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SUNDAY

July 16, 2006

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Professor Joseph DeLauro works on a clay sculpture of Christ back in 1993. The full-sized clay figure was used to make a plaster mold. The mold was used to cast the final sculpture. The finished work hangs on the front of Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church on Farmington Road in Livonia.

'Professor of Art' carved a huge legacy

Sculptor remembered for ability to see 'big picture'

> BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

When Joe DeLauro of Canton Township died Tuesday at the age of 90, the professor of art left a legacy in education, commissioned sculptures around the world and his ability to look at the big picture of life.

"He liked people, and people liked him," said his daughter Kathleen Kargula of Novi. "He had a very strong handshake, which was always interpreted as the strength of his character; and a firm, strong hug that always conveyed the warmth of his love for his family and friends."

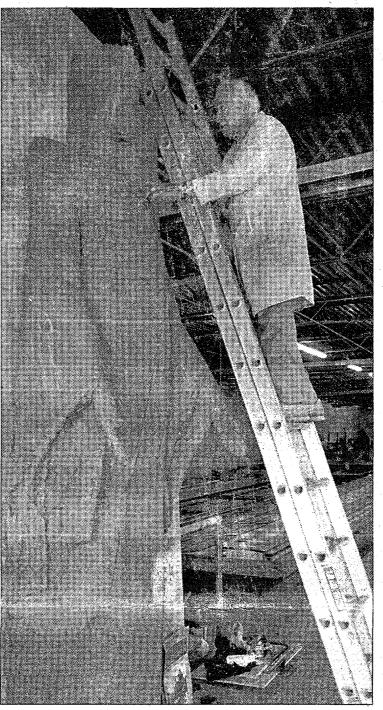
DeLauro died at Angela Hospice in Livonia with Kargula and his wife of 61 years, Dorothy, at his side.



While thinking about where to apply clay to the sculpture, Joe Delauro would warm the next piece of clay by working it with his fingers.

Born to Italian parents in 1916 in New Haven, Conn., DeLauro moved to Detroit in 1947, andlived in Canada for three years before moving to Plymouth in 1967. For many, he will be remembered as a father of the arts, for both his efforts in arts education and, more visually, the many sculptures crafted for metro Detroit locations like Plymouth, Canton and Livonia, as well as Canada, Italy and Ecuador.

"A lot of his work is religious because he was a very spiritual person," Kargula said. "That emotional part would come out



FILE PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The full-sized clay sculpture nears completion.

in his sculpture and drawings. "He loved carving in marble because it was a very physical activity, and because it was man's connection to the earth," she

· Observer & Eccentric photographer Bill Bresler documented much of DeLauro's work, including the year-and-a-half it took DeLauro to carve a marble sculpture for a Lutheran church in Livonia.

"I spent a lot of time talking to him about art and how much energy goes into it," Bresler said. "One thing that really struck me was when he had this large block of marble from Italy. Here was a man in his 70s picking up an air chisel, and moving like he was in his 30s. It was like the energy went right through him."

DeLauro poured his heart into

PLEASE SEE ARTIST, A4

Museum board eyes mail probe

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth Historical Museum's Board of Directors is hoping to complete an internal probe this week into whether the nonprofit museum illegally allowed 20th House District Republican candidate Beth Stewart to use its nonprofit bulk mail permit to send campaign materials.

The director and museum have come under pressure from supporters of Republican Mark Abbo of Northville Township, one of five Republicans running for the 20th House seat nomination in the Aug. 8 primary, who claim the museum improperly allowed Stewart — the museum's 17-year executive director who has been on leave since June 1 - to use the bulk mail stamp, as well as display campaign materials during a book signing June 12 by former Gov. William Milliken. If found true, the Plymouth Historical Museum could face the loss of its nonprofit 501(c)(3) status.

The board of directors last week hired David Thoms of Miller-Canfield, who has legal expertise in IRS tax laws and U.S. Postal Service regulations. Thoms met Wednesday night with the board and is hopeful of completing his investigation early this

"It's a fairly rapid response for a board that only heard of things last Monday," Thoms said. "The fact I'm already investigating tells you the museum is taking this very seriously.

We received a sheet of many allegations, and I'm looking into all of them," he added. "Some, I think, are rumor. Some may have factual basis. I won't comment on any of them until I can spend adequate time investigating."

Margaret Dunning, museum benefactor who donated the museum building and financed a \$1.3 million expansion that was completed in February 2002, said the board was taken by surprise by the

'We were very unaware of any problems. We didn't have any intentions of doing anything wrong," Dunning said. "It's a blow. I feel rather shook up. Not only for me, but also the many people in the community who help and contribute to the museum."

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

Candidate hopes 2nd time is charm

STAFF WRITER

Northville attorney Marc Corriveau admits he might not have been quite ready when he challenged state Rep. John Stewart two years ago for Stewart's seat in the 20th State

> House District. Stewart beat Corriveau then, and now Corriveau is back, running in a three-candidate Democratic primary Aug. 8 for

the seat being vacated by the term-limited Stewart. "I was at a time in my life and career where it might have been a little early," said Corriveau,

who lives in Northville with his wife, Wendy, and children Luc and Eve. "I had two babies and I was a fairly new lawyer. The idea was to get my name out there, get familiar with the process and kind of cut my teeth on that campaign.'

Knowing the 2006 contest would be for the open seat, Corriveau figured he could hit the

ground running. "I learned a tremendous amount about the actual structure of a campaign, which is rather daunting by itself," Corriveau said. "I felt I ran a relatively honorable campaign and I was a decent candidate. People see this as a Republican district, but I'd have a shot going against someone who is not an incumbent."

added.

Education and health care are two of Corriveau's primary concerns, mostly because those are issues he's heard about from the people he's met going

"Jobs issue, education, health care ... these issues overlap each other in the broad picture in terms of where the governor has taken this state," Corriveau said. "These issues are not exclusive of each other. They seem to profoundly affect each other."

For Corriveau, education is the big one. He said the state "needs skilled workers, we need educated students and we need to create an atmosphere from a business standpoint that Michigan is an attractive state."

"Those things affect us all, affect me profoundly,"

PLEASE SEE CORRIVEAU, A5

Hopeful eyes open Lansing seat

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

As a six-year resident of Plymouth Township, Don Schnettler has campaigned for Plymouth Township supervisor and led

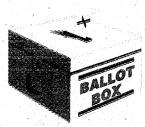
a charge to force the township to get voter approval for \$6 million in bonds for a new township hall.

Now, Schnettler is aiming a little more west and a bit higher up the government chain - with his campaign for the open 20th state House district

Schnettler

seat being vacated by the term-limited state Rep. John Stewart (R-Plymouth Township).

Among his campaign platforms, Schnettler favors the elimination of the Single Business Tax and thinks the state should be leading the way to finding alternatives to oil as an energy source. With



Plymouth Township resign dent Don Schnettler and Northville resident Marc Corriveau are running for an open 20th state House district seat being vacated by state Rep. John Stewart.

what he said is a vast supply of corn in the state and several strong research firms at the state's disposal, he said the state can no longer wait.

"We have the ability to use corn as an alternative fuel," Schnettler said. "The longer we wait, the more we will lag behind the entire country. What we need are companies willing to step up to the plate with incentives that will make them jump at the opportunity to make ethanol plants and fuel cells and cars that run on them."

Schnettler moved to the township in

PLEASE SEE SCHNETTLER, A6

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Volume 120 Number 94





E7 APARTMENTS HOMETOWNLIFE C1 D7 CROSSWORD CLASSIFIEDS D1-F4 JOBS D1 **New Homes**

E1 A7 **D7** D6

Coming Thursday in Filter **Jazzfest**





Blood drive

The Plymouth Salvation Army hosts the American Red Cross Blood Mobile 2-8 p.m. Wednesday, July 26.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 16, 2006

The Salvation Army is located at 9451 S. Main in Plymouth. Donors can call (734) 453-5464 to schedule an appointment, but walk-ins are also welcome.

Cox visits

Wayne County Commissioner Laura Cox will hold office hours Tuesday, July 18, at the Plymouth District Library, 223 South Main Street in Plymouth.

Cox will meet with constituents from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in the library's Friend's Room. Cox represents the communities of Livonia, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Northville and Northville Township.

For more information, contact Carrie Ryckman in Cox's office at (313) 224-0946.

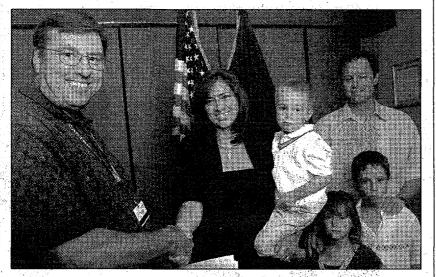
Penn benefits

For everyone who buys a book, a beverage, or a bite to eat at the Book Cellar and Cafe in downtown Plymouth from July 21-23, the store will donate 5 percent of all book sales and 15 percent of all cafe sales to the Friends of the Penn.

Proceeds from this event will be matched by the DTE Energy Foundation through a challenge grant recently awarded to Friends of the Penn. Contact Bashar at (734) 455-BOOK for more information.

The Book Cellar & Cafe is located at 840 W. Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth.

Also, Specialty Pet Supplies, Inc. will sell extra hot dogs for \$1 each during their Customer Appreciation Day noon-5 p.m. Sunday, July 16, with the proceeds being donated to Friends of the Penn. For more infor-



On the job

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Superintendent Jim Ryan congratulates Dianne Gonzalez, a new P-CCS Board of Education Trustee, after the swearing-in ceremony at the board office. Gonzalez is holding her son Louie, and is surrounded by her husband Leo and children Mitch and Chirstina.

mation, call (734) 453-6930. For more information about how to become involved in the effort to save the Penn Theatre, visit www.FriendsofthePenn.org or call (734) 453-0870.

Restaurant crawl

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce hosts its seventh-annual Old Village Restaurant Crawl 5:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 9.

Eight participating Old Village restaurants - Station 885, Plymouth Crossing, Hermann's Olde Town Grille, Plymouth Fish & Seafood, Grecian Café, The Caboose, Cassel's and Crawford's Kitchen - will provide samplings of their specialties. Free horse-and-carriage rides will be

available for ticket-holders.

Tickets may be purchased now at Plymouth Crossing, Plymouth Fish & Seafood, Station 885 and the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail. The cost is \$15 per person; children 12 and under are \$5. Tickets can be purchased by phone using Visa, MasterCard or Discover through the Chamber office only, (734) 453-1540.

Child seat clinic

The Plymouth Township Police Department hosts a free child safety seat clinic 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 12 at the department's new headquarters at Ann Arbor Road and Haggerty.

The inspections will be by appointment only, and limited space is avail-

Observer

Anyone who would like their seats inspected can make an appointment by calling Officer Jamie Senkbeil, (734) 354-3243.

Orchestra auditions

The Celebration Youth Orchestra holds auditions for the 2006-2007 school year Aug. 25-26 at Evola Music, 7170 North Haggerty in Canton.

Auditions are open to string students ages 9 and older with at least one year of instruction and wind, brass, and percussion students ages 12 and older with at least three years of instruction.

Students may live anywhere in southeastern Michigan. Auditions must be scheduled in advance. Students are asked to prepare one scale in any key and a piece of their choice. Percussionists will be provided with a snare drum, but will need to bring their own sticks.

The CYO is the youth orchestra supported by the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society. In Fall 2006 the CYO will have two ensembles, the Celebration Sinfonia for string, wind, brass, and percussion students and the Celebration Strings. The CYO is dedicated to challenging and inspiring students through high level ensemble training and the performance of standard and new repertoire.

The Celebration Youth Orchestra is part of the Plymouth Symphony's Youth Outreach Education Program. Donations to the Symphony's No Kid without a Koncert Education Campaign help to fund the CYO as well as many other programs for students throughout Southeastern Michigan.

To schedule an audition or for more information e-mail jane@plyouthsymphony.org or call the Plymouth Symphony office, (734)

451-2112.

Nominations sought

Nominations are being sought for the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce's annual Business Beautification Awards.

For 10 years, the chamber has presented the awards to acknowledge businesses striving to make the community a more beautiful place to do business. Winners have included every type of business from small retail to corporate companies.

Nominations, which must be submitted in writing, are eligible in three exterior categories: Renovation, Landscaping and New Construction. Nominated businesses must be located in the city or township of Plymouth.

Deadline for nominations is July 10. E-mail, fax or mail nominations to chamber@plymouthmi.org, (734) 453-1724, or the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI 48170.

Glassmaker on TV

Plymouth glassmaker Don Schneider will be featured on "Beads, Baubles & Jewels," a PBS TV show airing July 30.

Schneider will be showcasing a technique called millefiori, which translates to "a thousand flowers." Schneider shows the first step in the process, then explains further using

examples of the work in progress. Schneider's work, from blown rare glass to delicate Christmas ornaments and beads, is available in his gallery, The Glassworks, 543 Deer Street in Plymouth. Schneider teaches at the Toledo Museum of Art, at his studio for Schoolcraft College, and privately.

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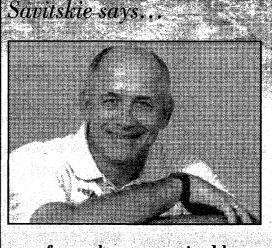
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'Compassionate' pastor shared faith, love of life

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA STAFF WRITER

As pastor of St. Timothy Presbyterian Church in Livonia, the Rev. Janet A. Noble-Richardson touched the lives of

The 44-year-old Plymouth resident served the church for 18 years. On Tuesday, July 11, Noble-Richardson died in



Noble-Richardson

a three-car crash on the Ohio Turnpike. She had been traveling to a family cabin, friends said, but never made it to her destination. The fatal crash occurred shortly before 10:30 p.m. near

Brecksville, Ohio. Ohio Highway Patrol Lt. Chris Butts said it was raining when Noble-Richardson

apparently lost control of her Ford Explorer and hit the left median wall while traveling the Ohio Turnpike.

"After she struck the median, her car came to rest in the left lane with the lights out, and was hit by an oncoming Toyota Camry," Butts said. "It hit her rear quarter panel, spun the car and ejected her. She was pronounced dead on arrival to the hospital."

The news brought an entire community together Wednesday night in Livonia. A memorial service filled St. Timothy's, said Ron Hendry, a Livonia resident and friend.

"People of all faiths were there," he said. "Catholics and Methodists. They loved this lady."

David Kourdt, a longtime member of St. Timothy, served on the committee with seven other members when the church was searching for a new pastor 18 years

"There was a radiance about her all the time," he said. "She is a true Christian, a true believer.

Kourdt said Noble-Richardson knew she had been called to be a pastor. Her impact surpassed St. Timothy's walls. She was active in the Presbytery as a whole, Kourdt

In a group of more than 90 Detroit-area Presbyterian churches, he said she also made an impact on her fellow clergy. "A number of them came and spoke about what a wonderful person she was (during Wednesday's service)," he said. "She was so loved by everyone, so compassionate."

Hendry said: "She was the reason we

joined the church. She was a wonderful woman. Her charisma from the pulpit effected everyone."

It certainly affected Evelyn Ritenour and her husband, Don. The Northville residents considered their pastor to be like a daughter to them.

Ritenour said she came to know Noble-Richardson 16 years ago, shortly after she became pastor at the Livonia church. What struck Ritenour the most was Noble-Richardson's love of children — and

the way that admiration was returned. In hearing the news of her death, a young member of the church asked his mother:

"Who is going to teach us about God?" Ritenour said. "(The children) relied on Janet for much."

In her time at St. Timothy, the vacation bible school program continued to grow and thrive, according to Kourdt.

Ritenour noted that the church members themselves share a closeness "because of the love Janet gave us all."

"Ministers have told us they don't know of another church as close," Ritenour said. "We suffer, cry, rejoice and laugh together." Her life was not without hardship,

Ritenour said. Noble-Richardson had been battling cancer and underwent chemotherapy sev-

eral times. "We were all praying it would disappear," she said. "Our prayers were answered. Not the way we wanted them to be."

She will remember Noble-Richardson as "a vivacious person" who dared to jump out of an airplane, spent her honeymoon on a mission trip to Kenya, and always took time for those in need.

"She was a very loving person," Ritenour said. "She never asked us to do something she didn't do herself."

Survivors include her husband, Matthew Richardson; father, the Rev. Robert Noble; brother, Thomas (Margaret) Noble; sister, Margaret (the Rev. Mark) Ruppert; and six nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her mother, Ethelyn.

Visitation will be 1-9 p.m. Sunday at Harry J. Will Funeral Home on Six Mile in Livonia. Visitation at St. Timothy, at 16700 Newburgh, will be at 10 a.m. Monday, followed by services at 11 a.m. Memorial donations may be sent to the church.

Staff writer Tony Bruscato contributed to this report.

scasola@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2054



Sam Detrich, Bob Hughes (not pictured) and Kathy and Gary Turnquist are responsible for building the perfect sundae.

Sunshine and sundaes

Seniors enjoy 4th-annual ice cream social

Nearly 60 seniors enjoyed the sunshine and ice cream sundae treats during the fourth-annual ice cream social sponsored by the Plymouth Community Council on Aging at Plymouth Township Park Monday.

"We had Civitans helping us with serving the seniors, who enjoyed Guernsey ice cream," said Bobbie Pummill, program director for the Council on Aging. "Seniors were treated to chocolate and vanilla sundaes topped with nuts, strawberries, hot fudge and whipped cream."

Senior participants in the Tai Chi class of Lillian Valdez-Schisler and Renate Kickland of Taoist Tai Chi of Michigan in Livonia also put on a demon-

The Council on Aging is currently searching for Plymouth-area participants in the Second Annual Western Wayne County Senior Olympics, which will be hosted by the City of Northville and Northville Township at the Northville Community Center Aug. 21-25.

Seniors can participate in a number of activities, including shuffleboard, basketball, fun walk, golf, swimming and pinochle.

The event culminates with a recognition dinner for participants and medal winners on Friday, Aug. 25 at Northville High School.

Meanwhile, the 21st annual Plymouth Senior Fest is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 13, from 11



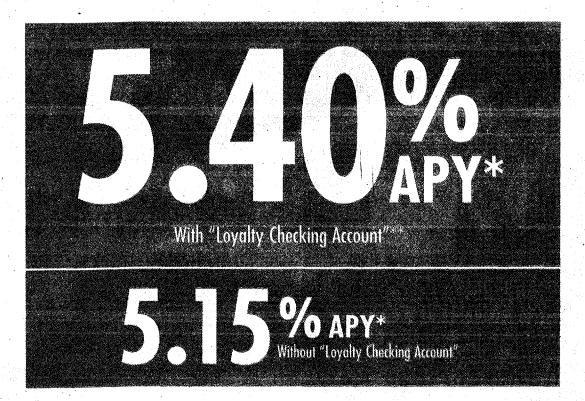
Lillian Schister of the Taoist Tai Chi Society of Michigan and student Harriet Matthews demonstrate Tai Chi to the gathered seniors.

a.m. - 3 p.m., at Waterford Bend Park, which is located at Six Mile and Northville Road. Tickets are \$6 for residents of Plymouth and Plymouth Township, and Council on Aging members.

Additional information on Council on Aging events can be obtained by calling (734) 453-1234,

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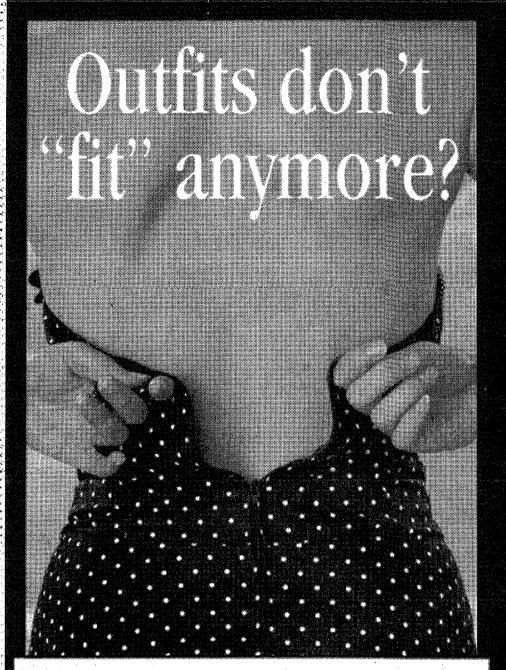
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DELAURO

FROM PAGE A1

his work, and loved teaching art. He began the University of Windsor's Fine Arts Department in 1960, and established the first bachelor of fine arts degree for an Ontario university.

Susan Gold of Windsor, Ontario, was hired by DeLauro to teach at the University of Windsor in 1970.

"He was very strong in terms of work ethic, producing work, and that legacy of hard work and hands-on learning is still the basis of the department, even though he's gone," Gold

"Not only was he a model for being an artist, but also working with students. The way he would handle them still directs my teaching to this day."

Gold, who is Jewish, said she had many philosophical discussions with DeLauro, a devout Catholic.

"We had these wonderful talks about Abraham and the different philosophies of Judaism and how that related to Catholicism, and those things came out in his sculpture," said Gold, who noted DeLauro once sculptured a piece for the Jewish center in Windsor. "He had a lot of curiosity and insight for different

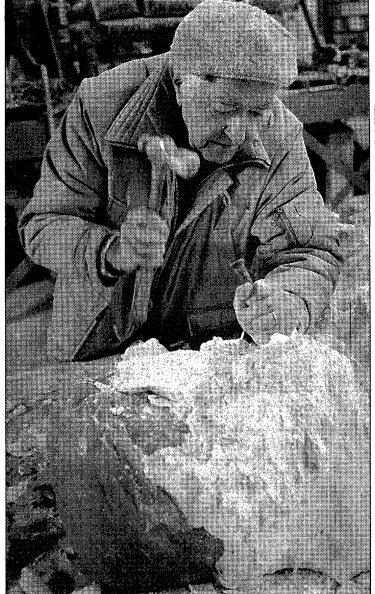
Kargula said her father was always around when she needed him, and hopes she can pass on the same kind of wisdom to her own children.

"I want my children to give to society all the wonderful qualities that my dad was able to show me," Kargula said. "When I would go to him for advice, he always gave me the bigger picture, the impact each one of us has on our society. I saw dad do that in his own way."

DeLauro is survived by his wife, Dorothy; children Robert (Diane) DeLauro, Greg (Cheryl) DeLauro and Kargula; and grandchildren Lydia, Ashley, Joe and Kevin.

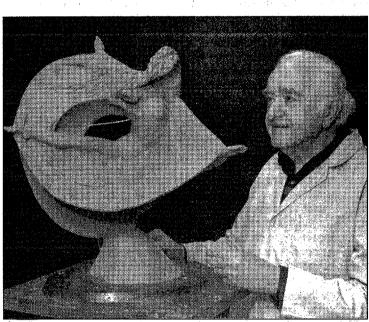
A funeral Mass is set for 10:30 a.m. Monday at Our Lady of Good Counsel. Memorial contributions can be made to Michigan Parkinson Foundation, 30400 Telegraph, Ste. 150, Bingham Farms, MI 48025-5819.

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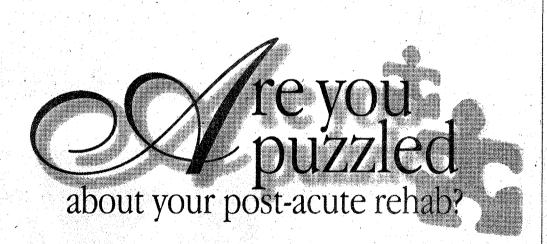


FILE PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHE

Joe DeLauro frees the final casting from the plaster mold.



DeLauro loved to capture grace and motion in many of his works. This piece is titled "Dancing Lady" and was completed in the early 1990s.



OPEN HOUSE Heartland of Canton

Wednesday, July 26, 2006 - 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.7025 N. Lilley Road — Canton, MI 48187

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@ THE LIBRARY

The Plymouth District Library hosts the following events during

■ CONSTRUCTION UPDATES — Check out the latest developments on the library's renovation project by going to plymouthlibrary.org and clicking on the Building Blog. Current project updates and photos will take you behind the scenes.

ASTRONOMY DISCUS-SION GROUP, Monday, July 17, 7 p.m. — Join Plymouth resident Mike Best in this lively discussion group each month. Mike shares his affection for the sky with adults and children over the age of 6.

No registration is required. For more information contact (734) 459-BEST or starmikebest@comcast.net

■ WRITING MY LIFE STORY: A SENIOR WRITING GROUP, Tuesday, July 18, 4 p.m. Seniors can share and preserve their life stories with the guidance of Plymouth author, Jane Saylor. No previous writing experience is necessary.

■ CONTEMPORARY BOOKS DISCUSSION, Wednesday, July 19, 7:30 p.m. — Members of this book discussion group are invited to participate in this annual Book Lover's Choice.

Bring a list of your favorite books and authors and take a list home after the lively discussion. New members are welcome at any time. For further information, please call Sue Patterson at the Library, (734) 453-0750, Ext. 241, or email spatterson@plymouthlibrary.org

■ PLYMOUTH GARDEN GROUP, Thursday, July 20, 7 p.m. - The subject for the July meeting is native plants. Share gardening concerns, solutions and ideas with other gardeners from the area in this informal monthly gathering.
■ NEEDLECRAFTERS

MEETING, Monday, July 24, 7-9 p.m. - Knitters, quilters, needlepointers are all invited to attend this informal group gathering. Lessons are not provided, but ideas exchanged among attendees. No registration required. Bring your latest proj-

TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR MONEY, Tuesday, July 25, 7 p.m. — The Plymouth District Library will host this basic budgeting and financial

planning seminar for community residents. It will be presented by Beth Troost of Community Financial Credit Union. Register for this free program at the Reader's Advisory Desk, by phone at (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4, or on-line at plymouthlibrary.org

BROWN BAG BOOK DIS-CUSSION, Wednesday, July 26, noon — This month's discussion invites members to read East of Eden by John Steinbeck. Copies of this book are available at the circulation desk. Bring a lunch; beverages are provided. For more information about Brown Bag Books, ask at the Reader's Advisory Desk, call Linda Pride at the Library, (734) 453-0750, Ext. 206 or e-mail lpride@ply-

mouthlibrary.org
HOMEBOUND BOOK DELIVERY — Joining the Plymouth Community Council on Aging, the Plymouth District Library will deliver library books and audio books to homebound residents of the City of Plymouth and Plymouth Township. Call (734) 453-0750, Ext. 240 to enroll or go to plymouthlibrary.org and complete the homebound delivery service registration.

CORRIVEAU

FROM PAGE A1

Corriveau said. "From a legislative standpoint, if I'm lucky enough to be given the opportunity to go to Lansing, those are the things most people find important."

Corriveau favors eliminating the Single Business Tax, but not before something is done to replace the \$1.8 billion the state would lose as a result.

"If you just ask the question, do I like the SBT, I don't," he said. "But a lot of issues aren't that simple. We can't kill the SBT until there's a comprehensive plan to replace the money. You don't just cut it and wait for the fallout to happen to figure out what we're going to do." Corriveau said he's seen ideas

expressed for replacing the revenue, including perhaps extend-

ing sales tax to other areas.
"I saw something that said if you spread it out to all sales you may even be able to drop it from 6 percent to 5 percent,"

Corriveau said. "It should be gone. But how do you make sure we're not just jumping from the frying pan into the fire? That job is going to be a tough one, and our legislators are going to have

Corriveau sees the cost of health care as a huge issue, pointing to Sen. Debbie Stabenow's efforts to provide affordable prescription drugs as the key component of quality health care.

"(Stabenow) has been real aggressive on providing cheaper prescription drugs for the elderly, and we should piggy-back on that and make sure we're listening to people around this area," Corriveau said. "Michigan needs a common-sense approach to providing health care and prescription coverage without sacrificing quality of care."

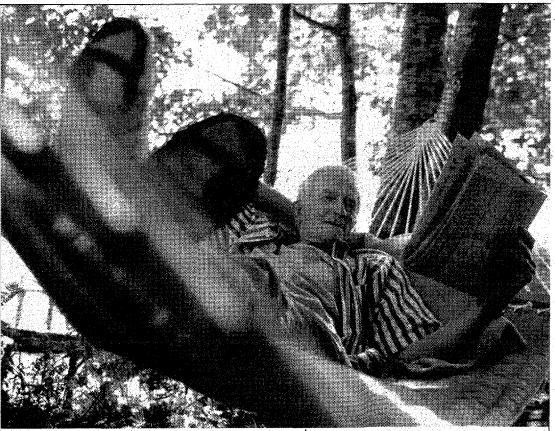
Corriveau is for the equitable funding of public schools, and would tweak Proposal A to get there, if that's what his constituents wanted.

"I like to defer the nuts and bolts of the argument whether the funding is enough to the administrators and the teachers, and I'd like to go to them and hear what they have to say about it," he said. "I think you can't go away from the public schools. If it's determined the public schools are underfunded, it's one of my core beliefs it needs to start there. Access to the American dream is an illusion unless truly every single person has the opportunity.

Corriveau thinks skills he's developed as an attorney make him an attractive candidate.

"In my job as an attorney representing my clients' interests, I have to be a strong advocate," he said. "In terms of getting somewhere and being a consensus builder and bringing ideas that may not match exactly into some sort of workable understanding agreement, I think that's what I pride myself on most. If it means getting a little here and maybe giving up something there you don't want, but the ultimate result is gain."

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4-H educator looks to expand program

BY SUE MASON STAFF WRITER

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 16, 2006

Mention 4-H and horses, cows, rabbits and the like come to mind. But 4-H is much more than that, according to Laurie Rivetto.

The new 4-H educator for Wayne County Michigan State University Extension for western Wayne County, Rivetto is hoping to get the word out that the organization offers more than livestock, horses and ponies for youth ages 9-19 years.

"Anyone with any interest, a club can be created," said Rivetto. "Five youth from three different families and an adult to oversee them constitutes a club. They can choose what they want to do as an individual or as a group, and they can get support and materials and resources from the local office or the state."

To get the word out, Rivetto is reaching out to existing clubs like the Four Season 4-H Horse Club in Northville and working on a survey to find out what the "pressing needs" of youth are living in the western Wayne area.

Her western Wayne area ranges from suburban to somewhat rural and stretches from the Detroit boundary on

the east to the Washtenaw County line on the west. It takes in Westland, Garden City, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Canton, Livonia and Redford.

It's an area that has been without a representative for five-six years, so Rivetto knows she has a lot to do to breathe new life into the program. So far, she has gotten information on 12 clubs and 150 youth who are involved in 4-H in this area.

"I believe 4-H can be a lot bigger than it is," she said. "It's not now because the area didn't have a representative or the people didn't know about 4-H. I hope to demonstrate that there's a need to have this position on this side of the county."

The H in 4-H stands for head, heart, hands and health. The organization lets kids take the lead, with the help of adult partners, in thinking, learning and problem-solving.

It helps kids build strong relationships with peers and adults based on caring and respect and learn by doing and then using their talents and skills to make their communities better places in which to live and grow. It also helps kids make healthy choices to keep them physically and mentally able to do what they need to at school, at home and in

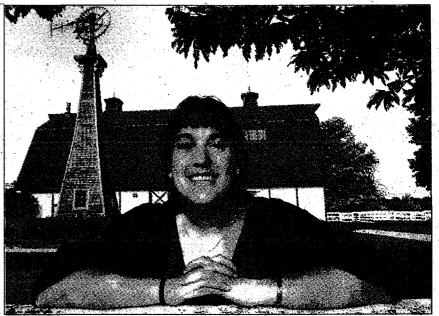
their communities. It goes beyond animals into communication arts - speaking, writing and drama - the visual arts, environmental education, science and technology. And even has different programs and activities for youngsters ages 5-8 that are developmentally appropriate and are educational, safe, and fun.

"One of the things I want to do is help people become more aware of 4-H," she said. "There's a lot of opportunity to be involved in different things, not just horses. There's so many kids in the communities that can learn and grow from these programs."

To make 4-H accessible to area residents, she's set up shop in the MSU Extension building on Venoy south of Van Born in Wayne. She's also developing a needs assessment that will ask questions about the concerns and issues that need to be addressed with youth in order to aid 4-H in the future.

She's asking current 4-H leaders and youth to contact her to find out about upcoming events. She's also the person leaders need to turn their annual reports into to avoid missing out on opportunities at the state and local level, including the Wayne County Fair which takes place Aug. 8-12.

This is a learning experience for



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

As a 4-H educator, Laurie Rivetto is working on ways to reach out to western Wayne County youth to get them involved in the organization.

Rivetto. She's never been involved, either as a youth or an adult in 4-H. She grew up in Troy and graduated from Troy High School, and brings her experience working as a camp director for three years in Rochester and at the Boys & Girls Club where she programmed club activities and worked with the young people.

She has a bachelor's degree in middle childhood education from Ohio

Northern University and a master's degree in youth development from

"I love working with kids in an informal setting," she said. "I enjoy making an impact on their lives and enhancing what they're learned in school."

Youth and adults interested in learning more about 4-H can call Rivetto at (734) 727-7236 or the MSU Extension office in Wayne at (734) 721-6576.



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SCHNETTLER

FROM PAGE A1

September 2000, with his wife, Debra, after living in the city of Plymouth for 18 years. The couple has three children: Robert, Ryan and Mikayla. Schnettler is an electrical/building inspector for Washtenaw County who also does the same job on a part-time basis for the city of Plymouth.

He cut his election teeth in his 2004 candidacy for Plymouth Township supervisor, a race he lost to Richard Reaume.

In 2005, he formed Citizens for Responsive Government because he did-

n't think the township board was taking the public's views into account in terms of its new township hall.

Now he's one of five Republican candidates seeking the 20th state House

Schnettler favors elimination of the SBT, but has concerns about replacing the revenue it generates.

"Elimination of this tax is the best thing for small business, but we will have to figure out what to do with the large deficit it will leave," Schnettler said. "I'm not for raising taxes to offset this shortfall."

Among his other issues: Does not favor affirmative action. "When you're

promoting based on race or gender, you've eliminated the best. In my mind, you've forced the best to go someplace else."

Would limit campaign spending. "Take a look at the governor's race. Dick DeVos is going to spend \$5 million just on TV ads. It's getting to the point where a normal citizen can't (afford) to run for office."

Governments and corporations outsourcing jobs. "It has created poor employee morale and is hurting our businesses here in Michigan. I am all for cutting expenses, but at what cost?'

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onald Duck Sees South America. That is not a statement. It is the title of a book. It was one of the first books I ever read and I will never forget it, though I haven't seen it in nearly a half a century.

For whatever reason, that book made an

impression on me and began a lifelong love affair with reading; and later,

Kowalski

Libraries around the nation, including those right here in the Birmingham-Bloomfield area, are promoting their summer reading programs. We tend to look at summer reading the same way we look as summer movies - pretty lightweight stuff: Harold Robbins and

Batman. There's nothing wrong with that. I still remember reading a wonderful science fiction book called "Garbage World," which was set on a planet where everyone else tossed their trash. Not exactly great literature, but it was enjoyable and I didn't feel I wasted my time reading it.

But I still have a fondness for the classics, and I encourage everyone who has an interest in great reading, writing or storytelling to check out the great books. Long ago I embarked on a journey of reading every classic novel that has ever been written. It's a subjective list to an extent, although many are generally recognized as classics — "Moby Dick," "War and Peace," "David Copperfield," and "Huckleberry Finn," for example.

Those are wonderful books, but only represent the standards. There is a whole set of other classics that are generally overlooked that are definitely worth checking out.

One of my all-time favorites is "Sister Carrie" by Theodore Dreisler. Published in 1900 it was quite scandalous in its day, but it one of the most remarkable pieces of writing I have ever encountered. It offers an incredibly vivid portrait of late 19th century America, perhaps unmatched anywhere. In a similar vein, "McTeague," Frank Norris' naturalistic novel from the same period, is gritty

Both books are beautifully written and lemonstrate how simple words can be crafted into compelling stories that can touch

Although many of the greatest novelists were active in the 19th century, when reading was a principal form of entertainment, many modern novelists have created great works. I found Leon Uris' "Mila 18" utterly enthralling. It is the rare kind of book that led me to start reading first-thing Saturday morning to pick up where I had left off Friday night. Based on fact, it tells the tragic story of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising against the Nazis in World War II.

This is powerful writing.

Marjorie Rawling's "The Yearling," from 1938, is another superb piece of writing with one of the most memorable endings I've encountered in a book.

And there are so many more: Ignazio Silone's "Bread and Wine," Ken Kesey's "Sometimes a Great Notion," Peter Matthiessen's "Far Tortuga," Carson McCuller's "The Heart is a Lonely Hunter," and for the truly adventurous, Stendahl's

The Red and the Black," are just a few. Recently Henry Roth's "*Call it Sleep*" resurfaced again after being periodically ignored for the last 70 years. It is an amazingly rich story of early 20th century immigrant life in New York. Read it, and you feel like you are there. All of these books open up whole new vistas to us. They take us from the Caribbean to the ghettos of New York and Warsaw, or to the mountains of the Northwest. And they show us the range of human — and inhuman experiences.

Every time I get the uppity feeling that I am a good writer, I pick up one of these books and am put back into place. This isn't just writing. It is artistry.

Make your summer reading program one to remember. Check out some really great

Greg Kowalski is editor of the Birmingham Eccentric. He can be reached at (248) 901-2570 or by e-mail at gkowalski@hometownlife.com.

Looming Medicaid changes create a cause for concern

very so often, Congress changes the rules of Medicaid eligibility for nursing home coverage. In recent years, the law has been relatively stable, with no changes in federal law since 1993.

In our collective experience of 35 years of practicing elder law we have never seen such drastic and detrimental

changes in the law when it comes to providing benefits to our elderly, disabled and the

In February, President Bush signed the 2005 Deficit Reduction Act (DRA), which includes changes that tighten Medicaid asset transfer rules and affect Medicaid eligibility for nursing home care. These changes have not yet been enacted in Michigan.

Here is a brief summary of some of the expected changes in the law. When and how these looming laws are interpreted and applied in Michigan remains to be seen. Some of the most significant changes are:

■ A lengthened lookback Mayoras period. States previously used a three-year period to examine the financial records of Medicaid applicants and determine if asset transfers (gifts) were for less than fair market value. Under the DRA, the lookback period will be changed to five years.

■ Altered start of penalties. For assets transfers that are less than fair market value, the penalty period will now begin at the date the individual would otherwise have been eligible for Medicaid, but for the asset transfers, rather than the date of the asset transfer

Charitable and political contributions as well as innocent gifts to family are types of transfers that could result in an Medicaid ineligibility penalty.

For example, a fairly healthy grandma gives her granddaughter \$20,000 to assist with her college education.

Three years later grandma has a stroke and requires nursing home care and over the next 18 months spends her life savings on her own care. Forty-eight months after her gift to granddaughter, grandma is now out of assets and applies for Medicaid.

She will be penalized for about four months before she will receive Medicaid benefits, even though she has no more money to pay for her care. How her care will be paid for during the

four-month period of ineligibility is anyone's

■ New test of home equity. Medicaid previously disregarded the value of a primary residence in counting assets. Under the DRA, individuals with more than \$500,000 in home equity will be ineligible for Medicaid nursing home benefits. The states do have the option of raising the threshold to \$750,000.

■ Treatment of annuities. Changes made concerning annuities are very complex and as of this date it is unclear on how they will be interpreted. The gist of these changes is to provide a requirement that the state be named as a remainder beneficiary to the extent medical services have been paid by Medicaid. Previously, federal government treated certain annuities as exempt assets and did not require that the government be named as the beneficiary.

■ New proof of citizenship requirements. Finally, the new Medicaid laws require individuals to provide satisfactory documentary evidence of citizenship or nationality when initially applying for Medicaid or upon a recipient's first Medicaid redetermination. This portion of the law is very troubling in that there are many persons who were born overseas or in the South who do not have a birth certificates.

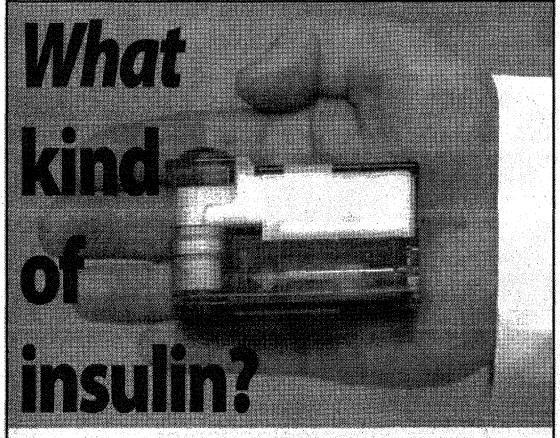
Currently, these laws are not in effect in Michigan. It is expected that they will not become effective until sometime in the late fall or early 2007. The message from our government is obvious: One needs to plan and plan early or you will have to "go it" on your plan early or you will have to "go it" on your own. The best time to plan is before Michigan implements these changes. You should realize that even though there are new laws looming, there are still many ways that you can legally and effectively save the assets. This will continue to be true even when the new laws are finally effective.

A person's goal should always be to provide the greatest quality of care to themselves and their loved ones at the least cost to them and their family. This goal can be accomplished even if one is already in a nursing home. Remember, it is never too late to plan. In light of these new laws, it is now more important than ever to work with an experienced elder law attorney.

Don L. Rosenberg and Danielle B. Mayoras are the founders of The Center for Elder Law. More information can be found at The Center's web site, www.thecenterforelderlaw.com or by calling (248) 641-PLAN. If you would like to be kept advised of new developments and other elder law information, you can subscribe to the center's free Internet newsletter. Don L. Rosenberg and Danielle B. Mayoras are the







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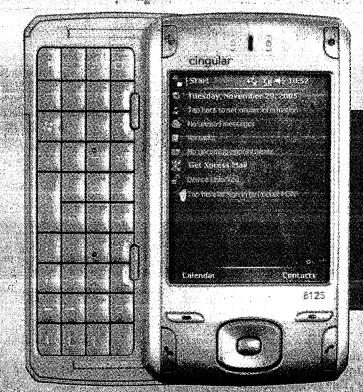




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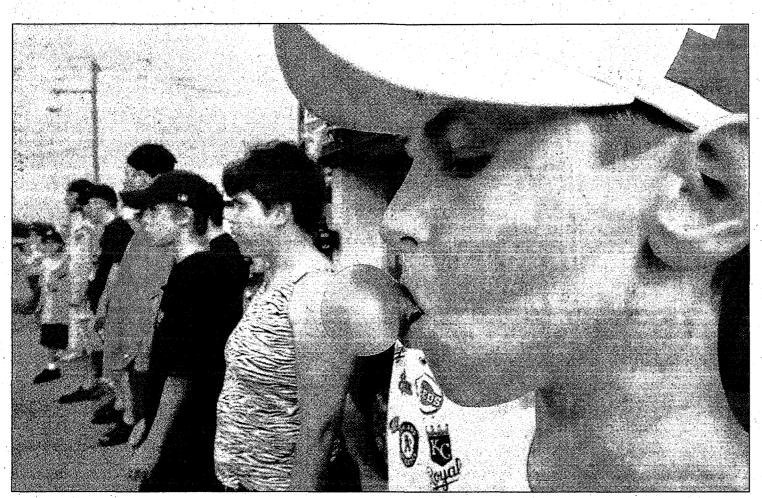
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Contestants including 11-year-old Connor Gamache of Redford Township (foreground) get their bubbles going during Wednesday's contest at Fanatic U in

GIEW-DENOOUS!

Tiger pitcher igniting zany summer of baseball, bubbles

BY TIM SMITH STAFF WRITER

The latest catch phrase for a Detroit Tigers pennant drive is much sweeter and stickier than anything resonating back in 1968 or '84.

And with the "gum man" back for an encore appearance at Garden City's Fanatic U sports collectible store Wednesday night, there can be no denying the baseball-buzz bubble is growing and growing. Nobody

wants it to burst anytime soon. For the second time in two weeks, Tigers pitcher Nate Robertson came out to the Fanatic U location at Ford and Henry Ruff roads to witness local fans — many wearing gray T-shirts with "It's Gum Time" emblazoned on the front compete in a bubble-gum blow-

ing contest. Robertson — who is seemingly becoming as popular for his Big League Chew prowess than for getting opposing batters out then went inside the store to

sign autographs and chat. Also signing Wednesday was Tigers rookie pitching sensation Joel Zumaya.

"It's great for the kids, a lot are out here just to blow bubbles and see Nate since he's the gum man," said 21-year-old Brian McFarland of Wayne, who won Wednesday's contest. "I've been

SUPER SLOGANS

1968 - "Go Get 'em Tigers" or "Sock it to 'em Tigers," take your pick. Result: World unampionsnip.

1984 - "Bless You Boys." Result: World Championship.

2006 - "It's Gum Time." Result: Check back in the

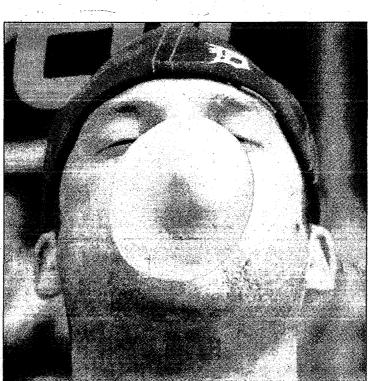
chewing it since before Nate came around, but I like it better now that he's kind of the gum guy. Big League Chew, you

McFarland made his mark using Big League Chew, the brand Robertson and teammates pop into their mouths in the Tigers dugout while trying to jump-start another rally.

But McFarland used the grape-flavored gum even though it's "tougher than all the other

Brian added that there is no real secret to blowing a good bubble.

"I was always blowing bubbles as a kid and you never forget, it's like riding a bike," he said, grinning. "You have to have the right amount of gum, though."



Steve Krisko, of Garden City, earned third place thanks to this bubble certainly one to make Nate Robertson proud.

Contestants of all ages gave it a go. There was 12-year-old Ryan Powell, of Redford Township, who said, "It was fun to actually be part of something that's important, where you can actually get stuff (like Tigers

tickets). He was at Fanatic U with his sister, 9-year-old Kelsie, and his

mom, Robin Powell. "It gets the kids involved, in terms of baseball and in terms of

fun," Robin said. It was a family affair for Donna Smith, 46, of Dearborn Heights. She participated along with her 10-year-old son Mike and 11-year-old nephew David

Vettese of Canton (fourth place). Smith said Mike placed second at the first "It's Gum Time" contest, June 29. But to them, the fun was being around to

again see their favorite Tiger up

close and personal. "We're big Robertson fans, we love the Tigers," Smith said. "And it's a fun, family thing to

Garden City's Maszatic family were among the more than 100 people who came out "for gum time" and then to meet

Robertson and Zumava. Holly and Kevin Maszatic watched their 10-year-old son, Zackary, attempt to blow the biggest bubble. Also rooting him on was his 6-year-old sister,

Haleigh. "I like chewing gum and I wanted to win tickets to the Tigers," Zackary said in matterof-fact fashion.

PLEASE SEE BIG LEAGUE CHEW, B8

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

'This is something, more than anything, (that) the fans have enjoyed and the guys are starting to have a lot of fun with it, too."

Nate Robertson Tigers pitcher

It's 'gum time' for team, too

BY TIM SMITH STAFF WRITER

Television cameras zeroed in on the gum-filled mouth of **Detroit Tigers pitcher Nate** Robertson during a recent ball-

Before the Canton resident knew it, all of "Tiger Nation" followed his lead — buying Big League Chew and cheering the

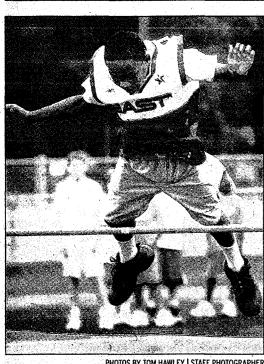
Bengals on to another victory. "He (Robertson) was the one who started chewing it in the dugout and those guys from Fox Sports Net Detroit, Rod Allen and Mario Impemba, saw it and made a big deal out of it," said Greg Every, owner of the Garden City Fanatic U store, where Robertson and teammate Joel Zumaya made a Wednesday appearance. "A couple games later, he started doing it again and they (the broadcasters) said, 'It's gum time.' Now everyone's

doing it." T-shirts were produced, with the catchy slogan "It's Gum Time" on the front and Robertson's name and uniform

number on the back. And Wednesday marked the second time in two weeks that Robertson came out to the Ford Road store for a bubble-gum blowing contest and subsequent

autograph session. He seems more than happy to

PLEASE SEE GUM TIME, B8



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Curtis Smith, 11, of Redford Township wins the high jump for his age group at Wednesday's Redford Junior Olympics at Hilbert Middle School.

Weather holds up for Junior Olympics

The forecasted thunderstorms stayed away Wednesday from Hilbert Middle School and the respite enabled the 48th annual Redford Township Parks and Recreation Junior Olympics to proceed as planned.

With no makeup date in the works, the better-thanexpected weather afforded about 100 youngsters from Redford Township and surrounding communities the opportunity to run, jump and throw to their heart's content.

"Due to the weather (forecast), I'm very glad that many people came out to participate," said Theresa Burgess of the Redford parks and recreation department. "We got really lucky with the weather, because it was supposed to storm.

"All the kids seemed to have a great time with it."

The Junior Olympics provide an outlet for individual boys and girls under 12 years old to see how they fare in everything from dashes and relays to softball tosses and high jumps.

Complete results of the Junior Olympics were not available as of press time. They will be published in Thursday's Observer sports section.



in the long jump at the Redford Parks and Recreation Junior Olympics was 6-year-old Audrey Kopitz, of Livonia. The annual event draws kids from all over Observerland to compete.

Participating

2nd Chance 5K

The fifth annual Second Chance at Life 5-kilometer race, a family fun and fitness event promoting organ donation sponsored by the University of Michigan Transplant Center, will be at 9 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 12, at the Nankin Mills Pavillion in Hines Park, located at 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland.

Registration starts at 7:45 a.m. The cost for the 5K race is \$18 (if registered online by 11:59 p.m. Pacific time, Aug. 10.

Visit runmichigan.com. **Players needed**

Boys and girls who are entering grades 4-8 are being sought to join the St. **Edith CYO Soccer team** based in Livonia.

The coaching staff is committed to teaching the game of soccer and providing an environment where the concepts of "good sportsmanship", "character" and Christian values are held in high regard.

Eligibility is restricted to those who attend St. Edith School or attend religious education at St. Edith, St. Aidan, St. Colette, St. Kenneth or St. Maurice.

All players are required to get a sports physical dated after April 15, 2006. Additional documentation is required and will be distributed closer to the season start date. The season begins in August and finishes in October. The participation fee is \$100 for St. Edith parish members and \$125 for out of parish members.

Those who are interested should e-mail their name, grade, contact information, and their parish/school to eaglesoccer@earthlink.net. They may also visit the web site at www.stedithcyo.com or call Rich Field at 248-473-7865. St. Edith is at 15089 Newburgh Road, Livonia.

Hole-in-one club

Brian Bint, of Livonia, used a sand wedge to ace the 129-yard, No. 7 hole at Whispering Willows in Livonia on July 7. He shot a round of 35. It was the third ace of his seven-year golfing career. ■ Canton resident

Shawn Simancas aced the 5th hole on the Woodlands layout at Fox Hills Golf Club July 7. The 15-yearold used a six iron on the 144-yard par 3 hole. He recorded a nine-hole score of 37.

O&E golf tourneyThe annual Men's and

Women's Observer & Eccentric Open golf tournament will be Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 12-13, at Whispering Willows and Fox Creek golf courses in Livonia. Call (248) 476-4493.

Coaches sought...

The Livonia Public Schools are in need of both head and assistant varsity gymnastics coaches. Call Marc Hage at (734) 744-2824.

Stanley's back

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 16, 2006

Karmanos brings the Cup to Compuware for visit

Compuware Chairman and CEO Peter Karmanos, owner of the Carolina Hurricanes and Plymouth Whalers, will bring the Stanley Cup to the Detroitarea beginning Monday.

The Stanley Cup will alternate between Compuware Headquarters in Detroit and the Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth.

It will also make appearances at the Karmanos Cancer Institute

"I'm proud to bring the Stanley Cup back to my hometown," explained Karmanos. "In the time it's here, I'm going to ensure that Compuware employees and customers have an opportunity to enjoy the trophy, while offering local charities, the public and the media a chance to see the Cup."

The Stanley Cup will be available for viewing at the Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth from 7-10 p.m. on Monday, July 17.

Following is the schedule for viewing at the Compuware Sports Arena:

■ 7-8 p.m. — special viewing

and photographs for Whalers season-ticket holders, billets, corporate sponsors and CSA employees:

■ 8-10 p.m. — viewing and photographs for Compuware youth hockey teams, Whalers Hockey School participants, Learn-to-Skate program participants, CSA customers, Whalers game-night ushers, concessions associates, Whalers group leaders and friends of Compuware Sports Arena. Plymouth Whalers President, General Manager and Head Coach Mike Vellucci was part of the first Compuware youth team over

"It is really neat to know that Mr. Karmanos has been a generous builder of hockey in Detroit and the United States for over 30 years," Vellucci said. "The fact that he wants to give Detroit-area fans a chance to share in the celebration of the Stanley Cup is gratifying to our entire organiza-

30 years ago.

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"In addition, we want to provide our season-ticket holders,

corporate sponsors and Compuware Sports Arena employees a special opportunity to see the Cup and take a keep-sake photograph. Finally, we would like friends of the program to stop by between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Monday night to celebrate with us."

Karmanos and Compuware have a more than 30-year history of hockey sponsorship, starting at the youth level in the Detroit-area, going to the Ontario Hockey League with the Windsor Compuware Spitfires and Plymouth Whalers and then moving on to the National Hockey League in 1994 when Karmanos purchased the Hartford Whalers. The Whalers moved to Carolina in 1997.

Compuware Youth teams and the Whalers have helped produce National Hockey League players Chad LaRose. Justin Williams, James Wisniewski, Pat LaFontaine, Mike Modano, Eric Lindros, Jason Bacashihua, Bryan Berard and Robert Esche, among others.

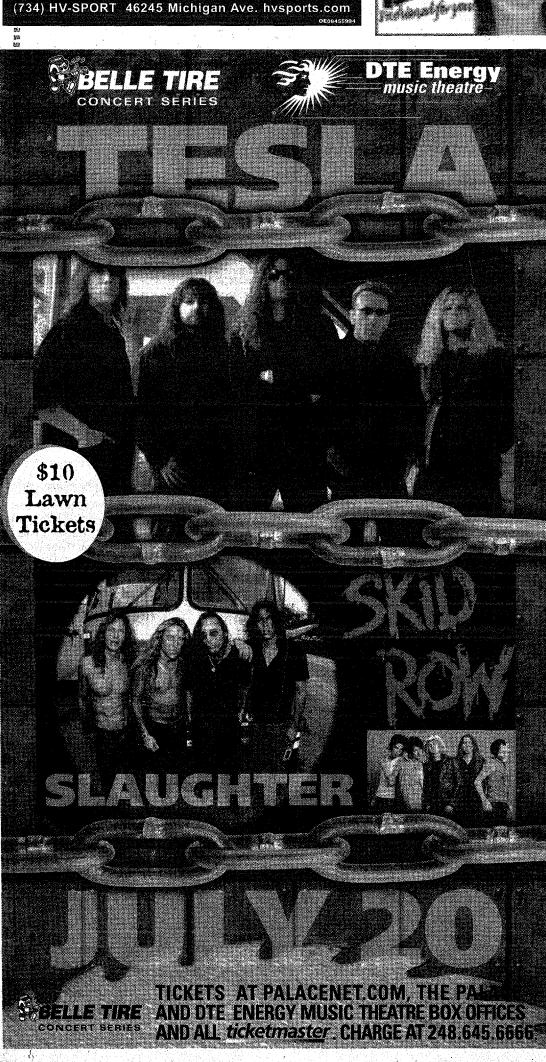


The Detroit Polo Club invites people of all levels of riding ability to a 1-day clinic Equipment & trained horses provided. Lunch included. Must be at least 14 years old.

7425 Bergin Rd., Howell July 22nd - 10 a.m. Registration: Mail \$50 check to Secretary DPC 10521 Fawn Ridge Tr. Hartland, MI 48353

Questions? Please Call 248.889.3721





Home cooking works for Dobbyn, Hawks

STAFF WRITER

Every time Michigan Hawks forward Melissa Dobbyn steps onto the soccer pitch at Livonia Stevenson - her high school alma mater - she considers it a special place to be.

Dobbyn, a 2004 Stevenson graduate, continued her "home" dominance Friday night, scoring two goals and assisting on another as the Michigan Hawks Women earned a convincing 4-1 win over the London (Ont.) Gryphons.

"It's cool, it feels weird but it's cool," said Dobbyn, still rounding back into shape after missing action with an injury. "It's exciting to come back and play where I played for a long time."

But Dobbyn is enjoying the experience, playing for a division leader and helping the team succeed.

"It's awesome playing with these girls," she said. "They're just a great mix of girls. We have a lot of talent on this team."

It took a while for the Hawks to get on the scoreboard Friday.

Dobbyn got things going with a goal in the 35th minute of the first half, taking a feed from midfielder Jessica Boyle and chipping a shot behind London goalkeeper Anne Decker.

London's Mary Parker made it 1-1 about eight minutes into the second half, with the only shot to elude Hawks goalkeeper Kathryn Cumming.

But just four minutes later, Dobbyn sent a pass over to midfielder Asuka Kubota who collected her sixth goal of the

WOMEN'S SEMI-PRO SOCCER

season.

Forward Kristy Swaving padded the lead with less than 18 minutes remaining. She retrieved a long up-the-middle feed from Dobbyn and blasted the ball from the right side past Decker.

The final goal of the night came with 16 minutes to play as Dobbyn took a nifty drop pass from midfielder Gail Wilson and deposited the ball inside the left post.

The Hawks improved to 8-2-2 overall with the victory, still enough to lead the Midwest Division W-League entering Saturday's home finale against Cincinnati in a contest that took place after this issue of the Observer went to press.

Hawks coach Doug Landefeld said it was good to win despite a slow offensive start, coupled with the temporary absence of several key players.

"Because we didn't finish those first goals we ended up playing Melissa and Kristy the whole game, pretty much," said Landefeld.

But other players are filling the void when needed, and the Hawks are in very good shape to win the division.

"We're kind of a M*A*S*H* unit with healthy bodies," the coach said. "We kind of fill people in. But with Kristy, Melissa and Asuka, we always have a chance to win."

Michigan will finish the regular season with a road match, 7 p.m. Friday at London.

tsmith@hometownlife.com (734)-953-2106

CC alum Vojtkofsky comes up clutch

Ripping game-winning hits is becoming habit-forming for Michigan Rams' player Eric Vojtkofsky.

On Wednesday, Vojtkofsky delivered the decisive jolt this time with a/fifth-inning double - for the second-consecutive game to lead the Rams to a 4-3 victory over the Eagles in a Livonia Collegiate Baseball League game played at Ford Field in Livonia.

The triumph improved the Rams' record to 17-9 while the Eagles slipped to 9-16.

MICHIGAN RAMS

Steve Karchefske earned the win in relief of Mike Sacha. blanking the Eagles over the final 3.1 innings. Matt Middleton took the loss despite a solid, completegame effort in which he yielded nine hits while striking out

Vojtkofsky's clutch hit plated Ryan Shay, who had doubled up the right-center-field gap one batter earlier. He joined Kyle Hurtt in the twohit club for the winners. Hurtt also added two RBI and a stolen base.

Also excelling offensively for the Rams were Scott Cain (two runs, steal) and Tim Kalczynski (run-scoring sin-

Robert Richardson paced the Eagles with two hits and a pair of RBI.

The Rams outhit the Eagles,

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Hours are as follows: Sundays-Mondays, 3-10 p.m.; Tuesdays-Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Fridays; 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Saturdays, 3-11 p.m.







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Bucks hang with Crew despite setback

BY DAN STICKRADT STAFF WRITER

The score was identical, but this time the results were com-

pletely different.

The Michigan Vardar Bucks of the Premier Developmental League, fell prey to the favored Columbus Crew, an MLS franchise, 4-1, Wednesday night in the third round of the 2006 Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup at Rochester Stoney Creek. The Crew defeated the Bucks by the same score six weeks ago in an exhibition match, but the amateur-level Bucks played more like an equal Wednesday before giving up two late goals.

"I thought this was completely different than the last time we played them," said midfielder Doug Rice, a recent Oakland University grad who scored the Bucks' lone goal. "Over the course of the season, we jelled as a team, and we kept them on their toes. We knew once we got out the jitters, we could play with any-

one."
The Crew, which was 0-5-2 in its last seven MLS games and didn't have to play in the first two rounds of the Open Cup, finally got its offense untracked against the Bucks, which is mostly made up of

players between the ages of 18 and 23.

"We're a tired team right now. We've been playing a lot of games and a lot of these guys were asked to play 90 minutes in our last match over the weekend," Crew coach Sigi Schmid said. "It's hard in a game like this. We're the professional team and we're supposed to win, so the pressure is on us. They're the younger team and they have nothing to lose and everything to gain. I'm just glad that we were able to put away some of our chances, because we've been struggling."

Holding a 2-1 lead late, the Crew put the game away with two goals in the final five minutes. Sebastian Rozental drew his third assist of the contest when he set up Jacob Thomas with an opportunity off a free kick, and Thomas fired home a shot form 31 yards out in the 87th minute. Thomas capped the scoring in the 89th minute when his cross deflected off a Bucks defender and into the

back of the net.

The Crew opened the scoring in the 16th minute, when Ezra Hendrickson headed home a cross from Rozental past Bucks netminder Steven Clark (Oakland University).

Not intimidated, the Bucks held their own and eventually netted the equalizer in the 22nd minute, when Rice slipped a shot into the corner from 15 yards out.

The tie stood until the 59th minute, when the Crew's Ivan Beccera finished off a corner kick from Rozental.

"I though we played well for the most part," Bucks coach Dan Fitzgerald said. "When they went up 1-0, we came right back and tied the game. In the second half when were down, 2-1, we started to push more guys forward to try to net the equalizer and they scored those two late goals. We stayed in this game for the most part. We went with some fresh legs late with the hopes of slipping in a goal and tying the game up."

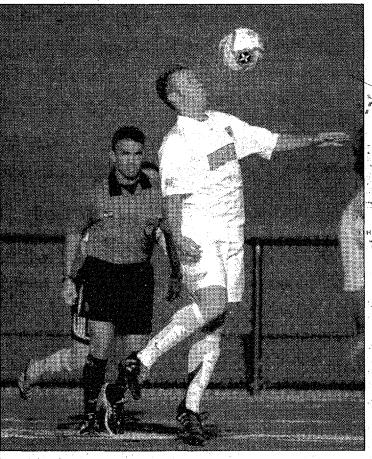
The Crew posted a 15-8 shots edge in the contest, including 11-5 with shots directly on goal. Crew netminder Noah Palmer finished with four saves, while Clark notched seven saves for the Bucks.

The Crew's next Open Cup match will be Aug. 2 in Washington against D.C. United.

BUCKS NOTES

Two regular defensive

starters, Chase Tennant (Rochester/University of Michigan) and Adam Bent (Rochester/Oakland), both missed the game due to injuries. Backup goaltenders Josh Slaughter (Rochester Hills Christian/Oakland), Andy Kroll (Oakland) and Brett Mellon (Oakland) did not see action ... Players with local ties that started or saw action included sweeper Michael Holody (Clarkston/U-M), defender Brady Vance (Oakland), forward Chris Edwards (recent Oakland grad), midfielder Erik Nelson (1999 Birmingham-Detroit Country Day grad) and Ian Daniel (Troy Athens/Oakland), along with Clark and Rice .. An estimated 2,500 fans attended the contest, the Bucks' largest crowd of the season ... The Bucks were the last PDL team remaining in the tournament until its exit against the Crew ... Over the past decade, the Bucks have seven victories in the Open Cup against professional teams, both MLS squads and minor league teams from the United Soccer League - which is the most wins by any amateur program in Open Cup history. The Bucks had already defeated USL teams from



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Michigan Vardar-Bucks forward Chris Edwards (No. 11 in white) tries to control the ball during his team's contest Wednesday in the 2006 Lamar Hunt U.S.

Pittsburgh and Cincinnati in this year's cup ... Crew coach Sigi Schmid was impressed with the play of several of the Bucks, and went on record to praise the play of forward midfielder Nate Jafta, Holody and Rice.

dstickradt@oe.homecomm.net (248) 651-7575, Ext. 12.

Wayne-Westland soccer winners to be honored at July 23 league picnic

The Wayne-Westland Soccer League recently announced first- and second-place division winners for the 2006 Spring League, who will be among those honored at the league's summer picnic on Sunday, July

Those winning teams are as ollows:

follows:
☐ G10DxMIC Division: Wild Cats (WWS-1st), 7-3-0, 21

G14DxMIC Division: Thunder (WWS-1st), 8-0-0, 24 points;

points:

■ BO9DXMIC Division: Warriors (WWS-1st), 6-1-1, 19 points:

B10DxMIC Division: Cobras (WWS-2nd), 6-3-1, 19

points;

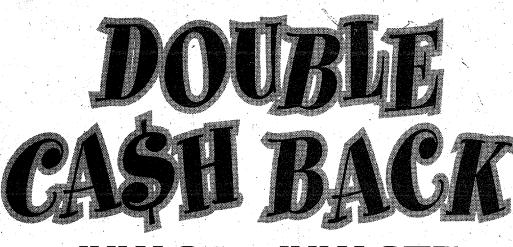
B10ExHUR Division:
Rhinos (WWS-2nd), 7-3-0, 21

B11DxMIC Division: Cheetahs (WWS-2nd), 7-2-10, 22 points;

B13CxSUP Division: Wolves (WWS-2nd), 8-2-0, 24 points; ■ B18DxMIC Division: Vipers (WWS-1st), 6-2-2, 20 points.

The July 23 league picnic is set for Central City behind Westland City Hall. Trophies and awards will be handed out at about 3 p.m., said league spokesperson Rhonda Gates.

She said everyone is welcome to attend the picnic and congratulate the youngsters on their excellent season. Call Gates at (734) 728-6100, ext. 128 for more information.



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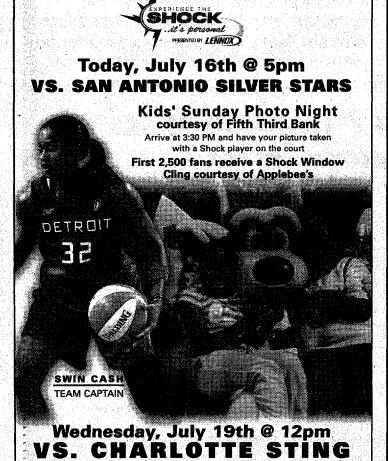
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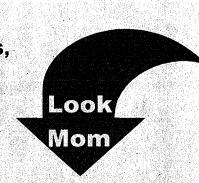
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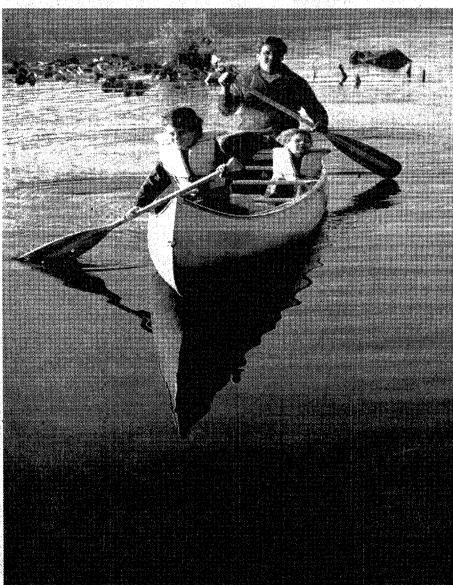
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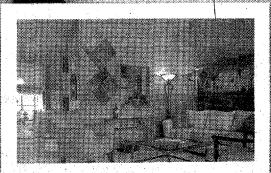
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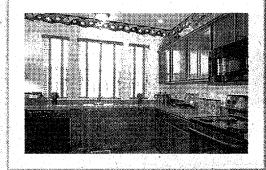




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SPORTS BRIEFS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 16, 2006

GO GET 'EM, PIRATES

The Plymouth-Canton Pirates travel baseball team will represent the local area in the USSSA 13U World Series set for this week at the Canton Softball Center.

The Pirates will open Monday at 1:30 p.m. on field #11 against the Californiabased North Bay Xtreme. Their second game is set for 3:30 p.m. on Monday against the Washington Nationals, who are also based in Michigan. That game is also on

field #11. The Pirates' third contest is set for Tuesday at 11 a.m. when they take on the West Virginia Titans.

GRIZZLIES TRYOUTS

Tryouts for the Plymouth/Canton Grizzlies 9U travel baseball team will be held Saturday, Aug. 5, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Plymouth Township Park's diamond #2. The park is located on Ann Arbor Trail east of Beck Rd.

All players must be 9 years old or younger on April 30, 2007, and reside or attend school in Plymouth, Plymouth Township or Canton, If interested, send an inquiry to terrimurray@sbcglobal.net.

VRANIAK COMMITS

Allie Vraniak, a 2006 graduate of Salem High School, has officially committed to attend the University of Illinois at Chicago in the fall. Vraniak will compete in the pole vault for the Flames' track-and-field team, which is a member of the Horizon League.

Vraniak earned nine varsity letters in cross country, gymnastics and track-and-field during her four-year high school career. She also owns the girls pole vault record at Salem.

MOORE QUALIFIES

Canton resident Jordyn Moore has qualified for the girls USA Player Development hockey camp. Moore is among the top 10 14-year-old players selected from Michigan.

Moore currently plays for the girls Victory Honda AAA U14 squad. She started her hockey career in the Canton Hockey Association.

GCYBSA SIGN-UPS

The Greater Canton Youth **Baseball and Softball** Association (GCYBSA) is currently accepting registrations for fall baseball for kids between the ages of 4 and 18. Games will begin the first week of September and run through the end of October.

The registration deadline is Aug. 15.

Registration forms are available at the Canton Softball Center and the Summit on the

For more information, call the GCYBSA hotline at (734) 394-5489 or (734) 394-5358, or check the Web site at csc.canton-mi.org.

Plymouth Twp. PD 734-453-3869 NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that on 07/21/06 at 10:00 a.m. at Mayflower Auto Transport, 1179 Starkweather, Plymouth, MI 48170, a public auction of the following:

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Publish: July 16, 2006

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit Bids for the Remodeling of the Canton High School Ticket

Bidding documents may be picked up at the office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy Smith, Inc., 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335 on July 12, 2006. Bids will be received until 1:30 P.M., local time on Thursday, July 27, 2006 at which time they will be opened and read publicly at the Plymouth Canton Community School, E.J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170. Bids received after this time and date will be returned. Faxed proposals will not be accepted.

Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope supplied by McCarthy & Smith, Inc. There will be a mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting on Tuesday, July 18, 2006 @ 1:00 p.m. at the offices of McCarthy & Smith at the address referenced above. Questions regarding the scope of the project may be addressed to Ms. Jacquie Pawloski of McCarthy & Smith, Inc. at (248) 427.8400. Plymouth Canton Community Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids received and to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding documents. This project is to be bid at the prevailing wage

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

Publish: July 16 & 20, 2006

Board of Education Plymouth-Canton Community Schools JOANNE LAMAR, Secretary

PLYMOUTH CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS **BOARD BY-LAWS**

By-Law Nos. 0164.1: Regular Meetings - Time, Place, and **Notification**

Regular meetings of the Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, Wayne and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, shall be held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month (except on the fourth Tuesday in July, November, December, February, and second Tuesday in April) at 7:00 p.m. at the following location (except as agreed herein) unless otherwise directed by a majority vote of the members:

E. J. McClendon Educational Center 454 South Harvey Street Plymouth, Michigan 48170

By-Law No. 0164.2 Special Meetings - Time, Place, and Notification

Special meetings of the Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, Wayne and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, may be called by the President of the Board, or any two members thereof, by serving on the other members a written notice of the day, time, and place of such special meetings, or by a majority vote of the Board.

Service of the notice shall be by:

- 1. Delivering the notices to the members personally at least twenty-four (24) hours before such meeting is to take place, or
- Leaving the notice at the member's residence with a person of the household at least twenty-four (24) hours before such meeting is to take place, or Depositing the notice in a government mail receptacle enclosed
- in a sealed envelope plainly addressed to such member at his/ her last known address at least seventy-two (72) hours before such meeting is to take place. Services as above described may be made by a member of the Board

or any employee of the Board.

PUBLIC NOTICE of each special meeting and of each rescheduled regular or special meeting shall be given by posting a copy of the NOTICE on the message board by the front entrance to the E. J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 South Harvey, Plymouth, Michigan, at least eighteen (18) hours prior to the time of the meeting.

Publish: July 16, 2006

CAR & BIKE SHOW

The Canton High School girls swim team will be holding its 2nd Annual Car & Bike Show on Tuesday, Aug. 22, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Home Depot, which is located at 39825 Ford Rd. (east of I-275) in Canton.

The first 50 individuals to register will receive free dash plaques and goodie bags.

Pre-registration (postmarked before Aug. 1) is \$10. The admission at the gate is \$15.

For more information, contact Jane at (734) 891-9909 or gcracker60@wowway.com.

CANTON SWIM FUND-RAISER

The Canton High School girls swim team will be holding a car-wash fund-raiser on Saturday, July 22, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Marathon gas station located on the corner of Warren and Lilley roads in Canton.

IGNITION TRYOUTS

The Detroit Ignition professional soccer team, which will begin playing games at Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth Township in November, will be holding open team tryouts at Canton's High Velocity Sports facility from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 23.

For more information, visit www.detroitignition.com or contact Lindsey Gamrod at Lindsey.gamrod@hantzgroup.com.

The Ignition will open the 2006-07 season at home on Nov. 4.

GOLF OUTING

The 2006 Plymouth Wildcat Football Golf Outing will be held Saturday, July 29 at Hickory Creek Golf Course, located at Ford and Napier roads in Canton. The check-in time for the four-person scramble is 1 p.m. with a 2 p.m. shotgun start. The \$110-perplayer fee includes a post-outing steak dinner. The cost to attend just the dinner is \$35.

For more information, contact Paul Gilbert at (734) 735-



'T'errific T-Birds

The Canton-based TSI Thunderbirds 12U girls fast-pitch softball team won the ASA state championship with a 6-O record recently. The team consists of Amanda Druckenmiller, Lauren Leskovitz, Julia Salata, Hillarie Werda, Katie Fenech, Jesse Larner, Jill Turner, Samantha Partain, Olivia Richvalsky and Bri Berberet. Not pictured are Kenzi Carlson and Alyssa Boucher. The T-Birds are coached by Mark Leskovitz, Tony Boucher and Steve Richvalsky.



Shining 'Stars'

The Canton All-Star Little League team, which was made up of 11- and 12-year-olds from five different squads recently advanced to the fourth round of the District 16 tournament in Tecumseh. The impressive post-season run was the best so far by a Canton Little League contingent. Pictured (front row from left) Anthony Tropiano Brandon Congdon, Andrew Cantor, Adam Slavick, Greg McCurry, (second row from left) Nicholas Sandberg, Justin Thompson, John Etienne, Robert Stolz, Austin Schoeninger, (third row from left) Andrew Klenk, Jason Bohl, Andrew Miller, Brian Dauzy, Derek Gielarowski, (back row from left) coach Roy McCutcheon, coach Dave Sandberg and manager Scott Cantor.



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Golfers have a 'hot' time at Canton course

The temperatures were high and so was the humidity, but that didn't stop Wolverine Lake's Anthony Lis from taking his first Boys 16-and-over Top 50 Junior Tour victory of the season on Friday at Pheasant Run Golf Course in Canton.

Northville's Joseph Szmadzinski used a back-nine 36 to hold off the challengers in Boys 15-and-under action for his second championship of the 2006 season.

Northville's Kirsten Freisen and Minjoo Lee of Clarkston continued their dominance in girls play, taking the 15-andunder and 16-and-over titles, respectively.

"The heat and humidity were feal factors today," said tour director Dan Thomas. "It really turned into a contest of concentration and mental stamina. We're glad the rain held off until the end of play, as we had some great golf going on out there today.

Lis fired a 70, highlighted by a front-nine 34 on the 6,432yard layout to edge Farmington Hills' Brandon Raymond and Clarkston's Adam Istvan by three strokes. Troy's Michael Phipps and Pinckney's Shawn Richardson posted rounds of 74 to finish tied for fourth. Lis is a previous tour winner, taking the

Edgewood CC event last year. Szmadzinski, who claimed the title in the third event of

the season, totaled 74 to clear Clarkston's Brandon Stone by three strokes. Patrick Cansfield of Port Huron continued his season-long strong performance with a 78 to take third. Novi's Tetsuro Akamatsu, Lake Orion's Andrew Bogus and Woodhaven's Paul Jacobs III finished in a three-way tie for fourth with 81.

Qualifying for the Pheasant Run tournament was held on Thursday at The Huntmore Golf Club in Brighton.

Locals who fared well in the Boys 15-and-under event were: Canton's Andrew Rickerman (84), Plymouth's Nicholas Mily (86) and Livonia's Kevin Robinson (89).

The Boys 16-and-over field included Garden City's Travis Dodson (79), Canton's Kyle Sanders (82) and Livonia's Josh Proben (85).

The Top 50 Junior Tour is a southeast Michigan regional golf tour with qualifiers in Auburn Hills, Brighton, Commerce, Hartland, New Hudson, Pinckney, Plymouth, South Lyon, Washington and West Bloomfield.

Tournaments sites are Brighton, Canton, Commerce, Howell, Lake Orion, Milford, Rochester and Washington. Each event is comprised of an 18-hole qualifier and an 18hole tournament.

Play runs through Aug. 2. Visit www.Top50jrTour.com; or by call (248) 321-9900.

Detroit Ignition to hold dance auditions Aug. 11

The Detroit Ignition has announced that it will be holding auditions for its dance team on Friday, Aug. 11, from 5-9 p.m. at Tequila Rain, which is located at 44325 12 Mile Road in Novi.

Registration will take place from 5-6 p.m. followed by choreography and judging of the performances. Tryouts are open to everyone over the age of 18 (as of Sept. 1). Interested participants should bring close-up and full-body photographs to the tryouts as well as a resume representing their dance experience. They should wear shorts or short pants and dance shoes.

For more information, visit www.tequilarainnovi.com. The Ignition will kick off its Midwest Indoor Soccer League season at the Compuware Sports Arena on Nov. 4.

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NORTHERN MICHIGAN FAVORITES - PART 1

One of the many great things I get to do with my job is to visit many of the great golf destinations in and around our country. The goal is to tell readers, listeners and viewers where they can get the most bang for their buck.

For a pure golf weekend with "the guys" (or girls), where golf is the only goal, there is nothing better than the Treetops Resort in Gaylord. Nowhere else in our state is there 81 holes of great golf so close together.

For great golf combined with the ambiance of a great city, you cannot beat Boyne Country. 162 holes of great golf spread out among Boyne City, Petoskey and Harbor Springs - it just doesn't get any better. Boyne has all the great golf you can want combined with some great restaurants, spas and many

other amenities in the surrounding areas. It might be the ultimate family golf destination. Those looking for a more economical destination should consider the Gull Lake Resort just east of Battle Creek. It features lots of Northern Michigan style golf without the Northern Michigan prices.

Jeff Lesson hosts "Lesson on Golf" weekend mornings on WWJ Newsradio 950 and Saturday mornings 7-8am on 1270 XYT. He also co-hosts "Michigan Golf Weekly Saturdays at 6pm on CBS Detroit TV.

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Rolling Meadows Country Club 6484 Sutton Rd. Whitmore Lake, MI 48189 (734) 662-5144

Sanctuary Lake **Golf Course** 1450 South Boulevard (248) 619-7600

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Observer & Eccentric

Sylvan Glen Golf Course 5725 Rochester Road Troy, MI 48085 248-619-7600

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BIG LEAGUE CHEW

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 16, 2006

EROM PAGE B1

POP CULTURE

Many in the line bought fast-disappearing "It's Gum Time" tees that Fanatic U owner Greg **Every and Canton resident** Robertson collaborated on.

"He ran it by me, and showed me some of the designs," said Robertson, a personable lefty who is at ease with the fans. "People wanted something that they could have on their own, to wear to the ballpark.

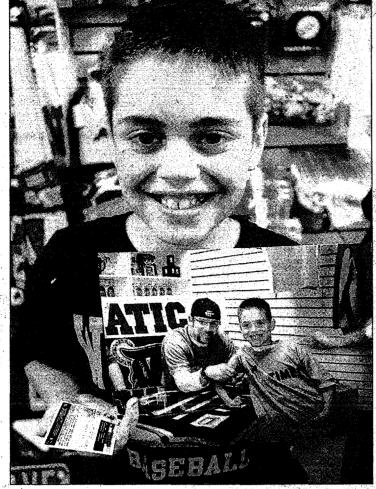
"They've been coming with the signs, and coming with the packs of gum. But fans like to enjoy wearing T-shirts, and so we made that available and it's been pretty popular."

Every, a Livonia Franklin alum, also rolled out something new for Wednesday's event, shirts with the slogan "Now Entering the Zumaya Zone: Speed 102."

Although the Robertson-led gum craze is great. Every emphasized it's secondary to the excitement being generated by a first-place team.

"I've always been a Tiger fan and baseball fan," said Every, who opened the Garden City store in December 1999. "I remember when I was 5 years old in '68 running around with a Tiger mask on. It said 'Go Get 'em Tigers."

Then came the "Bless You Boys" mantra of 1984. Who knows whether "It's Gum Time" will become the third slogan to



Ten-year-old Michael Smith met Nate Robertson at the first Fanatic U event in late June. He came back Wednesday to have this photo signed by the Tigers pitcher.

accompany a Detroit world championship?

But it will be fun to find out. People are excited, and they're connecting with it like they did in 1984 with 'Bless You Boys," Every said. "They're kind of making this gum time thing their rally call and it's really caught on."

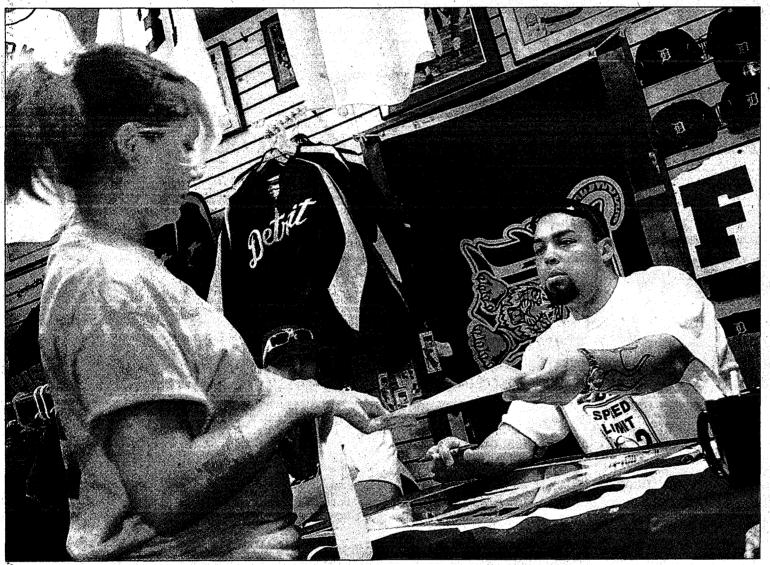
tsmith@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2106



Fanatic U employee Nita Hanchett jokes with Detroit Tigers pitcher Nate Robertson during last week's visit to the Garden City sports merchandise store.

'People are excited, and they're connecting with it like they did in 1984 with 'Bless You Boys." 'They're kind of making this gum time thing their rally call and it's really caught on.'

Greg Every Fanatic U owner



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

GUM TIME

FROM PAGE B1

be the front man. "It's not like a priority of the players every day we go to the park to make sure we get a pack of gum in our back pockets," said Robertson, getting set to meet fans inside the store. "We have a game to play and that's serious business

"But it's OK to have a little fun on the side and we've done plenty of that.

"This is something, more than anything, (that) the fans have enjoyed and the guys are starting to have a lot of fun with it, too."

According to the 28year-old lefty, "It's Gum Time" is another example of how fans like to "associate something" with a

"In Anaheim, they have a monkey, and certain places have certain things," Robertson said. "Right now, our association (to a rally) is throwing a big wad of gum in your mouth and believing something good is going to happen. It's a good thing, it's positive, it's

fun. Virtually everybody on the Tigers bench is getting in on the act.

But chain-smoking manager Jim Leyland isn't among those getting his chomp on.

'I never get to the bubble, I always have too much in my mouth. For the most part I just stuff it in there and try to breathe.'

Nate Robertson

Detroit Tigers pitcher

"No way, not unless it's got some nicotine," Robertson joked. "Maybe if you could get a Big League Chew that involves that, or has that ingredient."

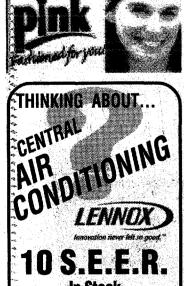
Meanwhile, he admitted that those who blew bubbles in front of Fanatic U are much better at it than he is.

"I never get to the bubble, I always have too much in my mouth," he said. "For the most part I just stuff it in there and try to breathe.

"But I think the only way you can get a decentsize bubble going is if you have it in small quantities, but that's typically not the case with me."

Spoken like a true Big League Chew-er.

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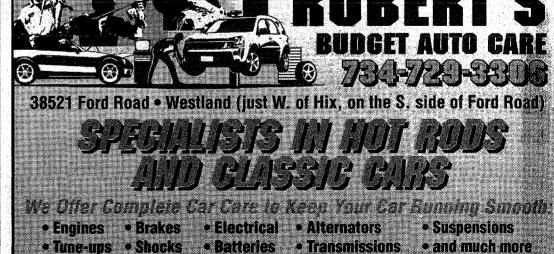
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Detroit Tigers rookie sensation Joel Zumaya signs memorabilia for Canton's Jennifer May last week at Fanatic U in Garden City.



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EXHIBIT - C8 Photographer focuses on nature's portraits



PETER'S PRINCIPALS - C7 Build muscle, lose weight



INSIDE **Announcements** Class reunions Health



Sunday, July 16, 2006 The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Brad Kadrich, editor . (734) 459-2700 . bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Medical scare leads to valuable lesson learned

've watched ER since George Clooney was an intern, and always marveled at how the doctors can keep all that stuff straight when EMS attendants burst through the front door wheeling a patient on a gurney, spitting out vital signs so fast I can't imagine how they

So naturally, when the time eventually came for me to be wheeled into an emergency room on a gurney. I was ready to take notes about how they did that, ready to finally understand all the drama.



Kadrich

They say life imitates art, or vice versa, I can't remember. In my own experience, neither is true. Nobody burst through any doors, no doctors and interns were at the ready, waiting to whisk me into a trauma room, hurrying to get my vitals. In fact, the only person I saw was the security guy, and he just yawned at us.

That didn't make it any less scary for me. It started when I went in for a stress test Dr. Bekker wanted me to have. I'd been having palpitations for months and since I'm 47 and a million pounds overweight, he thought it might be a good time to find out what was

I've had stress tests before and passed them — surprisingly enough for a fat guy — with

Now, I'd known for a long time that my heart was fluttering, although I never really knew why, which was silly, because when you can feel your heart fluttering, you should definitely get it checked out. That's a lecture for another time.

flying colors. It took nearly 13 minutes on the treadmill to get my heart rate to the point where they could tell how the heart was

Part of the problem came when the heart rate wouldn't come down. The other part came when the EKG wouldn't normalize. Doctors discovered then what was causing the trouble: an atrial flutter. My doctor, apparently understanding my medical acumen, put it in layman's terms for me: an atrial flutter occurs when the top chamber of the heart beats faster than the lower chamber.

Now, I'd known for a long time that my heart was fluttering, although I never really knew why, which was silly, because when you can feel your heart fluttering, you should definitely get it checked out. That's a lecture for another time.

The fluttering happens a lot, especially after I play basketball. And here's what I usually do: I go home or back to work and wait for it to stop on its own. What I learned Wednesday is this: when it happens in the doctor's office, you don't go home, you go to the hospital.

I was pretty sure long before I went that's where he was sending me. The doctor kept patting me on the shoulder, saying, "It's nothing to worry about." Which anyone who's been to the doctor knows is doctor-ese for, "Ok, Bub, start worrying."

I didn't want to go, insisting instead that I felt fine (which I did) and that it would fix on its own (which the doctor insisted would only be temporary). Andrea, the young lady who ran the stress test, put it simply: "(Raising one hand) Keep having the problem or (raising the other hand) get the problem fixed."

Shannon, the young lady taking the ultrasound pictures of my heart, stood right behind me the whole time, whispering in my ear not to worry. It was a comforting gesture by someone who, though she had other things to do, could sense I was getting pretty scared. In the end, I decided they were right.

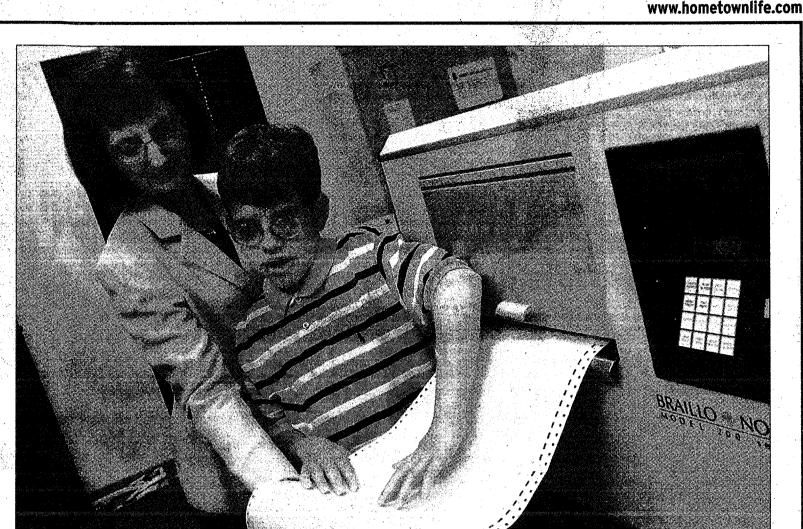
Hence my ambulance ride to Oakwood

Upon arrival, there was no fanfare, nothing like it was on TV. Of course, I've never seen an episode where the EMS guys came in screaming, "47-year-old fat guy with a funnylooking EKG." To me, it didn't seem that seri-

Once I got there, though, it seemed pretty serious to them. Which sobered me up and led me to quit joking around quite so much. Those people spent most of Wednesday making sure I was OK. The doctors at Oakwood explained my options and I'll meet with them

again to plot a course of treatment. All of which could either have been prevented — or at least planned — if I'd taken my status as a 47-year-old chubster seriously and gotten it looked at from the beginning. Lesson learned.

Brad Kadrich is community editor of the Plymouth Observer. He can be reached via e-mail at bkadrich@hometownlife.com or by phone at (734) 459-



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kevin Andrews has read Seedlings books since age three. Here, the Farmington Hills boy enjoys the story of Saving Shiloh, a book about an abused beagle, as the Braille words come out of the printer.

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

ebra Bonde seems as eager to talk about nominating women for Harlequin's More Than Words award as she is with celebrating the honor which includes a \$10,000 cash prize and the publication of a fictionalized story about her accomplishments in an anthology due out in October.

Bonde received notification last October that she was one of five

Seedlings Braille children's books founder receives award

nized by Harlequin Enterprises, a leading publisher of women's fiction. Bonde is the founder and director of Seedlings Braille Books for Children in Livonia. In the last 22 years, she and her nonprofit organization have produced more than 220,000 Braille books for blind children around the world.

As part of the

More Than Words yearlong program, Bonde was able to spread the news about her work by speaking to employees of Harlequin Enterprises at its Toronto headquarters and Buffalo distribution center in May. In October all of the winners will be flown to New York for a gala ceremony to celebrate their achievements. The award pays tribute to women who are "making extraordinary contributions to their communities."

"Even families with blind members still don't know about us," Bonde said. "This is helping to get the word out and we appreciate that part of

PLEASE SEE AWARD, C2

MoreThan



Debra Bonde shows off a mock-up of the Harlequin book with a fictionalized story about Seedlings Braille Books for Children, the nonprofit organization she founded in 1984. Inclusion in the anthology was one of the prizes given to the five women who won Harlequin's More Than Words

Book keeps young readers busy on Michigan trips

Are we there yet? We're bored.

What can we do?

If you're tired of hearing that mantra emanate from the back seat during vacation trips, check out a copy of Emily Eisbruch's colorful kid's guide to Michigan.

Eisbruch, who has two children, wrote "Curious Kids' Activity Guide to Michigan" out of necessity and a love for her native state.

"My husband and I love to travel with our kids. Sometimes the distance would be long and the kids would ask, 'When will we get there?'

"We tried a lot of different avenues, electronic games and games with magnetic pieces. The electronic games lost their appeal after a while. We'd make crafts, things out of pipe cleaners."

That didn't hold their attention for long,

Eisbruch of Ann Arbor decided a Michiganthemed activity book would keep them busy while teaching them about the state. Eisbruch began compiling interesting facts about the state, collecting photos and designing puzzles, mazes and games.

"It was a great adventure. I think an activity book is such a great way to learn."

She tested pages on her children, who now are in their teens, and sought feedback from friends, refining the work along the way.

"I did want something of better quality than the typical black and white connectthe-dot activity book. With new technology that's available, why not make something bright and colorful that includes exciting graphics and photos?"

Tom Dineen, a Missouri artist, created the cover art. Kimberly Frazen, a Michigan artist, designed the graphics and layout.

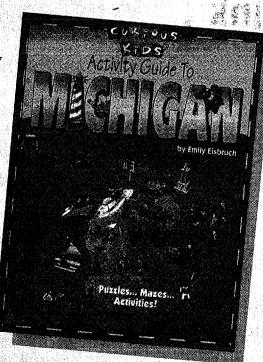
Book stores, gift and toy stores, hospital gift shops and tourist attractions around the state sell the 46-page guide, which was published in 2005 by First Page Publications. It sells for \$9.95.

"It was hard to know what to include and what to leave out of the book," Eisbruch said. "One of the hardest things was that there are three pages featuring Michigan festivals. I felt I could have filled 12 pages."

Other topics include bridges, college sports teams, museums, cherries, islands, the Detroit Zoo, sailboat races, water fun, state symbols and tourist attrac-

If Eisbruch pens a sequel, it's more likely to

PLEASE SEE GUIDE, C5



Emily Eisbruch keeps kids interested on trips with a Michigan activities book.

the program.

"My story can hopefully give people the courage to jump in and do something about what they are passionate about."

Bonde began churning out Braille books for children in the basement of her Livonia home in 1984 after her father converted a printer. Bonde wanted blind children to be able to read books just as sighted children do. It was the birth of her daughters, Anna in 1981, and Megan in 1983, that started Bonde thinking about the inequities. The few available Braille books were expensive.

We had hundreds of books for them in our home when they were little," Bonde said.

"It didn't seem right that the blind kids couldn't have that same opportunity."

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 16, 2006

Kevin Andrews is one of Seedlings' success stories. The 12-year old blind boy from Farmington Hills recently won first place in the fifth- and sixth-grade division of the National Braille Challenge based on reading comprehension, speed and accuracy. He picked up his first Seedlings book at age 3.

"It's a pleasure to read books. It's fun," said Andrews who will be entering seventh grade at Power Middle School in Farmington Hills in fall.

"It's opened up a new world for him," said his grandfather, Phil Pousak.

Seedlings books not only allow blind children to read, but blind adults to read the Braille text that Seedlings staff

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and volunteers place on the pages of already published picture books for very young sighted children. Books for older children, ages 7-14, consists of only Braille produced on Seedlings printers. The award of \$10,000 will allow Seedlings to print 1,000 Braille books for children. The nonprofit charges anywhere from \$4 to \$22 for a book, about half of the production cost. Since the first catalogue offered 12 titles in 1984, Seedlings has grown to offer about 700 titles. To date, blind children in 50 countries have read a Seedlings book.

"We've been blessed by \$10,000 from Harlequin," Bonde said. "It's an affirmation of what you're doing and keeps us going. We hope to add more titles and copies of

"To me the award is huge for Seedlings because of the amount of books that can be produced," said Seedlings board president Sue Ward of Farmington. Ward, a retired school teacher from Hull

(Z) LEXUS

footage on large screens.

BERRY COOKIN

A BIG BAND TRIBUTE TO

Sunday, July 23 at 7:30pm

Elementary in Livonia, was spending the morning volunteering at Seedlings. "It's wonderful to get the books out into the hands of blind children."

Susan Bresler wants not only to recognize Bonde's achievements but to get the word out so other women can be nominated and honored for their work.

"I'm sure there are a lot of people in our area who deserve recognition," said Bresler who nominated Bonde for the award. Bresler is Seedlings community outreach director. "It would be great to show Detroit has all these wonderful people."

Thanks to the anthology which will be available in October, readers of Harlequin romances can learn not only about Bonde, but Deb Freund, who runs a sports program for kids with special needs in St. Louis County, Miss.; Kathy Silverton, founder of Santa Monica, Calif.-based Stitches from the Heart, a nonprofit whose volunteers knit hats

and booties for needy babies and toddlers; Gloria Gilbert Stoga, founder of Puppies Behind Bars that teaches prison inmates to train puppies to become guide dogs for the visually impaired or explosive-detection canines for law enforcement; and Seana O'Neill, who started Cottage Dreams, a charity to connect cancer survivors and their families with donated cottages to help them recover and

All of the factual information about their accomplishments will precede a fictional story inspired by them in the More Than Words anthology to come out in October. Bonde's story is written by Catherine Mann, an awardwinning author. It features an Oscoda librarian who meets a man whose son is blind. The female character introduces

rebuild their lives.

them to Seedlings books. The anthology is one more way to increase awareness about the accomplishments of women who have won the Harlequin More than Words Award established in 2003.

"Instead of cutting a check, we're reinvesting in the community," said Megan Lorius, Harlequin's community investment manager. "With the anthology, we're engaging our readers further. We hope they read the fictional story and feel compelled to get active in their community in whatever way they choose — and to not

only act with their heart but with their pocketbook by supporting the charities.

"Harlequin has a long history of supporting causes of concern to women. Management recognizes women are our primary audience. The More Than Words Award was started primarily to support causes they could embrace.

"We're looking for women who inspire others to get involved as well. Debra Bonde inspired others to help her and volunteer. She has great passion for every child, sighted or not, to have a book experience. We're not only hoping Debra's story will inspire people but get them involved."

Seedlings relies on volunteers for tasks ranging from transcribing to proofreading, filing and binding to keep the cost of books as low as possible. For those unable to give time, every \$10 donation makes a book possible and can be inscribed in memory of or to honor a loved one. For more information, visit www.seedlings.org or call (734) 427-8552.

To nominate a woman for the More Than Words award, visit www.harlequinmorethanwords.com or write Megan Lorius at Harlequin Enterprises, 225 Duncan Mill Road, Don Mills, Ontario, Canada M3B 3K9.

Deadline for entry is Aug. 4.

Ichomin@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2145



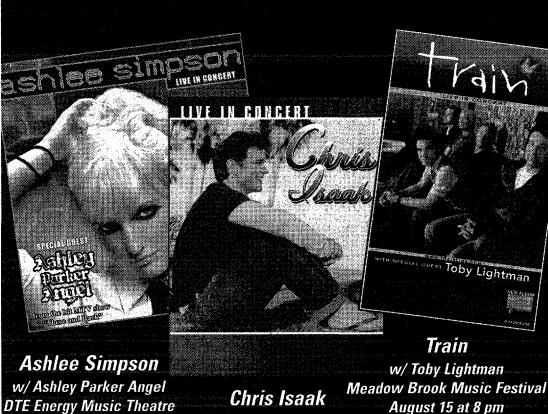
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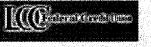












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> More Info at: www.foundersfestival.com

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AROUND TOWN

Grub crawl

The Northville Chamber presents the second-annual Northville Grub Crawl 6-10 p.m. Tuesday, July 25. Join 300 hungry patrons as they make their way through some of the best restaurants in the Northville area. Twelve restaurants are offering free samples of appetizers and signature items along with cash bar specials for our "Crawlers". Participating restaurants are Bahama Breeze, Bonfire Bistro & 1 Brewery, Brann's Steakhouse & Grill, Deadwood Bar and Grill, Edward's Café and Caterer, 5ive Restaurant, Genitti's, George's Senate Restaurant, Little Italy Ristorante, MacKinnon's, Poole's Tavern, and Uno Chicago Grill. Highlights: Free event T-shirt, free shuttle transportation courtesy of Independence Village of Plymouth, grand prize drawing for Char-Broil Barbeque Grill courtesy of The Home Depot. Tickets are \$35 (must be 21 or over) and can be purchased at Gardenviews, Good Time Party Store or the Northville Chamber of Commerce

Ask the Doctor

St. Mary Mercy Hospital hosts a casual pasta benefit dinner 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 20 in the hospital's auditorium to benefit the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk. Cynthia Aks, medical director and breast specialist at St. Mary Mercy Comprehensive Breast Center, answers questions about breast cancer awareness and treatments. Fee is \$16 per person. To reserve a seat, call

St. Mary Mercy Community Outreach Department, (734) 655-8950.

Golf outing

The Division of Kinesiology at the University of Michigan holds its fourth-annual Movement for Life Golf Invitational Monday, Aug. 21 at the University of Michigan Golf Course. Registration starts at 9 a.m., with a shotgun start scheduled for 10:30 a.m. The day's festivities include 18 holes of golf, a continental breakfast and lunch, followed by dinner and a live auction and raffle. The cost for the day is \$200 per golfer. Pre-registration is required by calling Jim McIntyre, (734) 615-4272.

Art/craft festival

The Ann Arbor Women's City Club hosts its 23rd-annual Art & Craft Festival 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 14 at the AAWCC, 1830 Washtenaw Avenue in Ann Arbor. There will be 50 juried exhibitors from Michigan in attendance. Admission is \$3, children 12 and under are admitted free (no strollers). For information, contact Penny O'Malley, (734) 429-8137 or email pennyhomalley@aol.com Health savings accounts



Garden growth

State Representative John C. Stewart presents a State of Michigan Special Tribute to Trailwood Garden Club members Marge Berndt (left), Georgia Randinitis (center), and Marilyn Detmer (right), commemorating the club's community service and 30-year anniversary. The tribute was presented at the preview night of the garden club's recent 11th annual 'Flowers Are Forever' Garden Walk. The club is a branch of the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association.

Gail Perry-Mason, author of "Money Matters for Families" and co-author of the national best seller "Girl, Make Your Money Grow," does a free presentation and Q&A session about financial control through HSA's (health savings accounts), a new health care option that combines a qualified highdeductible health care plan with a tax-free savings account. An H.S.A. results in a health care option that empowers people to save pre-tax income, in an account much like a 401(k), for use toward future medical expenses. The seminar takes place 1-3 p.m. Tuesday, July 25 at the Troy Community Center, 3179 Livernois in Troy. For more information or to register, visit the Web site at www.whatishsa.com/seminar

Ciccarelli golf outing

Former Detroit Red Wing Dino Ciccarelli hosts his seventh-annual Celebrity Players Tour Invitational to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The event begins Friday, July 28, with a Pairings Party Gala at the Royal Park Hotel in Rochester, followed by two days of golf at the Orchards Golf Club in Washington. Thirty teams will participate, and each are comprised of four amateurs and a different celebrity each day of golf. This year's celebrity list already includes actor and comedian Jackie Flynn, "Fresh Prince" actor Alfonso Ribeiro, former NFL player Ed Marinaro, and former major league pitcher Pat Hentgen. Teams are mostly from the metro-Detroit area, but a few are from across the nation. There are still a few openings for teams, which are \$6,500 and include two

days of golf, tickets to the Gala on Friday evening, food and beverage for the weekend, a color team photo each day, and four premium gift packages. All participants are invited Saturday evening to Club 22 in Shelby Township, Dino's new nightclub that features cocktails and dancing to "Decades of Music." Anyone interested in forming a team, placing an ad or another type of sponsorship, please visit the Web site at www.dinoandfriends.com or contact tournament staff at (248) 756-6100.

Movies in the park

Wayne County Parks and Recreation announced the schedule of movies for its popular Movies in the Park series, sponsored in cooperation with Dearborn Heights, Inkster, Northville, Redford, Trenton, Livonia and Westland Parks and Recreation departments. The schedule: Friday, July 28, "Madagascar," Bell Creek Park in Redford; Friday, Aug. 11, "March of the Penguins," Canfield Community Center in Dearborn Heights; Friday, Aug. 18, "Racing Stripes," in Elizabeth Park in Trenton. For more information, call (734) 261-1990.

Healthy skin

"More Than Skin Deep," a program about healthy skin, will be presented 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, July 18, at the Holiday Inn on Plymouth Road at U.S. 23 in Ann Arbor. According to speaker Cindy Klement, "the health of the skin is a reflection of the health of our internal organs and overall nutrition. When you know the real secrets to natural beauty you can improve the health and appearance of your skin and improve your overall health in the process." Pre-registration is suggested, to ensure a seat and a handout. Cost is \$10. Contact the speaker, Cindy Klement, at (734) 975-2444 or go to www.cindyklement.com

Healthy living

St. Mary Mercy Hospital offers a class called "Healthy Solutions for Living," 10-11:30 a.m. Tuesdays beginning Aug. 1 at the St. Mary Mercy Community Outreach Department, Marian Professional Building, Suite 412. The program is designed to help participants lose up to four pounds per week and teach how to keep it off. For more information, or to register, call (734) 655-1783.

Charity golf

A summer days worth of fun never helped so many, which is just what golfers at the fourth-annual Michigan Tournament of Charities will do when they play at Fox Hills Golf and Country Club in Plymouth Aug. 28. Registration and breakfast begin at 9 a.m., with the 18-hole shotgun start at 10:30 a.m. Arbor Hospice & Home Care joins Open Door Ministry, Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries, For the Kids Foundation, Joy of Jesus, Band of Angels, Children's Therapy Fund and Promise Village: Home for Children in benefiting from the generosity of MTOC and participants of the golf tournament. This distinguished golf tournament concludes with a banquet and live and silent auctions. Everyone is encouraged to join the evening festivities, which kicks off at 4 p.m. To register for this event. please contact Arbor Hospice & Home Care at www.arborhospice.org. email laren@arborhospice.org, or call 734-

can also be done through the Michigan Tournament of Charities website, www.mtocgolf.org and indicate supporting Arbor Hospice & Home Care.

Hospice training

Heartland Hospice is looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Washtenaw, Livingston and western Wayne counties. Volunteers provide services such as friendly visiting, patient transport/patient outings. errand running, grief support and clerical services. Spring volunteer training is approaching. For more information contact volunteer coordinator Candice Jones at (888) 973-1145. **Literacy Council tutors**

The Community Literacy Council (CLC) is looking for volunteer tutors in Western Wayne County to help adults improve their reading, writing and communication skills. The CLC will provide training to interested volunteers. Previous experience or a bachelor's degree is not required. The council will provide free training and materials, and then match you with an adult student in your area. Call (734) 416-4906 for more information.

Grief support

New Hope Center for Grief Support is a Christian-based bereavement outreach and resource center located in Northville. Age appropriate groups for widows and widowers are provided in various locations in southeastern Michigan including groups for young widows and widowers and their children between the ages of 4 through the teen years. Groups for parents who have lost a child, adults who

Dr. Kelly

have lost a parent, pet loss, and other specialized groups are offered at various times of the year. All services for adults and children are offered at no cost to the participants. If you are grieving or know someone who is, please call the office at (248) 348-0115 for further information about services provided by New Hope Center for Grief Support, or visit www.newhopecenter.net.

CLUBS

Rotary A.M.

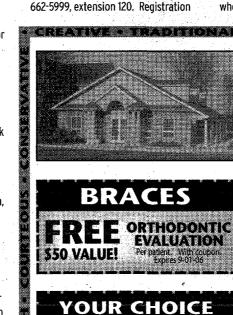
The Plymouth Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. meets at 7 a.m. every Tuesday at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer. New members are always welcome. Contact Mark Hammar, president, Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M., by calling (734) 455-

Fibromyalgia/Chronic Fatigue

The Great Lakes Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Association will meet 1-3 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at Merriman Road Baptist Church on Merriman south of Ford. There will be a guest speaker at each meeting and a variety of topics will be covered. There is no membership fee but a small donation will be accepted. For information call Lucy Rowley 734-462-1768

MOPS meet

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) meets twice monthly from September-May, for moms and their children, newborn-kindergarten, at Lakepointe Bible Church in Plymouth. For more information, call Crystal Johnson, (734) 459-1861.



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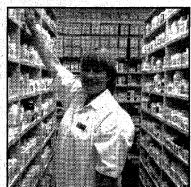


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With coupon only May not be combined with any other offer • Expires 7-31-06 eed up to

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WEDDING

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 16, 2006

Rowe-Galbraith

Christy Lynn Galbraith of Livonia and Scott Robert Rowe of Westland were married June 2 at the Northville Christian Assembly on God Church.

The bride is the daughter of Thomas and Penny Galbraith of Livonia. She works as an account executive at New Horizons Computer.

The groom is the son of Jean Rowe of Northville and James Rowe of Howell. He is a telecom analyst at Deloitte.

The wedding ceremony was conducted by Pastor Brooks T. McElhenny.

Attending the bride were Kristy Czech, matron of honor, and Dawn Olesky, Diane Parenteau, Mary Baumeister and Julie Rauch, bridesmaids. Anabelle Olesky was the flower

Attending the groom were



Glenn Braasch, best man, and Bo Olesky, Jay O'Dell, Derek Vantassel and Scott Anderson, groomsmen. J.J. Czech was the ring bearer.

A reception was held at St. Mary Cultural Center in Livonia. The couple honeymooned at Hilton Head, S.C.

They will make their home in Westland.

ANNIVERSARY

Riehls celebrate

50th anniversary Don and Barbara Riehl of Westland celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a luncheon at the Inn of St. John's, Plymouth, on Saturday, June 24.

The couple was married June 9, 1956, in Highland Park, Michigan. Don is a retired

teacher and coach

from the South Redford School District. Barbara is retired faculty from the University of Michigan-Dearborn. The couple enjoys traveling, bicycling, and spending summers at their

Bedford, New Hampshire and Dan of Farmington Michigan, and four grandchildren, Brian,



They have two sons, Kevin of Jessica, Cooper, and Carter.

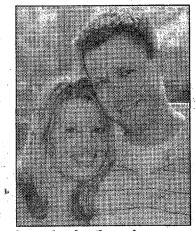
ENGAGEMENTS

Thomas-Kuhns

Mr. and Mrs. Chet Arington of Ann Arbor announce the engagement of their daughter Jayne Marie Thomas of Ann Arbor to Timothy Donald Kuhns of Ann Arbor, son of Dr.

and Mrs. Kuhns of Plymouth. The bride-to-be has a bachelor's degree in psychology from Michigan State University. She is employed as a human resources generalist with DTE Coal Services in Ann Arbor.

The prospective groom has a bachelor's degree in economics and master's degree in civil engineering from Michigan State University. He is employed as a project engineer



by Orchard, Hiltz and McCliment Inc. of Livonia. A September wedding is planned.

Donnelly-McNally

Rick and Lois Donnelly of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter Lisa Marie Donnelly of Livonia to Peter Joseph McNally, son of Patrick McNally and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ellis.

The prospective groom is a graduate Utica High School



An Aug. 26 wedding is planned. The couple will cruise in Alaska for their honeymoon.

manager with DaimlerChrysler.

The wedding is planned for

Orthodox Church in Southfield

followed by a reception at the

St. George's Romanian

University and the University of Four Points Sheraton in Ann

The bride to be is a graduate of Ladywood High School and Madonna University.

and the University of Michigan.

Printesa Valerica Valentina

Dima of Galati, Romania, and

Robert William York Mason of

The bride to be is the daugh-

The prospective groom is the

Mason of Windsor, Ontario. He

Northville announced their engagement to be married

ter of Natalia and the late

son of Robert and Clydell

has degrees from Lakehead

Lucian Dima of Bucharest,

Romania. She works as a real

Dima-Mason

Sept. 8.



MISC. SINGLES

Moon-dusters Ballroom Dancing to a live band every Saturday 8:30-11 p.m. at the Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia. Admission: guest/\$6, associates/\$5.50, members/\$5. Dress: Ladies date style clothes, gentlemen - jackets and ties, for more information, call Joe Castrodale (248) 968-5197.

Featuring Air Margaritaville at 6 p.m. Free concert at Heritage Park, 1010 C. Canton Center Road. For details, con-

SINGLES

tact Kathy M. at (734)513-9479. Jazz Concert

Those Delta Rhythm Kings, swing, jazz and blues at Kellogg Park, Main St., Plymouth, Concert at 7 p.m. Friday, July 21. For details, call Kathy M. at (734)513-9479. **Jazz Concert**

Free concert with Hubbell Street Jazz Band. 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 27, at the Civic Center Park on Five Mile and Farmington Road, Livonia. For details, call Kathy M. (734)513-

Bethany Together Dance

8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, July 29, at Divine Providence Church Hall,

25335 W. Nine Mile, Southfield. Admission \$12. For information, call Loretta from Bethany East at (586)264-0284.

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Lake in northern Michigan.

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DR. SIDNEY MILLER, M.D.

Age 92, of Bloomfield Hills (formerly

of Birmingham), died July 11, 2006,

peacefully, of natural causes. Born May 23, 1914, in Jersey City, NJ. A long-time Birmingham physician, Dr.

Miller graduated form Johns Hopkins

Medical School in 1939, Fellowship

at Mayo Clinic in Minnesota, and had

a long association with St. Joseph

Hospital in Detroit. Dr. Miller was a

member of Kirk in The Hills Church

and Senior Men's Club of Birmingham. Survived by his wife of 64 years, Margaret E. Miller, daughter

Martha R. Miller of Bloomfield Hills;

two sons, Dr. Peter R. Miller of Bloomfield Hills and Jonathon S.

(Bonnie) Miller of Plymouth; seven

grandchildren and two great-grand-

ions. Memorial service was held at

Kirk in The Hills of Bloomfield Hills

1340 W. Long Lake Rd., Friday, July

4, 2006, at 2pm, The Reverend Dr.

Raymond B. Knudwen, II, officiating. Memorial tributes may be made to

FEDERICO "FRED" RAMIREZ

Age 87, of Livonia, MI, formerly of

Tipp City, Ohio, died Tuesday, July

11th at his residence. Born March 1

1919 in Mexico to Rosario and Lucy

Ramirez. Fred retired from Ford

Motor Company, Wixom, MI after 30

years of employment. Preceded in

death by his wife Rosie Mae (Riddle)

Ramirez in 2002, son James in 2004, grandsons Henry and James Terminelli, and one great-great-grand-

son Dylin Rossi. Survived by one son

Federico Ramirez, Jr., Wixom, MI and

six daughters, Darlene and husband Bill Conn, Laurel, IN; Diane and hus-

band Tim Cornelius, London, KY;

Donita Ramirez, San Francisco, CA

Yvonne Ramirez, Farmington, MI; Dolores and husband Lennie Jansen,

Brighton, MI; Marla and husband

services were held 12:30 pm Saturday,

July 15th at Frings and Bayliff Funeral Home, 327 West Main Street, Tipp City, OH 45371. Burial in Maple Hill

Cemetery, Tipp City. Visitation was at

5-8 pm Friday at Frings and Bayliff

this church or to hospice.

Hospital in Pontiac and Harper

Belleville High School

School, 3-8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, at the Belleville High School Cafeteria. For information, contact Mildred Baker, chairperson, 139 Clarence St., Belleville, MI 48111; (734) 699-5231. Plans are in the works for the 7th Annual Alumni Banquet for Belleville High School. Committee members are planning for a tour of the high school, social time, and a dinner. Representatives from classes in the 1930s and on are arranging for alumni to return to their high school to reacquaint themselves with former classmates. Representatives are needed for several classes and addresses are being collected of alumni, so contact Chairperson Mildred Baker if you can provide information.

Berkley High School Class of 1971

A 35-year reunion. 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 5, at Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, Hills, \$65 per person, spouses/guests welcome. Reservations due by June 15. Register and updates at

A 50-year reunion 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23, at the Embassy Suites, 850 Tower Drive, Troy. Cost \$45. Send checks to Janice Broquet Pope, 8222 Coral Creek Loop, Hudson, Fla. Call (727)868-8222 or email jpope14.tampabay.rr.com.

Bishop Borgess High School Class of 1976

A 30-year reunion 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30, Fifth Avenue Ballroom and Billiards (second floor), 25750 Novi Road in Novi. You must reserve a spot in advance, contact reunion committee at bb76reunion@yahoo.com for ticket information and details.

Bloomfield Hills Lahser

Saturday, July 29, at the Marriott/Kingsley Inn. For further information, visit lahserreunion.com or call Daryl Gruskin (248)705-2787 or Paul Connell at (248)549-0500.

Cass Tech High School Class of 1955-57

15-17, 2006, at St. John's Armenian Church, Southfield. Contact Rich Baylerian (248) 735-4495, Barbara Grajek Schanfrankek (248) 543-6353, Joann Ellison Armistead (248) 533-9525, Susan Wilmot Hitchcock at hitch-

All classes ending in 6

hosting its annual Alumni Reunion Weekend, Aug. 4-6. This year they'll celebrate all alumni that graduated in a year ending in six. The three-day event includes a picnic, golf outing and much more! the CTAA is also searching for all Cass alumni. Contact Steaphanie L. Jones (313) 804-8019 or sjones@casstechalumni.org or www.casstechalumni.org.

Class of 1956

A 50-year reunion is planned for Sept. 29-Oct. 1. Sept. 29 - football game and party; Sept. 30 - banquet at Vladimirs of Farmington, \$45/person, open bar; Oct. 1 - breakfast at Leon's in Livonia. For more information call Sharon Byrnes Hawk at (248) 529-3016.

Class of 1986

A 20-year reunion. Last graduating class, welcomes other classes. Friday, Sept. 15, at Double Tree Hotel, Romulus. For more information, contact Lisa (Brown)Graham at CHHS1986@hotmail.com or (734)466-9939.

Denby High School

Michigan. He is an engineering Arbor.

Douglass-Mason

University, Madonna

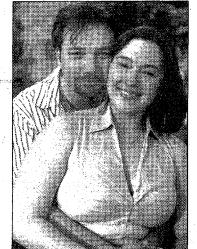
estate developer.

Jerry and Linda Douglass of Westland announce the engagement of their daughter Leslie Anne Douglass of Westland to Jesse Mason of Ypsilanti.

The prospective groom is the son of Joseph and Sharon Mason of Saline. He is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University and is currently working on master's degree in physics education at EMU.

The bride-to-be is also a graduate of Eastern Michigan University. She is currently working on a master's degree in vocal performance at Bowling Green University in Ohio.

A June 2, 2007, wedding is



planned for Ward Presbyterian Church.

Cox-Gustavsson

Susan and Gary Cox of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Juliette Anne Cox, to Erik Gustavsson, son of Margaret and Lasse Gustavsson of Vassmolosa, Sweden.

The bride-to-be is a 1993 graduate of Troy High School and a 1996 graduate of the University of Michigan with a degree in political science. She is a marketing executive for a multi-national corporation.

The prospective groom is a 2001 graduate of the University of Kalmar in Sweden with a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering. He is employed at Trelleborg Automotive and is



pursuing a masters of engineering management degree at the University of Michigan. An August wedding is

planned at Old St. Patrick's Church in Chicago, followed by a reception in the Sears Tower.

The couple will honeymoon in Dubai and the Maldives.

How to submit announcements

Local engagement, wedding, anniversary and birth announcements run in the Sunday editions of the Observer. There is no charge to submit

an announcement. To obtain a copy of our forms

for engagements, weddings, anniversaries and births email Hugh Gallagher at hgallagher@hometownlife.com.

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

For engagement announcements, include:

- Names, addresses and cities for the bride, groom and both sets of parents
- Where bride and groom attended (or attend) high school
- and college and years graduated ■ Where bride and groom are
- employed ■ Wedding date

■ Wedding location

and e-mail address in case we

- All of the above, plus Clergy's name
- attendants
- Honeymoon location

■ City where couple will reside

For engagement announcedays before the wedding.

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1-800-579-7355 � fax: 734-953-2232 e-mail: OEObits@oe.homecomm.net

EILEEN ABBOTT 74, of Farwell formerly of is July 22, 2006 at 2:00pm at the Costick Center, 28600 Eleven Mile Rd



JOSEPH NICOLA DELAURO

Age 90 of Novi, and long time resi dent of Plymouth and Canton, July 11,2006. Beloved husband of Dorothy ann DeLauro. Dear father of Robert (Diane), Greg (Cheryl), and Kathleen Kargula (Jay). Grandpa Magnifico to Lydia, Ashley, Joe and Kevin. Also survived by his niece Rosa DeLauro, Congresswoman from New Haven, Connecticut. Joseph was an accomplished and prolific sculptor. His artvork has lifted spirits and provided pleasure for people, not only locally but internationally. He was a dedicated teacher who through his humor, passion, and creativity influenced and inspired many students at the University of Detroit, Marygrove College and University of Windsor. t Windsor, he founded the first art department in the province of Ontario. He received numerous artistic honors and awards and continued to create and explore throughout his life. Funeral Mass Monday 10:30 AM at Our Lady of Good Counsel, 47650 North Territorial (at Beck) Plymouth. In state at Church Monday 10:00 AM. Visitation Saturday 5-9 PM and Sunday 1-4 and 6-9 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 West Ann Arbor Road (between Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. To leave a message

www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com

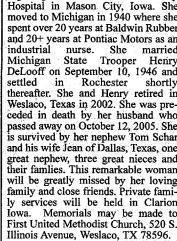
of condolence

ATHALIE (Addie) KREGER Of Livonia, died April 16, 2006. Mother of Sue Cholewa, Ellen Herley & Tom Kreger; sister Shirley Thayer. Riverside Cemtery, Plymouth, MI

May You∘ Find Comfort in $oldsymbol{F}$ amily triends

EVALYN DeLOOFF Long-time Rochester resident Evalyn Beloved wife of Daniel and mother to Deanna (Topping), Susan (McDonough), Keith, David, Matthew.

Grandmother to 13. Memorial service and school years were spent in Clark 1919. The Clark Law Short and School years were spent in Clark 1919. The Short and School years were spent in Clark 1919. The Short and School years were spent in Clark 1919. Clarion, Iowa. She received her nursing degree in 1934 from Mercy Hospital in Mason City, Iowa. She moved to Michigan in 1940 where she spent over 20 years at Baldwin Rubber and 20+ years at Pontiac Motors as an She married nurse. industrial nurse. She married Michigan State Trooper Henry DeLooff on September 10, 1946 and settled in Rochester shortly thereafter. She and Henry retired in Weslaco, Texas in 2002. She was preceded in death by her husband who passed away on October 12, 2005. She is survived by her nephew Tom Schar and his wife Jean of Dallas, Texas, one great nephew, three great nieces and their families. This remarkable woman will be greatly missed by her loving family and close friends. Private family services will be held in Clarion Memorials may be made to





HELEN I. MIELKE

to Ward Presbyterian Church. www.thayer-rock.com



Randy Kasholo, Southfield, MI. Twenty-one grandchildren and fortyfour great-grandchildren. Funeral

Age 88, of Farmington, July 12, 2006. Beloved wife of the late George; loving mother of Linda (Curt) Kofahl and Martha D. Mielke. Cherished grandmother of Sara (Edward) Hufnagle, Matthew (Kelly) Kofahl, and Philip Kofahl. Visitation Sunday, July 16, 1-9pm, Thayer-Rock Funeral Home 33603 Grand River Ave., downtown Farmington (one west of Farmington Rd.). Funeral Monday, 11am (in state 10am) at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile Rd., Northville. Memorial contributions may be made

JOAN HEMINGWAY WOLF 73,

Age 73, or Commercial Township, died July 13 after a long illness. Beloved wife of Charles R Wolf (married Dr. Charles B. Wolf (married more than 50 years); loving mother of five children: Amanda Wolf of Wellington, New Zealand, Ricka (Patty) Williams of San Diego, Charlotte Pratt of Seattle, Timothy Wolf (deceased) and Philip Wolf of San Francisco; and grandmother of four. Two surviving sisters are Mrs. Edward Martin of South Dartmouth, Mass., and Bernadette Hemingway of Bradenton, Fla. Memorial Mass at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 18, at the Academy of the Sacred Heart, 1250 Kensington Rd., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304. Memorial contributions may be made to the Tim Wolf Fund at St. Frances Cabrini Clinic of Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 1050 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48226.

As space permits, the Observer &

CLASS REUNIONS

Eccentric Newspapers print, without charge, announcements of class reunions. Send the information to Reunions, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48170. Please include the date of the reunion, one contact person, and a telephone number.

REUNIONS

All Class Reunion for Belleville High

37529 Grand River Ave., Farmington www.berkleyalumni.org.

Class of 1956

Classes of 1969-72

A 50-year reunion is planned for Sept.

cocksw@hotmail.com.

The Cass Tech Alumni Association is

Clarenceville High School

Cherry Hill High School

Daytime phone number have any questions.

For wedding announcements, include:

Names and cities of all

■ Reception location

ments, please submit at least 45 Please send photos in a vertical format. If you are e-mailing a

photograph, please send it as a "jpeg." Photographs may be picked up after publication; or enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope. If you have questions about your announcement call (734) 953-2149.

LIBRARY PICKS

Every week, the Plymouth District Library staff provides the Observer with their list of Best Sellers based on the number of requests for titles by library patrons. The books are available by placing a request with the library at (734) 453-0750 or on-line at www.plymouthlibrary.org FICTION

- 1. "Twelve Sharp," Janet Evanovich
- 2. "The Husband," Dean
- Koontz 3. "Beach Road," James
- **Patterson**
- 4. "At Risk," Patricia Cornwell
- 5. "Saboteurs," W.E.B. Griffin

NON-FICTION

- 1. "Godless," Ann Coulter 2. "Wisdom of Our Fathers," Tim Russert
- 3. "Dispatches from the Edge," Anderson Cooper 4. "Marley and Me," John
- Grogan 5. "Myths, Lies and Downright Stupidity," John

PARENTS' CHOICE **NEW CHILDREN'S** PICTURE BOOKS

- 1. "Anthony and the Girls," Ole Konnecke
- 2. "Bigger Than Daddy," Harriet Ziefert
- 3. "Hippo Goes Bananas,"
- Marjorie Murray 4. "The Wildest Brother," Cornelia Funke
- 5. "Shiver Me Letters," June Sobel

4th Mary Angela run to benefit Angela Hospice

The Mary Angela Run committee is preparing for its fourth annual event to benefit Angela Hospice of Livonia. The run takes place at 9 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 13, at the Oakland Community College Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills. The event offers a 5K run, 10K run, and 1-mile fitness walk. A children's

"We had a great turn out last year and with the support of the extended Angela Hospice family, we're hoping to have another great event this year," said race coordinator Dan Jess.

race is also scheduled.

Last year's event raised \$40,000 to support Angela Hospice programs for terminally patients and their families. Now in its fourth year, the event was first conceived as a

The event offers a 5K run. 10K run, and 1-mile fitness walk.

way to honor the memory of 24-year-old Mary Angela DiGiovanni who was involved in a fatal car accident in January of 2003.

DiGiovanni was a University of Michigan Public Health student with a desire to improve health care and help people in

What began as an event planned with love by DiGiovanni's friends and family has expanded to an annual. event with community-wide appeal. The 2005 event saw nearly 1,000 attendees.

"We're grateful to the

DiGiovanni and Jess families who have put so much time and effort into making this a wonderful event to benefit Angela Hospice," said Sister Giovanni, Angela Hospice president and CEO. "It is a wonderful tribute to Mary Angela and a blessing to all of the patients who benefit from hospice care."

The registration fee is \$20, or \$50 for a Mary's Angel sponsorship, which includes a special Mary's Angel T-shirt and recognition on event signage. Participants may register in advance or on the day of the event beginning at 7:30 a.m.

For more information on the Mary Angela Run or to register for the event, visit www.angelahospice.org or call (734) 953-

CONCERT SCHEDULE

MUSIC IN THE AIR

Here's the schedule for the Music in the Air concert series, sponsored by the **Downtown Development** Authority; concerts are 7 p.m. Fridays in Kellogg Park:

- July 21 Those Delta Rhythm Kings, swing, jazz and
- July 28 Westrin and
- Mowry, acoustic rock and pop ■ Aug. 4 – Retrospect Band,
- modern hits, new to the lineup Aug. 11 - Rodeo Drive, modern country and radio hits,
- Aug. 18 Fifty Amp Fuse (formerly the Crackerjack

new to the lineup

- Aug. 25 Steve King and the Dittlies
- Sept. 1 Lady Sunshine and

the X Band

MUSIC IN THE PARK

Here's the schedule for the Music in the Park concert series for kids, sponsored by the Plymouth Community Arts Council, New Liberty Bank and McCully Educational Resource Center; concerts are noon Wednesdays in Kellogg Park:

- July 19 Jan Krist
- July 26 Hometown Kids Concert featuring Phoenix, PCAC's Plymouth Uptown Players and more
- Aug. 2 elmoThumm
- Aug. 9 Gemini
- Aug. 16 Guy Louis,
- Chautauqua Express
- Aug. 23 Matt Watroba



GUIDE

FROM PAGE C1

focus on Ohio than on California. Although she moved from Michigan to the west coast when she was 8 years old, Eisbruch said she has "a special affection for the Midwest."

She and her husband moved to Michigan in 1992. He works for the University of Michigan and she is a technical writer who is earning a master's degree at Lawrence Technological University in Southfield. Eisbruch drew on

her experiences as a writer and

as a Girl Scout leader in devel-

oping the activity book. 'I've always liked to write.

As a technical writer I learned a lot on the job about expressing things in a simple and clear way. I guess I was able to bring that into this," she said, referring to the kids' guide.

"As a Girl Scout leader I saw the things kids enjoy and the things they respond to, what they like to do when they're given a choice."

Her favorite sections of the book are pages on bridges and college sports.

Her favorite vacation areas in Michigan include Lake Michigan, especially the Sleeping Bear Sand Dunes area and the Upper Peninsula.

The Blues Cruiser is coming to Canton to honor those celebrating their 65th birthday.



The Blues CruiserSM — a mobile information center from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan is coming to:

Canton Meijer

45001 Ford Rd., Canton, MI 48187 Tuesday, July 18 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

for those who have recently turned 65 and are eligible to enroll in a 2006 Medicare Advantage plan.

- Get information about the Blues' Medicare plans, including Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage
- Meet one-on-one with Meijer pharmacists and Blues product specialists to get your questions answered
- See an instructive presentation and visit the Medicare information
- Leave with a clearer understanding of your Medicare Advantage
- You may also be able to enroll in a Medicare Advantage plan if you are losing creditable coverage
- If you are unable to attend, please call 800-485-4415 to discuss alternative event locations

The Blues Cruiser provides full access for everyone, including visitors who are disabled or challenged by limited mobility. For accommodation of persons with special needs at sales meetings, please call 800-485-4415 (TTY 800-481-8704), 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Monday-Friday.

A sales representative will be present with information and applications.





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For more information, visit: www.bcbsm.com/medicare

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Sunday, July 16, 2006

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

New hope

FDA approves treatment to halt sight loss

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Chet Sarko was almost to the point of canceling his newspapers when a second injection of Lucentis began to restore his vision. The Livonia man had lost all sight in his left eye and was on his way to becoming totally blind when retinal specialist Dr. Tarek Hassan suggested he take part in a clinical trial of the new treatment from Genentech (www.gene.com), a biotechnology company that uses human genetic information to develop medicines for serious and life-threatening diseases. Diagnosed with the wet form of age-related macular degeneration (AMD) in 1994, Sarko had nothing to lose. Wet AMD is a major cause of blindness in individuals older than 55 and accounts for 10 percent of all AMD.

Sarko, 75, had first noticed a problem with his sight when the family purchased a new car. He kept telling his wife and son that the molding on the exterior of the car was crooked. Then the vertical blinds started to look wavy. For a brief time, laser treatments in his left eye helped slow the progression of wet AMD, but failed to prevent blindness.

Lucentis is administered by injection into the eye and blocks blood vessel growth and leakiness that damages the area of the eye responsible for central vision. The new treatment for neovascular wet AMD was approved June 30 by the Food and Drug

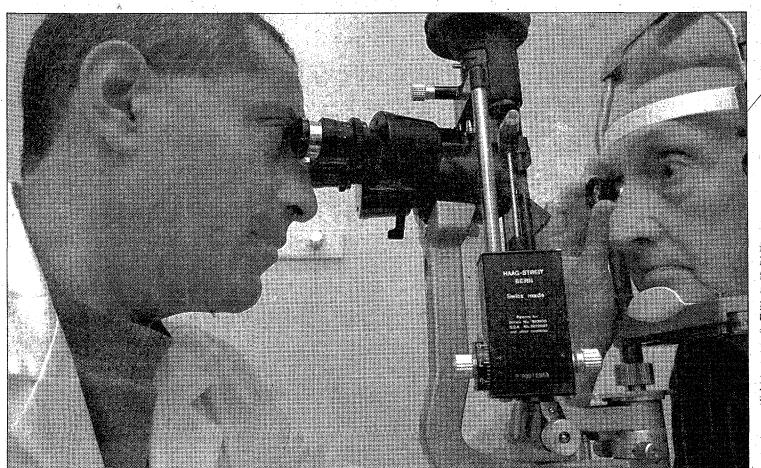
"After the third injection, I can see everything," Sarko said. "I can read my own menu and I can see my watch to tell time."

When Hassan began treating wet AMD patients 17 years ago, laser treatments were the sole option. Then three years ago, he and his partners at Associated Retinal Consultants in Livonia joined the clinical trials of Lucentis (ranibizumab injection).

Once a month, patients received treatment after the eye was

frozen locally at the site of injection.

"Lucentis has changed the expectations we have for our patients," said Hassan, who is on staff at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak and St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor. "This is the first treatment proven by large trials to stabilize vision, stabilize bleeding. We've seen visual improvements in up to 40 percent of patients. We used to hope to stop the vision loss; now we're looking forward to at least stabilizing and have a good shot



DILL DDESLED | STAFF DHOTOGRADHI

Dr. Tarek Hassan examines the right eye of Chet Sarko of Livonia.

to improve their vision."

Until Lucentis was approved, retinal specialists treated wet AMD in the early to mid-1990s with lasers that eliminated bleeding, but often destroyed vision. Photo-dynamic therapy improved the odds with low intensity light that did not burn the eye, but still slowed progression and blunted the loss of vision. Then came Macugen, the first injectable to block VEGF-A (vascular endothelial growth factor A), a protein believed to play a critical role in the formation of blood vessels.

"We've ultimately gotten to Lucentis, which offers the best results of any available medication," said Hassan, who has been using Lucentis to treat his wet AMD patients since approval by the FDA.

"It's absolutely one of the most frustrating conditions we dealt with before. With the advent of injectable medications, we expect good outcomes. We're constantly participating in clinical trials and involved in nearly every national retinal trial in the country. With Lucentis, fortunately there were no major side effects based on trials. It is one of the safest things relative to the benefit, only some redness. I want to emphasize the regimen of treatment of monthly injections is essentially painless, takes just a few minutes and is done right in the office."

As with any treatment, Hassan stressed the importance of early diagnosis and knowing family medical history. Sarko had no family history of wet AMD, but Hassan says older individuals might

not realize a mother, father or relative suffered from the disease.

"Back then, ophthalmology as a field didn't have as great a handle on macular degeneration," Hassan said. "Today, as early as the 50s, individuals should have regular dilated eye examinations. That's particularly important if they have a family history or have any of the symptoms such as loss of vision or distortion of vision.

"Early diagnosis is vitally important, because most of our treatments have been geared at stopping the vision loss. Now with Lucentis, we can stabilize up to 90 to 95 percent of eyes. If you can reverse some of the loss, you can keep some of the people functioning well."

According to Dawn Kalmar, the mission of Genentech is to improve the lives of patients. Genentech and the Novartis Ophthalmics Business Unit for diseases and disorders of the eye have spent hundreds of millions of dollars to develop Lucentis since Phase I of the clinical trials began in 1999. Based on the positive results of Phase I, the studies went directly to Phase III. The FDA requires two Phase III controlled studies for two years, Kalmar said.

A total of about 5,000 patients received Lucentis in the clinical studies. The FDA reported the most common side effects included conjunctival hemorrhage, eye pain, floaters, increased eye

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pressure and inflammation. Serious side effects were rare and often related to the injection procedure.

"Up until now, the best patients could hope for is to slow the progression of their disease," said Kalmar, spokeswoman for Genentech, based in San Francisco, Calif. "We're pleased with the data that shows up to 40 percent of patients improved by three lines on the eye chart."

Realizing that treatments can be costly, Genentech has set up its Access to Care Foundation to help patients in financial need. Kalmar says, about 87 percent of patients eligible for Lucentis are Medicare eligible and about 74 percent have supplemental insurance, which brings the cost down to a \$50 co-payment per treatment. Genentech wholesales for

\$1,950 per injection. Genentech is able to refer them to independent payment charities to cover the cost," Kalmar said. "For no insurance, Genentech provides free drugs. We provided \$200 million in free drugs last year to 18,000 people. Genentech believes that no patient should go without approved therapy based on

Patients can learn more about financial assistance options by calling an alternative funding specialist from Genentech's Single Point of Contact at (866) 724₇9394 or visiting www.SPQConline.com.

Ichomin@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2145

Hormone workshop

Balancing hormones naturally for women of all ages with guest lecture by Dr. Carol Fischer, D.C., 7 p.m. Monday, July 17, at the Livonia Civic Center Library on Five Mile, between Farmington and Merriman. No charge. Seating limited. Call (734) 425-8588.

Alzheimer's support group Meets July 18, and third Tuesday of

every month at 6:30 p.m. at Sunrise Assisted Living of Rochester, 500 E. University Drive. Meetings are lead by Alzheimer's Association trained facilitators. For more information, call (248) 601-9000.

Wellness workshop

6:15 p.m. Tuesday, July 18, lecture by Dr. Michael Brackney, D.C., at Brackney Chiropractic, 8524 Canton Center Road. Call (734) 455-4444.

Asthma education

7 p.m. Thursday, July 20, Asthma Medicines: What you really need, topics include peak flow meters and medication apparatuses; and July 27, Yes, Your child should run and play: Asthma and Living a life without limits (includes discussion on appropriate activity and exercise), in the auditorium of the Southfield Public Library in the complex at 26300 Evergreen. Kathleen Felice Slonager, an RN, presents the programs, Slonager is executive director of the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, Michigan Chapter. While parents and caregivers attend sessions, children ages 2 1/2 to 5 are invited to a story time and craft program with a librarian in the meeting room. No charge. Registration not required. For information, call (248) 796-4224 or visit www.sfldlib.org.

Jingle in July run Summer version of Jingle Bell Run/Walk

to benefit the Arthritis Foundation Saturday, July 22, run/walk along the trails of Orion Oaks Park and through the streets of Always

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Christmas/Canterbury Village, in Lake Orion. Children 10 years old and under can register for the Melted Snowman Shuffle for \$10. Cost is \$30, \$25 until July 12. For more information or to register, call (248) 649-2891, Ext. 232, or

visit www.jingleinjuly.kintera.org. Stress reduction workshop

6:15 p.m. Tuesday, July 25, lecture by Dr. Michael Brackney, D.C., at Brackney Chiropractic, 8524 Canton Center Road. Call (734) 455-4444.

Divorce support

Group discussion 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, July 25, Co-Parenting Effectiveness Education, a workshop on how to coparent effectively in divorce situations with Ellen M. Crain, JD, MSW, ACSW; an attorney from the firm Woll & Woll will be available 5-7 p.m. the third Monday of each month (anyone interested may sign in beginning at 4:30 p.m. that day), a certified financial planner from Center for Financial Planning is available 5-7 p.m. (sign-in begins 4:30 p.m.) on first Monday of each month, at Women's Resource Center in Room 225 of McDowell Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 462-4443

Hospice volunteers

Avalon Hospice, a nonprofit Medicare certified hospice program in Oakland County, needs volunteers, training in your area is available evening and daytime. Each of five training sessions lasts two-three hours and can be conducted one-on-one with our trainer to meet the demands of your schedule. For more information, call Brian at (248) 320-0106

Water aerobics classes

For moms and senior citizens, sponsored by Health Alliance Plan (HAP), continue through August noon to 1 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, at Sheldon Pool, 3123 Van Court, Livonia, and 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, at the Southfield Municipal Complex, 26000

and recovery time.

information, call (313) 664-8420. TOPS

Take Off Pounds Sensibly meets 7 p.m. every Thursday, at St. Thomas A' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton. Weigh-in is 6:15-6:55 p.m. It is a weight support group that encourages members to lose weight sensibly and keep it off. For more information, call Mary at (734) 394-1328.

UPCOMING

Health camps

The Amazing Me camp focusing on health and the human body for second-, third- and fourth-grade students 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday, Aug. 7-11, at the Saint Joseph Mercy Health Exploration Station, 1600 S. Canton Center Road, Canton. Cost is \$169. Call (734) 398-7518.

At an asthma camp, participants will learn about what asthma really is, review personal triggers, medications, risk factors and self-management while participating in interactive games and hands-on projects (for second-through fifth-grade students with asthma) 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, Aug. 14-18. Cost is \$175. Call (734) 398-7518. Camps are all located in the Health Exploration Station, an interactive health education center, where kids can see real germs grow, crawl through a giant intestinal tract, and learn about body systems.

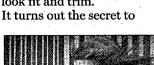
Common pediatric conditions 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7, in classroom I of the Ellen Thompson Women's Health Center at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann. Arbor. Features Dr. Harvey Leo talking about asthma and how life threatening food allergies pose a significant issue for both adults and children. Dr. Scott Moore discusses ear infections and their causes and treatment options. Pediatric neurologist Dr. Brian Woodruff focuses on childhood headaches and seizures, symptoms and diagnosis, and treatment options. Preregistration required. Visit wwwsimercyhealth.org or call (734) 712-5800.

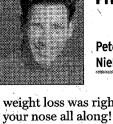
Build muscle, lose weight

Tiffany from Southfield e-mails for tips on natural weight loss.

Tiffany, you have easy access to one of nature's greatest fat burners — muscle! It's a fact that people put on weight as they age and the firm body you've had in your 20's is much harder to maintain into your 40's. That's because your metabolism slows up to 15 percent from your 30's to your

It's no coincidence that muscle mass drops at about the same rate. The more muscle you have, the more calories you're able to burn. Lifting weights just twice a week can turn you from a fat storer to a fat burner. The added muscle will consume more calories helping you to maintain a healthy weight. It will also help you look fit and trim.





Peter's **Principles**

Peter Nielsen

weight loss was right under

Bob from Waterford e-mails that he's approaching the age when he's 🕷 more prone to colon cancer and asks about a workout regimen to reduce his chances for getting the disease.

Bob, there are now more than 35 studies showing that working out reduces your chances of getting colon cancer. But what most people don't know is that the intensity of the workout can be critical in cutting your chances of getting the disease. Research now shows that the more intense the workout, the better. One theory is that working out may decrease the amount of time food spends in the digestive tract. That affects glucose levels, which can cause the growth of colon tissues. You're definitely on the right track! We'll keep you updated with more information on this

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

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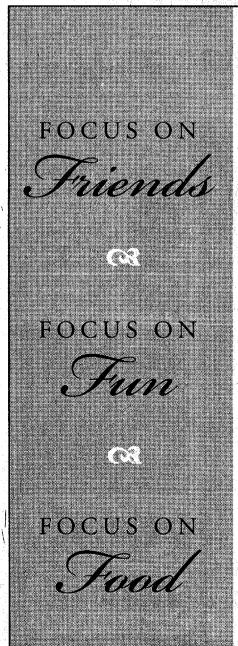
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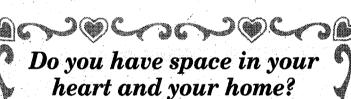
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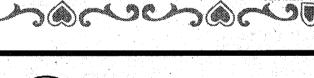
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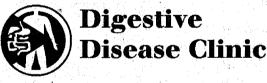


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Photographer focuses on nature's portraits



Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 16, 2006

Richard Yesh frequently likes to focus on a single bloom when creating a photograph.

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN

Flower lovers won't want to miss Richard's Yesh's exhibit continuing to Aug. 18, in the Fine Arts Gallery on the second floor of the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington Road. Nature's Portraits, which is sponsored by the Livonia Arts Commission, features 72 images, some framed in multiples. Yesh shot the work in parks, his garden and while traveling.

"It's 98-percent flowers," said Yesh of Livonia, who took the photographs within the last six months. "For many years I dabbled with photography, but this is the first time showing in a solo show. There are what I call bouquet pieces that were chosen because I think they're rather stunning in color and selectivity."

Although Yesh is self taught as a photographer, throughout his career he was involved with art and photo direction for

marketing and communications firms. "I don't know if God's gifted

me," said Yesh, 71. Visitors to the show can decide for themselves. Livonia **Arts Commissioner Conrad** Gniewek said, "we thought it

was very appealing to the public. We've already had a lot of nice compliments on the Whether viewers focus on a

single sunflower or water lily, or a trio of yellow lilies with a midnight blue background, they're sure to walk away with a sense of peace and tranquili-Although most of the photo-

are a few glorious sunsets glowing through the branches of leafless trees, turned black from the descending light. Several images, including one of blooming shamrocks, encompasses the entire com-

graphs feature flowers, there

position filling the viewer with wonder. Ichomin@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2145



Richard Yesh took this photograph of tulips. It is one of 72 images in his solo exhibit at the Livonia Civic Center Library.



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Moscow Ballet offers summer program with ballerina

Local children will have the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to train with Moscow Ballet's Russian ballerina, Ecaterina Cupcinova during its Swan Lake Summer Program. This week-long intensive workshop includes classes of ballet technique, pointe and variations, character dance, partnering, and repertory classes in which students ages 8 to young teens will be taught excerpts from classical ballets.

The Summer Program takes place Monday-Friday, July 17-21, at the Andrea Redman Dance Academy, 58047 Van Dyke, in Washington.

Developed by Moscow Ballet's co-producer, Mary Talmi, the Swan Lake Summer Program is a unique training cultural program for children to work one-on-one with a Russian soloist. Introduced in 2004 when it was hosted in only eight dance studios, the program became an instant success. Last year, more than 25-twenty dance studios participated in the intensive work-

The Moscow Ballet will present its Great Russian Nutcracker at the Fisher Theatre 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 25. Tickets are available by calling (248) 645-6666. Over 100 local children will be invited to perform alongside the all-star Russian cast as part of the company's educational campaign -Celebrating Children...The Arts Can Make a Difference.

For more information on Moscow Ballet, tour and children's auditions visit www.nutcracker.com or call Andrea Redman at (586) 781-0707.



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Sunday, July 16, 2006

International work – your career game plan

(PRWEB) — Thinking of unique ways to get ahead in your career? Want to boost your resume so that you stand out from the crowd? Reports have indicated that students face better college and job opportunities when they have volunteered - but, better yet, when they have volunteered abroad.

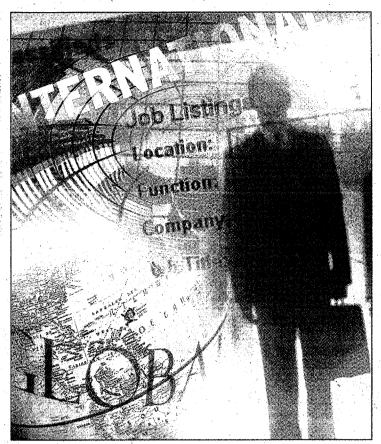
In today's global economy where intercontinental relations play an increasingly crucial role, international work experience can be the most important and impressive element of your resume. International volunteering puts you in an advantaged position in the market place. Employers are eager to see that you have international experience because it gives you responsibility, open-mindedness and adaptability. It shows your ability to work in any type of environment.

"I gained so much more as a person both professionally and personally and loved the experience," said former international volunteer Theresa Higgs, who spent 19 months working with youth in Niue, South Pacific. International volunteering not only provided Theresa with a better understanding about what she wanted to do with her career, but also ultimately shaped the choices she made when she

entered the workforce. The experiences and lessons she learned abroad became valuable tools that she could offer to her employers. As she explained, "international experience gives you the edge over your competition, it shows your future employer that you are flexible, creative and able to adjust to any given situation. No matter what field of occupation you plan to go into, what you learn through international volunteering is what every employer looks for. It also gives you the opportunity to build your own global network which can serve as a resource for future personal and professional endeavors."

United Planet, a humanitarian nonprofit organization based in Boston, offers great volunteering opportunities, called Quests, all over the world. You can participate in a United Planet Quest for as short as one week to as long as one year. Many students take the opportunity to go on a Quest during their vacations, and some even take the entire year after graduating from high school or university.

This opportunity comes at a time when students are young, independent and free to see the world. You are adventurous and global, you have a strong and



In today's global economy where intercontinental relations play an increasingly crucial role, international work experience can be the most important and impressive element of your resume.

positive outlook on life, you love your own destiny. So consider learning about other cultures, you are compassionate and you will come back knowing that you were in charge of shaping

enhancing your leadership skills, connect with like-minded people and make a change in someone's life.

Job seekers reach employers by fax

(PRWEB) — Matthew Saunders, a 38-year-old Virginia Beach, Va., entrepreneur, has a solution to get the attention of potential employers without you ever leaving your desktop, and it's not email. He created FaxMyResumeFree.com as a quick and easy solution for job seekers to be able to send a resume and cover letter by fax.

This free service allows a iob seeker to upload a resume and cover letter to the Web site, and input the fax number and recipient's name. The job seeker can then send the fax to up to 10 people at one time, and it only takes minutes to distribute utilizing the dozens of fax lines available.

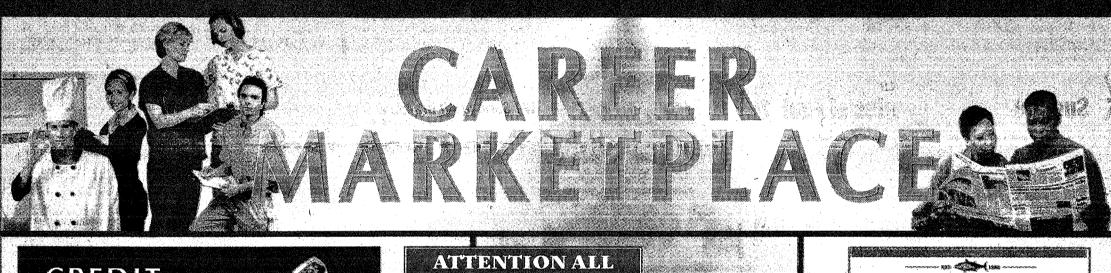
"E-mails are too easy to delete, and usually the decision maker never even knows that you exist," Saunders said. "The problem is that you never get past the gate keeper. Our fax service gives you an advantage. Somebody at that company has to do something with that fax other than hitting the delete button on their

computer, and many times the fax ends up in the hands of a senior decision maker."

FaxMyResumeFree.com utilizes top-of-the-line fax computers to provide an efficient, top-quality fax to each recipient. The sender can check the status of the fax by logging into the Web site. Only resumes and cover letters can be faxed — no other type of material is permitted. Advertising is strictly prohibited.

"My job is to help someone looking for a job find someone who is hiring," Saunders said. "It's a very competitive job market right now and you have to look at alternative ways to get attention."

Matt Mladenka, a job seeker from Dallas, Texas, agrees: "I've been looking for a quality job for a year. After I switched my personal marketing strategy from responding to online job ads by e-mail to aggressively faxing my resume to targeted companies, I was immediately inundated with phone calls and many good opportunities."



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Previous experience working with PBS accounting databases and a bachelor's degree in business or a related field are preferred, but not required.

Interested applicants may submit their resume and salary requirements (referencing Job Code CS0613) by:

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Help Wanted-General 5000

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s specialized section only \$46/inch (three inch min.). The Observer Eccentric's Driver's Automotive Transportation Recruitment Section will publish on Sunday, July 30th 2005. Deadline to place an ad in this section is Monday, July 24th at

Contact one of our Representatives for more information, or to reserve our space today!

oeads@ hometownlife.com Observer & Eccentric

1-800-579-7355

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Check us out at: classiccarfun.com & drivenimageusa.com. No phone calls please.

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Automotive

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Help Wanted-General 5000

Help Wanted-General

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Customer Care Manager, a 734-414-8265 or email: Craig.Steele@saralee.com Sara Lee Foodservice is an EEO/AA Employer. DELIVERY DRIVERS -Full or

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The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers seeks an experienced, self-reliant technician who excels at electronic and mechanical equipment maintenance and repair. This full-time position, based in Livonia, requires four years of electronic trade school or equivalent work experience, the ability to troubleshoot, maintain and repair electronic and

mechanical production equipment, and the ability to carry up to 80 pounds. Candidates should have proficient computer skills (Microsoft Office) for record keeping purposes, the ability to multi-task and work independently, and possess excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Previous experience with newspaper-industry production equipment is preferred, but not required

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers is itted to diversity and is equal opportunity employer.

Please submit resume with salary requirements as follows: (referencing Job Code EMT) by:

E-mail (preferred):

employment@oe.homecomm.net The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers **Human Resources Department** 36251 Schoolcraft Road Livonia, Michigan 48150 734-953-2057

Help Wanted-General 5000

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Applications may also be picked up at the Canton

Administration Building,

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Help Wanted-General

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Property management co. looking for full time mainten-ance/grounds person. Health benefits included. Prior exp. required. Irrigation experience helpful. Valid drivers license needed. Security check & drug test mandatory. Please mail resume to PMGMT, 39000 Country Club, Farmington Hills, MI 48331. MAINTENANCE

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Applications may also be picked up at the Canton Administration Building,

Human Resources Divisitio

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prior to 4 p.m., July 26, 2006. Faxed or e-mailed applications will not be accepted. The

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the provision of services. An

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All advertising published in the

applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the

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ves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer and Eccentric Newspapers sales representatives have no authority to bind this news-

paper and only publication of an advertisement shall

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the advertiser's order. When more than one insertion of the

ordered, no credit will be given

unless notice of typographical or other errors is given in time for correction before the

second insertion. Not responsible for omissions. Publisher's Notice: All real

estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any

preference limitation, or discrimination". This news-paper will not knowingly

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the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this

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rail helix & length, & defin

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Help Wanted-General

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Observer and Eccentric Newspapers is subject to the conditions stated in the **ADMINISTRATOR** Inthusiastic & organized selfstarter to work with Executive Director on event planning PR, marketing, education accounting and special proj ects. Will serve as liaison to Awards & Education Comm ittees. Some duties include Education program adminis trator, accounting payables and reporting, membership recruitment, working with media and trade publications securing advertising, writ-ing/soliciting articles, and onsite event registration. Must possess excellent verbal/writ-ten communication, Quickbooks, Microsoft Office. Web site experience a plus.

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PUBLIC

SAFETY OFFICER Full-time PSO candidates may apply to Beverly Hills Department of Public Safety (Police/Fire/EMS) Applicants must be certified/able with MCOLES and/or FFTC/OFFT; applicants must have 60/90 hrs. ollège credit. Current beninclude salary of \$45,761 to \$61,016 along with competitive fringes. Applications are available at the Department offices 18600 W. 13 Mile Road, Beverly Hills, MI 48025, or on-line at www.beverlyhills police.com. Applications must be returned to the Department no later than

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POSITIONS Come grow with us! Upscale Day Salon & Spa in Canton looking for Mani-curist, Facialist & Massage Therapist. Experience preferred. Full or Part Time Salary + commission. Call: 734-981-8223

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Security Officer For Private School. Submit resume to: Detroit Country HR Director 22305 West 13 Mile Rd. Beverly Hills, MI 48025. or fax 248-646-2458 or email: hr@dcds.edu

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> Math Computers **Social Studies Guidance Counselor**

letter, resume and copy of certificate:

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CRITTER CONTROL Is looking for field service technicians. Applicant must be highly motivated, energetic and reliable. A good driving record required. Must be comfortable on ladders and roofs. Some college and sales experience preferred, but not necessary. Will train. Part time or Full time. Great sum mer job for college students. Call Debby at: 734-454-7171

or Fax resumes to Ken at : 734-416-9181

TELLER Part time needed for credit union branch in Plymouth Responsibilties include cross-selling products/ services and cash handling. Approx. 22-25 hrs

per week, including Saturdays. Retail sales and cash handling exp helpful. Email resume to hr@usacuonline.org or fax (248) 333-7911.

THEATER **TECHNICAL ASSISTANT**

Accepting applications for the position of Part- Time Theater Technical Assistant. \$15.00 per hour Qualified applicants mus possess a Bachelor's Degree in Technical Theate or an equivalent combina tion of education and/o experience. Job descrip tion with complete qualifi cations will be available or the Canton Township web site at www.canton-mi.org or may be viewed at the Canton Township Human Resources Division, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd. Canton, MI 48188.
Applications may also be picked up at the Canton Administration Building,

Human Resources Division, or on the Canton Division, or on the Canton.

Township website. A
Canton Township application form must be completed in its entirety and on
file in the Human
Resources Division prior to
4 n.m. July 31 2006 4 p.m., July 31, 2006. Faxed or e-mailed applica-The Charter Township of Canton does not discrimi-nate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex religion, age or disability in

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FABRICATION ETNA Supply is looking for fabrication welders. Duties include mig welding, pipe cut-ting and threading. Experience preferred. Please appl Wixom EOE

WELDER/FITTER Capable of fabricating struc-tural steel, pipe welding and fitting, stairs & handrail. Pay up to \$25 per hr. + benefits. Send resume to: PO Box 930441, Wixom, MI 48393

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Send resume & cover letter highlighting skills & exp.

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Full time position available in our Farmington Hills corpo rate headquarters office -Sales Department. Proficiency with MS Word Excel and Outlook required. Great cus-tomer service skills and background in sales office needed Must have exceptional organi zational skills ability to multi task and willing to be flexible. Please forward resume and salary requirements to HR/OE Box 1386, Observer &

Eccentric Newspapers 36251 Schoolcraft Livonia, MI 48150 EOE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Needed 40 hrs/wk for Farmington office. Exp in Quickbooks, Excel & Word Fax resume w/salary requirements to: 248-478-9563

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Annlications accented until 2pm on Wednesday, July 26, 2006. Application is available 2006. Application is available at the Human Resources Department, 151 Martin, Birmingham, 48009; or www.ci.birmingham.mi.us. the City of Birmingham is an equal opportunity employer capting the city of Birmingham is an equal opportunity employer. seeking qualified minority and white applicants, without

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Farmington Hills, MI 48336

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LEGAL SECRETARY Farmington Hills law firm seeking full time secretary and a receptionist. Must have excellent phone and organiza-tional skills. Great working environment. Salary commen surate with experience. Fax resume to: 248-855-9523.

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MESSENGER The Novi office of Varnum, Riddering, Schmidt & Howlett LLP has a part time

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OFFICE/

Steel Supplier Customer Friendly, Multi-task position for outgoing candi-date proficient in Excel & Outlook Must have good Basic Math skills and type 50+ WPM. Speed and thoroughness a must. Full Time with benefits. Email resume to: HR@PennsylvaniaSteel.com

PURCHASING & ORDER MANAGEMENT Full time with benefits. N Livonia. Fax or email resume 248-426-9420 carolyn@ajbros.com

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caring, have the ability to

have basic computer skills

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to 248-735-1501 attn EE

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a senior apartment commu

nity, is seeking to fill a full

Candidates must be able to

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if needed. Applicants must

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Call 734-261-9443 or Fax Resume to 734-261-8484 **DENTAL ASSISTANT** Full-Time

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more vrs. X-ray certified.

Busy Livonia Practice seeking full time Dental Assistant, exp. preferred but willing to train the right individual. Benefits.

Full-Time for rapidly expanding dental office. Exp. helpful. If you are energetic & would

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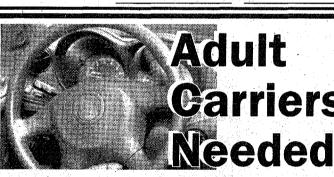
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evening in the Wayne County area.



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Livonia, Michigan 48150

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HYGIENIST-Part-time Needed Mon & Thurs for newly remodeled Plymouth office. Call 734-453-0227

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

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Good phone & people skills. Exp. preferred. 248-478-1166 MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST

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the option to see a physician during weekinghts, weeken and holldays when they are not able to see their prima care physician It is care for non-emergency situations V currently recruiting for our: Livonia Medical Center After Hours Care Radiology Tech - Part-Time lobs 97730, 97732 Technician I - Part-Time lobs 97736, 97737 Nurse - Part-Time Jobs 97740, 97741 nterested applicants please apply online referencing the job

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Help Wanted-Medical

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nput is valued then apply to Fox Run, Attn: HR 41100 Fox Run Road Novi, MI 48377 Fax 248.668.8710

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PERSONAL TRAINER/ PHYSICAL THERAPY TECHNICIAN
Full &/or part-time for outpa-

tient rehabilitation clinic in The Recovery Project 39111 W. Six Mile Rd.

Quality **Assurance Nurse**

THE MEDICAL TEAM has an opening for an experi-enced QA Nurse with OASIS/Coding knowledge, Chart/Utilization Review, OBQI/OBQM. Upbeat work environment terrific team competitive compensation package. Please fa: package. resume to (734) 779-9799 attn: M. Steele or email msteele@medteam.com THE MEDICAL TEAM, 17197 N. Laurel Park Dr.

Livonia, MI 48152 THE MEDICAL

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Help Wanted-Medical

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We are looking for an energetic, self-motivated fun movidual to run & Recreational Therapy pro-gram for our Traumatic Brain Injured cliente Candidate work weekends & evenings. Previous experi-ence helpful. A degree in therapy recreational equired. Excellent comper ation & benefit package lease send resume to: Recreational Therapist, P.O. Box 3460 Farmington Hills, MI 48333 or fax to 248-442-1180

attention Stephanie **REGISTERED NURSE** Busy infertility clinic & surgery center located in Rochester has an immediate opening for a Full-time RN. Applicants must be self motivated, able to multi-task and work independently. Please fax or email resume to 248-844-9127 or

IVFMichigan@yahoo.com RN / LPN Full or Part Time. Excellent benefits, Long term care. Call 248-288-6610 or Fax Resume 248-288-3910



Medilodge of Southfield seeking qualified nurses join our clinical team We have recently revised our staffing to include 12 hour shifts. Nurses perform skilled services including IV therapy, wound care and clinical management of residents. Our nursing team works closely with therapy to rehab our short term residents. Excellen wages and benefit package including tuition reimburse ment. Fax resume or call for an interview with Ginger Kreft, DON.

Medilodge of Southfield 26715 Greenfield Phone: (248) 557-0050 Fax: (248) 557-6434

RN/LPN's

Medilodge of Plymouth now hiring Full/Part-Time, LTC exp helpful. Exc. benefits, salary to commensurate for exp. To inquire call Joanne at: (734) 453-3983 ext 102

RN Specialty Infusion physician practice has immediate FT openings for IV infusion nurs es. Must have current experience with infusion therapy Need a team player. Attractive salary and benefit package Fax resume to 248-478-1071

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WEEKEND NURSE

THE MEDICAL TEAM, Medicare-certified home health agency, continues to grow! We have an opening for a topnotch RN with excellent clinical and cus-tomer service skills to work Friday - Monday making Medicare visits and han-dling patient issues. You work 32 hours (Fri-Mon) plus on-call, so you get paid for 40 hours. Full ben-effte calcage upleat only efits package; upbeat envi truly care about their work

(734) 779-9799 attn: M.Steele or email msteele@medteam.com THE MEDICAL TEAM, 17197 N. Laurel Park Dr. Livonia, MI 48152

MEDICAL

TEAM*

BARTENDERS Permanent, part time, exp'd. For nights & weekends Apply Mon-Fri., 2-4 at:

44282 Warren Rd., Canton. BENNIGAN'S GRILL & TAVERN IN PLYMOUTH For a limited time we are hir-ing for the following positions:

Host Staff

Line Cooks Servers Some exp. helpful, positive attitude a must. Please apply in person, no phone calls. 40441 Ann Arbor Rd. Behind Don Massey Cadillac and Steak and Ale.

BREAKFAST COOK Top Wages Health Ins. / 401K **Beverly Hills Grill** 31471 Southfield Road

Amantea Restaurant Now Interviewing

\$7-\$10/hr.
Depending on experience Experience in broiling, saute, frying, pasta & pizza Holiday bonuses Some insurance avail. Full or Part Time 3-11pm Apply in person after 4pm 32777 W. Warren Rd. **Garden City**

COOK -Small family restaurant in Northville, PT to start Some exp. Good pay. Health ins. avail. Call 734-450-2141

COOK

Waltonwood at Carriage Park, a Luxury Senior Apartment Community in Canton, is in need of a Full Time Cook to prepare home style cooking. The ideal candidate will have experience in fine dining, restaurant, and institutional cook Flexible Hours & Excellent Benefits. E.O.E. Please apply in person at 2000 Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48187 if you have any questions please call 734-844-3060.

COUNTER PERSON For Dunkin Donuts. Midnights Only. \$9/hr. Please Call: 734-459-5944

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Food Service real opportunities

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Assistant Cooks Teppanyaki Cooks Dishwashers Housekeeping

Bar Waiters

Hospitality or Restaurant Experience Preferred

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Tuesday, July 18* 3pm, 5pm & 7pm Courtyard Detroit Downtown 333 E Jefferson Ave Detroit, MI 48226

Wednesday, July 19th 10am, 1pm & 3pm Marriott Laurel Park 17100 N Laurel Park Dr

Livonia, MI 48152 Interviews Immediately Following Jump on board for a career with

Norwegian Cruise Line Americal To schedule a personal interview, shipboardemployment@ncl.com



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HOTEL POSITIONS **Holiday Inn Southfield** Cooks, Waitstaff & Bartenders

Email Resume jonzobl@gmail.còm or Apply in person: Ask for Eddie after 5pm JOIN OUR TEAM

Now hiring exp. retail sales assoc. All positions open including management. Please apply within 32889 W. Warren, (Warren & Venoy in BP gas station), Garden City. LINE COOK, Experienced

See Harry at George Murphy's at the Creek. located at Fox Creek Golf Course 36000 Seven Mile Rd. Mon., Tues. Thurs. & Fri. btwn. 3-5pm or call: (248) 473-1300 **NIGHT LINE COOK**

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Downtown Birmingham

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Highly motivated persor needed for new car sales position. Experience preferred. BC/BS, 401K, demo plan, monthly & annual bonus plans, vacation pay. Commissions paid weekly. No weekends. Apply in person to Jeff Engle. Blackwell Ford

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Help Wanted-Sales 5120

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Call 734-425-1947 HIRING EXP'D ONLY Apply within only 29440 Joy Rd., Livonia. 48150 M- F,

Call for details 248-465-9248

Proficient in Word Processing Desktop Publishing, genera computer use and good orga-**INSIDE SALES** nizational skills. Works under direction of minister. Flexible Redford based educational entertainment co, that has been in business for 30 yrs. is schedule. Minimum qualifica tions; 3 yrs secretarial exp. high school diploma. Send seeking an experienced per son. This is not a telemarket resume to: Personnel Com-mittee, Northwest Unitarian ing position as we offer a wel established territory. We need Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield an aggressive sales persor that is a self starter and close Full benefits included. Cal OUTDOOR SUMMER HELP business hours 313-533-4455 Landscaping, painting, clean-up, etc. Northville. It's Tv Tyme at Dish Network

We are now accepting applica-tions in our Sales dept. Must 248-449-6263 tions in our Sales dept. Must be neat in appearance, have dependable transportation above average work ethics, min 2 years direct sales exp. Average \$52k plus per year. Call Mr. Cowen M-F., 9-5 at 734-425-3323 or Fax resume to 1734-405-3410 TELEMARKETER Telemarket from your residence during business hours. Mon.-Fri., 15-25 hrs./week. Hourly + com-mission. Please contact Dennis at 1-800-840-4955

to 734-425-3410 Help Wanted-Domestic 5240 Join the #1 Remax Co. In MI, local team hiring exp'c buyer agent with knowledge Live-In Caregiver to provide daily living assistance & superof Email, Top Producer & Realcomp. Salary, vision to highly functional employed male. Reliable trans Commission & Ronuses

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Email resume: julia@

PRODUCTS BROKER SEEKS Part-Time Sales Rep for the Southfield area. 20-25 hrs/wk Competitive hourly rate plus mileage/401K. Sell new prod-ucts/promos at retail outlets/performing resets. Merc handise and sales exp. a must. Internet access and ca with insurance required. Email jobs@sell-thru.com or Fax 512-346-0534 EOE

> No turn downs Call 313-806-1713.

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\$1250 first week

BE LIKE JIM

Jim just started with our company one week ago (with no experience) and already earned \$1250. Jim drives a company car, receives bonuses, 401K, benefits and will be earning no less than \$8500 by the end of the second month. Come meet Jim. For personal interview.

(734) 464-0115 or (248)-921-8566 Ask for Al SALES Experienced Inside Rep needed for AT&T DATA SOLU-

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Looking for a mature Christian housekeeper to work in Oakland County area as a home-maker. Tasks include

cleaning, going to the movies

running a few errands, takini

care of my son from 7:15-5:30 Mon- Fri. Interested par-ties please call 248-827-3088

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BABYSITTER LOOKING FOR

WORK Caring 24 year old. All ages. Avail afternoons,

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Will do errands and trans-portation Contact Patricia

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To your specifications. 20 yrs. exp. Exc. ref. Call Sharon. 734-254-9527 cheryl@detection-systems.com HOUSEKEEPER Canable: honest, hardworking woman looking for part/full time posi-SCHOOL CO. Hiring work from-home employees. Absolutely No Selling. Average \$20/hr Must have Telemar-HOUSEKEEPER Part-Time, keting exp & Home Computer. Internet/phone. Fax Resumes Experienced, Own transportation, Has references 313-673-6930 1-866-389-5817 sales@platcard.com

Need Efficient hardworking professional housekeeper Honest, & very responsible Call Joyce. 734-522-5548

Childcare Needed BABYSITTER/NANNY NEEDED Permanent position for West Bloomfield home. Tues-Fri.

8am-4pm. Start immediately. Reliable vehicle which must safety seat 3 children & references required. 248-318-7981 BABYSITTER or NANNY Teacher seeking someone for 2006-2007 school year to drive 2 children to school & watch 1 toddler Mon.-Fri. 8am-12:30pm in our Plymouth home. Must have references reliable transportation & good driving record. 734-454-9065

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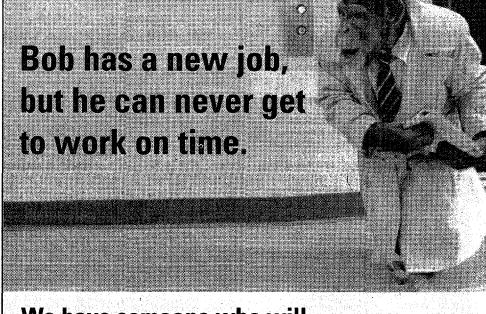
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DUNCAN FIFE/A BEER CAN COLLECTION Drop leaf dining table w/two upholstered chairs, measures 97"X 42" \$500. Dated 1940-1990's, over 1,000 cans in col-lection- \$300.248-349-6965

ROLL TOP OAK DESK 1902 Thomas Turner. Early 1900's dining room table w/ 6 chairs. Many more antiques available. 313-255-4928

Auction Sales

CANTON POLICE AUCTION Discount Towing. 2260 E. Mich Ave. Ypsilanti. July 21, 2006 at 8:30a.1988 Chevy vin #1G1BU51H1JR107353.

Sat, July 29th, 10:30

By the order of the **United States** bankruptcy court case # 06-47264 BABY & KIDS BED-ROOMS

43600 GRAND RIVER NOVI, MI Inspect: Friday July 28th, 2006,

9:00 am- 4:00 pm Beds, cribs, matress sets, armoires, tables bookcases, chairs, misc, decor, computers misc. office, vehicles, oriental rugs & more.

Call for brochures: RJ. Montogomery & Assoc., Inc. 734-459-2323 or view photos on our website at www.rjmauctions.com

7100 Estate Sales

LIVONIA ESTATE **FURNITURE SALE** Oak & maple, Bdrm, dining & living room sets. Down sofa, desks, futon & more! By appt. only 248-248-5584

Garage Sales

ANN ARBOR Barn Sale - Antiques, vintage retro furniture. 5462 Plymouth Rd., Dixboro. Wed. (19th) - Fri (21st), 9am-4pm.

BIRMINGHAM 1589 Dorchester, at Adams & Maple Rd., July 20, 10-4. Armchair, ner trays, candleholders, baby items, oversize chair, etc. **Garage Sales**

BIRMINGHAM 494 Pleasant S of Maple, E of Cranbrook Sat. July 22, 9am-4pm Furniture, household items kids' clothing, toys & books. BIRMINGHAM July 20-22; 9 3; 295 Henley (N. of Maple E of Woodward) Multi family Furniture, clothes, toys, baby items & hooks

BLOOMFIELD HILLS 2643 Hunter's Bluff, Thurs., July 20 - Sun., July 23, 11am-6pm. Furniture, china, toys, home decor, sports, slot machine.

BLOOMFIELD TWP. KIRK-WOOD SUB. SALE Thurs. July 20th thru July 22, 9-4. Antiques, clothing, furniture & much more. N. side of Walnut or S. side of Quarton, btwn

BLOOMFIELD VILLAGE July 20; 9-3& 21st ; 9-12. 2775 Indian Mound rd (off Covington). Multi family: furni ture, kids, clothing, household

CANTON 5 FAMILY SALE Baby, household, Christmas books, furniture, clothes, misc. Big selection! Thurs. & Fri., 9 3, 4081 Kimberly Dr., 2 blks W of Canton-Center off Geddes.

CANTON Moving! July 13-16 13th- 9-6, 14th 2-7 15 and 16th 9-5.41962 Trent Ct (S.of Lily left on Oakland). Everything must go!

CANTON Moving Safe - July 20-21; 8-4pm. 1183 Wildwood Lane, Lotz, btwn Cherry Hill/Palmer. Furniture, clothes kitchen items, tools FARMINGTON 23133 Lilac

east of Orchard Lake Rd Furniture, Fitz & Flovo Christmas figures, wooder santas, books, and household items, Friday-Saturday July

FARMINGTON Farmington Founders Festival Big Yard Sale, 33718 Grand River, July 20-21, 10-8, antiques, furni ture, collectibles, Barbies & everyday items/ low prices FARMINGTON HILLS 30654

High Valley Rd., Rolling Oaks Sub., btwn 13 & 14 Farmington/Drake. Wed.-Sat. 19th-23rd, 9-5:30pm, House exercise equipment, men's women's & Jr clothing, party dresses, silver plates, more!

FARMINGTON HILLS Camelot Court sub sale. N. W. corner of 11 Mile & Inkster. July 21, 22, 9-5 Something for everyone!

LIVONIA 14757 Harrison otwn. 5 Mile/Middlebelt, July 21-23. 9-5. wooden chairs Stiffel lamps/tables, patic stones, clothing, household

LIVONIA Huge sale Thurs Only; 9-5. 8925 Deborah Ct. West, N./Joy, E./Haggerty. Play structure, wedding dress travel stroller, and furniture

LIVONIA 1-15, Thurs.-Sat., 9am-33495 Cindy St. 4pm. 33495 Cindy St (Plymouth&Farmington) Furniture, household items,

LIVONIA- July 20-22; 9-3. Multi-Family Sale. House-wares, furniture, golf clubs. too much to mention! 15356 Mayfield; N. of 5 Mi., E. of Farmington

LIVONIA July 20-22. 9am-3pm., Lots of great stuff! 19417 Pollyanna, North off 7 Mile east of Gill.

LIVONIA July 20-23; 10-4; 29737 Orange Lawn (behind wonderland mall). Bods bears, Precious Moments

clothes, misc. LIVONIA Multi-Family - July 21-22, 9am-? 15190 Cavour, 5 Mile & Middlebelt. LP's,

CD's, books, toys, & lots of household goods!

LIVONIA MULTI- FAMILY LIVONIA MULTI- FAMILY SALE- July 21-23; 8-5; 31246 Pickford (S. of 7 Mile off Merriman). Kids toys and clothes all ages, jewelry, sports equip, radio control car, semantary, shome deep. computers, & home decor.

LIVONIA Yard sale, 9091 ouise St., btwn. Merriman & Middlebelt, N of Joy, Thurs., July 20-Sat., July 22, 10-4. Lawnmower, clothes, etc.

NOVI-July 20-22; 9-4; 28331 Haggerty Rd (N. of 12 Mile) Lots of stuff: Furniture, tools,

sports cards, toys, and old car parts. PLYMOUTH GARAGE SALE 13061 Glenview (off of North Territorial between Beck and Sheldon). 7/20, 7/21 9am-4pm and 7/22, 9am-2pm. Baby and and 7/22, Sani-2phi. Baby and kid's items, framed pictures; lamps, ceiling lights, household items, skating ramps, young child's bike, aquarium widthed humbing and electric w/stand, plumbing and electrical hardware, drawer and cab-inet handles, and lots of misc.

REDFORD- 2 HUGE SALES Furniture, clothes, home school books. Lots of great deals! 18356 Lexington, S. of 7, W. of Beech. July 20-22, 9-5



REDFORD Estate/Garage sale July 18-19; Tues & Wed. 9-5; 17411 Delaware (N. of 6 Mile). Antiques, vintage linen, furniture, collectible items. ROYAL OAK July 22-23; 9-5 (Sat) & 10-4 (Sun); 1313 Cherokee. Teacher items, household, furniture clothing,

SOUTH LYON: FUNDRAISER FOR R.O.S.E. (Relieving Orphan Suffering Everywhere), 12620 Coach Lane, July 20-22, Thurs.-Sat., 8-6. LOTS OF GOOD STUFF!

Southfield Estate-Multi-family. Small Farms. 7-20-7/24 McClung-Scotus. 10-5. Tools, kids stuff, clothes. Lillies. Big variety, household goods.

Garage Sales

SOUTHFIELD One Man's Junk, Is A Other Man's Treasure! 7th Annual Vernon Place Sut (between Lahser & Evergreen) Winchester & 12 Mile) July 22 & 23, 8am-6pm.

TIME TO CLEAN OUT THE

incredible opportunity! Collectors of unique & beautiful vintage pieces, industria salvage, garden planters, misc. treasures. 1 weekend only, July 22 & 23, 8am-3pm. Serious buyers only - dealers & designers welcomed! No early birds. 8550 N. Robb Rd., Fowlerville.

TROY. July 20-22; 9-4; 2365 Vermont St (N. of 15 Mile E. of John R). Multi Family Household, lots of goodies small appliances, chair.

WEST BLOOMFIELD Huge July 21-22; 9-4; 4868 Fairway Ridge South (S. of Lone Pine between Middlebelt & Orchard Lake). Small kitchen appli ances, clothes all sizes, elecsell, all items mint or NEW! WESTLAND MÖVING! 8600 Cardwell St., at Inkster & Ann Arbor Trail, July 20-23, 9-6

Furniture, computer parts household 734-422-4223 WIXOM July 21st & 22nd 9am-5pm. 2470 Charms between Buno & Wixom Kids' bikes, decoys, exercise equipment, golf clubs & household goods.

Moving Sales

LIVONIA July 20-22; 9-5 18211 Lathers (Middlebell &Inkster). Cedar chest, marble coffee table, chest freezer tools, furniture, misc..

NORTHVILLE Moving Sale includes Household Goods Furniture. Antiques Artwork, Major down sizing something for everyone 1060 N. Center St., Northville, MI 48167. North of Eight Mile on east side of Cente (Sheldon). Saturday, July 22 7AM-6PM; as needed Sunday, July 23, 10AM-6PM Light refreshments. A portion of proceeds will support a

ROYAL DAK MOVING SALE: Furniture incl. set of 6 Ladde Back chairs w/ rushed seats cherry dining table and buffet secretary desk, antique rock er, upholstered wing back chair, glass and metal etagere couches. Professional quality, culinary tools & serving pieces. Gardening tools, iron garden fencing. Bonsai tools & pots. Thurs. & Fri., July 20 21, 8am-2pm; Sat. July 22 8am-noon. 906 Fernwood (S



WESTLAND July 16, 22 & 23 11-5 until gone. 36044 Hunter Apartment Moving Sale-Bedroom set, dining table set, sofa, etc 734-713-0290

Baby & Children Items 7150

RIGAZZI BABY BDRM FURNI-

TURE Cherry wood, 3 piece set. Good cond. \$800. (248)

496-1490

Household Goods

BED - 1 SET, 2 PIECE, QUEEN PILLOW TOP MATTRESS New in plastic, sell \$125. 734-891-8481, Can Deliver.

BED - 1 SET, 3 PIECE KING PILLOW TOP MATTRESS New in bag, only \$195 Deliverable, 734-891-8481 BED - 7 pc. solid cherry sleigh bed set, still in boxes, will sep-arate, retail \$2500, sell \$900.

734-231-6622 BED - A BRAND NEW Pillow-top set in plastic, with warranty, must sell! \$125. Can deliver. 734-231-6622

BEDROOM SET Boys bunk bed set, 8 pieces,

very good cond. \$500. Call: 248-641-7565 BEDROOM SET, girls Bed

room set, 7 piece, full sized sleigh bed. Pine. (248) 310-0782 BUNK BED SYSTEM Maple

color with attached desk bookshelf and nightstand Perfect condition. \$500. 248-647-3110 CHERRY SLEIGH BED & PILLOW TOP MATRESS SET

New, in box, retail \$1000, onl \$395. Call: 734-891-848 CHINA CABINET 66" & 74" Oak dining room table w/ leafs & 4 chairs. Both in exc. cond. \$1000/both. 248-626-6845 CLAW FOOT TUB Louisville

Works Standard, cast iron. Good condition. \$300/best offer. (313) 300-8025 **COUCH** Gorgeous Leather Couch (w/recliner ends) & \$1000 - 248-417-1010

DAY BED-

white frame, 2 twin mattress exc. cond \$465. 248-661-8278

DESIGNER FURNITURE Octagon table, glass/brass \$1200. Entertainment/lighted display, Hendrodon, burled wood, \$1400. Chandelier/crys-tal look & brass w/6 arms. \$1000. King bed set, brass & mirrored w/2 towers & lighted bridge, \$1500. 248-770-7597 FURNITURE 2 Deep Rose liv

ing room chairs. 1 La-Z-Bo round oak pedestal table. All exc. cond. Please call for 1-800-579-SELL prices and viewing. (248) 210-0122. www.hometownlife.com

FURNITURE Custom Oak TV **SLEIGH CRIB \$290** Armoire w/ 32" TV \$350, Wicker Set (6 pcs) \$150, Neutral Damask Couch \$300, (2) Wing Back Chairs \$150 586-850-0950

Bargain Buys

FURNITURE Entertainment center, bdrm set, misc. furni-ture. Like new! Call (248) 358-1147 for info

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special something, look to the classifieds first.

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260.

Open Houses Belleville

Open:House Sun 1-4 9626 Hamilton St. Super Sharp! 3 bdrm ranch w/finished bsmnt & 2-car \$154,900 HELP-U-SELL 179 (734) 454-9535

SIEVBLOOMFIELD OPEN SUN 1-3 THE HEATHERS Move in today and enjoy this golf course frontage conto Many amenities inc delibre venstr ste, firenlace neutral t/o. \$234900. 1953 Eagle Pointe. N/Square Lk Rd, E/Opdyke.

Gall Sathleen Robinson THE CONDO EXPERT -248-646-2517, ext. 208 33Real Estate One

OPEN SUN 2-4

Delightful ranch condo. Large Living Room/Dining Rooms Sarea w/palladium window. Enclosed atrium. Hardwood kitchen, Break-fast Room, foyer. Finished with bath \$339,900..909 Tartan Trail.

Call Kathleen Robinson THE CONDO EXPERT 248-646-2517, ext. 208

PLOOMFIELD OPEN SUN 3-5

Beautiful updates through out nixt courmet kitchen wiggange & Wolf appliances New baths. Finished lower level w/bath, 2 Bdrm, Atrium Master. Suite plus 2nd Borm, and den. On 1st fairway. \$639,900. 571 Cambridge Way.

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BRIGHTON-OPEN SUNDAY!!

12-3 Tak Pointe Dr. Condo. 3 5 bath, fully finished evel walkout. Totally renovated. Sunset view, pond with fountain, stream, bridge, with formain, stream, orloge, on 16th signature fairway of the 04th Pointe Honors Course 289,000. Also lease available_for \$2300/mo. Call Karen at (810)923-0499
The Michigan Group.

CANTON 2071 Vineway Dr., at Palmer/Sheldon, July 16, 11-4, deck, \$136,000 734-717-2194

Open House Sun. 1-4 42748 Lilley Pointe Dr. Beautiful 2 bdrm, 2 baths lower ganch condo w/ some \$122,000

HELP-U-SELL (734) 454-9535

CANTON CONDO OPENSAT., SUN., 1-4pm 2428 Lexington Circle N. Beauthurz bdrm, 2 bath end unit cantr. Many upgrades. \$289,900 (734) 340-3554

Canton Condo Open Sun. 1-4 47608 S. SCENIC CIRCLE Elegant 2 bdrm, 2.5 baths, w/2-way marble fire-\$253,000 HELP-U-SELL 744) 454-9535

Open Houses

Open House Sun. 1-4 41905 Conner Creek Ct. Spacious home features 4 bdrm, 2 full & (2) ½ baths, finished bsmt. \$321,900 HELP-U-SELL (734) 454-9535

CANTON Open House Sun. 1-4 43448 E. Applewood Beautiful 3 bdrm., 2.5 baths colonial w/updates & part fin shed bsmt. \$212,500 HELP-U-SELL (734) 454-9535

CANTON Open House Sun. 1-4PM 41084 Northwind S. of Cherry Hill, E. of Haggerty

Awesome Ranch End Unit Condo. 2 bdrms, 1 bath. Open Gary J. Reggish 248-344-1800 REMÈRICA UNITED REALTY

CANTON Open Sunday, 1-4pm 39652 Dorchester Circle N of Palmer, W of Lilley Stunning 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath, 2400 sq. ft. Colonial. Master bdrm, vaulted ceilings, large master bath with his/her clos-ets, oversized 2 car garage, 1st floor laundry. Beautifully landscaped. Move-in condition! All appliances stay! Gerry Vento, 313-215-3394 REMERICA HOMETOWN III

734-459-9898 EXCELLENT ROCHESTER HILLS LOCATION! Close to everything: The Village of Rochester Hills

shopping and restaurants, Meadowbrook, Oakland University, Crittenton Hospital, and Downtown Rochester are all just minutes away! This ranch features 2 bedrooms, 1 ½ baths, large 100' x 224' lot, 2 ½ car attached garage, fin-ished walkout basement with fireplace, all appliances, immediate possession, and a home warranty. The home is clean, needs some updating, and has lots of potential with room to expand. See it at the Open House on Sunday, July 16 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Directions: Take Walton East of Adams to Brewster Road home is located on the East side of Brewster Road. This one won't last at \$209,999.00. For more information call or visit my website:

www.Quantum-Living.com Ask for Sharon Taylor 248-770-9430 Coldwell Banker Shooltz (248) 628-4711

FARMINGTON DOWNTOWN OPEN SUN 1-4 33703 Oakland \$289,900 Off Grand River, W. of Farmington MLS 26119730

Absolutely charming!

34023 Moore \$325,000 Moore, MLS 26112276 Fantastic family home! Coldwell Banker Schweitze Debbie Horner

248-320-5744 Bob 248-240-7204 Office 248-675-1256

FARMINGTON HILLS-OPEN SUNDAY 1-4pm 37428 Rhonswood 8 Mile and Halstead, 2900 sq. ft. 4 bdrm. 2.5 bath, updated kitchen & bath, large wooded lot, \$349,000. 248-330-0135

When seeking out the best deal check out the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds 1-800-579-7355

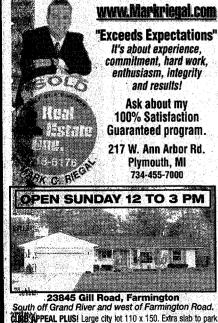


ar 2858sf. 4 BR. 2.5 BA. 1.5 story home on 1 ac lot sought after Brighton location! Features incl: bridge overlooking 2 story foyer & greatroom, 1st fli mstr ste, mstr BA w/6' jaccuzi, library off foyer 3 car garage & more! Easy access to 196 via Pleasant Valley Exit! \$389,900 (26088256)

810-844-2220 TH Randy_ Meek

GROUP REALTORS

MICHIGAN



South off Grand River and west of Farmington Road. hat boat or motor home. It's all here: family room with a fireplace, yard, large/open finished basement with drywall, hot & cold spicket in galace. Updates include kitches with deck (with built in bar-b-que) to enjoy the very private & large back Updates include: kitchen with oak cabinets-Pergo floor, albyringwos some Anderson, roof 2000, furnace/ac-1996, exterior paint 2004, baths, garage door.

ork Riegal direct (734)718-6176

3030 Open Houses

Open Sunday 1-4 36748 Tanglewood Ln Ramblewood. 3 bdrm, 3.5 bath. Finished walk-out overlooking pond. 1st floor Master w/elegant new bath. Great room, finished family room, dining room. Island Ritchen w/nook. Many upgrades & updates. Newly

Prudential Great Lakes 8451 Boulder, Commerce

Farmington Hills OPEN SUNDAY 12-5PM 30074 Twelve Mile, #109 N. 12 Mile; E. Orchard Lake Stop paying rent! Fully ren ovated ground unit condo features kitchen w/ ceramic floors & white cabinets formal dining room, all appliances incl. w/ pool &

Farmington Right Near Downtown! Professionally remodeled 3 bdrm brick ranch offers hardwood floors, dining room, renovated baths, fin



OPEN SAT. 1:30-3:30 PRICE DRASTICALLY REDUCED!! NOW ONLY

Call

LIVONIA 35284 Leon, Near ayne & Plymouth, July 16, 1-3 bdrm., 2 bath brick ranch, 5:3 bdrm., 2 bath brick ranch, fg. kitchen, lots of cabinets, lg. addition/garage, 18 x 33 above ground pool, finished bsmt., w/ wet bar, many amenities. \$219,995 734-525-7783

LIVONIA-MUST SELL! OPEN SUN. 12-4, 16459 Parklane. 6 mile/Levan, 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath, colonial on revine. Reduced \$249,900. HNO.com #20146. 810-231-3408

EXQUISITE NEW HOMES



suite and copper bay front window. Kitchen and baths feature solid surface countertops! Window tments included. \$395,00

basement. Your choic granite counters. \$404,500



TURNBERRY A beautiful 3 bedroom home featuring a main floor maste suite with whirlpool. Open citchen floorplan with stainle steel appliances and granite kitchen island. Window



Open House Sun. 1-5 11347 Sunset St. Beautiful! 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath ranch w/part finished bsmt, & 2-car garage. \$16 HELP-U-SELL \$169,900

Livonia **OPEN HOUSE SUN 12-3** 28804 Richland St Spacious! 3 bdrm 2.5 baths ranch w/updates & garage \$174,900 HELP-U-SELL

Livonia

Open House Sun. 2-5PM 19035 Vanderhaven S. of 7 Mile, E. of Wayne Quality New Construction. Bdrms, 3.5 Baths, \$475,000 Gary J. Reggish

FARMINGTON HILLS

inted/carpeted. \$369,900 SHERYL COX (248) 821-2233

tennis courts in complex Priced to sell at \$83,900!

OPEN SUNDAY 2-5PM 23005 Manning S. Grand River; E.

ished bsmt, attached garage - All this on a large fenced lot! \$225,000

THE FITZPATRICK TEAM

248-893-1550 KELLER WILLIAMS FARMINGTON HILLS 248-553-0400

470 EAGER RD.

\$213,000! Check out this roomy home sitting on 1.4 beautiful rolling acres. Offers Florida room, C/A, 2 full baths, & a great 2nd workshop/garage. Legacy Realty, Sh Rhoades, 810-348-7357

LIVONIA **OPEN SUNDAY 11-6**





Plymouth



GREENBRIAR Elegant home with great room and hearth room also features main floor master suite, 3 bedrooms upstairs with jack and jill bath. 42" upper kitche



ents included. \$367,000



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3030

Open Houses

3030

248-344-1800 REMERICA UNITED REALTY LIVONIA OPEN SUN. 1-4

10040 Seltzer. S./Plymouth E./Middlebelt. Brick ranch w/hardwood floors through out, newer kitchen, great backyard. \$166,900, Jill Ginder 734-451-5400 GMAC Real Estate/The Kee

Group

MILFORD 928 ANNIE LANG (S./GM Rd., E. off Milford Rd. Open Sunday 1-4pm 4 bdrms, 3½ baths, 2 maste suites, 1.51 acres, \$325,000 Gary Reggish 248-344-1800

REMERICA UNITED REALTY MILFORD **OPEN SUN 12-5** Stunning village home, 3 bdrm., 3½ bath, professionally finished bsmt., vaulted ceilings, stainless appliances



NORTHVILLE OPEN 1 pm - 5 pm July 16 49581 Deer Run. Country Living w/Private pond. Wall to Maybury St. Park. Acre, large kitchen w/island 42" upper cabinets, granite counter tops, hardwood floors, spacious rooms, 248-380-1397 \$597,000

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4PM. 16908 Franklin S. 6 Mile; W. Brander

Sale or Lease Charming 3 bdrm, 1,745 sq. ft colonial features for mal Living Room & Dining Room w/ hardwood floors updated kitchen w/ island, fireplace, 1st floor laundry & deep fenced yard! Leas for \$1,600/mo. or own for \$222 5001

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NOVI OPEN SUN. 12-5 41534 Cypress Way. Detached Condo., garage, golf commu-nity w/pool, 2000 sq. ft., 1st floor master bdrm. & bath, bsmt, walkout. \$299.000.

248-613-2070 OPEN SUN NOON-5 833 DRESSLER LN ROCHESTER HILLS, 48307 1567 sq.ft, 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath

2 story, 2 car garaage, Rochester Schools. \$239,900. 248-672-8367. OXFORD OPEN SUN. 1-4. 270 Ashley Way, Oxford. Condo living at it's finest! 2 , 3.5 bath walk-out, fin

shed bsmt., appliances incl \$182,900. Call today 586-843-6329 Coldwell Banker Schweitzer, 47766 Van Dyke Shelby Twp., Mi. 48317



By Owner

14675 Bradner OPEN SUNDAYS, 11AM-6PM. Fully renovated. Open floor plan, cathedral cellings, NEW hardwood floors windows, bath - Kitchen -al appl.,furnace, roof, siding \$144,900.734-207-0724

REDFORD, 25083 ROSS Open Sun July 16, 1-3pm. FABULOUS OPEN CONCEPT Ranch with golf course view 4 bdrm, 1½ Bath, 1800 sq.ft Totally updated, nothing to do but move in and enjoy!! Call Rita For Additional Info. @ 734-818-0811 RE/MAX Masters, Inc



3 bdrm, 1.5 bath ranch. OPEN SUN., 1-3pm, 9641 Salem, off W Chicago btwr Telegraph & Beech, \$144,900 313-537-2690/ 248-618-0030 REDFORD Open House Sun. 1-4PM

15503 Lexington N. of 5 Mile, E. of Inkster Bdrms, 1 Bath. Bsmt w/ba Remodeled Kitchen, \$129,900 Gary J. Reggish 248-344-1800 REMERICA UNITED REALTY

ROCHESTER

Open MOST Sun.'s 1-4pm Close to Downtown Clean as a whistle, updates immediate occupancy! 4 bedroom colonial, 363 Terry. \$299,000. 3 bdrm ranch, 632 Hill St. \$212,000. For sale by owner. 248-652-3149 or 586-212-4187 call for

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Open Houses

ROYAL OAK LIVE DOWNTOWN!

525 E. 6th, 3 blks E of Main. 3 bdrm, 2 bath. Huge master suite. \$247,000. OPEN SUN., 1-4pm. 248-541-6942

South Lyon
OPEN SUNDAY 1-4PM 13009 Nine Mile N. 9 Mile; E. Rushton

A Private Retreat! rgeous 4 bdrm, 2.2 bath 1994 built colonial on 2.27 wooded acres offers mas-ter suite w/ bath & Walk In Closet, finished daylight bsmt, extra 2 car garage & so much more! \$359,500.
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W. Bloomfield
Open Sun; 1:30-5; 2365
Lockhaven. Gorgeous contemporary story, 3 bdrm, 2.5
bath. \$254,900/ negotiable 248-342-7770.

Open House Sun 1-4 **4947 BIDDLE ST.** Gorgeous! Brick ranch 3 bdrm, 2 baths, w/part fin bsmt. \$194,900 HELP-U-SELL

Wayne

Open House Sun 9-4 33977 Currier St Nice 3bdrm, 2 full bath bungalow, updated & part finished \$123,900 HELP-U-SELL

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(734) 454-9535 West Bloomfield OPEN SUNDAY 1-4PM.

2398 St. Joseph N. Square Lk, W. Middlebelt Move Right In! Gorgeous 3 bdrm brick ranch on large fenced lot has finished bsmt w/ bar, hardwood floors cabs, newer appliances & ceramic tile bath. \$179,900 THE FITZPATRICK TEAM

248-893-1550 KELLER WILLIAMS **FARMINGTON HILLS** 248-553-0400



Westland -Condo Open Sunday, 1 to 4 PM 35683 Castlewood Court Wonderful Ranch condo with Pottery Barn feel! Refinished wood floors, freshly painted, new fixetc.. Move right in!

res... tures, etc.. \$129,900. Call Denise 248-421-5356 REMERICA:

Westland Open House Sun. 1-4 1470 JOHN HIX Wonderful 3 bdrm brick ranch w/full bsmt, 2-car garage. A must see!!! \$154,900 HELP-U-SELL

(734) 454-9535 Westland Open sunday 1-4 464 N. Bryar, well maintained 3 bdrm. colonial in 95, huge deck and natural fireplace miss this one

\$214,900 Boyd Rudy,734-981-2900 Remerica Country Place Westland Open sunday 1-4 464 N. Bryar, well maintained 3 bdrm. colonial in 95, huge

miss this one \$214,900. Boyd Rudy,734-981-2900

Remerica Country Place Westland Open sunday 1-4 7780 N. Henry Ruff, S. of Ann Arbor Trail, E. of Merriman. Must see, almost 1400 sq. ft., 3 bdrm. brick ranch in Livonia school district. Many updates

\$179,750 Boyd Rudy,734-981-2900 Remerica Country Place



Westland Open sunday 1-4 7780 N. Henry Ruff, S. of Ann Arbor Trail, E. of Merriman. Must see, almost 1400 sq. ft., 3 bdrm. brick ranch in Livonia school district. Many updates. \$179,750

Boyd Rudy,734-981-2900 Remerica Country Place



By Owner .WESTLAND

TONQUISH SUB Updated 3 bdrm brick ranch in highly desirable area New carpeting throughout, new storm doors, remod-eled bathroom, C/A, finished basement, newer wir dows, new landscaping, car garage, and much more. Ready for move-in. 6928 Apache Trail. \$167,000. Call for a tour or more informa-tion 734-722-0885. Open House Sun., July 23rd, 2-5

White Lake

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4PM.

356 Melinda Circle
S. Elizabeth Lk;
W. Williams Lk. Private Yard Backs to Woods! Impressive 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath 2,124 sq. ft colo-nial features master suite w/ huge Walk In Closet & bath, updated kitchen, fin-ished bsmt & Walled Lake

THE FITZPATRICK TEAM 248-893-1550 KELLER WILLIAMS **FARMINGTON HILLS** 248-553-0400

chools

PUZZLE CORNER

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CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

 Long hairpieces Hindu rope climber

11 Agency 12 Dug 14 Ms. McEntire

15 Easy victim 17 Deja –

18 In the past 19 "Simpsons"

bartender 20 Peace gesture 21 Matador's foe 23 Holy terror

24 Room divider Stoic founder 27 Sci-fi or romance 28 Whether 30 Squirrel hangout

33 Dracula's title 35 Steeple feature

38 Pouches 42 Turkish honorific 43 1950s' auto

31 Ott of baseba 32 Fabric meas. Off of baseball

36 Ocean bird 37 Free of

mansion 49 Plenty 51 Hole

53 Specter 54 Take a sip DOWN

44 Thai temple 45 Dog tag wearer

(go to earth) 48 Scarlett's

1 Tierra del – 2 Cool bower Pasture Refrain syllable

Dine 35mm setting (hyph.) Cathedral part Boastful knight Carder's request

10 Merrymaking 11 Babysitter's nightmare 13 Engaged in swordplay

Answer to Previous Puzzle



7-10 © 2006 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

24 Rural necessities 26 Pack it away 20 Commuter vehicle 22 Protective layer

23 Ready the

27 Solidify 28 Glacial epoch (2 wds.) 29 Counterfeiting 31 Glove sz. 34 Ms. Merkel

35 Type of cherry 37 Correct 39 Hold off for 40 — blanche 41 Command to

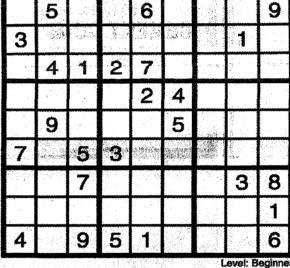
Rover 43 Pea-soupers Ginger and Fred, once 47 World Series

mo.

48 Appliance

store display

50 Fun house cry 52 Shoe width



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 snarpen vour pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

BATTLESHIP CANOE

HOUSEBOAT

INNER TUBE KAYAK **OCEAN LINER**

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

RAFT ROWBOAT **TUGBOAT**

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

ERKT G \mathbf{H} HOUSEB

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE KHOUSEBOAT

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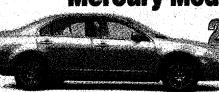
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control, heated/

7 at this price 38 at similar



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entry/keypad, auto

3.0 V6, 4 speed automatic moon & tune pkg., air, power 6-way driver's seat, 6 CD stereo, power moon roof, cargo cover. **Buy For**

2 at this price

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power pull down trunk. rear park assist. **Buy For** Less \$12,000 Rebate

with 0% Fin. 60 Mo inc. \$5000 Rebate 1 at this price 18 at simllar savinus

memory driver's seat, fog lamps, message center, side

adjustable pedals satellite receiver 39 Mo. Lease **Buy For**

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5.4 V8, 4 speed automatic, trailer tow pkg., chrome running boards, audiophile 6 CD stereo, adj. pedals, satellite radio. 24 Mo. Lease

9 at this price

52 at similar savings

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Tan, Showroom

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Montego

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White

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2006

Aviator

Silver, Low Miles

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2005

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Silver,

9,000 Miles

\$21,900*****

2004 Gran

Marquis

Black,

25,000 Miles

*17,900

hiountaineer Navigator V8 Premier, Leather. Moonroof, Moonroct Leather on \$16,000 2005 Montego

2004

Low Miles.

\$16,900*****

2005

Sable

White Cloth

Huge Savings

 $_{\scriptscriptstyle \mathrm{M}}$ $^{\mathrm{s}}10.900^{\prime}$

2003

Sable LS

Beige, 13,000 Miles, Stock #G17023A

\$12,900*

2004

Mountaineer

Black 29,000 Miles.

Stock #P7120

\$17,900°

\$26,900* 2005 18

2005

Sable

Burgundy Cloth,

Huge Savings

\$10,900*****

2004 Lincoln

Aviator

Silver, 38,000 Miles Stock #P12051AA

շոչ[§]24,900*

2006 **Explorer**

Red, 9,000 Miles,

Stock #N4034A **\$22,900***

2004

2003 LS Vs. Chremes, V8, Silver, conroor Black New \$24.900*

Great Dea; \$18,900*****

2004

Mountaineer

Red Cloth 16,000 Miles

\$18,900*

2005Sable

Blacjk Cloth, Huge Savings \$10,900*

2004 Sable LS Silver, 12,000 Miles Stock #P2169A

Blue, 10,000 Miles

^{\$}22,900*

2005 Escape \$13,900*

Red. 25,000 Miles, Stock #P7113 2005 Explorer

\$16,900* 2005 **Mariner** White, 12,000 Miles,

Stock #P2191A

\$18,900*

2004 Crown **Victoria** 30,000 Miles, Red

2004

Mountaineer

Leather, 6 Cylinder, 26,000 Miles

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Car Cartie

Must See, Chromes,

Moonroof

\$19,900*

2004

Navigator

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\$11,125* 2003 Lincoln Navigator Silver, Stock #X0151B

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2004 Town

Car Signature

Showroom New,

Low Miles

\$21,900*

2000

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Executive, Low Miles, Great Deal

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2003 Town Car Gray, 21,000 Miles, Stock #L9003A **\$19,900*** Car Signature Very Low Miles. Moonroof 201900

2004 Town

2003

Marquis

Stock #M6288A

°14,900×

2003

Mountaineer

Premier

Black, 47,000 Miles,

Stock #M6308A

16,900

2004 Town

Gar

White, 21,000 Miles,

Stock #P7122

°22,900*

\$12,900* 2008Mariner Navigator Black, Leather, Moon,

Black, Tan Leather, Great Deal **Premier, Great Deal** \$17,900*****

\$25.900* 2004 Grand 2004 Lincoln LS Blue, 25,000 Miles.

Silver, Stock #P7101 **\$22,900***

2004

Sable

Leather,

Moonroof

2004 Grand Marquis

Red, 35,000 Miles, Stock #P2186A

2003 Town Car Silver. 14,000 Miles

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30,000 Miles **\$22,900***

Silver, 22,000 Miles

516.900

Black. 11,000 Miles \$14,900* 2004 2004 Lincoln Explorer LS

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Monday & Thursday 9-9



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The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com

Sunday, July 16, 2006

Bustling Haggerty corridor debuts new subdivision

BY JOE BAUMAN STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills' bustling Haggerty corridor just got a little busier with the grand opening of Crosswinds Communities' newest housing development.

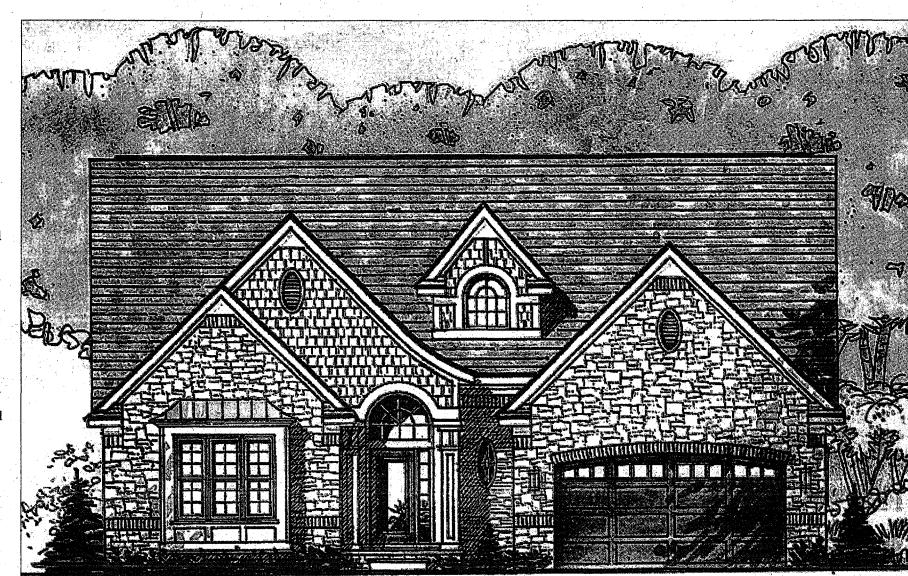
The Novi-based residential and commercial builder in late June took the shutters off its Oakview Ridge subdivision, located just north of 12 Mile Road and east of Haggerty.

The development totals 24 home sites in ranch, cape cod and colonial style floor plans. Priced from the upper \$300s, these homes provide many of the upscale features today's homeowners expect at a market driven value.

The development is located in the Farmington School district, and is just minutes from Novi's Twelve Oaks Mall, the Shops at Fountain Walk, and western Oakland County's entertainment district. An assortment of shops, restaurants and entertainment is easily accessed by I-696, I-96, I-275 and M-5 for quick and easy access to the metro

"With a prestigious Farmington Hills address, proximity to major expressways, nightlife plus a multitude of parks and excellent schools, Oakview Ridge is the ideal place to call home," said Crosswinds Communities CEO Bernie Glieberman.

'We have had an overwhelming amount of interest in this neighborhood because it provides such an uncommon value in Farmington Hills. With homes starting in the upper \$300s, this community will be one of the area's best values in



Priced from the upper \$300s, these homes provide many of the upscale features today's homeowners expect at a market driven value.

new construction."

For more information, please contact (248) 388-1599, or visit www.crosswinds.com

Crosswinds Communities is building town homes and single family homes in more than 16 locations throughout southeastern Michigan.

The Michigan-based company has operations in six states and local offices in Novi.

Its operating divisions include res-

idential, commercial, industrial development and a mortgage company. For more information, contact Jody Proudfit at (248) 522-4460.



Visit hometownlife.com for daily updates of news, sports and photos



(*)



Observer Eccentric

3236

3000



OAKLAND TWP 5 bdrm, 3 bath, 2 fireplaces 2 car garage. 2500+ sq. ft All appliances, Large 3 sea son patio overlooking natu ral wooded 1 acre near Pain Creek Trail. Very private, quiet, cul-de-sac. Rochester Schools. \$344,900, or Lease Option. 586-291-2597

***** **POLICY** All advertising published in the Observer and Eccentric Observer and Eccentric Newspapers is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the advertising department Observer and Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Livonia, MI 48150 (734) 591 0900.) The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers reser ves the right not to accept an advertiser's order, Observer and Eccentric Newspapers sales representatives have no authority to bind this news paper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. Wher more than one insertion of the advertisement unless notice of typographica or other errors is given in time for correction before the second insertion. Not responsible for omissions. Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference limitation. discrimination". This news-paper will not knowingly accept any advertising for rea estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc, 724983 3-31-72) Classified ads may be placed according to the deadlines. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ad(s) the first time it appears

support an animmative advertising and marketing pro-gram in which there are no barriers to obtain housing because of race, color, religion or national origin. Equal or national origin. Equal Housing Opportunity slogan: "Equal Housing Opportunity". Table III - Illustration of Rublisher's Notice. For the best auto classifications check out the Observer &

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Eccentric Newspapers will not issue credit for errors in ads after THE FIRST INCORRECT

INSERTION. Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are

pledged to the letter and spirit

of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing

opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an affirmative ad-

Eccentric Newspaper. "It's all about RESULTS!"

REDFORD 9979 Sioux. 3 bdrm., 1½ bath broad front brick ranch. Private backyard w/ deck, pool & swings for kids & grand-kids. Priced under market.

Call 248-474-3303 ERA Country Ridge Realty 33479 W. 8 Mi. Rd.

Homes



Real Estate LLC

3049 **Beverly Hills**

(Just Reduced!) **BIRMINGHAM SCHOOLS** 32681 Norwood, 3 bdrm brick ranch on 1 acre, Completely updated thru-out, \$299,900 JCS Realty, 248-496-0075

Birmingham

BLOOMFIELD OPEN SUN 1-3 Move in today and enjoy this golf course frontage condo. Many amenities in deluxe mstr ste, fireplace

Call Kathleen Robinson THE CONDO EXPERT 248-646-2517, ext. 208 Real Estate One

neutral t/o. \$234900. 1953

Eagle Pointe. N/Square Lk Rd, E/Opdyke.

BLOOMFIELD OPEN SUN 2-4

Delightful ranch condo Large Living Room/Dining Room, area w/palladium window. Enclosed Hardwood kitchen, Enclosed atrium fast Room, fover. Finished lower / level with bath \$339,900...909 Tartan Trail.

THE CONDO EXPERT 248-646-2517, ext. 208 Real Estate One

OPEN SUN 3-5
Beautiful updates through

Gourmet kitche w/granite & Wolf appli ances. New baths. Finished lower level w/bath, 2 Bdrm,. Atrium. Master. Suite plus 2nd Bdrm, and den. On 1st fairway. \$639,900. 571 Cambridge Way

Call Kathleen Robinson THE CONDO EXPERT 248-646-2517, ext. 208 Real Estate One

3055

Bloomfield

BLOOMFIELD HILLS New construction, new sub 3480 sq. ft., 4 bdrm., 5 full baths, library, lg office, 2 fire places, daylight bsmt., selec tile, granite & cabinets, unde \$700,000. 248-790-3912. **My Builders** 248-819-8009

Brighton

BRIGHTON. Beautiful, con temporary. 2,800sq.ft., wooded lot. Many custom extras. \$314,900 (810)227-9335



3080

BEAUTIFUL QUAD LEVEL Newly decorated & updated 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath home. Lg. corner lot 1st floor laundry master bath, fireplace & wet bar in family room, inground pool. 7552 Wheaton, owner/agen \$255,000, 734-455-9138

BRICK RANCH 3 bdrm, 2 baths. Built-in office. Backs to woods. Appliances included. Family room firenisce. fireplace. \$176,900. (734) 673-3631

BRICK RANCH Updated 3+ bdrm, 2 bath, Fenced yard, detached garage. Many updates. \$198,000. By appt. only, (734) 748-6038

(Just Reduced!) **CANTON - 1528 DUNSTON** N/Palmer, E/Lotz Exceptionally nice 4 bdrm

Colonial, Beautifully deco rated thru-out. Has 1st floo laundry, 2.5 baths. Grea kitchen, family room, for mal dining and much more Must see. \$305,000 CALL LORRAINE HAYES (734) 459-4700 Keller Williams Realty

CANTON BEAUTY ique floor plan - 4 bdrm over 3200 sq. ft. Huge kitchen w/maple & granite. Jenn-aire appliances. Bonus room over garage is finished. Wooded

setting - beautiful home! \$399,999 **DENISE McGUIGAN** 734-564-4310 REMERICA HOMETOWN III

Open House Sun. 1-4PM 41084 Northwind S. of Cherry Hill.

E. of Haggerty Awesome Ranch End Unit Condo. 2 bdrms, 1 bath. Open floor plan. \$127,900 Gary J. Reggish 248-344-1800 REMERICA UNITED REALTY

CANTON TWP. \$379,900. Just in time for school

Canton Twp. golfing com-munity. 2300+ sq.ft. four bedroom Cape Cod, 1st floor master, formal dining & great room, huge kitcher & great room, fluge kitchen w/adjoining sunroom, 3.5 baths, 3 bedrooms up, finished 1100 sq.ft. lower level w/full bath, 3+ side entry garages. Professionally landscaped, exceptionally well cared for! Call me today!

KEN COLLICA, Real Estate One 734-604-4426 / 302-8843 www.annarborrealestate.biz



By Owner

COLONIAL 2250 SO. FT pdrms, 2 full & 2 half baths family room w/ fireplace. Formal living & dining rooms, finished bsmt., lg. Fiberon deck, professional landscape custom features. \$299,000, 313-215-2641

Dearborn Hgts

BRICK DELIGHT Curb appeal plus! New roof, furnace, c/a, brick & vinyl siding, concrete, kitchen & bath. 2½ car garage, too! DENISE McGUIGAN

734-564-4310 REMERICA HOMETOWN III 6231 N. Canton Center Rd.

Dearborn Hgts **BRICK RANCH -**

3115

3120

UPDATED! Great NW location off Hines Park. 3 bdrm., bsmt, 2.5 car garage. New windows, fur-DENISE MCGUIGAN

734-564-4310 REMERICA HOMETOWN III 6231 N. Canton Center Rd

DEARBORN HEIGHTS bdrm., 1300 sq. ft., \$1300. Livonia, 2 bdrm., 1,000 sq. ft., \$900,/ 2 bdrm. 800 sq. ft. \$750. 313-721-0908

Detroit

JUST REDUCED! Classic Brick Colonial with hardwood floors, fireplace cove ceilings, formal dining room, screened porch & lovely yard. Garage and finished bsmt. Energy efficient updates. 124,900 (26088621) Call Diane: 248-345-0031 \$124,900

> By Owner WE WANT OUT!

CENTURY 21 HARTFORD

(248) 478-6000

lusband & wife will sell 10 houses, W. of Telegraph, for what we owe! Must buy all 10. Call Iris, (248) 474-6414 3140 Farmington

CHARMING Older 3 bdrm, home on a large lot in beautiful neighborhood. Walking distance to town. Open floor plan, 3 sea-

son porch, bsmt. & newer 3 car garage. \$184,900. Leah Gawthron Century 21 Row 734-464-7111

JUST LISTED!

Downtown historic district colonial with 4 bedroom, 2.5 baths. Updated kitchen formal dining room, family room with fireplace. Firs floor master suite expanded and remodeled bath. MLS# 26087206 \$399,000



(248) 462-9800 www.century21today.com

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

22750 Mayfield St. bdrm, 1.5 bath Broad front brick ranch. Updates galore. Full bsmt & 2 car attached garage. Close to downtown ington. Owner motivated \$209,900

Call James Toreson (734) 368-1958 REMERICA HOMETOWN

(734) 459-6222 JUST LISTED!

SWIM CLUB! Beautiful totally redone 2 story in prime area with pri-vate court setting, spacious open floor plan. 4 bedrooms. Gorgeous remod eled high end kitchen and more. MLS# 26081282



Century 21 Today, Inc. (248) 462-9800

3145 **Farmington Hills Farmington Hills**

AND WELL KEPT 3 bdrms., w/finished & 2 car attached Call Zana for info. Home, garage. Call 734-516-2736.

FABULOUS FIRST FIRST FLOOR CONDO Enjoy ownership - no rent! Newer ceramic kitchen - all appliances (washer/dryer in unit included) Private natio large doorwall. \$84,000.00

Call Susan Weinstock @ 248-613-9689 REO. 248-851-6900

Farmington Hills
OPEN SUNDAY 12-5PM 30074 Twelve Mile, #109 N. 12 Mile: E. Orchard Lake Stop paying rent! Fully ren ovated ground unit condo features kitchen w/ ceramic floors & white cabinets formal dining room, al appliances incl. w/ pool & tennis courts in complex Priced to sell at \$83,900!

Farmington
OPEN SUNDAY 2-5PM 23005 Manning S. Grand River; E.

Farmington Right Near Downtown Professionally remodeled 3 bdrm brick ranch offers hardwood floors, dining room, renovated baths, finished bsmt, attached garage - All this on a large fenced lot! \$225,000 THE FITZPATRICK TEAM 248-893-1550

FARMINGTON HILLS

248-553-0400

USTUSTED bedroom 2.5 bath

colonial Bloomfield sc Freshly painted Immediate occupancy \$259,900 MLS# 26048054

Century 21 Century 21 Today, Inc. 248-647-8888 www.century21today.com

JUST REDUCED! Cape cod charmer ready to move in! Updated kitchen bath, windows, flooring, furnace & more! Full bsmt. fenced yard, appliances stay Farmington Schools. \$142,000 (2607819)

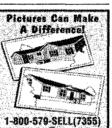
Call Diane: 248-345-0031 CENTURY 21 HARTFORD (248) 478-6000

JUST LISTED!

Motivated seller! hree bedroom 1.5 bath ranch with full finished basement. Two car attached garage with workshop \$219,900 MLS#26070148.

Zentury 21

Century 21 Today, Inc. 248-647-8888 www.century21today.com



Observer & Accentri OPEN SUN; 12-5- 39002 Cattail Ct., Northville, 48167 Brand new construction, over 2500 sq ft. on a beautiful

coddle

\$365,000/best. 248-426-7059.



Open Sunday 1-4 36748 Tanglewood Ln Ramblewood. 3 bdrm, 3.5 bath. Finished walk-out overlooking pond. 1st floor Master w/elegant new bath. Great room, finished family room, dining 'room. Island kitchen w/nook. Many upgrades & updates. Newly ted/carpeted. \$369,900 SHERYL COX (248) 821-2233 Prudential Great Lakes



REDUCED TO \$357,500! 4 bedrooms, 2+2 baths. 1 Mile/Drake area. Owner i builder/broker. Details at: www.theyellowsign.com "#161206" Appointment only! 248-991-9297

3155

(3170)

Ferndale



By Owner COMPLETELY

REMODELED 1416 E. Cambourne. 2 bdrm with family room. All new Kitchen with new appli-ances, New Bath. Asking just \$112,888. Call 586-872-0248 for appointment.

Garden City

GARDEN CITY bdrm., brick ranch, large tchen, whole, finished 3 borm., brick rairon, large kitchen, whole, finished bsmt., 2 car garage, apple tree and lovely landscaping, close to elementary, park access. \$169,900 Must see to appreciate! Buyers/agents welcome. 226 Henry Ruff., N. of Cherry Hill. 734-427-0831.

GARDEN CITY BY OWNER Ranch, 4 Bdrm., 11/2 Baths, Family Room, 1700 Sq. Ft House Being Auctioned W/Owner Financing. Starting bid \$1.00. Terms Acceptable to Seller. Inspection 7/22 & 7/23 11-4. Home To Be Sold To. High Bid. 734-218-4751

GORGEOUS Close to Farmington Elementary - great location. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, finished bsmt, garage All updated top to bottom just move in!

DENISE McGUIGAN 734-564-4310 REMERICA HOMETOWN III 6231 N. Canton Center Rd.

Garden City 3170

GREAT STARTER HOME Larger size bdrms., spa-cious kitchen & dining room, remodeled bath garage, on a large lot, only LARGE FAMILY HOME

5 Bdrms., 2 1/2 baths, almost 2,000 sq. ft., full bsmt., 3 car garage \$169,900.

Century 21 CASTELLI 734 525-7900 Serving the area for 30 yrs

WELL MAINTAINED 3 bdrm., 2.5 Bth Colonial W/lots of updates in a quiet sub near Elem. School, Freeways, and Ford Mo Hquarters. Finshed bsmt w/adl bdrm & bath. \$259,900. (734) 968-0454.

Hartland

PRICE CUT \$50,000 to \$329,900, 3900 sq. ft. w/ fin. walkout. New in '03. Horse boarding near. 8760 Bridle-wood Trail 810-923-9130

3200

RV STORAGE, ACREAGE 3 bedroom, 2100 sq. ft ranch, 30x40 heated out building, 2.65 acres \$410,000. (248) 889-3203

3230 Howell HOWELL Mature trees, beau

+ attached garage, brick/viny siding, natural fireplace, com-pletely redone/2006, 1,800 + sq. ft., 1.8 acres, n Thompson Lake \$206,000 DAN 810-691-1188

Lake Orion

By Owner 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath, 2500 sq. ft, 8 Miles from Chrysler Tech center; custom colonial, nine feet ceiling on 1 st floor, vaulted

ceiling on 2nd floor, elegant and spacious master suite with cathedral ceiling, custom pantry in kitchen and bsmt \$331,400. 248-613-

By Owner

LAKE ACCESS attached garage on a huge lot. New carpet, fireplace, lg, deck and finished bsmt with lo bar & storage area All appliances & pool table stay. Lake access to all sports Lake Orion. Approx 1200 sq.ft, \$210,000. Call: 248-943-3306

opener

ORION Lakefront on Long ake w/ Ski Course. 3 bdrm. 3.5 hath 3500 sq. ft. ranch w/walkout & finished bsmt. \$450,000. Open Sunday, July 16, 1-4, 248-420-8533

Find the best garage sales in O&E Classifieds! "It's All About Results.

Just Reduced! AWESOME DEAL! Over \$30,000 in recent

upgrades. 2 story, 3 bdrm quiet cul-de-sac location Oak kitchen, all appliances deck & gazebo. Motivated \$212,000 TERRI LEE BLOOM (248) 320-0701

iller Williams Realty

22260 Haggerty Rd.

By Owner **COVENTRY GARDENS 2200**

sq. ft. RANCH ON LARGE PRIVATE LOT 3-4 bdrm, 2.5 baths, 3 car attached garage, master suite w/ Jacuzzi, C/A, bsmt, Big kitchen w/ granite. 1st floor laundry, deck. Appliances incl. \$285,000. (734) 422-1418

FOR SALE BY OWNER Beautiful setting backing woods. 3 bdrm, 1.5 b ranch, attach garage, finished bsmt, many updates. 14660 Yale. \$205,000. 734 462-0714



Call Classifieds today 1-800-579-7355

Housing

As members of the NATIONAL **ASSOCIATION OF** REALTORS®, the METROPOLITAN CONSOLIDATED **ASSOCIATION OF** REALTORS® is proud of our contributions in support of the Fair Housing Act and other Fair Housing Compliance programs.

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E



It's the best time to invest in Michigan?

In the 75 years since my grandfather founded our company, there has rarely been a better combination of low interest rates and a larger inventory of homes, making this year the best time to purchase your home.

Dan Elsea, President, Brokerage Services.





CANTON - Just minutes from Downtown Plymouth. New construction. 2 or 3 BR condo w/2 car att gar, 2.5 Bas, large for leisure living, for as little as \$219,900. Call for weekly specials.

(ColmbSq) 734-207-9701 \$219,000



WHITMORE LAKE - Stunning lakefront home on 680 acre lake. All sports Lake Whitmore Lake. Enjoy 65 of sandy frontage & sunsets year round. Totally remodeled & expanded in 1997 w/wide open floor plan. Expansive deck. Call 248-231-4216 (E409)



LIVONIA - Excellent location in popular sub.

Colonial w/1829 sq ft, 4/5 beds, 11/2 baths

and treed private backyard. Lg deck,

covered porch, fireplace, fin basement.

Newer furnace, roof, kitchen and bath. N off

Schoolcraft to Brookfield to E. on Scone.

32486 Scone

N of I-96, E of Farmington

Call Michael Price.

\$184,900

OPEN SUNDAY

LIVONIA

\$229,900

ROYAL OAK - Charming cape cod w/formal din rm, library, 3 BR plus summer porch. Basement, gar, & deck. Newer roof, furnace & A/C. Updated electrical & plumbing. On Cul-De-Sac by Lochman Park. Call Chuck

(C1037)



open floor plan. New everything in last 5

yrs. Roof, wndws, siding, gutters, flooring,

paint, Updated kitchen & bath, Florida room.

See more at: www.allthehouses.net or call

734-968-4959

\$219.900

(\$19312)

DYNAMITE

REDESIGNED new kitchen accents this

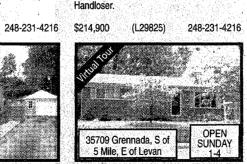
well maintained and updated t/o 4 BR

colonial w/finished basement, private yard,

Florida room, 2 car attached garage &

(A14216)

more. Call Marilyn Handloser



LIVONIA - Pristine Condition! Owner of 30

vrs has meticulously maintained & updated

large updated kitchen w/built in hutch.

Family room with fireplace, door wall, patio,

furnished lower level with bath. Call Marilyn

LIVONIA - 4 Bdrm 2.5 bath ranch in NW Livonia. W/master suite. Updates include; roof, furn, a/c, windows, electric, fin bsmt, deck, oak kitchen. Natural fireplace in living room. New on market! Quick occupancy! 313-570-5511

(G35709)



bdrm 2½ BA w/all the extras. Dramatic 2 stry ceilings, dual staircase, daylight bsmt w/10 ft ceiling, Irg dk, mstr w/lg spa tub & sep shower. Fixtures t/o, FR opns to kit. Call Marilyn Handloser.



LIVONIA - Spotless Livonia Ranch in the "State Streets" subdivision. 1219 sq. ft. Newer roof, furnace, windows and A/C. Large backvard and 1/2 block from elementary school & park. Call Jim

313-570-5511

(D31802)



GREEN OAK - Move right in! Immaculate

96 built ranch w/half acre lot & 3 car gar. Open floor plan w/cathedral ceiling in GR &

DR, door wall to deck overlooking private

yard. Anderson windows and oak kit w/all

app. Call Marilyn Handloser.

WESTLAND - LIVONIA SCHOOLS!! BEST BUY!!! Sharp 2 bdrm, 11/2 bath condo. W/BA cement gar, and more! Féaturing new granite counterlops & pergo style flooring in kit & DR. FP & deck. Hurry, Will go fast! Call

\$144,900 (P7784) 734-751-8732

38705 Seven Mile Road, Suite 150

313-201-2122 \$114,900

\$162,000

Livonia (734) 591-9200

Plymouth (734) 455-7000

BING (403-51) OVERALL DIMENSIONS: 132'-0" X 59'-0" LIVING: 3479 square feet GARAGE: 1240 square feet GARAGE Landmark GUEST Designs

Grand Hotel has nothing on this ranch

Wide and spacious, the Bing (403-51) is a large yet relaxed single level three bedroom home, designed for construction on estate-size acreage.

A country-style porch backed by a wealth of multipaned windows gives the Bing a friendly, welcoming look. The porch stretches across the entire front of the home.

Dormer windows add street appeal, and at the same time bathe the vaulted living room in warmth and natural light. The dining room has a built-in hutch. Bay windows expand both the dining room and living room.

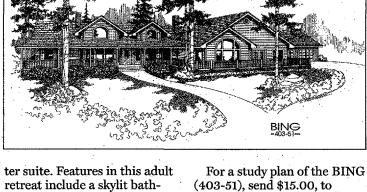
Kitchen and nook are at the home's heart. Everyone will enjoy lingering in this sunny space, seated in the nook or at the raised eating bar. Plants flourish there too, especially in the garden window. Some of the shelves in the large walk-in pantry are accessible directly from the kitchen.

A wet bar and a small refrigerator are nestled into the alcove next to the fireplace in

the large family room. Flames in the other fireplace add to the ambiance



PAPER



Landmark Designs, 33127

Saginaw Rd. E., Cottage Grove,

OR 97424 or call 1-800-562-

1151. Be sure to specify plan

free of charge, to help you

search our portfolio for you

dream home (\$5.00 shipping

you may order or search online

and handling will apply). Or

Features:

Two bedrooms

• Two full

bathrooms

Open floor plan

• Garage Basement

Shown by

appt.

Mon - Fri

at www.ldiplans.com.

name and number. Compact

retreat include a skylit bathroom with twin basins and an elevated spa tub. "His-and-Hers" walk-in closets are sized to suit the distinct clothing storage needs typical of males and females.

The bedroom and den share a bathroom with basin, while the guest room has all the amenities of a second master

Utilities, including a freezer and pull-down ironing board, are convenient to the bedroom and den as well as to a threecar garage.



OPEN HOUSE 1-4 PM

4275 CREEDMOOR

New LAKEFRONT Custom home on beautiful all-sports Commerce Lake with unmatched sunset view. Open Sunday from 1-4.

Chef's kitchen with granite counters & appliances Loft library with built-ins, premium nu-wool insulation pkg
 4 Bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 2.5 car heated garage
 2960 sq. ft. • 1st floor Master Suite w/Jacuzzi Maple staircase with bridge & wrought iron décor Great room with 18 ft. ceiling, built-ins
 Professionally landscaped, brick paver patio - boardwalk

\$849,900 **Tom Racine** (734) 657-3954

Brookshire • (734) 930-6150

How to protect your deposit when buying a home

What happens to the Earnest Money deposit that I need to give with the purchase agreement for a home we are buying?

The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) gives assurance that the sellers have a serious buyer. Sellers are taking a chance on you when they accept your offer. After an accepted offer they are then taking the house off the market. This means that for about a month other potential buyers aren't going to seel their house and they can't accept any other offers.

Because of this, most sellers require the EMD. The EMD tells them that if you back out because you change your money, you will lose this money.

Usually an offer is contingent on two components that are in the purchase agreements. The first contingent that must be satisfied is the private inspection. In most cases you have about seven days to do a private inspection after the offer is accepted. If within that time you are not satisfied with the outcome of the inspection, you may withdraw from the purchase and get your deposit back.

The second part is the mortgage approval. This part can take place between three weeks or about a month, some times earlier and other times less.

After checking out the buyer, the lender will also send out an appraiser to make sure that in the lender's eye that its loaning what it feel that the house is worth. If you are declined in your mortgage approval, you normally can get your EMD back. Everything depends on what is spelled out in disks, with search functions are the purchase agreement.

I would highly suggest not giving the EMD directly to seller, even if you aren't using Realtors. Sellers don't always understand their obligations and may feel free to spend the

Cassady Place Plymouth

Open Saturday & Sunday 12-5

Immediate Occupancy!

30 Luxury Condominiums conveniently located in the City of Plymouth, and just moments from downtown Plymouth.

For information call 734-604-5058

Priced at \$189,500

Included Amenities:

· Air conditioning • Whirlpool Tub in

master bath • Fireplace/mantle

• Garage Door Opener



Michael Aldouby

money when you give it to them. If the transaction falls apart you may not get your money back.

Even if sellers do understand their obligations, they may still

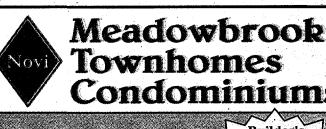
not give you back your money even if you are entitled to it. Realtors do understand their

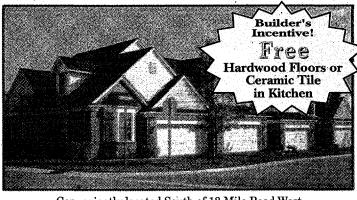
obligations. When you use a Realtor, you make the check out to the real estate company that is representing you. The money is then placed in a non-interest baring account. The EMD goes

toward the purchase of the house. If the transaction does fall apart, you are far more likely to get you money back, than if you rely on the mercy of the seller to give you your money back.

How much should the EMD be? I would suggest that it be enough to show the sellers that you are serious. A rule of thumb is 3 percent of the offer, but it can theoretically be any amount or nothing it all. It depends on what the sellers are willing to accept.

Michael Aldouby is a columnist and a Realtor with Real Estate One. He has an MBA with a concentration in marketing. Please feel free to call him at (734)748-9621 or e-mail him at michaelsellshomes@realestateone.com.





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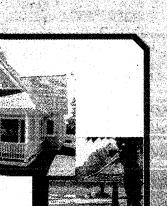
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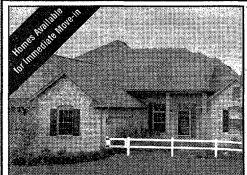
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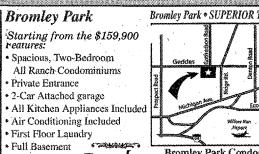
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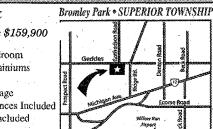
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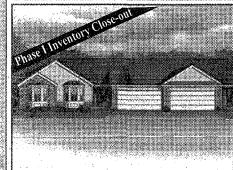
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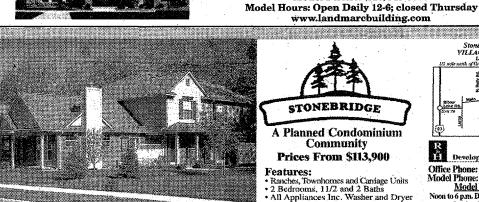
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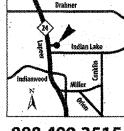
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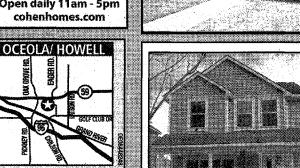
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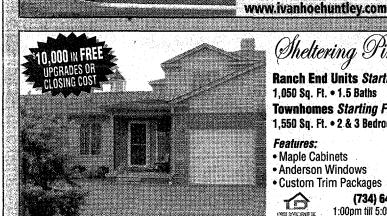
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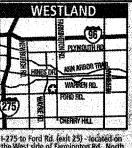
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Scenic Petoskey copes with issues of growth

BY ROB WOOLEY **GREAT LAKES BULLETIN NEWS SERVICE**

Just outside Petoskey's City Hall is the Bear River, an annual destination for spawning steelhead trout. On this crisp April morning a sole angler is playing a steelhead, using his rod to carefully steer the fish out toward mid-river and away from submerged branches. In just a few minutes, he whips it up into his net.

"This part of the river is a great place for steelhead," said a smiling Mark Greene, holding up his still-feisty catch.

Greene, who lives here, is one of many anglers who make an annual spring pilgrimage to this spot, well-known for spawning steelhead, salmon, and rainbow trout. And with spring arriving, downtown's sidewalks and parks are coming alive with a mix of residents and tourists - a clear sign that the vibrant, thriving town is still a good place to

live, work, and play. But while anglers and shoppers enjoy the town's unique outdoor-yet-urban experiences,

planners inside City Hall are struggling to find ways to preserve the rustic, village-like character that is now facing off with modern growth pressures. The planners say that the current, antiquated zoning laws guiding Petoskey's growth make their task more difficult: Like most zoning in the United States, this city's guidelines, adopted in 1974, bow to automobiles, not pedestrians.

Thirty-two years ago that was not a problem: This port town on upper Lake Michigan was not growing very quickly. But now Petoskey is seeing its share of strip malls and other auto-dependent developments - thanks to rules that not only encourage such projects, but also make downtown development very difficult.

change that. Starting in June, they will use public meetings to show residents "form-based coding," a different way to regulate land use. The master plan review process, as it is called, could yield new zoning ordinances that focus far more on how buildings look and fit into

Petoskey officials hope to

their surroundings, and far less on what goes on inside of them.

While the approach has some critics, it is nevertheless spreading rapidly around the country. All sorts of towns, from left leaning Petaluma, Calif., to conservative Grand Rapids, Mich., are embracing the regulatory approach that Smart Growth experts assert is the best way to accommodate growth. Used correctly, they say, form-based coding delivers what many local residents say they want - development that looks nice, feels comfortable, fits into the community, and preserves Petoskey's friendliness to pedestrians.

THE RIGHT ANSWER?

When Amy Tweeten arrived here last year to take a new job in the city's planning department, the dust was just beginning to settle from a contentious, communitywide battle over a proposed \$50 million development. The big project would overlook Lake Michigan's Little Traverse Bay and combine retail, residential, hotel, conference, and parking

facilities. Now known as Petoskey Pointe, it is the sort of "mixed use" development that Smart Growth and New Urbanist advocates say can

protect the town from sprawl. But residents who opposed the project forced the city to hold a referendum on it. Voters backed the new project by 1,144 to 934, but the long, contentious process took its toll. Only now, more than three years after Petoskey Pointe was first proposed, are crews finally getting ready to clear the city block where it will stand.

Tweeten sees a lesson in the long struggle. "For the city to prosper it's

got to grow, and if we don't want to grow outward, we've got to redevelop, and sometimes that means going up," she said, referring to the fivestory height of the new project, which drew lots of fire from opponents. "But we've got to make it so that redevelopment can happen. There's nothing worse for a developer that has to spend three years going through the process. It doesn't

have to be that way."

Although some form-based coding opponents claim that the method is too intrusive and violates property rights, proponents of the coding, also known as Smart Codes, argue that the rules provide more flexibility and are, therefore, less intrusive. The codes mostly regulate what a building looks like, how large it is, and how it fits into its surroundings. Landowners can build single-family homes, apartments, offices, or retail space based on market demand, rather than on zoning that separates those different

always use their cars. Emily Meyerson, Petoskey's planning commissioner, hopes her town gives the new

kinds of building uses into dis-

parate areas, forcing people to

approach a try. I believe it could be a good fit for the city,"Meyerson said. "In Petoskey, be it a new home, an industrial site, or a new commercial building, the form, the size, bulk, and look of a structure and how it fits into the neighborhood appears to be what concerns people.If that is the case, form-based

codes might be the right answer."

TIME TO LEARN

Essential to making that formula stick, proponents say, is doing a good job on the first step, public involvement.

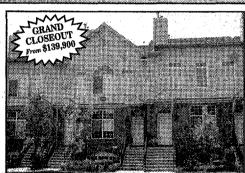
"In order to develop a feasible plan," Mr. Crawford explained, "input from the community should be gathered early in the process through a public visioning and charrette process."

Those buzz words are familiar to some area residents. Since 2000, dozens of visioning sessions have taken place here, involving tens of thousands of dollars and hundreds of citizen volunteers. From the Petoskey Area Open Space Task Force to Emmet 20/20, residents have repeatedly voiced their rising concern about growth, development, and sprawl. But so far, many observers say, nothing has really changed.

Rob Wooley is the Michigan Land Use Institute's Emmet County policy specialist. Reach him at rob@mlui.org.

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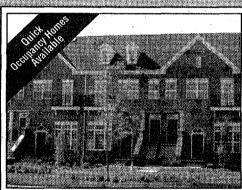
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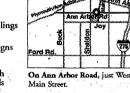
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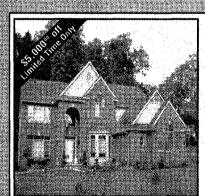
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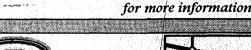
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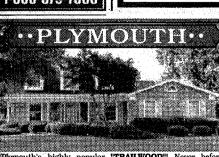
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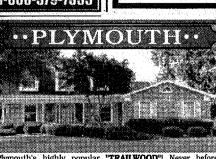
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visit my website: www.Quantum-Living.com Ask for Sharon Taylor 248-770-9430 Coldwell Banker Shooltz (248) 628-4711

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home is located on the Eas side of Brewster Road. This

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3400

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By Owner

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3540

Dakland County

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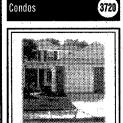
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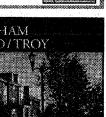
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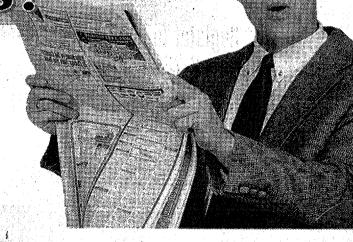
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CAReport







Some people buy an SUV to tow their boat, haul cargo, or to go off-roading. If that s what you re looking for in an SUV, maybe the Mercedes-Benz ML500 isn t really what you re

Not that the ML500 can t handle those things -it has several features designed for better off-road performance. It s just that it looks so good and drives no nicely that you might feel guilty driving through a muddy stream. On second thought, though, it would look good with a boat trailing behind. After all, what says I have money more than a Benz towing a boat?

The ML500 is Mercedes flagship luxury SUV. It's bigger and wider than its predecessor -almost six inches longer and three inches wider with a wheelbase that s almost four inches longer than before. Its new lines are sharper and more aggressive-looking, more of a wedge shape than previous

I like the headlamp design and the way the whole front fascia comes together. The distinctive Mercedes grille is there complete with the famous logo. Front and rear fog lamps are standard, as are roof rails and 18 wheels.

Inside, the ML500 is luxurious and roomy, with lots of standard features, although some features you d think would be standard are part of an odd option package; the comfort package includes 10-way memory seats, auto-dimming power folding outside mirrors, power steering column and a cargo cover/net. At almost \$1,500, there's nothing in that package I can t live without, but maybe that s just me.

Let's talk about what the ML500 does have standard. Cruise control, automatic dual-zone climate control, steering wheel controls for the audio system and message center, eightway power leather seats (heated), power windows and locks, and four 12-volt power outlets. The standard audio system is a AM/FM/weatherband/CD system that provides killer sound. You can add an optional kit that will allow you to connect an iPod or other mp3 device directly to the sound system and control it from the steering wheel (how I wish the test vehicle came with that feature). You can also add a six-disc changer and satellite radio if you like (and have some extra money to burn).

Speaking of available options, you can add a DVD navigation system to the ML500, but I m not loving the one I had in the test vehicle. It was difficult to figure out, and I couldn't get the audio turn prompts to come through the



2006 Mercedes-Benz ML500. Vehicle class: Special purpose truck. Power: V8 engine. Mileage: 14 city / 19 highway. Where built: Tuscaloosa, Ala. Base price: \$48,500. Price as tested: \$55,930.

speakers as they should have. Oh sure, I could have read the manual, but why should I have to? The buttons and menus should be fairly obvious -particularly to someone like me who drives a lot of different cars on a regular basis. Other manufacturers seem to do this particular feature better. Having said that, the maps were pretty and seemed to be accurate.

There's plenty of room in the ML500, for both people and cargo. The rear seats fold down to provide up to 72 cubic feet of cargo space. The seats are comfortable and provide good support. The cabin is luxurious and nice to look at. The instrument cluster is well-designed and, except for the audio controls, is well laid out. Finding a radio station can be tedious, particularly in an unfamiliar area while using the navigation system. There s no shifter in the center console; it s on the steering column and is a breeze to shift. Touch one step up or down, and push the side button to put it into park. There are two large cupholders in the center console and you can get an optional power rear hatch.

The all-wheel drive ML500 is powered by a five-liter V8 with three vales per cylinder. It s rated at 302 hp and 339 lb.-ft. of torque. The engine is mated with a seven-speed automatic transmission. The shifts are smooth and acceleration is excellent. Gas mileage isn t great -14/19 -but not totally out of line for a big SUV.

The ML500 does come with four-wheel traction control and an off-road button on the console that activates an enhanced ABS mode, off-road traction control, higher transmission shift points and a slower throttle valve to keep the

car in lower gears longer, for better traction over uneven terrain. Downhill Speed Regulation is also included; it's like a lowspeed cruise control system for steep descents. Activated by another button on the center console, the driver then uses the cruise control stalk to set the speed anywhere between 4 and 12 mph. The system uses throttle, transmission gearing and automatic braking to help maintain vehicle speed. So we do have a little more than a pretty face here.

The ML500 also handles the tough roads of suburbia in stride. Four-wheel independent suspension smoothes out the rough spots and you can choose to add an optional AIRMATIC air suspension system. It wasn't on the test vehicle, but Mercedes says it not only improves ride comfort, but also provides flexibility by reducing ride height on the highway, increasing it off-road, maintaining vehicle level when loaded and continuously adjusting the suspension damping as road conditions change. The driver can also select three different levels of damping.

Front side airbags, and front and rear side window airbags are included; rear side airbags are a \$385 option.

The 2006 Mercedes-Benz ML500 starts at \$48,500. Add the navigation system, power lift gate, upgraded CD system, sunroof, and the above-mentioned comfort package, and you re at about \$55,000. This SUV can go off-road and get dirty -I m just not sure I d spend that kind of money and then take it there. Tackling the wilds of soccer practice and grocery shopping might be another matter.

Write Dave Menard at **avanti1054@aol.com**.

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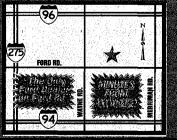
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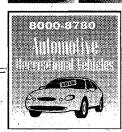






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2006 9-3 AERO



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8440

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8530 Mazda

8535

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GRAND AM GT 2004

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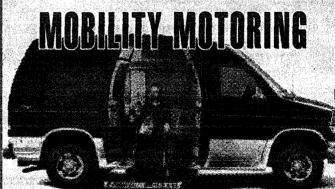


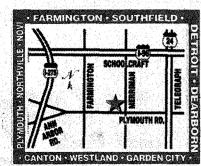
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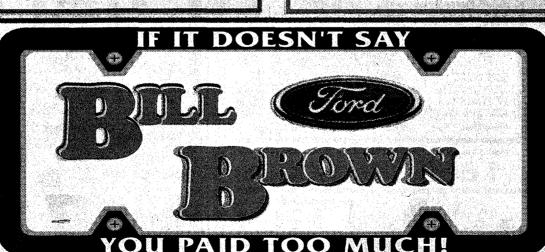
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