

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



StyleScopes 2005
Your fashion forecast
for the New Year.
PINK, INSERTED SECTION

Not just for kids
Local comic book
stores cater to adults.
LIFE, SECTION B



Buzzer beater
RU clips CC on
last-second hoop.
SPORTS, PAGE A8



SUNDAY
December 26 2004
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Observer



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Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm believes 2005 is going to be a great year for us - a year of job growth, not straight up, but on a subtle trajectory. Granholm made the remarks during a Dec. 16 press conference in Lansing.

Granholm at midterm

Governor says 2005 will be a great year of job growth, tax reform

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Despite the fact Michigan's unemployment rate is among the highest in the nation and her approval rating is starting to take a beating, Gov. Jennifer Granholm believes the state has taken a turn for the better. "2005 is going to be a great year for us," said Granholm during an

end-of-the-year news conference in Lansing Dec. 16, the mid-point of her first, four-year term. "It's going to be a year of job growth, not straight up, but on a subtle trajectory." Despite an unemployment rate that hovers at 7 percent - the national average is 5.4 percent - Granholm said it's still lower than last year and the state is on the right path. But Granholm does

acknowledge the state's future still rides with the automotive industry. "We know the state is in a challenging economic time because of the reliance on the auto sector," said Granholm. "The Big Three's (General Motors, Ford and DaimlerChrysler) share of the market has been declining, and that poses a challenge for us. That's why we have to focus on

diversifying the economy and creating an environment for growth in areas in addition to the auto sector."

STEMMING JOB LOSSES

Granholm's own upbeat outlook partially has to do with the improvement in job loss numbers.

PLEASE SEE **GRANHOLM, A5**

MADD offers rides home on New Year's Eve

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER

If you have too much to drink this New Year's Eve, there's a safe way to get home. Mothers Against Drunk Driving chapters for Wayne and Oakland counties will again offer Project LifeRide. "This is the 20th year," said Ne'chole McClendon, Wayne County MADD chapter

director. "It's very popular. People are calling to see if we're continuing to do this program." The Project LifeRide phone won't be operable until Dec. 31, she added. Those seeking information prior to then can call Wayne County MADD at (734) 721-8181 or Oakland County MADD at (248) 682-2220. For New Year's Eve, the Project LifeRide phone

'It's very popular. People are calling to see if we're continuing to do this program.'

Ne'chole McClendon
Wayne Co. MADD director

PLEASE SEE **RIDES, A3**

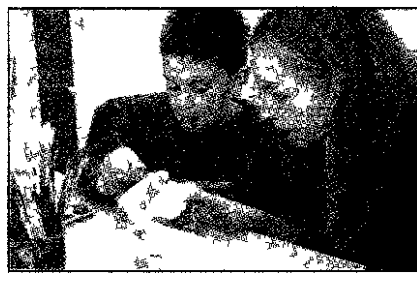
Kids, parents seek out holiday break activities

BY BRAD KADRIC
STAFF WRITER

The holiday season annually brings a lot of shopping, eating, parties and fun. For children, it also brings a two-week break from the rigors of school. For parents, that means two weeks of having their kids underfoot and scrambling to find things for them to do that don't involve staring at a television or a computer screen. That translates into added holiday business for places like bowling alleys, movie theaters, museums, fitness centers and the like. No question about it, business picks up over the

holiday break," said Greg Wolcott, district vice president for the Livonia YMCA. "One of the things we have is an area next to our fieldhouse called 'The Zone,' for children ages 8-14 to participate in a variety of things. Mom and Dad can drop kids off to participate, and then go work out or whatever." Most places which feature children's activities on a continuing basis pick up the pace a little bit during the holidays. For instance, the Plymouth YMCA offers a Winter Break Camp Dec. 27-29 for children ages kindergarten-fifth grade. Campers take field trips and do crafts, games and much more.

PLEASE SEE **ACTIVITIES, A6**



TOM HANLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Scott Larabell, 11, of Plymouth, works on his snowman mug with his 18-year-old sister, Lisa, at Oasis Pottery in downtown Plymouth. Scott said he has been there with his friends before and enjoys spending time at the store.

Shoppers, shovelers brave snow

Leaning on his shovel, 69-year-old Lorenzo Boldrin took a break Thursday from shoveling snow in front of his house on Westbrook in Livonia. "I was coming home from Ann Arbor last night around 10:30 and I saw just a few flakes falling," he said. "This morning, I got up and looked out, and this is it," Boldrin said, smiling and gesturing toward the snow that covered his front yard.

The snow didn't stop shoppers from going to Laurel Park Place to get their last-minute Christmas shopping done.

Like others across the area, Boldrin worked all morning to dig out from the first winter storm to dump significant amounts of snow on southeast Michigan.

The snow didn't stop shoppers from going to Laurel Park Place to get their last-minute Christmas shopping done.

"I need to get four or five more things," Paul Nolte, 35, of Westland said, walking into the mall.

He braved the weather, he said, because it had to be done. "As to whether he wanted snow for the holidays, Nolte said, 'I don't feel strongly one way or the other.'"

Moments later, 19-year-old Jayna Graham of Westland walked into the mall with her bundled-up baby, Jonah, just eight days old.

"I'm shopping for my mother," said Graham, accompanied by Kathleen Tadlock, an aunt visiting from Seattle.

"We're both from the Upper Peninsula originally, so we're used to this kind of snow," Graham said. "This is like October."

Graham and Tadlock gave pause before going out into the winter's first major storm, but they decided

PLEASE SEE **SNOW, A3**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mike Hall should win a good neighbor award. The Livonia resident fired up his snowblower as the snow was still falling and cleared sidewalks for at least 14 of his Barkley Street neighbors.

Coming Thursday in Filter

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INDEX

Apartments	E4	Obituaries	B7
Classified Index	E2	Observer Life	B1
Crossword Puzzle	E4	New Homes	B8
For The Record	A4	Real Estate	E2
Health	B6	Service Guide	E6
Jobs	E7	Sports	A8



Preschool's goodwill heads overseas

Children, family members and friends of the Northville Co-Op Preschool collected boxes filled with needed items for U.S. military troops in Baghdad. The youngsters attending the school live in Farmington Hills, Livonia, Plymouth, Westland, Northville, Novi, South Lyon and Canton.

The project got underway when Annette McGowan, the school's Community Outreach Coordinator, contacted the Navy Recruiting District Michigan.

"My brother, Lance Cpl. Paul Buoniconiti from the Marine Corps, will be joining the Alpha Company 2nd Trac in Iraq sometime in January," said McGowan. "Many of us in the community are affected personally by having a relative or knowing someone who has been or will be sent overseas. We wanted to get a jumpstart on helping military members have an enjoyable holiday season."

When she learned of the Support-our-Troops Drive that was being sponsored by Madison Heights VFW Post 9507, American Legion Post 354 and Augies Bar and Grill, McGowan wasted no time. She had less than 10 days to collect items for transporting to Baghdad. With the help of Janine Bachat, teacher for 2-year-olds, Sue Jarvela, teacher for 3-year-olds, Susan Collins, teacher for 4-year-olds, school helpers and par-



Three-year-olds at the Northville Co-op Preschool share their message for the troops in Iraq.

ents, a generous amount of time and resources were utilized. The collective efforts were well spent. Navy Recruiter and VFW member Petty Officer Justin Tripp, from Navy Recruiting District Madison Heights, loaded a truck full of boxes that will go onboard a plane to Baghdad, which will soon depart.

For more information on supporting the troops, in addition to "Any Servicemember," there are other ways to reach the troops.

■ "Operation USO Care Package" at http://www.uso.org/pubs/93_325_1391.cfm

■ DoD Launches "America Supports You" to Showcase Support for Troops http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Nov2004/n11192004_2004111908.html

■ America Supports You: Operation Dear Abby Uses E-mail http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Dec2004/n12022004_2004120206.html

Holiday shoppers return for exchanges and deals

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER

For retailers across western Wayne County, it might be hard to tell the difference between the crowds of last-minute shoppers the day before Christmas and those who rush back Dec. 26.

One noticeable change, however, is the number of shoppers who arrive at stores armed with bags of merchandise — ready to return or exchange.

Gifts might come in the wrong size, color or style. And some recipients get more than one of the same item. Shoppers have their reasons for returns, and retail employees hear them all.

"Hopefully they'll find what they're looking for," said Denise Mills, marketing manager at Westland Shopping Center in Westland. She anticipates large crowds at the mall throughout the week.

To offset the post-holiday race to the cash registers Sunday, the mall will open three hours early, at 8 a.m., and close at 6 p.m.

Parisian, in Livonia's Laurel Park Place, also holds extended store hours today, Sunday, Dec. 26, to accommodate the still thriving crowds. Randy Dell, store manager, said the hours are only an hour shorter compared to the holiday rush — from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. — and the store will be fully staffed.

"People are just as antsy when they find an item they like," he said of those who come to return or exchange.

And shoppers keep coming, for the entire week following Christmas to do so.

Owners of The Colonial Collection, 44465 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth, allow returns on holiday merchandise through Jan. 10.

"It gives them some time to return or exchange," said Kathy Ayers, a Plymouth Township resident who co-owns the store with her daughter, Marilyn Von Gerichten.

Ayers took over the business in September after having managed the store for 33 years. She knows what to expect around the holidays. "We have done very well. Ayers said. "We bought cautiously, put in things we loved. It's been a good Christmas."

Unlike area malls, she doesn't expect huge crowds today.

In fact, the shop will open at its normal time, 10 a.m. Ayers said shopping will likely be continuous, thanks in part to those after-Christmas bargain-hunters.

Post-holiday shoppers in the area can make the returning or exchanging of merchandise even easier by remembering two things: bring the receipt and leave the tags on the item.

Post-holiday shoppers in the area can make the returning or exchanging of merchandise even easier by remembering two things: bring the receipt and leave the tags on the item.

Mills said bringing a receipt or a gift receipt does speed up the process, and maintains the value of the item at the time it was purchased. Without a receipt, the item may be returned for the current, possibly sale, price.

In any case, Mills suggests all who venture out the day after Christmas should "be patient."

The Parisian store policy is clear with regard to exchanges of its merchandise.

According to Dell, gifts under \$10 may be returned for cash back, or a credit to the customer's Parisian card. Items over \$10 can be charged back to the Parisian card or returned for store credit.

Even exchanges of identical items are processed most quickly, he said.

Leaving tags on the items for return will also expedite the process, according to retailers.

"If you have the barcode, the store can tell two things, Mills said. "One, that it was bought from that store. And two, (you can tell) the price."

A barcoded tag also makes it easier for employees to seek out the same item for an even exchange. For Dell, saving shoppers' time is important.

Because it is Sunday, buyers will not be in the office to help locate merchandise, Dell said.

Overall the 2004 shopping season has been good one at area shops. Mills said sales have been steady and strong, and the after-holiday sales have barely begun.

"It's important to turn those returns into sales," Dell said.

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SNOW

FROM PAGE A1

to defy Mother Nature

The sun came out and it's midday, so we felt like we could handle it, Graham said.

Snow emergencies had been declared Thursday in communities throughout western Wayne County, meaning that on-street parking was prohibited in order to keep roads clear for plows.

Local and Wayne County crews were out plowing the roads and applying salt.

The county had about 140 vehicles — plows, graders and dump trucks — at work Thursday morning, said Patrick Hogan, director of the county's roads division.

He expected crews would be out Friday as well — on overtime, because of the Christmas Eve holiday.

We've been at it pretty steady since 10:30 or 11 o'clock last night, and we're beginning to see some headway, Hogan said shortly after 10 a.m. Thursday.

Plowing was initially focused on the county's primary roads, state trunk lines and freeways, but Hogan said he hoped crews with smaller trucks would begin plowing residential streets in area townships — including Redford, Canton and Plymouth — later Thursday.

The county is responsible for snow-plowing in townships.

Hogan said road crews planned to make a lot of progress during a 24-hour period, beginning mid-afternoon Thursday, during which no snow was expected.

As far as today's commute is concerned, he said Thursday, it's a slow go but (drivers) can still get where they need to go.

This story was compiled by staff writers Darrell Clem and Matt Jachman.



Ginger the dog stands watch on Westmore Street in Livonia as Mike Siemasz clears the snow from the sidewalk in front of his parent's home.



Lauren Green clears the sidewalk in front of Jinaes, at the corner of Main and Penniman, in downtown Plymouth.

RIDES

FROM PAGE A1

number is (877) NYE-MADD, (877) 693-6233. Hours will be 11 p.m. New Year's Eve through 4 a.m. New Year's Day.

Sponsorships have been easy to come by this year, even with the economy in a downturn, McClendon said.

Sponsors include tech call center Minacs in Southfield, which will house the phone bank on New Year's Eve, and the Northville Police Department.

Project LifeRide is targeting 300 bars in Oakland County and 300 in Wayne County this year, she said. Free taxi rides home will be offered to those who've had too much.

The annual effort is also sponsored by 94.7 WCSX Classic Rock, Cameron's Clean-Up and presenting sponsor Takata. Taxi rides are paid by MADD and reimbursed with funds from Takata.

In 2003, Project LifeRide received 364 calls for taxi rides for about 865 people on New Year's Eve.

The project has provided approximately 8,000 safe rides to 24,000 people since its inception.

The Wayne County Sheriff's Department and local police plan additional patrols during the holidays. "Their primary responsibility will be enforce-

ment of OUIL," said Wayne County Undersheriff Harold Cureton of his department.

Law enforcement supports the MADD effort. "I think anything that would stop a person who is impaired from driving is a good thing," Cureton said. He's seen business owners be responsible about getting people home.

"I think it's a very good idea," Cureton said of Project LifeRide. "The police cannot do this alone."

Project organizers ask revelers to make advance plans to get imbibers home safely. Other tips from MADD include:

- Don't drink if you will be driving
- Host an alcohol-free party
- Call for a copy of MADD's Safe Party Guide
- Choose a designated driver

■ Stay overnight at a relative's or friend's home

■ Buy a hotel party/room package and enjoy an evening away from home

MADD provides other services to aid those grieving the loss of a loved one due to drunken driving. This time of year is difficult for those people, McClendon said.

It's very tough. This is a really tough time. Many donate to the organization in memory of the loved one.

"That's the way of the families giving back," she said.

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CRIME BRIEFS

REDFORD

Shot fired in holdup

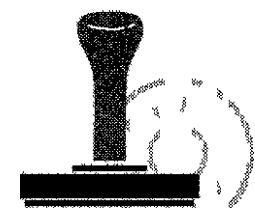
No one was hurt when a man with a pistol demanded money then opened fire inside the White Castle at Telegraph and Schoolcraft roads Tuesday night.

Employees fled out the back during the holdup attempt, according to a Redford Township police report and the gunman fired a single shot, which went through a wall behind the counter.

He then turned to a customer a 77-year-old Detroit man, and robbed him of his wallet, police said. The gunman fled across Telegraph, where, in the Tel Craft Plaza in Detroit, a Dollar Tree store was held up by a man who was described similarly, police said.

The robber ran eastward toward a Detroit apartment complex, a witness told police. Near the Dollar Tree the White Castle victim's wallet was found.

One witness told police the robber



For the Record appears in every edition of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's newspaper in Passages on page B7.

had escaped in a tan Chevrolet Caprice.

An officer spotted a brown Caprice at Fenkell and Lahser in Detroit and stopped the driver, but found his clothing didn't match the robber's and there was no evidence in the car.

Police recovered a bullet fragment from the White Castle.

Bump and rob

A 23-year-old Brighton man reported being robbed Monday night by a gunman who drove a white Ford Explorer into his Mazda

on Telegraph Road.

The victim said he lost cash, keys, a cellular phone and compact discs to the robber.

It was about 9:40 p.m. the victim told police when the Explorer rear-ended his 2004 Mazda on southbound Telegraph at Schoolcraft.

There was no damage to the Mazda, he said. The Explorer's driver told him to go to a nearby Marathon gas station, and he did. But there, he said, the other driver got into the Mazda, pointed a pistol at him and began rifling through the car.

He reportedly struck the victim in the face with the pistol, police said. The victim was injured but refused treatment.

When the gunman left, taking the victim's keys, the victim ran into the station to call police.

Minutes later, police stopped a man in a white Explorer in south-eastern Redford but determined he had not been involved.

Wheel thefts

Tires and wheels were stolen last weekend from nine new vehicles

belonging to a Redford automobile dealership.

It was the third such incident at Detroit Diesel where the Snethkamp Chrysler Plymouth Jeep Eagle dealership rents a storage lot, in just over a month.

The latest thefts occurred between 6 p.m. Dec. 17 and 7 a.m. Dec. 20, a police report said. A window on four of the vehicles had been broken.

Police recovered a jack, a flashlight, a cap, rubber gloves and other items from the lot.

Home break-ins

Cash was reported stolen from a house on Seminole Street north of Seven Mile after a break-in Tuesday.

The burglar or burglars had broken a front window on the house, a police report said. The break-in occurred between 4 p.m. and just after 11 p.m.

Cash and a digital videodisc player were reported stolen from a house on Wakenden Street north of Seven Mile after a recent break-in, which was reported Tuesday.

A window on the house had been pried out of its frame, police said.

Coin boxes raided

Two coin-operated vacuum cleaners at H&H Car Wash, on Beech Daly south of Seven Mile, were broken into between midnight and 5 a.m. Tuesday. A police report said the machines were heavily damaged and had been emptied of coins.

A witness told police three boys were seen running from the area as the fire was noticed.

Credit card fraud

On Dec. 17, a resident in the 33000 block of John Hawk told officers he had received a call about a \$600 overdue credit card bill on an account he hadn't opened. He said the card was in his name and used his Social Security number but had a different date of birth and a Detroit address.

Missing wallet

On Dec. 15, a Dearborn Heights woman told police her wallet, containing \$10 cash and identification, was missing after she was at the Garden City Cafe, 5662 Middlebelt. She told officers she thought the wallet might have been left on a seat but couldn't be located later.

GARDEN CITY

Stolen vehicle

Police arrested a Romulus woman for driving with two license suspensions and possibly driving a stolen vehicle. The woman was stopped after her license plate came back as stolen.

The woman initially gave a false name — her mother who was a passenger, gave the woman's correct name. The woman said she gave her sister's name since her license was suspended.

The vehicle had been purchased by the woman and her sister, the woman told an officer, but they didn't have the money to get new plates.

The owner told police that he'd parked with car with the keys in it so it could be picked up for service. He said the vehicle had disappeared.

Marijuana possession

A Ypsilanti man was arrested for possessing marijuana with intent to deliver Dec. 19 after officers responded to a call about two men in a vehicle with a gun outside the Shell Gas Station, 120 Middlebelt. No gun was found, but officers seized three baggies of suspected marijuana and impounded the car.

Computers stolen

Two laptop computers valued at \$800 were reported stolen from CSI Computers, 28799 Ford, Dec. 12 following a break-in. An employee reported \$150 damage from a door lock being broken.

Arson

A newspaper recycling dumpster at Memorial Elementary School, 30001 Marquette, was found on fire Dec. 18. Damage was set at \$500 from the rubber lids being melted. The Fire Department put out the fire.

Larcenies from vehicles

A Garden City woman told police that her cellular telephone, valued at \$150, was stolen from her unlocked vehicle while she was at Walgreens, 31415 Ford, Dec. 17.

A resident of an apartment in the 7000 block of North Venoy told police Dec. 17 that someone had stolen 150 CDs, valued at \$1,500, and stereo equipment valued at \$250 from her vehicle.

Drunken driving

A Garden City man was arrested for drunken driving Dec. 17 after rear-ending another vehicle at Ford and Venoy.

No license

A Detroit man was arrested Dec. 16 after being stopped for going through a red light. The man, 49, admitted that he had never obtained a driver's license.

Vandalism

A resident in the 30000 block of Rosslyn told police Dec. 20 that someone had broken a vehicle window, causing \$200 damage.

Vehicle impounded

Police impounded a vehicle left for sale at Middlebelt and Hennepin after receiving a complaint Dec. 18. An officer said the vehicle parked on the greenbelt between the sidewalk and street, obstructed the view of drivers on Hennepin. The owner couldn't be contacted, so the vehicle was towed.

— By Observer staff

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GRANHOLM

FROM PAGE A1

She indicated the net job decline from 2000-02 was 196,000. In 2003, it was 94,000. And this year she expects it to be at 15,000.

"We're headed in the right direction as far as the overall job decline," she said. "With state assistance, we created 132,000 jobs. When the country catches a cold, Michigan catches pneumonia because of the auto sector. We're very excited about the path we are on."

Granholt said she'll pursue changes in the business tax next year that will be revenue neutral, meaning the changes won't bring in additional dollars to the state. She wouldn't be specific about any changes until her State of the State address next year.

"We need to restructure the business taxes to make the state more competitive," said Granholt. "It's clear the business community is clamoring for that."

The state Legislature, which is controlled by Republicans in both the House and Senate, have blocked her attempts to change the business tax structure. And, since November, Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema, R-Wyoming, has been highly critical of Granholt and her administration.

"I think there was a switch that flipped, and that's too bad," she said. "I hope it doesn't continue."

Granholt believes the way out of the state's dependence on the auto industry is to have a highly educated workforce.

"Other states have focused on higher education, and if we had done this 10 years ago, we would have the most robust economy in the nation because we would have the most well-educated workforce," said Granholt. "High-end diversification has to be an emphasis."

Granholt is focused on retaining college graduates many of whom are moving out of Michigan to fill the more technical jobs the auto industry and its suppliers will need to fill in the future.

NEW WORLD

We have to transform our image from the state that's the buckle of the rust belt to the



BRYAN MITCHELL

Some state legislators would like to see Granholt work more closely with both sides of the political aisle. She needs to bring us into the front office more," state Sen. Laura Toy, R-Livonia, said of Granholt. "It's a tough arena and needs some tough solutions, and we've got to work together regardless if there is a D or R in front of your name."

state with the most technologically advanced, creative economy in the country," said Granholt. "We need to focus on high-end research and development, life sciences, and advanced manufacturing opportunities. We're going to take some bold steps."

Southeast Michigan, in particular, has and will continue to be, the epicenter of designing for the automobile industry, and that is what we've been focusing on," Granholt said.

Granholt has been working to bring more international auto-related companies to commit to southeastern Michigan. "That's why I went to Germany and got commitments to get jobs here from German suppliers," she said. "Toyota is interested in bringing their research and development facility, and we will continue to pursue that."

Even though Granholt is taking a number of steps to improve Michigan's business climate, Chuck Hadden, vice president of government affairs for the Michigan Manufacturers Association, said the main goal needs to focus on retention of the state's current jobs.

"The No. 1 goal should be to retain jobs," said Hadden. "It costs less to retain jobs and keep them than look for new jobs."

And, she needs to settle the business tax issue," added Hadden. "and then business can decide if it likes it or not."

While critics have blamed Granholt and the legislature for politicking instead of solving the state's problems, state Rep. John Stewart, R-Plymouth

Township, said the games must stop.

"We must all put our heads together and not play the blame game," he said. "We must form consensus in regard to cuts and raising revenue."

Stewart said he expects Treasurer Jay Rising to come up with a new business tax structure that will offer some personal property tax relief, it will focus more on a corporate profits tax."

Stewart, a small business owner with an attorney's office in Plymouth, said he'd welcome a cut in personal property taxes "but, we must replace that revenue stream to local governments. The only source, it would appear, is the corporate profits tax."

Stewart said his main goals are to stop more cuts in K-12 education and revenue sharing to local governments.

State Sen. Laura Toy, R-Livonia, agrees with Granholt that jobs are the No. 1 priority, but said state government needs to take a look at its own house.

"We have a changed world and a changed economy, we've got to be creative and run government more like a business," said Toy, a flower shop owner for 25 years. "We have to find out what people want to spend on government."

While Toy gives Granholt a B-plus for her first two years in office, she acknowledges Granholt needs to work more closely with both the House and Senate to get more accomplished. "She needs to bring us into the front office more," said Toy. "It's a tough arena and needs some tough solutions and we've got to work together, regardless if there is a D (Democrat) or R (Republican) in front of your name."

Not only is Granholt getting criticism from the legislature, recent polls have seen her popularity drop below 60 percent. However, the governor remains undaunted. "If someone had said to me that in the face of budget deficits, loss of jobs, recession and all the challenges we face, that I would have a 57 percent approval rating at the end of my second year, I'd say that's really great," Granholt said. "But, what is really important is getting stuff done, not the polls."

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Clutch RU trey dooms Shamrocks

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Redford Union's dynamic duo of Gregg Hill and Anthony Smelley showed their mettle Tuesday night collaborating on a game winning buzzer-beater against host Redford Catholic Central.

Smelley's trey from the left corner as time expired enabled the Panthers (4-1) to escape with a thrilling 53-50 victory. The clutch shot ruined Catholic Central's furious fourth quarter comeback, when the Shamrocks (0-4) out-pointed RU 22-10.

Hill started the winning play by penetrating into the key, then dish-ing off to an open Smelley who knocked it down.

I had to make it because I missed the layup I shot before that," said Smelley, who scored 11 points and grabbed five rebounds. "And it was fun to beat them. They (Shamrocks) beat us at home last year and we returned the favor."

According to Panthers head coach Brett Steele, the victory was a big one for our program.

They've kind of been our nemesis. Two years ago, we won 19 straight and we lost to them in the districts. Last year, they beat us at home.

"We had to get over this hurdle and it would have been a shame if we didn't."

Catholic Central, with Smelley on the bench most of the fourth quarter due to foul trouble, came back from a 15-point deficit and tied the game 50-50 with 3:22 to play on a trey by junior guard Rob Forte (six points) from the left wing.

But the Shamrocks missed a subsequent chance to take the lead, missing two foul shots. The teams traded baskets until Smelley's big-time jumper. Catholic Central head coach Rick Coratti wondered out loud what the outcome might have been had his squad actually gone out in front down the stretch.

If we hit those two free throws I think it would have changed the complexion a little bit, Coratti said. "It would have given us our first lead since the second quarter."



Garrett Sencyszyn of Redford Catholic Central drives around Redford Union's Anthony Smelley during Tuesday night's game.

GETTING IT DONE

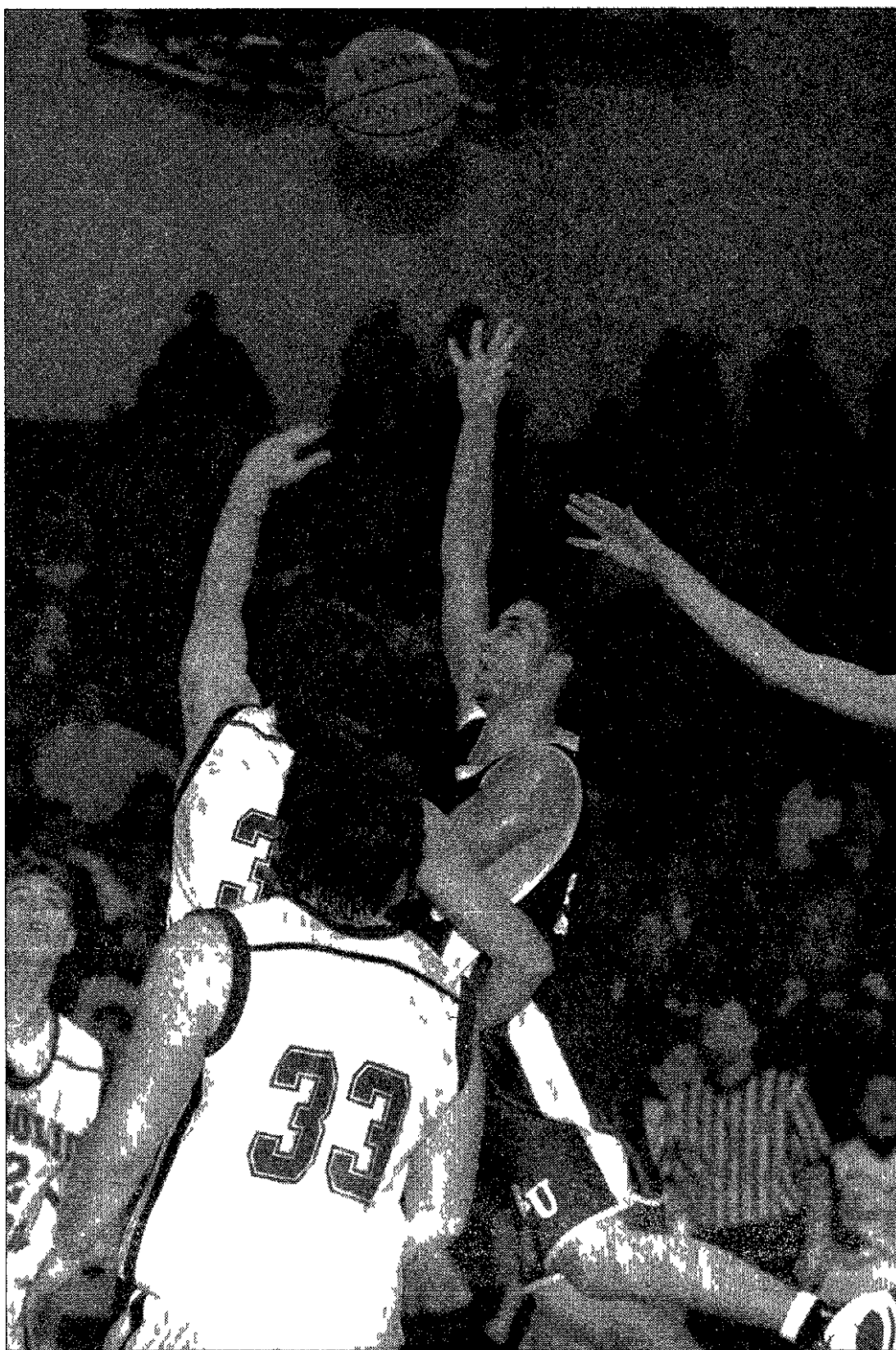
Steele, meanwhile, lauded his players for riding out the storm and making plays in crunch time.

"Gregg made good penetration and Anthony made a great shot," Steele said. "It showed the character of our kids to find a way to win that game. We executed in our last two possessions the way we wanted to. That's why they're very good basketball players."

Hill led the Panthers with 16 points while junior guard Chris Brown also had a solid game with 15 points (including three triples). Chipping in with five and four points, respectively, were junior forward Steve Brown and senior center David Johnson III.

Catholic Central's top scorer with 16 points was junior center Aras Butkanas. Junior forward Garrett Sencyszyn tallied 11 while senior forward Dominique Fischer netted nine. Scoring six each were Forte and junior forward Chris Davis.

Redford Union, after falling behind 7-0 in the early stages, tied



PHOTOS BY ERIC BRONSON | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PLEASE SEE **SHAMROCKS, A9**

Gregg Hill of Redford Union wades through Redford Catholic Central defenders and tries to hit a fourth quarter shot.

Nets & notes

PCA's Sumner accomplished in athletics, music

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

There aren't many high school basketball players around who are talented enough to perform the national anthem, then moments later go out and make the nets sing on the basketball court.

Count Plymouth Christian Academy's multi-faceted senior point guard Stephen Sumner among that small fraternity.

"We've brought it up with Stephen," PCA basketball coach Doug Taylor said, referring to the singing/playing combination. "But he is so focused on basketball prior to the game, he said he'd rather not sing, too. If he did do both, he'd do a great job at both. Stephen is one of those kids that is solid in everything he does."

Sumner has made a strong impression at PCA with his three-pronged combination of athletic ability, musical skills and academic achievements. Athletically, the Livonia resident has earned letters in basketball, baseball and soccer over the past three years while accumulating a stellar 3.6 grade-point average in the classroom.

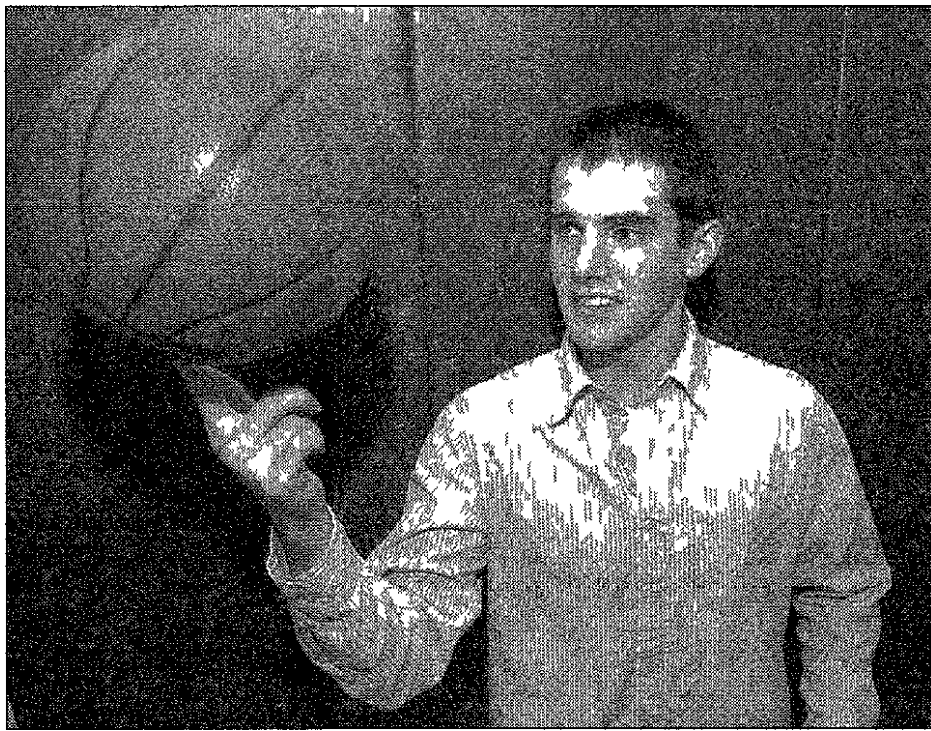
Musically, he plays both the piano and guitar, and leads the music portion of the school's weekly youth chapel sessions.

Sibling guidance

Sumner's proficiency on the basketball court developed as a youngster when he followed around older sisters, Sarah, 25, and Rachel, 22, who both excelled at hoop for PCA.

"It seems like I've been playing basketball since I started walking," Sumner said. "I have great memories of going to my sisters' games and running around on the court."

"I love basketball because it's fun when you have a group of guys trying to accom-



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth Christian Academy basketball player Stephen Sumner is also a talented musician and excellent student. A three-year starter, Sumner serves as the Eagles' point guard this season.



Prep Profile

plish the same goal, then working together to achieve the goal. I also like the self-discipline it takes to get out and shoot for

hours on the driveway to improve my skills. If I could only play one sport, it would definitely be basketball. I love it.

Sumner's fondest high school basketball memory came during his sophomore year when he played through a series of injuries to lead the Eagles to a homecoming night victory.

I actually played with a broken arm and a busted eyebrow," he said. "I hurt my arm during warmups, but I didn't know it was broken until I went to the hospital after the game. My eyebrow got messed up during the game. I only scored six

points, but I remember that game because of everything I went through."

Sumner also shined in another game during his 10th-grade season, Taylor remembered.

Stephen has had a number of good games over the past couple of years, but there was a district game we won his sophomore year against Detroit City when he played really well, Taylor said. "I knew he was going to be a player after I saw him play that well as a sophomore in a big district game."

Small-school appeal

Attending a small, private school has been enjoyable for Sumner, who has been a student at PCA since kindergarten.

"We only have 50-some students in my senior class, so you get to know everyone a

PLEASE SEE **SUMNER, A11**

Chargers win mat tourney

The Livonia Churchill wrestling team won the Olivet Invitational for the second year with blowout wins against Charlotte (63-18), Westland John Glenn (50-17) and Mayville (56-18), and a thriller against Grand Ledge (34-30).

The Dec. 18 tournament win marks the fourth in a row for the Chargers who, along with Grand Ledge, are ranked in the top 10 in the state.

Lightweights Alex Fowler (103 pounds) and Tim Hexsel (112) outlasted their opponents from Grand Ledge, winning by points 10-0 and 14-2, respectively. Justin Smith, wrestling at the 130-pound weight class, downed Brett Nichols 14-6 while 152-pounder Ben Adams defeated Pat Wright 10-6 in the match against Grand Ledge, and both Smith and Adams won by decision in the Glenn matchup as well.

Manuel Schubert downed Mike Churchill 12-4 at the 171-pound level, Joe Bargerstock defeated Josh Bond 8-4 at 189, Hafeez Qureshi needed only 52 seconds to pin Kyle Boging at 215 and heavyweight Pat Draheim needed only one more second than Qureshi in pinning Joe Nelson.

Adams bumped up to 160 pounds to down David Wood from Glenn, and Schubert, Bargerstock, Qureshi and Draheim all won their matches. Jamie Murray (145) and Greg Roberts (119) each recorded victories in the Glenn match while falling in the Grand Ledge match. Winners for Glenn against Churchill were Rowdy Glasgow (125) beating Johnpaul Gafke 15-4, Orlando Carswell (135) downing Eric Brace 10-6, Saif Naber (140) over Dale Rush 11-2 and Reese Cox pinning Josh Kelly at the 145-pound level in 1:22.

Sidelines

Wrestling tourney

The Elks-Salem Wrestling Tournament will be held Wednesday at Salem High School in Canton. Wrestlers representing 18 teams — including Salem, Westland John Glenn and Redford Union — will compete in the individual format tournament.

The first match will start at 9:30 a.m.

Spring leagues

The North Redford Central Little League will be accepting registrations for the 2005 season from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15, 5:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 25, and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 5, at the New Redford Township Library.

Players must be ages 5-16 for baseball, 6-16 for softball and 5-18 for the Challenger League (for disabled individuals).

Boundaries for North Redford Central Little League are as follows: For baseball, Six Mile north to Eight Mile and Telegraph west to Farmington; for softball, all of Redford. The Challenger League does not have boundaries.

Birth Certificates are required for registration. For further information, please contact the following individuals: Baseball, Robert, (313) 516-2512; softball, Andy, (313) 533-0237; Challenger League, Darryl, (313) 532-5706.

Wolfpack tryouts

Tryouts for the Western Wayne Wolfpack AAU basketball teams for girls between the ages of 10 and 13 will be held on three separate nights in January.

On Jan. 4, tryouts for the 12-and-under team will be held 6-7:30 p.m. at East Middle School.

Tryouts for the 13-and-under team will be held 7:30-9 p.m. Jan. 4 at East.

Tryouts for the 10-and-under Wolfpack squad will be held 6-8 p.m. Jan. 12 at Isbister Elementary School. The final tryout — for the 11-and-under unit — will be held 6-8 p.m. Jan. 13 at West Middle School.

For more information, call Fred Thomann at (734) 484-7746, or Bob Blohm at (734) 495-3160 or (734) 414-8156.

Youth wrestling

The second session of the Canton Wrestling Club will run from Jan. 3 through March 13. The cost is \$45 and includes membership in the Michigan Youth Wrestling Association and a club T-shirt.

Registration will be held Wednesday, Dec. 15 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in room 305 of Canton High School's Phase III building. Practices will be held Mondays and Wednesdays. Athletes from first through eighth grades may participate. Practices will be divided into beginning and advanced wrestlers.

For more information, contact Canton wrestling coach Casey Randolph at (734) 697-2083 or e-mail him at c_randolph44@yahoo.com.

Salem falls to Crestwood

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

'Twas a few nights before Christmas, and all through the Allen Park High School gym, not many Plymouth Salem jump shots were falling, most bounced harmlessly off the rim.

Tuesday night's opening-round game of the Allen Park Christmas Tournament was anything but merry for the cold-shooting Rocks who dropped a 61-53 decision to Dearborn Heights Crestwood. Salem's shooters had a difficult time finding the range against the Chargers' mostly zone — but always scrappy — defense, as they managed to connect on just 20-of-66 field goals (30 percent). The Rocks found the mark on only 1-of-15 3-point attempts.

The setback dropped Salem to 0-5. Crestwood improved its record to 3-2 heading into Wednesday night's championship contest against the host Jaguars, who upended Woodhaven, 64-51, in Tuesday night's second semi-final game.

"We pressured the ball in the first half, but in the second half we dropped back into a zone and focused on putting pressure on the wings," explained Crestwood coach Bob Ostrowski. "The main thing we wanted to do was get a hand in their face every time they shot, and I think we did that for the most part."

"I have to hand it to Salem, though. They played extremely hard and they adjusted well to the defenses we used."

The Chargers' low-post tandem of seniors Ellis Russ (6-foot-5) and Jesse Adams (6-5) combined to make it a rough night for the Rocks. Russ twined five of his first six shots from the field and made 12 free throws en route to a 26-point effort. Adams only scored 10, but he pulled down a

game-high 12 rebounds. Senior guard Steve Popp was Crestwood's most effective perimeter player, netting 13, including a pair of 3's.

Senior forward Dave Cardenas turned in a solid performance for the Rocks, finishing with 14 points and five rebounds. Kyle Price chipped in with seven points while sophomores J.P. Truesdell and Jeraiah Dixon had six each.

Joe Halewicz and Kevin Bradley also pulled down five boards for the Rocks.

Both teams struggled handling the basketball as Crestwood turned it over 28 times while Salem committed 24 miscues.

The Rocks led 15-13 after the opening quarter, but Crestwood used a 10-0 run toward the latter stages of the second quarter to secure a 31-30 halftime lead.

The half ended in spectacular fashion for Salem, which was bolstered — at least momentarily — by a rare four-point play by Dixon, who was fouled on a successful 3-point shot before nailing the subsequent free throw.

The Chargers built a seven-point lead midway through the third quarter before Truesdell scored four straight points to bring Salem to within 41-38. However, Adams tallied two quick successive baskets to finish the quarter and give Crestwood a 45-38 cushion with eight minutes to play.

Crestwood sealed the victory by outscoring the Rocks 11-2 over the first three minutes of the closing quarter. Russ accounted for six of the points, which included a break-away dunk.

Salem was successful on 12-of-22 free-throw attempts (54.5 percent) while the Chargers sank 18-of-28 shots (64.2 percent) from the stripe.

ewright@oe.hometownlife.com (734) 953-2108

Farmington cagers oust Spartans

BY PAT ALLEN
STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday night, Farmington's boys basketball team sure didn't play like an 0-3 squad.

The Falcons did what they needed to do down the stretch to come away with their first victory of the season against Stevenson, 53-49.

Falcon senior guard Garry Abidin led all scorers with 20 points, but Farmington coach Steve Norgrove credits Edwin Carey (9 points) with opening up the Falcons' offense.

"I thought (Carey) had the best game of anyone on our team today," said Norgrove, not only contributing the nine points but what he did offensively for us.

Carey who scored six of his nine points in the final 12 of the game, put heavy pressure on the Spartans' point players forcing numerous turnovers, especially late in the game.

"We talked a lot this week about effort level," Norgrove said.

As a staff, we felt that we weren't getting the energy and enthusiasm from our team that they were capable of giving. Tonight they demonstrated what they're capable of.

Spartan senior forward Tom Clements again led Stevenson, this time with 19 points and 10 rebounds, but the inability to get Clements' post opportunities late in the game cost Stevenson (2-3) their third loss of the season.

"We weren't really efficient

in getting the ball to the places and the people that we needed to get it to," Spartan coach Bill Dyer said. "In the first half when we made plays it was when we got to the basket. In the second half, it seemed like we settled for jump shots too much."

Trailing after each of the first three quarters, Farmington (1-3) battled back and took the lead at 44-40 with 4:24 to go.

But then the Spartans went on a seven-point run to jump back into the lead by three with under three minutes left.

After Farmington scored five straight and Carey hit a deuce to keep the Falcons up by a pair, it became a free throw contest as Stevenson couldn't knock down their

jump shots.

"We just didn't make plays," Dyer said, "we need to get better at making plays down the stretch."

The Falcons hit only two of their final six free throws, but after the Spartans missed their final four from the stripe, Abidin's free throw with 11 seconds left sealed the deal for the Falcons.

Norgrove tried to help Abidin settle down after missing three potential game-sealing free throws.

"I put it in terms, not so much as game pressure, as opposed to hey, you need to be out there and pad your stats," Norgrove said. "If you want to be a key player you need to be able to handle those situations."

SHAMROCKS

FROM PAGE A8

the game at 9-9 after one frame and then seemingly took control of the game in the middle two quarters. It was 26-18 at halftime and 43-28 after three.

But the Shamrocks opened the fourth on a triple by Butkanas to trim the RU lead to 43-31.

Butkanas had left the game with about three minutes left in the third after tweaking an ankle injury. With his ankle taped, he came back with a

vengeance and to the chagrin of Steele, momentum shifted.

With the Shamrocks putting tremendous pressure on the RU backcourt, Fischer scored three layups in a 45-second span to suddenly cut the margin to 43-37 with nearly seven minutes remaining. Forte's trey capped off an 18-3 run and knotted the contest at 46-46. The shot hit the rim, bounced high into the air and rattled through.

But Steve Brown kept the Panthers on top with a couple of key layups, the second one on a nifty shovel pass from Hill.

Catholic Central made it 50-

50 with 14 seconds to go in regulation, when Davis scored from the paint.

That set the stage for Smelley's three-ball.

GOOD EXPERIENCE

Both coaches said the up-and-down tilt should provide invaluable experience.

"We learned a valuable lesson in a positive way because we won the game," Steele said. "But you can't be tentative against pressure. You have to attack pressure and I take responsibility for that."

Coratti said his team battled back when it could have

mailed it in.

"The kids played hard and (they) saw that good things can happen if you do that," said Coratti, noting his team might be pressing to win its first of the season.

The Shamrocks will have another chance to break into the win column when they face Detroit Rogers 5:45 p.m. Monday at the annual Motor City Roundball Classic (hosted by University of Detroit-Jesuit). Redford Union is idle until 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 4, against visiting Livonia Franklin.

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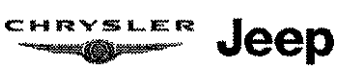
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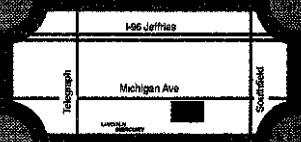
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CC icers double up Grosse Ile

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Sometimes hard work brings a payoff, and that was the case Tuesday night.

Redford Catholic Central senior forward Mike Oakleaf scored on a breakaway in the third period to break a 3-3 tie and send the Shamrocks on to a 6-3 non-league triumph over Grosse Ile in a game played at Trentons Kennedy Recreation Center.

"I was real happy to see Mike Oakleaf get the game-winner," said Catholic Central head coach Todd Johnson, whose team improved to 6-2-1. "I'm trying to preach to these guys that if you do all the little things, you can be rewarded. And Mike Oakleaf does all the little things that hopefully make you a better hockey team."

On the winner, an unassisted goal scored with 7:30 to play, Oakleaf stripped the puck from a Grosse Ile defenseman at the Catholic Central blue line and took it the rest of the way before stuffing it into the Red Devils goal.

Securing the Shamrocks' victory were late goals by junior forward Wade Lafever (assisted by Kevin Horal and Colin Ronayne) and senior forward John Horal (assisted by Lafever and Kevin Horal). The latter marker was scored into an empty net.

Catholic Central broke out to a 3-1 lead after the first period on a goal by senior forward Chris New and two by senior forward Jason Lewarne.

"Jason is a good goal scorer," Johnson said.

"He led the team with six

shots on goal and that's what good goal scorers do — they shoot the puck.

Senior forward Harrison Niemann assisted on two of the first-period markers. Other Shamrocks collecting assists were junior forward Dan Barczuk, Oakleaf, junior forward Steve Jankowski and junior defenseman Tim Buttery, playing his second game after recovering from a back injury.

But for the second consecutive game, Johnson's team relinquished a two-goal lead. The Red Devils knotted the game at 3-3 after two on goals by Kenny Kobb and Cody Holzworth.

Unlike Saturday, when the Shamrocks coughed up a 2-0 lead but managed a 2-2 tie with Orchard Lake St. Mary's, Catholic Central had a better result thanks to the three-goal

third.

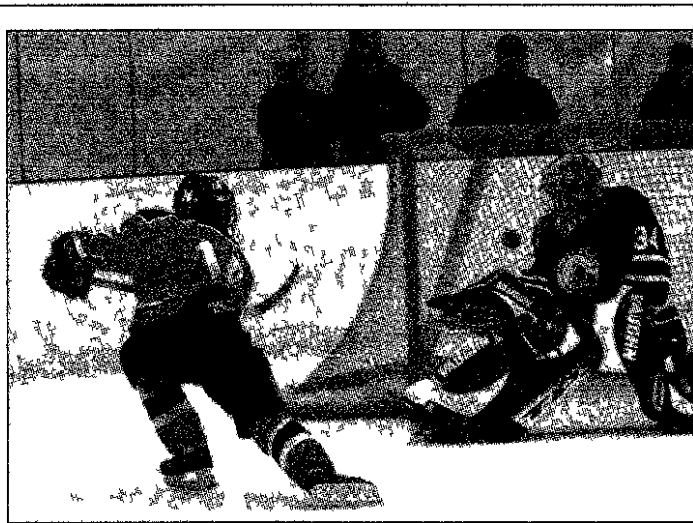
Johnson hopes it is a trend that won't be repeated.

It was just another typical game that we've played so far, where we look good for 20 or 25 minutes and then fall asleep for lapses," Johnson said. "Our schedule is too tough. If you fall asleep against these teams they'll take advantage."

That's two games in a row that we lost two-goal leads against good teams. We weren't so fortunate against St. Mary's. Earning Tuesday's goaltending victory, with 16 saves, was sophomore Brian Hogan.

Catholic Central is now idle until 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 5. The Shamrocks are slated to face University of Detroit-Jesuit at City Arena in Detroit.

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ANDREW RUBENSTEIN

Plymouth Salem senior goalie Brandon DeMars made 29 saves Tuesday night in the Rocks' 4-3 victory over West Bloomfield in the annual Challenge Cup game. DeMars is pictured above making a save against Canton's Bryan Wioncek in a game played earlier this season.

Challenge met

Salem icers outskate Lakers, 4-3

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

It was appropriate that Salem's hockey team was participating in the annual Challenge Cup game against West Bloomfield on Tuesday night.

Considering four of the Rocks' top players were serving game-misconduct penalties and several others were suffering from the flu, simply putting a team on the ice was a challenge for coach Fred Feiler.

Despite the adversity, Salem skated past the Lakers, 4-3, before an enthusiastic crowd at the Plymouth Cultural Center. The victory boosted the Rocks' record to 6-4-1.

"We found out a lot about ourselves in that game," said Feiler. "Some of our young and inexperienced players found out what it's like to play a full game. The guys that were playing with the flu really dug down deep and toughed it out. I was very proud of the entire team's effort."

Salem played without starters Tommy Cooper, Adam Gilhkin, John Maurer and Chris Wilson, who were serving the second game of a two-game game misconduct penalty that was dishied out during the final seconds of Salem's 4-3 victory over Canton on Dec. 15.

The Rocks led 1-0 following the opening period thanks to a Kris Brant goal. Craigen Bauldry picked up his first of four assists on the night.

David Carey made it 2-0 when he beat West Bloomfield goalie Mike Perec with three minutes into the second period. Carey was assisted by Brant and Bauldry.

The Lakers cut their deficit in half with six seconds remaining in the period when Anthony Giglio scored off a pass from Alex Smith.

Joel Cheesman found the back of the net twice for Salem in the third period to help ice the victory. Luke Smith and Giglio lit up the scoreboard in the final 15 minutes for the Lakers.

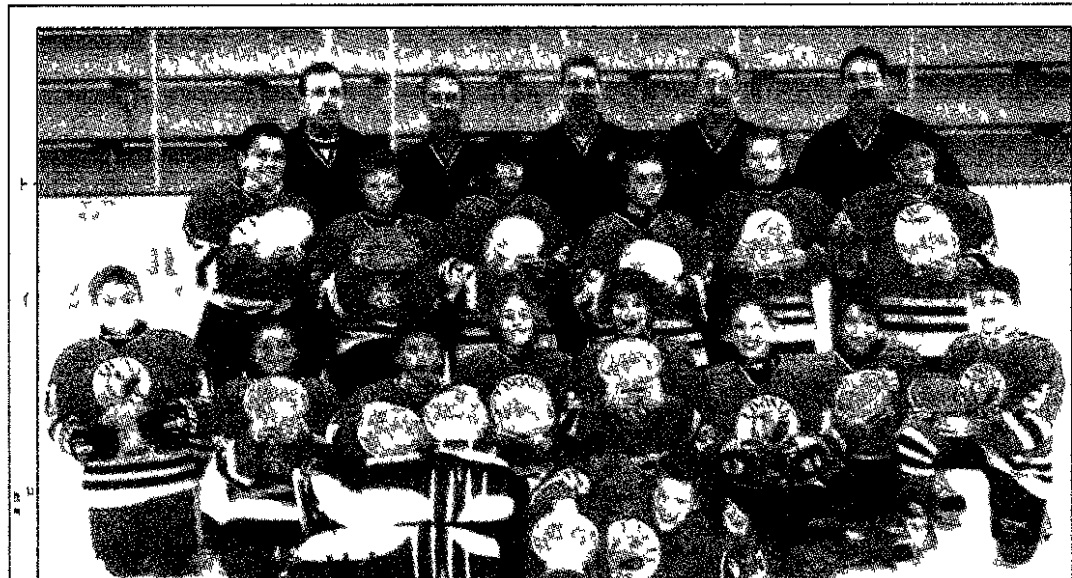
West Bloomfield outshot the Rocks, 32-24.

"Our goalie, Brandon DeMars, played real well," Feiler said. "He had a big game, considering they outshot us by quite a bit."

Bauldry played the final eight minutes of the game with a broken nose, which he suffered in a mid-ice collision with a Laker.

Salem returns to action on Tuesday, Jan. 4, when it battles P CEP neighbor Plymouth at the Compuware Sports Arena. The opening face-off is set for 6 p.m.

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Squirt champions

The Livonia Squirt Blackhawks finished 5-0, including a double overtime victory over the Dearborn Thunder in the finals, to be crowned Squirt Champions at the third annual Thanksgiving Tournament, Nov. 26-28, at the DISC Arena in Dearborn. The Blackhawks defeated the Livonia Flyers (6-4), St. Clair Shore Gold Wings (4-2), Dearborn Hawks (7-6) and Livonia Canadians (8-2) en route to the title. Members of the Blackhawks include (bottom) goalie Michael Kanitra, (front row from left) Alex Stavar, Matt Sinclair, Tony Wilson, Adam McPherson, Adam Panaretos, Jimmy Roznowski, Brenden Massucci, Matt Cassar. (second row from left) Stuart Saules, Austin Stevens, Chris Leach, Derek Raupp, Jacob Sawicki, Andrew Ioanou. Coaches include Scott Sinclair, Randy Stevens, Greg Panaretos (head coach), Chuck Cassar and Jim Roznowski. Team sponsors include Tregaskiss, LTD, Leo's Coney Island, Laurel Park and Standard Federal Bank-Westland.

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FIRST TENNESSEE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Notification is given that First Tennessee Bank National Association 165 Madison Avenue Memphis Tennessee 38103 has filed an application with the Comptroller of the Currency on December 22, 2004, as specified in 12 CFR 5 for permission to establish a staffed branch at 20600 Eureka Rd. Taylor Michigan 48180 to be operated under the name of First Horizon Bank a division of First Tennessee Bank National Association. Any person wishing to comment on this application may file comments in writing with the Licensing Manager Office of Comptroller of Currency Southern District 500 North Akard Street Suite 1600 Dallas Texas 75201 within 30 days of the date of this publication.

Publish: December 26, 2004

FIRST TENNESSEE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Notification is given that First Tennessee Bank National Association 165 Madison Avenue Memphis Tennessee 38103 has filed applications with the Comptroller of the Currency on December 22, 2004, as specified in 12 CFR 5 for permission to establish staffed branches at 38701 7 Mile Rd. Livonia Michigan 48152 and 37551 37557 & 37561 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia Michigan 48150 to be operated under the name of First Horizon Bank a division of First Tennessee Bank National Association. Any person wishing to comment on these applications may file comments in writing with the Licensing Manager Office of Comptroller of Currency Southern District 500 North Akard Street Suite 1600 Dallas Texas 75201 within 30 days of the date of this publication.

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Cougars splash way to Mega Blue relay win

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

It wasn't pretty, but they'll take it

The Garden City varsity boys swim team captured the Saturday, Dec 18, Mega Blue Relays at Eastern Michigan University with a 76-67 margin over second-place Dearborn Heights Crestwood

But the Cougars won due to the disqualification of Crestwood's 400 individual medley relay team, Garden City head coach Julie Johnston said

"If that didn't happen, Crestwood would have won the meet," Johnston said "We would have lost the meet by two points But still, we were gearing up for second, we were prepared for second So finishing first was a nice surprise"

Lincoln Park took third place, with 62 points Garden City collected four first-place finishes

■ The unit of Jeremy Bird, Brent Alexander and Ken Kastl took the 600 free relay with a time of 7 11 15

■ Awarded first in the 400 IM relay due to the Crestwood disqualification was the quartet of Bird, Jon Turnbull, Chris Clendenning and Eric Thackaberry They swam the event in 5 04 8

■ Bird, Kastl, Thackaberry and Carl Ford came in first in

the 400 free relay, clocking in at 4 03 3

■ Garden City dominated the 200 free relay, finishing first, third and fifth, Johnston said The first-place unit was composed of Turnbull, Ford, Matt Fitzgibbons and Ryan Day, finishing the event in 1 47 74

The Cougars, who resume action Thursday, Jan 13, at Gibraltar Carlson, also picked up five seconds and one third

"My team did an awesome job," Johnston said "They really wanted it bad"

RU fourth

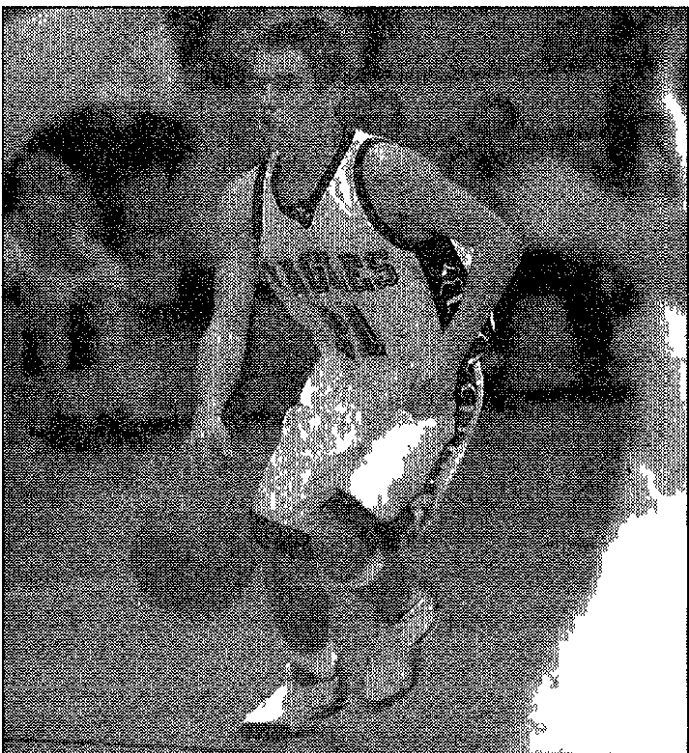
Also last Saturday at EMU, Redford Union placed fourth in the Mega White Relays, trailing Wyandotte, Southgate and Woodhaven

Head coach Maury Masahn said the Panthers lacked energy, possibly due to a heavy early-season meet schedule

"This was our sixth meets in less than 22 days overall (and) we have had only had 14 days of practice during that time," Masahn said "What I did like was our divers (Dan Holst, Mike Yantz), who finished second in our division"

Masahn said the team will enjoy eight days of quality practice in preparation for the next meet, 7 p m Thursday, Jan 6, at Redford Thurston

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Stephen Sumner is a talented ballhandler and perimeter shooter for the Plymouth Christian Academy basketball team

SUMNER
FROM PAGE A8

anywhere with basketball, I'd like to work in a youth ministry and use music as a tool to get into that, Sumner said

Although he may not play collegiate basketball, Sumner won't give the sport up altogether His 10-year-old brother, Matthew, will make sure of that

"We play a lot of basketball together," Sumner said "He's actually pretty good, and it will be fun watching him play as he gets older"

Despite his athletic prowess, music will probably play more of a role in Sumner's future, he admitted

"Since I love music, and I don't think I'm going to go

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Borgess cagers cruise to victory

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Four players hit double digits Tuesday night to lift Redford Bishop Borgess to a 77-63 boys basketball victory over visiting Detroit Charlotte Forten Academy

Leading the Spartans (2-2) was sophomore guard Darryl Warthen, with 15 points and eight assists Chipping in with 13 points and 17 rebounds was 6-6 senior center D'Angelo Seale

Contributing 12 points and four steals was junior guard T R Ellis, while senior forward David Davis scored 10 points and pulled down five boards

"Coming off that tough loss against (Harper Woods) Notre Dame, this was good," Spartans head coach Tony Woods said "The fellas became a team"

The morning of the 55-41 loss to Notre Dame, a shooting took the life of Ellis' father Despite that tragedy, Ellis and the Spartans gave it their all against the Fighting Irish, but played "with a heavy heart," the coach said

Tuesday, the team came out with spring in its collective step, rushing out to a 14-2 lead

Charlotte Forten made a game out of it, however, cutting the Borgess lead to 34-33 at halftime But the Spartans started to break open the game in the third frame and capped it off with a 25-point final stanza

Our big fella (Seale) played a terrific game and so did T R Ellis," Woods said "He (Ellis) has been solid all year"

The Spartans resume action Tuesday, Jan 4, at Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes The next game at Borgess is 7 p m Friday, Jan 7, against Detroit Holy Redeemer

BERKLEY 48 CHURCHILL 38 Junior guard Eli Weiner led all scorers with 19 points for the Bears as they dropped winless Livonia Churchill to 0 4 overall Tuesday night

Matt Weitzman had 10 points for Berkley which outscored the Chargers 14 4 in the pivotal second quarter

They played with more energy Churchill coach Jim Solak said "We're still searching for answers and we'll find them eventually we've just got to get through it"

Corte Diaz and Sean Adkins each had eight for Churchill and Mark Shuber continued his strong play on the boards with 16 rebounds

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CE08284 06

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The Livonia Public Schools Board of Education Livonia Michigan hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for

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Bids will be received until 10 00 A M on the 25th of January 2005 at the Board of Education Purchasing Department 15125 Farmington Road Livonia Michigan At this time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read Vendors are encouraged to attend

Bid security in the amount of 5% of the total proposal in the form of Bid Bond or Certified Check must accompany each bid Performance bond and payment bond may be required of the successful bidders

The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids in whole or in part in the interests of uniformity, design equipment, delivery time or preference to waive any informalities and to award to other than the low bidder with rationale to support such a decision

Publish December 26 2004 and January 2 2005

CE0828410

PUBLIC STORAGE MANAGEMENT
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act State of Michigan the undersigned will sell at public auction by competitive bidding Sales are for cash only Removal within 24 hours For sale and storage units, which rent and fees are past due

On the premises where said property has been stored and which are located at Public Storage 34050 Nine Mile Road Farmington MI 48335 (248) 473 0202 on December 29 2004 at 1 30 p m Personal property described below in the matter of

B002 – Annie Lockhart – misc bags, misc boxes
B029 – Samuel Way – bikes misc boxes chair
B066 – Frank Hall – tools fax machine golf clubs misc boxes
B078 – Randall McGriff – misc bags misc boxes
C073 – Terry Gabnelson – misc boxes vacuum misc bags bed frame
D026 – Susan Bunn – misc boxes sewing machine
D045 – Amanda Hebert – computer furniture misc boxes mattresses
E046 – Nayana Nunley – weights computer monitor, misc boxes chairs
E077 – Ella Brye – Misc totes
F012 – Anita Jennings – bikes, washer dryer, misc totes
F018 – Michelle Dickerson – refrigerator bike dresser furniture
F039 – Jason Cossin – misc boxes misc bags
G040 – Tonya Swift Miller – vacuum misc boxes furniture glass table top
G051 – Blair Weiss – lawnmower TVs entertainment center, furniture

On the premises where said property has been stored and which are located at Public Storage 12900 Newburgh Road Livonia MI 48150 (734) 591 6447, on December 29 2004 at 12 00 p m Personal property described below in the matter of

C025 – Kirk Bennett – TV lawn equipment bikes misc boxes
D019 – Rachel Talbert – 4 tires book shelf mattress bike

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES - REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2004

Supervisor Reaume called the meeting to order at 7 02 p m and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag All members were present with Mr Curmi arriving at 7 18 p m

Mrs Massengill amended the agenda by removing Item J 7 under New Business Amend 2004 Special Assessment District Fund Budget and by adding Item J 11 Set Date for Public Hearing of Necessity for the Beacon Estates Subdivision Road Rehabilitation SAD She then moved to approve the agenda for the December 14 2004 Board of Trustees Regular Meeting as amended Seconded by Ms Arnold Ayes all with Mr Curmi absent

Mrs Massengill moved to approve the Consent Agenda for the December 14 2004 Board of Trustees Regular Meeting as presented Seconded by Ms Arnold Ayes all with Mr Curmi absent

Mr Richard Sharland asked if the retirement plan approved by the Board for the Fire Department was a defined benefit plan and if that plan was organized under Public Act 345

Supervisor Reaume said the Board ratified their end of the agreement with IAFF which has a provision that the firefighters could go to a defined benefit plan if they do in fact ratify and all agree to participate in such a plan He wasn't sure if it would be under PA 345

Ms Arnold moved to approve the Cluster Housing Option for Plymouth Hollow (McClumpha/Ann Arbor Road Detached Single Family Residential Condominium Community) Application 1848/0804 for property located east of McClumpha Road south of Ann Arbor Road as recommended by the Planning Commission and subject to the boundaries of the Cluster Option being as shown on Sheet L2 Conceptual Site Plan dated November 24 2004 Seconded by Mr Mann Ayes all

Mrs Massengill moved to postpone the first reading of Ordinance No C 2004 04 amending the Noxious Weed Ordinance of the Charter Township of Plymouth Code of Ordinances until the Regular Board Meeting of January 11 2005 Supported by Mr Mann Ayes all

Mr Curmi moved to approve the agreement dated July 27 2004 between the Charter Township of Canton and the Charter Township of Plymouth for the provision of sanitary sewer service for the DWSD Pumping Station located at 43147 Joy Road Canton MI 48187 per the recommendation of the DPW Manager Seconded by Ms Arnold Ayes all

Mr Doroshewitz moved to approve Change Order No 1 – Final on the contract with Sunset Excavating Company for the Golfview Lane Sanitary Sewer Replacement in the amount of (\$2 311 72) which will decrease the project total to \$55 012 28 and authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute same Seconded by Ms Arnold Ayes all

Ms Arnold moved to approve Resolution No 04 12 14 55 appointing the Supervisor and Clerk of the Charter Township of Plymouth as the authorizing official for the Township Pension Plan Ayes all on a roll call vote A copy of the Resolution is attached to the official minutes and is on file in the Clerk's office for public perusal

Moved by Ms Arnold to approve Resolution No 04 12 14 56, adopting the Amended General Fund Budget for 2004 Seconded by Mr Mann Ayes all on a roll call vote A copy of the Resolution is attached to the official minutes and is on file in the Clerk's office for public perusal

Mr Mann moved to approve Resolution No 04 12 14 57 adopting the amended 2004 Improvement Revolving Fund Budget Seconded by Mr Edwards Ayes all on a roll call vote A copy of the Resolution is attached to the official minutes and is on file in the Clerk's office for public perusal

Mr Doroshewitz moved to approve Resolution No 04 12 14 59 amending the Plymouth Township Downtown Development Authority

CITY OF PLYMOUTH
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS
MEETING NOTICE
CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN
(734) 453-1234

A regular meeting of the Board of Zoning Appeals will be held on Thursday January 6 2005 at 7 00 PM in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall 201 S Main Street Plymouth MI to consider the following items

Z 05 01	501 Industrial	Interpretation of Allowed Uses Zoned I 1 Light Industrial Applicant Plymouth Family YMCA
Z 05 02	797 N Holbrook	Non Use Variance Requested Lot Area & Lot Width Frontage Variance Zoned R 1 Single Family Residential Applicant Jeffrey & Nicole Gray

All interested persons are invited to attend

In compliance 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 audiotapes 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

Carol Stone ADA Coordinator
201 S Main Street
Plymouth MI 48170 (734) 453 1234 Ext 206

Publish December 26 2004

CE08284323

Budget for 2004 Seconded by Mrs Massengill ROLL CALL Ayes Doroshewitz Massengill Arnold Edwards Mann Reaume Nays Curmi Motion carried A copy of the Resolution is attached to the official minutes and is on file in the Clerk's office for public perusal

Mrs Massengill moved to approve Resolution No 04 12 14 60 adopting the Amended 2004 Water and Sewer Budgets and adopting the 2005 Water and Sewer Budgets Seconded by Ms Arnold Ayes all on a roll call vote A copy of the Resolution is attached to the official minutes and is on file in the Clerk's office for public perusal

Mr Edwards moved to approve the appointment of Trustee Robert Doroshewitz to the Zoning Board of Appeals as the Plymouth Township Board's liaison term ending December 31 2007 Seconded by Ms Arnold Ayes all

Ms Arnold moved to set date for the Public Hearing of Necessity to January 11 2005 and add this item to the agenda for that meeting Further moved to approve Resolution No 04 12 14 61 scheduling Hearing of Necessity for the Beacon Estates Subdivision Road Rehabilitation SAD for January 11, 2005 Seconded by Mr Edwards Ayes all on a roll call vote

Supervisor Reaume commented on the nomination by the Rotary Club of Scott Linton as Policeman of the Year and Pat Conley as Firefighter of the Year

He noted the grand opening on December 6 of New Liberty Bank in the Ann Arbor Road corridor

He stated that Senate Bill 928 now allows clerks of charter townships to satisfy publication requirements for agendas and minutes by posting on line and in their offices

Mr Reaume presented Mr Mann with his Supervisor nameplate various pictures and an engraved gavel to honor his years as supervisor of Plymouth Township

With regard to Item J 8 amending the DDA budget Mr Curmi asked whether the 2005 budget should also have been amended since the money was being transferred from the 2005 budget to the 2004 budget

Mr Reaume indicated the 2005 budget would be amended in 2005

Mr Anulewicz updated Mr Curmi on the progress made toward the water tower and Mr Reaume updated him on Township Hall progress

Ms Arnold and Mr Reaume discussed the possibility of election finance reports being available on line via the MERTS software

Mr Curmi wished everyone Happy Holidays

Mrs Massengill moved to adjourn the meeting Seconded by Mr Edwards Ayes all Meeting adjourned at 8 32 p m

MARILYN MASSENGILL Clerk
Charter Township of Plymouth

RICHARD M REAUME Supervisor
Charter Township of Plymouth

The foregoing is a synopsis of the minutes of the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees meeting held on December 14 2004 The full text is available in the Clerk's Office for public perusal The minutes will be submitted for Board approval at the next regular meeting held on January 11 2004

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 two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the following Human Resource Office 42350 Ann Arbor Road Plymouth, MI 48170 Phone number (734) 354 3202 TDD units 1 800 649-3777 (Michigan Relay Services)

Publish December 26 2004

CE08284115

THE WEEK AHEAD

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
Monday Dec. 27
UM Dearborn Invitational 9 a.m.
Tuesday Dec. 28
West Bloomfield Invitational
PREP WRESTLING
Wednesday Dec. 29
Salem Invitational 9 a.m.
Brother Rice Invitational 10 a.m.
Thursday Dec. 30
Redford CC at Toledo St. Johns 9 a.m.
PREP HOCKEY
Wednesday Dec. 29
Plymouth vs. Taylor Truman at
Taylor Sports Plex 6:30 p.m.
ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Tuesday Dec. 28
Whalers vs. Brampton Battalion
at Compuware Arena 2 p.m.
Thursday Dec. 30
Whalers vs. Sarina Sting
at Compuware Arena 7:30 p.m.



Penguins victorious

The Arctic Pond Penguins Bantam AA Team captured the 2004 Waterloo Memorial Tournament Championship Nov. 19-21 in Waterloo, Ontario. The Penguins outshot their opponents 203-62 in six games, outscored them 29-4 behind the strong play of netminders Joe Burgo and Bobby Smith, who combined to record four shutouts. Forward Jerry Pitts was named Tournament MVP. The team's forwards include Adam Szajner of Novi, Court Murtland of Farmington Hills, Tony Thomas of South Lyon, Lou Lemak of Brighton, Jerry Pitts of Canton, Chris Gendron of Farmington Hills, Caleb Hamlin of Battle Creek, DJ Konfrst of Livonia and Jon Ponte of Novi. The defensive squad includes Justin Mongrain of Canton, Cody Longuski of Westland, Ian Barnaby of Plymouth Township, Alex Kolpacke of Livonia, Ryan Shepard of Canton and Colin Rolfe of Canton. The head coach is Britt Ponte. Assistant coaches are Dino Szajner and Kevin Longuski. The team is managed by Maria Pitts. The Penguins play in the Bantam AA Ranked Division of the Little Caesar's Amateur Hockey League.

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FRI 11:30 12:20 1:50 2:40 4:20 5:00

FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (PG-13)

2 PRINTS / 2 SCREENS

TH 12:00 12:40 2:20 3:00 4:40 5:20

FRI 12:00 12:40 2:20 3:00 4:40

ALEXANDER (R) (TH 6:15 9:30)

THE INCREDIBLES (PG) 2 PRINTS / 2 SCREENS

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7:30 9:45

FRI 11:20 12:30 1:40 2:50 4:00

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**Friday,
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8:00 pm to 2:00 am**

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Ask Jen

Jennifer
Sawalha

Don't rush to make friends

Dear Jen,
I start a new school after Christmas break and I don't want to be in the dork crowd. What do I need to do to be popular?
Wanting to be a star in Livonia, 14

First of all, starting a new school is a huge adjustment. Slow down. What if these popular kids at the new school aren't nice or aren't good friends? When starting a new school, you want to seek out new friends that you have something in common with, not friends just because they're popular. The first week you start, you want to be able to get a feel for the school, the crowd, and people you might be interested in getting to know better. Find out what activities, sports, or clubs you can get involved in where you can meet people with similar interests. It can be very hard to break into a crowd that is already established, so take it slow. Get to know people at your new school for who they are and not their social status!

Dear Jen,
I have a ton of stuff going on in my life and am not looking forward to the holidays. Every holiday is a mess. The people in my family are always fighting with each other and my mom is always in a bad mood. What can I do to make it easier on my mom?
Trying to escape the holidays in Canton, 16

Well, unfortunately, the holidays are stressful for most people and tempers end up flaring. No family is perfect, so don't feel alone. There are a lot of families who argue during the holidays. If you feel the need, you can always try to talk to everyone in the family to request a somewhat peaceful holiday! Now for your mom, why don't you try to help her out a little more in the next couple weeks. Find out what she needs for you to do to make her life a little easier over the next couple weeks. You're taking some of the strain off of her will lighten her load and her mood!

Dear Jen,
Do you think it's OK for 15-year-olds to be in love? I mean, really in love in high school. Is it too stressful or is it more stressful if they're not in love?
First love in Garden City, 15

You can be in love in your teens, but it doesn't mean that you are emotionally mature enough to deal with the other aspects of the relationship. If you feel you are ready for a serious relationship, then I think you are ready. Just remember, the serious relationship should never be so stressful that it interferes with other areas of your life, such as grades, family, friends, sports, etc. It also depends on the other person in the relationship. Are they mature enough for a serious relationship? Do you both feel the same way? These are things to talk about with that other person. Be cautious, though, you have many more years to experience relationships on different levels. Don't rush anything!

Jennifer Sawalha of Livonia has a master's degree in psychology from the Center for Humanistic Studies. She can be reached by e-mail at JGSKarma@aol.com.

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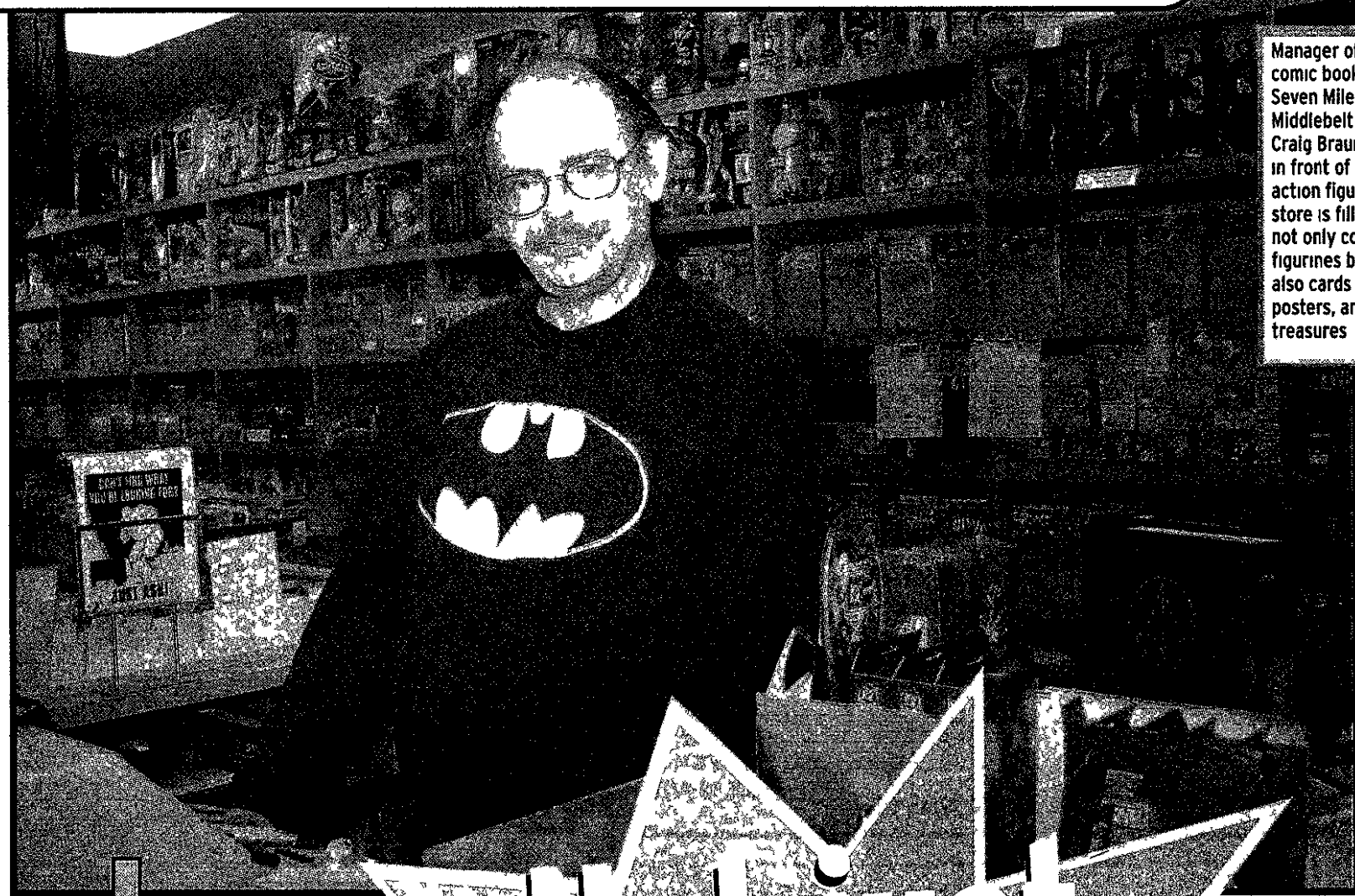
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255 S. Main Street
Plymouth, Mich 48170

Section B

Sunday, December 26, 2004

Hugh Gallagher, editor
(734) 953-2149
Fax (734) 591-7279
hgallagher@oehomecomm.net

COMIC BOOK STORES CATER TO ADULT TASTES



Manager of the adult comic book store on Seven Mile and Middlebelt in Livonia, Craig Braun, stands in front of a wall of action figures. The store is filled with not only comics and figurines but also cards and posters, among other treasures.

HEATHER ROUSSEAU



BILL BRESLER
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Above, Rich Rea has sold comics for 19 years at his Garden City store A to Z Cards and Comics. At right, Gordon Johnson looks at an action comic book.

HEATHER ROUSSEAU

Not just for kids

BY RUSS HAMMOND
CORRESPONDENT

Not one time, comic books were for kids. They were viewed as cheap, throw-away entertainment, just like baseball cards and model airplanes.

Some kids refused to give up their beloved Superman or Batman comic books and kept reading into adulthood. While their peers were buying *Hot Rod* and *Esquire*, they were still building collections of *The Fantastic Four*, *Spider-Man* and *Captain America*.

"Adults, by far, purchase most of the comics," said Craig Braun of Classic Movie and Comic Center in Livonia. Braun said that kids still buy comics such as *Sonic the Hedgehog* or *Archie* but adults outspend them. "Our average customer has about 1,000 comics and spends \$20 to \$30 a week on them," said Braun.

It's easy to build up a comic book collection. Most comics cost \$2.25 to \$3 per issue. That's something that most people can afford. Graphic novels, which are basically trade paperbacks, sell for \$8 and up.

People are drawn to comic books for different reasons. Some like the story, while others enjoy the art. However, many people think that a good story line is more important than good art.

Rich Rea, who has sold comics for nearly 19 years at his Garden City store, A to Z Cards and Comics, said that "the story should be good."

He adds that most people will accept mediocre art as long as the story is well-written. But good art won't save a poorly written story.

Readers will tolerate less-than-spectacular writing in their favorite comic book if it's short-term. But if things don't improve after a few months, they become bored and move on to other comics. And there is plenty to choose from.

Walk into any comic book store and you'll be overwhelmed at the sheer volume of titles available.

The Punisher, *Birds of Prey*, *1602*, *Daredevil* and *The Goon* are some of the titles outside the circle of well-known comics.

The superhero has also been redefined. *Blade*, *Spawn* and *Hellraiser* are the comic industry's attempt to make a "darker, edgier, hipper type of superhero," said Braun of Classic Movie and Comic.

"Comics today are a lot more graphic than they used to be," Braun said. "It's a loss of innocence from the 1960s."

PLEASE SEE COMICS, B3

Many people make the same resolutions every year

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Robin Forystek is resolving to drop the pounds she gained while pregnant with daughter Kaylee, now nearly a year old. All dolled up in a velvet dress and Santa cap, Kaylee waited in line at Westland Shopping Center to see the big guy in the red suit with her mother and grandmother, Tammy Schulz of Westland.

Many people were too busy shopping the week before Christmas to even think about making resolutions, but those who did were committed to keeping them in the New Year. "I'm making the same one as

A New Year's



always to lose weight," said Robin Forystek. This year it's losing my baby weight. Karen Shelton of Canton

kept her resolution to lose and keep off 50 pounds this year. She hadn't thought about making a resolution just yet but probably will make the same one because of her success. Her husband, Tom, doesn't make any resolutions. That way he doesn't break any.

Dawn Shemanski of Canton feels the same way about making resolutions. Greg Griffiths of Westland never makes a resolution not because he's perfect, he jokes. "Just ask my wife."

Debbie Brown is just too busy working to make resolutions. As owner of the Gold Tones DJ service based in Garden City, she coordinated

entertainment for 25 to 30 parties in December including three on New Year's Eve. Brown is celebrating her 25th year in business.

"If I make one it would be to try to enjoy life," said Debbie Brown, whose father died in October. Life is too short.

Nancy Marceau has been busy shopping, but never bothers to make a resolution anyway. The Livonia resident strives to improve herself throughout the year.

"It's something I do all the time," said Marceau. "A good one for everyone is to be nice to other people. It would be a nicer world."

Ruth Johnson would like to

break the habit of smoking for the last 30 years. The Westland resident's incentive is her 11-year-old granddaughter, Kaitlyn Johnson.

"I'm trying to get her to quit," said Kaitlyn Johnson. "I wrote letters for science class to my mom and grandmother to get them to stop."

All Rick Blanke wants for Christmas is a job as a graphic designer. Blanke has been looking for a position ever since graduating from Ferris State University two years ago.

Downstairs in the general manager's office at Westland Center, Ed McHale is making a

PLEASE SEE RESOLUTIONS, B5

The Cultural Council of Birmingham / Bloomfield presents

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NEW YEARS' EVE CELEBRATION

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2004 4 pm - Midnight

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DAVID SYME, *Planist* - 7:00, 8:15, 9:30 pm

Bernie Stevens Magic - 7:00, 8:30 pm

Teddy Bear Puppet Show - 7:15, 8:30 pm

Adam Mellema Storyteller - 6:00, 7:15, 8:30, 9:45 pm

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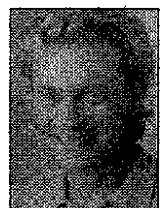
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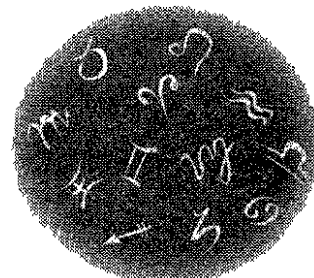
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Star Struck

(Dec 26-Dec 29)
By Dennis Fairchild



ARIES (March 21-April 20th)

Try to stay on good terms with colleagues as the New Year approaches even to the extent of avoiding them if they're spoiling for a fight. The planetary problem isn't so much what they might do as what you might do in retaliation. Rambo. Be smooth, not sarcastic!

TAURUS (April 21-May 21)

Although you will have a warm holiday time you must be aware of a couple of matters—namely jealousy and envy! The more others make you feel guilty for all the good things in your life, the more you should remind them that nothing comes for free. You've sacrificed enough. Bull. And you do deserve it all!

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)

Lately your patience has been testy at best and this week it could reach a new low as you have to deal with people who seem incapable of making up their minds. If you have to make decisions for them, make sure you slant them in your favor. Twins! Listen to your heart and celebrate a new year!

CANCER (June 22-July 23)

It's time now to practice 'silence' MoonKid. With all of your recent busy-ness, you've reunited with some weird Os. By all means offer your services as a peacemaker or listen in the ear, but don't get your hopes up. Some people enjoy arguing, so don't be surprised if your efforts to mediate are thrown back in your face.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)

You can chip away at a financial problem for only so long before it must be tackled head on. Lion. With no shortage of ideas on how to resolve the issue, you now need to identify those with potential and as well as honest and helpful, and those that are unrealistic or opportunistic.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)

Your only astro danger now is that you'll allow yourself to be misled by someone who sounds as if they know what they're talking about. The problem with being such a can-do person is that you think everyone else can do as well as you. Virgo kiddo, they can't!

LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)

Whether you're a jock or a jokester, the holiday

word for you is 'health' kiddo! If your body sends you signals this week that not every thing is okay, you must take notice, get off the couch and do something about it! Most likely all it means is that you're either working or worrying too hard and need to slow down a bit.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)

Are you happy that the holidays are almost over, Scorp? I bet so! Still, before New Years you have to get tough with someone who is hoping that by kicking up a fuss you'll do their dirty work for them. (Ha!) You should know by now never to give in to emotional blackmail!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)

There is no point in overtaxing yourself with so many commitments that you're up doing none of them properly and feeling exhausted. Use the next few days to discard things that are neither worthwhile nor pleasurable. Others will benefit, too, if you look after yourself. Archer.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 21)

Be careful not to take your personal insecurities out on someone who has enough of their own. As the New Year arrives, you are likely to overreact to a suggestion or comment and jeopardize a good relationship. Patience and understanding will get you where you want to go. Cap.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 22-Feb. 19)

Are other folks so difficult to deal with right now or is it just you? According to the planets, it's more likely to be the latter, so stop blaming others for your predicament and start looking for ways to get yourself out of it. You're very intuitive as 05 arrives. But do listen to others. WaterBear!

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)

Whatever negative feelings about friends or family you've been storing up inside must be let out now. With any luck, you'll discover a constructive outlet for them, something that doesn't harm you or them. But if that's not possible, a battle is inevitable. Be cool, not cranky. Fish.

Birmingham astrologer Dennis Fairchild is an author of several books on divination. For information about personal consultations, phone (248) 646-3555 or e-mail DenFairchild@aol.com

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

FROM PAGE B1

Right now there are movies coming out for Blade Superman Batman, Hellraiser The Fantastic Four and Electra from Daredevil

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University big band teaches teamwork

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Mark Nilan's hands move as effortlessly over the keys as those of his teacher Matt Michaels. The 21-year-old jazz student has come a long way from his classical beginnings. Now in his third year with the Wayne State University Big Band, Nilan plans to earn a master's degree in jazz studies at the University of Southern California after spending next summer playing with legendary musicians such as Earth, Wind & Fire, and Smokey Robinson in Greece.

Nilan began playing piano at age 5 but it was only six years ago that he first tried his hand at jazz as part of the Creative and Performing Arts Program at Churchill High School in Livonia. The WSU Lab Band I is the group to play with at the university. It is composed of graduate and undergraduate students who must pass an audition to perform alongside musicians such as Mel Wanzo, lead trombone with the Count Basie Orchestra for 28 years, and Vincent Chandler who played trombone with the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra and Wynton Marsalis before returning to school. During the year, they perform at a variety of venues around town includ-



Lab Band I members Michael Karloff (left), Colton Weatherston, Shannon Wade, Ben Jannsen, Sam Beaubien, Nate Winn (drums) and Brishen Miller rehearse with a smaller group at Wayne State University.

ing the Ford Detroit International Jazz Festival and Michigan Jazz Festival at Schoolcraft College.

"The band gives us an opportunity to play in front of a crowd," said Mark Nilan, whose interest in music comes from his father who owns the Live Wire recording studio in Livonia. "Twice a week we get to play just for ourselves."

Lab Band I is one of many opportunities for students to gain experience playing with a group. The 60 jazz majors can take their choice of two guitar bands, 11 combos and three big bands.

Michaels co-founded the jazz studies program with Dennis Tini and James Hartway in 1979. Today, students earning undergraduate and graduate degrees learn not only to perform, but compose and arrange music.

"The most important function of the band is to give students discipline in learning to play with other people so when they do it in the professional world they will have had that experience," said Matt Michaels, a Southfield pianist who plays frequently around town with his trio. Michaels is

director of jazz studies at the university.

Michaels steps down as director of Lab Band I in January when Chris Collins returns from a sabbatical. Michaels led the group for 18 years.

"We train them to do theater or shows at the Fox," said Michaels. "Our goal is the ultimate in training as a big band. We try to make them team players."

To practice what he preaches, Michaels takes the bands to play at high schools.

"We take it out to schools to expose the younger people in high schools," said Michaels. "Most high schools have jazz bands now. I also use it to recruit students."

Playing for crowds is important to Joshua Marion of Romeo, a 23-year-old baritone saxophonist. Marion graduates in May with a bachelor's degree and plans to go on for a master's before teaching junior high students.

This is the premier band at Wayne State, said Marion. "The music is very challenging. You learn to read very well and it gives you an idea of what it's

like to play a club scene."

Colton Weatherston of West Bloomfield especially appreciates being able to play with musicians that were on the road with the likes of Basie and Marsalis.

"I'm interested in jazz history. We have living history in the band with Mel Wanzo," said Weatherston, a 31-year-old graduate student who earned his bachelor's at the University of Michigan School of Music.

Jazz is kind of the foundation for many other kinds of popular music. Jazz musicians need to perform with each other. It creates a greater understanding of our form of expression.

"Big band styles were popular in the 30s and 40s. The foundation was created during that era. For young guys it helps us learn about our instruments and repertoire. Even though the bands are no longer economically viable, it helps us to study that and take the ideas to play what we do now."

For more information about the jazz studies program, call the music department (313) 577-1795.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Zaremberg-VanDyke

Mark and Lillian Zaremberg of Redford announce the engagement of their daughter, Marlene Lisa, to Gregory VanDyke of Waterford Township.

Marlene is a graduate of Michigan State University. She is a regional group banking specialist for Huntington Bank.

Her fiancé, Gregory, is the son of Roger and Janice VanDyke of Grand Rapids. He is a graduate of Grand Valley State University. He is business owner/regional sales manager for International Logistics Co.

Gregory and Marlene are planning a May 2005 wedding in East Congregational Church in Grand Rapids.



Carey-Liebau

Dan and Denise Carey of Westland announce the engagement of their daughter, Danielle, to Dan Liebau of Garden City.

Danielle is a graduate of Garden City High School. She received a bachelor's degree in marketing from Eastern Michigan University.

Her fiancé, Dan, is the son of Bill Liebau of Plymouth and Jackie Liebau of Livonia. He is a graduate of Catholic Central High School and received his bachelor's degree in marketing from Northwood University. He is a senior mortgage broker with First Horizon.

Dan and Danielle are planning a June 2005 wedding at St. James Catholic Church in Novi.

Moon-Guzowski

Joseph and Marilyn Moon of Novi announce the engagement of their daughter, Michelle Anne, to Michael Ray Guzowski of Belleville.

Michelle is a graduate of Ladywood High School. She received her bachelor's degree in English literature and political science from University of Michigan-Dearborn. She is a second-year law student at University of Detroit Mercy School of Law.

Her fiancé, Michael, is the son of Mike and Vicki Guzowski of Canton. He is a graduate of Catholic Central High School. He is currently



attending Eastern Michigan University. He is a full-time police officer in Dearborn Heights.

Michael and Michelle are planning a May 2005 wedding at Howe's Chapel in Evanston, Ill.

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RESOLUTIONS

FROM PAGE B1

resolution to enhance the shopping experience by adding a play area, the Longhorn House restaurant in January, and Pizzeria Uno in May. Personally, he's making a resolution to get himself back into shape.

Merrick Kreer plans to live a healthier, more spiritually satisfying life.

"That will lead into a happier life," said Kreer, a 24-year old security officer. "I'm going to change what I eat. I'm trying to be conscious of calories, work out, and grow spiritually. I've been visiting different churches but it's difficult because I work Sundays."

At Madonna University, Sister Ann Stamm is resigning herself to the new year. The Felician nun is professor and chair of religion and philoso-

phy at the university, and chaplain for the Livonia Police Department.

"It's something I've done for years," said Sister Stamm. "I'll take the 2005 calendar and on Dec. 31, I write yes and sign my name to accept whatever comes that year."

Jack Wilson will have plenty of time to formulate his plans for 2005 on New Year's Eve. The Plymouth resident decided not to attend The Resolution Ball for singles because of his 9-month old Leader Dog in training. Wilson doesn't want to bring along a jumping puppy. It's not a good way to impress ladies at the Rochester dance put on by Table for Eight & The Social Connection, a networking and introduction service. For more information or to make reservations, visit www.TheSocialConnection.com, www.TableforEight.com, or call (248) 543-1000.

"I hadn't thought about it but I have goals to do more

volunteer work," said Wilson, a 44-year-old bachelor who's never been married. Wilson became a Table for Eight member after attending the New Year's Eve Party in 2001. "I work for an automotive supplier and I'm in the process of being laid off. I want a job I'm more passionate about. I'm going back to school full time in January to become a teacher."

Finding Mrs. Right is a perennial on the list.

Regina Stocco, president of The Social Connection Companies, has come up with tips for finding the perfect mate in the new year. She advises singles to be proactive. Don't sit home New Year's Eve. Go out and make things happen.

Think like the opposite sex. Go to places they like to go. Try new things and don't be afraid to go it alone.

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■ New Year's Eve: Friday Dec. 31 at Double Tree Guest Suites, Novi 27000 Sheraton Drive, Novi Road at I-96 Exit 162. \$55/advance or \$65/door. Attire is holiday dressy. Men must wear a coat and tie. (248) 851-9919 or (248) 544-6445.

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

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wiseppi@wideopenwest.com

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Horace Mann Grade School, Detroit

Class of 1963
Looking for classmates for reunion. Please contact Kathie at (734) 525-5416.

Northville High School

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Sleep: It's what your body needs

It may sound odd, but sleep is an important part of living an active healthy life.

However, studies are showing that parents and children are not getting enough sleep. And when we get into this time of the year, it's even easier to miss out on our sleep, what with all the parties and visiting and such.

Now some people may think that sleeping is a waste of time, but really it's as important to our well-being as a good diet and exercise. Lack of sleep can affect our moods, our minds and our bodies. Without it we can be cranky, not think clearly or perform as well.

So here are a few tips that I follow:

- Set a regular bedtime each night.

- Get into a routine to help you wind down.

- Don't eat before going to sleep.

- Give thanks for the good things that happened, forget about the others.

- * Turn off that TV or that computer and just go to sleep. You'll feel rested, recharged and more alert for the following day.

And remember, take care of your health before it's longgg gone!

Ernie Harwell the voice of the Detroit Tigers for more than four decades retired after 55 years behind a major league microphone. Today at age 86 Ernie's days are filled with serving as a health and fitness advocate for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network, public appearances, writing, traveling and taking long walks with Miss Lulu, his wife of more than 60 years. His latest book, a collection of his baseball columns titled *Life After Baseball*, is available at local bookstores or by calling (800) 245-5082.

Observer & Eccentric HEALTH

www.hometownlife.com

Page B6

Sunday, December 26, 2004

Hugh Gallagher, editor

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Hands-on education

Center gives hope to parents of children with autism

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

In a colorful room filled with toys, Gail Hieronymus coaxes 4-year-old Max to make a happy face. Expression doesn't come easily to the young Livonia boy with autism, a neurodevelopmental disorder affecting a child's ability to speak, play and interact socially.

Max is slowly learning to communicate thanks to training Hieronymus received at the HOPE Center, the Hands-On Parent Education program run by William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. At the center, staff showed Hieronymus how to teach Max during three-hour sessions, five days a week for three months. His father Mark and brother Justin, 13, went a few times as well so they could work with Max on fine motor skills like tying a shoelace. Upon completing the program, families have the option of continuing behavioral intervention at the center or with the assistance of a consultant at home.

"We use a scavenger hunt for teaching prepositions. It takes two people," Gail Hieronymus said during a working session in the basement of her home. "We try to get Max to include you in play and promote verbalization. It teaches him to interact with others."

You have to be real creative and have reinforcers that are fun for him. Treats aren't real effective with Max.

Mark says he's seen a huge improvement since Max and Hieronymus attended the program. He was more



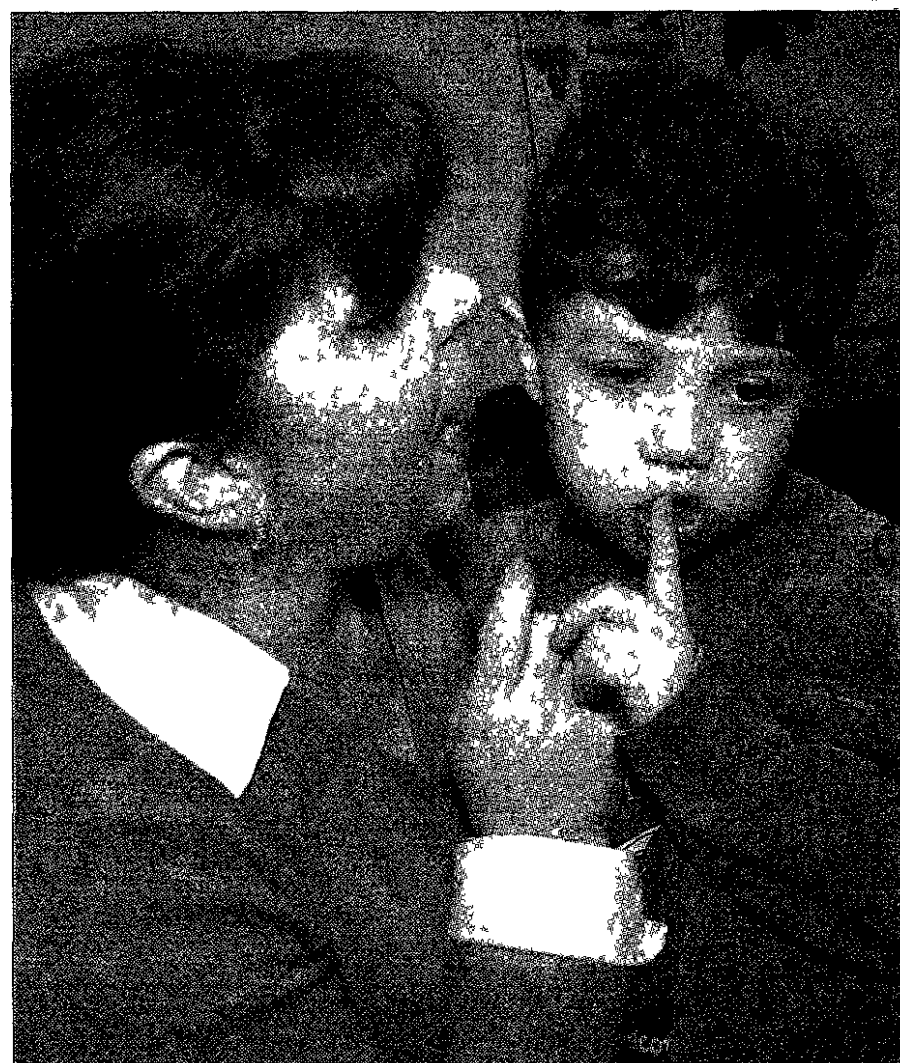
Max has fun playing with Play Doh

like the old Max they knew until shortly after his second birthday. Until then Max was able to say words like mama, but then quit talking and making eye contact after a bad reaction to an HIB vaccination. Hieronymus first thought it was speech delay when Max was a puppy for Halloween and wouldn't bark.

For the last two years, Max has attended preschool three hours a day at Perrinville Early Childhood Center, a Livonia Public Schools program for children with visual impairment and developmental delays. Hieronymus leads a support group there on the fourth Tuesday of every month. For more information, send e-mail to gail61500@aol.com.

His speech has improved tremendously: eye contact, listening," Mark Hieronymus said. "You can tell him to do things he now does. He had some verbal skills, but not a lot."

Progress happens one step at a time. Max recently was signed up for a bowl-



PHOTOS BY HEATHER ROUSSEAU

Five-year-old Max Hieronymus, who is autistic, has one of his regular learning sessions with his mom Gail Hieronymus. Max learns various hand gestures such as to be quiet.

ing league at Woodland Lanes in Livonia to learn turn taking and other social skills. Until recently, it was always Max's turn.

"You pull things out of him you don't know he can do," Hieronymus said. "He can read. He knows his numbers. He loves to do things on the computer. I use it as a reinforcer. It's what works."

At the HOPE Center, Jamie McGillivray oversees the training going on in rooms devoted to using the principals of applied behavior analysis, a field within psychology.

"We're taking giant size skills and

breaking them down into bite size pieces," said McGillivray, director of the center which opened two years ago.

"We're teaching them to communicate, to play, to socialize, self-help skills, step-by-step. The moms take data on how fast the child is making gains. Our goal is to teach parents to teach their children. We focus on ages 2-5. Early intervention is key for these kids. They don't learn the same way."

"They're in each room for 12 to 15 minutes focusing on a different skill. ABA is not sitting at a table drilling a

PLEASE SEE AUTISM, B7

Seminar to focus on nutrition, learning

Good nutrition can improve learning. The Center for Lifelong Learning of Henry Ford Community College, in conjunction with Wayne County RESA, is offering a one-day seminar "Feed the Brain for Learning & Achievement," 8 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 3, at Wayne County RESA, 33500 Van Born Road, Wayne.

The cost is \$50 and includes a 70-page workbook and lunch. Preregistration and payment required by Jan. 21. Call (313) 317-1500.

In this seminar, Sandy Baumann, author of *Feed Your Brain for Learning*, will provide easy, research-based strategies for parents and educators to nourish students' brains for learning.



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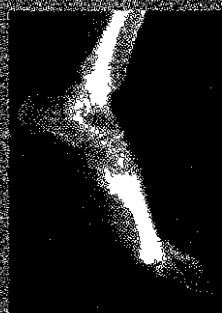
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Treatment for kids with autism costly

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Joan Kern and Gail Hieronymus would do just about anything to help their children overcome developmental and social delays caused by autism. Cost sometimes prevents them from trying treatments. Both participated in the 12-week program at the HOPE Center to learn how to teach their children fine motor and social interaction skills but neither was able to afford the follow-up care based on behavioral intervention. They struggled just to afford the initial cost of \$7,000.

"It's a lot of money and insurance doesn't cover it," said Joan Kern, a Bloomfield Township resident who participated in the program five days a week from August to October with her 4-year-old son, Luke. Like Kern, Hieronymus said the improvement in her son Max, 4, was worth every dollar but wonders why insurance companies don't pay for treatment. "We couldn't afford the continuing CARE Program for three hours a day with a therapist. It costs \$12,000," said Gail Hieronymus. "At home a consultant comes out. We never stop working. We're constantly working at it. At the

center Max made a 23-month gain in three months in knowing what he's seeing (visual reception). In speaking it was 12 months of gain. By the time he left, he was able to ask for things like a ball." Frequently families of children with autism are frustrated by the lack of effective treatments. Hieronymus and Max tried a variety of options before discovering the HOPE Center. "Everything costs a fortune," said Hieronymus. "We tried an Internet program that cost \$1300 and it was just a scam. We tried diets. Not everything works for each kid."

At the HOPE Center, direc-

tor Jamie McGillivray and parents in the program continue to amass data attesting to the effectiveness of the behavioral intervention program so that insurance companies will eventually cover the expense. This is medically necessary," said McGillivray. "So far, since we opened two years ago, we've had 10 families covered 100 percent, and some who received partial reimbursement. We're receiving some scholarship money through Cadillac, but thus far, autism has been a disorder only for the wealthy."

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AUTISM

FROM PAGE B6

child. It's teaching based on rewards — what will motivate them? Every child is different. A lot of times it's food, but we soon substitute with praise, sometimes toys, tickles, bubbles, which are more natural." Joan Kern has seen tremendous growth in her 4-year-old son Luke since they participated in the program this fall. The Bloomfield Township boy was diagnosed with autism a year ago. Since age 3, he has been enrolled in an early intervention program through the Avondale School District. Luke Hieronymus, Kern is continuing to teach Luke at home with the help of a consultant. "When Luke was little he was a good baby, but I had a son who was speech delayed and noticed Luke was quiet," Joan Kern said. "But autism is more than communication. There's cognitive abilities involved."

"The HOPE Center designed a program for him, then they teach you. They're always there work-

ing with you. It helped Luke a lot. He didn't talk before. Now he can say I want a cookie. Before he would just get what he wanted."

Luke Hieronymus, Kern in the past used a PEC (Picture Exchange Communication) system to make it easier to discern Luke's needs and wants. Photographs are taken of familiar objects and placed in a book the child uses to convey a wish for something like a cookie. Hieronymus says the system allows family members to communicate without the use of sign language, which is sometimes taught at the center. "They're real structured," Kern said. "It keeps you hopping so you don't get bored. You want that cure and it's not there. It's hard. His accomplishment is extra special."

For more information on autism visit the American Academy of Pediatrics at www.aap.org. To learn more about the HOPE Center within Beaumont's Center for Human Development call (248) 691-4744.

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Snow shoveling calls for some caution

Shoveling snow can lead to medical complications particularly resulting from heart strain. The staff of the Emergency Medicine department at Henry Ford Hospital says the key to avoiding problems is dressing properly and taking it slow. Shoveling snow can be dangerous to one's health. Studies have shown that physically unfit people who engage in

activities such as shoveling snow were 100 percent higher at risk for a heart attack than the physically fit. Those who should not shovel snow are the elderly, people with high blood pressure, those with a history of heart disease or risk factors such as smoking, obesity and high cholesterol levels.

Everyone else should lift small rather

than large, heavy loads. Dress in layers. As you warm up, remove layers. Perform light exercises before shoveling and rest every few minutes as you work. Don't use a heavy shovel, eat a heavy meal before shoveling, drink alcohol, smoke or take caffeine immediately before or after shoveling. These substances constrict blood vessels adding additional strain to the heart.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

JANUARY

Benefit performance

An evening's entertainment can help a child get a good night's sleep. The Tuesday Jan. 4 performance of *Witch Alibi* will benefit Sweet Dreamzzz Detroit, a non-profit program that works with the University of Michigan Sleep Center and provides bedtime essentials and sleep education to at-risk children to help improve their school performance. Tickets are \$25, with half of the proceeds going to Sweet Dreamzzz. Call (248) 645-6666, enter code DREAMZ. The performance is at 8 p.m. at City Theatre inside Hockeytown Cafe in Detroit.

Menopause & More Support Group

Urologist Dr. Levran speaks about urinary incontinence 7 p.m. Wednesday Jan. 5 in West Addition Classroom No. 2 at Marian Women's Center at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. No registration necessary. No charge. Call (734) 655-1100. The group meets the first Wednesday of the month. Feb. 2, Rebecca DeLoe shares tips to help us organize our times and lives to help

us work more efficiently and smarter. For more information visit www.cometoorder.biz.

Prostate Support Group

Learn how prostate cancer develops in the body at a discussion of the pathology of prostate cancer 6:30 p.m. Thursday Jan. 6 at University of Michigan Hospital, Room 2C108, 1500 E. Medical Center Drive, Ann Arbor. For information call (734) 936-5938. The program, sponsored by the Prostate Cancer Education and Support Network at the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center, will feature Rajal Shah, M.D., clinical assistant professor of Pathology at the U-M Medical School, who will explain the nature of prostate cancer, its causes, processes, development and consequences.

Blood Drive

8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday Jan. 9 at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 West 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. No appointment necessary. For more information call (248) 476-8860.

Hunger Within Workshop

The step-by-step workshop explores the reasons for overeating, identified

triggers that precipitate a binge and helps break the vicious cycle of emotional eating. Marilyn Migliore, author of *The Hunger Within: A Twelve-Week Self-Guided Journey from Compulsive Eating to Recovery*, facilitates the workshop's two sessions running 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday Jan. 10 to March 28 and noon to 1 p.m. 5:30-6:30 p.m. and 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday Jan. 13 to March 31 at the University of Michigan Health System Preventive Cardiology Clinic in Domino's Farms. To register call (734) 998-6000, Ext. 258. The cost is \$300 and includes the book.

Divorce support

The Women's Resource Center at Schoolcraft College offers a free Divorce Support Group 7-9 p.m. Tuesday Jan. 11. Attorney Patricia Kasody Coyle will also be available to answer questions in a private setting on a first-come, first-served basis in Room 225 of the McDowell Center on campus, 18600 Haggerty between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia. The group provides a forum for discussion, receiving and sharing of information for those contemplating in the process of or having difficulty

adjusting to divorce. For more information call the WRC at (734) 462-4443.

Preventing osteoarthritis

A free seminar with Dr. Nicole Whitehead for people who want to remain active and pain-free into their senior years 7:30 p.m. Wednesday Jan. 12 at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer. Whitehead will focus on what contributes to arthritis, nutrition for healthy joints and how to prevent arthritis. To register call (248) 426-0201.

Fibromyalgia workshop

Dr. Kramer will give the free workshop 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Jan. 12 at the Carl Sandburg Library on Seven Mile in Livonia. Kramer reveals the truth behind what can be causing fibromyalgia. Seating is limited. To register call (248) 426-0201.

Divorce Recovery Workshop

Bethany Rochester conducts a workshop beginning 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday Jan. 13 for 11 weeks at St. Irenaeus Catholic Church, 7710 Old Perch Road, Rochester Hills. The workshop is open to the divorced and separated of all faiths. For more information call Mike at (248) 652-3860.

Arthritis Today

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If the problem comes from a pinched nerve in the neck, your discomfort radiates from the neck down the back of the arm to the fingers. If the cervical nerve 7 is pinched, the 2nd and 3rd finger feel numb or tingly. If the 8th cervical nerve is compressed, then your discomfort radiates in a similar manner into the 4th and 5th digits.

If you experience nerve impingement by your elbow, then the palmar side of the arm and the 4th and 5th fingers on the palmar side of the hand are either painful or numb. If the reason for your problem is carpal tunnel compression, then the thumb, 2nd and 3rd digit on the palmar side are numb and tingling, mainly at night.

In most instances, your doctor does not need x-ray of the neck or MRI of the neck or wrist to make a diagnosis. The features of your pain reveal the source of the problem. However, nerve conduction studies are useful, as they tell how extensive the damage is.

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MARY JANE (nee Gerbig) WOLFORD-HUGHES

Age 84, December 20, 2004. Wife of late John Patrick Hughes Sr. and Eugene Wolford. Loving Mother of Diane (Robert) Sheppard, Maureen (Jeffery) Blackman, Michael (Joanne) Wolford, John Wolford, James (Maureen) Wolford, Joseph (Cathy) Wolford and Therese (David) Jamison. Step-mother of Judith (William) Petrere, Christine (Jack) Berry, Dianne Haas (William Hatz), John P. Hughes Jr., Michael Hughes, Elaine (Richard) Grohman, Maureen (Mark) Peterson, Paul (Lisa) Hughes and the late Brian Hughes. Loving friend and companion, Lily Underwood. 26 beloved grandchildren. Sister of Frank (Patricia) Gerbig. Visitation was held at the O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, 41555 Grand River, Novi, 248-348-1800. Family requests contributions sent to St. Leo Soup Kitchen, 4860 15th Street, Detroit, MI 48208; Capuchins Soup Kitchen, 1820 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207-3496; and The Catholic Relief Services, P.O. Box 17152, Baltimore, MD 21298-8452. Online sympathy message: www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com.

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The first five 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, except simple American flags, religious symbols, etc.

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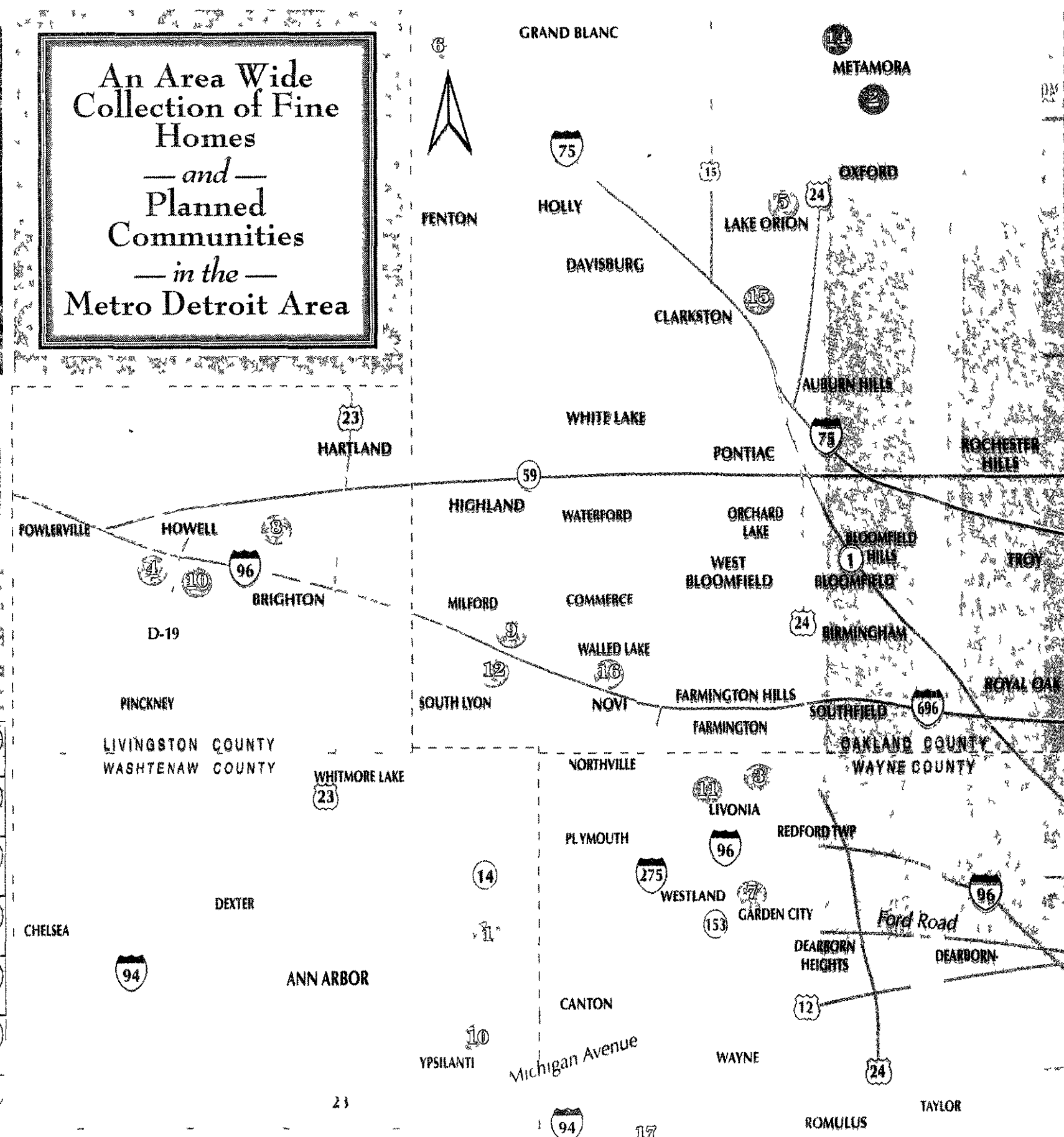
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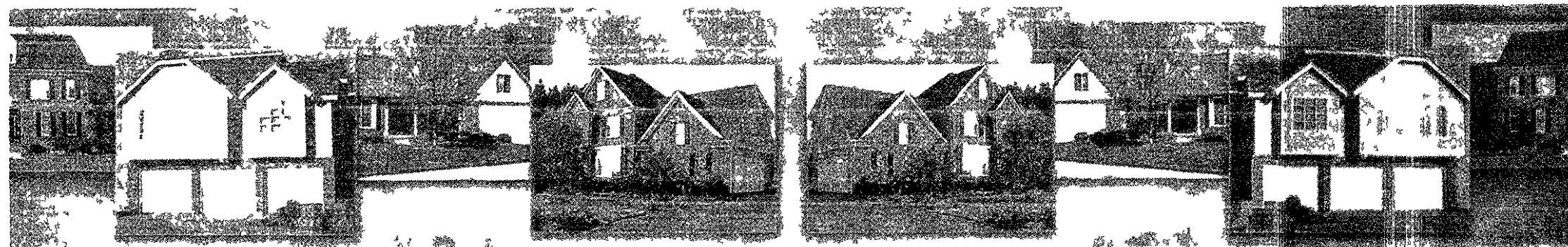
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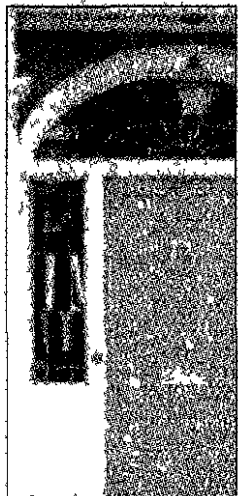
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Real Estate For Sale	3000-3680
For Sale By City	3040-3480
For Sale By County	3520-3570
Misc Real Estate	3590-3680
Commercial/Industrial	3900-3980
Real Estate For Rent	4000-4440

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Boomer retirees stay put to enjoy family, friends and work

(NAPSI) — Don't expect rocking chairs when the Rock n' Roll generation retires. The people who came of age in the '60s continue to reinvent culture as they approach their own sixties.

These Baby Boomers will redefine retirement. "Following the sun" may be the conventional image of the sunset years, but 89 percent of Americans aged 55 and older say they want to remain in their homes when they retire, according to the American Association of Retired Persons.

What's more, the Bureau of Labor Statistics says older Americans will work in record setting numbers over the next decade.

"More than ever, Americans seek to build on family and community ties in their later years by staying close to relatives and by keeping active in the business world," says home furnishings expert Susan Dountas of Sauder.

"They're rethinking their living spaces to create their own retirement havens right at home."

She suggests several ways to redesign the home front.

Transform formal rooms into relaxed retirement retreats with kid-friendly spaces. Start with a welcoming light color scheme and add traditional elements such as cottage or country furnishings, for a sense of warmth and connectedness.

Choose low maintenance, skid-free flooring, easy-care fabric covers and washable furniture finishes. A storage cubby adds organizing ease and provides space for young guests to stow outdoor gear and sports equipment.

Adding a ground floor bedroom can enhance safety and convenience, notes Dountas.

Retirees can incorporate many favorite elements into home decor. An oversized window can fill the room with light and make the most of a view. Repositioning outlets and switches or adding shower and bath grips can bring greater comfort and security.



Today's retirees outfit their homes for upbeat, active lives revolving around family, friends, work and fun. Adding furniture, large scale TVs and other recreation-minded components creates a well-rounded, multi-purpose room.

A guest room can encourage visits from family and friends. Choose furnishings that accommodate children and adults. Put out favorite stuffed animals and games for the grandchildren. Tuck away the toys for grown-up guests in a room. Incorporate all-purpose guest

room amenities, such as reading lights, books and frequently forgotten toiletries.

Create a home office/home entertainment center. Mature adults can maintain their professional lives in the same space where they enjoy time with friends and grandchildren, Dountas says.

Adding furniture for large-scale TVs and other recreation-minded components creates a well-rounded, multi-purpose room, Dountas notes. "As retiring becomes an active verb, Boomers are reshaping the home front along with conventional wisdom about later life."

Make your house safer, more livable as you age

They say that we live in "Peter Pan" housing. Built for people who never grow old. But we all grow old. The overwhelming tendency for aging adults is to adapt their behavior to the house. It's a natural response because aging takes place so slowly we don't even realize we're doing it. We use the furniture to steady ourselves when we get up quickly. We hold on to the wall when climbing into the bathtub. We put brighter bulbs in our lamps so that we can keep on reading the newspaper.

But there comes a time when you find yourself scooting sideways to make your walker fit through the bathroom door and yet you just keep adjusting to the house you've always lived in. It never occurs to you to make your house adjust to you.

That one step from the family room to the kitchen level that is all too prevalent in the 1960's houses is a prime example. You have to somehow get all four legs of your walker up or down that step, which requires you to lean entirely too far forward. A small ramp would solve that problem. Falls in the home are the singular most significant problem among aging adults.

It's time that we realize that aging is something that happens to everyone if we're lucky. Let's enjoy it and realize that our houses should work for us, not against us.

Here are the top 9 simple changes that the AARP recommends to make your home safer and more livable as you age:

- 1) Use plug-in night lights in your bathroom and hallways.
- 2) Install non-skid strips in your bathtub and shower.
- 3) Replace light bulbs with higher wattages to help you see better.
- 4) Replace faucet knobs with lever handles to make turning on and off water easier.
- 5) Replace your telephone with one that has larger numbers, letters and the keys that you hit to dial.
- 6) Use double-sided tape to secure car



Patty Shea

It's time that we realize that aging is something that happens to everyone if we're lucky. Let's enjoy it and realize that our houses should work for us, not against us.

pets and throw rugs.

7) Install an emergency response system that automatically notifies authorities in the case of medical or fire emergencies.

8) Replace door knobs with levers to make opening doors easier.

9) Install non-slip step strips on your stairs.

The faucets, door knobs and emergency system would require some professional assistance, but the majority of that list could be done in a day from items purchased at your local hardware store.

Just as aging is a slow process, so could be the adjustments you make to your house. The key is to remember that your house works for you and not vice versa. Here are the next modifications you should consider. Consider these modifications before you think you need them. Don't wait for a fall.

- 1) Light switches at the top and bottom of your stairway can reduce the chances of falling or tripping. And if you want to go all out, get the lighted switches.
- 2) Install handrails on both sides of your stairways.
- 3) Install grab bars in your bathrooms,

toilet area and tub/shower area.

4) If you need a walker, even temporarily, widen your bathroom doorway and any doorway that you use frequently.

5) Add a ramp. One step is enough to need a ramp. The garage entry, the family room step-down.

There are so many ways to make your house work for you. Handicap accessible bathrooms are a wonderful way add value to your investment and make your home livable for a lifetime. It's worth considering. For the cost of a typical bathroom remodel, you can add the features that will allow you the amenities you need. A roll-in shower eliminates the typical shower curb. Walker or wheelchair access is achieved with a designer look. Add a seated area in the shower. Handrails somewhere to stash the soap so that you don't slip on it, and an adjustable arm shower-head. It looks like a bath at the Ritz, your needs are met and you've increased the value of your home. Admit it, that bathroom needed an update any way.

So where do you find the professionals who know how to accomplish this? Check with your local Remodelers Council at www remodelor.org. Some remodelers specialize in Aging in Place modifications. The National Association of Home Builders along with the AARP created training and certification for Aging in Place and it's called CAPS. Certified Aging in Place Specialist. That's a good place to start. Both the NAHB and the AARP Web sites will direct you to CAPS builders in your area. But like any remodeling project, ask your friends, get a referral, check references, make sure that you feel comfortable with the person with whom you are dealing. Do your homework. Don't be shy. You're still the boss.

Patty Shea has 23 years experience in building and remodeling homes. She was honored as the 2004 Remodeler of the Year by the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan and will serve as Vice Chairperson of the BIA Remodelers Council in 2005.

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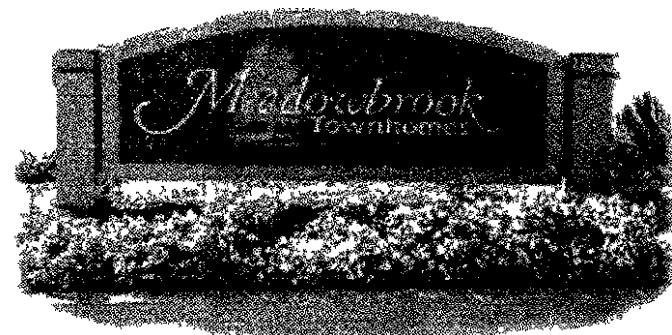
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3880	Farmington Hills	4230	White Lake
3890	Farmington Hills	4240	White Lake
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4350	Farmington Hills	4700	White Lake
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4980	Farmington Hills	5330	White Lake
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5000	Farmington Hills	5350	White Lake
5010	Farmington Hills	5360	White Lake
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Immediate occupancy On private lot w/mature trees well maintained 2,668 Sq Ft 4 bdrm 2.5 bath brick colonial Living room formal dining room family room w/fireplace library Kitchen w/breakfast room & 1st floor laundry Breeze way Deck 2 car garage \$399,000 or \$2500/mo (AP432)

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A HOME FOR YOU!
Spacious 4 bdrm 2.5 bath colonial Circular staircase Family room w/fireplace Kitchen w/breakfast room that overlooks lovely yard Master bedroom suite Nicely finished lower level w/private office 2 car garage \$309,900 (AP554)

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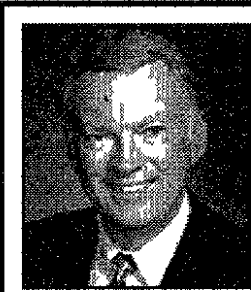
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One of the most sensitive topics to discuss with any homeowner is the state of cleanliness of his or her home. One person's opinion of cleanliness may be much different than that of another person. There is one fact, however, that is indisputable: a clean house sells faster and at a higher price than a similar home that is not as well kept.

If you are planning on selling your home, don't overlook the value of cleanliness. Remember, that people make many of their decisions with their emotions; this is also true when buying a house. People feel better when walking through a home that is clean. They stay longer during the showing and give it more serious consideration.

Another factor to keep in mind is the importance of the perception of the real estate community. A motivated Realtor® is your key to selling success. Realtors® have feelings like everyone else. If Realtors® see that your home is clean and well kept, they will be much more enthusiastic when describing your home to their customers.

If your home is not as clean as it could be, buyers are turned off. They don't stay in the house any longer than they have to. They also suspect, rightly or wrongly, that there may be other problems with the house. Some of the following questions go through their minds: If the house is not kept clean, has it been mechanically maintained? Does the roof leak? What hidden defects will I encounter if I choose to buy this house?

There are some things you can do to keep your home clean and looking its best while your home is for sale. Ask for cooperation from all family members to keep bedrooms in top shape after rising in the morning. Make periodic inspections of all bathrooms on a regular basis. Choose one room every two or three days for special cleanup attention. You might want to consider hiring a cleaning service to come in once a week while your home is on the market.

ADVICE: Your Realtor® is quite aware of the condition of other homes that are for sale. Ask your agent how your home compares from a cleanliness standpoint.

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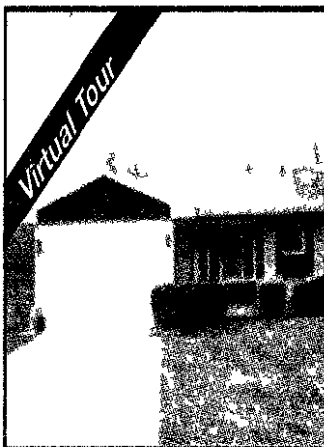
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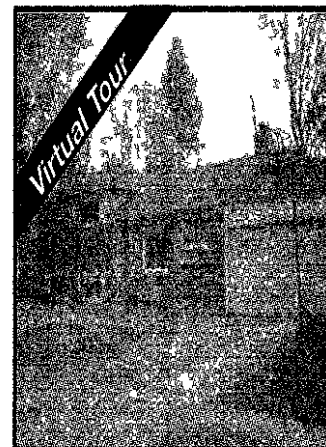
LIVONIA - Location, quality, value and charm. Three bedroom brick ranch, built 1988. 2.5 bath. Family room w/fireplace, full basement, two car attached garage, a secluded setting with mature trees (approximately 3/4 acres). Call Mike Judge
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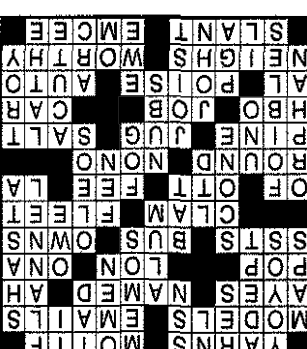
ACROSS

- 1 Sailors tales
- 6 Design
- 11 Works with clay
- 12 PC messages (hyph)
- 14 Votes in favor
- 15 Identified
- 17 Sign of relief
- 18 Fizzy drink
- 19 Chaney of horror flicks
- 20 Out — limb
- 21 Former JFK arrivals
- 23 Motor coach
- 24 Has
- 25 Close mouthed person
- 27 Swift footed
- 28 Change — pace
- 30 Slugger Mei —
- 31 Doctor's payment
- 32 Refrain
- 33 Drinks for all

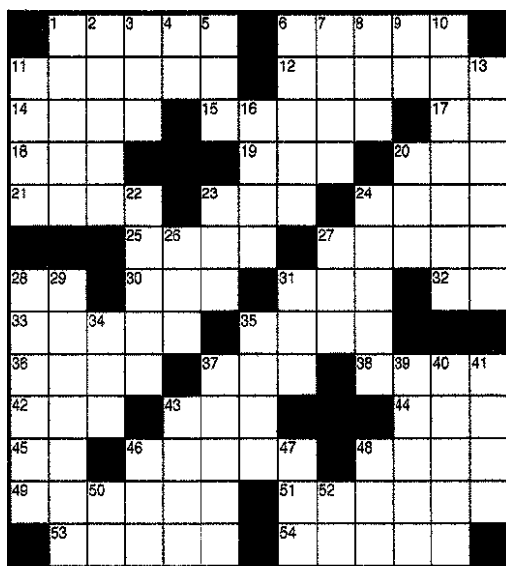
DOWN

- 1 Vacillates (hyph)
- 2 Capable
- 3 Legal matter
- 4 Chicago Cubs org
- 5 W 2 info
- 6 FYI notes
- 7 Bad or good sign
- 8 Youngster
- 9 Twice I
- 10 Pajama material
- 11 Explorers
- 13 Cascade Range
- 16 Styptic
- 22 Tea cake
- 23 Baseball club
- 24 Refrigerator sticks
- 26 Soho co
- 27 Quagmire
- 28 Dogie
- 29 Quicks
- 31 Airport closer
- 34 Numero —
- 35 Worn down pencils
- 37 Beam
- 39 Sudden
- 40 Shop machine
- 41 Pram was its king
- 43 Sportscastr — Madden
- 46 Putter's org
- 47 Flock member
- 48 Part of a circle
- 50 Midwestern st
- 52 Hindu mantra

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Continuity Loses Big With 'Board Busters'



WORKWISE
by Mildred L. Culp

People want continuity, one key ingredient for stability, but this need can block constructive change.

entire literature on change has emerged, stressing that people will almost go to the ends of the earth to assure continuity but avoid change. Fortunately, this is not always true. Sometimes, people form teams to use work skills, then contradict that assumption.

More than a year ago, we moved into an upper-middle class neighborhood outside of a major metropolitan area. This new community showcases well-maintained oversized yards with geese flying overhead and nocturnal visits from deer and raccoons. Every morning, it empties of school children and workers commuting to jobs of all kinds, from IT to financial services, manufacturing and education. Three months after arriving, a neighbor told us that we were members of a repressive homeowners association, like it or not. Non-payment of dues leads to violations and fines.

CATALYST

Meanwhile, we began to notice unusual traffic and loud music across the street. It was impossible to identify

who actually lived in the house there. A mid-afternoon burglary occurred, which required a sheriff deputy's visit for about three or four hours right afterward, including a forensics team. The theft of two fur coats and a safe led to supposition that the property was an alleged drug house.

Drugs may be everywhere these days, but not on my street. The homeowners association president was too busy assessing and collecting fines to be of help. In response, I formed The Neighborhood Watch over 500 properties, a larger version of one I'd block-captained in Seattle.

Homeowners couldn't separate their association grievances from The Watch. I kept telling residents that this is a crime prevention vehicle, period. It wasn't about membership in a homeowners association.

BREAK

For 18 years, the president of our association had held monthly meetings on second Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. He presided with arrogance, insults and swear words, even when children attended. Turnout was slim -- only eight to 15 residents each month.

A favored few members were exempt from rules. All others were not. The neighborhood was brimming with anger over board malfeasance, condescension and partiality. Member dues evaporated into

-- legal fees,
-- an ineffective property management group, punitively meting out violations,
-- expensive aquatic developments directly benefitting only 25 properties and allegedly lining the pockets of one board member, and
-- property upkeep directly funding the president's lawn service, and
-- neighborhood security funds that were passed to a third board member.

'BOARD BUSTERS'
Change had been in the air, with two members collecting signatures for petitions, which were ignored by the board. Members were so accustomed to working in large organizations that they didn't know how to structure and effect change. We formed a "change board" united in purpose and resolve. Here's what we did:

-- The leader devoted hours reading the by-laws and rules, then developing a strategy for December's election.

-- Another member found a person to draft a proxy form pro bono.

-- A third spearheaded the recruiting of board candidates.

-- A fourth communicated directly with the one somewhat sympathetic current board member. (He had attempted to stem the corruption, but was outvoted.)

-- A fifth, retired from the IRS and



Homeowners can change their Homeowners Association by getting involved.

EPA, provided invaluable information and perspective from having presided over a condominium owners' association.

-- Our flamboyant go-to-guy kept recruiting people to vote, even during the two-hour election. He gave us our name "Board Busters."

Unlike this fall's presidential election, this one wasn't close. The community dumped one incumbent receiving compensation. Three new people now fill the three available slots. Some people do want change.

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp comments upon the workplace in national media. Copyright 2004 Passage Media.)

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Please fax resumes to (248) 601-0990 or call (248) 601-9100.

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Oakland County American House - Senior Living Residence. Must have a business/accounting background and enjoy working with senior citizens. Fax resume to 248-203-2929.

Associates
Winter Break Work
Great pay earn \$ for next term. No sales/service exp. necessary. Conditions apply all ages 18+. apply now call 9:00pm (248) 426-0633.

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

Help Wanted-General 5000

Auto COLLISION REPAIR SHOP MANAGER

Experienced turn around individual with credentials for profitability, customer satisfaction and employee retention. Applications confidential. Must reside within 20-25 minutes drive time from city of Livonia. Please send to Box 1028 Observer & Eccentric Newspaper 36251 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia MI 48150

AUTOMOTIVE BODY TECHNICIAN

Immediate opening for a Body Technician in one of the fastest growing collision shops in SE Michigan. Must have a minimum of five years experience with proven quality work skills. Extremely busy shop with all new latest technology equipment. Excellent pay plan and benefits package. Call Ron Richards to arrange an interview. Equal opportunity employer.

Dick Scott Collision
Plymouth MI
(734) 451-2555

dfcu FINANCIAL

Michigan's largest Credit Union needs friendly upbeat service oriented individuals.

Now Hiring for all branch locations. Will be trained in cash services, product sales & member service. Part Time hours Monday thru Saturday. Sales exp. required. Next training session begins on Mon. February 7, 2005.

Applications accepted through Wednesday January 7, 2005.

Apply in person at any OFCU Financial Branch Office. Credit record in good standing required. EOE.

DETROIT 101

TO WORK FOR WINNER 2004

BUSINESS TRAINEE College degree \$30K+ to start. \$40K+ after training. Call Bulynn @ 1-800-678-0126

Help Wanted-General 5000

CAD OPERATOR/PROCESS ENGINEER

State of the art Tool & Die related Company is in need of entry level or experienced CAD operators. Ambitious individual should have CAD experience and general machining knowledge. Position includes full benefits package, 13 paid holidays and great career and advancement opportunity. EOE.

Mail, fax or email resume to:
Moe or Manufacturing c/o Eng near ng 43938 Plymouth Oaks Plymouth MI 48170 Fax (734) 416-2200 E-mail mlynne@moellerpunch.com www.moellerpunch.com

CAREGIVERS in home care agency needs dependable people to care for the elderly in Plymouth Canton Belleville & Westland. 248-477-5680

CARPENTERS ROUGH FRAME

Exp. only Westland area. Leave Msg (734) 667-2372

We always find the best stuff in the Observer & Eccentric!

CARPENTERS WANTED

For professional rough framing co. All positions available. Must have dependable transportation & serious work attitude. Competitive pay w/benefits. (810) 632-4176

CARPET INSTALLER HELPER NEEDED

with some experience. Must have transportation & good attitude. Good pay. Call 734-422-5155

Cash paid for telephoning for remodeling company. Call 248-787-2696

CLEANERS WANTED

For Plymouth housekeeping co. \$10/hr. Mon-Fri. 8am-5pm. Car req. 734-455-4570

Help Wanted-General 5000

COMMUNITY MANAGER

Seeking experienced qualified candidates for Community Manager in the Detroit metropolitan area. The Community Manager administers and maintains all phases of apartment community operations under the direction of the Director of Property Management and Acquisitions. Areas of responsibility include human resources, maintenance, monitoring market conditions and advertising, budget development and control, leasing and resident relations. High school diploma or equivalent required. College degree or related course work preferred. A minimum of three years residential or commercial property management experience required. Section 8 helpful must also be able to use computerized property management/accounting software. Successful candidates must possess excellent communication leadership, be computer literate and understand marketing and budgeting processes. If interested, please fax resume with cover letter to Community Manager at Barger Realty Group, Inc. (248) 905-5511 or e-mail to humresnew2@hotmail.com

Equal Opportunity Employer

Help Wanted-General 5000

CONSTRUCTION COORDINATOR

Commercial HVAC contractor in Livonia seeking qualified person for a full time position as construction coordinator. Duties include job coordination, scheduling of crews, ordering materials, reading prints, receiving deliveries including some operation of hi lo. Excellent pay and benefit package. Send resume to Coordinator Position 34400 Glendale Livonia MI 48150

COPIER TECHNICIAN for Office Solutions

Are you dependable, self starting and trustworthy? Do you want to make more money with a significant career opportunity? Call image business solutions. Your Sharp Minolta Connection call toll free at 866-77-IMAGE. Full benefits, bonuses and car programs avail. Potential profit sharing depending on experience.

CREW LEADERS & LABORERS

for growing preservation co. in Walled Lake. Must be energetic, willing to work hard in all weather conditions & have driver's license. Starting at \$7.50/hr. 248-669-2888

CUSTOMER SERVICE REP

For growing Livonia based medical equipment company. Full time. Pleasant phone manner & ability to work in a fast paced environment. A must. Please fax resume to Attn: Karen (734) 522-8380

After Christmas Help

Flexible hours \$12.50 base/appt. sales/service. Will train. Conditions exist 18+. (248) 426-0633

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPS WANTED ASAP

Are you LAZY? THEN DON'T CALL ME! I'm looking for hardworking career minded individuals that can start work immediately. Start out making \$400/week with this busy Downriver company. Year round work. Call for immediate interview (734) 641-4700

DELIVERY DRIVER LOCAL - WANTED

Must have CDL B. Hazmat endorsement a plus! Mechanically inclined and have customer service skills with knowledge of the metro area. Mail or Fax resume to 13455 Stamford Ct Livonia MI 48150 Fax (734) 427-4493

DESK CLERK/HOUSEKEEPER

Experienced Full & Part time Farmington Hills. Fax resume (248) 477-2370

DIRECT CARE STAFF
\$7.70-\$8.20 wages/benefits. Call and leave message at 313-255-6295

Driver

Needed for 5 state area of Michigan. CDL A and X endorsement a must. Tanker exp. required. Pay negotiable. Excellent benefits, medical, prescription, 401(k) and vacation. Please email: htopich@generaliso.com or fax resume to Lynn at (734) 266-6400

For the best auto classifications check out the Observer & Eccentric Newspaper. It's all about RESULTS!

DRIVER CDL NEEDED

Must be flexible and willing to assist in other areas where required. Please fax resume to 734-397-5903

Help Wanted-General 5000

Driver FULL TIME & SEASONAL INDEPENDENT CONTRACT DRIVERS NEEDED!

VELOCITY the largest time critical logistics company in the U.S. has both full time and seasonal driving positions to fill immediately in the Detroit area. If you have or would like to rent a 14-18 Box Truck and you have a good driving record, a clean criminal history, are 21 or older and can pass a drug test, call today for an appointment. 866-679-2124 or email: ic-opportunities@velocityexp.com

Velocity
www.velocityexp.com EOE

DRIVER, Part-Time

Plymouth area automotive supplier is seeking Part Time Driver to deliver and pick up small cargo in local area. The successful candidate will have a clean driving record, preferably already earned the required CDL & be extremely reliable. Salary is commensurate with exp. Please send your resume to or fill out an application at: Argent International, Inc. 40106 Concept Drive Plymouth MI 48170

DRIVERS

needed for dental lab deliveries. Retirees welcome. Fax resume 248-739-7575

Drivers

Seeking CDL Class A with Hazmat experienced drivers with a minimum of 1 year experience for local driving & local work. Union wages & excellent benefits. For more information call (313) 295-8450. Ask for Leigh Ann EOE

DRIVERS Class B * Home Daily *

The Aldworth Co. has opportunities available in our Livonia MI facility for Mon-Fri local deliveries throughout MI. Requires Class B CDL, 1-2 yrs verifiable exp. current long form DOT physical, clean MVR & HazMat. Pay rate \$12/hr. to start with OT after 40 hrs. We offer full benefits & paid holidays/vacations. Please call Monday-Friday 8am-5pm/EST 1-800-234-5769

Adult Carriers Needed

Canton Area

Independent Contractors
Deliver newspapers two days per week Thursday and Sunday
(734) 805-3622
Ask for Troy

Help Wanted-General 5000

Drivers

Dedicated Freight Detroit MI to Kearney NJ
NO NEW YORK CITY!
Top Pay & Benefits + East Coast Pay
Class A CDL & 1 yr. t/t exp. req. d SS
(277) 724-4554

Drivers Owner/Operator EARN MORE IN THE NEW YEAR! OWNER OPERATORS DRIVERS & FLEET OWNERS

\$ Earn up to \$16 per mile \$ w/fuel surcharge!
No Up Front Money
Dedicated and Long Haul Runs Available
★ IRP Plate Program
★ Fuel Taxes Paid
★ Free Permits
★ No charge for Satellite 1 yr verifiable exp. Required Lease Purchase Program Available
Call Joel for more details 1-800-447-5173 x5413

GET YOUR CAREER ROLLIN' IN 2005!

No Experience Necessary
\$36,000 PLUS Benefits 1st YR!
18 Day CDL Training
Tuition Assistance From Top Companies
Job Placement Available
Financial Assist For Just About Anyone (WIA Approved)

Nu-Way Truck Driver Training Centers

Call 7 Days A Week
1-800-736-1912

Front End Loader Operator

For supply yard. Must also use cash register. Full time nights Jan 1st-April 1st. Exc. pay. See Don at Angelo's Supplies 29820 West 8 Mile btwn Middlebelt & Orchard Lake

GARDEN CITY SCHOOLS NEEDS PART TIME TEACHERS

SECONDARY
Art, Child Development, Food Management, Health, Math, Medical Insurance, Billing, Music, Networking, Physical Education, Science, Spanish and Veterinary Assisting.

ELEMENTARY
Art, Computers, Music, Physical Education and Spanish.

Please contact Jack Pelon Director (734) 762-8430 (734) 762-8534

"It's All About Results Observer & Eccentric 1-800-579-SELL"

Help Wanted-General 5000

POLICY

All advertising published in the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the advertising department.) Observer and Eccentric Newspapers reserve the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer and Eccentric Newspapers sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, no credit will be given unless notice of typographical or other errors is given in time for correction before the second insertion. Not responsible for omissions. Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which states that it is illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc 7249933-3172) Classified ads 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 program in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion, or national origin. Equal Housing Opportunity slogan. Equal Housing Opportunity Table III Illustration of Publisher's Notice.

SERVICE TECHNICIAN
Hydraulics, pneumatics and computer integration. Fax resume to (248) 735-6884

Bundle Haulers

Needed Saturday night and Thursday during the day to deliver the Observer Newspapers to carriers in Wayne County. Must have van, truck or SUV.

If interested please call 734-591-0500

Retail Sales Manager

The national award winning Observer & Eccentric Newspapers is seeking an independent, creative, and driven leader with a proven track record to be our retail sales manager located in our Birmingham office. The successful candidate must have working knowledge of newspaper retail/classified operations with a minimum of five years sales experience. Minimum 2 years management experience preferred. Excellent communication, leadership and organizational skills are essential. Bachelor's degree or equivalent in marketing, advertising or related business field required. You must also be able to:

- Maximize financial performance/efficiency of sales department
- Play a key role in market research & analysis to ensure marketing & sales plan is on target
- Make sales presentations, recruit, train & motivate sales staff to be highly successful

Salary is commensurate with experience and contains an attractive full benefits package. Please email your resume, cover letter, and salary requirements in confidence to:

(preferred) E-mail: employment@oe.homecomm.net
The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
36251 Schoolcraft Road
Livonia, MI 48150
Fax: (734) 953-2057

Must include an ad in the RSM

Attention Classified Advertisers

Check Out These Early Holiday Deadlines
Your advertising is important to us and
we don't want to leave anyone's ad out of the paper.

Thursday, December 23 Publication

(Delivered Wednesday)

Real Estate Display Friday, December 17, 3 pm
Auto Display Monday, December 20, Noon
Recruitment Display Monday December 20, 3 pm
Liner Monday December 20, 6 pm

Thursday, December 30 Publication

(Delivered Wednesday)

Real Estate Display Thursday, December 23, 3 pm
Auto Display Monday, December 27, Noon
Recruitment Display Monday December 27, 3 pm
Liner Monday December 27, 6 pm

Sunday, December 26 Publication

Real Estate Display Tuesday, December 21, 5 pm
Auto Display Wednesday, December 22, 5 pm
Recruitment Display Thursday December 23, 10 am
Liner Thursday December 23, Noon

Sunday, January 2 Publication

Real Estate Display Tuesday, December 28, 5 pm
Auto Display Wednesday, December 29, 5 pm
Recruitment Display Thursday December 30, 10 am
Liner Thursday December 30, Noon

Help Wanted-General 5000

GENERAL LABORER in a chemical manufacturing facility in Wixom. Must have own transportation. Send resume to Jerry 248 960 9119.

GREETER

Cider Mill Village Apartments in Rochester Hills is seeking an outgoing and friendly Greeter to welcome and assist potential apartment renters at our brand new, luxurious apartment community. The Greeter will use excellent customer service skills to provide community information to Apartment prospects. Responsibilities include phone coverage, property tours and general administrative duties. Computer skills are a plus. Weekend availability required. Please fax resumes to (248) 601 0990 or call (248) 601 9100 for more information.

HAIR STYLIST NEEDED
Apply at Fantastic Salons
Canton Center at Cherry Hill
(734) 812 0587

HVAC INSTALLER
Experienced person to run crew. Competitive wages. BC/BS & more. Dan Wood Plumbing & Heating 248 348 4242.

HVAC SERVICE
Are you a top notch technician? Join our group of professional commercial & residential experience required. Competitive wages. BC/BS & more. Dan Wood Plumbing & Heating 248 348 4242.

LANDSCAPE SUPERVISOR
Responsible for managing all aspects of landscape projects. Experienced & CDL required. Must be willing to assist in winter plowing & sealing activity. Fax resume to (734) 397 5909.

LARGE LANDSCAPE CONTRACTING FIRM NEEDS:
• Landscape Estimators
• Supervisors
• Technicians
Must Be Fully Qualified
Starting wages
\$15-\$18 per hour
Please Send Resumes to
Observer & Eccentric
Box 1030
36251 Schoolcraft Rd
Livonia MI 48150

Loan Officer
Choose a new career path in 2005. Unlimited income, potential benefits, comprehensive mortgage training. Fax resume to 248 746 1297 or email to careers@hamlinmortgage.net

MAINTENANCE TECH HVAC
Certificate & 2 years exp.
2nd shift full time. A Career
1 (877) 884 AJOE

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN
Full time experienced
Canton apt community. Great
opportunity for right person.
Please call 734 397 1080.

MARKETER NEEDED
Earn income marketing to
other local businesses.
Call 248 756 2246 for info.
Liberty Tax Service

MECHANIC (small engine)
Repair & perform regular
maintenance of equipment
including blowers, walk
behind mowers & snow
blowers. Must be able to perform routine car & light truck maintenance. Fax resume to 734 397 5909.

PART TIME GRANT WRITER
New nonprofit organization
for Mental & Young Adults.
Send resume 313 538
9560 with salary history.

PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR
Growing medical device
manufacturer in Wixom.
Ideal candidate will have
2 years supervisory
experience in a manu-
facturing environment.
Knowledge of GMP and
FDA regulations a plus.
Strong organizational,
interpersonal and math
skills required. Fax
resume to
(248) 960 9119 Attn:
Plant Manager

Help Wanted-General 5000

REAL ESTATE PROCESSOR/CLOSER
BPO experience helpful.
Professional full service com-
pany looking to fill several
positions. Call Robert LaBute
(313) 533 6300
www.remsrealstate.com

RENTAL EQUIPMENT YARD
Livonia area. Full time yard
attendant needed. w/mechanical
ability (734) 422 4800

ROOFERS / CARPENTERS
Wanted for fireplace
installations (Will train)
Full time w/benefits 401K
Life & Health insurance.
Full medical. Ask for Mr.
Green 248 547 6777
A NICE PLACE TO WORK!

SERVICE SHOP MANAGER
Responsible for managing
customer service skills to provide
community information to
Apartment prospects. Respon-
sibilities include phone cover-
age, property tours and gen-
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Computer skills are a plus.
Weekend availability required.
Please fax resumes to
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Strong organizational,
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skills required. Fax
resume to
(248) 960 9119 Attn:
Plant Manager

Help Wanted-Office 5020

LEGAL SECRETARY
Experienced secretary for
family law firm for women
only. Great salary/benefit
package. Fax resume to 248
723 4175 or email smi-
call@victoralawfirm.com

NOW HIRING WEEK-END RECEPTIONIST
For Busy Real Estate office in
Canton. Duties include setting
appointments, answering
multiple phone lines, filing,
general office duties.
Additional office cleaning
opportunity available. Start at
\$8/hr. Sat 9-4 Sun 10-4
Tracy or Scott
(734) 981 2900

OFFICE MANAGER/CLERICAL
For busy commercial property
management firm. Will be
responsible for answering
phone, light bookkeeping,
word processing and general
administration. Exciting
opportunity with potential for
advancement to district or en-
terprise level. Good working person.
Competitive salary and bene-
fits. Send resume and salary
requirements to P.O. Box 70
Southfield MI 48037 0070.

RECEPTIONIST
Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks
a senior apartment community
is seeking to fill a weekend and
evening Receptionist position.
Applicants must be caring,
have the ability to work well
with the public and have basic
computer skills. EOE. Apply
in person at Waltonwood at
Twelve Oaks 27475 Huron
Circle, Novi, Michigan (behind
12 Oaks Mall off 12 Mile Rd.)
or call (248) 735 1500.

RECEPTIONIST/CLERICAL
Busy Pediatric practice in
Canton is seeking full time
med receptionist (40hr/week).
Qualified candidate will greet
and assist patients, obtain and
communicate necessary infor-
mation to billing staff, sched-
ule appointments and facilitate
efficient patient flow. Must
have strong customer service
background, be team player
and have computer experi-
ence. Knowledge of medical
billing insurance and refer-
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salary, excellent benefits
package offered. Please send
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49650 Cherry Hill Rd, Ste
210, Canton MI 48187 or fax
to 734 398 7895
www.ihadears.com

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Canton is seeking full time
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background, be team player
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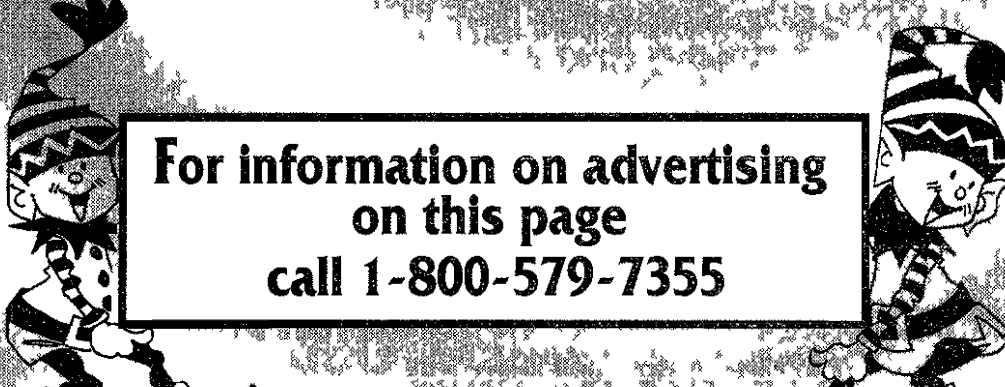
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Michigan Humane Society ADOPT-A-PET

This Week's Featured Pet

Delilah is a beautiful four year old shorthair cat. Her soft fur is white with brown tiger stripes. She was a stray, brought to the shelter to find a good home. Delilah's life on the street caused her some balding spots around her neck and belly due to fleas. She has already been treated for the fleas and her fur will return. This gorgeous girl is very laid back and affectionate.

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Answer the TRIVIA QUESTIONS below and be entered to win an Authentic Detroit Red Wings Jersey!

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One lucky grand prize winner will receive the "Hockeytown Holiday Grand Prize". This will include a and the opportunity to have your photo taken on the ice at Joe Louis Arena!

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WHERE HOMETOWN STORIES UNFOLD

You could be the lucky winner of an Authentic Detroit Red Wings jersey. We will draw a winner each week from the postcards with the correct answers to the trivia questions. Here's how to enter: Send a postcard with the answers. Make sure that your name, a day time phone number and your complete address is on the postcard. Send to:

Red Wings Jersey
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The winners will be published every Thursday & Sunday in your Observer & Eccentric Classifieds Section. Winners will be contacted by a Detroit Red Wings representative. The Hockeytown Holiday Grand Prize Winner will be drawn on Dec 17th from all of the correct entries.

RED WINGS TRIVIA QUESTIONS

1. What three players have been selected # 1 overall by the Detroit Red Wings in the NHL entry draft since its inception in 1963?
2. What three goalies won the Vezina trophy as the NHL's best goaltender while playing for the Detroit Red Wings?
3. Only three players have worn the # 13 for the Detroit Red Wings. Name those three players.

This Week's Winner!
Wendy Weingarden - Westland

Employees of The Observer & Eccentric and the Detroit Red Wings are not eligible to win

Matchmakerplus



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Women seeking men

TRY ME!

SF 37 blonde/blue 5'6" mother enjoys bowling pool concerts long park walks cycling music! especially Rod Stewart) more Seeking Macomb man to share happiness with **21404691**

SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT
SBFC grandmother N/S likes d'ring n/ut movies plays bowling shooting pool parks traveling cooking Seeking gentleman 45+ sense of humor values knows how to treat a lady No game play ing **21479737**

WHERE ARE YOU?
Attractive outgoing honest sexy SBF 32 ISO SM any race, 31-37 for relation ship i enjoy movies rollerblading come dy clubs bowling ect Serious replies only **21455371**

IT'S ALL GOOD
Cool SBF 31 5'8" N/S likes to bowl fish skate and travel seeks SBF 19 35 N/S to share honest friendship romance quality time together **21478802**

IN IT FOR THE LONG-TERM
SBF 30 5'6" loves to get away for the weekend would like to get to know SBF 23 41 w/ passion for travel and life **21509782**

SEARCHING
Sexy attractive SBF 33 51 145 lbs, brown complexion on curly hair enjoys movies, dining ISO her soulmate, a com patible SBF 45-55 possible marriage **21508955**

HAVE FUN AND CHILL
SF 64' 250lbs works in medical field seeking a SM who wants to have fun and chill with her **21517112**

LET'S COMMUNICATE
Active, affectionate SBF enjoys dining out, movies plays concerts traveling Seeking honest down-to-earth SBF 55 70 w/similar interests, for companionship. **21135056**

AAA YOUR HEART
Let's keep the New Year right Come into my world SBF 45 great smile I'm sure you'll like me **21508577**

NOT INTO GAMES
Pette W/F 30s with herpes willing to give it another chance seeks one-on-one relation ship with SM Race age unimportant. **21406796**

TWO HEARTS ONE LIFE
SBF tall medium build N/S who enjoys music traveling country shows seeks man 45-55 N/S N/D outgoing affectionate stable for LTR **21444745**

SEEKING KINDRED SPIRIT
SM 45 blonde attractive friendly kind considerate poltts seeking a S/WDM 42-52 for friendship possibly more **21512857**

LIFE IS TOO SHORT
Mature and outgoing SBF 50 years young 5'175lbs th ck not tall great f g ure interested n meeting mature black male who loves to live spontaneously **21276032**

I LISTEN WITH MY HEART
Attractive DWF 40s Cancer N/S seeks special no games WM 45+ N/S for caring a ty committed elation ship Lets create spa ks and watch them fly **21536272**

LOYAL
SWF 43 Leo N/S blonde/blue profes sional chet green thumb petite enjoys cooking boating seeks compatible SBF 43-50 N/S N/D outgoing and poss ible relationship **21956732**

ROMANTIC NIGHTS
Black BSW 42 dark complexion enjoys movies dancing quiet romantic nights seeking a SM 30-45 for dating and possible relationship **21552147**

WELCOME TO MY WORLD
SF 42 intelligent sexy sensitive seek ing a spontaneous, honest hard work ing sincere SM 38-47 for dating and possible relationship **21552278**

HOMEBODY
SBF 33 5'8" 155lbs retired (but does work part time) very honest and carny George N/S seeks BM 58-65 honest and caring **21553674**

ATTN WORKAHOLICS
SWF 39 5'7" 125lbs ISO professional male for friendship possible relation ship. Not just arm candy, have opinions feelings don't want perfection just right person **21410965**

PRECIOUS ONE
SWF very pretty a young 39 medium dark/green works in medical field seeks attractive SBF outgoing honest caring sensitive and creative for best friend, more **21230588**

LOVABLE AND SWEET
SBF 30 5'2 brown/brown 170lbs mother working student Libra N/S seeks independent smart BM 35-75 for friendship possible relationship P LTR **21437579**

BIG, BOLD BEAUTIFUL
Attractive voluptuous SBF 33 N/S, beau tiful smile seeks single man 21-60 who is adventurous spontaneous interested in dating. **21511455**

MUST HAVE SIMILAR VALUES
SWCF 51 4'11 115lbs, blonde hair two grown children loves anials church children sports Seeking a good Christian man 50-62 for friendship first possible LTR **21503353**

LOVES TO DANCE
Tall brunette very attractive 5'9" long black/green looking for an available WM 53 70 5'10+ who loves to dance also **21531151**

LOOKING FOR AN ANGEL ..
In a SBF 39 50 6'4 190+ Must be honest and laid back i enjoy movies going out walks nice conversation d'ring more **21531635**

GET IT TOGETHER
SBF 28 5'5" N/S plus-sized brown/ brown would love to spend some time with a nice SBF 30-40 N/S who has his life together **21543576**

LOVE AND MARRIAGE
Very romantic and shy Russian lady 38 5'10" slim Sagittarius would like to meet an intelligent romantic man with a strict morality who is looking for love, possible marriage **21520116**

WANTED TALL, CLASSY MALE
I am in my early 60s, 5'2" brown/brown i enjoy dancing outdoors and travel Seeking a companion and maybe a rela tionship Please call **21392035**

LOST IN MICHIGAN
SBFPF 29 5'5 180lbs no children never married very attractive easygoing laid back loves travel Looking for a none open-minded laid-back male who has his stuff together **21229069**

CUTE AND CLASSY
SBF 60+ physically fit enjoys jogging concerts, theater quiet evenings Seeking attractive gentleman over 60 with s m lar interests. **21130522**

TOO MUCH JOY
Chruchgoing SBF 53 loves to have fun in the kitchen, catches all the latest movies has good time no matter what ISO like-minded SBF 48-56 **21279940**

ARE WE A MATCH?
SBF 41 tall pretty enjoys working out theater cooking comedy clubs Seeking tall SBF 42-60 attractive financially secure similar interests **21483446**

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS
SF 29 likes laughing hanging out hav ing fun. Looking for sim lar SM 38 41 N/S for friendship or more **21510395**

HOPE WE CAN TALK SOON!

I am a 5'2" brunette dark eyes early 60s searching for a tall financially secure gentleman who knows how to treat a lady **21466121**

STILL LOOKING
Attractive tall SBF 48 N/S business woman enjoys fishing boating movies long walks Seeking 35+ w/same interest N/S **21525043**

SELF-EMPLOYED
intelligent funny SBF 35 full-figured A marriage-minded N/S likes jazz music, comedy, and act on movies Seeking man 25-45 **21526351**

WOMAN OF SUBSTANCE
SBF 27 Caproom smoker 5 stable financially secure seeking a SM 25-45 who is stable and knows what he wants in life **21531401**

MERRY CHRISTMAS BABY
Very attractive petite BF 53 118lbs youthful open minded outgoing loves to have fun seeking a SBF 36-39 who is very open m'nded and outgoing **21544337**

TAKE A CHANCE
Make me laugh W/F 52 N/S tired of going through life alone enjoys rock music (especially Eric Clapton) and the blues **21547823**

ARE YOU ROMANTIC?
SBF 43 N/S N/D I like travel sports, running dancing swimming cooking Looking for outgoing goal-oriented BM 38 50 **21546448**

LET'S MEET
Tender slender SWF 50 works n health care comfortable in a gown or jeans enjoys gardening plays, concerts arts talks seeking romantic, fun SM 45-60 **21575713**

SEEKS PROFESSIONAL MALE
SWFP 57' long brown hair looking for an educated man 35-55 who likes poltts reading and going to movies **21529129**

CUTE GIRL NEXT DOOR
Me 26 4'9" 155lbs brown-complected, employed W/F 5'4 100lbs-240lbs single drama free handsome. Friendship first, maybe long term later **21271252**

ARE WE A MATCH?
SWF 26 enjoys the outdoors, rollerblad ing biking long walks and romantic d'ning Looking for SBF 25-30 for LTR **21457674**

HONESTY REQUIRED
Beautiful full figured SBF 35 s looking for tall dark, handsome SBFPM who a honest and down to earth to spend time with **21401098**

YOU NEED ME
Very attractive young full figured mixed BF 30 5'6" searching for down-to-earth tall responsible mentally/phys cally/finan cially secure man I need you as much as you need me **21519124**

SEXY REDHEAD/GREAT LEGS
DWF 54 142lbs 5'6" enjoys blues ariale gardening homeowner no kids. Seeking SM 5'10+ N/S social drinker for LTR **21545059**

TALK TO ME!
SF 43 likes movies d'ring shopping the zoo time with my kids Seeking honest good looking sincere man 38 46 **21311415**

FINANCIALLY SECURE
SF 34 N/S has a successful active with d verse interests looking for a woman 25 40 who has integrity honest and fem n nty Race open **21537855**

YOU GOT A FRIEND
SWF 54 N/S N/D H/W enjoys going out and having a good time not too ba, seeking the right SBF 36-43 for friend ship first **21531171**

VERY ATTRACTIVE REDHEAD
Beautiful fun female 60 5'6" fit body short hair i looking for a laid-back SM 49-61 who likes d'ring dancing hav ing fun! **21537804**

NO NONSENSE
Noe-looking active no nonsense gal seeks good looking active no-nonsense guy 35-49 white or hispanic DWFF young 43 athletic companionship and fun desired **21496555**

CHRISTIAN BACKGROUN
SBFC 30 no children seeks goal-orient ed SBFCM 26-37 no children who a respectful intel gent intellectual and respects women **21501950**

JUST THE FACTS
SWF 27 full-figured N/S enjoys movs, dinner dancing Seeking man 24-35 N/S race n important for friendship pos sible romance **21529735**

A LOT TO OFFER
Outgoing SBF 24 5'6" 350lbs profes sional employed loves the fun and excitement of festivals enjoys new movies and concerts seeks handsome honest SBF **21280532**

BEAUTIFUL EYES AND SMILE
Sports-oriented SBF 35 two teenage daughters physically challenged loves jazz sports, gospel picnics amusement parks. Seeking SF 29-45 **21223080**

LOOKING FOR GOOD FRIENDS
SBF 38 is looking for SBF/HAM who s educated fun outgoing adventurous spontaneous laughter and conversa tion are good things Must be a gentle man **21232589**

OPEN AND HONEST
SF 35 looking for a woman 25-45 for affection and attention Call let's add some excitement to life! **21424565**

QUIET QUALIFIED
SBF 47 N/S attractive shy w/great sense of humor enjoys nature sking plays movies music tries to savor the joyous moment Seeking BM 42 55 **21460494**

THE LITTLE THINGS MATTER
SBF 41 54 very outgoing loving hon est trustworthy hard-working enjoys reading writng walks n the park movies concerts seeking hard work ing trustworthy God fearing SM 38-55 **21471493**

LET'S HANG OUT
SF 28 51 135lbs CNA enjoys movies fun hanging out seeking compatible SM 25-45 who shares s m lar interests **21475292**

SEARCH NO MORE
Genuine attractive feminine indepen dent SBF 5'6" 140lbs who enjoys jazz romantic dinners quiet evenings plays, nights n seeking honest independent sincere, feminine SF 30-42 **21472831**

BEAUTIFUL MIND WANTED
Beautiful full figured SBF 35 enjoys comedy and romance bowling walks in the park Seeking tall dark handsome SBF 33-50 **21481293**

SECRETARY OF FUN
SWF 36 Leo N/S blonde/green, mother of 2 seeks serious, hard-working SBF 35 to 35 N/S who is not into bars. **21498442**

HELLO, HOW ARE YOU?
Loving down-to-earth SBFC 33 411 180 lbs, mother N/S N/D enjoys bowling shopping movie live entertainment Seeking SBF 30 35 N/S for friend ship possible romance **21529735**

GET TO KNOW ME!
SF 38 N/S mother of two looking for working man 28-55 N/S for friendship first **21431392**

ATTRACTIVE SWEET BF
49 H/W proportionate med um build enjoys cruises concerts d'ring out movies traveling Seeking honest pas sionate SM 45 60 w th sim lar interests for dating possible romance **21134441**

TAKING IT IN
SWF 52 5'2 190lbs youthful looking shoulder-length hair brown/brown love motorcycles, James Taylo din ng seek ing SBF 48-59 **21530084**

PETITE AND SEXY
SBF 50 Scorpio N/S petite 5'1 105lbs energetic enjoys fitness movies theater craft shows seeks sm lar SBF 50-61 N/S who is fit, energetic, s milar interests **21544500**

SEARCHING FOR A REAL LOVE
Full figured African American woman attractive 44 no children ISO African American male 32-38 to spend quiet evenings I'm carefree love laughter good times concerts, plays sporting events traveling and quality time **21290167**

ARE YOU THE ONE?
SBF 41 45 wishes to meet a k ng s ized SBF 41+ for fr'ndship and com panionshp **21955520**

MR RIGHT
Are you a tall big handsome man that could be my Mr R'ght for a SWF 58 attractive loving and fun s's share life together **21433539**

SWEET SINGLE FEMALE
looking for sweet SM SF 21 dark brown/brown 5'2 150lbs tattoos/pier cings, ISO comm'nt m't n'nded loving kind guy interested in friendship happ ness and a loving long-term relat on ship **21523222**

LET'S ENJOY LIFE
No drama no games 45 SBPF nterests, concerts plays well-groomed SBF 60+ loves cuddling d'ring out and shar ing life **21272663**

MAKE ME LAUGH
SBF 45 smoker wants to find frndshp, possibly more w/gentleman 40-60 who appreciates music travel spending time outdoors **21460269**

YOU WILL LIKE ME!
Attractive SWF 38 5'6" blonde, artist fun loving seeks well-groomed SBF 60+ loves cuddling d'ring out and shar ing life **21272663**

SENSE OF HUMOR A MUST
SF 43 smoker student, looking for SM 25-35 N/S, who is trustworthy a good li ener and will make me happy **21464338**

BEAUTY AND BRAINS
Hard working SBF 50 smoker enjoys laughter movies music conversation and more Seeking healthy trustworthy intelligent SBF 45-60 for fr'ndshp maybe more **21532651**

SIMPLE REQUEST
Are you honest trustworthy down-to earth? SBF 40 N/S seeks SBF 27-57 N/S who knows how to take life one day at a time **21526621**

QUIET BEAUTY
SBF 46 shy but loves to laugh enjoys concerts movies seeking good honest SBF 43-50 N/S for LTR **21498245**

FEELING LIKE A LADY
SWCF honest pleasant long hair 42 no children L likes nature walks travel cook ing ch'ndren feeding like a shy Seeking honest genu ne marriage minded S/DWCM **21578655**

LET'S BE HAPPY TOGETHER
Pretty slender Ukran nian lady 54 Catholic 10 years n the U.S seeking car ing ch'ndren feeding like a shy Seeking honest genu ne marriage minded S/DWCM **21578655**

ARE WE COMPATIBLE?
SBF 60 54 150lbs blonde hair ca trified nursing assn, N/S seeks BM 61 62 for friendship dating perhaps more **21514347**

BEEH'TEN? DONE THAT?
Take heart DWF young-adult 53 5'9" blonde/hazel N/S works in a warehouse Seeking that special romantic WM 49-50 who enjoys animals, camping traveling and music **21517372**

EPITOME OF BEAUTY
SBF 19 58 148lbs N/S loves journal at literature writng reading movies Looking for SM 19-34 for possible rela tionship **21515765**

A LOVE MATCH
SPF 43 travels on business a tall Looking for laid-back happy financially secure man 50 60 who needs someone n his life **21526862**

STRIKING
blue-eyed blonde SM sensuals rom antic fun carling seeking attractive fit fun loving male 47-57 Friendship LTR i enjoy movies, walks music hugs laugh ter quiet times. Lets get to know each other **21262392**

LOVELY CULTURED TRIM
Professional with many interests and fine qualities, who loves to dance Seeks tall attractive nicely-built, educated gentleman to share a loving romantic LTR 63-73 **21506895**

FINANCES FIRST
SBF 28 Aquarius N/S is looking for a friend SBF 28-38 N/S Must have a sense of humor must be hard-working trustworthy and goal-or'nted **2159073**

BEAUTIFUL EYES AND SMILE
Sports-oriented SBF 35 two teenage daughters physically challenged loves jazz sports, gospel picnics amusement parks. Seeking SF 29-45 **21223080**

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DARK EBONY
SBF 42 5'8" full-figured seeks intelli gent man 48 60 5'6"-6'2" medium buid or heavyset for possible relation ship **21232693**

AM I LOOKING FOR YOU?
Attractive kind hearted SBF 44 58 full figured enjoys dining out movies playing cards family and more Seeking family oriented intell gent humorous SBF 40-60 for friendship and com panionshp **21232821**

NEW TO WAYNE CO AREA
SBPF 40ish 5'6" nurse with children marriage-minded smoker loves drama movies, dating and crossword puzzles. Seeking WM 45-60 smoker who enjoys music a nd sports **21245545**

SHALL WE?
DWF 40 5'4" H/W proportionate light brown hair N/S, loves golfing, sports movies, and travel Seeking active outgo ing WM 40 49 48 N/S for friendship **21245969**

FRIENDSHIP FIRST
God-fearing loving intelligent SBF 43 enjoys church the outdoors laughter d'ring out gospel music and more Seeking good hearing, honest, caring SBF 40-45 for friendship first **21221725**

WHERE IS MR RIGHT?
SF 46 likes dancing, bowling, romantic evenings swimming Seeking SM 40-55 with good sense of humor **21257065**

LIBRA
DBF 50 looks much younger enjoys music long walks quiet times Seeking WM 35-50 for friendship possible ong-term relat onsh p **21235857**

YOUR WILDEST DREAMS
SBF 48 smoker loves jazz dining out romantic evenings and movs Seeking feminine BF 35-50 under 54 honesty a must **21260017**

SLIM AND PETITE
Easygoing active DWF retired ISO fun male 60+ who likes bridge tennis read ing hiking anials, kds poccom willing to con a twedo now and then **21271793**

RESCUE ME
SBF 41 55 average build enjoys church family shopping much more Looking for SBF 43-47 professional employed N/S who knows how to treat a woman **21406835**

SEEKING THE RAINBOW
Open m'nded energetic spontaneous SBF 48 5'3" seeks the star at the end of the ra nbow My star someone commu nist and heart started, who enjoys romance, exploring life **21933747**

PLEASEING PLUMP FEMALE
42 year-old African Amer can female seeks tall handsome man who is mature N/S and enjoys being in the company of a beautiful woman **21781192**

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?
I could be it! Attractive SWF 60 5 105lbs willing to try just about anything with the right person! Seeking SBF 32 50 for special relationship **21418068**

ARE YOU THE ONE
DBF 53 H/W proportonate outgoing loves the arts plays dancing movies outdoors sports drives ISO SM D/D free w/s m lar interests, smoker socia drinker ok No games **21417236**

FUN-LOVING LADY
SBF 43 VI go smoke, loves chocolate seeks fun lovng n s nce a BM 34 56 enjoys conversat on compans onsh p **21438719**

ENOUGH SEEMS IVORY
DBF 42 53 140lbs full figured seeks date SBF 40-60 in the Mount Clemens area. **21453223**

VERY OUTGOING
Catholic DWF 59 looks much younger N/S very tall looking for gentleman 58-63 w/outbeat personality to enjoy family activities camping travel much more **21455079**

SEMI-RETIRED
SF 62 5'9" slim fit likes jazz concerts, symphonies theater travel and outdoors ad vices Seeking Intelligent, honest car ing romantic seeking 55 70 with similar interests **21367191**

LOVING AND CARING
Independent active loving caring down to-earth SF 46 N/S vegetar an enjoys movies fne d'ring travel Looking for handsome SBF 48-49 H/W proportionate N/S professional job **21461695**

CAN I MAKE ME LAUGH?
Spontaneous SWF, 61 5'4" average build happy independent humorous enjoys boating cards music dining, walks travel Gf Seeking good-humored SM w/s mlar interests for companionship **21992703**

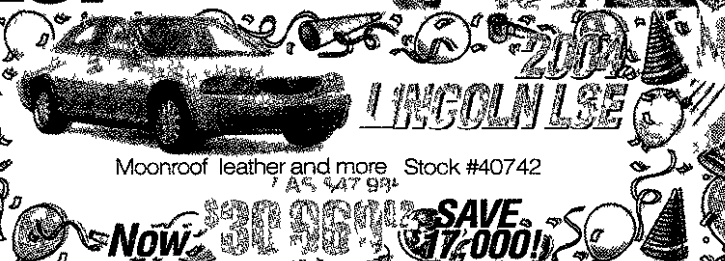
LOOKING FOR MY TEDDY BEAR
Attractive W/WF 64 redd/blue 5 150lbs looking for easygoing well groomed gentleman 65-70 who enjoys meeting new people **21476645**

WARR

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AS LOW AS \$15,311¹⁵

24 MONTH LEASE RENEWAL \$89⁹⁹**

A-Plan \$1933.08 Due on Delivery

2005 MERCURY MONTEGO

3.0 24 valve V6 air conditioning six speed automatic transmission passenger power seat AM/FM six CD MP3 audio adjustable pedals. Stock #50383 WAS \$25,790

AS LOW AS \$20,725³⁰

24 MONTH LEASE RENEWAL \$199⁹⁹**

A-Plan \$2128.78 Due on Delivery

COUPON GET \$500⁰⁰

Extra For Your Trade[†]

EXPIRES 12-31-04

2004 MERCURY MONTEREY

4.2 EFI engine four speed automatic trans dual zone air overhead console dual sliding doors AM/FM stereo CD/cassette. Stock #41554 WAS \$29,990

AS LOW AS \$15,155⁶⁸

2005 SABLE LS

3.0L V6 automatic transmission air conditioning power driver's seat leather ABS brakes power heated mirrors. Stock #50054 WAS \$25,806

AS LOW AS \$16,384⁰⁰

36 MONTH LEASE RENEWAL \$372¹⁵**

A-Plan

2005 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER

4.0 V6 automatic transmission AM/FM CD keyless entry running boards. Stock #50210 WAS \$30,880

AS LOW AS \$21,501⁰⁰

36 MONTH LEASE RENEWAL \$199⁹⁹**

A-Plan \$1076.47 Due on Delivery

2004 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR

5.4L engine four speed automatic transmission air conditioning leather seats heavy duty trailer tow climate controlled seats. Stock #40184 WAS \$55,020

AS LOW AS \$36,424⁷⁰

2004 LINCOLN AVIATOR

4.6 V8 automatic transmission Class 3 trailer tow package AM/FM six disc compact disc air conditioning with dual zone controls steering wheel controls. Stock #41166 WAS \$44,970

AS LOW AS \$28,963⁴¹

2004 LINCOLN TOWN CAR SIGNATURE

4.6 V8 automatic transmission dual zone climate control traction assist dual media audio electronic mirrors/compass group. Stock #41790

AS LOW AS \$27,224¹⁵

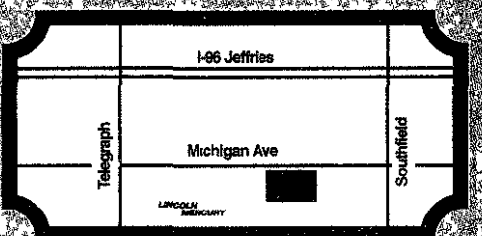
³⁰credit plus tax title acquisition fee + Trade-in 95 or newer less than 100,000 miles. Limit 1 per customer. ^{††}Must certify that customer is not A-Plan eligible. Must take delivery from dealer stock. Expires 12/31/04

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2005 Focus ZX3 SE 3 Door

Was \$17,990
NOW \$13,725³⁰

Integrated fog lamps leather wrapped steering wheel speed control air conditioning 16 alloy wheels 2.0L DOHC engine automatic transmission P205/60R16 BSW tires heated package heated seats power heated mirrors power moonroof. [STOCK #51134]

Zero Down	\$1500 Down
24 Month Lease	24 Month Lease
\$228¹⁷**	\$165⁰⁷**
PAYMENT	PAYMENT
\$354⁴⁶	\$1877⁷⁷
AMOUNT DUE	AMOUNT DUE

2005 Focus SE 4 Door

Was \$17,550
NOW \$13,327³⁰

2 spd variable wipers, center console rear defroster air front courtesy lights 2.0L DOHC engine auto trans P155/60R16 BSW tires conv 6 spd control 16" dual color radio controls sport group integrated fog lamps achromatic leather wrapped steering wheel 5 alloy wheels. [STOCK #50581]

Zero Down	\$1500 Down
24 Month Lease	24 Month Lease
\$235⁵²**	\$172⁴²**
PAYMENT	PAYMENT
\$362⁶⁵	\$1885⁷⁷
AMOUNT DUE	AMOUNT DUE

Introducing the All New Ford Freestyle, Five Hundred and Mustang - plenty in stock ready for immediate delivery!

2005 F-150 XLT 4X4 SUPERCAB

True blue clearcoat premium flint preferred equipment pkg 507A XLT series 5.4L EFI V8 electronic 4-speed automatic overdrive P255/70R17 OWL all terrain 3.55 ratio limited slip axle 7200# GVWR pkg tow & go discount electronic shift-on-fly sliding rear window trailer tow pkg 17 mach alum whs w/paint accents. [STOCK #6386X14]

Was \$33,925 **NOW \$23,878.30³⁰**

24 MONTH LEASE	\$1500 DOWN
\$149⁷¹**	\$853³⁶**
AMOUNT DUE	AMOUNT DUE
\$361.69	\$1884.01

2005 Five Hundred SE AWD

Was \$24,495
NOW \$19,580²⁵

Sheer cloth bucket AM/FM CD radio anti lock brakes air 17 x 7 spoke alum wheels day/night rear view mirror premium sound system 3.0 liter 4V V8 duratec engine cont variable trans P215/60R17 BSW tires 1 act on control. [STOCK #51281]

Zero Down	\$1500 Down
24 Month Lease	24 Month Lease
\$244²¹**	\$179⁹⁰**
PAYMENT	PAYMENT
\$377⁶⁶	\$1893⁶³
AMOUNT DUE	AMOUNT DUE

2005 Escape Limited

Was \$27,200
NOW \$20,225³⁰

Leather comfort grip pwr 6-way drive seat floor mats spd control air perimeter alarm cruise 3.0L V6 4 spd auto 40 hrs 223000118 abs brake 3 spd pwr moonroof mach crossbar white age 16" cargo conn grip rear cargo storage bin 40 adjustable cargo cover 16" ac comfort grip 8 spoke steering wheel pwr heated mirrors 4 heated 16" driver & pass seats mach AM/FM stereo w/6 CD in-dash. [STOCK #51929]

Zero Down	\$1500 Down
24 Month Lease	24 Month Lease
\$228³⁵**	\$162⁹⁷**
PAYMENT	PAYMENT
\$445⁰⁵	\$1965⁷⁵
AMOUNT DUE	AMOUNT DUE

2005 Freestar Limited

Was \$34,720
NOW \$24,571⁴⁰

3.54 liter regular axle electronics group dual power sliding doors aux air electronic automatic in zone air conditioning two-tone appearance 4.2 liter OHV EF engine four speed automatic overdrive transmission 235/60R-6 BSW all season regular ASP dent free deluxe crossbars stereo's compact disc speeded air volume control active safety package. [STOCK #50458]

Zero Down	\$1500 Down
24 Month Lease	24 Month Lease
\$207⁷⁹**	\$145¹⁴**
PAYMENT	PAYMENT
\$513²⁶	\$2036⁸⁵
AMOUNT DUE	AMOUNT DUE

2005 Taurus SE

Was \$22,605
NOW \$14,720³⁰

Air depower rest eye-pass a bag floor mats dual power mirror 3.0L 24 6-cyl flex fuel engine automatic overdrive P215/60R16 all season tire SE preferred equipment package 5-spoke painted alum wheels rear spoiler power driver seat with lumbar 60/40 split fold rear seat 5-pass w/tilt floor shift AM/FM stereo/CD player active safety package. [STOCK #50458]

Zero Down	\$1500 Down
24 Month Lease	24 Month Lease
\$208¹⁴**	\$145⁵⁰**
PAYMENT	PAYMENT
\$513⁶³	\$2037²³
AMOUNT DUE	AMOUNT DUE

2005 F-150 XLT 4X4 SUPERCAB

Was \$33,925 **NOW \$23,878.30³⁰**

24 MONTH LEASE	\$1500 DOWN
\$149⁷¹**	\$853³⁶**
AMOUNT DUE	AMOUNT DUE
\$361.69	\$1884.01

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Zero Down	\$1500 Down
24 Month Lease	24 Month Lease
\$218⁸⁹**	\$156²⁴**
PAYMENT	PAYMENT
\$480⁰²	\$1703⁶¹
AMOUNT DUE	AMOUNT DUE

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Was \$27,350
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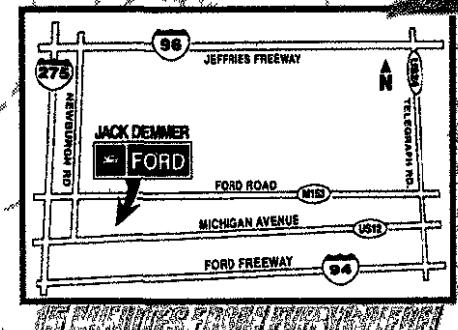
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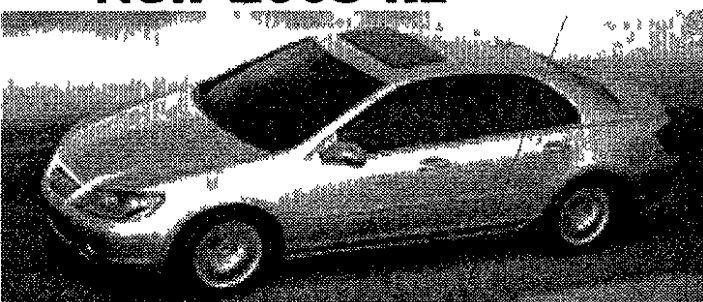


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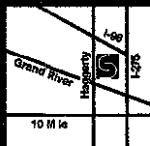
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Say 'Thanks' In Style



Whether you actually did love said gifts is beside the point — now's your cue to put as much thought into the thank you cards you send them to show your gratitude

But we all know finding stylish cards is easier than it sounds. Luckily, my gift to you this very merry holiday season is to make it a cinch. Here, some sites that will let you show your gratitude in good taste.

Cherry pie notecards
\$12.95 for 10 @ iomoi.com

My personal all-time fave is **iomoi.com**, where you'll find many a preppy and pretty card — think navy and pink stripes, purdy paisleys, Nantucket whales, fresh cherries, delectable candies, among other sweets-infused designs. Their old-fashioned yet modern aesthetic is so contagious and sure to bring a smile to your recipient's face.



Prep school tie note cards
show your appreciation
with style \$12.95 for 10
@ iomoi.com

hand-embellished with glitter. Simple

Chances are, you just got a whole lotta prezzies from some very special peeps that put a lot of time and energy into picking out gifts they thought you would love.

Best of all, a pack of 10 cards will only cost you \$12.95. If glitter and sparkle are more your personal style, then jump on over to **glamscience.com**, where cards are made from recycled paper and

illustrations, filled in with varying shades of glitter (the designer has hundreds on hand!), make these cards sweet and personal. Packs of 8 are just \$12.

If you're yearning for more of a selection, visit **chelseapaper.com**, where the gamut runs from bold and simple to trendy and whimsical. The Traveling Diva and Dog-Loving Diva thank you cards are a fun choice. A set of 20 cards is \$38. But my favorite is the set of Champagne thank you cards, cream-colored with a champagne-swilling sophisticate on the front. Perfect for the party season, a set of 8 is \$12.

Still on the hunt? Swing on by **inkwellcollection.com** for their aqua-hued thank-yous. Gussied up with florals, a 10-pack of Go Go Flowers packs a punch for just \$15. Plus, for the lady who knows exactly what she wants but can't seem to find it, Inkwell will work with you to create custom cards that say just what you want.

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Please keep sending in your questions and I'll keep doing my best to make your online shopping experiences easier and more fun. I wish you only the best in 2005!

Kelly Lee runs the online style magazine **BussBuss.com** and designs fabulously fun clothing and accessories. Got an online shopping question? Ask kelly@bussbuss.com!

Thank You Notes

mannerisms
etiquette for the modern girl

- 1 Send your thank you notes as soon as possible, preferably within a week.
- 2 Notes may be sent on informal stationery, except for wedding thank you notes, which should be sent on formal stationery.
- 3 Always make specific reference to the gift or occasion that is the subject of the note.
- 4 Always send thank you notes in response to:
 - Wedding, bridal and baby shower gifts • Gifts received by mail • Sympathy letters, flowers or cards • To the host or hostess of a party thrown in your honor • Get well gifts received during a hospital stay • After being hosted as a houseguest for one or more nights • For notes or gifts of congratulations
- 5 Thank you notes are not required in the following situations, but would still be gracious:
 - For holiday gifts that were received and opened in person and you thanked the giver personally • After being a guest at a dinner party • After a job interview • When a friend has helped you out with a special favor • To a sales rep who has entertained you personally as part of a business relationship

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MAC Viva Glam lipstick benefits AIDS

NEW YORK — Good things come in small packages, and Viva Glam lipstick is a prime example

Over the past 10 years, the lipstick by MAC Cosmetics has raised \$40 million for the MAC AIDS Fund. As December — World AIDS Awareness Month — draws to a close, orders for Viva Glam continue to pour in.

John Demsey, the chairman of the fund and acting president of MAC, says the lipstick is a good, respectable beauty product on its own but the fact that 100 percent of the selling price — not only the proceeds — go to charity has made it 'the lipstick heard around the world.'



Model Linda Evangelista wears MAC's Viva Glam lipstick and limited edition T-shirt to raise money for AIDS.

It brought incredible visibility to the HIV/AIDS issue in the cosmetics industry, and it's an emotional connection for people who work for us to be a part of something that's for the better good," he says.

MAC was created 20 years ago by former makeup artists and it remains one of the most popular brands for fashion shows and photo shoots. The MAC AIDS Fund was born out of a sense of personal loss, explains Demsey, newly named as the global president of Estée Lauder Cos.,

because the fashion and beauty industries were disproportionately affected by the disease in its early years.

Viva Glam lipsticks are not part of an awareness or research campaign. The fund works with charities that provide daily essentials such as food, shelter and medicine, with a particular emphasis on children, Garcia-Leyva says.

Seasonal greeting cards created by youths affected by HIV/AIDS are another fund-raising tool. The Kids Helping Kids cards on their own have raised more than \$1 million.

Viva Glam now has grown into a collection of five, and it's the only product that MAC does ads for.

Demsey says Viva Glam V has raised \$7.5 million since its launch in February.

— Samantha Critchell, AP Fashion Editor

Armani launches his first couture collection in Paris

MILAN, Italy — Giorgio Armani is upping the fashion stakes, taking on his French rivals with the launch of his first haute couture show in Paris next month, the Milan fashion house announced Wednesday.

The Giorgio Armani Ateher collection will be presented as an off-calendar show for 300 special guests on Jan. 24, during the Paris Haute Couture fashion week.

The house said the 'luxury to order' collection will focus on evening wear "produced according to the standards of haute couture but with the accessibility, ease and modernity that characterize Armani."

The ready-to-wear designer is stepping into the more expensive couture business at a time when luxury high fashion collections seem to have a shrinking market.

The July program of haute couture in Paris was down to 16 houses, a notable shrinkage from five years ago when 26 showed in the couture season.

Several other Italian designers have moved across the Alps to show haute couture in Paris. Valentino has been there for years, Gianfranco Ferré tried Paris but gave it up, and Donatella Versace opted for a smaller, less costly show in Paris last January.

Armani is known for the well-tailored look, although he has been expanding into evening clothes in recent collections.

A small number of the dresses that will show in Paris were previewed in Armani's spring-summer 2005 fashion show, held in Milan in September.

After Paris, the collection will be presented in cities including New York, Los Angeles and Hong Kong, the fashion house said. — Associated Press

The ubiquitous Ugg

NEW YORK — Ugg boots are Joel Stein's pick as product of the year in the new issue of *Time Style & Design*.

Columnist Stein considered the iPod mini, the Treo and designer handbags, but he picked Uggs because they are a trend that lasted the whole year despite being pronounced dead by fashion editors and, quite simply, being ugly.

"These are glorified Australian post-surfing socks that I hear got their name because they are ugly," he writes.

The sheepskin boots' status as the In-on-the-brink-of-Out product is sealed by a recent charity auction featuring Uggs designed by Jay-Z and Jessica Simpson, and an endless string of knockoffs in colors such as pink and powder blue.

Stein also notes that now, Ugg is making popular handbags. — Associated Press

Try trends — but don't overdo them

NEW YORK — Anyone can wear a trendy item but it takes a little more flair to wear a trend well.

The December issue of *Lucky* magazine offers ideas to make some of the season's biggest trends even cooler.

Toughen up a ladylike suit with a boyish tank top and stilettos. Accentuate a cropped jacket by wearing an extra-long, billowy layer underneath.

Pair a feminine lace top with tailored wool trousers and oxblood wedges.

Throw a prim, proper granny fur over classic jeans and a simple cardigan.

Play up the slouchiness of an oversized sweater by pairing it with a slim-cut micromini.

Wear a pair of menswear-inspired wide-leg trousers with a flowing and romantic top. — Associated Press



in the
pink

2 ■ Kelly's Klicks

Guide to great thank you notes from PINK's resident online shopper.

3 ■ Style Briefs

MAC Viva Glam. Giorgio Armani. Uggs and tips for wearing trends.

4 ■ A Shine for Patent Leather

Add some sparkle to the New Year with patent leather fashions.

5 ■ StyleScopes

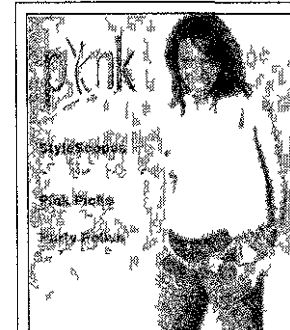
Gear up for a fabulous 2005 tailor-made for your sign!

6 ■ PINK Picks

k recaps the best of 2004!

6 ■ Tried 'n' True

Your key ingredient to a truly flawless face.



On the Cover

Model Tiffany Moore previews spring 2005 with a sequined beige tweed jacket and ruffled silk organza shell from Oscar de la Renta, paired with 7 For All Mankind jeans. A pearls-and-Pucci inspired tie belt with a Dolce & Gabbana zodiac buckle foretells high style in the year ahead. To find out what's in your fashion stars, see Kat's special StyleScopes for 2005 on Page 5. All clothing from Saks Fifth Avenue.

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December 26, 2004 / January 1, 2005 • PINK • 3

Perk up your New Year's party look with patent leather

By Samantha Critchell AP Fashion Editor



ne dressing dilemma is solved by patent leather. When you're headed out to a celebration of any sort, pull those shiny patent pumps out of the closet and you'll see the party has already started.

"There is something very celebratory and festive about patent leather," says accessories designer Kate Spade. "It goes back to the days of patent leather Mary Janes, which were your party shoes as a child."

But patent leather isn't limited to black and boring.

This season, Spade offers a classic patent pump shape with a matte satin ribbon in both black and a festive silver, and there's a patent sling-back sandal with a pink and black raffia flower for embellishment.

"I love the shine of patent leather mixed with a matte finish detail. The mix adds an element of sophistication to the surprise of patent," Spade says.

Patent leather isn't limited by season or trend, adds Reed Krakoff, president and executive director of Coach.

"Patent leather adds a unique dimension to handbags and acces-

sories. Used as a subtle accent or a primary material, patent is both festive and fashionable," he adds.

Jimmy Choo's current collection features a pointy toe, stiletto boot in bottle green-colored patent. A more delicate high-heel shoe with grosgrain bow detail is offered in baby blue and pink.

Tamara Mellon, founder and president of Jimmy Choo, says using patent leather in bright colors makes it a more versatile material.

The great thing about these colors is you can dress them up or down — they look beautiful with pants or skirts during the day, and they look sexy in the evening with short skirts," she says.

It's the high shine that gives patent leather its sex appeal, says Eric Sakas, president of Kevyn Aucoin Beauty, which features a product called Liquid Patent Lip.

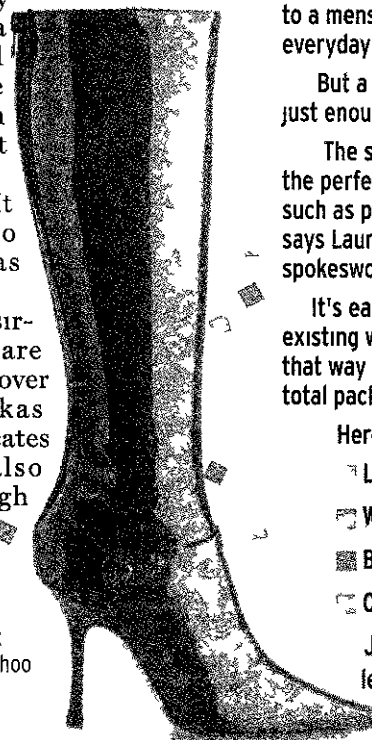
Sakas says Aucoin, who died in 2002, personally oversaw the development of Liquid Patent because he wanted to be sure it would be shiny without being heavy. Aucoin used a test-version of the product in his book *Face Forward*, using a pearlized mid-

night blue as a stain and adding a more traditional gloss on top.

"Kevyn created it (Liquid Patent) with a high pigment so you can use it as a stain. It's a way to use it if you're a little intimidated straight out of the tube. You put it on as base layer and it creates a cool undertone under gloss. It adds dimension to the lip," Sakas explains.

Shiny lips are desirable because they are sexy without being over the top, says Sakas. "Shine always indicates sexiness and is also associated with high glamour."

Patent leather takes an unexpected shine to tall Jimmy Choo boots in bottle green. \$526 at Saks Fifth Avenue.



EVERYDAY WAYS TO WEAR IT

Patent leather can add a girly touch to a menswear look or add glitz to an everyday outfit.

But a little bit can go a long way — just enough to catch the light.

The shine of black patent leather is the perfect accent with menswear pieces such as pinstriped trousers, or blazer, says Laura McDowell, T.J. Maxx fashion spokeswoman.

It's easiest to incorporate into an existing wardrobe through accessories, that way the patent doesn't outshine the total package, she says.

Here's McDowell's shopping list:

- ▢ Large duffel bag in a bold color
- ▢ Waist-cinching belt with a buckle
- ▢ Ballet-style shoes or sneakers
- ▢ Clutch purse

Jacket that features patent leather and fur, real or faux.

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Follow the Stars

Your Fashion Forecast For 2005

By Kat ■ Photos by Rosh Sillars



Aries: (March 21- April 19)

With the new year finally here, all of your focus has turned towards work. However, all work and no play makes Aries a dull girl. By spring, your attention will shift to your personal health and appearance. Keep up the hard work and by summer you'll be able to wear those trends you might have been afraid to try. Take a hint from your sign mate, Sarah Jessica Parker and dare to be bold! It's a new year and new you, so mix it up!



Taurus: (April 20-May 20)

This is the year you will stick to those resolutions, my friend. Change is in the air for 2005, just make sure you hold on to those traits that are so wonderfully and uniquely yours. For starters, set your closet free of old garments that haven't seen the light of day in years. Stock up on well made (and well fit) classics, as well as a few pieces that will set you apart from the rest. Your sign mate, Renee Zellweger has old Hollywood style, and always, looks fabulous by adding a touch distinctly her own no matter what she's wearing.

Gemini: (May 21-June 22)

Your hard work has certainly paid off! With finances under control, you'll be free to enjoy the new year without money woes. Treat yourself to a vacation, or a night out on the town. Whether you've planned a formal dinner, or an evening at the opera, keep your wardrobe stocked with a special sort of clothes to cater to Gemini's sense of interest. Angelina Jolie goes from red-carpet glam to casual chic at the drop of a hat, while setting her many moods, typical of this sign. Mix up classic staples such as blouses with lace, bomber jackets and tailored pants for a pretty transitional look.

Cancer: (June 23-July 22)

The weeks ahead show signs of hard work and persistence. Your efforts will be rewarded by mid-year, and you'll feel as if you are on top of the world. Look to sign mate Jessica Simpson for inspiration. Stay true to yourself, inspire others, keep your eye on the prize and eventually you'll come out on top. Splurge on a signature purse (Miss Simpson, a Louis Vuitton fan, always has the hottest bag) as a reminder you deserve the best — you've earned it after all.

Leo: (July 23-Aug. 22)

Now is the time to take a class, join a book club, and broaden your social circle. People are drawn to your natural charm and open mind, especially when enlightened by new knowledge. Jackie Kennedy Onassis was all of the above, plus she had a timeless sense of style. American style must be a common trait of this sign, as Jackie O. is a famous Leo sign mate. Invest in a pair of oversized shades, a classic trenchcoat, and a scarf or two while paying tribute to this fashion icon.

Virgo: (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

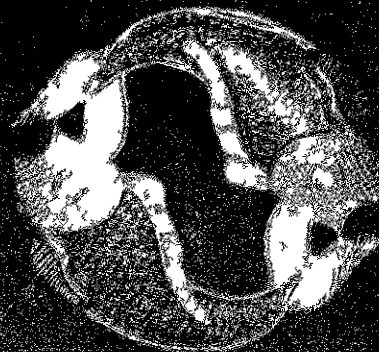
Crazy in love, or is life becoming just plain crazy? As the year continues on, you'll find yourself asking that very question. The first half of the year will feel hectic and somewhat overwhelming, however by June you'll settle into a hot romance that will create the balance that Virgo will definitely be craving. Beyonce is always on to something with lavish fabrics, flawless makeup and a wardrobe that is put together, yet glamorous. Take note, your celebrity sign mate is quite the trendsetter.

Libra: (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

Beauty will radiate throughout the year for lovely Libra, both inside and out. There really isn't anything you cannot accomplish over the next 12 months. Take care of others as well as yourself, and you'll feel as great as you look. Your sign mate, Gwyneth Paltrow, certainly can relate. With an Oscar award, a talented husband, a beautiful baby girl, and stunning looks, lovely Libra can serve as an inspiration. Her clean lines, dark denim and simple sheaths let natural beauty shine through, a look anyone can appreciate and style themselves after with ease.

Scorpio: (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

With an increased interest in politics, current events and education, it is tempting to get involved more than usual this year. Go ahead and join in, however try not to get carried away. Remember to pause and take a moment for yourself from time to time and get back to basics. A great pair of jeans and a cashmere sweater, or a fitted blazer paired with a scarf suit you perfectly for those moments to yourself. Note — casual fashion does not have to mean frumpy frocks. Channel your sign mate Julia Roberts' knack for dressing down with style.



Sagittarius: (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

A solid reputation and a warm heart have opened doors that will lead you clear through the next year. Enjoy your success, just remember to balance your family and friends with your new schedule. Keep your fashion favorites at hand, while freshening your look with a cute clutch, a snappy pair of wedge heels, or a full skirt that will be in hot demand this Spring. Sign mate Julianne Moore can relate to being in demand and always looking her very best. Confidence and polish are key, my dear.



Capricorn: (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

There is a great deal to be said for a woman who can handle herself with grace. Whatever hand is dealt over the next several months, it is important carry yourself with dignity. Relationships will benefit from your maturity, both professionally and personally. Fashion yourself after the great Katharine Hepburn, as sign mate Cate Blanchett did for the film, *The Aviator*. The 1940s were a decade of gorgeous, strong fashions that perfectly suit confident Capricorn.

Aquarius: (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Communication is key when dealing with those around you. Now is not the time to hold back on simple requests, both of others and of yourself. Just make sure you have everyone's best interest at heart. Sign mate Oprah Winfrey is a fabulous example of what a little drive is capable of accomplishing. Go on, push yourself this year to lose those last five pounds, change your hair style, or learn a new language. While you're at it, go out on a limb and funk up your fashion with a vintage belt buckle, a cute newsboy cap, or silky blouse.

Pisces:

(Feb. 19-March 20)
If you can dream it, you can make it happen. Travel to an exotic destination, find your soul mate, or write your autobiography. 2005 is your time to shine, and there is little standing in your way. Follow Pisces Drew Barrymore is a perfect example of a dreamer with a killer sense of direction and drive, as well as sensational style. Be the girl you've always dreamt of, while dressing the part. Gold bangles, wide leg trousers, and large hoop earring — why not wear what you really want? Who knows, you might just inspire someone else to do the same.



pink picks

By k

BEST 2004

Wore It!

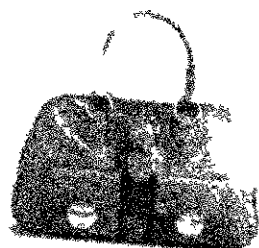
Long legged jeans and pumps
with fitted jackets over loose fitting tanks

Don't Wear It!

Chunky block heeled shoes

Love It!

Marc Jacobs bags



Faced It!

Great skin with sheer foundation
and flushed cheeks



Kicked It!

The Puma Mostro

Stopped It!

Tanning beds
(but got carried away with Mystic Tan')

DVD'ed It!

Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind

Tivo'd It!

Desperate Housewives

Saw It!

Sideways

Read It!

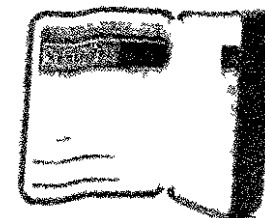
The Da Vinci Code

Worshipped It!

Black Eyed Peas

Drank It!

Mojitos



Used It.

A tooth
whitening system

Did It!

Yoga

Lost It!

The art and style contributions of Richard
Avedon, Helmut Newton, Estee Lauder,
Ray Charles, Isabel Sanford, Julia Child,
Geoffrey Beene, Johnny Ramone,
Sex and the City and Friends

A PINK Gal always keeps it fresh so we can't wait
to see what makes a HOT 2005! Happy New Year!

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tried 'n' true

By k

Spray Your Way to a Flawless Face

If you are keeping a frantic
social calendar these next
few weeks, the last thing
you want is to worry about
your make-up. You quite simply
need those cosmetics to work as
hard as your smile and keep you
looking great until the very last
cork is popped. ERA FACE Spray-
On Foundation is a bit of that hol-
iday magic you must get.

The spray gives a flawless airbrushed
finish to skin that is lightweight, water
resistant and keeps your complexion
glowing like a warm fire with its light dif-
fusing pigments and botanically based
antioxidant ingredients. Best of all, it
doesn't require an operator's license to
use, but will make you look like a pro.

Simply prep skin with your skin care
regimen as you normally would, then put
on the supplied white terry headband and
pull hair back (1 or 1 1/2" tip apply before
you get dressed, but so the fine mist
spray can get on the skin. Shake the can
like you mean it, then begin at the center
of your forehead and slowly zig zag the

refreshing spray, imparting a soft
mist over face. Use the two second
rule — any more and you're on
your way to making cake face
(eww — gross!)



There is no blending — just a
puff to absorb excess moisture
and to gently buff your skin,
making the make-up literally
smudge proof. The whole process
is incredibly fast and easy with
the bonus of being an excellent shadow,
lip and lash primer. ERA FACE spray
foundation is oil free, skin-fortifying,
won't clog pores and comes in a ton of
well balanced, natural colors. It's the
perfect weapon against fatigue (when
sleep is not an option) with the bonus
superhero attribute of making imper-
fections invisible.

This most magnificent product is every
fabulous woman's secret to flawlessly
smoothing and nourishing parted out
skin until the very last tuna tartar is
passed and each and every guest is nicely
mingled. ERA FACE is \$55 and available
at Todd's Room and Ruby's Balm.

www.hometownlife.com

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the info zone

Ask the Beverly Hills Plastic Surgeon

Q Dear Dr. Youn
I'm interested in a facelift, but don't want to look pulled or tight
-Gracefully Aging

A Dear Gracefully Aging
The two main components of facial aging are loosening skin and loss of volume. Traditional facelifts have focused on treating the loosening skin, but didn't treat volume loss. This can leave a person looking pulled and tight, ala Joan Rivers. The newest technique which we have recently introduced is called the Beverly Hills Volumetric Facelift. This face lift combines return of volume with removal and tightening of loose skin. It uses a short scar, and produces the most natural, youthful results. I compare a picture of you in your twenties or thirties and compare it to today. By doing this, I determine where your face needs more volume to remove the years of aging. This way you don't end up looking "done" or "pulled."

For additional information, visit Dr. Youn's website at www.beverlyhillsbeauty.com or call (248) 650-1900.

Dr. Youn's office is located in Rochester Hills and he can be seen on selected episodes of Dr. 90210 on E!



OE8283283

Ask the Dentist

Q Dr. Levi, my husband and I have very similar diets, we both brush and floss regularly and use the same toothpaste. Yet, I am constantly fighting plaque build up while he never seems to develop any. What gives here? Also, is there any connection between oral plaque and the build up of plaque in heart arteries?

A Firstly, there is no known connection between atherosclerotic plaque found in coronary arteries and the plaque found on teeth. There are however studies that draw a direct connection between periodontal disease and heart disease. This is believed to be associated with the chronic inflammation of periodontal disease.

The variation in plaque levels between individuals is accounted for by several factors:

- 1) Amount of calcium foods that are ingested. The more dairy products you eat, the higher the calcium levels in your saliva, the greater the incidence of plaque.
- 2) The teeth closest to salivary ducts invariably have more tartar build up. The calcium in your saliva causes the tartar to form. Think of the amount of tartar on the tongue side of your lower front teeth. This area is just in front of the large salivary duct under your tongue and is any area we often find plaque build up.
- 3) Genetics are probably the biggest factor in differing plaque levels between people. Your husband just has better genes. (At least in this department anyway)



Dr. Noah Levi, DDS
Southfield Family Dental Center
Southfield
248.569.6304
www.southfieldsmiles.com

OE8283294

Laser Eye Institute

Q Are there different kinds of Lasik procedures or is there just Lasik?

A Lasik has been in evolution for over 12 years now, with laser technology evolving along side the computers that drive them. The lasers have evolved from crude small optical zone, rough, none tracked and less precise vision correcting beam into today's large optical zone, tracked (follows the eye), smoothed and blended edges (better night vision) providing superior results with more precision and less complications. With the advent of custom Lasik, the laser is programmed to treat variability in one's optics that go beyond glasses or contacts. Giving most patients great results but like anything else, the newer technology is costlier and that is why most discount Lasik centers offer lower fees for Lasik using older technology lasers or use a bait and switch to the newer lasers.

At the Laser Eye Institute, Dr. Daniel Haddad MD believes in providing his patients with the latest technology and the most personal service and will not treat any eye with yesterday's technology. In fact, the Laser Eye Institute was one of the first centers in Michigan to offer CustomVue Lasik.

Daniel S. Haddad, M.D.
248-689-2020

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Ask the Jeweler

Q My pearls appear to be dirty, can I clean them with my liquid jewelry cleaner?

A There are several methods used to clean pearls, however liquid jewelry cleaner isn't one of them. In most cases, pearls appear dirty because the material used to string them has become stained. The only way to solve this problem is to restring the entire strand. When this service is performed, the pearl itself is lightly rubbed with a polishing cloth to remove any surface dirt. In most cases, we recommend that placing a knot between each pearl to ensure that during wear, the pearls are protected from abrasion by the bead next to it. A general rule we recommend to keep your pearls fresh looking is to make them the last thing you put on when dressing and the first thing you take off when you come home. This will help to ensure the necklace is not exposed to perfumes and lotions. For more information, stop in or e-mail us at dave@minersden.com.

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Do all menopausal women need hormone replacement therapy?

A No. The goal of treatment at The Birmingham Menopause Institute is to individualize care. Many women require no hormonal treatment for menopause, while some do well with herbal preparations such as soy powder. Others, who have significant difficulties, such as hot flashes, night sweats, mood changes, "brain fog", vaginal dryness, decreased libido, memory loss, are helped greatly with bio-identical hormone replacement administered in a variety of ways, such as skin lotion, suppositories and drops.

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Mimi A. Kuykendall, PA-CMS

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