

applying for the program. Administrators hoping to utilize stimulus package money Other new applicants include schools from Dearborn,

Southgate, Gibraltar, Trenton, Livonia and Garden City.

"Schools in Northville, Livonia, Detroit, Taylor, Grosse Pointe Park, Grosse Ile, Southgate, and Harper Woods have joined the Green Schools team since our kickoff last year," said Ficano, "and for the current academic year, 13 additional schools have applied. We hope to have up to 60 Green Schools on board in the near future."

The deadline to submit a Michigan Green School application is March 17.

"Your school can become a 'Green School' by sending an application to the Wayne County Environment Department," said Ficano. Schools can qualify by meeting 10 of 20 criteria established by the State of Michigan, he said,

A full list of the program's requirements and an application packet can be found in the Environment Department section of Wayne County's Web site, www.waynecounty. com, or by calling Nancy Gregor at (734) 326-3936.

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Administrators in the Plymouth-Canton school district are hoping the recent emphasis being placed on renewable energy by both President

Barack Obama and Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm is a sign of good things to come for the district. With some \$14 million in "green" projects on their wish list at the

high school park and various middle schools, administrators are hoping to

take advantage of money in Obama's stimulus package and renewable energy incentives expected from Granholm to help them get some shovels in the ground.

"With 300 acres (at the park) and a lot of rooftops, there are a lot of

options to employ these kinds of projects," said Ken Jacobs, the district's deputy superintendent. "The park provides an economy of scale for a lot of these projects. We're in a posi-

Please see GREEN, A6

Union's beef over cutbacks hits arbitration

BY MATT JACHMAN OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A professional arbitrator, instead of a judge, will decide whether Plymouth Township officials violated a union contract in December by reducing the work hours of seven formerly full-time employees.

The Board of Trustees, following a closed session Tuesday night, approved an agreement with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees that calls for expedited arbitration to settle the union's complaint over the cutbacks. The union has also consented, AFSCME attorney Robert Fetter said. "The agreement is supposed to be

signed today," Fetter said Wednesday morning.

"I think it's good for both parties," township Supervisor Richard Reaume said.

The deal calls for a March 23 arbitration hearing, a deadline for submitting written arguments of 15 days after the hearing, and a decision within 15 days after that.

The cutbacks, which township officials say were an attempt to counter an anticipated revenue shortfall in a sinking economy, meant the seven lost pay as well as benefits such as health insurance.

Through AFSCME, they filed an unfair labor practice complaint with the Michigan Employment Relations Commission, charging the cutbacks violated their contract and tainted a Jan. 8 election on union representation.

An administrative law judge with MERC was to hear arguments from both sides Feb. 12, but that hearing was postponed to give the sides time to work out the arbitration agreement. A scheduled Tuesday hearing was also cancelled.

The agreement also calls for the results of the Jan. 8 election, sealed by MERC because of AFSCME's contention the vote was tainted, to be opened. The employees voted on whether to continue being represented by AFSCME, to move to the administrative division of the Police Officers

Association of Michigan, or do without representation. Twenty-seven township workers, mostly clerical employees, are represented by AFSCME.

Fetter said the union is surrendering its argument that the election was tainted in order to fast-track a resolution for the seven employees whose work hours were cut to 30 a week. "We're trying to get something done for these people," he said.

Fetter said a date for opening the election results will be up to MERC officials.

The board's vote for the agreement was 6-0 Tuesday. Trustee Steve Mann was absent.

mjachman@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2405

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Finding similarity in diversity

Village Theater program gives students unique view of black history

BY TONY BRUSCATO **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Hundreds of fifth- and sixthgraders converged on the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton Tuesday to learn that the music of days gone by is the root of even today's biggest hits. 'African American History Through Artist Eyes' also showed students how music played a big part during the days of slavery and the civil rights movement.

"All the music we listen to today - on television, radio or iPod — all that stuff came out of folk music," said musician Robert Jones, in between playing his harmonica on stage in front of students from Plymouth

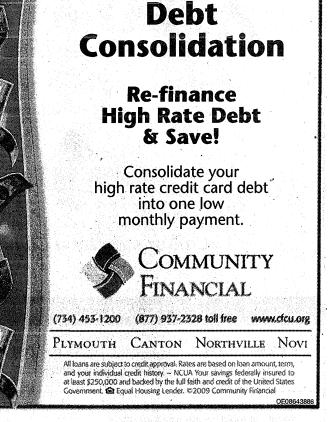
Please see **DIVERSITY**, A7



Robert Jones and Matt Watroba present African American History Through Artist's Eyes to Plymouth-Canton and Plymouth Christian Academy fifth-graders at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

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LOCAL NEWS

A2 Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 19, 2009 (P)

McCotter: GM, Chrysler did what they had to do

BY HUGH GALLAGHER STAFF WRITER

The new restructuring proposed

McCotter, R-Livonia, who

jobs and there will be oth-

ers they can't save," he said

On Tuesday, General

Motors and Chrysler came

sive cost-cutting proposals

in loans, in addition to the

\$17.4 billion loaned to the

proposes closing 14 plants,

back to Congress with exten-

and requests for \$21.6 billion

companies in December. GM

cutting 47,000 workers, elim-

inating several brands includ-

ing Hummer and Saturn and

reducing its number of sup-

pliers. Chrysler is proposing

cutting 3,000 jobs, eliminat-

ing some brands including

the popular PT Cruiser and

Wednesday in a phone inter-

Services Committee.

serves on the House Financial

"It will save some workers'

by General Motors and Chrysler to obtain additional federal loans is as painful as expected, said U.S. Rep.

Thaddeus

view.



no-questions-asked \$300 billion plus bailout for the bank-

ing industry. "If you tell them no after this, you say that the people who didn't restructure and got more money were in the right," he said. "They did what they had to do."

reducing production capacity

McCotter has complained

that the auto industry has

Congress compared to the

been treated unfairly in

by 100,000 vehicles.

President Barack Obama has created a task force led by **Treasury Secretary Timothy** Geithner and Lawrence Summers, chair of the National Economics Council, to replace a "car czar" as originally proposed by the Bush Administration.

The task force will have to do due diligence," McCotter said.

He said he wants to see if someone with experience in the auto industry will be on the task force. He said he believes that someone other than Geithner or Summers will be the point person for handling the next loans and that the terms will actually be worked out between the auto companies and the president's task force.

While supportive of the

bridge loans for auto companies, McCotter joined the other Republican members of the House of Representatives in opposing the economic stimulus package signed into law by Obama on Tuesday.

"I was open to do it, seen from Michigan's point of view," McCotter said.

He said an amendment by Sen. Babara Mikulski, D-Maryland, would have been good for Michigan. The amendment in the original Senate bill would have given a tax break to car buyers, allowing them to deduct loan interest and state sales taxes on purchases of new vehicles. McCotter said that was replaced in the end by a highspeed rail proposal by Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nevada.

McCotter called the stimulus package "a post-manufacturing" bill with more emphasis on government programs than on helping businesses. He also said the bill could lead to the "stagflation" problems of the late 1970s, making Michigan's situation worse. Stagflation is when the economy remains sluggish but prices continue to rise.

"The auto industry is still hanging. It doesn't matter

what you do if our industry fails," he said.

But he said more could have been done to win over Republican votes with more emphasis on shovel readv public works projects. "It should have been a rela-

tively easy bipartisan vote," he said. "I don't blame the president. It doesn't matter what the president wants when he's jammed up by the old bulls.'

The White House issued a projection that the stimulus package would create or save 7,800 jobs in McCotter's 11th District. He said he didn't know how they could project how many jobs would be "saved."

"In the end people will make a determination whether it helped them or not," McCotter said.

He said he wanted to see more tax help for small businesses and more proposals like Mikulski's. He said there was a "myriad of things" that could have been done to improve the bill.

"All along, we supported a shovel-ready stimulus. A lot of Republicans in the Midwest and Northeast were supportive," he said.

hgallagher@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-8730

CORRECTION In the story "Right up their alley" about the bowling program at Canton High School, which ran in the Feb. 12 Observer, Rob Korstjens' name was spelled incorrectly.



High-tech goes old-school Books, businesses help

online at hometownlife.com

broaden author's horizons

BY MATT JACHMAN **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

An Internet-savvy marketing writer has broadened his audience with an old-school medium - books - and

the help of Plymouth business owners who sought his advice. Corey Perlman, who has spent about a decade study-

ing and teaching Internet marketing, last month released his first book: eBoot Camp: Proven Internet Marketing Techniques to Grow Your Business. Perlman gave his "eBoot Camp"

Corev Perlman

seminar to Plymouth business owners, a more diverse audience than he was used to, just a year ago.

"He just makes the information so accessible that you just feel, 'Yeah, I can do this,' " said Sherrie Pryor, operations director for the Plymouth Dowtown Development Authority, which, with the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, invited Perlman to speak to local merchants.

Many consultants with computer know-how are "techies" who can't reach a general audience, but the personable Perlman made the information easy to understand, Pryor said, and business people have reported results from Internet marketing.

Perlman, who lives in Royal Oak and has an office in Troy, said he has a special fondness for downtown Plymouth. He was in the midst of writing his book when he gave his first Plymouth workshop.

"When we received rave reviews from that workshop, I knew the content would resonate with all people, no matter their profession," Perlman wrote in an e-mail. "The business owners in Plymouth have been so supportive, from attending my workshops to buying the book." Perlman said eBoot Camp was the top seller in major business categories on amazon.com for several days, and that he has been humbled by its reception. The book was published

by Wiley, a business, trade and education publisher.

"Nothing means more than the e-mails I receive from business owners all over the countrv excited about finally having the tools to win the war for online attention," he wrote.

Perlman's wife, Jessica, is the owner of Plymouth's Creatopia pottery studio.

They met, Perlman said, when they worked for General Motors Corp., traveling the country in a van to teach car dealers how to generate business through the Internet.

"We figured if we could survive six months in a van without killing each other, we might as well get married," he said.

It was on those visits with dealers, he said, that he learned how to tailor his presentation. "We learned very quickly"

that if we spoke in techie lingo or didn't make the clear connection on how the Internet can help generate business, we'd be thrown off the stage," he said.

Perlman later left GM and began working for an Internet start-up. He continued to give workshops, he said, and "tweak the content."

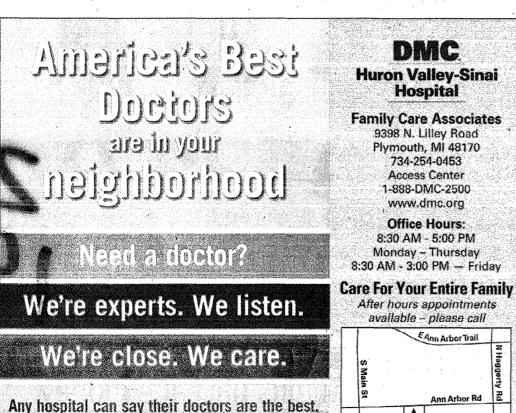
"I was amazed that, no matter the profession or Internet experience, everyone seemed to be benefiting from the course," he said.

Pryor said Perlman is the only speaker the DDA has had in twice.

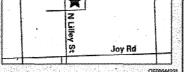
"The response was just so positive with the first workshop he did," Pryor said.

Perlman is confident Michigan can weather a troubled economy and "get back on its feet," and he said he wants to help.

"I wrote the book to empower people to roll up their sleeves and start using the Web to drive their business. Small business owners have always needed to adapt to new challenges and today's is no exception," he said.



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With the rapid pace of technological change, Perlman said, new technologies are going to make subjects for new books.

"I already have topics that I talk about in eBoot Camp workshops and seminars that are not in the book. So yes, I suspect you'll see a new book or two down the road," he said.

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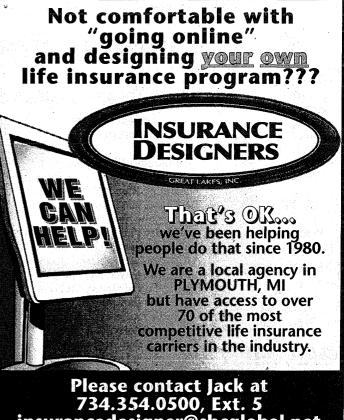
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PUBLIC SAFETY

Keeping citizens safe

Program helps return vulnerable residents home

BY MATT JACHMAN OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

People with an impaired family member or friend in Plymouth or Plymouth Township can find some peace of mind with the Community Safe Citizens program.

Community Safe Citizens, launched about two years ago in the Plymouth area, helps police more quickly locate vulnerable people who have wandered from home and, because of disorientation or an impairment such as Alzheimer's disease or autism, are unable to say where they live.

"It gives the family some comfort, that if the person is found ... they can be returned to the residence," said Officer Jamie Senkbeil, Plymouth Township's community resource officer, who is in charge of the program. Both township and city of Plymouth residents are eligible for enrollment.

Registration for Community Safe Citizens is easy: Family members and other caregivers can print a form from either the township's or the city's Web site, fill it out and, along with a recent photograph of the person, drop it off at either police station.

The forms call for the enrollee's name, address, specific condition, and the name and phone number of a caregiver or emergency contact. The documents are kept at the central dispatching office for both communities, at township police headquarters.

When an enrollee is reported missing, or if an enrollee is found wandering by patrolling officers, having the person's information at hand saves police a few steps, and the person can be returned home faster, Senkbeil said.

Lt. Allen Cox, Plymouth Police Department spokesman, said Community Safe Citizens was used, a short time after it began, to help find a Plymouth man who had wandered from home.

"We were able to track down where he belonged and get him safely home," Cox said.

"I think it's an excellent program for families to take advantage of," Senkbeil said.

She added the Community Safe Citizens is also valuable for use at senior citizens housing, such as assisted-living apartments or nursing homes. She plans to advertise it to the managers of such facilities in the area.

Community Safe Citizens forms are available through the city's Web site, www. ci.plymouth.mi.us, and the township's, www. plymouthtwp.org. They are also available at the township police station, 9955 North Haggerty, north of Ann Arbor Road.

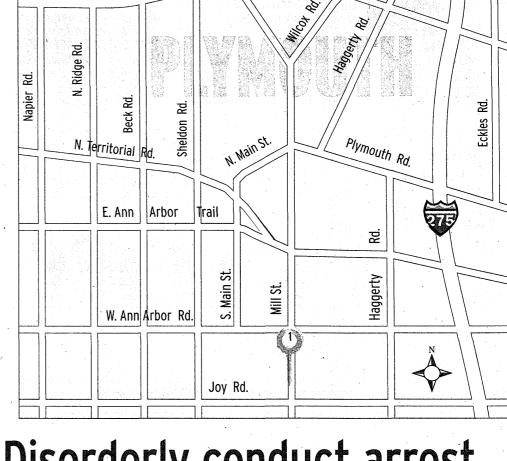
mjachman@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2405

Seminar aimed at keeping seniors safe

Senior citizens and people who help care for them can learn how to better keep seniors safe with a free program scheduled for 6 p.m. Wednesday in Canton Township.

"Safety in Aging: Ways to Protect Women, Seniors and Their Families" will be held at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton. Speakers will include Tom Wenzel, a prosecutor who focuses on crimes in which seniors are abused; Kirk Glezen, an attorney with Citizens for Better Care; and Lt. Deb Newsome of Canton's police force. The program is expected to last about two hours.

Refreshments will be available. The program is being sponsored by Neighborhood Legal Services Michigan's Elder Law & Advocacy Center. No registration is required. For more information, call (313) 937-8291.



14

Disorderly conduct arrest follows a lovers' quarrel

A woman was arrested on a disorderly conduct charge on the afternoon of Feb. 4 after repeatedly hurling herself into the door to an apartment on Postiff Drive, Plymouth Township police said.

The door and its frame were cracked and the door handle was broken, police said. The suspect told police that her girlfriend lived in the apartment, a township police report said.

Police were dispatched to the apartment shortly before 3 p.m. on a report of a break-in in progress. The responding officer reported seeing the suspect pounding on apartment windows and hearing her yell at someone inside.

Before the officer could reach her, his report said, she began throwing herself at the apartment door in an apparent attempt to open it. The officer handcuffed the woman.

The complainant told police the incident stemmed from an earlier quarrel. The two women do not live together.

Joy ride?

A woman who started her car and left it to warm up outside her apartment on Eckles Road early on Feb. 12 had it stolen from her minutes later.

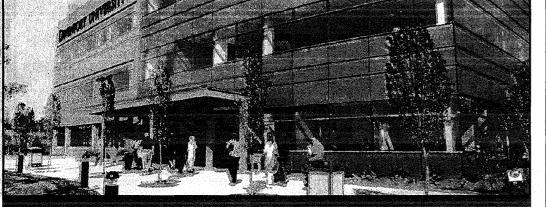
The car was recovered a short time later on Ross near Eckles in Livonia, unoccupied and with no keys in the ignition, a township police report said. A witness told police she had seen two people, who appeared from a distance to be males, park it there and walk away. The car was turned over to the victim.

The victim told police her car was parked in a space outside her apartment when she started it at 3 a.m. Feb. 12 and left it to warm up. She returned nearly 20 minutes later, she said, to find it was gone. By Matt Jachman

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 19, 2009

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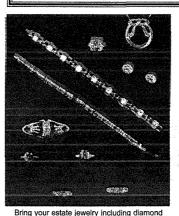
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AROUND PLYMOUTH

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

Saturdays at Penn

The Plymouth Community Arts Council and the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society are presenting a series of family variety shows in downtown Plymouth. These shows are offered at noon on the first Saturday of each month at the Penn Theater. Cost is \$3 per person.

The next performance on March 7 will feature special musical host Guy Louis, Chautauqua Express with special guest performers Nan Washburn, conductor of the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra, and acts to be announced. The announcer for this performance is Timothy Thompson.

The Penn Theater is located at 760 Penniman in Plymouth. Tickets may be purchased the day of the show. Doors open at 11:15 am. These shows are sponsored by a grant from the Wilcox Foundation, as well as by several local businesses and individuals: Travel Leaders, Quixworks, Signature Audio, Plymouth Rotary AM and Steve and Renee Alexandrowski.

Plymouth Democrats

The second meeting of the Plymouth Democratic Club takes place 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, at the Plymouth District Library. More than 50 people attended the first meeting last month.

The group hopes to fill four positions on the interim board, and offer committee signups at this meeting. RSVP to PlymouthDemocrats@gmail. com if you plan to attend.

Blood drives

NorthRidge Church hosts a blood drive 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28.

It's one of several the church has scheduled in 2009. The others: April 25, July 25 and Oct.

online at www.givelife.org and enter NorthRidge in Step One (sponsor code) or call (800)

Penn classics

at the Penn Theatre, with Alfred



Women's charity picks new leadership

Giving Hope Women's Giving Circle has elected six new members to their advisory board and selected new officers for 2009. New members of the advisory board are (seated from left) Olivia Scott of Canton, Debi Maloni of Plymouth, and Barb Rodenberg of Canton, (standing from left) Marion Rozum of Canton, Sally Welch of Canton and Kathy Males of Canton. The new officers are members of the founding board and are Chair Nancy Richter, Vice-Chair Betty Bloch, Secretary Linda Radtke and Treasurer Ellen Tucker. Organized in 2007, the group has 60 members who are combining their philanthropic dollars for the betterment of women and children in need within the greater Plymouth-Canton communities. The Circle's first grants, totaling \$6,000 were made in the fall of 2008 to two local organizations, First Step and Eldercare and Advocacy Center The women hope to be granting to local organizations each year as they continue to grow their membership. For more information, contact Loren Wadington at LAW5300@aol.com.

Hitchcock classics being featured each Thursday.

The schedule: March 5, "Marnie;" March 12, "Shadow of a Doubt;" March 19, "Saboteur;" and March 26, "To Catch a Thief." Box office opens at 6:30;

seats are \$3. The movies are sponsored by the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority. Free passes available (while supplies last) at Haven, Michigan Made & More, Sean O'Callaghan's Irish Public

screenings start at 7 p.m. All

House, Three Dog Bakery. For more information visit the Penn's Web site at www.penntheatre.com or call (734) 453-0870.

Monday teleclass

Professional Life Coach Scott Harris presents teleclasses

on "Overcoming Destructive Behaviors and Compulsive Addictions" Mondays at 7 p.m. beginning March 2.

The teleclasses are presented in three parts, lasting 45 minutes each, March 2 (What am I doing? Identifying Behaviors and Addictions); March 9 (Look in the Mirror - Do I Like What I Am?); and March 16 (New Paths - Rehsaping Our Choice-Making).

Harris is a compulsive addiction specialist and the author of "Compulsive No More" and "Compulsive Stop!" Cost is \$45 dollars, which includes all three classes and work sheets.

Register with Harris at Scott@compulsivenomorestop. com or call (248) 767-2482. Registrants will receive the phone number and pass code.

Outreach program

The ARC of Northwest Wayne County in cooperation with the Garden City Public Schools is offering informational outreach sessions for all parents and families of young children with disabilities, delays and special needs, beginning Wednesday, Feb. 25.

Gain information, support and parent mentoring services so your children will be able to enter school ready to learn. Sessions will provide parents and families with information about technical assistance and training in both navigating the service and education systems and successfully advocating for a child's maximum development.

The programs will be 6-8 p.m. at the Garden City Public Schools Administrative Center, 1333 Radcliff, between Marguette and Ford. Light refreshments will be served and child care will be provided.

On Feb. 25, consultant Ann Heler will present "Just Like Everybody Else," on March 11, Michelle Driscoll, advocacy

director for ARC Northwest, will present "Understanding IEPs and Special Education Rights," and on March 18 the topic will be Conflict Resolution and Negotiating Techniques for Parents and Students.

Parents interested in attending can reserve a seat by contacting Barbara Lea Jones at (313) 532-5776, Ext. 205 or by e-mail at barbaraljones@aol.com.

Helping homeless pets

Three Dog Bakery and Jill Andra Young Photo in Plymouth are teaming up to help fill items on the "Wish List" of the Humane Society of Huron Valley.

Both downtown businesses are teaming up to be drop-off points for items to be donated to the Human Society. Among the items most in demand are FELIWAY and refills, cheap canned chicken, Yesterday's News cat litter, hand sanitizer in pump bottles and stuffed sterilized bones and sterilized bones.

Three Dog Bakery is located at 550 Forest, Suite 7 and can be reached at (734) 453-9663; Jill Andra Young Photo is located at 825 Penniman and can be reached (734) 455-7787.

Beginning ballet

Metro Dance Company in Plymouth is hosting a 6-week session of Beginning Ballet for adults 1:30-2:30 p.m. Saturdays starting Feb. 21.

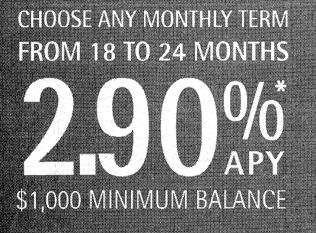
This class will teach the basics of ballet including barre and center work, perfect for the novice dancer and the dancer look to refresh their skills. Cost for the entire session is \$65.

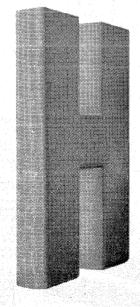
Contact the studio at (734) 207-8970 or info@ MetroDanceCompany.com with any questions.

Metro Dance Company is located just outside downtown Plymouth on the north east corner of Mill (Lilley) and Ann Arbor Trail at 541 S Mill St.



A5 (P)





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tion to employ a lot of different things because of our size."

At the top of the district's wish list for renewable energy projects are a way to cool off the gymnasiums, particularly at Plymouth High School, which can reach temperatures as high as 95 degrees during the summer, and covered. solar-heated walkways to provide cover for students moving between the park's three buildings.

COST CONCERNS

Athletic director Sue Heinzman got the ball rolling when she took a request to air condition the Plymouth gym to Jacobs, but the \$200,000 initial expense made it costprohibitive.

So Heinzman began to investigate alternative solutions and

4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Monday, March 16, 2009.

accepted.

wound up hooking up with a Canton company, Mechanical Engineering Systems, to came up with a solution. The idea is to use night air and well water to pre-cool the gymnasium using the existing duct system. Additional measures - adding natural lighting with solar tubes and dehumidifying the air – would help drop interior temperatures to more like 70 degrees.

The district would employ the same technique at Canton High School; the Salem gym is air-conditioned.

"We won't be able to regulate (the temperature), but it will be a lot more comfortable," said Heinzman, who pointed out the initial \$50,000 cost is much more palatable.

The other major initiative is one talked about as far back as nine years ago: covered walkways connecting the park's three high schools. The discussion was part of a study in 2000 when the district was

CITY OF PLYMOUTH

2009 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

The City of Plymouth Board of Review will be conducting the 2009

March Board of Review and will convene in the City Commission

Chambers, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170, for an

Organization Meeting to be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2009 from

Wednesday, March 4, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Friday, March 6, 2009 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Friday, March 13, 2009 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 14, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday, March 16, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed. Hearings are by appointment only. COMPLETED 2009 BOARD OF REVIEW PETITIONS ARE NECESSARY, and must be submitted to the Front Office located on the First Floor of City Hall, prior to your appointment. The "Deadline" for submitting petitions for all persons wishing to appeal in person before the Board of Review is

A resident or non-resident taxpayer may file a petition with the

Board of Review without the requirement of a personal appearance

by the taxpayer or a representative. An agent must have written authority to represent the owner. Written petitions must be

received by Monday, March 16, 2009 by 3:00 p.m. Postmarks are not

Copies of the notices stating the dates and times of the meetings

All Board of Review Meetings are open meetings in compliance with

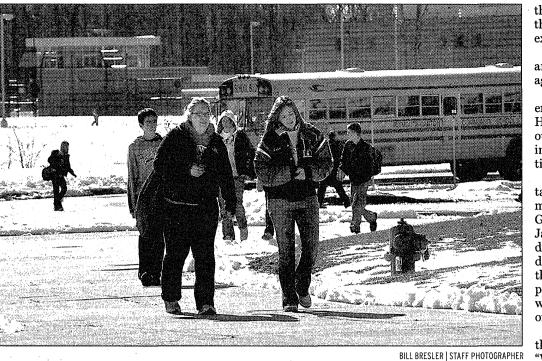
If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Assessor's

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC

City Clerk

OE08641236 - 2

The regular Board of Review schedule is as follows:



District officials said covered walkways between buildings at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park were considered as part of the 2004 bond issue, but were considered a "want" and not a need.

putting together what would become the 2004 bond issue. But Jacobs said it was discarded as "a want, not a need." Now, with an emphasis being placed by nearly everyone on "going green," the idea is back. This time, though,

walkways — which as they exist now take a lot of maintenance in terms of snow removal, salting and repairs — with solar panels.

The walkways would use active solar-power collection,

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF HEARING ASSESSMENT BOARD OF REVIEW

NOTICE OF HEARING given that the Plymouth Township Board of Review will meet on the following dates and times:

Hearings are by appointment, please call 354-3269, between 8 am. and 4:30 pm for an appointment.

Tuesday, March 3	9 am - Noon 2 pm - 5 pm	Organizational Meeting Hearings by Appointment
Monday, March 9	2 pm - 5 pm 6 pm - 9 pm	Hearings by Appointment Hearings by Appointment
Wednesday, March 11	9 am - Noon 2 pm - 5 pm	Hearings by Appointment Hearings by Appointment
Saturday, March 14	9 am - 11 am	First Come- First Served

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed.

All persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions prior to appearing before the Board. A personal appearance is not required. Appeals by mail will be accepted if received by March 20, 2009

The Board of Review will be held in the Board Meeting Room of Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170.

Please come prepared as a ten (10) minute time limit before the Board of Review will be strictly adhered to.

Publish: February 12, 15 and 19, 2009

Publish: February 12, 19 and 26, 2009

Office at 734-453-1234, ext. 253 or 252.

the "Open Meetings Act".

hot-water heating to preheat them in winter.

TEACHING ELEMENT

the schools and minimal maintenance, the walkways would also serve as an educational tool, with "dashboard displays" that would show students how

the building systems work, the amount of energy being expended, etc.

The educational aspect was an important part of the pack-

age. "We hope to fold renewable energy into the curriculum," Heinzman said. "It's obviously the wave of the future, an important piece of their education."

The district is hoping to take advantage of grants that may be available because of Granholm's desire to go green. James Larson-Shidler, the district's assistant superintendent for business services, said the district explored the idea of private partnerships, but didn't want to relinquish ownership of the projects.

"There are drawbacks to that," Larson-Shidler said. "We're looking at grants and stimulus money. What we wanted to do was realize a savings district-wide, so it made more sense to go that way."

Jacobs said they hope to schedule meetings with area legislators and even with Granholm in the near future.

"If we can get the funding, we believe we can have shovels in the ground within 180 days,' he said.

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-8899



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:

	d Medley, ADA Coord of Canton, 1150 S. (nter Road
	Canton, MI 48188 (734) 394-5260	an a
lish: February 19, 2008	a an	
		OE00644000 0-0

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In addition to connecting all

the suggestion is to cover the

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Call 1-800-510-4786, and use a major credit or debit card

- 3. Follow the instructions to listen to the advertiser's voicemail greeting
- 4. Leave a personal message for the advertiser

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WOMEN SEEKING MEN HONEST & DOWN-TO-EARTH

soutgoing woman, 40, koves animals, the out-s, Seeking honest, clean, honorable, compas-te genteman, 40s-early 50s, for friendship, g, possible LTFI. **2295421**

TAKE A CHANCE SF, 48, 57", 210lbs, medium brownblue, ND, N/S, no children, enjoys drama films, shooting pool, play-ing dans, sporting events, long drives, more. Seek-ing SM, 45-55, who enjoys the same. **27253036** LOOKING FOR MR RIGHT COURDING FOR MR RIGHT Outgoing, laid-back SWF, 40, sincere and light-hearted seeks easygoing, fun SM, who knows how to enjoy life, to share talks, dates, friendship and

possible LTR. 2255010 LET'S GET TOGETHER Sexy, mature, intelligent BF, 35, 55", 130lbs, seeks mature, intelligent man, for casual dating and friend-ship. 17267624

GOOD SENSE OF HUMOR? ; 48, 5'3", brown/brown, has pets, N/S, great se of humor, looking for WM, 45-55, who likes ng out, museums, movies, reading and more, to hinds with **Broance** do things with. 22280581

HOMEBODY SEEKS SAME SBF. 44, 52°, 165lbs, black hair, brown eyes, light complexion, ND, N/S, enjoys movies, bowling, din-ing, plays, concerts, reading. Seeking SBM, 39-51. 17284368

ARE YOU THE ONE? SF, 41, 54", dark complexion, brown eyes, short hair, looking to meet an honest, loyal, furny man, 37-55, to spend a lot of time together. **17289947**

CURVACEOUS SWF, 47, 57" 155lbs, hazel eyes, dimples, enjoys r&b music, jazz, dancing, dining out, blues, sports. Seeking SBM, 21-42, with similar interests, for triendship first, possibly more. **17283605**

VERY DOWN-TO-EARTH SBF, 37, 5/5", 125/ibs, slim build, enjoys nice walks in the park, movies, bowling, basketball games. Seeking SBM, 30-43. **17299111** ARE WE A MATCH? SBF, 38, very shapely, N/S, light drinker, very in-dependent, loves movies, sports, shooting pool, dining. Seeking SBM, 35+, very independent, who

enjoys life, movies, etc. 2299793 enjoys life, movies, etc. 22289735 I'M UNIQUE... complex with a good sense of humor, good listener and great talker, God-fearing, enjoys movies, mu-sic, books and more. Searching for a male com-panion with the same or similar qualities. 35-50.

panion with 22301099 HOPING WE CLICK! SBF, 23, 5'1", 105lbs, wants to meet SM, 30-68, for friendship first, possibly more. Call me, let's talk.

for friendsh 2307550 DOWN-TO-EARTH Easygoing DWF, early 50s, would like to meet a really nice WM, 50-65, with the same qualities, minimal baggae, to share the ups and downs of life. Seeking possible LTR. **27279171**

ARE YOU LONELY? Attractive female, 5'5", 120lbs, fun-k Attractive female, 55°, 120lbs, fun-foving blonde, retired, would kove a little of your time to enjoy each other's company. Seeking pleasant gentleman, 65-75. **13691247**

CALLING ALL GOLFERS! CALLING ALL GOLFERS! WiWF, 62, seeking goffer, best friend, 62-70, must be honest, N/S, and active. Looking for LTR, don't delay call now. **17976914**

SEEKING FRIEND DWCF, 71, looks much younger, 5'2", long dark brown hair, brown eyes, positive attitude, seeks faithful SWM for LTR. T0556264

faithful SWM for LTR. 2005204 GREAT EXPECTATIONS Good looking SBF, hwp, intelligent, mature, spiritu-al, seeking a SM, 577 +, 40-50, physically fit, good looking inside and out, loving, who likes traveling, for friendship first leading to LTR. 20147056

TAKE A CHANCE SBPF, looking for SBM, 45-57, with no children at home, who likes to have a good time. I enjoy going to movies, dining out, the park, outdoor and indoor activities. Let's develop a thirrefindship first, possibly leading to more. T306228

chai

VERY ATTRACTIVE SBPF, 37, mother, koking for attractive, sexy, tall, dark-complected, employed, intelligent BM, 33-50, for friendship possibly leading to LTR. 22282115 HARD WORKER SEEKS SAME

HAHD WORKER SEEKS SAME SBF, 44, N/S, mother, seeks old-fashioned BM, 29-49, N/S, homebody, to explore all life has to offert I enjoy reading, bike rides, playing tennis. 3274519

BEAUTIFUL BiBF, 37, beautiful, classy and open-minded, look-ing for BiF, 25-40, race open, D/D free, HW propor-tionate. You must be confident with who you are. 2271860

HEART OF GOLD BEART OF GOLD SBF, 39, 5'6", average build, smoker, enjoys cross-word puzzles, old-school lifestyle, movies, dining. Seeking athletio, active BM, 30-42, 6'+, smoker, for friendsrip, possible romance. **17266442**

LET'S DANCE IN THE RAIN! Petite SBF, 36, 150lbs. brown even Petite SBF 36, 150bs, brown eyes, mother of two, enjoys cooking, music, church. Looking for SM, 35-75. 2281372

GREAT-LOOKING BF ... seeks serious, mature, financially secure n for LTR. Call me; you won't be disappointed!

BEAUTIFUL SBF... 37, seeks SWM, 30-50, who is spontaneous and knows how to have fun. Casual relationship first, maybe leading to more. 32271683

ONE GOOD WOMAN LEFT SBF, 47, 577, full-figured, N/S, likes rollerskating, canoeing, exercise, theater, travel. Seeking a gen-terman, 45-70, who is heatthy, tun-toving, financially secure, looks decent. **37287305**

A POLISHED DIAMOND Attractive, sexy BF, 34, seeks true gentleman. You won't be disappointed when we meet! 2287057

A NEW BEGINNING SBF, 47, 5'4", likes action movies and SBF, 47, 5'4", likes action movies, swimming, danc-ing, plays, outdoors, just having fun. Seeking SBM, 45-55, for friendship or more. 2289151

PETITE AND CUTE SWF, 35, great sense of style, very friendly, would like to meet a SWM, 36-45, who will love me for me. 2294943

THAT SPECIAL ONE THAT SPECIAL ONE SBF, 39, enjoys movies, walks in the park, picnics, just chilling. Looking for SBM, 39-45, for possible relationship. **17295026**

SEEKING STRONG BM Can you handle me? SBF, mid 40s, healthy and beautiful, seeks strong, bald BM, 40-62, who knows how to handle his own business. I'm laid-back, gen-, soft. 2295568

MUSICAL GIRL Christian WF, 19, enjoys playing guitar, singing, going to church and more. Looking for SM, 19-25, who enjoys the same things. **T2292258**

ACTIVE WOMAN SWF, dark hair and eyes, NS, social drinker, likes bowling, bingo, garage sakes, funny movies and more. If you would like to meet for coffee, let me know. 72262181

SEARCHING FOR A MAN 40-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. I'm a 47-year-old who's bright, spunky and pretty. Only Jewish men please. T9922317

CLASSY LADY ami nm year/k 05, 527, brown/brown, I enjoy dancing, outdoors, and travel. Seeking a compan-ion, 60-70, and maybe a relationship. Please call. **T982305**

SINGLE DAD WELCOME SINGLE DAD WELLCOME PBF, 40, looks younger, attractive, independent, loving, caring, enjoys working, dining out, quiet times at home. Seeking handsome, well-built, warm-hearted, considerate WM, 36-43, to share what life has to offer. 22298002

SEEKING A MATURE MAN Attractive SBPF, 35, NS, NDngs, would like to meet respectable, happy SBPM, 25-50, to enjoy life together. 13300680

COULD YOU BE THE ONE? COULD YOU BE THE ONE? Bright, spunky, pretty SF, 47, educator, outgoing, pretty eyes, wishing to meet a kind Jewish man, 45-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. 1230694

HONESTY A MUST HONES I'Y A MOST BF, 42, 5'4", 186bs, shapely, browrybrown, seek-ing an honest man, 40-50, NDrugs, who enjoys the good things in life. I like plays, dancing, dining out, good company and working out. **T225608**

BLACK BEAUTY SEEKS... White Kright Spontaneous SBF 35, brown eyes, in search of advanturous, honest, attractive WM, 25-50, with great sense of humor. I enjoy movies, reading, working out, more. **1262020**

LET'S GET TOGETHER! Sexy SBF, 40, N/S, seeks fun and with WM, 35-80, for friendship first, maybe more. 12270132

LONELY VIRGO LONELY VIRGO SBF, 47, with a young heart, enjoys cartoons, mu-sic, dancing, good food, good fun. Looking for SF, 30-65, with same interests. 2269375

SINGLES LINGO: A-Asian B-African American/Black C-Christian D-Divorced F-Female H-Hispanic J-Jewish M-Male N/S-Non-smoker N/D-Non Drinker N/Drugs- No Drugs P-Professional S-Single W-White LTR-Long Term Relationship

SEEKING SBM COMPANION

2302311

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Torget the white source and the second secon I'm short and cute, brown eyes, black hair, hon-est, funny, good cook, very sincere. I hope to find a friend/companion to enjoy things with. Prefer-ably 55-75. Life is too short - have fun with me. SINCERE AND HONEST Happy SF, loves country music, dancing. Looking for honest, sincere SW/BM, 30-60, children ok, for friendship first. 27284932

Pub

SEFKING LOVING KINDNESS? SBPF, 55, 54", interested in developing new friend-ships, maybe more. Seeks energietic, NS SM, 40-65, that lovies reading, midnight picnics, walking, and excliming conversations. Must have good SOH and self-worth. 72282618 MATURE MAN WANTED SBF, 33, 5'4", 115lbs, caramel SBF, 33, 5'4", 115lbs, caramel complexion, brown eyes, short blonde hair, wears glasses. Seeking tall, muscular SBN, 25-40, who enjoys bookstores, movies, dining, water. 37287856

PLUS-SIZED LADY... 34, 200lbs, sexy single morn, looking for SM, 37+, for friendship and dating leading to LTR. Is this you? Call met 8712724

KEEP COOL SBF, 19, 5'3", looking for cool, down-to-earth, attrac-tive SB/HM, 18-25, who keeps it real. **27287598** Call me! 2217234

READY FOR A FRESH START? DWF, 51, 557, 120bs, long blonde/blue, well-pro-portioned, very feminine, attractive, self-employed. Seeking SWM, 45-57, 61"+, 225libs+, good sense of humor, energetic, traveler, outdoorsman, adven-turer, manly gentleman. T592549 WARM SMILE SBF, 21, N/S, looking for SM, 21-40, for friendship first, possibly more. Call me, let's talk and get to know each othert **17287187** PRETTY COMIC BOOK NERD PRETTY COMIC BOOK NERO SWF, 21, red hair, blue eyes, 5'10', 165lbs, mature body/mind, booking for a lonely handsome man, 20-30, race open, dean-cut, open-minded, who can make me laugh and who is with; **27292913** STILL SEEKING

STILL SEEKING Very cute SBF, 57, 5'3', 122lbs, interested in fit, good-kooking, contident. male, 46-59, N/S, intel-ligent, sincere, down-to-earth, who wants to commit to someone special. 27113198 GET TO KNOW ME BF 577, full-figured, brown eyes, N/S, social drink-er, looking for a gentleman, 45-60, to share good, clean fun with. 12260756

GET TO KNOW ME n-minded SBF, 60, 145lbs, attractive, Loving, open-minded SBF, 60, 145lbs, attractive, enjoys music, dining, concerts, travel, ISO honest, compassionate SM, 57-65, N/S. Possible LTR. SEEKING SAVED MAN SEF 27, N/S, seeks one good man, 29-51, N/S, no games, who enjoys movies, bowling, church, for friendship first. 22265509

TAKING A PEEK Attractive SWF, 20 years old, loves to be outdoors and have fun, enjoys dubs, movies, relaxing at home, ISO male who likes the same, and wishes for friendship, maybe more. 22254474 Mature SBF, 50, seeks sexy, handsome SWM, to develop a lasting relationship and maybe more. Let's meet soon! 22268278

IT'S WORTH THE CALL

IT'S WORTH THE CALL SBF, 20, 5'3", 250lbs, hard-working, student, no kids, seeking a cool guy, to chill with, get to know, have good times and see where it goes. 12255979 . uniquieu, snapely SBF, 33, lonely, seeks SWM (only) who enjoys wrestling, football, hockey, fish-ing, going to the movies for friendship first and maybe more. 2268699

GORGEOUS SMILE! SBF, 26, 56°, 130lbs, slim build, smoker, D/D-free, seeks BF, 18-60, smoker, for friendship, possible romance. I enjoy movies, dining, television, cud-dling, **T3**257889 VERY LOVING PERSON Looking for a spontaneous, professional male, 25-40, race open, who is willing to go and have fun. 40, race or 22273294 COUNTRY GIRL Good-natured, classy, attractive, fun-loving SWPF, 54, platinumVule, 557, HW-proportionate, enjoys travel, horseback riding, exercise, dancing, Seeking SWM, 55-65, NS, NDrugs, for serious relationship, fl you love motorcycles call me. **13759845**

Full-figu

FUN & OUTGOING

SBF, 18, 190lbs, brown eyes, loves walks on the beach, movies, basketball. Seeking SM, same age, for friendship or more. **17:257908**

HELLO THERE LADY IN THE WOODS SWF, 50, looks younger, blonde/hzzel, 5'5", aver-age build, educated, dog lover, classy, sassy and fun, seeking compabibe, outdoorsy, rugged, good-hearted make to share the good hings in life. Liv-ingston county. 17210247 Asian woman, 5'2', 180 bis, slim, attractive, health-conscious, vegetarian, N/D, N/S. Enjoys dining, movies, quiet times. Seeking clean-cut, fit, attrac-tive, respectful, professional Asian or White male for dating and possibly more. 2113901

A WOMAN OF CLASS SWF, 68, looks younger, in search of a SWM, 62-69, who likes movies, dining, theater. Is it you? CHOCOLATE TREAT Refined, romantic, creative divorcee, enjoys an eclectic lifestyle. Professionally employed, very youthful and fun loving, 60s, enjoys dining, travel, music, the arts, family and finends. Seeking fit non-smoking gentleman, 50+. T2:281197

GREAT SENSE OF HUMOR GREAT SENSE OF HUMOR SWF; 27, mother, enjoys swimming, walking, na-ture, being outdoors. Seeking similar SWM, 23-45, for companionship. **17282578**

LET'S GET TOGETHER SBF;54, 57, NS, enjoys life's simple pleasures. Seeking SB/WM, 48-62, N/S, for friendship or more. 12282444

your investment. SBM, 5'8', seeks mature, level-headed, down-to-earth female, 30-45, for fun, dat-ing and possible LTR. 2293155 OUTGOING BF, 24, student, looking for BM, 35-45, to go out and have fun with. Friendship first, hopefully leading to LTR. 12292940 ing and p BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS WANTED SBM, early 40s, seeks attractive, younger lady, 28-45, for romance, companionship, must be indepen-dent and shapely. Serious replies only. 2684501

PRETTY EYES SBF, 33, voluptuous in all the right places, enjoys life, long walks, intellectual conversation. Seeking SM, 30-50, similar interests. **212**99970

ASPECIAL GUY ASPECIAL GUY DWM, 56, 510°, handsome and secure, seeks honest SDWF, wisense of humor, who enjoys travel, candielight dimners, plays, dancing, concerts, boating, and movies. Friendship, possible LTR. **17269646** CLASSY LADY CLASSY LADY SWF, 70 years young, 56°, NS, average height, brownbrown, entyse fishing, movies, travel. Seek-ing honest SWM, 70-75, NS, who is not boastful, but is wellgroomed. Sense of humora e must. Life is a one-way street and I don't have time to back the entype of the second second second second second the entype of the second s

up. 2307314 WORTH A LOOK SBF, 30, 577, 195ibs, nurse, loves music, trying new things and just having fun. Looking for good-hearted, open-minded man to share the good times in life, friendship and maybe more. **17253834** TALL AND ATHLETIC SWM, 49, 62, 2005s, part-time personal trainer, browriblue, degreed, outgoing personality, enjoys outdoors, working out, new activities, seeking friendly SF, age/location open. **(TS31308**)

I NEED LOVE Fun-loving, down-to-earth, outgoing, smart SBF, 20, loves having fun. Seeking SBWM, 18-30, who shares my lust for life. 27300110

CLASSY LADY SBF, middle-aged, attractive, enjoys dining, mov-ies, plays and bowling, seeks a SM, 48-69, N/S, good, sense of humor and good values/morals. **T2207254**

Free Ads: Free ads placed in this section are not guaranteed- to run every week. Be sure to renew your ad frequently to keep it fresh.Guidelines: Personals are for adults 18 or over seeking monogamous relationships. To ensure your safety, carefully screen all responses and have first meetings occur in a public place. This publication reserves the right to edit, revise, or reject any advertisement at any time at its sole discretion and assumes no responsibility for the content of or replies to any ad. Not all ads have corresponding voice messages. To review our complete guidelines, call (617) 425-2636

HI THERE!

MUST LOVE WRESTLING!

CHOCOLATE TREAT

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

MAXIMUM RETURN ON ...

BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS WANTED

HARD-WORKER HARD-WORKER SWM, 45, 55", short brown hair, grown kids, enjoys music, playing guitar, travel. Looking for similar SF, 35-45. 22296097

KEEP IT REAL SWM, 55, 5'10", 150bs, father of two, homeowner, wants to meet slender, average female, 25-45, who likes music, art, just hanging out. **37287896**

I'LL MAKE YOU LAUGH

SBM, 18, 6'3", black/brown, sexy, down-to-earth, seeks SF, 18-50, for friendship or more. Let's meet, anything can happen! 3307197

SBM, 18, 6'3", black/brow seeks SF, 18-50, for friends

ks SWM

DOWN-TO-EARTH Asian woman, 52°, 110lbs, slim, attractive, inde-pendent, loving, caring, enjoys movies, fine dining, travel, quiet times at home. Seeking very hand-some WIAM, 47-56, NS, dean-shaven, HW pro-portionate, for friendship linst. LOOKING FOR A FUN LADY Devoted SCM, 36, low-key and light-hearted, look-ing for SCF, race open, to enjoy church, dinner dates, movie nights and much more. Let's see what happens. ENJOYS THE OUTDOORS BF, 55', 150lbs, likes cooking, listening to music, camping and more. Would like to meet a man to enjoy life with. 36-60.

SERIOUS WOMAN WANTED SBM, 46, koking for that special persona fo LTR, someone who enjoys walks, movies, sport ing events, cudling at home. Please be shapely independent and know what you want in life **Thespatia**

Eteminine LADY WANTED Attractive SWPM, 48, 510', 1900s, NS, never married, loves outdoors, going to church, travel-ing, family time, candle light dinners, movies, long walls, holding hands, good conversation, seek-ing sweet, feminine lady, 30-50, for possible LTR. ing sweet, to 22291990

LETS GET GOING! SWM 40s, attractive good attract SWM 40s, attractive, good shape, great listener, enjoys good conversation, infendship, spontaneous fun, and laughter, seeks personable SWF for dating and more. 27128302

EASYGOING Sharp, sociable SWM, 45, with occ good character and Sitesp. socialize sovin, 45, with good character and pleasant personality, likes the outdoors, fishing, motor sports etc. WLTM SWF, for dating and fun times. **27187614**

HI LADIES SWM, 46, kind, hard-working, NS, seeking SB/ HF, 32-34, NS, for sharing conversation, enjoys dates, laughter and just living life. Possible LTR. 1254060

FRIENDSHIP FIRST WM, 5'11", 180ibs, works in construction, looking for a woman, 38-55, to go out and do things with 1 enjoy racing, the water and more. 22257001 FRIENDSHIP FIRST

GREAT SENSE OF HUMOR WM, late 30s, 6'3', dark/blue, enjoys sports, con-certs and going to movies. Looking for an attractive Latin/Hispanic temale, 25-50, for dating. **T3257496**

LIFE IS TOO SHORT Very athletic SBM, 37, 59°, 175lbs, loves volunteer work, pets. Seeking nice-looking, fit BF, 28-36, with sweet personality. 32274599

SEEKING A LADY SBM, 28, 5'9', 200bs, medium build, hazel eyes, goatee, long curty hair, seeks sophisticated, dedicated SAPF, 21-35, for possible relationship. 23306919

LOOKING 4 A SWEET WOMAN HArd working, caring, warm-hearted SM, 47, en-joys dancing, dining, bowling, documentaries and comedy films, cooking, nice times home, laughs and more. Looking for forwing, happy lady to share these. Friendship/LTR. 27253142

BOLID MORALS? BM, 40, 5'6', 201bs, athetic build, enjoys volley-ball, fishing, swimming, skating, walks in the park, more. Locking for a woman, 40-45, 52'-55', who is church-going and has similar interests. **17274290**

WAITING FOR YOUR CALL Affectionate SWM, 40, 55°, 210bs, dark brown brown, easygoing, friendly, enjoys dining, movies, talks, walks, and waterfront talks, quiet times home. Looking for compatible lady who knows how to enjoy life. 2238130

joy life. **17238130 EASYGOING, LAID-BACK** DWM, 50, 510°, 170bs, bright blue eyes, social smoker and drinker, enjoys garage sales, flea markets, reading, romantic comedies, quiet times at home. Seeking average, sweet, cute, cutdy, low-maintenance woman, 45-52, with little drama, for LTR. **17306757** FOR REAL SBM, 56, 56°, 180bs, enjoys gardening, reading. Seeking female with old-school values desining honesty, decication and commitment. This is our key to open the door. **17297076**

WAITING FOR YOUR CALL

WAITING FOR YOUR CALL SWM, 18, student, looking for SF, 18-25, for dating, maybe more. I like going out to the movies, sports, and more. **17305372**

SEEKING REAL WOMAN

ng, dancing

SEEKING REAL WOMAN SM, 38, 6'2", brown/brown, likes cooking, dancin, watching sports and more. Looking for an easyge ing female who is honest and secure. **1305549**

CALL THIS MANI Easygoing, expressive DVM, 43, nice looks, no kids, enjoys traveling, outdoors, romantic evenings. Seeks warm-hearted SWF. 17112288

FOREIGN FEVER FOREIGN FEVER new to michigan 39, 63°, white male good sense of humor enjoy sports, concerts, movies, dining out seeks foreign female for dating, possible relation-ship. **17253132**

LET'S GET TOGETHER BM, 61", 220bs, would like to meet a woman, 25-48, who knows what she wants in life, for fun, dat-ing, companionship and possible LTR. **17299087**

A LOT TO OFFER SBM, 43, 5'9', 143lbs, grown children, enjoys fish-ing, boating, outings, working on cars. Seeking SBWF, 21-45, for friendship first, maybe more.

MOVING FORWARD SWM, 39-years-old 58, thin and fit, NS, light-blue eyes, brown hair, open-minided and caring. Inter-ests: film, music, and literature. Looking for friend-ship possibly leading to a more serious relationship. 2304387

LOCAL NEWS

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 19, 2009

Builder remembered as generous philanthropist

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When James Bonadeo got out of the Navy in late 1946, he took a job he would come to hate working at the Ford factory. During one par-

ticular lunch hour, when Bonadeo's complaining reached a fever pitch, someone said to him,

"Well, why don't you quit?" So Bonadeo packed up his lunch and bid farewell to Ford.

And so was born the career of one of southeast Michigan's most prolific builders/ developers. Bonadeo started with his own house, then progressed to building homes for others.

During his career Bonadeo, 92, who died Saturday, was a three-term president and Lifetime President Emeritus of the Building Industries Association.

Perhaps more importantly, he was a loving husband and father of three, doting grandfather to three grandchildren and great-grandfather to four.

"He was a very loving husband, father

and grandfather," said his daughter, Carol Matthews.

Matthews said her grandfather apprenticed as a plumber with a Jewish plumber, which she said kept him out of the plumbers union, since, she said, "Italians and Jews weren't allowed." Eventually, Matthews said, Bonadeo became the plumbing inspector for Redford Township.

"That got him a call from the union, inviting him to join," Matthews said.

Plymouth Township Director of Municipal Services James Anulewicz said Bonadeo "did a lot of building" in the township, and was always straightforward to deal with.

"He was a tough businessman, but true to his word," Anulewicz said of the whitemaned Bonadeo. "Whenever I saw Jim, my thought always was it was the closest you were going to come to a movie star, especially in his later years. He had that very distinguished look about him."

In addition to his distinguished building career, Bonadeo was involved in philanthropic activities, including a long stint (1989-2009) on the Board of Trustees at Madonna University. He was the first winner (with his wife, Earlene) of the Crystal Madonna Award.

University President Sister Rose Marie Kujawa said Bonadeo helped the university in a variety of ways, from using his building skills to help construct a parking lot to serving as chair of the fiscal plan committee and endowing a "very generous" scholarship.

"He was a person who loved life," Sister Kujawa said. "When he came into a room, you just knew he wanted to accomplish something. All in all, he was a wonderful individual."

Bonadeo is survived by his wife, Earlene; children Carol (David Kera) Matthews, Nancy Bonadeo and Mark Bonadeo; siblings Baldo Bonadeo and Lee Allegrina; grandchildren Siri (Brian) Compton, and Tansy and Maia Matthews; and greatgrandchildren Eric, Celia, Lily and Justin Compton.

The family will gather with friends 2-9 p.m. Thursday at Vermeulen Funeral Home. 46401 W. Ann Arbor Road. Memorial service to be held 10:30 a.m. Friday at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to American Kidney Fund, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital or American Heart Association.

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE TO PUBLIC BOARD OF REVIEW APPOINTMENTS

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, Terry G. Bennett, Clerk of the Charter Township of Canton, County of Wayne, State of Michigan to all residents of the Charter Township of Canton: that all persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions prior to appearing before the Board. A personal appearance is not required. All petitions must be received in the Assessor's office by March 13, 2009 at 12:00 p.m.

The Board of Review will be held in the Canton Township Hall on the first floor, at 1150 S. Canton Center Road. Entry into the building can be accessed through the front doors of Township Hall. Please come prepared, as an eight (8) minute limit before the Board will be strictly adhered to.

The following is the schedule for March Board of Review.

Tuesday, March 3, 2009	Organizational Meeting - 4:00 p.m 5:00 p.m. (No Appointments)
Monday, March 9, 2009	Hearings from 9:00 a.m 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m 5:00 p.m. (Appointments Only)
Tuesday, March 10, 2009	Hearings from 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m 9:00 p.m. (Appointments Only)
Wednesday, March 11, 2009	9Hearings from 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. (Appointments Only)
Thursday, March 12, 2009	Hearings from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (Appointments Only)
Friday, March 13, 2009	$\begin{array}{c} Hearings \ from \ 9:00 \ a.m \ 12:00 \ p.m. \\ (Appointments \ Only) \end{array}$
	on Tuesday March 10 after 5:00 p.m. and fter 5:00 p.m. entry to the building can only

be accessed through the front entrance of the Township Hall.

If you have any questions regarding the March Board of Review, you may call Courtney Dugger, Secretary to the Board of Review (734) 394-5111.

> TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK Charter Township of Canton Township

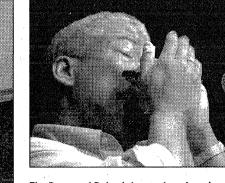
BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHEI Canton artist Byron Reed uses his art to talk to the fifth-graders about diversity.

grown in popularity," Tobin said.

Alanna Brown, 11, an African-American who lives in Plymouth, said she believes the community is becoming more accepting of different cultures.

"They don't treat me or my family any different," said Brown, a sixth-grader at Plymouth Christian Academy. "They treat us just the same."

Brown's classmate, 11-year-old Lucas Albrecht of Canton, said it's important for



The Reverend Robert Jones plays American roots music.

people to embrace diversity.

"People don't like to be treated unfairly, and everybody gets to go to the same places and no one has to be treated unfair," he said.

Fiegel fifth-grade teacher Kathy O'Connor said it's one of many programs designed to teach students diversity at one of the most diverse schools in the Plymouth-Canton school district.

"We do a lot of multi-cultural activities throughout the year celebrating different cultures," said O'Connor, who resides in Canton. "The kids are really exposed to a lot of different cultures through the different types of learning experiences we give them at our school."

tbruscato@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2637



Christian Academy in Canton, and Plymouth-Canton Schools Fiegel and Miller elementaries.

When you look at this music closely, you discover there are a lot more similarities than differences," added Matt Watroba, as he strummed his guitar. "Same thing true with the people who came to this country and brought their music with them from all over the world. And how that music fueled the Underground Railroad and civil rights movement."

Not only was the lesson to show folk music is the root of the blues, gospel, rock 'n roll and even rap, but that diversity — in people as well as music — should be celebrated.

According to Village Theater Director Jennifer Tobin, all Plymouth-Canton fifth graders, as well as those from several area private schools, participated in the field trip this year. The program featured a 45-minute concert and a sing-along with Jones and Watroba, as well as an art exhibition led by Canton artist Bryon Reed. There were also several break out sessions where the students learned some drumming and hip hop dance moves.

"This is really a neat program that has





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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

OUR VIEWS PCAC shows arts value

It has survived cuts in arts funding, a startlingly unsympathetic economy which has forced donors to cut back on checks, a revolving door on its director's office and quirky peaks and valleys in its own fund-raising efforts.

Yet the Plymouth Community Arts Council not only survives but finds ways to flourish and, in some cases, take other arts groups with it.

This year, the PCAC hits its 40th anniversary with new plans for its annual fund-raiser and the same old — read: successful — plan to continue to nurture the creativity and arts impulses of the Plymouth community.

The new fund-raising plan is to replace the former auction/dinner with a cocktail reception with a twist: The PCAC will send "puzzle pieces" to past donors, asking them to return them with a donation at least equal to what the donor has done in the past.

The puzzle pieces will be collected and assembled as part of the fun at next month's cocktail reception, with more details being released soon by the PCAC.

In the meantime, the PCAC will continue to offer the Plymouth Uptown Players, the acting troupe that keeps children actively involved in theater and the arts. It'll continue to take the arts into elementary schools and offer pottery classes and camps. The Joanne Winkleman Hulce Center for the Arts will continue to house drawing classes and art exhibits that put the spotlight directly on local artists.

Of course, when the weather clears and folks venture back outside, the PCAC will continue to sponsor — with generous help from others — the Music in the Park concert series it has hosted in Kellogg Park for 25 years.

It's arguably the most popular attraction in the Plymouth community during the summer, regularly drawing scores of parents and grandparents and, most importantly, children to the park once a week for the kind of family-oriented fun for which this community has become known.

Think the PCAC isn't having an impact on the community? It already provides the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra a place to rehearse; in the coming months the PSO offices will move into the PCAC, a partnership that should help both



Close to the bone

What many people call a "tax bill" arrives soon in homeowners' mailboxes. These "assessment notices" will contain information pertinent to changes, if any, in the "assessed value" of their homes.

There will also be, in most cases, the new figure for the "taxable value" (the amount of the forthcoming tax bill is based on the TV, some of which is to be paid in July). This year, the number used to calculate the new TV is 4.4 percent (the Consumer Price Index for 2008). This is the largest increase I can recall since I was appointed to the City of Plymouth Tax Board of Review a dozen years ago. This is guite ironic since home values. generally, have never fallen by as much as they have in the last two years. The obvious inverse disconnect between these two values is a direct result of provisions described in "Prop A" which went into effect some 14 years ago. However, the TV cannot be greater than the AV of any given residence. Were this to occur, the CPI multiplier would not apply, and this no tax increase. Nevertheless, to offer tax relief to those homeowners who will be affected by the increase, state Rep. Brian Calley, R-Portland, has introduced a bill which would "ban property tax increases when the value of the property falls or stays the same." Now, the appeal of this proposal is quite obvious, logical and justified as seen from the position of the taxpayer. However, as with most things, there are consequences. At the risk of splitting hairs with Rep. Calley over his contention that his proposal would not "cut the

LETTERS

What do you think?

Mail comments to the Plymouth Observer, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226 or e-mail to bkadrich@hometownlife.com.

amount of money available to these interest groups (municipalities, etc.)," technically he is correct; you can't cut what was not there in the first place.

But a city manager, looking at the implications of the legislation, would only see a "shortfall in anticipated revincome (and happy to have it), I certainly don't need to pay a few hundred extra dollars when my home is worth less. On the other hand, I guess I'm too old (or lazy) to haul my own garbage to the dump.

> Fred Libbing Plymouth

Excellent story

My congratulations to Kurt Kuban for his excellent coverage of the work Canton dentist Dr. Howard Volk is doing with the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society's Celebration Youth Orchestras.

parties survive.

The Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. now uses the PCAC for its 7 a.m. Tuesday meetings, the Women's Study Group and the American Association of University Women are also meeting regularly at the PCAC.

Already an icon in the Plymouth landscape, the PCAC is remaking itself to keep in touch with the economic times. They've made themselves a valuable part of the community, and they're hoping, when cocktails are served next month, donors have taken notice.



Here's a look at what readers are saying about stories on our Web site, www.hometownlife.com:

■ In response to "Independence Village wins at Fire-Ice:"

CarloAtYourServ wrote:

"There's nothing like good, spicy salsa! Maybe next year you can get Jack Aronson as a judge. Lord knows he knows a little bit about salsa!"

Join the discussion

What do you think about ...?

What impact will the stimulus bill have on the economy?

- Make it better
- Make it worse
- No change

Go to hometownlife.com to give us your feedback.

DBSERVER

C) GANNET

Brad Kadrich Community	Hugh Gallagher Managing Editor	Jeannie Parent Senior Director
Editor	Susan Rosiek	of Sales & Marketing
1 1 1	Executive Editor	

enue" which would be utilized to provide essential services to the residents. I don't know about other governmental units, but I know that in Plymouth many cuts and efficiencies have been enacted over the past several years in order to remain solvent. This is not to say that more could be done, but proximity to the bone is definitely close. There is no secret what happens when costs increase and revenue is diminished. Those services I spoke of will eventually disappear or be severely curtailed.

I have listened to hundreds of petitioners over the years express their opinions about their taxes. There is much anger and resentment, but I feel that frustration is the most prominent emotion. Often all we can tell them is that we are simply carrying out the tenets of the law. We suggest appealing their case to the next level if they are not satisfied with our findings. We also suggest contacting their representatives to express their opinions.

Obviously many of them have contacted Lansing; thus, Rep. Calley's resolution. I do not write in support of this proposal, nor do I oppose it. Being on a fixed In addition to helping strings students with their techniques and performance, he is a living example of the difference instrumental music can make throughout one's life. What Dr. Volk has been able to give these students is something that can't be conveyed in a lecture or taught from a book. Hopefully, more adults will step up and share their special skills with other students in schools, churches, Scout troops or wherever their interests lie.

I would like to clarify the fact that the Celebration Youth Orchestras consist of four ensembles — the Strings, an entry level for string players, the Sinfonia for more advanced string players who are not quite ready for the Youth Symphony, the Flute Choir and the Youth Symphony, which is a full orchestra. Both the Flute Choir and the Youth Symphony are for more advanced middle school and high school musicians. It is the string players in the Youth Symphony with whom Dr. Volk works in special sectional rehearsals.

> Jane Libbing, education coordinator Plymouth Canton Symphony Society

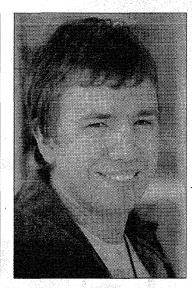
COMMUNITY VOICE

How have your driving habits changed since the Sheldon Road railroad underpass opened? We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



"They really haven't changed. I don't drive that path that often." Jennifer Burnett Plymouth Township "They really haven't, because we're not involved with it that much."

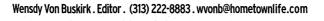
Edith Gaberson Plymouth

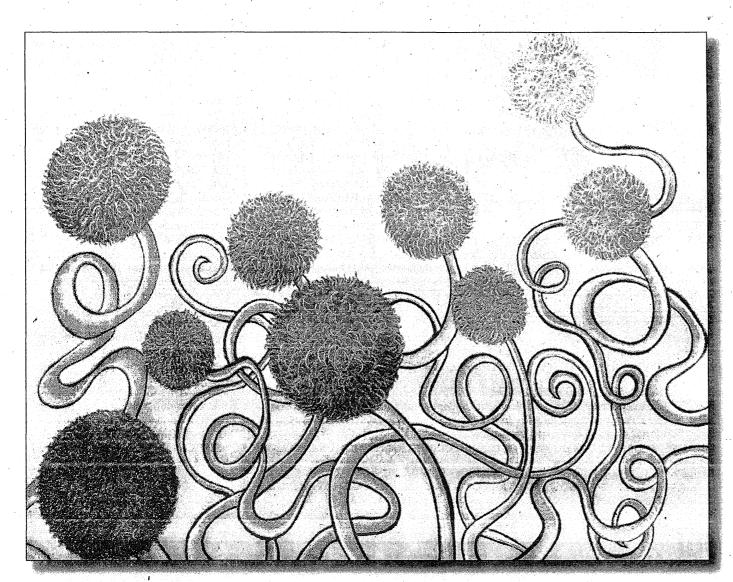


"I'm not going to lie, guys. I wasn't aware it was open." James Moore Plymouth



"They have, because I live down North Territorial. ... I just love that it opened up. ... They did a great job." Connie Szluk Plymouth Township





"Globe Thistle," pastels on cotton paper, by Heather Williams.



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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 19, 2009

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Veggie Scramble, don't forget the Swat Sauce, at The Fly Trap in Ferndale

MALLS & MAIN STREETS

JOURNALIST SIGNS BOOKS AT MACY'S

TROY – Photojournalist Scout Tufankjian, the only independent photographer to cover the Obama campaign from start to finish, will sign copies of his new book "Yes, We Can: Barack Obama's **History Making Presidential** Campaign" (\$29.95) while supplies last, 6 p.m. Feb. 20, at Macy's Somerset, 2752 West Big Beaver Road.

FASHION UNLEASHED AT ORCHARD MALL

Detroit Science Center

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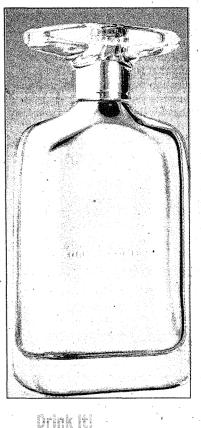
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PAMPER THE BRIDE AND BEYOND

SOUTHFIELD – Silver Garden of Southfield will host the third annual "Pamper the Bride & Beyond" Bridal Expo 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28. This event will feature interactive workshops, live music, exclusive exhibitors, giveaways, pamper services, a Spotlight Fashion Showcase and a "Grooms Lounge," Call (248)



(*) A9

Once a month, Birmingham's Beauty (SALON) morphs into an art gallery. It takes on the alias b.gallery, and becomes the site of swanky opening receptions to christen new art on the walls.

BY WENSDY VON BUSKIRK

O&E STAF WRITER

This weekend, Beauty (SALON) receptionist Heather Williams assumes her alter ego of artist and debuts her own artwork in the exhibit "Bloom."

"Our clients had been asking me when I was putting up my own work for quite some time and with the weather being so dreary and all, I thought it was about time for another show," she said.

Williams, of Bloomfield Hills, attended Mercy High School, then graduated from College for Creative Studies in May with a B.A. in Fine Arts. She has worked for Beauty (SALON) since it opened in 2005, and also acts as curator for its b.gallery concept. Normally, she invites CCS students to display their work at the salon's monthly exhibits.

This time, she'll hang her own pastel illustrations, featuring large swirling flowers and bright organic patterns.

"I start with the brightest and grossest colors in my set with the intention of making the final color a little more this or a little more that," Williams said. "The result is usually toned down quite a bit."

Williams said her preferred medium is printmaking, and her long-term goal is to track down traditional printmaking equipment of her own. In the meantime, she uses

CCS.

"I actually snuck into the print studio and I'm making three etchings that I'm finishing off with pastel," she said. Those prints, along with paintings and drawings by Williams, will be for sale. Works range from \$50-\$3,200, but the wine and conversation at the salonturned-gallery are free.

"People generally like to turn out," she said. "It's a good party and everyone's got their witty stories and it's a good time." Bloom will be on display

through March.

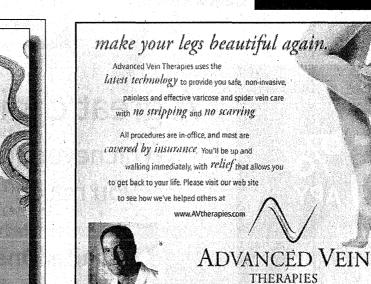


"Milk Thistle," pastels on cotton paper, by Heather Williams.

BLOOM

What: New Pastel Works by Heather Williams When: Opening reception, 7-10 p.m. Feb. 21 Where: b.Gallery, Beauty (SALON), 235 Willits Ave., Birmingham Call: (248) 540-0046 or visit www.hwilliamscreative.wordpress.com

"Bloom: Pastels by Heather Williams" opens at Beauty (SALON) in Birmingham on Feb. 21.



WEST BLOOMFIELD

– Detroit-area teenagers will model spring fashions for a cause at Fashion Unleashed 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. Saturday, March 7 at the Orchard Mall in West Bloomfield. Fashion Unleashed, a benefit for Michigan Region B'nai B'rith Youth Organization, will feature great clothes from The Shirt Box, Guys N' Gals and Moosejaw.

Tickets are \$10, students; \$15, general admission; \$250 with pre-glow (wine and hors d'oeuvres at Tapper's) and prime seats. Michigan Region BBYO is a nonprofit that provides leadership training, educational, social, athletic and community service programs for Jewish teenagers from all backgrounds. Call BBYO at (248) 788-0700.

ADELE WECHSLER PERSONAL APPEARANCE

TROY — The Bridal Salon at Macy's Somerset will host couture wedding gown designer Adele Wechsler as she takes appointments during her trunk show, Feb. 27-March 1. Wechsler is known for timeless gowns, emphasized by sheer overlays which flirt with light and move-

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As seen in the Yellow Pages

809-2117 or visit www.pamperthebrideexpo.com.

PARISIAN HOSTS COMMUNITY DAY

LIVONIA -- Parisian locations, including Laurel Park Place in Livonia and The Village of Rochester Hills, will host Community Day on Feb. 28. Purchase a \$5 booklet stuffed with coupons good exclusively on Community Day, and all proceeds go back to local non-profit organizations.

The Bon-Ton Stores, Inc., parent company of Parisian, recently announced that Community Day raised over \$10 million nationwide last year. There's still time for non-profits to join the event. Call (734) 953-7500.

SHOP CHANEL AT SAKS FIFTH AVENUE

TROY – Saks Fifth Avenue will preview the CHANEL Spring 2009 Ready-to-Wear and Accessories Collections, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 24, with informal modeling 11 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Ready-to-Wear Boutique on Two (248) 614-3302 and Accessories Boutique on One (248) 643-9000 ext. 5404.



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 19, 2009

COUNTY NEWS

online at hometownlife.com

An ancient world is revealed in Hatching the Past

y trek of nature exploration in Michigan has been long. Thousands of school children and adults have joined me on the trails that led to wilder sides of suburban living. That trek includes almost 15 years of nature ramblings for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

Yesterday, my ever-evolving journey of mixing profession



A10

(*)

with outdoor passions sent me back to Cranbrook where it all began over three decades ago. Back then after migrating west from Buffalo – I did not know Michigan was a mitten and some Michiganders lived in the thumb.

Jonathan Schechter

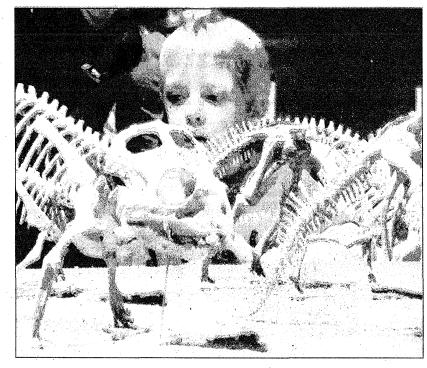
Nature's way

is what this ramble is about. And it's also the name of the newly

Hatching the Past

opened exhibit at the Cranbrook Institute of Science. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of their current staff and the generosity of Michael and Barbara Sincak, dinosaurs roam the lower level of the Institute. The Sincaks' gifted fossil casts valued at over \$80,000 has been infused into a new exhibit that takes you on a journey back in time millions of years - a journey well worth taking.

John Zawiskie, geologist and paleontologist at the institute, summed up what's in store perfectly with one sentence: "This exhibit reveals some of the remarkable new discoveries that have allowed us to better understand the reproduction, growth, behavior and



evolution of dinosaurs, related reptiles and birds."

During the member's night preview, I had close encounters with a young Psittacosaurus (sih-tack-oh-SORE-us), the eggs of a Gigantoraptor (JI-gant-oh-RAP-tor), a feathery Sinornithosaurus (SIGH-nor-ni-tho-SORE-us), the gliding four winged Microraptor (My-crowrap-tore) and Confusciusornis (con-FEW-shus-OR-nis), the first primitive bird with a beak and a reduced tail. Of course there was the expected T-Rex skull. But it was a glass encased eye level display of skeletal juvenile Protoceratops that pulled in wide-eyed children and me. When I knelt for a closer look, my mind morphed into that

"wonder mode" of a bare-footed 6-yearold, a time when my dreams, reality and science were all the same. It's still often that way today. And it's the passion of exploring nature, be it in a museum or a woodland swamp of Oakland County that fuels the spirit of this graying naturalist.

Hatching The Past provides an intimate look at all the major plant and meat eating dinosaur groups that tromped about Earth. Some exhibits are interactive. Others are dramatic in their stark presentation: A flock of a dozen young protoceratops buried alive when a sudden catastrophic event preserved them in action.

And then there is the Paleo Cold Case

Files that allows you to decide whether or not the dinosaur Coelphysis (see-LOH-fye-siss) cannibalized their young. Want the answer? Go see it! Hatching the Past is free with museum admission and left me musing about modern-day dinosaurs: great blue herons and snapping turtles.

But Hatching The Past was more than a dynamic exhibit for me. There is a footnote. Here's the rest of the story: While Cranbrook was putting final touches on its rare glimpse of dinosaur life I was incubating a plan with Cranbrook to join their science camp staff this summer, bringing my nature writer's trek through Michigan full circle. My Urban Naturalist Explorer camp egg hatches this summer and will join Cranbrook's expanded Summer Explorer camp series that includes their ever-popular Ecology, Science and Crime Scene Explorer Camps. Urban Naturalist Explorer runs the week of June 22-26 and is for children entering fifth, sixth or seventh grade (pre-registration required). Perhaps your young naturalist will join me in exploring, photographing and writing about nature's way on the Cranbrook Campus. A field trip to a glacially created bog, home to meateating plants, is included. For information on Hatching The Past and to explore all of Cranbrook's exciting science camps call the Cranbrook Institute of Science at (248) 645-3210 or check out the newly revised Web site: www.science.cranbrook.edu.

Jonathan Schechter writes on nature's way. Visit him at oaknature@aol.com.

Zoo fountain in new film

The Detroit Zoo's Horace H. **Rackham Memorial Fountain makes** several appearances in the new stopmotion animated 3-D adventure, Coraline, which opened in theaters nationwide on Feb. 6.

Featuring the voices of Dakota Fanning as Coraline and Teri Hatcher as the Other Mother, the film tells the tale of a young girl who moves from Michigan to Oregon and discovers a secret door in her new home that leads to a bizarre fantasy world.

In one scene, Coraline reflectively picks up a snow globe holding a replica of the iconic Detroit Zoo fountain as a joyful reminder of her favorite place back home. The snow globe figures prominently in a pivotal scene later in the film. Sharp-eyed movie goers will also spot a photograph of Coraline and her parents in front of the fountain.

The Horace H. Rackham Memorial Fountain features two 10foot-tall bronze bears in a 75,000gallon pool with life-sized sea lions, turtles and frogs. The fountain is a favorite meeting place at the Detroit Zoo and one of the zoo's most-photographed attractions.

Since *Coraline* premiered, the zoo has been receiving inquiries regarding a snow globe similar to the one seen in the film. The item is in production and will be available at Zoofari Market in the spring. To order a snow globe, call (248) 541-5717, Ext. 3274.

Good time to refinance your mortgage, but know your options

ortgage rates have plummeted recently and homeowners are finding that refinancing makes sense. In today's economic environment, if homeowners can take advantage of lower interest rates and reduce their monthly payments, the question is why not? People shouldn't just

rush out and refinance, but

Most people

monthly payment, you must factor into the equation you will pay that mortgage for 30 more years, not the 25 under the old mortgage. Just because your monthly mortgage payment goes down doesn't mean it makes sense to refinance. Factor in the years on the loan.

I generally recommend a fixed-rate mortgage. In some situations I recommend some if you could lower your interest rate by at least 1 percent, it probably makes sense to * consider refinancing. In addition, if you have been in your home for a number of years and your initial mortgage included paying private mortgage insurance (PMI), and you now have 20 percent equity in your home, you can consider refinancing and removing that



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There is no Money Matters one answer.

The real issue **Rick Bloom** is what is the

best mortgage for your situation. In the past few years, too many people obtained mortgages they didn't understand and were great for the mortgage company but not good for their individual situation. Before you refinance, it is important to review some of the basics.

Know exactly what a new mortgage will cost. Contrary to what some

companies would like you to believe, all mortgages have fees and costs. That doesn't necessarily mean when you obtain the mortgage you write a check to the company for fees and costs. Many times, the mortgage company will roll the costs into the mortgage. For example, if your present mortgage is \$100,000 you may refinance the mortgage and find the new mortgage is \$102,000.

Just looking at what your new monthly payment is can be a mistake. After all, if five years ago you obtained a 30-year mortgage and you refinance and lower your

sort of adjustable rate mortgage, but that is not the norm. The problem I have with adjustable rate and other types of exotic mortgages is they can be difficult to understand. Many people find that after they've paid their mortgage for five years, they owe more money than when they initially obtained the mortgage. They didn't know that they had a negative amortization mort-

gage. Before you sign on the dotted line, understand the ins and outs of the mortgage. Know if your mortgage interest rate can adjust and how your loan is amortized. Most people are familiar with traditional fixed-rate mortgages where so much of your monthly payment goes to interest and some goes to the debt you owe. However, not all mortgages are like this. There are some that are for interest only, which means that 100 percent of your money pays the interest and nothing goes to the retirement of the debt.

Mortgage documents are difficult to understand. That is why it is important to deal with an individual you trust to work in your best interest. Deal with a professional - someone who understands the mortgage market and who can explain the terms to you.

Who should refinance in today's environment? It's difficult to say. However, in general

PMI cost.

An important issue when it comes to refinancing is how long you plan to be in your home. For those who plan to stay in their home for another ·year or two, it doesn't make sense to refinance because you won't recoup your costs in that short period of time.

There is no single mortgage that is the best mortgage for everyone. I believe in the great majority of situations, the traditional 30-year, fixed-rate is the best mortgage for most people. I find this mortgage offers the greatest flexibility and helps plan finances. You never know down the road what your monthly payment will be with some of the gimmicky mortgages or the adjustable mortgages. Fixed-rate mortgages offer more certainty and that is why I generally recommend 30-year fixed.

No matter what type of mortgage you obtain, the adage "let the buyer beware" certainly rings true. There has been a lot of mortgage fraud perpetuated on the American people ' over the last few years, and it is important to be careful.

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

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Salem girls seize first in Central

BY JEFF THEISEN SPORTS WRITER

Salem and South Lyon threw every bit of defense at each other in a battle for the KLAA Central title.

Salem (10-7, 8-1) came out on top 33-31 to clinch the first-ever division title.

"It was an awesome game," Salem head coach Fred Thomann said. "South Lyon is such a good team and they present so many problems because they've got a great outside game and a great inside game.

"They hadn't been beaten on their home floor all year, so for us to come in here and lock up the division championship in their gym was really a big win for us.

South Lyon loses its third straight and falls to 13-4, 6-3.

They're a good defensive team, but I think we started to doubt where we could score from, and we stopped taking it to the basket," South Lyon head coach Erica Thomas said.

Both teams struggled to put anything in the basket in the first quarter. The Rocks ended up on top 6-4, but it was all Lions in the second quarter.

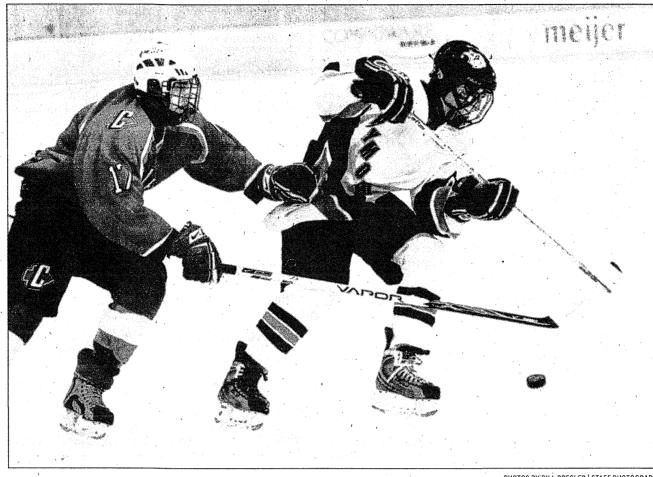
After starting the game 1-for-13 from the floor, South Lyon finished the half making five of six shots for a 17-9 lead until the final second.

Bret deBear launched a shot as the buzzer went off for a three-pointer that cut the deficit to 17-12 at the half and proved to be a huge shot in the end.

"Getting behind like we did really put us behind, but Bret made a great shot at halftime," Thomann said. "That was huge."

The Rocks carried the momentum into the third with Sara Stone scoring six points to help cut the lead to 23-22 heading into the final eight minutes of play.

The lead was never more than three points for either team, but Victoria



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Taylor Currier (right) tries to create some separation from Canton's Dan Bielak during Tuesday night's cross-campus showdown. The Wildcats won, 7-3.



Plymouth scores early, often in 7-3 victory over Chiefs

Salem icers clinch Central, Page B4. Wildcats' bench.

BY ED WRIGHT **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

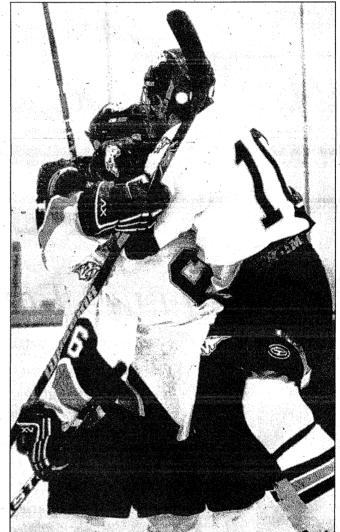
The bold, black-and-white ad printed on the boards just to the right of the Plymouth hockey team's bench Tuesday night could have served as the Wildcats' motto.

The ad shouted "WE DELIVER!", which the Wildcats did over and over again against cross-campus rival Canton.

The Wildcats built a 3-0

advantage over the game's opening 10 minutes thanks to goals from Ryan Renault (from Luke Merandi and Pat Smiatacz), Merandi (from Renault and Smiatacz) and Taylor Currier, who picked up a helper from John Deal.

The Chiefs regained a dose of momentum just before the first intermission when Alex Berlin scored from Bryan



GAME WRAPS

Wildcats win

· Plymouth's girls basketball team upended visiting Livonia Churchill, 55-42, Tuesday night.

Senior guard Kelsi Robinson led all scorers with 20 points. Fellow senior Shaakira Haywood also shone, netting 17 points, 10 rebounds and a pair of blocked shots.

Stacey Klonowski added nine points and seven rebounds to the winners' cause.

"When Churchill doubled down on Shaakira, it left Kelsi open from outside, and she made her shots,' said Plymouth coach Ted Sturdivant. "Stacey played great, too."

Churchill was paced by Alysa Boldiszar, who scored 15 points.

Chiefs dominate

Canton's girls basketball team pulled off a feat nearly unheard of in high school basketball Tuesday night at Wayne Memorial.

The Chiefs' stifling defense held the Zebras to single digits in their 52-8 triumph.

The win improved stateranked Canton's record to 15-2 overall and 8-1 in the KLAA's South Division. Wayne dropped to 2-15 and 0-9, respectively.

CarolAnn Sexauer led the Chiefs with 13 points. Kari Schmitt added 10 points and five rebounds.

Kayla Bridges sparkled, too, netting nine points and seven boards. Sara Schmitt pulled down six caroms.

Crystal Hughes led the Zebras with four points.

Canton led 16-2 after one quarter, 31-6 at the half and 51-7 with eight minutes to "We did a good job against their packed-in zone," said Canton coach Brian Samulski.

Brotz's lone three-pointer of the game with 3:26 to play tied the score at 29.

The Lions had three opportunities to retake the lead but turned it over threestraight times. Tracy Whalen hit a basket to give the Rocks the lead with around two minutes left.

The Lions cut the lead to one on a make and a miss at the line by Kelsey Kaminsky, but the Rocks answered with a pair of free throws by Brotz for a 33-30 lead with 25 seconds remaining.

South Lyon center Danielle Gotham was fouled with seven seconds left and made one of two, making the score 33-31.

Chelsea Davis was fouled but missed the front end of a one-and-one, and Gotham grabbed the rebound and got a time-out.

The last gasp came with three seconds left. The inbound went cleanly to Kristin Short, who was wide open behind the arc, but she dribbled once to get closer to the three-point line, and the Rocks' defense closed in to force a shot that fell well short at the buzzer.

"This was a better game than we played the last time (against Salem)," Thomas said. "The defenses played better this time, but we weren't able to score more than we did last time either."

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Plymouth bolted to a 3-0 lead before the pre-game Zamboni fumes had evaporated and then skated to a convincing 7-3 victory. The Wildcats improved to

12-8-2 overall while Canton slipped to 15-6.

"I wasn't really sure how we'd come out tonight because we're so young, but we had some good practices this week," said Plymouth coach Paul Fassbender. "We worked on getting the puck to the net and crashing hard, and that's how we scored a couple of goals tonight.

"I thought our defense played extremely well. Chris Merrill was huge tonight. He did a nice job of protecting the puck when it was in our zone."

Merrill's most memorable play unfolded with 4:55 left in the contest when he jolted Canton's Nick Tomilenko so forcefully that the Chief's stick flew at least 20 feet into the air over the

Davison and Tomhenko.

The most-impressive netfinder of the night came with 6:47 left in the second period when Kyle Callahan controlled a loose puck at midice and while fending off a Canton defenseman with his right arm, directed the puck into the net with his left to make it 4-1.

"That was a huge goal, not only because of Kyle's effort, but because it gave us a three-goal lead," Fassbender confirmed. "If Canton had scored when it was 3-1, who knows what happens?"

Plymouth cemented the win by scoring the first two goals of the third period. The first came when freshman Tyler Sanders — who was solid at both ends of the ice - lit the lamp from the door-step just 90 seconds into the period. Forty seconds later, Tyler Currier found the back of the net to make it 6-1.

The never-say-quit Chiefs retaliated with a Mark Barath goal from A.J. Rosales two minutes later,

Plymouth hockey players celebrate a first-period goal during Tuesday night's 7-3 victory over Canton.

but Plymouth quickly reupped its five-goal lead 50 seconds later when Renault scored from Merandi and Smiatacz.

Canton capped the scoring (734) 578-2767

with 1:30 to go on Berlin's goal from Rohn Gaudi and Ryan Lash.

ewright@hometownlife.com

Ignition stalled

The Detroit Ignition was defeated for the first time this year by the Milwaukee Wave, 8-4, at U.S. Cellular Arena on Sunday.

The Ignition fell to 6-3 while the Wave improved to . 7-4 in the four-team Xtreme Soccer League.

The Ignition was able to finish just two of its 16 chances.

Wave midfielder Chad Burt booted in the first tally of the afternoon at 9:33 of the opening frame. Ignition defender Zach Wilkes evened the count at two-all at 2:27 of the second, but Brett Weisner scored another two for Milwaukee with just 35 seconds left in the half.

Neither team was able to find the back of the net in the third, but Burt notched his second goal of the night just 50 seconds into the fourth quarter.

THE DAVISON FILE

Name: Bryan Davison: School: Canton Athletic interests: Plays defense for Canton's stateranked hockey team and high school lacrosse;

Family: Parents Tim and Lori; brother Patrick and sister Erin; Favorite NHL player: Brendan Shanahan;

Favorite sports movies: 'Miracle' and 'Friday Night Lights';

Favorite TV show: Man vs. Wild (Discovery Channel); Favorite restaurant: Leo's Coney Island;

If I could change one rule in high school hockey, it would be...: "I don't want to sound like a goon, but I would allow a little fighting. It's part of the sport."

Red Zone Defender Canton's Davison presents imposing obstacle for foes

BY ED WRIGHT **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Like two trains speeding toward each other on the same set of tracks, Canton senior defenseman Bryan Davison and the Dearborn **Heights Crestwood hockey** player were destined for a ground-shaking collision behind the Chiefs' net during a game early this season.

Unfortunately for the Crestwood player, instead of an even-steven collision, it was more like an accelerating red freight train (Davison) meeting Thomas the Tank Engine. You see, Davison is 6-foot-2, weighs 200 pounds and

can skate like the wind.

"It was a clean check and the other guy didn't get hurt," Davison remembered, "but his helmet ended up somewhere around the blue line. His equipment was scattered all over the place. When he got up, he joked to me that it kind of looked

like a yard sale." The jolt was just one of many the physical Davison has deposited into his "check" ing account this season — his second as a member of the Chiefs' stateranked hockey team.

Imposing defender

Davison has provided the thunder to leading scorer Nick Tomilenko's lightning during a season in which they've been ranked as high as eighth in Division 1 by the Michigan High **School Hockey Coaches** Association. "First of all, Bryan is an

Please see DAVISON, B4

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHE

Canton hockey player Bryan Davison presents an ominous obstacle for opposing forwards to overcome when they cross the Chiefs' blue line. The 6-foot-2, 200-pound senior has helped lead the Chiefs to their best season in 10 years.

Prep Profile

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 19, 2009

John Glenn puts headlock on first KLAA Kensington Conference crown

BY ED WRIGHT OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

B2

(CP)

With the do-or-die state tournament just around the corner, Westland John Glenn refueled its tank with some highperformance momentum at Saturday's inaugural Kensington Lakes Activities Association's Kensington Conference individual wrestling tournament at Salem.

The Rockets blasted off the launching pad with a fiery fury by winning three of the first four weight classes — 103 pounds, 119 and 125 — before capping their championship afternoon with 256.5 points, 29.5 more than runner-up Canton.

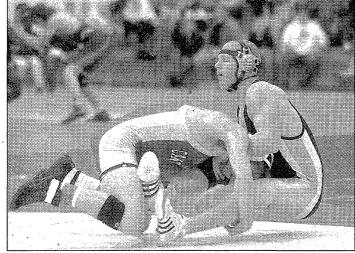
"It was nice to win (Saturday) because we finished in a threeway tie in our division with Canton and Franklin during the regular season, so it was nice to know we had the best team on Saturday," said John Glenn coach Bill Polk.

Northville finished third with 204.5 points, just ahead of the host Rocks (193.5). Fifth-place Livonia Franklin earned 186 points, but there was a severe drop off to sixth and beyond.

Overall, John Glenn crowned six champions, including 160pound Zaid Ammari, who improved to 39-10 with a 4-0 day capped by a dramatic 9-8 triumph over South Lyon's Joe Powell in the title tilt.

"I was confident today, but I still had a few butterflies," said Ammari. "This means a lot, to place first in the first conference tournament. Now, hopefully, I can win districts, regionals and go to the state meet."

Also turning in gold-medal efforts for the Rockets were 103pounder Steve Wakeford, who defeated Franklin's Paul Hanni, 8-5, in the final; Josh Austin, who edged Canton's Carl Lucke by the same score in the 119 title match; 125-pounder Mark Thompson, who edged South Lyon's Joe Johnson for first; 140-pounder Jimmy Mann, who defeated Livonia Stevenson's Raz Markosian, 10-6; and heavyweight Dustin Gajowiak, who decisioned Franklin's Mike



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Brent Winekoff (leff), pictured in action earlier this season, was the 145-pound champion at Saturday's KLAA Kensington Conference Individual Team Tournament.



BRIAN ABBEY

Salem's Sam Lepper captured the title in the 215-pound weight class at Saturday's KLAA Individual Team Tournament.

Modes, 5-3, in the final match. "Josh's win over Carl Lucke was big because Lucke beat Josh earlier in the season," said Polk. "And Steve's win at 103 was impressive. We knew the Franklin kid was going to be tough because he dropped down a weight class or two. And Mark Thompson seems to be peaking at the right time."

Canton's runner-up finish was highlighted by a quartet of first-place finishers. Junior 112pounder Waleed Faraj ignited the Chiefs' trips to the top step o the podium by defeating South Lyon's Brooks O'Brien, 6-3, in the final match.

Less than a half hour later, senior Jeremy Filippelli registered an emphatic 59-second pin against Livonia Churchill's Jonny Banora in the 130-pound championship showdown.

A pair of Canton juniors — Donnie Watkins and Brent Winekoff — continued their season-long dominance by winning at 135 and 145, respectively.

Watkins crushed John Glenn's Jared Stephens, 14-2, while Winekoff earned an 18-3 technical fall triumph over Northville's Jon Nelson.

Winekoff's day was spectacular as the No. 1-ranked 145pounder in the state netted two pins and two tech falls.

"It's just the result of working hard and staying motivated," Winekoff said, when asked for the key to his 47-1 record heading into Wednesday's Division 1 team district tournament.

Other local grapplers who earned gold medals included Salem's Sam Lepper, who upended Franklin's Cody Hay, 9-5, in the 215-pound final; and the Patriots' Garrett Hay, who earned the 189-pound title with a hard-fought 3-2 decision over Salem's Austin Root.

the Chiefs' trips to the top step of ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 578-2767

WRESTLING RESULTS

KLAA Kensington Conference Individual Team Wrestling Tourney Saturday at Salem FINAL STANDINGS: 1.

FINAL STANDINGS: 1. Westland John Glenn, 256.5; 2. Canton, 227; 3. Northville, 204.5; 4. Salem, 193.5; 5. Livonia Franklin, 186; 6. Livonia Stevenson, 114; 7. Plymouth, 102; 8. South Lyon, 86.5; 9. (tie) Livonia Churchill and Novi, 79.5; 11. Wayne Memorial, 78; 12. South Lyon East, 24. INDIVIDUAL RESULTS 103 nounde: Isteplace

103 pounds: 18t-place match: Steve Wakeford (JG) decisioned Paul Hanhi (LF), 8-5; 3rd: Nick Kim (S) dec. Daniel Filippelli (C), 8-2; 5th: Said Youssef (P) won by forfeit over Tyler Fole (SLE).

112: 1st: Waleed Faraj (C)
dec. Brooks O'Brien (SL), 6-3;
3rd: Steve Tuyo (LF) dec. Connor Caldwell, 14-7; 5th: Ian Phillips (S) dec. Omar Mostafa (LS), 4-0.
119: 1st: Josh Austin (JG) dec. Carl Lucke (C), 8-5; 3rd: Greg Lorrain (NVL) won by major dec. over Erik Czech (LF), 14-3; 5th:
Matt Mecksel (LC) won by injury default over Nick Byrnes (SLE).
125: 1st: Mark Thompson (JG) dec. Joe Johnson (SL), 6-4; 3rd:

dec. Joe Johnson (SL), 6-4; **3rd**: Mitch Wolski (C) won by major dec. over John Bills (S), 10-2; **5th**: Jordan McGuire (LF) dec. Kane Kanouse (LC), 9-4. **130: 1st:** Jeremy Filippelli (C) pioned (Dopy Powers (C) in 59

pinned Jonny Powers (LC) in 59 seconds; **3rd:** Justin Robinson (JG) dec. James Middleditch (S), 6-0; **5th:** Clayton Caldwell (N) pinned Jay Bishop (LS) in 4:04. **135: 1st:** Donnie Watkins (C) won by major dec. over Jared Stephens (JG), 14-2; **3rd:** Tevin Hines (WM) dec. Josh Wright (NVL), 8-5; **5th:** Johannes Olind

(NVL), 8-5; **5th:** Johannes Olind (S) pinned Bryan Fortney (LC) in 2:04. **140: 1st:** Jimmy Mann (JG) dec. Raz Markosian (LS), 10-6;

3rd: Justin Giacobi (SL) pinned Harry Eichholtz (NVL) in 1:14; 5th Glen Malear (N) dec. Ryan Terrei (C), 5-2.
145: 1st: Brent Winekoff (C) won by tech. fall over Jon Nelson (NVL), 18-3; 3rd: Robert Schultz (S) pinned Josh Mills (WM) in 49 seconds; 5th: Martin Bunney (N)

seconds; **5th:** Martin Bunney (N) dec. Dusti Poisson (LS), 5-4. **152: 1st:** Matt Hagan (NVL) dec. Jeff Adkins (JG), 8-4; **3rd:** Brandon Billiau (LF) won by major dec. over Anthony Abro (C), 14-5; **5th:** Josh Gustiius (IC) ninned

5th: Josh Gustitus (LC) pinned Chris Sweet (S) in 2:15. **160: 1st:** Zaid Ammari (JG) dec. Joe Powell (SL), 9-8; **3rd:** Matt Roos (LF) dec. Derrick Davey (P). 9-7: **5th:** Kevin Mantav (NVL)

(P), 9-7; **5th**: Kevin Mantay (NVL) dec. Collin Gross (S), 5-2. **171: 1st:** Nick Muder (NVL) dec. Keith Zech (C), 8-4; **3rd:** Jake Burns (LS) dec. Vince Rizzo (P), 8-3; **5th:** Adam Paul (N) dec. Zach Leuenberger, 19-14. **189: 1st:** Garrett Hay (LF) dec. Austin Root (S), 3-2; **3rd:** Colin Maresh (NVL) dec. Andrew

Schramm (LS), 5-2; **5th**: Alex Winn (P) won by tech. fall over Kameron Jones (JG), 18-3. **215: 1st**: Sam Lepper (S) dec. Cody Hay (LF), 9-5; **3rd**: Bobby Lahiff (NVL) pinned Gerald Powell (JG) in 2:24; **5th**: Dylan Korzetki (WM) pinned Brian Chandler (P) in 2:52

(WW) plinted blan Chandrer (P) in 2:52. **285: 1st:** Dustin Gajowiak (J6) dec. Mike Modes (LF), 5-3; **3rd:** Steve Widzinski (NVL) plinted Rich SAyig (LS) in 3:27; **5th:** Blake Abbey (S) won by injury default over Wally Eppler (P).

online at hometownlife.com

Salem subdues ferocious Lions with pin-point shooting, 50-44

BY ED WRIGHT OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

What's the best way to tranquilize a bunch of ferocious Lions?

Fire a bunch of pin-point three-pointers at them. That was the winning game plan in Salem's stunning

50-44 upset of South Lyon Tuesday night.

The victory boosted Salem's record to 5-10 overall and 3-6 in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association's Central Division. The Lions fell to 8-1 heading into Friday's first-place-deciding showdown with Novi, which is also 8-1.

"They started pressing us in the third quarter and we kept our composure," said Salem coach Bob Brodie. "Plus, we started hitting some threes, which hasn't been our forte this season, and we made some clutch free throws down the stretch."

Senior forward Joe Posler paced the upset with 15 points. Fellow senior Heath Parling added 11, including a pair of clutch fourth-quarter triples.

The difference-maker for the Rocks may have been junior reserve Andrew Daniels, who contributed nine points and eight rebounds off the bench. He also calmly sank 5 of 6 late-game free throws when the game was still in the balance.

Overall, Salem drained 9 of 12 freebies while South Lyon was just 5 of 11 from the stripe.

South Lyon led 10-6 after one quarter before the Rocks clawed back to knot the game at 16-all at the half.

Salem posted 17-point third and fourth quarters while holding the Lions to 28 second-half points.

"The last time we played them at their place, we led by two going into the fourth quarter," Brodie remembered. "But then we made one basket in the fourth quarter.

"We played well defensively tonight, holding them to three threes." WAYNE MEMORIAL 70, CANTON 58: On Tuesday at Canton, the Zebras clinched the KLAA South Division title thanks in large part to Robert Woodson and Daniel Hill, who both netted 19 points. Jimmiel Bennett also played well

Wayne, twining 14. Marlan Glenn led the Chiefs with 18 points. Kiere Daniels was also solid, contributing 13 points and six rebounds. Dietrich Lever added eight points and Daniel Stoney chipped in with six boards.

The loss dropped Canton to 8-7 overall and 5-4 in the division. Wayne improved to 11-4 and 8-1, respectively.

Wayne led 19-8 after one quarter, 32-21 at the half and 50-35 with eight minutes to play.

"We got off to a slow start, which you can't afford to do against a skilled team like Wayne," said Canton coach Dan Colligan. "Every time we made a run, they responded.

"They're probably the quickest team in the league, which hurts us because we rely a lot on dribble penetration."

Canton was 7 of 10 from the free-throw line. The Zebras canned 7 of 11.

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 70, PLYMOUTH 46: On Tuesday at Churchill, the Chargers surged to a 33-24 half-time lead that they extended to 52-38 after three quarters.

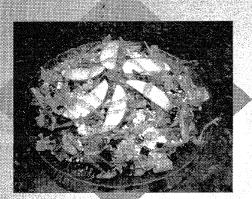
The victory improved Churchill's record to 7-8 overall and 3-6 in the KLAA's South Division. Plymouth slipped to 8-7 and 4-5, respectively.

Sophomore Justin Moss led the Wildcats with 18 points. Brennen Beyer added 10 and Cliff Buttermore chipped in with

Ryan Woods and Adam Bedell both netted 16 points for the winners, who also received 15 from Tony Frezzell.

"Churchill played really well," said Plymouth coach Tom Van Wagoner.

Plymouth made 5 of 13 free throws while Churchill canned 9 of 15 shots from the stripe.



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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 19, 2009

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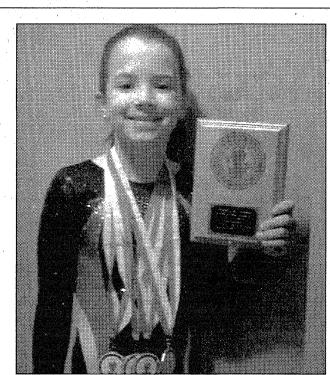
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Behold



LOCAL SPORTS

online at hometownlife.com



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 19, 2009

Give her a high 5

Camille Burt, a 9-year-old Plymouth gymnast who trains at Ann Arbor-based Gym America, won several honors in her age-group at the 2009 state-gualifying meet at Bounce Gymnastics in Hartland on Jan. 17. Burt, who attends Bird Elementary School, competed as a Level 5 gymnast and won all-around with a score of 35.5 and bars with a score of 9.0. She finished second on floor (9.0) and sixth on vault and beam. Teams from throughout Michigan were represented at the meet. Burt is coached by Claudia and Ed Kretschmer, owners and directors of Gym America.

Rock icers clinch KLAA Central Division, 9-1

BY ED WRIGHT OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Salem hockey team's ascension to the top of the Kensington Lakes Activities Association's South Division hasn't been easy, but then nothing worthwhile ever

The Rocks put the latest touches on an amazing turn-around season Friday night when they mercied Livonia Franklin, 9-1, to clinch the South Division crown in the inaugural season of the KLAA. It wasn't too long ago that coach Ryan Ossenmacher's team was sitting at 5-6-3 and hoping to finish with a record on the plus side of .500. Now, the 12-7-3 Rocks - winners of seven of their past eight games - are preparing for Saturday's conference title showdown against Central Division champ Northville, the No. 1 team in the state.

Southfield/Lathrun

Condos

Mobile Homes

The game is set to face-off at 6 p.m. at the Novi Ice Arena.

"It's a big accomplishment," said Ossenmacher, the Rocks' secondyear coach. "With this being the first year of the KLAA, it's nice to have a place in history. More importantly, it shows how the guys' effort has increased as the season has gone on. We've improved so much since the first of the year.

"A lot of it has come down to confidence, learning how to win and learning how to play with a lead.

Senior Kyle Powell spearheaded the thrashing of the Patriots as he notched a hat-trick — a rarity for a defenseman. Wes Gates and Garrett Berg scored the winners' eighth and nine goals, respectively.

Salem goalie Eric Fiorentino was about as busy as the Maytag repairman as he faced just five shots. But he played well, stopping four of them.

Chiefs make Livonia Red sing the blues

Led by sophomore Cathy Huang's near-record-breaking performance, Canton's gymnastics teams edged Livonia Red, 142.70-136.20 Tuesday night.

Huang registered an all-around score of 37.45 - just. .40 less than the school record held by Katey Gilles.

"If it hadn't of been for a fall Cathy had on her last pass on the floor exercise, she would have set the school record," noted Canton coach John Cunningham. "She had a great night."

In the all-around, Huang edge teammate Robyn Piwowar, who registered a stellar 36.35. Red's Katina St. Pierre was third (34.70), Canton's Mallory Hudak was fourth (34.30) and Red's Lauren Patla was fifth.

"We had four nines on beam, which was the first time we've done that all year," said Cunningham. "That was the telling tale. When you score well on beam, your chances of winning improve a lot."

CANTON 142.70 LIVONIA RED 136.20 VAULT: 1. Cathy Huang (C), 9.55; 2. Robyn Piwowar (C), 9.45; 3. Olivia Stephens (C), 8.8; 4. (tie) Mallory Hudak (C), Lauren Patla (LR) and Sidnee MAdison (LR) 8.65

(LR), 8.65. **UREVEN BARS:** 1. Cathy Huang (C), 9.25; 2. Katina St. Pierre (LR), 8.8; 3. Robyn Piwowar (C), 8.45; 4. Lauren Patla (LR), 7.95; 5. Olivia Stephens (C), 7.9; 6. Kete Carroll (C), 7.85. Kate Carroll (C), 7.85. BALANCE BEAM: 1. Cathy Huang (C), 9.65; 2. Alicia DiMauro (LR), 9.4; 3. Mallory Hudak (C), 9.2; 4. Robyn Piwowar (C), 9.1; 5. Marina Milad (C), 9.0; 6.

FLOOR EXERCISE: 1. Robyn Piwowar (C), 9.35: 2.

Cathy Huang (C), 9.0; 3. Alicia DiMauro (LR), 8.9; 4. Mallory Hudak (C), 8.85; 5. Katina St. Pierre (LR), 8.8; 6. (tie) Lauren Patla (LR) and Marina Milad (C), 8.65. **ALL-AROUND:** 1. Cathy Huang (C), 37.45; 2. Robyn Piwowar (C), 36.35; 3. Katina St. Pierre (LR), 34.70; 4. Mallory Hudak (C), 34.30; 5. Lauren Patla (LR), 33.50.

CANTON 138,45

SALINE 135.35 VAULT: 1. Robyn Piwowar (C), 9.15; 2. Cahty Huang (C), 8.95; 3. Mallory Hudak (C), 8.85; 4. (tie) Jordan Toor (S) and Teneng Wilce (S), 8.55; 6. Olivia

Stephens (C), 8.5. UNEVEN BARS: 1. Robyn Piwowar (C), 9.225; 2. (tie) Cathy Huang (C), Kristy Richart (S), 8.6; 4. Jordan Toor (S), 8.5; 5. Samantha Richart (S), 8.3; 6. 80

BALANCE BEAM: 1. Robyn Piwowar (C), 8.9: 2 Brooke Pleger (S), 8.65; 3. Kristy Richart (S), 8.4; 4 (tie) Mallory Hudak (C) and Alex Hamric (C), 8.2; 5.

(tie) Samantha Richart (S) and Alex Halmit (C), o.c., 5. **FLOOR EXERCISE**: 1. Robyn Piwowar (C), 9.375; 2. Mallory Hudak (C), 9.1; 3. Cahty Huand (C), 9.05; 4 Brooke Pleger (S), 8.85; 5. Jordan Toor (S), 8.75; 6. Alox Hamit (C), 9.

Alex Hamiric (c), 8.7. **ALL-AROUND: 1.** Robyn Piwowar (C), 36.65; 2. Cahty Huang (C), 34.4; 3. Mallory Hudak (C), 34.-05; 4 Brooke Plager (S), 33.95; 5. Jordan Toor (S), 33.70; 6. Samantha Richart (S), 33.25.



Two Rocks with 'Grand' futures

Salem football players Anthony Mullins (seated left) and Heath Parling (seated right) recently signed letters of intent to play college football for Grand Valley State University. Pictured behind the two college-bound gridders are (from left) PCEP athletic director Tom Willette. Sarah Parker (Mullins' mom), former Salem coach Parker Salowich and Linda Manni (Parling's mom).

FROM PAGE B1

all-around great kid," Canton coach Dan Abraham emphasized. "On the ice, he's a very physical player who works hard to get the job done. He does a great job of using his size to defend our goal.

"He does a nice job moving the puck, too. He doesn't score a lot of goals, but his shot is so hard it's NHL-like."

In the middle of success

With a 15-5 record heading into Tuesday's cross-campus showdown with Plymouth, the Chiefs are enjoying their most-successful season in the program's 10-year history.

What's the key to success, in Davison's estimation?

'Probably the biggest thing is that we have 14 returning seniors on this team," said Davison. "Plus, we're playing together more than we have in the past. It feels good to be ranked, but we have to keep playing hard to stayed ranked."

Davison had a hunch this season may be special following a dramatic earlyseason victory over a talented Chelsea team.

"I think it was our first or second game of the season," Davison reflected. We were trailing most of the game then we came back and tied it up late. Then we scored the game-winner with

about one or two seconds left. That game kind of put us on a nice roll."

All in the family

It's not shocking that Davison developed a passion for hockey almost the minute he laced on his first pair of skates at the age of 5. After all, his dad, Tim, was born and raised in the hockey-loving town of Brampton, Ontario; his mom, Lori, was once an accomplished figure skater; his older brother, Patrick, excelled for Canton's hockey team back in the day; and his sister, Erin, is also a proven player.

"I've always liked hockey," Davison said. "I always watched the Red Wings and that made me want to play.'

In the fall, Davison is taking his 3.3 grade-point average to Central Michigan University, where he'd like to follow in his dad's footsteps and earn a degree in international business.

"I'll probably try out for the club hockey team, too," he said. "I've heard they may start up a Division 1 team, too, but I'm not sure about that."

In the spring, Davison will close out his career in his second-favorite sport: lacrosse, an activity that possesses many of the qualities that have drawn him to hockey.

"It's just like hockey with more players and no skates or ice," said Davison. "And it gets pretty physical, which I like." 计正式 化过去设计 计口口路经计算 可能性轻性成

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hometownlife.com

Thursday, February 19, 2009

nte.com Plymouth Strictly Business

Software expansion

A Plymouth Township software company is bucking the recessionary trend of layoffs, building shutdowns and corporate bankruptcies. Stardock Corp., with the help of tax incentives, is in the midst of enlarging its headquarters on Beck Road and creating new jobs - an estimated 50 in the next three to four years. The company develops software for personal computers and has a growing computer-game division. Stardock was recently granted a state tax credit worth an estimated \$1.2 million over 10 years, and township officials are planning to act soon on its application for a property tax abatement for the expansion. Stardock founder and chief executive officer Brad Wardell said Stardock should have 60 employees by the end of the month. **Construction update**

From the Plymouth **Downtown Development** 'Authority: Ironwood Grill - Build-out of the new restaurant in the space

formerly occupied by The Book Cellar & Cafe continues. Owners hope to be open in the spring.

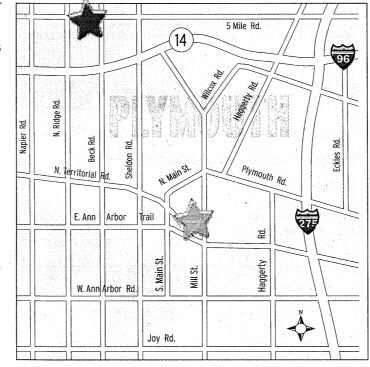
Parkside Development - No work is taking place at this time. The developer is considering selling the site. Elite Family Eye Care - Build-out of the new eye doctor office continues in the space formerly occupied by the Riley Grace Boutique on Forest. Panera additions

Panera Bread of Southeast Michigan rolls out two distinctly traditional items, late this month and into March, emphasizing its deep roots in artisan baking. Hot Cross Buns will be available every Friday through Sunday during Lent (beginning Friday, Feb. 27), as well as Thursday, April 9 through Sunday, April 12, the week of Easter. Once credited for miraculous healing and protection, Hot Cross Buns are traditionally served during the Lenten season, especially on Good Friday, with the cross design of the bun symbolizing the crucifixion.

Irish Soda Bread will be featured on the menu March 13-17. This clas-

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

BUSINESS MILESTONES



sic quick bread from the heart of Ireland, takes its name from the bak-

ing soda it uses for leavening. Baking soda was originally introduced to

replace yeast as a rising agent. Panera Bread takes this St. Patrick's Day favorite and adds a twist or two, with loaves made from a non-conventional recipe of buttermilk, currants, eggs and a hint of caraway.

Business update

From the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority:

Candy Trail: An old-fashioned candy and educational toy store expects to open later this month in the space next to Subway on Ann Arbor Trail.

Progressive Family Eye Care: Celebrated their grand opening at 487 Forest.

Chamber and hockey

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce hosts Chamber Day with the Whalers Feb. 22 at Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township. With each adult ticket receive two free tickets for chil-

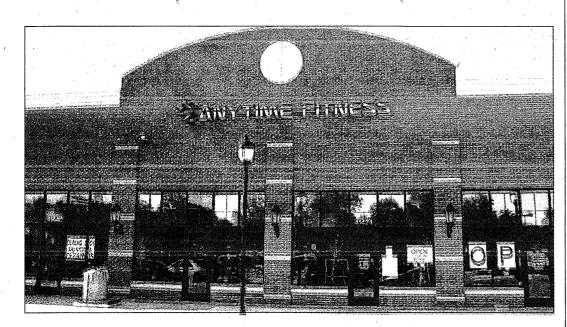
two tickets for children 13 and younger for each adult ticket purchased. There are only 136 children's tickets available. To purchase tickets call their box office at (734) 453-8400. Tickets must be preordered.

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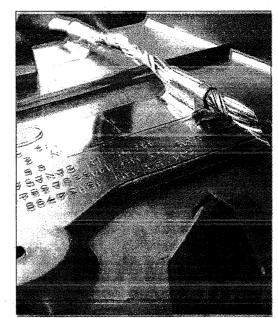
Online services

Citizens Bank has launched its latest convenient online banking tool, Online Account Opening. Personal checking, savings and certificate of Deposit (CD) accounts can now be opened through Citizens Bank's Web site banking program. Clients can visit www.citizensbanking.com to see the latest CD rates and account comparison charts to determine the best account for them. and then click to open the account. The new account can be funded from an existing Citizens Bank account or from any other financial institution. Citizens Bank is part of Citizens Republic Bancorp, a diversified financial services company providing a wide range of commercial, consumer, mortgage banking, trust and financial planning services to a broad client base.



Anytime Fitness is owned by Jim and Suzanne Cox, and is on Ann Arbor Road.

Fitness center gives members 24/7 access





dren. Chamber members can get a

discount on tickets for the Whalers game on Sunday, Feb. 22 at 2 p.m. Tickets are discounted to \$9 for adults and TDS Metrocom is donating

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Observer: Tell us about your business, including the types of services and/or products you feature?

Anytime Fitness: We are a co-ed gym open 24 hours, seven days a week, where our model is convenience, affordability, high-end equipment and great customer service. All of our treadmills, ellipticals and bicycles have personal flat screen TV's. Also we have state of the art Life Fitness strengthening equipment, Hammerstrength plate-loaded machines and free-weights, private showers and lockers. Once you join one Anytime Fitness you can go to any of our 1,000+ locations all over the United States. We are a franchise, but at the same time we are a family based business with individual attention for members not found at corporate owned health-clubs. We also have tanning beds and offer tanning at unbeatable prices. We have many corporate discounts, as well as student and senior citizen discounts

ANYTIME FITNESS

Business name: Anytime Fitness

Business address, including city: 41424 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Your name and title: Jim and Suzanne Cox, Owners

Your hometown: Canton Business opened when? April

2008 Number of employees: 7 Your business specialty:

Fitness Club, including Tanning and Personal training Hours of operation: Open

24 hours for members; staffed hours Monday-Friday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 3 p.m. Business phone and/or web

site: 734-254-9191; club.anytimefitness.com/clubs/plymouthMI/

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Anytime Fitness: We have flat screen TV's on all the

treadmills, ellipticals, stair steppers and stationary bicycles. We are open for our members 24 hours, even on holidays.

Observer: How did you first decide to open your own business? Anytime Fitness: My husband is a physical therapist and we both enjoy working out so it seemed to be a good fit. Observer: How did you decide to locate in the Plymouth community?

Anytime Fitness: We love the small-town atmosphere of the Plymouth downtown area as well as the convenience of and the people of Plymouth. Also the new Plymouth Towne Centre opened and the location was convenient. Observer: Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share with readers about your experience so far as a small business owner?

Anytime Fitness: We have a weight loss challenge program consisting of weekly nutritional sessions and one of our members has lost almost 70 pounds and 33 inches!

CHAMBER CHAT

Senate passes repeal of Michigan Business Tax Surcharge: The Michigan Senate passed a bill to eliminate the 22 percent surcharge on the Michigan Business Tax. This bill would cut the amount of the surcharge in half this year and eliminate it next year. The opponents of the legislation site the need to also have a "revenue neutral" plan to absorb hundreds of millions of dollars in lost taxes. The legislation is now in the Michigan House of Representatives where it is referred to the Tax Policy Committee. To express your thoughts on this legislation, you can



contact our state representative, Marc Corriveau, at marccorriveau@house.mi.gov.

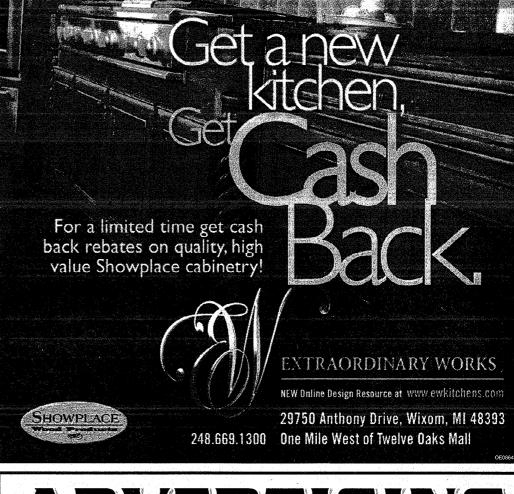
■ Sunday is Chamber Day at the Whalers game: Chamber members can get a discount on tickets for the Whalers Game on Sunday, Feb. 22, at 2 p.m. Tickets are discounted to \$9 for adults and TDS Metrocom is donating two tickets for children

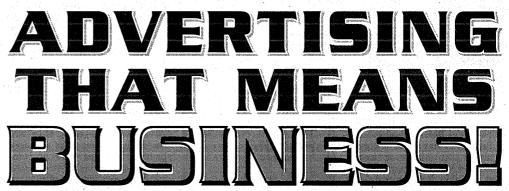
13 and younger for each adult ticket purchased. There are only 136 children's tickets available. Fans are encouraged to bring their skates to skate with the Whaler's players after the game. To purchase tickets for this game against the Saginaw Spirit, call the box office at

(734) 453-8400. Tickets must be preordered. Seeking bids for Plymouth Rocks promotional items: With the Chamber just launching our new "Plymouth Rocks" community marketing campaign, we are seeking bids for promotional items we may want to consider including in the campaign. While we have an initial promotional plan that we are implementing, more promotional items will be needed to increase visibility of the campaign. If you would like to make a proposal to provide promotional items, please contact Wes Graff at wes@plymouthmich.org.

Progressive Family Eye Care cuts grand opening ribbon: Members of our Ambassadors Committee and neighboring businesses helped to welcome Progressive Family Eye Care at their ribbon cutting last Wednesday. The practice is located at 487 Forest Ave. in downtown Plymouth. For pictures of the grand opening and more information on Progressive Family Eye Care go to http://plymouthmich.org/business_news. html

Wes Graff is executive director of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce. He can be reached at (734) 453-1540.





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BELIEFS & VALUES

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 19, 2009

Orthodox church council launches Web site

The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit has launched its first Web site at www.coccdetroit.com/.

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The site features information about the COCC and Orthodox Christianity, directories of Orthodox parishes and monasteries in southeastern Michigan, and a calendar of events sponsored by the COCC, Orthodox parishes, and other Orthodox organizations in the metropolitan area.

"Throughout our 52-year history, our clergy and laity have devoted their energies to fulfilling our mission of promoting Orthodoxy within our community," COCC President Richard Shebib said. "Our newly designed Web site is today's vehicle for helping us reach our goals."

Haitham Fakhouri of iKonic Creations (www.beikonic.com) developed the site and will serve as webmaster.

The COCC is a 52-year-old clergy

and lay association that represents various canonical Orthodox churches in metro Detroit. Its mission is to promote Orthodox Christianity throughout the area through worship, fellowship, and charitable, educational and outreach programs.

For more information on the COCC or the Web site, contact Shebib at (734) 422-0278 or paschabooks@sbcglobal.net, or visit www.coccdetroit.com/.





JOHN C. AKERLEY

96. Went home to heaven February 12, 2009. Born November 28, 1912 in Pugwash, Nova Scotia, Canada. He moved to Birmingham, Michigan in 1926. At 27, he met and married his first love, Lela and lived the American dream for 61 years. They were members of the First Baptist Church of Birmingham, Michigan for over fifty years. He worked for General Motors, Corp. for forty years and was retired for thirty-five years. John spent many hours restoring furniture and caning chairs. He was the loving father to Daniel Akerley (Nancy) and Judith Kortryk (Wilbert). Grandfather to Christine DeGrendel (Grant), Linda DuCharme (Steven), Karen Todd (Alan), Terrance and Alyssa Akerley. Great-grandfather of ten who he said made him great. He is survived by his beloved wife, Edna. for eight years in sunny Florida. His family consist of Beverly extended and Ed Bohlin, Jim and Diane Reiter, Bonnie and Ron Graham. Seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Member of St. Paul United Methodist Church of Largo, Florida for many years. His life has touched so many and we will love and miss him always. Memorial Service at a later date. Local arrangements by Potere-Modetz Funeral Home. On-line guestbook www.modetzfuneralhome.com

REX H. "SANTA" BIRD Age 65, of Westland. February 12, 2009. Loving husband of 25 years to Gail Bird, father to Rex



SHIRLEY IRENE CEASER

January 30, 1928 - February 14, 2009. Born in Detroit, Michigan and resided in Canton. Shirley will be reunited with her parents Willard and Helen Aho, sister Phyllis Wilson, beloved daughter Diane Kroll and grandson Craig Kroll. Survived by husband Michael Ceaser, brother Ed Aho of Arizona, sister-in-law Barbara Bain of White Lake, daughter Janice May (Gary) of Brighton, daughter Debbie Wilkinson (Ed) of Westland, son-in-law Greg Kroll of Livonia, stepson Micheal Ceaser Jr. (Mihoko) of Riverview, and stepdaughter Diane Reszetar (John) of Saline. 10 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren also survive Shirley. Shirley was employed with General Motors in several positions and retired in 1979 from the Human Resources depart-ment. Shirley will be deeply missed and always remembered by her loving family and friends. May she live eternally in peace with God's love. A Memorial service will be held Friday, February 20, 10:30 a.m at St. Thomas A'becket, 555 S. Lilley Rd., Canton, MI 48188. Family requests memorial contributions be sent in Shirley's name to the American Heart Association, 3816 Paysphere Circle, 60674 Chicago IL www.honor.americanheart.org. Please sign Shirley's online guestbook at www.cremationmichigan.com.



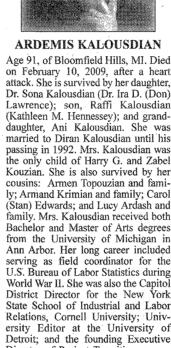
ROBERT E. ELLISON

Age 84, February 15, 2009. Beloved husband of the late Bernadine. Loving father of Jean (Paul) Kurily, Joan (Larry) Witko, Carol Ellison and Cathy (Mark) Schneider. Very proud grandpa of Bryan, Kristen, Paul, Kelly, Jenny, Shaelyn and Robert. Brother of Gordon (Joyce). Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Bob was always honorable and did everything with a high degree of integrity. His friends were numerous. He will be missed by all who knew him. Visitation at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia Friday from 10 a.m. until time of Memorial Service at 1 p.m. Memorial contributions may be directed to American Cancer Society or Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund. Please share a memory at www.rggrharris.com

IAN HARLEY HALL

Age 23. Of Farmington Hills, MI. Feb. 2, 2009. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK Funeral Home, Farmington.





ersity Editor at the University of Detroit; and the founding Executive Director of Project Transition, a program sponsored by the League of Catholic Women of Detroit. A great proponent of volunteerism and a vocal advocate for seniors, Mrs. Kalousdian served as Chair, Advisory Council, Area Agency on Aging-1B; Executive Board member, League of Catholic Women; Trustee, Village Womeń's Club Foundation; and Treasurer and Board Member, Women's Economic Club of Detroit. Friends and family will be notified about a memorial service to be held in the Spring. Individ-

online at hometownlife.com

RELIGION CALENDAR

To submit an item for the religion calendar, send e-mail to Ichomin@ hometownlife.com or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette-second level, Detroit, MI 48226, Attn: Linda Chomin. Deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

FEBRUARY

Diversity event

You can make a difference. Recognition, Reconciliation and Renewal Initiative, a community wide meeting for all Plymouth-Canton residents. Join us in exploring our history and creating an inclusive future 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 19, at the Plymouth Township Offices, 9955 N. Haggerty. Visit www.miroundtable. org for information about efforts to create change in Plymouth-Canton. This is an effort supported by the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion and the Ford Foundation. RSVP to Stacy Stevens (248) 331-7036, sstevens@miroundtable.org or to Nikhol Atkins at natkins@miroundtable.org

Open house

St. Michael Christian School hosts an open house 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 19, at 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton. St. Michael offers a 3-year old preschool through fifth grade including a Young Fives program and all day kindergarten. For information, call (734) 459-9720.

Lecture on St. Paul

During this year of honoring St. Paul, St. Priscilla Church welcomes Rev. Richard J. Cassidy as presenter of a program on the life of St. Paul 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20, at the church, 19120 Purlingbrook, Livonia, MI 48152. Cassidy is a professor of Sacred Scripture at Sacred Heart Seminary and has authored many articles and books on the New Testament. For information, call Mary Rice at (734) 522-1095.

VBS preview

Presented by International Christian Education Association 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, at Ward Church, Six Mile and Haggerty, Northville. A day of meeting Christian publishers to view their curriculum. Sit in on four of 20 workshops. This is a nondenominational event. Call (248) 557-5526 or visit www.iceaonline.org.

Bethany singles

Breakfast, 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, at Leon's 30149 Ford Road, south side (next to Tim Horton's) in Garden City, 48135. All separated, divorced and singles welcome. For details, call Kathy at (734) 513-9479.

Saturday, Feb. 28, Annual Chili Cook-Off and Uno tournament will be held 7:30-10 p.m. at St. Mel's Catholic Church, 7506 Inkster Rd., Dearborn Heights. Admission is \$5 or a pot of Chili including the recipe, cash prize for winner of Cook-Off and tournament. For details, call Kathy (734) 513-9479 or Judy (734) 261-5630. Bethany is a Catholic organization under the auspices of the Archdiocese of the Detroit Office for Family Ministry. Bethany provides spiritual, social and educational assistance through peer-to-peer ministry to the divorced and separated of all Christian faiths.

at West Chicago, Livonia. Communion will be served and the mark of the

ashes will be given. A spaghetti dinner hosted by members of the Young Adult Fellowship Group will be held 6-7 p.m. Tickets \$5 adults, \$3 ages 3-12, and available at the church as well as at the door. Proceeds benefit the Young Adult Mission trip in June to Iowa. Call (734) 422-0494, or visit www.rosedalegardens.org

Lenten services

7 p.m. Ash Wednesday, Feb. 25, in the chapel at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford, Call (313) 534-7730. Lenten Services 7 p.m. every Wednesday through April 1. Passover Seder Dinner at 6 p.m. for \$8 followed by the Maundy Thursday service at 7 p.m. April 9. Easter Sunday Worship Service 10 a.m. April 12.

Wednesday Lenten Service Hosanna-Tabor offers a mid-week Lenten Service at 7 p.m. in the church at 9600 Leverne, Redford. The Lenten Series will be "Places of the Passion" with the focus not on the physical locations of our Lord's passion but on the spiritual wonders of his work. A free will offering dinner will be served beginning at 5:30 p.m. prior to the service each week through April 1. For information, call (313) 937-2233.

Lenten services Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes 7:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday, Feb. 25, Lenten Evening Prayer 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, at Holy Cross

Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia, Call (734) 427-1414.

Families in action workshops

The National Association for Mental Illneses 10-week educational program begins 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25, at St. Regis Parish School Campus in Bloomfield Hills. The program is for people with a loved one diagnosed with a serious mental illness. The workshop meets either every Wednesday or Thursday evening and ends on April 29/30. The goal is to help families better understand mental illness, how it affects the family and what they can do to help. A nominal fee of \$20 per person or \$30 per couple will be charged at the time of registration. Families In Action is funded in large part by the Oakwood Healthcare Foundation and the Oakwood Heritage Hospital Auxiliary For information or to register, call Mary Ellen at (248) 348-7197. Space is limited, so pre-registration required.

All you can eat fish fry

Mark your calendars for the return of St. Michael the Archangel Parish's "All You Can Eat" Lenten Fish Dinners beginning 4:30-7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, and continuing March 6, March 13, March 20, March 27, and April 3, in the cafeteria of St. Michael School, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Rd., between Farmington and Merriman, Livonia. Dinners feature a choice of hand-dipped fresh Alaskan cod, fried or baked, along with a large assortment of side dishes and beverages. Cost \$8 adults, \$7 seniors, \$4 children ages 3-11, and free for age 3 and under. Carryout orders available at \$7 each. For information, call (734) 261-1455, ext. 200.

Bird Dreon, Dawi Mayer, Jennifer West (Donny Jr.), Gary Mayer (Jaime), and 13 grandchildren. Sister Nonni (Joe) Karriman, brothers Ronald Byrd, and Leonard Bird. Along with many loving family and friends. Preceded in death by mother Bessie KonJak, John KonJak, and Marlene Byrd. Rex retired from GM 1985, after which he enjoyed driving limousines and being Santa for the neighborhood events. Family and friends are welcome to celebrate his wonderful life on February 28, 2009 at the UAW Local 163, 450 S. Merriman Rd., Westland, Michigan from 2-7pm.

May You

Comfort in

Family &

JAMES S. BONADEO

(David Kera) Matthews, Nancy Bonadeo, and Mark J. Bonadeo. Dear

brother of Baldo Bonadeo and Lee

Allegrina. Doting grandfather of Siri

(Brian) Compton, Tansy Matthews,

and Maia Matthews; and loving great-grandfather of Eric, Celia, Lily and

Justin Compton. Builder and land

developer in SE Michigan since 1947.

Three term President and Lifetime

President Emeritus of the Building

Industries Association of Michigan.

Generous Philanthropist and member

of the Board of Trustees of Madonna

University. The family will gather with friends Thursday 2-9 p.m. at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W

Ann Arbor Rd (btwn Sheldon and

Beck), Plymouth. Memorial service

to be held Friday 10:30 a.m. at the

Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers.

memorial contributions may be made

to American Kidney Fund, St. Joseph

Mercy Hospital or American Heart

Association. To leave a message of

condolence, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com.

Age 92, of Plymouth. February

Earlene. Loving father of Carol

4, 2009. Beloved husband of

Friends

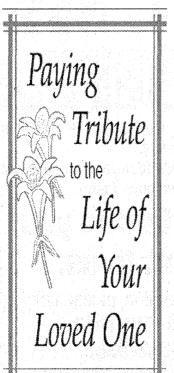
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Born in Flint, Michigan, on July 19, 1918, died in San Antonio, Texas on February 5, 2009, at the age of 90. Bill

WILLIAM "BILL" DEWEY

MICHIGAN

grew up in Flint where he earned his Eagle Scout Badge and graduated from Flint Central High School in 1936. He graduated from Michigan State University, where he was a member of Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity, in 1940, with a degree in Accounting. Bill served in the United States Army from August, 1941, until he was honorably discharged as a Captain in January, 1946. On February 15, 1941, he married Ruth Kittredge, who bore him four daughters. They divorced in 1975. Bill earned his CPA accreditation in 1951. He worked for Chrysler Corporation from 1951 until he retired from his position as Comptroller of the Defense Division in 1979. Bill was instrumental in the founding of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, having been an active member from the time the church was a mission of Christ Church Cranbrook. In 1989, Bill married Dorothy Walker. They had only eight-een months together before she passed away. He spent the last ten years of his life in San Antonio, Texas, near his daughter, Linda, and her children and grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents. Anna and Henry Dewey, his brother, Jack Dewey, and his daughter Janet. He is survived by his three daughters Barb Dewey and husband Mike Hussey, Linda Shimmick and husband Jay, Patti Osborn and husband Dan, ten grandchildren and seventeen great grandchildren. A Memorial Service will be held at 1 p.m. on March 7, 2009, at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 5500 N. Adams Road, Troy, Michigan. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that contributions be made to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Memory of Bill.



DOROTHY S. HILTY

February 12, 2009, age 94. Retired teacher with the Birmingham Schools. and longtime Birmingham-Bloomfield Hills resident. Beloved wife of the late John Carl Hilty. Dearest mother of Susan Hilty and the late John Carl Hilty, Jr. Grandmother of Carl and Daniel Zimring. Sister-in-law of Evelyn Schwarze. Also many nieces and nephews. Daughter of the late Herman and Clara Schwarze, Sister of the late Carl, Bruce, Herman, Ralph, and Fred Schwarze. Inurnment will be at White Chapel Cemetery. Memorial Tributes to Hospice of Michigan. A. J. Desmond & Sons, 248-362-2500. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com





Passed away February 14, 2009. Age 78. Beloved wife of the late Charles. Dearest mother of Roxan Micol-Szymanski, Christine McKinnon, Robin Melow, Charles and Lee Ketcherside. Also leaves nine grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren. Sister of Norma Van Dyke and John Van Dyke. Services were held on Wednesday at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Share your special thoughts and memories at www.schrader-howell.com

JANE CAROL MacKINNON

February 17, 2009. After a coura-geous 20 year battle with cancer. Age 76, of Beverly Hills. Jane was a memof the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center for over 40 years where she enjoyed water color and acrylic painting. Beloved wife of Donald "Ted". Dear mother of Brad (Kristyn) and Scott. Grandmother of Emily and Robert. Aunt of Nancy Brys (Dan), Charles MacKinnon (Leslie) and Pam MacKenzie (Scott). Cousin of Ted Beatty (Patty). Also survived by many friends in Presque Isle, MI. Family will receive friends at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward (btwn 13-14 Mile), Friday 3 p.m. until memorial service 6 p.m. Memorial tributes to the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, 1516 S. Cranbrook Rd., Birmingham, MI 48009.

View obituary and share memories at www.desmondfuneralhome.com



Age 92. Of Farmington, MI. February 12, 2009. Arrangements by THAYER-**ROCK Funeral Home, Farmington.**

uals may make contributions in Mrs Kalousdian's memory to the Area Agency on Aging-1B, Drawer # 1141, P.O. Box 79001, Detroit, MI 48279-



BRADLEY SCHULTZ

Age 52, of Jackson. Passed away Saturday, February 14, 2009 at his home. He was born July 18, ¹⁹⁵⁶ in Chicago, the son of Stanley and Jeanette (Lasche) Schultz. He married Susan O' Neill (Taylor) on January 1, 1990 and she survives. Bradley enjoyed living in the country taking care of various animals, including horses and also traveling, especially to China. He has been employed by Yazaki North America, in Canton for about 20 years. Besides his loving wife of 19 years, Bradley is also survived by his children: Kristen (Douglas) Bury of Broadview Heights, OH, Christopher O'Neill of Kalamazoo, MI, Alexandria Schultz of Jackson, Ashley Schultz of Jackson. father-in-Thomas Taylor, siblings: Jeff law. (Nilda) Schultz of Bartlet, IL, Cindy Schultz of Rancho Santa Margarita, CA, Greg Schultz of Lake in the Hills, IL, Vicki Schultz of Richmond, VA and nephews: James and Michael Schultz of Lake in the Hills, IL Bradley was preceded in death by his parents: Stanley Edward Schultz and Jeanette Marie Schultz-Gray. Bradley's family Celebrated his life on Wednesday, February 18, 2009 at auer Family Funeral Homes, Jackson beginning at 4:00 p.m. until the time of service at 7:00 p.m. with Pastor David ornwell officiating. Memorial contributions may be given to the family for future designation. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home. Please share a memory with Bradley's family



at www.Lauerfh.com

a loved one, place your notice on our website and in "Passages"...a directory located in every edition of your hometown newspaper.

Observer & Accentric

Call 1-800-579-7355

Catholic date night

St. Michael the Archangel Marriage and Family Life Committee invites . you to Catholic Date Night 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22, at the Box Bar, 777 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, to enjoy an evening of fellowship with other Catholic couples. The meeting is open to any couple (dating, engaged, married) who has an interest in forming, building or enhancing a strong, faith-based marriage. St. Michael's Pastoral Associate, Sharon Williams, speaks about God's plan for marriage and what it is meant to be. No charge. For information, call (734) 261-1455, ext. 207 or visit www.livoniastmichael.org

Sunday night lights

Riverside Park Church of God presents the non-traditional service designed to touch all the senses. every second and fourth Sunday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the church, 11771 Newburgh, corner of Plymouth Road, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990 for more information. Step into the light with relevant messages and modern music within a casual atmosphere.

Rush concert series

Continues every Tuesday with gathering and refreshments at 5 p.m., concert from 5:30-6 p.m for a rush hour concert featuring performances by local and national jazz artists at Metropolitan United Methodist Church, 8000 Woodward, Detroit. No charge. For information, visit www. metroumc.org.

Midweek Lenten services

Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford, will have midweek Lenten services on Wednesday evenings beginning 7:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday, Feb. 25. Pastor Gregory Gibbons preaches on the theme Father, Forgive Them. The church will have a free Ash Wednesday Soup and Sandwich Supper beginning at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call (313) 532-8655 or (734) 968-3523.

Ash Wednesday service 7:30 p.m. Feb. 25, in Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard

Free movie night

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church (14175 Farmington Rd., north of I-96, Livonia) will be showing the movie "FireProof" 7 p.m. Friday, February 27, doors open at 6:30 p.m. Register at www.christoursavior.org. "FireProof" touched the hearts and impacted the marriages of millions of moviegoers. Over the span of just a few weeks, this movie showed in top box-office charts. At work, inside burning buildings, Capt. Caleb Holt lives by the old firefighter's adage: Never Leave Your Partner Behind. At home, in the cooling embers of his marriage, he lives by his own rules. His job is to rescue others. Now Caleb must face his toughest job ever ... rescuing his wife's heart.

Blood drive

8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, at NorthRidge Church, 49555 North Territorial at Ridge Rd., Plymouth. Register at www.givelife.org and enter NorthRidge in Step One (sponsor code) or call (800) 448-3543 (GIVELIFE).

Clothing bank

Free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need 10 a.m. to noon on the fourth Saturday of each month, at Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 8775 Ronda Drive, south of Joy between Haggerty and Lilley.

For information, call (734) 404-2480, visit www.CantonCF.org or send email to info@cantoncf.org.

Fish fry

Begins 4-7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13, and continues every Friday through April 3, at First United Methodist Church of Wayne-Westland, 3 Town Square across the street from the Wayne Post office. For more information, call (734) 721-4802 or (734) 891-2523. Choose from fried or baked fish. Includes baked potato or french fries, cole slaw, roll and coffee, tea, or punch all for only \$8. Special kids meals like chicken nuggets, corn dogs and fries for \$4.

BELIEFS & VALUES

Variety show spotlights church's 175-year history

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN O & E STAFF WRITER

Barbara Erickson jokes that it was a little tricky to choose music to reflect the early years of Newburg United Methodist Church since she wasn't alive then. Spotlighting the journey is another story. Ever since the 175th anniversary committee decided to put on The Variety Show to celebrate the special year Erickson's been studying the history from the time the place of worship was established in 1834.

She's not only written the narration for the production but ' directs the nearly 75 cast members when the curtain goes up 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, at the church in Livonia.

Erickson directs three handbell choirs at the church, but don't expect to hear any hymns. Popular music documents each of the decades of the church's existence including Elvis in the 1950s. A quartet of barbershop singers bring back the Roaring '20s with "Down By the Old Mill Stream."

"It's a fun element of this 175th anniversary," said Erickson of Livonia. "We have a senior citizen group for the kitchen band and they'll probably steal the show. We have the kitchen band playing the Charleston, flappers to dance, a barbershop quartet for the 1890s, and the Not Ready for Prime Time Dancers in a black light number where all you see is their hands moving and their feet. We promised these ladies we wouldn't show



Gary Fry (left to right) , Ken Klein, Jeff Everett, and Don Lobb sing "Down By the Old Mill Stream" as part of The Variety Show celebrating the Roaring '20s era in the 175-year history of Newburg United Methodist Church in Livonia.

their faces. Almost every group in the church is doing something, the children's chorus, adult Chancel Choir. We want to celebrate the 175th anniversary in a fun way with popcorn and pop. Just bring your family and friends and come."

The church has definitely come a long way since Marcus Swift, the first circuit rider, rode in on horseback to preach to the congregation at the site on Ann Arbor Trail, east of Newburgh Road, across from Union Cemetery (now Newburg Cemetery). Early on the Methodists joined with the Congregationalists in the area to share the church built in 1848 by the Congregationalists. In 1915 the Methodists moved the church to the corner of Newburgh and Ann Arbor Trail. This structure still exists today at Greenmead Historical Park but is restored to the 1915 era. The present day Newburg United Methodist Church was built in 1962 on Ann Arbor Trail, between Newburgh and Wayne roads. Today 600 members from Livonia, Westland and Plymouth and the townships of Redford, Canton and Plymouth worship at the church where Rev. Marsha Woolley is pastor. This year a number of

THE VARIETY SHOW

What: Variety show spotlights 175 years of Newburg United Methodist Church history. When: 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21 Where: Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, between Newburgh and Wayne, Livonia Details: No charge. For information, call (734) 422-0149

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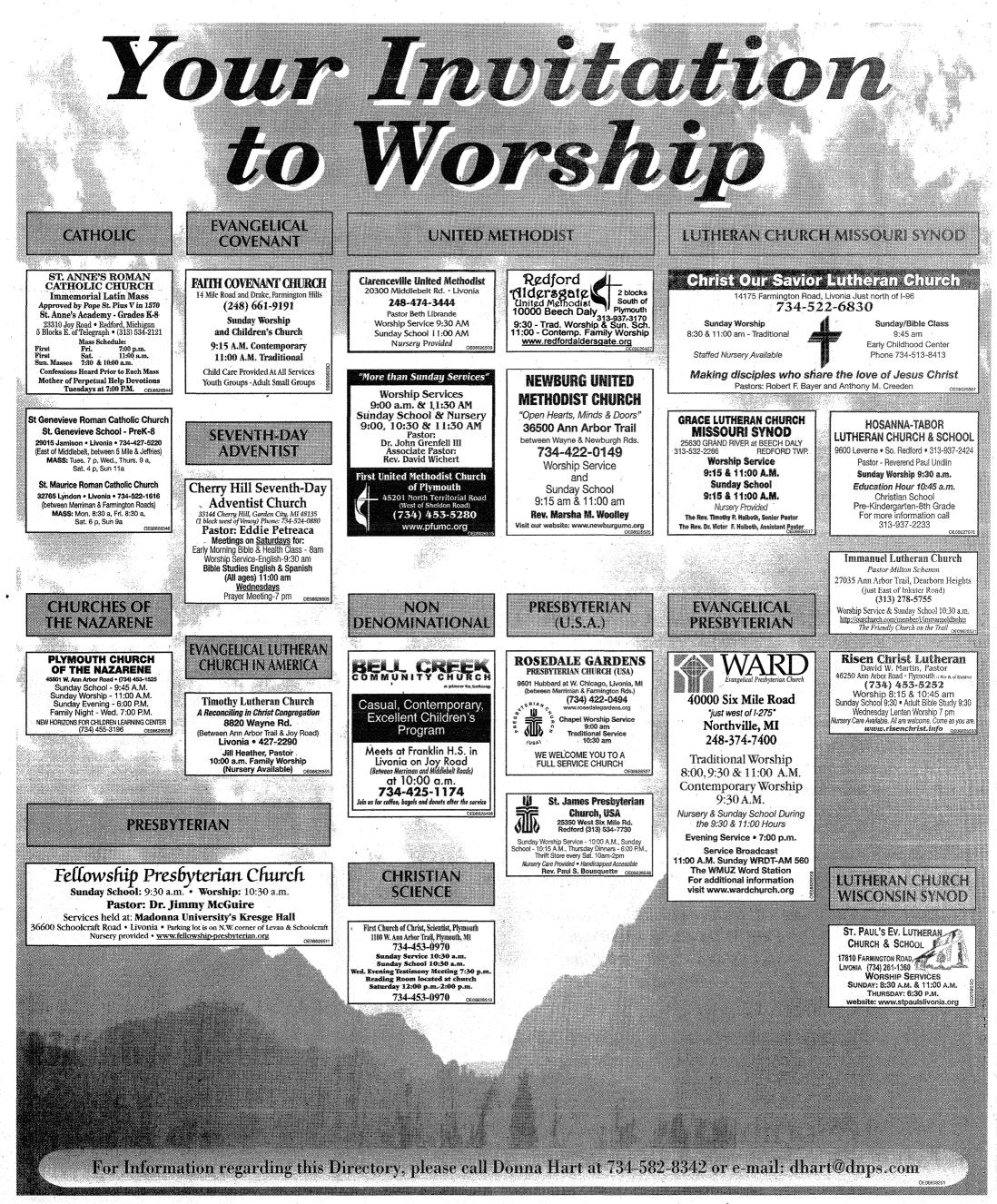
events highlight the 175-year history including a closing ceremony in December.

"I think we've always been on the Trail," said Erickson. "The church and parsonage moved in 1977 to Greenmead and we still use the church for Easter Sunrise Service. There's a lot of history for this particular congregation. We didn't have a permanent minister until 1924."

Ken Klein's been attending services at the church since 1964 when members knew him as the secretary's son. While Cecelia typed away in the office, he started singing in the children's choir as a soprano and eventually worked his way down to baritone in the Chancel Choir. The four parts of the barbershop quartet performing in The Variety Show all sing in the adult choir.

"There's the sense of community from the people there," said Klein. "I've been in choir a long time. There's a connection there with people."

Ichomin@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2241



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 19, 2009

FILTER Cozy up with community theater

BY WENSDY VON BUSKIRK **O&ESTAFF WRITER**

B8

(*)

Beat the winter blahs by escaping to a warmer world through community theatre.

This weekend, two local troupes will raise the curtain on their latest plays, just as a third wraps up production. All three shows are comedies with reasonable ticket prices, sure to bring relief from both the weather and the economic climate.

DIVINE STELLA DEVINE

Spotlight Players of Canton will present "Divine Stella Devine," Feb. 20-March 7. It's the story of an aging actress preparing for a new play, as Ginger, a "sweet Southern belle," visits rehearsal to watch her favorite star up close - and steal her role.

"It's silly, it's just silly," said Barbara Bloom, who plays Stella Devine. "There's no deep message. It's just an enjoyable and lighthearted evening."

Bloom, who lives in Novi and serves as president of Spotlight Players, discovered the play and brought it to the script reading committee. She said it was chosen because it's 'audience friendly,' and suitable for all ages.

"It's sort of a satirical look at "Gone With the Wind" and "All About Eve" combined with a lot of crazy characters thrown in," she said

And since the show depicts an acting troupe in rehearsals, sets are minimal.

"We generally try to do one show a year that isn't set heavy," Bloom said

The Spotlight Players, formerly the Plymouth Theatre Guild, is based in Canton, but draws actors and crew from throughout the region. The group presents four plays each season, two of them musicals.

Auditions are underway now

Barbara Bloom of Novi as Stella, and Meg daPonte of Canton as Ginger in "Divine Stella Devine," Feb. 20-March 8 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

for the last show of the 2008-09 season, "Pajama Game," coming in April. The 2009-10 season will add a cabaret show and a murder mystery. For now, the players are immersed in "Divine Stella Devine."

"With this one being so over the top, it's just been a lot of fun to participate in," Bloom said.

SAME TIME, NEXT YEAR

Barefoot Productions of Plymouth will present "Same Time, Next Year" tonight through March 1. The romantic comedy,

written by Bernard Slade and directed by Craig A. Hane, tells the story of Doris and George, who meet on the same weekend every year to be with each other - and away from their spouses.

The play was a Broadway hit in the '70s and a classic film in the '80s. The local production stars Betty Berryman of Canton as Doris and Benjamin Karl of Redford as George.

NOT BROADWAY, BUT IT'S CLOSE Westland's Inspire Theatre continues its production of "It Ain't

Broadway, But It's Close" Feb. 20-21 at Warren Road Light & Life Free Methodist Church.

The musical revue brings to life favorite show tunes like "Give My Regards to Broadway," "No Business Like Show Business," and "Singing in the Rain." It also includes a children's

chorus, which revisits songs from "Sound of Music." The Broadway hits are strung

together by a farcical plot that has a national theatre company clashing with a local troupe. The result is pure, family-friendly fun.



Benjamin Karl of Redford and Betty Berryman of Canton star as Barefoot Productions of Plymouth presents "Same Time, Next Year" Feb. 19-March 1.





and March 6-7; and 2 p.m. March 1 and 8 Where: Village Theater at Cherry Hill,

Who: Spotlight Players, Canton

When: 8 p.m. Feb. 20-21, Feb. 27-28,

Divine Stella Devine

WINTER THEATRE PRODUCTIONS

50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton Tickets: \$13 online at www.spotlightplayers.net; \$15-\$18 at the door Call: (734) 394-5300

Same Time, Next Year

Who: Barefoot Productions, Plymouth When: 8 p.m. Feb. 19-21 and Feb. 26-28; 2 p.m. Feb. 22 and March 1 Where: 240 N. Main St., Plymouth, in the Walker/Buzenberg Furniture building Tickets: \$15 general; \$10 students/ seniors 60+, (734) 560-1493, www.

Ticketleap.com, or www.justgobarefoot.com

It Ain't Broadway, But It's Close Who: Inspire Theatre, Westland When: 7:30 p.m. Feb. 20-21 Where: Warren Road Light & Life Free Methodist Church, 33445 Warren Road, Westland Tickets: \$11, call (734) 751-7057.

presents the 2^{nd} annual



an afternoon of music, fun and games for the whole family

Sunday, February 22, 2009 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. Southfield Pavilion & Sports Arena 26000 Evergreen Road

Free Ice Skating (Southfield Sports Arena) 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Enjoy fun-filled activities including children's arts and crafts, petting farm featuring miniature horses, donkey, goats, sheep, alpaca, bunnies and ducks, air brush face painting, s'mores marshmallow roast, hayrides, ice sculpture carving demonstrations, Wii (interactive gaming area), moonwalk and much more. Chili, hot dogs, soups and more will be available for purchase from food vendors.

The event will feature musical performances by: Paul Miles - 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. Skye Island - 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. and more

FREE ADMISSION Call the Southfield Community Relations Department at (248) 796-5130 for more information.





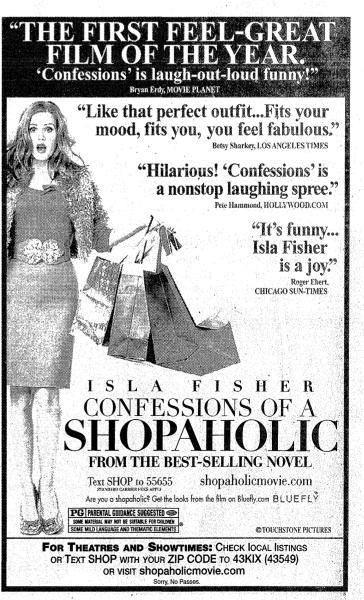
MARDI GRAS FUN

PLYMOUTH -- Starting at Noon, Main Street will come alive with the 1st Annual Downtown Plymouth Mardi Gras Celebration on Saturday, Feb. 21. Enjoy the artful Mardi Gras displays of Plymouth Canton High School Art students painted on the windows of 20 Downtown Stores. Collect beads from Downtown Merchants, win prizes, join in kid-friendly activities in the park and then rock the town with Steve King & the Dittlies in a free concert in Kellogg Park at 5 p.m. The party continues into the night at any of over 30 shops, bars and restaurants, many offering a wide variety of festive foods. Call (734) 455-1453 or e-mail dda@ ci.plymouth.mi.us.

CIRQUE MASKED BALL

DETROIT — The Founders Junior Council of the Detroit Institute of Arts will present Cirque de Monaco Masked Ball, 7 p.m.-midnight, Feb. 28 at The Roosertail, 100 Marquette, Detroit. The event includes live DJs, '60s jazz, hand rolled cigars, a red carpet photo shoot with showgirls, signature 'Grace' cocktails, Monte Carlo-style casino games, and an after party at the Rattlesnake Club, 300 River Place Dr., Detroit. Attire is '60s chic, with masks. Tickets, \$75-\$150, benefit FJC. Call (313) 833-4005, or visit www.foundersjuniorcouncil. org.

Please see HAPPENINGS, B9



B9 (*)

ART

555: A Good Bye to the 555 "The 5 Senses," 8 p.m.-midnight Feb. 21, 4884 Grand River, Detroit, \$15 will call at www.555arts.org, \$20 at the door, proceeds benefit new location for 555. masquerade attire.

Art is in Market: Grand re-opening wine and cheese reception, 3-9 p.m. March 7, new loca tion in Laurel Park Place, 37642 Six Mile Road, Livonia, http://artisinmarket.blogspot.com. Christine's Cuisine: Gwen Joy's Red Headed Vixen Feb. 21-March 21, opening reception, 9 p.m. Feb. 21, 729 East Nine mile Road in Ferndale, (248) 584-3384, www.gwenjoy.com.

CPop Gallery: "Conformity Exhibition: Live Conformists/Dead Troublemakers." through March, opening reception, 7-11 p.m. March 7. 4160 Woodward Ave., Detroit, (313) 833-9901 wcpop.com

D&M Art Studio: Painting classes for all ages, free fine art portfolio assessments for collegebound students, 28691 N. Lilley, Canton, (734) 453-3710, www.dmartstudio.com. Lotus Arts Gallery: Local Artist Exhibit, March 3-26, artists reception, 6-9 p.m. March 6; Palette and Brush Club Exhibit, March 31-April 5, artist reception, April 4: Kathleen Graf Exhibit, May 1-27, 995 West Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth (888) 889-4ART, www.lotusartsgallery.com. Plymouth Community Arts Council: Winter Break Art Camp for Kids, Feb. 23-27, \$50 a day per child, 774 N. Sheldon Road, Plymouth, (734) 416-4278, www.plymoutharts.com

Susanne Hilberry Gallery: Works by Zak Prekop, Elena Pankova, Ryan McLaughlin, Michael Wetzel Matt Connors and Paul Bloodgood. through Feb. 7, at 700 Livernois, Ferndale (248) 541-4700, www.susannehilberrvgallerv.com

BENEFITS

Newport Furnishings: Comfy Couch Concert series, Bill Bynum & Co., 8 n.m. Feb. 21, w/7 p.m. potluck, \$10-\$15 (\$3 off with donation of toothpaste, child-sized toothbrushes and warm socks), benefits Sweet Dreamzzz, 29240 Lyon Oaks Drive, Wixom, (248) 910-4941, www.comfycouchconcerts.com.

The Roostertail: Cirque de Monaco Masked Ball, 7 p.m.-midnight, Feb. 28, 60s chic attire with masks, \$75-\$150, benefiting FJC, Detroit Institute of Arts, (313) 833-4005, www.foundersjuniorcouncil.org

CHAMBER MUSIC

Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings: "Fun and Games." 3 p.m. Feb. 22; Birmingham Unitarian Church and 4 p.m. March 1; Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Detroit, (248) 559-2095, www.detroitchamber winds.org.

CHORAL

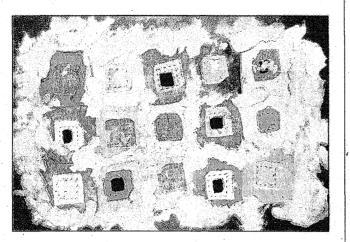
Rackham Choir: "Dear Mrs. Parks" with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, March 6-8, Orchestra Hall, Detroit; "The Armed Man: A Concert for Peace" with original film, April 5, Ford Center for the Performing Arts, Dearborn, www.rackhamchoir.org

CLASSICAL

Max M. Fisher Music Center: Pops Goes Las Vegas, March 19-22: The Music of Billy Joel & More by Michael Cavanaugh, April 16-19: A John Williams Adventure, March 14-17, 3711 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 576-5111 and online at www.detroitsym

Freedom," 8 p.m. March 14, all at Ward Benefit Concert of the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society, 8 p.m. April 24, Penn Theatre, 760 Penniman, Plymouth, (734) 451-2112, www.plymouthsymphony.org. Schoolcraft College: Avalon String Quartet, March 20: Cellist Robert de Maine, May 15: \$10, students, \$20 adults, Presentation Room in the VisTaTech Center, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia,

GET OUT



Art In Stitches

Deconstruction I by Joan Potter Thomas is among works by nine Michigan artists on display during "Art in Stitches, A Fiber Arts Exhibition" at the Northville Art House, 215 W. Cady St., through Feb. 22. The exhibit features traditional to non-traditional techniques using cloths, fibers and mixed media, by Thomas, Ann Avery, Boisali Biswas, Juliana Cerra, Anne Hiemstra, Sidney Savage Inch, Lynn Krawczyk, Jackie Lams and Linda Larsen. Northville Art House is located at 215 W. Cady St. Call (248) 344-0497 or visit www. northvillearts.org.

Huron, Pontiac. (248) 645-6666. The Fillmore: Flogging Molly, Feb. 19; Dropkick Murphys, March 3, 2115 Woodward, Detroit. (248) 645-6666

The Fox Theatre: Celtic Woman: Isle of Hope, Feb. 20, 2211 Woodward, Detroit, Ticketmaster.com (248) 433-1515.

Joe Louis Arena: Nickelback, Feb. 28, (248) 645-6666, www.ticketmaster.com, OlympiaEntertainment.com

Michigan Theatre: John Hiatt and Lyle Lovett, Feb. 20, 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. (248) 645-6666. The Palace of Auburn Hills: Fleetwood Mac. March 8. 1 Championship Drive, Auburn Hills, (248) 645-6666 or Palacenet.com

Roval Oak Music Theatre: MMA: Xtreme Cagefighting Championships, March 6, 318 W. Fourth, Royal Oak. (800) 919-6272, www.royaloakmusictheatre.com

St. Andrew's Hall: Ben Kweller with The Watson Twins, Feb 19, 431 E. Congress, Detroit, (248) 645-6666

DANCE

Detroit Institute of Arts: The Kusun Ensemble, African music and dance, 7 and 8:30 p.m. Feb. 27, 5200 Woodward Ave., (313) 833-7900, www. dia.org

Detroit Opera House: "Aladdin," Grand Rapids Ballet Company, Feb. 28; "Romeo & Juliet," American Ballet, March 13-15, 1526 Broadway, Detroit, (313) 237-3426, www.michiganopera.org

FAMILY

Canton Cinema: Free matinees 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. Saturdays, 43555 Ford Road, (734) 844-3456. **Detroit Institute of Arts:** Target Family Sundays Performance Good Mischief with Gemini March 1: Storytelling, True Beauty, March 8. American Family, March 15 and 22, and A Mind of Her Own, March 29, all at 2 p.m., free with admission, 5200 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 833-

Fox Theatre: Thomas & Friends Live! On Stage, A Circus Comes To Town, June 13-14, 2211 Woodward, Detroit, Ticketmaster.com (248) 433-1515. Marguis Theatre: "Little Mermaid." March 14-April 17: "Rumplestiltskin," Aug. 8-Sept. 20: "Pinky the Flying Ghost," Oct. 17-25; "Pinocchio," Nov. 14-Jan. 24, 2010, tickets, \$8.50, ages 3 and up,

Nixon," Feb. 21, \$30, www.amctheatres.

Detroit Film Theatre: "Medicine for Melancholy." through Feb. 22; "Harvard Beats Yale 29-29," Feb. 20-March 15, at Detroit Institute of Arts. 5200 Woodward, Detroit, See www.dia.org/dft or (313) 833-7900.

Henry Ford IMAX: "Journey to Mecca," "Under the Sea 3D," 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn. (313) 271-1570

Penn Theatre: February, Romance Month, "To Have and Have Not," 7 p.m. Feb. 19, \$3, 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth, (734) 453-0870, www.penntheatre.com Redford Theatre: "Sister Act," Feb. 20-21 at 17360 Lahser, Detroit, www.redfordtheatre.com

MORE MUSIC

com/blowout.

Eclipz Lounge: DJ Graffiti, 10 p.m. Feb. 27, free, 21 and over, inside the Greektown Casino-Hotel, Detroit, Magic Bag: Pat McGee Band, Feb. 26, 22920

Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 544-3030, www. themagicbag.com.

Mardi Gras in Downtown Plymouth: Steve King & the Dittlies, noon-8 p.m. Feb. 21, Kellogg Park; nightlife following in restaurants and bars throughout town, (734) 455-1453 Metro Times Blowout: One of the largest local music festivals in the U.S., 200 bands at 15 Hamtramck bars, March 4-7; pre-party March 4 at the Majestic Theater, Detroit; metrotimes.

Rockstarz Karaoke Bar: Dirty Americans w/ Brian Schram Band, 8 p.m. April 11, \$5, 21 and older, 33729 Ford Road, Garden City.



HAPPENINGS FROM PAGE B8

STEWART FRANCKE PERFORMS AT BORDERS

BIRMINGHAM - Stewart Francke will perform songs from his newest CD, "Alive and Unplugged at the Ark" (Blue Boundary Records and Burnside Distribution) at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20 at Borders Birmingham, 34300 Woodward Ave.; and 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27 at Borders Novi, 43075 Crescent Boulevard.

Francke, a Huntington Woods resident, has earned awards and accolades as a solo singer/songwriter, and has also toured in support of many famous musicians, including Sheryl Crow, Warren Zevon, Chris Isaak, Robert Cray, Hall & Oates and Michael McDonald. A leukemia and bone marrow transplant survivor of 10 years, Francke often plays benefit concerts and donates his time to cancer support efforts. Call Borders Birmingham, (248) 203-0005; or Borders Novi, (248) 347-0780; or visit www.stewartfrancke.com.

SOUTHFIELD THROWS WINTER FUN FEST

SOUTHFIELD - The City of Southfield will present its 2nd Annual Winter Fun Fest, 2-6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22 at the Southfield Pavilion & Sports Arena, 26000 Evergreen Road. The free afternoon of music, fun and games for the whole family includes children's arts and crafts, a petting farm, airbrush face painting, s'mores marshmallow roast, hayrides, ice sculpture carving demonstrations, Wii gaming, a moonwalk and more. Free ice skating at the Southfield Sports Arena will be open 3-6 p.m. Music includes Paul Miles, 2:30-3:30 p.m. and Skye Island, 5-6 p.m. Call (248)796-5130.

DISNEY ON ICE SKATES INTO PALACE

AUBURN HILLS - Four magical worlds converge in one ice spectacular when Disney On Ice presents Worlds of Fantasy Feb. 25-March 1 at The Palace of Auburn Hills.

The show features Tinker Bell and her fairy friends, Lightning McQueen, Mater and the "Cars" crew, and scenes inspired by "The Lion King" and "The Little Mermaid." Free with ticket purchase, the Disney Princess Pre-Show features an exclusive collection of enchanting ball gowns and mementos from the Disney Princess stories.

Tickets for Disney On Ice presents Worlds of Fantasy are available at the Palace of Auburn Hills Box Office, all Ticketmaster locations, The Palace Locker Room Stores and www.ticketmaster. com. To order tickets by phone, call (248) 645-6666. For information and show times, visit www. disnevonice.com.

FLIGHT OF THE CONCHORDS LAND AT FOX THEATRE

DETROIT — The Grammy Award-winning Flight of the Conchords, featuring New Zealand comedy folk duo Jemaine Clement and Bret McKenzie, are set to perform at the Fox Theatre at 8 p.m. Friday, April 24.

Flight of the Conchords' comedy and acoustic folk music became the basis of a BBC radio series and then an American television series on HBO in 2007, also called Flight' of the Concords.

Tickets (\$38.50) may be purchased at OlympiaEntertainment. com, the Fox Theatre and Joe Louis Arena box offices, Hockeytown Authentics in Troy (without service charge) and at all Ticketmaster locations, including Macy's and Ticketmaster.com. To charge tickets by phone, call (800) 745-3000.

For additional information, call (313) 471-6611.

LAST CHANCE TO SEE TOPOL THE STAR OF THE MOTION PICTURE



Road, Westland, (734) 513-5030. Trinity House Theatre: Siusan O'Rourke and Zig Zeitler w/ Tim Thompson, Feb 21; Mike Mangione w/ The Mean Reds, Feb. 27; Dave Boutette and Chris Buhalis, Feb 28; Susan Werner, March 1, 38840 Six Mile, Livonia, (734) 464-6302, www. trinityhouse.org.

Token Lounge: Paradime with Marv Won, Danny

ing 'Made.' March 13, 21 and older, 28949 Joy

Brown, Street Justice and Chief, with MTV film-

MUSEUMS

Detroit Institute of Arts: "American Chronicles: The Art of Norman Rockwell," March 8-May 31; "Learning by Line: The Role and Purpose of Drawing in the 18th Century." through June 15: "Master Pieces: Chess Sets from the Dr. George and Vivian Dean Collection" through March 22. 5200 Woodward, Detroit. Call (313) 833-7900. Plymouth Historical Museum: "In the Presence of Lincoln," through Nov. 4, 155 S. Main St. Hours are 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Admission, \$5; \$2 for students 6-17; \$10 for families. Tour groups can be accommodated, (734) 455-8940, www.plvm outhhistory.org

THEATER - COMMUNITY

The Farmington Players: "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940," Feb. 20 to March 7; "Sweet Charity," April 24 to May 16; 32332 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills, (248) 553-2955, www.farming tonplayers.org. Destination Theatre: Canton Follies: One Hit

Wonders, March 12-14, \$15, Village Theatre at Cherry Hill, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton, (734) 394-5460. Jewish Ensemble Theatre: "Halpen and Johnson,"

through March 15; "Deathtrap," April 21 to May 17, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield, (248) 788-2900, www.jettheatre.org. Planet Ant Theatre: "Red Light Winter." Feb. 27

to March 21, 2357 Caniff, Hamtramck, (313) 365-4948 The Village Players of Birmingham: "Pack of Lies,"

March 27 to April 5; "Sunday in the Park," May 29 to June 14, 34660 Woodward, Birmingham. \$15. (248) 644-2075. Who Wants Cake: "Fuddy Meers," Feb. 20-March 16

The Ringwald, 22742 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 556-8581

mbtheatre.com

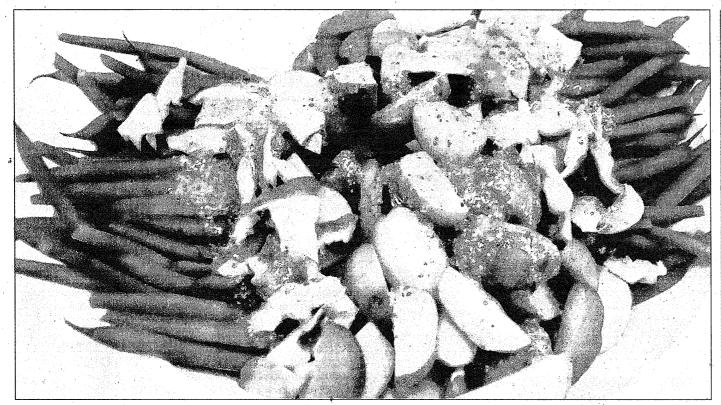
p.m. and 7 p.m. March 1, tickets \$30-\$69: "Movin Out." March 27-29, tickets \$30-\$75; "Riverdance-Farewell Performances," April 8-12: 2211 Woodward, Detroit, Ticketmaster.com Change," through March 29, 333 Madison Ave, Meadow Brook Theatre: "Kong's Night Out," through "Nunsense 2: The Second Coming." May 27 to June 14. on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester Hills (248) 377-0300, www.ticketmaster.com, for more information, visit www.

THEATER-PROFESSIONAL Detroit Opera House: "Rent," through Feb. 22; "Fiddler on the Roof," March 3-8, 1526 Broadway, Detroit, (248) 645-6666. Fox Theatre: "Jesus Christ Superstar," 3

OlympiaEntertainment.com, (248) 433-1515. Gem Theatre: "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now (313) 963-9800, www.gemtheatre.com. March 8; "The Trip to Bountiful," March 18 to April 12; "By Jeeves," April 22 to May 17;

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 19, 2009

FOOD & WINE



Country Nicoise Salad.

B10

Hiller's chef hosts fish Fridays



PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hiller's Executive Chef Peter Julian displays Baked Wild Sockeye Salmon Patties and Country Nicoise Salad during a recent Healthy Cooking Demonstration at Orchard Mall in West Bloomfield.

BY WENSDY VON BUSKIRK O & E STAFF WRITER

Whether you observe Lent or not, Hiller's Fish Fridays will inspire you to add fish to your menu. Hiller's Markets will host Fish Fridays noon-2 p.m. every Friday for seven consecutive weeks start-

ing Feb. 27. Hiller's Executive Chef Peter Julian will cook up exclusive fish dishes on site, and share samples with guests.

He'll also pass out

recipes and demonstrate how to prepare several kinds of fish.

Baked Wild Sockey Salmon Patties. Many types of salmon, from farm raised to wild, can be used in his

FISH FRIDAYS

Learn how to prepare dozens of kinds of fish and sample exclusive dishes made by Hiller's Executive Chef Peter Julian, noon-2 p.m., starting Feb. 27. Recipes included. Feb. 27, Plymouth March 6, Northville March 13, Ann Arbor March 20, Union Lake March 27, Commerce Township April 3, West Bloomfield April 10, Berkley Visit www.hillers.com for more information.

meal," he said.

One of Julian's featured recipes is

recipe, he said. One of the more exotic

varieties Hiller's carries is Black Pearl night direct from

"The big to-do about the Black Pearl organic diet," Julian said. "It's very popular now." As for Julian, he

uses them all. 'What's nice about the salmon patty recipe is you can buy a nice piece of salmon, have it for dinner, and if you have leftover salmon turn it into a totally different

Hiller's has seven stores located in Ann Arbor, Berkley, West Bloomfield, Commerce Township, Union Lake,

Northville and Plymouth. Visit www.hillers.com.

CITY BITES FRESH PACZKIS FOR FAT TUESDAY

LIVONIA - Celebrate Fat Tuesday with traditional Paczkis at Polanka Market, 28905 Plymouth Road, Livonia. The market will mark Mardi Gras by cooking up fresh paczkis filled with mixed marmalades or plum, on Tuesday, Feb. 24. They're 99 cents each, and the bakery opens at 10 a.m. Call (734) 466-9725 or visit http://polankamkt.com/.

OAKLAND YWCA HOSTS ETHNIC MEAL

CLAWSON - The YWCA Oakland Branch, 839 S. Crooks Road, Clawson, is having an Albanian Dinner 5-7 p.m. Feb. 21. The menu will consist of traditional home cooked Albanian food. Tickets must be purchased in advance, \$15 for adults; \$8 for children under 10. The YWCA is located at 839 Crooks Road. Call (248) 435-9100.

FREE 'BUY AMERICAN' COFFEE AT AJS

FERNDALE - AJ's Music Cafe, 240 W. Nine Mile Road, is offering free cups of coffee to customers who sign a promise that they will buy an American-made car as part of the national campaign IPromiseAmerica.com.

Sign The Promise online, print it out and turn it in for a free cup. http://IPromiseAmerica.com also includes a sign-up for other coffeehouses.

ZOUP! OPENS AT OAKLAND U

ROCHESTER - Zoup! has entered the college campus market with its new outlet at Oakland University. Zoup! is known for its changing menu of six daily soup offerings. The OU Zoup! location will be managed by Chartwells, a division of Compass Group that serves as the campus food service provider.



which celebrated 10 years in business in 2008. Zoup! owns and operates six

corporate stores and 14 franchises throughout Michigan, Pennsylvania and Ohio, with new stores coming in Connecticut, Indiana and New Jersey.

BACCO CHANGES WITH THE TIMES

SOUTHFIELD – Acclaimed Southfield restaurant Bacco Ristorante has gone smoke-free, and is presenting a new menu featuring smaller, more traditional Italian-sized portions.

"With smaller portions, we can be more creative in the kitchen and our guests can get more creative in dining," says Luciano Del Signore, proprietor and chef. "Our prices have been reduced to reflect the smaller sizes. Now, our customers can enjoy a three-course meal for the same price as what a full entrée was previously."

Each entrée will be a complete meal consisting of a protein, two vegetables and a starch on each plate. Favorites such as the Piemontese filet, veal tenderloin, high quality seafood and decadent desserts will remain available. Bacco's wine menu now includes half-pour options, for half the price of a full glass, so patrons can sample more wines throughout the course of a meal.

Bacco Ristorante is located at 29410 Northwestern Highway. Call (248) 356-6600 or visit www.baccoristorante.com.

Salmon, flown over-Scotland. Salmon is that it's definately organic food and raised on an







THURSDAY online at hometownlife.com February 19 2009 SECTION (*) Julie Brown, editor . (313) 222-6755 jcbrown@hometownlife.com

Families facing autism get help, including housing, at OU benefit

BY JULIE BROWN **O&E STAFF WRITER**

Oakland University's Center for Autism Research, Education and Support (OUCARES) has teamed with local nonprofit Homes for Autism to host a 5k run, 5k walk and 10k run on May 17.

"This in its essence hasn't been done before," Avni Dalal, development project manager for OU's School of Education and Human Services, said of the spring benefit. OU students have raised money for the cause in the past, she said, but the event is new.

The event, which raises money for both OUCARES and Homes for Autism, is designed to raise awareness of autism spectrum disorders and help improve the quality of life for individuals affected by them. OU was approached by Homes for Autism, Dalal said.

The May 17 benefit will be on the Oakland University Rochester campus. Dalal provided a couple of Web sites for those seeking information on autism, including oakland. edu/oucares, which offers information on what autism is and local support. The Homes for Autism site at homesforautism.org also offers a lot of information.

'We're pretty excited about it," ` said Anne Gerard, executive director of Homes for Autism, which has a Birmingham post office. "We've never had a run before."

Autism is a neurological disor-

der that impairs communication and social skills. According to the Autism Society of America, the disorder impacts as many as 1.5 million American adults and children.

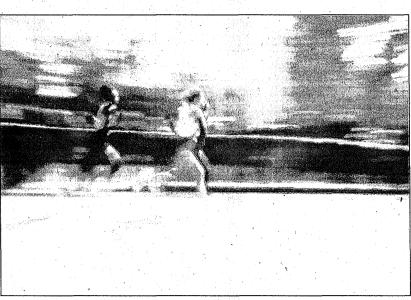
OUCARES integrates academic course work, knowledge and research with hands-on work in the community to prepare professionals to be leaders in the autism community. Through these academic and service programs, OU also provides supportive individual and family programs.

The center, housed in the School of Education and Human Services, encourages the exchange of ideas relating to the education and support of individuals with autism spectrum disorder, as well as provides services and support needed to improve daily living.

At OUCARES, individuals are empowered to communicate with others and about themselves through unique, fun and interactive classes, as well as social clubs and recreational and learning programs.

Homes for Autism focuses its mission on the question, "What happens to children with an autism spectrum disorder when they grow up?" The organization's name conveys its commitment and mission to provide housing for adults with autism.

We buy and maintain homes for adults with autism," Gerard said. "It's a good partnership with OU." The university focuses heavily on children with autism and research, while Homes for Autism focuses on adults and their housing needs.



Homes for Autism was founded about 15 years ago, and works direct-ly with families. "We're a very small organization," Gerard said. They help families find a home nearby, with the adults involved who have autism usually on the lower end of the functioning spectrum.

The organization has an annual black tie fund-raising dinner, and Gerard noted like many nonprofits it is having a tough time raising money. "That was why we embarked on this association with Oakland University."

Homes for Autism owns five homes, which are involved in a lease situation based on family income. A couple homes have three residents each who've lived there a long time, while others have one resident.

Life expectancy is normal for those with autism, Gerard said. "That's what makes this so needed. We are very unique in that way." Autistic children, who can be destructive in other group home settings, often outlive their parents.

"There still is no cause, no cure," added Gerard, noting more are being diagnosed with autism now. The larger Autism Speaks organization and its advocates have boosted awareness significantly, she said.

Homes for Autism owns homes in southeastern Michigan in order to provide independent living to adults with autistic challenges, while working in a coordinated effort with support programs available to these adults to provide peace of mind to families. Homes for Autism provides initial down payments and becomes financial partners with families to help with both unexpected and expected annual maintenance needs.

For more information on sponsoring, participating in or volunteering for the Run for Autism, visit www. oakland.edu/oucares. Participants who register early will receive a Tshirt to commemorate their support and participation. Gerard noted the event Web site at therunforautism. org is live and has "all the informa-tion you could possibly need."

Check-in time will be 8 a.m. Race start time is 9:15 a.m. (5k) and 9:50 a.m. (10k). Early entry fee is \$25 (with commemorative shirt). Late entry fee is \$30 after May 1. There will be medals for the top three 10k runners in each age category.

The Oakland University and Homes for Autism Web sites contributed to this report.

Check terms of listing agreement

Q: I am attempting to rent my property and found that the real estate agent has offered me a three-year lease but wants a double commission as opposed to one month's rent, i.e. two months' rent because of that. What do you think?

A: It of course depends upon your listing agreement with the real estate agent. But I do not believe that the real estate agent should be attempting to collect more than one



month's rent regardless of the length of the lease unless you are willing, as a matter of gratuity, to pay same. Basically the terms of the listing agreement will apply but I

Robert Meisner

have seen that several real estate agents are attempting to collect additional commissions even though they may not be strictly entitled to it under the listing agreement. It then becomes a matter of negotiations with you and the real estate agent should you wish to pay any more of a commission.

Q: I am interested in making a modification to the exterior of my condominium unit to allow one of my wife's sisters to visit the premises who is in a wheelchair. I have asked the association for permission but the managing agent, it appears on his own, has denied my request. What do you think?

A: The Michigan

Condominium Act as well as the. Michigan Handicappers Act and

Short sale

There will be a Homeowner Short Sale Informational Seminar 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 24, at the Bank of America office. 28746 Woodward Ave., Royal Oak. This presentation will offer positive options offered by professionals with a successful track record working with sellers and lenders to agree upon a "short sale." A short sale is defined as selling a property for less than what is owed with an opportunity to be relieved of the remaining loan balance. E-mail jahalpin@metropolitantitle.com or call Julia Halpin at (248) 722-4071 to RSVP. Space is limited. Sponsored by: Metropolitan Title/Julia Halpin; attorney Scott Galloway of Galloway and Collens PLLC: Bank of American/Tim Wayland; Woodwardside Office GMAC Sine Monaghan Real Estate/Susan Carter.

Seminar

There will be a Homebuyers & Sellers Seminar Thursday, Feb. 26, at 6 p.m. It will cover: What is a

for learning. There's a free seminar every week: Tuesday or Saturday, 11 a.m. to noon at 27555 Executive Drive (off West 12 Mile and Halsted), Farmington Hills 48331. For details, contact Steve Leibhan. (248) 553-0400, Ext. 2500.

erty tax profile.

Kelly Sweeney is the 2008 Michigan Association of Realtor's Realtor of the Year for the Michigan Consolidated Association

short sale? Should I sell or buy with a short sale transaction? Sponsored by Great Lakes GMAC Real Estate & Homesite Mortgage. Location of the seminar is 2915 S. Rochester Road, Rochester Hills (on the northeast corner of Rochester and Auburn roads).

To reserve a seat, call (248) 293-0000. Space is limited.

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Tax seminars

BRIEFS

Weir Manuel Realtors will be presenting "Everything You Need To Know About Property Taxes." The public is invited to the free seminars being held in Birmingham, Rochester and West Bloomfield in February.

The seminars, conducted by Kelly Sweeney, owner and CEO of Weir Manuel and former state certified assessor, will be geared towards helping consumers understand how property taxes are assessed, and how to know when a property tax assessment can - and should - be appealed. Attendees who pre-register will be given a personal propof Realtors. He is a highly sought after public speaker and has appeared on radio, TV and in print. Sweeney is also a contributor to National Public Radio's business show, "Marketplace."

"More than ever before, taxpayers need to take control of their rights as homeowners and understand every aspect of home ownership," said Sweeney.

Seminars will be held the evenings of Feb. 24 in Birmingham; Feb. 23 at the Rochester Community House; and Feb. 25 in West Bloomfield. Refreshments will be served. Consumers are asked to reserve a complimentary seat at any seminar by phoning Weir Manuel Realtors, Birmingham, at (248) 644-6300.

\$200,000

\$400,000 \$160,000

\$206,000

\$341,000

\$75,000 \$335,000

\$75,000

\$192,000 \$120,000

\$160,000 \$176,000

\$165,000

\$63,000

\$35,000

\$107,000 \$55,000

\$80,000

\$48,000

\$39,000

federal law provide that you are entitled to reasonable access to vour unit if you are handicapped. Moreover, the Michigan **Condominium Act provides** that if a person who regularly visits your unit is disabled, then you have a right to seek approval from the association to make modifications to provide access to that disabled person. The association is under an obligation to allow you to make the modification assuming it is reasonable although it will be at your cost. Moreover, if the managing agent is unilaterally denying you such approval, that matter should be brought to the attention of the Board of Directors as it is not management company's responsibility to unilaterally make such a decision which, in my judgment, would be a basis for that managing company being terminated.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. For more information, call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Oct. 27-31, 2008, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office, plus some from Oakland County. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales

prices for the properties sold in that time period. Canton 1684 Brookdale Dr

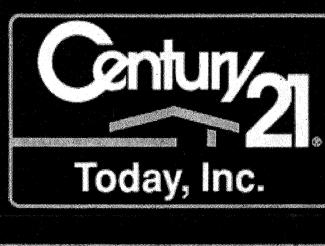
	45120 Brunswick Dr		· · · 1	\$186,00
	43266 Candlewood Ct			\$200,00
	4071 Cornerstone Dr			\$146,000
	1714 Fern Ct			\$168,000
	41971 Glen Arbor St			\$205,00
2	6195 Gloucester Dr		•1•	\$170,00
	49563 Great Falls Rd			\$300,000
	48557 Greenwich Cir	1.412		\$290,00
	4000 Hunters Cir E			\$104,00
	44512 Meadowcreek Ln			\$138,00

888.21.HOMES

370 W Canford Park Farmington 33840 Grand River Ave 20919 Robinwood St 35898 Smithfield Rd **Farmington Hills** 23703 Barfield St 31078 Berryhill St 32402 Bonnet Hill Rd 23496 Derby Ln 29375 Laurel Dr 21324 Lauren Ln 21324 Mulberry Ct \$220.000 21324 Mulberty Cl 28374 Schroeder St 23985 Springbrook Dr 34368 Thornbrook Dr 30024 W 12 Mile Rd 30535 W 14 Mile Rd 32501 W Wayburn St 27283 Winterset Cir **Garden City** 31124 Dawson St 919 Garden St

HOMES SOLD 29415 Sheridan St \$73,000 29521 Warren Rd \$230,000 Livonia 9924 Arden St 15793 Blue Skies St \$235.000 16001 Foch St 15679 Liverpool St \$122,000 \$168,000 \$198,000 14942 Melrose St 33047 Middleboro St \$206,000 18281 University Park Dr Milford \$100.000 4216 Bordt Ln \$290,000 Northville \$60,000 \$355,000 \$78,000 44438 Broadmoor Blvd 20805 E Glen Haven Cir 46924 Greenridge Dr \$214,000 \$33,000 18858 Heather Ridge Dr 45443 Tournament Dr 542 W Dunlap St \$39,000 \$122,000 \$283,000 50842 Calvert Isle Dr \$119 000 22282 Chase Dr 26417 Crestwood Dr \$50,000

\$87,000	22719 Heatherbrae Way
\$105,000	45631 Irvine Dr
	30915 Jasper Rdg
\$136,000	24501 Kings Pointe
\$253,000	51110 Mayfair Ter
\$93,000	23525 N Rockledge
\$183,000	41266 Scarborough Ln
\$94,000	39879 Village Wood Ln
\$177,000	Plymouth
\$80,000	40739 Firwood Dr
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	40403 Newport Dr
\$295,000	9326 Rocker Ave
	1200 Ross St
\$460,000	1098 Simpson St
\$100,000	Redford
\$315,000	10003 Arnold
\$475,000	19353 Poinciana
\$875,000	14342 Sarasota
\$525,000	25929 Student
6407 000	Westland
\$607,000	1244 Dénice St
\$415,000	30414 Hiveley St
\$530,000	1253 Woodbourne St



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rates available Fridays after	2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.	com. Key to "C	Other" C	Column - a	J = Jumbo	,
A = Arm, V = VA, F = FHA 8	NR = Not Reported. All Lende	rs are Equal O	pportu	nity Lende	rs. 🟠	
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Batmobile Look-Alike Saturn Sky Has The Fun Factor

Advertising Feature



OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS



By Dave Menard ForAll OpinionsAlltheTime.com and Avanti NewsFeatures

I'm not quite sure how I feel about the 2009 Saturn Sky Red Line. It looks great in your driveway, with a look that can compete with a fine European roadster. Once inside, its ride and handling are quick and nimble. And it has plenty of power and acceleration.

So what's the problem?

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5:00 p.m. Thursday

4:30 p.m. Tuesday

3 p.m. Monday

Thursday Real Estate Display

View the Observer &

Eccentric Automotive

Classifieds on the web:

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 19, 2009

Nothing serious, I suppose. Just the fact that getting in and out of the Sky is a chore, and once inside, tall drivers (like me) can feel like they're inside one of those clown cars.

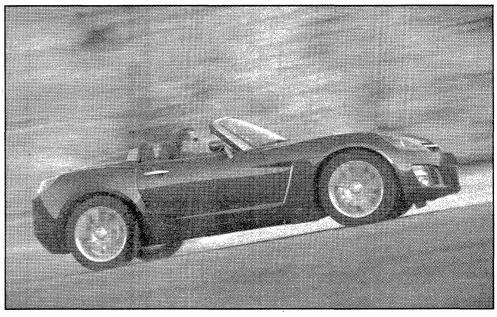
The interior, while it looks like the interior of a nice roadster, is just a little too small and cramped for tall drivers like me. Opening the convertible top helps, but even with the seat all the way back, there is not a lot of leg and hip room.

And forget about using the Sky for anything like shopping. The trunk is tiny and there is no room behind the seats for storage. Heck, there aren't even cupholders.

No, this is not the car for long road trips, doing the grocery shopping or picking up the kids from soccer practice. But you know what? There are plenty of other cars, vans and trucks for those chores. The Saturn Sky Red Line, however, is the kind of car that's built to scoot around town and have some fun doing it. And at that, it excels.

The Sky Red Line will get you noticed. Start with sharp lines and an aggressive look. The Red Line features decorative hood vents, a pronounced fender peak, functional brake cooling vents and black headlamp bezels. The raised peaks on the trunk lid behind the seats remind me of the Batmobile. The Sky Red Line has polished aluminum alloy wheels and dual polished aluminum exhausts; 18-inch wheels on a car this small and low to the ground make for a very cool, sporty look.

Inside the cramped interior, you'll find a welldesigned cockpit. The instrument panel features a sideby-side speedometer and tachometer, driver information center and a digital boost gauge. Climate and audio controls are logically laid out. The steering



The Sky is great if you're not tall but can be hard to get into and out of if you're over 6 feet tall.

wheel is leather-wrapped and features auxiliary audio controls. The shift knob is also leather-wrapped and the standard leather seats are comfortable and provide good support.

The Sky Red Line comes with power windows and locks, power mirrors and air-conditioning. The standard audio system is an AM/FM/CD system with sixspeakers. A Monsoon 225-watt, seven-speaker system is also available.

As with all General Motors vehicles, OnStar is standard, and it includes Bluetooth connectivity. With OnStar, you can make and receive calls hands-free, get updated vehicle diagnostics, ask for directions or restaurant recommendations or summon emergency help at the touch of a button. The system also automatically calls for assistance in the event airbags are deployed.

Speaking of airbags, the Sky Red Line has dual-stage frontal airbags. The car also comes with tire-pressure monitoring, remote keyless entry and an engine immobilizer.

The rear-wheel drive Red Line version of the Sky comes with a Ecotec turbocharged 2.0-liter engine, rated at 194 horsepower and 260 lb.-ft. of torque – more than enough to get a car this size off the line quickly.

The standard transmission is a standard transmission (get it?); a five-speed manual is the tranny that comes with the Red Line. You can get a five-speed automatic if you prefer. I'd normally say that I'd prefer the manual on a roadster, but the thought of me having to use a clutch in the cramped cabin is not very appealing. The automatic in the test vehicle was more than adequate. This powertrain is EPA rated at 19 mpg in city driving and 27 mpg on the highway. Add an extra mile-per-gallon in the highway if you get the five-speed manual. Saturn recommends premium fuel, but it's not

required.

The Red Line gives you the ride and handling you'd expect from a good roadster – plenty of road feel without being uncomfortable. With power rack-andpinion hydraulic steering, the car is easy to maneuver and park, and the steering responds quickly to changes in direction.

The suspension is an independent short/long arm system with coil springs and a 33.3mm stabilizer bar in the front and a 25.4mm stabilizer bar in the rear. Electronic Stability Control is standard.

The standard four-wheel anti-lock disc brakes are very good. Electronic Brake Distribution is standard; it senses and distributes braking power to the four wheels depending on road conditions, traction levels and vehicle load.

The 2009 Saturn Sky Red Line starts at about \$32,500. Add the automatic transmission (\$995) and you're at \$33,500.

The Saturn Sky Red Line is a sharp car to look at, and fun to drive. If you're looking at something like this, chances are you already aren't expecting to be able to load it up with stuff or be a great passenger car.

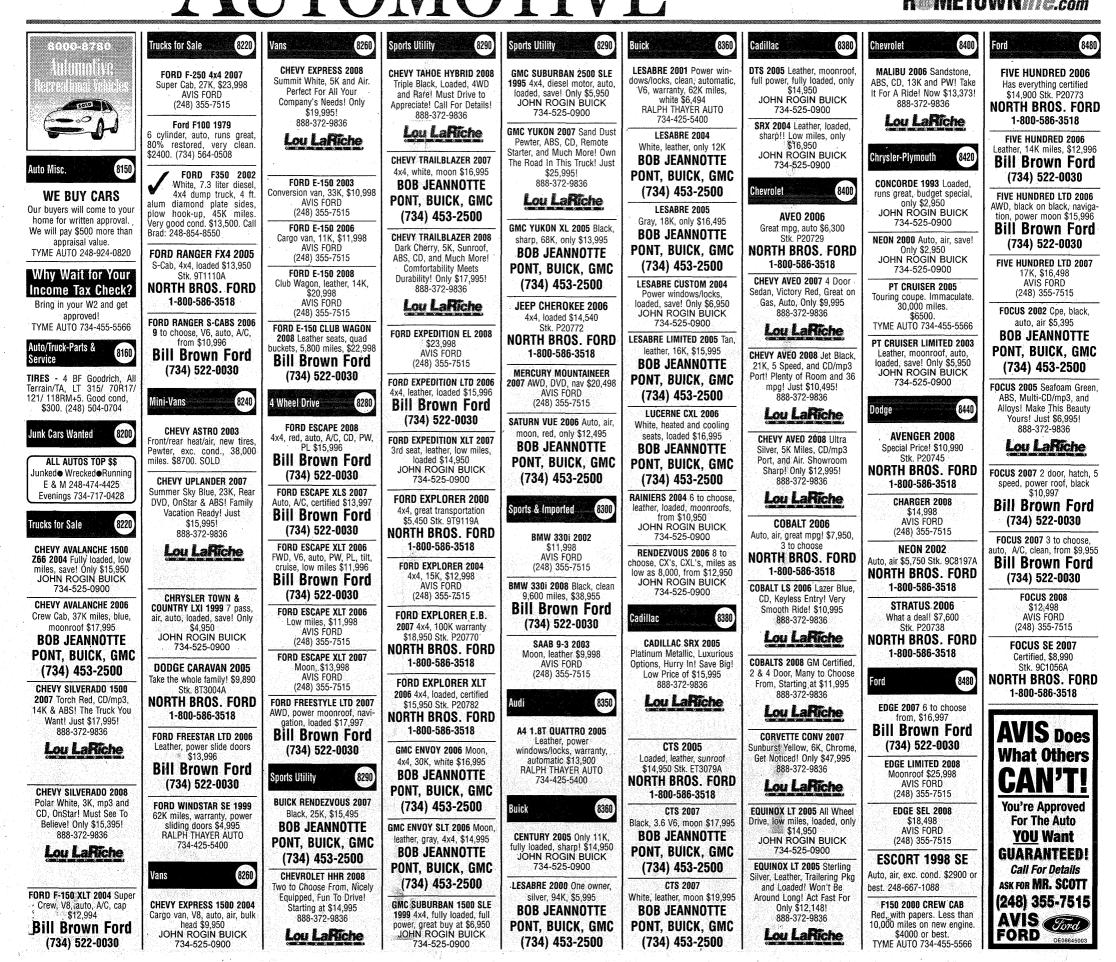
But a few more inches of room inside would really be nice.

AllOpinionsAlltheTime.com auto critic Dave Menard is senior editor of Avanti NewsFeatures. He can be reached at Avanti1054@aol.com < mailto:Avanti1054@aol.com> **2009 Saturn Sky Red Line** Vehicle class: Two-seat sports car. Power: 2.0-liter, Ecotec turbo engine. Mileage: 19 city / 27 highway. Where built: Wilmington, DE. Base price: \$32,500. Price as tested: \$33,495.

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248-348-6430 Beautiful Architects House Built In 1963 2 FP, lots of light, wood floors, master suite w/ Jacuzzi. 2.5 garage w/lots of storage. Beautifully landscaped. Deck, sandstone patio. Walk to

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floor master with shower & soaking tub, 2nd floor bedrooms have private baths & dressing

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734-455-7000 Plymouth COUNTRY LIVING IN THE CITY! Come home to this warm and cozy bungalow w/natural fireplace and lots of natural wood. Oak cabinet kitchen w/laminate floor. 2 full baths. Large

Great Opportunity! Own this 2 yr old home at a

great price, 4 bdrms, 2.5 baths, Just needs some

Well Kept Home! Well kept home in Popular Carriage Trace. Seller has \$440,000 invested. Granite kit w/cherry cabinets, ceramic

backsplash. GR w/hrdwd flrs, soaring ceiling.

elbow grease and kitchen rehab.

Waterford 248-684-1065 Great buy with this bank-owned condo in super condition. 2 BR and 2 full baths. Ready to move in!

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BEST BUY FOR THE MONEY IN CHATTERTON! Very well-maintained and conveniently located condo. Cherry cabs, wood floors, neutral carpet & paint, bonus loft, WIC, open & spacious floor plan. Att. garage. (29013390) \$159,900



734-455-7000 Canto SPACIOUS UPDATED COLONIAL ON CUL-DE-SAC Pergo style flr in hall/kitchen, berber carpt & bay window in family rm, thermo windows '05, furn Q2, FP w/raised hearth, crn moldings, new drive & steel door. (29016271)



Canton 734-455-7000 SPECTACULAR CANTON CONDO in a golf course community w/2BRS & 2 full baths. Neutral all thru w/custom kitchen cabinets and attached garage w/opener. All SS appls + washer & drver



Canton 734-455-7000 SHARP RANCH CONDO! Very nice 2BR private end unit ranch in North Canton. Remodeled kitchen/bath, full basement under whole unit Best spot in complex!



248-684-1065 Commerce Charming ranch on half acre parcel. Great location, new carpet, 6 panel drs., FR w/ FP, neutral decor, FF laundry, MBR w/closet organizers, bsmt, deck.

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(28195345)

End of Cul-de-sac 1+ Acre Lot Updates since 2002 include new roof & furnace, Pella windows & DWs, KIT w/cherry cabs, granite. HWH 2007. Walkout basement has in-law qtr, rec room, new BA, KIT (28195842) \$243,537



Fenton 248-684-1065 Build your dream home on this fabulous Lakefront acreage! 500 acres of all-sports lakes, wooded, W/O sites, gorgeous views! Minutes from dwtn Linden.



Garden City 734-591-9200 Newer home built 2001. Move in Ready. Needs no work. Well Maintain in excell cond. Every new on 2001: Spac kit w/opn flr plan. Hwdwd flrs, newer crpt, excell stor, neut decor.Lg MBR w/BA. Min 1% EMD to be hld by LB (29004146) \$139,900



Green Oak 248-437-3800 Relocation Forces Sale! Custom lake front home on Hidden Lake w/private dock. This home offers the lifestyle you are looking for. The home has it all w/soaring ceilings, 1st flr mstr.



Green Oak 248-437-3800 Ring In The New Year With This Colonial Set in great family neighborhood! Extensive landscaping surrounds hm w/many mature trees for back yard privacy. Large deck wraps around side entry & back of hm. (28204093) \$199,000



734-591-9200 SELLERS RELO FORCES SALE Well Kept 3BR Brk Ranch w/open floor plan & vault ceil. Fin bsmnt w/4th BR, newer roof, prime priv loc on quite low traf ct backing to Park, patio, 2 car det ga



248-437-3800 Lyon 1.5 Acre Lot Backs To Coyote Golf Course Add'I fin. bonus room upstairs. Cherry cabinets, granite countertops in kitchen. Some hardwood-shows well. 4 BR, 3.1 BA. Bank owned



Lyon Township 248-437-3800 Ready For Immediate Occupancy! Waiting for buyer's flooring & countertop choices. Great flr plan. FP in great rm. Maple cabinets in kitchen & baths. Lrg mstr suite with walk-in discred butter in the second closet & bath. \$209,900



Milford 248-684-1065 Luxury riverfront condo in downtown Milford across from Central Park! Craftsman style inspired with fin w/o. oak cabs, granits ctops, HDWD flrs, deck.



Milford 248-684-1065 Home with 3.9 acres. First floor laundry Unfinished basement. Two car attached garage with side entry. Dining, living and family rooms. Library/study







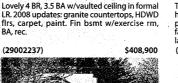












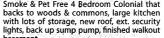




















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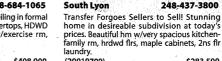
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2 Bedroom Duplex Close to downtown Northville, Cider Mill, and Ford Field. Move in

condition. No pets. Owner is agent.

248-684-1065





and the state of the state

South Lyon 248-437-3800 All Sports Lake Front Ranch, This chain of lakes is a well kept secret, beautiful tranquil area close to everything. 3 BR, 2 BA, updated kitchen. Move in condition. Estate Sale.

(28094869) \$275.000



248-437-3800 Living rm has gas fp, kit w/breakfast nook. Both rms have door leading to deck, formal DR w/bay window, mstr BR has 2 W/I closets \$269,900



Ypsilanti Great starter home in historic Ypsilanti! Cute bungalow w/many updates: roof, furnace. windows, HWH, paint. Kit appl. stay. 0.4 acre treed lot.





\$50,000

w/inground pool & beautifully maintained yard! 3BD, 1BA, new roof, water heater & appliances. Close to schools, shopping & freeways! 10 min to airport. (28121774) \$119,000



63 Westland 734-284-5400

WHY RENT WHEN YOU CAN OWN? 2 BD condo comes w/an awesome view of the woods! Incl: microwave, dishwasher, fridge, & stove. Livonia Schools. Pool & Clubhouse. Close to Westland Mall.





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(28146975)

\$283,500



Pristine Spacious Ranch, Pro Landscaping Park like setting: Eat in KIT-granite & Island, GR w/NAT FP. PROF FIN BSMT w/2ND KIT. MSTR W/CATH ceiling, W/I closet, BA w/jet tub & SEP shower. Oversized GAR.



248-684-1065

\$79,900

(28185092)

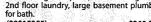
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\$485,000

Novi



Lovely 3 Bedroom Colonial with cherry kitchen. granite island, great room with transom window & gas fireplace, formal dining room, 2nd floor laundry, large basement plumbed \$260,000



