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Trick or treat

Do you have your home decorated for Halloween? The Plymouth Observer would like to hear about it.

Please submit pictures of your decorations, along with a little bit of information about how long you've been decorating, whatever the "theme" might be, and other Halloween traditions observed in your home.

Email the photos as JPEG attachments to Plymouth Observer Editor Brad Kadrich at bkadrich@hometownlife.com, making sure to include your family's name, address (not for publication), the names of anyone who might be in the picture, and a phone number (also not for publication) we can call if we have any questions.

Philharmonic auction

The Friends of the Michigan Philharmonic hosts its first fundraising auction 6-7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19, at the Plymouth Elks Club, 41700 Ann Arbor Road.

For more information, call Jeanette Sullivan at (734) 455-6374 or e-mail jeanette@ michphil.org.

Help wanted

Want to make a difference by helping a senior citizen or person with a disability? Plymouth Community U Way is looking for volunteers to clean yards and do light chores in Plymouth, Plymouth Township and Canton on Saturday, Nov. 3.

Volunteers will meet on the day of event at The Salvation Army Plymouth Corps, 9451 S. Main St., south of Ann Arbor Road. Check-in time is 8 a.m. when the PCUW will provide a continental breakfast.

To volunteer, call Pat VanDusen at (734) 453-6879, Ext. 7, or e-mail pat.vandusen@pcuw. org before Oct. 19.

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Police: Attack in township led to man's fatal shooting

By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer

A Plymouth police officer "clearly in fear for his life" shot and killed a man Sunday night in Plymouth Township when the man attacked him with a tire iron, according to the Michigan State Police.

The shooting occurred around 11 p.m. near Sparr's Florist in the area of Joy Road and Lilley after the officer responded to a call about someone breaking windows. The 25-year-old township man who was shot was transported to Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills, where he was pronounced dead around 1:30 a.m., said Sgt. Joe White, an MSP detective investigating the shooting.

Police on Wednesday were not identifying the dead man or the officer involved.

The officer was not hurt; Plymouth Police Chief Al Cox said the officer has been on the force less than 10 years and was not on duty Wednesday.

White said his investigation is awaiting the results of toxicology tests on the deceased.

White would not specifically describe the confrontation that led to the shooting, but said the 25-year-old had a tire iron, displayed "threatening mannerisms" and that the officer "clearly was in fear for his life."

The officer was responding to a report of someone breaking house and vehicle windows, White said.

One house near Sparr's had at least three boarded-up windows Monday, and there was broken glass in the parking lot of the flower shop.

Please see SHOOTING, A3



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Michael Panagiotides, of Plymouth, offers a taste of Restaurant Challenge chili to daughter Athena, 19 months old. She's already a fan of the red stuff.

A chili reception

Fans flock to downtown for 17th cookoff

By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer

A trio of high school buddies took a team approach Sunday in whipping up more than a dozen gallons of Irish Fire Chili.

And that approach paid off — again — as the team of Chris Thompson, Sean Skinner and Paul Perlongo

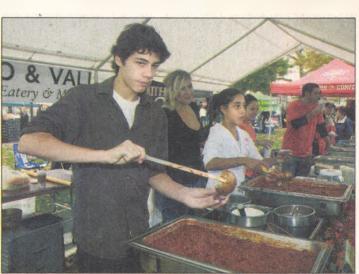
More chili

grabbed first place in the nonphotos, A10. restaurant People's Choice cat-

egory during the 17th annual Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff at Kellogg Park and The Gathering in downtown Plymouth.

"We tweak it a little bit," Skinner said Tuesday, describing the Irish Fire he and his friends serve every year. "We keep adding peppers every year. ... It's got a

little bit of a burn." Thousands of samples of more than 60 different kinds of chili were served during the festival, along with samples from the 19 restaurants — the



Nicola DePalma and sister Valentina DePalma ladle out chili for the Restaurant Challenge. The family's restaurant, Nico and Vali, located at the corner of Wing and Deer streets, was named for these two.

most ever — in the Restaurant Chili Challenge, said Annette Horn, president of Great Lakes

Regional Chili Inc. The festival, which also featured a motorcycle show, performances by dance troupes and a concert by Steve King and the Dittilies, was a fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County. The Thompson-Skinner-Per-

longo team roared back to a People's Choice first after a second-place finish last year. The team also took top People's Choice honors in 2008, 2009 and 2010.

Please see CHILI, A4

Kids take to downtown for Palooza

By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer

Grown-ups have their ladies nights out, their restaurant crawls, their interactive mysteries and more to keep them entertained in downtown Plym-

On Sunday, it'll be the kids' turn. Pumpkin Palooza, a Halloweenthemed street party with games, crafts, contests and, of course, tricks and treats, will make its second visit downtown noon to 3 p.m. Sunday.

"It was a big hit last year. The kids loved it, the parents loved it," said Lindsey Lebovitz, a Pumpkin Palooza organizer and the owner of Creatopia, a pottery-decorating studio on Ann Arbor

Pumpkin Palooza is being organized by downtown business owners — about 20 businesses are participating — and several major sponsors have been enlisted, including Jack Demmer Ford, Genisys Credit Union and the city's recreation department.

Making its debut last year, Pumpkin Palooza replaced the downtown trick or treating Halloween event that had taken place for many years.

"It adds a little more fun to the day with games and activities," Lebovitz said.

At Creatopia, children will be making painted "fingerprint snowmen" on tiles that will then be fired and turned into refrigerator magnets.

At the nearby Candy Trail, kids can get their faces painted, and a ventriloquist will be performing. At Focal Point, a photography studio down the street, visitors can stop in at an instant photo booth; the photos will be emailed to them.

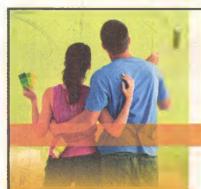
The activities are free.

There will also be pumpkin decorating at Dearborn Jewelers, sidewalk chalk in the parking lot outside Jill Andra Young Photography, "pirate music" at Hand On Leather, a haunted alley and candy booths.

Games will include pumpkin bowling, a golf ball toss, sack races and "ghost waiter" races.

Children are encouraged to wear costumes, and there will be a costume contest at 1:30 p.m. at The Gathering. A costume contest for pets is scheduled

Please see PALOOZA, A3



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Craft show benefits college scholarships

Shoppers can browse a juried arts and craft show while investing in the future of education at the 28th annual Delta Kappa Gamma craft show 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 20.

The show will feature handmade jewelry, pottery, clothing, woodwork, metal sculpture, knitted items and more

The event will also offer drawings for several prizes such as an Amish Quilt, gift certificates from many fine local restaurants, a golf outing at Fox Hills and four tickets to a spring 2013 Detroit Tiger game,

An added feature this year is a used paperback book sale in collaboration with the American Association of University Women.

The society's goal is to

support PCCS graduating seniors, entering the teaching profession. Currently the group sponsors several students, \$500 per student the first year, and increasing yearly, if the student maintains a certain GPA and continues in teaching.

"We have raised well over \$100,000 in the group's history, and continue to provide support to those who apply and qualify," said society member Bev Brooks.

The show takes place at West Middle School, 44401 Ann Arbor Trail (at Sheldon), in Plymouth. Admission is \$2, lunch is

available. PCCS students interested in applying for Delta Kappa Gamma scholarships should contact their school's counseling office.

Maguire: Public safety is top priority

Democrat Alanna Maguire is one of six candidates for four trustee seats on the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees in the Nov. 6 general election. She took a few mirutes to share some views on issues in the township (similar questions were answered by the four Republican challengers before the primary):

Observer: Why are you running for a township board

Maguire: I was increasingly unhappy with the direction of the current board. I started regularly attending meetings during the issue with the Plymouth Fire Department and I saw a lack of respect towards people who came to air their concerns. The board needs to be respectful and accountable to the people of Plymouth Township.

Observer: What do you see as the role/responsibilities of

the position you seek? Maguire: Township trustees are responsible for legislative issues in our community. They are responsible for introducing motions and voting on all matters related to township government including public safety issues, public works plans, administrative reforms, tax policy, and fostering economic development. I would like to see the trustees play a more active role in the community.

Observer: What are the three biggest issues facing

THE MAGUIRE FILE

Name: Alanna Maguire Hometown: Plymouth

Family: Parents Raymond & Mary Maguire; Brothers Evin (25) and Ross (23) Maguire; Grandmother Irene Leib (all Plymouth Township residents) Profession: Small business owner; Consultant

Education: BAs in political science

and psychology, University of Michigan; masters in Public Policy, Michigan State

Previous public-sector experience: Consultant for the Great Lakes Regional Office of the International Joint Commission; Research Assistant at University of Michigan; Graduate Research Assistant at Michigan State University; Intern in the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office Community involvement: Food Gatherers Food Bank Volunteer, Ann Arbor; Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Clothing Bank Annual Donation Drive Organizer; Disabled American Veterans; Plymouth Community Council on Aging; Relay for Life, Plymouth; Plymouth YMCA; Plymouth Goodfellows - No Child Without a Christmas

Website: www.alannafortrustee.com

Plymouth Township? How would you address them?

Maguire: Public safety, restoring trust to the Board of Trustees, and promoting economic development are the three biggest issues facing Plymouth Township. We all deserve to feel safe in our homes. I will work to restore our fire department, reopen the Lake Pointe Fire Station, and ensure that our police department maintains its quality, professional service. I will be respectful and responsive to community concerns. I will work to create a more business-friendly environment by streamlining our permitting process,

improving and expanding our infrastructure, and networking with the business community.

Observer: What strengths would you bring to the board that set you apart from other candidates?

Maguire: Unlike many people my age, I made the commitment to stay in Plymouth Township after college and graduate school. I would take my educational experience in public policy and public safety and apply what I have learned to the board. As a non-incumbent I would bring fresh ideas for innovation and would serve as a counterweight to this board.

Observer: What do you think

of the township board's recent decision to lay off Plymouth **Community Fire Department** firefighters? What, if anything, about that decision would you try to change if you were elected?

Maguire: I was disappointed by the Township's decision to lay off several firefighters and close the Lake Pointe Station. Residents of Plymouth's east side feel closed off from the rest of our community. I'm concerned about slower response times brought about by a chronically understaffed department. We're outlaying a lot of money for overtime costs and litigation. Cascading effects of a diminished fire department include possible reductions in our property values, higher insurance rates, and the perception that Plymouth Township is not a desirable place to live/do busi-

Observer: What do you think of the current board's budget priorities? Where would your priorities lie if you were on the

Maguire: Government always comes down to budget priorities. Good government officials have to be focused on providing the best quality services at the lowest cost to the tax payer. Good government officials must differentiate between essential and non-essential services. One of the most important responsibilities of

Please see MAGUIRE, A3







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MAGUIRE

Continued from page A2

a government is to keep people safe. I choose to prioritize public safety, recognizing that it is an essential service of government.

Observer: Attracting new businesses, and encouraging business expansion, has been a major focus for the current administration. Do you think enough is being done? If not, what more could be done at the township level?

Maguire: The board could be doing a lot more. Trustees should be meeting with business groups on a regular basis to learn about current business needs/concerns. We need to facilitate a twoway dialogue between the township and the business community. We need to be innovative and highlight our resources. Streamlining our permitting process, improving and expanding our infrastructure, offering tax incentives, and networking with prospective businesses can all attract the type of growth that will bring higher property values, more revenue, and improvements in sales for our existing businesses.

Observer: How would your professional experience and community involvement serve you should you be elected/re-

Maguire: As a lifelong resident of Plymouth, I'm deeply invested in seeing us succeed. I'm actively involved in this community and I believe I can make a positive contribution as a Trustee. I'm young and enthusiastic and would bring a fresh, new perspective to the Board of Trustees. Lastly, because I'm a small business owner, I put a premium on maximizing Plymouth's potential for economic growth.

SHOOTING

Continued from page A1

Neither a man who answered the door at the house nor a man at a neighboring house would talk about the incident Monday afternoon. An employee at Sparr's said she didn't have information about it.

Cox was tight-lipped about the incident, saying he didn't want to interfere with the MSP investigation.

He did say the officer was the first to respond to the township disturbance call, which came in just before 11 p.m. Sunday. He was the lone officer on the scene at the time of the shooting, Cox

said, though other officers were en route.

Police in Plymouth and Plymouth Township share an emergency dispatch system and sometimes respond to each other's calls if they are able.

Cox said he wasn't sure when a Plymouth officer had last been involved in a fatal shooting. "It's been decades,"

he said Monday.

He said the city and the police administration are supportive of the officer.

"The police department and the city, we are standing by him and fully supporting him 150 percent," Cox said Wednesday.

mjachman@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2405

PALOOZA

Continued from page A1

for 1 p.m., also at The Gathering.

Many of the participating businesses will be displaying carved pumpkins outside, and visitors can vote for their favorites. Several downtown streets are expected to be closed for the event.

Lebovitz said that although Pumpkin Palooza draws a lot of people downtown, she's not sure it's a big shopping day. But it's a way for the businesses to do something for children, she said.

"We do all of these events for adults ... so we want to do something for kids," she said.

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.

MEDICARE COUNSELING Date/Time: Thursday, Nov. 1,

1-3 p.m. Location: United Home Health

Services office, 2200 Canton Center in Canton

Details: United Home Health Services offers free counseling with a certified MMAP (Medicare Medicaid Assistance Program) counselor. The counselor can help you review Medicare and Medicaid eligibility and the various plans, apply for Medicaid, research and enroll in Medicare Part D drug insurance, assist with Medicare supplemental plans, find pharmaceutical assistance programs, identify & report Medicare/Medicaid fraud and abuse issues, and explore long term care insurance options. No reservations necessary.

Contact: Call United Home Health Services, (734) 981-8820 or visit the MMAP website at www. mmapinc.org/pages/about.html









PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The crowds picked up after noon, as the weather held.

Continued from page A1

"We like getting together," said Skinner, an engineer at American Axle in Auburn Hills. "It's a fun day. We all really love chili."

Thompson, the team's leader, and Perlongo and Skinner have known each other since high school, Skinner said, and have been cooking chili together for six or seven years. With so much to do to prepare that much chilithe team sold 896 samples of about two ounces each - many of the chili cooks have assistants, Skinner said.

"Everything has to be prepared there," he said of cooking in The Gathering. "There's no cooking done ahead of time."

The festival's motorcycle show, which was on Ann Arbor Trail, drew hundreds of bikes. Trophies were awarded in 17 categories.

The cookoff also featured the organized "chili rides" of dozens of motorcyclists from the Motor City Harley Davidson and Dick Scott Classic dealerships.

Other winning festival cooks were:

• Best booth: Leo Buk of Trenton

· Best judged salsa: Ken Kostal, of Marblehead,

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The Motor City Cloggers entertain.

Ohio, for Island Heat Salsa. • Best judged red chili:

Richard Chauvin of Windsor, for South of the Border Chili.

 Best judged green chili: Jim Stoddard of Coppell, Texas, for Alien Chili.

 People's Choice — Restaurant Chili Challenge: TAP at the MGM Grand Casino, Detroit.

• Best judged - Restaurant Chili Challenge: R.U.B. BBO Pub, Detroit and Warren.

Proceed totals from the cookoff weren't available; last year's event netted more than \$40,000.

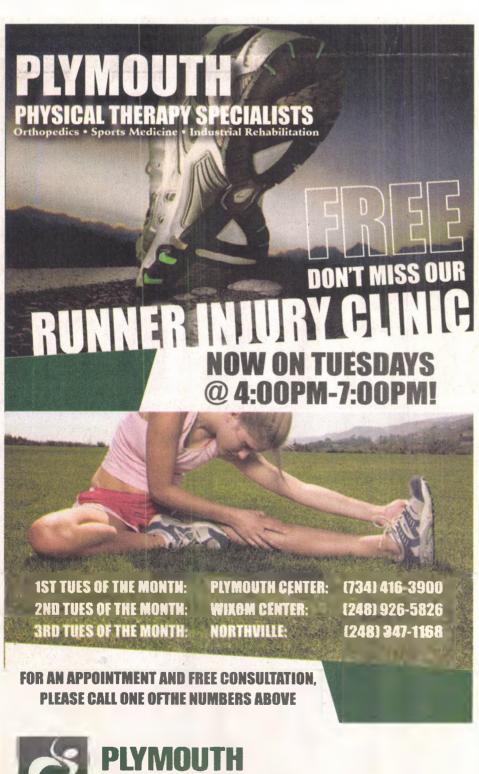
Skinner said festival visitors look forward to tasting the Irish Fire, and that he and his teammates are starting to rec-

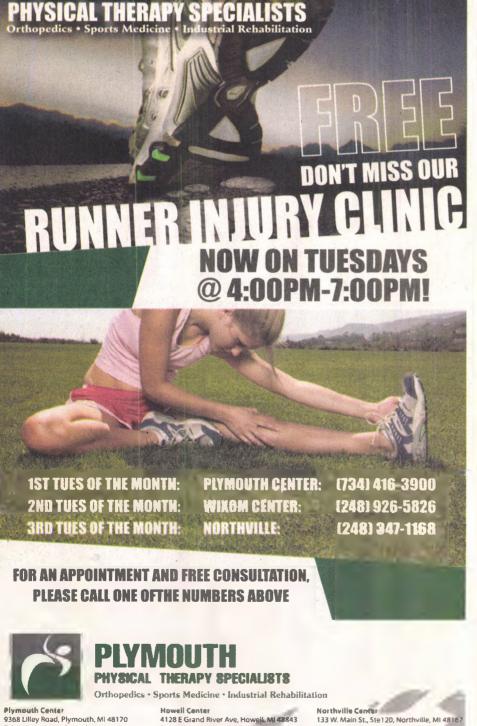
ognize many of them. "We see a lot of the same people coming up every year, wanting our chili," he said.

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The bikes arrive about 11:30 a.m. The threatening weather meant a lot fewer bikes on display.





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DISCOVER IIII REMARKABLE

Rain can't dampen spirits at band invite

By Peggy Fenwick Correspondent

The rain started early Saturday, and didn't really stop until about 7 p.m., which was about the same time the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band took the field to perform in the 2012 Great Lakes Invitational on the Canton High School varsity field.

The band competition, hosted by the Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters, featured six additional high school marching bands, all earning scores that will move them a step closer to the desired finalist positions at the Michigan Competing **Bands Association State** Championship held Nov. 3 at Ford Field in Detroit.

GLI chairperson and booster, Helen Rebandt, felt the day's activities went just fine.

"The event went very smoothly despite the rain," Rebandt said.

The rain started early in the day while the volunteer boosters were setting up the concession area where they grilled burgers, hot dogs, and kielbasa and sold snacks, pop and candy. Turns out, it was the hot chicken noodle soup, chili, and hot chocolate that seemed to be the big sellers

throughout the damp day. "Attitudes are high and everyone is smiling,' booster president Erin Babcock said. "The kids from Grant High School (located north of Grand Rapids) traveled three hours in buses then performed their 10-minute band routine in pouring rain, yet they all had great attitudes."

High scores

Other bands performing included Hazel Park, Dearborn Crestwood, Southgate Anderson. Farmington Harrison and Walled Lake Central.

Flight IV champion was Grant with a score of 65.6. Flight III went to Hazel Park with a 56.85. **Farmington Harrison** won the Flight II division with a 71.25 along with best music and general effect captions. Southgate Anderson won best visual performance in Flight II.



Canton High School sophomore Jackie Wine performs in front-line ensemble during the Great Lakes Invitational Saturday night.

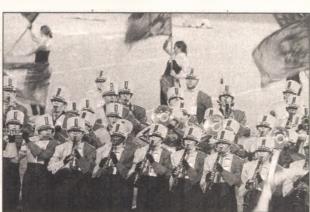


Collin Richter (from left), a senior at Canton High School, rehearses with seventhgraders Tristen Shao of East Middle School and Olivia Pahl of West Middle School.

The only Flight I band to compete, Walled Lake Central, won the high score of the day with a 79.5 (out of 100) and earned the Lundy Memorial Trophy (named after the late long-time Booster John Lundy) with their 2012 show called "Valhalla."

The rain stopped, though, right when the hometown band hit the field with their 2012 show called "The Last Dance." The 172-person Plymouth-Canton Marching Band, fresh from their Bands of America Regional Championship win in Pontiac last week, was sporting new uniforms for their eight-minute routine.

The Color Guard started the show with formal silver and black gowns, but ended in vibrant green full bodysuits that seemed to symbolize new growth. This year's show contains



The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band wowed the crowd with their annual Great Lakes Invitational exhibition Saturday night.

music from Louis Armstrong's "What a Wonderful World" and Jim Croce's "Time in a Bottle."

"Our kids looked and sounded fabulous," said senior parent Jeff Saenz, who serves as the equipment crew chief, in charge of helping students transport the equipment, large props and instruments. Saenz and his wife, Terri, participated in the annual tradition where parents of senior class band members release vellow and black balloons at the start of the Plymouth performance.

Teaching moment

Earlier in the day, band directors David Armbruster and Jonathan Thomann helped coordinate a wonderful day of education for the middle school students of the district who are interested in the band and color guard programs at the three-high school Educational Park.

With the help of booster parents and the middle school teachers, over 100 seventh- and eighth-graders participated in what is now an annual tradition known as PerCEPtion. The experience started at Friday night's football game between Park rivals Canton and Salem High Schools. The middle school kids were able



Percussion director Sean McElroy works with middle school percussionists during PerCEPtion weekend.

to play pep songs with the high school students and experience the fun under the Friday night lights.

Reporting to the Canton orchestra room at three o'clock Saturday afternoon, nearly 100 seventh and eight graders received a bright yellow T-shirt and personalized instruction in clinics for percussionists, brass and woodwind players, and even future color guard members. The entire group then packed into one large band room with the entire Plymouth-Canton Marching Band to rehearse the Star Spangled Banner.

The entire group of nearly 300 kids, wearing protective rain gear, walked to the center of

Henry Ford Community College

the football field where together with the Plymouth Fife & Drum Corp, they played our National Anthem for the crowd. After the performance, which was the start of the marching band competition, the younger kids were treated to lunch at the concession area.

For most, the rain was not a problem. "It was really fun," said Maya Malouin, seventh-grader and flutist from East Middle School. "We never get to play our instruments in the rain in middle school."

Elizabeth Walter, another East seventh grader summed up the day, "It's like a flash forward of what its like to be in high school," she said.





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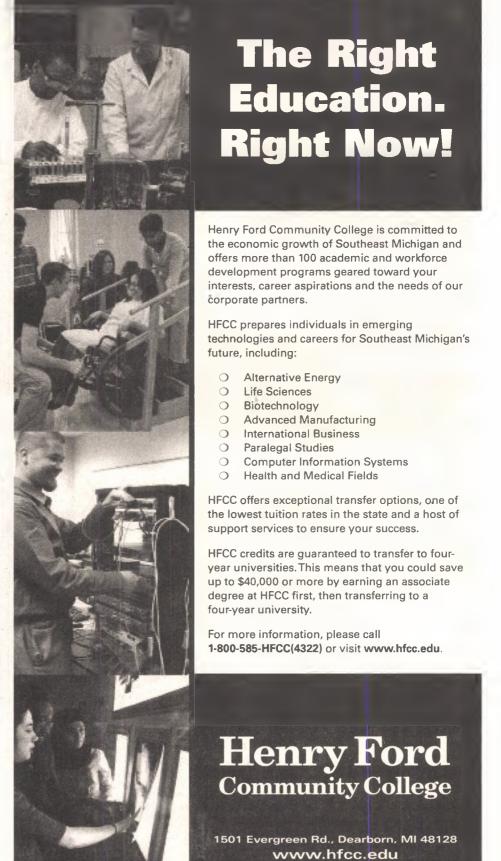
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Expenditures on Children by Families, 2011, U.S. Department of Agriculture. Amount for a middle income family including projected inflation costs.

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Winter 2013 registration opens October 29, 2012.

More must have apps for your smartphone

By Jon Gunnelis Guest Columnist

o many smartphone apps, so little time. Cut through the clutter of the Android marketplace and iTunes and read this quick guide to the must-have apps this fall.

Bad Piggies – The Angry Birds take a backseat to the pigs in this new addicting game. Bad Piggies follows a similar structure as the cultfavorite Angry Birds series. The familiar game was created by Rovio the Angry Birds creator and in just a few weeks has leapfrogged into the iTunes Top-10. It might not even be the best version of the Angry Birds series coming out this fall. Angry Birds Star Wars edition will be

released in November. **Viggle** – If you watch a lot of TV this application is for you. Viggle is much like GetGlue where users can use their smartphones to check in to television shows. Unlike GetGlue however, Vig- ' gle allows users to collect points which can be redeemed for gift cards to retailers, book stores and restaurants. I've used Viggle to checkin to football games and after a few weeks, I am already nearing a \$10 gift card to a pizza chain. Not an amazing benefit; but earning free pizza by watching football isn't a



Tech Savvy

Sunday. Pic Stitch-This application is a great toy for those amateur

to spend a

Jon Gunnells smartphone photographers. Pic Stitch users can take multiple photos and build them into a collage. The application allows users to add effects to the photo much like Instagram or Facebook camera. The application is free, or users can spring for the enhanced application which has more features and no ads. The enhanced version is 99 cents.

Passbook - This gem is only available to iPhone users but it wont be long before other developers and smartphone manufacturers follow suit. Passbook organizes a users documents from boarding passes to movie tickets. It even allows consumers to organize coupons, loyalty cards and gift cards. If you don't own an iPhone and still want to keep your loyalty cards in one place, try KeyRing which is a free application supported by many devices.

ESPN Scorecenter – This isn't a new application but during the MLB playoffs, ESPN Scorecenter

Macy's Optical

can push updates to your phone to keep informed about the Tigers games. This application also has scores for other major sports although with more detailed information like box scores, game summaries and more.

Doodlecast - Here's one just for the kids. For \$1.99 Doodlecast allows users to draw pictures and make storybooks. The application also supports voice commands so kids can narrate their books before uploading to YouTube to share with family members. Users must have a YouTube account to share videos, but if you don't have one - the account takes about three minutes to create.

Monopoly Millionaire This app for iPhones allows players to compete for \$1 million in a digital version of the classic board game.

Updated apps – A number of other popular apps have also released recent updates. Google+, Twitter for BlackBerry are a few top apps that have recently redesigned their mobile presence.

Are you using a great app that you want others to know about? Email me at the address below.

Jon Gunnells is a social media planner at a Detroitbased advertising agency. He can be reached at jonathan. gunnells@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @GunnSh0w.

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



Saad Yacoub, the owner of Trade Vine Market, hopes to expand his store to include a gourmet deli and food services.

Location key for Plymouth market

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

Trade Vine: The store features wide selections of fine Cigars, imported beer from all around the world, Liquor at State Minimum, discounted wine, RYO Tobacco, ATM, Lotto, Copy & Fax Services, and Weekly Promotions.

Observer: How did you first decide to open your business?

Trade Vine: Location was the main reason that helped to make my decision according to my 20 years of experiences in retail stores.

Observer: Why did you choose Plymouth?

Trade Vine: Plymouth Township has a constant growth in population, the quality of residents, safety, and supported to local

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Trade Vine: Store designed in a modern way when all products are at customers' reach for more convenience to shop, the quality and the varieties of products, pricing and customer services

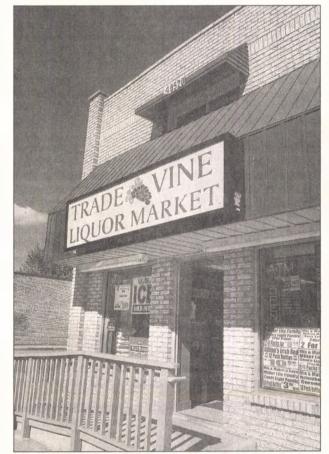
make the store unique. Observer: How has the business changed since it opened?

Trade Vine: Business has been growing daily thanks to Plymouth Township residents' support to local businesses.

Observer: How has the recent economy affected your business?

Trade Vine: The economy did not affect my business.

Observer: What's in Observer: Any advice for



Trade Vine Market is on Ann Arbor Trail east of Haggerty.

TRADE VINE MARKET

Business name and address: Trade Vine Market,

40522 Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth

Your name and title: Mr. Yacoub, owner Your hometown: Northville

Business opened when: Sept. 1, 2011 Number of employees: 2

Hours of operation: Sunday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to midnight.

Your business specialty: Imported beer, fine wine, liquor at state minimum, Lotto, wide selection of cigars, discounted RYO tobacco.

Business phone: (734) 667-2469

other business owners? Trade Vine: Customer service, cleanliness and pricing are the keys for

any business to successes.

store for the future of your business?

Trade Vine: My future goal for the store is to add gourmet deli and food

PLYMOUTH BUSINESS BRIEFS

Medical team

Arbor Hospice welcomes Keith Tobin, D.O. to its Plymouth medical team to oversee the care of patients in Plymouth, Livonia, Northville, Novi, West Bloomfield, Westland and surrounding communities.

Tobin has more than two decades of experience in fami-



ly and geriatric health

care. He holds a Doctor of Osteopathy from the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine in Biddeford, Maine, and received a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology/

Biology from Michigan Tobin is board certified by the Amer-

State University.

ican College of Osteopathy Family Physicians and the National Boards for Geriatric Medicine. In addition to his work with Arbor Hospice, Dr. Tobin is the president of American Geriatric Consultants, president of Keith M. Tobin D.O., P.C. and medical director of several senior residences and nursing centers. He has also served as a professor of osteopathy in multiple university settings.

Business news

From the desks of the good folks at the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority:

 Synergy Dance Academy has expanded their studio at 500 S. Main St. "The Synergy Annex" opened last week at 320 N. Main, just over the tracks

behind Plymouth Crossing. This new facility will be home to The Synergy Dance Company, a competition and performance team and ZUMBA with Shyam Thakker. ZUMBA meets every Wednesday and Thursday night, 7:15-8:15 for just a \$5 drop-in fee. The new space boasts a competition size sprung dance floor with ample space for all, plenty of parking, dressing room and more. The space will also be available to local vendors for rentals and rehearsals.

• Dearborn Jewelers of Plymouth is having an essay contest, Lazare's "You just know" Around The World Contest and Diamond Event. Anyone is welcome to submit an essay about when "they just knew" that the person was the right one for them, the love of their life.

The contest is sponsored by Lazare Diamonds. We will be receiving essays through Oct. 22. The winner of the essay contest will receive a beautiful custom designed piece of diamond jewelry with a Lazare Ideal Cut Diamond. The winner will be announced during our Diamond Event Oct. 26-27.

For further details of the contest, please go to our website www.dearbornjewelers.com or Facebook page Dearborn Jewelers of Plymouth or visit http://contest.lazarediamonds.com.



*Excludes Sunsations as first pair. Offer includes standard no-line Instinctive" bifocals; additional charge may be applied for strong prescription; other progressives and lens options are additional; complete pair purchase required. †Eye exams performed by independent state licensed Doctors of Optometry. Cannot be combined with any other offer, vision care plan, package pricing or prior orders. Sale ends October 31, 2012.

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The Credit Union Difference

In a recovering economy, your financial institution should be a trusted partner that's there to offer guidance and personal service in challenging conditions. More than four million people in Michigan - and some 160 million worldwide - use credit unions as their trustworthy and secure place to do business and will celebrate International Credit Union Day on Oct. 18.

Credit union members enjoy the benefits of doing business with a financial institution they own - a cooperative focused on service to its members, not profits for its stockholders. That means value, service, respect, and the opportunity to be part of a financially sound and socially responsible institution.

Credit unions are not-for-profit cooperatives that are owned by their members and governed by a volunteer board of directors, which means that you won't be gouged with high-interest rates and service fees. Last year, Michigan credit union members saved more than \$397 million through lower fees and rates, and members have access to 25,000 free ATMs nationwide through the CO-OP Network.

Even in a troubled economy, credit unions are well-capitalized and have almost \$190 billion for consumers to borrow while many other lenders are tightening their lines of credit. Credit unions offer great rates on auto loans, mortgage loans and more, and haven't engaged in the types of dangerous lending practices that have resulted in many other financial institutions requiring bailouts at taxpayers' expense. You also know that your deposits are safe, as the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund, administered by the National Credit Union Administration, insures deposits of all credit union members up to \$250,000.

It's easier than ever to join a credit union. There are 327 federal and state-chartered credit unions across Michigan, and while some credit unions serve groups that share a profession or a specific place they live or worship, many credit unions now are open to all local consumers through a community charter.

Credit unions are also embedded in the communities they serve and have a social mission of improving their members' quality of life. Through financial education and a wide variety of charity work, credit unions are active in supporting and starting community initia-



tives to bring assistance to those in need, while helping people learn to support themselves financially.

Credit unions do these things not because they are mandated to do so by law, but because it's the right thing to do — an inherent part of their existence. Community involvement is a perfect fit with the credit union philosophy of "People Helping People."

The credit union community is also working to push the Michigan and national economies forward through programs like "Invest in America," which offers discounts for credit union members on American-made products. "Invest

in America" has been rolled out nationwide and helped facilitate the sale of more than 250,000 vehicles produced by GM and Chrysler.

www.lovemycreditunion. org to find a credit union in your area and learn more about what credit unions are doing to help consumers, as well as the "Invest in America" program. Credit union members enjoy better value and superior service, as well as the opportunity to participate in the governance of the credit union as a member-owner, and do business with a socially and fiscally responsible institution that is embedded in its community.

-Courtesy of Credit Union National Association



Sound money management skills are a big part of a safe and successful financial future. Part of the credit union mission is to educate people of all ages on the basics of saving, budgeting and borrowing, so that consumers are well-prepared for each stage of their lives.

There is no better time to learn these lessons than during early development, which is why credit unions have made a large investment in classroom outreach. According to data from the National Youth Involvement Board, Michigan credit unions reached more than 48,000 students with 1,800 financial education presentations over the past year, capping a complete decade that Michigan has led the country in school involvement. Some of these were cooperative efforts through the Michigan Credit Union League's "Financial Literacy Legislative Challenge," in which lawmakers partnered with credit unions to teach students about important

Looking

for a Local,

Hometown

Way to Bank?

Credit Unions Offer Members Financial Education Resources

financial topics.

Michigan credit unions also have more than 350 student-run branches at the elementary, middle and high school level that give vouth and voung adults hands-on experience with financial transactions. Students are able to open savings accounts and manage the branch's operations themselves. not only learning good money management habits, but also putting their own skills to practice. Giving young people this experience can instill lifelong financial values and a basic understanding of how banking works.

Credit unions take part in financial education outreach yearround, but also celebrate April as Financial Literacy Month. Working closely with the Federal Reserve initiative "Money Smart Week." credit unions offer a flurry of classes, seminars and classroom presentations during the third full week in April, and work to raise awareness of the importance of financial literacy to lawmakers and the public.

Through seminars and oneon-one counseling, credit unions work closely with adults on a number of important topics vital for financial well-being. Credit

unions often partner with other nonprofit organizations to offer expertise and assistance to as many consumers as possible including unbanked populations in underserved areas. Most recently, the Michigan Credit Union League and several partners created www.RightAtHomeAnswers. org so that credit unions can work with members on the home buying process and how to avoid foreclosure when times are tight.

Financial education goes handin-hand with the credit union philosophy of "People Helping People." Credit unions exist not only to provide a trustworthy depository institution that is member-owned. but also to help consumers avoid the financial pitfalls that have many Americans deep in debt or facing the potential loss of their home or vehicle.

By working to educate their members and other Michigan residents, credit unions are helping to arm consumers with the money management skills they need in a tough economy, from college to a first home to retirement. For financial education resources, visit www.lovemycreditunion.org.

New Small Business Laws

In a landmark move for the credit union industry, the Michigan Commissioner of Financial and Insurance Regulation has signed an order authorizing credit union service organizations (CUSOs) to provide small business equity investments to Michigan credit unions and their members.

"This is an unprecedented step forward for credit unions," David Adams, CEO of the Michigan Credit Union League & Affiliates said. "Business investing authority has tremendous potential benefits to credit unions and to the small business community at large. It is further proof that there is nothing small about the credit union commitment to supporting small businesses. MCUL and CUcorp plan to work aggressively with our credit union community on a structure and business plan that will take advantage of this new opportunity. CUcorp is well positioned to facilitate this."

In his ruling, Commissioner R. Kevin Clinton noted that based on a review of applicable laws, and with all consideration of safety and soundness, "It is necessary and proper for CUSOs to offer small business equity and venture capital investment administration and related services to its member credit unions and their respective members."

The new authority allows state chartered credit union investment in CUSOs that provide investment administration and other services related to small business equity or venture capital funding.

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Theater hosts 20th fine arts exhibit

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill exhibiting artwork from the 20th Annual Canton Fine Arts Exhibition, bringing together works of some of the best artists throughout southeast Michigan.

The exhibit, which runs through Oct. 29, contains works in a variety of media, including: paintings, sculptures, mixed media, charcoal drawings, pastels, ceramics and photography.

This year's Best of Show honor went to Christina Czaja for "My Friend Kate." The winning pencil drawing was of Czaja's friend Kate Paul, who was recovering from chemo therapy and is cancer free now. Paul has an entry in the show, as well, an oil-and-ink painting entitled "Windmill Wishing Chair."

Other winners included Kyle Culps, who collaborated with Scot Ferguson for "Andre," to take second place, and third place honors went to Dennis W. Montville for "Fault Line." Honorable mention honors went to: John Mc Laughlin for "Door Wall," and Ken Taylor for "Blue Umbrella." Merit Awards went to J. Susan Aitken for "Boat on Spider Lake," Allen Brooks for "Waiting for Moses," Jan Brown for "Between Scylla and Charybdis," and WanChuan Kesler for

"Window View." "Twenty years is a reason to celebrate," Canton Arts Coordinator Jennifer Tobin said. "Many thanks go out to the volunteers who developed and nurtured this annual exhibition, the wonderful jurors who have served



This year's Best of Show honor went to Christina Czaja (left) for 'My Friend Kate,' a pencil drawing Czaja's friend, Kate Paul (right), who was recovering from chemo therapy and is cancer free now.



Best in Show winner Christina Czaja with the show arts iuror, Richard Rubenfeld, professor of Art History at Eastern Michigan University.

over the years, and hundreds of artists who have shared their talent. We are grateful to our sponsor, Canton Waste Management, whose support allows us to offer cash prizes to the winning artists. Come see the work, and you will be inspired."

The Canton Fine Arts Exhibition began in 1993 as an activity of Canton Project ARTS, a cultural programming body which provided various artsrelated events and activities to the community. In 2004, Canton Proj-

ect ARTS was absorbed by Canton Leisure Services and is currently guided by the Canton Cultural Commission.

This latest art exhibit at the Gallery@VT will run until October 29. The public is encouraged to view this free exhibit Monday-Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; during public performances at the theater; and by appointment by calling (734) 394-5308. The gallery, located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton, is closed on holidays.



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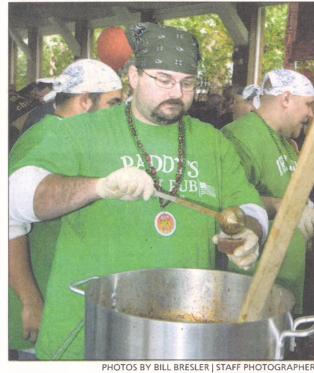


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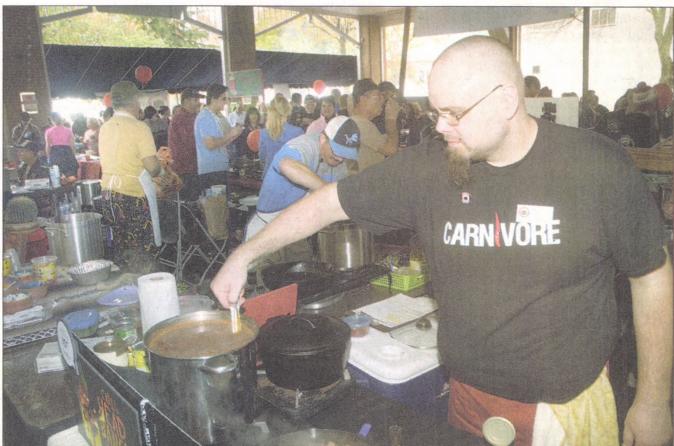
Hot time at the chili festival



Sean Skinner, of Westland, Paul Perlongo, of Plymouth, and Christ Thompson, of Westland, serving up Irish Fire chili.



Chili cooks line up with their entries in the red chili competition.



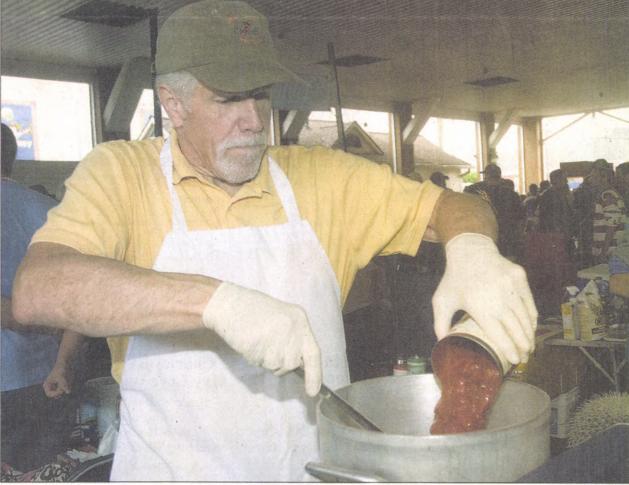
Carl John Stawicki, of Cleveland, working on his Head Banger Red Chili.



Ken Horn, Plymouth's foremost chili aficionado, instructs the judges before red chili judging begins.



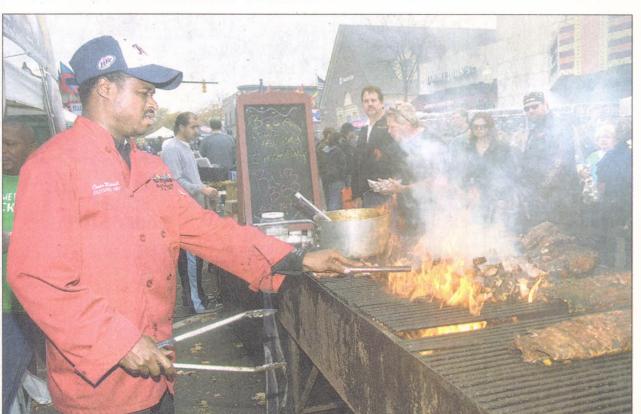
Paul Karr of West Bloomfield and Patty Itskovitz of Bloomfield Hills enjoy their samples of chili. Their favorite? MGM Grand's recipe, which won a People's Choice Award in the Restaurant Challenge.



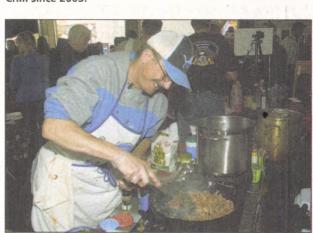
Keith Matherly, of Livonia, adds crushed tomatoes to his chili.



Pete Skwiers of Livonia has been perfecting his Haunted Chili since 2003.



Chili wasn't the only dish on the menu. Omar Mitchell, of RUB BBQ, finishes some of their smoky creations.



Mark Beyer, known as Peewee to listeners of WCXI, is competing in his third chili cookoff in a week. He lives in Novi.



Angelo and Delise Matthews dance to the music of Steve King and the Dittilies.

These photos and others in photo galleries at hometownlife.com are available for purchase, contact Web Editor Larry Ruehlen at Iruehlen@hometownlife.com for more information.

Choose wisely when selecting Medicare D plan

By Rick Bloom **Guest Columnist**

It's that time of year, when senior citizens have to make a decision regarding a prescription drug plan, also known as Medicare D.

Most seniors have already been getting notices about Medicare D and now the open enrollment period (Oct. 15 to Dec. 7) has started. What this means is that if seniors are going to make a change in coverage, now is the time to do it. Unlike other types of insurance that you may have, this is the only time of the year that you can change your plan. All policies begin Jan. 1 and end Dec. 31.

In understanding Medicare Prescription D, it is important to know that just because the plan you had this year met your needs does not mean that



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

ing under your current plan may no longer be covered by that same plan next year.

you are

receiv-

In addition, your health situation may have changed. Last year at this time, when you went through the process, you may have been on different prescriptions than you are on now. In addition, the dosage and the frequency of the prescription may change. Therefore, it is important that you begin the process fresh to decide what plan best suits your

In looking for plans, husband and wife need to do it separately. You can't assume that just because a plan is good for one means it's good for the other. Therefore, husband and wife need to independently look at their situation to make the right decision.

Review medications

When you begin your search, it is important to review the list of medications that you currently are on. Not only should you check the medication, but the dosage. It is also helpful to prioritize these medications. After all, depending upon you situation, you may not find a plan that covers all your medications. On top of the list should be the most expensive prescription, followed by all oth-

ers in order of expense. Therefore, when you do your search, you obviously are looking for the plan that will best cover your prescriptions at the lowest price.

Another factor to consider in reviewing plans is the restrictions that some have. Some plans will require prior approval before you can fill or refill certain prescriptions. In addition, some plans will have limits on the quantity of a drug that you can order. Obviously, if you're taking a medication that has certain restrictions, that can be an issue in selecting a plan.

One of the best ways to begin your search is to visit Medicare's website at www.medicare. gov. The site is an easy tool to use and can help you narrow your options. To begin your search, just click on Medicare Plan Finder.

Just like investing, I know lots of people will be paralyzed by analysis. They will be pulling their hair out trying to find the perfect plan. Keep in mind that there probably is no perfect plan . However, there are a handful of plans that fit your needs and the goal is to find them.

Consider convenience

In doing your search, remember convenience is an important factor. Having a plan that requires you to drive across town to pick up your prescription is probably not the way to go. In addition, for the snowbirds who spend half the year outside the

state of Michigan, consider that before you select your plan.

Deciding on a Medicare Prescription D drug plan is not easy. However, there is no alternative. Don't assume that the plan you had last year will work for you this year. Begin the process of selecting a prescription drug plan now so that you'll have plenty of time to make your decision.

Start now, take your time and, if you have questions, contact Medicare directly for assistance. Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is www.bloomassetmanagement.com. If you would like Rick to respond to your questions, please email him at rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.

Wine samples, auctions highlight benefit

Some of the finest wines in the world can be sampled during the Wine Tasting Benefit & Auction in Livonia, sponsored by Community Opportunity Center.

More than 100 wines from all over the world, ranging in price from \$10 to \$150 a bottle, can be sampled at the festivity that will benefit Community Opportunity Center, which provides housing and supportive services to people with developmental disabilities in western Wayne County.

The Wine Tasting Benefit & Auction, sponsored by The Fine Wine Source of Livonia on behalf of COC, will be held 6:30-10:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 9, in the Aspen Room of Laurel Manor on the north service drive west of Newburgh Road in Livonia.

Besides tasting an array of fine wines, attendees also will have a chance to bid in a live auction for such items as a: • Party of 4 to spend 4 nights at Napa Valley winery guest house plus VIP visits to 8 Napa Valley wineries.

 Week in a vacation home in Frankfort

 Hot air balloon ride for two by Westwind Balloon Co.

• Dinner for six prepared in a private home by Chef Larry Janes.

 Wine tasting party for 24 people featuring 15 wines from around the world

There will be 10 vendors of fine wine, including several international wines, available for

sampling throughout the event which also includes a silent auction, live auction, and an elaborate array of hors d'oeuvres in addition to wine tasting. Tickets at \$65 per person or \$120 per couple may be reserved by calling Diane or Larry Janes at (734) 422-5525.

Community Opportunity Center, based in Livonia, is a non-profit management corporation that provides leadership and oversight to nearly 100 people with developmental disabilities who live among 23 homes and apartment settings in western Wayne County. Homes and apartments are in Plymouth, Livonia, Garden City, Westland and Redford.

In addition to the live auction, many items will be available for inspection and bidding at the silent auction tables including Detroit Pistons and Plymouth Whaler tickets, massage certificates, paintings, a house cleaning service, restaurant certificates, wine baskets, and assorted gift baskets. Live music will be performed

during the event. "Our first wine tasting event was very successful and we are planning to make 2012 an even more exciting event," said Denise King, COC Executive Director. "Our success is possible because of the wonderful support we are receiving from Jim Lutfy and the Lutfy family who have been major movers in the wine business over the past six decades."

CITY OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012**

Notice is hereby given that a GENERAL ELECTION will be held in the City of Plymouth, Wayne County, Michigan, on TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012 from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. for the purpose of selecting persons to fill the following elective offices:

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PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

CONGRESSIONAL:

UNITED STATES SENATOR

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS 11th DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS 11th DISTRICT (Partial Term Ending 01/02/2013)

LEGISLATIVE:

REPRESENTATIVE IN STATE LEGISLATURE 20th DISTRICT STATE BOARDS:

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JUDGE OF CIRCUIT COURT, 3rd - INCUMBENT

JUDGE OF PROBATE COURT - INCUMBENT JUDGE OF PROBATE COURT - INCUMBENT (partial term Ending 01-01-2015)

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JUSTICE OF SUPREME COURT - INCUMBENT POSITION -Partial Term Ending 01-01-2015

COMMUNITY COLLEGE:

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBER SCHOOLCRAFT COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBER SCHOOLCRAFT COMMUNITY COLLEGE Partial Term Ending 12/31/2014

DISTRICT LIBRARY:

BOARD MEMBERS PLYMOUTH DISTRICT

PROPOSAL SECTION:

STATE PROPOSAL 12-1 A referendum on Public Act 4 of 2011-The Emergency Manager Law.

STATE PROPOSAL 12-2 A proposal to amend the State Constitution regarding collective bargaining. STATE PROPOSAL 12-3 A proposal to amend the State Constitution to establish a standard

for renewal energy. A proposal to amend the State Constitution to establish the Michigan STATE PROPOSAL 12-4 Quality Home Care Council and provide collective bargaining

for In-Home Care Workers.

STATE PROPOSAL 12-5 A proposal to amend the State Constitution to limit the enactment of new taxes by State Government

A proposal to amend the State Constitution regarding construction of STATE PROPOSAL 12-6 International Bridges and Tunnels.

COUNTY PROPOSAL:

FORM OF THE WAYNE COUNTY BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

INDEPENDENT EXTERNAL AUDITOR MEMBERSHIP ON THE WAYNE COUNTY RETIREMENT REMOVAL OF THE WAYNE COUNTY EXECUTIVE FROM OFFICE BY THE GOVERNOR

THE WAYNE COUNTY COMMISSION'S POWER TO APPROVE COMPENSATION STATEMENT AS REQUIRED BY ACT 278 OF PUBLIC ACTS OF 1964 Amending the Property Tax Limitation Act

I, RAYMOND J. WOJTOWICZ, Treasurer of Wayne County, Michigan, do hereby certify that, as of September 20, 2012 the total of all voted increases in excess of the tax rate limitation established by Section 6, Article IX of the Constitution of the State of Michigan, as amended, and the years such increases are effective on property in the County of Wayne are as follows:

> WAYNE COUNTY Wayne County, Michigan

Voted Years Increases Taxing Authorities **Date of Election** Increase Effective County of Wayne Wayne County Jail Wayne County Parks November 2, 2010 1 mill 2015 August 6, 2012 2021 1 mill 2015 November 2, 2010 0.25 mills

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Years Taxing Authorities **Increase Effective** Date of Election Increases Plymouth-Canton Community Schools September, 2004 18 mills 2014 (non homestead only)

The full text of the proposals and a "sample" of the General Election ballot are available at the City of Plymouth Clerk's office and on the website: www.ci.plvmouth.mi.us

Applications for Absent Voter Ballots may be requested from the office of the City Clerk, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170. The telephone number to call for any questions is 734-453-1234, ext. 234 or 225.

Absent Voter Ballots will be issued to qualified absentee voters in person, after appropriate application at the Clerk's Office from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 3, 2012. On Monday, November 5, 2012, voters may be issued their ballots and vote them in the Clerk's Office until 4:30 p.m. Emergency Absent Voter Ballots can be applied for on Election Day, if the applicant meets the State Law requirements.

All CITY POLLING LOCATIONS are handicapped accessible and the location is as follows:

PRECINCT #1, #2, #3 & #4

PLYMOUTH CULTURAL CENTER 525 FARMER STREET PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN 48170

Linda J. Langmesser, Clerk

City of Plymouth





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Publish: October 18, 2012

OUR VIEWS

State House

Heise deserves second term

Voters should give Kurt Heise a second term representing the 20th State House District when they go to the polls on Nov.

Heise, elected in 2010, has accomplished much in his first two years.

He's written legislation that would make it illegal to annex developed townships in Wayne County, effectively ending the threat of annexation to Northville, Plymouth and Canton townships. His House Bill 4112 creates a regional authority to operate the Detroit Water and Sewerage system (although the systems problems are more likely to be solved in court).

He's written legislation that would return



half of the Wayne County parks millage back to communities, and has written legislation dealing with, among other things, court reform, judicial reductions, moving school board elections to even-year Novembers, selling the Robert Scott Prison and freeing up drug forfeiture money for police budgets.

While he supported repeal of the Michigan Business Tax and its surcharge and the emergency manager law, Heise also opposed Snyder's K-12 education budgets, which cut some \$470 per pupil from public school funding.

Heise serves as vice-chair of the House Judiciary Committee and is a member of the House Education Committee and the Committee on Children, Families and

Democrat challenger Tim Roraback, also of Plymouth, is a viable, worthy candidate in his own right. He has a strong knowledge of issues facing the state. He disagrees with Heise on nearly everything, however, he makes his points in a strong, coherent fashion.

Roraback has worked hard to get his message out, and impressed observers from both parties with his performance in the League of Women Voters candidate forum earlier this month in Canton.

But Kurt Heise has established himself with his performance during his first two years, and we believe that should translate into a second term when voters cast their ballots Nov. 6.

Price for county seat

In the race for the redrawn 10th Wayne County Commission District, we recommend Republican Shannon Price.

Price, a former county Republican Party chairman who lost in the Republican primary for the 21st state House seat four years ago, wants a thorough audit of county finances, an online county "checkbook" open for viewing by the public, and a charter amendment that would give the Board of Commissioners the power to impeach the county executive.

Price also favors a lower overall tax rate (hardly an exclusive position in an election year) that could help lure businesses, rather than targeted tax breaks, and a streamlined, 90-day permitting process for businesses.

Price wants Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano out of office, but thinks such a move could be better accomplished with an impeachment proceeding rather than the recall effort favored by other of Ficano's

Democrat James Amar, a retired labor mediation supervisor from Plymouth Township, isn't quite as strident about Ficano being gone. He believes Wayne County must take "difficult steps" to correct its finances while investing in programs and incentives to spur development and job creation. Amar is a worthy candidate as well, with several ideas he says could improve the economy. He's seen union issues from both sides, which could benefit the commission.

But Price, who also has a long history of political consulting, would bring a working knowledge of the system, and could help balance the heavily weighted Democrat commission.

We recommend Republican Shannon Price in the Nov. 6 general election for the 10th Wayne County Commission District seat.



Brad Kadrich, Community Editor Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor

Grace Perry, Director of Advertising

COMMUNITY VOICE

What's your favorite Halloween memory?

We asked this guestion at the Plymouth District Library.



"My mom dressing up as a vampire with blood on her. ... Two years ago, I was a witch."

Paige Kardos Plymouth Township



"A fairy. A clown once. Fairy (is her favorite)." **Brooke Kardos** Plymouth Township



"Probably the costume my mother made for me, probably when I was 2 or 3. It was a pink bunny rabbit."

Michele Demers Plymouth



"Probably when my kids were little, I took them in downtown Plymouth trick or treating to the shops. ... It's such a wonderful hometown atmosphere."

Beth Gorman Plymouth Township

LETTERS

Curmi for trustee

Plymouth Township trustee candidate Charles Curmi. based on his record as a township trustee from 1992 to 2008 (16 consecutive years), should be a shoo-in on Nov. 6. No other candidate can match the major accomplishments of Charles Curmi.

Furthermore, Charles Curmi's future vision for Plymouth Township is second to none in the tough economic times we live in. Charles Curmi is today's "man of the hour" with solutions for the future of the township.

After 18 months of chaos within Plymouth Township's Board of Trustees, let's settle for the best (Charles Curmi) to bring along the rest.

I hereby endorse Charles Curmi as an outstanding candidate for Plymouth Township Trustee on Nov. 6.

> Roger Kehrier Plymouth

Without a cloud

The League of Women Voters' Forum at the Plymouth Library on Oct. 1 was very informative. One of the questions submitted asked if the congressional district officeholder should be available to the constituency in the District when Congress is not in session.

Every candidate in attendance at the forum replied with positive answers. However, Kerry Bentivolio was not at the forum, so I don't know where he stands on the gues-

The Detroit Free Press on Aug. 22 reported that Kerry Bentivolio was given a payout for leaving his teaching job because of his questionable behavior. In the Oct. 7 Plymouth Observer, Kerry Bentivolio is quoted as saying: "I left the teaching profession because I know I'm going to win this election." That doesn't explain the payout to him from the Fowlerville school district, which in my opinion, is a cloud over his

We don't need a representative in Congress who has a cloud over his head. We don't need a person who doesn't appear for an interview by the voters at a public forum. We need a person who has demonstrated proper behavior in working with people in the community.

Of all the candidates for the 11th congressional District office, Dr. Taj stood out as having the greatest depth of knowledge and nonconfrontational manner. He has also demonstrated by his professional work experience and public service that he can work with people in both the

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats:

Web: www.hometownlife.com Mail: Letters to the Editor, Plymouth Observer, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226 Fax: (313) 223-3318

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com. Deadline: Letters should be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edi-

private and public sectors. He is "cloud-free."

William G. Cole Plymouth

Supports Roraback

During this election season, we often hear, "Are you better off today than you were four years ago?"

My answer is a resounding "No" because of the Michigan Pension Tax that went into effect this year. The amount of state income tax withheld from my pension check every month equates to an extra car payment ... without the car. It sickens me to fork over this extra cash to state government when I would have spent every last penny supporting our local economy.

I will not vote for incumbent state Rep. Kurt Heise because he voted for this tax increase. Instead, I will vote for his challenger, Tim Roraback.

John M. Vraniak Plymouth Township

Supports Heise

As a small business owner, I'm casting my vote for state Rep. Kurt Heise. I agree with Kurt that government doesn't create jobs, the private sector does. I have yet to hear an idea from Kurt's opponent, only negative and annoying "robocalls" that call for more government intervention in our lives — even having the government determine wages and benefits! I know how to create jobs, and Kurt gets it,

I'm a woman, a businessperson, and I'm voting for Kurt Heise on Nov. 6. Thank you.

Julie Van Ameyde Northville

Support Adams, Elkins, Stempien

We strongly encourage you vote for Trustees Doug Adams, John Elkins and Eric Stempien for Schoolcraft College trustee this November. The three are outstanding

individuals who have the best interests of the college and the community in mind.

They currently serve on the Schoolcraft Board and represent our community with integrity, fiscal responsibility and a strong passion to continue to move Schoolcraft in the right direction as the leading community college in

Keep Schoolcraft College strong. Vote Adams, Elkins and Stempien on Nov. 6.

> Brian Broderick, chair Carol Strom, vice chair Jim Fausone, secretary Joan Gebhardt, treasurer Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees

No on Prop. 3

As a former member of the Michigan Senate and House of Representatives, I want to add my voice to those opposing the passage of Proposal 3 on the November ballot.

Clean, abundant, afford able energy is something we all want and, as a state and nation, we should strive for energy independence. But there are serious flaws in this renewable energy proposal that should give us all pause in Michigan, regardless of political affiliation. I refer you to the Public Sector Consultants Report, September 2012.

First and foremost is cost. If passed, Proposal 3 — which would lock a nearly unchangeable policy into the state constitution where it doesn't belong — potentially could cost families, businesses, and senior citizens at least \$12 billion over time. That's an unacceptable burden on Michigan taxpayers even in good times. For that alone it should be defeated.

Furthermore, this well-intentioned but poorly thought-out proposal could easily lead to a loss of local control for our communities as it pertains to wind turbines.

Meeting the 25 percent mandate called for in the proposal could require as many as 3,100 turbines, each as tall as the state Capitol, and require nearly a half million acres of land. The odds that some of these turbines will be near people or communities that don't want them are fairly high.

Gov. Rick Snyder has pointed out that no other state has such a mandate in their constitution. There probably is a very good reason for that, and it's probably because there are far smarter ways to go about pursuing energy independence.

Nancy Cassis

Novi

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, October 18, 2012

Prop 3: Establish standard for renewable energy

OTHER OPINIONS

PRO: Immediate rate cut for DTE's residential customers

By Hugh McDiarmid Jr.

Guest Columnist

roposal 3, the "25 by 2025" plan on the Nov. 6 ballot, would result in an immediate rate reduction for residential customers of DTE Energy, long-term savings on utility bills and a healthier, more resilient system.

The immediate savings is because Proposal 3 eliminates an unfair DTE rate structure that assesses homeowners 69 percent of the renewable energy surcharge even though they only use 36 percent of the electricity. This repre-

sents a savings of \$16 per year for each of DTE's 1.9 million residential customers.

Restoring fairness to DTE's residential customers is the most immediate of numerous benefits Proposal 3 will gen-

The plan would require that Michigan's utilities generate one-quarter of their electricity from clean renewable sources

by the year 2025. It is a path to a more secure energy future that engages and employs thousands of Michiganders, reduces our crippling reliance on expensive out-of-state fuels and protects the environment and public health.

Hugh

McDiarmid Jr.

The proposal makes so much sense it has generated broad support from a growing and diverse chorus of important allies. But the utility companies are pouring millions of dollars into Michigan to confuse and scare voters with false and misleading claims.

Do not be bullied. Do not be brainwashed. The utilities have a selfish interest in perpetuating the same dirty system that has relied primarily on coal to provide Michigan electricity for more than a century. DTE, the company that owns Detroit Edison, owns nine other companies that make money strictly from moving and processing coal. They own more than 8,500 railroad cars just to move coal. They get federal tax breaks for processing the coal, which allows them to make more than \$60 million a year.

Coal may be good for their bottom line, but it is not good for Michigan families.

Not for our households or businesses that bear the brunt of rising fuel costs. Not for children hospitalized with severe asthma conditions. Not for our inland lakes that have been poisoned by mercury from power plant smokestacks. It is not working for college stu-

dents in the emerging clean energy field who must leave Michigan to find a job.

And it is not working for our economy. Coal which fuels 70 percent of Detroit Edison's electricity - is expensive and getting more so. The cost of coal delivered to Michigan has doubled since 2005. It is no coincidence that utility rates have soared during the same time period. All told, Michiganders spend \$1.5 billion annually to import coal from other states.

By contrast, renewable energy in Michigan is coming online at a cost cheaper than even the most ardent proponents predicted in 2008, when our current standard — 10 percent by 2015 — was adopted. The Michigan Public Service Commission reports that "the cost of energy generated by renewable sources continues to decline and is cheaper than new coal-

Affordable renewable energy is also fueling Michigan's economy. More than 240 Michigan companies are engaged in the wind and solar supply chains alone, according to a report from the Environmental Law and Policy Center. A Michigan State University study showed that tens of thousands of jobs would be created by Proposal 3 in the construction, manufacturing and operations and maintenance of these facilities.

The 25-percent standard would make Michigan competitive with dozens of other states that have renewable standards exceeding ours. And it would position Michigan to become a global leader in renewable energy.

There are other ways it could be done. But our governor and state legislators - many of them firmly under the thumb of the utilities' powerful Lansing lobbying machine - are not interested

So instead, voters will decide whether to amend the Michigan Constitution. It's a process that has been successfully used more than 30 times since 1963, when we adopted the current version of our constitution. We've established policies including the minimum drinking age, tax policy, stem cell research, casino gambling and the Natural Resources

As the constitution states, "All political power is inherent in the people." If our elected officials are not going to solve the big problems of today, it is up to us.

Hugh McDiarmid Jr. is a Farmington resident and communications director with the Michigan Environ-

CON: Say no to protect economic progress

By Steve Transeth Guest Colum

nly now is Michigan's economy starting to recover from the worst recession America has experienced in decades. This is no time to hit Michigan families and businesses with unnecessary costs, especially for energy from sources that too often are unpredictable and unreliable.

Steve Transeth

And that's precisely why Proposal 3 is the wrong idea at the wrong time for our state.

You may think amending the state constitution to require 25 percent of the state's electric

supply to come from renewable sources such as wind, solar and biomass by 2025 sounds relatively harmless.

Unfortunately, you would be

Meeting that mandate would cost electric customers an estimated \$12 billion - that's billion with a 'B' — driving up utility bills for years to come. That's a staggering burden for working people, families and retirees and seniors on fixed incomes.

I support the concept of generating more of Michigan's electricity from renewable sources. But the price tag for Proposal 3 simply is too expensive.

One analysis estimates that meeting Proposal 3 would require the addition of 4,000 to 5,000 megawatts of wind power capacity. That's equivalent to roughly 3,100 wind turbines, requiring more than 780 square miles of Michigan land

Voters also should consider: Michigan already has a reasonable, affordable 10-percent renewable energy goal. Consumers Energy (5 percent) and DTE Energy (6 percent) both are on track to meet that mark, in large part because of the six wind farms they are developing separately. Our state should reach the 10-percent standard before reassessing its future energy needs.

 The constitution is the wrong place for this mandate. No other state in the country has locked energy policy into its constitution and Michigan shouldn't be the first. Locking energy policy into the constitution would eliminate the flexibility to meet unforeseen challenges in the state's energy market and impede our ability to take advantage of emerging technologies.

 Today, local communities set their zoning standards and ordinances to govern the development of wind farms and other renewable energy projects. If Proposal 3 is locked into the state constitution, such zoning laws could be challenged on constitutional grounds and potentially overturned, stripping local officials of their authority.

Renewable energy is good for Michigan in the right places and in the right increments. Wind, biomass, solar and other renewables can contribute to a balanced energy portfolio, along with conventional sources, that will ensure our electricity remains affordable and reliable.

But needlessly pouring billions of dollars into a 25-percent renewable energy requirement that would be locked in our constitution is a bad investment that won't pay off.

Voters should reject Proposal 3 because this costly constitutional energy mandate is bad for Michigan.

Steve Transeth is a former Michigan Public Service commissioner and senior energy policy adviser to the Clean Affordable Renewable Energy for Michigan Coalition.

Prop 4: Constitutional amendment for home health care

PRO: Offers safeguards | CON: Forced unionization for home health care

By John Hoyle Guest Columnist

roposal 4 will strengthen safety, health and independence of persons with disabilities and those who are aging.

Those who are aging or have a disability tell us that they want to stay in their own home instead of going to a nursing home or other institution. If that's their choice, our priority is to ensure that they are safe and healthy in their own homes.

On Election Day, voters across Michigan have an opportunity to help seniors and people with disabilities get safe,

Proposal 4.

persons who need assistance to remain

in their home get assistance from

screened home care workers who

help perform many tasks, from get-

ting dressed to taking their medica-

tion. Proposal 4 establishes a registry that requires home care workers on it

to undergo strict background checks, an important safeguard to prevent neglect

Proposal 4 directly impacts the care

especially our most vulnerable citizens.

Those of us who work directly with

know first-hand what a real difference quality home care makes. When seniors

home care, they are happier and healthier. Home care allows our loved ones to

live in familiar, comfortable surround-

ings near family, friends and their com-

munities. By staying in their own homes,

seniors and people with disabilities also

avoid costly alternative settings, includ-

Proposal 4 contains many important

safeguards to protect seniors and people

First, it establishes the Michigan Qual-

ing nursing homes.

with disabilities.

seniors and people with disabilities

and people with disabilities choose

and safety of countless Michiganders,

quality care in their own

homes, by voting yes on

Also known as Keep

ensures our loved ones

can direct their own

in their own homes.

care, while remaining

Proposal 4 will help

independent and healthy

Home Care a Safe

Choice, Proposal 4



John Hoyle

and abuse.

ity Home Care Council, which would oversee a registry that links home care recipients with pre-screened home care providers in their area.

Second, it requires home care providers on the registry undergo strict criminal background checks to ensure safety for seniors and people with disabilities.

Third, it connects home care providers to critical job training so they can better care for seniors and persons with disabilities.

Furthermore, Proposal 4 will save taxpayer dollars in avoided institutional costs, since home care is significantly less expensive to taxpayers than nursing homes, according to non-partisan studies by the AARP and the conservative Anderson Economic Group.

In addition to promoting quality care, Proposal 4 and the registry it creates will also help keep our loved ones safe. By better screening home care workers, we can prevent abuses as well as exploitation, neglect and abandonment of seniors and people with disabilities. According to estimates by the Michigan Department of Human Services, about 14,000 elder abuse cases are reported on average each year.

That's why a diverse coalition of groups endorses Proposal 4 and urges Michigan citizens to vote yes.

Michigan's leading senior and disability rights groups, such as the Michigan Disability Rights Coalition, the Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan, Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America, the Arc Michigan and many more have endorsed Proposal 4. Faith leaders, veterans groups and many others also urge a yes vote on Proposal 4.

And law enforcement leaders, local police chiefs and prosecutors across Michigan agree that Proposal 4 will promote better care and safety for loved

Proposal 4 promotes greater security, it gives those who need assistance more choices and it saves money for them and

Vote yes on Proposal 4 for the health, safety and peace of mind of those we care about.

Dohn Hoyle is executive director of the Arc Michigan and co-chair of Citizens for Affordable Quality Home Care.

of home-based caregivers

By Derk A. Wilcox **Guest Columnist**

ne of the biggest misconceptions about Proposal 4 is that it creates new programs that will assist the elderly and the disabled with independent living. It is on this basis that the proposed amendment to the Michigan Constitution is being sold to

An analysis of the proposal, however, reveals that this claim is untrue and so we have to look deeper to see the true motivation behind the promotion of



Proposal 4. The real reason Proposal 4 was put on the ballot was to protect a scheme to funnel dues and fees from the pay of home-based caregivers to the Service **Employees Internation**al Union. The amendment seeks to enshrine

in the constitution a dues collection scheme that has already diverted \$32 million away from the caregivers, 75 percent of whom are family members caring for loved ones.

Under the Home Help Program, which began in 1981, in-home caregivers had always been considered employees of the care recipients - up until 2005, that is. The care recipient chose the employee, directed the care and had the ability to replace the caregiver, if desired.

In 2005, under the administration of Gov. Jennifer Granholm, a local government entity called the Michigan Quality Community Care Council was created and colluded with the SEIU to force tens of thousands of residents into a government union. These two entities claimed that the caregivers were public employees because all or part of their pay comes from public funds. (Given this line of reasoning, doctors who accept Medicaid or Medicare payments, or grocers who accept food stamps, could also be forced into such a union.) Michigan law, as well as federal law, had always excluded inhome caregivers from the definition of who is a public employee for the reason

that the true employer was the one to whom the care was given, not the state. Nevertheless, the scheme moved forward with little to no public scrutiny.

When the full extent of what had happened — and the amount of dues and fees that had been skimmed - became widely known, the public was outraged and the Legislature acted to put an end to the dues skim and prevent anything like it from happening in the future. Proposal 4 is an attempt to validate the dues skim and enshrine in the constitution the definition of a public employee that has already been rejected by the courts and the Legislature. The SEIU has already admitted that it is using the skimmed dues "during the upcoming election" to advocate for its position. Given the millions of dollars involved, the SEIU has a strong incentive to try to keep the skim going.

Proposal 4 would only consider homebased caregivers to be public employees for the limited purpose of being represented by the SEIU or a subsequent union. It would not extend to caregivers the status of public employees in any other regard, including pensions, benefits or civil service protections. Proposal 4 would not grant the union the power to negotiate higher wages or improved work conditions, either. The actual language of the proposed amendment that does not appear on the ballot specifically states that the Legislature, through the appropriations process, determines the caregivers' compensation, and since the work occurs in the care recipients' homes, it cannot affect the working conditions

The programs promised by Proposal 4, including a registry and background checks, have already been implemented and require no constitutional amendment to continue. The only facet of Proposal 4 that actually requires altering the constitution is the continuation of the dues skim that the Legislature has tried to stop.

Derk A. Wilcox is senior attorney at the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, a research and educational institute headquartered in Midland. Access his policy brief on Proposal 4 at www.mackinac.org/17637.

Home Depot hosts vets' job fair

In an effort to assist the Detroit military community as they transition into the civilian workforce, The Home Depot will host a Civilian Career Workshop Saturday, Oct. 27 at the company's regional office in Livonia.

The Home Depot, which employs more than 35,000 veterans and active duty military, recognizes the strong skills the military community has to offer – as well as the challenges that many service men and women face in marketing these abilities to the civilian workforce.

The company's human resources professionals, in collaboration with veteran associates, will conduct half-day sessions focused on job search strategies, resume optimization and interview tips that are applicable to a search in most any industry or with most any employer.

The workshops are open to any member of the military or veteran transitioning to any civilian career. They are part of a larger initiative, dubbed Mission: Transition, aimed at arming U.S. service men and women with the knowledge and resources they need to successfully transition into the civilian workforce. The Home Depot will host more than 100 Civilian Career Workshops across the country on Saturday, Oct. 27.

Additional information and event registration is available at careers. homedepot.com/military.

Spokespeople available for interviews during the event include The Home Depot Human Resources team members, Home Depot Associates with a military background and Civilian Career Workshop attendees.

The Home Depot Regional Office is located at 17197 Laurel Park Drive, Suite 400, in Livonia. Attendees must register online in advance of the workshops at careers. homedepot.com/military.



The cast brings 'The Legend of Sleepy Hollow' to life on the Barefoot Productions stage Friday and Saturday.

'Headless Horseman' rides at Barefoot

"In the bosom of one of those spacious coves which indent the eastern shore of the Hudson, at that broad expansion of the river denominated by the ancient Dutch navigators..."

This begins the classic short story *The Legend* of Sleepy Hollow, written by Washington Irving, and also begins Barefoot Productions' narrative reading of the classic tale making it's premiere performances Friday and Saturday.

Artistic director Craig A. Hane has, again, staged a formal narrative reading of yet another classic story, in the tradition of Barefoot Productions' A Christmas Carol, a Narrative (which makes it's fourth annual performance this December).

Hane has staged an original adaptation, by Barefoot Productions resident artist Nathan Corliss (of Canton), of six

actors reading and performing the original story written by Irving in 1820. The short story contains no actual dialog or conversation but Corliss has managed to break down and adapt the story's prose to sound almost 'conversational' in it's presentation, according to Hane.

Hane remarks, "Our A Christmas Carol, a Narrative has become such a holiday tradition at our theater, I looked for another classic holiday tale to bring to life on our stage and, of course, The Legend of Sleepy Hollow was a natural," Hane said.

The six actors will narrate and create a variety of character voices to represent the villagers of Tarry Town, N.Y., or Sleepy Hollow. Jonathon Wennstrom (of Canton) leads the story as Narrator and Mat DeLisle (also of Canton) will personify

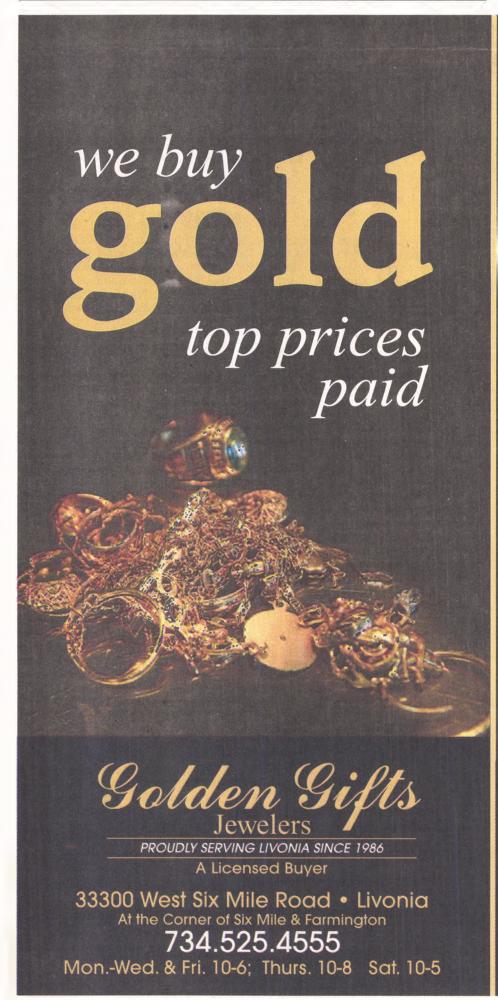
the legendary character of Ichabod Crane. Crane is the schoolmaster of Sleepy Hollow who rides out one dark and scary night and has his fateful encounter with the 'Headless Horseman.'

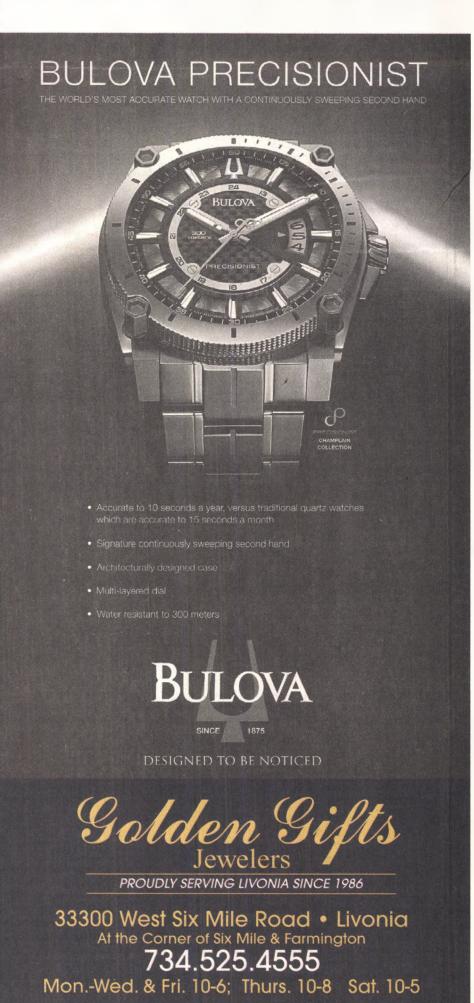
The rest of the cast is made up of Eric Corliss, Maureen Paraventi and Rick Berryman (all of Canton) and Christine Doulette (of Northville).

Tickets are on sale and available by calling the Barefoot Productions' Box Office at (734) 560-1493 or can also be ordered online by visiting www.justgobarefoot. com. The two-night performance is at the Barefoot Productions Theater, located at 240 N. Main St, Plymouth. Performances begin at 8 p.m. and the doors will open at 7 p.m. All seats for each performance are \$10, and seating is limited so reserve your tickets soon for this premiere production.



Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com







MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

National Day of Doing Good Saturday, Oct. 27

See how YOU can make a difference

Join O&E Media, in support of Make A Difference Day — the largest day of volunteering in the USA.

For more than 20 years, Gannett Inc. has mobilized millions across the country for this national day of doing good. As part of our commitment to the communities we serve, O&E Media is partnering with local groups to sponsor these following projects.



We need you to join us

- 1. Food/blanket drive in support of Active Faith, a non-denominational charity based in South Lyon. Canned food (especially soup) and blankets are needed. Drop off your donation between 10 a.m. and noon on Oct. 27 at the South Lyon Herald Office, 101 N. Lafayette, in downtown South Lyon.
- 2. "Pennies from Heaven," collection to benefit Canton Goodfellows, a group dedicated to ensuring every child has a Christmas.

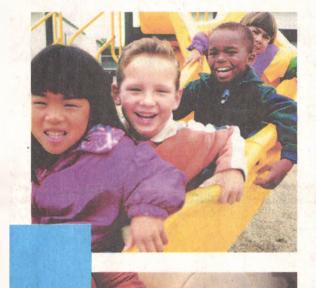
 Bring your pennies to the Canton Summit (Community Center) from 10 a.m. to noon and meet other Goodfellows and O&E Media staff. The Canton Goodfellows recently lost its leader Nancy Spencer, a longtime community philanthropist.

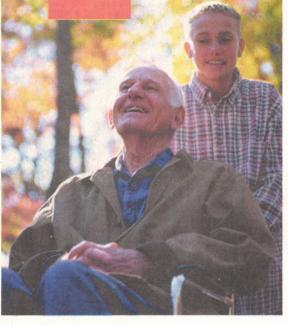
The goal is one million pennies.

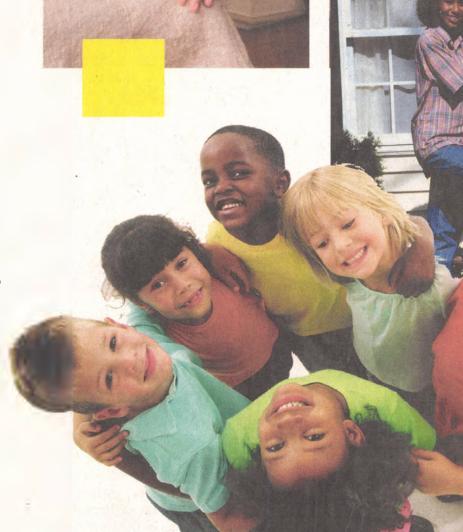
3. Jaycee Park Beautification: Volunteers are needed to clean up/spruce up Jaycee Park in Redford. The Redford Jaycees along with O&E Media staff and other community volunteers will work from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come help and make a difference for all of the youth and families who use this community park. If you are a Redford resident, a former Redford resident or someone who just wants to make a difference for the Redford community, join us at Jaycee Park, 10102 Beech Daly Road, between Plymouth and W.

Chicago Roads. Refreshments will









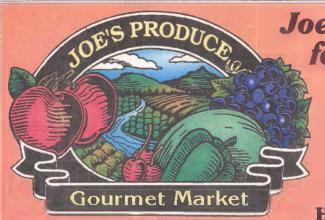


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Observer & Eccentric MEDIA

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SECTION B. (CP) THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2012 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR tsmith@hometownlife.com 734-469-4128

Net gain

Tennis continues to spark big-time growth, success for Salem's Scott



Jacob Scott. in the neonatal intensive care unit at University of Michigan's Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor. He was born premature, weighing 4.5 pounds.

By Tim Smith **Observer Staff Writer**

Consider that Jacob Scott began life as a preemie with myriad health issues - such as respiratory distress syndrome, physical weakness, poor coordination and bones that grinded together when he moved.

But even then, in the neonatal intensive care unit at University of Michigan's Mott Children's Hospital, Jacob (born at 32 weeks gestation, weighing 4.5 pounds) demonstrated plenty of fight.

"He started out with a little Precious Moments doll with his name on the warming tray and they changed it to Animal from the Muppets because he was a fighter," said his mom, Joy Scott of Canton. "He kept trying to pull everything out. So that was a good sign."

That spunk has never wavered in the 18 years since.

In the midst of occupational therapy a few years following his birth, doctors convinced Jacob's parents (Joy and Jason) about the benefits hitting a tennis ball would have on Jacob's physical and mental development.

The ground strokes in tennis would help fire up the neuropathways and enhance communication and brain development



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Getting ready to hit the tennis ball during a recent practice is Salem senior and No. 1 singles player Jacob Scott.

(Jacob was born with sensory integration disor-

"We started him out at Meadowbrook Country Club (in Northville) and he wasn't strong enough to lift the smallest racket, the lightest racket," Joy recalled. "So they'd set it on a milk crate. They'd throw balls at him and he'd hit one out of 25."

In the swing

Now fast forward to October, 2012, with Jacob Scott celebrating his 18th birthday (on Oct. 16) as the No. 1 singles player for Salem High School.

The senior is still somewhat tiny (5-foot-6, 135 pounds), but is an "animal" on the courts and in the classroom - he finished with a record of 21-7 this fall to earn firstteam all-conference honors. He carries a 3.8 grade point average with aspirations of studying neuroscience in college.

Jacob's path during life hasn't exactly been one of the A-to-B variety. And that's how he gets after it during tennis match-

His favorite stroke is

Please see SCOTT, B3



The way tennis helped Jacob Scott's development during childhood, it's no accident he always wears a beaming smile on the court.

Watching the action Saturday is Plymouth head coach Mike Vellucci, who recently notched the 400th win of his career at the Whalers' helm.

Whalers' Vellucci stuck on 400

By Tim Smith **Observer Staff Writer**

Mike Vellucci proudly is the coach with the most wins in Plymouth Whalers history, hitting the 400 milestone Oct. 6 against Niagara.

But nailing down his 401st is becoming problematic, as the Whalers lost 3-2 in overtime Saturday night against Sault Ste. Marie before 2,510 fans who turned out at Compuware Arena for the annual Pink Out game for breast cancer

awareness. The Whalers wore specially designed pink jerseys featuring the familiar ribbon logo and universal symbol for the breast cancer fight.

Scoring at 3:10 of overtime was Andrew Fritch, who nudged the rebound of a Darnell Nurse shot

OHL HOCKEY

behind Plymouth goalkeeper Matt Mahalak, who stopped 30 off 33 shots. Although the Whalers did earn a point, it was their third defeat of the week falling to 2-3-2-1, while the Greyhounds improved to 6-4-0-0.

"He (Mahalak) just didn't catch it," Vellucci said. "It squibbled out of his glove right to the other guy. But those are the kind of (bad) breaks we've been getting. The only way you're going to change your breaks is on your own.'

Tough road to 400

It took the Whalers five games to get Vellucci his 400th, and it has been a slow go out of the Ontario Hockey League gate for a team expected to be one of the top squads in the Western Conference.

"It was tough to even get to 400 there, too," Vellucci said. "But we played two great games this week on the road, we fell to some unfortunate bounces and tonight we were out of gas.

"We held up and they got the five-on-three (late in the third, extending into OT) and (they) just got an unfortunate goal at the end."

The tail end of that twoman disadvantage was about to expire when Plymouth forward Alex Aleardi (Farmington Hills) came close to winning it for the Whalers. Aleardi, however, was stopped by Greyhounds goalie Matt Murray (31 saves).

Instead, the Greyhounds emerged victorious seconds later on the Fritsch

Please see VELLUCCI, B2

BOYS SOCCER DISTRICT

Hat trick rallies 'Cats

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

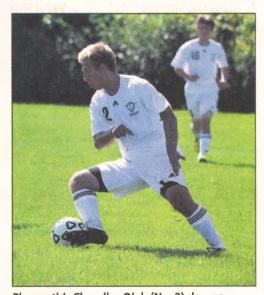
After the first half of Tuesday's Division 1-District 7 first round matchup, which saw Plymouth down 2-0 to host Livonia Churchill, Wildcats senior co-captain Chandler Olah urged his teammates to up the

Olah definitely did just that, scoring twice during the second half to force overtime and then scoring the lone goal of extra time as Plymouth came away with a 3-2 tri-

The win advanced the Wildcats to Thursday's 7 p.m. contest at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park against Westland John Glenn.

"It felt great to come through but I had a lot of help from my teammates," said Olah, whose second hat trick of the year gives him 18 goals. "We obviously didn't want it

Please see SOCCER, B4



Plymouth's Chandler Olah (No. 2) demonstrates his playmaking skills earlier this season.

Hicklin's goal saves Ocelots

Nate Hicklin's unassisted goal in the 103rd minute gave Schoolcraft College a 3-2 double-overtime men's soccer victory over host Muskegon Community College.

The fifth-ranked Ocelots, who improved to 12-2-1 overall and 4-0 in the Michigan CC Athletic Association, tied it in the 77th minute when Ardit Dushkaj (Livonia Clarenceville) off an assist from Romario Georgis.

Derek Boatright opened the scoring for Schoolcraft in the 37th minute on a play set up by Dushkaj and Georgis, but Muskegon answered on goals by Eric Hilt (52nd minute) and Zach Sutton (77th minute).

Goalkeeper Ryan Tikey (Livonia Franklin) made eight saves as the Ocelots also improved to 10-1-1 in NJCAA Region XII.

Tyler Lane made eight saves for Muskegon, now 8-6-1 overall, 1-3 in the MCCAA and 6-5-1 in Region XII.

MU players earn plaudits

For the third time in the last four weeks Madonna University's Katlyn Krysiak was honored as Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Women's Soccer Player of the Week (ending Oct. 14).

Krysiak, a sophomore striker who hails from Madison Heights (Lamphere), bettered her eight point effort from the previous week with a total of four goals and one assist for nine points in wins over Concordia and Marygrove.

Meanwhile, MU teammate Blaire Schmalenberg (Warren Cousino), a freshman, goalkeeper, earned the WHAC's Defensive Player of the Week for the first time in her career after making seven saves in a comefrom-behind 2-1 win over Marygrove along with two stops in a 4-0 shutout victory against Concordia.

Blazers clip **Blue Devils**

Sophomore Christina Meyer scored goal goals and added one assist as Livonia Ladywood tuned up for the upcoming state playoffs with a 3-1 girls field hockey win Friday at home over Grosse Pointe South.

Junior Erin Badge also added a goal off an assist from senior Lauren Kozlowski as the Blazers improved to 6-6-2 overall and 3-5-2 in the division.

Mariel Ward scored for the Blue Devils (1-10-2, 0-8-1).

Ladywood senior goalie Stephanie Mackley made seven saves, while South's Carly Brown had five stops.

"Everyone played great," Ladywood coach Kristine Sanders said. "Our goal for this game was to put two good halves together and we did just that. It was a great way to end our season and it will definitely provide us the momentum we need throughout the playoffs."

Rocks 'dig in' for cause, competition

By Tim Smith **Observer Staff Writer**

On an emotional night on several levels at Salem, senior Nancy Krutty capped the Rocks' four-game victory over visiting Wayne Memorial in the first annual "Digging for a Cure" game for breast cancer awareness.

"It was our last time in our home gym plus we wanted for this event to really be a success," said Krutty, one of the team's captains whose twopoint service string finished Salem's 25-15 win in Game 4 to close out the match (Salem won 25-9, 25-17, 20-25, 25-15).

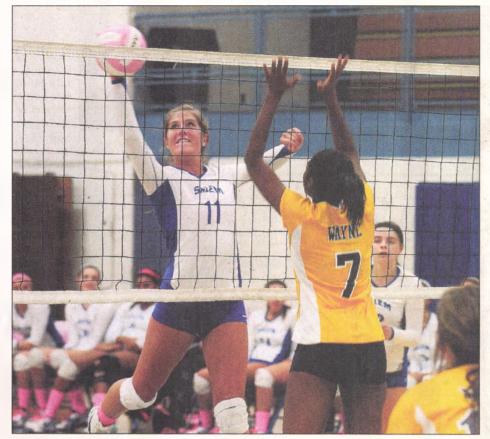
"And hopefully the younger girls will keep this going next year,' Krutty added.

Salem head coach Amanda Nies echoed Krutty, applauding how all of the freshman, junior varsity and varsity players pooled their efforts to make and sell pink T-shirts with the "Digging for a Cure"

message emblazoned on the front while amping up awareness about the dis-They also donned pink

socks, shoelaces, headbands and used a pink volleyball and - in pregame festivities - reiterated to spectators what the night was all about.

Each member of the Rocks dedicated the match to a friend or loved one either fighting breast cancer or having succumbed to it



PHOTOS BY JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Salem's Kelly Whalen (No. 11) prepares to hit the pink volleyball during Tuesday's KLAA contest against Wayne Memorial. At right for the Zebras is Deja Tamlin (No 7).

Among survivors is Lynn Dworzanin (whose daughter, Abby, is a senior player for the Rocks), who is president of Salem's volleyball booster club and helped organize the program.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, October 18, 2012

"The girls went out and sold t-shirts to their friends and families," Lynn Dworzanin noted. "Moneys from the T-shirt sales, concessions and donations will be going to a local charity through the Oakwood Health Care System here in Canton.

"It was my wish that the money we raise would help women that are underinsured and have insufficient healthcare coverage to have access to early screening mammogram. We know that early screening mammogram is the only way to detect breast cancer in its earliest stage before a lump is even felt and has the ability to save lives."

She said an early screening helped to save her own life.

As for the match itself, a number of players helped knock off the Zebras. Abby Dworzanin contributed 11 kills and nine digs; Krutty chipped in with 36 assists, 10 digs and six kills; libero Emily Lipa tallied 11 digs; Erika Hatcher delivered nine kills and three blocks; Lexie Epley came through with six aces and Tess Ganich had six kills and four aces.



Wayne player Deja Tamlin (No. 7) tries to block this hitting attempt by Salem's Erika Hatcher (No. 2) during Tuesday's 'Digging for a Cure' contest. In the background for the Rocks is Abby Dworzanin (No. 1).

STEVENSON 3, PLYMOUTH 1: Inconsistency hurt the Wildcats Tuesday night, losing 13-25, 25-23, 25-19, 25-18 to

the Spartans "(We) couldn't quite get our offense running and had difficulty putting up a block," Wildcats coach Sarah Marody said. "My girls have a lot to work on before the conference tournament this Saturday, but I know their hearts are in it and they will push through.

Madelyn Betts carried Plymouth with 26 kills, 15 digs and two aces

Others helping the cause were Olivia Beyer (nine kills, nine digs), Emily Beyer (eight kills, 14 digs), Haylee Weber (23 digs), Kyra Neumann (10 digs) and Shayla Smalls (37 blocks).

Meanwhile, the Wildcats came to play at Saturday's Beast of the East Invitational tournament held at the Blue Water Sports Center in Warren. Plymouth captured the second-place trophy.

"After a slow start to the morning, we regrouped and were able to beat two, top-10 ranked teams on our way to the finals where we lost to (Macomb) Dakota in closely played sets," Marody said. It was a great team effort with contributions all the way

around. Olivia Beyer and Betts were voted by coaches to the Top 12 All-Tournament team.

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Crusaders roll by Cincy Christian

Nastija Baranyoska led a balanced hitting attack with nine kills as the 18thranked Madonna University women's volleyball team rolled to a 25-12, 25-15, 25-17 win Saturday over Cincinnati Christian in the Concordia University Tournament.

The Crusaders, who improved to 24-5 overall, also got eight kills from Samantha Geile, seven from Ashley Hulbert and six from Kayla Vogel.

Setter Evia Prieditis, a junior, dished out 31 assists and added eight digs, while Amanda Obrycki contributed a team-high 10 digs.

Cara Barkes had 11 digs and Monica Reis six kills from Cincinnati Christian (13-10).

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Ocelots triumph

On Tuesday, host Schoolcraft College took four sets to subdue Macomb Community College, 25-16, 25-23, 19-25, 25-22.

The Lady Ocelots improved to 19-11 overall and 9-2 in the Eastern Conference of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association. They are tied with Oakland CC in second only one match behind conference leading Flint Mott

The loss drops the Monarchs to 9-16 overall and 5-6 in the confer-

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VELLUCCI

Continued from page B1

tap-in.

Despite the tough defeat, Vellucci managed a smile when talking about his milestone. He has the third most victories among active coaches in the OHL.

"Obviously, it's great," Vellucci said. "I had one buddy who says either you're a really good coach or you're really old. So take a pick.

"But obviously, it means I've been here a long time and I owe a lot to our owner (Peter Karmanos) and our organization that they've had me for so long.'

The 400 wins speaks to the durability and quality of the Whalers under Vellucci's watch.

"I think our program gets underrated," he said. "Twentyone straight years in the playoffs, I think it's the longest record (in the OHL). I just think it's a great thing for our program."

The future looks bright, too, thanks to rookie playmakers such as linemates Zach Bratina and Ryan Hartman,



RENA LAVERTY

Plymouth Whalers defenseman Austin Levi (No. 7) chases after the puck along with Michael Schumacher of Sault Ste. Marie during Saturday's 'Pink Out' game for breast cancer awareness. Levi recently rejoined the team.

who buzzed around the

Soo end all night. Bratina collected his first OHL point when he set up Garrett Meurs for a second-period goal that put Plymouth up 2-1. Bratina centered the

puck in front to Meurs, who slung it past Murray inside the left post.

"I think he (Bratina) had a great game," Vellucci said. "For two peri-

ods he was awesome. He didn't get a lot of ice in the third with all the penalties. But he had a great game, by far his best, and he's getting better every game."

Plymouth got off to a quick start when Aleardi cashed in following a Soo turnover deep in the Greyhounds zone. Aleardi faked a shot to freeze Murray, then veered to

his right before slipping it home.

Levi's back

Veteran Plymouth defenseman Austin Levi, who has local ties (formerly a Farmington Hills resident) recently returned to the Whalers after being sent down by the American Hockey League farm team of the NHL's Carolina Hurricanes.

Levi, an overage player, temporarily gives Vellucci nine defensemen on his roster. Apparently, a trade is brewing to balance out the roster.

"We have nine defensemen, so we're going to have to trade one of them," Vellucci said. "I haven't made my mind up who we're going to move. But we have nine defensemen and we can't carry that many this year and we need some forwards."

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Steelers nearly pull off sweep

By Ed Wright **Observer Staff Writer**

The Plymouth-Canton Steelers came within three yards of registering a sweep of their pivotal three-game set against host Dearborn Heights Saturday afternoon.

The varsity Steelers improved to 6-0 with a decisive 28-6 triumph over the previously unbeaten Redskins, while the junior-varsity Steelers upended the 'Skins, 20-6, in a battle of unbeat-

The freshmen Steelers were edged, 7-6, when their potential game-winning drive was stopped at the Dearborn Heights 3yard line when the clock expired.

The varsity Steelers exploded to a quick 16-0 lead thanks to a 43-yard TD run by Dylan Stackhouse and a 24-yard run to pay dirt by Isaac Emminger. After the Redskins closed their deficit to 16-6, Stackhouse and Jacob Miller scored on short scoring runs to cement the victory.

The Steelers' defense was paced by Matt Poet, Jim Szegi, Jack Yates, Nick Saker, Jared Golles, Aaron Clark and Luke Davis. Paving the way for the Steelers' running game were Vincent VanDerRoost, Noah Fleming, David Dart, Ben Kandah, Tyler Santoro and Spencer Zwarka.

The JV Steelers jumped ahead, 6-0, on a 40-yard scoring dash by Mason Phillips. After the Redskins knotted the game at

DIVISION 1-REGION 2

BOYS TENNIS RESULTS

Oct. 12 at Ann Arbor

Huron

Ann Arbor Pioneer, 19; 3. Ann Arbor Skyline, 18; 4. Saline, 17; 5. Salem, 7; 6. (tie) Canton,

Plymouth, 5; 8. Temperance

Bedford, 5; 9. Belleville, 3; 10.

(tie) Monroe, Ypsilanti Lincoln,

FINAL RESULTS

No. 1 singles: Jack Petersen

(Huron) defeated Blake Ahadi

(Saline), 6-2, 6-1; No. 2; Kevin

Mei (Huron) d. Fajr Najib,

6-3, 6-1; No. 3. Coline Wil-

liams (Huron) d. Nate Porter (Pioneer), 6-3, 6-2; No. 4: Jon

Seyhun (Huron) def. Nate

No. 1 doubles: Aaron Brod

key-Akhihiro Ota (Huron) d.

Nathan Grosh-Kazuki Mutsuro

(Pioneer), 6-1, 6-1; No. 2: Max Teener-Ryan Stark (Huron) d. Jon Clark-Rohan Thanedar

(Pioneer), 6-1, 6-1; No. 3: Mike

Bondin-George Lu (Huron) d.

Max Albert-Nicholas Figueroa

(Pioneer), 6-0, 6-1; No. 4: Will

Brenner-Austin Luker (Huron)

DIVISION 1-REGION 3

BOYS TENNIS RESULTS

Oct. 12 at Woodhaven

Livonia Stevenson, 30 points:

Brownstown Woodhaven, 17;

4. Dearborn, 12; 5. Dearborn Edsel Ford, 10; 6. Livonia

Franklin, 5; 7. Westland John

morial and Dearborn Fordson,

2 each; 10. Detroit Cass Tech,

No. 1 singles: Jonathan Martin (LC) defeated Chad

Northville (LS), 2-6, 6-2, 6-4;

Hallman (Dbn.), 6-1, 6-4; Northey def. Alex Gordon

semifinals: Martin def. Nick

FINAL RESULTS

Glenn, 3; 8. (tie) Wayne Me-

d. Charlie Lu-Jeff Selewski

TEAM STANDINGS: 1

2. Livonia Churchill, 22; 3.

(Pioneer), 7-5, 6-4.

Porter (Pioneer), 6-3, 6-2.

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Ann

Arbor Huron, 32 points; 2.

6-6, Ben Wright sprinted 30 yards for a TD to give the Steelers the lead for good, 12-6. Lou Baechler closed the scoring with a

2-yard scoring plunge. The Steelers controlled the trenches thanks to strong blocking from Parker Selby, Dean Kaye, Nick Prevo, Ben Vetter and James Hansen. Defensively, Calvin Vos (several tackles), Nick Polydoras (interception and two break-ups) and Danny Lanava (fumble recovery) excelled for the Steelers.

Thanks to a 36-yard run by Nate Cain, the freshmen Steelers drove 77 yards to the Redskins' 3-yard line before time expired in their onepoint setback. The Steelers' lone score came on a 3-yard pass from Ethan Rottell to Jason Perko. The Steelers' defense was sparked by Perko, Cain, Zach Kubacki, Darian Moore, Andrew Uhlian and Cooper Donlin.

Offensive linemen Mason Hackney, Jimmy McCarthy, Zach Sweet, Aidan Tafelski, Nicholas Savage and Brenden Jankowski opened up holes for the Steelers' running backs: Logan Walkley, Cain and Drew Poet. Jack Vespaziani was a beast on special teams, recovering two onside kicks — his fourth and fifth of the season. Tight end Ben Zwarka and offensive tackle Connor Meadows also had big games for the Steelers.

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(Woodhaven), 6-3, 6-2.

No. 2: Sam Tabor (LS) def. Lucas McIntyre (DEF), 7-6, 6-3; semifinals: Tabor def. Trevor

Monaco (Woodhaven), 6-2,

(LC), 6-2, 7-5.
No. 3: Marcus McCathney

(LS) def. Andrew Dayfield

Dayfield def, Rishabl

(Woodhaven), 2-6, 6-4, 6-2;

semifinals: McCathney def. David Carlson (Dbn.), 6-0, 6-1;

No. 4: Johnson Yang (LS) def.

Kishan Trivedi (LC), 6-3, 6-4;

Morse (DEF), 6-0, 6-1; Trivedi

def. Kyle Johnson (Dbn.), 6-3,

No. 1 doubles: Aaron Dzio-

bak-Jeff Frederick (LS) def.

(LC), 7-5, 6-4; semifinals:

Mark Densteadt-Riley Prince

Dziobak-Frederick def. Nick

Hadley-Eric Sorenson (Dbn.),

(Woodhaven), 6-3, 6-3.

6-7, 6-2, 7-6; Densteadt-Prince def. Matt Dee-Mike Williams

No. 2 doubles: Mayuresh

lyer-Steven Van Wormer (LC) def. Chase Tinham-Jason

semifinals: lyer-VanWormer

def. Tyler Katona-Ali Habhab

(Dbn.), 6-1, 6-4; **semifinals**: Tinham-Wysocki def. Corbin

Desjardins-Andrew Michel

No. 3: Ahmed Hussain-Joe

Osmialowski (LS) def. Tony

Garza-Tyler Keagy (Wood-

haven), 3-6, 6-1, 6-4; semi-

def. Adam Monroe-Dylan

finals: Hussain-Osmialowski

Bowling (LF), 6-1, 6-2; Garza-

Keagy def. Mit Patel-Aditya Vemulapati (LC), 1-6, 6-2, 6-1

No. 4: Chris Haldane-Tom

Holden Spencer (Dbn.), 6-3,

Drew Holland (Woodhaven),

6-3, 6-3; Watson-Spencer def.

Cooper King-Raymond Peters,

6-0: semifinals: Haldane-Cwiek def. Daniel Dayfield-

Cwiek (LS) def. Austin Watson-

(Woodhaven), 6-3, 6-2.

Wysocki (LS), 2-6, 6-2, 6-4;

semifinals: Yang def. Eric

6-1; McIntyre def. Joe Mulka

BOYS TENNIS RESULTS

PREP GRID PICKS

Friday, Oct. 19 Redford Union (3-5) at Waterford Mott (1-7), 7 p.m. Inkster (2-6) at Garden City (4-4), 7 p.m. Hartland (7-1) at Redford Thurston (5-3), 7 p.m Salem (5-3) at Canton (5-3), 7 p.m Clarenceville (5-3) at Durand (2-6), 7 p.m. Churchill (8-0) at Stevenson (6-2), 7 p.m. A.A. Pioneer (5-3) at Franklin (2-6), 7 p.m. A.A. Huron (0-8) at John Glenn (2-6), 7 p.m. Lake Orion (7-1) at Farmington (6-2), 7 p.m. West Bloomfield (2-6) at Harrison (5-3), 7 p.m. Pontiac (1-7) at North Farmington (2-6), 7 p.m. Grand Blanc (4-4) at Plymouth (7-1), 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20 Allen Academy (2-5) at Lutheran Westland (5-3), 1 p.m. Last week Overall

Wright Smith O'Meara **Emons** Union Union Union Mott Garden City Garden City Garden City Garden City Thurston Hartland Hartland Hartland Canton Canton Canton Salem Clarenceville Clarenceville Clarenceville Clarenceville Churchill Churchill Churchill Churchill Franklin Pioneer Pioneer Pioneer John Glenn John Glenn John Glenn John Glenn Lake Orion Lake Orion Lake Orion Lake Orion Harrison Harrison Harrison Harrison North North North North Plymouth Plymouth Plymouth Plymouth Westland Westland Westland Westland 9-4 8-5 10-3 11-2 63-35 71-27 73-25 77-21

SCOTT

Continued from page B1

the unorthodox insideout forehand, which he described as "where the ball goes toward the back-end side, you run around and hit it from the forehand. It's been my best shot since I was 11 or 12, everyone who plays me knows it. It's my best shot and my favorite shot to hit."

Hustling after every ball, even those far out of reach, underscores Jacob's determination that mirrors his growth as a young man — it's how you finish, not how you start.

"I'm more focused on playing the best I can, leave all my game out there," said Jacob, in his second year as the Rocks co-captain. "Sometimes, I've had matches, especially this year, where I've won real ugly and haven't played real well.

"But I get every ball, I run every ball out. When my friends play me they know they're in for a tough match because I never give up on a ball. I run everything out, even if I know I'm not going to get to it. It's just who I am."

He loves it

And tennis is a big reason for that.

It was during the summer between second and third grade that Jacob began to get hooked by the sport.

"We overloaded him and I still had to pull him off the court," Joy noted. "He'd be on the court for five, six hours and he didn't want to leave."

Around that time a lot of other things started to improve, too.

"As his coordination came and he started to play more tennis," she said, "all of a sudden things started to click for him. His writing, all his backwards letters went away, his writing got

small and concise. "His math all came together and by the time he was in middle school he was one of the top students at West."

The Scotts credit Meadowbrook tennis pro Wayne Jackson for a lot of Jacob's success and never-say-die approach.

"I started hanging out with Wayne Jackson over at Meadowbrook Country Club when I was 6 or



With sheer focus, Salem senior Jacob Scott volleys a shot during a varsity boys tennis practice. He finished the season going 21-7 (including 1-1 at Division 1 regionals) and earned first-team all-conference honors.

ALL ABOUT JACOB

Who: Jacob Scott, Salem senior on varsity boys tennis team. Preemie: Jacob was born at 32 weeks gestation on Oct. 16, 1994, weighing 4.5 pounds. He spent about 10 days in the NICU at UM Mott Children's Hospital.

Power of tennis: When a young child, his occupational therapist recommended tennis as an activity to help Jacob improve coordination, speech and strength. Preps: Jacob fell in love with tennis, kept working at it and eventually joined Salem's team as a freshman. He recently finished his senior season, going 21-7 overall (including 1-1 in the Division 1 regionals) and

earning first-team allconference honors. Family: His parents are Joy and Jason. The Scotts, including 13-yearold sister Darby, live in Canton.

Academics: Jacob carries a 3.8 grade point average, is a KLAA Scholar Athlete and student ambassador.

Future: He intends to play tennis in college, where he will hopefully pursue the field of neuroscience.

so," Jacob said. "He really made tennis fun.

"Whenever I did something good he was really over the top with exaggerating 'Oh, great shot, Jacob,' stuff like that."

Little compliments came in handy when he began playing tournaments, around age 9.

"The first eight tournaments I played I didn't win a match, I lost 6-0, 6-0 every match," Jacob said. "He (Jackson) told me that I should just try to count the points I won, not the games. Try to make little goals for myself, like get to 30 each game or see how many times you can get to deuce in a game.

"I was a little behind with people my age (coordination-wise), I still had a lot of fun. I lost, but I put myself back out there because I like compet-

Winning feeling

Jacob pegged age 11 or 12 as when his tennis breakthrough as a bona fide player began.

"I went to a tournament in Grand Rapids," he said. "I played the 1 seed and I remember my mom dropping me off at the match and letting me know 'Tell me how it goes after it' I went and I played and my mom was like 'How did it go?' I was like, 'I won, I beat the 1 seed.'

"It was a different feeling for me and throughout that year I started winning more."

Then came trips to Georgia and Tennessee for junior tournaments, efforts which gave Jacob the confidence to play high school tennis.

Almost from the first day of practice, Salem head coach Bill Nelson called Jacob his "hard-hitting machine," said Joy, smiling.

His prep career might be ending, but he still hammers the ball. He also makes an impact with the team in other wavs

"I think the biggest thing that's come through my high school career is I've improved a lot, but I think I've (also) matured a lot," Jacob went on. "I

remember my freshman year, feeling unsure or having moments where I'd kind of back off if things weren't going my way.

"Now, it's like I'm mature enough to understand things aren't always going to be perfect and I need to stay out there as long as it takes and outwork the guy I'm playing."

Being a captain (a duty he shared this season with Alek Zultowski) "has helped me grow as a leader. My game has grown a lot just by the amount of matches we play in a short period of time. Coach Nelson has done a good job of giving me the best competition at 1 singles that he can.'

Giving back

According to Joy, a fantastic byproduct of Jacob's journey is being tuned in to the needs of children with the kind of obstacles he faced as a little boy.

Jacob wants to perhaps pursue a career where he could help them the way he's been helped.

"He's had a lot of life lessons from tennis," Joy emphasized. "He had a rough start, but because of the person he's become, the empathy he has for other people, ... I wouldn't change any of it."

Joy added that her son's career choice would be a good one for him.

"I think he'd be a wonderful doctor and have a great influence on young people," she said. "Maybe help change some people's lives."

For Jacob Scott to come full circle in that way just seems to fit.

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Observer & Eccentric

MU secures 4th win in row; Lady Ocelots derailed, 6-2

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, October 18, 2012

The Madonna University women's soccer team extended its winning streak to four games Monday with a 3-0 victory over visiting Rochester College.

Amanda Ferrick notched her first two goals of the season in the 88th and 89th minutes as MU improved to 7-5 overall with the non-conference victory.

After a scoreless opening half, Madonna's Morgan Himanek tallied her first of the year in the 74th minute of an assist from Liliana Serratos.

Ferrick then scored from Jennifer Jurcak and followed with her second on an unassisted effort off a rebound following a penalty kick.

MU freshman goalkeeper Blaire Schmalenberg had to make just two saves to record the shutout.

Cheyanne Daniels had seven saves for Rochester

(1-14-1). MONROE (N.Y.) 6, SCHOOLCRAFT 2: Natalie Rogers had a pair of goals and one assist Sunday as 10thranked Monroe Community College (13-1) downed host Schoolcraft College (11-4-2)

ANN ARBOR

GABRIEL RICHARD

INVITATIONAL RESULTS

Oct. 13 at Hudson Mills

Pioneer, 31 points; 2. Plymouth, 68; 3. Clarkston, 71; 4. Berkley, 121; 5. Wayne Memorial, 141; 6. Walled Lake Western, 154;

7. Grosse Pointe North, 178; 8

Ann Arbor Pioneer (B), 206; 9

Novi-Detroit Catholic Central,

226; 10. Birmingham Groves, 261; 11. Belleville, 291.

Individual winner: Costa

Wayne finishers: 13. Danile

al); 19. Devin Gibson, 17:03 (all-

invitational); 23. Zack Williams,

17:49; 47. Tim Flores, 17:59; 66.

17:20: 39. Michael Gibson

Malcolm, 16:47 (all-invitation-

Willets (Pioneer), 15:47.03

(5.000 meters).

BOYS TEAM STANDINGS

(Division 1): 1. Ann Arbor

Ally Sharpe also chipped in with a goal and three assists, while Ali Campbell, Taylor Wingerden and Jori Semau also tallied goals as Monroe outscored the Lady Ocelots 5-2 in the second half.

"We started out strong and had some good looks at goal," Schoolcraft coach Deepak Shivraman said. "I thought it was a case if breaking the cardinal rule about falling asleep on the job. We needed to stav vigilant defensively.

"Half of their goals resulted from poor marking. But it also falls on our offensive players because few realize that a small mistake or turnover on the offensive side has ramifications on our defense. Its 'collective responsibility.' This is one of our team tenants." Schoolcraft got goals from Samantha Jarrett, her seventh off a penalty kick in the 63rd minute, along with Lauren Badalamente, who notched her eighth in the 90th minute on an unassisted effort. Schoolcraft goalkeeper Alexis Smith (Livonia Franklin) gave up two goals in 15 minutes, while Tara Gessler allowed four in 60 minutes before giving way to Danielle Schendel

MADONNA 2, MARYGROVE 1: Freshman goalkeeper Blaire Schmalenberg made seven saves as Madonna University (6-5-1, 3-1) earned the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference victory Saturday at Marygrove College (6-7-1,

CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

Uriel Figueroa, 19:17; 74. Kyle

BOYS TEAM STANDINGS

2. Lutheran High Westland,

4. Royal Oak Shrine, 116; 5

(Division 3): 1. Napolean, 35;

110; 3. Jackson Christian, 111;

Plymouth Christian, 121; 6. Wa-

terford Our Lady of the Lakes, 124; 7. Homer, 186; 8. Ann Ar-

bor Greenhills, 202; 10. Auburn

Individual winner: Ben Ken-

Hills Oakland Christian, 228;

Ottawa Lake Whiteford,

dall (Shrine), 16:24.13 (5,000

Lutheran Westland finish-

23. Daniel Bunge, 18:32.37; 30.

Pete Sillanpaa, 18:54.69; 36. Ian

thew Parent, 21:29.1; 77. Josiah

ers: 12. Eric Smith, 17:58.18; 14. Hunter Roedel, 18:00.24;

O'Banion, 19:18.05: 74. Mat-

Saavedra, 21:19.

248 (13 schools).

meters).

(Canton).

After making four saves in the first half, Schmalenberg had to make three stops in the second half, none bigger than in the final minute of play when Cheyenne York sent in a shot that the freshman was able to get a hand on it and preserve the victory.

Marygrove took a 1-0 lead in the fifth minute on Katlyn Vigna's six goal of the season, but MU's Ashley Parent scored her eighth of the season in the 17th minute off an assist from Katlyn Krysiak

In the 43rd minute, Krysiak tallied her ninth of the year for the game-winner off an assist from Parent. Deanna Lintz made two saves

for the Mustangs.
SCHOOLCRAFT 3, MUSKEGON CC 0: In the rain and on a slick field Saturday, Schoolcraft College (11-3-2, 5-0-1) earned the MCCCA win on goals by Taylor Bunyak, Emily Behnke and Kayla Szado at Muskegon Community College

(5-5-2, 3-3-1). Bunyak's goal came from close range off a cross from Lauren Badalamente in the 42nd minute.

Behnke scored unassisted in the 54th minute and Bunyak set up Szado (Livonia Churchill) in the 82nd minute.

Tara Gessler, who made six saves in 70 minutes, and Alexis Smith, who added one in 20 minutes, combined on the shutout.

Schoolcraft also improves 7-1-2 in NJCAA Region XII, while Muskegon is 5-5-1.

Masey, 22:09.4. GIRLS TEAM STANDINGS (Divi-

sion 3): 1. Homer, 40 points;

2. Royal Oaks Shrine, 60; 3.

Whiteford, 188; 6. Auburn

Napoleon, 72; 4. Lutheran Westland, 79; 5. Ottawa Lake

Hills Oakland Christian, 193; 7.

Wixom St. Catherine deSiena.

213; 8. Jackson Christian, 218;

9. Ann Arbor Greenhills, 233;

10. Ypsilanti Arbor Prep, 251;

11. Athens, 252. Individual winner: Jessica Reagle (Homer), 19:39.92

Lutheran Westland finish-

ers: 3. Jenna Wisner, 20:05.38;

10. Jessica Drife, 21:04.26; 16.

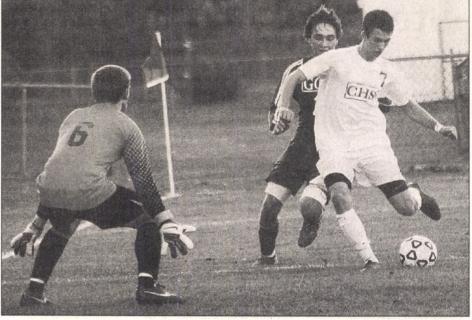
Michelle Greening, 21:24.16; 28. Alana Hil, 22:14.18; 32.

Angela Morrison, 22:53.73;

Rachel Wiggins, 23:48.15.

39 Megan Heil, 23:34.49; 43

(5,000 meters).



ED WRIGHT PHOTO

Canton's Griffin Parks (7) was denied by Garden City goal-keeper Matt Wisniewski (6) on this shot, but he later scored a goal in the Chiefs' 7-0 victory.

Canton firepower too much for Cougars

By Ed Wright Observer Staff Writer

Garden City's boys soccer team could have drawn a tougher opponent than the one they squared off against in Tuesday's Division 1 district opener at Canton — perhaps Man-chester United or FC Bar-

Unfortunately for the Cougars, they drew the host Chiefs, who kickstarted the defense of their 2011 Division 1 state championship with a 7-0

The Chiefs mounted a precision-passing attack the likes of which the Cougars rarely saw in the Western Wayne Athletic Conference, yet GC battled toe-to-toe with their talent-stocked foes for

extended periods. "For long stretches, I thought we played really good," said first-year GC head coach Jeff Szypula, whose team finished 6-11-4. "Probably for 25 minutes of the game we didn't stay with them, but the rest of the game we were

right there.
"They're such a quickpassing team and they move off the ball so well. They get an overlapping runner going and our outside mids didn't recover quick enough."

Canton head coach George Tomasso, whose team will carry a 16-3-2 record into Thursday's district semifinal clash with Plymouth-Canton Educational Park rival Salem, was impressed by his team's sharing ways on Tuesday.

"We played more of a team game tonight than we've played throughout the season," said Tomasso. "The guys were so unselfish; it was definitely one of our better performances this season.

"What impressed me the most was the way we combined and moved up

the ball. Then we rewarded ourselves at the end of the build-up by scoring goals."

Close for a while

It's doubtful the game would have gone the distance if someone other than senior goal-keeper Matt Wisniewski was protecting the Cougars' net. Wisniewski put the wraps on a stellar career by making several spectacular saves — including two stops on penalty kicks – in his high school swan

"I thought their goalkeeper was absolutely fantastic - and that's coming from another goal-keeper," said Tomasso. "He made a couple outrageous saves. He did everything he could to keep his team in the game."

Canton keepers Ian Wingate (the starter) and Brandon Pickert (who relieved Wingate mid-way through the second half) were rarely tested by the Cougars, who had a difficult time penetrating the Chiefs' back wall.

Canton jumped ahead 1-0 in the match's fifth minute when Nick Tomei lasered nome a shot from 12 yards out.

Wisniewski kept the game close when he made point-blank saves on Cody Widlak and Griffin Parks with 12:43 and 10:05 left in the half, respectively.

The Chiefs finally took the bull by the horns during a three-minute stretch late in the first half when they banged in three netfinders.

Senior captain Scott Piwowar made it 2-0 with 8:26 left before intermission when he ripped a shot past Wisniewski after securing a pass from Parks.

Ninety seconds later, Canton's Bobby Budlong scored after his high, hard riser dented the cross-bar

before finding the back of the net. Piwowar capped the three-goals-in-fiveminutes assault with a sizzling no-doubter after chasing down a through ball about 15 yards out.

Sophomore Jack Zemanski made sure the secondhalf momentum stayed with the Chiefs when he one-timed a pass from Piwowar into the topright shelf of the netting, upping his team's lead to 5-0 with 26:18 to play.

Three minutes later, Parks finished a threadthe-needle pass from Bud-

Wisniewski's first scintillating PK save came at the expense of Budlong, whose hard, humming shot was deflected out of harm's way by the Cougars' diving keeper.

Canton's Carter Schenk closed the scoring when he one-timed a pass from Bryan Tolinski into the goal with 18:07 to play.

Wisniewski's second PK save came with 13:32 left when he stuffed a freebie by Brian Galm, then jumped on a rebound attempt.

"I feel bad for our seniors because I know they wanted to go out on a positive note," Szypula said, "but at least they got a shot at playing against the defending state champs. We have about 12 guys returning next year, so we have a lot going for

SALEM 8, FRANKLIN 0: Tyler Fosdick and Connor Cole each scored a pair of goals Tuesday as the Rocks (15-2-4) opened Division 1 district play with a victory at Livonia Franklin (6-12-1).

The KLAA Association champions also got goals from William Benintende, Brady Cole, David Schroeder and Chris Dierker. Salem will face Canton at

5 p.m. Thursday in a district semifinal.

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SOCCER Continued from page B1

According to Plymouth head coach Jeff Neschich, it was Olah who "put the team on his back" after a first half where the Chargers kept the Wildcats (9-7-0) from putting too much pressure on Churchill junior goalkeeper Colton Rob-

Churchill (6-10-2) got off to a quick start with an unassisted tally by junior forward Luke Otto (who missed most of the season recovering from a knee injury) with 8:22 left in the open-

ing half. Plymouth goalie Mario Gruszczynski came out trying to cut off the play, but the ball slid underneath him into the cage.

About three minutes later, Churchill went up 2-0 when junior Patrick Adegbite-Martins converted a feed from junior Tyler Piotrowski.

But at halftime, Neschich reminded his team they'd have a brisk wind at their back for the second half and to crank up the offense.

The Wildcats picked up the pace, all right. With 24 minutes left in regulation, Plymouth senior Teddy Phillips sent the ball over toward Olah at the top of the 18-vard box.

Olah corralled the pass, spun and drove a shot inside the right post. Plymouth kept making

gains in territorial play and finally got back to even with 4:52 remaining.

Junior Viet Nguyen's through-ball found Olah as the latter dashed inside the box and the resulting boot from about 15 yards caromed off Robison --- desperately coming out to try for a sliding stop — and inside the right post.

At 4:15 of the first 10minute overtime (two sessions automatically are played), Olah rammed the ball inside the left post this time. Assisting was senior forward DK Kim, who Olah praised (along with Phillips and Nguyen) for their playmaking contributions to his goal surge.

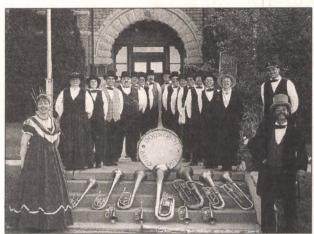
Churchill turned up the heat midway through the second OT and came within inches of sending the game into penalty kicks. A hard shot by junior Andrew Smutek from the left side of the box was blocked by the sprawling Gruszczynski.

The ball did dribble off the keeper toward the right side of the goal. Adegbite-Martins then barely missed depositing the loose ball into the Plymouth goal.

"When you have a 2-0 lead at halftime, that should be enough," Churchill head coach Matthew Grodzicki said. "Give Plymouth credit, though. Olah was unbelievable. Of course, this was a tough way to end it for our seniors. Still, I'm proud of the way we fought."

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Civil War songs



The Dodworth Saxhorn Band, wearing period costumes and playing music of the 19th century on instruments of the era, will perform 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 28, at Meadowbrook Congregational Church, 21355 Meadowbrook, between Eight Mile and Nine Mile, in Novi. Through music, song, audience participation, drama, poetry, dance and theater, the Dodworth Band, based in Ann Arbor, brings America's past to life. The group has performed at the White House, worked with filmmaker Ken Burns and opened the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's Salute to America concerts at Greenfield Village. The upcoming concert kicks off Meadowbrook's 2012-13 Music Series. Admission to the concert is free; suggested donation is \$10 per person and \$25 per family. For more information, call Jeannette Faber, at (248) 348-7757 or e-mail to Jeannettefab@gmail. com. Visit the church website at www.mbccc.org.

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.

October

BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 21

Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: All-you-can-eat French toast and pancakes breakfast also includes scrambled eggs, ham, sausage, applesauce, coffee, tea, juice, milk. Cost is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children, 2-10. Sponsored by St. Theodore Men's Club

Contact: (734) 425-4421

CAPUCHIN MINISTRIES

Time/Date: 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 19

Location: Detroit Marriott Renaissance Center, in down-

Details: The 5th Annual Second Helping Afterglow costs \$50 per person and includes two free drink tickets, parking, desserts, coffee bar, entertainment. Proceeds benefit the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. Contact: Get tickets at www.secondhelping.org or call (313) 579-2100, Ext.

CLOTHING BANK

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 27

41920 Joy Road, between Lilley and Haggerty, Canton **Details:** Free clothing

Fellowship Clothing Bank,

Location: Canton Christian

Contact: (734) 927-6686 or (734) 404-2480

COAT EXCHANGE

Time/Date: 4-6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 27

Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, located on Five Mile, one block west of Inkster Road, Livonia

Details: The kids coat exchange will be held the church's fall festival and 'trunk or treat" activities. Participants may take a coat if needed or donate coats for others. Any remaining coats at the end of the day will be donated to Redford Interfaith for distribution to local children in need of a winter coat. Coat donations will be accept in the church office during regular business hours Contact: (734) 422-1470

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 21

Location: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: The Detroit Lutheran Singers 48th season with Bach's "Singet den Herrn" and many other songs. Tickets are \$10, \$7 for seniors and students 12 and over

Contact: www.detroitiutheransingers.com

Passages Oblituaries, Memories & Rememberances

Deadlines: Friday, 4:15 p.m. for Sunday paper • Wednesday, 9:45 a.m. for Thursday paper



BOOTHROYD SHIRLEY L.

Age 84 of Canton Township, formerly of Royal Oak, died Octo-ber 13, 2012. Beloved wife of the late George. Dear mother of Deborah Drager, Steven, and Scott (Belinda). Proud grandmother of six, and great-grandmother of three. The family will gather with friends on Saturday October 20, 2012 from 10:30 AM until the 11 AM Memorial Service at First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, 701 Church Street (west of Main Street) Plymouth MI 48170. Memorial contributions may be made to First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, or to Starr Presbyterian Church, 1717 W. 13 Mile Rd, Royal Oak MI 48073

To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

SCOTT, PATRICIA M.

Asheville, NC, age 87, died October 13 in Asheville, NC. Born in Detroit, MI she graduated Denby High School in 1943. A long-time resident of Plymouth, MI and Blacksburg, VA, Pat served as Exhibits Director of the Plymouth Historical Museum and was active in several community organizations, including the Plymouth Garden Club. She was preceded in death by her husband of 61 years, Robert Bruce Scott, with whom she raised three children; Lana Burns of Asheville, Jeffrey Scott of Lexington, VA, and Chris Scott of Brentwood, TN. She was the proud grandmother of Rachel, Ethan, Lara, and Kira, and was an avid gardener, birdwatcher, and collector. A private interment will be held in Plymouth, MI at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the Alzheimer's charity of your choice. Groce Funeral Home at Lake Julian in Arden, NC is asal register is available online at www.grocefuneralhome.com.

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.



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HELEN JOAN (DIGON)

Of Farmington Hills, MI passed away on October 14, 2012. She was born in Detroit on July 12, 1930 and later moved to Ferndale where she attended Lin-coln High School. Helen graduated as salutatorian in January 1948. With the help of scholarships and working several jobs she put herself through college, graduating with a Bachelor of Education degree from Michigan State Normal College (now Eastern Michigan University). She later received her Master's in Education from Wayne State University Helen met Carl Dahlstrom at MSNC and they were married in Ferndale in 1953. Helen taught in Southfield and Lapeer before coming with Carl to Farmington. They both taught in the Farmington Schools for 37 years, retiring in 1992. this time they raised During three children, Jon, Laurie and Nancy. Helen was involved in many organizations over her lifetime, including the Farmington Education Association and later the retired teachers association. She was a longtime member of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), various church organizations and the Swedish Club of Farmington. Helen was a kind and generous person who will be sadly missed by family, friends, and all who met her. Helen is preceded in death by her husband Carl, daughter Nancy and brother Richard. Left to cherish her memories are son Jon (Barbara) daughter Dahlstrom, Ulrich) Dahlstrom, (Chuck grandchildren Jennifer, Kevin, Angela, Christopher, Brian (Molly) and Allison, brother Michael (Evelyn) Digon and sisterin-law Mary Digon. Also missing her will be many nieces, nephews, cousins and long-time friends. Funeral Saturday 11 a.m

Rd., Farmington Hills 48334. Visitation Friday 2-8 p.m. Thaver-Rock Funeral Home 33603 Grand River Ave., downtown Farmington. www.thayer-rock.com

First Presbyterian Church of Farmington 26165 Farmington



VIRGINIA ANN (MEEK)

Virginia went to be with the Lord on Sept. 17, 2012. She was the loving wife of Albert for 63 years and beloved mother of Sandra (Gary) Milis and Judy (Christopher) Nelson. Ginny was the proud grandmother of Chris-topher and Matthew Ockerman, Timothy, Steven, Andrew and Peter Nelson and Great Grandmother to Seth and Emma Ockerman. Virginia was a member of Ward Evangelical Presby-terian Church in Northville, and a former member of Trinity EPC in Plymouth. Virginia enjoyed gardening and was actively in-volved with Friends for the Development of Greenmead in Livonia. During the many years she served on this committee, she helped organize both the Greenmead Garden Walk and Christmas Walks. Visitation and a Memorial service were attended by many friends and family on Thursday, September 20th at Heeney-Sundquist Funeral

Home. If you wish to remember Virginia, memorial contributions can be made to Friends for the Development of Greenmead.

SALSBERY DEBRA ANN Born March 1, 1955, passed away October 15, 2012, age 57. Loving wife of Michael Sr. Dear mother of Kimberly (fiance Jerry Vaughn), Michael Jr. and Crystal (Richard Harding). Grandmother of Tyler Salsbery, Dale Vaughn and Hannah Harding. Daughter of Roy and Margaret Jerrell, Sr. Sister of Roy (Lisa) Jerrell, Jr. Visitation Thursday 5pm-9pm and Friday 12 noon until 9pm at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth, where the funeral services will be held on Saturday, 12 noon. Share your special thoughts and memories at:

www.schrader-howell.com



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PERRY, MARY ANN (KATZ)

Beloved mother, daughter died peacefully Monday morning after a long battle with Alzheimer's Disease at the age of 74. Mary Ann is survived by her husband, Don Perry, who was at her side when she passed away. She is also survived by her three children, David, Daniel and Deanna and her five grandchildren; David, Joe, Ian, Danny and Mac. Mary Ann was born and raised in Negaunee, Michigan and did everything at Negaunee High School; starring in school plays, cheerleading, serving on the student council and getting straight A's which earned her a full scholarship to Western Michigan University. there she met and married her first husband, settled in Livonia, Michigan and raised their three children. She was first and forewonderful mom who shuttled her kids to hockey and ballet, helped them through school and lifted them up with guidance, love and support. Mary Ann was known for her keen intelligence, wicked sense of humor and her kind heart. She loved to make porcelain dolls, take long motorcycle trips with her husband Don and was a voracious reader. Mary Ann excelled as a purchasing agent, financial planner and business owner but her favorite job was being a grandmother and spoiling her grandkids with toys and laughter Private family funeral services are Thursday (today) at the St. John's Episcopal Church Negaunee. Mary Ann will be buried beside her sister Katie and her wonderful parents, Donald and Helen MacDonald in the Negaunee City Cemetery. After a long and brave struggle, her

suffering is over. She is home.

PALYING INRUBUTHE TO THUE JUILIE OF YOUR ILOVIEID ONIE

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For Information

regarding this Directory, please call Sue Sare at 248-437-2011 ext. 247

or e-mail: ssare@hometownlife.com

See Three Cities Art Club works at eatery, mall show

By Sharon Dargay

Marilyn Meredith's acrylic painting, "Mountain Birches" is getting a lot of exhibit time this month, but you won't find it in a traditional gallery.

The colorful piece — along with works by other members of the Three Cities Art Club — has turned the walls of a local restaurant into an exhibit space.

They'll do the same for a

shopping mall this weekend. Meredith, who is president of the Club, and members Sharon Dillenbeck and Allen Brooks began displaying their works at Westland Charhouse restaurant last month. They and 14 other Three Cities members also will show art Friday-Sunday, Oct. 19-21 inside Westland Shopping Center. Meredith credits Brooks for both programs, which are designed to bring more art to Westland, while giving artists an audience for their works. Brooks, a photographer, asked Westland Charhouse owners John and Cindy Dakis if Three Cities Art Club members could show their works at the eatery. They agreed.

"What we'd like to do is rotate (the paintings and photos) and other members will have some of their art up," Meredith said, explaining how Three Cities artists will share the wall



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Restaurant owner Cindy Dakis (left) enables artists, such as Sharon Lee Dillenbeck (right) to display their paintings at the Westland Charhouse. Dillenbeck's painting is called "Irises in the Garden."

Meredith said Brooks also "got the show going" at Westland Shopping Center. "Festival of the Arts" is sponsored by the Westland Rotary Club and will be judged by Michigan Senator Glen Anderson, Westland Mayor Bill Wild, Westland Rotary Club President Antoinette Martin, and the shopping center's General Manager Carol Rutz on Saturday.

"He (Brooks) used to be president of Rotary and decided to bring more art to Westland.

There is no art show in Westland. There is no art club," Meredith said.

New exhibit site

Three Cities Art Club previously staged shows at the Canton Public Library, but found it increasingly difficult to book three consecutive days for an exhibit at the venue, Meredith said. Westland Shopping Center became the solution.

Approximately 100 paintings and photos will be on display at

Marilyn Meredith, president of Three Cities Art Club shows her painting, "Mountain Birches," which she removed from Westland Charhouse restaurant this week, to display at the upcoming Festival of the Arts exhibit at Westland Shopping Center.

the Festival of the Arts, which will run from 10:30 a.m. Friday to 5 p.m. Sunday, at the shopping center, located at 35000 Warren Road.

Dillenbeck, who owns D&M Art Studio in Canton, will present an art demonstration specifically for kids from 4-5 p.m. Friday.

Entertainment will include a dance performance from 4-5 p.m. Saturday, music by Livonia Symphony Orchestra members from 3-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, and songs by Harmony Town Chorus, 5-6 p.m. Saturday and 4-5 p.m. Sunday.

Hands-on art

Deana Salhaney and Liz Gulikson will join Meredith and Dillenbeck in a "Paint-Off," from 2-3:30 p.m. Saturday.

"It's more of a demonstration," said Meredith, noting that each artist will employ a different art medium.

She'll demonstrate acrylic painting by working on a piece she started outdoors at a plein air session last weekend.

"Last year I painted for quite a while," Meredith said, describing the Paint-Off. "I sold the painting I was finishing at the show. Someone bought the painting before I was even finished with it."

Club members' art work is for sale at both the Festival of the Arts and at Westland Charhouse, 35613 Warren Road.

Information about membership in the club also will be available at the Festival of the Arts.

The group meets at 7 p.m. the first Monday of the month from September-June at Canton Township Hall, located on S. Canton Center Road, south of Cherry Hill. It draws artists of all skill levels from throughout the Detroit Metro area.

For more information call (313) 231-3939 or visit www. threecitiesartclub.org.

Auction benefits Michigan Philharmonic

Bid on furniture, toys, electronics, collectibles and more at the Friends of the Michigan Philharmonic charity auction, 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19, at the Plymouth Elks Club, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

A preview and "Buy it Now" sale will start at 6 p.m. and food will be available

for purchase from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Admission is free.

Joe Carli will be the auctioneer. For photos of auction items, visit www.

For more information, call Jeanette Sullivan at (734) 455-9674 or (734) 748-3950.



It's time to don a costume, eat some candy and prepare for a little scary — or merry — fun.

Here's a sampling of seasonal activities:

Cinema shockers

• Shock-tober Series at the Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth features the 1931 version of *Dracula*, starring Bela Lugosi, 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18, and *Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein*, a 1948 film, 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 27. The Penn is located at 760 Penniman; (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

• See The Bride of Frankenstein and Frankenstein Meets the Wolf Man, 8 p.m. Oct. 19 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Oct. 20 at the Redford Theatre, located 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit. Evil Dead, written and directed by Michigan native, Sam Raimi, starring Bruce Campbell and Ellen Sandweiss, runs Friday, Oct. 26. Doors open at 11 p.m. and film starts at midnight, \$5. See the silent horror films, The Haunted House, with Buster Keaton and The Cat and the Canary with Laura La Plante, 8 p.m. Oct. 27, \$12 for adults and \$8 for children. (313) 537-2560

Corn maze

Take a wagon ride to and from the maze, 6-10 p.m. Friday, 1-10 p.m. Saturday and 1-7 p.m. Sunday, every weekend through Nov. 4, at Maybury Farm, 50165 Eight Mile, west of Beck, Northville Township. Admission is \$5 per person. Find eight wooden animals hiding in the maze and get a chance to spin a wheel and win a prize. (248) 374-0200.

Halloween walks

• Hear tales of Plymouth's ghosts and meet characters from the community's past at the Plymouth Historical Museum's "Plymouth Characters" Cemetery Walk, Saturday, Oct. 27 at Riverside Cemetery, located on Plymouth Road, west of Haggerty. Walks start at 4 p.m. at the Mausoleum, with small groups departing every 15 minutes. The last tour leaves at 7:30 p.m. Bring flashlights for later walk times. Advance tickets are \$10 per person or buy a Friends of the Plymouth Historical Museum membership and get up to two tickets free. Tour times will be assigned at the time of ticket purchase. Buy tickets using Paypal at www.plymouthhistory.org or at the Museum, 155 S. Main in downtown Plymouth. Tickets are \$15 at

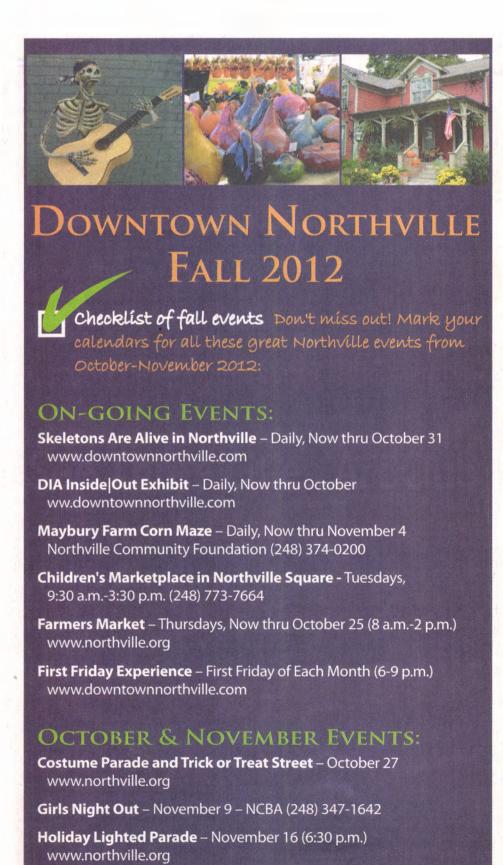
the cemetery the day of the event.

• Meet "not-so-scary" forest dwellers on a guided night hike Friday, Oct. 19 at Nankin Mills, located on Hines Drive, east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland. Children may dress in costume for this event that will conclude with an indoor presentation of live creatures from around the world. Hikes start at 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 7 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$6 per child and \$2 per adult for Wayne County residents. Out-of-county residents pay \$1 more per ticket. Registration is a must at (734) 261-1990.

• Follow a jack-o-lantern-lined path, meet costumed characters and stop at treat stations, Oct. 19-21 and 26-28 in Greenfield Village at The Henry Ford, 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn. Time slots are available every half hour from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12.75 for members and \$15 for non-members. Parking is \$5. Get tickets at thehenry-ford.org.

• Youngsters can trick-or-treat along a pumpkin-lined trail, watch a live minimusical, play games, get prizes, and walk through a hay maze at Zoo Boo, 6-8 p.m. Oct. 19-21 and 26-28 at the Detroit Zoo, located on the I-696 service drive at Woodward Ave., in Royal Oak. Tickets are \$7 for ages 2 and up. Chose 6

Please see HALLOWEEN, B7



Greens Market Weekend – November 17 & 18

find the DDA on facebook www.downtownnorthville.com

www.northville.org

HALLOWEEN

Continued from page B6

p.m., 6:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Additional time slots are 5 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 27. Buy tickets online at www.detroitzoo. org or at Booth One at the front of the Detroit Zoo

Haunted Horns

Canton Concert Band performs its 8th annual benefit concert, 2 p.m. Oct. 27, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton. Admission is a donation at the door. www. cantonband.com

Parties

• Kids can pumpkin bowl, enter a costume contest, chalk on the sidewalk and get candy at Pumpkin Palooza, noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 21. in downtown Plymouth. Other games, live entertainment, and hands-on

art activities round out the fun. For more information visit www.plymouthmich.org or call the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-1540.

• Parade in costume, take a hayride, play in an inflatable and go trick or treating at the free Halloween Festival sponsored by Wayne County Parks, 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20 at the Nankin Mills picnic area, located on Hines Drive, east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland. (734) 261-1990.

• A free movie, face painting, pumpkin painting, Halloween stories and more will get kids into the Halloween spirit during Halloween Fun Day, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 27, in downtown Farmington; www. downtownfarmington.

•The Haunted Halloween Family Party at the Museum offers "merry

not scary" trick-or-treating, crafts, games and stories, karaoke and a pizza feast, 4-6:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 20 at the Museum, 13624 Michigan Ave., in Dearborn. Tickets for children are \$8 at the door or \$7 in advance at www.arabamericanmuseum.org. Admission for adults is free. Adult pizza lunches

will be available for \$2. Adults, 21 and over, can dance, watch the Detroit Circus perform, get their fortunes told, and vie for cash prizes in a costume contest at Haunted in the House, the fourth annual Halloween party and fundraiser for the Michigan Opera Theatre, 8 p.m.-1 a.m. Friday, Oct. 26, at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. Tickets are \$35 in advance; \$40 the day of the event. Call (313) 237-SING or visit www.

Pets in costume

• The 4th annual Howlween Pet Costume Contest runs noon to 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 21, in The Gathering, across from Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth. It's free to enter and will award first, second and third place winners with prizes. Register from 11:45 a.m.-noon. Pets must be current on vaccinations and be both people- and pet-friendly. (734) 455-6620; www.ci.plymouth. mi.us/recreationspecia-

• Howl-O-Ween Dog Park Party includes costume contests, games and prizes for dogs, 10 a.m.noon, Saturday, Oct. 20 at the Wayne County Dog Park, located at Hawthorne Ridge Park on Hines Drive, east of Merriman Road in Westland. The event is free and will include pet-related vendors and light refresh-

Pumpkins Per Digital

 Find pumpkins, gourds, corn stalks and take a pony ride 10 a.m.-8 p.m. week days and 11 a.m.-7 p.m. weekends through Oct. 28 at the Wilson Barn, located at W. Chicago Road and Middlebelt, in Livonia. Get apple cider, coffee, hot chocolate and doughnuts inside the barn. A craft show is open 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Oct. 19-21 and 26-28. Haunted Barn for youngsters, 12 and under is noon to 7:30 p.m. Oct. 20-21 and 27-28. Catch a performance by Uke 'n sing at 2 p.m., Oct. 21. www.wilsonbarn.us.

 Polar bears love pumpkins. They'll smash a few at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 24, during Halloween treat enrichment time at the Detroit Zoo, located on the I-696 service drive at Woodward Ave., in Royal Oak. Vultures,

ines, bison, snow monkeys, zebra, anteaters and bear-den bears will get a chance to rip apart, squash and eat Halloween treats, too. The feeding schedule runs every half hour from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; www.detroitzoo.org.

Spook show

Magician Keith Stickley, also known as Dr. Scream, combines a live magic and illusion show, audience encounters with ghouls and ghosts, along with a cult horror feature film, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Oct. 26-27 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton. Dr. Scream's Spook Show is designed for patrons, 12 and over. Tickets are \$15 each and are available online at www.cantonvillagetheater.org or at The Village Theater Box Office one hour before show time; (734)



Create fun, colorful treats for Halloween

Orange. Banshee Black. Frankenstein Green.

Get creative with food coloring and flavoring this Halloween and bake up a colorful monster mash of treats.

McCormick kitchens suggests transforming orangecolored and flavored cake balls into edible monsters and simple sugar cookies into sweet scarecrows for your graveyard smash. Or dive into the spirit of the season with a tempting new take on red velvet cake and a cupcake version of an iconic Halloween candy.

For more ideas, visit www. mccormick.com.

Creepy Crawly Cake Truffles

Makes 4 dozen or 24 (2 cake pop) servings Prep Time: 45 minutes Cook Time: 35 minutes Refrigerate: 2 hours

1 package (15% to 18% ounces)

- white cake mix
- 1 teaspoon pure orange extract ½ teaspoon yellow food color
- ¼ teaspoon red food color
- 1 cup marshmallow creme White confectionery coating wafers,

such as Wilton White Candy Melts Black confectionery coating wafers,

such as Wilton Black Candy Melts Semi-sweet baking chocolate Assorted candies for decorating

1. Prepare cake mix as directed on package, adding orange extract and food colors. Bake as directed on package for 13- by 9-inch baking pan. Cool completely on wire

2. Crumble cake into large bowl. Add marshmallow creme; mix until well blended. Shape into 1-inch balls. Refrigerate 2 hours

3. Melt coating wafers or chocolate as directed on package. Using a fork, dip 1 cake ball at a time into the confectionery coating or melted chocolate. Tap back of fork 2 or 3 times against edge of dish to allow excess to drip off. Place cake balls on wax paper-lined tray.

4. Decorate as desired. Decorating tips:

 Spider — Coat in black coating or melted chocolate Add black string licorice for legs and red candy-coated pieces for

• Ghosts — Coat in white coating to resemble ghosts. Add cut black jelly beans for eyes and mouth.

 Vampire Bats — Coat in black coating or melted chocolate. Use red candycoated pieces for eyes, white tips of candy corns for fangs and cut up licorice wheels for wings and

Test Kitchen Tips: • For 1 batch Cake Truffles, you will need about 1 pound confectionery coating wafers or chocolate.

 Confectionery coating, also known as almond bark, is used for candy making and coating. It is packaged in wafer form and is available in a variety of colors and flavors, including milk and dark chocolate. It is found in the cake decorating aisle of craft and party stores.



Black Velvet Whoopie Pies



Creepy Crawly Cake Truffles

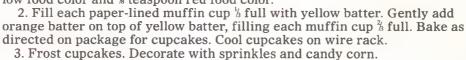
Candy Corn Cupcakes Makes 24 (1 cupcake) servings. Prep Time: 30 minutes Cook Time: 20 minutes

1 package (18% ounces) white cake mix 2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract

Assorted food colors 1 container (16 ounces) vanilla frosting Assorted decorations, such as orange

sprinkles and candy corn 1. Prepare cake mix as directed on package, adding vanilla. Divide batter in half. Tint one batch yellow with ½ teaspoon yellow food Candy Corn Cupcakes color. Tint second batch

orange with ¼ teaspoon yellow food color and 1/2 teaspoon red food color.



Test kitchen tip: For easier measurement, ¼ teaspoon food color equals 20-25

Orange Hocus Pocus Fizz Makes 6 servings.

Prep Time: 5 minutes

- 1 cup pineapple juice
- ½ cup rum
- ¼ teaspoon imitation coconut extract
- 3 drops red food color 2 drops yellow food color
- 1 bottle (750 ml) sparkling white wine

1. Mix pineapple juice, rum, coconut extract and food colors in measuring

2. For each cocktail, pour 2 ounces

Orange Hocus Pocus Fizz pineapple juice mixture into beverage glass. Top with 4 ounces sparkling white wine.

How to Rim Glass with Black-Tinted Sugar: Place 2 tablespoons sugar in small resealable plastic bag. Add 10 drops McCormick Black Food Color. Seal bag. Knead sugar until the color is evenly distributed. Pour out onto shallow plate. Dip rim of beverage glass in water, then into black-tinted sugar to lightly coat.

• Beverage may also be prepared in a pitcher. Mix pineapple juice, rum, coconut extract and food colors in 2-quart pitcher. Add sparkling wine just

• For a nonalcoholic version, omit rum, increase pineapple juice to 1½ cups and use 1 bottle (750 ml) sparkling white grape juice in place of the sparkling white wine.

Harvest Scarecrow Cookies Prep Time: 30 minutes

Cook Time: 9 to 10 minutes per batch 1 package (17.5 ounces) sugar cookie mix

- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1 container (16 ounces) vanilla frosting
- 54 sugar wafer cookies
- Shredded wheat cereal, broken up Assorted decorations, such as candy-coated
- pieces and red string licorice 1. Prepare cookie mix as directed on package, adding

inch round cookie cutter.

2. Bake and cool cookies as directed on

3. Frost cookies with vanilla frosting. For the scarecrow's hat, break a sugar wafer cookie in half. Press wafer cookie half into the top of the frosted cookie. Place a whole wafer cookie below the cookie half. Press shredded wheat around sides of the face for straw hair. Use candycoated pieces and string licorice to decorate the face.

vanilla. Cut out rounds with 21/2-

Black Velvet Whoopie Pies Makes 2 dozen or 24 (1 whoopie pie)

Prep Time: 30 minutes

Cook Time: 8 minutes per batch

1 package (15¼ to 18¼ ounces) German choco-

late cake mix with pudding ½ cup water

- 4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- ¼ cup vegetable oil
- 3 tablespoons McCormick Black Food Color
- 1 tablespoon Pure Vanilla Extract Jack-O-Lantern Orange Filling:
- ½ cup (1 stick) butter, softened 1½ cups confectioners' sugar
- 1 jar (7 ounces) marshmallow cream
- ½ teaspoon pure orange extract
- ½ teaspoon red food color

½ teaspoon yellow food color 1. For the cookies, preheat oven to 350°F. Beat cake mix, water, cocoa powder, oil, food color, eggs and vanilla in large bowl with electric mixer on low speed just until moistened, scraping sides of bowl frequently. Beat on medium speed 2 min-

2. Spoon 1 tablespoon of batter, 2 inches apart, onto parchment paper-lined baking sheets. (Cookies will spread so avoid crowding them on baking sheet.)

3. Bake 8 minutes or until cookies are puffed and spring back when touched, turning baking sheets halfway through baking. Cool on baking sheets 1 minute. Remove to wire racks; cool completely.

4. For the orange filling, beat all ingredients in medium bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until light and fluffy. To assemble the Whoopie Pies, place 1 tablespoon filling on flat side of 1 cookie. Top with a second cookie, pressing gently to spread the filling. Repeat with remaining cookies and filling.

CITY BITES

Rouge brew

PLYMOUTH — Get a taste of beer brewed within the Rouge River Watershed at Friends of the Rouge's Fourth Annual Rouge Brew, 4 p.m. Sunday Nov. 4, at Liberty Street Brewing Company, 149 W. Liberty, Plymouth. The event will include the release of a special Rouge beer brewed with locally-grown hops. Rex Halfpenny of the Michigan Beer Guide will lead the tasting. Tickets are \$35 in advance at http://therouge.org/index. php?id=691357 and include the tasting, light refreshments and a Friends of the Rouge pint glass. Any remaining tickets will be \$40 at the door. Proceeds from the event go to support Friends of the Rouge. For more information or to sign up, visit www.therouge.org, email monitoring@therouge.org or call (313) 792-9621.

Wine sampling

LIVONIA — The Community Opportunity Center will sponsor a Wine Tasting Benefit & Auction 6:30-10:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 9, at Laurel Manor, located on the I-96 service drive, west of Newburgh. Ten vendors of fine wine, including several international wines, will be available for sampling. The event also will include a silent auction, live auction, and an elaborate array of hors d'oeuvres. Tickets are \$65 per person or \$120 per couple and are available by calling Diane or Larry Janes at (734) 422-5525. Community Opportunity Center, based in Livonia, is a non-profit management corporation that provides leadership and oversight to nearly 100 individuals with developmental disabilities who live among 23 homes and apartment settings in western Wayne County.

Vegetarian holiday

PLYMOUTH — Tickets are available now for the The 25th annual Vegetarian Holiday Tasting Extravaganza, planned for Sunday, Nov. 11 at the Metropolitan Adventist School Gymnasium, located on Haggerty, just north of Five Mile. The event will feature recipes containing many "super foods," which are defined as foods that can change your life according to academic science and peerreviewed research clinical trials. Guests will get tips on serving a "green" holiday menu and get a chance to sample more than 60 non-meat dishes. The cooks serving their vegetarian family favorites also will be on hand to answer questions. Cookbooks with recipes of the sample dishes will be available for purchase. CDs with 20 years worth of recipes from the event also will be sold.

Adult tickets are \$14; children, 6-12, pay \$6. Adult tickets are \$14.00, child (6-12) \$6. Order for tickets need to include your choice of first, second or third seating at 11 a.m., 12:45 p.m., or 2:30 p.m. and total tickets you are ordering. Make checks payable to, Metro SDA School and mail to "Holiday Tasting," 695 N. Ridge Road, Canton, Mi 48187-4635. Questions? Call the hotline at (248) 446-9176 or visit www.veggieholiday.com. For ticket availability on the day of the event call (734) 420-4044.

Half-baked pizza

METRO DETROIT — You can eat Buddy's Pizza fresh out of the oven at home and celebrate National Pizza Month at the same time. The restaurant sells partially-baked pizza that customers can take home and finish baking in their own ovens. Pizzas can be personalized to reflect any taste or dietary restriction, as well as frozen. Choices include original, gluten free and multigrain crusts, original and tomato basil sauces, and a variety of cheeses including Wisconsin brick cheese, Buddy's Motor City Cheese blend and a casein-free vegan cheese. Place half-baked orders between 2-5 p.m. All half-baked pizzas are priced to match their fully-cooked equivalents. Buddy's is located in Auburn Hills, Dearborn, Detroit, Farmington Hills, Grosse Pointe, Livonia and Warren. Carryout sites are in Bloomfield Hills and Royal Oak. www.buddyspizza.com. National Pizza Month runs through Oct. 31.

Honoring veterans

NATIONWIDE — Krispy Kreme stores will give veterans and active military personnel a free coffee and doughnut on Nov. 11, Veteran's Day. No purchase will be necessary, but guests must be in uniform or possess valid military identification; www.krspykreme.com

Cooks stir up winning chili recipes

Out-of-state chili cooks took home the first place awards in the 17th annual Great Lakes Regional Chili Cook-off and Motorcycle Show, Sunday, Oct. 14, in downtown Plymouth.

Top awards went to Ken Kostal of Marblehead, Ohio, for his "Island Heat Salsa" in the salsa category; Jim Stoddard of Coppell, Texas, for his "Alien Chili" in the chili verde category; and Richard Chauvin of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, for "South of the Border Chili" in the red chili category. They also win the opportunity to compete in the International Chili Society's World Championship Chili Cook-off next year.

Chris Thompson of Westland took home the People's Choice award for his "Irish Fire Chili." Leo Buk of Trenton won an award for the best booth display for his "Nuclear Chili."

Nineteen restaurants competed in the Restaurant Chili Challenge. The public awarded TAP at the MGM Grand Detroit People's Choice honors. Rub Pub BBQ, located in Detroit and Warren, earned an award in the "Best Judged" cat-

FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Industry report ranks metro Detroit tops in affordable housing

By Julie Brown **O&E Staff Writer**

Detroit tops the list of metro areas with more than one million households that require the least amount of income to buy a typically priced home. Chicago rounded out the top 10.

Metro Detroit was listed as 70.9 percent owner-occupied, according to the National Association of Realtors. While most of the metro areas listed are from the middle of the country, Tampa, Fla., and Riverside, Calif., also made the list.

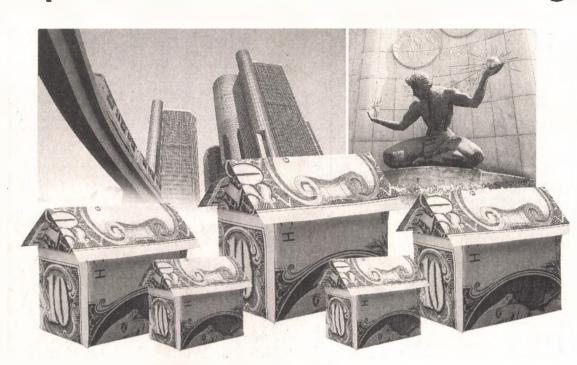
The metro Detroit qualifying income for a down payment with 10 percent down was \$12,533, and for 20 percent down it was \$11,140. Twentythree metro areas and divisions covered in NAR's initial review of 149 metro areas met the one million household threshold according to Census 2010 data.

Qualifying income is calculated by limiting the monthly principle and interest payment to 25 percent of income. The mortgage payment is calculated for a median priced home in the metro area assuming the given down payment and a 4 percent mortgage rate on a 30year fixed rate mortgage.

Realtor Tony Schippa, president of the Greater Metropolitan Association of Realtors, and of Coldwell Banker Preferred in Plymouth, said, "It's definitely good news. I believe the market is turning around. We have a shortage of inventory right now so that's bringing the values up, moving forward."

He agreed some major metro areas such as San Francisco are much more expensive for homebuyers.

Schippa has a friend who lived in San Francisco, where a



small condo was \$249,000 about five years ago. "That was for a 600-square-feet condo," he said. "My first apartment was 700 square feet."

Schippa is pleased with the recent direction of the local market.

"Prices are still at a good low. If you're renting, now is the time to buy. There are some good deals for first-time homebuyers."

Greater Detroit's population has declined, he said. "Homes in Detroit were going for \$10,000." The city is now trying to draw younger professionals, including those in Midtown and downtown

"I think there's a good movement within the city itself to bring the city back to what it once was," Schippa said.

"We're getting multiple

48421 Red Run Dr

offers on property. That's just good, positive signs," he said. People bring cash if there's a difference between what the houses appraises for.

"They'll go forward and go ahead with the deal."

Presidential election will be important in his field, Schippa added. "We're just going to have to wait and see." Jobs are a key component.

"The more jobs you have the more opportunity people have to buy homes," Schippa said. Industry pros also will see if debt forgiveness is extended past Dec. 31 on short sales, he said. "That's another very popular issue at the moment," the Plymouth resident said. He believes extension is likely but not guaranteed.

'I think there's good positive energy in the real estate industry moving forward,"

Schippa said.

Agreeing is Dale E. Smith, chief executive officer for GMAR. "It's really been a remarkable turnaround. The market throughout the Detroit metro area has rebounded nicely. We're pleased with the statistics," Smith said.

The market isn't back to levels of four-five years ago, Smith said. "But it certainly is encouraging."

"It really is and was what the middle class was all about," Smith said of Detroit's housing stock. There's been a demand for affordable housing. "A lot of people came to bat and demanded that kind of housing.'

Cities are playing a bigger role with government agencies, Smith added.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

\$308,000

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of July 9-13, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office.

Listed below are cities, and sales prices.	addresses,
CANTON	£00.000
4035 Berkeley Ave 7244 Burgundy St	\$90,000 \$225,000
7212 Camelia Ct	\$193,000
357 Country Club La	\$3E0,000

Listed below are cities, and sales prices.	addresses,	6560 Cadillac St 32951 Hennepin St
CANTON 4035 Berkeley Ave 7244 Burgundy St 7212 Camelia Ct 357 Country Club Ln 46144 Hanford Rd 3156 Hannan Rd 1742 Orchard Dr	\$90,000 \$225,000 \$193,000 \$350,000 \$240,000 \$27,000 \$33,000	LIVONIA 36028 Ann Arbor T 14154 Arden St 15173 Arden St 30461 Brookview E 36291 Clarita St 28650 Fargo St 18633 Hillcrest St 16750 Mayfield St 11030 Melrose St

1525 Rustic Ridge Rd GARDEN CITY	\$150,000
151 Belton St	\$48,000
32985 Brown St	\$7,000
6560 Cadillac St	\$76,000
32951 Hennepin St	\$45,000
LIVONIA	
36028 Ann Arbor Trl	\$47,000
14154 Arden St	\$170,000
15173 Arden St	\$98,000
30461 Brookview Dr	\$118,000
36291 Clarita St	\$155,000
28650 Fargo St	\$110,000
18633 Hillcrest St	\$85,000
16750 Mayfield St	\$197,000
11030 Melrose St	\$185,000

	4
38701 Richland St	\$92,000
36732 Sherwood St	\$135,000
15142 Susanna St	\$149,000
29138 Westfield St	\$79,000
NORTHVILLE	
18016 Cascade Dr	\$410,000
46909 Greenridge Dr	\$393,000
9166 Napier Rd	\$71,000
48832 Rainbow Ln S	\$301,000
39408 Springwater Dr	\$124,000
16763 Yellowstone Dr	\$437,000
PLYMOUTH	
46830 Bettyhill	\$325,000
14621 Huntington Dr	\$172,000
420 Irvin St	\$255,000
12925 Portsmouth Xing	\$416,000

16303 Pollyanna St \$139,000

101 S Union St Unit 309	\$160,000
11523 Waverly Dr	\$165,000
Redford	
14778 Inkster Rd	\$59,000
12801 Lenore	\$16,000
19473 Macarthur	\$21,000
12027 Royal Grand	\$28,000
17381 Wakenden	\$37,000
WESTLAND	
35751 Florence St	\$77,000
34054 Majestic St	\$94,000
31139 Merritt Dr	\$81,000
34549 Pardo St	\$21,000
8440 Shari Dr	\$83,000
604 Van Lawn St	\$56,000
1216 Woodbourne St	\$90,000

41801 Primrose Dr

24797 Reeds Pointe Dr

\$108,000

\$451,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of June 25-29, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS	
16011 Amherst Ave	\$315,000
16950 Locherbie Ave	\$266,000
20245 Ronsdale Dr	\$422,000
31475 Sleepy Hollow Ln	\$274,000
22240 Village Pines Dr	\$333,000
BINGHAM FARMS	* ,
23860 Overlook Cir	\$240,000
BIRMINGHAM	
2528 Derby Rd	\$165,000
717 Fairfax St	\$420,000
851 Hazelwood St	\$685,000
419 Lake Park Dr	\$1,438,000
1497 Maryland Blvd	\$790,000
795 Mohégan St	\$417,000
876 Oakland Ave	\$335,000
888 S Bates St	\$375,000
1801 Southfield Rd	\$75,000
1857 W Melton Rd	\$158,000
1789 Washington Blvd	\$279,000
644 Watkins Št	\$545,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
850 S Pemberton Rd	\$175,000
2130 Coach Way Ct	\$289,000

2735 Hunters Hill Rd 25 Quarton Ln BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	\$470,000 \$795,000
2679 Bloomfield Crossing 5765 Crabtree Rd 4072 Cranbrook Ct 1085 E Glengarry Cir	\$181,000 \$385,000 \$800,000
1141 Fox Chase Rd 407 Fox Hills Dr N 426 Fox Hills Dr N # A6	\$280,000 \$45,000 \$25,000
1574 Lone Pine Rd 1354 N Glengarry Rd 5651 S Adams Way	\$375,000 \$630,000 \$252,000
810 Shady Hollow Cir 2997 Woodcreek Way COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	\$380,000 \$416,000
7977 Flagstaff St 2247 Palmetto 5163 Parkgate Dr	\$42,000 \$40,000 \$355,000
1880 Wexport Ln 2833 Windwood Ct FARMINGTON	\$330,000 \$423,000
22840 Frederick Ave 36934 Heatherton Dr 33615 Hillcrest Dr 23000 Maple Ave	\$110,000 \$185,000 \$190,000 \$119,000
23551 Prospect Ave 24180 Saint Mary Ct FARMINGTON HILLS	\$105,000 \$185,000
27071 Arden Park Cir 22271 Atlantic Pointe 28229 Bayberry Rd 29793 Briarton St	\$144,000 \$40,000 \$125,000 \$170,000

33642 Brittany Dr	\$285,000
24658 Creekside Dr	\$179,000
30215 Fiddlers Grn	\$215,000
23033 Glenmoor Hts	\$47,000
27039 Hampstead Blvd	\$415,000
31997 Olde Franklin Dr	\$248,000
32482 Olde Franklin Dr	
32341 Salvador St	\$146,000
30911 Sudbury St	\$185,000
23141 Tulane Ave	\$65,000
LATHRUP VILLAGE	
18610 San Quentin Dr	\$129,000
18830 San Quentin Dr	\$132,000
MILFORD	,
1775 Burns Rd	\$225,000
811 Canal St	\$55,000
915 E Dawson Rd	\$155,000
2900 Hidden Pne	\$219,000
422 Riverbend St	\$280,000
814 Squire Ln	\$73,000
NOVI	, -,
24729 Apple Crest Dr	\$164,000
45138 Bartlett Dr	\$84,000
27343 Benjamins Way	\$45,000
25178 Birchwoods Dr	\$287,000
24060 Broadmoor Park	
40896 Coventry Rd	\$363,000
25020 Delmont Dr	\$345,000
24997 Fairway Hills Dr	\$220,000
44454 Gwinnett Loop	\$157,000
44492 Gwinnett Loop	\$156,000
23851 Harvest Dr	\$268,000
25843 Mulberry Ln	\$317,000
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	, ,

23059 Shilo Ct 25289 Sutton Ct 27111 Victoria Rd 28285 Wolcott Dr	\$615,000 \$50,000 \$272,000 \$84,000
50UTH LYON 58619 Carriage Ln 53789 Edgewood Dr 61220 Greenwood Dr 913 Hearthside St 24585 King Post Ct 23915 Lyon Ridge Dr 23848 Prescott Ct 24878 Purlin Ct	\$40,000 \$218,000 \$65,000 \$122,000 \$78,000 \$61,000 \$71,000
1072 Shetland Dr 1096 Shetland Dr 53851 Springwood Dr 357 University Ave SOUTHFIELD	\$249,000 \$240,000 \$210,000 \$110,000
22769 Bell Brook St 20990 Constitution St 17101 Edwards Ave 29662 Farmbrook Villa Ct \$43,000	
29700 Lahser Rd 21241 McClung Ave 17264 Melrose St 18210 Onyx St 20570 Secluded Ln WHITE LAKE	\$70,000 \$73,000 \$40,000 \$93,000 \$82,000
9382 Beechcrest St 204 Decca Dr	\$282,000 \$135,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Real Estate Career Seminar

Learn about a \$50,000 income guarantee Thursday, Oct. 18, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Keller Williams Realty, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth.

For more information, contact Jim Raines at (734) 459-4700 or jimraines@kw.com.

Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you

may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures and what it takes to get started. Many sellers are misinformed or not sure about how the procedures work. Organizers will also discuss the internal workings of short sales and the different steps involved. Bonnie David, broker/owner of Ouantum Real Estate is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. Thursdays at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon.

Additional parking across the street in back. Please call the office at (248) 782-7130 or e-mail june.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.

Free foreclosure tours

Free foreclosure tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96.

E-mail Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia.

Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

Records usually private

By Robert Meisner Guest Columnist

Q: Could you be a little more specific whether a coowner has a right of privacy in regard to his assessments?

A: Most cases have indicated that an owner does not have an expectation of privacy with respect to whether he or she is delinquent in payment, or, to put it differently, the association does not have an obligation to treat such records as confidential. So, if financial records of an



association contain itemization as to which owners are delinquent, a member has a right to inspect those records. Of course,

liens, motions, complaints and judgments are matters of public records and copies in the association's files and/or records would be discoverable by any co-owner. Under no circumstances should the association voluntarily publish the delinquency list, particularly if there is any question about their authenticity of accuracy.

Q: Our association was just taken over by a group of renegades who kept one of the directors from voting to remove the managing agent and the attorney, and many of the directors have a self-interest in promoting their own businesses as part of the association business. What can we do because of the apathy in this large condominium development?

A: This is not an

unusual situation where a group of individuals, who may have an improper motive, seek to take control of the association, because of apathy or naivete on the part of some of the residents at the condominium. Obviously, you should document your grievances against the **Board of Directors** through legal counsel, and attempt to take back control of the association, either politically through the association removal process, and/or by the commencement of a member's derivative lawsuit against the **Board of Directors** on behalf of the association. You may well be able to get reimbursement for your attorney fees, but obviously, a good lawyer is your first course of action in dealing with this problem.

Robert M. Meisner IS a lawyer and author of

Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition, available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping/handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping/ handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

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(888) 293-3477

(248) 282-1602

(888) 293-3477

Key to "Other" column - J= Jumbo, A = Arm, V = VA, F = FHA & NR = Not Reported

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Help Wanted - General

Above Information available as of 10/12/12 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a

\$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment

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Help Wanted - General

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J/A/V/F

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Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - General

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Help Wanted - General Help Wanted - Dimbil

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Sat., Oct. 20th, 7pm
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Antiques & Collectibles
Furniture; Glassware
Holiday Items
Household Items Household Items
Cash/MC/Visa
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Doors Open 6pm
Joe Carli
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LARGE PUBLIC AUCTION 2006 Lilly Rd, Canton MI 48188 Sat., Oct 20 10AM Sat., Ust 20 TUAM
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the estate! Antiques in Tiger
oak, maple, walnut! (All
kinds) Contemporary furniture, glassware, china,
quilts, Limoge chocolate set,
"Wilddisoph". "Widdicomb bedroon suite, Credenza Victrola. Tod

sufte, Credenza Victrola. Too much more to list! Outdoor items and tools of all kinds -mowers, pato set, wicker set, 2 generators, pedal car, 2 snow blowers. R/A & table saws, quantity of hand and power tools. Troy Bulti tiller and shipper shedder and shipper shedder commerical meat grinder and Biro meat saw and Bird meat saw.
Check website for complete
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Job Opportunities

Rummage Sales & Flea Markets

HOLY TRINITY Lutheran Church 39020 5 Mile, Livonia E of 275, Oct. 19th 9:30am-Noon, \$2 bag sale

RUMMAGE SALE St. Paul's Lutheran School Gym at 201 Elm Street, down town Northville, behind Hiller's Thurs. Oct. 25th, 9am-4pm Fri. Oct. 26th, 9am-1pm.

Estates Sales

Another Bernard Davis Estate Sale 313-837-1993 Oct. 19-20, 8:45-4. 13111 Griggs, Detroit, 48238 More info go to

LIVONIA: Estate Sale. 14301 Lyons. Middlebelt N. of Schoolcraft, take Lyndon E. to Lyons, turn right. Sat. 10/20, 9-4. Sun. 10/21, 10-3. 2 bedroom sets, living set, huge se-lection of hand & power tools, cameras, jewelry, barware & stools, holiday items & much much more. Photos at: Call: 734-675-6586

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BIRMINGHAM Estate Sale-253 Chester field. Thurs., 10/18 , 10-4. Vin tage Clothing, Household/Holiday, Books, Furniture, Sports.

BRIGHTON-10423 Farmbrook

Dr., Ridgewood Subdivision Ml. Oct. 18 & 19th. Low prices! ESTATE SALE - Oct 19 & 20

Fri & Sat. 8-3pm. Curlo glass cabinet and other furniture, momentos from world wide travel, large book collection, & household items. 32245 Southfield Rd., in Beverly Hills, N of 13 on Southfield Rd.

HARTLAND -Men! This one's for you! Lawn & garden tools, snowblower, power washer, fishing, bols, exercise equip. 1 day only! Sat. Oct 20, 10-5, 12226 Cundy Road, Hartland

LIVONIA: Multi Family. Oct. 18-20, 9-5. 14967 Sunbury. S of 5, E. of Middlebelt. Anti-ques, 90's boy collectibles gun safe, desk, men's hobbies

MILFORD- HUGE BARN SALE MILFORD- HUGE BARN SALE!
Oct 19 noon-6pm, Oct 20, 106pm, Oct 21, noon-4pm. 50
yrs collectibles, furniture, theatre seats, bowling alley seats,
& new leather-car seats, swim
locker, bikes, toys, household,
pation umbrella's, cars, lawn
equipment, tools...too many
things to list! 1175 Holden Rd,
2 miles N of 65 off Milford Rd. 2 miles N of 96, off Milford Rd

PTA Garage/Bake Sale. Oct. 18-20, 8am-4pm. 635 Atlantic St. No price tags. Generous donations requested.

MILFORD: Multi family sale Check Craigslist Oakland county for item listing. Fri-Sun, Oct. 19-21, 10-4:30pm. 1045 W. Buno Rd, just off Milford Rd.

NORTHVILLE MULTI FAMILY SALE: Fri-Sun, Oct 19-21, 8-3pm. North Ely St., N of 8 Mile & Center

Job Opportunities

Garage/Moving Sales

NOVI: MOVING SALE. & Sat. 8-5pm. Clothing, ling toys, infant furniture, tiques & household items. 21850 Shadybrook Dr

Yamaha w/bench, \$500. CHINA CABINET, \$200. (734) 455-9227

Garage Sale Household Items, clothes. Thurs., Fri. & Sat. Oct. 18-20,

9-4pm. 13934 Oakland Ct.

PLYMOUTH: Moving Sale NE of Ann Arbor Trail/1275, 39819 Birchwood. Sat. only, 10/20 10-4pm. Bdrm furniture, dining set, sofa, misc furniture & household, tools, lawn/ garden equip., corner cabinet. No early birds, please.

Clothing

MINK RANCH COAT Blackglama, ankle length Pristine Size medium, Length 53", Sweep: 63". No wear, like new, gorgeous! \$3950 (941) 441-8842

TIGERS STADIUM SWEATSHIRT, "End of Era" Men's XL, light gray, never washed, never worn, \$75.

DINING ROOM SET: hairs, china cabinet, \$500. Call: (248) 380-1744

Household Goods

Ethan Allen mahogany opy bed, full size with night stand. \$450. Designer Sher camelback sofa, rose and teal stripe. Best offer. 248-855-0874

FURNITURE - Clean/perfect for Apartment/Small space. (2) Loveseats; (2) La-Z-Boys; (1) Oak Cocktail Table; (2) pcs. Artwork, framed/matted; (1) Area Rug; (1) Table lamp. \$495/alli (734)516-2100 idesigns93@gmail.com

FURNITURE - Laz-Y-80Y rocker recliner, excellent condition \$45; plaid wing back chair \$45. 313-399-4426

FURNITURE- Moving & need to sell. Contemporary cherry wood chair, \$75; Lt oak, dress-er & nightstand, \$125. Queen size bed with newer mattress set, \$500 248-463-0957

love seat, cocktall table, very good condition, \$480. Artificial apple blossom tree, \$20. 248-860-0203

FURNITURE - White retain sofa

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Matching Sofa, Love Seat & Sato a trim solar control with wood trim sato or best offer. Good Con dition. South Lyon (248) 437-2062 wichm2@charter.net

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Household Goods

MICROWAVE STORAGE CAB.: Entertainment center used for TV or bar, rolltop, oak pedestal dining room table, 56 inch round, 2 leaves. Hoosier, over 100 years old, 3 piece olympic queen mattress, fits queen

MOVING SALE- Hooker 5 pc MOVING SALE- Hooker 5 pc office furniture, \$1000. Thomasville light wood, girl's 9 pc bdrm set, \$800. Ethan Allen 10 pc medium ash bdrm set \$1200. Harden dark cherry dining table, 6 charrs, china cabinet, \$1800. Piictures avail. 248-709-1051

Stanley Cherry Master Bdrm Set includes 4-poster king bed frame, 2 end tables, 1 armoire/TV cabinet. Mattress not included. Excellent condi-tion! \$800 for entire set (or best offer). (586)202-6814

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TRACTOR - WOODS: 52 inch cut, works great, 20 years, \$850. Call: 248-887-1816

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PIANO - Baldwin Classic #1026, 36 inch cherry upright, good shape, \$500. Call: (248) 887-1816

Sporting Goods

GUN CABINET , holds 5 rifles, 2 drawers on the bottom, 1 locks, 1 is loose. Reasonable. (248) 476-9398

Birds & Fish

BIRD SHOW Sat., Oct. 20, 9 4pm. Livonia Elks Lodge #2246, 31117 Plymouth Rd., Livonia. Adults \$3, Children under 12 FREE. Birds & related tems for sale. Vendor table & space Avail \$35 ea. For more info call: 313-247-5900

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ACROSS

- 1 Geisha's
- accessory Zen riddle Unforeseen
- problem
- 12 Prior to "Paint the Sky 13
- With Stars"
- singer 14 Milan moola,
- once 15 Long-snouted
- animal 17 Low voice
- 18 Copal or
- mastic 19 Hightail it
- 21 Smite a knight 23 "Home Alone" actor Nota -
- 30 Othello's nemesis
- caller 35 Dark brew

18

- 33 Wimple sporter 34 Tech-support
- 36 Egg portion
- **DOWN**

post-

37 Norma 38 Cable channel

47 Cheek

39 They give a hoot

40 Wildly dramatic

51 Ketch's cousin

- 1 Timidity "Zara"
- name
- 54 Wrestling hold 56 Fridge stick 57 Karachi language 58 Opposite at

59 Japanese soup 60 Catch 61 Slalom run

- composer
- 3 Makes after taxes 4 "The Matrix"
- 5 Windsor's prov.
- 42 Mouse alert 44 Big-toe woe DRAM



Answer to Previous Puzzle

10-12-11 @ 2011 UFS, Dist. by Univ. Uclick for UFS

- 6 Pro votes 7 DEA operative 11 Earth, in combos 16 Fluffy quilt
- 8 Bluish gray 9 Zilch 10 Sculpture or
 - 24 White stuff music 25 Gather 26 Calligraphy fluids
 - 27 Knot on a tree 28 Genesis hunter

20 GI address 22 Prejudice

- 29 Not e'en once 31 Jungfrau, e.g. 32 -splicing 36 Rube 38 Tokyo, to
- shoguns 41 Domed residence 43 Result (2 wds.)
- 45 Nah! (hyph.) 46 Prefix for "trillion"
- 48 Catch rodeostyle 49 Old TV hookups
- 50 Barely manages Kippur
- 52 Cassius Clay 53 NBA's Unseld 55 Pitches

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Ι D Ι N S I X 0

H G S L A E M M O S L A R E N I M T V Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

R A T E

E

5

F

SNKF

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WORDS

Healthy Beverage Breakfast Lunch Υ Calories Meals Carbohydrates Minerals Careful Nutrition Control Obesity Cooking Portion Preparation Protein Restaurant Ritual Snacking Sodium Sugar Together Vitamins

M

Ε

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE 2 4 6 5 8 7 1 288333 L 9 7 9 8 2 9 6 7 Sudoku 2 1 2 4 7 8 6 2 5 9 1 3 9 4 8 7 8 1 9 6 2 8 7 9 1 4 6 5 2 8 8 5 5 4 3 7 6 7 8 6 2 5 9 ε 4 7 3 9 8 2 1

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GMC SIERRA SLT

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Mocha Brown, leather, and re

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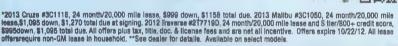
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NEWSPAPER 1

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> (734) 453-2500 Lincoln MKZ 2011

Black, AWD, 8K, Must seed Loaded \$24.995 **BOB JEANNOTTE** March

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Nissan

MORANO 2003 AWD, SE, Loaded, 48K BOR JEANNOTTE 734-453-2500

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G6 2009 Raven Black, GXP, leather, and

Saturn SATURN ASTRA 2008

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Halloween decorations: Festive, fun and BIG business

Jill Halpin Contributing Writer

Giant jumping spiders, walking monsters and moaning ghostly creatures may sound like something out of a horror film, but you may have to look no further than you neighbor's front yard to find these and other ghoulish delights.

Halloween decor for the house and garden has turned the retail industry on its ear over the past few years as holiday revelers go "bigger and better" as they seek to spruce up their home for the holiday.

Just ask Kim Riccobono.

Riccobono has been decorating her Westland home for the past 12 years, both inside and out, from blow-up figures on the lawn to purple and orange lights in the bushes and faux spiders and bats hanging from her bannister indoors

"I do it for the kids. They really love it

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contents



Wet windows Tracking down mysterious moisture



On the carpet Experts reveal cleaning tricks

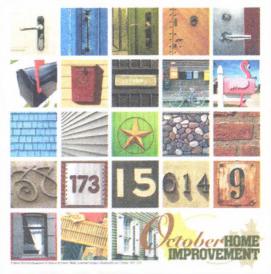




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Tracking down the mysterious moisture

By Lon Grossman

Guest columnist

Q: I just read your article in the Observer & Eccentric and found the information very helpful.

We have a problem and hope you can direct us to the proper people. We live in a colonial, which was built in 1964 that has a gable roof. The first floor is brick on all four sides and the upstairs still has its original aluminum siding. There are two windows on each end of the house on the second story. For a long time, in one of the windows facing north, the drywall is mushy around the inside of the window. You can also see watermarks on the wood molding inside the window.

Now, I noticed one of the windows on the south side of the house is getting the same way. Our vinyl windows are about 15 years old. I showed the window company a picture of the north-facing window and he suggested maybe caulking around the window on the outside was closing up Lon Grossman the drainage hole. But that's not it because I checked.



We were thinking of having our original aluminum siding on the second floor replaced this spring with vinyl. There is no insulation under the aluminum. Our roof is about eight years old. Can you figure out where the moisture is coming from? I'd appreciate any suggestions and companies that can take care of the problem.

A: Are the other second floor windows also poor quality 1960s windows or have they been replaced? I assume the north and south side windows that are leaking are on the gable ends. If that's true, they might be leaking due to inadequate caulking around the entire window and not just from the weep holes. It's unlikely but a possibility. Since it is inexpensive to caulk, and if it needs caulking, do it first. If the other second floor windows are not leaking, it could be because they have been replaced with vinyl or because they are under the eaves.

Older poor quality aluminum windows were cold and drafty. The glass and frames are actually conductors of cold. Because of that, many were installed with marble sills so the condensation would not damage the plaster/drywall or wood trim (sound familiar?).

The damage you are experiencing could be a result of too much moisture in the house and condensing around the windows or a leak. In either case, I would recommend replacing those old windows, they are inefficient and costing you money. Make sure the window company you hire wraps the exposed window opening with house wrap and sealer before they install the new windows.

O: I've heard that overcleaning carpeting will ruin it. Is that true?

A: You'll never have a "rug pulled out from under vou," if you know how to keep it clean. I don't know where you heard that rumor. Maybe from someone who hates vacuuming? Probably my wife.

But it is almost a cliche. Frequent vacuuming of your carpet prolongs its life. Depending on the traffic in your home, frequent could mean daily. It's definitely worth the effort.

The longer the dirt collects in your carpeting the deeper it works it way into it and makes it harder to get out. Make sure you set the vacuum cleaner height adjustment to its proper level. Too high or too low will prevent the vacuum from pulling up the dirt efficiently.

Eventually, the carpeting will need to be professionally cleaned, or you can do it yourself. Here are two methods for you to consider. One method is to shampoo using a rotary machine. This injects detergent into the carpet, the brushes loosen the soil, and then the dirty mixture is sucked up. The other method is to rent a steam cleaner (aka. water extraction system). Basically, the machine forces a cleaning solution into the carpet and then immediately extracts it, pulling up the dirt along with the cleaning solution. If either method is not done properly or by an inexperienced carpet cleaning person, it could leave a residue in the carpet that will attract even more dirt or moisture, which, in turn, causes mildew and

Lon Grossman of Bloomfield Hills is president of Technihouse Inspections Inc., a southeast Michigan residential and commercial inspection company. E-mail your questions to him at drdiy@ comcast.net. Call (248) 855-5566. Visit his website www.technihouse.com. Follow Lon's Blog at http:// drdiy.wordpress.com/.



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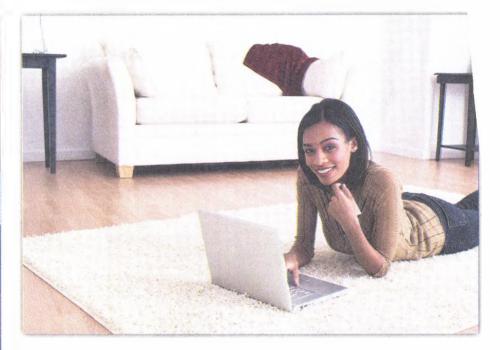


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Keeping hardwood floors looking beautiful is easier than you think

(ARA) - No matter what the setting, the good looks and durability of hardwood floors can be maintained with minimal effort. It's simply a matter of proper care and maintenance.

The American Hardwood Information Center, www.HardwoodInfo.com, in conjunction with the National Wood Flooring Association suggest the following care and maintenance guidelines to keep hardwood floors looking beautiful today, and for years to come. Here's how to begin.

Maintenance guidelines

All hardwood floors should be cleaned regularly to remove dirt and grit from between the floor boards. Avoid using a wet mop which can dull the finish. Instead, sweep with either a dust mop or broom that features exploded tips, or vacuum the floors using a vacuum with special hardwood floor attachments or one with the beater bar turned off.

Wipe up any spills immediately, using a soft, dry or slightly damp cloth, starting at the edges of the spill and working toward the center. Allowing spills to remain on hardwood floors could damage the finish, as well as the wood.

Avoid walking on hardwood floors with

sports cleats or high heel shoes in disrepair. These can scratch the finish, or even dent the floor. Placing felt pads on the bottom of furniture legs will also minimize scratches.

Further minimize scratches by placing scatter rugs at all entrances to help keep small stones and debris out. But choose wisely. Scatter rugs with rubber backs can discolor wood floors. Special rug mats can be purchased from a wood flooring retailer to protect the floors from discoloration.

Not "finished" just yet

Knowing which type of finish applied to protect the hardwood floor is important. Different flooring finishes require different kinds of care, so if or when in doubt, contact the flooring manufacturer or a wood flooring professional in your area.

There are three major types of wood flooring finishes available - surface finishes, wax and acrylic impregnated - and the experts at the National Wood Flooring Association, www.woodfloors.org, stress that using the right maintenance products will protect and prolong the life

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FLOORS

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of the floor.

Surface finishes, also referred to as urethanes or polyurethanes, are practical and very popular. They remain on the surface of the wood and form a protective coating that is water-resistant, durable and requires minimal maintenance.

For cleaning purposes, use products recommended by the flooring manufacturer. If the floors were finished or refinished on site, contact the installer. If neither is known, use a generic hardwood floor cleaner which can be purchased at a retail flooring store. Never use wax-based or petroleum-based products on a surface finish floor, as they will damage the finish.

Wax finishes soak into the wood, harden to form a protective penetrating seal, and when needed, are maintained with additional thin applications of wax. Only solvent-based waxes, buffing pastes or cleaning liquids made specifically for wax-finished wood floors should be used.

Use cleaning products, available at retail flooring stores, made specifically for wax finishes. Follow the directions carefully to determine how long the cleaner should remain on the floor. Once the floor is clean, apply a new coat of wax to restore luster.

Acrylic impregnated finishes are injected into the wood to create a super-hard, extremely durable floor. These finishes most often are used in high traffic areas of malls, restaurants and other commercial settings.

Cleaning an acrylic impregnated floor depends on the finish. If the floor has a urethane-based finish, follow the same procedures suggested for surface finished floors. If the floor has a nonurethane-based finish, use a spray and buff system, as recommended by the manufacturer.

Investigate

It pays to be knowledgeable. Proper care and maintenance will protect and prolong the performance of hardwood flooring for a lifetime, and even longer. To learn more about how to sustain the natural beauty and durability of your hardwood flooring, visit the American Hardwood Information Center at www.HardwoodInfo.com.







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Stains happen, so it's important to act quickly. Blot liquids with a dry, white cloth or paper towel, starting at the edge of the spot moving toward the center. To keep carpets looking great and lasting for years to come, get them professionally cleaned every 12 to 18 months.



Easy carpet cleaning tips, tricks from the experts

(ARA) – As the weather cools and daylight hours shorten, families tend to spend more time inside. Keeping carpets clean might seem like a daunting task, but with some tips from the experts it's quicker and easier than you think.

Carpet provides good traction, absorbs noises, and saves homeowners money because it naturally insulates a room. And, contrary to popular misconceptions, carpet that is cleaned regularly is fine for people with allergies, and even asthma. The best practice for keeping carpets consistently clean is having a regular maintenance routine.

Refreshing carpets after a special event, season of tough use, or simply any time of year is easy with these tips from the experts at the Carpet and Rug Institute (CRI), a national carpet trade association that focuses on science-based research, customer advocacy and environmental initiatives.

Create a vacuum schedule

Have you ever wondered if vacuuming really makes a difference? Removing soil when it's on the surface, before it gets tramped down, is the first and most important step in carpet maintenance. Use slow, repetitive motions that overlap (about four swipes), ensuring you get right up to the edges where dust, pollen and pet dander like to accumulate.

How often do you need to vacuum? That answer may surprise you. Generally once a week with a CRI-certified vacuum is a good place to start, but depending on how frequently the area is used, you'll likely want to do it more often. For example, high-traffic or pet areas should be vacuumed daily, medium-traffic areas require about twice a week and light-traffic areas can be done once a week. Just as you wouldn't wear a shirt

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DECOR

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and look forward to it every year," said Riccobono of her son Jack, age 12 and daughter Paige, age 10.

"In fact, this year I was thinking about not putting anything up but then they started asking me when I was going to start decorating for Halloween," she added.

"It's a fun family activity. We all get into decorating and the kids get excited when see the lights. I think it makes the house seem more inviting and everything seem more cheery," Riccobono said.

According to the National Retail Federation, Riccobono is in good company.

Record numbers

A record 170 million people plan to celebrate Halloween this year, according to NRF's 2012 Halloween consumer spending survey. That translates into seven in 10 Americans (71.5 percent) who will get into the haunting Halloween mood, up from 68.6 percent last year and the most in NRF's 10-year survey history.

That figure does not surprise Lisa Hotz, associate manager of Spirit Halloween in Royal Oak, a store specializing in costumes, yard decor, inflatables and more.

"There has been a big increase in people celebrating Halloween this year and they are getting started earlier with their decorating," she said.

Decorating your house for Halloween - either in a spooky or more playful manner with giant smiling pumpkins creates a festive air and makes it more fun for the trick-or-treaters, she added.

"Both kids and adults seems to get really excited about it," she said.

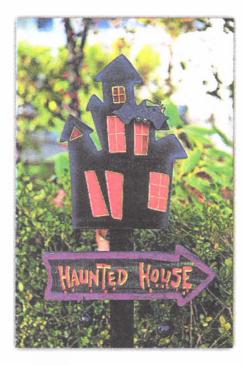
Hotz believes that in addition to an increasing consumer confidence as the economy begins to show signs of improvement, the huge growth in the Halloween decor industry itself have shoppers clamoring for more.

"There is so much out there now. I think maybe people would have decorated their homes for Halloween in the past, but they did not have access to the kinds of things we have now. The decorations are amazing- the possibilities are endless," Hotz said.

Hotz said "animatronics" - figures with both sounds and motion" - are big this year, with manufacturers offering everything to a bloody werewolf who bares his teeth and growls to a moaning zombie who will crawl across your lawn.

Popular items

"Our biggest seller has been a ghostly girl on a swing who taunts passersby with 'nyah, nyah," Hotz said.



Air blown inflatables - the yard decorations that first made an appearance during the Christmas holiday - have stepped into the Halloween spotlight. Once confined to oversized waving Santa Claus's, they are now available in incarnations from menacing clowns to giant vampires and ghosts.

Rachael Sims, a team leader with Party City, who has stores throughout the metro Detroit area, said that Christmas has become the chain's busiest time of the year.

"More people than ever are decorating their homes for Halloween- just drive through any neighborhood and you'll see," said Sims.

Customers get really excited about the wide variety of yard decorations and props, Sims said.

"Most of the stuff flies off the shelves as soon as we get it in," Sims said.

Sims believes that Halloween offers merrymakers an opportunity that other holidays do not- a stress-free chance to go all out and have fun with friends.

"In a sense, Halloween is a little more laid back than other holidays. You go to parties; you don't have to bring a gift; it's more about friends and having a good time," Sims said.

Riccobono also likes the added advantage of good weather.

"Decorating for Halloween is a little easier because you're not battling the cold or putting lights on tress with frozen fingers," she said. "Halloween is just a little more carefree. It is less expensive, more relaxing and fun for all ages."

Her daughter Paige said she looks forward to seeing all of the Halloween decorations every year.

"It's fun and it's exciting," she said.

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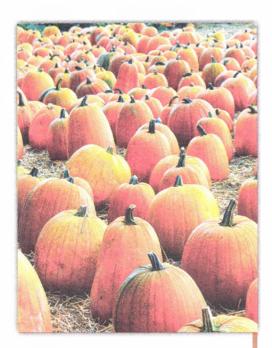
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Halloween events for families, kids and pets

There's no shortage of a good time this Halloween season. Check out the list below for events near and far.

Halloween Festival: Saturday, Oct. 20

Bring the whole family to enjoy an afternoon(1-3 p.m.) of free games and activities at the Hines Park-Nankin Mills Picnic Area. Children dressed in costumes are welcome. This event includes hay rides, inflatables, costume parade, games, trick or treating, entertainment and much more! The Hines Park-Nankin Mills Area is located on Hines Drive, east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland.

Howl-O-Ween Dog Park Party: Saturday, Oct. 20

This free event from 10 a.m. to noon includes costume contests, games and prizes for your dog. Pet-related vendors and light refreshments will be available. The Wayne County Dog Park is located at Hawthorne Ridge Park on Hines Drive, east of Merriman in Westland.

For more information on this or any other Wayne County Parks event, call (734) 261-1990.

Kensington Metropark: Fun on the Farm Halloween Party, Thursday, Oct. 25

This program at 10 a.m. is especially for little ones. It will begin with story time, then it's time for toddlers to "trick or treat," followed by a special fall par-

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What costume will you wear this Halloween?

Jill Halpin
Contributing Writer

If you are one of the millions of adults who look forward to Halloween as a chance to dress up and have some fun with friends and neighbors, you are not alone.

Retail experts say that dressing up for Halloween is serious business with consumer spending on Halloween costumes expected to hit a record \$2.87 billion according to a recent survey by the National Retail Federation. That means if you are planning to scare up the perfect costume, you may have to turn it up a notch.

"Choosing a costume is one of the most entertaining parts of Halloween," said NRF President and CEO Matthew Shay.

"With many families on the hunt for adult, child and pet costumes this year, retailers are making sure they've got their shelves fully stocked with a wide variety of costumes, including the traditional and even the not-so-traditional garbs inspired by Hollywood and even pop-culture," he said

According to Rachael Sims, a team leader with Party City in Westland, customers are embracing the spirit of Halloween as they search for wild and wacky costumes.

"People love the opportunity to step outside of themselves and be something that they are not on Halloween," Sims said.

New developments in costumes design are providing more opportunities to "play dress up" than ever before, she said.

Body suits popular

"Morph suits" – spandex body suits that provide complete coverage including the head and hands are extremely popular this year with both adults and children, said Sims.

"They are really awesome. Every part of you is hidden-you can't see any actual facial features but the person wearing the suit can see through the fabric, drink through it and talk through it," Sims said.

Batman, Spider-Man and other superheroes aren't just for youngsters anymore either, said Lisa Hotz, assistant manager at Spirit Halloween in Royal Oak.

"Any of the superhero costumes, especially Captain America are really popular for men this year," Hotz said.

Political masks remain popular, especially with the upcoming election, she said.

Witches, princesses and nurses are perennial favorites among women looking for Halloween costumes but Hotz said she has noticed many women looking "beyond the grave" for the perfect costumes.

"Zombies are really big with the ladies this year. We have

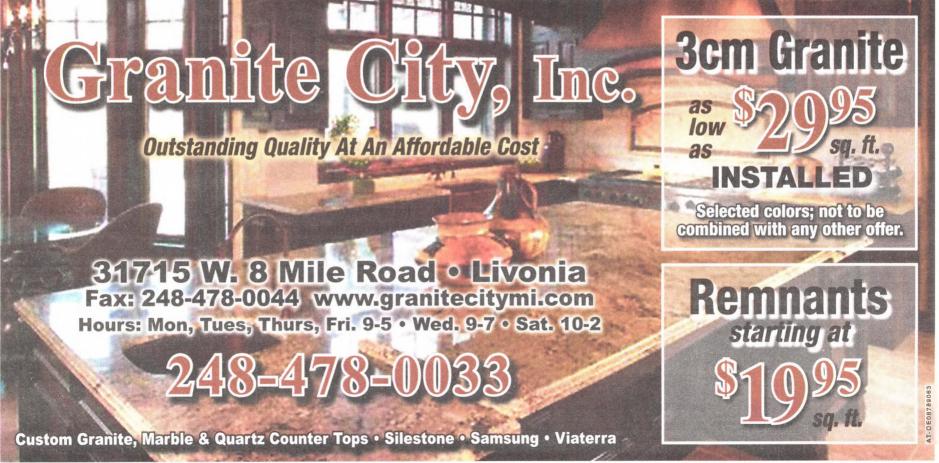
had quite a few women looking for gruesome zombie costumes- it's kind of funny," she said, adding that those costumes really get to the heart of the holiday.

"Dressing up is a good break from reality. Halloween is just good, crazy fun- a chance to unwind and just have a good time," she said.

Enjoy Halloween fun for the adult crowd in The Corner Bar in the Townsend Hotel (100 Townsend Street, Birmingham (248) 642-7900). Event is Saturday, Oct. 27. A costume contest with best costume prize - a complimentary Luxury Suite at The Townsend.







Sudoku

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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Level: Advance

Answers found on page 14



As the weather cools and daylight hours shorten, families tend to spend more time inside. Keeping carpets clean might seem like a daunting task, but with some tips from the experts it's quicker and easier than you think.

CARPET

Continued from page 8

over and over again without washing it, you don't want to go too long between vacuuming your carpets.

Treat stains the correct way

Up to 98 percent of carpet is manufactured in the United States, and most is made to be stain-resistant. However, junior's ice cream cone drips and Fido's dirty paws can leave marks that may seem almost too difficult to remove. No matter how hard you try to prevent them, stains do happen, so it's important to act quickly. Scoop up solids and blot liquids with a dry, white cloth or paper towel, starting at the edge of the spot moving toward the center. Do not scrub – it can damage carpet and spread the mess.

Next, treat the spot with a CRI-tested and approved carpet cleaning solution. If you don't have one on hand, plain water often works better than untested carpet cleaners. For wine or chocolate stains, try mixing 1/4 teaspoon clear dishwashing liquid with one cup warm water. Avoid laundry detergent which can cause permanent damage, such as a change in color. For coffee or tea stains, try mixing 1 cup white vinegar with 1 cup water. For ink stains, apply rubbing alcohol to a cloth and blot. Have a wax spill? Cover the spot with a clean brown paper bag or heavy brown paper and apply low heat from an iron. The paper will absorb the wax as it melts.

Call in the pros

Just like you visit the dentist to get your teeth cleaned regularly, your carpets also need attention from a trained professional. To keep your carpets looking great and lasting for years to come, you should get them professionally deep cleaned every 12 to 18 months with a CRI Seal of Approval Service Provider. Find one near you by visiting www.carpet-rug.org.

If you've never had your carpets professionally cleaned, now is a great time to start before the holidays arrive. Start by getting bids and don't be afraid to ask questions. A good carpet cleaning should include vacuuming, a prespray and routine spot removal. Many won't charge for furniture removal either.

Whether you want to get in a better habit with routine carpet maintenance or you simply want to refresh your carpet for the change of seasons or a special event, these tips will keep your carpet and home looking wonderful today and long into the future.

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Thursday through Sunday, October 18-21 & October 25-28

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Train departs Tecumseh at 806 S. Evans Street
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Reservations recommended. Visit the web, email us at smrs49236@yahoo.com, or call the museum.

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November 17 & 24

"A Visit with Mark Twain"

Samuel Clemens traveled by rail on a speaking tour in 1868 and now he's making a return trip to Tecumseh along the same route. Come enjoy his visit in December where he will ride the train with the passengers and engage the audience stepping back in time at the Tecumseh Center for the Arts. Twain will also walk around Clinton and Tecumseh, into the shops, and visit the Historical Homes Candlelight Tours in both towns.

dutills and departures at www.southernmichigamrafilroad.com

EVENTS

Continued from page 10

ty that includes a hay ride and an animal parade. Costumes are encouraged. Event fee: \$5 per child. Contact (248) 684-8632.

Kensington Metropark hayrides

Take a hay ride from noon to 4 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday in October to and from the Kensington Metropark farm's pumpkin patch where you can pick your favorite Jack-O-Lantern pumpkin. New this year: weekday tractor-drawn hay rides to and from the pumpkin patch will be happening from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. throughout October. Pumpkins are priced according to size. Event fee: \$5 per adult/\$3 per child and seniors/ children 2 years and younger free. For more information, call (810) 227-8910.

Plymouth Pumpkin Palooza, Sunday, Oct. 21

The Plymouth Chamber of Commerce presents this event for kids in downtown Plymouth from noon to 3 p.m. Downtown streets will be closed. Games, candy, contests, candy, activities candy, entertainment, candy, a haunted alley and more for kids of all ages. There will be age-based costume contests, sponsored by Jack Demmer Ford, and a pet costume contest by the City of Plymouth Recreation Department. Be sure to wear your costumes and dress up your pet. The costume contest for pets will be from noon to 1 p.m. in The Gathering and the costume contest for children will be at 1:30, also in The Gathering.

Fright Night Road Rally-Chicks

for Charities and Wicked Halloween Run

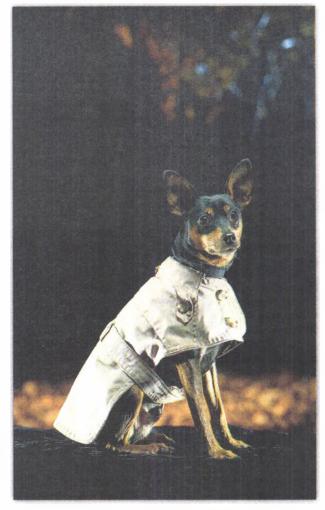
For more information on the road rally at 4 p.m. Oct. 27 and the Halloween Run at 8 a.m. Oct. 28, go to the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce website at www.plymouthmich.org.

Halloween in Farmington, Saturday, Oct. 27

Free movie at the Farmington Civic Theater, face painting, pumpkin decorating and trick or treating for kids from 2-4 p.m. at participating merchants. See www.downtownfarmington.org for details.

Royal Oak Spooktacular, Sunday, Oct. 28

Downtown Royal Oak presents the 29th annual Spooktacular event 2-4 p.m. for the whole family. Parents are invited to bring their children in their Halloween costumes for trick or treating at downtown businesses on Sunday. Participating businesses will be offering candy and goodies to trick or treaters. Activities, special sales and more. For more information and a map of down-



town, go to www.downtownroyaloak.org.

Skeletons are Alive in Northville, through Oct. 31

Northville has welcomed more than 40 bony friends who will inhabit the downtown through Oct. 31. The annual outdoor public art display featuring life-sized skeletons decked out in different costumes - created by Begonia Brothers of Northville — transforms downtown Northville into a Halloween boneyard.

Maze at Maybury

The annual corn maze at Maybury Farm runs Friday-Sunday through Nov. 4. A hay wagon runs every 20 minutes to take guests to the maze (a 15-minute ride). Organizers say it is "really dark out there and fun."

Group tours of 15 or more for the Corn Maze are avail-

able Monday through Friday by reservation only. Call (248) 374-0200.

Birmingham Farmers Market Celebration, Sunday, Oct. 28

The Birmingham Farmers Market comes to a close with a celebration 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 28. Children are invited to dress in their Halloween costumes and enjoy live farm animals, corn shelling, crafts, antique tractors and live entertainment. The celebration will take place at Parking Lot No. 6 North Old Woodward (the east side of North Old Woodward, north of Harmon Street). For more information, contact Birmingham Principal Shopping District at (248) 530-1200.

Milford Boo Bash, Saturday, Oct. 27

Bring your costumed kids to trick or treat at local shops 5-6 p.m. along Main Street in downtown Milford. Prizes, provided by downtown Milford shops, will be awarded in the categories of Best Children's Costume, Scariest Costume and Best Family Costume.

Spooky Skate, Tuesday, Oct. 30

Join other costumed skaters at the Novi Ice Arena for Halloween fun and exercise 3-4:40 p.m. at the Novi Ice Arena, 42400 Nick Lidstrom Drive, (248) 347-1010. Cost is \$4 for residents/\$5 for nonresidents. Prizes for best costumes. Costumed skaters receive discount. Skate rental fee is \$3.

Zoo Boo at the Detroit Zoo

The Detroit Zoo's annual "merry-not-scary" Zoo Boo celebration features a festively decorated half-mile trick-or-treat trail through the front of the park. Zoo Boo will be held 6-8 p.m. rain or shine on the evenings of Oct. 19-21 and 26-28. Advance tickets for Zoo Boo can be purchased at Booth One at the admission gate of the Detroit Zoo or online at www.detroitzoo.org. Tickets are \$8 per person ages 2 and up. Time slots for Zoo Boo are 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. If a date and time slot is not sold out, a limited number of tickets may be available at the gate that day after 5 p.m. for \$11. The Detroit Zoo is at 8450 W. 10 Mile, Royal Oak.

Boo at the Burgh in Southfield

The family-friendly event from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Oct. 25, 26 and 27 at Burgh Historical Park, northeast corner of Civic Center and Berg Road, features trick or treating through haunted walking paths, Charlie Brown's Great Pumpkin Patch, bat exhibit, storytelling, and hay rides through the haunted forest. Seasonally themed refreshments will also be available for purchase.

Downtown South Lyon Trick or Treating Thursday, Oct. 25

Trick or treating for kids at participating downtown South Lyon businesses 6-8 p.m. Oct. 25.

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Beg	inn	er						
6	5	4	7	3	9	8	2	1
1	3	7	8	6	2	5	9	4
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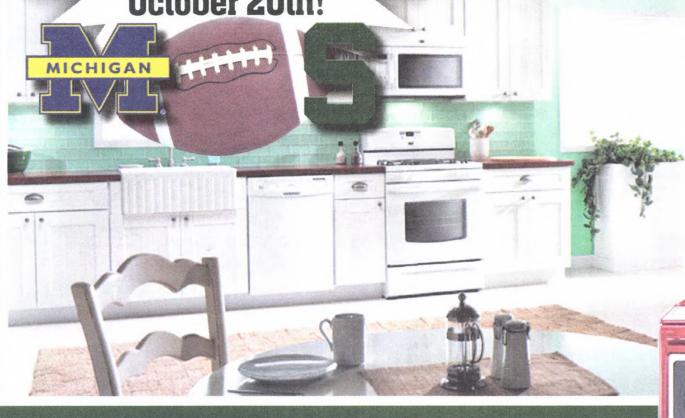
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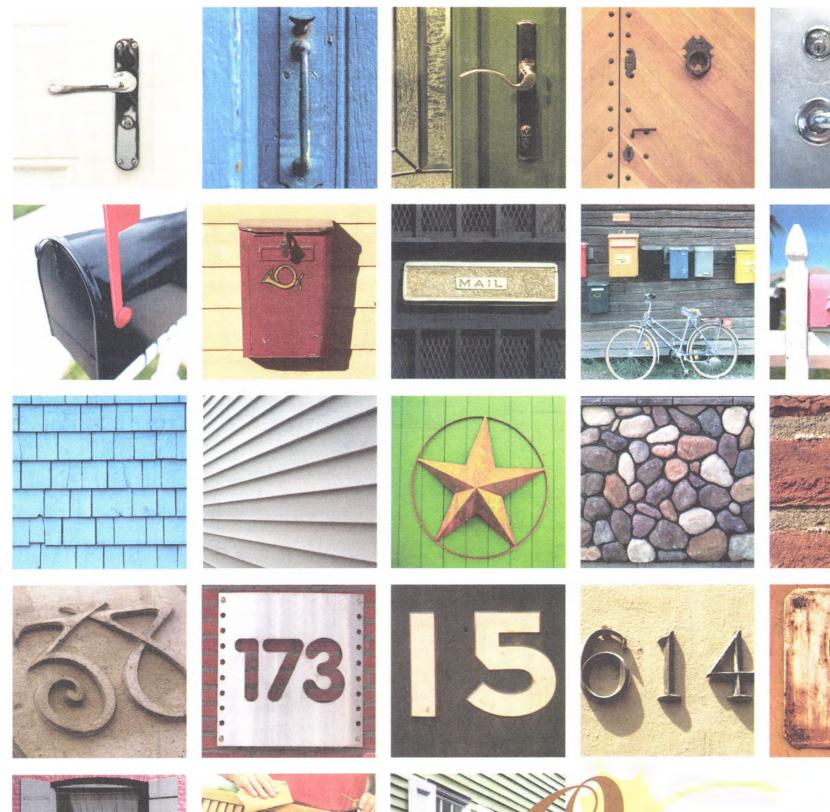
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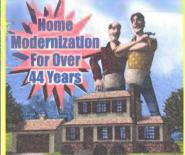
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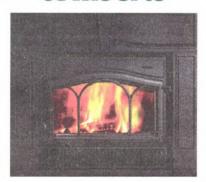
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Dennis Zelazny **Contributing Writer**

October brings a huge splash of color to our landscape and homeowners are fixing up their homes. The task of getting ready for winter can be a daunting one, but someone planted an idea in my head, and it changed my outlook on that task. Consider the drawer pulls, doorknobs, mailboxes, chandeliers, carpeting and outdoor landscaping to be "jewelry" for your home. The act of accessorizing brings out your home's beauty. Yes, the suggestion came from a woman - and, yes, I liked it and happily agreed with her.

So now that I'm suggesting that you add "jewelry" to your home, the item(s) you purchase can be upgraded extras or necessities. Just as long as the installation is well-executed. Your local hardware stores, contractors and homestores will be able to help you with any new additions that will add sparkle and excitment to your home.

Lets look at our options...

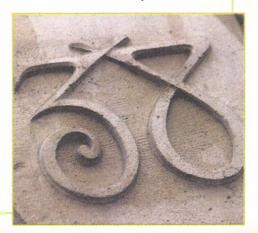
For outdoors, you might want to consider shutters, screen doors, roofing, landscaping, new siding or even a nice set of patio furniture as "jewelry." Have vou ever considered a stamped concrete porch or walkway? The process of stamping designs into concrete really is a nice dressup option. When it comes to picking out pieces for your home, there are many possibilities. Here are just a few sugaestions:

What's on your post?

I took a look at my own mailbox and thought wouldn't it be nice to be able to get large mailings out of the box without tearing them. A larger watertight box would be an added value and it would look great, too. There are many possibilities available in today's market; a quick visit to the hardware store will amaze and amuse you. Watch for the mailbox that is decorated to look like a flamingo.

What's your number? Type to match your house.

Yes, your house number needs to be posted and are those peel and stick numbers faded yet? I've seen house numbers carved into wood, stamped into metal. The choice you make will



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add to your home's personality and lead you to be the "iewel" on the block.

A yawn or a great idea?

There are many ideas for awnings over your door. They do provide some protection from the elements and can be interesting and add a personal statement to your home. There are some very nice kits available that can be a do-it-yourself project, but I would strongly suggest that you check with your neighborhood contractor for this one.

When it comes to inside "jewelry," there are no limits. Being creative is always a plus; ask around for new ideas and suggestions. Walk through your local home housewares department. Watch for uniqueness and things that pique your curiosity. You never know where one thought will take you. For example, if you see some hand towels that say take me home. but you do not have a place to hang them. It's your opportunity to find that hanging device that could show you a new line of bathroom hardware.

Are your faucets all wet?

All your sinks have a faucet,





but do they look their best and do they present themselves well to you and your guests? There are modern and classic designs to choose from and something for almost every budget. Your home will love the sparkle this 'jewelry" offers.

Get hooked on organizing.

Tired of looking for that place to hang your robe or hat? Hooks are an interesting way to accessorize and they offer some organization in the process. They come in all sizes and shapes, so finding one to support whatever it is that you want to put up should be easy. Make sure they are mounted to your wall properly. I've seen small hooks used to hang "jewelry" when bathing, doing the dishes or simply working in the yard.

It all hinges on your shopping experiences.

Yes, I have used a lot of play on words with this article, but I find the hinge is always overlooked and plays a great supporting role in your decor. You can match all the metals in your home if you plan carefully. Hinges can even be custom made for that added unforgettable touch.

I don't think a box of hardware will ever replace that small but expensive velvet box, but "jewelry" for the home will add a sparkle to everyone's eye.

Pine Tree Lighting Preview

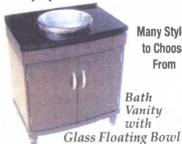


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Kitchen Cabinets Open Up

New Possibilities

Kitchen cabinets are intended to be functional, but few design professionals or homeowners leave the choice simply at that. Otherwise, cardboard or plywood boxes might suffice.

Instead, kitchen cabinet choices have become a very heated debated as the options have grown. This is true whether for a kitchen, bathroom, library, family room, bedroom, basement, wine cellar, closet or any space in a home.

A major push has been the realization that kitchen cabinets can add an important æsthetic design to the kitchen or wherever they are used, thanks to the wider variety of styles, materials, hardware and pulls available.

They've become part of the jewelry of a house — what makes a house a home. Builders and designers are using an unusual number of cabinets these days. Cabinets can be made for every purpose imaginable, even as window seats.

How do you choose?

Your decision should be based in part on how much you put into the building or remodeling of your entire home and the room in question, so that costs are proportionate. Since homeowners generally spend a large portion of their time in the kitchen, it makes sense to spend much more in that space than in any other room in your home.

How long will you stay?

You should consider how long you think you'll stay in that home. If you're there for many years, you don't want to have to replace kitchen cabinet doors within five years. If, you intend to remain only a few years, you can cut costs by replacing knobs or pulls for a fresh look.

What size fits the budget?

Custom cabinets can be made in all sizes and shapes; stock comes in 3-inch increments. Among an owner's bigger decisions is whether to build them all the way to the ceiling for extra



storage and a clean, crisp look or to leave a soffit above for displaying baskets and other decorative objects and not make high-cabinets hard to reach. The height of below-counter cabinets reflects a different decision. Many homeowners today opt for European-style 36-inch high cabinets.

The finish is important

Along with the detailing on the front of the cabinet, this choice will determine as much as three-quarters of the cost of the cabinet. At the low end are laminates, common woods like oak and medium-density fiberboard.

Important little details of the detailing

Raised panels and molding will add to the cost of the cabinet front, but if rooms, both with cabinetry, open to one another, you probably want to be consistent in your design choices.

Swing on interior hardware

Hinges represent an unique area of cabinetry where homeowners may think it's fine to scrimp since it may not be visible, yet the pros know otherwise. The best hinges keep doors aligned, are concealed or partly concealed, made of chrome, nickel or brass, and are adjustable.

Hanging onto exterior hardware items

When it comes to knobs and pulls, endless choices abound, and you may decide to buy these separately rather than from your cabinet company.

Its what's in side that counts

Interior fittings. These days, you can outfit the interior of your cabinet with everything from roll-out shelves to fancy spice racks, appliances and carousels.

How much cabinetry?

The best way to decide is to measure in linear feet existing cabinets and give yourself at least one-third more storage for future needs.

— Courtesy of Home Improvement News and Information Center



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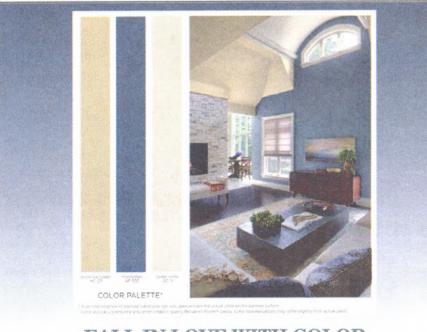




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It goes without saying that room designs should commensurate with one's style and requirements.

Living in a home which is designed badly can have adverse effects. On the other hand, a well-decorated home can help you in releasing your mental stress.

In today's fast-paced life, everyone has a hectic schedule, but after reaching home one longs to spend time in tranquility. People do not realize that a poor interior design for a room can rob your home of much-needed solace.



Bedrooms and living room design should be such that it appeals to your senses and helps you unwind.

The interiors should be such that they tempt you to relax. Everything like furniture design, lighting, decor and curtains should appeal to your vision and should please you.

For a a room to be conducive to releasing stress, it must cater to the needs and meet the style and taste of the people living in it.

- Courtesy of Base Articles



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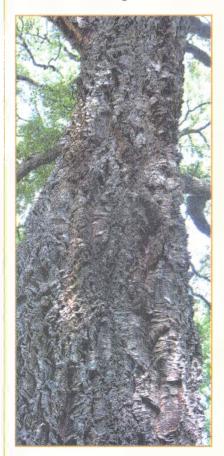
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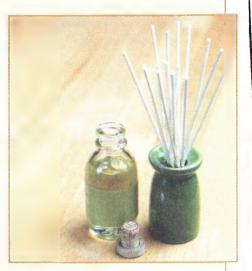
Stepping Up to Cork Flooring

By Vikram Kumar **Contributing Writer**

Cork has several qualities that make it excellent for use as flooring, whether in the home or in a commercial space. Cork floors look good, they are comfortable to walk on and they are very easy to maintain, all of which are features that are desirable in any flooring material. In addition, cork tile is also resistant to insects, mold and mildew and it is shock absorbent and durable. Again, these are also favorable properties. But among these attributes, there is one that stands as most significant - the fact that cork is a renewable resource is the incentive that clinches the deal.

So why is cork considered environmentally friendly? Unlike hardwood flooring in which the





entire tree is cut down and destroved, no trees are destroyed in the manufacture of cork tiles.

These tiles are in fact just the bark of the cork oak tree. The scientific name of this tree is Quercus Suber and it is found primarily in Spain, Portugal, Morocco and Algeria. The bark of this tree is thick and spongy. It is carefully peeled off the tree and used to manufacture corks for wine bottles.

The remaining scraps that cannot be used to make the wine bottle corks are then processed and combined together with glue under high pressure to manufacture cork flooring and cork tile.

The trees are not harmed in any way. After the bark has been peeled off, they are left alone to regenerate. The tree regenerates new bark and the next harvest is done only after a seven- to nine-year wait. The lifespan of each tree is about 200 years. The long lifespan of the tree, combined with the fact that it keeps on regenerating and growing new bark, makes this a renewable, environmentally friendly resource.

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Shining a Light on Paint Sheen

When it comes to selecting an interior paint for your home, there's more to consider than quality and color. Most paints come in a variety of sheen levels—as many as six, depending upon the brand—and some are better suited for certain rooms than for others, according to Debbie Zimmer, paint expert at the Paint Quality Institute.

Paints with flat sheen are most common. They offer several advantages: being non-reflective, they tend to conceal imperfections in walls and other surfaces; they help to make uneven surfaces like poorly taped drywall look smoother and more uniform; and many hide the under-color well.

"Flat paints are a good choice for just about any ceiling, and for rooms and spaces that aren't exposed to water, high humidity or heavy soiling, such as bedrooms, home offices and living rooms," Zimmer says.

At the other end of the sheen spectrum are paints with gloss or high-gloss sheen. Being very reflective, gloss paints tend to highlight imperfections in walls and woodwork. But they are especially tough, durable and stain-resistant — and they are much easier to clean than paints with less gloss.

Zimmer advises that highgloss finishes are ideal for use on windows and trim, children's rooms and playrooms. And they have better resistance to mildew, they also are a great choice for bathrooms, kitchens and laundry rooms.

Paints with semi-gloss sheen are a smart compromise between the two sheen extremes, providing some of the benefits of each. Since they are not as highly reflective as gloss paints, they won't show surface imperfections quite as much; yet offer good stain resistance and are easy to clean.

"Semi-gloss paints are extremely versatile, working well on windows and doors, trim, even cabinets," Zimmer says. "They can even be used on the walls of kitchens and baths, and various surfaces in children's rooms and playrooms."

Most lines of paint have at least a couple of more sheen levels from which to choose. The descriptions vary, with eggshell, satin and low-luster sheen being the most common.

For more information on interior paints and sheen levels, visit the Paint Quality Institute blog at blog.paintquality.com or the Institute's website at www.paintquality.com.





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End of season cleaning is essential for homeowners who wnt to ensure their homes are not only cozy and comfortable, but healthy as well.

Though spring cleaning might have the name recognition, many homeowners spend just as much time cleaning their homes in the fall as they do in the spring. Spring might be the season for clearing out the clutter, but fall is when homeowners prepare their homes for the long winter months ahead.

End-of-summer cleaning is essential for homeowners who want to ensure their homes are not only cozy and comfortable, but healthy as well. The following are a few tips homeowners can employ to ensure their home is a welcoming and healthy respite from the winter cold.

Clean seasonal items before storing them away.

When summer has ended, hom-

eowners must place all the items reminiscent of summer, including the grill, patio furniture and lawn and garden equipment, in storage. Spray Nine(R) Cleaner & Disinfectant can quickly remove a season's worth of dirt and grease, ensuring those seasonal items are ready to go when spring makes its triumphant and long-awaited return.

Get a head start on fighting the flu.

Perhaps no winter foe is more formidable than the flu, which can find its way into a home, spreading rapidly among residents, especially if a home has not been adequately cleaned. Spray Nine Cleaner & Disinfectant kills viruses and bacteria in as little as 30 seconds, including the Influenza

A2 Virus, Salmonella Choleræsuis, E. coli, and Staphylococcus aureus. Oftentimes, viruses such as the flu are spread when an infected resident touches an item in the home and then that item isn't cleaned, enabling the virus or bacteria to spread to others. Spray Nine also makes a Spray Nine Lemon Scented Multi-Purpose Cleaner & Disinfectant, which can handle the same tough cleaning, disinfecting and stain removing task that Spray Nine is famous for, but also deodorizes with a pleasant scent.

Clean out the garage.

Cleaning the garage might seem like a project that's tailor made for spring cleaning, but it's actually more advantageous to clean the garage in the fall. A garage that's clear of clutter can be

used to safeguard a vehicle from those inevitable winter snowstorms while saving homeowners the hassle of digging their car out of all that ice and snow. What's more, cleaning the garage at the end of summer creates more room for lawn chairs and other seasonal items that must be stored away before the arrival of winter.

Address mold and mildew ahead of time.

Winter can trap moisture inside a home, creating an environment that is ideal for the growth of mold and mildew. Mold spores can grow inside a home and compromise the health of a home's residents, while mildew's strong odor can make the indoors a very unpleasant place to be.

Don't forget the fireplace.

While fireplaces are largely ignored during the summer months, there's nothing quite like gathering around the fireplace with family and friends once winter weather has arrived. But before burning the season's first fire, be sure to remove any potential safety hazards that might have accumulated near the fireplace, such as old newspapers or magazines, during those months when the fireplace was not in use. Clean the inside of the fireplace as well, making sure to remove any ash, carbon deposits, creosote build-up, dust, smoke residue, and soot before using the fireplace. Spray Nine Fireplace Cleaner can effectively clean a fireplace within minutes and won't require any extra scrubbing or expose homeowners to any harmful fumes or caustic chemicals.

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Adding Storage With a Shed



By Berry Smith Contributing Writer

Are you desperate for more storage space? At one time or another (in fact, in my case, it seems to be nearly all the time), most homeowners have a problem with storage. Although perhaps in some inadequate quantity, most homes have indoor storage capability in cabinets and closets. But what about your outdoor stuff like rakes, bikes, lawnmowers and such? You may have a garage but, if you are like me, you barely have room for your car.

One of the best things you could possibly do on your property is to add an outdoor storage shed. It does not have to be a huge structure. For those of you who may live on a small lot or do not have a ton of stuff to store, an outdoor shed could be just what the doctor ordered.

A small outdoor shed will help you keep your lawn equipment and garden tools out of the weather, and get your outside living space organized and beautified. You might even be able to find that spare water hose when you need it! Your valuable lawn equipment and tools will last longer, your property will look much better and your neighbors will be delighted.

Are You Ready for a Cleaning Service?

By Cedric Loiselle Contributing Writer

Employing professional cleaning services for a residential unit or office is very important. Keeping such areas clean is a main priority for the owners. However, if you own an office or a shop, you're likely to be too caught up in many other things that you absolutely cannot delegate to anyone else and so it's better to leave the cleaning to the trained professionals in the field.

Hiring well-trained cleaners will ensure that the cleaning job would be thoroughly done, leaving the given area completely clean and spotless. This is also beneficial to you because aside from getting the job done perfectly, this option is also very convenient and you will have one less thing to worry about. Clean offices are comfortable and conducive for working. Clean shops attract more customers.

For families, it's also a great idea to hire cleaners to keep the entire household neat and orderly. This is a must, especially if there are younger kids around, since a clean house-hold is a safer environment for the little ones. Parents will have ample time to spend with the kids if they don't have to do the cleaning. Typically, the cleaning job is divided and assigned into smaller chores among family members. However, if cleaning services are employed, there'll be more free time available for the rest of the family that can be used for other productive tasks such as studying, cooking and family bonding time.

In looking for the right cleaners, there are several things to consider before choosing the one you'd like to hire. First, you have to consider the reputation of the cleaners that are on your list of candidates. It is better to choose the one with the most positive feedbacks and the least negative feedbacks from the greater population of the community they serve. Pay close attention not only to the good feedback, but to complaints as well, if there are any. This can tell you a lot about the quality of the service they provide.

Read reviews about the cleaning company if possible, Cleaning services are incredibly easy to find. They are practically everywhere! It will be extremely fortunate if somebody you know would recommend cleaners that are excellent and competent based on their previous experiences with a cleaning service.





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Your Front Door is Talking

Whether or not we realize it, the colors with which we surround ourselves - in our clothes, cars and homes — reveal a lot about us. For example, bright colors often indicate an outgoing personality, while subdued colors imply a more low-key persona.

How can a hue say so much about you? According to Debbie Zimmer, color expert at the Paint Quality Institute, color has a psychological component through which we often communicate our moods, feelings, emotions and personality. One way we do that is through the paint colors we choose, even on the exterior of our home.

"The entire exterior color scheme has meaning, but the color of the front door is especially important," Zimmer says. "Like a necktie, which is the focal

point of an outfit, the front door is the focal point of the home. The color there sends a strong message - in the case of the front door, providing insight into how we view our home."

So what does your front door color say about you and the way you regard your home? Here's what a color psychologist might say about some of the most common front door colors:

Blue

Shown to be the most popular color in many studies, a blue front door signals that the homeowner views his or her home as a place of refuge - calm, serene and relaxing. The perfect retreat from an often harsh and demanding outside world.

Green

This is another popular color

for the front door, and with good reason. Psychologically speaking, green connotes health, safety, tranquility and harmony, all highly desirable attributes for a positive home environment.

Black

Those who paint the front door black are communicating something entirely different about their homes. A black front door projects strength, sophistication, power and authority, indicating to all who enter or even passersby that the home is a serious place inhabited by a person of substance.



Red

Regarded as a powerful "punch" color, red is the color of passion. By painting the front door red, the homeowner is saying that the home within is a vibrant place, full of life, energy and excitement.

Brown

Whether painted or stained, a brown front door looks natural and organic, but it can send mixed messages in terms of color psychology. On the one hand. brown conveys warmth, stability and reliability, positive attributes all, but certain darker shades of brown signal a desire for privacy, even isolation.

Very likely, the color you've chosen for your front door projects the way you want your home's style to be viewed.

If you inherited the color from the previous owner, or if you want to say something different about yourself and your home, you can quickly change the color, Zimmer says. "It takes only a few hours to prep and re-paint a standardsize front door, and by applying a durable, top quality 100-percent acrylic latex paint, you can make a totally different color statement that will last for years."

For more information on exterior color, paints and stains, visit blog.paintquality.com or www. paintquality.com. And for more on color, check out the Paint Quality Institute's 2012 paint color trends video on YouTube.

Eliminate Your Home's Drafts



Ŀ

outside temperatures will be below freezing and the heat-

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er is working overtime, but throughout the house there are cold, drafty areas. Does this sound familiar?

Specialists in the field say that any cold or drafty areas within a home are typically caused by air leaks within the building envelope. Air leaks can make rooms uncomfortable and allow the air to escape, forcing heating equipment to work harder to continually compensate.

Whether building a new home or renovating, it may be worthwhile to consider a complete solution that makes drafts a thing of the past. A modern insulation material. can both insulate and air seal in one step.

Spray foam insulation seals the entire building envelope and provides a cost-saving option for homeowners looking to reduce energy waste and save on their monthly energy bills. Over the longterm, the savings can quickly add up.

Modifications to the way you manage your home's energy consumption leads to significant financial rewards. Consulting a professional, such as an energy rater or inspector, will help make an educated assessment to the actual requirements within the home.

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Building an In-Law Suite is a Sweet Possibility

The National Association of Home Builders found that 62 percent of builders surveyed were working on home modifications related to aging.

In-law suites are often created by converting a room in the house, such as the basement or even a garage, into a livable suite. Such suites can benefit elderly relatives, in-law suites can also benefit younger homeowners who want to see their parents more. In addition, when older men and women move in with their adult children, they can provide some necessary relief from the escalating cost of day care.

Before building an in-law suite in their home, homeowners

might want to heed the following tips.

Be certain it is legal

Making changes to your home may require a permit, particularly if your in-law suite will be an entirely new addition to your property and not just a room remodel. Contact your local zoning board to ensure the project is within your rights as a homeowner.

Consider the health of your in-laws

Many in-law suites are occupied by aging relatives who might not be able to get up and down stairs as easily as they used to. That makes accessibility of the suite a top priority. Typically, it's best



to locate in-law suites on the first floor, so it's less difficult to get in and out of the suite.

Don't overlook privacy

Just because your parents or in-laws will be moving in doesn't mean they don't still value their privacy. Chances are your relatives will initially feel as though they are invading your space and your privacy, so be sure the suite affords adequate privacy to all members of the household.

Remember safety features

Safety features like fire, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are a necessity. Make sure the alarms on each of these detectors are loud enough so elderly men and women who have hearing loss can hear them without issue. Make sure all walkways leading to the in-law suite have motion-detecting lamps at night to reduce risk of falling. Also, if the suite will be a separate building from your house, such as a converted pool house or detached garage, install an intercom system that connects with the main house so your relatives can easily reach you in case of an emergency.

Tailor certain amenities

If your in-laws are older, install certain amenities, such as grab bars in the shower and bathroom, during the initial construction so you won't have to make changes down the road. Install easy-open drawers and make sure the suite has ample lighting.

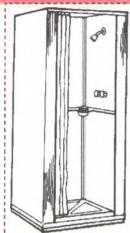
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