



Canine crazy - Part ii HOMETOWNLIFE - SECTION C



SUNDAY July 2, 2006



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List shows no school workers with felonies

District learns 19 employees have records

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools officials say there are no district employees on an updated list compiled by Miehigan State Police, which includes more than 450 Michigan school employees who have been convicted of felonies.

Ray Bihun, the district's executive director of human

resources, said while there were no employees with felonies on the list completed for the Michigan Department of Education, there were approximately 19 people who had misdemeanor convictions in their backgrounds.

"We talked with all those employees affected and confirmed with them the convictions," Bihun said. "We talked to each one of them about the incident to confirm it was really them on the list. If it wasn't them, we wanted to get a correction of the misinformation to the Michigan State Police.

"We are absolutely confident we don't have anyone employed who was convicted of a felony."

It's the second time state police released information concerning employees with felony records. The first list contained mistakes, including people with the same names as those convicted, but with different Social Security numbers.

In February the list indicated there were 18 Plymouth-Canton Schools employees who had misdemeanor police records. It was discovered that five no longer worked for the district, and two were incorrect, leaving 11 employees on the list. Bihun said the corrected list had the number closer

The information is part of

the Student Safety Initiative passed by the state Legislature, designed to protect kids from sex offenders in the classroom. The state police cross-checked its database of known criminals with a school employee list from the Department of

According to the law, there is a specific list of misdemeanors that could affect the employment of school workers, such as distribution of marijuana or contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Education.

"We didn't have any of those kinds of things," Bihun said.

"These were all non-disclosure misdemeanors. Some were 20 years old and others were more recent, about four years ago."

Superintendent Jim Ryan said in February some of the misdemeanor infractions included driver's license infractions, speeding tickets, operating a vehicle under the influence of liquor and failure to pay child support.

If the district had employees on the list convicted of felonies, the superintendent and the Board of Education

PLEASE SEE WORKERS, A5



Gone but not forgotten

Dale Luebke of Canton, a member of the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 528 of Plymouth-Canton, places a wreath along side the Vietnam Moving Wall at the Honor and Remember Ceremony in Westland on Thursday. The Moving Wall, a traveling replica of the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington D.C., will be displayed on the east lawn of Westland City Hall through the morning of July 5. It contains the names of more than 58,000 soldiers killed in the Vietnam War. For more about Thursday's tearful ceremony, please see page A3.

Plymouth-Canton Schools hires arts chief

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

At a time when Plymouth-Canton Schools has had to trim its budgets, the Board of Education on Tuesday night approved the hiring of a Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator who will harmonize the district's K-12 arts pro-

That scenario stands out for Tim Schoenherr, who officially begins his duties July 1.

"I was surprised they were choosing at this particular time to fill the position," Schoenherr



"But, what it said to me, is that the district is committed to the arts, and they are doing it during challenging times." Schoenherr

will be leaving his job as music teacher and co-chair of the West Bloomfield High School Fine Arts Department to take over coordinating the arts for a district that has more than 16,000

students. "I do have ideas about my vision and what it will look like," said Schoenherr, who resides in Farmington Hills. "I think it's important for all students to learn the same things in all elementary schools, in all middle schools, to get the same arts education. For some kids, the arts is the only connection

they have to school. The board voted 6-1 in favor of hiring Schoenherr at a salary of \$78,116. Board president Mark Slavens voted against adding an administrative position to the budget.

Originally I had supported the hiring of an arts coordina-

tor, however with the loss of the bond and the \$2.3 million (reimbursement to the general fund for middle school property purchased in Canton) I made the decision this wasn't the year to make additions to the budget," Slavens said. "I do think we need an arts director, but I just think because of the economic situation right now I will be voting no."

Schoenherr was one of 79 applicants for the position.

tbruscato@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700

Doctor builds medical facility with health and comfort in mind

BY CAROL MARSHALL

Even for a guy accustomed to pressure, May 1 was a pretty tense day for Dr. Sarju Shah. That was the day he and three business partners opened their new medical building in Canton.

"It was wild," he said of the final hours before opening the Haggerty Professional Plaza at 2050 Haggerty. The final



Dr. Sarju Shah fulfilled a threeyear dream by opening his own medical facility.

inspection was scheduled for Friday, April 28, at 1 p.m., and Shah had specific instructions that he was not to begin unloading the truck full of medical equipment and supplies until after he got the sign-off from township instructors. And just like clockwork, inspectors arrived at 12:30. A little after 1 p.m. crews began unloading the trucks, and by the following afternoon, his clinic on the ground floor of the new building was up and

running, ready for the

100 patients who visit his office daily. It was the realization of a dream that started three years ago, when Shah joined a group of physicians at a small clinic near Lilley and Cherry Hill. The three doctors worked together in a much smaller building 7,500 square feet – and parking was almost always an issue for his patients.

"I had this dream of buying land and building our own," Shah said. "So we did. We bought the land and started from scratch."

The result is a 25,000-square-foot building, which will house 11 tenants, ranging from family practice to a pharmacy to an obstetrician and gynecology office, a full radiological laboratory, an urgent care clinic, and a variety of specialists.

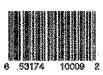
It's unusual for a medical office with such a wide range of services to be owned by private practice physicians, Shah said. Yet, even before he and his partners had bought the land, they had sold or leased

and every office in the building. There are advantages to owning, Shah said. First was the building itself, which he said is designed for efficient patient flow. The walkways and layout inside the building are intended to be less confusing to patients than some medical buildings can be, he said.

But details also add to patient comfort. The color scheme is warm earthy tones, and is less cold and sterile in feel than some hospital clinics.

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Exchange Club award

Canton resident David Loveland, who is secretary of the Exchange Club of Canton, is this year's recipient of the Michigan Exchangite award. He received the award at the 87th annual Michigan district convention in Lansing. Loveland has been a member of the Exchange Club since 1994, and has served the Canton club as secretary the last three years and treasurer for two. In 2004 he received a Merit Award from the Canton club at the district club. He is a past president of the club.

New Lions president

Nancy Williams has been elected as the new president of the Canton Lions Club. She will replace Charlie Mott, who has been president of the club for two years. In addition, Gene Hammonds was elected treasurer; Bob Harris as first vice president; Vivien Pierson as second vice president; and Bob Boyer as third vice presi-

Scholarship winners

Monica Patel, a student from Canton High School, and Plymouth High School student Alexander Harvey were among some 50 top-notch students to win \$1,000 scholarships from the Sam Walton Community

Scholarship program. In its 26th year, the Sam Walton Community Scholarship program is providing scholarships to more than 5,700 students nationwide to help pay for college expenses. In order to qualify for a scholarship, a student must be a high school senior, a U.S. citi-

zen and meet minimum grade point average requirements. An independent panel of judges from Scholarship Program Administrators selects recipients on the basis of financial need, academic record, ACT/SAT test scores, and school and community

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 2, 2006

involvement. An additional 94 graduating seniors nationwide have been named Wal-Mart Associate Scholarship winners. This \$2,000 award is open to seniors who have been employed by Wal-Mart for one continuous year, have a good academic record and can prove financial need.

Wal-Mart is awarding more than \$175,000 in Sam Walton Community scholarships in Michigan. The name of each scholarship winner nationwide can be found under their state and hometown at www.walmartfoundation.org under "Community Scholarships."

Rockettes golf outing

The Salem High Rockettes will be hosting their sixth annual golf outing Saturday Aug. 12, at Salem Hills Golf Club in Northville, with registration beginning at 12:45 p.m. Participants will play 18 holes of golf in a scramble format and get a buffet-style dinner with beer provided. There will also be a \$10,000 hole-in-one contest, closest to the pin contest, first place prizes for men, women and mixed teams, a 50/50 drawing, and a silent auction. The cost of the event is \$100 per golfer. Hole sponsorships are available for \$125 and door prizes are still needed and appreciated. Registration

deadline is July 24.

For more information, call Bob Chamberlain at (734) 451-2209 or e-mail him at rdcham@wideopenwest.com.

Blood drive

A blood drive and bone marrow registry will be held Sunday, July 16 from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at St. John Neumann Parish, 44800 Warren Road, east of Canton Center Road in Canton. The event is co-sponsored by St. Thomas a Becket. Please call Peggy at (734) 397-8495 or Sandy (734) 844-8718 to make an appointment for donating blood. Walk-ins are welcome. There are three options available: donate blood only; donate. blood and register for the bone marrow registry; or register for the bone marrow program only. The fee for registering as a potential bone marrow donor is usually \$65. However, due to a grant received for this specific occasion, the tax-deductible fee is only \$25. There is no fee for minorities to register.

Red Cross blood drive

Contours Express, located on Sheldon Center Road in Canton, will be co-hosting a blood drive for the American Red Cross from 1-7 p.m. on July 7 at the Contours Express located at 31509 Cherry Hill in Westland (at Cherry Hill and Merriman, next to Quiznos and H&R Block). The public is urged to participate in event. The Red Cross says it is in need of blood supplies. Please call (734) 326-SLIM to schedule an appointment. Anyone who donates blood will receive a free two week pass good at three Contours Express locations, including the one in Canton.

Volunteer ushers needed

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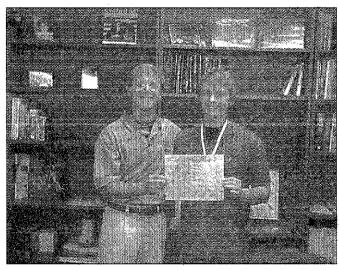
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A French master

Belleville High student Alex Brown (right), who will be a junior in the fall, is congratulated by Principal Kevin Kelly on winning eighth place in the national Le Grand Concours French Competition, a prestigious annual competition sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF). Students in grades one-12, in all 50 states and abroad, compete against each other for prizes by taking a written test with scores being ranked against students with similar educational backgrounds. Students enter via their French teacher. 'Alex is an exceptional student,' said Susan Wenzinger, BHS French instructor, 'He contributes so much to the class. His enthusiasm for French really affects the other students in a positive way.' Brown has traveled twice to Europe with the Blue Lake International Exchange Program. He is an active member of the Belleville Community Band and has participated in the Metropolitan Youth Symphony and the University of Michigan Youth Band. Next year, in addition to French, Brown will study German plus advanced coursework in core subject areas. He hopes to graduate from the University of Michigan and begin a career as a surgeon.

Cherry Hill in Canton is looking for people to volunteer as ushers for upcoming events, and will hold four free training dates in August: Monday August 7, from 6:30-8:30 p.m.; Tuesday August 8, from 9:30-11:30 a.m.; Monday August 28, from 6:30-8:30 p.m.; and Tuesday August 29, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. All training sessions will be at The Village Theater located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road in Canton. You can register for the date of your choice by calling (734) 394-5460 extension 0.

Corvettes at the Summit

The second annual "Corvettes at the Summit" is scheduled for Saturday, July 15, at Canton's Heritage Park.

Presented by Corvette Legends Club and Canton Leisure Services with sponsorship by Les Stanford Chevrolet, the 2006 "Corvettes at the Summit" is expected to draw more than 100 Corvettes of all vintages for a daylong display and car show.

Specially trained judges will

evaluate the presentation and condition of the entries. Trophies will be awarded to Corvettes that meet the judging standards.

The show will also feature music, food, a display of special interest Corvettes unique model cars, entertainment and door prizes. It will culminate in a Corvette road tour leaving from Heritage Park at 4 p.m.

Show hours are 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Participant registration starts at 7:30 a.m. and closes at 9:30 a.m. The awards ceremony is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. Rain date is Sunday, July

Admission is free for spectators. There is a registration fee for participants.

Theater auditions

The Spotlight Players theater group is holding auditions for Fiddler on the Roof on Monday July 18 and Tuesday July 19 at the Village Theater, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, in Canton (corner of Cherry Hill and Ridge -- use stage door at rear). Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. Bring non-returnable photos. For more information, visit www.spotlightplayers.net or call (734) 340-

Camping and a movie

Canton's Family Campout/Movie Night is scheduled for Friday, July 7, at Heritage Park.

For a \$5 per tent fee, families can set up camp around the amphitheater and enjoy a movie at dusk. There will also be many family performers. No advance reservation necessary. This Family Camp Out is always a popular activity and is limited to tents only -- no trailers or mobile homes. Tent set up begins at noon. For more information, call Canton Leisure Services at (734) 394-

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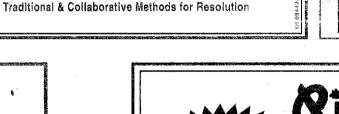
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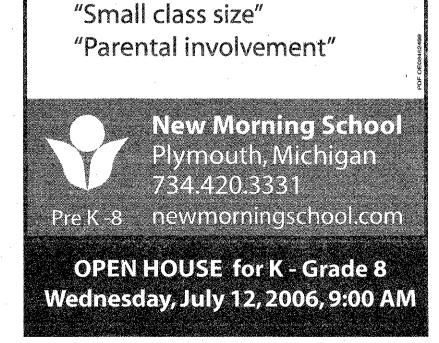
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'I honor and remember'

The Moving Wall visit 'big deal' for veterans and their families

BY DARRELL CLEM STAFF WRITER

Kathy Caza traveled hundreds of miles two years ago to see her brother's name, Rick James Stewart, on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.

She wept Thursday as his name came to his hometown of Westland on The Moving Wall, a smaller replica of the memorial brought here through the morning of July 5 for the city's summer festival.

"This is pretty emotional," said Caza, remembering how her brother died in Vietnam on June 27, 1967. He was only 17 years old.

Caza recalled how Stewart, a Livonia Franklin High student, gave to her what couldn't be given to him during war protection.

"He wouldn't even let me date anybody," she said, managing a smile. "He was so much fun. He had a great sense of humor. All he wanted was to be a Marine."

During a tearful opening ceremony for The Moving Wall's arrival on the east lawn of City Hall, Caza sat with survivors of nine Westland servicemen whose names are among more than 58,000 on the memorial.

'OVERWHELMING'

"To be invited to attend this is overwhelming to me," said Caza, who came with 19 family members. "I brought my (six) grandchildren. They've heard about my brother. But to them, he's just a name."

Hundreds of survivors, veterans and their supporters welcomed The Moving Wall to Westland, where visitors can view it 24 hours a day. On Thursday, veterans groups from Westland, Plymouth, Canton, Livonia, Garden City and other communities placed wreaths by the wall - wreaths that will be turned over to the Smithsonian Institution in the nation's capital.



Kathy Caza, formerly of Westland, cannot hold back the tears as the name of her brother, Rick James Stewart, was read. He lost his life in Vietnam.

"This wall is a way to bring closure for those families who have not been able to see the names of their loved ones on the wall in Washington," said Joseph Tebor, a Livonia resident who served in military intelligence operations. He dropped Vietnamese-language leaflets over South Vietnam, North Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos.

Tebor, post commander of the VFW Bova Post 9885 in Westland, was a first lieutenant when he dropped leaflets trying to convince the enemy to desert their side and help U.S. troops. He retired as a major in 1991.

"This is a big deal for veterans and their families," Tebor, 59, said Thursday, recalling how he lost a high school friend, James Wilkins, in the Vietnam War.

Flags and flowers adorned the east lawn of City Hall along with The Moving Wall during an opening ceremony that had a theme, "I Honor and Remember."

Westland Mayor Sandra Cicirelli called it 'a distinct privilege and honor for Westland to become the 1.021st community to host the wall. City officials expect tens of thousands of visitors.

NEVER FORGET

Thursday's ceremony included the raising of the U.S. flag, patriotic songs, a trumpeter playing Taps and a bagpiper performing Amazing

John Welchman, commander of the VFW Romanowski Post 6896 in Westland, rang a bell as he read aloud the names of the nine Westland servicemen who died in Vietnam - Caza's brother Stewart, Michael A. Blondin, Edward James Bova, Joseph M. Giusta, Steve Orris III, Dennis G. Prince, Arlie Spencer Jr., Refugio "Tommy" Teran and Joseph F. Willis.

City Clerk Eileen DeHart fought back tears as she pointed out survivors who had special seating for the ceremony. Later, DeHart remembered those who left their hometowns for Vietnam, and she paid tribute to "heroes who said goodbye - never suspecting that goodbye was forever."

As former Westland City Councilman David James sang God Bless the U.S.A., the crowd spontaneously stood up, held hands and swayed. Some had tears in their eyes.

Steve Frazer, a 62-year-old Vietnam veteran and retired Westland police officer, called The Moving Wall's visit "a real honor." He and many others worked on the effort with festival Chairman Kenneth Mehl, a decorated Vietnam veteran

"I'm proud as a peacock to see this, but it's a little sad, too," Frazer said, adding that he personally knew 27 names on the wall.

As Mehl addressed the crowd, he paused as a Huey helicopter - like those used in Vietnam - flew several times over the opening ceremony. Mehl praised those who fought and who 'arrived in a country (at from nome, always) wondering whether they would see home again.



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jerry Baker, a member of the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 387 - Westland, places a wreath alongside the Vietnam Moving Wall during the ceremony Thursday.

As the wall proved Thursday, many of them, like Caza's brother Stewart, didn't see home again.

"It's been nearly 40 years since he died," she said. "And it still makes me cry when I think about it."

The Moving Wall is on the east lawn of Westland City Hall, located on Ford Road between Newburgh and Wayne roads. Volunteers will be at the wall 24 hours through the morning of July 5, allowing visitors to view it any time of day or night. Visitors may give names from the wall to the volunteers, who can produce a computer printout detailing the location of names and other pertinent information about the deceased.

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Honor Guard Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 528 - Plymouth-Canton rifle team make their way during the ceremony outside Westland City Hall.

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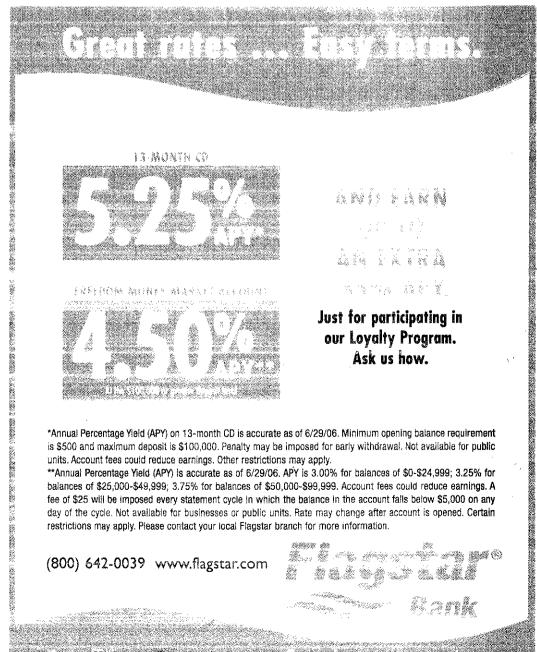
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Leadership Canton seeking participants

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 2, 2006

Leadership Canton is now accepting applications for the 2007 leadership class. Leadership Canton is an eightmonth class from October through May, and is a project designed by the Canton Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the Charter Township of Canton. Established in 1994, Leadership Canton's main goal is developing leaders to meet the challenges of the future. It's a program that has been developed to help current and potential leaders broaden their awareness of leadership opportunities in the Canton Community.

Participants will learn a wide range of specific topics aimed at educating them about important topics essential to the community's well being. The class meets once every month at various locations around the community and



CHAMBER NEWS

discusses topics like the nature of leadership; community development; business and economic development; health and human services; local, county and state government; education; public safety and the justice system; and challenges of the future.

We are very excited that the Leadership Canton project continues to be such an important success that promotes community involvement," said Dianne Cojei, president of the Canton Chamber Of Commerce.

"It's a great opportunity for those that are interested in local politics or want to learn how Canton works."

Registration deadline is Aug. 18, and the class costs \$800. Each day-long seminar includes a lunch. For more information visit the chamber's Web site at www.cantonchamber.com.

Annual golf outing

This year's Chamber of Commerce golf classic will take

place on Tuesday, Aug. 8 at Canton's Pheasant Run Golf Club. Reservations are necessary and the deadline is July 18. This event is open to the public, and there are various packages available for purchase.

Golf for four package, \$550 -- Includes golf with cart for four, continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, beverages on the course, BBQ Buffet Dinner banquet, prizes, gift package and more!

■ Golf for four sponsorship package, \$650 -- Includes Golf for Four Package with a Tee or Green Sponsorship, signage at the course, recognition at the dinner banquet, and a plaque

■ Individual Golf, \$150 --Includes golf with cart, continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, beverages on the course, BBQ buffet dinner banquet, prizes, gift package, and more. Dinner Only, \$35.

Tee and green sponsorships are available and affordable. If you are interested in purchasing one, call (734) 453-4040. Deadline for sponsorships is July 18, 2006.



CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2006 7:00 P.M. (734) 453-1234

A regular meeting of the Planning Commission will be held in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall to consider the following:

SP06-07

Change of Use Site Plan for Dental Clinic 190 Plymouth Road Zoned: B-3. General Business Applicant: Thorough Bred Properties, LLC

PUBLIC HEARING:

Zoning Ordinance Revision Concerning: Residential Neighborhood Compatibility Front Attached Garages Percentage of Structure Width

All interested persons are invited to attend.

In accordance with the Americans with disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

een Brodie, ADA Coordinator 201 S. Main Street Plymouth, MI 48170

'Send me a picture'

Travel clinic nurse doles out shots, collects snapshots of patients' overseas treks

BY JUDITH DONER BERNE CORRESPONDENT

Linda Johnson travels thousands of miles each day - vicariously.

As the face of the Travel Health Clinic at Henry Ford Medical Center in West Bloomfield, the registered nurse and Livonia resident spends her work day administering shots and handing out prescriptions and advice to metro Detroit residents headed for foreign shores on business, as missionaries or students, and for fun and sport.

The self-described former hippie, who journeyed to 15 countries during the early '70s using a Eurail pass and staying in youth hostels, now papers the walls and doors of her office with postcards, photographs and souvenirs from clients.

"I want to go to every postcard in this room," Johnson says, waving her arms to denote her cramped office that she hopes will be expanded when the medical center opens as a full-fledged hospital in 2008.

"I tried to get the postcards to stick to the ceiling," says the irrepressible Johnson, who admits to "being born hyperactive. I came out of the womb this way."

That failed, so she began a series of scrapbooks, designated by region, as well as a display case, which greets visitors as they get off the second floor elevator where the clinic is located.

"I've got T-shirts. I've got baseball caps. I've got jewelry and purses. Someone even brought me a two-piece outfit from India."

Her energy appears contagious, as the clinic has gone from part-time to full-time over her 12 years with new clients scheduled for hour-long visits that include a film on travel health and safety. They may take away a packet of materials and prescriptions tailored to their destination as well as a



Henry Ford Hospital R.N. Linda Johnson has numerous clients that come to her prior to traveling outside the United States to update their passport vaccination certificates - and she has the postcards to prove it.

pricked arm.

Clinic director is Dr. Mark Selitsky, an internist at Henry Ford, who is on medical leave. Although the HFH travel clinic is listed on the Internet. Johnson says most patients are word of mouth. "I do one company guy, then I get the next

she's a real character.' "She's certainly an original individual," says Michael Faw, who has returned to receive his last hepatitis A/B shot after traveling to Tanzania to be

20. They say 'Go see Linda,

married. "It was a Masai wedding," he tells Johnson. Together they pore over the Africa scrapbook but fail to find a costume similar to what he wore to be married. "Send me a picture,"

Johnson implores. "Which arm do you like?" she asks, as she wields the injection

"Yours," responds Faw. "My travelers just give it back to me," Johnson crows.

"Travelers are fun and interesting people," she says in the moments she has between clients. "We have a lot to talk about."

Evelyn Powell has come from Dearborn Heights, also for a follow-up injection, after two weeks as a missionary in South

"She's lively," Powell says, when Johnson leaves the room for a moment. "If you have to get a shot, she's a nice person to get it from."

"Send me a picture," Johnson repeats her mantra to Powell, giving her a business card.

"I don't know if you want one of the AIDS clinic," Powell says.

"Yes, I have a missionary (scrap) book," Johnson assures her, opening it to some of the more compelling photographs she has received.

Insurance doesn't cover a travel clinic visit, even though the medicine and advice given are to prevent illness and disease. In this age of soaring medical costs, Johnson says, that's the way it has to be.

"There are so many real needs that we need insurance to cover. In general, if you can afford to travel you can pay for your shots," she says.

At the same time, she said, "I feel sorry for my missionaries. They have to raise the money to do what they do. I give them a discount on the visit, but I can't on the shots."

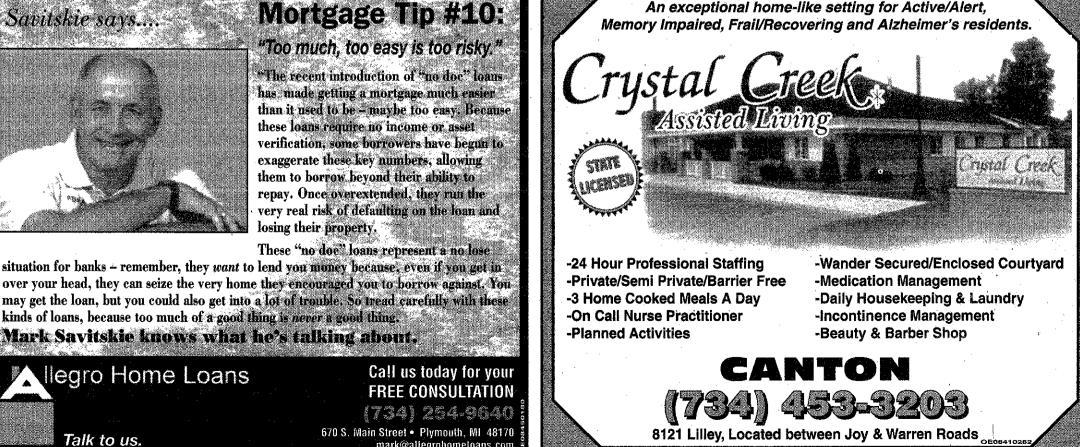
Henry Ford Hospital Travel Clinic is located at 6777 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. Clinic hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday, For information, call (248) 661-7350.











mark@allegrohomeloans.com

MEDICINE

FROM PAGE A1

"A major component of health management is that you want people to feel warm and cozy," Shah said, adding that a very high premium was put on the heating and cooling system in the building, enabling each suite to control its own temperature.

It also made economic sense to construct the

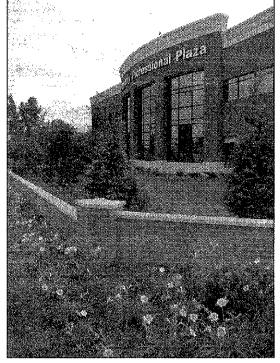
"There is a financial advantage to owning the building rather than renting space," Shah said.

"Of course we're paying from the right hand to the left hand, but we're building our equity."

The result is something Shah calls a win-win for everyone - the hospitals win because they don't have to absorb construction costs, and the doctors win because the building is an investment. And the patients win because the building was designed with their health and comfort in mind.

For more information, contact Shah's office at (734) 981-1086.

cmarshall@hometownlife.com | (734) 459-2700



Dr. Sarju Shah and his partners opened the Haggerty Professional Plaza near Ford Road on May 1. It houses a wide variety of medical services.

would look at each case to decide if the infraction was serious enough for termina-

Bihun said the district has trators and teachers during the

"The fingerprints aren't just filed with the Michigan State Police, but with the FBI, so we can find criminal records in other states," Bihun said. "When we interview, we check

all references, and always give the applicant a form to fill out that allows for us to find records and do fingerprinting checks.

comes back with any kinds of concerns about them."

Bihun said even though fingerprints of prospective employees are sent to the Michigan State Police for background checks, the district performs a second check to make

'We've fingerprinted every new employee since Jan. 1," Bihun said. "We've done well over 100, and so far have done

tbruscato@hometownlife.com

Officials happy with golf deal

Company to continue managing Fellows Creek

BY CAROL MARSHALL STAFF WRITER

The township's first golf facility is now on a course for the future, as the township board of trustees has agreed on a 10-year agreement between the township and Fellows Creek Management

'It started off as pretty simple, in terms of extending a contract, and then got sidetracked," said Township Supervisor Tom Yack.

Since 1978 Fellows Creek Management has managed the municipal course's operations. Historically, the township has received lease payments from the company and is in exchange responsible for utilities and major capital improvements and maintenance at Fellows Creek.

"(The contract process) started a couple of years ago when the lease expired," said Leisure Services Director Ann Conklin at the June 27 township board meeting. "The industry was not doing very favorably, and we decided to see what would happen in the 2004 season."

At the same time the golf industry was struggling, Canton was in the process of

re-organizing the operations of Pheasant Run, and Fellows Creek Management Company had performed satisfactorily for every contract with Canton, according to Conklin. The township did not go out for bids, and began negotiations late in 2004 with

Fellows Creek Management. By the end of 2005, negotiations were intense, but earlier this year came to an abrupt halt when a developer offered to buy the course for \$17 million, in order to build a "lifestyle" shopping

At the end of March, the township rejected the offer, and committed to keeping Fellows Creek Golf Course intact.

"Then negotiations were resurrected and where we ended up is good for everybody," said Yack.

The township board unanimously approved a 10-year contract with the management company.

Though the contract is much longer than the board usually favors, Fellows Creek Management's long and satisfactory history with the township worked in its favor, according to Trustee Karl Zarbo, who initially opposed

the length of the contract, especially since its much longer than the four-year terms to which the board members are elected.

In exchange for the long contract, the management company has agreed to perform nearly half of more than \$2 million in improvements at the course.

The operator will perform \$910,000 worth of improvements. Fellows Creek Management will also take responsibility for all equipment for maintenance of the

As part of the lease agreement, the company will pay \$150,000 per year to the township for the first five years of the contract, and \$200,000 for the second five years. The payments will be adjusted annually for inflation.

The company will pay 60 percent of all greens fees and cart revenues above \$1.25 million per year.

Conklin said the annual value to Canton, over 10 years, is \$319,000 per year, when construction savings are figured into the equation.

cmarshall@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700

WORKERS

FROM PAGE A1

tion.

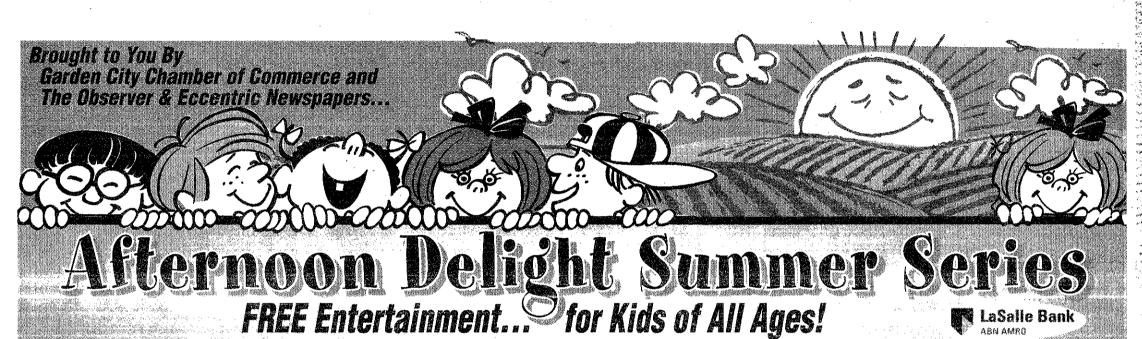
always fingerprinted adminishiring process, but now includes all employees as

required by state law.

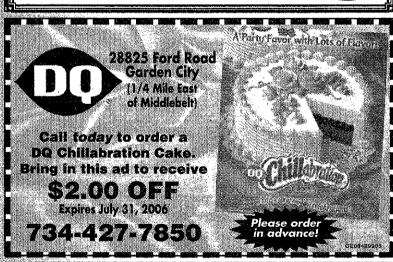
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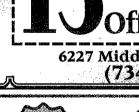
for kids to participate in and take home.

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH LEGAL NOTICE

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 2, 2006

CLOSE OF REGISTRATION FOR THE AUGUST 8, 2006 PRIMARY ELECTION

PLEASE NOTE: that July 10, 2006, is the last day to register for the Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, August 8, 2006. Registration for Plymouth Township Electors will be taken at the Office of the Clerk, 9955 Haggerty Road, or at any Secretary of State Office. The Clerk's Office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. If a resident is unable to register during regular office hours a call to the Clerk can set up a convenient time for the resident. The Township Clerk's phone number is (734) 354-

> MARILYN MASSENGILL, CMC Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: July 2, 2006



CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN NOTICE OF CLOSE OF REGISTRATION **MONDAY, JULY 10, 2006**

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH - WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN:

Notice is hereby given that Monday, July 10, 2006 is the last day to register to vote or change your address for the Primary election, Tuesday, August 8, 2006.

address in the above stated jurisdiction in which you live you may do so at the following location and time listed in this notice. Qualified electors may also register to vote or change their address

If you are not currently registered to vote or have changed your

in the following manner:

At your City Clerk's office from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, or at the office of any County Clerk during their normal business hours.

At any of the Secretary of State Branch offices located throughout the State during their normal business hours.

At the specified agency for clients receiving services through the Family Independence Agency, the Department of Community Health, Michigan Jobs Commission and some offices of the Commission for the blind.

By obtaining and completing a Mail Voter Registration Application and forwarding to the election official as directed on the application by the close of registration deadline. Mail voter registration applications may be obtained by contacting:

Linda Langmesser, CMC, City Clerk

201 S. Main Street Plymouth, MI 48170

Note: A person who registered to vote by mail is required to vote in person in the City where they live, unless they are at least 60 years of age or handicapped.

LINDA LANGMESSER, CMC, City Clerk

Publish: July 2, 2006

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PLANNING COMMISSION

PROPOSED ACTION:

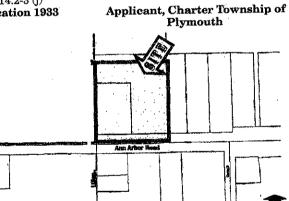
Request Approval of a Special

DATE OF HEARING: TIME OF HEARING: PLACE OF HEARING:

Wednesday, July 19, 2006 7:00 P.M. Plymouth Township Hall, 42350

Ann Arbor Road
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of Plymouth Charter Township has received an application requesting Special Land Use Approval for a Temporary Storage of New Automobiles in the Ann Arbor Road Corridor District (ARC), on Tax IDs R-78-060-99-0027-002 & R-78-060-99-0025-000, (property addresses are 42350 Ann Arbor Road and 42370 Ann Arbor Road) pursuant to Zoning Ordinance No. 99,

Section 14.2-3 (j) Application 1933



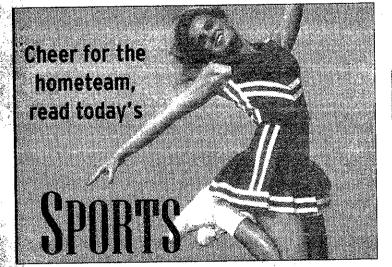
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: For parcel descriptions, see tax records based on Tax ID Nos. R-78-060-99-0027-002; and R-78-060-99-0025-000

The application may be examined at the Plymouth Township Community Development Department, during regular business hours from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. Written comments will be received prior to the meeting and may be mailed to 9955 N. Haggerty Rd, Plymouth, MI 48170-4673 or call 734-354-3270 ext. 6. The meeting will be held in the Meeting Room at Township Hall which is located at 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth Township, MI 48170

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: The Charter Township of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at all Township meetings to individuals with disabilities at the meetings/hearings upon one week notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the Supervisor's Office, 9955 N. Haggerty Rd, Plymouth, MI 48170. Phone 734-354-3201. TDD users: 800-849-3777 (Michigan Relay Service).

KENDRA BARBERENA, SECRETARY PLANNING COMMISSION

Publish: July 2, 2006



Parade, picnic top 4th

Annual family fun highlights holiday

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Bob Shelton has never lived in Plymouth, but he considers it home.

Shelton, a former Livonia resident, graduated in 1948 from the old Plymouth High School (currently Central Middle School), when students from surrounding communities also attended the school.

"Even though I grew up in Livonia, I consider Plymouth my hometown," said Shelton, who now resides in San Antonio. "I always have. I like the small-town atmosphere."

Shelton, 75, likes Plymouth so much that for the second year in a row he and his wife, Ilene, will be visiting his adopted hometown during the first week in July, specifically to attend the Good Morning USA Parade in downtown Plymouth.

"It's what Fourth of July is all about, the Revolutionary soldiers and the drum-and-bugle corps," Shelton said. "It brought tears to my eyes, it's so patriotic. It seems to me small-town America personified."

Stories like Shelton's make Fred Hill smile. For the past 10 years, Hill has organized the earliest Independence Day parade in Michigan — 7:30 a.m. — which is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth.

The first couple of years was like paddling upstream, trying to make it all happen ... financially, logistically, putting a product on the street everyone would be proud of," said Hill, remembering his first parade a decade ago. "It felt like a heavy responsibility."

Hill weathered the challenge, and now has it running like a well-oiled machine.

"The amount of feedback we get is extremely rewarding." Hill said. "People are always very complimentary about the entertainment value, that there are a lot of things that aren't

Hardware Stores

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band is always a crowd favorite at Plymouth's Fourth of July parade.

seen in other parades." While for onlookers the parade runs smooth as silk, Hill said everything isn't always as it appears.

"I remember the year we had three skydivers to start the parade," he said. "The wind kicked up and only one landed on Main Street. Where the other two landed, we still don't know. I hope they've found them by now."

One of the most memorable moments, two years ago when a torrential downpour soaked the parade.

"Everybody but one group still marched," said Hill, still seemingly amazed by that. "And the bulk of the spectators stayed. That was a real compliment to the people in the parade and the spectators."

Hill said there are three criteria when it comes to designing each year's parade line-up.

We serve our sponsors, who we're very grateful to, so we want to give them value for their investment," Hill said. "We want to serve the people who are in the parade. And we want to serve the spectators, so at the end they will say 'gosh, I'm glad I went to that parade."

The Fourth of July will also mark the 10th anniversary of the Good Old-Fashioned Picnic, which begins shortly after the parade ends at Plymouth Township Park.

"It's called the Good Old-Fashioned Picnic because everything - hot dogs, pop, chips and ice cream - are only a nickel, just like the old days," said Plymouth Township Treasurer Ron Edwards, who has put together the event since it began. "It's an opportunity where people can go out and have a great time. It's oldfashioned fun, simple stuff."

The first year, the community picnic drew about 400 peo-

Edwards estimates last year nearly 3,000 people showed up to eat and enjoy games and

Edwards said the picnic doesn't use township funds, and credits corporate sponsors and volunteers for the longevity of the event.

For the past five years, Tom and Pat Rener of Plymouth Township - along with daughters Katie, 15 and Megan, 14 spend hours handing out most of the 5,000 hot dogs to those who stand in line and pay their

"We originally got involved because we wanted to show the girls what it's like to give back

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- Morning U.S.A. Parade
- When: 7:30 a.m. Where: Downtown Plymouth
- What: Veterans Memorial Park dedication
- When: 9:30 a.m. (approximately)
- Where: In front of Central Middle School, corner of Church and Main
- What: Plymouth
- Township Picnic
- When: 11 a.m.
- Where: Plymouth Township Park, McClumpha and Ann Arbor Trail

to the community," said Pat

"It's also nice to see our of neighbors and friends."

tbruscato@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700

Planners set to meet

The Canton Planning Commission will meet 7 p.m. Monday, July 10, on the first floor of Canton's Administration Building. Items on the agenda include:

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Geric Beck Road Investments rezoning --Consider request to rezone. Property is located on the east side of Denton Road and south of Geddes Road.

J.B. Donaldson rezoning -- Consider request to rezone from LI-R, Light Industrial Research Park to LI-1, Light Industrial. Property is located on the east side of Haggerty Road and south of Palmer Road.

SITE PLANS

Canton Christian Fellowship modification -Consider request for site plan modification. Property is located on the southwest corner of Joy Road and Ronda Drive. MMB Office Building --

Consider request for reapproval of site plan. Property is located south of

Joy Road and west of Sheldon

NEW BUSINESS Super Liquor -- Refer

review of proposed site plan Property is located south of

Ford Road and east of Haggerty Road. ■ McDonald's rebuild ---Refer review of proposed

site plan to staff. Property is located north of Ford Road and west of

Sheldon Road. Singh Executive Park rezoning -- Set public hearingdate for Aug. 21 to consider request to rezone from LI-R, Light Industrial Research to

C-3, General Commercial. Property is located north of Michigan Avenue and west of Lilley Road.









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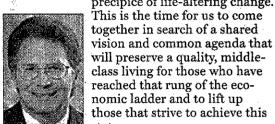
The American Dream: Is it slipping away?

"What is at stake is more than our paychecks and benefits. What's at stake is our shared vision of an America that lives up to its promise of freedom, opportunity, dignity and social and economic justice for all. That's our American Dream."

- Ron Gettelfinger, president, United Auto Workers, June 12, 2006

ettelfinger's comments at the UAW convention in Las Vegas will be a rallying cry for UAW members and their blue-collar working colleagues. It should also serve as a powerful message to everyone.

Michigan and America are clinging to the precipice of life-altering change.



Watkins

will preserve a quality, middleclass living for those who have reached that rung of the economic ladder and to lift up those that strive to achieve this

There are unprecedented global, disruptive, transformational shifts taking place today. The

question, as Gettelfinger articulates, is not how to wish away the collateral damage of globalization, but rather, to exploit it to optimize opportunities for the largest possible proportion of the world's humanity

Our American Dream must transcend the waters that surround us. We must also focus on lifting up the countless millions who exist on less than \$2 per day and who are grateful for water to drink and a shelter to call home.

We are living in an age of massive turbulence. Today, our reality resolves around instant communication, globalization, technology morphing, off shoring and outsourcing. Ours is a world where ideas and work can and do move around the world instantaneously and effortlessly.

John P. Kotler, author of the book Leading Change, offers this advice in his followup book, The Heart of Change.

"People change what they do — less because they are given analysis that shifts their thinking, than because they are shown a truth that influences their feeling." He goes on to say, "This is especially so in large-scale organizational change, where you are dealing with new technologies, mergers and acquisitions, restructuring, new strategies, cultural transformation, globalization and e-business.

Our challenge is that we are confronting these changes simultaneously.

As Kolter says, "In an age of turbulence, when you handle this reality well, you win. When you

It will rest on our leaders to help; not simply by giving information and analysis to shift our thinking, but to show us and model the way that

A clear test in how this view of change will play out is the 2006 gubernatorial election.

The reality of our anemic economy looms large with 7.2 percent unemployment. The second shoe of pending layoffs at Ford, GM, Delphi and other manufacturers has yet to fall. We are shedding good, middle-class jobs faster than many of us can shed a few pounds.

Do we look into the rear view mirror and long for the days when Russia, India and China had closed economies, when China was not a member of World Trade Organization, when NAFTA and CAFTA were just letters in the alphabet and when U.S. automakers held a healthier portion of auto market share and Japanese and Korean cars were viewed as junk?

Will our politicians simply blame Washington, rail at unfair trade agreements, complain about low wages in China, whine about the SBT or the fact that the Michigan Legislature is controlled by the Republicans and the governor's office by a Democrat? Complaining about these realities will not produce a job for the 50-year-old who has been laid off or the 20-something looking to begin his or her career.

The candidate or leader that can show the people the truth and help them envision a different and better future and model the way with productive actions and will garner the most votes.

This is the vision Gettelfinger was invoking when he spoke to the men and woman of the UAW. While his speech was directed to his membership, the message should be heard by all of us. Yes, our new reality is hard, painful and extremely disruptive.

We need leaders to acknowledge these truths and help forge a new reality. Our world has changed. Different times require new scripts. As Gettelfinger reminded his members, "40 years ago, at our 1966 (UAW) convention, Walter Reuther said, 'We can't solve the challenges of tomorrow with the tools of today." Who will be the Abraham Lincoln, Winston

Churchill, FDR, JFK or Ronald Reagan who will inspire us to preserve a nation, save the world, place a man on the moon and remind us better days lie ahead? Who will bridge the gulf from fear to security, from looking back to looking forward, from despair to hope? The candidate that can help us imagine a better future, will be there with us when we arrive.

We need to pay attention and vote as if the American Dream, which Gettelfinger passionately spoke about, lies in the balance — because it

Tom Watkins is a business and education consultant. He served as state superintendent of schools from 2001-05 and as president and CEO of the Economic Council of Palm Beach County, Fla., 1996-2001. Read his report: The New Education

Ballot proposal will advance a society based on merit

he Michigan Civil Rights Initiative is a proposal on which the people of Michigan will vote in November. If passed, the MCRI will amend the Michigan Constitution by adding Section 26 to Article I which will prohibit state and local government discrimination or preferential treatment in the areas of public employment, public contracting and/or public education to any individual or group based on race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin.

Our current system is one which gives preferential treatment based on race. If any preference must be given, it should be based on something more viable, such as socio-eco-

nomic status, which would not neglect the thousands of non-black and non-Hispanic students who grow up with various disadvantages. For example, under our current system of granting college admissions due to racial preferences, the grandchildren of Jesse Jackson (a millionaire who wears \$1,000 dollar suits and flies in a private jet)

are given preference over the poor non-black/non-Hispanic child whose father was killed fighting in Iraq. Similarly, the black/Hispanic student at Brother Rice, Country Day, and Catholic Central is given preference over the non-black/non-Hispanic student at John Glenn, Taylor Truman, and Annapolis High School.

Ben

Gurk

Opponents of the MCRI claim race is only one of many factors taken into account when students apply to colleges. However, if two students have nearly identical credentials but are different races, then race does become the decisive factor regarding whom to admit. A comprehensive admissions policy which includes race as one of many factors is not acceptable because it is still discriminatory in nature. Proponents of racial preferences and racial discrimination attempt to quantify their policies by hiding under the guise of diversity.

While there may be an educational aspect to having a diverse student body, this does not justify racial discrimination. Furthermore, it is lamentable that unity does not receive the solicitude diversity does. Michigan has always been rich in diversity; should not unity instead of diversity be the altruistic goal?

Opponents of the MCRI erroneously claim that if the MCRI is passed, then scientific

While there may be an educational aspect to having a diverse student body, this does not justify racial discrimination. Furthermore, it is lamentable that unity does not receive the solicitude diversity does. Michigan has always been rich in diversity; should not unity instead of diversity be the altruistic goal?

research into breast cancer or other genderspecific diseases may be affected, domestic violence shelters may be eliminated, and breast cancer screening centers may be eliminated. The truth is that the MCRI only affects public employment, public contracting, and public education. Breast Cancer screening and domestic violence shelters still exist today in California where Proposition 209 passed. They will still exist in Michigan if the MCRI passes.

Opponents of the MCRI have failed to justify their use of racial preferences and racial discrimination. Their rebuke of the MCRI is tantamount to paranoid scare tactics. Contrary to what some opponents of the MCRI claim, the MCRI will not prohibit females and minorities from taking math and science classes nor will it deny blacks/Hispanics any civil rights. If the MCRI is passed it will not "turn back the clock on Title IX." Sadly, many MCRI opponents have also resorted to ad hominem character attacks in addition to their litany of unsubstantiated claims.

Voting "Yes" on the MCRI this fall will advance our society by making it one in which merit and achievement, not the color of a person's skin, are the ultimate indicators of success. This ballot proposal poses a simple question: Will we continue to tolerate racial discrimination or will we choose to live in a more equitable society? By voting "Yes" on the MCRI we can end the bizarre, racist, and antiquated practice of treating people differently because of the color of their skin.

Ben Gurk is a former U.S. Marine who served two tours in Iraq and currently teaches history/social studies at the Tinkham Adult/Alternative Education Center in



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Deputy, sheriff warn of Internet predators, fraud

BY JULIE BROWN STAFF WRITER

The Internet has brought benefits to many lives, but Deputy Ray Johnson of the Wayne County Sheriff's

Department sees its downside. "We have to be careful what kind of information we provide on the Internet," Johnson told members and guests Thursday at a Westland Rotary luncheon. He cited the work he and colleagues do in the Internet Crime Unit, founded in 1998.

"We're a model for other agencies across the United States," Johnson said during the meeting at the Sgt. S. Romanowski VFW Post. The sheriff's department worked with the Westland Police Department on a recent case involving a local Internet predator who owned a tobacco

"Do I look like a 13-year-old girl?" Johnson said, explaining that chat rooms are popular with young people who often share personal information.

With instant messaging, predators can isolate victims one-on-one for conversation. "For some reason on the com-

Sheriff Warren Evans and others in law enforcement attended the Thursday meeting. Evans noted increased deed fraud at the county Register of Deeds office.

puter, people answer this question on a regular basis," Johnson said of age/sex/location inquiries.

He described Internet profiles which include photos.
Johnson noted the popularity of MySpace.com, a Web site he believes should be limited to those age 18 and older.

Johnson showed Web cams, which have beneficial uses for distant family and business teleconferencing.
Unfortunately, some people disrobe on Web cams.

He cited the Public Sex Offender Registry of the Michigan State Police, a good tool but not totally accurate.

Johnson warned against "phishing" in which spam, popups and junk mail are used online to obtain personal information. "Nobody will ever ask you for your ATM PIN number," he said in displaying a

fraudulent inquiry he received.

Mail theft, stolen purses and wallets and discarded trash are other sources of personal information which can lead to identity theft. "People get credit card applications all the time" and discard them, the deputy said.

Thieves can grab trash and apply for a bogus card.
Johnson recommended reporting theft of your identity to the credit reporting bureaus,
Equifax, Experian and Trans
Union.

"Let them know you've been a victim," Johnson said. Sheriff Warren Evans and

others in law enforcement attended the Thursday meeting. Evans noted increased deed fraud at the county Register of Deeds office.

"Check to make sure your house still belongs to you," Evans said. "If someone is messing with your title, let's get on it earlier." Criminals have been filing fraudulent quit claim deeds and obtaining mortgages.

Information is available online at waynecounty.com.

Evans praised Westland
Police Chief Daniel Pfannes
and his department, noting
sheriff's personnel can extract
from computers material the
user thought had been erased.

The sheriff said there have been nearly 70 Internet cases, and his department is proud of the 100 percent conviction rate. "We know we're only getting the tip of the iceberg."

Pfannes was pleased to have the sheriff's department in town. "I thought he did a fantastic job," the chief said of Johnson's presentation, which he said was thorough and easy to understand.

"I think it's definitely a generational thing," Pfannes said of parents who grew up without the Internet. Parents monitor stranger danger for kids.

"And yet we seem to be not as careful when they're surfing the Internet."

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Man dies in county jail

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER

The Wayne County Sheriff's Department is investigating the death of a 46-year-old Lincoln Park man Thursday in the Dickerson jail facility in Hamtramck.

"It was a drunk driving-related violation," department spokesman John Roach said. The man's name wasn't being released Thursday, pending notification of family.

According to Roach, an officer discovered the inmate unresponsive in his cell, and staff tried CPR without success.

"He was pronounced dead at the scene," Roach said.

The county medical examiner's office is involved, Roach said, and the sheriff's department will investigate as a possible homicide, a routine practice.

"We're trying to figure out if it's natural causes," he said.

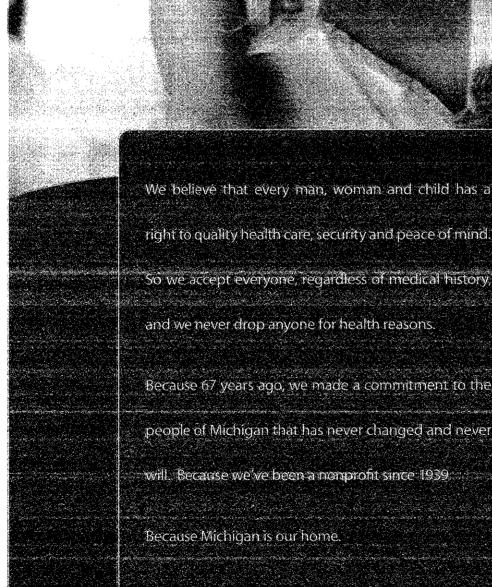
The Lincoln Park man was alone in his cell when found shortly before noon Thursday.

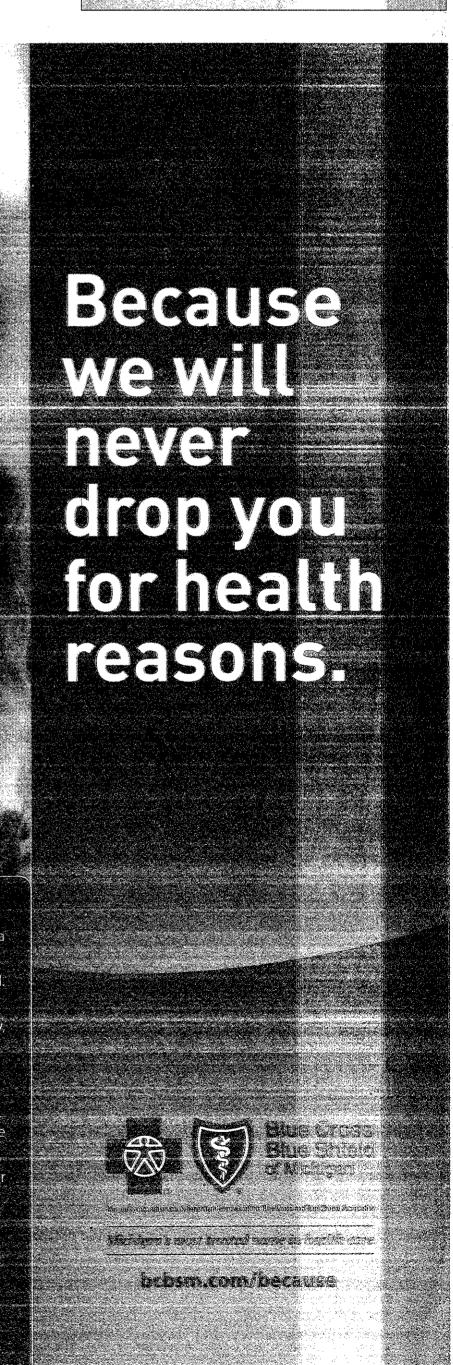
"As the investigation proceeds, hopefully we'll know more soon," Roach added.

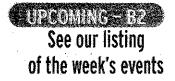
Read Observer Sports for prep coverage



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ROUNDUP-BZ

Soccer, cross country workouts



Sunday, July 2, 2006

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

Ed Wright, editor . (734) 953-2108 . ewright@hometownlife.com

Local soccer fans get a kick out of 'Cup'

STAFF WRITER

Local interest in the World Cup soccer tournament hasn't taken a detour in the wake of a quick exit by the United States.

That's the unanimous observation of some of the area's most-knowledgeable soccer aficionados, who agree that a large number of metro Detroiters still care about who's going to win what's widely considered the world's

most-popular sporting event. "It seems like the adults are

getting into the World Cup this year as much as the kids." said Bryan "Goose" Finnerty, the lead owner of High Velocity Sports in Canton. "Eight years ago when the World Cup came on, the kids would ask their mom or dad if they could watch it, then there would be a little moan before the parent would say, 'Oh, I guess, if you really want to.'

"This year, from what I've seen, the adults are watching together in groups and watching it together. When the kids see this, it's almost like getting permission from their parents to get excited about it."

Through Saturday, there were only four teams remaining in the World Cup field, which started with 32 two weeks ago. The United States failed to reach the round of 16 after compiling an 0-2-1 record.

PLEASE SEE CUP, B2

WHO'S GOING TO WIN?

Following are the predictions of a few area soccer experts and media representatives who were asked to pick the winner of the 2006 World Cup soccer tournament. The predictions were made prior to Saturday's games:

- High Velocity Sports lead owner Bryan "Goose" Finnerty Brazil;
- High Velocity Sports general manager Drew Crawford Brazil;
- Detroit Ignition president Greg Bibb: England:
- Plymouth/Canton sports editor Ed Wright Italy:
- Livonia/Westland sports editor Brad Emons Brazil; and
- Farmington sports editor Dan O'Meara Germany.

n search of Observerland's Best Miniature Golf Holes



tames Hammons and grandson Marlon Johnson, both of Canton, tackle one of the toughest holes at

Mini golf, major fun

Chad Pounders hits his tee shot on the 18th hole at Ford Rd. Miniature Golf in Garden City on

Thursday as (from left) Jacob Erme, Kevin Nisun, Brian Nisun, Mason Wypych and Torin

MacGregor look on. The kids were celebrating Kevin Nisun's birthday.

Five-course, five-day journey reveals area's ultimate miniature-golf holes

thought it would be fun to set out on a week-long trek to find the best 18 miniature golf holes in Observerland. OK, it wasn't quite as awe-inspiring

as playing Pebble Beach, Spyglass, Winged Foot and Oakland Hills on four consecutive days, but it was fun.

It was also challenging (too many snowmen on the scorecards), embarrassing (I lost a ball in a

Wright McDonald's restaurant parking lot; details below), frustrating (one hole was so difficult, I finally just wrote the word

"infinity" under my name on the scorecard), and exhilarating (when my only ace of the week found the bottom of the cup). Accompanied by my 5-year-old son,

glow-in-the-dark modern (Glo-Golf in

Canton). The difficulty of the 90 holes ranged from hazard-less, straight-down-themiddle, I-could-ace-this-in-my-sleep easy to even-Phil-Mickelson-wouldget-a-12-on-this-insane-hole difficult.

When I explained what I was doing to Cara Gray, an employee at Oasis, she smiled and said, "What a fun job!"
She was right — for the most part.
Approximately 20 minutes after I

talked to her, my first shot on the 12th hole of her course hopped off the fairway, through a 12-foot-high Cyclone fence and into the adjoining McDonald's parking lot. The shot gave

new meaning to the term "drive-thru." The situation really got embarrassing when I had to shout "Fore!" at a family walking from the fast-food

restaurant to their car. **QUICK THINKING**

To ease the embarrassment of losing

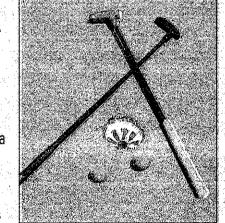
PLEASE SEE MINI GOLF, B4

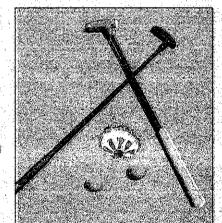
WHERE TO PLAY Following are the five miniature golf courses located in the Observerland vicinity: Armstrong's Funland, 8787 Belleville Rd., Van Buren Township (18 holes); Ford Rd. Miniature Golf, 29060 Ford Rd.,

Garden City (18 holes); Oasis Golf Center, 39500 5 Mile Rd., Livonia

Sportway, a downhill shot from the highest point on the course.

- (18 holes plus driving range) Sport-Way of Westland, 38520 Ford Rd., Westland (36 holes)
- Glo-Golf, 42130 Ford Rd., Canton (18 holes).







King's gymnastics moves turn to gold King is coached by Doug Rowe tition were King's first as a Level 9 and Kami Gotchev. competitor.

Canton gymnast Samantha King had a few jitters while competing at the USAG Eastern National Championships April 21 in Nashville, Tenn.

You never would have known it by her performance.

King, an eighth-grader-to-be at Discovery Middle School, captured gold medals in the Level 9 Junior B Division's all-around and balance beam competitions with scores of 37.325 and 9.525, respectively.

King was competing against 49 other top-notch gymnasts from throughout the United States.

The first-place showings at the Vanderbilt University-hosted compeJudging by her scores, they won't

"I was pretty nervous the whole time," admitted King, who trains at the Westland-based Michigan Academy of Gymnastics. "But I just tried to concentrate and do what my coaches taught me to do."

King, who moved to Canton from Stratford, Ontario, Canada, when she was 6, was introduced to her first set of uneven bars and a balance beam at the age of 3.

"I've always liked gymnastics because it's always challenging," said King, who trains up to 25 hours a week during the summer. "Plus, it lets me get my energy out, and I have a lot of energy."

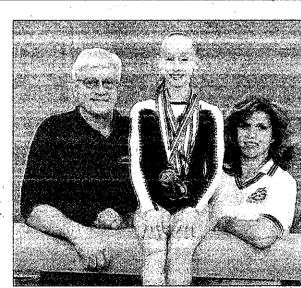
'The coaches are the main reason I chose Michigan Academy of Gymnastics over the other places when I moved here," said King. "They push me to get better, plus they make it fun."

Although she realizes it's a lofty goal, King has her sights set on making the 2012 U.S. Olympic team that will compete in London.

"That's my dream," she said. King also posts high scores in the

classroom. She has studied her way to a 4.0 grade-point average at Discovery with one year of middle school to go.

ewright@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2108



Samantha King is flanked by her Michigan Academy of Gymnastics coaches Doug Rowe and Kami Gotchev. King, 13, was the Eastern U.S. Level 9 all-around and balance-beam champion in a national meet held at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn., in April.

Ignition tryouts

The Detroit Ignition professional soccer team, which will begin playing games at Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth Township in November, will be holding open team tryouts at Canton's High Velocity Sports facility from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 23.

For more information, visit www.detroitignition.com or contact Lindsey Gamrod at Lindsey.gamrod@hantz-

group.com. The Ignition will open the 2006-07 season at

home on Nov. 4. **Cubs win**

The Canton Cubs recently placed first in the Canton Little League's Major Division (11- and 12-year-olds) with an impressive 9-3-1 record. The team consisted of Ryan Sielgler, John Etienne, Justin Thompson, Derek Gielarowski, Craig Solarz, Irene Pool, Michael Pool, Tv McMahan, Joey Etienne, Chris New and Nathan Michalik.

The team was coached by Dave Solarz and Greg

The 2006 Plymouth

Wildcat Football Golf Outing will be held Saturday, July 29 at **Hickory Creek Golf** Course, located at Ford and Napier roads in Canton. The check-in time for the four-person scramble is 1 p.m. with a 2 p.m. shotgun start. The \$110-per-player fee includes a post-outing steak dinner. The cost to attend just the dinner is \$35.

For more information, contact Paul Gilbert at (734) 735-2661.

X-C conditioning The Plymouth High

School boys cross country team will be holding non-mandatory summer conditioning workouts at both 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. throughout the summer. The team will meet at Plymouth High School near the junior-varsity stadium.

Hole-in-one

Plymouth resident Scott Lock, 35, aced the 168-yard sixth hole on the Fox Hills' Golden Fox layout on June 18. Lock, who shot a 44 for the round, used a seven iron to record his memorable shot.

YMCA tennis The Plymouth Family

YMCA is offering tennis lessons with the assistance of a local tennis professional. The twoweek sessions, for kids with varying skill levels between the ages of 7 and 14, will run on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays July 10-19, July 24 to Aug. 2 and Aug. 14-23.

For more information, contact the YMCA office at (734) 453-2904.

CUP

FROM PAGE B1

"I think the interest was extremely high, especially before the United States got eliminated," said Andrew Crawford, the general manager of High Velocity. "I think some of that had to do with the amount of TV coverage it's been getting. Even now, with the U.S. out of it, we'll have the World Cup games on our TVs during camps and the kids still seem to have an interest in who

wins the games."
"If the United States would have advanced further, there would have been an explosion of interest, probably equal to the way it was when the U.S. hosted the World Cup in 1994," said Greg Bibb, the president of the Major Indoor Soccer League's Detroit Ignition, which will open its inaugural season at the Compuware Sports Arena in November.

Bibb said a strong U.S. run through the tournament would have indirectly aided the Ignition and every other professional soccer team playing in this country.

"Any time soccer takes over the world stage and the United States' team is on that stage, it helps all of the professional teams to some degree because the media pays more attention to the sport and the fans follow

it more," said Bibb. All three soccer buffs agreed that youngsters can learn a lot by watching the remaining World Cup matches, which will be broadcast live by ABC and

"The biggest things the young players can learn from

watching the World Cup games are the ball movement and the unselfish play by the players." said Crawford. "I would advise youngsters to pick out the player on the field who is playing the position they play and watch what they do. It's a great way to learn."

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 2, 2006

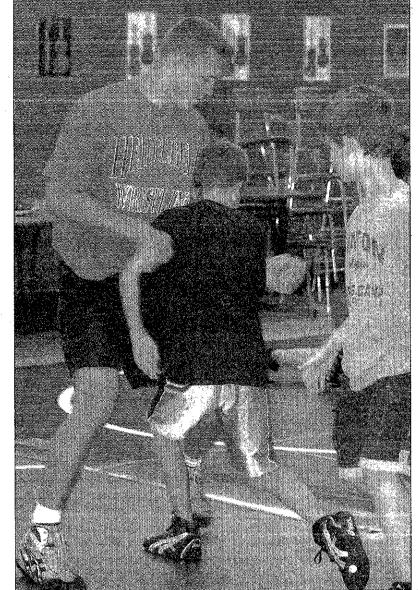
"Any time you have the best of the best coming together at one place and one time to play in a tournament like this, it's a great opportunity for young players to watch and learn," said Bibb. "This doesn't happen very often — once every four years — so the young players should take advantage of the chance they have to watch the best players in the world."

Finnerty said young players can learn valuable lessons by watching things beyond the players' skills.

"You have the best-of-thebest players out there for 90plus minutes playing for their teams and their countries in some pretty fierce competition," Finnerty said. "But when the games are over - no matter how rough the game got they get together and shake hands.

"I think it's important that young players realize the sacrifice a lot of these players are making, too, for their team and country. Each player on each World Cup team is a superstar on the teams they play for before and after the World Cup. But they quickly learn what their roles are once the tournament starts and they adjust so that they can help their team win.

'That's an important thing for young kids to see." ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2108



BRIDGET KONSITZKE

Mat moves

A member of the Heidelberg (Ohio) University wrestling team displays a move to a youngster at the Canton Wrestling Camp last week. The camp drew 50 youngsters between the ages of 8 and 18.

THE WEEK AHEAD

LIVONIA MICHIGAN COLLEGIATE BASEBALL LEAGUE SCHEDULE Wednesday, July 5 (at EMU's Oestrike Stadium) Park Athletic vs. Mich. Rams, 6 p.m. (at Livonia's Ford Field)

Oakland Cubs vs. Det. Eagles, 5:45 p.m. Mich. Monarchs vs. Mich. Bulls, 8:15 Friday, July 7. (at Livonia's Ford Field)

Mich. Bulls vs. Det. Eagles, 5:45 p.m. Oakland Cubs vs. Park Athletic, 8:15 (at Saline High School) Mich. Monarchs vs. Mich. Rams, 6

p.m. Sunday, July 9 (at Livonia's Ford Field) Det. Eagles vs. Mich. Monarchs (2),

Mich. Rams vs. Oakland Cubs (2), 5 p.m. (at EMU's Oestrike Stadium) Park Athletic vs. Mich. Bulls, 6 p.m.

UNITED SOCCER LEAGUES MEN'S PREMIER DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE Tuesday, July 4 Mich. Bucks vs. W. Michigan Edge at G.R. Forest Hills Central H.S., 7

Saturday, July 8 Mich. Bucks vs. Chicago Fire Premier at Roch. Stoney Creek H.S., 6:30 p.m. W-LEAGUE

Friday, July 7 Mich. Hawks vs. W. Mich. Firewomen at Holland West Ottawa H.S., 7 p.m. Sunday, July 9 Mich. Hawks vs. Cleveland Internationals at Coughlin Field (Ohio), 2 p.m.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

SOCCER WORKOUTS

The Salem boys soccer team will begin optional summer conditioning sessions soon for all players who plan on playing on one of the Rocks' three teams in the fall.

Sessions will begin 6-8 p.m. July 5 and continue every Monday, Wednesday and Friday through July 21. The workouts will be held in front of Canton High School's Phase III facility.

Players should bring soccer shoes, shin guards and water.

For more information, contact Salem soccer coach Ed McCarthy at (248) 561-2846.

CANTON X-COUNTRY

Nonmandatory summer conditioning sessions have begun for anyone interested in trying out for the Canton boys cross country team in the fall. The team will meet at 8 a.m. on weekday mornings outside Canton High School's Phase III facility.

Training sessions will consist of a warm-up run, stretching, workout run, cool down and more stretching. Runners are encouraged to bring their own water. Contact one of the team's captains: David Catalan at (734) 455-3045, Derek Hoerman at (734) 454-5746 or Aaron McClellan at (734) 981-7438. Interested participants are encouraged to send an e-mail to mcclellan1982@wowway.com with their name, phone number and e-mail

address so that they can

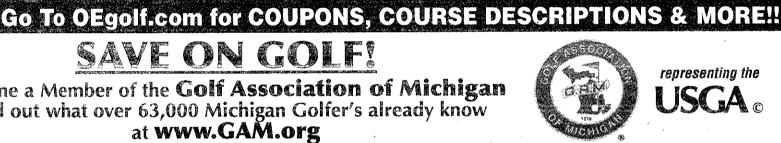
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ESSON ON GOLF

WHO'S NUMBER ONE? It all seemed so simple. Just a par four on the 18th hole of the 106th US Open Championship was all Phil Mickelson needed to win his third consecutive major and assume the title of "The best golfer in the world." Even a bogey would guarantee him a playoff

What happened next was golf infamy. It was reminiscent of Lefty's tee shot at Oakland Hills in the 2004 Ryder Cup. There he was paired with Tiger Woods and sliced a tee shot so far left that only a fence kept it on the property.

The look on Tiger's face as he watched will forever be in my mind. Tiger had to play that shot from there in the alternate shot

The only difference this past Sunday at Winged Foot was there was no Tiger. Woods had missed his first cut at a major since turning professional. Mickelson's tee shot however was a carbon copy.

His drive traveled over the trees and hit a building. A building. And no they did not erect that building in the middle of his

What ensued was what NBC's Johnny Miller called "maybe the biggest collapse in US Open history. "Lefty then hit a tree, a bunker, and the rough once again. It was a double bogev six, hand delivering the championship to Oglivy, who watched with astonishment from the clubhouse.

Tiger Woods has yet to blow any tournament, let alone a major in such fashion. Let's be honest here. Mickelson just flat out choked. He had a chance to change the way he is perceived as the "second or third best". He may never recover from this. Until someone proves otherwise, Tiger is still the best.

Jeff Lesson hosts "Lesson on Golf" weekend mornings on WWJ Newsradio 950 and Saturday mornings 7-8am on 1270 XYT. He also co-hosts "Michigan Golf Weekly Saturdays at 6pm on CBS Detroit TV.

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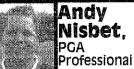
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MINI GOLF

a ball on a miniature golf course, I quickly walked toward Ben in an effort to snatch his ball and make it look like the 5-year-old was the one who hooked his drive onto the asphalt. But as soon as I got to within grabbing distance, he put a death grip on his ball and flashed a "Don't even think about it!" look at

Earlier that week, at Glo-Golf, my ball got wedged under the foot of a triceratops. Now, that's something that doesn't happen every day at Fellows Creek, Hilltop or Pheasant

Yes, there were mishaps along the way, but overall, it was an enjoyable experience.

WINDMILLS ARE GOOD

My criteria for ranking each hole worked like this: In order to be ranked highly, the hole had to be both fun and challenging. Holes could earn a possible 20 points — or, since we're talking miniature golf here - 20 windmills. Holes were rated on both a "Fun Factor" and a "Difficulty Factor." The scale for both was 1 to 10 windmills, with 10

being the best.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 2, 2006

The five courses I played were: Armstrong's Funland in Van Buren Township, Glo-Golf, Sport-Way in Westland, Ford Road Miniature Golf in Garden City and Oasis. They were all in great shape and challenging in their own way.

Here are my final rankings. The 18th-best hole is listed first with the best hole bringing up the rear.

THE TOP 18

No. 18 — The 5th hole at Armstrong's Funland: Amazingly, this was the only hole of the 90 I played that had a windmill. Everybody knows you can't have a "Best 18" miniature golf hole list without a windmill hole. FUN FACTOR: 6.0 windmills; DIFFI-**CULTY FACTOR: 2.5 windmills; TOTAL:** 8.5 windmills.

No. 17 — 9th hole at Glo-Golf: In order to reach the tee, you have to step through the mouth of a huge shark. In order to reach the hole, you have to hit the ball squarely through a smaller shark's jaws. It must have been designed by that great miniature golf course architect, Peter Benchley. FUN: 6.0; DIFFICULTY: 3.0; TOTAL: 9.0.

No. 16 - 3rd hole at Glo-

Golf: This may be the coolestlooking hole of the 90 I played. The only thing keeping it from appearing lower on the list is that it's not real challenging. The tee shot goes up a 10-foot ramp and into a huge pyramid. The ball then disappears briefly before falling onto a lower level to the left. FUN: 8.5; DIFFICULTY: 1.0: TOTAL: 9.5.

No. 15 - 10th hole at Glo-Golf: Very similar to the pyramid hole, but on this one the tee shot disappears into a 20foot high volcano before reappearing on the other side. FUN: 7.5; DIFFICULTY: 2.5; TOTAL:

No. 14 - 5th hole at Ford Road Miniature Golf: Players have to hit their drive over a two-foot-high mound then onto a ramp that leads to a narrow ledge 20 feet away. The hole is situated on the ledge, making it difficult to reach. Comparable to the islandgreen hole at the Tournament Players Championship. FUN: 4.0; DIFFICULTY: 6.5; TOTAL: 10.5.

No. 13 — 8th hole at Sport-Way: Be advised to barely tap your first shot on this curving, downhill, dog-leg left or it will sail past the hole faster than Randy Moss running a fly pattern past the Lions' free safety. FUN: 5.0; DIFFICULTY: 6.0; TOTAL:

No. 12 — 8th hole at Oasis: Shaped like a hairpin, this hole is un-aceable. If you get a holein-one on this one, send me the video and I'll personally buy you a lifetime supply of miniature golf pencils. FUN: 3.5; DIFFICULTY: 8.0; TOTAL: 11.5.

No. 11 — 4th hole at Oasis: A hook comes in handy on this one-of-a-kind hole that requires a 360-degree shot around a rocket. FUN: 7.0; DIFFI-CULTY: 5.0; TOTAL: 12.0.

No. 10 — 1st hole at Armstrong's: A 20-somethingpound, four-foot-high weight attached to a string hangs within a half-inch from the top of the hole. When the player is ready to hit, his or her partner swings the weight back and forth over the hole. If the player mis-times his shot, the weight hits the ball and sends it sailing onto a runway at Willow Run Airport two miles away. Props to whoever thought of this hole. FUN: 6.5;

DIFFICULTY: 6.0; TOTAL: 12.5.

MAKING THE TURN...

No. 9 - 12th hole at Oasis: This is the hole I lost my ball on in the McDonald's parking lot. Enough said. FUN: 4.0; DIF-FICULTY: 9.0; TOTAL: 13.0.

No. 8 - 16th hole at Armstrong's: This was — by far - the most difficult hole I played. If Tiger Woods plays this hole, I guarantee you he launches his putter into the adjoining mobile-home park within 30 seconds of his tee shot. Since I have more composure than Tiger, it took 45 seconds before my putter took flight (just kidding!). The hole is located on top of an ant hill. You have to play it to believe it. FUN: 4.0; DIFFICULTY: 10.0; TOTAL: 14.0.

No. 7 — 14th hole at Sport-Way: If you hit your tee shot too far left on this straight downhill hole, it hits a rock and is directed into a fast-moving stream before coming out of a pipe 20 feet downhill and onto the green. It's the only time I've enjoyed hitting a golf ball into water. FUN: 8.5; DIFFI-**CULTY: 6.0: TOTAL: 14.5.**

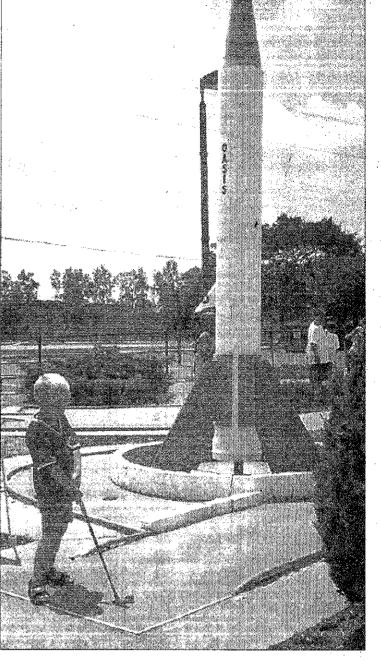
No. 6 - 6th hole at Ford Road Miniature Golf: This one is called the "Big Dipper" and for good reason. Use your imagination. FUN: 7.0; DIFFICUL-TY: 9.0; TOTAL: 16.0.

No. 5 — 14th hole at Ford Road Miniature Golf: This one is much like the ant hill hole at Armstrong's only it has a larger cup. You won't ace it, but you won't get a 12 either. FUN: 8.0; DIFFICULTY: 8.5; TOTAL: 16.5.

No. 4 — 16th hole at Glo-Golf: As a pair of pterodactyls circle overhead, this spacious hole requires you to maneuver around a large, snake-infested tree and find the cup, which is on an elevated green close to 30 feet away. Parring this hole is more difficult than trying to spell pterodactyls. FUN: 9.0; DIFFICULTY: 8.0; TOTAL: 17.0.

No. 3 — 6th hole at Sport-Way: You hit your tee shot from inside a castle down to the hole that is situated 30 feet below. If you hit it too hard, your ball goes into "Black Bart's Brink," which is almost as bad as a McDonald's parking lot. FUN: 9.0; DIFFICULTY: 8.5; TOTAL: 17.5.

No. 2 - 18th hole at



The fourth hole at the Oasis Golf Center course takes players for a 360degree trip around a rocket.

Armstrong's: There's something about the "put-the-ballin-the-clown's-nose-and-youwin-a-free-game" hole that gets everybody's adrenaline flowing. FUN: 8.5; DIFFICULTY: 9.5; TOTAL: 18.0.

Drum roll please... No. 1 - 18th hole at Ford Road Miniature Golf: Again, a hole in one wins a free game. The only catch is, you have to hit it up a steep, 15-foot ramp that gets narrower as it gets higher. Win a free game on this one and you've earned it. FUN: S.5: DIFFICULTY; 10.0: TOTAL

Good luck with your miniature golfing this summer.

Remember: Hit it straight and hit it far.

On second thought, just hit it straight.

Oh, one more thing: If you stop by the McDonald's on 5 Mile just east of Haggerty and you see a blue golf ball laying near the drive-thru order window, could you please return it to the Oasis clubhouse for me?

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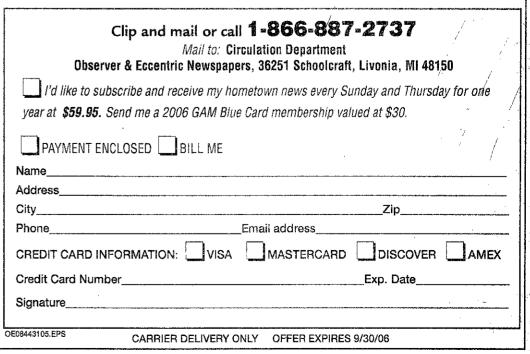
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Clancy Callahan is pictured during his first night with his new owners at the Super 8 Motel in Claremore, Okla, He slept in the back seat of the car for most of the 1200 mile trip from Gainesville. Texas to Michigan.

Raising a companion animal can be costly

aising a puppy can be costly. The rolls of eaten toilet paper are minimal compared to the money I spent to drive 2,400 miles to Texas and back for a puppy from the same blood line as Shamrock, our Irish Wolfhound who died in November. My sister, Gwen, and I tried to adopt one of the lovable gentle giants by calling Irish Wolfhound rescue organizations around the country, but none were available so I purchased Clancy



Linda Chomin

because we knew no one else would make sure he received the necessary dental care necessary for an overbite. One of my co-

workers shook his head in disbelief when I told him we went to Texas for a

new puppy, saying he would have warned me about the trials ahead. I his comes from a man who just spent \$1,000 on veterinary bills to save Sam, a rescued flat-coated retriever mix from a mysterious autoimmune disorder.

So far, Clancy's bills for treatment from Dr. Ben Colmery, the doggy dentist at Dixboro Dental and Medical Center, have totaled about the same amount, but eliminated the problem caused by his two lower canines cutting into the roof of his mouth. There's nothing worse than a cranky Irish Wolfhound puppy with a sore mouth.

That brings us back to the eaten toilet paper. We think the pain is what causes him to put everything in his mouth. He really hasn't done too much damage except to his teeth. Clancy loves to chew on rocks so it was back to the dentist for a \$224 Clancy-proof restoration to protect the canines that were short-

None of the dental work, including the pulpectomy, has stopped Clancy from eating his food or stealing my kale plants before I could plant them in the garden. Of course, he loves Dick Van Patten's Organic Natural Balance dog food at \$25 for a 12 and ½ pound bag, and the organic ground turkey, rice and broccoli meal that I cook for him every night. My sister and I want to do everything possible to ensure he lives a long life, and that costs

Of course, the toys and grooming add up as well as his constant need for larger collars. Clancy is growing fast. At nine months, he weighs more than 115 pounds and doesn't realize his size. Since my sister and I already knew it was important to learn the right way to control a big dog, the three of us went to obedience school. Clancy graduated but I guess my sister and I still need more training. In the next couple of weeks we'll sign up for advanced classes.

I'm not complaining about the money or time I've invested in Clancy. Every morning he wakes me up because he wants some loving. Several tummy rubs and good boys later he's ready to start his day, and I

PLEASE SEE COMPANION, C3



After picking out a patriotic Fourth of July bandanna for Casper, 15 months, at the Farmington Hills Pet Supplies 'Plus' store, employee Debra Jackman (left) and his puppy sitter, Kaitlyn Shariak, introduce him to new toys.

They're golden

Booming pet business ranges from day care to sports gear

BY SUSAN STEINMUELLER STAFF WRITER

On the Fourth of July, Suzy Fucini's dog Casper will wear a patriotic red, white and blue bandana. When sne and ner nusband out on their boat, she'll make sure the 15month-old Bolognese wears his own special life jacket.

Dressing up Fido and Fluffy is one of the growing trends in today's pet market. It's part of a larger trend in which people are giving their beloved pets the same kinds of things they would give each other.

Fucini knows a lot about that. Not only she is a pet owner, but she works in public relations for Pet Supplies "Plus," a Farmington Hills-based chain.

"Pets are being viewed as more part of the family," says Fucini, of West Bloomfield. "They're included on



Kaitlyn Shariak of Waterford and Casper of West Bloomfield shop for toys.

vacations and holiday get togethers, at picnics and parties. They have their own travel gear."

She credits some of the change in the way pets are treated to today's smaller families.

"There are more childless couples than a couple of generations ago, and couples having babies later," Fucini said. "There are more empty nesters."

For them, and for singles delaying families while they establish a career, "The pet takes the place of a child."

It all contributes to a pet retail and service industry, which she says "has been growing at an astronomical rate."

American Pet **Products** Manufacturers Association statistics say that pet spending has more than doubled since 1994, to an estimated \$38.4 billion in 2006.

APPMA's 2005-06 national pet owners

survey shows pet ownership is at its highest level, with 63 percent of all U.S. households owning a pet, or more than 69 million households. The numbers show that Americans own 73 million dogs, 90 million cats, 139 million freshwater fish, 9 million saltwater fish, 16 million birds, 18 million small animals and 11 million reptiles.

More households own dogs, however: 43.5 million compared to 37.7 million owning cats.

"The steady increase in pet ownership confirms that a growing number of us are realizing pets truly enhance our lives," said Bob Vetere, managing director of APPMA. "Pets not only provide unconditional love and affection, research now shows they also provide significant health bene-

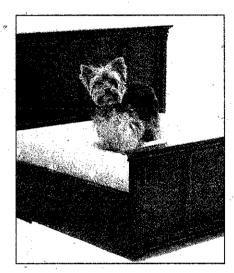
PLEASE SEE PET, C8



CANINE CRAZY - PART II

This is the second in a two-part series on the popularity of pets, with dogs leading the way. Today's section looks at how the pet business is booming, from premium retail items to individual services and pampering.

FEATURED PRODUCT



A fluffy customer tries out the mattress on this mahogany-finish dog bed at Art Van

A dog's dream bed

Art Van is making its first foray into the pet world with beyond-cute miniature beds for dogs.

"We only really just launched them a couple weeks ago and they are selling well," said Bruce Macdonald, creative director for the furniture

The dog beds are in the same styles as the ones for humans, he said. The collection has head- and foot-boards that mirror their owner's beds. The beds are 36-inches wide by 30-inches long and come in four styles and finishes: Oak, mahogany, cognac and pine. They can be bought with or without a mattress imprinted with bones and paws. The 5-inch foam mattress is encased in a removable cover for easy care. The cost: \$249.

"It's an emotional tie" that leads to the purchase as much as a decor one, Macdonald said of the beds. He said these days, pets are considered part of the family and owners want them to have the same amenities as other family members.

As Art Van caters to the "heart and home," it's a perfect fit, he said.

The company has 29 Michigan locations. In the Observer & Eccentric coverage area, they are in Livonia, Southfield and Westland.

How do I love thee? With doggy parties, special chow, clothes



Nancy Redilla's late dog, Casey, celebrated her birthday with hat, bib, cake and treats. Redilla also has parties for her current dog,

Good dog ownership runs the

It generally includes giving the dog a good diet, regular vet visits,

daily exercise and loving attention. But some dog owners go above and beyond for their pets by saying "I love you" in some unusual ways. Meet a few:

BIRTHDAY DOGS

Turkey and garlic cake with mashed potato frosting, homemade fire hydrant-shaped treats, water bowls and party hats.

Nancy Redilla of Troy knows exactly what it takes to make her dog, Max, feel special on his birth-

"It's just a love of animals," Nancy said of why she and husband, Bob, throw parties for their dog and their friends' dogs. "You know how you get a crazy idea and you just get going?'

It all started when Redilla offered to bake a cake and treats for the pet blessing at her church, Unity of

Rochester, about five years ago.

"As soon as we found out there were people there who are animal lovers — look out!" she said.

She threw her first party for their dog, Casey, who has since died. Redilla baked food for both pets and owners, bought hats and decorative plates and tablecloths.

"Just about anybody that had a dog that I knew came. They all came -16, 17 dogs maybe. Some people had two dogs. One person had three," Nancy said.

"And they were pretty quiet, too. They didn't fight or anything," Bob added. "They were more interested in eating that cake."

After playing, the dogs settle down or snooze. There's no pin-the-tail on the kitty cat, or other party games, although guests sometimes bring gifts for the birthday dog.

In winter, the parties move indoors from the Redilla's spacious backyard to their modest-sized house.

"When it turns gray outside, we

have lasagna and they have their treats and we can all enjoy each other's company," Nancy said.

HOME COOKIN'

Haley, a 7-year-old Australian shepherd, loves her duck jerky. She wouldn't miss a homemade duck and potato dinner. And she'll eat a home-baked cookie treat just about anytime.

Haley lives with Mike Dolkowski and his wife in Troy. The couple own a business in Canton Township, have two grown children who no longer live at home, and two furry children, Haley and Shelby, a 13-year-old papillion.

Dolkowski started making dog food from scratch when he discovered that Haley had developed allergies to pre-packaged fare.

"I took her to the allergist and we spent \$1,500 giving her tests," he

PLEASE SEE LOVE, C3

CONCERT SCHEDULE

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 2, 2006

MUSIC IN THE AIR

Here's the schedule for the Music in the Air concert series, sponsored by the Downtown Development Authority; concerts are 7 p.m. Fridays in Kellogg Park:

- July 7 No show due to Art in the Park
- July 14 TBD
- July 21 Those Delta Rhythm Kings, swing, jazz and blues
- ■July 28 Westrin and Mowry, acoustic rock and pop
- Aug. 4 Retrospect Band, modern hits, new to the lineup
- 💹 Aug. 11 Rodeo Drive, modern country and radio hits, new to
- Aug. 18 Fifty Amp Fuse (formerly the Crackerjack Band)
- Aug. 25 Steve King and the Dittlies
- Sept. 1 Lady Sunshine and the X Band

MUSIC IN THE PARK

Here's the schedule for the Music in the Park concert series for kids, sponsored by the Plymouth Community Arts Council, New Liberty Bank and McCully Educational Resource Center; concerts are noon Wednesdays in Kellogg Park:

- July 5 Jeremy Kittle
- July 12 Josh White Jr.
- July 19 Jan Krist
- July 26 Hometown Kids Concert featuring Phoenix, PCAC's Plymouth Uptown Players and more
- Aug. 2 elmoThumm
- Maug. 9 Gemini
- Aug. 16 Guy Louis, Chautauqua Express
- Aug. 23 Matt Watroba



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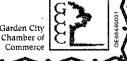
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The Afternoon Delight Summer Series program is hosted by the Garden City Chamber of Commerce. Contributing sponsors include The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and Garden City Park & Recreation Department.

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Grub crawl

The Northville Chamber presents the second-annual Northville Grub Crawl 6-10 p.m. Tuesday, July 25. Join 300 hungry patrons as they make their way through some of the best restaurants in the Northville area. Twelve restaurants are offering free samples of appetizers and signature items along with cash bar specials for our "Crawlers". Participating restaurants are Bahama Breeze, Bonfire Bistro & Brewery, Brann's Steakhouse & Grill, Deadwood Bar and Grill, Edward's Café and Caterer, 5ive Restaurant, Genitti's, George's Senate Restaurant, Little Italy Ristorante, MacKinnon's, Poole's Tavern, and Uno Chicago Grill, Highlights: Free event T-shirt, free shuttle transportation courtesy of Independence Village of Plymouth, grand prize drawing for Char-Broil Barbeque Grill courtesy of The Home Depot. Tickets are \$35 (must be 21 or over) and can be purchased at Gardenviews, Good Time Party Store or

AROUND TOWN

Northville parade The Northville Community Foundation hosts Northville's Independence Day Parade 10 a.m. Tuesday, July 4 in downtown Northville. Parade organizers welcome Scout groups, neighborhood groups, church groups, car clubs, clowns, classic and vintage cars. Anyone wishing to get into Northville's parade can call (248) 374-0200 to register. Cut-off is June 30.

the Northville Chamber of Commerce.

Stewardship network

The Stewardship Network's Invasive Plant Control Certificate Workshop Series allows whomever takes all three workshops and completes 10 hours of volunteer invasives removal to receive the Stewardship Network's "invasive Plant Control Certificate." You may also take any of these workshops individually. Anyone interested in learning more about invasive plants - their origin, their impact, best control practices and anyone who cares about our natural areas and wants to learn more will find these workshops valuable - should take the workshops: Saturday, July 15, Workshop 1, Invasive Plant identification, Island Lake State Recreation Area field component, workshop may begin indoors at Kensington Metropark, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Saturday, Aug. 19, Workshop 2, Site Assesment, Brighton State Recreation Area, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturday, Sept. 9, Workshop 3, Hands-on Invasive Plant Control Techniques, Brighton State Recreation Area, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For additional information visit www.stewardshipnet-

work.org Camping lessons Northville Community Foundation sponsors "The Fine Art of Camping," 2-3 p.m. Saturday, July 8, presented by Gander Mountain Sports. Gander Mountain's camping pro will demonstrate the basics of camping, such as pitching a tent and choosing a sleeping bag. Admissin is \$3 for adults, \$2 for children ages 3-11; children under 3 admit-

ted free. For more information, call (248) 374-0200. Movies in the park

Bay Çity

Clinton Two

Wayne County Parks and Recreation announced the schedule of movies for its popular Movies in the Park series, sponsored in cooperation with

Eastpointe

Jackson

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR



Pageant hopeful

Eighteen-year-old AmiAnn Bobo of Plymouth Township is Michigan's representative in the American Junior Miss competition - a college-bound scholarship program for high school girls - after winning the Michigan Junior Miss title in March.

Dearborn Heights, Inkster, Northville, Redford, Trenton, Livonia and Westland Parks and Recreation departments. The schedule: Friday, July 14, "Looney Tunes: Back in Action," Inkster Park in Inkster; Friday, July 28, "Madagascar," Bell Creek Park in Redford; Friday, Aug. 11, "March of the Penguins," Canfield Community Center in Dearborn Heights; Friday, Aug. 18, "Racing Stripes," in Elizabeth Park in Trenton. For more information, call (734) 261-1990.

Healthy skin "More Than Skin Deep," a program about healthy skin, will be presented 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, July 18, at the Holiday Inn on Plymouth Road at U.S. 23 in Ann Arbor. According to speaker Cindy Klement, "the health of the skin is a reflection of the health of our internal organs and overall nutrition. When you know the real secrets to natural beauty you can improve the health and appearance of your skin and improve your overall health in the process." Preregistration is suggested, to ensure a seat and a handout. Cost is \$10. Contact the speaker, Cindy Klement, at (734) 975-2444 or go to www.cindyklement.com

Genealogical societies

The Livingston County Genealogical Society meets July 6, with speaker Guenter Loepertz discussing "Records to Trace Your Ancestors in Connecticut." The meeting takes place at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 1041 Grand River in Howell, with a belo session at 6 p.m. The public is invited. For more information, call Margaret Bowland, program chair, (810) 227-7745.

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St. Mary Mercy Hospital offers a class called "Healthy Solutions for Living," 10-11:30 a.m. Tuesdays beginning Aug. 1 at the St. Mary Mercy Community Outreach Department, Marian Professional Building, Suite 412. The program is designed to help partici-

Sterling Heights

Troy

Westland

pants lose up to four pounds per week and teach how to keep it off. For more information, or to register, call (734) 655-1783.

Northville garden walk

The Country Garden Club of Northville is inviting everyone to attend their annual garden walk, featuring five gardens in Northville, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, July 12. After seeing the flowers, visitors are invited to stop by Mill Race Village, where Cady Inn will be transformed into "The Potting Shed" where complimentary home-made sweets and lemonade will be served. Tickets in advance (\$10) are available and may be purchased after June 12 from Gardenviews, 202 W. Main in Northville. For more information, call (734) 591-0360.

A summer days worth of fun never

Charity golf

helped so many, which is just what golfers at the fourth-annual Michigan Tournament of Charities will do when they play at Fox Hills Golf and Country Club in Plymouth Aug. 28. Registration and breakfast begin at 9 a.m., with the 18-hole shotgun start at 10:30 a.m. Arbor Hospice & Home Care joins Open Door Ministry, Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries, For the Kids Foundation, Joy of Jesus, Band of Angels, Children's Therapy Fund and Promise Village: Home for Children in benefiting from the generosity of MTOC and participants of the golf tournament. This distinguished golf tournament concludes with a banquet and live and silent auctions. Everyone is encouraged to join the evening festivities, which kicks off at 4 p.m. To register for this event, please contact Arbor Hospice & Home Care at www.arborhospice.org, email laren@arborhospice.org, or call 734-662-5999, extension 120. Registration can also be done through the Michigan Tournament of Charities website, www.mtocgolf.org and indicate supporting Arbor Hospice & Home Care.

Hospice training

Heartland Hospice is looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Washtenaw, Livingston and western Wayne counties. Volunteers provide services such as friendly visiting, patient transport/patient outings, errand running, grief support and clerical services. Spring volunteer training is approaching. For more information contact volunteer coordinator Candice Jones at (888) 973-1145.

Literacy Council tutors

The Community Literacy Council (CLC) is looking for volunteer tutors in Western Wayne County to help adults improve their reading, writing and communication skills. The CLC will provide training to interested volunteers. Previous experience or a bachelor's degree is not required. The council will provide free training and materials, and then match you with an adult student in your area, Call (734) 416-4906 for more information.

Grief support

New Hope Center for Grief Support is a Christian-based bereavement outreach and resource center located in Northville. Age appropriate groups for widows and widowers are provided in various locations in southeastern Michigan including groups for young widows and widowers and their children between the ages of 4 through the teen years. Groups for parents who have lost a child, adults who have lost a parent, pet loss, and other specialized groups are offered at various times of the year. All services for adults and children are offered at no cost to the participants. If you are grieving or know someone who is, please call the office at (248) 348-0115 for further information about services provided by New Hope Center for Grief Support, or

CLUBS

visit www.newhopecenter.net.

Rotary A.M.

The Plymouth Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. meets at 7 a.m. every Tuesday at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer. New members are always welcome. Contact Mark Hammar, president, Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M., by calling (734) 455-6620.

MOPS meet

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) meets twice monthly from September-May, for moms and their children, newborn-kindergarten, at Lakepointe Bible Church in Plymouth. For more information, call Crystal Johnson, (734) 459-1861.

Mosaic

MOSAIC is a group where Moms come together to be refreshed and equipped for the important task of mothering. It presents speakers on child and family issues, has small-group discussion time, crafts and brunch. Child care is provided. It meets at Plymouth Baptist Church, 42021 Ann Arbor Trail, on the first and third Tuesday mornings of each month, September to May. Contact -Resha at (734) 207-0658 or resha@juno.com

Moms Club

Moms Club of Livonia-S/Plymouth, Canton and Westland offers a variety of activities for stay-at-home moms and their children. For more details, call Birthe at (734) 458-8143 or Kimberly at (248)231-6120.

DAR

The Sarah Ann Cochrane Chapter-Daughters of the American Revolution meets the third Monday of each month except January, July and August. A group with ancesters who fought in American Revolution. Members participate in community work involving veterans' hospitals, schools and community service. Call (734) 420-2775 for further information.

German/American Club of Plymouth Meets on the third Thursday of the month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, located at 39100 Schoolcraft Road, Plymouth, Call Mary Ann at (734) 420-0857 for further information.

American Legion

Beasley-Zalesny Post 112 meets at the 1.0.0.F. Hall on the third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. All veterans that served during any of the wars are eligible. Contact (734) 459-7324 for further information. Women's Farm and Garden Club-

Plymouth Meets every second Monday of each

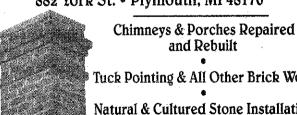
month from September through June. Persons interested in joining may contact club president Linda Coughlin at (734) 459-7478.

Plymouth-Canton Civitan Club

Looking for energetic new members to participate in community service projects. This club meets the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Plymouth Salvation Army Building on Main Street. The third Thursday is a dinner meeting with a speaker, Call (734) 981-7259 for further information.

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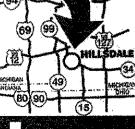
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LOVE

FROM PAGE C1

He began searching for a food that contained adequate protein, but no wheat, soybean or

"It was difficult. We said, let's just make our own. We tried fish, chicken and duck. The duck worked for her," he said.

Dolkowski adds vitamins to his mix of duck and potatoes. He often grinds the duck and dries the mixture, adding water when he's ready to serve it. He makes duck jerky as a treat and bakes his own dog cookies.

"Probably every other weekend I spend Saturday morning baking," he said.

Dolkowski said Shelby benefits from eating the same food as Haley. The pair spend their days together at Camp Bow Wow, a doggy daycare center in Troy.

A DOG WITH EVERYTHING

Truffles may be the best-dressed, most chauffeured, well-equipped bichon frise in all of metro Detroit.

"He's my first-born and only child. Even Truffles' vet said he's too much of a prince to be around another dog," said owner Patty Livernois, of West Bloomfield.

A closet full of clothing, two strollers, a wagon, backpack and car seat, indoor bathroom, customized doggy dinner table designed to ease neck strain and a specialized diet would make any dog feel a bit like royalty.

But Livernois says she has a good reason to pamper her pet.

"He's allergic to about 90 percent of life," she said, explaining that his immune system was weakened, the result of too-close breeding.

She feeds him a vegan diet, consisting of "people grade" food and chooses homeopathic and holistic medical treatment. She worked with a chemist for months, developing a skin-soothing shampoo that she tested on herself before using it on Truffles.

"He's always dressed and that started because of his allergies," Livernois said.

Livernois began altering baby clothes and dressing him in outfits when he was 1 year old, a technique that prevented him from chewing on

"His business suit is my favorite," she said, noting that he has "jammies" and more casual looks as well.

Truffles occasionally strolls outdoors in shoes, called Gooby Boots.

But most of his romping is limited to inside their condo, where his paws won't touch dirty sidewalks or chemically-sprayed lawns. He even relieves himself indoors on potty-training pads placed over tiled flooring, behind a privacy

"He's the reason I'm single," Livernois said, with a laugh, explaining that he has the run of



Patty Livernois, the co-owner of The Uppity Puppy in Royal Oak, and her dog, Truffles. The Bichon Frise has his own closet full of clothing in their West Blooomfield

the condo. "He loves it that I pay the mortgage." DOG ON THE GO

Susie X and her vegetarian, 9 1/2 -year-old poodle, Baby, do everything and go everywhere together.

And that's why the Birmingham resident requested anonymity for this piece.

"In non-restaurant situations, I do carry her in my arms. Most retailers actually look forward to seeing her and know her by name," she said.

When she goes "under cover" Baby travels in large purses that her owner has converted to carriers with color-matching mesh screen from an awning supply company. It's her "ticket to the

Susie said togetherness saved Baby's life. The poodle began having seizures at age 1. When they worsened six years later, Susie was there to rush Baby to the vet.

"My friends all knew from the very beginning that I fully intended to bring Baby with me everywhere. I have taken her to every coffee shop, country club, charity event, black-tie affair, restaurant, hotel, wedding, funeral, party, bar, hospital, flea market, theater, movie, audition ... and not to be forgotten, dates that I've been on."

Baby "knows the game" and sleeps quietly in her bag when her owner needs absolute silence, although recently while in a high-end restaurant, she "did a 'jack-in-the-box' style pop up from her

bag. "Thankfully, the manager laughed and proclaimed, 'I never saw that!"

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FROM PAGE CT

get up happy. At lunch time and after work, we repeat the routine. For years people have asked me why I'm always in such a good mood. I tell them, "if you lived with **a wolfhound**

puppy you would be smiling It's the silly things they do.

Shamrock used to turn on the hall light by flicking the wall switch with his tail. At first we didn't realize he was shutting off the light as we were going up and down the stairs. My sister and I accused each other of being inconsiderate until we figured out the culprit was our big, gray shaggy dog.

In the years to come Clancy will distinguish himself with different antics. And hopefully by next year I can plant kale in my garden. The attraction to eat everything green should have worn off by then but you can never tell. It took Shamrock three years to mature.

Linda Ann Chomin is the health and community life reporter for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers **She can be reached at (734) 953-2145** or Ichomin@hometownlife.com.

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Pets love summer too but safety precautions needed

According to a recent survey conducted by the Pet Supplies "Plus" chain, 67.5 percent of pet owners say summer is their pets favorite

A highlight is the Fourth of July. According to the 275 pet owners who took the survey, 40.6 percent of pet owners will dress their pet with a patriotic bandana for the Fourth of July and 37.9 percent will involve their pet in Fourth of July celebrations.

On the down side, 60.4 percent of pets are frightened by fireworks.

Pet Supplies "Plus" offers some summer safety tips for pets:

1. If pet owners plan on taking their pets to see a firework display make sure that the dog is on a leash at all times. The loud bangs and colors may disorient even a

calm dog. 2. If a pet has to be outside for a long period of time make sure they have access to

3. Whenever possible walk dogs on a grassy area rather than on hot pavements. Hot pavements can burn pads of a dog's feet in no time.

4. Never leave your dog in a parked car. This is the number one cause of heatstroke. On an 80-degree summer day, the inside of a car can reach far above 120 degrees within minutes.

5. The most important thing to remember is to make sure that your dog has plenty of fresh water. A ceramic or clay bowl is ideal to keep water cooler for longer periods of time during the hot days of summer. Place ice cubes in the bowl to keep it cold longer.

6. Always supervise a dog while they are swimming; they get tired just like humans. Always rinse off your dog with fresh water after swimming. Water has bacteria and parasites that can cause a dog to become severely ill.

FEATURED PRODUCT

NOT FIDO'S FATHER'S DOG FOOD

Lassie and Fido have such gourmet fare to choose from nowadays, it's enough to give "dog

food" a good name. Two brand new products tout qualities including "human grade" meat and allnatural ingredients.

Nathan's, the topselling premium allbeef hot dog in the United States, has made the same taste available to dogs with Nathan's Hot Dog Treats for Pets. It's

the first and only "human" beef brand to enter the market as a beef treat for pets, according to its producers. It comes in smoked, cheddar and bacon fla-

Meanwhile Lassie Natural Way launched in May. The products contain high-qual-

ity lamb or chicken meal and no animal byproducts, artificial flavors, colors, preservatives or sweeteners,

To tout the merits of the highquality fare, Lassie is taking her own veterinarian, Dr.

> Jeff Werber, who developed the food, on a road trip. She'll be in the Detroit area July

19 and Lassie believes in an all-natural way of eating.

July 20 at Meijer and Spartan stores to be determined, where she will also host pet adoption events.

Gridiron, Court, Pool, Arena, Greens, Diamond We're there!

REUNIONS

As space permits, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers print, without charge, announcements of class reunions. Send the information to Reunions, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48170. Please include the date of the reunion, one contact person, and a telephone number.

REUNIONS

Bishop Borgess High School Class of 1976

A 30-year reunion 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30, Fifth Avenue Ballroom and Billiards (second floor), 25750 Novi Road in Novi. You must reserve a spot in advance, contact reunion committee at bb76reunion@yahoo.com for ticket information and details.

Clarenceville High School Class of 1956

A 50-year reunion is planned for Sept. 29-Oct. 1. Sept. 29 - football game and party; Sept. 30 - banquet at Vladimirs of Farmington, \$45/person, open bar; Oct. 1 - breakfast at Leon's in Livonia. For more information call Sharon Byrnes Hawk at (248) 529-3016.



Farmington Harrison High School Class of 1986

A 20-year reunion is planned for July 29 at the Northville Hills Golf Club. Contact the website www.hhs1986.com for details. Registration is required. Deadline in July 7.

Class of 1966

A 40-year reunion is planned for Saturday, July 29, 2006, at the Sheraton Detroit-Novi, 21111 Haggerty Road (I-275 at Eight Mile Road) Novi. To register send check for \$75 per person to Ferndale High School 1966 Class Reunion, C/O Joan Rockett Horner, 951 W. Oakridge, Ferndale 48220

Franklin High School Class of 1969

Planning a reunion for 2007. Please contact Kathy Nisun (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: Kayninilu@aol.com or Kathy Shoebridge @ Klivingston@nucore.com.

Garden City West Class of 1981

Garden City West Class of 1981 A 25th class reunion is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 4 at Summit on the Parkway in Canton, For more information, please email to: gcwestclassof1981@yahoo.com



Maycock-Banfield

Phyllis and Russ Maycock of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Tracie Marie Maycock of Garden City, to John Leslie Banfield, son of Arlene and Steve Crampton of Fowlerville.

The bride-to-be is a 1996 graduate of Salem High School. The prospective groom is a 1998 graduate of Fowlerville

High School. \bar{A} Sept. 16, 2006 wedding is planned in Plymouth.



1-800-579-7355 🍫 fax: 734-953-2232 e-mail: OEObits@oe.homecomm.net

MR. PAUL H. BINNS Age 81, died Wednesday June 28

2006. He was born in Muskegon on December 19, 1924. On April 1, 1950 he married the former Margaret Kline in Three Rivers, Michigan. Mr. Binns was a 1942 graduate of Whitehall High School. He earned his Bachelors in Science Degree from Western Michigan University in 1950 and his Masters in Science from the University of Michigan. Mr. Binns was a school teacher in the Birmingham and Royal Oak Public School Districts, teaching 5th and 6th grades, until his retirement in 1987. Paul received the Teacher of the Year Award from the Birmingham Public Schools. He served his country in the US Army Air Corps, teaching aerial gunnery, during WW II. Paul was a member of the Northville United Methodist Church and the Oceana Eagles Club. He also was a volunteer at the New Morning School of Plymouth, MI, where his granddaugh-ters attended school. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Margaret of Mears; their children, Lizabeth Binns of Novi, MI and John Binns of Robert Plane, Alicia and Angela Binns; 2 great grandchildren, Emma and Evan Plane; 1 sister, Gerrie (Ted) VanderBol of Mason, MI. He was preceded in death by his parents, 2 sisters and 3 brothers. A Memorial Service for Mr. Binns will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions may be given to the Northville United Methodist

Tate- King Funeral Home 2370 N. 72ND. Ave Hart, MI 49420 (231) 873-3415



SUSAN MARIE **DESMARAIS**

Of Farmington. Age 48, June 22 2006. Beloved daughter of Willa and the late Ernest. Dear sister of Cheryl Ernest and Raul. Susan was an active member of the First United Methodist Church of Farmington and was courageous and determined in the face of many obstacles. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the First United Methodist Church of Farmington, 33112 Grand River Avenue, Farmington, MI 48336. A memorial service will be planned for later this week. For service time and place, please contact Thayer-Rock Funeral Home downtown Farmington (248-474-4131)

www.thayer-rock.com

MARK GLOWACKI

Age 52, June 27, 2006. Beloved father of Josh & Leah. Loving brother of David (Carol) Glowacki. Dearest brother in-law of Carol Glowacki. Proud uncle of Steven. Beloved son of Corinne and the late Stanley. Predeceased by brother, Greg. Interment White Chapel Cemetery. Family suggests memorials to American Heart Association Arrangements by E.J. Mandziuk & Son Funeral Directors, Inc., 22642 Ryan Road, Warren.

DOUGLAS W. LOBB

Passed peacefully in Ann Arbor, Michigan on June 27, 2006. He was Born August 12, 1936 in Royal Oak, Michigan. Doug is survived by his loving wife Babz (Barbara) Henkel-Lobb, his mother Helen Curro and sister Karen Belling of Royal Oak, as well as three nieces and nephews and two grandnieces who live nearby. A celebration of life will be held on July 1, 2006 for family and close friends at Doug's house.



NORBERT J. FLECKENSTIEN

Sonny" to close family, "Fleck" by most, age 82 of Westland passed away peacefully June 22, 2006. He was pre-ceded in death by only 25 days by his wife of 57 years, Shirley. Survivors include two daughters, Susan Jo and Barbara Ann (John Vaughn) both of Canton, three grandchildren Maxwell, Jackson, and Mitchell, and two sisters, Carla (Jack Mills) and Ann, both from Virginia. He was also preceded in death by another sister, Teddy from Union Lake. Fleck was born on July 1923 in Muskegon, Michigan to

(Meeske) Fleckenstein and raised entirely in the area. Norbert's family heritage has a link to the historical Fleckenstein Castle in Germany and he is the grandson of Muskegon patriarch Justav Meeske.. His family ran many businesses in the Muskegon area including a brewery, tannery, and banking. The only Fleckenstein business to survive the depression was the tannery, which Norbert help run during his teenage years. He was a multiple sport letterman for the Big Reds

of Muskegon High School from 1939

 42 playing football, basketball, wrestling, and track. He qualified for the state finals in shotput his junior year and was elected captain of the football team his senior year during the fall 1941 season. Upon graduation in 1942, Fleck was recruited by and joined the Michigan State (University) College football team.Norbert left the college prior to the football season beginning his freshmen year to join the war efforts. He served in the Army Air Force earning the rank of sergeant as a lead flight mechanic for the 398th bomb group of the 8th Air Force working on the famous B-17 Flying Fortress. Norbert was stationed in Nuthampstead, England and earned battle stars for Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes, and Air Offensive Europe. After VE day and returning home on the Queen Mary, he was shipped off to be trained on B-29's but the war ended prior to completion. Norbert returned to college, attending Western Michigan (University Teaching College where he earned varsity letter playing football for the Broncos. Fleck began a long career in the financial loan industry with Seaboard Finance in Muskegon. During the 1950's Fleck played semiprofessional football in the Lions organization while continuing his finance career. After many company mergers and acquisitions, he eventually retired from Chrysler Financial in 1988. During his retirement years, he tinkered with VCR and other electronics repair work and continued to follow Muskegon football, but his primary focus was helping to raise his three grandsons. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion. Please share a "Memorial Tribute" with the family to Norbert at griffinfuneralhome.com. Care and services have been entrusted to L.J. Griffin Funeral Home 734-981-1700. Contributions can be made to



Angela Hospice of Livonia in the

name of Norbert Fleckenstein.

MADELINE E. MILLROSS

Age 99, of South Lyon, formerly of Plymouth, died June 30, 2006. Madeline was very loved by her family, especially her grandchildren and great grandchildren. Survivors include her loving children, Janet (Jack) Renwick of South Lyon, and David (Kathleen) Millross of Traverse City; her dear daughter-in-law Clara Millross of AZ; her adoring grandchildren Steven (Sue) Renwick of South Lyon, Pamela Haggerty of New Hudson; Carrie (Don) Sattler of Traverse City, Julie (Kurt) Katt of Traverse City, Amy (Nate) Alger of Kingsley, and Sara Millross of Traverse City; and eight beloved great grandchildren. She was preceded in leath by her husband, Leonard E. Millross, son Leonard C. Millross, her parents, and three sisters. A graveside service will be held Wednesday, July 5, 2006 at 11:30 a.m. at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth. Rev. David Brown of Fellowship Evangelical Presbyterian Church will officiate the service. The family would appreciate memorial contributions to American Cancer Society, 18505 W. 12 Mile Southfield, Rd., MI Arrangements entrusted to Casterline



SCOTT SMITH

Age 47, a 26 year resident of Oakland Twp., passed away on Tuesday, June 27, 2006, at his home. Scott currently worked for the Rochester School System in maintenance and had been there 22 years. Scott is survived by his wife Suzy of Oakland Twp., children Samantha and Scott, both at home, and his mother, Joyce Kleehammer. Siblings surviving include Terry (Linda) Smith of Florida, Jay (Sharman) Smith of Oakland Twp. Beth Kleehammer of Rochester, MI. Tom (Ann) Kleehammer, and Jerry (Karalee) Kleehammer. Funeral services were held Friday at Sts. John & Paul Catholic Church, Washington, MI., with Fr. David Buersmeyer officiating. Arrangements by the Henry M. Malburg Funeral Home, Romeo. Donations to their childrens' college scholarship fund would be appreciat-

OBITUARY POLICY

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

Deadlines: Friday 4:30 PM for Sunday Wednesday Noon for Thursday Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson 734-953-2232 For more information call: Charolette Wilson 734-953-2070 or Liz Keiser 734-953-2067 or toll free 866-818-7653

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Miller 60th anniversary

Donald and Avis (nee Curfman) Miller of Las Vegas, Nevada, formerly of Livonia, will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary July 20.

The couple were married in Pittsburg, Kansas on July 20, 1946.

Mr. Miller is a General Motors retiree. Mrs. Miller is a homemaker. They have five children - Nancy (Rick) Dery of Holly, Dennis Miller of Hartland, Steve Miller of Las Vegas, Leonard Miller of Dearborn, and Al (Cyndi) Miller of Howell - along with 15 grandchildren, and 5 greatgrandchildren.

The Millers are former members of Ward Presbyterian Church in Northville and still have many friends in Livonia. They are enjoying their retirement in Las Vegas, and plan to celebrate their 60th anniversary with family.



Olson-Van Proyen

Stephen and Janet Olson of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Catherine Lydia, to Aaron William Van Proyen, son of William and Bonnie Van Proyen of Canton.

Aaron is a 2004 graduate of Canton High School. Catherine is a 2004 graduate of Salem High School. Both are students at Čalvin College in Grand Rapids.

Aaron proposed to Catherine March 10, 2006 along the shore of Reeds Lake in East Grand Rapids. They plan to marry in Summer 2007 in Grand Rapids.



Segal-DeMoines

Nadine Suzanne DeMoines and Jeremy Gordon Segal were married Feb. 24, in a private ceremony in The Chapel at VFW Post 3941 in Livonia. Rev. Donald Blasingame officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Sherryl DeMoines of Madison Heights. She graduated from Avondale High School in Auburn Hills in 2001. She works as a dental assistant at Professional Endodontics.

The groom is the son of Gordon and Carol Segal of Livonia. He graduated from Stevenson High School in Livonia in 2001. He works as a sales associate at Belle Tire. Attendants were Theresa

Ayers (maid of honor) and Jarrett Wilbanks (best man). They will honeymoon in

Florida in July. They are residing in Livonia.



Canine friends meet at one of three ramps on the dock in Lake Sixteen in the Orion Oaks Bark Park in Orion Township.

Dogs romp, socialize, play at bark parks

Karen Gorman tells her clients that "a tired dog is a

good dog. "So many people give their dogs up to shelters. If their dogs just had regular exercise, they'd go home and sleep at night."

Gorman, a dog trainer, keeps her E-Z Dog Park in Howell open 24-7, 365 days a year, giving owners every opportunity to let their dogs run, romp and wear themselves out on her 8acre canine playground.

"The difference between me and other dog parks in Michigan is that I'm private. I charge \$7 a visit or \$30 a month. I've got a separate area for small dogs. I don't allow children in. And there are some dogs and people I don't let in."

She checks out each dog to make sure they're suitable for dog park play. And play is just what she says dogs need.

"Let the dog have fun. That's the idea of a dog park," she said. Although customers must watch their dogs and clean up after them, Gorman suggests they also "relax" and socialize with other adults while allowing

their dogs to have fun together. "I've got seating, a pavilion. Some people come here for five or six hours. I get people from all over the metro area. On Friday nights we have happy hour. We cook hot dogs, order pizza. We always like to see if the pizza man will walk into the bark park," she said. "They usually do, but we have these visions of him walking in and the dogs ending

E-Z Dog Park and Training Center is located at 230 Norlynn Drive in Howell. Take I-96 west, exit at 145 (Grand River), and turn right. In less than a mile, turn right onto Hacker. Go 3.3 miles to the facility. (810) 229-7353.

up with all the pizza."

A few other fenced parks: ■ Birmingham — Free and open to the public, the park is fenced and located at Springdale Golf Course. From Woodward Avenue, make a right on Strathmore, a block north of Big Beaver, and follow it to its dead end at Springdale



Erica Weaver of Lake Orion (left), Tina Caldwell of Auburn Hills and Jill Williams of Orion Township watch from the dock as dogs play in the caninesonly lake at Orion Oaks Bark Park in Orion Township.



Cooling off in Lake Sixteen in Orion Township.

Park. (248) 644-1807. ■ Clinton Township —

Annual cost is \$20 annually for non-residents and \$10 for residents. Locked and located at 40700 Romeo Plank Road at the Clinton Township Civic Center. Dog owners receive a park pass card when they pay and register. (586) 286-9336.

■ Lake Orion — The 14-acre Orion Oaks Bark Park is located on Joslyn about three miles north of I-75. Vehicles parked in the lot must have an Oakland County parks sticker. The park consists of three fenced areas and includes meadow, trails through forested areas, a lake with diving dock (dogs only), drinking water, benches, tables, waste bags and receptacles. (248) 858-0906 or www.oak-

Lyon Township - The 13-

acre Lyon Oaks Dog Park requires an Oakland County parks permit for vehicle entry. It's similar to Orion Oaks but has no lake access for dogs. Located on Pontiac Trail between Wixom and Old Plank roads. (248) 432-7345.

■ Pleasant Ridge — The half-mile long by 150-feet wide dog run has benches, some parking and a water fountain. \$50 annual fee for non-residents; \$25 for residents. From Woodward, take Sylvan east to Indiana and turn left. Indiana dead ends at the park. Dog owners receive a park pass card when they register and pay. (248) 542-7322.

■ Warren — The 350-feet by 150-feet Ann Fracassa Memorial Dog Park has waste bags and receptacles, water, benches, toys and two doggy pools. \$20 annually non-residents: \$10 residents. Located at the end of Pauline, just south of 12 Mile, between Mound and Van Dyke. Owners get a code to unlock the gate after paying and

registering. (586) 751-0168. ■ West Bloomfield — The 3acre park, located at Karner Farms, 5911 Halstead, is open to residents only. A \$20 annual fee, mandatory meeting and registration required. (248)

738-2500.

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Guidelines: Personals are for adults 18 or over seeking monogamous relationships. To ensure your safety, carefully screen all responses and have first meetings occur in a public place. This publication reserves the right to edit, revise, or reject any advertisement at any time at its sole discretion and assumes no responsibility for the content of or replies to any ad. Not all ads have corresponding voice messages. To review our coma service of people / people plete guidelines, call (617) 425-2636

WOMEN SEEKING MEN

SCHOOL BUS

SF, 5'4", 189lbs, light-brown complexion, average build, Capricorn, seeks man, level-headed, goal-oriented, for friendship, possible romance. 27986357

LOOKING FOR ME?

SWF, 5'6", 130lbs, 64, great SOH, N/S, enjoys life, dining, dancing, holding hands, music, boating, quiet times, etc. Seeking a SW/HM, N/S, sincere and humorous. 2901378

NIGHT TIME DATA ENTRY ea, gray· brown/blue, Sagittarius, N/S, enjoys movies, puzzles, seeks WM, 65-75,

N/S, active, romantic, passionate, for LTR. 27988424 LET'S TALK SOMETIME

SWF, 38, mother, enjoys Harleys, rock-n-roll, good talks, classic cars, sports, amusement parks, casinos, meeting new people. Seeking outgoing, sweet, fun man w/spontaneous streak to share new adventures with. **2962910**

LET'S HANG OUT. Loving, caring, easygoing SF, 37, not a homebody but do enjoy a quiet evening with the right person. ISO special SM, 35-50, for friendship first, possible LTR. 2815673

SEARCHING FOR YOU SBF, 36, attractive, trust-worthy, down to earth, likes walks, movies, dinners, park, music, seeks BM, 36-70, for friendship, possible romance.

ENJOY SOME FUN SWF, 48, Virgo, N/S, enjoys dinning out, dancing, seeks WM, 49-57, N/S, outgoing, for friendship, possible

romance. 75975683 JERSEY TRANSPLANT SWF, 50, slender, blonde, Virgo, N/S,

enjoys foreign travel, wine tasting, and working out. Seeking WM, 40-53, N/S, for LTR. 2885454 ONE GOOD WOMAN BBW, SWF, attractive, compassion-

ate, down-to-earth. Enjoys movies, comedies, long walks, romantic evenings and more. Seeking employed SM, 38-55, to do and share things together. Must like pets.

TAKE ME GOLFING Tidy SWF, 60, enjoys fine dining, traveling. Seeking golfer, best friend, confidante, 58-70, widower a plus. Honesty, trust, a must to make a relationship work. 2976914

SINGLE PROFESSIONAL WOMAN SWPF, 45, 5' 9", average build, educated, Capricorn, N/S, loves golf, reading, gardening, dining out, movies, seeks SWPM, 38-55, N/S, similar interests, for LTR. 2983176

LET'S ENJOY LIFE Female, 51, 138lbs, seeks independ-

ent, respectful male, 45-52, D/D free, who likes outdoors, walks, movies, for LTR. 2987475

LOOKING FOR ME? Affectionate, sincere SWF, 63, 5'2", dark hair and eyes, employed parttime, enjoys travel, movies, dining out, more. ISO tall, active, openminded, lovable man to share a little

fun, possibly romance. 2959193 **SWEETHEART**

Sweet, attractive SWF, 21, petite, blonde/blue, loves sports, music, travel. Seeking fun, intelligent SWM, 22-28, with traditional values, and SOH. Charm and manners a must.

QUEEN SIZE SWF, 44, attractive, full-figured, Capricorn, N/S, active, seeks man, 40-

65, for friendship, possible romance. ☎980919 **BEAUTIFUL INSIDE/OUT**

Warm-hearted, sincere, nice-looking SBF, 39, 5', 130lbs, optimistic, healthy, secure, enjoys concerts, park walks, dancing, boating, bowling, din-ing. Seeking romantic, light-hearted, compatible man, race open, childfriendly, to share life with. \$\frac{1}{27}979954

GREAT COMPANION SF, 65, looks 55, 5'2", unique, bright, w/many talents and interests. I'm well-traveled, very attractive, healthconscious. How about you? Seeking non-smoking counterpart, 62-70.

FORMER MODEL SWF, 50, 5'6", slender, intelligence,

creativity, passion for music and dancing. Seeks partner 38-50, who is attractive and fit, to share this interests and more. 25600106

STOP HERE Professional, attractive SBF, 57, 5'5", warm, sincere, high morals and principles. Enjoys cooking, outdoors, camping, music. Seeking BM, 49-60, N/S, with same qualities, for LTR.

ISO GOOD FRIEND? Possible relationship? Read on. SWF, 47, N/S, enjoys cooking, dining out, art museums, plays, reading, and traveling. Seeking honest WM, 42-57, N/S. \$\frac{1}{2}\$857253

SEEKING COMPANION SWF, 42, queen-sized, outgoing, enjoys walks, music, life, open to new ideas. Looking for SM who wants to do things together. Must be employed

and like pets. 22909140 **FRIENDS FIRST** SBF, 37, 5'6", black/brown, easygoing, Aries, N/S, enjoys bike riding, long walks, travel, and cooking. Seeking WM, 30-50, N/S, for fun. \$\alpha\$933970

WHERE ARE YOU? Very attractive, sexy SBPF, 35, 5'2", medium build, enjoys dining out, jazz, plays. ISO SBM, 40-52, com-

mitment-minded and sincere, for

who can love me for me. 2978786

HITHERE! easygoing, sweet SF, 19, 5'5", long brown/blue, mom, looking for an easygoing, child-friendly SM,

FAMILY-ORIENTED

Beautiful, shapely SBF, 34, 5'4", likes SBF, 32, 5'5", 240lbs, N/S, N/D, reading, long walks, working out, N/kids, employed. Seeking a SM, 18movies, plays, concerts, spontaneous trips, traveling, seeks patient, understanding BM, 34-46, N/S, with similar interests. \$2971687

MUST BE HONEST SWF, 45, 5'4", 125lbs, blonde/blue, Cancer, N/S, likes outdoor activities, rollerblading, festivals, biking, seeks WM, 37-47, honest, same interests, for LTR. \$379514

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL

Attractive SWF, 50s, 5'7", 125lbs, loves all life, animals, arts, family, nature, spirituality. Masters helping professional. Seeking big-hearted, financially/emotionally secure, intelligent DPM, 48-68, for fun, friendship, depth, etc. 2892242

DIE HARD ROMANTIC Classy SBF, hoping to meet mature SBM, 45-60. I'm a very passionate,

affectionate, loving person, who enjoys a variety of activities. If you're seeking your soulmate, why not try COULD YOU BE MR. RIGHT? Are you a big, tall, handsome man? DWF, 47, very attractive, loving, fun, seeks SWM to share life together.

SOULMATE SEARCH Slim, attractive, 57-yr-old JF looking for her soulmate, any sincere, successful JM, between the ages of 54-64, please respond. \$\frac{1}{25}89875\$

LOVING LEO Widowed WPF, 53, 5'9", brown/ brown, N/S, nursing home activities

coordinator, enjoys boating, swimming, and Michigan State football games. Seeking WM, 50-62, with similar interests. \$\frac{1}{27}759316 **ASIAN MAN WANTED**

Pretty, blue-eyed blonde, 55, plussized, warm and bright, seeks intelligent, handsome man for dating. Troy area. \$27007

SOMEONE SPECIAL Fun-loving, attractive SWF, 70, 5'5", 135lbs, blonde, retired, N/S, seeks well-groomed WM, 65-72, N/S, to share life, romance, and possible relationship. \$2891247

A GOOD FRIEND SWF, 57, full-figured, 5'4", likes movies, dancing, good company. Seeking a nice guy to enjoys a friends first relationship. 2916193

ARE YOU THE ONE? SF, 25, 5'7", shoulder-length medium blonde hair, bright green eyes, outgoing, fun, loves fitness, out-doors, boating, cycling, camping, concerts, auto racing. Seeking active, fit, caring man who appreciates the same. \$\frac{1}{2}\$953694

FABOLOUS FIT FUN 50s, young at heart, female, looking for one good guy, with SOH. Enjoys biking, water, working out, and life. 2970277

LOOKING 4 GENTLEMAN

Attractive, professional, educated WF, 55, 5'2", slim, N/S. Interest include movies, concerts, comedy clubs, jazz, dancing, dining out, family ties. Seeking WM, 48-55, HWP, for lasting, loving LTR. 2973365

WILL IT BE YOU?

Widowed female, 61, likes dining out, seeks very nice, kind, caring, affectionate gentleman, 58-68, for friendship, companionship, and more.

RECENTLY DIVORCED SWF, 27, 5'5", 105lbs, Leo, N/S, LD, enjoy outdoor activities, karaoke, seeks WM, 29-37, career-minded, outgoing, possible LTR. 27976279

NEW ADVENTURES SF, 33, 5'6", 130lbs, mother, sociable, sincere, open-minded, into extreme sports. Looking to meet cool, fun-loving, honest, energetic SM, who knows how to be respectful and have a good time. 2979338

WHY NOT CALL

Very attractive SWF, 62, 5'2", blonde/ blue, loves animals, seeks hand-some WM, 55-70, for companionship, maybe more. 2987124

59 YEARS OLD ENTREPRENEUR Pretty, charming SWF, successful, kind, compassionate, lots of fun, looking for her knight in shining armor. Any sincere, caucasian gentlemen, 55-80, please respond. Hopefully we'll be each others soul mates. **5**592074

REFINED AND FULL OF LIFE Very attractive blonde, fit, energetic and happy, professionally employed, very youthful 60s, 5'3", trim and shapely, enjoys dining, travel, dancing, theater, family and friends. Seeking honest, handsome, fit, 55+, college grad, N/S, with youthful passion for life. Serious replies only. ☎652360

LET'S ENJOY LIFE SWF, 57, N/S, seeks intelligent, kindhearted, young-at-heart WM, 57-68, N/S, who enjoys traveling, camping, boating (Great Lakes or ocean),

music book stores, and laughter. SHALL WE DANCE? i am a SBF, 58, 5'3", 170lbs, attractive, intelligent, creative, articulate, seeks SWM, 57-73, who is kind-hearted, articulate, who enjoys danc-

ing, walking, traveling, movies, dining out. \$\alpha\$812098 PETITE & SEXY... SBF, sensitive, affectionate, loving, 51, looks 35, 5'1", 105lbs, NS. Seeking healthy SBM, 5'10"-6'1", to NATURAL BBW

60, who is open-minded, N/S, N/kids and can appreciate a strong woman.

ALL OF ME SWF, 50, 5'10", big beautiful woman. 300+ pounds, easygoing, N/S, light drinker, enjoys nights out or in. ISO loving, happy, commitment-minded man to share a happy, lasting, loving

relationship. 27956929 A GOOD FRIEND SWF, 50, N/S, looking for SWM, 50-55, who loves movies, dining out, long walks. Must be employed. 2969547

I LISTEN WITH MY HEART Attractive DWF, late 40s, Cancer, N/S, seeks special, no games WM, 45+, N/S, for caring, quality committed relationship. Let's create sparks and watch them fly. 2639272



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VOICES

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MEN SEEKING WOMEN

MUSCULAR GUY SWM, 46, 6'2", 209lbs, brown/blue, college grad, enjoys working, reading, travel, dancing, sports. Seeking outgoing SF, with similar interests, for friendship and more. 2431926

A SPECIAL GUY DWM, 56, 5'10", handsome and secure, seeks honest S/DWF, w/sense of humor, who enjoys travel, candlelight dinners, plays, dancing, concerts, boating, and movies. Friendship, possible LTR. 2269646

WANTED... single full-figured WF, 45-65, who believes in Jesus Christ, sought by shaven, brown/brown, N/D, for LTR. 7 954253

LET'S BE FREE TOGETHER SBM, 6', 220lbs, physically fit, retired, well-educated. I would like to meet a single female 52-62, who is understanding, loving and caring, for a LTR. \$\frac{1}{27}869189

ECONOMICALLY VIABLE SWPM, 54, 5' 11", 170 lbs, trim, Aquarius, N/S, likes music, art, golf, landscapes, architecture seeks WPF, 44-60, attractive, fit, active, financially secure, intelligent, possible LTR.

LET'S GO PLACES/HAVE FUN SWM, 48, 6'1", 212lbs, N/S, romantic, enjoys the outdoors, enjoys life. Seeking SWF, 40-54, N/S, who likes to have fun, go places, and enjoys life. \$\overline{1}2781471

LIKE ALL THE REST

SWPM, 5'8", brown/blue, fit, enjoys biking, jogging, being outdoors, mu-sic, movies, reading, concerts, good conversation, being with friends and family. Seeking emotionally available SWPF, 28-44, who is passionate about life. 2611391

LONELY TO LOVE SHM, 47, 5'4", 220lbs, Taurus, N/S, honest, hard-working, marriageminded, loves fishing, skating, seeks H/WF, 35-55, N/S, 5'2"-5'5", possible LTR, maybe more. \$\oldsymbol{\pi}\$986620

NO DRAMA HERE SWM, 41, 6'2", 230lbs, with daughter occasional smoker, loves grilled-cooked dishes, camping, and listening to Rush. Seeking WF, 33-45, smoker, for LTR. 2941236

Ready to meet great new people?

CANADIAN

enjoys music, dancing, singing, cooking, camping, fishing, animals, seeks female, 18-50, who knows what she wants. 27989793

OUTDOORSY KINDA GUY
DWM, 64, 5'11", 190lbs, self-employed, N/S, socially drinker, great
SOH. I am looking for the right lady to
spend time with, get to know and
maybe develop a lasting relationship.

WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED SBM, 6', HWP, handsome, confident, Engineer, N/S, likes concerts, plays, travel, dining, seeking SF, 33-54, attractive, passionate, loving, affectionate, possible romance. 2984967

TRY THIS ONE SWM, 21, 190lbs, bald head, blue eyes, seeks woman, 18-40, for friendship, possibly more. \$2987875

MAYBE US? Warm-hearted, honest SM, 37, 5'11", 200lbs, sandy brown hair, hazel eyes N/S, father, employed, ISO a special lady with similar qualities and interests. I enjoy outdoor activities, ani-mals, simple fun. 2981530

POSITIVE GUY Happy outgoing SBM, 48, likes boating, traveling, music, fishing, seeks woman, 35-48, with similar interests,

for friendship, and more. 2988829 HOPE YOU CALL Educated SWM, 64, likes outdoors, biking, festivals, seeks athletic WF, 50-66, with similar interests, for companionship, friendship, and more.

> MUSCULAR AND ATHLETIC

SWM, 46, 6'2", 209lbs, brown/blue. degreed, outgoing personality, enjoys outdoors, workout, new activities, seeks friendly SF, age/location open. **☎**531308

SERIOUS WOMAN WANTED

SBM, 46, looking for that special persona for LTR, someone who enjoys walks, movies, sporting events, cuddling at home. Please be shapely, independent and know what you want in life. 2692418

SECURE

WM, 58, tall, slim, good-looking,

would like to meet a nice, sweet, kind

woman to go out with and see what happens from there. \$2828139 HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU Independent, self-sufficient DWM, 45, sturdy build, carpenter, sociable,

affectionate likes boating, walks,

drives, cycling, cooking. Seeking a

special lady to share the good things in life. 27855207

CALL ME AND SEE DWM, 45, 5'9", 140lbs, father, N/S, N/D employed honest and fun likes music, movies, bowling, family/friends,

more. Looking for SWF with similar interests and qualities. 2950678 **WORTH A CALL**

SWM, 48, 6', 175lbs, N/S, homeowner, auto worker, easygoing, honest, Seeking honest, secure, attractive slim/fit woman, 30-50, N/S, D/D-free.

FANTASY/REALITY?

SBM, 50, 5'8", med-build, N/S, funloving personality, teach dancing, likes jazz/blues, quiet times, traveling. Seeking passionate SF, 20-50, slimto-med build, race open, kids ok, for sharing time with and romance. \$\pi 946417\$

> LOOKING TO SETTLE DOWN

SWM, 28, 5' 11", 150 lbs, slim build, brown/hazel, Capricorn, smoker, seeks woman, 18-40, for friendship, possible romance. 2984360

FIT THE DESCRIPTION SBM, 50, 6' 2", 200 lbs, light-

skinned, home body, Capricorn, smoker, likes concerts, cooking, seeks WF, 25-45, smoker, lady-like, independent, trustworthy, possible romance. 2984764

SHARE THE FUN SBM, 34, 6'3", 285lbs, likes having

fun, going to the movies, seeks tall woman, 23-45, for friendship, and more. 27985508

CALL ME

Male, 27, 300lbs, enjoys fishing, walking, dining out, parks, movies, seeks woman, 18-38, for LTR.

FUN IN THE SUN Male, 35, 5' 11", 186lbs, built, tattoos, SWM, 34, 5'9", 150lbs, enjoys working out, seeks WM, 30-55, physically

for friendship, and more.

☎987458 HARD MAN TO FIND

Fit, affectionate SM, 5'10", 180lbs. Seeking attractive female, 35-55. Enjoys outdoor activities, movies, cooking, camping. Looking for same qualities, and interests, for LTR. Sharon, please call back. 2972650 NICE GUY SWM, 66, 5'6", 150lbs, manufactur-ers' representative, Libra, N/S, works out, enjoys movies, restaurants, and

65, N/S. Shirley, please call back. **5**708126

summer festivals. Seeking SWF, 50-

JOIN ME? Honest, secure SWM, 73, 5'9", 200lbs, N/S, homeowner, enjoys karaoke, oldies music, dancing, keeping active, meeting new people. ISO sociable, sweet, sincere lady to share the special moments in life.

SIMPLE REQUEST WM, 59, 5'8", 170lbs, dark/blue, looking for an attractive woman to go out and have a good time with. Age

LONELY & READY SWM, 49, Italian, heart of gold, Virgo, N/S, seeks WF, 45-55, with a nice

build, ready for LTR. Serious replies only. 2860305 TRUE GENTLEMAN

SBM, 52, 5'8", 185lbs, looking for a medium to full-figured SBF, 46-54. Someone who is worldly, nice, loves to laugh and just enjoying life to the fullest. \$\pi\$912726 LET'S BUILD
Fun-loving SBM, 47, seeks BF, 3254, N/S, financially stable, likes romantic evenings. ☎982744

LET'S TALK

SBM, 58, 5'10", medium brown complexion, brown eyes, mustache, medium build, 190lbs, enjoys fishing, movies, music, sports, dining, cooking, travel. Seeking A loving lady for friendhsip and more. \$\pi\$952241 LIFE IS BEST SHARED

SM, 53, tall, 230lbs, muscular, brown hair, enjoys weekend getaways, snuggling, quiet romantic times, motorcycling, simple fun. Seeking SF, 25-55, slender, sweet and sociable to share the special times. 2955106 HIT ME UP

SBM, 26, seeking SBF, 20-29. Must ilke going to movies, reality t.v., church, and having fun. 25967301 TURNER SEEKS FONDA

Brash, outspoken, attractive, educated, trim, salt and pepper businessman, 54, NW suburbs, seeks liberal lady, whose interests include art, architecture, classical, jazz, good conversation, 46-56. 2970990 SWEET GUY

197lbs, college graduate, financially secure, homeowner, bodybuilder, seeks petite SWF, 35-50, sexy, attractive, to enjoy dining out, mo-

vies, for serious relationship, maybe

Good-looking SWM, 52,

marriage. 255073 TAKE A CHANCE Attractive SWPM, 56, s 56. sensitive, easygoing, a good listener, good-humored and fun, enjoys travel, sports, music, good food, see. Seeking romance with shapely, like-mind-ed SBF, someone to share/explore

life with. 2761586 **SHARE GOOD TIMES** SBM, 26, 6', 162lbs, slim build, brown complexion, likes movies, long walks, Jesus, cooking, seeks SB/HF, 25-28, N/S, for friendship, possible romance.

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU Affectionate DWM, 64, brown hair,

N/S, D/D-free, enjoys craft shows, fleat markets, movies, dining, camping, The Red Wings. ISO a special lady, 48-59, to share friendship, dates, possible LTR. 2 920969 WHY NOT CALL

SWM, 33, brown/green, 5'11", 160lbs, electrician by trade, goodhumored, likes day trips, bowling, playing pool, movies, more. Looking for like-minded, fit, active, good-humored girl with zest for life. **2**964027

POSITIVE PERSONALITY Attractive, romantic engineer, Asian American male, light complexion, 54, 5'8", 148lbs, fit, financially secure, caring, fun-loving, seeks W/H/A/F, 40-55, for friendship maybe more. 2514300



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Sunday, July 2, 2006



Hugh Gallagher, editor . (734) 953-2149 . hgallagher@oe.hometownlife.com

Long-term care

Everything you need to know about living in a nursing home

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN

Lynn Dickinson's first reaction to learning that Xenia Vosen owned three nursing homes was "that's gross," but then her family was faced with seeking a long-term care facility for her mother-in-law. Until that time, Dickinson had never set foot in a nursing home. Her chance meeting with Vosen was about to change her negative opinion.

Dickinson met Vosen, who holds a doctorate in social gerontology, while attending a conference on an unrelated topic in Florida in January 2004. Vosen began telling her positive stories about the nursing homes she operated in Germany. The emotional issues surrounding the decision to place a parent or loved one in a nursing home are similar in Germany where nursing homes bear the same stigma as in the U.S. Before long the two were working together on Living Well in a Nursing Home: Everything You and Your Folks Need To Know. The book was published about one month ago by Hunter House.

COPING WITH GUILT

Lynn Dickinson

Check lists and quizzes help determine which option is right for the elderly person and their family. Dickinson's mother-in-law had Alzheimer's and no longer knew where she was anymore so

> she needed 24-hour-a-day care. Dickinson started to tour nursing homes to find "a good one." She says, the biggest mistake people make when deciding on long-term care is going with their first instinct to bring mom or dad home to live with them. In the book, she goes into the feelings of guilt about the decision

home. "The first instinct is it's always bad to go to a home. The book helps to evaluate whether or not home care is right for you, why a nursing home might not be such a bad

to place a loved one in a nursing

option in certain cases," said Dickinson, who grew up in

Redford and now lives in Santa Monica, Calif. She holds a master's degree in spiritual psychology and a bachelor's degree from Wayne State University. "We talk about emotions that will come up. This can tear apart a family. Often the families seem more troubled than the loved one."

Throughout the book, Dickinson and Vosen describe elderly people living in difficult circumstances. The names have been changed, but the suffering of one 82-year-old woman who lived in a third-floor walk-up apartment in Dickinson's building was

"Every now and then I saw a face looking down at the kids playing," said Dickinson, 46. "It's really hard for people to participate in community when they can't get out. They're isolated

After a friend encouraged the woman to move into a nursing home, she not only received the medical care needed but now has a boyfriend and participates in the facility's activities. She is happier and no longer isolated.

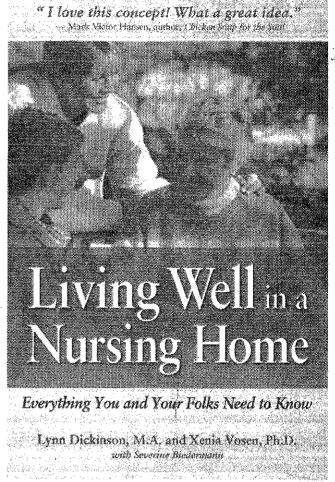
NOT AN EASY CALL

It is difficult to know when a loved one needs help with everyday living. As long as a parent is mentally capable, it's always his or her choice to stay in their home or move. If they're not mentally able, their family can use the guide in the book to decide what's right for everyone involved. When Dickinson's mother-in-law needed five full-time caregivers around the clock and she was sitting in her own living room asking to go home, the family knew it was time to look for a long-term care facility.

Depending on an elderly person's health, the options include retirement communities, assisted living facilities, nursing homes, and rehabilitation centers if there is hope for recovery after suffering a stroke or heart attack.

"We dropped Clyde's mother off at night. She was coming from Missouri and woke up in California. We worried she would wake up in a strange environment and we weren't there, but we need not have. When we walked in the next morning she was in the middle of the room hitting a balloon back and forth with the other residents," said Dickinson.

"It's knowing what your parent or loved one needs. We're not saying all nursing homes are great. Nursing home reform is something we need to get to that needs help to improve and can improve through voluntary means with pet therapy, gardening



Lynn Dickinson and Xenia Vosen wrote this book to make the decision of moving a loved one to a nursing home easier.

then they'll be there when we need them. We wouldn't think of not going to plant a flower at a parent's home, but hesitate when

Communication with staff is even more important to obtain the proper care for a loved one. The second part of the book deals with life and problems in a facility. If a loved one is complaining of cramps, he or she might tell family but not the staff. Dickinson covers when and how to approach staff for help and how to tell if a resident is being neglected. The nursing home where her mother-in-law lives was recently sold so the family is watching to see what changes, good or bad, new ownership will bring.

"The most important thing is to know that they have options. The book is an educate campaign to let people know. I've now even thought about my own self in that position since writing the book," said Dickinson. "More than 50 percent of the diseases of aging are lifestyle-related. I've started eating healthier, working out regularly. It got me thinking about my body. When people died in older days they used to spend I percent of their lives incapacitated or infirm. Now they spend at least 10 percent of their lives infirm or incapacitated."

Living Well in a Nursing Home: Everything You and Your Folks Need To Know is available at www.amazon.com, and major bookstores such as Barnes & Noble.

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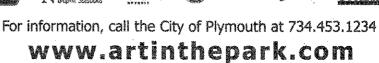


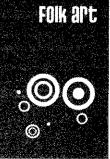












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MEDICAL DATEBOOK

JULY

Blood drive 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday July 6, the Red Cross will be hosting their annual post holiday blood drive for the Farmington Hills Freeway Park businesses and residents, at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, behind Cook Imports. To schedule an appointment, call (517) 545-7712 or (877) 505-

Divorce support

Group discussion 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, July 11, attorney Patricia Kasody-Coyle will also be available to answer questions on a first-come, first-served basis; an attorney from the firm Woll & Woll will be available 5-7 p.m. the third Monday of each month (anyone interested may sign in beginning at 4:30 p.m. that day), a certified financial planner from Center for Financial Planning is available 5-7 p.m. (sign-in begins 4:30 p.m.) on first Monday of each month, at Women's Resource Center in Room 225 of McDowell Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 462-4443.

Blood drive

8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, July 16, at St. Edith Catholic Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Walk-ins welcome. Call (734) 464-1222, Ext. 309. Health camps

The Amazing Me camp focusing on health and the human body for second-, third- and fourth-grade students 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday, July 10-14, and Aug. 7-11, at the Saint Joseph Mercy Health Exploration Station, 1600 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Cost is \$169, Call (734) 398-7518. At an asthma camp, participants will learn about what asthma really is, review personal triggers, medications, risk factors and self-management while participating in interactive games and hands-on

projects (for second-through fifth-grade students

18. Cost is \$175. Call (734) 398-7518. Camps are all

with asthma) 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, Aug. 14-

located in the Health Exploration Station, an interac-

tive health education center, where kids can see real germs grow, crawl through a giant intestinal tract, and learn about body systems.

Stress reduction workshop

6:15 p.m. Tuesday, July 11 and 25, lecture by Dr. Michael Brackney, D.C., at Brackney Chiropractic, 8524 Canton Center Road. Call (734) 455-4444. Hormone workshop

Balancing hormones naturally for women of all ages with guest lecture by Dr. Carol Fischer, D.C., 7 p.m. Monday, July 17, at the Livonia Civic Center Library on Five Mile, between Farmington and Merriman. No

charge. Seating limited. Call (734) 425-8588. Wellness workshop

6:15 p.m. Tuesday, July 18, lecture by Dr. Michael Brackney, D.C., at Brackney Chiropractic, 8524 Canton Center Road. Call (734) 455-4444.

Jingle in July run

Summer version of Jingle Bell Run/Walk to benefit - the Arthritis Foundation Saturday, July 22, run/walk along the trails of Orion Oaks Park and through the streets of Always Christmas/Canterbury Village, in Lake Orion. Children 10 years old and under can register for the Melted Snowman Shuffle for \$10. Cost is \$30, \$25 until July 12. For more information or to register, call (248) 649-2891, Ext. 232, or visit www.jingleinjuly.kintera.org.

Hospice volunteers

Avalon Hospice, a nonprofit Medicare certified hospice program in Oakland County, needs volunteers, training in your area is available evening and daytime. Each of five training sessions lasts two-three hours and can be conducted one-on-one with our trainer to meet the demands of your schedule. For more information, call Brian at (248) 320-0106.

Water aerobics classes

For moms and senior citizens, sponsored by Health Alliance Plan (HAP), continue through August noon to 1 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, at Sheldon Pool, 3123 Van Court, Livonia, and 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, at the Southfield Municipal Complex, 26000 Evergreen. No charge For registration information, call (313) 664-8420.

Cranberry juice reduces risk for urinary tract infections

Take Off Pounds Sensibly meets 7 p.m. every Thursday, at St. Thomas A' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton. Weigh-in is 6:15-6:55 p.m. It is a weight support group that encourages members to lose weight sensibly and keep it off. For more information, call Mary at (734) 394-1328.

ONGOING

Northland Pacers Walk Around the World

Endorsed by the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health and Sports, in conjunction with Providence Hospital began June 2, with free noncompetitive walking and fitness program, at Northland Center, Southfield. Each registered walker receives a passport to record their progress, and a T-shirt. Walkers turn in their mileage logs each week. The mall then updates a world map that show the progress Pacers are making in their journey. It takes 24,901.55 miles to circle the globe. One lap through the center is equivalent to one mile. For more information, call (248) 569-6272 or visit www.shopatnorthland.com. The Northland Pacers walking program was begun

Baby Signs workshop

The Parent Workshop is designed for parents-tobe and parents of babies from birth to 24 months, and caretakers. Parents learn everything they need to know to about incorporating signing into everyday life. The Sign, Say & Play class is a sixweek program for parents and babies ages 6-24 months to learn and practice simple signs in a fun, musical and play environment, series began May 12. Both programs are appropriate for special needs children and their parents. Preregistration required. Programs taught by Ruth HaberkornHalm, speech and language pathologist and certified Baby Signs instructor at The Kaufman's Children Center, West Bloomfield. Call (248) 737-3430 or send e-mail to rhh4962@aol.com. Cheer for the hometeam. read today's section



Arthritis Today

JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY 18829 Farmington Road Livonia, Michigan 48152 Phone: (248) 478-7860

OSTEOARTHRITIS OF THE SHOULDER

In osteoarthritis of the shoulder the cartilage of the shoulder joint wears away. At present no medication exists to replace that cartilage. There is no proof that glucosamine or any similar substance can replace worn shoulder cartilage. White the non-steroidal drugs like ibuprofen and aspirin can relieve shoulder pain, these medications cannot stop the underlying irritation that cause the pain.

Shoulder replacement is possible. However, in older persons, the group most likely to experience shoulder osteoarthritis, the rehabilitation needed to restore movement, is often difficult to impossible. One possibility of a failed shoulder operation is not being able to drive a car. For a person living in Southeastern Michigan, the risk of that loss often cause a rethinking of an operation.

Other treatment includes physical therapy or joint injection. Physical therapy may suffice, but if it does not, joint injection with cortisone is an option. Some physicians inject shoulder joints with a form of hyaluronic acid, but injections with steroids is the procedure of proven benefit.

Success with steroid or hyaluronic acid injections depends on an accurate injection. The injection must reach the shoulder joint if it is to be effective, but getting there can be difficult. The medical community is working on ways of guiding the injection needle to assure that accuracy. In the meanwhile, it may be necessary to repeat the injection before determining if the procedure is effective or not. www.drjjweiss.yourmd.com

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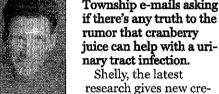
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Sharon from Macomb Township e-mails asking if there's any truth to the



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dence to that old rumor. At some point in their lives, 60 percent of women will suffer a urinary tract infection most of them after the age of 55.

Researchers recently gave a group of 150 women, with a history

of urinary infections, a daily dose of cranberry juice, a dose of good bacteria, or nothing at all. After six months, the cranberry juice drinkers were only half as like-

ly to suffer a recurrence of infection. Scientists believe a substance in the juice may prevent bacteria from sticking to the walls of the urinary tract.

To get proper amounts of pure juice, you'll have to drink 6 ounces of the unsweetened cranberry cocktail per day. That's the kind of cranberry juice you'll usually find on store shelves near you. Enjoy!

Jaclyn from Battle Creek e-mails asking what foods she can eat to help protect her

Jill, new research is coming into focus that will help answer that important question. Scientists now say that antioxidants found in green leafy vegetables, such as spinach and collard greens, can help prevent cataracts. Lab experiments show that the antioxidants Lutein and Zeaxanthin will protect the eves from ultraviolet light UV light has been found to be one of the

prime causes of cataracts.

These two antioxidants were found to be 10 times more powerful than Vitamin E when it comes to eye protection, even though scientists have been saying for years that Vitamin E was one of the best natural sources of eye protection. The research is especially important since 20 million Americans will develop some kind of cataract or other eye problem.

It turns out when mom told you to eat your spinach she was right on the money!

If you have a health or fitness question you would like answered in the Observer & Eccentric newspapers, e-mail Peter at www.peternielsen.com. Catch Peter daily on WDIV-NBC 4 & WWJ News Radio 950. Contact him at Peter Nielsen's Personal Training Club in West Bloomfield or Nielsen's Town Center Health Club in Southfield.



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FROM PAGE C1

Pet Supplies "Plus" has grown to meet the demand. It started with one store in Redford in 1988, as a pioneer in bringing supermarket-style merchandising to the field. It's now a franchise chain with more than 200 stores in 20

PET PRODUCTS, SERVICES

As the industry grows, never before seen products and services are appearing on the market. A sample of trends and offerings follows:

GOING TO THE DOGS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 2, 2006

Big-name companies are adding pet product lines. A new example: Nathan's hot dog treats. Known as a premium hot dog for people, the dog treats are premium too, using "human grade" ingredients.

Scott Samet of Petbrandz.com, which offers the product, says, "I think people are just more aware that it's probably better for their pet to give them higher quality items."

Fucini of Pet Supplies "Plus" says another trend, as with people, is supplementing food with medicinal ingredients.

"A big trend is treating

arthritic and joint conditions, because as the average age of pets is increasing with better care it is lleading to more senior conditions like arthritis," she said.

"Also, pets are not being kept outside and it's creating overweight animals. So there are lots of foods on the market that are weight control type products."

GOOD DOG

Vladae Roytapel is a Troybased dog trainer and coowner of Alternative Canine Training, which offers homebased training and approaches behavior problems from the dog's point of view. He also writes a column for the Eccentric, and is the "Dog Wizard" for local television's Fox 2. Roytapel started his business here four years ago.

"It's a tremendous market," he said. "When we started we charged \$60-65 a lesson. Now, its \$120-130 a lesson. Even

though the economy has slowed down dramatically, we still have a waiting list."

"In the U.S., dogs are like kids," said Roytapel, who previously resided in the Soviet Union and Europe. But he added he has trainer friends in India and China who report the same tendencies. "Before the dog would live outside, now they take it inside, treat it like a child.

Like children, however, they need to learn obedience. So much of his business is helping people understand how to get the best behavior out of their beloved pets, just as a canine parent would.

Roytapel is now going to franchise his business.

HOME ALONE NO MORE

One of the most recent doggy day care centers to open is the Canine Campus in Farmington Hills, providing dog day care, boarding, grooming and training. And now

your dog can go to camp, too. Camp Bow Wow in Troy, part of a national franchise company, provides "premier $dogg\bar{y}$ day and overnight camps" with live "camper cams" for families to see their dog while they're away, certified camp counselors, campfire treats, indoor and outdoor play areas and overnight cabins.

MUST LOVE DOGS

For the single looking for a partner who "must love dogs," Canine to Five, a doggy day care in Detroit, hosts Hot Dogs, a monthly singles social at which dogs and dog lovers can meet — although dogs get the bonus of a playspace.

THE BEST MEDICINE

Medical advancements in pet care include canine dialysis, brain surgery, hip replacements, cancer treatment and cataract surgery.

Michigan Veterinary

Specialists recently opened a new 38,000-square-foot hospital in Southfield. Educational offerings include a free Pet CPR/First Aid class showing how to address common emergencies and a demonstration of "mouth to

snout" CPR. Holistic medicine is also

available for pets, such as acupuncture and massage. Pet insurance is also gaining

in popularity. One might wonder: What do the pets think about it all? For instance, what does Casper think of wearing a lifejacket?

"They're your best friend and they're going to trust you and think whatever you do is nor-mal," Fucini said.

As for her, she loves pets and loves the business.

"It's a happy business. The people in the industry are happy people."

Of course, it's for the money," Roytapel said, "but also for the love of animals."

Herniated Disc Technology Discovered by **NASA Scientists**

Ann Arbor - A new free report has recently been released that reveals how breakthrough medical technology is offering new hope for sciatica sufferers. Discover how research has proven non-surgical decompression 86% successful in treating debilitating back pain. Find out how NASA's accidental discovery led to the most promising treatment today. For your free report entitled, "How Space Age Technology Is Solving Back Pain Without Drugs Or Surgery!" Call 1-800-469-3618 for the toll-free recorded message. Supplies are limited - call now. If phone lines are busy, visit: www.midischerniation.com





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FEATURING MITCH HYDER, HARE EARTH, CANNED HEAT, MOUNTAIN W/ LESUE WEST & CORKY LANGE, COUNTRY JOE MCDONALO, DENNY LAINE, TERRY SYLVESTER FORMERLY OF THE HOLLIES AND MELANIE WITH STORIES AND HOSTING BY WAVY GRAVY

THE MARSHALL TUCKER BAND WER MOLLY HATCHETT, BLACKFOOT, THE GEORGIA SATELLITES

TRACE ADKINS was BLAKE SHELTON

COMING THIS WEEK! TONIGHT • 7:00 PM

CHICAGO / HUEY LEWIS & THE NEWS ②

THIS WED., 7/5 • 7:30 PM ABBA THE MUSIC :

THIS THURS., 7/6 . 8:00 PM 1964 THE TRIBUTE • ①

THIS FRI., 7/7 . 7:30 PM STEVE MILLER BAND WSG WORLD PARTY

THIS SAT., 7/8 . VILLAGE OPENS AT 3:00 PM SAMMY HAGAR & THE WABOS was THE OTHER HALF DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

THIS SAT., 7/8 . 8:00 PM BO BICE MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

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A SUMMER LOVE featuring ADAM JAMES (*)
MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL 21

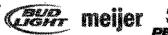
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PROGRAMS AND DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE











Joe Bauman, editor . (248) 901-2563 . jbauman@hometownlife.com

OUIGE.com**



Solid resume key to job hunting

(PRWEB) — The standard is that if a career professional truly wants to get a leg up on the competition, the equivalent of one week's pay should be invested to have a certified professional review skills and experience, and then craft an effective resume package that will guarantee that next move up the corporate ladder. So, what happens to the promising graduate that just spent the last six or seven years in school pursuing a dream, and doesn't have a weeks pay to spend on the perfect resume? Enter GradResumes.com who truly stands behind their company slogan, "Our Focus Is Your Future.

The average cost to have an entry or graduate level resume package written by an industry certified resume writer is \$236. These are services provided by reputable companies that are experts in their fields. A typical student earns \$7 an hour and works an average of 13 hours a week part time. A professional resume service equates to more than three weeks pay for the average student. GradResumes.com

is offering students a complete resume package for just \$84. The affordability is based on the company's desire to help brand new graduates, who finished school in 2006 and are having trouble launching their post-graduate careers.

GradResumes.com has completed thousands of resumes for graduates and students. Not having work history on an entry-level resume does not have to be a detriment. Analyzing transferable skills, academic achievements, community involvement and internships, the company uses its proprietary graduate "Steps System" to clearly demonstrate the long-term value a graduate can offer employers - and assist clients to quickly and

easily find the right job. The owner of GradResumes.com, Tracey Drake, said: "I believe in the importance of educating new graduates regarding the importance of launching a career, and the value of their education and transferable skills to potential employers. We are excited to make professional resume writing

services more accessible financially to even more graduates and students by offering a affordable services on all graduate packages."

GradResumes.com graduate resume writing service is one of the most inexpensive specialty services available online and packages offered are extremely comprehensive. Every client resume package delivered includes a resume in three formats, a customized cover letter, a customized followup letter and a Web published html version so employers can find applicants online.

The company does not stop at providing just a resume package. Each client also receives a free 50-page eBook, researched and written by the company, which extensively covers all aspects of a job search from what to wear and how to prepare for a telephone interview, to practicing responses to tough interview questions and researching a potential employer.

For additional information about resume writing for students and graduates, visit www.GradResumes.com.



Not having work history on an entry-level resume does not have to be a detriment.

'Me first' not so for counselors

(NAPSI) — Despite today's "me first" society, there are still college graduates who want to make a differ-

"We can tell if a counselor job applicant has a passion about our work," said Malia Kekahuna, who hires counselors for Eckerd Youth Alternatives (EYA), a leading provider of services for troubled youths. "They want to have an impact on these kids. They change society one child at a time."

EYA has several outdoor programs in eight states and is constantly looking for counselors with various majors. The programs integrate group and individual therapy, adventure, communication skills and a fully accredited educational component.

Counselors have few expenses, so many save money while enjoying an outdoor lifestyle. Skills like patience and problem solving apply easily to any career.

"The rewards are immense," Kekahuna said. "A connection with a child may last a lifetime."

EYA is seeking counselors in Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Vermont, New Hampshire, Tennessee, Rhode Island and Ohio. For more information, call (800) 222-1473 or see www.eckerdyouth.org.





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GARDNER-WHITE FURNITURE www.gardner.white.com



Onvx Waste Services is a regional Refuse Hauling company in the tri-county area. We are seeking Mechanics to support our Front-end Loader and rolloff operations in the tri-county area. If you possess the

following qualifications, we would like to talk to you.



- · At least a CDL-B required or must be able to obtain within 6 months from start date
- Have a clean driving record The ability to pass the company
- physical and drug screen Have 5 or more years of experience in maintaining and repairing of heavy
- duty trucks and trailers
- Certification a plus! Our compensation package consists of the following:
- Competitive Wages .
- · Major Medical and Dental benefits
- · Paid vacation first year · Retirement program

Onyx is currently accepting applications

3051 Schaefer Rd. For questions, please call





is looking for an experienced, poised and professional individual to provide administrative support to the company's Vice President/General Manager. This is a full-time position based in Livonia, requiring excellent verbal, written, organizational and computer skills (Microsoft Office). You will be the liaison between the General Manager and directors of the company and assist outside vendors and visitors. You will also coordinate various functions that affect the operating unit as a whole, assign work to other clerical personnel and assist the Controller and Human Resources Director as needed.

The successful candidate will be reliable and conscientious, possess the minimum of an associate's degree, and have three to five years of administrative support experience, preferably in a management setting. You must be able to multi-task, protect sensitive data and confidential information, and be able to interface with all levels of employees and their respective

Please submit resume with salary requirements (referencing Job Code EA0612) to: The Observer &

Eccentric Newspapers is committed to diversity and is proud to be an equal opportunity employer.

E-mail (preferred): employment@hometownlife.com The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers **Human Resources Department** 36251 Schoolcraft Road Livonia, Michigan 48150 734-953-2057



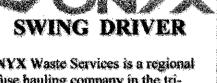
ONYX Waste Services is a regional refuse hauling company in the tricounty area. We are seeking an experienced Swing driver with 3-5 years experience in the solid waste industry. Must have a valid CDL B license and a clean driving record. Must have the ability to pass preemployment and random drug screening.

ONYX offers competitive wages and a complete benefit package which includes:

- Medical/dental/vision/401K
- Paid holidays/vacation

Apply in person at 3051 Schaefer Rd., (1 mile N. of 94), Dearborn, MI. For any questions call: 313-436-8333

For The Opportunity To Be Seen On This Page Call 1-800-579-7355 Or E-Mail Your Ad To careers@hometownlife.com



(*)

Help Wanted-General 5000

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Sunday edition 5 p.m. Friday

Thursday (Clarkston, Lake Orion, Oxford)...5:30 p.m. Tuesday Thursday (All other papers)......5:30 p.m. Wednesday

Offices and Hours: Eccentric office......805 E. Maple, Birmingham Observer office36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia Hours8:30 - 5:00 Monday - Friday

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5370 Childcare/Bebusitting

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....Summer Camos

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5729 Help Wanted-Tax Services

5749 Business Opportunities

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Needed for 70 units in

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Accountant Needed Large travel agency seeks help in Accounts Department Applicants should have knowledge of MS Excel/Word with good typing & commu nication skills. Experience with ARC reporting a plus. Great benefits incl

Help Wanted-General 5000

info@skybirdtravel.com **ACCOUNTANT**

Email resume/salary reg. to

W. Bloomfield public accounting firm seeks CPA staff accountant with 3 yrs. mini-mum public accounting exp Must have strong comptuer skills, knowledge of creative solutions, Excel & Quickbooks Exc. salary package & working environment. Partnership potential. Send resume to: Box 252591, W. Bloomfield, MI 48325

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 Office Manager General Labor

Service Greeter Mechanics Service Advisor

 Auto Body Technician Diesel Technician

You can place your ad in this specialized section for only \$46/inch (three inch min.). The Observer & Eccentric's Driver's Automotive & Transportation Recruitment Section will publish on Sunday, July 30th 2005. Deadline to place an ad in this section is Monday, July 24th at

Contact one of our Representatives for more nformation, or to reserve your space today!

1-800-579-7355 oeads@ hometownlife.com Observer & Eccentric

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Positions are full time and based out of our packaging & distribution center, located in Livonia. Responsibilities include supervising employees and the process of inserting advertising circulars and distribution activities, monitoring and coordinating the overall production work flow. One to three years experience in a packaging/distribution environment required, with prior management experience preferred. High school diploma or equivalent necessary; some college preferred. The successful candidates will also posses excellent interpersonal skills and proficiency in MS office, in addition to being reliable, motivated and conscientious.



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(referencing Job Code

PS0610) by

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers **Human Resources Department** 36251 Schoolcraft Road Livonia, Michigan 48150

734.953.2057

Help Wanted-General 5000

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All advertising published in the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the advertising department, Observer and Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 (734) 591-0900.) The Observer 0900.) The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer and Eccentric Newspapers sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspapers and early publication of paper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered; no credit will be given unless notice of typographical

Help Wanted-General 5000

or other errors is given in time for correction before the second insertion. Not responsible for omissions. responsible for omissions.
Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise preference limitation, discrimination". This news-paper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on ar equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc, 724983 3-31-72) Classified ads may be 72) Classified and may be placed according to the deadlines. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ad(s) the first time it appears and reporting any errors immediately. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers will not

issue credit for errors in ads after THE FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing provertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtain housing because of race, color, religion or national origin. Equal Housing Opportunity slogan:

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gy, financial/product/mtg plans, sales targets, customer (OEM/Fleet) relationships & collective bargaining agree-ment negotiation. Perform ment negotiation. Perform SWOT analysis to determine Ph.D., Industrial Engrg. 1 yr exp. in job or in Alternate Occupation of President & CEO. 1 yr Alt. Occ. exp. must include responsibility for setting high volume vehicle axle or drivetrain mfg company business strategy, financial product/mfg plans, sales targets, customer (OEM/Fleet) relationships & collective bar gaining agreement negotia-tion, which may be concurrent

with Alt. Occ. exp.
Mail resume to Irene Kelly, Shore Financial Services Automotive Division, P.O. Box 99074, Troy, Mt 48099.

is a full-time position based in Livonia, requiring excellent verbal, written, organizational and computer skills (Microsoft Office). You will be the liaison

between the General Manager and directors of the company and assist outside vendors and visitors. You will also coordinate various functions that affect the

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DIRECTOR OF SENIOR HOUSING-PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Southeast based company

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DRIVER/PRODUCTION Manufacturer looking to hire an individual to work in a light assembly factory and also be able to drive a straight truck when needed This is a full. time position with extended employment opportunities & benefits. Applicants must have a valid chauffeur's license, a good driving record pass a drug screen and be able to lift moderate weight.

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Lady Super Fitness chain is now hiring. If you have a strong interest in fitness, a desire to succeed & an enthu siastic personality, this may be the career for you! We offer the highest compensation pack-ages in the industry & provide a positive challenging environ ment with continuous training. Available Positions: Program and Fitness

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Growing company is in need of the following •Truck Driver- CDL A

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Exp. for shipping & receiving, must be able to load/unload all types of trucks, and inter-act with customers, keep tract inventory and must have computer knowledge. Competitive wages, retire ment/medical. Apply PO Bos 531117, Livonia, 48152

or 313-580-7787 Ask for Lucy

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HVAC Dispatcher Growing, well established mechanical contracting co located in Detroit metro area seeking to fill position immediately for dispatcher with exp. in the HVAC industry Good computer skills in Excel Access, and Quick Books a plus. Salary negotiable, paid vacation & holidays, full medical benefits and retirement plan. Good customer rela tions, professionalism, and dependability highly recom-mended. HVAC exp. appli-cants only. Call 734-287-4111

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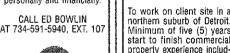
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S. Canton Center Rd. Canton, MI 48188. Appli-cations may also be picked up at the Canton Admin-istration Building, Human

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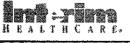
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You can do it: Tips to raise home's resale value

Curb appeal counts in selling

(NewsUSA) — You've decided to move, but the housing market is more competitive than ever. To get an edge on your competition, it's important to make your home as appealing as possible so that you can sell it quickly and at its maximum value.

Home improvement experts provide the following tips to increase the resale value of your home:

Give it curb appeal. A home's exterior is one of the most important selling points. During the warmer seasons, have colorful flowers and potted plants adorn your yard and entryways. Repaint your front door and replace welcome mats that appear worn or dirty. Also, have the grass cut and trim bushes and shrubs regularly.

Improve or replace siding. If the outside of your home is looking a bit dull, re-siding can be a dramatic and cost-effective way to improve its appearance. Companies now offer siding that replicates the beauty of real cedar, brick and stone yet requires less maintenance. If you are not looking to replace the siding on your entire home, choose certain areas for accent siding.

Remove the clutter. Excess furniture can make a room seem smaller. Rearrange or remove furniture to give your home a feeling of openness.

Address any imperfections that can be easily fixed. Look at carpets for stains; walls and ceilings for paint scuffs or marks; floors for chips or cracks; and any other noticeable flaws. Replace fixtures and hardware to improve the appearance of the kitchen and bath-



Making your home look more attractive will boost its curb appeal, making it easier to sell.

rooms. Brighten it u

Brighten it up. Lighting is essential because it can portray a certain mood and accentuate fea-

tures of a room. Open the blinds and drapes to let as much natural light in as possible, and consider installing accent lighting.

Make it sparkle. Your home should be thoroughly clean and tidy to ensure potential homebuyers see it at its best. Burn candles or scented

oils to remove any lingering odors. And don't forget about the outside: Clean off porches and decks and brush off debris from walkways.



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CLARKSTON QUAD-LEVEL New kitchen & bath, Silestone 4 bdrms, 2 baths, private lake access. 4917 Sylvanview. \$177,000. 248-343-2428

Dearborn

2273 Columbia Rd. Very clean 3 bdrm. Hadwood floors, newer siding/ windows/ roof. 2 car garage. \$179,900. Easy to work with. Call (248) 321-4270 **DEARBORN BEAUTY** 5 bedroom, 3 bath, 3-stor Since 2002 - new roof, 2 fur

> DENISE McGUIGAN 734-564-4310 REMERICA HOMETOWN III

3480 sq. ft., 4 bdrm., 5 full baths, library, lg office, 2 fireplaces, daylight bamt., select tile, granite & cabiunder \$700,000

> **BRICK DELIGHT** Curb appeal plus! New roof furnace, c/a, brick & vinv siding, concrete, kitchen & bath, 21/2 car garage, too!

DENISE McGUIGAN 734-564-4310 6231 N. Canton Center Rd

DENISE McGUIGAN 734-564-4310

Century Detroit



BRIGHTON Open House Sun 2-4 7221 Goldenrod

Elegant home show like a model, 2900 sq ft, Colonial, 4 bedromms, 2.5 baths 3 car attached garage with all the amenities, lush landscaping, security system, wood floors, 2 way fireplace, large kitchen with breaktest nock kitchen w/ breakfast nook huge master suite. Want to add you own decorating touches? Seller to contribute \$2500!! \$379,000. S

of Lee, E, of Rickett. Pat Lotz-(734) 637-3668 Real Estate One 810-227-5005

3080 Canton

BRICK RANCH 3 bdrm, baths. Built-in office. Backs to woods. Appliances included \$176,900. (734) 673-3631

Farmington

3080

BRICK RANCH 3+ bdrm, 2 bath, Fenced yard, detached garage. Many updates. \$198,000. By appt. only, (734) 748-6038

Canton.

CANTON OPEN SUN 1-4 PM 1136 Wildwood Lane

3 bdrm. 2.5 bath colonial v/attached garage, finished bsmt, huge yard, master suite, great room w/fire-place, newer deck, sprin-

Lori Rolak CENTURY 21 TOWN & COUNTRY 734-455-5600 Cell 313-729-3610

Unique floor plan - 4 bdrm, over 3200 sq. ft. Huge kitchen w/maple & granite. Jenn-aire appliances. Bonus room over



By Owner

3 bdrm coloniai, desirable Mayfair sub. New vinyl siding & gutters. New furnace & central air. Hardwood floors, granite counter tops. Many updates. Large \$239,000 Call 734-718-8511

CUTE, CLEAN, & CURRENT

3110

home updated to the max naces, 2 c/a, 2 laundry cen-ters, all windows, doors stainless Jenn-Aire kitchen. Pro-finsihed bsmt, 2½ car garage. Great location near Dearborn Country Club.

6231 N. Canton Center Ro 3115 Dearborn Hgts

REMERICA HOMETOWN III

BRICK RANCH -UPDATED! Great NW location off Hines

Park. 3 bdrm., bsmt, 2.5 ca garage. New windows, fur nace, c/a, electrical & more.

REMERICA HOMETOWN III 6231 N. Canton Center Rd



3120

DETROIT 19465 Braile St. Very nice contemporary 3 bdrm. ranch. Everything on 1 level. Many updates & a finished osmt., all the works done Agent Owned. \$118,900 Tina DeJanette 248-497-2476 Century 21 Country Hills 4102 Telegraph Rd.

JUST LISTED!

UPDATED AND REMODELED RANCH

Newer kitchen, bath, viny siding, windows, roof & more! New carpet & paint. Basement. Deck. \$59,999 26037442



Century 21 Today, Inc. 313-538-2000 www.century21today.com 3140 Garden City

and be surprised at what this
4Bdrm, 2.5 Bath 2400 sq.ft.
Colonial in Kimberley Sub
offers your family. A Formal
Living Room/Music Room, Park-like Yard, Sun Room, Family Room-Fireplace-CA Formal Dining Room-and an island Kitchen that puts everything you've seen to shame. Of course, there's also an Elementary School, Swim Club, Tennis, Baseball Field date in the Milke Field right in the sub. It's a must-see inside and out at

STEP INSIDE

www.housetalk.info Broker Open Wed-July 6, 11-1pm Public Welcomed Open House Sun July 9, 1:30 – 5pm

\$279,900 remodeled 2000

Rose Simms 248-470-5952

26452 Greythorne Trail Enter Braswell from 11 Mile 1blk W of Middlebelt

Keller Williams Realty 22260 Haggerty Northville, Mi 48167



By Owner

BEAUTIFUL 2400 sq. ft. Colonial, W/neu tral decor. Near Elementar school. 4 bdrm, 3.5 baths w/spacious master bdrm. walk-in closet. Master bati w/Jacuzzi tub. Great roon w/nat. fireplace, hardwood floors, finished daylight bsmt. Deck w/hot tub. Must See! \$369,900. Call (248) 219-6457

(Just Reduced) **BUILDER'S CLOSEOUT NEW CONSTRUCTION**

1 house to sell! Special 1 time only price. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 9 ft. ceilings in bsmt with daylight window. Beautiful area of Farmington Hills. \$199,900 (248) 515-4198

JUST LISTED!

COLONIAL 5 bdrm. 3 bath in Colony Park West features great room w/fireplace, formal dining room, gourmet kitchen & heated Florida room. Finished basement, 2 car garage. \$374,900. MLS 26109442



248-855-2000 www.century21today.com

EXECUTIVE HOME ON 1+ ACRES Custom built in 2001, over 4,000 sq. ft. w/2000 additional sq. ft. in walkout. 4 bdrm, 3 car garage. Huge granite kitchen, Venetian plaster

paint, elegant home!
DENISE McGUIGAN 734-564-4310 REMERICA HOMETOWN III 6231 N. Canton Center Rd.

Farmington Hills Open Sun 12-3 31385 E. Stonewood Ct. N. of 13 mile off Northwestern hwy Beautiful 4 bdrm. Ranch 3000 sq. ft., on double treed tot, finished lower level, 2 car garage. \$400,000 Contact Linda, 248-557-4310

ASSURED REAL ESTATE 20700 Civic St. Dr. GREAT FOR FIRST TIME BUY ERS OR INVESTORS. This cozy 2 bdrm, 1 bath ranch on a double lot has 2.5 car garage, fenced yard. Appliances included. Immediate occupancy. By appt., contact Sue, (248) 890-7715, or drive by for fiyer, 22116 Haynes Ave. Priced to sell, \$129,900.

3150 Fenton

FARM HOUSE 130 years old, well maintained, electrical & plumbing updated, 4 bdrm, 3 bath, parlor, living room, large kitchen computer room, unique separate upstairs, 2 out build-ings 30x60 each, 2.7 acres. \$205,000. 810-629-3016

3155 Ferndale

OPEN SUN. 7/9 12-3 **FERNDALE** 326 LaPrairie St. Supe clean & stunning 3 bdrm clean & stunning 3 borm.
w/loads of updates.
Beautiful hardwood flooring
on lower level & new carpet
in master bdrm. Home features updated kitchen &
bath. Gorgeous surroom for
your relaxation & enjoyment.
Tina De Jarnette.

Tina DeJarnette 248~497~2476 Century 21 Country Hills 4102 Telegraph Rd.



www.hometownlife.com

3170

By Uwner AFFORDABLE

STARTER HOME Ford & Middlebelt area. 2 bdrm, 1 bath, detached garage, large lot, 75 x 295. Name your terms, 15 yrs. 7.5% interest, \$3000 down. immed. Occupancy. Below appraisal price, asking, 734-718-3314 or

843-655-3537

BUNGALOW 3 bdrm Everything new, floors, carpet, furnace with c/a, cupboards, counter tops/you name it., on double lot. Attached garage \$144,900/best. Motivated sel-

734-604-1336 or 734-604-2491

ENTERING THE PEACE CORPS
Immaculate 3 bdrm, 2 bath ranch. Hardwood floors throughout. Finished bsmt, 1 car garage & many July 2000 Open House Sat.-Sun., 2-4pm or by appt. 32941 Kathryn. \$149,999. 734-262-1955

By Owner

GORGEOUS Close to Farmington Elementary - great location, 3 bdrm 2 bath, finished bsmt, garage All updated top to bottom

DENISE McGUIGAN 734-564-4310 REMERICA HOMETOWN III 6231 N. Canton Center Rd

nometownlife.com WELL MAINTAINED bdrm., 2.5 Bth Colonia .W/lots of updates in a quiet sub near Elem. School, whots of updates in a quiet sub near Elem. School, Freeways, and Ford Mo. Hquarters. Finshed bsmt, w/adl bdrm & bath, \$259,900. (734) 968-0454.

3200 Hartland 2600 SQ.FT. 4 br., contempo-

Hartland rary. Acclaimed schools, partial wooded lot. \$329,000, 810-632-4575

Livonia

JUST LISTED! BEAUTIFUL

1700 sq. ft, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath ranch. Spacious kitchen with dining area. Master suite, walk in closet. First floor laundry 2 ca garage. MLS# 26104691 \$299,900

Century. Century 21 Today. Inc.

(248) 462-9800 www.century21today.com **BEST DEAL!**

NW Livonia. Great neighbors. Freshly painted 4 bdrm., 2 baths, office, crown molding, hardwood floors, custom remodel on almost 1/2 acre wooded lot, 2.5 car garage. \$329,500 help with closing costs. 248-476-1003

BRICK RANCH-FSBO 3 Bdrm., 2 Car attach garage, fireplace, finished bsmt, \$199,900, 734-837-1210 or 734-655-8591 for appt.

COZY Completely updated, 4 bdrm. Colonial, 2.5 bath, inground pool, finished base-ment, 14375 Hubbard. Reduced- Must sell. \$245,900. (734) 525-0826 COZY Completely updated, 4 bdrm. Colonial, 2.5 bath, inground pool, finished basement, 14375 Hubbard. Reduced- Must sell. \$245,900. (734) 525-0826

Sell it all with Observer & Eccentric 1-800-579-SELL

GREAT VALUE! Livonia Home 6 bdrms Corner lot across park Custom cabinets, lime-

tone, granite, everythin has been renovated! Ready to move in! Superior School System Realtor Protected 38752 Allen, 48154

Call today! 734-776-4799

0&E Classifieds... 1-800-579-SELL **NEW CONSTRUCTION** 2 story, 1310 sq.ft., 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, fire-

Plymouth/Middlebelt area. \$184,900. 734-765-7211

Oak Park

3250

Livonia

JUST REDUCED!

LIVONIA 36039 Scone.

LIVONIA 36039 Scone, Schoolcraft & Levan 11542 sq. ft, ranch. 2½ car garage, 3 bdrm., 1 ½ bath, new roof, c.a., furnace, family room, deck & spacious yard. Finished bsmt., w/ office & workshop area. Mortgage support as lowes \$600/mp.

payment, as low as \$960/mo. 248-867-9295

LAST WEEK FOR SALE BY OWNER

TRULY updated 3 Bdrm. Ranch . S. OF 8 mile, E. of

Gill. Call now for amazing price. Must See!. Visit

www.20235pollvanna.com

LIVONIA

OPEN SUN. 1-4

19118 Angling St N/7 Mile, W. of Inkster

Excellent 3 bdrm, ranch war private fenced double lot &

arge custom deck. 2 car

garage w/ workshop, appli

ances stay, incl. home war-ranty, \$145,000

Linda Carrier (313) 590-5442

RE/MAX Classic 734-459-1010

for photos and features. 248-478-7066.

price.



OAK PARK 24201 Parklawn St. Picture perfect 3 bdrm. brick ranch w/open floor plan, hard-wood floors, kitchen has built in cook top, double oven & dishwasher, partially finished bsmt. & lg. 2 ca garage_\$122,900. Tina DeJanette

248-497-2476 Century 21 Country Hills 2401 Telegraph Rd.

Orchard Lake 3315

JUST LISTED! **UPPER STRAITS** LAKEFRONT 43' lakefront situated in forest. 4 bedrooms, 3.3 baths, very open floor plan with high ceilings. Master suite with marble bath and

enclosed porch. \$2,799.900 - 26091168

Century 21 Today, Inc. 248-647-8888 www.century21today.com

3347

PLYMOUTH TWP. COLONIAL 4 hdrm. 3.5 bath home on a large fenced lot is ready for vou! Updates: siding & gut

Plymouth

dows, roof, kitchen, furnace & c/a, garage floor & doorwall. **DENISE McGUIGAN** 734-564-4310 REMERICA HOMETOWN III

ters '01. ceramic flooring foyer thru kitchen. Newer win-





By Owner

BUNGALOW 19499 Poinciana, corner lot, btwn 7 & 8 Mile, E of Inkster 3 bdrm, 1 bath. New roof, garage, kitchen. Lg. fenced yard. \$118,500. 248-477-0419, 248-701-0184

JUST LISTED!

UPDATED 5 bedroom bungalow with large kitchen. Finished basement with wet bar. 2 cal garage, \$149,900 26081546

Century 21 Century 21 Today, Inc. 313-538-2000 www.century21today.com

3360 Rochester SPRINGHILL SUB 21/0 sq.ft. 3 bdrm, 2 1/5 bath. updated kitchen, windows, hardwood floors, heat & a/c, \$254,900. 248-425-3147

Royal Oak

JUST LISTED!

3370

3 bedroem ranch. Updated kitchen with bak cabinets full bath, vinyl windows, central air and electrical First floor laundry MLS#26031573. \$144,890

CHARMING

Century 21 Today, Inc. (248) 462-9800

This Weekend's

PEN HOUSES



3030 Open Houses



BRIGHTON Open House Sun 2-4 7221 Goldenrod

Elegant home show like a model, 2900 sq ft, Colonial 4 bedromms, 2.5 baths 3 car attached garage with all the amenities, lush landscaping security system, wood floors, 2 way fireplace,larg kitchen w/ breakfast nook huge master suite.Want to add you own decorating add you own decoratin touches? Seller to cor ribute \$25001! \$379,000. S rribute \$250011 \$379,000. S of Lee, E. of Rickett. Pat Lotz-(734) 637-3668 Real Estate One 810-227-5005

Brighton OPEN SUN. JULY 2, 1-4 1135 Marsh Ridge N/ Hyne Rd, W/ Maxfield Old US-23 N To Hyne Rd, E To Maxfield, N To Dove Pt, Left Marsh Ridge Owner will consider all offers. Gorgeous new con

struction on 1.67 acres landscaped. 4 bdrms., 2.9

baths, gourmet kitchen walk-out lower level; out building OK. Will pay closing costs. \$365,000 L. Novak, 248-408-7811 Hannett Wilson & Whitehouse Realtors Birmingham, 48009

CANTON OPEN SUN 1-4 PM 1136 Wildwood Lane 3 bdrm., 2.5 báth colonial

w/attached garage, finished bsmt, huge yard, master great room w/fire newer deck, sprin suite. place, Lori Rolak CENTURY 21 TOWN & COUNTRY 734-455-5600

Cell 313-729-3610

Canton Condo Open House Sun. 1-4 42743 Lilley Pointe Dr. Beautiful 2 odrm, 2 baths lower ranch condo w/ some undates. \$122,000 HELP-U-SELL

(734) 454-9535

A word to the wise,

when looking for a

great deal check the

Observer & Eccentric

Classifieds!

Livonia OPEN HOUSE SUN 12-3

bath quad. Newer furnace. Lots of updates! \$234,900. 734 981-6247 www.forsalebyowner.com/ 20675540 Farmington Hills Open Sun 12-3

31385 E. Stonewood Ct. N. of 13 mile off Northwestern hwy. Beautiful 4 bdrm. Ranch, 3000 sq. ft., on double treed lot, finished lower level, 2 car garage. \$400,000 Contact Linda, 248-557-4310 ASSURED REAL ESTATE 20700 Civic St. Dr.



By Owner FARMINGTON-DOWNTOWN Open Sat.-Sun. 1-4pm.
33100 Slocum, E. of
Farmington Rd., S. of Grand
River. 3 bdrm updated
ranch, bsmt & garage.
Move-in cond. \$180,000.
Call: 248-426-9756



FERNDALE OPEN SUN. 7/9 12-3 326 LaPrairie St. Super clean & stunning 3 bdrm. w/loads of updates. Beautiful hardwood flooring on lower evel & new carpet in master odrm. Home features updated kitchen & bath, Gorgeous sunroom for your relaxation & enjoyment. \$165,900 Tina DeJarnette

248-497-2476 Century 21 Country Hills 4102 Telegraph Rd. **GARDEN CITY** Sat -Sun. 12-5, 3 bdrm., brick ranch, large kitchen, whole, finished bsmt., 2 car garage, apple tree and lovely land-

scaping, close to elementary, park access. Must see to appreciate! Buyers/agents 1386 Sq. ft. brick colonial, 3 bdrm., 2 1/2 bath, fireplace C/A, bsmt., upgrades thruout. \$176,900. 11426 Lucerne, S. of Plymouth btwn. Beech & welcome. 226 Henry Ruff., N of Cherry Hill. 734-427-0831 LIVONIA OPEN SUN. 2:30-4:30 37661 Sunnydale Inkster. Wonderful 3 bdrm. Colonial in one of Livonia's best neighborhoods. Private backyard that overlooks park-like setting. Newer roof & furnace. ting. Newer roof & furnace. Nicely landscaped. \$269,900

Newburgh to Myrna to Huff to Sunnydale. #2605644. Steve Van Pelt, 734-429-2848, 734-669-5863. #2605644

harles Reinhart Co. Realtors

3030 Open Houses

28804 Richland St ranch w/updates & garage. \$174,900 HELP-U-SELL (734) 454-9535

LIVONIA OPEN SUN. 1-4 19118 Angling St N/7 Mile, W. of Inkster Excellent 3 bdrm. ranch w/ private fenced double lot &

large custom deck. 2 car garage w/ workshop, appli-

ances stay, incl. home war-

ranty. \$145,000 Linda Carrier (313) 590-5442 RE/MAX Classic 734-459-1010 Madison Heights Open Sun. 1-4 1306 Parliament, S. of 12 E of John R, in on Hales, 3 bdrm.,



2 bath brick ranch, hardwoods floors, finished bsmt., 2 car

MILFORD OPEN SUN. 1-4 1102 Hunter Ct. Stunning 4 bdrm., 2½ bath on 2 + pri-vate acres. Quality features neutral, open floor plan. Entertainers delight. Call Raiph 248-821-6375 Max Broock 1821 W. Maple

Open Sunday 1-4 Westland 7780 N. Henry Ruff, S. of Ann Arbor Trail, E. of Merriman. Must see, almost 1400 sq. ft., 3 bdrm. brick ranch in Livonia school district. Many updates. \$184,750.

Boyd Rudy 734-981-2900 Remerica Country Place REDFORD, SOUTH

NEW CONSTRUCTION!

Call Laura 734-968-7328 Sunrise to Sunset Realty. For the best auto classifications check out the Observer & Eccentric Newspaper.

"It's all about

RESULTS!



SOUTHFIELD OPEN SUN. 7/2 12-3 18159 Melrose. Cape cod home located in Magnolia subdivision. Lg. foyer, open floor plan w/hardwood floors, bay windows in formal dining & living room natural fireplace. This home is truly a beauty! \$189,900 Tina DeJarnette 248-497-2476

Century 21 Country Hills 4102 Telegraph Rd. SOUTHFIELD OPEN 1-4PM Cozy ranch w/many up dates, spacious rooms & finished bsmt., lots of storage, fenced in yard \$134,900. GALL MARGIE WELLS fenced in yard

REAL-ESTATE = at it's best!

STEP INSIDE

248-821-3436 Real Estate One

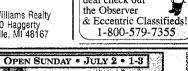
248-348-6430

and be surprised at what this 4Bdrm, 2.5 Bath 2400 sq.ft. Colonial in Kimberley Sub offers your family. A Formal Living Room/Music Room, Park-like Yard, Sun Room, Family Room-Fireplace-CA-Formal Dining Room-and an island Kitchen that puts everything you've seen to shame. Of course, there's also an Elementary School, Swim Club, Tennis, Baseball Field right in the sub. It's a must-see inside and out at: \$279,900 remodeled 2000. Rose Simms 248-470-5952

Broker Open Wed-July 6, 11-1pm Public Welcomed Open House Sun July 9, 1:30 – 5pm 26452 Greythorne Trail nter Braswell from 11 Mile 1blk W of Middlebett

www.housetalk.info

Keller Williams Realty 22260 Haggerty Northville, MI 48167



9793 WILLIS, PINCKNEY
BEAUTIFUL SUNRISES – and views of pond. Portage Lake
access & private beach area. Quality craftsmanship in this, 4
bedroom. 3.5 bath, 2560 sq.ft., updated & remodeled home that
radiates charm. Walk-out lower level. \$369,900. DexterPinckney, Lawrence to Betty to Willis. (WI2600192)

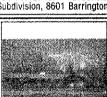








SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP Sat. Sun.1-6. Beautifully land-scaped 2001 Colonial, 3 bdrm.,1.5 bath,1,820 sq. ft., w/finished bsmt., incl. office, gas fireplace, 2nd floor laundry, spacious deck, 2 car attached garage, \$198,900. 734-717-2719. Brookside Subdivision, 8601 Barrington.



TROY - OPEN SUN 1-4 3432 Wendover Road Spectacular ranch, Birming-ham schools. 4 bdrm, 3 full bath (2 renovated). 1769 sq.ft. Updated interior & exterior. Sunny kitchen w/large eating area, pantry, desk & newer appliances. Brand new (June 2006) furnace & central air. New windows & outside trim. Extensive storage. Pass-thru fireplace. New large stamped concrete patio. Lovely landscaping on spa cious lot. 2 1/2 car garage. Designer cedar arbor & fencing. Priced to sell \$315,000. 248-644-0150

By Owner TROY: OPEN SUN., 1-4pm 1885 Hamman, Gorgeous 4

bdrm colonial. C/A, fireplace,:

first floor laundry, appliances:

incl. Close to schools. Immed occupancy. REDUCED! Only

\$229,900. (248) 561-4079

Wayne Open House Sun 1-4 33977 Currier St Nice 3bdrm, 2full bath bungalow, updated & part finished bsmt. \$123,900 HELP-U-SELL

(734) 454-9535

Westland Open sunday 1-4 7780 N. Henry Ruff, S. of Ann Arbor Trail, E. of Merriman Must see, almost 1400 sq. ft.

3 bdrm. brick ranch in Livonia school district. Many updates. \$179,750 Boyd Rudy 734-981-2900 Remerica Country Place When seeking out the best deal check out

















BUYING A HOME

Homebuyer's Seminar

There will be free a Homebuyer's Seminar 11 to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 8, at Century 21 Today, one block west of Beech Daly at 26000 Five Mile in Redford. There will be door prizes and giveaways. Speakers include: real estate attorney, title company, mortgage lender, home inspector, certified public accountant and others.

Attendees will get answers to these questions: Why do buyers receive free buyer agency representation and why do they need it? What is the difference between a private inspection and a required municipal inspection? How much home can I afford and how do I protect my credit score while shopping for a loan? How can buying a home actually save me money? How do I get seller concessions to cover my costs?

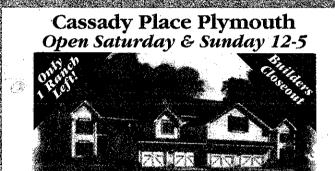
For details, contact Mel Haggood at (313) 538-2000 or e-mail pisanhart@aol.com.

Homebuyer class

A free Homebuyer's Class will be 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 11, at Fidelity National Title at Six Mile and I-275. It is put on by Rosemary Firestone of RE/MAX 100 and Michael Firestone of Golden Mortgage, There will be a home inspector present. Attendees are both first-time buyers and experienced buyers. The class will cover why it is important to be pre-approved and what that entails: what kinds of mortgages are available and to whom; how to avoid a "lemon" and have the house inspected professionally; have a buyer's agent working only for younot the seller; how to get seller's concessions to help cover your costs; how to decide on a good offering price; what are all the papers involved in writing an offer. Call for reservations (24 hours) at

(734) 420-9600 or e-mail at:

info@rfirestone-team.com. Please recycle this



newspaper

Immediate Occupancy!

30 Luxury Condominiums conveniently located in the City of Plymouth, and just moments from downtown Plymouth.

Included Amenities:

· Air conditioning • Whirlpool Tub in

master bath • Fireplace/mantle

• Garage Door Opener

Features: Two bedrooms

- Two full bathrooms
- Open floor plan • Garage • Basement
- Shown by appt.

Mon - Fri

For information call 734-604-5058 Priced at \$189,500



1451 Centennial Court

CANTON. \$509,900. This newly constructed cape cod is located in Vintage Valley down a quiet cul-de-sac and with Plymouth-Canton schools you can't go wrong! This home features a very spacious first floor with a library, dining room, and an enormous gourmet granite kitchen with fireplace, cherry cabinets, and stainless steel appliances. Beautiful hardwood flooring throughout the first floor. Three bedrooms and two full baths upstairs with a first floor master and spa bath. This beautiful home backs to a large common area and is fully landscaped and ready for occupancy!

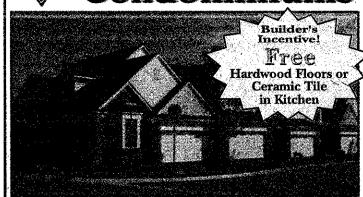
Located on the south side of Ford Rd., east of Ridge Rd. in Vintage Valley. Turn in onto Tradition Blvd., turn right onto Tradition Dr., left onto Centennial Ct.

> KIRSTEN MIKA 248-884-8841



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- Electric Range 21 cu. ft. Refrigerator Microwave
- Dishwasher Disposal Central Air
- Rough Plumbing in Basement 3 piece



For additional information call 248-926-1902 • Brokers Welcome

> www.meadowbrooktownhomes.info or e-mail writetoheidir@aol.com



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Model Hours are Daily 12:00 - 5:00 pm. **United Realty** (Closed Thursday)

B



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— Dan Elsea, President, Brokerage Services



RealEstateOne.com



LIVONIA - 3 BD brick cutie offers updated kit w/dishwasher (02), furnace w/central air (02), roof (98), windows (02), & insulated 2 car garage built in 04 w/upper level Stove, refrigerator & home warranty incl. Call Sylvia Florence-Albert.

734-216-4942



Plymouth. New construction. 2 or 3 bedroom condo w/2 car attached garage, 2.5 Bas, large deck for leisure living, for as little as \$219,900. Call for weekly specials.

(ColmbSq) \ 734-207-9701 \$219,000



Colonial w/1829 sq. ft. 4/5 bedrooms, 1.5 baths & treed private backyard. Large deck covered porch, fireplace, finished basement. Newer furnace, roof, kitchen and bath. N off Schoolcraft to Brookfield to E on Scone. Call Michael Price. 734-216-9920

LIVONIA - Excellent location in popular sub.



LIVONIA - Well maintained 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch located in Green Brier Estates Sub. .5 acre lot with mature trees. Home also has a Florida room and a 2.5 car garage. Call Larry Hatfield.

313-820-9711

\$189,900

(M16810)

\$255,000



REDFORD - Outstanding Bungalow! W/too many features to mention! Kitchen upgraded in 05, 3 baths on all levels, screened patio, finished basement, heated w/electric, 2 car garage, add t sheds. Call

313-820-9711

734-968.4959



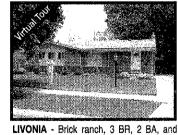
LIVONIA - Fantastic propertyl A lovely home on 1/2 acre. 4 bedroom, 3.5 baths. Beautifully maintained, deck off spacious laundry room, gar storage room attached to 2 car gar. Call Mike Judge.

\$339,900 (M19720) 734-591-9200 Ext. 155



LIVONIA - Location, quality, value, & charm! 1600 sq ft 3 BR brick ranch has it all. 2 car att garage that is heated & A/C. Provides true city home w/ a country feel. ocated on a large 85x203 tot. Call Mike

\$175,000 (M18625) 734-591-9200 Ext. 155



finished basement. Completely updated: Kitchen, new roof, windows, furnace, A/C, carpet & freshly painted - 2 car detached garage, landscape & fenced yard. Call Mike

\$189,900 (I19642) 734-591-9200 Ext. 155



sq ft of quality living area, Family room w/ fireplace, finished basement, 2 baths, 2 car garage, landscaped & fenced yard, new furnace & A/C. Call Mike Judge.

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FARMINGTON HILLS - Mint condition 3

BR. 2.5 BA condominium. A newer complex w/pool, club house w/exercise room, located in Nantucket townhouse complex. End unit freshly painted w/new carpet. Call

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REDFORD - Cozy, well-maintained home w/lrg updated eat-in kit. Mega cabs, vinvi wndws, hrdwd firs, deck, glass blk windows, high e furn & A/C new in 2000. Home

17568 McNamara of 6 Mile, W of Farmington LIVONIA - Hurry to this beautiful 4 BR, 2.5 bath colonial in Francavilla Sub! Fabulous curb appeal, family rm w/FP open to kit. Bsmnt, 2 car att gar. Clean great 500 sq ft deck. Livonia Stevenson HS. Call Kim

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great room, 2-way fireplace. Deck Beautifully decorated. Call Carol Hussey.

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developers & builders! Sewer, gas, water, electrical are at road. Lots will be nicely treed w/ walkout/viewout sites poissible. House & outbuilding on the property. Visit ann-arbor-area-real-estate.com/26379 or \$899,900 734-216-9920



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BRIEFS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 2, 2006

Builders Institute

Henry Ford Community College in cooperation with the Oakland Builders Institute will offer a builder's prelicense class to help you pass the Michigan state builder's examination. The 16-hour seminar will be 6-10 p.m.

Tuesday/Thursday, July 11, 13, 18 and 20, at Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn Heights campus, 22586 Ann Arbor Trail.

The course is for those who want to subcontract construction of their own homes, real estate investors and



developers and building tradespeople who want to work legally in Michigan. Cost is \$189 for residents plus \$20 for textbook and sample questions, \$208 for nonresidents plus \$20 for textbook and questions. Pre-registration with payment is required by Friday. July 7, to Henry Ford Community College. To register, call (313) 317-1500. Henry Ford Community College in cooperation with the institute will offer a 16-hour seminar, How To Build Your Own Home, it will be 6-10 p.m. Monday/Wednesday, July 24, 26, 31 and Aug. 2 at the college, Dearborn Heights campus, 22586 Ann Arbor

Designed for those who want to contract their own home construction as well as those who want to work with a builder, the course details each stage of construction as well as your rights and responsibilities. It covers home financing, building process, builder's terms and contracts as well as building codes, insurance requirements and more. Cost is \$189 for residents plus \$30 for two course textbooks, or \$208 for nonresidents plus \$30 for books. Spouse's discount is half the tuition.

Preregistration with payment is required by Thursday, July 20, to Henry Ford Community College, Call (313) 317-1500.

Time to sell: What you need to do when holding an open house

What are some basic rules I should know regarding having an open house?

An open house is a great opportunity to expose your house to the neighborhood. Here are some general things to keep in mind when holding one open:

The house should be immaculate. This is your chance to present your house to the public. I have seen buyers get turned off about a house because of dust. Although, the house after it's sold can be cleaned it creates a bad feeling if the house is perceived by buyers to be dirty.

Just about all the lights should be on. There is a different feeling walking through a house that is dark, rather than one that is lit up. The dark house creates a gloomy feeling. You are selling your house. It needs to be as presentable as possible.

■ You should not be there. You want buyers to feel comfortable walking through the

Ask the Realtor

Michael Aldouby

house and checking out closets. It makes most buyers uncomfortable to closely look inside a house if the owners are there. If they don't carefully examine the house there is less of a chance they will write an offer on it. Generally the more time they spend in the house, the greater likelihood that they are interested in buying it.

The best thing you can do is stay away. Go visit relatives, see a movie, do some shopping, etc. It's the job of your Realtor to sell the house during the open house.

All the people whom visit your house should sign in on the guest register. This is a security precaution. Complete

strangers are coming into your house. There should be a way to monitor who the visitors are.

Often there are nosy neighbors who will visit your house because they are well, nosy. It is still good for the sales process for them to come and see your house. They may have friends or relatives who are interested in moving in next to them.

If they see the inside of your house, assuming they like what they are seeing, there is more of a chance that they will sell the house for you. The more people who see your house the better. Also, nosy neighbors talk a lot more to others than non-nosy types, so they may be your best salespeople.

Michael Aldouby is a columnist and a Realtor with Real Estate One. He has an M.B.A. with a concentration in marketing. Please feel free to call him at (734)748-9621 or e-mail him at michaelsellshomes@realestateone.com.



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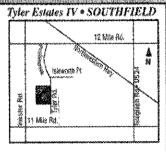


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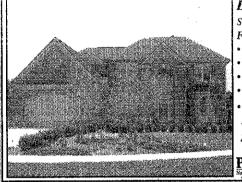
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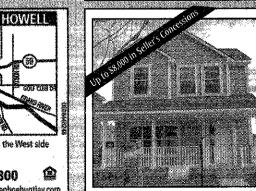
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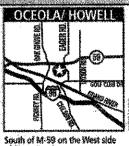
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FRESH IMAGE CONSTRUCTION



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Homes designed for narrow lots that have a quality appearance to them are always in demand. The new housing projects have many lots that need that special home to fit. The Kirby Farm (D8093) has 1,212 square feet and is nearly square in shape. It has distinctive rooflines that provide character to the front this great starter home.

The entry has a covered porch with a transom overhead. Inside to the right side is a closet, while the stairs for the unfinished basement is on the left.

. Straight ahead is the large great room with a fireplace covering nearly half of the back wall. Windows with transoms overhead decorate the balance of the area. In a front corner is a bookshelf, ideal for having a favorite book ready to read at a moment's notice.

To the right of the great room is a large nook. This eating area is enhanced with large windows bathing the room in light. For convenience, a door to the back yard has been inserted at the rear of the nook. The kitchen for the Kirby Farm is "C" shaped with



an eating bar facing the nook. A corner sink is adjacent to the eating bar and a pantry is across the walkway

At the end of the kitchen is a door leading to the utility room. An extra storage closet has been added to the utility. Another door opening into the two-car garage makes bringing in groceries or kids easier. An extra jog in the garage provides a possibility of storage or a workbench for the weekend do-it- yourselfer.

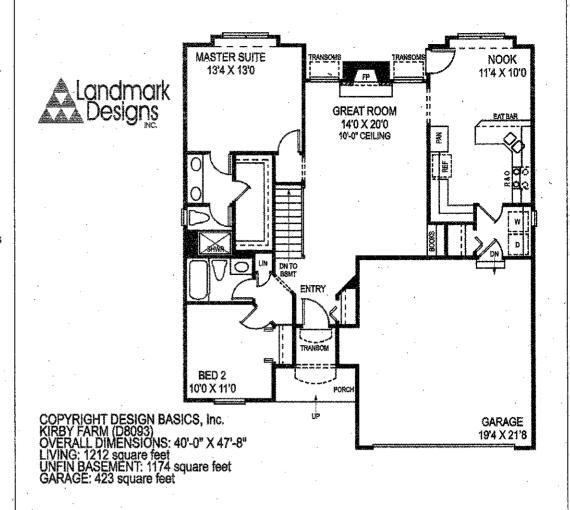
The Kirby Farm has two bedrooms, the master suite in the left rear area, and the secondary bedroom (ideal as a kid's room or nursery) in the left front. A full bath is located between the two bedrooms, along with a linen closet in the hall. This is easily accessible from the rest of the home through an arched doorway.

a large walk-in closet with twin sinks directly across the walkway. This is ideal for getting ready for work in the mornings. There is an oversized shower conveniently located beside the closet.

Entry into this suite passes through an arched doorway. and over the basement stair-

Kirby Farm has the openness of a traditional old farmhouse and could easily be expanded.

For a study plan of the KIRBY FARM (D8093), send \$15 to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Rd. E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or call (800) 562-1151. Be sure to specify plan name and number. Compact disks, with search functions are free of charge, to help you search for you dream home (\$5shipping and handling will apply). Or you may order or search online at www.ldiplans.com. Save 15 percent on construction plans using the code (input your code here) online, mailing, or calling (800) 562-1151.



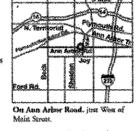
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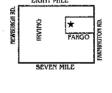
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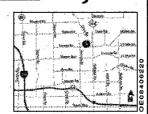


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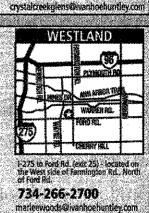
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49 Peacock network

51 Cow-headed goddess 53 Equal to the task

58 Wine served

Tavern

4 Whodunit

suspect

2 Face-to-face

exam 3 Give a wolfish

5 Ginza locale 6 — been robbed! 7 Forks over (2 wds.)

DOWN

ACROSS

- Milne bear 5 Friendly advice 8 South African

- people 12 Try to influence 13 Fish roe 14 Gossip tidbit
- 15 "— Ha'i" 16 Enter data
- 17 Half-moon tide 18 "Bad, Bad —
- Brown"
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 20 Wine category
 22 Removes, as a hat
 24 Unlatch
 27 Heavy sound
 30 Floral offering
 32 Pillow cover

- 33 Evergreen 34 Decays 35 Castle wall
- 37 Crude metals 38 Blow away

- 46 Kind of lens
- 39 Sky-high 41 Boxing's greatest 42 Different
- Nonrust coating Sporty truck 10 Actress 11 Foul ball caller 19 Unmatched

54 Geologic division 55 Inscribe Indelibly 56 Crusty desserts 57 Folk-song mule

YODEL SORBETS RIO ISMS NV SNACK LEAP OIL TWANG ACE MEAD SMEAR AL PARASOL NOH DRIP BALEFUL EDICT

Answer to Previous Puzzle

SEEDS

ROW

7-5 © 2006 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

- 21 Mountain curve 23 Corn-chip name 24 Reed instrument 25 Stock options 26 Newspaper
- - of the screen Slip up

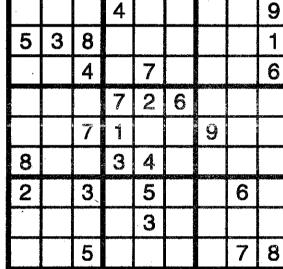
29

31 Slip up 32 Luxury resort 33 Many pets 36 Buddy 37 New York Giants hero 40 The "f" in

27 Take out of the freezer 28 Mad Hatter

guest Thurman

- f-stop Town near Des Moines
- 43 Scurries along 44 Como usted? 45 Bogie role
- 46 Use a remote
- 47 Osaka sash 48 Corrida cry 50 Car grill cover 52 That vessel



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!

Fun By The

Like puzzles?

Numbers

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!

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

ARCHERY BASEBALL FENCING

KAYAKING ROWING

JUDO

SHOOTING TENNIS WRESTLING

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

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CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE 0 / 0 1 0 7 0 7 6

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CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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Observer Eccentric



3445

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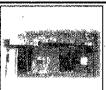
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View the Observer & **Eccentric Automotive** Classifieds on the web: Upgraded Benz E350 Rates Right Up There As A Favorite Car Of All Time

Advertising Feature

CAReport





By Dave Menard Avanti NewsFeatures

People that know what I do ask me the question all the time. What car do you really like best? It's a hard question to answer. There are a lot of different vehicles I like for a lot of different reasons. Somewhere in my top five, though, has got to be the 2006 Mercedes-Benz E350

Its a new model, replacing the not-too-shabby E320, and its nice to look at and fun to drive. The E350, which also comes in a wagon configuration, is what I call a personal sedan -not so large as to lose all road feel and be difficult to maneuver, and not so small that its ride is uncomfortable and its space too tight. It just feels like a part of you when you drive it.

You can tell it's a Mercedes right away. It's got the distinctive front fascia of a Mercedes, larger outside headlamps with smaller inside lamps and the classic Mercedes hood ornament. The lines are sharp and clean. Although there wasn t one on the test car, you can get an AMG Sport package for the E350 that includes an ANGdesign sculpted front air dam and rear apron, dual polished chrome exhaust tips and 18-inch wheels with performance tires. Even without the sport package, though, the E350 looks nice.

The E350 is powered by a 3.5-liter V-6, featuring four valves per cylinder, double-overhead camshafts and variable valve timing for both intake and exhaust valves. The engine is rated at 268 horsepower, which is an increase of 20 percent over the 3.2-liter engine it replaces, and 258 lb.-ft. of torque.

The good news is that six cylinders are enough to give you a nice shot of power off the line (0-60 in 6.5 seconds) and more-than-adequate passing power, and its rated at 19 mpg city and 27 on the highway. The bad news is that it takes premium fuel.

It's mated to a very smooth transmission. It's a sevenspeed automatic with touch shift. You can do the shifting yourself, if you care to, but I never felt the need. With seven gears to choose from, the shift points always seemed to be properly spaced and, at times, almost unnoticeable.

Where the E350 really shines, though, is in how it handles. It seems to almost anticipate the road ahead and quickly compensates for twists and turns. It corners very well -you almost look forward to them.



2006 Mercedes-Benz E350 (sedan). Vehicle class: Midsize car. Power: 3.5-liter V-6 engine. Where built: Sindelfingen, Germany. Mileage: 19 city / 27 highway. Base price: \$50,050. Price as tested: \$54,465.

The suspension is a four-wheel independent system, with coil springs up front and a five-link system with gas shocks and stabilizer bar in the rear. The ride is smooth and quiet without losing road feel. There is an optional air suspension system available, which uses sensors to monitor road conditions to select suspension settings.

Power-assisted rack-and-pinion steering, electronic stability program and traction control are standard, and the power-assisted four-wheel ABS brakes are excellent.

Inside, Mercedes has given the E350 a nice combination of sportiness and luxury. The standard 10way power-adjustable leather seats (which can be heated as part of an option package) provide great support, and it's easy to find a good driving position.

The cockpit features woodgrain inserts and a center console that's also woodgrain. The console opens to reveal two cupholders and a storage area (there's also a small storage bin that slides out of the passenger's side of the

The instrument panel is well laid-out and features a computer message center in the middle. While I m old school enough to prefer an analog fuel gauge, the vertical bar gauge is fine.

There's plenty of leg room, even for tall drivers. Hip and shoulder room are not a problem, either. The trunk area is roomy and you can drop the rear seats down for even more cargo space.

The E350 comes with automatic climate control. power tilt steering wheel, power windows, cruise control,

The standard audio system on the E350 is an AM/FM/ weatherband/CD system with nine speakers and surround sound. As impressive as it is, you can opt for an even more impressive harmon-kardon LOGIC7 system, with sevenchannel digital surround sound, 12 speakers and 420 watts of total power.

You can also add a DVD-based navigation system. It s not as intuitive as some others I ve seen, but it provides an attractive display and will do the job for which

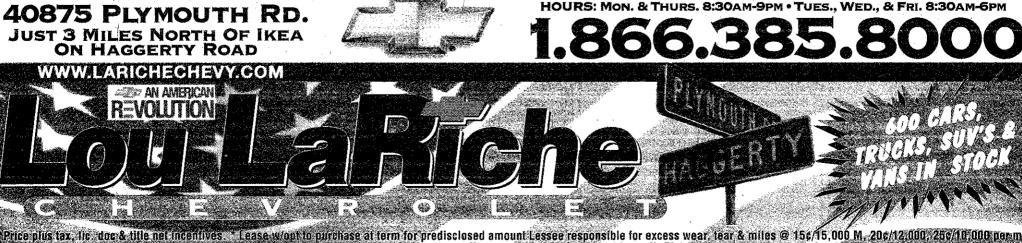
The E350 comes with adaptive dual-stage front airbags; in less severe crashes only the first stage of the air bag will deploy, while both stages will deploy in more serious crashes. Side airbags are also included and the E350 has a rollover sensor that will deploy the side airbags in the case of an imminent rollover. Also included are active front head restraints. In the event of a rear collision, the head restraints move forward to support the head and help reduce whiplash injuries.

As much as you might love the E350, it does come at a price. It starts at about \$50,000. Add the sunroof, navigation system, heated seats and rear sunshade (it s all part of a package) and you re up around \$54,500. And this doesn't include the AMG sport package. Not cheap but you get a lot of car for your money.

At the beginning of this story I said I really liked the

350. I never said I could afford it. Write Dave Menard at avanti1054@aol.com <





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Observer & Eccentric



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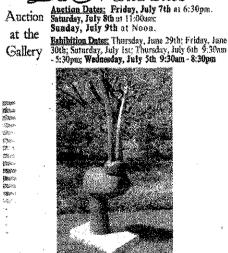
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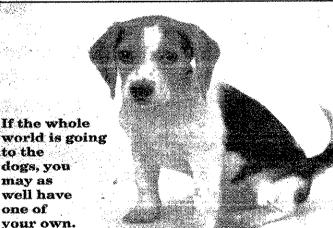
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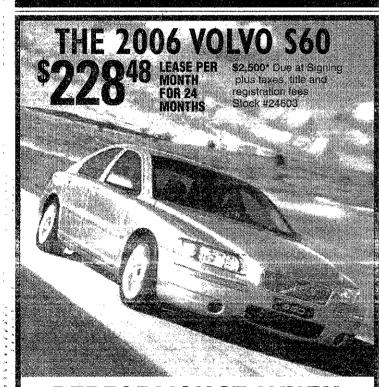
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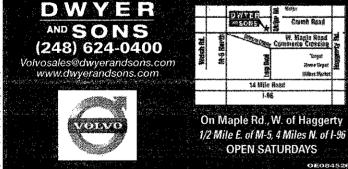
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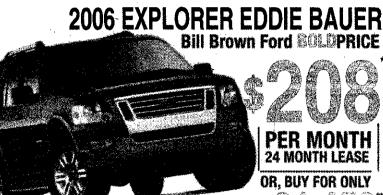


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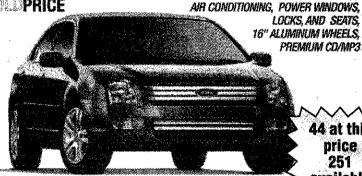


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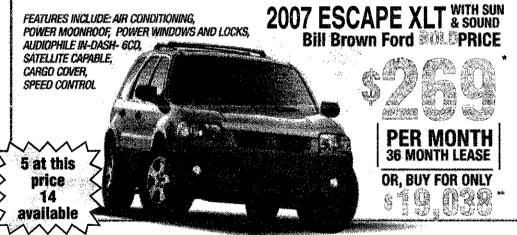
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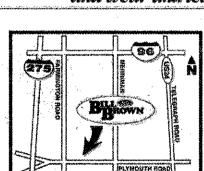
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