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CANTON Observer

SUNDAY
July 8, 2007

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Farmer Don Fraser's parents started Real Life Day Camp in 1948. He holds his grandson, Nathan Maldonado, perhaps a future owner of the camp.

Learning about life on the farm

Canton farm teaches
youngsters real-life lessons

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
STAFF WRITER

Don Fraser steps outside the three-story barn, takes a look around the area and then cups his hands around his mouth. "Roll call!" he bellows to the mass of excited young children who then make a mad rush to a fenced-in area to officially begin their day at the Real Life Farm. Known as "Farmer Don"

by everyone on the 25-acre, Geddes Road spread, this is the life of Fraser and his wife of 27 years, "Miss Mary Ann." "My father started this farm in 1948 with a station wagon, six kids and my mother," he proudly recalled. "I remember asking him out of my brothers and sisters, 'Who is going to (run the farm later)? He told me it would be whoever works the hardest."



Siblings Savannah and Caden Courter make friends with one of the many barn cats.

Well, if you want to call carving out your dream "work." "To us, this is not work," he said. "It's a lifestyle. We love it." The couple, who met on the farm in 1977 when Mary

Ann became a camp counselor, welcome more than 200 children to the farm each year to participate in a summer camp, which has Friday cookouts, weekly

Please see **FARM, A6**

Wife back to face renewed charges

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
STAFF WRITER

A preliminary examination is scheduled for Monday for the Canton woman accused of attacking her elderly husband inside a local restaurant.

Kelly Campbell-Baumgartner, 46, is set to appear in court on a second set of charges stemming from an April 22 incident inside Max & Erma's in Canton.

Campbell-Baumgartner allegedly attacked her 86-year-old husband, William Baumgartner, with a knife or fork while the two were dining. Baumgartner was a longtime Plymouth resident before marrying his wife seven months ago and moving to Canton.

The first round of charges against Campbell-Baumgartner were dismissed after a judge tossed out the most serious accusation of felonious assault for lack of evidence. Prosecutors then dropped the two remaining charges and opted to regroup and start over.

A deal was made last month between the defense of Campbell-Baumgartner and the state for her to turn herself in and face the same charges once more.

Campbell-Baumgartner, who pleaded guilty last year to stab-



Kelly Campbell-Baumgartner

bing her mother with a fork, will face the same three charges of felonious assault, domestic violence and assault and battery.

Maria Miller, Wayne County Prosecutor's

Office spokesperson, has said the state believes it has enough evidence to move forward and get a conviction.

Miller said it's unknown if Baumgartner, who testified at his wife's previous preliminary hearing, will take the stand again.

"The prosecutor may use his testimony from before," she said.

Witnesses to the incident have testified that Campbell-Baumgartner yelled at her husband, dumped food into his lap and waved a sharp utensil near his face. After his wife was escorted from the restaurant, blood was seen on Baumgartner's face.

Baumgartner admitted that his wife had hit and pushed him earlier that day because they were arguing over a neighbor.

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

Decision nears on school pick

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

John Jackson has heard all the rumors — how he was hand-picked by Plymouth-Canton school board members to replace the departed Mark Slavens and how he was promised the job if he'd apply.

Jackson, 60, said the rumors all have exactly one thing in common.

They aren't true.

Jackson is one of four candidates being considered for the position, created when Mark Slavens resigned following his appointment by Gov. Jennifer Granholm as a 3rd Circuit Court judge.

Jackson, head of corporate training for GMAC Insurance, finished third in the 2006 election, behind Steven Sneedman and Dianne Gonzalez. He said he didn't run this year because "there were two good candidates" — incumbent Slavens (before he knew about the judicial opportunity) and challenger Nancy Eggenberger (who won

one of the two seats in the May election).

Once Slavens resigned, Jackson decided to get into the application process. And the idea, he said, was all his.

"I've been on boards for the last 20 years. ... I think I have the ability to contribute as a board member and help make tough decisions," Jackson said. "I was going to run next year, but when (Slavens) resigned, it speeded up the clock. It's just sooner rather than later."

He contacted "a couple of board members" to let them know he'd be throwing his hat in the ring. While admitting board President Barry Simescu and Vice President Judy Mardigian are friends, Jackson said he didn't seek any sort of commitment from them.

"They have been very professional about this," Jackson said. "Did they say, 'You need to run, we'll vote you in'? No. None of that happened; in fact, it was just the opposite. It was always 'There are no

Please see **BOARD, A5**

Lotto luck

Canton man gets big
return on \$20 play

Canton resident William Beard played the odds with \$20 and won \$2 million.

Beard, who initially won \$1,000 through a \$20 Instant game, was chosen from among five finalists to win the grand jackpot on June 27.

The Michigan Lottery drawing was televised after the International Freedom Festival fireworks in Detroit.

Andi Brancato, Lottery spokesperson, said Beard was one of more than 1,000 people that qualified for the \$2

million. He, along with four others, were later selected as finalists.

"It's a lot of fun for us to be able to give winners their prize," she said. "We are making dreams come true."

Brancato said Beard has yet to inform the Lottery's administration whether he'll walk away with a decreased lump-sum payout or opt to get the full amount in smaller installments.

"A lot of people don't know quite what to say," Brancato



William Beard of Canton wraps an arm around his wife, Aida, after accepting his \$2 million lottery prize from lottery commissioner Gary Peters.

said. "You have a lot of options with that kind of money. You can invest, take a vacation, buy a car, do home improvements or set it aside

for retirement." To access the Lottery's Web site visit www.michigan.gov/lottery.

By Tiffany L. Parks

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Newspapers

Volume 33
Number 3

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Coming Thursday
in **Filter**



Your
guide to
local art
fairs

AROUND CANTON

Women of distinction

Each year, Girl Scouts of the Huron Valley Council (GSHVC) honors Women of Distinction whose professional accomplishments and community service parallel the Girl Scout purpose of promoting leadership and responsibility. The group is looking for nominations of candidates who are a positive, active presence in the community beyond the scope of her professional position.

To nominate a candidate, visit www.gshvc.org and download the Women of Distinction application packet or contact GSHVC at (734) 971-8800, Ext. 211. Nomination deadline is Friday, July 20, 2007. The Women of Distinction Award spotlights outstanding women who strive toward the highest levels of personal or professional accomplishments. Candidates must live or work within Livingston, Monroe, Washtenaw or parts of western Oakland and Wayne counties. A past or present relationship with Girl Scouting is not a requirement. The honorees will receive recognition during the Women of Distinction luncheon, Thursday, Sept. 27 at Weber's Inn, in Ann Arbor.

Grief support group

The Sharing & Caring Coffee Hour is an ongoing grief support group for widows and

widowers hosted by Heartland Hospice. The group is held from 10 - 11 a.m. at Heartland Healthcare Center located at 4701 N. Lilley Road, Canton. The focus of the group is on the later stages of grief, with an emphasis on learning to live with the loss.

This group is held the first and third Wednesday of the month and is open to anyone grieving the loss of a spouse. There is no charge to attend. For additional information, contact Ann Christensen, Heartland Hospice Bereavement Coordinator, toll-free at (888) 973-1145.

USSA Boys World Series

The USSSA Boys World Series, which comes to the Canton Sports Center July 15-22, will include 100 baseball teams from 10 different states. Canton officials estimate the tournament will attract a 2,800 patrons to the area.

The opening ceremony, scheduled for 6 p.m. on July 15, will officially kick off the tournament followed by an All-Star Welcome Party for all players and visitors. The ceremony includes the parade of teams, the honor guard, national anthem and official first pitch. The ceremony is free to all visitors. This year's ceremonial first pitch will be thrown out by James Wisniewski, a Canton resident and player for the

Chicago Blackhawks.

Monday-Thursday games will run from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., though times are subject to change. Admission for the tournament for adults ages 13 years and up is \$25 weekly and \$7 daily; children 7-12 years, \$20 weekly and \$5 daily; seniors 65 and up are \$20 weekly and \$5 daily, while children 6 and under and free. For more information, visit the Canton Sports Center Web site at csc.canton-mi.org for local information and www.miusssa.com for updated tournament information, or call the Sports Center at (734) 394-5350.

Corvettes at Summit

The third annual "Corvettes at the Summit" is scheduled for Saturday, July 14 at Canton's Heritage Park. Presented by Corvette Legends Club and Canton Leisure Services with sponsorship by Lou LaRiche Chevrolet, the 2007 event is expected to draw more than 100 Corvettes of all vintages for a daylong display and car show.

Specially trained judges will evaluate the presentation and condition of the entries. Trophies will be awarded to Corvettes that meet the exacting judging standards.

The show will also feature performance tuner custom auto body vendors, a special display

by AMOCO, radio controlled boat demonstration, a D. J., food, a display of special interest Corvettes, entertainment and door prizes. It will culminate in a Corvette road tour leaving from Heritage Park at 4 p.m.

A portion of the proceeds will be donated to SCAMP, which operates a five-week summer camp for children with special needs and the non-profit National Corvette Museum.

Show hours are 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. (participant registration starts at 7:30 a.m. and closes at 9:30 a.m.). The awards ceremony is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. Admission is free for spectators. There is a registration fee for participants.

Chamber golf outing

The Canton Chamber of Commerce will host its annual golf outing on Tuesday, Aug. 14, at Fellows Creek Golf Club. Reservations are necessary and the deadline is July 17. This event is open to the public, and there are various packages available for purchase.

■ Golf for Four Package, \$550- Includes golf with cart for four, continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, beverages on the course, buffet dinner, prizes, gift package and more!

■ Golf for Four Sponsorship Package, \$650- Includes golf for four with cart and a Tee or Green Sponsorship, continental breakfast, lunch at the turn,



'Brightest and best'

Canton's Zhe Xiang (Canton High School) and Tasneem Mohammad (Salem High School), from left, pose with Marry Higgins-Luthman of Livonia, who attended Divine Child High School, and Redford's Rachel Stuyvenberg (Redford Union High School) at WXYZ-TV/Channel 7's 28th Annual "Brightest & Best" picnic and salute to high school seniors on May 19. The program, which has honored more than 7,000 high school seniors in its 28-year history, honored 240 students this year for their academic achievement.

beverages on the course, buffet dinner, prizes, gift package, signage at the course, recognition at the dinner, and a plaque.

■ Individual Golf, \$150- Includes golf with cart, continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, beverages on the course, buffet dinner, prizes, gift package, and more.

■ Dinner Only, \$35

If you are interested in purchasing a sponsorship, contact Lisa at (734) 453-4040. Deadline for sponsorships is July 17.

For more information, log onto the Chamber's Web site at www.cantonchamber.com.

Pay taxes online

Canton has partnered with Chase Bank to offer Canton taxpayers the ability to make electronic payments through their checking or saving accounts, as well as by using credit or debit cards. Beginning July 1, electronic payments can be made by accessing the Canton Web site at www.canton-mi.org/taxpayments.

Payments made using checking or savings account, commonly referred to as ACH payments, will be free of charge to the taxpayer. The cost to process an ACH payment is actually less

than processing a paper check, therefore there is no need to recover additional costs.

Payments made using credit or debit card, however, are subject to a convenience fee of 2.49 percent added to the amount of the payment, because credit and debit transactions are processed through Visa or MasterCard, which charge a fee to the merchant (Canton Township) for using their product. This fee, called an interchange fee, plus a handling fee for Chase Bank, makes up the 2.49 percent convenience charge.

Canton cannot assume the cost of the fees, as the funds would have to come from general fund operations and this is not viewed as an appropriate use of township funds as it benefits only some, not all, of the residents. The ability to make electronic payments is only available online. Check and cash payments can still be made at the Treasurer's Office on the first floor of the Administration Building. Payments can also be mailed or placed in the 24-hour drop box located to the right of Administration Building entrance. For more information, or assistance, please call the Canton Treasurer's Office at (734) 394-5130.

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ADVERTISEMENT OF BID

Date: July 1, 2007
Owner: Charter Township of Plymouth
Contact Name: Mark Lewis (734) 354-3211
Project Name: Friendship Station Kitchen Renovations
Bid Due Date: Sealed proposals will be received for the kitchen renovation of Friendship Station by the Charter Township of Plymouth, as Owner, until 3:00 pm on Friday, July 20, 2007 at the office of the Clerk, Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170 at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read.

Description of Project: Tear-out existing wood cabinets and fixtures and renovate the kitchen per the drawings and specifications.

Funding for the project work is being obtained through the Community Development Block Grant Program.

Attention is called to the fact that not less than minimum salaries and wages as set forth in the Contract Documents must be paid on this project and that the Contractor must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex or national origin, in accordance with Executive Order 11246 Equal Employment Opportunity and Notice of Requirements for Affirmative Action to Ensure Equal Employment Opportunity.

The Contractor must comply with the Davis-Bacon Act, July 2, 1964 (Title 40 USC 276A), the Equal Employment Opportunity Act, September 28, 1965 No. 11246, all United States Department of Labor Regulations and Standards Title 29, 1, 3 and 5, and Title 18, USC Section 874, known as "Anti-Kickback Act", and the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970.

The Contractor shall comply with the requirements of the Clean Air Act, as amended, 42 USC 1857 et seq., the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, 33 USC 1251 et seq., and the regulations of the Environmental Protection Agency with respect thereto, at 40 CFR Part 15, as amended.

Plans and specifications may be examined on or after July 2, 2007 at the Plymouth Township Hall at the Office of the Clerk, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Copies may be obtained for a cost of \$20.00 per set.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a Certified Check in the amount of 5% of the bid, payable to the Owner, as security for acceptance of the Contract. A bid bond in The Michigan Standard Form issued by an approved surety company may be furnished in lieu of a Certified Check.

Please fax your intent to bid to Charter Township of Plymouth 734 207 2689 Attn: Mark Lewis.

We will be bidding Yes No

Company Name: _____/Bid Category: _____

Phone Number: _____/Fax Number: _____

Estimators Name: _____

Email Address: _____

No bidder may withdraw his proposal within 60 days after the date set for the opening thereof.

The right is reserved by the Owner to reject any or all proposals, either in whole or in part, and to waive any irregularities therein.

Marilyn Massengil, Clerk
Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: July 1, 2007

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Getting it on film

Movie makers more than just 'video guys'

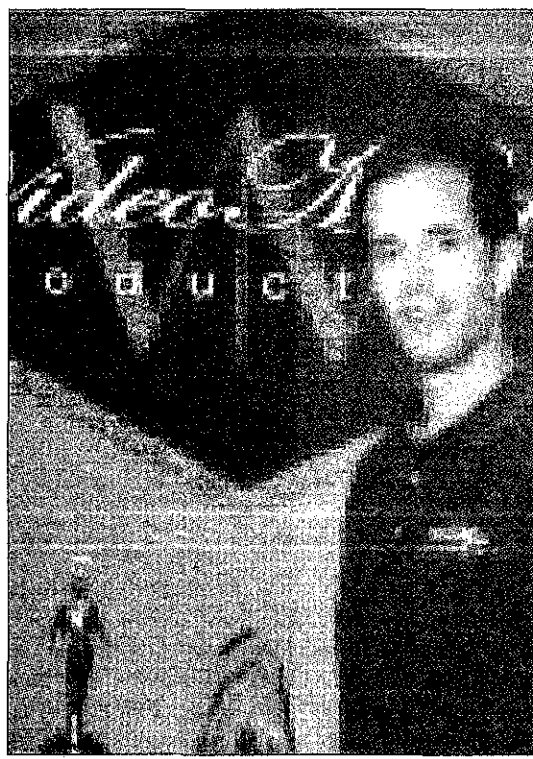
BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
STAFF WRITER

They aren't "the video guys" — they're movie makers.

That's how Mark Salloum views his VideoMagic Productions team.

The company, of which Salloum is the executive producer, recently moved from downtown Plymouth to 7990 Lilley Road in Canton. The 20-year-old business got its start filming weddings and events but has broadened its repertoire to include other services such as commercials, corporate presentations and instructional and promotional videos. Salloum, who dreams of creating a major motion picture, credits Martin Scorsese and Frank Capra as two of his favorite directors. "It's always (amusing) when someone says 'Hey, the video guys are here,'" Salloum chuckled. "We aren't the video guys. We're creating feature-length films, really, that's what we're doing."

With a host of corporate jobs and more than 1,000 weddings under their belts, VideoMagic doesn't use a standard formula in their filming. The crew includes two full-time and several part-time producers. Each client, Salloum said, gets personalized treatment. "We stay as fresh as we can by studying movies and (television shows)," he said. "If we have two weddings on the same day, we compete



Mark Salloum recently moved his VideoMagic Productions team from downtown Plymouth Lilley in Canton.

with each other to see who came up with the most clever idea or who got the best footage. We love it."

The staff has begun viewing movies together to drum up creativity.

"We are not cookie cutter," Salloum said, adding that they don't add "cheesy" graphics to their products.

VideoMagic has garnered several honors for its work, including a Telly Award for producing a bilingual instruction video. The company offers sports resumes for hopeful college athletes to send to universities, life biographies, memorial videos and has filmed the Detroit Tigers Fantasy Camp for 15 years.

On the corporate side, Salloum said VideoMagic is able to work with customers whose budgets range from "shoe string to sky as the limit." He declined to release the pricing of the company's wedding video packages.

Salloum, a married father of three, said he's pleased with his choice to put down roots in Canton.

"I love the area and I love the building," he said, adding that he's excited about the future of the business. "We want to exceed the expectations of every client."

tlparks@hometownlife.com
(734) 459-2700

Inkster man charged in Target incident

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
STAFF WRITER

The man accused of grabbing a woman's backside has been arrested and is facing a fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct charge.

Registered sex offender Joseph Lloyd Smith, 46, of Inkster, was arraigned Friday on charges he assaulted a female shopper last month in Target. An anonymous caller phoned police after spotting



Smith

Pomorski, adding that Smith was arrested at his apartment without incident.

surveillance footage in connection to the incident.

"We are always glad when people call if they have a suspicion or a gut feeling," said Canton Police Sgt. Rick

Smith, who was given a \$100,000 cash bond, has a preliminary exam set for July 20 in 35th District Court.

In addition to the two-year CSC charge, Smith has also been charged with being a habitual offender, a felony punishable by up to 15 years, and being a sexually delinquent person, a felony punishable that carries up to year in prison.

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

Your chance to meet, eat with crew of Motor City Middays

The *Observer & Eccentric* and *Mirror Newspapers* are teaming up with Buddy's to present "Dining With the Stars" featuring Jay Towers, Shila and Bill McAllister host of Motor City Middays, on Live 97.1 FREE FM.

In 100 words or less, tell us why you're a fan of the Motor City Middays crew and would like to have lunch or dinner at Buddy's Pizza in July with the trio from 97.1 FREE FM.

Send your fan letter to BuddysDiningStars@gmail.com and be sure to include your name, address, daytime phone number and e-mail address. Deadline to enter the July contest is 5 p.m. Tuesday, July 17.

A photograph of you and your favorite stars will be published in the *Observer & Eccentric* and *Mirror Newspapers* and online at www.hometownlife.com.

"We want our winners to dine with their favorite stars and feel like a star, too," says Marcy Brontman of Buddy's Pizza.

July winners will be treated to a limo ride, courtesy of Pro Tran Transportation, makeover from Ruby Blu Salon in Farmington Hills and a dance exhibition cour-



Shila, Jay Towers and Bill McAllister

tesy of Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Bloomfield Hills. Other upcoming dining with stars include August: CoCo of WJLB-FM (97.9) and September: Chuck Gaidica of WDIV-TV (Channel 4).

No purchase is necessary to enter. Buddy's Pizza will

review all entries and select the top four "fan" letters.

The stars featured for the month will make the final selection. Lunch and/or dinner date is to be determined with the winner and star by Buddy's representatives.

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@ THE CANTON LIBRARY

Harry Potter fans can celebrate the final book release, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*, with activities at the Canton Public Library on July 21. Children, ages 8-12, can register online for a Harry Potter party starting at 1 p.m. Teens can rock out to the sounds of wizard bands Oliver Boyd and the Rememberalls and Tom Riddle and Friends with door prizes and food provided, starting at 3 p.m. Check www.cantonpl.org for more information.

Registration is ongoing for summer reading. It's not too late to get in on the fun and get a chance at cool prizes. July 26 is the last day to sign up.

NOW @ YOUR LIBRARY

- Teen Photo Journal: July 10, at 2 p.m. Register online to make your own unique photo journal. Teens only.
- Animanga Club: July 11, at 7 p.m. Drop in and share your love of everything Animanga with other teens. Books, movies, drawing and discussion with teen librarian Brad Bachelor.
- Adult Lunch and a Book: July 12, at noon. *The Madonnas of Leningrad* by Debra Dean.
- Teen Advisory Board: July 12, at 5:45 p.m. Get volunteer credit and help shape the future of CPL's teen services.
- Knit Nights with Anne: July 12, at 7 p.m. Drop in knitting. Bring your current proj-

ect, yarn, patterns and ideas to share with other knitters. All experience levels welcome

- Tween Book and Pizza Club: July 13, at noon. Register at the Children's Desk and pick up a copy of *Made You Look* by Diane Roberts.
- Adult Contemporary Book Discussion: July 16, at 7 p.m. *Rules for Old Men* Waiting by Peter Pouncey.
- Teen CSI Program: July 17, at 4 p.m. Teens, get summer reading credit and learn how to gather and evaluate evidence to solve a crime, just like on the popular TV shows. Registration required.

NEW @ YOUR LIBRARY

- Adult DVDs
- *Bridge to Terabithia*

■ Rescue Me-Complete third season

- Adult Sound Recordings
- *Everybody* by Sea and Cake
- *Icky Thump* by White Stripes
- *Sweet Warrior* by Richard Thompson

- Adult Fiction
- On Kingdom Mountain by Howard Frank Mosher
- *Short Change* by Patricia Smiley
- *The Cleaner* by Brett Battles

The Canton Public Library is located at 1200 S. Canton Center. For more information about library programs and services, call (734) 397-0999.

G.I. Blues Festival drawing strong advance sales

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A Westland-based, outdoor blues festival to benefit soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan is already shaping up as a success, organizers say.

The 12-hour G.I. Blues Festival, featuring performers such as Detroit's own Johnnie Bassett, The Alligators and Sweet Claudette & Friends, is scheduled for noon to midnight Saturday, Aug. 4, at the Wayne-Ford Civic League.

"We've already sold a couple hundred tickets," said Scott Romp, spokesman for Veterans Haven, a nonprofit organization that helps area veterans with services ranging from housing to meals to job searches. Veterans Haven and The Detroit Blues Society are presenting the concert.

The G.I. Blues Festival already has drawn enough corporate sponsors to offset costs, meaning that organizers are poised to make a profit, Romp said.

"I am very optimistic," he said. "It's already a success." Tickets are \$10. To order them, call Veterans Haven at

(734) 728-0527. To become involved as a corporate sponsor, call Romp at (734) 478-0822. On-site parking at the civic league, on Wayne south of Ford, will be available for \$5. Beer will be sold along with food provided by Hickory BBQ.

Romp announced the festival in the spring, saying many veterans are returning home without the proper medical attention and monetary benefits they need. He also said many soldiers have lost their homes and been abandoned by their spouses.

Soldiers returning to places like Michigan, where jobs are scarce, have been hit particularly hard, Romp has said.

As of this week, the festival lineup included Steve Arvey at noon; The Carl Caballero Band at 1:30 p.m.; The Alligators at 3 p.m.; The Front Street Blues Band at 4:30 p.m.; The Eddy King Band at 6 p.m.; Sweet Claudette & Friends at 7:30 p.m.; The Christy Howard Band at 9 p.m.; and the Johnnie Bassett Band at 10:30 p.m.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
REQUEST FOR A 12 YEAR INDUSTRIAL
FACILITIES EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE FOR
MOLDED MATERIALS, INC.
TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2007

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: that a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, July 17, 2007, during a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth to consider a request from Molded Materials, Inc., for a 12 year Industrial Facilities Exemption for the cost of new personal property to be purchased and installed within the existing facility located at 44650 Helm Street, Metro West Industrial Park, Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan.

The request is on file in the Clerk's Office where it is available for public perusal during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Any Township resident or member of any taxing authority within the Township of Plymouth shall have the right to appear and be heard. Written comments directed to the Clerk and received prior to the date of the meeting will be considered. Following the public hearing the Board of Trustees may consider the request.

The public hearing, commencing at 7:00 p.m., will be held in the Town Hall Meeting Room at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, on Tuesday, July 17, 2007, during the regularly scheduled Board of Trustees Meeting. Telephone number 734-354-3224.

Marilyn Massengill, Clerk
Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: July 8, 2007

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PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its REGULAR July meeting Tuesday, July 17, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan 48170.

The Plymouth District Library will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tape of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon seven (7) days notice to the Plymouth District Library. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Plymouth District Library by writing or calling the following:

Barbara Kraft, Library Secretary
Plymouth District Library
223 S. Main Street
Plymouth, MI 48170
734-453-0750
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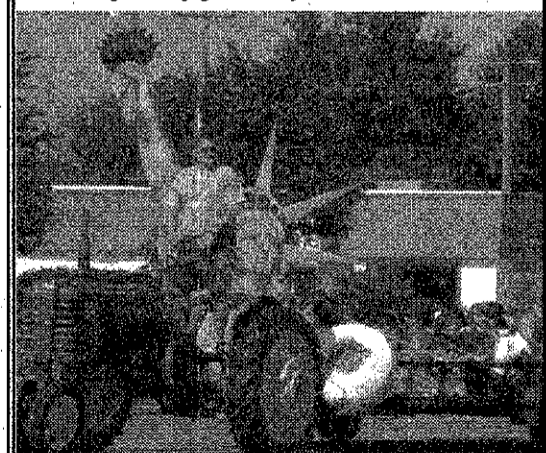
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Good car care equals healthy waterways

In an effort to help protect water resources, Canton officials are urging residents to practice good car care during the month of July. When motor fluids and dirty water from washing cars enter storm drains and roadside ditches, it empties into lakes and rivers causing pollution.

With more than four million vehicles in southeast Michigan it's important to practice good car care. Following a few simple steps will maintain a clean, well-running vehicle and protect valuable water resources

from pollution:

- **Make a date:** Car wash facilities treat their dirty water before discharging it to our lakes and rivers. So, make a date to take your car to the car wash.

- **Wash it on the grass:** If you wash your car at home, consider washing it on the lawn. Or, if you can't use the lawn, try to direct the dirty water towards the lawn and away from the storm drain.

- **Minimize it:** Reduce the amount of soap you use, or wash your car with water

only.

- **Maintain it:** Keep your vehicle properly tuned. Use the owner's manual to guide decisions about how often it's necessary to change fluids such as oil and antifreeze.

- **Take advantage of business expertise:** Consider taking your vehicle to the shop to have the oil and other fluids changed. These businesses have the ability to recycle the used materials and clean up accidental spills.

- **Soak it up:** Use kitty litter promptly to absorb small

amounts of spilled vehicle fluids. Then sweep it into a bag and throw it in the trash.

- **Do it under cover:** Perform vehicle maintenance in a well-ventilated but covered location. This minimizes rainfall from washing those inevitable spills and drips into our waterways.

- **Recycle:** If you choose to change your oil and other fluids yourself, label the waste containers. Then, take them to your community's household hazardous waste collection day or to a business that

accepts used oil. Never dump used oil, antifreeze or other fluids on the ground or down the storm drain.

Canton will hold its annual Hazardous Waste Round-up on Saturday, Sept. 8 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Canton Public Works Building located at 4847 Sheldon Road.

For year-round disposal of oil and antifreeze, Canton Waste Recycling, located at 42020 Van Born Road, will accept it on scheduled Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on scheduled Saturdays from 8

to 11 a.m.

Urging residents to practice good car care is just one step to keeping water clean. Additional steps include: keeping pollution out of storm drains; carefully storing and disposing of household cleaners, chemicals and oil; cleaning up after your pet; choosing earth-friendly landscaping; using fertilizer sparingly and carefully; and saving water. Information on all these steps can be found at www.canton-mi.org/environment.asp.

BOARD

FROM PAGE A1

promises."

Board members Tuesday night will interview three of the four candidates — Jackson and Kurt Heise and John Nichols, both of whom were interviewed in May to finish out Slavens' second term. A fourth candidate, Greg Morrison of Plymouth, also applied, but will be out of town on business when Tuesday's interviews are conducted.

Heise, head of the Wayne County Department of Environment, is the

only one of the four who ran in the May election; he finished third behind Eggenberger and Slavens. Nichols initially entered the May election, then withdrew, but applied for the open position after Slavens resigned.

School officials acknowledged Morrison had told them he would be out of town when the board conducted its interviews.

"I have been regularly attending board meetings for the past year," Morrison, a graduate of the University of Michigan who owns his own yearbook company, Michigan Yearbooks, said via e-mail. "With the impending retirement of Dr. Ryan, and the severe budget cuts the

district is facing some very important decisions in the upcoming years. I believe I have a lot I could contribute to these decisions. I have my ear to the ground in the education community and that will be quite helpful in a search for a new superintendent."

The interviews, conducted in a forum format, start at 6 p.m. in the board room at the E.J. McClendon Center on Harvey. The board is expected to make its decision that same night, and the newest member will take part in his first board meeting, also that night.

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Summer art camp

D & M Studios in cooperation with Canton Leisure Services will present "Way Out West" - this year's Summer Art Camp theme. Students will explore and learn about the art and artists that were influenced by heritage, culture and nature both past and present in the West. D & M studios is now taking registration for youth to teens. Summer Art Camps will be held at several different locations: D & M Studios at 8691 N. Lilley in Canton; Summit on the Park at 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton; and Frameworks, 833 Penniman Avenue in Plymouth. For more information, visit the Web site dmartstudio.com. or call D & M Studios at (734) 453-3710.

Consulting group anniversary

Canton-based August Consulting Group, Inc. is

celebrating its one year anniversary helping small to mid-size businesses with accounting, operations, and human resources. The company was founded in May, 2006 by Anne Ellis, CPA, a 19-year accounting professional with experience as a corporate controller, financial

analyst, auditor, and buyer. August Consulting Group specializes in financial statements and analysis, accounting and book keeping, training for employees in accounting and book keeping, as well as purchasing and HR. The team, led by Ellis, can help with inven-

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jessica Reichel makes friends with goats at the camp.

FARM
FROM PAGE A1

themes and camper-led plays.

With a sea of *My Little Pony* and *Spiderman* backpacks lined up on two wooden tables, some kids playfully run in and out of the barn, while others coo at tiny rabbits and some carefully hold baby chickens.

The camp is open for kids ages 6-14.

In between fielding business calls, a young boy approached Farmer Don and

sadly tells him it's his last day at the farm because he's signed up for other summer camps and has to make time for all of them.

"What am I going to do without you here?" Farmer Don asked sincerely, to which the boy grinned. "Be sure to come visit us again."

The Frasers, who have three adult children, have recently been given the green light to move forward with their plans to expand another part of the farm, the Real Life Nursery School and Kindergarten.

The school, which opened its doors in 2002, accommodates around 135 children and is a dream come true for Mary Ann, a licensed educator.

"This was something we always wanted to do so we just said it's now or never and we got started," she said, adding that response to the school was immediate and a waiting list was soon required. "We've been growing and growing and it's so nice to be able to accommodate everyone."

The new addition, slated to open in fall 2008, will



Mason Linden, Samantha Blashak and Dominick Martin push the merry-go-round and see if they can make the photographer sick.

include several classrooms and an activity room.

The couple, who not only met and work together on the farm, also live on its grounds.

Farmer Don jokes that the name should be changed to the "Real Life Romance Ranch" because his son, Aaron, 24, also met his bride there.

The relaxed, family atmosphere of the farm carries over for summer campers, who are allowed to take home a single animal each night. The farm has kittens, turkeys, pigs, horses and goats.

"The animals end up being work for me but she loves it here," said Ann Arbor resi-

dent Janice McKee, referring to her 11-year-old daughter, Gwen. "This is her third summer here."

The summer camp lasts for 11 weeks and Farmer Don said it's always a shock when it comes to an end after Labor Day.

"We go from 200 kids to silence," he said. "The week after camp is over, we do get sad. This is what we do."

Registration for the camp begins in March, for more information, log on to reallifenurseryschool.com/daycamp/.

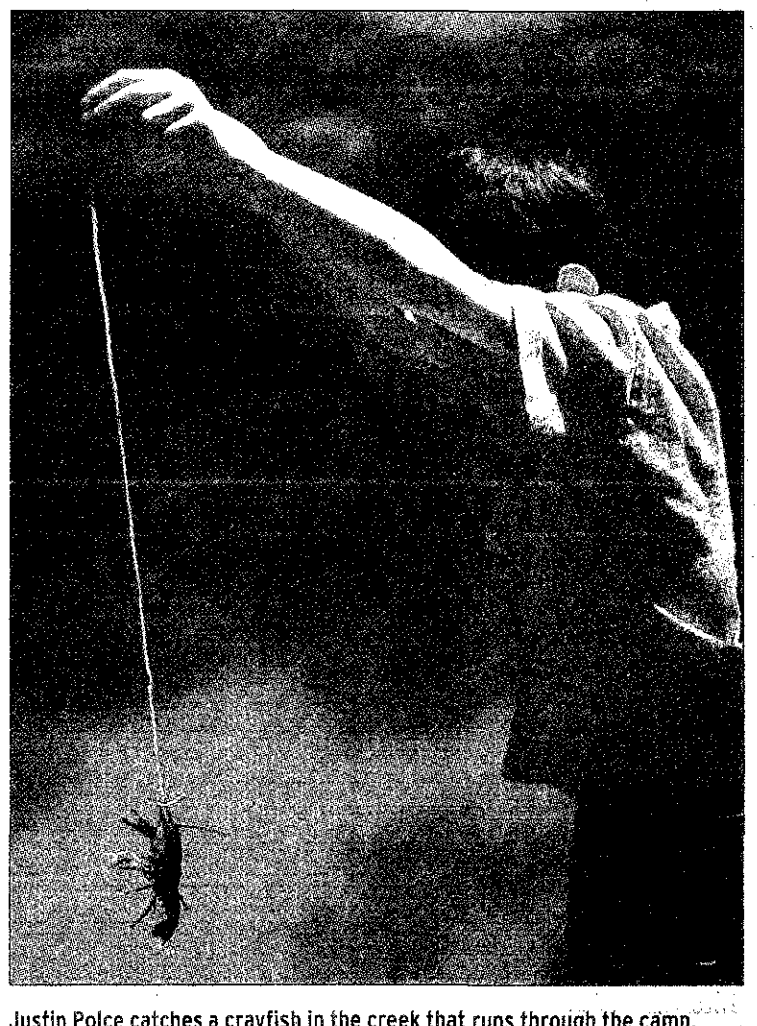
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Corporations prosper; workers get squeezed

"Right to Work for Less" people at the Mackinac Center for Public Policy and various Chamber of Commerce are again hacking at unions with policy positions that are largely misleading. It is axiomatic with these groups that unions are undesirable because, in some instances, wages make them a costly condition of employment. Unions are monopolistic and coercive. They should be voluntary.



Al Churchill

In essence, they say, unions are driving employers to other states.

An independent study done by the Center for Automotive Research found that the hourly wage of UAW members at the end of the current contract, including benefits and overtime, will be around \$66 per hour. On the other hand, aside from the burden

of health care costs, non-union transplants have comparable costs. What is never mentioned by "Right to Work for Less" advocates is productivity in the form of added value. In the domestic automobile industry, \$292,000 in value is added to production by each employee. Compared to the average \$73,000 of value added nationally, \$292,000 easily justifies a paycheck that allows for a diet beyond grits and bacon grease.

Market share loss has occurred, in part, because there are more choices available to consumers. It is a natural economic phenomenon that what was once a Big Three oligarchy will lose customers to increased competition.

Beyond that, the location of new plants has followed the population shift to the South. Indeed, incentives come only after a regional site search establishes a location. Southern states are offering incentives packages that are 70 percent more than states with established plants. They lean heavily to infrastructure changes, employee screening and recruitment rather than tax abatements. Less competition for skilled workers, freight and utility costs are also a primary concern.

Union labor costs are a non-issue. On the other hand, there are times when monopoly and coercion are useful and appropriate. Patent and copyright laws create socially acceptable monopolies intended to protect intellectual property of creative people and groups. Without patents, there is no incentive for drug companies to research life-saving drugs. Without copyright laws, writers would not be compensated adequately for their creativity. These governmentally induced monopolies are, oh my, coercive in the same sense that law generally is coercive. Obeying the law is not a voluntary activity. Not paying your income tax isn't going to be greeted with an "Aw shucks" from the Internal Revenue Service. Indeed, the intent

of American law is to create widespread fairness and civility. Prohibiting monopolies and laws that achieve that end is not good public policy.

Ask those who favor "right to work" laws if they would do away with legal monopolies created by patent and copyright laws. The answer, of course, will be "no." Then ask why labor unions should not have the same right to protect their members through a collective bargaining process that removes a gigantic imbalance of power tilted toward management.

Contrary to what the Mackinac Center and Chambers of Commerce say, American citizens would benefit if more people joined unions.

Here's why. Comparing the "free trade" situation today with Japan's earlier entry into America's market, Morgan Stanley chief economist Stephan Roach notes this distinction, "Today you have a different situation, with profits at record highs and the share of income going to labor at a 40-year low ... today, U.S. companies, as seen through the lens of corporate profitability, are thriving as never before while the American workforce is increasingly isolated in its competitive squeeze." *The Economist*, perhaps the most pro-business magazine in print, states that the United States "risks calcifying into a European-style, class-based society."

It is noteworthy that 42 percent of members of the House of Representatives who left office in 1998 became lobbyists, according to a report by Public Citizen, 50 percent of senators, ditto. With some elected representatives likely casting votes with an eye on their next job, Congress is now an apprenticeship on the way to journeyman status as financially lucrative lobbying shops. The end result is trade deals and other legislation that leave America's workforce hopelessly unprotected, while those with monopolistic copyrights and patents have ironclad protection.

Fact is, we are in the middle of the second Gilded Age, with an attendant disparity in wealth and power characteristic of the first Gilded Age.

One way to fight back is to unionize. Unions are among the very few fighting for people who have a cup of coffee and toast in the morning before going to work and contributing to America's well-being. The alternative is to watch an American democracy become a historical aberration, a pause between the passing of a hereditary European aristocracy to a moneyed global aristocracy. Solidarity and strength for American working people is found only in America's unions.

Al Churchill is a retired UAW autoworker and a resident of Livonia.

Investors need to know cost to buy, sell or hold an investment

I read your weekly column that talks about the five tips for picking a mutual fund. You indicate to watch for fees. When choosing a no-load, no-transaction fee fund, what would be considered an acceptable fee? What would you suggest to be the maximum number of funds in a portfolio to limit the affects of fees?

First, with regard to the maximum number of funds, I do not believe there is a magic number. There are so many variables involved when establishing a portfolio such as goals and objectives and comfort level that I believe it is impossible to say how many funds someone

Money Matters

Rick Bloom

should own. For example, someone may not feel comfortable having more than \$10,000-\$15,000 in a fund. If that's the case and if they had \$45,000 to invest, there is no problem having four different funds. From a fee standpoint, when you use no-load, no-transaction fee funds, it is rare that having more or less funds will impact the fees in your portfolio. The exception to the rule is that in some fund companies, if you have a large amount of money invested in one fund, i.e. \$100,000, then it is possible to qualify for a different class share of mutual funds that would have a lower management fee. The area where owning less funds makes a difference is when you use commission-based funds. There are more break points so if you invest more in one fund, you potentially do pay a lower commission.

As more investment opportunities arise, it does require investors to diversify a portfolio by adding different types of funds into the mix. For example, adding an international real estate fund to provide further diversification and take advantage of certain opportunities is wise.

Don't focus on the number of mutual funds in a portfolio. Aim for a diversified and balanced

portfolio to achieve your goals and objectives.

In regard to fees, my general rule is total management fees of 1 percent or less. The exception is in international and specialty funds. In those types of funds, you typically will pay higher management fees. For those types of funds, I typically look for total management fees of less than 1.5 percent.

When it comes to management fees, I look at the bottom line number. One ingredient is to consider whether a fund has high 12-B-1 fees. These are marketing fees that companies sometimes tack on. If a fund charges 0.25 percent or less on a 12-B-1 fee, then it generally means the money collected is paid back into the fund. On the other hand, when you see high 12-B-1 fees, anything over 0.25 percent, you generally know that that money is being used for marketing purposes, including additional compensation to financial sales people.

I believe investors must always understand the cost of an investment. Know what the costs are to buy, sell and hold. Understanding these ingredients can make the difference of literally tens of thousands of dollars extra in your portfolio. Fees do matter. My question pertains to required minimum distributions for IRAs. My mother turns 70 on July 12, which means she will be 70½ in January 2008. Does she take her first RMD by April 15, 2008, and is that the only RMD she will have to take in 2008, or does she take her first annual distribution by April 15, 2008, and have to take another by Dec. 31, 2008?

Unfortunately, our tax laws are confusing and difficult which can lead to the situation where two qualified individuals have different opinions as to the state of the law.

Your mother will turn 70 next week and 70½ in 2008. Technically, her first required minimum distribution would be by April 15, 2009. The law says that required minimum distributions are due when you are 70½, however, there is an extension of time on that due date for your

first required distribution. You are allowed to take your first required distribution by April 15 of the year after you turn 70½.

The downside of following this provision is that if you wait until the year after you turn 70½ to take your minimum required distribution, then another distribution is due by Dec. 31 of that year. In other words, in the situation where you delay your distribution until April 15 of the year after you turn 70½, then in that year only you must take a double distribution.

My recommendation is to have your mother take her first required minimum distribution by Dec. 31, 2008. She will not have to take another distribution until Dec. 31, 2010.

Senior citizens must have an overall game plan regarding required minimum distributions. Many people believe that you should not touch your IRA before 70½ so that you can continue to let it grow tax-deferred.

I don't necessarily agree with that strategy at all times. For example, I sometimes have someone begin to withdraw money from his/her IRA when they first retire. This may keep them from paying exorbitant taxes down the road when they must take distributions. Remember, money outside the IRA grows at a capital gains rate which is a maximum of 15 percent. Money in the IRA does grow tax-deferred, however, when it is withdrawn it is taxed at the ordinary income bracket, which for most people is approximately 28 percent and can be as high as 35 percent. Therefore, sometimes deferring money only increases taxes.

When someone retires, he/she should begin to set forth a game plan on how to handle a tax-deferred account. There is no one strategy that works for everyone. The key is to have a strategy that works for you.

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

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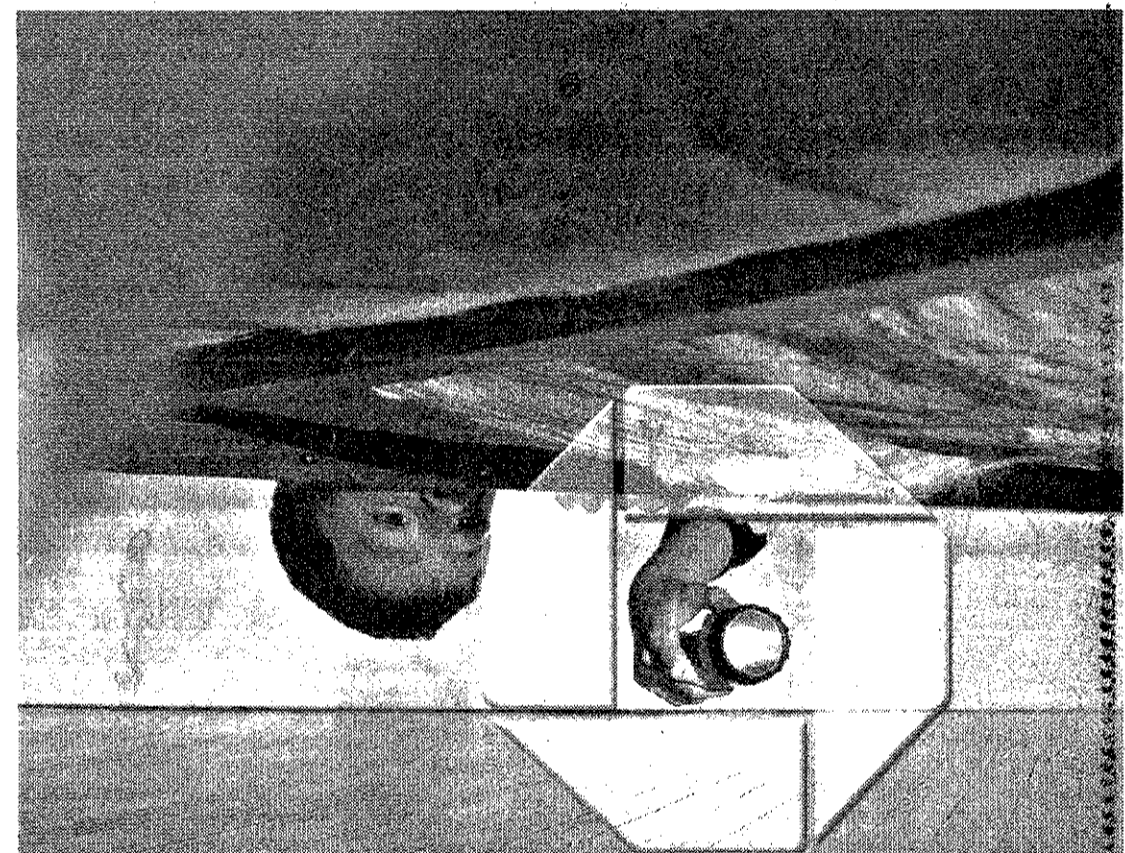
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Hawks thumped by Cleveland in 1st W-League loss

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

The Fourth of July fireworks apparently didn't quit exploding Thursday night as the Michigan Hawks Women got scorched in W-League soccer action by the host Cleveland Internationals, 6-1, at John Carroll University.

Under-21 National Team player Danesha Adams, who plays for UCLA, scored four times for third-place Cleveland, which improved to 5-2 in the W-League's Midwest Division of the

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Central Conference.

It was the Hawks' first defeat in the W-League. The are 6-1-1, a game behind the first-place Minnesota Lightning.

Cleveland also featured two other Under-21 National Team pool players in Amanda Cinalli (Notre Dame) and Jessica Rostedt (University of Virginia), each tallying a goal.

"It's a tough loss for sure," said Hawks assistant coach Amanda Wallo, who was filling in for head coach Doug Landefeld.

"They have the three U-21 players who play up-top. She (Adams) is quick. She broke through our defense and made it look easy. And we normally have a strong, tight defense. Hawks goalkeeper Kathryn Cumming found herself at the mercy of Adams' one-on-one attacks.

"Our defense did the best they could, but Danesha did a great job of playing and dribbled right through," Wallo said.

Northville's Lauren Hill (Michigan State) tallied the lone goal for the Hawks, who get another crack at the Internationals beginning 7 p.m. this

Friday at Livonia Churchill High School.

"It was a tough loss for the women," Wallo said. "We'll chalk this one up to experience. We'll move forward and learn from our mistakes."

The playing field for this Friday, however, will be more level as Adams and Cinalli will be away with commitments to the U-21 National Team in the Nordic Cup (being held in Finland).

"It will make for an interesting game," Wallo said.

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Sidelines

Deren promoted

Livonia Stevenson High grad Nick Deren as been promoted as a full-time assistant coach status for the University of Detroit Mercy men's soccer program.

Deren, who spent the past three seasons as one of Morris Lupenec's top assistants, is a 1999 UDM grad.

The three-year letter winner scored seven goals and added five assists as a Titan. He has earned an Advanced National License from the National Soccer Coaches Association and has been a staff coach for the Michigan Rush and the Michigan Olympic Development Program.

During his time at UDM, Deren served as goalkeeping coach for both the men's and women's programs in addition to assisting with training sessions, travel, fund raising and recruiting.

MU inks Plinka

Madonna University baseball coach Greg Haeger announced the signing of two more players including Livonia Stevenson High third baseman Nick Plinka and Northville infielder Dominic Benavides.

Plinka, a second-team All-Observer and All-Lakes Division selection, hit .354 this season with 20 RBI while scoring 24 runs.

Benavides, a three-year letter winner, helped the Mustangs to a 29-5 record, including a 26-game winning streak, while hitting .360.

He earned All-Western Lakes honors and was named Northville's Best Defensive Player.

MU signs harriers

Three runners, including Livonia Churchill's Brian Robertson and Stevenson High grad Max Guy, signed NAIA letters of intent last month.

Coach Patrick Daugherty also announced the signing of Monroe's Jacob Burman, who ran a personal best 16 minutes, 58 seconds in the 5-kilometer run.

Robertson, meanwhile, earned three letters in cross country and four in track at Churchill.

He earned second team All-Observer honors and was a state qualifier in cross country. Robertson also qualified for the Division 1 state track meet in the 4 x 800-meter relay.

Guy, a four-year letter winner in track and cross country at Stevenson, is a transfer from Grand Valley State where he was named to Dean's List.

In the Lions' den



Fourth round draft pick A.J. Davis, a defensive back from North Carolina State, works with the kids during Friday's final day of the Detroit Lions Youth Football Camp staged at Central Middle School in Plymouth.

Draftee Davis instructs campers

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

As Art Linkletter would attribute: "Kids Say the Darndest Things."

Fourth-round draft pick A.J. Davis found that out Friday as the Detroit Lions Youth Football Camp closed Friday at Plymouth's Central Middle School.

Davis, a defensive back from North Carolina State, fielded questions from 106 campers, who weren't adverse to asking the darndest things.

Here's a sample:
"Do you think Jon Kitna could throw the ball over the roof of the

Silverdome?" Davis was at a loss for an answer.

"Are you famous?" Davis replied: "Just a little bit."

"Did you play any other sports?" Said Davis: "I ran track and

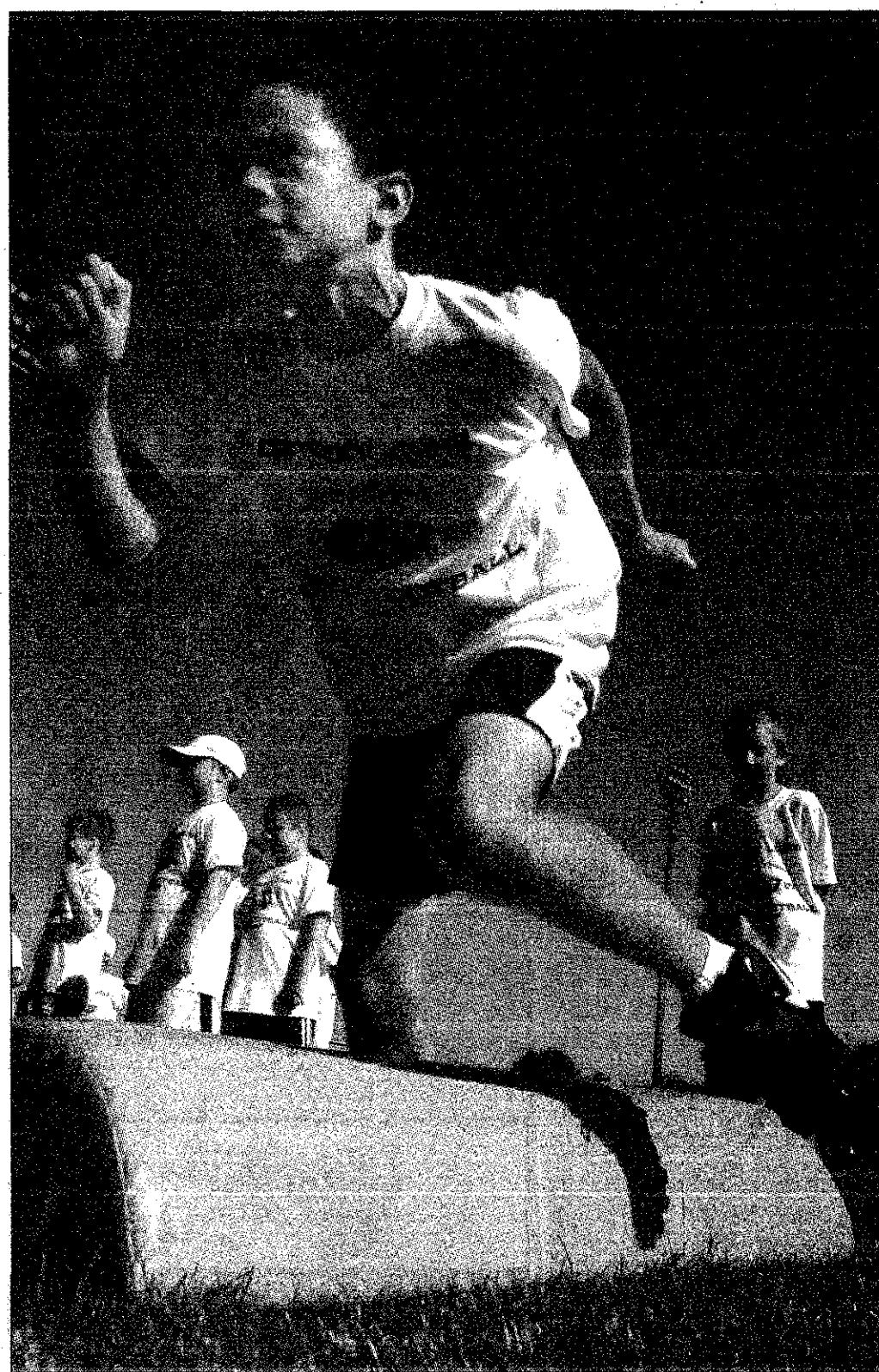
jumped (he was an NCAA runner-up in the long jump). I played basketball, but I was fast. I couldn't shoot."

And then there was this one. "When is your birthday?"

The NFL's 105th pick overall responded: "May 29. Did you forget to get me a gift?"

The rookie Lion, who stands 5 feet, 10 inches, and weighs a mod-

Please see **CAMP, B2**



Devin Cameron of Canton runs a defensive drill during the final day of the Detroit Lions Youth Football Camp held at Central Middle School in Plymouth.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Detroit River lures anglers in Chevy Open

Local waters of the Great Lakes here in southeastern Michigan will be teeming with some of the best professional bass anglers in the world July 12-15 as the FLW



Outdoor
Insights

Bill Parker

Tour holds its sixth and final regular season tournament, the \$1.5 million Chevy Open, on the Detroit River. Anglers will fish anywhere from the St. Clair River to the western basin of Lake Erie in both U.S. and Canadian waters.

While the tournament features some 400 anglers from 35 states, Australia, Canada, Italy and Japan, a couple of local anglers will have some pretty high stakes at hand when the tournament lands on their home waters.

Art Ferguson III, a Rochester native, and Kevin Long, who was raised in Bloomfield Hills, are each hoping the Chevy Open

Please see **OUTDOORS, B3**

Michigan Bucks continue PDL mastery

BY DAN STICKRADT
STAFF WRITER

MEN'S SOCCER

Teams within the Premier Developmental League have been trying to crack the codes of solving on just how to beat the Michigan Bucks.

They have been trying for a year now - and counting.

The Bucks topped the Chicago Fire 2-1 Thursday night at Toyota Park in Bridgeview, Ill., to run their franchise league unbeaten streak up to 19 games. The Bucks (8-0-3 in league games this year) have not lost against another PDL team since July 9, 2006, a 2-0 loss to Chicago. The Bucks have now defeated

the Fire on three straight occasions, twice this year and once last year in the PDL playoffs.

"We're just rolling right now," admitted Bucks head coach Dan Fitzgerald, whose team finished second in the Great Lakes Division of the PDL to the Fire last season. "We've got a solid group of 15-16 players and we've only had a couple of minor injuries, nothing major. That's been a key."

Super-sub Kenny Uzoigwe continued his hot streak with his third game-winning goal of the season, coming off the

bench at halftime to deliver some more heroics in the 86th minute.

"He's just so quick," said Fitzgerald of Uzoigwe. "We usually bring him on at halftime or early in the second half. The other teams don't usually sub their central backs, so with Kenny fresh in the second half, he causes problems for the other teams when they're getting tired."

The Bucks would strike first in the 19th minute against their arch-rival when Ty Shipalane (Lindsey Wilson) blew by two defenders and sent a cross along the six-yard box that was neatly slotted into the back of the net by Bucks leading scorer

Please see **BUCKS, B5**



Chargers Grand Champs

The Livonia Churchill High pom pom achieved Grand Champion honors at the Mid-America Pom Camp held June 19-23 at Northwood University in Midland. Coached by Judy Nouhan and Vicki Middleton, the Chargers were also award first place in Senior Kick Line and Most Congenial team. Members of the squad include: Laura Adams, Krysten Barczuk, Jessica Brown, Lauren Campbell, Allison Estes, Katelyn Humphrey, Beth Kiurski, Sarah LaBerge, Christine Lang, Jessica McClain, Alic McGrorty, Kelsey McHugh, Amanda Rees, Brynn Rosbury, Kristen Schwarz, Katie Sedgewick, Stefanie Shepler, Chelsea Sieber, Annie Sobczak, Angela Swirles, Ashley Thomas, Alecia Tsermengas, Melinda Wagner, Mary Wojcik, Brittany Wood and Rachel Zarem.

Future basketball stars invade at AAU nationals

BY DAN STICKRADT
STAFF WRITER

There's going to be some company in the area this week. Young, but good company.

The AAU (Amateur Athletic Union) will host its U-15 Boys Basketball National Championships with Lake Orion serving as the epicenter of the event, which is being held in conjunction with the Detroit Metro Sports Commission. The tournament will run July 10-15.

"This is the second straight year that this has come to the Detroit area, and that's pretty good company because it's never easy bringing these types of events in," said Kurt Kosmowski of the Kosmowski Group, a marketing and public relations firm that is promoting the event for the DMSC. "This is the second year that we've helped with this event. It's kind of a warmup for future events we hope to bring into the area."

The AAU tourney is expected to bring in close to 2,000 players, coaches and parents of teams from more than 30 states. There are 92 teams officially registered as of Friday. In past years, the event has served as a decent draw of basketball junkies wanting to gain a sneak peak of future collegiate stars today.

There will be even more this year. The AAU tourney is now a sanctioned event with the NCAA, which will allow college coaches to attend to view potential prospects. College coaches will still not be allowed to talk directly to student-athletes until July 1 before the start of their senior year, meaning it will be July 2009 until college coaches can talk to anyone in this age group.

In past years, several rising stars have made appearances at the AAU tournament in Oakland County. In 2000, current Phoenix Suns standout Amare Stoudemire played with a Florida-based team that participated in games

at Lake Orion, which will have three courts going through the first four days of the event.

Other sites in the area include the Lake Orion CERC building (the old high school adjacent to the current high school), along with Scripps, Oakview and Waldon middle schools in the Lake Orion district. Additional games will also be played at Lutheran Northwest High School in Rochester Hills.

"I think what might help draw people is that this event is sanctioned, which allows college coaches to attend the event," Kosmowski said. "That was not the case last year. I expect there will be plenty of (college) scouts there this year."

As for spectators, it's a chance to see tomorrow's stars today.

"You look at these rosters and five or six years from now, some of these guys will be tremendous college players or maybe even pros in the future," Kosmowski said. "There is already one kid from Ohio, Jared Sullinger, who has made

a commitment to Ohio State. These kids are only going to be sophomores in high school, but there are some very talented kids playing in this tournament. It's worth checking it out."

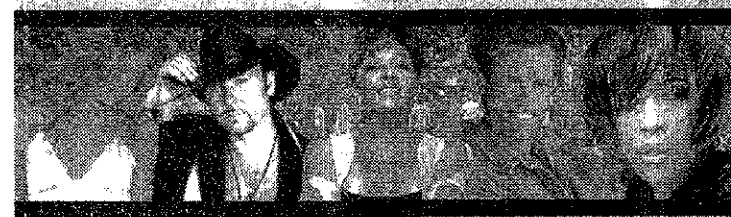
Several other of the top 100 rated players in the Class of 2010 age group, according to a variety of national recruiting sources, are expected to play, including some from Michigan. Among that group are Christian Vaughn (Saginaw HS), Jonathon Horford (Grand Ledge HS) and Patrick Lucas-Perry (Grand Blanc). Other top prospects from Michigan include Mohamed Conde (Belleville HS), Juwan Howard Jr. (Orchard Lake St. Mary's) and Evan Webster (Orchard Lake St. Mary's).

Rosters, brackets and schedules with times and locations of the tournament can be found on the DMSC's Web site at www.detroitssports.org/events.

"We'll have some of the best in the country here for this age group," Kosmowski said.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Lions Youth Football Camp director Chris Fritzsching gets his players together.

CAMP

FROM PAGE B1

est 191 pounds, told the campers he always dreamed about playing in the NFL.

"It wasn't about the money or the fame," he said. "I just love the game. I still feel like I'm playing a little kids' game. I'm living proof you don't have to be big, but I'm fast (he's clocked a 4.28 in the 40-yard dash). I'm just trying to remain humble and I'm thankful I have the opportunity to play. It's a blessing to play in the NFL."

Davis, who comes from a football and track family, has two cousins in the NFL (Jamal Brooks of the St. Louis Rams and Don Davis of the New England Patriots).

He got his first exposure to football through a camp in his hometown of Burlington.

"I went to a lot of them and I just loved it," Davis said. "I was bad when I started. I was an offensive lineman. I had to toughen up. Then I was a flanker. I also played quarterback and receiver. I went through the passing leagues. As far as technique for this age group (6-14), it really starts here, the little fundamentals, the footwork you get down that lasts a lifetime. It's also about having fun."

The Lions conduct 12 summer youth camps throughout the state. The cost is \$159 for 14 hours of instruction.

"We got two days of offense and two days of defense," said

Chris Fritzsching, Director of Detroit Lions Youth Football.

"We go with position groups. We don't try to give them too much, just understand the game more. We give them a taste of every position that they can take with them wherever they decide to play in the fall."

Canton's Kyle Cameron, 12, goes to Discovery Middle School and plays running back. He picked up some valuable nuggets from the Lions Youth camp that he can use

this fall with the Plymouth-Canton Steelers.

"I learned you never give up and keep your eye on your goals," he said. "Always listen to the coaches because if you don't listen, you'll mess up in the games. It's all about mental toughness."

It's too early to tell if Kyle Cameron will become the next A.J. Davis, but Fritzsching is glad he has the forum to make a difference, not only through his 12 summer camps, but year-round programs.

"We have different 11 programs," Fritzsching said. "We do school assemblies. We have our Lions Leaders for Life. We do football education, coaching education and character education."

The Lions tap into different markets around Michigan each summer, but plan to return again next year to Plymouth.

"We've had this camp (Central M.S.) four years now and it's always active, high energy, and the bottom line is that they're having fun doing it," Fritzsching said.

Davis, meanwhile, is getting ready for the rigors of the NFL training camp, which is just weeks away.

He calls the Allen Park complex "Top of the line."

"I like it," said Davis of his new surroundings. "Being from North Carolina and going to school there, this is my first time being away from

'I went to a lot of them and I just loved it. I was bad when I started. I was an offensive lineman. I had to toughen up. Then I was a flanker. I also played quarterback and receiver. I went through the passing leagues. As far as technique for this age group (6-14), it really starts here, the little fundamentals, the footwork you get down that lasts a lifetime. It's also about having fun.'

A.J. DAVIS

home. I've only been back twice, so I must be getting pretty comfortable here."

And how about one more question? This was probably the most perplexing of all to the rookie DB.

"Who is the worst player on the Lions?"

Davis obviously danced around that one: "I really can't say. Everybody there has got to be pretty good."

(The next Lions Youth Football Camp in the area is July 23-26 at Lake Orion and July 30-Aug. 2 at Detroit's Ford Field.)

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OUTDOORS

FROM PAGE B1

will boost them into the FLW Tour's Forrest Wood Cup Championship, Aug. 2-5 in Arkansas.

In FLW Tour tournaments, professionals and co-anglers (amateurs) are randomly paired each day. Co-anglers fish from the back of the boats against other co-anglers. Pros fish against other pros. The top 10 amateurs and top 10 pros, based on an accumulative weight from Thursday and Friday, advance to fish on Saturday.

Weights are wiped clean and the co-angler champion is crowned following the weigh-in on Saturday night. Pros return to the water on Sunday for one more day of competition. Anglers also earn points for their finish in each of the FLW Tour events and the top 50 to 55 in total points at the conclusion of the six tournaments, advance to the championship in Arkansas.

Entering the Chevy Open, Ferguson is in 62nd place in the point standings and Long is in 71st.

"This is the most important tournament of the year for a lot of people who are trying to make the championship," said Ferguson, who runs Art of Fishing Guide Service (586-531-2821) when he's not competing. "I'm right on the bubble. I'm 62nd in points and the top 50 to 55 will advance to the FLW championship. I need a top 50 (finish) in this one to qualify for the championships in August. Of course, you always want to win

it, or to finish in the top five."

Ferguson, who fished his first tournament 28 years ago and has been a full-time pro since 1990, fishes in four professional series, including the FLW Tour, FLW Eastern Series, Stren Midwest Series and the BASS Southern.

He's had his share of good luck fishing his home waters, finishing in the top 10 twice, including a third-place finish in an FLW Tour event in 1999.

"It's on my home water, so I have no excuses," said Ferguson, who is sponsored by Marathon Oil and Kars Nuts. "The (week) leading up to the tournament I'll be out there trying to learn some new stuff to combine with what I already know. Your home water can be an advantage, but sometimes it can hurt you, too. Sometimes you'll be fishing (a pattern) you know will work, but if it doesn't you can be reluctant to make a change."

The tournament is equally important to Long, who is in his second year of fishing the FLW Tour.

"This is a big one for me," said Long, who runs Longcast Guide Service (888-536-3474) when he's not fishing in tournaments. "I've had three good finishes this year so far and two bad finishes. After all is said and done, I'm in 71st place, so I have a pretty good shot at making the cut. I think with a top-30 finish I might make it, and with a top-20 I'll probably make it for sure."

Long, who is sponsored by BF Goodrich, Evenrude and Ranger, agrees with Ferguson that it can sometimes be difficult to fish your home waters.

"I'm glad we're here. I love to fish at home, but to be honest,

I've done better on waters I'm not so familiar with. (For the Chevy Open) I'll have to keep an open mind and fish with blinders on as far as past history."

Anglers will take off at 6:30 a.m. each morning from the Elizabeth Park Marina in Trenton. Thursday and Friday's weigh-ins also will be held at Elizabeth Park Marina beginning at 3 p.m. Saturday's and Sunday's weigh-ins begin at 4 p.m. at the Cobo Center in Detroit.

FLW Outdoors is hosting a free Family Fun Zone and outdoor show at the Cobo Center from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The event includes a meet-and-greet with pro anglers, new fishing products, and fishing-themed games and rides for kids.

The first 300 children ages 14 and under to attend the event on Saturday will receive a free FLW Outdoors hat. The first 300 children ages 14 and under to attend the Family Fun Zone on Sunday will receive a free rod and reel combo. On Sunday, a member of the audience will also win a free trip for two to Hot Springs for the \$2 million Forrest Wood Cup championship, and a chance to win a \$53,000 Ranger Z20 bass boat and a Yamaha outboard. Participants must be present during the 4 p.m. weigh-in Sunday to win.

Coverage of the Chevy Open will be broadcast on FSN (Fox Sports Net) on Aug. 26 and Sept. 2 as part of the "FLW Outdoors" television program.

Bill Parker covers the outdoors for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Contact him c/o Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009.



Wishes on Wheels

The Foresters Group, along with Compuware Corp. and Credit Union ONE, have teamed up for a common goal when they embark July 27 on the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan 300-mile bike ride throughout the state. Team WOW (Wishes on Wheels), with over 80 area registered riders, is striving to raise a total of \$100,000 to grant wishes for children who suffer from life-threatening medical conditions. This year's Team WOW will be riding for 19-year-old Lyz Schultz of Grosse Pointe Woods, who was diagnosed in Dec. of 2005 with Acute Lymphoblastic/Lymphocytic Leukemia (ALL). Currently undergoing chemotherapy at the Van Elslander Cancer Center, Lyz is a student at Macomb Community College. Prior to her diagnosis, Lyz was a goalie on the Grosse Pointe South High girls lacrosse state championship teams (2005-06) and rowed for the Blue Devils girls team at the former Detroit Boat Club (Belle Isle). Among the riders for Team WOW includes Kevin Degen, who lives with cerebral palsy. His determination and enthusiasm continue to inspire the entire team. The Foresters (Branch Benevolence of Livonia) hopes the community will match the \$650 it has already pledged to sponsor Degen. Recently, the Foresters' (Branch Arrowhead) Fran Teeple (front row, center) presented Compuware's chief administrative officer, Denise Knoblock-Starr (top row, second from right), with a check for \$12,800. Also joining in the efforts are (front row, from left) Tom Hutson, Fran Teeple and Howard Teeple, all of the Foresters; (back row, from left) Tom Hutson (Foresters), Krista Snow (Compuware), Amy Casey (Credit Union ONE), Gary DesChenes (Foresters), Starr and Tom Anderson (Compuware). If you would like to help Team WOW reach its goal, visit www.wishmich.org. (Click on events, then click and WAM 300 Bicycle tour; or you can make a general donation to Team WOW.)

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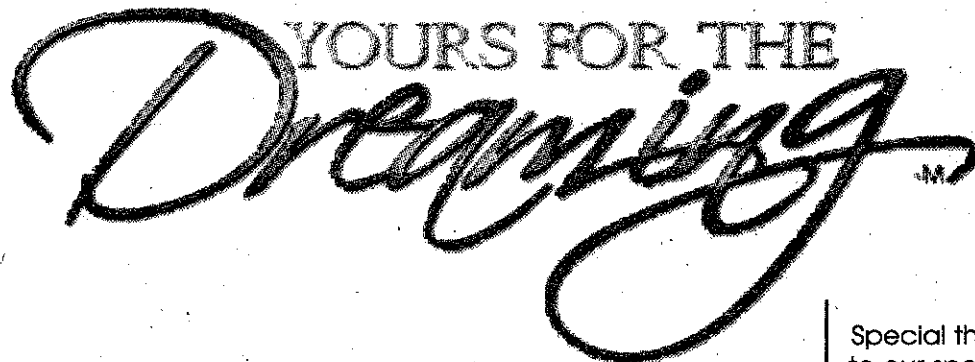
SCHEDULED ENTERTAINMENT

Date / Venue	District	Artist / Location
July 13 Home Depot	< Orange >	The Kimmie Horne Show Ford Rd. just east of I-275
July 20 IKEA	< Blue >	LaShell Griffin Ford Rd. btwn. Haggerty & Lilley
July 27 Mongolian BBQ	< Blue >	Larry Lee & Back in The Day Band Ford Rd. btwn. Haggerty & Lilley
August 3 Harvard Square	< Green >	Herbie Russ Band Corner of Sheldon & Ford Rd.
August 10 Canton Corners	< Red >	Randy Scott Ford Rd. btwn. Morton Taylor & Lilley
August 17 Kohls	< Purple >	John E. Lawrence & Friends Ford Rd. btwn. Sheldon & Canton Center
August 24 Willow Creek	< Blue >	TBD Ford Rd. btwn. Haggerty & Lilley

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SPORTS SHORTS

O&E Golf Open

The men's and women's Observer & Eccentric Open will be Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 11-12, at Whispering Willows and Fox Creek golf courses.

The men's 36-hole medal play is 18 holes Saturday at Whispering Willows and 18 holes Sunday at Fox Creek.

Maximum handicap is 20 and you must have a current USGA index to participate. The women's 18-hole medal play is Saturday, Aug. 11 at Whispering Willows. The fee is \$50.

Entries close at 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 4.

For more information, call (248) 476-4493.

2-woman scramble

The Michigan Women's Golf Association two-woman scramble is Saturday, July 14 at Sugarbush Golf Club in Davison.

The shotgun start is slated for 9 a.m. The entry fee is \$64 for MWGA members; \$84 for non-members. Included in the cost is golf, cart, range, continental breakfast and prizes.

For more information, call tournament director Deb Horning at (248) 642-7834; or e-mail clubchaser@comast.net.

CYO golf outing

The 2007 Couthic Youth Organization Friends Athletic golf outing will be Monday, July 16 at St. John's golf Center in Plymouth.

Hole sponsorships are also available.

For more information, call CYO athletics at (313) 963-7172, Ext. 149.

Judo juniors

The 2007 U.S. Judo Federation Junior Nationals will be Saturday-Sunday, July 14-15, at Eastern Michigan University's Convocation Center in Ypsilanti.

For more information on the Junior Nationals, visit www.MichiganJudo.org.

Motor City Jr. Golf

The Motor City Junior Golf Championship for ages 12-17 is scheduled for Wednesday, July 25 at Whispering Willows Golf Course in Livonia.

The 18-hole event is sponsored by Caddy Shack and Top

Flite Golf. Included in the \$49 entry fee is one practice round (prior to the event), one bucket of driving range balls (the day of the event), lunch ticket and gift pace.

Entry forms must be fill out in full, signed and returned by Wednesday, July 18 to Whispering Willows, located on Newburgh Road just south of Eight Mile Road.

Tee times will be announced after noon on Sunday, July 22.

For more information, call (248) 476-4493.

Baseball lessons

The Bernie Carbo Pro Secrets Baseball Academy will be staging individual, small group and team skill sessions in power pitching, hitting and fielding.

Marketing showcase sessions for high school players are available.

Former Phillies minor league All-Star Mark Rutherford will be the featured instructor.

Call (734) 421-4928.

Soccer openings

The Waza FC Soccer Club has open positions for the following teams: under-8 (boys and girls); under-10 (girls); under-11 (boys); under-12 (girls and boys); under-13 (boys).

Practices will be held at Livonia's Bryant Field, located on Merriman between Six and Seven Mile roads.

For more information, call Jim Debolski at (734) 637-1730; or visit www.WazaFC.com.

High Velocity soccer

High Velocity Sports in Canton will be offering summer soccer clinics after the 4th of July.

The clinics are once a week for eight weeks.

The cost and day of the week for each class varies per class from \$60 to \$90. All classes include a free T-shirt.

Schedules and fees are available on www.hvsports.com.

The available clinics include "Future Stars" (2- and 3-year-olds), "Small Stars" (3-4), "Kicks With Kids" (4-5 and 6-7), a Skill Acceleration Camp (8-9 and 10-12), "Beginning Booters" (8-11) and a women's clinic for adults.

Call (734) HV-SPORT. HVS will also offer skill development classes with Detroit

Ignition players on Thursdays beginning June 14 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. The cost is \$5 for those who are already registered for spring or summer clinics at HVS or \$10 for anyone else.

Finally, HVS will offer a summer soccer camp for kids between the ages of 5 and 12 June 25-29 from 9 a.m. to noon. The cost is \$110. All HVS summer camps are buy one, get one half off.

3-on-3 hoops

The first annual Hoopin' for the Sal 3-on-3 double-elimination basketball tournament will be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 10-11 at Salvation Army parking lot, 2300 Venoy, Westland.

The cost is \$80 per team. Registration starts at 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 11.

Divisions for co-ed include Open (adult ages 18 and up), Middle (15-17) and JV (12-14).

Awards included a 20-inch flat screen TVs to the Open Division winners; trophies and T-shirts to all other divisions.

For more information, ask for Captain Matt at (734) 722-3660.

WMGA tourney

The Michigan Women's Golf Association 22nd annual state championship is set for Saturday-Sunday, July 28-29, at Hunter's Ridge Golf Course in Howell, voted in 2005 as the top "female friendly" public golf course in southeastern Michigan.

Players of all experience levels are welcomed, especially junior girl golfers. There will be three division of competition including Regular, Senior and Junior.

Players will play only on Sunday, July 29. The fee is \$59.

The Regular and Senior divisions will have a 9 a.m. shotgun start on both Saturday and Sunday.

The cost is \$140 for MWGA members; \$160 for non-members (includes golf, cart, range, prizes, continental breakfast both days, and lunch after play on Sunday).

Call tournament director Sonia Pysh-Denison at (586) 212-6639; or e-mail Pysh-Denison@wmgolf.org. An entry form is online at www.mwgf.org.



Cyclones win title

The Livonia Soccer Club Cyclones, an under-13 boys recreational team, recently finished 10-0 during the spring season in the Great Lakes Soccer League's Superior Division. The Cyclones also captured the U-13 division at the Canton Cup, defeating U-13 Western Suburban Soccer League champion Farmington in the final, 4-0. The Cyclones have compiled a 32-7-1 mark during the last four seasons of play and a 79-11-2 record in five full years. Members of the 2007 spring team include (from left) Kevin Louwers, Matthew Sankey, Chad Evans, Robert Schramm, Peter Eri, Stephen Marchio, Tyler Reetz, Derek Covert, Derek Wenderlich, Karl Tiama, Scott Horger, Matt Kruppa, David Koponen, Jayson Gibson, Stephen Bank, Alex Hassa, Chad Lipinski, Sean Goulette and Craig Lefevre; coaches Tim Evans and Jim Kruppa, along with team manager Ben Bank.

BUCKS

FROM PAGE B1

Khelli Dube (Coastal Carolina).

Dube's ninth goal of the season would not hold up into halftime as Chicago won a goal-mouth scramble in front of Bucks goal netminder Steve Clark (Oakland), who made two fine saves before the third rebound was put by him by Chris Jackson for the 1-1 tie late in the first half.

With the win, the Bucks (27 points) move further ahead of the Fire (6-3-4, 22 points) in the eight-team Great Lakes Division with the season sweep of Chicago. The Bucks are one of only three unbeaten teams of the 63 clubs in the PDL.

"I think we pretty much have it sewed up," said Fitzgerald. "We would have to fall apart not to make the playoffs. I think we might start resting some guys to get ready for the playoffs. Other teams come out and play us hard every time."

CAMPS/CLINICS

MU cross country

Madonna University will stage a base camp for the serious high school cross country runner from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., Monday through Friday, July 30-Aug. 3, at Cass Benton Park, part of the Hines Park system just south of Northville on Hines Drive.

The cost is \$95. MU will also stage a series of long runs from 7:30-9 a.m. on Saturdays, July 14, 21, 28; Aug. 4 and 11, at Cass Benton.

The cost is \$2 each Saturday. For more information, call camp director and MU head coach Patrick Daugherty at (734) 658-0226 (evenings) or the MU cross country office at (734) 432-5634. You can also e-mail pdaugherty@madonna.edu.

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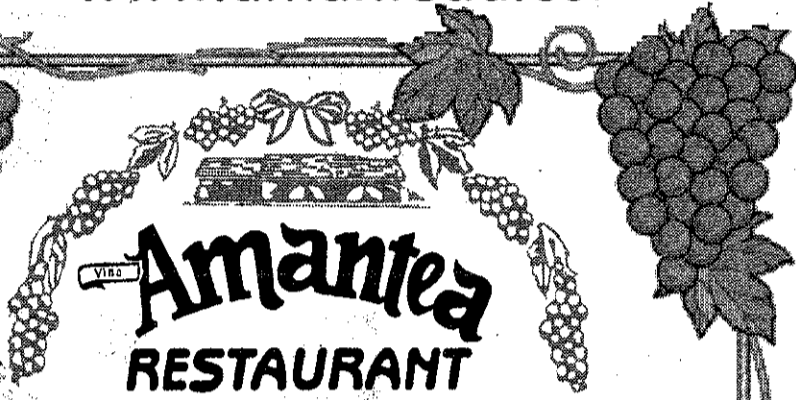
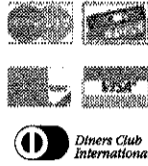
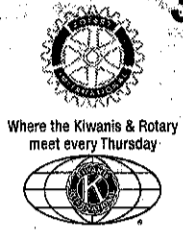


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- Cream of Broccoli (Saturdays only)

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Dressings made with raw egg. Served with bread sticks or crackers. With anchovies upon request

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- Small Caesar Salad
- Large Caesar Salad
- Substitute Small Caesar Salad for dinner salad with dinner only

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Slab of Ribs for Two
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Broasted Chicken
All white meat extra
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Chicken Cacciatore.....12.90
Boneless breast of chicken simmered in a savory wine and tomato sauce with green peppers, onions and mushrooms. Served on bow-tie pasta with one side dish.

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What's up with Webkinz?

Sophia left for camp today, entrusting me with the care of her 1-week-old Persian cat. Over the next three days, I must feed my 7-year-old's kitten, give it love, and make sure it takes a few spins on its skateboard. Quite a to-do list for a stuffed animal.

But Princess is no ordinary plush. This furball has a virtual persona as well. In cyberspace, Princess can jump on a trampoline, eat popcorn, and cheer for Sophia as she plays games to earn so-called KinzCash, with which she'll buy cute kitty clothes and, undoubtedly, more popcorn.

My two kids recently purchased Webkinz pets — the super-popular, super-hard-to-find toys that come with a secret code used to register at Webkinz.com. It's easy for kids to fall head-first into Webkinz World, I've discovered. And their parents aren't far behind.

Mom's the Word

Rebecca Kavanagh

I have a friend who, after tucking in her kids for the night, logs on to their Webkinz accounts and cleans up their toys. Their virtual toys. In their virtual rooms. I teased her — until I became a Webkinz Mommy myself. Now I've given enough thought to these \$12 toys to have compiled a pro and con list. First, Things I Don't Like About Webkinz:

- **The Entire Premise Is Materialistic.** Almost everything kids do on the site earns them KinzCash, which they must save and spend on things their pets want and need. On the one hand, I appreciate this early lesson in capitalism. (Watching 5-year-old Jackson set aside funds for a virtual swimming pool gives me hope that 16-year-old Jackson won't fritter away his entire McDonald's paycheck on dollar store miscellany when he's actually saving up for an iPod or iCar or whatever iThing Apple will be selling in 2018.) But it seems a sad reflection on society that a pre-K kid should be indulging in retail therapy.

- **Greed Is Encouraged.** I assumed that once each kid had a Webkinz, we'd be set for life. But one pet equals one year of membership. When that year is up, the child's account is deactivated — unless he registers a new pet. With each subsequent adoption, kids get more KinzCash and finer welcome gifts. There are not-so-subliminal messages everywhere on the site encouraging multiple acquisitions, such as, "Adopt a new Webkinz. You can never have too many furry friends — or too much KinzCash!"

- **It's Addictive.** And not just for the kids but for their mom as well. I test-drove several games — all in the name of research for this column, of course. Two hours and multiple Solitaire sessions later, I had accumulated a few hundred in KinzCash for each kid but felt a little sheepish about the whole thing. Especially when my husband remarked, "You're on fire over there; do you have a story due tomorrow?" and I had to admit I'd actually been playing Lunch Letters, a speed-typing game.

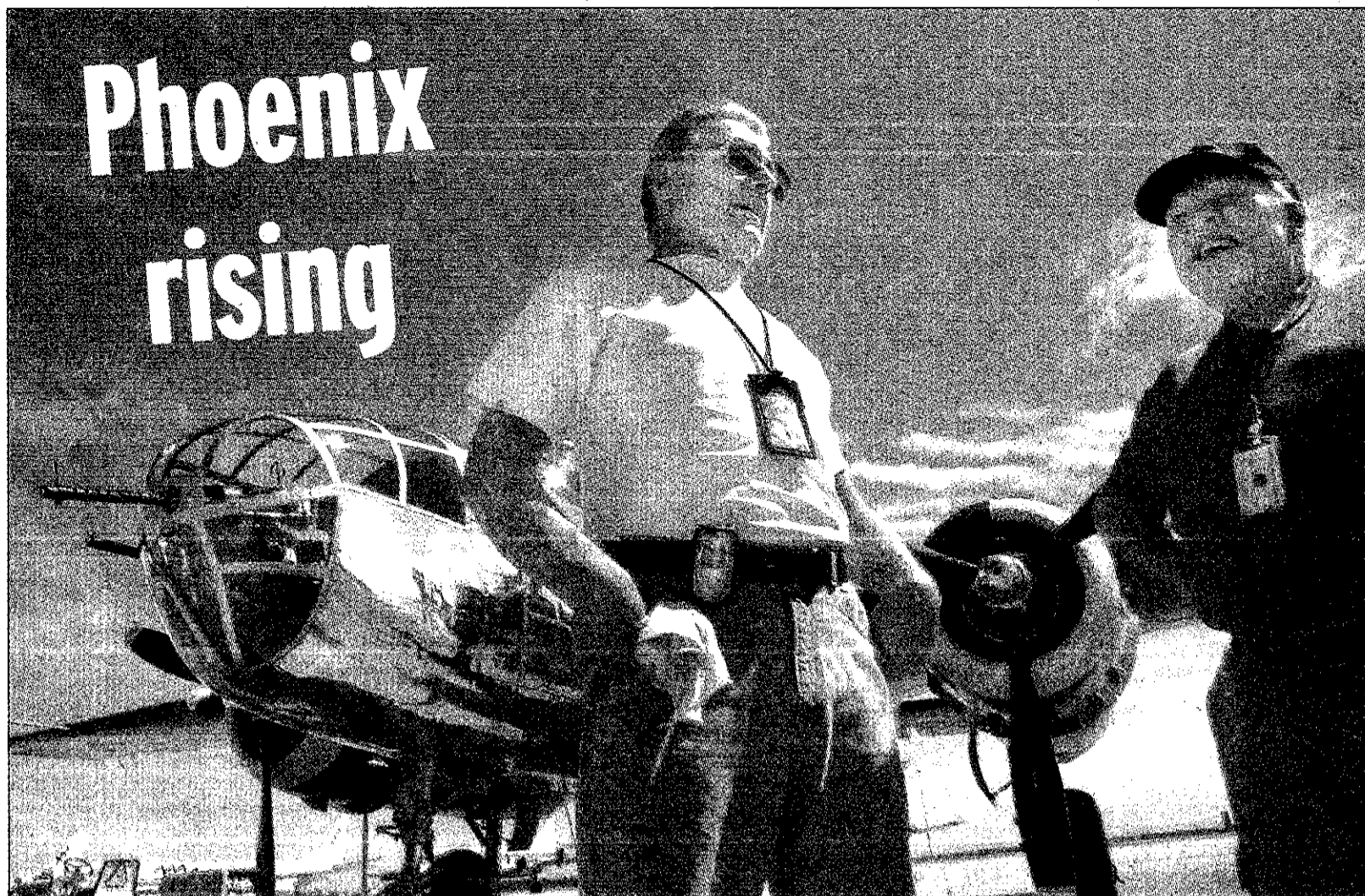
- **But then there are Things I Like About Webkinz:**
 - **The Parental Propaganda.** Jackson's pet utters missives such as: "It's good to know how to swim!" and "Healthy food makes me happy!" He seems to take these nuggets of wisdom more seriously when they're exclaimed by an adorable black bear rather than droned by a grouchy mother.

- **Readers Are Rewarded.** The great majority of material presented in Webkinz World is written rather than spoken. My pre-K son is quickly accumulating words he recognizes by sight, and Sophia is keeping her skills sharp this summer not just during her turns but also as she helps her brother navigate the site by reading aloud to him.

- **It's Safe.** Once a child logs on, Webkinz World exists in a self-contained window that doesn't include an address bar — meaning younger ones can't accidentally end up in unsavory sections of the Internet. What's more, the site is designed to keep personal information such as e-mail addresses, hometowns and even names private.

- **Inspires Imaginative Play.** One day, Webkinz World was down for repairs. Although initially disappointed, Sophia redirected her enthusiasm. Instead of decorating her pet's online rooms, she got motivated to build a cardboard house for her plush Webkinz. Cost: 0 KinzCash!

Rebecca Kavanagh is a Farmington Hills freelance writer who interrupted the creation of this column to log on to Webkinz.com so she could earn a bonus spin on the Wheel of Wow for her daughter, who couldn't do it herself because she was too busy having a life. Write to Kavanagh at momsthewordcolumn@gmail.com.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bob Paul of Garden City, and Dick Sprague of Livonia both work on the B-25.

Yankee Air Museum is hub of activity

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Dick Sprague raises his right arm signaling the pilot to start the B-25 bomber. Sprague was part of the Yankee Air Museum crew that spent hundreds of hours replacing then testing the number 2 engine in time for the public to purchase rides on the World War II era aircraft during Thunder Over Michigan. The event features performances by the Blue Angels U.S. Navy Aerial Demonstration Squadron Saturday-Sunday, July 7-8, at Willow Run Airport in Belleville. Proceeds from the performances and rides in the B-25 and B-17 go toward a fund to rebuild and expand Yankee Air Museum.

Like the mythical bird the Phoenix, the museum is rising from the ashes after the 1941 hangar housing vintage aircraft was destroyed by fire in October 2004 at Willow Run Airport. Earlier this week, Hangar 2 was a hub of activity. The museum is temporarily located in the hangar.

"The B-25 Bomber is the only Model D still flying in the world," said Sprague, 80, of Livonia. Sprague used his skills as a master modeler for Ford's Design Center for 38 years to build the bomber's machine guns. "This is the first flight since changing

THUNDER OVER MICHIGAN

When: 9 a.m. Sunday, July 8, air show begins at 11:30 a.m.

Tickets: Available at the gate for \$20 (ages 16 and up); children free, parking \$10. B-25 and B-17 rides cost \$425 and are available beginning at 10 a.m.

Details or directions: www.yankeearmuseum.org. For more information about the museum, call (734) 483-4030.

the engine. We started building in the old hangar and rebuilt the entire plane in five years. I'm anxious about the new museum. We want to get a hangar of our own."

A GOOD PLAN

Bob Paul is as anxious about putting up a new hangar for the museum's historic aircraft. Paul, a 64-year-old Garden City resident, worked seven days a week to change the B-25 engine. Over the last two years he helped restore the bomber's tail. A member of the museum since 1996, Paul served in the Marine Corps and was crew chief on the F-4 Phantom and A-4 Skyhawk

Please see **MUSEUM, C3**



Westland resident Joe Kosek works on the airframe for a World War I era Spad.



Dick Sprague's model maker's skills enabled him to build the machine gun and turret.

Michigan Jazz Festival educates young and old as well

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER



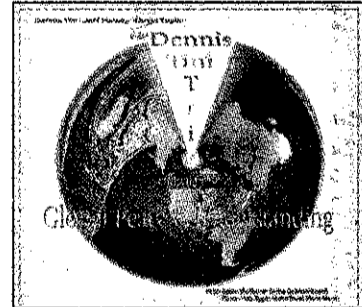
Dennis Tini of Farmington Hills performs selections from his new CD at the Michigan Jazz Festival Sunday, July 15, at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. Tini is organizing a Playing with the Pros session to encourage young jazz musicians.

Dennis Tini is the perfect choice to direct the newest element of the Michigan Jazz Festival Sunday, July 15, at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. Playing with the Pros provides an opportunity for gifted young musicians to play with professionals such as Tini.

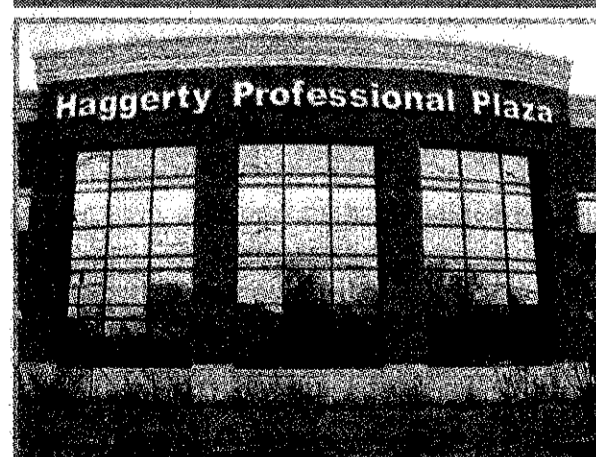
Not only has the Farmington Hills pianist taught music for 33 years at Wayne State University where he co-founded the jazz studies program, but Tini's releasing a third CD as leader, *Global Peace & Understanding* with his trio — Jeff Halsey, bass, and David Taylor, drums. Joining them on the album were the Rucner String Quartet of Croatia and Peter Soave, accordion/bandoneon of Farmington Hills, among others.

The CD was recorded in Switzerland, Croatia and Detroit and commemorates the South African AIDS pandemic, the

Please see **JAZZ, C2**



Dennis Tini's new CD commemorates the South African AIDS pandemic, the Tsunami and Hurricane Katrina disasters, world peace, and the Lake George, New York boat tragedy that killed 21 people including Charles and Louise Greenwald of Livonia in October 2005.



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Benefit dinner

The Community Opportunity Center holds its third annual Italian Night Monday, July 16, at East Side Mario's, 31630 Plymouth Road, west of Merriman in Livonia. Anyone who dines at the restaurant from 4-8 p.m. will be treated to East Side Mario's celebrated spaghetti, salad and bread for just \$10. Drinks, tips and tax are extra. The restaurant will donate the entire \$10 to Community Opportunity Center, a non-profit housing corporation supporting adults with developmental disabilities in Wayne County. For details, call (734) 422-1020. Pictured here are Mike and Karen Parkinson and son Jeff enjoying last year's dinner.

Learn basic motorcycle safety

Do you want to learn to ride a motorcycle safely or see if motorcycling is for you? Henry Ford Community College's Center (HFCC) for Lifelong Learning is offering a Basic Rider Course to help beginning motorcyclists develop basic skills including shifting, braking and turning. Upon successful completion of the course, the Secretary of State will waive the riding skills test required for motorcycle endorsement. Courses run 5:30-9:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, July 9-19, and Mondays through Thursdays, Aug. 13-

23. The final intense session meets 6-10 p.m. Friday, Sept. 7, and 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 8-9. Riders will be assigned range time on the first class meeting, but must be available throughout the entire stretch of time. All sessions take place at HFCC's Dearborn Heights Center, 22586 Ann Arbor Trail. The course provides 16 hours of instruction and costs \$25. The course is conducted with state funds from a motorcycle safety grant. Limited space is available and classes fill quickly. To register, call (313) 317-1500 or 1-877-855-5252.

Motorcycles will be provided. Riders must supply their own protective clothing and gear for the course including a Department of Transportation-approved motorcycle helmet; eye protection; full-finger gloves; sturdy, over-the-ankle boots; heavy-duty pants; heavy-duty, long-sleeved shirt or jacket, and rain or cold-weather gear. Participants must be at least 15 years old. Participants under 18 years old must bring a waiver signed by a parent/guardian on the first day of class. Visit www.hfcc.edu/cl2.s

JAZZ

FROM PAGE C1

tsunami and Hurricane Katrina disasters, world peace, and the Lake George, New York, boat tragedy that killed 21 people including Charles and Louise Greenwald of Livonia in October 2005. The Greenwalds were long-time volunteers with the Michigan Jazz Festival. The first track, Unexpected Passings, is dedicated to the victims. Beautiful, lyrical selections definitely convey peacefulness throughout the CD. "Why global peace? I've spent almost 40 years on concert tours in Europe, guest conducting choral concerts, teaching in South Africa. I've seen a lot of problems and difficulties in the world. I've been concerned and committed to having people understand each other and it evolved into this new album project," said Tini, distinguished professor of music at Wayne State University. Tini returns to Europe the day after the festival for a three-week tour with Soave. He performs 6 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 16, at a B'jazz Vespers concert at First Baptist Church at Willits and Bates in Birmingham. "Throughout the world we're not viewed as positively as in the past. I became part of the music relief effort in South Africa in 1992, bringing textbooks and equipment. I'm trying to use positive ways to use music to inspire peace and a more cohesive existence." Tini took on the challenge of organizing Playing with the Pros at the request of Eileen Standley, a professional pianist and jazz festival volunteer. The session takes place 3:30-4:30

p.m. on the Inmart/CRH stage in the Presentation Room of the VisiTech Center. Bob Harsen (drums) and Jeff Halsey (bass) join Tini in welcoming Matt Ryan, bass, of Livonia and saxophonists Evan Pedder of Troy and Victoria Williams of Detroit to the stage. "I'm a past president of International Association for Jazz Education so I was all for it," said Tini. "The idea was they're going to come up and give us the music to play with them. It's going to be a performance clinic and they're going to be featured playing with a trio. The whole process is going to unfold before the audience right in the moment. It's going to be spontaneous and creative." Festival goers of all ages can learn about jazz as well at the hourlong Cohen/Steinway Jazz Cafe educational sessions featuring Buddy Budson, Bess Bonnier, Alma Smith, Bob Seeley, and Taslimah Bey, beginning at 12:15 p.m. Tini shares the concept for compositions on his new album 6:15-7:15 p.m. More than 215 musicians perform a variety of jazz styles from noon to 9:15 p.m. including the Johnny Trudell Big Band, Los Gatos, Chris Collins Trio & Jazz Harp, World's Oldest Sax Section, saxophonist George Benson and his quartet, Tom Saunders Detroit Jazz All Stars, Jerry McKenzie's Just Jazz, Jim Ryan Trio, and the Richko/Keller/Siers Trio with a tribute to Oscar Peterson. The Schoolcraft College and Wayne State jazz lab bands also perform at the 13th Michigan Jazz Festival which takes place on five stages and is free. "It's a fantastic festival," said Tini. "They've really worked

hard to feature Michigan, Detroit area artists. The venue they've chosen makes it easy to hear on the various stages." Lynne Standley is especially excited about seeing her 14-year-old son, Matt, play with a professional trio. Matt and brother Brendan volunteer at the festival every year. "He loves jazz," said Lynne Standley. "He was accepted in Wayne State's Jazz Week, a new initiative with the Detroit Jazz Festival (Labor Day weekend). He's at Blue Lake (music camp) until Sunday night. This is his second year in the jazz program there." Eileen Standley is equally as proud of her grandson, Matt Ryan. Eileen has been playing show tunes and jazz professionally since the 1970s. She taught classical piano for 20 years. "I suggested Playing with the Pros because I love young people," said Eileen Standley of Plymouth. "Two-thirds of our audience is over the age of 50. The festival committee agreed to give me one hour and I called instructors looking for exceptional students. They did their own arrangements. They will call the tune and set the tempo and it's their time but there will be no rehearsal. We want to show other people that the Michigan Jazz Festival is interested in educating the public about the music and being able to educate young musicians. I would have loved to have had that experience." Schoolcraft College is at 18600 Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia. For more information, visit michiganjazzfestival.hometownlife.com or call Midge Ellis at (248) 474-2720 or Eileen Standley at (734) 459-2454.



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MUSEUM

FROM PAGE C1

jet attack aircraft.

"It's a good plan for the museum," said Paul. "It's just going to take some time to get money."

Dick Stewart estimates the entire project will cost more than \$100 million and take at least 15 years to complete. An official groundbreaking for a temporary visitor center and classroom located in an about to be restored school house took place April 16.

Stewart as museum president is working with Prentice Co. museum consultants in Illinois, URS (Grand Rapids) and Quinn Evans (Ann Arbor) architects, and Exhibit Design Central (Illinois) to come up with plans for the 12-building campus by the year's end.

A concept drawing features the main museum, galleries, historic aircraft hangar and restoration facility with machine shop, visitor reception building with corporate offices, theater, aviation theme restaurant, banquet facilities, and aerospace charter high school.

A private individual has donated \$650,000 for the restoration of the Willow Run School House built in 1938 by Henry Ford for workers' families and kids who attended Camp Ford for disadvantaged and at risk youth who would then go on to trade school. Stewart expects work to begin in the next 90 days and continue to early winter.

"A classroom will be used for educational programs. We now go into schools to teach kids about aviation history through the Wright Flyer Program," said Stewart, a Vietnam veteran. "We're partnering with Eastern Michigan University for the education program and school districts and the state to update all of our programs. We want to let kids know what really goes on with aviation and what it took. Our main museum is going to tell the story. President Roosevelt called this the arsenal of democracy."

Stewart says plans call for reproducing Henry Ford's Willow Run bomber plant during World War II. Many Michigan companies took part in the war effort as plants changed over from making cars to aircraft. An influx of people came up from the South to work

in the plants, creating a melting pot of peoples.

The museum will educate visitors about the Victory Gardens, the drives for rubber, gasoline rationing, the sacrifice of people at home and the Boy Scouts who delivered messages for civil defense.

Gallery buildings will tell the stories of pilots and aircraft mechanics with exhibits of tools, equipment and uniforms. The history of aviation continues through the space program. Stewart refers to the overall concept for the museum as Moments in Time.

"We're going to have our historic aircraft in building No. 1. Hopefully we can get someone to donate the steel for it. That's 75 percent of the cost. One company has already donated landscaping for the campus. Someone else has promised a steel roof for the school house," said Stewart. "About 300 volunteers give their time on a fairly regular basis. Almost \$1 million of volunteer hours were donated last year."

A TON OF HISTORY

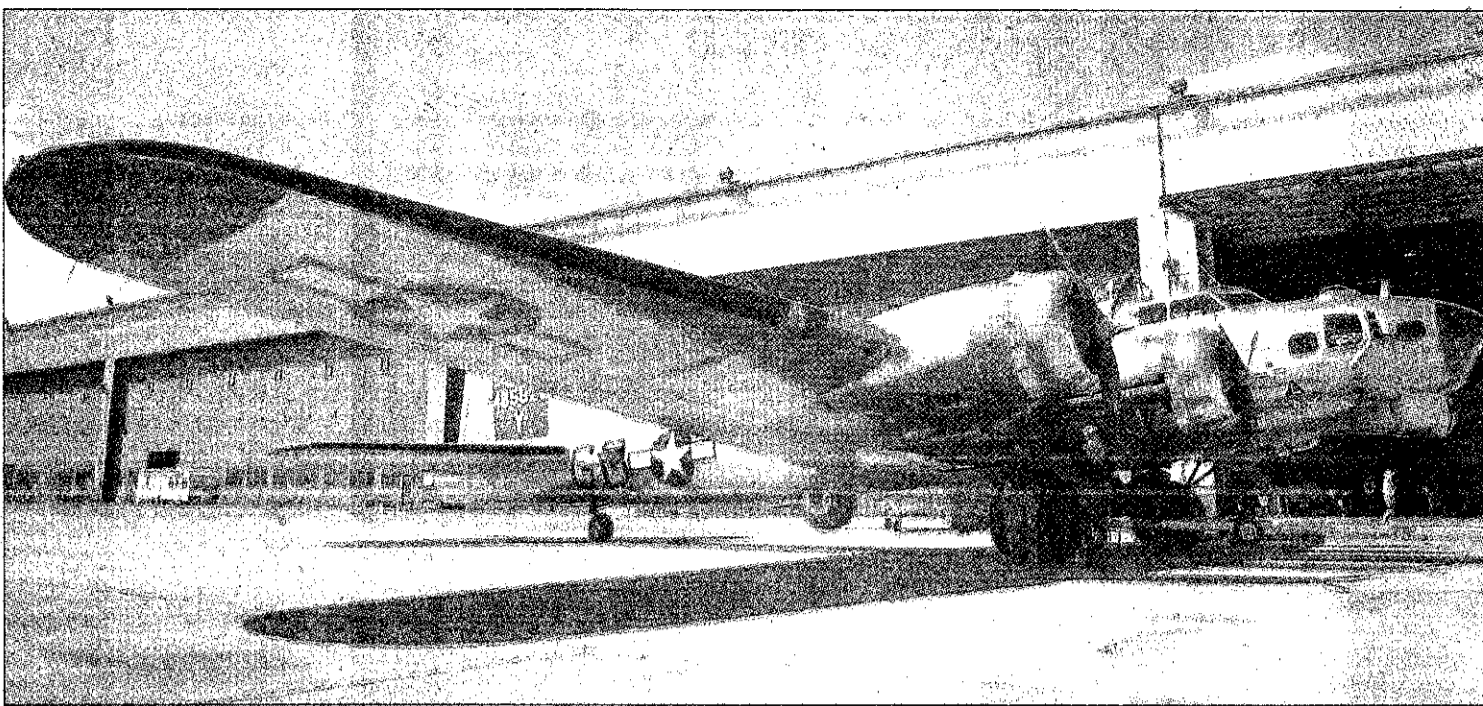
Doug Duff of Amherstberg, Ontario, comes twice a week to volunteer as a B-25 crew member with Paul and Sprague. He explains the crew is testing number 2 engine to check for extreme temperatures and rattles.

"For every one hour flown, we have about 10 hours of maintenance," said Duff. "It costs about \$40,000 for a typical engine rebuild. This plane saw combat in Corsica with the 340th Bomb Group of the 12th Air Force in the Mediterranean. After the war it was used for training in Canada. The new museum is dedicated to veterans of World War I and World War II, Vietnam, Korea, all of the veterans of all the wars. There are a lot of air museums in the U.S. but Yankee is an international museum. This area has a lot of history. Willow Run built B-24s during World War II, GM built Bearcats. There's tons of aviation history."

"And it's one of the few museums that you can touch the airplane and take them into the (B) 25," said Paul.

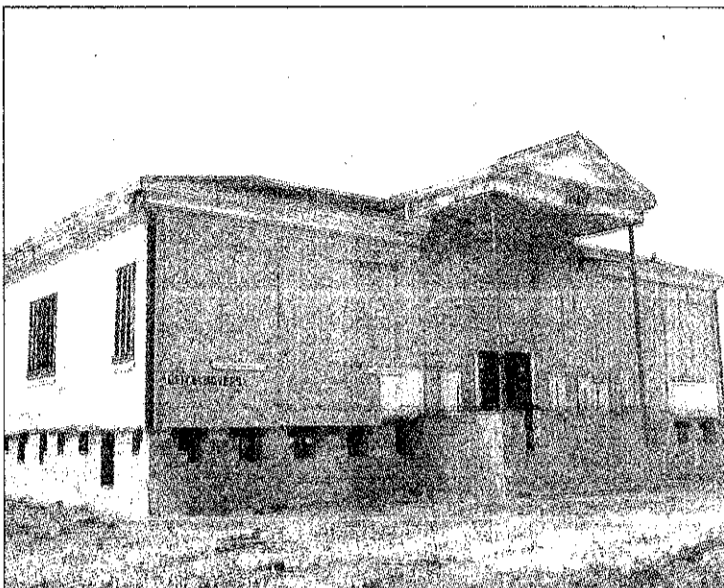
"It's a live museum," added Duff. "We work, restore and fly the aircraft."

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The B-17 had been used by the US Coast Guard for search and rescue operations and then by California, fighting forest fires.



The old school was moved to the site.



Dick Stuart is pictured here with plans for the new Yankee Air Museum campus. Stuart is the museum's president.



Dick Sprague signals to the crew of the B-25. The Yankee Air crew replaced the number 2 engine on the bomber. This ground test and flight would test the new engine.

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Self-help book

Fibromyalgia experts offer advice on managing mysterious syndrome

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Twenty years ago, Sharon Ostalecki went from doctor to doctor trying to find out what was causing her to hurt all over. Her decades of research since then resulted in the new book, *Fibromyalgia - The Complete Guide from Medical Experts and Patients*, published by Jones and Bartlett this spring.

Ostalecki called on physicians including pain specialists, physical therapists, psychologists, fibromyalgia patients, and her background as a nutrition counselor to assemble the medical resource for others who suffer from the syndrome. Ostalecki eventually received a diagnosis and found help for the fibromyalgia causing her muscle pain and fatigue. In addition to editing the book and writing chapters on self-management, nutrition and healing, Ostalecki stays busy scheduling speakers for the H.O.P.E. (Helping Our Pain & Exhaustion) support group she founded. The lectures continue in September at the Farmington Hills Public Library. A documentary on the disorder is scheduled to be released by the non-profit H.O.P.E. in early 2008.

"The purpose (for the book) was to help people. The lectures reach only a portion of people suffering with fibromyalgia," said Ostalecki. "I've received e-mails from as far away as England and Australia about the work. It's written at an understandable level and you don't have to read the book from cover to cover. You



Sharon Ostalecki gathered fibromyalgia experts to write a new book on the syndrome.

can read a certain chapter that pertains to you. Everyone with fibromyalgia is different. Every picture on the cover represents one of the issues I had."

Muscle and joint pain, insomnia, chronic headaches, forgetfulness, depression, back pain, fatigue, tingling, intestinal problems - fibromyalgia causes a variety of symptoms throughout the body. Ostalecki says people with fibromyalgia have to be their own advocate to find relief. She practices yoga and walks nearly every day.

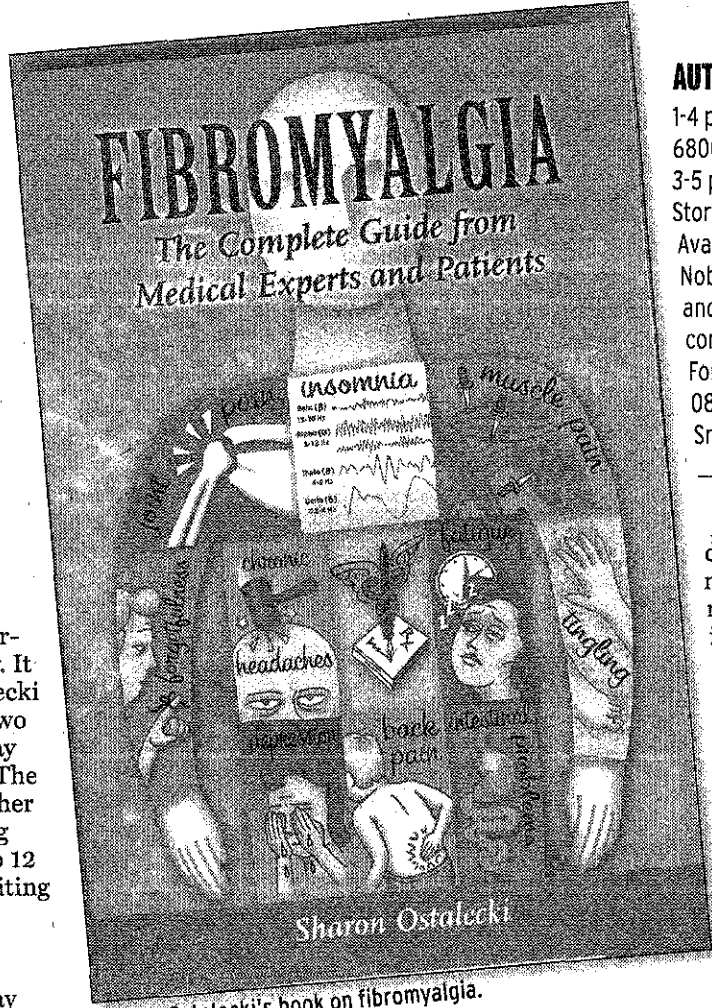
Stretching the muscles is important for fibromyalgia patients to relieve the knots or trigger points that develop when a muscle con-

tracts and fails to release causing pain. She recommends exercising, but cautiously. It took a year for Ostalecki to go from walking two to three minutes a day to 50 minutes daily. The routine helped calm her flare-ups from sitting at the computer 10 to 12 hours a day when writing the book.

KEEP MOVING

"My advice is to stay with a routine. Go to sleep at the same time. Get up at the same time. I have to move all the time," said Ostalecki. "They have to work with their doctor. Pick one or two problems at a visit. Try to help yourself. Get your sleep under control. I'm using hypnosis and meditation to help calm down. Medication is also available for sleep. Once sleep is under control people with fibromyalgia hurt less."

Diet can affect fibromyalgia patients as well. Ostalecki says while refined carbohydrates like sweets and munchies are soothing when people are in pain, she suggests avoiding treats in favor of a high protein diet rich in lean meats, tofu and beans, and high in complex carbohydrates. She recommends 60 to 90 grams of protein a day to fibromyalgia patients, but persons with a kidney disorder or cholesterol problem should consult their physician. Ostalecki refers to Dr. Joseph



Sharon Ostalecki's book on fibromyalgia.

Meerschaert as a pioneer in the treatment of fibromyalgia so it was only natural she asked the retired physiatrist to write the introductory chapter with Peter Ianni, a pain psychologist in Farmington Hills. As a physiatrist, Meerschaert specialized in the diagnosis and nonsurgical treatment of pain at Beaumont Hospitals in Royal Oak and Troy where he was chief of physical medicine and rehabilitation. Meerschaert began treating fibromyalgia patients in 1970. Then as now it remains a mystery as to what causes the syndrome.

"We've found out more in the last five to 10 years than the years before that. We believe it's a central nervous system disorder," said Meerschaert of Troy. "It has been around forever. German literature reported it in the 1880s and called it different names. In 1993 the American College of Rheumatology published a list of

AUTHOR BOOK SIGNINGS

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diagnostic symptoms. There's no one specific test (for fibromyalgia). It is more prevalent in women 20 to 40, but I have seen patients as young as third grade."

LEARNING MORE

When Meerschaert began treating patients, about all he could do was write prescriptions for sleep and pain medications.

"Research is finding medications like anti-convulsant medication we never expected to work," said Meerschaert. "The theory is that the central nervous system is hypersensitive to pain. Originally we used medications to help patients sleep, Elavil, anti-depressants, pain management."

Rob Leider credits Meerschaert for diagnosing the cause of his pain and treating the trigger points with injections. The 56-year-old Bloomfield Hills resident suffers with post-traumatic fibromyalgia resulting from a 1986 automobile accident that left him with a head injury, broken bones and memory problems. At the time he was a high school drama teacher. Leider later went on to become the West Bloomfield High School principal before retiring in August 2006. In fall of 2005 he took a two-story fall that caused more broken bones which exacerbated the fibromyalgia.

Today Leider, an architectural consultant for educational facilities,

Please see **FIBROMYALGIA, C7**

Michigan Eye Doctor Helps Legally Blind Woman to See Again

Dr. Sheldon Smith helps those with low vision to enjoy daily activities like reading and driving.

By Elena Lombardi

Low vision is defined as vision that cannot be corrected with regular prescription glasses or contact lenses. For most people, low vision means they cannot drive or do daily activities like reading a newspaper. With specialized treatment people with low vision can get back to doing the things they enjoy.

Michigan Optometrist, Dr. Sheldon Smith helps people who have lost vision from macular degeneration and other eye conditions. Just like looking through a pair of field glasses or binoculars, telescopic glasses make things look bigger, closer, and much easier to see.

"Many of my patients consider me the last chance to help their vision," states Dr. Smith.

Macular degeneration is the most common eye disease among the senior population. Twenty five percent of people over 65 years of age have some degree of degeneration. When the macula, a small part of the retina, degenerates it leaves a blind spot right in the center of vision making it hard to recognize faces, read a book, or pass the driver's vision test.

The cause of macular degeneration is unknown. However, it has been shown that



Dr. Smith's Patient with Bioptic Telescopes for Driving.

UV light from the sun, smoking, poor nutrition and aging are contributing factors. In addition, 15% to 20% of macular degeneration cases have been shown to be genetic.

"People don't know that there are experienced doctors who can help them with low vision care," says Dr. Smith. "My job is to figure out anything and everything possible to help a person see at the best level possible."

Valerie Bassett, 79, a music teacher and church organist from Essexville, Michigan was turning down music students because she could not see the music from the teacher's position. Dr. Smith fit Valerie with telescopic glasses with an adaptor to read music. "Now I use my glasses to participate in worship service, sing hymns and read the bible. I can read music. It's wonderful to be able to see again. I have a new lease on life!" says Valerie.

There are as many low vision devices as there are various activities. Bioptic telescopes help some people continue driving, while special prismatic glasses can help for reading and other hobbies. Devices range in price from \$500 to \$2,500.

"Every situation is unique. Each person's level of vision varies and every patient has different desires," states Dr. Smith. "Our ultimate goal is getting patients doing those things they most wish to do. The impact on quality of life and independence is remarkable."

Dr. Smith has offices in Livonia, St. Clair Shores and the Lansing area. To see if low vision care can help you or your loved one call Dr. Smith today at Suburban Low Vision.

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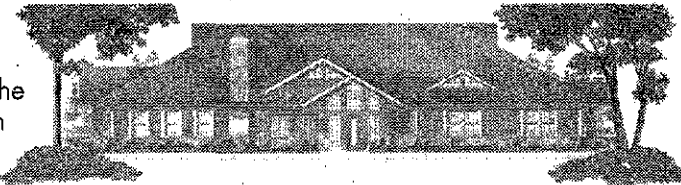
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1/4 Carat.....Up To.....	\$275
1/2 Carat.....Up To.....	\$1,200
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3 Carat.....Up To.....	\$30,000

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\$2.50....1840 to 1929	\$10.00....1839 to 1932
\$3.00....1854 to 1889	\$20.00....1850 to 1933
\$5.00....1795 to 1833	\$50.00....1851 to 1852
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New Homes



Sunday, July 8, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Joe Bauman, editor . (248) 901-2563 . jbauman@hometownlife.com

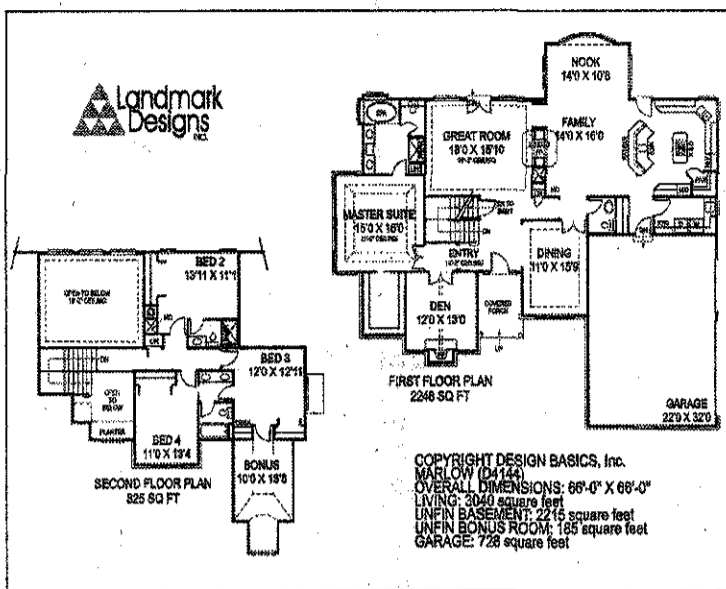
www.hometownlife.com

Marlow features ample room, a distinguished appearance

The Marlow (D4144), with its many rooflines, windows, brick façade, and fireplace chimney, has great eye appeal from the street. It has a distinguished look, yet has the appearance of warmth and graciousness. The Marlow has 3,040 square feet of living area, with an unfinished basement of 2,215 square feet and an added bonus room off bedroom 3 upstairs of 185 square feet.

Through the arched columns of the covered porch is the entry into this spacious home. Facing a guest who enters is the great room straight forward, the dining room on the right, and a hall leading to the den and master suite on the left. An angular staircase for upstairs and the basement are also on the left.

The dining room has a coffered ceiling with an arch off the entry and French doors opening into the family room. A half bath is located in this area convenient to the main living area. The kitchen sets in right rear corner in a C-shape. There is a corner pantry, and a uniquely shaped island containing a sink and the eating bar. Between the kitchen and the side opening two-car garage is the utility. It is large



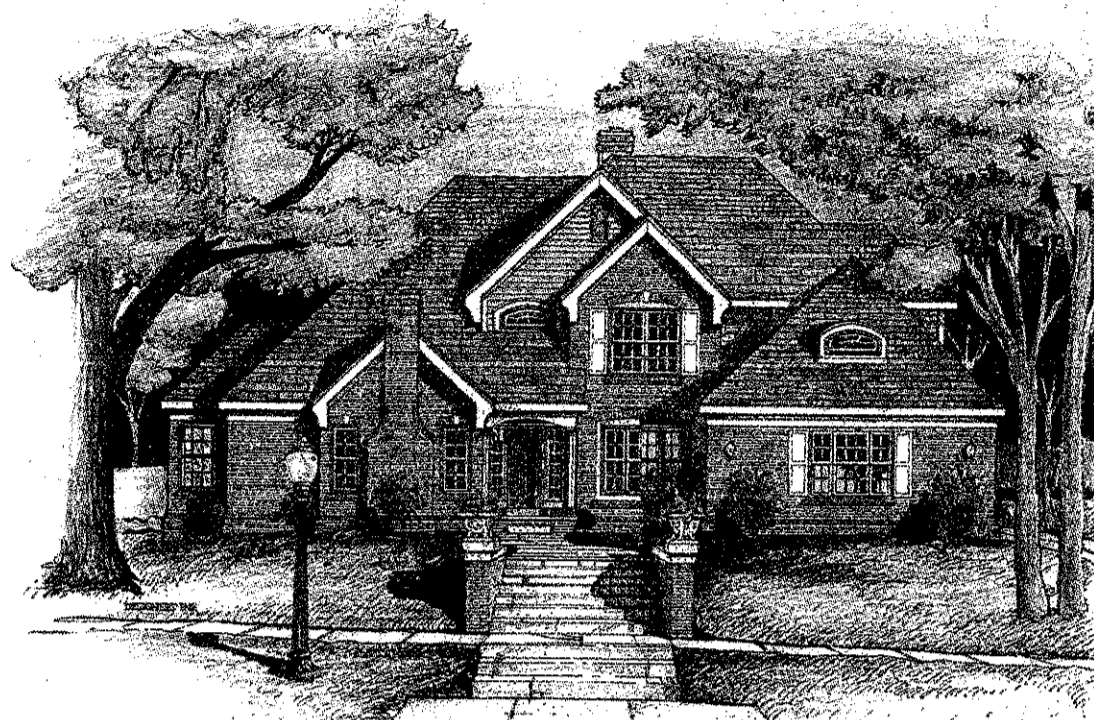
enough to handle the washer/dryer as well as the freezer.

The family room runs across the face of the kitchen with the breakfast nook in the rear, accented by a curvature of three windows. To add to the unusualness of the Marlow is a large two-sided fireplace, visible in the family room as well as the great room. The vaulting of the great room makes an 18'2" ceiling. There are French doors leading to the back yard.

Walking through French doors, the master suite has a

huge multi-vaulted ceiling. In the front is the walk-in closet, while the rear is dedicated to the bathroom. A corner spa tub, a large shower, and "his and her" sinks, a private stall area, and a corner linen closet all add to the comforts of this special area. Adjacent to the master suite, the den also has French doors and has its own private fireplace. This room would be ideal as an office or a place to go for individual quiet time.

Upstairs are three bedrooms,



and two baths. Bedrooms 3 and 4 share one bath and bedroom 2 has a private bath. This would be ideal as a guest suite. The bonus room is off bedroom 3.

For a study plan of the MARLOW (D4144), send

\$15 to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Road E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or call (800) 562-1151. Be sure to specify plan name and number. Compact discs, with search functions are free of charge, to help you search our portfolio

for your dream home (\$5 shipping and handling will apply). Or you may order or search online at www.ldiplans.com. Save 15 percent on construction plans using the code (LOE48) online, mailing, or calling (800) 562-1151.

NEW HOMES BRIEFS

Career Seminar

Keller Williams Realty will be hosting Career Seminars 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 10, and Thursday, July 26. Seminars will take place at the Plymouth Market Place, located at 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, a half block West of I-275 adjacent to Bally's Fitness Center. Please call in advance to reserve a seat: (734) 459-4700.

Investors

Dr. John Hayes, president of

HomeVestors, will discuss the state of the real estate industry and what it takes to be successful in any kind of market at the monthly meeting of the Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland on July 12, 5:30-9:30 p.m. at MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Seminar free to members. \$20 nonmembers. Call (800) 747 6742.

Auction July 25

The Auction Services Group

of Benj. E. Sherman & Sons, a Chicago-based national real estate auction company, will be conducting the sale of eight single family homes, seven condominiums and 56 home sites throughout metro Detroit. The auction will be held in the ballroom of the Troy Marriott, 200 W. Big Beaver Road, Troy, at 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 25.

Neumann Homes Inc., a Chicago-based national home builder, has elected to auction these properties to reduce the mar-

keting time necessary to sell them in a slow marketplace. "We have experienced the same slowdown that other builders have experienced throughout metro Detroit," said Neumann President and CEO Kenneth P. Neumann.

"We've made a business decision to utilize the accelerated sales method to complete a close-out of several of our communities which will allow our team members to concentrate their efforts on our most recently developed commu-

nities in the four regions around the country that we are building in."

All of the homes and condominiums will be open for viewing during the following scheduled open house dates and times:

Thursday, July 12, 7-9 p.m., Sunday, July 15, 1-4 p.m., Sunday, July 8, 1-4 p.m. Saturday, July 21, 1-4 p.m.

To receive an auction brochure, call the company auction line at (888) 442-8008.

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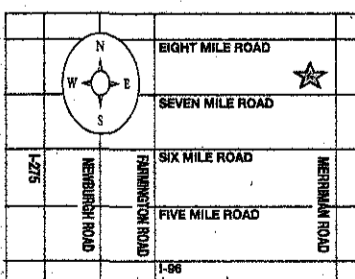
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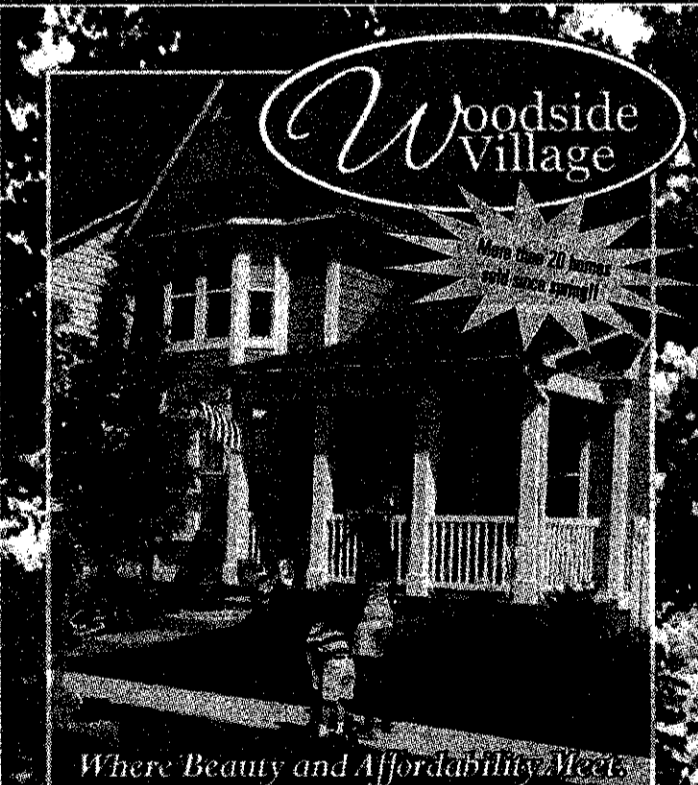


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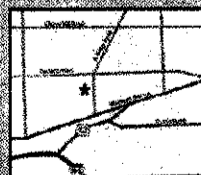
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Sunday PUZZLE CORNER

Challenging fun for ALL ages

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- Fuse word
- Elizabethan buccaneer
- Scoop
- Lassie's refusal
- Insurance giant
- The Red Baron, for one
- Coach
- Kind of dance
- Lunar valley
- Caribou kin
- More delicious
- Nerve network
- Football pos.
- Consumed
- Ranch measure
- Memorable time
- Khartoum's land
- Dory's need
- Met role
- Stingy person
- Madison's st.
- Family men

DOWN

- Fiasco
- Moppel
- Noble title
- Squelched
- Filter
- Bonn connector
- Plains tribe
- Cry loudly
- Aurora, to Plato
- Vatican heads
- Psyche component
- Aardvark snack
- Busch of old movies
- Lumpy fruits
- Shaggy flowers
- Concerning
- See — — glance
- Cypress feature
- "Fatha" Hines
- Apply makeup
- Here, to Henri
- Delt neighbor
- Write up a speeder
- Green pods
- Relief
- Tire necessity
- Posh hotel

Answer to Previous Puzzle

CAT	MAUNA	RCA
AGE	ENTER	EAR
VOLLEY	EMBARK	
LIT	IDOLS	
EKED	SC RIOTS	
DER	DEEP	SNIT
GO	OILCANS	ME
EGAD	FARM	BIN
SHADE	PE	DODO
HEXES	COO	
THIRTY	POCKET	
ION	ORGAN	EVA
EGG	LEADS	DEB

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SUDOKU

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!

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

Level: Beginner

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.

ART	LITERATURE	READING
ENGLISH	MATH	SCIENCE
GEOGRAPHY	P.E.	SPELLING
HISTORY	PHYSICS	WRITING

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

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

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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

SEEK AND FIND

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

Automotive

Classifieds inside

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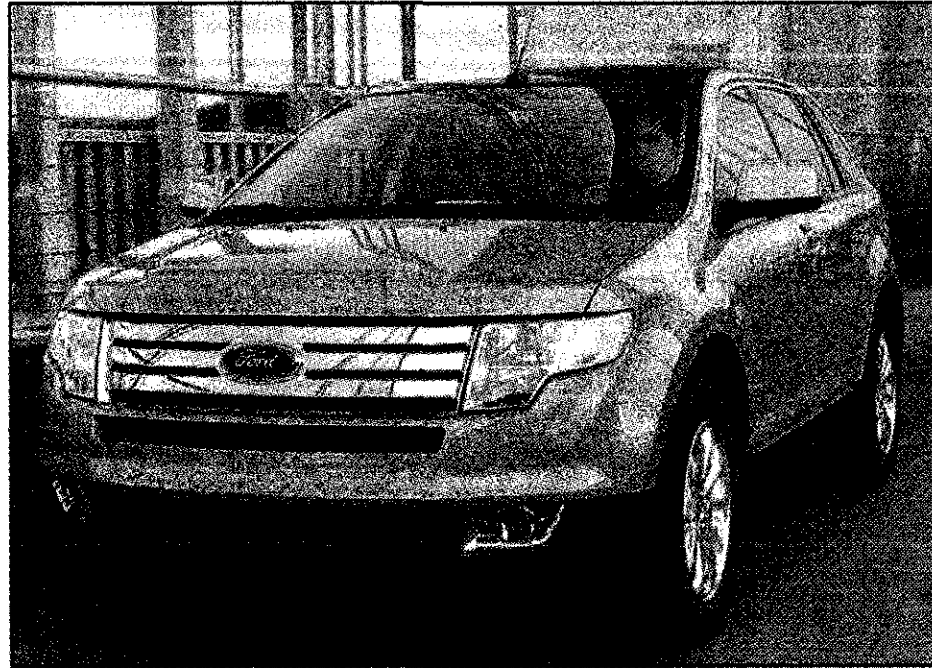
Ford Edge is fun, and utilitarian

Advertising Feature

CAReport



By Wendy Clem
Avanti NewsFeatures



The Ford Edge provides excellent driver visibility, ample acceleration and laudable cornering with generous cargo and passenger room.

Say what you will, the industry naysayers who discount the popularity and functionality of the crossover vehicle as mere trend have to give due credit to the efforts of American staples like Ford.

Ford's 2007 Edge sport utility is a truck that more than a mother can love.

The Blazing Copper Metallic finish is an immediate people-magnet when you first set eyes on it, but the Ford Edge comes in eight other colors, including some of the prettiest shades on the road.

But it's the ease with which this SUV handles that will really impress you.

The Edge has many pluses. It has virtually no blind spots, and the driver is positioned high enough in the seat - thanks to superior adjustable capabilities - to feel secure in view as well as movement, without strangling in the shoulder harness.

The front bucket seats wrap around occupants snugly, although at first, the deeply fastened seat belts feel awkwardly hard to access due to their angled anchor's proximity to the recessed center console.

The size and utility of the console is wonderful: extending to the floor, it's vast enough to fit a reasonably sized handbag. The console is outfitted with an upper tray that holds slotted change and other small items, while still allowing a view of space and contents below.

Cupholders are wisely placed, as part of the ongoing console, nearer to the dash instead of under the elbow, with adjacent holders added to door pockets for more storage. A rubber-matted area between the console and dash is an especially clever and handy addition for whatnot.

And what a smart idea to create optional all-weather rubberized floor mats for all-season carpet protection. Overall, that will extend the life of any vehicle's carpet beyond wear, stains and odors.

The panoramic roof is a moving window to the world for the front and rear seats, with a second fixed window just beyond for even more visibility and openness.

Geared to seat five (the rear seat is a bench), the 3.5-liter V6 engine delivers 250 horsepower and 240 foot pounds of torque. It makes creditable use of the new Ford powertrain, with the first two gears responsible for admirable take-off.

The sixth gear, meanwhile, aids in better highway fuel economy, particularly with this standard 6-speed automatic, which edges out any conventional 4 speeds. It's not until, upon closer inspection, that you realize the dash - and much of the interior - is actually constructed of plastic. The interior has copious amounts of plastic faux leather designed to coordinate with the striking and stylish contrasting-stitched leather-trimmed seats. So, discovering that much of the interior is actually plastic is disappointing.

A loaded version of the Edge is \$37,000, although one can start at under \$31,000. Ford should consider dropping the price point so more people will want this vehicle, because it has many virtues.

The instrument panel has easily readable dials and assorted gauges, all of which can be mastered quickly for maximum comfort and efficiency, especially the very handy dual controls for managing climatic surroundings. But it's the ease in steering and cornering, as well as the Edge's respectable acceleration, that you'll applaud, largely thanks to the transmission's close ratios. Bearing similar structure to that of the Ford Fusion and the Mazda 6, the Edge's independent rear suspension and front struts make those features count.

With all-wheel drive and standard anti-lock brakes, there isn't a road condition - from dry to rain-drizzled, and salt-caked to mounds of ice and snow - that doesn't inspire confidence at every turn - especially during a winter bound to be remembered as a challenge to most drivers.

One unexpected Edge feature is the handy vantage of oh-so-easy, reach-in height when accessing areas beyond the doors or tailgate. At 5-foot-4 myself, I suspect the Edge

sits higher than most crossovers, but it is no strain on the back to load/unload cargo, and the area for cargo is well-defined and spacious - as is the legroom overall. This Edge body is situated squarely on an optional 18-inch wheelbase; 17 inches is standard; thus, it's never wavered in the provision of a solid ride, with well-distributed, ample weight for undaunted road contact and an indomitable driving experience.

The optional DVD navigation system and Sirius radio provide considerable travel help and companionship, and an Audiophile 6-disc CD changer is well within reach for maneuvering without the need to lurch forward and reach components.

At 17 miles to the gallon in the city, and 24 on the highway, improvements should be forthcoming there. But weight and hauling may factor in here, and the Class II Trailer package surely will get you - and your additional cargo - where you want to go.

Safety measures include the standard side airbags, side-impact door beams and SecuriLock, which is largely credited as deterring auto thefts by as much as 77 percent for Mustangs alone during its introductory year in the U.S.

For comfort, power, features every driver will love, and a presence on the road to be recognized, the Ford Edge SEL has - what else? - the edge in 2007.

2007 Ford Freestyle SEL Plus AWD
Vehicle class: Crossover SUV.
Power: 3.5-liter V6 engine.
Mileage: 17 city / 24 highway.
Where built: Oakville, Ontario.
Base price: \$30,720.

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	<p>All New</p> <p>2007 PRIUS \$22,995*</p>	<p>All New</p> <p>2007 SIENNA LE \$21,872*</p>	<p>All New</p> <p>2007 HIGHLANDER 2.4 4 CYLINDER AUTOMATIC \$21,989*</p>

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