accessories, paintings, drawings, sculpture, books, cards, framed prints and more for sale. Admission to the preview party are \$10 for Detroit Artist Market members and \$20 for non-members

Contact: (313) 832-8540

Northville Art House

Time/Date: Through Dec. 3

Location: 215 W. Cady in downtown Northville

Details: 6th Annual Northville Holiday Art market with hand-crafted work in pottery, fiber, jewelry and painting for sale by local artists

Contact: (248) 344-0497

The Gallery@VT

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday, through Jan. 2, 2011; artist reception is 6-8 p.m. Dec. 2

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton

Details: Photos, including black and white still life and flower images, by Jason Nichols

Contact: (734) 394-5300

BENEFIT

Karl's Cabin

Time/Date: 9:30-10:30 p.m.,

Location: 6005 Gtfordresson, Plymouth

Details: Tony Samuels and fellow musicians perform to raise funds for the University of

Electronic music groups combine sound, multi-media at summit

Schoolcraft College's Synthesizer Ensemble will perform in the Electronic Music Summit, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, in the Schaver Music Recital Hall on the Wayne State University campus in Detroit.

The event will feature two other college ensembles, the University of Michigan's Digital Music Ensemble and Wayne State's Electronic Music Ensemble, that specialize in the growing genre of electronic music.

During the summit, audience members will experience a wide-ranging combination of dazzling sounds, lights, video, technology and 3D imagery along with a variety of styles and techniques during the concert. WSU's Electronic Music Ensemble tends to create long-form structures, using vintage synthesizers and modern sampling techniques. U-M's Digital Music Ensemble often creates interactive installations, such as its annual Gypsy Pond Music at the U-M School

of Music pond. The group's instruments can range from modified keyboards to amplified band saws. Schoolcraft's Synthesizer Ensemble is more repertoire-based, although its repertoire has ranged from Bach to Zappa, from Vietnamese folk music to video game music. Members perform on a wide range of current technology, including MIDI trumpets, saxophones and drums.

It's not just about unique music, however. WSU's group has created a piece based on the seasons and associated colors. The entire room will be color-saturated. U-M's group will create a performance artwork incorporating musical furniture. It also will perform a composition by Pauline Oliveras incorporating color wheels and Mylar. Schoolcraft's group will perform an original student compositions and holiday music with 3-D animation. Everyone in the audience will receive commemorative 3D glasses. Admission is \$5.

GET OUT!

Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center, The U of M Complementary Therapy Program was instrumental in helping Samuels achieve his life long dream of recording his music. All cover charge proceeds will go to the University of Michigan Cancer Research and proceeds from the sale of the CD "World Record" with his band TLM and "You Can Better Know Me" which is a Contemporary Christian release with his band SonLight, will go to the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center Music Therapy Program.

Contact: (734) 455-8450

COMEDY

Go Comedy!

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

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: Basile, through Dec. 4; Russ Meneve, Dec. 8-11; Roz G., Dec. 15-18; Billy Ray Bauer, Dec. 22-23; Steve Bills, Dec. 29-30 and Jan. 1; Tom Segura, Dec. 31

Contact: (734) 261-0555; www.kickerscomplex.com

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle

Time/Date: Paul Mecurio, Dec. 2-4; O'Brien

& Valdez, Dec. 9-11; David Dyer, Dec. 16-18; Dan

Grueter, Dec. 30-31

Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak

Contact: (248) 542-9900; www.comedycastle.com

CONCERTS

The Ark

Time/Date: Lil' Ed & The Blues Imperials, Dec. 2; Orpheum Bell, Dec. 3; The Gibson Brothers, Dec. 4; Over the Rhine, Dec. 5; John Berry, Dec. 6; Lee Murdock; No. 7; Greensky Bluegrass, Dec. 8; 9th Annual Concert for Peace, Dec. 9; Lucy Kaplansky, Dec. 10; The Electric Guitar Summit, Dec. 11; Cairn to Cairn, Dec. 12; Decembersongs, Dec. 14; Delbert McClinton, Dec. 15; Trinidad Tripoli Steel Band, Dec. 16; Crossroads Celi, Dec. 17-18; Riders in the Sky, Dec. 19; Fred Eaglesmith, Dec. 31

Location: 316 South Main, Ann Arbor

Contact: (734) 763-8587; www.theark.org

Baseline Folk Society

Time/Date: Third Saturday of the month

Location: The JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: Eight "Open-Mic" performances plus a featured group perform. Sign up for open mic from 6:15-6:45 p.m. Individual membership is \$25 and includes monthly concerts from September through May. Otherwise, admission to each concert is \$5 at the door. Family memberships are \$50 and include monthly concerts

Contact: (248) 719-3464 or mjmullen@yahoo.com

Jazz Cafe

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Dec. 17-18

Location: Music Hall, 350 Madison, Detroit

Details: Freddy Cole Christmas, tickets \$27

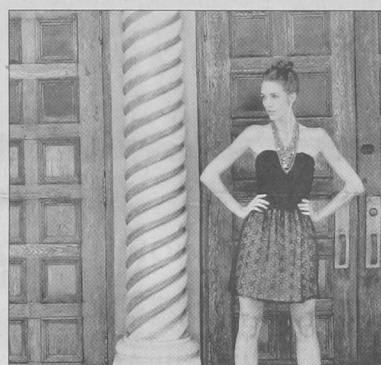
Contact: www.ticketmaster.com; (313) 887-8500

Penn Theater

Time/Date: Doors open 11:05 a.m.; show starts 11:30 a.m., Dec. 4

Location: 760 Penniman, Plymouth
Details: Mr. Seely & the Troublemakers, along with musical host Guy Louis, perform in the second show of the "Saturdays@the Penn" series for children. Tickets at the door or in advance from the Plymouth Community Arts Council, \$5 per person

Contact: (734) 416-4278



Holiday fashion

Bella Mia in downtown Plymouth will hold its annual holiday fashion show at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 4, at EG Nick's, 500 Forest, Plymouth. Guests will enjoy brunch, the show, and 25 percent off their purchase. Tickets are \$25. Call (734) 459-0057 for tickets or more information.

In Loving Memory ...at the Holidays

Remember the loved ones you've lost by placing a special holiday remembrance tribute.

The Observer and Eccentric/Hometown Weekly newspapers will be publishing a special "In Remembrance" page for the holidays. Here's the perfect opportunity to honor the memory and celebrate the life of loved ones who hold a special place in your heart.

Prices start at **\$15.00**
for a photo "In Remembrance" ad

Publication: Sunday, Dec. 19th
...in the Eccentric Newspapers

Thursday, Dec. 23rd
...in the Observer Newspapers and
Hometown Weekly Newspapers

Deadline for both issues...Monday, Dec. 13th

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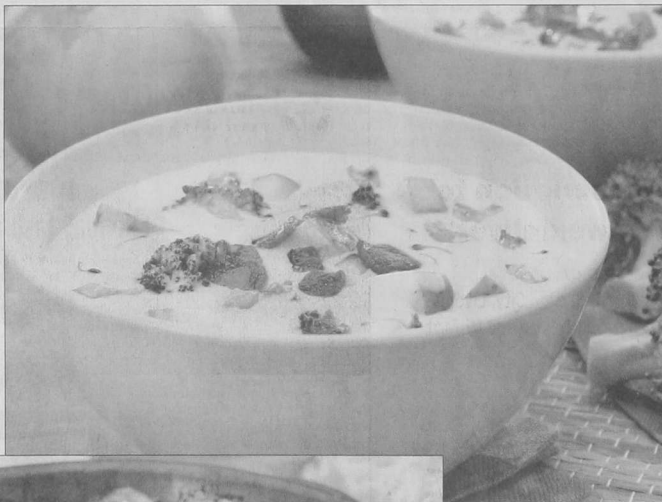


HASSLE-FREE *Suppers to Savor*

When there's a chill in the air, cozy up to the table with dishes that feed the soul as well as the stomach. This melt-in-your-mouth Slow Cooker Pot Roast with Onions is a complete dinner with very little fuss. A bowl of Broccoli, Bacon and Cheddar Chowder makes a hearty lunch or simple dinner in no time. And this recipe for Quick and Healthy Potato Casserole serves up a creamy, comforting side dish from the microwave in minutes.

Onions and Wisconsin potatoes add a savory quality to these three recipes. Best of all, onions and potatoes are good sources of potassium, fiber and vitamin C, and cost only pennies a serving.

To find more recipes your family will savor, visit www.wisconsinpotatoes.com and www.onions-usa.org.



SLOW COOKER POT ROAST WITH ONIONS

Serves 4 to 6

- 1 (2½-pound) boneless beef sirloin tip or chuck roast
- 1 tablespoon prepared horseradish
- 1½ pounds yellow onions, trimmed and cut into ½-inch slices
- 1 pound Wisconsin red potatoes, trimmed and halved
- ½ pound carrots, trimmed, peeled and cut into 2 to 3-inch pieces
- 2 tablespoons fresh thyme leaves, stripped from stems
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh rosemary (stems removed)
- 2 cups tomato juice
- 1 cup low-sodium beef broth
- ½ cup red wine (or additional beef broth)
- 2 tablespoons flour
- Pepper and salt to taste (optional)

Trim fat from beef roast. Place roast in bottom of 5 to 6-quart slow cooker. Spread horseradish over surface of meat. Top and surround roast with onions, potatoes, and carrots. Sprinkle with thyme and rosemary and pour in tomato juice and beef broth. Cover and cook on high setting for 6 to 8 hours or until beef is fall apart tender.

Mix wine (or beef broth) with flour and pour mixture around meat in slow cooker. Gently stir flour mixture into existing sauce without disturbing the meat. Replace cover and cook on high setting for 15 minutes or until thickened. Before serving, season with pepper and salt to taste and garnish with sprigs of rosemary.

BROCCOLI, BACON AND CHEDDAR CHOWDER

Serves 6

- 8 slices bacon, chopped
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1 onion, finely chopped
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- ½ teaspoon salt Dash cayenne pepper
- 3 cups milk
- 2 cups chicken or vegetable stock
- 12 ounces Wisconsin red skinned potatoes, cut into ½-inch dice
- 2 cups cheddar cheese, shredded
- 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon hot pepper sauce, if desired
- 2 10-ounce boxes frozen chopped broccoli, thawed

Heat large pot over medium heat. Add bacon and cook until crispy, about 5 minutes. Remove bacon with slotted spoon and transfer to paper towel lined plate and reserve. Pour off all but 2 tablespoons fat. Add butter and onion and cook for 6 minutes or until softened. Add flour and cook, stirring for another 2 minutes or until foamy.

Whisk in salt, cayenne pepper, milk and chicken stock and cook until it becomes smooth and creamy, about 3 minutes. Add potatoes and cook for 10 to 15 minutes or until potatoes are tender.

In bowl, toss cheddar with flour to coat. Stir in cheese, a handful at a time, whisking after each addition until smooth. Add in hot pepper sauce if using. Add thawed broccoli and stir to heat. Do not boil. Taste for seasoning and adjust if necessary.

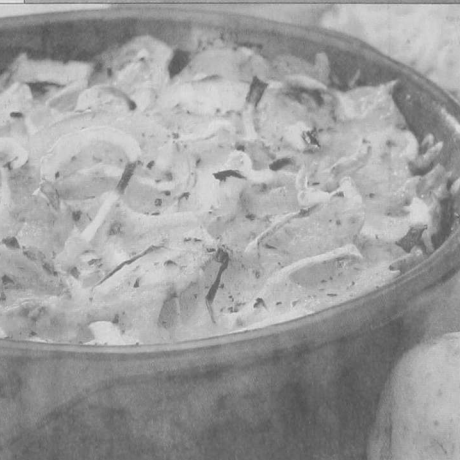
Ladle soup into heated bowls and garnish with reserved bacon.

Recipe excerpt used with permission. Text copyright 300 Sensational Soups © Carla Snyder and Meredith Deeds 2008 Robert Rose Inc.

STORAGE TIPS

Onions and potatoes pair well together in lots of recipes. They also like similar storage conditions, but can spoil if stored in proximity to each other. Follow these quick tips for the best possible shelf-life.

- Store potatoes and onions separately. Store onions in cool, dry, well-ventilated places, optimally, at a temperature between 45°F and 55°F, but not in the refrigerator. Potatoes require similar storage conditions, but they also need darkness and should kept at 50°F or less to avoid sprouting.
- Potatoes can be stored in perforated plastic bags or paper bags to extend their shelf-life.
- Onions should NOT be stored in plastic bags. Lack of air movement reduces storage life.
- Don't wash potatoes or onions (or any produce for that matter) before storing. Dampness will promote early spoilage.
- Chopped or sliced onions can be stored in a sealed container in your refrigerator for up to 7 days.



QUICK & HEALTHY POTATO CASSEROLE

Serves 6

- 1½ pounds Wisconsin Yukon Gold potatoes, very thinly sliced
- 1 cup quartered and thinly sliced onion
- 1 cup shredded reduced-fat sharp cheddar cheese
- ½ teaspoon Italian herb seasoning
- ½ cup stock or reduced-sodium broth
- 1½ teaspoons Dijon mustard
- ½ teaspoon garlic salt

Spray an 8-inch microwave-safe baking dish with nonstick cooking spray. Place ½ of the potatoes and ½ of the onions on bottom of dish and sprinkle with ½ of the cheese and ½ of the herbs. Repeat layers, then top with the last ½ of the potatoes, layering potatoes so that there is a solid layer of potatoes with no gaps; sprinkle with remaining cheese.

Stir together stock, Dijon and garlic salt and pour over potatoes. Cover with plastic wrap and microwave on HIGH for 20 minutes. Use oven mitts to remove dish from microwave. Carefully remove cover from dish (due to steam build-up) and serve.

Optional: Preheat oven to 400°F and place casserole in oven for 5 to 10 minutes or until casserole is golden brown before serving.

Canton cookie swap mixes competition, prizes, socializing

BY SHARON DARGAY
OGE STAFF WRITER

For its first four years, Diane Drouillard's annual Christmas cookie exchange was all about presentation.

"I asked the ladies to bring nine dozen cookies. It was pretty intense. It was pretty competitive in a fun way. They'd have displays set up to showcase their cookies," said the Canton resident. "The first year one of my friends won and she had a wine bottle display. The bottle had lights inside. There were different levels of shelving and fake grapes. One year someone came in with a large decorative mirror — 2 1/2- by 2-foot. That was the tray for the cookies."

Everyone voted on the best presentation and the winner received a professionally-made centerpiece by Drouillard's dad, a retired florist.

When the elaborate and large displays started to crowd the kitchen table and some guests began to stress over their art work, Drouillard lowered the cookie requirement to six dozen and switched the competition from style to taste.

On Saturday, Dec. 4, her husband and two other cookie judges will sample each entry, wash them down with milk and award the centerpiece to the "best cookie" baker during Drouillard's sixth annual cookie exchange, an event that draws together two dozen or so friends, neighbors, church club members and acquaintances.

"None of the judges had wives who had entered cookies to be judged," said Drouillard, who offers the good-natured competition as an optional activity during the seasonal event.



A Leaning Tower of Pisa display shows off cookies by Sue Speer of Livonia at one of Diane Drouillard's previous cookie exchanges.

STARTING A SWAP

Drouillard, a counselor at Northville High School, attended cookie swaps for several years before trying her own version "with a twist."

"As my kids were getting older I had more time. I thought, 'I'm going to do a cookie exchange and do it my way.' I love to entertain, too, so that's part of it," she said. "It's important for people to have a variety of cookies."

Last year she helped her daughter, Annalyse, 12, host a cookie exchange for her friends. Each girl brought two dozen homemade cookies to share.

"By the end of the evening they had a tray of assorted cookies to bring home to their families."

Drouillard, who also has two sons, age 16 and 14, loves to cook, a talent she acquired from her dad, who also enjoys creating in the kitchen.

"A couple of years ago we had a pierogi-making party. It was an all-day event."

She usually makes "kapusta" (a cabbage dish) and her father brings Polish sausage for Christmas dinner. Drouillard also makes her favorite cheese cake — from her grandmother's

recipe — for the holidays.

And, of course she'll serve lots of cookies collected from her annual exchange, which she hopes will inspire others.

Here are a few of her tips for creating a successful, fun cookie swap:

- Make sure each guest brings an empty tray to carry cookies home.
- Have foil or plastic wrap on hand to cover each tray.
- Play "good holiday music" to set the mood.
- Serve punch or some other kind of beverage and healthy appetizers. "People don't want to eat too much junk."
- Skip any appetizers that require last minute work or even time. Spend the time instead with your guests.
- Competition can be fun. In addition to "best display" and "best cookie," Drouillard also asked guests the first few years to bring copies of their recipes to exchange. Those who remembered were entered into a drawing for a cookie recipe book.
- Random prizes can be fun, too. "I do things like 'look on the bottom of your glass for a number.' I always have a favor. For many years it was a small candle or bath salts."

CHOCOLATE MALLOW DROPS

1/2 cup butter, softened
1 cup sugar
1 egg
1/2 cup of milk
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/2 cup all-purpose flour
1/2 cup baking cocoa
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
18 to 22 marshmallows, halved
Frosting:
1/4 cup butter, cubed
2 squares (1 ounce each) unsweetened chocolate
1 square (1 ounce) semisweet chocolate
2 cups confectioner's sugar
3 to 6 tablespoons brewed coffee

1. In a large bowl, cream the butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in the egg, milk and vanilla. Combine the flour, cocoa, baking soda and salt; gradually add to creamed mixture and mix well.
2. Drop by slightly rounded tablespoons, 2 inches apart, onto ungreased baking sheets. Bake at 375 for 6 minutes. Press a marshmallow half, cut side down, onto each cookie. Bake 2 minutes longer or until marshmallow is softened. Remove to wire racks.
3. In a microwave-safe bowl, melt butter and chocolate until smooth. Beat in confectioner's sugar. Add enough coffee to achieve spreading consistency. Transfer frosting to plastic bag; cut small hole in corner of bag. Pipe over cookies.

DIPPED GINGERSNAPS

2 cups sugar
1 1/2 cups vegetable oil
2 eggs
1/2 cup molasses
4 cups flour
4 teaspoons baking soda
1 tablespoon ground ginger
2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
1 teaspoon salt
Additional sugar for coating dough balls
White chocolate dip
2 packages vanilla or white chocolate
1/4 cup of shortening

Preparing the dough:
In a mixing bowl combine sugar and oil, mix well. Add eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Stir in molasses. Combine dry ingredients. Gradually add creamed mixture and mix well. Shape into 3/4-inch balls and roll in sugar. Place 2 inches apart on ungreased baking sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for 10-12 minutes or until cookies spring back when touched lightly. Remove to wire racks for cooling.

Preparing the dip:
Melt vanilla/white chocolate chips with shortening in a small saucepan over low heat. Dip the cookies half way and shake off the excess. Set on waxed paper to dry.

COOKIE WALKS

If you don't want to spend time in the kitchen but want home-baked treats, a cookie walk may be your best alternative to a cookie exchange. Here is a sampling of a few upcoming walks:

- Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church holds its 17th annual cookie walk beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at the church, 36075 W. Seven Mile, Livonia. Shoppers begin queuing up around 8 a.m. The church serves coffee for those waiting in line. Cookies are \$10 per pound. (248) 476-3432

- St. Timothy Lutheran Church, sells its cookies by the pound beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at 8820 Wayne Road, south of Ann Arbor Trail in Livonia. Various bake sale items also will be available. (734) 427-2290

- The Lutheran Home Livonia, runs a cookie walk 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Dec. 15 at 28910 Plymouth Road, Livonia. (734) 425-4814
- Plymouth First United Methodist Church, 45291 N. Territorial, Plymouth, runs a cookie walk, 11:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 12. (734) 453-5280

- Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland, will hold a cookie walk in conjunction with its "A Living Nativity," 3:30 p.m.-6 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 12, in the parking lot at the church, (734) 722-1735.

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

Play it cool with winter fire safety tips at home

The United States Fire Administration (USFA) and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) are working together to remind everyone that home fires are more prevalent in winter than in any other season. This is due in part to an increase in cooking and heating fires. Holiday decorations and winter storms that can interrupt electrical service and cause people to turn to alternative heating sources also contribute to the increased risk of fire in winter.

Winter residential building fires result in an estimated average of 945 deaths, 3,825 injuries, and \$1,708,000,000 in property loss each year.

Fires in one- and two-family dwellings account for 67 percent of all winter residential building fires.

Cooking is the leading cause of all winter residential building fires.

Winter residential building fires occur mainly in the early evening hours, peaking from 5-8 p.m.

"People get home, they start a little fire, settle down for the night. That's when we're going to get our fire starts," said Tom Kiurski, training coordinator for the Livonia Fire Department.

Although at its highest in December, residential building fire incidence is collectively highest in the three winter months of January, February, and March.

"A lot of that is obviously the cold months, the use of space heaters and fires in the fireplace," Kiurski said. He cited a lot of candles used in November and December.

"That becomes another issue so we have to be diligent around the use of candles." Adults should supervise candle use, he said, and be careful with pots and not put candles in walking paths.

The following fire safety tips can help you maintain a fire-safe home this winter season.

It's a recipe for serious injury or even death to wear loose clothing (especially hanging sleeves), walk away from a cooking pot on the stove, or leave flammable materials, such as potholders or paper towels, around the stove. Whether you are cooking the family holiday dinner or a snack for the children, practicing safe cooking behaviors will help keep you and your family safe.

• Always use cooking equipment tested



and approved by a recognized testing facility.

• Follow manufacturers' instructions and code requirements when installing and operating cooking equipment.

• Plug microwave ovens and other cooking appliances directly into an outlet. Never use an extension cord for a cooking appliance, as it can overload the circuit and cause a fire.

Kiurski warns against extension cords, noting it's best to talk to an electrician about wiring. "We definitely need to be aware we've got an increased demand on electricity," including home electronics. "The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking."

"That's big this time of year too with the holidays and family and friends. It's just very easy to get your attention diverted," Kiurski said.

• Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave

the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.

• If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you're cooking.

• Stay alert! To prevent cooking fires, you have to be alert. You won't be if you are sleepy, have been drinking alcohol, or have taken medicine that makes you drowsy.

"Medicines and alcohol usually aren't a good mix," Kiurski said, noting a lot of warnings on prescription bottles. "That can just compound the problem as well. We need to be careful about alcohol and medicine."

• Keep anything that can catch fire — potholders, oven mitts, wooden utensils, paper or plastic bags, food packaging, towels, or curtains — away from your stovetop.

• Keep the stovetop, burners, and oven clean.

• Keep pets off cooking surfaces and

nearby countertops to prevent them from knocking things onto the burner.

• Wear short, close-fitting or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking. Loose clothing can dangle onto stove burners and catch fire if it comes into contact with a gas flame or electric burner.

If your clothes catch fire, stop, drop, and roll. Stop immediately, drop to the ground, and cover face with hands. Roll over and over or back and forth to put out the fire. Immediately cool the burn with cool water for three to five minutes and then seek emergency medical care.

• Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.

• Have a three-foot "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters. Kiurski said kids shouldn't be near a stove; they can quietly color or be in another room to play. "The heat coming off of there can ignite nearby combustibles," he said, adding that's true of space heaters and combustibles like blankets.

• Never use your oven to heat your home.

"Not too much of a problem around here, thankfully, but always a good reminder, not the purpose of that appliance."

Kiurski said.

• Have a qualified professional install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacturers' instructions.

• Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.

• Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.

• Always use the right kind of fuel, specified by the manufacturer, for fuel burning space heaters.

• Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.

• Test smoke alarms monthly.

• Check smoke alarms and make sure they work," Kiurski said.

O&E staff writer Julie Brown contributed to this report.

Mortgage lender irked by complaints

Q: I am a mortgage lender and I am really getting fed up with the so-called poor borrowers who claim they were taken advantage of by the big bad lenders because they chose not to understand the documents they were given prior to closing. Nor did they hire someone competent to help them translate their loan commitment and review their preliminary TIL and estimated closing costs. Further, they chose not to hire an attorney or bring someone to attend the closing to make sure the closing proceeded in accordance with the loan commitment. What are your comments on that?

A: There is obviously some truth to your concerns because

these people who plead

ignorance and claim

to be taken advantage

of because they chose

not to read anything

before they got to the

closing and signed a

Promissory Note without

the benefit of legal

assistance are now crying

about it. Obviously, there

is much blame on both

sides including lenders

who have taken advantage

of persons who are not

in a position to get legal

assistance and could not

really afford the loan

made, but also, of course,

the persons who borrowed

the money should also

accept responsibility for

not seeking good advice.

Q: I am thinking about

moving to Santa Fe, N.M.,

and I am wondering if the

real estate market has

deteriorated there as it has

in many other parts of the

country.

A: In talking with

persons who know the

real estate market in

Santa Fe, I learned that

the market has gone down

from approximately 25-30

percent of value. In effect,

million dollar homes

in Santa Fe are now

selling for approximately

\$700,000, although, a

million dollar home in

Santa Fe might well be a

\$500,000 home in

Michigan. However, the

local business climate

appears to be strong with

very few vacancies in the

retail establishments in

the downtown area. Also,

the restaurant business

seems to be holding up

reasonably well based

upon my discussions

with restaurateurs

there. In any situation,

however, you should

retain the services of a

knowledgeable real estate

professional to assist you

in gaining insight into the

local market.



Robert Meisner

HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Aug. 16-20, 2010, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Canton
 50688 Amberley Blvd \$430,000
 7634 Andover Dr \$336,000
 42420 Birchwood Rd \$23,000
 2426 Berwick Dr \$109,000
 39668 Cather St \$109,000
 50551 Coolidge St \$250,000
 50566 Coolidge St \$260,000
 39940 Coronation Rd \$110,000
 45178 Forest Trail Dr \$175,000
 47046 Glastonbury Dr \$275,000

5794 Hathaway Rd \$200,000
 643 Highlands Rd \$300,000
 8526 Mannington Rd \$165,000
 45483 Muirfield Dr \$333,000
 47335 Pembroke Dr \$85,000
 44596 Penny Ct \$170,000
 45916 S Stonewood Rd \$248,000
 955 Wellington Ct \$250,000
 8598 Westchester Ln \$164,000
 45124 Weymouth Dr \$279,000

38990 Lapham Dr \$170,000
 19048 Laurel Dr \$250,000
 35012 Leon St \$154,000
 14335 Mayfield St \$172,000
 30931 Mayville St \$100,000
 37454 N Laurel Park Dr \$95,000
 14629 Newburgh Rd \$178,000
 31562 Norfolk St \$136,000
 34175 Oakdale St \$121,000
 29670 Richmond St \$227,000
 33471 Vargo St \$172,000
 16443 Wayne Rd \$185,000
 18820 Westmore St \$128,000
 20238 Weyher St \$100,000

19572 Northridge Dr \$49,000
 19603 Northridge Dr \$51,000
 540 Orchard Dr \$105,000
 46625 Stratford Ct \$150,000
 17766 Willflower Dr \$330,000
 16907 Yellowstone Dr \$151,000

12801 Nathalie \$59,000
 11323 Riverside \$51,000
 14314 Winston \$105,000
 15423 Winston \$106,000

35308 Avondale St \$80,000
 37562 Barkridge Cir \$35,000
 32445 Bertram Dr \$106,000
 29184 Brody Ave \$95,000
 38327 Greenwood St \$25,000
 35881 Hunter Ave \$50,000
 6221 N Newburgh Rd \$70,000
 39252 Nottingham St \$70,000
 35109 Sansbury St \$78,000
 1510 Sharon St \$52,000
 1245 Sharon St \$60,000
 38533 Watson Cir \$155,000
 31669 Windsor St \$81,000
 32837 Winona St \$114,000
 664 Worcester St \$175,000

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the weeks of Aug. 16-20, 2010, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Beverly Hills
 31700 Bellville Trl \$262,000
 18201 Beverly Rd \$320,000
 16908 Birchwood Ave \$100,000
 32950 Eastlady Dr \$261,000

890 Stanley Blvd \$163,000
 1635 Torrey St \$183,000
 2055 W Bend Ct \$380,000

505 Cambridge Way \$306,000
 2020 Dell Rose Dr \$350,000
 1281 E Bradford Dr \$328,000
 1608 Mark Hopkins Rd \$233,000
 628 Pine Valley Way \$370,000
 4950 Susans Way \$64,000
 283 Tilbury Rd \$369,000

26186 La Muera St \$190,000
 21587 Manchester Ct \$280,000
 32277 Old Forge Ln \$171,000
 28515 Quail Hollow Rd \$143,000

1347 Coach House Ln \$296,000
 36960 Doris Cir W \$260,000
 24700 Milford Rd \$253,000
 136 N Hagadorn St \$15,000
 54235 Villagewood Dr \$30,000

28710 E Kalong Cir \$80,000
 29774 Guy St \$65,000
 28140 Lahser Rd \$80,000
 14687 Martha Washington Dr \$15,000
 18117 Melrose Ave \$50,000
 29117 Rambling Rd \$80,000
 27450 Shagbark Dr \$65,000
 28435 Taperi Dr \$18,000
 27720 Vermont St \$82,000
 28815 W Carnegie Park Dr \$40,000
 28837 W Kalong Cir \$135,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Career Seminar

A Real Estate Career Seminar will be held 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 16, at Keller Williams Realty, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. To reserve a seat or for more information, call Lesley Aiello at (734) 459-4700 or laiello@kw.com.

BIA

• Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will present three-hour Continuing Competency courses required by the state of Michigan for renewal of a Residential Builder's License or Maintenance & Alterations Contractor's License. One three-hour course is required per license cycle. The sessions will be:

• Thursday, Dec. 2, from 1-4 p.m. at The Pointe, 5085 Lakeshore Road in Fort Gratiot, MI

• Monday, Dec. 13, from 1-4 p.m. at Association Offices, 2075 Walnut Lake

Road, West Bloomfield

Don Pratt, CGB, CGR, CAPS or Wake-Pratt Construction will present the courses. Each session will cover one hour in each of the three required areas: legal issues, codes and safety issues. Registration is \$55 per person for members of BIA and for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at www.builders.org/events.php.

• Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan will present the three courses required for National Association of Home Builders Certified Aging-in-Place (CABP) designation on Monday, Dec. 6; Tuesday, Dec. 7; and Wednesday, Dec. 8, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day at Association Offices, 2075 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield.

Don Pratt, CAPS, CGB, CGR, of Wake-Pratt Construction, will present the technical, business management and customer service skills essential for competing in this fast growing segment of residential

construction. CAPS I, Marketing and Communication Strategies for Aging and Accessibility, focuses on techniques to use when marketing to those who need the remodeling services, how to recognize housing needs and how to communicate the best options. CAPS II, Design/Build Solutions for Aging and Accessibility, focuses on relevant codes and standards, common barriers and how to redesign living areas for safety and comfort.

The third required course is Business Management for Building Professionals. It offers a foundation in those best business practices valuable to smaller businesses. Holders of the following designations are exempt from having to take the Business Management course in order to attain the CAPS designation: CGR, CGB, CGA, CR, CKD, CBD, ASD, AIA and CRA. Registration for each course is \$160 for members of the NAHB Professional Remodelers Council, \$195 for BIA members and \$225 for guests. For registration

information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at www.builders.org/events.php.

Investors

Speed Reports to meet new investors, suppliers and contractors. Bring business cards for exchanging. Presented by Real Estate Investors Associations of Oakland on Thursday, Dec. 9, 5:30-9:30 p.m. at Club Venetian, 29310 John R, north of 12 Mile, Madison Heights. Seminar free to members, \$20 non-members. Call (800) 747-6742. (www.REIAofOakland.com)

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. Wednesdays. To reserve a spot, contact Keller Williams Realty International, at (248) 893-2500, 27555 Executive Drive, Suite 100, Farmington Hills 48331.



Challenging fun for ALL ages Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 First Stoic
- 5 Swirling water
- 9 That woman
- 12 Holly shrub
- 13 Promontory
- 14 Gladiator's hello
- 15 Demonstrator's sign
- 17 Ancient harp
- 19 Tempe sch.
- 20 Paper holder
- 21 Missouri range
- 24 Inclined
- 27 Kind of certificate
- 28 Chew on
- 29 Society column word
- 30 Goblin
- 31 Burdies up
- 32 Cotton seedler
- 33 'The Name of the Rose' author
- 34 Macho motor-cycles

DOWN

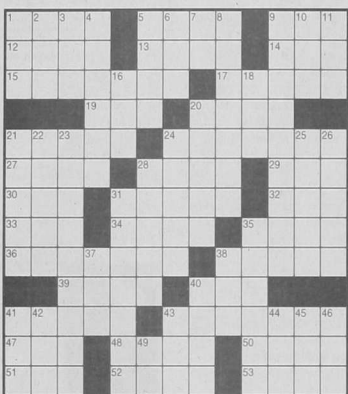
- 35 Game played on horseback
- 36 Laughs hysterically
- 38 Brainy club
- 39 Sprinkles
- 40 Namath or Pesci
- 41 Butcher's cut
- 43 Snow —
- 47 Motor lodge
- 48 Congers
- 50 Alimony getters
- 51 Runway hazard
- 52 Credit card balance
- 53 Adroit
- 1 Mail code
- 2 House addition
- 3 PBS funder
- 4 Farm vehicle
- 5 Grayish-brown
- 6 Scout leader, often
- 7 Computer dept.
- 8 Cheerful colors

Answer to Previous Puzzle

SPA BOAR BLOW
ARC AURA RUDE
FORKLIFT TIGET
EMEND SSTS
ASH OKAYS
DISC YOYO QUE
ERIK DUE SURE
SOD SERA TATS
INEPT RTE
LUCK AERIE
DOTE HOTPLATE
AHAB EPEE PEN
MODE TSAR TRY

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- 9 Obsessed with (2 wds.)
- 10 Day before
- 11 Lo— graphics
- 16 Make inquiry
- 18 Kennel sound
- 20 Peaks of thunder
- 21 Curved moldings
- 22 Not even one
- 23 Offering
- 24 Pittfalls
- 25 Armstrong and Simon
- 26 Columbus' port
- 28 Understands intuitively
- 31 Sharpened
- 35 Chirped
- 37 Solar wind component
- 38 Meadow plant
- 40 Witty remark
- 41 Peter Pan rival
- 42 Yoko
- 43 Attorney's deg.
- 44 Logging tool
- 45 NBA official
- 46 Summer hrs.
- 49 MIT grad, perhaps



SUDOKU



Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

Word Search — Evergreen

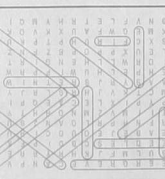
N E E R G R E V E C A N P V R
K S U L M F J K H R Y R R E F
N E E D L E S C B D I P F K B
Z E A B E J E O U D C I R U G
W R F N H P R L G A N J S U G
Y T I I M V Z M N O H T Y S
W P Y P I X L E C A E Q P I T
L M C T K V J H R S L R J Y I
K A A S Y R J S R E T N I W B
A E H P E L H U W I P P R W N
P I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

- arborvitae cyprus hemlock needles trees
- bushes evergreen holly pine winter
- conifer fir juniper spruce

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Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	4.625	0	4	0	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	4.375	0	3.75	0	A
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	4.625	0	4.125	0	J/V/F
First Michigan Bank	(248) 498-2824	4.625	0	3.875	0	J/V/F
First State Bank	(800) 372-2205	4.5	0	4	0	F
Gold Star Mortgage	(800) 784-1074	4.25	0.625	3.75	0	J/A/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage	(800) 991-9922	4.375	0	3.75	0	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	4.625	0	4	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	4.25	0.625	3.75	0	J/A/V/F

Above information available as of 11/24/10 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. Lenders to participate call (734) 922-3032 / © 2010 Residential Mortgage Consultants, Inc., All Rights Reserved

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APARTMENTS

HOMETOWNlife.com

MOVING? Sell Those Unwanted Items!
1-800-579-SELL "It's All About Results!"

THE APARTMENT SPECIALISTS

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

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

Wilderness
 2 Bdrms, 1000 sq. ft. CARPORTS/POOL WASHER & DRYER inside unit
 Livonia Schools (734) 425-5731

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Carriage House Move-In Specials! CENTRAL AIR Corner of Haggerty & Joy (734) 425-0930

Garden City
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 ANNGIE APTS.
 NO APPLICATION FEE
 FREE HEAT! 1 bedroom
 \$505. 9 Mile/Middlebelt
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FARMINGTON HILLS
 FREEDOM VILLAGE APTS.
 \$300 Move-In Special
 For Qualified Applicants
 Luxury 1 bdrms avail.
 Laundry in unit. Water incl.
 No Pets. 586-254-9511

FARMINGTON MANOR APTS.
 1 bedroom, carpet.
 Move-in Special Avail.
 From \$475. 248-888-0868

GARDEN CITY 1 & 2 bdrms
 apt. heat & water included.
 \$550 & \$650/mo. • Deposit
 Mint cond. (313) 645-0348

GARDEN CITY - 1ST MONTH
 FREE! *50 Off Sec. Dep.
 2 bdrm lower unit, heat/water
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GARDEN CITY - 1 bdrm, 1st floor
 unit. New carpet, air, blinds.
 Avail. ASAP. \$490 mo. (734) 454-0055

PLYMOUTH 1 Bedroom, \$627 per mo.
 New carpet, attic storage.
 Full size washer/dryer.
 \$400 MOVES YOU IN*
 734-459-6640 EHO
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 call for details

PLYMOUTH PARK APTS
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 Starting at \$650/mo.
 Includes all utilities.
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PLYMOUTH: Prime location.
 1 bdrm. available \$580/mo.
 Near downtown. Incl. heat.
 No dogs. 734-455-2635

Plymouth Rent Starting at \$539
FREE HEAT
 Free Rent until 12/31/10 on 1 bdrms only!
 1 & 2 Bedroom Avail.
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PLYMOUTH-SHELDON PARK
 Spacious 1 & 2 bdrms.
 C.A. pool carport. From
 \$525. \$300 sec dep. 50% off
 1st 3 months rent w/ good
 credit.
 Call: (734) 455-6570

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

WESTLAND
 1 bdrm w/appliances, private
 entrance, off street parking.
 \$475/mo. (248) 692-0262

WESTLAND
 \$300 MOVES YOU IN*
 1 bdrm, private entry.
 Walk-in closet.
 Convenient laundry.
 Very large.
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www.comoranto.com
 call for details

WESTLAND: Beautiful, brand
 new 1 bdrm. Wood floors.
 \$400/mo. \$245.99 Leasee.
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WESTLAND
 Hickory Woods Apts.
 \$224 MOVE IN!
 1st Month Rent Free
 (for qualified applicants)
 1 bdrm-\$550
 2 bdrms-\$650
 All trees shaken.
 wrapped & drilled for frost.
 Large trees up to 19' trees.
 Homeless Donuts, Coffee,
 Hot Cocoa, Cider and a
 Gift Shop in our warm barn.
 Open Fri. Sat. & Sun. 3pm
 till Dark. 3090 Dutcher Rd.
 Howell. Take D-19 (at I-96,
 exit 137) South to Coon
 Lake Rd. follow the signs.
 For more info, a map.
 (517) 546-3890
www.waldocetfarm.com

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

Westland Estates "WOW"
 1 Bdrms, \$475
 2 Bdrms, \$635
 No fine print in this ad!
 Heat/Water included
 \$1000 Application
 \$2000 Deposit w/ Credit
 New Resident's Only
 734-722-4700
 Mon.-Fri. 9am-7pm
 Sat.-Sun. 10am-4pm

Westland Park Apts.
LOOK
FREE RENT
 2 Bdrms, 1.5 ba.,
 \$565, 936 Sq. Ft.
 1 Bdrm, \$490,
 728 Sq. Ft.
 \$200 Security Deposit
 Heat and Water Incl.
 (New residents only)
 with approved credit.
 No Pets, C.A. Vertical
 Blinds, Intercom.
 Appliances include
 dishwasher.
 Very clean Apartments.
 Excellent Maintenance.
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Westland VENOY PINES APTS.
Rent Starting at \$519
 • 1 & 2 bedroom apts.
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Condo/Townhouses 4020
BLOOMFIELD CONDO:
 Spacious, open and sparkling
 clean. 2 private entrances. 2
 lg bdrms, updated kitchen &
 baths, all appl. full bsmt.
 Bloomfield Hills Schools.
 \$190/mo. Anal. immed. Call
 Dan Mullan: 800-799-9770

CANTON: 2 bdrm Condo, 2
 bath, washer/dryer, Canton
 Schools Avail. Nov \$850/mo.
 734-641-7771. 734-751-9859

LYON TWP
 2 Bedroom, 1.5 baths,
 immediate occupancy.
 Call: 248-299-5300 ext 333

Northville: Highland Lakes
 Condo townhouse, 2/3 bdrms
 new carpet & paint, all appls.
 washer/dryer, Heat incl.
 \$915/mo. 734-765-5564

REDFORD: 1 bdrm, 1 bath,
 2nd floor, courtyard. Close to
 I-96. Ideal for single professional.
 \$595. (734) 716-7771

Fials 4040
PLYMOUTH: Unique 1 of a
 kind 1 bdrm. upper flat. 5625
 incl. heat, cable, water, air.
 Good ref. req. "Homey" clean,
 safe, secure. 734-564-1191

Homes For Rent 4050
BLOOMFIELD TWP.
 Birmingham Schools.
 4719 Quanton, 4 bdrms, 3 bath,
 2 car garage, deck, renovated,
 immaculate. \$800/mo.
 (889) 732-7332

FARMINGTON HILLS:
 2 bdrm bungalow, appl. lots
 of storage. \$700/mo.
 248-328-0492, 248-760-8051

FARMINGTON HILLS:
 3 bdrm, newly renovated
 brick ranch, full bsmt, 2 car.
 Secluded lot in the middle
 of 12 acres, private drive.
 \$1250. 734-748-2677

GARDEN CITY: 2 bdrm, fully
 finished upstairs, 1 car. Very
 clean. \$725/mo. • \$725 Sep.
 1 yr. lease. 734-591-9329

GARDEN CITY: 3 bdrm bungalow
 w/bsmt, very clean,
 \$730. 1st & last mo. free. C.
 & utilities. 734-954-0594

Inkster: Cherry Hill/Inkster
 3 bdrm Bungalow, some
 updates, new carpet, bsmt.
 \$850. Sect 8. Call 734-934-9376

Homes For Rent 4050
LIVONIA: 2 bdrm ranch, hard-
 wood floors, new kitchen,
 appl. wood, no pets.
 \$850/mo. Call: (248) 349-7482

LIVONIA: 3 bdrm, 1 bath
 Ranch, approx. 1250 sq ft.
 Updated Bsm. gar. \$1250.
 248-478-0663, 734-788-1643

LIVONIA Schools: 3 bdrm, 2
 car garage, c/a. Fully renovat-
 ed. No smoking pets.
 \$1050/mo. 248-569-4751

NOVI
 Homes From \$799/mo!
 Several communities in the
 area. 888-884-1339

PLYMOUTH: • Lakepointe
 ranch, 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, 2.5
 car garage, pets negotiable.
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REDFORD: 3 bdrm bungalow
 huge kitchen, open floor plan,
 great kitchen, option \$750.
 (248) 788-1823

REDFORD: For sale or rent!
 1 bdm, 1 bath, all appl. 2 car
 attached gar on double lot!
 \$775/mo. (966) 370-4667

WAYNE: 4 bdrm, 2 bath, living
 rm, dining rm, lg yard w/ pool
 w/ full porch. 35528 Birch
 \$1200. (734) 397-2873

WAYNE: Clean, updated 2.5
 bdrms, 1 bath, 1.5 car garage.
 \$875/mo. or on call. No bsmt.
 \$59.900 Land contract avail-
 able. 734-738-1642

WAYNE: Remodeled 3 bdrm
 ranch, huge master bdrm,
 immed occup. sec. 8, option
 \$1500. (248) 788-1823

WESTLAND: 3 bdrm duplex
 w/ 1.5 bath or 2 bdrm ranch.
 New carpets, fresh paint, near
 schools. \$650. 313-418-9095

WESTLAND: 3 bdrm ranch,
 new carpet, new kitchen,
 updated bath, bsmt. 1 car.
 \$1100. 734-591-9329

WESTLAND: Cherry Hill/Wayne
 Rd 3 bdrm brick ranch, 1100
 sq. ft. C/A, garage fenced w/
 New carpet, no bsmt. No bsmt.
 \$900 + sec. (734) 223-4939

WESTLAND: Cute 2 bdrm
 ranch, immed occup, rent or
 option to buy avail. Bad credit
 ok! \$550. (248) 788-1823

LOOK
 Free Manufactured Home!
 Must qualify to live in community.
 2 bdrms, 1 bath,
 lot rent \$29.90 for 6 mos.
 Must bring home up to
 community standards.

College Park Estates
 Apply at:
 51074 Mott Road in Canton
 Hurry won't last!
 (734) 495-0012

Living Quarters To Share 4120
 Farmington Hills Professional
 roommate to share furnished
 clean, convenient, safe.
 \$395 incl. utilities, cable, inter-
 net, cleaning. (313) 293-9925

Rooms For Rent 4140
LUXURY HOTEL: Special
 Rates for Efficiency extended
 stay Rooms. Wet bar, cabi-
 nets, hot breakfast, indoor
 pool, etc. Call (866) 330-5202
www.Comfortablesuites.net

NORTHVILLE or PLYMOUTH
 Downtown 1st week with full
 deposit. Furnished sleeping
 quarters. Newly decorated.
 \$250/week. Call (734) 565-5944

Commercial/Industrial For Rent/Lease 4230
WESTLAND/LIVONIA
 25000 sq ft shop with 11 x 14
 office, security system,
 \$525/mo. + utilities
 1/2 mo. free. 313-304-6697

Local Jobs
 Online
HOMETOWNlife.com

JOBS AND CAREERS
 (734) 425-0930

Wanted To Rent 4400
 Small Congregation
 is looking for a church building
 in Canton to accommodate 50
 with room to expand.
 (734) 973-3032

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HOMETOWNlife.com

7000-7280
Art & Antiques
ABSOLUTELY FREE 7000
ARTIFICIAL CHRISTMAS TREE
 9' pre-lit. 248-641-999

SEARS 3HP 20 gallon
 Air Compressor. Tank needs
 repairs. 248-504-1228

Antiques/Collectibles 7020
PROMINENT ESTATE SALE
 Boston Edison area 888
 Longfellow, Detroit. MI
 48302. Dec. 3, 4, 5, 9-5pm
 110/Lodge at Chicago Blvd
 exit Original owner since
 1922. Antiques, oil paintings,
 750 antique books, historical
 documents, jewelry, house
 loaded, too much to list. View
 contents at: hantiques-gal-
 lery.com. 313-885-5600

Arts & Crafts 7040
WESTLAND: Huron Valley
 Lutheran High School.
 Craft Vendor Show. Dec. 4
 9:30-5pm. 60+ Craft Vendors.
 Free-Sale, Massage, Hair Cuts.
 \$1 Admission. 33740 Cowan.
 N. of Warren, E. off Wayne.

Auction Sales 7060
ESTATE AUCTION
 Sat. Dec. 4th, 7PM
 Cultural Center
 Plymouth MI
 Antiques/Collectibles
 Furniture/Accessories
 Collector Radio's
 Tools/Household Items
 Glassware/China
 Cash/MC/Visa
 Bank Debt Cards
 No Checks
 Doors Open 5pm
JC Auction Services
 734-511-7444
www.jcauctionsrvices.com

7100 Estate Sales 7100
Another Bernard Davis
 Estate Sale 313-837-1993
 2441 Carpenter, Detroit.
 At the border of Detroit and
 Farmington, South of Davison
 E. off Davison.
 Dec 3-4, 10am-4pm. Go to
 estate-sales.com for more info
 or SEE YOU THERE!!

MILFORD: 4418 Terra Ridge
 Fri-Sat 10-4pm. Art work, fine
 furniture, Persian area rugs,
 crystal, designer clothing &
 purses, Christmas, hunting,
 fishing, tools, children's cloth-
 ing & toys, much more!

Garage Sales 7110
FARMINGTON HILLS: Stop,
 Browse, Shop at Lu's Home
 Treasures & Gifts Holiday
 Sale at 28035 Farmington Rd.
 Sun. Dec. 5, 4-6pm.

Garage Sales 7110
LIVONIA
ROUGH GARAGE SALE
 Great deals
 on Ford automobile
 performance parts.
 Dec 10, 11am-7pm
 & Dec 11, 9am-3pm
 at 28150 Plymouth Rd.
 800-59-BLUSH

WEST-BLOOMFIELD
 Estate Sale - Sat., Dec. 4 &
 Sun., Dec. 5, 10am-6pm.
 5980 Inkster Rd., West
 Bloomfield 48323
 Everything Must Go!

Moving Sales 7130
REDFORD: Moving - 23440
 Meadow Park, 4 bks E. of
 Telegraph, 1 bkr S. of W.
 Chicago, Fri. & Sat., 10-5pm.
 Baby furniture, lawn mower,
 washer/dryer, sleeper sofa,
 bedframe. Moving must sell!
 Make offer. (616) 449-4321

Household Goods 7150
CHINA: Wedgewood
 Florentine Pattern, service
 for 14, also pieces to match.
 132 pieces, used a few times.
 Nice for Christmas.
 Thanksgiving or a New Bride.
 \$1500. 734-907-5576

DINING ROOM SET: W/ hutch
 & buffet, Ethan Allen bdrm set
 and other misc. Ethan Allen
 pieces. Call: (734) 748-0069

TV, 46" LCD HD: Sony DVD &
 surround sound system, king
 bedframe. Moving must sell!
 Make offer. (616) 449-4321

UNIQUE 4 pc. custom pine top
 bedroom set w/mattress.
 \$1200. BEAUTIFUL 5 pc.
 American Drew pine & iron
 bedroom set w/mattress.
 \$1500. (248) 887-5241

Christmas Trees 7420
CHRISTMAS TREES
MIDDLE ROAD TREE FARM
 248-887-1494
 Call: 248-887-2135
 Come Check Out Our
 Huge Fraser Fir!
 • Pre-cut to 13 ft. • On the
 farm to 18 ft. • Concolor
 • Fraser • Balsam
 • Douglas • Bruce Spruce
 Open 7 Days Nov. 20th
 to Dec. 23rd.
 All U-Cut trees \$40
 1 Pre-cut trees
 Starting at \$20.
 Senior Discount 10% Off
 with ad • Expires 12/23/10
middleroadtreefarm.com

HOWELL CONFERENCE & NATURE CENTER
 Christmas Tree Sales
 and Refreshments
 Open Daily 8am to 5pm
 starting November 26th
 1 Mile West of D-19
 (Pickinckey Rd) 5 Miles
 South of Howell
 HUGE SELECTION OF
 FRESH-CUT FRASER
 CONCOLOR, DOUGLAS FIR
 & VARIETIES OF
 SPRUCE & PINE
 Tree Shaking & Wrapping,
 Roping, Wreaths and
 Ponies, Wildlife display,
 Hayrides, and Refreshments
 on the Weekends.
 Gift Shop Open!
 BREAKFAST WITH SANTA -
 Dec. 11 & 12
 HAYRIDES WITH SANTA -
 Dec. 3, 4, 10 & 11
 RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
 FOR SANTA ACTIVITIES!
 517-546-0249
www.howellnaturecenter.org

U-CUT FIR, PINE & SPRUCE
 Open 7 days
10AM 'til Dusk
Christmas Tree Farm
 HOLZT CHRISTMAS TREE
 PLANTATION
 9391 Day Rd. near
 Mayhew, MI 734-967-3155
 Trees for higher ceilings
 (up to 20 ft. tall)
 Directions: South on
 US-23 to exit 25. Right on
 Plank, 7 miles to Day Rd.,
 turn left 3 miles to farm.
 P. Holtz Est. 1947

When seeking out the best deal check out the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!
 1-800-579-7355

WALDOCE TREE FARM
 We Grow
 Canadian Concolor,
 Corkbark, Fraser & Korean
 Fir, Black Hills, Blue,
 Norway & Serbian Spruce.
 All trees shaken,
 wrapped & drilled for frost.
 Large trees up to 19' trees.
 Homeless Donuts, Coffee,
 Hot Cocoa, Cider and a
 Gift Shop in our warm barn.
 Open Fri. Sat. & Sun. 3pm
 till Dark. 3090 Dutcher Rd.
 Howell. Take D-19 (at I-96,
 exit 137) South to Coon
 Lake Rd. follow the signs.
 For more info, a map.
 (517) 546-3890
www.waldocetfarm.com

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10AM 'til Dusk
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 Trees for higher ceilings
 (up to 20 ft. tall)
 Directions: South on
 US-23 to exit 25. Right on

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2000-5900

Employment
Instructional Services

Help Wanted-General 5000

ALARM TECHNICIAN

A local owned and operated Alarm company is seeking qualified individual to join our service and installation team. The candidate must have a minimum of 2-3 yrs. exp. in the installation and servicing of alarm, CCTV, and access control systems.

Fax or email resume:
734-421-0099
secdes@flash.net
No direct calls please.

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Just a quick call away...
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Help Wanted-General 5000

All Students/Others
Holiday Help
\$10-25 base-appt, flex sched.
Customer sales/service,
conditions apply. All ages 17+.
Call Now! 248-426-4405

ANIMAL HOSPITAL
In Westland area, seeks person to manage receptionist desk & assist Veterinarian. Send resume:
pels1015@yahoo.com

WE'RE OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY

www.hometownlife.com

Help Wanted-General 5000

Banking
dfcu FINANCIAL

needs friendly service oriented individuals to work Part-Time

Hiring for Detroit area branch locations
Job duties include: cash handling and product sales. Goal oriented sales experience required.

Plan now for the New Year!

Next class scheduled for January 2011
Mandatory paid training.

Must be available to work Mon-Fri, 9:15am-6:30pm
Saturday 9:15am-2:30pm

Complete job description and locations available at: dfcufinancial.com
See Member Relations Representative-PT

Accepting applications through Friday, December 10, 2010

Apply in person at any DFCU Financial Branch Office

Credit record in good standing required

Equal Opportunity Employer

Help Wanted-General 5000

Business Development Assistant

Excellent written and telephone skills. Candidate will be responsible for extensive direct calling, setting appointments, supporting marketing campaigns, and performing marketing research. Part-time position, approximately 20 hrs. per week. Please fax resume to 248-846-1813, or e-mail to smz@structuretec.com

COLLECTOR
For Plymouth law firm. Legal collection experience preferred. Fax or email resume: (734) 254-1025. mszuba@szubalaw.com
Attention: Hiring Partner

CONSTRUCTION
WILL TRAIN \$16/hr
Call (313) 292-9300-
Weatherize homes in foreclosure w/ doors & windows. \$15/hr. #108.121 LOCAL Co.

Help Wanted-General 5000

DRIVER/SALES
\$575-\$975/per wk
Training Provided. Valid Driver's License required
Call between 10am-2pm
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DRIVERS
Exp'd for transportation co.
Full/Part-Time. All Shifts.
Will drive taxi cabs, sedans & vans. Good driving record, clean criminal history, professional attitude & appearance required. Apply in person.
On the spot interviews:
13420 Wayne Rd., Livonia.

DUNKIN DONUTS/ BASKIN ROBBINS
Now Hiring-All Positions including cake decorators.
Please send resumes to ddbforhr@yahoo.com

Help Wanted-General 5000

Machine Shop Programmer

Engine Manufacturer is seeking a full time skilled Machine Shop Programmer for our Plymouth facility.

- Successful applicant must have five years experience minimum in programming CNC machines for high speed 5 axis continual cutter contact machining. The five years experience to date from present day back to 2005 or beyond.
- Applicant to be responsible for programming appropriate CNC machines for 2 thru 5 axis machining. This position to involve programming other minor machines.
- Must master skill to operate CAM/STEP software, and be able to apply high level math skills to overcome difficult work off set variable.
- Knowledgeable in work holding, jiggling, fixturing, choices of avail tooling etc.
- Able to create Catia models, and write machine code programs from Catia models.
- Possess a working knowledge of inspection requirements & guide projects through the CMM inspection dept.
- Gain a deep knowledge of available cutting tools & how to apply them.
- Must be willing to make ones self available to "see projects through".
- Must follow laid down guidelines of program status.
- Must maintain records of programs & back them up on the server.
- Tooling (cutting) lists (type of cutter) to be maintained.
- Tooling function (type & duty) & relative program association to be shown on list as stated above.

Applicants must display a passion to excel in a fast paced environment that demands the highest quality standards.

Tools and uniforms are provided. We offer a competitive salary and benefits package.

Qualified applicants should send resumes with salary requirements to: hvalimpr.com.

Help Wanted-General 5000

MECHANICS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS
For Milford gravel train company. Day and afternoon shifts available.
Call: 248-332-5687 or email: dlam@loushrucking.com

PLUMBERS/ DRAIN CLEANERS
For service co. Fully exp'd. Good driving record.
Call: 248-537-1660 or Fax: 586-786-8200

PROJECT ENGINEER
Southfield full-time. Seeking engineer capable of following projects through all phases. BS in Mech or Elec Eng with 2-4 years min. of hands-on engineering exp. in a manufacturing environment. Ideal person will be capable of basic to mid-level mechanical design/development. CAD exp necessary. Please send resume and cover letter to: engpsad@gmail.com

Help Wanted-Dental 5000

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Full-Time. Experienced. Needed for Southfield dental office.
Fax resume to: (248) 304-1387

Help Wanted-Medical 5000

OFFICE MANAGER/ MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Family practice in Novi. Experience necessary. Part-time position.
Fax resume to: (248) 960-9145

Orthodontic Assistant
Full or part-time in our beautiful Southfield office. Exp'd team player, good salary & benefits. Fax (248) 443-4467 or email: stevartorthodontic@scglobal.net

VETERINARY ASSISTANT/ TECHNICIAN
Full/Part-Time
Exp preferred, not req'd.
Fax resume: 734-326-3234

dfcu FINANCIAL

needs friendly service oriented individuals to work Part-Time

Hiring for Detroit area branch locations.
Job duties include:
cash handling and product sales.
Goal oriented sales experience required.

Plan now for the New Year!

NEXT CLASS SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 2011
MANDATORY PAID TRAINING.

Must be available to work
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NEW BEETLE IS NEXT STEP IN VOLKSWAGEN'S U.S. SURGE

Advertising Feature

CAReport



By Dale Buss

Volkswagen is up to something big. Executives of Europe's biggest automaker have been talking for several months, openly, about their intention to overtake Toyota as the world's largest carmaker by volume. And they've been backing that up with move after move, ranging from their ongoing re-entry into automotive production in the United States to a recent decision to go all out on new capital spending to expand and upgrade their manufacturing base in Germany.

In this country, Volkswagen has said it intends to triple sales to 800,000 units by 2018 and this week started what Edmunds.com senior editor Bill Viscic said is "likely to be a concerted and ongoing assault into the heart of American mainstream marketing" via a promotional tie-in with The Oprah Winfrey Show.

On the broadcast November 22, Volkswagen offered the first company-sanctioned glimpse at the next-generation Beetle that launches next fall.

And typical for Oprah's annual "Favorite Things" episode, VW gave away a 2012 Beetle to each of the 275 audience members in attendance. The company also is picking up the tab for all applicable taxes and fees,

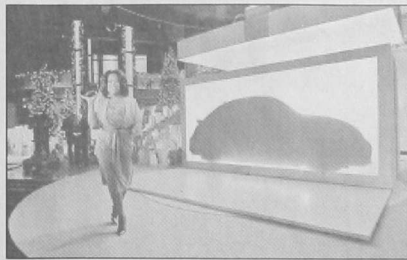
with audience members able to take delivery sometime around when the all-new 2012 Beetle hits U.S. showrooms next year.

Oprah's Favorite Things giveaway is a telling move into the mainstream of the nation's consumer marketing, Viscic said, a must-do if the company is to start selling in the kind of high volumes that bring it to parity with thesecond tier of the U.S. market's Big 7 players, including Honda, Nissan and Chrysler. Becoming a consistent presence in the psyche of the American buyer is the same reason VW reputedly is considering a place in NASCAR, of all things.

"The U.S. is very much the focus of the next-generation Beetle," said Volkswagen of America President and CEO Jonathan Browning on a conference call with reporters.

"Oprah Winfrey and the Volkswagen Beetle are two American icons, so when the 'Oprah' show approached us with this incredible opportunity to share her Beetle experience with deserving viewers, we instantly wanted to be a part of it," Browning added in a release.

The Volkswagen surely was a coup for Winfrey. As Winfrey's website noted, "For only the second time in



Oprah Winfrey "reveals" the 2012 New Beetle on her Favorite Things show before Thanksgiving.

Volkswagen history, the iconic Beetle has been totally redesigned for 2012, inside and out. The project is so top secret, the only prototype of its kind was flown to Harpo Studios from Germany. No one outside of VW has seen the new Beetle, but Oprah was given special permission."

She commented on-air: "This is one powerful, sophisticated, sexy Beetle. All of you in this audience will be the first people in the world to own one when it makes its debut next year!"

But the only thing Volkswagen showed on the Oprah telecast was a simple profile of the vehicle's roofline, one that indicates a Beetle that will become more elongated and lower, using a rear window and decline more reminiscent of the earliest Type 1 models and with influences of the Karmann Ghia sports car.

It was Oprah's 25th and final season in syndication - she moves to her own Oprah Winfrey Network next year - and her annual Favorite Things giftathon is an almost automatic guarantee of a sales home run, as Viscic noted. However, sales later were underwhelming after General Motors Co.'s former Pontiac G6 was the subject of a giveaway to

all 276 audience members when Oprah launched a new season in September, 2004.

Volkswagen noted that Oprah currently owns a New Beetle (the first generation's been on sale now for 12 years) and "asked Volkswagen to help her recognize the time, talents and contributions of select viewers by giving them one of her favorite things, a Volkswagen Beetle."

Volkswagen officials wouldn't give much extra information except to say that the 2012 Beetle will be officially unveiled next spring, that U.S. models will "offer" the popular, performance-oriented 2-liter turbocharged 4-cylinder as well as the TDI direct-injection turbodiesel; and that the car's components will a dual exhaust, 19-inch wheels and a sport seats, plus the now-expected arsenal of tech features such as Bluetooth hands-free connectivity.

The car will be built in VW's Puebla, Mexico, assembly plant and sold globally under a "highly coordinated" launch that sees the U.S. get the car presumably before or at the same time as Europe and other major markets.

CBO72438

Automotive

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6000-8780 Automotive <i>Unlimited Vehicles</i> 	Mini-Vans \$240 CHEVY VENTURE 2003 Teal Tide, LT, rear DVD, and heated leather! Family fun! Just \$7,995! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche	Sports Utility \$290 FORD EDDIE BAUER EXPEDITION 2008 Loaded, 4x4, one owner, only 5,828 miles. Ford Certified. \$38,788 Stk #1076129A North Brothers Ford 734-402-8774	Sports Utility \$290 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LTD 2007 Warranty, HEMI engine, moonroof, 4x4, towing, black on black, \$19,899 METROPOLITAN LINCOLN MERCURY (888) 808-9161	Sports Utility \$290 MERCURY MARINER PREMIER 2008 Warranty, black on black, all-wheel drive, roof, HD seats, \$19,396 METROPOLITAN LINCOLN MERCURY (888) 808-9161	Sports Utility \$290 SATURN VUE 2009 AWD, black, \$20,995 BOB JEANNOTTE PONT, BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500	Audi \$350 A4 2002 1.8T, red, \$8,995 BOB JEANNOTTE PONT, BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500	Buick \$360 LACROSSE 2007 Dark blue, LTH, \$13,995 BOB JEANNOTTE PONT, BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500	Buick \$360 REGAL 2000 Summer Tan, leather, sun-roof, and chrome! Won't be around long! Only \$6,995! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche
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