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**THURSDAY**  
January 22, 2004  
75 cents

**CANTON Observer**

**Bragging rights**  
Canton, Salem ickers clash for city crown.  
Sports, A10



VOLUME 29 NUMBER 58

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**Memo**

**You're a booster**

The PCEP Orchestra Boosters meetings will meet monthly on the third Tuesday of the month. If you are a parent of a middle school or high school orchestra student, you



are a Booster and are encouraged to get involved. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. in the Orchestra Room in Canton North (Phase III) building.

**Looking for you**

The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools is accepting nominations for the annual Sandra Saguear Memorial. The deadline is Feb. 16.

The award recognizes Plymouth-Canton graduates who have overcome adversity and have displayed courage, perseverance, spirit and creativity in succeeding, despite a physical, mental or emotional barrier when they were a student. They have also shown an appreciation for others and a commitment to their community.

The recipient of this award will have their name placed on the Sandra Saguear Wall of Courage. This award is named after Sandra Saguear, a 1969 graduate of the original Plymouth High School who imagined and believed she could succeed as she lived every day with polio.

You may download an application at: [www.storytellerdesign.com/SandraWallApplication.pdf](http://www.storytellerdesign.com/SandraWallApplication.pdf)

**Their debut**

Local talent will be showcased at the Canton Singer-Songwriter Series, sponsored by Leisure Services. The series is similar to last year's Coffeehouse Series and is running 7-9 p.m. Thursdays this month.

The Dirt Brothers (acoustic bluegrass) will perform Jan. 22 and Jan. 29 at the Summit. Admission is \$3 per person, which includes light refreshments.

Tickets are on sale at the Summit. If tickets are available, they will be sold at the door before each performance.

**Board bandies bond question**

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education found itself between a rock and a hard place Tuesday night.

Plymouth-Canton Schools Superintendent Jim Ryan announced his recommendation to forgo a bond issue this year, claiming the economic situation in Michigan isn't conducive to passing a millage proposal to address more than \$91 million in needs as outlined by the Bond Steering Committee.

However, a report by Ken Jacobs, executive director of support services, indicates the district needs nearly \$14 million in what he termed "immediate needs" repairs, "problems likely to occur within the next 1.5 years in the absence of a successful bond millage."

No matter whether it's \$14 million or \$91 million, the district doesn't have the money, and will eventually need to ask voters to approve a bond issue to address repairs and renovations which have been put off

PLEASE SEE BOND, A8



**A tribute**

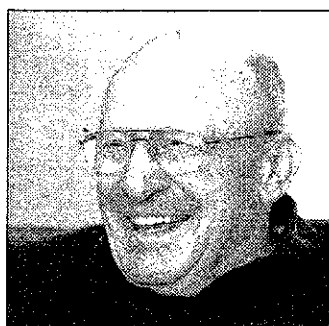
Corey Head performed a number of solos as his group, Vision, the men's glee club with the Detroit High School Fine and Performing Arts enchanted the audience with their music at the Canton Public Library. For a story and more photos, please turn to page A3.

**McNamara tackles retirement**

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER

Sitting in the living room of his Plymouth Township home, former Wayne County Executive Ed McNamara seemed very accepting of

the fact that he's now retired. "As far as I'm concerned, I'm done with the political system," said McNamara, 77, who has spent more than 40 years holding elected



Former Wayne County Executive Ed McNamara, a Plymouth Township resident, says C.A.T. scans no longer show any trace of the lymphoma cancer.

PLEASE SEE RETIREMENT, A4

**Joint police response leads to arrest in killing**

Thanks to a multi-jurisdictional effort, Canton Police had a 28-year-old suspect in custody just hours after the shooting death of a man in a Canton mobile home park early Monday morning.



Police Sgt. Todd Williams said units from the Michigan State Police, Plymouth Township, Romulus, Van Buren Township, Sumpter Township and the Western Wayne County Community Response Team assisted in tracing the man to a home in Sumpter Township where he was arrested without incident. The string of events began

shortly after 2 a.m. Monday when police received a series of 9-1-1 calls from a woman at the Academy Point Mobile Home Park on Haggerty south of Michigan Avenue, according to Mutchler.

When the first officers arrived on the scene, the woman was standing inside her trailer leaning out. "She directed officers inside indicating that an individual had been shot," Mutchler said.

Inside the home, officers found Bernard Lester Williams, 38, of Sumpter Township, lying face down on the floor.

"He was the victim of several shotgun wounds," Mutchler said. "He was unresponsive at that point." Williams was taken to

Annapolis Hospital in Wayne, where he was pronounced dead a short time later.

On Tuesday afternoon Keenan Williams, 28, of Sumpter Township, was arraigned in 35th District Court before Judge John MacDonald on a charge of second-degree murder. A plea of not guilty was entered for him and he is being held on a \$750,000 cash bond at the Wayne County Jail.

A preliminary exam has been scheduled for Jan. 30. He faces a life sentence if convicted. Keenan Williams was related to the victim, according to authorities.

Police said Keenan Williams was the boyfriend of the female resident of the home. She told police that both Bernard and Keenan

Williams and a Romulus man had been at the home drinking. She left the room to go to a bedroom and heard loud arguing coming from the living room followed by three shotgun blasts, according to Mutchler. When she returned to the living room, Bernard Williams was lying on the floor and the other two men were gone. One of the men was located in Romulus and later released after being questioned by police.

The other man fled on foot and was tracked by officers and police dogs throughout the night. The search ended at the Sumpter Township home. Mutchler credited the multi-jurisdictional force in leading the speedy arrest. He said the weapon, a 12-gauge shotgun, was recovered.

**Labor dispute considered following furniture damage**

Who scratched the furniture? That what Canton Township officials and police are trying to find out.

On Jan. 14 a township employee noticed that five pieces of brand new office furniture that had recently been moved into the new third floor area of the administration building had been scratched or keyed.

According to a police report a work service area, two desk tops, a file cabinet and a bookcase had been damaged. Canton Public Safety Director John Santomauro said the damage was estimated at \$6,000. The police report said there were no suspects and no witnesses.

While police say they have no suspects, Santomauro said the incident occurred shortly after the township and the carpenters' union had a minor labor dispute concerning that very furniture.

The dispute arose after the township purchased the furniture and awarded a contract for furniture installation services to a non-union company.

"All but one of the contracts for work done on the building were held by Auch Construction Management Company," said Township Supervisor Tom Yack. "We bought the furniture then hired someone to put it together."

He said bids were solicited for that work and the contract was awarded to the lowest bidder.

Budget and Finance Director Tony Minghine said the contract was for \$35,000 while the total cost of the renovation and expansion project was about \$20 million.

Yack said the carpenters claimed the installation work should have been done by them and picketed the project for about four or five days.

"We didn't have any contract with the carpenters," he said. "Auch did."

Minghine said representatives of the management company and the township met with the carpenters and the dispute was resolved. "In the grand scheme of things it was a fairly minor event," he said.

As far as the damage to the furniture, Santomauro said he's not ruling anyone out as suspects. "We believe it was someone who had access to the building," he said. "We would not like to think it was any of the workers. If we are able to identify who did it, we are going to prosecute."

Minghine said some or all of the furniture might be repairable, but he won't know that for a few days.

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# Listen carefully

## Curtains open on Canton storytelling festival

BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI  
STAFF WRITER

Corinne Stavish, Barbara McBride Smith and LaRon Williams will make their stories so real you will swear you are living them.

"It's eye to eye," said Stavish, a storyteller and professor of humanities at Lawrence Technological University.

The three storytellers will entertain audiences at the 6th Annual Storytelling Festival Saturday, Jan. 24 at the Summit in Canton.

"My love of storytelling is what brought me to help organize the festival," said Barb King, a member of Canton Project Arts, which sponsors the event.

Each year attendance at the festival, which is for children and adults, has grown, said Pat VanDusen, Canton volunteer events coordinator.

The festival has two sessions, the first at 1 p.m. for families and then 7:30 p.m. for adults. "The stories are recommended for children ages four and up," Van Dusen said.



Stavish



McBride Smith



Williams

Stavish, McBride Smith and Williams are well-known in the storytelling world and each is expected to bring their own unique stories and methods of telling them.

Each of the storytellers will do at least two stories. "This is going to be very multicultural," Stavish said.

One of the stories that will be told is "Bubba and the Cowboy Prince," which is essentially a Jewish Cinderella story. "The audience will be rolling in the aisles," Stavish said.

Her specialty is in Jewish and comparative world

folklore. A native Texan, McBride Smith is known for her downhome Greek myths, post-modern folktales and biblical tales. Williams, an Eastern Michigan University graduate, uses dialect, facial expressions and movement for his tales of the beauty and power of the African culture.

"We'll probably do a tale or two together," Stavish said, of partnering with McBride Smith at the festival.

Stavish calls storytelling an intimate art form that typically is without costumes or books. "We bring the story to life," Stavish said.

"We use a lot of posturing, gestures and voice." "Corinne is the heart and soul of the festival in the sense that she has a high standard for storytelling," King said.

"This is an art form and storytelling isn't something that all communities do."

Refreshments will be served and guests will have a chance to meet and talk with the storytellers.

The storytellers also will perform Friday, Jan. 23 in some of the Plymouth-Canton elementary schools. "We've had up to 250 kids come out to the festival," King added.

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### FOR THE RECORD



"For the Record" appears in every edition of the Observer & Eccentric.

#### Newspapers

This column soon will expand to include births and district court proceedings.

Other obituaries can be found inside today's paper. Look for Passages to view paid obituaries.

#### Deaths

**B**  
Brennan, Roberta Leslie, 87, of Westland, died Jan. 19.

**C**  
Cook, Virginia C., 92, of Livonia,

died Jan. 16.

**D**  
Davis, Pauline E., of Clarkston, died Jan. 15.

Davis, Walter Eugene, 67, of Wayne, died Jan. 19.

**H**  
Hamlin, Novella K., 82, of Farmington Hills, died Jan. 18.

Haremski, Elvira J., 86, of Dearborn Heights, died Jan. 18.

Haworth, Barbara J., 72, of Farmington, died Jan. 14.

Holt, James Loyd, 78, of Westland, died Jan. 18.

**J**  
Jenkins, Thomas David, 80, of

South Lyon, died Jan. 13.

**K**  
Kutschke, Jack R., 52, of Southfield, died Jan. 19.

**P**  
Prisk, Marjorie G., 82, of Livonia, died Jan. 16.

**R**  
Radigan, Robert N., 59, of Canton Township, died Jan. 16.

Rutherford, Linda Faith, 57, of South Lyon, formerly of Redford, died Jan. 15.

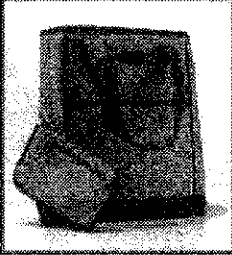
**S**  
Seremet, Thomas J., Sr., 56, of Farmington Hills, died Jan. 16.

**V**  
Vinci, Samuel E., 60, of Plymouth, died Jan. 16.

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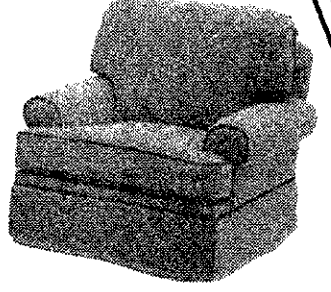
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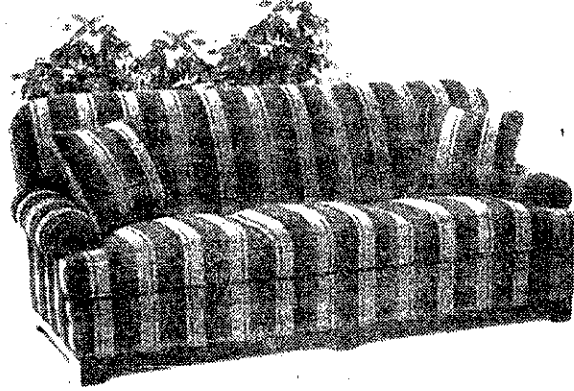
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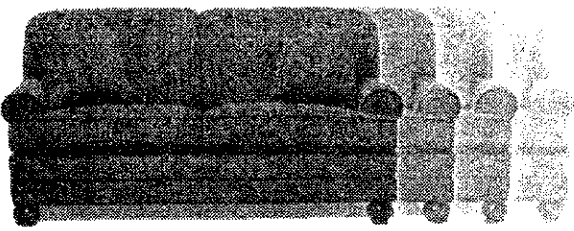
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Hazel Whitney talked about meeting Martin Luther King Jr. and of living in the south during the Civil Rights movement during a celebration honoring the leader at the Canton Public Library.

## 'We shall overcome'

Martin Luther King celebrated with song and inspiration

BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI  
STAFF WRITER

There was no black or white or any other division between people as almost 100 residents clasped hands and swayed to repeated choruses of *We Shall Overcome* at a celebration of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday Monday.

"We're really pleased to be celebrating nonviolence and color blindness," said Marcia Barker, Friends, Volunteers and Program coordinator for the Canton Public Library, which hosted the celebration.

A repertoire of black spiritual music, some heralding from the days of slavery to the civil rights movement, was brought to life by Vision, the men's glee club at the Detroit High School for Fine and Performing Arts.

"It was just extraordinary. They did an awesome job," said Mina Jaura, chair of Canton Human Relations Commission which presented awards to two high schools students for their essays on Martin Luther King's ideals.

Chris Lockett, a senior at

Salem High School, took first place with his essay and received a \$150 gift certificate. Shankar Ramamurthy, a senior at Canton High School, took second place and received \$100 gift certificate.

"He (Martin Luther King) took a nationwide problem with racism in a nonviolent way," Lockett told celebration guests. "Violence doesn't result in anything but more violence."

Ramamurthy's essay focused on equality. "I looked at the topic as a great way to share my feelings about things at the high school."

To the backdrop of Vision's music, Hazel Whitney - mother of Vision director Sheryl Valentine - talked of meeting Martin Luther King when he and others, such as Ralph Abernathy and Amos Brown, stopped at her house.

Whitney's husband, a minister, called to tell her he was bringing home some guests. At the time, she was cooking pig's feet. And that's what King got for dinner - with barbecue sauce.

"He tried to teach us how to

protect ourselves," Whitney said, of King.

Her hope that President John Kennedy would be an answer for civil rights was, of course, dashed by his assassination. "This government is not about one group of people. It is about Americans."

Whitney also lauded activist Medgar Evers, who like King years later, was shot and killed.

Whitney also spoke of life in the South during her younger years as she raised her family while the civil rights movement grew. She spoke of trying to register to vote, of her children's experience befriending white children and the attitudes that had to be penetrated.

"We need more of this," Whitney said, of the library's celebration. "We know what each other's culture is about. It is economically expedient to keep us segregated. Racism and sexism need to be stamped out. The only ones who can do it is us."

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## Violence isn't a permanent answer

Chris Lockett, a senior at Salem High School, won first prize in an essay contest sponsored by the Canton Human Relations Commission. Students were asked to write about their favorite ideal held by Martin Luther King Jr. The following is Lockett's essay



The winners of the Canton Human Relations Commission's Martin Luther King Jr. essay contest are Shankar Ramamurthy (left), who took second place, and Chris Lockett, who took first.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was a great man. He knew what was best and what was the best way to achieve what was best.

One thing Dr. King wanted was for people of all race and ethnicity to be treated equal. On this subject Dr. King said, "We have ancient habits to deal with, vast structures of power, indescribably complicated problems to solve. But unless we abdicate our humanity altogether and succumb to fear and impotence in the presence of the weapons we ourselves have created, it is as possible and as urgent to put an end to war and violence between nations as it is to put an end to poverty and racial injustice." This is one of the many inspiring quotes Dr. King left with us.

On August 16, 1967, Dr. King gave his last presidential address to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. It was during this speech that the above-mentioned quote was said. This

quote is interesting to me because of how Dr. King related a big problem to a seemingly small and overlooked problem. He talks about how over the years we have had and will have problems to deal with, but unless we give into our humanity and yield to fear of manmade weapons, war and violence between nations will continue to be our temporary answers to these problems. He relates the urgency of stopping war and international violence to the urgency of stopping poverty and racism.

Another way of interpreting

this quote is that we have habitual ways of dealing with recurring problems and that the sooner we stop the violence and find a better way of dealing with the bigger problems with other nations, the sooner we can concentrate on the problems within our own nation.

This quote is a representation of how Martin Luther King Jr. was not only a stepping stone toward helping America achieve its best, but also of how King demonstrates the way to use the knowledge and power you have to help all and not just oneself.

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## DEVELOPMENTS

The following is an update on commercial and residential development under construction in Canton. The list also includes projects under review.

## PROJECTS UNDER

## CONSTRUCTION

## Commercial:

■ **Imagine Theaters**, south of Ford, east of Lotz. An 18-screen theater of 72,966 square feet on 16.1 acres next to Home Depot.

■ **Willow Creek Retail PDD**, on the former Builders Square/HQ area, north of Ford, east of Lilley. The project, which includes a Panera Bread, includes 12.54 acres.

■ **Dearborn Federal Credit Union** on the west side of Canton Center, south of Ford, includes 6,500 square feet on three acres.

■ **Integrated Health Associates**, north of Cherry Hill, east of Ridge. The project includes 37,825 square feet on two acres.

■ **B.A.P.S. Hindu Temple**, on the east side of Canton Center, north of Geddes.

■ **Ford Quality Care Center** on the west side of Canton Center, south of Hanford.

■ **Beginner's Inn Daycare** expansion on Canton Center, north of Warren. The project includes 10,500 square feet on

two acres.

■ **Michigan/Lotz Service Court**, north of Michigan Avenue, east of Lotz. The Arby's/Sunoco project is 4,900 square feet on 4.5 acres.

■ **Canton Auto Sales expansion**, north of Michigan Avenue, east of Lotz on .78-acre.

■ **Quick Oil Change**, on Canton Center, north of Ford. The project is 1,680 square feet.

■ **Canton Performing Arts and Education Center**, on the northeast Cherry Hill and Ridge. The 30,000-square-foot, 400-seat facility will be a regional center for music, dance, drama and education.

■ **Canton Administration Building renovation and expansion** on the west side of Canton Center Road. The project includes 66,000 square feet of new construction and the renovation of the existing 45,000 square feet.

■ **Cherry Hill Village**, Biltmore commercial building in the square of Cherry Hill Village includes a general store, coffee shop, Remerica Hometown Realty, Habitat for Design and Sheahan Title.

## Residential:

■ **Antique Forest subdivision**, 130 units on 106.4 acres on the north and south of Saltz, between Ridge and Beck.

## RETIREMENT

FROM PAGE A1

positions. "I'm serious this time; I'm too old. It's not that I feel too old. But, by numbers I'm just too old."

Maybe this time it's believable that McNamara is content to spend time with his wife, Lucille, his five children and five grandchildren.

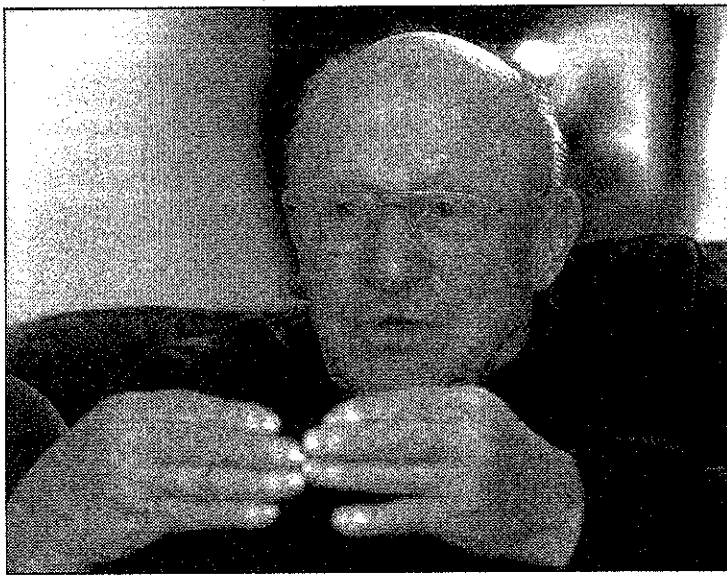
"My wife and I work crossword puzzles; she frustrates me because she's better than I am," he said. "I meet for lunch with old cronies, do a lot of reading, and we spend time at our cottage near Mount Pleasant."

In fact, McNamara feels very fortunate to be able to say he is retired.

"The doctors told me I had six months to live when they diagnosed lymphoma cancer (last year)," McNamara said. "I was doing chemotherapy when after five treatments I came down with pneumonia. It took 32 days flat on my back in the hospital to cure it."

"But, when I got out of the hospital, there wasn't any sign of cancer," he said. "They call it remission, but I've had several CAT scans and there's no sign of it. I feel good ... and am very fortunate."

## GROWING UP



Former Wayne County Executive Ed McNamara was elected to the Livonia City Council in 1962 and later served nearly 17 years as mayor.

McNamara and his three sisters grew up in the Brightmoor area in Detroit, the son of Canadian parents who moved to the U.S. when Henry Ford was paying \$5 a day for plant workers. After graduating from Redford High School at the age of 17, McNamara spent the next two years in the Navy.

At 19, and back in Detroit, McNamara got a job on the assembly line at GM Diesel, but it didn't last long.

"I was talking to the guy next to me, and asked him why he was still working there," said McNamara. "He told me he was there for 17 years because he had two daughters to support."

"I told him 'When the boss comes back, tell him I quit, ... and I walked out,'" he said.

McNamara enrolled at the University of Detroit, eventually earning a degree in political science. After moving to Dearborn Township (now Dearborn Heights), it didn't take long for McNamara to begin his long political career.

"I ran for school board as a protest candidate because the board was trying to run through a millage increase without telling us," he said. "We drew straws to run in the board election, and I got the short one."

Looking back on McNamara's career, it's not surprising to find out he finished first, served for more than five years on the board and eventually became president.

"At the time I was going to law school (which he never completed), was president of the board and was working for the telephone company," said McNamara. "My wife said something has got to give, so we moved to Livonia never to

be involved in politics again."

## NEVER SAY NEVER

Never turned out to be two years, at which time McNamara ran and won a two-year term on the Livonia City Council in 1962. The next election he secured a four-year term, the next time was elected president of the council, and then took on incumbent Mayor Harvey Moelke.

"Joan Duggan formed Moms for Mac, and had 400 women going door-to-door," said McNamara, who defeated Moelke. "We paved streets, built ice rinks, built a beautiful city hall. We did everything but pave the alleys, and we were going to start that until I got elected as county executive. It turned out to be a beautiful town."

Jack Kirksey, another former Livonia mayor, has known McNamara for more than 40 years.

"I found Ed to be a visionary, and someone who comes into tough situations and can fix them," said Kirksey, term-limited out of office in 2003. "He's an individual who understands the political process, and understands the power and how to best use it."

After nearly 17 years as mayor of Livonia, McNamara decided becoming county executive was his next challenge.

"I knew that if I could get at the county, there were a lot of things I could do," he said.

"I just felt I could put together an administrative team and turn the county around."

After first losing to Bill Lucas in 1983, he ran again and won, taking over Wayne County with a deficit that reached \$200 million.

"Mike Duggan gave me a 16-page game plan for getting us elected," remembered McNamara. "I said OK, we went for it and it was successful."

## HELPING HAND

It wasn't the first time Duggan helped McNamara win an election.

"When Michael was 11 years old, he formed the Mini Macs, kids who had bumper stickers and a circus wagon, who went through shopping centers passing out literature," he said.

"One time Mike had an argument with the manager of Livonia Mall about passing out literature, and Mike began arguing the First Amendment."

McNamara has no doubt Duggan is the right man to take over as CEO of the Detroit Medical Center.

"If Mike Duggan can't clean up the mess at the Detroit Medical Center, then it can't be cleaned up and they might just as well close down the hospitals and leave town," McNamara said.

McNamara and his team eventually brought stability back to Wayne County.

"We got rid of the deficit, had 14 balanced budgets, built a new jail in Hamtramck, a new morgue, youth home and golf course, two new stadiums downtown, a new airport and improvements in Hines Park," said McNamara. "Who can point to that kind of record in 16 years?"

Colleen Pobur of Plymouth, whose family has known the McNamara family since she was a child and who eventually became the director of concessions and quality assurance at Metro Airport under McNamara, said McNamara did a great job of running the county.

"When he took over there were payless paydays, and boxes of unpaid bills," Pobur said. "It was a mess, but he and his team got things back in shape so it was one of the most respected counties in the country."

"The working environment was very empowering, and he gave us a lot of free reign," she said. "It made us want to do a good job."

## POLITICAL PAYBACK?

One blemish on McNamara's record still left incomplete is the federal government's investigation into potential wrongdoing by his administration. McNamara said the investigation amounts to nothing more than political retribution.

"I'm trying to figure out why it happened," said McNamara, who says the investigation happened because of Democrats' role in keeping the Republicans from delivering Michigan to then-presidential candidate George W. Bush in 2000.

McNamara has great respect for Gov. Jennifer Granholm, who worked for him twice, the second time as Wayne County corporation counsel. The McNamara political machine was instrumental in helping her get elected as attorney general.

"I don't think we could have beaten (Republican) Scott Romney, and we sweated it out until we heard John Smetanka was the candidate," said McNamara. "Thank you, God."

McNamara said he has only one regret.

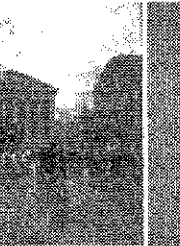
"That I didn't leave four years earlier," he said, "but, we had the two stadiums going and we wanted to finish what we started."

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REQUEST FOR BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m., February 5th, 2004 for the following:

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

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish: January 22, 2004

020191057

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REQUEST FOR BID

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FOR D.D.A. STREET SCAPE

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TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish: January 22, 2004

020190509

# Ball draws record number of sponsors

BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI  
STAFF WRITER

One of the best is how Joan Noricks describes the 10th Annual Winter Ball Jan. 17. Though fewer attended the community's largest black-tie fund-raiser at Laurel Manor, the Canton Community Foundation reaped more in contributions than ever before. "I'm very excited. I felt it was one of the best," said Noricks, foundation executive director, who with administrative assistant Nancy Williams plans the ball. As the foundation's largest fund-raiser, the ball provided \$65,000 - more than double the contributions from the first event 10 years ago. "We had more sponsors this year," Noricks said. In 2003, the foundation provided more than \$80,000 in grant to local nonprofit organizations. The foundation also provides scholarships to Plymouth-Canton students. In

2003, the foundation also reached the \$1 million mark for its endowment fund. The event began with a VIP reception at which Canton Supervisor Tom Yack was honored for his volunteer efforts and as a driving force and founder behind creation of the foundation almost 15 years ago. "The foundation has touched so many people - buying a van for seniors to helping community groups," Yack said. "You can build a legacy simply by contributing to the community." Yack is the first to receive the foundation's new Founder's Award, which is given to recognize a volunteer who has been instrumental in the growth and development of the organization. "We recognize it takes more than money to make an organization successful," Noricks said. "Tom Yack was such a natural for this award. He was instrumental in founding the foundation."

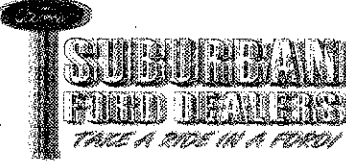

Foundation board members also renamed the organization's unrestricted endowment fund the Thomas J. Yack Fund. Foundation board members also honored two well-known community businesses - Yazaki North America and Jack Demmer Ford - for contributing more than \$50,000 to the organization. Previous winners were Pulte Homes of Michigan and Robertson Brothers Co. "Their financial commitment has helped us grow," Noricks said of Yazaki, which has contributed to the foundation each year since 1990. "They have been our major donor." Board member Kriss Rautio lauded Jack Demmer for all of his work and contributions for the foundation. "He is someone who is a role model for all of us."



Dianne Cojei, Canton Chamber of Commerce executive director, chats with Dolly and Ron Lieberman at the 10th Annual Winter Ball.



Canton Supervisor Tom Yack, a founding member of the Canton Community Foundation, accepts his Founder's Award, while board member Mitch Howard watches.





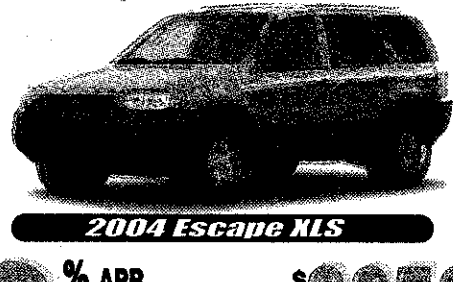




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Saturday, January 24, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
Thursday, January 29, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, February 3, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Henry Ford Academy is located at the west end of Henry Ford Museum facing Oakwood Boulevard.

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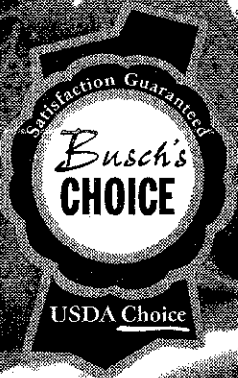
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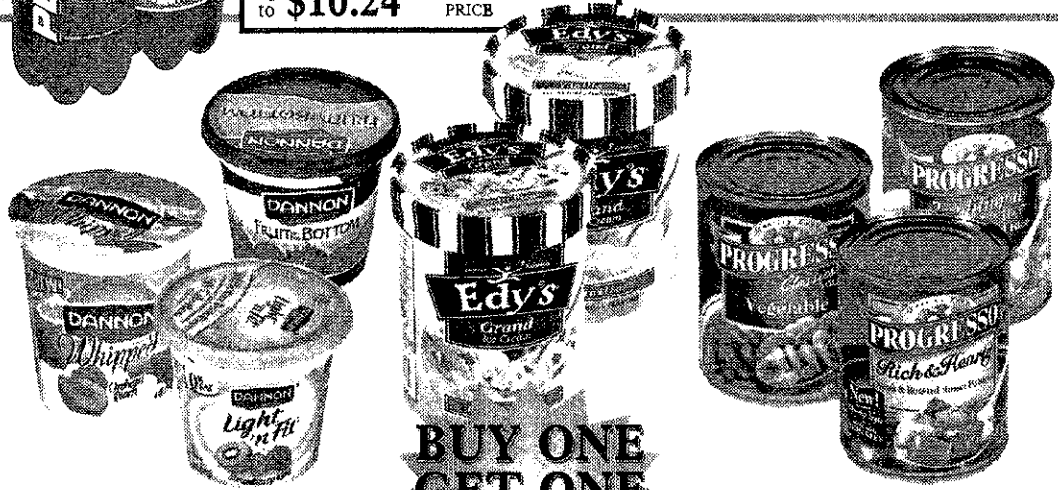
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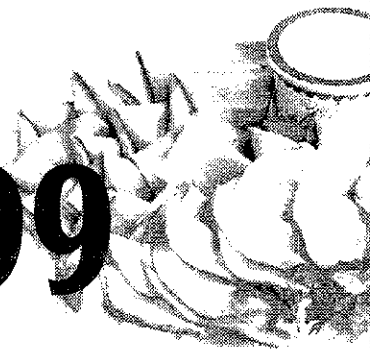
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## Help pick 'Best Of' winners for Canton area

What's the "best..." in our hometown, in metro Detroit? Help us pick the People's Choice for Filter and the Best Of in your community.

Readers who submit ballots for the local Best Of and People's Choice Award will be entered in a drawing to win gift certificates to area malls and restaurants, movie tickets, sporting events and more.

Metro Detroit has so much to offer. Help us spread the word about your favorite places to eat, shop, hang out and visit by participating in our contest.

To be eligible for the drawing, you must complete both the local and People's Choice Award ballots. The People's Choice ballot can be found in Thursday's *Filter*. Cut out the ballots, complete them and mail or fax to the address listed, or cast your ballots online at [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com).

Entries must be received by Wednesday, Feb. 11. Drawing winners will be notified by phone. Look for the People's Choice awards in *Filter* on Thursday, March 25, April 1 and April 8, and the Best Of local awards on March 25.

## Best of Canton

- ✓ Best shopping experience
- ✓ Best cup of coffee
- ✓ Best road to travel
- ✓ Best car wash
- ✓ Best subdivision
- ✓ Best place to relax
- ✓ Best place to walk the dog
- ✓ Best community organization
- ✓ Best place to exercise
- ✓ Best burger
- ✓ Best eatery
- ✓ Best pizza
- ✓ Best corporate partner/contributor



Send ballots to:  
Joanne Maliszewski, 794 S. Main,  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
Fax: (734) 459-4224 or vote online at  
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# Chinese New Year ushers in Year of the Monkey

BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI  
STAFF WRITER

If you were born in 1932, 1944, 1956, 1968, 1980 or 1992, you are intelligent, well-liked and will be successful.

That's because you were born in the Year of the Monkey, according to the Chinese calendar.

2004 is also the Year of the Monkey and to celebrate the Canton Public Library will highlight the Chinese New Year at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27 in the community room.

This will be no ordinary celebration. It will start with the Lion Dance throughout the library. "It traditionally starts the New Year. The lion is supposed to be auspicious. It brings good luck," said Ophelia Lo, Canton adult services librarian.

Lo is a member of the library's Multicultural Initiative Group, which plans activities for the community's diverse population. The group presented a celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. at the library Jan. 19.

"The Chinese New Year is the first day of the first on the year. It is based on the lunar calendar.

"It falls on different days on the western calendar."

Members of the Asian Martial Arts Studio in Ann Arbor will perform the Lion Dance.

The evening will also feature discussion about the Chinese New Year and the customs that accompany the holiday. Students from the Canton Chinese School also will perform.

The Chinese New Year lasts 15 days. The seventh day of the period is considered everyone's birthday.

The last day is called Lantern Day and is signified by, of course, lanterns, Lo said.

The Chinese calendar is comprised of 12 animals - rat, ox, tiger, hare, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, dog, pig, rooster and monkey - in a cycle.

"It is based on a fable," Lo said. Buddha was in need of help. Twelve animals came to his aid but had to cross a river to help him. Each of the animals arrived in a certain sequence.

"Buddha was so grateful," Lo said.

Buddha made a cycle 12 years long with each symbolized by one of the 12 animals that came to his aid.

jmaliszewski@oe.homecomm.net  
(734) 459-2700

# Deadline approaching for music scholarships

The application deadline for the Plymouth Symphony's Taking Flight - Music to Make the Spirit Soar Youth Artist Competition is Monday, Feb. 2.

The competition will take place on Sunday, Feb. 15 at Evola Music, 7170 N. Haggerty Road, Canton.

Through the Michigan

Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs, Plymouth Rotary and other sponsors, the Plymouth Symphony recognizes young orchestral talent from the Plymouth and Canton area, and surrounding communities. The competition has offered music scholarships since 1978.

The competition is composed of three divisions: senior

instrumental (grades 10-12), senior piano (grades 10-12) and junior combined (grades 7-9).

Applicants must be piano, band or orchestra students who live in the school districts of Plymouth-Canton, Livonia, Northville, Novi, Wayne-Westland or VanBuren (Belleville).

First-place winners in each division will be senior instrumental, \$500; senior piano, \$500; and junior combined, \$250.

Applications are available through the Plymouth Symphony by calling (734) 451-2112 or by email at plymouthsymphony@aol.com. Applications are due on or

before Monday, Feb. 2. Past participants are encouraged to reapply, however, musicians are eligible to win only one first prize award in each division.

Winners may have the opportunity to perform with the PSO. Applicants must be available to perform at the competition.



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PARISIAN

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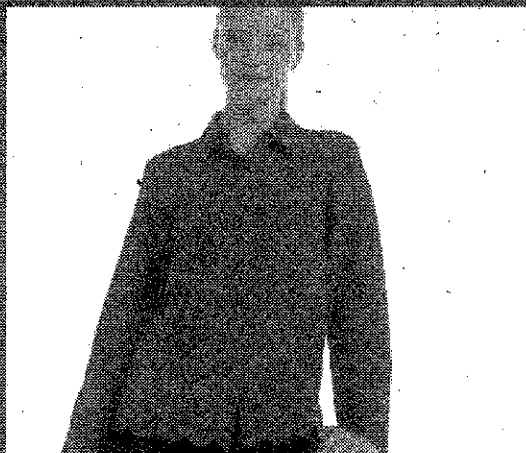
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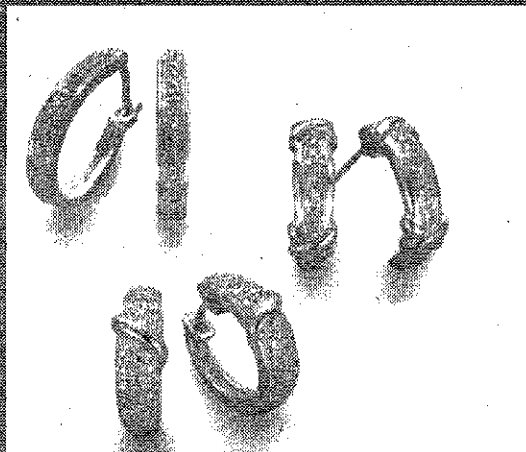
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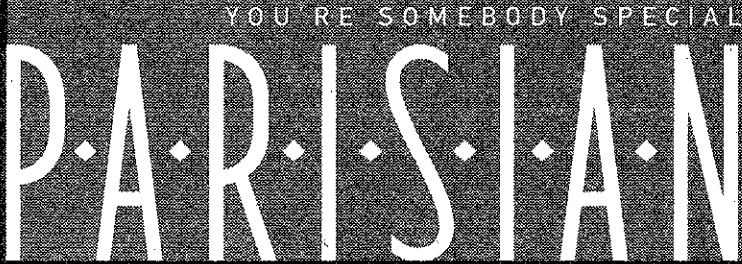
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Kate Bosworth

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WIN A DATE WITH TAD HAMILTON (PG-13) 11:30, 2:00, 4:10, 7:00, 9:15 FRI/SAT LS 11:20

ALONG CAME POLLY (PG-13) 12:00, 2:30, 4:50, 7:15, 9:30 FRI/SAT LS 11:30

TORQUE (PG-13) 11:10, 1:15, 3:10, 5:10, 7:25, 9:20 FRI/SAT LS 11:15

TEACHER'S PET: THE MOVIE (PG) 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00

CHASING LIBERTY (PG-13) 7:20, 9:50

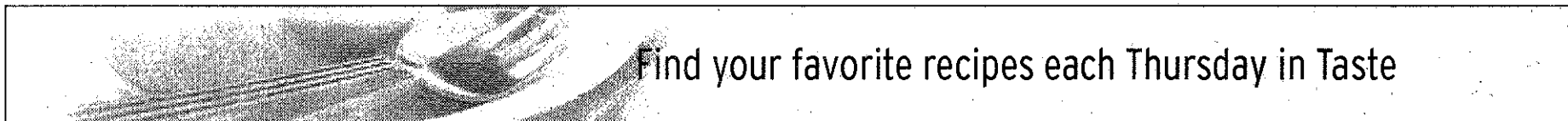
COLD MOUNTAIN (R) 11:45, 3:15, 6:30, 9:35

CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN (PG) 12:05, 4:35, 6:50, 9:05 FRI/SAT LS 11:20

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# Local charities nail targets

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER

While many non-profit organizations failed to make their financial goals this year because of tough economic times, two charities that serve the Plymouth-Canton area report they've reached their targets.

The Plymouth Community United Way reports it surpassed its \$1.2 million goal for the 2003-04 campaign.

"I knew it was going to be a challenging year for the campaign team," said Marie Morrow, PCUW president. "It helped that the two larger companies in the area were successful in their campaigns."

Those two companies were Johnson Controls, which recorded pledges of \$570,000; and Visteon, whose employees pledged \$236,000.

"We also had a number of new individual, business and industrial givers which helped bring new money to the campaign," added Morrow.

The previous year, the PCUW set a goal of \$1.2 million and surpassed it by \$200,000. Morrow said the PCUW has reached its goal the past 24 years.

"There is a real need in the area, especially with the economic problems," said Morrow, whose organization helps support 20 local agencies in Plymouth, Canton and

Northville. "We're especially seeing financial problems with groups that help seniors and the mentally challenged because of cuts from the state and federal governments."

Meanwhile, the Plymouth Salvation Army was pleasantly surprised that its Red Kettle campaign surpassed its goal by more than \$18,000.

Spokeswoman Kelly Zmudczynski said Red Kettle donations resulted in \$158,366. That was up from the previous year, when the Red Kettle drive produced more than \$129,000.

"We were very pleased at the effort of the community," said Zmudczynski, the campaign coordinator. "We spent a lot of

time this year making sure the (Salvation Army) shield was out as much as possible, and I think people have a better awareness of the Salvation Army and the work we do."

"What's most important is that the money stays in the local communities (Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Belleville) for social services, rent and utility assistance, the food pantry and the many programs we have at the community center," she said. Salvation Army bookkeeper Doug Leslie said the Christmas mail appeal is still being counted. The goal is \$235,000; and collections to date total \$188,000.

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## BOND

FROM PAGE A1

for years.

"Unfortunately, the history of the district is that we have been putting those off, and that's why we're in the quagmire we're in now with a laundry list of multimillion dollar issues that we need to address," said Trustee Richard Ham-Kucharski. "A lot of these are just making certain the buildings are safe and functional; making sure the heating system is working, the boilers are working, the roofs aren't leaking."

"I think we need to move as fast as we can (in asking voters to approve a bond issue)," he said.

## NEEDS LIST

Among the \$13.8 million in immediate needs outlined by Jacobs are:

- Replacement of the heating, ventilation and air conditioning at Salem High School - \$7.5 million.

- New roofs at Pioneer Middle School, as well as Hulsing, Field and Eriksson elementary schools - \$1.7 million.

- Asphalt of driveways and parking lots, including a \$350,000 repaving of the bus lot - \$1 million.

- Replacement of boilers and pumps, some of which are over 35 years old - \$800,000.

- Replacement of elevator cabs at Canton and Salem high schools - \$800,000.

"We've been focusing on getting money into the classroom and keeping class sizes low," said Trustee Tom Wysocki.

"But these are things that keep the schools nice, and help attract people to the district."

"If I think the schools are a good, physical location, then I'd like to live there," he said.

"But if the schools are in disrepair, the district will look a lot less attractive than other places."

Another problem facing the board is a new election consolidation law that takes effect next January, which limits the number of months in which an election can be held. After this year, elections in Michigan will only be held in February, May, August and November.

School districts can hold a bond issue vote in a fifth month, but need a petition signed by residents to hold a special election.

Trustees talked of a September bond issue, which wouldn't mean repair work wouldn't begin until the summer of 2005. If a bond issue is postponed until 2005, then necessary work on the buildings won't begin until the summer of 2006.

## SPECIAL ELECTION?

Ryan did suggest the board call for a special election in late September or early October to seek approval for the renewal of an 18-mill nonhomestead millage, which expires in June 2005.

"That's worth \$27 million in revenue to us on businesses and nonhomestead properties," said Ryan. "We need to get that passed in time to levy on the July 2005 taxes, or we'll have a real revenue problem."

Board President Judy Mardigian said the decision whether to seek a bond issue will be made by April 27. When asked if she thought a bond issue would be needed this year, she said yes.

The discussion at Tuesday's workshop centered on repairs to existing buildings. Trustees have yet to address whether a bond issue will include construction of a new elementary school, and possibly a new middle school.

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## Water, the best medicine



By Muzammil Ahmed, M.D., Urologist

Did your mother tell you to drink lots of water?

When it comes to preventing bladder infections and kidney stones, she was right on the mark. But there is more you can do to prevent these problems.

Bladder infections affect almost 50 percent of all women and a small, but significant, number of men. If a woman has more than three infections in a year, she should consult a physician to ensure she is not suffering from a more serious problem.

Common causes of recurrent infections in women include sexual activity, lack of estrogen, kidney stones, poor emptying of the bladder or a bacterial strain that is partially or completely resistant to antibiotics.

Other diseases can mimic recurrent infections, such as bladder cancer and interstitial cystitis. Careful examination and further tests utilizing fiberoptic equipment and imaging technology can help determine the problem.

In men, recurrent infections are often related to an underlying prostate problem. Recently, Oakwood Healthcare System pioneered laser technology for the treatment of benign prostate enlargement. Oakwood Annapolis Hospital was a location for a multi-institutional trial which demonstrated the effectiveness of the Greenlight™ Photoselective Vaporization of the Prostate. This outpatient procedure holds promise in treating enlarged prostates.

In addition to drinking water, recent studies show the beneficial role of cranberry juice in preventing infections. It turns out that cranberries contain an agent which inhibits the cell wall growth of the most common bacteria, E. coli. However, people must remember to urinate fre-

quently. Not urinating for more than three or four hours will give bacteria in the urine the time it needs to grow and establish a foothold in your urinary system.

Although kidney stones are not as common, about one in nine Americans will get them during their lifetime. Most stones are made of calcium oxalate.

Should you cut down on dairy products to prevent these stones? No. Recent data shows that people with the highest consumption of dairy products have the lowest incidence of kidney stones.

Other dietary and genetic factors play a more important role in kidney stone formation than calcium intake. People with more than one or two stones in their lifetime would benefit from a thorough metabolic work-up to prevent them in the future.

In general there are several things that can help prevent most types of stones. Water intake is obviously the first factor. Consuming citric acid is

also very important; the highest citric acid content can be found in lemonade. Avoidance of food with large amounts of salt or oxalate is also beneficial, such as coffee, tea, dark colas, chocolate products, dark green vegetables, certain berries and nuts.

In the event that you do have a kidney stone, a variety of endoscopic and sonic equipment can effectively treat your ailment without the need for major surgery.

Dr. Ahmed is a board certified urologist at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital in Wayne. He has been practicing at Annapolis and in the western Wayne community for more than five years. He received his training at the University of Michigan Medical School and has lived in the community for more than 20 years. For more information or to make an appointment, please visit [www.oakwood.org/MuzammilAhmed](http://www.oakwood.org/MuzammilAhmed) or call 1-800-343-WELL.

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Registration is open to boys and girls ages 4-18\* who are residents of Canton, Plymouth or the PCCS school district. All new registrants must show proof of age and residency at time of registration.

**Three Dates of Registration:**  
Sun., Jan. 25 • 2pm-7pm  
Sat., Feb. 7 • 9am-3pm  
Sat., Mar. 27 • 9am-3pm

Fees range from \$75 to \$120 for recreational leagues, with travel team fees slightly higher. All fees are NON-REFUNDABLE. Payments made to CCJBSA in cash, money order or personal check. Credit cards or debit cards are NOT accepted.

Games will start middle to end of May and run thru mid July.

All registrations will take place in the **Ballroom of the Summit in the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton.** For more info call **734-394-5489** and leave a message...or call:

- Chris Angel (teeball/baseball ages 4-12\*)...734-981-3007
- Jay Obsniuk (baseball ages 12-18\*).....734-981-3272
- Rich Rohn (rec. or travel softball).....734-981-5989
- Dave Urquhart (rec. or travel softball).....734-254-0016
- Ron Goble (travel baseball ages 10-12\*).....734-207-8889
- Marc Madias (travel baseball ages 13-15\*)..734-207-5424

\*Ages as of Jan. 1, 2004 for softball and as of July 31, 2004 for teeball and baseball.



# Observers capture national honors

The *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* captured 22 awards in the 2003 Suburban Newspapers of America annual Editorial Contest, including four won by the *Plymouth Observer*.

The awards for 2003 were announced Monday. SNA reported they received 1,972 entries, a 51 percent increase over the previous year.

The awards are presented in 33 categories for daily and non-daily newspapers in different circulation classes.

"The *Observer & Eccentric* is committed to producing the best community newspapers. To be recognized with 22 awards by SNA is a tribute to our staff," said Susan Rosiek, executive editor of the *Observer & Eccentric*.

The *Plymouth Observer* won a first place for its feature series on Imanol Duran, the little boy who came to town to have his club feet repaired. The paper also captured a second-place award for a feature story on teenage mothers who are coping with obstacles while staying in school.

Editor Brad Kadrach also captured a second place in the best column writing category for columns including one on being a first-time soccer dad, and in best opinion column for opinion pieces including one on the incident where a teenager stole a pen from a Plymouth city police officer.

Other *Observer & Eccentric* winning entries included:

Greg Kowalski, editor of the *Birmingham Eccentric*, first place for best editorial writing.

Larry Ruehlen of the *Birmingham Eccentric*, second place for best coverage of local business and economic news.

Karen Smith, editor of the *Clarkston Eccentric*, second place for best entertainment/lifestyle section.

Dan O'Meara, sports editor of the *Farmington Observer*, second place for best sports writing.

Dave Varga, editor of the *Livonia Observer*, second place for best column writing.

Matt Jachman, Stephanie Casola and Jeff Counts, the *Livonia Observer*, second place for best breaking news story.

Wayne Peal, editor of the *Southfield Eccentric* and former editor of the *Rochester Eccentric*, second place for best column writing for the *Rochester Eccentric*.

Tim Smith, sports editor of the *Southfield Eccentric*, second place for best sports writing.

Gary Winkelman, editor of the *Rochester Eccentric* and former editor of the *Troy Eccentric*, second place for best editorial writing for the *Troy Eccentric* and second place for best editorial page for the *Troy Eccentric*.

The *Birmingham Eccentric* sports section, third place for non-page one layout.

Joni Hubred, editor of the *Farmington Observer*, third place for best column writing.

Dan O'Meara, the *Farmington Observer*, third place for best sports section.

Sandy Armbruster, editor of the *Troy Eccentric* and former editor of the *Lake Orion Eccentric*, third place for best column writing.

The *Observer & Eccentric's* Filter entertainment section, Keely Kaleski, editor, second place for best entertainment/lifestyle section.

Paul Beaudry, sports editor of the *Redford/Garden City Observer*, second place for best sports writing and second place for best feature.

Jim Toth, sports editor of the *Troy/Rochester Eccentric*, honorable mention for best sports section.

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# Salem sweeps Canton under, 9-0

Sometimes things go your way. Sometimes they don't. And sometimes fate gets a helping hand.

When Canton tangled with Salem in their cross-campus clash on ice, Salem experienced the former while Canton suffered through the latter.

As for giving fate a helping hand, that distinction would have to go to Rocks freshman goalie Joe Moore, who denied the Chiefs throughout this Western Lakes Activities Association crossover as Salem blanked Canton, 9-0, Tuesday at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

The Rocks evened their overall record at 7-7-1, while Canton fell to 3-9-1.

"I was expecting a close game," Salem coach Fred Feiler said, "a 4-2, 4-3 game, one that was up for grabs."

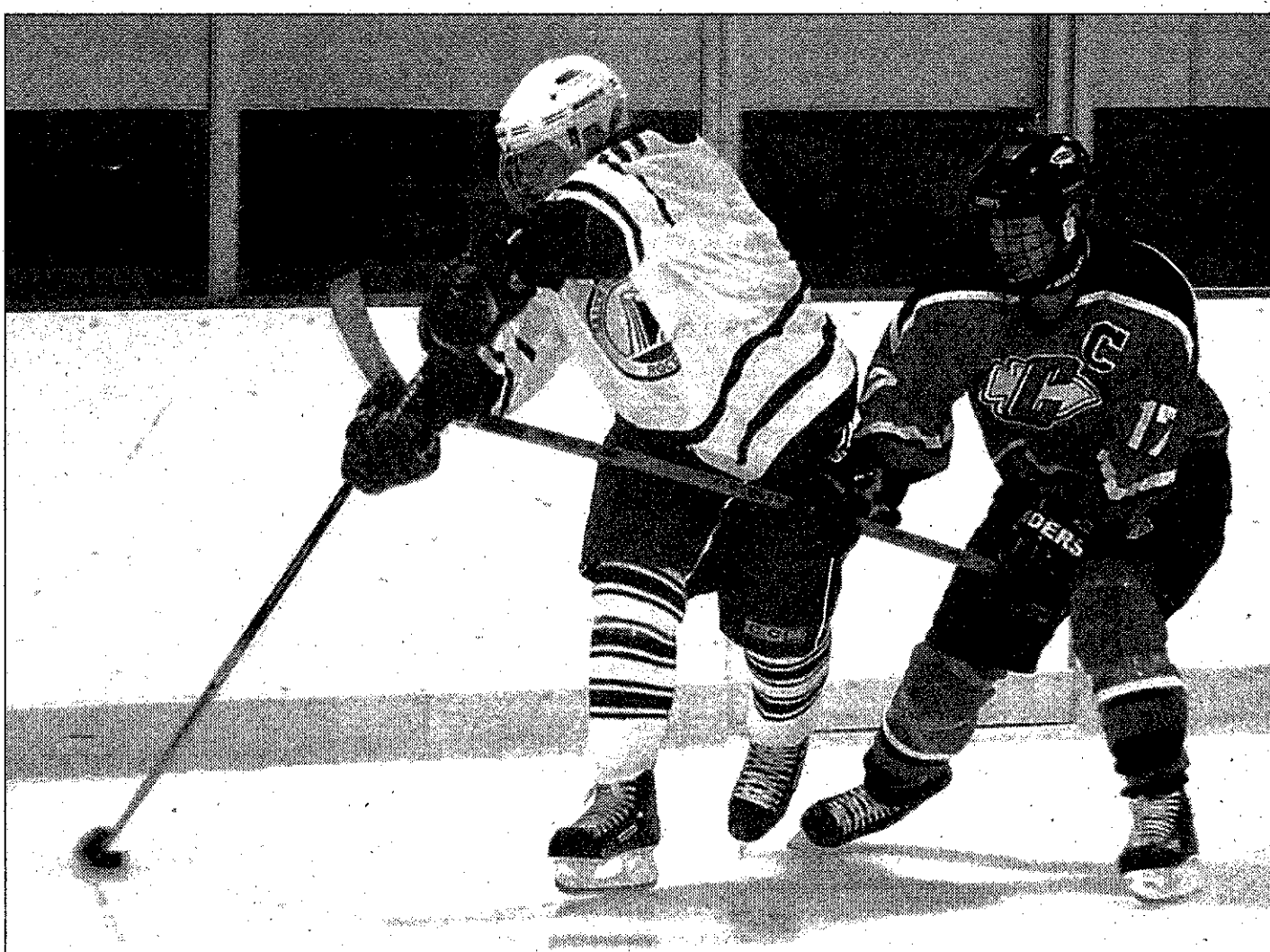
That's not what he got, but he was hardly disappointed. "Our power play was working tonight," Feiler said. "Our special teams played a big part in it. And our goalie did a great job. He made some big saves when we really needed it. I think that took the wind out of their sails."

Mind you, this wasn't a case of the Rocks getting all the breaks. They dominated the action. The first period ended with them ahead 2-0 — and it might have been a lot worse.

Both Salem first-period goals came on the power play, the first by Andy Thackaberry on a tip-in past Canton goalie Chris Garrett. Kyle Emmons, who would get a hat trick and assist on three others in the game, made it 2-0, knocking in a rebound with 2:27 left in the period. Aaron Cheesman assisted on both goals.

The Rocks didn't let any chances slip past them in the second period, scoring five times to go up by a touchdown (7-0). Emmons had one goal and two assists in the period; Cheesman, John Maurer and Craigen Bauldry each contributed a goal and an assist; and Dan Crockett scored a goal.

The third period was anti-climactic, the only drama surrounding Moore's attempt to shut out Canton. He did, but it wasn't easy. The Chiefs had four



PAUL HURSCHMANN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Kyle Emmons works the puck around Canton's Reece McCabe (17). Emmons riddled the Chiefs with three goals and three assists.

Sidelines

## Wings win

With a come-from-behind effort, the Canton Wings mini-mite hockey team battled back to win the Christmas Tournament at the Dearborn Ice Skating Center.

The Wings opened strong, beating the Dearborn Junior Wings 4-0, but in their next game they were stopped by the Dearborn Mustangs, 5-2. In their next game against the Farmington Hills Hammerheads the Wings managed a tie, which earned them a spot in the tournament semifinals.

They faced the Hammerheads in the semis, and this time the Wings won big, 5-0. So on Dec. 23, it was the Wings against the Mustangs once again, only this time the Wings hard work was the difference in a 3-2 victory.

Members of the Canton Wings are: Griffen Mayes, Nick Chatas, Brendan Teodorescu, Kyle Ceci, Jonah Gorski, Nick Macari, Nolan Cioch, Jacob Smith, Alec Calvaruso, Carson Pakula, Matt Curley, Scott Bazner, Michael Groff, Evan Bell, Kyle Schrock and Evan Newel. The team is coached by Mario Macari, Steve Mayes, George Teodorescu, Matt Ceci, Mark Calvaruso, Frank Gorski, Dennis Smith and John Chatas.

## Hockey schools

Suburban Hockey Schools will have three-day mid-winter clinics at Birmingham Ice Arena and Suburban Training Center in Farmington Hills the week of Feb. 16-20.

Clinics include Mite power skating and puck handling, Squirt power skating and stick skills, and Pee Wee/Bantam checking and scoring. The clinics will run for 1.5 hours each day; the cost is \$105 per player.

Suburban will also have specialized, one-day workshops at STC for puck handling/playmaking and outside edges Friday, Feb. 20.

All one-day programs are for players age 6 and up. The workshops will be two hours per day, and each one is \$45 per player.

For more information call (248) 478-1600 or visit [www.suburbanhockey.com](http://www.suburbanhockey.com).

## Football tryouts

Football tryouts are being held for the Detroit Downriver Diesels, a minor league football team.

Tryouts will be held from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 29 at the Taylor Sportsplex located at 13333 Telegraph Road in Taylor.

All interested must be age 18 or older and the cost per person is \$20.

For more information, call (313) 506-0249 or (313) 294-0890 or visit [www.detroitdownriverdiesels.com](http://www.detroitdownriverdiesels.com).

# Whalers battle back to edge Rangers

The Plymouth Whalers spotted the Kitchener Rangers a three-goal lead, then overcame it in the last 30 minutes and surged to a 4-3 victory Saturday at Plymouth's Compuware Arena.

The win boosted the Whalers into first place in the Ontario Hockey League's West Division with a 20-14-8-3 record (51 points), one point more than Sarnia. Kitchener, the defending OHL and Memorial Cup champion, is 24-13-6-1 (55 points), third in the OHL's Midwest Division.

The Rangers took a 3-0 lead on a first-period goal by Adam Keefe and second-period scores by David Clarkson and Petr Kanko. Kanko's goal came at the 5:45 mark of the second period.

## OHL HOCKEY

Before the period was over, the Whalers had knotted the score, thanks to the work of Ryan Ramsay, James Wisniewski and Rane Carnegie. Ramsay scored the first of his two goals in the game at 10:26, assists going to Wisniewski and Carnegie.

Wisniewski's power-play goal, scored at 16:05, made it 3-2. Ramsay and Dan Collins assisted.

Ramsay's second goal, his 20th of the season, tied the score at the 18:30 mark. Wisniewski and Carnegie assisted.

The game-winner came from John Vigilante on the power play at 11:16 of the third period. Ramsay and Wisniewski assisted.

Paul Drew made 21 saves in goal for Plymouth to pick up the win. Brad Topping had 24 stops for Kitchener.

The win completed a three-games-in-three-days stretch for the Whalers, during which they lost the first game then beat two of the OHL's better teams the next two days.

Another such string of games is on tap this weekend, with the Whalers playing Friday at London, returning home Saturday for a game against the Knights, then playing Sunday at Saginaw.

# Rally gets Chiefs an OT win over Warriors

A clutch performance by Jason Houdek off the bench got Canton even Tuesday against Walled Lake Western, and in overtime D.J.

Bridges and Andy Cortellini did the rest to propel the Chiefs to a 56-52 boys basketball victory at Canton.

With the Western Lakes Activities Association Western Division victory, Canton evens its overall record at 4-4 and its division mark at 1-1.

The Chiefs were forced to claw their way back into it after falling behind by nine points early in the fourth quarter. They had led 11-5 after one period, but Western outscored them 36-21 in the middle two periods to take a 41-32 lead going into the fourth.

Houdek provided the much-needed spark, nailing a pair of 3-pointers in the final quarter to get Canton close, then hitting the game-tying jumper with two seconds to play to tie it at 49-all and force overtime.

The Chiefs got four points from Bridges and three more from Cortellini in the extra period to get the win. Bridges finished with 19 points and 13 rebounds; Cortellini had 11 points and six assists; and Houdek scored eight points. Kevin Thornton contributed four points, six rebounds and five blocked shots.

Denard Branch topped the

Warriors with 14 points. Anthony Acho had 10 and Brian Behan and Bryan Kolvalski scored eight apiece.

**Plymouth Christian 44, S'field Christian 39:** It wasn't pretty, but it was a win, one that kept Plymouth Christian Academy unbeaten in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference's Blue (Upper) Division.

PCA got 39 of its 44 points from four starters Tuesday in holding off host Southfield Christian. PCA, which improved to 6-2 overall and 2-0 in the Blue, led 28-22 at the half, but could never pull away from its adversary.

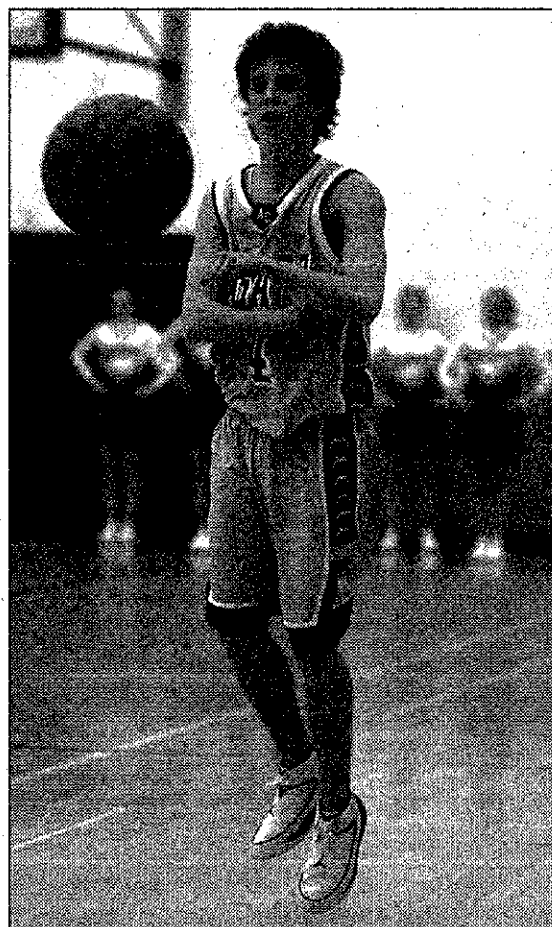
Southfield Christian fell to 1-5 overall, 0-2 in the MIAC Blue.

"In the third quarter, our game just kind of ground to a halt," PCA coach Doug Taylor said. "Both teams played good defense, both teams rebounded the ball well, but to tell the truth, no one made shots."

"It was a real physical game, a real defensive battle."

PCA had just four second-half baskets, but did convert 13-of-18 free throws (72.2 percent) in the game. Southfield Christian was 3-of-12 at the line (25 percent).

Daniel Carty led PCA with 13



Jordan Napier led Canton Agape Christian with 14 points in a win over Bloomfield Hills Roesper Tuesday.

# Rocks roll to another top finish

It seems Salem's volleyball team is the real deal. Young, but very good.

The Rocks won their second tournament in three tries Saturday, beating Clinton Township Chippewa Valley 25-23, 18-25, 22-20 in the final at the Troy Invitational.

The victory did not come easily for Salem. Three of its six matches went to a third game, and the Rocks won all of them. Indeed, the third game of the final match was a 15-point, win-by-two set that required 12 additional points.

In the win over the Big Red, Therese Coppiellie led the attack with nine kills. Ellen Canale had eight and Jordan Falcusan con-

## VOLLEYBALL

tributed four kills and 23 set assists. Coppiellie, one of three freshmen on the team who coach Tom Teeters uses extensively, also led the team in digs.

In the tournament semifinals, Salem defeated Sterling Heights 22-25, 25-16, 15-9, while in the quarterfinals the Rocks topped Macomb Dakota 25-11, 24-26, 16-13.

In pool play, Salem defeated Royal Oak Shrine 26-24, 25-16; Chippewa Valley 25-11, 25-19; and Madison Heights Bishop Foley 25-14, 25-12. The Rocks split with Warren Mott, 25-11, 20-25.

The 6-0-1 record improved the Rocks' record to 19-3-6 overall.

"Defensively, we're still pretty strong," Teeters said. "Our serving's dropped a bit, but Canale did come through with a spin serve under pressure at match point."

With Salem leading Chippewa Valley in the final, 21-20, Canale's spin serve led to an easy return that the Rocks turned into a match-clinching kill by Coppiellie.

Salem has a Western Lakes Activities Association showdown at Livonia Churchill, the defending

PLEASE SEE CHIEFS, A11

PLEASE SEE ROCKS, A13

# Ocelots claw to win over Monarchs Schoolcraft mauls Macomb for 12th straight victory

Poor shooting dominated this game — and Macomb CC dominated the poor shooting. Schoolcraft College took advantage of the Monarchs' inaccuracy Monday to roll to an 83-45 victory in an MCCA Eastern Conference women's college basketball game at Macomb CC.

The Ocelots improved to 11-5 overall, 5-1 in the conference. Macomb is 7-9 overall, 3-4 in the conference.

SC converted 18-of-34 (52.9 percent) first-half shots while the Monarchs hit 5-of-25 (20 percent). The second half wasn't much better for Macomb: 7-of-34 (20.5 percent).

India Monteiro and Sara Tyree combined for 41 points for the Ocelots, Monteiro collecting 21 points and grabbing 13 rebounds and four steals, Tyree netting 20 points and seven boards. Ashley Gibson added 11 points and 11 rebounds.

Macomb was paced by Ashley Wagner with 13 points, 15 rebounds and six steals.

**Oakland CC 55, Schoolcraft 52:** In a game dominated by defense, Oakland Community College got just enough points down the stretch to hold off

## WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOP

Schoolcraft College in an Eastern Conference game Saturday at SC.

OCC improved to 9-6 overall, 4-1 in the conference with the win. The game was close throughout, the Raiders up 35-34 at halftime thanks to 14-of-27 (51.9 percent) floor shooting. SC shot well in the first half, too, making 12-of-28 from the field (42.9 percent), including 4-of-6 three-pointers (66.7 percent).

All that changed in the second half. OCC was 7-of-30 from the floor (23.3 percent), and the Ocelots made just 6-of-21 (28.6 percent). Leah Anttila paced the Raiders with 20 points, including four three-pointers. Patrice Andre added 15 points and Meagon Thornsberry had 12 rebounds, four assists and three steals.

Sara Tyree led SC with 14 points, converting all six of her shots from the field. India Monteiro and Ashley Gobson contributed 12 points apiece, Monteiro grabbing 14 rebounds and making two steals and Gibson adding 11 boards, five

assists and two steals. OCC had a 12-6 advantage in second-chance points, a 20-12 lead in points off turnovers and a 28-20 lead in points scored in the paint.

**Cornerstone 78, Madonna 65:** Madonna University managed to stay with 13th-ranked Cornerstone for a half, but the Golden Eagles pulled away in the second half with a 42-32 run.

The loss left the Crusaders at 2-2 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference, 5-14 overall. Cornerstone is 17-4 overall, 4-0 in the WHAC.

Madonna was close at the half, trailing 36-33. But turnovers eventually beat the Crusaders; they had 22 compared to 13 for Cornerstone.

Sarah Thomson led Madonna with 16 points; she also grabbed seven rebounds. Lydia Prusinowski added 13 points, Courtney Rehbine got 11 points and nine boards, and Stephanie Childs had 10 points and five assists.

Maureen O'Malley's 19 points was best for Cornerstone. Jessica Weston had 16, Cathi Velzen scored 13 and Mindy Rader had 10.

It was another ho-hum victory Monday night for the Schoolcraft College men's basketball team.

The Ocelots improved to 15-2 overall and 6-0 in the Eastern Conference of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association with a 98-64 triumph at Macomb Community College.

Schoolcraft, which led 54-20 at halftime, got a game-high 27 points and nine rebounds from 6-foot-6 Anton Palmer, who played high school basketball at Chicago (Ill.) Julian High School.

Ryan Baumgartner contributed 15, while Ty Scott had 14. Derrick Ponder contributed 10 points and six steals, while former Pontiac Northern High teammate Ricky Morgan had 11 assists and six points.

## MEH'S COLLEGE HOOP

Gerald Dozie had 17 for the Monarchs, now 6-11 overall and 4-3 in the conference.

Tony Davis chipped in with 17. **CORNERSTONE 87, MADONNA 69:** On Saturday, the 11th-ranked Golden Eagles (NAIA Division II) swooped into the Activities Center to pick up the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference victory over Madonna University.

MU trailed only 32-28 at halftime before Cornerstone pulled away with a 59-37 second-half run.

Keith Wurn led the Golden Eagles, now 17-4 overall and 3-1 in the WHAC, with 22 points. Andy Bronkema added 15 points and 11 rebounds, while Derek Douglas came off the bench to score 11.

Guard Dan Kurtinaltis led the Crusaders (7-12, 1-3) with 22 points. Chris Behrs added 12, while Joe Kofahl and Noel Emenhiser each added 10.

Chad Nadolni snared a team-high eight

rebounds. MU shot just 25-of-72 from the field (34.7 percent), including just 2-of-17 from three-point range. Cornerstone shot 33-of-76 from the floor (44 percent).

**SCHOOLCRAFT 105, OAKLAND CC 54:** Eastern Conference leader Schoolcraft College (14-2, 5-0) captured its 10th straight Saturday against visiting Oakland Community College (6-9, 2-3) as five Ocelots scored in double figures led by Anton Palmer's 20 points.

Ryan Baumgartner added 17, including 5-of-7 from three-point range. Ray Metcalf and Tyrone Scott each added 13, while Marcus Johnson finished with 11.

Derrick Ponder, Lamont Arrington and Johnson each grabbed nine rebounds, while Ricky Morgan and Metcalf each had seven assists.

Metcalf contributed seven steals, while Ponder had five.

The Ocelots shot 54.1 percent from the field (40-of-74), including 10-of-21 from beyond the arc.

OCC got a game-high 21 points from Craig Myree. Julius Barnett added 10 assists, but had 12 turnovers for the Raiders, who trailed 55-31 at halftime.

## CHIEFS

FROM PAGE A10

points; he also had five steals and three assists. Ben Baloga contributed 10 points, five rebounds and three assists, and both Aaron Ciborowski and Steve Sumner scored eight points, with Ciborowski grabbing 12 boards.

Matt Parker's 13 points topped Southfield Christian. Alex Martin and Jeremy Kingma had eight apiece.

**Agape 45, B.H. Roeper 32:** Defense was the difference Tuesday for Canton Agape Christian at Bloomfield Hills Roeper.

The Wolverines pulled away from a 25-24 lead at halftime with a defense that surrendered just two second-half baskets — including none in the third quarter, when Agape opened up a 36-26 advantage.

Jordan Napier paced the Wolverines with 14 points and eight rebounds. Derek Leathers added nine points and Jack Anleitner scored eight. Leathers is a sophomore, Anleitner a freshman. For the second straight game, Agape point guard Charlie Henry was kept in check by constant double-teaming; he managed just six points and four assists, but had no turnovers. Eric Zinser topped the Roughriders with 10 points. Agape improved to 8-2 overall, 1-1 in the MIAC. Roeper is 2-5 overall, 0-2 in the league.

## SWIM RESULTS

**SALEM 99, DEARBORN 86 - Jan. 20 at Salem**  
 200-yard medley relay: Dearborn, 1:47.64.  
 200 freestyle: 1. Matt Jurcak (S), 1:51.30.  
 200 individual medley: 1. Alex Leach (D), 2:13.65; 2. Penn Chou (S), 2:16.62.  
 50 freestyle: 1. Andrew Drake (D), 24.54; 2. Nick White (S), 24.89.  
 Diving: 1. Andrew Murawski (S), 214.30 points; 2. John Lundy (S), 159.30.  
 100 butterfly: 1. Nick Dixon (S), 56.01.  
 100 freestyle: 1. Leach (D), 52.60; 2. Bill Horgan (S), 55.28.  
 500 freestyle: 1. Dixon (S), 4:59.31.  
 200 freestyle relay: 1. Dearborn, 1:36.22.  
 100 backstroke: 1. Jurcak (S), 58.82.  
 100 breaststroke: 1. Chou (S), 1:06.82; 2. Casey Johnson (S), 1:08.66.  
 400 freestyle relay: 1. Salem (Dixon, Horgan, Jurcak, Chou), 3:33.18.  
 Next meet: Wayne Memorial at Salem, 7 p.m. tonight.  
**SALEM 123, WALLED LAKE WESTERN 63 - Jan. 15 at Western**  
 200-yard medley relay: 1. Salem (Nick Dixon, Penn Chou, Casey Johnson, Nick White), 1:48.02.  
 200 freestyle: 1. Matt Jurcak (S), 1:50.12; 2. Patrick Sautural (S), 2:01.30.  
 200 individual medley: 1. Chou (S), 2:14.73.  
 50 freestyle: 1. Ben Jylkka (WLW), 24.15; 2. White (S), 24.94.  
 Diving: 1. Andrew Murawski (S), 195.10 points.  
 100 butterfly: 1. Dixon (S), 54.83 (state qualifying cut); 2. Sautural (S), 1:02.39.  
 100 freestyle: 1. Jurcak (S), 51.53.  
 500 freestyle: 1. Jason Savage (WLW), 5:32.53; 2. Matt Underhill (S), 5:45.16.  
 200 freestyle relay: 1. Salem (Jurcak, David Xia, Sautural, White), 1:38.37.  
 100 backstroke: 1. Dixon (S), 55.52 (state qualifying cut).  
 100 breaststroke: 1. Chou (S), 1:06.28; 2. Johnson (S), 1:06.93.  
 400 freestyle relay: 1. Salem (Jurcak, Sautural, Chou, Dixon), 3:32.09.

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**ROCKS**

FROM PAGE A10

conference champion, at 7 p.m. next Wednesday.

**Chiefs 'Axed'**

Canton opened the University of Michigan-Dearborn Tournament Saturday as well as coach Steve Anderson could have hoped. But what the Chiefs accomplished in the morning, they couldn't sustain in the afternoon.

After breezing through pool play by winning all six of their games, the Chiefs earned the top seed in the top bracket for the final round and ran into Bad Axe in the Gold Division semifinals. And that's when they lost their momentum — and the match with it — falling to the Hatchets, 25-21, 25-21.

"They were real strong defensively, and they served real well," Anderson said of Bad Axe. But they lacked Canton's size and, he felt, had the Chiefs continued to play as they had in pool play, they would have won.

"We were on fire. We could do no wrong in the morning," he said of pool play. "We were riding a high from pool play and mentally took a powder (against Bad Axe)."

In the morning pool play, Canton defeated Dearborn Edsel Ford 25-16, 25-17; Madison Heights Lamphere 25-18, 25-8; and Rochester Hills Stoney Creek 25-17, 25-10. That performance earned the Chiefs the top seed in the 20-team field.

"I was unhappy with the end result, but happy with the way we played in the pools," Anderson said.

Andrea Johnson was named to the all-tournament team for Canton, collecting 20 kills, 33 digs and four service aces. Other standouts for the Chiefs were Annie Rosales with 26 digs, 13 kills and six aces, and Kristin Lillie with 42 set assists.

The 3-1 tournament gives Canton a 9-7-2 overall record. The Chiefs play Saturday at the Howell Invitational.

**WRESTLING RANKINGS**

OBSERVERLAND  
WRESTLING RANKINGS  
(as of Jan. 20)

**TEAM RANKINGS:** 1. Livonia Churchill; 2. Westland John Glenn; 3. Redford Catholic Central; 4. Salem; 5. Wayne Memorial.

**INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS**

**103 pounds:** 1. Jesse Gardocki, Livonia Franklin; 2. Steve Ludke, Garden City; 3. Ken Nelson, Redford Union; 4. Alex Fowler, Livonia Churchill; Sam Santilli, Canton.

**112:** 1. Jason Crothers, Wayne Memorial; 2. Nick Poole, Canton; 3. Andrew Nadhir, Redford CC; 4. Mike Warren, Franklin; 5. Rowdy Glasgow, John Glenn.

**119:** 1. Justin Smith, Churchill; 2. Ryan Stump, Salem; 3. Justin Keatts, Wayne; 4. James Jones, Franklin; 5. Rob Carmichael, RU.

**125:** 1. Kris Felice, Churchill; 2. Mike Dendrius, Salem; 3. Steve Hogg, Canton; 4. Saul Fuentes, Stevenson; 5. Josh Wischmeyer, RU.

**130:** 1. Jim Moore, RU; 2. Corey Phillips, Canton; 3. Dave Burr, Salem; 4. Ryan Hawkins, Franklin; 5. Robert Bytner, Lutheran Westland.

**135:** 1. Tim Hammer, Wayne; 2. Ryan Webb, Canton; 3. Jamie Murray, Churchill; 4. Zak Vaughan, Salem; 5. Darryl Rice, John Glenn.

**140:** 1. Rece Cox, John Glenn; 2. John Gourlay, RU; 3. Rex Fugaban, Wayne; 4. Konrad Konsitzke, Canton; 5. Dave Watkins, Franklin.

**145:** 1. Dario Mainella, Stevenson; 2. Chris McGione, Wayne; 3. Ali Ismail, Clarenceville; 4. Jon McCall, John Glenn; 5. Danny Clement, Churchill.

**152:** 1. Daron Cruickshank, John Glenn; 2. Brad Bartram, Redford CC; 3. Ben Adams, Churchill; 4. Doug Fellows, Stevenson; 5. Will Schultz, Salem.

**160:** 1. Trevor Stewart, Redford CC; 2. Emilio Perez, Garden City; 3. Brandon Noble, Lutheran Westland; 4. Josh Loar, RU; 5. Kyle Lis, Stevenson.

**171:** 1. Manuel Schubert, Churchill; 2. Scott Schwarzkose, Redford CC; 3. Bryan Longton, Wayne; 4. Jeremy Sparks, Garden City; 5. Dan Haller, Lutheran Westland.

**189:** 1. Jake Fairchild, John Glenn; 2. Neal Kemp, Lutheran Westland; 3. R.J. Ramsey, Wayne; 4. Jordan Schaefer, Salem; P.J. Caram, Canton.

**215:** 1. Eric Schambers, John Glenn; 2. Eric Vojtkofsky, Redford CC; 3. Hafeez Qureshi, Churchill; 4. Jacob Galindez, Lutheran Westland; 5. Jeremy Henderson, Salem.

**275:** 1. Jeremy Walker, Salem; 2. Pat Draheim, Churchill; 3. John Morasso, Redford CC; 4. Ryan Pokryfky, Franklin; 5. Jameson Higgins, Lutheran Westland.

**Note:** The Observerland mat rankings are compiled by coaches Jim Gourlay (RU) and Dave Chiola (Franklin).

**Canton gets a split at Springport, 37-36**

Canton's wrestling team got what it wanted at the eight-team Springport Super Duals Saturday.

The Chiefs came out of its pool matches with a 1-2 record, losing to Alma 37-36 and to state-ranked Montrose 65-18.

They got a win over Portland, 55-24, then in the crossover match for fifth place they bested Charlotte, 42-31, to go 2-2 for the day.

That raised Canton's overall dual-meet record to 11-8. The Chiefs remain 2-0 in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

Ryan Webb was one of three Canton wrestlers to go unbeaten on the day, posting a 4-0 record at 135 pounds to improve his season mark to 24-1. Konrad Konsitzke, wrestling at 140, and P.J. Caram, competing at 189, were also unbeaten, both going 4-0.

At 145, Steve Hosey was 3-1. So, too, was Corey Phillips 3-1 at 130. The Chiefs have a key WLA dual match at 6:30 p.m. tonight, going against Walled Lake Western at Canton.

**CANTON 53 PLYMOUTH 21**

Jan. 15 at Plymouth  
103 pounds: Ryan Schnetter (C) maj. dec.

**WRESTLING**

over Kenny Peterson, 12-2; 112: Sam Santilli (C) def. Bon Rosmairsi, 6-0; 119: Ali Youssef (P) pinned Nick Poole (C), 1:57; 125: Steve Kurpus (P) pinned Jay Fleischmann, 3:58; 130: Cory Phillips (C) pinned Jon Hagar, 1:41; 135: Pete Bonneau (C) pinned Flaherty, 3:17; 140: Konrad Konsitzke (C) pinned Jeff Swartz, 3:33; 145: Shane Gring (C) pinned William Gripman, 1:24; 152: Sean Dillon (P) dec. over Marwan Faraj, 11-9 (OT); 160: Alex Amberg (C) pinned Ramin Pakray, 1:52; 171: Pat McWhirter (C) pinned Alex Minellor, 5:24; 189: P.J. Caram (C) maj. dec. over Taylor Fox, 15-4; 215: Dave Kersten (C) pinned Jammoul, 1:32; **Heavyweight:** Bailey (P) won by inj. default over Tom Bonell.

**Dual-meet record:** Canton, 9-6 overall, 2-0 in the WLA; Plymouth, 0-2 in the WLA. **Next meet:** W.L. Western at Canton, 6:30 p.m. Thursday.

**SALEM 55 LIVONIA STEVENSON 17**

Jan. 15 at Stevenson  
103 pounds: Jeremy Stankewitz (PS) won by void; 112: Ryan Walker (PS) p. Jon Reale, 3:51; 119: Matt Keffer (PS) p. Paul Cassar, 4:38; 125: Mike Dendrius (PS) maj. dec. over Saul Fuentes, 12:1; 130: Scott Fysh (PS) p. Jerry Ignash, 5:32; 135: Zack Vaughn (PS) p. Alex York, 1:22; 140: Adam Kokenakas (LS) p. Ryan Tooley, 1:50; 145: Dario Mainella (LS) tech. fall over Jeremy Bullard, 19-3; 152: Will Schultz (PS) p. Billy McNally, 1:55; 160: Brian Danville (PS) p. Kyle Lis, 1:40; 171: Jordan Schaefer (PS) dec. Cody Rize, 9-4; 189: Joe Bargerstock (LS), dec. Jeremy Henderson, 10-7; 215: Edgar Fuentes (LS) dec. John Miller, 5-2; **Hwy:** Jeremy Walker (PS) won by void. **Stevenson's dual meet record:** 11-8 overall, 0-2 WLA.

**Chiefs 5th at Holland**

Take your top two gymnasts out of the lineup and your score as a team will drop. There's no getting around that.

So when Canton scored 133.075 to place fifth at the 11-team Holland Invitational Saturday, coach John Cunningham was pleased. After all, Alyssa Kelley and Megan Chappo were both out of the lineup with sore backs.

"We had a very good meet," Cunningham said. "We're improving as a team from last week. Kara (Ahern) had an excellent meet, medaling in every event in Division I."

Cunningham was also pleased with the performances of Mina Pirzadeh, who medaled on vault, and Kaitlyn Burns and Kate Staley, both of whom took sixths.

"As a team we're improving," Cunningham noted, "with fewer falls and better routines."

Ahern was consistent if not quite spectacular. She was third on balance beam (8.7) and placed fifth on the vault (8.35), uneven parallel bars (8.75) and floor exercise (8.85). Her 34.65 all-around

**GYMNASTICS**

score was also fifth best.

Staley's sixth came in the vault (8.15), while Pirzadeh placed fifth in the vault (8.35) and was seventh in bars (8.15). Burns took a sixth on floor (8.725).

Portage easily won the Invitational with a score of 142.375. Grand Rapids Forest Hills was a distant second (135.80), Grand Rapids Kenowa Hills/Grandville was third (134.40) and Rockford was fourth (133.925).

**Plymouth gets a win**

Sparked by the performance of Amy Quiambo, Plymouth HS got the dual-meet win over Wayne/Westland John Glenn Tuesday, 120.35-109.1.

Quiambo finished first in the uneven parallel bars (8.45), the balance beam (8.35) and the floor exercise (8.6). She also had the top score in the all-around (33.6).

Wayne/Westland's Traci Stanton was first in vault (8.3).

**THE WEEK AHEAD IN BASKETBALL**

**BOYS BASKETBALL**  
Thursday, Jan. 22  
Huron Valley at Warren Zee, 7 p.m.  
A.P. Inter-City at Ply. Christian, 8 p.m.

Salem at W.L. Central, 7 p.m.  
Franklin at Northville, 7 p.m.  
Stevenson at Wayne, 7 p.m.  
Clarenceville at Luth. Westland, 7 p.m.  
Redford CC at Warren DeLaSalle, 7:30 p.m.  
Huron Valley at Macomb Christian, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 23  
Canton at Churchill, 7 p.m.

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## OUR VIEWS

# Little League is a bonus for kids

The group of residents who have worked for more than a year to establish Little League in Canton and the Plymouths are bound to hit a home run with kids.

This is the real thing. Not just recreational ball. With the 10 to 12 teams that are being organized for kids 9-14 years of age come rules, seminars and clinics for the players.

Even before the official registration last weekend, enough kids had signed up to create three to five teams. The ultimate goal is 10 to 12 teams.

Recreational ball is fun. But Little League elevates baseball to another level. It will give the kids a real chance to compete. More importantly, they will learn how to compete and behave in a competitive world within established rules and guidelines that provide consequences for poor behavior. Equally important, with clinics and training seminars, the kids will benefit by learning proper play, as will coaches and umpires.

The training should also go a long way in helping parents play by the rules, as well. We urge participating parents to give their children a chance to play and encourage their competitive nature while recognizing the play is a game and the players are children who just want to have fun.

What will be great for the kids is a chance to play other teams in the area and get a true sense of playing on a team and competing in team sports other than those associated with school.

The team experience, training and coaching, as well as the opportunity to form new relationships, will go a long way in building healthy, well-rounded community members.

Organizers Jim Patterson and Nick Kulka and others are to be lauded for taking on the task of creating and getting a Little League chartered for the community.

The effort can only enrich the lives of the kids who participate.

# Changes in election law benefit voters

From now on, Michigan taxpayers shouldn't be caught off-guard by surprise millage elections.

That's just one of the benefits of the election consolidation/reform package signed into law this month by Gov. Jennifer Granholm.

We have long advocated consolidating elections in Michigan, and we support the bipartisan changes enacted by the state Legislature.

In the past, voters were often caught unawares by millage requests or ballot proposals during "special" elections. Governing bodies would schedule these special elections, sometimes intentionally, during times of the year when people least expected to vote.

An example is the Oakland County Intermediate School District's request in September 2001 for a tax increase for special and vocational education. The election was held three months after the annual June school election when voters are used to deciding local and statewide educational issues.

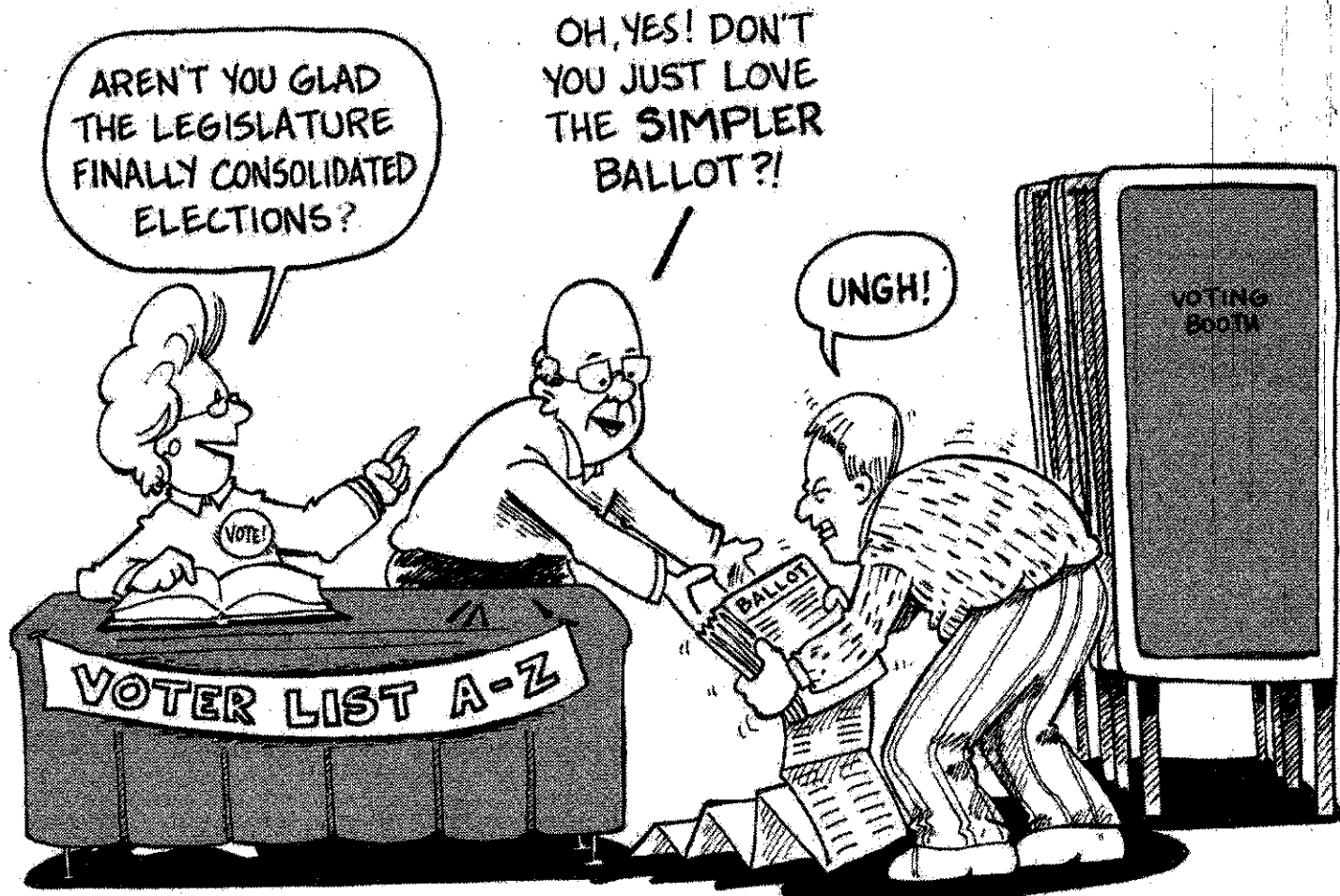
A small percentage of voters — the majority of them supporters — were aware of the election, and the proposal passed. Now Oakland County residents are stuck paying for the millage indefinitely since there never was an expiration date stipulated.

Such surprise elections are eliminated under the new law, which requires governing bodies to hold elections on four dates — the fourth Tuesday in February, and the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May, August and November. A "special" election can still be held, but a petition must first be signed by at least 10 percent of the electors voting in the last gubernatorial election.

The new law also requires all elections — including school elections — to be handled by municipalities. This will eliminate confusion since the procedures for obtaining absentee ballot applications and registering to vote won't change depending on who's handling the election.

This was a problem in June 2003, when Clarkston Community Schools conducted its own election for an \$80 million-plus bond proposal. The school district opted against mailing absentee ballot applications to senior citizens, a practice followed by the local municipality. School officials said they didn't want to age-discriminate.

Under the new law, voters will know what to expect — not only in how they go about getting an absentee ballot or registering to vote, but also in when to vote.



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## LETTERS

### Keep 'em open

As a longtime (23-year) Canton resident and user of the I-275 bike path, I take issue with your call to close the thing down.

In the early '80s, I used to push my daughter in her stroller down the stretch of bike path behind our apartment building. In the '90s, after moving to our current home, she and I rode our bikes from one end of Canton to the other, using the bike path. I now walk the bike path by myself regularly for exercise. Contrary to your editorial, I often see other bicyclists, runners and walkers on the path. I also see deer, squirrels, rabbits, raccoons and other reminders that not all of Canton has yet been paved into one gigantic concrete subdivision.

There is no evidence that the bike path is less safe than any other area of Canton. If, as your editorial states, it is rarely used, then what would be the point for muggers or rapists to hang around waiting for victims who never show up?

I have never felt unsafe walking the bike path. In fact, I feel safer than when I am walking the "patrolled" areas of Canton; I don't have to worry about the bad drivers who nearly hit me as they roll through stop signs when I am crossing the street. I am in no danger of being flattened by cars rushing to turn left off Ford Road into a strip mall, failing to notice that I am already there in the driveway.

Maybe I'm wrong. Maybe the next time I take a walk on the bike path, I'll break my ankle, tripping on uneven pavement (none of that in any other part of Canton). Or maybe I'll be jumped by some miscreant who thinks there are good pickings to be had from people who exercise with no purses or wallets.

If so, that's my problem. If you don't want to use the I-275 bike path, don't. Just don't play nanny and tell me that I can't.

Kathie Gladden  
Canton

### Kudos to Diles

I am writing to you to commend the action of Eastern Michigan University's athletic director David Diles in handling a recent incident involving alleged criminal activities by some EMU athletes.

Dr. Diles conducted an immediate, thorough and independent investigation of the incident then swiftly took appropriate action. Two players were dismissed from the football team and another was suspended pending the outcome of his criminal charges.

Dr. Diles did not defer this decision to the athletes' coach, nor did he hide behind or undermine our legal system. Dr. Diles has set the bar high regarding the university's expectations of student athletes' conduct. The buck stops at his desk.

His actions have reaffirmed that athletic scholarships are a privilege not a right.

While young people will occasionally make bad choices, it is now well understood that there are consequences to bad choices.

Michael Gerou  
Canton

### Where's the plow?

Here it is winter again and we still have snow built up on our street. How come we can pay \$2.5 million for a new astro turf for our high school, but we can't buy a snow plow truck? How many trucks could we have bought with that money?

I am sick and tired of trying to call Wayne County about plowing our street. Why is it that the city of Detroit can hire a private contractor to plow the street but in Canton, where we spend way too much for taxes, do we have to wait for Wayne County to plow our street?

I have been living in Canton about 10 years and I think I have seen a plow truck from Wayne County maybe once or twice. Why don't the people in our community ask our officials why we can't get our streets plowed? Surely we pay enough already.

Al Houston  
Canton

### Bring back War Department

The *Observer's* willingness to devote so much copy to Congressman Dennis Kucinich's and the local peaceniks' warm and fuzzy notions (Jan. 8) is ever so endearing. May I suggest that, in addition to establishing a federal Department of Peace, we go a few steps further on their agenda? Why don't we abolish the Department of Defense? We might also invite Cuba, China, Saudi Arabia, Zimbabwe, and other upstanding members of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights to a peace summit, and bury all our hatchets! Let's also have a Ministry of Love and a Bureau of Spiritual Harmony!

All joking aside, the modern-day peaceniks are cut from the same cloth as the ones 40 years ago who, unwittingly or not, fed at the trough of Soviet agitprop programs. The claim that the Founding Fathers considered establishing a "Department of Peace" is new to me. But even if true, it is instructive to note that the notion was dispensed with, while they did see fit to fund a Department of — no, not "Defense" — War! And if in fact Congress has considered a Peace Department many times since, being shot down as many times ought to tell us something.

The truth is that we have always had a department of peace. It's called the State Department. And it has become so enormously bloated from its beginnings that the Founders would shriek if they could see it now. Billions of tax dollars go hither and yon, around the world, funding all manner of unconstitutional programs. If anything, those dollars should be arming people who suffer at the hands of our enemies.

While I don't expect the Peace Ministry to get off the ground, it needs to be said that Congress ought not to fund any further expansion of the Executive Branch, filled with unelected, unaccountable bureaucrats. In doing so many times, the power of the people, through their vote, has been diluted to the point that we suffer under countless laws, passed unconstitutionally and masquerading as "regulations."

The Congress needs to take back its

responsibility to make law in those areas authorized by Article 1, Section 8. It should do so by returning to the functions of government established by the founders. Those functions did not include the pipe dream of government-established "peace," but did include, first and foremost, providing for the common defense. I challenge anyone to name a tyrant who has been talked out of power.

If anything, Congress needs to eliminate cabinet-level departments. Once we return to the few departments justifiable under the Constitution, may I suggest that, in the spirit of the Founders, we return the Defense Department to its classic and proper name, the War Department?

Ted Gomulka  
Livonia

### Read 'Left Back'

While a focus on education is sorely needed, to serve the community, it is necessary to go beyond parroting the self-serving pabulum of the education establishment.

I highly recommend reading Diane Ravitch's *Left Back* and follow her framework when you "focus" on education. (She writes that) the three great errors that schools must recognize and free themselves of are that schools should be expected to solve society's problems, that only a portion of its students need access to a high quality academic education and that schools should emphasize students' immediate experiences and minimize, if not ignore, the transmission of knowledge.

Stable and declining enrollment is a financial death knell to a school district. It forces participation in open enrollment and either improving quality to attract students or suffering a slow death. Special local survival millages are not the answer, just an enabler of continued denial.

In the classroom, the problem is a lack of effective quality control that verifies that instruction matches and achieves the curriculum objectives.

Dave York  
Farmington Hills

## SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

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## QUOTABLE

"I would like to find ways to give them better choices. I don't mind the cooking, it's figuring out what they want to eat. I tend to go to the fat side (of foods) because they're easier to cook."

— Caroline Wetter, whose family is participating in Canton's 100 Days to Health

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

# Let's fund universities before new ventures

It's midwinter, cloudy and gray, cold and generally awful. But cheer up! It's time for another edition of "Cheers, Jeers and Thanks."

**Thanks** to reader Doug Drake, who suggests another way to look at the more-than-decimated (check out the dictionary for the etymology) state spending on colleges and universities: "Since the peak funding in FY 02, \$234 million has been cut from university operations, 14.5 percent."

"Sounds like a lot when put that way, but here's a way that makes it sound like even more: \$234 million is the equivalent of completely eliminating all state funding for the six smallest schools plus two-thirds of the seventh (Michigan Technological University.) That's how much has been pulled out of the system with no real discussion or understanding of the scope of its impact."

Back in the 1980s, I served as a member of the Commission on the Future of Higher Education, chaired by legendary former Michigan State University President John Hannah. The commission considered what should be done if state support for universities fell below a certain level necessary to sustain quality. And all hell broke loose when we suggested criteria for closing some institutions.

I wonder how the governor and the Legislature would react to the storm of protest if they actually faced up to closing Lake Superior State, Saginaw Valley, both University of Michigan branch campuses at Flint and Dearborn, Northern Michigan, Oakland and Michigan Tech (the institutions cited by Mr. Drake as the smallest.)

**Thanks**, also, to Eastern Michigan University President Sam Kirkpatrick, who responded to my column on how the state is short-changing our colleges and universities: "We're not setting up for disaster; we are in one. The latest report issued last week indicated the national average of state support declined by 2.1 percent for the current year, compared to our 15-percent reduction, and 27 states have actually increased appropriations."

"I used to love this Michigan stuff when I was in Texas and Arizona," Kirkpatrick said, "because we were eating Michigan's lunch on all fronts — economic development, quality enhancements to higher ed, even cultural development — and we robbed the best faculty from the U-M, in particular, during downturns in the '80s."

Bottom line: "It takes many, many years to recover from these cuts, and the impact is especially severe when other states get out ahead. Michigan needs to invest even more since our degreed population lags and we need new talent to transform the economy."

**Cheers** to Gov. Jennifer Granholm, who just signed a bill to create a \$150 million venture capital fund for early-stage companies in Michigan. The Michigan Venture Investment Corp. will be funded by investments from corporations or banks. If those investments don't return at a market rate (6-7 percent), investors would be reimbursed by credits toward the state's Single Business Tax.

Based on what's being done in other states (Oklahoma,



Phil Power

Iowa, Ohio, Utah), this imaginative attempt to boost new, entrepreneurial Michigan start-up companies is a real step forward. Although the state dabbled with a similar idea back in the mid-1980s, the present fund is bigger and better.

The guaranteed return should help in attracting investors. The Michigan Venture Capital Association pushed the bill, with Mitch Mondry (M-Group in Birmingham) and Jason Burr (Arbor Partners in Ann Arbor) being the main movers. Well done!

Still, it seems curiously clumsy for state government to be creating a \$150 million venture capital fund to support technology transfer from university high-tech labs while at the same time slashing support for those same research universities.

**Jeers** to the deceptively named Michigan Civil Rights Initiative, which kicked off a drive last week to outlaw affirmative action in Michigan by amending the state Constitution to ban the practice at U-M, MSU and Wayne State University and in public hiring and contracting. The group needs to get 318,000 valid signatures over the next six months to put the amendment on the statewide ballot; this will be tough to do without resorting to expensive paid solicitors.

Both the Democratic and Republican parties are formally opposed (although some GOP legislators are active in the movement), along with most employers and the universities. As far as I'm concerned, the effort to ban affirmative action in university admissions is nothing more than an end run around the U.S. Supreme Court decision that upheld the practice. The effort almost certainly will promote outright racial politics.

Readers with good memories will recall the thinly veiled GOP attempt to do just this in the 2002 gubernatorial election in order to win outstate and suburban votes. Most voters rejected this tactic then, and most should reject it now. The evidence is compelling that most employers (importantly, including the U.S. military) are vitally interested in attracting capable and highly educated people of all racial backgrounds.

Without the extra help from affirmative action in admissions, our universities are likely to become re-segregated and our businesses and military impoverished without the benefits of diversity. The misguided petition drive deserves to be tossed.

**Cheers** (and applause) to the U-M and the University Musical Society in Ann Arbor upon the reopening of celebrated Hill Auditorium over the weekend. This magnificent hall was dark while an 18-month renovation went forward which turned out to have been brilliantly executed.

With its world-famous acoustics unchanged, breathtakingly beautiful décor and improved amenities, Hill is back to its role of hosting the world's best musicians and performers for Michigan audiences. I urge every reader with any interest in music to check it out.

Phil Power is a board member of the University Musical Society and the chairman of the board of the company that owns this newspaper. He would be pleased to get your reactions to this column either at (734) 953-2047 or at ppower@homecomm.net.

# Police, MADD and media credited for keeping holiday driving safe

It often seems that no holiday season goes by without hearing about an unnecessary death caused by drinking and driving. That is particularly the case with the period between Christmas and New Year's, which may be the year's biggest social drinking occasion.

In Wayne County, however, where we average two drunken driving deaths per week, not one life was lost during that week as a result of an alcohol-related traffic accident. While one week may seem like a minor victory, it certainly is one worth celebrating.

Warren Evans

I believe the credit for this success is the result of the ongoing collaboration between law enforcement agencies, advocacy groups and the media. First and foremost are the men and women of each police department in Wayne County, including the sheriff's department, who get drunken drivers off the road every night. The officers who work the OUIL patrol do an excellent job of stopping tragic accidents before they happen.

Another law enforcement component I believe is changing people's behavior is the new unit Last Call unit I added to the Sheriff's Department late last year. The officers of this unit have been out arresting many of the 7,000 previous drunken driving offenders in Wayne County who have thumbed their nose at the system and failed to show for their court date. You can bet they'll show up for their next appearance, but more important, they will get the education and treatment they need to avoid repeating.

The second group is the dedicated staff and volunteers at Mothers Against Drunk Driving. This amazing organization has worked tirelessly for decades to change the public's attitude toward drinking and driving and it is making a difference.

I believe the credit for this success is the result of the ongoing collaboration between law enforcement agencies, advocacy groups and the media. First and foremost are the men and women of each police department in Wayne County, including the sheriff's department, who get drunken drivers off the road every night.

As they have in recent years, MADD sponsored Project Life Ride, which teams up with local cab companies and other businesses to provide transportation to well over 500 New Year's revelers who had the sense to know they've had too much alcohol to safely drive home.

Finally, in addition to our usual patrols, the Sheriff's Department spent time educating the public through the local media. Leading up to the holidays we teamed up to give demonstrations using special goggles that simulate what it's like to be drunk, so people could see how their reflexes and coordination were hampered. We also showed people the embarrassing process of being tested and arrested for drinking and driving. And the media helped us tell the story of a significant number of local liquor stores we caught selling alcohol to minors just prior to New Year's Eve.

Ultimately it takes all of us, working as a community, to solve problems like this one. It is gratifying to me, as it should be to you, that the hard work appears to be paying off.

Warren Evans is the Wayne County sheriff.

# Viscount's Billiard Blowout Clearance Sale

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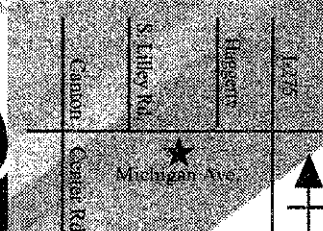
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# Jacobs, Shulman talk Pets need shelter during cold winter weather

## about 'religious right'

State Senator Gilda Jacobs (D-Huntington Woods) and State Representative Marc Shulman (R-West Bloomfield) will speak at the Birmingham Temple Jan. 26, at 8 p.m., on "The Religious Right and the Michigan Legislature."

In every area of state government, from budget allocations to political rhetoric and ballot initiatives, the influence of activists and elected officials from the religious right will be explored from both sides of the aisle in this forum that is open to the public at "no charge."

Jacobs, a first-term State Senator, has also served as mayor pro-tem of Huntington Woods, an Oakland County Commissioner, and as a State Representative, where she was the first woman floor leader of either house of the State Legislature.

Shulman served as a West Bloomfield township trustee before being elected to the State House in 1998, where he is currently the chair of the House Appropriations committee.

"This seldom-addressed issue is crucial to understanding how state government works, and what we can do about it," said Rabbi Adam Chalom.

The Birmingham Temple was founded in 1963 and is currently led by Rabbi Adam Chalom and Rabbi Tamara Kolton. It is an affiliate of the Society for Humanistic Judaism, the national organization for Humanistic Jewish congregations.

Humanistic Judaism embraces a human-centered philosophy that combines



Jacobs



Shulman

rational thinking with a celebration of Jewish culture and identity. Humanistic Jews endorse ideals derived from the Jewish experience — justice, pluralism, and tolerance.

For information about the Birmingham Temple, call (248) 477-1410. The Temple is located at 28611 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills 48334.

Each winter, the Michigan Humane Society cruelty investigation and rescue departments receive hundreds of calls concerning animals left outside without shelter and sometimes the call arrives too late to save the pet.

The Michigan Humane Society asks pet owners to make proper provisions for their pets before it becomes a life or death situation.

"Too often, outdoor pets are simply forgotten during cold weather but not providing adequate shelter is breaking the law," says Michigan Humane Society Cruelty Investigator Debby MacDonald, who is featured in the award-winning series "Animal Cops-Detroit" on Animal Planet. "We do our

best to educate owners on why pets should live indoors with the rest of the family. However, at a minimum, outdoor pets must have the necessary provisions to keep them safe and healthy."

The following tips will help owners care for pets responsibly during cold weather:

- When temperatures plummet, pets should not be left outside for any length of time. Even large or long-haired dog breeds cannot withstand severe or inclement weather. Bring small or short-haired dogs inside when temperatures reach 15-20 degrees. Larger breeds and thick-coated dogs may remain outside with adequate shelter, to about 0 degrees. Precipitation and severe wind

chills should also be taken into account.

- Cats should be kept permanently indoors or at least brought into a warm, pet-proofed garage during severe weather.

- Because roaming cats often seek the warmth of car engines, knock on the car hood and honk the horn before starting your car.

- Shelter is required by law for pets that must remain outdoors for any length of time. Adequate shelter means a well-built, insulated, slant-roofed doghouse. The interior should be just large enough for the dog to stand and to lie down comfortably. It should be slightly elevated from the ground for air circulation. The door should face away from prevailing winds and

have a protective flap to eliminate drafts. Clean, dry straw should be provided for bedding rather than towels, rugs or blankets which may quickly freeze.

- Increase food and water: 10-20 percent for outdoor dogs during the winter months. Check drinking water frequently, every few hours, to make sure it is not frozen.

- If your pet is cold to the touch, or his paws and ears have turned bright red, he may be suffering from frostbite. Move the pet to a warmer area and contact your veterinarian immediately.

- If you suspect a pet is being left outdoors without proper shelter, it could be a matter of life or death, contact authorities immediately.

## Will you speak for those with no voice?



A baby in the womb 20 weeks after conception.

Since the January 22, 1973 Supreme Court decision, a baby can be legally killed (aborted) any time from conception for all nine months of pregnancy, for any reason or for no reason. In the U.S.A. nearly 4,000 pre-born babies are surgically killed every day simply because they are inconvenient. That is more deaths per day than in any war!

**Partial Birth Abortion** is a procedure in which all but the head of a baby is delivered, then surgical instruments are used to puncture the skull and remove the brains by suction. The skull is then crushed and delivery of the dead baby is completed. This procedure is actually legal through ALL NINE MONTHS OF PREGNANCY and is routinely performed on pre-born babies 20 weeks and older. (Note: a child has at least a 50% chance of survival outside his mother's womb at 25 weeks.)

**If you or someone you love is facing a crisis pregnancy and you don't know where to turn for help, call this number:**

**1-800-57-WOMAN**

Right to Life of Michigan created this toll-free number so that anyone in our state could be given the truth about the unborn and the life-preserving options available to them. You can ask questions, and be immediately connected with someone in your area who cares about you and your needs as well as your baby. For more information see [www.rtl.org](http://www.rtl.org) or call 734-282-6100.

In Michigan the state legislature passed the Legal Birth Definition Act which would protect any child from the moment any part of the baby's body is visible outside the mother. It would make partial birth abortion illegal.

Governor Granholm vetoed this life saving legislation on October 10, 2003. You can help override that veto by signing the override petition! More information is available at [www.thepeoplesoverride.com](http://www.thepeoplesoverride.com).

President Bush signed the partial birth abortion BAN on November 5. This life saving legislation has been prevented from taking effect because of special interest groups and judges who are interested in making abortion always available.

Will you speak for those with no voice? Please join the people who made this ad possible, Right to Life of Michigan, and your local affiliate as we work and pray to end abortion and advance the culture of life.

- Bishop Francis Reiss
- Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Haunert
- Rosalie Sigmond
- Mary E. Zygal
- Al and Debbie
- Dolores Rogers
- Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Humenik
- Martin & Rosalie Shinkus
- The Downriver League of Catholic Women
- Fr. Walter Frak
- Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish
- Henry Sawicki
- Carol Sawicki
- Adelle & Dan Glinko
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- Ed & Kerne Richard Family
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- Doug Kroll
- St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish
- Fr. John Hedges
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- John L. Thomas
- Joseph & Mary Hawkins
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- Elmer Ledwith
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- David Dessi
- Dolores E. Right to Life
- Deacon Gerald & Virginia Smigel
- Ron Allen
- Kathy Allen
- John & Mary Kruso and Family
- Michelle Kuzmenski
- Marcia Pysz
- Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Wisniewski
- Dolores E. Lipinik
- Margyellen Youngs
- Henry & Bill Terrasi
- Marie Jusness
- Dennis and Julie Saunders
- Jenni & Liberty Nelson
- Margaret Oybulla
- Thomas Lanson
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- Deacon Richard Bloomfield
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High School Night - Students receive free admission w/ID		
<b>Saturday, January 24</b>	vs. Bemidji State	3:05 pm
High School Students: \$1,500 WSU Scholarship Giveaway		

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a tradition enjoyed  
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**Taste. C10**



## ACCENTS

### Lighten up

Midnight mutts of all shapes and sizes can light up their nights with just a shake of a paw or the wag of a tail, thanks to MiracleBeam's new light emitting diode pet collars.

The new battery-operated collars fit around a



dog's

neck. Whenever a dog moves, the motion detector inside the collar sets off a series of flashing LED lights, making the pet visible in the dark.

Combining the brightness of LED lighting technology with water-resistant nylon, MiracleBeam's Lighted Pet Collars make it safer for pets and their human companions to walk after dark. The collar's brilliant LED lights can be seen up to one mile away.

The new MiracleBeam Lighted Pet Collars come in two fashionable colors - classic black and royal blue - and three sizes - small, medium and large. The small size is ideal for cats as well as toy dogs, so the Siamese and Pomeranian can both enjoy safe walks at any hour. The collar's batteries can be replaced quickly and easily. Each collar comes with an extra set of six-month batteries.

The Lighted Pet Collars have a suggested retail price of \$14.99-\$19.99, and the leash has a suggested retail price of \$19.95-\$22.95. Both products are available at Petco and select independent pet suppliers.

For more information, contact MiracleBeam Products, Inc., at 818-890-4303, or visit [www.miraclebeam.com](http://www.miraclebeam.com).

### For the birds

Go beyond putting out bird feed in the winter. You can create a habitat in your yard that will attract birds year 'round. Find out how at the Gardening For the Birds workshop Saturday, Jan. 24.

The workshop will be conducted by Bradford Wagner of Abbott's Nursery 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Detroit Audubon Society's bookstore and office, 1320 N. Campbell in Royal Oak, one traffic light south of 12 Mile, between Woodward Avenue and John R.

Free parking is available behind the building. Snacks will be provided. A \$12 donation is appreciated. Call (248) 545-2929 or (586) 202-6498 to register or for more information.

At the workshop, you will develop a plant inventory of your yard; learn which trees, shrubs and flowers best attract birds; learn which birds different plants will attract; and take home a planting plan for your yard. You will then be well on your way to creating a wildlife sanctuary right outside your window. The Detroit Audubon Society is one of two chapters of the National Audubon Society in Michigan.

# Allergens Clear the air

## Indoor air can worsen respiratory problems

Winter reminds us of the warm thoughts of fireplaces and relaxing on the living room sofa as the winds blast the outside walls of our homes.

What may not come to mind as easily is indoor air quality.

"Winter can be the worst time of year," said HGTV's JoAnne Liebler. "Dry, allergen-filled indoor air can wreak havoc and cause discomfort for any household."

The good news is there are effective ways to improve indoor air, so you can enjoy being indoors. When the furnace kicks on, all the dust that has settled into your carpet, atop the bookshelves and beneath the couch gets stirred up, creating problems for your eyes, nose, sinuses and throat.

The American Lung Association says poor indoor air quality can cause or contribute to the development of chronic respiratory diseases such as asthma and hypersensitivity pneumonitis. In addition, it can cause headaches, dry eyes, nasal congestion, nausea and fatigue. People who already have respiratory diseases are at greater risk, according to the ALA.

Biological pollutants, including molds, bacteria, viruses, pollen, dust mites, and animal dander contribute to poor indoor air quality, the ALA said.

### PROBLEMS GONE

Dennis and Karen Wright, who own Wright's Hardware in Livonia, have battled colds and congestion problems, but today Dennis Wright swears by the ultraviolet germicidal light. He says his problems due to allergies and congestion have disappeared since he installed an ultraviolet light in his furnace at home. The family also owns two golden retrievers.

As efficiently sealed as homes are these days to save on heating costs, it also keeps air - along with indoor air pollutants - inside.

"Bacteria, mold, dust which are filled with allergens, you're really fighting everything," Wright said.

What they fight is typical for many homeowners.

Using the ultraviolet light, a media air cleaner or a flow-through humidifier with a makeup air unit can help improve air quality.

The media air cleaner

contains deeper pleats than conventional filters and captures smaller particles that slip past most conventional filters. Traditional furnace filters capture particles that are larger, which remain on the filter's surface. That restricted surface can slow air flow and reduce efficiency of the furnace.

Furnaces that use cold air through intakes helps indoor air quality because that cold outdoors air is cleaner. "It is clean air, so it burns more efficiently," Wright said. "You'll also be more comfortable at 70 (degrees) with humidity than at 72 without." Wright, who once worked in the heating and cooling business 15 years ago, really likes the ultraviolet light, which runs about \$400. "I felt it the next day," he said. "We have two golden retrievers, so allergies are a problem for us, but I wasn't coughing anymore. It's such a big difference."

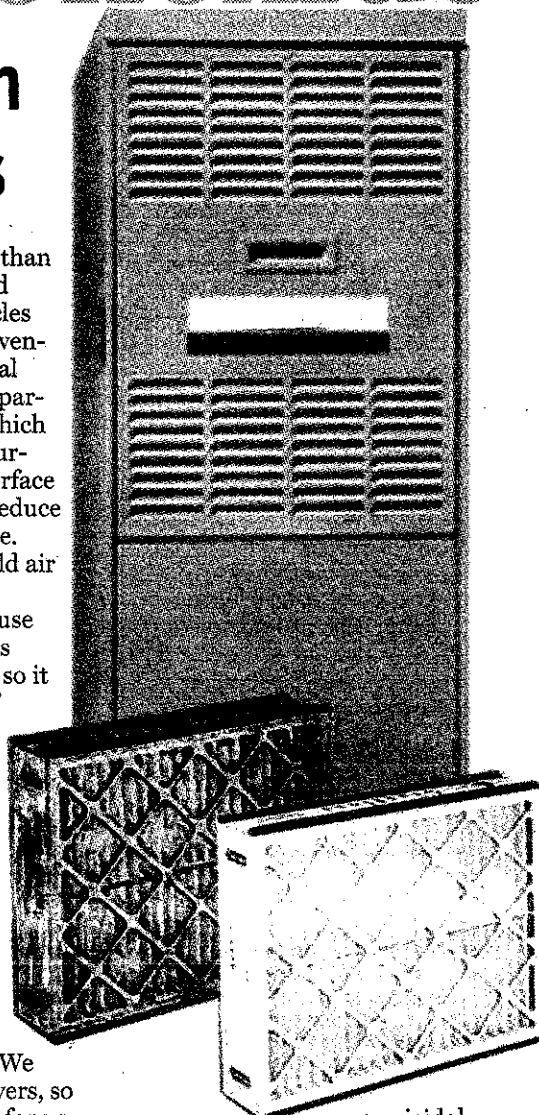
### TIME INSIDE

Of course, homeowners should check for specific problems first throughout their home. After all, many Americans spend up to 90 percent of their time indoors, according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

"Everyone wants all the dust out of their house, but that's impossible," said Steve Staggs of Tru-Temp Heating & Cooling in Garden City. Staggs recommends air cleaner systems for those with respiratory problems, but he also believes homeowners should check with their doctors. Staggs said that his family's respiratory health has improved at his home since he installed a media air cleaner, electronic air cleaner and a germicidal light.

"The first thing I do is ask (customers) whether they have chronic lung disorders, asthma, chronic bronchitis, allergies and emphysema," Staggs said. "I ask them about ventilation, because if an attic area doesn't have a soffit (vent) where it is needed, then mold will grow in the attic."

Staggs also recommends the



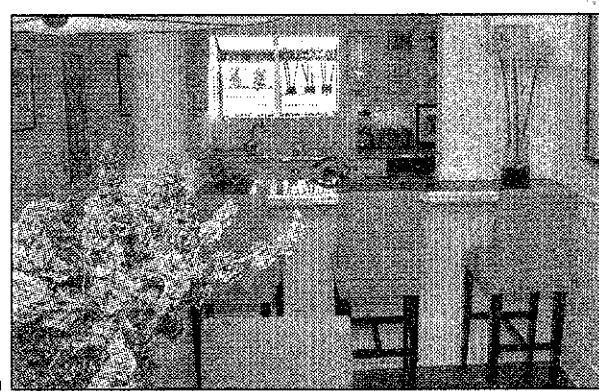
germicidal

light, the media air cleaner, or the Lennox Healthy Climate electronic air cleaner, which contains a pre-filter to trap large pollutants, ionizing wires to positively charge any remaining particles, which are collected by negatively charged collecting section, and pollutants then pass through an optional carbon filter to absorb odors. The Lennox PCCO20 air system contains four germicidal lights and costs \$1,600-\$1,900.

If customers want to get the top of the line system, they should purchase an air wash system, a Central Air Filtration System for about \$2,000. That system includes three filters and a fourth optional one works whether the furnace is running or not. "If you cook bacon in the morning, then leave for a couple of hours, you won't smell it when you return," Staggs said.

Staggs also recommends homeowners get their heating ducts cleaned of dust and other particles.

The furnace and humidifier should be kept clean and maintained, Wright said. "You need to check on the filter," Wright said. "You can't forget about comfortability," Wright said. "I want to be comfortable when I'm sitting down on a Sunday watching television."



When Jeffrey King and David King renovated their Birmingham home, they removed the sliding glass doors between the kitchen and dining room to open the space up. The house will be one of two locations for the Preview Party for the Snow Ball for Variety, The Children's Charity, later this month.

## Modern masters Home grows, glows after renovation

There is an expression about actions or a few words "speaking volumes."

Renovation and decorating elements resulted in making volume in the Birmingham home of interior designer Jeffrey King and David King.

The house grew along with their daughters - Vanessa, 6, and Alyson, 4. The two-year renovation,

over all three levels of the residence, added 1,000 square feet to the original 1,400. Another type of space - vertical - was created by the vaulted ceiling at the front staircase.

Attendees of the Preview Party for this year's Snow Ball for Variety, The Children's Charity will see the ravishing results, as the house is one

of two sites for the event Friday, Jan. 30.

Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres will be served at the Kings' home, and dinner will be served at the nearby residence of Ned and Lynn Liddle (see related story). Jeffrey King and Lynn Liddle are Snow Ball co-chairs.

"(The party) will be in two different venues," Jeffrey King said. "It will be fun."

The Kings have lived in the house for about eight years. It was built in 1928.

Jeffrey King wanted to maintain the 1920s architectural feel as he incorporated minimalist features and contemporary furnishings in the home. To use another expression, King "practiced what he preaches" as a professional interior designer. His firm, Jeffrey King Interiors, is in Birmingham.

For example, "Keeping cohesive with architectural accents ... keeping your paint colors consistent," he said. "Especially in a smaller home, this creates volume. Painting your ceiling the same as your wall color adds ... volume to the space."

Cohesiveness is in such elements as metal or silver (including cabinet hardware, and metal on the lower

PLEASE SEE MODERN, C5



ON LOCATION PHOTOGRAPHY

The Liddle house is a mix of Asian and modern elements, as seen in the living room.

## Home offers warm welcome for Variety

The Preview Party for this year's Snow Ball for Variety, The Children's Charity will offer a double treat.

The party will take place at two beautiful homes, instead of one.

Attendees will be served cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at the Birmingham residence of Jeffrey King and David King (where valet parking will be available) and then shuttled to the home of Ned and Lynn Liddle. The Liddle residence is so close that attendees may choose to walk.

The Liddles' house is

about 14 years old, Lynn said. They have lived there for 11 years and recently finished a renovation. Interior designer P.J. Whitehead of Birmingham worked magic with such features as color and tile.

Even with its soaring ceilings and spacious rooms, the house has a cozy, welcoming feel. It has a mix of Asian and modern elements.

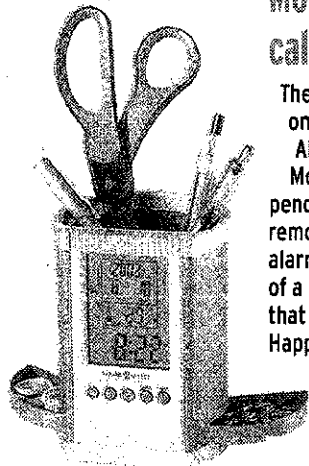
"We really like the Asian flair," Lynn said. This flair is seen in art works, accessories and furniture.

PLEASE SEE PREVIEW, C5

## MARKET PLACE

### Submissions

Do you have a special item you'd like to showcase in Marketplace on the front of At Home? We'd like to feature it! Send a photo or slide of the piece, along with information, to: Ken Abramczyk, At Home editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009.



### More than a wake-up call

The LCD alarm is just one element on this unusual Multi-task Desk Alarm from Howard Miller®. Mounted in a titanium-finished pencil cup, the clock can be removed to carry along as a travel alarm. You can wake to your choice of a snooze alarm or a special alarm that can be programmed to play Happy Birthday.

The clock offers a selectable 12- or 24-hour time format and a countdown timer. Additional features

include a calendar with month, date, year and day of the week, and a thermometer displaying in degrees Fahrenheit or Celsius. Side compartments swing out to hold paper clips or other small desk essentials. A quartz movement includes the battery. The Multi-task Desk Alarm measures 4-3/4 inches high, 3-1/2 inches wide and 3-1/4 inches deep, and retails for around \$17.95. For a free copy of the Howard Miller guide to the finer points of clocks and collectors cabinets, or to find a store near you, call (800) 873-0506 or visit [www.howardmiller.com](http://www.howardmiller.com).

# Creativity and collectibles highlighted on annual Heart of the Homes tour

Birmingham Groves parent Jane Polan believes that it is important for seniors at the high school have an opportunity to spend time and have fun with one another in a safe environment. That's why Polan helps organize and arrange a fund-raiser for the annual all-night senior party - the Heart of the Home House Tour Sunday, Feb. 8 (See related chart.) And six homeowners from Beverly Hills, Franklin and West Bloomfield have agreed to be on the tour to help this worthy cause.

"Oh, they're unbelievable," Polan said about the tour's homes chosen for this year. "From the historical home to the ultra-contemporary, these homes will amaze and delight. If people knew where these houses are just from driving by, they are fantastic outside and equally wonderful inside."

A home on Maple Road in Bloomfield Hills on five acres is nestled securely behind a wrought iron fence. This home is filled with creative touches from hand-painted leather dining chairs, a home entertainment theater center, indoor spa and steam room, to the bronze sculptures of children frolicking in the yard. A quarter-mile track encircles the yard and meanders along a private pond.

Another home in West Bloomfield is located on Walnut Lake. The contemporary home personifies the art of accent pieces. From the modern art of Roy Lichtenstein and Alex Katz, the timelessness of Botticelli and Henry Moore, the collection of antique metal flower doorsteps in the state of the art kitchen to the sculpture in perpetual motion in the back yard seen through the home's dramatic windows, the home will delight visitors. It is described as a perfect balance of museum quality art with a warm family atmosphere.

Three homes in Franklin will

**What:** 2nd annual Heart of the Home House Tour. Six homes in Franklin, Beverly Hills and West Bloomfield will be showcased. Proceeds benefit senior all-night party at Groves High School this spring.

**When:** Noon to 4 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 8

**Tickets:** \$20, available at Groves High School main office, 13 Mile and Evergreen, and The Apple Tree Room in Franklin, or by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Michelle Henning, 5761 Woodwind Dr., Bloomfield Hills, 48301 (include name, address, phone and check - made out to Groves PTSA Graduation Committee). Maps will be distributed to ticket holders the day of the tour 11:45 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at the Groves High School 13 Mile entrance. The event is sponsored by the Groves High School Senior Parent Committee. For more information, call (248) 626-5158 or (248) 626-2231.

be featured. One contains collectibles throughout the home. A two-story master bedroom addition with his and her office space was added three years ago, with dramatic windows that offer a beautiful view of the landscaped yard. With 5,000 square feet, five bedrooms and five baths, this home provides space for togetherness and privacy.

Another home in that community features handmade wood furniture and significant wall hangings, which enhance the ambience of this setting.



This great room lives up to its name in this home in Bloomfield Hills. The home is one of six featured on the Heart of the Homes tour on Sunday, Feb. 8.

Famed architect Louis DesRosiers created the plans with input from the owners. Interior designer Rohn Goldman helped create the warm and open atmosphere.

Another home has been in the same family for 60 years. Built by the owner's father, the owner and his wife bought it 25 years ago, and raised three children in it. Magnificent antiques furnish the entire home - from period English pieces to hand-crafted colonial American hutches and toys. The faux marble fireplace is the centerpiece of a showcase living room. The family was instrumental in the creation of the prestigious Franklin Antique Show.

Two other homes, located in Beverly Hills, feature beautiful furnishings, including fine moldings and leaded glass in one, and sports memorabilia and a remodeled kitchen in another.

The first one also has an



Comfort and warmth best describe this kitchen in this home in Bloomfield Hills.

expansive kitchen and family room overlooking the beautifully landscaped yard and forested lot. The second one features a wood-paneled library and a collection of Depression glass in the dining room hutches.

Polan said she chose these homes because they are diverse in style and furnishings. "I wanted contemporary, I wanted historical, I wanted diversity in furnishings with antiques and supercontemporary furniture," Polan said.



Here is a corner of the great room. Note that the picture is painted on the wall.

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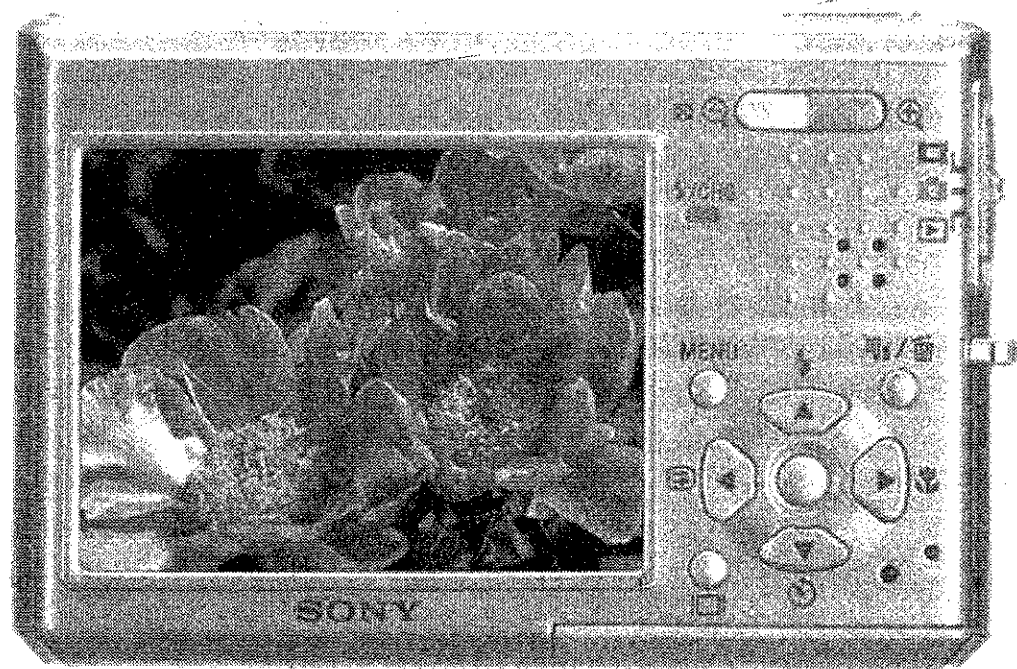
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Sony's amazing Cyber-shot DSC-T1 fits in a shirt pocket but takes 5-megapixel photos and features a 3X optical zoom.

## Consumer Electronics Show reveals gadgets galore for 2004

A keyboard that isn't there. A portable video player for \$99. A TV that prints digital photos.

These were among the whiz-bang items on display at the 2004

Consumer Electronics Show, the world's largest gathering of geeks and gadget lovers.

I was, needless to say, right at home.

One of the best things I saw at CES wasn't even a product, but rather a service. It's called Mailblocks, and it's the most promising anti-spam solution I've seen yet.

It employs a challenge/response system, meaning no e-mail gets through unless it's authorized. This gives you bulletproof protection against spammers, though it does create a slight hassle for legitimate senders.

I'll put Mailblocks through the ringer and report back in a future column.

In the meantime, you can try the service yourself (www.mail-

blocks.com) with a free, ad-supported account. Or pay just \$10 per year for an ad-free account.

I didn't find anything else at CES nearly that cheap.

In fact, if I had \$3,500 to spare, I'd give serious consideration to Epson's Livingstation (www.epson.com), the company's first foray into the television market. This HDTV LCD projection TV, available next month with 47- and 57-inch screens, has memory-card slots for viewing photos taken with your digital camera.

And because it's from Epson, the Livingstation includes a built-in (and nicely hidden away) color printer that churns out 4-by-6-inch glossies. It even comes with an external CD burner for archiving your photos.

Speaking of photos, Sony (www.sonymstyle.com) made my heart palpitate with the Cyber-shot DSC-T1, a 5-megapixel digital camera that's thinner than a deck of cards. Despite its size, it sports a 2.5-inch viewscreen (much larger than most) and a 3X optical zoom.

Sony also unveiled a home theater system with wireless speakers. Finally!

Altec Lansing (www.altec-

lansing.com) previewed its own wireless speaker system, this one intended for desktop computers and game consoles. Good riddance, wires!

And good riddance, keyboards! Well, almost. The iBiz Virtual Keyboard (www.ibizcorp.com) connects to a PDA or PC and projects a laser image of a keyboard on any flat surface. You're effectively typing on light.

This is one of those see-it-to-believe-it gadgets. I saw it, and it's just as cool as it sounds. However, it didn't work too well - the company needs to iron out some glitches in the software.

Finally, we come to my favorite gadget from CES - the ZVUE (www.zvue.com).

This handheld wonder is not only an MP3 player, but a video player and photo viewer as well. It has a color screen, a slot for SD memory cards, and an impulse-buy price: \$99.

I think this thing could be huge, provided the fledgling company offers an easy and affordable way to buy videos. We'll have to wait and see.

Rick Broida writes about computers and technology for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Readers who have questions for Broida can email him at rickbroida@excite.com

## Unbelievable Prices!

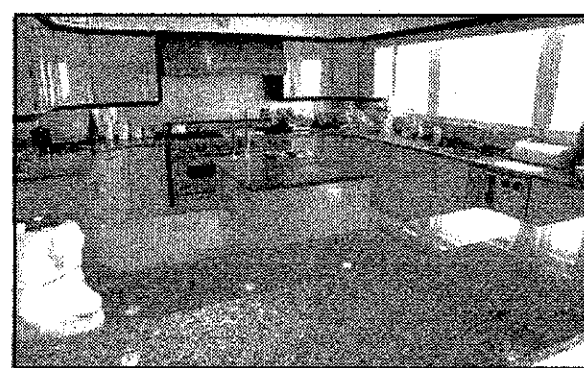
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# Dealer finds antique sold 30 years ago

"When you're in the antiques business you never know when you'll come across something you sold long ago," Leonard Berry said.

Recently he saw a pine dry sink at 334 N. Glenhurst in Bloomfield Village, where he is handling an estate sale Friday-Saturday, Jan. 23-24.

The dry sink is in the kitchen of the home of Gordon "Doc" Adams, who died last June.

Adams' mother bought it from Berry in 1973 when his antiques shop was in Detroit.

Berry, who operates Leonard Berry Antiques on the second level of the Merrill Building, 251 Merrill in Birmingham, has his work cut out for him—sorting the contents of the house that is full of antique furniture, silver, fine china and crystal.

Some boxes of china and crystal are wrapped in newspapers dated 1949, when Adams inherited the belongings from relatives.

The boxes never were unpacked. The garage houses two older automobiles, which have never been driven since they were inherited: a 1984 Chrysler and a 1996 Oldsmobile Cutlass.

Born into a philanthropic family of die-hard Michigan State University fans and graduates, Adams helped to fund many local causes and institutions, as well as his alma mater, MSU.

A bachelor, Adams left the house and its contents to several close friends, who will benefit from the sale Friday.

Hours of the estate sale are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For information, call (248) 646-1996.

## GARDEN CALENDAR

### Meadow Brook Hall

Oakland University's Meadow Brook Hall Garden Club will have its annual meeting 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 23, in the Coach House at Meadow Brook Hall, on the OU campus in Rochester. Mike Champagne, director of Seven Ponds Nature Center in Dryden, will give a slide lecture, Michigan Birds and Their Conservation, about many birds that can be seen around Oakland County. Non-member donation \$5. Reservations aren't required.

### Shade gardening

The Community House Garden Club of Birmingham will present a program, Gardening in the Shade, 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 26, at The Community House in downtown Birmingham. The Community House is at 380 S. Bates, south of Maple, between Southfield Road and Old Woodward Avenue. The program will be given by Sue Grubba of the Michigan School of Gardening, who has been designing residential and commercial landscapes for more than 15 years. It will feature a one-hour presentation and a 15-minute question-and-answer period. Guest fee \$5.

Is your shade garden in a rut? Does it seem the only plants that will survive are impatiens and hostas? If so, this presentation is for you. Learn how to

design a shade garden and select plants that thrive in shady areas. For more information, call Pat Jerzy at The Community House at (248) 644-5832.

### Tropical plants

English Gardens presents free gardening seminars 1 p.m. Saturdays at each of its five metro Detroit stores this winter. Caring for Tropical and Flowering Plants will be the topic. Jan. 24. Learn how to properly select and care for plants that will thrive indoors. English Gardens experts will provide information on how to select a plant, tips to encourage flowering, and suggestions on using plants to enhance a home's decor. For more information about the seminars, call the stores in West Bloomfield, (248) 851-7506; Royal Oak, (248) 280-9500; Dearborn Heights, (313) 278-4433; Clinton Township, (586) 286-6100; or Eastpointe, (586) 771-4200. For the nearest English Gardens location, call (800) 335-GROW, or visit the Web site at www.englishgardens.com.

### Detroit Rose Society

The Detroit Rose Society will have a general meeting 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 30, at the Pleasant Ridge Community Center, on Ridge Road, one block south of I-696 and one block west of Woodward. Guests welcome.

## HOME CALENDAR

### Faux finishing

Birmingham Community Education offers a variety of classes related to the home. Call (248) 203-3800 for information.

The schedule includes Faux Finishing, Tuesday, Jan. 27. The class will feature demonstrations of sponge painting, rag rolling, wallmagic, smooching, shadow stripes, feather dusting and wall washing. It will take place at the Fancy Color Paint Store in Troy. Fee is \$25.

### The Community House

The Community House, 380 S. Bates in Birmingham, offers classes to enhance your home decor. To register or for more information, call The Community House at (248) 644-5832, or visit www.community-house.com.

The schedule includes Selecting a Color Palette, Wednesday, Jan. 28 (fee is \$23); and Ceramic Tile Painting, Monday, Feb. 2 (\$22, with a \$15 materials prep fee payable to instructor). Selecting a Color Palette, taught by Vicki Gilbertson, an interior designer with Yamasaki Associates Inc. in Troy, will focus on combining colors to create pleasing palettes that serve a purpose. Learn how to use colors to your advantage in your home or work environment, and the inspirations designers use to generate color palettes for their clients. Ceramic Tile Painting will feature pattern transfers and many other ideas, and several different techniques. The class will be taught by Bob and Esther Kerr, experienced interior decorating professionals who own their own store.

### Meadow Brook Hall

Meadow Brook Hall, on the Oakland University campus in Rochester, will host a sneak-peek reception of its Thoroughly Modern Tillie tour 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 29. Admission to the tour's kick-off party is free; donations are welcome. The event will feature a wine and cheese reception with a special preview of the tour on the main floor. The tour will focus on the innovative conveniences and modern facilities of

Meadow Brook Hall, and bring to the forefront the many accomplishments of Matilda Dodge Wilson, who commissioned the historic mansion. For information, call (248) 370-3140 or visit www.meadowbrookhall.org.

### Heart of Home

The second annual Heart of the Home House Tour will take place noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 8. The tour will showcase six beautiful homes in Franklin, Beverly Hills and West Bloomfield, from the historic to the ultra contemporary. It is sponsored by the Groves High School Senior Parent Committee.

Tickets are \$20. They are available at the Groves High School Main Office, 13 Mile and Evergreen, and The Apple Tree Room in Franklin, or by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Michelle Henning, 5761 Woodwind Drive, Bloomfield Hills 48301 (include name, address, phone number, and check made out to Groves PTSA Graduation Committee).

Maps will be distributed to ticket holders 11:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. the day of the tour at the Groves High School 13 Mile entrance. For more information, call (248) 626-5158 or (248) 626-2231.

### Interior design

Class offerings in the College for Creative Studies Continuing Education program include Elements of Interior Design, 10 Saturdays beginning Jan. 31 (fee is \$275). Call (313) 664-7670 for information.

An overview of the field of interior design, the course will show the methods used to create a room that is physically, visually and intellectually satisfying. Instruction will include the basic principles of space planning, drafting, color theory and materials and finishes. Students will work toward creating a finished residential room.

If you have an item for the calendar, please submit it at least two weeks in advance of the date it should be published. Send to Ken Abramczyk, At Home Editor, Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or e-mail kabramczyk@oe.homecomm.net.

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ON LOCATION PHOTOGRAPHY

Ned and Lynn Liddle recently renovated their home, which will be one of two locations for this year's Preview Party for the Snow Ball for Variety, The Children's Charity.

**PREVIEW**

FROM PAGE C1

The foyer became a comfortable room, with an entertainment center and sleek black furnishings, including two recliners and two swivel chairs.

The area rug here is red - Lynn Liddle's favorite color - as are walls in the living room and kitchen. In the living room the furnishings have soft colors.

In the kitchen, the tile floor was changed to pickled oak and white appliances were replaced with silver ones. Whitehead designed the tile backsplash that runs along walls under the light-colored cabinets.

A large art work adorns the hood over the stove. Pots and pans are stored in the adjacent pantry.

The annual Snow Ball features a black-tie dinner, a special live auction of fantasy packages, and entertainment.

Proceeds benefit children with special needs in metro-

Detroit. Over the past eight years, the Snow Ball has raised more than \$1.2 million for the youngsters of Variety.

This year's event will take place at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Townsend Hotel ballroom, on Townsend south of Maple (15 Mile) between Woodward and Southfield Road in Birmingham.

Renowned entertainer Lainie Kazan will perform. Musical entertainment will be provided by the celebrated Johnny Trudell Orchestra.

Tickets are \$250, \$350 (Patron) and \$500 (Benefactor). Benefactors and patrons may attend the Preview Party Friday, Jan. 30. At the party, cocktails will be served at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m.

For information, call the Variety office in Southfield at (248) 258-5511.

Founded in 1929, Variety has 50 chapters and 15,000 members around the world.

Detroit's chapter touches the entire southeastern Michigan community and has more than 2,000 volunteers and friends who raise money for local charities to help children with special needs.

**MODERN**

FROM PAGE C1

half of the wall in a downstairs powder room); neutral shades; furnishings with clean, geometric lines; and accents of arrangements in glass (such as polished stones and candles in large hurricane jars on the living room mantel, lemons in big containers in the kitchen, polished stones in square jars on bathroom shelves). Most of the walls and ceilings are white.

**KITCHEN**

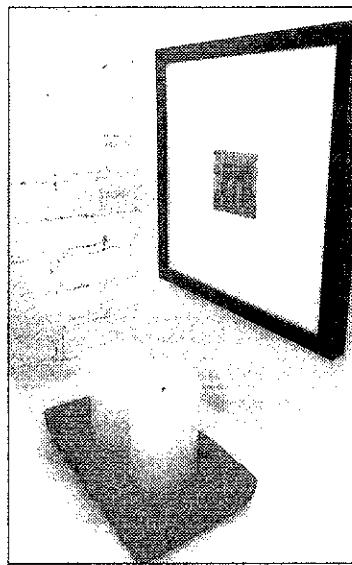
The kitchen used to be enclosed. It was opened up by removing the sliding glass doors that had been between it and the dining room. Now people in the dining room can sit at a counter as well as at a table.

The white floor had featured a harlequin pattern in tan; the floor was sandblasted so the wood underneath was exposed, leaving strands of white for an antique look.

Assorted kitchen items - including measuring spoons, a whisk, utensils, a bottle opener - were embedded along part of one wall before the room was painted. An antique leaded glass door leads to the lower level. The dining room was also opened up by adding large windows. A flat, round lamp with a linen shade hangs over the table. On a wall is a body sculpture by a Center for Creative Studies student.

Khaki drapes on custom drapery rods are in various areas. They form a portiere between the dining room and living room. Portieres were used as room dividers in the past, King said. A classic modern fireplace with cold-rolled steel is a showpiece in the living room.

On the living room floor is



Even small areas feature elements of interest.

sisal carpeting trimmed in leather; sisal carpeting runs throughout much of the house. The leather trim is similar in color to that of frames of mirrors and art works around the house.

The house was expanded toward the back, creating a family room and a mud room area with closet.

In the family room, the frame of the giant mirror on one wall was painted to give it a metallic effect; the dark frame matches the chest of drawers and shelving in the room.

A large ottoman and sectional sofa are other furnishings here.



Jeffrey King and David King's daughters have bedrooms bursting with color and whimsy.

Rooms for the children are adorned in bright colors. The toy room bears primary colors on the walls as well as on the table and chair set.

Walls in the two bedrooms for the girls are decorated with such happy elements as flowers and butterflies; lower headboard is painted in broad stripes of pastel shades. Skylights also brighten the rooms.

Part of one bedroom was cantilevered to make more space. Before this, only a daybed could fit in the room; now a regular bed is here.

The renovation also added a master suite with a balcony. In

the bedroom, the canopy bed posts become part of the drapery rod.

This bedroom contains an example of modern innovations found around the house: a TV behind a one-way glass. The glass conceals the TV during the day; the screen can be seen at night.

Among other innovations are two in the master bathroom: drawers with outlets inside them (electrical items can be kept in the drawers and their cords won't clutter the vanity), and a shower mirror that is heated so it won't fog up and can be used for shaving.

**COLORFUL**

From this room, a spiral staircase leads to the lower-level playroom.

Digging into the basement to make this playroom for the girls added 500 square feet.

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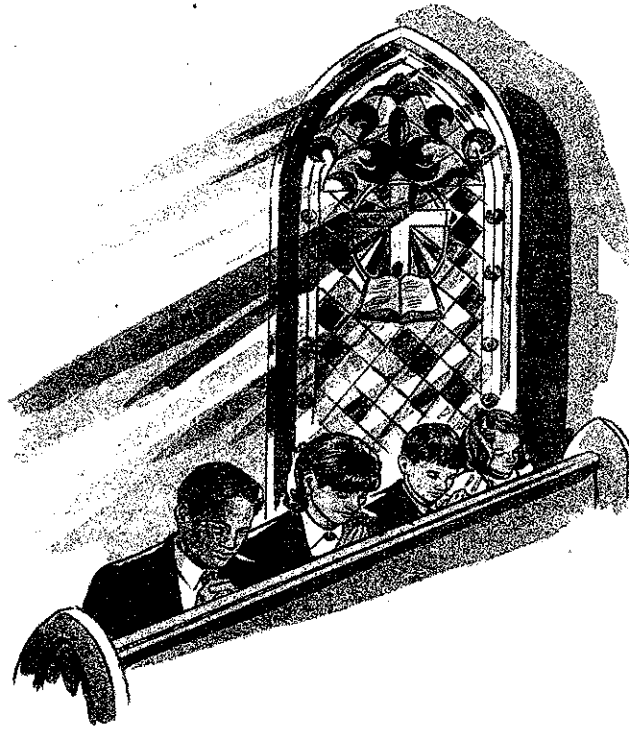
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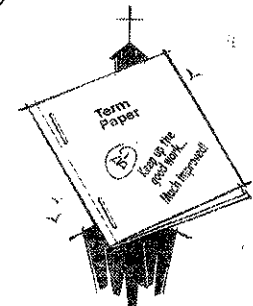
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### It's Easy To Criticize...

Offering constructive criticism to others can be beneficial, but only if the other person is receptive to our comments. In teaching situations or during on-the-job training, constructive criticism is usually necessary to instruct and help a person develop a trade or vocation. However, correcting someone, even in a kind or skillful manner, can be very challenging, since we are never sure how the individual may react. Many friendships and families have been destroyed because someone has been overly critical of another person's words or actions. Knowing when we should offer our comments can also be difficult, and we should be fairly certain that our comments are truthful and necessary. It often seems so easy to criticize others because we mistakenly believe that we are without fault or are such experts on most everything. The Bible tells us that we look at the speck in our brother's eye, but we pay no attention to the log in our own (Luke 6:41). Faultfinding and being overly critical of others, especially behind their backs, are wrong and can become habit-forming. However, kind words are good for the soul and help to build a person up.

The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice. R.S.V. Proverbs 12:15



## Side dish

### Wrap rolled out

Reynolds Plastic Wrap's new EZ Slide Cutter provides consumers with a smoother even sheet of plastic. Simply pull the

wrap from the box, slide the EZ Slide Cutter, and you have a smooth sheet. There's less bunching and less sticking to itself than other wraps.

The EX Slide Cutter glides across the wrap in either direction resulting in a smooth even cut every time.

The track holds the wrap in place as you cut and until you're ready to use the wrap, preventing the wrap from bunching.

The wrap's suggested retail price is \$2.99 for a 100-square foot roll.

### Look for label

Trying to make every minute count, even when shopping for groceries, is not always easy. A recent study indicates that the average consumer spends about 47 minutes in a grocery store, per trip. That doesn't always allow a lot of time to check labels for nutritional value - and that can be important since research shows that shoppers who read food labels cut about twice the amount of fat from their diet. Cutting saturated fat and cholesterol is an important way to fight heart disease. But many consumers may find reading nutrition labels time consuming and confusing.

The American Heart Association has a shortcut that helps identify low-fat low cholesterol foods quickly and reliably.

The association's Food Certification program and its highly visible red and white heart-check mark is on the labels of hundreds of food products. Products bearing the mark are low in saturated fat and cholesterol and can be part of a heart-healthy diet for healthy people over the age of 2.

For more information, visit [www.american-heart.org](http://www.american-heart.org), or call 1-800-AHA-USA 1 for a free copy of the Shop Smart with Heart brochure.

### Corn syrup tip

The creators of Karo corn syrup say that corn syrup is a great tenderizer that combines with meat's natural juices to lock in moisture and enhance flavor.

For more than 100 years, Karo corn syrup, which recently earned the Good Housekeeping Seal, has added sweetness to many of America's most loved dishes.

To bring the two traditions together for a twist to the traditional hamburger recipe, just add 1/4 cup Karo corn syrup to a pound of ground beef. The hamburgers will hold together better on the grill, and, Karo says, be more moist and flavorful.

For more recipe ideas, visit [www.karosyrup.com](http://www.karosyrup.com).



Warm up winter with a hot cup of tea.

## Spend an afternoon relaxing

# to the

As the winter brings families and friends indoors, it is the perfect time to share the culinary traditions that make this time of year special.

From an old friend's recipe for chowder to a new twist on hot chocolate, time-treasured meals and menus sustain the body and nurture the soul.

The ritual of tea is a tradition enjoyed in numerous American homes. From a mother and daughter starting their day at the kitchen table to the family gathered around the fireplace after a meal, a warming cup of tea offers a comforting and communal way to come together and relax during this time of year.

Rebecca Dickow, public relations and marketing manager for Ritz Carlton, said the number of patrons at afternoon teas has remained steady over the past 15 years since teas first started at the hotel.

"For us, it is the ambiance and service that you get for the meals. We pride ourselves here on service. Our clients are about 90 percent women. They just like the ability to have a warm, relaxing meal in the middle of the day. It's warm, it's unobtrusive, it's relaxing."

Generally, scones and sandwiches top the list of teas. Scottish smoked salmon on pumpernickel and a cucumber sandwich with cream

PLEASE SEE TEA, C9

## Campfire recipes offered at RV show

RVers can bring a recipe for the Campfire Cook-Along Recipes program to the Michigan Camper, Travel & RV Show today through Sunday, Jan. 25 at the Pontiac Silverdome and get online access to dozens of other campground and tailgating cooking ideas.

Showgoers who bring a recipe to the Recipe Box at the show entrance will receive information for on-line access to all the recipes submitted from other campers.

Campers and RV travelers want tasty, nutritional food but favor meals that are easy to fix and require a minimum of cleanup. And yes, S'mores and Hobo Pies topped the list of entries last year. In addition, recipes provided in the past were White Bean Chicken Chili, Salmon Stuffed Goat Cheese Peppers and Sauceless Sweet & Sour Chicken.

The 21st annual Michigan Camper how hours are 3-9 p.m. Wednesday - Friday,

Jan. 21-23; 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24; and 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25.

Admission is \$7; \$3 for children 6-14 and children 5 and under admitted free. Advance tickets, which include a free parking pass, are available online at [www.MichiganCamperShow.com](http://www.MichiganCamperShow.com). On-site parking is available for a fee.

For more information visit [www.MichiganCamperShow.com](http://www.MichiganCamperShow.com) or call (800) 328-6550.

## The French got it right!

It now seems that the French got it right! From the get-go, they understood the psychology of exporting wines to the United States and shipped their best.

In the early years, Italian



### Focus on Wine

### Ray & Eleanor Heald

imports were cheap chiantis in straw baskets. Although loved in pizza joints, Americans got the idea that Italian wines were light, thin and cheap.

While that has changed, it took a long time to erase first impressions.

Phenomenal growth of inexpensive Chilean wines took place

in the 1990s. Exports soared because the wines were viewed as popularly-priced alternatives to French and Italian wines, that back then, experienced a string of poor vintages yet significant price hikes.

Lately, Chilean wines, once the darlings of the under \$10 price tag, have seen sales slip. The new rage wines are imports from Australia, southern Italy and Spain.

With a high quality-price ratio, \$10 and under Chilean wines remain fine everyday drinking. With recent introduction of some world-class, sophisticated wines from Chile, the quality bar has been raised. With its top-tier wines, producers such as Vina Errazuriz have garnered international attention.

### MAJOR CHANGES

"Early on, white wines from Chile were disappointing," said Carlos Barriga, assistant director of winemaking operations for Errazuriz. "In 1986, Chilean whites were still being made by old methods. There was no temperature control, therefore a loss of fruit characters. Grape sourcing was from warmer areas."

Barriga credited Miguel Torres for major changes such as grape sourcing from cooler areas and fermenting in temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks. Today, producers have built wineries closer to vineyard sources and there is less long distance transporting, a detriment to wine grapes.

### ERRAZURIZ AND JOINT VENTURES

Another modern day pioneer in Chile is Eduardo Chadwick, president of Vina Errazuriz. He is a descendant of Don Maximiano who in 1870 founded

PLEASE SEE WINE, C9

### WINE PICKS

Best bets from Chile at \$8-\$60

White wines:

■ 2002 Caliterra Sauvignon Blanc (\$8), grapefruit notes with sophisticated finish.

■ 2001 Errazuriz Fume Blanc (\$10), delightful smoky notes.

■ 2001 Errazuriz Chardonnay (\$10), pineapple and tropical fruit. Syrah:

■ 2000 Caliterra (\$8), ripe style; great value.

■ 2000 Arboleda (\$17), big wine that opens up after decanting.

■ 1999 Errazuriz (\$25), delicious and powerful.

Other reds

■ 2000 Errazuriz Don Maximiano (\$60), cabernet, merlot blend - big black fruit core.

■ 2000 Sena (\$60), we bet you can't find a 2000 Bordeaux this good for the money!

All wines mentioned are available in the metro-Detroit area. If a retailer does not stock a specific wine, ask that it be ordered from the distributor.



# Allow herbal and decaffeinated teas to steep three to five minutes

No matter which tea you choose, a perfected brewed cup is found in the balance of ingredients and method.

According to the experts at Bigelow Tea, selecting quality tea bags, while keeping an eye on water, timing and temperature, will guarantee excellent results.

Here are some tips:

Always start with fresh tea. Always use fresh, cold water, and never reheat water left in the kettle.

For best results, run the water at the tap for a least one minute to clear any stale water from the pipes.

If you live in an area where the water is heavily treated, use bottled water.

When water comes to a full, rolling boil, pour immediately over the tea bag in the cup.

Allow flavored and traditional teas to steep for one to two minutes. Allow herbal and decaffeinated teas to steep three to five minutes.

When using delicate green teas, bring water just up to the boiling point (but not to a full

rolling boil) and steep for one to two minutes.

After steeping, remove the tea bag from the cup and set aside. For best flavor, do not squeeze liquid from the tea bag.

For the perfect pot of tea, always start with fresh, cold water, and never reheat water left in the kettle.

"Take the chill off the pot" by

rinsing it first with very hot water.

Put one fresh tea bag in the pot for each cup that will be served. If your guests prefer stronger tea, add an extra bag "for the pot."

Allow flavored and traditional teas to steep five minutes. Allow herbal and decaffeinated teas to steep five min-

utes or longer.

Remove bags from pot when steeping is finished.

If a weaker cup is preferred, hot water should be added to prepared tea.

Cover pot with a tea cozy, which will keep it warm.

For more information on tea, tea gifts and entertaining with tea, visit [www.bigelowtea.com](http://www.bigelowtea.com).

## TEA

FROM PAGE C8

cheese and dill garnish are the selections at the Ritz Carlton. "Other sandwiches are based on the season," Dickow said. Raisin scones also are served.

With more than 1,500 different teas and tea blends on the market today, choosing the right one for your occasion is a matter of taste. Some flavors seem especially well-matched to the winter season. With delicate flavors like orange or lemon rind and sweet spice, the heartwarming aroma of a steeping cup will infuse any

room with warmth.

Traditional teas, such as English Teatime and English Breakfast, offer classic black-tea flavor.

For a more flavorful brew, try a specialty tea such as Earl Grey or French Vanilla. Green tea offers a delicate brew because the leaves are steamed in the production process and not fermented like black teas.

According to the Tea Council of the United States, herbal teas are not considered true teas as they are not made from the leaves of the tea plant.

Rather, herbal teas are blends of herbs, dried fruits and spices, which when brewed, are naturally caffeine-free.

Tea patrons usually stay for about two hours, Dickow said. "We feel being adjacent to the Fairlane Town Center helps, because we get people who come in before or after shopping there," Dickow said.

Afternoon teas are served at the Townsend Hotel, 100 Townsend in Birmingham, 3-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays. Call (248) 642-7900 for information.

The Ritz Carlton in Dearborn serves teas 2-4 p.m. Friday and Saturday throughout the winter months. Call (313) 441-2000.

Sweet Afton Tea Room, 450 Forest in Plymouth serves 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Saturday. Call (734) 454-0777.

## WINE

FROM PAGE C8

the Errazuriz estate, located in the Aconcagua Valley, known for its beauty and suitability to growing quality red grapes.

With multiple soil types, each variety is planted where unique characteristics favor development of the variety's best attributes. Syrah, cabernet sauvignon, carmenere (an ancient Bordeaux variety that was once misidentified as merlot), sangiovese and merlot are grown to produce varietal wines and premium

blends. The Don Maximiano Estate is the flagship vineyard.

Eduardo Chadwick originally created Caliterra in 1989 as a sister project to the family-owned Vina Errazuriz. Caliterra developed its own distinct style, however, by sourcing fruit throughout Chile's prime wine-growing regions.

In 1996, Chadwick entered into a partnership with the Robert Mondavi family, which presented an ideal opportunity to realize a global vision of winemaking, centered on an exchange of cultures and winemaking philosophies.

Arboleda wines, an outgrowth of the partnership

between the families of Robert Mondavi and Vina Errazuriz, were launched in 2001.

Sena fulfills a dream shared by Napa Valley's Robert Mondavi and Eduardo Chadwick who entered into a joint venture in 1996. After a four-year vineyard search, planting has been completed on a property in the western Aconcagua Valley of Chile.

The Healds are contributing editors for the internationally-respected *Quarterly Review of Wines* and Troy residents who write about wine, spirits, and restaurants for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. Contact them by e-mail at [focusonwine@aol.com](mailto:focusonwine@aol.com).

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Please submit items at least two weeks in advance of the date it should be published. Send to Ken Abramczyk, Taste editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, 48009 or e-mail kabramczyk@oe.homecomm.net

**Classic cooking**  
Busch's Meal Solutions presents the classic cooking series, starting with "Protect your Investments: Here's the Beef" 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22 at the Plymouth/Northville location on Five Mile and Beck, and Jan. 29 at the Farmington Hills location. The class is free. The class will explore the different cuts of beef and the best cooking techniques. Easy pan gravies will be demonstrated. The beef class will be held again at 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 29 at the Farmington Hills store location. The series continues Feb. 12 in Livonia, Feb. 19 in Plymouth and Feb. 26 in Farmington Hills with "Seafood: The Ultimate Fast Food" and "Poultry: All-Time Favorites" on March 11, 18 and 25 in the same order at the same locations.

**Schoolcraft College**  
Enjoy the talents of the staff at Schoolcraft College with culinary seminars offered through the culinary arts department and the college's Continuing Education Services. The seminars range from Meals 500: Start to Finish with chef Brian Polcyn on Saturday, Jan. 24 and Swiss Chocolates with master pastry chef Joe Decker on Thursday, Feb. 5 to Savory Soups and Stews with master chef Jeff Gabriel on Wednesday, Feb. 25. For a complete schedule of seminars, call (734) 462-4448 or visit the college's Continuing Education Services building, 18600 Haggerty in Livonia (south of Seven Mile Road).

**Weight Watchers**  
Tim Cakra, chef at Weight Watchers, and Florine Mark, president and CEO of Weight Watchers, will promote Meals in Minutes: 150 Speedy Recipes Low in Points Values by featuring prepared dishes at cooking demonstrations. Demonstrations are open and free to the public. Cakra will prepare potato and pepper frittata at the following locations: 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 31, Weight Watchers Center, West River Center, 30076 Grand River, Farmington. To learn more about Weight Watchers and for meetings in your area visit www.8883florine.com or call 1-888-3-FLORIN

**Wine tasting**  
Unique Restaurants will conduct a casual wine tasting the first Wednesday of each month 6-8 p.m., alternating at a different Unique restaurant. At each tasting, guests can sample featured wines selected around a specific theme - including regional best bets and the finest wines

of 2004. URC's Master Sommelier Madeline Trifon will be on hand to describe the wines, answer questions, and guide guests through the more subtle aspects of wine tasting. The Wednesday Wine Bar costs \$35 per person and includes wine, hors d'oeuvres and a variety of cheeses. URC rotates the event among four of its fine dining restaurants: Shiraz, Morels, No. VI Chop House & Lobster Bar and Northern Lakes Seafood Company. The next wine tasting is South Africa: New World Wine with an Old World Attitude, Wednesday, Feb. 4 at No. VI. For reservations for that tasting, call No. VI Chophouse and Lobster Bar, inside the Hotel Baronette in Novi, at (248) 305-5210.

**Explore wine**  
Certified Sommelier Nidal Daher and National Wine Buyer Marc Jonna will present a wine exploration series of seven classes concluding on March 17 at the Community House in Birmingham. The series includes classes designed to educate the wine novice as well as the experienced wine connoisseur. Discussion topics will include wine grape varieties, wine making techniques, types of wines and wine labels. Participants will learn how to evaluate and rate wines while tasting six wines representing different regions from around the world. The class will also provide guidelines for identifying and reading wine labels and ordering from a restaurant wine list. The class will end with a discussion on proper wine storage climate. Classes offered and class fees in the series include: California and Pacific Northwest Wines, Wednesday, Jan. 28, \$28; French Wines, Feb. 4, \$25; More About French Wines, Feb. 11, \$25; Italian Wines, Feb. 25, \$25; The New World of Wine: Australia, Chile, Argentina, South Africa and New Zealand, March 3, \$25, and Fortified Wines: Ports, Sherries and Madeiras, March 17, \$25. All classes are scheduled 7:30-9:30 p.m. Each class is priced individually, or seven sessions are offered for \$150. Class attendees must be over the age of 21. To register, contact The Community House, 380 South Bates Street, Birmingham, (248)644-5832, or online at www.communityhouse.com.

**Heavenly hors d'oeuvres**  
Discover how to make a beautiful array of bite-sized creations designed to impress but not stress. The class will make ginger seared shrimp on crisp wonton, vegetable spring roll, caviar and crème fraiche on blini and caramelized onion on goat cheese tart. Instructed by Peter Engelhardt, executive chef for The Community House, the class meets 7:30-9:30 p.m., Monday, Jan. 26. Fee is \$23.

**Professional desserts**  
Wow your family with delicious desserts through classes at Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe, 8036 N. Wayne, Westland. Chocolate cups, pocket pastries and napoleons are some of the tasty treats you'll master. Class fees include the use of equipment and materials. The professional desserts series includes: puff pastries, Monday, Jan. 26; mini-pastries, Monday, Feb. 2; and fresh fruit pastries, Monday, Feb. 9. Individual classes are \$22 each, series of three classes \$60. The beginning cake decorating series will instruct on how to create flowers, borders, icing, doll cakes and more. Students provide their own equipment and materials, so call (734) 261-3680 for more information. Classes are scheduled for four consecutive Tuesdays, Jan. 27-Feb. 17. The series of four cake decorating classes costs \$50. All classes in both series are scheduled 6-8 p.m. For more information, call Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe at (734) 261-3680.

**Slow food**  
Save valuable time by using your slow cooker to make fabulous meals for your family and friends while you work and play. The inexpensive ingredients become succulent when simmered slowly all day. Move over fast food, it's time to slow down as you'll learn about the following dishes: navy beans with smoked turkey sausage, osso bucco (Italian braised veal shanks), aromatic Thai chicken with vegetables and dried plums in sweet wine. Taught through M-Care, University of Michigan Health System, the class is scheduled noon-1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3 at East Ann Arbor Health Center Demonstration Kitchen, 4260 Plymouth. Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$30 per person or \$50 for two people attending together. Call Nicole Goyarts at (734) 975-4387, ext. 236 or sign up on line at www.mfitnutrition.com

**The Basics of Sauces**  
Learn tricks that will give your dishes that finishing touch in this class taught by Freeman E. Gunnell 7:30-9:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 3 at the Community House, 380 South Bates Street, Birmingham. You will leave with three versatile sauce techniques: a basic cream sauce, good for pasta, vegetables or meat dishes; a chicken sauce; and a classic French beurre blanc (sauce with butter). Gunnell's culinary education has been under the direction of renowned chefs Jimmy Schmidt, Wolfgang Puck, and Madeline Kamman. He was recently awarded the prestigious International Association of Culinary Professionals pastry award to study at Ecole Lenotre in Paris, France. This session's fee is \$22. To register for classes, contact The Community House, 380 South

Bates Street, Birmingham, 248/644-5832, or online at www.communityhouse.com.

**Great grains**  
Are you tired of the same old starches like pasta, potatoes, and rice? Discover how to make quick and healthy side dishes using unique grains such as couscous, quinoa (a South American grain) and risotto. Freeman E. Gunnell's culinary education has been under the direction of renowned chefs including Jimmy Schmidt, Wolfgang Puck and Madeline Kamman. Freeman's well-rounded career includes working as chef de cuisine and as a pastry chef in gourmet restaurants as well as corporate and private settings. Freeman was recently awarded the prestigious International Association of Culinary Professionals pastry award to study at Ecole Lenotre in Paris, France. Class is 7:30-9:30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 27. Fee is \$22. To register for classes, contact The Community House, 380 South Bates Street, Birmingham, 248/644-5832, or online at www.communityhouse.com.

**Famie instructs**  
Bella Cucina, a gourmet kitchen store in Plymouth, will host local celebrity chefs for cooking classes. Chef Keith Famie will teach how to cook chocolate and desserts for St. Valentine's Day 6:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3 in the lower level of Our Lady of Good Counsel, North Territorial and Beck roads in Plymouth. The menu includes Spanish paella, chocolate pasta with raspberries and toasted almonds, white chocolate mousse stuffed with poached pears, flourless chocolate cake with chocolate leaves, and double dipped chocolate strawberries filled with Grand Marnier. To learn more about the hands-on cooking classes, call Bella Cucina, 942 W. Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth, at (734) 455-4232.

**Organic choices**  
Timothy Young, owner of Food for Thought, will lecture on organic consumer choices and sustainable living, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 3, at Mia Mahalo, 407 S. Washington, in Royal Oak. Admission is free. Sustainable living is an approach to social and economic activities for all societies, which is compatible with the preservation of the environment. Young will lecture on the differences between organic and nonorganic consumer choices and why he believes our current food systems do not work. Buying organic foods promotes sustainable farming practices. Young has a long history of activism on issues of farmland preservation both here and abroad and is passionate about preserving farmland through profitable farming. For information, call Mia Mahalo at (248) 546-1900.

**Specialties Showroom**  
Bonnie Fishman, owner of Bonnie's Patisserie, will teach a cooking class 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 5 at Specialties Showroom, 2800 W. 11 Mile, Berkley. Fishman will prepare braised chicken with oranges; stuffed chicken breasts vert with lime sabayon; French roast chicken Dijonnaise; chicken and eggplant Nicoise. Cost is \$35. To register or for information, call (248) 548-5656 or register at www.specialtiesshowroom.com

**Learn about sushi**  
Do you love the idea of creating a delicious meal without slaving over a hot stove? Learn how to make fancy sushi with different types of rolls in this class 2-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 8 at the Community House, 380 South Bates Street in Birmingham. The rolls will be wrapped with seaweed and rice outside and with colorful seafood and vegetables inside. The types of sushi that will be taught are California Roll, Salmon Roll, Cucumber Roll, Cucumber and Avocado Roll and Veggie Tempura. Take home samples. Class is demonstration only. Changpheng Sayanthone, also known as Kriss, was born in Laos and has been cooking for 22 years. He is co-owner and chef of Tokyo Sushi and Grill in downtown Birmingham, Troy, and Auburn Hills. The session's fee is \$29. To register for classes, contact The Community House, 380 South Bates Street, Birmingham, 248/644-

5832, or online at www.communityhouse.com.

**Sweet eats**  
Let your young chef prepare a dessert for you. Each student will take home his or her own Dessert for the Family creation. Students will have a variety of choices. Each young chef will measure, mix, blend, and decorate their tasty masterpiece. (Recipes do not include nuts). This class is safe for all ages; as the class does not use the stove or oven. Presented by Ginger Works, the class will be taught 10-11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 7 and again Tuesday, Feb. 10, 6:30-7:30 p.m. in room 108 at Berkshire Middle School, 21707 W. 14 Mile Road, Beverly Hills. Class fee is \$13. This class is offered through Birmingham Community Education. To register call 248-203-3800 or register on line www.communityed.net

**Party planning**  
Learn cutting-edge Manhattan event planning techniques on a budget. Dazzle your guests as you explore the hottest and latest color choices, exciting themes and shortcuts and time-savers. Instructed by Harold Baldwin, the class is scheduled 7-9 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 11, in room F104 at Seaholm High School, 2436 W. Lincoln, in Birmingham. Fee is \$39. The class is taught through Birmingham Community Education. To register, call (248) 203-3800 or register on line www.communityed.net

## Prepare quick soba noodles in broth

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

For this one-bowl, main-dish dinner with its distinct Japanese flavor, look for soba, mirin and dashi in the Asian section of your local supermarket or at an Asian grocery store.

These days our choice of ingredients once considered exotic is excitingly expanded, and you may already be familiar with the pasta, wine and soup granules named above.

Shopping may take more time than the dish, which calls for only 20 minutes start to finish, and serves two people. The recipe is among "100 cozy recipes" in *Better Homes and Gardens*' special publication, "All-Time Favorites: Soups and Stews" (Meredith, \$4.99). The recipes range from old American favorites to a zesty selection from around the world.

**SOBA NOODLES IN BROTH**  
8 ounces fresh or frozen shrimp in shells  
6 ounces dried soba (buck-wheat noodles) or vermicelli  
2 cups reduced-sodium chicken broth  
1/4 cup mirin (Japanese sweet rice wine)  
1/4 cup reduced-sodium soy sauce  
2 teaspoons sugar  
1/2 teaspoon instant dashi granules (dried tuna- and seaweed-flavor soup stock)  
2 green onions, bias-sliced

Thaw shrimp, if frozen. Peel and devein shrimp, leaving tails intact; rinse and pat dry. Set shrimp aside.

In a large saucepan, cook soba noodles or vermicelli in a large amount of boiling water about 4 minutes or until tender.

Meanwhile, in a medium saucepan, combine broth, mirin, soy sauce, sugar and dashi granules. Bring to boiling; reduce heat. Add shrimp; simmer about 2 minutes or until shrimp turn opaque.

Drain noodles; divide noodles between two soup bowls. Pour the shrimp and broth over the noodles. Sprinkle with green onion. Serve immediately.

Makes 2 main-dish servings.

**Nutrition Information per serving:** 515 cal., 2 g total fat (0 g saturated), 129 mg chol., 2,698 mg sodium, 93 g carbo., 4 g fiber, 35 g pro.

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**Dearborn HONEY HAM \$3.99 Lb.**  
**Butterball TURKEY BBEAST \$4.99 Lb.**  
**Dietz & Watson BUFFALO CHICKEN BBEAST \$5.99 Lb.**

**Westborn Market**  
14985 MIDDLEBELT LIVONIA  
734-824-1000  
Just South of Five Mile (on the west side)  
www.westbornmarket.com  
We reserve the right to limit quantities. Prices good through Jan. 28, 2004.

## Swiss fondue is back, with variations

The hottest old trend in cooking is back. That trend is Swiss fondue, and now there are some different and fun ways to put a twist on this classic.

Having spent several years in Geneva, Switzerland, opening the first British restaurant there, I fondly recall those cold snowy days. I travelled up Lake Geneva to Gruyere just out side of Lausanne — the home of the true Swiss fondue. Here chefs use equal parts of Vacherin and Gruyere cheese, which makes it very rich and creamy!

I have included a recipe with just Gruyere and Swiss cheese which works just as well.

Some basic tips for fondue: Use the right pot. For cheese and chocolate fondues, a large ceramic pot works best. I suggest Le Creuset available from Williams-Sonoma or Crate and Barrel.

Do the two step: Cook the fondue in a pan on you're stove, then transfer it to the fondue pot for serving.

### THE BASIC SWISS CHEESE FONDUE

1/2 pound Emmentaler Swiss cheese, coarsely grated  
1/2 pound Gruyere cheese coarsely grated  
2 tablespoons all purpose flour  
1/8 teaspoon ground nutmeg  
1/4 teaspoon of freshly ground black pepper  
1 1/2 cups any dry white wine  
1 clove garlic cut in  
1 ounce kirsch (cherry brandy)

Place the cheese in a large bowl, sprinkle flour, nutmeg, and pepper overtop, then toss thoroughly so the flour evenly coats the cheese.

Rub the inside of the pot with the cut garlic glove.

Heat the white wine in a medium-size pot, over medium-high heat, until tiny bubbles begin to rise to the surface.

Slowly add cheese to the wine, allowing each handful to melt before adding another.

When cheese is fully melted, add Kirsch.

Transfer entire contents to a



Michigan's Best

Colin Brown

Fondue pot and maintain flame hot enough to keep cheese mixture melted, but not boiling.

The best way to eat is with a Classic French bread cut into bite size chunks. In Switzerland they dunk the bread in a shot of Kirsch, then into the cheese mix. Wonderful!

Note: Only eat cheese fondue with wine or tea. Beer and other drinks do not work well when eating this type of dish. The wine and tea help with your digestion of this amount of cheese.

Some suggestions of other food that can be used as a garnish: New cooked baby potatoes, gherkins, button onions, celery, radish, carrot, parma ham, apple, cherries.

Basically anything goes! What ever you desire. Serves 4.

### SUN-DRIED TOMATO PIZZA FONDUE

2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil  
1 medium onion, chopped  
1/2 cup of finely chopped sun-dried tomatoes (Not packed in oil)  
1 clove of garlic, minced  
1/2 teaspoon dried basil  
1/2 teaspoon dried oregano  
1/4 teaspoon crushed hot pepper flakes  
1 cup of dry white wine  
3 cups mozzarella cheese, shredded  
1 1/2 cups of sharp Provolone cheese, shredded  
1/2 cup of grated Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese  
1 teaspoon cornstarch

In a medium, heavy-bottomed saucepan, heat the olive oil over medium heat.

Add the onion and cook, until soft, about 4 minutes

Add the sun-dried tomatoes, garlic, basil, oregano, and hot pepper flakes.

Stir until the garlic is fragrant. Add the wine and bring

to a simmer. In a medium bowl mix the cheese and the cornstarch and continue as above.

Serve with cubed French, Italian bread, Focaccia, salami cubes or pepperoni wedges, baby artichoke hearts or raw zucchini slices.

### BLACK BEAN AND PEPPER JACK FONDUE

1 cup of finely chopped red onion  
1 cup of finely chopped carrot  
3/4 cup of finely chopped celery  
6 cloves of garlic, finely chopped  
2 jalapenos, seeded and stems discarded, chopped finely  
2 tablespoons olive oil  
2 tablespoons butter  
1 tablespoon ground cumin  
2 bay leaves  
1 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper  
1 tablespoon ground cayenne pepper  
1/4 cup of Spanish sherry wine vinegar or apple cider vinegar  
1/2 cup of all purpose flour  
2 cans (15 ounce) black beans, rinsed and drained  
4 cups (32 ounce) chicken broth  
2 cups shredded pepper jack cheese (Use jalapeno jack for a spicy version.)  
1 cup of heavy cream  
1/2 cup of sour cream (optional)  
1/4 cup chopped scallions

Sauté onions, carrot, garlic, celery, and jalapenos in olive oil and butter in a large saucepan until they start to brown (about 8-10 minutes).

Stir in the cumin, bay leaves, black and cayenne pepper, dry sherry and sherry wine vinegar. Cook 2-3 minutes. Stir in flour and cook 2 minutes longer.

Add beans and chicken stock. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly until thickened. Reduce heat to low, add cheese and heavy cream and cook until the mixture reaches the consistency of fondue. Pour into fondue pot and garnish with sour cream and chopped scallions.

Serve with tortilla chips. Serves about 20.

Chef Colin Brown is executive chef of the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham. You can e-mail him at [chef@townsendhotel.com](mailto:chef@townsendhotel.com)

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For more information, please call 888-247-5181 or visit [www.hom.org](http://www.hom.org)



I want to support Hospice of Michigan with a gift in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed. Please make payable to *Hospice of Michigan* and mail to: TIFFANY CUSMANO, HOSPICE OF MICHIGAN, 1400 MACK AVE., DETROIT, MI 48201

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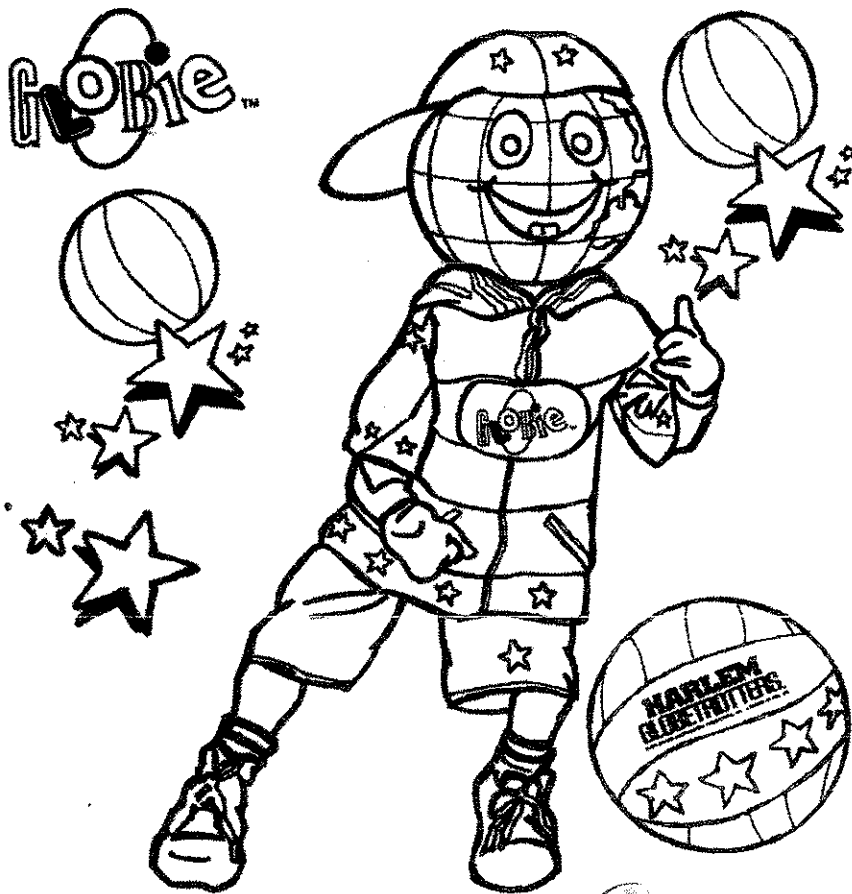
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## THE ORIGINAL HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS

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Color for your chance to win tickets and meet a Globetrotter!



Observer & Eccentric  
NEWSPAPERS

Saturday, January 31 • 1:00 PM

**IT'S EASY!** Color this picture, send it with your name, mailing address, e-mail address and daytime phone number to: Harlem Globetrotters Coloring Contest, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 3 Championship Drive, Auburn Hills, MI 48326. Ten winners, chosen at random, will each win a family four pack of tickets to see the Harlem Globetrotters on Saturday, January 31, 1:00 p.m. at The Palace. One Grand Prize winner, chosen at random, will receive great lower level seats and a chance to meet a Harlem Globetrotter. All entries must be received by Tuesday, January 27. Winners will be notified on Wednesday, January 28. Employees and immediate family members of Palace Sports and Entertainment and The Observer & Eccentric newspapers are not eligible.



Tickets available at [Palace.net.com](http://Palace.net.com), The Palace Box Office and all **ticketmaster** outlets. Charge by phone at 248-645-6666. Group discounts available, call (248) 371-2055.

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Detroit Public Television  
*presents*

## Daniel O'Donnell Live in Concert

The Detroit Opera House  
Monday, April 26, 7:30 p.m.

Daniel O'Donnell's concert specials from Europe's best performance halls have thrilled Channel 56 viewers. Now, the Irish singing sensation comes to town for a concert performance to benefit Detroit Public TV. Great seats are available priced, per pair, at \$75, \$150 and \$250.

Call 313/876-8100 to order tickets.

## Andre Rieu and The Strauss Orchestra

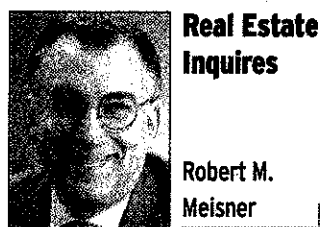
The Fox Theatre  
Sunday, May 2, 7:30 p.m.

Andre Rieu, the "Waltz King of Europe", has built a legion of fans from his concert specials on Detroit Public TV. Don't miss this long-awaited benefit performance.

Call 313/876-8100 today for the best seats priced at \$200 per pair.



# Real Estate



## Real Estate Inquires

Robert M. Meisner

## Evicting tenants takes time

I am a residential landlord and am wondering how long it is going to take to evict a tenant for non-payment of rent.

In most instances, an eviction for non-payment can be completed in about one month. However, if the tenant appears and raises a factual defense, the period can easily become several months. If the tenant prevails on his defense, he may ultimately remain in possession until the end of the lease term. Factors which affect the time period include how quickly you can serve the tenant and whether the tenant actually appears to contest the court proceeding. It is generally advisable to have an attorney representing you to facilitate the process and to ensure that you are in compliance with the statute and court rules regarding eviction.

I have obtained a judgment in an eviction proceeding, but my tenant has not left the premises. What do I need to do to get him out?

Assuming you have a judgment for eviction for non-payment and it has been served on the tenant, if the tenant fails to pay the amount due and does not otherwise obtain a stay of enforcement, you as a landlord may request an Order of Eviction which is sometimes referred to as a Writ of Restitution. This request is made by application which is incorporated in a form published by Michigan State Court Administrators Office (DC 107). Once the order has been signed by the judge, you must contact the court officer, who will then serve the order on the tenant. If the tenant fails to leave, the court officer will work with you to make arrangements for physical eviction. Once the tenant is evicted, you can change your locks and again assume full control over the property.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer. Contact him at (248) 644-4433 or visit [bmeisner@mich.com](mailto:bmeisner@mich.com). This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

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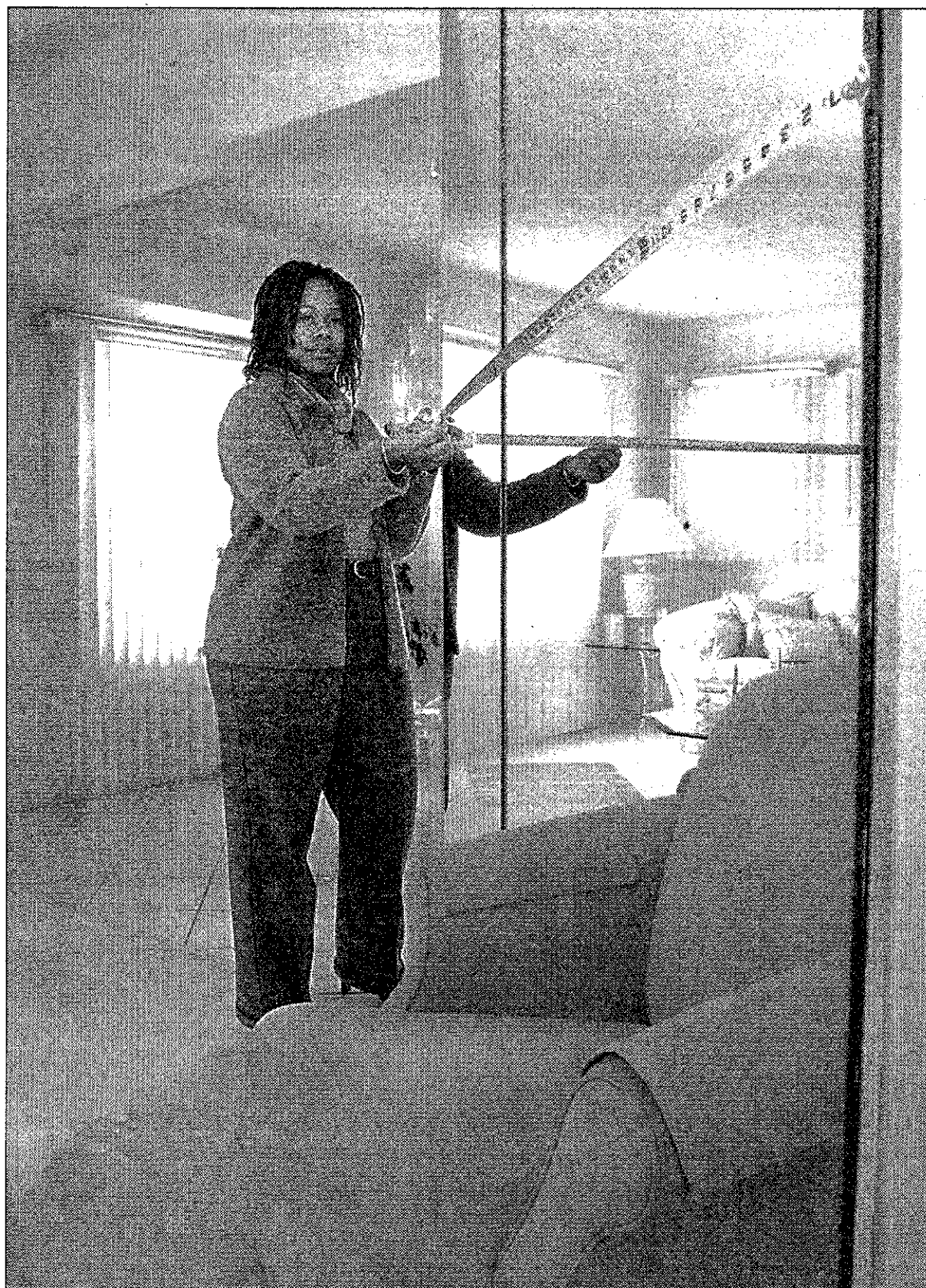
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**View the Observer & Eccentric Real Estate Classifieds on the Web:**

[www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)



Realtor Delora Clarke of Century 21 Elegant Homes measures the corner of a room.

# Feeling fit

## Make sure your new house can accommodate all your precious possessions

BY NORMAN PRADY  
 CORRESPONDENT

You know how you love grandma's china cabinet. The one she had in her 100-year-old house up North. Are you ready to give it up?

Well, you'd better get out the tape measure and see if it's going to fit into the dining room of the house you're looking at.

"If the furniture won't fit," said Realtor Delora Clarke, "everything depends on how important it is to them."

Clarke, Century 21 Elegant Homes, Southfield, asks her house-lookers to make lists of what they want to find when they walk through the doors of prospective new homes.

"Top of the list for some," she said, "is central air conditioning, a formal dining room, master bath in the master bedroom, a finished basement, a large yard.

"I've seen them pull out the

tapes and measure. If they like the house, they tend to place their furniture."

And if they like the house enough but grandma's cabinet doesn't fit in, it might end up in the basement.

"Most of the time," she said, "they're looking for a sound structure. 'Good bones.' Are there cracks? A lot of repairs to be done? Major work to be done? The heating system? Add central air? Replace windows? Will steam heat work for them?"

### FIRST IMPRESSION

At American Classic Realty, Livonia, broker/owner Brian Duggan said house-lookers get a first and important impression right at the front door.

"We tell our sellers about curb appeal, the front door and landscaping."

Once lookers are inside the house, Duggan said, he finds

men more focused on the mechanicals and women more interested in décor and conveniences.

"Men," Duggan said, "want to know about plumbing, heating, electrical, roof, windows, insulation and kitchen updates."

"Women are thinking about how it will be to live here." Duggan said he likes to hear lookers talking about placing their furniture, as if trying the house on for size and fit.

"A young woman said, 'oh, the Christmas tree will go right here.' I knew they were interested," he said.

But there also are lookers, Merle Solway said, who are like some persons who go to the car dealer's showroom just to kick the tires.

Solway, associate broker, Hannett, Wilson & Whitehouse, Birmingham, said, "The tire-kickers have no intention of buying."

"They go into open houses

or call Realtors just because they're curious. It keeps them up on the market. Or gives them something to do.

"I never mind calls or open-house visits from neighbors. They know the average values and they might have friends to come and look."

So the question lingers: What is it that lookers look at?

"Everybody's looking for something different," Solway said, "in terms of their lifestyle."

"I like couples to talk to me while they're looking," she said. "They'll whisper to each other or look at each other and I'll say, 'I beg your pardon.' Sometimes I can read the looks they give each other. Some lookers don't want to show their interest for fear of losing negotiating power."

"I showed a house where the owners were present and later said it was clear that the lookers hated it. They bought it."

## Mortgage Bits



Tim 'Timbo' Phillips

## Don't let debt rule

Financial planners, stock brokers, and mutual fund managers certainly play an important role in helping individuals manage their assets.

Many are truly experts at showing you how to "grow your money." However, their ability to help you create long-term wealth can be thwarted if they are not working in concert with experts in "debt management."

For years I have written about how asset managers cannot give their very best efforts without working in concert with debt managers. It seems like many are really getting the picture as I am getting a much higher number and percentage of phone calls from such asset managers - and families interested in having more assets to manage - than ever before.

### FIGHT IT

Huge debt loads stink. They create strife and stress. The problem is that debt has become a seemingly permanent part of our modern lives. Many Americans have become numb to it. Some have simply resolved to be in debt forever. Do not succumb to it - fight it!

Co-authors Thomas Stanley and William Danko wrote in their book, *The Millionaire Next Door: The Surprising Secrets of American's Wealthy*, that it's not asset management that makes America's most wealthy rich, it's their debt management.

If you have a long-term financial strategy, but have not yet befriended a debt manager, a sharp mortgage broker or savvy banker can usually fill that void. Ideally, he or she will work alongside your financial planner to multiply the planner's ability to grow your wealth by either selecting a loan product that perfectly fits your situation, or finding ways to totally eliminate your debts.

Like the other true professionals in your life, a small "tip" from your loan officer could yield huge results for your family. For example, something as simple as paying half your monthly mortgage amount every other week (free analysis at [www.EquityMultiplier.com](http://www.EquityMultiplier.com)) can shave seven to eight years off a thirty-year mortgage.

Whether you need to develop income from your home's equity or reduce your monthly mortgage obligation to preserve your cash flow, a good mortgage loan officer can be a real asset. Make the call. Don't let debt rule.

Timothy J. Phillips is a mortgage broker and newspaper columnist. You may access his archives at [www.HomeQuarters.Biz](http://www.HomeQuarters.Biz), and you may phone him toll-free at (866) 369-4516. Homebuyers should always consult a professional for guidance specific to their situation.

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Real Estate One.....	1F

For the Best Home Buys in your Hometown check the Sunday and Thursday Real Estate Section

## HOME Of The WEEK



**Midtown of Plymouth**  
 ... is home for 23 "new" barrier free ranch condos that are within walking distance to all that Downtown Plymouth has to offer. All 3 floor plans are spacious & open ++ each condo has a private deck or patio & all are beautifully appointed with crown moldings + wonderful granite "island" kitchens & new appliances. Additional amenities include assigned carport, exercise room & more. Very Attractively Priced!

Priced from \$134,500 (reduced from \$154,500)

**Call Mike & Mary Gladchun**  
**RE/MAX on the trail 734.459.1234**



These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real-estate closings recorded the weeks of Sept. 8-12 at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Table listing home sales with columns for address, sale price, and listing agent information.

www.DetroitMortgages.com

MORTGAGE RATE UPDATE

TERM RATE PTS. LOCK FEE\* APR\* TERM RATE PTS. LOCK FEE\* APR\* TERM RATE PTS. LOCK FEE\* APR\*

Grid of mortgage rates from various lenders including Group One Mortgage Co., Direct Mortgage Funding, Northlawn Financial, etc.

Rates/terms/apr current as of 1/19/04 may change without notice, or vary depending on loan size. Source: Midwest Mortgage Monitor, #Credit report/appraisal, \*APR based on \$150,000 loan amount, 15 day prepaid int.

Continuation of mortgage rate table with columns for lender, term, rate, and fees.

COLDWELL BANKER PREFERRED, REALTORS®

Real estate listings featuring images and descriptions of properties in various areas like Canton, Farmington, Westland, and Livonia.

Mortgage Financing advertisement with contact information for Coldwell Banker Mortgage, including phone numbers and website.

Footer with contact information for Coldwell Banker Preferred Realtors across different regions: Northville/Novi, Canton, Farmington, Westland/Garden City, Plymouth, and Livonia.

Real Estate Briefs features news and notes on professional associations, office activities, upcoming meetings and seminars, new services/products and consumer publications. Write: Real estate briefs, Attn: Keely Kaleski, Observer and Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Our fax number is (248) 644-1314. Our e-mail address is [kkaleski@oe.hometown.com](mailto:kkaleski@oe.hometown.com).

**Builder's pre-licensure class**

**Bloomfield Hills** Community Education, in cooperation with Oakland Builders Institute, will offer a 16-hour seminar for people who want to subcontract the construction of their own homes, real estate investors and developers, and building tradespeople who want to work legally in Michigan. It will teach math as well as blueprint reading. The seminar is scheduled 6-10 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, Jan. 26 to Feb. 4, at Andover High School, 4200 Andover Road in Bloomfield Hills. Cost is \$180, plus \$20 for the course textbook and sample questions. Pre-registration with payment is required no later than Thursday, Jan. 22, to Bloomfield Hills Community Education. To register, call (248) 433-0885.

**Home building**

**Birmingham** Community Education, in cooperation with Oakland Builders Institute, will offer a 16-hour seminar on Home Building: Protecting You and Your Money, 6-10 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, Jan. 26 to Feb. 4, at Berkshire Middle School, 21707 W. 14 Mile in Beverly Hills. Cost is \$180, plus \$30 for two textbooks. Pre-registration with payment is required by Thursday, Jan. 22, to Birmingham Community Education. Call (248) 203-3800.

**Home buyers seminar**

Atlantis Mortgage, with Deborah Johnson of RE/MAX Great Lakes, will host a free home buyers seminar 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27, at 26200 Lahser, Suite 330, in Southfield. To register, call (248) 553-4448.

**Basement remodeling**

Walled Lake Community Education, in cooperation with Oakland Builders Institute, will offer an eight-hour basement remodeling seminar 6-10 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, Feb. 2 and 4, at the Walled Lake Middle School, 46720 W. Pontiac Trail. The seminar is designed to help people make better use of valuable space in their homes by planning and completing a successful basement remodeling. The instructor, a licensed builder, will explain the many facets of the project - including planning, meeting building codes, insurance, permits, estimating materials, the basics of home construction, working with subcontractors, finishing techniques, and tying

into existing plumbing, electrical and heating systems.

Cost is \$99, plus a textbook fee of \$8.

Pre-registration with payment is required no later than Thursday, Jan. 29, to Walled Lake Community Education. To register, call (248) 956-5000 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday-Friday. For a free brochure and current schedule of courses taught by Oakland Builders Institute, call (800) 940-2014.

**Builder's pre-licensure**

Get the help you need to pass the Michigan state builder's license examination with a 16-hour comprehensive seminar offered by Waterford Community Education in cooperation with Oakland Builders Institute.

The seminar is scheduled 6-10 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, Feb. 2-11, at Manly Campus, 2989 Van Zandt Road.

The course is for those who want to subcontract the construction of their own homes, real estate investors and developers, and building tradespeople who want to work legally in Michigan. Cost is \$205, plus \$20 for the course textbook and sample questions. Pre-registration with payment is required no later than Thursday, Jan. 29, to Waterford Community Education Department. To register, call (248) 674-3145 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday-Friday.

The seminar will teach math as well as blueprint reading. The instructor has a builder's license and will answer questions related to home building.

For a free brochure and current schedule of courses taught by Oakland Builders Institute, call (800) 940-2014 or (248) 651-2771.

**Home building**

West Bloomfield Recreation and Enrichment Department, in cooperation with Oakland Builders Institute, will offer a comprehensive 16-hour seminar on Home Building: Protecting You and Your Money.

The seminar is scheduled 6-10 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Feb. 3-12, at West Bloomfield High School, 4925 Orchard Lake Road.

Know your rights and responsibilities as you embark on your biggest investment. The seminar offers information that can save you thousands of dollars and months of frustration. Whether you work alone or with a contractor, you'll learn how to avoid the common pitfalls that confront most new home builders.

The course will cover home financing, the building process, and builder's terms and contracts. The instructor, a licensed builder, will cover the basics of buying property, building codes and permits, getting bids for labor and materials, insurance require-

ments, and other topics.

Cost is \$180, plus \$30 to the instructor for two textbooks.

Pre-registration with payment is required by Friday, Jan. 30, to West Bloomfield Recreation and Enrichment Department. Call (248) 865-6633 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

**Interior decorating**

Take the guesswork out of decorating your home while learning the basics of good interior design with a new seminar presented by Oakland Builders Institute.

Interior Decorating: The Basics of Good Design will take place 7-9 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, Feb. 3 and 5, at Kettering High School, 2800 Kettering Drive.

The course will cover identifying and choosing furniture styles, as well as how to achieve harmony in a room design. Participants will learn how to design a room, including doing a furniture layout. Hands-on experience sketching an actual room plan for your home will be featured.

Whether you work with an interior designer or want to do it yourself, this course will give you the tools you need to succeed. The instructor is a graduate of New York's Sheffield School of Interior Design.

Cost is \$45. Registration is required by Friday, Jan. 30, to Waterford Community Education. Call (248) 674-3145 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday-Friday.

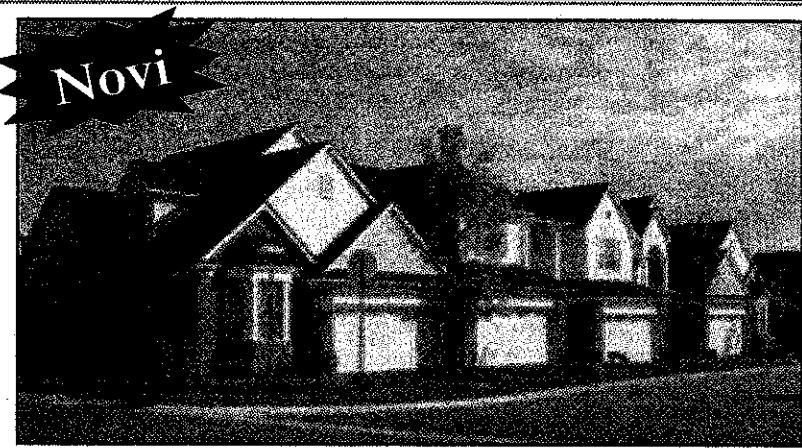
For a free brochure and current schedule of home- and building-related courses taught by Oakland Builders Institute, call (800) 940-2014 or (248) 651-2771.

**Scholarship contest**

RE/MAX of Southeastern Michigan announces its second annual "American Dream" scholarship program. It's open to high school seniors in Macomb, Oakland and Wayne Counties. Twenty students will be awarded a \$1,000 scholarship.

To apply, students must write a short essay on what the "American Dream" means to them and the role higher education plays in helping to achieve that dream. Essays and supporting materials will be judged on content, originality and creativity. The deadline for submitting applications is Sunday, Feb. 1.

For more information, or to obtain an entry form, contact Jeanette Schneider at (248) 644-6420, check on-line at [www.manyhouses.com](http://www.manyhouses.com), or visit any local RE/MAX office.



Novi

### Meadowbrook Townhome Condominiums

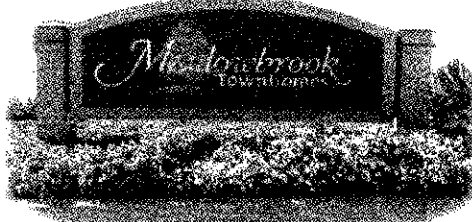
Conveniently located South of 13 Mile Road. West off Meadowbrook Road. Easy Access to M-5 and Twelve Oaks Mall.

Affordable Pricing Starting at \$229,900

Offering 12 distinct two story floor plans, a few with first floor master suites, 2 & 3 bedroom plans, ceramic baths, 9 ft. ceilings on main floor, first and second floor laundry rooms, full private basement with rough plumbing for bath, some daylight and walkout sites, 2 car garages, volume ceilings, walkout paths, and low maintenance fee. Walled Lake Schools.

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For additional information call 248-549-6900 • Brokers Welcome  
Model Hours are Saturday & Sunday 12:00-5:00 pm. Weekdays 1:00-5:00 pm (Closed Thursday).  
[www.meadowbrooktownhomes.info](http://www.meadowbrooktownhomes.info) or e-mail [jstockton1@aol.com](mailto:jstockton1@aol.com)



**DEARBORN HTS.** Come see this exceptionally maintained 3 bedroom ranch in fabulous Golfview Manor Sub. Hardwood floors thru-out, gorgeous kitchen w/oak cabinets & new appliances. 1 full bath & 2 half baths. New architectural shingles on home & garage, plus new gutters. Partially finished basement. \$179,900 (D51H1)



**CANTON.** Home completely updated w/new Andersen windows, professional landscaping, vinyl siding, roof, garage, paint, carpet, etc. Pristine hwd floors in entrance & bright, open kitchen. Home office has French door to spacious family room w/natural fireplace. Great neighbors & subdivision! \$289,000 (D12Dr)

**WESTLAND.** Super nice and neat well-maintained ranch in Westland. This 3 bedroom home is nestled in a quiet neighborhood and has a fenced back yard. The basement is partially finished and all appliances stay. This home is an Exceptional Value! \$120,000 (L53B1r)

**REDFORD.** 3 bedroom brick ranch was incredibly designed & great for families in South Redford's most desirable area. All bedrooms have double closets. Lg bathroom w/double sinks. Spacious LR & Kit w/new counter & stove. Fin bsmt w/rec room, 4th BR & 1/2 bath. Many updates. \$157,900 (L28Sem)

**LIVONIA** This one's ready & waiting and priced right for this lovely 3 bedroom colonial in N.W. Livonia. Updates include: windows, roof, furnace, C/A & appliances! Spacious bedrooms, finished basement, 1st floor laundry & all the amenities @ \$249,900. (L90Gab)

**DEARBORN HTS.** Beautiful spotless brick 3 BR bungalow w/great curb appeal & very well cared for. Loads of storage! Hwd firs under carpet, fin bsmt, wet plaster, cove ceilings, alum trim, 2 car gar. Updates include: new circuit box '03, copper plumb '04, windows '94, exterior doors. Home Warranty! \$134,900 (L66Gra)

**REDFORD.** Charming 3 bedroom brick ranch w/new roof, C/A, water heater, kitchen & windows. A large fenced yard w/huge beautiful deck attached to heated pool. This is a well maintained home w/hardwood floors, nice dining area, great landscaping, finished basement & garage. A Must See! Home Warranty! \$149,500 (L99Sio)

**DETROIT.** 3 BR, 1 bath brick 1.5 story bungalow w/all new updates - kit, bath, turn, plumbing & new carpet thru-out. Full bsmt. Natural friple in LR. Separate DR. Nice fenced yard. Must See! Good investment property! Motivated sellers! Make offer! \$79,900 (L53Fer)

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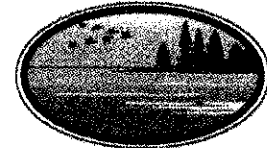
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- 1+ acre waterfront home sites, most with walkout lower levels on spectacular Maple Lake
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**Directions:** Take I-96 to the Milford Rd. exit and go north. Proceed on Milford Rd. for 1-1/10 mi. to Lakefield Pkwy. and turn left. The Preserve at Maple Lake is straight ahead.

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# Lender predicts housing market will remain strong

PRNewswire - What can we expect in real estate for this year? Is the real estate "bubble" going to burst or is the "bubble" just a myth? According to Colin Watson, president and co-founder of Mortgage Money Lenders, "If you're like most people, purchasing a home is the biggest investment you'll ever make. Since your home could cost you 25 to 40 percent of your gross income, you should be

aware of the complexity of the endeavor and the numerous factors to consider." Regardless of whether you're a first time buyer or a real estate professional, it's important to understand the big picture, recognize where you fit in, and how you can benefit. Colin Watson's Top 5 Real Estate Megatrend Predictions for 2004: ■ Real estate will remain strong in 2004. Despite the recovery of


the stock market and the overall upbeat economic news, investors will not bail from real estate. People who rode out the stock market slump by buying real estate have reaped the benefits and are not likely to abandon ship. Prices are rising because the demand is there. As the economy continues to recover, demand will only increase. ■ Multi-family dwellings will continue to

be a growth industry. The shortage of apartments will not be ameliorated in 2004, as demand continues to outpace new construction. Condominium and townhomes will remain strong as the cost of single family dwellings continues to rise. ■ The rediscovery of urban life. In the last decade or so, people have been venturing back into abandoned downtowns and neglected

older neighborhoods. Although artists and other avant garde have historically lead so-called gentrification movements, we are seeing more mainstream people moving into these areas. Weary of long commutes, remote subdivisions with few cultural amenities, and higher prices, these new urban pioneers are also motivated by a longing for community and the excitement of city living. ■ Wired communities.

With the growth of home offices, telecommuting, and high tech consumer products, new communities are incorporating fiber optic as well as wireless infrastructure into their building plans. The greater availability of broadband has spawned a culture of home theaters and sophisticated gadgets, and today's consumers expect their homes and neighborhoods to be ready to plug and play. ■ From hick to hip.


As once remote suburbs become subsumed into greater metropolitan areas, many home buyers are searching further from their urban epicenters for affordable housing and settling in small towns. Colin Watson is president and co-founder of Mortgage Money Lenders, based in Valencia, Calif. For more information, call (888) Heroes2Us or log onto www.loans4heroes.com.




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**LIVONIA \$174,900**  
A little touch of "Greenfield Village" describes this 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, vinyl sided Cape Cod in beautiful Rosedale Gardens sub. Stunning master bdrm w/computer rm. Formal DR. Oldie kitchen. Partly finished bsmt. Updates include: Steel entry & storm doors, vinyl windows w/o, copper plumbing.



**LIVONIA \$164,900**  
Gorgeous describes this excellent, 3 bdrm brick ranch. Pretty living rm w/lrg picture window. Beautiful updated kitchen w/oak cabinets, sink, counters & flooring. Updates: Bath fixtures, neutral carpet t/o, vinyl windows, gas furnace, copper plumb, elect service, newer roof shingles, glass block windows.




**WESTLAND \$84,900**  
Fantastic price on this clean & neat 3 bedroom, 2 full bath, 1st floor unit Condo w/corport. Newer carpeting in Living & Dining room. New vinyl doorwall to concrete patio. Kitchen w/ all appliances. Newer vinyl windows. Walking distance to Westland mall & restaurants. Great location. Must see.

## Mortgage rates low, affordable


BY JEANNINE AVERSA - ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

Mortgage rates around the country dropped this week to a six-month low. The average rate on 30-year mortgages declined to 5.66 percent, down from 5.87 percent last week, Freddie Mac, the mortgage giant, said Jan. 15 in its weekly nationwide survey of mortgage rates. This week's rate was the lowest since July 11 when the rate averaged 5.52 percent. Rates on 30-year mortgages have bounced around after sinking to a four-decade low of 5.21 percent in the middle of June. For 15-year mortgages, a popular option for refinancing, rates decreased to 4.97 percent this week - also the lowest since July 11 - and down from 5.17 percent last week. Rates for one-year adjustable mortgages also were down this week, averaging 3.62 percent compared to 3.76 percent last week. This week's rate was the lowest since July 18. The decline in mortgages rates comes as Wall Street investors and economists believe that a low inflation environment and a still-struggling job market are likely to cause Federal Reserve policy-makers to keep short-term interest rates near rockbottom levels for some time. Against that backdrop, "mortgage rates will remain low and affordable," predicted Freddie Mac economist Amy Crews Cutts. A year ago, rates on 30-year mortgages averaged 5.97 percent, 15-year mortgages were 5.36 percent and one-year adjustable mortgages stood at 4.03 percent.

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734-455-6000 85-SL-23129001 \$509,000



**SOUTH LYON**  
This stately executive home, located on a deep wooded lot in desirable golf course community, is tastefully decorated in soft contemporary colors and impeccably maintained. Professionally finished lower level.  
734-455-6000 61RO-23108576 \$494,000

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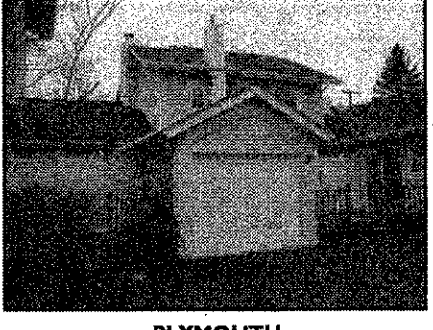
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West Bloomfield  
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734-455-6000 60AN-24001184 \$187,000

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**LIVONIA**  
NEWER 2 BED/1.5 BATH TOWNHOUSE W/ DEN. Well located in an interior building at Bell Creek Square, the end unit features an oak kit w/pantry & over-sink windows, liv rm w/gas fplc, hrdwd flrs, fin lower level, att & direct access gar. Very neutral and immaculate. (P62FAR) \$187,900



**LIVONIA**  
AFFORDABLE LIVONIA RANCH. 3 bedroom brick ranch with family room & fireplace. Neutral decor w/newer carpet. Year-round room - perfect for den. Basement, 2 car att. garage, fenced yard. Quiet location! (P83PAR) \$179,900



**PLYMOUTH**  
PRESTIGIOUS BEACON ESTATES Simply gorgeous, on nearly an acre! Some features incl skylit screened in porch, deep 3 car side entry garage, newer roof, windows, A/C, furnace, hrdwd flrs. The 3 baths have just been re-done. (P25BEA) \$397,500



**PLYMOUTH**  
POPULAR LAKE POINTE VILLAGE SUB Williamsburg colonial 1907 sq. ft. 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath w/rdwd flrs. Formal din rm. Large fenced backyard, 2 car attached garage. Estate sale. (P70CRE) \$245,000



**PLYMOUTH**  
OLD PLYMOUTH ARTS & CRAFTS BEAUTY! Designed and built by original owners. This never before offered home, is truly special. Step back in time and enjoy things as they were in a more relaxed world. Call for details. (P10ML) \$279,900



**PLYMOUTH**  
UPDATED PLYMOUTH HOME BACKS TO WOODS. Beautiful 4 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath colonial features Pella patio door to sun room. Andersen windows, oak kitchen, family room w/gas fireplace, ceramic foyer, hardwood floors. Nicely landscaped w/sprinklers. Prem lot backing to county park. (P28PAR) \$226,900



**CANTON**  
BEAUTIFUL CANTON COLONIAL. Glengary colonial stunning 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath classic! Pride of ownership is reflected throughout! (P77MID) \$369,900



**CANTON**  
THE BEST DEAL IN TOWN! Freshly painted 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath colonial home. Sits on a nice size lot w/lrg backyard. All bdrms are pleasing in size and have plenty of closet space. Master bdrm has his & her closets, cathedral ceiling, and mstr bath. (P87SAM) \$244,900



**FARMINGTON HILLS**  
FARMINGTON HILLS COLONIAL AVAILABLE! Colony Park sub. This beautiful home offers 4 bdrms, 2.5 baths, screened in porch, 1st flr Indry and natural fplc. Updates incl: paint, furnace, C/A, HWH and newer roof. (P56COL) \$329,500



**PLYMOUTH**  
4 BEDROOM RANCH! Seldom found 4 bdrm ranch w/2 full baths on the 1st flr. Nice open kit & FR. Brick nat fplc. Basement is partially fin. Newer roof, A/C, furnace & HWH. Patio, 2 car gar, and fenced yard-perfect for kids or pets! Bring offers. (P64HAM) \$209,900



**WESTLAND**  
KUBIC SUB RANCH W/LIVONIA SCHOOLS. Brick ranch, full basement, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, hardwood floors. Fenced yard, 2 car garage. Seller motivated. (P70DON) \$149,900



**WESTLAND**  
CUTE AS A BUTTON WESTLAND RANCH. Roomy 3 bedroom brick w/oversized fenced yard. Big 2 car garage w/opener. Newer steel entry doors and carpet. Lots of storage space and one year Home Warranty. Must see. (P23FER) \$121,900



# COLDWELL BANKER SCHWEITZER REAL ESTATE



<b>BELLEVILLE</b> Cape Cod. 3BR, 2.1BA, 1st flr master w/bath & WIC. LR w/nat FP, 1st flr laundry, island kit, DR w/doorwall access to deck. All appls stay. Prof. landscaping, sprinklers, pool. BGP-50Sad 888-870-9127	<b>BRIGHTON</b> Own your own lake. Come see this custom log home. Remodeled from '94 to '96. 13 acres w/10 acre lake unbelievable view from every lead glass window. Large rooms. Come see! (BGS20COW) 888-870-9131	<b>BRIGHTON</b> Gorgeous 3 br, 2 1/2 bath ranch. Glimpse of lake. Hardwood floors, built in china cabinet. Lrg family room in LL. Office/4th br in LL. Enclosed spa. Fenced in heated inground pool. Lake privileges. (BGS216RED) 888-870-9131	<b>CANTON</b> \$20,000 Less Than Originally Listed! Exceptional 4BR, 2.1BA Cape Cod. Prof landscaped backyard w/beautiful inground pool. Spac kit & nook opens to Great Rm w/vaulted clg, skylights & gas FP. 1st flr master. BGP-80Cha 888-870-9127	<b>CANTON</b> Best Buy!! On this 2 year old cape cod style condo with 2000 sq.ft., full basement, & 2 car garage in Plymouth-Canton school district. Loads of upgrades. (BGN21CHE) 888-870-9123	<b>CANTON</b> Better Than New! This 2 bdrm, 2 bath ranch unit was built in 2000 & is better than new. Offers 1st flr laundry, 2 car att. garage, full basement, deck & formal dining room. (BGN20CHE) 888-870-9123	<b>CANTON</b> 2 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath Brk Condo. Kit W/oak Cab. & All Appl. Dwall to Lg Deck overlooking Woods/Pond. Mstr Ste W/cath Cell, WIC & Jet Tub. Full Bsmt. 2 Car Gar. OEL76HOG 888-870-9105
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<b>CANTON</b> Great Price! Great Location! 2BR, 2BA condo on a pretty interior setting. Spac white-bright kit (appls incl). Lux mstr br w/vaulted clg, jac tub & fash bath. Two-way gas FP. Int to be painted 8/03. BGP-24Cop 888-870-9127	<b>CANTON</b> Looks New! 2 Vbedroom condo features hardwood floors in entry & kitchen, new carpet, freshly painted. Large master bedroom, attached garage w/opener. Part finished basement. BGP-43Yor 888-870-9127	<b>CARLTON</b> Beaut 3 Bdrm, 2 Bath Ranch. LR & DR W/ig Pict Wind. Crestline Dbl Hung Wind T/O. Stove & Refrig Inc. 1st Flr Laundry, Full Bsmt W/ Gls Blk Wind. 2.5 Car Gar. OEL15MAT 888-870-9105	<b>DEARBORN</b> 4 Bdrm Bungalow Has Newer Oak Kitchen & Counterspace, Formal DR W/anderson Bay Window, Beautiful FR w/FP. Wood Crown Moldings. Refin Hwd Floors On 2nd Flr. Appliances Included. OEL00DET 888-870-9105	<b>FARMINGTON HILLS</b> Sharp Farmington Hills Condo! Tons of upgrades, finished walk-out basement, backs to woodlands, 1st floor master suite, skylights, huge deck, & paver patio. (BGN80RIV) 888-870-9123	<b>FARMINGTON HILLS</b> Great 4 br, Family Colonial! In popular Lincolnshire! Backs to school play area, large family room, rec. room w/wet bar, lots of storage, everywhere! Patio w/awning! Great value! (BGN27LYN) 888-870-9123	<b>FARMINGTON HILLS</b> Farmington Hills Brick Colonial! 3 bdrm, formal living & dining rooms. Cozy family room w/frpl. Large eat-in kitchen w/doorwall to deck. Prof. landscape w/sprinklers, 2 car garage & bsmt. (BGN49BUN) 888-870-9123
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<b>HOWELL</b> Better than new! Upper end unit w/ attached garage. 2 generous bdrms. Kit. has oak cab, snack bar, washer/dryer on main fl. Water bill included in assoc. fee. Convenient to everything. (BGS214KIR) 888-870-9131	<b>INKSTER</b> Beautiful well maintained. 4 bedroom, 2 bath, brick bungalow. NE Inkster, 2 1/2 car garage. Finished basement. New Kitchen, newer windows. Freshly painted w/ newer carpet. (BGS213SHE) 888-870-9131	<b>LIVONIA</b> Classic colonial. Large den, eat-in kit w/view of the back yard-lam rm has cath ceiling w/slider to deck. Mbr suite has w/ closet. Seller is motivated. Refrig nego. (BGS210BRE) 888-870-9131	<b>LIVONIA</b> Your Private Resort! 3 Bdrm, 2 Full Bath, Brick Cape Cod. LR W/rpl. Kitchen W/ceramic Flr, Island, Oak Cabinets & Appliances. Lg FR. 1/2 acrea lot W/Ball Ct. 1st Flr Laundry. OEL21GRA 888-870-9105	<b>LIVONIA</b> This One is A 10! Truly exceptional 3 BR, 1.1 BA brick ranch. Updated kit w/Merrillatt cbnts. Refinished HDWD flrs in mstr, liv rm, fam rm & hall. Updated powder rm. Pella wndws & doorwall. BGP-55Sum 888-870-9127	<b>LIVONIA</b> Lovely 3 br, 1.5 bath brick ranch. Immed. occup! Move in condition! Dining area has doorwall leading to paved patio. 2 car insulated garage. Lrg. carpeted basement. All appliances stay. Fenced in yard. (BGS212MID) 888-870-9131	<b>LIVONIA</b> All Brick 3br, 2 ba Ranch! W/ 1000+ sq.ft. & Livonia Schools! Updates include: new kit, windows, roof, AC, both baths, & ceramic tiling. Great fin. bsmt w/ ba & rec rm. 2.5 car gar & spacious deck. (BGN28MAY) 888-870-9123
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<b>LIVONIA</b> Well Maintained Home! This well maintained home has 3 br, 1.5 baths, a 3-season rm, finished bsmt & 2.5 car garage. Close to schools, parks & shopping. Home warranty provided. (BGN21BRE) 888-870-9123	<b>LIVONIA</b> Each Bdrm Has It's Own Full Private Bath. Half Bath On Entry Level. Oak Kitchen W/applincs. Freshly Painted, New Roof. 1st Flr Laund. 2 Bay Wind. Priv. bsmt. OEL82MER 888-870-9105	<b>LIVONIA</b> 3 Bdrms, 1 1/2 Bath, Hwdw Flrs, Remod Oak Kit W/ Blast Bar, Newer Roof, Deck, Patio, Paver Brk Walk. 2 Car Gar & Part Fin Bsmt. Kit Appl. New Gls Blk Wind. OEL04WES 888-870-9105	<b>LIVONIA</b> Condo W/courtyard View Of Pond & Trees. Hrdw Flrs. Updates: Newer Crpt. & Bthm. Freshly Painted T/O. Updated Elect. Bsmt W/game Room. Locked Storage. OEL01FIV 888-870-9105	<b>MILFORD</b> Super open floor plan on this ranch in Milford. All appl. stay. 1st flr laundry. 3rd bdrm in finished lower level. Lrg fenced backyard w/deck. Finished basement has rec rm 24X18 & office. C/A & two car garage. (BGS215OAK) 888-870-9131	<b>NOVI</b> In A Perfect Location! 3BR, 1.1BA popular Lakewood Park condo in private wooded setting. Lg Liv Rm & formal Din Rm. Master w/ oversized closet. Kit-Fam Rm overlooks deck & wooded backyard. BGP-19VII 888-870-9127	<b>PLYMOUTH</b> Historic Timepiece In The Heart Of Downtown. Exquisitely Decorated, Remod & Updated. Carriage Hse Feat 2 Stes, ea W/priv Entrn, Sep Bath W/poolbth, FP & Balc. 7 Brs (6 W/priv Bath). 3rd Flr Mstr Ste Feat. Currently Oper As B&B. OEL32PEN 888-870-9105
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<b>PLYMOUTH</b> Perfect Court Location! Stunning 4 BR, 4.5BA, formal LR w/FP, dual staircases & library w/built-ins. Spacious kit w/Island opens to FR w/FP & access to yard w/paver patio & spa. Prof fin LL. BGP-07Whi 888-870-9127	<b>PLYMOUTH</b> New Affordable Construction in Plymouth! On small lake w/ stonecast FP, cherry cbnt, granite cntrs. Custom milds & trim. Brazilian hwdw flrs. Ceramic BA & laundry. 4BR, 2.5BA, daylight bsmt. BGP-00Eim 888-870-9127	<b>PLYMOUTH</b> Be one with Nature on 2.6 Wooded Acres! Huge kitchen & informal dining room. Lrg great room w/cozy fireplace. Andersen windows, new siding, many upgrades. Hurry on this beauty. (BGN64MAR) 888-870-9123	<b>PLYMOUTH</b> Secluded Elegance... on private treed lot. Soaring clgs in GR & DR. Gourmet kit w/Corian & huge island. Cozy den, lux mstr bdrm/ bath, guest rm w/priv bath. Cedar deck to admire woods. BGP-65Arb 888-870-9127	<b>PLYMOUTH</b> Hurry To This Exceptional Cape Cod! Seller has over \$91,000 in recent updates. 4 BR, 2 BA brick cape cod. \$35,000 in Kitchens By Stella w/cherry cbnts & granite cntrops. Liv rm w/nat or gas FP. Lots More! BGP-01Art 888-870-9127	<b>PLYMOUTH</b> Country Setting... Close to all conveniences. 3BR brick ranch. Updated kit. Huge FR w/brick FP. LR also has a FP. Attached 2 car garage. Nice patio and lg front porch. Walk to golf course. BGP-16Nic 888-870-9127	<b>PLYMOUTH</b> A Rare Find! A ranch in charming Woodbrook. Towering trees, winding streets. Close enough to walk to town! Great floor plan. Gracious foyer w/slate flr. 2 full BA. FR w/FP. 2 car gar. BGP-78Cha 888-870-9127
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<b>PLYMOUTH</b> Holiday Shopping? Fabulous Home w/ceramic tile foyer, updated kitchen open to living, finished lower level, hwdw in all bdrms, 2.5 car garage, huge fenced yard. WOW! (BGN49SP1) 888-870-9123	<b>REDFORD</b> Sweet 3 br, 1 Bath Brick Ranch. Open Floor Plan W/Lg Eat-in Kitchen. Updates: Furnace & HWH, Windows, Doors Int & ext, Bthm, Vinyl Gate & Garage. OEL64ROY 888-870-9105	<b>REDFORD</b> Wow what a deal! Great value for golf course view, 2 car attached garage with direct access, knotty pine family room, hardwood flooring, corner private lot on quiet street. (BGS211BRA) 888-870-9131	<b>REDFORD</b> Redford Bungalow. Many Updates. 3 Bdrm Vinyl Sided Bung. Kit W/all App. Formal DR. Newer Cop Plumb. Hi-eff Furn & C/A & Roof. Bsmt W/Glass Blk Wind. One Year Home Warranty. OEL31KEE 888-870-9105	<b>SOUTH LYON</b> Charming! Quality custom built home. Mstr suite- sunken mstr bth. Plenty of quality cabinetry in kit w/ island. Study on lower level w/ first flr lau. 3 car garage. Priced to sell. (BGS2179CAL) 888-870-9131	<b>SOUTH LYON</b> Impressive colonial w/1500 sq ft., 3 BRS w/custom closets, 1.5 baths, Island kitchen, spacious eating area w/gas fireplace, private patio, 2 car garage. Beautiful landscaping, many upgrades. (BGS21YSTR) 888-870-9131	<b>SOUTH LYON</b> Indian Wells. Raised Ranch. Updates inc. Carpet, Paint, Cer Tile In Foyer, Bath, Kthn, C/A. 1998 Bit 2.5 Car Gar W/ig 2nd Story Storage. OEL12WEN 888-870-9105
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<b>SOUTH LYON</b> Clean and well maintained updated Co-op 55+! Nice open floor plan! Newer kitchen, newer carpet, freshly painted. Basement offers 3rd bedroom and family room! (BGS2126FRA) 888-870-9131	<b>WAYNE</b> Absolutely Gorgeous! Better than new, this home has it all-huge kitchen w/oak cabinets & center island, dining rm w/cathedral ceilings, family rm w/frpl. Truly a must see. (BGN23TAN) 888-870-9123	<b>WAYNE</b> Updated t/o w/Neutral Decor. Lower Bedroom Currently Used As Office. Roof 3 Years; Furnace & A/C 4 Years. Windows Newer. Some Exclusions. Home Backs To Common Woods. OEL31MEA 888-870-9105	<b>WEST BLOOMFIELD</b> Magnificent Colonial! Sits High on the Hill! For a private retreat. This 4 bdrm brick colonial has a lot to offer-formal dining room, full finished bsmt, multi-tiered wet bar. (BGN80PON) 888-870-9123	<b>WESTLAND</b> Spacious Cape Cod on Premium Lot! 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath, basement & lovely deck w/beautiful wooded view of wetlands. Neutral decor plus extra insulation make for quiet atmosphere. (BGN84RAV) 888-870-9123	<b>WESTLAND</b> Move In Condition Colonial! With 4bdrm, 3 bath, 3+ car garage. Many updates. Large family room w/wood burning fireplace. Motivated seller! Immediate Occupancy! (BGN02HAZ) 888-870-9123	<b>WIXOM</b> Indian Wells. Raised Ranch. Updates inc. Carpet, Paint, Cer Tile In Foyer, Bath, Kthn, C/A. 1998 Bit 2.5 Car Gar W/ig 2nd Story Storage. OEL12WEN 888-870-9105
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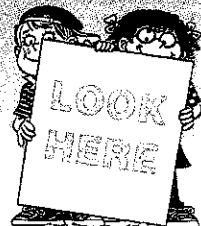
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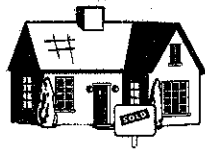
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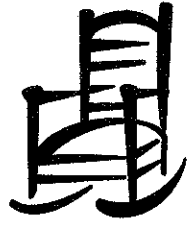
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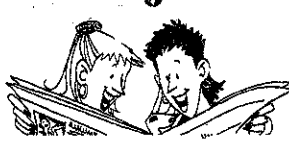
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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 22, 2004

## The 2004 Suzuki Forenza

Advertising Feature

### Thursday DriveTime



BY DALE BUSS

Suzuki, General Motors' closest Japanese partner, has been laying plans to triple its sales in the U.S. market through mid-decade. It's been difficult for the relatively generic auto maker to stand out in an increasingly crowded market. But Suzuki has planned to introduce nine new vehicles to the American marketplace to serve as the basis of its big sales push.

In Forenza, the 2004 version of which I drove, Suzuki doesn't have a vehicle that will contribute very much to that initiative. It's a mid-dling little sedan on just about every front. And while I especially like the smooth shifting in the manual-transmission version, I'm not sure Forenza has enough of anything in particular to stand out in what remains a very crowded economy-car field. What it does have that always helps merit purchase consideration for any new vehicle, however, is an attractive price: suggested retail of just \$14,400 for the mid-level LX model. It's not that Suzuki isn't capable of executing a new vehicle with some differentiating pizzazz. Its new Aerio sedan has exactly that, with nifty "tall-car" styling that creates extra roominess, a hatchback version that also makes a styling statement, available all-wheel drive and a powerful four-cylinder engine.

But alas, the same sorts of things can't be said for Forenza. The other Suzuki that was introduced at the 2003 Chicago Auto Show (along with Aerio), Forenza is essentially a replacement for the Daewoo Nubira, which was sold in the United States from 1999 through 2002. And benefiting from GM's purchase of the Korean Daewoo Motor Co., Suzuki actually is having Forenza built in Korea.

Externally, Forenza is nicely designed, well within the general template of most economy sedans these days - but isn't anything special. Features



Forenza is mileage rated at 24 mpg city and 31 on the highway.

include body-color bumpers and door handles even in the base model, which is nice. The LX version I drove also came with fog lights, alloy wheels, a power-tilt and -slide sunroof and remote keyless entry.

It's under the hood, however, where Forenza actually suffers most by comparison even with many of its competitors: The car seems a bit underpowered. It comes with only one engine, a 16-valve, dual-overhead-cam, inline four-cylinder that generates just 119 horsepower. A five-speed manual transmission is standard up through the LX model, while a four-speed automatic is standard on the top-level EX and optional on the other trim levels.

With that little giddyap, it's simply impossible for the Forenza to notch quick acceleration, although the supply of torque is adequate to allow drivers to get around in routine applications with relative ease. Mileage is rated at 24 mpg in the city and 31 on the highway for the manual gearbox and 22 and 30 mpg, respectively, for the automatic transmission.

However, I did very much like the performance of the manual transmission in the Forenza EX. I found shifting from gear to gear very smooth and

the ratios highly appropriate to deliver as much punch as possible from the output-challenged engine. Overall, the transmission was much smoother than for some luxury cars I've driven recently. That's a nice plus.

Suzuki has made a big deal of the fact that it is executed with European-inspired styling penned by Italian designer Pininfarina, but any sort of flair isn't much more evident inside than it is outside. Forenza does have plenty of metallic-looking accents throughout the cabin. And there are several features not normally found on a car in this price range, including cabin-air filtration and an eight-speaker stereo with audio controls mounted on the steering wheel. Other features include a leather-wrapped steering wheel and shift knob in the LX version I drove.

In the rear, shoulder and leg room are among the strongest features of this small car. There's also a fold-down center armrest, and the rear seat offers a 60/40-split folding arrangement.

All in all, Forenza is serviceable. But for just a few hundred dollars more, you can get yourself in its cousin, the more exciting Suzuki Aerio.

Write Dale at [daledbuss@aol.com](mailto:daledbuss@aol.com).

OE09101239

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#### 2004 TAURUS SE

Silver frost clearcoat met, medium graphite cloth, air cond., depower rstrnt sys-pass a bag, 5-spk painted alum wheels, remote keyless entry, speed control, rear def., 3.0L 2V 6-cyl engine, auto overdrive trans, P215/60RX16 all season tire, rear spoiler, 5-pass w/tr console fir shft. Stock #40890 WAS \$21,360

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#### 2003 THUNDERBIRD

Removable top, heated driver & pass seat, leather wrapped steering wheel, AM/FM stereo in-dash CD, 17" 7 spoke chrome cast alum, audiophile sound sys, 3.9L DOHC V8 eng, 5-sp auto trans, P235/50VR17 BSW tires. [Stock #32825] WAS \$41,015

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#### 2003 CLEARANCE SALE

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Premium sport, convenience group, air, manual, AM/FM stereo w/single CC/cass, corrfort group, power windows/locks/auto lock, 4.0L SOGC V6 eng, 5-sp auto O/D trans., P235/70R16 AS OWL tires, 3.73 limited slip axle. [Stock #32821] WAS \$26,440

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#### 2004 FREESTAR SE

Spruce green cc met, pebble cloth, 3.54 Ratio reg. axle, man right hand/left hand door, speed control, air cond, 2nd/3rd row privacy glass, 3.9L OHV EFI engine, 4 spd auto o/d trans, P225/60R-16 BSW all season, crossbars, rear cargo net, elec AM/FM ster/disc/cass, clk, smokers package, power driver seat. Stock #41001 WAS \$27,510

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#### 2003 MUSTANG GT

4.6L 2V SOHC engine, auto O/D trans, rear spoiler, single wing seat, power driver's seat speed control, air, ABS traction control, CD audio system, 17" 5-spoke bright wheels and more. [Stock #34586] WAS \$28,080

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[Stock #32510] WAS \$37,314

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#### 2003 MUSTANG GT

Rear spoiler, single wing seat, power driver's seat, speed control, ABS eye/traction control, air, 6 CD changer, w/mach wheels, 17" prem. alloy, 4.6L 2V Sohc V-8 eng, auto overdrive trans., P245/45ZR17 BSW tires, black convertible roof, interior upgrade package, corn, dust boot cover wheels [Stock #34539] WAS \$31,490

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#### 2003 RANGER S.C.

Speed control/ilt strg whl, leather wrap steering wheel, power window/lock group remote keyless entry, XLT appearance group, optional equipment, 4.0L SOHC V6 engine, 5-sp auto O/D trans, P225 OWL A/season tires 3.55 ratio limited slip axle, job #2 order [Stock #34873] WAS \$23,120

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LIVONIA - Wooded Creekside studio 2 bed house, \$375, \$535+ utilities. Appliances, Pet fee. 248-356-7719. MADISON HEIGHTS Lamphere Schools, 3 bed, 1 bath, bsmt, 2.5 car garage, (248) 890-9922

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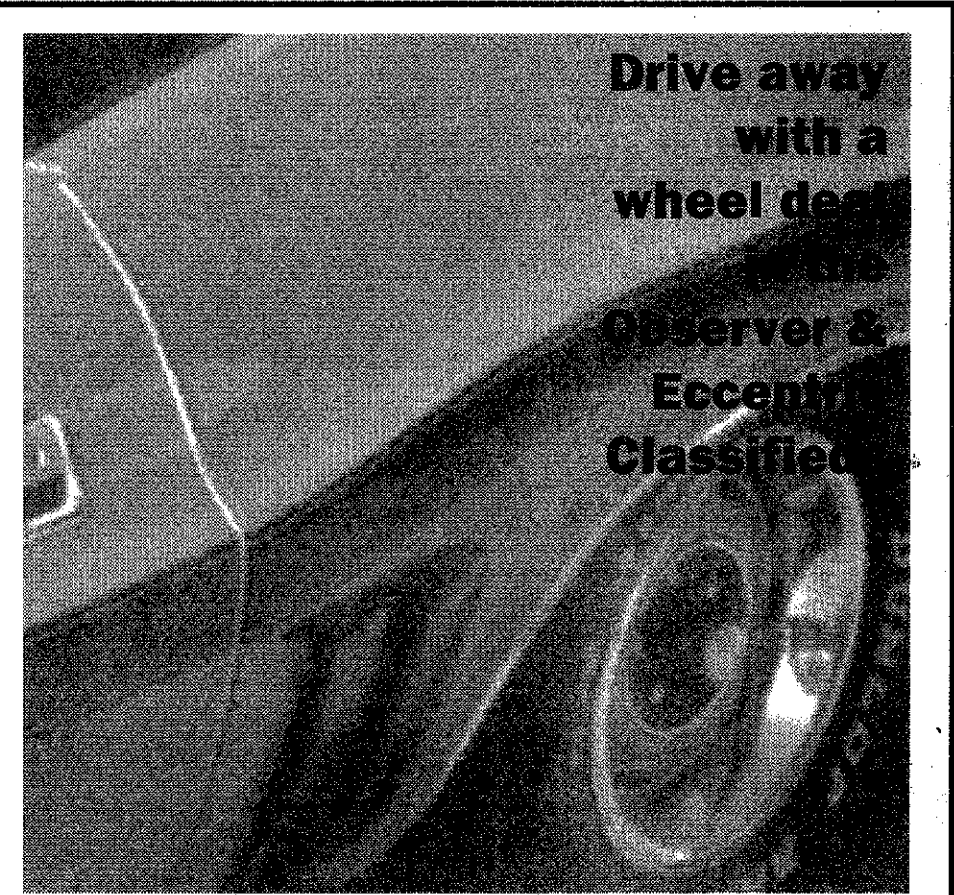
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PT CRUISER 2001 chromes, moon, only \$8,995. Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740	ESCORT-1997 LX Auto, air, 46k, fm cassette, exc. cond. \$3,600/best. (248) 486-3998
PT CRUISER 2001 silver, just 3,000 miles, loaded, \$12,980. JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900	FOCUS 2000 Station Wagon, loaded, very clean, \$7,995. Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740
Dodge 8440	FOCUS 2000 ZTS, leather, much more, only \$6,995. Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740
INTREPID 1999 ES, dual power, loaded, \$6,488. Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740	FOCUS'S 2003 (12) 4 dr's, 2 dr's, SE & ZX3, low miles!! From \$8,590. DEMMER FORD (734) 721-2600
INTREPID, 1999, 99K miles, new tires & brakes, black \$4,200/best. 248-646-1075	MUSTANG 1999 yellow, loaded, V6, 5 speed, 29K, super clean. \$9500/best. 734-397-8662
NEON SPORT 1998 35K Silver, sunroof, new tires/brakes & 6 mo. on warranty. \$4,900. 734 728-0097	MUSTANG 2000 GT - dark red, 4.6L, manual, 26K miles, loaded, excellent cond., \$14,300 (734) 394-1655
STRATUS 1998 - ES, Auto, A/C, loaded, 40K mi., exc. cond. \$5,450. (248) 646-6986	MUSTANG 2001 Cobra, only 1,157 miles, \$24,990. DEMMER FORD (734) 721-2600
Ford 8480	MUSTANG 2001 GT convertible, mint cond., loaded, low mi. \$16,200. (810) 220-1481
CROWN VICTORIA 2003 "Police pkg" full light pkg., \$22,990. DEMMER FORD (734) 721-2600	MUSTANG 2002 Convertible's (3) low miles, leather, auto, CD, loaded, from \$12,990. DEMMER FORD (734) 721-2600
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# Observer & Eccentric Automotive

<b>Ford</b> 8480	<b>Honda</b> 8520	<b>Honda</b> 8520	<b>Lexus</b> 8540	<b>Mercury</b> 8600
TAURUS 1999 SE, 4 dr, 6 cyl, auto, power, very clean, SOLD	ACCORD 2000 LX 4 dr., extra clean, only \$7,995. Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740	INSIGHT 2002 hybrid, 50 mpg, dark gray metallic, auto, air, just 2,000 miles, \$12,980. JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900	Enter to Win "Meet & Greet" Tickets To Sesame Street Live!	COUGAR 1999 Black, clean, CD, all power, V6, 58K miles. \$6,500. 734-513-2435
TAURUS 2003 (3) SES 4 dr., 24V, moon, leather, from \$13,990. DEMMER FORD (734) 721-2600	ACCORD 2000 Mint, dealer maintained. 80K hwy miles. \$9,900. (248) 789-9007	ELANTRA 2002 - auto, air, very low miles. TYME does it again, only \$4,399. TYME AUTO (734) 455-5566		GRAND MARQUIS 1999 35K, exc. cond, moonroof, senior owned \$11,900 248-735-2597
TAURUS 2003 SES 4 dr's, (6) loaded, only 7,000-11,000 miles! From \$11,990. DEMMER FORD (734) 721-2600	ACCORD 2001 EX 4 dr., low miles, black beauty, \$14,988. TAMAROFF 248-353-1300	JAGUAR 2001 S-Type, black, 4.0L, leather, 25K, \$26,990. DEMMER FORD (734) 721-2600	GRAND MARQUIS 2003 LS 4 dr's, (3) leather, \$16,990. DEMMER FORD (734) 721-2600	MYSTIQUE 1998 LS - Green, V6, manual, 4 door, 64K miles, loaded, clean, \$5,200. (734) 394-1655
TAURUS 2003 SES Wagon, 3rd seat, loaded, \$14,490. DEMMER FORD (734) 721-2600	ACCORD SE 2000 - 4 cyl, Auto, Green, 4-dr., A/C, cruise, ABS, CD, Dealer maintained, 54,000 hwy miles, 34 mpg. \$11,500. (248) 408-8018	GRAND CHEROKEE 2000 Laredo 4x4, silver, all factory options, \$13,995. Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740	Sable 2000 LS - loaded, moonroof, show room condition, must sell, (248) 473-8428	Sable 2003 LS premium's (3) leather, moon, 24V, from \$13,990. DEMMER FORD (734) 721-2600
TAURUS/SABLE'S 2002 (6) low miles, loaded, from \$9,990. DEMMER FORD (734) 721-2600	THUNDERBIRD 1995 LX V8, metallic white, remote starter, loaded, exc. cond., new tires. \$2750/best. 734 397-0263	CIVIC 2001 EX 4 dr., Honda Certified, \$11,988. TAMAROFF 248-353-1300	Lincoln 8560	Nissan 8620
CIVIC 2001 EX 2 dr., Honda Certified, \$11,588. TAMAROFF 248-353-1300	CIVIC 2001 EX 4 dr., Honda Certified, \$11,988. TAMAROFF 248-353-1300	CIVIC 2002 LX, \$11,988. TAMAROFF 248-353-1300	CONTINENTAL 1992 Dark green, exc. cond. 52K, \$3,800. 248-765-7930	ALTIMA 2000 GXE 4 dr., auto, air, \$9,988. TAMAROFF 248-353-1300
MAZDA 1999 626 ES, auto, air, sharp, \$8,388. TAMAROFF 248-353-1300	LIBERTY 2002 Limited, white w/tan leather, 26K, \$17,888. Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740		LS 2001 moon, 5 speed, 22K, \$18,590. DEMMER FORD (734) 721-2600	LS 2003 double black, moon, loaded, \$24,990. DEMMER FORD (734) 721-2600

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