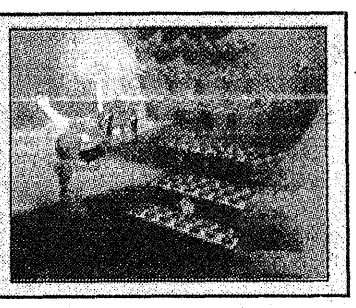
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District eyes election changes

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Plymouth-Canton Schools Superintendent Jim Ryan said he received several telephone calls on Election Day – Tuesday, Nov. 7 – from parents who had concerns about school building safety as voters were allowed to come and go during the school day to cast ballots.

"I think we did a good job of making safety an issue," Ryan said. "We took some maintenance people off the shift that day and put them in the buildings, and we hired extra paraprofessionals. Everybody was safe."

One parent, who asked not to be identified, said she was aware there were extra school personnel on hand on Election Day, but as far as she was concerned the measures taken by the district weren't enough.

"They should move more polls to churches or activity halls and get them out of the schools, or not have school that day," said the parent. "It's a shame we have to worry about it, but with today's society we have to. Today's world presents so many unsafe situations, and we have to alleviate any problems before anything happens."

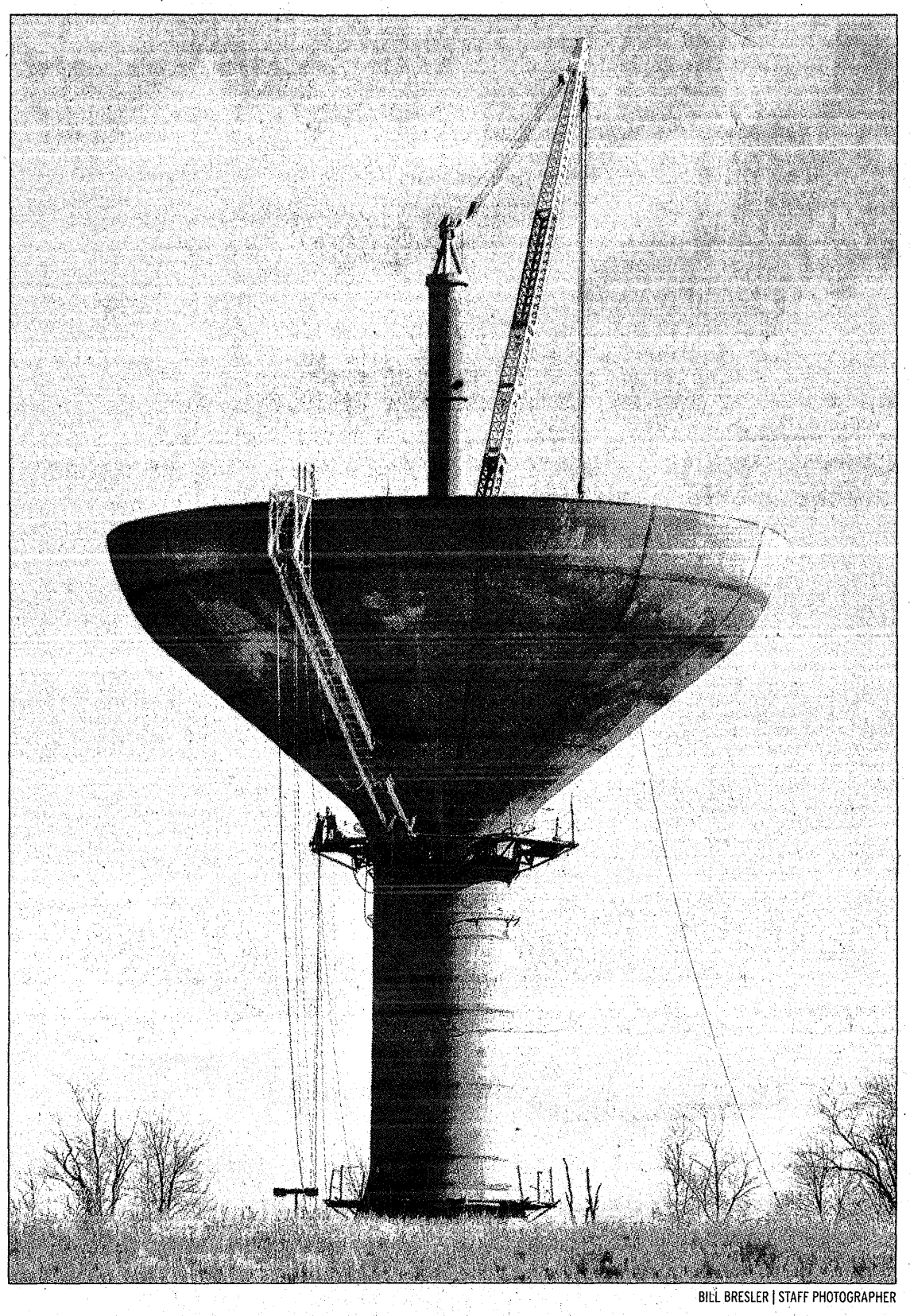
While the solution appears as simple as just closing schools for the day, or a half day, the issue has to be negotiated with the Plymouth-Canton Education Association, which represents about 1,100 teachers.

"We obviously have to negotiate a calendar with the PCEA on that," Ryan said. "We have a calendar for the next year, and I think we'll discuss a good solution that addresses the election. I think the Education Association is sensitive that in '08 there's a presidential election."

PCEA President Chuck Portelli said he "could see where there's a security issue," but said the fact remains it's tough to squeeze another day off into the current school calendar. Portelli blames, in part, the state Legislature, which passed a law requiring Michigan school districts to start classes after Labor Day. For Plymouth-Canton, that meant squeezing in 3.5 days which previously were class days in Plymouth-Canton before the holiday.

"They put restraints at the bargaining table and created

PLEASE SEE **ELECTIONS, A4**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The new Plymouth Township water tower is rising on Five Mile just west of Beck.

Work flows on 2nd water tower

Structure will ease pressure problems on west end

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

That's not the world's largest champagne glass being constructed on Plymouth Township-owned property near Five Mile and Beck.

It's the new Plymouth Township water tower, being built on the western side of the township and expected to provide township residents with a second source of water starting in 2007.

The second tower will complement the existing tower near the Lake Pointe subdivision and would provide better water pressure to the western side of the township, where residents have for years complained about the pressure.

Construction of the second tower was going smoothly until a recent spate of bad weather, but according to township Engineer Michael Bailey much of the time has been made up.

"The tank is progressing," Bailey told the Plymouth Township board. "We lost about four weeks because of rain and high winds."

Bailey said the lower bowl was done, and crews hoped to have the upper bowl done this week.

The tower is being built on 1.18 acres of land at what was the Western Wayne Correctional Facility, given to the township under a law passed earlier this year that gave the land, owned by the state, to the township for $1.

The land, near Five Mile and Beck, includes the highest point in Plymouth Township, and is thought by township officials to be ideal for a tower site.

"It provides an excellent location on high ground for the township's second water tower," township Supervisor Richard Reaume said. "It will allow the township to buy water from (Detroit) at off-peak hours and then provide that water to its residents during peak demand times, thus lowering the overall cost of water."

The new tower will improve water flow to homes and businesses in the western reaches of the township's water system.

Reaume said the tank will hold approximately one million gallons of water.

"A million gallons of water provides excellent water pressure throughout the western half of the township," Reaume said. "It also doubles as a reservoir during power outages or other emergencies."

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

Township, city reach dispatch agreement

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

After engaging in talks Mayor Dan Dwyer called "serious" with Northville Township officials about providing dispatch services to the City of Plymouth, the Plymouth City Commission Monday instead agreed to a five-year deal continuing dispatch service with Plymouth Township.

The intergovernmental agreement will cost the city about $1.24 million over the five years, a fixed cost officials said will help in determining the city's budget plan over the life of the agreement. Under the previous agreement, the city paid 25 percent of the total cost.

What do you think about this story? E-mail your responses to bkadrich@hometownlife.com.

"We know what are payments are going to be, and where we're going to be (financially)," City Manager Paul Sincock said. "I think that's a good thing."

PLEASE SEE **DISPATCH, A5**

Legendary Salem coach dies at 71

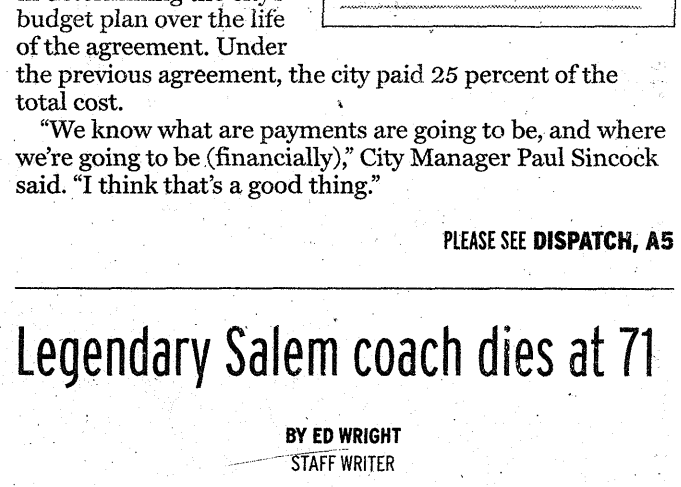
BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

When Tom Moshimer visited spring football practices at the University of Alabama in the early 1970s, he was more than a casual observer in legendary coach Paul "Bear" Bryant's coaches' meetings.

"There were times when one of Bear's assistants would ask him a question about the wishbone offense, and Bear would say, 'Ask Mo, he knows as much about it as I do,'" said Bob Cummings, a former player and longtime protégé of Moshimer.

Moshimer, a Vince Lombardi-like coaching legend in

PLEASE SEE **MOSHIMER, A4**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Tom Moshimer, here with his Salem Rocks in an undated file photo, lost a three-year battle with cancer Tuesday morning.

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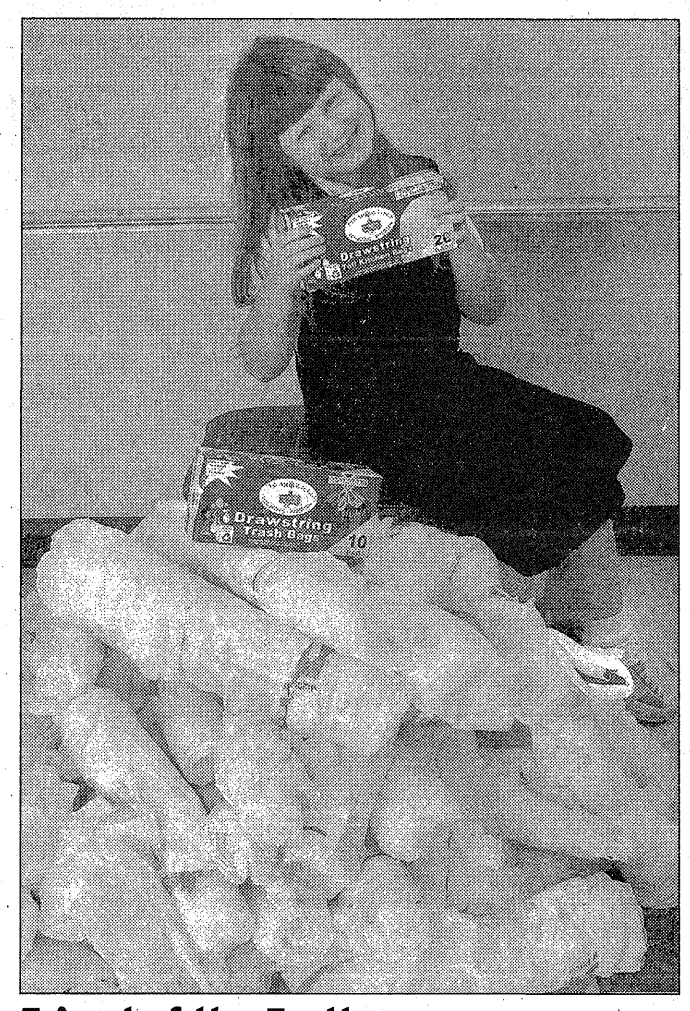
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Coming Sunday in Health

Trouble in toyland: PIRGIM (Public Interest Research Group in Michigan) releases its 21st annual toy safety report.



Friend of the Earth

Rhiannon Scott, a 6-year-old first-grader at Canton Charter Academy, recently won the school's Friend of the Earth competition by recycling the most Meijer shopping bags. Students were asked to roll Meijer shopping bags into logs of 40 bags each. The school has an agreement with Enviro-Bag Co. of South Carolina to receive one dollar for each pound of plastic recycled. Enviro-Bag takes the logs and recycles them into can liners, which are then sold at Meijer stores. Rhiannon rolled 25 logs in less than two weeks, and was recognized at a schoolwide assembly, at which she received a certificate for her accomplishments.

Senior party

The Plymouth A.M. Rotary Club sponsors its annual Seniors Christmas Party Dec. 17 at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

Doors open at 4 p.m., and dinner and entertainment start at 5 p.m. Tickets are free, but they are required and can be picked up at Tonquish Creek Manor, 1160 Sheridan in Plymouth, between Nov. 27-Dec. 8. The party is open to seniors 60 and older.

For more information, call Tonquish Creek, (734) 455-3670.

Santa arrives

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce welcomes Santa to town with its annual ceremony Friday, Nov. 24 at the Band Shell in Kellogg Park.

The official "welcoming" ceremony will feature a 5:45 p.m. sing-along, with community leaders leading the crowd in the singing of Christmas carols. Santa and Mrs. Claus are set to arrive at 6 p.m., when they will be presented the keys to the children's hearts.

Santa will preside over the Christmas tree lighting, and then visit with children at Santa's House along Main Street at the edge of Kellogg Park. Visiting will continue every weekend through Dec. 23. The last evening for visiting will be 5-6 p.m. Dec. 23; Santa will take pictures with pets from 6-8 p.m. that evening, with proceeds going to the Michigan Humane Society.

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

Jewelry festival

Native West hosts its 17th-annual "Holiday Jewelry Festival" with a selection of Native American jewelry from the Southwest Thursday-Sunday, Nov. 30-Dec. 3.

All jewelry is made in the United States and, according to festival officials, are "spectacular pieces to indulge yourself in or for that special someone."

In addition to the festival, Native West hosts its "biggest sale ever" Nov. 30-Dec. 6, where buyers can save 25-percent on all jewelry and at least 30 percent on everything else (with some exceptions).

Festival and sale hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Nov. 30-Dec. 1; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dec. 2; 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 3; and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Dec. 4-6.

Native West is located at 863 W. Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth. For more information, call (734) 455-8838.

Toy drive

Mel Bobcean, owner of Mel's Golden Razor in downtown Plymouth, starts his 28th year collecting toys for children and families he helps during the Christmas holidays.

Bobcean's effort also includes collecting money for food boxes for needy families. The collection runs Nov. 24-Dec. 19.

Mel's Golden Razor is located at 595 Forest. For more information, call (734) 455-9057.

Walk of Trees

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce sponsors its annual "Walk of Christmas Trees" in Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth.

Any family, club, scout troop, school class or business interested in decorating a tree should contact the chamber. Cost is $75 per tree, which includes 200 white lights strung on each tree, and the group/company name on a sign.

Trees will be assigned at random, and signs will be in place by Friday, Dec. 1. Decorating days are Friday-Sunday, Dec. 1-3.

To reserve a tree or for more information, call the chamber, (734) 453-1540.

Advent festival

The Parish Choir, Handbell Choir, Children and Youth Choirs, SonShine and members of St. John's Episcopal Church in Plymouth celebrate an "Advent Festival of Lessons and Carols" in the manner of King's College Chapel, Cambridge, England, 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3.

The service features carols from the 4th through the 20th centuries. Composers include Peter Warlock, John Rutter, Mark Peterson, Theodore Baker and Healey Willan.

The "Advent Festival of Lessons and Carols" is free and open to the public. A reception will follow the service. St. John's Episcopal Church is located at 574 S. Sheldon in Plymouth. For more information, call (734) 453-0190.

Bowling with Santa

O.U.R. Camp of Plymouth hosts a "Bowling with Santa" event 2-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, at MerriBowl in Livonia. The event is designed to raise funds for O.U.R. Camp, a summer day camp for children with special needs.

Cost is $10 per bowler ($35 for a group of four), and includes two games of bowling (bumpers available), shoes, a hot dog and pop. Space is limited, so pre-registration is recommended.

MerriBowl is located at 30950 Five Mile (at Merriman) in Livonia. To register, or for more information, call Jan Slattery at (734) 414-0231.

New Year's Eve party

Urban Singles presents "Ring in the New Year," with live entertainment from Jimmy Howard and Company Sunday, Dec. 31. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; the party goes until 1 a.m. The party takes place at the Livonia Elks, 31117 Plymouth Road in Livonia (between Merriman and Middlebelt).

Tickets are $50 per person until Dec. 8; $60 after Dec. 8, and cover dinner and beverage. Overnight accommodations will be available. Deadline for tickets is Friday, Dec. 22.

For more information, call Linda, (734) 507-9173, or Mary Ann, (734) 654-0115.

CORRECTION

The headline for Hugh Gallagher's column on Sunday, Nov. 19, should have read "Support for Proposal 2 opens door for dialogue on race."

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Physical Therapy UPDATE
Hands On Center
Presented by Hands On Center For Physical Therapy
BACK TO BASICS
If you suffer from chronic lower-back pain, new research suggests that it will help to get moving. That is the finding of the UCLA researchers who studied over 600 men and women with chronic lower-back pain over a one-and-a-half-year period. Patients who exercised regularly were 31 percent less likely to experience pain and disability than their sedentary counterparts. Researchers suggest that such back exercises as stretches and strength-training routines be conducted under the guidance of a physical therapist. It is crucial that these exercises be performed correctly if they are to be helpful. When performed incorrectly, back exercises may only exacerbate the problem. Consult with a physical therapist to be sure that you are getting the right treatment.
Improving your balance, form, posture and strengthening specific muscle groups, all work to prevent injury and improve performance levels at work and play! If you would like to begin an exercise program or are experiencing pain or stiffness, call the HANDS ON CENTER FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY at 455-8370. We are located at 650 South Main Street in downtown Plymouth. We have easy access and parking. New patients are gladly accepted.
P.S. A daily half hour of aerobic activity, such as brisk walking or swimming, most days of the week will help overcome chronic lower-back pain.
Johan Comuth, PT
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Arranging the art

Binder system helps organize kids' work

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

Like most moms, Suzy Fanning watched as the paintings, drawings and other items her kids brought home from school piled up — on the refrigerator, in drawers, under beds or in plastic storage bins.

Not wanting to discard precious memories, but desperately wanting things more organized, Fanning went to Office Max and picked up some three-ring binders and started organizing her children's art work into files.

When friends noticed what she was doing for her own kids, Fanning said, they started asking if she could do it for them.

And Mackenzie Kids was born.

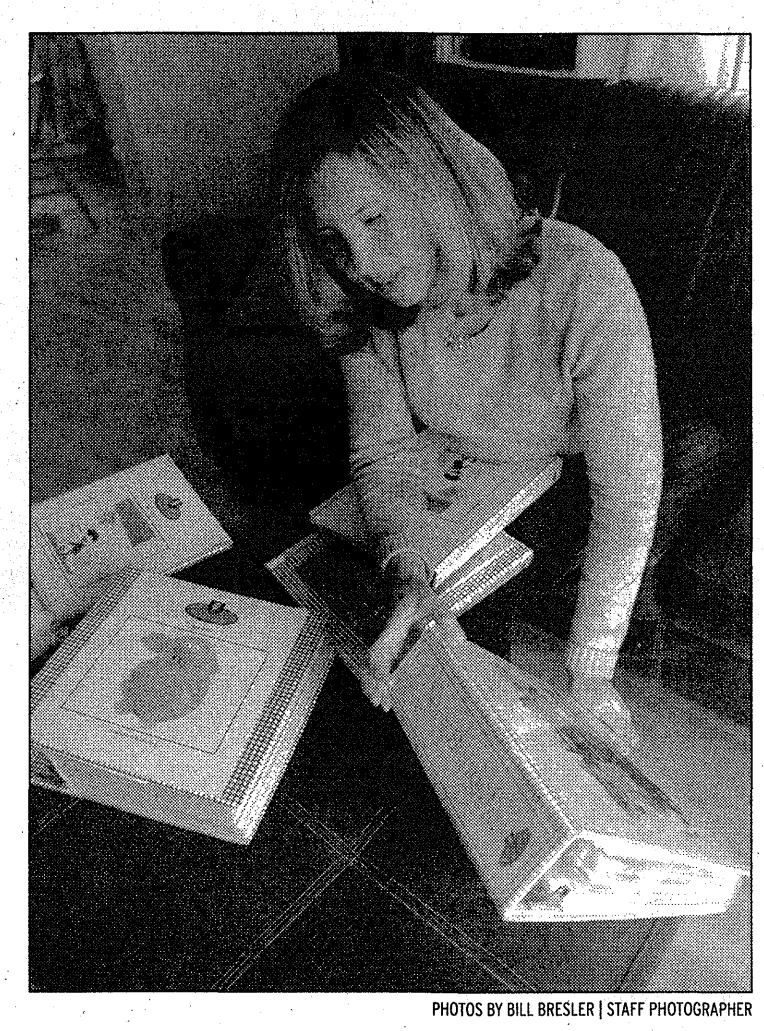
"Parents like me have all this art work hanging around," said Fanning, an attorney by trade. "I needed somewhere to keep it, because it was piling up. Parents just started asking me if I could do it for them.

"(Kids) love doing their art, and they're so proud of what they do," added Fanning, mother to three daughters — Hannah, Isabelle and Chloe — she calls the "three divas." "No parent wants to throw away that finger painting. They want to keep it."

Mackenzie Kids now helps them do that. Fanning uses three-ring binders with room for up to 200 standard 8½ x 11 plastic sheaths that hold the artwork. The binders are customized, arranged chronologically and can be done for each school grade.

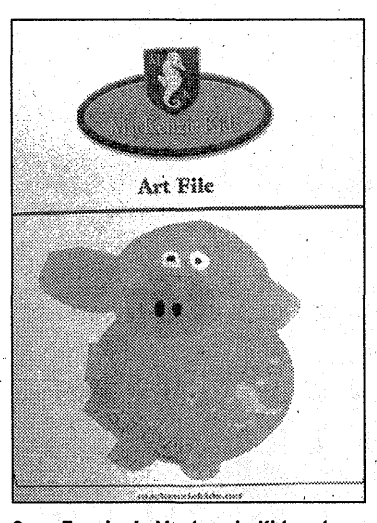
The files come in gingham patterns in red, navy blue, green or pink and can be customized with the child's name or year.

The artwork binders (which sell for $25) got popular enough that Fanning, 36, expanded the business, which she runs out of her Plymouth home, to include activity binders (which sell for $16) for sports or other extracurriculars.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Suzy Fanning designed a system to organize children's artwork and started Mackenzie Kids out of her Plymouth home.



Suzy Fanning's Mackenzie Kids art files display and organize all the stuff that is taped to the refrigerator.

ORGANIZATION SOLUTION

- **What:** Mackenzie Kids
- **Who:** Owner Suzy Fanning
- **Why:** They offer binders to organize artwork and other papers children bring home from school
- **How much:** $25 for artwork binders; $16 for activity binders
- **More info:** (866) 230-9435 or www.mackenziekids.net

"It's nothing more than a binder, but people either don't have the time or the inclination," Fanning said. "There's nothing new about it, really. It's a simplistic answer to what to do with all of this artwork. I just wanted to give people something attractive."

The binders come in handy, particularly for parents in the same boat. Karen Rhea was one of the parents who noticed Fanning's handiwork, and she quickly got Fanning to do some for her.

"It's a fantastic tool for someone like me who's not organized," said Rhea, a Plymouth resident. "You get so much stuff from school, it allows you to get organized. It's a major space saver and time saver all in one."

With a busy schedule, Fanning has to find ways to make time. She's been an attorney for 10 years, now doing trusts, estates and litigation in the Ann Arbor office of Koselka Devine. Last month she ran a marathon in Chicago.

And now she's started her own business, a decision that caught her husband, Rick, a bit off guard.

"He's a bit bewildered by all of this," she said with a smile. "(But) I wanted to do something. All these moms have ideas, but sometimes they don't do anything about it. I wanted to do something about it."

While she said she loves being a lawyer, the legal world often leaves people unhappy. Fanning said she likes having something that pleases people.

"I love being a lawyer, but nobody's really ever happy with you," she said. "I like having an outlet where people are happy to get something that helps them."

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Bloody fingerprints on flashlight led police to murder suspect

BY KURT KUBAN
STAFF WRITER

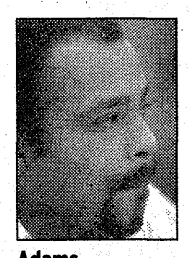
With a number of police officers crowding the 35th District Court on Monday, Wayne County assistant prosecutor Eaton Curtis described how investigators were able to use four bloody fingerprints on a Maglite flashlight to connect Andre Marcel Adams to the April murder of Robert Lee Armstrong of Canton.

Prosecutors believe Adams used the flashlight to murder Armstrong, 46, during the early morning hours of April 16 at Armstrong's home in the College Park mobile home park on Mott Road. According to the autopsy report, Armstrong died from "at least three blunt force blows to the head."

The prosecution team led by Curtis was able to show enough probable cause at Adams' preliminary examination Monday for District Court Judge Ron Lowe to order a trial. Adams, a 33-year-old Ypsilanti resident, has been charged with open murder and, if convicted, faces the possibility of spending the rest of his life in prison. He is scheduled to be arraigned Dec. 4 in Wayne County Circuit Court.

Curtis called several witnesses during the examination, including a number of specialists from the Michigan State Police forensics laboratory in Northville. They described a bloody crime scene in Armstrong's bedroom, where he was found dead.

Detective Sgt. Mary Dempsey Knox, an MSP fingerprint expert, testified that she was able to lift four useable fingerprints from the bloody flashlight, which



Adams

featured the name of NASCAR driver Dale Earnhardt. She said that she entered the prints into the state's Automated Fingerprint Identification Systems (AFIS) computer program, and found they were a match with Adams, who has a long history of criminal activity and violence, including convictions for felonious assault and felony firearms.

Adams was arrested Oct. 4 in Nevada by North Las Vegas police officers.

Perhaps the most compelling testimony was given by Armstrong's next-door neighbor, Gary Metzger, who awoke to Armstrong's two children knocking at his door. Armstrong's 10-year-old daughter found him dead.

"They were screaming and crying, saying their daddy had a hole in his head and that he wouldn't wake up," said Metzger, who told his wife to call 9-1-1, before going over to Armstrong's house with the two children. "When I walked into the bedroom, I could see he had a quarter-inch hole in the back of his head."

Defense attorney Charlotte Steffen-Ramirez said the fingerprint evidence shouldn't have been enough to order a trial, because the AFIS system isn't necessarily reliable. She said the AFIS card with Adams' name on it could have been the result of an error.

Lowe disagreed with her assessment, however. He ordered Adams remanded with no bond.

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ELECTION

FROM PAGE A1

a nightmare," Portelli said. "I had teachers e-mailing me, asking why we were having classes that day. But, adding three and a half days of instruction after Labor Day back into the calendar limited our choices of what we could do.

"We (the district and PCEA) talked about a half day for kids and a half day for professional development for teachers, but we couldn't reach an agreement," he said.

Portelli also noted that in a survey of his membership, teachers were reluctant to change the current calendar, for many of the same reasons parents give.

"We got a clear indication of what our membership wanted ... two weeks off at Christmas, one week off for Easter and a week off in February," Portelli said.

Portelli said that along with negotiating time off for major elections, he would also like to negotiate Martin Luther King Day, in which students are off but teachers have a full day of professional development.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fruitful feast

We're not sure if the Pilgrims played Simon Sez with the Indians, but it could have happened. Colin Young tries to catch his classmates in Benita Puzzuoli's kindergarten class. It was all part of the classroom's Kindergarten Friendship Feast, where each student brings in a cup of fruit, which gets put into a big bowl and shared in celebration of the First Thanksgiving. The day at Bird Elementary School also includes dressing in costumes, including Indian headbands and Pilgrim bonnets, and other Thanksgiving activities.

MOSHIMER

FROM PAGE A1

this area for more than four decades, died early Tuesday morning at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor after battling lung cancer for close to three years. The longtime Salem coach, educator and mentor was 71.

Moshimer's first coaching stint came as a graduate assistant under Duffy Daugherty at Michigan State University, his alma mater. After one year at MSU, Daugherty helped Moshimer land the head coaching job at Dundee, where he coached for eight years before he accepted a similar position at the old Plymouth High School, which later became Salem.

Throughout his 42-year high school coaching career, Moshimer compiled a 219-146-0 record, which puts him 24th on the all-time victories list.

His most memorable season of many came in 1974 when the Rocks went 9-0 and were the "mythical" Class A state champions after compiling the highest playoffs point total (115.0) in a "test" year before a playoffs format was instituted in 1975.

Moshimer was inducted into the Michigan High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 1985 and the Michigan High School Coaches Hall of Fame in 1994. In 1989, he received the "Jim Crowley Award," which is the highest honor members of the Football Coaches Association present to a peer each year.

He retired from coaching following the 2000 season and was replaced by Cummings.

"My dad (Paul) coached with Tom when I was young, so I practically grew up with the Moshimer family," said Cummings. "I was good friends with Tom's son, Mike, and I can remember spending the night over their house on Friday nights. On Saturday mornings, we'd wake up and Tom would make breakfast for us, then he'd watch the game films from the game the night before. He could watch game films for 10 straight hours and wouldn't get tired of it. He loved football and he loved coaching.

"He was just a great leader who got the most out of everybody he coached. He was a former Marine and that's the way he coached. When he yelled, you ran."

"Tom was a hard coach, but he was a fair coach," remembered Jim Jarvey, who served as one of Moshimer's assistants for 25 years before they both hung up their whistles in 2000. "He loved the game and he cared deeply about his players. He'd always give them a second chance, both on and off the field.

"He knew the wishbone offense as well as anybody because he studied it like nobody else and attended clinics throughout the country. Even after he retired, he'd go over and watch film with Bobby Cummings and offer his advice on things."

Cummings said Moshimer was friends with longtime University of Michigan coach Bo Schembechler, who died Friday.

"Tom took Bo's death hard because they were good friends and because Tom was having a tough week himself," said Cummings. "Tom always told me about how he sat 10 rows behind the Michigan bench when Michigan beat Ohio State in 1969."

Moshimer is survived by his wife, Nancy; sons Duncan (Cheryl) and Mike; stepson Jim (Nicki) and stepdaughter Kelly (Phil); and four grandchildren: Ryan, Sarah, Zach and Patrick.

Visitation for Moshimer will be held 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday at McCabe Funeral Home, 851 N. Canton Center Road in Canton. Funeral services will be held Saturday beginning at 10 a.m. at St. Thomas A' Becket, located at 555 S. Lilley in Canton.

Township extends compost, yard waste pickup

Plymouth Township residents used to putting their compost and yard waste out to the curb are going to get a little extra time to do it this year.

Township officials have extended the annual curbside collection program into the second week of January. The official season now runs from the first full week of April through the second week of January.

This season, residents have until Jan. 12 to have their compost/yard waste collected at curbside, said Susan Vignoe, the township's solid waste and public service coordinator.

Christmas trees will be collected as compost through Jan. 12. Plastic tree disposal bags, tinsel, garland and non-organic materials must be removed and

PLEASE SEE PICKUP, A5

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Volunteer Lauren Blackley helps Lauren Bottrell with the top crust for her pie, which was donated to First Step for Thanksgiving dinner.

Second-graders give thanks by baking pies for women's shelter

As Thanksgiving approached, Joan Blackley decided to teach her second grade class at Canton's Hulsing Elementary that the annual holiday is about more than just eating turkey.

So on Tuesday, the students in Blackley's class made 38 apple pies from scratch, which they donated to the local First Step shelter for battered women, so they could be enjoyed today as part of their Thanksgiving meal.

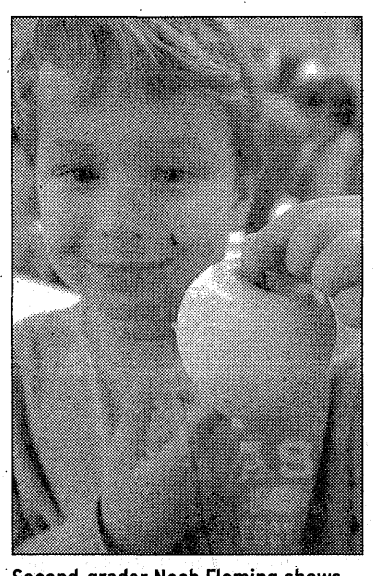
"In our class we have a unit in which we celebrate the community. This was our way of giving thanks to our Canton and Plymouth communities," Blackley said. "First Step is a shelter in our community, and we think it's a nice shelter."

According to Blackley, the project wouldn't have been possible without the help of many parents, who helped get donations from local businesses, including Plymouth Orchards, which donated apples, and Bakers Square, which donated boxes. Many of the parents also donated items such as flour and other ingredients.

Blackley said the project, which she plans to do annually, was a great learning experience for the students, who also did all the measuring and cutting for the pies.

"They are just beautiful pies," she said.

By Kurt Kuban



Second-grader Noah Fleming shows off his peeled apple, which is ready for slicing.

DISPATCH

FROM PAGE A1

The deal will cost the city $225,000 in the first year. Sincock said that's a savings of some $25,000 in the first year of the contract.

The agreement runs Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2011, at which time it will continue on a year-to-year basis unless terminated by either side. The contract also includes a one-year notification provision should either side choose to terminate.

The agreement, reached after months of negotiations among a joint committee comprised of both city and township police, fire and government representatives, is expected to be passed by the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees at the Dec. 19 meeting.

"When it gets reported out of a joint committee like that, you have to honor it," township Supervisor Richard Reaume said. "It allows us to continue joint dispatch, so that's a good thing."

In addition to covering dispatch services for police, fire, emergency services and Department of Public Works, the agreement provides "lock-up" service, with township dispatchers monitoring lock-up facilities and "ensuring the care and safety of prisoners taken into custody."

The deal comes after the city, hoping to reduce costs, entered into talks with Northville Township. Dwyer had nothing but good things to say about Chip Snider, who represented Northville in those talks.

"I owe it to (Snider) for being willing to honestly negotiate," Dwyer said. "Northville Township was a wonderful government entity with which to negotiate. Chip was a breath of fresh air as far as a representative of government to work with."

Dwyer maintains the same position he's taken all along, that a regionalized service involving Northville Township, Plymouth Township, Canton and the cities of Northville and Plymouth would be preferable.

"I continue to think regionalized dispatch with Northville was the best option," Dwyer said. "But I think this is a good deal."

Reaume, who has said in the past he didn't favor such regionalization, said Tuesday he might be interested.

"I've told Dan before, get it going and I'd come to the table," Reaume said. "It's probably something they should have looked at when they built the new courthouse, quite frankly."

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

PICKUP

FROM PAGE A4

disposed of properly.

Vignoe also reminded residents of the township's guidelines for setting leaves and other compost out to the curb:

- Yard waste including leaves, grass clippings, vegetative pruning, garden waste, wood debris and brush can be set out to the curb by 7 a.m. on regular collection day and no earlier than 6 p.m. the night before collection.
- Brush and branches up to six inches in diameter must be tied with string or twine in bundles no longer than three feet; no wire or plastic ties.
- Leaves and grass clippings can be put into paper yard waste bags available from various retailers, or in a 35-gallon (maximum size) container identified with a compost sticker or marked clearly with two large "X" or "C" markings on the container. Yard waste stickers are available at township offices. Take care to ensure the label is facing the roadway.

For more information, call the Solid Waste Department, (734) 354-3270, Ext. 4.

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OE08484434

The following programs are being offered at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, during November:

■ NICHOLAS WINTON: THE POWER OF ONE – Thursday, Nov. 29, 7 p.m. — As part of the community's collaborative project, "Plymouth Remembers: Voices of the Holocaust," the library will show this documentary with the assistance of the Gelman Foundation. It tells the story of Nicholas Winton, an English businessman who visited Prague, Czechoslovakia in 1938. Quickly he assessed that the many children he saw would be doomed by Hitler. With generosity and resolve, he went on to transport 669 children out of the country and saved their lives. There is no registration required for this free library program.

■ NEEDLECRAFTERS MEETING, Monday, Nov. 27, 7-9 p.m. — Knitters, quilters, needlepointers are all invited to attend this informal group gathering. Lessons are not provided, but ideas exchanged among attendees. No registration required. Bring your latest project!

Youth programs

■ PRESCHOOL/FAMILY EVENING STORYTIMES, Session one: Tuesdays through Nov. 28, 7 p.m.; Session two: Wednesdays through Nov. 29, 7 p.m. — This evening storytime can be enjoyed by family members and children ages 2 - 5. Registration can be made by phone, (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4.

■ PRESCHOOL STORYTIMES, Tuesdays through Nov. 28, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. — Parents must remain in the library during these storytime sessions for children ages 3½-5 years. Registration is required and may be made by calling (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4.

■ TODDLER/PARENT STORYTIMES, Wednesdays through Nov. 29 — The 10 a.m. session is for children ages 2–3½ years. This one-on-one session welcomes toddlers and adults participating together. Please make other arrangements for siblings. The 11 a.m. session welcomes siblings and other family members as well. Registration is required and can be made by telephone at (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4.

■ THANKSGIVING BREAK MOVIE, Friday, Nov. 24, 2 p.m. — It's a family favorite – *Curious George*. This program is intended for children ages 5-12. No registration required.

■ BABY PLAY, Monday, Nov. 27, 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. (No Saturday Baby Play this month) — This fun program is for babies ages 6-24 months. Baby Play is a less formal companion to our Lapsit program. Babies and caregivers listen to a story, followed by play with developmentally appropriate toys and interaction with other children. Registration is not required for Baby Play.

TEEN PROGRAM

■ KNITTING KNIT WITS, Wednesday, Nov. 29, 7 p.m. — Join other teens and volunteer Judy Gwozdek in making squares for blankets for a charity to be selected or just bring your own knitting and have fun. If you don't know how to knit – come along anyway –Judy will teach you how.

YOU NEED TO KNOW THIS

■ All Teen Zone programs are FREE – it costs you nothing to participate.

■ The Friends of the Plymouth District Library provide FREE refreshments for every teen program.

■ All the info you need about our teen programs can be found at plymouthlibrary.org/ya.ht

COMPUTER TRAINING

There will be no computer classes in November as the new computer lab on the third floor is not yet ready.



Power of good

As part of the community's collaborative project, 'Plymouth Remembers: Voices of the Holocaust,' the Plymouth District Library will show the documentary, 'Nicholas Winton: The Power of Good,' with the generous assistance of the Gelman Foundation, 7 p.m. Nov. 29. It tells the story of Nicholas Winton, an English businessman who visited Prague, Czechoslovakia in 1938 and quickly assessed that the many children he saw would be doomed by the Nazi invasion. With generosity and resolve, he went on to transport 669 children out of the country and saved their lives. There is no registration required for this free Library program. For more information, call (734) 453-0750.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF SETTING PUBLIC HEARING

CONSIDERATION OF TRANSFER OF CLASS C LIQUOR LICENSE TO GADEREN LLC. AT 8465 N. LILLEY RD, CANTON, MICHIGAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 6, Article II of the Charter Township of Canton that the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a **Public Hearing on Tuesday, December 12, 2006**, in the Township Administration Building Board Room, 1150 South Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan at 7:00 p.m. for the following purpose:

To hear and take testimony to consider and recommend an action to the Michigan Liquor License Commission of the request of Gaderen LLC/ DBA Ginger Restaurant for transfer from 14850 Dix- Toledo Rd., Southgate Mi. and issuance of a Class C Liquor License to be located at 8465 N. Lilley Rd, in Canton, Michigan.

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

Terry G. Bennett
Clerk

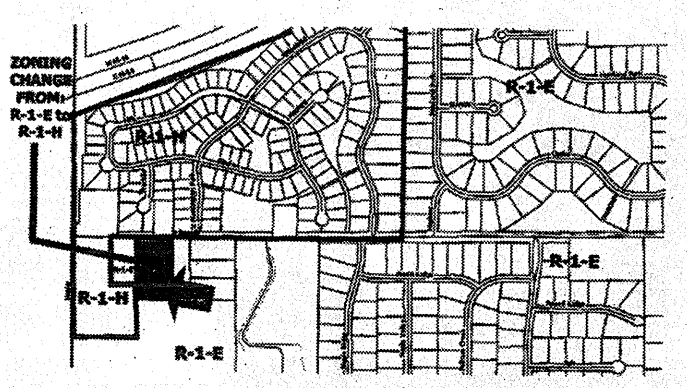
Publish: November 23, 2006

OE08489745

NOTICE OF ADOPTION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDINANCE NO. 99.006

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH BY AMENDING THE ZONING MAP.
THE TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDAINS:

Part I. The Zoning Ordinance No. 99 of the Plymouth Charter Township, is hereby amended by amending the Zoning Map, by changing those areas indicated on the Amended Zoning Map No. 010, attached hereto, and made part of this Ordinance.



ORDINANCE NO. 99.006
AMENDED ZONING MAP NO. 010
Charter Township of Plymouth, Wayne, Michigan

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: For parcel descriptions, see tax records based on Tax ID No. R-78-0046-99-0002-707.

Part II. CONFLICTING PROVISIONS REPEALED. Any Ordinance or parts of Ordinance in conflict herewith, are hereby repealed.

Part III. EFFECTIVE DATE. The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to take effect on December 14, 2006.

Part IV. ADOPTION. The Ordinance was adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Plymouth by authority of Act 110 of Public Acts of Michigan, 2006, as amended, at a meeting duly called and held on November 14, 2006, and ordered to be given publication in the manner prescribed by law. The Ordinance may be purchased or inspected at the Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Community Development Department during regular business hours.

Adopted by the Board of Trustees on: November 14, 2006
Effective Date: December 14, 2006

Publish: November 23, 2006

OE08489718

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FRI/SAT LS 11:30
DEJA VU (PG-13)
11:00, 1:35, 4:15, 7:00, 9:40
HAPPY FEET (PG)
11:30, 2:00, 4:20, 6:45, 9:05
FRI/SAT LS 11:30
CASINO ROYALE (PG-13)
12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30
BORAT (R) 11:45, 1:40, 3:35, 5:30, 7:25, 9:20 FRI/SAT LS 11:20
STRANGER THAN FICTION (PG-13)
12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:45
SANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G) 11:05, 1:10, 3:10, 5:10, 7:10, 9:15
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Charter Township of Canton
Board Proceedings
November 14, 2006

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Tuesday, November 14, 2006, at 1150 Canton Center S. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. **Roll Call** Members Present: Bennett, Kirchgatter, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo Members Absent: Caccamo (on Military leave), LaJoy Staff Present: Director Durack, Director Eva, Executive Director Santomauro, Director Conklin, Director Faas **Adoption of Agenda** Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by all members present. **Approval of Minutes** Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to approve the Board Study Minutes of October 17, 2006. Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the Board Minutes of October 24, 2006. Motion carried by all members present. **Payment of Bills** Motion by Kirchgatter, supported by Bennett to approve payment of the bills as presented. Motion carried by all members present. **Expenditure Recap for November 14, 2006**

General Fund	101	$1,162,360.67
Fire Fund	206	105,967.32
Police Fund	207	147,404.12
Summit Operating	208	48,396.44
Street Lighting	219	18,121.04
Cable TV Fund	230	6,132.12
Twp Improvement	246	200,254.60
E-911 Utility	261	18,614.39
Auto Forfeiture(wwa)	267	3,168.19
Federal Grants Fund	274	21,049.72
Auto Theft Grant	289	15,537.24
Downtown Dev Authority	294	61,626.94
Cap Proj-Summit Const	402	50,327.46
Cap Proj-Road Paving	403	63,602.48
Golf Fund	584	25,566.24
Water & Sewer Fund	592	3,149,122.75
Trust & Agency Fund	701	5,442.00
Construction Escrows	702	16,087.81
Post Employ. Benefits	736	51,303.65
Total - All Funds		**5,170,085.18**

PRESENTATION: **PRESENTATION OF LIEUTENANT BADGE.** Trustee McLaughlin presented Lieutenant badges to Sgt. Scott Hilden and Sgt. Mark Schultz and congratulated them on their promotions to Lieutenants. **DAN DURACK RETIREMENT PRESENTATION.** Supervisor Yack commended Mr. Durack for his contributions and 27 years faithful servant to the Canton Community for 27 years. **PUBLIC HEARING: HOLD THE PUBLIC HEARING OF NECESSITY AND CONSIDER ADOPTING THE CONFIRMING RESOLUTION NO. 3 FOR THE COPPER CREEK CONDOMINIUM SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT 2006-01. (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to open the public hearing at 7:15 p.m. of Necessity and Consider Adopting the Confirming Resolution No. 3 for the Copper Creek Condominium Special Assessment District 2006-01. Motion carried by all members present. Clerk Bennett stated two (2) letters were received: Ms. Nomura not in favor of this proposed SAD and Mr. and Mrs. Shaun Farley and Cathleen Handyside in favor of this proposed SAD. Ronald Estes, 7145 Copper Creek Circle, spoke in opposition of the proposed SAD for Copper Creek Condo's. Judy Bailey, President of Copper Creek Condo Association, Ron Burner, and Thomas Farmer, 7121 Copper Creek, spoke in favor of the proposed SAD for Copper Creek Condo's. Motion by Zarbo, supported by Kirchgatter to close the public hearing at 7:30 p.m. of Necessity and Consider Adopting the Confirming Resolution No. 3 for the Copper Creek Condominium Special Assessment District 2006-01. Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to adopt the resolution confirming resolution No. 3 for the Copper Creek Condominium Special Assessment District 2006-01. Motion carried by all members present. RESOLUTION NO. 3 Copper Creek Condominiums Paving SAD No. 2006-1 Charter Township of Canton County of Wayne, State of Michigan Minutes of a Regular Board meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Canton, County of Wayne, State of Michigan (the "Township"), held on the 14th day of November , 2006, in the Township at 7 o'clock p.m., Eastern Standard Time. PRESENT: Bennett, Kirchgatter, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo ABSENT: Caccamo (on Military leave), LaJoy The following preamble and resolution were offered by Clerk Bennett and supported by Trustee Zarbo : WHEREAS, this Township Board, pursuant to Act 188, Public Acts of Michigan, 1954, as amended, and after notice to all of the record owners of land in the proposed special assessment district, tentatively declared its intention to undertake certain public improvements in the Township, as more particularly described in Exhibit A hereto; and WHEREAS, the Township Board has caused to be prepared by a registered engineer plans showing the public improvements and the location thereof and an estimate of the cost thereof; and WHEREAS, after due and legal notice, the Township Board has met on November 14th , 2006, at 7 o'clock p.m., Eastern Standard Time, and heard all persons interest therein at said first (1) hearing with respect to the proposed public improvements and the special assessment district; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: 1. The Township Board hereby determines that the public improvements described in Exhibit A (attached) hereto and made a part hereof are necessary for the health, safety and welfare of the Township and that said public improvements shall be made and completed pursuant to aforesaid Act 188. 2. The Township Board hereby approves the plans and estimate of cost for the public improvements in the total sum of $ 400,000 as prepared and presented by the Township engineer. Of the aforesaid total cost of the project, the sum of $ 400,000 will be spread against the hereinafter named special assessment district pursuant to the aforesaid Act 188. 3. The Township Board finally determines that said special assessment district shall consist of all of the lots and parcels of land described in Exhibit B (attached) hereto and that the existence of said special assessment district shall be maintained until all special assessments payable on the roll hereinafter described, and any bonds issued in anticipation of such special assessments, have been paid. 4. The Supervisor is hereby directed to make a special assessment roll in which shall be described all the parcels of land to be assessed as above set forth, with the names of the owners thereof, if known, and the total amount to be assessed against each parcel of land, which amount shall be such relative portion of the whole sum to be levied against all parcels of land in the assessment district as the benefit to such parcel of land bears to the total benefit of all parcels of land in the special assessment district. 5. When the Supervisor shall have completed the special assessment roll, the Supervisor shall affix thereto a certificate stating that said roll was made pursuant to a resolution of the Township Board of the Township adopted on the date of adoption of this resolution, and that in making the assessment roll the Supervisor has, according to the Supervisor's best judgment, conformed in all respects to the directions contained in said resolution and the statues of the State of Michigan, and the Supervisor shall then report the special assessment roll, with the certificate attached thereto, to the Township Board. 6. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and they hereby are rescinded. AYES: Bennett, Kirchgatter, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo NAYS: None RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED. **CONSENT CALENDAR: Item 1. RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF POLICE AND FIRE RETIREMENTS. (SUPERVISOR)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to adopt the resolution in recognition of Police and Fire Retirements. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 2. ESTABLISH BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING DATES FOR 2007. (CLERK)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to establish the Canton Township Board of Trustees meeting schedule for the year 2007 as follows: first, second, third, fourth and fifth Tuesday of each month of the 2007 calendar year, with the exception of: February 27, 2007, and May 8, 2007, Election dates. In addition, the following meetings held Tuesday, December 25, 2007 and Tuesday January 1, 2008 will be cancelled upon approval of the relative bargaining unit's contract. The Board of Trustees Regular Meetings will be held, at 7:00 p.m. at the Charter Township of Canton Administration Building, Board of Trustees meeting room, 1150 Canton Center South, First Floor, Canton, Michigan. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 3. SET PUBLIC HEARING REQUEST FOR CLASS C LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER TO GADEREN LLC, DBA GINGER RESTAURANT AT 8465 LILLEY ROAD, CANTON TOWNSHIP, CANTON, MI 48187, WAYNE COUNTY. (CLERK)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to set the Public Hearing date for December 12, 2006 to consider the transfer of a Class C liquor license currently held in escrow at 14850 Dix-Toledo Road, Southgate, MI, to Gaderen LLC/ DBA Ginger Restaurant, located at 8465 N. Lilley Road, Canton Township, Canton, MI 48187, Wayne County. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 4. BUDGET AMENDMENT – SPECIAL INVESTIGATION FUNDS 266, 267 AND 289. (FBD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the following budget amendment for the Special Investigative Funds 266, 267 and 289 to correct line item budget: Fund 267 – Special Investigative Fund Increase Revenues: Fund balance appropriation 267-000-699-0000 $32,284.00 Increase Appropriations Equipment 267-333-977-0000 $20,000.00 Transfer to State Projects Fund 267-333-965-2890 12,284.00 = $32,284.00 This budget amendment increases the 2006 Special Investigative Fund budget from $100,307 to $132,591. Fund 289 – State Projects Fund Increase Revenues:

Contribution from Forfeiture Fund		
	289-000-676-2670	$12,284.00
Increase Appropriations		
Wage reimbursement – Sworn		
	289-333-714-0000	$ 3,393.00
Overtime reimbursement – Sworn		
	289-333-718-0000	(5,196.00)
Fringe benefit reimbursement – Sworn		
	289-333-725-0000	14,087.00
		$12,284.00

This budget amendment increases the 2006 State Projects Fund budget from $314,943 to $327,227.

Fund 266 – WWN Forfeiture Fund		
Increase Revenues:		
Fund balance appropriation	266-000-699-0000	$17,500.00
Increase Appropriations		
Salary – Clerical	266-333-715-0000	$7,500.00
Fringe Benefits	266-333-725-0000	500.00
Training	266-333-951-0000	2,000.00
Improvements & Equipment	266-333-977-0000	7,500.00
		$17,500.00

This budget amendment increases the 2006 WWN Forfeiture Fund budget from $361,000 to $378,500. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 5. APPROVE APPOINTMENTS TO THE CULTURAL COMMISSION. (CLS) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the re-appointments of Sharon Dillenbeck, Darian Moore, Herb Scott, Timothy Smola and Donald Soenen to the Commission for Culture, Arts & Heritage for three (3) year terms. (Terms expiring 12/31/09). I further move to appoint Tim Schoenherr to the Commission for Culture, Arts & Heritage for a three (3) year term. (Term expiring 12/31/09). Motion carried by all members present. Item 6. CONSIDER GENERAL FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT-ENGINEERING SERVICES. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the following budget in the General Fund to increase the Engineering Services Division budget: Increase (Decrease) Appropriations:

Overtime-Engineering Services		
	#101-447-708-0000	$ 9,500
Contracted Services-Engineering Services		
	101-447-818-0000	(9,500)
Total		$ 0

This budget amendment does not change the Engineering Services Division budget total or the General Fund budget total. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 7. CONSIDER ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY DEDICATION ALONG CANTON CENTER ROAD ON A PART OF VACATED PROCTOR ROAD (HERITAGE PARK). (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the dedication of a 60-foot road right-of-way on Canton Center Road on a part of vacated Proctor Road (Heritage Park) parcel for Tax Number 71-081-99-0001-702, and authorize the Township Supervisor and Clerk to sign the attached quit claim deed. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 8. CONSIDER GENERAL FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT – BUILDING AND INSPECTION SERVICES CONTRACTED SERVICES. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the following budget amendment in the General Fund to transfer funds from Building and Inspection Services Overtime Account to Building and Inspection Services Contracted Services Account:

FROM: Overtime	#101-371-708-0000	$5,000.00
TO: Contracted Services	#101-371-818-0000	$5,000.00

This budget amendment does not change the Building and Inspection Services budget total or the General Fund budget total. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 9. APPROVE MERS RESOLUTION TO PPURCHASE SERVICE CREDIT. (FBD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the recommendation the township amortizes the purchase of MERS service credit over 30 years, and approve the following MERS Resolution granting the authorization to purchase the additional credited service for Director Durack. WHEREAS provided by the MERS Plan Document, the above additional credited service is granted this member by resolution adopted by Charter Township of Canton at it meeting November 14, 2006. It is understood that calculation of the actuarial cost is based on the assumptions approved by the Retirement Board on the date the calculation was prepared. Actual, future events and experience may result in changes different than those assumed, and liability different than that estimated. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 10. CONSIDER BUDGET AMENDMENT – GENERAL FUND – STAFF REDUCTIONS. (FBD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the following General Fund budget amendment to reduce revenues for decreased building activities and related cost reductions in General Fund accounts: Decrease Revenues:

Building Permits	#101-000-477-0000	$(1,000,000)
Electrical Permits	101-000-478-0000	(220,000)
Mechanical Permits	101-000-479-0000	(140,000)
Plumbing Permits	101-000-480-0000	(280,000)
Contractual Inspections	101-000-483-0000	(23,000)
Fund Balance Appropriation	101-000-699-0000	496,244
Total		$(1,166,756)
Decrease Appropriations:		
Salaries-Administrative Services		
	#101-175-705-0000	$(51,275)
Fringe Benefits-Administrative Services		
	101-175-720-0000	(17,946)
Salaries-Municipal Services Dept		
	101-305-705-0000	(32,492)
Fringe Benefits-Municipal Svc Dept		
	101-305-720-0000	(11,372)
Salaries-Building Services Division		
	101-371-705-0000	(310,859)
Fringe Benefits-Building Services Division		
	101-371-720-0000	(111,739)
Salaries-Engineering Services Division		
	101-447-705-0000	(43,283)
Fringe Benefits-Engineering Svc Division		
	101-447-720-0000	(13,113)
Salaries-Planning Services Division		
	101-853-705-0000	(17,626)
Fringe Benefits-Planning Svc Division		
	101-853-720-0000	(7,051)
Contribution to Community Impr Fund		
	101-959-965-2460	(550,000)
Total		$(1,166,756)

This budget amendment decreases the Administrative & Community Services Department budget from $274,371 to 205,150, the Municipal Services Department budget from $377,105 to $332,791, the Building Services Division budget from $1,886,725 to $1,464,127, the Engineering Services Division budget from $1,314,363 to $1,257,967, the Planning Services Division budget from $662,680 to $638,003, the Transfers Out Department budget from $4,730,052 to $4,180,052, and the General Fund budget from $29,532,425 to $28,365,669. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 11. CONSIDER BUDGET AMENDMENT – TRANSFER OF COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST POSITION FROM THE FINANCE AND BUDGET DEPARTMENT BUDGET TO THE SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE BUDGET. (SUPERVISOR)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the following General Fund budget amendment for the transfer of the Communications Specialist position from the Finance & Budget Department to the Supervisor's Office: Increase (Decrease) Appropriations:

Salaries-Finance & Budget Department		
	#101-223-705-0000	$(27,018)
Fringe Benefits-Finance & Budget Dept		
	101-223-720-0000	(10,807)
Salaries-Supervisor's Office	101-171-705-0000	27,018
Fringe Benefits- Supervisor's Office		
	101-171-720-0000	10,807
Total		$ 0

This budget amendment decreases the Finance & Budget Department budget from $1,027,836 to $990,011 and increases the Supervisor's Office budget from $338,880 to $376,705 and does not change the General Fund budget total. Motion carried by all members present. **GENERAL CALENDAR: Item 1. AMEND THE BOND AUTHORIZING RESOLUTIONS FOR THE DDA AND RECREATION BOND ISSUES. (FBD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the Resolutions to Amend the Bond Authorizing Resolution for the Recreation Capital Improvement project and Downtown Development Authority Capital Improvement project. Motion carried by all members present. RESOLUTION REGARDING LIMITED TAX GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON County of Wayne, State of Michigan Minutes of a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Canton, County of Wayne, Michigan (the "Township" or "Issuer"), held on the 14th day of November, 2006, at 7:00 o'clock p.m., Eastern Standard Time. PRESENT: Bennett, Kirchgatter, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo ABSENT: Caccamo (on Military leave), LaJoy The following preamble and resolution were offered by Clerk Bennett, supported by Treasurer Kirchgatter: WHEREAS, by resolution duly adopted September 26, 2006, (the "Resolution") this Board authorized the issuance of not to exceed $10,000,000 Limited Tax General Obligation Bonds, Series 2006 (the "Bonds"), the proceeds of which are to be utilized to pay the costs of certain capital improvements; AND WHEREAS, it was determined to be reasonable and necessary to reduce the par amount of the Bonds to $9,900,000 in order to offer the Bonds as qualified tax exempt obligations pursuant to Section 265(b)(3)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") so as to enable the Bonds to be sold at lower rates of interest; AND WHEREAS, in order for Bonds to be qualified tax exempt obligations the total amount of Bonds including premium and reoffering premiums must not exceed $10,000,000; AND WHEREAS, subsequent to the sale and award of the Bonds to First Trust Portfolios, L.P. as manager of the underwriting syndicate it was determined that the reoffering premium when taken with the original bid premium and the revised par amount of the Bonds caused the total amount of the Bonds to exceed $10,000,000; AND WHEREAS, it is therefore necessary to amend the Resolution to reduce the par amount of the Bonds and the resolution awarding the Bonds to First Trust Portfolios, L.P. to provide for an adjusted premium in order to allow the Bonds to be qualified tax exempt obligations. NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS: 1. Limited Tax General Obligation Bonds, Series 2006 shall be in the par amount of $9,860,000 maturing on June 1st of the following years and in the following amounts:

$400,000	2007 and 2008	500,000	2009
585,000	2010	700,000	2011
900,000	2012	875,000	2013
1,000,000	2014 and 2015	1,100,000	2016
1,200,000	2017 and 2018		

2. The purchasing syndicate's premium shall be $90,157 of which the sum of $40,000 shall be deposited in the Limited Tax General Obligation Bonds Construction Fund established by the Resolution and the remaining amount of premium shall be deposited in the Debt Retirement Fund established by the Resolution. 3. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same hereby are rescinded. AYES: Bennett, Kirchgatter, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo NAYS: None RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED. **Item 2. CONSIDER OSMER REZONING. (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to adopt the resolution for rezoning request of Karen Mueller (Osmer Property). Motion carried by all members present. RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON **Rezoning Request of Karen Mueller (Osmer Property) WHEREAS,** the petitioner has requested approximately 3.25 acres located on the south side of Hanford Road between beck and Ridge Roads be rezoned from R-1, Single-Family Residential District to R-2, Single-Family Residential District; and, **WHEREAS**, the requested rezoning is not in conformity with the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan per the above analysis; and **WHEREAS**, the Canton Township Planning Commission recommended DENIAL of the request; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does hereby DENY the request of the petitioner to rezone property identified by property tax EDP No. 032-99-0007-001 to R-2, Single-Family Residential District. **Item 3. CONSIDER SITE PLAN FOR CANTON CORNERS EAST OUTLET. (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to adopt the resolution for the site plan for Canton Corners East Outlot. Motion carried by all members present. RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON **Site Plan for Canton Corners East Outlot WHEREAS,** the Project Sponsor, Mr. James Pappas, has requested site plan approval for the Canton Corners East Outlot to be located on Ford and Lilley Roads, identified as tax EDP #054-99-0001-013; and, **WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission reviewed the site plan and made a recommendation to approve the request to grant site plan approval conditioned upon resolution of the DDA wall location conflict. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does hereby approve the request of the petitioner, Mr. James Pappas, to approve the site plan for the proposed Canton Corners East Outlot conditioned upon removal of the existing wall segments and replacement with the DDA garden walls as applicable and subject to any and all state and local development regulations and further subject to any conditions recommended by the Planning Commission and staff, as described in the analysis and recommendation attached hereto and made a part hereof. **Item 4. CONSIDER AWARD OF BID FOR PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF WORKSTATION PANELS IN BUILDING & INSPECTION SERVICES. (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to award the contract to ISCG in the amount of $4,999.00 for purchase and installation of workstation panels in Building & Inspection Services to be paid out of account #101-371-977-0000 and to waive the September 30th deadline for 2006 capital outlay purchasing. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 5. APPROVE PART-TIME/SEASONAL/TEMPORARY WAGE SCALE. (ACSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to approve the attached Part-Time/ Seasonal/Temporary Wage Scale, which will include the addition of a classification and new part-time position of Specialist (Level One) to become effective 11/01/2007. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 6. AWARD BID FOR LEGAL PUBLICATIONS. (CLERK)** Motion by Bennett, supported by * to award the bid for the Charter Township of Canton's legal publications to the Observer and Eccentric Newspaper at $ 4.00 per column inch and classified advertisement will be $29.20 per column inch Wayne and Oakland Counties or $14.30 per column inch for Wayne County alone. I move to designate the Canton Observer as the legal newspaper of The Charter Township of Canton. (Account #101-200-900-0000, Printing and Publishing). The contract will run from December 1, 2006 to November 30, 2008. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 7. APPROVAL TO PURCHASE WEBSITE CONTENT MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE. (FBD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the purchase of the Ektron CMS400.net content management upgrade for $8045 which includes the first year maintenance agreement. I further move to approve the following budget amendment to appropriate funds in the Cable TV Fund for this purchase: Increase Revenues:

Appropriation from Fund Balance		
	#230-000-699-0000	$ 8,045
Increase Appropriations:		
Software Purchases	#230-250-755-0000	$ 8,045

This budget amendment increases the Cable TV Fund budget from $1,129,411 to $1,137,456. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 8. APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF CABLE TV STUDIO TELEPROMPTER EQUIPMENT. (FBD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the low price quote of $3,450 (account 230-250-977-0000 Cable TV Capital Outlay) from Roscor Corporation for the purchase of a teleprompter and further to waive the Township's purchasing policy requirement that capital funds must be expended by September 30, 2006. I also move that funds be expended from unexpended funds remaining in Cable TV Capital Outlay project line item "Dockable Digital Recorder." Motion carried by all members present. **Item. 9. BUDGET AMENDMENT – WATER & SEWER FUND – YCUA SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT EXPANSION PROJECT. (FBD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the following Water & Sewer Fund budget amendment for an additional contribution (from the 2006 budget) to the Western Townships Utilities Authority for Canton Township's share of the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority sewage treatment plant expansion project: Increase Revenues:

Appropriation from Fund Balance		
	#592-000-699-0000	$260,000
Increase Appropriations:		
WTUA Capital Charges	#592-441-969-0000	$260,000

This budget amendment increases the Water & Sewer Fund budget from $30,908,240 to $31,168,240. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 10. GENERAL FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT – ASSESSOR'S OFFICE – ASSESSMENT APPEAL LEGAL & APPRAISAL FEES. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the following General Fund budget amendment to increase the budget (from 2006 budget) for legal services for assessment appeals at the Michigan Tax Tribunal: Increase Revenues:

Appropriation from Fund Balance		
	#101-000-699-000	$ 34,500
Increase Appropriations:		
Legal Fees-Assessor's Office	#101-209-808-0000	$ 34,500

This budget amendment increases the Assessor's Office budget from $660,195 to $694,695, and the General Fund budget from $28,365,669 to $28,400,169. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 11. APPROVE INCREASE OF B & R JANITORIAL BLANKET PURCHASE ORDER FOR JANITORIAL SUPPLIES. (FBD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to approve an increase of $5,300 (Operating Supplies Account # 101-200-740-0000, 2006 budget, increasing PO 57376 from $19,500 to $24,800) for open purchase order 57376 with B&R Janitorial Supplies, thereby increasing the purchase order from $19,500 to $24,800. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 12. APPROVE FUNDING FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE TRAINING. (CLS) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve an expenditure of $5,000.00 (Human Resources Account #101-220-950-0000 Training Academy, 2006 Budget) to pay for the customer service training, Exceptional People: Exceptional Service, scheduled for December 2006. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 13. FELLOWS CREEK GOLF CLUB IMPROVEMENT. (CLS) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to award the following projects for Fellows Creek Golf Club with all expenses charged to Account #469-900-975-2110, Buildings-Golf Course: Ceiling Tile Replacement to Rule and Associates, Inc, 32255 Northwestern Hwy. Farmington Hills MI 48334 in the amount of $13,906.

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U-M-Dearborn lauded for prison program

The American Association of University Women's Legal Advocacy Fund granted the University of Michigan, Dearborn the 2006 Progress in Equity Award for its efforts to educate women in a local prison.

The university's College Level Courses at the Scott Correctional Facility for Women offers university-certified courses in women's studies, composition, sociology, African American studies, and other subjects to women at the prison. Courses are taught by university professors on a volunteer basis.

"We are honored to recognize this innovative program," said AAUW Educational Foundation President Barbara O'Connor. "We continue to be impressed by the important work it does to advance women's educational opportunities in a critically underserved population."

The program's effects are two-fold – giving female prisoners hope to overcome life's obstacles, and compelling the community to challenge conventional stereotypes about women in prison. The program will receive $5,000 from AAUW.

"Women who receive a college education or begin the degree process while in prison fare better when they rejoin society than those who do not," said Program Director and University of Michigan at Dearborn Professor Lisa Lempert. "College builds a context for transformation and responsibility that the women take with them as they leave the facility."

The Progress in Equity Award recognizes a college or university program that promotes equity for women with a cash reward. Since 1987, the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund has recognized more than 38 programs throughout the country for progressive and innovative advancements on behalf of women.

"When the Michigan legislature made it illegal to use tax dollars for inmate college tuition, this enterprising group of volunteers stepped in to fill a critical need and give a second chance to women in prison," said Lisa Maatz, interim director of the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund.

The University of Hawaii, Honolulu received an honorable mention for its Bridge of Hope program, which provides on-campus student employment and support programs for welfare recipients.

An awards presentation was held Nov. 16 at the University of Michigan, Dearborn campus to honor the Scott Prison project.

McCotter elected chair of Policy Committee

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, was elected by his colleagues to serve as chairman of the Republican House Policy Committee during Republican Conference Leadership elections Friday.

The position is the fourth highest leadership position in the Republican House Caucus.

McCotter defeated U.S. Rep. Darryl Issa of California, 132-63, for the spot. The policy committee has been part of the Republican leadership since the late 1940s. The committee helps shape Republican policy positions in general and on specific key issues.

"Especially coming from our area you could tell they were ideologically adrift and the corruption was more a symptom of lacking a principled agenda to push," McCotter said Monday about the scandals involving GOP House members and the subsequent loss of the House majority to the Democrats.

Without that agenda, he said, some members of the Republican party were tempted to succumb to the temptations offered to members of Congress.


McCotter

He said he was able to win the support of junior House members and "backbenchers" who haven't been in the Congress for 10 or 12 years during the GOP's dominance of the House.

"We came in as true believers," McCotter said. He was first elected in 2002.

He said his first task will be structural, promoting more interaction between party members on issues they can unite behind.

"You have to talk to each other, you have to put forward the conclusions you reach," he said.

He compared himself to a conductor bringing the members together.

He said two issues are at the forefront, health care and the war in Iraq.

"No doubt (health care) will be a contentious issue between the two parties, between universal coverage and universal access," he said.

He said he would push for universal access through private insurance rather than a government program.

On Iraq, McCotter said the "Fresh Eyes Committee," which he supported, will be issuing its report shortly.

"It's important to remember that this is not to be the final word on the subject," he said.

He said it will be important for Republicans to clearly articulate their differences.

McCotter also said he wants to find a way to work with the Democratic majority.

"The key for my party is that they not only offer loyal opposition but also loyal cooperation and not oppose just to oppose," he said.

McCotter said he learned a valuable lesson when he was a minority member of the Wayne County Commission. He said then County Executive Ed McNamara always demanded that the Republicans on the commission offer a better alternative. McCotter joked that the alternatives were always dismissed but he learned the importance of presenting another option.

McCotter said he had expected John Boehner of Ohio to be elected minority leader, as he has only been the majority leader for eight months. He said Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert "took a hit" for the party by stepping aside from the leadership election and allowing the party to move forward with a new slate of leaders.

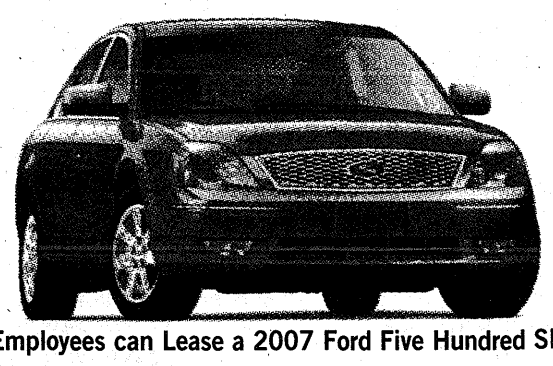
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OUR VIEWS

Traditions make Thanksgiving a favorite holiday

Thanksgiving is everyone's favorite holiday.

It hasn't been diminished by commercialism or robbed of its true meaning, as have the three-day summer holidays.

Thanksgiving remains a day for family, friends, good food and a sincere sense of gratitude for the blessings of life in this great country.

In southeast Michigan, Thanksgiving has long been both a public and a private holiday. The city is host to one of the largest, most colorful and high- spirited parades in the country. It's a parade of magical floats and balloons designed by children, local high school bands and a legion of volunteer float builders, marchers and clowns.

For generations, the little children of this area have always marked the beginning of Christmas magic with the arrival of Santa's sleigh down Woodward at the Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Since 1934, the Detroit Lions have also been part of Thanksgiving. In that first Thanksgiving confrontation, the Lions lost to the Chicago Bears 19-16. But through good years and bad, the Lions have made their place into millions of homes for the holiday.

But as important as these public traditions are, it is the special family traditions that matter most: the special recipes that make their way to the holiday table whether anyone really enjoys them or not; the college students who return to the family hearth for the first time since leaving for campus and then head out to meet with friends, making the night before Thanksgiving the most lucrative for taverns; the ritual moments at every dinner — the moment for grace, the carving of the turkey, the choosing between the pumpkin and the apple pie; and, best of all, the flood of memories of all those past gatherings of family and friends. Even the inevitable family squabbles have their place in our Thanksgiving memories.

We have much to remember and much for which to be grateful.

Keep hope alive and have a happy Thanksgiving!

Priceless 'gift' holds spirit of the holidays

Before heading out to the malls and down city main streets to shop on Black Friday, parents ought to pause a moment to think about a particular gift their children can really use.

It's so small, it often gets overlooked. But it's also so big, that it won't fit under a tree.

For your children, however, it's so important that they will keep it for life.

The gift is the generosity of spirit, a life skill that Lighthouse of Oakland County points out needs to be learned as a child. It is taught through example and experience.

The "visions of sugar plums" children have these days are often expensive and numerous. But there is another side to giving, one that starts with caring and a clear-sighted understanding that, for some people, it takes more than sitting on Santa's lap to get basic necessities.

The impact of the generosity of spirit has more outcomes than the best-stocked toy store. With a sensitive nature, our children are gifted as quick learners, hugging tightly that lesson for a lifetime of use.

That truth is borne out by youths in our communities, such as at Wass Elementary School in Troy and at Adams Middle School in Westland.

Clearly, the gift of knowing the joys of giving has been received early by the second-graders at Wass, where youngsters raised money for hundreds of new books and made blankets for children at Mott Hospital.

At Adams, students use proceeds from recycling paper for a "Random Acts of Kindness" program, which provided dinner for two families in that area.

And for those gifted with a generous spirit, their gift in turn of volunteering can be priceless.

That a child's gift lasts a lifetime is seen in all those adults who work with the Goodfellows, collect food and don't think twice about dropping something into the Salvation Army's red bucket at the store.

It isn't shiny and bright, but the generosity of spirit is one gift continually found anew through compassion, but it must be acquired first.

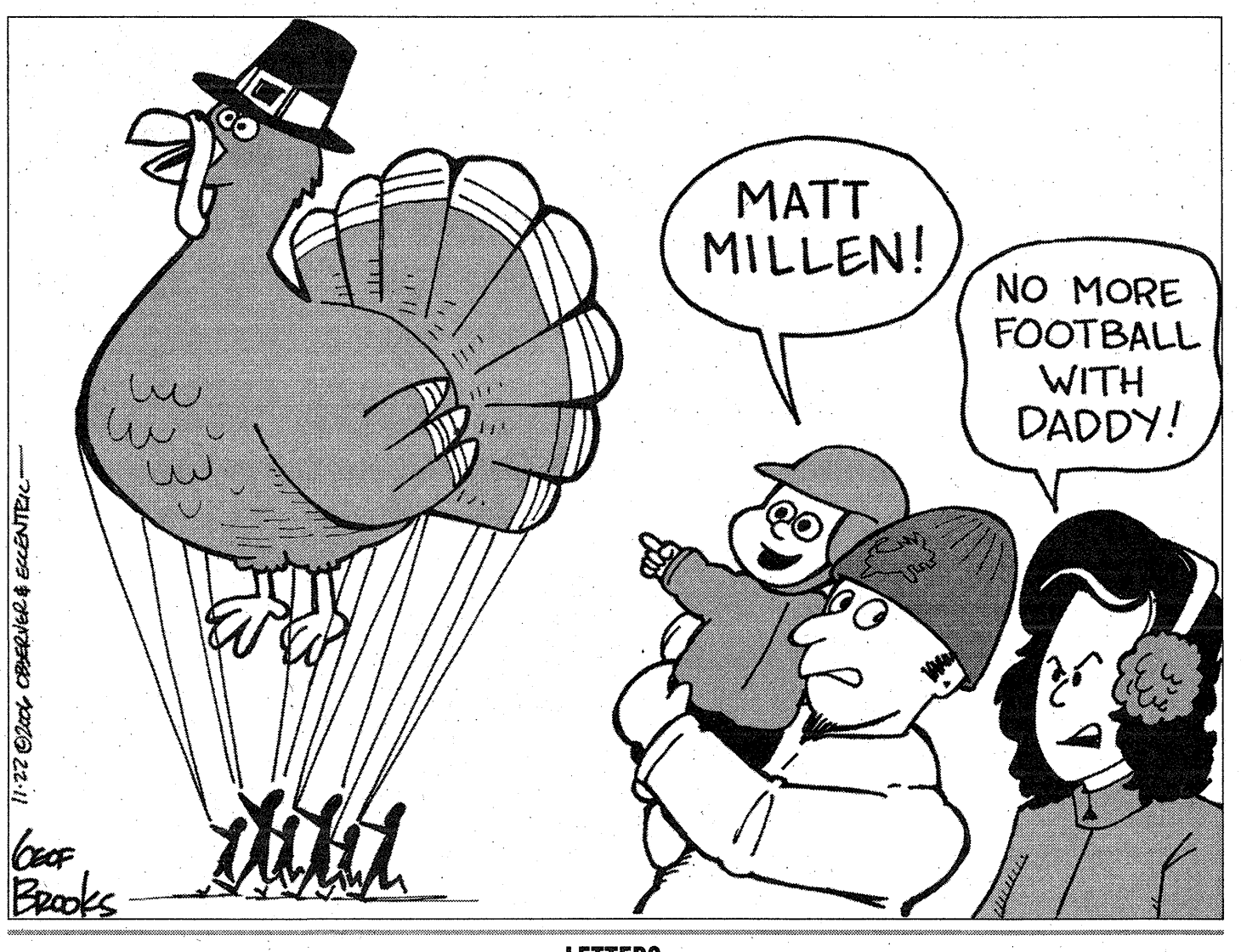
Parents won't have to pay for it at the checkout Black Friday, but our children are sure to treasure it always.

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Published Thursday and Sunday
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LETTERS

United Way thanks

On behalf of the Plymouth Community United Way, our agencies, and the many individuals who benefit from the efforts of our volunteers, our sincerest thanks for all you do. The giving of your time and energy continues to have a positive impact on the Plymouth/Canton community.

On a rainy Saturday in October, over 200 people came out despite the weather to assist area senior citizens with fall yard work that they were unable to do themselves. Boy and Girls Scouts, church groups, service club members, area business volunteers and individuals all pitched in. What was unable to be completed that day was finished over the next few weeks.

Earlier this month, the Plymouth Whalers held their annual food drive for the PCUW. Our volunteers passed out fliers at the arena to promote the event and were there to collect the items. Thanks to the fans and our volunteers, we were able to help in keeping the Plymouth Salvation Army food pantry stocked.

Volunteers also delivered turkeys to help provide Thanksgiving dinners for area senior citizens and families in need. On Dec. 9, the Whalers will hold their Fifth Annual Teddy Bear Toss. Fans attending the game are invited to bring a stuffed animal to toss on the ice when the Whalers score their first goal. The stuffed animals will be donated to PCUW children's charities.

This is just a snapshot of how our community benefits from many caring people willing to help others. It doesn't take much of your time. If you can spare a morning or an afternoon to volunteer, I invite you to contact me at (734) 453-6879 to discuss volunteer opportunities.

Once again, to all of our volunteers, thank you. You know what matters and you're doing that very important work.

Jerry Trumpka
Plymouth Community United Way

Cancel school bond

The elections of 2006 were important and decisive. Our state is facing unprecedented economy uncertainty and change. All of the campaigns were fought with passion and treasure. The results were clear statewide. The governor and Sen. Stabenow were strongly endorsed for another term. The Democrats won power in the House. And the statewide proposals had definite outcomes.

The people of Michigan spoke up for fairness, property rights and said a powerful NO to new taxing and spending by defeating Proposal 5.

Elections have meaning, and deliver messages. Will our leaders at state and local governments hear the proper message? We will see.

One of the first tests will be if the Plymouth-Canton school board decides to go forward with their proposed tax bond in February. If they heard the message from the taxpayers, they will cancel this tax proposal.

Clearly, if the bond had been on the November ballot, it would have lost handily. Even in the City of Plymouth, where the Democrat legislative candidates won, Proposal 5 was voted down by 65 percent of the voters! At least 25-30 percent of *Democrat* voters said no. Why? Because we cannot afford more taxes while we are suffering this recession.

Jobs are being lost, wages and benefits cut and even pensions are being reduced today. The people of the Plymouth-Canton district cannot afford more spending and more debt. They said so loud and clear by defeating Proposal 5. It would be prudent and smart for the district to cancel the bond for February.

One, it would save the 70-plus thousand dollars the election would cost. Two, it will show that the elected officials in the district are sensitive to the wishes and needs of their constituents. This is not about supporting or not supporting education, kids or teachers. This is about individual family financial survival.

With falling property values, record high foreclosures and dim employment prospects, our families simply cannot afford more taxing and spending at any level of government.

Jerry Vorva
Plymouth

Third judge needed

In response to your Nov. 2 article, "Third judge, staffing on table as court eyes cuts," I believe it would be a formula for disaster if the third judgeship at the court was eliminated.

At the outset, I must indicate that I have made no secret of my intentions to become a candidate for the judgeship when Judge John MacDonald retires. However, my personal goals are immaterial when considering what is best for the communities involved.

As a practicing attorney in the 35th District Court, I have personally seen the efficiency of the court grow exponentially since the addition of the third judge. Long waits to have a case heard have been nearly eliminated. This translates into less time that attorneys, police officers, prosecutors and court personnel have to wait for a case to be heard.

In the legal world, time is money. Police officers should be on the streets protecting our community, not in the courtroom waiting. This cost-saving to the community cannot be emphasized enough.

Elimination of the third judge would essentially set our communities back five years. Getting a third judge back when caseloads inevitably rise again is no small task. Elimination of the third judge would have far-reaching unintended consequences. I hope the Court Authority takes these things into consideration when evaluating the need for a third judge at our court.

Joe Barone
Barone Law Offices
Plymouth

At what cost?

I am writing in response to your story on the upcoming IRS investigation of the Plymouth Historical Museum ("IRS eyes museum campaign activity," Nov. 12). I am greatly saddened, but not surprised, to hear that the museum is now an IRS target.

During the legislative campaign, Carl Berry and his crew were not content to make the Stewart campaign's use of the museum an issue to hound Stewart. Berry filed the original complaint with the IRS in the Abbo campaign's attempt to not just defeat her, but to strangle the life out of her reputation. Berry's tactics were more effective than he may have realized.

Yes, his camp won the primary. But at what cost, Chief? I have no problem with Beth Stewart losing. After all, I was one of her opponents. However, isn't it sad that even at the legislative level we have to resort to destroying the lives and reputations of our opponents?

And isn't it heartbreaking to have one of our community jewels now the target of the IRS attack dogs? How is this going to affect the long-term health of the museum and its ability to fund-raise? Did you think of this before you took aim and fired off another one of your infamous political attacks?

Here is another consideration, on the political side of this. When analyzing the results of the 20th District race, look at the votes in Plymouth and Plymouth Township. Corriveau not only won the city decisively, but he came very close to winning the Township, a Republican stronghold. Why? I have no doubt there was a serious political backlash against Berry and his gang for what they did, and are still doing, to the museum.

As a result, there is a Democrat from this district for the first time in many, many years. You wanted to have an impact on our politics, and you sure did. It seems that you are also having quite an impact on our community as well.

Now is the time for our entire community to rally to the side of the Plymouth Historical Museum and its many hard-working supporters and volunteers. I fear we may have a long road ahead with this investigation and with the impact it may have on the finances of the museum.

Jason Vorva
Plymouth

Hold Bush accountable

Whoever is responsible for a crime must be held accountable. In my opinion, the Bush administration has committed grave crimes against the Constitution and the American people. First and foremost, I believe that the president has broken his oath to uphold and defend the Constitution. He has violated United States law and the Constitution by sanctioning torture, wiretapping American citizens and engaging the nation in an illegal war. It is true that as a nation, after an election, we must move forward. But we also need to examine the past and learn from our mistakes. There must be an investigation into these serious matters. The facts, not opinions, not mine or anyone else's, must be heard.

Katie Jacob
Birmingham

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QUOTABLE

"The movies at the Penn are a natural extension of the Friday night concert series, carrying on right through the winter for another reason to come downtown ... A lot of the merchants already stay open until 8 p.m. on Thursdays. ...."

- Sherrie Pryor, DDA director of operations, on the idea of sponsoring a movie series at the Penn Theatre

'One D' sounds terrific, but can it deliver on its mission?

Earlier this past week, several editors of this newspaper sat down with the driving forces behind a new regional alliance whose professed mission is to transform southeast Michigan into one cohesive, thriving metropolis.

The new group — One D: Transforming Regional Detroit — combines the leadership of six civic organizations that individually have solid track records of community service.

The theory behind the joining of New Detroit, United Way of Southeast Michigan, the Detroit Regional Chamber, Detroit Renaissance, the Detroit Metro Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Cultural Alliance of Southeast Michigan is simple: one, unified voice for the region will be much more effective than six voices straining to be heard over one another.



Joe Bauman

As impressive as the collection of organizations is, so is the list of six areas the new group plans to target for improvement: economic prosperity, educational preparedness, regional transit, race relations, quality of life and regional cooperation.

Much about the effort remains in the conceptual stage. Specific strategies are being developed from earlier studies conducted by the groups, with the goal of presenting a blueprint for action at the Detroit Regional Chamber's annual policy conference on Mackinac Island next spring.

At our meeting, United Way President and CEO Michael Brennan explained the groups decided to form the alliance now because the region — and, indeed, the entire state — is at a crossroads. Mounting job losses, a fractured political climate and continuing race relations issues can only be solved on a regional basis.

Brennan called One D a unique alliance in the country, one that needs to focus both the private and public sectors on working together as a region to solve these historical problems.

"We can't go it alone any longer," he said. "We have to develop a greater regional capacity."

For his part, chamber President and CEO Dick Blouse acknowledged the issues the new group plans to tackle are as old as the organizations themselves.

"The chamber has been pushing for regional transit since 1967, so we know about being patient," he said.

But that's not to say the group does not expect meaningful results at each stage of its evolution. Brennan explained part of the blueprint to be unveiled at the Mackinac conference will include a report card that the group will use to grade itself on its relative success.

New Detroit's Shirley Stancato said the alliance already has had one positive effect in that it has strengthened each of the individual organizations.

"We all have similar goals, we rely on the same business leaders for support, and share many board members," she said. "By working together, we can reduce duplication, focus our efforts and provide more coordinated services."

And maybe that experience is a precursor to the real impact the alliance could have on southeast Michigan. If the six organizations can prove to their civic and business support base that they can work together for the betterment of the area, then the needed support of the corporate community and ultimately the state's political leaders will have to respond to its message.

I applaud the group for its effort, and hope it can do some good. God knows the problems it is tackling individually have proven to be insurmountable, let alone attacking all six at once.

But as Blouse pointed out, the key issues are so intertwined they have to be dealt with as a group. And it is easier for a focused, unified force to move a mountain than a bunch of little forces acting alone.

Two huge hurdles One D will need to overcome are finding the necessary resources to get its message out and implement its blueprint, and getting the state's political leaders to join the effort. Neither will be easy, but this collaboration may represent the best chance yet.

Blouse said the group already has met with most of the key foundations in the state and once the organization proves itself it will be much easier to attract the necessary grants to implement the strategies.

And since the boards of directors of the six organizations are filled with the area's corporate movers and shakers, it is logical to assume that private sector backing — both in dollars and influence — will be there as well.

The remaining piece in the puzzle, getting political leaders to work together on behalf of the region, won't be so easy.

We just witnessed one of the dirtiest election campaigns in history which featured plenty of race baiting and pitting Detroit against the rest of the state.

Serious mistrust between city and suburban politicians is readily evident in continuing squabbles over how to improve public transit, the operation of the Detroit Water Department and financing for a new convention center.

But if the forces behind One D can rally the private sector and gain public support for their endeavors, they may be able to use that clout to change the political climate as well. And that would go a long way toward solving the problems they are targeting.

Joe Bauman is managing editor of the *Eccentric Newspapers*. He welcomes feedback at (248) 901-2563 or e-mail him at jbauman@hometownlife.com.

Funeral was about a Marine's honor, and a mother's love

As hundreds of people filed past the coffin of Sgt. Bryan Burgess on Saturday at St. Bernardine of Siena Catholic Church in Westland, representatives of a couple of different support groups waited nervously for his mother, Evelyn, to arrive.

They were there to make presentations honoring her son, who died Nov. 9 when a sniper's bullet caught him in the cheek, killing him instantly while on patrol with the 1st Battalion of the 24th Marines in Fallujah. They were there to offer support to Evelyn Burgess, whom they'd never met.

But it was Evelyn Burgess, a Westland mother there to bury her son, who did most of the supporting, stoically accepting the embraces of these groups, most of whom were moved to tears. Evelyn suffered them gladly, a grateful smile adorning her face, the tired face of a mother who'd just lost her only child.



Brad Kadrich

Summoning the strength maybe only a mother can have, she then made her way to the coffin. She caressed Bryan's face, held his hand for just a moment, let him know one last time she loved him. And then she let him go.

There was no outward bitterness, no anger at the senseless loss — emotions to which she certainly is entitled. But you got the sense watching her, and listening to his friends and fellow Marines talking about him, that that's not what Burgess, a Westland native who went to Franklin High School, would have wanted.

"He loved being a Marine ... I'm very proud of him," she said.

Loved it so much he went to Iraq when it wasn't really necessary. He'd served around the world, taking part in Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003 and spending time training against terrorists in Africa and with soldiers from other countries in South America.

But when his unit — the largest Michigan contingent to serve in Iraq — was going back, Burgess, 35, wanted to make sure the younger guys had guidance.

"He wanted to go to Iraq to make sure the younger guys, who didn't have the experience, were OK," said Sgt. Bradley Compton, 26, a Marine Reserve veteran who had deployed with Burgess before. "He worked really well with the younger Marines, and they had an enormous amount of respect for him. He had outstanding leadership ability."

When I was a youngster, my mother used to tell me, "Mommies know everything." Burgess' mom knew something was wrong when three Marines showed up at her doorstep. When you've got a son deployed overseas in a war, that's the last sight you want to see.

"He had only been in Iraq for six weeks and I was afraid for him ... he was on my mind 24 hours a day," Evelyn Burgess said. "But he wanted to serve his country and be with his fellow Marines. I knew something was wrong; I knew he was gone."

Mommies know everything.

There were rumors that the group associated with Fred Phelps, the leader of the Westboro Baptist Church in Topeka, Kan., that has been protesting at soldiers' funerals, espousing anti-gay views, planned to show up Saturday. One of Phelps' beliefs is that the war in Iraq is going so badly as a way of God punishing the United States for being tolerant of gays. Ironically, as despicable as such a protest would have been, it's entirely possible Burgess, who died serving a country that wholeheartedly embraces the concept of freedom of speech, would have said, "Let them have their say."

Thankfully, we'll never know, because the group didn't show up, allowing the day to be solely about honor, about a soldier who died doing a job that wasn't his, because that's how he was, by all accounts.

It was a trait the Rev. Sal Briffa, pastor of St. Bernardine, extolled during Saturday's Mass, when he talked about Burgess' penchant for helping others, from fellow Marines to next-door neighbors to total strangers in a culture thousands of miles removed from his own.

"We know Bryan's death is not meaningless," Briffa said. "Bryan offered his very life to bring peace and freedom to millions of people in Iraq."

Saturday was about honor, from the Marine procession that stopped in front of Evelyn Burgess' Westland home and rendered her a salute, to a mother who gave her only son in service to his country.

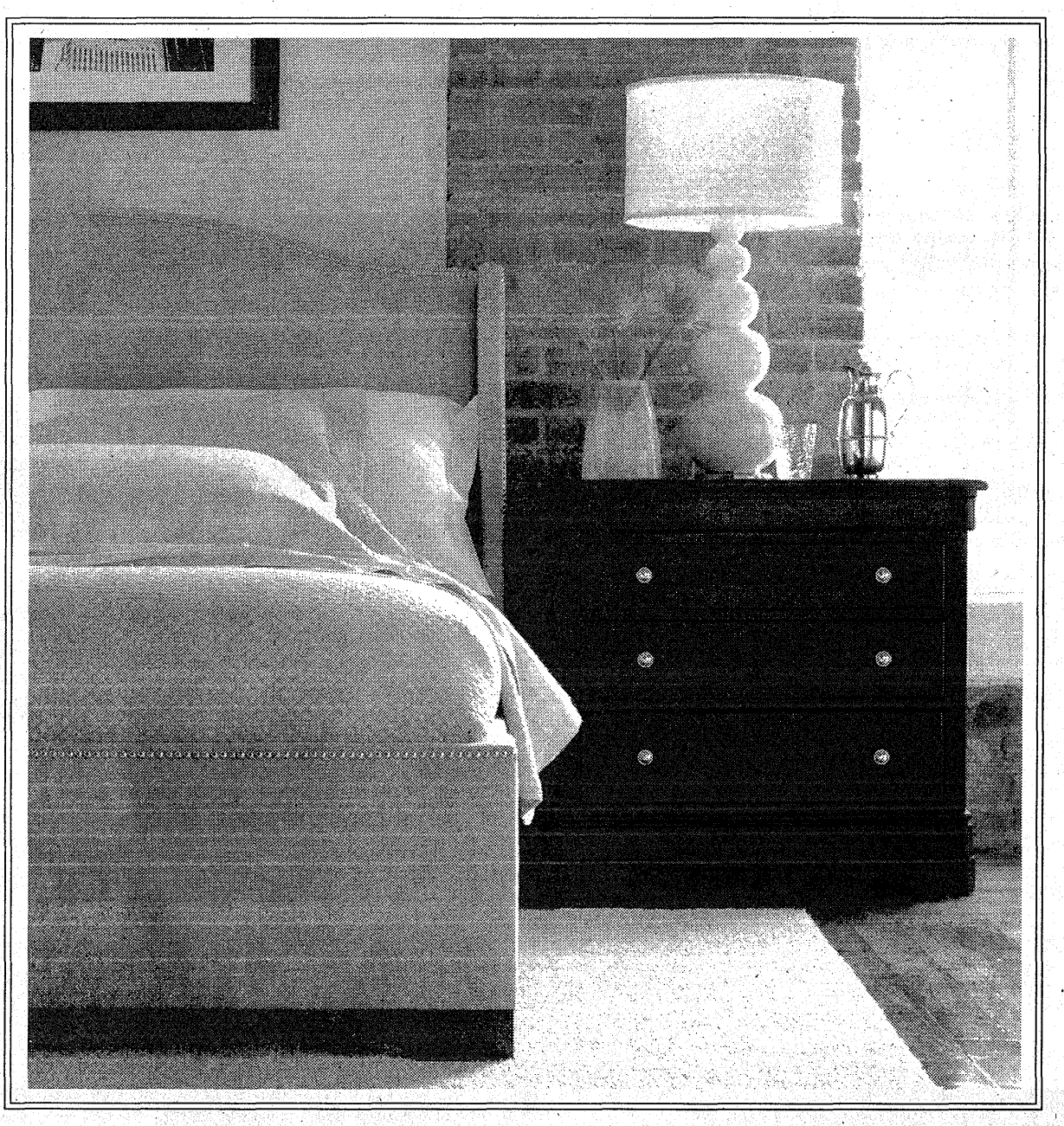
And when it was over, after tears had been shed and *Taps* and *Amazing Grace* had been played and the 21-gun salute had been rendered, this was about a mother who let her son go, secure in and comforted by the knowledge he'd died his way — serving his country, with honor.

Mommies know everything.

Brad Kadrich is community editor of the *Plymouth Observer* who spent 15 years in the U.S. Air Force. He can be reached via e-mail at bkadrich@hometownlife.com or by phone at (734) 459-2700. Staff writer Tony Bruscato contributed to this report.

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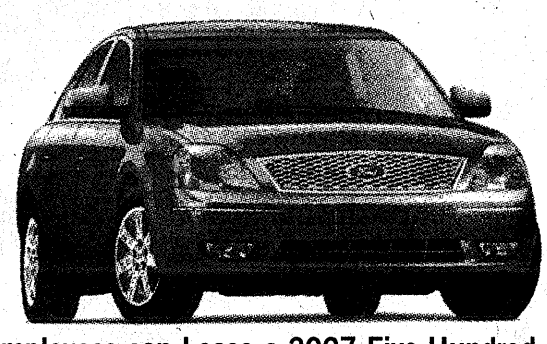
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Area educators visit China on bridge-building mission

Knowledge is power!

Most of us have heard this statement sometime in our life. Yet, it could not be more true as we enter the 21st-century "knowledge" economy where technology has knocked down walls and political boundaries like no other time in human history.

It was this quest for knowledge that led 18 metro-area educators and business officials to accept an invitation to visit China from Hanban, the executive body of the Chinese language Council International, a non-governmental and non-profit organization affiliated with the National Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China.

The goal of Hanban is "making the Chinese language and culture teaching available to the world to contribute to the formation of a world of cultural diversity and harmony."

Our delegation's goal is to continue to find ways to build bridges with Chinese educators and to secure English-speaking Chinese teachers who will come to Michigan to teach Chinese language, history and culture to our students to help prepare them for the transformational, disruptive, technological-driven global economy they will face.

As educators and business leaders, the participants of this education delegation to China believe that if Michigan wants to survive and thrive in the flattened world economy it is critical to find ways to build bridges and not dig moats with our Chinese colleagues. It was toward this end that we embarked last month on a 10-day, three-city tour of China (Beijing, Tianjin, and Xian) as the guests of the Office of Chinese Language Council International (www.english.hanban.edu.cn).

This was my ninth trip to China since 1989. A great elementary teacher opened my eyes to China many years ago and I have been fascinated ever since. I co-led this delegation along with Lily Yen, COO of the Center for Management Training and Development and her husband Dr. Louis Yen. This is our second delegation in the past two years and we will continue to seek to build language, cultural and economic bridges between China and the state of Michigan.



Tom Watkins

AREA DELEGATION

Our delegation consisted of two former state board of education members, two local school board members, an Intermediate school board member, an Oakland County Circuit Court judge, principals from public and private schools, a superintendent, two assistant superintendents and a representative from the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce.

If you concur with the statement that "knowledge is power," ask yourself how much you know about China? Did you know that China is home to 1.3 billion people, with more than 100 cities that have a population of more than 1 million people?

I wrote this while sitting in my hotel room in Beijing, the capital of the People's Republic of China, which is a city with more than 12 million people. To put that number in perspective, there are 10 million people living in the entire state of Michigan. Imagine everyone in Michigan jammed into Wayne County, plus 2 million people, and you can perhaps begin to comprehend the sheer magnitude of the humanity I could see as dawn broke in this capital city. There is so much building going on in China that the joke is that the nation's bird is the "building crane!"

Did you know that more people know or are studying English in China than there are people in the United States? Did you know that more than 300 million people, the same number of U.S. citizens, have risen from poverty in China during the last quarter of a century?

Mandarin Chinese is the most widely spoken language in the world and yet it is not offered as a language in most schools across this county. The national governments both here and in China are attempting to catch up with the reality that China has awaken and will be a superpower economically and in other ways in the 21st century.

TEACHING MANDARIN

The Novi school district has broken out of the pack and taken the lead in offering Mandarin Chinese at the high school level this year. John Lawrence, principal of Novi High School, said, "the world is shrinking, and it is critical that we prepare our children and students to thrive in a global economy. Knowing the Chinese culture and language is another tool that will better prepare our kids to compete in the 21st century knowledge economy."



A delegation of educators from the United States met with Chinese educators and visited Chinese schools.

Peter Dion, superintendent of Novi School District added, "currently 23 percent of our school population is Asian (Chinese, Korean, Japanese and Indian). We are proud that the Novi School board is forward-thinking and always striving to provide a world-class education to our children. Offering Mandarin Chinese is just another example of our progressive school district."

Mary Blackmon, president of the Wayne Regional Educational Service Agency that provides educational support services to the 34 school districts in Wayne County said: "Clearly China is on the rise economically. Educationally it is our responsibility as leaders to prepare our students to be competitive in an ever-changing world."

"Meeting and hearing Chinese students from kindergarten to high school speak English was astonishing and demonstrates that we have our work to do to make sure our students are prepared to prosper," Blackmon said.

Northville Public Schools sent two board members — Karen Paciorek and Marilyn Price — on the trip. Both see tremendous potential in educational exchanges with China.

"Wow would be an understatement!" Paciorek said. "I was impressed by the quality of the preschool and kindergarten programs I saw and it is amazing to see such young

PLEASE SEE CHINA, A20

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We are proud of our partnerships with the state of Michigan to expand health coverage to lower-income children and ensure seniors are fully covered under Medicare. We are dedicated financial supporters of free community clinics across Michigan, providing access for the uninsured. We are partners with the Michigan Health & Hospital Association's acclaimed Keystone Center, working to improve quality through evidence-based medicine.

At Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network, we dedicate ourselves every day to honoring our nonprofit heritage and commitment to Michigan. We also commit ourselves to providing affordable health benefit solutions that meet the needs of our customers, information and assistance to meet the needs of our members and innovations to improve service and reduce cost.

As we welcome Jeanne Carlson as the new President and CEO of Blue Care Network, we look forward with excitement to playing a more prominent role in your community. As we go forward, you have our commitment that we will approach our business with the integrity you demand, the service you expect and the commitment we all share to improving health care for everyone.

Daniel J. Loepp
President & CEO
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan

Jeanne Carlson
President & CEO
Blue Care Network

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network are nonprofit corporations and independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

OE08490331

AROUND TOWN

Olivet scholarship
Olivet College is offering every high school in Michigan the ability to nominate two graduating seniors to receive the new Olivet College High School Guidance Counselor Scholarship. The scholarship is worth $2,000 a year for four years equaling a total of $8,000 for each qualified student. Enrollment availability is based on a first come, first served basis. The scholarship program empowers the guidance counselor or staff to chose two responsible seniors who have at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA and 19 or higher on the ACT. One of the selected students must also demonstrate a greater need for financial assistance. For more information on the Olivet College High School Guidance Counselor Scholarship program, contact the Office of Enrollment Management at (800) 456-7189 or e-mail admissions@olivetcollege.edu

Student development conference
Wayne State University's James S. Measell Public Relations Student Society of America chapter and Eastern Michigan University's Eleanor Wright PRSSA chapter have partnered to hold the 10th-annual student development conference. The conference will be held at the Four Points Sheraton in Ann Arbor Dec. 9, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The conference will be followed by an informal social held in the hotel's Street Side Bar and Grill. The event is open to all students who wish to network and learn from professionals in the many areas of public relations. The conference is open to all students in all majors. To attend the conference, contact Michael Munie, Conference Coordinator at mmunie@emich.edu or you can register at the door the day of the event. Registration is $35 for PRSSA members, $40 for nonmembers if done before December 1st. After December 1st, registration is $40 for PRSSA members, $45 for nonmembers. Included in the registration fee is a light breakfast and lunch.

Career development scholarship
The Wayne Business and Professional Women's Club is now accepting applications for a "Career Development Scholarship" to recognize and support women entering or re-entering the work force or seeking to advance their careers. Candidates seeking application forms should send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: Wayne Business and Professional Women's Club, Career Development Scholarship Committee, 34030 Fountain Blvd., Westland, MI 48185. Completed applications are due postmarked by Jan. 31. For more information, call Amy Allen, (734) 522-1603.

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

Holiday nights
This December, step into a Christmas card of the past during Holiday Nights in Greenfield Village, Dec. 1-2, 8-9, 15-17 and 19-23. Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased by calling (313) 982-6001 or visiting The Henry Ford's Web site at www.thehenryford.org.

Vespers and nativity concert
The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit (COCC) will sponsor a Vespers service and Nativity concert on Sunday evening, Dec. 3, at St. Clement Ohridski Macedonian-Bulgarian Orthodox Church, 19600 Ford Road, Dearborn. The evening begins at 6:30 with a Vespers service concelebrated by priests from COCC member churches and sung by the COCC's Inter-Orthodox Choir. Following the service, the choir will sing a concert of Orthodox liturgical and para-liturgical music for the Nativity season and selected Eastern and Western European Advent and Christmas carols. The story of St. Nicholas and gifts for children will follow the concert. Refreshments will be served. The evening is free of charge and open to the public.
A freewill offering will be collected. For further information, contact Victoria Kopistiansky, director of the Inter-Orthodox Choir and chair of the COCC Music Committee, at (313) 366-0677 or KopistianskyVickie@sbcglobal.net.

Genealogical Society
The November meeting of the Livingston County Genealogical Society has been cancelled due to work at the LDS Church. The next meeting takes place Dec. 7 at the First United Methodist Church, 1230 Bower Road in Howell. The public is invited. For more information, call Margaret Bowland, (810) 227-7745.

Crafters needed
The annual Holiday Craft Show at Hawthorne Valley is looking for crafters. The show is set for Dec. 3. For information please contact Sue or Paul, (734) 844-3128.



Honoring a commitment

State Rep. John Stewart, R-Plymouth Township, traveled to the Ohio State House on the Wednesday before 'The Big Game,' to speak about higher education and to honor an agreement he made one year ago with Ohio's Speaker Jon Husted. Stewart, wearing an Ohio Wesleyan University jersey in memory of his father, who played football against Michigan in 1920, returned to Ohio's State House to sing, 'Carmen, Ohio' because Ohio State had won the game in 2005. After all legislators joined in the singing of 'Carmen, Ohio,' Speaker Husted presented Stewart with a single rose, telling him to put it toward Michigan's trip to the Rose Bowl.

Continued from Page A8

And further to waive the Township's purchasing policy requirement that capital funds must be expended by September 30, 2006. Woodwork Restoration to J and N Contracting, LLC, 7442 Derby St. Canton, MI 48187, in the amount of $5,300. Restroom Remodel to Evangelista Corporation, 40028 Grand River, Suite 400 Novi, MI 48375 in the amount of $42,600. I further move to approve the following budget amendment in the Capital Projects Golf Course Fund to increase the line items for additional 2006 project items: Increase (Decrease) Appropriations:

Site Improvements-Golf Course	#469-900-971-2110	$ 75,000
Buildings-Golf Course	#469-900-975-2110	94,000
Transfer to Fund Balance	#469-900-999-0000	(169,000)
Total		$ -0-

This budget amendment does not increase or decrease the 2006 budget for the Capital Projects Golf Course Fund. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 14. INCREASE PURCHASE ORDER FOR FUEL. (CLS)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the increase of $6,000 to P.O. #58799, Oakland Fuel, 3943 Airport Rd., Waterford, MI 48239, to cover miscellaneous fuel purchases through the end of 2006. Funds are available in account #101-270-740-0000 Operating Supplies. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 15. MERIT COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION FOR NON-UNION CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES' 2007 COMPENSATION. (ACSD)**
Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the recommendation of the Merit Commission to increase the salaries of the non-union classified employees by 3.0% across-the-board and to increase the salary grade ranges for the non-union classified employees by 3.0%. These increases shall be effective 1/1/2007. Motion carried by all members present. **OTHER**: Supervisor Yack stated there will be no study session on November 21, 2006. There will be a regular Board meeting on November 28, 2006 and a study session on December 5, 2006.
Trustee McLaughlin wished to commend Clerk Bennett and her staff for the exceptional job they did on the November 7, 2006 General Election. **ADJOURN**: Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. Motion carried by all members present.

THOMAS J. YACK,
Supervisor
TERRY G. BENNETT,
Clerk –

Copies of the complete text of the Board Minutes are available at the office of the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd, Canton, MI 48188, during regular business hours and can also be accessed through our web site www.canton-mi.org after Board Approval.

Publish: November 23, 2006
OE08489759

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

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

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

Publish: November 23, 2006
OE08489564

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2006 6:00 P.M.

PLEASE NOTE that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Meeting on Thursday, December 7, 2006, commencing at 6:00 p.m., to consider a request for one variance from Jan Signs, Inc. for property located at 46750 Port Street, Plymouth Township and also one variance from Johnson Sign Co., Inc. for property located at 47771 Halyard Drive, Plymouth Township. Mary K. Weaver is requesting one variance for property located at 44678 Charnwood Drive, Plymouth Township. The meeting will be held at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

Purpose of Meeting: Request variances from Zoning Ordinance No. 99, for two Signs, and one Side Yard Setback. For further information contact Plymouth Township Building Department 734-354-3208.

Publish: November 23, 2006
OE08489096

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Monday, December 7, 2006 for the following:

PURCHASE OF FIRE APPARATUS - LADDER TRUCK

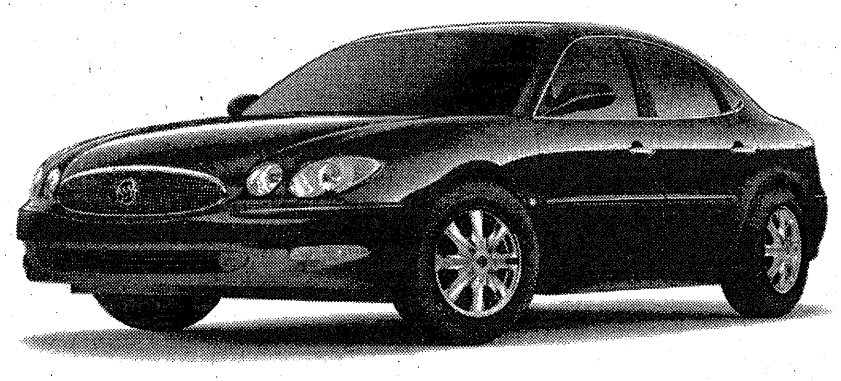
Bid forms may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, from our website at www.canton-mi.org or you may contact Mike Sheppard at (734) 394-5225. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the bid title, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of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

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish: November 23, 2006
OE08489633



JUST ANNOUNCED: $500 LOCAL AREA BONUS CASH THROUGH NOVEMBER 30 ONLY!



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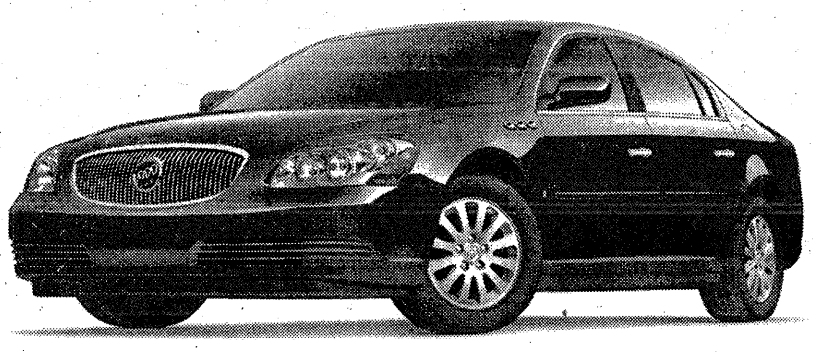
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Tax, title, license and dealer fees extra.



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*Payments are for a 2007 Buick LaCrosse CX Special Edition with Chrome Enhancement Package with an MSRP of $23,360, 27 monthly payments total $5,078, a 2007 Buick Rendezvous CX with an MSRP of $25,795, 27 monthly payments total $4,813, and a 2007 Buick Lucerne CX with an MSRP of $25,990, 27 monthly payments total $6,967. Option to purchase at lease end for an amount to be determined at lease signing. GMAC must approve lease. Lessee pays for excess wear. Not available with other offers. Must show proof of current Buick ownership or lease. Limit one Loyalty Offer per eligible transaction. Residency restrictions apply. Take delivery by 11/30/06.
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OE08490019

Area agencies stretch dollars to provide food, aid to needy

BY SHARON DARGAY
STAFF WRITER

A dollar can make a difference in a needy person's life.

"One dollar to Gleaners gets 16 meals. We leverage the dollars. Because of the scope of the operation and logistics we can get a dollar to stretch much farther," said Gerry Brisson, vice president of development for Gleaners, southeastern Michigan's food bank.

"We do a lot of work with canned food drives and things of that nature, where people collect a barrel or two of food. It's not as efficient as cash, but it gets people involved. For some people a can of food is all they can donate. But because a dollar gives 16 meals, it's the easiest thing to do."

Cash – it's on all relief agencies' wish lists as the holiday season kicks into high gear starting Thanksgiving Day.

It's the most economical way to meet increasing demands which agencies experience at the holidays and have begun to see even earlier this year because of the state's poor economy.

"Money gives us the flexibility to address needs in terms of hunger and homelessness and utility costs. It helps throughout the year," said Don Czaplicki, divisional social services director for the Salvation Army in southeastern Michigan.

The corps kicked off its annual kettle campaign Friday, Nov. 17, at Campus Martius in Detroit. On Thanksgiving Day, it will serve breakfast at Masonic Temple to the homeless. The corps also will distribute food boxes and toys to needy families at Christmas.

Want to help? See where you can donate, page A17.

"I encourage people, if they see a red kettle, please donate," Czaplicki said. "The economy has been stalled and it's hard because we have lots of people who need assistance and it's getting harder to give because they are losing jobs or are concerned about losing their jobs."

FROM FOOD BANK TO PANTRY

Brisson said Gleaners' Livingston County center has distributed 20 percent more food over the past few months in response to summer layoffs. Gleaners distributes food at low cost and in some cases for free through five centers to 400 local partners including soup kitchens, food pantries – 70 percent are faith-based – shelters and crisis centers.

"There's a lag time between layoffs and the increase in demand. Even though people live paycheck to paycheck, they find a way to scrape by for a while, but unemployment isn't near what they need to survive. That's when we see a spike in demand," Brisson said.

"When you see who is served by emergency food services, so few are bums on the street. They're people you'd be surprised need help. They're your neighbors."

At Lighthouse Emergency Services in Clarkston, Connie Stapleton, manager, has seen former donors become Lighthouse recipients over the past few years.

The agency serves 10 north Oakland communities and is allied with Lighthouse Emergency Services in Pontiac, which serves communities north of 14 Mile, between M-23 and Dequindre.

"We've had real estate agents coming in, builders coming in, contractors coming in. We have people who had good jobs and lost them. Or people trying to sell their house, they can't and the house goes into foreclosure," said Stapleton.

"The face of our clients changed over the past year. It's been dismal. Our donors are coming in for assistance."

And that means donations are down.

Meanwhile, demands have increased. Stapleton said even those earning middle-class wages tend to cut back on little luxuries – dinners out, professional hair service – when times are tight. That, in turn, affects people in the service industry who depend on tips to make ends meet and who end up turning to agencies like Lighthouse to survive.

GIVE CASH

"What we need most is money. That will help us pay utility bills or help someone get to work if the plate on their car is expired. Or purchase food at the food bank," Stapleton said.

Lighthouse Clarkston gave food to approximately 400 people in September 2005. This year, it fed 894 people.

Lighthouse Pontiac helped 900 families and 2,867 individuals in 2005. Those numbers jumped to 1,172 households and 3,595 individuals this year.

Christine Burk, spokeswoman for Lighthouse Pontiac's holiday program, said the agency needs another 150 donors to "adopt" a family and buy Christmas gifts for its members.

"As we reach out to the community for help, people are responding if they can. People seem to recognize the need and they are rallying around their neighbors," she said.

Susan Vidican, director of Rochester Area Neighborhood House, said canned food drives at local schools have begun to replenish her agency's pantry shelves that had been empty since August.

"We had to purchase food," she said. "I think one thing all agencies are doing is we recognize that our resources are limited, so we're doing a lot of partnering to make the dollars go farther."

WORKING TOGETHER

The Farmington Area Goodfellows group, for example, partners with Farmington Schools, which conducted a canned food drive this month. The Goodfellows will include the donations in its holiday distribution on Dec. 16.

"We do a lot of work with Toys for Tots. We partner with stores that we use gift certificates through," said Lisa Ellis, a Goodfellows board member. "We work with senior citizens in Farmington.

"There is greater demand this year. More families and seniors are in need. But our community mailing has been successful for us," she said, referring to a community-wide appeal mailed to residents earlier this month.

"People have been very generous. I see every donor card that comes in. We have a lot of people who give $5 or $10 and it all adds up."

The Rev. Vincent Reyes, pastoral director of Capuchin Soup Kitchen in Detroit, said the organization's two dining rooms in Detroit are serving "a few more people" than it has in the past.

"We do our best to make donations stretch," he said. An average meal – which might include chicken, sweet potato, salad, barley tabouleè, cookies and a beverage – costs the Capuchins $1.17.

"We've been around since 1929 and we've never gone two days without serving. We've never run out of food. We've been blessed. The people of this area are generous," he said. The nonprofit ministry distributes more than three million pounds of food in its pantry packs each year, in addition to serving hot meals and running various programs on Detroit's east side.

"I've never seen such generous people as those in Detroit. Not a day goes by that I don't remember them all in prayer."

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Advertisement

Finally, a card college students can't max out

By Drew Reed
Taubman Today

Gift Cards taking local mall by storm. www.findyourgo.com

It's true. Some college kids have trouble with credit card spending this year for the holidays you can give them a card that can't go over the limit. Once dubbed the last-minute gift option, Twelve Oaks Mall Gift Cards are now topping lists nationwide. "If you're not sure what they want (or you're short on time), a Twelve Oaks Mall Gift Card is one of your best options," said the mall manager.

Hailed as the king of options, Twelve Oaks Mall Gift Cards allow the receiver to choose whatever they want from almost any store in the mall. Perfect for any occasion, a Twelve Oaks Mall Gift Card allows users to choose exactly what they need (or want) from hundreds of first-class retail stores.

Admittedly, Twelve Oaks Mall Gift Cards are not always the best gift option. For instance, if you've recently had a spat with your significant other and you show up on Christmas morn armed with a Twelve Oaks Mall Gift Card, you might be in a bit of trouble. In that particular case, it might be better to reference the corresponding Twelve Oaks Holiday Gift Guides for gift ideas with a tad more "tree presence." There are Gift Guides for nearly every type of person on your list this year. From Holiday Gift Guides for Moms, Dads, Kids and Teens to Stocking Stuffers, Gifts Under $25, and Once-in-a-Lifetime Gift Ideas, the ever-popular Holiday Gift Guide for Gifts Under $25. And don't forget the Gift Guide for Unforgettable Gifts, loaded with exciting gifts they'll tell their grandkids about. "There's a Holiday Gift Guide for everyone," said another mall spokesperson, and all of the Holiday Gift Guides can be referenced, in detail, online at www.findyourgo.com. The mall was scoured top to bottom, store by store, to find the best gifts for every person on your list, then categorized and compiled in pocket-sized brochures for easy reference as you shop. "I used a Holiday Gift Guide for every[one] on my list and polished off all [my] shopping in a matter of hours. It [was] said one shopper as she left the [mall] Friday afternoon.

But for those [who] is too much or [who] a Twelve Oaks [Mall] best option.

When you [have] that certain [person] Oaks Mall [Gift Card]. "It's better [to] buying the wrong gift."

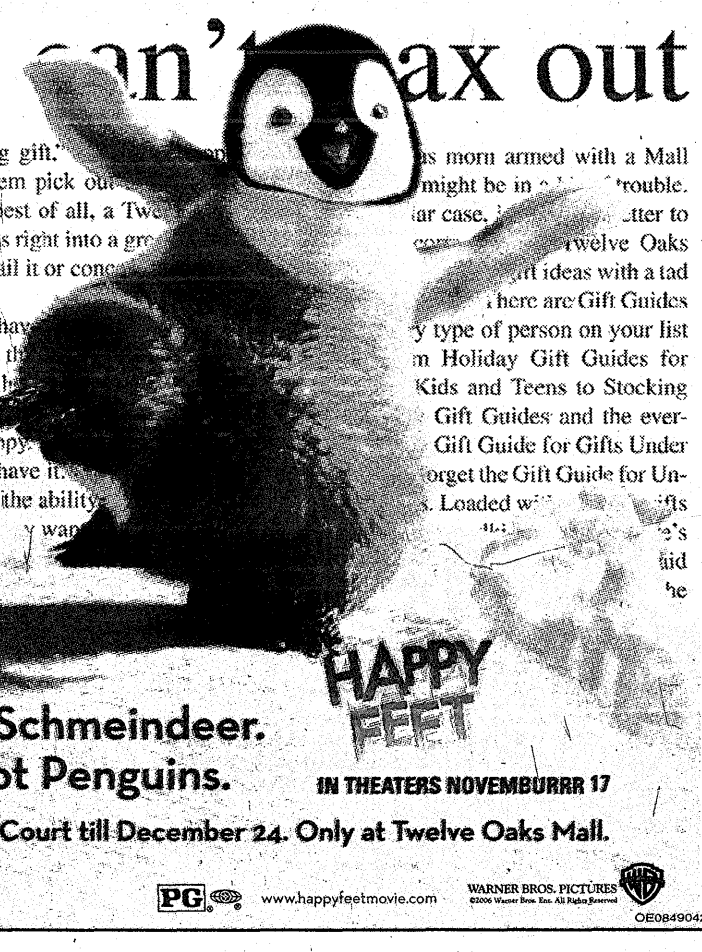
"I'd rather let them pick out [what] they want. And best of all, a Twelve Oaks Mall Gift Card fits right into a greeting card so I can easily mail it or conceal it at the last second."

So there you have it. [Ver]satility as well as the ability [to] choose anything [from] store in the mall [and] both go home happy.

So there you have it. [Ver]satility as well as the ability [to] choose [what] they want.

Gift Guides at a Glance
- Gift Ideas for Moms, Dads, Kids and Teens; Stocking Stuffers; Gifts Under $25; and Once-in-a-Lifetime Gift Ideas
- FREE to all mall shoppers
- Conveniently located at multiple locations throughout Twelve Oaks Mall

SOURCE: www.findyourgo.com



OE08490422

HOW TO HELP

DONATIONS NEEDED

■ Gleaners Community Food Bank is the third largest in the nation. It distributes free and low-cost food to soup kitchens, shelters, food pantries, crisis centers and other relief agencies, totaling 400 partners. It accepts nonperishable foods through donation drives or individual donations, cash and volunteer help at its five distribution centers, which are located in Detroit, Howell, Pontiac, Warren and Taylor. Visit www.gcfb.convio.net to donate online, arrange for a food drive or to volunteer. By mail: 2131 Beaufait, Detroit, MI 48207. Or call (866) GLEANER. Look for donation appeals at local grocery stores that allow shoppers to add a gift to Gleaners to their shopping bill. "We don't want to hot all the money. Help anyone you know doing food distribution, because times are tough," says Gerry Brisson, vice president of development. To find a food pantry nearest you, visit www.pantrynet.org.

■ The Salvation Army, eastern Michigan division, aided 480,000 people in the tri-county area through its annual holiday kettle program last year. Proceeds bought more than two million meals for the needy, as well as Christmas gifts for children, food baskets, personal care items and year-round aid. The Salvation Army hopes to raise $7 million through kettles this year. Visit www.salvationarmyemich.org to find out about volunteering as a bell ringer or to participate in the mini-kettle program, which allows individuals to collect donations at home or work, private parties and other gatherings.
Other ways to donate:
Donate a child's coat or cash to the Salvation Army's Coats for Kids at the Detroit Lions-Miami Dolphins game at Ford Field on Thanksgiving Day. Or call (866) 985-COAT.
Buy a toy for the Salvation Army's annual holiday toy shop. Call the eastern Michigan division in Southfield at (248) 443-5500 to find a corps near you.
Donate used goods to a Salvation Army store. For pickup and store information, call (313) 965-7760.
Donate money online or send a check to the Salvation Army, Eastern Michigan Division, 16130 Northland Drive, Southfield, MI 48075.

■ Farmington Area Goodfellows helps people year-round, but will distribute toys and food for the holidays on Dec. 16. To donate cash or items, call the Goodfellows office at (248) 871-2848 before Nov. 27 and (248) 473-1360 afterward. Or visit www.farmingtonareagoodfellows.org.

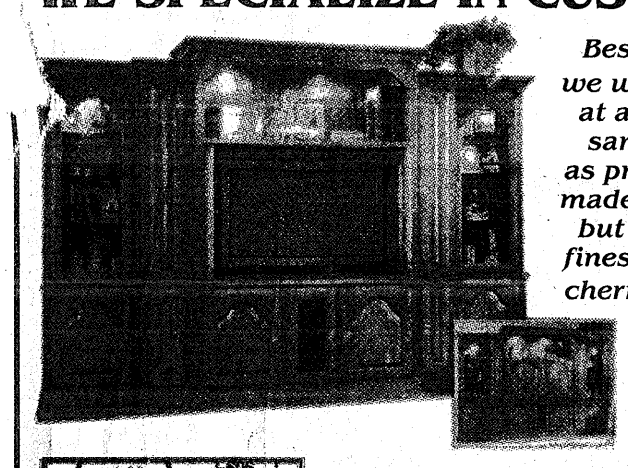
■ COTS, (Coalition on Temporary Shelter) is headquartered at 26 Peterboro, Detroit, but runs housing programs at various locations, offering emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent, supportive housing. Check its Web site at www.COTSdetroit.org for an updated list of needs, including linens, clothing, children's items, gift certificates and toiletries. Or call Robyn Smith at (313) 831-3777.

■ Redford Interfaith Relief, located in Pearson Education Center, 19990 Beech Daly, serves senior citizens, the disabled, the working poor and families in a crisis, within the Redford area. The organization needs cash, personal care items, canned goods and volunteers. Call (313) 387-9802 or visit on the Web at www.redfordinterfaithrelief.org.

■ Capuchin Soup Kitchen has two dining rooms in Detroit, maintains a pantry, clothing and household distribution center, offers substance abuse treatment as well as children's programs. Send donations to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, 1820 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207. Donate on the Web at www.cskdetroit.org or call the development office at (313) 579-2100, Ext. 1875.

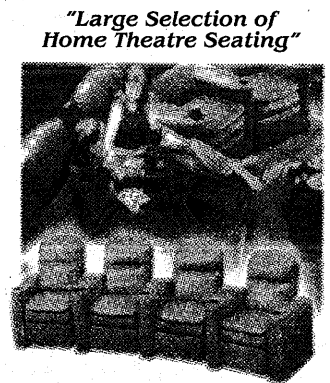
■ The THAW fund gives emergency energy assistance to low-income families, individuals and senior citizens throughout Michigan who are in danger of losing heat or electricity. Donation appeals are enclosed with some gas an electric bills. Or send a check to THAW at 1212 Griswold, 10th floor, Detroit, MI 48226. Or contribute by phone at (800) 866-THAW or online at www.thawfund.org.

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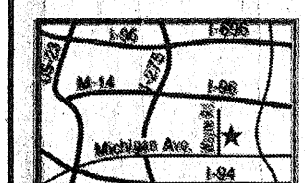


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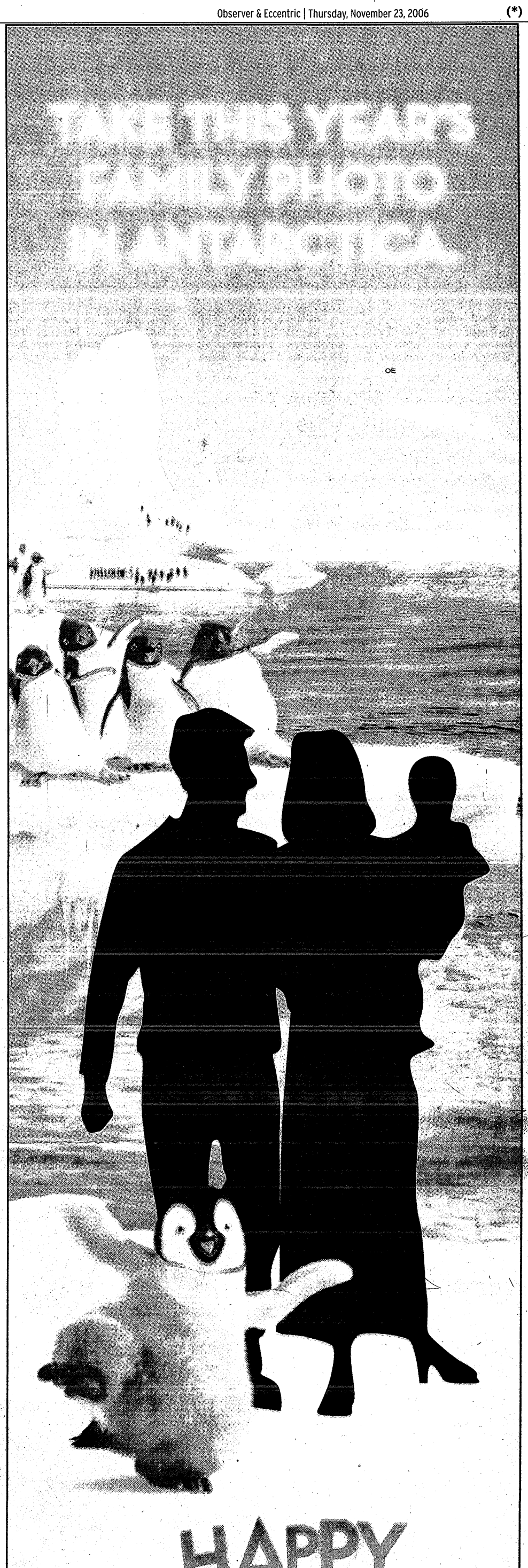
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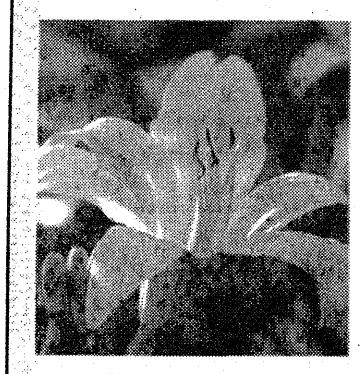
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Passages

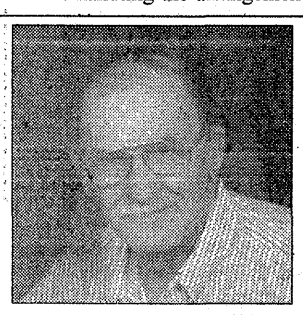
Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

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DOUGLAS STEVENS

Frankfort. Age 73, died November 14, 2006 at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City. He was born on August 26, 1933 the son of Richard and Ann Stevens in Highland Park, Michigan. Doug married Norma J. Eustice on February 10,1998. He served the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict as a Staff Sgt., shooting instructor and armorer. He was a member of the American Legion Frankfort Post No. 221 and the Cedar Rod & Gun Club. He was also a lifetime member of the NRA. Doug attended Blaine Christian Church and was employed with AAA for 29 years. Surviving is wife, Norma; children Linda Stevens of Grand Blanc and Scott (Jennifer) Stevens of Shelby Twp.; two grandsons, Jacob and Danial; stepson, Jeffrey Butler of Frankfort; brother, Godfrey (Delores) Stevens; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and an infant sister. A celebration of Doug's life will be Saturday, November 25th at 3PM at the Benzonia Chapel of McElduff-Jowett Funeral Home, 7223 South St., Benzonia, MI, 49616, with Rev. Bob Larimer officiating. The family will receive friends from 1PM until the time of the service. Burial will be in Blaine Twp. Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Benzie County Animal Welfare or the NRA. The Benzonia Chapel of McElduff-Jowett Funeral Homes & Cremation Service is handling the arrangements.



GARY ALAN MILZ

Age 58. Born May 26, 1948, went to be with the Lord peacefully on November 18, 2006, with his family by his side. Preceded in death by his parents Clarence and Marjorie and sister Gail. Survived by his wife of 28 years, Diane; seven children, Eric (Debra) Mellissa (Jay) Gajewskie, Renee (John) Thompson, Mathew, Stephen, Christopher, Jacob; ten grandchildren, Joshua, Amelia, Levi, Taylor, Kennedy, Zackery, Ashton, Sawyer, Jaymen and Jackie; brother-in-law Joe (Brenda) Limontte; two nephews Joey and David. Memorial service will be held at the First Baptist Church of Wayne, 36125 Glenwood Rd, at 11:00am November 24th.

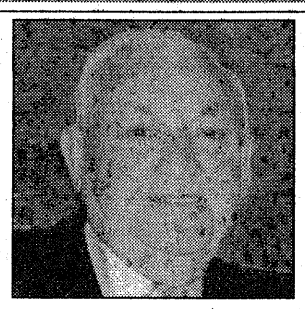
GEORGE A. CLIFFORD

Age 77, of Redford, November 20, 2006. George is survived by Iris, his beloved wife of 48 years; children Linda (Ed) Landess, Julie Gentry, Joanne (Rob) Hendricks, and David. Mr. Clifford is also survived by eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Funeral service Saturday, November 25, 11:30am, at the Heeney- Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Rd., between 9 and 10 Mile Roads, just north of Grand River, downtown Farmington, 248-474-5200. Visitation Friday, 2-8pm. Memorial tributes suggested to American Cancer Society, or cancer.org.

heeneysundquist.com

HAROLD VERNON COLLINS

Age 65, of Westland, died November 20, 2006, at Garden City Hospital. He had been seriously ill for three weeks. Born June 13, 1941, in Paintsville, Kentucky, the son of Conard and Glady Mae (Wells) Collins. He was married to Judy Perry in August of 1963. For more than 20 years, he was employed by Clark Oil and managed several service stations in the Downriver area. He enjoyed coin collecting and playing his guitar and banjo. For the past twelve years, he made his home with Lisa Dukes. He is survived by two sons, Jeffrey of Monroe, and Timothy of Ypsilanti; three brothers, Christopher Columbus (Betty) of Taylor, Jesse (Jewel) of Van Lear, KY, and Colvert (Peggy) of Greenup, KY; a sister, Verdie Mollette of Milan; and four grandchildren. Friends may call Friday, November 24, at the UHT Funeral Home, Westland, 734-721-8555. Funeral service will be held at 2pm, Saturday, November 25. Mr. Collins' nephew, Doug Mollette, will officiate. Graveside services will be held Monday, November 27, at 12pm at Highland Memorial Park in Staffordsville, KY. Friends may attend graveside service from 11-12pm. In lieu of flowers, those desiring may make donations to the family.



JACK VITO MIGLIORE

April 30, 1922-November 20, 2006. Jack Vito Migliore, a resident of Sterling Hts. and former longtime resident of East Pointe, died Monday morning in William Beaumont Hospital of Royal Oak at the age of 84 years. Jack was born in Detroit on April 30, 1922 a son of the late Sebastian and Rosa (Giordano) Migliore. He Owned and operated Jacks Produce Market on Wheels. Jack was a charter member of Detroit Produce Venders Association. He did not retire until age 81 as he lived for and loved his work. As a hard worker, it was important that he provided for his family and he loved what he did for those many years. Jack also enjoyed all gambling of any kind and enjoyed playing cards. He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him. Jack is survived by his loving wife, Magdelina; his devoted daughters, Marianne Stevens and her dear friend Lawrence Thompson and Rose (David) Edgeworth; his grandchildren, Jackie (nee Stevens)(Steve)Cansler, Nykol & Brooke Edgeworth; his great grandchildren, Eric & Trever Stevens and Alex & Alyssa Cansler and his sister, Rose (Joseph) Ferri & brothers, Sam (Lena) and Augustine (Josephine). He was preceded in death by sister, Phyllis and brother, James. Visitation will be held at the Faulmann & Walsh Golden Rule Funeral Home, 32814 Utica Rd., Fraser, Wednesday 1pm till 9pm and Friday 10:30am till time of Mass at 11am from St. Anastasia Catholic Church 4571 John R., Troy. Share memories with the family at faulmannwalsh.com

LAMAR M. RUSSOM

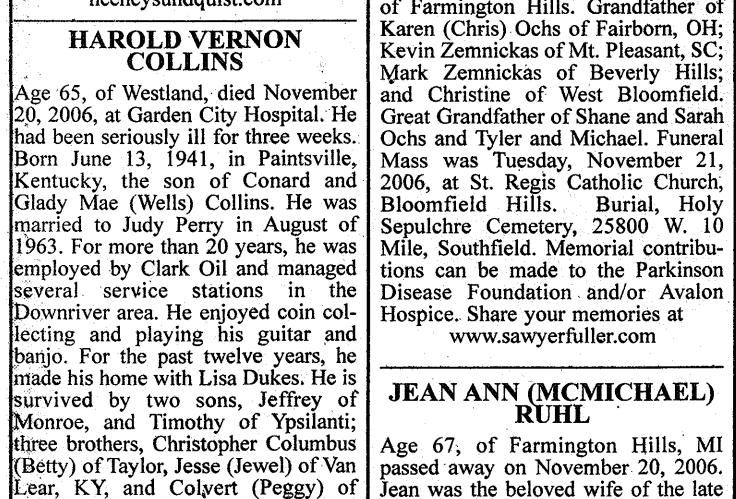
Age 90, November 19, 2006. Beloved husband of Ethel. Dear father of Carol (Manuel) Yacoub, Thomas (Jo) and Ronald (Debra). Dearest brother of Frances McPherson. Also survived by eight grandchildren. Funeral service Wednesday 1:30 p.m. from R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Visitation Tuesday 2-9 p.m. Memorials suggested to American Lung Association.

PETER CHARLES ZEMNICKAS

Age 89, of Beverly Hills, died Sunday, November 19, 2006, at Stone Bridge Medical Complex in Flint. He was born July 16, 1917, son of Peter and Anastasia Zemnickas. He was predeceased by Donna, his beloved wife of 65 years. Peter was an active member of St. Regis Catholic Church. Through the years his interests took him in many directions. He was a member of the Birmingham Senior Men's Club and the Michigan Chapter of the Rolls-Royce Club. For many years, he did volunteer work at Henry Ford Health Systems of West Bloomfield where he was known as the "Angel Man". Father of Robert (Carol) Zemnickas of Mt. Pleasant, SC; Gordon Zemnickas of Howell; and adopted daughter, Ann Zemnickas of Farmington Hills. Grandfather of Karen (Chris) Ochs of Fairborn, OH; Kevin Zemnickas of Mt. Pleasant, SC; Mark Zemnickas of Beverly Hills; and Christine of West Bloomfield. Great Grandfather of Shane and Sarah Ochs and Tyler and Michael. Funeral Mass was Tuesday, November 21, 2006, at St. Regis Catholic Church, Bloomfield Hills. Burial, Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, 25800 W. 10 Mile, Southfield. Memorial contributions can be made to the Parkinson Disease Foundation and/or Avalon Hospice. Share your memories at www.sawyerfuller.com

JEAN ANN (MCMICHAEL) RUHL

Age 67, of Farmington Hills, MI passed away on November 20, 2006. Jean was the beloved wife of the late Dr. George Ruhl and is survived by her brother, Russell McMichael; her three children, Melody Alfather, Ed and Greg; grandchildren, Miles, Devin, Joshua and Jordan. A celebration of her life will be held at Prince of Peace Catholic Church in West Bloomfield. The church is located at 4300 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield, MI 48323, phone (248) 681-9424, on Saturday, November 25 at 10:30am. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts in Jean's name to Angela Hospice in Livonia, MI are greatly appreciated.

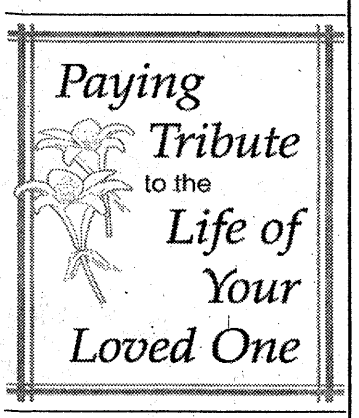


RUTHANN JOHNSON

Beloved wife, mother & grandmother passed away on Monday, Nov. 20, 2006. She is survived by her husband, Richard, of Bloomfield Twp. She is also survived by her children Alan (Pat) Johnson of Holly, MI, Susan Johnson of Bloomfield Twp., Carol (Fiance Terry Burke) Bernardi of Lancaster, PA, James (Deborah) Johnson of Muskegon, MI, Judy Johnson of Las Vegas, NV and Melinda (Robert) Smith of Beverly Hills, MI. She is also survived by her eleven grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and a host of other family and friends. She loved gardening and was a member of the Troy Garden Club. She was a member of Birmingham Sr. Women's Club and a member of St. Thomas More Church. She loved music and spending time with her family and many grandchildren. Family will be receiving friends Wednesday, Nov. 22, from 5-8PM with Scripture Service at 7PM, at A.J. Desmond Funeral Home, 32515 Woodward. Funeral Mass will be Friday, Nov. 24 at 10AM at St. Thomas More Church, 4580 Adams Rd., Troy.

TOM MOSHIMER

Age 71, November 21, 2006. Beloved husband of Nancy. Loving Father of Duncan (Cheryl) Mike, Jim (Nicki), Kelly (Phil). Dear Grandfather of Ryan, Sarah, Zach and Patrick. He was a high school teacher and football coach for 42 yrs., (8 yrs. in Dundee, MI and 34 yrs. at Plymouth Salem). He retired in 2000. Visitation on Friday, November 25th, 10am-9pm at McCabe Funeral Home, 851 N. Canton Center Rd., Canton, MI 48187. Service on Saturday, November 26th, 10am at St. Thomas a'Beckett of Canton.





PIERRE LOUIS DePORRE

Age 74, of Bloomfield Hills, died November 20, 2006. Devoted husband of Virginia (Teppert) – 49 years. Caring father of Pierre (Deborah) DePorre, Louise (James) Westcott, Julianne (Efrin) Padilla, Mary (Craig) Sturza, Paul (Janie) DePorre. Loving brother to Juliette (the late Casmir) Zaranek, the late Denise DePorre, the late Jules (Carolyn) DePorre, James (Janet) DePorre. Brother-in-law to the late John Teppert, Sally Teppert. Proud grandpa of 14. Beloved by all who knew him, including countless nieces and nephews. Family will receive friends at A. J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, 2600 Crooks Rd., (btwn. Maple & Big Beaver), Friday 1-9 PM, with Scripture Service Friday 7 PM. Funeral Mass Saturday 10 AM at St. Thomas More Church, 4580 Adams Road, Troy. Prayers at the funeral home Saturday 9:15 AM followed by procession to church. Memorial Tributes to the Companion Animal Fund, CVM Development, Michigan State University, F-130 Veterinary Medical Center, East Lansing, MI 48824. Pierre was a great man devoted to caring for all of God's creatures - great and small. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

OBITUARY POLICY

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

Deadlines:

Friday 4:30 PM for Sunday
Wednesday Noon for Thursday

Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

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RELIGION CALENDAR

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

NOVEMBER

Thanksgiving service
10 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 23, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. For information, call (248) 374-7400. The church's traditional celebration features the Chancel Choir, Orchestra, Teen Choir and Children's Choir. Special presentation of the Battle Hymn of the Republic. Childcare provided to age 4.

Unity of Livonia
VegMichigan Thanksgiving Potluck Celebration features traditional and festive fare that is free of meat, dairy and other animal products noon to 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 23, Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster. Vegetarians, vegans and anyone trying to eat less meat are welcome to attend this celebration of the season's abundance. In addition to the feast, the day features gratitude readings by children, origami demonstration, children's coloring contest, a pianist and other entertainment. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own instruments and talents and join in the celebration.
Admission to the event is a vegan (no animal products) dish sized for 8, or first-time attendees may bring $10 in lieu of a dish though food is preferred to ensure a day-long feast.
VegMichigan, formerly Veggies in Motion, promotes awareness of the health, ecological and ethical benefits of a plant-based lifestyle. The group hosts the local Great American Meatout each spring and sponsors numerous educational classes, lectures, potlucks, dinner club and social outings plus a monthly e-newsletter. For details, visit www.vegmichigan.org or call (toll free) (877) 778-3464.

Lighthouse cafe
7-10 p.m. Friday, Nov. 24, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Tickets are $5 at the door. Call (248) 374-5920.

Anniversary kick off
Garden City Presbyterian Church celebrates its 175th anniversary in February 2007. To kick off the observance, the church will have marchers and floats in the Santaland Parade on Saturday, Nov. 25. Everyone is welcome to join in the celebration in 2007. For information, call (734) 421-7620.

Church fund-raiser
Cherry Hill United Methodist Church, 321 S. Ridge Road in Canton, is having a Fund-raiser 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 25. Several vendors will be selling their products. What a great time to shop for Christmas gifts or birthday presents for your loved ones. No charge.
Refreshments and Bake Sale are available. For more information, call (734) 495-0035.

Messiah
4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 26, at the historic Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament, 9844 Woodbridge at Trowbridge, Detroit. The concert is performed by the Archdiocesan Chorus and orchestra. Tickets are $10 in advance, $15 at door. Call (313) 865-6300, Ext. 227, or visit www.aod.online and click on calendar.

Celebrate Christmas season
At Detroit First Church of the Nazarene in Northville 6 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 26, a Red Sweater Night starts the Advent season with Christmas music, fellowship and refreshments (nursery available for children from newborns to 36-months; 10:50 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 3 the Children's Choir presents A Christmas Carol based on the traditional Christmas Carol storyline; 10:50 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 10 Baby's First Christmas invites families to include their baby in the morning worship service, call (248) 348-7600 by Dec. 3, children's programs will be available for birth to elementary age; 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 15, and 10:50 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 17 the Sanctuary Choir, instrumentalists and drama team present Journey to the Manager, a musical drama, the nursery is available for children birth to age three for both dates, and 10:50 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 24 Christmas Eve service includes communion and ends with a traditional candlelight service, nursery available for children birth to 36-months, at the church, 21260 Haggerty. For information, call (248) 348-7600.

Toy train show
11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 26, at St. Albert the Great School, 4855 Parker, Dearborn Heights. Admission is $3 per person, $6 per family. The kitchen will be open with food and refreshments. For information, call (313) 277-2419.

Blood drive
Red Cross blood drive 2-8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 27, at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 South Sheldon, Plymouth. Call Carolyn Libeau at (734) 455-5395 to make an appointment of just drop in.

Christmas luncheon
Fellowship luncheon 12:15 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1, at Farmington First United Methodist Church, 33112 Grand River, second block east of Farmington Road at Warner. Cost is $7, reservations required. Call Betty Haines by Tuesday, Nov. 28 for reservations and if babysitting is needed. Program includes the Cass Ambassadors Choir, installation of Church Women United officers, and Right Family Christmas game (bring wrapped new $5 gift to exchange during the game). Bring canned and boxed foods for local food bank.

Christmas Hope tour
The Nov. 28 concert, which was to be presented at Faith Lutheran Church in Troy, has been canceled by the promoter.

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

St. Nicklaus Breakfast
9:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, at Church of the Savior, 38100 Five Mile. There will be a pancake breakfast, craft table and a program by St. Nicklaus himself telling about the origins of Santa Claus. Free will offering. RSVP to (734) 464-0527 by Nov. 29. All ages welcome.

Bridging the holidays
A program designed to help families work through the holidays and special occasions without their loved on, includes a small memorial 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 29, at St. Cletus Catholic Church, 26256 Ryan, Warren.
Winter memorial 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, at Best Western Hotel, 16999 South Laurel Park Drive, Livonia. Come to honor and celebrate the lives of your loved one. All programs are non-denominational. No charge. RSVP requested by Nov. 27, at (800) 770-9859. Refreshments provided.

Grief and the holidays
Workshop focuses on facing the holidays after the death of a loved one 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 30, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 4000 Six Mile, Northville. Registration at the door, no fee. For information, call (248) 374-5920.

Hanukkah gift shoppe
Congregation Beit Kodesh Sisterhood Hanukkah/Judaic gift shop opens from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sundays through Dec. 10. Selection includes holiday gift wrap, chocolate coins, dreidels, candles, electric and traditional menorahs and many Judaic gift items. Congregation Beit Kodesh is located at 31840 W. Seven Mile, Livonia.

UPCOMING

Concert
Performance by Andy Chrisman, one of the founding members of the group 4HIM, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1, pre-concert dinner for singles only at 6 p.m. in Parlor C317, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Cost is $10 for dinner and concert (must be purchased in advance), and $5 for concert. For information, call (248) 374-5920.

Irish Christmas Craft Bazaar
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, at AOH Hall, 24242 Grand River, one block west of Telegraph, Detroit. For information, call (313) 565-3317.

Classic senior singles
Get-a-way to Olde World Canterbury Village, Lake Orion, departs at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 2 from Ward Presbyterian Church Parking Lot 7, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Tickets are $20 and includes transportation and lunch. For details, call (248) 374-5920.

Monthly dance
Presented by Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization providing peer support for the divorced and separated of all faiths, 8 p.m. to midnight, Saturday, Dec. 2, at Don Hubert VFW Hall, 27345 Schoolcraft (eastbound I-96 service drive), east of Inkster, Redford. All separated, divorced and singles welcome. Cost is $10, includes refreshments. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. For details, call (734) 261-5716.

Covenant Players
7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, and Sunday, Dec. 3 during 10:30 a.m. service, at New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware at Puritan, Redford. For information, call (313) 255-6330.

Crafters wanted
For the St. Thomas a' Becket Church Christmas Craft Show to be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, at 555. S. Lilley, Canton. The church is accepting applications for handmade crafts only. Call (734) 981-1333.

Christmas craft show
Featuring more than 85 crafters 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, at St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church, 555 S. Lilley at Cherry Hill, Canton. Admission is $2, under age 12 free. Bake sale and lunch available. Call (734) 981-1333.

Christmas concert
Presented by the Friends of the Opera of Michigan and features Karin White, soprano, and Quinto Milito, baritone, accompanied by pianist Jeanne Muraski 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. No charge. Donations are welcome. For information, call (313) 582-0997.

Christmas music
Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols, 7 p.m. Dec. 3, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. For details, call (248) 374-7400. Through Scripture and beautiful music, this quiet and reflective candlelight service will help prepare your heart for Christmas. Childcare provided to age 4. No charge.

Choral concert
Concert of Advent and Christmas music including part I of Handel's Messiah Featuring Kirk in the Hills Chancel Choir and the Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, at Kirk in the Hills, 1340 West Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills. Tickets are $18, $15 seniors, $12 students, and available by calling (248) 626, 2515, Ext. 109, or at the door.

Vespers and Nativity concert
Sponsored by the Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit (COCC) 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, at St. Clement Ohridski Macedonian-Bulgarian Orthodox Church, 19600 Ford Road, Dearborn.
The evening begins with a Vespers service concelebrated by priests from COCC member churches and sung by the COCC's Inter-Orthodox Choir. Following the service, the choir will sing a concert of Orthodox liturgical and para-liturgical music for the Nativity season and selected Eastern and Western European Advent and Christmas carols. The story of St. Nicholas and gifts for children will follow the concert. Refreshments will be served.
The evening is free of charge and open to the public. A freewill offering will be collected. For more information, call (313) 366-0677 or send e-mail to KopistianskyVickie@sbcglobal.net.

Traditions of Christmas
Multi-event open house with carols, stories, musical performances, model train layouts, cookie decorating, crafts, displays, film, and The Best Christmas Pageant Ever 3-8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 7-8, and noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, at First Presbyterian Church, 1669 West Maple, Birmingham. A gift to the community. No tickets, donations or reservations necessary. Call (248) 644-2040.

Men of Grace
A special night of worship featuring Christmas songs, spirituals, hymns, traditional and contemporary, original music, and arrangements performed by Men of Grace from Grace Centers of Hope (Pontiac) 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8, at Risen Christ Lutheran Church, 46250 Ann Arbor Road, one block east of Beck, Plymouth. Free will offering will be taken to benefit seminary study Scott Eberlein. Call (734) 453-5252.

Crosstalk
A lively discussion for singles on a topic of current interest 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Learn how the Bible approaches modern day events. Free childcare provided. For details, call (248) 374-5920.

Cookie walk
Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church's 13th Annual Cookie Walk takes place Saturday, Dec. 9, at 36075 W. Seven Mile, 3/4 mile east of Newburgh on south side of street, Livonia. Doors open at 8 a.m., sale starts at 9 a.m. and lasts until we are sold out. Pierogi, stuffed cabbage, bread, nut and poppyseed rolls, and over 50 different varieties of ethnic (kiefle, kolachy, rugela, koulourakia, biscotti, linzer) and traditional cookies and candy will be for sale.

Christmas cookie walk
10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, at St. Michael's Orthodox Church, 26355 W. Chicago, between Beech Daly and Inkster, Redford. Cookies are sold by the pound.

Live Nativity
During open House noon to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Please join us for cookies, juice and coffee in Knox Hall as the Live Nativity is displayed. Call (248) 374-5932.

Christmas play
Journey to Bethlehem returns for a sixth year, a walk-through play of the birth of Jesus 4 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 5 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 6 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, and 2 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 3 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 4 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt. Call (734) 421-1760.

Christmas music
Christmas Jazz Vespers Service 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. For information, call (248) 374-7400. Jazz in the Spirit, from First Presbyterian Church in Birmingham, will present a musical, poetic and prayer filled worship experience. Child care provided to age 4. No charge.

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CHINA

FROM PAGE A13

children speak both English and Chinese. Clearly the Chinese value education and see the connection between a solid education and a strong economic future."

Price, vice president of the Northville Board of Education, added, "We can be proud of the quality of the education we offer, but the Chinese are obviously driven to learn and improve. As educators, we need to understand that our children will be competing against the children of the world, and staying even is falling behind."

EYE-OPENING TRIP

Our days began at 7 a.m. and often ended the day with lavish banquets with our Chinese hosts. The food was good, different (when is the last time you ate jellyfish, sea urchin or chicken feet?), and plentiful.

The trip also included time for shopping and touring. We took in the awe-inspiring Great Wall of China, Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City, a pagoda, the Temple of Heaven and the Terra Cotta Warriors, not to mention the eye-popping education you can take in with a walk around the block or simply using a Chinese squat toilet.

Ask yourself why, if China has the fastest-growing economy and is likely to surpass the U.S. as the largest economy in the world over the next two decades, its language, culture, history and language are not taught in more of our schools today?

The Chinese government attaches great importance to the promotion of Chinese language throughout the world. In order to enhance mutual understanding and friendship between the Chinese people and peoples of the world, the Chinese government has embarked on "efforts to promote economic and trade cooperation as well as scientific, technological and cultural exchanges between the Chinese and other counties."

China's achievements since Deng Xiaoping have opened the country to the world and are remarkable and universally acknowledged, particularly when put in a historical perspective. Deng Xiaoping is credited with providing the political support to help remake China into the giant it is today.

Yet, while Deng set the stage, it is through the hard work and focus of the Chinese people and academic, professional, economic, cultural and scientific exchanges that China has flourished. Some Americans still harbor ill feelings toward the "communist" government that brought the horrors of the Cultural Revolution and massacre in Tiananmen Square in 1989. Yet it is my firm belief that it is through the open exchange of ideas and interaction between Chinese and western people at multiple levels that freedom and democracy will find fertile ground to flourish.

With this exchange group, we have planted seeds that will take root in both Chinese and Michigan soil that will provide a bounty of knowledge to benefit our children for centuries to come.

China is a giant that has awakened. Its educational and economic systems are on steroids and they are moving aggressively to catch up with the West. Their goal is not simply to be the cheap factory for the world, but to be the innovators, creators and entrepreneurs of the world. They know that their future is inextricably tied to the quality of the educational system.

"We all know what a tremendous impact China's manufacturing sector is having on our economy. This was a great opportunity to get a firsthand look at their education system which will ultimately have an even greater impact on the American and world economy," said Gregory Handel Sr., director of Workforce Development for the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce.

KNOWLEDGE COMPETITION

Michigan will never be able to compete with China on cheap labor. However, we can and should compete with China by making our children the best-educated students in the world. Michigan will succeed when we are exporting knowledge, creativity and innovation on the world stage. We cannot do that by thinking our past success is a predictor of future success. It is only through hard work, innovation and seeking new knowledge that we can truly prepare our children for the future.

Former state school board member and current Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Michael David Warren Jr. sums it up best when he says: "China is clearly undergoing a fundamental economic and related cultural transformation. They undoubtedly are attempting to become a new superpower.

"Unlike the other threats we currently face, we can confront this one best by engagement and building bridges. They appear to be anxious to learn from and about Americans, and to become cooperative partners. By such engagement, we can foster in China the way of life we cherish here — freedom, representative democracy, and justice. The opposite approach — building walls — will only exacerbate our differences and degrade our influence."

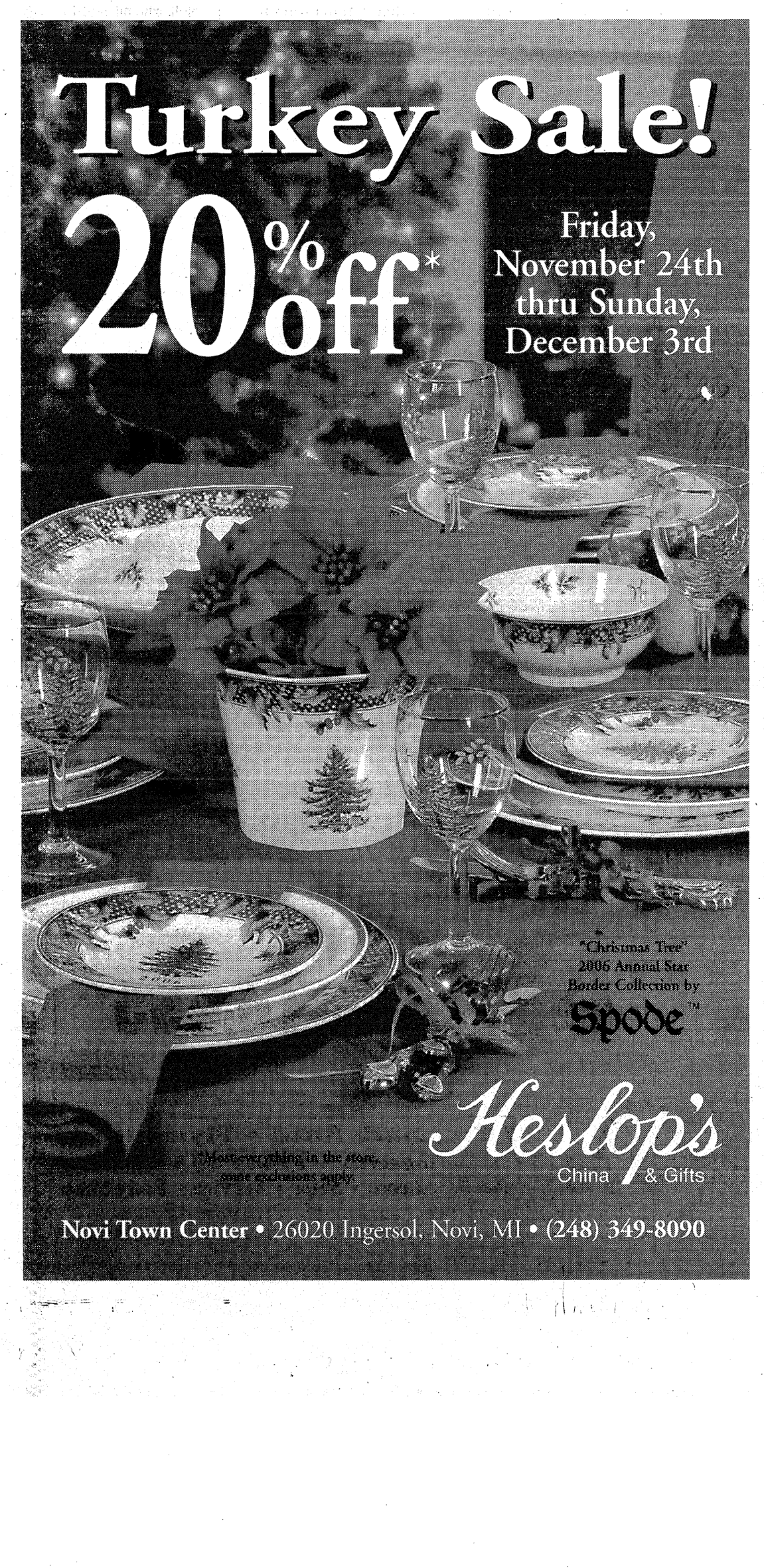
There are naysayers that fear the rise of China. I believe it is important that we engage China and the rest of Asia on a economic, cultural, scientific and educational level in ways that will benefit Michigan and America.

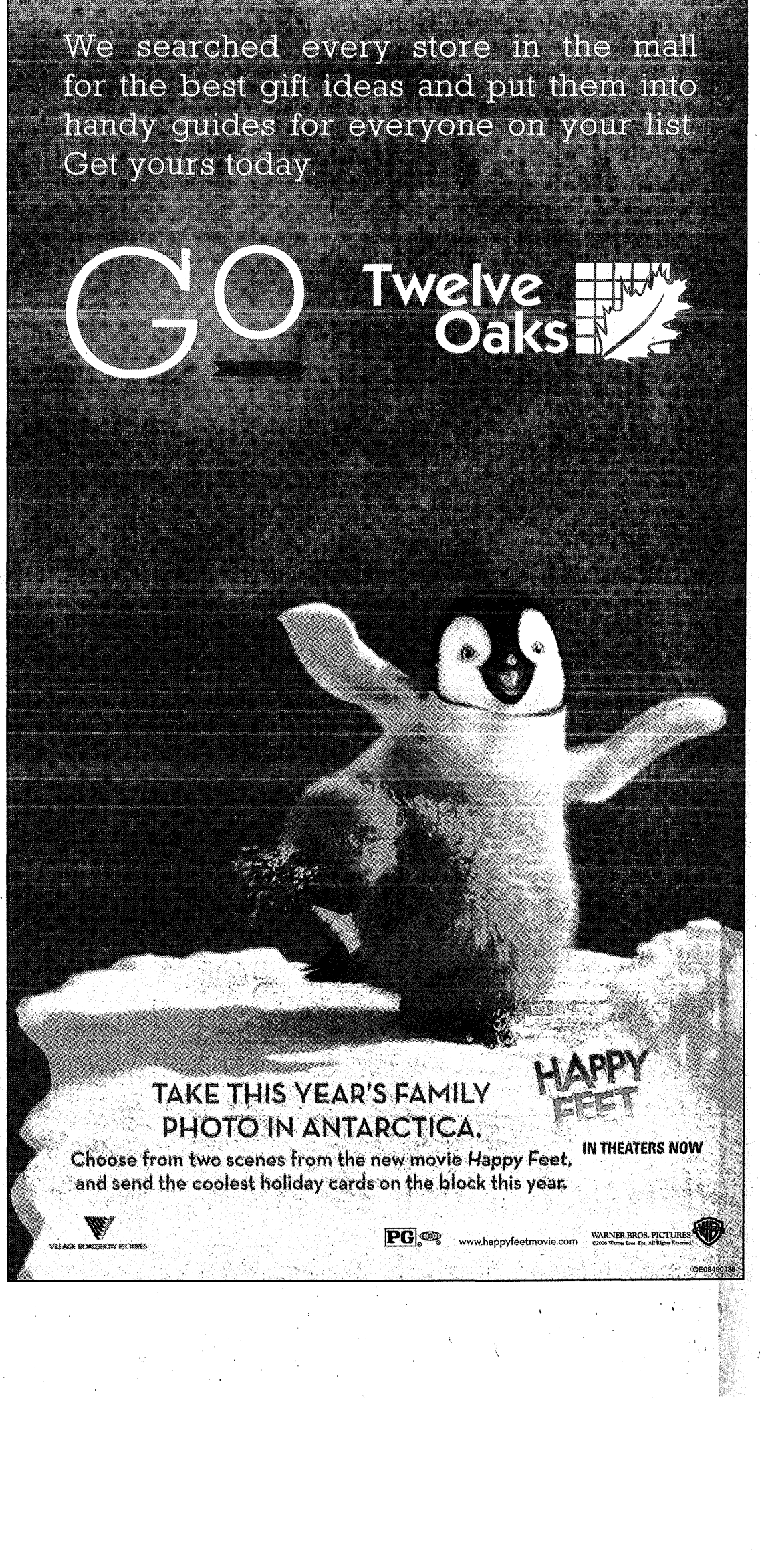
The person who says it cannot be done should not interrupt the persons doing it.
— Chinese proverb

Go online at www.hometownlife.com to read Watkins' full report. Look for the second installment of the China experience next week on these same pages and online.

Tom Watkins is a business and education consultant and the former state superintendent of schools. Read his internationally recognized report: (now translated into Chinese) The New Education (R)evolution at www.nacol.org.









What should pre-exercise warm-up routine include?
DENNIE TAFT - PAGE B2



Whalers are in good hands with Brownstown's Smith
PAGE B3

MU spikers win title
PAGE B2

SPORTS

B (CP)

Thursday, November 23, 2006

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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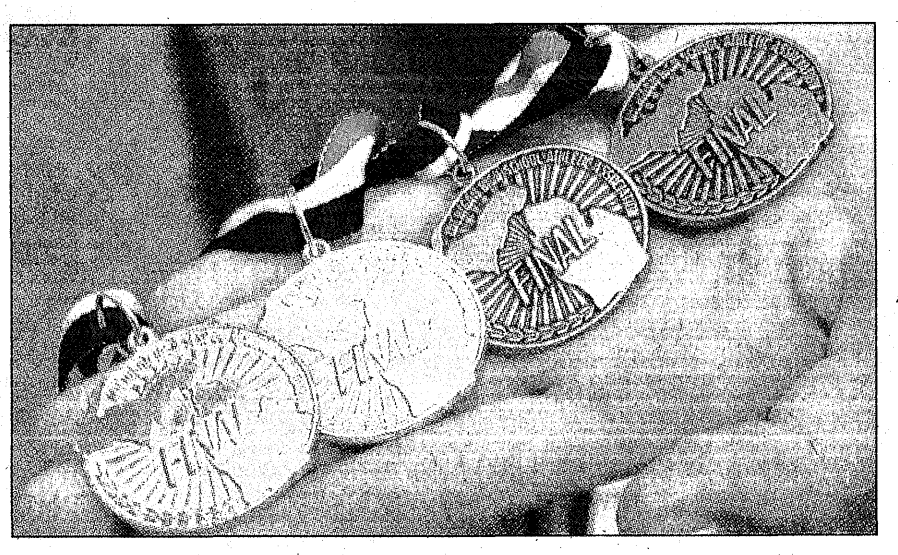
Ed Wright, editor . (734) 953-2108 . ewright@hometownlife.com

Division 1 State Girls Swimming Meet



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Pictured above are members of Canton's medal-winning relay teams that shined at this past weekend's Division 1 state meet at Oakland University. Standing (from the left) are Maggie Carlson, Maddy McDuff, Monica Blaesser and Laura Landis. Seated (from the left) are Allison Schmitt and Alyssa Johnson.



Canton's Allison Schmitt displays the four medals she won at Saturday's Division 1 state swimming-and-diving meet.

GOLD RUSH

Schmitt leads Chiefs' medal parade with a pair of firsts

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

High school swimmers like Allison Schmitt come along about as often as Halley's Comet, Detroit Lions championships and $75 million lottery tickets.

And they stay about three years longer than their competitors wish they would.

On Saturday at the Division 1 state meet at Oakland University in Rochester Hills, Schmitt, a junior at Canton, turned in one of the finest performances ever by a local swimmer when she took gold in both the 200- and 500-yard freestyle events at the state's premier meet.

Schmitt's time of 4:50.79 in the 500 free was a Division 1 record while her 1:47.54 in the 200 set the school record.

She also teamed with Laura Landis, Monica Blaesser and Alyssa Johnson to lead the Chiefs' 400 freestyle relay contingent to an All-State caliber seventh-place finish (3:40.32); and she anchored the ninth-place 200 freestyle relay foursome (1:40.95), which also included Landis, Blaesser and freshman Maggie Carlson. The 200 freestyle relay team missed making the All-State mark by 11 hundredths of a second.

SEVENTH HEAVEN

Altogether, Canton finished with 82 points, which placed it in a seventh-place tie with Milford. Ann Arbor Pioneer captured the title for the seventh straight year with 359.50 points. Rounding out the top six were Holland (221), Farmington Hills Mercy (159.5), Monroe (146), Livonia Stevenson (104) and Jenison (97).

Schmitt said her final kick in the 500 was fueled by the crowd, which sensed All-American was on the verge of entering the record books.

"With about 50 yards to go I heard the crowd get louder and I thought, 'Are they cheering for me?'" said Schmitt. "After that, I didn't want to miss the record by a tenth of a second. I've never heard a crowd cheer for me like that."

Schmitt's goals heading into the meet were more modest than setting Division 1 records.

"I just wanted to swim my best times," she said. "I knew the 200 free would be a close race, so I worked hard toward winning that one. The girls who finished second and third

PLEASE SEE **MEDALS, B2**

'With about 50 yards to go I heard the crowd get louder and I thought, "Are they cheering for me?" After that, I didn't want to miss the record by a tenth of a second. I've never heard a crowd cheer for me like that.'

Allison Schmitt,
Canton swimmer



Allison Schmitt

Beasley's big night can't save Ignition

The Detroit Ignition (2-2) registered its first-ever home loss Sunday afternoon, 12-10, against the visiting Philadelphia KiXX (1-2) in front of 3,566 at Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth.

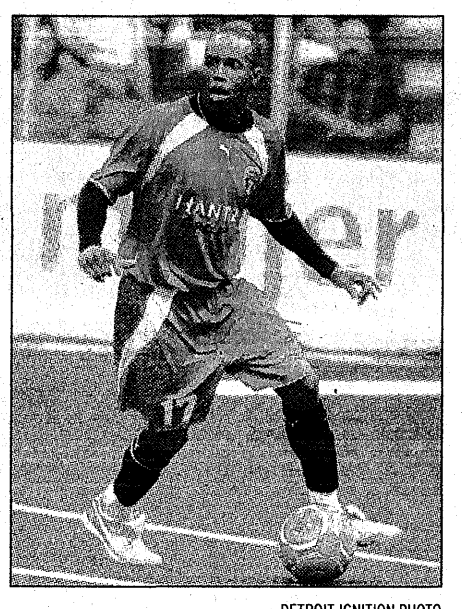
Midfielder Tony Donatelli registered the game-winning goal for the Blast, a two-pointer 8:56 into the first overtime period. Detroit goalkeeper Sanaldo (2-2) suffered the loss, stopping 13 of the 19 shots that he faced.

The KiXX took the lead early with a two-point goal — the only score of the opening frame of play — off the foot of midfielder Andy Guastaferro at 4:33, to give Philadelphia a 2-0 advantage.

Detroit responded late in the second quarter with a two-point goal from forward Jamar Beasley off a pass from Carlos Farias at 11:35, evening the score at 2-2.

KiXX midfielder Ptah Myers put his team back in control with a two-point goal at 14:36 to give Philadelphia a 4-2 edge at the half.

The Ignition struck first in the third frame of play with another two-point goal from Beasley off a pass from Carlos Farias at 11:37, tying the game at 4-4. D'Ambra responded with a two-point goal of his own to put Philadelphia back in control, 6-4, at the 10:13 mark.



DETROIT IGNITION PHOTO

Detroit Ignition forward Jamar Beasley netted four points in the team's 12-10 overtime loss to the Philadelphia KiXX on Sunday at the Compuware Sports Arena.

PCS icers blank AA

The Plymouth-Canton-Salem girls hockey team is picking up where it left off last season.

The Penguins, who advanced to the state final in March before getting knocked by Grosse Pointe South, improved to 2-0 Saturday night following a 2-0 white-washing of Ann Arbor.

Kristie Kowalski was spectacular in net for the winners, knocking away 25 shots.

The Penguins had to overcome several short-handed situations to pull out the "W," according to first-year head coach Eric Mink.

"The refs were calling a tight game because of the new rules — we had 12 penalties — so we were a man down for close to half the game," said Mink. "At one point Ann Arbor had a two-man advantage for a minute and a half, but Katie Zimmerman did a great job of killing the penalty."

The Penguins scored first late in the second period on a short-handed goal from Zimmerman that was assisted by Kristin Callahan. Adrienne Cercone added a power-play insurance net-finder with 3:35 left.

Guidelines

Turkey trot

Canton Leisure Services will be hosting its 4th Annual Thanksgiving Day 5K Fun Run & Walk on Thursday at Pheasant Run Golf Course. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. in the clubhouse. The kids' race will commence at 9:15 a.m. with the 5K run/walk immediately following.

The entry fee on the day of the race is $22 for adults and $10 for kids 12 and under.

For more information, contact Michael Murray at (734) 536-1609. Proceeds from the event will be donated to the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan.

MU's Guerin shines

Guard Natalie Young scored 23 points and pulled down 12 rebounds Saturday as undefeated Bethel College (Ind.) toppled Madonna University women's basketball team, 88-62, in the WHAC-MCC Challenge hosted by Aquinas College at Mol Arena in Grand Rapids.

Bethel (7-0) also got 22 points from guard Abby Noll, who hit 6-of-13 shots from three-point range.

Nora Didrick added 14 points and six assists. Forward Hannah Richards contributed 13 points and six rebounds, while Andrea Selent came off the bench to grab nine rebounds.

Madonna (2-6), without leading scorer Martina Franklin, dropped its third straight. The Crusaders, who trailed 45-24 at half, were led by Salem High's Alyssa Guerin, who scored 21 points and grabbed nine rebounds.

Rebecca Rufli added 16 points.

Bethel shot 33-of-70 from the floor (47 percent) and had 24 total assists to MU's nine.

Swartz lauded

Canton resident Josiah Swartz, a graduate of Westland John Glenn and current player at Hillsdale College, was recently named to the 2nd Team All-Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletics Conference squad. Swartz was also named Hillsdale's top offensive lineman at the team's banquet.

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MEDALS

FROM PAGE B1

(Ann Arbor Pioneer's Liz Koselka and Kristyne Cole) are friends of mine, so we all hugged and congratulated each other afterwards."

Schmitt was second in both the 500 and 200 following Friday's preliminary heats. Even though Cole's preliminary time in the 500 was seven seconds faster than hers, Schmitt wasn't worried.

"I didn't give it everything I had in the prelims, so I was still confident I could win on Saturday," she said. "I knew that all the hard work I've put in would pay off in the end."

COULDN'T DO IT ALONE

Schmitt said a key part of her success is due to her dedicated support team.

"I have great coaches who push me to do better and who have taught me the right technique," she said. "I also give a lot of credit to my family and friends for cheering for me and to my family for taking me to all my practices and meets over the years."

While her teammates will take a much-deserved post-state meet break, Schmitt will continue to train in preparation for the Dec. 2 U.S Open that will be held in Indianapolis. In January, she'll join her National Junior team teammates for an international meet in Hawaii.

Next summer, Schmitt will compete for the U.S. Pan-American team in Dallas.

The Canton relay teams' impressive showing was a fitting finish to a fine season for Johnson, Landis, Carlson, Blaesser and McDuff.

"Everything about it was exciting," said Johnson, a senior. "We had a lot of people cheering for us — our teammates, parents and even a former teammate."

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GIRLS SWIMMING D-1 RESULTS

L.P. DIVISION 1 STATE FINALS
(Nov. 17-18 at Oakland University)

TEAM SCORES – 1. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 359.5; 2. Holland, 221; 3. Farmington Hills Mercy, 159.5; 4. Monroe, 146; 5. Livonia Stevenson,104; 6. Jenison, 97; 7. (tie) Milford, 82; 7. Plymouth Canton, 82; 9. Rockford, 79.5; 10. Midland Dow, 68.5; 11. Kalamazoo Central, 64; 12. Saginaw Heritage, 63; 13. Troy, 61; 14. Northville, 57; 15. Lake Orion, 54; 16. Grand Haven, 51; 17. South Lyon, 48.5; 18. (tie) Grosse Pointe North, 48; Pinckney, 48; 20. (tie) Rochester Adams, 33; Brighton, 33; 22. Grosse Pointe South, 32; 23. Grand Rapids Forest Hills Northern-Eastern Unified, 29; 24. Clarkston, 26; 25. Ann Arbor Huron, 25; 26. Novi, 22; 27. Troy Athens, 20; 27. West Bloomfield, 20; 29. Holt, 18; 30. (tie) Holland West Ottawa, 17; Utica Ford II, 17; 32. Temperance-Bedford, 16; 33. (tie) Utica,15; East Kentwood, 15; 35. Walled Lake Western, 13; 36. Traverse City West, 12; 36. Portage Central, 12; 38. Hudsonville, 11; 38. Westland John Glenn, 11; 40. Zeeland, 10; 41. Grandville, 8; 42. Dearborn, 6; 43. Utica Eisenhower, 5.5; 44. Flint Southwestern Academy, 3; 45. (tie) Rochester Stoney Creek, 1; 45. Hartland, 1.

200 FREESTYLE – 1. Allison Schmitt (Plymouth Canton) 1:47.54; 2. Liz Koselka (Ann Arbor Pioneer) 1:47.79; 3. Kristyne Cole (Ann Arbor Pioneer) 1:49.63; 4. Kerry Sodonis (Troy) 1:54.48; 5. Andrea Brown (Saginaw Heritage) 1:54.55; 6. Megan Craig (Farmington Hills Mercy) 1:53.48; 7. Sarah Lawless (Holland) 1:57.25; 8. Erica Shepard, (Jenison) 1:58.28; 9. Mary Keeley (Rockford) 1:56.84; 10. Kerry Abel (Novi) 1:56.93; 11. Virginia Page (Farmington Hills Mercy) 1:57.29; 12. Julie Anne Stears (Zeeland Unified) 1:57.39; 13. Abbey Green (Dearborn) 1:57.70; 14. Catherine Leix (Flint Southwestern) 1:58.16; 15. Brooke Balogh (Monroe) 1:58.57; 16. Katie Everett (Ann Arbor Huron) 2:00.52.

500 FREESTYLE – 1. Allison Schmitt (Plymouth Canton) 4:50.79 (breaks Division I record of 4:50.87 set by Ava Ohlgren in 2005); 2. Kristyne Cole (Ann Arbor Pioneer) 4:53.89; 3. Megan Craig (Farmington Hills Mercy) 5:04.37; 4. Lauren Shanley (Ann Arbor Pioneer) 5:04.73; 5. Brooke Balogh (Monroe) 5:11.23; 6. Laura Timson (Livonia Stevenson) 5:13.27; 7. Julianna Schmidt (Grosse Pointe North) 5:15.28; 8. Candace Savonen (Monroe) 5:21.35; 9. Rachel Johnson (Milford) 5:09.41; 10. Kelli Dewey (Grand Haven) 5:13.66; 11. Kelsey Trabue (South Lyon) 5:15.17; 12. Julie Anne Stears (Zeeland) 5:15.60; 13. Annelies Real (Holland West Ottawa) 5:17.71; 14. Gillian Staudt (Farmington Hills Mercy) 5:19.63; 15. Abbey Green (Dearborn) 5:21.40; 16. Emily Michaels (Rochester Stoney Creek) 5:22.20.

200 FREESTYLE RELAY – 1. Ann Arbor Pioneer (Liz Koselka, Carlye Ellis, Carleigh Schwartz, Kristyne Cole) 1:36.31; 2. Holland, 1:38.69; 3. Jenison, 1:39.82; 4. Farmington Hills Mercy, 1:39.90; 5. Northville, 1:40.04; 6. Rockford, 1:40.13; 7. Kalamazoo Central, 1:40.18; 8. Grosse Pointe North, 1:40.84; **9. Canton, 1:40.95;** 10. South Lyon, 1:40.98; 11. Lake Orion, 1:41.46; 12. Saginaw Heritage, 1:41.60; 13. Grandville, 1:41.72; 14. Rochester Adams, 1:41.95; 15. Pinckney, 1:42.76; 16. Livonia Stevenson, 1:42.99.

400 FREESTYLE RELAY – 1. Ann Arbor Pioneer (Liz Koselka, Carleigh Schwartz, Ashley Cohagen, Kristyne Cole) 3:27.35; 2. Holland, 3:29.95; 3. Monroe, 3:35.61; 4. Jenison, 3:37.14; 5. Farmington Hills Mercy, 3:38.72; 6. Rockford, 3:38.94; **7. Plymouth Canton, 3:40.32;** 8. Milford, 3:43.61; 9. Livonia Stevenson, 3:39.00; 10. Troy, 3:39.20; 11. Northville, 3:41.39; 12. Ann Arbor Huron, 3:41.91; 13. Lake Orion, 3:42.94; 14. Rochester Adams, 3:43.89; 15. Midland Dow, 3:43.95; 16. Grand Haven, 3:45.97.

GIRLS SWIM BESTS

OBSERVERLAND GIRLS SWIM BESTS
(as of Nov. 20)

200-YARD MEDLEY RELAY
Livonia Stevenson 1:50.27
Salem 1:53.85
Westland John Glenn 1:54.65
Canton 1:59.8
Livonia Ladywood 2:00.91

200 FREESTYLE
Allison Schmitt (Canton) 1:47.54
Jill Peterson (John Glenn) 1:59.90
Stephanie Buckley (Stevenson) 2:00.47
Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 2:00.66
Laura Timson (Stevenson) 2:01.41
Monica Blaesser (Canton) 2:01.54
Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 2:01.90
Katie Gorman (Salem) 2:03.06
Ashley Gordon (Stevenson) 2:04.42
Samantha Reid (Churchill) 2:04.66

200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY
Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 2:07.08
Allison Schmitt (Canton) 2:08.01
Laura Timson (Stevenson) 2:11.32
Ashley Gordon (Stevenson) 2:15.01
Jill Peterson (John Glenn) 2:17.00
Ashley Sells (John Glenn) 2:17.62
Maggie Carlson (Canton) 2:17.81
Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 2:19.89
Monica Blaesser (Canton) 2:21.16
Sijia Hao (Plymouth) 2:21.76

50 FREESTYLE
Allison Schmitt (Canton) 23.76
Jill Peterson (John Glenn) 25.40
Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 25.51
Blake Holtz (Stevenson) 25.70
Laura Timson (Stevenson) 25.95
Ally Stencel (Salem) 26.09
Mandy Nameth (Ladywood) 26.26
Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 26.54
Anna Polkowski (Stevenson) 26.56
Monica Blaesser (Canton) 26.71

1-METER DIVING
Katie Koetting (Salem) 231.334
Chelsea Selden (Canton) 217.05
Carla McNamara (Stevenson) 207.40
Emily Quint (Franklin) 204.65
Katina St. Pierre (Churchill) 173.40
Amanda Keedle (Stevenson) 172.57
Kailea Stancer (Canton) 167.50
Meghan Powers (Franklin) 162.10
Catherine Musatics (Churchill) 155.85
Mallory Hudak (Canton) 152.55

100 BUTTERFLY
Allison Schmitt (Canton) 57.13
Ashley Sells (John Glenn) 1:00.01
Anna Polkowski (Stevenson) 1:02.07
Megan Holycross (Stevenson) 1:02.55
Katie Kress (Stevenson) 1:04.64
Samantha Reid (Churchill) 1:05.44
Katie Gorman (Salem) 1:05.45
Monica Blaesser (Canton) 1:05.52
Sijia Hao (Plymouth) 1:06.10

100 FREESTYLE
Allison Schmitt (Canton) 52.01
Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 53.10
Jill Peterson (John Glenn) 54.89
Laura Timson (Stevenson) 56.37
Katie Gorman (Salem) 56.77
Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 57.11
Blake Holtz (Stevenson) 57.31
Ally Stencel (Salem) 57.55
Alyssa Liakos (Plymouth) 57.89
Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 58.02

500 FREESTYLE
Allison Schmitt (Canton) 4:50.79
Laura Timson (Stevenson) 5:12.82
Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 5:17.14
Jill Peterson (John Glenn) 5:21.13
Stephanie Buckley (Stevenson) 5:22.07
Monica Blaesser (Canton) 5:24.33
Amanda Timson (Churchill) 5:26.52
Ashley Gordon (Salem) 5:30.77
Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 5:33.23
Emily Bair (Salem) 5:34.26

200 FREESTYLE RELAY
Canton 1:40.95
Livonia Stevenson 1:42.35
Salem 1:45.37
Plymouth 1:45.66
Livonia Churchill 1:47.52

100 BACKSTROKE
Allison Schmitt (Canton) 1:00.91
Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 1:02.06
Alyssa Johnson (Canton) 1:02.47
Ashley Gordon (Stevenson) 1:02.81
Laura Timson (Stevenson) 1:04.07
Megan Holycross (Stevenson) 1:04.85
Ashley Sells (John Glenn) 1:04.25
Anna Polkowski (Stevenson) 1:05.42
Jordan Haymour (Franklin) 1:06.22
Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 1:06.50

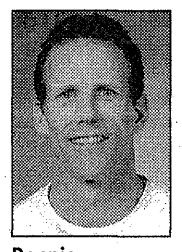
100 BREASTSTROKE
Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 1:05.04
Jill Peterson (John Glenn) 1:08.26
Laura Timson (Stevenson) 1:10.01
Sijia Hao (Plymouth) 1:12.78
Mandy Nameth (Ladywood) 1:13.30
Allison Schmitt (Canton) 1:13.78
Maggie Carlson (Canton) 1:13.94
Ellen Paczynski (Plymouth) 1:14.26
Amanda Foulds (Churchill) 1:15.16
Stephanie Buckley (Stevenson) 1:15.89

400 FREESTYLE RELAY
Livonia Stevenson 3:39.0
Canton 3:40.32
Salem 3:48.64
Westland John Glenn 3:51.30
Plymouth 3:55.56



What should pre-exercise warm-up routine include?

(**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Following is the first in a series of sports performance training-related columns written by former Detroit Tigers trainer Dennie Taft, who currently runs his own performance training business, T.A.F.T. Strength and Conditioning.



Dennie Taft

If you have a sports performance training question you would like to ask Taft, send it in an e-mail to ewright@hometownlife.com.)

Question: Which do you recommend as a pre-exercise or pre-competition warm-up routine — static stretching or an active dynamic warm-up?

Answer: It's important to understand the differences between the two. Static stretching takes a joint to its greatest range of motion and holds that position for a period of time (usually 10 to 30 seconds). An active dynamic warm-up features progressive, continuous movement using a combination of calisthenics (jumping jacks, squat thrust, arm circles) and body weight exercises (squatting and lunging), coupled with various sport-specific movements (sprinting, high knees, backpedaling and shuffling).

Traditionally, static stretching has been the staple of every warm-up routine from professional athletes to pick-up basketball games. Recently, studies have indicated an adverse effect on performance when preceded by this type of warm up. Activities requiring power output, balance and reaction time were diminished following static stretching.

Strength and conditioning professionals are now advocating an active dynamic warm-up as the best way to prepare athletes. This warm-up will raise the heart rate, increasing core temperatures and stimulating blood flow to the muscles and tendons. Movements will take the joints through a greater range of motion, increasing flexibility while enhancing free, coordinated movement.

Also, because of the nature of the movements, fast-twitch (rapid force production) muscle fibers are stimulated, allowing them to be easily recruited later during the speed, agility, strength and power tasks that follow. All of this will enhance performance.

Therefore, it is recommended that your choice of pre-exercise or competition warm-up be active dynamic.

MU spikers win title

Next stop – Columbia, Missouri.

That's where the Madonna University women's volleyball team will be heading after sweeping Cornerstone in three games, 30-25, 30-25, 30-21, to win their third straight NAIA Region VIII Tournament title Saturday evening at Indiana Wesleyan University's Luckey Arena in Marion.

The seventh-ranked Crusaders (38-2) defeated Cornerstone for the fourth time this season and second time in a week.

Madonna won the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference tournament title game over Cornerstone, 3-1, last Saturday (Nov. 11) to earn the top seed in the region tournament.

Sophomore Lubovj Tihomirova (Riga, Latvia) continued her dominance over the Golden Eagles with 19 kills in the championship game to lead MU. Senior middle hitter Caryn Inman (Oxford) added 18 kills for the Crusaders.

Freshman setter Inta Grinvalds (Portage Central) guided the Crusaders to a .371 hitting percentage with a game high 50 assists. Leading hitters for Cornerstone (39-9) included Shari VanEngen (13 kills), Holly Cousins (11 kills) and Emily Hollemans (10 kills).

Marcie Blacquiere added 34 assists, while Julie Brusie led in digs with 17. Madonna advanced to the region championship after picking up a 3-1 win against Indiana Tech (27-9) in a semifinal match earlier in the day.

The Crusaders split the first two games, 30-16, 16-30, before closing out the match with games of 30-17 and 30-25.

The Crusaders will be heading to their fifth straight NAIA National Tournament, which will be played Nov. 29-Dec. 2 at Columbia College.

Whitney Fuelling, Tihomirova, and Inman each recorded 15 kills, while Grinvalds had 43 assists. Junior Libero Jacqui Gatt (Livonia Churchill) and Fuelling each had nine digs.

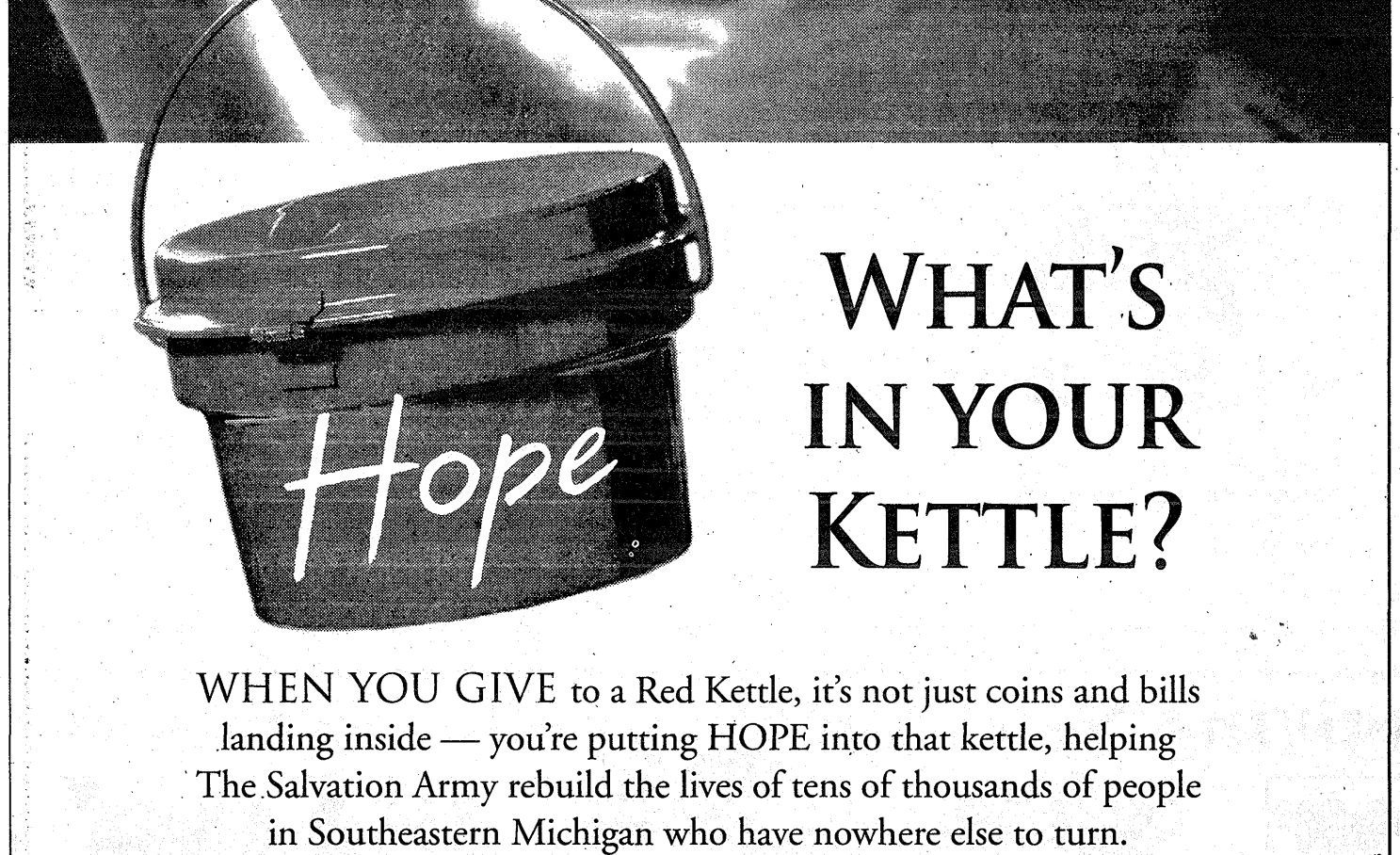
MU coach Jerry Abraham and the Crusaders will now await the seedings for the upcoming national tournament, which will be released early next week.

Following the regional championship game, several Crusaders were honored by regional officials. Inman earned regional Player of the Year honors just a week after being named WHAC Player of the Year. She was joined on the All-Region first-team by Tihomirova and Gatt.

Grinvalds earned another Freshman of the Year award.

Lady Ocelots 7th

The Schoolcraft College women's volleyball team earned a seventh-place finish in the National Junior College Athletic Association Division II Tournament in Scottsdale CC (Ariz.) with a 30–18, 24-30, 31-29, 30-27 victory over Southwestern Illinois CC.



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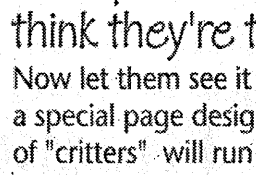
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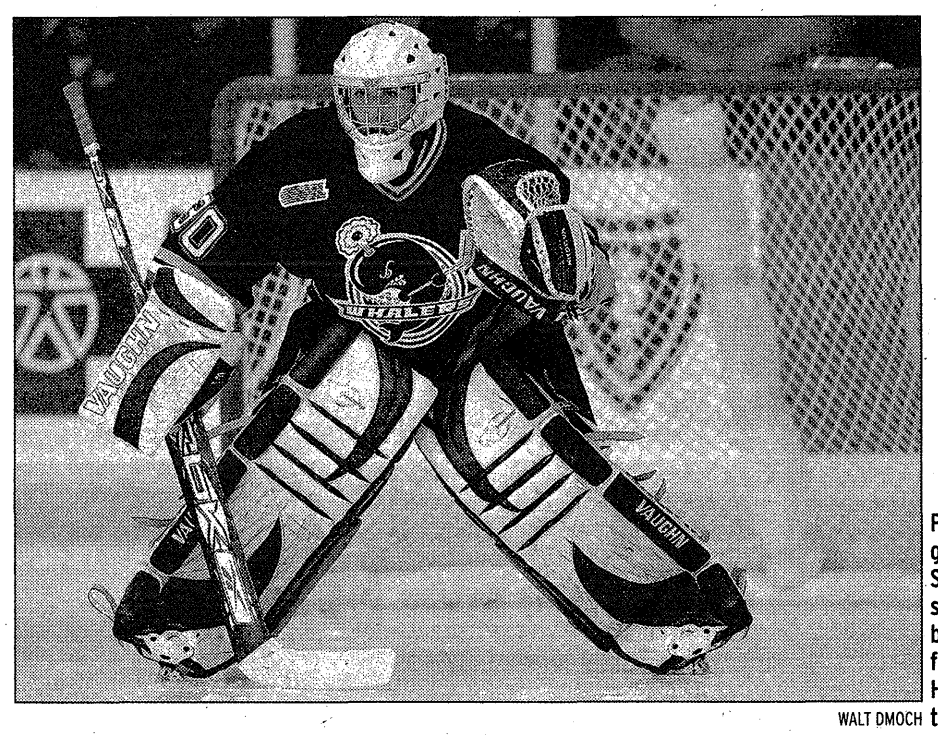
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OE06488889

Whalers are in good hands with Brownstown's Smith



Plymouth Whalers goal-keeper Jeremy Smith is enjoying a solid season between the pipes for the Ontario Hockey League team.

WALT DMOCH

New York Rangers scout Rich Brown recently came to the Compuware Sports Arena. As he settled into the Scouts/Media Room, Brown asked: "Is Jeremy Smith starting in goal tonight for the Whalers?"

Brown's question is one that a lot of NHL scouts ask when they come to watch the Plymouth Whalers this season.

That doesn't mean the scouts don't like Plymouth's other goaltender, Michal Neuvirth. It's just that Neuvirth — a second-round draft choice of the Washington Capitals — has already been taken by an NHL team.

Not so with Smith, a Brownstown native in his NHL draft year who is moving up the radar of the NHL scouts with a bullet.

Through the middle of the November, Smith ranks second in the Ontario Hockey League with a 2.68 goals against average and .920 save percentage and leads the league with three shutouts.

He's stopped seven of the eight shots he's faced in shootouts this year, second in the league behind Neuvirth, who has gone three for three.

Smith's shutout streak this year of 151:37 — including consecutive shutouts of Windsor on Oct. 19 and Toronto on Oct. 27 — ranks him fourth on the Whalers' all-time list.

Suddenly, a potential question mark for the Whalers has turned into a position of strength.

The conventional wisdom around the OHL is that teams employ a veteran, experienced goaltender and pair him with a younger goaltender. Not so with the Whalers.

With the graduation of Justin Peters last season and the trade of Justin Garay to Erie earlier this year, Smith and Neuvirth came into the season with five games played between the two combined.

Their so-called inexperience has not prevented Smith and Neuvirth from playing well.

Through the Whalers' first 20 games, Smith has been selected the First Star in four starts and a Second star in one. Neuvirth has two First Stars, a second and a third.

"They may be rookies, but Jeremy was around our program last year and Michal has some great international experience," Plymouth President, General Manager and Head Coach Mike Vellucci said. "I think both of them have played really well to date and hopefully, they'll continue."

Smith — a fourth round pick of the Whalers in 2005 — played the bulk of last season with the Compuware Midget Majors, but practiced and dressed for the Whalers when Garay was hurt. It was tough for him to sit and watch, but the experience proved to be valuable.

"Smith learned a lot from last year," Vellucci said. "I think practicing with us every day last year helped him improve — not just his skills, but his off-ice workouts. Watching Justin Peters — who is probably one of the hardest workers I've every coached — showed Jeremy what it takes to take his game to the next level."

"Last year was a long year for me, but I learned a lot from (Justin) Peters," Smith said. "He works hard, he's made it to the next level and that's where I want to go."

Peters resembles Dominik Hasek in intensity when it comes to working and being scored upon.

"Petey battles very hard," Smith said. "That taught me something — even when shooters score goals on you in practice, it shouldn't rattle you. He showed me you have to come to the rink every day to work hard, whether it's practice or a game."

Smith and Neuvirth compliment each other.

Future Red Wing haunts Whalers, 5-2

Detroit Red Wing draft pick Cory Emmerton tallied two goals and an assist, while captain Chris Stewart scored the game-winning goal and added an assist as the Kingston Frontenacs defeated the Plymouth Whalers, 5-2, in an Ontario Hockey League game played Saturday night before 3,563 at the Compuware Sports Arena.

Plymouth is now 12-10-0-0, which is good enough for third place in the OHL West Division. Kingston, which won all three games on a road trip through Windsor, Sarnia and Plymouth last weekend, improved to 10-10-2-1.

Dan Collins scored both Whaler goals and now has nine on the season. Nathan Moon and Mathew Kang scored the other Kingston goals.

Collins scored at 5:45 of the first period to give Plymouth its only lead of the game when he tipped Tom Sestito's shot from the right wing past Kingston goaltender Jason Guy. But the Frontenacs tied the game at 1-1 when Moon scored on his own rebound on a power play at 11:41 of the first period and Kang scored a shorthanded goal at 17:44 of the period to give Kingston a 2-1 lead after 20 minutes of play.

Stewart scored the eventual game-winner for Kingston on a shorthanded effort at 10:54 of the second period when he took Emmerton's pass from the left wing in the Plymouth zone, cut in front of Plymouth goaltender Jeremy Smith, and scored on a severe angle shot from the right wing for his 13th goal of the season.

Collins came back for Plymouth to cut the Kingston lead to 3-2 at 16:55 of the period when he took Chris Terry's pass from the left point and beat Guy with a back-hand shot from between the hashmarks in the Kingston zone.

But Emmerton scored the only two goals of the third period at 3:21 and 17:26 respectively as Kingston pulled away for the victory.

Kingston outshot Plymouth, 32-24.

SPORTS BRIEFS

POM CLINIC

The Plymouth High School Saberette's pom squad will be hosting a kid's clinic on Saturday, Dec. 2, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Plymouth High School gymnasium for girls in kindergarten through 8th grade.

The cost for the clinic is $35, which includes a pom T-shirt, pom pons and a snack.

Registration will be held Tuesday, Nov. 14 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Plymouth High School athletic wing.

All participants will be invited to perform in the Saberette Variety Show on Feb. 16-17 and at halftime of a Plymouth basketball game. For more information, call (734) 459-6460.

BASEBALL TRAINING

Dennie Taft, former Detroit Tigers' strength and conditioning coach, is teaming with High Velocity Sports to offer an 8- or 12-week performance training camp specific to baseball players.

One-hour sessions (2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.) will feature drills and exercises designed to develop speed, agility, quickness, core strength and power — the same ones used to prepare area professional baseball players Nate Robertson, Charlie Haeger, Anthony Tomey and Bobby Malek.

Participants can choose either the Monday-Wednesday-Friday session or Tuesday-Thursday session.

Camps run the week of Nov. 27, through the week of Feb. 26, 2007.

For more information and pricing, contact Dennie Taft, TAFT Strength and Conditioning, at (734) 751-0923. You can also reach him at taftraining@msn.com.

HIGH VELOCITY ADDS HOOP

Canton-based High Velocity Sports has partnered with Joe Dumars Fieldhouse to replace its roller hockey rink with four hardwood basketball/volleyball courts.

Leagues for both youth and adults are now forming and will begin play the week of Dec. 1. The basketball/volleyball season will last 12 weeks and include 10 games plus playoffs. The cost for adult players is $110.

"We are very excited to be able to announce the development and imminent opening of Joe Dumars Fieldhouse inside High Velocity Sports in Canton," said Joe Dumars. "We are confident that the operation will serve the league basketball needs of the community in a first-class fashion. We are also enthusiastic about the impact that a west-side location will have on our existing facilities in Shelby Township and Detroit."

HVS is offering 5-on-5 and 4-on-4 adult leagues. The fee for youth players is $135. Players in both leagues will receive a free jersey. Daily drop-in basketball is available from 10 a.m. to midnight. The cost is $8.

"We think adding Joe Dumars Fieldhouse basketball to HVS is one of the biggest sports revelations to hit Canton," said Bryan Finnerty, leading owner of HVS. "We are honored to forge an alliance with one of professional basketball's greatest ambassadors."

HVS will also be offering basketball clinics; floor hockey and tee ball for youngsters; and volleyball classes. Adult co-ed volleyball leagues are also available for a fee of $85 per player. Visit www.hvsports.com; or call (734) HV-SPORT.

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Trophy time

On Nov. 12, the Plymouth-Canton Steelers freshmen football team was recently crowned champion of the Western Suburban Junior Football League's Super Bowl. Pictured (front row from left) are Brandon Rhodes (manager), Danny Lanava (water boy), Jack Pardington, Christian Mayberry, A.J. Convertino, Philip Avramoski, Thomas Jones, Kadeem Hemphil, Jalen Hemphil, Dakota Lynn, (second row from left) Bradley Deeg, Tyler Whipple, Matthew McKoy, Jacob Mallad, Matt Ramey, Andy Gregor, Trenton Shelby, Nick Farmer, Nick Poet, Devin Cameron, Nick Lanava, Adam McKee, (third row from left) Anthony Colaluca, Gregory Williams, Kevin Justice, Owen Ash, Mitchell Gross, Lucas Callahan, Justin Sydlowski, (fourth row from left) Mark Mazzuca (asst. coach), Angelo Lanava (asst. coach), Paul Hult (asst. coach), Marty Rhodes (asst. coach), Vic Whipple (asst. unit director) and Rob Rodrigues (head coach).



Hurricane warning

The Michigan Hurricanes Midget A travel hockey team won the Motown Cup Oct. 27-29 in Southgate. The Hurricanes defeated the Humberview (Ont.) Huskies, 2-1, in the championship game and went 4-0 overall. The Hurricanes outscored their foes, 17-3, overall. Adam Powers was named MVP for the Hurricanes. The team consists of Trevor McCarty, Derek Henderson, Neil Smith, Patrick Riedy, Bryan Davison, Jake Porter, Ronnie Pluszczynski, Adam Weigand, Drew Sieber, Justin Bennett, Phillip Mitchell, Nick Pelon, Sam Ott, Adam Yarber, Rick Lorenz, Jonathon Simons, Travis Satkowiak, Matt Wasko and Adam Powers. The team is coached by Lee McCarty, Rick Lorenz, Mike Kreager and Joe Satkowiak.



Red alert

The Canton Soccer Club 97 Red girls team successfully defended its 2005 Halloween Classic Tournament title last month when it went 4-0-1 in the U10 event held in Indianapolis. The team also captured the U10 girls Division 1 title in the Western Suburban Soccer League. Pictured (front row from left) are Ashley Bearden (Canton), Jillian Aguirre (Canton), Carly Kowalski (Canton), Paige Slominski (Canton), Lindsay Yankasky (Garden City), Alyssa Bradley (Canton), (top row from left) Haley Diedrick (Canton), Alexandra Wilbanks (Ypsilanti), Katie Stevens (Canton), Cecilia Kieliszewski (Canton) and Lauren Yurko (Canton).

Short-handed Ocelots whip Express, 94-80

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Down to just six players due to an injury, Schoolcraft College's men's basketball made the most of every offensive possession Saturday afternoon.

Nine treys in the first half alone propelled the host Ocelots to a 44-28 halftime lead against Owens Community College (Ohio).

Then, five second-half triples by freshman guard Josh Samarco were enough for Schoolcraft (3-1) to withstand a second-half rally by the Express and earn a 94-80 victory.

Schoolcraft got the win without leading scorer Korey Spates, the Purdue University transfer who sustained a cut to his face during practice Friday.

Sparking the Ocelots to the non-conference win were Samarco and another freshman guard Kenyawn Patterson.

Patterson connected on four treys in the first half and finished with 28 points, while Samarco's blazing streak after intermission kept Owens (1-3) from pulling any closer than seven. Samarco finished with 25 points.

"Both those guys (Patterson, Samarco) are outstanding shooters, great freshmen," Brown said. "We expect them to do that, and I think they'll do that all season long for us."

After dominating during the first half, particularly in a 19-8 run that wiped out Owens only lead of the contest, Schoolcraft found itself up against a more energized, urgent Express to open the second half.

Led by freshman forward Gabe Gibbs (12 points), who scored three quick to-the-hole buckets, Owens chipped the Ocelots' lead to 51-42 with just over 15 minutes to play.

Briefly, Brown worried about letting another victory slip away.

On Wednesday, Schoolcraft gave up 10 late points to lose to Grand Rapids Community College, 90-86.

"We had a chance to win the game (on Wednesday) and fell apart at the end," he said. "We really spent some time making sure we didn't get into that same situation again today."

Enter hot-shooting Samarco, who canned three triples, including two within a 10-second span, rebuilding the lead to 67-44 with 12:25 remaining.

Another key play during that stretch was a steal and layup by freshman guard Jerome Hutchins (19 points), who tacked on a free throw to make it a three-point play.

Hutchins came through again with about two minutes to go. Patterson in-bounded the ball near mid-court to a streaking Hutchins, and the Detroit Redford product flew through the lane for another layup and foul shot.

That opened up an 87-77 margin for the Ocelots, who always seemed to maintain a comfortable margin despite the lack of manpower in the game.

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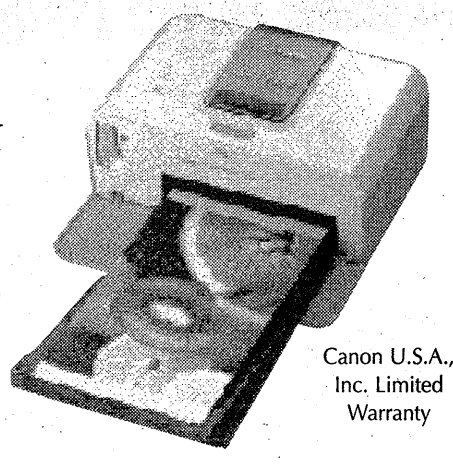
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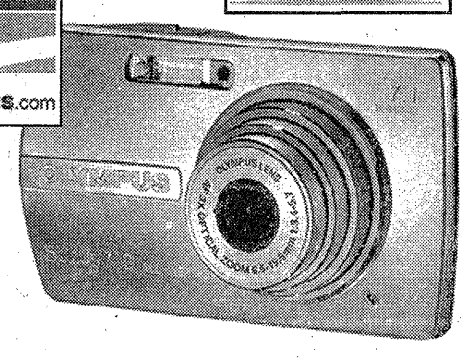


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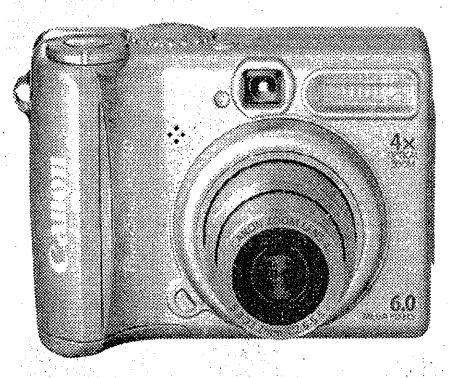
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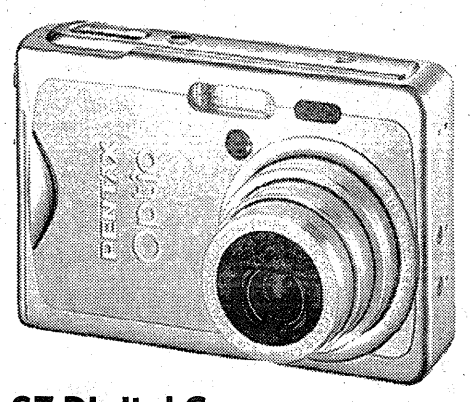
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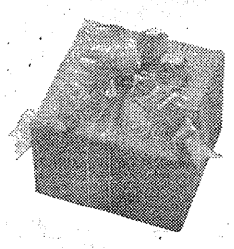


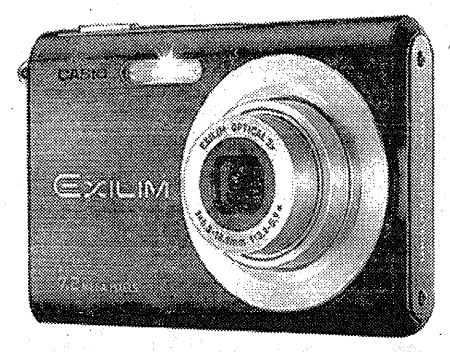
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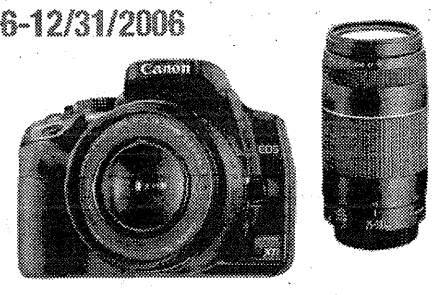
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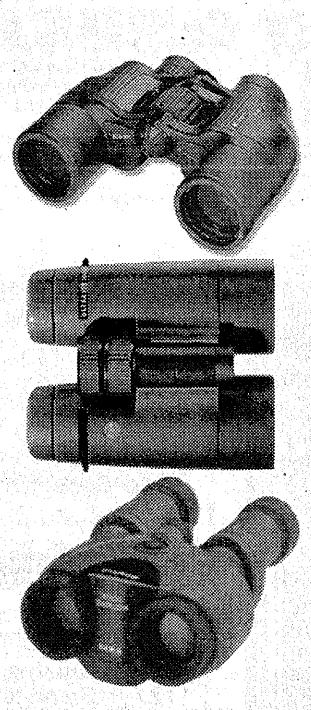
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Nobody's Pal Joey returns to h

Where are they? Certainly there must have been some Joey Harrington supporters with the Lions. If they are out there, they aren't exactly taking this week to speak up in defense of the former Lions quarterback. He is back in town with his new team, the Dolphins, and it's like he's a stranger.

Harrington started the bulk of his four years in Detroit. He played for two head coaches, survived a heart scare and battled booing from Lions fans on a weekly basis. Outside of a few women who thought he was "cute," Joey Harrington's time here was nothing short of a football disaster.

"People are going to hype up going back to Detroit this week," Harrington said to reporters following Miami's win Sunday over Minnesota. "I'm going back as part of the Dolphins and that's something I'm proud of."



Mark Wilson

Joey just helped Nick Saban win his third straight game. Harrington never had a three-game win streak with the Lions. He has tried to downplay his return to Ford Field, but it hasn't been easy. He knows Lions boo-birds will be out in full voice on this Thanksgiving.

"I know that stadium pretty well. I know what section the boos come from," Harrington added.

News flash, Joey. Don't be surprised when the entire stadium starts hooting on you. By the time Harrington left here after the 2005 season, it was pretty universal. Very few believed he had the moxie to be a great NFL quarterback. He was picked third overall in the 2002 draft and failure just wasn't the game plan.

"What makes me happiest is to know that I'm part of a team that appreciates what I bring to the table as either a backup or a starter," Harrington said. "I'm proud to be a Miami Dolphin and proud to walk into that locker room and say these are my teammates."

Joey was supposed to be the golden boy coming out of the University of Oregon. He was "Joey Heisman," even hyped up on a billboard in New York City his senior year with the Ducks. Of course, he didn't win the award for best college football player, but the billboard was nice.

This game has been circled on the schedule ever since Harrington signed with Saban to play behind Daunte Culpepper. When Culpepper went down, Joey stepped in and struggled. Lately, he has found a groove and the Dolphins are winning again.

"Joey did a good job of managing the game," Saban said after the win over the Vikes. "He made a lot of good throws out there."

Anyone who remembers Saban at Michigan State will know those comments are high praise. Nick tosses out compliments like Scrooge gives out money. Harrington has been far from perfect. He has more interceptions than touchdowns and his quarterback rating of 65.7 is actually below his career number. Miami is winning and that makes everything all right for the moment.

"I'm really starting to feel good playing with these guys," Harrington said.

Of course, Joey heads back into the Lions' den with his former team reeling. It has lost two in a row and stands at 2-8 following the disaster in the desert. His replacement, Jon Kitna, is struggling to find a consistent groove. It seems that

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unt Lions on Thanksgiving Day

Kitna just can't stay away from a big turnover hat ends up killing drives.

"We're not going to hang our heads about anyhing," Kitna said Sunday after the 17-10 loss to he Cardinals. "There are six games left to go in he season and we're still building this thing from he ground up."

The ground has been an issue. Kevin Jones left he field in Arizona with an ankle injury. Arlen Harris did the best he could and even scored a ouchdown, but he is not a premier back in the NFL. Without K.J., things get even dicier heading nto this Thanksgiving matchup with Miami.

"Anytime you lose one of your best players, it's going to affect you," Kitna said.

"It's all of us, together. It's a team. Everybody has to be on every detail," coach Rod Marinelli said. Once again, he refused to use injury as an excuse for anything.

The short turnaround before the Turkey Day game will be a new experience for Marinelli. He will coach for the first time on the holiday. In his 11 years as an assistant in Tampa, the Bucs never played the Lions or Cowboys on Thanksgiving. The last thing he would do is offer up the short week as a hindrance.

"There's no room for frustration," Marinelli said. "You go back to work. We don't sit, pout, cry and worry about things you can't control."

They also have to get past the myth that "the Lions always win on Thanksgiving." It just isn't true. In fact, they have lost four of the last five Turkey Day tilts. The Lions' overall record in the history of Thanksgiving games is a mediocre 33-31-5. The series began in 1934 with a Lions loss to the Chicago Bears.

Miami has never been a Turkey Day opponent. While the Lions seem to be far out of any playoff picture, the Dolphins feel they have something going now. It was at this time last year that Saban got his team to win six in a row to finish the season. If the Dolphins do that again, they will end up 10-6 and who knows what's possible?

Of course, the Dolphins should try to avoid rushing for minus-3 yards again. They had minus-3 on the books and still beat Minnesota. The last time a team won a game in the NFL with that poor a rushing effort was 1961, when the Eagles knocked off the Redskins with minus-12 yards on the ground.

"They shut down one half of our offense," Harrington said to reporters. "We threw well enough to win and got great help defensively."

Ford Field will be the anti-Joey stadium. While Lions fans aren't too crazy about how their home team has looked with eight losses, they will take out their frustrations on old No. 3. At least Harrington has fond memories of playing on Turkey Day, if nothing else.

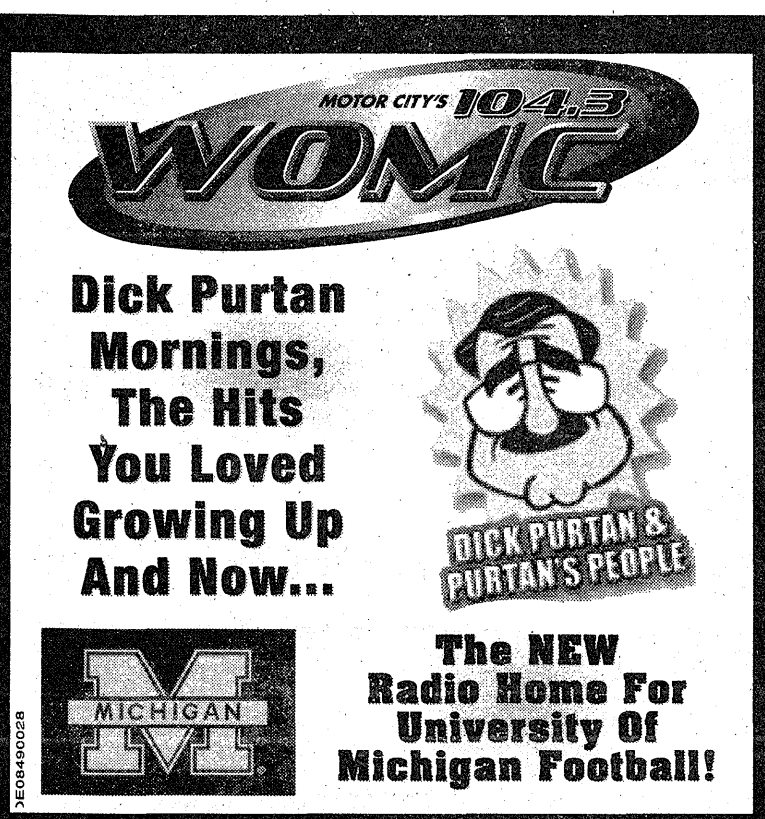
"I just like playing on Thanksgiving. I was privileged to do it for four years there and I am going back to do it again," he said.

It's the day we eat, watch football and give thanks. We live in a country where we can enjoy the fruits of our labors. Have some food and check out the Lions.

Just save room for a little booing. Joey's ready for ya.

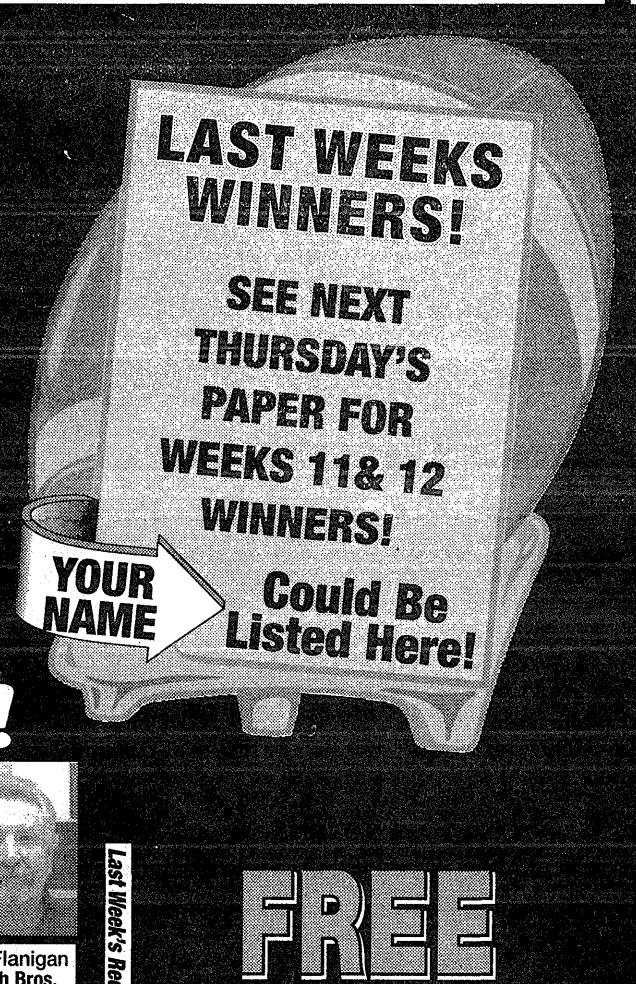
Mark Wilson is host of the Lions pregame and postgame shows on WKRK-FM (97.1). He's a former Associated Press and Michigan Association of Broadcasters Michigan Sportscaster of the Year. He lives in West Bloomfield.





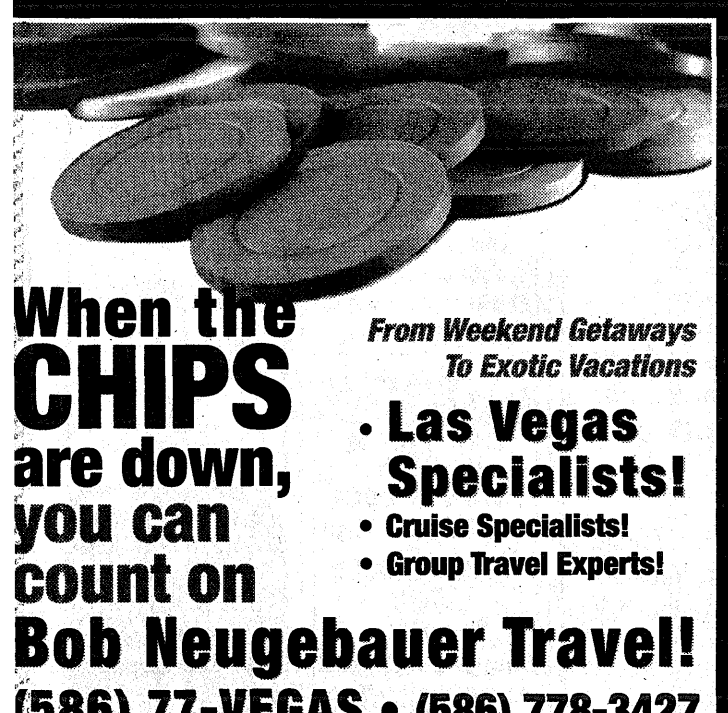














Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

Challenging fun for ALL ages

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

1 Really hurry
4 Hiss
8 Mailbox attachment
12 Help-wanted abbr.
13 Crushed grapes
14 Deluge
15 Call it quits
16 Road hazards
17 Light brown
18 Staying power
20 New England st.
21 Unseal, to Poe
22 Walk nonchalantly
26 Mantra chanters
29 Rover's doc
30 Stein filler
31 Home appliance
32 Mouser
33 Gush out
34 Take for a ride
35 Sallow
36 "Swan Lake" costumes
37 Hardened
39 Rule opposed by Gandhi
40 Gym locale
41 Not tearing one's hair
45 Nimble
48 Explorer Zebulon —
49 Zippy's word
50 Vein of ore
51 Anatomical passage
52 Pooh's pal
53 It has rings
54 Walks softly
55 Jr. naval officer

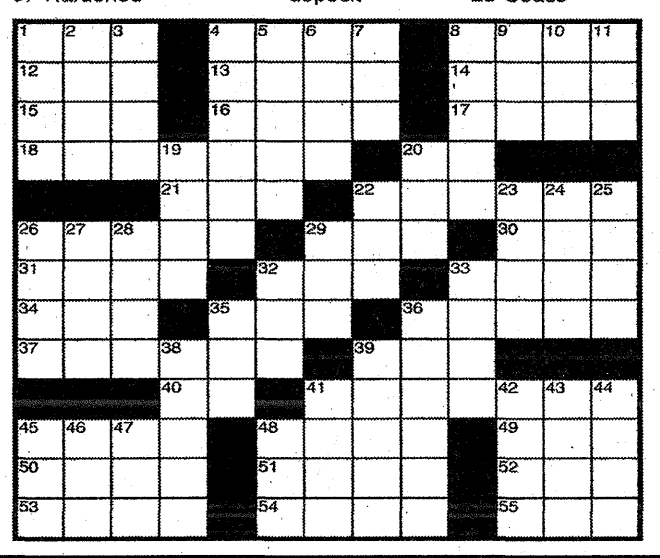
DOWN

1 Service charges
2 Let borrow
3 Jedi knight trainer
4 Removes paint
5 Dried fruit
6 Modicum
7 QB quests
8 Stews over
9 Resinous deposit
10 Balloon filler
11 Veldt grazer
19 Ghostly noise
20 Large tank
22 Firmed up
23 Cease
24 Felipe or Moises
25 Somber evergreens
26 Focal points
27 Cosmetics brand
28 Waiter's offering
29 Boxy vehicle
32 Heel
33 Japan's highest peak
35 Unsold of the NBA
36 Spuds
38 Couplet
39 Did a fall chore
41 Gyro pocket
42 Bronte heroine Jane —
43 Lunchtime
44 Double dates
45 Sonic-boom maker
46 Pricing word
47 — Dawn Chong
48 Domino dot

Answer to Previous Puzzle

U	N	O		F	O	G	Y		P	E	S	T
C	A	R		L	O	P	E		R	A	N	I
L	I	Z		A	P	A	T	H	E	T	I	C
A	L	O	F	T				A	S	S	T	
			U	S	O		M	G	T			
G	E	A	R		W	E	E		O	A	H	U
A	L	I			N	E	T			V	I	N
L	I	M	O		E	R	A		A	G	E	D
			C	U	D		L	E	T			
	M	E	E	K				A	V	A	I	L
B	I	L	L	E	T	I	N	G		C	H	E
A	L	S	O		N	O	E	L		T	O	N
S	L	A	T		T	U	B	E		S	P	A

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SUDOKU

				1		5		8
			6	2		9	3	1
	1	5	8				2	
7	9	6			3			
3				8		7		
1	2				6		5	9
	8	1		6	4	2		
	3			7		1	4	
	7		5		1		6	3

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
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!

SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

BREAD
BUTTER
CORN
CRANBERRY
DRESSING
GRAVY
GREEN BEANS
ICE CREAM
POTATOES
PUMPKIN PIE
TURKEY
YAMS

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

E T T G R A V Y U P
O T U R K E Y I S U
P I C E C R E A M M
H B R E A D J L A P
C O R N B C A X Y K
E R T B U T T E R I
Y D R E S S I N G N
P O T A T O E S W P
C R A N B E R R Y I
U I P S A S D F C E

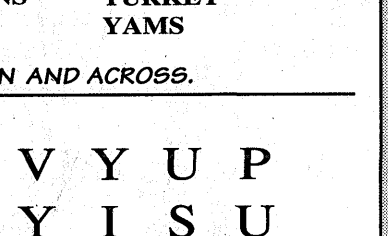
CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

3	6	8	1	9	5	2	7	4
5	4	1	8	7	2	9	3	6
7	9	2	4	6	3	1	8	5
9	5	3	6	4	7	8	2	1
6	1	7	2	8	9	4	5	3
2	8	4	3	5	1	9	6	7
4	2	6	7	3	8	5	1	9
1	3	9	5	2	6	7	4	8
8	7	5	9	1	4	6	3	2

SUDOKU

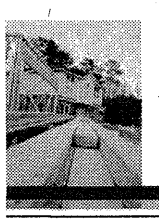
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SEEK AND FIND



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Real Estate



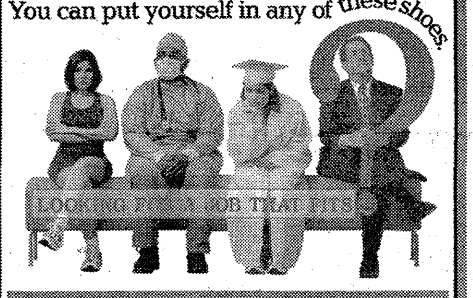
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3060 Brighton	3424 Wayne
3070 Byron	3430 Webberville
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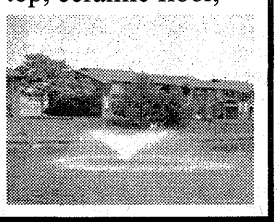


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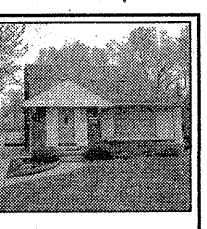
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on Seeley Rd., N. of Grand River
(248) 474-0320

Condos 3720

LIVONIA CONDO
Beautiful two bdrm, 1.5 bath lower level contemporary condo. Much to offer! Gas fireplace in living room, excel location, private entrance. Close to shopping and schools. Possible 3rd bdrm. Pets welcome. Six appliances incl. Move in at closing.
Century 21 Hartford North
734-525-9600

PLYMOUTH CONDO
Close to downtown. Clean 2 bdrm ranch condo. Large open floor plan with skylights, cathedral ceiling, fireplace, bay window, walk-in closet. For sale or lease. One month free rent with lease!
$995/mo. or $119,900.
Century 21 Hartford North
734-525-9600

Van Buren Twp.
SAVE UP TO $32,200
On A New Home Today!
For a limited time, save up to $32,200 on a brand new Crosswinds Communities townhome. Tour our model homes at the Villas at Country Walk located in beautiful Van Buren Township and learn how you can save thousands. Homes priced from the $150's, feature spacious floor plans, luxurious upgrades and attached two car garages.
Close to shopping, dining, entertainment and great schools, The Villas At Country Walk is the perfect place to call home.
Contact Diane at 248.789.4503
For more information on this limited opportunity call or visit The Villas At Country Walk located in Van Buren Township. Take I-94 to Haggerty (south) to West Huron River Dr to Haggerty (south) to Savage (west).
Crosswinds.com.
Equal Housing Opportunity

Mobile Homes 3750

CANTON
Owner financed. 3 & 2 bdrm., mobile homes as low as $100/mo. plus lot rent.
Call Jim (313) 277-1907

CANTON- Private owner. 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, expando. new roof, air, fireplace. Cathedral ceiling, porch, all appliances, lg shed. Nice lot. $9850/best. 734-722-2737

PARKWOOD 1968 Flamingo Trailer Park. 3 bdrm, lg. enclosed porch w/ shed. A/C. Great condition! $5000/best. Land contract option. (734) 421-8491

Northern Property 3790

GAYLORD - 2 moderately wooded acres near Manuka Lake. Awesome area with state land across street. $22,000, 810-750-3566, 313-402-0979

Cemetery Lots 3880

GRANDLAWN CEMETERY
Two plots overlooking fountain. $6000 each. Call (313) 310-5023

OAKLAND HILLS MEMORIAL GARDENS 2 adjoining Garden crypts, Garden of Resurrection. 12 Mile & Novi Rd. $8500/both. (248) 380-7903

PARKVIEW CEMETERY in Livonia, 4 adjacent lots. In the Garden of Psalms. $3500/best or $875 each. 517-655-1738

WHITE CHAPEL CEMETERY in Troy 1 plot. Garden of Meditation. $1250.
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Business Opportunities 3900

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Everything incl. Great price! Southfield. (248) 217-8798

RESIDENTIAL ADULT FOSTER CARE With attached apt. in Farmington Hills. Serious inquiries only. 248-240-3202

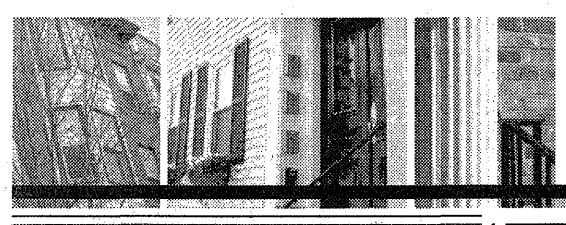
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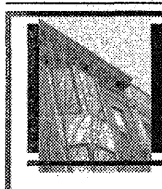
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Apartments

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4000's Real Estate For Lease

4000.....Apartments/Unfurnished
4010.....Apartments/Furnished
4020.....Condos/Townhouses
4030.....Duplexes
4040.....Flats
4050.....Homes For Rent
4060.....Lakefront/Waterfront Homes Rental
4070.....Mobile Home Rentals
4080.....Mobile Home Sites
4090.....Southern Rentals
4100.....Time Share Rentals
4110.....Vacation Resort/Rentals
4120.....Living Quarters To Share
4140.....Rooms For Rent
4200.....Halls/Buildings
4210.....Residence To Exchange
4220.....Office/Retail Space
4230.....Commercial/Industrial
4240.....Land For Rent
4300.....Garage/Mini Storage
4400.....Wanted To Rent
4410.....Wanted To Rent Resort Property
4500.....Furniture Rental
4560.....Rental Agency
4570.....Property Management
4580.....Lease/Option To Buy
4590.....House Sitting Service
4600.....Convalescent Care
4610.....Foster Care
4620.....Home Health Care
4630.....Homes For The Aged
4640.....Misc. To Rent

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Apartments/Unfurnished 4000

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Call Jessica (248) 645-1191

BIRMINGHAM
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Maple Road Townes, Maple at Columbia (east of Adams). This is where you want to be! Charming ivy covered, award winning building features beautifully updated 1 bdrm. apts. ($725), 1 Bdrm. townhomes ($820), and 2 bdrm. townhomes ($895).
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All feature central air, 1 cat OK with fee. Appointments avail. daily. EHO.
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(On Site Manager)
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Low Security Deposit
STARTING AT $545/Mo.
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Deluxe studio & 1 bedroom, carport. Sr. Citizens move in as low as $500 with approved credit. 248-888-0868

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FROM $715/Mo.
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$199 MOVES YOU IN!
Small, charming community nestled in a stream side setting. Featuring a variety of unique one bedroom floor plans including cool 2 story lofts and 1 bedroom with French doors to den. Check out our new cherry hardwood floors and designer paint schemes from only $695 PLUS A MONTH FREE! EHO
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Novi EHO
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Hurry...includes our beautifully remodeled apartments with new kitchens, custom paint and moldings, and in unit washer/dryers! Limited availability...come see why! EHO
TREE TOP MEADOWS
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PLYMOUTH 1 bdrm. available. Near downtown. $580/mo. incl: heat. + security. 734-455-2635

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Re-done 2 bedroom. Appliances, laundry, air. $650/mo: + utilities & deposit. No pets.
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Apartments/Unfurnished 4000

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Happy New Year!
No Rent Until 2007! Plus Rent Starting At $589
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FREE HEAT
Newly Upgraded
1 & 2 Bedrooms
Plymouth Manor
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Close to downtown Plymouth!
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Special-$50 off per mo. for the first year.
With approved credit
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Private entry, patio.
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Move-In Special
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Spacious 1 & 2 bdrms.
C/A. Carport. Pool.
From $565
50% off 1st 3 Months
W/good credit!
Call: (734) 453-8811

REDFORD - 1 & 2 BDRM
$99 Deposit Plus
1st Month Free*
Incl: central air, private storage, walk-in closets.
(313) 937-3319 EHO
*Some restrictions apply

REDFORD - TWO BDRM
1/2 Off 1st Month's Rent
Plus: $99 Deposit*
Features include: central air, large closets, some units 1½ bathrooms.
(313) 937-3319 EHO
*Some restrictions apply

SOUTH LYON - MEADOWS OF SOUTH LYON $900/mo. 3 bdrm, laundry. Pet friendly. 248-767-4207

SOUTH LYON
WOW!!
$470/MO, $0 SEC DEP.
(on approved credit)
Call today before they are gone!
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What more could you ask for? Enjoy the comfort and convenience you deserve in our spacious one bedroom homes. Just one minute from I-696, I-96, M-10 (The Lodge) and Southfield Freeway, you will enjoy all the wonderful things that Metro Detroit has to offer. Come visit your new home today! Features:
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Professionally managed by First Holding Corporation

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FREE RENT
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$99 Deposit*
1 bdrm, great community
Call for details
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Apartments/Unfurnished 4000

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- HEAT/ WATER INCLUDED
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- CLUBHOUSE
- CABLE READY
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Spacious 1 and 2 bdrm. apartments with Balcony.
Cherry Hill near Merriman
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1 Week Only
$625 For
2 Bdrm Uppers
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ORCHARDS OF NEWBURGH
• 1 & 2 Bedroom plans
• Playground Area
• Pool & Clubhouse
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$50 off monthly for the first yr.
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WESTLAND
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1 Bedroom-$530
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Apartments/Unfurnished 4000

Westland Park Apts.
RENT A 2 BDRM. FOR THE SAME RATE AS A 1 BDRM. $575
Security Deposit $200
2 Bedroom, 1.5 bath
936 sq. ft.
1 Bedroom
728 sq. ft. $575
Heat/Water Included
(New residents only with approved credit)
1 year lease.
Very clean apartments
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Appliances include dishwasher and more.
No pets
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NEW MANAGEMENT
Updated Apartments, new carpet.
$349 MOVES YOU IN W/1ST MONTH FREE
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NO RENT UNTIL 2007! Plus Rent Starting At $595
NEWLY RENOVATED KITCHENS & BATHS
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Apartments/Furnished 4010

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FARMINGTON HILLS CONDO
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FARMINGTON HILLS - Park Motel. Furnished rooms, efficiency & apts from $150/week. No deposit. 248-474-1324

Condos/Townhouses 4020

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CANTON QUIET HOME 2 Bdrm., 1.5 bath, tile, pool, C/A, patio, nice bsmt., washer/dryer, carport. 517-655-2753

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FARMINGTON HILLS Orchard/14, choice, spacious, 1381 sq.ft. corner, 2 bdrm, 2 bath. 248-388-2137, 248-349-8675

LIVONIA Beautiful 3 bdrm, 3 bath, 2 level spacious 2,225 sq. ft. at 6 & Newburgh Rd. Laurel Woods, $1500/mo. 734-464-8221 734-216-2615

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Condos/Townhouses 4020

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WESTLAND- 3 bdrm condo, 1 1/2 bath, a/c, bsmt, garage, pool. $875 w/option. Ford/Hix area. 248-388-2203

Westland
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Lease with option to buy. 2 bdrm, 2 bath, 1200 sq. ft., $850 mo. 734-812-0565

WESTLAND MALL AREA
Sharp, 2 bdrm, 2 bath, pool, pond view, appliances, nice area. $750. 734-261-5053

Duplexes 4030

FARMINGTON HILLS- 3 bdrm, kitchen, appliances, fenced yard. No yard work, no pets. Middlebelt/10 Mile area. $765 + sec. deposit. 248-855-1265

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PLYMOUTH - Close to town. Clean 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath, a/c, appliances, basement. $750. No pets. 734-658-6634

PLYMOUTH Close to town. Nice, very large 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath. Air, full bsmt. Non-smoking, no pets. $850 mo + security. (734) 455-1040.

Westland - 2 bdrm. Full bsmt. Clean, neat. Quiet neighborhood. Immediate occupancy. From $645/mo. Credit check. Call Jamie: 734-721-8111

Flats 4040



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- Dishwasher
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- Vertical Blinds
- Carports Available
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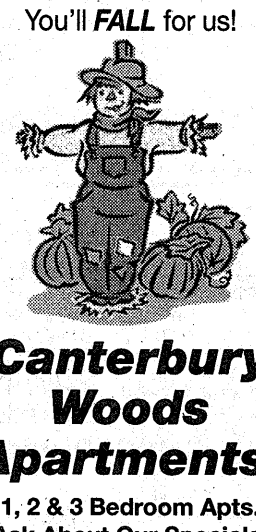
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Call today for an appointment!
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- Washer/Dryer Hook-Up
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- Flexible Lease Terms
- Spacious Floor Plans
- Fitness Center
- Walk-In Closets
- Pets Welcome

Ask about our Fall Specials!
Autumn Ridge APARTMENTS
Cherry Hill at I-275
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Call Today For An Appointment!
Cherry Hill, I-275, I-94
OE08400734



Prices that won't ***SCARE*** you,
A great look to ***CROW*** about,
It's ***AUTUMN***-atic!
You'll ***FALL*** for us!



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Westland

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Livonia Schools
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Wilderness SPACIOUS!! 2 Bdrms, 1000 sq. ft., CARPORTS/ POOL WASHER & DRYER inside unit
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Plymouth

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CENTRAL AIR - Ph 2
Corner of Haggerty & Joy
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Garden City

Luna Apts. Move-In Specials! Central Air Near Westland mall
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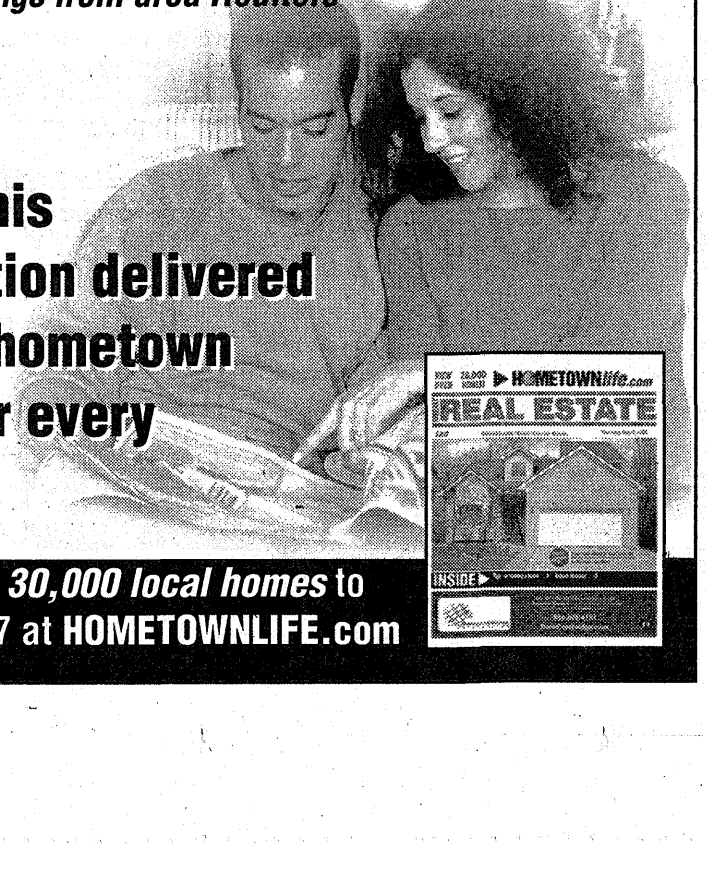
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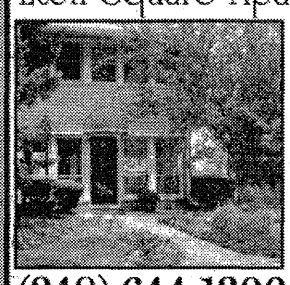
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BIRMINGHAM

Eton Square Apartments & Townhomes



"The Walkable Community"

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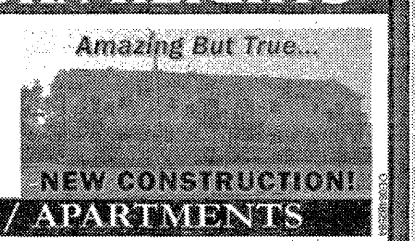
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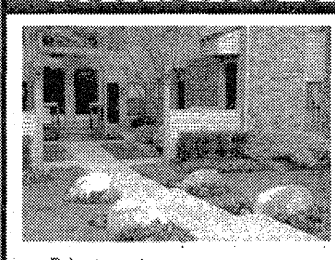
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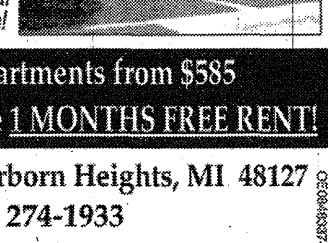
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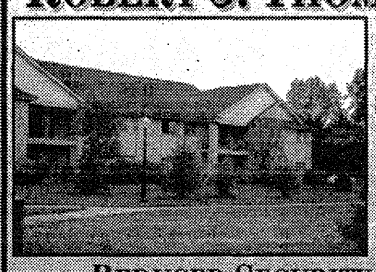
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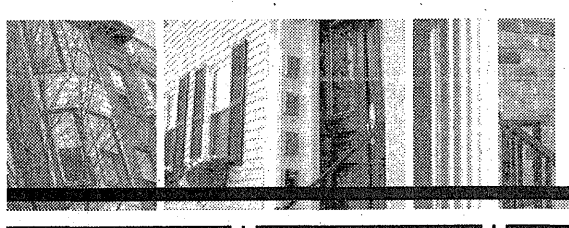
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Homes For Rent 4050

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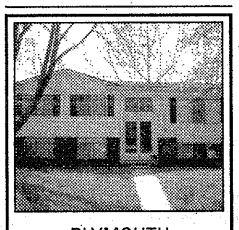
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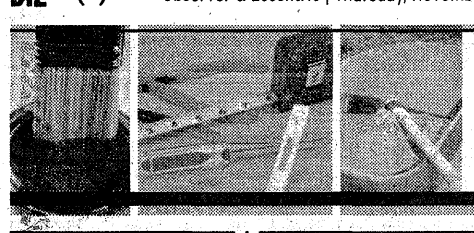
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Used car prices take hard tumble

New car incentives push used car marketplace to record low

by J.L. Sims *Independent ad features*

Livonia, MI – A Livonia dealer is selling 2006 vehicles for one-half of the original manufacturer's list price. And they're offering many other 2006 models far below normal market values. The low financing offered by GM, Ford, and Daimler-Chrysler mesmerized so many buyers that far fewer shoppers even bothered looking at pre-owned 2006 models.

How does 0% financing on a new model do in a heads-up comparison to a pre-owned 2006 model? In the instance of the Buick LaCrosse, financing $21,960 plus tax vs. $9995 plus tax, the payments on the new car at 0% interest would be $392 monthly for 60 months, but only $269 monthly at 3.9% for 60 months on the program model. With the prime at a record low, today's interest rates are very competitive. Many credit unions charge under 6% for auto loans if the applicant has a good credit rating. And when purchasing the used 2006, don't forget that you'll be saving about an additional $1,000 in sales tax and licensing fees. (Taxes estimated at an average of 6%).

John Rogin Buick sold over 150 Buick LaCrosse & Pontiac Grand Prix's in the first 30 days of their sale.

A "program" car is a vehicle that has been leased by a premium rental company through a special "program" from the manufacturer. Strict maintenance is required, and all vehicles are carefully inspected upon return. In many cases, these program units receive better maintenance than vehicles owned by private owners.

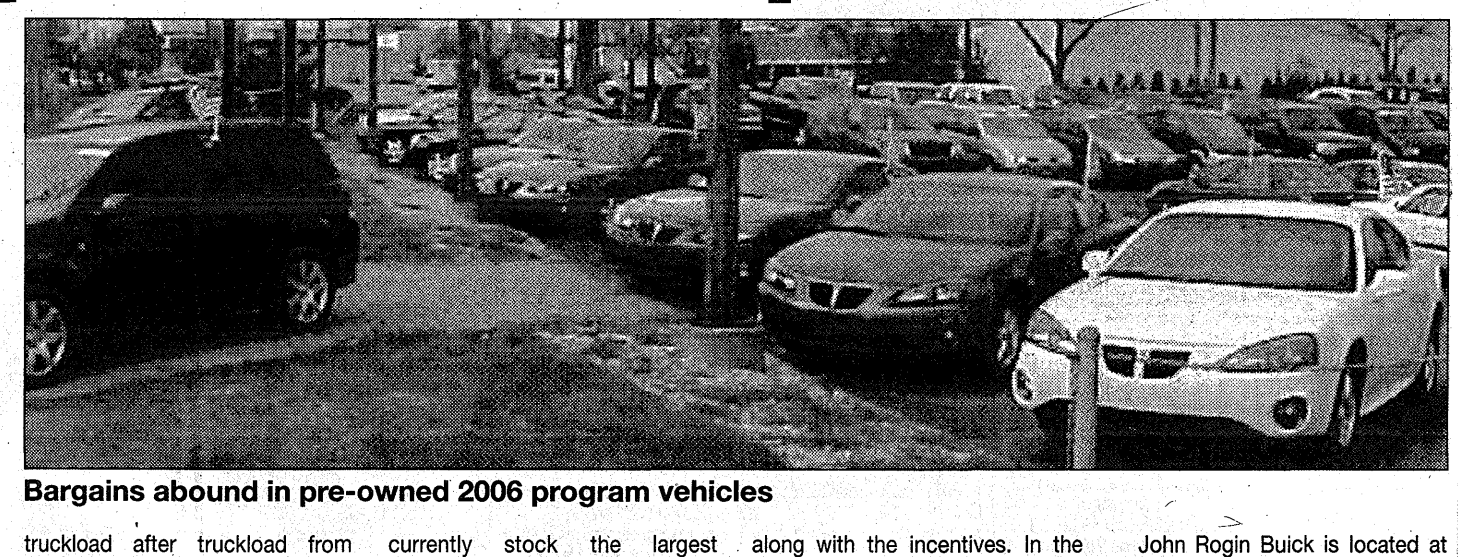
John Rogin Buick-Livonia has long been known as Michigan's "bargain hunting" dealer. Currently, they're selling more 2006 Pontiac Grand Prixs than any other dealer in the nation. (Over 150 Pontiacs & Buicks were sold during the first 30 days of their sale.) Last year, they sold the most pre-owned 2005 Impalas and Pontiac Grand AMs in the nation from their single location. And the year before they set the sales record selling the most off-lease GMC Yukons and pick-ups.

Today's real bargain can be found at John Rogin in the pre-owned 2006 vehicles. The low financing on new 2006's has left the used models unnoticed and overlooked. So, with far fewer dealers purchasing these units, the prices have dropped to record lows.

So, once again, John Rogin has gone shopping for the vehicles with a huge cart. They have just made a multi-million dollar purchase of these units from General Motors, bringing in truckload after truckload from across the country. In addition to filling their giant used car facility to the brim, John Rogin had to lease additional storage lots to accommodate their massive acquisition of vehicles. And they currently stock the largest inventory of 2006 program cars in Michigan.

The purpose of 0% financing is to clear out the remaining new 2006's. In another week or two, these vehicles will all be gone, along with the incentives. In the meantime, the 2006 program vehicles are truly today's "sleeping" bargain... But they'll soon disappear as smart shoppers begin to "wake up" and recognize the real deals.

John Rogin Buick is located at 30500 Plymouth Road, between Middlebelt and Merriman in Livonia. Their used car superstore may be contacted directly at (734) 525-0900 Monday-Friday during normal business hours.



Bargains abound in pre-owned 2006 program vehicles

A *Beautiful* Buick

The 2001-2006 Buicks were the highest ranked Premium Midsize Car in J.D. Powers and Associates Initial Quality Study. This study was based on a total of over 64,900 consumer responses indicating owner reported problems during the first 90 days of ownership. Of those surveyed, Buick owners reported the fewest problems - An outstanding mark of excellence for superb workmanship and a prelude to the satisfaction yet to be experienced during the coming years.

Equipped with a powerful 175-horsepower V-6 boasting 20mpg city and 29mpg highway fuel economy, the Buick LaCrosse will capture your heart from the moment you slip behind the wheel. There won't be any need for a salesperson to explain how to operate "all the buttons," because this LaCrosse will greet you like an old friend, or a comfortable pair of slippers. The cabin is exceedingly driver friendly, with all controls neatly laid out before you like an elegant table setting. And everything just seems to "fit."

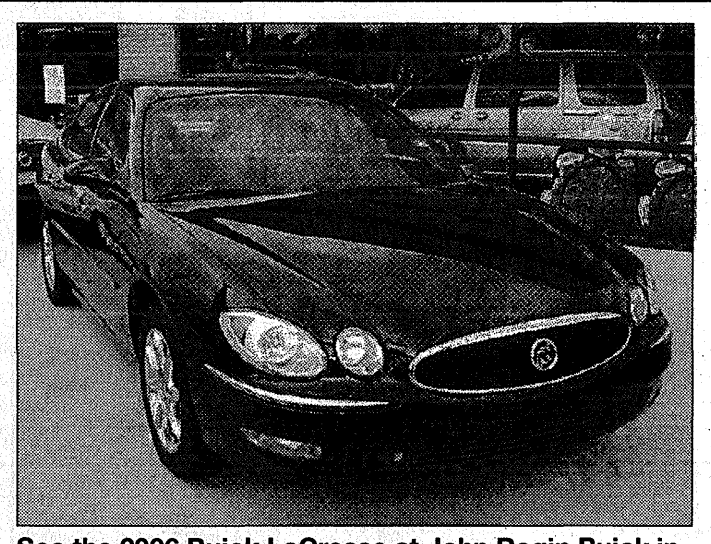
The Buick LaCrosse still retains all the traditional value you've come to expect from Buick. From its luxurious well-appointed interior to the clean, flowing exterior design, LaCrosse makes a stylish impression.

The standard features provide evidence that the Buick still remains just one step down from the Cadillac in GM's lineup. Dual (driver and passenger side) heat and air conditioning controls, six-position tilt steering wheel, cruise control, power windows, locks, and seats, remote key fobs operating doors and trunk, rear window defroster, plus a stereo system that will blow you away.

Children aren't forgotten with the rear seat upper and lower latch system for compatible child safety seats and rear door child security locks.

Four-wheel independent suspension provides for solid handling and the ride of a magic carpet.

Best of all, the new LaCrosse requires just a little more maintenance than a rock garden. 100,000 miles between spark plug changes. 100,000 mile transmission service intervals under normal driving conditions. Wow.



See the 2006 Buick LaCrosse at John Rogin Buick in Livonia.

It's no wonder that John Rogin Buick-Livonia considers the pre-owned 2006 LaCrosse to be the most car they've ever been able to offer for the money. And for the past several weeks, they've silently amassed hundreds of these wonderful units from throughout the country and brought them to Livonia. Best of all, today you can purchase a pre-owned 2006 LaCrosse from John Rogin for nearly half its original value of $24,000 list price new. While they last.

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OE08490079

PHENOMENON OF THE UNTOUCHABLE EMPLOYEE



WORKWISE

by Mildred L. Culp

One man is so overbearing and controlling that confronting him is virtually impossible. Getting to him through others may not even work. One woman is so fragile that co-workers dance around her, never giving her the feedback that would help her at work. In fact, they may lie to keep her from knowing that she s made a mistake. A third may be a change agent, offending others who don t want to lose control.

Workplace expert Joseph Grenny, president of the research and training company VitalSmarts in Provo, Utah, defines an untouchable employee as one who behaves badly or performs poorly in a workplace where no one deals effectively with the problems. He searched a database of 70,000 people, with 60.4 percent 45 years old or older and 53 percent earning more than $80,000 per year. In this mature, successful group, he finds that 93 percent of workers (out of 872 respondents) know this subject well. The most frequent offenders include those who foment conflict (57 percent) and either undermine teams or bully others (52 percent). Fifty-one percent cite people who underperform. More than 50 percent also maintain that the problem has transpired longer than four years.

REAL CASES

One of our co-workers said that the overbearing man survives by killing others, and puts everyone down around them, Randy, an employee states. He talks big, never completes a thing, takes credit for others work, and passes the work on to me and my co-worker. He doesn t follow through. Anything that he finds lacking, he builds up to make him look better and the other person look worse. He s constantly taking over the other sales guy s leads. People go to his boss and find that he and the creep are an inseparable duo, lunching together and taking trips together. Even if they re not having an affair, the attachment is in the way.

Don t ask me why I work here, the aggrieved employee says under his breath. Recovering his thoughts, he adds, I make good money and have good hours. In his next sentence, he confides that he s in the process of moving on. So, too, is the fragile woman, who finds herself at odds with customers, the ones that assure her paycheck, and people on her internal team. The change agent may well endure lack of popularity as part of his price to achieve effectiveness.

REMEDY

At what point does a workplace become uninhabitable for the untouchable and/or co-workers? Randy gave it the old college try by meeting with the boss of Mr. Untouchable. We found out just where we stood in my boss s eyes, he laments. Randy and the co-worker were called too emotional, but there was some improvement —for a month. Then it was back to business as usual, with vendors reporting that the obnoxious non-worker makes inappropriate remarks to them and to customers. The untouchable woman decided to leave her company, and, basically, check out of life in general —until a friend pulled her back. The change agent may remain inspired and stubborn.

Very few survey respondents consider themselves adept at solving these types of problems —only 2.6 percent of 875. A solid group of 29.3 percent feels moderately successful, while 40.2 percent consider themselves slightly successful. How can you determine whether it s worth the effort to try to deal with it? Step away from your resentment, Grenny responds. Ask yourself what you really want, such as:

— Is this really going to damage the quality of my work life?

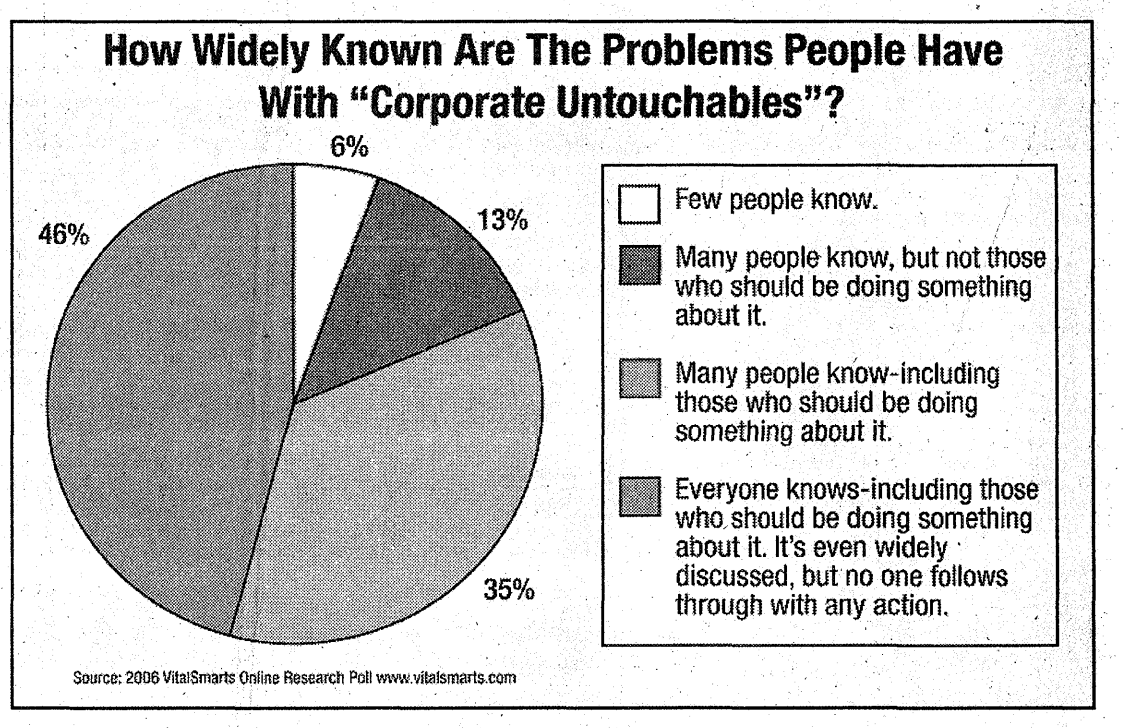
— What do I want for the organization and its customers? and

— Is the situation really having important consequences?

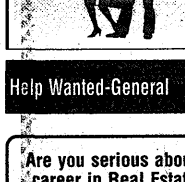
What should the person who finds herself unapproachable do to determine whether she s the problem or the workplace is? People always have their reasons, Grenny states somewhat unsympathetically. The issue isn t always theirs; their behavior isn t always objectionable. It s easy to go into defense mode, but you don t realize the consequences of it. Ask yourself if what you really want . . . (is to continue to be) sidelined, badmouthed, frozen out or lack influence. In other words, is the fragility worth the trouble?

What if you are the change agent? The untouchable person may be an agent of change, a bull in the china shop, brutally honest, tending to offend, he continues. Their effectiveness is being undermined through this behavior. You can be an agent of change and not be offensive, abrasive and not provoke resistance. A lot of it is in the way you go about speaking up and speaking the truth that others won t talk about.

(Dr. Mildred L. s is an award-winning journalist. Copyright 2006 Passage Media.)



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Exp., mature caregivers to work 12 hr. shifts in the Novi area. Must have a valid drivers lic. & exc. ref. Call Mon. thru Fri. 9am-4pm. Trillium Home Care, 248-539-0714.

CARPET CLEANERS / RESTORATION TECHS
Needed for 24 hr. emergency restoration company. Exp. in water damage a plus. Full-time with benefits. Must be reliable, good driving record. EOE 313-277-0200, 248-896-3000

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The Learning Tree offers employees an Education reimbursement program, on-site training along with
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Fax: (734) 416-2200
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For a medical supply company in Livonia. Previous customer service exp preferred. Fax resume to 877-541-7931

Direct Care-- Immediate management position in Taylor home supporting 4 adults with developmental disabilities; qualifying candidates must have CLS, Inc. Part I training certificate; current management position in field or recently held position; call Evelyn or Mary 734-728-4201

Help Wanted-General 5000

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needs friendly, upbeat, service-oriented individuals to work PART-TIME.

Hiring for our **branch locations.**
Cash handling & product sales. Goal oriented sales exp. required. Intense 6 week paid training mandatory. Class begins Monday, January 8th. Must be available to work
Mon-Fri. 9:15am-6:30pm.
Saturday 9:15am-2:30pm.

Hiring for **incoming call center,** located in Dearborn. Mon-Fri. 8-6, Sat. 9:30-2. Will work Part-Time hours 5 days, as scheduled. Mandatory 6 weeks full time training. Class begins Monday, January 8th. Financial or retail sales experience required.

Hiring for **Part-Time Facilities position**. Hours Mon-Fri. 1pm-6pm. Ability to lift 80 lbs., valid drivers license with acceptable driving record, ability to do general repairs required. Job starts on Monday, January 8th.

Complete job descriptions available at:
dfcufinancial.com

Accepting applications through Friday, December 1, 2006

Apply in person at any DFCU Financial Branch Office
Credit record in good standing required.
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Direct Care-- Make a difference! Support people with disabilities living their life the way they want to! Assist with personal care, meals, taking care of their homes, getting places etc. Many locations, many shifts! If you are at least 18 years old, have a valid Michigan's Driver's License & are CLA, Inc. trained, call our Job Line 734-728-4201, 0#.

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Canton Group Home.
Staff for afternoon/midnight shift. Highly independent residents. Competitive wages/ benefits. (734) 397-6955

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355)

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MI, Ohio & Indiana. Express loads. Percentage paid, 23 yrs old. 1 yr exp. No felonies. Local co. Call 734-777-3469

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Company vehicle. Paid training. $300-$500 (1st Wk). $600-$1500 after training. Must have valid drivers license. Exp. with manual transmission. No CDL okay.
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Help Wanted-General 5000

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I am looking for energetic people to be
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$17.25 base/appt. 1-5 week work assignments, sales/service, no telemarketing, no experience needed, conditions apply, APPLY NOW! Positions filling fast!!! **(248) 426-4405**

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Exp. person needed for front desk. Must have knowledge of HSS. Email your resume to: *daysinngmlivonia@yahoo.com*

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Commercial/Industrial
Full-Time & benefits.
Fax resume to MECC (313) 535-4403
$18-$32 per hour.

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20-40 hrs/week. $8/hr. No exp. necessary. Must have own hand tools. 734-459-7770

LEASING AGENT
Northville, Full time/ Exp.
Saturday's a must.
Fax resume to 248.349.1848
Or call 248.349.8410

LITIGATION SUPPORT PERSONNEL
The ideal candidate possesses 1-3 years experience, proven organizational skills, is computer savvy, extroverted and able to excel in high-paced environment. Paralegal certificate helpful. Resume and references to Barone Defense Firm, c/o Brian Corby at Phone 248-594-4554
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email: bcorby77@yahoo.com

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Full Time in Northville. Minimum 5 yrs. exp. in HVAC, Plumbing, Electrical and Appliance repairs. Must have own tools and transportation.
Fax Resume To 248.349.1848
Or Call 248.349.8410

MARKETING PERSON- PT
For assisting living facility. Healthcare exp. necessary. Fax resume to 734-522-5797.

PARKING ATTENDANTS
$9 per hr. minimum. Must have own transportation, knowledge of stick shift.
248-682-1800

Help Wanted-General 5000

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
Small manufactured home community seeking the right person for dual role, mgmt.& maintenance. Send resume to: 8701 Belleville Rd., Belleville, MI 48111 Fax: 734-699-7706

RESTORATION TECHS & CLEANING PEOPLE
For a growing 24 hr. emergency restoration co. Good wages. Full-time. Benefits after 6 months. Must be reliable & have good driving record.
Sunglo Restoration Service, 27189 W. Warren, Dearborn Hts. 1-800-574-2000 E.O.E.

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High end custom furniture store is seeking a full time **Sales Associate**. Retail and/or design exp. preferred. Please fax resume to: 248-644-5120 or email to birmingham@quatrine.com

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$17.25 base/appt. Work 1-5 weeks over break, customer sales/service, no experience necessary. Conditions exist. Apply Now! Start after finals!
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Full time copier, printer and fax experience with Panasonic certification required. Outstanding salary and benefits. Fax resume to 877-230-0158.

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Snow Busters Snow Removal, is looking for exp. drivers with own plow trucks. Earn $45-$60/hr. with assigned route. Call Jim 734-427-9353.

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Per Diem. To prepare 1040's. Must know creative solutions. Email resume & pay req to: keithcpa@wvcpa1.com

Help Wanted-General 5000

Teachers
GARDEN CITY SCHOOLS NEEDS PART TIME-TEACHERS

SECONDARY
Computer Repair, Home Design, Medical Insurance Billing, Medical Office Assistant, Networking, Veterinary Assisting
ELEMENTARY
Art, Computers, Music, Physical Education, and Japanese.
Fax Resume to:
734-762-8534

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

RECEPTIONIST
Full time Receptionist needed for Southfield based law firm. Fax resume to 248-354-6308.

RECEPTIONIST
$7-$10/hr. Must have good attitude. Leave Message: (248) 426-0733

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

DENTAL FRONT OFFICE
Dynamic Livonia cosmetic and restorative practice is looking for a Receptionist/ Appt. Coordinator. Must have excellent communication skills, exceptional customer service with attention to detail.
All inquiries confidential. Please fax resume to Dr. Terri Todaro (248) 477-7546

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Full/Part-Time. Experienced only. Livonia/Westland area. Benefits. **734-522-6470**

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Chairside, exp. necessary. Full-Time. Call Sheree at: (734) 420-2326

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Help Wanted-Dental 5040

Dental Chairside Assistant
Full-Time. Minimum 1 yr. exp for relaxed Livonia dental office, pleasant surrounding, great staff. Fax: 248-646-2480, 248-473-7490 or Call: 248-417-6211

Dental Front Office: Garden City, full-time, mature, motivated person. People skills, billing, insurance processing preferred. (734) 422-1332

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST
Must be computer & dental office experienced. Part time for friendly Garden City practice. Call Kathie 586-914-6961

DENTIST
Must be Experienced.
Call: 313-861-5759
or Fax resume: 313-861-5794

FRONT DESK - Full time. Exp. only. Must know Dentech Windows. Fax 734-942-5955 or call 734-942-0560

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

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Help Wanted-Medical 5060

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For dermatology practice. Ann Arbor/Plymouth area. Exp. with Light Sheer Laser. Exc. pay. Email resume: a2derm@aol.com or fax: 734-996-8767

M.P. or M.L.T.
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MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Southfield busy G.I. office, exp. required. Please email: ammathis@comcast.net or Fax 248-746-9588 Attn: Ana

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Part-Time. 20-30/hrs. week, some evenings required. MA Certification preferred. *Experience a must.*
Fax resume: 248-350-0154

MEDICAL ASSISTANT/ RECEPTIONIST
Pediatric office. Bloomfield Hills area. Full-Time, benefits. Misys exp. Fax: 248-203-0093

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST
Part time for Canton internal medicine office. Send resume attn Sherry fax 734-398-8647 or email *denhouwb@trinity-health.org*

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Livonia retirement community accepting applications for Nurses for On Call positions. All shifts. Especially midnights. Call or apply in person Woodhaven Retirement Community, 29667 Wentworth St., Livonia. 734-261-9000 or Fax 734-261-9003

PHLEBOTOMY EDUCATION
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1 day a week. 12 weeks.
Cost $850 at local hospital.
(313) 382-3857

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With medical assisting experience needed for very busy medical office. Fax resume to: 248-324-2444

RN, LPN, or Medical Assistant
With Experience, needed for GROWING dermatology practice in Ann Arbor/ Plymouth area. Full-Time, exc. pay & benefits. Email or Fax Resume to: a2derm@aol.com (734) 996-8767

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Full or part-time. Days & Nights. Swim wear attire required. (734) 421-7744

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WAIT STAFF
HOST STAFF
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Apply in person at: Playhouse 13201 Middlebelt Rd
Romulus, MI. 734-941-3144

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Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080

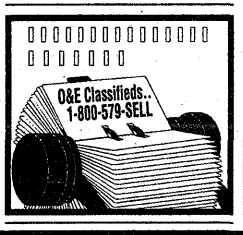
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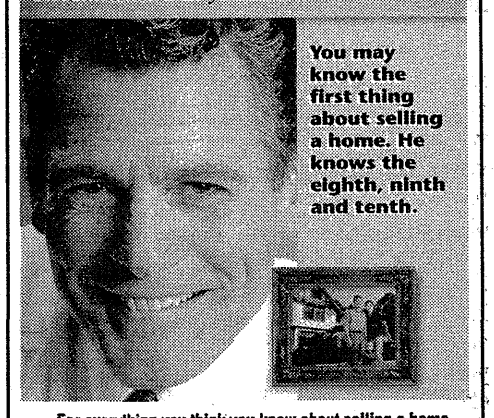
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Hiring for our branch locations.
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Must be available to work
Mon-Fri. • 9:15am-6:30pm.
Saturday • 9:15am-2:30pm.

Hiring for **incoming call center**, located in Dearborn. Mon-Fri. • 8-6, Sat. • 9:30-2. Will work Part-Time hours 5 days, as scheduled. Mandatory 6 weeks full time training. Class begins Monday, January 8th. Financial or retail sales experience required.

Hiring for **Part-Time Facilities position**. Hours Mon-Fri. 1pm-6pm. Ability to lift 80 lbs., valid drivers license with acceptable driving record, ability to do general repairs required. Job starts on Monday, January 8th.

Complete job descriptions available at:
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Our 59th Year
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Open 7 days, 10AM 'til DUSK
HOLTZ CHRISTMAS TREE PLANTATION
9381 Day Road near Maybee, MI
734-587-3155
Many trees for high ceilings!
Directions: South on US23 to exit 25. Right on Plank, 7 miles to Day Rd., turn left 3 miles to farm
P. Holtz Est. 1947

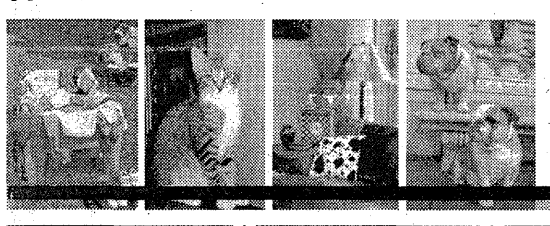
Mutch's HIDDEN PINES, LLC
303 W. Newark Rd. Lapeer
(1/2 mile east of M-24)
Featuring: Fraser, Canaan, Douglas and Blue Spruce
Free Shaking, Wrapping and Drilling
Visa and Mastercard accepted
- Cut your own & pre-cuts
- Visit our 150 year old barn for gifts, wreaths, hot chocolate and more!
- Wagon rides and Santa!

Open Friday after Thanksgiving
Regular hours: Friday, Saturday, Sunday 9-5
810-667-2711
www.mutchshiddenpines.com

Cut Your Own Christmas Tree....
All trees grown on site!
Fraser Fir, Blue Spruce, Balsam Fir and White Spruce. Trees available up to 20ft.



BEAR JACK TREE FARM
586-531-3984
Season Opens Friday, Nov. 24!
Hours: 9am to 4pm
•Nov. 25-26 • Dec. 2-3 • Dec. 10-11 • Dec. 16 -17



Market Place

Observer & Eccentric HOMETOWNlife.com

6000-6980 Announcements



Holiday Potpourri 6100

SMOOTHMOVE, CRUISIN", BASKET4BABY. Gifts for new house, new car, baby & more! Great closing gifts for sales associates. Wholesale pricing for gift buyers/resellers. www.kitsasgifts.com

7000-7780 Merchandise



Absolutely Free 7000

Table perfect rectangle glass table top (no base) 42 x 84 w/waterfall edge. (734)502-8289

Antiques/Collectibles 7020

Annual Antique Holiday Sale
15-30% off
Nov. 16 thru Dec. 31st
$100 Gift Certificate Drawing
Town & County Antiques Mall
31630 Plymouth Rd, Livonia
(behind East Side Mario's)
734-425-4344

DEPT. 56 VILLAGES $25 EACH 248-931-2294

RECORDS- Instant collection available. 50's & 60's good stuff. 1250+ albums. Royal Oak: 248-250-2666

SETTEE (Eastlake brand) Ivory upholstery. Exc. cond. $500/best 248-360-9811

Sell it all with Observer & Eccentric 1-800-579-SELL

Arts & Crafts 7040

MERCY HIGH SCHOOL 100 + Crafters. Fri. 11/24, 4-8pm; Sat. 11/25, 10-4pm. Corner of 11 Mile and Middlebelt.

Auction Sales 7060

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
Pursuant To State Law
A sale will be held at:

JOHN'S MINI STORAGE
12801 Inkster Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150
(734) 513-8773

Date	Time
12/2/06	12:00pm
Tenant:	Unit #
Brown Financial Services	G544
Christian Imonina	E245
Thomas Knapp	E229
Eugene Aldrich	G542
Ascott Services	F457
James Roye	R267
Craig Snery	F290
Richard Johnston	D208
Donnell Foster	G546
Eric Lassiter	D190
Toms Roofing	R242, R288 R125

7100 Estate Sales 7100

DOWNRIVER ESTATE SALE Antiques, dolls & collectibles. Sat.-Wed. 11/25-29, 9-5 Cash only! Directions:734-284-9735

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

ESTATE SALE - Furniture, bdrm. set, rosewood, lamps, etc. Fri.-Sun., Nov. 24-26, 9-6pm. 4601 Wendrick, Middlebelt & Inkster. 248-855-1772

Garage Sales 7110

ESTATE SALE: 1861 Princeton Berkley EVERYTHING MUST GO!!!! House & Garage full of antiques. Thursday, November 30th-Sunday, December 4th, Hours: 8am-5pm. 248-470-7002.

Moving Sales 7130

BIRMINGHAM - HOUSE IS COMING DOWN! Most everything for sale. Fixtures, plumbing, cabinetry, designer clothes, lots of stuff. Fri. only, 10am-5pm, 636 W. Frank St., E off Southfield.

WESTLAND - Office Furniture includes desks, returns, files, and task seating & an assortment of warehouse shelving. Cash sales only. Lover's Lane, 37816 Ford Rd., Westland. Sat. 1-5pm, Sun. 1-5pm.

Clothing 7140

MINK COAT Full-length, blackglama ranch. Medium. Excellent cond. $5000/best. 734-845-0963.

WEDDING DRESS W/ VEIL Beaded bodice, long sleeved white satin & lace. Size 16/18. Like new. Originally $800; $500/best. 248-444-8797

Baby & Children Items 7150

TODDLER BEDS -(2) Step 2 Fire Engine-$100 each. (1) Little Tykes Castle-$75. 734-459-9566

Household Goods 7160

BED - 1 Absolute all brand new blue PILLOW TOP QUEEN MATTRESS SET. In pkg. $100. 734-891-8481

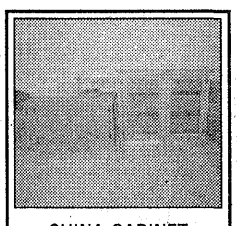
BED - 1 ABSOLUTE ALL BRAND NEW PILLOW-TOP Queen Mattress Set in plastic $95.Can deliver 734-231-6622

BED - 1 Absolute all Brand New Pillow-top King Mattress Set in plastic, $185. Can deliver. 734-231-6622

BED - 1 SET, 3 PIECE KING PILLOW TOP MATTRESS New in bag, only $195. Deliverable, 734-891-8481

BED, queen, solid cherry, 4 spindle poster bed w/ solid cherry wood canopy. Hand made. $2000. Frankenmuth (989) 652-6557

Household Goods 7160



CHINA CABINET
Colonial, cherry wood, base unit, 50x52 and 32x52. Very good condition, Originally $1700, moving forces sale. $750/best. Cash only! 248-549-7242

DINING ROOM TABLE
WHITE WOOD, GLASS TOP W/6 CHAIRS

ETCHED GLASS FIREPLACE SCREEN

BAKER, DARK BROWN 40x60 COFFEE TABLE

WHITE, BAKER COUCH & LOVESEAT

GLASS FRONT CURIO

GLASS TOP PEDESTAL GAME TABLE

4 GAME TABLE CHAIRS

2- 56" FREESTANDING CREDENZA SERVERS

WEST BLOOMFIELD 248-681-6757

DINING -Table, 4 chairs, buffet, mahogany. Duncan Phyfe. Great condition. $500/best. 248-328-0492 248-760-8051

DINING SET Like new contemporary, cream formica, 6 chairs, hutch w/lights, 3 glass shelves. $1500 248-477-5416

DINING SET Thomasville, 42" round w/2 leaves, pads, oak, 6 Windsor bow back chairs, excellent condition. 248-545-1986

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER- 3 piece-$1000; China hutch, table w/mirrored top & 6 chairs-$1000. 248-335-5686

Household Goods 7160

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER- Lexington, holds 35' TV, traditional, distressed cherry. $1000/best.

ENTERTAINMENT CENTR Oak 60"x50" w/side storage for VHS. 32 x24 opening for TV. $200. Phillips Color TV, 27"-$125. TV & Entertainment as packaged-$300.734-522-4193

FURNITURE Bedroom set (Queen). Solid, dark wood. Blue/grey living rm. couch & chair. Blue recliner. Misc. furniture. Best offer. Must sell! 248-345-6749

FURNITURE - White round formica kitchen table on black pedestal & 4 black leather chairs. Reas. 248-960-1326

FURNITURE - HomeCrest Del Rio patio set, tempered glass table, umbrella, 4 highback cushioned rockers, 2 seat cushioned glider & cushioned stool, $450. Stanza 3 pc. micro seude living room set, camel color with 4 recliners, like new, $1800. Livonia: 734-261-5899

FURNITURE - Cherry: formal dining table, 2 arm & 4 side chairs & hutch $750, foyer table & mirror $125. Queen wood/wrought iron poster bed $200. Misc. 248-334-1524

FURNITURE - Oak pedestal dining table (72" with leaves) & 6 chairs, $500. Oak entertainment center with lights & mirrors, (holds 32" TV) $350. 734-729-6814, 734-765-3915

FURNITURE- couches, chairs, kitchen, piano, sewing machine, TV, beds, dressers, desks. Must sell. 248-425-8151

LOFT BED- w/pull out desk, light wood. Great shape. $200. 734-421-7973

MATTRESS A brand new temperpedic style queen memory foam mattress set, still in plastic. Cost $1,800 must sell! $650 - 248-722-2764

MISC. Double loft bed, white, almost new; single/futon bunk bed & 10' Christmas tree. Call after 5pm 734-710-0734

RADIO -Antique w/tubes $200 . Christmas tree, color coded-$75. 2 Davenports (sofas)-$75. 248-557-0836

Household Goods 7160

LEAVING STATE
Must sell will sacrifice our houseful of beautiful near new furniture. Items include, cherry 10 piece kitchen dining set, cost over $4400 will sacrifice for $2250. Also have cherry 12 piece king size master bdrm. ste., cherry ten piece queen size bdrm. ste., two 3 piece cherry coffee table sets, two grandfather clocks, cherry sofa tables, 5 piece cherry pub set. 5 piece cherry game set, Mirrored pedestal plant stand. Gorgeous 11 piece cherry formal dining room ste. Many decorative lamps, large executive cherry & Burrel office desk, pictures, silk trees, mirrors, and etc. All less than 3 months old and in perfect condition. Must be sold as soon as possible.
Please call 248-293-0744

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

TUB , CLAW & BALL Porcelain, 4.5 ft. long, 30" high. No chips, great condition. $300/best offer. (313) 510-7900

Appliances 7180

Washer & dryer $95 each. Upright freezer $100, refrigerator $100, stove $85. Cargo car carrier $10. (313) 617-6362

Bargain Buys 7200

DINETTE SET 5 piece. Cream. Padded, rolling chairs. Must move. $199. 734-524-0477

MISC- Glass & wood hutch $280; 20" Color TV $20; Twin bed $50; Kitchen table/4 chairs $150. 248-888-0733

Firewood-Merchandise 7440

FIREWOOD $65/face cord delivered. Monthly delivery at a discount. 734-377-6906. www.z34me.com

Miscellaneous For Sale 7500

FURS (VINTAGE) $100, $250; Collectible dolls-$40. Kids 6-1 game table-$45. Gold Flatware-$50. 248-851-3285

Musical Instruments 7510

CLARINET & TROMBOE- Vito clarinet, exc. $250. Trombone, exc. cond., $150. 734-425-0869

DRUM SET Pearl Export Select. Zildjian cymbals, Roc-N-Soc throne, I.S.S. hardware. Mint Condition. $950 989-366-8573

ORGAN - LOWREY JUBILEE 32 rhyth styles, 11 orchestral sounds, 10 solo sounds, double keyboard, 10 free lessons. Asking $4500. (734) 722-3233

PIANO - BABY GRAND, VOSE Beautifully refinished like-mahogany. Excellent cond. Appraised $2500 - $3000. Best offer. (248) 855-1816

PIANO BALDWIN ACROSONIC Spinet. Good shape. $350 (734) 522-7311

PIANO, BABY GRAND Black Lacquer. Excellent condition. $5500/best. Call (248) 760-0186

Sporting Goods 7520

BILLIARD/POOL TABLE New in box, 8'1" slate, K-66 Bumpers, balls, sticks, rack, $850. (734) 732-9338

MICHIGAN ARMS COLLECTORS SHOW
NOV 25 AND 26. 500 tables of antiques and modern firearms. BUY SELL OR TRADE. Rock Financial Showplace. 46100 Grand River. Exit I-96 at Beck Road in Novi. Public admitted 9am. Info 248-676-2750

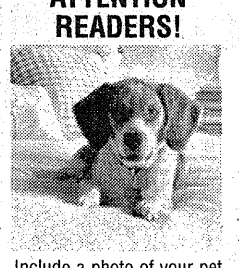
Wanted to Buy 7540

BUYING OLD TOYS Slot cars, model kits, trains, cap guns, BB guns, air rifles, etc. 248-910-8849

WANTED: SHOTGUNS, RIFLES, PISTOLS, TOOLS (HAND & POWER). CALL ANYTIME, 586-216-6200

Dogs 7840

ATTENTION READERS!



Include a photo of your pet for only **$1/week** Along w/your classified pet ad.

Call Today for More Information! Observer & Eccentric

800-579-7355



It's All About YOU! Some restrictions May apply

DOBERMAN PINSCHER PUPPIES (Miniature) - 2 males $350 each and 1 female $425. 7 weeks with first shots. 734-891-9035



NEWFOUNDLAND PUPS AKC Ready for Christmas! Blacks & grays avail. Shots, dewormed. $800. 734-560-7299

Household Pets 7880

ADORABLE PUPPIES!

Westland Petland

Pets Make Life Better!

PUPPY SALE!!
Many popular breeds including: Akita, Bernese Mountain Dog, Beagle, Brussels Griffon, Boxer, Chihuahuas, Coc-A-Poo, Dachshunds, French Bulldog, Keeshund, King Charles Cavalier, Miniature Pinscher, Miniature Schnauzer, Old English Sheepdog, Norwich Terrier, Papillon, Pomeranian, Mixes, Pug, Rat Terrier, Shiba Inu, Silky, Shih Tzu, Westie, Yorkie, etc..

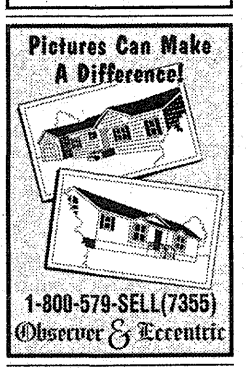
Bengal kittens

Tropical Fish Sale

All puppies come with: 3 year limited Health warranty 3 free vet office visits Complimentary spaying/neutering Micro chipping

Petland Across from Westland Mall (734) 367-9906 ***www.petland.com***

Pictures Can Make A Difference!



1-800-579-SELL(7355) Observer & Eccentric

Rabbits - 1 male, 1 female about 9 mos. old. Gentle natured. Includes cages for both. Robert (734) 637-7000

2006 Harvest of Thanks!

As the busy holiday season begins, these local businesses are taking the time to wish you a **Very Happy Thanksgiving!**

Have a Great Thanksgiving!
Classic Tile & Remodeling
Kitchens • Bathrooms • Tile Back Splashes
Tiled Floors • Design Ideas and Much More
(248) 360-0258
(248) 202-5506 Cell
For a FREE ESTIMATE Contact Bill or Barb Rutkowski

Have a Happy Holiday!
Now Offering FULL SERVICE GROOMING!
ShamPooch
Self-Serve Dog Wash
734-414-0331
44270 W. Warren • Canton, MI
www.ShampoochDogWash.com

Happy Thanksgiving!
Dunk N Dogs
Self Serve Pet Wash and Doggie Day Care
734-422-WASH
Kelly's KLIPS Pet Grooming
Pet Wash Open 7 Days a Week
Cageless Daycare • Evening Play Groups
www.dunkndogs.com
27911 Five Mile Road • Livonia (W of Inkster)

Have a Happy Holiday!
THE CLOSEOUT BROKERS
NEW!
• Name Brand Mattresses • Home Accents
• Furniture • Housewares • Childrens
• Tools at ***GUARANTEED*** Lowest Prices!
www.thecloseoutbrokers.com
734-425-0955

Flamingos by the Yard
800-LAWN-FUN
Wishing You a Happy Holiday!
• Flamingos • Cows • Teddy Bears
• Giant Inflatables • Birthday Cakes and Much More!
$10 OFF With this coupon. FLAMINGOS BY THE YARD 1-800-LAWN-FUN Not valid with any other offers.

Have a Happy Holiday!
Beyond PAINTING
"Complete Interior and Exterior Service"
248.467.7781
734.416.5512
www.beyondpainting.us

Venture Out
24 Years! TRAVEL SERVICE
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• INTERNATIONAL
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32911 Warren Road • Westland
(1 mile E. of Westland Mall)
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Gift Certificates Available
Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Happy Thanksgiving from
Carpet Clinic
734-425-3930
OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE
CARPET SALES
REPAIR • CLEANING

Happy Thanksgiving!
BUDGET TREE SERVICE
Tree and Shrub Trimming and Removal • Stump Grinding
Free Estimates
1-800-964-7785

Have a Great Thanksgiving Holiday!
TIME TOO SAVOR
33483 Seven Mile Road • Livonia
248-477-9208
www.TimeTooSavor.com
Dinner Time Made Easy

Have a Happy Holiday!
Jen's Final Touch Cleaning
OFFICES - SHOWCASE - NEW CONSTRUCTION
Commercial/Residential
Licensed/Insured
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Call for a FREE Estimate!

Wishing You a Very Happy Thanksgiving!
PROFESSIONAL All Breed Dog & Cat Grooming
• Over 35 Years Experience
• Veterinarian Recommended
• Quality Express Service
for an appointment call:
MARY DiPERNA
313-999-6447
"EXQUISITE PUGS" Pug Breeder
27478 Plymouth Road • Livonia Located in Dan Morris Dog Training

Happy Thanksgiving to our wonderful pet clients and their owners!
The Dog's Bow Wow
33497 Seven Mile Road
Livonia
(248) 474-7974
(248) 474-7975
Precision Dog Grooming

Thank You to all our customers. Have a great Thanksgiving Day!
Sandtraps
734-464-5555
35780 Five Mile Road
Livonia

Have a Happy Holiday!
Robert Lee School of Dance
29855 Ford Road • Garden City
across from KMart
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Ask Us About Our Great Specials and Xmas Gift Certificates!
We offer: Ballet • Hip-Hop • Tap • Jazz • Acrobats • Adult Ballroom • Theater Drama Class
Classes Available
Ages 3 Years - Adult

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Wishing Your Family a Wonderful Holiday Season!
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Wishing You And Your Family A Very Happy Thanksgiving!

Happy Turkey Day!
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$50 Off With This Ad
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FREE ESTIMATES
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Have a Safe and Happy Thanksgiving Holiday!
AKC MOBILE GROOMING
Bill Brown
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Happy Thanksgiving
FROM ALL OF US AT
AVIS FORD

FOR A LIMITED TIME...

EXTRA FOR YOUR TRADE!

$500 Avis Ford

FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS!

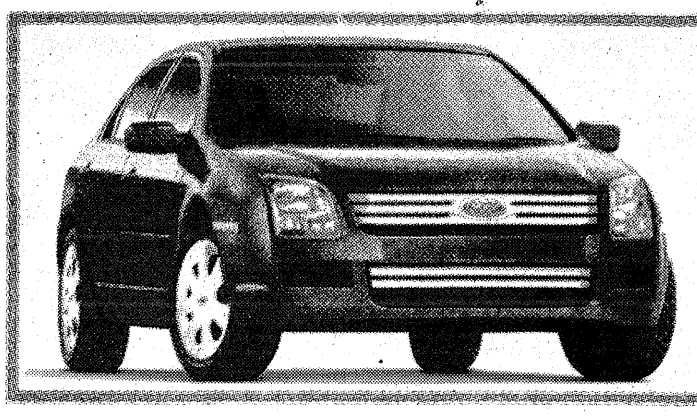
Only valid at Avis Ford, Southfield, Michigan. Expires on November 30, 2006.



2007 F150 SUPERCAB

- SUPERCAB • 5.4L V8 ENGINE • AUTO TRANS
- 3.55 RATIO LIMITED SLIP AXLE • AIR CONDITIONING
- AM/FM STEREO/CD • REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY
- POWER WINDOWS/LOCKS • 17" WHEELS • TRAILER TOW

LEASE FOR ONLY **$265** PER MONTH/ 24 MONTHS



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- 2.3L I-4 ENGINE • AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION
- 16" ALUMINUM WHEELS • AIR CONDITIONING
- AM/FM STEREO/6-DISC CD • FOG LAMPS
- SIDE IMPACT AIR BAGS • 1ST & 2ND ROW AIR CURTAINS

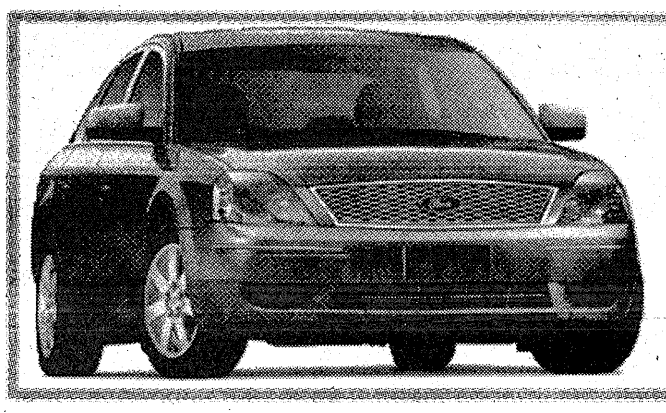
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2007 EXPLORER EDDIE BAUER

- 4.0L SOHC V6 ENGINE • AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION
- AIR CONDITIONING • AM/FM STEREO/CD/MP3
- 17" ALUMINUM WHEELS • REVERSE SENSING
- CONVENIENCE GROUP • COMFORT GROUP

LEASE FOR ONLY **$226** PER MONTH/ 24 MONTHS



2007 FIVE HUNDRED SEL

- 3.0L DURATEC V6 ENGINE • 6-SPEED AUTO TRANS
- ANTI-LOCK BRAKES • AIR CONDITIONING
- AM/FM STEREO/6-DISC CD • 17" ALUMINUM WHEELS
- REVERSE SENDING SYSTEM
- POWER WINDOWS/LOCKS/MIRRORS

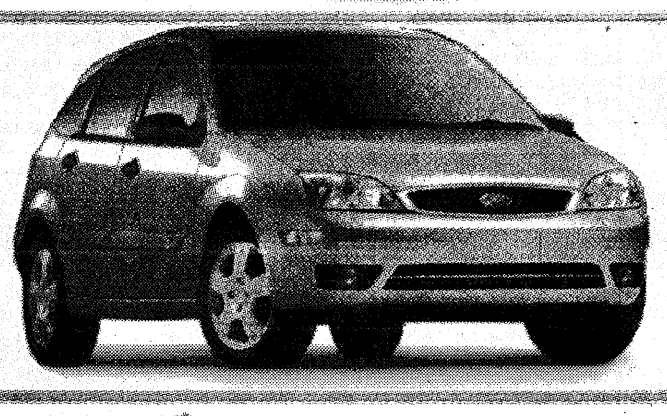
LEASE FOR ONLY **$251** PER MONTH/ 24 MONTHS



2007 ESCAPE XLT

- DURATEC 3.0L V6 ENGINE • "SUN & SOUND" PACKAGE
- AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION • AIR CONDITIONING
- AUDIOPHILE STEREO/6-DISC CD • POWER MOONROOF
- 16" ALUMINUM WHEELS • PRIVACY GLASS
- * CARGO CONVENIENCE GROUP
- INCLUDES "SUN & SOUND" AUDIOPHILE STEREO/6-DISC CD

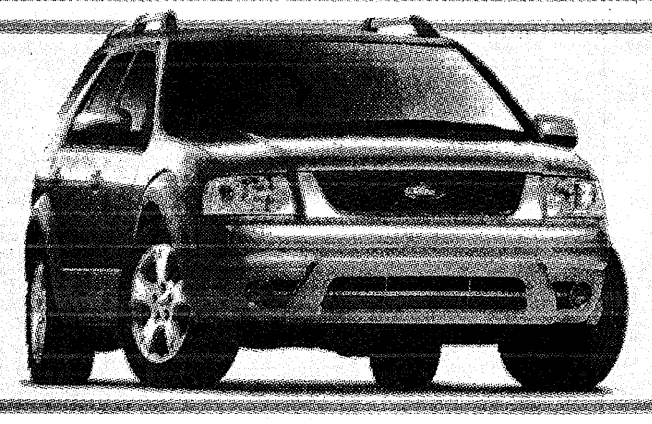
LEASE FOR ONLY **$225** PER MONTH/ 24 MONTHS



2007 FOCUS 5-DOOR SES

- 20.L DOHC ENGINE • AUTO TRANS • ANTI-LOCK BRAKES
- SIDE AIR BAGS • AIR CONDITIONING
- AM/FM STEREO/CD/MP3 • CONVENIENCE GROUP
- HEATED SEATS • POWER HEATED MIRRORS
- SPOILER • 16" ALLOY WHEELS

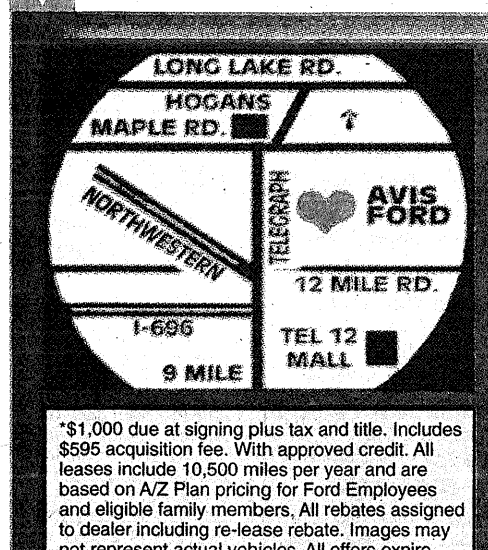
LEASE FOR ONLY **$158** PER MONTH/ 24 MONTHS



2007 FREESTYLE FWD

- 3.0L DURATEC V6 ENGINE • CVT TRANSMISSION
- AIR CONDITIONING • AM/FM STEREO/CD
- REVERSE SENSING SYSTEM • 17" ALUMINUM WHEELS
- POWER WINDOWS/LOCKS/MIRRORS
- ANTI-LOCK BRAKES • INTERIOR POWER PACKAGE

LEASE FOR ONLY **$217** PER MONTH/ 24 MONTHS



*$1,000 due at signing plus tax and title. Includes $595 acquisition fee. With approved credit. All leases include 10,500 miles per year and are based on A/Z Plan pricing for Ford Employees and eligible family members. All rebates assigned to dealer including re-lease rebate. Images may not represent actual vehicles. All offers expire November 30, 2006.

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"The Dealership With A Heart"

248 355-7500 ~OR~ CALL 1-800-358-AVIS

TELEGRAPH RD., just north of 12 Mile Rd., SOUTHFIELD

Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS

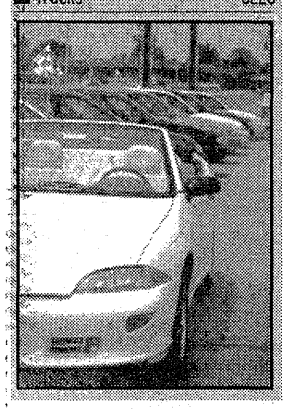
Automotive

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Thursday
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3 p.m. Monday

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www.observerandeccentric.com

Acura scores with revamped TL luxury car

Advertising Feature

CAReport





By Tenisha Mercer
Avanti NewsFeatures

It s hard to make perfection better, but that s exactly what Acura has done with the 2007 TL. Revised styling, a spiffed up interior and an improved navigation system make the revamped T a must-have in the midsize luxury segment.

How much do I like the Acura TL? Let me count the ways.

The Acura TL does what some luxury cars don t: it combines high performance, luxury and technology in one package. Slide into the Acura TL, available in TL and TL Type-S models, and immediately you ll notice the premium features that speak of sophistication and style.

From the brushed, aluminum like pedals, cutting edge design to the map pockets and seat storage bins that fold in and out, the Acura TL is what luxury and style should be all about. Acura s rivals might want to take a few notes.

It all starts with the power underneath the hood, and in this case, there s plenty of it. Let s start with the Type-S model. Reintroduced after a three-year hiatus, the Type-S makes a splashy return with significant upgrades.

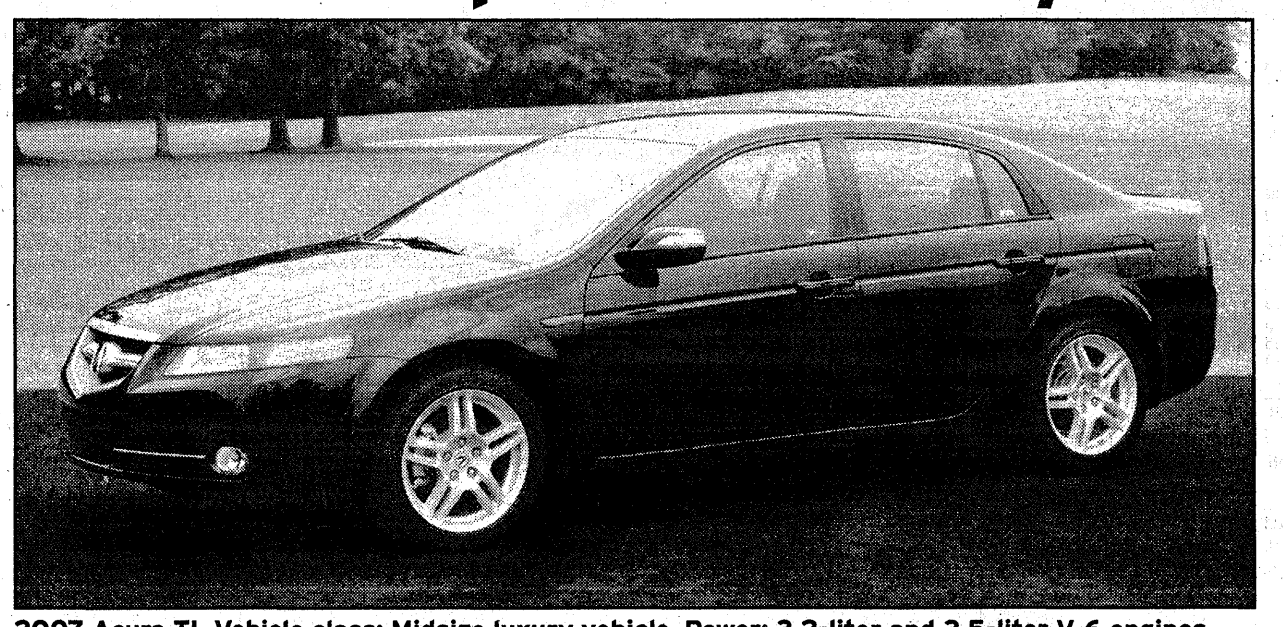
Retuned suspension and four-piston Brembo front brakes give the TL a tight ride, while a 3.5-liter V-6 engine with 286 horsepower allows for added power. For the first time, the Type-S is also available with a five-speed automatic with paddle shifters or a six-speed manual transmission.

The TL is nothing to laugh at, thanks to a 3.2-liter, V-6 engine that cranks out 258 horsepower. Mated to a new, five-speed Sequential SportShift automatic transmission, the TL is lightning fast with minimal effort.

I was so happy with the Acura TL test model that it cost me a $150 speeding ticket; I just couldn t help coasting down the freeway at 85 mph and, honestly, I didn t realize I was going that fast, until the cop pulled us over. (The cop didn t buy the excuse).

Here s what got me in trouble: Nudge the pedal ever so slightly and the TL takes off smoothly with ease, with no struggling to reach high speeds. The TL breathlessly sped up and down gravel roads, highways and concrete.

The TL was light and aerodynamic, maneuvering around sharp curves with ease because of a double wishbone front and multi-link rear suspension system that gives drivers ultimate control without sacrificing comfort.



2007 Acura TL Vehicle class: Midsize luxury vehicle. Power: 3.2-liter and 3.5-liter V-6 engines. Where built: Marysville, Ohio. Price range: $33,625-$38,325.

New this year are stiffer front and rear anti-roll bars, firmer springs and a revised bumper. New transmission mounts and bushings made driving the TL even more comfortable. We rolled over speed bumps easily, gliding over pockmarks in the road.

There s very little noise in the cabin, thanks to several technologies Acura deployed in the TL. It starts with a strong, super-strength steel frame that cuts sound and floor panels that decrease vibration. Noise is even further reduced in the Type-S with cabin mounted microphones and an audio system that erases lower noise levels.

Even the doors in the Acura TL are designed to reduce noise: A rigid door sash quiets noise made from the door latch. I couldn t believe my ears when I slammed the door shut only to hear a muffled-like closing. Talk about innovation.

The super-strength steel that makes up the subframe of the TL also helps with another common annoyance parking lot dents and dings. The TL s high-strength steel doors have greater resistance to dents and dings than conventional steel.

What s really cool about the TL are the accessories. Back-up sensors, decklid spoilers (not available on the Type-S) and front and side spoilers are just a few of the add-ons that make the TL a custom car.

Eighteen-inch aluminum wheels and tires and front, side and rear underbody spoilers are also available as part of custom dealer-installed packages.

You can t deny the TL s style quotient, and it s got a large dose of it. Satin trim laces a new, larger grille, while black chrome trim accents the Type-S. The roof trim is a glossy black, with TL and Type-S etched on the aluminum step garnishes.

The design is bold and powerful, with an aggressive front fascia and larger grille with a larger A mark and honeycomb mesh. The bumper has been redesigned with a satin chrome crossbar and horizontal trim. Taillight clusters were redesigned, along with a new TL logo.

The Type-S was redone as well, with new front and rear fascias, black chrome trim, wider side sills and quad tailpipes. Also new are LED single blinkers on the side mirrors and fog lights on the bumper.

There are even more goodies inside, with perforated leather-trimmed sport seats, eight-way power driver s seats with lumbar support and aluminum and wood-like console and door trim on the TL. The Type-S comes with aluminum and carbon-like console and door trim.

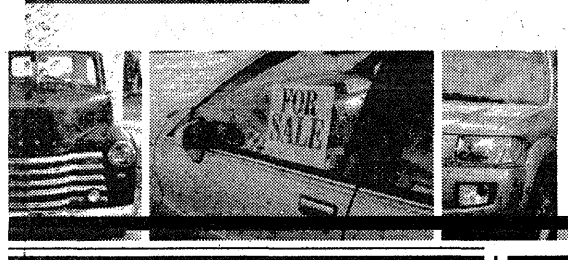
There s a new, three-spoke steering wheel and new gauges outfitted in a brushed metal-like finish and blue lighting on the TL and red lighting on the Type-S. Both models come with a 225-watt Acura/ELS Surround system with eight-speakers and a six-disc system that plays mp3 and WMA files.

For technophiles, the TL is built with Bluetooth technology, including a HandsFree link allows drives to link Bluetooth-enabled cellphones by voice. And Acura s Navigation System stores cell phone address book to its memory, while a display screen shows mobile phone information, maintenance needs and driver settings. Models with a navigation system also get a new rearview camera.

The TL gives competitors such as the Audi A4, BMW 3-series, Cadillac CTS, Infiniti G 35 and Mercedes-Benz C Class uphill competition at a lower price tag.

Write Tenisha Mercer at avanti1054@aol.com <mailto:avanti1054@aol.com> . @2006, Fracassa Communications.

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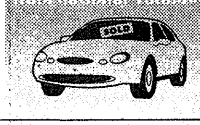
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CHEVY SUBURBAN 2004- 4x4, loaded, Z71, ruby red, $25,995. P6376
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MERCURY MOUNTAINEER 2004 - 49K, cloth, AWD, DVD, CD, silver. $15,985
Crissman Lincoln Mercury
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MERCURY MOUNTAINEER 2005 - 15K, V6, AWD, power, CD, White. $18,985
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TOYOTA LAND CRUISER - 1996, a real black beauty, AWD, loaded, 63000 miles, $16,000. 248-379-4135

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REGAL GS 2002, super charged, one owner, $6,995.
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HHR LS 2006-pitch black, $14,995.
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MONTE CARLO 2001, Dale Earnhart, full power, moon, CD, leather, Onstar, own a legend, $12,900
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300M 2001- Silver, moon, leather, chrome wheels. $8995
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PT CRUISER LIMITED 2001 Sunroof & leather. 99,000 miles, $4400.
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INTREPID ES 2000- Brown, 4dr, 24 mpg, remote start, very clean, well maintained. 86,500 miles. $4250. 248-914-0777

INTREPID ES 2003, silver, cloth interior, $8,495. We Buy Cars!
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NEON 1995 4 dr., air, CD, ps, am-fm stereo. Blue, 35 mpg, some rust. $1,150
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ESCORT COUPE 2001, 21K, red, auto, $7,495.
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ESCORT SE 1998- 4dr., loaded, exc. cond. aluminum wheels. $3300/best.
248-667-1088

ESCORT ZX2 1999, auto, air, great gas! $5,995. Stk 7C8121A
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FOCUS SVT 2003, mellow yellow, leather, loaded, $10,995.
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FOCUS ZX3 2003- Clean! Must see! Low miles. $10,495
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FOCUS SE 2004
Auto, Air. Loaded.
$3999
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FOCUS SES 2005, Full power, 4,000 miles. Like new! $13,900.
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(734) 524-1264

FORD 500 SE 2006, same as new except for price, $15,995. P19811
NORTH BROTHERS FORD
(734) 524-1264

FUSION SE 2006, 15K, full power, $14,995.
NORTH BROTHERS FORD
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TAURUS 1999, blue, auto, air, $3,995.
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TAURUS 2005, low miles, like new, white, $9,995. Stk#1517U
Bill Brown Ford
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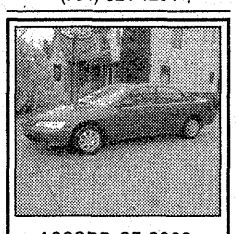
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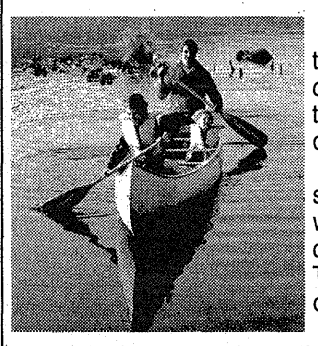
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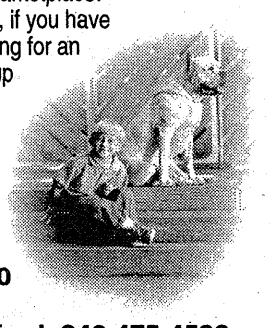
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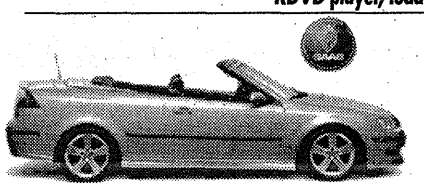


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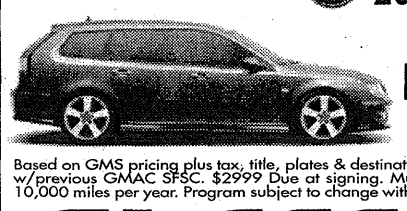
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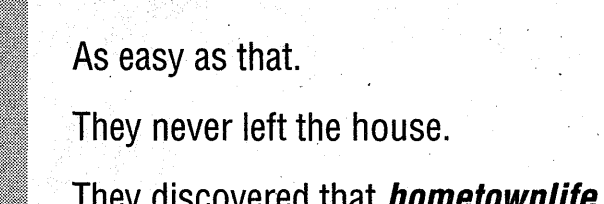
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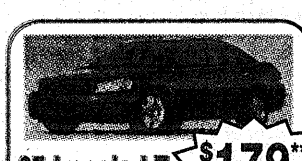
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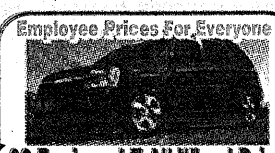
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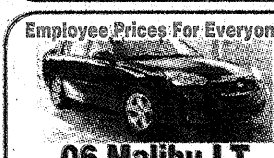

07 Impala LT $179** PER MO
27 Month Lease #1248
Total Due GM Employee $1,774
Non-Employee $2,679


Employee Prices For Everyone
06 Equinox LT All Wheel Drive
Was $25,600 #8560
$19,995*


Employee Prices For Everyone
06 Silverado Ext Cab LT 4X4
Was $35,045 #P8993
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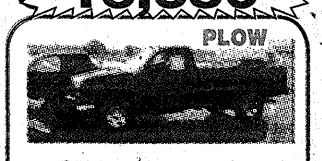

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$18,386*

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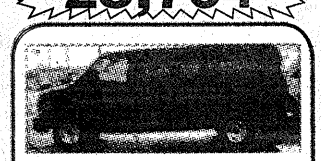

Employee Prices For Everyone
06 Malibu LT
Was $20,165 #P3199
$17,171*


Employee Prices For Everyone
06 Impala SS
Was $30,600 #P3332
$25,764*


Employee Prices For Everyone
06 Colorado Pick-Up Ext Cab
Was $19,575 #8385
$14,371*


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V8, 4 speed, auto, air, power steering/brakes, tilt, CD player, Western 8.5 V-plow, was $35,770, 00499147812
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06 CHEVY EXPRESS
V8, 4 speed, automatic, air, power steering/brakes, 10' KUV body by Knapheide w/side compartments, 00497248707
$28,250*


06 CHEVY EXPRESS 2500
V8, automatic, air, locking differential, am/fm stereo, was $$25,210, 00499079807
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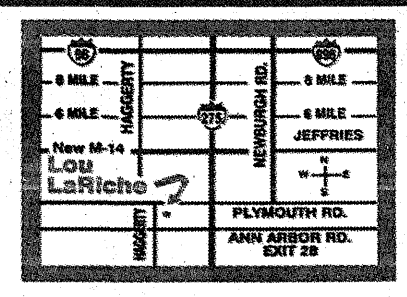
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2000 MUSTANG GT 40K, midnight blue, chromes, auto, perfect! $11,595
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A carjacker pummels his victim with a baseball bat. Street fighters clash until one is bludgeoned to death. A sniper takes out a terrorist with a shot to the head.



Tech Savvy

Rick Broida

Headlines ripped from the daily news? Nope, just the action inside some of the latest video games – the games likely to turn up on kids' holiday wish-lists.

What's a well-meaning parent or grandparent to do? The kids have outgrown the educational stuff, but you'd rather not expose them to machine guns, manslaughter and bloody corpses.

The problem seems particularly acute when you consider the latest improvements in game graphics and sound effects (I'm looking at you, PlayStation 3), which render the onscreen mayhem with shocking realism.

Fortunately, alternatives exist. If you want to oblige the kids with something new for their computer, game console or handheld game system, you can choose from dozens of fun-filled titles that haven't a trace of violence, gore or adult themes.

ATV OFF-ROAD FURY 4

Some of the best games are those that let you engage in

PLEASE SEE **BROIDA, D2**

OFF THE AIR WITH DICK PURTAN & PURTAN'S PEOPLE

We have so much to be thankful for

It's Thanksgiving — the unofficial start of "the most wonderful time of the year."

We have the Pilgrims and the American Indians to thank for that.

If it wasn't for those rugged pioneers getting together for a potluck, we wouldn't be able to save half off on a five-piece microfiber living room ensemble with no interest and no payments until Groundhog Day 2009 (through Sunday only).



Dick Purtan

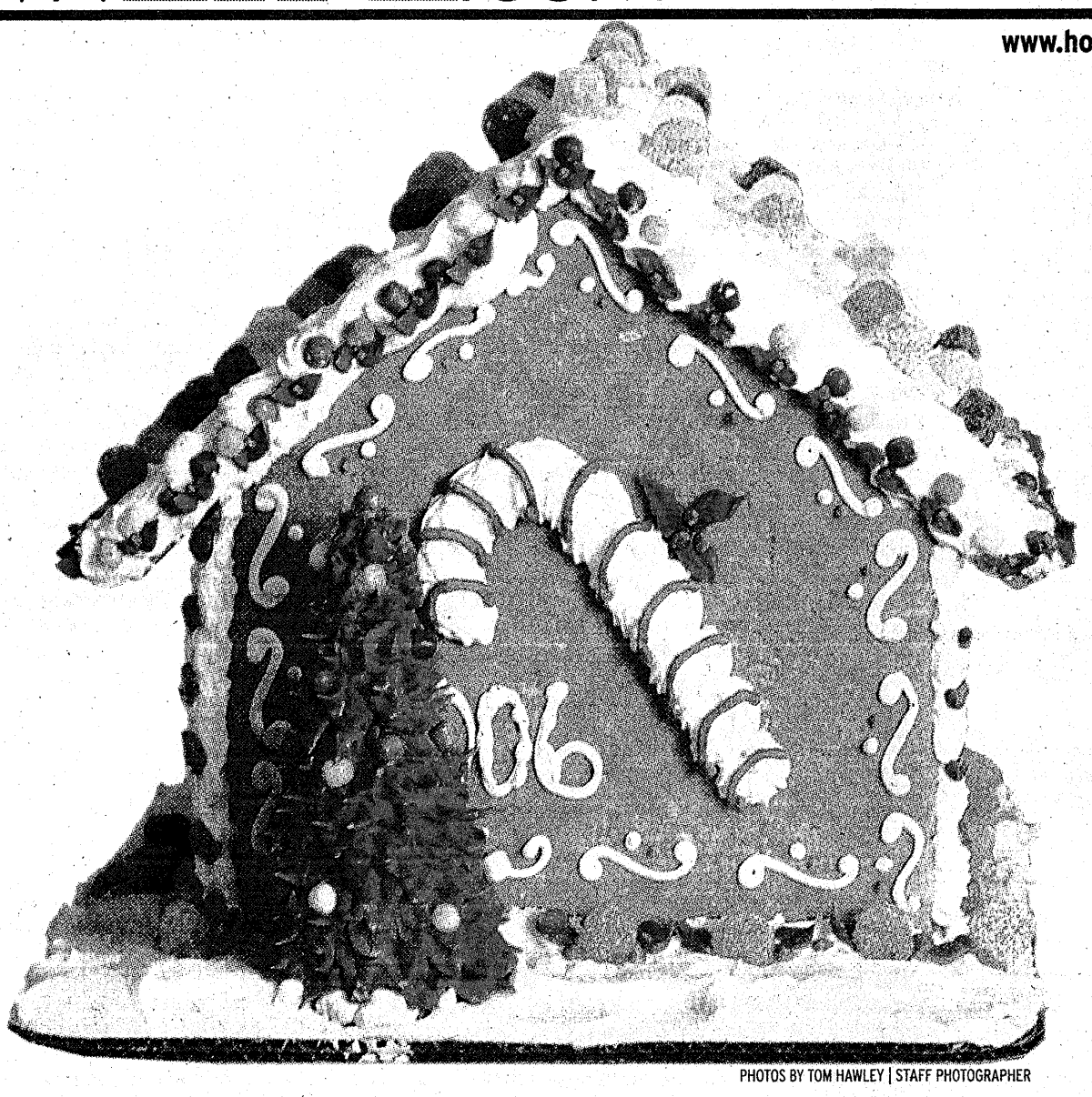
Yes, they started a wonderful tradition that has become — well, a tradition.

As you sit down for turkey and trimmings with your family and friends, take a moment to remember all the things you are thankful for. Here's just a snapshot of my list:

Comfortable shoes, TV remotes, old friends, new friends, ATMs, cell phones, cordless phones, headphones (an occupational hazard), the express lane at Kroger, the Tigers' pennant-winning season, Michigan football on FM radio, the incredible men and women of our armed forces and their brave families who wait and pray for their safe return, good health, the dedicated doctors and nurses who are there when we need them, heated car seats, digital cameras, children, grandchildren, self-cleaning ovens, pay-at-the-pump, Downriver, The Big House, The Palace, The Joe, The Fist (just kidding), The Roma Cafe, weekends, sleeping late (heck, sleeping at all), a good book, the History Channel, the Salvation Army, refrigerator magnets, finding money in an old coat, watching the guy who just passed you on the right get a speeding ticket (unless that guy is me), anti-lock brakes, right turn on red, the Michigan left, Windex, those dish-washing brushes that hold their own soap, tuna sandwiches with tomato soup, instant replay, the American flag flying stiffly in a breeze, the first snow of the season, the last snow of the season, fat-free ice cream, an e-mail from Nigeria telling me I've won 10 million bucks, the Swifter Jet Set, decaf diet Coke, decaf coffee, a decaf life, listeners who are kind enough to welcome us into their homes, cars and offices every morning, my 95-year-old father, a brand-new tube of toothpaste, being surrounded by your family and thinking about them when you're not.

Here's hoping this holiday season is your best ever. Now, if you'd pass the mashed potatoes, I'd be incredibly grateful.

Dick Purtan & Purtan's Pilgrims are on your radio from 5-10 every morning on the Motor City's 104.3 WOMC. I hope you'll join us.



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Different types of candy can be used to decorate a gingerbread house. An inverted ice cream cone can be turned into an evergreen tree, above.

Storybook structures

Gingerbread houses invite happy memories



Mary Denning applies gumdrops to a gingerbread house.

(See related item, D2.)

BY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

More than "mortar" holds these buildings together.

They are gingerbread houses, and happy memories and anticipation are involved in their design, assembly and decoration.

Mary Denning, president and chief executive officer of Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe in Westland, is a true artist of this architecture.

"It's something (families) can do together, (parents) and child, grandmother and grandchild," said Denning, who has been teaching gingerbread house classes for 20 years. "It's a neat tradition."

Her young students range in age from 1 year to 18 years.

"We get kids coming back for years," she said.

Why are gingerbread houses so appealing?

"I think (it's) the scent more than anything," is Denning's response. "It brings back memories."

Denning will build an edible Gingerbread Village at the Michigan Christmas Show starting Nov. 30 in Novi.

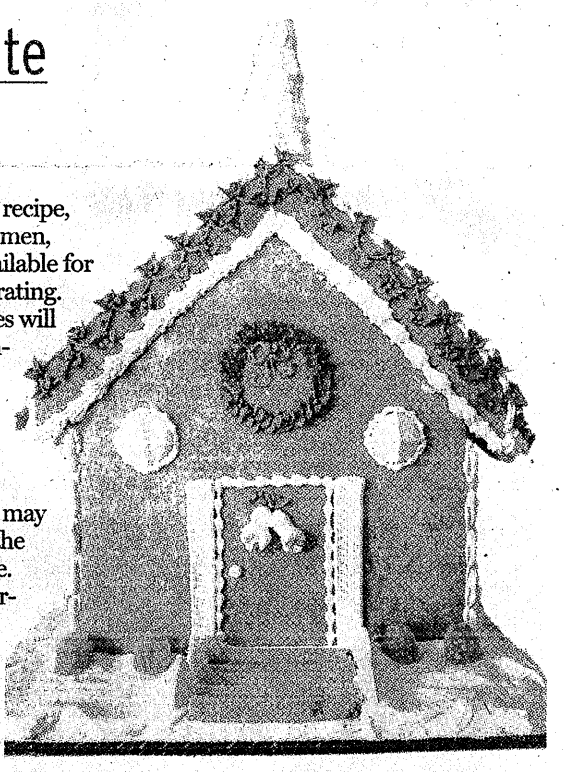
She'll show how to construct a house out of gingerbread, share her gingerbread recipe, and have gingerbread men, frosting and candy available for hands-on cookie decorating.

Youngsters of all ages will be able to decorate gingerbread men with Denning noon to 3 p.m. Nov. 30 and Dec. 3, and noon to 3 p.m. and 5-7 p.m. Dec. 1-2.

Visitors to the show may register to win one of the houses from the village.

The origins of gingerbread go back to the ancient world. Gingerbread was so popular during medieval times that many festivities were called "gingerbread fairs."

PLEASE SEE **GINGERBREAD, D2**



Icing and candy decorate this gingerbread structure, which also features a steeple made from an inverted ice cream cone.

Retro: Vintage ornaments shine in classic colonial

(See related item, D2.)

BY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

When Holly Hutchinson was a child, her family always trimmed a balsam fir tree for Christmas. Her grandmother had a silver tree that was decorated completely in blue.

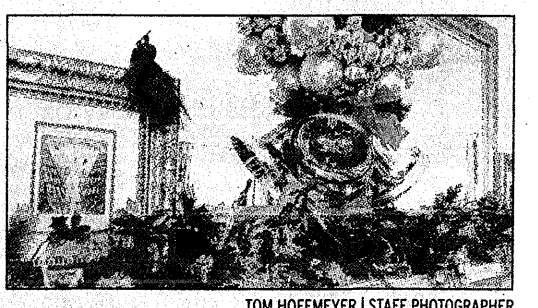
Hutchinson and husband Bruce still decorate a fresh balsam fir tree for the holiday every year. And this year, a silver tree from the late 1950s will also be among the decorations at their Livonia home.

"Now, 50 years later, I thought 'I can do this,'" Holly Hutchinson said, referring to the glistening tree that revolved slowly in the front window (with the help of a small motor).

The Hutchinson residence will be one of seven homes featured on Livonia's 18th annual Christmas Walk, Saturday, Dec. 2.

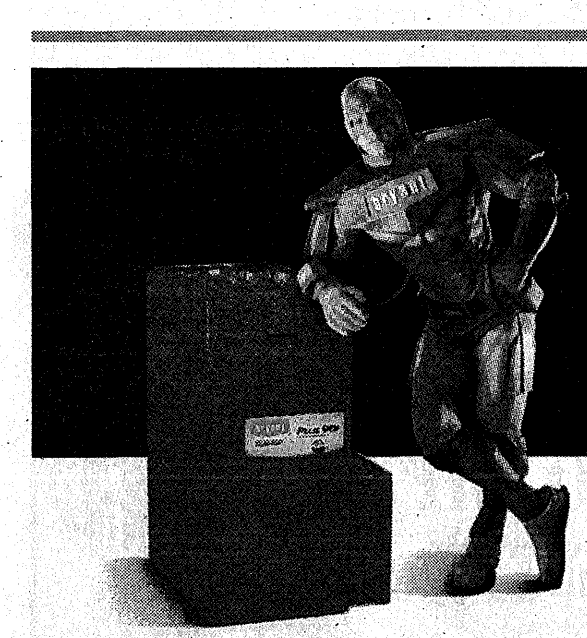
Antiques – some from the family, some bought – are comfortably ensconced throughout the colonial home, which was

PLEASE SEE **ORNAMENTS, D2**



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Christmas decorations are placed along the mantle of the Hutchinsons' home in Livonia.



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BROIDA

FROM PAGE D1

risky behavior – like off-road racing on a four-wheeled all-terrain vehicle – without the actual risks.

Beautiful graphics, lots of tracks and vehicles (including, for the first time, buggies, MX bikes and trophy trucks), and online gameplay with up to eight players make this a must-have sequel. (Sony; available for PS2.)

The wonderful Backyard Sports series gives younger kids a chance to play baseball, hockey, soccer and other games without having to master lots of complex controls. Current titles in the series include Backyard Baseball 2007, Backyard Hockey 2005 and Backyard Skateboarding. Check the BackyardSports.com Web site to see which games are available for which platform.

You may also want to troll the bargain bins for some of the older, discontinued titles in the series. Trust me: They're all gems. (Atari; available for Game Boy Advance and PC.)

BARNYARD

The movie *Barnyard* got lost amid the summer animation-palooza; the game shouldn't suffer the same fate. In it, players create their own cow and join the other farm animals for cute missions and mini-games.

These include gopher golf, robot dancing, and a shooting game in which udders serve as squirt guns (Parents, take note: There is a bit of cartoon violence here). (THQ: available for Game Cube, Game Boy Advance, PS2, and Wii.)

CARS

Based on the eponymous Pixar film, Cars features the voices of the original cast and challenges players to a variety of races, missions and mini-games. (My favorite: tractor tipping.) There's even a special version of the game that's tailored to younger kids.

This is definitely a must-have for fans of the movie, though older racers may find the gameplay overly simplistic. (THQ; available for PC and all consoles.)

CHARLOTTE'S WEB

Charlotte's Web gives youngsters the chance to play as Wilbur the pig and Templeton the rat, adventuring their way through environments like the Zuckerman farm and the Country Fair.

The beloved characters embark on various missions to collect letters that make up special phrases, thus helping players hone their spelling skills. The PC version includes 10 educational mini-games. (Sega; available for PC, Game Boy Advance and Nintendo DS.)

DANCE DANCE REVOLUTION

Do the kids a favor and buy a game that can't be played lying down. Or even sitting. Dance Dance Revolution, instantly familiar to anyone under the age of 18, challenges players to keep the beat by being light on their feet. The various iterations of this arcade staple guarantee a good time, calories burned and freedom from potential public embarrassment.

If the kids don't already have a dance mat, make sure to get the version that comes bundled with one. (Konami; available for PS2, Xbox and Xbox 360.)

FLIGHT SIMULATOR X DELUXE

It's never too early to take flying lessons, and there's no better virtual trainer than Microsoft's Flight Simulator X.

Budding pilots can fly the world over, enjoying photorealistic scenery and sharing the skies with other pilots in the game's "living world." The Deluxe version offers 24 airplanes, 45 high-detail airports, 38 high-detail cities and a variety of missions to fly.

One important note: The game requires a relatively new, powerful PC to take full advantage of its advanced graphics. (Microsoft; available for PC.)

LEGO STAR WARS II

OK, so blasting storm troopers may seem a little violent, but Lego Star Wars II – which, true to its name, recreates the *Star Wars* universe entirely out of Lego blocks – couldn't be more harmless. The game has no blood, no bodies and no anguished screams (none of which can be said about the actual movies, ahem).

Rick Broida writes about computers and technology for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. E-mail him at rick.broida@gmail.com.

GINGERBREAD

FROM PAGE D1

"My idea of a gingerbread house is the Hansel and Gretel kind," said Denning, who has been in business for 15 years, and who was featured in the December 1998 issue of *Ladies' Home Journal.*

These confectionery constructions by Denning have a storybook charm, with such features as shingles of white chocolate wafers, and rocks of halved jelly beans.

Royal icing holds elements in place. This icing, which hardens, is made of egg whites and powdered sugar. The firmer the icing, the better chance of the sides staying together when you put on the roof.

Denning applies it to the candies with a pastry bag, with a method similar to applying mortar to bricks. If you don't have a pastry bag, put the icing in a Ziplock bag and cut off one corner, Denning said.

When working with royal icing, remember to keep it moist, Denning said.

"Keep it covered at all times, with a damp towel or a lid."

FEATURES

On Denning's gingerbread houses, lines of wavy icing trim eaves, doors and windows. Other icing forms holly leaves, designs and tiebacks on curtains, and other adornments.

Inverted ice cream cones, covered with frosting, become evergreen trees and church steeples.

Gumdrops, red-hots, and small, colorful candies that look like miniature lights add to the decor. A product called Edible Glitter covers the scene with a soft sparkle (powdered sugar could also be used).

Almost any kind of candy can be used on the houses. An exception is chocolate, which changes color with the temperature and could turn gray.

"You don't want chocolate," Denning said. "M&Ms will change color sometimes. You're better off with Skittles."

BASICS

There are some basics regarding gingerbread houses.

"You have to have a pattern that you're going to follow," Denning said. "You have to have a good recipe."

The sides of the house must match. The biggest mistake people make is lifting up the gingerbread after rolling it out, which makes the piece lopsided, Denning said. Instead, after rolling out the dough and cutting the shape, pull away the excess dough first.

Denning recommends making the gingerbread one day and assembling the house one or two days later.

"Your gingerbread will shrink as the cookie dries," she said. "The baked gingerbread needs to set out with a cloth over it. If you set it in a tight airproof container, it will not shrink properly. The cloth will keep dust off your cookie."

Utensils must be free of grease. If any grease is in the bowl or on beaters or utensils, the egg whites in the icing will fall or won't whip up.

Denning uses sturdy cardboard as the base. She first makes a "snow bank" of frosting to hold one side of the house in place.

After Denning puts the sides together, she lets them dry. Don't put the roof on too early or it will collapse, she said. If she has time, sometimes she lets the sides dry overnight.

People prefer to keep gingerbread houses instead of eating them, Denning has found.

GINGERBREAD COOKIE DOUGH

Cream together:
- 1 cup brown sugar
- ½ cup butter
- ½ cup shortening
- 1 cup corn syrup

Add and cream:
- 3 eggs

Add and mix together:
- 8 cups flour
- 2-½ tablespoons cinnamon
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons ginger

Chill dough for at least 1 hour. Roll out on parchment about ¼-inch thick. Bake at 350 degrees Fahrenheit until set.

ROYAL ICING

- 1 pound powdered sugar
- 3 egg whites

Whip together 10 minutes or until firm. Keep icing covered with a damp towel.

Note: All utensils must be grease-free.

Recipes from Mary Denning of Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe in Westland.

ORNAMENTS

FROM PAGE D1

built in 1938.

Among them are a cookie jar in the kitchen and a wicker dress dummy (previously a store display) in the living room.

"I've been collecting and I still pick up something when I can," Holly said.

"It's kind of one of our hobbies."

And the antiques include vintage ornaments, such as the pastel pieces – which belonged to Holly's grandmother – in the kitchen nook. The nook is an example of the charm of the house, with its built-in and corner shelves.

Bruce and Holly Hutchinson have been renovating their home for eight years, doing much of the work themselves.

They are retaining the house's historical integrity, keeping as many original fixtures and elements as possible, and finding new features similar to those from the '20s and '30s. (Their project was featured in the *Observer & Eccentric* last September.)

Before and after photos will be displayed at the house so visitors on the tour will be able to see the progress.

Bruce's meticulous work included reglazing every pane in the old windows, and sanding and replastering the walls. A porte cochere is being converted into an enclosed room.

The stove and the linoleum floor in the kitchen had to be replaced, but the original hardware remains. The room was too dark, so the light was replaced with three bell-shaped lights, matching one installed in the nook.

A deep sink and a quartz countertop, both new, are what Holly calls her "concession to modernity."

DECORATIONS

The silver tree was bought on eBay, as an aunt had disposed of the grandmother's tree. Holly still has the original color wheel for the tree, and colorful ornaments from the family that now adorn it.

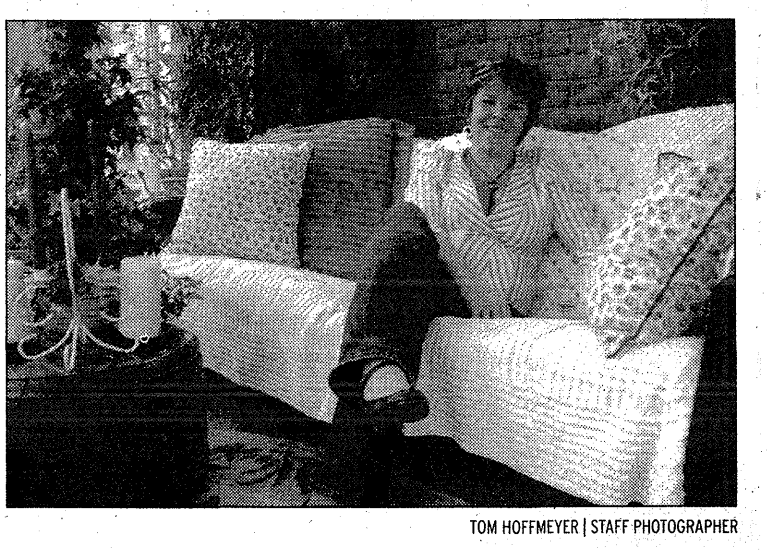
Among other holiday decorations are a large toy soldier, which the couple obtained from a home expo. Holly made a pedestal for the soldier by wrapping a box with Christmas paper so it resembles a present.

Bell jars that are plant protectors now cover arrangements of pine cones and glitter. Over the mantel, gold balls of various sizes form a wreath.

On the floor nearby is a clear, tall, long-necked vessel that will be filled with fresh pine branches, lights and ornaments. (Holly's father used to put those items in a giant brandy snifter as a decoration, she said.) A spiral plant stand will hold an arrangement of poinsettias.

FOR GREENMEAD

Proceeds from the Christmas Walk go to the restoration and preservation of Greenmead Historical Park.



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Livonia resident Holly Hutchinson sits on a glider that belonged to the original owner of her historic home which she is decorating for Christmas.

18TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS WALK

- **What:** A tour of seven distinctive homes located throughout Livonia, and the Hill House at Greenmead Historical Park, all decorated for the holidays.
  The event is presented by the Friends for the Development of Greenmead.
  All proceeds go to the restoration and preservation of Greenmead, a 95-acre site on the southwest corner of Newburgh and Eight Mile that features some of Livonia's original buildings from the 1800s.
- **When:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2.
- **Tickets:** $9 in advance, $10 the day of the Christmas Walk. Tickets are available from committee members, any Livonia public library, the Civic Center Library Gift Shop (Five Mile and Farmington roads), Greenmead and the Department of Community Resources (on the fifth floor of Livonia City Hall, Five Mile and Farmington roads).
- **Features:** Start your tour at Hill House, where hot chocolate and homemade cookies will be served. You'll find unusual Christmas items to buy at the Hill House gift shop.
  It is suggested that you wear slide on/off shoes, as you must remove your shoes before entering the homes.
- **Information:** (734) 466-3540 or (734) 425-4855.

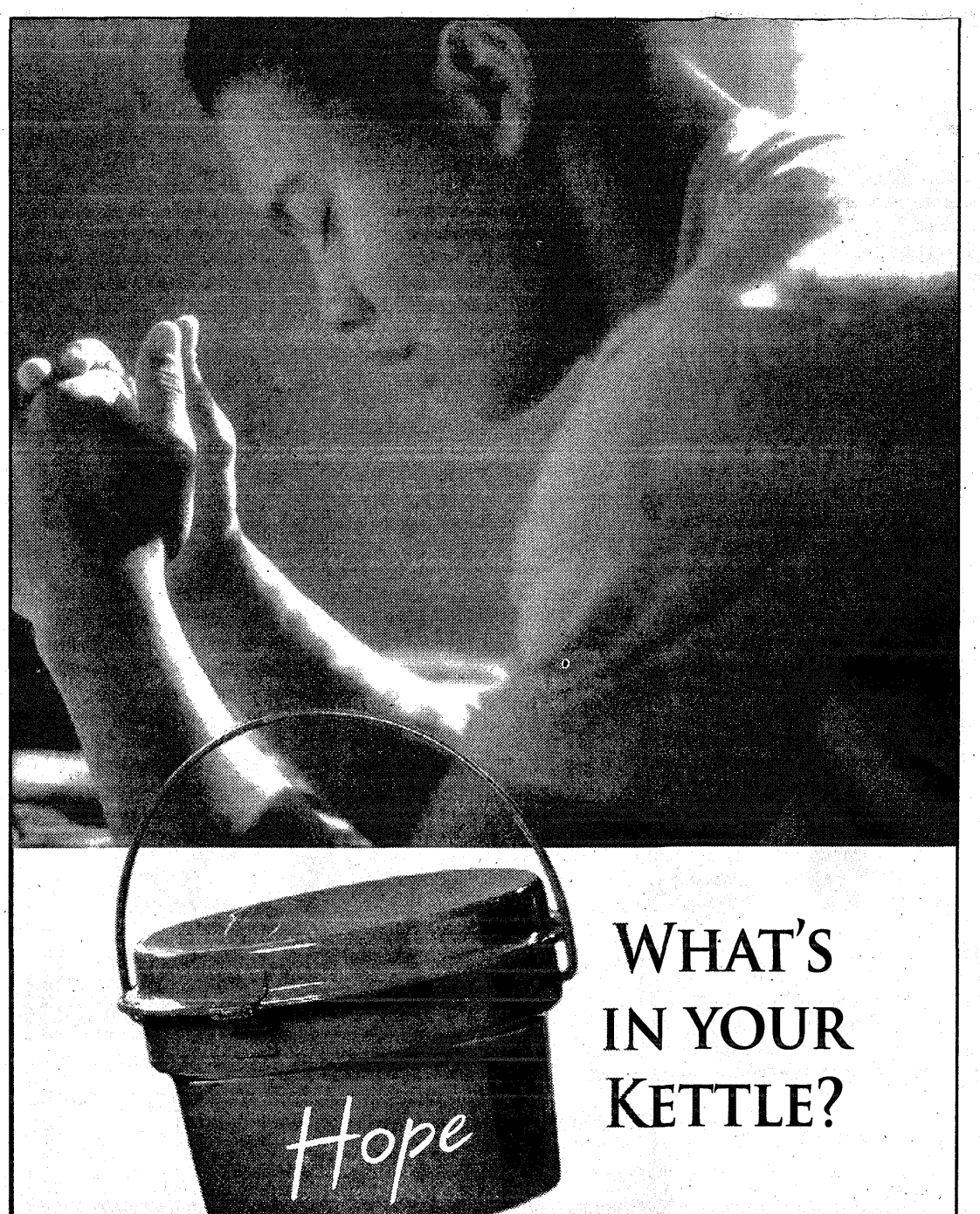
Almost $300,000 has been raised through the years, said Janet Bennett, president of Friends for the Development of Greenmead. The group is sponsoring the event.

"There should be some interesting houses," Bennett said.

The tour begins at Hill House at Greenmead, where cookies and hot chocolate will be served. Hill House and the Blue House are two of the historic structures at the site.

"Hill House will be decorated very attractively," Bennett said. "The Questers have been busy for weeks."

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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

LET'S TALK SOMETIME
SWF, 38, mother, enjoys Harleys, rock-n-roll, good talks, classic cars, sports, amusement parks, casinos, meeting new people. Seeking outgoing, sweet, fun man w/spontaneous streak to share new adventures with. ☎962910

CHRISTIAN LOVER
SW, 48, Christian enjoys traveling, movies and dining out. Seeking a N/D, N/S, independent, outgoing, considerate, respectful, no head games, Christian a +. ☎142751

SHALL WE DANCE?
I am a SBF, 58, 5'3", 170lbs, attractive, intelligent, creative, articulate, seeks SWM, 57-73, who is kind-hearted, articulate, who enjoys dancing, walking, traveling, movies, dining out. ☎812098

LOVES BOATING
SWF, 65, 5'6", Aries, N/S, loves dancing and dining out. Seeking WM, 60-71, N/S, with sense of humor, for friendship, possible romance. ☎890004

IS IT YOU?
SWF, 56, tall, trim, seeks hard-working or retired, conservative SWM, 5'11"+, 58-65, with good values, educated, no tattoos, drugs, or games please. ☎138981

ARE YOU THE ONE?
SBF, 56, BBW, loves jazz, concerts, movies, travel, walks, great conversation. Seeking commitment-minded, mature, loving man with similar interests for possible LTR. ☎140023

VERY CUTE
SBF, 56, 5'3", 122lbs, interested in fit, good-looking, confident male, 45-58, N/S, intelligent, sincere, down-to-earth, who wants to commit to someone special. ☎113198

SOMEONE SPECIAL
SBF, N/S, 18, 5' 9", thick, seeks sweet, outgoing, honest, respectful, open-minded man, 18-28, for friendship, and more. ☎140694

WANTED: TALL, CLASSY MALE
I am in my early 60s, 5'2", brown/brown, I enjoy dancing, outdoors, and travel. Seeking a companion, 60-70, and maybe a relationship. Please call. ☎982305

IN SEARCH OF
Optimistic, healthy WIWF, 68, sense of humor, healthy, honest, N/S, great listener, loves to travel. Seeking special man, healthy, N/S, N/D, with a sense of humor. ☎765933

SINGLE PROFESSIONAL WOMAN
SWPF, 45, 5'9", average build, educated, Capricorn, N/S, loves golf, reading, gardening, dining out, movies, seeks SWPM, 38-55, N/S, similar interests, for LTR. ☎983176

MAYBE US?
SF, 42, blonde/blue, leggy, loves all types of music, dancing, movies, nature road trips, dining and simple fun. ISO easygoing, loving guy to share talks, good times, friendship and more. ☎132593

GIVE ME A CALL
SBF, 39, 5' 3", average build, marriage-minded, smoker, seeks WF, for friendship, maybe more. ☎140881

SOMEONE SPECIAL
Fun-loving, attractive SWF, 70, 5'5", 135lbs, blonde, retired, N/S, seeks well-groomed WM, 65-72, N/S, to share life, romance, and possible relationship. ☎891247

TRUE FRIENDSHIP
WiAF, 62, 5', 100lbs, enjoys gardening, dogs, cats, cooking, dining out, travel. Seeking kind, caring, honest, SW/AM, 55-70, slim, with understanding of asian culture, for friendship first, maybe more later. ☎139934

HI EVERYONE
SF, 18, seeks nice, easygoing guy who knows how to have fun, and knows how to treat a lady. Friendhsip first. ☎142588

WANTED:KIND-HEARTED WOMAN
SWF, 38, full-figured 5'8", seeks SWF, 25-50, who loves animals, parks, books, movies and music, someone kind-hearted, good-humored and outgoing, for a real friendship first. ☎136379

BROWN SUGAR
Sexy SBF, 49, N/S, likes church, going out, parks, movies, concerts, seeks man, 45-65, for quiet times, and more. ☎138528

WAITING FOR YOU
SBF, 19, 5'1", full figured, beautiful smile, enjoys comedy and horror films, jokes and enjoying life. Seeking someone with same interest. ☎142407

WHY WAIT?
Down-to-earth, fun-loving SBF, 38, mom, brown complexion, medium-length hair, 5'4", full-figured, great personality, D/D-free, likes dancing, cooking, relaxing at home watching movies etc. Seeking compatible man to share some fun. ☎130211

FIND ME
Attractive SAF, 49, N/S, 5' 3", 110lbs, slim build, seeks WM, 45-56, N/S, for friendship, and more. ☎113901

COULD IT BE YOU?
SWF, 45, looks younger, blonde/blue, 117lbs, employed, independent, secure, loves animals, kids, N/S, social drinker, enjoys listening to music, just having fun. Seeking open-minded, honest, dependable man into the same. ☎130599

FORMER MODEL
SWF, 50, 5'6", slender, intelligence, creativity, passion for music and dancing. Seeks partner 38-50, who is attractive and fit, to share this interests and more. ☎600106

FRIENDS FIRST
SBF, 37, 5'6", black/brown, easygoing, Aries, N/S, enjoys bike riding, long walks, travel, and cooking. Seeking WM, 30-50, N/S, for fun. ☎933970

WHERE ARE YOU?
Very attractive, sexy SBPF, 35, 5'2", medium build, enjoys dining out, jazz, plays. ISO SBM, 40-52, commitment-minded and sincere, for LTR. ☎950732

ALL OF ME
SWF, 50, 5'10", big beautiful woman, 300+ pounds, easygoing, N/S, light drinker, enjoys nights out or in. ISO loving, happy, commitment-minded man to share a happy, lasting, loving relationship. ☎956929

GORGEOUS
SWF, 39, 5', attractive, average build, dark/blue, Pisces, N/S, outgoing, fun-loving, seeks WM, 35-53, N/S, for LTR. ☎112039

ISO CHIVALROUS MAN
SBCF, 35, attractive, plus-sized, Capricorn, single mom, marriage-minded, N/S, seeks man, 40-55, family-oriented, old-fashioned, possible romance. ☎112291

MADE TO ORDER
SWF, 52, attractive, Pisces, N/S, nice, educated, secure, fun, enjoys sporting events, movies, camping, travel, theater, seeks WM, 45-56, N/S, possible romance. ☎993487

TAKE A CHANCE
SWF, 37, likes motorcycles, movies, Star Wars, seeks WM, 34-35, N/S, with similar interests, for friendship, and more. ☎114057

LOOKING FOR ME?
Hard-working, affectionate SAF, 47, 5'1", 95lbs, very clean, N/S, N/D, loving and fun, seeks independent, responsible, respectful, secure man, 45-50, to share the special times in life. ☎113534

LOOKING FOR YOU
Attractive SWF, Catholic, 59, N/S, 5' 6", good shape, seeks WM, 53-70, N/S, who enjoys golf, movies, theater, dining, long walks, church, and much more. ☎124235

SEEKING SOMETHING NEW
Down to earth, attractive SBF, 36, N/S, 5' 7", professional, enjoys movies, dining out, shopping, traveling, seeks WM, 35-55, N/S, for friendship first, possibly more. ☎123659

FRIENDS FIRST
WIWF, 68, 5'6", 145lbs, healthy, honest, happy, likes comedy films, country cooking. Looking for outdoorsy, active man affectionate and warm-hearted, to share the good things in life. ☎139719

LOOKING FOR ME?
Energetic SBPF, 52, N/S, attractive, educated, sociable, 5'7", 170lbs, enjoys movies, reading, concerts, theater, dining, travel, trying new things. ISO intelligent, spontaneous, active gentleman, N/S, to share these. Let's talk ☎135617

ARE YOU THE ONE 4 ME?
SF, 29, loves family, the outdoors, cooking, people, more. Looking for bright, level-headed, goal-oriented, family-oriented man w/big heart and open mind to share life and all it's little adventures. ☎139414

BIG GIRLS NEED LUV
SBF, 31, marriage-minded, N/S, romantic, seeks man, 25-58, likes children, having fun, for friendship, maybe more. ☎140252

SOULMATE SEARCH
Slim, attractive, 57-yr-old JF looking for her soulmate, any sincere, successful JM, between the ages of 54-64, please respond. ☎589875

COULD YOU BE THE ONE?
Loving, youthful SBF, 57, trim, shapely, very attractive, energetic, happy, enjoys dining, travel, amusement parks, the outdoors, festivals, nature, family-friends, theater, more. Seeking like-minded gentleman to share these. ☎121526

PETITE & SEXY...
SBF, sensitive, affectionate, loving, 51, looks 35, 5'1", 105lbs, NS. Seeking healthy SBM, 5'10"-6'1", to work out with. ☎912553

LOVELY AND LOVING
Attractive 52-year-old, blonde/green, 5'5", nice figure, romantic, wanting to meet a very romantic, affectionate SM, 42-52, who will treat her like a queen. ☎617628

LOOKING FOR YOU
SF, 33, 5'4", 140lbs, mother, caramel complexion, brown eyes, enjoys music, chilling w/friends, home-cooking. Looking for an intelligent, down-to-earth, honest, child-friendly man to share talks, good times and maybe more. ☎134568

AWAITING YOUR CALL
Caring, considerate WIWF, 55, blonde/blue, wears glasses, enjoys reading, music, movies, travel, museums, animals, quiet evenings home. Seeking animal-friendly, good-hearted , affectionate guy to share special times. ☎137067

59 YEARS OLD ENTREPRENEUR
Pretty, charming SWF, successful, kind, compassionate, lots of fun, looking for her knight in shining armor. Any sincere, caucasian gentlemen, 55-80, please respond. Hopefully we'll be each others soul mates. ☎592074

REFINED AND FULL OF LIFE
Very attractive blonde, fit, energetic and happy, professionally employed, very youthful 60s, 5'3", trim and shapely, enjoys dining, travel, dancing, theater, family and friends. Seeking honest, handsome, fit, 55+, college grad, N/S, with youthful passion for life. Serious replies only. ☎652360

MR. RIGHT, ARE YOU THERE?
SWF, 56, 5' , HWP, easygoing, dependable, reliable, Taurus, N/S, social drinker, likes computers, nascar, casinos, sports, seeks WM, 46-56, for friendship, and more. ☎112612

ARE YOU THE ONE?
SF, 25, 5'7", shoulder-length medium blonde hair, bright green eyes, outgoing, fun, loves fitness, outdoors, boating, cycling, camping, concerts, auto racing. Seeking active, fit, caring man who appreciates the same. ☎953694

FAMILY-ORIENTED
Beautiful, shapely SBF, 34, 5'4", likes reading, long walks, working out, movies, plays, concerts, spontaneous trips, traveling, seeks patient, understanding BM, 34-46, N/S, with similar interests. ☎123905

LOOKING 4 GENTLEMAN
Attractive, professional, educated WF, 55, 5'2", slim, N/S. Interest include movies, concerts, comedy clubs, jazz, dancing, dining out, family ties. Seeking WM, 48-55, HWP, for lasting, loving LTR. ☎973365

TAKE ME GOLFING
Tidy SWF, 60, enjoys fine dining, traveling. Seeking golfer, best friend, confidante, 58-70, widower a plus. Honesty, trust, a must to make a relationship work. ☎976914

LET'S ENJOY LIFE
Female, 51, 138lbs, seeks independent, respectful male, 45-52, D/D free, who likes outdoors, walks, movies, for LTR. ☎987475

POSSIBLE LTR
SWPF, 57, 5'7", attractive, slender, athletic, Scorpio, N/S, enjoys sports, concerts, dining out, seeks WPM, 55-61, N/S, educated, healthy, humorous, possible LTR. ☎993381

SEEKING A LADY?
SBF, 56, 5'4", 110lbs, slim build, Sagittarius, smoker, honest, sincere, retired, enjoys movies, concerts, travel, park walks, seeks man, 45-70, similar, for friendship, possible romance. ☎118410

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU
Easygoing SWF, 57, CNA, N/S, N/D, enjoys talks, togetherness, day trips, soft rock. ISO loving Christian man, N/S, N/D, w/children ok, to share talks, dates, simple times, then who knows? ☎126925

DREAMS COME TRUE
Classy SBF, hoping to meet mature SBM, 45-60. I'm a very passionate, affectionate, loving person, who enjoys a variety of activities. If you're seeking your soulmate, why not try me? ☎985794

IS IT YOU?
Bright SBF, 18, full-figured, confident, independent, enjoys cooking, shopping, friends. ISO nice, honest respectful guy intelligent, motivated, goal-oriented who likes having fun, sports, good talk. Friendship first. ☎135256

I LISTEN WITH MY HEART
Attractive DWF, late 40s, Cancer, N/S, seeks special, no games WM, 45+, N/S, for caring, quality committed relationship. Let's create sparks and watch them fly. ☎639272

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

GOOD CATCH
SM, 36 enjoys shopping, traveling. Seeking someone who likes to have fun for friendship and LTR. ☎142878

MUSCULAR ATHLETIC
SWM, 48, 6'2", 200lbs, brown/blue, in shape, college grad, enjoys working, reading, travel, dancing, sports. Seeking outgoing SF, with similar interests, for friendship and more. ☎431926

A SPECIAL GUY
DWM, 56, 5'10", handsome and secure, seeks honest S/DWF, w/sense of humor, who enjoys travel, candlelight dinners, plays, dancing, concerts, boating, and movies. Friendship, possible LTR. ☎269646

SWEET GUY
Good-looking SWM, 52, 6'1", 197lbs, college graduate, financially secure, homeowner, bodybuilder, seeks petite SWF, 35-50, sexy, attractive, to enjoy dining out, movies, for serious relationship, maybe marriage. ☎255073

FANTASY OR REALITY?
SBM, 50, 5'8", medium-build, N/S, fun-loving personality, likes dancing, jazz/blues, quality time, traveling. Seeking passionate and sexy SF, 20-50, slim-to-medium build, race open, kids ok, for sharing time and romance. ☎946417

HERE I AM
Confident, fun mature, respectful SBM, 32, dark complexion, handsome, independent, neat, seeking mature, loving SF, 32-35, to share good times and more. ☎136424

HANDSOME MALE
SBM, 33, 5'8", 165lbs, handsome, independent. Seeking full figured female with good conversation for friendship possibly LTR. ☎143029

COME OUT WITH ME
SM, 6'0", 197lbs, brown complexion, enjoys shopping, going out dancing and having fun. Seeking female companionship who likes same. ☎142274

UNUSUAL REQUEST
Nice-looking, extremely busy, Grosse Pt. SWPM, 6'3", 228lbs, N/S, N/Drugs, ISO over 45 also extremely busy SWPF, pretty lady, for great friendship and special times. I know how to treat a lady and practice the golden rule. ☎143494

NEW TO AREA
SWM, 36, 6'5", athletic build, dark blond/blue, enjoys sports, outdoors, music, movies, cooking and more. Seeking creative, fun lady with an open mind and heart to share friendship and fun. ☎140690

THE FINER THINGS
SBM, 40, 5' 11", average build, likes sports, theater, movies, parks, seeks energetic, open-minded, sincere woman, 25-65, for friendship, possible romance. ☎141614

JOIN ME
SWM, 38, looks younger, active, open-minded, honest, respectful, health-conscious, goal-oriented. I enjoy cuddling, family time, sports, festivals, running, etc. ISO SWF, 35-42, for friendship, possible LTR. ☎140569

OLDER WOMAN DESIRED
SWM, 47, 6'2", 200lbs, muscular, athletic, brown/blue, degreed, outgoing personality, enjoys outdoors, workout, new activities, seeks friendly SF, age/location open. ☎531308

TRUE GENTLEMAN
SBM, 52, 5'8", 185lbs, looking for a medium to full-figured SBF, 46-54. Someone who is worldly, nice, loves to laugh and just enjoying life to the fullest. ☎912726

SERIOUS
SWM, 71, N/S, widowed, 5' 8", 150lbs, young at heart, enjoys outdoors, cooking, dining out, traveling, seeks slim, petite female, 62-70, N/S. ☎118483

LIFE IS FUN
SBM, 44, 5' 7", average build, N/S, likes movies, seeks WF, N/S, fun-loving, for friendship, possible romance. ☎137822

CALL ME
SWM, 44, N/S, seeks attractive female, 29-40, with a sound mind, body, and spirit. Only forthcoming individuals are to reply. ☎137865

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU
Affectionate DWM, 64, brown hair, N/S, D/D-free, enjoys craft shows, flea markets, movies, dining, camping, The Red Wings. ISO a special lady, 48-59, to share friendship, dates, possible LTR. ☎920969

WHY NOT CALL?
SWM, 42, 6'4", 225lbs, not about games, self-employed, loves the outdoors, camping, fishing, hunting, bowling, walks and more. Seeking spontaneous, outdoorsy SF to share the good times in life. ☎135980

WILL IT BE YOU?
Honest, loyal DWM, 48, 5'10", 135lbs, blond/blue, self-employed, enjoys bonfires, sports, quiet nights, cuddling, much more. WLTM a special lady, H/W proportionate, to share the good things in life. ☎139870

SERIOUS WOMAN WANTED
SBM, 46, looking for that special persona for LTR, someone who enjoys walks, movies, sporting events, cuddling at home. Please be shapely, independent and know what you want in life. ☎692418

WORTH A CALL
SWM, 48, 6', 175lbs, N/S, homeowner, hard-working, easygoing, honest, secure, enjoys motorcycling, hunting, the outdoors. Seeking honest, secure, attractive slim/fit woman, 25-50, N/S, D/D-free. ☎956910

LOVE COMFORT LAUGHTER
SWM, 49, 5'9", 195lbs, is nuts about nature, enjoys the outdoors, fishing, etc. Seeks compatible SWF, to have and hold. ☎114846

LOVE COMFORT LAUGHTER
SWM, 49, 5'9", 195lbs, is nuts about nature, enjoys the outdoors, fishing, etc. Seeks compatible SWF, to have and hold. ☎992943

FRIEND AND CONFIDANT
SWM, 74, active, educated, financially-secure, seeking a nice woman. Join me for dining, dancing, and classical music. I'm a good listener, and would love to hear from you! ☎139382

AMERICAN MADE
WM, 45, above-average looking, brown/blue, athletic, honest, good sense of humor, seeks compatible woman, with same interests, age open. ☎131277

THE LONG RUN
Male, 31, smoker, 6' 3", 200lbs, clean-cut, hazel eyes, seeks smart, intelligent SWF, 21-28, HWP, for friendship, and more. ☎138369

HARD MAN TO FIND
Fit, affectionate SM, 5'10", 180lbs. Seeking attractive female, 35-55. Enjoys outdoor activities, movies, cooking, camping. Looking for same qualities, and interests, for LTR. ☎972650

CALL ME SOMETIME
Professional WIWM, 53, 5'10", bald, family-oriented, N/S, enjoys kids, classic cars, outdoors, walks, music, dancing, animals, good food, travel, more. Seeking SF, 40-50, to share these. ☎137501

SOUND LIKE YOU?
SBM, 25, 5'8", 190lbs, dark complexion, long hair, no kids, looking for fun, energetic lady affectionate and real, who knows how to have fun in life. ☎122364

WORTH IT
SM, 63, blond, 6', 200lbs, fit, active, fun, enjoys keeping active, the gym, sports, cars, boats, horses, pets. Seeking good-humored, fit, energetic, attractive lady w/spontaneous streak, who enjoys the same. ☎135531

NICE GUY
SWM, 66, 5'6", 150lbs, manufacturers' representative, Libra, N/S, works out, enjoys movies, restaurants, and summer festivals. Seeking SWF, 50-65, N/S. Shirley, please call back. ☎708126

LONELY & READY
SWM, 49, average build, Italian, heart of gold, Virgo, N/S, seeks WF, 45-55, with a nice build, ready for LTR. Serious replies only. Redford Area. ☎860305

LET'S BE FREE TOGETHER
SBM, 6', 220lbs, physically fit, retired, well-educated. I would like to meet a single female 52-62, who is understanding, loving and caring, for a LTR. ☎869189

THAT'S ALL
SWM, 66, tall, thin, Scorpio, N/S, seeks WF, 60-68, N/S, old-fashioned, slim, fit, humorous, possible romance. ☎116761

CUT TO THE CHASE
SBCM, 51, 6'3", 250lbs, N/S, enjoys plays, concerts, country drives. ISO SWF, for friendship and much, much more. Age open. ☎121414

A NICE GUY
SM, 24, black/blue, 5'7", 120lbs, looking for a nice, non-judgmental SF, loving and fun, to share the good times in life. Friendship first, possibly more later on. ☎127134

LET'S TALK
Laid-back SWM, 52, smoker, brown/brown, likes riding Harley's, the country, seeks open, honest WF, 35-54, for possible LTR. ☎124193

VANILLA SEEKING CHOCOLATE
Call me if you desire a nice shape, SWM, blue-eyed blonde, 50-year-old, 180lbs, desires SBF for friendship and definitely romance. ☎672855

TAKE A CHANCE
Attractive SWPM, 56, sensitive, easygoing, a good listener, good-humored and fun, enjoys travel, sports, music, good food. Seeking romance with shapely, like-minded SBF, someone to share/explore life with. ☎761586

LONELY ANN ARBOR MAN
Considerate, intelligent SBM, 51, tall, slim, dark complexion, Capricorn, looking for a sweet, loving woman respectful, faithful and ambitious, to share friendship, good times, possible romance and LTR. Race open. ☎122608

IVORY SEEKS EBONY
Italian male, 47, 5'6", 165lbs, fit seeks petite, pretty black female, with slender build, to share time with. Let's get to know each other. ☎142383

LET'S GET TOGETHER
SWM 22, 5'11", 255lbs, w/tiger eyes, outgoing, romantic, very active and athletic. Looking for outgoing, independent, and open-minded SF who prefer African-Americans/minorities, for dating and possibly more. ☎142270

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pink

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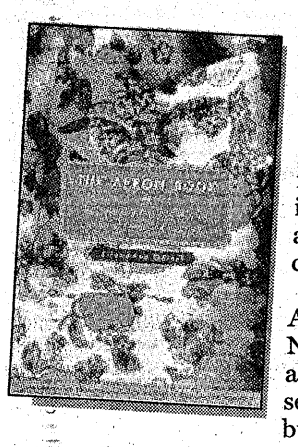
Apron Style

Kitchen frocks make kitschy comeback

By Wensdy Von Buskirk

Aprons used to be a wardrobe essential. Every woman had one — or several — hanging in the pantry, to protect her skirts while she cleaned and cooked. But when women broke out from behind the kitchen sink, they untied their apron strings and never looked back. That is, until now.

Today, housewife style is making a comeback.



At Anthropologie, colorful rows of trendy aprons entice a new generation of shoppers to tie one on, and a growing number of indie designers, including Jessie Steele, are adding aprons to their collections.

At the Knightsbridge Antique Mall in Northville, where several of the 200 vendors sell aprons, collectors buy bunches at a time.

Jane Bonanato, owner of the Chop Shop in Birmingham, uses vintage aprons to decorate, and said they attract a lot of attention.

"People love them. There are people who stop by just to see our collection," she said.

Customers at the Chop Shop are welcome to choose an apron to wear as they prepare stacks of meals to take home and heat up — the modern version of homemade dinners. Busy gals might only have time to be June Cleaver between work and soccer games, but why not dress the part? Bonanato wears a vintage apron every day.

"To me, they symbolize a nice dinner, food on the table," Bonanato says. "It's just kind of a warm, mom feeling I have when I wear them. They remind me of my grandmother."

According to "The Apron Book" by EllynAnne Geisel (Andrews McMeel Publishing, Sept., 2006), actress Julia Roberts has a closetful of vintage aprons, and celebrity apron auctions have become an annual event for several popular charities.

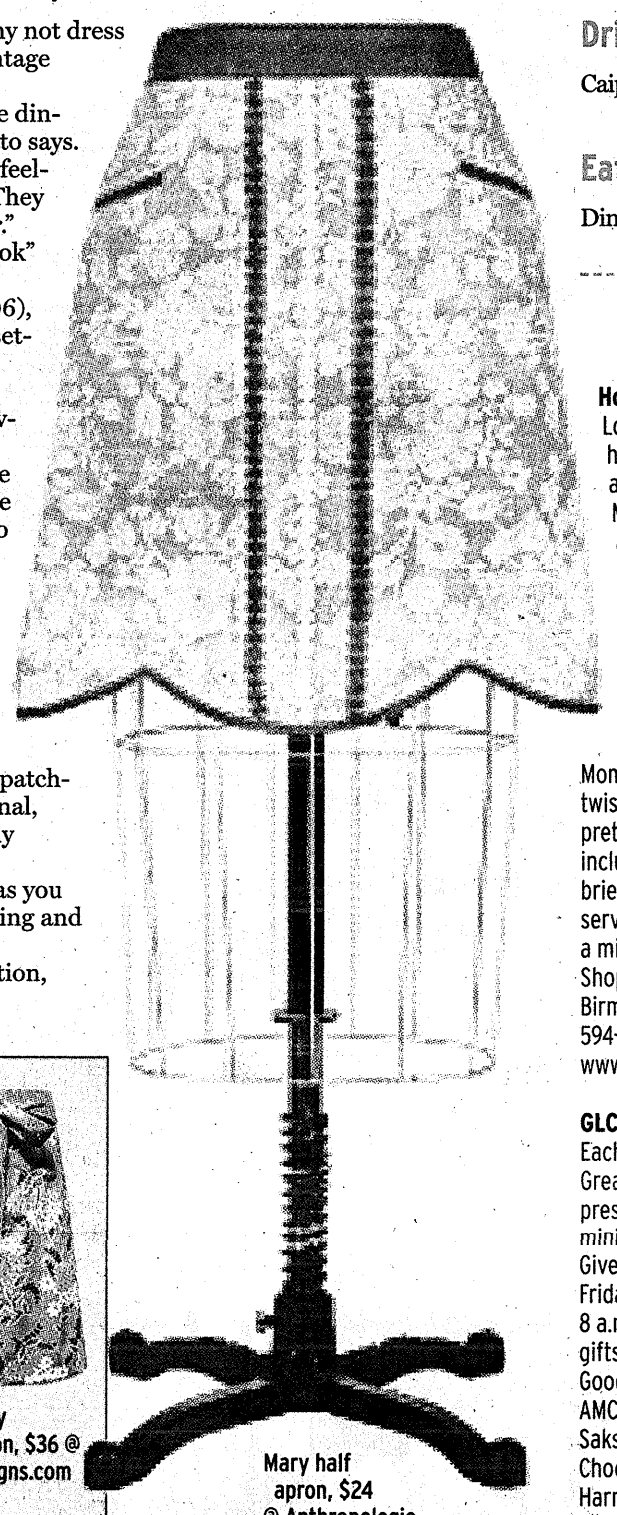
Geisel speculates that vintage aprons help us remember home and family the way they used to be.

Aprons no longer represent suburban slavery over a hot stove. Instead they evoke values and memories many modern women long for.

Plus, they're adorable. Aprons come in a variety of prints, colors and styles. From patchwork to pinafore, sexy to seasonal, they make the waist look simply divine.

Why not wear a frilly apron as you do hostess duty this Thanksgiving and beyond?

Make it a fresh fashion tradition, with a nod to the past.



Mary half apron, $24 @ Anthropologie

Ways to Tie One On



Butterick retro apron pattern #4087, available @ JoAnn Fabrics

Go Retro: Scour antique clothing shows and boutiques — expect to pay $8-$10 for vintage aprons, and check for stains before you buy!

Buy New: More shops are starting to stock aprons, including Anthropologie. Check online at wishingfish.com and sommerdesigns.com.

Be Crafty: Vintage apron patterns are super haute right now. Troll antique stores or ebay, or look for reissued apron patterns, like Butterick #4087.

Study Up: "The Apron Book" by EllynAnne Geisel has photos, patterns, recipes and tips on collecting and preserving aprons.

Get Inspired: Visit www.vintageretroaprons.com where apron-obsessed Michelle posts all things apron!



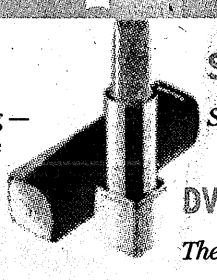
Market Fancy hostess apron, $36 @ sommerdesigns.com

pink picks

By Wensdy

Wear It!

Red lips with everything — try Chanel Rouge Allure



See It!

Stranger Than Fiction

DVD It!

The DaVinci Code

DON'T Wear It!

Clunky, platform boots

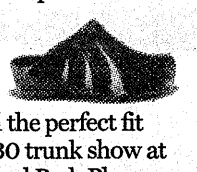
DON'T Read It!

O.J. Simpson: If I Did It, Here's How It Happened

Tote It!

A canvas bag from Barney's CoOp — free with purchases!

Kick It!



Dansko — find the perfect fit during a Nov. 30 trunk show at Von Maur, Laurel Park Place

Experience It!

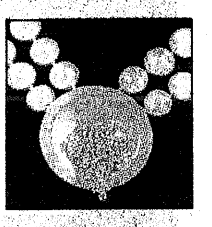
The Joffrey Ballet's Nutcracker at the Detroit Opera House starting Nov. 30

Drink It!

Caipirinhas

Jewel It!

Jane Gordon Jewelry — meet her at Saks Nov. 29-30



Eat It!

Dinner at Melange Ann Arbor

pink list

Holiday Cooking Help

Looking to sweeten the task of holiday baking, or have elegant appetizers for drop-in guests? Make a date with the Chop Shop, a meal-prep kitchen in Birmingham, and take advantage of Dough Days and make-ahead appetizers, Nov. 25-Dec. 16. Mix up cookie dough to take home and bake on demand – varieties include sugar, gingerbread people, Mom's chocolate chip, candy cane twists, neopolitan bars, and dipped pretzels. Make-ahead appetizers include spinach balls, chicken satay, brie en croute and crab cakes, each serving 12. The cost is $25 each, with a minimum of three per visit. Chop Shop is located at 2219 Cole Street in Birmingham's Rail District. Call (248) 594-2210 or visit www.chopshopkitchens.com.

GLC Holiday Rewards

Each day during the holiday season, Great Lakes Crossing will randomly present gifts to shoppers with a minimum $50 value. The "GLC Gift Givers" promotion will kick off Friday, Nov. 24 with gifts every hour 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Beginning Nov. 25, gifts will be given away one per day. Goodies include prize packs from AMC Theatre, Crabtree & Evelyn, Saks Off 5th, Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory, Sanrio, Hot Topic, Harry & David, Neiman's Last Call and more. Visitors also can experience "Happy Feet," a 20-foot walk-through snow globe promoting the hit movie. On select days, visitors to the Pistons Holiday Village can meet players, dancers and Hooper the Mascot. For a complete list of holiday activities, visit www.shopgreatlakescrossing.com.

More "Eye on Style"

Hosts Jon Jordan and Dana Kushkin will present the latest installment of this local style program at noon, Friday, Nov. 24, and 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9. This episode features the Jules R. Schubot holiday gala and the latest jewelry from the Jarretiere collection; Harley Davidson fashion from Biker Bob's; runway looks from Tender; eyewear from DOC and SEE Eyewear; and male makeovers at Figo salon. Tune into CBS.

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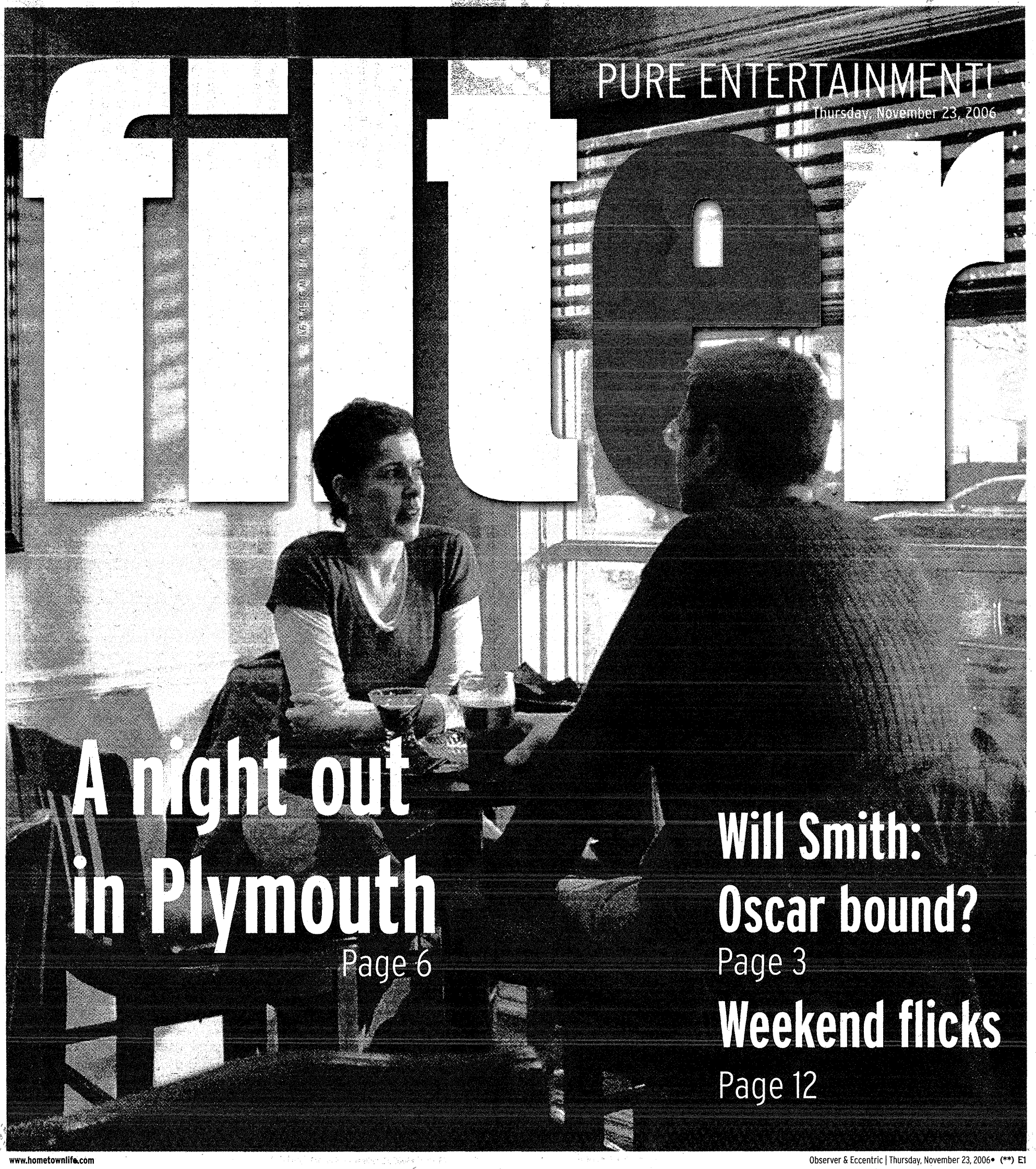
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PURE ENTERTAINMENT!

Thursday, November 23, 2006



A night out in Plymouth

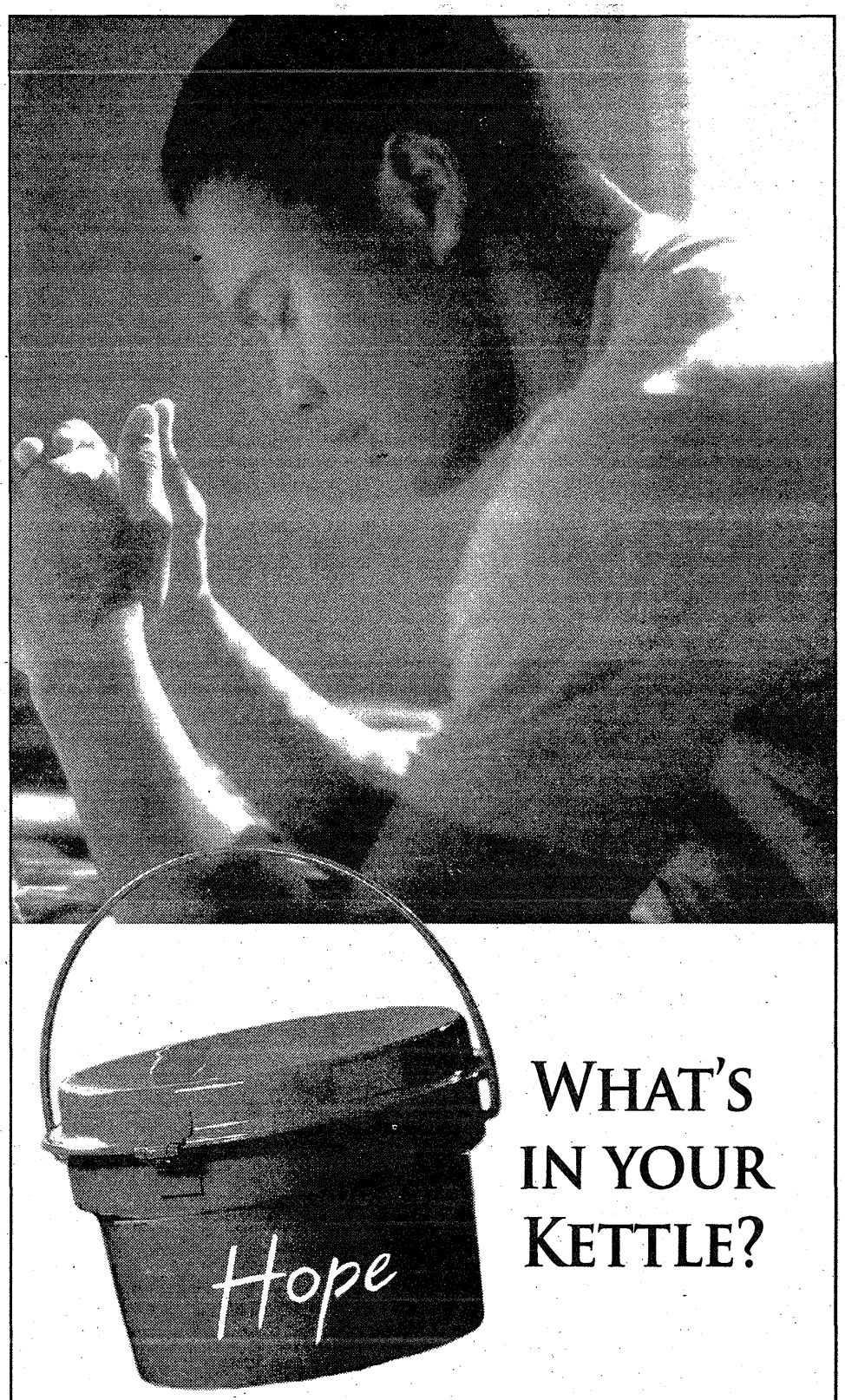
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Will Smith: Oscar bound?

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Sun.,	Dec. 3,	5:00 pm

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Inside this week's filter

PURE ENTERTAINMENT!

GANNETT

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Will Smith discusses his latest movie, The Pursuit of Happyness.

HOT TICKET - 3
Enjoy a little shopping and champagne this holiday season.

COVER – 6
Plymouth has its own tone of bustle and fun at its bars and restaurants.

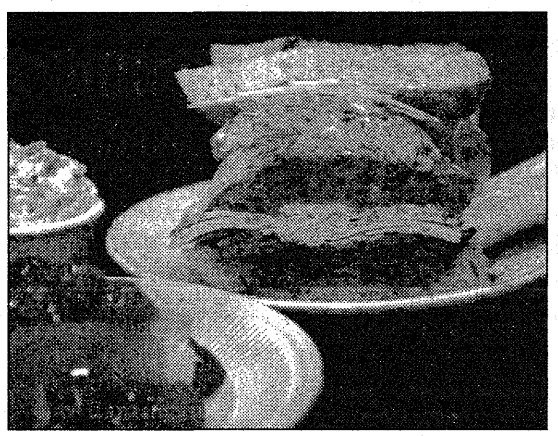


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The Stage Deli in West Bloomfield still kicks out great sandwiches, soups and appetizers.

CITY BITES – 9
Some restaurants are serving Thanksgiving dinner.

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Take a look at these great flicks this holiday weekend.

MOVIE GUIDE – 14
Your guide to what's playing at metro area theaters.

Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS

Ken Abramczyk, Editor
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Stephanie Casola, Staff Writer
Marty Carry, Advertising Director
Dan Dean, Design Editor
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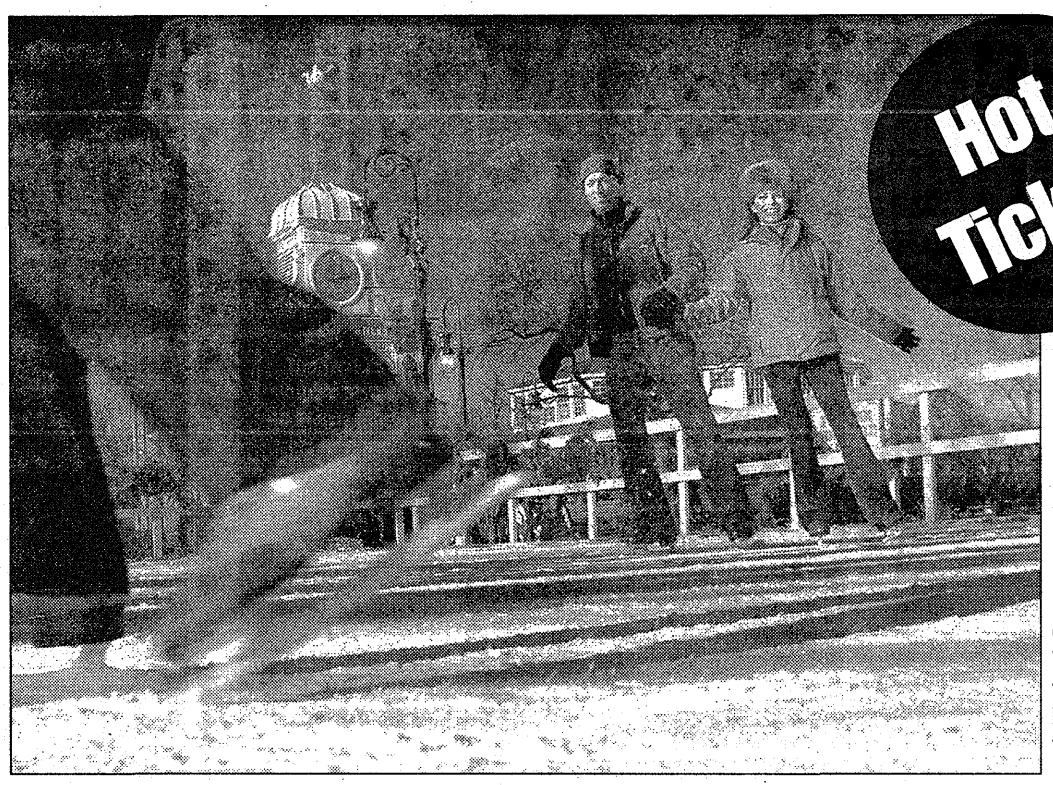
ON THE COVER



BILL BRESLER| STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lesley and Domingo Trevino of Canton enjoy a quiet moment at 336 in Plymouth.

Editorial office: (248) 901-2587 / **Advertising:** (734) 953-2153.



Hot Ticket

Greenfield Village features an ice rink open to the public.

Do a little shopping, sing-alongs and champagne

Shopping specials, holiday orchestras, and even holiday fireworks ... the choices go on and on.

Here's just a sample of what's happening this holiday season.

SHOP & CHAMPAGNE IN BIRMINGHAM

The Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, 1516 S. Cranbrook Road, Birmingham, (248) 644-0866, www.bbartcenter.org; a fund-raising event premiering the annual holiday shop 6:30 9 p.m. Nov. 29. Cost is $50 for a ticket in advance or $60 at the door. Admission includes champagne, wine, strolling supper with sweets and savories by upscale area restaurants; 10 percent off all purchases; complimentary gift wrapping plus live music by Hubbell Street Jazz.

Holiday Shop 06 is 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays, and noon to 4 p.m. from Friday, Dec. 1 through Sunday, Dec. 17.

ART NIGHT IN FARMINGTON HILLS

On Friday, Dec. 1, at historic holiday-decorated Longacre House in Farmington Hills is a new event called Holiday Art Night Out featuring live soul and rock music, audience dancing, martinis, beer and wine, hors d'oeuvres by Whole Foods Market and an art gift boutique. Tickets are $20 with cash bar. Call (248) 473-1857 or visit the Costick Center at 28600 W. 11 Mile Road, Farmington. Holiday Art Night Out is sponsored by the Farmington Community Arts Council and the Farmington Hills Cultural Arts Division; proceeds will go to the Council and Longacre House. The Longacre House is located at 24705 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills.

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PLEASE SEE **HOLIDAYS, E13**

Will Smith tackles inspirational role

BY LANA MINI
STAFF WRITER

If the power of a celebrity is asserted by the number of people they have working around them, then Will Smith is as big as they come.

An energetic team of local and national publicists, managers and assistants took over an entire floor at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham last week when Smith was here to attend a premiere of his new film, *The Pursuit of Happyness*. It's an inspirational drama and the industry buzz is "Oscar nomination" for the 38-year-old megastar.

It wouldn't be his first. He was nominated in 2001 for his role as Muhammad Ali in the film *Ali*.

PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS

Interview

Genre: Inspirational drama
Release date: Friday, Dec. 15
Starring: Will Smith, Jaden Smith, Thandie Newton
Running time: 116 minutes
Rated: PG-13

Will Smith is exactly as one would expect — confident, cheerful, outgoing, funny and personable. Moving from reporter-filled suite to reporter-filled suite at the Townsend on a cloudy Wednesday afternoon, Smith is full of vigor and stops to shake the hands of anyone who extends their own. Each time he makes eye contact and asks the same question "How ya feeling? You OK?"

People see Smith, and they smile. American loves him and, that's what he wants.

"I was the class clown in school," Smith said sitting at the head of a large marble table at the Townsend. "I love to make people smile.

"I was walking in New York City and this woman was standing on the street, talking on her phone, and she was mad," Smith said. "Whoever she was talking to she was going off ... suddenly I walked by and her

PLEASE SEE **SMITH, E5**

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SMITH

FROM PAGE E3

eyes got really big and the tone of her voice completely changed to whoever was on the other end of the line. 'Oh my gosh, Will Smith just walked by ...'

"To make people happy, that's my spiritual fuel."

Happiness was Smith's topic of the day. The Columbia Pictures film opening Friday, Dec. 15, *The Pursuit of Happyness,* focuses on something he calls "purely American."

The *pursuit* of happiness.

In it, Chris Gardner (Smith) is a bright, but very marginally employed, salesman. It's the true story of Gardner who becomes homeless with his 5-year-old son after failing to earn enough money to pay the bills at his tiny apartment. His frustrated wife leaves them.

When Gardner lands an internship at a prestigious stock brokerage firm, he and his son endure hardships that are very painful to watch. They live in shelters and sleep in public bathrooms. Through it all, Gardner, never quits pursuing his dream for a better life for the two of them. It's based on the book of the same name and the real Chris Gardner was on hand during the making of it.

"This story doesn't exist anywhere else except America," Smith said. "It focuses on fatherhood among African-Americans, it humanizes the homeless — how so many are just one step away from it. And it's about getting through very hard times, one day at a time, and still keeping dreams alive."

Smith said he took the role for many reasons: It's inspirational and also because he doesn't want to be that actor who "did one too many action films."

"This film reflects what's in my heart," Smith said.

Growing up in Pennsylvania, his hard-working father, who served in the Air Force and owned a refrigeration company, wasn't necessarily pursuing happiness.

"For him it was about basic survival," Smith said.

Smith's son, Jaden, stars as Gardner's son. Smith said Jaden actually auditioned for the role.

"We didn't want to be accused of nepotism," Smith said.

Still no one is arguing that the father-son acting team doesn't have marketing appeal, but neither Smith nor his wife, Jada, pushed Jaden to act.

"I was in bed with (wife) Jada reading the script out loud, telling him the story and (Jaden) looks at me and says, 'Oh, I can do that,' " Smith remembers.

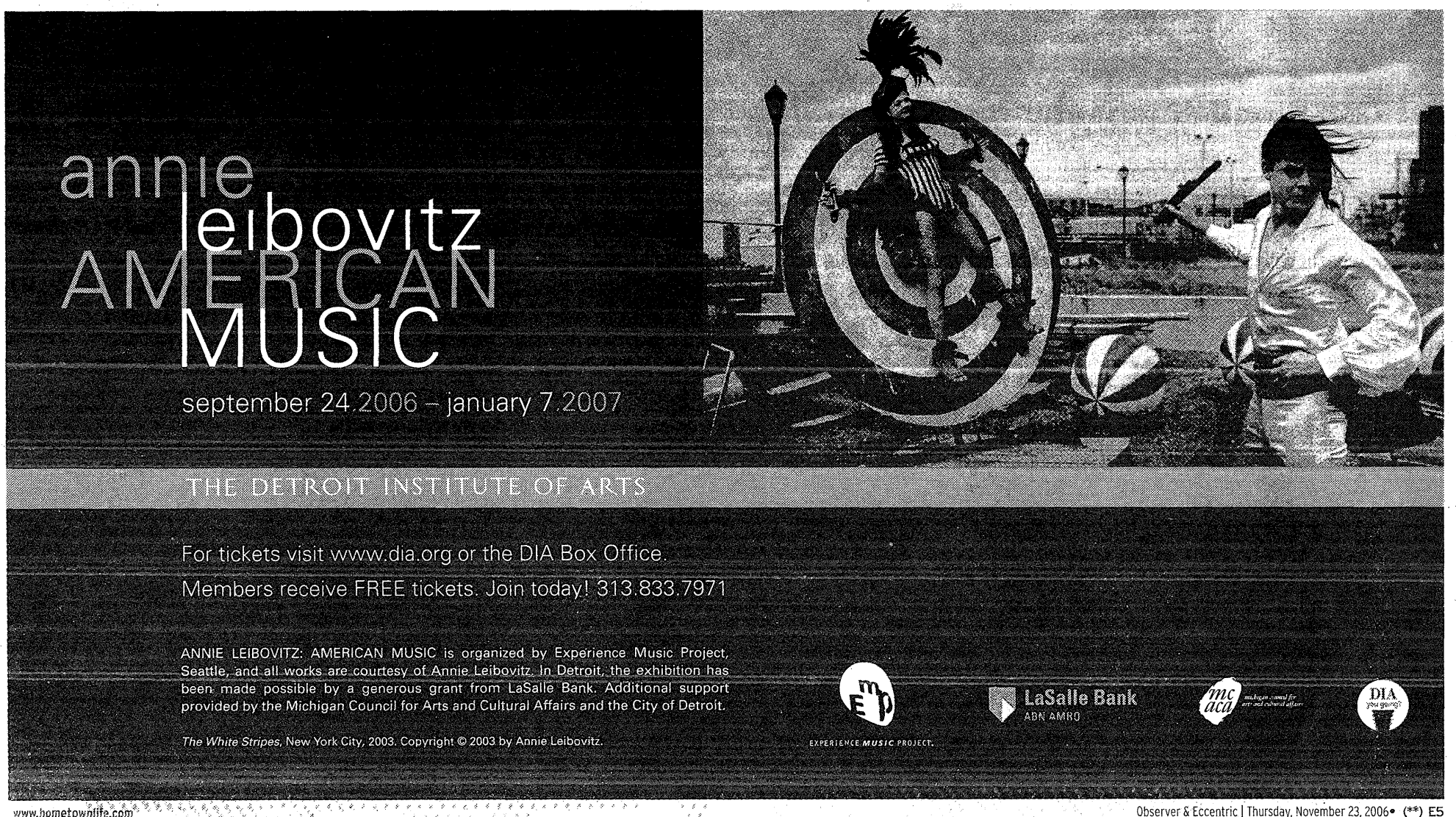
"He's an old soul, a 19-year-old in an 8-year-old body."

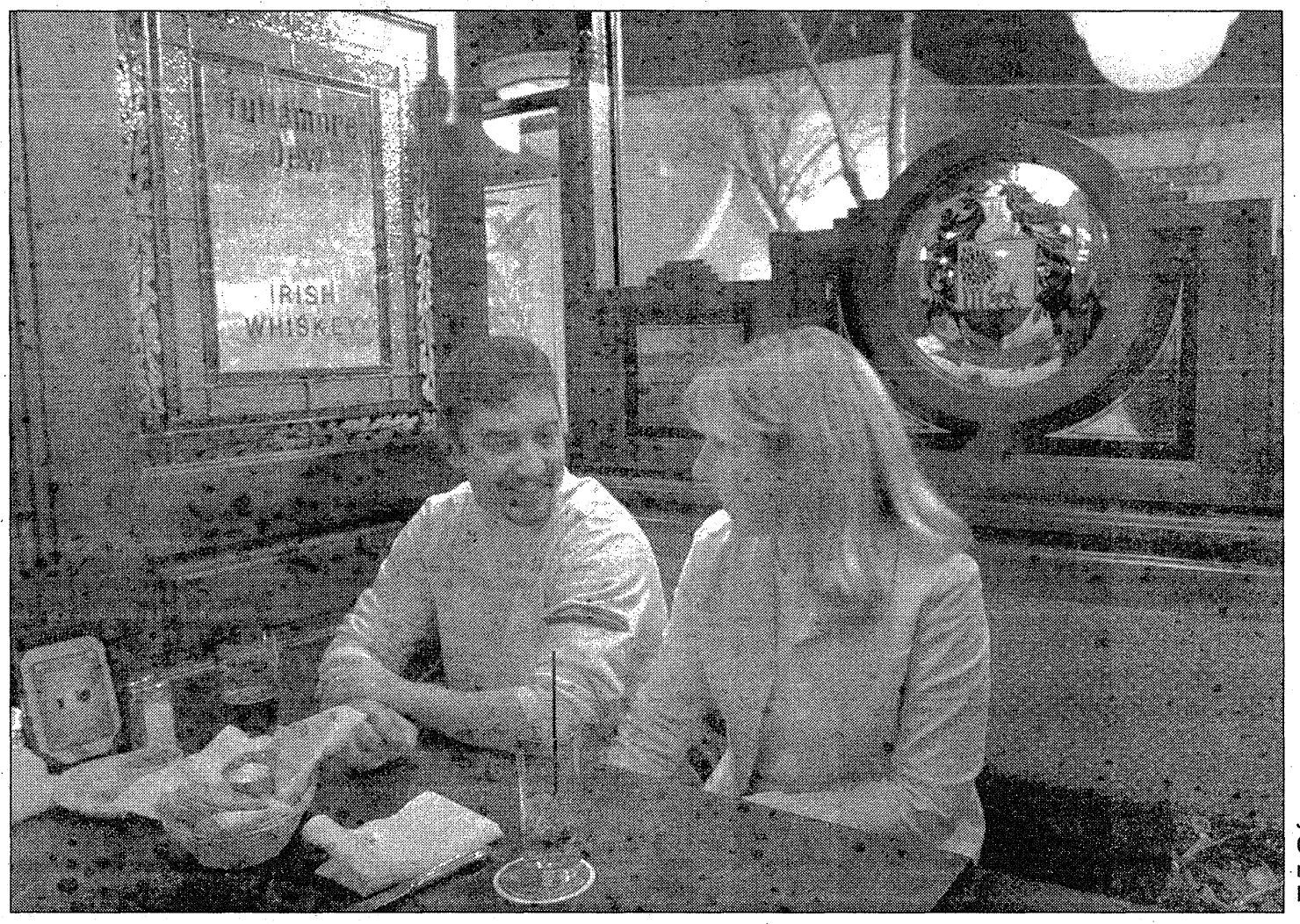
Smith said the film inspired both him and his son.

"I believe that I have to get better every day," Smith said. "That's my drive, my personality. Every day I have to work harder ... to grow spiritually, to be smarter, a step forward every day."

And that's the essence of the film: Never give up.







John and Cindy Kraly of Canton spend a little time relaxing at O'Callaghan's Public House in Plymouth.

A night out in Plymouth

Small-town vibe spells fun after dark in this charming destination

When thinking of destination cities for evening entertainment in metro Detroit, one would probably primarily think of Detroit, Ann Arbor, Royal Oak and Ferndale.

But away from those cities where parking can be somewhat of a challenge, is the charming community of Plymouth; a quiet, upper middle-class town with a downtown village and restaurants, shops and, yes, nightspots, too.

For those who haven't ventured to Plymouth as a night destination, a good way to begin this season is to visit Kellogg Park downtown and see the decorated holiday trees and its newer fountain. Continue on Main Street and visit the shops and enjoy the historic Old Village.

Quaint and charming are words that describe the historic village.

Then have dinner. Plymouth has its share of great restaurants, too. For example, one of them is Five Restaurant, located at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth, that received a *Wine Spectator* magazine's 2006 Award of Excellence.

The *Wine Spectator* Award of Excellence honors a limited number of restaurants in the United States for wine lists that offer quality producers and well-chosen food matches. Five Restaurant's award-winning wine list, featuring 135 selections primarily from the California region, was developed under the expertise of the food and beverage director at The Inn at St. John's with guidance from Viviano Wine Importers to complement the menu designed by executive chef Tom Mackinnon.

Or there's the Grecian Cafe for authentic Greek food. LaBistecca Italian Grille has a piano bar, salads with marinated figs and Piedmont beef. Cafe Bon Homme has modern European flair and a romantic atmosphere.

Cover story

After dinner, head out to one of these hot spots:

You might not think a community with a small-town vibe would be home to things that are hip, but Plymouth is a place that breaks stereotypes.

336 Main is a martini bar where casual locals and hipsters mingle. The stylish piano bar features more than 100 martinis, soft sofas and live entertainment every night.

The Box Bar on Ann Arbor Trail has a more casual atmosphere with its burgers and beers. But what all Plymouth's bars share in common is the unpretentious, friendly atmosphere. Doyle's Tavern is a traditional Irish pub with a slogan "What happens at Doyle's stays at Doyle's."

Sean O'Callaghan's Public House is a Victorian-style pub with fireplaces and stained glass and cherry wood all designed in Ireland.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Comic Connie Ettinger warms up the crowd for open mike night at 336 1/2 Main, located on the lower level of 336 Main.

It has a huge beer selection on tap and live music. The crowd is boisterous and friendly.

If bars aren't your bag, and you want something a little more laid-back, there's a historic movie theater or sports facility.

The Friends of the Penn are in the process of restoring the historic Penn Theatre in down-

PLEASE SEE **PLYMOUTH, E7**

DOWNTOWN

336 Main, 336 S. Main (734) 454-6524
Bode's, 280 N. Main (734) 453-1883
Boulder's Restaurant/Lounge, 1020 E. Ann Arbor (734) 450-4190
Box Bar, 777 W. Ann Arbor Trail (734) 459-5350
Cafe Bon Homme, 844 Penniman (734) 453-6260
Compari's on the Park, 350 S. Main (734) 416-0100
Doyle's Tavern, 860 Fralick (734) 207-9656
E. G. Nicks, 500 Forest, (734) 414-6400
Fiamma Grille, 380 S. Main (734) 416-9340
Five Restaurant (at St. John's Conference and Golf Center), 44045 Five Mile Rd. (734) 357-5313
Grecian Cafe, 413 N. Main (734) 455-7887
Karl's Cabin, 6005 Gotfredson, Plymouth (734) 455-8450
LaBistecca Italian Grille, 39405 Plymouth (734) 254-0400
Plymouth Coffee Bean, 884 Penniman (734) 454-0178
Plymouth Crossing, 340 N. Main (734) 455-3700
Plymouth Pub, 1507 Ann Arbor Rd. (734) 453-5340
Sweet Afton Tea Room, 450 Forest (734) 454-0777
Sean O'Callaghan's Public House, 821 Penniman (734) 459-6666
Tavern 1999, 447 Forest (734) 414-1999

OLD VILLAGE RESTAURANTS

Cassel's Cafe, 985 N. Mill (734) 414-1743
The Caboose, 710 N. Mill (734) 207-0787
Crawford's Kitchen, 542 Starkweather (734) 459-2120
Dilly Dally Deli, 696 N. Mill (734) 453-1111
Herman's Old Town Grille, 195 W. Liberty (734) 451-1213
Plymouth Fish & Seafood Market & Restaurant, 578 Starkweather (734) 455-2630
Station 885, 885 Starkweather, Plymouth (734) 459-0885

PLYMOUTH

FROM PAGE E6

town Plymouth. The historic Penn Theatre is now showing movies Fridays, Saturday and Sundays. Call (734) 453-0870.

For information on the theater renovation, visit www.friendsofthepenn.org.

Compuware Sports Arena is an all-purpose sports facility. Along with the Plymouth Whalers, Compuware Sports Arena is also home to the Detroit Compuware AAA youth hockey club and the Detroit Ignition indoor soccer team.

The arena encompasses approximately 170,000 square feet with one main seating level, private suites and press boxes. The creative design of the arena affords the opportunity to provide 3,504 seats for Ontario Hockey League games and 4,500 seats for concerts and other performances.

Ken Abramczyk and Lana Mini

Old Village: Charming corner of Plymouth

You may know Plymouth and are familiar with the hustle and bustle of that community's downtown area, across the street from Kellogg Park.

Residents know all about it, but visitors often aren't all that familiar with another corner of town: Old Village.

Tucked just north of Plymouth Road (Main Street in town) and along North Mill Road and Starkweather just south of Wilcox Lake in Hines Park, the Old Village has a personality all its own with its luncheon cafes and delis, bars, salons and the quaint shops.

Station 885 offers up an expanded menu of salads beyond the traditional steaks and burgers in the traditional vein of bar fare.

It also abuts the railroad tracks, hence the name Station 885. It is owned by the Costanza family, of LaBistecca Restaurant fame, just down the road on Plymouth Road.

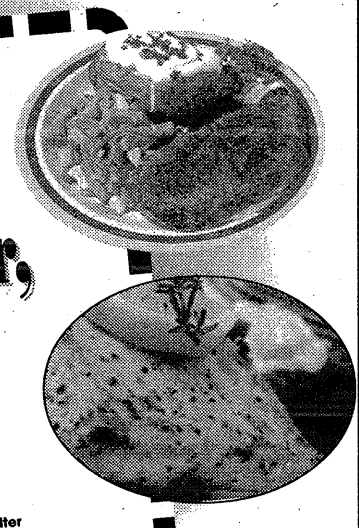
If you're in the mood for a sandwich, there's the Dilly Dally Deli, Cassel's Cafe or the Caboose. Crawford's Kitchen is adjacent to Cannon Park on Starkweather.

Ken Abramczyk

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More than four decades

Stage Deli dishes up favorites

BY ELEANOR HEALD
CORRESPONDENT

Table Hopping

In the beginning, it was Bubbe Goldberg's kitchen in Detroit.

That was in the 1940s and '50s. Back then, like any good Jewish deli, favorites were a Dinty Moore, matzo ball soup, hot turkey sandwiches and cheese blintzes. And you can still get them at the Stage Deli in West Bloomfield today, along, of course, with innovative deli items.



The Stage Deli in West Bloomfield features the Titanic, a triple decker toasted sandwich with hot corned beef, hot pastrami, turkey breast, cole slaw, Swiss cheese and Russian dressing, and for dessert, cherry cheesecake.

Current Stage Deli owner, second generation Steve Goldberg, began working alongside his father, Jack Goldberg, in the original Stage Deli in Oak Park in 1962. By age 16, Steve was a manager but he and his parents had other plans for Steve.

He earned a law degree from the University of Michigan and spent more than a decade as a Los Angeles business tax attorney.

NO GOOD HERRING IN L.A.

Because, as Goldberg jokes, "I couldn't get good herring in L.A.," he returned to his Michigan roots. "I've always loved to cook and even while practicing law, I was taking cooking classes. Once I married and started a family, I knew that I wanted to raise my children in Michigan rather than L.A."

Over the years, Goldberg retained the name Stage Deli, the name given to the business by his parents. "My parents had many friends in the theater business," Goldberg added. His mother, Harriet, loved the theater.

Today though, Goldberg keeps a totally timeless stage theme alive and has added current movie titles to his hit parade of Broadway and Hollywood sandwich names.

NO ORDINARY DELI

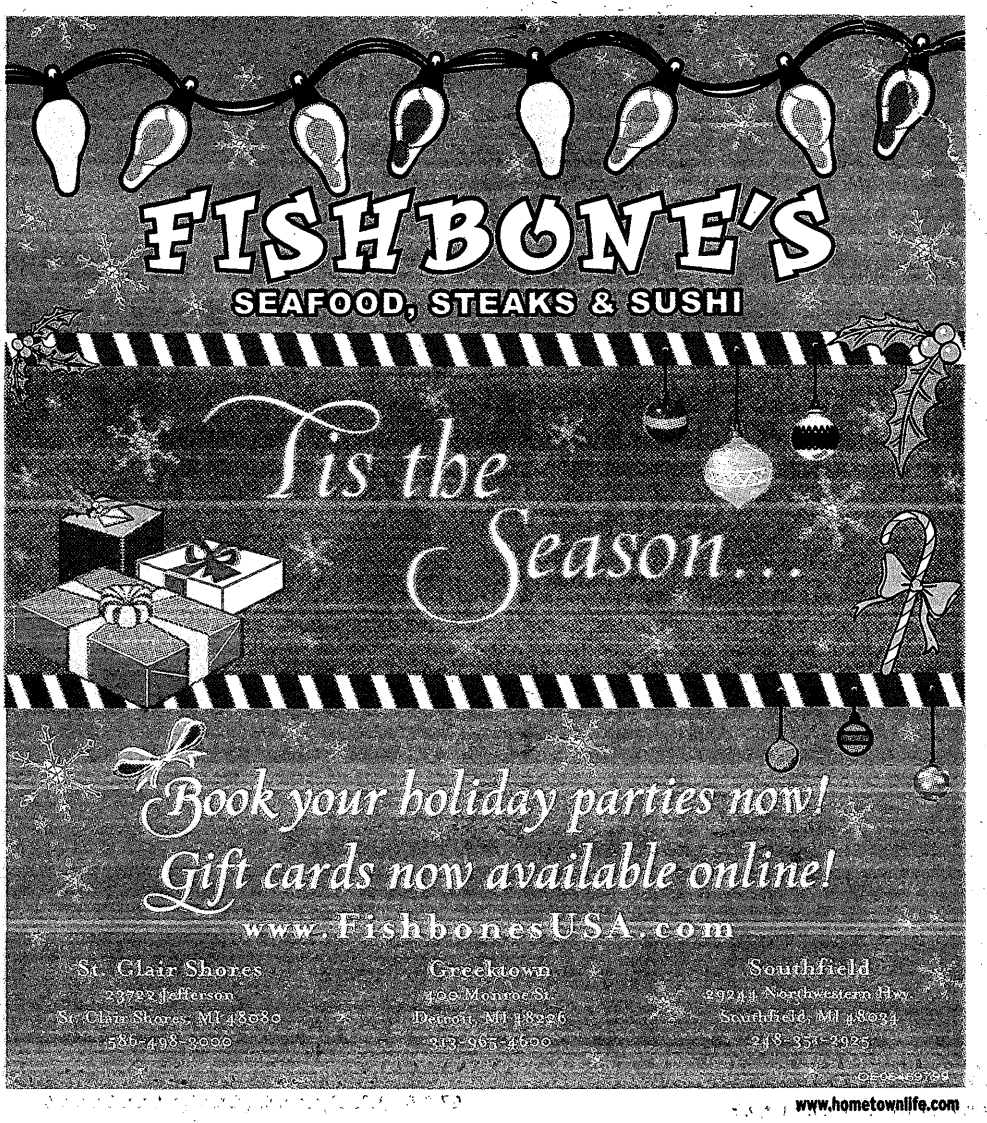
Seating 150 at booths and casual table settings in the brick red and ochre-colored restaurant section, Stage Deli takes on an obvious theater theme with posters and photos of stage and screen stars.

Here though, the playbill is an enormous menu, beginning at the back with breakfast items served all day. Popular seating times for this show are Saturday and Sunday mornings. Lox Benedict sound good?

Sure, you can find herring filet in a red wine sauce as an appetizer but Sesame Fried Chicken Fingers with Stage dressing for dipping; tasty glazed Wilno salami with spicy mustard dipping sauce, dubbed as BBQ Salami or thick and crispy House Made Onion Rings are among the innovative "Appe-teezers."

Don't overlook the smoked fish specialties as a way to start a meal. Nova Scotia Salmon comes both cold and hot smoked. The latter is especially moist.





Stage Deli is not a place to pass on soup. Order one of the two or three soup specials or take on the classic chicken noodle or my favorite Kreplach Soup, homemade chicken soup with small pockets of noodle dough filled with flavorful ground meat and served with noodles.

SHOWTIME

Comfort foods create the smash hits among main courses. Many restaurants don't offer this many on the entire menu. Yet, in my opinion, Oscar and Tony awards go to the salads and sandwiches.

Mark Beltaire is the critic's choice salad. Order it chopped and tossed lightly. Meat and cheese ingredients are suggested on the menu but you can alter these as you please.

It will take you several visits to eat your way through the deli sandwiches, numbering over 50, but here are the most popular: Dinty Moore is No. 1 on the list but overshadowed by West Side Story. They're similar, but the imported Swiss on the West Side's pastrami makes the Russian dressing taste even better.

The Reuben is a classic. Rear Window's chicken breast, bacon and avocado is a hit combo.

Havarti cheese and honey mustard dressing make grilled chicken breast award winning in Ian's Top Gun. Fresh, roasted-on-premise turkey breast on Stage seedless rye, with its crispy crust yet soft bread texture, comes full or half with potato salad, coleslaw or baked beans (as do all the sandwiches).

STAGE DELI

6873 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield, (248) 855-6622.
Open: Tuesday-Thursday 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday until 11 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 11 p.m., Sunday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Food style: Upscale deli for dine-in or carry-out.
Cost: $9-$16.
Reservations: for parties of six or more and call-ahead seating.
Extras: full service bar and tightly edited wine list.

ONLY ONE

Cheese Blintzes, three to an order, served golden brown with sour cream and blueberries is the one dessert you can't ignore. If you're looking for other than Thanksgiving leftovers this coming weekend, let Stage Deli delight your palate. If not this weekend, then soon, because this spot is a metro Detroit gem.

Stage Deli has satellite locations at Somerset North, Level 3, 2800 W. Big Beaver, Troy, and Goldberg's Famous Stage Deli, Twelve Oaks Mall, 27500 Novi Road, Novi. Both highlight the best from the West Bloomfield location's menu.

Eleanor Heald is a nationally published writer and Troy resident who writes about restaurants, food, wine and spirits for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. Contact her by e-mail at focusonwine@aol.com.

City Bites

The following restaurants are some of those serving Thanksgiving dinner meals:

OAKLAND COUNTY

BIRMINGHAM

Rugby Grille, inside Townsend Hotel, 100 Townsend, (248) 642-5999 for reservations, four-course dinner with three entrees, soup and salad, $68-$75, four seatings at noon, 2:30 p.m., 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

BLOOMFIELD HILLS

Moose Preserve Bar & Grill, 43034 Woodward, (248) 858-7688, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., $14.99 for traditional dinner, menu also available.

ROCHESTER

Camp Ticonderoga, 5725 Rochester Road (248) 828-2825, turkey dinner $16.99, limited menu $12-$21.

WAYNE COUNTY

CANTON

Bakers Square, 5946 N. Sheldon, dining room open from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., pie pickup from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., (734) 455-7530.
Bailey's Pub 'N' Grille, 1777 N. Canton Center Road, from noon to 2 a.m., (734) 844-1137.
Canton Big Boy, 45250 Ford Road, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., (734) 459-5555.
Four Friends Bar & Grill, 44282 Warren, from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m., bar only, (734) 416-0880.
Johnson's Family Restaurant, 42400 Ford Road, from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., (734) 981-6877.
Maria's Bakery & Pizzeria, 115 N. Haggerty, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., (734) 981-1200.
Taj Mahal, 44284 Cherry Hill Road, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., (734) 844-1111.

DETROIT

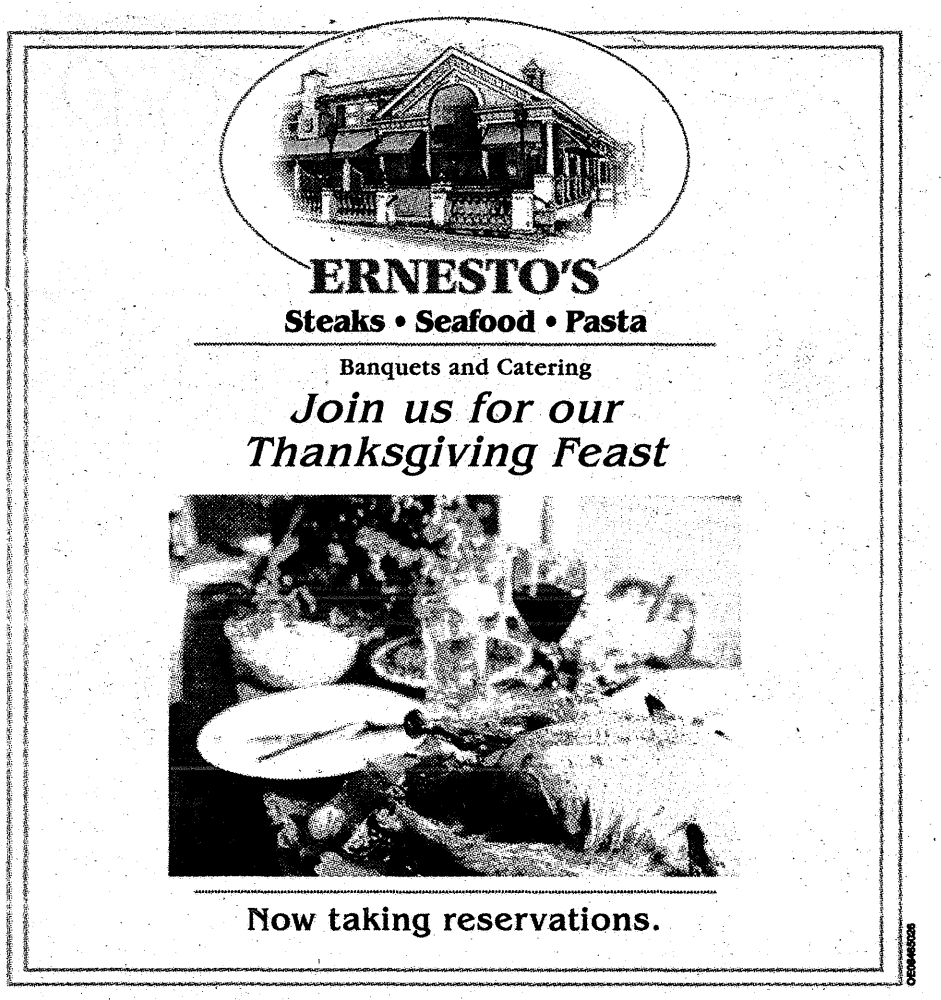
Fishbone's (Greektown), 400 Monroe, Detroit (313) 965-4600, Brunch, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Seldom Blues, Level 1 of GM Renaissance Center (313) 567-7301, brunch buffet, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

LIVONIA

Giulio's, 31735 Plymouth, Livonia, (734) 427-9500, dinner served from 1-7 p.m. individual, $13.99; family style, $16.99, and kids meals, $5.99
Sandtraps on 5, 35780 Five Mile, (734) 464-5555, seatings are at noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m., $15.95 for adults and seniors, $8.95 for children ages 5-10.

NORTHVILLE

Deadwood Bar & Grille, 18730 Northville Rd., Northville (248) 347-4353 turkey dinner, $14.99 for adults, $4.99 for children, served noon to 9 p.m.





Send, fax or e-mail items for consideration in Get Out! at least two weeks in advance to Ken Abramczyk, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009, fax (248) 644-1314 or e-mail kabramcz@hometownlife.com. Please include a short summary with details of the event, a phone number and/or Web site that members of the public can contact for more information.

ART EXHIBITS

Cranbrook Art Museum
Space is the Place, exhibition of installations, paintings, other works by contemporary artists, through Jan. 14, 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, $6, (877) GO-CRANBrook, (877) 462-7262, www.cranbrookart.edu.

Detroit Institute of Arts
Annie Leibovitz: American Music, intimate portraits of those influenced by American roots music, through Jan. 7; 5200 Woodward Ave., (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org.

ART GALLERIES

Ariana Gallery
20/20, light and dark exhibit shared with River's Edge, of photographic innovator Patricia Izzo, through Nov. 30, 119 S. Main, Royal Oak, (248) 546-8810.

Arnold Klein
Gallery's 35th anniversary celebration, urban views exhibition with Arms, Christo, Mershimer, Murphy and others, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 32782 Woodward, Royal Oak, (248) 647-7709.

Art Leaders Gallery
Thomas Stiltz and Viktor Shvaiko, art exhibition and sale, through Nov. 30, 33030 Northwestern Highway (at 14 Mile), West Bloomfield, www.artleaders.com, (888) 264-4887.

David Klein Gallery
Milton Resnick Back on 10th Street, Paintings from 1957-1959, through Nov. 25, 163 Townsend, Birmingham, (248) 433-3700, dkgallery.com.

Elaine Jacob Gallery
Unembedded: Four Independent Photographers on the War in Iraq, A Lecture by Kael Alford and Thorne Anderson, 6 p.m. Nov. 29, lecture at Schaver Recital Hall - Old Main, 480 W. Hancock, Wayne State University, free, exhibit is at Elaine Jacob Gallery in Old Main through Jan. 12, (313) 577-5980.

Plymouth Community Arts Council
In a Confined Silence, mixed media photographic exhibit by Holocaust survivor, Miram Brysk, through Nov. 28. Regular hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call for weekend hours. (734) 416-4278. Located at 774 N. Sheldon Road, Plymouth.

The Print Gallery
Detroit's Top Ten, lithographs of Esteban Chavez, through Dec. 30, 29173 Northwestern Highway, Southfield (248) 356-5454, www.everythingart.com, www.monalisamania.com.

Sherrus Gallery
Under Heaven exhibit by Jeff Von Buskirk's original fine art, through the month of November, 109 N. Center, Northville, www.jlvb.com.

Synergy Fine Art Gallery
11:11 Exhibition with art of Mario Clemens, through Dec. 3, (248) 546-1790, or email Andrewdrisko@synergyfineartgallery.com.

Woods Gallery
New paintings by Sylvia Clark, through Dec. 22, lower level of Huntington Woods Library, 26415 Scotia, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile roads, west of Woodward, (248) 581-2696, www.woodsgallery.org.

ART, ETC.

The Community House
Featured watercolor and oil paintings of Shirley Schultz of Bloomfield Hills, displayed through Nov. 30, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham (248) 644-5832.

Livonia City Hall
Personalities Plus by Barbara Eko Murphy, life drawings and watercolors, through Nov. 29, lobby of City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, www.barbaraekomurphy.com.

Sisson Gallery
Corridor Ramble, A Tribes of the Cass Corridor Exhibition, through Dec. 11, Henry Ford Community College, MacKenzie Fine Arts Center, 5101 Evergreen, Dearborn, (313) 845-6485.

BOOKS

Book Cellar and Cafe
Meet author Cliff Mulvihill as he discusses his first novella, *Now It Begins*, noon to 3 p.m. Dec. 2, 840 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth.

CLASSICAL

Detroit Symphony Orchestra
Mozart Festival: All Mozart, Nov. 24-26; Mozart Festival: Mozart's Great Mass, Nov. 30 to Dec. 3; 3711 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 576-5111, www.detroitsymphony.com

London Philharmonic Orchestra
Conducted by Bolshoi Theater music director Alexander Vedernikov, features violinist Sarah Chang, 8 p.m. Nov. 30 at Ann Arbor's Hill Auditorium, 8 p.m. Dec. 1 at East Lansing's Wharton Center, (734) 764-2538 (Ann Arbor show) or (800)-WHARTON (Wharton Center).

CLUBS

220 Merrill Street & Edison Lounge
Extensive drink menu, live music, dancing, eclectic and American nouveau cuisine, 220 E. Merrill, Birmingham, (248) 645-2150.

Blue Martini
Live music from 8-11:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays, and Saturdays and Sundays, 201 Hamilton, between Woodward and Old Woodward, one block north of Maple, (248) 258-3005. Diversity, Nov. 24; Dal Boueym, Nov. 30; Joy Ride, Dec. 1-2.

Bosco
Enjoy noWax nights at 7 p.m. every Wednesday, download music into your MP3 Player, take a number and wait your turn to be DJ and spin three songs, no cover, 21 and over only, 22930 Woodward in Ferndale, www.thebosco.com, (248) 541-8818.

Buddha Lounge
Thursday, DJ Shug plays super sonic smooth music and beer pong tournament. Saturdays DJ Terrence Parker & Mo Reese; Sundays, Karaoke; Tuesdays, Deep House; Wednesdays Jamtramck jazz band. www.gobuddha.net. (313) 535-4664.

The Buzz Bar
The Brothers Groove (Funk, Blues, Groove), Nov. 22; 546 E. Larned, Detroit, (313) 962-1800, www.buzzdetroit.com.

Club 2000
Fat Twosdays with DJ Carl the Invisible Man 9 p.m. Tuesdays, hip-hop, 18 and over, 299 E. Woodbridge, Detroit, (313) 235-2233.

Elysium
Lounge, dance and happy hour from 3-9 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays, nightclub hours Fridays and Saturdays, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., (313) 962-2244, 625 Shelby, Detroit. www.elysium-lounge.com.

Ginopolis on the Grill
Don Swindell and Shuffle Play, with Swindell, Sheila Brown, Mike Lorenz and Jake Reichhart, 7:30-11:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 27851 Middlebelt at 12 Mile in Farmington Hills, no cover, (248) 851-8222.

Leland City Club
Avant garde, open until 4 a.m., access through unmarked door on the First Street side of the Ramada Hotel building, 400 Bagley, Detroit, www.lelandcityclub.com.

Majestic Theatre
Silverspun Pickups with Wolfmother, Nov. 24, 4120 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, www.majesticdetroit.com

The Magic Bag
22920 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 544-1991, event hot line (248) 544-3030, www.themagicbag.com.

O'Mara's Restaurant and Pub
2555 W. 12 Mile (at Coolidge), Berkley, (248) 399-6750.

X/S
High-energy dance club, 1500 Woodward, northeast corner at John R, Detroit, (313) 963-9797.

Sky Club
Tango, salsa, and Latin dancing every Wednesday beginning at 8 p.m., located above Sangria's Restaurant, 401 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak, (248) 543-1964.

COMEDY

336 1/2
Tim Costello with Bob Phillips, Nov. 24-25, 336 S. Main St., Plymouth (734) 454-6500.

Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase
Dave Dyer, Dec. 1-2; Open Mic/Comedy Jamm, Dec. 6, 13, 20 and 27; Rob Little, Dec. 7-9; John Heffron, Dec. 14-16; Chili Challis, Dec. 21-23; Jeff Brannan, Dec. 28-30; Tom Foss, Dec. 31 (New Year's Eve), 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, (734) 996-9080.

JD's House of Comedy
Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday; 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield, (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com.

Joey's Comedy Club
36071 Plymouth, Livonia, (734) 261-0555, also has comedy at second location, 5070 Schaefer, Dearborn, (313) 584-8885; www.joeyscomedy.com.

Second City
Second City's Dysfunctional Holiday Revue, Nov. 15 to Dec. 31, $15-$20, 42705 Grand River, Novi, call (248) 348-4448.

Wise Guys at Portofino
Dean Austin with Steve Lind, Nov. 24-25; Norm Stulz with Keith Ruff, Dec. 1-2, 3455 Biddle, Wyandotte, (734) 752-1015.



MUSIC

The queen of soul, Aretha Franklin, performs holiday favorites and seasonal carols at the Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts at 8 p.m. Dec. 21.Tickets are $45-$75. For ticket information, contact Ticketmaster at (248) 645-6666 or call the Music Hall at (313) 887-8501.

FAMILY

Detroit Science Center
Exhibits include *As Time Goes By*, new exhibit about the aging process, and *A Journey to Our Future*, now open to accompany center's new permanent Space Laboratory exhibit, 5020 John R, Detroit, $6-$7, (313) 577-8400, www.detroitsciencecenter.org.

FILM

Detroit Film Theatre
Inside the Detroit Institute of Arts, for tickets, call (313) 833-3237, www.dia.org/dft.

FUND-RAISERS

Hob Nob Gobble
Black-tie celebration featuring Cassie, 6-10 p.m. Nov. 22 at Michigan State Fairgrounds, food, entertainment, carnival rides and games, tickets $200-$1,000, proceeds benefit America's Thanksgiving parade, (313) 923-7400.

Silent Night Auction
Bid on chance to perform on stage in A Christmas Carol at Meadow Brook Theatre for Nov. 26, Dec. 2, 7, 10, 15, 23 performances, deadline for bids is Nov. 20, visit www.mbtheatre.com for information.

Oak Town Mix Down
Fund-raiser for Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, social "mixer" will feature a variety of cocktails and appetizers, live entertainment, a silent auction, 6 p.m. (VIP), 8 p.m. (general), Dec. 1, $35-$50 advance tickets only, 610 South lofts on Troy Street just east of Main Street between Sixth and Seventh streets in Royal Oak, email Detroit@cff.org, (248) 269-8759.

Kidney Ball
Motown Magic, fund-raiser for National Kidney Foundation of Michigan, 6 p.m. Dec. 2, Marriott-Detroit Renaissance Center, $250, www.nkfm.org, (800) 482-1455.

Flavors of Italy
Screening of Our Italian Story documentary, 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, at The Diamond Center, Rock Financial Showplace, Tickets $200 benefits The Salvation Army. Details or tickets call Andiamo's at (586) 268-3200, the Italian American Club of Livonia at (734) 953-1137 or Visionalist Entertainment (248) 624-9636. The film is about metro-Detroit Italian Americans. Food, culture and film.

HOLIDAY SHOWS

Fox Theatre
Irving Berlin's White Christmas, through Dec. 30, $20-$100, 2211 Woodward, Detroit, (248) 433-1515, OlympiaEntertainment.com, Ticketmaster.com.

The Theatre Ensemble/Meadow Brook Theatre
A Christmas Carol, Nov. 25 to Dec. 24; Every Christmas Story Ever Told, Dec. 11-20; on campus of Oakland University in Rochester, (248) 377-3300, www.mbtheatre.com.

Christmas with the Vienna Boys Choir
Holiday favorites with world-renowned choir, 8 p.m. Nov. 28, Max M. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 576-5111, www.detroitsymphony.com.

The Palace of Auburn Hills
Martina McBride, The Joy of Christmas, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 26, tickets at The Palace box office, TicketMaster outlets, www.ticketmaster.com, (248) 377-0100.

Detroit Symphony Civic Orchestra
The Nutcracker with Taylor Ballet Americana dancers, 2 p.m. Dec. 2-3, DSA Ford Theater for the Arts Auditorium, 123 Selden Ave., Detroit, 3711 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 576-5111, www.detroitsymphony.com.

Orchestra Canton
Peter and the Wolf and Other Holiday Favorites, 4 p.m. Dec. 3, the Village Theater at Cherry Hill (near Ridge and Cherry Hill roads) in Canton, purchase tickets at Summit on the Park, 4600 Summit Parkway, Canton, (734) 394-5460 Ext. 6 Ext. 0, www.orchestracanton.org.

The Palace
Trans-Siberian Orchestra, 8 p.m. Dec. 8, $39.50-$49.50, Tickets available at palacenet.com, The Palace Box Office and all Ticketmaster locations, (248) 645-6666.

Plymouth Symphony Orchestra
Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Ballet with Plymouth-Canton Ballet Company, Dec. 9-10, Salem High School Auditorium, 46181 Joy Road, Canton, $10-$20, (734) 451-2112 or visit www.plymouthsymphony.org for tickets.

World Music Series
Fiesta Navidad with Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano, Nati Cano and his band entertain, 8 p.m. Dec. 12, Max M. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 576-5111, www.detroitsymphony.com.

Fisher Theatre

The Moscow Ballet performs *The Nutcracker*, 7:30 p.m. Nov. 25, 3011 W Grand Blvd., Detroit, (313) 872-1000.

Ford Community & Performing Arts Center

Marie's Osmond's The Magic of Christmas, 7 p.m. Dec. 14, 15801 Michigan, Dearborn, (313) 943-2354, www.dearbornfordcenter.com.

Michigan Opera Theatre

The Joffrey Ballet presents *The Nutcracker*, Nov. 30 to Dec. 3, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. $28-$175. (313) 237-SING or www.michiganopera.org.

HOLIDAY CHORUS

BeckRidge Chorale

Tis the Season concert, 8 p.m. Dec. 9, 4 p.m. Dec. 10, Northville High School Auditorium, 45700 Six Mile, between Sheldon and Beck, $15-$18, (866) 924-4276, www.plycommunity-chorus.org.

Madrigal Chorale of Southfield

Annual Holiday Concert, 8 p.m. Dec. 2, Old St. Mary's Church in Detroit's Greektown, 646 Monroe (at St. Antoine), $18 in advance, $20 at door, (248) 866-9626.

HOLIDAY LIGHTS

Big, Bright Light Show

Downtown Rochester, begins 7 p.m. Nov. 27 with official lighting ceremony, on display 6-10 p.m. every night through Dec. 31, (248) 656-0060, www.downtownrochestermi.com.

Tree Lighting

Special guest Karen Newman, caroling, hot cocoa, 6 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 22, Shain Park, Birmingham, Santa House open 6:30-8 p.m., www.enjoybirmingham.com, (248) 433-3550.

HOLIDAY WALK

2006 Holiday Walk

Tours, concerts with jazz artists Shahida Nurullah Nov. 26, George "Sax" Benson Dec. 3 and pianist Vlad Kalmsky Dec. 10, children's performer Mary Jeva Dec. 17, holiday tea, visits with Santa, Meadow Brook Hall, Nov. 24 to Dec. 22, many other holiday events, (248) 364-6200 or visit www.meadowbrookhall.org.

JAZZ

Jazz Big Band I

Featuring Soloist Walter White, Director Christopher Collins, 7:30 p.m. Nov. 28, Schaver Music Hall, 480 W. Hancock, Wayne State University, Detroit. $5-$8. (313) 577-1795.

MORE MUSIC

Detroit Institute of Arts

River Raisin Rag Revue, Nov. 24; 5200 Woodward Ave., (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org.

Ford Community & Performing Arts Center

A Tribute to the Temptations, Sounds of the Supremes, Chris Montez, The Vogues, 8 p.m. Dec. 1, 15801 Michigan, Dearborn, $30-$37, (313) 943-2354, www.dearbornfordcenter.com, show is also scheduled for 4 and 8 p.m. Dec. 2, The Macomb Center of the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield, Clinton Township, (586) 286-2222.

House Concert

Stacey Earle and Mark Stuart (with The Milroys), 4 p.m. Nov. 26, Craig Carrick's House Concert, 5418 Boyne Highland Trail, Clarkston, $12 (public invited, but must call or e-mail for an invitation to this house concert), (248) 394-0113 or e-mail carrickhome1@netscape.net.

Oakland University Music, Theatre and Dance

Free concerts: Saxophones Ensembles, 7 p.m. Dec. 3; Percussion Ensembles, Varner Recital Hall on campus of Oakland University, (248) 370-2030.

Wayne State University

Walter White, classical and jazz trumpeter, fall artist-in-residence, 7:30 p.m. Nov. 28, Schaver Music Recital Hall, 480 W. Hancock, Detroit, $5-$8 for Nov. 28 performance, www.music.wayne.edu, (313) 577-1795.

MUSEUMS

Birmingham Historical Museum and Park

The Public Realm, Public Buildings & Spaces, through Feb. 24, 556 W. Maple, Birmingham. $1-$2. (248) 642-2817.

Henry Ford Museum

20900 Oakwood Blvd., west of the Southfield Freeway and south of Michigan Avenue, Dearborn. Additional charges and varying hours for entry to Greenfield Village, Ford Rouge Factory Tour and IMAX Theatre. Call (313) 982-6001 or visit www.hfmgv.org.

Cranbrook Science Museum

Featured exhibit is *It's a Nano World.* Permanent exhibits include planetarium, nature center and Bat Zone Conservatory, 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, general admission is $5-$7, planetarium, $1-$3, (248) 645-3200 or www.cranbrook.edu.

Detroit Science Center

Premiere of Magnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon narrated by Tom Hanks and new planetarium show, *Journey to the Edge of Space and Time*, $6, shows run indefinitely, 5020 John R, Detroit, $6-$7, (313) 577-8400, www.detroitsciencecenter.org.

Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit

Meditations on an Emergency runs through April 29, 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Free. (313) 832-6622.

Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm

1927 Dairy Barn, 1850 and 1840 furnished farmhouses with permanent and temporary exhibits about regional history. General admission $5 adults, $3 seniors and students, (248) 656-4663, www.rochesterhills.org.

OPERA

Giulio's

Soprano Kimerica Parr and tenor Michael Parr with David Carle, 6:30 p.m. Dec. 6, at Guido's Cucina Italiana, 31735 Plymouth, Livonia (734) 427-9500, www.giulios.us.

SOMETHING DIFFERENT

Birmingham Historical Museum & Park

Allen House kitchen, restored to reflect 1920s decor, complete with vintage stove, work table, porcelain sink and monitor top refrigerator, also exhibits on artifacts and history of schools in Birmingham, $2 admission, museum open from 1-4 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, 556 W. Maple (at Southfield Road), (248) 642-2817.

Michigan Christmas Show

Shopping, live entertainment, contests, food sampling, Nov. 30 to Dec. 3, Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River (west of Novi Road), Novi, $10, www.southernshows.com/mcs/ for information.

The Palace

AMP Tour Monster Truck Nationals Winter Thunderland, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Dec. 2, $18-$25 ($2 more the day of the show), VIP seating available, $10 non-VIP for children 12 and under, Palacenet.com, the Palace box office, all Ticketmaster locations, or charge by phone at (248) 645-6666.

Potters Market

Oakland Community College Royal Oak Campus Potters Market, Dec. 1-3, free, United Food & Commercial Workers' Union Hall, 876 Horace Brown Drive (two blocks south of 13 Mile Road between Stephenson Highway and John R), Madison Heights, (248) 246-2686

THEATER —COMMUNITY

Inspire Theatre

It's a Wonderful Life, A Live Radio Play, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 8; 2 and 7:30 p.m. Dec. 9, 3 p.m. Dec. 10, Underground Cafe in lower level of Dearborn Evangelical Covenant Church, 18575 Outer Drive, in Dearborn (between Ford and Cherry Hill Roads), tickets range $5-$30.

Spotlight Players

The Lion in Winter, Nov. 24-26 and Dec. 1-2, $15-$18, The Village Theater at Cherry Hill Road (at Ridge and Cherry Hill roads), Canton, (734) 394-5460.

THEATER — COLLEGE

Henry Ford Community College

The Skriker, directed for the digital stage by George Popovich, 8 p.m. Nov. 29-30, Dec. 1-2, Virtual Theatricality Lab, 5101 Evergreen, Dearborn. $15. (313) 845-6478.

Meadow Brook Theatre

Same Time Next Year, Jan. 10 to Feb. 4, single tickets are $22-$38, on the campus of Oakland University, (248) 377-3300 or (248) 370-3316 (group sales), www.mbtheatre.com.

The Theatre Company at University of Detroit Mercy

Polish Joke by David Ives, through Dec. 3, Marygrove College Theatre, 8425 W. McNichols Road, Detroit, box office is located in Reno Hall on the University of Detroit Mercy campus, (313) 993-3270, theatre.udmercy.edu.

Oakland University's Music, Theatre and Dance department

Dances Across Time, Dec. 1, call Varner Box Office at (248) 370-3013 or email mtd@oakland.edu.

THEATER — PROFESSIONAL

Detroit Repertory Theatre

Millan Theatre Company, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit, call (313) 868-1347. See Arborphilia (Tree Love), a sappy satire by Jacob M. Appel. Showtimes are 8:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday; 3 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Saturday; and 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, through Dec. 30.

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"A Tribute To The Temptations" featuring Damon Harris and including their hits

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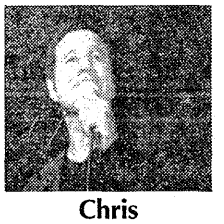
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. #1 Hits "BABY LOVE"

"STOP! IN THE NAME OF LOVE"



Chris Montez

#1 HITS: "THE MORE I SEE YOU"

"CALL ME"

"TIME AFTER TIME"



The Vogues

#1 HITS: "TURN AROUND, LOOK AT ME"

"FIVE O' CLOCK WORLD"

"YOU'RE THE ONE"

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Stop at the show this weekend

Just in time for the long holiday weekend, these films are opening this week:

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 22

DÉJÀ VU

Denzel Washington stars in this thriller as an FBI agent who has the ability to travel back in time, where he falls in love with a woman as her murder approaches. Everyone has experienced the unsettling mystery of deja vu. But what if the feelings were actually warnings sent from the past to the future? Also starring Jim Caviezel, Val Kilmer, Paula Patton, Bruce Greenwood and Adam Goldberg. Written by Terry Rossio and Bill Marsilii and directed by Tony Scott. (TOUCHSTONE PICTURES) Not yet rated.

DECK THE HALLS

A family comedy about one-upsmanship, jealousy, clashing neighbors, home decoration and the spirit of the holidays. Steve (Matthew Broderick) is a suburban dad who leads a well-ordered, well-planned, and well-organized life. His new neighbor, Buddy (Danny DeVito), is Steve's polar opposite. Buddy's latest dream – to create the biggest holiday light display in the world, visible from outer space – is turning Steve's disciplined world into a chaotic nightmare. Also starring Kristin Davis, Kristin Chenoweth, Alia Shawkat, Sabrina Aldridge, and Kelly Aldridge, directed by John Whitesell. (TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX). PG.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

Three actors shooting a small indie film have their lives turned upside down when buzz starts that their performances are awards-worthy. Christopher Guest directs from a script co-written with Eugene Levy, with a cast filled largely with the company of actors the pair has assembled for past efforts *Waiting for Guffman*, *Best in Show* and *A Mighty Wind*, including Fred Willard, Catherine O'Hara, Michael McKean and Parker Posey. (WARNER INDEPENDENT PICS) PG-13.

At the movies

THANKSGIVING DAY, THURSDAY, NOV. 23

BOBBY

Bobby, written and directed by Emilio Estevez, revisits the night Robert F. Kennedy was gunned down at the Ambassador Hotel in 1968. With an ensemble cast portraying fictionalized characters from a cross-section of America, the film follows 22 individuals, all at the hotel for different purposes, who share the common thread of anticipating Kennedy's arrival at the primary election night party, which would change their lives forever. This historic night is set against the backdrop of the cultural issues gripping the country at the time. Including racism, sexual inequality and class differences. (MGM STUDIOS) This film has not yet been rated.

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HOLIDAYS

FROM PAGE E3

presents the second concert of its 2006-2007 "Classical Canton" season under music director and conductor Nan Harrison Washburn with a performance of *Peter and the Wolf and Other Holiday Favorites* at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton Township, (734) 394-5460.

Narrated by Plymouth Canton Schools Supt. Jim Ryan, Sergei Prokofiev's cherished family classic *Peter and the Wolf* is an educational adventure that teaches children about musical instruments used in the symphony by transforming them into characters in the story.

The concert includes a performance of Engelbert Humperdinck's *Prelude to Hansel & Gretel* with the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society's youth orchestra, Celebration Sinfonia. The program ends with Silvestri and Ballard's holiday favorite, *The Polar Express Suite*, and two movements from *The Nutcracker* by Tchaikovsky. Tickets may be purchased calling the Summit at (734) 394-5460 or at the Village Theater box office one hour prior to the performance. Visit www.orchestracanton.org.

GREENFIELD VILLAGE HOLIDAY NIGHTS

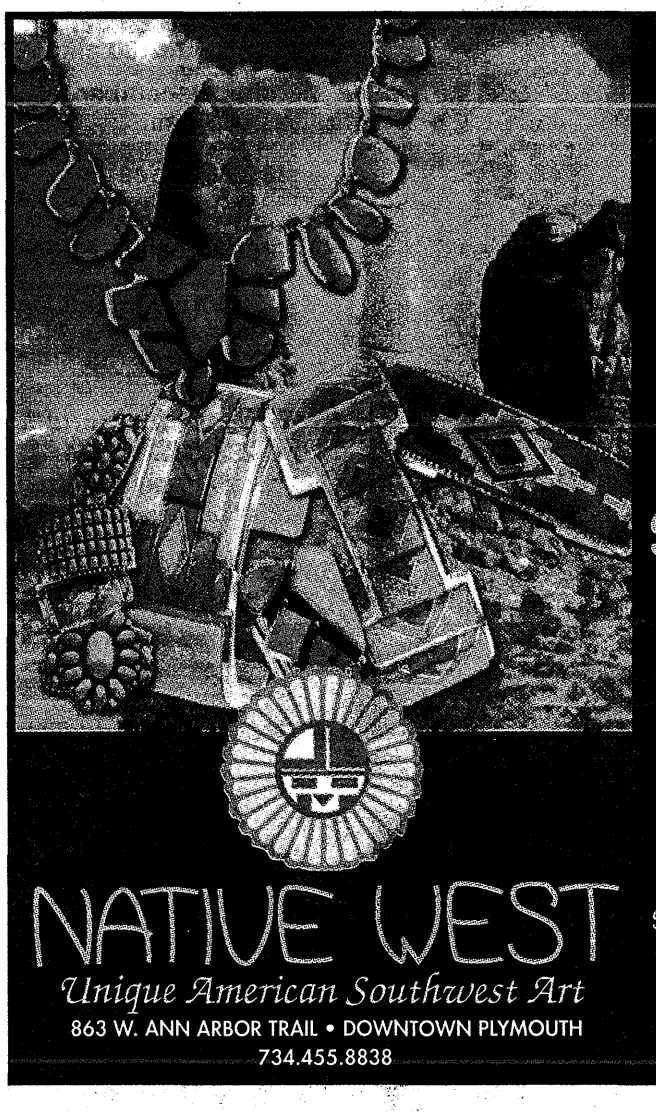
Step into a Christmas card of the past during *Holiday Nights* in Greenfield Village on Dec. 1-2, 8-9, 15-17 and 19-23. Tickets can be purchased by calling (313) 982-6001 or at www.thehenryford.org.

Visitors will experience Christmas in the streets in Victorian and Edwardian style with live music, hundreds of lit lanterns, ice skating and fireworks. New this year is a 10-foot-tall illuminated, Victorian-style gingerbread house with candy decorations, hand-crafted by The Henry Ford executive chef, Nick Seccia.

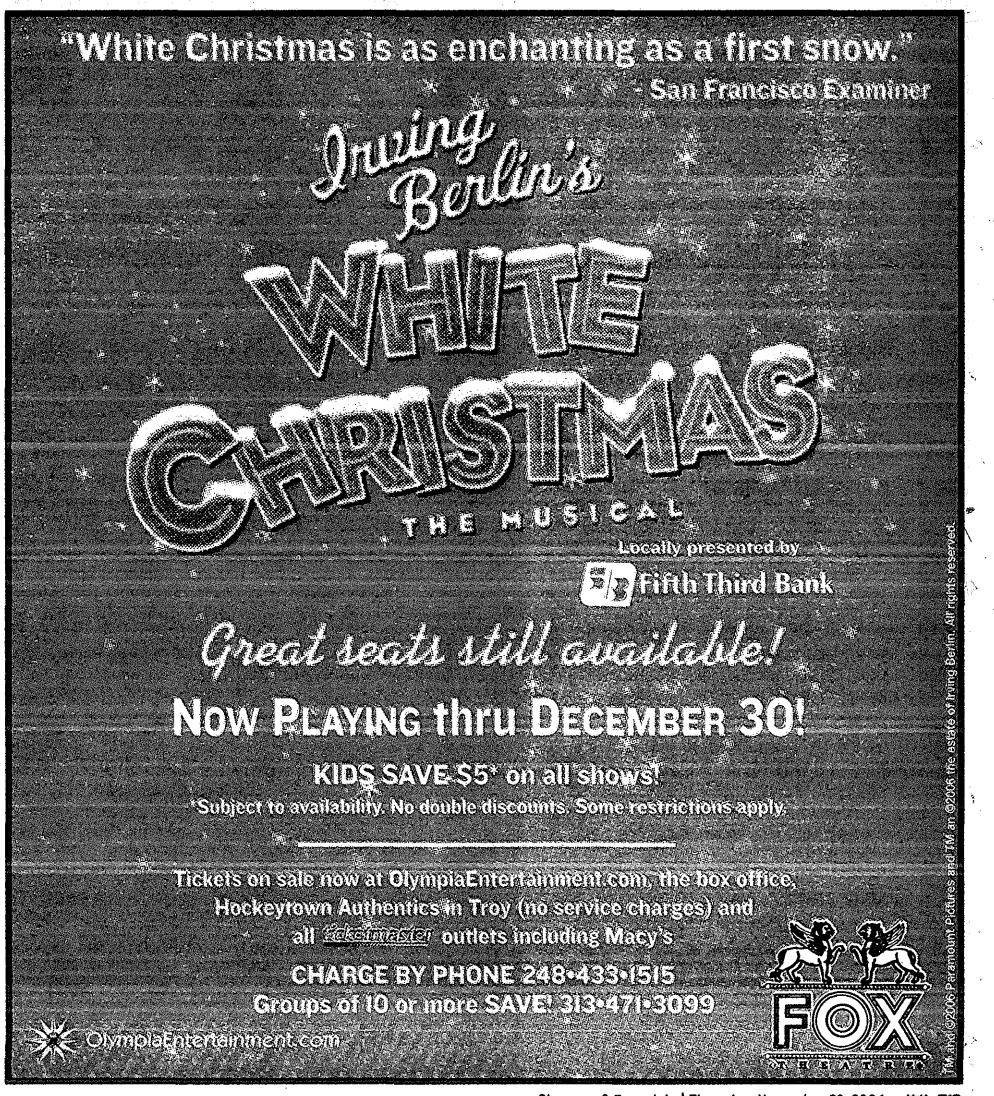
Greenfield Village presenters will be dressed in period holiday wear. At the ice rink, complimentary skate rentals are available or visitors may bring their own. During the stroll, there will be 30 fire circles to warm up at where story-tellers will tell holiday tales and roast s'mores.

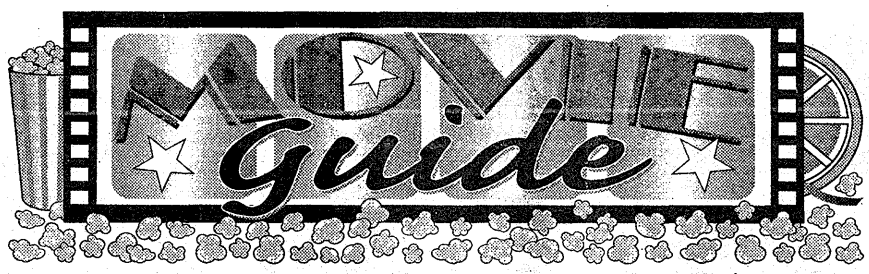
Artisans inside Liberty Craftworks can be seen making Christmas ornaments and there's Santa plus a Village Green sing-along. Snacks offered are warm winter fruit dumplings; hot and cold cider, eggnog or beer; warm muffins and cinnamon rolls or reserve a dinner spot at the Eagle Tavern.

Lana Mini









Where available by deadline, features and times are listed.

Call your local theatre for showings for this week. Check listings below for phone numbers and websites.

THE Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS

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Joffrey Ballet returns with 'The Nutcracker'

The famed Joffrey Ballet will return to the Detroit Opera House with *The Nutcracker* from Thursday, Nov. 30, through Sunday, Dec. 3.

The score by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky will be performed by the Michigan Opera Theatre Orchestra, conducted by Leslie B. Dunner.

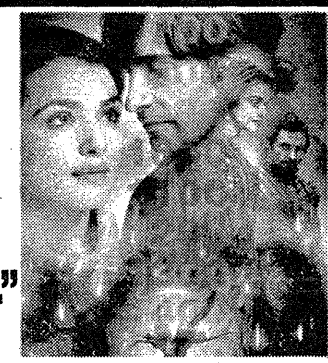
Tickets range in price from $28 to $75. They are available at the Detroit Opera House ticket office (1526 Broadway, Detroit) and all TicketMaster outlets — (248) 645-6666 or www.ticketmaster.com — by phone at (313) 237-SING and at www.michiganopera.org.

Special Family Matinee packages Dec. 2 and 3 include lunch, face painting, visits with Santa, the Nutcracker and live reindeer, and the Sugar Plum Parade (a chance to visit with *The Nutcracker* cast on stage), all for $10 above normal ticket prices. Photos with Santa or the Nutcracker are available for an additional charge. The Detroit Opera House is partnering with Toys for Tots to offer a $5 discount on tickets to *The Nutcracker* for each new, unwrapped toy donated at the Detroit Opera House ticket office. The discount is valid for all sections and all performances.

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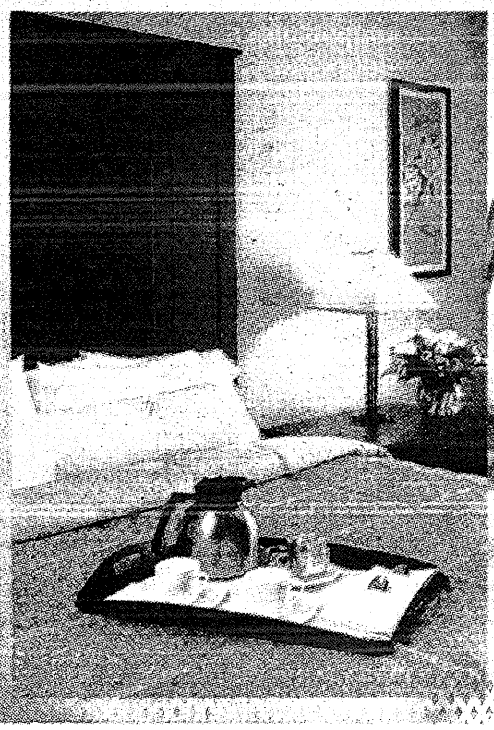
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INSIDE ▶ Robert Meisner's column ... 2 CREW conference set ... 4

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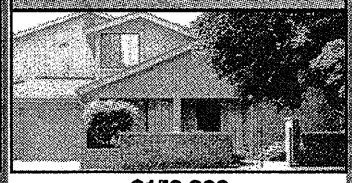
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734-323-2626

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$124,900
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Sellers very motivated - Bring all offers! Willing to help out with closing costs too! Awesome deal on a very well-kept home! Easy to show, come see! MLS#26168286



Heather McLennan
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HURON VALLEY SCHOOLS



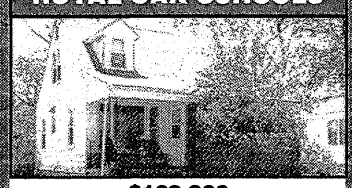
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ROYAL OAK SCHOOLS



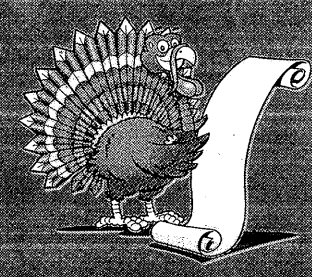
$169,900
418 Marin

Stunning home for sale or lease! Seller very motivated! Bring all offers - willing to negotiate!! Walking distance to downtown, wonderful updates thoughout - must see! MLS #26132398 & 26121288



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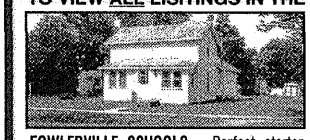
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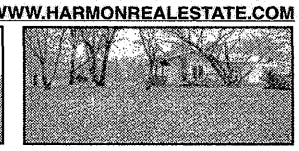
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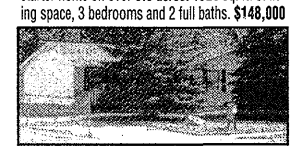
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STOCKBRIDGE SCHOOLS... Over 1200 sq. ft., 3 bedroom Ranch home with great potential on **4 peaceful acres! $154,000**



WEBBERVILLE SCHOOLS... Victorian home with lots of character. 1900 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, carriage house on double corner lot. **$159,900**



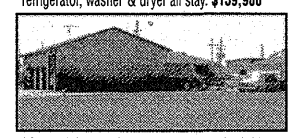
WILLIAMSTON SCHOOLS... 3 bedrooms, master bath, 2.5 car garage and first floor laundry, range, refrigerator, washer & dryer all stay. **$159,900**



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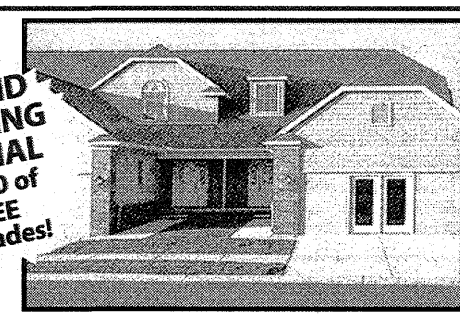
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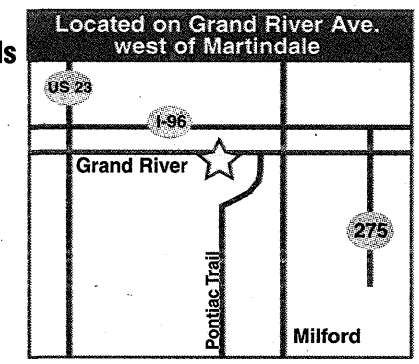
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Q. I am buying a new condo and the developer has put a clause in his purchase agreement saying it is binding only after the seller signs the agreement and that it is an irrevocable offer. What do you think?

A. I think it is in violation of the nine (9) business day rule which allows a purchaser to withdraw from the condominium and, in my view, that agreement would be unenforceable. Too many purchasers sign agreements for the purchase of condos without obtaining the services of a knowledgeable condominium attorney to insure that the purchase agreement is in conformity with the condominium statutes and laws and then they are faced with the prospect of wanting to extricate themselves from the agreement and find that they may not be able to do so because of an unconscionable clause. You are best advised to seek redress at your earliest convenience.



Name
Last name

Q. The association was the highest bidder at its own sheriff's sale; but I am wondering, as a board member, what our next step is.

A. Normally, the co-owner will have a six month redemption period to pay back all monies due and owing to the association together with interest as a result of the sheriff's sale unless the unit is abandoned. That, of course, depends upon the terms of the foreclosure sale and/or judgment obtained. After the redemption period expires, the association has ownership of the units subject to any prior encumbrances on it but may have to seek a removal of the co-owner from the unit through court proceedings. You are best advised in general to consult with a condominium specialist in regard to your best remedies.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of *Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track*, second edition. For more information, call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

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CREW regional conference set for Detroit

Detroit will host more than 200 commercial real estate professionals from 11 states in May 2007, when the annual Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW) Midwest Regional Conference comes to town.

Scheduled for May 3-5 at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, the 2007 CREW Midwest Regional Conference will draw attendees from 16 CREW chapters in Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, as well as from the regional business community.

CREW-Detroit, one of the largest local chapters of the international CREW Network, worked for two years to win the event, says Joan Cleland, conference chair and president of Acquest Development, Inc. in Bloomfield Hills. CREW Network, a professional organization of nearly 7,000 commercial real estate women in the U.S. and Canada, is dedicated to advancing the success of women in commercial real estate. CREW members represent all aspects of the commercial real estate industry, including accounting, architecture, appraisal, acquisitions, construction, corporate real estate, development, engineering, finance, leasing, property/asset management, law, journalism, sales/brokerage and syndication/investment.

The conference will offer educational programming, networking events, panel discussions and offsite activities. A signature panel on Friday, May 4, will feature speakers from each participating regional chapter presenting waterfront development case histories, best practices and biggest challenges. Off-site activities will include tours of local attractions in downtown Detroit and southeast Michigan real estate opportunities, evening dine-arounds at local restaurants and daily "NetWalks" – morning walking and running tours of Detroit led by local CREW members.

Sponsorship options from $1,800 to $10,000 – which also include exposure at CREW-Detroit events and on its publications and Web site throughout 2007 – are available. For more information, contact Debra Osuch at (586) 731-3100.

For general information about the conference and CREW-Detroit membership, contact Norma Beuter, CREW-Detroit administrator at beuter@comcast.net or visit http://www.crewdetroit.org/07mwrc.htm for regular updates.

Commercial Real Estate Women – Detroit (http://www.crewdetroit.org), founded in 1986, is dedicated to advancing the success of women in commercial real estate by promoting networking, mentoring and professional opportunities among its more than 130 members. Local activities include monthly programs, a golf outing in June, the annual Impact Awards honoring southeastern Michigan commercial real estate projects that improve their communities, and community outreach work benefiting Alternatives for Girls in Detroit and First Step in Plymouth.

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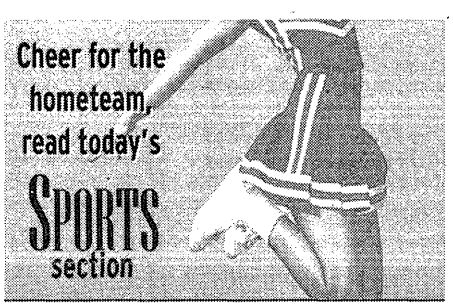
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HOMES SOLD

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of July 3-7, 2006, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office, plus some from Oakland County. Listed below are cities, addresses and sales prices.

Canton

43038 Arlington Rd	$193,000
45471 Augusta Dr	$360,000
50041 Black Horse Ln	$172,000
2140 Cleveland Way	$260,000
4224 Forest Bridge Dr	$58,000
4242 Forest Bridge Dr	$58,000
4315 Forest Bridge Dr	$58,000
44464 Meadowcreek Ln	$196,000
1774 Oakview Dr	$190,000
1811 Pinecroft Dr	$166,000
43800 Proctor Rd	$167,000
3235 River Meadow Cir	$265,000
48851 Rockefeller Dr	$333,000
49225 Rockefeller Dr	$335,000
335 Savannah Dr	$335,000
47177 Southwick Dr	$385,000
6840 Tiffany Cir	$315,000

Farmington

23231 Cass St	$328,000
23119 Floral St	$136,000
21120 Meadowlark St	$222,000
32281 Valley View Cir	$240,000

Farmington Hills

31880 Belmont St	$210,000
23088 Cora Ave	$167,000
28083 David St	$130,000
35289 Edythe Dr	$191,000
23101 Fox Crk	$396,000
21840 Gill Rd	$142,000
20849 Hugo St	$160,000
31500 Hunters Circle Dr	$215,000
21332 Mulberry Ct	$170,000
20866 Rensselaer St	$160,000
28048 Ridgebrook Rd	$239,000
29610 Sugar Spring Rd	$273,000
31825 Trestain St	$189,000
22039 Tuck Rd	$132,000
37010 Valley Ridge Dr	$320,000
28594 Venice Cir	$266,000
31109 W 11 Mile Rd	$200,000
32013 W 12 Mile Rd	$65,000
26742 Westmeath St	$230,000

Livonia

14985 Arden St	$164,000
31025 Dorais St	$95,000
16956 Farmington Rd	$205,000
9001 Louise St	$160,000
33659 Wood St	$178,000

Milford

3119 Bradford Ct	$550,000
501 Canal St	$307,000
1840 Dunhill Dr	$375,000

Northville

19047 Angell Blvd	$644,000
18371 Clairmont Cir	$885,000
50615 Hawthorne Ct	$100,000
15946 Morningside	$159,000
49497 N Glacier	$317,000
49799 Parkside Dr	$446,000
18909 Ridge Rd	$475,000
49091 Running Trout Ln	$148,000
41338 Windsor Ct	$128,000

Novi

28560 Carlton Way Dr	$218,000
22179 Chelsea Ln	$220,000
31072 Columbia Dr	$173,000
44512 Copland Ln	$433,000
40688 Lenox Park Dr	$380,000
40702 Lenox Park Dr	$300,000
40929 Malott	$220,000
45683 Marlborough Pl	$465,000
23421 Mystic Forest Dr	$410,000
23620 N Rockledge	$103,000
24509 Olde Orchard St	$120,000
1155 S Lake Dr	$83,000
43115 Sandstone Dr	$298,000
2400 Shawood St	$190,000
44153 Stassen Ave	$201,000
49562 Timber Trl	$838,000
39772 Village Wood Cir	$127,000
45732 W 11 Mile Rd	$200,000
45432 White Pines Dr	$340,000
47255 White Pines Dr	$550,000
23373 Winnsborough	$378,000

Plymouth

9410 Ball St	$240,000
50546 Beechwood Ct	$204,000
40642 E Ann Arbor Trl	$152,000
165 Hamilton	$207,000
994 N Mill St	$158,000
9100 Woodberry Rd	$345,000
12432 Woodgate Dr	$188,000

Redford

26456 Clarita	$139,000
19718 Denby	$124,000
17148 Lennane	$146,000
17698 Lennane	$126,000
15353 Lons	$101,000

South Lyon

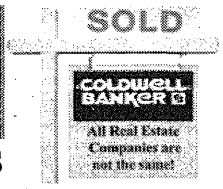
22085 Brookfield Ct	$266,000
61061 Greenwood Dr	$128,000
348 Princeton Dr	$188,000
1137 Surrey Ln	$336,000
837 Talon Ct	$230,000
933 Westhills Dr	$318,000

Westland

35904 Avondale St	$136,000
37597 Barkridge Cir	$103,000
30866 Birchwood St	$140,000
34139 Birchwood St	$128,000
38177 Carolon Blvd	$110,000
1971 Dunn Ct	$182,000
37625 Garden Ct	$136,000
31539 Glen St	$94,000
31020 Middlebury St	$103,000
5970 N Carlson St	$45,000
1715 N Crown St	$229,000
5919 N Harvey St	$165,000
7712 Princeton Ct	$137,000
660 S Marie St	$154,000
32546 Somerset St	$136,000
34720 Stacy St	$200,000
1671 Stieber St	$167,000

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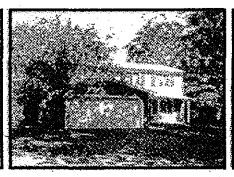
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CHARMING STONE HOME 4.65 Acres embraces this charming 4 bedroom home. Fireplace, hwd & ceramic floors welcomes you home. 48X30 pole barn. Swimming pool, Great craftsmanship, built in 1930.
$375,000 (C-291NO)



YOU FOUND IT! Gorgeous Northville condo has everything but the maintenance! Clean and beautifully decorated, end unit w/ great master, new floors & fixtures, enclosed seasonal porch, appliances & great location!
$125,000 (C-560NO)



PLYMOUTH CHARMER Don't wait on this 4 bd, 2.5 bath colonial in a great sub! Formal LR & DR, large Master w/double closets, newer windows, hwh, freshly painted, & remod oak Kitchen.
$247,800 (C-624OR)



BEAUTIFUL CAPE COD Open & spacious! Built in 2003, 1st floor master suite w/jetted tub, maple Kitchen, DR w/trey ceiling, full daylight bsmt, inviting Great Room w/frpl & 2 story windows, & much more.
$339,900 (P-868BU)



GREAT LOCATION Elegant colonial in Historic Northville. 5 bd, 3 baths, hwd, Great Room w/ frpl, oak Kitchen w/snack bar, luxurious Master w/bath, Library, 2nd floor laundry, & mature landscaping.
$375,000 (P-621OR)



WELCOME TO THE COUNTRY Well maintained colonial offering over 3000 sq ft, Living & Family Room w/frpl, walkout bsmt w/ daylight windows, & spacious Deck.
$524,999 (C-560AN)



CUTE BUNGALOW Well maintained home on quiet street. Large treed yard, 3 bd, 2 baths, part finished bsmt, updated windows, roof, A/C, & bathrooms.
$120,000 (C-076BR)



CHERRY HILL VILLAGE Beautiful 4 bd, 3.5 bath home in move in condition. Loaded w/upgrades & extras, open floor plan, extra deep finished bsmt w/egress windows, cherry cabinets, & more.
$369,000 (C-572FI)



LOVELY COLONIAL 4 bd, 2.5 bath in the heart of Livonia's nicest sub. Updated Kitchen, private backyard, Family Room w/ frpl, covered deck, & close to everything.
$244,900 (C-407LA)



40 ACRE COUNTRY ESTATE Just imagine a unique architectural design w/over 5000 sq. ft, 3 bds, 3 full baths, 3 fireplaces, inground pool, spa & steam rooms, a huge pole barn & more. Multiple splits available.
$1,375,000 (C-708TE)



PLYMOUTH CHARMER This beautiful condo has it all. Kitchen w/hwd, Great Room w/fp & doorwall to 1 of 2 decks, 2 car garage, cathedral ceilings, & all appliances. Fantastic location w/ immed occup!
$164,500 (C-768YO)



CANTON COLONIAL Wonderfully updated 3 bd colonial in popular Winsor Sub. Hwd floors in Living, Dining, & Family Room, finished bsmt, private backyard, beautifully landscaped, & all appliances stay.
$222,000 (C-860AR)



WESTLAND RANCH Beautifully remodeled ranch w/newer windows, custom window treatments, flooring, carpet, newer patio, & in move-in condition.
$99,900 (C-132CA)



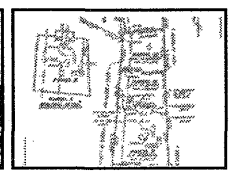
ELEGANT COLONIAL Premium brick home offers a bright open floor plan. 4 bd, 3.5 ba, kitchen w/granite, 2 story great room w/ fp, WIC in each bedroom, & premium walkout lot just a stroll from Stonebridge Lake.
$674,900 (P-392BI)



OPPORTUNITY AWAITS! Great chance on this home at a super price. New construction on the water w/access to 2 lakes. 3 stories, upper is a loft, 1st floor is a walkout to water & attached garage, 2nd floor Master, laundry, & large bedrooms. It's a steal!
$350,000 (P-940MA)



GREAT COLONIAL Open & bright colonial featuring a Great Room w/newer carpet & frpl, Library, formal Dining, oak Kitchen w/ nook, master w/garden tub & lighted WIC, large Deck w/great landscaping & sprinklers.
$324,900 (P-950SP)



BUILDABLE LOTS 2 lots still available in Superior Twp w/ Plymouth mailing address. Both lots nestled among mature trees & set off a private rd. Plenty of options. Lot sizes are 2.25 acres & 2.49 acres. Call for details.
$175,000 & up (P-847AN)



COUNTRY ESTATE 10 acre estate w/stunning 3500 sq ft home. Formal LR & DR w/hwd, Master w/his & her WIC's, gourmet Kitchen, walkout bsmt w/frpl, oversized Deck w/gazebo, & 3 car Garage. Too much more too list!
$999,000 (P-988STO)



LOTS OF UPDATES Cute 3 bd Dearborn Heights ranch. Updates include A/C, furnace, roof, windows, doors, 2 car Garage, immediate occupancy, & priced to sell!
$79,500 (P-416CA)



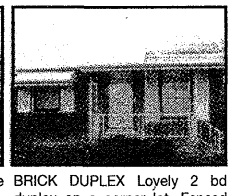
GORGEOUS INSIDE & OUT Great starter home featuring a huge Living Room w/skylights, remodeled bathroom, huge Deck w/Jacuzzi, neutral décor t/o, & close to everything.
$86,000 (P-917GU)



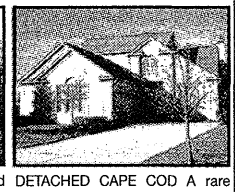
QUIET COURT SETTING Clean, well maintained home offers an open floor plan & many updates. Great Westland location, above ground heated pool, updated roof, windows, & much more.
$169,900 (P-422LO)



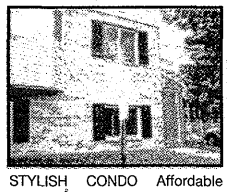
UPDATED HOME Cute 3 bd home featuring updated windows, updated roof, 2 tiered elevated Deck, hwd floors, coved ceilings, extra deep 1.5 car Garage & a home warranty.
$84,900 (C-435MO)



BRICK DUPLEX Loyely 2 bd duplex on a corner lot. Fenced yard, close to freeways & shopping. Seller will look at all offers.
$50,000 (C-806MO)



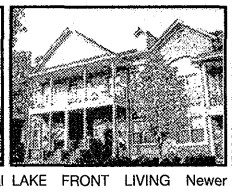
DETACHED CAPE COD A rare find on this detached condo in Plymouth offers 1st floor Master w/jetted tub, finished walkout w/ 4th bd & 2nd kitchen, gorgeous oversized lot on the pond, deep in sub w/great privacy.
$375,000 (P-113NO)



STYLISH CONDO Affordable Plymouth 2 bd, 1 bath condo close to downtown. 1st floor unit, light & bright t/o, skylights, open floor plan, & private laundry room. Clean & sharp!
$132,900 (P-163PI)



ALMOST NEW Beautiful colonial features upgrades everywhere. Less than 1 yr old, 4 bd, 2.5 baths, full bsmt, 3 car Garage, Library, fireplace, & more.
$479,000 (C-605PO)



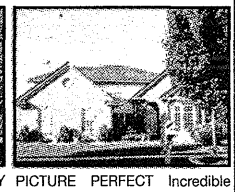
LAKE FRONT LIVING Newer condo located in Walled Lake w/ private beach/boat access. Open floor plan, 3 bds, 2 baths, & clubhouse/area pool. 13th month lease w/1st month free.
$1,500 (P-160SA)



HICKORY POINTE GEM Open island Kitchen w/hwd, sun filled nook, spacious Family Room w/ frpl, skylights, Master w/private Bath, & large Deck backing to treed lot & park.
$324,900 (P-650SH)



CENTRAL PARK BEAUTY Gourmet island Kitchen w/hwd, spacious Family Room, formal Living & Dining, large Master w/ WIC & private bath, 3 car Garage, & a paver Patio.
$389,900 (P-366SP)



PICTURE PERFECT Incredible colonial w/many upgrades. 4 bd, 2.5 baths, study, 1st floor laundry, formal DR, fireplace, Master w/ bath, large corner lot, & 3 car Garage.
$395,000 (C-837WA)

CANTON
CONDO LIVING AT IT'S BEST! 2 bd, 2 bath end unit, master w/ bath, 1st floor laundry, study, 2 car garage, cathedral ceilings & fireplace.
$285,000 (P-865WE)

CANTON
STUNNING COLONIAL 3 bd colonial on a corner lot featuring an oak Kitchen w/ granite, 3 car Garage, & oversized Deck. Don't wait to long!
$299,000 (P-5300A)

CANTON
A CHEF'S DREAM Exquisite brick colonial w/huge gourmet, Kitchen w/granite, Formal LR & DR, Library, Master w/bath, & too much more to list.
$399,900 (P-006EC)

CANTON
A RARE FIND 3100+ sq ft, 4 bd, 2.5 bath colonial offers fresh paint, gourmet Kitchen, Den, Master Suite w/his & her WIC's & private sitting area.
$369,900 (P-835PA)

CANTON
END UNIT CONDO 2 story entry w/ceramic, Great Room w/gas frpl, DR w/doorwall, large Deck, wonderful Master suite, finished bsmt w/office.
$219,900 (P-239ED)

CANTON
VALUE PRICED All brick ranch in w/Family Room, nat frpl, master w/ 1/2 bath, oversized garage, & full bsmt. Priced to sell.
$175,000 (P-079ED)

CANTON
BACKS TO THE WOODS On an extra deep lot w/formal LR, new roof, windows, finished bsmt, updated bath, 2 car garage, 3 bd, & 2 full baths.
$188,900 (P-728AL)

CANTON
GREAT LOCATION Beautiful 4 bd, 2.5 bath home in popular sub. Open Kitchen, formal LR & DR, luxury Master w/jetted tub, 2nd floor laundry, & more.
$329,900 (P-904ST)

DETROIT
FANTASTIC RANCH Wonderful updated ranch w/spacious floor plan, 5 bd, 2 baths, updated windows, maple Kitchen, 1st floor laundry, new driveway, & more.
$195,000 (P-660AR)

NORTHFIELD TWP
GREAT INVESTMENT 4 bd, 2 bath home is currently set up as a duplex but could easily be converted to a lrg. single family home. Each level w/2 beds, 1 bath, LR & kitchen.
$175,000 (C-315FA)

SUPERIOR TWP
IMMEDIATE GRATIFICATION Eliminate the stress of building! Walkout site, treed lot, maple Kitchen, Family Room w/frpl, Master w/volume ceilings, & 2nd floor laundry.
$289,900 (C-588AB)

PUTNAM TWP
BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME Beautiful 5 acre parcel w/paved road. Approx 500x440 w/4 cleared acres & one wooded. Successful perk test on file. Located just a cross the street from the church.
$110,000 (C-000DE)

PINCKNEY
CUSTOM RANCH ON ACREAGE 4 bd, 3 ba, on 7 acres. 3 car Garage & 54x30 Pole Barn. Big open rooms w/ vaulted ceilings, full finished walkout w/8 ft ceilings.
$450,000 (C-449RA)

PLYMOUTH
CUTE CONDO Beautifully decorated 2 bd, 2 ba condo w/ bsmt, garage, maple Kitchen, lots of updates, & clubhouse w/ area pool.
$184,500 (C-413WO)

PLYMOUTH
NICE CONDO Cute ranch condo w/large brick paver Patio, updated appl & windows, good location, & clubhouse activities w/heated pool. Home warranty!
$112,500 (C-699NE)

PLYMOUTH
GREAT BUILDING SITE This extra deep lot in is waiting for your new home! Partially wooded, no minimum sq ft for house, close to everything, & priced to sell.
$79,900 (C-002BE)

PLYMOUTH
HISTORIC SEARS HOME Well maintained home offering 4 bd, 1.5 baths, finished bsmt, large porch, & 2nd small house provides possible in-law quarters or office space.
$239,900 (P-829FO)

PLYMOUTH
CUSTOM COLONIAL Pristine 1.2 acre cul de sac lot w/great location. Island Kitchen, 2 tiered Deck, Master w/bath, open floor plan, & great view.
$549,000 (C-800NA)

REDFORD
MOVE IN READY 4 possible 5 bd home loaded w/updates! Updated Kitchen, baths, wood floors, & furnace. Plenty of storage space, 2.5 car Garage, & more.
$169,000 (P-976LU)

SALEM
ESTATE BUILDING SITE Complete privacy on this 10 acre parcel in Salem Twp. Wooded, walkout site w/serene views, Ply-Canton schools, close to xways.
$279,900 (C-000CUA)

SALEM
CUSTOM HOME
Many high quality amenities inc. 4 bd, 3.5 baths, home gym, 3 car garage, finished bsmt, enclosed Deck, pole barn, & situated on 5 1/2 acres.
$595,000 (C-710PO)

SCIO TWP
COUNTRY ESTATES Gorgeous home w/cherry stained plank floors, Family Room w/built-ins, formal Dining, & Master Suite w/spacious WIC & full bath.
$317,900 (P-965QU)

VAN BUREN
MOVE IN READY Well kept 3 bd ranch w/large Living Room, updated Kitchen & bath, private backyard w/pool, Deck, & garage.
$134,900 (C-045LI)

NOVI
FIRST RATE 4 bd, 3 baths, 2 story Living, Dining, & Foyer, premium location, 3 car Garage, extra deep bsmt, & prof landscaped.
$484,900 (P-352CA)

NORTHVILLE/NOVI (248) 305-6090 | **CANTON (734) 392-6000** | **FARMINGTON (248) 478-6022** | **WESTLAND/GARDEN CITY (734) 392-6000** | **PLYMOUTH (734) 459-6000** | **LIVONIA (734) 425-6060**

Free seminar

A Down Payment Assistance Program Seminar will be 7-8 p.m. every Tuesday, through most of December.

The free seminar is ideal for first-time buyers. Located at 17197 N. Laurel Park Drive, Suite 107 in Livonia. Please call with any question: (734) 432-0404.

Coat drive

The Oakland County Sheriff's Office is partnering with PODS, Real Estate One and Outback Steakhouse to collect coats.

In response to an early call for coats from local charitable organizations, officials have kicked off the "Coats for the Cold" coat collection. The dates for this year's coat drive are through Nov. 27. Real Estate One is, for the first year since the inception of the coat drive, serving as a drop-off location. The Real Estate One in South Lyon is located at 346 N. Lafayette.

Drop off a new or clean used coat. Coats collected during November will be given to several different charitable organizations, who will then distribute the coats to those most in need at no cost.

For information, call Real Estate One – South Lyon, (248) 437-3800.

Free seminar

Mortgage Credit Coaching Seminar will be 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, at the Public Library of Westland, located at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. Call Diane Adamick at (734) 516-8043 to register. The seminar is free of charge.

Building Industry Association

The Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan is offering:

■ "Customers for a Lifetime" seminar 8:30-10:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 30, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills. Janine LaPorte and Rick Weaver of Executive Image Group will present the program. Fee is $45 for Apartment Association of Michigan or BIA members, $65 for guests. To register, call (248) 862-1033.

■ Another in a series of Effective Business Management Seminars, "Convention Strategies: How To Make the Most of the International Builders' Show," 8:30-10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 5, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills. John Bollan Jr. will speak. Continental breakfast is included. Fees are $20 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members, $40 for guests. To register, call (248) 862-1033.

■ Effective Business Management Seminar on "The Ins and Outs of Condo Operations and Association Turnover: What Not To Do," 8:30-10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 6, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills. Speakers will be Gregory J. Gamalski and Kaveh Kashef of Cox, Hodgman & Giarmarco and H. William Freeman of Freeman, Cotton & Norris. Continental breakfast is included. Fees are $20 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members, $40 for guests. To register, call (248) 862-1033.

■ A builder's license preparation course 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills. Presented by NCI Associates, the course prepares students for the Michigan Residential Builder's License Examination. Fee is $200. To register, call (248) 862-1033.

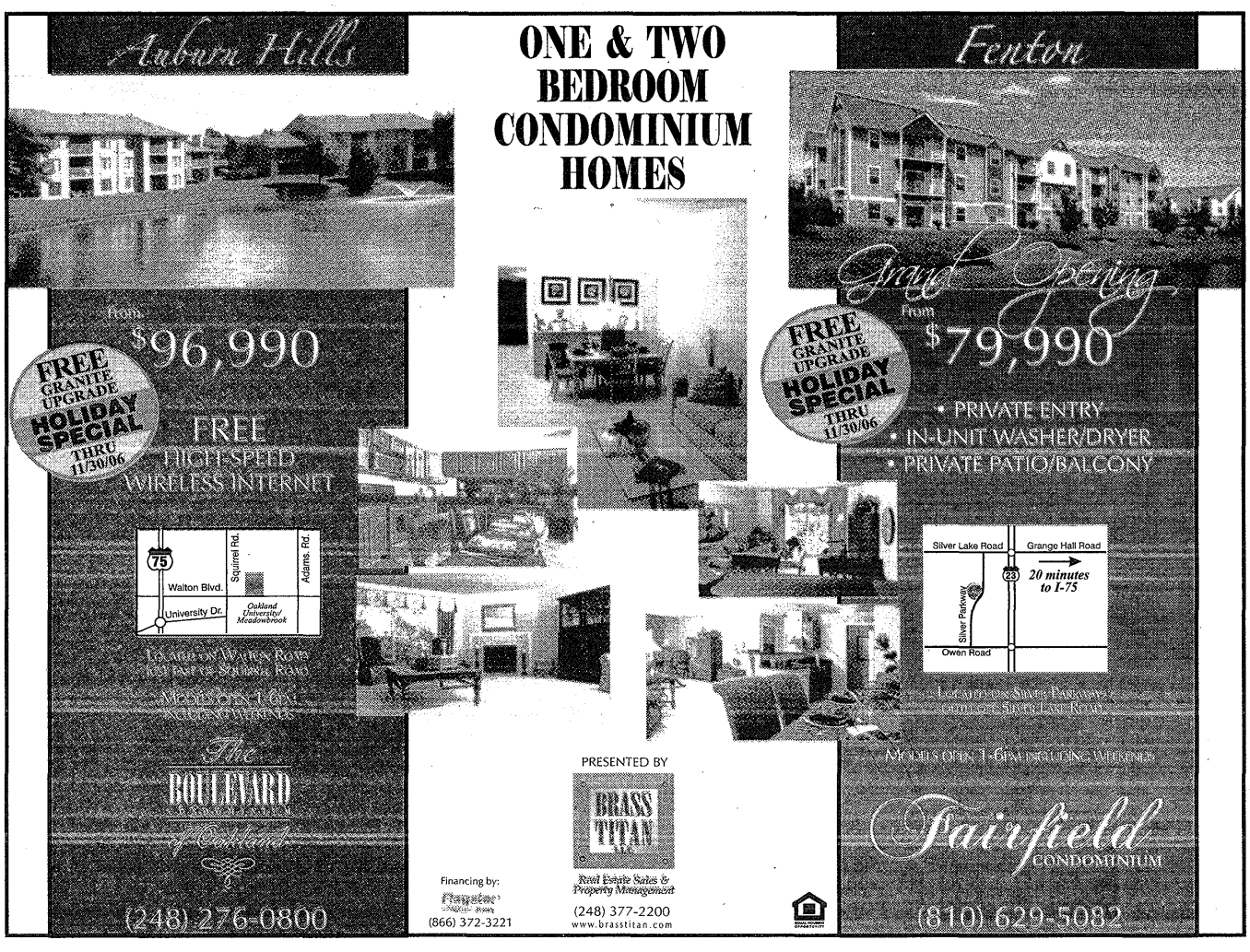
■ A "Design/Build" seminar 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 12, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills. The seminar is part of the Certified Graduate Remodelor series. Chuck Breidenstein of Builder Professional Services Group Inc. will teach the class. Fees are $140 for Remodelors Council members, $160 for BIA members or guests. To register, call (248) 862-1033.

■ An Effective Business Management Seminar, "Energy-Efficient Construction: Design, Build and Market," 8:30-10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 13, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills. Jon Dattilo of IAQ Management Inc. will speak on energy-efficient construction and marketing. Continental breakfast is included. Fees are $20 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members, $40 for guests. To register, call (248) 862-1033.

■ An Industry Innovation Seminar on flooring 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 13, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills. A light dinner and dessert are included. Fees are $10 at the door and for no-shows, free for those who register in advance. To register, call (248) 862-1060.

■ Apartment Association of Michigan's Property Management Council will sponsor a "Manager's Round Table" discussion 8-9 a.m. Friday, Dec. 15, at AAM headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills. The discussion will cover current topics in apartment management. Fees are free for

PLEASE SEE **BRIEFS, 7**



Check the Classified sections of these fine community newspapers for more property listings:

Birmingham Eccentric
Canton Observer
Farmington Observer
Garden City Observer
Livonia Observer
Milford Times
Northville Record
Novi News
Plymouth Observer
Rochester Eccentric
Royal Oak and Clawson Mirror
Redford Observer
Southfield Eccentric
South Lyon Herald
Troy Eccentric
West Bloomfield Eccentric
Westland Observer
and on

HOMETOWNlife.com



OE08485620

BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 6

AAM, PMC or BIA members, $15 for guests. To register, call (248) 862-1004.

■ Another Field Superintendent course, "Planning and Scheduling," 8 a.m. to noon Monday, Dec. 18, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills. Chuck Breidenstein of Builder Professional Services Group Inc. is the instructor. Fee is $150. To register, call (248) 862-1033.

■ Executive Image Seminar on "Selling at the 2007 BIA Builders and Remodelors Trade Show" 9-11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 12, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills. The seminar will be presented by the Executive Image Group and will cover how to qualify leads based on a conversation, how to motivate yourself after the show, understanding the life cycle of a lead and how to get the lead to contact you after the show. Fees are $45 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members, $65 for guests. To register, call (248) 862-1033.

■ Annual economic forecast for 2007 noon to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 17, at the Best Western Sterling Inn, 34911 Van Dyke in Sterling Heights. David F. Seiders, chief economist for the National Association of Home Builders in Washington, D.C., will provide an outlook for the residential construction industry for the U.S. and southeastern Michigan. Lunch is included. Fees are $40 for BIA and Apartment Association of Michigan members, $60 for guests. To register, call (248) 862-1033.

Oakland Builders Institute

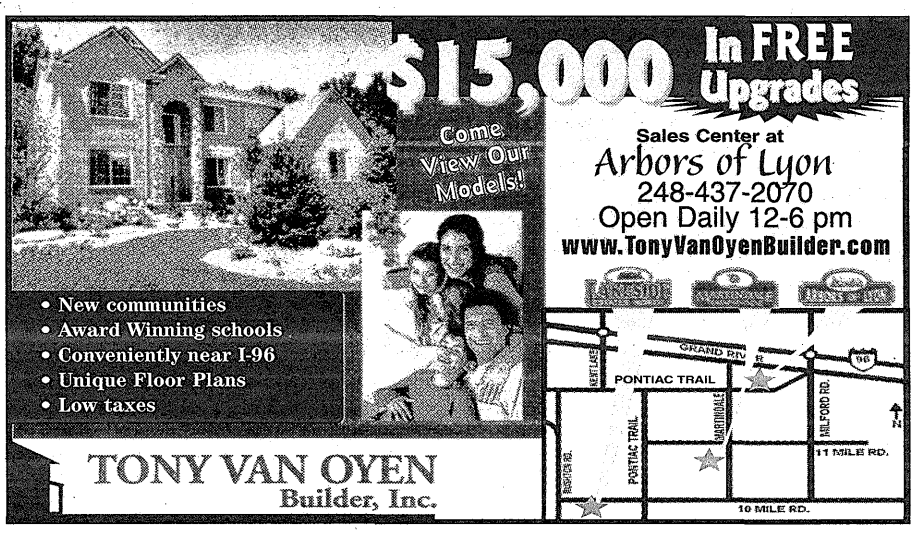
Oakland Builders Institute will offer:

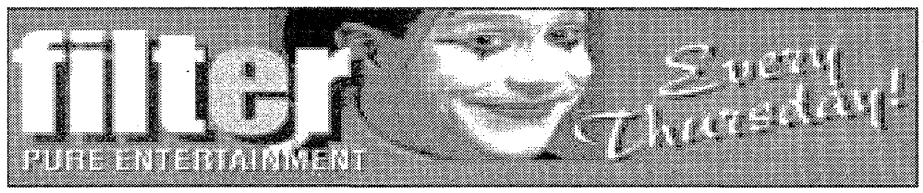
■ A 16-hour seminar to help students pass the Michigan state builder's license exam 6-10 p.m. Tuesday/Thursday, Dec. 5, 7, 12 and 14, at Berkshire Middle School, 21707 W. 14 Mile, Birmingham, in cooperation with Birmingham Community Education. The course is for those who want to subcontract construction of a home, real estate investors and developers and building tradespeople. Cost is $190 plus $20 for textbook and sample questions. Register in advance with payment by Dec. 1 to Birmingham Community Education. Call (248) 203-3800.

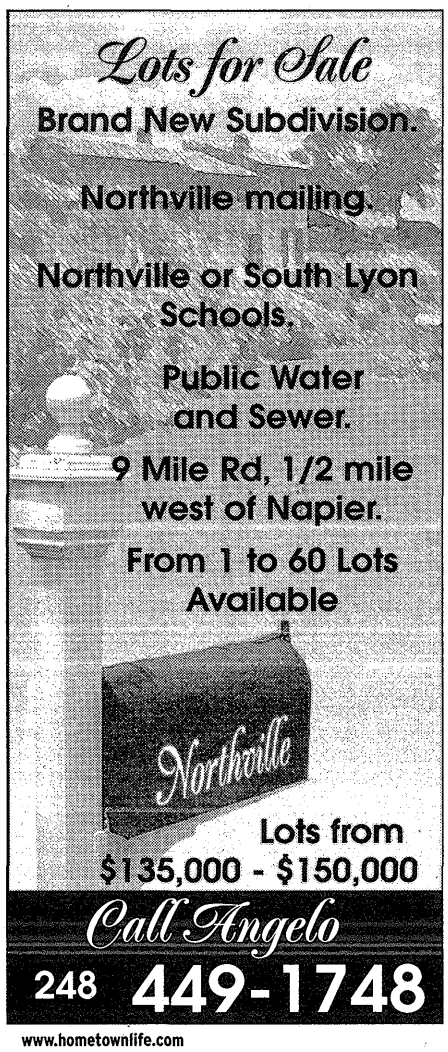
■ A 16-hour seminar to help students pass the Michigan state builder's license exam offered by Henry Ford Community College and the institute Monday/Wednesday, Dec. 4, 6, 11 and 13, at Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn Heights campus, 22586 Ann Arbor Trail. Cost is $189 for residents plus $20 for textbook and sample questions, or $208 for nonresidents plus $20. Pre-registration is needed with payment by Nov. 30 to Henry Ford Community College. Call (313) 317-1500 to register.

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland County (REIA of Oakland) is a nonprofit organization that provides new and seasoned real estate investors a forum for networking, education, and socialization with local and nationally known real estate investment experts. It meets 7:30-9:30 p.m. the second Thursday of every month at the MSU Management Education Center 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy, MI 48098. For more information, or to join REIA, visit www.reiaofoakland.com or call (248) 663-2350.



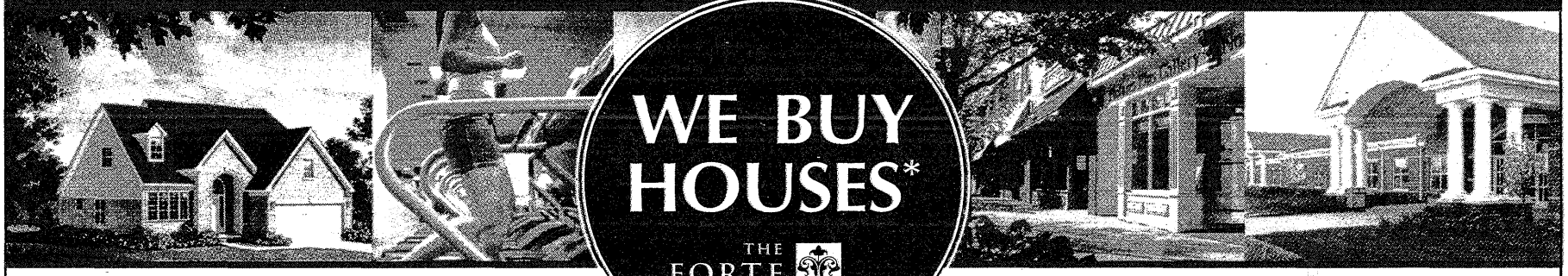




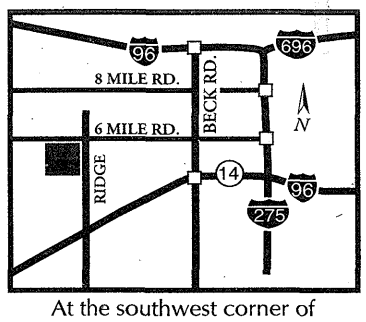


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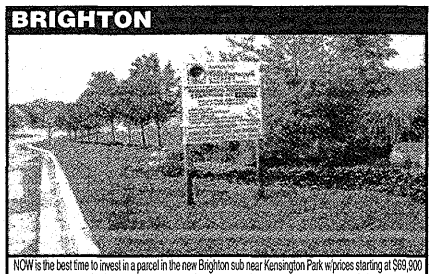
*For program details contact The Forte Group at **800.935.8047** ext: 100

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FEATURE HOMES

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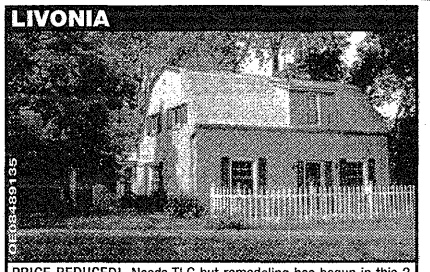
BRIGHTON



NOW is the best time to invest in a parcel in the new Brighton sub near Kensington Park w/prices starting at $69,900 & homes appraising for $350K - $450K, 0 down financing available in area of newly approved shopping mall & movie theater. 3/4+ acre lots overlooking acres of common area. BUY NOW WITH THESE LOW PRICES - BUILD LATER! MLS#26120930 DIR: Take Pleasant Valley N to Commerce - W 1 mile to Hilsborough Subdivision.

Call Christine Migliore (810) 923-0906
CHRISTINE MIGLIORE, INC. **www.brokersonlygroup.com**

LIVONIA

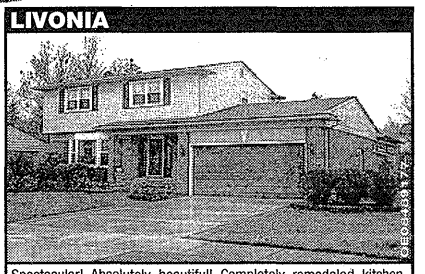


OE08489135

PRICE REDUCED! Needs TLC but remodeling has begun in this 2 BR, 2 bath home on 2.5 acres in Livonia. The kitchen is almost complete w/oak cab. & tile floor. Great room w/fireplace. Lg. deck *runs entire back of home.* 2 car att. garage. $169,900

Century 21 Chalet **734-432-7600**

LIVONIA

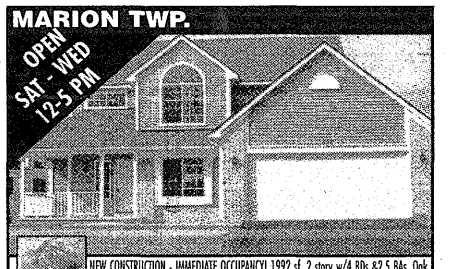


OE08489177

Spectacular! Absolutely beautiful! Completely remodeled kitchen, refin. hdwd floors, newer roof, beautiful landscaping, huge deck, huge FR w/fireplace, mstr. BR w/full bath. 4 BR, 3 bath colonial *close to elementary school, parks, freeway & rec. center.* $299,900

Century 21 Chalet **734-432-7600**

MARION TWP.





NEW CONSTRUCTION - IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY! 1992 sf, 2 story w/4 BDs &2.5 BAs. Oak ftring, direct vent FP w/ceramic surround. Gorgeous maple cabinetry w/crown molding in kit. Extended gar. Hydroseed & sprinkler system incl. Other homes available for imm. occupancy from the $180's. Close to freeway access. Howell Schools. $248,900 MLS# 25103761

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NORTHVILLE

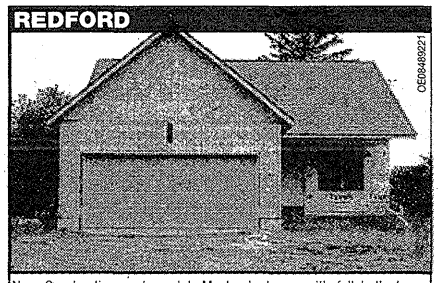


OE08479415

OWNER FINANCING Brand New 4 bdrm, 2 bath. Colonial home in the Reserves at Northville Ridge. 2455 sq.ft. Stunning 2-story entry way, hardwood floors. Spacious island kitchen, master ste w/ lg. walk-in closets. Family room w/vaulted ceilings & fireplace. Amenities incl. jogging trail, swimming pool & private fitness center! Only $399,900. Numerous creative financing programs avail.

Contact Chris Forte at 248-594-2160 The Forte Group, LLC

REDFORD



OE08480221

New Construction on large lot. Master bedroom with full bath, large kitchen w/plenty of counter space, great room, basement and attached garage. Asking $189,900.

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