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Food, B8



FRIENDS HELP FAMILY AFTER CANTON FIRE

LOCAL NEWS, A2

CANTON OBSERVER

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Options offered

Representatives from Plante & Moran CRESA, the firm hired by Plymouth-Canton's Board of Education to conduct a facilities study, presents options to the board for how best to utilize district facilities at a special meeting at 6 p.m. tonight (Thursday) at Discovery Middle School.

The options are expected to recommend closing at least one elementary school — with some expected to include up to four school closures — as administrators consider ways to best use facilities as they face a move to all-day kindergarten and consider additional programs such as a TAG magnet school, a STEM academy and an international baccalaureate program.

Discovery Middle School is located at 45083 Hanford in Canton.



Charles White and Meryl Davis.

U.S. champs

Congratulations to Meryl Davis (a new Plymouth resident) and Charlie White, world champion ice dancers.

Davis and White won their fourth straight title at the U.S. Figure Skating Championships last week in San Jose, Calif., skating to *Die Fledermaus*. The ice dancers train at the Arctic Edge in Canton and represented the Arctic Figure Skating Club. Davis grew up in West Bloomfield and is a graduate of Groves High School in Birmingham. White grew up in Bloomfield Hills.

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'Waterland' review continues book debate

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

With a second review committee set to begin deliberating the appropriateness of a novel in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Advanced Placement English curriculum, more than two dozen speakers turned out Monday to debate the merits of the decision made by the first one.

The second committee begins debating the merits of Graham Swift's 1983 novel, *Waterland*, for use by AP students with a meeting Wednesday. That review comes a couple of weeks after a similar committee approved the use of

Books followed approval process, A3.

Beloved, Toni Morrison's Pulitzer Prize-winning book, and will follow the same pattern.

A panel of nine committee members, plus facilitator Eric MacGregor, the district's director of secondary education, will meet twice (the first meeting is open to the public), then cast anonymous ballots.

If it follows the same time frame as the first committee, a decision is likely due around Feb. 17.

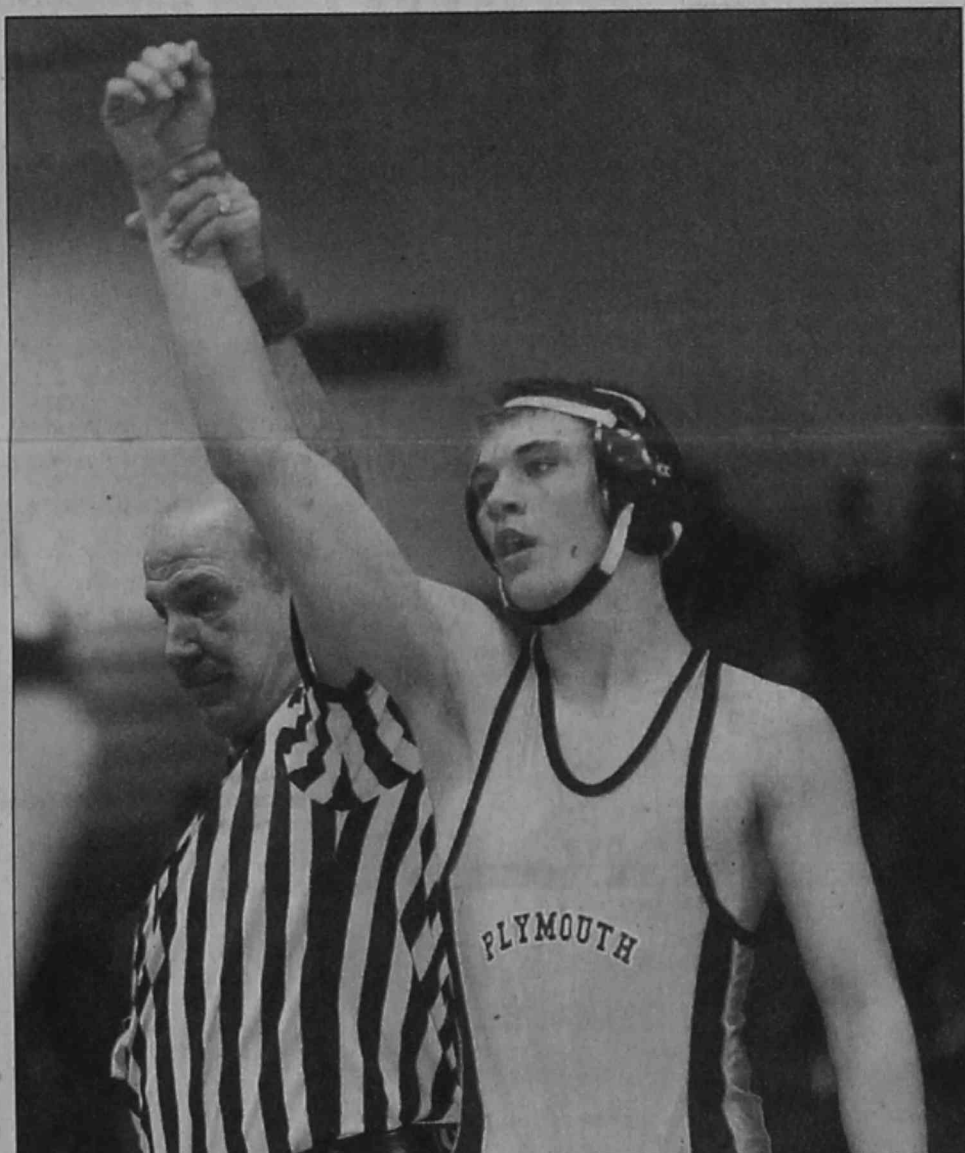
In the meantime, the district's Board of

Please see DEBATE, B3



Another large crowd filled the board room, most to debate the appropriateness of books in the Advanced Placement English Curriculum, at the E.J. McClendon Education Center Monday.

The champ



Jon Conn, of Plymouth High School, defeated Farmington Harrison's LaRone Mack in the finals of the 130-pound weight class at Saturday's Observerland Wrestling Invitational at Livonia Churchill. For more, turn to the sports section, page B1.

Absentees build as primary nears

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

Only 4,567 of Canton's 60,909 registered voters had requested absentee ballots as of Tuesday morning as Michigan inches closer to its Feb. 28 presidential preference primary.

That represents about 7.5 percent of Canton voters — roughly what local officials would expect with the primary just under a month away.

"It's kind of the usual," Clerk Terry Bennett said. "The interesting part will be, once people see the ballot, will they return it or not?"

Of those who have received their absentee ballots, 28 percent already had marked their choices and returned them as of Tuesday — a fairly high return rate Ben-

nett attributed to residents such as "snowbirds" who have headed for warmer weather, despite a mostly mild Michigan winter.

"There are lots of people who are going out of town, so my guess is that's the reason for the reasonably good return rate at this point," Bennett said.

Big vote

Some polls and political observers have indicated that Michigan's primary could become more important, especially for Republicans, if GOP rivals Mitt Romney and Newt Gingrich continue their heated race for their party's nomination, though Romney has been pegged the front-runner after winning Tuesday in Florida.

As the Feb. 28 draws

Please see PRIMARY, A5

Canton firefighters battle third blaze

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

Canton firefighters Sunday battled their third house fire since Jan. 12, dousing flames that erupted inside a two-story home in the 47000 block of Ford Road west of Beck, Fire Chief Tim Dunn said.

No one was injured as the blaze began around 8 p.m. in a second-floor area that was undergoing what Dunn described as "major renovations."

A family that lives in the home was away when a nearby resident saw flames in an upstairs window and called 9-1-1, allowing firefighters to douse the fire before it could engulf the house, Dunn said.

"Someone from a nearby subdivision called in the fire," he said.

The cause of the fire remained under investigation, Dunn said Tuesday.

Canton police officers arrived on the scene first and reported

that the house was unoccupied.

Firefighters entered the home and found construction materials burning on the floor. They doused the flames and used what are known as positive pressure ventilation, or PPV, fans to remove smoke from the house.

The fire was confined to the second floor, though smoke damage occurred throughout the house.

The incident marked the third house fire this month.

The first fire occurred about 1

a.m. Jan. 12 and gutted a house on Denton Road between Michigan Avenue and Geddes. A Canton couple, their three children and another relative escaped injury during the blaze, due to swift action by a man credited by fire officials with getting his family to safety.

Fire officials called the fire accidental.

The second fire happened around 3 p.m. Jan. 22 inside the

Please see BLAZE, A3

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Friends help Canton family following house fire

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Friends and colleagues of Diane Pitt, a teacher at Burger Center for Students with Autism in Garden City, are collecting donations to help the family after their Canton home was destroyed by a house fire Jan. 22.

The fundraising is being coordinated by Joan Rounke and Cheryl Chaveriat, who work at Burger West; Libby Korpala, who's at Burger East; and Denise Palmer, who is at Lathers. They're collecting money to purchase gift cards for res-

taurants for the family. "We at Burger West, Burger East and Lathers are taking up a collection to show them our love and support and help them out with incidentals," they wrote in an e-mail sent out Sunday. "They have three adult children and a wonderful supportive family who continue to manage the details needed for them to move forward."

The fire broke out in the home while the family was away, causing extensive damage and leaving two dogs dead, according to Canton Fire Chief Tim Dunn.

Neighbors had noticed the

fire and were able to get one of two family dogs out of the house before firefighters arrived. However, both pets died from smoke inhalation. One dog was killed inside the house, and the other died later after it was taken to a veterinarian, Dunn said.

Flames started in the first-floor kitchen area of the two-story house, and Dunn said it appears the fire was electrical in nature.

Pitt and her husband Steve, who is battling ALS and is confined to a wheelchair, were not at home at the time of the fire. According to friends, Pitt

was taken to the University of Michigan Hospital that same evening because of what was thought to be a heart attack.

Doctors diagnosed her condition as stress cardiomyopathy, also referred to as "broken heart syndrome," which mimics a heart attack. She was later released from the hospital, but will require extensive rest to prevent a relapse and repair the damage, friends said.

The family is now looking for a Canton home to rent, the friends said.

"They have been overwhelmed by the response of so many friends and co-workers in our

(Garden City) district," they wrote in the e-mail. "For those of us who know Diane, it is no surprise that family relationships are so strong and that, because of the good person she is, that the outpouring of support from the Garden City community of educators is equally so."

Donations will be collected through Friday, Feb. 3. They can be dropped off at or mailed to the Burger School for the Students with Autism at 30922 Beechwood St., Garden City. Make checks payable to Cheryl Chaveriat.

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

Canton man faces trial on murder charges

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

A Canton man is facing trial in Wayne County Circuit Court on charges he tortured and murdered a 57-year-old Romulus man, Frank Jones, whose son found him lying face down in his bathroom Jan. 7 with his hands tied behind his back and his head covered by a plastic bag.

The defendant, 41-year-old Michael Joseph Sutton, was ordered to stand trial for first-degree murder, felony murder and torture during his preliminary examination Wednesday in Romulus 34th District Court.

Romulus Police Chief Robert Dickerson has said Jones and Sutton had an "intimate relationship" before Jones was found dead from what the Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office has ruled was blunt force trauma.

Sutton faces life in prison without parole if he is convicted as charged. He had lived in the Autumn Ridge apartment complex near Cherry Hill

and Lotz roads before his arrest, Canton authorities have said.

Canton Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner has said a Ford Mustang belonging to Jones had been found in the Walmart parking lot on Ford Road east of Lotz the day after his body was discovered in a pool of blood.

Sutton, jailed with a \$1 million bond, is facing trial following testimony Wednesday in 34th District Court. Romulus police have called Jones' death a brutal slaying, saying they used phone records and other evidence as their investigation against Sutton unfolded.

Jones lived in the 15600 block of Springhill in Romulus and was a registered sex offender. He had served three years in prison for child sexually abusive material or activity, according to the Michigan Department of Corrections.

Jones had been released from prison in August 2009.

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(313) 222-2238

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

HIGH TEA

Date/Time: Wednesday, Feb. 8, 1-3 p.m.

Location: Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton

Details: Community members of all ages are encouraged to attend the Canton Senior Center Valentine's High Tea event, a special Valentine's celebration featuring scrumptious finger sandwiches, cream scones, tasty desserts and of course delicious tea - all provided by Victoria's Tea Salon. Participants can partake in this superb high tea while relaxing and enjoying each other's company. Registration for this Valentine's Day High Tea is \$16 for Canton residents and \$21 for non-residents.

Contact: Sign up at www.Cantonfun.org or by calling (734) 394-5460.

HEISE HOURS

Date/Time: Monday, Feb. 13

Location: 10-11 a.m., Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady; 1-2 p.m., Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe; 3-4 p.m., Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main.

Details: State Rep. Kurt Heise invites residents to meet with him locally during district office hours. Heise is also available to meet with constituents by appointment either in the district or at his Lansing office. Contact: Residents are invited to call toll free 1-855-REP-KURT or e-mail

AROUND CANTON



Father knows best

Spotlight Players presents "Cheaper by the Dozen" Feb. 17-19 and Feb. 24-26 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton. The cast features Drex Morton, Thomas Strock and Tatum Cho of Canton; Jim Broderick, Miki Somers, Alex Smith, Donovan Sutton, Roman Bonacorsi, Jenessa Hubbard and Deniste Staffield of Plymouth. Show times are Feb. 17 and Feb. 24, 8 p.m.; Feb. 18 and Feb. 25, 2 and 8 p.m.; Feb. 19 and Feb. 26, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$18 adults, \$17 seniors and students, available at (734) 394-5460 or online at www.spotlightplayers.org.

kurtheise@house.mi.gov to schedule an appointment.

PLAYWRITING WORKSHOP

Date/Time: Monday, Feb. 13, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Location: Cherry Hill Schoolhouse, 50440 Cherry Hill in Canton.

Details: Aspiring playwrights are encouraged to attend TLC Productions upcoming Playwriting Workshop, where participants will learn the necessary skills needed to take a play from page to the stage. Workshop attendees will also see how to develop ideas into a detailed and evolved plot; create a fine-tuned script; and find out what it takes to submit a script for production and festival consideration, in addition to available theatrical resources and how to advance their

efforts. Pre-registration by e-mail is required by Jan. 31.

Contact: For more information about TLC Productions' Playwriting Workshop, visit <http://tlcprod.wordpress.com>.

WOMEN'S CONNECTION

Date/Time: Monday, Feb. 13, 6-8:30 p.m.

Location: Canton Coney Island, 8533 N. Lilley, Canton

Details: Canton Women's Connection (formerly known as the Canton Business & Professional Women) is a social group dedicated to giving back to the community through charitable works and empowering women through human interest guest speakers and networking connections. Guest speaker will be Dr. Brian Brackney talking about women's health issues. RSVP's requested by Feb. 10.

Contact: June Nicholas, (313) 610-2561 or junenicholas@comcast.net

EUCHRE CHALLENGE

Date/Time: Saturday, March 10, 6 p.m.

Location: Elks club, 41700 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth

Details: The Metro Detroit Euchre Tournament is designed as a fun night out for people who like to play the game. Proceeds will support the Canton Chiefs Wrestling Team, a State of Michigan Top 10 Team. Cash awards will be given to the top four players. There will

be free door prize drawings, a raffle for more great prizes and a silent auction.

Contact: Pre-register by e-mailing MetroDetroit-Euchre@yahoo.com or call Linda Obrec at (734) 945-6685.

MOM2MOM SALE

Time/Date: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., March 10

Location: Hillside Elementary School, 36801 W. 11 Mile Rd, Farmington Hills.

Details: \$2 early admission, \$1 general admission. About 100 tables of gently used baby, maternity and children's clothing, toys, equipment and furniture. A great opportunity to get items you need and save money off of retail prices. Proceeds of the sale will benefit Hillside Elementary and its students. Now accepting resale table registrations.

Contact: E-mail hillsidemom2mom@gmail.com

MOPS MEETINGS

Date/Time: First-third Fridays, 9:15-11:30 a.m.

Location: St. Kenneth Catholic Church, 14951 Haggerty, Plymouth

Details: The St. Edith/St. Kenneth Catholic Parishes' Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) group invites all mothers with children aged newborn through kindergarten to join. The group provides the encouragement, nurturing, and support and features a schedule of activities that include speakers, crafts, and group discussions.

Contact: Heather at (734) 437-9517 or e-mail stekmops@gmail.com, or visit www.stekmops.org

HEALING HEARTS

Date/Time: Second and fourth Monday, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Location: Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, Westland

Details: Grief support group for adults who have lost a loved one to the prison system. Hope 4 Healing Hearts, Inc., provides a safe environment allowing members to share in a non-judgmental atmosphere. Individuals share ideas, resources and experiences that are helpful to one another.

Contact: For more information, contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237, bonnie@hope4healinghearts.com or visit www.hope4healinghearts.com.

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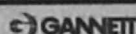
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Officials: Books followed approval process

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Critics challenging the use of two novels in Plymouth-Canton's Advanced Placement English curriculum have said they doesn't believe either Graham Swift's "Waterland" or Toni Morrison's "Beloved" were properly vetted by district officials before being included in the curriculum.

But the woman responsible for adding both volumes to the curriculum said Monday reviews of both followed established procedures. Sharon Strean, a former assistant principal at Salem High School who

supervised English and special education programs, told a crowd at a Board of Education meeting the process was "very thorough."

"I did research 'Beloved'" as part of the process, Strean said. "The (vetting) policy is predicated on the knowledge of teachers. We hired the right teachers, and we're very reliant on their expertise. We counted on each other. We have hundreds of texts; no one can read them all."

While the Board of Education gets the final say on textbooks, "Waterland" and "Beloved" are considered instructional resources, which are approved

at the building level. According to district policy, resource materials are vetted by a committee established by the building principal. Policy dictates principals establish a committee made up of staff "directly involved in the program for which the materials ... will be used."

That committee returns a recommendation to the administration for approval.

As "Beloved" was being reviewed, and with the review of "Waterland" set to start next week, the board has heard some criticism for not speaking up on the issue. But trustees pointed out it's not their job yet.

"This is not a board matter

at this point," Board of Education trustee Mark Horvath said Monday, responding to critics wondering why the board hasn't acted. "That's the process, and we're following it. We have to let the process work, and it's not at the board level."

Matt Dame, the complainant against both books, said he has maintained all along the vetting process is flawed.

"This is a process improvement issue, a parents' rights issue," Dame told the crowd Monday. "Working together we can devise an equitable solution."

Strean said "Waterland" and "Beloved" suffer from the

same sort of criticism other acclaimed literature gets. She pointed out Homer's "The Odyssey" was criticized for its mention of multiple Gods, and Mark Twain's "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" was ostracized for the use of the "N" word. She isn't concerned AP students aren't mature enough to handle the books.

"Scholars consider (Huck Finn) the most anti-racist book ever written," Strean said. "I've been in and out of these classrooms hundreds of times. Teachers get such mature responses, I was amazed."

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DEBATE

Continued from page A1

Education convened again Monday night to take public comment members didn't make time for a week earlier, leaving 15 speakers without a forum to address their concerns. At that Jan. 23 meeting, the board limited the public comment section to 45 minutes.

Swift apology

It was a move that violated the Michigan Open Meetings Act, and the board moved swiftly to correct it. The board issued an apology Friday and scheduled the Monday meeting.

Board Vice President Adrienne Davis apologized to one speaker, Tim Roraback of Plymouth, who had objected to the move at last week's meeting and told board members he thought it violated the law.

"I wanted the public to hear it," Davis told Roraback. "It violated the law, and I wanted to apologize to you."

Nearly all of the speakers wanted to talk about the ongoing book issue. A district review committee last week issued a decision to leave Morrison's *Beloved* in the AP curriculum after hearing arguments from Canton parents Matt and Barb Dame, who asked for the review because of the graphic nature of some passages in the book.

Monday's meeting was very congenial, with speakers on both sides of the book issue offering their opinions.

Derek Fine, a 2010 Salem High School graduate now a sophomore at the University of Michigan, was among a number of students who spoke in favor of the books. He took issue with the idea either book is pornographic or promotes abortion, as some have claimed.



Derek Fine, a 2010 Salem High School graduate, said he "knows of no greater argument against abortion" than the repercussions faced by a character in *Waterland*.

Great argument

He said Mary, the character in *Waterland* who has an abortion, is left in emotional ruin from the experience.

"The incident leaves Mary scarred and broken for the rest of her life,"

Fine said. "I can think of no greater argument against abortion."

Like many of the parents upset about the use of the books in the curriculum, Tony Lollo of Plymouth, who has a daughter in the district,

wondered why the district doesn't simply find other books to use.

"Are you telling me we can't find (books) we can all agree on?" Lollo asked. "If not, we're selling our language, and our literature, short."

School board members were impressed so many speakers in such a large crowd could air their opinions in a calm, reasoned fashion.

"There are a lot of people on both sides of a very emotional issue," board Trustee Mike Maloney said at the end. "The fact we were all listening to each other is an important step to come to some sort of resolution."

Dr. Jeremy Hughes, the district's superintendent, pointed out the district will respect the *Beloved* review commit-

UP FOR REVIEW

What: Review of Graham Swift's *Waterland*

When: 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8

Where: E.J. McClendon Education Center, 454 Harvey, Plymouth

Who: A committee made up of facilitator Erin MacGregor, director of secondary education; English teacher Kelly Mandeville; social studies teacher Josh Carroll; Hoben Elementary media specialist Jolie Valentine; Plymouth District Library Director Pat Thomas; parents Paula Payne and Nanette Zygmunt of the School Council board; Matthew Cole, Ph.D., Lawrence Technological University professor and a district parent; Kay Elaster, Plymouth-Canton's curriculum coordinator for English and social studies; and Nancy Laws, Salem High School associate principal.

Why: To review *Waterland* for appropriateness for use in the AP English curriculum, pursuant to a complaint by a parent.

tee's decision, and that book will remain in the curriculum.

Waterland, which was removed by Hughes in mid-December without benefit of a review committee, will remain out of

the classroom until the second committee comes to a decision. When it does, Hughes said, that decision will also be honored.

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BLAZE

Continued from page A1

kitchen area of a two-story home southeast of Palmer and Morton Taylor roads, Dunn said.

The family was away when the fire erupted, but two of their dogs didn't survive the incident that happened in the 2000 block of Roundtable Drive East.

The fire caused extensive damage to the kitchen area and left smoke damage throughout the house.

Fire investigators have said that fire was electrical in nature.

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CRIME WATCH

Tagging problem

1 Canton police found several incidents of graffiti on a bridge near Morton Taylor and Republic, south of Warren, and on fences of residences of nearby streets, including Woonsocket and Carriage Hills Drive.

A police report indicated the incidents happened between 11 p.m. Jan. 24 and 8 a.m. Jan. 25.

The graffiti was a lower-case "y" followed by an upper-case "R" with an indistinguishable mark between the two letters.

At least two incidents of graffiti were found on the concrete guard rail of the bridge, and fences of several homes also had been defaced.

Truck stolen

2 A 36-year-old Canton man told police his Ford F-150 was stolen from the driveway of his home in the 42600 block of Proctor, northwest of Palmer and Lilley.

The truck was described as a four-door, dark gray truck with a cracked windshield, chrome running boards and a white old English "D" in the rear driver's side window. It also had heating and cooling supplies inside the bed, which had a black tonneau cover.

The man told police he believes the truck still was in his driveway when he opened his garage door about 6:45 a.m. Sunday to let his dog out. He went back inside, left the garage door open and learned about 10:15 a.m. that the truck had been stolen.

The man indicated that the keys may have been left in the garage or on the tailgate of his truck while he was unloading things from the back.

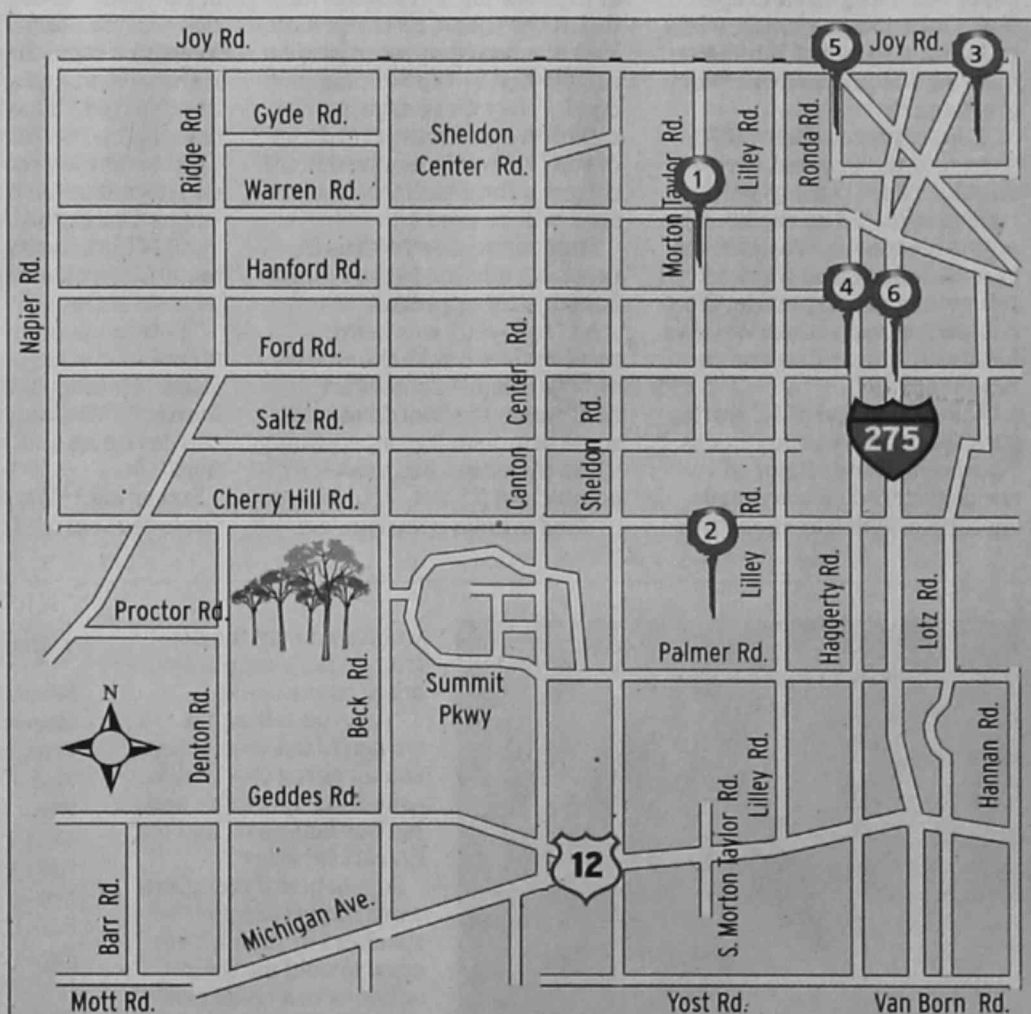
Peeper creeper

3 Police arrested a 29-year-old Westland man for window peeping, resisting arrest and trespassing following an incident that happened about 2:30 a.m. Saturday in the 39800 block of Hillary, in the Canton Crossings apartment complex southeast of Joy Road and I-275, a police report said.

A 22-year-old woman told police that her ex-boyfriend was outside a window making threats toward her while she had another male visitor. A police report said the former boyfriend also had called and told her that he wanted the other male to come outside and fight. The suspect also had threatened to break out a window, the report said.

Police went to the scene and spotted the suspect, who began running away. The suspect tried to jump over a fence, but police caught up with him and handcuffed him.

The suspect was highly intoxicated at the time of his arrest, the report said.



Bad check

4 Canton police arrested a man who was wanted for a warrant out of Washtenaw County for uttering and publishing (writing an illegal check).

Police saw the man walking near Ford and Haggerty about 12:40 p.m. Jan. 25 and initially thought he was a retail fraud suspect they were seeking. He wasn't, but a background check revealed he was wanted for the warrant.

Arrangements were being made to turn him over to Washtenaw County authorities.

Bins stolen

5 A police report indicated that two or three recycling bins were stolen sometime prior to midnight Friday from a business in the 8500 area of Ronda, south of Joy.

An employee said he came to work around 11 p.m. Friday and saw a Dodge Ram truck leaving with some recycling bins in the back. He went inside and learned that no one was supposed to be taking the bins.

The truck had fled by the time he went back

outside. Calls were made to a scrap yard, which had a couple of recycling bins matching the description. The employee was told to go and get them.

Panhandler popped

6 A man holding a sign and asking for money on the southbound exit ramp of I-275 at Ford Road was cited for being a disorderly person and given a court date in 35th District Court.

Police went to the area following reports of a panhandling. The man told authorities he was trying to get enough money for a hotel room.

The incident happened shortly after 1 p.m. Saturday. A police report indicated the man had been advised multiple times not to panhandle in the area.

He was initially placed under arrest and then given a date to appear in court.

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

Cops recover stolen property

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

Canton police have recovered personal belongings such as electronic and sporting equipment stolen in January during two home invasions on the township's north side, Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner said.

Authorities retrieved the items from a pawn shop and a home in Detroit after Taylor police captured home invasion suspects linked to Canton incidents that occurred near Warren and Morton Taylor roads.

"One of the guys in Taylor is connected to our home invasions," Schreiner said, and a second Canton suspect was identified as the investigation unfolded.

Canton's suspects are both males in their 20s, he said, and they are expected to face charges after the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office has reviewed the allegations and evidence.

"It appears as though one of them had previously lived in Canton," Schreiner said.

The home invasions in Canton occurred on Provincial Road and North Umland Circle, and Schreiner said authorities recovered stolen electronic and sporting equipment after executing a search warrant in Detroit.

No one was at home during either of the Canton incidents, and Schreiner said the intruders forced their way into the residences.

Schreiner commended one of the Canton homeowners, saying information he provided to police helped authorities during their investigation.

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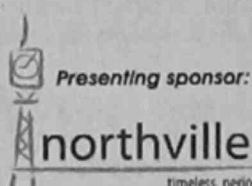
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Visit our website for updates at www.downtownnorthville.com

W-W superintendent earns advanced state endorsements

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Focused learning

It took three years to accomplish, but now Greg Baracy has joined an elite group of administrators who have taken the Courageous Journey.

The superintendent of the Wayne-Westland Community Schools has been recognized by the Michigan Association of School Administrators for acquiring two advanced state endorsements on his school administrator certification.

"It's a special thing. It's made me a better superintendent," Baracy said. "It's provided me with a laser-like focus on improving student achievement and allowed me to contribute to many initiatives in place in the district today."

"It's solely geared around the personal and professional growth of the superintendent as it relates to improving student achievement in the district," he added.

Baracy spent three years in the MASA's Courageous Journey program that included classes, forums and online work to improve his leadership skills aimed at improving staff and student outcomes in the district.

He is among about two dozen superintendents in the state to achieve the endorsements.

To get them, he had to carry out and document his work, showing such things as a district level improvement in student achievement and evidence of its impact and improved school district practices and processes.

The program included formal meetings throughout the year, classes and a project intended to improve learning and use of a professional blog and discussions. Baracy focused on high school reform and reviewed literature to increase his knowledge about the use of "best practices" as they relate to effective classroom instruction and the effective use of data to drive instruction and the decision-making process geared at improving student achievement.

"The classes, research and professional sharing became a very intentional attribute toward the development and implementation of a culture that supports professional learning communities," he said. "It has led to many interventions for students as well as the expansion of professional learning communities."

He also had to do a final exhibition of his work in order to receive the recommendation for the endorsements to the state Department of Education.

"It's the equivalent of doing a dissertation," he said. "I did a PowerPoint to the program leaders, I did a more than 100-page report. I had to show the results of the work I did in the district."

Baracy decided to pursue the Courageous Journey experience because of his "inherent characteristic" to seek "knowledge, perfection and excellence in my work." He added that he is committed to exploring new instructional strategies to help students better connect with classroom instruction



MARK WRIGHT

Wayne-Westland School Supt. Greg Baracy has reason to smile after acquiring two advanced state endorsements on his school administrator certification through the Michigan Association of School Administrators' Courageous Journey Program.

that's engaging and meets their needs.

"I feel really good about this. It impacted students and the school district in a positive way," he said. "That's what I was looking at when I entered the program."

School board President Carol Middel announced Baracy's accomplishments at Monday's meeting by reading a letter from William Mayes, MASA executive director.

Proud of accomplishment

"School leaders who earn these specialty and enhanced endorsements do so on a voluntary basis by placing their actual work as superintendents on the line for review and evaluation against the state standards for school leaders. We hope you are as proud of this accomplishment as we are," she read, adding, "So now we know what you do in your spare time."

Members of the board thanked Baracy for his efforts. Trustee Frederick Weaver noted that "these are two certifica-

tions most superintendents don't receive in their lifetimes.

"This man has moved this district forward with the bond issue in 1998 and the sinking fund in 2003," he added. "I consider him a bold, well-spoken and courageous leader and I thank him for that."

"We appreciate your dedication to this district," board Secretary Cindy Schofield said. "I'd like to thank you for being the leader you are by going back to school and leading the way."

Completion of the program now makes Baracy a member of the Courageous Journey Guild, which provides additional opportunities to build high-impact practices and network with other superintendents "doing leading edge work in their districts."

"Despite all the good things going on as a result of me completing this program, Wayne-Westland is a better place for teaching and learning," Baracy said.

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(313) 222-6751

PRIMARY

Continued from page A1

closer, Bennett reminded voters who used to cast ballots at Resurrection Church Precinct 8 that they will be voting elsewhere.

"That is no longer a precinct. Those voters have been moved to Salem (High School)," she said.

Those voters should enter on the school's east doors by the pool area.

Bennett urged voters who go to school-based polls Feb. 28 to "be considerate because all of our schools are in session" that Tuesday.

"To accommodate school and voting populations on this day, some of our usual (polling) locations will be moved to smaller rooms and lobbies, as opposed to gyms and other larger rooms," she said.

Choice to make

Voters who cast ballots will need to choose if they want to vote Republican or Democratic, though their decision only applies to the primary and will not affect their party choices for elections, including the November presidential race.

Three Canton precincts in the Wayne-Westland school district also will help decide a sinking fund millage of just under 1 mill. Canton voters in Precinct Nos. 2, 15 and 28 are in the Wayne-Westland school district.

In other election matters, the clerk's office continues to seek election precinct inspectors, especially those who can assume leadership roles, as the primary looms.

"We're still looking for probably a good six or eight people to serve as (precinct) chair and vice chair," Bennett said. "We need to get

them quickly."

Her office has spread the word at places such as Cleary University, Eastern Michigan University and ITT Technical Institute, which has a location in Canton.

The position is limited to working on designated election days in Canton. It pays a minimum of \$135, plus \$20 for each training session. Those who chair their precincts can earn \$165, plus \$20 for training sessions.

Qualities needed

Precinct inspector applicants must be qualified, registered voters in Wayne County and a U.S. citizen. They have to fill out an application in their own handwriting and be willing to declare a political party affiliation.

Applicants must be able to work closely with others, assemble simple voting stations, read and write legibly in the English language, perform simple math calculations, follow instructions by the precinct chairperson and have the interpersonal skills to work with a diverse community population.

Application packets may be picked up in the clerk's office, located in the township administration building on Canton Center between Cherry Hill and Palmer. They also may be downloaded by going to www.canton-mi.org and looking under the Government and Clerk's Office tabs.

Applications may be dropped off at the clerk's office or returned by mail, though Bennett said anyone interested must act quickly.

For more primary information, visit www.canton-mi.org and go to the clerk's office page, or call (734) 394-5120.

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FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NUMBER C-2011-08

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE BUILDING OFFICIAL AS THE ENFORCING AGENCY TO DISCHARGE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH AND DESIGNATING REGULATED FLOOD PRONE HAZARD AREAS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 44 OF THE UNITED STATES CODE OF REGULATIONS AND THE STATE CONSTRUCTION CODE ACT, ACT NO. 230 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1972, AS AMENDED; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ANY ORDINANCE OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT WITH THIS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL AND SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR PENALTY; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDAINS:

Ordinance Number C-2011-08, the Floodplain Management Ordinance is hereby adopted to read as follows:

- Section 1. Agency Designated.** This section provides the designated agency.
- Section 2. Code Appendix Enforced.** This section provides for an enforcing agency.
- Section 3. Designation Of Regulated Flood Prone Hazard Areas.** This section provides for the designation of regulated flood prone hazard areas.
- Section 4. 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 5. 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 6. Severability.** This section provides that any unenforceable section can be severed from the rest of the Ordinance.
- Section 7. 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 8. 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 9. Effective Date.** This section provides that this Ordinance shall take full force and effect on February 2, 2012.

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

Joe Bridgman, MMC
Township Clerk

Introduced: December 6, 2011
Adopted: January 10, 2012
Effective: February 2, 2012
Published: February 2, 2012

CED0796354 - 3x4.5

W-W recommended for district accreditation

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

It won't be made official until June, but the Wayne-Westland Community Schools is in a celebratory mood now after being told the district has been recommended for North Central Association AdvancEd accreditation.

"You should be proud, your community should be proud," said Kathy Reifschneider, lead evaluator of eight-member Quality Assurance Review team. "In all areas, you have what it takes to be a great school district."

The QAR team spent two days last week looking at all aspects of the district and talking to 344 administrators, employees, parents, community leaders and students before providing school officials with an oral report of their review.

This is the first time Wayne-Westland has gone for district accreditation, and according to Reifschneider, the district was rated as highly functional in three of seven standards for accreditation and operational in the other four.

It was rated highly functional for its vision and purpose, governance and leadership and stakeholder communications and relationships. It was rated operational for its teaching and learning, documenting and using results, resources and support systems and commitment to continuous improvement.

"I think everybody knows what a great school district we have,

but it's nice to see you come in and see as strangers what we do," said school board President Carol Middel. "We have a lot of hard working people and we appreciate what they do."

Commendations

In issuing its oral report, the team offered five commendations:

- That School Superintendent Greg Baracy and the school board work collaboratively to make "great futures for all" a reality.
- That there was significant support for the school system through strong community involvement and participation.
- That the district's vision and purpose to student learning was shared by all stakeholder groups.
- That the district and staff foster effective relationships and communication among stakeholders and provide effective and meaningful outreach to the community.
- That the district has an ongoing commitment to technology resources, support and training in an effort to prepare students for a global technological world.

The district received one required action that "will help the district be even better." The action is to develop a systemic and systematic framework to ensure consistency and effectiveness in the areas of curriculum development, to create formative/summative assessments and to implement professional learning communities.

"You look where you

can best put the money and it's all in the classroom," said Reifschneider. "I hope this is a validation for what you do. You are a very, very good school district."

A written report of the findings will be submitted in 30 days to AdvancEd and sent to the school district. The recommendation will go before the state Board of Education in June for approval. The accreditation is for five years, and the district will need to do a progress report in two years.

"While today we celebrate the culmination of an extensive self study and external review, it is only the beginning of the next cycle of continuous improvement," Reifschneider said.

Great things

The word great permeated the oral report, presented at a special school board meeting last Wednesday afternoon, and many of the team members talked of taking back to their districts some of the initiatives they saw during their visit to school buildings.

Jan Colliton, a consultant and retired assistant superintendent in the Farmington Public Schools, told the board that if her grandchildren lived in the area, she would recommend they be put in the Wayne-Westland district.

"This is the place to be, you have some wonderful teachers and stakeholders," she said. "You now have a fan."

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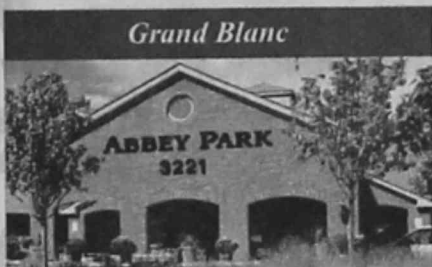
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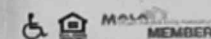
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Fairy tale performance

Plymouth-Canton AAUW brings 'Cinderella' to O'Leary stage

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Live children's theater will return next to O'Leary Theater at Garden City High School as the Plymouth-Canton Association of American University Women stage its version of the fairy tale classic, *Cinderella* Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 8-10.

The all-woman cast has been rehearsing at the high school since the beginning of January, and for co-director Kaytee Bellows of Waterford, it's a twist on growing up with her mother, Sue Bellows, who plays the fairy godmother.

"The tables have turned," said the Waterford resident. "She spent a lot of years telling me what to do. Now I get to do it. I'm going to take it and run with it."

This is Kaytee Bellows' first time directing the play. She's sharing the duties with Becky Copenhaver of Canton who's in the director's chair for a fourth time since joining the local AAUW branch in 1985.

"I brought my son to see the play in 1984 and commented to my husband that they were having too much fun and I needed to be up there," said Copenhaver. "I joined the next year and the very first year I was Wendy in *Peter Pan*. It was very exciting for me, but they took a chance on me."

52nd year

This is the 52nd year for the branch's chil-



Monica Nick (left) of Plymouth and Michelle Churchill (right) of Novi are play sisters Gruesue and Ugletta, while MaryBeth Riblett of Plymouth appears in the title role as Cinderella.

dren's theater production. The plays started out as a branch interest group aimed at bringing live drama to children in Plymouth. It has now become the major project of the branch, which is known around the state for its live theater and which is also a drawing card for new young members like MaryBeth Riblett of Plymouth. In her fourth year, she's playing Cinderella, the role she wanted.

"It just seemed to be a fun role, I get to do the whole fairy tale thing," she said. "I auditioned for this and one of the step-sisters. I got this and I'm having a lot of fun with it."

"Every other year I've been a boy, so I'm excited that I get to wear a dress

this year," she added.

Sue Bellows is also playing the role she wanted as Cinderella's fairy godmother. But in the branch's version of the fairy tale, she must contend with a fairy godmother in training (GIT) played by Sandy Iannucci of Plymouth.

"I'm her straight man," said Sue Bellows of Iannucci. "I'm getting up in age and can't be around forever. I'll eventually go to the fairy godmother home, but I have to deal with this fairy godmother wanna-be."

"I have to show the other side of myself," the Garden City resident added. "I was the Queen of Hearts last year and I was fabulous, if I must say so myself."

Armed with a wand that

lights up, Sue Bellows was busy showing her good side and expressing her love for the three mice — Jack, Worm and Gus.

"Oh, we love her back, but we have to keep reminding her we turn into horses," said Kay Paupore of Canton who plays Gus.

Sparkling hair

Iannucci stands out in her role with her sparkly blue wig. She admitted that sparkle caught her off guard, the first time she put it on.

"When I tried it on the first time, someone was talking to me and I couldn't talk," she said. "I couldn't concentrate because of the blue wig."

In her 12th year with the AAUW, Iannuc-

CINDERELLA

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Feb. 8-9 and 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10

Location: O'Leary Auditorium at Garden City High School, 6500 Middlebelt Road, north of Ford Road, Garden City

Details: The Plymouth-Canton AAUW will present its annual children's play, "Cinderella." Tickets are still available for two performances on Thursday and Saturday morning for scouts interested in earning theater badges. The program includes reserved seating, acting presentation at 6:15 p.m. Thursday and 10:15 a.m. Saturday, the show and a fun patch. Tickets are \$5 in advance (includes patch for scouts) and \$6 at the door. Seating is still available for all shows. Tickets are available at Perko's Shoes, 33426 W. Five Mile, Livonia; Sideways Gifts, 505 Forest Ave., Plymouth, and Fanatic U, 30409 Ford Road, Garden City.

Contact: For more information, visit the Plymouth AAUW website at www.aauw-pcmi.org.

ci admits it was the play that attracted her. At the urging of fellow member Melissa Uhl, she joined after she was told she'd enjoy it.

"I started off shy, my first play I was an Indian brave with one line," she said. "I've had a lot of roles since then and I can say I'm no longer shy. This is a great group of women."

The branch has seven different plays that it presents. Each time a play is staged, a new script is updated with news lines and characters like this year's GIT.

"We have so many talented people," said Copenhaver. "I wrote the GIT for Sandy because I knew she'd ham it up."

Kaytee Bellows took on the directing job when no one stepped up to be director by September. Copenhaver agreed to help her.

"I would rather be up

on stage, but everyone has been very helpful and offered suggestions," said Copenhaver. "I get to bounce ideas off of Kaytee, but it's nerve wracking."

The play serves as a fundraiser for the branch which uses the money to provide scholarships for women attending school or returning to school at places like Schoolcraft College and Madonna University. It also has become a popular program for scouts who attend presentations and watch the show on Thursday evening and Saturday morning, while earning fun patches. Last year, 1,100 scouts attended the two shows. "It's pretty wonderful," said Kaytee Bellows. "They get patches with the workshop, and we have a lot of fun."

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Home

‘It’s a long shot, it’s a Hail Mary’

Retired police officers seek answers in 1990 cold case

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Michael Frayer is a realist. Finding out what happened to an Okemos woman who disappeared along I-96 22 years ago may be near to impossible. But he is committed to finding her and providing closure for her family.

“If we find her, I think we can find out who did it,” said Frayer. “It’s a long shot, it’s a Hail Mary. It’s tough because we have no victim, we’re not even sure where the crime scene was.”

Frayer is part of a three-member cold case team made up of retired law enforcement officers who represent 110 years of experience and who are working with the Livingston County Sheriff’s Department on the more than 20-year-old mystery.

Frayer is a retired Westland police chief. Also on the team is friend and retired Westland police officer Joe Morrow and retired Canton Police Officer and Mackinac Island police chief William Lenaghan.

“We’ve been able to generate 80 new leads and tips and we’ve gotten about a dozen that are viable,” said Frayer. “We’ve also come up with five persons of interest.”

A substitute teacher, Paige Renkoski was 30 years old when she disappeared without a trace along I-96 in Livingston County on May 24, 1990. Her car was found on the shoulder of the westbound lanes of the Interstate about a quarter-mile east of the Fowlerville exit. It was unlocked, with the engine running and the headlights on. Her shoes and purse were still inside.

Team members

Lenaghan, who was working for Livingston County 9-1-1, was approached by Sheriff Bob Bezotte about working on the case. He contacted Morrow and Frayer to see if they were interested.

“Everyone has friends here and there, and you might be able to pull something (investigators) weren’t able to before,” Lenaghan said. “Everyone makes their best effort, but sometimes it doesn’t come together.”

Morrow handled fatal accident investigations while on the Westland Police Department and was a private investigator for 10 years after he retired in July 1991.

Frayer worked on the road patrol and in the detective bureau before moving up the chain of command to chief. He retired in July 1992 and then worked for Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority, retiring from there in 2006. He also worked

“We’ve been able to generate 80 new leads and tips and we’ve gotten about a dozen that are viable. We’ve also come up with five persons of interest.”

MICHAEL FRAYER
retired Westland police chief

with Morrow and at Schoolcraft College.

They been provided with discarded sheriff uniforms to wear when needed and have gotten help from private individuals and other law enforcement agencies.

The team started off reviewing the entire Renkoski report which included five cabinet drawers filled with tips. They’ve used cadaver dogs from Michigan Urban Search and Rescue to check possible burial sites and GPS to search sites where they thought Renkoski might be. Anthropologists and FBI agents helped in digs conducted on property in Conway Township in November. A gentleman in the private sector also loaned them an \$80,000 GPS unit they used in their search.

One site they investigated they had a hit on a spot that looked promising, but when they dug it up, what they thought might be a human skull was a rock. Another spot, they dug up an elbow, a “plumber’s elbow,” Frayer said.

“It’s very frustrating,” Frayer said. “We got a tip from a lady that her dog had brought home a femur. Her boyfriend said it was a deer bone. She disagreed. While she was talking to us, the dog ate the bone.”

Of the five persons of interest they’ve come up with, several are incarcerated and one is a fugitive. One of the possible suspects is getting out in March, he’s been in prison since he was 17 years old, Frayer said. One is in prison in California, and they’ve sent material out west to see what, if anything, turns up.

Frayer and Morrow describe themselves as “old school.” They develop leads through contacts. Today’s police use a lot of new technology.

“There’s things we didn’t know existed that they’re doing, but they don’t have the ability to go out and talk to people,” said Morrow. “We use the old boy network ... we talk to a guy who knows a guy who knows a guy.”

Tracking info

Morrow lives in Westland and Frayer in Wayne and they meet regularly to talk about the case.

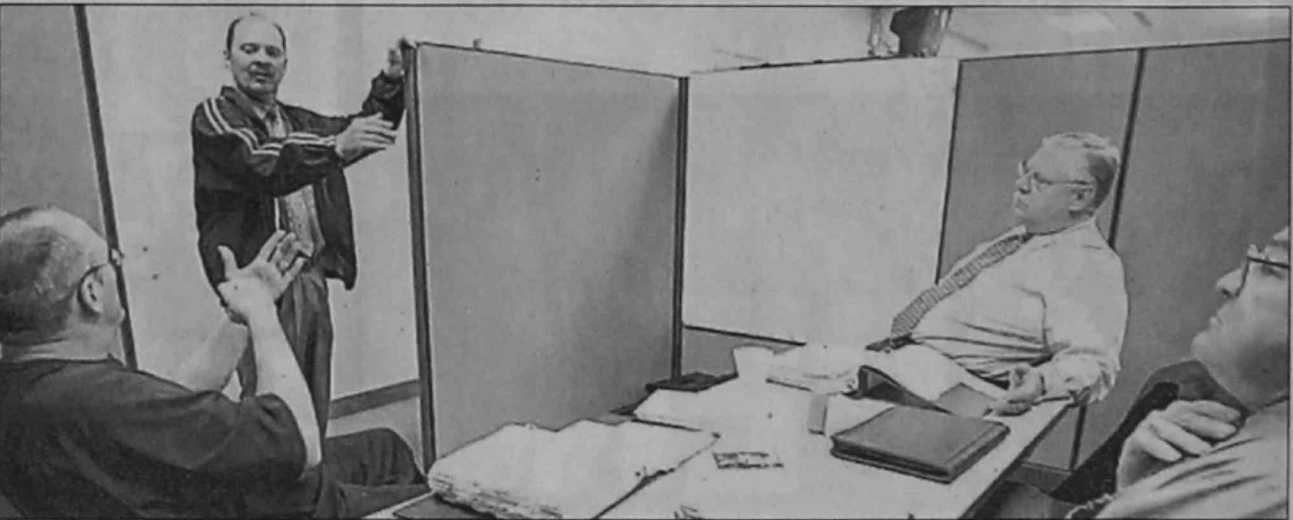
“Him and I have lunch together and bounce



Retired Westland Police Chief Michael Frayer (left) and retire Westland Police Officer Joe Morrow are working on a Livingston County Sheriff’s Department cold case team, trying to solve the disappearance of an Okemos woman 22 years ago.



In June 2011, cold case team member Mike Frayer marks an area that reads an anomaly during a search of an area in Handy Township in a search for of Paige Renkoski, who went missing in 1990.



Lt. Todd Luzod stands to talk with cold case team members Michael Frayer (from left), William ‘Bill’ Lenaghan and Joe Morrow.

ideas off each other,” said Frayer. “We all have our own theories as to what happen.”

Frayer also checks the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs) which tracks missing and unidentified remains around the country.

“I’m usually on it daily to see if anything has

turned up,” he said.

For the two men, working on the cold cases offers them two opportunities — one to give back and the other to keep current with a profession they grew up in.

“We use some of our training and skills, actually a good part of them,” said Frayer.

“This is a personal challenge we want to see to the end. It keeps our training sharp.”

“It also gets me out of the house,” added Morrow.

Each time they talk to the media, they hope it will generate new leads that will put them closer to finding Paige Renkoski and their goal of

bringing her home. “Primarily, I’d like to get the guy who did it, absolutely, but I’d really like to bring her home to her mother in Okemos,” Frayer said.

Gannett News Service contributed to this story.

smason@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-6751

Investigators look for missing piece of puzzle

The disappearance of Paige Renkoski is a mystery a Livingston County Sheriff’s Department cold case team would like to solve. For three years, the team has reviewed the investigation and generated new leads, but none have panned out as of yet.

Renkoski was 30 when she vanished from Livingston County virtually without a trace on May 24, 1990. A substitute teacher from Okemos, she was last seen talking to a man along I-96 in western Livingston County.

A passing motorist first



Renkoski

of the Fowlerville exit. The motorist became concerned when he saw the car running with no one inside at about 7:30 p.m. on his return trip. He called police.

Investigators found the car unlocked, with the engine run-

ning and the headlights on. Her shoes, purse, a cup of beer and an open bottle of beer were still inside the car. There was no mechanical problem or damage to the car or its tires. There was no sign of a struggle.

Throughout the years, authorities have compared DNA samples related to the Renkoski case whenever a convicted serial killer is connected to the area. In 1999, two State Police detectives and three county sheriff’s detectives comprised a task force to look at the cold case.

They investigated two theories — whether Renkoski disap-

peared on her own or whether she was abducted. According to Livingston County Sheriff Bob Bezotte, they believed she was abducted.

In 2001, that task force announced that they had a suspect who was “connected” to the maroon minivan. The suspect was identified after new technology allowed authorities to cross-reference more than 1,000 tips in the case, and uncover leads which had seemed unrelated.

However, it did not solve the case.

The current cold case team members admit that solving

the case will be hard, but if they find that one clue or piece of information it could pull all the pieces together.

“I really believe, even with (the case) as old as it is, there are people out there who know what happened,” Bezotte said. “I believe the case is solvable.”

Anyone with information about the disappearance of Paige Renkoski is asked to call the cold case team at (517) 540-7879 or the Livingston County Sheriff’s Department at (517) 546-2440.

— Gannett News Service

Roth IRA can be good investment tool, even for teen

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

It is important to retain tax information that is starting to arrive in the mail. Many people will be doing their return over the next few weeks and there's something that can definitely bring your children or grandchildren substantial value down the road. It is a Roth IRA.

Many people with children who have worked in 2011 forget that even though they may be minors, they are eligible to open a Roth IRA. It is important to take advantage of a Roth IRA, if your child or grandchild is eligible.

Eligibility is not a matter of their age but rather, whether they have had earned income (money earned from wages). If, for example, last summer your child had a job and received a W-2, they are eligible to invest in a Roth IRA. Even if they do not have any taxable income they are still eligible for Roth IRA contributions.

A child may also be eligible for a Roth IRA if he/she was considered self-employed. They may have worked somewhere, received a 1099 or they could have done a variety of odd jobs where they received compensation. Of course, that money would have to be reported on a tax return.

The main benefit of a Roth IRA for a child is that the money will grow tax-free for decades. The numbers are startling as to how much money will grow when it is compounded. Therefore, from a purely financial standpoint, a Roth IRA can be a great investment vehicle for a young person to



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

begin to save for retirement. If you think retirement is difficult today, just think about how difficult it will be 40-

50 years from now.

The reality of the situation is that many teenagers and young people today can potentially be retired for as many years as they've worked. We know that they are not going to have pensions available to them and we have no idea whether Social Security and Medicare will be around. The bottom line is they will have to save a substantial amount of money for retirement. The fact that they can potentially start saving now and let the money grow tax-free, is a huge benefit to them.

Another benefit to opening a Roth IRA for a child or grandchild, is that it can be used as teaching lesson regarding investing in general and the importance of saving.

Over the last few years, many financial institutions have made it more difficult for young people to invest because of high minimums and high IRA fees. However, there are still many companies that offer a variety of low-cost IRA programs. Some investor-friendly companies to consider are TD Ameritrade, Charles Schwab and Scottrade. In addition, T. Rowe Price and Vanguard also have some IRA programs worth considering. I recognize to get a teenager or a young adult to invest for their retirement is dif-

ficult. After all, we live in a society that teaches us to spend as opposed to save. Therefore, you have to look for ways to overcome this issue. For grandparents and parents who are in the financial position where they can just invest the money for the child, of course that is great. The limit for a younger person investing in a Roth IRA is \$5,000. However, the key is they must have at least \$5,000 in earned income. For example, if they only had \$3,000 in earned income, that would be the maximum contribution.

Another option may be to have a type of matching program for your child or grandchild. Tell them for every dollar they put in, you'll match it, or something similar. The bottom line is that investing in a Roth IRA provides a young person with a head start in their quest to be able to have the financial resources to enjoy a long and comfortable retirement.

When investing in a Roth IRA for a young person, remember that you're not investing for just the next

five or 10 years, you're investing for 40-50 years down the road. Therefore, you should have a portfolio that's heavily invested in equities. Remember, you're not investing the money for yourself; you're investing it for a child or grandchild who has a much longer time frame.

One of the nice things about Roth IRA contributions is that you still can do them; you can make a 2011 Roth IRA contribution up to the time tax returns are due and that is April 17 of this year so you have plenty of time.

One last note, at the same time you're considering a Roth IRA for a child or grandchild, don't forget about a Roth IRA for yourself. Roth IRAs are great vehicles and just about anyone can benefit by taking advantage of them. 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 website at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.

International vocal group brings 'S.O.U.L.' to church

Singers of United Lands (S.O.U.L.), a touring group of four professional singers from four continents, will perform folk songs from their homelands in their native tongues at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia.

This season's performers hail from Bolivia, Poland, Namibia and India. S.O.U.L.'s mission is to develop international and cultural relationships through vocal music from around

the world. More information can be found online at www.singer-sofoundedlands.org.

Tickets are \$15 per person, or \$35 per family (which includes two adults and their children under 18 years of age). Tickets will be available at the door - no advance purchase necessary. Proceeds go to Justice For Our Neighbors of Southeastern Michigan, a program providing free legal immigration services, education and advocacy. Find it on the web at www.jfonsemi.org.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, at public sale by competitive bidding on **Monday, February 20th, 2012 at 9:30 A.M.** at the Extra Space Storage facility located at:

**6729 N. Canton Center Rd.
Canton, Michigan 48187
(734) 459-4821**

The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but are not limited to general household, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances.

**B030 Matari Cooper
B055 Zahid Butt
C103 Umeka Burton
J357 Helen Powers**

Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the time of sale. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to bid. Sale is subject to adjournment.

Publish: February 2, 2012

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NOTICE OF SALE MAYFLOWER TOWING

The following vehicles will be sold at Public Auction for cash to satisfy lien pursuant on February 9, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.

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2003	Honda Vt1100c	1HFSC18033A700948
2006	MoPED	LZSTCBPD761905104
1997	Chevrolet Cavalier/rs	1G1JC1241V7123962
1993	Ford Escort Lx	1FAPP15J3PW237659
2005	Chevrolet Cobalt	1G1AK52F957558210
2002	Honda Accord Se	1HGCG32092A037120
2002	Volkswagon Jetta GIs	3VWSK69M12M156797
1994	Ford Explorer	1FMDU34X8RUB90937

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KOHL'S
expect great things

Northville chief to lead police chiefs organization

By Lonnie Huhman
Correspondent

Northville Township Public Safety Director John Werth is honored to take on an even bigger public safety role after being named president of the largest organization of police chiefs in Michigan.

Werth was recently elected to head the association of Southeastern Michigan Chiefs of Police. This group is made up of the public safety departments from Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Washtenaw counties, and represents over 100 agencies and 285 members.

"It's an honor any time you are elected by a group of peers," said Werth, who lives in Plymouth Township. "This is a great organization, and I'm proud to be a part of it."

He first joined the organization in 2001 when he was named chief of police in Northville Township and has consistently been a member in good standing. The association is a



Werth

part of the larger Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police (MACP), which acts as a representative for police agencies around the state.

The association's core goals are to enhance cooperation between public safety departments, support professional growth and training, and inform legislators. Testifying on behalf of area chiefs in Lansing will be one part of Werth's role as president. He said it's important that state representatives understand "what we do" and pass good legislation to ensure public safety. The association's influence and work greatly impacts the community.

For Northville Township Manager Chip Snider, this is a natural extension of Werth's leadership, and it's one he had hoped would come to fruition.

After Werth's promotion, Snider asked him to complete his formal education and achieve a master's degree, and to devote his career to continuous improvement of the delivery of public safety service.

He has done both, and now he has achieved a third request of Snider.

"Lastly, I suggested he extend his leadership capabilities beyond the township's borders and in doing so improve our reputation for municipal sector leadership," Snider said. "John's election to president represents the culmination of my vision for his tenure. S.E. Chiefs serve Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Washtenaw counties as the largest organization of their kind. Their input is heavily regarded by lawmakers and criminal justice professionals across the state."

In September, Werth was also named as Wayne County representative for the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police.



ArtsPowers National Touring Theater Company's production of "Are You My Mother?" hits the stage at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton for an 11 a.m. performance Saturday, Feb. 11.

Children's play hits Village Theater stage

ArtsPowers National Touring Theater Company's production of "Are You My Mother?" hits the stage at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton for an 11 a.m. performance Saturday, Feb. 11.

The enchanting children's musical is based on the classic children's book by P.D. Eastman. Organizers are calling the production a "must-see" for children in grades K-2, but say it's also "incredibly fun for the whole family."

"There's a reason that we continue to invite ArtsPower productions back to the Village Theater season after season," recreation specialist Jennifer Provenzano said. "They deliver professional actors, original music, and unforgettable stories with charming characters and important lessons. 'Are You My Mother?' is no different. They've managed to turn a favorite P.D. Eastman picture book, from Dr. Seuss's beloved Beginner Book Collection, into a magical stage show full of vibrant moments that will dance in the memories of little theatre-goers for years to come."

The musical begins when Baby Bird hatches from her egg only to find an empty nest. Unaware that her mother has left to find food, Baby Bird decides to leave the nest to look for her; along the way, she meets an array of colorful characters who help and advise her.

Persistent Baby Bird is determined to find her mother no matter what.

"Are You My Mother?" features a rich, upbeat musical score and imaginative sets. Greg Gunning, ArtsPower's Artistic Director, adapted and directed the show and wrote the lyrics. Richard DeRosa wrote and orchestrated the musical score.

Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$11 for seniors and youth, with an \$8 group rate for groups of 15 or more. The Village Theater is located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton.

Call (734) 394-5460; online at www.cantonvillagetheater.org; or one hour prior to show time at the box office.

Habitat holds orientation meeting

Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County is hosting a homeowner orientation meeting 5:30-7:30 p.m. today (Thursday) at the Wayne Community College Western Campus in Belleville.

Free and open to the public, the program will give participants a history of Habitat for Humanity, the application process and documents required for home ownership and how to

use the principal portion of their mortgage payments to supplement construction costs for future homes.

Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County is an organization that was founded on the conviction that every man, woman and child should have a decent, safe and affordable place to live. Through volunteer labor and donations of money and materials, Habitat and its homeowners

have built or rehabilitated more than 400,000 houses. Habitat invites people of all backgrounds, races and religions to build together in partnership.

The orientation meeting will be held in the Educational Multi-Purpose Room on the Western Campus, 9555 Haggerty, Belleville. For more information, contact the Western Campus at (734) 699-7008 or visit www.wcccd.edu.

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SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Attorneys J.B. Bleske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear personally at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bleske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.

Attorneys Bleske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

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

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bleske has written a book for attorneys about the

subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bleske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Attorneys Bleske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be **no fee charged until after the case is won**. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

Bleske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

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CANTON CHAMBER CHAT



Welcome to town

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Saturday, Jan. 28, by Agape Accounting & Credit Solutions in Canton to celebrate the company's grand opening. Agape Accounting & Credit Solutions is located at 7282 N. Sheldon Road in Canton. Attending this event were employees and Canton Chamber of Commerce members.

February luncheon

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts its February luncheon Wednesday, Feb. 29, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

A buffet lunch will be served beginning at 11:30 a.m., followed by Phil LaJoy's "State of the Township" presentation in the main theater. The cost for the luncheon is \$25 (advance registration), \$30 (at the door) \$30 (non-members) and includes a full buffet lunch, beverages and dessert. This luncheon is open to the public.

"The Chamber is happy to host the 'State of the Township' luncheon with guest speaker Phil LaJoy, our township supervisor," said Dianne Cojei, President, Canton Chamber of Commerce. "Mr. LaJoy will discuss Canton's goals for 2012 as well as what's happening in the Township."

February's luncheon is hosted by the Canton Chamber of Commerce and is sponsored by Xuereb Snow PC and Oakwood Healthcare Systems. Seating is limited and reservations are required.

To make a reservation, contact the Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040. Deadline for reservations is Friday, Feb. 24.

First Friday

The First Friday Club meets 8:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 3, at the Canton Chamber of Commerce office, located at 45525 Hanford in Canton.

It's an opportunity for one-on-one networking in a small group setting. This networking event is limited to 10 sepa-

rate businesses plus two sponsors. Participants should bring business cards, flyers, etc., to share with the group. Participation in this networking event is limited to once per quarter.

To make a reservation, call (734) 453-4040 or e-mail admin@cantonchamber.com.

Dinner auction

The Canton Chamber Annual Dinner Auction takes place 7 p.m. Saturday, April 28, at Burton Manor in Livonia. This year's theme is "Made in Detroit." The décor will include Detroit's sports teams, Motown, Casinos and everything in-between.

Chamber officials called the auction a "fun night for socializing and networking with key businesses and community leaders in a social setting."

Tickets for the Auction are \$75 per person, which includes entrance to the event, dinner, premium bar, raffles, live & silent Auction, DJ and entertainment.

Sponsorship opportunities are available at various levels and include event tickets and sponsorship recognition, along with a prize purchased in the business name (sponsorship form is available on the chamber website; go to forms & flyers).

The prize committee is looking for donations such as gift certificates, appliances, electronics, patio furnishings, jewelry, video equipment, gift baskets, travel vouchers, restaurant certificates, event tickets and sports equipment, for raffles and the live auction.

For more information on please contact the Chamber office at (734) 453-4040.

CANTON BUSINESS BRIEFS

IKEA meets DIA

When visiting the Detroit Institute of Arts in Detroit, the last thing you might think about when watching one of their cool new film exhibits is what you will be sitting on. However, seating may be taken to a whole new level with IKEA providing the furniture.

IKEA, the home furnishings company with its only metro Detroit location in Canton, was recently approached to do seating at the Detroit Institute of Arts for the 3D film entitled "Plant". The film uses a 20-foot projection screen to investigate the abandoned Packard auto plant.

"We have been trying to do something with the DIA, and the curator was looking for a unique seating option," said Amanda Preston, Marketing Specialist at IKEA. "The area has approximately 12 IKEA soft sofas and additional chairs."

IKEA's modern style and versatility made it a good fit for a cultural institute like the DIA. Similar clientele has IKEA hoping the DIA will look to do more initiatives with the functional furniture store. "The DIA has been really supportive of us, and it has been wonderful to work with them," said Preston.

IKEA home furnishings company can be visited at 41640 Ford Road in Canton. They are open Monday-Sunday 10 a.m. through 9 p.m., or visit IKEA.com.

The exhibit Detroit



Evola honored

Evola Music Center was honored by Yamaha Corporation of America as a Dealer of the Year 2011 at a special ceremony at the Winter 2012 NAMM Show in Anaheim, Calif., the music product industry's largest trade show. Pictured are (from left) Paul Calvin, vice president and general manager, Yamaha's Keyboard Division; David Monaghan, Evola Music Center; Bob Heller, National Sales manager, Yamaha Keyboard Division; and Rick Young, senior vice president, Yamaha Corporation of America.

Revealed on Film and the 3D film "Plant" is currently running now through Feb. 5 at the DIA. For more information, visit <http://www.dia.org>.

Free dental

Livonia dentists Brian Jacobson and Allyn Young are hosting the Children's Dental Health Project, offering a free exam, cleaning and fluoride treatment to children between the ages of 3 and 13 who do not have dental insurance or government assistance of any kind.

The project takes place 9 a.m. to noon Friday, Feb. 3, at their dental practice, located at 31550 Schoolcraft in Livonia.

A goodie bag of dental supplies and prizes will be given to each child, along with information and demonstrations on proper oral health care.

There are a limited number of spaces; for

registration and more information, call (734) 522-6770.

New associate

Plante Moran, PLLC, named Nick Tochman of Canton an associate in the firm's Southfield office.

Tochman provides tax and auditing services to both governmental and service organizations, along with providing tax services to individuals.

Tochman, who joined Plante Moran in 2006, has a masters degree in accounting from Michigan State University. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants.

He is also active in the American Cancer Society, where he is a member of the Associate Baron's Council.

TV time has arrived

By Jon Gunnells
Guest Columnist

The most wonderful time of the year for television-crazed consumers isn't the days leading up to Black Friday, Nor is it Cyber Monday, Taco Tuesday or any other made up holiday before the holidays.

The most wonderful time of the year for prospective television buyers is right now. Historically, the best time to find a deal on a new television is after Christmas, but before the Super Bowl.

It's not because ABC Warehouse is trying to hawk a 55-inch flat screen to you before the big game. Rather, this time marks the beginning of the new television model year.

If you're looking to replace your picture tube before the Super Bowl, or want to find a deal when your current screen fizzles out - follow these tips to make your search as pain-free as possible.

- First decide on what type of TV is best for you, LCD, LED or Plasma. Generally, plasma screens are the cheapest of the trio, but they're also the best television for dark basements. For lighter areas like living rooms, or bedrooms with many windows, LCD or LED are better options.

- Next, figure out what size television you want. The biggest television possible may seem like a great idea, but small



Tech Savvy

Jon Gunnells

what size and type of TV you desire, start narrowing down your list of brands. Some manufacturers make 40-inch models, but not 42-inch sets while others make screens in 47-inches but not 46-inches. You can use sites like ABC Warehouse.com to see what brands make what size models.

- If you still need help narrowing down your selection, think about what you want most in a TV. If picture clarity is on the top of your list, a 1080p television is better than a 720p television. You also have to choose a television with a proper amount of hertz (hz). Most LCD or LED televisions have 60hz, 120hz or even 240hz. The higher the number the smoother the quality or refresh rate the television has. However, many programs and movies aren't meant to be refreshed as much as a 120hz or 240hz TV allows. In that case, your 60hz TV would be a better bet. Simply put, don't let hertz decide what type of set you buy. Just be cognizant of what

rooms with close viewing areas probably don't need a 70-inch movie screen in them.

- Now that you know

each hertz level can do for your viewing interests.

- Now that you have hopefully narrowed your TV selection to a few flat screens, try and find the store that has the best price. Some stores such as Walmart will price match and even value their online price if it is lower. Target on the other hand will price match, but not honor lower online prices. The best option might be ABC Warehouse because the local chain matches prices and will also haggle. With enough negotiating you might get the sales rep to throw in a convection over or a blender

- And speaking of local, there's only one television manufacturer that sort of keeps their profits in America. Vizio, which is headquartered in California, makes their sets overseas.

Now that you have this handy checklist to help you decide which television to buy, all you need to do before game day is decide how many cheese dips to make. I say three.

Jon Gunnells, a Northville Township resident, is a social media planner at a Detroit-based advertising agency. A 2007 graduate of Michigan State University, he holds a B.A. in journalism. When he's not working, Gunnells enjoys college sports, social media and playing basketball. He can be reached at jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @GunnSh0w.

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OUR VIEWS



Board of Education members (from left) John Barrett, Adrienne Davis and Mike Maloney joined their colleagues at a special meeting Monday to hear public comment cut short at a meeting a week earlier.

Hear all voices

School board erred in cutting comment short

There is good news and bad news in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education's decision last week to cut short the public comment section of its agenda.

The bad news is the board broke the law, violating the Michigan Open Meetings Act by ending public comment after 45 minutes, with 15 speakers unable to have their voices heard. And the district's assertion that it was simply following a district policy that allowed breaking the law begs the question: What is the district paying its legal counsel, Collins & Blaha, for?

The decision came about because board members knew there likely would be a high volume of public comment, because the so-called "book banning" issue has been drawing large crowds for weeks. At the previous meeting, public comment had taken well over an hour of what turned out to be a four-hour meeting. The decision to cut it short last week was an effort, trustees explained, to give the board time to conduct its business.

The problem with that logic is this: Listening to the people who elected them is also the board's business.

The decision was discussed before the meeting and, while there was some dissent, all seven board members supported it, at least tacitly, by not speaking out against it at the meeting.

And there, if you look deep enough, lies the good news: Board members listened to each other's arguments, then made a decision as a group without a lot of public dissension. It's something the previous board couldn't do, at least on anything that didn't have to do with the budget, for most of the last 18 months of its reign.

Still, they broke the law, and it wasn't some meaningless law that doesn't matter. The Open Meetings Act is designed to keep the government process transparent, and to give the residents their platform for letting public bodies know how they feel about issues.

Yes, the decision to limit public comment violated that law. But the bigger picture issue — not listening to the people they were elected to represent — is a far more egregious mistake.

Listening to the people, making sure they have a stake in the decisions made, should be a priority. Board President John Barrett said as much Monday: "All of us together are seeking to make Plymouth-Canton schools the best in the state of Michigan," Barrett told the crowd gathered at Monday's meeting. "The way we do that is to listen carefully (to residents) and honor what they have to say."

Board of Education trustees did the right thing in recognizing their error and moving quickly to try to right the wrong.

It just shouldn't have been necessary in the first place.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What grade would you give Gov. Rick Snyder after his first year in office, and why?

We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



"'B-plus.' Because of what he has done compared to the previous governor. He started some programs that are beneficial to the state, and he has a plan."

Judy Grant
Northville Township



"I honestly don't know. I don't pay attention to it that much. I'm more focused on the presidential race."

Andy Sakowski
Plymouth Township



"I'd give him an eight out of 10. I believe he has a good plan and has made (progress) at completing that plan."

Cassie Cobb
Canton Township



"A 'C.' I'm a teacher, and I don't think he's worked very hard on our behalf."

Rebecca Blaesser
Plymouth Township

LETTERS

Leftist twist

How ironic you would accuse Sharon Lollio of exactly what you are guilty of ("Politics moves front-and-center in book debate," Observer, Jan. 29)!

Obviously, like the vast majority of the media, you are a leftist that can't take hearing the truth. Of course, you would make it look like her purpose is politically motivated and has nothing to do with values and morals. The public education system is and has been on a downward spiral for years now. I know firsthand as I was employed by two public schools systems and saw how they sway their teachings to the left.

So unfair to push one-sided opinions on children that have no way of understanding the difference and giving them a chance to form their own political views and values.

Unfortunately, many parents either agree with this form of teaching or have no knowledge of what's being taught. As far as the teachers, the majority of them are in it for the money and benefits only and will do whatever it takes to collect for themselves.

Unions, as we all know, are there for mere political purposes and as long as they provide what teachers want, they will have their full support. In turn, 90 percent of the dues go directly to support the liberal agenda and elect liberal candidates.

Shame on you for twisting an article to make an American citizen look bad, one who has as much of a right as the next person to get up and give her opinion. Leave it to the media, one-sided with no brain of their own to think as an individual but instead think as they are told in order to get and keep their job. Sad.

Pam Reitenga
Canton

Great article

Thank you for the great article in the Observer on Sunday, Jan. 29, about the book debate ("Politics moves front-and-center in book debate").

The Tea Party people are not the majority. There are still a lot of sensible people out there. We just aren't as loud. Thank you for speaking for us!

Mary Colwell
Canton

Thank you

I just wanted to say a heartfelt "thank you" for writing an intelligent piece ("Politics moves front-and-center in book debate," Observer, Jan. 29) about the Tea Party politics being forced onto our community.

It is refreshing to see that you saw Ms. Lollio's acts as

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats:

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E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

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

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

inappropriate since they were indeed! Keep up the good work and let me know if you need any help cleaning the dog poop!

Kristen Farmer
Plymouth

Thoughtful opinion

No eFeces here. Just a thank you for a thoughtful and well-written editorial on the current book "debate" in our community ("Politics moves front-and-center in book debate," Observer, Jan. 29).

And a hope you do not receive any virile or stinky mail — e or snail variety. But then, if you do, you know you have done well in the accuracy and relevance of your observations.

Barbara Moroski-Browne
Northville

Return to sender

Thanks for writing the article on the Opinion page regarding the reading of parts of "Beloved" at the P-C school board meeting ("Politics moves front-and-center in book debate," Observer, Jan. 29).

These "Tea Partiers" actually insult my intelligence. They complain on the one hand that health care (Obamacare) is being forced down their throats but on the other hand they want to control what is taught in the public schools, even in AP classes suited for mature students.

Their way is the right way, according to them, with no middle ground.

Keep up the good work and if any mail comes to you with a suspected scent just write "return to sender" on it.

Tom Marunich
Plymouth Township

County's soap opera

Is anybody surprised to find out that four county commissioners have taken money from Bob Ficano's "POLITICAL action committee." This is Wayne County politics at its best, and we've watched this soap opera for 30 years or more.

They used to say at the

beginning of Dragnet, "The names have been changed to protect the innocent." In Wayne County, the names have changed but they're still guilty.

Skip Wehrle
Garden City

Thanks for help

Thanks to the generous efforts of Detroit-area residents, thousands of hurting children worldwide will have the opportunity to experience the joy of Christmas. Residents joined Operation Christmas Child, the world's largest Christmas project of its kind, to pack 30,190 shoe boxes with toys, school supplies and necessity items. These gift-filled shoe boxes are making their way — or have already made their way — into the hands of needy children in 100 receiving countries.

On behalf of our community, I would like to thank the volunteers at local collection sites and everyone who packed an Operation Christmas Child shoe box gift. For many of the children receiving these boxes, the simple shoe box will be the first gift they have ever received.

Although the Detroit-area drop-off locations are closed until November 2012, gifts are received throughout the year at Samaritan's Purse, 801 Bamboo Road, Boone, NC 28607. If you would like to get involved year-round in helping children in need through Operation Christmas Child, go online to www.samaritanspurse.org/occ or call (937) 374-0761.

Thanks again to everyone who participated in this project. A simple gift, packed with love, can communicate hope and transform the lives of children worldwide!

Bonnie Freeman
Great Lakes Regional director
Operation Christmas Child

Excerpt challenge

I challenge you to post (excerpts) on the front page in the Observer from that trash of a novel, "Beloved," written at a sixth-grade reading level, I might add.

Obviously other options are available and, in fact, have been chosen at schools far superior to PCEP (Catholic Central, for one). Amazing how you support the liberal agenda time after time.

You might also want to publish something on why the board incumbents were bounced out and on their way wondering why charter schools have waiting lists of 1,000+ students while PCCS continue to head downward via death spiral.

G. Gordon
Canton

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Symphony founder left 'a great legacy'

By Karen Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Francesco DiBlasi, founder and former conductor of the Livonia Symphony Orchestra, died Jan. 23 of heart failure at St. Jude Convalescent Center in Livonia.

He was 85.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, at Laurel Manor, 39000 Schoolcraft, Livonia. Attendees are requested to RSVP to cmoore@yahoo.com.

Rose Kachnowski, president of the Livonia Symphony Orchestra, said DiBlasi left a great legacy. "Although his physical presence will be missed at the symphony's 40th anniversary celebration in November, the beauty of the music performed by the orchestra he began lives on."

Kachnowski said DiBlasi was a friendly, enjoyable person who made each concert fun by the music he chose or the outfit he wore while conducting.

'A brilliant musician'

Christine Moore, a stepdaughter who lives in Tustin, Calif., described DiBlasi as a "brilliant musician" who both played for and conducted various orchestras. He was third trumpet for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra for seven years in the 1950s.

"He really did have a life of accomplishment."

After attending Detroit Public Schools, DiBlasi went to Julliard School of



Francesco DiBlasi, pictured here with a Rolls Royce, enjoyed driving luxury cars when he wasn't playing music or conducting an orchestra.

Music in New York City. In the 1940s he played trumpet and was assistant conductor in the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo orchestra. At the time, this company was the foremost ballet company performing in the United States, featuring illustrious lead dancers Alexandra Danilova and Frederick Franklin.

DiBlasi enjoyed the ballet, and always said his favorite ballet was *Copelia* — about a doll who came to life and danced, his stepdaughter said.

Formation of Livonia symphony

On June 4, 1973, DiBlasi and his wife, Nelda, founded the Oakway Symphony Orchestra as a community orchestra to give talented young musicians the opportunity to play with seasoned performers under professional direction. It was designed to bring music to

the cities located in Oakland and Wayne counties; therefore, it was named Oakway Symphony.

As these communities grew and launched their own symphonies, support for the symphony became diluted. In 1988, the symphony board voted to change the name to the Livonia Symphony Orchestra because of Livonia's known support of the arts, a well-established school music education program, and the interest shown by prominent community leaders.

In 1979 under DiBlasi and the symphony board, a Young Artist Competition was inaugurated to showcase young upcoming talents. This competition was run for many years with funding provided by an active women's association. A vast array of known artists performed with the symphony under DiBlasi's direction including Victor Borge, "Fat Bob" Taylor and Alexander Zonjic, Ralph Votopek, Flavio Varani and Fedora Horowitz.

DiBlasi also taught music and conducted the orchestra at Ladywood High School in Livonia and served on the faculty of Madonna University, Livonia.

In addition, DiBlasi also performed with the American Youth Orchestra, Radio City Music Hall, New York City Opera, American Symphony Orchestra and the Metropolitan Opera. He conducted the Buffalo Philharmonic, Grand Rapids Symphony, Phila-

delphia Orchestra, Scandinavian Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, Grosse Pointe Symphony, St. Cecilia Orchestra, Rome, Italy; Julliard Opera, Canton Symphony of Ohio, Detroit Women's Symphony, San Diego Symphony, and the Flint Symphony.

He attended the Detroit Institute of Musical Art and L'Ecole de Pierre Monteux. He received a bachelor of arts degree from Madonna and a master in performance from Eastern Michigan University.

Family life

DiBlasi and his wife Nelda, longtime Livonia residents, were married for 31 years before she died in 1983. He was also predeceased by a stepson, Jim Klote, in 1993.

Moore, the oldest of DiBlasi's three stepchildren and two biological children, said music was a part of their lives every waking moment. "When we were in the house with him, there was constant music. He gave us an appreciation of music," she said, recalling the summer concerts they would attend at Metro Beach.

Besides Moore, DiBlasi is survived by daughter Francine DiBlasi of Lake San Marcos, Calif., son Paul DiBlasi of Southfield, stepson John Klote of Leesburg, Va., five grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Livonia Symphony Orchestra, 37637 Five Mile Road, PMB#398, Livonia, MI 48154.

Fundraiser bowls for Braille books

WMGC's Chris Edmonds will be the emcee at Seedlings' 25th annual Bowling for Braille Books Saturday, March 25, at Plaza Lanes in Plymouth.

The event, presented by Ameriprise Financial, celebrates Seedlings' 25th anniversary. Registration starts at noon, with bowling beginning at 1 p.m.

The event helps place braille books into the hands of blind children locally and around the world. There will be raffle prizes, a silent auction and prize packages for the top three bowlers who raise the most pledges. Bowlers who raise \$100 or more receive a bowling T-shirt and have a braille book inscribed in their name. The first 25 bowlers to raise \$250 or more get their names entered into a drawing for a chance to win a Kindle Fire. Seedlings has set a 2012 goal of 25,000 braille books.

Bowlers will receive three games, shoes, lunch, a goody bag, and a free raffle ticket. Sponsorship oppor-

tunities are available to local businesses and organizations. Register now and reserve a spot at the event. Registration deadline is March 9, and the minimum donation per bowler is \$60.

For more information on the Bowling for Braille Books Event or on Seedlings, visit their website at www.seedlings.org or call (734) 427-8552.

Seedlings Braille Books for Children is a non-profit organization in Livonia dedicated to increasing the opportunity for braille literacy by providing high quality, low-cost braille books for blind children. Every \$10 earned at this year's Bowling for Braille Books event will create one more book.

Last year, bowlers raised more than \$32,000 to provide blind children access to popular children's books in braille and to bring them the materials they need to read and succeed.

For more information, call (734) 427-8552 or visit www.seedlings.org.

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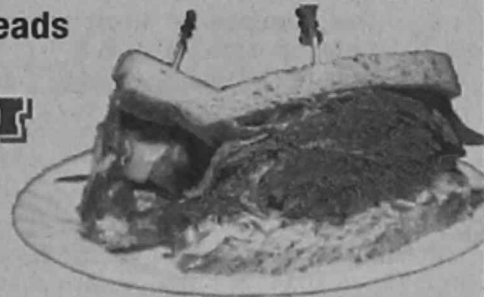
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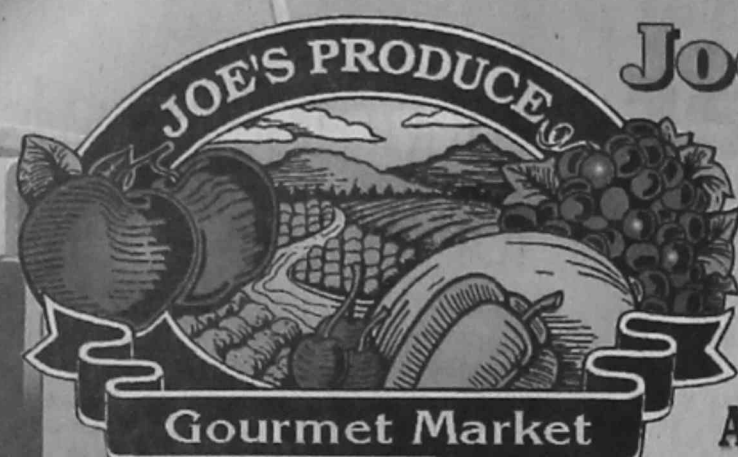
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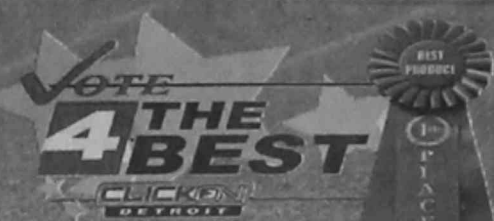
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OBSERVERLAND WRESTLING INVITATIONAL

Mat-merizing
Patriots, Rockets share
Observerland crownBy Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Not even a hanging chad could decide the team champion of the 21st annual Observerland Wrestling Invitational Saturday at Livonia Churchill.

When the final points were tallied, Livonia Franklin and Westland John Glenn shared the crown with exactly 182.5 points apiece to lead the 16-school field.

Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, which sent its 'B' or White team to Observerland while its 'A' team spent the day in Cleveland, finished third with 165.

Rounding out the top 10 were Farmington Hills Harrison (134), Wayne Memorial (133), Plymouth (125.5), Belleville (98), Farmington (82), Salem (77.5) and Northville (72).

The outcome for the team champion came down to a pair of heavyweights in the final match of the tournament.

Trailing Glenn by four points, Franklin's Omar Haymour needed a victory by decision to secure a tie or come up with a pin to give the Patriots their fourth outright Observerland title.

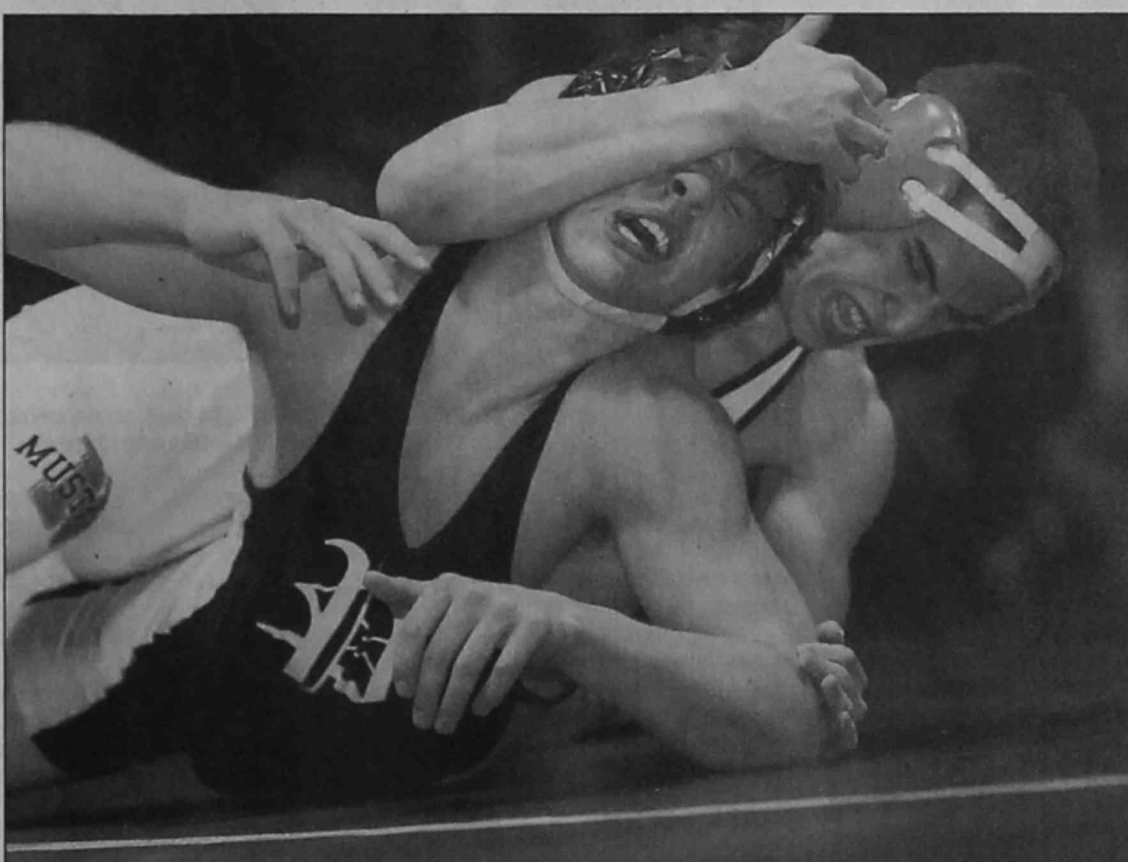
Haymour didn't get the pin, but had enough to outlast Churchill's Manny Haddad for the 285-pound title, 1-0.

"I told him (the situation), but I also said, 'Don't go for the pin and end up losing' because he's dreamed about being Observerland champ since he was a freshman," Franklin coach Dave Chiola said of his senior. "His goal was to win it last year and he didn't. So, 'Don't screw yourself up and win it for the team.'"

Haymour, who improved to 38-4 overall, tried to get Haddad on his back, but simply couldn't turn the sturdy Churchill grappler over.

"He was trying, but we wrestled him (Haddad) before and it was a 1-0 match," said Chiola, whose team trailed Glenn by nine points and CC

'(Haymour's) dreamed about being Observerland champ since he was a freshman.'

DAVE CHIOLA,
FRANKLIN COACH

Plymouth's Alec Breckenridge (front) and Travis Compo of Northville, wrestle in the 135 finals. Compo defeated Breckenridge.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Invite launches home stretch

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Despite his team's sixth-place finish at Saturday's 21st annual Observerland Wrestling Invitational, Plymouth head coach Quinn Guernsey gets the feeling the Wildcats are generating momentum into the all-important stretch drive.

"Hopefully, we use it to keep building on this for the rest of the season," Guernsey said. "Tomorrow (Wednesday) should be a good day for us, our division is much deeper than the other one."

He was referring to a KLAA team quad meet at Waterford Mott, where the Wildcats will square off against South Lyon, followed by either the host Corsairs or Grand Blanc.

Then comes Saturday's KLAA individual championships, with team and individ-

ual state districts right after that.

"We're at the part of the season we've been working all year for," Guernsey emphasized.

Plymouth took sixth at the Livonia Churchill-hosted Observerland tourney, tallying 125.5 points. Taking sixth in the 16-team field was Salem, with 77.5 points.

Making strides

"A lot of our guys came through and wrestled well," said Guernsey, noting firsts by Jon Conn (130) and Said Youssef (140) among several others.

Conn (20-8 record) earned a 6-4 decision over LaRone Mack of Farmington Hills Harrison.

"Jon is only a sophomore and he's still scratching the surface of how good he can be," Guernsey said. "It was

nice for him to come up with the win, it's going to be good for his confidence" as the tourney season heats up.

Youssef improved to 25-8 with a 4-3 decision over Livonia Franklin's Jordan Atienza. Guernsey said Youssef is the only wrestler to defeat Atienza, whose record now is 37-2.

"Said is capable of beating all those kids of that caliber," Guernsey said. "There isn't anybody in the state who I would put Said out against and not think he's going to give them a competitive match."

Plymouth tallied two second-place finishes. Mo Youssef (27-7) lost at 103, pinned in 1:00 by Westland John Glenn's Kyle Gillies, described by Guernsey as "one of the best kids in the state."

Please see INVITE, B2

Faith/Family
Day Feb. 12

The Plymouth Whalers announced the second annual Faith & Family Day. It will take place on Sunday, Feb. 12, at Compuware Arena.

Plymouth faces off against Saginaw in a 2 p.m. contest, which will be followed by a free concert by Christian rockers The Jason Eaton Band.

WDIV's Chuck Gaidica will be the host, with pastor Brad Cannon of Solid Rock Bible Church in Plymouth providing a message along with the music.

Andy Bathgate of the Whalers also will participate in the program.

Group tickets to the game (which include the concert) are \$10. Go to www.plymouthwhalers.com, or call (734) 453-8400 for ticket information.

Salem teams
on a roll

Monday at Super Bowl in Canton, both Salem varsity bowling teams were victorious over Wayne Memorial.

In the boys contest, the Rocks earned a 23-7 win. Solid performances were turned in by junior Kevin Williams (213-254-467), seniors David Nikkila (279), Joe Mirsky (202), freshman Nolan Rudis (193) and sophomore Steven Cadwell (181).

The Salem girls won 21-9, led by juniors Kristin Larkins (208), Bridget Maul (183) and senior Ashley Hinojosa (177).

Cagers to
hold bowling
'Fun-Raiser'

Canton's basketball program is presenting a "Bowling Fun-Raiser," Saturday night at Super Bowl on Ford Road.

Bowling (for adults only) will begin at 10 p.m., with check-in at 9:15 p.m. Tickets are \$20 (for two games of no-tap bowling and shoe rental). Raffles and a silent auction also are part of the festivities.

About two-thirds of proceeds will be going to the program.

Contact Lauren Delapaz (Lauren.delapaz15@gmail.com) for more information. Super Bowl is located at 45100 Ford Road.

Road's sweet for PCEP boys cagers

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

All three Plymouth-Canton Educational Park boys basketball teams tasted victory on the road Tuesday night, as the season starts to wind down toward the districts.

Salem maintained its spot on top of the KLAA Central Division standings with a rousing 63-28 win at South Lyon East, paced by senior center Chris Dierker's

15 points and career-high 20 rebounds.

Meanwhile, in a couple of KLAA South Division contests, second-place Canton knocked off Wayne 57-48 and Plymouth earned a 49-45 victory over Livonia Franklin.

According to Salem head coach Bob Brodie, his team didn't get rolling until the third quarter. Salem (11-2, 5-2 in the KLAA Central) still led 10-8 after one quarter and 23-17 at half-

time.

"And then we cranked our defense up a little bit and hit the glass a lot better in the second half."

The end result was a 20-2 third quarter, easily salting the game into Salem's win column. The Rocks continue tied at the top of the division standings with Northville.

"All but one player scored," Brodie added. "It was a good team effort again."

In addition to Dierker, Ahmad Khalid and Tyler Stewart scored 12 and 10 points, respectively.

Chiefs prevail

A huge edge in the rebounding department and 20 points by senior center Paul Baumgart lifted Canton to a 57-48 win over host Wayne Memorial.

Baumgart also pulled down 11 rebounds and blocked three shots for the Chiefs (10-3, 5-2 in

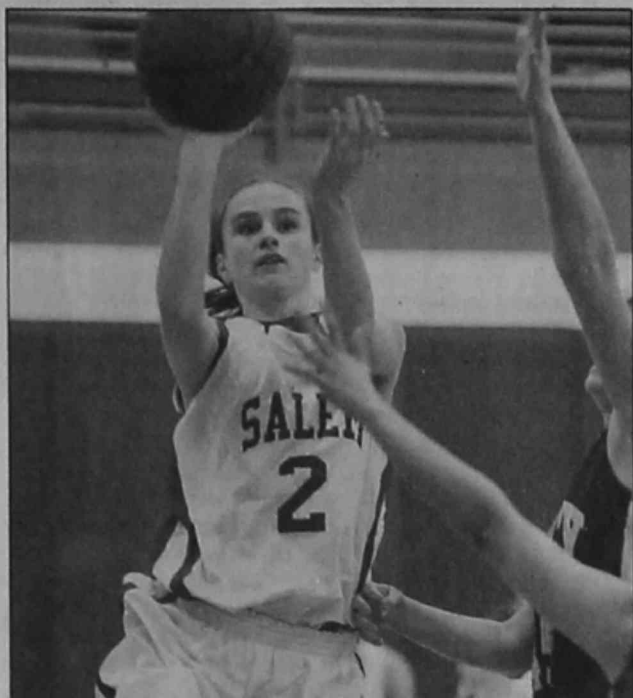
the KLAA South).

Guard Josh Mayberry chipped in with 12 points and six boards while wing guard Kyle Adams tallied nine points and seven rebounds.

Canton's top rebounder was forward Scott Gring, with 13. The Chiefs outrebounded the Zebras (6-6, 3-4) by a 48-28 margin.

"I was pleased how we played in stretches,"

Please see BOYS, B3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem senior guard Bri Berberet (No. 2) goes in for a layup during a December game. Berberet has been an offensive force in recent games for the Rocks, but she struggled with her shooting on Tuesday night.

Rocks can't heat up
offense in timeBy Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

When Salem senior guard Bri Berberet is hot, she nails shots from all over the court, as she did in a 24-point performance Jan. 20 against South Lyon.

When she isn't, she still is productive.

Tuesday night was one of those nights, with the senior guard tallying 17 points and nearly helping the Rocks varsity girls basketball team pull out a last-second win over visiting South Lyon East.

But Berberet (2-for-9

from three-point territory) and her Salem teammates had stretches of ice-cold shooting in the 31-30 loss.

"When you're 0-for-6 from one foot," said veteran Salem head coach Fred Thomann with a chuckle, "you're supposed to knock those down. Had we done that, we would have been in pretty good shape."

"But obviously, that didn't happen. That's the way it's been all season long."

Berberet, however, helped the Rocks (3-10, 2-5 in the KLAA Central) rally from a late 29-24 deficit

by hitting two treys in the final minute to make it a 30-30 tie.

They were the only points Salem scored in the second half that weren't collected from the foul line.

The second 3-ball came with just 16.4 seconds to play. After another Salem miss (the Rocks hit just seven of 32 two-point attempts), senior guard Katelynn Krause (six points) hustled to grab the rebound and keep the play alive.

Please see OFFENSE, B3

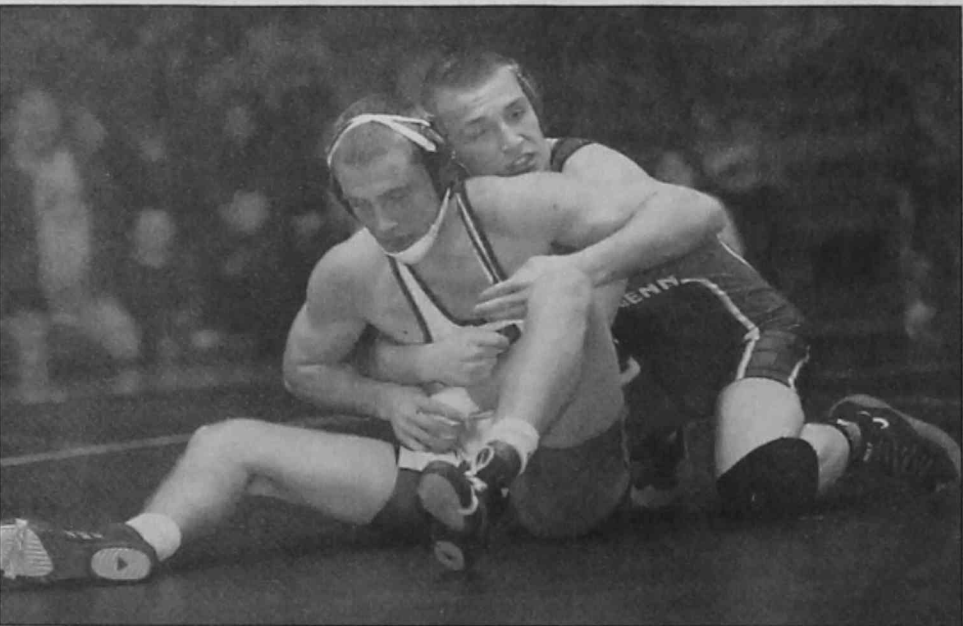
MU softball
casino trip

The Madonna University women's softball team will sponsor a fundraiser charter bus trip to Greentown Casino from Feb. 18.

The cost is \$30 for each passenger, who will also receive a \$20 voucher to use at the casino.

Refreshments will be served on the bus. You must be 21 years or older and have a valid photo I.D. to make the bus trip. Reservations are due by Friday, Feb. 10.

For more information, e-mail MU softball coach Al White at awhite@madonna.edu.



In the 152-pound weight class, Westland John Glenn's Travis Mann (top) defeated Michael Babicz of Catholic Central.

CROWN

Continued from page B1

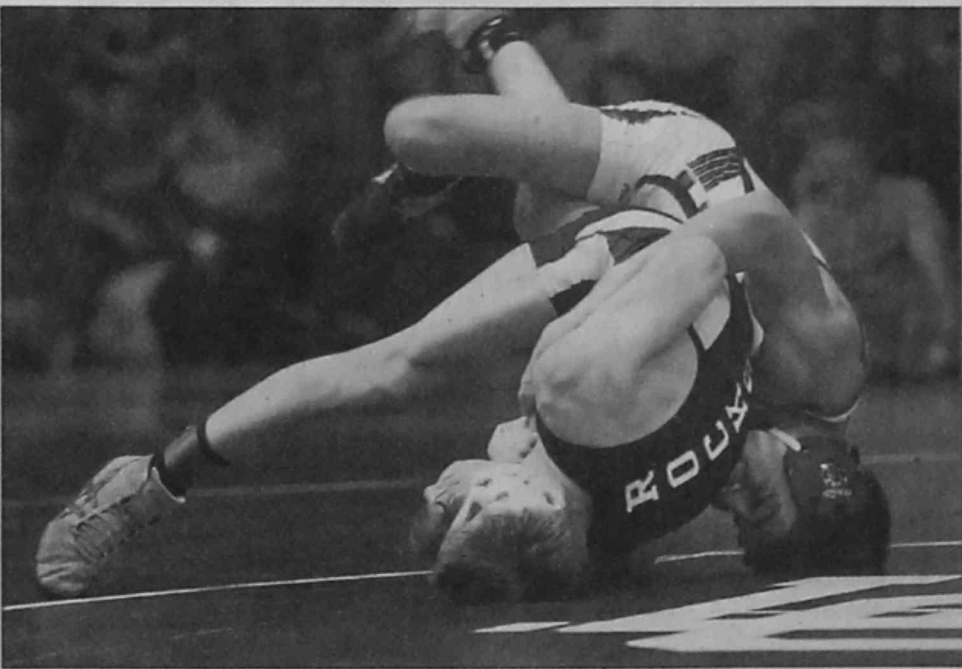
by 2.5 heading into the finals. "So again, a pin was pretty high aspiration."

Haymour was one of four Patriots to earn

titles on the day joining teammates Dan Martinez (119), Ryan Derry (160) and Allen Steele (171).

It was Franklin's fourth Observerland title overall with the last three coming during a run in 2005, 2006 and 2007. "The good kids came

through," Chiola said. "The good kids came through. I thought we lost it at the beginning because our 145-pounder was scratched because of ringworm by the referees. And I thought that was going to cost us, eight to 10 points right there."



In the 119-pound weight class, Livonia Franklin's Dan Martinez (right) defeated Salem's Cody Korpus for the Observerland crown.

INVITE

Continued from page B1

Taking second at 135 was junior Alec Breckenridge, in his first action of the season. He dropped a 6-5 decision to Northville's Travis Compo.

"He looked good in all his preliminary matches," Guernsey said. "But it was his first time vs. guys in midseason form."

Another highlight for the Wildcats was freshman Brandon Harris' third-place showing at 112. Harris (27-7) was "under the weather" yet won 5-1 over Churchill's

Josh Perez in the bout for third.

"That was a very good performance," Guernsey said.

Placing fifth for the Wildcats at 125 was Chase Khalil (24-11). He won a major decision over Harrison's Andrew Fialka, 9-1.

"He (Khalil) looks better every time he's on the mat," the coach added.

Salem scorers

Salem's top finishers were Cody Korpus (119) and Jake McCabe (189), both runners-up in their respective weights.

Korpus lost a tough bout to Livonia Franklin's Dan Martinez, tak-

ing a fall at 4:49.

"He looked pretty good for the day," said Salem head coach Pete Israel.

As for McCabe, who was pinned in 1:31 by North Farmington's Kevin Miller, the coach sees plenty of promise.

"Jake continues to pick it up to another level," Israel said. "His grinding style should serve him well as we head into the league meet."

Taking fourth at 145 for the Rocks was Matt Lang. Salem also scored a fifth-place finish by Tony Agostini at 215 and a sixth-place finish at 285 by Ali Ajami.

tsmith@hometownlife.com (734) 469-4128

OBSERVERLAND MAT RESULTS

21st OBSERVERLAND WRESTLING TOURNAMENT Jan. 28 at Livonia Churchill

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. (tie) Livonia Franklin and Westland John Glenn, 182.5 points each; 3. Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, 165; 4. Farmington Hills Harrison, 134; 5. Wayne Memorial, 133; 6. Plymouth, 125.5; 7. Belleville, 98; 8. Farmington, 82; 9. Salem, 77.5; 10. Northville, 72; 11. North Farmington, 71; 12. Livonia Stevenson, 66; 13. Livonia Churchill, 51; 14. Garden City, 48; 15. Lutheran High Westland, 45; 16. Redford Union, 34.

CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

103 pounds: Kyle Gillies (WJG) pinned Mohamad Youssef (Ply.), 1:00; 3rd place: Parker O'Brien (CC) decisioned Jack Newa (LF), 4-0; 5th place: Dwayne Lately (Bell.) dec. Michael Volyniuk (FHH), 11-8. 112: Austin Koehler (Bell.) p. Nimantha Herath (Farm.), 2:45; 3rd: Brandon Harris (Ply.) dec. Josh Perez (LC), 5-1; 5th: Tyler Mulligan (WM) dec. David Lilley (CC), 7-3. 119: Dan Martinez (LF) p. Cody Korpus (Salem), 4:49; 3rd: Zack Colone (CC) p. John Locklear (LC), 3:41; 5th: Tim

Way (WM) dec. Gabe Colston (FHH), 6-2. 125: Zachary Francis (LW) dec. Casey Hagen (CC), 9-6; 3rd: Gabe Martinez (LF) dec. Manny Govantes (Farm.), 4-2; 5th: Chase Khalil (Ply.) won by major dec. over Andrew Fialka (FHH), 9-1. 130: Jon Conn (Ply.) dec. LaRone Mack (FHH), 6-4; 3rd: Jesse O'Neal (WJG) dec. Eli Joseph (CC), 15-9; 5th: Mike Williams (NF) dec. Sean Wagner (N'ville), 7-3. 135: Travis Compo (N'ville) dec. Alec Breckenridge (Ply.), 6-5; 3rd: Kody Roy (LS) dec. Chris Naubert (CC), 4-2; 5th: Bobby Mathieson (FHH) won by major dec. over Brian Spehar (GC), 14-6. 140: Said Youssef (Ply.) dec. Jordan Atienza (LF), 4-3; 3rd: Allen Parker (WM) dec. Samer Shebak (LS), 7-6; 5th: Donovan Reilly (WJG) dec. Alex Goings (CC), 11-6. 145: Mike Rankin (Farm.) dec. Kevin Wacker (WJG), 8-4; 3rd: Marcus Shepherd (FHH) p. Matt Lang (Salem), 2:54; 5th: Tim McCotter (CC) p. Will Herring (Bell.), 4:16. 152: Travis Mann (WJG) won by major dec. over Michael

Babicz (CC), 15-5; 3rd: Nick Frazier (LF) dec. Walter Layher (Bell.), 5-0; 5th: Alex Coe (N'ville) p. Martin Kemp (LW), 1:39. 160: Ryan Derry (LF) dec. Sam Ekanem (WM), 8-6; 3rd: Anthony Long (WJG) p. Kyle Lake (FHH), 3:26; 5th: Josh Wooten (Bell.) p. Jayson Walton (RU), 0:51. 171: Allen Steele (LF) won by injury default over Sultan Hubbard (FHH); 3rd: Trevor Maresh (N'ville) dec. Danny Croft (WJG), 7-5; 5th: Collin Rankin (RU) dec. Zach Juchartz (Bell.), 3-1. 189: Kevin Miller (NF) p. Jake McCabe (Salem), 1:31; 3rd: Devin Korzetki (WM) dec. J.T. Ayotte (CC), 9-7; 5th: Austin Jarvis (FHH) p. Matt Horne (LF), 4:19. 215: Dimitrus Renfro (WM) dec. Jake Range (LS), 8-5; 3rd: Jordan Brandon (WJG) dec. Adam Druz (GC), 6-3; 5th: Tony Agostini (Salem) dec. Christian Miner (CC), 3-1. 285: Omar Haymour (LF) dec. Manny Haddad (LC), 1-0; 3rd: Dylan Morantes (WJG) dec. Majd Mokbel (NF), 4-2; 5th: Jimmy Russeau (CC) dec. Ali Ajami (Salem), 4-3.

Perfect road trip for Plymouth Whalers

The road traveled is a winning one for the Plymouth Whalers.

Victories Friday and Sunday at Sudbury and Sault Ste. Marie, respectively, gave the Whalers a perfect three-game trip — which began with Thursday's win at Barrie. On-Sunday, Plymouth needed a shootout to eke out a 4-3 triumph. In that shootout, center Garrett Meurs scored in the sixth round for the deciding goal.

Both teams scored twice in the opening stanza, and added single tallies in the third to send the game to overtime tied at 3-3.

Plymouth netminder Matt Mahalak (36 saves) sparkled in OT, stopping five shots to extend the contest to the shootout.

He continued his stellar performance in the shootout, as did Soo's Jack Campbell (36 saves). The first five rounds were scoreless before Meurs finally broke the ice.

Mahalak then clinched the win, turning aside Brandon Alderson's shot in the Greyhounds' bid to force a seventh round.

Forward J.T. Miller scored twice for the Whalers, his 18th and 19th of the season. That lifted Plymouth's record to 34-12-2-1 (71 points), a 17-point cushion over Sarnia.

The other goal was scored by Heard (25), with right wing Stefan Noesen chipping in with two assists.

PLYMOUTH 6, SUDBURY 5 (OT): On Friday at Sudbury, the Whalers won 6-5 in overtime. After falling behind 2-0 after the opening stanza,

Plymouth bounced back and ultimately forced OT with a three-goal third period.

Winning the game at 4:02 of overtime was Miller — his second of the night. Assisting were Heard and defenseman Dario Trutmann.

Heard (one goal, two assists) scored the tying goal with 5:38 to go in the third, with helpers going to Meurs and forward Cody Payne.

Others with multiple points for the Whalers included center Andy Bathgate (one goal, two assists), defenseman and captain Beau Schmitz of Howell (one goal, one assist) and forward Jamie Devane (two assists). Bathgate's goal was his 17th of the year.

Plymouth's other goal was scored by center Alex Aleardi (Farmington Hills), who netted his 27th of the season.

Stopping 30 of 35 shots for the win was Mahalak. Plymouth now visits Sarnia at 7 p.m. Friday before returning to Compuware Arena for Saturday's 7 p.m. game against Windsor.



MICHELLE BAUER

Canton's Duggan Tear (No. 8) and Plymouth's Sean Smiatacz (No. 23) race for a loose puck Friday night at Arctic Edge Arena, during the Wildcats' 2-0 victory. Both players and their respective teams have a busy schedule this week, with the Chiefs hosting Salem 7 p.m. Friday (at Arctic Edge) and Plymouth visiting Farmington for a Thursday contest.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Friday, Feb. 3

Stevenson at Salem, 7 p.m. Luth. W'sld at L. South, 7 p.m. Taylor Baptist at HVL, 7 p.m. Plymouth at Canton, 7:30 p.m. Roeper at Ply. Christian, 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 4

Lenawee Christian at Ply. Christian, 6 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Thursday, Feb. 2

Luth. W'sld at L. South, 7 p.m. HVL at Taylor Baptist, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 3

Plymouth at Canton, 6 p.m. Salem at Stevenson, 7 p.m. Luth. North at Cville, 7 p.m. Roeper at Ply. Christian, 7 p.m. Ladywood at DC, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 4

Lenawee Christian at Ply. Christian, 4:30 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY

Thursday, Feb. 2

Plymouth vs. Farmington at F.H. Ice Arena, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 3

Salem vs. Canton at Arctic Edge, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 4

Churchill vs. Plymouth at Arctic Edge, 5:30 p.m. PCS Penguins vs. Ladywood at Arctic Pond, 7:30 p.m.

PREP WRESTLING

Thursday, Feb. 2

Luth. W'sld at Clawson, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 4

Summit Tourney, 9 a.m. KLAH Tourney at EMU, TBA.

BOYS SWIMMING

Thursday, Feb. 2

Canton at Churchill, 6:30 p.m. Franklin at Plymouth, 6:30 p.m. Salem at W.L. Central, 6:30 p.m.

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Thursday, Feb. 2

Livonia Blue vs. Salem at Churchill H.S., 6:30 p.m. Livonia Red vs. Plymouth at Plymouth H.S., 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 4

Canton Invitational, 9 a.m. PREP BOWLING

Friday, Feb. 3

Ladywood vs. Divine Child at Sterling Lanes, 3:45 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 4

Mercy Tournament at Drakeshire Lanes, 10 a.m.

GIRLS COMPETITIVE CHEER

Saturday, Feb. 4

Southgate Invitational, 10 a.m. KLAH at Hartland, TBA.

MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS

Saturday, Feb. 4

Madonna at Concordia, 3 p.m. Wayne Co. at S'craft, 1 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS

Saturday, Feb. 4

Concordia at Madonna, 1 p.m. Wayne Co. at S'craft, 1 p.m.

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE

Friday, Feb. 3

Plymouth Whalers at Sarnia, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 4

Windsor vs. Plymouth Whalers at Compuware Arena, 7 p.m.

TBA — time to be announced.

Salem 1-1 in Muskegon

Salem's varsity boys hockey team divided a pair of games last weekend at Muskegon Mona Shores, losing 7-3 Friday before bouncing back Saturday for a 6-5 win.

"Overall, it was a good performance this weekend and something to build on moving forward," Salem head coach Ryan Ossennmacher said. "Mona Shores is a very

BOYS HOCKEY

good program with several trips to the state semifinals and finals in their recent history."

Salem (7-9-1-1) had to overcome a late scare in Saturday's contest.

After building a 5-2 lead, the Sailors scored three goals in the third period to make it a 5-5 game

But senior forward Mark McGee's second goal of the game with just 45 seconds remaining secured the win.

Goalie Parker Godfrey picked up the win for Salem.

In the Friday game, senior forward Austin Sartorius scored twice.

Salem will face Canton 7 p.m. Friday at Arctic Edge Arena.

CC icers blank Spartans

By Brad Emons

Observer Staff Writer

Top-ranked Novi-Detroit Catholic Central notched a pair of goals each in the second and third periods Saturday night to put away host Livonia Stevenson, 5-0, in a boys hockey game played at Edgar Arena.

Senior forward Joe Steele scored twice and senior defensive Ryan Wandzel added a goal and two assists as the Shamrocks, rated No. 1 in Division 1, improved to 14-3 overall.

Tyler Van Acker and Danny Middleton also

contributed goals, while Michael Babcock chipped in with three assists for CC.

Steele's goal made it 2-0 and Van Acker added another just as a Stevenson penalty expired to make it 3-0 after two periods.

"We felt good the way we played the first period," said CC coach Todd Johnson, whose team led 1-0. "They (Stevenson) were playing a defensive-minded strategy and that (Van Acker) goal was the pivotal goal of the game."

Junior Derek Moore got the shutout in goal

for the Shamrocks. He had to make only 11 saves, but one was on a breakaway attempt during the opening period by Stevenson's J.D. Byrne.

Connor Humitz, meanwhile, went all the way in net for the Spartans (10-7), who were coming off a 3-1 setback last Wednesday to Trenton, ranked No. 1 in Division 2.

Humitz made a total of 32 saves.

"He was really, really good in net," Johnson said of the Stevenson junior. "It was a very disciplined game on both sides."

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

'Cats win with wire-to-wire effort

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

An early offensive spark from sophomore guard Kylie Robb lit the fuse for Plymouth's varsity girls basketball team Tuesday against Livonia Franklin.

Robb (12 points) hit four quick buckets as the host Wildcats raced out to a 20-2 lead after one quarter — setting the tone for an impressive 47-21 KLAA South Division victory.

"We obviously had a really explosive first quarter," Plymouth head coach Bob de Bear said. "We were pressing, got a bunch of steals and turned them into baskets."

"Kyle Robb, she was great in the first half. ... She did a great job of running our offense."

But de Bear praised others, such as senior co-captains Alyssa Burris (eight points, four rebounds), Chyna Williams (seven points, seven boards) and sophomores Brooke

Senkbeil (six points, four assists) and Tionne Johnson (six points).

"Alyssa Burris was fantastic," de Bear said. "She came off the bench real quickly in the first quarter and hit a couple threes."

Senkbeil "just did a real nice job of passing the ball and giving kids nice, open looks," he added.

Plymouth had a lock on the win by halftime, when the Wildcats (9-4, 5-2 in the KLAA South) were up 32-4.

Chiefs rout Zebras

Taking care of business early, host Canton easily got past division for Wayne Memorial 61-30 on Tuesday night.

The Chiefs (10-3 overall/5-2 in the KLAA South) were up 15-8 after one quarter and 36-15 at the break.

Paige Aresco scored 14 points for Canton, with Robyn Mack and Rachel Winters each contributing 10. Mack also

led the Chiefs with seven rebounds and Winters registered four steals to lead in that department.

Kelsey McDougall scored eight and grabbed five boards.

"Overall, it was a great team effort," Canton head coach Brian Samulski said. "All 10 kids were solid but we still need to get better defensively."

Wayne's record dipped to 4-9 overall and 2-5 in the KLAA South.

Another girls/boys hoops doubleheader is slated for Friday, this one featuring the host Chiefs and Plymouth.

The girls play at 6 p.m., followed by the boys at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Big win for PCA

Last-minute heroics Tuesday night enabled the Class D Plymouth Christian Academy varsity girls basketball team to nip Grass Lake — a previously unbeaten Class C team.

With six seconds to go

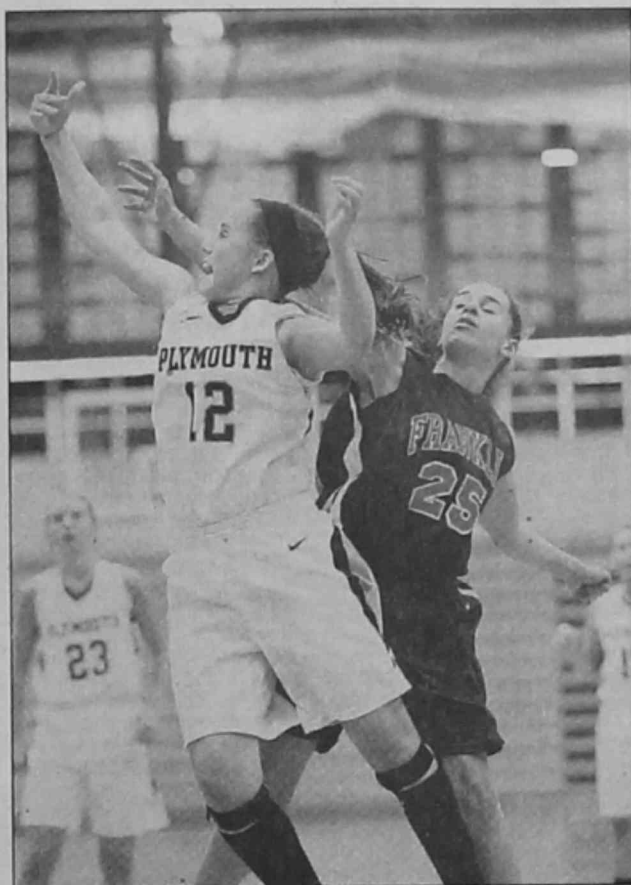
and the host Eagles trailing 38-37, Jenna Abraham banked in a trey from the right corner to put PCA up. She then picked off the subsequent in-bounds pass to close out the 40-38 win.

"This was probably the best team game we've played overall, both offensively and defensively," Eagles head coach Carol Gerulis said. "The kids just worked really well together tonight."

Karen Windle led PCA (9-4) with 15 points and nine rebounds. Abraham and Jenny Malcolm each scored eight while Emily Gerulis helped the cause with seven.

"We were up at halftime (24-18) and then we didn't score too much in the third quarter," Carol Gerulis said. "But we played really good defense tonight. They have some really good three-point shooters and they have some big players in the post."

Grass Lake dropped to



JOHN KEMSKI

Battling it out for a loose ball Tuesday night are Plymouth's Brooke Senkbeil (No. 12) and Livonia Franklin's Emily Perkins (No. 25).

13-1 overall.

PCA will face MIAC rival Bloomfield Hills

Roeper at 7 p.m. Friday in the first half of a girls/boys basketball twinbill.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Take Pride

GCYBSA's 10U Girls Pride Developmental Travel Softball Team is looking to expand its roster for 2012.

Tryouts for the squad will take place 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 3, at Precision Baseball, located at 7835 Market Street in Canton. The team will play games in the Western Wayne County League and in two or three tournaments.

To register or for more information about this team, please contact Rob Nader at (734) 812-3501 or (734) 495-1156 or via e-mail at cott@cantonmi.org.

Baseball clinics

Baseball fundamentals are on tap for youngsters looking to improve their skills, at the forthcoming Plymouth Wildcats Youth Baseball Clinic.

Participants in grades 1-8 will receive age-appropriate instruction from 2012 Plymouth varsity baseball coaches and players. Stations will include hitting, pitching, infield, outfield, catching and radar gun readings. Sessions, in the Plym-

outh High School gymnasium, will take place: 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday March 17 (for those in grades 1-4); Saturday March 31 (for those in grades 5-8).

The pre-registration cost, which includes snack, is \$20. The fee is \$25 the day of the clinic. Pre-registration is urged, as the camp is limited to 100. Go to www.baseball.plymouth-wildcats.com for more information.

Play GCYBSA ball

Registrations are now under way for the Greater Canton Youth Baseball Softball Association's baseball and softball programs.

The GCYBSA offers progressively developmental recreational baseball and softball programs for players age 4-18 from Plymouth and Canton. GCYBSA is also home to a Competitive League and travel programs (Boys Cardinals, Girls Pride Fast Pitch).

For more information, go to www.gcybsa.com or contact Coralee Ott at (734) 394-5358, via e-mail at cott@cantonmi.org.

Board certified: MU's McGrath in select club

Madonna University center Kaylee McGrath joined the 500-rebound club to go along with a game-high 21 points Saturday

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL as the host Crusaders rolled to an 83-50 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference women's basketball victory over the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

McGrath, a junior from Livonia Stevenson, grabbed 15 boards and made 8-of-15 shots from the floor as MU improved to 8-13 overall and 5-7 in the WHAC before a raucous crowd at the MU Activities Center.

The 6-foot McGrath moves into ninth all-time on the MU rebound list (508) with her third double-double of the season.

Guards Heather Pratt and Erin Bentley combined for seven 3-pointers scoring 14 and 12 points, respectively, as MU players wore pink uniforms in the "Shoot

for a Cure" game, which raised over \$500 for breast cancer awareness.

Kelly DeFauw paced the Lady Wolves (3-19, 2-12) with 12 points.

SCHOOLCRAFT 74, MOTT 64: Charlise Slater scored a career-high 23 points as Schoolcraft College (16-4, 7-2) won its fifth straight with an MCCA Eastern Conference win Saturday over visiting Flint Mott Community College (6-12, 5-4).

Schoolcraft trailed 50-49 with 10 minutes to play in the second half before going on a 9-2 run for a 58-52 advantage. Mott would get no closer than five the rest of the way.

Dominique Jones chipped in with 15 points, while Ashley Beemon grabbed a team-high 12 rebounds.

Lindsay Taylor and Rhonetta Dukes paced the Lady Bears with 15 points apiece. Marquette Green added 12 points and 16 rebounds, while Kaylee Rahmann contributed 10 points.

Schoolcraft trailed by as many as seven in the opening half before taking a 33-32 lead.

Schoolcraft shot 40 percent from the floor (25-of-65) and was outrebounded 50-38. The Lady Ocelots committed 14 turnovers.

BOYS

Continued from page B1

Canton head coach Jimmy Reddy said. "Offensively, we are doing a great job of sharing the ball."

After taking a 23-16 halftime lead, the Chiefs built up a comfortable 42-29 advantage after three frames, enough to withstand a late push from the Zebras in the fourth.

'Cats grind it out

Plymouth outlasted Livonia Franklin 49-45 with a huge assist to junior Josh Priebe. He scored 25 points — including six straight in the final minute — to finish off the host Patriots.

Contributing eight points was senior Marcus Oden with junior Sid Acharya adding five.

"Our team defense

was very good tonight," Plymouth head coach Mike Soukup said. "We were able to limit their inside touches and cover back out to their shooters."

The win improved Plymouth's record to 5-7 overall and 3-3 in the KLAA South. Franklin dropped to 2-10/1-6.

On Friday, Salem will host Livonia Stevenson at 7 p.m.

Canton hosts Plymouth at 7:30 p.m. in the second half of a girls/boys basketball twinbill. The girls teams will tip it off at 6 p.m.

NORTHVILLE 47, SALEM 37:

Two top boys basketball teams in the KLAA Central hooked up Friday night and visiting Northville came away with a 47-37 triumph over Salem.

The Mustangs led 27-20 at halftime and then never looked back, to the dismay of Rocks head coach Bob Brodie.

"They came out ready to play and we just didn't show up at all," Brodie said. "There was a definite

down the floor and we're at the rim."

The shot "didn't even come close. It was not a good game for us. We didn't complete the mission tonight."

Another problem was early foul trouble by junior center Breanne Beaver (11 rebounds but only three points) and Krause.

"That changes the dynamics of our club, because they're the ones that play most of the games," Thomann said. "Immediately, they play shorter minutes."

Scoring 11 points for the Cougars (7-6, 2-5) was Sydney Jones, including four free throws in the final frame.

It was a close matchup from the start, with both teams unable to pull away. Salem led 10-9 after the first and 17-16 at halftime.

South Lyon East then made it a 20-20 game entering the fourth.

NORTHVILLE 45, SALEM 27: On Friday night at Northville, the Rocks were never really in the KLAA Central Division tilt. Northville led 24-10 at halftime and coasted from there. Scoring six points each for Salem were Bri Berberet, Jenny First and Breanne Beaver, with Kelly Whalen adding five.

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Upset-minded

Ocelots give No. 1 Mott fits, but fall

For 31 minutes Saturday, the Schoolcraft College men's basketball played even with the NJCAA's top-ranked team in Division II.

Tied at 61-all with nine minutes remaining, visiting Flint Mott Community College went on a 13-2 run and held off the Ocelots, 83-77, in an MCCA Eastern Conference game.

John Taylor, a 6-foot-1 sophomore guard from Chicago, Ill., led Mott and all scorers with 29 points.

Jacob Perry chipped in with 17 as the Bears improved to 19-1 overall and 8-1 in the conference.

Lydell Mason (Westland John Glenn) paced the Ocelots with 21 points and nine rebounds, while Karl Moore added 19 points and 16 boards.

Daniel Hill (Wayne Memorial) and Richmond Jackson chipped in with 13 and 12 points, respectively.

Point-guard Mohamed Elhaj added nine assists as Schoolcraft slipped to 11-8 overall

and 4-5 in the conference.

Schoolcraft, which led 41-40 at halftime, connected on 13-of-19 free throws.

Mott made 16-of-27 from the foul stripe.

MADONNA 82, UMD 57:

Sophomore guard Travis Schuba tied a 19-year-old school record with nine 3-pointers Saturday as Madonna University (14-10, 8-4) romped to a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference victory over host University of Michigan-Dearborn (1-23, 0-12).

The Rapid City native from Kalkaska High, who scored a game-high 27 points on 9-of-14 shooting, equaled Shawn Brannum's mark set back on Nov. 29, 1993 — the first year of the MU men's program — in a 136-84 loss to Wayne State.

Freshman Jordan Short added a career-high 12 points to go along with three assists.

The Crusaders, who shot 53.8 percent from the field (28-of-52), led 37-28 at halftime and outscored the Wolves 45-29 in the second half.

Julius Porter came off the bench to lead UM-Dearborn with 16 points, while Jeff Fick and Balazs and Juhasz added 11 and 10, respectively.

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FALCONER, WALTER B.

Age 85, January 27, 2012. Beloved husband for 31 years of Rosemary. Dear father of Susan (Ron) Tipton, Teri (Jim) Harrelson and step-father of Susan Digue, Steven Symanski, Tim (Kim) Symanski; Ron Symanski and Stan (Dottie) Symanski. Grandfather of 24 and great-grandfather of 14. Predeceased by son Michael and family members Richard Symanski, Bruce Digue, and Jessica Digue. Arrangements were made by the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home in Garden City. Memorials suggested to Alzheimer's Association. www.santeiufuneralhome.com

FENN, LEON T.

Jan 26, 2012 Age 67. Beloved father of Michael Fenn and Cheryl (Phil) Kuch. Loving grandfather of Amanda (Chris) Joseph, Joshua Fenn, Ally Kuch and Kassie Kuch. Visitation and Funeral Service at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home 34567 Michigan Ave., Wayne MI 48184. Visitation: Fri, Feb 3, 2012 from 4-8pm. Funeral Service: Sat, Feb 4, 2012 11:00am.

For more information:
www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com



HIGGINBOTHAM, BARBARA J.

Age 55 of Redford Twp. Cherished Daughter of Florence and the late Curtis. Beloved Sister of Curtis (Mary), Leigh Anne (Tony) Swirple and Laura (John) Denski. Proud Aunt of Deanna and Katie. Memorial Service Fred Wood Funeral Home 36100 5 Mile Rd. Livonia (E. of Levan) Wed. Feb 8 at 3pm with memorial gathering 4-9pm. Proud owner of the Dogs Bow Wow for over 25 years in Livonia. Please visit online guestbook fredwoodfuneralhome.com

May
you find
comfort
in Family
and
Friends

LEONARD, LOLA CHRISTINE

Age 84, Oscoda, MI, formerly of Belleville and Ypsilanti, MI, went to be with her Lord Monday, January 30th, at home with her family. She was born July 18, 1927 in Popular Buff, MO, the daughter of Dallas and Daisy Vinson. She married Leo Albert Leonard March 4, 1945, and he preceded her in death on August 4, 2010, after 65 years of marriage. She was a Girl Scout leader, worked for the Van Buren Public Schools and was co-owner of Leonard's Gutter Co., Ypsilanti, MI, along with her husband Al. They moved to Oscoda in 1989, where they both loved living right on Lake Huron, enjoying the beautiful sunrises and their family together. Christine was a loving mother, grandma and Mee-Maw. She believed that how you lived life is how you will spend eternity. She is survived by two sons: Larry (Janet) Leonard and Gary Leonard; five daughters: Linda Morin, Brenda Leonard, Charolette Wilson, Angela Leonard and Amy Cousino, eleven grandchildren; Leanna Christine (Rodney) Armstrong, Erikia (Scott) Baker, Erik (Amber) Morin, Delisa Leonard, Amanda (David) Richardson and Patrick Wilson, Tyler Cousino, Troy Cousino, Jake Cousino, Greg (Julie) Raymond and Debbie Raymond; fourteen great-grandchildren, Jacob, Blake, Kurt, Alex, Seth, Michael, Megin, Cameron, Carson, Samantha, Courtney, Jacob, Amber, and Elizabeth Marie; two great-great-grandchildren, Kylie and Brian; three sisters, Mary Staples, Pauline Jordan and Zelma Taylor, three brothers, Roy, Charlie and Donald Vinson and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces & nephews, sister-in-law Dorothy Ferguson and her special caretaker Mindy Wassman and many friends, both down state and Oscoda. Her cats, Tommy & Bobby, will miss her dearly. She was preceded in death by: one sister, Geraldine Vinson, four brothers, Melvin Vinson and Dallas Vinson, Jr., Tommy Vinson and Danny Vinson, her parents, several brothers-in-law & sisters-in-law. Funeral service will be held at the Buresh-Bennett Funeral Home, Oscoda, Thursday, February 2nd at 3pm, with Rev. Glen Bake officiating. Graveside service will be at the Pine Crest Cemetery. In honor of Christine's Irish heritage, bagpipes will be played during the services and at the grave site. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Alzheimer Foundation (in memory of her husband, Albert Leonard) or the Leader Dogs for the Blind, in memory of Christine. A special thank you goes to all the Heartland Home Care personnel and to Heartland Hospice. Bless You All!

VEENSTRA, RICHARD (DICK)

Passed on the morning of January 15, 2012, after a short illness at the age of 92. God saw you were getting tired and a cure was not to be. So He put His arms around you, and whispered... "Come with Me". We watched you pass away, although we love you dearly, we could not make you stay. A golden heart stopped beating, hard working hands at rest, God broke our hearts to prove to He only takes the best. Dick as he liked to be known as, was born on the 29 of September 1919 in Holland in the Netherlands (Dutch), and immigrated to the United States at the age of 9 with his parents John, a Master Mason, his mother Martha a homemaker, and brother Everett, all who are preceded in death. He also has a sister Henrietta living in Florida, and a sister Jeannie living in Livonia. In 1960 Dick decided to marry for the first time, and married Ann Lane, and her four children. They were married for 28 years until her untimely death. He had the four step children, many nephews, nieces, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren. Interment was on the 23 of January at the Parkview Memorial Cemetery, in Livonia. Any donation may be made to the Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 114 Livonia, 30905 Plymouth Road, Livonia, MI 48150, in his name.

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Concert benefits immigrant legal aid

Singers of United Lands a touring group of four professional singers from four continents, will perform folk songs from their homelands at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia.

Zuzanna Rybinska of Poland, Engelhardt Unaeb of Namibia, Virgil Sequeria of India, and Paola Granado of Bolivia will sing in their native languages.

Every year a new team of four singers representing different countries and cultures, tours throughout the U.S., visiting schools and churches. The organization's mission is to develop international and cultural relationships through vocal music.

Tickets are \$15 per person, or \$35 per family of two adults and their children, 17 and under. Tickets will be available at the door. Proceeds will benefit Justice For Our



Rybinska



Granado

Neighbors of Southeastern Michigan.

Justice for Our Neighbors is a faith-driven ministry that welcomes immigrants into communities and churches by providing free legal immigration services, education and advocacy.

The United Methodist Community on Relief sponsors the program with 24 clinic sites operating nationwide. Justice for Our Neighbors-Southeastern Michigan was formed in 2009 with sites at Dearborn First United Methodist Church,

The Baldwin Center in Pontiac, and Ypsilanti First United Methodist Church.

In 2011 the organization served 105 new clients from 29 different counties. It helped families stay intact, assisted domestic violence survivors and counseled clients with answers to complicated legal questions.

For more on the singers, visit www.singer-sofoundedlands.org. For more on Justice for Our Neighbors-Southeastern Michigan, visit www.jfon-semi.org.

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. If including a photo, it must be in jpg format, attached to the e-mail.

February

BETHANY

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11

Location: Elks Lodge, 31117 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Detail: Stilettoes Dance, "Detroit Still Doo Wops," with music from 8 p.m.-midnight. Cost is \$20 and includes beer and pop

Contact: Chooch at (734) 697-7270

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Time/Date: Dinner, 6 p.m. Feb. 18; Eucharist, 10 a.m. Feb. 19

Location: St. John's Episco-

pal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: The dinner, held at the Summit in Canton, will include, a video presentation, music, gift drawings, and a ticket for a chance to win a centennial quilt and more. The ticket costs \$40 per person. Bishop Wendell Gibbs will attend the worship service on Feb. 19. The service will include special music and banners created by members of the parish. A celebration reception will follow the service

Contact: (734) 453-0190

CLOTHING BANK

Time/Date: 5-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 9 and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25

Location: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 41920 Joy Road, between Lilley and Haggerty Roads, Canton

Details: Free clothing and shoes are available to anyone in need

Contact: (734) 927-6686 or (734) 404-2480

GLAZER INSTITUTE LECTURES

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m., Feb. 10

Location: Temple Beth El, 7400 Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills

Details: Rabbi Daniel B. Syme will talk about "Combating Bullying, Cruelty, Depression and Suicide Among Youth People - A Religious Imperative." Heather Irish, founder and director of The MINDS Program, a non-profit organization that educates teenagers about mental illnesses and suicide prevention, will continue the discussion at 10:45 a.m. after a brief intermission. Admission is free

Contact: (248) 851-1100, Ext. 3149

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Arts benefit

Versatile singer and his band rock out in Canton

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

There's more to Steve King than meets the ear. The frontman for the band, Steve King and the Dittilies, King, known as the "Wayne Newton of Wayne County," began his singing career as a choir student during the 1970s at Bentley High School, where he also formed a band for a school talent show.

Through the years King also has:

- Learned to become a "survivor" while growing up in a family of 13 siblings.
- Rebuilt — and then lived in — three houses in his hometown.
- Coached soccer and taught physical education after getting a teaching degree in 2001.
- Earned a master's degree in educational leadership last summer, with an eye toward becoming a school principal.
- Served on the Livonia school board after winning a four-year term in 2006.
- Lost his bid for the Livonia City Council last November.

Through it all he has continued to sing at events as large as the Woodward Dream Cruise and as small as private birthday parties.

"I hate not being busy," King explained. "I always have 10 balls in the air and I see what happens. I have so many interests.

ROCK-N-ROLL VALENTINE'S

What: A dinner and rock music show fundraiser for the Canton Partnership for Arts and Humanities

When: 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 10

Where: The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: A reception kicks off the event and features appetizers by P.F. Chang's China Bistro, Northville, and Station 885, Plymouth, along with desserts from The Chop House, Ann Arbor. The Showroom of Elegance and Indigo Salon and Day Spa will be onsite offering promotions. Steve King and the Dittilies play classic rock at 8 p.m. Couples can get a free appetizer by showing their concert ticket at the afterglow at Hayden's Bar and Grill, 39895 Ford Road

Tickets: \$30

Sponsors: Frank and Jill, Glenn and Patty Shaw and Don and Colleen Soenen.

Contact: www.canton-villagetheater.org or call (734) 394-5460

I love teaching, coaching and building. Pursuing my passions is what I've always done and that is the secret to well-being.

"I really enjoy performing and I would like to continue doing it for

a long time. We get around. I try to work as much as possible."

The band specializes in classic rock — tunes from the '50s-'90s — although it has expanded its repertoire to include music from the '30s and '40s. It will play a little of everything when it headlines Rock-n-Roll Valentine's, a benefit for the Canton Partnership for the Arts and Humanities, Friday, Feb. 10 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

Sing, dance along

King said the show will include a dance area for audience members who want to move to the music.

"We've never played a gig where someone didn't get up and start dancing."

The set list also will include songs that show the depth of the band and "showy stuff" that brings horns front and center.

"This gig is more challenging than most. The majority of the people will be sitting in the audience, listening. So, not only are we doing a show with people sitting there, we have to try to hit all eras because that will be the demographics."

Putting the listener first is second nature to King. When a power outage zapped the Woodward Dream Cruise in 2003, King, who was playing at a Royal Oak restaurant, said he convinced management to quickly round up generators, enabling the show to continue until



Steve King of Livonia rocks out with his band, Steve King and the Dittilies. He has performed since high school.

police shut the annual event down.

He insists on producing live sounds with a nine-piece group, rather than downsizing to a smaller band with pre-recorded tracks.

"My approach always has been that I'm here to facilitate fun for people who come to see us. People want to have a good time. The music we do is recognizable, good songs and I make that connection from stage to the audience."

Classic tunes

He describes his favorite music — 1960s rock — as "the best ever written," with memorable melodies and lyrics. He also points out that long-time rockers who are still popular today, such as Mick Jagger and Tom Petty, got their start during that decade.

While performing in Las Vegas, Nev. last year, King noticed a table of Polish women singing along as the band played songs made

popular by the 1960s-era television show and band, The Monkees.

"They didn't speak English. I asked how they knew these songs and they said 'American movies.' Any (contemporary) music style today has roots in the '60s. They are great songs. They tell a story."

For more about the Canton Partnership for Arts and Humanities visit partnershipforarts.org. For more on Steve King and the Dittilies, visit skatd.com

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Exhibits: Rembrandt and the Face of Jesus exhibit runs through Feb. 12 and includes 64 works. Tickets are \$16 for adults; \$8 for youth, 6-17. Other exhibits include Detroit Revealed: Photographs 2000-2010, an exhibit of 50 photos through April 8; Gift of a Lifetime: The James Pearson Duffy Collection of drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures and photographs through March 18

Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

FARMINGTON HILLS CITY GALLERY

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, through Feb. 24

Location: Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: The work of Patrice Erickson, all original oils, is on exhibit. Erickson is inspired by nature and strives for landscapes that are rich in color

Contact: (248) 473-1856

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, through Feb. 18, with an artist reception, 6-9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: "6th Annual Mem-

ber Exhibition," includes work by more than 70 artists; free admission

Contact: (248) 344-0497

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 25-May 20

Location: University of Michigan Museum of Art, 525 S. State, Ann Arbor

Details: "Fluxus and the Essential Questions of Life," includes more than 100 works by major artists, such as Yoko Ono, Nam June Paik and George Maciunas; admission is free

Contact: (734) 764-0395

VILLAGE THEATER

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday through Feb. 24

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: "Lest We Forget: Legends of Detroit Gospel," celebrates the history of Gospel music in Detroit

Contact: (734) 394-5300 or visit cantonvillagetheater.org.

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; gocomey.net

JD'S HOUSE OF COMEDY

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday

Duo to perform



Dave Steele and Shari Kane will perform two full sets of "stomp blues and street swing" Saturday, Feb. 4 at Trinity House Theatre in Livonia.

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: Andy Hendrickson, through Feb. 4; Basile, Feb. 8-11; Mikey Mason, Feb. 15-16; Rich Guzzi, Feb. 17-19; Coco, Feb. 22-25; Glen Wool, Feb. 29-March 3

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

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: Keith Alberstadt, Feb. 2-4; Tim Nutt, Feb. 9-11; Rocky Laporte, Feb. 16-18; Ted Alexandro, Feb. 23-25

Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak

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

Dance

DANCE MONTH

Time/Date: through Feb. 18

Location: Berman Center for the Performing Arts, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: "Michigan Five: University Showcase," 8 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 4; Allure Dance Company, dance for children, 3-12, 1-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5; Eisenhower Dance Ensemble, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11; Ballet Folklorico de Antioquia, 8 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 18. Ticket prices are \$15 for Jewish Community Center (JCC) members and \$20 for non-members for the Michigan Five showcase; \$20 for JCC members and \$25 for non-members for the Eisenhower Dance Ensemble; and \$30 for members and \$40 for non-members for all other programs. Call the box office for student and workshop prices

Contact: (248) 661-1900;

www.theberman.org

MOON DUSTERS

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 p.m. every Saturday; dance lessons 7-8 p.m.

Location: Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Singles and couples dance to music of the '30s, '40s and '50s; free refreshments. Dance lessons cost \$6; dance and lessons are \$11; dance only is \$7 for guests, \$6.50 for associates and \$6 for Moon Dusters members

Contact: Joe Castrodale, club president, (248) 968-5197

Film

MARQUIS THEATRE

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Feb. 4

Location: 135 E. Main, Northville

Details: "Goldfinger," tickets \$3

Coming up: "Anatomy of a Murder," Feb. 11; "It's a Mad, Mad, Mad World," Feb. 18, "Bye, Bye, Birdie,"

of Shadows," 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 16, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 17-18, and 4:15 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 19; "Hugo," 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24; 4:15 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 25-26 and 7 p.m. Thursday, March 1

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Feb. 3 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Feb. 4

Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit

Details: "Charade," tickets \$4

Coming up: "The Apartment," 8 p.m. Feb. 17 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Feb. 18; "Gone With The Wind" 8 p.m. March 2-3 and 2 p.m. March 4, includes an appearance by "the Gone With The Wind answer lady," Kathleen Marcaccio

Contact: (313) 537-2560

Museums

CHARLES H. WRIGHT

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday

Location: 315 E. Warren Road, Detroit

Details: Regular museum admission is \$8 for adults, 13-61; and \$5 for youth, 3-12, and seniors, 62 and over. Members and children 2 and under are admitted free. "Moving to His Own Beat" celebrates the life and music of Fela Anikulapo-Kuti, who fused traditional African high life music with classical jazz and funk, a unique sound he called "Afrobeat" The exhibit runs through April 1

Contact: (313) 494-5800

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday and Friday-Sunday; current exhibit runs through June 17

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: "Ration Stamps & Bombers, WWII at Home" is the current exhibit. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students, 6-17

Contact: (734) 455-8940

Sunday fundraiser



Blackthorn will perform at a Doctors without Borders fundraiser Sunday, Feb. 12, at the Gaelic League Irish America Club in Detroit.

Feb. 25

Contact: (248) 349-8110

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 4-5; 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5 and 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9

Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "My Week with Marilyn," \$3

Coming up: "Happy Feet 2," 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 11-12; "Sherlock Holmes: A Game

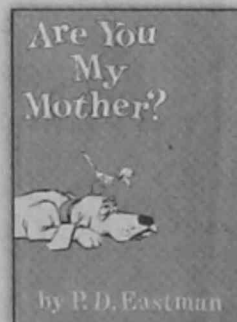
U-M KELSEY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Time/Date: The museum is open 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday-Friday, and 1-4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday

Location: 434 S. State, Ann Arbor

Details: Part II of the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology's special exhibition - "Karanis Revealed: Discovering the Past and Present of a Michigan Excavation in Egypt" - will run through Sunday, May 6. This special exhibition explores the

Musical



Watch P.D. Eastman's book come to life through a musical production Saturday, Feb. 11 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

story of the site's excavation, which was initiated by the University of Michigan in the 1920s and 1930s. Part II follows the changes that took place in Karanis with the beginning of the Roman occupation of Egypt and then later with the advent of Christianity. The displays - all but a few will be new - include collections of Roman glass, tax rolls on papyrus, and the leather breastplate of a Roman soldier. Admission is free, but donations are accepted.

Contact: www.lsa.umich.edu/kelsey; (734) 764-9304

Music

THE ARK

Time/Date: Frontier Ruckus, Feb. 2; Cheryl Wheeler, Feb. 3; Yiddishe Cup, Feb. 4; The Global Jazz Project, Feb. 7; Girlyman & Edie Carey, Feb. 8; William Fitzsimmons & Denison Witner, Feb. 9; Newfound Road, Feb. 10; Student Songwriter Series: The Ark at UMMA, Feb. 10; Mustard's Retreat, Feb. 11; My Folky Valentine, Feb. 12; Miss Tess and the Bon Ton Parade, Feb. 13; Solas, Feb. 14; JT Nero & Allison Russell, Feb. 15; Jill Sobule, Feb. 16; The RFD Boys, Feb. 17; Kate Clinton, Feb. 19

Location: 316 South Main, Ann Arbor

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

BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY

Time/Date: 7-9:30 p.m. the third Saturday of the month

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

Details: The show includes open mic performances and a featured performer. Admission is \$5. Annual memberships are \$25 for individuals and \$50 for families. Members may attend monthly concerts free of charge.

Contact: Mike Mullen at (248) 719-3464 or e-mail to mjmullen@yahoo.com

DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS

Time/Date: 4-10 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12

Location: The Gaelic League/Irish American Club, 2068 Michigan Ave., Detroit

Details: Irish and Scottish music, song and dance benefit Doctors without Borders. Performers include Blackthorn, Finvarra's Wren, Ashley Macisaac, O'Hare Dancers from Plymouth, Crossroads Ceili and more. Admission is by donation. Family-friendly environment with cash bar, food available for purchase and lighted, guarded parking

Contact: Mick Gavin at

Please see GET OUT, B7

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WEEKLIES



Allure Dance Company will lead dance workshops for children Sunday, Feb. 5 at The Berman Center for the Performing Arts at the Jewish Community Center, West Bloomfield.

GET OUT

Continued from page B6
(313) 537-3489 or Kathleen O'Neill at (313) 96-IRISH
HELLENIC CULTURAL CENTER
Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. dinner, 8 p.m. show, Saturday, Feb. 11

Location: 36375 Joy Road, Westland

Details: 50's and 60's Valentine's Show with Legends Live tribute show features songs by the Everly Brothers, Gene Pitney, Full Throttle DooWop, Roy Orbison and Cal Roberts, along with emcee Rockin' Ronnie. Tickets are \$38 and include dinner, cash bar and show

Contact: (734) 525-3550

MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC

Time/Date: 2 p.m. Feb. 12; pre-concert talk at 1:15 p.m.

Location: First United Methodist Church, 45201 North Territorial Road, Plymouth

Details: "Sunday with Schubert" featuring Michigan Phil principal clarinetist Lisa Raschiatore performing the Copland Clarinet Concerto. Other works include Schubert Symphony No. 5 and Amalia Concerto for 12. Tickets are \$22 general, \$18 senior and \$10, student

Contact: (734) 451-2112; www.michiganphil.org

JAZZ AT THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. last Tuesday of the month

Same Time Next Year



Aaron Alpern of Ann Arbor plays George and Diane Hill of Farmington Hills is Doris in the Two Muses Theatre production of "Same Time Next Year," that runs Feb. 3-19 in Farmington Hills.

Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: There is a \$10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres.

Contact: (734) 453-1780 or e-mail to pymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

PAUL'S PLAYERS

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Feb. 11 and 3 p.m. Feb. 12

Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: "Love Notes" features singers Allison Soranno Boufford and Jason Wilhoite, along with instrumentalists Sue Nienhaus, Michael Soranno, and Paul Soranno, performing

selections from a wide variety of Broadway composers. The concert of love songs from Broadway will include desserts and coffee. Tickets are \$10

Contact: (248) 347-4134, or e-mail paulsplayers@gmail.com

PLYMOUTH COFFEE BEAN

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Monday, Friday, Saturday

Location: 884 Penniman, Plymouth

Details: Open mic on Monday; live music Friday-Saturday. Americana, folk, rock, pop, country and soul by solo singers, duos and bands

Contact: (734) 454-0178

Take a dance workshop, perform the same day

So you think you can dance? Then join Allure Dance for Dance Day — created for children, 3-11, who love to dance — 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5, at The Berman Center for the Performing Arts, located at the Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield. No dance experience is necessary

Members of the Allure Dance Company will lead the workshops that will feature creative movement and simple choreography

"I Love To Dance" is for ages 8-11 and begins at 1 p.m. "Watch Me Dance" is for ages 5-7 and begins at 1 p.m. "Mommy and Me" is for ages 3-4 and starts at 1:30

p.m. Following the workshops, all students will appear in a dance program at 3 p.m.

Cost is \$10 per child and \$5 for adults involved in the "Mommy and Me" sessions. The dance performance is free for workshop participants and \$10 per guest.

Shannon Einhardt, a recent recipient of the Maggie Allesee New Choreography Award heads the Allure Dance Company.

The workshops are part of a month-long series of dance activities at The Berman Center. For a complete list visit www.theberman.org. To buy tickets, call (248) 661-1900.

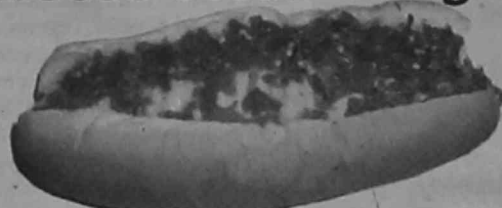
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Game-winning dips and healthy tips

Two of the most popular New Year's resolutions are losing weight and eating healthier. But by the time the big game rolls around, many people are ready for a break — or looking for an excuse to cheat. But kickoff does not have to be a signal to punt your healthy-eating habits. Registered dietitian Jodie Shield knows it can be a struggle to celebrate and stay healthy. She's put together some win-win tips and recipes — healthy and delicious — that are sure to keep fans cheering for more:

— Know your game plan. If you're the home team (i.e. the party host), you get to call the plays. Serve entrees that are lean and festive, such as Touchdown Turkey Chili. Or prepare a thin whole wheat crust pizza using reduced-fat mozzarella cheese, tomato sauce and lots of sliced veggies.

— Offer a starting line-up of healthier appetizers. Whip some traditional game day favorites into shape. Instead of nachos, serve baked chips with salsa. Pass on the salt and butter and sprinkle a dash of Parmesan cheese over popcorn. Forget the fried chicken wings and serve baked chicken tenders seasoned with Hidden Valley Salad Dressing & Seasoning Mix.

— Think fresh. Skip the super subs and set up a sandwich bar with lean deli meats such as turkey breast and ham, low-fat cheese slices and prepped veggies — like sliced tomato and shredded lettuce — and low-fat toppings.

— Pass on super big portions. No matter what foods are served, remember you don't have to eat the whole thing. Grab a small plate and load half of it up with fresh veggies and baked chips.

— Get in on the action. During halftime, grab your guests and head outdoors for a quick game of touch football. You can always record the commercials so you don't miss out.

7 Layer Fiesta Ranch Dip

Prep Time: 10 minutes

Makes: 10 (1/4 cup) servings

- 1 16-ounce can fat-free refried beans
- 1/2 cup guacamole
- 1 package Hidden Valley Fiesta Ranch Dips Mix
- 1 cup fat-free sour cream or plain nonfat yogurt
- 1 cup shredded reduced-fat cheddar cheese
- 6 green onions, chopped
- 1 medium tomato, chopped
- 1/2 cup sliced black olives (optional)

1. Spread each of the ingredients in the order listed over a 9-inch serving platter or pie dish.
2. Chill for an hour and serve.



Hold That Line Hummus Dip

"No need to pass on fabulous dips to maintain your diet," said Shield. "Thanks to the protein and fiber in chickpeas, hummus is light, yet heart-healthy enough to satisfy hungry sports fans. Try this easy recipe for happy game day guests."

Prep Time: 10 minutes

Makes: 8 (1/4 cup) servings

- 2 cans (15 1/2 ounces each) chickpeas, rinsed and drained
- 4 garlic cloves
- 1/2 cup lemon juice
- 1 package Hidden Valley Salad Dressing & Seasoning Mix
- 4 tablespoons cold water
- 1/2 cup tahini (sesame seed paste)
- Dash of paprika for garnish

1. In a food processor, puree the chickpeas, garlic, lemon juice, salad dressing and seasoning mix and water until very smooth, about 3 minutes.
2. Add tahini paste and process an additional 2 minutes.
3. Spread hummus into a shallow serving bowl.
4. Sprinkle top with paprika.

— Courtesy Family Features

Touchdown Turkey Chili

Prep Time: 15 minutes

Cook Time: High heat cooks for 4 hours; Low heat cooks for 8 hours

Makes: 8 (1 cup) servings

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 medium green bell pepper, chopped
- 2 pounds lean ground turkey breast
- 2 cans (14.5 ounces each) Mexican-style diced tomatoes
- 1 can (6 ounces) reduced sodium tomato paste
- 1 can (15 ounces) black beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 cup low sodium tomato juice
- 1 package Hidden Valley Fiesta Ranch Dips Mix

1. Heat olive oil in a large nonstick pan over medium-high heat.
2. Add onions and bell pepper and sauté until crisp-tender, about 5 minutes.
3. Remove and place in slow cooker.
4. Add ground turkey breast to the same pan and cook until crumbled and browned, about 8 to 10 minutes.
5. Add the turkey to the slow cooker along with all of the remaining ingredients.
6. Cover the slow cooker and cook for 4 hours on high heat or 8 hours on low heat.

Cheesy Ranch Popcorn

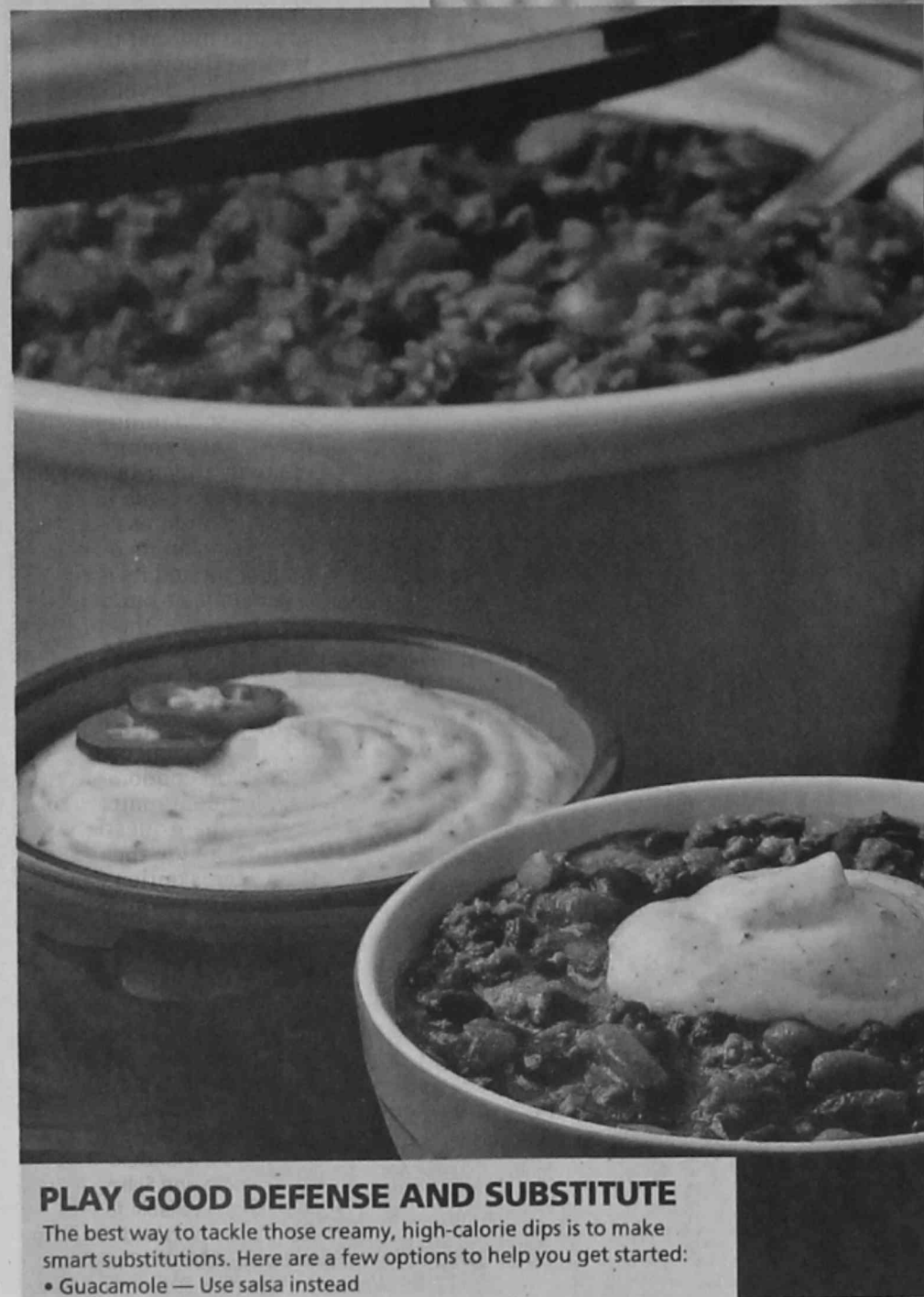
Prep Time: 5 minutes

Cook Time: 3 1/2 minutes

Makes: 6 (2 cup) servings

- 1 bag (3 ounces) reduced-fat, low sodium butter-flavored microwave popcorn
- 1/2 pack (0.25 ounces) Hidden Valley Salad Dressing & Seasoning Mix
- 3 sprays from olive oil mister
- 3 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese

1. Pop popcorn according to package directions. Immediately open the bag and pour the popcorn into a large serving bowl.
2. Spray the popcorn with three sprays from the olive oil mister, toss with salad dressing and seasoning mix and then toss with the Parmesan cheese. Serve immediately.



PLAY GOOD DEFENSE AND SUBSTITUTE

The best way to tackle those creamy, high-calorie dips is to make smart substitutions. Here are a few options to help you get started:

- Guacamole — Use salsa instead
 - Pesto — Substitute chopped tomatoes and basil
 - Sour cream — Trade it for plain fat-free yogurt
 - Cheese — Try reduced-fat cheese
 - Cream — Substitute fat-free evaporated milk
- For more recipes and tips, visit www.hiddenvalley.com.

Industry pro sadder but wiser on sump pump policy

By Marlene Klimecki
Guest Columnist

So, you like myself, had the same insurance agent with a large, well-known insurance company for years; you go through some life-changing events as I did with the passing of a spouse, your daughter moving out of Michigan, and not knowing if your deceased husband told the agent that you finished your basement.

All of these things happened to me in 2010. I contacted the agent, told her all three changes, and that since my husband handled all of our insurances with her for years that I didn't know what we needed to change, but I was relying on her for her professionalism and guidance. She asked me a battery of questions that I answered and we closed the conversation by her saying she would "handle it."

Here is the trap, according to the law, it is YOUR responsibility to follow up with the agent to make sure they made the changes. We NEVER discussed sump pump failure insurance as any option and now in checking with most people, very few are aware of it. Sump pump failure insurance is a minimal premium (under \$50 a year). We waited to finish our lower level to make sure there were no cracks in the walls and that the basement did not have any issues with water. My husband passed in May 2010 and I notified the insurance company of the three issues in June.

My homeowners policy came up for renewal in November along with the million dollar pamphlet that outlines upgrades which are your responsibility to read and check with your agent to see if you have these coverages. I am quite sure I can't tell you if the



A solid homeowners insurance policy will protect your largest investment, as an area Realtor found out the hard way.

pamphlet was or was not in the renewal notice, I just quickly wrote a check and put it in the mail so it would not get overlooked. You guessed it, I had sump pump failure (a six-year-old sump pump) the following May.

I called the 800 number to see what I should do at 9:30 p.m. and was told I was not insured. I was positive this was a mistake and the basement cleanup crew said often times the 800 number does not have a complete outline of coverage so not to worry and to call my agent in the morning. It was a holiday weekend so when she returned I called again; at first she denied ever hearing from me at all, then bits and pieces of her memory came back, but still insisting I never told her my daughter moved to L.A. when she in fact handled her claim for an auto accident the first month she moved there.

I tried three supervisors at this company offering outline after outline of events only to

have my claim rejected based on the fact that I did not have my basement insured in 2006 which is when we built and moved in the site condo. No one would listen when I said I would not have insured my basement then since it was not finished at that time. After writing checks out of my personal account totaling \$17,000 to restore my two-year-old basement, I contacted my attorney as I felt the agent's negligence would be covered under her errors and omissions insurance she is required to carry.

The bottom line is since they claim the pamphlet was in the renewal notice and I paid it, it was my responsibility to call the agent and follow up with her to make sure she made the changes we discussed. In talking to several contractors that worked on the basement, they said it is common for insurance agents NOT to cover it with you because it is one of the lowest cost upgrades and one of the largest claims paid out. So, in

closing, DO NOT rely on your agent to protect your best interests of your insurances, read through the material yourself and hope for the best.

I now have a new sump pump and a water backup system in case of power failure. There seriously is no loyalty for long-term client/insurance relationships when it comes time to paying out claims. How many of you knew about sump pump failure insurance coverage? Hopefully none of you will never have to go through what I experienced with an agent and insurance company I trusted. Oh, yes, I have changed all my insurance on the car and the condo and I met with the agent three times to make sure I understood everything before signing and writing the check.

I wish you all a dry basement but, if not make sure you have sump pump failure insurance!

Realtor **Marlene C. Klimecki** is an associate broker for Remerica United Realty in Novi.

Lawyer can help with board roles

Q: Our board is expending money on items which we do not believe are within the responsibility of the association. I, as a board member, have protested but have gotten nowhere. What can I do?

A: Assuming you have not gotten a legal opinion from the association's attorney regarding the propriety of the action to be taken by the board, you should at least put on the record your opposition to what the board has taken and a request for a legal opinion. If the majority of the board is not inclined to do, or they have already gotten a legal opinion, you

may wish to seek a second legal opinion and, hopefully, get reimbursed for the costs involved in doing so, although

there is no guarantee of same. Sometimes Directors do not understand their responsibilities to make repairs, and other times go beyond their responsibility on behalf of the Association to make repairs on items which are the individual co-owners responsibility. It is often a thin line to determine the difference, but obviously it is an important issue that should be resolved with the benefit of good and experienced legal counsel within the attorney/client privilege.

Q: Our developer has abandoned the project, not paid the assessments or the taxes on his lots and he cannot be reached. The co-owners think that our chances of getting any recovery are futile and do not want to spend the money on getting any advice. How do I get them to realize that this is not smart?

A: Hopefully, they will read this column and understand that they may well have rights against the developer or the successor to that developer whoever that ends up being. Moreover, there may be other factors and considerations involved including the prospect that the property which has not been developed depending upon the manner in which it is described in the master deed, may revert to the condominium project as a common element and/or otherwise may be available to the condominium association to develop on its own having picked its own contractor or builder. It is imperative, therefore, that the Association understand its legal rights and that the co-owners are well advised to get experienced legal counsel in condominium development matters to answer their questions and to provide them with the various options and/or alternatives available to them.

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

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS - WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Oct. 17-21, 2011, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON	
48465 Antique Rd	\$387,000
1958 Briarfield St	\$78,000
2481 Cleveland Way	\$176,000
6416 Connaught Ct	\$300,000
236 Constitution St	\$147,000
46896 Creeks Bnd	\$170,000
1251 E Crystal Cir	\$195,000
7540 Embassy Dr	\$160,000
51211 Gold Ridge Ln	\$248,000
50121 Grant St	\$228,000
50169 Grant St	\$238,000
7546 Green Meadow Ln	\$122,000
5793 Hathaway Rd	\$205,000
1685 Heron Cir	\$173,000
39784 Hillary Dr	\$105,000
2233 Knollwood Dr	\$77,000
48392 Manhattan Cir	\$370,000
49311 Northampton Ct	\$410,000
46214 Polo Dr	\$220,000

49578 Potomac Rd	\$160,000
49830 Potomac Rd	\$160,000
8145 Sandpiper St	\$130,000
41953 Saratoga Cir	\$165,000
42088 Saratoga Cir	\$80,000
3565 Shepherd Ln	\$145,000

GARDEN CITY	
29438 Balmoral St	\$16,000
30150 Beechwood St	\$60,000
1012 Cardwell St	\$55,000
6315 Merriman Rd	\$25,000

LIVONIA	
18834 Amber Ct	\$167,000
33492 Bobrich St	\$207,000
8933 Crown St	\$100,000
9131 Deering St	\$55,000
36269 Dover St	\$85,000
19947 Edgewood Ave	\$297,000
14838 Ellen Dr	\$140,000
34081 Fonville Dr	\$193,000
20314 Fremont St	\$37,000
14942 Gary Ln	\$95,000
35103 Grove Dr	\$140,000
31155 Hathaway St	\$109,000
19471 Ingram St	\$95,000
36800 Joy Rd	\$66,000
38114 N Vista Dr	\$195,000
19540 Pollyanna Ct	\$190,000
16473 Ronnie Ln	\$145,000

9905 Roseland St	\$35,000
14368 Stonehouse Ave	\$85,000
18419 University Park Dr	\$39,000
27830 W Chicago St	\$45,000
18454 Westbrook Dr	\$120,000

NORTHVILLE	
16971 Algonquin Dr	\$330,000
16896 Country Knoll Dr	\$245,000
48899 Freestone Dr	\$380,000
17254 Lake View Cir	\$270,000

16959 Lochmoor Cir W	\$225,000
20248 Longwood Ct	\$89,000
19690 Marilyn St	\$199,000
310 Saint Lawrence Blvd	\$200,000
39657 Springwater Dr	\$124,000

PLYMOUTH	
11875 Beacon Hill Dr	\$290,000
46965 Burning Tree Ln	\$289,000
46263 Litchfield Dr	\$265,000
49525 Pointe Xing	\$105,000
49926 Pointe Xing	\$120,000
1453 Ross St	\$210,000
9350 Saddlebrook Ct	\$343,000
1250 Sheridan Dr	\$195,000
599 Virginia St	\$154,000
45800 W Ann Arbor Trl	\$419,000

REDFORD	
17677 Denby	\$23,000
25909 Elba	\$70,000
24633 Elmira	\$43,000
9093 Fenton	\$54,000
9571 Salem	\$61,000
12835 Salem	\$40,000
11416 San Jose	\$82,000
14078 San Jose	\$23,000
9563 Tecumseh	\$60,000
12891 Tecumseh	\$80,000
15876 Wakenden	\$32,000
15552 Woodworth	\$10,000

WESTLAND	
37258 Amhurst Dr	\$76,000
34709 Blackfoot St	\$58,000
378 Brookfield Dr	\$74,000
35802 Castlewood Ct	\$52,000
37559 Lang Ct	\$91,000
37594 Laramie St	\$120,000
34860 Melton St	\$51,000
467 N Linville St	\$85,000
157 N Sybald St	\$65,000
8158 Pickering Pl	\$185,000
1302 S Dowling St	\$78,000
35441 Schley St	\$70,000
1666 Shoemaker Dr	\$32,000
38375 Warner Farms Dr	\$51,000
2350 Wilshire St	\$81,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION - OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Oct. 10-14, 2011, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS	
31410 Evergreen Rd	\$155,000
BINGHAM FARMS	
30825 River Crossing St	\$220,000
Birmingham	
1796 Graefield Rd	\$75,000
770 Humphrey Ave	\$425,000
1851 Mansfield Rd	\$180,000
2685 Pembroke Rd	\$120,000
1011 Pierce St	\$315,000
1186 Stanley Blvd	\$285,000
1137 Suffield Ave	\$350,000
361 Townsend St	\$1,100,000
1521 Villa Rd	\$735,000
2850 Windemere Rd	\$130,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
2857 Rambling Way	\$228,000
3760 Thornbrier Way	\$330,000
748 Briar Hill Ln	\$295,000
2786 Hunters Way	\$440,000
1835 Stonycroft Ln	\$210,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	
3665 Bradford Ct	\$174,000
1387 Club Dr	\$610,000

712 E Valley Chase Rd	\$363,000
2471 Mulberry Sq	\$55,000
1119 Park Place Ct	\$350,000
3657 Quail Hollow Dr	\$295,000
750 Trailwood Path	\$66,000
1780 Woodgrove Ln	\$380,000

COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP	
1606 Commerce Shrs	\$215,000
3384 Edgewood Park Dr	\$700,000
391 Longspur Ln	\$445,000
3610 Moberly Rd	\$490,000
2334 Palmetto	\$150,000
5007 Parkgate Dr	\$50,000
4350 Ravineview Dr	\$215,000
5281 Sandlewood Dr	\$307,000
6080 Turnberry Dr	\$360,000
1441 Woodview Ln	\$313,000
2407 Yasmin Dr	\$290,000
FARMINGTON	
33640 Alta Loma Dr	\$130,000
22695 Power Rd	\$118,000
22833 Violet St	\$60,000
FARMINGTON HILLS	
28701 Aranel St	\$135,000
25835 Branchester Rd	\$179,000
37541 Burton Dr	\$245,000
21709 Collingham Ave	\$40,000
28865 E King William Dr	\$225,000
21147 Flanders St	\$82,000
39236 Horton Dr	\$265,000
25447 Hunt Club Blvd	\$217,000
27241 Hystone Dr	\$144,000
31086 Oak Valley Dr	\$220,000

33414 Old Timber Rd	\$220,000
31996 Olde Franklin Dr	\$220,000
30190 Pipers Lane Ct	\$148,000
29380 Regents Pointe	\$113,000
28253 Westerleigh Rd	\$180,000

LATHRUP VILLAGE	
18830 San Diego Blvd	\$126,000

MILFORD	
1515 Kurtz Dr	\$290,000
450 Lawrence Dr	\$350,000
406 Lone Tree\$	238,000
731 Mill Pointe Dr	\$220,000

NOVI	
45125 Bartlett Dr	\$90,000
24757 Bashian Dr	\$68,000
50641 Billenca Dr	\$588,000
50697 Calvert Isle Dr	\$655,000
50866 Calvert Isle Dr	\$511,000
50749 Chesapeake Dr	\$700,000
25032 Hadlock Dr	\$639,000
45511 Irvine Dr	\$377,000
25968 Laramie Dr	\$350,000
27929 Middleton Dr	\$148,000
41025 Mooringside	\$144,000
41613 Sleepy Hollow Dr	\$149,000
30213 Viewcrest Ct	\$227,000
23637 W Le Bost	\$118,000
41778 Webster Ct	\$117,000
42605 Windbleton Way	\$236,000
24152 Windridge Ln	\$345,000
28225 Wolcott Dr	\$84,000

SOUTH LYON	
58697 Castle Ct	\$40,000
25345 Collingwood Dr	\$40,000
160 Harvard Ave	\$104,000
61121 Ladbroke Dr	\$292,000
24819 Martindale Rd	\$196,000
61211 Saddlecreek Dr	\$233,000
25316 Stanley Ln	\$40,000
397 University Ave	\$115,000
572 Willow Dr	\$135,000

SOUTHFIELD	
27675 Berkshire Dr	\$74,000
22875 Coventry Woods Ln	\$140,000
29322 E Chanticleer Dr	\$120,000
19310 Eldridge Ln	\$95,000
30100 Everett St	\$44,000
21988 Evergreen Rd	\$80,000
23351 Grayson Dr	\$38,000
19960 Hickory Leaf St	\$75,000
19073 Middlesex Ave	\$75,000
30105 Northgate Dr	\$138,000
24033 Pierce St	\$76,000
21927 Rose Hollow Dr	\$70,000
20365 S Greenway St	\$135,000
28073 Sutherland St	\$35,000
28410 Tavistock Trl	\$130,000

WHITE LAKE	
2497 Blair St	\$60,000
33 Danforth St	\$133,000
9210 Half Acre Dr	\$68,000
9858 Mandon St	\$201,000
408 Rosario Ln	\$230,000
382 Rustic Cir	\$166,000

Challenging fun for ALL ages
Thursday
PUZZLE CORNER
CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Great Lakes port
5 Toss, as a coin
9 Eyebrow or rainbow
12 Saki grain
13 Visage
14 PBS funder
15 Upriver spawn-er
17 Intellectual person
19 Apiece
21 Clumsy bumbler
22 Continuously
25 Realizes, as profit
28 Obi wearer
30 Moralize
34 Landers or Jillian
35 GI tag
36 Italian river
37 "Little Red Book" author
38 Pump choice

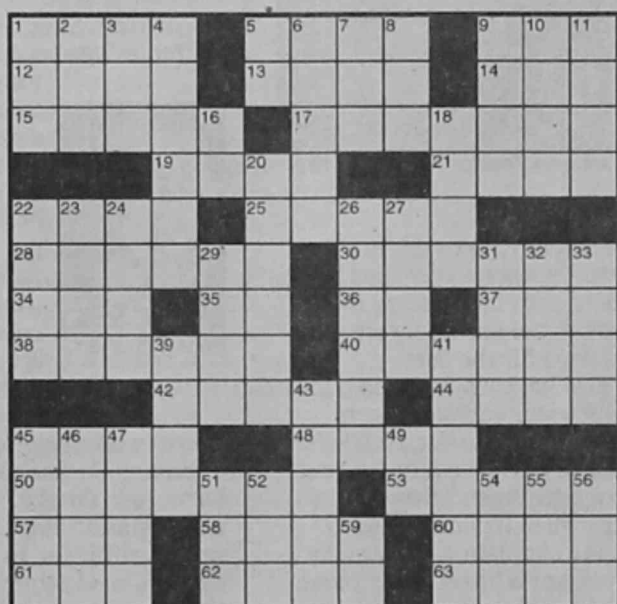
DOWN

- 40 Is of benefit
42 High standard
44 Cellular, briefly
45 Ruminant
48 Types
50 Wild felines
53 Cattle prods
57 Pamplona's son
58 Monsieur's yell
60 Onion goody
61 Truck stop offering
62 Breezed through
63 Holy terror
1 RN stations
2 Crater edge
3 Bartender's rocks
4 Conger catchers
5 Fortissimo, musically
6 Shop machine
7 Fritz, to himself
8 Architect I.M.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

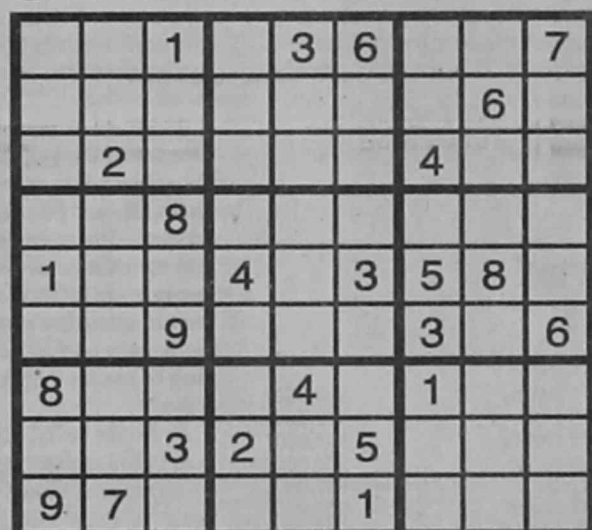
LPS CHEF PLUM
OOP HERA IOTA
SEASONAL SPIN
STRAIN LATELY
IRA FLO
IDOLS GOBLETS
WIN OAR COO
WASHERS SHOWN
ITD JOE
GOATEE ARRIVE
APPT RESERVED
OISE EROS ARI
LEER DENT NAT

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Want more puzzles?
Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books
at QuillDriverBooks.com

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 — Family Fit

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

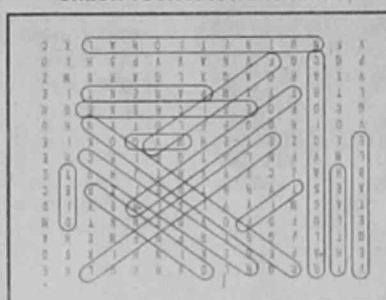
Cardiovascular Dinner Fit Lifestyle Resolution
Children Exercise Gym Nutritional Togetherness
Diet Family Healthy Parent Vegetable

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE



Sudoku

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE



Word Search

HOMES

apartments.com
HomeFinder

Open Houses

NOVI OPEN HOUSE,
SUN 11-1PM
5065 Billenia, Island Lake
Sub. 3000+ sq. ft. brick
home, dual staircases, granite
counters, breakfast room
with skylights, huge master
suite, 2 story great room,
desirable Novi Schools,
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Direct: 248-417-7771

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Not able to travel, want some-
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recording deed.
Call 734-469-2669

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3 plots. Worth \$1175 each.
Sell for \$1100 each
or best offer. 734-269-6567

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LIVONIA Garden Of Good
Shepherd, 2 plots, Sec 240,
\$1300. Call: 248-366-4438

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stove, fridge, carpet & blinds,
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1/2 off sec. dep. if qualified
FREE HEAT! 1 bedroom
\$505 9 Mile/Middlebelt
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Free. \$560 & \$600 + Security.
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LIVONIA MANOR: 2 bdrm,
appliances, Heat/Water incl.
Starting \$695/mo. 5 Mile &
E/Middlebelt. 734-288-8430

REDFORD: Clean 2 bdrm, 1
bath, washer/dryer avail.
freshly painted, water incl.
\$536/mo Call: 248-931-9420

A word to the wise,
when looking
for a great deal,
check the
classifieds!
1-800-579-SELL

Apartments

WESTLAND
Hickory Woods Apts
\$224 MOVE IN!
1 Month Rent Free
(for qualified applicants)
1 Bdrm-\$550
2 Bdrms-\$650
FREE GAS & WATER
(734) 729-5520
*Short term leases
*available

Homes For Rent

COMMERCE TWP. Lovely
3 bdrm, 2 bath, bsmt, lake
privileges, appli., fenced yard.
\$955 248-568-6119

GARDEN CITY -
1 Bdrms only \$579
2 Bdrms only \$619
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Winter Specials!
New Management
Bentley Square
(734) 367-1087, EHO

INKSTER:
New 3 bdrm. \$750/mo.
Rent or Rent to Own.
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LIVONIA: Beautiful 3 Bdrm
ranch, remodeled, 2.5 car
attached gar, finished bsmt,
\$1150/mo. 734-637-1224

LIVONIA: Charming 3 bdrm,
2.5 bath, C/A, partial finished
bsmt, garage, FR, \$1175/mo +
sec dep. Call: (248) 330-0507

REDFORD: Updated 2 bdrm,
bsmt, fenced yard. No pets or
smoking. Avail now. \$700/mo.
+ \$700 Sec. 734-525-7001

WAYNE: 4 bdrm, 2 car gar.,
fenced yard, quiet neighbor-
hood. \$850/mo. Sec 8 wel-
come. Call Eric 734-674-3093

Homes For Rent

WESTLAND: Excellent area!
3 bdrm ranch, 1.5 bath, bsmt,
c/a, carpet, decorated. No
pets. Special. 734-591-9163

WESTLAND: Pretty 2 bdrm
duplex, appliances incl, fenced
yard, no pets. \$550/mo.
Agent: (734) 522-5246

Mobile Home Rentals

FARMINGTON HILLS
OWN OR LEASE
\$575/mo Or Less
*No Pets Allowed
• 3 BDRM • 2 BATHS
• ALL APPLS • WE FINANCE
• NEW & PRE OWNED AVAIL.
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www.LVHomes.net

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CANTON: Extra lg. rm w/ pri-
vate bath. Carriage Hills sub,
references, no smoking.
\$425/mo. Call: 248-437-7520

LIVONIA: Furnished, kitchen
privileges, cable, washer/
dryer, all utilities. Retired male
preferred. \$360/mo + \$100
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Beautifully redecorated.
Great rates incl utilities
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3 bed/2 bath homes
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Parkcrest Apts. Designed with ROOMMATES in MIND! Across from Meijers
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Carriage House Move-In Specials!
Central Air Corner of Haggerty & Joy
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Wilderness SPACIOUS!!
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Take advantage of one of these great specials today!

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		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.	Other
1st Choice Mortgage Lending	(734) 459-0782	3.625	0	3.125	0	J/A
Accurate Mortgage Solutions	(800) 593-1912	3.625	0	3.125	0	J/A
AFI Financial	(877) 234-0600	3.625	0	3.125	0	J/A/F
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	3.625	0.25	3	0	J/A
BRINKS Financial Group	(800) 785-4755	3.375	1.25	3	0.25	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	3.5	1	2.875	0.75	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 456-6113	4.125	0.25	3.375	0	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	4.125	0	3.375	0	A
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	4	0	3.375	0	J/A/V/F
First State Bank	(800) 372-2205	4.125	0	3.25	0	J/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage	(800) 991-9922	3.625	0	2.99	0.25	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	4	0	3.375	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	3.5	1.25	3	0.25	J/A/V/F
Talmer Bank & Trust	(800) 462-2786	3.875	0	3.25	0	J/A/V/F

Above information available as of 1/27/12 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 calculation & 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.
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• Ext. • Plaster/Drywall Repair
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LEAK SPECIALIST Flashings,
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Member BBB 30 yrs. exp. Lic.
/ Ins. Call: (248) 346-4321

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condition, cable ready, works
great. Live behind Laurel Park
Mall. 734-464-2259

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ESTATE AUCTION!**
Friday at 2 p.m. 34198
Orangelawn, Livonia, 1929
Ford Model A Truck,
Motorcycles, Guns, Appliances,
Furniture, Fishing Boat & Much More!
American Eagle Auction
Co. www.AEauctions.com
Auctioneer: Kanny
Lindsay, CAI

Estate Sales

**Estate Sale
Filming for
HGTV's
Cash & Cari
Season 3**
GREAT FINDS incl.
Large China Collection
Clocks & Furniture
7860 Puttugut Rd.
Cascio, MI 48064
Feb 3-4th, 10-5pm
http://repurposeestate.com
m
248.719.8332

Plymouth Estate Sale
11853 Appletree Dr. Feb. 3-5.
Fri & Sat 9-5, Sun 9-3
Awesome retro sale, furniture
Vintage kitchen, lot's of tools
Appliance and more!
For pics & details go to
www.TLC-estate.com

PLYMOUTH ESTATE SALE
Sat & Sun 10-3pm, 14916
Farmbrook, 5 Mile &
Haggerty, No checks.

REDFORD ESTATE SALE:
26372 Margaret, Inkster/6
Mile. Appl. furniture, power
tools, yard tools, household
items, electronics, all must go!
Sat only, Feb 4th, 8am-4pm.

Garage/Moving Sales

LIVONIA: Massive, whole
house moving sale, Feb. 2-5th,
9-5pm, 31307 Kendall,
96 & Merriman. Everything
must go! Furniture, pictures,
TVs, plus size women's
clothing, & Fenton glassware.

WESTLAND MOVING SALE:
Feb. 4-5, 9-3pm, 8198 August,
btwn Middlebelt & Merriman.
Everything must go!

Household Goods

**BORM SET - QUEEN SIZE
PLATFORM:** Attached lighted,
mirrored headboard with storage
& nightstands, dresser &
mirror. Almond, laminant,
excellent condition, asking \$500.
Call: (248) 661-6853

**BUFFET & CHINA CABINET
(WITH MIRRORS):**
Pine with wine rack, 2 glass
shelves, good cond. \$300.
Call: 734-467-6352, Westland

**HITCHCOCK Cherry dropleaf
kitchen table with 4 chairs,
glass top included. \$650.
734-420-4092, 313-505-1127**

MUST SELL:
Like new Sofabed with trundle,
sleeps 2, \$150. 734-427-0255

TRIPLE DRESSER, \$150.
Desk, Table, Chairs, Footbath
& Dishes. All in excellent
condition. 734-525-5230

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KITCHEN AID Refrigerator,
\$250. GE Double Oven,
\$125. GE Dishwasher, \$125.
All for \$400. SOLD

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ANTIQUES
COLLECTORS**
500 Table Show
Feb 4th & 5th.
Antique and modern
firearms, knives.

BUY and SELL.
Suburban Collection
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River bwn Novi/Back Rds
Admission \$6.
Open to public 9am.
Info: 248-556-6590

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FRANCHISE MOTEL MGR
Metro area, must be exp'd,
dynamic & self motivated,
email resume w/ salary req'd.
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HOTEL HOUSEKEEPERS
Siera Group is now hiring
housekeepers to work
in Novi & Livonia. Must have
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Call: 866-887-4372, ext #5

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PREPARERS
(Seasonal)**
Troy CPA firm seeks full-time
(40-45 hrs/wk) or part-time
(30-35 hrs/wk) tax
preparers for the
upcoming and future tax
seasons. 1040 preparation
and data entry skills and
experience are required.

Successful candidates
must be self-motivated,
learn quickly and have
excellent computer and
communication skills.

To be considered,
send resume and work
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oeresume@
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LAB TECHNICIAN
Small Sakwa chemical
company is looking for a
self-motivated, reliable, hard
working entry-level lab technician
to perform a variety of
chemical laboratory needs.
Applicants should possess a
minimum of an Associate's
Degree, Natural Sciences
preferred. In addition applicants
must be able to interact
well with others and be
comfortable multi-tasking.
Please email resume to:
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LABORERS with experience
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Installation company. Full time.
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CONSULTANT**
For retirement community
in Westland. Enthusiastic,
pleasant, energetic, a real
go-getter. Training provided.
Full-time with Sat's.
Compensation includes
benefits and 401K.
Fax resume: 734-729-9840
E.O.E.

OFFICE CLEANERS NEEDED
Mon-Fri. from 6pm-10pm.
In the Livonia/Farmington
Hills area. \$9/hr.
Call: 734-642-0074

Office Furniture Installation
Business in Wixom is looking
for Responsible, Dependable
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Must be able to travel out of
town, work flexible hours,
have reliable transportation &
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Tools are necessary.
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company in SE Michigan is seeking a
Property Manager for commercial
retail, office and mixed use developments.
Requirements include Bachelor's Degree,
accounting or finance
background preferred,
general knowledge of
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Licensing Classes
Now Forming

A 24 month Paid
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to a Six Figure Income.
• Be your Own Boss
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• Own Your Practice
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Your Income
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Income
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• Health/Life/Disability
Insurance
• Retirement and Savings
• Full Time Support Staff

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Fairbanks
RealEstateOne.com**

Help Wanted-Dental

**DENTAL
ASSISTANT**
Full Time.
Exp. required.
Fax resume:
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Help Wanted-Medical

Busy specialty practice is
looking for:

**Medical
Assistant**
Full-time
One year of previous clinical
experience required.
Must be willing to travel
between Livonia & Novi.

RN
Full Time
Previous nursing experience
in an outpatient setting is
preferred. Minimum of 2 years
experience required. Must be
willing to travel between Livonia
& Novi.

**Practice
Administrator**
Full Time
Minimum 4 year degree in a
health care related is preferred;
5 years experience in an
appropriate health care setting.
Leadership experience in a large
medical specialty practice with
multiple offices. Create and
maintain an environment that
promotes exceptional patient
care and a first class working
environment. Applicant must
be available to travel as necessary
for orientation, training,
and for coverage at additional
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Busy specialty practice is
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**Medical
Assistant**
Full-time
One year of previous clinical
experience required.
Must be willing to travel
between Livonia & Novi.

RN
Full Time
Previous nursing experience
in an outpatient setting is
preferred. Minimum of 2 years
experience required. Must be
willing to travel between Livonia
& Novi.

**Practice
Administrator**
Full Time
Minimum 4 year degree in a
health care related is preferred;
5 years experience in an
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Leadership experience in a large
medical specialty practice with
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SBF, 77, 5' 2", very kind, average build, N/S,
seeks a nice, honest BM, 50-75, N/S,
friendship, companionship, possible LTR.
Serious replies only. **7341861**

SEEKS HONEST RELATIONSHIP
SBF, 45, very petite, blonde hair, hazel eyes,
smoker, down-to-earth, kind, sweet, loves
antiques, plays, nice drivers, beaches, nature,
outdoor activities, seeks a caring and
honest man, 43-64, N/S, for serious LTR.
Please no games. **7337238**

LET'S GO!
I am a SWF, 52", in my 60s, brown eyes,
brunette, who loves movies, casinos, etc.
etc. ISO tall, 60-75, gentlemen, for a possible
relationship. Call and leave a message.
7346206

MACOMB COUNTY LADY
Looking for a tall gentleman, 60-75, for a LTR.
Who likes cards, dining out, movies, travel,
excursions. I am a SWF, 50s, 5' 7", brown hair,
brown eyes, leave a message and I will respond.
7330808

LET'S MEET!
SWF, 44, N/S, 5' 10", brown eyes, blonde hair,
brunette, who loves movies, casinos, etc.
etc. ISO tall, 60-75, gentlemen, for a possible
relationship. Call and leave a message.
7330808

INDEPENDENT LADY
SBF, 38, smoker, curly, kind, loving, honest,
seeks WM, 35-60, who is clean, sophisticated,
adventurous, for friendship and more.
7339128

SERIOUS REPLY ONLY
Attractive SBF, 40, N/S, 5' 4", 195lbs, clinical
therapist, likes running, long walks, sports,
certs, staying fit, relaxing while watching
a movie, cooking, nature. Seeking an honest
guy, 35-50, N/S, financially secure, for
friendship and enjoy the simple pleasures in
life. Serious replies only, please no games.
7342084

LOOKING FOR NICE GUY
Hi I'm a widowed, white female, 60 years old,
dark blonde hair, blue eyes, I wear glasses.
I have no kids but have three cats, I enjoy
reading, music, old movies, going up north
everywhere. Historical places. I have a good
sense of humor and love to laugh. I am
also a very caring and considerate person.
7317387

SEEKS RESPONSIBLE MAN
Pretty SBF, 40, N/S, 5' 7", 140lbs, very attractive,
kind, gentle, sweet, N/S, seeks a handsome,
respectful, honest man, 35-50, N/S, to enjoy
dancing, bowling, short putt, jazz concerts,
boat cruises, gospel plays, fine foods, action
movies and more. Please no games or
drugs. Please be honest, employed and
emotionally stable. **7336629**

PEOPLE-PERSON
DWF, 65, 5' 7", 107lbs, two grown sons and
one granddaughter, looking for SWM, 55-65,
N/S, who is family-oriented, easy to communicate
with, and fun to be with. I love
concerts, dining out, taking walks. **7334442**

FORMER FLIGHT ATTENDANT
Recently widowed former flight attendant
ISO a meaningful relationship with a Jewish
man who is married. I'm 63, 100lbs, and look
like I'm in my 40s. I'm fun, spiritual, youthful
and hope to hear from you soon! **7337886**

I LIKE TO LAUGH
SBF, 32, 5' 3", full-figured, has two kids, N/S,
likes going to the park, play golf, going to
church, dine out, cooking, social romantic
comedies, action movies, seeks tall, affectionate,
passionate BM, 30-40, for friendship,
possible LTR. **7339756**

BLOOMING WIDOW
SWF, 65 years young, 5' 7", 120lbs, petite,
kind, gentle, sweet, N/S, seeks a nice, honest
WM, 65-75, N/S, to share my life with, serious
LTR. Please no games, serious replies only.
7340127

LONELY AND LOVELY WIDOW
SWF, 61, N/S, sense of humor, loves the outdoors,
old cars, gardening, seeks WM, 65-75,
N/S, with similar interests, for possible LTR.
7340378

LONELY WIDOW
SWF, 61, smoker, owns my own home, has a
small dog, seeks an honest man, 55-65,
smoker, to share good times, friendship,
leading to possible LTR. **7340913**

PLAIN JANE
SWF, 62, 5' 4", average build, N/S, likes gardening,
dining out, pets, quiet times, seeking
guy, 55-65, N/S, for friendship, possible LTR.
7341701

PRETTY ENTREPRENEUR
WF, 64, loving, giving, fun to be with, looking for
her soulmate. Any drivers WM, 50-65, who's
ambitious, successful, sporty and fun.
Please reply: I like movies, plays, concerts,
ballet, bowling, swimming, traveling, etc. I
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SEEKING SOMEONE SPECIAL
For good time and quiet moments. This
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enjoys a variety of interests and activities
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woman. **7365340**

LOVE DOES NOT GIVE UP
Handsome SBF, 44, N/S, 5' 7", 200lbs, muscular,
HV positive, seeks woman, 35-50, N/S,
with same condition, for friendship first and
maybe leading to love. **7339789**

LOOKING FOR MY DREAM
BM, 45, Croatian American, medium build,
SM, 45, seeks an honest woman, 30-47,
race not important, for friendship, going out
camping, long walks, leading to possible
love. **7339928**

NICE-LOOKING MAN
Handsome SBF, 48, 5' 10", 180lbs, shaved
head, brown hair, N/S, has one kid, seeks a
special caring BF, 35-50, who has a good
heart, good mind, good soul for serious LTR.
Please no games. **7340999**

LOOK NO FURTHER
SM, 47, 5' 10", 210lbs, smoker, seeks a beautiful
woman, 35-55, smoker, to go bowling,
walks, movies and possibly LTR down the
road. **7341114**

WEDDING BELLS?
SBM, 44, 6' 1", average build, bald head, goatee,
SM, 47, 5' 10", 210lbs, smoker, seeks a beautiful
woman, 35-55, smoker, to go bowling,
walks, movies and possibly LTR down the
road. **7341114**

SEEKS WF ONLY
SM, 47, 5' 10", 210lbs, smoker, seeks a beautiful
woman, 35-55, smoker, to go bowling,
walks, movies and possibly LTR down the
road. **7341114**

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fully loaded, heated seats,
Security System. 117,000
miles, \$8500. 248-349-3308

GMC TERRAIN 2010
Bronze Metal, PL/PW, ABS &
OnStar! Cruisin' in style!
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GMC TERRAIN SLT2 2010
37K, black, \$24,995
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BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

GMC YUKON XL 2000
Gray SLT, runs great
Must See \$7,995
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MERCURY MARINER 2009
Low Miles, Pearl \$15,995
Loaded, Premier
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Sports Utility

MERCURY MOUNTAINEER
2008
73K Premier \$16,995 Black
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(734) 453-2500

YUKON DENALI 2007
Nice, must see \$21,995
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Sports & Imported

BMW 5 SERIES 2008
- STK# P21442 \$21,977
1st yr. maintenance is free
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MERCEDES BENZ 1989 560
SL Convertible red exterior,
tan interior, 85,000 miles,
\$9,750. 248-684-5854

SAAB 97X 2006
AWD, Black, 84K, \$12,995
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BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Buick

ENCLAVE CXL 2008
Silver-Blue 67K, \$25,495
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LACROSSE 2006
CXL Silver, only \$8,995
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Bleached White, CX, sunroof,
and chrome! Quality engi-
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LUCERNE CXL 2009
Black \$14,995
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LUCERNE CXL 2009
Silver \$14,995
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BUICK, GMC
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RIVERIA 1990
Good cond., 119,000 miles,
\$1800. 248-437-3715

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CADILLAC 2009
AWD, Gray, loaded, \$26,995
A must see!
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SEVILLE 2003 SLs: Tanish
silver, 82,000 mi, family owned
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mpg. \$5000. 734-623-1281

Chevrolet

AVEO 2009
STK# 12C9206A \$9977
Sips gas! Check it out on-
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Apple Red, 7K, PL/PW, and
OnStar! Fun gas sipper! Just
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Phantom Black, 6-spd, sun-
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6 to choose from!
Starting at \$12,995!
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Certified, \$11,995
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CRUZE 2011
STK# P21415 \$15,988
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HHR 2007
Silver, one owner 64K
\$10,295
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Chrysler-Plymouth

TOWN AND COUNTRY
2009
STK# 12C8426 \$18,995
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Dodge

CALIBER 2010
STK# 12C9097A \$11,750
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FOCUS 2010
STK# P21434 \$14,777
Only 8K on odometer/certified
pre-owned
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Ford

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In Stock And Ready For
Delivery With Certified Pre-
Owned Rates As Low As
1/9% With Approved Credit!
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Blue Moon, 22K, SE, and
ABS! Test drive today!
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FUSION SEL AWD 2010
STK# P21435 \$19,775
Relax!
It's Ford Certified Pre-Owned!
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MUSTANG GT 2008
STK# P21337A \$15,888
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Stunning Silver, limited,
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bottom loaded! Reduced to
\$25,787!
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STK# 11T6105A \$31,688
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GMC

ACADIA 2009
Silver, only \$24K, \$23,995
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GMC ACADIA 2009
Blue Harmony, SLT, leather &
AWD! Roomy & loaded!
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Blue Breeze, SE, alloys and
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Summer Tan, LX, and AWD!
One sweet ride! Only
\$16,995!
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HONDA ODYSSEY 2008
Enchanted Black, leather,
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Luxury for the whole family!
Just \$23,895!
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Kia

RIO 2008 LX
57K \$7,995
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Jeep

4X4 WRANGLER 2004
Red, mint condition \$14,695
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BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

4X4 WRANGLER 2006
Silver, low miles \$16,995
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BUICK, GMC
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Silver Fox, sport, 8K, and
4WD! Get on any road!
Reduced to \$18,945!
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CONTINENTAL 2002- 78,000
miles. Loaded incl. 6-disc CD,
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One owner. \$5400. SOLD

LINCOLN LS-V8
Only 64K Blue, 1 owner
\$8,950
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Maroon Sunset, navigation,
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Loaded all-around!
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STK# P21433 \$13,988
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MAZDA 3 2010
Silver, auto \$13,995
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(734) 453-2500

MAZDA 6 2009
STK# P21427 \$15,977
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Pontiac

PONTIAC G6 2006
Black, sunroof 78K \$9,795
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PONTIAC G6 2010
Dk. Blue 39K \$12,995
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BUICK, GMC
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Pontiac

PONTIAC G6
Black V6 nice \$9,500
BOB JEANNOTTE
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PONTIAC VIBE 2003- Great
gas mileage. Red hatch back.
114,000 miles. Good cond.,
loaded! Moon roof, roof rack.
\$5400. 734-355-3322

VIBE GT 2009
Burgundy, loaded, \$14,995
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Silver Cloud, KE, 25K, and
hatchback! Sharp styling!
Just \$11,995!
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VUE 2009
Hybrid, Black, \$15,995
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Toyota

SOLARA 2005
Black Coup, 67K \$12,396
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BUICK, GMC
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Volkswagen

JETTA 2010
Midnight Black, SEL, leather,
and sunroof! Ready to roll!
Just \$18,777!
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STK# P21432 \$8,488
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DEALER
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Dk blue, 35K \$12,995
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Trucks for Sale

GMC SIERRA 2004 SLT
Extended cab, RWD w/cap,
dark blue, 68K, \$13,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

GMC SIERRA 2006 1500
Extended cab, 4x4, gray,
78K, \$17,949
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

GMC SIERRA 2007 1500 SLE
Extended Cab, black,
RWD, \$10,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
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GMC SIERRA 2009
White Heat, 43K, extended
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road! Just \$17,999!
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CHEVY UPLANDER 2005
Tan Almond, LT, DVD, and
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fun! Reduced to \$10,495!
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CHEVROLET EXPRESS
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Bright White, G3500, LT, and
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everyone! Just \$25,994!
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GMC SAVANA 2008
Arctic White, PL, CD, 52K,
and ABS! Perfect work van!
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4 Wheel Drive

GMC SIERRA 2007 4x4
Single Cab, 34K, red.
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1997 CADILLAC
1G6KD52Y4VU227563
1993 CHEVROLET
1GNDU06DXT142601
2002 SATURN
1G8JU54F5Y52541029
1998 FRUEHAUF 53'
TRAILER
1JJV532F8W492590

Sports Utility

BUICK RAINIER 2004
Burgundy, AWD, only \$9,125
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

CHEVY EQUINOX LT 2010
37K, brown.
Must see \$23,700.
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

CHEVY TAHOE 2007
White Cotton, LTZ, 4WD, and
sunroof! Loaded from
L to Z! Just \$21,395!
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CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LT
2002
4X4 Black \$6,995
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BUICK, GMC
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FORD ESCAPE 2009
STK# 12T1119A \$18,888
1st yr. maintenance is free
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FORD ESCAPE 2010
Limited, 4 Dr., air, alarm, Auto,
pl., cruise, CD, anti-lock
brakes, pw, Full service histo-
ry, 1 owner, ps, am-fm stereo,
leather. Black exterior with tan
interior, excellent condition,
never been in an accident.
Mileage 14,500. Ask for Barbara
call after 5:00pm. \$22,000.
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STK# 21350 \$18,877
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STK# 12C1108A \$23,988
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GMC 2002 ENVY SLT 4WD,
fully loaded, heated seats,
Security System. 117,000
miles, \$8500. 248-349-3308

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Bronze Metal, PL/PW, ABS &
OnStar! Cruisin' in style!
Reduced to \$20,978!
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GMC TERRAIN SLT2 2010
37K, black, \$24,995
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GMC YUKON XL 2000
Gray SLT, runs great
Must See \$7,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
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MERCURY MARINER 2009
Low Miles, Pearl \$15,995
Loaded, Premier
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Sports Utility

MERCURY MOUNTAINEER
2008
73K Premier \$16,995 Black
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

YUKON DENALI 2007
Nice, must see \$21,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Sports & Imported

BMW 5 SERIES 2008
- STK# P21442 \$21,977
1st yr. maintenance is free
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MERCEDES BENZ 1989 560
SL Convertible red exterior,
tan interior, 85,000 miles,
\$9,750. 248-684-5854

SAAB 97X 2006
AWD, Black, 84K, \$12,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Buick

ENCLAVE CXL 2008
Silver-Blue 67K, \$25,495
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

LACROSSE 2006
CXL Silver, only \$8,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
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LACROSSE 2008
Bleached White, CX, sunroof,
and chrome! Quality engi-
neering! Reduced to
\$12,997!
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LUCERNE CXL 2009
Black \$14,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

LUCERNE CXL 2009
Silver \$14,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
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RIVERIA 1990
Good cond., 119,000 miles,
\$1800. 248-437-3715

Cadillac

CADILLAC 2009
AWD, Gray, loaded, \$26,995
A must see!
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
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SEVILLE 2003 SLs: Tanish
silver, 82,000 mi, family owned
from NV. No rust. EPA 18/27
mpg. \$5000. 734-623-1281

Chevrolet

AVEO 2009
STK# 12C9206A \$9977
Sips gas! Check it out on-
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AVEO 2011
Apple Red, 7K, PL/PW, and
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\$13,695!
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Phantom Black, 6-spd, sun-
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6 to choose from!
Starting at \$12,995!
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COBALT 2010
White, 33K,
Certified, \$11,995
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STK# P21415 \$15,988
1st yr. maintenance is free
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HHR 2007
Silver, one owner 64K
\$10,295
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Chrysler-Plymouth

TOWN AND COUNTRY
2009
STK# 12C8426 \$18,995
Check it out on-line at:
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DEALER
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Dodge

CALIBER 2010
STK# 12C9097A \$11,750
1st yr. maintenance is free
DEALER
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Ford

FOCUS 2010
STK# P21434 \$14,777
Only 8K on odometer/certified
pre-owned
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Trucks for Sale

GMC SIERRA 2004 SLT
Extended cab, RWD w/cap,
dark blue, 68K, \$13,995
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BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

GMC SIERRA 2006 1500
Extended cab, 4x4, gray,
78K, \$17,949
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

GMC SIERRA 2007 1500 SLE
Extended Cab, black,
RWD, \$10,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
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GMC SIERRA 2009
White Heat, 43K, extended
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GMC SIERRA 2007 4x4
Single Cab, 34K, red.
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1997 CADILLAC
1G6KD52Y4VU227563
1993 CHEVROLET
1GNDU06DXT142601
2002 SATURN
1G8JU54F5Y52541029
1998 FRUEHAUF 53'
TRAILER
1JJV532F8W492590

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Burgundy, AWD, only \$9,125
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37K, brown.
Must see \$23,700.
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CHEVY TAHOE 2007
White Cotton, LTZ, 4WD, and
sunroof! Loaded from
L to Z! Just \$21,395!
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CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LT
2002
4X4 Black \$6,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
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FORD ESCAPE 2009
STK# 12T1119A \$18,888
1st yr. maintenance is free
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FORD ESCAPE