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Cops nab driver carrying truckload of pot

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

The driver of a rental truck that wound up in a ditch with more than 800 pounds of marijuana Tuesday was lodged in Wayne County Jail while the Wayne County sheriff and the prosecutor's office weighed possible charges against him.

The man, whom Wayne County Sheriff Warren Evans said may be from Ohio, was arrested Tuesday

evening after leading police on a chase along M-14, dumping the rental truck he was driving in a ditch at the M-14/Beck interchange, then taking off on foot.

The man, whose identity was not released by the sheriff's office, was eventually nabbed by Plymouth Township Police Lt. Bob Antal in a wooded area near Our Lady of Good Counsel Church.

According to police reports, the driver was driving erratically in

pull him over, he failed to stop. He led state police, deputies and, eventually, Plymouth Township police along M-14 and wound up in the ditch off the ramp to Beck.

The driver, who is estimated to be about 30 years old, took off on foot and was eventually apprehended by

Police said when deputies inspected the truck, they found more than 800 pounds of marijuana. Police estimate

the value at some \$500,000.

Evans said police don't know much about the man, who was not carrying identification at the time of his arrest. Police Wednesday were hoping to positively identify the man through his fingerprints.

"It appears he might be a resident of Ohio, the rental truck was from Oklahoma," Evans said. "We're still digging into finding out who's on first here.'

Evans said the man hasn't exactly been cooperative.

"Any information he gave us we'd have to double-check anyway," Evans said. "Until we can run his fingerprints and know more about him, we're going to document what he says."

According to Evans, charges haven't yet been filed, but police and prosecutors are looking at, among other charges, fleeing and eluding and possession with intent to distribute the marijuana.

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

Godson awaits word on **Sweet**

BY TONY BRUSCATO

David Dangerfield said he would have never imagined the pain he's endured since his godmother, Lizzie Mae Collier-Sweet, was reported missing - and most likely the victim of foul play - Jan. 8.

Collier-Sweet, 49, has not been heard from since a mysterious fire destroyed her **Brownstown Township** home that day. Many of her belongings were found in the fire, including a diary with disturbing information about her husband. However, there were no signs of Collier-Sweet, and police and relatives fear the worst.

Her estranged husband,

PLEASE SEE SWEET, A4



BILL'BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

David Dangerfield's godmother, Lizzie Mae Collier Sweet, has been missing since her home was destroyed by a fire of suspicious origin. Her husband, Roger Sweet, is in jail, charged with murder in the death of his first wife some 17 years ago.



Take that, winter!

They might be the Knights of Spring, slaying the Evil Dragon of Winter. Brothers Hunter and Elijah Burin, of Canton, take a few whacks at what's left of ice sculptures left behind following January's Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular in Kellogg Park. The 70-degree Tuesday afternoon brought lots of folks outdoors. The break in the weather was short-lived, however; temperatures were expected to be back down in the mid-40s by Friday.

Robotics team earns trip to Atlanta finals

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Lightning Robotics team is headed for national competition in Atlanta, Ga., after finishing in the middle of the pack in last weekend's FIRST regional competition at Eastern Michigan University.

The P-CEP team tied for 27th place with a number of other high school teams in the 64-school competition - in which remote-controlled robots complete various tasks - and was picked by judges to be part of the nearly 350 teams from around the country which will compete April 11-14.

coverage, A11

"Everyone on the team is happy with what we did in regionals," said Julie Rowe, 17, of Canton, a member of the P-

CEP team. "We did very well, and we're proud of what we've been able to accomplish. Nationals will be tougher competition, but it will be a lot more fun."

The P-CEP robotics team has gone to nationals six of the last eight years, and technology education teacher Jay Obsniuk said while there's no monetary value in winning in Atlanta it will help those students especially seniors - who are vying for \$8 million in FIRST scholarships to study engineering.

"Last year we had five students win scholarships, four of them for full rides at places like Purdue



The Plymouth-Canton Robotics team finished in a tie for 27th place in regional competition and now qualify for the national competition in Atlanta, Ga.

University, Michigan Tech, Kettering University and Lawrence Tech University," Obsniuk said.

Obsniuk said despite the downturn in the Michigan economy and the financial struggles of the automotive and supplier industries, there was a lot of representation at the regional competition.

PLEASE SEE ROBOTICS, A5

District eyes budget cuts to 3deal with deficit 15

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Plymouth-Canton Schools Supt. Jim Ryan said he'll have a broadly anticipated list of recommended cuts for the Board of Education next week as discussions continue on a 2007-08 budget that is about \$8 million in the red.

Till be looking at administrative and teacher cuts, class-size increases, savings from moving elections to November and elimination of field trips," said Ryan, who declined to be more specific. "Those are some of the things on the block for next year. And, as we move out into the next year and a year after that. we'll be looking at cutting more programs and digging deeper.'

Contractually, administrators must be notified of layoffs by the end of March, with teachers by the end

of April. What do you think about @

this story? Comment online at www.hometownlife.com or E-mail your responses to bkadrich@hometownlife.com.

Trustees have asked Ryan and his administration to develop a plan that keeps the district's fund balance at \$7.8 million, or 5 percent of the budget. in an effort to elimi-

nate an annual structural deficit. Board Vice President Mark Slavens asked the administration to generate a priority of possible cuts, which he plans to compare with his own preliminary list.

"We need to use that as a beginning point," Slavens said. "We're paying them a lot of money, and it's very important we get their input and thoughts on things.

"I want to find out what each idea does in regard to academic impact. I don't want to do anything that impacts student learning," he added. "Because of the financial situation we're in, we need to look at everything. But I want to try and improve academic performance within the framework of the budget we're given."

The Board of Education and administration are attempting to make cuts with next year's enrollment figures and state foundation grant - which will determine the district's revenue stream and eventual deficit number - still undetermined.

"It makes it real difficult because we have to make decisions sort of in the dark," said Barry Simescu, board president. "That doesn't seem fair, but we'll get through it.

The foundation allowance, since it funds our whole program, is obviously the big one," he added. "We certainly hope the Legislature sees fit to keep it coming and increase it, if they can."

Plymouth-Canton Schools currently receives \$7,410 per student from the state.

The next budget session is scheduled for Tuesday, March 20, at 7 p.m. in the school administration building.

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Coming Sunday in Health



Help kids with asthma easier this spring

Fitness guru speaks

A renowned pioneer in the health and fitness industry, Chris Johnson, will conduct a seminar called "Your Weight Loss and Health Solution" at the Plymouth Cultural Center



p.m. Tuesday. March 20. Event sponsor Larry Bird, owner of the Fit Zone for Women in . Canton called Johnson a fan-

6:30-8:30

tastic speaker who will really get people motivated to get healthy, lose weight and eat better." Johnson has more than two decades of experience in the gym, in grocery stores and as a competitive athlete. He holds a Master of Arts degree in Exercise Physiology from Michigan State University, and certifications from the American College of Sports

American Council on Exercise. He is an adjunct professor in both the College of Osteopathic Medicine and the College of Education at Michigan State University. He is the author of "Meal Patterning - Developing Healthy Nutritional Patterns for a Lifetime."

Medicine, National Academy

of Sports Medicine and the

The Plymouth Cultural

Center is located at 525 Farmer in Plymouth. Tickets cost \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Tickets are available at Fit Zone for Women, 7225 N. Canton Center, (734) 927-9991; Plymouth Wellness Center, 908 Penniman, (734) 453-7090; and Gabriala's, 322 S. Main, (734) 455-8884.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 15, 2007

Christian Peace Witness

A service of prayer and song from the Taize tradition will be held at St. John's Episcopal Church in Plymouth Friday. March 16.

The service, which begins at 7 p.m., is part of a national witness for peace in Iraq. The Rev. Dorian McGlannan, the rector of St. John's will offer reflections.

A service will be held that same evening at The National Cathedral in Washington D.C. Hundreds of other churches around the country will be conducting similar services.

The Christian Peace Witness for Iraq calls on people of faith to pray for peace, remember the dead and wounded, promote alternatives to war and advocate for lasting peace and security at home and abroad.

Taizé music comes from the Taizé Community in France, an international ecumenical Christian monastic group committed to the ministry of reconciliation. Taizé was formed during World War II.

St. John's Episcopal Church

is located at 574 S. Sheldon Road in Plymouth, just south of Ann Arbor Trail on the west side of the street.

Child seat clinic

The Plymouth Township Police Department hosts a free Child Safety Seat clinic 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 14 at the Plymouth Township Police Department, located at 9955 N. Haggerty.

The inspections will be by "appointment only," and limited space is available. If you would like to have your child's seat inspected by a national certified Child Passenger Safety Technician, make an appointment by calling Officer Jamie Senkbeil at (734) 354-

Top volunteer nominations

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce is looking for nominations for the 2007 Volunteers of the Year. Plymouth service clubs can nominate their outstanding volunteer by filling out a nomination form available through the Chamber of Commerce.

The nominees will then be honored at the Showcase Plymouth and Taste of Plymouth Wednesday, May 9, at The Inn at St. John's.

Nominations should be forwarded to the Plymouth Community Chamber of

Commerce, 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail, (734) 453-1540. Deadline to be included is April 13.

Honorees will be provided with two full admissions to Showcase Plymouth and the Taste of Plymouth. Additional tickets are available \$10 each. Honorees will also receive a framed certificate and be recognized on stage during the

Dinner theater

The Educational Excellence Foundation serving Plymouth-Canton schools hosts a dinner theater evening 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 22 at Salem High School.

The award-winning PCCS Culinary Arts team will prepare dinner and dessert. After dinner, patrons will enjoy reserved seating in the Gloria Logan Performing Arts Auditorium for opening night of the Park Players' performance of the musical, "Footloose."

Tickets are \$50 each and qualify as a tax-deductible donation in support of the performing arts. Only 100 tickets are available, advanced sales

For more information, call (734) 416-2718.

Cox hours

Wayne County Commissioner Laura Cox will hold office hours on

Wednesday, March 21, at the Plymouth District Library, 223 South Main, in Plymouth.

Cox will meet with constituents from 10 a.m. to noon.

"I look forward to hearing feedback from local residents about their issues, concerns, and questions," Cox said.

Commissioner Cox represents the communities of Livonia, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Northville and Northville Township.

For more information, please contact Carrie Ryckman in Commissioner Cox's office at 313-224-0946.

Blue Fish party

Blue Fish Music in Plymouth is celebrating their-two year anniversary with a special party Saturday, March 24, from 2:30-6 p.m. The afternoon will feature the music of the Joe Summers Gypsy Jazz Trio, Mike and Dave from the Troubadours and Bobby Lewis.

The instrumental music store, located in Plymouth's Old Village, opened in April 2005. The expansion doubled their size and will allow more space for workshops, concerts and student performances. They've also added additional studio space so they can offer more opportunities for lessons.

The store is adding violin and piano lessons to their current offerings in guitar, bass, mandolin and banjo. "I'm excited because the

additional space gives us a chance to build a musical community," said Paul Murphy, owner of Blue Fish Music. "We have a great opportunity for songwriting groups to meet here, and the performance space will allow us to do some great things."

Blue Fish Music is located at 744 Starkweather. For more

information, call (734) 927-

Easter Bunny breakfast

E.G. Nick's hosts "Breakfast with the Easter Bunny" 9-10:30 a.m. Friday, March 30.

Attendees will enjoy a full buffet breakfast (includes eggs, bacon and sausage), an Easter Egg hunt and an extra special visit from the Easter Bunny. Parents are encouraged to bring cameras for pictures with the Easter Bunny.

Tickets must be purchased in advance from the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce (9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday), located at 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth, or at E.G. Nick's located at 500 Forest.

Ticket prices are \$8 for children and \$12 for adults; children 3 and younger admitted free. Visa and Mastercard are accepted.

Contact the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce with any questions or for ticket information at (734) 453-1540.

Observer

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The Plymouth Observer - Publication NO. USPS 436-360 Published every Thursday and Sunday, Periodical postage is paid at Livonia, Michigan 48150.

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3027 - Rhonda Knight - Washer, Dryer, Refrigerator Publish: March 15 & 22, 2007



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4062 - Gary Harkins - Couch, Tool Box, Lawnmower Publish: March 15 & 22, 2007

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CORRECTION

The "ACT Success" test sample in Sunday's Observer gave a wrong answer for the question about the distance between two sides of an isosceles trapezoid. The correct answer is four feet.



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Notice is hereby given that on Monday, March 19, 2007, Tate & Co. Auctioneers, Executive Administrator for Extra Space Storage, will be offering for sale under the judicial lien process by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: EXTRA SPACE STORAGE, 6729 N. CANTON CENTER RD., CANTON, MI 48187 AT 12:30 PM.

Hester Barksdale, I316

2007, 10 a.m. Publish: March 15, 2007

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Musical excellence

P-CEP bands earn top rating at district festival

It couldn't have gone much better than it did for the four Plymouth-Canton concert bands taking part in the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association's district 12 festival, held Friday at Churchill High School in Livonia.

The PCEP Varsity, Concert, and Symphony Bands, and Wind Ensemble — the district's four concert bands comprised of high school students from Canton, Plymouth and Salem high schools — all earned the highest-available

The bands are under the direction of Mr. Marc Whitlock and Ms. Amy Boerma.

More than 50 area bands made of student musicians in grades 7-12 participated in the weekend event. The district festival evaluates the ensemble's musical knowledge and execution. Each ensemble must play three prepared selections, which are heard by three adjudicators.

Each adjudicator gives the ensemble a letter grade in the following areas: tone, intonation, rhythm, technique and interpretation. The letter grades are averaged and equated to numbers.

The highest mark is a I rating and is equivalent to a letter



All four Plymouth-Canton bands competing in Friday's district festival earned a Division I, the highest rating possible at district competition.

grade A; a II rating is similar to a letter grade B, and a III rating a grade C, and so on. Each ensemble sight-reads two pieces for an adjudicator and receives a rating. The two

scores are averaged together for a final rating.

A Division I is the highest rating that can be achieved at the District Festival level. All four Plymouth-Canton bands received a Division I rating.

The Plymouth-Canton bands are "a model of excellence for all bands in the country," according to one of

Plymouth Orchards owner mourned

David Emmett, co-owner with wife Mary of Plymouth Orchards and Cider Mill, died Friday, March 9, after battling brain cancer for several months.

"He was a real good guy," said family friend Nick Schultz of Plymouth Township. "Very much a

The Emmetts lived on the property on Warren Road, just into Superior Township.

"Dave has always been very active in helping others," said Schultz, noting he traveled to Africa to do work with a children's foundation. "He was an inventor, he was a genius."

Mr. Emmett, 64, was a graduate of GMI, now Kettering University, and a former General Motors employee where he made plant manager at a young age. He was a former Superior Township board trustee where he served 12 vears.

Mr. Emmett and Schultz met through the CEO Roundtable of the Detroit Chamber of Commerce, and became friends. Mr. Emmett also had a helicopter distributorship for Robinson Helicopters; he had been founder and president of Superior Controls, an electronic company

which he sold to employees. The Emmetts have traveled extensively and were both pilots. He was a body builder and very athletic,



David Emmett

Schultz noted, and was diagnosed with brain cancer five months ago.

"It's a real loss to our community. He was a giver and his thirst for knowledge was unbelievable," Schultz said.

There was a viewing at Vermuelen Funeral Home in Plymouth Township March 12. The funeral service was March 13 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Livonia

Survivors include the couple's children: Brad (Julie), Jodie and Kelli; a grandson; sister Karen (Dave) Phipps. Daughter Jodie wrote in an e-mail to loved ones:

"Despite the shutting down of several systems, his heart held on to life and love as long as possible, defying anything I thought I knew about what we as humans can withstand."

Memorials may be made to Children's International, P.O. Box 219055, Kansas City, Mo. 64121 (www.children.org). Interment was at Glen Eden Memorial Park, Livonia.

Kerry Gold

Irish Dubliner

Cheese

League to host school board forum

Voters who'd like to get a look at and listen to candidates in the 2007 Plymouth-Canton Board of Education Election

get their chance next week. The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County sponsors a candidates' forum which starts 7 p.m. Friday, March 23, in the meet-

ing room at Plymouth

Township Hall on Haggerty.

All six remaining candidates - incumbents Mark Slavens and Rich Ham-Kucharski and challengers Bruce Koldys and Nancy Eggenberger of Canton and Larry Martin and Kurt Heise of Plymouth — have been invited to participate. A seventh candidate, John Nichols of Canton, dropped

Each candidate will be allowed a one-minute opening statement, one-minute responses to questions and a two-minute closing statement. Questions will be submitted by members of the audience. League of Women Voters

member Anne Marie Graham-

Hudak will moderate the 90-

PANDORA

minute forum.

The forum will be videotaped and aired on local cable television channels. Viewers should check listings for show times. The election is set for May 8.

Residents who can't attend the forum who still wish to submit questions can do so on the League's Web site at www.lwvnww.org by clicking on the "contact us" button.



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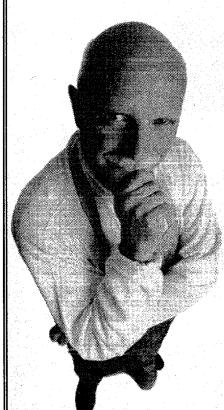
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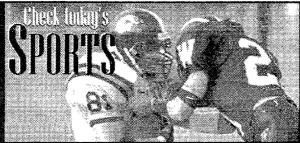
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Teacher in sex case waives prelim

count of using a

computer to

solicit a minor

accost and

for immoral

which is a 10-

one count of

year felony, and

purposes.

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

The preliminary exam for a Plymouth High School English teacher charged with attempting to solicit a minor in an Internet chat room and exposing himself via a Web cam was waived Wednesday afternoon.

The case against Orin Andrew Kennedy, 27, of Ypsilanti now moves to Washtenaw County Circuit Court after Wednesday's hearing in Ypsilanti's 14-B District Court was waived. Kennedy, who remains free on \$50,000 bond, is scheduled for a pretrial hearing on April 19..

Kennedy is charged with one



using a computer to disseminate sexually explicit matter to a minor, a four-year felony. The Michigan Attorney General's office alleged the 27-year-old Kennedy chatted on-line, propositioned and exposed himself to someone he thought was a 14-year-old girl he met in a chatroom.

Kennedy was hired by Plymouth-Canton Schools in August 2005 and is not a tenured teacher.

'We're working closely with legal counsel to find all the options available to us," said Superintendent Jim Ryan. "We'll follow the parameters of

the union contract." Kennedy has been put on paid leave by the district. A substitute teacher has taken over the classes for Kennedy's 135 students at the

Educational Park. Matt Frendewey, spokesman for Attorney General Mike Cox, said "no other complaints have come in" regarding Kennedy and his screen name "oxyd69."

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

FROM PAGE A

Roger Sweet, was charged last week with murder in the death of his first wife in 1990. That death was once ruled accidental, until Brownstown Township authorities received a tip during the Collier-Sweet investigation. That led to a murder charge by Farmington Hills police in the 17-year-old

Despite Collier-Sweet's disappearance the past two months, Dangerfield, 27, of Plymouth Township, remains hopeful his godmother will

"At this point, it doesn't look good," he said. "But I'll never give up until they have a body." Dangerfield said it's not like

Collier-Sweet to literally vanish without contacting anyone. "She's a very outgoing person, that's why I say it's scary because she would have called somebody and talked to them,"

Dangerfield said. Dangerfield said until Jan. 8, he "would never have imagined" something terrible happening to his godmother.

"As soon as she (Collier-Sweet) was missing, I talked to detectives about his first wife," Dangerfield said, "and 24 hours later they were exhuming her body."

Dangerfield said his mother and Collier-Sweet became best friends while living across the



street from each other in Southgate and working together at Rouge Steel in Dearborn. When Dangerfield was born, it only made sense Collier-Sweet would become his godmother.

"She was great," Dangerfield recalled. "I would go to school and act sick so then I could come home and hang out with Lizzie. She had her rules, but she was like a grandmother where you could do a lot of fun things you couldn't do at home. She would let me eat dessert first, before eating my lunch or dinner."

Brownstown Township police detectives have searched the woods behind the Sweets' house, and have enlisted the Wavne County Marine Division to search the Detroit and Rouge rivers. Collier-Sweet's information has been distributed to the National Center for Missing Adults and the FBI.

Brownstown Township Detective Lt. Robert Grant said after the fire, they found Collier-Sweet's diary in the rubble, which told some disturbing stories.

"It explained ongoing domestic violence involving Roger Sweet, and that led investigators to allegations of him having an affair with a handicapped girl down the street," Grant said. "After we executed a search warrant on the home, we went into his computer and found graphic child pornography involving 2-year-olds. It was the most graphic I've seen

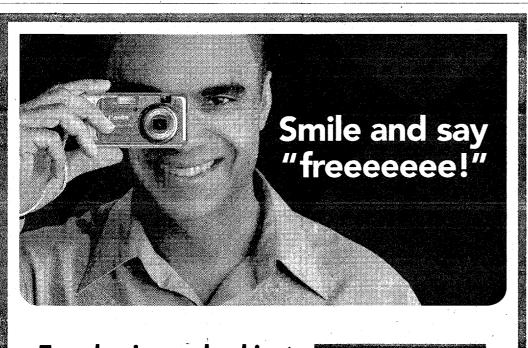
in 20 years of police work." Brownstown police have charged Sweet with three counts of criminal sexual conduct and six counts of manufacturing and distributing child pornography.

Grant said there is at least \$6,000 in rewards for information on the fire and Collier-Sweet's disappearance. Tips can be phoned anonymously to Crimestoppers at 1-800-Speak Up or by calling Grant at (734) 675-1300, ext. O.

"We're pretty confident she's met with foul play," Grant said. "Her dentures were found in the debris, her vehicle was left in the driveway with her driver's license, checkbook and credit cards, all things she would need if she were just hiding out."

Meanwhile, Dangerfield said he's been "trying to calm myself down" since the disappearance of his godmother.

"It's been terrible, and pretty much changed my life, at this point," Dangerfield said. "I have to keep watching the news to see if there's anything new on Lizzie."



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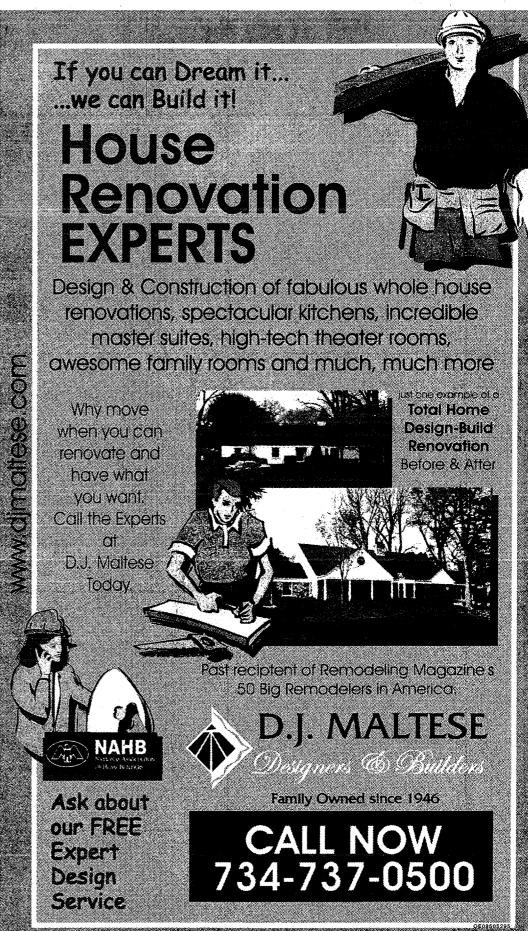
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Busch's in talks to bring new market to Cherry Hill Village

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS STAFF WRITER

Plans are still up in the air, but Busch's may be coming to Cherry Hill Village.

The Ann Arbor-based grocer is in talks with Canton Township to build a market at the northwest corner of Cherry Hill and Denton roads

Their pending arrival to the largely residential area is garnering praise from resi-

Heather Ciantar, who moved to the village four years ago, said one of the area's selling points was a future grocery store.

"We were told all kinds of commercial things would be here," she said. "And although it's not far to drive to Farmer Jack (at Canton Center and Cherry Hill roads) it would be very nice to have something closer."

Canton Community Planner Jeff Goulet said Busch's has yet to submit formal plans to the

"Everybody has been anticipating this," he said, adding that a grocery store has always been in the plans for the Cherry Hill Village area.

Representatives for the company, which has a dozen stores in southeast Michigan, were not available for comment.

According to their Web site, www.buschs.com, the grocer is striving to be the "premier food retailer in southeastern Michigan." Six of their stores, including the Plymouth location on Sheldon Road, offer a service where customers can shop online and then pick up at the store.

Village resident John Surgot said he would welcome Busch's

"I've been waiting for them to show up," he said. "It's a great thing and I'm all for it."

Surgot said he often shops at the Meijer on Ford Road but likes the idea of a neighborhood grocer. He moved to the village in 2002.

Nancy Sitter, who moved to the Cherry Hill area six months ago, said she sees benefits and downsides to Busch's tentative arrival.

"The one thing I love about living here is the ruralness of the area," she said. "I do see the need for a market but the charm of an undeveloped area is what brought me out here."

Sitter shops at Busch's Plymouth store and said she doesn't mind driving to that location. "I know you can't stop devel-

opment but I like this area the way it is," she said.

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

ROBOTICS

FROM PAGE A1

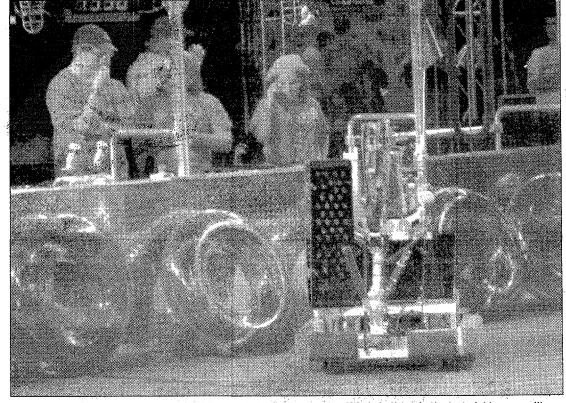
"There were people from General Motors, Ford and Chrysler talking with kids about internships, more than I've ever seen," Obsniuk said. "They're still recruiting these kids, who are bright and worth recruiting."

Matthew Korzeniowski, 17, of Canton said the competition is really the fun part, with the hard part the six-week robotbuilding process.

"I've learned how to problem-solve with some strange timelines, only six weeks to build a fully functional robot," Korzeniowski said. "And, that's really hard.

"We know we're not going to take it all (in Atlanta), we were dead last year but had the times of our lives," recalled Korzeniowski. "The hardest part is building the robot in six weeks. Afterward, the competition is like fun, just playing with our robot."

Obsniuk said while corporate sponsors Visteon and Bosch Corp. are putting in some travel money, the team will have to raise about



Plymouth-Canton's robotics team, which has gone to the national competition six times in the last eight years, will have to raise some \$12,000 to make the trip.

\$12,000 for the trip to Atlanta. Meanwhile, the P-CEP Culinary team place third place in last weekend's Michigan Restaurant

Association Pro Start culinary

competition in Lansing.

"It was the most intense competition we've ever had," said coach Diana Riley. "The kids did great and we all had a fabulous time."

The Culinary team, which finished third last year, won the state championship in

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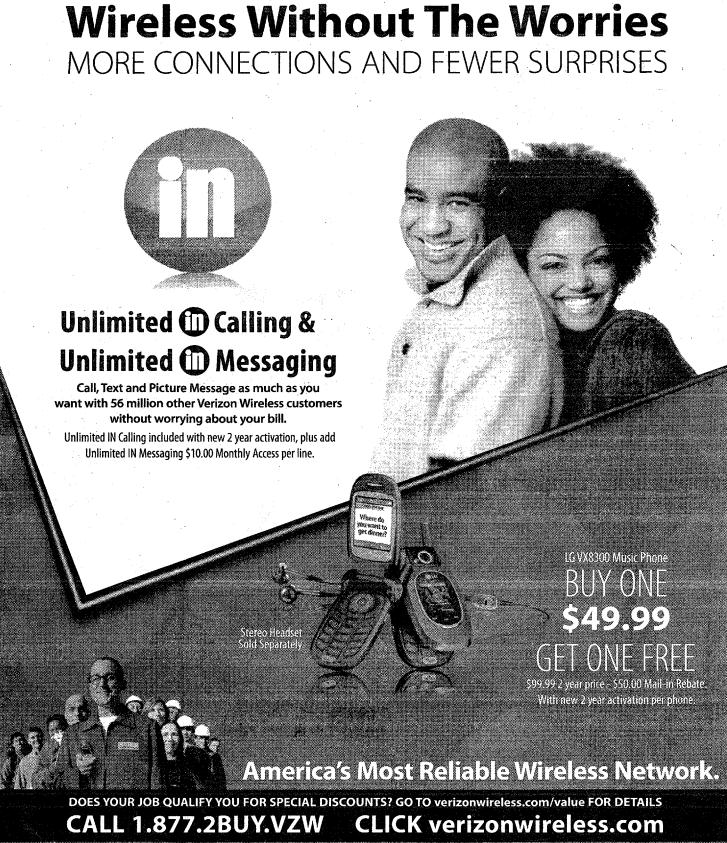


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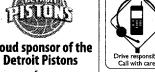
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@ THE LIBRARY

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 15, 2007

The Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main in Plymouth, offers the following

programs in March: ■ GREAT BOOKS, Monday, March 19, 7 p.m. — This discussion group is open to anyone who is curious and willing to work with others in developing an understanding and appreciation of great literature. For further information, contact group facilitator Karen Berrie at (734) 453-2454. To learn more about The Great Books Foundation, see the Web site: http://www.greatbooks.org

■ WRITING MY LIFE STORY: A SENIOR WRITING GROUP, Tuesday, March 20, 4 p.m. - Seniors can share and preserve their life stories with the guidance of Plymouth author, Jane Saylor. No previous writing experience nor advance registration is required. Attend either meet-

ing or both. **STARS, MOONS &** PLANETS, Monday, March 19, 7 p.m. — Want to know more about the spring sky? Plan now to attend this lively exchange of thoughts with local astronomy expert, Mike Best. All are welcome - ages 6 to 106. For more information contact 734-459-BEST or starmikebest@comcast.net

■ CONTEMPORARY BOOKS DISCUSSION. Wednesday, March 21, 7:30 p.m. — Members of this book discussion group are invited to read Prep by Curtis Sittenfeld. Copies of this book are available at the circulation desk. New members are welcome at any time. For further information, please call Sue Patterson at the Library, (734) 453-0750, or e-mail spatterson@plymouthlibrary.org

■ LIBRARY ĞARDEN GROUP - There will be no Garden Group meeting in March. Start planning your 2007 garden at the next meeting to be held on Thursday, April 19 at 7 p.m.

■ NEEDLECRAFTERS

MEETING, Monday, March 26, 7 p.m. — Kick off a new

project or keep after your current one. Knitters, quilters, needlepointers are all invited to attend this informal group gathering. Lessons are not provided, but ideas exchanged among attendees. No registration required. **■ DETROIT INSTITUTE**

OF ARTS/PLYMOUTH COM-MUNITY ARTS COUNCIL, Monday, March 26, 7 p.m. – For nearly 10 years, the Arts Council has offered exceptional presentations about the DIA's permanent collections and special exhibits. Register by calling the Library's Reader's Advisory Desk at (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4.

■ BROWN BAG BOOK DISCUSSION, Wednesday, March 28, noon - This month's discussion invites members to read The Year of Magical Thinking by Joan Didion. Copies of this book are available at the circulation desk. Bring a lunch; beverages are provided. For more information about Brown Bag Books, ask at the Reader's Advisory Desk, call Linda Pride at the Library, (734) 453-0750, or e-mail lpride@plymouthlibrary.org.

■ HOMEBOUND BOOK DELIVERY — Joining the Plymouth Community Council on Aging, the Plymouth District Library will deliver library books and audio books to homebound residents of the City of Plymouth and Plymouth Township. Call (734) 453-0750, ext 240 to enroll or go to plymouthlibrary.org and complete the homebound delivery service registration.

Youth programs

■ LAP SIT STORYTIME, Saturday, March 17, 10 a.m. -This 15-minute program is designed for the very young, babies ages 6-24 months and their caregivers. No older siblings please. Registration is required; call Reader's

Advisory Desk at (734) 453-0750, ext. 4.

■ BACKYARD METEO-ROLOGY, Saturday, March 17, 11 a.m. — This program is part of our continuing Family and Science Reading series. In conjunction with the University of Michigan Exhibit Museum, it is designed specifically for children 6-12 and their parents - a parent or caregiver must accompany each participant. Registration is limited to 30 children; call today, (734) 453-

0750, ext. 4. BABY PLAY, Monday, March 26, 10 & 11 a.m., Saturday, March 31, 10 a.m. -This fun program is for babies ages 6-24 months. Baby Play is a less formal companion to our Lapsit program. Babies and caregivers listen to a story, followed by play with developmentally appropriate toys and interaction with other children. Registration is not required for Baby Play.

Teen program

■ D.I.Y. @ THE LIBRARY, Monday, March 19, 3:30 p.m. - Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants - Bring an old pair of jeans to make a jean pocket purse. We'll supply ribbons, buttons and decorations. All supplies provided. Registration required - space is limited. Call (734) 453-0750, ext. 4.

TEEN KNIT/CROCHET CLUB, Wednesday, March 21, 7 p.m. — All learners and experienced needlecrafters are welcome. Adult volunteers will teach newcomers. Supplies provided for community service projects-or bring your own project to work on.

You need to know this

All Teen Zone programs are FREE - it costs you nothing to participate. The Friends of the Plymouth District Library provide FREE refreshments for every teen program. All the info you need about our teen programs can be found at plymouthlibrary.org/ya.htm.

NorthRidge hosts business forum

More than 500 business owners, leaders and professionals from the Detroit Metro area are expected to attend the **Business Leaders Forum host**ed by NorthRidge Church 7:15-9 a.m. Thursday, March 22.

The forum, started in June 2005, provides business leaders and entrepreneurs an opportunity to connect with others who face the same challenges and dynamics of being a leader in the marketplace. Forum speakers and panels have included, among others, Dave Brandon, Chairman and CEO of Domino's Pizza and David McKinnon, Founder and Chairman of Service Brands International.

The March speaker, Senior Pastor Brad Powell, will speak on the topic "The Tension Points of Leadership".

Powell states, "There are generally two imbalanced approaches people take to leadership," Powell said. "The first is to lay low and refuse to lead with strength because strong leadership seems to be antithetical to caring about and serving others. The second is to exercise leadership authority and power regardless of its impact on others.

"Both of these approaches are way out of balance and undercut the full value and potential of positive leadership," he added.

Powell will be laying out the keys for balancing these two seemingly opposite extremes understanding and dealing with "the tension points of leadership."

Powell's leadership in the dramatic transition of NorthRidge over the past 17 years makes him a highly qualified speaker on this topic. Under his leadership, NorthRidge has transitioned from a dying church in decline to a vibrant, growing church with a weekly attendance of 12,500. NorthRidge Church is one of the country's largest churches and has been recognized as one of the "Top 50 Most Influential Churches" by The Church Report for a second consecutive year.

NEWS BRIEFS

To register for the Business Leaders Forum or for additional information visit NorthRidgeChurch.com or call (734) 414-7777.

Plymouth man honored

Verizon Wireless has named Howie Blanchard of Plymouth to the company's prestigious President's Cabinet.

According to Verizon officials.



Blanchard

ice plans."

Blanchard exceptional sales leaderproviding metro Detroit

"demonstrated

customers with outstanding

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Blanchard, who was recently promoted to assistant retail sales manager at the Verizon Wireless Communications Store on Haggerty in Northville, earned the President's Cabinet designation while serving as a retail sales representative at this location. He was honored with the award for meeting several criteria, including being ranked in the top 1.17 percent nationally in 2006 sales, placing him as one of the company's top performers among its more than 17,000 sales execu-

"At Verizon Wireless, we are very focused on making sure our customers have the best wireless experience possible, no matter how they connect with our company," said Greg

president-Michigan/Indiana/ Kentucky Region, Verizon Wireless. "Howie works diligently to understand and exceed our customers' needs and expectations."

Botsford addition

Penny Hiipakka, D.O., has joined the medical staff at Botsford Hospital. Hiipakka, a Westland resi-

Hiipakka

dent, is a member of the American Osteopathic Association, the Michigan Osteopathic Association, the American

College of Osteopathic Internists and the American College of Cardiology.

Hiipakka practices at Fairwood Medical Center on Haggerty in in Plymouth. The office number is (734) 451-0070.

Hiipakka received her medical education from Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine. She performed her Internal Medicine Tracking internship and Internal Medicine residency at Garden City Hospital. Dr. Hiipakka is currently working on a Cardiology Fellowship.

Top agent

National Western Life Insurance Company announced that Vince Gauci of VFG



earned Agentof-the-Year honors for production excellence with the company's Domestic division. "I'm pleased

Associates,

LLC, Dearborn,

for Vince's success," said the company's president Ross Moody. "This is a production achievement for sure but also recognition of his professionalism and dedication to serving his clients." "Vince has been in our top 10

for many years," added National Western's Domestic CMO. Chris Johnson. "It's great that he's taken over the number one spot."

Gauci, a Plymouth Township resident, is an industry veteran specializing in retirement planning and wealth preservation. He is a Certified Senior Advisor. With a client base approaching 2000, Vince and his firm have been serving Michigan residents since 1972.





THINKING ABOUT LASIK?

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At this seminar you will learn about the different refractive surgery procedures, including IntraLase, or bladeless LASIK, phakic intraocular lenses and Wavefront/Zyoptix. You also will learn whether you are a good candidate and which procedure is best for you.

Thursday, March 22, 2007 6 - 7:30 p.m. Summit on the Park (Chestnut Room) 46000 Summit Parkway

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Ficano says state needs to be business-friendly

BY HUGH GALLAGHER STAFF WRITER

China and Dubai could teach Wayne County and Michigan a few things about how to attract business. according to Wayne County Executive Robert

Ficano. "Out consultants said, 'You want to be unique. What you've got to do to be unique to the world, any developer who come in here you've got to give them an answer in 60 days. Yes or no, here's your permit," said Ficano in a post-State of the County meeting with Observer editors March $\bar{7}$. "They do it in Dubai, they do it in Beijing. They do it in a lot of other urban areas, but not necessarily in the United States."

Ficano wants to create a business-friendly environment in Wayne County, centering around the development of an aerotropolis around the county's two airports - Metro and Willow Run – along I-94. Ficano said the county is close to reaching that 60-day permitting window and is encouraging local communities to do the same.

"The hard one is the state," Ficano said. "That's the last one, and we're not asking them to shortchange anything, especially the DEQ (Department of Environmental Quality), it takes a year and a half."

AIRPORT CITY

Developing the airport city is one of several Ficano initiatives to bring business to



Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano talks about his future plans for the county.

Wayne County. But a more immediate concern is Ficano's proposed \$425 million renovation and one-million-squarefoot expansion of Cobo Center. Ficano said the project is crucial to retaining the annual auto show and attracting new conventions and trade shows.

"First of all, the International Auto Show is our trademark," he said. "We are known most around the world for the International Auto Show. There are more credentialed press at the auto show than at the Super Bowl. We have a Super Bowl every year."

He said the center currently generates \$540 million a year to the area and with the expansion that figure would rise to \$800 million. Under Ficano's plan, the center's management city of Detroit to an authority

and management would be handled by the Hines

Development Co. "We wouldn't raise any taxes, we'd extend the liquor and hotel tax, the most misunder-

stood tax in the area," he said. He said the 4 percent liquor tax is paid only on poured liquor in the three-county area and is usually rolled into the cost of the drink.

"I can guarantee that the bars and restaurants aren't going to roll their prices back," he said.

GO WEST?

He said at present Grand Rapids, which has a new convention facility, does the same amount of business as the much larger Detroit.

Ficano also proposes creating a tax-free zone in Cobo

their products without imposing the state's 6 percent sales

"It can work for the auto show and the boat show, but can also work with the small conventions, electronics and software," he said.

He said he is recommending that the state legislature allow the authority to decide how to manage the 6 percent tax as a means to attract new trade shows.

"It makes all the sense in the world," Ficano said. "If you're worrying about revenue, you're probably not going to get that revenue anyway.'

Along this same theme, Ficano suggests a tax holiday in August during the prime backto-school shopping season.

"To me it's critically important that we make this a business-friendly state," he said.

He said tax holidays in other states create a carnival atmosphere, with retail districts bringing in circuses and carnivals to help drum up business.

Ficano has been drumming up business for the county in China, where he has led two trade delegations. The county has also opened offices in three Chinese cities.

He said with an economy growing at a rate of 12 to 14 percent a year, China is ready to invest in the United States.

"If we get the initial wave to come to the Detroit metro area, we have tremendous assets," he said.

hgallagher@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2149

Sheriff offers 9-1-1 cell phones for senior citizens

It's estimated that in the United States there are more than 50 million unused cell phones sitting in drawers and closets, collecting dust. Although those phones may not have an active calling plan, they still can be used to dial 9-1-1. That's why Wayne County Sheriff Warren Evans Monday began distributing

the first of more than 200

free emergency phones his

department has collected. "These days, cell phones have become almost a disposable item, which means a growing number of people have one sitting in a drawer or closet not being used," Evans said. "Instead of letting those phones go to waste, we want to get them in the hands of senior citizens so they can have added

An emergency 9-1-1 call is always free and will connect the user to the nearest local emergency operator. However, in order for the operator to send help, the person calling will need to tell them their exact location, Evans said. Since demand is initially expected to exceed supply, the Sheriff's Office

security and peace of mind."

will begin compiling a waiting list and distribute the phones on a first-come, first-

serve basis, Evans said. How to receive a cell phone from the Wayne

County Sheriff's office: ■ Contact the Sheriff's Office at: (313) 224-0614 to receive a free phone or to have your name placed on the waiting list.

Anyone wanting to donate a working cell phone and charger may do so by dropping them off to the following Wayne County Sheriff's Office locations:

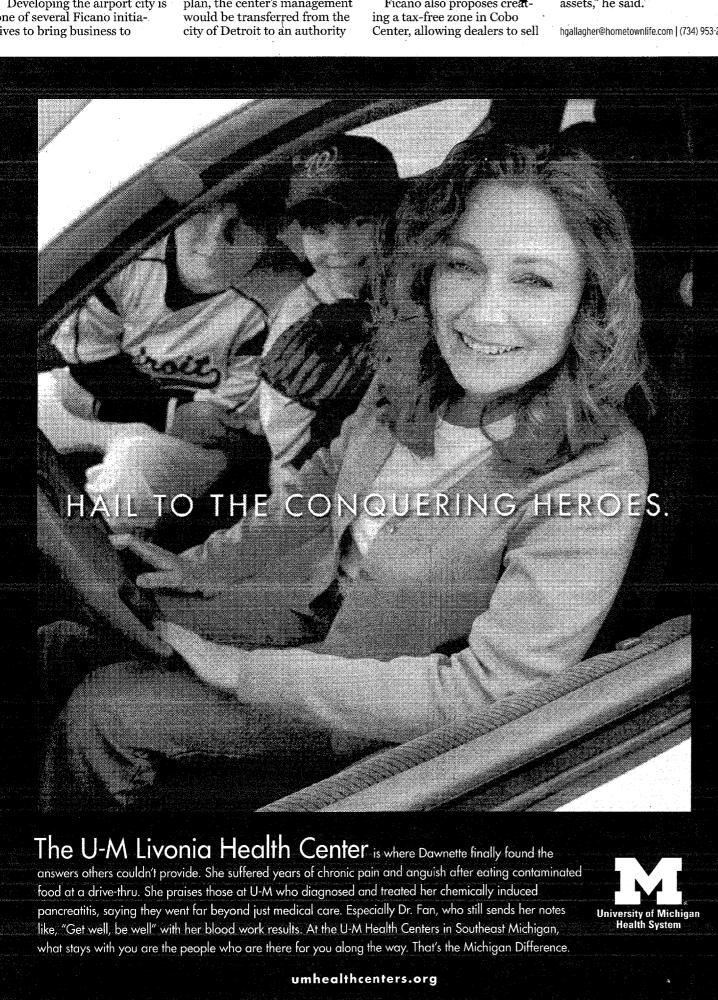
■ Administration Building, 1231 St. Antoine near Greektown

■ Road Patrol Office, 3100 Henry Ruff at Michigan Avenue in Westland

Highland Park station, located in Model T Plaza on Woodward Ave., two blocks north of the Davison Freeway

When donating a phone: ■ Include all chargers and any other accessories you wish to part with

■ Place all items for each phone into a plastic bag that can be tied or sealed so the accessories do not get mixed up with those of other phones.





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Thursday, March 15, 2007

OUR VIEWS

Tiff shouldn't stop business

Usually, the political thrust-and-parry played between members of the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees and the Plymouth City Commission is at least amusing.

In the case of the Great Dispatch Contract Caper, it's

starting to lose its humor.

The sides began negotiating a new contract — to replace the existing pact, which expired Dec. 31 - in August. More than six months later, there's still no new agreement.

Part of that has to do with the city's dalliance with the Northvilles. Only city commissioners know for sure whether those talks were ever really headed anywhere, but township trustees believed they were, and seemed slightly offended by the idea the city would look else-

In the case of the **Great Dispatch Contract Caper**, it's starting to lose its humor.

Commissioners wanted to fix their costs, rather than paying the 25-percent-of-the-budget figure they'd been paying. The two sides bandied about costs and seemed to have come up with acceptable figures in the most recent configuration, a five-year deal that would cost the city some \$1.24 million.

But the deal sent over by the township board contained no

clause allowing either side to opt out with one year's notice at any point during the deal, a clause that existed in the previous contract.

With the city exploring regionalization options, commissioners wanted that additional flexibility, presumably in case they found a better deal somewhere else. Commissioners were upset township trustees had "renegotiated without us" in the deal forwarded by the town-

We hesitate to paint the entire City Commission and township board with the same broad brush, but incendiary comments flowing between members of the two bodies are generally the norm, rather than the exception. Consider:

Commissioner Dave Workman: "This kind of behavior is what's making me reluctant to lock in with this sort of partner for five years."

Township Treasurer Ron Edwards: "This contract has benefitted both communities, and they've played politics with it too long."

Township trustee Bob Doroshewitz and Plymouth Mayor Dan Dwyer — the proverbial "cooler heads" – were set to get together and hash things out. Undoubtedly, the deal will get done because, ultimately, the partnership between the city and township is the smartest way to go.

The political in-fighting between members of the ruling bodies is, generally speaking, harmless bickering that has little effect other than to entertain.

In this case, though, it's preventing genuine business from getting done. It's time for the laugh-track to stop.

Time to celebrate all things Irish

Saturday, people all around the world will be wearing green and celebrating all things Irish.

On St. Patrick's Day, the Irish celebrate their long Christian heritage and the bishop who is credited with converting the island from paganism to Christianity. But that serious purpose often takes second place to celebrating the tiny nation's rich heritage with toasting, dancing, singing and humor.

The Irish are known for their robust ballads, poetic literature and gift of gab. They have also made a mark on this country's political heritage with recent presidents Kennedy, Nixon, Reagan, Clinton and both Bushes claiming Irish

And, of course, on St. Patrick's Day millions of people with no connection at all to Ireland claim they're Irish just so they can

join the party. In the spirit of the holiday, we offer this traditional Irish blessing:

May the road rise to meet you. May the sun shine warm upon your face.

And rains fall soft upon your fields.

And until we meet again,

May God hold you in the hollow of His hand.



c)GANNETT

Susan Rosiek Brad Kadrich **Community Editor Executive Editor**

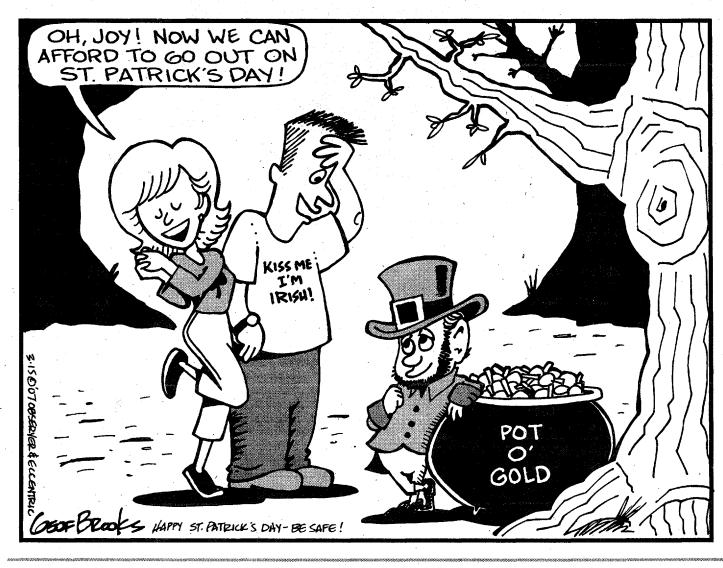
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LETTERS

Coming to Jesus

While I appreciate your thoughtful idea of making teachers and administrators in Michigan state employees, I believe you missed an important point. That is, the likely reason this will never happen has little to do with the MEA, protecting public sector benefits, or the usual hoopla leveled against our schools by conservative commentators.

Quite the contrary, it won't happen because our public schools themselves are at the forefront of the culture war, and, with few exceptions, the culture war is fought almost exclusively at the local level.

Don't buy it? Let me ask a question. What exactly is the job of our local PTAs, school boards, and other school-centered oversight committees? A conservative might cynically say "to raise our taxes."

But the truth has more to do with our community values. Controversies surrounding prayer in schools, disciplinary tactics, attitudes about substance abuse, character education, the proper role of art and music in curriculum, textbook choices and various other cultural concerns exist in every school district, to a greater or lesser

These groups exist to make sure our kids are being taught "the right things," not just in math and science, or to compete in the global economy, but culturally as well.

Further, parents who choose to forgo public schools rarely do so because of curriculum or educational concerns, but for cultural reasons — primarily religious. Is there a parent out there who can say (with a straight face) that they chose a private school over PCEP because it offered a greater diversity of curriculum or student society? Please.

Parents almost exclusively choose private schools to "protect" their children from, what they call, "secular culture." And I'm not speaking from a position of ignorance here, or as a skeptic. All of my younger siblings (four) attend private, religious schools and it's not because our public schools aren't teaching math and science well enough.

So, politically speaking, that's the rub. In my opinion, cultural issues are debated in our school districts because diversity exists among individual families. Family to family, township to township, county to county, region to region, state to state and nation to nation, "the way we do things 'round here" varies.

Thus, in order for Michigan to change, we'll need statewide consensus that our current budgetary crisis is greater than issues as old as Abraham himself. Or, in other words, we'll all need to come to Jesus.

> Joe Hawver Plymouth Township

Listen to voters

A Plymouth school bond millage proposal was defeated for the second time in just a year. I'm certain the school superintendent and board will now use scare tactics by listing all the cutbacks due to the proposal's defeat, and the cutbacks will probably be in areas most citizens want improved.

It is sad it has come to this, but many voters who have consistently supported school funding undoubtedly feel these folks need to get the message they need to listen to the voters. Here are some reasons why

longtime resident homeowners like myself voted "no" on the proposals: 1. Many students voluntarily gave up half

of the summer last year to play football for Plymouth-Canton. Parents had to pay hundreds of dollars for the "privilege" of helping make a team. There was no regular gym to meet in. The lighting and lockers were so old and broken apart that some players (including my son) were robbed while they were lifting weights. When citizens went before the board

about this, they were dismissed with a "tough luck" send-off and told they would have to pay to fix the problems themselves. Even in this past week's local newspaper, when a citizen complained that moving Starkweather could cause a problem, Superintendent Ryan responded to the concern by dismissing it as "ridiculous."

2. Many citizens probably wonder why our tax money was used to buy expensive vacant land in Canton instead of improving the schools we already had. And now the board keeps returning to voters for more money to recover what was spent on the land. Why keep borrowing money when the land could be sold? The rest of us can't get away with borrowing forever and not using our assets to get out of debt. Why does the school system think it can?

3. The board comes up with these bond proposals every couple of years, and most pass. They indebt the community for 20 or 25 years each, and yet they keep coming every other year or so. This may be a wealthy community overall, I don't know. But I do know that I am trying to live on an income of \$1,800 a month, less than \$22,000 annually. I can't get away with incessantly going farther into debt. Neither can you, most likely. Why should the schools run themselves that way.

4. I have already raised two children in Plymouth-Canton schools for 22 years and have been a taxpaying homeowner who always supported the schools. Those two children entered college and later dropped out. They didn't have the math, English or study skills to thrive. I acknowledge my failure in this, but then I didn't spend most of the day with them, I didn't earn \$45,000 a year and I didn't get summers off. And no bond proposal ever passed to finance me.

5. I read that the school board hired and paid a consulting firm to find out why last year's proposal failed. Not only does that seem like a waste of money that was provided to educate children, but it begs these questions of the board and superintendent: Why not ask us directly, the citizen voters, why we voted the way we did? Why not listen to us when we try to tell you something? Why not spend the money we give you to correct present problems instead of planning for future growth?

Then come back to us and you might be pleasantly surprised for a change

Jerry Cross Plymouth

Go direct

Nowadays, we can't open the newspaper or watch TV without encountering some reference to identity theft. It's an issue I deal with all the time in my role as the president and CEO of the Detroit Area Agency on Aging, and I'm especially concerned when the victims are seniors and other vulnerable citizens.

A recent U.S. Treasury Go Direct poll

found in metro Detroit nearly 1 in 3 respondents (31 percent) said they had a check, important document or large sum of cash lost or stolen and nearly half (49 percent) said they or someone they know had fallen prey to identity theft. The good news is, there is a simple step seniors can take to stop identity thieves in their tracks: Use direct deposit.

Do you or someone you love or care for, receive a Social Security check in the mail? If so, I strongly encourage switching to direct deposit. It's safer, easier and in most cases faster because your money is automatically deposited into your account on the morning of your payment day. It's one less thing to worry about in an uncertain world. The State of Michigan has declared March Go Direct Month, and as a partner in the Go Direct campaign, The Detroit Area Agency on Aging encourages anyone who receives Social Security or other federal benefits to get on board with direct deposit. Signing up is easy and people are available to help you. You can call (800) 333-1795, or sign up online at www.godi-

Paul Bridgewater Detroit Area Agency on Aging

Submit or die?

The History Channel is running a series that should be seen by everyone.

Terrorism throughout the ages has been so violent that the Abu Ghraib prison misdeeds are like a walk in the park. Genghis Khan and the Mongols, Egyptians, Persians, Moors, Turks, Romans, Huns, Vikings, Spanish — the list is incredible. Most humans either submitted to slavery or were slaughtered. There were no other choices until the tyrants died or their regimes disintegrated, sometimes centuries

Nazi Germany, Japan and Soviet Russia were foiled by the greater power of a Free World. The Mideast would probably be a horrible repeat already if America had not been assaulted on 9/11/2001. Our homeland is perhaps avoided temporarily for fear Americans critical of our fighting men might wake up and remember.

"Never again" was a promise made after millions died in World War II. Six years after the Twin Towers went down, are we ready to abandon civilization with no alternative but submit or die?

> Hank Borgman Farmington

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

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QUOTABLE

"I joined the board to make the tough decisions ... I'd like to keep the cuts out of the classroom as much and long as possible. But, the next two years we have to change the way we do business or we'll go bankrupt ..."

Dianne Gonzalez, Plymouth-Canton school board member, on the budget in the wake of the defeat of the bond proposal

Greg

Kowalski

State must stop brain drain before trickle becomes flood

ast week I found myself at dinner with a group of bright, enthusiastic young people, all iust about to graduate from college. They had stars in their eyes about their future — and, plainly, the skills and energy to reach those

But every last one of them is planning on leaving Michigan.

Why? In search of a career. Some were going to New York, others to Chicago, and a couple to the West Coast.

"How come?" I asked.



Power

What they told me went pretty much like this: "It isn't that Michigan is such a bad place. We grew up here, and we love it here. But there are just no good jobs now. We can't afford to risk our future by starting our careers in a place that seems to

be sliding downhill." Bad enough that Pfizer, Inc. is closing its research lab in Ann Arbor and Comerica, after 150

years in Detroit, is moving its headquarters to Dallas. But to hear the next generation's best and brightest talk about leaving the Michigan they love because they don't see much opportunity is terribly distressing.

Then over the weekend, I received an e-mail note from an old friend who founded a very successful consulting firm. He is not about to move himself or his firm out of Michigan, but he has some interesting insights into those who do.

"What rings truest about Comerica moving is how difficult companies find it to attract talented people to come to Michigan to work, especially metro Detroit," he wrote. While those of us who are lifers think quality of life is very good here, the pervasiveness of external perception is very strong: Michigan is not a magnet for tal-

Changing that perception, he went on, is the key to a successful future.

Whoever the wise person was who said our demography writes our history was right. And if there is any consensus as to how Michigan is going to get out of the economic pickle we're in, it's this — that finding, attracting, nurturing and retaining talent is the single most important thing we can do. It's more important than any particular whiz-bang, silver bullet economic policy. It's even more important than our collective culture, which at present is far too entitlement-driven ("Where's my benefits?") and too unwilling to take risks. Talent is the key to Michigan having a future.

And what is deeply worrying is that we may be approaching a tipping point, where our most talented automatically feel they have no other choice than to consider leaving the place they love because they simply cannot find good jobs

with a future here.

For some years now, I've watched the children of my friends graduate from college and move away. It's bothered me, but I've always figured that after they've sowed their wild oats in the fleshpots of the big cities and started a family, they'll come back home.

And, in fact, many of them have — for many

The cost of living in Michigan is far, far below other more fashionable places. A journalist friend reached a summit of our trade by getting a job at the *Chicago Tribune* some years ago, but pretty soon he realized his paycheck was getting eaten away by expensive rent in a small apartment and the costs of raising a family in the big city. He moved back to Michigan.

I hear lots of stories like that. The cost of living is low in Nebraska, too. But the quality of life here is unparalleled. Where else in the country can you live a couple of hours away from some of the greatest trout fishing in the world or the whispering pines on the Great Lakes shores?

Where else can you enjoy world-class art and music and sports and entertainment without having to drop hundreds of dollars?

Where else is the civic culture relatively sane and moderate, neither hard right nor hard left, as it can be in other regions? Michigan is in the center of the country, and we're centrist and sensible in the ways we go about things.

And besides, we've got water (listen up, Comerica managers!) and when the ice cap slips off Greenland and raises the level of the Atlantic Ocean by 21 feet, it's a comforting feeling to know we're 700 feet or so above sea level.

It may take a few years for the rest of the world to cotton on to all this. In the meantime, perhaps the state of Michigan might think of running an ad campaign about folks who have stayed and thrived as a result. We could also let people know about the good jobs that are going begging right here — and, yes, there are some of

We're urging out-of-state businesses to locate here, which is perfectly fine. But when our greatest resources of all — our talented young people — are choosing to leave, we'd do well to begin by selling them on our future.

We need to sell them on what we've got to offer internally before we can convince the outside world, and we need to do so soon, before a steady trickle of young career professionals going elsewhere turns into an unstoppable

Phil Power is president and founder of The Center for Michigan, a moderate think-and-do tank based in Ann Arbor. The opinions expressed in his columns do not represent official policy positions of The Center for Michigan. He welcomes reader comment at ppower@hcnnet.com.

Time to say farewell to a ton of National Geographics

he time has come to part with some old friends. For years, I collected National Geographic magazines. I have tons of them — literally, tons — dating back to 1893. I have no more room and having dragged them to three different places, I have decided to chuck 'em. Not all of them, mind you. I just can't part with the really old ones, so I'm going to keep the collection intact to 1945, the end of World War II.

Unfortunately, there is no resale market for moderately old to recent National Geographics. The only place for them to go is into the Dumpster. Sounds cruel, I know, but honestly I can't even give the things away.

But even tossing them isn't a simple matter. National Geographics are extremely heavy. I was not exaggerating when I said "tons." The floor

actually buckled under the weight of them at my old place. So I can't just load up the trash can all at once. I put in about two dozen a week. Anymore than that and I might injure the trash haulers.

Since I now have stacks of National Geographics waiting to be tossed, I've been going through them again. It's a fascinating journey. They world has changed more than we remember since 1945.

There are quaint stories about Saudi Arabia from the 1950s that show scenes of vast deserts sprinkled with oil wells, hinting of the fortunes to be found there. Same for Iraq, which is shown as a land of great history and exotic diversity. There's no mention of Islamic terrorists or ruthless dicta-

For years, the National Geographic was criticized for its policy of "if you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all." On the flip side, the practice opened doors to the Geographic that no one else from the West could peep through. The Geographic had features on the Soviet Union in the 1950s, on Red China before Nixon made his landmark trip there and on such closed societies as Albania and Mongolia long before they opened their doors to the outside world.

There were some grand gaffes as well. The infamous "Nazi" issue from the late 1930s painted a glowing picture of Berlin bedecked with massive swastikas every-

To the National Geographic Society's credit, it produced a frank, and sometimes brutal, self-examination in its official histo-

we know

As a journalist, I appreciated the quality of the Geographic's writing and reporting, especially in recent years. The Geographic is incredibly scrupulous in its editing, with literally every word scrutinized.

ry some years ago and acknowledged that monstrous mistake.

As a journalist, I appreciated the quality of the Geographic's writing and reporting, especially in recent years. The Geographic is incredibly scrupulous in its editing, with literally every word scrutinized. And I must admit I do take a perverse satisfaction in seeing that despite such careful attention to detail, the Geographic runs corrections in almost every issue — some for blatant errors like misnaming a state on a map, of all things.

But overall, the Geographic has been a wonderful and not always obvious reflection of the changing times and attitudes. Scanning a story on India from the 1950s, I came across a photo of an elephant being brutalized by its trainers. The photo carried a blasé caption of how the animal was being trained for service. Over the years, the Geographic has become much more environmentally sensitive, as has society as a whole. In more recent years, the Geographic has taken long looks at such issues as pollution, global warming, water quality, oil and other natural resources.

The original National Geographic, first published in 1888, was slender, scholarly and extremely boring. Visionary editor Gilbert Grosvenor introduced photos to the magazine around 1900, and its status as a cultural icon was secured. I still like looking at the photos of the Panama Canal under construction, or reading the first-person report of the Russian Revolution in 1917.

I'm going to miss these old friends. But even with my loss, I know there will still be millions of others around, stacked away in attics - mainly, because no one ever throws out the National Geographic.

Except me.

Greg Kowalski is editor of the Birmingham Eccentric. He can be reached at (248) 901-2570 or by e-mail at gkowalski@hometownlife.com.





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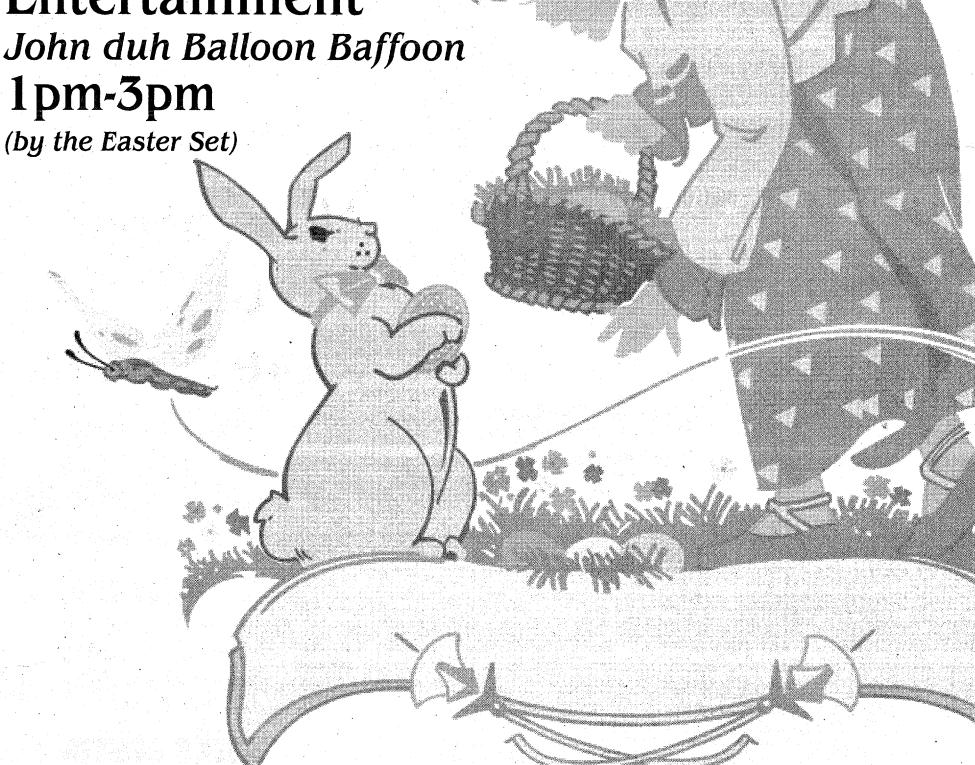
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Robots get students excited about engineering

BY HUGH GALLAGHER

Josh Barnett, 18, is weighing his options. The Wayne Memorial senior may become an engineer, or, on the other hand, he may become a chef. In either case, he's been very competitive in both fields.

On Saturday, it was Josh's engineering side that was in the thick of the rack, roll and rumble at the FIRST Robotics competition at Eastern Michigan University's Convocation Center in Ypsilanti. Barnett was co-captain and driver for the Wayne-Westland Bionic Union team competing against 59 other teams from Michigan, Canada, Ohio and Texas.

"I got into it basically for the fun," said Barnett. "But I've learned a lot, a great deal about engineering.'

Barnett got involved with FIRST Legos, a junior version of the competition, in the eighth grade. He moved up to FIRST Robotics in high school.

Fun and learning are what the competitions are all about. On Saturday, the center was rocking with blaring music, screaming teams and supporters, colorful costumes and fierce competition. All standard for FIRST Robotics.

EXCITED ABOUT ENGINEERING

"Basically, nationally known

 The robot from Plymouth Canton schools, left, gets a lift from another robot during FIRST Robotics competition Saturday. When robots are lifted above four inches, the three team alliance scores bonus points.

ed about engineering," said Tom Lang of Livonia, who was commissioned by General Motors to promote the event regionally. "Rather than just sit in a classroom and read a book about it, he thought they had to get in and get their hands dirty and learn from adult mentors. outside the classroom itself."

Technology, got together to start FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology). Since then, the program has grown to 38 regional competitions, including three in Michigan. The international championship is April 12-14 in Atlanta, Ga.

Each year, a new game is invented to challenge young people to discover different

robots to perform certain tasks and in the process to learn about the engineering process. But this isn't about battling robots, it's about teamwork and sharing.

Teams compete with other teams to get the job done. Three teams are allied to compete against three other teams.

"What Dean wanted people to understand was that in engineering, you could have competition while being gracious at the same time," Lang said. "They coined a phrase 'gracious

professionalism.' It's not like battling robots on TV, in fact the exact opposite though they do bump into each other."

SIX WEEKS TO BUILD

Teams have exactly six weeks to build a robot from the same basic parts. At 5 p.m. on Feb. 20, they had to ship their robots to a central location.

This year's game involved placing colorful plastic inner tubes on the spider arms of a rack set up in the middle of 54 foot by 26 foot, 8 inch playing field. Points were scored by how many tubes are racked in a row, with the point count doubling for each tube racked. Bonus points were scored by having one robot lift the other two robots off the ground.

That was the plan for Wayne-Westland's armless little robot.

"Our original goal was a robot to lift other robots high in the air, but we abandoned that to become a defensive robot," said Barnett.

"We didn't pay attention to the center of gravity so it didn't. work out as planned," said Scott Simons, a teacher at Wayne Memorial and team mentor for the Bionic Union which includes students from Wayne Memorial, John Glenn and William Ford Career Tech.

"But we have an excellent robot to be a defensive robot, so we can stop other teams from scoring and run interference for the team," Simons said.

Simons is a big booster of the FIRST. He said it's been an ideal way to bring students, families, schools and businesses together. Corporate sponsors help pay for the materials and also provide some needed engineering expertise. Ford, ITT Technical Institute and the school district sponsor the Wayne-Westland team.

"One thing I'm proud about is the partnership with Ford. We stress having students do stuff," he said.

The students design, build and rebuild over six weeks. On Friday, other teams had complimented Barnett on his driving skills as he maneuvered his robot to block out the opposition. An early alliance took a match 67 to 8 with the Bionic Union on defense,

"Just being able to drive

robots and see something I spent six weeks on come alive and do what I want it to do is great," Barnett said.

Jay Obsniuk, robotics teacher at Salem, is the team mentor for the Plymouth-Canton schools Lightning Robotics team, sponsored by Bosch, Visteon and ITT. He calls FIRST Robotics the "best" learning experience in the world for the kids."

"We sit students down and try to sort out ideas on what they want to do," he said. "What are the pros and cons of the robot. That's critical. You have to get a design done and get it out there. As a group, we decide on which way we want

The Plymouth Canton team finished tied for 27th place and will go on the competition in Atlanta.

WAIT TILL NEXT YEAR

In addition to building robots, students also learn to handle publicity, create animated videos, design team logos and a variety of other skills.

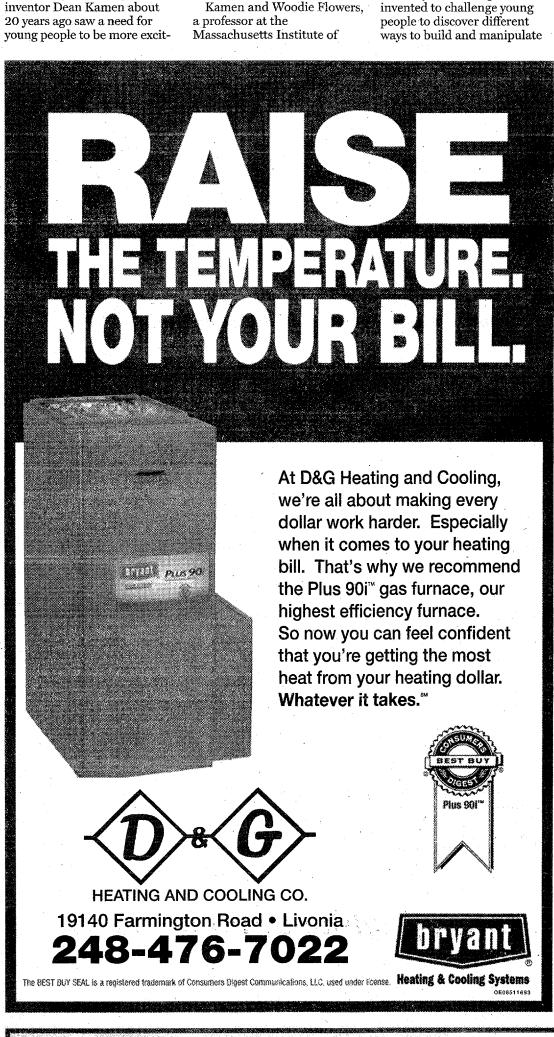
Saturday's event even included a half time show with, the judges (in refs shirts), team mascots in full regalia and the assembled crowd singing and dancing to The Macarena and the Village People's YMCA.

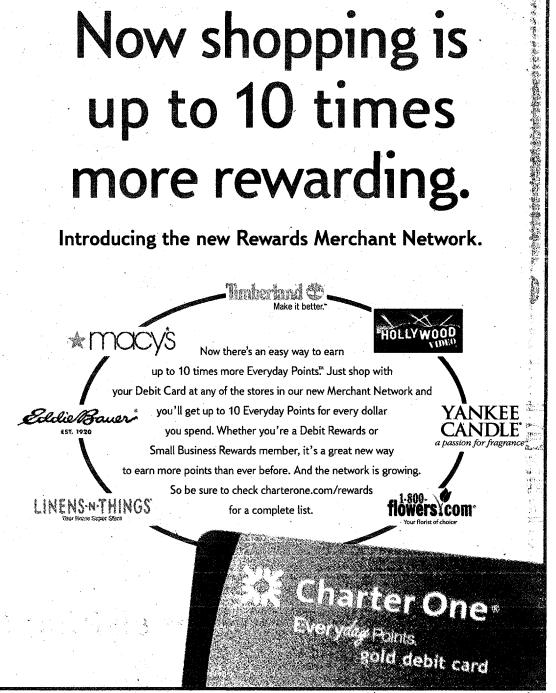
For Josh Barnett and his teammates things did not work out as planned. In a morning competition, he lost radio contact with his robot and it was stranded in the middle of the court. In another round, the alliance did a little better, but failed to win the round. The team finished 47th overall.

"Because of our experience this year, we will be a stronger team and much wiser team 8 next year," Simons said.

Next stop for Barnett is a culinary arts competition.

An alliance of Novi, Birmingham Brother Rice and Ann Arbor Pioneer took the championship on Saturday.





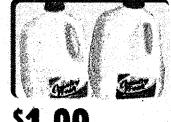
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If you want to submit an item for the religion calendar, fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. The deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

MARCH

Bible study

7 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of each month in the rectory at St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia. The current study is the Gospel of St. John. For more information, call (734) 261-1455.

Lay caregiver series

Pastoral Response to Substance Abuse Issues 2:30-4:30 p.m. Sunday, March 18, at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, Farmington Hills. Samaritan Counseling Center Executive Director Dr. Paul Melrose describes the condition or disease of substance abuse and the impact on the family and congregation of a member struggling with addiction. Cost is \$10. Call (248) 474-4701.

Church, 170 East Jefferson, at the

Deadline to register is March 15 for A

Lenten concerts 12:35 p.m. Thursday, March 15, 22, 29, follow services of Holy Communion which begin at 12:10 p.m., at Mariner's

entrance to the Detroit-Windsor

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entrance on median on Jefferson at Woodward. For information, call (313) 259-2206.

Lenten services

St. Michael the Archangel Parish would like to invite everyone to attend Lenten services, including Stations of the Cross and Benediction 7 p.m. Fridays during Lent, at the church, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia. The services follow the church's Lenten Fish Fry Dinners and are open to all. For more information, call (734) 261-1455.

Lenten fish fry

11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, March 16, 23 and 30, pick-ups at St. Peter Claver Catholic Community Parish Rectory, 13305 Grove, one block south of McNichols, one block east of Schaefer, Detroit. Lunch orders call in by 11 a.m. at (313) 342-5292. \$8 for catfish dinner, \$7 whiting, \$5 catfish sandwich, \$4 whiting, \$1 for sides of spaghetti, coleslaw and green beans.

Lenten services

Vesper Services continue 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays in Lent until March 28 (six part series on the Lord's Prayer), at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414.

Holy Week services 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday, April 5 (Communion); 12:30-2 p.m. Good Friday, April 6 (Service of Words, Music and Meditation, Come when you can, leave when you wish) Tenebrae Service of Darkness at 8 p.m.; Easter Vigil Saturday, April 7, at 8 p.m. (The Service of Light), and 9:30

a.m. and 11 a.m. Festival Services Easter Sunday, April 8. Regular church at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays with Nursery, Sunday School during 9:30 a.m. service. Adult Bible Study weekly on Tuesday and Sunday at 11 a.m. Visitors welcome. Visit www.holycrosslivonia.org

St. Patrick's Day

The Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall is hosting Mass and a number of events to celebrate St. Patrick's Day at the hall, 24242 Grand River, one block west of Telegraph. Call (313) 535-4110.

On St. Patrick's Eve, Friday, March 16, The Wakes and Weddings Band start at 7:30 p.m. Mass begins at noon on Saint Patrick's Day, March 17, followed by performances of one of Michigan's premiere Irish bands, Shamrock Shore at 1 p.m. plus the Heinzman Irish Dancers, Bagpiper Dennis Burklow, and PaddleBall Billy, Full menu available on all the above-mentioned days, including corned beef and cabbage. There is a cash bar and no cover charge. Everyone is welcome.

TobyMac concert

On his Portable Sounds Tour 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 16, at Northridge Church, 49555 North Territorial, Plymouth. Tickets \$22 reserved, \$18 groups of 15 plus. Call (800) 585-3737 or visit www.startticketsplus.com. Joining TobyMac are Thousand Foot Krutch. Building 429 and Family Force 5.

Luncheon and fellowship

J.O.Y. Builders (Just Older Youth) luncheon get together for fellowship

KEITH ALAN ALLEMAN

Age 38, of New Albany, a beloved

husband, father, son and brother

and fun. Everyone 50-plus years voung is welcome 11:30 a.m. Friday. March 16, at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth road, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 464-0990. Please bring a luncheon dish to share and join us.

Montly meeting

For Bethany Suburban West Saturday, March 17, at Leon's Family Dining, 30149 Ford Road on the north side of the street, Garden City, All separated, divorce and singles welcomes. For details, call (734) 513-9479. Bethany is a Catholic organization under the auspices of the Archdiocese of Detroit office of youth and family, and provides peer support to the divorced and separated of all Christian faiths.

Effective Black Parenting Seminar presented by Kevin Threatt, created by Center for the Improvement of Child Caring with guidance from African American parenting scholars 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 17, at First Baptist Church of Detroit, 21200 Southfield, north of Eight Mile, Southfield. One day seminar is \$25 per person or \$35 per couple. RSVP required. For information, call (313) 869-4728. Child care not available. Seminar helps parents prepare children for success at school, resist pressures to use drugs and join gangs, achieve high self esteem and pride in their African American heritage. Church phone is (248) 569-2972.

Lenten dinners

5:30 p.m. Sunday, March 18 help support the Society of St. Andrew's mission to end hunger by enjoying a Potato Dinner baked by the Men's Club at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church. 30900 W. Six Mile, between Merriman and Middlebelt, Livonia. Call (734) 422-6038. Dress the spuds any way you like them.

Feed your spirit and body 6 p.m. Sunday, March 25 when the church presents a catered dinner followed by a dramatic rendition of the Sermon on the Mount by Randy Colbe. Cost is \$6. Tickets available at door.

Jesus Unmasked

A sermon series with the Rev. C. Allen Kannapell 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Sunday, March 18 Uninteruptible, Always Available; March 25 Unafraid; April 1 The Crucified God, and April 8 The Unconquered, at Anglican Church of Livonia in the Livonia YMCA, 14255 Stark Road. For more information, visit www.hischurch.us.

Vesper services

The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit (COCC) conducts its series of Vespers services annually during the Sundays of Orthodox Great Lent - March 18, at St. Michael Orthodox Church, 26375 W. Chicago Road, Redford, call (313) 937-0970, and March 25, at St. Raphael of Brooklyn Orthodox Church 23300 W. Davison, Detroit, call (313) 533-3437. Rev. Michael Matsko, Holy Transfiguration Church, Livonia at (248) 476-3432 or

mmatsko@twmi.rr.com. Livonia. Michigan railroad memorabilia sale 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, March 18, in the school gym at St. Albert the Great Catholic Church, 4855 Parker,

Dearborn Heights. Cost is \$3 adults, \$6 per family, or early bird entry fee of \$10. Proceeds go to St. Albert's School improvements and Bluewater Chapters restoration program for passenger cars. For more information, call (313) 277-2419.

Midweek Lenten program

6-7:45 p.m. Wednesday, March 21, and 28, includes simple service of sung prayer, meal and mission project, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0211.

God's amazing grace

Moves us to conversion. Join us as we welcome guest Frank Turner, former anchor for Channel 7 News of Detroit, as he shares with us how faith in God aided him in being freed from various addictions 7 p.m. Thursday, March 22, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, Activities Center, 17500 Farmington, north of Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 425-5950. Free will offerings appreciated.

Refreshments provided. Lifeline screening

Residents living in and around the Bloomfield Hills community can be screened to reduce their risk of having a stroke Thursday, March 22, in the Fellowship Hall at St. Paul's, 165 East Square Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills. Screenings are fast, painless and low cost, and involve the use of ultrasound technology, and scan for potential health problems related to blocked arteries which can lead to a stroke, aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta and hardening of leg arteries, which are a strong predictor of heart disease. Also offered is a bone density screening to assess osteoporosis risk. Pre-registration required. Call 1-

800-324-1851. Clothing sale

Northwest Suburban Mothers of Multiples will hold their annual Spring/Summer Clothing Sale 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 24, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30990 Six Mile, between Merriman and Middlebelt, Livonia. Over 30 tables of children's items. Bake sale. \$1 admission for adults. Strollers after 10 a.m.

Men's conference Catholic Conference for Men

(Courageous Companions of Christ) sponsored by the Archdiocese of Detroit 8 a.m. (doors open at 7 a.m.) to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, March 24, at University of Detroit Mercy, Calihan Hall, Detroit. Cost is \$40 in advance, \$50 at door, \$25 students, includes box lunch. For more information, call (734) 459-9558 or visit www.mensfellowship.com. Day includes speakers, 2:30 p.m. Mass, confessions available throughout the day.

A sacred cantata

The Seven Last Words of Christ by Theodore Dubois with soprano Mary Bagazinski, tenor Lawrence Wik, baritone Andrew Langlands, violinist Carmela Langley, and the St. Robert Bellarmine Adult Choir under director Mark Newlon 7 p.m. Sunday, March 25, at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, 27101 W. Chicago at Inkster roads, Redford. No charge. Call (313) 937-1500.

Clothing, shoes wanted

New Providence Baptist Church is looking for donations of gently used and new items for its annual Free Clothing and Shoes Giveaway Saturday, March 31, at the church, 18211 Plymouth Road, Detroit. Deadline for donations is Wednesday, March 28. Volunteer meeting is 6 p.m. Thursday, March 22. For more information, call (313) 837-0818.

Alpha sessions

Alpha is an opportunity for anyone to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed, non-threatening setting over 10 thought-provoking weekly sessions beginning 6-9 p.m. Thursday, March 29, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Includes a free dinner each week. Alpha is a low-key, friendly, fun and pressure free class. Free child care available when attending class. To register, call (248) 374-5932 or send email to

Margy.Burkhart@wardchurch.org. Choral cantata

A New Creation by Rene Clausen 6 p.m. Saturday, March 31, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. No charge but a free will offering will be taken. A reception follows in the Fellowship Hall. Call (734) 422-0149.

Mom to Mom Sale

Tri-City Christian Center in Canton is having their Spring Mom to Mom Sale 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 31, at Tri-City, 3855 Sheldon Road, North of Michigan Avenue, Canton. Table rentals are sold to capacity with more than 75 moms selling their kids' clothes, toys, baby equipment, etc. There is a \$1 admission. For information, call Pam at (734) 397-0819.

Christ on trial

Drama to uncover Biblical evidence that will be analyzed, eye witnesses share accounts of their encounters with Jesus, continues 7 p.m. every Wednesday evening during Lent, except for Maundy Thursday, April 5, when Simon Peter testified concerning Jesus' disruption of social mores, at Salem United Church of Christ, 33424 Oakland Avenue, Farmington. Call (248) 474-6880. Christ on Trial examines evidence that demands a verdict: Who is this Jesus...for you?

Lenten services

Noon and 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, to March 28; 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday April 5, noon Good Friday, April 6, and 10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday, April 1, and Easter Sunday, April 8, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 27035 Ann Arbor Trail, east of Inkster Road, Dearborn Heights, Call (313) 278-5755.

Lent and Easter services

In His Steps, a six-part sermon series during Lent on Sunday's at 10 a.m.to April 1; Holy Thursday 7:30 p.m. April 5, communion is around a great table in the shape of a cross to remember the last meal of Jesus with his disciples; Community Good Friday Service noon, April 6; 7:30 p.m. Good Friday April, 6, an evening service focusing on the Passion Narrative and Jesus' final moments, and Easter Sunday Son-Rise Service at 8 a.m., Worship Services at 9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m., Sunday school at 9:15 a.m. for children (childcare for four-year-olds and under at both services) April 8, at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Call (248) 476-8860, or visit

www.nardinpark.org. Church members wanted

The solid Reformed Protestant doctrine and the Authorized (King James) Version of the Bible may finally come together in a new church in your area. If you're interested in this type of preaching and teaching, write to Reformation Revival, P.O. Box 6156, Plymouth, MI 48170-0156 or send e-mail to www.psalm12verse6@yahoo.com for

more information.

NorthRidge Church Women's Ministry invites you to participate in a variety of exciting groups and classes that began Thursday, March 8, at the church, 49555 North Territorial, Plymouth. Choose from a self defense class, Scrap-booking, Mops, Bible studies, cooking and nutrition, quilting, book club, and much more. Register on http://www.northridgechurch.com/Wo

men/. **Tiny Tots Preschool**

Open registration began March 14, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0211.

UPCOMING

Good Friday drama

1-2 p.m. April 6, during Good Friday services from noon to 3 p.m. in the sanctuary at Wayne-Westland First United Methodist Church, 3 Townsquare (Newberry Street across from the Wayne Post Office). The public is invited. Refreshments follow in the Fellowship Hall. Women of the Cross is about 12 women whose lives were changed by Jesus before his crucifixion.

Easter cantata

Riverside Park Church of God invites you to our special Easter Cantata, He Touched Me, 10 a.m. Sunday, April 8, at the church, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth road, Livonia. For information, call (734) 464-0990. Please join us for this special drama event and celebrate Easter with us. We look forward to welcoming you.

Blood drive

8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, April 15, at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Call (248) 476-8860. No appointment necessary.

Retreat for widowed

Deadline is April 20 for Opening New Doors, a retreat for widowed only which takes place April 27-29, at St. John's Retreat Center, Plymouth. Speakers and group discussions. Fee is \$140 per person for double, \$160 for single. Call (586) 939-5219, (248) 478-1084, or (586) 566-2557 to regis-

Hidden Secrets film

Debuts 7 p.m. Monday, April 30, a new feature-length movie that explores just how explosive it can be when your past becomes your present, Livonia 20, 19500 Haggerty, Livonia, and Commerce Township Stadium 14, 3033 Springvale Drive, Walled Lake. Tickets now available at www.FathomEvents.com or at presenting theater box offices for \$9. For a complete, list of theaters, visit the Web site.

ONGOING

Recovery program

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville launches Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program helping men and women find freedom from their hurts, habits and hang-ups (addictive and compulsive behaviors), meets every Friday evening for 6 p.m. dinner (optional), 7 p.m. praise and worship, 8 p.m. small group discussion, 9 p.m. Solid Rock Café (optional coffee and desserts). Childcare during Celebrate Recovery is free and available by calling (248) 374-7400. For information, visit www.celebratcrecovery.com and www.wardchurch.org/celebrate.

Bible study

The Gospels and You Bible Study began 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 5, at The Basilica of St. Mary Orthodox Church activity cen ter on the lower level, 18100 Merriman. Livonia. No charge. The study focuses on applying the Gospel of St. Luke to daily life. Sessions will be led by Rev. George Shalhoub and Jim King, thechurch's director of youth and outreach ministry. For information and to register, call (734) 422-0010.

Grief workshop

From Grief to New Hope began 7-8:45 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5, and continues for eight weeks, at Ward Presbyterian Church 4000 Six Mile, west of Haggerty, Northville. For those grieving the loss of a loved one, it is normal to feel overwhelmed, angry and alone. Advance registration appreciated. For more information, call Carol Jacoby at (248) 374-5966.

Sunday service

All are welcome to attend worship service at 10 a.m. Sunday in the sanctuary at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, one block west of Inkster, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-1470.

Bible study series

St. Theodore Catholic Church presents the Catholic Interpretation of the Book of Revelation beginning 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 11, and continuing for eight weeks, at the church, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland. For more information, call (734) 425-7310.

Scripture study

Board the Starship Evangelize, seek out and explore new worlds of scripture study - The Book of Numbers - 10 a.m. Tuesdays through May at St. Priscilla Church, 19120 Purlingbrook, Livonia. For information, call Mary Rice at (734) 522-1095.

Worship service

All are welcome to attend 11 a.m. worship service Sundays, at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne at Hunter, Westland. Join us at 7 p.m. Tuesdays in November and December as Pastor Louise Monacelli introduces The Jesus Experience, a series of videos offering insight into the people and situations God used to expand the church around the world. For more information, call (734) 721-0800

Worship services

Sunday Worship services are 8 a.m. (traditional) and 10:30 a.m. (contemporary). Sunday School & Adult Bible Study at 9:15 a.m. Sunday. Grace Lutheran Church, 46001 Warren, between Canton Center and Beck, Canton. For information, call (734) 637-

PLEASE SEE CALENDAR, NEXT PAGÉ

zaphesekk Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 🌣 fax: 734-953-2232 e-mail: oeobits@hometownlife.com

DAVE LITTLE Age 57, of Canton, MI, passed away on Friday, March 9, 2007 at his home following a lengthy illness. He was , 1950 in Lackey, born on January 5, Kentucky, a son of Virgil & Gladys (Elswick) Little. On May 6, 1989 he was married to Mary at Mt. Hope Church in Livonia. Prior to his medical leave in 2005, he was employed by Sure-Fit as a professional welder. Dave is survived by his loving wife, Mary (Wild) Little; cherished father of David, Jason, Destiny, Derek Gage and Makailah. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Randall. Funeral services for Mr. Little were held on Monday, March 12, 2007 at the Higgerson & Neal Funeral Home in Belleville 734-697-9400 with Pastor Wayne Kurtycz of NorthRidge Church officiating. Interment took place at Knollwood

Memorial Park in Canton, MI.

DEBRA KAY JUSTICE Age 42, died March 9, 2007. Loving wife of Ron. Dearest mother of Alex Jake, Kasey, and Alyssa. Also survived by parents Joyce and the late Wayne Liddle and her sister, Denise Miller. Dear Aunt to Kayla and Erin. Visitation Monday 5-9 and Tuesday 3-9 at The Livonia Chapel of the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 Six Mile Road. Funeral service Wed., 11 a.m., at the funeral home. Donations may be



DOROTHY SKELLY (nee JURKE) LOOMIS

Beloved wife, mother and grandmother formerly of Livonia and AuGres. passed away on March 6, 2007 at her Oscoda home. She was 68. Mrs. Loomis was born Sept. 2, 1938. She married Douglas Loomis on April 27. 2000 in Northville. She was retired from Botsford Hospital in Farmington and was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Audubon Society of Michigan and the Oscoda Yacht Club. She is survived by her husband, Douglas; her son John (Annette) Skelly; her daughter, Julie Skelly; and her grandson, Nathaniel Skelly. She was dearly loved by her stepchildren, Mark and wife Tammy Loomis, Scott and wife Ellen Loomis, Brett and wife Jennifer Loomis, and Danielle and husband Doug Popp. Also surviving are her grandchildren by marriage, Daniece, Danielle, Jacob, Brittany and Nolan. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Neal Skelly; her daughter, Mary; and grandson, Jared. A celebration of her life will be conducted on March 17th at St. Mel's Catholic Church in Dearborn Heights. Father Thomas Kramer will perform the Mass at noon. Interment will follow at St. Hedwig Cemetery and Mausoleum in Dearborn Heights. Arrangements were by the Cremation Society of Michigan. The family suggests memorials to Hospice of Michigan, 112 W. Chisholm Ave., Alpena 49707.



EDWARD TARWACKI Age 89 of Wyandotte March 12, 2007. Beloved husband of the late Mary. Loving father of Barbara (Dennis) Lemanski and Christine (Peter) de Steiger. Dearest grandfather of six: Kelly, Jamie, Misia, David, Kasia and Trisha. Instate -9pm with a 6:30pm Rosary. Thurs Funeral service Fri. 9:30am at Czopek Funeral Directors 2157 Oak St, Wyandotte (734) 285-9000 to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church at 10am. Interment Mt. Carmel Cemetery

GERARDAISE "GERRIE" ENGLER Of Dearborn, March 9, 2007

JAMES E. "JIM" **SCHARMEN**

Age 58, of Traverse City died unex pectedly on Saturday, March 10, 2007 at his home. Jim was born on April 24 1948 in Detroit, the son of Leon T. and Clara (Tyler) Scharmen. Jim married Rosemarie Salai on May 17, 1975 in Plymouth, Jim managed Scheck Sign Systems and was an owner of the Cloth Envelope Company. Jim was a veteran of the US Navy. Jim was a commercial artist and he made snow statues. He was a member of the Grand Traverse Ice Yacht Club, he loved music and played the steel guitar, banjo, piano and the saw. Jim enjoyed fishing, boating, windsurfing, cross country skiing, iceboating, playing horseshoes, and driving his classic MG. Jim loved to cook and was known for his BBQ ribs. He was an avid Tiger fan and was looking forward to taking his pontoon boat out and listening to the ball game on his XM radio. Jim was very compassionate and had a lot of friends in the area. Jim is survived by his wife of nearly 32 years, Rose Scharmen of Traverse City; his mother, Clara Scharmen of Plymouth; two brothers, Don (Loretta) Scharmen of Traverse City and Chuck Scharmen of Plymouth. He was preceded in death by his father and mother-in-law, Elenore Salai. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, March 17, 2007 at 11 am with visitation from 10 am at the Covell Funeral Home, 200 N. Brownson Ave., Kingsley, with Rev. Louis Grettenberger officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations may be directed to the American Heart Association. Arrangements have been entrusted to

JENNIE LOUISE CONWAY

Covell Funeral Home Kingsley.

Age 76 of Ortonville, formerly of Rochester, died March 12, 2007. Loving wife of Edward. Dear mother of Lynn (Marje) Conway and Melinda (Rick) Callahan. Grandmother of Cristina (Randy), John, Ryan and Caitlin. Survived by three great granddaughters. Jennie was a member of the Auburn Hills Presbyterian Church, belonged to the Good Sam Club Loggers chapter. She was a talented craft person, seamstress and a devoted wife and mother. Funeral service Thursday, March 15, 2007, 11:00 a.m. at the Potere-Modetz Funeral Home, 339 Walnut Blyd., Rochestesr, The family will receive friends Wednesday 3-5 p.m. and 6-9 pm.. Suggested memorials to the Presbyterian Village Foundation of Michigan 26200 Lasher Rd., Suite 300, Southfield, MI 48034-7157. Online guestbook:

www.modetzfuneralhomes.com

passed away Monday morning March 12, 2007 in the comfort of his home following a brief yet courageous battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife of seven years, Anissa Alleman; sons Zachary Aden and Nathan Connor parents, Adeline and Richard Alleman brother, Robert (Cheryl) Alleman; sisters Cynthia (Steve) Cheney, Pamela (Don) Ferrin; mother-in-law and father-in-law, Carol and Alden Coe two sister-in-laws and two brother-in laws, Kim (Steve) Dahlheimer, Denise (Kevin) Conway; nieces Ella, Emma, Mickayla, Michelle, Kendall; nephews James, Alan, Alexander and baby Conway. Often referred to as "the K-Man," Keith also leaves behind many long time friends who shared his joy for life and adventure. He had a true passion and love for art. Keith graduated from Bowling Green State University (1991) and is a member of Sigma Chi Fraternity. Keith enjoyed his job at the Ohio Department of Education as Visual Communications Manager. He also owned and operated a full service-advertising agency, All Creative, Ltd. Throughout his life, he received numerous awards and recognition for his drawing and graphic design; Steel Valley Art Teachers' Association Award (1987), "Best of Show" ADDY Award (1993), Citations of Excellence (2001-2003) and ADDY Award (2001) from the Advertising Federation of Columbus. The ADDY Award represents creative excellence by recognizing all types of advertising in all forms of media. Keith's life is celebrated by many friends and family. Family will receive friends 5-8 p.m. Friday, March 16 at SCHOEDINGER NORTHEAST

CHAPEL, 1051 East Johnstown Road, Gahanna. A celebration of his life will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 17 at Worthington United Methodist Church, 600 High Street, Worthington.



In lieu of flowers, the family requests

contributions be made in memory of Keith to his sons' education fund, Zachary and Nathan Alleman Education Fund, at any Huntington

Bank. Share memories and send con-

dolences to www.schoedinger.com

OBITUARY POLICY

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

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

oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: 734-953-2232 For more information call: **Charolette Wilson** 734-953-2070 or Liz Keiser 734-953-2067 or toll free

e-mail your obit to

Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson

866-818-7653 ask for Char or Liz

CALENDAR

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Worship service At 10:30 a.m. Sundays at New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware at Puritan, Redford. Congregation is hearing lessons from I Peter. For more information, call (313) 255-6330.

Adult literacy classes

Available for those wishing to improve their reading and writing skills. Open to adults age 18 and over. Trained tutors available for day and evening hours. Call (734) 421-0472. Leave your name and phone number and someone will be in contact with you.

Personal ministry

Due Season Christian Church is a nondenominational, multicultural, full gospel church that offers Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. and Tuesday night Bible study at 7:15 p.m. Services are currently held at Stevenson High School on Six Mile, west of Farmington Road, Livonia. All are welcome. For information, call (248) 960-8063 or visit www.DueSeason.org.

Farmington Women Aglow

Meets from 5-8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month at the Farmington Community Library, 32737 W. 12 Mile. For more information, call Linda Boone at (248) 476-1053.

Scripture studies

From 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the lower level of Our Lady of Loretto Church, Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford. Call (313) 534-9000.

TOPS

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

Learner's Bible study

At 7 p.m. Mondays, in Room A101, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville. Call (248) 374-5920.

Church service

Loving God by loving people, meets at 10 a.m. Sunday at Westwood Community Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road at Hunter, Westland. Doughnuts and coffee served. Call (734) 254-0093.

Senior activities Gathering for seniors 50 years and older at 11:30 a.m. on the third Friday of every month at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 464-0990. Put together a salad dish and come out and meet other seniors. Lunch is served followed by fellowship with some games

Church activities

St. James Presbyterian Church offers a Thursday dinner at 6 p.m. for \$5 prepared by Susan Navarro, The Cookie Lady, followed by Bible study at 7 p.m. and Chancel Choir rehearsal at 8 p.m.; Thrift store is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Saturday; 10 a.m. women's study group second Saturday of the month, and Sunday worship at 10 a.m. (nursery available) and children's class at 10:15 a.m. at 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

Eucharistic adoration

The monthly program of Parish Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration continues the third Wednesday of each month at St. Michael's Church of Livonia, corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads. The church will be open for worship from 10 a.m. until the 7 p.m. Benediction service. For information, call (734) 261-5331.

Worship services

All are welcome to attend worship service at St.

Paul's Presbyterian Church, Five Mile and Inkster roads, Livonia, Service is held at 10 a.m. every Sunday with an education hour all for ages at 9 a.m. Call (734) 422-1470.

Unity of Livonia

Services at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays at 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads. Call (734) 421-1760.

Shabbat services

The doors of Congregation Beit Kodesh, a Conservative synagogue at 31840 W. Seven Mile, between Farmington and Merriman, Livonia, are open to the Jewish community of southeastern Michigan, Call (248) 477-8974.

Bet Chaverim

Services are open to all living in the western counties including Canton, Plymouth, Livonia, and Northville. The congregation follows traditions of Reform Judaism. Interfaith families welcome to attend services at 321 S. Ridge, south of Cherry Hill, Canton. Call (734) 646-3864 for information or visit

www.betchaverim.com.

Detroit World Outreach A nondenominational church with cutting edge drama productions, energized contemporary music, high-tech video and lighting, programs for kids and teens, for college students, singles, mar-

ried adults and seniors. Services are at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday (6:30 p.m. the first Sunday of the month), Sunday school for all ages at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Call (313) 255-2222.

Trinity Episcopal Church

Sunday Services at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., Wednesday service at 6:15 p.m., Bible Studies and Worship Center for all ages, at 11575 Belleville Road, (four miles south of Michigan Avenue), Belleville. Parents with Young Children Bible Study at 6 p.m. Sundays, includes dinner and child care. Call (734) 699-3361. Shabbat Rocks

A musical celebration precedes traditional Shabbat service once a month at Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt in Farmington Hills. For more information, call (248) 851-5100 or visit www.adatshalom.org.

English classes Conversational English as a Second Language classes are being offered for adults of all ages and backgrounds at 7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia. Tutors will work on a one-to-one ratio to help students better understand and speak the English language. No charge. To register, call (734) 525-0191 or (734)

Your Invitation To Man Office Cin

BAPTIST

UNITED METHODIST

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

33640 Michigan Ave. • Wayne, MI (Between Wayne Rd. & Merriman Rd.) (734) 728-2180

Virgil Humes, Pastor Saturday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m Sunday Worship 7:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. • Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Vednesday Praise Service 6:00 p.m. • Wednesday Children, Youth and Adult Bible Study 7:00-8:30 p.m.



Clarenceville United Methodist

- 248-474-3444 Pastor Beth Librande

Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Nursery Provided

Redford

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9:30 - Trad, Worship & Sun, Sch.
11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship
www.redfordaldersgate.org

NEWBURG UNITED

"Open Hearts, Minds & Doors" 36500 Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.

734-422-0149 Worship Service and

9:15 & 11:00 a.m. Rev. Marsha M. Woolley /isit our website: www.newburgumc.org

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96 734-522-6830

Sunday Worship 8:15 & 11:00 am - Traditional 9:45 - Modern

Sunday School 9:45 & 11 am Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413

Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Pastors: Robert F Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden

Canton Christian Fellowship "Where the Word is Relevant,

Pastor David Washington and The CCF Family

People are Loved and Christ is the Key" Join us for Worship Service at 10:30am

Sunday School and/or New Members Orientation: 9:00am Located at 8775 Ronda Drive, Canton, MI, 48187 Between Haggerty Road and Lilley Road SW corner of Joy Road and Ronda Drive 734-404-2480

www.CantonCF.org It's not about Religion, it's about Relationships Come to a place where lives are changed, families are made whole and ministry is real!

"More than Sunday Services" Worship Service

9:00, 10:30 & 11:00 a.m. Dynamic Youth and Children's Programs
 Excellent Music Ministries ali Groups For Every Age Outreach Opportunities
 Pastor:
 Dr. Dean Klump
Associate Pastor: Rev. David Wichert

first United Methodist Church of Plymouth

45201 North Territorial Road (West of Sheldon Road) (734) 453-5280 www.pfumc.org

NON

DENOMINATIONAL

METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday School

Nursery Provided The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pasto The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor

Staffed Nursery Available

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

MISSOURI SYNOD

25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY 313-532-2266 REDFORD TWP.

Worship Service

9:15 & 11:00 A.M.

Sunday School

9:15 & 11:00 A.M.

HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 9600 Leverne • So. Redford • 313-937-2424

Rev. Jonathan Manor, Sr. Pastor **Sunday Morning Worship** 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Education Hour 9:45 a.m.

Christian School Pre-Kindergarten-8th Grade For more information call 313-937-2233

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Mass Schedule:
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First Sat. 11:00 a.m.
Sun. Masses 7:30 & 9:30 a.m.

Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass

Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions

Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH 48755 Warren Rd., Canton, Michigan 48187

451-0444

REV. RICHARD A. PERFETTO Weekday Masses

Tuesday & Friday 8:30 a.m. Saturday - 4:30 p.m. Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church

St. Genevieve School - PreK-8

29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220

(East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries)

MASS: Tues. 7 p, Wed., Thurs. 9 a, Sat. 4 p, Sun 11a

St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church

32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616

(between Merriman & Farmington Roads)

Sat. 6 p, Sun 9a

EVANGELICAL COVENANT

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH l4 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hill:

(248) 661-9191 **Sunday Worship** and Children's Church 9:15 a.m. Contemporary

11:00 a.m. Traditional Child Care provided for all services Youth Groups • Adult Small Groups

CHURCHES OF

THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH

OF THE NAZARENE

45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.

Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.

NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196



Casual, Contemporary, Excellent Children's Program

Livonia on Joy Road at 10:00 a.m. 734-425-1174 Join us for coffee, bagels and donuts after the service!

CHRISTIAN

SCIENCE

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth

100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI

734-453-0970

Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

ed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m. Reading Room located at church Saturday 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

734-453-0970

Meets at Franklin H.S. in een Merriman and Middlebelt Roads

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

Worship in Downtown Plymouth First Presbyterian Church

Main & Church Streets ~ (734) 453-6464 8:30, 9:30 & 11:00 a.m. visit us at www.fpcp.net Accessible to all

Rosedale Gardens

Presbyterian Church (USA) 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, I (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494 www.rosedalegardens.org
Contemporary Service 9:00 am Traditional Service

10:30 am We Welcome You To A **Full Service Church**

St. James Presbyterian

Church, USA

25350 West Six Mile Rd. Redford (313) 534-7730

Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M., Sunday ichool - 10:15 A.M., Thursday Dinners - 6:00 P.M. Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm

ery Care Provided • Handicapped Acc Rev. Paul S. Bousquette

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN



40000 Six Mile Road "just west of I-275" Northville, MI 248-374-7400

9:00 & 10:20 A.M. Contemporary Worship 11:40 A.M.

Traditional Worship

Nursery & Sunday School During All Morning Worship Services Evening Service • 7:00 P.M.

Services Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday WMUZ 560 AM For additional information visit www.wardchurch.org

Risen Christ Lutheran

David W. Martin, Pastor David W. Martin, Pastor 46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth (1 Mile West of Sheldon) (734) 453-5252 Sunday Worship 8:15 & 10:45 am Sunday School (Children & Adults) 9:30 am Wednesday Worship 7 pm during Lent undy Thursday & Good Friday Worship 7 pm All are Welcome Come as you are! www.risenchrist.info

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTBERAN church & school 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD LIVONIA • (734) 261-1360

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. **PASTOR JAMES HOFF** PASTOR ERIC STEINBRENNER

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Timothy Lutheran Church A Reconciling in Christ Congregation 8820 Wayne Rd. (Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road) Livonia • 427-2290 Jill Hegdal, Pastor 10:00 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Available)

Observer & Eccentric

In addition to our weekly Worship Directory, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers publish a traditional holiday directory before Easter. If you are interested, please call Donna Hart at 734-953-2153 for more information.

For Church Directory changes and information regarding advertising in this directory, please call. Donna Hart (734) 953-2153 the Friday before publication.

To mail copy: The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or Fax to (734) 953-2121

Everyone should have a will, medical advocate

ecently, there have been a number of high-profile individuals that have passed away and unfortunately their deaths have led to a variety of nasty lawsuits. Whether it was the situation with singer James Brown, civil rights hero Rosa Parks or Anna Nicole Smith, the fights over their estates have been messy.

Although these were public figures that have different issues than you and I, it is important for all of us to remember the importance of estate planning.

Some believe the reason for estate planning is to avoid estate taxes or probate. Although these are worthwhile goals, the real reason is because you love your family. During their lifetime most people do whatever they can to protect their loved ones. Why forget about that upon death or a family crisis?

Estate planning is for every adult no matter what their income. For some people, estate planning will be more complex and include a variety of legal documents such as living trusts, while for others an estate plan may be nothing more than a simple will.

Estate planning is just not planning for your death. It is also planning for a family emergency. While you are living, you may become incapacitated or unable to handle your affairs and having the proper estate planning documents can save your family a substantial amount of money in unnecessary legal fees but also,

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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 15, 2007

Money

Matters

Rick Bloom

and more importantly, a significant amount of pain and aggra-

For every adult in Michigan, I recommend a Medical Durable Power of Attorney which allows you to appoint someone to make medical decisions if you are unable. In Michigan, we have a free fill-in-the-blank form that fits the great majority of people's needs. The document, the Michigan Patient Advocate Form is a Medical Durable Power of Attorney form available at most public libraries. You also can obtain a copy through your state legislature, or go online at www.bloomassetmanagement.c om and click on "estate documents" and download one for free. My recommendation is anyone 18 years or older should complete this document.

A Medical Durable Power of Attorney is different than a Living Will. As far as I am concerned a Medical Durable Power of Attorney is superior because a Living Will says basically, if I don't have a quality of life, I don't want to be around. The problem is who defines your quality of life? The Medical Durable Power of Attorney goes one step further and appoints an individual, who you select, who would

make that decision.

Another document that allows you to keep judges, courts and lawyers out of family affairs is a Durable Power of Attorney. It gives someone the right to make decisions above and beyond medical matters for you during your lifetime. Many people believe that a husband and wife can make decisions for each other without any legal documentation. This is not the case. A Durable Power of Attorney is an effective document so if you are unable to handle your personal and financial affairs, someone that you select can step in without court supervision.

Medical Durable Power of Attorneys and Durable Power of Attorneys terminate upon death. At death, all adults need a will and some people need trusts. In many situations where you are leaving money to one person such as a spouse, a simple will may be all you need. In addition, for young couples with limited means who have children and who need to name guardians, a simple will can also be the document of choice.

Michigan also has a fill-inthe-blank will form that fits many individual situations. The document, the Michigan Statutory Will, is available in the same locations that you can obtain the Michigan Patient Advocate Form.

In a will, not only can you name guardians for your children, but you also name a personal representative - the individual in charge of closing out

the final affairs of your estate. My recommendation is name a personal representative in whom you have the ultimate trust in. For example, a spouse. My general rule is to keep the personal representative a family member. If they do not have the necessary knowledge to handle the estate, they can hire a professional who they can fire. I generally do not like to name banks or attorneys as personal representatives as I prefer to keep that position within the family. For people with large estates

and for people who want to control their money past their death, a Living Trust is the way to go. A Living Trust allows a husband and wife in most situations to avoid any estate taxes and at the same time keeps the estate out of probate. Assets passed pursuant to a will go through the probate process while assets in a trust avoid probate. In addition, a Living Trust can be an effective vehicle for people whose beneficiaries are children and who do not want them to receive their

money in one lump sum. In a Living Trust, the person in charge of running the trust is the trustee. Once again, I generally recommend the trustee of your own trust and upon death it is either a spouse or family member.

In addition to wills and trusts, everyone should check the beneficiaries on their IRA, insurance policies and retirement accounts. It is important to make sure that your primary and secondary beneficiaries are up to date.

One last note regarding estate planning. It is important for everyone to have a document locator, a list where all your assets are located. This can save the family a lot of pain and aggravation upon death.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at moneymatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit his Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com. You can hear him Sundays from noon to 3 p.m. on WDTK-AM (1400).

Schoolcraft allied health and nursing job fair is April 4

Health care professionals who are in the job market can bring their resumes to the Allied Health and Nursing Job Fair at Schoolcraft College on Wednesday, April 4.

Representatives from more than 30 health facilities will attend and accept resumes for the following positions: Entry-level registered nurses; practical nurses; health information technicians; coding specialists; medical receptionists; medical billers; massage therapists; medical transcriptionists; and phlebotomists.

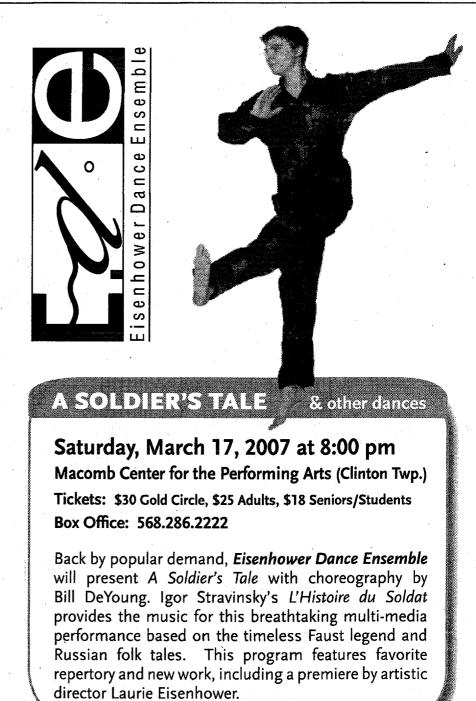
Hospitals that will send representatives include Beaumont, Chelsea Community, Garden City and Select Specialty. The Karmanos Cancer Institute also will be represented.

The event will be held in the DiPonio Room of the VisTaTech Center on the Livonia campus from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

For more information, contact the Schoolcraft College Career and Transfer Center at ... (734) 462-4421.







This ad space was donated by the Observer & Eccentric

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AROUND TOWN

Sciencepalooza

The Sciencepalooza science street fair gears up for FUN-tastic Physics at the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum April 7-8. Sciencepalooza is held the first weekend of every month at the Museum and explores a specific topic in a fun and festive environment with in-depth hands-on experiments, activities, special guests and demonstrations. Twenty different hands-on activities developed and presented by the Society of Physics students will be on display in conjunction with the FOCUS labs, a UM research laboratory. The Blake Lilly prize, a national award that recognizes outstanding community outreach and physics education, was awarded to the UM student group after last year's Sciencepalooza. The Museum will host hands-on activities and interactive projects exploring many different aspects of physics. Unveil the mystery of magnets, explore gravity and simply have fun with simple machines. This event is free with regular Museum admission, and will take place Saturday, April 7, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, April 8, noon-5 p.m. For more information visit www.aahom.org or call (734) 995-5439.

Golf league

The Livonia Women's Golf League is hoping to expand with 18-hole women golfers. The league plays at Whispering Willows Golf Course on Newburgh just south of 8 Mile Thurday mornings teeing off at 8 a.m. beginning May 3. Cost is \$25 per week, which includes golf and a cart. Nonresidents are encouraged to join. For more information, call Kathy, (248) 476-3991.

Hospice care help sought

Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan's (VNA) hospice program needs volunteers to comfort and support patients at the end of life. Volunteers can provide companionship, write a memoir, provide. respite for family or work as office support. A free 18-hour training program is provided; the next training session is April 14, 21 and 28 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the VNA headquarters, 25900 Greenfield Road, Suite 600. Registration is required. (248) 967-8361 or visit www.vna.org

Register for St. Genevieve School

St. Genevieve Catholic School is accepting applications for the 2007--08 school year. The school, preschool through eighth grade, is accredited by the Michigan Association of Nonpublic Schools. It's at 28933 Jamison in Livonia, east of Middlebelt, south of Five Mile, and offers full academic curriculum, full- and half-day preschool and kindergarten, extendedday program before and after school, CYO program and more. (734) 425-4420.

Firefly Club

On Sunday, March 11, the Firefly Club of downtown Ann Arbor will be hosting a "Cool Cats and Jazz Hounds" iazz brunch benefiting the Humane Society of Huron Valley. The brunch runs 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will feature the talented performances of jazz pianist Jim Dapogny, vocalist Susan Chastain and the Firefly Club Jazz All-Stars. The brunch menu will feature made-to-order Belgian waffles, an array of fresh fruit, granola and breakfast meats and, of course, Susan's famous sausage, gravy and biscuits. Suggested donation for attending the brunch is \$50 per person. Space at the event is limited, so call (734) 662-5585 ext. 125 or email amy@hshv.org to reserve your place. Donations will be taken at the door. Proceeds from "Cool Cats and Jazz Hounds" benefit the Humane Society of Huron Valley, the only humane society serving all of Washtenaw County.



Crafters/vendors needed

Crafters and vendors are wanted for the springtime craft show/bazaar 1-6 p.m. April 28 at the Inkster Recreational Center, 2025 Middlebelt in Inkster. Cost is \$30 per booth. Email Vdotson@twmi.rr.com for application or call (734) 595-1083.

Prostate screening St. Mary Mercy Hospital hosts a prostate screening and Men's Health Day 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 31. Men can receive a prostate screening, learn about medical and health information and more. Prostate screening Day consists of a blood test for Prostate Specific Antingen, total cholesterol and HDL, a prostate exam by a physician and a blood pressure check. Hospital officials suggest men 40 and older get checked. A \$10 donation to the new St. Mary Mercy Cancer Center is optional. Appointments fill quickly. To register, call (734) 655-8963. St. Mary Mercy Hospital is located at 36475 Five Mile (at Levan) in Livonia.

AAUW's 'The Petticoat Ladies'

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) will host a public performance by "The Petticoat Ladies" at 6:45 p.m. Tuesday, March 13, at Fox Run Retirement Community, 41000 13 Mile Road, Novi (just west of M-5). Beth Ann Knisely, (248) 305-8992.

Mom-to-Mom Sale

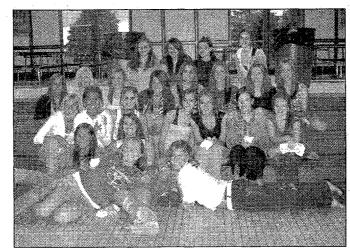
The St. Edith/St. Kenneth Mothers of Preschoolers group will host a Momto-Mom Sale from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 21, at St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, south of Five Mile. Gently used baby and children's items will be sold. Admission is \$1. Lindsay, (248) 252-4775.

Lenten fish fry

St. Sebastian Catholic Church, 20700 Colgate in Dearborn Heights, hosts its annual all-you-can-eat Lenten Fish Fry 4-7 p.m. Fridays through April 6. The event features baked and fried fish, macaroni and cheese, spaghetti, cole slaw and dessert. Cost is \$8.50 for adults, \$4.75 for children under 12. For more information, call (313) 562-5356.

Bocce for bucks Visiting Nurse Association of

Southeast Michigan's signature fundraising event, Bocce for Bucks III, sponsored by Complete Infusion Services, offers patrons an opportunity to receive professional instruction on the sport from World Cup Bocce players. The event takes place 2-6 p.m. Sunday, April 22, at the Palazzo di Bocce in Orion Township, Bocce for Bucks III features an afternoon of indoor bocce ball tournament play, ideal for families and people of all ages, an Italian buffet, silent



Strong finish

The Canton Chiefettes varsity pompon squad placed fifth at the annual state finals pompon competition held recently at Eastern Michigan University. Twenty-six teams competed in the Class A Divisions. Judging categories for the competition include appearance, execution, skill, level of talent, originality, precision and showmanship. Jenny Kesler coaches the squad, comprised of 24 members including 10 seniors. In addition to performing at school sporting events and competitions, the squad has performed at the Canton Liberty Fest, Plymouth Fall Fest, and Detroit Ignition halftime. The Chiefettes also hosted an annual variety show in September and a "Kids Clinic" in November.

auction and much more. No prior experience or equipment needed. Dress is casual and prizes will be awarded to the top teams. New this year is a private benefactor reception to be held 6 p.m. Sunday, March 25, at Park West Gallery in Southfield. Funds raised will help provide an innovative, life-saving system - VNA's TeleHomecare program, used by VNA to educate and empower patients by checking their health between home visits. Tickets are available with the following benefits: \$100 Guest ticket Receives bocce play, Italian buffet dinner, beer,wine, desserts, silent auction and exit gift; \$150 Patron ticket -Receives all of the above plus expert bocce instruction from World Cup Bocce Players one-hour prior to event start; and \$200 Benefactor ticket -Receives all of the above plus invitation to Private Benefactor Reception.

call (248) 967-8324 or visit vna.org. **Waste to Watts**

The Ann Arbor Hands-on Museum has extended the Waste to Watts exhibition through summer of 2007 due to popular demand. Waste to Watts shows how new environmentally friendly technology can turn our trash into electricity. Developed by Landfill Energy Systems of Wixom, Michigan, this one-of-a-kind exhibit demonstrates how methane gas recovery from landfills can be used as

For sponsorship, advertising or ticket

information for Bocce for Bucks III,

an alternative energy source, ultimately reducing our dependency on other fuels. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. For information, visit www.aahom.org or call (734) 995 5439.

Card party/luncheon

Victoria Chapter #290, OES, Livonia Masonic Temple hosts a card party/luncheon noon-3 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month. Admission is \$6; event features table prizes and door prizes. The temple is located at 27705 W. Seven Mile in Livonia. For more information, call (734) 459-6063.

Hospice training

Heartland Hospice is looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Washtenaw, western Wayne, Monroe and Livingston counties. Volunteers provide a variety of services including companionship, light housekeeping, errand running, grief support and clerical services. For more information, contact volunteer coordinator Candice Jones, (888) 973-1145.

Literacy Council tutors

The Community Literacy Council (CLC) is looking for volunteer tutors in Western Wayne County to help adults improve their reading, writing and communication skills. The CLC will provide training to interested volunteers. Previous experience or a bache-

for's degree is not required. The council will provide free training and materials, and then match you with an adult student in your area. Call (734) 416-4906 for more information.

Toastmasters meet Do you have a fear of public speaking? Do you need to do presentations at work and don't know where to start? Or are you terrified of the thought of standing in front of a group of people to present that report? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then Toastmasters is for you! Canton Communicators Club meets every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Canton Coney Island on Lilley, just south of Joy, in the Golden Gate Plaza. For additional information, contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237.

Grief support New Hope Center for Grief Support is a Christian-based bereavement outreach and resource center located in Northville. Age appropriate groups for widows and widowers are provided in various locations in southeastern Michigan including groups for young widows and widowers and their children between the ages of 4 through the teen years. Groups for parents who have lost a child, adults who have lost a parent, pet loss, and other specialized groups are offered at various times of the year. All services for

adults and children are offered at no cost to the participants. If you are grieving or know someone who is, please call the office at (248) 348-0115 for further information about services provided by New Hope Center for Grief Support, or visit www.newhopecenter.net.

CLUBS

Rotary A.M.

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

Canton Newcomers

The Canton Newcomers meet the first Wednesday of each month (September-May) for an adult evening of socializing, a speaker or an activity. Additionally, the group hosts more than 20 events during the month including Book Club, Bunko, Playgroups, Creative Kids, Ladies Day and Night Out, Scrapbooking, Walking and many more. Request a complimentary newsletter at cantonnewcomers.org or call Jennifer at (734) 981-1715. You don't have to be "new" to be a Newcomer!

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, PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 2500 S Industrial Hwy Ann Arbor, MI 48104-6130 (734)973-5584 on 3/29/07 at 2:00 pm. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of: 1058 - Jonathan Rose - 100 Boxes, 6 Filing Cabinets, 6 Chairs 5014 - Jami Campbell - Dryer, Tool Box, Washer 5075 - Gillian Barclay - 15 Boxes, 20 Totes, Console TV

Publish: March 15 & 22, 2007

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON **INVITATION TO BID**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, March 29, 2007 for the following:

COLD WATER METERS & ' ASSOCIATED CONTROL EQUIPMENT

Bids may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, on our website at www.canton-mi.org, or you may contact Mike Sheppard at: 734/394-5225. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Canton. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Canton by writing or calling the following:

David Medley, ADA Coordinator Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road Canton, MI 48188 (734) 394-5260

Publish: March 11 & 15, 2007

Fullish: March 15; 2007

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, PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 2101 Haggerty Rd Canton MI 48187 (734)981-0303 on 3/30/07 at 12:00 pm. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due. Personal property described below in the matter of:

2020 - Meghan Garrity - Treadmill, Dresser, 20 Bags 3033 - Shanthi Radhakrishnan - 25 Boxes, Love Seat, Bed

Mattress 4058 – Wayne Neary – Luggage, 20 Boxes, Misc Items

4064 - Christopher Peters - 10 Boxes, 2 Dressers, Table 4076 - James Peters - Toolbox, Portable TV, Misc Items

4233 – Renata Broughton – Washer, Dryer, Microwave 4236 – Carol Hall – 20 Boxes, 5 Totes, Misc Items

5006 - Kirk Surface – Microwave, 15 boxes, Loveseat

5202 - Nyesha Penn - 50 Totes, Kids Toys, 10 Bags

6014 - Mountain Jacks - Chairs, Oven, Tables 6016 - Mammoth Video - 2 Boxes, Cabinets, Misc Items

6224 - Mark Mayo - 10 Bags, 10 Totes, Misc Items

Publish: March 15 & 22, 2007

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CONSIDERATION OF CLASS C LIQUOR LICENSE TO CHERRY MARTINI 50296 CHERRY HILL ROAD, CANTON, MICHIGAN

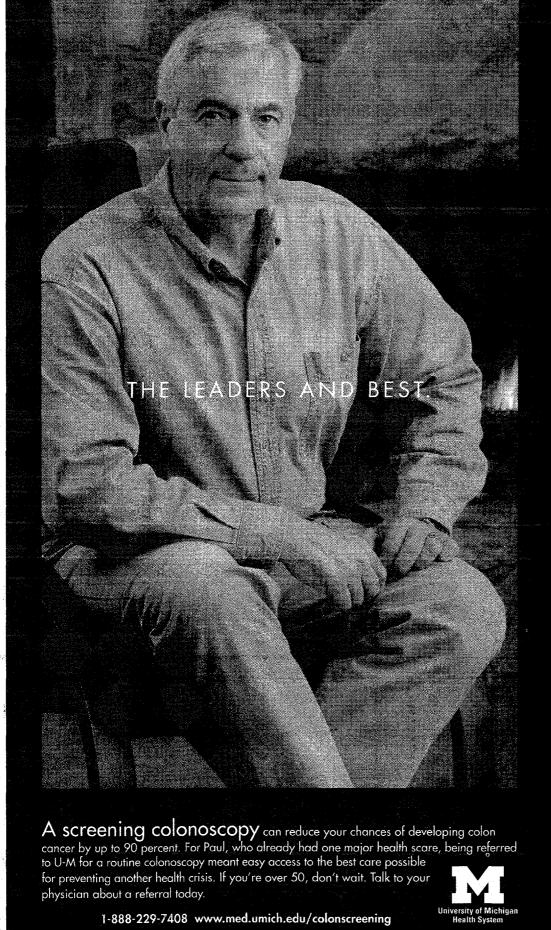
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to Liquor License Ordinance, Chapter 6, Article II of the Charter Township of Canton, that the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 27, 2007, in the Township Administration Building, Board Room, 1150 South Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan at 7:00 p.m. for the following purpose:

To hear and for testimony to consider and recommend an action to the Michigan Liquor License Commission of the request of Cherry Martini LLC, issuance of a Class C Liquor License with entertainment, after hours and outside bar/service permits to be located at 50296 Cherry Hill Rd, Canton Township, Canton, Michigan, Wayne County.

All interested citizens are encouraged to attend and will be offered an opportunity at said hearing to voice any comments they may have regarding this request. Written comments may also be submitted to the Township Clerk's Office at 1150 South Canton Center Road, Canton MI 48188 prior to the hearing date.

> Terry G. Bennett, Canton Clerk

Publish: March 15, 2007



There may be no better time than right now to complete that bachelor's degree you started years ago. Learn how to complete your bachelor's degree in an accelerated program during an information session sponsored by Schoolcraft College.

On Saturday, March 17, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., representatives from area colleges and universities will be on hand to explain their acceler-

ated programs and answer questions. The program is free and open to all interested persons. It will be held in the VisTaTech Center on Schoolcraft's Livonia cam-

The accelerated programs, for motivated adults, offer bachelor's degrees in fields such as business administration and management, community development, education, human resources man-

agement, nursing, entrepreneurship and accounting.

Participating schools are Central Michigan, Cleary, Concordia, Kaplan, Northwood, Siena Heights and Spring Arbor universities, Rochester and Walsh colleges, and the University of Michigan Dearborn.

For information or to make reservations, contact Schoolcraft College at 734-462-4400, ext. 5213.

Program focuses on accelerated degree Justice says court controversy is making judges 'nervous'

STAFF WRITER

Michigan Supreme Court Justice Marilyn Kelly said Saturday that the controversy swirling around the court is making lawyers and judges "nervous."

"If there is publicity that makes the court look unstable and calls the court's decisions into question, it's crucial that people abide by the decisions of the court and respect them," Kelly told a luncheon meeting of the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County at the Livonia Civic Center Library.

Justice Elizabeth Weaver, a Republican, has asked for an investigation of her fellow Republican justices — Chief Justice Clifford Taylor and Justices Maura Corrigan, Robert Young and Stephen Markham. Last year she called on her fellow judges to disqualify themselves from hearing a case involving attorney Geoffrey Fieger. She has also said that she has other complaints about the justices. State Rep. Paul Condino, D-Southfield, chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, said he would look into Weaver's complaints.

Kelly, a Democrat, said the complaints made by Weaver are unprecedented. She said there are legal mechanisms to handle criminal complaints and a judicial ethics committee to handle issues involving canons of ethics.

"Here we have complaints about members that don't seem to fit into any of those categories," she said in an interview prior to her speech. "If it were true that justices are sitting on cases where they are biased against one of the parties, that by definition would affect their decisions. That's a serious allegation."

On Feb. 20, the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear Fieger's appeal of a 2004 Michigan Supreme Court 4-3 vulgar comments about state judges. According to press reports in 1998, Fieger made



Michigan Supreme Court Justice Marilyn Kelly speaks during a luncheon sponsored by the League of Women Voters held at the Livonia Civic Center Library.

disparaging remarks about judges on the Court of Appeals who overturned a \$15 million medical malpractice suit. On a radio appearance he called them "three jackass Court of Appeals judges."

There isn't a member of the court who applauds some of the language Fieger used and his decision to speak out, language that is degrading to the judiciary," Kelly said in the interview. "It always worries us that it will lower the public's trust and confidence in the people who make decisions. The question is whether what he said went to the point where it was no longer covered by his constitutional right of free speech."

Kelly voted with the minority. Kelly told the League members that while it is important that the court make its decisions on legal cases in private, there are other court functions, such as discipline of lawyers and judges, that should be done it public.

"I see no reason that those decisions can't be made in public, those are essentially administrative decisions," she said. "Public business should be done in public as much as pos-

Kelly, who began her public career as a member of the State Board of Education at 25 in

preferable to electing them. In Michigan, judges are elected on a non-partisan ballot. Supreme Court judges are elected on the non-partisan ballot, but they receive a recommendation from political

"Look at all the judges who were elected and all the judges who were appointed, it wouldn't be clear who were the better judges," she said. "I think you get good and not-so-good from both systems. I do believe, and have been a proponent for a long time, of those judges selected by the governor undergoing a merit selection process."

On the issue of court activism, Kelly said it can't only be applied to those with liberal leanings.

"Today it is more likely applicable to conservatives, who are more actively trying to change law when their job should be to handle cases as they come to them and apply the law to those cases," she said.

Kelly told the League she has become worried that civil liberties have been eroded in recent years with questions raised about federal government searches and surveillance.

how little grasp people have of their basic rights," she said. "They don't have a concept of their rights under the Constitution."

Mon.-Fri. 10 am - 6 pm

Sat. 10 am - 4 pm

"I'm concerned to realize

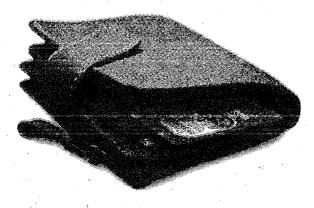
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Member FDIC. Offer available in MI and Toledo, OH, area only. To qualify for this offer, you must open or have a personal checking account at Charter One and be enrolled Everyday Points by March 31, 2007. Receive 5,000 Everyday Points, valued at \$25, if you establish a monthly Steady Save transaction, with which you must transfer a minimum of \$10 at least once per month from this account to any of your Charter One savings or Money Market Accounts (other than a Passbook Savings Account) by April 30, 2007. Offers may be combined with each other but cannot be combined with any other offers. Each \$25 will be awarded in the form of 5,000 Everyday Points and can be used for your reward selection. Existing customers who do not currently use Steady Save or Online Bill Pay may also quality — see a banker for details. Points are valid for three years from award date and may be redeemed for a gift card to our merchants or merchandise in our Everyday Points catalog, available in branch or online at www.charte values subject to change. \$25 Everyday Points annual membership fee for Green Checking? eustomers. For Green Checking account must be enrolled in Everyday Points at the time the points are used to be eligible. Refer to the Everyday Points catalog for additional terms and conditions. ATM/Debit Card required for online banking. This limited-time offer is subject to change and may be withdrawn at any time. All accounts and services are subject to individual approval. See a banker for details

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The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers www.hometownlife.com

Chief cagers fall to St. Mary's in Regional semis

BY MIKE ROSENBAUM

A winning high school basketball team can generally expect the competition to get tougher as the state tournament pro-

But third-ranked Orchard Lake St. Mary's hasn't been challenged since the Eaglets opened Class A tournament play with a 12-point victory over district host West Bloomfield on March 5. The trend continued in Wednesday's regional opener, as the Eaglets sailed to a 65-31 victory over Canton at Troy High.

The Chiefs trailed 24-6 after one quarter and 48-10 at halftime. St. Mary's lead reached 40 points, 53-13, midway through the third quarter, triggering a

running clock for the remainder of the game.

Canton coach Charlie Paye said his team was "confident coming in." Nevertheless, the Chiefs understood they

were decided underdogs. 'We knew we'd have to play our best game of the year, by far, and they'd have to lower theirs a little bit," Paye said. "Obviously that didn't happen. They didn't take us lightly, that's for sure. They were quicker than us at every position."

St. Mary's (22-2) plays the Romeo-Pontiac Northern winner Friday. Eaglets coach George Porritt said his

team started fast and never slowed up. We got out and got going; (Canton) couldn't hit some early shots, and I just think that it snowballed."

The Eaglets led 6-4 early in the game before a Jon Tassin three-pointer triggered a nine-point St. Mary's run. The Eaglets closed the opening quarter with another 9-0 run, including a Kalin Lucas three-pointer.

The Eaglets scored the first 12 points of the second quarter, and bookended the period with another 12-0 spurt, even though Porritt was already substituting.

Lucas, the Michigan State-bound senior, played only two minutes of the second half before taking a seat for good. As the seconds ticked steadily off the clock, Porritt's only concern was avoid-

competition should be tougher. Lucas and Tassin led St. Mary's with 12 points apiece Wednesday. Johnathan

ing a letdown Friday, when St. Mary's

experience for our kids, the underclassmen. We'll be back next year, ready to go to battle again."

for Canton.

"It's still been a great year," Paye concluded. "I've got nothing to complain about. It's going to take a heck of an effort for anybody to beat that (St. Mary's) team."

Gordon added 10, as 11 Eaglets dented

the scoresheet. Neil Sharma scored 13

The Chiefs, who lost to St. Mary's in

last season's regional final, finished 17-7

We won the conference, we won our

goals are coming in, and (the regional) is

just gravy. I wish we'd had a better showing tonight. But we'll take it. It's a great

despite losing their first four games.

district," Paye said. "That's what our

Spring break sports camps

High Velocity Sports in Canton will be offering spring break camps April 9-13 for kids between the ages of 5 and 12 years old. The four camps offered will be: all-sport, soccer, basketball and craft camp. The instructor-to-child ratio is 1-to-10.

The all-sport camp is offered in full-day (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) or half-day (9 a.m. to noon or 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.) sessions. The full-day fee is \$45 per day while the half-day camp is \$25. Kids will play several sports, including soccer, flag football, basketball,

volleyball and dodge ball. The soccer camp will be offered from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. for kids 5 to 8 years old; and noon to 2 p.m. for 9 to 12 year olds. The camp is five days long and the fee is \$125 per child. The camp will focus on improving soccer funda-

mentals. The basketball camp is offered from 9 a.m. to noon with a fee of \$125 per participant. The camp is designed for beginner and intermediate players who are between the ages of 5 and 12 and interested in developing basic skills.

The craft camp is for children between the ages of 5 and 12 who would like to show off their creative side. There will be a variety of projects offered each day. The fee is \$30 per day, which includes all materi-

Early drop-off is \$5 per day and it starts at 7:45 a.m. Late pick-up is also \$5 per day and ends at 5:15 p.m.

For more information on the spring break camps. call (734) HV-SPORT; or visit www.hvsports.com.

Youth mat tourney

Beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday at Westland John Glenn High School, the Michigan Youth Wrestling

Association will host the Metro Regional Championships for ages 5-14, as well as a high school division.

All wrestlers 14-andunder must be pre-registered by 10 p.m. Thursday. Wrestlers ages 15-19 are also encouraged to preregister.

The entry fee is \$10 for MYWAY members, \$20 for non-members ages 13-19. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children.

An immediate family pass is \$7. For more information, visit mywaywrestling.com or e-mail tournament

director Bill Polk at polkw@wwcsd.net. **Baseball School**

The Bernie Carbo Pro

Secrets Baseball Academy will be staging individual, small group and team skills session in velocity improvement, power hitting and fielding to showcase at any time. Former Phillies minor league All-Star Mark

Rutherford will be the featured instructor. For more information,

call (734) 421-4928.

Phillips puts an exclamation point on amazing mat career with D1 state title

Fifteen seconds, 14, 13... very fiber of every muscle in Corey Phillips' 140-pound body locked and loaded Saturday night a few minutes before 8:30 p.m. on the main floor of the Palace of Auburn Hills.

They had to in order to hold off the strength and skill of Rockford's J.J. Johnson during the closing seconds of the 140-pound final match of the Division 1

Individual State Wrestling Tournament.

Twelve seconds, 11, 10... As the red-numbered seconds slowly evaporated off the portable wrestling scoreboard just off the mat, Phillips used every ounce of energy, every ond of training he had soaked in over the past 12 years to hold onto a tenu-

ous 4-3 lead over the formidable Johnson, who strained to find the leverage it would take to do something 55 others were unable to do this season — put

Phillips on his back..

Ed

Wright

Nine seconds, eight, seven... The talented Johnson, the owner of a 49-1 record, only needed the smallest window of opportunity to go from a neutralized position to putting his opponent in a headlock — a fact Canton coach Casey Randolph knew all too well.

"I didn't even look at the scoreboard the last 33 seconds," Randolph remembered. "I just kept telling Corey to push the pace and try to score more points."

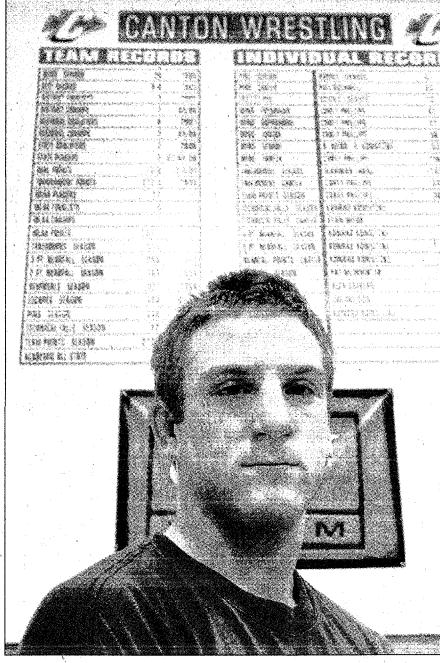
Six seconds, five, four...

MAT-NIFICENT CAREER

- Name: Corey Phillips;
- **School:** Canton;
- Grade: Senior:
- Parents: Nick and Carol:
- Accomplishments: Capped a perfect 56-0 season on Saturday by winning 140-pound state title at the D1 individual state meet at the Palace of Auburn
- Overall high school record: 212-21:
- Canton coach Casey Randolph on **Phillips:** "Corey's motor never stops running when he's on the mat. He never stops pushing. Away from wrestling, his faith and family come first. He's the kind of kid vou'd want your own son to be like."

As the final seconds of Phillips' incredible season disappeared, the louder the noise from the red-and-white-clad fans in the nearby stands grew. And although there were four matches unfolding on the Palace floor that instant, 90 percent of the eyes were riveted on the Phillips-Johnson duel for the simple reason that it's not often you get to see greatness meet perfec-

PLEASE SEE PHILLIPS, B3



Canton senior Corey Phillips put the wraps on a sensational high school wrestling career Saturday when he won a Division 1 individual state title by defeating Rockford's J.J. Johnson, 4-3, in the championship match. Phillips (56-0) is pictured standing in front of the Chiefs' records board, on which his name appears six times.

In the 'Nick' of time

Salem's Leone turns hard work into fast times

BY ED WRIGHT

Of all the significant things Salem's Nick Leone learned during his first season of competitive swimming four years ago, one stands "The most important thing I learned my

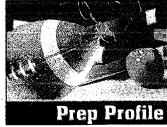
freshman year was that I didn't like being slow," remembered Leone, who concluded a remarkably successful high school career at Saturday's Division 1 state meet at Eastern Michigan University. "My first year was tough because I never swam competitively before, not even in middle school. But I never thought about giving up because I wanted to get better. I wanted to get faster." Thanks to a positive attitude and a stellar

work ethic, Leone got faster. A lot faster.

BEST FOR LAST

At Saturday's D1 state meet, he turned in a personal-best time of 1:48.1 in the 200-yard freestyle, which was more than 33 seconds quicker than his best clocking in the event as a

"As soon as my freshman year ended, I started to swim year-round for the Plymouth-Canton Cruisers," Leone said. "That helped me a lot. Another thing that helped was all the support I received from the seniors that were on the team my freshman year — guys like



Nick Dixon and Matt Jurcak. "There were

tons of times especially during the summer when I didn't feel like getting up at 7:30 a.m. to go to practice, but I

went anyway because I wanted to improve. And I was one of those people who actually enjoyed practice. I figured if I dreaded practice, I was going to do bad, but if I had fun at it, I'd get better."

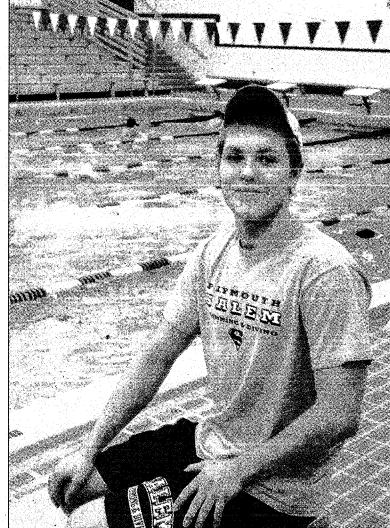
CAPTAIN NICK

Leone's dedication to the sport was rewarded in a big way at last year's Salem swimming banquet. He was named the team's MVP along with receiving another honor that he covets more than anything else.

Probably the highlight of my career came when I found out at the banquet last year that I was voted one of the captains for this season," said Leone. "I was happy that I was going to be in a position to help the younger swimmers like the captains helped me my freshman

At Saturday's state meet, Leone was a kev member of all three Rock relays foursomes

PLEASE SEE **LEONE**, **B2**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Nick Leone went from not swimming at all before his freshman year of high school to qualifying for the Division 1 state meet this year.

Terry leads Whalers over Greyhounds, 6-1

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 15, 2007

Chris Terry led a balanced attack with a goal and three assists and Michal Neuvirth stopped 31-of-32 shots as the Plymouth Whalers defeated the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds, 6-1, in an Ontario Hockey League game played before 3,004 Sunday afternoon at the Compuware Sports

Besides Terry - who scored his 22nd goal of the year -Plymouth received goals from Andrew Fournier (20), Jared Boll (28), Vern Cooper (9), Steve Ward (15) and Kaine Geldart (5). Brandan MacLean scored his 18th goal of the season for Sault Ste. Marie

With the win, Plymouth hits 100 points with a record of 48-14-1-3 - the second time in the Whalers' 17-year history they've hit 100 points in a season. The 1998-99 Whalers hold the franchise record with 106 points (51-13-4).

Plymouth remains tied with London as the top team overall in OHL and the Whalers and Knights will go down to the final weekend of the OHL regular season battling for the top

Plymouth pulled away from Sault Ste. Marie in the game, leading 1-0 after one period and 5-1 after forty minutes.

Fournier scored the only goal of the first period at 13:43 on a power play when he batted home a rebound past Sault Ste. Marie goaltender Kyle Gajewski. Terry set up the play with a good low shot from the

left point. The Whalers blew the game open in the second period on goals by Boll at 0:40 (shot from the right circle inside the far post), Cooper at 1:01 (jammed in from the right goal post), Ward at 10:45 (hard shot from the high slot) and Terry (low shot from the right hash mark) to lead 5-0. MacLean scored the only Soo goal at

"As soon as they scored their third goal, it just took every-

thing out of us," Sault Ste. Marie head coach Craig Hartsburg told Canadian Press. "We did not respond. (The Whalers) are what they are, the best team in the league. You have to be prepared to play every shift against them. And if you're not, that's exactly what happens. They take advantage."

Geldart closed the scoring in the third period with a short handed goal at 15:54 when he blocked a shot in his own zone, collected the puck a center ice and skated hard right wing to the Soo goal, where he beat backup goaltender Matt Hache with a well-placed shot.

The Whalers complete the regular season this weekend, playing in Sault Ste. Marie on Friday and then hosting Kitchener on Saturday at 7:05 p.m. in the Annual Green-Out game. London plays a homeand-home series with Erie this weekend - Friday at the John Labatt Centre and Saturday in

Plymouth has home ice in the first round of the upcoming OHL playoffs and will open the playoffs on Sat. Mar. 24 at 7:05 p.m. against an opponent to be determined.

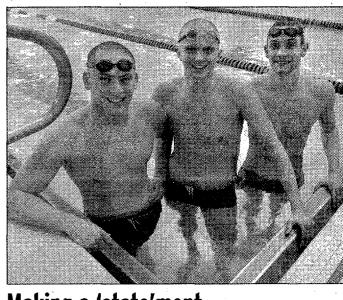
Single game playoff tickets and playoff packages can be purchased by calling the Compuware Sports Arena at (734) 453-8400.

WHALERS FACE GARAY: Former Plymouth goaltender Justin Garay had a hard time sleeping last week before the Whalers played last Friday in Erie, Garay has had an injuryplagued season, but has come back in March in a bid to stake a claim for regular work in Erie next season as an overage.

"They (the Whalers) were the better team," Garay told the Erie-Times News after Plymouth's 5-1 win over the Otters. "They are workmanlike. They don't beat themselves. I thought I competed pretty well. I think we just got out-teamed. I'm glad it's over.'



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Making a 'state'ment

Plymouth swimmer Mike Conger (left photo) and Canton senior swimmers (from left) Jon Templeton, Robert Blaesser and Matt Carlson all competed in last week's Division 1 state meet at Eastern Michigan University. Conger, the lone Wildcat to qualify for the state meet, placed 29th in the backstroke. Templeton and Carlson joined Chris Marinica and Chris McGinnis on the Chiefs' 14th-place 200-yard freestyle relay team. Carlson also placed 12th in the 100 breaststroke while Blaesser was 34th in the 100 backstroke.

LEONE

FROM PAGE B1

along with performing in the 200 freestyle. It was especially enjoyable for him considering he missed making the cut in the 100 free by 11-hundredths-of-a-second his junior year.

"Nick got better every year he was here, which is all you can ask of a kid," said Salem coach Chuck Olson. "He was a very versatile swimmer for us. He made the state cuts in the 200 and 100 freestyle events, but he was also one of our better IMers.

"Nick was one of those kids who seemed to enjoy practice and he always worked hard at getting better. He would set the tone for a lot of the other kids with the way he worked."

SOLID STUDENT

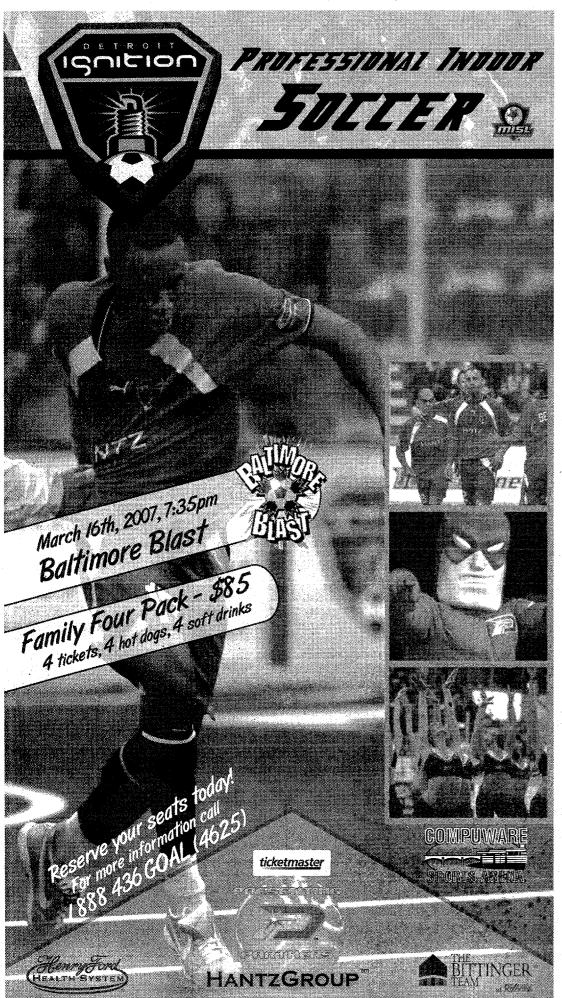
Leone works hard in the classroom as well as the

Leone works hard in the classroom as well as the pool. He's earned a 3.2 grade-point average heading into the high school homestretch and is looking to continue his education next year at **Oakland University.**

pool. He's earned a 3.2 grade-point average heading into the high school homestretch and is looking to continue his education next year at Oakland University.

"I'd like to pursue a career in sports nutrition, or something like that," he said. "I want to continue swimming and I want to stay healthy as I get older, so I think that would be a neat profession to get into."

ewright@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2108



Canton gymnast Kelley 7th in state

Canton gymnast Alyssa Kelley capped an outstanding high school career Saturday by tying for seventh place in the Division 1 all-around with 37.325 points.

Kelley tied with Livonia Blue's Emily Quint. Grand Ledge's Meaghan McWhorter won the all-around with 38.425 points. Filling out the top six spots were Brighton's Lauren DiLullo (38.150), Holt's Mary Rose Hillstrom (37.750) and Elizabeth Sierminski (37.650); Livonia

Red's Paula Guzik (37.575) and Grand Rapids Forest Hills' Karen Verbrugge (37.400).

Kelley earned All-State recognition as a result of her top-10

She placed second on the vault (9.675), tied for 16th on the uneven bars (8.950), seventh on the balance beam (9.425) and ninth on the floor (9.275).

All-state local performers in individual events were Murray (vault); and Kelley (beam and

floor).

Other local all-arounders who finished in the top 50 in Division 1 were Salem's Katie Koetting (15th with 36.225 points), Canton's Jessie Murray (22nd with 35.325 points), Salem's Autumn Collins (29th with 17.850) and Canton's Kate Staley (44th with 8.275).

The area's top Division 2 allarounder was Canton's Kaitlyn Burns, who placed 16th with 34.650 points.

Henry Ford too fast for Stevenson

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

When Detroit Henry Ford's basketball team wasn't playing above the rim Tuesday night, it was making life miserable for Livonia Stevenson below it.

The Spartans hung tough for one quarter in the Class A Regional semifinal game at Detroit Cass Tech, but they were eventually overwhelmed by the spring-loaded, lightning-quick Trojans, 78-38.

The season-ending setback dropped Stevenson's record to 9-15, but it didn't tarnish a brilliant second-half surge, emphasized first-year head coach Brad Miller.

"Obviously, you never want to lose your last game by 40 points, but what happened tonight doesn't wipe out what this team accomplished after our 1-9 start," Miller said. "The first part of the season they were learning a new system, which is never easy. But throughout the second half of the season I thought our chemistry was great and we were a good, competitive team.

"Our five seniors were outstanding and everybody else seemed to step up, too. I'm very proud of the way this team came together and finished the season.'

Senior Luke Knochel, Stevenson's all-time leading scorer, was limited to just 12 points by the Trojans, whose trapping, full-court zone press

made it seem as if there were seven defenders on the court at the same time. With a hand either in his face or not far from it at all times, Knochel connected on just 4-of-17 fieldgoal attempts.

Sophomore forward Kendal Snow turned in a solid ninepoint effort for the Spartans. Matthew Harris, Chris Mulcahy and Ryan Aneed all tallied five.

Amazingly, the Trojans (14-6) divided their 78 points among 14 different players. Six-foot-five junior center Lawrence Bridges led the way with 11; DeJuan Wright tallied 9; and Shareep Walker, Joseph Lewis and Charles Jordan contributed eight points a piece.

Snow followed up his own missed free throw with a layup with nine seconds left in the first quarter to put the Spartans in front, 14-13. However, Henry Ford's Deaaron Tate secured the ensuing in-bounds pass, dribbled to the top of the key and banked in a triple at the buzzer to give the Trojans a 16-14 edge after one.

Stevenson would never lead again.

"I thought we played a great first quarter and then we ran into a little bad luck when he banked in that three," said Miller. "It's tough to counter their overall quickness and overall athleticism. We didn't want to get into a transition game with them, but they kind

of controlled the tempo after the first quarter."

Snow buried a short jumper 1:29 into the second quarter to knot the game at 16-all, but Henry Ford seized control of the contest with an 18-2 run to close out the half with a 34-18 lead.

Mulcahy drained a triple to open the second half and cut Stevenson's deficit to 34-21, however, the Trojans sealed the win with a 12-2 run, the highlight of which was a one-step, two-handed slam by Wright.

Led by Wright's seven rebounds, the Trojans dominated the boards, 40-22. Despite his modest 5-11 height, Mulcahy led the Spartans with six boards.

Henry Ford also finished on top in the turnover department, committing just five to the Spartans' 17.

Stevenson connected on 12of-42 field goals (28.5 percent) while the Trojans sank 32-of-61 shots (52.4). The Spartans made 10-of-13 free throws

The game concluded a glorious high school basketball career for Knochel, who defied opposing defenses with his quick feet and incredible shooting range.

"Luke's a great athlete, but he's a special person, too," said Miller. "He'll definitely missed here at Stevenson. Wherever he decides to go to college, he'll be an asset, both on and off the

(CP)

PHILLIPS

Three seconds, two, one... As the clock hit 0:00, Phillips' senior-season record hit 56-0, making him just one of 12 unbeaten state champs in

all four Divisions in 2007. And as the Canton fans erupted with a thundering cheer, Phillips raised his fists in the air, flashed a gold-medal smile then jumped into the arms of Randolph, much like a pitcher would greet his catcher after throwing a perfect game.

"Before the match, Casey told me to go out there, have fun and keep doing what I'd been doing all year," Phillips said. "That's what I tried to do, but I was more nervous than I'd ever been before a match."

Now, I don't know about you, but I have a hard time climbing 56 stairs without trip-

And I don't think I can type 56 words without at least a

couple typos. To plow through an entire

56-match wrestling season is truly remarkable. **NATURAL-BORN WRESTLER**

When he was 4, Phillips' family moved to Iowa - a state known for its abundance of corn, but renowned for its

abundance of top-notch

wrestlers.

"We found out quickly that in Iowa, the kids start wrestling right out of the cradle," said Carol Phillips, Corey's

By the time he was 6, it was becoming apparent that young Corey was getting the hang of what would soon become his No. 1 hobby.

"Corey started going to these casual wrestling clinics with friends of ours," Carol Phillips reflected. "A lot of the other kids his age would have the entire uniforms - the singlet, the headgear, the wrestling shoes — but Corey would just wrestle in his shirt and shorts.

"After a while, Corey started coming home from the wrestling practices with medals around his neck. I thought, 'How nice; they're giving all the little kids medals. But then our friends told us that they weren't just giving the medals out — Corey was winning them."

1ST STATE TITLE

When Phillips was in the fourth grade, his dad's job in the ministry took the family to Austin, Texas, where Corey picked up on the mats where he had left off in Iowa.

The skinny, 11-year-old bundle of energy earned the Texas state championship at 85

pounds - a feat that would prove to be just a taste of things to come.

Randolph knew his program had something special in Phillips the first couple times he saw the eighth grader inaction with a youth club team he had put together.

"The first time I met Corey, I was struck by what a nice, quiet, humble kid he was," said Randolph. "But when he was out on the mat wrestling, it was obvious that he had a great background in wrestling because he picked up on everything we were showing him very quickly.

"When I saw him wrestle in eighth grade, I honestly thought that he had the potential to not only win one state title, but several. I'm so happy it came together for him this year because he is such a great kid. He has everything in his life in order — strong faith, a strong family, he's a great student and a great athlete."

Phillips concluded his high school career as the Chiefs' alltime leader in career wins (212), career pins (138) and career takedowns (480).

Impressive stuff. What's more impressive is that he's a better person than

he is a wrestler.

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Canton's Jobbitt to enter state hockey coaches' Hall of Fame

Insurance is his business. Community service is his devotion. But the game of hockey remains his passion.

Terry Jobbitt, who just completed his 25th season as Livonia Franklin's varsity coach, will join elite company Sunday when he will be inducted Sunday at Livonia's Laurel Manor into the Michigan High School Hockey Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

The Canton resident will be honored in the third class of MHSHCA inductees alongside Frank DiCristifaro, who is the first coach to win state titles in three different divisions.

"This is probably the greatest honor I have ever received," Jobbitt said. "I have always coached for the love of the sport with hopes that I could make young men better players and prepare them for life, too."

The 57-year-old Jobbitt has produced 17 winning records in 25 years with the Patriots, including an overall mark of 292-257-56. He has captured one regional championship (1985) and finished runner-up twice (2001 and 2002). He also earned a Western Division title in the Western Lakes Activities Association

Jobbitt's also has been selected league Coach of the Year four times in division Coach of the Year five times.

Jobbitt

will be something I will always cherish and it will help me look back and remember all the players that I have enjoyed coach-

"This award

ing," Jobbitt said. "I have also had some excellent assistant coaches that have made it easy and enjoyable like Dan Phelps, Tim Olschanski, Jim Wheaton, Scott Williams, Pete

Caprara and Ryan Tracy. Tom Abraham, my defensive coach has been with me for 20 years, and my goalie coach, John Vasilco, 12 years. These two have been my backbone."

Jobbitt has been a longtime advocate and volunteer of Special Olympics where he has served on the Area 23 Board of Directors. He has also directed three state Special Olympics Tournaments. And through his hockey high school hockey team, Jobbitt organizes and coordinates two to three events per year.

Community-wise, Jobbitt has served on the Board of Directors for the Canton Chamber of Commerce and was past president of the Wayne Civitans. He was also active with the Westland Community Foundation.

Service to the game of hockey includes working as the chief statistician for the WLAA for 15 years; past secretary and past vice-president of the MHSHCA, along with committee duties for

Jobbitt helped the Dearborn Heights Crestwood High School Booster Club start a hockey program and coached AAA, AA, A and house teams from 1971-82. He also was a clinic instructor three year for AHAUS.

Jobbitt, who graduated and played hockey at Western Michigan University, spent one season as an assistant coach at Franklin (1981-82) before taking over the varsity reins.

"I have played or coached every year since I was 7 years-old," Jobbitt said. "My wife Kathy (of 35 years) has always been my inspiration and greatest supporter. Without her support I could not have coached.

"I have also been very fortunate to have three very supportive A.D.'s, and the administration at Franklin has been great."

Jobbitt will join past inductees Father Enright, Mike Turner, Ron Baum, Rex Luxton and Art Armstrong in the MHSHCA Hall of Fame.

"I have observed Coach Jobbitt over the last seven seasons and have always been impressed with his passion and love for the game," Franklin principal Dan Willenborg said in his nomination letter to the MHSHCA. "He is upbeat and enthusiastic about each season and player. He spends numerous hours in preparation and in scout work, and his teams are respected for always being ready to play."

3 Canton wrestlers All-State

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Led by undefeated 140pound state champion Corey Phillips, Canton's wrestling team capped its most successful Division 1 individual state meet in school history as three Chiefs earned All-State honors.

Phillips became the first individual state champion in Canton history when he edged Rockford's J.J. Johnson, 4-3, in

a thrilling 140-pound finale. Heavyweight Donnie Laramie (48-8) and 103pounder Donnie Watkins (52-5) both placed fourth in their respective weight classes. Watkins' 52 wins broke Phillips' old school record for

most wins by a freshman. Phillips trailed Johnson, 2-1, aiter the first period and 3-1 with 1:20 left in the second period. However, the Eastern Michigan University-bound standout knotted things up at 3-all with a takedown 10 seconds later. He then recorded a state-title clinching escape with 1:40 remaining before holding off Johnson the rest of

the way. "I am so happy for Corey," Canton coach Casey Randolph said moments after the match. "He's such a great kid. He puts his faith and his family first. He's the kind of kid you want

your own son to be like. He placed seventh as a freshman, fifth as a sophomore and third as a junior and now this, a state championship.

"J.J. got the first takedown, but Corey battled right back. When Corey banged him with that takedown to tie it up, it was phenomenal.'

Randolph said he never felt secure about the victory until the final buzzer sounded.

"J.J. Johnson is a great, great wrestler, so not for one second before the match ended did I think Corey had it for sure," he said. "I wanted Corey to continue to push the pace."

The match lived up to its lofty expectations, Randolph assured.

"This was probably one of the most highly anticipated matches of the whole tourna ment between two kids who have been ranked first or second in the nation for two years now," he said. "Both were ranked either first or second all year and they showed why tonight."

After winning his first two matches handily. Laramie was pinned by eventual champion Mike Martin of Novi Catholic Central in 3:26. Laramie defeated Martin two weeks ago at the Division 1 Regional tournament at Novi High School. "It was close in the second

period, then he put a cradle on me," Laramie said. "After getting here but not placing last year, I was happy to place this year. I wish I could have done a lot better, though."

After dropping into the consolation brackets, Laramie dominated Saginaw Arthur Hill's Mike Dosal, 16-3, before getting pinned by Saline's Joe Everett in 2:38 in the thirdfourth match.

"Before my junior year, I really didn't want to wrestle and I thought about quitting because my dad had just died, but coach Randolph talked me into to staying with it,' Laramie said. "I'm glad I did now because I've met a lot of friends from wrestling."

Watkins won his opener before dropping a hard-fought Falbe in Round 2. He then battled all the way back to the third-fourth match by ousting Davison's Brandon Shuart (8-6) and Novi's Jon Lichorobiec with a third-period pin.

Watkins finished fourth after dropping another 4-2 decision to Falbe.

"I was excited and nervous," said Watkins, reflecting on his first state meet experience. "One of my goals before the season started was to win a state championship, but I just fell a little short."

Ignition stymied by Fire, 18-4

The Detroit Ignition's offense struggled Sunday in an 18-4 setback to Chicago - the first-year team's most lopsided setback to

The game-winning, two-point goal was tallied by Mark Ughy just 4:16 into the second quarter as a well-balanced Storm attack saw four players finish the game with two goals a piece.

Sanaldo minded the net for the Ignition and suffered the loss before an injury forced him out

of the game in the fourth quarter. Mike Apple led the Ignition with a pair of two-point goals. Sanaldo stopped 12 of the 19

shots he faced. The Ignition returns to action on Friday when it hosts the Baltimore Blast - winners of eight straight - at the Compuware Sports Arena.

The opening kick is set for 7:35 The magic number to clinch a

playoff berth for the Ignition

remains at two. The Ignition-Blast contest will

be the sixth and final regular season meeting between the clubs. Detroit holds the series lead, 4-1, including a 10-6 victory Jan. 27 at 1st Mariner Arena in Baltimore. Despite having a season deci-

mated by injuries to some of their top players, the Blast sit atop the MISL standings after registering an 8-6 victory Sunday over the California Cougars.

SPORTS BRIEFS

BEACH PARTY FUND-RAISER

The Plymouth Wildcat Beach Party Fund-raiser to raise funds for the Plymouth High School athletic programs will be held from 6 p.m. to midnight Saturday, March 24, at the VFW Hall, located at 1055 S. Wayne Rd. in Westland.

The night will be highlighted by a reverse draw down that will award \$1,000 to the first-prize winner, \$500 to second and \$250 to third. Last year over \$10,000 in prizes were given

Tickets, which cost \$40 a piece, can be purchased at the Plymouth High School Athletic Office.

IGNITION CAMPS

The Detroit Ignition will be hosting a series of summer soccer camps for youth players. The camps, which will be located throughout metropolitan Detroit, will give young players an opportunity to train with Ignition players as well as members of the Major Indoor Soccer League team's staff.

Designed for kids between the ages of 4 and 18, the camp curriculum will offer a broad spectrum of training — from basic soccer introduction for younger players to advanced training for older players who are looking for both a technical and tactical

Camp instruction will be led by Ignition head coach Mark Pulisic and team members. Instructors will be subject to camp dates and availability, but they may include Jamar Beasley, Jonathan Greenfield, Doug Rice and Danny Waltman.

For locations and schedules of the camps, visit www.detroitignition.com; or call (888) 436-4625. The camps are sponsored by the Hantz Group and the Henry Ford Medical Group.

REC OFFERINGS

The Northville Parks & Recreation Department will be offering adult women's and adult co-ed softball leagues beginning in early May. The entry fee for women's teams is \$445; the co-ed fee is \$410. For more information, call (248) 449-9947.

DIESEL TRYOUTS

The Detroit Diesels minor league football team that plays its home games in Livonia will be holding tryouts from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 24, at High Velocity Sports, which is located at 46245 Michigan Ave. in Canton.

You must be 18 years old or older to try out. The registration fee is \$30. Call (313) 294-0890.

RUNNING CLUB

Runners are invited to join the Northville (Redford) Road Runners running organization. All levels are welcome.

The club meets at 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday at Northville's Hillside Recreation Center, located off Center Street just south of Eight Mile, and at 6:30 p.m. Thursdays and 9 a.m. Saturdays at the Eight Mile

Road entrance to Maybury State

Varying distances are run, ranging from 4-6 miles.

For more information, send an e-mail to Bo@sprauer.com or call Gary Haf at (248) 231-

MADONNA BASEBALL

The Madonna University baseball team finished up a successful spring trip to Florida with a 3-2 win over Fisher (Mass.) Saturday, behind the pitching of senior righthander Josh Regits.

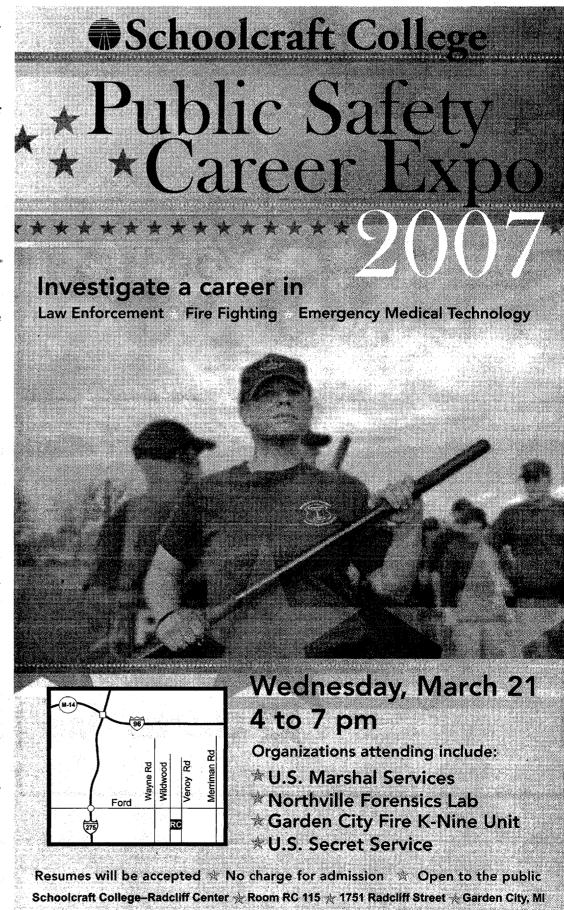
The Lake Orion product earned his first victory as a Crusader, pitching 6 2/3 innings and fanning a career high nine.

Senior reliever Mike Hand closed out the win, which improved MU's record to 8-5. It was his first collegiate save.

The Crusaders now will gear up for the home opener, slated for 1 p.m. Saturday at Ilitch Ballpark (near Livonia Ladywood) against Malone.

Madonna scored three runs in the first three innings after an RBI double by senior outfielder Tony Luttman (Farmington) in the first inning, an RBI single by sophomore infielder Ryan Morrow in the second inning and an RBI sacrifice fly by senior outfielder Manny Alvarado (Southfield) in the third, which proved to be the winning run.

The Falcons (2-1) plated two runs in the seventh inning to chase MU starter Regits from the game before Hand came on to secure the win.



For more information call 734-462-4421

Charger spikers are semis-bound

The body is only as good as its sum parts.

That was the case Tuesday as the Livonia Churchill girls volleyball team banded together to earn its first trip to the Class A girls volleyball semifinals since 1991 with a 25-20, 25-27, 25-20, 25-23 quarterfinal triumph over White Lake Lakeland in a match played at Saline High

The Chargers' Miss Volleyball finalist, 5-foot-11 Lauren Krupsky, played despite a gimpy right ankle after going down Monday in practice. She still managed to rack up 24 kills.

Kyndra Abron, the 6-2 junior middle hitter, helped pick up the slack with a team-high 26 kills. Senior Sara Button and junior Jaclyn Gribeck combined for seven key blocks.

Senior Stephanie Bradshaw added six kills as the Churchill improved to 54-4-1 overall and earned a rematch with No. 1ranked East Kentwood, 74-4 overall.

The semifinal match is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Friday at Western Michigan University's Reed Fieldhouse.

The other semifinal, starting at 7:15 p.m., pits North

Branch (73-2-1) against Fraser (33-16-1). The championship final is 4 p.m. Saturday at

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 15, 2007

Reed Fieldhouse. Krupsky, headed to Central Michigan University, wasn't sure if she was going to play after suffering the ankle sprain just a day earlier.

"We were doing a drill and someone came down on it underneath the net," Krupsky said. "My ankle was pretty much killing me. I had a hard time blocking and I did not want to land on it. I tried to work on what the other team gave me. They took away the line so I started hitting crosscourt. I didn't know if I could play. I was worried about it. But I wanted to be here and help the team as much as possible. When I went out I tried to move it around and take the pressure off it by sitting

The injury proved to be unsettling only momentarily.

"I freaked out right away, but we started thinking about other options and I calmed down at practice and got through it," Churchill senior libero Kelly Archer said. "We watched them on film Sunday night in the districts and got a feel what they do.

"We just had to forget about the point. When the ball's down, it's down. It's a new point."

And although Krupsky was limited in her mobility, she put enough balls on the floor to keep the Eagles honest.

"Lauren's a winner, she wasn't going to end the season and she showed why she's one of our leaders," Grenier said. "They were able to rehab it pretty well, and everyone else just had to pitch in more. In a way I thought it was good because we defocused on Lakeland and had to think about something else and focus more on ourselves."

Grenier juggled his rotations a bit to compensate for Krupsky's injury.

"We moved up Kyndra and started her on the left front," he said. "She came through and was a real offensive force. And behind her we had people like Gatt (Anna-Marie), Bradshaw (Stephanie), Archer (Kelly) and Jordan Kerr. They picked us up defensively. It shows the will, the heart and the character of this team, and they did it."

The Chargers also got solid setting from senior Kelsey McKenzie and were able to offset any momentum Lakeland obtained after rallying from a 23-21 deficit in the third game to win, 27-25, thanks to five kills and two blocks from junior Hannah

"Churchill is a very good

team and we knew we had to play our best game," said Lakeland coach Owen Nakamura, whose team bowed out at 41-3-1 overall. "We did not execute on defense. We were not quite there, not on our game. Sometimes we didn't get the points we needed."

Abron was a force in the fourth game, recording eight kills and one block.

"He (Grenier) changed his lineup a bit and both coaches were kind of second guessing each other. We started out matching up our number 10 (Hannah Stocker) with Kyndra (Abron), then we moved our other middle hitter over and I thought she did a very good job. Overall I thought we did pretty well. She (Abron) did not hurt us until the last game. But we couldn't control the ball the way we like to."

And now it's on to Kalamazoo to meet the topranked Falcons, who defeated the Chargers in three games, Feb. 10, at the Temperance Bedford Invitational.

"We'll go for broke," Grenier said. "The last time we saw East Kentwood it was not much of a match. But we'll have time to break down that film and hopefully we'll give them something better. East Kentwood's style is a lot like Lakeland's, which should



Churchill setter Kelsey McKenzie sets the ball during the final game to win the quarterfinals with Lakeland player Kaitlyn Frantz (14) anticipating the attack.

Meanwhile, the Chargers can take a few days to savor their first trip to the state semifinals since '91, the year Churchill captured the Class A crown under coach Mike Hughes.

"I'm ecstatic because last year we got this far (losing to Bedford in four games in the quarterfinals) and we came away disappointed," Krupsky

Added Archer: "This means the world to me. I've been playing since the fourth grade and this is my best accomplishment. I'm just happy it happened my senior year."

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The Wayne Memorial boys basketball team used an ineligible player during the first semester and it will have to forfeit four victories because it violated the Michigan High School Athletic Association transfer rule.

The Observer learned the violation was reported last month to Wayne officials by a Dearborn Heights Robichaud athletic adminis-

"Their A.D. saw his name in the paper, he called us, and brought it to our attention," Wayne first-year athletic director Greg Ambrose said. "He said he had to go through the same thing. He said he had to forfeit some football and basketball games because of a change of

The student-athlete was supposed to sit out the first semester, which ended Jan. 19, under MHSAA transfer rule.

After the violation was reported, the player in question, an underclassmen, sat out additional games during the second semester, but was reinstated and played in last week's 61-51 Class A district tourney loss to Belleville.

The Wayne Memorial boys basketball team used an ineligible player during the first semester and it will have to forfeit four victories because it violated the Michigan **High School Athletic Association transfer rule.**

"We did an investigation and we discovered it

was not a full and complete move as determined

by the MHSAA rules," Ambrose said. "We wish

we would have caught it prior to the season. It's a dual residency issue, which isn't a concern Wayne, which finished the season with an 11-10 overall record, will forfeit victories against Riverview (Dec. 19), Westland John Glenn (Dec.

21), Livonia Stevenson (Jan. 9) and Walled Lake Central (Jan. 12) - all non-division games. A letter was forwarded by Ambrose to the athletic directors at the above mentioned schools in

notification of the violation. The four forfeits mean the Zebras end the year technically with a 7-14 record.

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OLGC FOOTBALL

The Our Lady of Good Counsel (OLGC) football program will hold its parents meeting for the 2007 season at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 29, in the OLGC gym, which is located at 1151 William

OLGC offers teams for boys in third through eighth grades. Families that belong to the following parishes are eligible: OLGC, St. Kenneth, Our Lady of Victory, St. Mary's of Wayne, St. Richard, St. Thomas a'Becket, Divine Savior, Resurrection, St. James (third-graders only) and St. John

Parents of interested players should attend the meeting. Program information and registration

materials will be distributed. For further information, contact Kevin Suppelsa at ksuppelsa@wowway.com; or (734) 414-8275;

or visit www.olgcfootball.net. **BASEBALL CLINIC**

SPORTS BRIEFS

The annual Salem Baseball Clinic is set for March 24 and 31. There will be two sessions each day - the first from 9 a.m. to noon; and the sec-

ond from 1-4 p.m. Sessions include training in baseball skills by the Salem varsity coaches and players. The \$25 registration fee includes lessons, T-shirts and a snack. For more information or to register, contact Ron or Pat Myers at (734) 459-4026; or send an e-mail to: pcmyers@hotmail.com.

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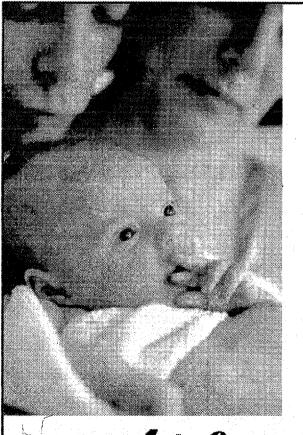
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Spartans win rematch, eye regional title

BY TIM SMITH STAFF WRITER

For the first three quarters Tuesday, it almost looked like Redford Covenant's Spartans were reliving the nightmare of their 2006 defeat to Lansing Christian in the Class D regional final.

But now it's 2007. The Spartans – trailing 38-37 after three - woke up in a big way in the fourth, outscoring the pesky Pilgrims 21-6 and earning a 58-44 regional semifinal boys basketball victory.

In order for a championship march to gain steam, Covenant (21-4) now needs to take care of undefeated Jackson Christian in the regional final, slated for 7 p.m. Thursday at Hillsdale College.

Jackson Christian (24-0) nipped Lenawee Christian (18-5) in Tuesday's other semifinal, 57-

"We gritted our teeth," said Covenant senior wing guard Durrell Summers, who scored 25 points and pulled down 17 rebounds against the Pilgrims (20-3). "We knew we had to make big defensive stops and the main thing was we had to finish layups and make free throws.

"That's what killed us last year, we didn't make too many free throws."

Another difference between the 2006 and 2007 matchups was Summers stuck around this time. Last year he fouled out, and he nearly did it again

Tuesday. He was whistled for his fourth foul with 5:15 remaining and the Spartans nursing a 45-40

But after returning about a minute later, Summers connected on a tough-angle jumper from the left of the key to make it 47-42.

Then, he grabbed an important defensive rebound that led to a pair of free throws by senior guard Jacory Morning (12 points, four rebounds) and made all four of his own free-throw opportunities in the final two minutes.

"You've got to think about it but you can't think about it too much," said Summers, about playing hard down the stretch despite being just one whistle away from taking a seat on the sideline. "They did the same thing to us last year and I fouled out.

"So what I did, I stayed aggressive but I just played it smart so I wouldn't get that fifth foul. I knew my team needed me in crunch time."

COMING UP BIG

Undoubtedly happy the future Michigan State University player will extend his prep career was Covenant head coach Durand Shepherd, who also coached Summers at Detroit St. Martin DePorres his freshman and sophomore seasons.

"I guess it (the late rally) was a couple things," Shepherd said. "One, we didn't want to go home and two, revenge (for the 2006 loss to Lansing

"Plus, the big players made the plays. Durrell hit some big shots and Jacory in the second half played outstanding."

Jumpstarting the fourth quarter surge was senior center Stephen Chester (eight points, seven boards), whose offensive rebound and putback put the Spartans up 39-38 in the first minute of the final stanza.

"He (Chester) struggled during the game, but he made a big one when we were down," Shepherd

Morning and Summers then hit back-to-back jumpers from the right corner (the latter following a steal by freshman point guard Carlos Carter) and it suddenly was 43-38. Summers wasn't done, however. He stole a pass near mid-court, dribbled down the right side of the floor and slammed it home to the delight of Covenant's cheering section at that end of the arena.

Other Covenant contributors to the big win included sophomore guard Jamonne Chester (12 points, four rebounds) and Carter (five rebounds, three assists, three steals).

It didn't hurt the Covenant cause that Lansing Christian's biggest threat, senior forward Peter Bunn (21 points), fouled out with 3:04 to play.

Tallying 10 points each for the Pilgrims were senior forward Joel Hofman and junior guard

DeOndra Callahan.

The Spartans led 15-12 after one quarter but Lansing Christian came back to forge a 21-21 halftime tie when Hofman scored a last-second layup.

Covenant came out energized for the third, and the Spartans took a 24-21 lead with 7:45 left when Jamonne Chester buried a trey from the left cor-

"That was definitely a big play for us," Shepherd noted.

With Morning tallying six consecutive points, the Spartans had a 34-25 advantage with about five minutes left in the frame.

But Callahan hit back-to-back treys and the Pilgrims ended the frame with a 13-3 run that gave them the slim lead entering the fourth.

"I told them it was going to be a game of runs," Shepherd said. "We made runs, they made runs, but we made the last one."

Meanwhile, Summers said he is confident the team's offensive firepower in the fourth quarter will carry over into Thursday's final.

"We're ready to make it to the top, to prove everybody wrong," Summers said. "We're going to do whatever it takes?

Shepherd said Jackson Christian is a strong team, however, and "we've got to come to play."

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Schoolcraft College basketball coach resigns

STAFF WRITER

Mike Brown's stint as the Schoolcraft College men's basketball coach was an abbreviated one.

Brown, who took over one of the nation's top junior college programs from Carlos Briggs, resigned Wednesday after just one season.

Brown, who guided the Ocelots to a 23-10 record, said he was going to pursue "another opportunity full-time in coaching," preferably at a

four-year school. "I chose coaching, but from a financial standpoint, it put a strain on me," said Brown, who stepped down from a human resources position at an executive search firm to devote more time to his squad. "There was a practice slot that I had to keep in the middle of my work day, which was tough to work out from a time standpoint. I love the game, being able to work with young men and help them

(coaching) full time, but at Schoolcraft it was not a fulltime position."

Under Brown, Schoolcraft captured the Michigan Community College Athletic Association Tournament title and was beaten by rival Flint Mott CC for the third time this season in the semifinals of the NJCAA Division II-District 8 playoffs, 84-69.

He becomes the latest coach at Schoolcraft to depart the athletic program under second-year athletic director Sid Fox's watch joining Briggs, Tom Teeters (women's volleyball), Bill Tolstedt (women's soccer) and Dominic Scicluna (men's soccer).

Only women's basketball coach Karen Lafata remains on Fox's original staff.

In a release sent to the local media Wednesday by Schoolcraft Director of Marketing Marty Heator, Fox praised Brown for what he achieved with a roster of just eight student-athletes.

"His team was highly motivated, remarkedly prepared and tenacious in their play," Fox said. "In my experience, I have never witnessed a team that competed any harder on such a consistent basis as the men's basketball team did this year. It is a direct credit to Michael's commitment to excellence and dedication within the basketball arena. I wish him the very best in his professional pursuits.

Brown, who played at both Siena Heights and Wayne State universities, spent one year as a varsity assistant at Belleville High under Mike Krogel. He also served one year as an assistant under Briggs, who was forced to resign following the 2005-06 season under an severance agreement with Schoolcraft president Dr. Conway Jeffress.

Briggs, a former Schoolcraft All-America, transformed the Ocelots from a laughingstock in the MCCAA into a national power. He took the Ocelots to three Division I national tourgaudy overall record to 247-36. But in his last two seasons, Schoolcraft was excluded from postseason play because of NJCAA rules violations. Despite having two transfer players who started for Purdue last season Korey Spates (signed with Kent State) and Nate Minnoy - Schoolcraft struggled in the Eastern Conference of the MCCAA under Brown with a 13-5 record, while finishing

five games back of Mott. His top recruit, Belleville's Leon Freeman, arguably one of the state's top five prep players last year, could not be admitted to Schoolcraft after lacking enough credits to graduate from high school. Freeman eventually wound up at a prep school, Boys to Men Academy in Chicago, Ill.

Brown also lost two other high profile recruits and did not have the 6-foot-4, 260pound Minnoy eligible until

late December. The first-year Schoolcraft coach was also saddled with a couple of key losses to ineligibility and

"I took over at a transitional time, which was tough to do," Brown said. "We hit more bumps than I anticipated. We wanted to win the conference. We did win the state championship, and we fell short four minutes from getting to the region championship game against a very good Mott

team.

"We won 23 games with no returning players. For various reasons with we played with eight players or less. We had a stretch where we had seven games in like 11 days. Yes, I thought we'd win more games, but the kids did everything they could to be successful. Sometimes the ball just bounced in the other direction. Not having more guys available hurt us as far as depth."

Brown, who was named MCCAA Coach of the Year, has no regrets about his lone season at Schoolcraft.

"I'm leaving on good terms," he said. "I think I took a big step in the learning process. I think I've figured out what it takes to be a success. This season helps me tremendously. There were a lot of things I could have done better looking back. I learned so much from the situation and the players. Wherever God will have me to be, I'll will end

The Schoolcraft press release on Brown's resignation also stated that a timeline has not been set for posting the job or seeking a replacement.

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B6

Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings-March 6, 2007

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Tuesday, March 6, 2006, 2007, at 1150 Canton Center S. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Roll Call Members Present: Bennett, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Yack Members Absent: Caccamo (on Military leave), Zarbo Staff Present: Director Eva, Executive Director Santomauro, Director Conklin, Director Faas Adoption of Agenda Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by all members present. Approval of Minutes Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to approve the Board Minutes of February 13, 2007. Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to approve the Board Study Minutes of February 20, 2007. Motion carried by all members present. Citizen's Non Agenda Item Comments: James Donahue, 42118 Saratoga, stated he is a new member of the Summit and is participating in the "100 Days of Fitness". Mr. Donahue stated he has a concern with the track, racquetball court and aquatics center being closed March 3-5, 2007 during the Home Expo. Payment of Bills Motion by Kirchgatter, supported by LaJoy to approve payment of the bills as presented. Motion carried by all members

Expenditure Recap for March 6, 2006

General Fund	101	\$	234,597.21
Fire Fund	206		285,412.73
Police Fund	207		114,212.90
Summit Operating	208		108,640.84
Cable TV Fund	230		582.00
Twp Improvement	246		142,237.93
E-911 Utility	261		4,809.97
Auto Forfeiture(wwa)	267	•	6,738.33
Federal Grants Fund	274	*	8,203.77
Auto Theft Grant	289		6,545.72
Downtown Dev. Auth.	294		127,729.78
Bldg Auth Construction	469	•	37,689.37
Golf Fund	584		69,539.69
Water & Sewer Fund	592		853,888.17
Trust & Agency Fund	701		5,406.00
Construction Escrows	702		187.50
Post Employ. Benefits	736		2,020.93
Total - All Funds			2,008,442.84

CONSENT CALENDAR: Item 1. SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENT STATUS AND THE INSTALLATION OF SIGNS FOR THE PLYMOUTH/CANTON MUSIC BOOSTERS' SPRING ARTS & CRAFTS ENSEMBLE. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve special event status and placement of signs for the Plymouth Canton Music Boosters' Spring Arts & Crafts Ensemble to be held at Canton High School on Saturday, March 10, 2007. Motion carried by all members present. Item 2. SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENT STATUS AND THE INSTALLATION OF SIGNS FOR CANTON NEWCOMERS MOM TO MOM SALE. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve special event status and placement of signs for Canton Newcomer's Mom to Mom Sale. Motion carried by all members present. Item 3. CONSIDER APPROVING THE RESOLUTIONS FOR TWO (2) ANNUAL PERMITS AND AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP CLERK'S SIGNATURE FOR WORK WITHIN THE WAYNE COUNTY RIGHT-OF-WAY DURING 2007. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve Resolution 1- Permit # A-07028, allowing the Township to temporarily close certain local and county roads for a period not to exceed 24 hours and authorize the Township Clerk as the designated officer to sign the 2007 Annual Permit for Wayne County Department of Public Services. Motion carried by all members present. Item 4. SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENT STATUS AND THE INSTALLATION OF SIGNS FOR TRI-CITY CHRISTIAN MOPS (MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS) MOM TO MOM SALE. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve special event status and placement of signs for Tri-City Christian MOPS Mom to Mom Sale. Motion carried by all members present. Item 5. SET PUBLIC HEARING REQUEST FOR CLASS C LIQUOR LICENSE WITH ENTERTAINMENT, AFTER HOURS AND OUTSIDE BAR/ SERVICE PERMITS FOR CHERRY MARTINI, LLC, AT 50296 CHERRY HILL ROAD, CANTON TOWNSHIP, CANTON, MI. WAYNE COUNTY. (CLERK) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to set the Public Hearing date for March 27, 2007 to consider a Class C liquor license with entertainment, after hours and outside bar/service permits for Cherry Martini, LLC located at 50296 Cherry Hill Road, Canton, MI, 48188, Wayne County. Motion carried by all members present. Item 6. SECOND READING TO AMEND PART 1, CHAPTER 46, ARTICLE IV. ON HUNTING REGULATIONS. (CLERK) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to remove from the table and adopt the amendment to the Code of Ordinances, Canton Charter Township, Michigan, Chapter 46, Article IV, Division I, Section 46-202 and Chapter 46 Article IV, Division II, Subdivision II, section 46-243 of the Hunting Area Control, and Possession / Discharge / Generally. Publication and effective date on March 15, 2007. Motion carried by all members present. CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON AMENDMENT TO OFFENSES INVOLVING PUBLIC SAFETY ORDINANCE CODE OF ORDINANCES PART I, CHAPTER 46 ARTICLE IV AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON CODE OF ORDINANCES PART I. CHAPTER 46 ARTICLE IV ENTITLED "OFFENSES INVOLVING PUBLIC SAFETY", AT DIVISION 1, SECTION 46-202 ENTITLED "HUNTING CONTROL AREA" PROVIDING FOR INCREASED AREAS PROHIBITED TO HUNTING IN THE TOWNSHIP; AND AMENDING PART I CHAPTER 46 ARTICLE IV ENTITLED "OFFENSES INVOLVING PUBLIC SAFETY" AT DIVISION 2 ENTITLED "WEAPONS", SUBDIVISION II ENTITLED "FIREARMS", SECTION 46-243 ENTITLED "POSSESSION POINTING OR DISCHARGE" GENERALLY PROVIDING FOR NEW PROVISION PROHIBITING DISCHARGE OF FIREARM WITHIN 150 YARDS OF CERTAIN DEFINED BUILDINGS PROVIDING FOR THE SAVINGS OF ALL PENDING PROCEEDINGS AND BALANCE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR VIOLATION AND PENALTY; PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERABILITY OF ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE. HE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ORDAINS: SECTION 1. AMENDMENT TO SECTION 46-202, HUNTING AREA CONTROL. Ordinance Chapter 46 is hereby adopted to amend Part I, Chapter 46, Article IV, Division I, Section 46-202 entitled "Hunting Area Control" to establish specific prohibited areas within the Township for hunting. <u>SECTION 2. AMENDMENT TO SECTION 46-243</u>, <u>POSSESSION POINTING OR</u> **DISCHARGE GENERALLY** Ordinance Chapter 46 is hereby adopted to amend Part I, Chapter 46, Article IV, Division 2, Subdivision II, Section 46-243 entitled Possession, Pointing or Discharge Generally is amended to prohibit the discharge of a firearm within 150 yards of an occupied building. Item 7. SECOND READING, AMENDMENT TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, PART I, CHAPTER 74 ENTITLED "UTILITIES", ARTICLE II, DIVISION 2, SUBDIVISION II ENTITLED "RATES AND CHARGES", SECTIONS 74-81, 74-82, 74-83 AND 74-84 AND AMENDING DIVISION 3 THEREOF ENTITLED "SEWER CONNECTION AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL", SECTIONS 74-131, 74-132 AND 74-133. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to remove from the table for the second reading of the AMENDMENT TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, PART I, CHAPTER 74 ENTITLED "UTILITIES", ARTICLE II, DIVISION 2, SUBDIVISION II ENTITLED "RATES AND CHARGES", SECTIONS 74-81, 74-82, 74-83 AND 74-84 AND AMENDING DIVISION 3 THEREOF ENTITLED "SEWER CONNECTION AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL" SECTIONS 74-131, 74-132 AND 74-133, with a publication and effective date on March 15, 2007. Motion carried by all members present. SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE Chapter 74 CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON AMENDMENT TO UTILITIES ORDINANCE, CODE OF ORDINANCES, PART I, CHAPTER 74 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON CODE OF ORDINANCES PART I, CHAPTER 74 "UTILITIES", ARTICLE II, DIVISION 2, SUBDIVISION II ENTITLED RATES AND CHARGES, SECTIONS 74-81, 74-82, 74-83 AND 74-84 AND AMENDING DIVISION 3 THEREOF ENTITLED SEWER CONNECTION AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL, SECTIONS 74-131, 74-132 AND 74-133

PROVIDING FOR A NEW WATER SYSTEM EQUITY CHARGE, A

NEW TAP AND METER CHARGE AND A NEW WATER CONSTRUCTION CHARGE, TO ELIMINATE CONNECTION-APPLICANT TAPS, TO PROVIDE FOR WATER TAP SIZES FOR MULTI-UNIT DWELLINGS, TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPLICATION OF INDUSTRIAL SURCHARGES AS SUCH CHARGES ARE BILLED TO THE TOWNSHIP BY DETROIT WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT AND THE YPSILANTI COMMUNITIES UTILITIES AUTHORITY, TO PROVIDE FOR NEW SEWER SYSTEM EQUITY RATES, TO ELIMINATE SEWER CONNECTION CHARGE, TO PROVIDE FOR A NEW MINIMUM INSPECTION FEE, TO ELIMINATE THE WATER CONNECTION CHARGE AND TO PROVIDE FOR A NEW TAP & METER CHARGE, TO PROVIDE FOR A NEW MINIMUM SEWAGE DISPOSAL RATE FOR CUSTOMER WITH TOWNSHIP SUPPLIED WATER METER FOR THEIR NON-TOWNSHIP SUPPLIED WATER SOURCE, TO PROVIDE FOR A SEWER CONNECTION CHARGE TO BE BASED UPON WATER METER SIZE, TO PROVIDE FOR A SEWER LEAD INSPECTION FEE, TO PROVIDE FOR REVISED INDUSTRIAL WASTE CHARGE (IWC) RATES, TO PROVIDE FOR REVISED INDUSTRIAL SURCHARGE RATES, TO PROVIDE FOR SERVICE CHARGE AND PROCEDURES FOR DISHONORED CHECKS OR "E-CHECK"FOR PAYMENT OF WATER AND SEWER DISPOSAL BILLS, TO REVISE ACTS WHICH CONSTITUTE TAMPERING OR REMOVING WATER METER, TO PROVIDE FOR A MINIMUM SEWER CONNECTION SIZE AND CLEAN OUT AND MANHOLE REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS, TO PROVIDE FOR REVISED RESPONSIBILITY AND PROCEDURE AND CREATION OF TOWNSHIP POLICY FOR REPAIRS TO SEWER LEADS IN AN EASEMENT OR PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY; PROVIDING FOR THE SAVINGS OF ALL PENDING PROCEEDINGS AND BALANCE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR VIOLATION AND PENALTY; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY OF ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE. THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ORDAINS: SECTION 1. AMENDMENT TO SUBDIVISION II RATES AND CHARGES Ordinance Chapter 74 is hereby adopted to amend Sections 74-81, 74-82, 74-83 and 74-84 of the Utilities Ordinance, entitled Rates and Charges to provide as follows: This section provides for a new water system equity charge, a new tap and meter charge and a new water construction charge, to eliminate water connection-applicant taps, to provide for water tap sizes for multi-unit dwellings, to eliminate water charges during inspection periods, to provide for the application of industrial surcharges as such charges are billed to the township by Detroit water and sewer department and the Ypsilanti communities utilities authority, to provide for new sewer system equity rates, to eliminate sewer connection charge, to provide for a new minimum inspection fee, to eliminate the water connection charge and to provide for a new tap & meter charge, to provide for a new minimum sewage disposal rate for customer with township supplied water meter for their nontownship supplied water source, to provide for a sewer connection charge to be based upon water meter size, to provide for a sewer lead inspection fee, to provide for revised industrial waste charge (IWC) rates, to provide for revised industrial surcharge rates, to provide for service charge and procedures for dishonored checks or "e-check" for payment of water and sewer disposal bills, to revise acts which constitute tampering or removing water meter, to provide for a minimum sewer connection size and clean out and manhole requirements for commercial buildings. AMENDMENT TO DIVISION 3 SEWER SECTION 2. CONNECTIONS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL. Ordinance Chapter 74 is hereby adopted to amend Sections 74-131, 74-132, and 74-133 providing for revised responsibility and procedure and creation of township policy for repairs to sewer leads in an easement or public right of way. SECTION 3. SAVINGS OF ALL PENDING PROCEEDINGS AND BALANCE OF THE **ORDINANCE.** The balance of Code of Ordinances, Part I, Chapter 74, except as herein amended, shall remain in full force and effect. All proceedings pending and all rights and liabilities existing, acquired or incurred at the time this amendatory Ordinance takes effect are saved and may be consummated according to the law enforced when they are commenced. This amendatory Ordinance shall not be construed to affect any right pending before the effective date of this amendatory Ordinance. SECTION 4. VIOLATION AND PENALTY. Any person, corporation, all vio comply with any of the provisions of this Ordinance or any of the regulations adopted in pursuance thereof, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof may be fined not more than \$500.00 or imprisonment for not more than ninety (90) days, or both, in the discretion of the Court. SECTION 5. SEVERABILITY. If any section, subsection, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holdings shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion hereof. SECTION 6. CONSTRUCTION OF **ORDINANCE.** This Ordinance shall be liberally construed in such manner as to best effectuate its purpose. The provisions of this Ordinance shall be construed, if possible, in such manner as to make such provisions compatible and consistent with the provisions of all existing Ordinances of the Township and all amendments thereto. SECTION 7. REPEAL OF CONFLICTING SECTIONS. Portions of the Code of Ordinances, Part I, Chapter 74 are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this amendatory Ordinance full force and effect. SECTION **8. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section provides that this Ordinance becomes effective after publication. Copies of the complete text of this Ordinance are available at the office of the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan, 48188, during regular business hours. The amendment will be published, with an effective date of March 15, 2007. GENERAL CALENDAR: Item 1. CONSIDER SITE PLAN FOR HAMPTON INN HOTEL AND SUITES. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to adopt the resolution for site plan for Hampton Inn Hotel and Suites. Motion carried by all members present. RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON Site Plan for Hampton Inn Hotel and Suites WHEREAS, the Project Sponsor has requested site plan approval for the Hampton inn Hotel and Suites located on the east side of Haggerty Road south of Ford Road (Parcel No. 050-01-0005-000); and, WHEREAS, the Planning Commission found the proposed site plan to be CONSISTENT with the development objectives of the Township and recommended APPROVAL with the requested modifications to the front setback as requested; and, WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the proposed site plan and determines the proposal to be CONSISTENT with the Zoning Ordinance regulations and development objectives subject to the conditions described in the analysis and recommendation form attached hereto and made a part hereof. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does hereby APPROVE the site plan for the Hampton Inn Hotel and Suites located on the east side of Haggerty Road and south of Ford Road; and also subject to all other regulations of the Township. Item 2. CONSIDER AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES TO MANSELL ASSOCIATES INC. FOR THE 2007 INTERSECTION SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to authorize Mansell Associates, Inc. to provide traffic signal engineering design services for the 2007 intersection improvements in the amount of \$8,600 plus a 10% design contingency for a not-to-exceed amount of \$9,460, Account No. 403-

506-803-0000 (Road Construction-Engineering) and Further, I move to waive Finance Policy F:10, Part III, A.4 wherein "three informal bids shall be obtained for the requested items' based on the justification that Mansell Associates are performing other similar work for the township under contract resulting in

coordination and

efficiency improvements. Motion carried by all members present. Item 3. CONSIDER REPROGRAMING FUNDS FOR CAPITAL ITEMS IN THE ENGINEERING OUTLAY BUDGET, AND APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A RICOH AFICIO 3035SPF COPIER. (MSD) Motion by Bennett. supported by Kirchgatter to approve the reprogramming of \$700 from the budget for Capital Outlay -Computers, Item #4, Printer Replacement, to the budget for Capital Outlay-Equipment, Item #1, Copier Replacement, and authorize the purchase of the Ricoh Aficio 3035SPF copier for an amount not to exceed \$6,700. Motion carried by all members present. Item 4. AUTHORIZE AWARD OF BID FOR THE SPRING 2007 TREE PLANTING PROGRAM. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to approve the award of bid for tree planting and watering for the Spring 2007 Tree Planting Program to Crimboli Nursery Inc. for a total of \$90,085.00 plus a 5% contingency for maintenance of \$4,515.00 for a total purchase order of \$94,600.00 (account 101-285-970-0000, Tree Fund Planting). Motion carried by all members present. Item 5. BUDGET AMENDMENT POLICE - JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) PURCHASES. (PSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the following budget amendment to complete JAG (exp. 9/2008) purchases: Increase

Federal Grant-LLEBG/JAG #207-000-507-0000 Increase Appropriations:

Capital Outlay-Equipment #207-301-977-0000 This budget amendment increases the Police Fund budget from \$14.663,045 to \$14.668,925. Motion carried by all members present. Item 6. CONSIDER THE PURCHASE OF 4-LAPTOP COMPUTERS FOR ORDINANCE. (PSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to approve the purchase of 4-Motorola MW-800 in-car computes and Sierra Edge modems from ComSource Inc/ Motorola, 2130 Austin Dr, Rochester Hills, MI 48309 in the amount of \$30,091.68. Funding to come from Police Capital Outlay Account # 207 301 977 2580. Motion carried by all members present Item CONSIDER THE PURCHASE OF 40-WIRELESS MICROPHONE PACKS FOR IN-CAR CAMERA SYSTEM-POLICE. (PSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the purchase of 40-VoiceLink Plus wireless mic transceiver with belt clip and lapel mic from L3 Communications, 90 Fanny Rd., Boonton, NJ, 07005 in the amount of \$7835. Funds to come from police capital outlay account 207 301 977 0000. Motion carried by all members present. Item 8. REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR THEATER AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING PROJECTS. (LSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to award the bid for each contract as follows: External administration building roadway signage to Cal Sign Co, 35059 Glenwood, Wayne, Michigan 48184, in the amount of \$4,190. Cost charged to account #101-270-971-0000. Cherry Hill Village Welcome sign with interchangeable boards to Graphic Visions Inc, 16857 Northville Rd, Northville, Michigan 48168, in the amount of \$9,470.00. Cost charged to account #101-760-977-0000. Item. 9. CSC FENCE REPLACEMENT. (LSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to award the fence repair bid to Riteway Fence, 6539 Burroughs Ave., Sterling Heights, MI 48314 with all expenses charged to Account # 246-750-970-0000 Community Improvement in the amount of \$24,900. Motion carried by all members present. Item 10. AUTHERIZE THE PURCHASE ORDER FOR USSSA SANCTIONING FEES FOR CANTON SPORTS CENTER. (LSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to authorize the purchase order for USSSA sanctioning fees in the amount of \$10,000 from account number 101-755-818-0000 (Canton Sports Center, Contracted Services - Sports) from Michigan USSSA, 33600 Mound Rd., Sterling Heights, MI 48310. Motion carried by all members present. Item 11. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF POLO SHIRTS.

(FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to authorize the purchase of staff polo shirts for Leisure Services staff from Ashworth, Inc., 2765 Loker Avenue West, Carlsbad, CA 92008 in an amount not to exceed \$5,044 and charge the expenses to:

Canton Sports Center account	#101-755-740-0000	\$ 289.00
Senior Citizen Program account	#101-672-722-0000	\$ 192.00
Recreation Division -		
Special Events account	#101-691-742-4000	\$ 576.00
Recreation Division –		
Enrichment account	#101-691-742-2000	\$ 144.00
Recreation Division -		·
Aquatics account	#101-691-742-7000	\$ 512.00
Summit on the Park account	#208-757-722-2000	\$2,368.00
Summit on the Park -		
Kids Corner account	#208-757-722-2000	\$ 193.00
Village Theater account	#101-760-740-0000	\$ 770.00
0	ion carried by all members	

Item 12. APPROVAL OF PRICE QUOTE FOR DOOR INSTALLATION. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the price quotes from Innovative Ceilings, Inc. for \$2,500 and from Advance Satellite Communications for \$3,049.71 for a total price of \$5,549.71 to install a door system between the Treasurer's Office and Water Billing Office. I further nove to approve the following budget amendm costs: Increase Revenues: Appropriation from

Fund Balance #101-000-699-0000 \$ 5,550

Increase Appropriations: Contracted Services-

Facilities Maintenance #101-265-818-0000 \$ 5.550 This budget amendment increases the Facilities Maintenance Division budget from \$1,690,579 to \$1,696,129, and the General Fund budget from \$26,865,169 to \$26,870,719. Motion carried by all members present. Item 13. BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR THE CARRŶOVER OF FY2006 OPEN PURCHASE ORDERS TO FY2007. (PSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to approve the following budget amendments in the 2007 budgets for purchase order commitments carried over from 2006:

	CURRENT	BUDGET	AMENDED
FUND	BUDGET	AMENDMENT	BUDGET
General	\$ 26,870,719		\$ 27,037,686
Fire	10,165,752	5,560	10,171,312
Police	14,663,045	77,325	14,740,370
Community Center	2,450,810	1,161	2,451,971
Community Improvement	3,252,739	99,546	3,352,285
911 Service	340,000	4,449	344,449
Capital Projects-Roads	2,810,855	615,329	3,426,184
Capital Projects-Golf	485,000	103,593 9,972	588,593 2,253,890
Golf Course Enterprise Water & Sewer Enterprise	-,	313,469	31,260,966
Motion carried by all mem			
stated the next regular B	oard Meeting	will be Tuesde	v March 13
2007, 7:00 p.m., Administr	vatu Meemig ration Building	o First Floor I	Roard Room
1150 Canton Center S., Ca			
Bennett, supported by Mo	Laughlin to a	diourn to stud	v session at
8:12 p.m. Motion carried	hv all member	s present. A re	egular study
meeting of the Board of	Trustees of	the Charter	Township of
Canton was held Tuesday	v. March 6, 20	06. 2007. at 1	150 Canton
Center S. Supervisor Yacl			
and led the Pledge of Alle	giance to the l	Flag. Roll Ca	ll Members
Present: Bennett, Kirchga			
Absent: Caccamo (on			
Director Eva, Executive	Director Sant	omauro, Direc	tor Conklin,
Director Faas, Glenn S			
Adoption of Agenda			
Kirchgatter to approve the	e agenda as pro	esented. Motio	n carried by
all members present. Stu-	dy Topic: 1. A	ssessment Proc	ess – Board
of Review Glenn Shaw st	ated property	values have go	ne down 10
to 20% this year. Mr. Sl	naw stated in	the two-year	sales study,
required by law, from Apri	l 1, 2004 throu	gh March 31, 2	2006 showed
an increase in Canton To			
something different this y			
and others areas down in			
flat with no increase over			
sales study was complete			
Double the Board of Revie	w dates are se	t up this year.	300 appeals
have been scheduled with	, the Board of	f Review, this	is the same
amount as last year. Mr.			
than 3.7% it would mea	n there has b	een some add	itional new
change (deck, garage, su	nroom, etc.) i	n the property	z. Normal
maintenance is exempt by	law for any i	ncrease. Mr. S	Shaw stated
the Assessor's office has			
that subdivision increas	ed, decreased	or ,remained	the same.
Homeowners are welcome	d to call the A	ssessor's office	at 734-394-
5111 or visit at anytime	for this inforn	nation. Every	homeowner
should check the Asses	sor's field sh	neet and veri	fy that all
information on the field			
supported by McLaughlin	to adjourn at	9:17 p.m. Mo	tion carried
by all members present.		0	
- Thomas J. Yack, Super	visor – Terry G	. Bennett, Cler	k –

Copies of the complete text of the Board Minutes are available at the office of the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd, Canton, MI 48188, during regular business hours and can also be accessed through our web site www.canton-mi.org after Board Approval.

Publish: March 15, 2007

AUCTION.





....Roval Oak

3400 South Lyon

3415......Union Lake

3423 Waterford

3424......Wayne

3445 Westland

3470 Williamston

.....Walled Lake

....Webberville

....White Lake

3480 Wixom-Commerce

....Ypsilanti

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3900

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By Owner

LIVONIA

Lyndon Open Sun 12-4

bdrm., 1.5 bath brick ranch

Beautifully remodeled Nev

roof, windows, deck, refin

ished hardwood floors thru

ceramic tile, maple cabinets

new Whirlpool appliances. Full bath updated. Finished

bsmt w/new carpet \$179,000. 248-914-1325

LIVONIA

HIGHEST BIDDER BY OWNER

1609 sq. ft. completely updated, 1982 Colonial. 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, family room

w/fireplace, c/a, bsmt., large deck. \$139,900 or Bes

14542 Melrose,

3030

....Lots & Acreage/Vacant

...Lease/Option To Buy

...Mortgage/Land Confracts

..Commercial/industrial For Sale

through

Dunlayes & Townhouses

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.....Homes Under Construction

....Lakes & River Resort Proper

....Resort & Vacation Property

....Florida Homes & Property

3620......Real Estate Auction

3700 New Home Builders

...Condos

....Macomb County

3540 Cakland County

.....ingham County

....Lapeer County

....West &loomfield

3410.....Troy

...Salem-Salem Township

.....Stockbridge-Unadilia-Gregor

...Southfield-Lathrup

3370

3380...

3405

2420

3440

3500

3510...

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3640...

3710....

3730.

3740...

3760

3790.

3800.

3820

3830

3880

3870.

3950.

3960

Dearborn

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FARMINGTON HILLS OPEN SAT.-SUN. 1-5PM 29432 Regents Pte. CONDO in desirable Green Pointe Copper Creek. Lovely 2 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, fireplace in living room, vaulted ceilings, skylights, 2 car attached garage, much more! Great price \$169,000. 248-848-0513



Observer & Eccentric

Offer Inspecton March 17 & 18, Sat./Sun. 10-5. Home will be sold Sun. night to: HIGHEST BIDDER. Details Contact 734-812-1330 PLYMOUTH - OPEN SUN.1-4 12815 BEACON HILL

S/N. TERRITORIAL, E/BECK Located for easy commute to Ann Arbor/Detroit. Custom executive level Colonial-Ig lot Premium kitchen to family rm 734-455-6000

ROCHESTER OPEN HOUSE SAT AND SUN. 1-4 718 Ludlow. New construc-tion, 2600 sq. ft. 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath, Little Development 248-505-8103, visit: littledevelopment.com

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3030 Open Houses SOUTH LYON Open House Sun 1-4pm 708 Eagle Heights Drive E/Pontiac Trl, S. off 11 mi. Beautiful 2 story in cul-desac, great yard, 3 bdrm, 1.5 neutral colors. Just Listed Must See! If private showing is needed Please call:

Michigan Group

6870 W. Grand River SOUTH LYON - WHY BUILD? Peaceful retreat, minutes to town. Features 2 story entry hardwood fireplace, granite counter tops, in-ground sprinklers. A must see! Open Sun., March 18, 12-4pm. 25650 McCrory Lane \$349,000. 248-437-6726

SOUTHFIELD-OPEN 1-4 SOUTHFIELD-UPEN 1-4 30820 RED MAPLE LN S of 13 Mile, E of Evergreen Birmingham Schools! 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath home. Many updates incl kitchen, baths, roof, \$225,900. Call STEVE MACKE RE/MAX in the Hills

248-563-6811, 248-646-5000 SOUTHFIELD OPEN SUN. 1-5 17724 Silver Maple, 17682 Silver Maple, E off Southfield, S/ 10 Mile New Construction, 3 or 4 bdrms, 2 car attached gar, full

hemts 80X140 lot ready to Majaro Homes (248) 705-2133

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705 Main St. Plymouth, Mi. 48170 734-455-5600 www.Century21 Town-Country.com

PLYMOUTH OPEN HOUSES SUNDAY MARCH 18 1:00-4:00 PM

10366 S. Homestead 473 Adams 48860 Buck Run 11536 Aspen 721 S. Evergreen 42601 Hammill Ln 986 Harding 497 Irvin 840 Irvin 41149 Ivywood 256 Farmer 14215 Village Ct. 12742 Wendover

1030 Cherry CONDO'S

318 W. Ann Arbor Tr. 776 Deer Ct. 198 River Oaks 802 York

3055

Bloomfield

By Owner

BLOOMFIELD TWP 3 or 4 bdrm ranch, on corner lot, 0.5 acre. Westchester Village Sub-Birmingham schools, beautiful refinished, white Oal floors, newly painted and carpeted built-ins, fireplace all appliances, whitchen and bath, updated investment \$299,000) Agents welcome. 248-884-4863 248-553-8213

By Owner BLOOMFIELD TWP.

4375 Echo Rd. Gorgeous 9064 sq.ft., story brick luxury ghome, bdrm, 7 1/2 baths, 3 fire places. 6 car attached Great location garage. immaculate like new \$2,600,000. 586-932-1234

By Owner

FOXCBOFT 6375 W. Surrey: 3000 sq. ft. slab offers large living space with 4 bed & 3.5 baths. Recent updates: master bed w/ wic. bath carpet, kitchen cab, carpet fam rm, siding. Bloomfield Hills Schools. Priced to sell @ \$449.500 or make ar offer. Agents protected. Call: (248) 877-2739

NEW SUB-14 LOTS AVAIL. Walk out sights, close to x 810-225-8944

Canton

CANTON Gorgeous brick townhouse 1828 sq ft. 3 bdrm, 2 bath fireplace, hardwood floors granite counter tops, range, oven, dishwasher, washer & dryer, 1 car attached garage, unfinished bsmt. 125 Village Way Blvd., Unit 4, S. off ry HIII btwn Beck & Ridge ,900. 586-212-4289

Observer & Eccentric Classifieds Just a quick call away... -800-579-SELL **SHARP 2 BEDROOM** Bath townhouse style

condo with attached garage Built in 1997. Full basement great location, close to shop-ping and expressways. \$148,000. #2601486 Kim Peoples 734-646-4012, 734-971-6070 Charles Reinhart Co. Realtors 3110

CLEAN
3 bdrm/3.5 bath Colonial in
Dearborn Hills. Remodeled

kitchen & baths. Vaulted ceiling in master w/walk-ins. Hard woods, 6 panel doors, appli-ances. \$269,900 (EC65DE) Weir Manuel Realtors

3115

LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE Cut brick bungalow near his toric district in W.Dearborn undated kitchen baths root windows, finished rec room, lg deck.\$167,900. (EC31MI) 734-455-6000

Dearborn Hgts

BAD CREDIT OKAY Land contract or rent-to-own. Big 3 bdrm, 2 bath, bsmt., 2 car, NO 888-856-7034 3145 Farmington Hills

4 Bed, 3 Bath Ranch Fireplace. 2 car Gar. Home warranty. \$239,900, (21RI) ACROSS FROM GOLF COURSE! 2 Bed, 1½ Bath. Attached Garage. Appliances stay.

BACKS TO WOODS

Century 21 Hartford South 734-464-6400 www.c21-hs.com

\$177.900. (29GL)

By Owner

ZERO DOWN- you can buy this cute, contemporary bdrm home on beautiful 1/2 acre lot. Close to 1-96. Nice family neighborhood. 2 car garage. All appliances incl washer/dryer. Immed. occ \$142,000 Looking at all offers. 248-722-8891

Keego Harbor

3235

By Owner

CASS LAKE ACCESS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, W. Bloomfield schools. Wood laminate flooring, vaulted skylights, all baseboard ceilings. appliances. heat, privacy backyard great \$98,500. starter home. 248-705-8245

Livonia

HIGHEST BIDDER BY OWNER

1609 sq. ft. completely updated, 1982 Colonial. 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, family 1609 sq. ft. w/fireplace, large deck. \$139,900 or Best Offer Sat /Sun 10-5 Home wil

be sold Sun. night to: HIGHEST BIDDER. Details Contact 734-812-1330 IMMACULATE - BUILT 1998

3 bedroom, 1.5 bath ranch. 1325 sq.ft., 1/4 acre, attached garage, custom kitchen with nook. 248-767-8354 www.31181richland.com

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at it's best! LIVONIA

\$91/sq.ft-great price! Interior re-built+ '92 addition for 3 bdrm/2.1 baths. 2186 sq.ft. master w/fireplace, 2-sided fireplace in family room, den. Deep lot. \$200,000 (EC03HH) Weir Manuel Realtors 734-455-6000

Rochester

3 bdrm, garage, \$198,500. ROCHESTER HILLS 4 bdrm, 3.5 bath, \$360,000 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath, \$439,900 ShareNet Realty 248-642-1620 ROCHESTER HILLS Falcon Estates home, 1st floor master. Kitchen w/granite

ROCHESTER

11x13 loft overlooks kitchen formal dining room & den. \$409,900 (EC18CH) Weir Manuel Realtors 248-651-3500 \$409,900 Southfield/Lathrup

maple cabinets

ATTRACTIVE RANCH In desirable Cranbrook will sell Tons of updates-move

- kitchen (appliances included), bathroom gutted & replaced. \$179,900 (EC33FA) Weir Manuel Realtors 248-644-6300 Observer & Eccentric

ELEGANCE, CLASS

Is what this 1 year old home dis-plays. Located in new sub, walking distance to Firefight ers Park & near 1-75. Euro landscaping pean-type \$619,000 (FC31WY) Weir Manuel Realtors 248-644-6300

YOU'LL LOVE THIS Clean, fresh, spacious 4 bed-room Co-lonial in popular sub. Newer windows, furnace water heater, roof, carpeting, paint. Just move in! \$225,000 (EC38TA) Weir Manuel Realtors 248-644-6300

3440 West Bloomfield

BIRMINGHAM SCHOOLS Totally updated, 3 bdrm, 2 bath \$239,900. Call 248-497-6779 Fax: 248-538-9926

By Owner WEST BLOOMFIELD 5702 Branford Dr. Gorgeous 5821 sq.ft.,

story brick luxury home. New kitchen, 4 bdrms, 4 1/2 baths, 2 fireplaces, 3 car

> tion, immaculate, like new. \$3,000,000. 586-932-1234 Westland

BY OWNER - 3 hdrm ranch Livonia Schools. New carpet all appliances. C/A. \$120,000 (734) 397-2609 FOR SALE/LEASE - 2200 sq.ft.

attached garage. Great loca-

ranch, 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, fin-ished bsmt, \$139,900 / \$1200 734-344-2221 REMODELED RUNGALOW Beautiful kitchen overlooks

nice size living room, Florida 3 BORM. BRICK RANCH 3 BDRM. BRICK HANCH Updated kitchen, dining room, bsmt., garage. \$139,900. CENTURY 21 CASTELLI 734-525-7900

3450

White Lake

WHITE LAKE Cape Cod. on private cul-de-sac, 1850 sq.ft. 4 bdrm, 2 1/2 baths, 2 1/2 acres. Appraised over \$320K must sacrifice \$247,000 New appliances, washer & dryer, hot tub. 1800 sq.ft.deck, 2 1/2 car garage. No unreasonable offer turned

Oakland County

3540 MADISON HGTS. Incredible value in well maintained, maintenance-free end unit condo for under 100k! Many features; new furnacel AC in '05, great hardwoods. \$96,500 (EC03TE)

Weir Manuel Realtors 248-644-6300 Lakefront/Waterfront



By Owner

Cass Lake's Dollar Bay

Built 2002, 2200 sq.ft., bdrm, 2.5 bath, all granite all appliances, garage, gas fireplace, master w/balcony, hardwood, 1st floor laun-dry, 3 boat slips, too much to mention! W. Bloomfield schools. Just Reduced! \$399,000. 248-640-2652 NORTHERN MI.

bdrm, 3 bath, A/C, 3 car garage with a loft: 6 miles from West Branch. Serious Inquires only.
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1-800-579-SELI www.hometownlife.com

CANTON - Golf Course Setting - 2 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, many updates, finished bsmt, \$239,000. 734-595-0013

CANTON Great 2 bdrm 1.5 bath condo w/full bsmt, 1-car attached garage. New deck, freshly painted, all appliances, much more! Motivated seller-bring offers. \$155,900. (EC75CH)

Weir Manuel Realtors 734-455-6000 FARMINGTON HILLS GORGEOUS DETACH CONDO st. floor master, den, fin floor plan, 1 st. floor laundry spacious kit and breakfast nook overlooks woods Golf Course community. Seller to pay 1 yr. assoc. dues. \$339,900. View this home on

michellemichael com Michelle Michael Re/Max Classic NORTHVILLE CONDO Land Contract or rent to own. Lg. 1 bdrm. 1 bath apt. style condo. Close to historic downtown \$79,900 /best. 734-765-6823

PLYMOUTH Immaculate 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath condo w/living, dining & family rooms w/fireplace, finished bsmt, 2-car garage. It's all here! Walking distance to downtown.Great! (EC96PI)

Weir Manuel Realtors 734-455-6000

ROCHESTER Downtown loft living! Incredible 2 bdrm units, many amenities; open floor plan, kitchen-granite counter tops, custom cabinets. Lg master w/French

door. \$413,000 (EC14MA) Weir Manuel Realtors 248-651-3500 ROCHESTER Enjoy morning coffee from glassed in balcony overlooking well-maintained grassy wooded ravine w/sur rise as backdrop. Updated

windows.

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(EC20BA

roof.

\$100,000

ROCHESTER HILLS Beautiful end unit in merc Bell Brook community, wood ed views in all directions ed views in all directions.
Centrally located, very private.
Move in ready. Attached
garage. \$189,000 (EC32WE)
Weir Manuel Realtors
248-644-6300 SOUTH LYON Desirable Colonial Acres, Take a look at this bright & clean 2 bdrm 1 bath condo in 55+

community. Full bsmt, Florida room, private courtyard. \$69,900. (EC58TI) Weir Manuel Realtors 734-455-6000

By Owner

ROCHESTER DUPLEX 4 Ludlow, Walkout bsm Totally remodeled inside & out. 3 bdrm down w/ 1.5 bath & 2 bdrm up w/1 Newer furnace, water tank, electrical, appliances windows, siding & flooring \$337,300. 248-656-3465

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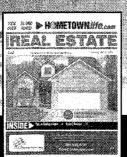
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- cager 19 Georgetown
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- empire 27 Lemony taste 30 Ice palace
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 - 20 Shaggy beast

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Answer to Previous Puzzle

ERGEPRODS BAY

SHELLS MERE AMES ETE DORM MEN HAYED TOO

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DOUBT

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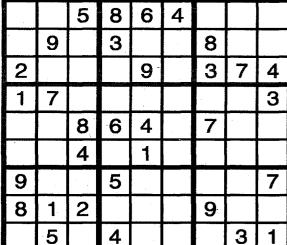
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- selle's date 55 A Gabor



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

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Numbers

Level: Beginner

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4000's Real Estate for Lease

- ... Apartments/Unfurnished
- 4010.....Aparlments/Furnished 4020.....Condos/Townhouses
- 4030 Duplexes
- 4040 Flats
- 4050......Homes For Rent
- 4060....Lakefront/Waterfront
- Homes Rental 1070.... Mobile Home Rentals
- 4080. ... Nobile Home Sites
- 4110.....Vacation Resort/Rentals
- 4140. ... Browns For Rest
- 4200.....Halts/Buildings

- 4090 Southern Rentals
- 4100.....Time Share Rentals

- 4220......Office/Retail Space 4230......Commercial/industrial
- 4240....Land For Rent
- 4300 Garage/Mini Storage
 - 4400 Wanted To RentWanted To Real

4620 Home Health Care

4630......Homes For The Aged

- Resort Property
- 4500.....Furniture Rental 4560 Rental Agency
- 4570 Property Management
- 4580 Lease/Option To Buy 4590......House Sitting Service
- 4600......Convalescent Care 4616 Foster Care
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4000

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DEARBORN HEIGHTS, Remodeled 3 bdrm ranch bsmt, garage, C/A, option to buy avail. \$850, 248-788-1823 DETROIT- 8454 Stout Joy & Evergreen, Sharp & Clean, 3 bedroom, basement, garage

extra lg. 2.5 car, fenced yd c/a, \$900/mo. 734-612-6991 \$625/mo. 12043 Minock, Plymouth & Evergreen, 2 bdrm. bsmt., garage. \$500. 248-476-6498 NORTHVILLE - DOWNTOWN **FARMINGTON HILLS**

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Good credit a must. Inquire

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LIVONIA 2 Bdrm, carpeted,

LIVONIA 3 bdrm. brick ranch, 2 bath, 1900 sq. ft., fin.bsmt.

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LIVONIA Rent/option to buy 3 bdrm, exc. cond. 1000 sq. ft.,

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REDFORD Home. 2 Bdrms, bath, central air, Laundry facilities, basement. Garage w/opener, Lg. back vard. appliances. No 313-530-5924

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Help Wanted-General

inside today's

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statements, balance sheets, and vendor contracts. An Associates Degree in Accounting and 2-3 years

Michigan First Credit Union has an immediate opening for a Mortgage Portfolio Manager. This position is responsible for managing and growing Michigan First Credit Union's \$160M mortgage portfolio. A key component of this position will involve managing the relationship with our third party mortgage provider and related collection

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Senior Accountant

accuracy of the financial reporting function of the credit union. This will require preparing financial reports, ensuring the accuracy of journal voucher postings, general ledger and member accounts to facilitate with accurate branch accounting. The Senior Accountant will also be responsible for the maintenance of fixed asset data, income

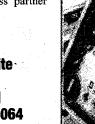
Accounting experience required; a Bachelor's degree preferred. Above average skills in Microsoft Excel and fixed asset accounting experience preferred.

Starting Salary Range: \$31,000-\$44,000

Mortgage Portfolio Manager

activities. This position may involve underwriting and approving both mortgage and consumer loans. This will include coordination of marketing initiatives and promotions, product development, and tracking and analyzing market trends.

relationships.



MAINTAIN FOCUS AND BALANCE BY MANAGING INTERRUPTIONS



WORKWISE

Mildred L.

Everyone and every thing interrupts us all day long. The telephone interrupts us. A visitor

interrupts us. A loud voice outside of our sacred space demands our attention. But external stimuli aren't the only factors. Even multitasking, an essential for many jobs, causes interruptions as one task interrupts another. The workplace has become a culture of interruption.

If you can't escape interruptions, can vou join them by doing a task over and over to diminish their effect? According to Deborah Boehm-Davis, professor and chair of the Department of Psychology at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va., "To reduce the negative consequences of an interruption, practice is not enough. If you practice the task alone, you will get better at that task, but you don't get any better at doing the task in the presence of interruptions. To learn to deal with interruptions, you need to practice the task while being interrupted." Some of her insights were published in the Proceedings of the Human Factors and **Ergonomics Conference titled "Mitigating** Disruptions: Can Resuming an Interrupted Task Be Trained?"

Has it occurred to you that you might be inviting interruptions even if you claim annoyance? Rabbi Yitzchak Goldman,

who presents a workshop called "The Soul Diet: Ten Steps Towards Metaphysical Health"through Neeman House Publishers L.L.C., in Seattle, says, "You may give off signals for someone to take you out of this. Body language can reveal whether people are totally immersed in their work and are 'uninterruptable,'or whether they are merely hovering over their work and 'available' for interruptions." For example, tapping your pen on your desk may signal openness to distraction and invite a person to make a comment about the weather. Gossip mongers also seek distraction. Leaving your e-mail on to listen for the bell of an incoming message or slide your eyes down to your toolbar when the icon appears are other signals of not really wanting to be focused. **MINIMIZATION**

If you're absolutely certain that you don't want to be interrupted, there are a number of steps to take. Some interruptions are easily controllable, thanks to technology and the nature of the interruption. Forward your telephone into voice mail. Get out of e-mail and check in only a few times each day. Arrange for mail and other deliveries to be made outside of your door or cubicle.

Jeff Davidson, founder of the Breathing Space Institute in Chapel Hill, N.C., recalls consulting with a supervisor whose six employees asked more questions than he could handle, at least one each every two hours. "If one

employee asked a question every two hours," Davidson explains, "he asked an average of four questions each day. With six employees, that meant 24 questions a day, or 120 interruptions each week, resulting in disruptions of the manager's work three times each hour in a 40-hour week!" The problem soon became surmountable.

Davidson developed four categories of questions among those asked most frequently (or likely to be asked), as

- covered in the policy manual, which he'd then ask employees to refer to

- answerable by a co-worker or bookkeeper;

- in need of a "yes" or "no" response. dispatched by "a quick phone call or buzz on the intercom;" and

- questions the supervisor was required to answer and wanted to

If each employee asked two of the last daily, he'd have 60 interruptions from them each week or 50 percent fewer than he did at first. The system allowed better time management and considerable stress reduction.

Take this one step further by following the advice of Los Angeles' Amy Applebaum, a certified hypnotherapist. "Set up a regular schedule where you are not to be disturbed between specific hours," she advises, "and teach those around you that you are unavailable at



Workshop presenter Rabbi Yitzchak Goldman of Seattle's Neeman House Publishers L.L.C., promotes metaphysical health.

that time. This way you get the quiet time you need and people know when they can get support/assistance from you."

Indeed, the object isn't to cut everyone off. "The goal is to maintain metaphysical health," Rabbi Goldman concludes, "clarity of mind, not just focusing on task at hand but maintaining overall balance."That means getting rid of what he calls "clutter" without getting rid of

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp is an awardwinning journalist. Copyright 2007 Passage Media.)

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Technicians ★ 10 Minute Oil Change experience or will train. Full &/o part-time. Apply in person: 34680 W. 8 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills. ½ mile W. of Farmington Rd. 248-476-1313 PAINTERS-EXPERIENCED

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OFFICE

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struction experience a plus and have exceptional orga nizational skills. Pay base on experience. Full time. Please fax resume to: 734-421-0202

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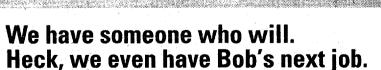
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Medical Assistants Dental Receptionist Nurse Managers
 Psychologists
 Medical Biller

And more! If you are looking to place an ad for any of the above

positions, check out our: **MEDICAL & DENTAL** RECRUITMENT

SECTION You can place your ad for only \$50/inch (three inch min.)! The Observer & Eccentric's Medical 8 Dental Recruitment Sec-tion will publish the last Sunday of each month Deadline to place an ad ir this section is each Monday prior to the publication date. Contact one of our Representative for more information, or to

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

MEDICAL BILLER Needed with experience fo an office in Wixom, MI. Send resume with salary requirements to: khodges@ iandbmedical.com Or fax to Kristie Hodges at 248-960-8059

MEDICAL **BILLER LIVONIA AREA** year exp. min. d Thomas &

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Help Wanted-Medical 5060

MEDICAL ASSISTANT

Help Wanted-Sales

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SALES POSITIONS

Need weekend midnight shift coverage at our Romulus clinic. Limited scope x-ray skills/ training preferred, but not required, will train right per-son. Part-time or full-time schedule will be considered.

1 yr. exp. post MA certificarequired; all basic MA functions plus exc. interpersonal skills; work independently. Business Health Services offers paid time off, pre-mium shift bonus & selected

Send letter & resume to BHS Fax: 734-661-0868 E.O.E.

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Full-Time. Busy Wes Bloomfield office. Derm atology experience a plus. Fax resume: 248-855-6213 or Call: 248-855-3366

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MEDICAL RECORDS REPRESENTATIVE National Comprehensive Healthcare Solutions company seeks medical records renresentative. Fulltime. Pontiac area. Medical office or records exp required. Please fax resume & cover letter to: 734-414-0854

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1-800-579-SELL

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5120 Help Wanted-Sales

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ewilson@renovoservices.com

or fax to 312-456-0708 TEACHER JOB FAIR Saturday, April 21, 2007, Pasquotank County High School, Elizabeth City, NC. Pre-Registration required by April 4. For registration and on-line application, visit www.ecpps.k12.nc.us or contact ECPPS Personnel De-

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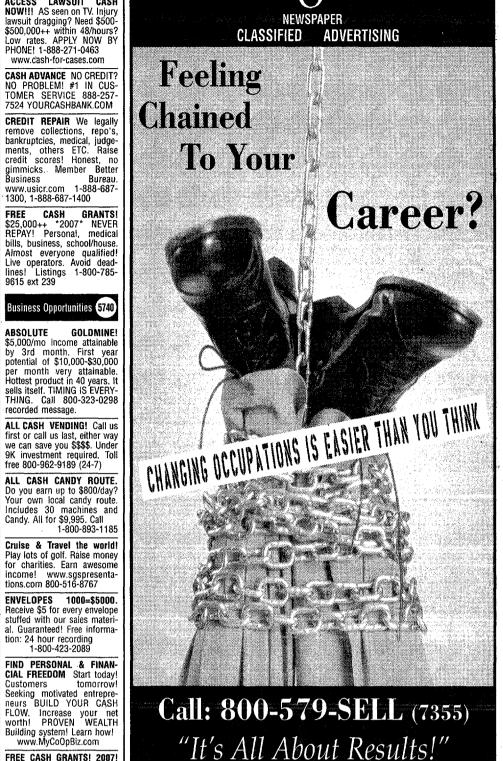
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The **Observer & Eccentric** Classifieds

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Observer & Eccentric



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Do you have a knack for presenting creative sales presentations and know how to close a deal? If you are a highly motivated, self-starter who is also organized and persistent, you are the talented sales professional we're ooking for. We offer a great work environment and excellent benefits. rested applicants may submit their resume (referencing Job Code RSR0702) by:

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Fax: 734.953.2057

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Observer & Eccentric

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of an Auction of contents held at Safe Keeping Storage LLC, 26400 W. Eight Mile Rd. Southfield, MI 48034 at the following storage areas, Sat., March 24, 2006 at 9:30 AM. Items: Household & Misc.

Joyce Burton (148) Ronald Norfleet (141) Eugene Hicks (71 4. Andre Henry (214) 5. Kathryn Horne (56)

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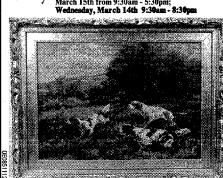
7100 Estate Sales

ANNOUNCING 2 GREAT SALES! By: Everything Goes Fri-Sat, Mar. 16-17, 10-4 #1). 9320 Autumnglo Dr. Clarkston, 48348. Take I75 (N.) to Exit 93 Dixie Hwy, turn rt. (N.) to Davisburg Rd., turn rt (E.) to Bridge Lk Rd, turn left (N.) to Autumnglo Dr., turn left. Henredon: entertainmen center, sectional, dining set & sofa tables. Digital piano, bdrm set, 60" TVs, recliners, art, 2 full bdrm sets, stools, desks, 2 shot guns, rifle, tools, lawn equip, great accessories, clothing & much more! #2) 29945 Beck Road Walled Lake, 48393 - take 696 W. to 96 W. to Exit 160 Beck Rd., turn rt (N.) 1 mile on left side - or take Pontiac Trail (W.) to Beck turn left (S.), on right side New Furniture Liquidation Marble dining, end, cock-tail sofa & console tables Leather sofas & section als, 100's of dining & occasional chairs, bdrm sets, dinettes, glass tables office furniture & equipment, rack shelving & steps, hi-lo & tons more! OFFICE: 248-855-0053 HOTLINE: 248-988-1077

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Auction Dates: Friday, March 16th at 6:30pm.
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Double door antique oak secretary circa 1893 Dining room: China cabinet, cherry drop leaf table, 6 chairs, & buffet. Den: 2 matching sofas oveseat, tables , lamps

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MADISON HEIGHTS

ESTATE SALE 28163 Brush Fri. & Sat.

clothing, & much more!

NOVI Whole House Remodel-

ing - Furniture, art work

appliances, kitchen/bath cabi-

nets & counter tops, poker

bumper, pool table, household misc. 40567 Village Wood, Haggerty, N. of 9 Mile, left at light on Village Wood, March 16-18th, 10am-4pm.

area rugs, costume jewelry, umbrella stand, Atari games.

GOMOMS-M2M Sale

March 17th 11-2pm strollers after 12, Lutheran HS NW

1000 Bagley, Rochester 48309

PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO &

DARKROOM

Old photo equip:large format camera, lenses, lights, umbrellas, meters, front projection system, JOBO

ection system, JOBO Processors, trays, large sink

easels, frames, paper rolls, opaque projector. Tools, hardware, 2x4s, PVC pipe, wallpa-

per, mirror, recliner, end tables, Xmas tree. Used VHS

& cassette tapes, books &

mags. March 16-18, 9-5. 5908 Trotter Ln, West Bloomfield.

between Maple & Walnut Lake Rds. SOME pics at

buysellcommunity.com/ store/Photoguy

DEARBORN HEIGHTS

LIVONIA- Mar 16 & 17 .. 9-5

35625 Elmira St., S/Plymouth W/ Wayne, Antiques, col-

lectibles, furniture, electronics,

many new items in boxes, lew-

elry, household & much more

NORTHVILLE-MOVING SALE!

7130

East of Farmington

Moving Sales

Garage Sales

7110

er, accessories, etc..

Bloomfield Hills on Adams, to Square Lake

/Sat, March. 16-17, 10-4

ROYAL OAK - March 17, 10pm. 4160 Yorba Linda Blvd. 1 blk. E. of Greenfield, 1 blk. N. of 13). Furniture, yard tools, clothes, small appliances, linens, area rugs & misc.

Household Goods

BED - \$150 QUEEN.
PILLOW TOP MATTRESS SET
NEW in Plastic, Can Deliver. 734-891-8481

BED - \$125 QUEEN **MATTRESS SET** New mattress/box! Full \$100. King \$200. 734-891-8481



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BEDROOM SET - GIRLS 8 piece, "Stanley", white washed wood, excellent condi tion, \$900. 248-737-4367

Bellini" infant bedroom set. ncludes bed, changing table with 3 drawers and 3 drawer chest. Excellent condition. Best offer. (248) 349-6376

RAINBOW ESTATE SALES **COUCH & LOVESEAT** 4553 S. Commerce Rd Black leather, like new condition, \$1650/best. 248-477-6429, 248-568-1948 Commerce Twp., Fri. March 16th, 9-3, Sat. March 17th 10-3. Whole house estate sale in an 1841 farmhouse. ENTERTAINMENT CENTER

www.rainbowestatesales.com Solid oak. 5 pieces, good condition \$800 or best offer. REDFORD -14043 Centralia. Fri & Sat, 11-4pm. Carved teak furniture, collectible eggs, FINE QUALITY FURNITURE

Genuine Chestnut Bur armoire 46" w, 19"deep 75"high, \$350. Light pick led finish entertainmen center 42' w, 22" deep, 80' high, \$450. French writing desk, dark oak finish 52" w, 27"deep, 30" high, \$300. Dining Room set, Asian style, designer faux dark goatskin finish, square table 42" has two 22" leaves w/ pads, 6 chairs, 2

I can email pictures to you Call 248-353-1979

chests each 32"w,18"deep

FURNITURE Bellini Nursery Furniture - white "Milano" crib, changing table/dresser Dutalier Glider and off-brand matching bookcase. Custom bedding and mattress included and custom changing pad with cover! \$850 - 248-475-2217 FURNITURE - Sofa bed, loveseat, \$300. 53" Hitachi TV, \$1700. King bdrm set, \$1700.

(or best offer). 248-539-0193 REFRIGERATOR- side by side, ice dispenser; \$275. Double, self cleaning GE oven. \$175. Perfect cond. 248-661-4788

SLEEPER SOFA - New, queen March 16-17, 9-dusk. Glass bottles, Blue-bail tops, col-lectibles, lots of misc. 5920 size, tan, prof. Scotch-guard, \$500. (Must sell - doesn't fit our cottage). 248-486-2863

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Aero Air Mattress-\$80. 248-476-9398

Everything must go. 19420 Malvern Ct. (Highland Lakes Condos). Thurs. 1-6, Fri. 9-4, Sat. 9-3. Hand tools, golf REFRIGERATOR - GE 21.6 cubic ft., in-door water & ice, almond, like new, \$500/best. 734-455-5957 REFRIGERATOR Kenmore,

side-by-side, almond, water & ice, 36" wide, 31" deep, like new, \$425. 248-737-4614, WASHER/DRYER- KitchenAid washer, extra large capacity. Whirlpool dryer, heavy duty. \$175 for both. 248-404-7009

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7160

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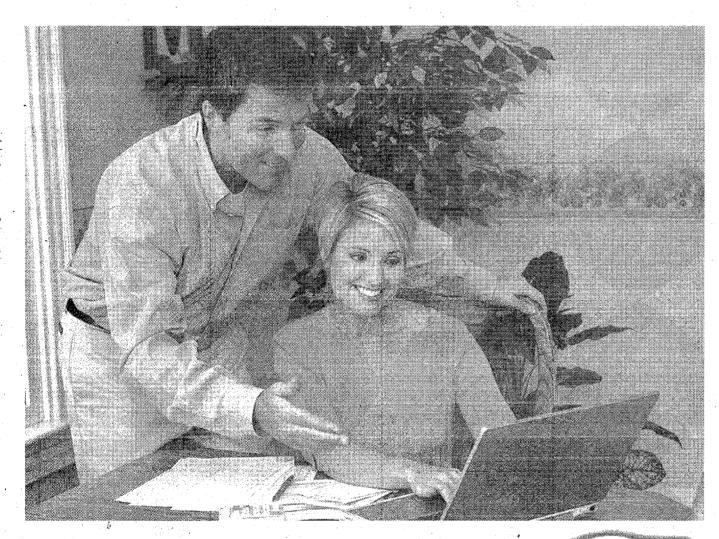
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One Of Today's Hottest Automobiles! Advertising Feature

CAReport



By Dale Buss



If you threw the best examples of all the criteria for today's hottest category of automobile, the crossover, into some sort of figurative blender, the vehicle that you ended up "pouring out" at the end might well be the 2007 Cadillac SRX. If you average in design, amenities, horsepower, handling, cargo space, flexibility and other particulars, SRX might well be just about the best crossover on the

For me, the new SRX represents an important next iteration in the comeback that Cadillac has been mounting for nearly a decade now. Initially, rising from the styling-shop rubble that was GM in the late Nineties, Cadillac spearheaded the design renaissance of its parent company with a sharp, chiseled, bold theme that division executives fearlessly carried out in every one of their new vehicles. On visual appeal alone, the new look put Cadillac back on the map for discerning buyers.

When it was introduced in 2004, SRX was both part of that design revolution at Cadillac as well as a serious attempt to help define - and occupy a major part of - the emerging crossover category. At first, the entire segment was a bit of a sideshow in the industry, as auto makers variously tried to figure out how to lend more car-like sensibilities to lumbering trucks and SUVs that posed immense drivability challenges.

Now, the spurt in gas prices over the last couple of years has brought the crossover category decidedly and quickly into the automotive mainstream, because these vehicles are the single best way for consumers to pick up gas mileage but also retain some of the "utility" of an SUV.

With its improved SRX for 2007, Cadillac is staying in the sweet spot of the luxury-crossover category even as the segment continues to redefine itself. The folks at Car & Driver magazine seem to agree: For the third consecutive year, they named SRX the Best Luxury SUV.



Even better for 2007, the Cadillac SRX may be the ultimate crossover vehicle

The biggest improvement in the SRX for 2007 is a recrafted interior that is an all-new design. One of the black marks against earlier versions of SRX was that the interior design and craftsmanship weren't up to the European standards against which Cadillac wants to be measured. So for 2007, Cadillac gave SRX a new instrument panel, handwrapped upper trim, console, center stack, door trim, wood trim, analog clock and steering wheel.

The redesigned cockpit has softer tactile surfaces, new flush-mounted switches and controls and greater use of wood-grain and chrome trim. In the SRX I drove, the overall result was a pleasant and harmonious blend of dark brown, complimentary cream, and burled-wood accents.

It's easy to believe, then, that the new instrument panel and door trim are being built using Cadillac's new "cut-and-sew" interior process that combines advanced technology with the hand-rendered expertise of craftsmen. The new cockpit, in fact, is hand-built in the same fashion that Cadillac applies to the limited-production STS-V and XLR-V

Inside SRX, you can also experience something else that is practically unique: the glorious skyward panorama that is visible through the optional UltraView sunroof, the largest in the segment. It extends to provide a full 5.6 square feet of open air over the first and second-row seats and integrates a retractable power shade. You can even get the optional UltraView Plus that extends the glass roof over the third-row seat with a power sunshade.

This vehicle also is a pretty decent cargo hauler. The fact that it is truly squared off in the rear is one big help to capacity, of course. Cadillac also offers

an optional rear cargo-management system as an alternative to the third-row seat. If offers three cargo compartments and includes a removable storage bin.

Slip back to the outside of the vehicle, and you'll see that Cadillac's styling about-face hasn't lost any of its relevance - and, in fact, has kept pace with the times pretty well. With its chiseled vertical tail lamps and head-lamps and V-shaped grill, the angularity of SRX makes it just look fast. And the new Sport model that Cadillac added for this model year - with 18- or 20-inch wheels, and a unique fascia - underscores Cadillac's commitment to keep its styling signature as current as possible.

Two engines see duty in SRX, including a 3.6liter V6 that generates 255 horsepower. The 4.6liter Northstar V8 that powered the SRX I drove gave the car every bit of power and punch that I was looking for, with 320 horsepower and 315 pound-feet of torque. Even paired with an automatic transmission, this powerplant made SRX every bit as nimble as much smaller vehicles, also thanks in part to GM's StabiliTrak fourchannel suspension system.

NISSAN PATHFINDER 2004, (248) 355-7515

SUBARU IMPREZA 2002 WRZ turbo, \$13,995 NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264

TOYOTA LAND CRUISER 1996 Beautiful condition! LOADED! 63,500 miles. \$13,900. 248-379-4135.

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8340 Acura

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RENDEZVOUS CXL 2003, navy, 1 owner, like new, call JOHN ROGIN BUICK

8380 Cadillac CTS 2004, one owner, 30K, like new, \$19,640. Saturn of Plymouth

(734) 453-7890

734-525-0900



CTS 2003, diamond white, leather Factory warranty, \$18,995. Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

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8400

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CAMARO 2002, V-6, T-tops Nebraska car, 33K extra low miles, perfect cond., \$12,650. Saturn of Plymouth (734) 453-7890 COBALT LS 2006, black 4 dr.

only 22K, auto, like new, \$9,980. Saturn of Plymouth

(734) 453-7890 **COBALT 2005** 2 dr., fu power, \$13,495. Stk P20045

NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264 COBALT 2006 2 dr., silver, air,

auto, CD, p/locks, GM certified, \$11,898. Red Holman_

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CORVETTE 1999 Auto, cruise, CD, pw, full service history, sunroof, leather. One owner, 25,000 miles. Torch Red, black interior, out standing, dual roofs/air, Bose \$22,900 - 248-449-1777



Certified, \$13,995. 888-372-9836

IMPALA LT 2006 4 dr., 3.9 liter V-6, full power, white hot! Red.Holmar...

(734) 721-1144

IMPALA LS 2006, GM 1-800-579-SELL

Chevrolet



forest green, leather, moon roof, loaded, \$9,995. Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

MALIBU LT 2006, loaded, low payment, little down, \$12,995. Stk P20043 NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264

MONTE CARLO 2006, silver

Red Holman (734) 721-1144 MONTE CARLO SS 2003,

JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

8420 Chrysler-Plymouth

\$2999 TYME (734) 455-5566 LHS 2000 - 5 disc CD, power steering/brakes, 6-way leather seats, chrome wheels, air, AM/FM, \$6800, 248-398-4273 PT CRUISER LIMITED 2002, full power, chrome wheels \$8,850. P20081 NORTH BROTHERS FORD

(734) 524-1264 PT CRUISER TOURING 2006, blue, 21K, loaded, \$12,950. JOHN ROGIN BUICK

(248) 355-7515 ESCORT ZX2 2002, 34K,

AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515 ESCORT ZX2 2003, 49K, cer-

NORTH BROTHERS FORD FIVE HUNDRED SE 2005, AWD, black, loaded, \$14,495

(734) 522-0030 **THAT WORK FOR YOU!**

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FIVE HUNDRED LIMITED **2005**, 3 to choose, \$15,998. AVIS FORD



FOCUS ZX3 2007, only 2,000 miles! \$12,995 Lou LaRiche Chevrolet

888-372-9836 FOCUS ZTS 2004, black clean, must see

Bill Brown Ford (734) 742-0565

FOCUS ZX3 2005, black, 20K

Bill Brown Ford (734) 742-0565 FOCUS SE 2003, 41K, fully

oaded, extra clean. \$9.995 Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030 FOCUS WAGON SE 2001

Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030 FOCUS SE 2006 4 dr., CD, auto, full power, 12,780 miles only \$12,888. Certified North Bros. Linc-Merc

(248) 283-6377 FOCUS 2003, 5 dr., auto, air, serviced & ready, \$7,965. Stk# 7C8120A NORTH BROTHERS FORD

FOCUS SE 2002, 4 dr., auto, air, \$6,950. Stk 7C9137A NORTH BROTHERS FORD

FOCUS SE 2006 4 dr., auto, air, certified, just like new, \$10,995. Stk #P19973 NORTH BROTHERS FORD

FOCUS WAGON SES 2005 ZXW, leather, moon, \$14,498 AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

FOCUS ZX5 2005, 4K, Street Edition, \$10,998. AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515 FUSION SE 2006, blue, 9K take the challenge! \$15,995

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FUSION SE 2006, certified, great value, \$13,970. Stk# NORTH BROTHERS FORD

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Car! Like new, 8,000 miles Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030 MUSTANG LX 2002, super nice! Must see to believe,

Bill Brown Ford

(734) 522-0030

MUSTANG GT 2005 Show

Ford MUSTANG GT 2004, V-8, fully equipped, silver bullet!

(734) 522-0030 MUSTANG 2006 Convertible, 21K like new, one owner, maroon, loaded, \$19,890. Saturn of Plymouth

Bill Brown Ford

(734) 453-7890 MUSTANG 2001 Convertible, sharp, V-6, loaded, winter price, \$11,270.

North Bros. Linc-Merc (248) 283-6377 MUSTANG GT 2002 Convertible, auto, 18K, perfect! \$15,870. Stk# 7T6214A 2002

NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264

TAURUS SEL 2006, moon leather, alloys, white, only 13K, 1 owner, \$12,760. Saturn of Plymouth

(734) 453-7890 TAURUS SES 2004 4 dr., only 9,323 miles, loaded w/extras,

North Bros. Linc-Merc (248) 283-6377 TAURUS SES 2003, leather, moon, loaded, \$8,996.

North Bros. Linc-Merc (248) 283-6377 TAURUS 2006, 10 to choose,

from \$10,998. AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515 TAURUS SE 2002- ABS

67,000 mi, royal blue. 1 owner w/maint. history, Exc. cond. \$7498/best. 248-528-6695 (734) 524-1264 TAURUS SE 2005 Very low miles. Garage kept. \$5900. TYME (734) 455-5566

TAURUS SE 2005, needs to go, certified, full power \$10,240. Stk# P19980 (734) 524-1264 NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264

> TAURUS SE 2005, full power, certified, \$11,360. Stk P20010 NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264 TAURUS SE 2005, certified, 6 yr. 75K warranty APR as low as 5.9%. \$10,995. Stk #P20004

NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264 TAURUS SEL 2003

Showroom condition, 40,000 miles, every option, 1 owner, \$9800. 734-718-2902 TAURUS SES 2003- loaded Moon, 24V, 6-CD, 6 yr/100k warranty. 49,000 miles \$9380/best. 313-268-2424

Hardtop, \$27,998. AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515 Honda 8520

ACCORD EX 2002, leather,

THUNDERBIRD

moon, 57K, silver, like new, reduced \$11,940 Saturn of Plymouth (734) 453-7890

RIO 2004, 4 dr., 3 to choose, air, auto, stereo, low miles,

(734) 721-1144 Januar JAGUAR S-TYPE 2004, what a car! Loaded, \$26,950.

Red.Holman_

a car! Lo Stk#P20088 NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264 JAGUAR X-TYPE 2004, heated seats, moonroof, spotless white onyx, (734) 915-6640

Jeep CHEROKEE SPORT 2001 4 x 4. 37,000 miles, CD, \$8900 or

best offer. 248-471-3307 GRAND CHEROKEE LTD 2003, V-8, one owner 39K, loaded like new \$16,600 Saturn of Plymouth

(734) 453-7890 GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED **2003**, V-8, sunroof, leather, 4x4, loaded, \$17,474.

Red Holman (734) 721-1144 **WRANGLER 2006**, auto, air, soft top, 3K, \$20,540. Stk P20042

NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264 Lincoln

LS 2003 Premium, V-8, silver, moon, leather, certified, 30K,

\$17,034

North Bros. Linc-Merc (248) 283-6377 TOWN CAR 1999 Cartier Edition, low miles, maroon w/gray leather, \$8,495. North Bros. Linc-Merc

(248) 283-6377 ZEPHYR 2006, only 15K, AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

Mazda MAZDA 2006, MPV, 3 to choose from, \$14,998. AVIS FORD

(248) 355-7515

Mercury

GRAND MARQUIS LS 2006, 3 o choose, from \$15,998 AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515 MONTEGO 2005 4 dr., fully loaded, black, \$13,888. North Bros. Linc-Merc

SABLE LS 2005 4 dr., 7,852 miles, leather, low miles, low price, \$12,395. North Bros. Linc-Merc (248) 283-6377 SABLE LS 2002, tan, tan

North Bros. Linc-Merc

(248) 283-6377

leather, 44K, \$8,995.

(248) 283-6377

Mitsubishi ECLIPSE GS 2003, \$8,998.

(248) 355-7515 8640 Oldsmobile

ALERO GLS 2004 Coupe,

leather, moon, 40K, loaded like new, \$11,980. Saturn of Plymouth (734) 453-7890

AZTEK 2002, gold, save, air,

auto, only \$5,995. **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** (734) 453-2500 BONNEVILLE SLE 2001, auto. air. silver. \$6.995. **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac**

(734) 453-2500 BONNEVILLE SLE 2004, black, power moon, leather, chromes, \$12,995. **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** (734) 453-2500

BONNEVILLE SLE 2004 leather, moon, loaded, like new, 1 owner, 42K, \$15,930. Saturn of Plymouth (734) 453-7890

G-6 2005 Sedan, V-6, red, XM radio, alloys, special, \$13,892. Red Holman_ (734) 721-1144

G-6 2006 4 dr., V-6, silver power options, alloys, hurry 14.997 Red Holman_

(734) 721-1144 G6 2006 4 dr., loaded w/equipment, 2 to choose. **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** (734) 453-2500 GRAND AM GT 1998 Coupe black, \$4,195

Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500 GRAND AM GT 1998, auto, air, green, \$3,895 **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac**

(734) 453-2500

GRAND AM SE 2004 4 dr., sharp, Certified, **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** (734) 453-2500 GRAND PRIX GT2 2004,

white, leather, power moon Certified, \$11,495. **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** (734) 453-2500 GRAND PRIX GT 2004, white, auto, air, Certified, \$12,495. **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac**

(734) 453-2500 GRAND PRIX GT 2004, red. one owner, \$12,995, **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** (734) 453-2500 GRAND PRIX COUPE 1997

Bob Jeannotte Pontiac

(734) 453-2500

Pontiac

GRAND AM SE 2003,

V-6, silver, \$9,900.

Lou LaRiche Chevrolet

888-372-9836

GPAND AM 2005, 23K, fully

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power, \$6,980. Stk 6T6577B NORTH BROTHERS FORD

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GRAND AM SE1 2003 4 dr.

miles, GM Certified, \$9,998.

RedHolman

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GRAND PRIX 2006 (4) low

734-525-0900

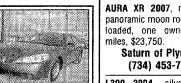
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miles. GT. From \$15,950. JOHN ROGIN BUICK

red, sunroof, alloys,



L300 2004, silver, power options, 33K, reduced to \$11,795.

(734) 721-1144 leather, only 48K one owner

miles, \$8,450. Saturn of Plymouth (734) 453-7890

SATURN ION 2004 30,000 miles, Immaculate

GRAND AM GT 2002, moonroof, fully loaded, \$9,960. Stk 8720 Toyota GRAND AM SE 2002, full

tires, \$13,640. Saturn of Plymouth (734) 453-7890

PRIUS HYBRID 2004- 4 dr.,

22,500 miles, silver, exc. cond exc. mileage, \$18,500/ firm 248-680-1607

GRAND PRIX GT 2003, red Volkswagen sunroof 35K, full power, only \$13,961 BEETLE GLS 2001, \$8,998.

GRAND PRIX GT2 2004, gray, sunroof, leather, H.U.D., 22K, spotless! \$15,623. JOHN ROGIN BUICK



Convertible, 4,000 miles midnight blue, \$24,900. Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836 SUNFIRE 2005, white, 26K

sharp! Certified, \$9,995

SOLSTICE 2006

Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500 VIBE 2005, charcoal, 28K, air, certified, \$12,995. **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac**

(734) 453-2500 VIBE 2006, auto, 28K, factory warranty, one owner, extra clean, \$13,970. Saturn of Plymouth (734) 453-7890

VIBE 2004, auto, 34K, one owner, \$12,970. Saturn of Plymouth (734) 453-7890

AURA XR 2007, navy blue, panoramic moon roof, leather loaded, one owner, 7,318

Saturn of Plymouth (734) 453-7890

Red Holman LW2 WAGON 2000. V-6.

\$8500 TYME (734) 455-5566

CAMRY LE 2003, V-6, alloy wheels, one owner, 52K, new

COROLLA LE 2006- silver, very clean w/added side & rear airbags. Loaded, 6-CD \$15,200. 205-914-4026

AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515 BEETLE GLS 2002, double yellow, leather, sunroof, auto, \$12,950.

734-525-0900 Autos Under \$2000

done). Original color - gray, \$800. 313-534-8097 FORD TEMPO 1993 GL 2 door, 4 cyl, auto, nice & clean, \$1900. 586-489-2980 **SATURN SL 1994**, 123K miles, 5 speed manual, gold w/ tan int. Tinted win, a/c. Sharp, reli-

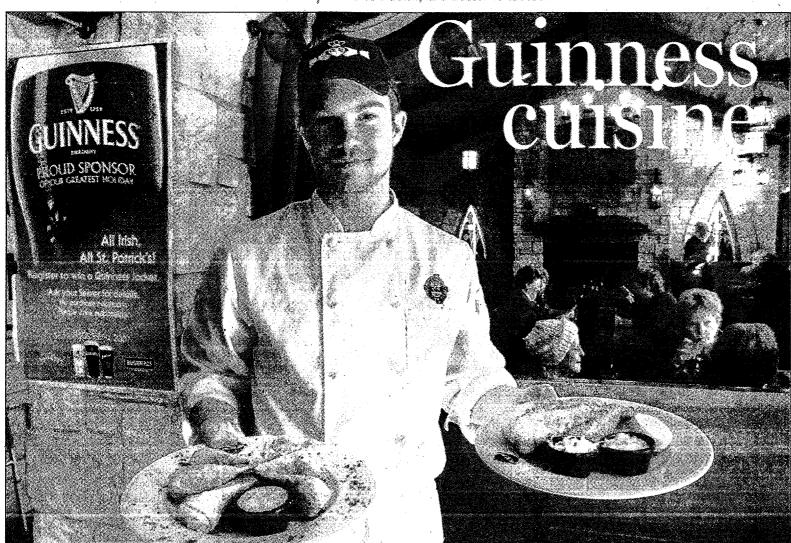
able car. \$1550, 248-974-7443

it's



1-800-579-SELI www.hometownlife.com Mary Klemic, editor . (248) 901.2569 . mklemic@hometownlife.com

"The closer you are to Dublin, the better it tastes."



Claddagh executive chef A.J. Kershaw presents two favorites; corned beef and cabbage egg rolls and one-half order of fish and chips, known as "Heir To The Throne". Kershaw is a resident of Livonia.

Add some luck o' the Irish to your dish



The Claddagh Irish Pub in Livonia uses a dash of Guinness (or a shot of Irish Whiskey) to perk up many traditional Irish recipes.

BY WENSDY VON BUSKIRK

Does Guinness Stout taste better the closer you get to Ireland? The world may never know. One thing is for certain, though: Guinness tastes delicious in food.

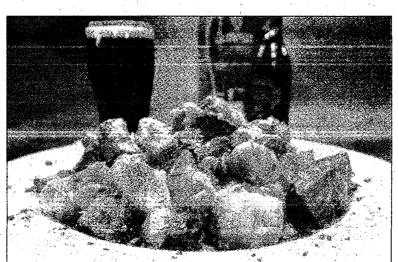
In honor of St. Patrick's Day, why not plan a menu of Irish comfort foods punched up with

a little holiday spirit?
The Claddagh in Livonia is busy preparing huge batches of Irish Beef and Guinness Stew to feed the hungry masses on St. Patrick's Day. General Manager Michael Hrynewick expects 6,000-7,000 revelers this

Saturday, March 17. Claddagh Chef A.J. Kershaw said the secret to a good Guinness stew is in the sauté.

Although he wouldn't divulge the restaurant's secret recipe, Kershaw described the cooking process: He sautés onion, carrot, rutabaga and seasonings with garlic and clarified butter. Once he gets a good caramelization at the bottom of the pan, he pours in some Guinness to loosen things up.

How much Guinness?



ine ciaddagn's irish beet and Guinness Stew is a favorite.

"Put half the bottle in the stew and drink the other half," Hrynewick piped in. "As long as you're cooking and drinking at the same time, that's what makes it Irish."

The Claddagh also serves Chicken Tenders with a Guinness Honey Mustard dipping sauce, and for dessert, a Guinness chocolate sauce.

Guinness has a devoted legion of fans, some of whom have elevated cooking with Guinness to

In honor of St. Patty's Day, we dug up some Guinness recipes from Karott Productions, a site

that celebrates Irish culture. Karott.com provides an extensive Guinness recipe page, which weighs in on the age-old question:

"The closer you are to Dublin, the better it tastes."

PLEASE SEE GUINNESS. D3

The Great American Meatout expands

BY LANA MINI STAFF WRITER

Organizers of The Great American Meatout in Ferndale on Sunday, March 18 are listing dozens of reasons to adopt plantbased diets.

Eliminating meat lets us expand our daily menu choices — trying

new and exotic vegetables and grains rather preparing than the same meat and potato dishes, they said. It's healthier too, as Dr. Joel Kahn, of Beaumont Hospital's Cardiac Rehab Medical Ĉenter will explain at the event.

Vegetarian meals do not include fish or chicken, Jim Cocoran, of Troy, co-founder of VegMichigan, a

nonprofit social group explained. Vegan meals do not include any animal products such as gelatin or

But is it easy and tasty? Cocoran, said yes. Plant-based meals can be gourmet, comforting or fast food-like. And he will

demonstrate recipes at the event. The Great American Meatout is

from noon to 5 p.m. at Ferndale High School, 881 Pinecrest, south of Nine Mile Road and west of Woodward. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for students free to kids under six. It's presented by the Medicine Cabinet Pharmacy, the social group VegMichigan and

PLEASE SEE MEATOUT, D3

Holiday heritage: Hoist a pint for St. Patrick's Day

t's hard to believe that in only 48 hours we'll be celebrating St. Patrick's Day. Why, it seems like only yesterday I was unpacking my green and yellow suspenders with the big 'Kiss Me I'm Irish' button.

With this year's 'holiday' falling on a Saturday the ranks of the instantly Irish will swell geometrically. Let's face



Dick Purtan

Patrick's Day. We all know the original celebration was in honor of the good St. Patrick who drove all the snakes

it, the term 'holiday'

should be used

loosely when

describing St.

out of Ireland (after which everyone retired to the local pub for a pint of thanks.) And, of course, it is common knowledge that Irish immigrants in Boston began

OFF THE AIR WITH DICK PURTAN AND PURTAN'S PEOPLE

celebrating St. Patrick's Day in 1737 (likely by retiring to the local pub for

Over the years all this celebrating has morphed into a world wide gala highlighted by the traditional wearing of the green (and a trip to the local pub to hoist a pint).

Do I detect a pattern here? What began as the recognition of a religious event and evolved into a political statement of national heritage has – essentially – become an excuse to party (not that there is any-

thing wrong with that). Fortunately, this year's holiday falls on a true day off so the recovery time is, well, covered. And, we are not required to scour our closets for workplace appropriate green attire (fashion hint: leave the yellow and green suspenders for the pub crawl,

not the office). I realize I am walking a thin line here. After recently completing diversity training I know it is politically incorrect and stereotypically un-cool to classify groups of people under one banner. Though St. Patrick's Day is officially sponsored by Guinness and this feast day is less about solids and more about liquids - this does not mean the Irish are all about drinking. After all, there are 364 other days when the Irish (and the Irish wannabees) can retire to the local pub to hoist a pint for no reason at

So, before I get into too much trouble I'll take the safe road home and leave you with this Irish joke:

An Englishman, a Welshman and an Irishman were at the fair and

about to go on the helter-skelter when an old crone steps in front of them.

"This is a magic ride," she says. "You will land in whatever you shout out on the way down."
"I'm game for this," says the

Welshman and slides down the helter-skelter shouting "GOLD!" at the top of his voice. Sure enough, when he hit the bottom he found himself surrounded by thousands of pounds worth of gold coins.

The Englishman goes next and shouts "SILVER!" at the top of his voice. At the bottom he lands in more silver coinage than he can carry.

The Irishman goes last and, launching himself from the top of the slide shouts "WEEEEEE!"

Join Dick Purtan tomorrow as he celebrates St. Patrick's Day with a live broadcast from Moran Chevrolet in Clinton Township. If you can't make it be sure to listen 6-10AM on The Motor City's 104.3 WOMC.

www.hometownlife.com

Windows Vista's parental controls enable you to monitor your kids' activities and keep them from visiting inappropriate Web sites.

New tools help protect kids from unsuitable Web sites

s you probably know, the Web has a seriously seamy underbelly, a vast red-light district that's simply unsuitable for chil-

Unfortunately, unless you take steps, your kids are almost guaranteed to encounter it - either intentionally or by accident. (I'll leave it to you to decide which is worse.) Short of pulling the plug on the cable

modem, what's a concerned parent to do? Thankfully, there are

numerous options at your disposal. For instance, try book-marking a kid-friendly

search engine like Quintura (kids.quintura.com).

Tech

Rick

Broida

Savvy

This site employs a simplified, point-and-click method of conducting Web searches. Search for music, for instance, and related topics (such as jazz,

dance, and instrument) appear in a "cloud" surrounding the original search term. Click any of those results to narrow the search.

Although Quintura doesn't expressly promise protection from inappropriate material, it's powered by Yahoo Kids, so all search results should be G-rated.

Next, consider upgrading to Windows Vista. In addition to improved security features that can keep inappropriate material from sneaking onto your PC, Vista offers fairly robust parental controls.

You can create individual user accounts for each child, then enable filtering tools that promise to keep them from viewing objectionable sites.

What's more, Vista lets you specify which hours of the day kids are allowed to log onto the computer. You can also control access to certain games and block specific programs from running.

Vista even has activity reports so you can see what programs and sites the kids have been using.

Mac users can leverage similar controls; find out more at this Apple site:

http://tinyurl.com/crfo4. Another option, this one for all Windows users, is K9 Web Protection (k9webprotection.com). This Web-filtering software promises to block more than 55 categories of undesirable content, from hate speech to

gambling to pornography. K9 is currently available for Windows; a Mac version is due to be released this year. The company also plans to add chat-room

and instant-message filtering. I highly recommend perusing the K9 FAQ page, which answers a lot of common questions and explains more about the soft-

ware's capabilities. I saved the best part for last: K9 is free. Of course, no software program is completely infallible. For more serious protection, consider a new service called ScrubIT

(scrubit.com).

It works like this: You tweak your network router (or your PC, if you don't have a router) to access the Web via ScrubIT's servers instead of your Internet service provider's. And those servers block inappropriate and malicious sites.

There's no software to learn or permissions to set; ScrubIT does all the heavy lift-

The downside, of course, is that you have no control over what gets blocked (though a customizable version of the service is in the works). But for parents who want fast, effective, easy-to-deploy protection, ScrubIT is a solid solution. Again, I saved the best part for last: It's free.

If you've discovered another method of protecting your kids from the Web's wicked side, let me hear about it. Send me an email so I can share your solution with other concerned parents.

Rick Broida writes about computers and technology for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Broida, of Commerce Township, is the co-author of numerous books. He welcomes questions sent to rick.broida@amail.com.

Wiring is important part of home remodel

an of Whitmore Lake asks: "My wife and I are in the process of renovating our kitchen and family room. Since



Design **Solutions**

Guastella

lighting in these rooms. Do you have any suggestions or things we should consider while doing this?

This is the perfect time to update your lighting needs. Go through each room and assess

your needs and the overall look you want to achieve once the construction is complete. You will have unfettered access to the wiring and outlets. Before adding additional outlets or light fixtures to any room, check with a qualified electrician to make sure your house service can handle the extra load.

Let's start in the kitchen. If you are putting in an island, install an outlet on each side of it. These outlets are extremely convenient to have for plugging in a blender or mixer, as well as warming dishes and crock pots for entertaining.

Consider your ambient lighting. Ambient lighting refers to the general lighting that illuminates the majority of the room. In the work area of the kitchen, you might want to have a single ceiling fixture with recessed

lighting around the perimeter areas. You could, instead, select a decorative island light or pendants hanging over the island, along with the recessed lighting. Pendants are nice additions over a snack bar, too.

Over the kitchen table, you will likely want a chandelier. Many times, the builders will center this fixture in the room. Once you move in, you realize that the kitchen table cannot be centered under this fixture. Now is the time to correct this. Figure out exactly where you keep your kitchen table and adjust the kitchen chandelier placement accordingly over the center of the table. The bottom of the chandelier should hang about 32-35 inches over the table. You will want the fixture high enough to not interfere with viewing fellow diners, but low enough to add

warmth and intimacy to the dining area. I encourage you to add dimmer switches wherever possible to maximize lighting flexibili-

Next, take a look at task lighting in the kitchen. Use under cabinet lighting to light up your kitchen counters. There are a myriad of choices out there for under cabinet lighting. You can use puck lights, rope lighting, or fluorescent. A visit to your local home store or lighting store will show you all of the available options.

For the family room, look at your furniture layout first. Are you happy with the placement of the television? Would you like to add a computer cable outlet in this room? Have you always wanted a ceiling fan in the center? These are personal questions that you and your wife need to

discuss. I always recommend that you put the television cable outlets on a couple different walls for flexibility in furniture place-

Bear in mind that most local electrical codes require an outlet every 12 feet around a room, except in kitchens and bathrooms. This is usually adequate in a bedroom, but it is rarely enough for a family room. Add more outlets, especially where you know the television and stereo will be set up. If you have a large family room where your furniture floats in the room, consider placing a floor outlet in an inconspicuous location for a table

lamp. Lastly, you will need to look at the ambient lighting in the family room. There are many choices out there. Recessed lights, wall sconces, chandeliers (depending on the size of the room and the ceiling height), and ceiling fans with or without lighting.

Start at a lighting store and ask questions. A good lighting store will have a lighting designer on hand with whom you can make an appointment and bring in your room layout to discuss your lighting options. Take your time and evaluate your needs before jumping into this project head first and then regretting your lack of planning. You have a wonderful opportunity to address all of your lighting needs.

Terri Guastella, an interior designer and . a Canton resident, specializes in space planning, design and color consultation. Do you have a question about interior design or decorating your home? Contact Terri Guastella with your guestions at:

www.exclusiveinteriordesign.com.

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Don't Worry About It. It's Always Our Turn

Art Van stores invite quests to bring the kids to meet the Easter Bunny from 1-3 p.m. at the following days and locations: March 17 at 8300 N. Wayne Road, Westland; March 24 at 22555 Greenfield Road, Southfield; and April 7 at 29905 7 Mile Road, Livonia.

Backyard, Pool & Spa Show

The 12th annual Novi Backyard, Pool & Spa Show will be held March 23-25, at the Rock Financial Showplace, on Grand River Ave., one mile west of Novi Road, in Novi.

The focus is on home relaxation, fun and recreation, including swimming pools, spas and outdoor entertaining. Transform your outdoor living space. Visit www.showspan.com for more

information. Decorative pillows

Haberman Fabrics, 905 S. Main in Royal Oak, offers a variety of home decor classes for different sewing skill levels.

Call (248) 541-0010, e-mail ContactUs@HabermanFabrics.com or visit www.HabermanFabrics.com. Beginner Pillow (10:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Tuesdays, through March 20; cost is \$60), beginning sewers will learn the basics while making two decorative square or rectangular pillows. Many of

HOME CALENDAR

the techniques taught here will apply to future home decorating classes. Basic Roman Shade (5:45-8:45 p.m. Mondays, through March 19; cost is \$60) students will learn how to construct a working Roman Shade 50 inches in width.

Simple Curtain (5:45-8:45 p.m. Thursdays, March 22 to April 5; cost is \$60), beginning sewers learn how to dress up a room with a simple rodpocket window treatment to use alone, with blinds or shades. Chair Recovery (12:30-4:30 p.m. » Sunday, March 25; cost is \$30) fearn how to select fabric, dismantle, re-pad and re-cover dining room chair seats,

without sewing. Parade of Homes

Parade of Homes, the 18th annual exhibition of new model homes in southeastern Michigan, will begin on March 16 and will run through August 1. Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) and LaSalle Bank are sponsors of this public event.

It offers potential homebuyers am opportunity to visit models, from condominiums and single-family homes to homes in gated communities and lakeside villas. The 58 homes included range in price from \$97,400 to \$1.4

million.

For more information, call (248) 862-1032 or visit www.builders.org. The Parade of Homes Web site, www.BIAparadeofhomes.com, will go

live on March 16. Remodeling 101

Anyone remodeling or redecorating their space is welcome to attend Remodeling 101, held 5-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 24, at the Michigan Design Center, 1700 Stutz Drive in Troy. In addition to an open house, visitors may browse the showrooms at MDC, listen to a variety of lectures by local design experts, and take part in a complimentary design consultation. Tickets cost \$40 per person, or \$60 per couple, and include one copy of the book Spectacular Homes of Michigan, which showcases Michigan's finest designers and their most exciting projects.

Register in advance, by visiting michigandesign.com, or call (248) 649-4772.

Send calendar items at least two weeks ahead of the event to Ken Abramczyk, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple. Birmingham 48009, e-mail kabramczvk@hometownlife.com, fax (734) 591-7279 or (248) 644-1314.

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- **EXHIBITOR LISTING** on the center spread of Mature Lifestyle section and newspaper promotion of the event during April and May, 2007.
- FOOD: Continental breakfast plus two boxed lunches for exhibitors.

For more information about this popular Expo and to reserve your exhibit space, contact: Frank Cibor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers Classified Manager 734-953-2176 or fcibor@hometownlife.com



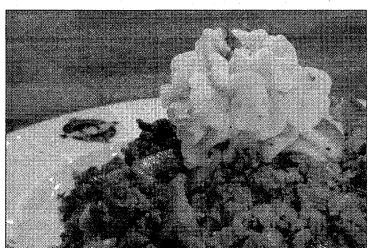
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Shepherd's Pie is a traditional favorite at The Claddagh.

FROM PAGE D1

IRISH RAREBIT

- 2 tablespoons butter 2 tablespoons flour 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- 1 teaspoon honey ½ cup milk
- ½ cup Guinness Extra Stout 1 c. Cheddar cheese, grated
- Salt and pepper

Melt the butter in a heavy pan, and stir in flour to make a roux. Cook on a low heat for a further minute without allowing it to brown. Remove pan from heat and gradually beat the milk into the roux. Return to heat and stir until the mixture thickens. Stir in mustard and honey and finally the Guinness. Cook this mixture fairly rapidly for 2-3 minutes then add grated cheese and stir over very low heat only until all the cheese has melted. Spread thickly on four slices of toast and brown under the grill.

GUINNESS CORNED BEEF

4 pounds corned beef brisket 1 cup brown sugar 1 (12 fluid ounce) can or bottle **Guinness Extra Stout**

Preheat oven to 300 degrees F. Rinse the beef completely and pat dry. Place the brisket on rack in a roasting pan or Dutch oven. Rub the brown sugar on the corned beef to coat entire beef, including the bottom. Pour the bottle of stout beer around. and gently over the beef to wet the sugar. Cover, and place in preheated oven. Bake for 21/2 hours. Allow to rest 5 minutes

before slicing. During the last hour, you may put vegetables in the roasting pan as well. Try a wedge of cabbage, new potatoes, onion, carrots, etc. You may need to add a little more beer with your veg-

IRISH BEEF STEW WITH GUINNESS STOUT

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 3 bay leaves 2 pounds beef stew meat, cut
- into 1-1/2 inch to 2 inch cubes (with some fat)
- 1 large yellow onion, peeled and cut into ¼ inch slices
- 2 cloves garlic, peeled and chopped
- 1 teaspoons dried thyme, whole 1 teaspoons dried rosemary
- 2-3 tablespoons all-purpose flour

3/4 cup beef stock

½ cup Guinness Extra Stout 1 tablespoon chopped parsley ½ pound carrots, sliced salt & freshly ground black pepper to taste

Heat a 6-quart stove-top casserole and add the oil and the bay leaves. Cook the bay leaves for a moment and then add the meat.

Brown the meat on both sides on high heat. Add the sliced onion and cook for a few minutes until it is clear. Reduce the heat to low and add the garlic, thyme, rosemary and flour, and stir well until smooth.

Add the beef stock and stout; simmer, stirring, until the stew thickens a bit. Add the remaining ingredients and cover.

Place the pot in a 275 Fahrenheit oven for about 2 hours, stirring a couple of times. Check for salt and pepper before serving.

Serves 4-6

CHOCOLATE GUINNESS CAKE

¼ cup cocoa powder (to dust the baking pans) 2 sticks butter 1 cup Guinness Extra Stout ²/₃ cup Dutch process dark cocoa powder 1 teaspoon salt

2 cups unbleached flour 2 cups sugar 11/4 teaspoon baking soda, sifted 2 large eggs ½ cup sour cream

chocolate frosting

Heat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. Lightly dust two greased 8 inch springform pans with cocoa powder. In a heavy saucepan or microwave oven, heat butter, beer and cocoa powder until butter melts. Let cool. Sift dry ingredients together. Add the beer-cocoa mixture, and beat thoroughly for 1 minute on medium speed. Add the eggs and sour cream and beat 2 minutes on medium speed. Pour batter into prepared pans and bake for 25 to 30 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into the middle comes out

Place pans on a wire rack, cool for 10 minutes, remove the sides, and cool completely. Use a long serrated knife to even the tops of the cakes. Using a flexible spatula, spread each layer with a thin coating of chocolate frosting, stack, and cover the sides with frosting.

Source: All recipes courtesy of www.karott.com.

ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION (E.D.)

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Also Featuring:

A quick fix for damp circuit problems

recently got a question from one of our readers, Mike H. His question dealt with why, after a heavy rain, his outdoor outlets and some indoor outlets would stop working. He said that his master bath has a GFI (Ground

Fault Interrupter) outlet. He assumed that something was getting wet that shouldn't, and that was causing the

Ask Dad

Harry Jachym

do about this.

GFI to trip. It could not be reset for sometime afterward. He further asked

what he could

Mike, that is one great question. In fact I have been asked this before so it is a good to talk about now.

First, what is a GFI (also referred to as a GFCI)? In the United States our electricity is 60-cycle alternating current. This, in simple terms, means

that the electrons flow back and forth through the wires 60 times every second. A GFI is an electric outlet with electronic circuitry that senses the alternating electric current flow through the "hot" (the narrow slot on the outlet) wire and the "neutral" (the wide slot on the outlet) wire.

This flow should be the same in both directions. If an imbalance of more than .005 amps occurs the GFI outlet is "tripped," shutting off the electrical flow. This imbalance usually occurs when the electricity flows from the appliance through a person to the ground but can happen in other situation. Keep in mind that .005 amps are slightly below that which can disrupt a normal heartbeat.

Electric codes require that outlets servicing bathrooms, exterior outlets, garages, unfinished basements and several other locations be GFI. It is possible to have one GFI service several other outlets that are "downstream" from the GFI. This is the case in Mike's home as well as many other

homes. The GFI located in the bathroom also services the exterior and other outlets.

Mike correctly diagnosed what was happening in his home. During heavy rains one of the exterior outlets is getting damp. This moisture is causing just enough imbalance in the electron flow to trip the GFI, which is supposed to happen. This, in turn, shuts off all the outlets on that branch circuit. It is not possible to reset the GFI until the moisture has sufficiently dried.

What I suggested to Mike was that often the moisture gets into an exterior outlet because the gasket around a weatherproof outlet cover has deteriorated. You may be able to find a new gasket at an electric specialty shop but in all likelihood you will probably find it easier to replace the cover with a new one.

If the outlet is exposed to direct rain (not under an awning or other cover), I would suggest a domed weatherproof cover. These are made from either plastic or metal and will help shed moisture

from the outlet. They also allow you to have a cord plugged in the outlet, keeping it dry in any weather condi-

These covers are readily available at home improvement and hardware stores. If the outlet cover is mounted on an uneven surface such as a brick wall, I suggest putting silicone caulk on the top and side (not the bottom) of the outlet cover before installing it to help seal the rain out. Leaving the bottom open will allow the any moisture that does get into the outlet to quickly "bleed" out.

Good luck Mike. Thanks for the question and thanks for reading Ask Dad. Let me know how things work out for you.

Harry Jachym writes Ask Dad, a column on home issues ranging from repairs and maintenance to building and remodeling projects. He is a Plymouth resident. Send any questions or comments to Jachym at askdad@ comcast.net or in care of Ken Abramczyk, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009.

FROM PAGE D1

Natural Awakenings maga-

Lectures, cooking demonstrations (including some by children), videos, exhibitors, literature and more are part of the event. It's geared toward everyone: the committed vegan who consumes no animal products whatsoever; those concerned about the environment and animals and the novice who is simply interested in eating healthier.

Plant-based diets are hip. Celebrities who are going vegan range from actors Joaquin Phoenix, Bill Maher and Mary Tyler Moore; to athletes like Olympic runner Carl Lewis; and tri-athlete Brendan Brazier.

Speaking at the event are a dozen experts including:

- Fitness and nutrition consultant Kerrie Saunders, Ph.D. ■ Caroline Trapp, director abetes educati for the Physicians Committee
- for Responsible Medicine ■ VegMichigan co-founder
- Jim Cocoran ■ Eileen Albrech, "mom on a mission" for better health for children

Restaurants offering food samplings include: Atom's Java and Juice and Moo Moo's Organic Bistro in Grosse Pointe Park; Golden Gate Cafe, Detroit; Sugar Kisses and Inn Season Café, Royal Oak: A Taste of Ethiopia, Southfield; Udipi Indian Restaurant, Farmington Hills; Om Cafe and Xhedo's Café,

Ferndale and more.

Food demonstrations include how to make Mexican pizza; chick pea and black bean salad with kale and corn sauté; spicy black beans and tomatoes, served over quinoa; tempeh burgers; green smoothies; raw pesto salad; chocolate treats and kids making children's meals.

Now in its 23rd year, the Great American Meatout has become the world's largest grassroots diet education campaign as a response to information that Cocoran tackles in his lectures:

■ The recent announcement by the UN that global warming is caused significantly by animal factory farming that releases greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

Animal products are associated with heart disease, stroke, cancer and other chronic diseases that kill 1.3 million Americans annually, said Dr. Michael Greger who will speak about diet and can cer prevention.

■ U.S.. Dietary Guidelines recommend more consumption of fruits, vegetables and whole grains, and less consumption of saturated fats, cholesterol and trans-fatty acids.

■ Vegetarian interest is increasing, especially among youths. Fast-food and other restaurants are offering healthier menu options, such as Burger King's veggie burg-For details visit www.veg-

michigan.org or call toll-free (877) 778-3464.

FAST VEGAN SLOPPY JOES

You can use the meat substitute and a can of 15 ounce Heinz sloppy Joe, or for a different flavor try this

1 green pepper chopped 1 large onion, chopped 24 ounces (two bags) of frozen meatless burger substitute such as Morningstar Veggie Crumbles found in the frozen food section of major supermarkets

1 teaspoon dry mustard ½ cup ketchup 115 ounce. can tomato sauce French or thousand island dress-

Sauté the onions and peppers in a large saucepan with one tablespoon extra virgin olive oil. Add the frozen crumbles and sauté for about 10 minutes until thoroughly heated. Add remaining ingredients. Simmer until thick, about 15 minutes. Serve on whole wheat hamburger buns and add Thousand Island or French dressing to taste.

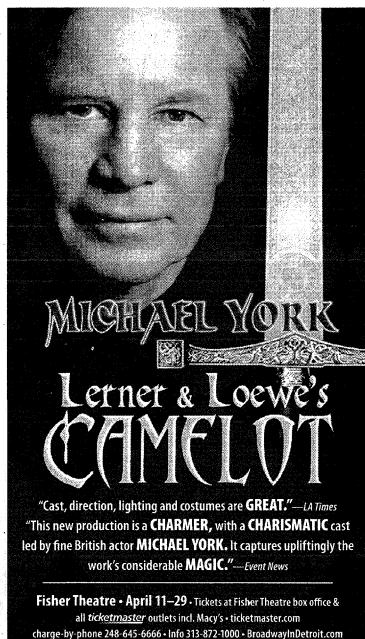
BLACKBERRY JAM BARS

3/4 cup self-rising flour 3/4 cup rolled oats ½ cup brown sugar or Sucanat 3 tablespoons softened nonhydrogenated margarine

1 jar of blackberry (or strawberry) jam with seeds Preheat oven to 375 degrees.

Mix flour and oats together. Stir in sugar. Fold in the margarine until the mixture becomes crumbly and lay two-thirds of it on an eight-inch square pan. Spread with a layer of jam, not too thick. Top with the remaining crumbs. Bake 25-30 minutes. Cool before cutting.

www.veganexpress.com



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The Pink Ceiling

Apprentice star says alpha females got her fired

By Wensdy Von Buskirk

renn Hoffman attributes her recent loss on The Apprentice: Los Angeles to "the pink ceiling."

The 26-year-old publicist from Phoenix was the 8th contestant Donald Trump fired from his hit reality show this season. As soon as she was sent packing, Hoffman began speaking out against the female team dynamics she believes ultimately led to her firing, and the firing of every woman on the show so far.

"Instead of the old boy's club there's a new girl's club, and the challenge is sort of crashing through the pink ceiling," she said.

Hoffman said she coined the phrase "the pink ceiling" to describe when women conspire against each other in the workforce, and she is putting together a speaking tour to address the issue. Hoffman has a master's degree in business and a bachelor's in communication and sociology with an emphasis in gender and family studies.

She also has plenty of experience working in a female-dominated field. There's only one male employee at the PR company where she works, and the owner created a virtual office to minimize problems inherent with an all-women workforce, Hoffman said.

"We work from home, because there was so much drama and water cooler conflict," Hoffman said. "When you work with a lot of women, they are very critical and there's a lot of time lost because they're too busy talking about what you are wearing, whether you gained weight or have chipped nail polish — petty, jealousy-oriented things unique to females.

Hoffman's team on The Apprentice, made up of women and one self-professed gay man, mirrored her situation at work.



and she began to draw parallels. The women on the show formed a clique, Hoffman said, and if you weren't 'in' you were defi-

nitely 'out.' "In all fairness, I can't say I didn't go along with it," she said. "It was just a bunch of women sitting

Hoffman around and deciding who to attack. I'm guilty of being a part of it and I got what I deserved." Of course, The Apprentice is just a show,

and in the world of reality television, conflict is condoned. But Hoffman said she sees that mentality permeating the everyday workplace.

"People are mistaking real life for reality shows, and emulating these highly heightened situations in order to be successful at work," she said. "In reality, most situations are much less desperate.

Hoffman said playground politics, where grade-school girls ostracize others, are finding their way into the workforce.

"Many women are not like this, but those who stray are seen as being anti-social, too rigid, not playing the game, not part of the slumber party," Hoffman said,

Hoffman said she isn't bitter about her departure from The Apprentice and ultimately respects all her teammates on the show. She's leaving it up to "The Donald" to weed out over-aggressive alpha females.

"On his TV show he encourages bad behavior because it gets him good ratings," she said. "In the end he really does want to hire someone from the show, and ultimately will not hire someone who participates in this kind of behavior."

May the best woman win.

The Apprentice Los Angeles airs Sundays at 10 p.m. on NBC. Visit www.nbc.com.

Playground Politics

What's a grown-up girl to do if she sees 'pink' ceiling' problems cropping up at the office? Apprentice alumna Jenn Hoffman offers tips:

Play with the Team

"I always encourage girls to be involved in team sports, and women to remember back to them," Hoffman said. She cited Angela, The Apprentice contestant who is a former Olympic hockey player, as being a positive force. "She is a level-headed person, better able to deal with a team climate than a sorority climate."

Confront the Situation

If you see these dynamics at work, don't suffer them in silence. Address problems in a nonconfrontational way. "Just say, 'this is a professional workplace and personal feelings don't really have a place here'."

Involve Management

Go to human resources and alert them of the situation without making it personal. "Don't tell on anyone specifically. It is very difficult to pinpoint and have actual proof. But just let them know that the corporate culture shouldn't be supporting those sorority tactics," Hoffman said. If you are a manager, police the office, and judge people on performance, not personality.

Abstain from Alliances

Remove yourself from cliques at work, or drop high-maintenance clients. The more independent you are, the less likely you are to regress to grade school tactics, Hoffman said. "Be part of the solution not the problem."

Wear It! Green for St. Patrick's Day

DON'T Wear It!

Visible panty lines (VPL)

Kick It! Cork soles

See It!

Premonition

DVD It!

Borat

Tote It!

Lacoste Sport Retro Roll Bag

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Smell It!

Bill Blass the Fragrance, exclusive to Saks Fifth Avenue

indulge it!

BlackBerry Balm hand massage at Tamara Spa + Wellness, **Farmington Hills**

Eat It!

Doyle's Chipper — Guinness battered fish n' chips at Dick O'Dow's, Birmingham

D Drink It:

Green Tea Martinis

Read It!

Mortified:Real Words. Real People. RealPathetic by

David Nadelberg



Click It!

www.CurrentCodes.com — secret savings codes for online shopping

Breast Intentions

A Women's Image will host "Breast Intentions," a unique fund raiser for women facing breast cancer, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday March 16. The free event will feature appetizers and cooking demonstrations, shopping, mini-facials and makeup applications, Experts will be on hand to help women choose post-surgery bras and wigs. Proceeds benefit The Pink Fund and One of Us Films. A Woman's Image is located at 43273 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. Call (586) 286-1277 or visit www.awomansimage.net.

Free Tea Seminars

The American Cancer Society Discovery Shop will host tea seminars every Friday afternoon at 3 p.m., beginning with "The Properties of Tea," on March 16 presented by Kristin Sanders, R.N. Learn about tea culture over a cup of hot tea. Donations relating to the tea experience such as cups, pots, linens, diffusers and table top décor are encouraged. The ACS Discovery Shop is located at 685 S. Adams in Birmingham. Call (248) 647-7467.

Call to Wholeness

The Womencenter at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills will present "A Call to Wholeness," its 15th annual conference for women, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, March 17. The event includes workshops, a continental breakfast, lunch and prize drawings. Workshops will focus on self-esteem, making change in your life, transitions, stress, financial

more. Registration is \$45. Call (248) 522-3642.

issues, organizing your home and

Burned Out?

If you're feeling overwhelmed, Dr. Carol Ann Fischer can help. Fischer will present the free workshop "Avoid Stress Burnout," 6 p.m. March 21 at Noble Library in Livonia. Learn what you can do to handle stress through diet, nutrition, exercise and lifestyle changes. Seating is limited. RSVP at (734) 425-8588.

Baby Showcase

Welcome new arrivals in style with tips from Lisa's Gift Wrappers in Royal Oak. The shop will host its first Baby Showcase March 22-24, featuring wrapping papers and specialty gifts. Lydia Moul of Houston will showcase her "Welcome Sweet Baby" and "How Grand!" lines of collectible and antique jewelry. Lisa's Gift Wrappers is located at 28834 Woodward Ave., Royal Oak. Call (248) 547-9094 or visit www.lisasgiftwrappers.com.

Creativity Contest

Whether it's knitting, sewing, cooking, writing, singing or painting, what you do outside your daily routine can make life that much more rewarding. Wheat Thins will recognize women who inspire others through their creativity by launching its first-ever "Wheat Thins Expressions" contest. Through April 16, women can enter for the chance to appear on special edition boxes of Wheat Thins. Five grand-prize winners will also receive \$5,000 and be honored at an event hosted by award-winning actress Bebe Neuwirth. Visit www.wheatthins.com.

Futurists ponder what's next for women once. Today's twentysomethings Do women really want it all? riage. As we become ever more **Peerents:** Parents are increas-

Not necessarily, according to futurists Marian Salzman and Ira Matathia.

"There are many new segments of women emerging today, largely because the definition of 'having it all' is changing. It is becoming self-defined rather than society-defined," says Salzman. "Women are accepting, even embracing their imperfec-"tions and limitations as they realize that trying to be everything to everyone all at once is both unrealistic and unnecessary in a postfeminist world."

In conjunction with their new book *Next Now*, the pair have pinpointed top trends affecting women in 2007:

She's the Boss: As traditionally male work such as manual labor shrinks, women will fill the need for more educated workers in growth sectors such as information technology. In the U.K., female millionaires will outnumber their male counterparts in just 20 years, and women will own nearly 60 percent of the country's wealth.

Arranged Marriages: Many Westerners respond with a strong cry against this idea, but consider ABC's popular primetime show The Bachelor. Each season a bachelor is selects a mate from prescreened partners essentially an arranged mar-

time-poor, watch as singles turn to their extended families and online services to make a match.

Atalantas: One of the most energized consumer groups today, these twentysomething single women are reveling in their "me" years, eagerly sampling life, love and leisure.

As with the coveted cohort of single males 18-34, the earning power and expendable income of Atalantas will rise with each passing year, making them an increasingly powerful demographic.

The Age Shuffle: Moms swap MP3 playlists with their daughters. Four of the five leading ladies on Desperate Housewives are over 40 but dress and behave a decade younger.

Meanwhile, twentysomethings are saving for mortgages and exploring retirement options. We are redefining "young" and "old," and hardly any of us are "acting our age."

Alpha Moms: The new face of motherhood: a well-informed, strong, decision-making multitasker who wields great personal and consumer power. The modern mom is confident and in control. There's an Alpha Mom cable channel, and NBC aired a pilot titled Alpha Mom for its 2006-07 season.

ingly treating their kids more like peers. "Peerents," a term coined by Schuyler Brown of Skyelab, work through issues with their children and share experiences candidly in a form of collaborative parenting.

Taking Back Tradition:

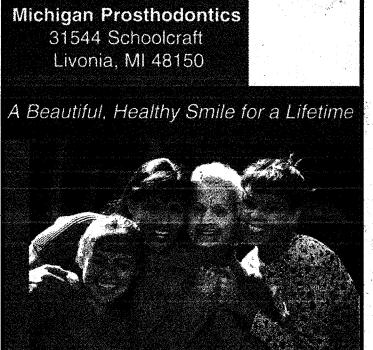
Instead of aspiring to "have it all," many young women are now hoping to become full-time mothers.

This new attitude, rather than a step back for feminism, is liberating because women no longer feel pressure to have the perfect

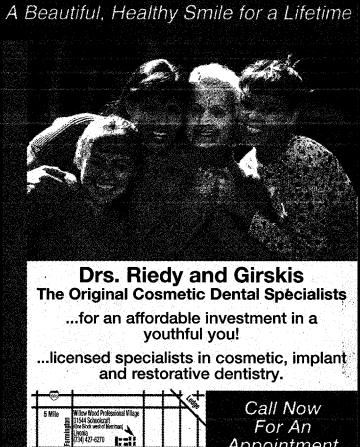
career, family, body and life all at

feel older women got duped into believing this was doable — and burned themselves out trying to achieve it.

Cougars: Demi Moore and Sadie Frost are both with men 16 years their junior. From Tinseltown to your town, experienced and independent "cougars" will redefine the May-December romance, showing their male equivalents they're not the only ones who may trend younger in relationships. For men, the attraction will lie in the emotional and financial maturity of older women.







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PURE ENTERTAINMENT!

Thursday, March 15, 2007

St. Patrick's Day celebrated
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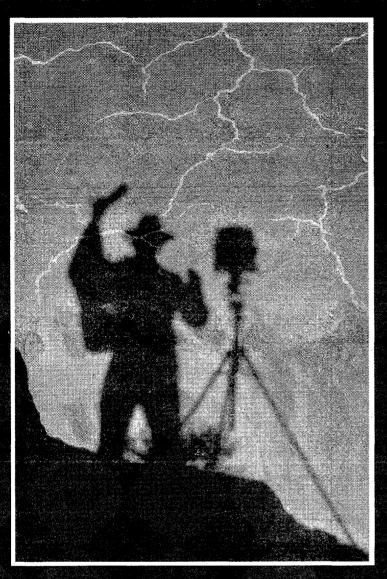
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Check out our expanded Get Out! calendar at www.hometownlife.com

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This exhibition was organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. In Detroit, the exhibition is sponsored by DTE Energy Foundation. Additional support has been provided by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the City of Detroit.

Ansel Adams, American; Self-Portrait, Monument Valley, Utah, 1958; gelatin silvel print. The Lane Collection. © 2007 The Ansel Adams Publishing Rights Trust.

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Cruisin' Gratiot hosts 'Idol' contest

Okay, so it's not *American Idol* tryouts, but you have to start someplace — and why not make that someplace the east-side?

The eastside's version of cruising Woodward, *Cruisin' Gratiot*, is entering its ninth year this summer. The fun kicks off with the *Cruisin' Gratiot Idol* competition, starting Wednesday, March 21.

Open auditions run every Wednesday through June 6.

Competition is from 7-10 p.m. Wednesdays for adults 18 and older at the popular Cloverleaf Restaurant Pizzeria on Gratiot Avenue, north of Nine Mile Road, in Eastpointe.

Auditions for youths in two categories, ages 6-12 and 13-17, begin on Saturday, March 24, and are held every Saturday from 2-5 p.m. also at the Cloverleaf.

Singers this year will raise their voice in the theme "singing for a cause" to benefit Champions for Life Kids Camp, an organization dedicated to sending foster children in the community to a one-week summer camp.

As in years past, *Cruisin' Gratiot* is a week-long event organized for car lovers and families.

First place for adults is \$2,000, second place is \$1,000.

For the kids, the top three semifinalists will proceed to the finals on Saturday, June 16.

The youth winner from the younger division will be awarded a \$250 gift card and the older division winner gets \$500

All hopefuls must be registered before competing.

Enter online.

A one-time suggested entry donation of \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids go toward the camp program.

Visit www.cruisin-gratiot.com or call (586) 552-1366.

Lana Mini



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For more stories and information on this weekend's events, visit the Filter Web site at www.hometownlife.com.

Observer & Eccentric

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ON THE COVER



Editorial office: (248) 901-2587 / Advertising: (734) 953-2153.



Kevin McKenzie's Swan Lake heads to Detroit with the American Ballet Theater.

'Swan Lake' dances into Detroit Opera House

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA STAFF WRITER

A classic tale set to Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky's timeless score, Swan Lake, returns to Detroit this weekend.

> 'Swan Lake, for whatever reason, has just endured," said Victor Barbee, associate artistic director for the American Ballet Theatre. "Swan Lake is what people associate with ballet. There's something comfortable about knowing what it is you're going to see."

In the story of Swan Lake, a beautiful princess named Odette has fallen under the spell of von Rothbart, a wicked sorcerer. She's been trans-

SWAN LAKE

Where: Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit Performances: 7:30 p.m. March 15, 8 p.m. March 16-17, 2 p.m. March 17-18. Angelina Ballerina will make an appearance from 12:30-2 p.m. before each matinee March 17-18. Tickets: \$28-\$100, call (313) 237-SING or visit www.michiganopera.org. Ballet class: A class for intermediate to advanced level ballet dancers will be taught by American Ballet Theatre at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 17. The class is free and open to the public. To register, send e-mail to dance@motopera.org.

formed into a swan. When Prince Siegfried learns of her fate, he sets out to break the evil spell. But von Rothbart has other plans. He tricks the prince into proposing marriage to his own daughter, Odile, who bears a striking resemblance to Odette. When Seigfried realizes all too late that he's been the victim of this scheme, he begs for Odette's forgiveness.

Together they leap into the lake to break von Rothbart's spell.

Because the story is easy to follow, Barbee said it's a great way to introduce children or adults to ballet, and the arts in general.



Julie Kent performs in Swan Lake, in a limited engagement March 15-18, at the Detroit Opera House.

The music is considered one of the greatest scores of all times," he added.

The production marks the return of ABT. The company hasn't performed in Detroit since 2002, and this will be their first performance of Swan Lake in Detroit in nearly 10 years.

Barbee, who's been with the American Ballet Theatre since 1975, is working to bring artistic director Kevin McKenzie's vision to life.

'Swan Lake is an active ballet in the repertoire," said Barbee. "Since Kevin did the production seven years ago, we've performed it every year since. It's

PLEASE SEE SWAN LAKE. E4

Don't miss of Montreal

Detroit sure loves its 60's-inspired electro-pop.

Consider the band of Montreal, Kevin Barnes' recording project. Due to popular demand, a second date has been added this weekend to appease avid fans that missed their chance. The band performed to a sold-out crowd March 14, at the Magic Stick and will make a triumphant return Sunday, March 18, to play in the Majestic Theatre.

Despite the name, of Montreal evolved out of the Elephant 6 musical collective in Athens, Ga. Now, its members are scattered from Santa Cruz, Calif. across a continent and an ocean to Oslo and Stockholm.

The band's latest release, *Hissing Fauna*, *Are You Destroyer?*, reveals influences from the Kinks to The Beatles all drenched in ambient 1980s-era synth style and layered with emotive lyrics.

Released in January, *Hissing Fauna* marks Barnes' most autobiographical work to date. Coping with the depression that came with a move to Norway last year, Barnes has said he was "trying to make music to help myself get out of this dark period."

The end result is a gleefully poppy, upbeat album contrasted by his telling, thoughtful and somber lyrics. "I spent the winter on a total verge of a breakdown," Barnes sings on A Sentence of Sorts in Kongsvinger. On The Past is a Grotesque Animal, moody synth sounds carry haunting guitar and the gently pounding drums to emerge as Barnes proclaims "how can I explain I need you here and not here too."

The collection of a dozen songs proves a worthy, weighty followup to last year's shiny dance sensation *The Sunlandic Twins*. When it comes to the live performance, expect nothing less than Vaudevillian theatrics.

Sunday's show starts at 8 p.m. with openers Fashion Flesh. Tickets are \$12 and going fast. Call (248) 645-6666 or visit www.majesticdetroit.com.

Stephanie A. Casola



of Montreal brings theatrics back to the Majestic Theatre on Sunday.

SWAN LAKE

FROM PAGE E3

constantly up and running."

For Swan Lake, McKenzie chose to combine Acts I and II, and Acts III and IV to reduce the amount of time spent in intermission and keep the story flowing.

Scene changes happen right onstage. "The story goes on," said Barbee. "Thirty seconds later you find yourself in a whole different scene."

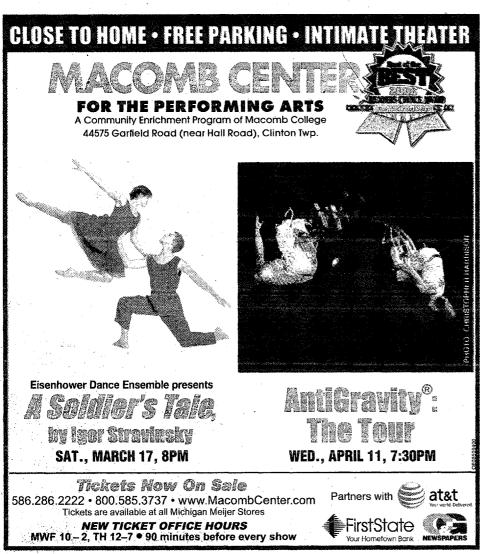
The show also poses a great challenge to dancers who portray both Odette and Odile, and are required to achieve the story's most crucial twist. Barbee noted that von Rothbart is also "a changeling" as he looks like a completely different character in Act III.

Opening night dancers include Gillian Murphy as Odette/Odile and Ethan Stiefel in the role of Prince Siegfried. Scenery and costumes by Emmy award-winning designer Zack Brown. And Duane Schuler is the lighting designer.

"It's a very pretty production," said Barbee.

He's looking forward to returning to the Detroit Opera House. "I am just so proud of the fact that the opera house was a catalyst for renewal of that area," he said.

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Detroit Opera House welcomes Angelina Ballerina

The little star with big dreams, Angelina Ballerina, will appear at upcoming special performances of the American Ballet Theatre's Swan Lake.

To capture young audiences, the ABT has joined with popular children's char-

acter. "Kids love her," said Victor Barbee, associate artistic director for the American

Ballet Theatre. The partnership with this HIT Entertainment character dates back to 2003.

"This program offers children the opportunity to experience the wonder of ballet and extend the Angelina experience beyond the books and videos they know and love," said Denielle Webb, director of public relations for HIT Entertainment. "The American Ballet Theatre encourages families to enjoy the ballet and ultimately develop a lifelong love of the performing arts which makes Angelina Ballerina the perfect partner."

The animated mouseling who appears in books and children's TV programs, thanks to creator Katherine Holabird, will be on hand to meet children and pose for free photographs with guests prior to weekend matinees on March 17-18. Children will also receive activity sheets to take home.

"Children have a great imagination," Barbee said. "The sooner they can get involved with the arts, the more interested they will be."

He speaks from personal experience,

Growing up in Raleigh, N.C., Barbee said he can still recall his first class trip to see The Barber of Seville. He hopes Swan Lake will have a similar impact on audiences of any age.

Webb said: "Angelina Ballerina's core fan base is girls 4-8 years old; these fans, many of whom are involved in dance and ballet - should be able to enjoy the matinee performances, as they are approximately one hour long."

In addition to the show, Penguin Young Readers Group is expected to release more than 15 Angelina Ballerina titles in 2007, including the U.S. release of My First Ballet Class, and the all-new book Let's Dance, due in stores this May. Merchandise will be available for sale at the show.

For more information, visit www.angelinaballerina.com.

Stephanie A. Casola

128th UMS SEASON 2006 2007

The Songs We Love Wynton Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Center **Orchestra**

THURSDAY MARCH 15, 8 PM Hill Auditorium

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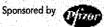
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Gilberto Gil

FRIDAY, MANCH 16, 8 PM Hill Auditorium

A pioneer of the world music movement, Brazilian singer/songwriter Gilberto Gil makes his only Midwest appearance with this intimate solo performance.



Funded in part by U-M Office of the Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and National **Endowment for the Arts.**

Media Partners WEMU 89.1 FM, WDET 101.9 FM, Metro Times and Michigan Radio.

This is a NETWORK event.

Murray Perahia piana

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 8 PM Hill Auditorium

One of the most cherished pianists of our time, Murray Perahia returns to Ann Arbor with a program of works by J.S. Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, and Chopin.

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This is a CLASSICAL KIDS CLUB concert.

Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France

Myung-Whun Chung conductor TUESDAY MARCH 20, 8 PM Hill Auditorium

After their stunning UMS debut in Orchestra Hall during the 2003 Hill Auditorium renovation, Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France returns with an all-French program.

ALL-FRENCH PROGRAM

Ma mere l'oye (Mother Goose Suite, complete ballet music) (1911) Berlioz Symphonie fantastique, H. 48 (1830)

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This is a CLASSICAL KIDS CLUB concert.

Rahim AlHaj oud Souhail Kaspar percussion

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 8 PM Rackham Auditorium

Iraqi oud player Rahim AlHaj and Lebanese percussionist Souhail Kaspar join forces to present an evening of music from their new Smithsonian Folkways CD, When the Soul Is Settled: Music of Irag. Media Partners WEMU 89.1 FM and Arab American

Canadian Brass

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 8 PM Hili Auditorium

They bound onstage in their trademark tuxedos and tennis shoes, launching into a program that encompasses everything from Bach to the blues. Swing into spring with the world's most famous brass quintet as they return to Hill Auditorium.



Supported by The Medical Community. Media Partners WRCJ 89.1 FM and Michigan Radio.



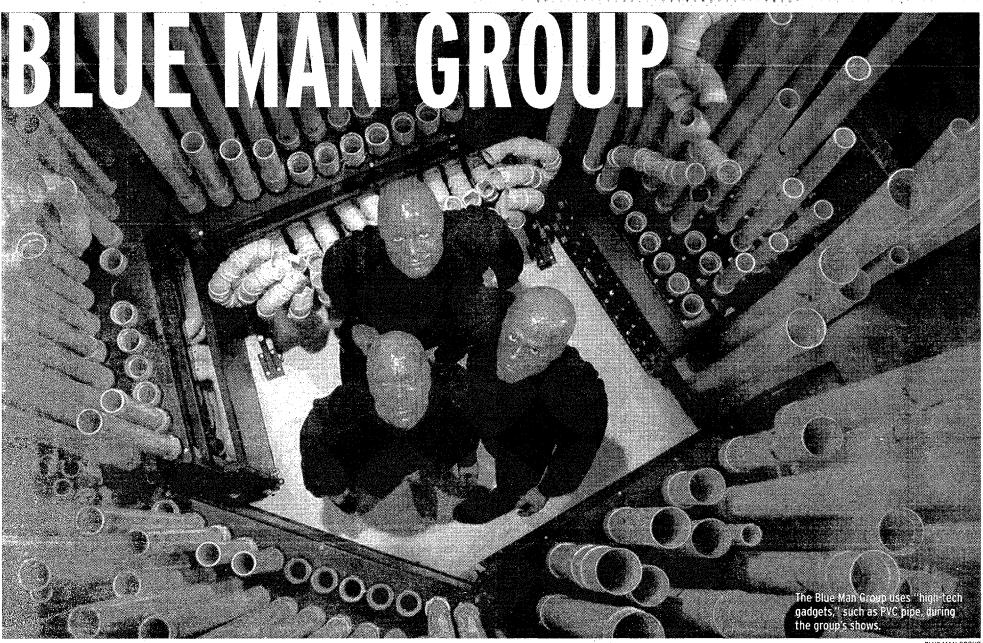








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Giving lessons on How to be a Megastar, the 2.0 version

BY JIM TOTH STAFF WRITER

So much about a person can be learned by looking into their eyes. In the case of Blue Man

Group, that is the lone source for gaining any knowledge.

The trio of enigmatic mute performers adorned in their alien-like brightly blue-colored head and face and nondescript black

garb, migrate onto the stage at The Palace of Auburn Hills Saturday, March 24, for an out-of-this-world evening of entertainment.

The creation of friends Chris Wink, Matt Goldman and Phil

Stanton on the streets of New York City in the 1980s, Blue Man Group incorporates rock music, odd props, sophisticated sound and lighting, and audience participation in a manner unfounded anywhere on the planet. And yet, the combination is as familiar to every audience member as that initial tapping of toes to a favorite tune or lip-synching in the shower.

The Blue Man Group character is an approachable person," uttered Jeremy Gill, one of those expressionless, but very poignant individuals who has taken on the role for past six years. "There's something a Blue Man Group does that makes people recall or recognize from their past. Everybody at one time or another has had that feeling and can pretty much relate. What's enjoyable is being able to provide that feeling. It's like a body buzz." Those Pentium-pushing

BLUE MAN GROUP AND MIKE RELM

Where: The Palace of Auburn Hills When: 8 p.m. Saturday, March 24 Tickets: \$87.50 and \$57.50 For more information, call the Palace box office at (248) 377-8601 or visit www.blueman.com or www.ticketmaster.com

performers are presently engaged in a 63-stop North American tour titled "How To Be a Megastar Tour 2.0," which explains the "dos and don'ts" in becoming a successful rock star character.

"This tour has been rockin' and I'm loving it," said Gill, 32, whose background includes the drum and bugle corps and acting. "This is quite a bit different than Blue Man Group theater shows. It's full-arena rock using all high-tech gadgets."

To Blue Man Group those "hightech gadgets" can include the PVC pipe, Tubulum, Drumbone, Piano Smasher, Shaker Gong or Aronophonic - all designed to produce the most interesting sounds when struck.

According to Blue Man Group, the PVCs are classified as plosive aerophones, while the piano smasher can best be described as a stripped-down piano standing on its side. Sounds originate by hitting the strings with a soft mallet.

'We are a group of creative people and new ideas are constantly bouncing around," Gill said. "The PVC is really a creative instrument. I like the way it's assembled." Gill decided to give Blue Man

Group a go after attending a show several years ago in Boston. His initial audition fell short of him

PLEASE SEE BLUE MAN, E7



BLUF MAN GROUP

The Blue Man Group shows how to be a megastar.

BLUE MAN

FROM PAGE E6

catching on, but the experience and excitement that lingered was so appealing that it was foolish for him not to take another shot.

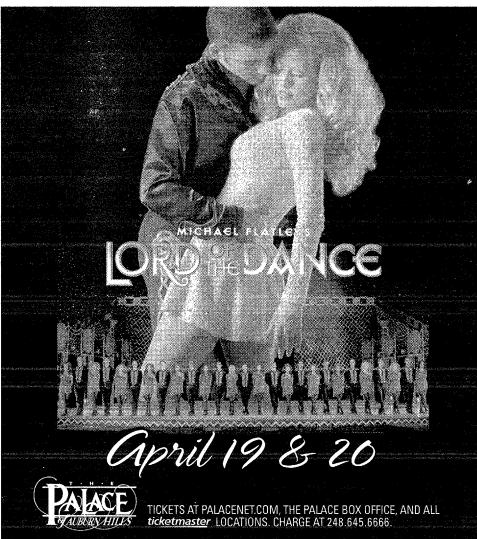
"The second time I tried, I made it," Gill said. "I had never auditioned for anything on this level before. I guess I was just the

type they were looking for."

Themes are also a key component to any Blue Man Group performance.

From science and technology to information overload to innocence, Blue Men, in their own unique manner, are always able to concoct a method in solving any mystery.

"You learn the roles," Gill said. "There are three of them and you learn them one at a time. We're able to interact and play them all."



Turntablist opens with video, music montages

BY JIM TOTH STAFF WRITER

Forget the notion of DJs limited to spinning the likes of *YMCA*, *Shout* and *Old Time Rock and Roll*.

Turntablist/VJ Mike Relm has enough audio mashups and video features to keep any party up off their seats and shimmying until the wee hours of tomorrow.

The San Francisco native, who began spinning discs during his high school years, has taken the art to a all-new dimension as DVDJ technology allows Relm to simultaneously manipulate film and music to create a re-imagination of pop culture.

"I just had the idea of giving people more than the basic DJ, more than just being in a booth," said Relm, who is currently touring with Blue Man Group and will put his unique talents on display Saturday, March 24, at The Palace of Auburn Hills

"If I was going to continue doing what I was doing, I wanted to be out on stage. So far this has been more exciting than anything I have ever done."

Relm, 29, shares the stage with two gigantic screens that project film montages cleverly edited and coinciding with music ranging from hip-hop to classic rock.

His musical treasures are so grand that Relm caters his performances to appeal to the makeup of the audience.

"I can throw a little Led Zeppelin at them, which is always a hit, or maybe AC/DC's *Back in Black*," Relm said

"The type of audience helps determine what I'll play."

Relm, who won the International Turntablist Federation's USA competition in 1999, said he looks forward to returning to Motown.

"I was here last fall touring with Mike Patton's Peeping Tom Tour and just had a great time," Relm said. "To be on this tour with Blue Man Group has taught me so much and the reaction has been really great."

Relm is simultaneously working on a debut album of original material. His single *Body Rock* has drummed up some 1.7 million listeners over the Internet in just three weeks.



Breakfast Crab Cakes consist of two avocado-crab cakes with braised spinach, roasted red bell peppers and grape tomatoes and can be topped with poached eggs, while Sticky Pecan Waffles are cinnamon Belgian waffles topped with toasted pecan caramel glaze at Sweet Lorraine's Cafe & Bar in Southfield.

Sweet Lorraine's

Breakfast added at Southfield location

"All happiness depends on a leisurely breakfast."

- John Gunther

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK STAFF WRITER

Lorraine Platman and Gary Sussman put this quote on the back of the breakfast menu at their Southfield restaurant, Sweet Lorraine's Cafe & Bar, for a reason.

"We like our breakfast," Platman said.

But the decision to add the breakfast menu at the Southfield location and longer operational hours wasn't one made overnight.

At home, she'd dabble with grits ("an acquired taste," she says) mixed with Manschego cheese and chili peppers and fry that mixture into cakes. They'd talk about serving breakfast, and "things sort of evolved," she said.

Platman loves to experiment, letting her creativity run wild. Soon she developed a menu consisting of traditional breakfast items (omelets, scrambles and eggs) prepared with new twists (a French Country Omelet

with artichoke hearts, sundried tomatoes. spinach, crumbled chevre cheese

and asparagus, or the Breakfast Crab Cakes, two avocado crab cakes on English muffins with braised spinach, roasted red bell peppers and grape tomatoes with a lemon peppercorn

Sweet Lorraine's serves breakfast at the downtown Detroit and Livonia locations, but much of that menu is done in conjunction with the Marriott hotel's menu requirements developed to accommodate hotel guests. The menu change at the Southfield location, the first restaurant opened by the couple married 32 years ago, is a new world for them.

"It's like opening a new restaurant," Platman said of the additional work

shifts and planning. Customers have requested breakfast periodically since the couple first opened the restaurant 22 years ago, Sussman said. "We didn't open until 11 a.m.,"

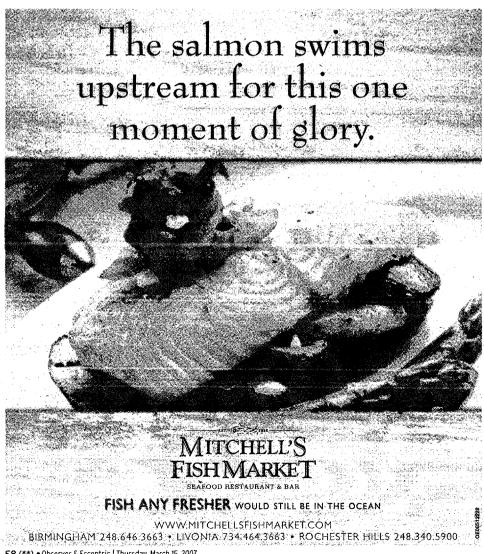
Sussman said. "We'd do brunches at the two hotel locations, on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. The items for weekend brunch (at those locations) we adapted for breakfast here."

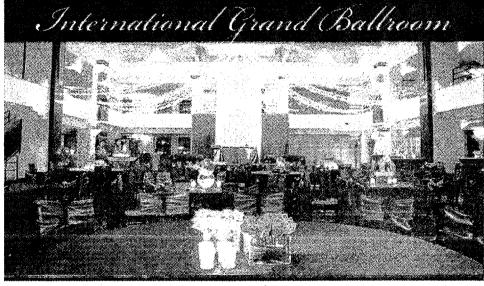
Platman prides herself in food preparation with everything prepared from scratch. "We'd rather have a guest send back a dish because it is too flavorful," Sussman said. "We don't want to hear that it's too bland."

The couple emphasize organic, and if they can't find organic, they shoot for all-natural.

They use organic eggs from Grazing Fields in Charlotte. They use grain milled from a couple at the West Wind Milling Co. in Linden. "Whole grain cornmeal tastes better than regular cornmeal," Sussman said. That cornmeal is used in the Crispy Fried

They use Michigan apricots, grown near the cherry farms in the Leelanau Peninsula. Ground pork with sage





An Affair to Remember

Zocated in historic Greektown, this Grand Ballroom is one of Detroit's hidden treasures. This fabulous venue is a landmark stage for an elegant wedding, bar/bat mitzvah or any other social occasion. The architecture of this century-old building features wood and marble pillars, twenty-two foot vaulted ceilings with dome skylights, and a circular balcony overlooking the main floor. Conveniently situated on the 8th floor of the International Center Building and adjacent to the Four Diamond Atheneum Suites Hotel, this dazzling room is a place your guests will adore as they gaze out on a panoramic view of the city. From sumptuous buffets to lavish cocktail parties and formal dinners, our dedicated event planners and culinary staff will make your special day "An Affair to Remember."





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comes from Yale Farms, and organic chicken arrives from Nature's Premium in Frankenmuth.

Platman tells the story of a young customer's venture into the restaurant. He wanted grits, but he wanted the traditional instant kind. Platman served him one of her specially prepared cakes instead. "He loved it," she

"I'm not trying to compete with anyone's mother's dish," Platman said. "I'm trying to give you a new experience."

Her Housemade Buttermilk Biscuits are more "like scones," she said. Fresh Fruit Waffles feature Michigan apples poached in organic cider.

Her menu changes four or five times a year.

Of course, the quotes highlight that menu, and the attitude of a workingclass hero.

"Never work before breakfast. If you have to work before breakfast, get your breakfast first," according to Josh Billings.

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SWEET LORRAINE'S CAFE & BAR

29191 Greenfield, Southfield, (248) 559-5985, www.sweetlorraines.com

Food: American, a global blend of eclectic

New breakfast menu: Omelets and scrambles \$7.50-\$8, guiche, waffles, french toast, crepes, hash, crab cakes, other items, \$7.50-\$13.50. Seating: 92 at breakfast, 156 total for dinner with upstairs dining room. The menu changes four times a year.

Reservations: For parties of five and over, reservations are accepted. For less than five, call-ahead seating is offered.

Other locations:

Livonia: Marriott Laurel Park Place, I-275 and Newburgh (734) 953-7480;

Detroit: Inside the Courtyard by Marriott 333 E. Jefferson (313) 223-3933.

Hours: Breakfast is served from 7-11 a.m. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Restaurant hours are 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday. 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sunday, Dinner specials served on St. Patrick's

Other info: Owners Lorraine Platman and Gary Sussman expect to unveil new menus at the two hotel properties within the next month. Marriott is remodeling the lobby area in Livonia so that quests will be able to sit and eat small plates of appetizers near the lobby.

Here's some soup for you

Everyone remembers Seinfeld and the classic soup episode featuring the restaurant owner's line "no soup for you" directed at George Costanza.

Costanza (Jason Alexander) wanted soup because the carryout restaurant on which that episode was based did indeed have delicious soups on the menu.

Today that New York City soup eatery is a franchise, The Original SoupMan, featuring the soups of Al Yeganeh, who inspired the Seinfeld episode. Birmingham resident Judy Masell was expected to open the latest Original SoupMan shop Wednesday, March 14, at 172 N. Old Woodward in Birmingham.

Since 1984, New Yorkers and tourists alike have waited in line at Yeganeh's Soup Kitchen International, in all kinds of weather, just for taste of his much-heralded Lobster Bisque and Jambalaya. In 2004, Yeganeh closed the shop to prepare for the launch of his international franchise.

Masell's Original SoupMan showcases Yeganeh's 50 varieties of soup as the "centerpiece of the meal." Each soup serving is presented with a piece of fresh, crusty baguette, fresh fruit and a piece of imported chocolate - just like Al Yeganeh served it at his original shop. As Yeganeh explains it, this is simply "the way to eat."

The Original SoupMan will serve gourmet

salads and sandwiches along with Yeganeh's 50 varieties of soup. The menu ranges in

price from \$4.95-\$8.95 for a cup of soup, and \$6.95-\$8.95 for a bowl.

For more information, visit www.originalsoupman.com.

Some like it hot, while others like it really hot.

Wendy's has decided to build on the popularity of the original Spicy Chicken Sandwich and kick it up a notch.

For a limited time, Wendy's is serving the 4-Alarm Chicken Sandwich.

The spicy chicken fillet is topped with natural pepper jack cheese, 4-Alarm Chipotle Sauce, jalapeno pepper slices, tomato and romaine lettuce, and is served on freshly baked artisan bread.

The 4-Alarm Chicken costs \$3.99 a la carte and \$5.69 if ordered as a combo. Visit www.wendys.com for more information.

Giulio's Cucina Italiana, 31735 Plymouth Road in Livonia, is hosting a Sardinian wine dinner at 6:30 p.m. March 20 with a fivecourse meal paired with wines from the Italian island. Cost is \$65. The restaurant is also hosting an Opera Night at 6:30 p.m. March 22.

For more information, call (734) 427-9500 or visit www.giulios.us.





Send, fax or e-mail items for consideration in Get Out! at least two weeks in advance to Ken Abramczyk, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple. Birmingham, MI 48009, fax (248) 644-1314 or e-mail kabramcz@hometownlife.com.

Please include a short summary with details of the event, address of the event location, date and time, a phone number and/or Web site that members of the public can contact for more information. For an expanded calendar list, visit the Get Out! calendar online at the Filter Entertainment section at www.hometownlife.com.

ART EXHIBITS

Detroit Institute of Arts

Friday Nights at the DIA, music in museum's Rivera Court, 6:30 and 8 p.m., guided tours of Highlights of Europe and America, 6 and 7:30 p.m. Fridays, and 1 and 2:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays; 5200 Woodward Ave., (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org.

Flint Institute of Arts

After Lewis and Clark, The Forces of Change 1806-1871, paintings, drawings and prints by artists who accompanied explorers, including Meriweather Lewis and William Clark, as they encountered the unexpected and unique subjects of the American West, through April 29, 1120 Kearsley, Flint, (810) 234-1695, flintarts.org

Shrinking Cities Runs through April 1 at two locations: Cranbrook Art Museum, 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills and The Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit: Where: 4454 Woodward Ave. at Garfield, Detroit. Upcoming programs include: 6 p.m. Thursday, March 15, a lecture titled Architects in a Shrinking City, at MOCAD; 9 p.m. Friday, March 16. Outrageous Cherry and The All Seeing Eyes perform at MOCAD: 7 p.m. Saturday, March 17, see the films: Chicago-Detroit Split (2005), by Thomas Comerford and Bill Brown; Figures in the Landscape (2002) by Thomas Comerford; Still Here (2001) by Christopher Harris; Order Not to Be Here (2002) by Deborah Stratman all at MOCAD and ਕੀ 1:30 p.m. Sunday, March 18, artists Scott Hocking and Clint Snyder present their work at Cranbrook; 7 p.m. Thursday, March 22, at MOCAD is an Artists Talk on Mythological Psychogeographies: Detroit and Music; 9 p.m. Friday, March 23, at MOCAD is a performance TimeStereo presents Princess Dragon Mom's Passport to Infinity with Demons; 7 p.m. Saturday, March 24, at MOCAD see films:

www.cranbrookart.edu **ART GALLERIES**

Artcraft Gallery

Texture Reflections, Alan Casadei, opening reception March 23, through April 28, 32410 Woodward, Royal Oak, (248) 549-9000.

Featuring Gordon Matta-Clark's films: Fire

Conical Intersect (1975) and Sous-Sols de

Paris (1977); 1:30 p.m. Sunday, March 25, at

Cranbrook is an Artists Talk with Mitch Cope,

Benjamin Hernandez and Jody Huellmantel.

For more information, (248) 645-3300,

Child (1971); Fresh Kill (1972), Day's End (1974),

Beauty (Salon)

Paintings by Mark Sengbusch, runs through April 27, B. Gallery, 235 Willits Alley, Birmingham, (248) 540-0046.

Charles Waterhouse Studio and Gallery

The Raw Beauty of Ireland, photo exhibit by Charles Waterhouse, opens March 17 with artist's reception 4-7 p.m., runs through Saturday, March 24, the Village of Auburn Hills, 3342 Auburn, (248) 853-6779, www.waterhouse.com

Cranbrook Art Museum

Shrinking Cities exhibit runs through April 1:



Gord Peteran: Furniture Meets its Maker, runs through April 1, all at 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, (248) 645-3300, www.cranbrookart.edu. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday and 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on the fourth Friday of each month. The museum is closed Monday-Tuesday and select holidays

Lawrence Street Gallery

Alice Frank's multimedia solo exhibition runs from April 4-28, a wine and cheese opening is 6-9 p.m. Friday, April 6, at 22620 Woodward, Suite A, Ferndale www.lawrencestreetgalley.com, (248) 544-0394

Lemberg Gallery

Susan Goethe Campbell, Book, Not Book exhibit, reception, 5-8 p.m. March 17, 23241 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 591-6623, www.lemberggallery.com.

Lotus Art Gallery

Thomas Arvid, painter of American Realism, fine art and wine reception, 6-9 p.m. March 16, 995 W. Ann Arbor Trail (at Harvey), in Plymouth (888) 889-4ART or (734) 453-5400

Oakland University Art Gallery

Tergloba, exploring globalization's different aspects, exhibit runs through April 15, 208 Wilson Hall, Oakland University, Rochester, (248) 370-3005 or www.oakland.edu/ouag.

Paint Creek Center for the Arts

First Floor Gallery features Travelogue by Mike Mackens, black and white photographs of artists' travels to Europe, Japan and elsewhere, exhibit runs through April 14; Main Gallery features Luzhen Qiu: Installation, onewoman installation which transforms the gallery into a unique theatrical space, Hands-On Family Workshop, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 17; 407 Pine St., Rochester, (248) 651-4110, www.pccart.org.

Pewabic Pottery

Vessels produced from 1901-1967, through May 18, all at 10125 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit, (313) 822-0954 or www.pewabic.org.

Sherrus Gallery
Meditations - In Black & White, photos by Jeff Milton, through March 31, 109 N. Center, Northville, (248) 380-0470, www.sherrusgallery.com.

Sherry Washington Gallery

Moments and Movements II: New Drawings and Paintings from Chun Hui Pak, exhibition runs through April 14, 1274 Library (at Grand River), Detroit, RSVP at (313) 961-4500, www.sherrywashingtongallery.com,

University Art Gallery

Michigan Collects Ruth Weisberg, a 40-year

retrospective of the Southern California painter and printmaker, runs through April 27, all at 210 Student Center, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti, (734) 487-0465.

University of Michigan-Dearborn

Collecting Glass: The Early Years at UM-Dearborn, studio art glass collection, March 16-May 11, public reception 5-7:30 p.m. April 20, Alfred Berkowitz Gallery, (313) 593-3592.

ART, ETC.

Eastern Michigan University

Graduate Student Art Show, through March 30, 114 Ford Hall, Ypsilanti (734) 487-0465.

The Reject Show

JR and TMC present "Reject," featuring 25 artists who are rejected by other curators, 8 p.m. March 17 at Corktown Tayern, 1716 Michigan Ave., Detroit, Music includes DJ Danny Dollrod, Tim Vulgar, Bootsy X and Penny Tration, with film by Giles R. Doors, 8 p.m., \$5, (248) 924-0298.

Southfield Public Library

Jane Alkon, mixed media exhibit, through March 31, 26300 Evergreen Road, www.sfldlib.org, (248) 796-4224.

Detroit Opera House

Where The Wild Things Are, children's ballet by the Grand Rapids Ballet Company, 2 and 5 p.m. March 31, \$20, Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, (313) 237-SING or visit www.michiganopera.org or www.ticketmas-

Tuesday Musicale of Detroit

Annual Opera Night concert, 7:30 p.m. March 20, free, Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms, (313) 886-2363,

CLASSICAL

Birmingham Temple

Vivace series presents Scott Holden, pianist, 8 p.m. Saturday, March 31, \$18-\$21, 28611 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills, call (248) 788-9338, (248) 661-1348, www.vivaceseries.org.

Cameron-Scott International Gallery

Spring concert series, Fabulous Sundays at 4, Paul Vondeziano, classical guitar, 4 p.m. March 18, 167 Townsend, Birmingham, reserve seat at (248) 626-4625.

Chopin's Complete Solo Works

7:30 p.m. March 20, 24, 27, 31, April 7, 10, 14, symposium with Jeffery Kallberg, 1:30 p.m. April 14, Britton Recital Hall, University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance.

1100 Baits Drive, Ann Arbor, performances are www.personal.umich.edu/~greene/chopin.htm

Detroit Symphony Orchestra Neeme Jarvi conducts Tchaikovsky's Pathetique, March 22-24, 3711 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 576-5111,

www.detroitsymphony.com. **Oakland University**

information.

Melvin Chen, associate director of Bard College Conservatory of Music, plays Beethoven's Emperor Concerto, also Pontiac Oakland Symphony performs, 3 p.m. Sunday, March 25, Varner Recital Hall. \$15-\$25. mtd@oakland.edu, (248) 370-3013 for informa-

University Musical Society

University Symphony Orchestra with Conductor Kenneth Kiesler, 8 p.m. March 19; Murray Perahia, 8 p.m. March 17, Orchestre Philharmonique De Radio France, 8 p.m. March 20, all at Hill Auditorium, 825 N. University, Ann Arbor, also Pablo Ziegler and his Quintet for a New Tango, 8 p.m. March 30, Rackham Auditorium, 915 E. Washington, call (734) 764 2538 for tickets, www.ums.org.

CLUBS

Edison's

Rick Stel Project, March 15; Code Blue, March 16-17; The Randy Brock Group, March 22; Robert Penn, March 23 and 24; Aaron Vaughn Band, March 29: The Blue Kings, March 30 and 31; 220 Merrill, Birmingham, (248) 645-2150.

Cliff Bells

Buddy Budson Quartet, March 23: Scott Gwinnell and his 16-piece jazz orchestra, 9:30 p.m. every Wednesday, 2030 Park (near Comerica Park), Detroit (313) 961-2543.

Ginopolis on the Grill

Don Swindell and Shuffle Play, with Swindell, Sheila Brown, Mike Lorenz and Jake Reichhart, 7:30-11:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 27851 Middlebelt at 12 Mile in Farmington Hills, no cover, (248) 851-8222.

Peabody's

Barbara Ware with Cliff Monear, 8:30 p.m. March 17 and 31, 34965 Woodward, Birmingham, (248) 644-5222.

Seldom Blues

Big Band Wednesdays with Johnny Trudell and his 18-piece band, 7-11 p.m., playing a mix of jazz favorites, located in Tower 400, Level 1 of the GM Renaissance Center next to the Marriott, call (313) 567-7301.

pirate and you can take cuts in line at the Pirates Ultimate Fan Event. Also there will be giveaways and "mega-prizes." Visit www.disney.com/piratesfansevent for

The hype has begun, even though "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End"

doesn't open until May. Detroit fans can view a trailer for the movie at 5 p.m.

Sunday, March 18, at Emagine Theatre, 4425 W. 12 Mile Road, Novi. Dress as a

COMEDY **Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase**

Mike Green, March 15-17; Tom Mabe, March 22-24; Jackie Kashian, March 29-31; 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, (734) 996-9080.

JD's House of Comedy

Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday; 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield, (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com.

Joey's Comedy Club at Kickers

Ben Creed, March 14-17; Allyn Ball, March 21-24; JB Smoove, March 28-31; http://www.kickerscomplex.com/joeys-calendar.html, (734) 261-

Kathy Griffin

Performs 8 p.m. Saturday, March 31, Ford Community & Performing Arts Center, 15801 Michigan Ave., Dearborn, \$37-\$45 (313) 943-2354 or www.dearbornfordcenter.com.

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle Don Friesen, March 15-17; Scott Henry, March 22-24; Christopher Titus, March 29-31; Danny Bevins, April 5-7; Jim David, April 12-14; Peter Berman, April 19-21; Henry Cho, April 26-28, at 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak, call (248) 542-9900 or visit www.comedycastle.com.

The Second City

Michigan Impossible: All Laid Off & No Place to Go, 42705 Grand River Avenue in Novi, (248) 348-4448, www.secondcity.com.

DANCE

Eisenhower Dance Ensemble

The Soldier's Tale with musicians from Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings, 8 p.m. Saturday, March 17, Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township, \$18-\$30, (586) 286-2222; New Dance Fest V, 7 p.m. Friday, April 20, Troy High School Auditorium, 4777 Northfield Pkwy, Troy, \$6-\$12, (248) 823-2700.

Tamango's Urban Tap

Bay Mo Dilo, 8 p.m. March 15, Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, for tickets, \$18-\$36, www.ums.org

FAMILY

Big Wooden Horse Theatre

Jamie Adkins Circus Incognitus, April 22, all at Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. \$7.50-\$19.50, (313) 887-8501 or www.musichall.org.

Enjoy pub and family fun for St. Patrick's Day

So much to do on St. Patrick's Day which is Saturday, March 17 - and so little time.

So let's get started. Traditional Irish fare, live music, parades, folk dance, sing-alongs and, of course, stouts.

Just remember, a true Irish beer isn't green.

As Rex Halfpenny of Michigan Beer Guide taught us, an Irish beer is the black stout known as Guinness. In the glass, it actually looks like a pint of melted chocolate.

There's so many authentic Irish pubs and local family events in metro Detroit, we cannot list them all. Here's a sample:

FAMILY FUN

The Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall - The Wakes and Weddings Band, 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 16; noon Mass, Shamrock Shore 1 p.m. March 17, also Heinzman Irish Dancers, Bagpiper Dennis Burklow, and PaddleBall Billy, menu available, 24242 Grand River (one block west of Telegraph) (313) 535-4110.

The Hellenic Cultural Center — Irish Fest, 2 p.m. March 17, Irish music with Mick Gavin and others, and food, 36376 Joy Road, east of Newburgh, Westland, (313) 537-3489 or visit

www.detroitirish.org.

Whole Foods Market — Whole Foods Market will host a St. Patrick's Day Celebration from 1-4 p.m. Saturday, March 17, at all of its locations. Enjoy traditional favorites like corned beef and cabbage as Whole Foods brings the luck of the Irish to you. "Go Green" with a sample of green tea or guacamole.

Michigan's Troubadour — St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Concert on Saturday at Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford Road, Westland. Irish-style dinner, an Irish folk concert by Michigan's Troubadour, Neil Woodward. Dinner from 6-7:30 p.m., concert is 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$7 for children 12

years and under, (734) 722-7620

In Oxford — The fourth annual St. Patrick's Day Brunch from 12:30-2 p.m. Sunday, March 18, at

St. Augustine's House, Oxford, Customary corned beef, cabbage and boiled potatoes and more. Located at 3316 E. Drahner Road, (248) 628-5155.

A GLIMPSE OF THE PUB

Billy's Tip N Inn — bugs Beddow Band, St. Patrick's Day Party, 9:30 p.m. Saturday, March 17, 6707 E. Highland, White Lake, (248) 889-7885.

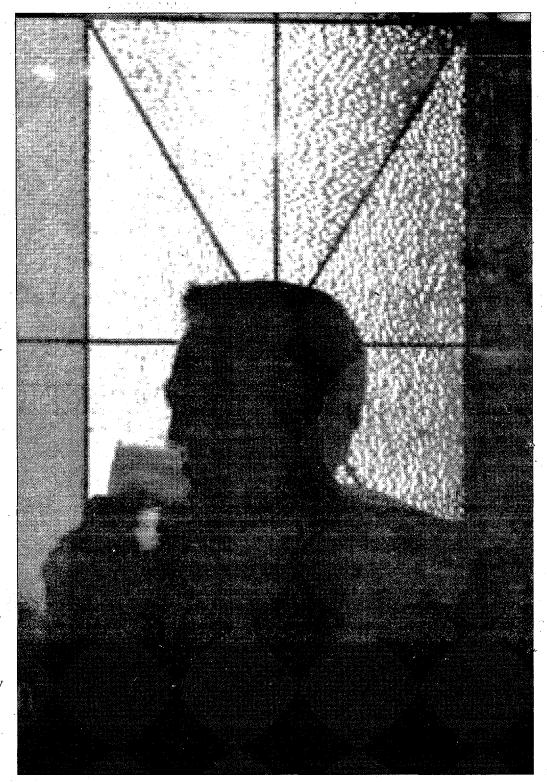
Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro - Pete Fetters, 6-11 p.m. Saturday, March 17, special Irish menu, featuring Irish stew, corned beef and cabbage, salmon, beef and beer, inside the Novi Town Center at 26053 Town Center (next to the Novi Town Center Movies), reservations at (248) 380-8460.

The Majestic Cafe — St. Patrick's Day menu at lunch and dinner, with potato leek soup, corned beef and cabbage, shepherd's pie and lamb stew, 4140 Woodward Ave., midtown Detroit, reservations at (313) 833-9700, Ext.

The Claddagh Irish Pub - 17800 Haggerty Road, Livonia, (734) 542-8141. Much of the interior and furnishings of this pub come directly from Ireland. The menu here includes the traditional Irish fare and what they call the Perfect Pint — Guinness — which has been around since 1759. Live music, food and authentic brews.

Shanahan's Irish Pub — next to Holiday Inn, 17123 N. Laurel Park Drive, Livonia, (734) 462-2196. It opens at noon on St. Patrick's Day. Bands, traditional food and lively

 $\mathbf{Dick\ O'Dows} - 160\ \mathrm{W.\ Maple},$ Birmingham, (248) 642-1135. Starting at 7 p.m. — expect lines (but the party is also in the line). Live music, quick lunch options and dinner at this bar that was actually once a pub in Ireland. It was brought over, piece



MORE PUBS WITH SPECIAL EVENTS

Cowley's Old Village Inn, 33338 Grand River, Farmington, (248) 474-5941

Kennedy's Irish Pub, 1055 W. Huron St., Waterford, (248) 681-1050

Sean O'Callaghan's Irish Pub, 821 Penniman,

Plymouth, (734) 459-6666 O'Mara's, 2555 W. 12 Mile Road, Berkley,

(248) 399-6750 O'Toole's, 205 W. Fifth Ave., Royal Oak,

(248) 591-9226 Gus O'Connor's, 42875 Grand River Ave, Suite 103, Novi, (248) 465-9670

Gus O'Connor's, 324 Main St., Rochester, (248) 608-2537

The Tipperary Pub, Detroit 8287 Southfield Freeway (just south of Joy Road), (313) 271-

Blarney Stone Pub, 27253 Woodward Ave., Berkley, (248) 541-1881

Duggan's Irish Pub, 31501 Woodward

Avenue, Royal Oak, (248) 549-3659 Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main St., Ann Arbor, (734) 665-2968

CORKTOWN, DETROIT

No holiday is bigger in Corktown than St. Patrick's Day — the neighborhood named after the county of Cork, Ireland, and immigrants from that area who settled here in the 1840s. Throughout the area, the party is on the streets and in the pubs.

Live music indoors and out, parades, giveaways, sing-alongs — join in on the fun.

Start your pub crawl at Baile Corcaigh (the name actually means "Town of Cork"), located at 1426 Bagley. Then head over to Irish Saloon of Corktown, 1426 N. Kaline Drive. There's also big crowds at Oblivion's Corktown Cafe, 1800 Michigan Ave., and myriad other pubs along Michigan.

Lana Mini and Ken Abramczyk

Ann Arbor Film Festival celebrates 45 years

BY LANA MINI

Dozens of independent and experimental films, away from the mainstream big budget popcorn

blockbusters, are part of the 45th annual Ann Arbor Film Festival at the Michigan Theater.

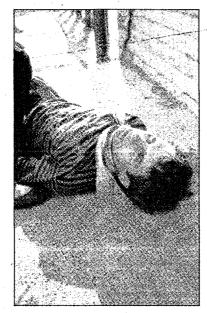
For six days, from Tuesday, March 20, through Sunday, March 25,

thousands of movie-lovers will attend.

The Ann Arbor Film Festival program includes dozens of films, plus lectures by filmmakers, open mic viewings from local filmmakers and midnight movies. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences will present two rare film events.

The festival, while wildly popular, is not without controversy. Last year, the state cut arts fundings after one Michigan legislator claimed several short films, that depicted sexual acts, were "pornographic."

This didn't stop film organizers from continuing the event.



'By Modern Measure' will be screened at the festival.

"The festival was created to give an alternative to mainstream media. We want to encourage filmmakers to push the envelope, and we don't want to tell them what they can and cannot say in their films," said Christen McArdle, executive director of the AAFF McArdle said in response to "this attempted censorship, the board of the AAFF has chosen to forgo any further state funding in order to maintain its dedication to their first amendment rights of speech and expression."

At the festival, legendary Japanese filmmaker Tashio Matsumoto will attend on Wednesday, March 21. He'll show the 1969 feature, *Funeral Parade of Roses*, and a selection of short films he created over the last three decades.

This will be the only North American appearance by Matsumoto, considered a pioneer of avant-garde documentary, experimental film, multimedia and video art.

Also, in a rare collaboration, AAFF and San Francisco Cinematheque co-presents 11 rarely seen experimental films made over 50 years that use images of the body to make political and artistic statements. Those showings are Saturday, March 24 and include films by Willard Mass, George Kuchar, James Broughton, Barbara Hammer, Martha Colburn and others.

There's a sound and light per-

THE ANN ARBOR FILM FESTIVAL

What: Festival showcases independent and experimental film and video. Established in 1963, this internationally renowned festival is the oldest of its kind in North America. About 25 films, each divided into two-hour programs.

When: Tuesday through Sunday, March 20-25

Where: The Michigan Theatre, 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, (734) 668-TIMF

Extra goodies: Midnight movies include films in competition and also an open mic for filmmakers – so bring your film and it might be shown, on first come, first serve basis. Visit the Web site for details. Tickets: Full access to the entire festival, \$90. Individual tickets \$9 For the full schedule and more details: www.aafilmfest.org

formance by New York architect and artist Bruce McClure on Friday, March 23. McClure uses 16mm film projectors, guitar effect pedals and an assortment of film loops to create an exhibit featured at museums and galleries worldwide

SPECIAL EVENT AT THE FESTIVAL THIS YEAR

With support from the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences, the San Francisco Cinematheque hosts a co-presentation of a series of films that explore the body as a place. The physical landscapes are geared to the public to consider the ideas of artistic expression and free speech.

When: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 24, Films include: Geography of the Body, Willard Maas; Our Gay Brothers, Greta Snider; No No Nookie TV, Barbara Hammer; The Bed, James Broughton; Hold Me While I'm Naked, George Küchar; Holding, Connie Beeson; River Body, Ann Severson; Spiders In Love, Martha Colburn; Honey Pot, Todd Lincoln; NOEMA, Scott Stark

There's also a midnight screening of Alejandro Jodorowsky's cult classic, *El Topo*, date still to be determined. All midnight films will be screened at the State

PLEASE SEE FILM, E15





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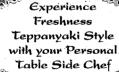
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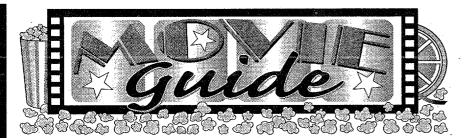
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Where available by deadline, features and times are listed.



Call your local theatre for showings for this week. Please check listings below for phone numbers and websites.

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'300' is stunning, daring

BY LANA MINI STAFF WRITER

Movie-goers who viewed the epic film 300 this week outnumbered the audiences of all the weekend's top 10 movies combined. The result was a whopping \$70 million opening weekend for 300, making the film No. 1 for 2007. And while its numbers were big, it still doesn't come close to Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest, which earned \$58 million on just its opening day last year; and \$356 million in the three-day weekend period.

But then again, 300 is rated R. Pirates was PG. Still when it comes to 300, you've never seen a film like this.

See it on an IMAX screen. It is the most visually stunning and daring movie of the decade.

Directed by Zack Snyder (Dawn of the Dead), the film stars Gerard Butler (Phantom of the Opera), Lena Headey (The Brothers Grimm), David Wenham (The Lord of the Rings trilogy) and Dominic West (The Forgotten). The screenplay is written by Zack Snyder, Kurt Johnstad and Michael B. Gordon.

300 (Warner Bros.) is based on the graphic novel of the same name by Frank Miller and Lynn Varley. It's about the ancient Battle of Thermopylae when King Leonidas (Gerard Butler) and 300 Spartans fought against Xerxes and his massive Persian army.

The Spartans are the perfect warriors. Taught never to doubt, never to retreat, never to fear losing because failure is not an option. And they aren't afraid to die.

Facing insurmountable odds, the valor and sacrifice of the 300 warriors inspire all of Greece to unite against the Persian enemy, drawing a line in the sand for democracy.

While the battle itself is a true story, the movie of course is filled with myths - giant fighting elephants, dinosaur-sized rhinos, enemies that are 9 feet tall. It all goes with Greek mythology and of course the exaggerations that can occur when historical events are passed on from generation to generation and enhanced in this film by Miller's wonderful imagination.

Unlike epics such as Braveheart or Lord of the Rings, the warriors in 300 have few moments of softness. Trained from childhood to be fighters, there's little room for emotion. For example, in one bloody scene the Spartans engage in lighthearted conversation while walking on piles of dead enemy bodies; using their spears to gut them all to ensure they're dead. It's a worklike task done as casually as a small-town farmer chatting it up while picking corn.

And while they show little softness, it doesn't mean 300 doesn't have heart. While King Leonidas is married and in love, his wife doesn't cry as he leaves for a battle that will probably kill him. She is as equally strong in the belief of his role as a Spartan warrior, and of her own as a Spartan warrior woman.

"Spartans live for battle. They love it," cowriter/director Snyder said. "They fight as one, creating a phalanx in which each warrior's shield protects the man beside him.

It's an awesome and intimidating sight, even for the masses of Persians.

Though the Spartans face insurmountable odds in terms of numbers, a true Spartan warrior is always willing to die for freedom — they consider it a 'beautiful death.' They define themselves by sacrifice and freedom."

The film brings Miller's (Sin City) acclaimed graphic novel to life, each scene reminiscent of a painting.

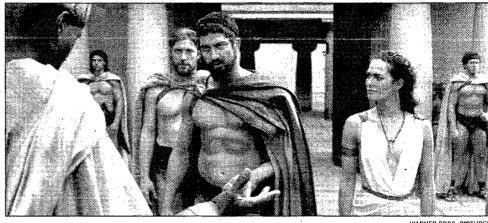
It's a film of pure beauty and raw power. One movie-goer called it a "testosterone fest" and said he felt the urge to hit the gym after watching it. Still, it will appeal to more than the muscle-crowd. It's a movie about freedom and is worth seeing for its sheer cinematic virtue. The film is rated R and rightfully so because of the endless violence, but it's easy to swallow because each scene is so stylized that the characters seem slightly inhumane. Not a single moment in 300 is dull.

It's not perfect, a few scenes appear reminiscent of Lord of The Rings or Braveheart - but that's not bad since the heart of films this genre is the same freedom versus oppression conflict.

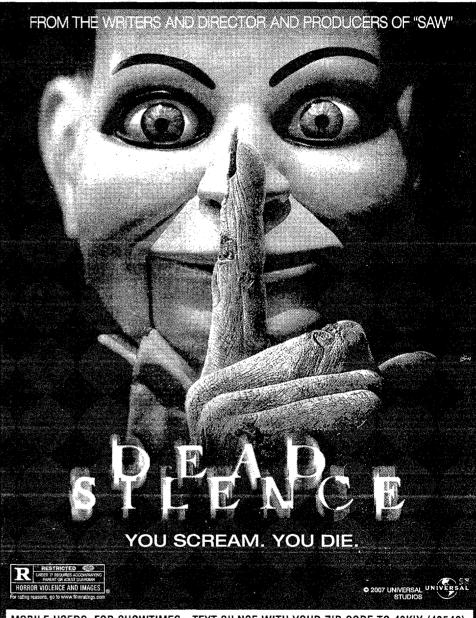
Miller first encountered the Spartans when he saw the film The 300 Spartans as a child. "I was quite shaken and inspired by it because it taught me that heroes aren't the people who necessarily get a medal at the end of the story," Miller said.

"Heroes are people who do what is right because it is right, even making the ultimate sacrifice to do it. All my life I wanted to tell this story because it's the best story I've ever encountered. And, eventually, I gained the skills as a cartoonist, such that I thought I could finally handle it.

300 is an unforgettable, glorious film.



Leonidas (Gerard Butler, center) warns the Persian Messenger (Peter Mensah) to choose his words wisely as Captain (Vincent Regan, left) and Gorgo (Lena Headey) look on in the film "300."



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FILM

FROM PAGE E12

Theater, just down the street from the Michigan Theatre.

This year the film festival is dedicated to Helen Hill, a past juror of the AAFF who

was murdered earlier this year in New Orleans. Her memorial will be held at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, March 21 at the Firefly Club on Ashley Street in downtown Ann Arbor. The festival attracts thousands of film entries from movie-makers across the globe who compete for awards of more than \$20,000.

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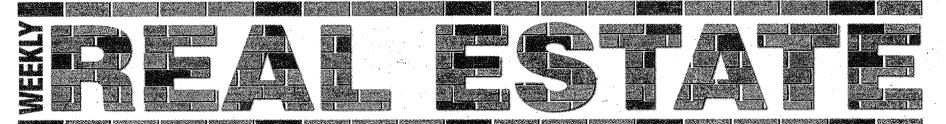
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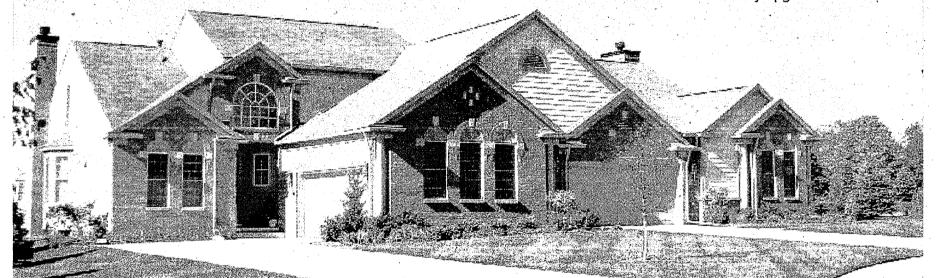
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w/jetted tub & crown
matchings & a 3 car gargae w/jetted tub & moldings, & a 3 car gai



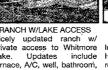
TURN KEY HOME TURN KEY HOME
nome on a Beautiful colonial in Old
at floor plan at floor plan at floor plan at floor master
windows, furnace, C/A,
a crown garage door, steel doors, fresh paint, & new Patio.

(C-215CR)

TURN KEY HOME
RANCH W/LAKE ACCESS
Nicely updated ranch w/
private access to Whitmore
ranch w/ private access to Whitmore
floor master
windows, furnace, C/A,
plumbing, Kitchen counters,
water softener, & neutral
décor.
\$114,900 (C-142FO)



BANCH W/LAKE ACCESS





SEASONS SEASONS
In this open and airy colonial.
Huge kitchen w/pantry,
recessed lighting overlooks
family room w/fireplace. 1st
floor den & laundry. Backyard w/in-ground pool. Area tennis & clubhouse. \$264,900

ENTERTAIN FOR ALL



Transfe forces sale of this Transfer forces sale of this recently built home w/over 65k in upgrades. Cherry Kitchen w/granite, plasma tv, new sod & sprinklers. You can't build a home here for less than this price lets make less than this price, lets make

a deal! (C-274GU) \$399,999 (C-488LA)



TURN KEY BEAUTY TURN KEY BEAUTY
Charming 3 bd, 1.5 bath,
tastefully decorated home.
Fresh neutral paint, hwd
floors, newly added Family
Room & Deck, finished bsmt
w/extra Kitchen & egress
window. A must see! window. A n \$210,000 A must se (C-548MO)



BRIGHT & AIRY condo is nicely updated t/o. fixtures, carpet, fixtures, Master w/WIC, storage, & a distance & within

\$134.900 (C-371PI)



THAN-THIS! Maintenance free bungalow w/newly finished upper bdrm w/huge closet, neutral décor, hwd floors, new windows, LR w/bow window, glass block in bsmt, updated bath, & 2.5

(P-528BO)



EXCEPTIONAL CAPE COD Looking for eat of the floor clean? This home has been totally updated w/a fantastic Come see this great house featuring a 2 story Great Room, large Kitchen w/2 way frpl, 1st floor Master, 3 bd & a Den on 2nd floor, freshly new Kitchen, custom tile baths, soaking tub, custom painted, 3 car Garage, Deck, bsmt. 2 car paver Patio, huge bsmt, & (C-587CA) (P-311CH)



FANTASTIC CONDO
This great condo could be yours! Open floor plan, Master Wsitting room, gorgeous oak Kitchen, full bsmt, Great Room Wcath \$224.900



BETTER THAN NEW! Remodeled in 03! This sharp 3 bd has hwd floors in LR newer appliances, oversized Master, updated furnace, psmt, Great Room w/cath ceiling, Plymouth Canton schools, & more. (C-877CO)



GORGEOUS HOME! Fantastic 3bd colonial in great sub. 2.5 baths, oversized oak Kitchen, Great Room w/soaring ceiling, bsmt w/9ft ceiling, stamp concrete Patio w/lights stamped nicely landscaped yard. You won't be disappointed!



GREAT INVESTMENT for \$550 per month. Investment package available w/other homes in same area. Call for details. in \$30,000

CLEAN BRICK BANCH 2 baths, newer windows, of the city & Ambassador furnace, C/A, hwh, updated Bridge from balcony. Freshly Kit. W/ceranic, LR w/frpl, painted, new carpet, formal DR, part fin. bsmt w/ spacious rooms, immed glass block, extra Ige lot w/ occupancy & very motivated vacy fence, & 2 ca (P-330HE) \$65.000

GREAT CHANCE TO OWN! eat Lovely Dearborn high rise condo on the 9th floor w/view ws, of the city & Ambassador Bridge from balcony. Freshly

CHECK THIS OUT! Updated 2 bd (can be converted back to 3) home w/2 baths, spacious Living Room, open floor plan, updated Kitchen, heated Sunroom, finished bsmt w/ office & full bath, att 2 car Garage anglistay & Jarge lot rise Updated Garage, appl stay, & large lot. (P-800MO) \$85,000 (P-301PE)

oak staircase

Garage, & backs to



Inis large house has 4 bd, large Family room, Finished bent, 2100 sq ft spectacular



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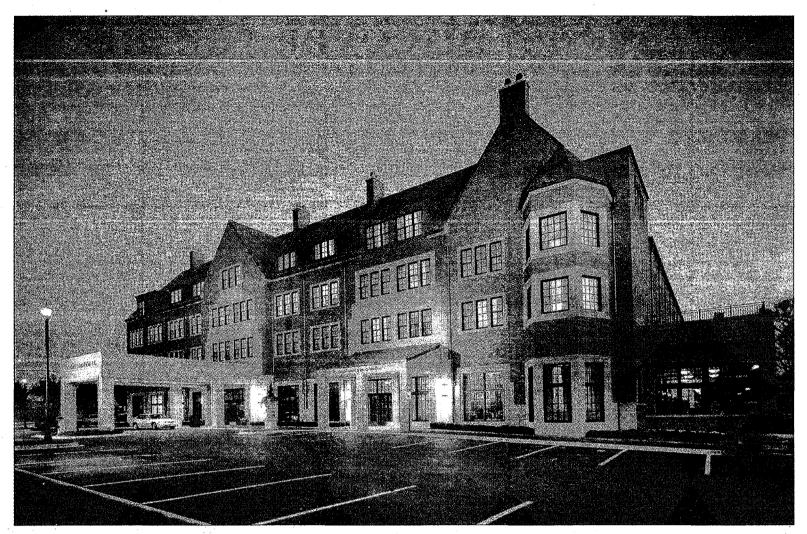
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1841 425 GUIST

Winning style

The 32nd annual Masonry Honor Awards Banquet will be held Thursday, May 10, at the Laurel Manor Special Event Center in Livonia, located at 39000 Schoolcraft Road. The Masonry Institute seeks to honor works of distinction by members of AIA Michigan and to bring public attention to outstanding buildings and projects designed by Michigan architects. The Royal Park Hotel in Rochester received the "People's M Award" from the Masonry Institute of Michigan and an "M Award for Excellence in Masonry Design." last year. Victor Saroki, the architect, also has projects entered in this year's event. For more information, call (734) 458-8544, Ext. 102, e-mail events@mim-online.org, or visit www.mim-online.org.





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Declining home values jeopardize retirees considering reverse mortgage

A deeper and more widespread decline in home values is jeopardizing many retirees' ability to tap a reverse mortgage for relief from their financial hardships.

According to a recent report from the National Association of Realtors (NAR), the fourth quarter of 2006 had the biggest year-over-year decline in home prices on record. Prices dropped 2.7 percent in the fourth quarter, which followed a 1.0percent decline in the third quarter.

Not only do declining home prices impact sellers and buyers, they also impact how much senior homeowners may receive when they apply for a reverse mortgage.

A reverse mortgage enables homeowners 62 and older to convert their home equity into cash. What makes this type of mortgage so popular is that there are no payments for as long as the borrowers live in their home. The reverse mortgage is typically repaid from the proceeds from the sale of the home, when the senior homeowner no longer lives there.

The amount a borrower may receive from a reverse mortgage is

determined by their age, the interest rate and the home value. A slump in a home's value can reduce the amount a retiree may receive from the reverse mortgage.

Median home prices are down 3.4 percent, as reported by NAR. During the past six months, there have been declines in three-quarters of the markets. A number of markets reported double-digit declines.

The market with the biggest drop in home values was Palm Bay-Melbourne-Titusville, Fla. The median prices plunged 19.5 percent.

A senior homeowner 74 years old with a \$200,000 home may receive a lump sum of \$123,421 from the federally-insured reverse mortgage. If the home value was to decline by 3.4 percent, the amount would be reduced by \$4,484.

However, if the home value was to drop 19.5 percent, the lump sum from the reverse mortgage would be \$99,773, or \$25,717 less — a significant amount by anyone's standards.

Senior homeowners with an existing mortgage on their home must pay it off to qualify for the reverse mortgage. This is usually done from the proceeds of the reverse mortgage. Paying off an existing mortgage and eliminating the monthly mortgage payment can make a huge difference in the lives of retirees struggling to live on a fixed or limited income.

"A drop in the amount a senior customer may receive from the reverse mortgage could risk their ability to qualify if there are not sufficient funds to pay off an existing mortgage in full," said Patrick Ervin, a reverse mortgage specialist with Allied Home Mortgage Capital Corp. "A decline in a home's value or rise in interest rates can reduce the amount that a customer may receive from the reverse mortgage."

The good news is that NAR believes the worst is over for the slump in home prices.

To learn more about reverse mortgages, Allied Home Mortgage Capital Corp. is providing a free reverse mortgage informational package and confidential estimate by calling it toll-free at (877) 696-3711 or by visiting www.reversehome.org.

Parade of Homes opens Friday

Parade of Homes, the 18th annual exhibition of new model homes located across southeastern Michigan, will open on March 16. The formerly monthlong event is being extended this year, and will run through Aug. 1. Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan and LaSalle Bank are the sponsors.

"There has never been a better time to buy a new home in Michigan," said Richard Ives, president of BIA.

"Extending the program to nearly five months will give the community more of an opportunity to see the incredible homes that are available all over the region, and at a time when new homebuyers are enjoying historically low interest rates. This is truly a buyer's market."

The Parade of Homes offers potential homebuyers an opportunity to visit the area's finest model homes, from condominiums and single-family homes to homes in gated communities and lakeside villas. Participants will also have an opportunity to see firsthand the latest trends in architecture, interior design, amenities and materials. The 58 model homes range in price from \$97,400 to \$1.4 million.

Architects and building industry

experts will judge the homes and award winners in several categories prior to the event opening. This year's judges are Sharon Glinka of La Salle Bank; Michael Gordon, AIA, of

Moiseev/Gordon Associates Inc.; and Michael T. Miller, AIA, of The Design Group. The judges will make their decisions based on the use of innovative design, use of space, aesthetic appeal of the home and value for the price.

A Parade of Homes magazine containing renderings, features, and location maps for all homes will be available at 300 LaSalle Bank branches and 205 CVS/pharmacy locations throughout southeastern Michigan, at all participating model homes, and at BIA's Spring Home & Garden Show, April 13-15 at the Rock Financial Showplace in Novi.

For additional information on the 2007 Spring Parade of Homes, call (248) 862-1032 or visit www.builders.org. The Parade of Homes Web site,

www.BIAparadeofhomes.com, will go live on March 16 and will feature informative news stories on home ownership and economic issues as well as details on each home.

BIA and LaSalle Bank will also sponsor a Parade of Homes event in the fall.

PARADE OF HOMES

What: An exhibition of 58 new model homes located throughout southeastern Michigan. The free scattered site showcase of new homes gives potential homebuyers an opportunity to visit the area's finest model homes.

When: March 16 through Aug. 1, 2007

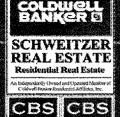
Where: Throughout southeastern Michigan

Features: An array of homes ranging from condominiums and single-family homes, to homes in gated communities and lakeside villas.

Featured attractions of the show include:

- Homes ranging in price from \$97,400 to \$1.4 million
- The latest in architecture, interior design, amenities, materials, design and convenience
- Participating homes can be viewed via open house tours beginning March
- Free magazine guide to the participating model homes available at 300 LaSalle Bank locations and 205 CVS locations throughout southeastern Michigan
- Architects and building industry experts will judge the homes and award winners in several categories before the show begins
- Information on the featured homes can be found at www.builders.org or www.BIAparadeofhomes.com beginning March 17.





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Mstr Suites, Walkout Bsmt, Portico & 2 Garages!
248-347-3050



Remodeled w/granite in baths. 2-story foyer; hw firs; new ss appl's; backs to 16 acres of woods; mstr suite w/WIC's. 2 FP's; paver patio w/veranda.
MLS# 27033984 248-347-3050



Gourmet kit w/granite counter tops, mstr ste w/private sitting rm & jetted tub. GR w/FP, 2-st foyer, formal DR and LR.

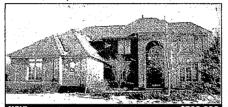
MLS# 27022074 734-453-6800



1st Fir Mstr Backing To woods! GR W/18' Ceiling &2way Fp To Kit, 42"maple Cabs, Granite Cnters & Ss Appl's. Fin Bsmt W/office- 5th Br, FR w/bar, & Bth. .. 248-347-3050



On Private Cul-de-sac! 2 Story Foyer, Hw Firs 1/0, Fresh Pnt'd, Dual Strcases, 2 Story FR W/bridge Jack&Jill Bth, Princess Ste, 3.5 Car Gar, UnfinW/o. MLS# 27008624 248-347-3050



\$500,000 Gourmet Kitchen w/42" Cabs. Oversized Fam Rm w/ frpl, Granite 1/2 Bth, HW Firs, Mstr w/9X6 Bonus Rm, Fin Bsmt w/ In-Law Ste, Fin 3+ Gar on 1/2 Acre Lot MLS# 27012877 248-347-3050



Spectacular dream home. Golf course setting w/sweeping view of fairways & woods. Gourmet kit w/ sweeping view of fairways & woods. Gourn granite. All BR,s w/bathrooms. Prof finished bs MLS# 27014867 734-453-6800



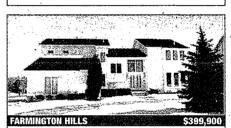
Backing to 1st fairway! Family rm w/FP;kitchen w/ nook; master bedrm w/tray ceiling, 2 wic& bath 4 bed/
2.1 baths, hardwd firs; fin.LL w/rec rm& office.
MLS# 27024834 248-347-3050



Phenomenal Home! 4 BR, 3-1/2bath Colonial. Gourmet kitchen (all appls incl). Luxurious Master. Dramatic 2-story FR w/gas FP All BR,s have bathrooms. MLS# 27023612 734-453-6800



Wooded lot! dual strcs, Newer dimen.roof, Florida rm off kit, Paver walks& patios, 2 FP's,10' ceilings in bsmt.w. rough-ins,4bed/2.1baths. MLS# 27020253 248-347-3050



GR w/fp, Private study, New granite t/o, 2 skylights in GR w/bridge above, kit w/extra walls of cabs, Mstr suite w/glam bth w/Jacuzzi, 1st flr Indry.
MLS# 27037389 248-347-3050



Plymouth craftsman, 5BR bungalow, opn flrpln, HDWD flrs, oak strcase, huge eat in kit. 2.1 BA & pt finished bsmt. Loaded w/character. Must see!

MLS# 27020824 734-453-6800



Gourmet kit w/huge isl & hdwd, nook w/hdwd. GR w/ gas FP & ceil fan. Formal DR. Master ste w/trey ceil & glam BA w/skylight, jet tub, WIC & dbl sinks. MLS# 27030334 734-453-6800



Unmatchable Value, Location & Beauty! Hrdwd Firs, Vaulted Ceilings, New Gourmet Kitchen, Frpl, Master w/ dual Walk-In-Closets & Glam Bth & 2-tier Deck. MLS# 27031892 248-347-3050



Quality, Style, Prime Location! Impressive Ranch Offering Open Flr Plan w/Chefs Delight Kitchen, Spacious Great Rm w/Frpl, Mstr w/private bth & deck. MLS# 27035857 248-347-3050



\$250,000 Kit w/maple cab&corian cntrs. Ceramic tile, hw firs & newer carpet.1st fir in-law-qrters could be den/media rm. Updates incl frnce, a/c, bths & more. MLS# 27023038 248-347-3050



Move-in ready! Gorgeous maple firs in foyer, LR & DR. Updates incl: kit w/new counters, fir, DW & stove; vinyl wndws; furn; A/C^too much to mention. 734-453-6800



Gorgeous Tri Level, almost 1/2 acre in Echo Valley Est. 3BR, 2.1BA, Irg master w/WIC, sit area, BA & balcony. HDWD firs t/o. Great yard w/ingrd pool. MI S# 27031862 734-453-6800



Last one left in sub, price drastically reduced. 4BR, 2.1BA, 2430 sq ft w/almost an acre lot. Must see to MLS# 27031767 734-453-6800



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Brick ranch w/new hdwd flrs t/o, FP, grmt kit, huge master suite, enormous full bsmt.Updates incl paint, furn, A/C, roof, h2o, elec, windows & more. MLS# 27023880 734-453-6800



A 10!!! Mint 4 BR, 2 Bath home w/Anderson Windows Cathedral Ceilings & Pretty Kitchen. MBR Ensuite sink & His/Hers Closets. Newer Landscaping.



Better Than New-Value Plus! Vaulted Ceilings, Great Rm w/Fieldstone Frpl, Gourmet Kitchen, 1st fl Mstr w/ hrdwd flr & finished lower level w/bdrm & bth. MLS# 27033431 248-347-3050



Space & luxury! New kit 42" maple cabinets, granite, hdwd fir. New carpet & solid wd drs. Master has his/hers baths! Guest retreat w/full bath! 734-453-6800



Kit w/ all appls, din rm w/ hdwd firs & dw to deck,frm liv rm,glamour bath w/skylight. Updates incld:furn, root

wndws,siding,H20 & more! MLS# 27029346

734-453-6800



This updated ranch sits on 1.55 acres. Home offers tear off roof in '01. In '06: ext paint, electrical, faucets in both baths & kit. Florida room. 248-646-1800



Remodeled 3 BR, 2.5 Bth. HW Firs T/o. Fully Fin Bsmnt W/wet Bar, Fam Rm&full Bth. Updates Incl Kit W/ss Appl.,bths, Wndws, hwt, & Freshpaint T/o. MLS# 27003690 248-347-3050



Check this one out! New kit w/granite, SS appliances, updated baths. New roof & deck! 2 car garage. Lg fenced lot. Clean & ready for immed occupancy! MLS# 27031253 734-453-6800



3BR, 1-1/2BA updated ranch. Light-bright updated kitchen. Furn/AC & roof all newer. Replacement wndws t/o. Spac BR,s w/California closet organizers. MLS# 27020967



Mint Condition! Updated ranch w/ newer kit. cabs, ceramic file appliances, windows, furnace, AC, HWH & ceramic tile, appliances, windows, furnace, AC, HWH & Driveway, Finished LL. Measurements approx.

MLS# 27011426 248-646-1800



Great Location, Home Features LR-DR Combo, Nice Size Kit W/Appl. Updated Powder Rm. New Carpet, Furnace & H20. Library could Be 3rd BR Close To Pool.

MLS# 27032102 248-347-3050



YPSILANTI Gourmet kitchen w/all appls & new cab. Huge FR w/lots of light. Formal DR. Lrg mstr ste, bonus room upstairs tons of storage. New glam BA w/cer tile.

MLS# 27030518

734-453-6800



Immaculate ranch! Many improvements. Totally new kitchen. Oversized rms. Fully finished bsmt w/bath & bar area. Lg breezeway connecting you to garage. MLS# 27006161 734-453-6800



Charming setting, walk to town, 2-story condo. 2 BR, 1 BA, Ig living & dining. Newer kit & wndws. All appl,s incl. Basement. Don,t miss this one! 734-453-6800



Pretty as a picture! Lovely 2 BR condo ^ priced below new! Many upgrades. 1500 square foot. Close to park, golf courses & bike trails. golf courses & bi MLS# 27029736 734-453-6800



Great investment! Walkout lower level could be converted to duplex. Lg rooms, semi uptd. Handy man special priced to sell. Close to dntwn Plymouth. MLS# 27020758 734-453-6800



New Kit, New Cabs, Counters, & Pergo Wd Firs, New Copper Plumbing, Newer Vinyl Windows, Updated Bth, Fresh Pntd, HW Firs Refin, Water Proofed Bsmnt. MLS# 27033570 248-347-3050



Terrific location at back of complex. Updated kit w/oak cab's, cer fir & new appl's. HDWD in DR. Ready to move in, neutral décor.
MLS# 27006543 734-453-6800



Cute Describes This 2 Bedroom Ranch In Farmington Newer Furnace, Air Contiloning Electric Panel 248-360-1425



\$15,000 Kit W/Lafada Hickory Cabs, Corian Cnters, Crmic Fir &backsplash, & New Appls All Incl. New Bth w/ceramic Tile, Fin Bsmnt, Private Yard W/Deck. MLS# 27038068 248-347-3050



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Ideal conditions could allow firsttime buyers gain equity faster

Making a well-timed investment move is rarely as easy as deciding to become a homeowner now. Local and national economic factors create unusually attractive housing market conditions that are unlikely to last.

First-time buyers, in particular, benefit from an ideal combination of low mortgage rates, a wide availability of new homes and builder incentives — a perfect alignment to help shoppers become owners.

Recent graduates, young families and couples forming new house-holds can trade cramped apartments for starter homes — a smart step toward building lifelong wealth through the generous tax advantages and proven gains of real estate ownership. And look what Southeastern Michigan builders are doing to put keys in homebuyers' hands:

■ Free upgrades: Granite counters, stainless steel appliances and finished basements increasingly are standard new home features.

Financing help: Some buyers qualify for eliminated closing costs

or a half-year of mortgage payments covered by the builder.

■ Flexibility: Prices and transaction details have more wiggle room than during times of active construction.

Palazzolo Brothers, a builder of communities throughout the region, offers an innovative incentive for newcomers. "We have a gift registry for engaged couples and newlyweds that doubles the value of monetary gifts if they buy one of our homes or condominiums," explains Sam Palazzolo. His company matches up to \$2,500 in gifts to reduce the purchase cost — a wedding present to enjoy every day.

The same builder offers rent-free lodging at its apartment communities, such as The Preserves in Sterling Heights, while buyers wait for a home to be completed.

"All those breaks actually are bonuses on top of the biggest reason to move now," says Palazzolo, whose knowledge of housing market fluctuations comes from being a

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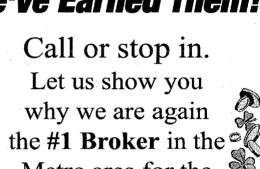
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REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Two-story homes planned

Westchester Village, a Bloomfield Township community of some 350 ranches first developed in 1953, will now allow the construction of two-story homes, as the result of a change in a deed restriction.

Builders Wellington-Chase Homes of Bloomfield Hills and Hunter-Roberts Homes of Birmingham are involved in the re-development of the community.

With four new homes already built, and more to come, owners of existing ranches are getting on the redevelopment bandwagon: they're considering renovating their ranches to include first-floor masters, and redesigning layouts suited to empty nesters.

"We're really excited about this opportunity to enhance the community," said Ken Peterson, partner, Wellington-Chase Homes. "It's the perfect neighborhood for this mix of one and two-story homes. Unlike other upscale urban areas, the two-story homes in Westchester won't infringe on the privacy of neighbors, or cast shadows on their homes – the lots in Westchester are large."

Wellington-Chase Homes Homes, at 36240 Woodward Ave. in Bloomfield Hills, was established in 1999 and specializes in the Birmingham-Bloomfield area. Partners Brett Boes, Ken Peterson

and Ron Grobelny have backgrounds in engineering, architecture and construction. Wellingon-Chase Homes is a member of Licensed Builders - State of Michigan, National Association of Home Builders - Washington D.C. **Building Industries Association of SE** Michigan, Michigan Association of Home Builders and The Birmingham Builders Task Force. They are also members of and contributors to the Macomb County Habitat for Humanity (Ken Peterson is a past president) and Rebuilding Together Macomb - president. Visit their Web site at www.wellingtonchasehomes.com.

New home buying class

Success Mortgage Partners Inc. will sponsor a class for those looking to purchase a new construction home at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 20, at their offices located at 1200 S. Sheldon Road, Plymouth. Registration is required. Contact: Diane Adamick (734) 259-0850.

Broder & Sachse hires property manager

Laurie Wood has joined Broder & Sachse Real Estate Services Inc., an office, retail and multi-family property management and development company in Birmingham as a property manager. Wood, a Lapeer resident, had been a senior facilities manager for automotive and financial corporate clients at Trammell Crow Company in Auburn Hills. Her 21-year property and facility management career includes managing office and light industrial corporate and multi-tenant properties.

Wood is a member of the Building Owners and Managers Association and a licensed real estate broker in Michigan.

Reverse mortgage seminar

A free reverse mortgage seminar "Moving Forward in Reverse" is being offered at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road Livonia, at 6 p.m. every Tuesday in March. No payments, no credit requirements and individual appointments are available. Please rsvp with John McParland at (800) 260-5484.

Feng shui classes

Improve your chances for good luck in many aspects of your life from money and relationships to career and health using Feng Shui (foong shway), the ancient Chinese practice of placement.

The Design Spirit presents the Feng Shui classes for Oakland Builders Institute. For a free brochure and current schedule of classes call (800) 940-2014 or (248) 651-2771.

Builders pre-license class

Oakland Builders Institute is presenting a 16-hour comprehensive seminar to give students the help needed to pass the Michigan state builder's license examination. The seminar is scheduled for 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, March 24 and 25, at the Best Western ConCorde Inn of Rochester Hills, 1919 Star-Batt Dr., Rochester Hills

The course is for those who want to subcontract the construction of their own homes, real estate investors and developers and building trades people who want to work legally in Michigan. The cost of the seminar is \$205. The manual, sample questions and the test application are all included.

A \$25 deposit is required no later than Wednesday, March 21, to Oakland Builders Institute, 1277 Dutton Road, Rochester Hills, Mich., 48306. Call toll-free 1-800-940-2014 or 248-651-2771 to register Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or register online at www.buildersinstitute.com

BIA offers programs

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) and the Construction Association of Michigan will present the following programs:

A Construction Safety Training Workshop from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, March 20, at the Total Sports Complex, 30900 Wixom Road in Wixom. The workshop will feature comprehensive courses on topics including fall protection, trenching, masonry, aerial lift, fire protection, asbestos awareness and accident investigation.

Registration fees, including continental breakfast, are \$90 per person and payable at the door only. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

■ "Energy Efficiency Home Building Training" – from 9 a.m. to noon on Tuesday, March 27, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills.

Douglas Black (HERS accredited, LEED AP) of WARM Training Center will lead the seminar, using real-life examples of homes built in Michigan to compare different energy standards. The seminar will compare the Michigan Residential Code, Energy Star and the Federal Tax Credit standard and look at what it takes to get there, how much it costs, and how to market it.

The registration fee is \$10 per person. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

■ "Green Products: What You Need to Know – What You Need to Have" – from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 10, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills.

Jacob Corvidae, Green Programs

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BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 10

Manager, WARM Training Center will instruct attendees on the basics of green building products, and will provide many pass-around samples, from bamboo flooring to low-VOC paints, recycled glass terrazo to all-natural carpeting, and much more.

Registration fees, including continental breakfast, are \$20 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members and \$40 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-

■ A comprehensive builder's license preparation course on Thursdays, April 12, April 19, April 26 and May 3, 2007 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills.

Prepared by NCI Associates, Madison Heights, the course is designed to prepare students for the Michigan Builder's License Examination.

Material covered will include topics on the exam, laws and rules, building practices and procedures, sample test questions and test-taking strategies.

The registration fee is \$200 per person. For registration information, call

(248) 548-2090.

A "Design/Build" seminar from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday, April 13, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills. The seminar is part of the Certified Graduate Builder (CGB)

Chuck Breidenstein of Builders Professional Services Group Inc. will instruct attendees on how to create a well-managed, full-service building or remodeling business that can pocket more profits while maximizing customer satisfaction.

Registration fees are \$155 for Remodelors Council members, \$175 for BIA members and \$200 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033

**Mariott, 200 West Big Beaver Road, in Troy. The seminar is sponsored by First Horizons Home Loans.

Tom Richey of Richey Resources will instruct attendees on "Heeding the Ten Commandments of Today's Challenging Economy," "marketing to address the new market," "bringing sales management up to an A-performance level," and "learning how to neutralize the negotiators."

Registration fees are \$35 for Sales and Marketing Council and Remodelors Council members, \$55 for BIA members and \$75 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033

**Codes and Quality Control" – from 8 a.m. to noon on Friday, April 20, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills.

Chuck Breidenstein of Builders Professional Services Group, Inc. will instruct attendees on defining quality within one's company by identifying five essential quality components. The course outlines a superintendent's responsibilities regarding codes and provides tips on code enforcement and compliance on the job site.

Registration fees are \$155 for BIA members and \$185 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

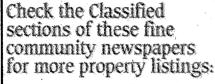
■ A "Negotiating Skills" course from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, April 24, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills. The course is part of the Certified Graduate Remodelor (CGR) series and counts toward Certified Graduate Associate and Graduate Master Builder designation, Chuck Breidenstein of Builder Professional Services Group will instruct attendees on strategies for specific negotiating situations through a combination of lectures, exercise and role-playing.

Registration fees are \$155 for Remodelors Council members, \$175 for BIA members and \$200 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

A "Business Management for Building Professionals" course from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday, May 7, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills.

Brindley R.W. Byrd, CAPS, CGR of Qx2 Inc. will provide participants with the essential "tools" for the ideal business management toolbox. The course will discuss the components of a business plan; defining and staffing your business; performance tools for managing and monitoring administration, sales, and production; and strategies for managing common challenges experienced in startup businesses.

Registration fees are \$185 for Remodelors Council members, \$235 for BIA members and \$275 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.



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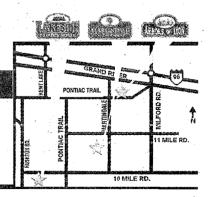
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Don't let 'dictator' take over condo association



Robert Meisner

Q. Our condo association has a little dictator running the association who has been in power for over 15 years. He usurps the role the rest of the board members, and does not even consult them with respect to bylaw violations. What can we do about the situation as a co-owner? A. The best recourse is

to contact the other board members and remind them of their fiduciary responsibilities and if they allow the "dictator" to continue unabashed, consider removing him as a director by way of the process set forth in the bylaws and/or the Non-profit Corporation Act. While you need leadership in condo associations. persons who usurp their role to the exclusion of others on the board in regard to their input should not be

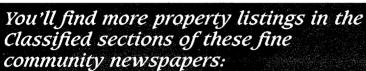
allowed to continue in their position and if the other board members are complacent, they will get what they

Q. Our association meetings are getting out of hand and our bylaws suggest some sort of parliamentary procedure. What do you recommend?

A. More than likely, your documents require that you use parliamentary procedures such as Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised. It is best to have a parliamentary and, if necessary, assist in the running of the meeting if you expect there to be a problem with the members. You are best advised to hire a

parliamentarian who does not have a proprietary interest in the association. While it is good to use parliamentary procedure, smaller size meetings such as board and committee meetings can be less formal.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling For more information, call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.



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LIVONIA-Fabulous 1694 sq ft 3 bedrm, 2 bath ranch offering att'd 2.5 car garage + add'l mechanics dream heated garage, newer wndws, oak ktchn, new dimensional roof, huge liv rm w/ frplc, hardwd flrs, 13x13 breezeway. \$219,900 (L75Gra) www.qualitygmac.com/mls=26216930

FARMINGTON HILLS-Large end unit ranch condo offers 3 bedrms, 3 baths, great ktchn w/ oak cabs, master w/walk-in-closet & full bath, 1st flr laundry, professionally fin'd walkout w/ lg great rm, 3rd bedrm & bath. \$239,900 (L22Mea)

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MILFORD-Terrific buy in Milford Twp - no Village taxes! Well maintained, clean ranch w/ 3 bdrms, 2 full baths, 1st floor laundry & fin'd walkout on 1.5 gorgeous acres! Newer windows, boiler, softener, well + more! \$239,900 (L64Ann)

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NORTHVILLE-Charming 3 or 4 bdrm bungalow in downtown Northville! Nice floor plan w/living rm, ktchn w/brkfst nook & formal dining rm. Yard has wonderful brick patio. Walk to shops, restaurants, library & post office! \$289,900 (L33Cen)

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FARMINGTON HILLS-Charming 3 bedrm colonial in great area! Cathedral ceilings in great rm, fmly rm w/brick frplc, hardwood firs, doorwall off nook to patio & beautiful yard. Updated roof, siding & wndws! A must see! \$194,900 (L98Dun) www.qualitygmac.com/mls=27008640

FARMINGTON-Charming 2 bedrm starter home. Updated: ceramic bath, ktchn w/ lots of counters cabinets & 7x3 walk-in-pantry, wndws, roof, A/C, furn, siding, plumbing + award winning landscaping! \$148,900 (1.09\foralloo) (L09Vio)

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HOMES SOLD

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 13-17, 2006, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office, plus some from Oakland County. Listed below are

cities, addresses and sales prices.				
\$500,000				
\$155,000				
\$174,000				
\$220,000				
\$80,000				
\$340,000				
\$297,000				
\$232,000				
\$365,000				
\$40,000				
\$122,000				
\$150,000				
\$275,000				
\$202,000				
\$260,000				
\$150,000				
\$225,000				
\$211,000				
Farmington				
\$158,000				
\$210,000				

29990 Kimberly Dr

30706 Knighton Dr

22076 Malden St

38057 Lantern Hill Ct

22279 Nearbrook Ct

34930 Pennington Dr

30019 Richmond HI

37654 Russett Dr	
30703 Shiawassee Re	ď
29557 Sierra Point C	ir
21351 Whitlock St	
G	a
29503 Meadow Ln	

19758 Norwich Rd

14412 Stonehouse Ave

33944 Wadsworth St

1796 Brookbury Dr

1726 Pinewood

1971 S Milford Rd

\$143,0
\$119,00
\$282,0
\$225,0

Milford

Northville

Novi

	\$117,000
	\$282,000 \$225,000 \$355,000 \$200,000 \$150,000

\$119,000	
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\$355,000	
\$200,000	
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4.00,000	
\$466,000	
\$217,000	
\$E11,000	

\$278,000

\$108,000

\$170,000

\$50,000	793 Deer Ct
	13140 Karl Dr
\$143,000	47330 Marisa Ct
\$119,000	41911 Riveroaks Dr
	45200 Turtlehead Dr
\$282,000	Redford
\$225.000	16724 Beech Daly Rd
\$355,000	13535 Dixie
\$200,000	13220 Hemingway
\$150,000	9255 Louis
,	10058 Royal Grand
\$466,000	South Lyo
\$217.000	58721 Carriage Ln
\$269,000	25746 Coach Ln

12215 Appletree Dr

8955 Corinne St

Plymouth

\$297,000 \$220,000 \$200,000 \$100,000 \$610,000 \$223,000 \$261,000 \$126,000

\$162,000

\$120,000

\$162,000

\$110,000

\$70,000

\$70,000

21001 Pontiac Trl 54370 Villagewood Dr Westland 7507 Culpepper Ct 38146 Greenwood St 30500 Ledgecliff Ave 34601 Melton St 2100 N Globe St 1846 S Christine 32532 Sandra Ln

237 Cuyahoga Ct

1184 Fountain View Cir

23682 Lyon Ridge Dr

23706 Lyon Ridge Dr

120 Maplewood Ct

212 Oakbrooke Dr

\$116,000 \$160,000 \$98,000 \$125,000 \$94,000 \$150,000 \$97,000 \$110,000 \$110,000 \$155,000

\$478,000

\$110,000

\$412,000

\$437,000

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6210,000

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\$520,000

\$173,000

\$430,000

\$230,000

\$168,000

15911 Augusta Ct
19233 Clement Rd
19467 Eddington Pl
925 Grace St
42175 Pellston Dr
48810 Rainbow Ln N
48834 Rainbow Ln N
49027 Rainbow Ln N
49055 Rainbow Ln N
1COO Hawkan Co.

23983 Lebost

22173 Pondview

27267 Victoria

30217 Viewcrest

24420 Willow Ln

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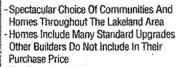




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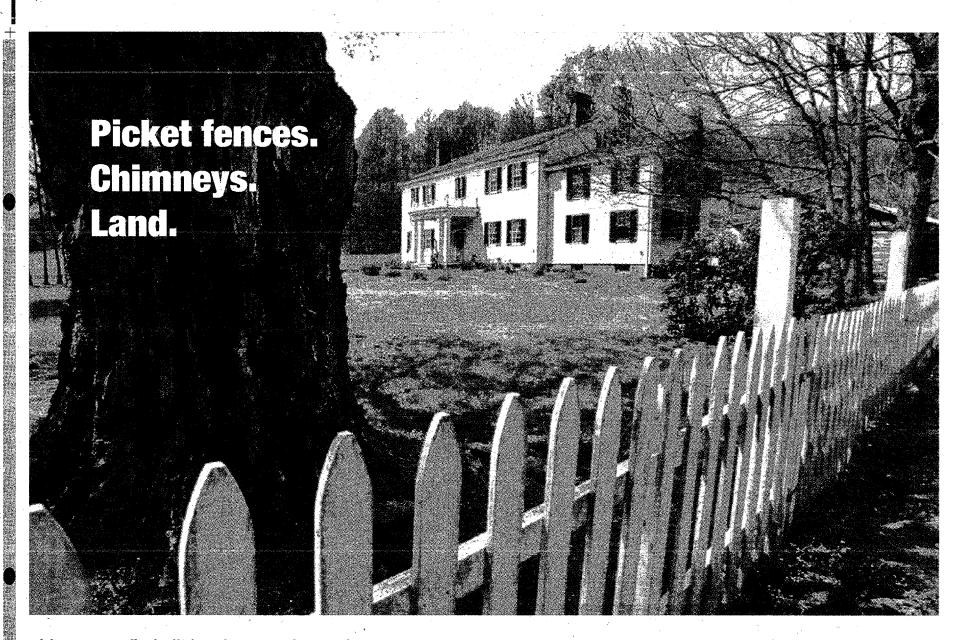
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Detroit riverfront to be featured at CREW Midwest conference

Downtown Detroit's riverfront will play a key role in a May conference of several hundred commercial real estate professionals from 11 Midwestern states and Ontario.

Scheduled for May 3-5 at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, the annual Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW) Midwest Regional Conference (MWRC) will feature Detroit River development efforts in several conference sessions, including a narrated river cruise, an expert panel discussion of Midwestern waterfront revitalization projects and a keynote address by Matt Cullen, General Motors Corp. general manager/economic development & enterprise services and an active proponent of Detroit River redevelopment.

The Thursday, May 3, afternoon riverboat cruise will highlight recent and planned developments on the Detroit and Windsor sides of the Detroit River.

On May 4, the conference's signature panel, "On the Waterfront: Revitalizing Riverfronts and Leveraging Lakefronts," will examine successful waterfront development projects in the Midwest and Ontario. The Friday morning event

will feature speakers from participating regional CREW chapters — including host chapter CREW Detroit — presenting case histories, best practices and biggest challenges.

Cullen, an instrumental figure in Detroit's riverfront revitalization since GM's 1996 purchase of the Renaissance Center, will deliver the conference's keynote address during Friday's afternoon luncheon.

GM has signed on as a \$10,000
"Superior" level conference sponsor,
says Joan Cleland, conference chair and
president of Acquest Development Inc.
in Bloomfield Hills. Other sponsors
include the Michigan Economic
Development Corporation and
Oakwood Healthcare System
Foundation as a sponsor of the conference "NetWalks" — morning walking
and running tours of Detroit led by
local CREW members.

Multiple sponsorship opportunities from \$1,800 to \$10,000 — which also include exposure at CREW Detroit events and on its publications and Web site throughout 2007 — are available. For more information, contact Debra Osuch at (586) 731-3100.

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BUYERS

FROM PAGE 8

builder here since 1984. "Low entry costs and mortgage rates around 6 percent mean that new owners build up equity faster.

"Buying when the housing market is down just makes sense," he adds. "It's what savvy investors try to do with stocks, which are much harder to time profitably."

Against that backdrop, first-time buyers locally have their pick of locations, home styles, sizes and price levels. Opportunities within the reach of shoppers in their 20s or 30s include Cottages at Mill River, a Palazzolo project in South Lyon near Kensington Metro Park. Three- and four-bedroom homes with 9-foot ceilings and covered front porches start at \$200,000. Residents have access to a community clubhouse.

Clearly, in this economic environment, gaining the security and stability of buying a "starter home" no longer means having to compro-

For complete information on 58 new homes throughout Southeastern Michigan, visit www.BIAparadeofhomes.com.

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AFI Financial	(877) 234-0600	5.625	0.75	5.375	0:375	J/A
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Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	5.75	0.25	5.5	0.25	J/A
Benchmark Lending	(586) 463-2255	5.875	. 0	5.5	0	J/A
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Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	6	1	5.75	1	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	6.125	0	5.75	0	Α
DFCU Financial	(800) 739-2770	5.875	2	5.375	2	J/A
Earth Mortgage	(877) 327-8450	5.625	1	5.375	1	J/A/V/F
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	6.125	0.375	5.875	0.375	J/V/F
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Mainstreet Mortgage	(800) 900-1313	5.875	0	5.625	0	J/A/V/F
Manufacturers	(586) 777-1000	5.625	1	5.375	1	J/A
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Michigan United Mortgage	(810) 844-2222	5.625	0.625	5.25	0.875	J/A
National City Bank	(586) 825-0825	5.625	2.125	5.375	1.75	J/A
Northlawn Financial	(248) 988-8488	5.75	0	5.5	0	J/A/V/F
Pathway Financial LLC	(800) 726-2274	5.875	0	5.5	0	J/A/F
Shore Mortgage	(800) 678-6663	5.375	3	5	3	J/A/V/F
United Mortgage Group	(586) 286-9500	5.875	0	5.5	0	J/A
York Financial Inc.	(888) 839-9675	5.75	0	5.5	0	J/A

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- Dan Elsea, President, Brokerage Services



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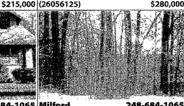
1 Jane

Livonia 734-326-2000 Livonia 248-851-1900 Milford 248
COMPLETELY REMODELED Beautiful, clean, inviting. This has to be the best house for a mile. Most everything has been maintained whether in or out, Completely floors in all bedrooms & under carpet in finished basement.





248-684-1065 Milford



Hill-top walkout site.





248-684-1065 Northville 734-455-7000 Novi 248-348-6430
PRICED UNDER MARKET VALUE! Custom HOME ON ESTATE SIZE LOT BACKS TO builders home! Features: in-ground pool, WOODS. Spotless 4 br, 3.5 ba. Handsome cust kit w/granite tops, built-in I-pod fin LL w/full ba, sauna & exercise rm station, 4.5car gar, sauna, 1st fir mstr, fin bsmt w/theater rm & more.

248-684-1065 Novi 248-348-6430 Novi 248-348-348-348 Novi 248-348-348-348 Novi 248-348-348 Novi 248-348 N \$679,900 (27013803)







Novi 248-348-6430 Novi 248-348



Redford 734-591-9200 Salem 734-455-7000 Walled Lake 248-348-6430 GREAT STARTER BUNGALOW IN NORTH MASSIVE PRICE REDUCTION! Gorgeous WALLED LAKE-COZY CONDO PRIVENTRY RBULOUS CUL-DE-SAC LOCATION w/ EXCELLENT CONDITION HOME! Home BEAUTIFUL WIXOM CONDO Seriable 2 by 2.5 ba condo. New hrdwd firs in GR. Bsmnt. Newer Roof, Wndws, Kitch W/New Carpet, Vndws, Kitch W/New Carpet 2nd Lvl. Cop and attention to detail.

Westland 734-591-9200 Westland 734-591-9200 Wixom 248-348-6430 (Fixed Plants of the Condition of the Condit

N. WHIP





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\$120,000 (26001079)

\$749,900 (26140464)

\$129,900 (27004540)

\$289,900 (27017918)

\$214,900 (26194988)

\$155,500 (26213735)

\$210,000

\$176,900