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Cox gym scrapped Local business submitted quote

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

The state Office of Management and Budget has told Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox he can't put a controversial fitness center for his investigators in the downtown Lansing office building that houses A.G. operations.

As a result, Cox will scrap plans for the gym before it ever gets off the ground, which comes as bad news for at least one local business.

"The Office of Management and Budget told us they won't permit the use of the space in the G. Mennen Williams Building for a workout facility," said Rusty Hills, a spokesman for Cox. "Since we're not going to have the workout facility, we're not going to do anything with the bids for the foreseeable future.'

One of those bids came from Fitness Things on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth, one of the largest providers of fitness equipment in Michigan. Owner Gary Walley said the \$57,995.50 invoice for the attorney general's fitness center — posted by the Democratic Party on its Web site – was only a quote and not a sale. "We provided the quote back in November, before the election," Walley said. "They were investigating whether they could find a way to fund putting a fitness center in for their employees. Like any other company, municipality or school, they were just researching the cost. It was not an order." The Nov. 13, 2006 document is clearly labeled as a quote for equipment, including a treadmill, elliptical, recumbent bike and dumbbells. Cox has been criticized by Democrats for spending money on a gym for his investigators at a time when the state is in the middle of a budget crisis, and his department is planning to lay off 21 full-time employees at the end of this week. "The whole point of this was to make sure our 37 investigators, who deal with dangerous individuals, are in peak physical condition, like other officers, such as Michigan State Police," said Hills. "The easiest way to do it is to create an on-site workout facility, which makes it more productive and useful. "All the equipment was going to be paid for from private funds, not taxpayer dollars," he said. "It would have benefited the state." Walley said he has "no doubt the fitness center would have paid for itself, perhaps in as little as 18 months, through insurance savings." "The benefits, which are proven in the industry, will reduce health care and insurance costs by reductions in premiums," Walley said.

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RUNNING **ON EMPTY** Fire staffing forces

occasional station closing BY TONY BRUSCATO

STAFF WRITER

Plymouth Community Fire Department Chief Randy Maycock said below-maximum staffing levels have forced him to shut down the Lake Pointe fire station three times since December 2005, and operate the remaining two stations with less than the optimum number of firefighters.

Several Plymouth Township trustees expressed prise when Maycock told them last week the I Pointe station on Wilcox Road had been shut "from as little as five hours up to 12 hours."

Maximum staffing is 27 firefighters, which would allow for nine firefighters at each of the three fire sta tions. However, because of retirements, injuries and one dismissal, Maycock said the department is dow

"The biggest issue the fire department cur has is staffing the fire stations," Maycock tol trustees. "On a good day, if everybody show d up f work, I have only seven or eight people. You take one or two people out of that equation and all of a you have crisis mode every day."

Maycock said Station No. 2 (Lake Pointe) wa closed once in December 2005, early in 2006 and during the summer of 2006.

"We're literally working bare bones at the stations, and when you factor in personal time, vacation time

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

BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dr. Richard Ingram conducts the Plymouth Oratorio Society, replacing the late Len Riccinto, who passed away in December after battling leukemia.

This one's for Len

Oratorio Society dedicates concert to late director

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

Len Riccinto had the music all picked out for the 2007 Plymouth Oratorio Society concert, and he had every intention of directing the POS for the 12th straight year.

All he had to do, he figured, was beat the leukemia for which he was being treated.

He didn't, and now instead of getting ready to sing the music with Riccinto, their long-time director, the Plymouth Oratorio Society singers will do it to honor him. Riccinto succumbed to the leukemia in December. Riccinto, who called some members from his hospital

bed to let them know the music he'd chosen, had

PLEASE SEE ORATORIO, A6

HITTING THE STAGE

What: Plymouth Oratorio Society Concert When: 4 p.m., Sunday, April 22 Where: First United Methodist

Township

How much: Free-will offering (\$10 suggested)

Selections: Mass in Eb by Franz Schubert; Gospel Mass by Robert Ray

Church, 45201 N. Territorial, Plymouth

with the Michigan Sinfonietta Orchestra

DDA shuffles summer concert series times

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

The popular Music in the Air summer concert series in downtown Plymouth's Kellogg Park will start a half-hour earlier this summer.

Beginning June 1 with perennial favorite Mass Transit, the Downtown Development Authority-sponsored concerts will begin at 7 p.m. and last no later than 9:30 p.m.

"It will bring more vibrancy to downtown at a more peak

time of the day," said Adam Covington, DDA board member and owner of Burger Spot on Forest Avenue. "It will allow people to come early, pick their spot on the lawn, and maybe go shopping or get something to eat before the concert."

Tom Piotrowski, a DDA member and owner of Delta Diamond on Ann Arbor Trail, said the decision was also made with families in mind.

"We get a lot of families with strollers and young kids coming to the Friday night concerts,

along with grandparents and grandkids, so we thought it would be good to start earlier," Piotrowski said. "When the band takes a break, it's almost like halftime of a football game, some people get up and leave. Maybe this will allow them to stay longer and enjoy the entire concert."

Music in the Air will run every Friday night throughout the summer, except during the Art in the Park weekend July 13.

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and on-the-job injury time, there are days we have five people who are willing to work," he said. "For the first time in the history of the department, we've been forced to close fire stations because we don't have staff to put in them."

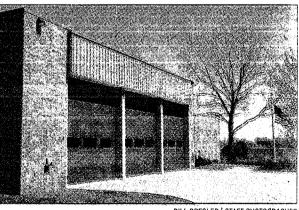
Maycock said a majority of the time Station No. 1 on Haggerty Road at the new Township Hall - with the highest number of runs among the three – has three firefighters on duty, though it does dip at times to two, while Station No. 3 on North Territorial at Beck — the second busiest — and the Wilcox station generally have two firemen on duty

"Because of the Hines Park flood plain and the railroad tracks dissecting the community, we need Lake Pointe," Maycock said. "Otherwise, there's no guaranteed service to residents in that part of the community."

Diane Daskalakis has owned Solid Gold Jewelers on Ann Arbor Road for 32 years, and lived in the township for 17 years before moving to South Lyon. Daskalakis said she's not only concerned about what could happen to her business if it catches fire, but the possible loss of life in any part of the township, if there aren't enough firefighters on duty when the call is sounded.

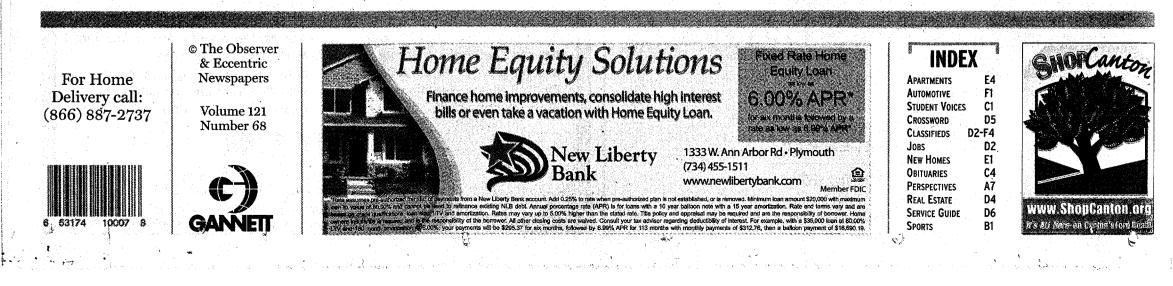
"I don't think the community realizes we don't have enough firefighters to meet their needs," Daskalakis said. "It's irresponsible of the people who are in charge of our safety to know and not let the residents know.

PLEASE SEE STAFFING, A2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fire Station 2 on Wilcox has been left unmanned on occasion due to manpower problems within the Plymouth Community Fire Department.



LOCAL NEWS

Murder trial set to start Monday

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 15, 2007

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS STAFF WRITER

A2 (P)

The murder trial of Andre Marcel Adams is set to begin Monday in Wayne County Third Circuit Court.

Adams, 34, has been charged with open murder in the April 2006 homicide of Robert Lee Armstrong of Canton. If convicted, the Ypsilanti man faces life in prison.

Adams, who has a lengthy criminal record, was linked to the murder through bloody fingerprints on a Maglite flashlight prosecutors say was the murder weapon.

C) GANNETT

"We have probable cause to believe Adams committed open murder," said Assistant Prosecuting Attornev Maria Miller.

Assistant prosecuting attorneys Eaton P. Curtis and Robert Moran are trying the case.

According to the autopsy report, Armstrong, 46, died from "at least three blunt force blows to the head. **Prosecutors believe Adams** killed Armstrong at his home

in the College Park mobile home park on Mott Road. His body was discovered by his two young children, who then ran to a neighbor for help.

Miller said the prosecution will call police officers, forensic experts and civilians as witnesses. She expects the trial to last a week, including jury selection.

At the preliminary examination, a fingerprint expert testified that when the fingerprints from the bloody flashlight were entered into the state's **Automated Fingerprint** Identification Systems computer program, they were found to be a match with Adams.

Adams has convictions for felonious assault and felonv firearms. In 1989, he entered a plea for careless use of a firearm resulting in injury or death.

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11:10) 1:35, 4:00, 7:05 THE REAPING (R) 12:45, 2:55, 5:05,

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STAFFING

FROM PAGE A1

"They just can't say there's not enough money," she added. "People's lives are at stake."

Maycock agreed, but said township officials have kept from increasing staffing levels to keep costs down as they negotiate a new fire agreement with the city of Plymouth.

"But maybe it's time we look at that," Maycock said.

Township Trustee Chuck Curmi said maybe it's time to increase the fire department numbers by looking for creative solutions.

"Eighty percent of this country is covered by paid on-call firefighters," he said. "If we continue to do what we're doing, we'll keep getting what we're getting, which is out-ofcontrol escalating costs. "If the city of Plymouth does

withdraw from the contract in two to four years (to go to a public safety department), we will have to take some action that is different from what we do today to maintain a level of service with costs that are manageable

and affordable." Curmi said. "We need to be creative to make sure the stations stay open."

Maycock said the only true solution to staffing and the associated costs is to hire parttime employees.

"They can be scheduled to work less than 32 hours a week, and you don't have to pay health care costs and the benefit package that you would give your full-time staff," Maycock said.

The Novi Fire Department has 20 full-time firefighters, but supplements those with 11 part-timers who fill in on vacations and more than 60 paidon-call firefighters to respond to emergencies.

"Spending between \$1,500-\$2,000 for a helmet, pants, coats, boots and other safety equipment, and much more for training, is an expensive proposition when there's a high turnover," Novi Fire Chief Frank Smith said. "But we have a good flow of people who are desirous of the job. It does give us plenty of flexibility." Smith said the part-timers and

paid on-call earn \$17 a hour. Maycock said the reality of the current situation is that without full staffing, he's constantly calling other communities for mutual aid to help suppress a fire. "I'm forced to call Northville Township, Canton Township and sometimes Livonia, automatically," Maycock said. "That's my reality."

It's not been a secret that the city of Plymouth is considering terminating its \$1-million-ayear fire contract with Plymouth Township and operating its own public safety department, in which police officers are also trained as firefighters. Until that time, Mayor Pro Tem Phil Pursell said he's troubled at hearing the **Plymouth Community Fire** Department has staffing issues.

"Sure, it's a concern," Pursell said. "I believe through the firefighters we're getting the service we paid for. I think the management of the fire department is not what it could be."

Plymouth Community Fire Department union president Dan Atkins said it's always a concern when staffing levels are low.

"We operate much of the time with about six firefighters, and in our line of work you can't get much done when you don't have enough manpower," Atkins said. "Each individual has to do more jobs."



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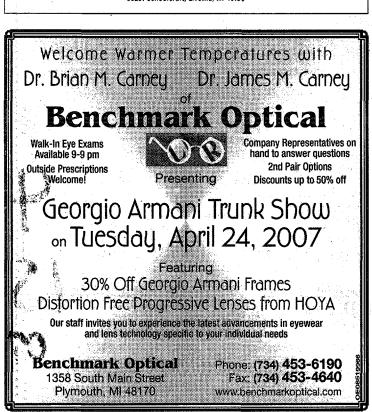
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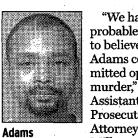
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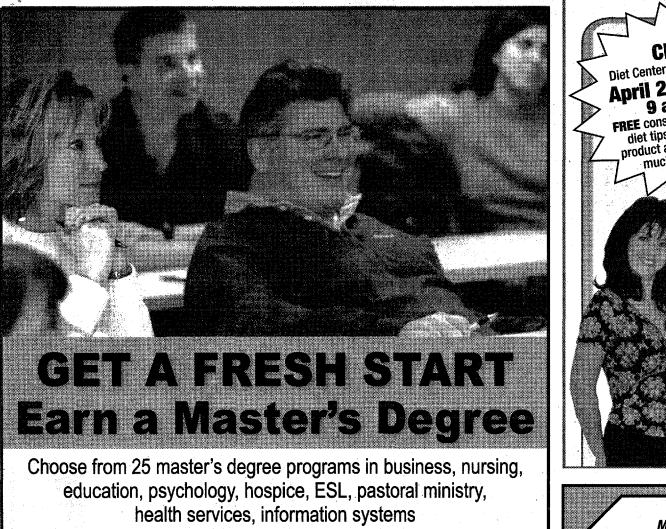
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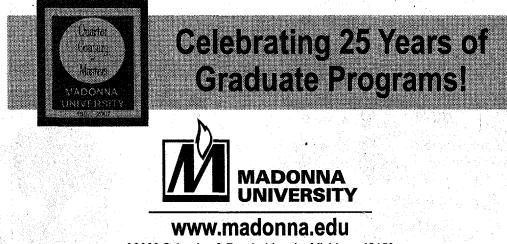


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Showcase Plymouth

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce presents the 15th-annual Showcase and Taste of Plymouth 5-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 9, at the Inn at St. John's.

Admission is \$10 at the door and includes complimentary food, free beverages and a chance to win over 70 door prizes. Attendees are also invited to help

honor Plymouth Service Clubs Volunteers of the Year and the Student Citizen Scholarship Award winners during a short recognition ceremony held in the Atrium at 6 p.m.

This year's event will feature over 70 booths and more than 20 restaurants including Compari's, 1999 Tavern, Five, E.G. Nick's, Station 885, Bennigan's, Fiamma Grille, Hilton Garden Inn, The Inn at St. John's, Independence Village, Laurel Manor, Dilly Dally Deli, Panera Bread, Omelet & Waffle Café, Little Bros. Burgers, Mother's Pizzeria, Jet's Pizza, Fleming's, Crawford's Kitchen, Zack's of Plymouth, Zappatos Mexican and more.

This year, attendees will be able to vote for their favorite pizza, restaurant and booth, for a chance to win a 19-inch television.

Showcase and Taste of Plymouth is sponsored by Hines Park Lincoln Mercury, LaSalle Bank and Main Street Bank. For more information, call the chamber at (734) 453-1540.

Rock Shoppe classes

The Rock Shoppe, 6275 Gotfredson, offers the following classes:

■ Container Gardening — A free class on how to design a container garden 10 a.m. Saturday, April 21. This class will be taught by a Master Gardener.

Stone Veneer Siding Installation — A free class on installation of stone veneer siding 10 a.m. Saturday, April 28.

Register on-line at rscustomerservice@gmail.com or call 734-455-5560.

Rummage sellers needed

The Plymouth Salvation Army hosts its annual indoor rummage sale 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 21, and Army officials are eagerly seeking folks to rent tables.

For the first time, table space will be rented to individuals who wish to sell their own belongings. The cost is \$25 for an eight-foot table.

Anyone interested in renting a table can contact Cassie at (734) 453-5464 or by e-mailing cassie_hull@usc.salvationarmy.org. The Salvation Army is located at 9451 S. Main in Plymouth.

Station anniversary

Former WSDP staff members will celebrate the station's 35th-anniversary with an Alumni Reunion 6 p.m.-midnight Saturday, Nov. 10.

WSDP is owned and operated by the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. Students at Canton, Plymouth and Salem high schools serve as staff members. The station signed on the air Feb. 14, 1972. Since then, more than 700 staff members, many of whom have gone on to successful broadcasting careers, have spent time behind the microphones.

"Regardless of their career path, our students point back to their time at the station as being a big part of their success," station manager Bill Keith said. "Even if they didn't go into radio, I know many of them look back fondly to their time as a DJ, news reporter or sports broadcaster."

The station held a similar reunion in 1997 and 125 people returned from all over the country. This year's reunion is at Fox HIlls Golf and Banquet Center. Tickets are \$50 and include a buffet dinner and cash bar.

For more information or to volunteer to help, e-mail wsdpalumni@yahoo.com or call Keith at (734) 416-7732.

Stamp show

The Plymouth Stamp Show, set for April 28-29, will feature some 2,800 pages of exhibits, 40 dealers from the U.S. and Canada, U.S. and U.N. and Nordica post offices, seminars, society meetings, "Stamps in your Closet" and a youth program.

The Plymouth Stamp Show is a qualifying show for the

PLYMOUTH PIPELINE

American Philatelic Society's annual champion of Champions competition. It takes place 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday, April 28, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 29, at Central Middle School, 650 Church (at Main) in downtown Plymouth.

The show is sponsored by the West Suburban Stamp Club. Admission and parking are free. For more information go to the Web at http://mywebpages.comcast.n et/wssc/plymshow.htm or call (734) 699-1026.

Therapy seminar

Our Lady of Good Counsel Church hosts an educational seminar addressing the physical problems of hips, knees and feet 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 16.

Dr. Angelo Sorce will cover the latest technologies and current surgical techniques in hip and knee replacement surgery and arthritis. Dr. Allen Mehler of the Michigan Foot and Ankle Center, St. Mary Hospital, will discuss foot problems, especially those relating to diabetes. Physiotherapy associates will cover post-surgical care of the hip and knee.

Lunch will be served at noon for a donation. To reserve a seat or for more information, call Doris, (734) 453-9730.

Flower walks

The Friends of Miller Woods will be conducting spring flower walks on two Sundays, April 15 and May 6. Tours will be at 2, 2:30 and 3 p.m. each day. Come both days to be sure to see the succession of flowers that bloom throughout the springtime season.

Miller Woods is on Powell Road just east of Ridge Road in Plymouth Township. For more information about the woods and its location, check the group's Web site at www.millerwoods.com.

New Morning open houses

Parents and potential students are being invited to see New Morning School, a pre-K through eighth-grade parent cooperative which, since 1973, has provided a strong foundation through individualized learning methods, a low 8:1 student-teacher ratio, high parental involvement, and a challenging academic curriculum.

New Morning School has announced a pair of upcoming open house dates, 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 18, a classroom demonstration for grades I-8; and 9 a.m. Wednesday, April 25, a preschool and kindergarten classroom visit. New Morning School is a

New Morning School is a state-certified, non-sectarian, non-profit school for students in preschool through grade eight. To find out more, call (734) 420-3331 or visit the school's Web site at www.newmorningschool.com

Shred day

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce presents the third Community Shred Day, set for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 28, in the parking lot of New Liberty Bank, located at 1333 W. Ann Arbor Road.

Plymouth residents may bring any paper products to the New Liberty Bank parking lot and watch as they are shredded. All residents are asked to limit their items to one or two boxes, and remove all large clips. Staples and paper clips do not need to be removed. Assistance will be available for those who need help.

The Community Shred Day is sponsored by GEM Asset Management, Maximum Financial and UBS Financial Services, Inc.

For more information, call the chamber, (734) 453-1540.

HVA award nominations

Huron Valley Ambulance is seeking nominations for the Life Saving Award in its annual HVA Emergency Medical Services Recognition Awards. Nominees can be any citizen in the HVA service area who has saved, or attempted to save, a life under circumstances that indicate heroism and risk to his or her own life. The deadline is Monday, April 30, 2007.

The awards program takes place during National EMS Week on Wednesday, May 23. It will also include several awards specific to HVA, such as Professional Achievement Awards for outstanding employees and Certificates of Merit honoring employees for doing well on specific incidents and projects.

To nominate someone, call PJ Moffett in Community Relations at (734) 477-6782 or e-mail her at pjmoffett@hva.org

Chorale concert

The BeckRidge Chorale with the Birmingham-Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra presents its Spring Concert, "Sing for the Cure," Saturday, May 5 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, May 6, at 3 p.m.

"Sing for the Cure, a Proclamation of Hope" is a unique musical journey through the diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer. Librettist Pamela Martin wrote 10 songs after numerous interviews with breast cancer survivors, their partners and loved ones. Each song is set to the music of 10 composers who have been touched by breast cancer in some way. The performances will be narrated by a special guest celebrity, and proceeds from the concert will be given to the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute.

All concerts will be conducted at Northville High School, 45700 Six Mile Road in Northville. Tickets are \$25 and \$30. Tickets can be purchased by phone at (866) 924-4276 or visit the Chorale's Web site, www.plymouthcommunitychorus.org, for more information.



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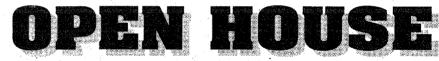
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A4

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Rosy Yeremian Manuel Karjian

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ROSY'S JEWELRY CREATIONS



LOCAL NEWS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 15, 2007

Dog attack blamed on coyotes in park Bookstock: It's an all-week

BY DARRELL CLEM STAFF WRITER

www.hometownlife.com

Doreen Gregory's heart sank when she found her bloodied poodle, 6-year-old Rudy, lying in the front yard of her Westland home.

Although she didn't see her dog being attacked, she believes what she and her neighbors already feared that coyotes roaming their property near Hines Park have become more aggressive.

Rudy survived puncture wounds to his back and his throat, but the late-March attack has rattled nerves of residents whose property, on Cowan near Warren, borders a wooded park area.

Gregory, 52, said.

she has seen as many as four coyotes roaming together on from the historic Perrinsville Schoolhouse on Warren west of Merriman.

She had a terrible scare

"Two coyotes came toward

They're getting bold," said Gregory, who has an older "I think they're having babies, and they're even coming out in the daytime to hunt for food."



Doreen Gregory believes that her 6-year-old poodle, Rudy, was attacked by a coyote in her back yard, which borders Hines Park. She and others have seen coyotes on their property.

Recent covote sightings have

ten little advice from city, county and state authorities, who often lack resources or ation. Michael Robbins, marketing director for the Michigan Humane Society, said coyotes usually co-exist peacefully with humans, even in populated areas. Michigan has had no reports of covotes

Dan Walzak, an officer with

said. "We're living on their protect their belongings."

certainly not in populated owners can shoot and kill coyotes that are causing damage,

Local residents would face prosecution for firing guns, police Lt. Dan Karrick said.

"It's so populated, and any round can travel up to two miles.

can't give out traps and per-



sale of used books, DVDs

Bookstock – an annual used book and media sale — will be held Sunday, April 29, through Sunday, May 6, at Livonia's Laurel Park Place.

Tens of thousands of donated used books, DVDs, CDs, books on tape, magazines and records are on sale at discount prices. Paperbacks are \$1. Hardcover books are \$3-\$4. CDs and DVDs sell for \$4.

All proceeds benefit literacy and education projects in metropolitan Detroit.

Bargain shoppers and collectors can get first crack at the Bookstock pre-sale from 8:45-11:45 a.m. April 29. Admission

to the early sale is \$10; otherwise it is free.

A5

(P)

The sale will continue from noon to 6 p.m. both Sundays and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Items will be sold for halfprice on May 6, the last day of the sale.

Bookstock has generated more than \$200,000 for literacy and education programs throughout Oakland County and Detroit in its first four years, organizers said.

For more information, call the Bookstock hotline at (248) 645-7840, ext. 365 or visit www.bookstock.info.



CONTINUED FROM A1

www.hometownlife.com

ORATORIO

(P)

FROM PAGE A1

A6

planned to be there April 22 when some 85 singers take to the stage at First United Methodist Church in Plymouth Township.

"His whole goal was the bone marrow transplant was going to work, he was going to get healthy and come back and conduct," said Don Pratt, the group's business manager and son of the original director. "All of a sudden, you get this e-mail that he had passed."

The 85 singers are a few more than usual, Pratt said,



The 85-member Plymouth Oratorio Society rehearses for its spring concert.

to people wanting to be part of honoring Riccinto. There would be a couple of more, but Riccinto's death has had an effect on some.

"It's been tough on a couple of people," Pratt said. "One man was so floored when Len passed he said it hit him so hard, he didn't think he could

They will, though, singing the pair of contrasting pieces Riccinto had chosen: Mass in Eb by Franz Schubert and Gospel Mass by Robert Ray with the Michigan Sinfonia Orchestra.

They will be played under the leadership of the group's new director, Dr. Richard Ingram, a Ph.D. in vocal performance from the University of Michigan who has taught music at Huron High School in Ann Arbor for 32 years.

Pratt had been talking to Ingram about the possibility of replacing Riccinto since Riccinto had discovered his leukemia in May 2006. Ingram, who has sung in church, school and even professional choirs, readily agreed.

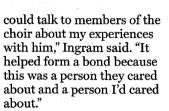


PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mary Lou DeVergilio rehearses Schubert's Mass Number 6 as the Plymouth Oratorio Society prepares for its April 22 concert.

Having known Riccinto for some three decades helped Ingram get acclimated fairly quickly.

"I've known Len 30 years, which helped me because I



Though the director generally gets to choose the music, Ingram had no problem with Riccinto's choices, even though the breaking-in period was short.

"I had about six weeks' notice before the first rehearsal, so it was a quick study," Ingram said. "I hadn't done either piece before, so it's fun

It's fun for the singers, too, although maybe a bit nervewracking for the new ones. Barbara Bray, who taught art and music at Isbister Elementary School years ago, is one of the newest, having joined for this season. She saw an advertisement that said there were no auditions so Bray, who has always enjoyed singing in church, figured it would be a good experience.

for me."

Different is more like it.

"This is *not* like singing in church," she said, laughing. "The music is complex, and these people are so committed to the music. I feel honored to be in this group.'

Most agree the music will be different from what audiences are used to hearing. The Schubert piece, they said, is a traditional piece, featuring the choir and an orchestra. The Ray piece, on the other hand, uses an electric bass, a jazz piano and percussion.

"I think the audience will really enjoy the contrast," Ingram said.

Ingram has been impressed with the group since he walked onto the stage a few weeks ago for the first rehearsal.

"This has been a 'getting to know you' session, for them and for me," Ingram said.

"They've been receptive to everything I've asked them to do. They're a dedicated group."

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

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OE08519504

OE08517923

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

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:

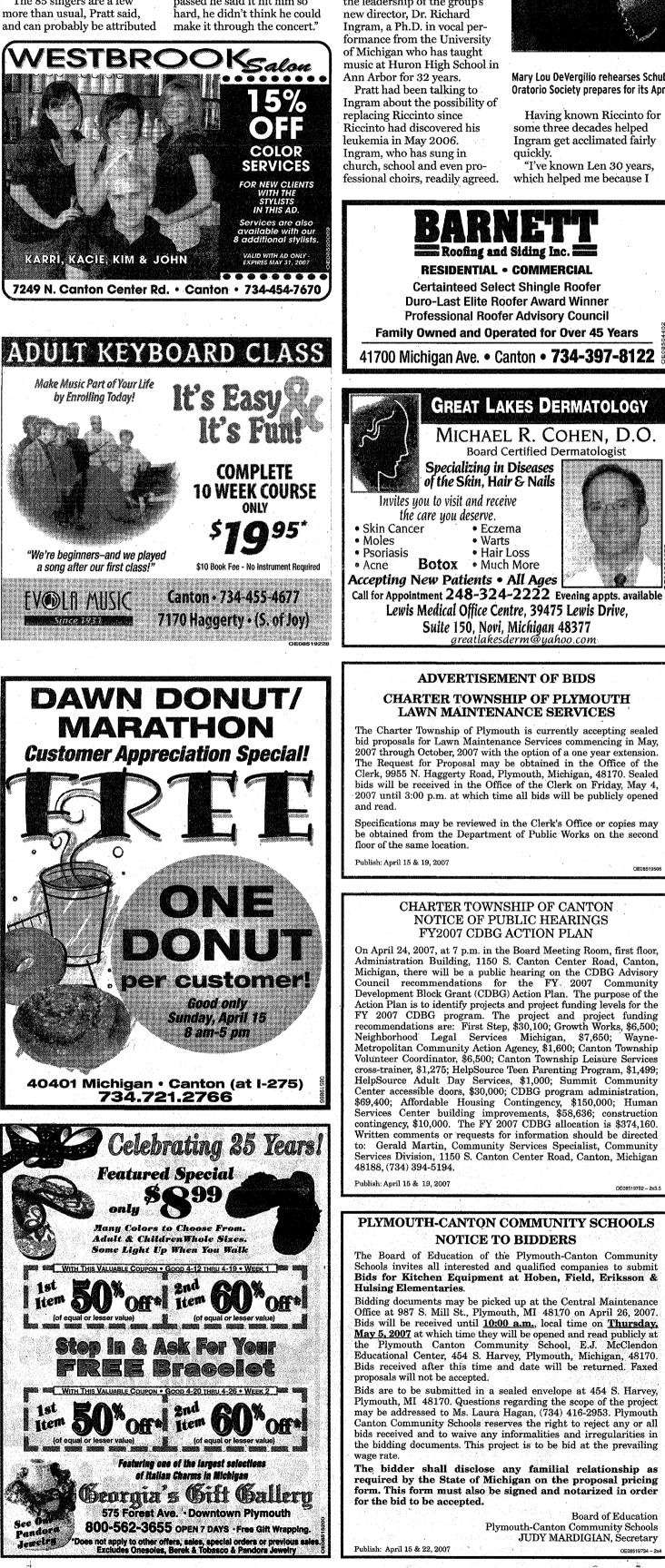
David Medley, ADA Coordinator Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road Canton, MI 48188 (734) 394-5260

Publish: April 15, 2007

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS THURSDAY, MAY 3, 2007 6:00 P.M.

PLEASE NOTE that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, May 3, 2007 commencing at 6:00 p.m., to consider:

• a request for a 5 foot 6 inch variance for a required



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH LAWN MAINTENANCE SERVICES

greatlakesderm@yahoo.com

Eczema

Hair Loss

Warts

Roofing and Siding Inc.

GREAT LAKES DERMATOLOGY

MICHAEL R. COHEN, D.O.

Board Certified Dermatologist

The Charter Township of Plymouth is currently accepting sealed bid proposals for Lawn Maintenance Services commencing in May, 2007 through October, 2007 with the option of a one year extension. The Request for Proposal may be obtained in the Office of the Clerk, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170. Sealed bids will be received in the Office of the Clerk on Friday, May 4, 2007 until 3:00 p.m. at which time all bids will be publicly opened

Specifications may be reviewed in the Clerk's Office or copies may be obtained from the Department of Public Works on the second floor of the same location.

Publish: April 15 & 19, 2007

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS FY2007 CDBG ACTION PLAN

On April 24, 2007, at 7 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room, first floor, Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan, there will be a public hearing on the CDBG Advisory Council recommendations for the FY 2007 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Action Plan. The purpose of the Action Plan is to identify projects and project funding levels for the FY 2007 CDBG program. The project and project funding recommendations are: First Step, \$30,100; Growth Works, \$6,500; Neighborhood Legal Services Michigan, \$7,650; Wayne-Metropolitan Community Action Agency, \$1,600; Canton Township Volunteer Coordinator, \$6,500; Canton Township Leisure Services cross-trainer, \$1,275; HelpSource Teen Parenting Program, \$1,499; HelpSource Adult Day Services, \$1,000; Summit Community Center accessible doors, \$30,000; CDBG program administration, \$69,400; Affordable Housing Contingency, \$150,000; Human Services Center building improvements, \$58,636; construction contingency, \$10,000. The FY 2007 CDBG allocation is \$374,160. Written comments or requests for information should be directed to: Gerald Martin, Community Services Specialist, Community Services Division, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan 48188, (734) 394-5194.

Publish: April 15 & 19, 2007

OE08519782 - 2x3.5

OE08519506

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit Bids for Kitchen Equipment at Hoben, Field, Eriksson & Hulsing Elementaries.

Bidding documents may be picked up at the Central Maintenance Office at 987 S. Mill St., Plymouth, MI 48170 on April 26, 2007. Bids will be received until 10:00 a.m., local time on Thursday. May 5, 2007 at which time they will be opened and read publicly at the Plymouth Canton Community School, E.J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170. Bids received after this time and date will be returned. Faxed proposals will not be accepted.

Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope at 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170. Questions regarding the scope of the project may be addressed to Ms. Laura Hagan, (734) 416-2953. Plymouth Canton Community Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids received and to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding documents. This project is to be bid at the prevailing

The bidder shall disclose any familial relationship as required by the State of Michigan on the proposal pricing form. This form must also be signed and notarized in order for the bid to be accepted.

> Board of Education Plymouth-Canton Community Schools JUDY MARDIGIAN, Secretary OE08519734 - 2x4

- sixteen foot side yard setback for Wendover Drive Plymouth, Michigan.
- a request for 2 foot variance for a required maximum four foot height of fencing for address 15167 Bradner Plymouth, Michigan.

The meeting will be held at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

For further information contact Plymouth Township Building Department 734-354-3210.

Publish: April 15, 2007

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plymouth/Dearborn Heights Housing Commission is pleased to be opening its waiting list from 8:00 am on April 18 through 5:00 pm on April 23, 2007. After 5:00 pm on April 23, the waiting list will be closed and the application will no longer be available. All applications must be post-marked by May 7, 2007 in order to be considered. Applications accepted onto the waiting list will be selected at random. Only those applications accepted will be contacted by September 1, 2007. All other applications will be destroyed.

The application can only be obtained from out web site <u>http://</u><u>www.phchousing.net</u>. DO NOT come to the Plymouth Housing Commission offices. If you need access to a computer and the internet, you can go to your local library. For any updated information you may call (734) 455-3670, extension 235.

All applications **MUST** be processed through the US Postal Service. Hand delivered applications will NOT be accepted. Faxed copies will NOT be accepted. Only ONE application per household will be considered.

Publish: April 8 & 15, 2007

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit Bids for Kitchen Equipment and Hood at Smith Elementary. Bidding documents may be picked up at the Central Maintenance Office at 987 S. Mill St., Plymouth, MI 48170 on April 26, 2007. Bids will be received until 10:00 a.m., local time on Thursday. May 5, 2007 at which time they will be opened and read publicly at the Plymouth Canton Community School, E.J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170. Bids received after this time and date will be returned. Faxed proposals will not be accepted.

Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope at 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170. Questions regarding the scope of the project may be addressed to Ms. Laura Hagan, (734) 416-2953. Plymouth Canton Community Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids received and to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding documents. This project is to be bid at the prevailing wage rate.

The bidder shall disclose any familial relationship as required by the State of Michigan on the proposal pricing form. This form must also be signed and notarized in order for the bid to be accepted.

> **Board of Education** Plymouth-Canton Community Schools JUDY MARDIGIAN, Secretary

Publish: April 15 & 22, 2007



Michigan's future may depend on courage of three good people

s Michigan government lurches closer and closer to financial disaster, it's important to remember the very human element behind all the budgetary mumbo-jumbo and political skirmishing.

Three people are absolutely critical to any solution: Gov. Jennifer Granholm, House Speaker Andy Dillon (D-Redford Township) and Sen. Majority Leader Mike Bishop (R-Rochester).

Certainly, as Democrats, Granholm and Dillon have more in common than they do with Bishop. But their situations are different.

Now in her second term, the governor is legally prevented from running again. With U.S. Sen. Carl Levin, a fellow Democrat, seeking re-election, there is no higher office she can run for when she leaves the governor's



www.hometownlife.com

decisive are relatively slight. Dillon, on the other hand, was elected speaker by a slim majority in his own caucus (30-28) and doesn't have much maneuvering room, especially with organized labor, which was lukewarm at best toward his candidacy.

mansion. To put it plainly, for

her, the risks of being bold and

Power

Moreover, he can serve another

term after this one, and has a vested interest in maintaining Democratic control of the House. That could be endangered next year if voters perceive Democrats are behaving too rashly during this crisis.

Bishop is in an equally vulnerable position. He's the odd man out in any negotiations with Democrats Dillon and Granholm.

Moreover, he was elected majority leader by only one vote, and Lansing insiders report his caucus is largely composed of Alpha Males, many of whom think they could do a better job than he.

But once you've taken in all this calculus, it's important to recognize that all three top leaders - Granholm, Dillon and Bishop - are smart, capable and well-intentioned people. They're genuinely interested in making good policy to save our state. They are also realistic enough to know if they are too dogmatic, overtly partisan or merely ineffective, they'll quickly be blamed for disaster

Plus, Dillon and Bishop have a good personal relationship. I can't prove it, but experience and common sense make me pretty sure that there are lots of negotiations going on privately in Lansing between our big three. They are all genuinely motivated to do the right thing, which counts for a lot.

There's also something useful in reflecting about how previous Michigan governors would have dealt with this crisis. I'm lucky enough (and old enough) to have known some of them. Gov. G. Mennen Williams (together with his

longtime friend, state Democratic Party Chairman Neil Staebler) made the Michigan Democratic Party into a powerhouse of citizen participation.

My guess is that Williams, in office from 1949-60, would have convened a series of citizen meetings designed to give "Joe and Josephine Six Pack" a good look at the facts behind the crisis.

Then he would have listened hard for their advice

Gov. William G. Milliken (1969-82) was a Republican, but the consummate bipartisan bridge builder. During his governorship, he created "the quadrant" - weekly meetings between himself and the top Democratic and Republican leaders of both houses of the Legislature.

They would hash things out and come to consensus solutions. Given today's situation, Milliken would have convened the quadrant and worked feverishly and almost non-stop to find common ground.

Former Gov. George Romney (1963-69) a hard-charging businessman, would have insisted on common-sense, businesslike solutions to our present crisis. He would have summoned the state's top business leaders to meet with him and top legislators.

Then he would have pushed for a top-down solution, the way he was accustomed to doing business as head of American Motors.

John Engler was also a Republican, but a very different one. As governor (1991-2002), Engler was a great combination of policy wonk (carefully hidden from public view) and bare-knuckle partisan

Under today's conditions, he would have met first with GOP legislative and party leaders, looked six moves down the partisan chess board ... then called in the Democrats to lay out their (uncomfortable) choices for them.

My old friend, the late Ed McNamara, was mayor of Livonia and then Wayne County executive. A man disinclined to take much guff from anybody, McNamara would have invited legislative leaders from both parties into his office, locked the door and told them they couldn't come out until they'd hashed out a solution.

There is something to that last idea, especially in times of looming crisis. And I wouldn't be surprised if Granholm did something very similar in the next couple of weeks. Somebody, at any rate, better do something, and soon.

Phil Power is a longtime observer of politics, economics and education issues in Michigan, and was a regent of the University of Michigan from 1987-99. He is also president and founder of The Center for Michigan, a moderate think-and-do tank. These opinions and others expressed in his columns are his own and do not in any way represent official policy positions of The Center for Michigan. Phil would be pleased to hear from readers at ppower@hcnnet.com.

Sunday 4/22

4:00 PM

Talking about my generation: Just which is the greatest?

few years ago, I had the pleasure of facilitating a Contemporary Books group discussion at the Plymouth District Library on Tom Brokaw's best seller, The Greatest Generation.

In that book, the veteran broadcast newsman paid tribute to the men and women who survived the Great Depression, fought World War II overseas and on the homefront and returned home to raise the baby boomers. I was thus intrigued more recently when I saw a book at the same library, Leonard Steinhorn's The Greater Generation: In Defense of the Baby Boom Legacy (Thomas Dunne Books/St. Martin's Press, 2006). Steinhorn's not so kind to

the Greatest Generation, however, questioning their lack of commitment to fighting for equality when they returned

Julie

Brown

women there) and were uncritical of their society and its shortcomings. In particular he cites such shortcomings as

white Americans turning a blind eve to racial segregation and discrimination, as well as the tendency to pollute our environment, believing business progress to reign supreme over environmental concerns.

In his prologue, Steinhorn tells of a student of his at American University in Washington, D.C., where he teaches politics, media and American culture. The young woman, although bright and motivated, knows virtually nothing about the baby boomers and their contributions. She notes the boomers did a lot of drugs when young and then asks her professor why he would write a book about them.

So just what is the legacy of the boomers? Steinhorn argues convincingly that it includes: women's liberation; diversity on college campuses; greater acceptance of interracial dating and marriage; less pressure on gay people to hide their sexual orientation; flatter and more democratic workplaces; environmental progress; and kids being raised to think on their own rather than blindly follow elders.

Steinhorn, himself a baby boomer, acknowledges that boomers haven't done it all when it comes to social progress, and urges them as they reach retirement age to redouble efforts. Nevertheless, he points out, not having a perfect society doesn't mean we don't have a much better one.

I found one statistic particularly interesting, that women are roughly half of the managers in the U.S. workforce, considerably more than the 30 percent in Great Britain. I

hadn't considered the discrepancy would be so great, or the factors leading to it.

(*)

So who's right? Is it fair to paint the Greatest Generation with such a broad brush as being so narrow-minded and conformist? Maybe not, but Steinhorn's book is well-documented (although still highly readable). He makes his arguments persuasively, although I couldn't help but think some credit's due to the older generation that raised all of the boomers born between the end of World War II and 1964. There were and are a lot of us, and we were bound to have a significant impact on the people and institutions we interacted with.

I'd like to have another discussion at the library of Steinhorn's book, maybe with people who've read Brokaw's as well and definitely with those of different ages. One thing Steinhorn's book notes is that there's far less of a generation gap between the boomers and their Generation X children, who by and large find their parents "cool" and occasionally even take them along to rock concerts where there are special quiet rooms for parents when the noise gets to be too much.

Vietnam's a dominant theme in Steinhorn's book, and certainly that unpopular war dominated much of the generational conflict in the 1960s and early 1970s. I'm a younger boomer, so missed out on most of that, but remember well the televised images of the war brought home, a first in media history and one that had a profound influence on our generation.

Steinhorn urges aging boomers to focus their remaining years on: the environmental cleanup they started; celebrating our nation's diversity; promoting women's rights; "make power speak the truth" by getting political leaders to be forthright and thus advancing our declining social trust. Finally, he exhorts boomers to come to their own defense: their own legacy is much more than knowing how to order a tall skim double latté.

I didn't agree with all of his book, but found when I brought it up at the office it generated a lively discussion among boomers and their younger counterparts. (Not too many Greatest Generation folks left in the workplace these days, although they still have much to contribute.)

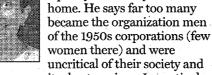
I'd recommend the book, definitely, as it generates lively discussions about different generations and their roles in American history. Steinhorn even notes the tendency of earlier generations, going back to the Revolutionary War, to question the status quo. That's not a bad thing, and in fact a vital part of democracy.

Julie Brown of Plymouth Township is presentation editor for the Observer & Eccentric and interim editor for the Mirror. She can be reached at (248) 901-2536 or via e-mail at jcbrown@hometownlife.com.

Detroit ruone r



Wednesday 4/18 11:30 PM - Saturday 4/21 8:00 PM



Click Fast! Bid High! Win Big! Bidding begins Wednesday 4/18 at 9 AM and ends Sunday 4/22 at 9 PM CATCH THE AUCTION PREVIEW PROGRAM ON DETROIT PUBLIC TVI

11:00 PM

Friday 4/20

APRIL 18-22 2007

7-Nights Yangtze River Cruise TRAVEL 1-Night Casino - Windsor ART Art Hour - Consultation 1-Night Comfort Inn Bob Ross Paint Set Plymouth 1-Night Days Inn Chicago Pkg 1-Night Dearborn Inn "Juicy Lucy" Oil on Canvas Motawi Tileworks -Night Elvis Presley Heartbreak Hotel "Songbirds" Tile Novica Gift Certificates 1-Night Embassy Suites Livonia **Plum Tree Pottery** i-Night Fairmont Royal York **Glazed Ceramic Bowl** Vegetabull Rocker & Bongo 1-Night Talbott Hotel Chicago Drum by Alexander Pollock 1-Night Hilton - Windsor 'Ye Pipe & Bowl' 1-Night Holly Crossing B&B Norman Rockwell Litho Holly COLLECTIBLES 1-Night Hotel Place D'Armes Detroit Lions Autographed Suites - Montreal 1-Night Hyatt Dearborn Team Football **Detroit Pistons** 1-Night River House B&B **Rasheed Wallace** Perrysburg, OH Autographed Basketball 1-Night Saravilla B&B - Alma **Detroit Red Wings 1-Night Treetops Resort** Henrik Zetterberg Gaylord 1-Night Westin - Southfield Autographed Puck Niklas Kronwall 1-Night Wyndham Garden Autographed Photo Novi 2-Nights Hilton Naples Miller Import Camille figurine EDIBLES 2-Nights Black Cat Ah Wok Guest Ranch - Hinton, AB Antonio's Cucina Italiana 2-Nights Buckingham **Back Home Bakery** Athletic Club - Chicago Buddy's Pizza 2-Nights Campers Cove Wheatley, ON **Buffalo Wild Wings** Cactus Rose Café 2-Nights El Caribe Resort Capital Grille Davtona Beach Dakota Inn Rathskelle 2-Nights Harbor House Inn Deadwood Bar & Grill **B&B** - Grand Haven Diamond Jim Brady's 2-Nights Hotel Allegro Chicago Bistro 2-Nights Hotel Indigo Chicago **Dinner Kitchen** 2-Nights Hotel Inter Farmington Deli Continental - Chicago Fiamme Grille 2-Nights Mutiny Hotel Suites Fishbone's Fleming's Prime Steakhouse Coconut Grove 2-Nights Ocean Pointe Suites & Wine Bar Genitti's Hole-In The Wall Key Largo 2-Nights Perry's OceanEdge Resort - Daytona Beach 2-Nights Sunset Vistas **Green Mountain Coffee** Harbor Grille Bistro @ MacRay Harbor **Beachfront Suites - Treasure Heluva Good Cheese HINT Natural Essence Water** Island 2-Nights Surfside Hotel Daytona Beach **Kildare House** 2-Nights Swissotel Landry's Restaurants **Chicago Blues Fest Package** Loren Andrus Octagon House 2-Nights Walt Disney Swan & Dolphin Resort Loving Spoonful Maine Lobster Direct -Nights Beacon Hotel & Mancino's Pizza & Grinders Corporate Quarters 3-Nights Clinton Hotel & Spa McCormick & Schmick's **Michigan Star Clipper** Dinner Train 3-Nights Rondel Village Motor City Casino - Classics Buffet & Iridescence Mrs. Maddox Cake Shop Jamaica 3-NightsTradeWinds Island **Resorts - St. Pete Beach** Northside Grill 5-Nights Glasgow, Scotland **Omaha Steak** Friendship Tour Parisian Bistro 5-Nights Cree Village Ecolodge Moose Factory, ON **Peabody's Restaurant** Pizza Papalis

5-Nights Holiday Inn **Oceanfront Resort - Cocoa** Beach 5-Nights Tropical Mansion

Suites - West Indies 6-Nights Amazon Adventure

Iquitos, Peru 7-Nights Royal Sunset Club Somerset Inn **Chef's Table Dinner** Condo - Cancun Sweet Essentials

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Sweet Lorraine's Taste of the "D' **Beer Tasting Tickets** Union Street **Detroit Institute of Arts Passes** Village Café GOODS & SERVICES African Safari Wildlife Park Passes After Hours Formalwear Tuxedo Bental Annette's Hair Studio & Spa Arthur Murray Dance Lessons Astarte Yoga Studio Yoga Classes Bell Sports Bike Accessories Bike the Big Apple NYC Bike Tour Bikram Yoga Membership Ceresnie & Offen Fur **Cleaning & Storage** Christian Dior Gift Basket "Anna Ballerina" Corolle Doll "Day Out with Thomas" Tickets Detroit Historical Society Membership **Detroit Science Center** Membership Detroit Shock Tickets Detroit Tigers Suite **Dixboro General Store** Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Edwin Paul Salon & Spa Elayne Gross Portrait Packag Feet on the Street Tours Fox Theatre Suite Tickets Friends Hair & Nails Salon **Gayle's DancePhase** Huron-Clinton Metroparks Golf Good Earth Landscape Institute Great Lakes Gift Basket Co. Great Skate Skating Party Gymboree Haverhill Farms Pony at a Party Hearst Castle Tour & MoviePasses Northville Therapeutic Hot Stone Massage Hydroplane Race Tickets Imelda's Closet L'Espirit Salon & Spa John Wm. Macy's Cheese Crip Lit-Wit Custom Created Limericks Madonna University Tuition Margo's of Northville Salon & Spa Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle Name A Star Gift Pack **Oakland County Parks** Family Fun Passbook Parisian Fragrance Gift Basket Plymouth Whalers Tickets Radio Flyer Navigator Wagon Rattle Run Golf Course **Rejuvenation Basics Skincare Package Remote Car Starters from** Al Long Ford Rosetta Stone Language Learning Software SailTime Detroit Day of Sailing SeaHawk Sailing School Second City Tickets Selling at Mastery Online Webinar Skatin' Station Party Sportmen's Dog Training Club

Super Car Wash Systems Swearingen Portraits SYMS **Tulip Time Festival** Poster 7 Concert Tickets VPC Tape Binding System Weight Watchers Meeting Pass Yankee Air Force B-17 Plane Ride Art Van Furniture **Backyard Birds** Bordine Nursery Capital Carpet Cleaning Cuisinart Two to Go Coffeemaker EdgeCraft Knife Sharpener From the Forest Floor Decorative Gourd Hagopian Cleaning Hagopian World of Rugs Krups Expresso Machine Le Creuset Casserole/Oven Mighty OJ Juicer Sky Rail Stackable Storage Systems X-Mites Mattress Cleaning MEDIA Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra tickets "Arthur" DVD library Ask Your Neighbor Radio Commercials **BBSO Season Tickets Bonstelle Theatre Tickets** Canton Cinema Movie Passes Children's Better Health Magazine College Aid Calculator Software **Dearborn Symphony Tickets** Detroit Repertory Theatre Bargain Booklet **Detroit Symphony** Orchestra Tickets **Emagine Theatre Canton** Movie Passes Gem & Century **Theatres Tickets Gibson Les Paul Electric Guitar** Hilberry Theatre Tickets Italian Cooking & Living Magazine **JET Theatre Tickets** Ken Burns "American Lives" DVD set McM Audio Advertising at Eastland Mall Meadow Brook **Theatre Tickets** Michigan Opera Theatre Tickets Michigan Shakespeare **Festival Tickets** Newsweek Magazine **Performance Network Tickets Polk Audio Digital** Entertainment System **Purple Rose Theatre Tickets** RentThePlace.com Advertising MVD Visual Rock n' Roll DVD Set Royal Oak Music Theatre "Taylor Hicks" Tickets "Sewing with Nancy" DVD Set

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COUNTY NEWS

Asking for tax extension doesn't risk an audit

- Pete

I have not had an opportunity to complete my tax return and I am concerned. I've been told that I can file an extension; however, I've been told that it increases the risk of being audited. What should I do? - T.

Dear T:

There is no reason to panic. First, filing an extension does not increase your audit risk. I have heard that urban legend for years and it is just not the case. In fact, what increases your audit risk is when you rush through your return and make mistakes. As an example, many people who do their returns at the last second fail to include income from a 1099, make mathematical errors, or just file a sloppy return. It is those items that actually increase your audit risk, not filing an extension. Therefore, my advice to you is to file an extension, then take your time to complete your tax return. Extensions to file your tax

returns are automatic. The form to use for filing an extension on your federal return is Form 4868. You can typically pick up this form at a public library or you can download one from the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov. However, it is important to recognize that when you file an extension, it is an extension of time to file your return, not to pay your taxes.



Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 15, 2007

Money **Matters**

Many people are under the mistaken belief that when they file an extension, it gives them more time to pay their taxes. This is not the case. When you file an extension, you have to make sure that you guesstimate your tax liability and, if you are going to owe any additional money, that you pay that amount with your extension. If you file your return later and pay the additional tax liability with your extension, the IRS can assess you with interest and penalties.

In the past, when you filed for an extension, the IRS gave you four months to complete and file your return. That is no longer the case. Now, when you file Form 4868 with the Internal Revenue Service, you have an additional six months to file your return.

With regards to the state of Michigan, if you are not going to owe any additional tax liability to the state of Michigan, then your federal extension is sufficient for the state. If you are going to owe money to the state, then you have to obtain a form from the state and make the necessary payment. This year, taxes are due April

17 as opposed to April 15. I recognize that this date causes much anxiety with people, but it should not. If you have not started or completed your return, take you time to make sure that when you file the return it is correct. Good luck!

I have found out that a fund that I have in my portfolio is changing their managers. What do you think I should do?

Dear Pete:

This is one of the most frequent questions that I am asked. I believe that when a manager leaves a fund, you need to consider a number of different factors. I do not believe that a fund manager departure should automatically trigger a person to sell that fund; however, I do believe that you need to assess the situation and then take an appropriate action.

The first issue to consider is to know why the manager has left. Did the manager leave because of the performance of the fund or for other reasons? Typically, mutual fund companies do not notify you as to the reason managers leave. However, by doing some research, you can generally discover this. Web sites like

www.morningstar.com generally have this type of information.

Once you determine why the manager left, then it is important to look at your fund itself. Is the fund managed by one individual manager or is it managed by a team?

If the fund is managed by a team and one manager is leaving, then generally I'm going to stay with that fund. I will closely watch that fund to determine if there are any fundamental changes, but I generally will stay with it. On the other hand, if the fund is managed by one manager and that manager leaves, then generally I'm looking at selling my investment. After all, when a new manager takes over, unless I am familiar with that new manager and their track record, I treat the fund as a new fund and my general rule is to avoid new funds with unproven track records.

Who manages your fund and how it is managed is important to the overall success of your investment. I know that me and my investment committee spend a considerable amount of time analyzing managers and their performance. I believe that who manages your fund and their style is probably the most important aspect of a fund's success. Therefore, when there is a change of management, be proactive, do your

homework, and then make adjustments as necessary. Good luck!

Dear Rick:

I am going to need some money for my daughter's college education. I am thinking of taking a loan from my 401(k) plan. What do you think? - Wendy

Dear Wendy:

On the whole, I am not a fan of borrowing from 401(k) plans. My reasoning is that this is your retirement money and I do not like to tap into retirement money unless there are no other alternatives. Therefore, in your situation, before you borrow from a 401(k) plan, I would look for some other options.

One alternative to consider is to look at taking money from your home. The advantage from borrowing money from your home is that the money is tax-deductible and even though interest rates are a little higher than they were a couple of years ago, the terms are generally more favorable then in a 401(k) loan.

When you borrow from a 401(k) plan, you typically have up to five years to repay the loan. Although the interest you pay goes back into your account, it is not taxdeductible interest. In addition, eventually when you take a distribution from your 401(k)

plan down the road, the non tax-deductible interest that you paid comes out and is subject to ordinary income tax. Therefore, there is a tax disadvantage to a 401(k) loan. In addition, with many companies when you take a loan from your 401(k), you are no longer allowed to invest in the 401(k) until the loan is repaid. This can certainly hurt if you have a company match and you no longer would be eligible for that company match.

www.hometownlife.com

One other thing to consider on a 401(k) loan is that if for some reason you lose your job, in many situations the loan must be paid back within 60 days. If it is not paid back within 60 days, it is treated as a taxable distribution which can then cause you adverse tax consequences. Therefore, on the whole I am not a fan of 401(k) loans.

One other alterative is to consider a student loan. In many cases, student loans are taxdeductible and the terms are very favorable. An excellent Web site to look at student loans is www.finaid.org. Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His Web site is www.bloomassetmanagement.com. You can hear Rick live from noon to 3 p.m. Sundays WDTK-AM (1400). If you would like Rick to respond to your questions, please email Rick at rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.

Gasoline can be more dangerous than dynamite

Tim

asoline can be more dan-🖏 gerous than dynamite, due to the fact that the vapors given off by gasoline are explosive and invisible.

In addition, high temperatures might not set off dynamite, but gasoline vapors are easily ignited, even at lower temperatures. Gasoline vapors are heavier than air, allowing it to travel close to the ground,

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165

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where it can easily come into contact with ignition sources such as pilot lights, electric motor sparks and switches.

Gasoline vapors spread invisibly away from the source just like a fluid does when it is spilled. Sparks and open flame can ignite the gasoline vapors across a long distance. The vapors are always seeking the lowest point, due to their weight.

Gasoline is also very prevalent, as a staple to the garage for fueling of gasoline engines. Most garages have quite a few items that run on gasoline. By law, gasoline must be stored in safety containers with warning labels. Anyone using gasoline in any amounts should have a fire extinguisher nearby. While we recommend the "ABC" type of fire extinguisher, gasoline is

a Class B fuel. A garage makes an excellent place to install a fire extinguisher, and make sure your family knows how to use it. There isn't time

Kiurski to learn after a fire breaks out.

Gasoline is very dangerous due to its flammability and availability. Gasoline should never be stored in basements, or any other living area of the home. It should also be stored only in approved safety containers. Don't use gasoline to start your barbecue or outdoor fire pit, and never smoke when working with gasoline.

If you have small children, store gasoline up and out of reach of the children. Storing it on a high shelf in the garage, or inside a locked cabinet are both good choices. As children get older, explain the uses of gasoline as well as the dangers.

When fueling gas-burning engines, make sure you do it in a well-ventilated area. Roll the lawn mower outside of the garage before fueling it. If you

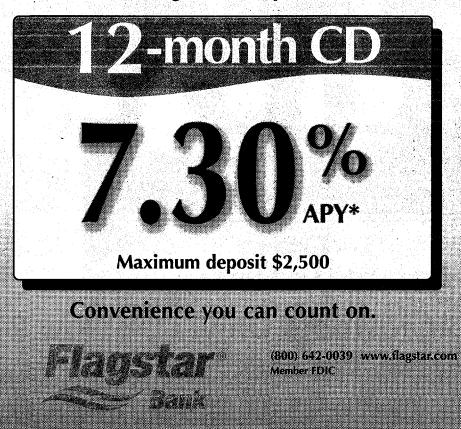
need to add gasoline to the mower during cutting, be sure to shut the engine off and allow it to cool down first. The hot engine can act as an ignition source for the flammable vapors. All of your Livonia firefighters have, unfortunately, responded to numerous lawn mower and tractor fires.

Gasoline is useful as we do our normal routines outside the home. It also has some very dangerous properties. Make sure you, and your family, use good common sense around gasoline.

Tom Kiurski is a Livonia firefighter.

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- Chicken Club Wrap...Crispy chicken, ham, bacon, Swiss cheese, American cheese, lettuce, tomato and our homemade ranch dressing. Served with coleslaw and steak or seasoned fries.
- Salmon Alfredo ... Fettuccine noodles with our homemade Alfredo sauce topped with grilled salmon. Served with your choice of soup or salad.
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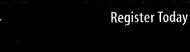
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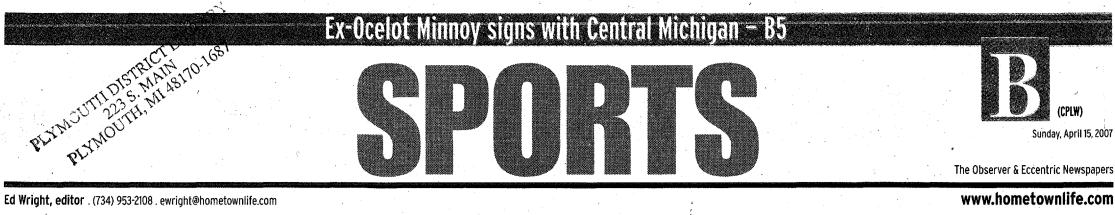
Grades 1-8 Classroom Demonstration Wednesday, April 18 @ 7:00 pm

4yr-K Classroom Visit Wednesday, April 25 @ 9:00 am



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Schoolcraft hires new hoop coach

Randy Henry, men's basketball coach at Detroit Renaissance for the 2006-07 season, has accepted the men's head coaching position at Schoolcraft College, succeeding Mike Brown.

"I'm excited about the new challenge," said Henry in a press release. "It's a chance to work with young men at the next level. Schoolcraft is a tremendous place to field a program, with a great history."

Sid Fox, Schoolcraft director of athletics, was equally enthusiastic about the hiring of Henry, who led Renaissance to a 19-4 record last season.

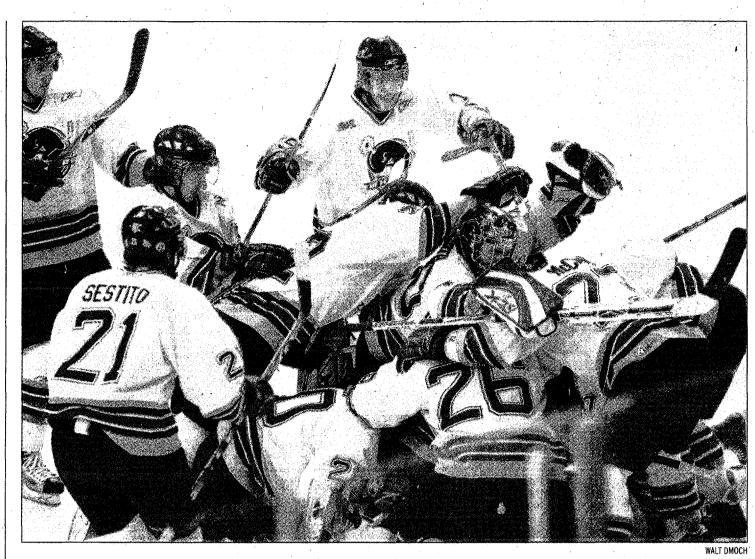
"Randy, by virtue of his vast experience in coaching basketball, brings to the table instant credibility and a flawless character that will catapult our program to new and innovative heights," Fox said. "In particular, his unquestionable regard and attention to human values as being paramount to the success of our program will definitely set us apart from other twoyear institutions."

Henry's coaching style and direction perhaps grew out of personal experience. He played at Illinois State for legendary coach Will Robinson.

Because Henry is a veteran coach, he "understands the importance of graduation rates and the practical implications for studentathletes," Fox continued.

Henry's appointment is effective immediately, and he plans to begin recruiting efforts at once. Schoolcraft has four players returning for the 2007-08 season, and Henry said he will be seeking another seven or eight players.

In other coaching positions, Henry served as assistant coach at Renaissance, and head coach at Mercy College and Bates Academy.



The Plymouth Whalers, pictured above celebrating following a game-winning overtime goal earlier in their OHL Western Conference semifinal series against Kitchener, ousted the Rangers, 4-1, Friday night to advance to the conference finals against the winner of the London-Sault Ste. Marie series.



BY ED WRIGHT Staff Writer

On Friday the 13th, a guy wearing a goalie mask made life miserable for a bunch of teenagers at the Compuware Sports Arena.

And, no, his name wasn't Jason. It was Plymouth goalie Michael Neuvirth, whose 30 saves led the Whalers the other semifinal series, 3-2.

"The key to the series was the goaltending — Michal played a lot better than their guy did," said Plymouth Head Coach Mike Vellucci. "Michal is so consistent. He's very technical and he makes big save after big save."

No one was in a better position to appreciate Neuvirth's mastery of the crease than Whaler captain Steve Ward, the team's veteran defenseman. Kitchener coach Pete DeBoer probably craved a Neuvirth clone just under four minutes into the contest when Ranger net-minder John Murray veered far from the goal crease during a Kitchener powerplay and had the puck stripped by Whaler forward Tom Sestito, who steered the puck swiftly to the net before jamming it in to give his team a 1-0 advantage.

"That was great stuff," said Vellucci, of



Canton Leisure Services will be hosting the Pepsi Pitch, Hit & Run competition Saturday, April 21, at the Canton Sports Center, which is located at 46555 W. Michigan Ave. in Canton. Registration for the annual event begins at 10 a.m. with the competition set

to start at 10:30 a.m. The event is free for boys and girls between the ages of 7 and 14 years old. All participants must provide a copy of their birth certificate at the competition.

Each participant will compete in three contests: pitching (they will be tested by throwing a baseball at a designated "strike zone" target); hitting (each youngster will hit a ball off a tee and be scored on distance and accuracy); and running (each participant will be timed running from second base, to third and then home).

Each participant may only compete in one local qualifier. No metal spikes are allowed.

For more information, call (734) 483-5600.

All-Observer special section Student-athletes who were selected for the All-Observer winter sports teams will be honored in a special section that will be published Sunday, April 29. The section – which will include photos and briefs bios that will focus on the honorees – will be included in every section of the Observer as well as on-line at www.hometownlife.com

He holds a bachelor's degree in mass communication from Illinois State University and serves as producer/director for the WDIV Morning Show. to a 4-1 victory over Kitchener in Game 5 of the Ontario Hockey League's Western Conference semifinals.

With the win, the Whalers captured the series, 4-1, and earned a berth in the Western Conference finals against the winner of the London-Sault Ste. Marie series. As of Friday night, the Knights led

"Michal makes life easier for me because he covers everything up and he doesn't give up many rebounds," said Ward, who earned the nod as the third star of Friday night's clincher. "He doesn't have to make many huge saves because he's always in good position." Sestito's ice-breaking, short-handed lamp-lighter. "That's just hard work on Tom's part. On plays like that, the goalies underestimate how quick Tommy is and what a long reach he has." A split-second after the puck had set-

PLEASE SEE WHALERS, B3

Heart & soles

Local runners are ready to take on tough Boston Marathon course

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

The 26-mile-and-change route from Hopkinton to Boston, Mass., promises to be wet, cold, windy and torturously hilly Monday morning.

But local running enthusiasts Terry Rush, Connie Scaparo, Janis Haggerty and Jennifer Lemieux — along with over 22,000 of their well-conditioned peers will be relishing every challenging step they take along the path of the 111th Boston Marathon.

Despite forecasts that call for 40degree temperatures, persistent showers and gusty breezes, the four local athletes are anxiously anticipating their chance to stride beside many of the elite long-distance runners in the world — at least at the outset of the race.

"The best of the best will be there, so it's like the Super Bowl of running," said Haggerty, when asked what makes the Boston Marathon so special. "Before I ran my first one last year, running in Boston had always been a dream of mine. I still pinch myself, like, 'How did I get invited to this?"

Like everyone else wearing a numbered bib and running shoes Monday morning in Hopkinton, Haggerty qualified by meeting a stringent qualifying standard at a recent marathon. For her, it was a sub-3:50 time in the 2005 Grand Rapids Marathon in the fall of 2005. For the 41year-old Rush, it was a sub-3:15 clocking in last year's Detroit Free Press

Marathon. "Boston is sr

"Boston is special because you have to qualify and because of the toughness of it," said Rush, a Plymouth resident who

111TH BOSTON MARATHON

When: Monday, approximately 9:30 a.m. Where: The race starts in Hopkinton, MA and ends in downtown Boston How far: 26 miles, 385 yards How many runners: The maximum

allowed is 22,500 Forecast: Cold, windy and rainy; Local flavor: Among the Observerlandarea runners who qualified are: Plymouth: Kevin Galvin, age 54; Karen

Holappa, 70; Terry Rush, 41; Jay Steele, 35; and Jean Weishaar, 45.

Canton: Chris Balch, 41; Aimee Cinzori, 33; Jennifer Dattilio, 25; Janis Haggerty, 41; Spiro Karras, 65; Soojin Koh, 38; Kelley Korona, 39; Jennifer Lemieux, 44; Ryan Rau, 26; Jonathan Richards, 41; Marc Robinson, 38; Daniel Sarna, 48; and Connie Scaparo, 43. Livonia: Mary Holbrook, 30; Kevin Leddy, 47; Robert Nenciarini, 47; Kristen Stempien,

28; and Gregory Unsicker, 43.
Westland: Michael Glennon, 31; Keith Hahn, 36; Lori Hahn, 30; and Ron Parent, 47.

has completed five Boston Marathons and 22 26-milers altogether. "They don't allow just anyone to enter."

1-OF-A-KIND RUN

The Boston Marathon is like no other, Rush said, because of the incredible enthusiasm displayed by the fans who line the streets — 10-deep in many spots.

"One of the most memorable parts of

PLEASE SEE MARATHON, B2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Four area long-distance runners who will be competing in the 111th Boston Marathon on Monday gathered for a photo Thursday afternoon at the Summit on the Park in Canton. Pictured (from left) are Jennifer Lemieux, Terry Rush, Connie Scaparo and Janis Haggerty. Rush resides in Plymouth; the other three live in Canton.

Ignition awards

Several members of the Detroit Ignition were showered with post-season awards after the team's inaugural season in the Major Indoor Soccer League.

Following are the players and coaches who were honored: Jamar Beasley (Hector Marinaro MVP Trophy and All-MISL First Team); Mark Pulisic (MISL Coach of the Year); goalkeeper Sanaldo (All-MISL Second Team); defenseman Jonathan Greenfield (All-MISL Second Team); and defenseman Nate Craft (MISL All-Rookie Team).

The Ignition opened the 2007 MISL Playoffs Saturday at Milwaukee. Game 2 is set for this afternoon at 4:35 p.m. at the Compuware Sports Arena. The MISL Championship

Game is set for Saturday, April 21, at 4 p.m. at the Compuware Sports Arena.

Coaches: Please call in

Local high school spring sports coaches are encouraged to report all of their teams' results to the Observer so that their players' achievements can be deservedly publicized.

To report results, coaches in Plymouth and Canton can call Observer Sports Editor Ed Wright at (734) 953-2108; coaches in Livonia, Westland and Wayne call call Sports Editor Brad Emons at (734) 953-2123.

LOCAL SPORTS

(CPLW) Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 15, 2007

B2 .

www.hometownlife.com

Hoover. Madonna got on the

board in the fourth thanks to

Cardinals came back with two

sixth and scored on a single to

center by senior right-fielder

Tony Luttman (Farmington).

Collecting the victory for

Concordia was Drew Linder,

who gave up one earned run

and four hits over six innings.

inning of scoreless relief was

Following Kennedy to the

mound for MU were senior

innings, O runs) and sopho-

frame). Hand and Brodowsky

Farmington and Farmington,

rightv Mike Hand (1.2

more right-hander Ryan

Brodowsky (1 scoreless

are graduates of North

Earning the save with an

Kyle McIntyre.

respectively.

VanAllen tripled in the

an unearned run, but the

more tallies in the fifth.

PREP BASEBALL Monday, April 16 Churchill at W.L. Northern, 4 p.m. Franklin at W.L. Western, 4 p.m. Stevenson at Salem, 4 p.m. Wayne at Northville, 4 p.m. Canton at Plymouth, 4 p.m. Clarenceville at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 17 W.L. Central at John Glenn, 4 p.m. Huron Valley vs. Agape Christian at Canton's Griffin Park, 4:30 p.m. A.A. Huron at Plymouth, 4 p.m. PCA at Inter-City Baptist, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 18 John Glenn at W.L. Western, 4 p.m. Churchill at Wayne, 4 p.m. Salem at Franklin, 4 p.m. W.L. Northern at Plymouth, 4 p.m. Stevenson at Canton, 4 p.m. Harper Woods at Clarenceville, 4:30 p.m. Luth. Westland at Liggett, 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 19 Huron Valley at Ypsi Calvary, 4:30 p.m. B'ham Roeper at PCA, 4:30 p.m. Friday, April 20 John Glenn at Churchill, 4 p.m. Wayne at Franklin, 4 p.m. Northville at Plymouth, 4 p.m. Salem at W.L. Northern, 4 p.m. Calvary Christian at PCA, 4:30 p.m. W.L. Western at Canton, 4 p.m. Stevenson at W.L. Central, 4 n.m. Clarenceville at Luth. N'west, 4:30 p.m. Luth. North at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m. Saturday, April 21 (all doubleheaders) South Lvon Tourney, 10 a.m. Churchill at Carleton-Airport, 10 a.m. Milford at Franklin, 11 a.m. John Glenn at Garden City, 11 a.m Redford Union at Clarenceville, 11 a.m. GIRLS SOFTBALL Monday, April 16 W.L. Northern at Churchill, 4 p.m. W.L. Western at Franklin, 4 p.m. Salem at Stevenson, 4 p.m. Canton at Plymouth, 4 p.m. Northville at Wayne, 4 p.m. Clarenceville at Luth, Westland, 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 17 John Glenn at W.L. Central, 4 p.m. Divine Child at Ladywood (2), 4 p.m. Franklin Road at PCA, 4:30 p.m. Huron Valley vs. Agape Christian at Canton's Griffin Park, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 18 W.L. Western at John Glenn, 4 p.m. Wayne at Churchill, 4 p.m. Franklin at Salem, 4 p.m. Canton at Stevenson, 4 p.m. Lith. Westland at Liggett, 4:30 p.m. Plymouth at W.L. Northern, 4 p.m. Thursday, April 19 Harper Woods at Clarenceville, 4:30 p.m. ly Christian at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m. Friday, April 20 John Glenn at Churchill, 4 p.m. Franklin at Wayne, 4 p.m. W.L. Central at Stevenson, 4 p.m. Mercy at Ladywood (2), 4 p.m. Plymouth at Northville, 4 p.m. Clarenceville at Luth. N'west, 4:30 p.m. Canton at W.L. Western, 4 p.m. uth, North at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m. Saturday, April 21 Redford Union at Clarenceville (DH), 11 a.m. Birm. Groves at Churchill (DH), 11 a.m.

Wayne at Ypsi Lincoln (DH), 11 a.m. Canton at Anchor Bay Tourney, 9:30 a.m. Plymouth at Tecumseh Tourney, TBA **GIRLS SOCCER** Monday, April 16 Churchill at W.L. Northern, 7 p.m. Franklin at W.L. Western, 7 p.m. Canton at Plymouth, 7 p.m. Stevenson at Salem (CEP), 7 p.m. Wayne at Northville, 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 17 Clarenceville at B.H. Kingswood, 4:30 p.m. Hamtramck at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m. Ladywood at H.W. Regina, 5:30 p.m. Oakland Christian at PCA, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 18 W.L. Northern at John Glenn, 4 p.m. Churchill at Stevenson, 7 p.m. W.L. Central at Salem, 7 p.m. Plymouth at W.L. Western, 7 p.m. Franklin at Northville, 7 p.m. Canton at Wayne, 7 p.m. Thursday, April 19 Luth. Westland at Clawson, 4:30 p.m. Mercy at Ladywood, 5:30 p.m. Friday, April 20 John Glenn at Garden City, 4 p.m. Wayne at Taylor Truman, 4 p.m. Canton at Salem, 7 p.m. PCA at B'ham Roeper, 7:30 p.m. Lathrup at Clarenceville, 5 p.m. BOYS & GIRLS TRACK & FIELD Tuesday, April 17 Ladywood at Divine Child, 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 18 Clarenceville at Lutheran North, 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 19 Churchill at Salem, 3:30 p.m. Wayne at Franklin, 3:30 p.m. Canton at Plymouth, 3:30 p.m. Stevenson at John Glenn, 3:30 p.m. Annapolis, Roeper, A.P. Cabrini at Lutheran Westland, 4:15 p.m. Saturday, April 21 Monroe-Jefferson Inv., 9 a.m. Birm. Groves Invitational, 9 a.m. Berkley Invitational, 9 a.m. Elks Relays at Dearborn, 10 a.m. **BOYS TENNIS** Monday, April 16 Wayne at John Glenn, 4 p.m. Northville at Churchill, 4 p.m. Franklin at W.L. Northern, 4 p.m. W.L. Western at Stevenson, 4 p.m. Plymouth at W.L. Central, 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 18 John Glenn at Northville, 4 p.m. Churchill at Plymouth, 4 p.m. Stevenson at Franklin, 4 p.m. W.L. Central at Salem, 4 p.m. W.L. Northern at Wayne, 4 p.m. Canton at W.L. Western, 4 p.m. Friday, April 20 Plymouth at John Glenn, 4 p.m. Salem at Churchill, 4 p.m. W.L. Central at Canton, 4 p.m. W.L. Northern at Salem, 4 p.m. Franklin at W.L. Western, 4 p.m. Wayne at Stevenson, 4 p.m. Saturday, April 21 Holly Invitational, 8 a.m. Saline Invitational, 9 a.m. Herald Inv. at Taylor Truman, TBA. BOYS LACROSSE Thursday, April 19 PCS at Northville, 7 p.m. Saturday, April 21 PCS at Flint Powers, 11 a.m.

THE WEEK AHEAD

GIRLS GOLF Monday, April 16 E. Lansing Inv. at Walnut Hills, 9 a.m. Wednesday, April 18 John Glenn vs. Franklin at Fellows Creek. 3 p.m. Churchill vs. Wavne at Whispering Willows, 3 p.m. Stevenson vs. Canton at Fox Creek, 3 p.m. Ladywood at A.A. Huron, 3:30 p.m. Plymouth at Salem at St. John's GC, 3 p.m. Thursday, April 19 John Glenn, Franklin at Taylor Truman, 3 p.m. Stevenson vs. W.L. Western at Links of Pinewood, 3 p.m. Ladywood vs. Riv. Gab. Richard at St. John's Golf Center, 3 p.m. Friday, April 20 John Glenn vs. Wayne at The Woodlands-Van Buren, 3 p.m. **Churchill vs. Northville** at Tanglewood, 3 p.m. Franklin vs. W.L. Northern at Idyl Wyld, 3 p.m. W.L. Central at Plymouth at Hickory Creek G.C., 3 p.m. Canton at Salem at St. John's G.C., 3 p.m. Saturday, April 21 Grosse Ile Invitational at Riverview Highlands, 9 a.m. **GIRLS LACROSSE** Monday, April 16 Ladywood at Riv. Gab. Richard, 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 18 H.W. Regina at Ladywood, 6 p.m. Friday, April 20 Troy at Ladywood, 6 p.m. MEN'S COLLEGE BASEBALL (all doubleheaders) Sunday, April 15 Madonna vs. Indiana Tech at Ilitch Ballpark, 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 17 Madonna at Northwood, 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 18 Madonna at Siena Hts., 1 p.m. Saturday, April 21 Madonna vs. Aquinas College at llitch Ballpark, 1 p.m. Sunday, April 22 Madonn at Aquinas College, 1 p.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOFTBALL Friday, April 20 (all doubleheaders) Madonna vs. Rochester College at University Field, 4 p.m. Saturday, April 21 Madonna vs. Siena Heights at University Field, 1 p.m. Sunday, April 22 Madonna vs. Aquinas College at University Field, 1 p.m. ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE PLAYOFFS WESTERN CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS Sunday, April 14 (if necessary) Whalers at Kitchener, 7:30 p.m. MAJOR INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE PLAYOFFS-OPENING ROUND Sunday, April 14 Ignition vs. Milwaukee Wave at Compuware Arena, 4:35 p.m.

TBA - time to be announced.

Canton alum McDevitt wins to earn split for Crusaders

Friday's complete-game 5-1 win over Concordia probably was a little sweeter for Madonna University pitcher and Canton alum Carl McDevitt - because it came against his former college team, Concordia.

The junior right-hander scattered eight hits and fanned five Cardinals to even his won-loss record at 2-2 as the Crusaders - despite managing a total of just nine hits for the day - earned a split of a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference doubleheader at Ilitch Ballpark in Livonia. Concordia's lone run against McDevitt came in the

sixth when Zach Johnston singled home his brother, Zane Johnston, slicing Madonna's lead to 3-1.

But MU (16-13 overall, 4-6 in the WHAC) answered in

MARATHON

FROM PAGE B1

the race is running through Wellesley," he said. "The girls from Wellesley College line the streets and the noise they make is almost deafening. You can hear them two miles before you get to the town.

"It gets crazy around the 22nd and 23rd mile, too, because you run by Fenway Park and the fans are usually just getting out of the Boston Red Sox game. A lot of them are usually pretty inebriated and they get pretty rowdy."

SPECIAL SUPPORT

Lemeiux, of Canton, will be running in her second consecutive Boston Marathon. The 2006 edition was memorable not only because of the thousands of fans who were present, but by the a small group of supporters who greeted her at the top of a grueling hill.

"They have these special

the bottom half thanks to a two-run triple by sophomore Rvan Morrow.

The Crusaders got off to a 1-0 lead in the fourth against Concordia (11-14, 1-5). Senior third baseman Gary VanAllen doubled to left and eventually scored on a double-play grounder.

Two more runs scored in the fifth, with the big hit being a triple to right-center by junior catcher Garrett Ignasiak.

Concordia won the opener 6-2, with five MU errors and other miscues resulting in all runs being unearned against junior starting pitcher Will Kennedy (Westland/John Glenn).

The Cardinals set the tone with four runs in the third, a rally featuring a two-run double by first baseman Alex

cheer me on at some of the

toughest points in the race.

downhill for 17-and-a-half

ing marathon in the world."

FIRST-TIMER

of all the hills. You're running

miles and uphill for five miles.

They say it's the most demand-

Scaparo will find that out

covers the Boston route for the

"I really don't know what to

with Lemeiux and Haggerty, is a

Divas," a 30-plus-member run-

firsthand Monday when she

first time in what will be just

expect," said the 43-year-old

Canton resident, who, along

member of the "Dirt Road

ning club that is based in

her second marathon.

'It's a difficult course because

Canton. "I just want to commats along the course and plete it and be able to walk when you run past them, a when it's over," she said, smiling. computer chip in your shoe All of the local runners made sends an e-mail or a phone message to people you know to sure their pre-Boston training included plenty of ups and let them know exactly where you are," said Lemeiux. downs. "Because of this, my family "I made sure I ran a lot of knew where I was the entire time and they were there to

hills," revealed Rush. "I ran Joy Road, Ridge and Napier a lot. I also did a lot of treadmill downhill running."

'Our running group tried to make sure we ran a lot of dirtroad hills toward the end of our loops so that we'd get the feeling of going uphill at the end when we're bone tired," Lemeiux added.

Haggerty said the grueling event is made a little easier by a series of billboards that are staggered throughout the course.

"One will say, 'Reason No. 678: Because I can,' and another will say, 'For every uphill, there's a downhill,' things like that," she said. "They're very inspirational."

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LOCAL SPORTS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 15, 2007

(CPLW) **B3**

WHALERS

FROM PAGE B1

tled into the net after Sestito's goal, DeBoer replaced Murray with back-up Charles Lavigne. Was Vellucci surprised by

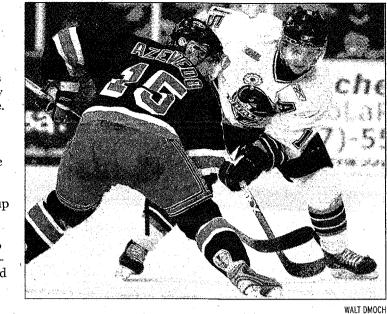
the move?

"Yes and no," he said. "I probably would have done the same thing because he's given up those kind of goals the whole series. When you give up short-handed goals like that, it's a momentum buster."

Evan Brophey added fuel to the Whalers' momentum midway through the second period when he converted a rare penalty shot to double Plymouth's lead to 2-0. Brophey, a native of Kitchener, made a slick move right before shifting left and lifting the puck over the sprawling Lavigne.

Kitchener defenseman Jakub Kindl, a Detroit Red Wings draftee, brought the Rangers to within 2-1 with 6:16 left in the second period when he rifled a shot from the point past a screened Neuvirth. The power-play marker was Kindl's second goal of the series.

The Whalers sucked the life out of Kitchener's comeback plans three minutes later when



Plymouth's Andrew Fournier (facing camera) was a key contributor in the Whalers' OHL Western Conference triumph over Kitchener. Fournier scored an overtime game-winner in Game 3.

Chris Terry handled a nifty pass from Dan Collins in front of the net and wristed it past Lavigne to pad the lead to 3-1. Ward also assisted on the goal.

The back-breaking goal came 9:36 into the third period when Andrew Fournier and Joe McCann hooked up on a pretty give-and-go play to improve the Whalers' lead to 4-1. Fournier started the play with a crisp pass from center ice to McCann who was streaking down the right side. McCann then threaded a laser back to Fournier, who whistled the hard piece of rubber past an overmatched Lavigne.

The goal seemed to strike a nerve in the Rangers, who were called for a pair of 10minute misconduct penalties and one game misconduct infraction over the course of the next minute.

The Whalers, who were outshot 31-24, have made it a habit of causing teams to lose their cool during the first two post-season series, during which they've chiseled a stellar 8-1 record.

"We have great chemistry and we don't really have a weak spot right now," Ward said, when asked about the team's roll. "Our goalie is playing great and our special teams are going good right now. When we play well on the fiveon-fives, we're hard to stop.

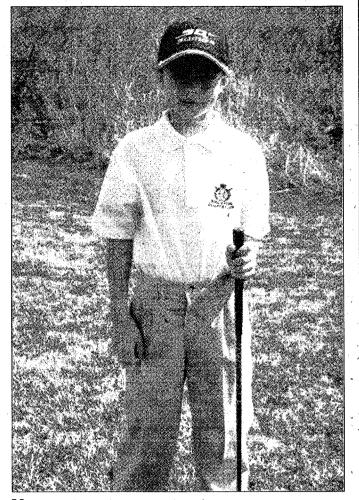
"That was a huge win for us tonight, but we're only halfway to where we want to go. We have to keep the throttle down, get some rest and then get right back at it once we know who we're going to play next."

Vellucci stopped short of saying this year's contingent of Whalers is the best he's ever coached. But he did say they may be the most enjoyable bunch.

"They're a fun group to be around," said Vellucci, flashing a wide grin. "They're a bunch of characters. Usually, you have one or two characters on a team. I think we have 19 or 20 on this team.

"They're hard to handle sometimes, that's for sure." The Kitchener Rangers couldn't agree more.

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Young ace

Glenn Piot, Jr., a 10-year-old resident of Canton, recorded a hole-in-one April 3 at the Strategic Fox Golf Course at Fox Hills in Plymouth Township. Piot, a fourth-grader at All Saints Catholic School in Canton, used a seven iron to ace the 94-yard third hole at the Strategic Fox. Glenn is the son of Glenn and Judy Piot of Canton.

Kitchener rides early lead to Game 4 win

Kevin Henderson scored twice while Steve Downie and Matt Martello added single goals as the Kitchener Rangers built a 3-0 lead in the second period and went on to defeat the Plymouth Whalers, 4-2, in Game 4 of the Ontario Hockey League Western Conference Semifinals played Wednesday night before 5,948 at the Kitchener Memorial Auditorium.

Dan Collins (third of the playoffs) and Chris Terry (4) replied for Plymouth. Special teams were the key to the Kitchener victory as they went 3-for-12 on the power play and added a shorthanded goal. Kitchener defenseman Jakub Kindl contributed three assists and Rangers center Justin Azevedo two, all on the power play. Plymouth went 1for-9 on the power play. Kitchener outshot Plymouth, 50-31, in the game.

Martello scored the only goal of the first period at 19:09 when Kindl's point shot missed the Plymouth goal but caromed off the back boards to Martello, stationed at the right goal line. Martello batted the puck past Plymouth goaltender Michal Neuvirth.

Henderson scored a shorthanded goal at 2:30 of the second period when Neuvirth tried to clear the puck out of his own zone from the left faceoff circle. But the puck bounced off Henderson and into the Plymouth net. Downie made it 3-0 at 7:15 when he was set up directly in front of the Plymouth goal and made no mistake with the shot. Collins cut the Kitchener lead to 3-1 at 9:05 when he beat Kitchener goaltender John Murray with a low shot from the left circle.

Henderson opened the third period scoring at 8:02 when he deflected Kindl's point shot from the hashmarks past Neuvirth. Terry closed the scoring at 16:16 of the period when he scored on scramble at the side of the Kitchener goal. Plymouth head coach Mike Vellucci pulled Neuvirth with 1:53 remaining in the third period, but the Whalers couldn't cut into the Kitchener lead.



Plymouth Whalers goaltender Michal Neuvirth finished second in this season's Ontario Hockey League Goaltender of the Year voting, piled a 2.32 goals against average and led the OHL during the regular season with a .932 save percentage. Along with Jeremy Smith (Brownstown), the a .914 save percentage, in 62 games this season. Mason was instrumental in leading the Knights to their fourth consecutive Hamilton Spectator Mason received 76 points in the voting process, followed by Neuvirth, who received 43 points. Thomas McCollum of the Guelph Storm finished third with 28 points. Mason joins some elite company with past winners including Adam Dennis, Ray Emery, Andrew Raycroft and Manny

behind London goaltender Steve Mason.

Neuvirth – a second round pick (34th overall) of the National Hockey League's Washington Capitals – comWhalers led the OHL in team defense this season in allowing 173 goals over 68 games. Mason posted an impressive

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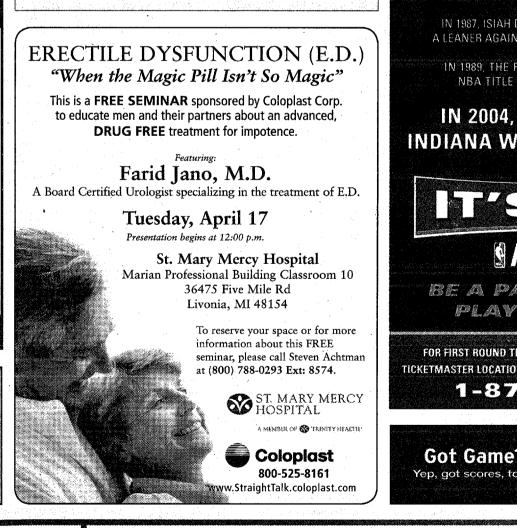
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Mason posted an impressive 45-13-1-3 record, along with a 3.20 goals against average and Trophy, along with the teams fourth consecutive Holody Trophy Midwest Division Championship. Mason's 45 regular season wins is a new OHL record amongst goaltenders.

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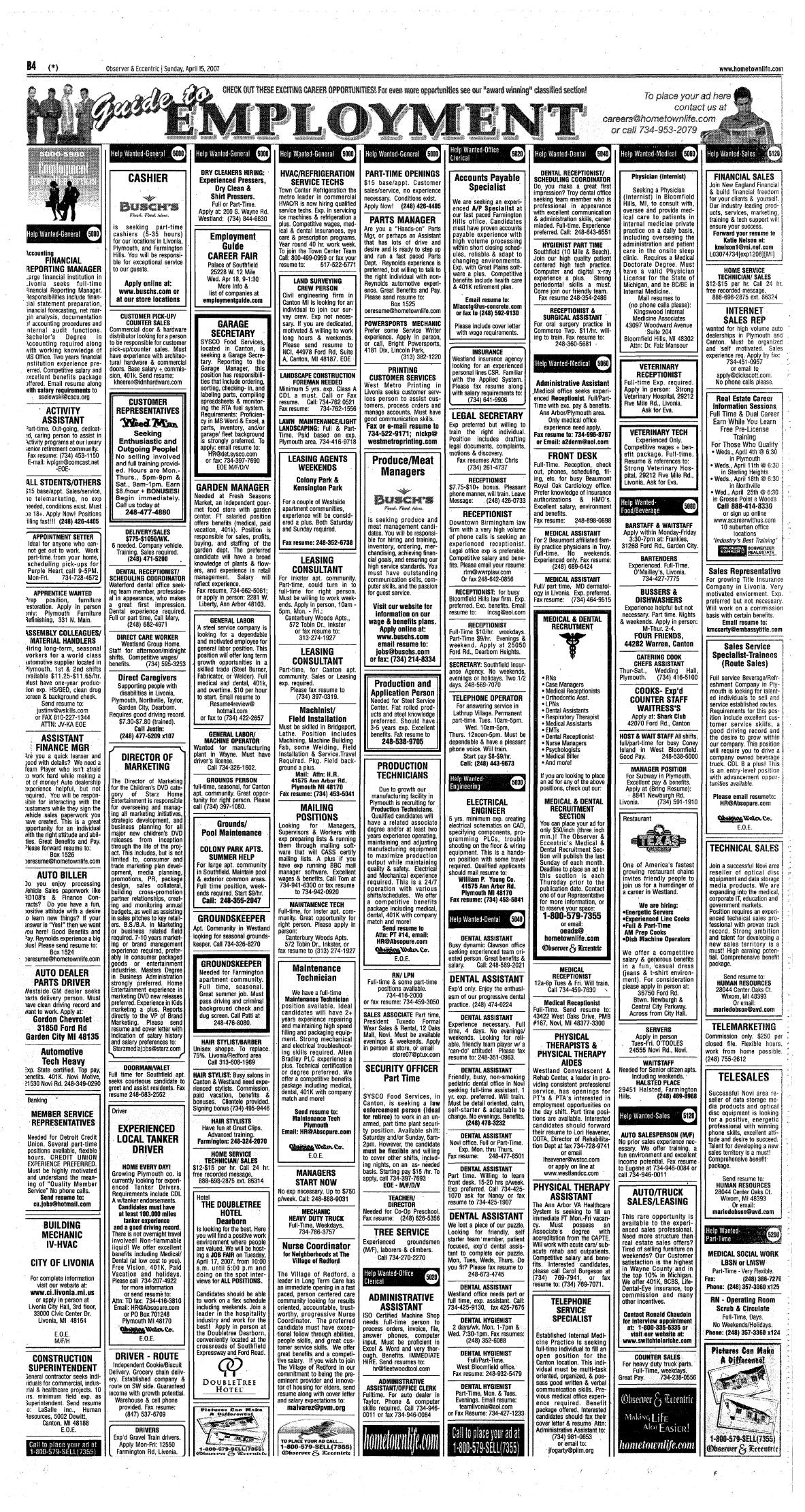
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LOCAL SPORTS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 15, 2007

B5 (CPLW)

Chips sign ex-Ocelot Minnoy to scholarship

BY BRAD EMONS STAFF WRITER

www.hometownlife.com

Central Michigan University men's basketball coach Ernie Ziegler used his Schoolcraft College connection Wednesday to sign Ocelot forward Nate Minnoy.

Ziegler, a former Ocelot player, also added Cass Tech pointguard William Eddie III, son of CMU assistant coach William Eddie, Jr.

Minnoy, a burly 6-4, 265pound forward, played one season at Schoolcraft after transferring from Purdue University where he started the first 12 games of the 2005-06 season before suffering a knee injury. During his abbreviated stint at Purdue, Minnoy averaged 10.2 points and 5.1 rebounds per game.

The Hales Franciscan High product from Chicago, Ill. averaged 22.1 points and 10.8 rebounds per game as Schoolcraft finished 23-9 overall and captured the Michigan Community College Athletic Association playoffs.

He earned NJCAA All-Region 12 and All-MCCAA honors this season.

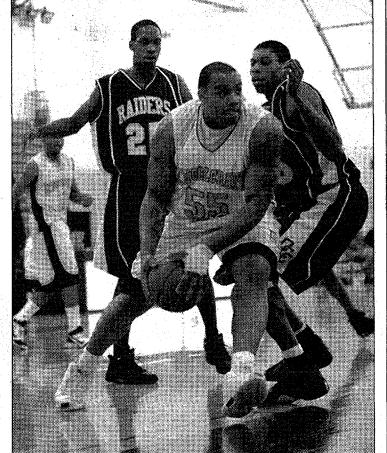
"Nate is a tremendous addition to our program," Ziegler said in a CMU press statement. "He brings a lot of the intangibles that will allows us to continue to develop a winning situation here at CMU. His leadership and toughness, along with his skill set, will enhance our program and the rebuild-

ing process.' Ziegler, the former UCLA assistant, guided the Chippewas to a 13-18 overall record and 7-9 mark in the Mid-American Conference in his first season as head

coach. During the fall signing period, Ziegler inked 6-5 guard Chase Simon (Detroit Community) and 6-4 guard Jeremy Allen (Cass Tech).

"In light of some guys leaving our program, we were able to sign some additional student-athletes who will upgrade our talent level," Ziegler said in the release. "These two (Minnoy and Eddie III) give us more depth and will created competition at every position in practice, which is what we need to get better."

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Former Schoolcraft College basketball player Nate Minnoy (with ball) signed to play for Central Michigan University beginning in the fall.

Home Equity Term Loan

Canton Celtic FC set to battle Ann Arbor

Canton Celtic FC will play a preliminary round game against the Ann Arbor Football Club in the 2007 Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup, 7 p.m. Sunday at Saline High School.

Admission is \$1. Canton Celtic FC, managed by player-coach Dave Hebestreit, is a member of Michigan United Soccer League's First Division and includes standouts from area high schools, along with college players from Madonna, Schoolcraft and the University of Michigan.

The U.S. Open Cup is the nation's largest and oldest elimination tournament, has been contested on a national level since 1914.

Any team that is a part of a league sponsored by the U.S. Soccer Federation can enter the tournament be it of a professional or amateur status.

This year, 40 teams will

Home Equity Line of Credit

make up the U.S. Open Cup proper rounds including eight MLS teams; 10 USL Division I teams: six USD Division II teams; eight Premier Development League teams (including the defending PDL champion Michigan Bucks); and eight USASĂ teams, two each from four different regions including Canton Celtic.

If Canton Celtic wins its preliminary round match, the club will travel to the Region II tournament to meet champions of Missouri, Illinois, Indiana Wisconsin, Iowa and the NPSL bid Princeton '56ers in a single-elimination weekend tournament April 21 in St. Joseph, Mich.

The two finalists will qualify for the U.S. Open Cup proper rounds.

The final of the U.S. Open Cup will be televised nationally and played June 17 in St. Joe.

Canton sweeps Dragons

Canton's baseball team extended its early-season record to 4-1-1 Tuesday afternoon with a doubleheader sweep of Swartz Creek.

The visiting Chiefs won the opener, 10-8, before snuffing out the Dragons, 5-1, in the nightcap.

Sophomore catcher/outfielder Dan Stoney was the hitting star for the Chiefs, combining to go 4-for-6 with a home run and two doubles in the twinbill. His home run in the opener gave Canton a 5-3 lead that they would never relinquish.

Senior catcher Blaine Paden also swung a hot bat for the Chiefs in the opener, going 2for-2 with an RBI and a run scored. Ben Vaughn, William Tidwell, Kevin Delapaz and

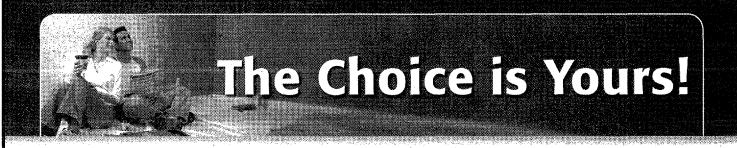
Ryan Neu all added one hit in the victory.

Junior left-handed pitcher Erik Wright improved to 2-0 after yielding two hits, five walks and two earned runs in three innings of work. Dan Milus was solid in relief of Wright, giving up three earned runs the rest of the way.

Senior pitcher Brad Barath shut down the Dragons in Game 2 as he gave up just two hits in five innings of work. Delapaz was perfect in relief over the final two frames.

Joining Stoney in the hit parade were Barath (2-for-3. RBI double), Kyle Gring (RBI double) and Mike Madias. who went 1-for-2. Swartz Creek dropped to 2-

2 on the season.



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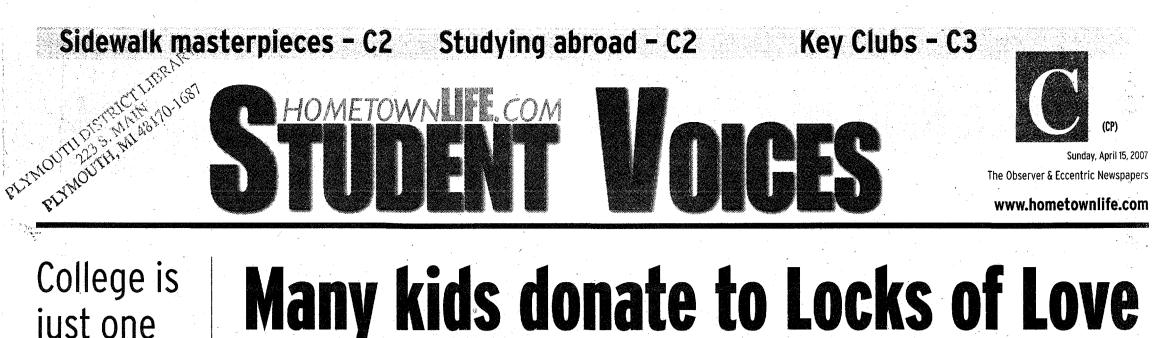


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College is just one choice for graduates

BY NICOLE WILDMAN STUDENT JOURNALIST

Although many high school graduates enter college the semester after they graduate, there are other options.

There are hundreds of reasons not to start college right away. It's expensive, and not many 17 or 18 year olds have thousands of dollars

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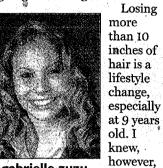
ness to save up can be a smart move to prevent taking on debt from student loans after college graduation.

Most people don't know for sure what they want to study when they're 17 or 18 years old, and it's a big decision to say okay, I'm going to study this, and then do that for the next 40 years of life. Time off from school can give students a chance to get some experience in a field that they're interested in, and see if they like it.

College academics can be overwhelming, especially if the student had borderune grades in high school. Taking classes at a community college is a good way to boost grades and raise the chances of being accepted into a better university, or just a less expensive way to get general college credits out of the way. Just make sure that the institution you ultimately plan to attend will accept the credits you're earning. For those who love to travel, but want to go when they're young instead of after they retire, the time between high school and college can be ideal. Take some time off, work odd jobs and save up, then travel for a while before attending college. Even in the twenty-first century, a traditional college experience isn't necessary to be successful in life. Some people choose to join the military or attend a trade school, and those options are just as beneficial in the long run. Sometimes, kids only choose to attend college because it's been expected of them since they were young, and it seems necessary, but there are other options available.

BY GABRIELLE ZUZO STUDENT JOURNALIST

I remember sitting down waiting for my aunt to cut off the long blonde ponytail flowing down my back. I was in the third grade and it was going to be a big shock.



gabrielle zuzu

donation would be worth it. I wanted to help another child suffering from hair loss due to an illness

that my

After my hair was clipped, it was sent to the non-profit

organization, Locks of Love. According to its Web site, www.locksoflove.org, the organization "provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children under age 18 suffering from long-term medical hair loss from any diagnosis."

Most children serviced by the organization have lost their hair because of an incurable condition called alopecia areata. The organization's ultimate goal is to boost confidence and restore self-esteem.

The Florida-based foundation accepts hair of any color or texture from anyone. The four requirements include:

The donated hair must be at least 10 - preferably 12 inches in length

■ It must be bundled in a ponytail or braid

🖬 It must be free of chemical processing damage

• The hair must be clean, dry and placed in a plastic bag Many hair donations are from kids desiring to help another child.

My mother teaches first grade and one of her students. Haley Jankowski, recently donated her tresses to Locks of Love.

Haley's donation was spontaneous. She went into a salon just looking for a haircut, but after the stylist suggested she cut a few more inches off to become eligible to make a donation, Haley agreed.

"I'm happy someone like me is going to have my hair," she said.

Because of people like Haley, children all over the country are able to feel confident with a hairpiece to replace their own hair.

The process to get a customized wig can take up to six months. First, a child must be nominated and then accepted for a donation. Then, they are sent a kit to make a mold of their head. The mold is designed to ensure a properly fitted piece.



First grader Haley Jankowski shows off the ponytail of hair she recently had cut off so she could donate it to Locks of Love.

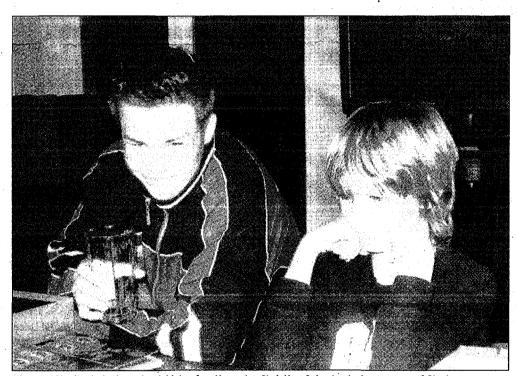
The child then selects the length and color of the hair they desire. A single wig can use up to 10 donated ponytails.

When the hair donations come in, the foundation sends them to a manufacturer that

creates the wig. The finished product is sent to the child, who can then get it styled. Although the hair is donated, Locks of Love is charged between \$3,500-\$6,000 for

manufacturing costs. To learn more about the organization, view photographs of hair recipients or make a financial contribution, log on to www.locksoflove.org or call (888) 896-1588.

Gabrielle Zuzo is a junior at Plymouth High School.



Salem orchestra pit is a home away from home

Lauren Patterson, a Canton High School senior, is not planning on going to college next fall even though she'll be graduating this June.

She plans on studying real estate, but instead of college this year, she plans to work and save up money, attend night school and get her real estate license. and then maybe go to college for a degree.

"After high school, I'm planning on taking my real estate license test and maybe working for half a year while going to night school. Then I'll go to Schoolcraft (College) and get a degree in business management," she said.

Nicole Wildman is a senior at Salem High School.

Klemens Slunitschek observing Isbister fourth grader Christian Scheske during a game of Stratego.

Exchange program offers unique perspective of foreign countries

BY DAVID HOPPER

On March 19, some Plymouth-Canton students and their families gathered at Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport's McNamara Terminal.

The group, with welcome signs in hand, was eagerly awaiting the arrival of 18 German exchange students and two adult chaperones. The German visitors were from Renningen, Germany, not far from Stuttgart.

The Renningen students spent two weeks in

the area, one week in New York City and then returned to Germany.

Linda Hahn, a German teacher for Plymouth-Canton schools, coordinated this visit with her German counterpart, Frau Gudrun Kries-Kneer. A group of Plymouth-

Renningen and touring

Canton students will visit Germany this summer, attending school in david hopper

the area.

The visits are part of a program called GAPP - German American Partnership Program.

"The exchange was great this year," Hahn said. "The Americans and Germans were matched very well and I heard so much excitement from everyone, including students who weren't directly involved (such as Spanish stu-



German student Klemens Slunitschek (right) visiting Marsh Fistler's fourth grade class at Isbister Elementary.

dents and math students). Our German guests enjoyed their host families very much. Everyone was tired, but it's a great kind of tired."

GAPP is a nonprofit program linking American high schools that offer German courses to secondary schools in Germany. It has about 760 active partnerships.

Each year, roughly 5,000 American high school students and teachers visit their partners in Germany, and 8,000 German students and teachers are hosted by American high schools. On their first day of school, the German students were welcomed by the principal of

PLEASE SEE EXCHANGE, C2

BY KELLY CLAWSON

Confetti litters the orchestra pit at Salem High School. Although it is empty now, for the last several months it held some of the most dedicated musicians at Plymouth-Canton schools and the only ones crazy enough to volunteer to be a part of the long rehearsals for the spring musical, Footloose.

The occupants of the pit were people that have known each other by name, by instrument, or by face, but that may never have really interacted before.

Violinist Mandy Pawczuk, a senior at Plymouth High School and two-year pit veteran, said, "You see a side of people that you don't normally see in school when you're in a big hole in the ground."

Those that were just a face at rehearsals became friends, forever bonded by the experiences embodied by the catch phrase found on every pit hoodie and T-shirt: "What happens in the pit stays in the pit, and what falls into the

pit belongs to the pit."

kelly clawson

The increasingly long rehearsals included the infamous "tech Saturday," during which the cast, crew and orchestra spent more than 12 hours on the first full run-through of the show:

Pawczuk said the production wouldn't have been the same without Catherine K. DePentu, orchestra director. She called DePentu a devoted teacher and director who has the respect and admiration of her students.

Each year, the pit finds new faces in musicians as well as mascots. There's Jane, the disembodied mannequin head with the most seniority. Then there's Nancy, the bloodthirsty wooden bunny. The

newest addition is Arbol, a ficus tree. Each mascot has a history behind their arrival to the pit and helps make the area a home-away-from-home to students.

Every year holds something new for the musicians, whether it's dealing with new rhythms, testing their endurance on long numbers or challenging their ability to deal with surprises. Those in the pit share a common goal of making the singers look good and at the end of each show, the pit is recognized.

Although the practices are long, Pawczuk said there's something magnetic about being in the pit. "It's a lot of fun," she said. "I get to spend time doing what I like to do."

Kelly Clawson is a senior at Canton High School.



Plymouth-Canton students (from left) Mandy . Pawzcuk. Karl Riggs and Kelly Clawson have become great friends because of their time in the orchestra pit.

Written by area students • Joe Bauman, mentor • (248) 901-2563 • jbauman@hometownlife.com

STUDENT VOICES

2 (CP) Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 15, 2007

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Plymouth High artist chalks up sidewalk masterpieces

BY DAVID HOPPER STUDENT JOURNALIST

Given a piece of sidewalk halk, many high school stuents would either laugh or cribble profanity with it. Greg Carr, 16, would probably sk for a few more pieces and

nen replicate a priceless Vincent an Gogh. An avid artist for most of his

fe Carr has recently discovered new talent to add to his artistic epertoire: sidewalk chalk art. "I saw an ad in a brochure that nentioned a sidewalk chalk ompetition," he said. "And since

'anton High School and were

iven a tour of the high school

For the duration of their stay,

hey attended classes with their

'lymouth-Canton partners and

vere also able to visit classes of

rea, they group took a field trip

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lso visited Plymouth City Hall,

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Tills and the Plymouth

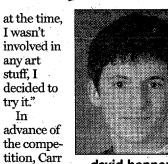
heir choosing. While in the

o downtown Detroit with 'lymouth-Canton Spanish

:XCHANGE

ROM PAGE C1

ampus.



first piece.

"I did a sunset on my porch. It was (about) three feet by two feet - really small," he said. Those types of "freestyle" pieces aren't typical for the

Plymouth High School junior. He tends to reproduce classic works of art.

When I see a painting and it looks really good and I want to see it full scale or in person, that's where I get my ideas," he said.

Carr has chalked van Gogh's 'Starry Night" on his driveway, along with Salvador Dali's "The Persistence of Memory" (a.k.a. Melting Clocks).

"The idea of sidewalk chalk was to take famous pieces from galleries and put them on the sidewalk so that other people can see them," Carr says. "It's so

average Joe can see it."

Of course, parents shouldn't just give their tyke a few sticks of chalk and throw them outside any time of the year and expect a masterpiece. Aside from practice, the type of chalk can make all the difference. Carr recommends Koss soft pastels and

avoiding blacktop asphalt. "Smooth sidewalk is the best you can get," he said. "Of course, the ideal surface would be a basement or garage floor. But for

some reason, you're never allowed to do that. Asphalt is really bad."

Straying from its initial pur-

pose, sidewalk chalk has taken other forms to serve other purposes. Many artists are funded by corporate advertising campaigns to develop huge, chalk advertisements on specially designated walks and sidewalks.

Despite the career prospects, Carr has little intention of making art his profession.

'I just want it to be a hobby," he said. "Maybe I can make some extra cash on the side, but I want to be a carpenter."

Carr will have his hands full in the coming months.

"I just started learning how to do acrylic, because I'm painting

pillars at Relay for Life in May. June, I'm going to do sidewalk chalk for Liberty Fest," he said. "And in August, I'm going to be representing D&M Art Studio at. a sidewalk chalk competition."

Though growing with new converts like Carr, sidewalk chalk still has a relatively small following compared to other art types.

"D&M Studios has a crew and then there's Art in the Park," he said. "We're trying to get people involved, so we'll see."

David Hopper is a junior at Plymouth High School.

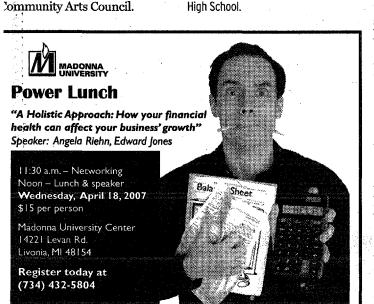
Klemens Slunitschek, a 17year-old from Malmsheim, said he enjoyed his visit to the U.S.

What I enjoyed most was the field trip to the Holocaust Memorial Center." he said. "I also liked the trip to Detroit and going to classes I chose myself."

tinue the school district's participation with GAPP.

"I think it offers our students the best chance to learn about the German culture, forge friendships with people of that culture and (it provides) a lifetime of memories," she said. "A guided tour through Germany could never provide them with the opportunities that GAPP does."

David Hopper is a junior at Plymouth High School.



Hahn said she plans to con-

Studying abroad offers a world full of opportunities

As I sat on the plane on the way to Germany, my head was filled with neverending questions: "Would my host family like me? Would I be able to live in a different country for a year? Why, oh, why, did I put



claire sloma

myself up to this?

The truth is, I was scared out of my mind. I was finally facing up to reality, but for some reason it still didn't feel real. However, as soon as I stepped off that plane and was greeted with warm smiles and shouts of joy, I began

to feel 10 times better. Studying abroad was the best decision I ever

made. It was a wonderful way to get out and see the real world, and to experience parts of life that are rare and unique.

While in Germany during my junior year of high school, I was introduced to a whole new culture and way of living. From September 2005 until July 2006, not only did I learn to speak the language fluently, but I also lived with a great host family and met some of the most amazing people I know from Germany and other parts of the world, such as Brazil, Japan and Italy.

I was lucky to end up in a wonderful little town called Gaggenau. It's only about an hour and a half south of Frankfurt in southwestern Germany. There are just about 30,000 people, but the town itself is full of amazing sights. I lived right by a river and the Black Forest. Every day on my walk to school, I would wander through the small downtown area, filled with little shops and markets

Yes, I did walk to school, and a mile at that. And yes, I did have to walk uphill on the way home. This hill was so steep that it had a

While in Germany, I studied at an actual

bench in the middle on the way up, and

German school, known as Goethe

walking up that in snow!

another one three-fourths of the way. Try



Claire Sloma celebrated Christmas with her German host family, the Dolls, during her year abroad.

and participated in nine different subjects out of 11 throughout the week. I was with some of the most intelligent students I know.

My friends in Germany speak fluent English, and practically fluent French, Spanish, or Latin. Crazy, huh? Believe me, it was a bit intimidating at first, but learning to speak German fluently was well-respected by my friends.

It's true that it wasn't easy living away from my family and friends for a year, but it was worth it. My host family was supportive and loving. I was fortunate to have two younger host sisters and an older host brother. I only have one older sister here. I grew close to my host family and now they are more like a second family than anything.

Thanks to them, I woke up to the view of the Black Forest every morning, I learned to ski in the Alps in Italy, and I roamed the old

Skiing in the Alps was probably one of the

most unbelievable experiences I've had. The

view, the fresh winter air and the mind-bog-

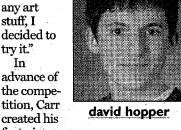
gling amounts of diverse people were just

streets of Paris.

Paris was breathtaking, blooming with history and fashion and great little cafés. The lit-up Eiffel tower at night was one of the most beautiful things I'd ever seen, as was the Mona Lisa at the Louvre, a piece of art from hundreds of years ago. Oh, and did I mention tons of great shopping?

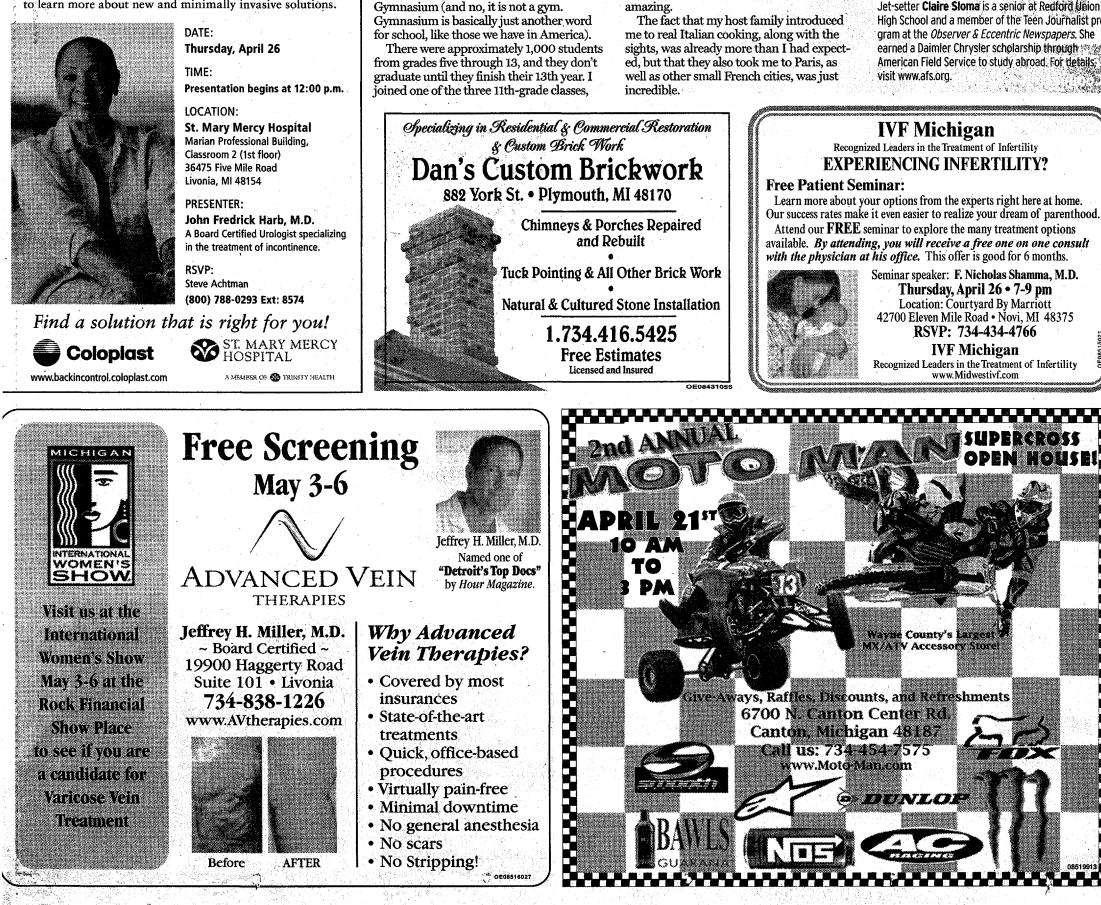
There is so much to see in the world and, thankfully, my host family was able to let me get hands-on experience. No matter where you go, you'll be witnessing something new. There are different festivals, beliefs and people waiting to be discovered, opening up doors to so many possibilities.

This experience has changed the way I think and look at life, and made me into the person I am today. Almost every day I think about my year over there and, believe me. I can't wait to go back.



FEMALE INCONTINENCE You can do something about it!

Attend a FREE seminar sponsored by Coloplast Corp. to learn more about new and minimally invasive solutions.



While sitting on the plane on the way home, after spending an unforgettable year in Germany, those taunting questions played back through my head, and all I could do was smile.

Jet-setter Claire Sloma is a senior at Redford Union High School and a member of the Teen Journalist program at the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. She earned a Daimler Chrysler scholarship through American Field Service to study abroad. For details, visit www.afs.org.

RSVP: 734-434-4766

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STUDENT VOICES

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 15, 2007

(CP)

Key Clubs gather for annual convention

BY LAUREN ANTHONY

On March 23, thousands of students from 110 high schools in Michigan all gathered at the Valley Plaza Hotel in Midland, Mich., to



accomplishments and triumphs of Key Club. The high school

branch of

lauren anthony

the Kiwanis Club, Key Club is a nonprofit organization devoted to bettering communities.

Some have been involved in the effort since K-kids, the elementary branch of Kiwanis. Others just joined this year.

common, though - they love to

The weekend began with a

leadership ranging from his reign as captain of his elementary school Citrus Squad (safety guards) to his disastrous day as substitute teacher.

Maurer was followed by the Presentation of Awards, which honored clubs for reaching goals. Garden City High School earned an Early Bird award, for getting dues in early.

The Key Club members were also informed of the District Project, Governor's Project, and Major Emphasis Program for the 2007-08 year.

Saturday was a day for service. Key Clubbers were split into three separate groups and would move around to various stations participating in different service projects. Members helped make trauma dolls, baby blankets, and friendship bracelets.

They wrote letters to our troops serving overseas, and

more awards were given in honor of spectacular scrap books, videos, and posters made by various clubs.

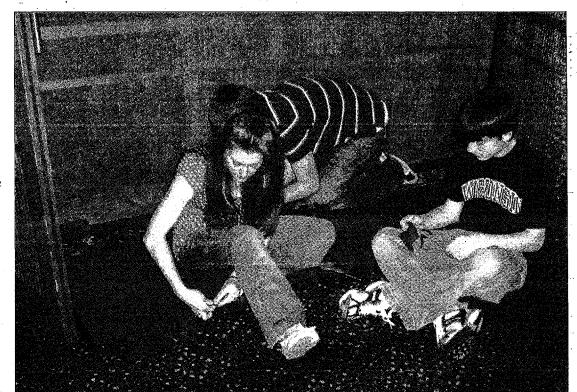
The Governor's Ball followed the banquet. Many Key Clubbers attended, dressed in their best, dancing to the music and mingling with students from other schools.

On Sunday morning, 220 delegates, two from each school, gathered in the House of Delegates to vote for the 2007-08 District Board.

This was followed by the Governor's Farewell Brunch where the new board was announced.

As the Key Club members packed to go back to their own schools, they reminisced about the past Key Club year. They also looked to the future, planning what they will do for Key Club.

Kayleigh Pinsonneault, a



Key Club members Alyssa Chambo, Scott New, and Andy Chambo make a fleece baby blanket during activities of the Key Club's annual convention.

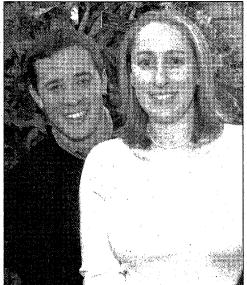




Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 15, 2007

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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C4:

Froelicher-Jones Hans and Joan Froelicher of Annapolis, MD,

announce the engagement of their daughter, Katherine Froelicher, to Brian Jones, son of Tom and Cindy Jones of Canton.

Katherine Froelicher, a 1999 Annapolis High School graduate earned degrees from **Connecticut** College and the London Center for International Relations. She is pursuing a juris doc-

Bohr-Martin

Plymouth announce the

John and

JoAnne Bohr of

engagement of their daughter,

Megan Bohr, to

Martin, son of

Ron and Barb

Salem High School, earned her

bachelor of communications

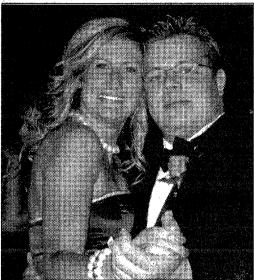
Martin of Canton.

Megan Bohr, a 2000 graduate of

Christopher

torate at George Washington University.

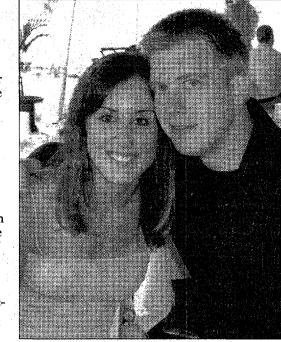
Brian Jones, a 2000 Livonia Stevenson graduate, earned degrees from Western Michigan University and George Mason University. He is a proposal coordinator at USIS, a defense contractor. A May wedding is planned.



degree from Michigan State University in 2004. She is currently employed at Limited Brands

Inc., as manager of the PINK store in Novi. Christopher Martin, a 1999 graduate of Catholic Central High School, earned his bachelor of telecommunications degree from Michigan State University, graduating in 2003. He is currently employed at RHK Technologies in Troy as a marketing manager. A fall 2007 wedding is planned at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Plymouth Township.

ENGAGEMENTS



Miller-Bayer

Tim Bayer of Livonia became engaged on Nov. 25, 2006

Beth, a 2003 graduate of Knox Community High School is the daughter of the Rev. Tim and Barb Miller. Beth will graduate from St. Olaf College in May with a bachelor of arts in music and and an elementary education certification. She will teach in the Twin Cities this fall.

Stevenson and a 2005 graduate of Concordia University at Chicago, is the son of the Rev. Robert and Amy Bayer. Tim is completing his studies at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis and serves Faith Lutheran Church in Oakville, Missouri. He will serve as a Student Pastor in the Twin Cities area beginning in August.

22, 2007, at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Knox, Ind.



Lapinsi-Drummond

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Lapinski

The bride to be is a 1996 grad-

uate of Farmington High School.

She has a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan and a

University. She is employed as an

elementary school teacher at a

private school in Menlo Park,

The prospective groom is a graduate of the University of

California, Santa Barbara and is

planned for the Inn at St. John's

A July 2007 wedding is

master's degree in education

from Loyola Marymount

employed in finance.

in Plymouth.

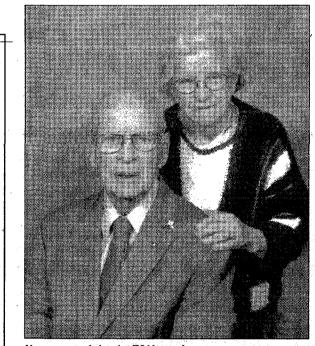
Calif.

of Northville announce the

Calif., to David Michael Drummond of San Jose, Calif.

engagement of their daughter, Stacy Anne Lapinski of San Jose,

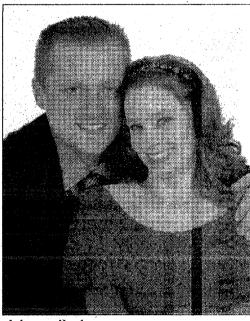
ANNIVERSARY





Fahner-Alexander

Jim and Debbie Fahner of Garden City announce the engagement of their daughter, Julie Lynn Fahner, to John David Alexander, son of Connie Alexander of Westland. A September 2007 wedding is planned.



Johnson-Hunley

Mike and Cindy Johnson of Redford announce the engagement of their daughter, Kristy Marie Johnson, to Jeffrey Scott Hunley of Livonia.

Kristy Marie Johnson is a 1998 graduate of Redford Union High School and a 2003 graduate of the University of Michigan-Dearborn with a bachelor of arts degree in health policy studies. She currently works at Metro Medical Equipment in Livonia.

Jeffrey Scott Hunley is the son of Don and Jane Hunley of Northville. He is a 1998 graduate of Redford Thurston High School and is currently attending the University of Phoenix and working at Bareman's Dairy.

A May 19, 2007, wedding is planned for St. Paul Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills.

and the second secon Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances I-800-579-7355 🚸 fax: 734-953-2232

MARGARET (IBROOK) TOWER FERGUSON

Age 93, died Sunday March 25, 2007 at Grady Memorial Hospital in Delaware, Ohio where she had resided in Delaware the last six years. She was born in Detroit, October 19, 1913 and raised in Highland Park. She was a graduate of Highland Park High School and Highland Park Junior College. She was preceded in death by her husband Leland. They were mar-ried November 13, 1933 in Rochester, Michigan. She was also preceded in her daughter Rosemary death by Goldstrom, her parents Elmer and Rose (Siess) Tower, her sister Cornelia Suroman, ner nephew Charles Stroman and niece, Margaret Ann (Stroman) Barta. She is survived by two sons, Philip (Norma) of Powell, Ohio and Richard (Lana) of Guilford, Connecticut. She is also survived by eight grandchildren: Mark (Sandy) of Chagrin Falls. Ohio Stephen Stroman, her nephew Charles Stroman Chagrin Falls, Ohio, Stephen (Suzanne) of Scarborough, Maine, Stephen Karen Carl (Stephen) of Ann Arbor, Erik Goldstrom of Worthington, Ohio, Andrew Goldstrom of Chicago, Kirk (Colleen), Todd (Lea) and Scott Evette) all of New York. She is also survived by twelve great-grandchil-dren. Margaret was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham for 46 years and served on the Board of Deacons. A memorial service honoring Margaret's life will be held in the chapel of the First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 21. The family will greet friends following the service. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made in her memory to "Camperships" Camp Skyline 1669 West Maple Rd., Birmingham, Michigan 48009. Arr-angements by Rutherford Funeral Home at Powell, 515 W. Olentangy Street, Powell, Ohio.

Beth Miller of Knox, Ind., and

Tim, a 2001 graduate of Livonia

The couple plan to marry on July



EDWARD C. COOKE

Age 85, April 12, 2007. Beloved hus-band of Margaret for 61 years. Dear father of Kevin (Kimberly). Grandfather of Matthew (Megan), Plincheth and Lourne Particles of

Elizabeth and Laura. Brother of

Victoria Kareus, Adelaide Leggatt

and the late Clarion Cooke and Walter

Cooke. Funeral service Monday 11am

at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward (btwn 13-14 Mile). Family

will receive friends Sunday 3-8p.m. Interment White Chapel Cemetery. Memorial tributes to Bloomfield Hills

www.desmondfuneralhome.com

the late Patricia Mishler, and the late

Charles. Dear sister of Frances Grix. Proud grandmother of 29 and great

grandmother of 27. Visitation will be

at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd. (btwn Sheldon and

Beck) in Plymouth on Friday from 3:00 until 9:00 PM. She will lie in

state on Saturday at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 47650 N. Territorial, Plymouth from 12:00 noon until the time of Mass at 12:30.

Interment will be at Holy Sepulchre

Cemetery. Contributions may be

e-mail: oeobits@hometownlife.com

CONSTANCE FENTON

Of Farmington Hills, MI. died Tuesday, April 10, 2007. Preceded in death by parents, Reuben and Sophie Album of Minneapolis, MN. Survived by children, Cynthia Fenton of Cheverly, MD., and Robert L. (Aileen) Fenton Jr. of Fort Myers, FL.; grandchildren, Robert L. Fenton III, Halle Marie Fenton and Olivia Paige Fenton; and a sister, Marjorie Victor. arrangements by the Hodroff Funeral Epstein Funeral Home, Minneapolis. Funeral services were held on Friday, April 13, at 3 p.m. at Temple Israel, Minneapolis. There will also be a memorial service, on Tuesday, April 17, at 12:30 p.m. at Temple Beth El, 7400 Telegraph Road, Bloomfield Hills. The family requests that memorial contributions be sent tot the American Cancer Society or a charity of the donor's choice.



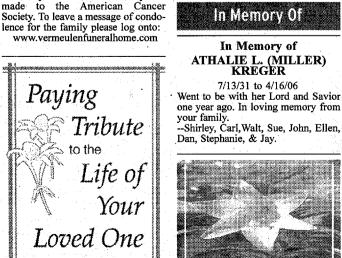
EDWARD T. SMALLEY

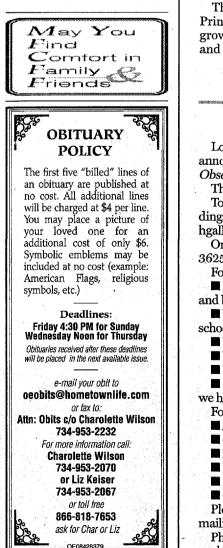
Baptist Church, 3600 Telegraph Rd., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302. Age 91 of Farmington Hills, passed away April 4, 2007. Husband of the late Mildred. Dear father of Kenneth View obituary and share memories at (Gail) Smalley, and Nancy (John) Rambow. Dear grandfather of Christopher and Sandra. Visitation **TERESA H. DEGENHARDT** April 10, 2007, age 92, of Frankfort, will be at John N. Santeiu and Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster Rd., MI., formerly of Plymouth. Beloved wife of the late Clarence. Loving mother of David (Marlene), Robert Garden City, on Wednesday, April 18th from 1 to 9 p.m., Memorial Service will be held April 19th at (Karen), Mary (Don) McSperitt, Donald (Vickie), Teresa (Gary) Hopper, Anna (Joseph) Hamilton and

11:30 a.m. at Santeiu Chapel.

MILDRED WERNER

April 11, 2007 of Garden City. wife of Welden. Beloved Beloved mother of Bonnie and Gary. sister of Bonnie Raper. Grandmother of Kimberly, Scott, Nicole and Jessica, five great granchildren and special friend Bugsy. Visitation was Saturday 2-5pm at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 34567 Michigan Ave., Wayne. in lieu of flowers, family requests donations to Alzheimer's Association.





C

Hansens celebrate 70th anniversary

Loren and Mary Hansen Sr. of Canton recently celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary with an open house for family and friends at their home.

The couple were married April 17, 1937, in Willis and have lived in the area since high school. Loren and Mary both graduated from Lincoln High School in 1935.

The couple have four children: Mabel Fischer and her husband, Louis, of Canton; Loren Jr. and his wife, Carole, of Saline; Kenneth and his wife, Phyliss, of Jackson; and Ina Cussen and her husband, Michael, of Canton.

The have 14 grandchildren, 37 great-grandchildren, and 5 great-great-grandchildren.

The Hansens are the former owners of Standard Printing Co. in Ypsilanti. Loren continues to enjoy growing and harvesting a large vegetable garden and maintains many apple and other fruit trees.

HOW TO SUBMIT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Local engagement, wedding, anniversary and birth announcements run in the Sunday editions of the Observer.

There is no charge to submit an announcement.

To obtain a copy of our forms for engagements,weddings, anniversaries and births email Hugh Gallagher at hgallagher@hometownlife.com.

Or send the following information to Hugh Gallagher, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150:

For engagement announcements, include:

Names, addresses and cities for the bride, groom and both sets of parents

Where bride and groom attended (or attend) high school and college and years graduated

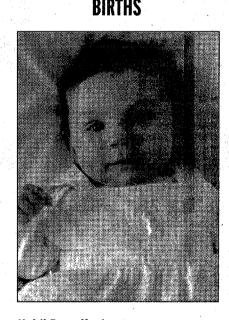
- Where bride and groom are employed
- Wedding date
- Wedding location

Daytime phone number and e-mail address in case we have any questions.

- For wedding announcements, include:
- All of the above, plus
- Clergy's name
- Names and cities of all attendants
- Reception location
- Honeymoon location
- City where couple will reside

Please send photos in a vertical format. If you are emailing a photograph, please send it as a "jpeg." Photographs may be picked up after publication; or

enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope. If you have questions, call (734) 953-2149.

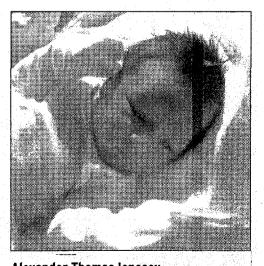


Heidi Rose Kasten

Kristen Foley and Tim Kasten of Redford announce the birth of their daughter, Heidi Rose Kasten, on Jan. 4, 2007, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital.

Grandparents are Debbie Foley, Peter and Nancy Foley and Fred and Cathy Kasten, all of Plymouth Township.

Great-grandparents are Bob and Beth Doll of Milford, Tom and Pat Foley of Applegate and Robert and Virginia Kasten of Brighton.



Alexander Thomas Ionescu

Peter Ionescu and Angela Zazula of Royal Oak announce the birth of their son, Alexander Thomas Ionescu, on March 15, 2007, at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. Alexander weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces

and was 20 inches long at birth.

Grandparents are Arlene Zazula of Westland and Niculae and Mandra Ionescu of Bucharest, Romania.

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 OPEN HOUSE

 PLANDUTH CHRISTIAN ACADEMS

 PRESCHOOL-12TH GRADE

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OPEN HOUSE Sunday, April 22 at 3:00 pm

Visit the classroom, explore the curriculum, meet the teachers, and discover how Plymouth Christian Preschool can partner with you to give your child a great start in school.

Plymouth Christian Academy-High Academic Standards and

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- PCA offers a full college preparatory curriculum with advanced placement classes
- PCA offers music, art, physical education, computer classes and foreign languages to both elementary and secondary students
- PCA has a preschool that is approved and licensed by the State of Michigan
- PCA has 27 athletic teams in grades 5-12 and intramural programs for grades 2-8
- PCA's student body represents over 100 local churches
- 70% of PCA's staff hold, or are working towards an advanced degree

OPEN HOUSE Sunday, April 22 at 3:00 pm

There will be a brief presentation in the auditorium at 3:00 p.m. followed by the distribution of registration materials, campus tours and teacher Q & A.

Plymouth Christian Preschool is a Division of Plymouth Christian Academy

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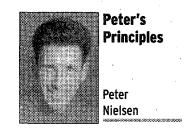


Sunday, April 15, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

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



Wine and grape juice pack punch

Sarah from Rochester Hills wants the heart healthy benefits of red wine without the alcohol. She e-mails asking if grape juice packs the same healthy punch?

Sarah, both have their own unique benefits! One study shows that red wine triggers more antioxidant activity in the blood stream. The fermentation process may create flavenoids, an important antioxidant that's easier for the body to absorb. Alcohol in wine also seems to boost HDL, the good cholesterol.

But don't write off grape juice just yet! Research shows that purple juice may make platelets less likely to clump, which reduces the chance of blood clots. Another study shows that grape juice seems to have antioxidant properties similar to vitamin E. It really just depends what benefit you are after. Talk to a nutritionist for more information!

Carol from Lincoln Park e-mails for tips on making her bones their healthiest.

Carol, Vitamin K is definitely king when it comes to bone health! Research shows that high intake of the nutrient is closely associated with bone density.

Green leafy vegetables are one of the best sources of vitamin K. Scientists find that women consuming around 300 micrograms a day have greater bone density! And you don't have to eat much to reap the benefits. One cup of spinach has around 360 micrograms, brussel sprouts 235, and broccoli 113.

Vitamin K interacts with the body's chemistry to provide healthy bones. It works by allowing a particular protein to take its place in the skeletal structure. Talk to a nutritionist for more important information.

If you have a health or fitness question you would like answered in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, e-mail Peter through his Web site, www.peternielsen.com. Contact him at Peter Nielsen's Personal Training Club in West Bloomfield or Nielsen's Town Center Health Club in Southfield.

Reversing diabetes

Dr. Neal Barnard to talk about scientifically proven diet

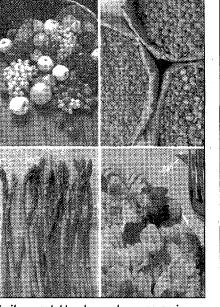
BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

No more counting calories or carbohydrates for diabetics who follow Dr. Neal Barnard's new scientifically proven program for reversing the disease. In years past, patients went through hours of training to understand the complex American Diabetes Association diet to control blood-sugar levels. Not anymore.

Diabetics need only to avoid meat and animal products, and model their diet after the nutritional approach explained in Dr. Neal Barnard's Program for Reversing Diabetes, published earlier this year by Rodale. Barnard talks about the book at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 18, at Four Points by Sheraton, 3200 Boardwalk, Ann Arbor, and at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 19, at the Costick Activities Center, 28600 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. For information, visit www.pcrm.org and click on tour.

Barnard is not just another physician who's written a book. His program evolved from research by the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM) and Georgetown University in Washington D.C. Barnard founded the nonprofit PCRM in 1985 to promote preventive medicine and conduct clinical research. The latest study was funded by the National Institutes of Health and proved that although the standard ADA diet is effective in treating diabetes, a vegan low-fat diet dramatically reduces blood-sugar and cholesterol levels in addition to promoting weight loss. The study randomly assigned individuals with diabetes type 2 to a low-fat vegan (plant based) diet or a diet following ADA guidelines for 22 weeks. Forty-three percent of the vegan group and 26 percent of the ADA participants were able to reduce their diabetes medication. The findings were published in August 2006 in

Diabetes Care, an ADA journal. "We're zeroing in on the cause," said Barnard, an adjunct professor of



Fruits, vegetables, beans, legumes, grains, and pasta are foods to include when following Dr. Neal Barnard's Program for reversing diabetes.

this. You get rid of the animal fat, the cell cleans out and rejuvenates.

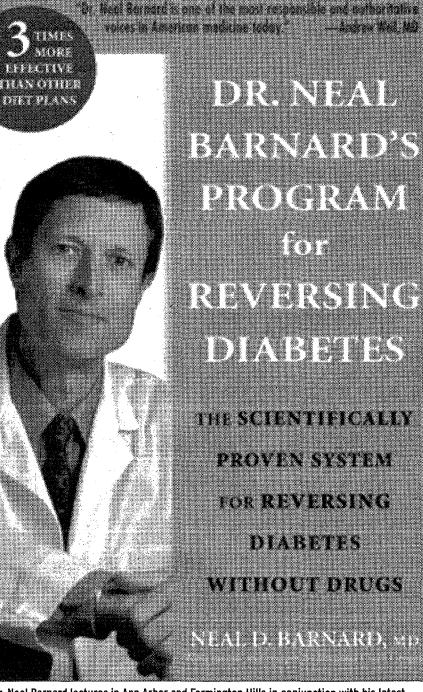
"Most people with diabetes focus on carbohydrates. The idea is you don't eat sugar, white bread. I recommend a vegetarian diet, low in fat."

More than 20 million Americans have type 2 diabetes. Barnard attributes much of the disease to obesity.

"Two-thirds of the adult population is overweight," Barnard said. "The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says one in three children born today will develop diabetes in their lifetimes. Within Michigan in 1994, about 5 percent had diabetes. Now it's about 8 percent and going up and up. A diabetic annually spends \$2,000-\$5,000 on medications."

Diabetes is costly in many ways, as it leads to loss of kidney function and blindness. Barnard believes diabetics, as well as those with a family history of the disease, could benefit from not eating animal products and keeping their intake of

vegetable oils to a minimum.



Dr. Neal Barnard lectures in Ann Arbor and Farmington Hills in conjunction with his latest book. He is the author of nine books including Breaking the Food Seduction, Foods that Fight Pain, and Eat Right, Live Longer.

medicine at George Washington University in Washington D.C. "It's not carbohydrate or sugar causing diabetes. It's fat inside the cell. The typical diabetes diet does not address

Barnard grew

erver & Eccentric

Novi Ne

PLEASE SEE **DIABETES, C7**

Sugarloaf Art Fair. April 20, 21, 22, 2007

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Preview the show, print discount admission coupons, get directions & more at

SugarloafArtFair.com Coupons available online or by calling 800.210.9900

Michigan Women's Care Now accepting patients

Board-certified Obstetricians and Gynecologists Lan Bui, DO; Manish Jain, MD; and Essam Khraizat, MD, are now accepting new patients at their practice, Michigan Women's Care in Canton.







Lan Bui, DO Obstetrics and Gynecology

Manish Jain, MD Obstetrics and Gynecology

Essam Khraizat, MD Obstetrics and Gynecology

Michigan Women's Care is an Oakwood Healthcare System-affiliated practice located in a well-designed office setting where patients receive experienced and compassionate care in obstetrics and gynecology.

Features of the practice include:

- Specialists in minimally-invasive surgery
- Expertise in birth control, menopause and pap smear evaluation
- Early morning, evening and Saturday hours
- On-site lab, testing and pharmacy
- Specializing in general and high-risk pregnancy care

Michigan Women's Care is located in suite 220 of the Haggerty Professional Plaza at 2050 N. Haggerty Road in Canton.

> For additional information about the physicians at Michigan Women's Care, please call 734.446.9781 or visit us on the Web at www.oakwood.org.





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DIABETES

FROM PAGE C6

up in North Dakota eating the typical bacon and egg breakfast and dinner of roast beef, potatoes and corn. Then he went to work as an autopsy assistant. During this time, he "observed firsthand the deadly effects of eating an unhealthy diet.

"You see what kills people," said Barnard, who began changing his diet while in medical school.

Today, instead of bacon and eggs, he eats a bowl of oatmeal with cinnamon and raisins, for lunch a bean burrito with jalapeno pepper and salsa, and meatless spaghetti marinara for dinner. He'll include two or three vegetables such as broccoli and spinach or sweet potato. While Barnard's proclaimed the new four food groups as grains, legumes, fruits and vegetables, he says diabetics can eat pasta, which is low in fat and has a low glycemic index, which slowly elevates blood-sugar. The book contains recipes (by Bryanna Clark Grogan) for eating in as well as out.

"I encourage people to let their doctor know they're going to make a diet change because they'll need to back off medicines as time goes on," Barnard said.

"The second step is a threeweek test drive of the program. Make sure every meal is already one of the meals you like. What happens is they feel a lot better and find their tastes have changed. They find they've lost weight and bloodsugar levels have dropped."

Elaine Roth was able to cut the amount of her insulin nearly in half after taking classes based on Barnard's program. A PCRM pilot project, spun off from the research, taught diabetics the basics of the program during an eight-week series of cooking sessions that included a lesson on eating out at a local restaurant.

Roth works at Lou's Deli in Southfield, so avoiding meat has been a challenge. For Passover Seder, she mainly ate vegetables and whole wheat matzah. She said the holidays weren't as stressful as she thought. Her family has been

very supportive. "I haven't had any meat or

dairy," said Roth, of Farmington Hills, a diabetic for 10 years. "I feel better and my blood-sugar levels went way down, my blood pressure went down. I have lost weight, too.

"I bring fruit with me to the deli and make sure I eat breakfast now, a whole grain bagel or muffin, or make oatmeal the night before so I have something in my stomach when I come to work. At lunch, I have whole wheat or pumpernickel bread with a veggie burger or eat it on a bed of lettuce. My sugar levels are 110 when they used to be 170. I'm starting to feel my feet again." (Roth suffers with neuropathy, a condition related to her diabetes that causes numbness.)

Caroline Trapp, a diabetes nurse practitioner, recommends Barnard's book - not only to class participants like Roth, but her patients at Premier Internists in Southfield. As PCRM director of diabetes education and care, Trapp recently finished teaching a third series of classes and is working on finalizing a curriculum based on Barnard's book. She is hiring diabetes educators and cooking instructors for the educational program that will be presented across the country.

"I'm excited about the future for this," said Trapp, of Farmington Hills, "but people don't have to wait to take the class. Through PCRM, we have a list serve called the Get Healthy Club, a question and answer, and they sign up to participate in it.

"They can read the book and also view Dr. Barnard's lectures and cooking demonstrations with recipes on the Web site (www.pcrm.org) as well. The program requires no weighing and measuring of food or counting carbohydrates. It ultimately may lead people to seek less medical care. I've seen this now with a number patients. I feel the book should be recommended reading for patients and health care professionals and anyone who wants to avoid the disease." For directions to the Ann Arbor lecture, call (734) 996-

0600; for the Farmington Hills lecture, (248) 473-1851.

APRIL

at Nardin Park United Methodist

Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington

Blood drive

8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, April 15,

Hills. Call (248) 476-8860. No appointment necessary.

CHADD meeting

Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit Disorder meet Monday, April 16. at Way Elementary School on W. Long Lake, east of Telegraph. Parent presentation is on Medication for Children and Adolescence with AD/HD with Dr. Birget Amman, child psychiatrist. Adult group features noted author Dr. Arthur Robin speaking on Cognitive Behavior Therapy for Treating Adults with AD/HD. Meetings start at 7:30 p.m., registration at 7 p.m. No charge to CHADD members and their families, \$5 donation non member family. For details, call (248) 988-6716. Hatha Yoga classes

5:15-6:30 p.m. Tuesdays beginning April 17 to May 22, at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile at Levan, Livonia. To register, call (734) 655-1145. Hatha Yoga increases flexibility, energy level and strength. Includes meditation and breathing techniques. Class participates need to be able to move between a standing position to a hands and knees position with ease. Bone marrow transplant

Educational series for individuals who have received transplants, their family and caregivers 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 17, and May 8, at the Troy **Community Center, Topics include** emotional aspects of survivorship and coping strategies, nutrition for health maintenance, resources, integrative medicine. To register, visit www.nbmtlink.org/edseries, send email to info@nbmtlink.org or call (800) LINK-BMT (546-5268).

Alzheimer's update

7 p.m. Tuesday, April 17, at Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Drive. Commerce. Learn about new research and latest treatment options. To register, call (248) 937-3314. Pre-registration recommended as space is limited.

Hatha Yoga classes

Beginning and Intermediate 5:15-6:30 p.m. Tuesdays April 17 to May 22, at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile at Levan, Livonia. To register, call (734) 655-1145. Hatha Yoga increases flexibility, energy level and strength at your own pace in a non-competitive setting. Includes meditation and breathing techniques. Class participates need to be able to move

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

between a standing position to a hands and knees position with ease. **Catch your breath**

HEALTH

Women's Lung Health Conference and Luncheon begins at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 18, at the Troy Marriott Hotel. Hosted by American Lung Association, the event features speakers on topics of interest to laypersons and medical professionals including lung cancer and women. COPD, healthy homes, hazards of mainstream industry personal care and cosmetics product, tobacco marketing to women, nutrition, smoking cessation, clean air, asthma, infections, and pulmonary hypertension. Cost is \$75. For more information, visit. www.catchyourbreathmi.org. For guestions, call (248) 784-2012 or (248) 784-2000. Dr. John Ruckdeschel, president and CEO of the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute, is one of the medical experts scheduled to lecture.

Care House benefit Italian cuisine, live auction, raffles, entertainment and karaoke 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 18, at Penna's, 38400 Van Dyke, Sterling Heights. Tickets \$100, all proceeds go to Care House help child victims of sexual and physical abuse. Call (586) 463-0123.

Elder care living options Information for seniors, families and caregivers on hospice concerns, estate planning options, medical and financial powers of attorney, Medicaid considerations and veteran's benefits

6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 18, at A.J. Desmond & Sons, 32515 Woodward, Royal Oak, and Tuesday, April 24, at A.J. Desmond & Sons, 2600 Crooks, Trov. No charge. For information, call (248) 362-2500. How hormones effect weight loss Presented by Dr. Carol Ann Fischer, D.C., N.D. 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 18, at

Women's Health Boutique, 31211 Plymouth Road, Livonia. Learn how your hormones control your food cravings, body temperature, and ablilty to gain or lose weight. Discover how the pancreas, thyroid and adrenals influence the size and shape of your body. No charge. Call (734) 425-8588 for reservations. Natural treatments

Treating Thyroid Disorders Naturally, presented by Dr. William H. Karl, D.C. 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 18, at Noble Library in Livonia If you suffer from hair loss, cold hands or feet, stubborn weight gain or unwanted pain, learn the hidden

reasons behind these health concerns and the safe, natural, effective alternatives to help yourself. No charge. Call (734) 425-8588 for reservations. Free screenings

For head and neck cancer in the Ear. Nose and Throat Clinics 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday, April 16, at Henry Ford Medical Center-Lakeside, 14500 Hall, Sterling Heights and Henry Ford Medical Center-Fairlane, 19401 Hubbard Drive, Dearborn; 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesday, April 18, and noon to 4 p.m. Friday, April 20, at Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital, 6777 W. Maple, West Bloomfield: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursday, April 19, Henry Ford Medical Center-Fairlane, 19401 Hubbard Drive, Dearborn, and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m, Friday, April 20, Henry Ford Hospital, 2799 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit: To schedule an appointment, call 1-888-734-5322. 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 Margaret at (734) 838-0322.



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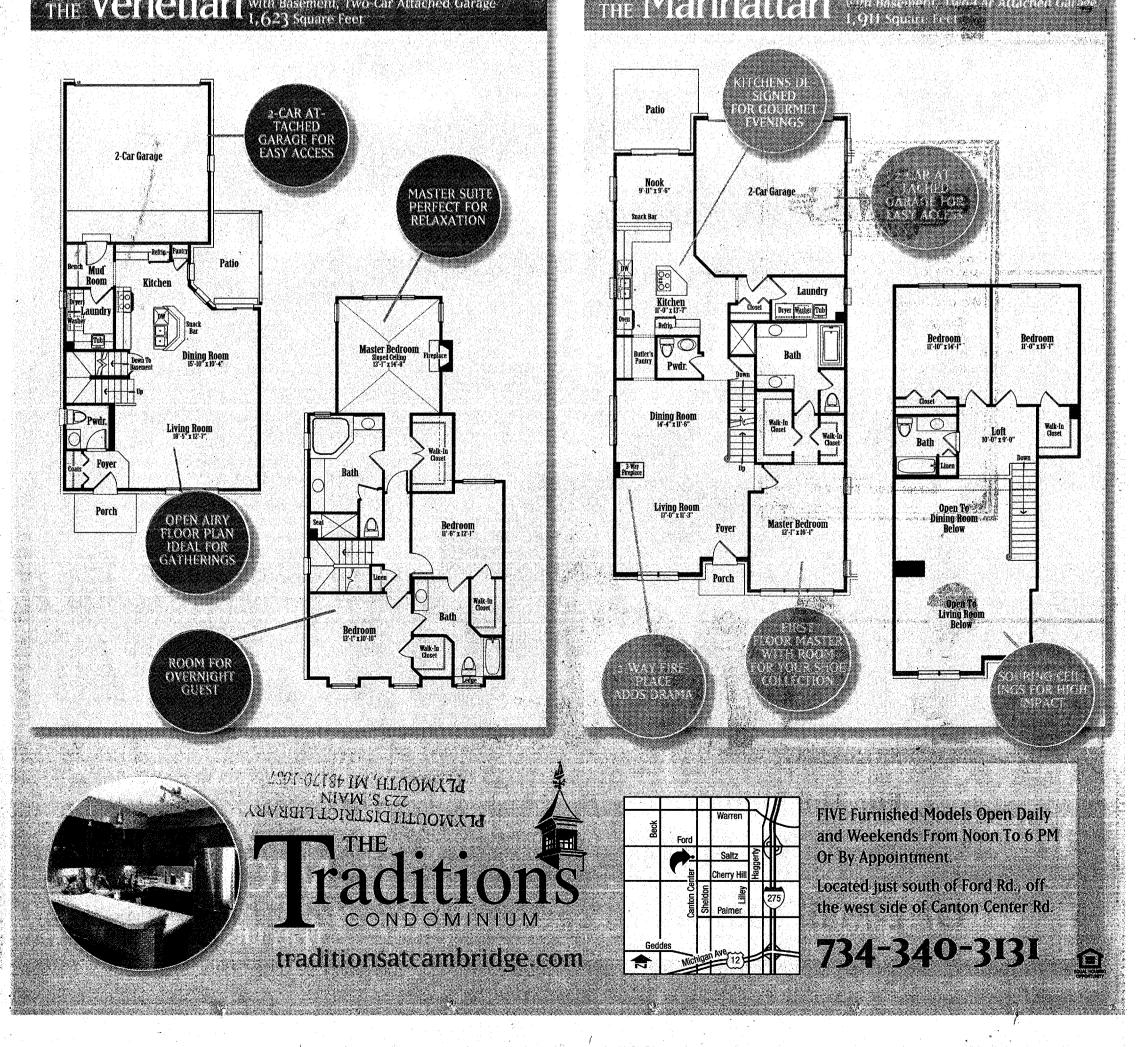
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Pay equity focus of April 24 national observance

BY JULIE BROWN STAFF WRITER

When Equal Pay Day's observed Tuesday, April 24, Mickey Edell of Canton will wear the appropriate red to draw attention to the issue and "equalize the disparities that exist."

Edell's state president for the American Association of University Women, and a speech-language pathologist for the Plymouth-Canton schools. She's among those observing Equal Pay Day with the Committee on Pay Equity and AAUW, a national observance on unfair pay practices for women and people of color. "We would certainly like to see

that changed," Edell said of the 67 cents on the dollar Michigan women earn compared to their male counterparts. The day is chosen because women must work from January until April of the following year to match men in wages. Statistics/U.S. Department of Labor data on women's earnin Although women do leave the

The national difference is 77 cents for a woman to a man's dollar. "We are ranked 49th in the nation," Edell said of Michigan. "So obviously Michigan is very low in the spectrum."

She cited Bureau of Labor



Statistics/U.S. Department of Labor data on women's earnings. Although women do leave the workforce for family reasons or take lower-paid jobs to accommodate families, women still come out behind on pay even with those factors taken out.

"It is strictly equal pay for equal work," Edell said. She agreed men and children also benefit when women are paid what they're worth.

"Absolutely, and that's one of our ultimate arguments that everyone benefits when women garner equal pay for equal work," she said.

AAUW supports the Paycheck Fairness Act, a bill that would strengthen and update a key equal pay law, allowing it to more fully address the scope of pay discrimination, according to Edell and the AAUW Web site.

The Paycheck Fairness Act, introduced March 6 by Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., and Rep. Rosa L. DeLauro, D-Conn., would eliminate loopholes that have undermined the potential of the Equal Pay Act. The Paycheck Fairness Act would clarify acceptable reasons for differences in pay and would require employers to prove that wage gaps between men and women are not a result of gender discrimination. The bill would also strengthen potential penalties for equal pay violations, and would prohibit retaliation against workers who inquire about or disclose information about employers' wage practices.

"AAUW believes that equal pay for equal work is a simple matter of justice, and we not only applaud Sen. Clinton and Rep. DeLauro for introducing this bill, but pledge to work with them to move it forward," said AAUW Director of Public Policy and Government Relations Lisa Maatz in a statement.

"I concur with the association," Edell said. "AAUW believes in equal pay for equal work. The state of Michigan concurs with that wholeheartedly as our part in it."

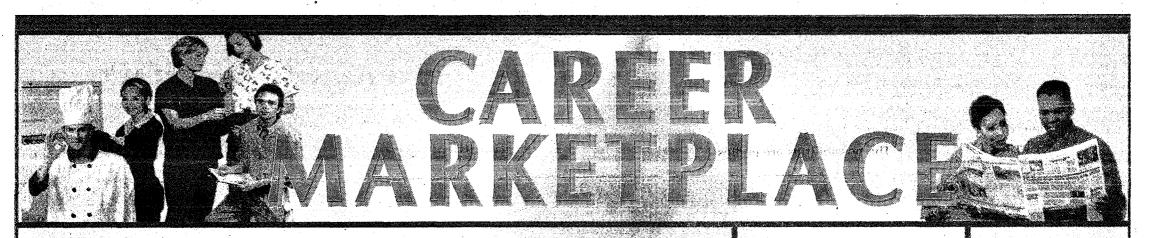
According to the U.S. Census Bureau and Bureau of Labor Statistics, minority women face an even larger wage gap. In 2004, a typical college-educated woman working full time earned \$31,223 a year, compared to \$40,798 for a collegeeducated man – a difference of \$9,575.

Wage inequalities are not simply a result of women's qualifications or choices, according to the AAUW Web site aauw.org. Wage discrimination persists despite women's increased educational attainment, greater level of experience in workforce, and decreased amount of time spent out of the workforce raising children, according to a study by the Government Accountability Office.

"The wage gap has grave consequences, negatively impacting the economic security of women today and directly affecting a woman's retirement security tomorrow," Maatz said.

Edell noted AAUW will release new data on women's pay closer to the April 24 observance. "Michigan has not been making much progress," said Edell, who hopes to see improvement.

She's a member of the Michigan Education Association/Plymouth-Canton Education Association, the teachers union. "I think unions have been a plus for all workers. In education, we have equity in terms of pay," she said.





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Duplex makes for a heady investment

Ownership of a duplex can provide many benefits for those interested in acquiring an income property. Some may choose to reside in one unit, while renting the other. Another option is to rent both accommodations and manage the holding. Either way, it is a solid investment.

In any case, one of the more modern and innovative duplex plans to hit the market in quite a while is the Willow (404-47). This two-story design has a 1,170-square-foot, three-bedroom configuration on side one, with unit two having 890 square feet and two secondlevel bedrooms.

Both units have an attached garage that conveniently opens directly into the kitchen. This allows you, regardless of the weather, to unload groceries with a minimum of bother. There is space, in each garage, to put a washer and dryer.

The master suite in unit one is a rarity in duplex design. Extending out from the right side of the building, with a view



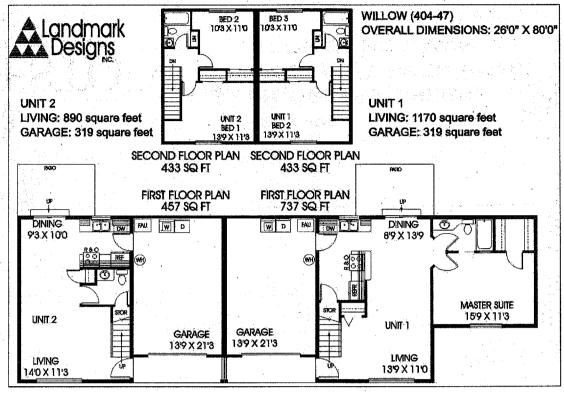
window to the front, the amenities here include a large sleeping area, walk-in closet and private entrance to the bathroom.

Both units have a spacious living room that flows unimpeded into the dining area. This creates a roominess that belies the square footage. The kitchen dimensions vary somewhat, but both allow easy serving and feature built-in appliances. Each dining room has a sliding glass door to the back patio. There is enough room here to relax in

the sun with a barbecue and some lounge chairs.

The top level in both units holds two bedrooms, each with closet space. The front bedroom is somewhat larger. They share a corner bathroom fitted with linen storage.

For a study plan of the WIL-LOW (404-47), send \$15, to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Rd. E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or call (800) 562-1151. Be sure to specify plan name and number. Compact



disks, with search functions are free of charge, to help you search our portfolio for your dream home (\$5 shipping and handling will apply). Or you may order or search online at www.ldiplans.com. Or you may order or search online at www.ldiplans.com. Save 15 percent on construction plans using the code (LOE48) online, mailing, or calling (800) 562-1151.

Real Estate career seminar

For people interested in exploring a career in Real Estate, Keller Williams is hosting a seminar at 2 p.m. on April 27 at Keller Williams Realty, located at 40600 Ann Arbor Rd., Suite 100, Plymouth (48170). Registration is required. Please call (734) 459-4700 to reserve a seat.

Feng shui classes

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. BIA offers programs

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) and the Construction Association of Michigan will present the following programs:

■ A comprehensive builder's license preparation course on Thursdays, April 19, April 26 and May 3 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

BRIEFS

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 testtaking strategies.

The registration fee is \$200 per person. For registration information, call (248) 548-2090.

■ "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.

 $\mathbf{Chuc}\bar{\mathbf{k}}$ 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,

as well. 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. Begistration fees are \$155 for

Registration fees are \$155 for Remodelors Council members, \$175



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NEW HOMES

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for BIA members and \$200 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

A "Business Management for Building Professionals" course will be conducted 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.

How to build your own home

Oakland Builders Institute will offer a comprehensive, allinclusive 16 hour seminar, How To Build Your Own Home on Saturday/Sunday, April 28 and 29, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Best Western ConCorde Inn of Rochester Hills, 1919 Star-Batt Dr.,

Rochester Hills.

Designed for those who want to contract their own home construction as well as those who want to work with a builder, the course details each stage of construction as well as your rights and responsibilities. The course covers home financing, the building process, builder's terms and contracts as well as building codes, insurance requirements and much more.

There are many hand-outs and guidance from an instructor who is also a builder. The seminar costs \$220 and is all inclusive with a building textbook and a book prepared exclusively for seminar students covering home building information pertinent to southeastern Michigan.

Pre-registration with payment is required no later than Wednesday, April 25, to Oakland Builders Institute. Please call (800) 940-2014, Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to register.

Builder pre-license classes offered

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 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. This seminar is

comprehensive, teaching math as well as blueprint reading. **Oakland Builders Institute** teaches building courses in 16 school districts in Michigan. For a free brochure and current schedule of all classes including evening sessions, call toll-free (800) 940-2014 or (248) 651 - 2771.

Seminars are offered at the following dates and locations: A seminar is scheduled for Saturday/Sunday, April 21 and 22 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Best Western ConCorde Inn of Rochester Hills, 1919 Star-Batt Dr., Rochester Hills.

The cost of the seminar is \$205 and is all-inclusive. The manual, sample questions and the test application are all included.

A \$25 deposit is required no later than Thursday, April 19, 2007 to Oakland Builders Institute, 1277 Dutton Road, Rochester Hills, MI 48306. Please call toll-free 1-800-940-2014 or 248-651-2771 to register Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or register online at www.buildersinstitute.com

🖬 A seminar is scheduled for Monday/Wednesday, April 23, 25, 30 and May 2, 2007 from 6-10 p.m. at Berkshire Middle School, 21707 W. 14 Mile Road, Birmingham.

The cost of the seminar is \$190 plus \$20 for the course textbook and sample questions.

Pre-registration with payment is required no later than Thursday, April 19, to **Birmingham** Community Education. Please call 248203-3800 to register Monday Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

A seminar is scheduled for Monday/Wednesday, April 30, and May 2, 7, 9, 2007 from 6-10 p.m. at Walled Lake Middle School, 46720 W. Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake.

The cost of the seminar is \$199 plus \$20 for the course textbook and sample questions. Pre-registration with pay-

ment is required no later than Thursday, April 26 to Walled Lake Community Education. Please call 248-956-5000 to register Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

New home sales management

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan's (BIA) Sales and Marketing Council will present an IRM IV: Challenge of New Home Sales Management seminar from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, April 25-26, at MSU -**Management Education** Center, 811 West Square Lake Road in Troy.

Ed Wynn of Genesis New Home Sales Training and Russ Olmo of Olmo & Company will instruct attendees on methods to improve business operations, Realtor® relations, and customer follow-up by integrating your sales force into an overall marketing plan.

Registration fees are \$375 for Sales & Marketing Council members, \$425 for BIA members and \$475 for guests. For registration information, call

(248) 862-1033. MIOSHA seminar

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Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will present a **MIOSHA** Seminar from 8 a.m. to noon on Wednesday, May 2, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills.

The seminar will offer an explanation of the new agency directive for residential construction, builders' responsibility to have fall protection, a review of fall protection criteria and practices, and specific instructions for builders on fall exposure liability.

Registration fees are \$20 for BIA members and \$40 for guests. For registration information, please call (248) 862-1033.

Green building for building professionals

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will sponsor a Green Building for Building Professionals course from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 8-9, 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** (CGA) and Certified Graduate Builder (CGB) designation.

Chuck Breidenstein of **Builder Professional Services** Group will instruct attendees on strategies for incorporating green building principles into homes without driving up the cost of construction. Participants will learn how green homes provide buyers with better value, lower energy costs, lower maintenance, better indoor air quality and better long-term value.

Registration fees are \$325 for Remodelors Council members, \$350 for BIA members and \$400 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

Fair housing for maintenance staff

Apartment Association of Michigan (AAM) will sponsor a Fair Housing for Maintenance Staff seminar from 9 a.m. to noon on Friday, May 11, at AAM headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills.

Kathleen Mabie of Success on Site will lead the seminar, instructing attendees on how Fair Housing applies to maintenance; communication: maintenance to management; documentation: consistency and record keeping; in-apartment and on-site etiquette; service request procedures; what constitutes an emergency and T.E.A.M. building.

Registration fees are \$45 for **Property Management Council** members, \$55 for AAM and **Building Industry Association** of Southeastern Michigan members and \$65 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1004.

NEW HOME DIRECTORY An Area Wide Collection of Fine Homes and Planned Communities Visit One of Visit One of These Outstanding New Homes Today! Golf Ridge Villa Homes • LIVONI Lvon Two Golf Ridge Villa Homes Starting price \$295,000 From the \$400's 9 Mile ARBORS First floor master suites with Features: Innovative floorplans with great rooms and gourmet kitchens **Custom Floor Plans** Optional sunrooms and three car 2500-3200 Square Feet 4 Bedrooms / 2.5 Baths Maintenance of lawn, landscaping & snow removal Award Winning South Lyon Schools Sales Center Open Daily 12-6pm 248-437-2070 Paved walking trails Located off 8 Mile just east www.TonyVanOyenBuilder.com Surrounded by 500 act and golf courses (248) 615-0300 TONY VAN OYEN BUILDER, INC Designer models open daily 11-6pm GolfRidgeHomes.com

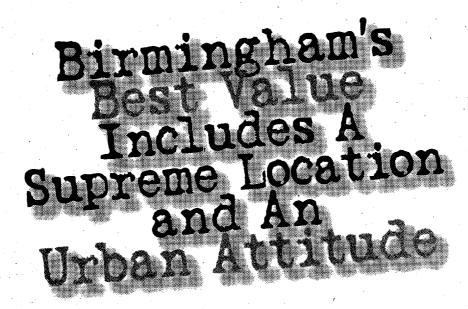


BIRMINGHAM LOFTS Eton Street

- Artisan Lofts Include: Brick Exteriors With Stone Accents • Private Balcony • 2-car Private Attached Garage • Appliances • Luxurious Baths • Central Ac With Digital Thermostat • 40 Gallon Gas/hot Water Tank And Much More
- Surrounded By Great Shopping, Entertainment, Fabulous Restaurants And Recreation That Includes Many Golf Courses And Country Clubs.

Eton Street Station is Located On Eton Street ¼ Mile South Of Maple Road East Of Downtown Birmingham Open Daily 11am – 6pm, Closed Thursdays 248-258-8887 Etonstreetstation.com

For More Information On All Crosswinds Communities, Visit Crosswinds.com



Two distinct loft and townhome styles in Birmingham's hot new rail district are creating a buzz for buyers intrigued by the contemporary style and incredible pricing of Etoń Street Station, where an upscale address is now selling from the high \$200s.

Presented by Crosswinds Communities, Eton Street Station's Artisan Lofts, Live/Work Lofts and Townhomes, located just north of Maple Rd. and minutes from downtown Birmingham, are the next generation of condominiums, distinguished by edgy, urban design in an intimate neighborhood setting.

"Eton Street Station Is The Ultimate Winning Combination,"

said Nadia Lewis, Community Sales Manager. "It's got an unbeatable location, in Birmingham, close to downtown and the Somerset Collection in Troy; the homes are incredibly well-designed and filled with all the desired and required amenities and the pricing is simply unbeatable. It is not only a fantastic place to live but a great investment for the future." The ambiance of the neighborhood begins on Hazel Street, lined by a collection of the community's brilliant Live /Work Lofts and Townhomes. Luxury living above street level workspace includes up to 3,047 Sq. Ft. The spacious storefront commercial is ideal as retail, office or a studio with convenient customer parking on the street and its own entrance. Businesses are opening by the day – a hair salon, manicurist, cosmetic dentist, jewelry store, yoga studio and home-interior boutiques, according to Lewis.

"People Are Drawn Here Because It's Their Own Little Downtown," She Says."

Above the work spaces reside three more levels that are accessed from a separate private entrance and are filled with the natural light of abundant windows, two or three bedrooms, hardwood floors, granite countertops and private balconies overlooking an intimate courtyard. A two-car attached garage provides plenty of storage. Priced from the \$500s, savvy entrepreneurs will discover that buying space to do business and living above it might be the smartest decision yet.

Birmingham's most exceptional new home value comes in the package of the Artisan Lofts, priced from the high \$200s. " The lofts are an incredible value with payments as low as \$1,365 per month including principal and interest," Lewis said. As a grand finale to the homestyles available at Eton Street Station, the two bedroom, two and one half bath Artisan Lofts



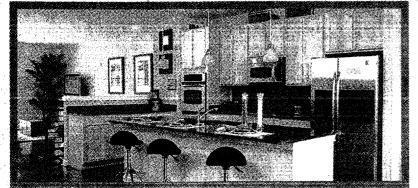
deliver 1,631 sq. ft. of chic urban attitude. Three levels of luxury living include essential city elements such as 9' to 12' ceilings, brick walls, industrial-inspired banisters and open floor plans. Hardwood floors, granite countertops, oenerous kitchen cabinetry and ceramic tile in the bathrooms are all available. A GE appliance package and attached two-car attached garage round out the ease of loft living. "Commute time, other unique efficiencies and overall design are priorities for today's buyer." noted Lewis, adding "People recognize the value of these homes - whether they want to live where they work , or live close to where they work. They are realizing they can get everything they want in one great location.

"People Recognize The Value Of These Homes – Whether They Want To Live Where They Work, Or Live Close To Where They Work. They Are Realizing They Can Get Everything They Want In One Great Location."



Eton Street is Located ½ Mile South of Maple Road East of Downtown Birmingham

Eton Street Station is open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, except Thursdays. Call 248-258-8887 for more information or visit www.stonstreetstation.com





WHAT DO YOU LOOK FOR? Own A Luxurious Loft in Birmingham For Only \$1,365 Per Month*

"UPTOWN LUXURY & STYLE AT DOWN TO EARTH PRICES"

Birmingham Artisan Lofts Showcase:

Brick exteriors with stone accents

Private balcony

2-Car private attached garage

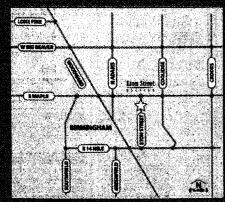
Designer appliances

Luxurious baths • Central AC

Gourmet kitchens
2 Bedrooms • 2.5 Bathrooms
1,631 sq. ft.
9ft. and 12ft. ceilings



WHERE LIFE + STYLE = ABSOLUTE VALUE



Eton Street: ¼ mile South of Maple Road East of downtown Birmingham Artisan Lofts: Was \$359,990 -Now from \$299,990



Closed Thursdays (248) 258-8887

Open Daily 11am – 6pm

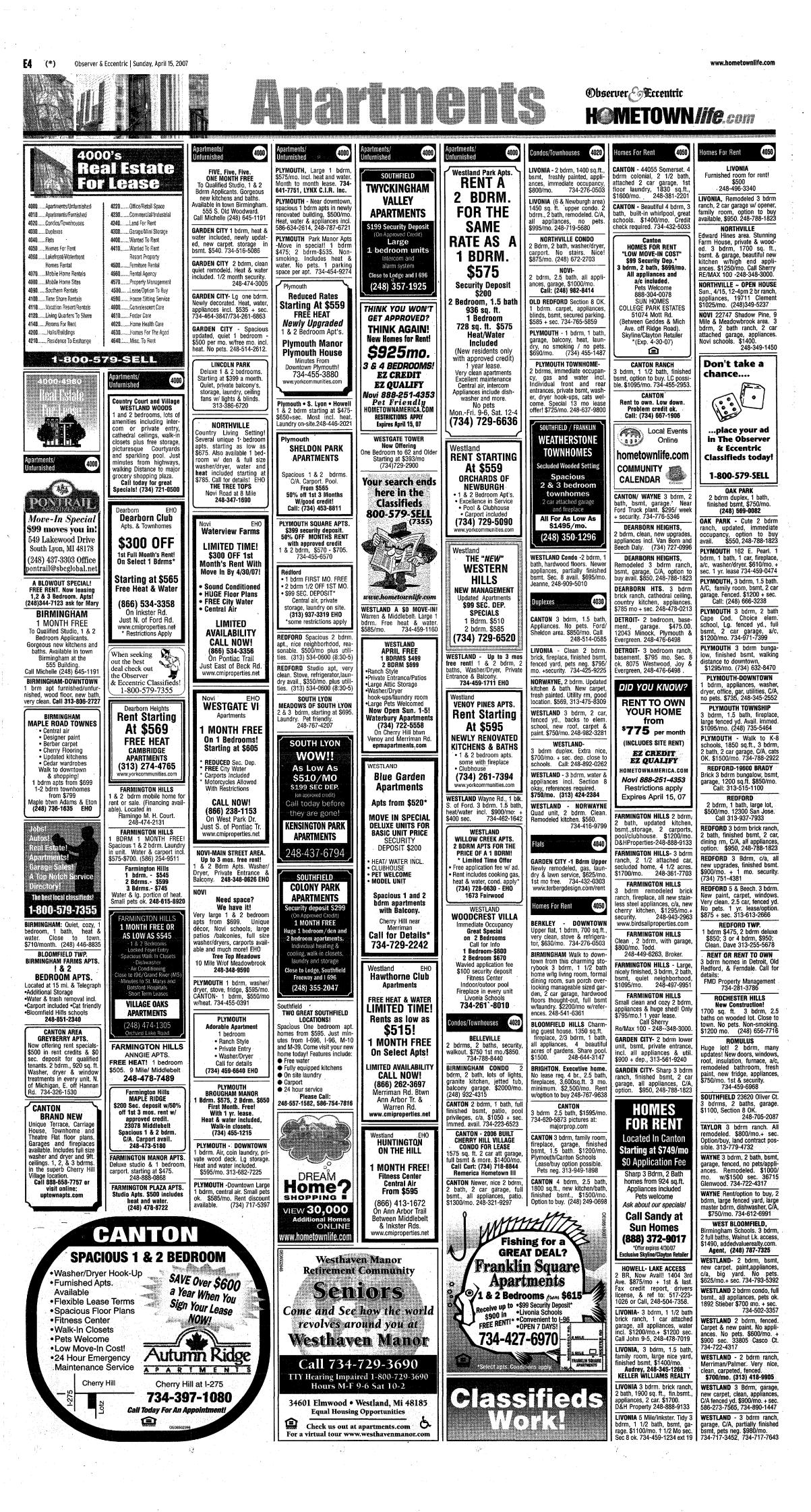
BIRMINGHAM

Eton Street

Community Features:

Boutique Shopping within Walking Distance
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Restaurants - Casual to Fine Dining
Entertainment

*See New Porte Considerd for details. Proces and others are subject to charing without region. Inheast raiss effective 4/207 and subject to starge: Month's regioned reflects placete and initiation only. Takes, multipage instrumes premium and interconnects association (res. I) and not initiated only. APR of 0.993 is based on a 0.187% 30 year list of the 2-19 begindows, with 0.4.125% start rate, a facilit amount of \$284,580, a 5% down payment, and choice costs of \$7.955 start association in the down of the 2-19 begindows, with 0.4.125% start rate, a facilit amount of \$284,580, a 5% down payment, and choice costs of \$7.955 start rate.



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(*) 23 www.hometownlife.com Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 15, 2007 8520 8560 8640 8700 8700 8780 Oldsmobile Autos Under \$2000 Honda Lincoln Pontiac Saturn Saturn **AVIS** Does CIVIC EX 2002, 5 speed, moonroof, \$8,993. LS 2003 Premium, V-8, silver ALERO GLS 2004 Coupe SL2 2002, auto, air, 60K ION 3 2004, loaded, low ACHRA LEGEND 18 1989 GRAND AM SE 2002, full What Others moon, leather, certified, 30K, leather, moon, 40K, loaded miles, \$11,895 bose stereo, auto, 130,000 ower. \$6.980. Stk 6T6577B AVIS FORD \$17.034. P30060 like new, \$11,980. NORTH BROTHERS FORD **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** mi, moon roof, cruise, alarm Red Holman... (248) 355-7515 leather. \$1700. 248-478-2965 Ask for Bryan O'Neil (734) 524-1264 Saturn of Plymouth (734) 453-2500 (734) 721-1144 CIVIC EX 2002, moon, 5 North Bros. Linc-Merc (734) 453-7890 GRAND AM SE1 2004 4 dr. ION 3 2006, leather, moon "It's All About Results" speed, low miles, \$9,988 (248) 238-6378 You're Approved bright Red, power options 21,200 miles. \$11,993. 8720 Tovota 3K. \$14.998 Fox Hills **Observer & Eccentric** AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515 For The Auto TOWN CAR 1999, low miles 8680 Pontiac Chrysler-Jeep led, \$7,195.769147A Ask for Bryan O'Neil 1-800-579-SELL Red Holman_ **YOU** Want PRIUS 2004, black hybrid, air, (734) 455-8740 auto, gas-electric, \$16,895. AZTEK 2003, blue, one owner (734) 721-1144 North Bros. Linc-Merc **GUARANTEED!** hometownlife.com CIVIC EX 2004 4 dr., 34K, one FORD AEROSTAR 1996 Brand Red.Holman. (248) 238-6378 sharp! Only \$9,995 new muffler system, brakes, 4 good tires, Good cond. 98,000 miles. \$1700/best. 734-451-8746 Ask for Mike. GRAND PRIX 2003, very low miles, fully equipped, red & ready, \$12,995. ner, \$14,980. **Call For Details Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** TOWN CAR 2001, affordable (734) 721-1144 Saturn of Plymouth L300 2001 ASK FOR MR. SCOTT (734) 453-2500 luxury, \$10,900. P20113 NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264 moonroof, (734) 453-7890 Leather. extra 8740 BONNEVILLE SE 1992 Clean Volkswagen 248) 355-7515 Red_Holman_ clean, low miles, only \$9,960 Runs great. 90,000 miles. AVIS COR FORD TAURUS 1993 (734) 721-1144 Saturn of Plymouth 8524 undai 🖓 ZEPHYR 2006, only 15,000 good tires. \$2300. Stationwagon. Runs Great! \$1200 BEETLE GLS 2002, double (734) 453-7890 iles, \$21,998 **SOLD** FORD GRAND PRIX 2005, GTP AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515 leather, sunroof, auto, \$12,950. SONOTA GLS 2006 LW2 WAGON 2000. V-6. FORD TAURUS 1997 LTHR, moon, chromes. Like BONNEVILLE SE 2001, tan JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900 V-6, 29K, \$13,990 4 dr., runs exc. full power, leather, only 48K one owner sharp, \$7,995 A/C, very light damage. \$1700/best. Saturn of Plymouth **Bill Brown Ford** miles, \$7,940. **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** TO PLACE YOUR AD: 8580 Mazda (734) 453-7890 Saturn of Plymouth (734) 522-0030 Auto Connection (734) 453-2500 800-579-7355 734-765-5757 -800-579-SELL(735 (734) 453-7890 MAZDA 6 2004 Wagon, GRAND PRIX GT 2004, white 8527 \$11.998 auto, air, Certified, \$12,495. AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515 **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** AMANTI 2006, leather, power moonroof, spotless, \$18,900. (734) 453-2500 MAZDA 626 2002, loaded Stk. P20131 low miles, must see, \$11,514 Ask for Bryan O'Neil GRAND PRIX GT 2006, leather loaded, only 22K, \$17,995. NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264 North Bros. Linc-Merc (248) 238-6378 RIO 2005 2006, Suto air, fac **Bill Brown Ford** his Ou tory warranty. \$8860. STK. 7T9086A MILLENNIUM 2000 40,000 (734) 522-0030 miles, immaculate. \$1100below black book, \$99 down, \$131 month. TYME (734) 455-5566 NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264 FIREBIRD, FORMULA GRAND PRIX GT2 2004, IMPALAS 2001, V-8, artic white \$14,995. 150 leather, sunroof, 6CD, sport appearance HUD, \$15,995. Lou LaRiche Chevrolet In Stock Starting at 8530 Jaguar 888-372-9836 Red Holman_ 2600 Mercury ^{\$}18,583^{*} (734) 721-1144 JAGUAR S-TYPE 2004, what G-6 2806 4 dr., V-6, silver, power options, alloys, hurry, \$14,997. GM Certified. a car! Loaded, \$26,950 Stk#P20088 COUGAR XR7 1997 30th GRAND PRIX GTP 2002 Lowest lease offers of the year on Malibu & Silverado! anniversary edition, full power NORTH BROTHERS FORD 40th Anniversary Edition all options, 88,000. Exceller cond. \$2900. **SOLD** (734) 524-1264 Rare find! Perfect condition .Red.Holman_ GM 2007 MALIBU 2007 SILVERADO LT Loaded, low miles. \$12,950. JAGUAR X-TYPE 2004, heat-GRAND MARQUIS 2000 (734) 721-1144 Saturn of Plymouth ed seats, moonroof, spotless **Employee** loaded, \$5995 leather white onyx, \$19,900 (734) 915-6640 (734) 453-7890 G6 2005 27,000 miles, Sedan P19888A Was \$17,885 Was \$28,135 burgundy, all power, remote start, air, cruise, FM/CD. \$13,900. 248-354-7185 NORTH BROTHERS FORD SOLSTICE 2006- 5 spd, deep blue, 3800 Mi, leather, loaded, & Supplier (734) 524-1264 NOW NOW 853 **GRAND MARQUIS LS 2001** ext. warranty. Many extras \$24,500. 734-425-2765 G6 2006 4 dr., black, air, auto Bonus Cash Loaded, like new, \$9,985 CD, 5,261 miles, GM certified \$14,998. CHEROKEE 1993 4x4, nice LEASE per LEASE per Saturn of Plymouth SUNFIRE 2005 Very low miles, warranty. \$8500 TYME (734) 455-5566 , \$3,490. 7T6107A mo mo (734) 453-7890 NORTH BROTHERS FORD Red Holman_ FOR FOR (734) 524-1264 (734) 721-1144 **MERCURY 1996 MARQUIS GM EMPLOYEE** GM EMPLOYEE **GRAND CHEROKEE LTD 2003 COLONY PARK WAGON** SUNFIRE 2005, white, 26K G6 2006 4 dr., loaded, 18K, V-8, one owner 39K, loaded Excel. cond. \$3500. sharp! Certified, \$9,995. certified, \$12,995, #60581A Call Rick: (734) 427-2774 Like new. \$15,900 **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** Saturn of Plymouth MONTEGO 2005 4 dr., fully (734) 453-2500 (734) 453-2500 (734) 453-7890 black, \$13,205 loaded, 765014A WRANGLER 2006, auto, air, soft top, 3K, \$19,800. Sth GRAND AM 2004, auto, air, VIBE 2004 4 dr., red, auto, air, Ask for Bryan O'Neil North Bros. Linc-Merc white, certified. \$10,695 sunroof, \$9,995. P20042 (248) 283-6377 **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** NORTH BROTHERS FORD MYSTIQUE 1999- 4 dr., auto, leather int, ps/pb, 101,000 miles, \$3200/best. (734) 453-2500 (734) 453-2500 Ext cab, V8, 5.3 flex fuel, auto Automatic trans., power windows & (734) 524-1264 CARS • TRUCKS overdrive, AM/FM CD, towing pkg., locks, fold rear seat, side curtain GRAND AM 2004, V6, auto WRANGLEB SPORT 2002 VIBE 2005, redfire, air, auto, power moonroof, 17K, GM 4X4, hardtop/softtop, \$15,900. JACK DEMMER 248-596-0690 moon, black, \$11,995. airbag, cruise, tilt, rear defog., air, power wndws/locks, tilt, cruise, air, **SUV'S • VANS Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** Certified, \$14,595 SABLE 2005, leather, all the bess, \$15,494. P30077 AM/FM CD. #1542 split seat, OnStar. #5651 Ford 734-721-2600 Red Holman (734) 453-2500 39 Month/32,500 Mile lease with \$1,000 Down \$218 first payment, \$1213 total due at inception Ask for Bryan O'Neil North Bros. Linc-Merc 39 Month/32,500 Mile lease with \$1,000 Down In Stock (734) 721-1144 GRAND AM GT 1998, auto 8560 \$173 first payment, \$1173 total due at inception (248) 283-6377 air. green. \$4.995 **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** CONTINENTAL 2002, moon SABLE 2006, low miles MONDAY ded, \$14,222. P30081 Ask for Bryan O'Neil North Bros. Linc-Merc (248) 283-6377 4,222. P3008 6 HURSDAY NICHTS UNTIL 9 PM コンオン leather, extra clean, \$7,488 (734) 453-2500 Fox Hills Showers of GRAND AM GT 1998 Coupe. Chrysler-Jeep black, \$4,995. 40875 PLYMOUTH RD. MON. & THURS. 8:30AM (734) 455-8740 **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** (OhiStar .866.385.8000 HAGGERTY • ACROSS FROM WWW.LARICHECHEVY.CO WWW.SWITCHTOLARICHE.C LINCOLN LS 2002
 V-8 Sport autostick, all power Great 8620 (734) 453-2500 Nissan ъ, 🖸 heated memory seats, traction control, premium sound sys., power moon root, fog lamps, leather. 79,300 miles. Exc. cond. \$11,000 313-350-4746 GRAND AM GT 2004 2 dr. NISSAN MAXIMA GXE 1996-Exc. cond. 65,000 miles. sunroof, chromes, monsoon, ram air, V-6, GM Certified, Deals REVOLUTION \$4500. \$13,495 SOLD 6 MILE Red.Holman_ (APA) *‡• Local News (734) 721-1144 in your .ou .aRici Online 437 A word to the wise. IN ARBOR RC hometownlife.com when looking for a Classifieds great deal check the **THAT WORK FOR YOU!** COMMUNITY **Observer & Eccentric** 1-800-579-SELL NEWS \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc





