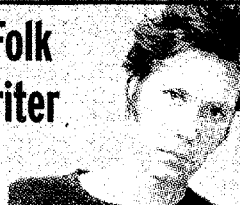


**More Inside**

OPINION .....A10-11  
 RICK BLOOM'S MONEY MATTERS .....A12  
 ON NATURE .....A16  
 DICK PURTAN .....D1

**Celebrate the Ann Arbor Folk Fest with eclectic songwriter Rufus Wainwright - FILTER**

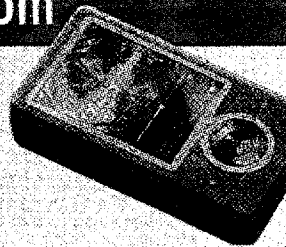


**Guv needs to hear from you on fixes for state finances**

OUR VIEWS - A10

**Put your tunes on a Microsoft Zune**

TECH SAVVY - D1



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## 70 township jobs among Pfizer cutbacks

BY BRAD KADRICH  
 STAFF WRITER

While big-picture theorists look at the effect of the announcement Monday that Pfizer will close three facilities in Michigan, the impact hit a little closer to home for employees at the pharmaceutical giant's Plymouth Township plant.

Some 70 local employees at the Esperion research facility in the township are among some 2,400 jobs Pfizer announced it will cut by the end of 2008.

"Pfizer recently completed a six-

month review of its operations worldwide, with a focus on reorganizing the company in a way that streamlines the way we work and reduces costs, while focusing our research and development even more tightly on science," Pfizer spokesman Rick Chambers said. "It became clear we would have to make very difficult decisions to close five R&D sites around the world by the end of 2008, and one of them is the one in Plymouth Township."

The Plymouth Township facility is a biotech operation, acquired by Pfizer in 2004 and specializing in potential cardiovascular compounds. Plymouth

Township Supervisor Richard Reaume called the closing of the facility "sad."

"This is a state where we're trying to find jobs any way we can," Reaume said. "It's tough enough the auto industry is hurt by economics and that they're cutting positions. Here we have a drug company making millions of dollars closing facilities in Michigan. This begs the question, did something happen between the state government and Pfizer, or did Michigan just happen to be unlucky, as a spokesperson for Pfizer was quoted saying?" Chambers said the company is

looking at several options for the 70 employees at the township facility, including possibilities at other Pfizer sites and separation benefits for employees who leave the company.

He said the company is also looking at other options for the facility itself, including possibly selling it.

"We're not looking to reduce our R&D budget, we're looking to reinvest it," Chambers said. "Any savings we see due to site closings will be reinvested into scientific endeavors."

Reaume is worried the closing could affect an "already-soft" housing market in the area.

"Plymouth Township is one of the most aggressive communities in southeast Michigan providing tax incentives and a high quality of living trying to attract jobs," Reaume said. "Immediately, we're going to lose tax revenue. (But) The jobs in Plymouth Township could have been held by township residents. If they're forced to move out of state, that weakens an already-soft housing market. I'm trying to protect the single largest investment most of our residents have, and that's their homes."

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

## Passport business picks up

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
 STAFF WRITER

Business for passports is brisk at Plymouth City Hall and the Beck Road post office as new rules that went into effect Tuesday now require air travelers arriving from Canada, Mexico and Caribbean nations to have passports to enter the United States.

That means anyone flying to Mexico for a warm-weather vacation or to Toronto for a weekend getaway must have a passport to re-enter the country.

Plymouth Clerk Linda Langnesser was one of the first city clerks in the region to process passport applications after receiving training in 2001.

"We've had a real influx of people coming in the last couple of weeks," Langnesser said. "I don't know if it will continue, but it's been very busy. I'm anticipating that it will pick up because of the deadlines requiring people traveling abroad to have passports to get back into the country."

The requirement is part of a post-9/11 crackdown to improve security at U.S. borders. Sometime next year, those that travel by land and sea will also be required to have a passport. That will mean a trip across the U.S.-Canadian border from Detroit to Windsor, or Port Huron to Sarnia, Ontario — which now only requires a birth certificate or driver's license — will call for a passport to re-enter the U.S.

U.S. citizens who don't have a passport won't be denied re-entry, but they will have delays as border security officers confirm their residency.

"We've probably gotten a dozen applications a day the last couple of weeks," said Connie Bottema, a clerk at the Beck Road post office in Plymouth Township, where applications can also be processed. "I think, with the new rules, it will stay pretty brisk."

PLEASE SEE PASSPORTS, A5



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



### Icy fun

Above, Jim and Lisa Hackett, with daughter Annalisa, 2½ years old, enjoyed the sculptures while visiting the Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular Saturday. Left, the Happy Feet frozen penguins attract a crowd.

Far left, Ryan Schrieber of Livonia works on one of a grouping of ice cartoon characters. His carving is the Tasmanian Devil.

For more on the festival, please turn to page A4.

## District happy / about MEAPs

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
 STAFF WRITER

Plymouth-Canton Schools administrators are celebrating success as students in grades 3 through 9 exceeded state averages in all 28 categories of the MEAP tests taken last fall.

When comparing how Plymouth-Canton students did last year as compared to district scores in 2005, pupils who scored proficient — at levels 1 and 2 — increased in 24 of the 28 tests.

The most significant changes — both up and down — were in writing. The number of third-graders who scored at levels 1 and 2 jumped 10 points to 59 percent, which compared to a statewide average of 52 percent. There was a decrease in fourth-grade writing to 50 percent, compared to 59 percent the previous year. That was still above the state average of 45 percent, which was down 10 percent from 2005. District officials point out those fourth-grade students are the same students who scored below the state average in writing as third-graders.

Two-percent decreases were recorded in sixth-grade social studies and eighth-grade science. Sixth-grade writing remained the same at 85 percent. A number of areas showed 4- and 5-percent increases.

"The board of education has made it very clear that student achievement is a top priority," said Jim Ryan, P-CCS superintendent. "They not only say we will measure it, but show improvement, and get better every year."

"Our staff has stepped up to the plate," he added. "Our teachers, from elementary to high school, have a really strong idea on how to teach things. Everything we do has a purpose, and teachers are making it happen in the classroom."

Terri Kolakowski, a fourth-grade teacher at Allen

PLEASE SEE MEAP, A8

## Canton man unhurt after ramming train

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
 STAFF WRITER

A 63-year-old Canton Township man miraculously walked away without injuries after crashing his car into a moving freight train shortly before 1 a.m. Wednesday morning in downtown Plymouth.

Ronald Berglund was arrested for drunk driving, was arraigned by video in 35th District Court in

Plymouth and then was released on bond.

"(Berglund) was driving southbound on Main Street and literally drove his car under the crossing gate, hitting the freight train about 20 cars in," Police Chief Wayne Carroll said. "Fortunately for him, he hit the train and (his car) bounced back."

The train did not derail, but personnel stopped it after the crash. The 2003 white, Hyundai

four-door car sustained extensive front-end damage, but Berglund told officers he wasn't injured. However, Berglund's problems with police weren't over. A breathalyzer test of 0.08 and above is considered drunk.

"We arrested him for drunk driving," Carroll said. "He blew a 0.14. Because it was his second offense, we also seized his car."

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PAUL E. SCHULZ

A 63-year-old Canton man walked away from this crash after running the railroad crossing bars and ramming a moving train early Wednesday morning.

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Volume 121  
 Number 45



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### INDEX

APARTMENTS B9  
 AUTOMOTIVE C4  
 CLASSIFIED B8-C6  
 CROSSWORD B8  
 HOMETOWNLIFE.COM D1  
 JOBS B11  
 MOVIES E22  
 OBITUARIES A14  
 OPINION A10-11  
 REAL ESTATE B8  
 SERVICE GUIDE B11  
 SPORTS B1

### Coming Sunday in Health



Go Red campaign raises awareness about women's risk for heart disease

**Newcomers wine tasting Canton BPW meets**

Plymouth Newcomers & Neighbors hosts its annual Wine Tasting and Membership Mixer 7-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10 at the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

The event offers a chance to meet others in the community while sampling a variety of wines and light appetizers. Participants should bring a bottle of wine concealed in a bag for the blind tasting.

Special guest Lisa O'Donnell from Grape Expectations Wine Bar and Merchant will be on hand to offer her expertise and lead a brief discussion on different wines and wine tasting.

RSVPs are due Feb. 7 to Janet Keller, (734) 451-1840, or e-mail to robertplus-janet@aol.com.

**Blood drive**

The Plymouth Salvation Army hosts a blood drive 2-8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26.

Appointments can be made, by walk-ins are also welcome. The Salvation Army is located on Main just south of Ann Arbor Road.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (734) 453-5464.

The Canton Business & Professional Women meet 6-8:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12, at Palermo's Restaurant, located in the strip mall behind Murray's Auto Supply on the north side of Ford Road, east of Canton Center and west of Sheldon.

Guest Speaker Lynn Jarrett, president of LifeQuest Training & Coaching, will discuss balancing all life offers. Jarrett is a best-selling author, motivational speaker, life coach and a resident of Canton.

RSVP by Friday, Feb. 9. Contact Canton BPW president June Nicholas, junenicholas@comcast.net or (313) 610-2561.

**Maybury Farm docents**

Maybury Farm is in need of docents for its pre-school and elementary school programs. In March, students begin arriving for a variety of programs offered at the Farm and docents are needed to assist with these programs.

Event coordinator Dana Weeks will offer training for the docents beginning in February.

Commitment is once or twice a week for three hours.

Anyone interested should call (248) 374-0200 to be added to the docent list.

**Rotary essay contest**

The Plymouth Rotary is inviting middle-school students in the Plymouth-Canton community to submit a 250- to 500-word essay about The Four Way Test and how the test can be used to make good decisions.

The Four Way Test is a decision-making model used by Rotary International. The test of things we think, say or do asks "Is it the truth?" "Is it fair to all concerned?" "Will it build goodwill and better friendships?" and "Will it be beneficial to all concerned?"

There will be two winning students from each middle level program in Plymouth-Canton, with the winning students receiving a \$100 savings bond. Essays must be submitted by Feb. 16 to Ellison Franklin, West Middle School, 44401 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI 48170.

Entry forms can be obtained at middle schools or from the middle-level Language Arts teachers. For more information, call West Middle School Principal Ellison Franklin, (734) 416-7599.

**Art exhibit**

Detroit-born artist and Canton resident Byron Reed

brings his vibrant and unique painting style to the Plymouth Community Arts Council with his current exhibit, The Way We Were, through Feb. 15.

This septuagenarian has had a long career that began with graphic arts and progressed to Reed working as art director at various advertising agencies and television stations in the Metro-Detroit area. Reed devotes all of his time to his first love - art.

Reed is also helping to shape young artists as a mentor in the Plymouth Community Arts Council's Aspiring Artist Mentorship Program. Visitors can view The Way We Were at the PCAC 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

The PCAC is located at 774 N. Sheldon Road in Plymouth. For more information visit the Web site at www.plymoutharts.com or call (734) 416-4278.

**RFD Boys concert**

The bluegrass band RFD Boys are set to play a concert 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18, at First United Methodist Church of Plymouth.

Known as "the house band of Michigan bluegrass," the RFD Boys formed their four-member ensemble while they were students at the University of Michigan, and have performed together for more than 25 years. They've shared stages with a "who's who" of bluegrass and country musicians, from Bill Monroe to Ricky Skaggs.

All are invited to attend. Admission is free; proceeds from a free-will offering will benefit a local Habit for Humanity project.

First United Methodist Church is located at 45201 N. Territorial in Plymouth, a mile east of Beck. The church offers barrier-free entrance and ample off-street parking.

**New Liberty scholarship**

New Liberty Bank is offering one \$500 scholarship to a local high school senior who demonstrates scholastic achievement and upholds the Bank's "commitment to community" through volunteer service.

"When it comes to financing a college education, every little bit helps," said New Liberty Bank President and CEO Raymond Reame. "We are very excited to be able to reward one outstanding student for their hard work and community contributions with this scholarship."

Applications are available at the Bank's branch or on-line. All materials must be returned to the Bank or postmarked by March 1. Applicants must be residents of Plymouth, Canton or Northville and planning to attend an accredited U.S. college, university or trade school.

**AARP tax assistance**

Free income tax assistance will be available to Plymouth area seniors on Wednesdays

beginning Feb. 7 through April 11. Volunteer Tax-Aide counselors trained by the IRS will help fill out your tax returns at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main in Plymouth.

Appointments are available at 9:30, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m., and at 1:30 and 2:30 p.m.

Seniors should bring their 2005 tax returns, W-2 and W-2P forms, Unemployment Compensation statement, SSA-1099 Form (if you receive Social Security benefits) all 1099 forms, 1099R forms for pensions and annuity records, all receipts or cancelled checks if itemizing on federal tax forms, all forms showing federal or state estimated tax paid, if you rent bring in the amount paid, and property tax bills, heating bill showing amount of heat cost.

For an appointment or more information, call the Plymouth Community Council On Aging, (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236.

**American Legion meets**

The Plymouth American Legion Passage-Gayde Post #391 conducts its monthly meeting the second Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Plymouth Knights of Columbus Hall on Mill (next to the railroad tracks) in Plymouth Township.

All interested military veterans should contact Commander Mike O'Malley, (734) 459-7890, for more information.

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**CORRECTION**

The photo credit for a photograph accompanying a story about a Marine luncheon in the Sunday, Jan. 21 *Plymouth Observer* should have said the photo was taken by James R. Cliff.

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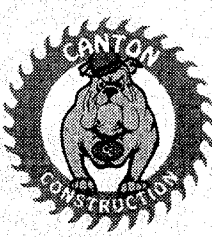
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# Sign of the times

## Logo would warn others of permit-driver status

BY BRAD KADRICH  
STAFF WRITER

Teenagers taking driver's training pilot cars well-marked by signs or logos or stickers identifying them as young drivers. Even auto racing organizations identify the cars belonging to rookie drivers with a big yellow line across their bumpers.

But teenagers driving their parents' cars during their training generally don't have such markings, leaving them vulnerable to the anger and frustration of more experienced drivers during their tutelage.

Now, a Canton woman wants to change all that. Suzanne Zabowski, president of Safety 101, Inc., is hoping to convince parents, drivers, driving schools and even the state government that putting signage on cars being driven by young drivers would be a huge safety benefit.

She has developed magnetic signs that say "Permit Driver" to warn surrounding drivers the teenager is in training.

"It's to alert other drivers there's an inexperienced driver in the road," said Zabowski, who has one daughter who just got her license and another daughter in middle school.

"These kids are starting at 14 years, 8 months old, they get six hours of drive time in driver's training and then they're asked to do 50 hours with their parents."

Under Michigan's Graduated License System, teenagers are eligible for Segment 1 training at 14 years, 8 months. During Segment 1, they get six hours of road time, then have to do 50 hours with their parents before they're eligible for Segment 2.

Completion of Segment 2 allows teens to drive by unsupervised between the hours of



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Suzanne Zabowski, president of Safety 101 Inc. of Canton, thinks her "permit driver" signs will help make the roads safer for youngsters learning to drive.

5 a.m. and midnight. They qualify for a restriction-free license at age 17.

According to Zabowski, there are some 110,000 kids and another 5,000 adults taking driver's training during a given year. With her own daughter, Kayla, going through driver's training, Zabowski wanted to come up with something to help keep her safe on the road.

"Once your child starts going through something, you want to keep her safe," Zabowski said. "If we can have a tool that supports us as parents, we should have it."

So Zabowski's husband, Robert, an architect with Edmund London and Associates, came up with the design for the magnetic signs. One attaches to each side of the car, the third to the

bumper. The logo is a circle, split horizontally by the design of a road, with the words "Permit Driver" in the center.

"We wanted it to be emblematic, like the wheelchair-accessible sign," Zabowski said. "You see it, you know what it means. That's what we wanted for this."

Zabowski pitched the idea to representatives of the Michigan Secretary of State's office, as well as to driving school owners and insurance companies.

"Even NASCAR marks the bumpers of its rookie drivers," said Jason King, a spokesman for the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators. "A number of state DMV's have explored this idea. It's not unheard of to flag the cars of inexperienced drivers so experienced drivers know this is a young driver and to be careful."

Zabowski was cognizant of the stigma often associated with student drivers — "We know there's a stigma with the kids, but if it can lessen the number of accidents on the road I say let's do it," she said — but her own daughter said that shouldn't be a big concern.

"It would definitely help," Kayla Zabowski said. "It's so scary to go on the road. People don't know you're a permit driver, and they honk and stuff at you when you're on the road."

For more information on the signs, visit [www.permitdriversign.com](http://www.permitdriversign.com), e-mail [safety101inc@aol.com](mailto:safety101inc@aol.com) or call (734) 981-5975.

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## Conference set to help girls in grades 5-8 excel in math, science

The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools and Livonia Public Schools will co-sponsor the 2007 Girls Excel in Math and Science (GEMS) Conference from 7:45 a.m. to noon, Saturday, March 31, at Plymouth High School. The conference is also supported by the American Association of University Women.

The conference is for girls in grades 5-8 and is focused on encouraging careers involving math and science. This year's theme is "Your Future: Brighter Than Ever."

The middle school years are seen a time when girls may make some personal decisions about choosing challenging math and science courses in high school. A pair of leaders from General Motors will share the keynote speech. They are Mary Sipes, a vehicle line director for current/future full-size SUVs, and Novletter Shaw, a program manager for full-size SUVs/hybrids.

Following the keynote speech, the students and their parents participate in

two hands-on activity sessions and two role model sessions with women who work in math, science or engineering. Role models this year include an architect, a banker, a biochemical researcher, a dental hygienist, engineers, a forensic pathologist with the Michigan State Police, a nurse, teachers, a museum curator, several business women and a veterinarian. In addition, a panel of undergraduate women science majors at the University of Michigan will discuss their educational paths.

Any student in grades 5-8 is eligible to attend. Cost for a student-parent pair will be \$20. (No fee for free/reduced lunch students.) Registration has begun and will close March 9. Registration flyers will be available at schools in Plymouth-Canton and Livonia, and on the districts' Web sites. For more details, call PCCS administrator Janet Kahan at 416-3010, or email her at [kahanj@pccs.k12.mi.us](mailto:kahanj@pccs.k12.mi.us).

Cheer for the hometeam, read today's SPORTS section



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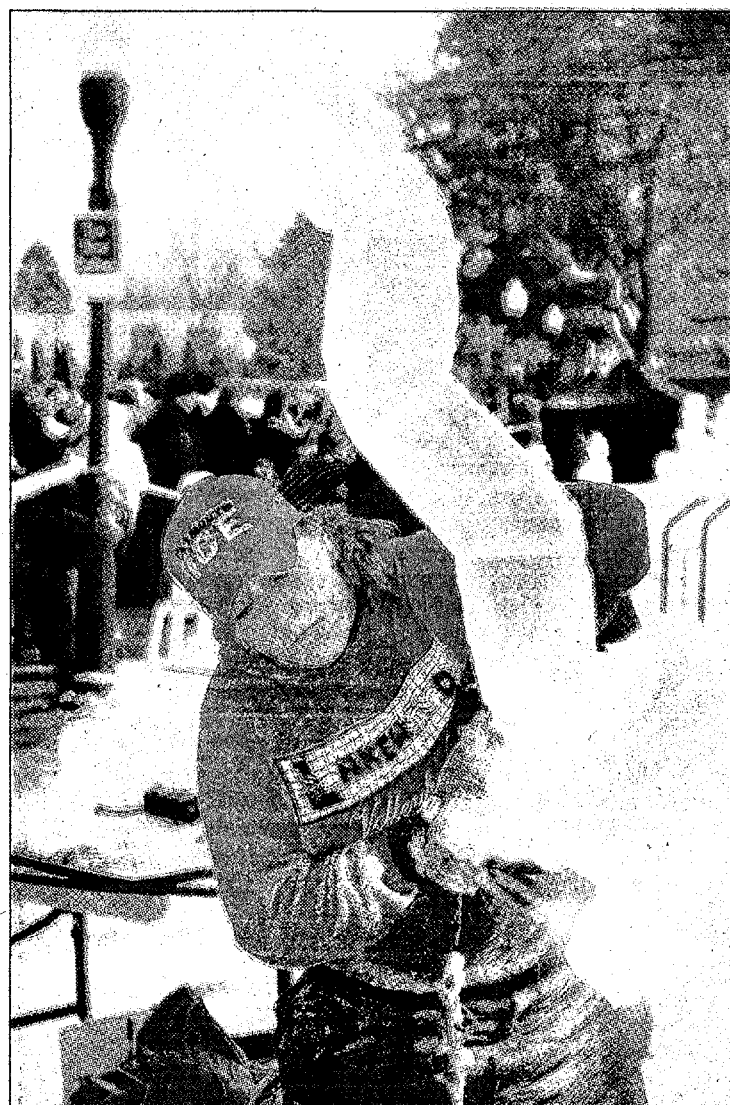
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# Ice fest continues to draw numbers to town



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Grand Rapids Community College student Andrea Stahl carves an elephant during the ice festival in downtown Plymouth.

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER

It had been a few years since Paul Husak and his wife, Cassandra, had visited the Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular.

The Husaks decided to bundle up their five children — four girls and a boy — and brave the light snowfall and cold temperatures Sunday to view the ice sculptures and carvers in Kellogg Park.

"They'd never seen ice sculptures like this before, and there's no other city around that does anything like this," said Paul Husak. "It's a real talent, and helps their imagination while they're out playing in the snow. Maybe we have some future ice sculptors."

Eight-year-old Paul, Jr. said it was hard to decide which ones he liked best.

"I like the dragon and the octopus," said Paul, Jr. "I think they're cool."

Scott Gifford, who lives in Canton Township, visited the ice fest with his five- and eight-year-old daughters.

"The girls want to see what cartoon characters from the latest movies are being carved," Gifford said. "This is great for the area and great for bringing people to town."

Steve Alexandrowski of Plymouth, a member of the festival board, said this year's event



U-M team carver Justin Beroz begins his competition carving during last weekend's Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular.

was fitting for a 25th anniversary.

"The weather was perfect, the crowds were huge and the park was full," said Alexandrowski. "We had wall-to-wall people ... it was perfect."

Ice fest organizer Mike Watts estimated this year's attendance was upwards of 400,000, with people "flowing through constantly" since carvers began on Thursday, Jan. 18.

City officials say the ice sculptures will remain in Kellogg Park as long as the cold weather keeps them solid.



The Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular drew quite a crowd Saturday afternoon.

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Clinton	Friday, Jan. 26	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Sallie	Friday, Jan. 26	2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

*There's still time to get your flu shot at Busch's Pharmacy!*

# Observer & Eccentric grabs newspaper contest honors

Fresh off being named Journalist of the Year for the *Observer & Eccentric* newspapers, Plymouth-Canton sportswriter Ed Wright has been honored again.

Wright, who covers Plymouth-Canton sports and edits the sports section for both papers, was honored in the Suburban Newspapers of America 2006 Editorial Contest, one of two awards for the Plymouth and Canton papers.

Wright's work was recognized with a third-place finish in the "Best Sports Section"



Wright

finish in the "Best Opinion Column" category.

The awards were among 25 won by the *Observer & Eccentric*, the top honoree for Gannett Company, Inc., the O&E's parent company.

"The *Observer & Eccentric*

category. The other award for the *Plymouth Observer* came from community editor Brad Kadrich, honored with a third-place finish in the "Best Opinion Column" category.

Newspaper Group is proud of the many awards presented by SNA," executive editor Susan Rosiek said. "Staff members strive to present the best in local news, sports, features and photos both in print and online. We remain dedicated to producing the best community journalism for our print and on-line audiences."

The other papers earning honors:

■ *The Birmingham Eccentric* — first place, Best Column Writing, Class C; second place, Best Headline; third place, Best Front Page.

■ *Farmington Observer* — first place, Best Sports Section, Class B; first place, Best Continuing Coverage; third place, Best Feature; third place, Best Election Coverage.

■ *Lake Orion Eccentric* — second place, Best News Photo, Class A.

■ *Livonia Observer* — second place, Best Opinion Column, Class C; second-place tie, Best Coverage of Local Education/School District;

■ *Westland Observer* — second-place tie, Best Coverage of Local Education/School District; third place, Best

Column Writing.

■ *Redford/Garden City Observer* — second place, Best Sports Writing.

■ *Rochester Eccentric* — third place, Best Editorial Writing, Class C; third place, Best Opinion Column; third place, Best Continuing Coverage; second place, Best Election Coverage.

■ *Southfield Eccentric* — second place, Best Opinion Column, Class B; first place, Best Editorial Writing.

■ *Troy Eccentric* — third place, Best Editorial Writing; second place, Best Editorial

Page; second place, Best Sports Writing.

■ The *Observer* was also recognized with a first-place tie for Best Non-Page-One Layout for its At Home Section and with a first-place award for Best Photojournalism for its post-Super Bowl photo coverage.

The SNA 2006 Editorial Contest was the most competitive in the association's history with over 3,600 entries — 18 percent over last year's record number. The American Press Institute judged the contest again this year.

## PASSPORTS

FROM PAGE A1

The Penniman Street post office in downtown Plymouth has applications, but doesn't process them.

"We keep putting the applications out, and they keep disappearing," postal clerk Willie Clark said.

Applications can be picked up at Langmesser's City Hall office, at either of the two Plymouth post offices, at the office of Plymouth Township Clerk Marilyn Massengill or they can be printed online by accessing the Michigan.gov Web site. Applications must be accompanied with a birth certificate with a raised seal; a second form of identification, such as a driver's license or state I.D.; and two passport photos.

"We also take the photos here for an additional \$15," Bottema said. "Any window clerk can help with the process."

Langmesser said for individuals 16 years and older, the cost is \$67, payable by check or money order to the U.S. Department of State. A \$30 processing fee, payable by check, cash or money order, is paid to the city clerk's office or the post office.

Langmesser cautions against waiting too long to get a passport, especially if you have a trip outside the country in the near future.

"It takes anywhere from four to six weeks," Langmesser said. "If you need it in a hurry and want to expedite it, it will cost \$60 more to get it within 10 to 15 business days."

Those under 16 years old pay \$52 to the State Department.

"If you are getting a passport for anyone under 16, both parents have to be present, along with the child, to avoid children being taken out of the country illegally," Langmesser said. "If one of the parents can't be here, that parent has to submit a certified document they are aware the other parent is applying for a passport, and they agree to it."

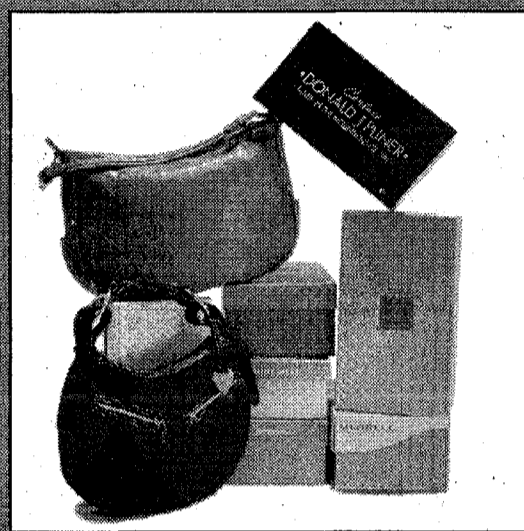
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(11:25) 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:40  
FRI/SAT LS 11:40

**CATCH AND RELEASE (PG-13)**  
(11:20) 1:50, 4:15, 6:45, 9:10  
FRI/SAT LS 11:35

**DREAMGIRLS (PG-13)**  
(11:00) 1:40, 4:25, 7:05, 9:50

**THE HITCHER (R)**  
3:00, 5:05, 7:10 FRI/SAT LS 11:30

**THE QUEEN (PG-13)**  
12:15, 9:15

**STOMP THE YARD (PG-13)**  
12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45

**FREEDOM WRITERS (PG-13)**  
(11:10) 1:45, 4:20, 6:55, 9:30

**NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM (PG)**  
(11:15) 1:35, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00  
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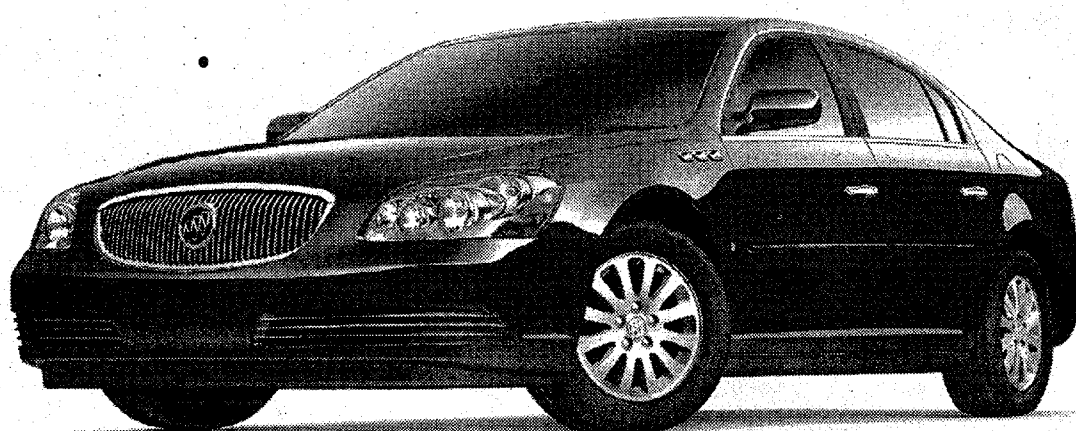
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## Foundation makes initial grant MEAP

FROM PAGE A1

The Community Foundation of Plymouth has made the first of what will be, over time, dozens of annual grants to organizations that benefit and enrich the Plymouth community.

The foundation granted \$10,000 to Youth Leadership Plymouth, an organization that provides leadership and service opportunities for Plymouth-area teens.

"We see this program as one that addresses the need to engage young people at a critical time during their school years — the important passage from middle school to high school," said James Jabara, CFP chair. "Our youth represent the Community Foundation's mission in its best sense. They're the connection between today and tomorrow."

"These young people learn to solve problems and make decisions cooperatively and com-

municate with adults who are involved in government, law enforcement, business and the professions," said James Vermeulen, a member of the CFP Advisory Committee. "We see YLP as a way to encourage our youth to become active participants in our community, and this is the kind of support CFP intends to provide."

The Community Foundation of Plymouth was organized to build a permanent community endowment that will fund worthwhile programs — for youth, seniors, the arts, human services, the environment and other fields — for years to come. It is organized as an affiliate of the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation, which provides 43 years of experience managing a community endowment and making effective grants.

CFP is in the process of raising endowment funds from

across the Plymouth community. That effort is made easier, CFP officials said, by the State of Michigan Community Foundation Tax Credit. Half of any donation to a community foundation comes back to the donor as a credit on their state tax return (up to a \$100 credit for individuals, \$200 for couples filing jointly and \$5,000 for businesses paying the Single Business Tax). This, they said, combined with the deduction for charitable giving on federal taxes, means donors can make their gift stretch a long way.

"We are extremely excited to get the Community Foundation of Plymouth off the ground and on its way to being a permanent resource for our area," Jabara said. "We are looking forward to building our endowment and making many more grants to the community in the years ahead."

Elementary in Plymouth Township, said she feels confident her students will perform well on the MEAP tests.

"The district has worked really hard to match the curriculum to the state guidelines," Kolakowski said. "I work with colleagues on collaborating lesson plans that support MEAP-type skills. I don't feel a lot of pressure because I'm confident about what we're doing."

Improvements in third-grade writing have P-CCS officials singing the praises of the K-2 Literacy Early Achievement Plan (LEAP), designed to teach children how to read and write by third grade.

"We're making a very focused effort in literacy," said Cynthia Swift, director of elementary education. "We're seeing an improved trend in third-grade reading and writing, which is the first group of students who have gone through the LEAP program. Writing in fifth grade is excellent, far above the state average, and up from the previous year."

While most MEAP scores are averaging in the 80s and 90s, elementary writing scores range from 50 to 71 percent.

"Over the years, we have seen the state struggle on how to assess writing and score a standardized test," Swift said. "Performance isn't what we want it to be, but it's only one measure we use on how well students write."

### MEAP MAGIC

Here are the Plymouth-Canton MEAP scores, by grade and subject:

	Reading	Writing	Math	Science	Social Studies
<b>Grade 3</b>					
District	93	59	95	n/a	n/a
State	87	52	88	n/a	n/a
<b>Grade 4</b>					
District	91	50	92	n/a	n/a
State	85	45	85	n/a	n/a
<b>Grade 5</b>					
District	92	71	88	91	n/a
State	84	57	78	83	n/a
<b>Grade 6</b>					
District	92	85	88	n/a	88
State	83	74	69	n/a	74
<b>Grade 7</b>					
District	92	79	81	n/a	n/a
State	80	65	64	n/a	n/a
<b>Grade 8</b>					
District	87	81	84	87	n/a
State	76	67	68	75	n/a
<b>Grade 9</b>					
District	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	88
State	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	74

Kolakowski said teachers at Allen have been working diligently on improving writing skills.

"We're writing more than we've ever have, and I'm paying particular attention to comments that come back from the MEAP tests," Kolakowski said. "I look to see what they said about my kids' writing, and areas we need to work on, and I focus on those areas in hopes of raising those scores."

Board of Education Vice President Mark Slavens was one of the first trustees, several years ago, to push for measurements to gauge success by students.

"These MEAP results are reflective of the board working

with administration, teachers and parents, and we're all moving in that direction," Slavens' said.

Slavens said he's not sure how long Plymouth-Canton can continue to show academic improvement if the state continually fails to adequately fund public schools.

"What concerns me is the state of Michigan is going to mess it up by not properly funding us," Slavens said.

"We're doing the right things, educating kids and improving scores. But you can't keep improving academics while the state keeps cutting funding."

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## Deadline nears for school board ballot

Potential candidates for the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education don't have much time left to throw their hats into the ring.

Petitions and affidavits are due to the Plymouth Township clerk's office by Feb. 13. The election, at which voters will fill two, four-year seats, is set for Tuesday, May 8.

Petitions can be picked up at

any of the municipalities (including Canton and Plymouth townships and the City of Plymouth) served by the district. Petitions are due by 4 p.m. at the Plymouth Township offices, 9955 N. Haggerty.

Forty valid signatures are required for a person to be placed on the ballot. Interested individuals are encouraged to obtain additional signatures to

help ensure that a minimum of 40 will be valid. A candidate can avoid filing a petition by paying a non-refundable filing fee of \$100 payable to the Township of Plymouth.

Individuals who file to run but then change their minds have until 4 p.m. Friday, Feb. 16, to withdraw their name from the ballot.

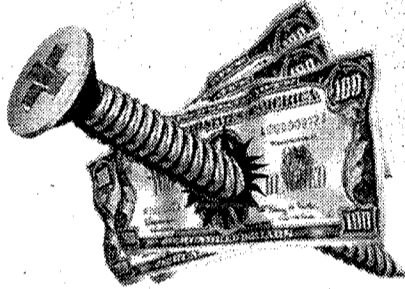
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# State House Dems plan 'bold initiatives'

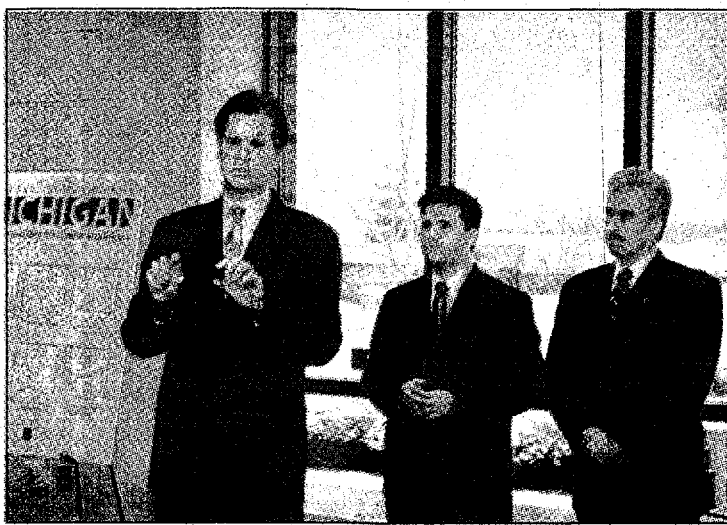
BY MATT JACHMAN  
STAFF WRITER

Looking past the state's budget crisis, local Democratic legislators, led by Rep. Andy Dillon of Redford, outlined their major goals for Michigan during a press conference Monday.

Dillon, the new Speaker of the state House of Representatives, said House Democrats plan "bold initiatives" to address the state's problems.

"We want to meet the problems of the state head-on" instead of "just tweaking the edges," said Dillon at the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. He was joined by Reps. Marc Corriveau of Northville and Richard LeBlanc of Westland.

The House Democrats plan measures in six areas: health-care costs, education, environmental protection, energy needs, consumer protection, and House ethics.



Left to right, Speaker of the House Andy Dillon of Redford with Reps. Marc Corriveau of Northville and Richard LeBlanc of Westland present the House Democrats agenda for the coming legislative session at Schoolcraft College's VisTaTech Center.

The trio didn't say where money for Democrats' goals would be found. But, asked about the state's financial woes - a projected \$800 million budget shortfall - Dillon said House members plan to brain-

storm for ways to plug that hole by cutting spending and increasing revenues by, for example, perhaps selling state assets.

"We need to reorganize our tax structure," added Dillon.

The current tax system was designed for an economy that's changed, he said.

Dillon wouldn't rule out some type of tax increase, but said that's not his first option.

"Everything is on the table, but I'm not going to jump to that conclusion just yet," Dillon said of raising taxes.

The results of November's election indicated voters are looking for bipartisan cooperation, and it's in that spirit that House Democrats will proceed, Dillon said. He said he's optimistic the House will be able to work with the state Senate, which is controlled by Republicans.

Dillon, Corriveau and LeBlanc took turns discussing the Democrats' agenda. It included:

- Assisting residents with health-care costs by providing statewide insurance for catastrophic claims. Dillon and other House members introduced a catastrophic claims insurance bill in 2005.

- Supporting the use of ethanol, a corn-based fuel that can power some vehicles, plus solar and wind power. "This country needs to reduce its dependence on foreign oil," Dillon said. A predicted electricity shortage, he added, means energy companies need incentives to build power plants in Michigan.

- Attracting businesses and jobs by strengthening education. "We have to give them the tools to compete," Corriveau said of Michigan students. He pointed to Schoolcraft's biomedical technology building, which is under construction, as an example of the development needed to draw technology-related jobs.

- Passing new ethics rules, such as banning House members from state lobbying for one year after they leave office, and requiring representatives to disclose financial interests.

- Working to curb insurance redlining, the practice of charging people who live in

high-crime areas more for insurance, and increasing the penalties for identity-theft crimes. LeBlanc said he had been the victim of identity theft. "It was a horrible experience," he said.

- Passing an 18-month moratorium on the "popup tax" - the additional property taxes homeowners pay after buying a new home, which removes the Proposal A "cap" on taxable value. Dillon said the moratorium could be structured to avoid affecting taxing entities, and that it could spur home sales and related economic activity, such as remodeling and the purchase of furnishings.

"I do believe we need to look at a long-term fix for this," Dillon added.

House Democrats announced their new agenda at 16 different communities around the state on Monday. Dillon appeared at four of those stops: Monroe, Livonia, Jackson and Lansing.

## Madonna University to host photographic art exhibit

The exhibit Simulacra: Photographic Semblances by Rachel Holland will be on display in the Madonna University Exhibit Gallery. The exhibit runs through Tuesday, Feb. 6.

Detroit photographer Rachel Holland specializes in photographing people. She has a BFA in commercial photography from the Center for Creative Studies, College of Art & Design. Her clients include advertising agencies, magazines and service-based companies.

For Simulacra, Holland has culled images from her commercial as well as her personal collections. Each composition carries its own formal, controlled qualities and in that respect becomes a portrait of the artist herself.

Holland's images act as abstract representations of the real. Her portraits reveal

only fragments of the complex nature of the personalities of her subjects, reducing them to their most graphic elements. This allows the artist to focus on the forms her subjects create within the space of each composition. Furthermore, while traditional portraiture centers primarily on the face, Holland also finds expression of the personal in other facets of the body that have a language all their own.

Admission to the Madonna Exhibit Gallery is free and the public is invited to attend. Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. Madonna University, located at I-96 and Levan Road in Livonia, offers bachelor's and associate's degrees in graphic design and fine art.



The photos of Rachel Holland are featured at Madonna University.

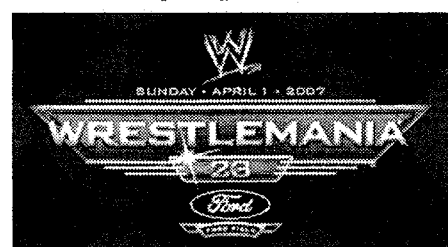
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OUR VIEWS

## District should move elections

With Plymouth-Canton Schools officials biting their nails as they await the bad news from Lansing about how much will be cut from the district's state aid this year - estimates are \$2 million to \$4 million - they should begin looking for every possible way to cut costs.

Although it will not help this year, the district should make the decision to move its future board elections to November. By doing so, the district will be able to share the costs of the election with local municipalities that are holding elections at the same time.

A state law that went into effect in January of 2005 gave municipal clerks the responsibility of running school district elections. Before the change, school districts ran their own elections. For Plymouth-Canton, elections used to cost the district in the neighborhood of \$15,000-\$20,000.

But costs have skyrocketed since the new law went into effect, largely because the district is billed by each of the clerks in the six communities from which it draws its students. For example, the bond proposal and board election last May cost the district \$98,000.

Board members say there are some negatives to having the elections in November, most notably that newly elected board members would take office in the middle of a school year. Also officials worry that school questions would get lost on a multiple page ballot and might confuse voters.

While those are certainly valid concerns, they do not override the savings the district would reap from moving the elections to November, particularly when district officials are considering making cuts to the classroom because of reduced funding from the state.

The other benefit of moving the elections to November is the fact that general elections nearly always draw far more voters to the polls than school elections. One of the main reasons that state lawmakers changed the law in the first place was to ensure districts did not hold "stealth" elections in which few voters would turn out. Moving the board elections to November would ensure greater voter participation. That, along with the savings the district would receive, make the decision a no-brainer.

## Guv needs to hear from you on fixes for state finances

It's no secret that Michigan is in a bind.

The state's economy has been shaky for several years as the auto companies struggle to compete in the global marketplace.

State and local governments are finding it hard to deliver services with declining tax revenues and rising costs.

Gov. Jennifer Granholm has created a 12-member emergency commission to offer suggestions for dealing with a projected \$3 billion budget shortfall by 2008. This year's deficit is estimated at \$800 million. Granholm has enlisted former governors William Milliken and Jim Blanchard to chair the Emergency Financial Advisory Panel.

The panel includes former state legislators, educators, former Attorney General Frank Kelley and former state Treasurer Doug Roberts.

Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack complains that the committee does not include a representative for local government and is "stacked" in favor of the "education establishment." He has suggested that the governor add members to the committee to address his concerns. We concur.

We also take note of Yack's more general criticism of the committee.

The entire tax structure of the state has to be reviewed with an eye toward a total overhaul. Working on the edges may prove to be short-sighted and may not result in a long term sustainable economic climate," he said in a press release.

Indeed it is hard to imagine that this committee, no matter how distinguished, can solve a problem that the state Legislature has been unable or unwilling to tackle over the last four years. Some argue that the committee will provide cover for the governor when it recommends the tax increases that will inevitably follow its deliberations.

The choices are fairly simple - severely cut government services, which includes local schools, facing a \$224 per student cut, and local government, or increase taxes.

What would you do? What would you cut, what would you keep? What is a fair tax structure that maintains government services even when the economy tanks? What tax plan will be fair? What can we do without?

We believe the governor needs to turn to the committee of the whole - the residents of Michigan - and get their input on these important questions.

We invite you to share your plan for Michigan's future. E-mail your suggestions to myadvice@hometownlife.com.

We'll publish and send your comments to local lawmakers and the governor's office. Tell us what you think.



### Ice storm heroes

We would like to commend The Inn at St. John's on Five Mile Road in Plymouth.

We lost power in the (recent) ice storm and they provided a special rate for those without power while other local hotels were at a higher rate.

Bravo, and thanks to our local heroes. Jennifer, the front desk clerk was very helpful and nice. We certainly would like to recognize these special folks.

Shaun and Laurie Pochik  
Plymouth

### Contrived notion

I am flabbergasted reading about "diversity" initiatives in our school district. The cancerous policy harms everyone, because it is the very essence of racism.

Somehow, through osmosis in the hallways, students gain enrichment from the differences in viewpoint of minorities, learning to encounter "black" ideas, etc. What could be more racist than that?

Looking back on my school days, frankly, I was more concerned about not being the stinky, four-eyed, dodge-ball-losing kid than noticing the ratio of kids who looked different or carried ethnic snacks in their lunch bag.

Spending a day giving out food with Focus: Hope, talking to shut-ins, selling Cub Scout popcorn in front of a store and being forced to interact with odd-looking people, rather than sitting around alone with a joystick, will teach more empathy than a contrived notion of "diversity."

As a foreign exchange student I got to see, feel and exchange daily life experiences with other students. However, I went as more of an ambassador for American spirit, to verify for myself the goodness and proper direction of American values, rather than to dumb down my own ideals.

The article quoted that, "The one thing we all have in common is our differences." I disagree with that vacuous statement. What we have in common is that we are American and embrace a system that allows the freedom to be the same or different.

Glenn Kremer  
Plymouth

### Unity or diversity?

I don't understand the concentration our country has on "diversity." We are the United States not the "Diverse States."

Diversity means differences - a concentration on how we are different, not how we are alike. When we try to divide and classify citizens, it continues to highlight the fact that we are different.

We need a united America. Ever since the United States revolted against Britain, our population has added many people from many places. Over the years, people came to this country to become American. We all melded into the "melting pot" and simply became "Americans."

Today, different races come here and are classified by our government. We are labeled and packaged into a "group" from which we cannot escape. Some want to retain their own language and customs, and they have no intention of becoming an integral part of our nation. This is allowed under the guise of our dictated need to be diverse. Is our government represented by race? If I am a white person and my representative is black, does that mean that I am not represented in Congress? Are all

### LETTERS

Muslims who live in a district that has a Catholic representative out of luck? Obviously, the answer is no to all of these questions. We are represented by geographical districts. That should be the only criteria.

I find it very uncomfortable to think that black administrators in our school system would feel they only represent the black students. Their job is to teach all students - race must be ignored and all students must be treated equally as people. Just people. There should be no distinction between one student and another. The idea that we must hire a staff with the same racial mix as the students, to me, is wrong. Our staff should be hired on their qualification. Each student should be able to interact with any staff member and not feel they are mistreated because of their ethnicity. I believe our school staff is professional and would never discriminate against a student. Race needs to be kept out of the hiring process and out of schools.

Our society is being eroded away because of this divide-and-conquer method. We should only have two divisions in this country. One is citizens. The other is legal immigrants who want to become citizens. People who hold allegiance to another country or way of life should not be here. If they hold allegiance to another country, that is where they need to reside.

We need to teach our children about their similarities. We need to stop giving groups of people special treatment. That is not what "All men (women) are created equal" is all about. We are actually undoing our great nation and the principles that made it great.

Let us all unite as American citizens and work together in peace for our country.

Peg Robichaud  
Canton

### Women deserve better

The upcoming anniversary of the Roe v. Wade ruling is another reminder that our society continues to ignore the needs of women. I agree with Feminists for Life President Serrin Foster, who said: "Abortion is a reflection that we have not met the needs of women. Women deserve better than abortion."

Susan B. Anthony, a feminist in the true sense of the word, was staunchly pro-life and believed in the worth of all human beings, born and unborn. Those of us who today fight to protect the unborn should be proud to carry on this legacy.

As we commemorate 34 years since the Roe decision, the message of Patricia Heaton, Feminists for Life honorary chair, is one that conveys hope: "Women who are experiencing an unplanned pregnancy also deserve unplanned joy." And I would add that each child in the womb deserves that same chance for joy.

It's time to say no to the status quo, and work together to raise our sights by creating a world that celebrates womanhood, supports mothers, honors fathers and cherishes all children. Because women deserve better.

Kim M. Parnis  
Livonia

### Overwhelming success

The staff at The Senior Alliance is filled with pride as the figures for the Christmas meals and holiday card program finally came in. The Senior Alliance, which coordinates a variety of services to older adults and low-income, disabled adults in southern

and western Wayne County, served nearly 800 hot, festive meals on Christmas Day to seniors with the help and support of their friendly, dedicated volunteers.

Last Christmas, local print advertising created an overwhelming response from the community to volunteer their time to deliver meals. Well over half of the 300 volunteers TSA uses stepped up at Christmas. In order to raise money for the Christmas holiday meals, The Senior Alliance sells holiday cards for \$5 a piece, our cost per meal. The holiday cards program was another huge success.

This year we were able to raise enough money to pay for the Christmas meals. The financial support is crucial. Each meal costs \$5, and there are additional costs associated with the program, such as printing forms that the seniors complete, envelopes, postage and contacting the volunteers.

The Senior Alliance would like to thank all of the banks in southern and western Wayne County that participated in the holiday card program by allowing TSA volunteers to stand at their locations on Dec. 8, 2006, and sell the cards to raise funds to support the meals.

With Easter on the horizon, Pete the Fuzzy Peep will help keep the momentum going to raise money to serve even more homebound seniors this Easter holiday. Labor Day and Thanksgiving complete the holidays that meals are served to seniors, but TSA is hopeful to add more in the near future. If the momentum continues and the financial support from throughout the community continues to grow, then TSA will be able to add additional holidays to the program. Once the meals are covered any additional money will go toward adding another holiday. There are 12 holidays throughout the year that Home Delivered Meals are not served and without the Holiday Meals Program, many seniors go without a hot meal to warm their tummies and their hearts. There is no state or federal funding for Holiday Meals, and so its existence is entirely dependent upon the generosity of individual donors.

Keep your eyes out for The Senior Alliance volunteers on Friday, March 23. They will be standing at many neighborhood banks, credit unions, and grocery stores raising funds for the Easter holiday meals. If you would like to volunteer to help or make a contribution, please contact Lori Tooles-Carrington at (734) 727-2063 or at ltooles@tsalink.org.

Lori Tooles-Carrington  
The Senior Alliance

### 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

**'We can look at spending the rest of the year - such as any hires we have yet to make and health care costs - but the reality is there's not much we can do for the remainder of this school year because it comes so late.'**

- Plymouth-Canton Schools Supt. Jim Ryan, on impending cuts from the state

PLYMOUTH  
**Observer**

PUBLISHED THURSDAY AND SUNDAY

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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.

## Look at the data and stop bad-mouthing Michigan

It is unfortunate that three elected officials, Oakland County Commissioner Mike Rogers, term-limited State Rep. Bob Gosselin and newly elected State Rep. Marty Knollenberg chose the holiday season to paint a negative picture about the state of Michigan.

A few months ago, I wrote a column which made a point — to stop bad-mouthing Michigan and point up its many good points. It is also time to quit distorting Michigan's standing as far as taxes and government spending is concerned.

Recent studies by the Taxpayers Network and the Tax Foundation affirms that Michigan is neither a high tax state nor does it have a bloated bureaucracy. Let me cite some results of these two 2006 studies.

- State and local tax burden as percent of income: Michigan is 23rd among the 50 states.
  - State and local tax burden per capita: Michigan is 21st.
  - State and local tax burden as a percentage of state income: Michigan is 23rd.
  - State and local tax collections per capita: Michigan is 21st.
  - State and local individual income tax collections per capita: Michigan is 25th.
  - State and local sales and gross receipts tax collections per capita (this includes the single business tax): Michigan is 33rd.
  - Full-time state and local government employment per 10,000 residents: Michigan is 45th.
  - Outstanding state debt per capita: Michigan is 29th.
  - Small business survival index (ranking of relative government burden on small business): Michigan is 5th best.
  - Patents issued: Michigan is 4th best, pointing up the high brain power we have in our state.
  - Public school expenditure: Michigan is 20th.
  - Projected high school graduation rate: Michigan is 17th from the top.
  - Appropriations for higher education operating expenses: Michigan is 32nd.
  - State per capita spending on natural resources: Michigan is 44th, certainly not an example of a bloated bureaucracy.
  - State disbursements for highways per capita: Michigan is 46th.
  - State and local police employees: Michigan is 42nd from the top.
  - State and local fire employees: Michigan is 41st from the top.
  - State public welfare expenditures per capita: Michigan is 34th.
- As you can see, Michigan is not the high business tax state that Gosselin, Knollenberg and

Rogers claim it is. I agree that we need a fairer tax system. We are heading in that direction with Governor Jennifer Granholm's program.

In addition to the elimination of the single business tax, she is proposing an almost 50 percent reduction in the business personal property tax which is an unfair tax and other changes that would move our state toward a fairer tax structure.

We should also be looking at a profits tax as much fairer than taxes on gross receipts, which is the basis of the single business tax. This state had a profits tax at one time. It was business that convinced state government to switch to the single business tax. The single business tax was being phased out in the 1990s, but that reduction was based on the rainy day fund having at least \$250 million.

When the rainy day fund was drained in the late 1990s, the reductions in the single business tax stopped.

The three writers also fail to acknowledge the aggressive 21st Century jobs program the governor proposed and the Legislature enacted. We have already seen results with Google bringing in 1,000 jobs to Ann Arbor and an additional 1,500 supply jobs and a firm producing solar panels coming to Greenville.

I would also hope we reject the call by Gosselin and Knollenberg for the imposition of "right-to-work" laws in this state. The reason Michigan has been a desirable place in which to live is because we have allowed workers to join unions and to bargain for their benefits. As a result, we have created the middle class in this state.

Michigan is way ahead of the "right-to-work" states when it comes to average income, education, professional skills and quality of life. Let's keep it that way.

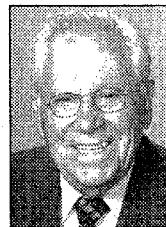
Mr. Rogers also should explain how we can drastically cut taxes as he proposes, while urging the state to "invest in its people, invest in its business, invest in the education system, invest in healthcare."

We could probably increase state spending in those areas if the federal government does not continue to reduce funding our programs because of the heavy expenditures on the war in Iraq.

Another figure from the tax studies — federal expenditures by state per capita. Michigan is 45th lowest in the nation while we are 20th in the amount we send to Washington.

I repeat my plea of a few months ago. Let's stop bad-mouthing our state. Michigan is a great place in which to live. Let's not join other states by criticizing ourselves to the exclusion of pointing out the good reasons to be a proud Michigander.

Aldo Vagnozzi, a Democrat, represents citizens from Farmington and Farmington Hills in the state House.



Aldo Vagnozzi

## Knollenberg: Michigan can't settle for 'average' tax policy

Jan. 10 was a proud day for me as I was formally sworn in as the state representative for this great state. With all that Michigan has to offer — beautiful lands, proud history, wonderful people — it was very gratifying to accept the responsibility as voice for my constituents in Troy and Clawson.

I was disappointed, however, to return home on Jan. 11 and see an article written by the Honorable Rep. Aldo Vagnozzi (D-Farmington Hills), which called into question my goal of creating a better work environment in Michigan by reducing wasteful government spending and restructuring our state's tax climate.

I am a proud Michigander and I believe strongly in our state. But we can't ignore reality: we are in poor economic shape.

My constituents are faced with bankruptcies, mortgage foreclosures, high unemployment, a slow real-estate market, to name a few, as a result of this jobs crisis.

Rep. Vagnozzi argues that Michigan is average, but is that what we want to settle for?

One glaring statistic Rep. Vagnozzi failed to mention was Michigan's outrageously high unem-

ployment rate. I will continue to stress the need for an innovative tax policy, with or without Rep. Vagnozzi's support.

Michigan's new tax policy can't afford to be "average" compared to other states.

In his first address as speaker, Andy Dillon (D-Redford) expressed his desire to create "a tax structure that rewards investment in our state."

Gov. Granholm is also ready to address our tax problems, though the details of her Michigan Business Tax Plan are currently being revised and adjusted.

While I respect Rep. Vagnozzi's right to freely speak his mind, it is disheartening to see him criticize two Oakland County Commissioners as well as myself just one day after his leader publicly called for less partisan bickering.

We are far from having a stable economy, and I urge anyone who looks blindly toward statistics or claims that Michigan is in good shape to look around you.

While the Pleasant Peninsula I seek is currently littered with 'For Sale' signs, I am committed to put aside partisan agendas and spend my time working toward real prosperity for Michigan's families.

Marty Knollenberg is a state representative from District 41.



Marty Knollenberg

### LETTER

#### Another perspective

I read with great interest Kurt Kuban's column, "It's time to get serious about the issue of global warming." I would like to present another perspective that deserves some attention.

Mr. Kuban cites Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Truth* as his point of departure for advocating government mandated remedies to curb greenhouse gas emissions.

To have any impact at all on serious CO2 reduction would require the imposition of massive carbon taxes on U.S. industry and American consumers.

A panel of some of the world's leading economists, including three Nobel Laureates, after examining the critical challenges facing the world, determined that the most effective investment of scarce resources to improve the human condition was combating AIDS, malaria and malnutrition.

Climate change was ranked very low on the list of global crises where major investments would yield substantial benefits to humanity. These conclusions, dubbed the "Copenhagen Consensus," were reached after studying the analyses of many scientists and economists. This is precisely why Bill and Melinda Gates and Warren Buffett are using their billions to help alleviate these devastating health and nutrition problems that prevent those

nations so affected from becoming economically viable and better able to cope with any beneficial or disruptive effects due to climate change.

A more practical solution for the reduction of greenhouse gases would be policies that encourage the development of clean technology and the transfer of that technology to the developing world. China is expected to surpass the U.S. in carbon emissions in five years. Brazil and Indonesia alone contribute 10 percent of the world's greenhouse gases through forest burn to clear land for agriculture. South America, Europe and Asia are net exporters of CO2. North America, with its ever-expanding forests, now absorbs as much CO2 as it emits.

Market-driven clean technologies such as more nuclear power plants, hybrid and clean diesel engines, energy-efficient homes, factories and office buildings are the way forward to less reliance on foreign oil and reducing CO2 emissions, not government-mandated carbon taxes and CAFE standards that would have a negative impact on our economy, especially in Michigan.

Global warming melted the glaciers and created our beautiful Great Lakes. Milder winters just might encourage our retirees to remain here rather than fleeing to the South to escape the cold.

Larry Bohner  
Farmington Hills

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# Review your life insurance and carry what you need

With the new year still upon us, one area of our personal financial affairs that we should take a few minutes to review is our life insurance needs. First, it is important to understand that not everyone needs life insurance. Life insurance is not an investment, but rather a means of covering risks. The question isn't, are you going to pass away, but rather when you do pass away does anyone lose out financially? If no one loses out financially, then you do not need life insurance. It would be similar to purchasing boat insurance if you did not have a boat.

If someone would lose out financially upon your death, then the next question to ask yourself is do you have the financial resources to cover that risk? If you don't, then life insurance is something that you should consider.

To determine how much life insurance you need, I do not believe there are any quick and easy formulas. Some people start with eight to 12 times their income and then make adjustments from that. To me, the key is your living expenses; in other words, what it costs you to live on an annual basis less other sources of income. This is what helps you determine how much life insurance you need. In addition, there are numerous Web sites that have calculators to help you with your calculation. Of course, I would not recommend that you use a Web site whose main



## Money Matters

Rick Bloom

goal is to sell life insurance.

Once you have determined that there is a need for life insurance and what that need is, then you need to begin the process of obtaining the insurance. For the great majority of people, I recommend term insurance. My belief is that most people do not need life insurance for their entire life, but rather need to cover a specific period of time; such as 'til your children are on their own. Term insurance allows you to purchase insurance for a guaranteed period of time. I like term insurance because it is priced competitively and easy to receive competitive bids.

I am frequently asked what a person should do with an old life insurance policy that they no longer need. My belief is that in the majority of situations, if you have a life insurance policy that you no longer need, you ought to cash it out and invest the money. When you cash out a life insurance policy, the tax consequences are not as harsh as many people would like you to believe. What is taxable to you is the amount that you receive from the cash surrender value of the policy, less all the premiums you have paid throughout the

life of the policy. For example, if you paid \$1,000 a year for 10 years on a life insurance policy and when that policy is liquidated, you receive \$10,050, the only amount subject to tax is \$50. My philosophy is that you should not pay for something you do not need. Even if you no longer are making premium payments, there are costs and expenses associated with that policy that you are incurring.

On the whole, I am not a fan of whole life, universal life and other types of permanent life insurance. My problem with these types of policies is they are oversold, the policies are stuffed with fees and commissions, and they rarely cover an individual's needs. With term insurance, you can purchase a substantially greater amount of insurance at a lower cost. Of course, with term insurance there are not as many commissions that are paid to the salespeople.

Take some time to review the area of life insurance. You may be surprised that by becoming proactive in this area of personal financial planning, you could save yourself a substantial amount of money and more effectively protect you and your family. Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. O&E readers can submit questions to be answered in print and online at [moneymatters@hometownlife.com](mailto:moneymatters@hometownlife.com). Listen to Rick from noon to 3 p.m. Sundays on WDTK-AM (1400) or visit his Web site at [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com).

## Learn to write a business plan at Schoolcraft seminar

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overview of what comprises a dynamic, realistic business plan. Attendees will receive worksheets that outline the basic items in a business plan, and fine-tune the document with their own market research and financial information.

The seminar is scheduled for 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 14, and 9:30 to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 14. The fee is \$40 per person.

For more information or to register, call the Schoolcraft College Business Development Center at 734-462-4438.

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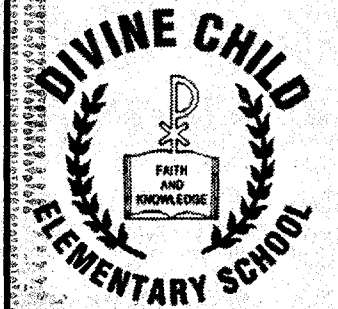
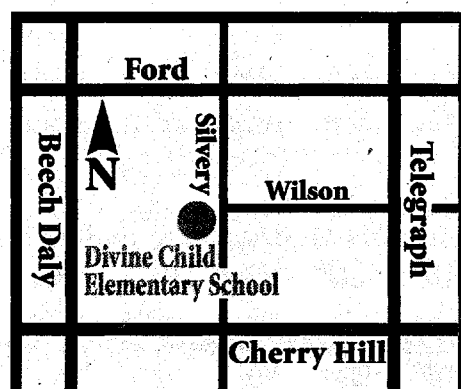
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# Detroit Zoo's not just a summer place

BY JULIE BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

Linda Theodore of Bloomfield Hills and twin daughters Grace and Sutton, 4½, found their way to the Detroit Zoo Friday, Jan. 12. They were among the morning visitors to the Butterfly Garden.

"They love this section," she said of her daughters. "It's a great day to come." The family has a zoo membership.

"We come a lot," Theodore said. "In the winter it's especially nice." The family likes the polar bears, and the girls learn about animals.

The Detroit Zoo's open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily in the winter, and many hardy souls visit.

"This winter's been great because we've had such mild weather," said zoo spokeswoman Patricia Mills. "And there's so much to do here in the winter."

The Butterfly Garden, maintained at 75 degrees, features more than 40 species of butterflies from Costa Rica and El Salvador. Docents Sally Rubiner of West Bloomfield and George Williams of Huntington Woods were there Jan. 12, teaching about the butterflies.

"Love for the zoo," he said of his reason for going through docent training and volunteering. "Celebrating saving wildlife."

Rubiner agreed. "The camaraderie is wonderful, not only with the guests. This is a particularly wonderful place because nobody ever comes in here angry." Before volunteering, Rubiner used to visit to sit and read or chat.

"They're all wonderful people and then of course the butterflies are just wonderful," said Williams, adding the keepers are helpful with questions.

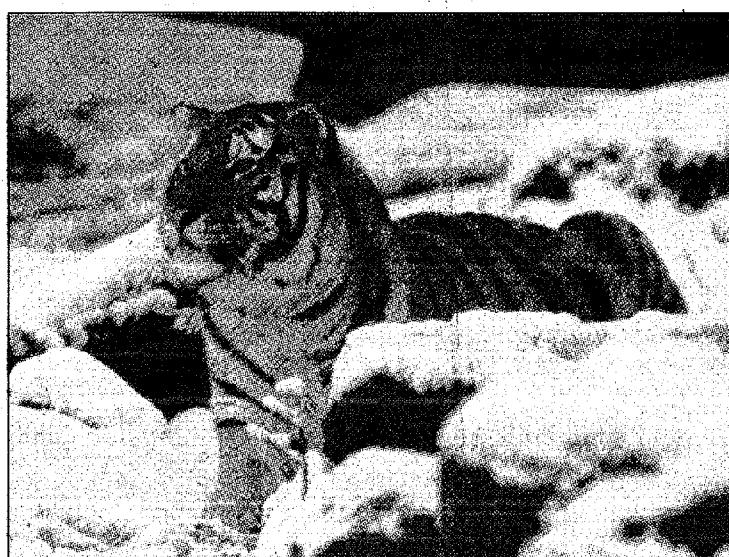
The Arctic Ring of Life also offers indoors refuge, said Mills, a Franklin resident. It features a 70-foot Polar Passage with diving and swimming polar bears and seals.

Mills noted the zoo, at 10 Mile and Woodward in Royal Oak, drew just over one million visitors in 2006.

"Particularly for stay at home



The Arctic Ring of Life at the Detroit Zoo is among the attractions visitors enjoy during the winter. The zoo stays open all year and draws a number of visitors.



Tigers, such as this one at the Detroit Zoo, have regal bearing.

moms, there's always something to do and see," she said. "The animals are always doing something different."

Winter also offers smaller crowds, she said, and some animals are more active.

Visiting Jan. 12 were Jason Bialk of Southfield with son Owen, 4½. Owen's favorite is "the zebras."

The Bialks are also zoo members. "Just taking him out, got a day off work," Bialk said. "Hopefully, it doesn't rain too hard. I have three kids and it's

just something great to do with them all."

The Japanese macaques, commonly known as snow monkeys, enjoy their outdoor hot tub in the winter. The Amur tigers, wolverines, red pandas, Asian wild horses, elk and bison also adapt well to cold weather and become more active.

Other indoor experiences at the zoo include the National Amphibian Conservation Center; the Penguinarium, home to 63 King, Rockhopper and Macaroni penguins; and

the Holden Museum of Living Reptiles, which houses more than 85 species of animals, including snakes, turtles, lizards and crocodilians. In addition, the Great Apes of Harambee, giraffe, white rhino, primate and river otter habitats all have indoor viewing areas.

## Wild Winter Weekends offer fun to young, old

The Detroit Zoo has a sure cure for the winter blahs this season with Wild Winter Weekends. The series of winter-themed events includes a wild Carnival and an animal kingdom Zoobilee. Wild Winter festivities will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the second weekends in February and March at the Ford Education Center.

Wild Winter Weekends offer entertainment for the whole family and are a fun way to experience the magic of the zoo in the wintertime. Guests can enjoy their favorite animal habitats, both indoors and out, as well as special activities, including children's music, keeper talks, games and crafts.

### WILD WINTER CARNIVAL - FEB. 10-11

The Wild Winter Carnival features face painting, carnival games, the magic of the Impossible Man, magician Dan Gilbert, and the roaming entertainment of the Yo-Yo Man, Zeemo.

### WILD WINTER ZOOBILEE - MARCH 10-11

The Wild Winter Zoobilee is a celebration of the animal kingdom with animal arts and crafts and an animal-themed scavenger hunt. Animal enrichment activities and talks by the zoo's expert keepers round out the festivities.

The Detroit Zoological Society is a nonprofit organization that operates the Detroit Zoo and Belle Isle Nature Zoo. Situated on 125 acres of naturalistic exhibits, the Detroit Zoo is at the intersection of 10 Mile and Woodward, just off I-696, in Royal Oak.

The Detroit Zoo is open daily 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. November through March and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. April through October.

Admission is \$11 for adults 13 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 12; children under 2 are free. For more information, call (248) 541-5717 or visit [www.detroitzoo.org](http://www.detroitzoo.org).

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Fill out the coupon below and send it in along with a photo of your baby. Be sure to include a stamped, self addressed envelope if you'd like your photo returned. **All entries must be received by February 10th, 2007.**

Two lucky entries will be picked from a random drawing for dinner gift certificates, one valued at \$100 and the other valued at \$50. The winning babies will be published again on Sunday, February 25th, 2007.

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CALENDAR

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Worship services

All are welcome to attend worship services 10 a.m. Sundays at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Five Mile and Inkster roads, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-1470.

The Gap

A new youth Sunday School (God Always Present) at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, south of Ford Road. Lessons are taught using various media, computers, story-telling, games, cooking, music and art, and a small theater complete with popcorn-making machine. Adult Bible study at 8:30 a.m. with a traditional service and The Gap at 10 a.m. Child care available. Mustard Seed contemporary service at 6 p.m. with refreshments served afterward. Call (734) 421-7620.

Qigong

The ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine. A safe and effective way to rid the body of toxic pathogens and years of painful emotions. Learn the art of natural movement and breath to cultivate vital life energy. Classes at Livonia Unity,

28660 Five Mile. Monday - movement Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday - Qigong meditation, 10-11:15 a.m., and Friday - Therapeutic Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m. Call (810) 813-4073 for more information or send e-mail to gary@energeticarts.org.

Worship services

At 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays with an education hour from 9:30-10:40 a.m. at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland. Social hour follows each service. Call (734) 722-1735.

Community Bible study

Studying the Book of Corinthians, breakfast at 7 a.m. for Bible study from 8-9 a.m. at the Kerby Coney Island, Haggerty Road just north of Eight Mile. Come when you can, leave when you must. For more information, call (248) 924-2779.

Contemporary service

New informal service in a casual environment 6 p.m. Sunday at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, south of Ford. Fellowship hour after services including 10 a.m. traditional. Call (734) 421-7620.

Trinity Episcopal Church

Sunday worship 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., Bible studies Sundays at 8:50 a.m. and Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m., at the church 11575 Belleville Road, four miles south of Michigan Avenue, Belleville. Call

(734) 699-3361.

New contemporary service

9 a.m. on the last Sunday of the month, at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard, Livonia. A group of church members present a short drama on a theme relevant to the season, a church event, or current newsworthy situation. For more information, call (734) 422-0494.

Prayer group

Join in 7 p.m. Thursdays for music, singing, prayer and friendship at St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Come to the back of the church, enter entrance No. 2. For more information, call Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656, or Geri at (734) 464-8906.

Women of the Word

Tuesday Ladies Bible Study from 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays, at Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile. \$15 registration fee includes interdenominational study materials. Child care available for children through age 5. For more information, call (248) 348-7600.

New modern-style worship

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia, just north of I-96,

presents a modern-style worship service. The multimedia service is informal, using modern and praise music, led by vocalists and various instruments. Dramas, led by the members, are often a part of this service. The service is held at 9:45 a.m. each Sunday, between the traditional services at 8:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday School, youth and adult Bible classes at 9:45 a.m. and 11 a.m. each Sunday. For information, call Linda Hollman, Outreach director, at (734) 522-6830.

Adat Shalom

Synagogue services at 6 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday; 7:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. weekdays; and 8:30 a.m. Sunday at Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills. For more information, call (248) 851-5100.

Welcome to the church

Would you like to know more about the Catholic Church? Are you already baptized Catholic and have been away from the church? Now is the time to inquire about coming into the church or returning to the community of believers. Call Our Lady of Sorrows at (248) 615-5574 for more information.

Self-help groups

Local church provides space for self-help

groups. Overeaters Anonymous, a 12-step program for eating disorders, meets at 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Alcoholics Anonymous, a 12-step program for alcohol-related problems, meets at 8 p.m. Wednesdays and at 7 p.m. Saturdays. Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, a 12-step program for co-dependency and destructive relationship problems, meets at 7:30 p.m. Mondays at First Baptist Church, 300 Willits, one block north of Maple, one block west of Old Woodward. Parking adjacent to church's north entrance.

Addiction No More

Do you have any addictive behavior problems - drugs, alcohol, overeating, gambling, etc.? Come to the meeting 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday in Room 202 at Detroit World Outreach, 23800 W. Chicago, Redford. For more information, call (313) 255-2222, Ext. 244.

Wednesday Evening Prayer

At 7 p.m. Wednesday. This is not a structured service but an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests, at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Call (248) 476-8860.

Your Invitation To Worship

BAPTIST

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

33640 Michigan Ave. • Wayne, MI (Between Wayne Rd. & Merriman Rd.) (734) 728-2180 Virgil Humes, Pastor



Saturday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m. Sunday Worship 7:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. • Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Wednesday Praise Service 6:00 p.m. • Wednesday Children, Youth and Adult Bible Study 7:00-8:30 p.m.

UNITED METHODIST

Clareville United Methodist 20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia 248-474-3444 Pastor Beth Librande Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Nursery Provided

Redford Aldersgate 2 blocks South of Plymouth 10000 Beech Daly 313-937-3170 9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sun. Sch. 11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship www.redfordaldersgate.org

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96 734-522-6830 Sunday Worship 8:15 & 11:00 am - Traditional 9:45 - Modern Staffed Nursery Available Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Pastors: Robert F Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden

Canton Christian Fellowship

"Where the Word is Relevant, People are Loved and Christ is the Key" Join us for Worship Service at 10:30am Sunday School and/or New Members Orientation: 9:00am Located at 8775 Ronda Drive, Canton, MI, 48187 Between Haggerty Road and Lilley Road SW corner of Joy Road and Ronda Drive 734-404-2480 www.CantonCCF.org It's not about Religion, it's about Relationships.



More than Sunday Services" Worship Service 9:00, 10:30 & 11:00 a.m. • Dynamic Youth and Children's Programs • Excellent Music Ministries • Small Groups For Every Age • Outreach Opportunities Pastor: Dr. Dean Klump Associate Pastor: Rev. David Wichert First United Methodist Church of Plymouth 45201 North Territorial Road (West of Sheldon Road) (734) 453-5280 www.pfumc.org

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH "Open Hearts, Minds & Doors" 36500 Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne & Newburgh Rds. 734-422-0149 Worship Service and Sunday School 9:15 & 11:00 a.m. Rev. Marsha M. Woolley Visit our website: www.newburgumc.org

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD 25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY 313-532-2266 REDFORD TWP. Worship Service 9:15 & 11:00 A.M. Sunday School 9:15 & 11:00 A.M. Nursery Provided The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pastor The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor

HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 9600 Levee • So. Redford • 313-937-2424 Rev. Jonathan Manor, Sr. Pastor Sunday Morning Worship 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Education Hour 9:45 a.m. Christian School Pre-Kindergarten-8th Grade For more information call 313-937-2233

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ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 16360 Hubbard Road Livonia, Michigan 48154 734-421-8451 Wednesday 9:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist Saturday 5:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist Sunday 7:45 & 10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist Office Hours 9 A.M. - 3 P.M. www.standrewschurch.net The Rev. John W. Henry II Rector

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WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church 40000 Six Mile Road "just west of I-275" Northville, MI 248-374-7400 Traditional Worship 9:00 & 10:20 A.M. Contemporary Worship 11:40 A.M. Nursery & Sunday School During All Morning Worship Services Evening Service • 7:00 P.M. Services Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday WMUZ 560 AM For additional information visit www.wardchurch.org

Risen Christ Lutheran LC-MS David W. Martin, Pastor 46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth (1 Mile West of Sheldon) (734) 453-5252 Sunday Worship 8:15 & 10:45 am Sunday School (Children & Adults) 9:30 am All are Welcome Come as you are! www.risenchrist.info

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RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH 48755 Warren Rd., Canton, Michigan 48187 451-0444 REV. RICHARD A. PERFETTO Weekday Masses Tuesday & Friday 8:30 a.m. Saturday - 4:30 p.m. Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

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Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church (USA) 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494 www.rosedalegardens.org Contemporary Service 8:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am We Welcome You To A Full Service Church Rev. Richard Peters, Pastor Rev. Kellie Whitlock, Associate Pastor

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St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church St. Genevieve School - Pre-K-8 29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220 (East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries) MASS: Tues. 7 p, Wed., Thurs. 9 a, Sat. 4 p, Sun 11a St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church 32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616 (between Merriman & Farmington Roads) MASS: Mon. 8:30 a, Fri. 8:30 a, Sat. 6 p, Sun 9a

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH 14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills (248) 661-9191 Sunday Worship and Children's Church 9:15 a.m. Contemporary 11:00 a.m. Traditional Child Care provided for all services Youth Groups • Adult Small Groups

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth 1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI 734-453-0970 Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m. Reading Room located at church Saturday 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. 734-453-0970

St. James Presbyterian Church, USA 25350 West Six Mile Rd. Redford (313) 534-7730 Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M., Sunday School - 10:15 A.M., Thursday Dinners - 6:00 P.M. Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm Nursery Care Provided • Handicapped Accessible Rev. Paul S. Bousquette

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196

Timothy Lutheran Church A Reconciling in Christ Congregation 8820 Wayne Rd. (Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road) Livonia • 427-2290 Jill Hegdal, Pastor 10:00 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Available)

For Church Directory changes and information regarding advertising in this directory, please call Donna Hart (734) 953-2153 the Friday before publication.

To mail copy: The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or Fax to (734) 953-2121

# Be wary of urban coyotes in our neighborhoods

It's that time again. Coyotes are cautiously carousing the well-heeled streets and palatial lawns of the Bloomfields and Rochester. They are hunting in frosty meadows of Springfield and along river banks and rail-ways. Polly Ann, Paint Creek and West Bloomfield trails and the shoulders of express-ways are their trailways.

Once again, it's time for me to address the increasingly edgy "issue" of street-wise urban coyotes that live in our midst.

As December morphs into January, the breeding season of *Canis latrans* begins. And hormone-driven coyote activity increases sightings and brings an increase in concerns.

Coyotes are no longer mystic icons of the Old West howling to the moon. This highly intelligent, curious, elusive and, above all adaptable, wild predator is very much at home in Oakland County. But we are not as willing to adapt to the coyote's ways as it is to ours.

Coyotes don't care if you live in a gated community, or up by me, where neighbors raise chickens and ride horses. Coyotes care about habitat. And as a great habitat generalist — that means most any habitat will do — there is plenty of "good stuff" for coy-



**On Nature**

Jonathan Schechter

otes. There is one coyote myth that needs debunking: Coyote populations are not increasing because they have fled the bulldozer. They are thriving because we have created a beckoning Mecca, an Eden of earthly landscaped delights with plenty of mice, voles, rabbits, birds, rats, carrion and cats to go around. And, of course, dog food, small off-leash dogs, trash and bird seed spillage and, sometimes, deliberately placed food rounds out the menu.

Coyote tracks are near my barn. Sometimes I hear a yip. I enjoy their presence, the perception of wildness they bring. But for some, just thoughts of coyotes "lurking" in their landscape is about as welcome as General Sherman's approach was to the elite of Atlanta.

If you want to avoid inter-actions with increasingly bold coyotes, it's up to you.

Five or six years ago, I wrote coyotes never attack people. I don't say that anymore. And when I talk about predators and hazards to



As this poster proposes - leave wild coyotes alone.

humans, I mention (to keep things in perspective) that hundreds of humans are injured every year by deer with about a dozen deaths, yet no one is phobic about deer. Coyotes, however, can cause anxiety as they become habituated to humans.

Step 1 in habituation happens rapidly when schools and park agencies are afraid

to talk honestly about coyotes because facts may "upset people," ignoring the truth that education is the key to most wildlife "conflicts." Step 2: Coyotes come close for easy access to food scraps and trash. Step 3 in habituation: When we see a coyote we turn and run. Running tells a coyote we are weak — we are possible prey.

Close encounters with coyotes should always result in non-lethal negative consequences for the coyote. Yell. Bang pots. Throw things. Let coyotes know humans are mean and nasty. Locally, most negative interactions with coyotes have been pet-related. Sometimes cats, occasionally dogs. In California, nips on humans are becoming more common.

Unfortunately, we tend to be non-thinking, non-aware and reactive. We hire trappers. We call government agencies to complain about coyotes. We act helpless.

Passing responsibility and not changing our behavior pattern will not alter coyote behavior. I'm guilty too: I put out feed for wild turkey. Grain attracts rabbits and mice and stupefies the turkeys with grain gluttony and makes easy entrees for coyotes 100 feet from my door.

Be coyote kind. Teach fear of humans and throw a stone. Appropriately directed human aggression is true compassion for a wild coyote, for coyotes that become bold and fearless will end up dangerous and dead. Keep them wild. And never, ever turn and run.

Jonathan Schechter writes on nature's way. He can be reached at oaknature@aol.com.

## Schoolcraft seminar aimed at business start-ups

Entrepreneurs who need help starting their own business have opportunities for expert advice at Schoolcraft College.

How to Start a Small Business: From Vision to Reality will be offered four times during February and March. The February dates are 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7, and 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 21. In March, the seminar is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 7, and 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, March 21.

The seminar fee is \$30 per person.

The session will examine the basics of starting a business, the advantages of networking, and when it is necessary to use community resources in developing a new business. Participants will have the opportunity to network and will become familiar with resources to contact when questions arise.

For more information or to register, call the Schoolcraft College Business Development Center at 734-462-4438.

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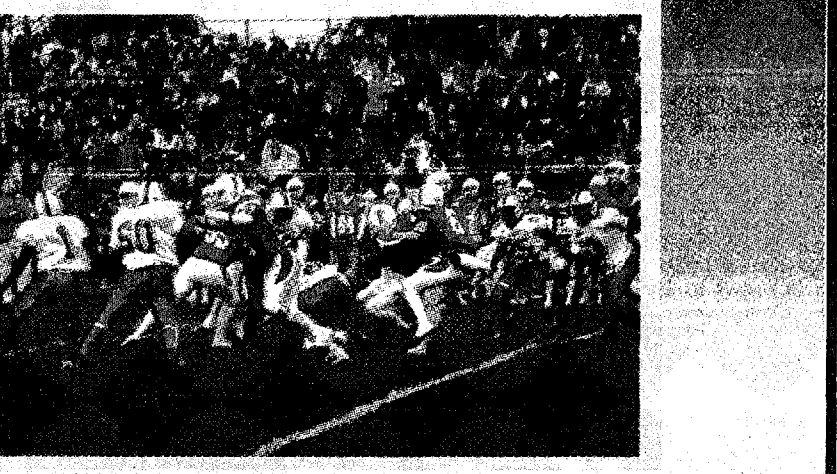
## Divine Child High School

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## OPEN HOUSE

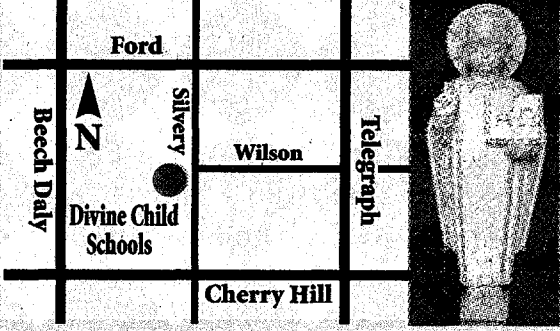
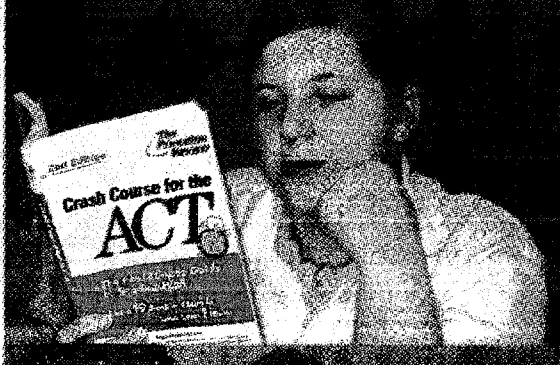
Thursday, February 1, 2007  
7 - 8:30 pm



Test/College Data: **Graduating Class of 2006**  
ACT Standings

	English	Math	Reading	Science	Comp
National	20.6	20.8	21.4	20.9	21.1
Michigan	20.7	21.2	21.8	21.7	21.5
<b>Divine Child</b>	<b>24.2</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>25.0</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>24.0</b>

Class of 2006: Attending College 99%  
Academic Scholarships 70%  
Scholarships Earned \$4.4 million



- College Preparatory Curriculum
- Advanced Placement Classes
- Honor Classes
- 70% of Faculty have Masters or Specialist Degrees
- Athletics - 24 Organized Sport Teams
- Highest Average 2006 ACT Standings
- Spiritual Liturgies
- Extra Curricular & Social Activities (30 organized clubs)
- Scholarship/Financing Available



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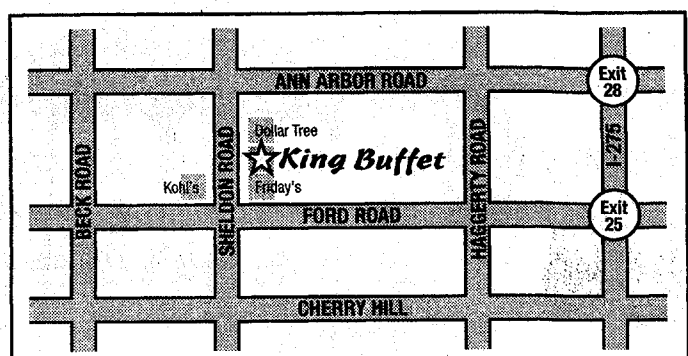


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### Lunch Specials:

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These lunch specials served with Fried Rice or Steamed Rice and choice of Egg Roll or Crab Rangoon

- 1. Sweet & Sour Chicken.....4.50
- 2. Chicken with Broccoli.....4.50
- 3. Moo Goo Gai Pan.....4.50
- 4. Yu-Hsiang Chicken\*.....4.50
- 5. Cashew Chicken.....4.50
- 6. Kung Pao Chicken\*.....4.50
- 7. Chicken with Vegetables.....4.50
- 8. Garlic Chicken.....4.50
- 9. Chicken Chow Mein.....4.50
- 10. Curry Chicken\*.....4.50
- 11. Beef with Broccoli.....4.50
- 12. Pepper Steak with Onion.....4.50
- 13. Yu-Hsiang Beef\*.....4.50
- 14. Beef Chow Mein.....4.50
- 15. Beef with Vegetables.....4.50
- 16. Kung Pao Beef\*.....4.50
- 17. Yu-Hsiang Pork\*.....4.50
- 18. Twice Cooked Pork\*.....4.50
- 19. Sweet & Sour Pork.....4.50
- 20. Garlic Pork.....4.50
- 21. Pork Chow Mein.....4.50
- 22. Vegetables Delight.....4.50
- 23. Yu-Hsiang Broccoli\*.....4.50
- 24. Shrimp with Broccoli.....4.95
- 25. Yu-Hsiang Shrimp\*.....4.95
- 26. Cashew Shrimp.....4.95
- 27. Kung Pao Shrimp\*.....4.95
- 28. Shrimp with Vegetables.....4.95
- 29. Shrimp with Lobster Sauce.....4.95
- 30. Curry Shrimp\*.....4.95
- 31. Shrimp Chow Mein.....4.95
- 32. Garlic Shrimp.....4.95
- 33. Sweet & Sour Shrimp.....4.95
- 34. General Tso's Chicken\*.....4.95
- 35. Sesame Chicken.....4.95
- 36. Shrimp & Chicken Hunan Style\*.....4.95
- 37. Triple Delight.....4.95

### Fried Rice

- 38. Chicken Fried Rice.....4.50
- 39. Vegetable Fried Rice.....4.50
- 40. Beef Fried Rice.....4.50
- 41. Pork Fried Rice.....4.50
- 42. Shrimp Fried Rice.....4.50
- 43. Combo Fried Rice.....4.50

### Lo Mein

- 44. Chicken Lo Mein.....4.50
- 45. Vegetable Lo Mein.....4.50
- 46. Beef Lo Mein.....4.50
- 47. Pork Lo Mein.....4.50
- 48. Shrimp Lo Mein.....4.50
- 48. Combo Lo Mein.....4.50

### Appetizers

- 50. Egg Roll(1).....1.00
- 51. Fried Wonton(8).....2.25
- 52. Fried Chicken Wings(4).....2.95
- 53. Fried Shrimp(3).....3.00
- 54. Bar-B-Q Chicken (4).....3.95
- 55. Crab Rangoon.....(3) 2.00...(6) 3.95
- 56. Steamed or Fried Dumplings(6).....4.25
- 57. Pu Pu Tray (for 2).....7.25  
*(Includes: egg roll, fried shrimp, bar-b-q chicken, crab rangoon and fried chicken wing)*

### Soups

- 58. Egg Drop Soup.....1.50
- 59. Wonton Soup.....1.50
- 60. Hot & Sour Soup\*.....1.50
- 61. House Special Soup (for 2).....4.95  
*(chicken, shrimp, scallops)*
- 62. House Noodle Soup.....5.95  
*(chicken, shrimp, beef)*

\* Denotes HOT & SPICY



**Saturday Dinner & Sunday All Day Buffet...\$10.99**  
(Including Lobster)

### Dinner Dishes:

All dinners served with Steamed Rice

#### Poultry

- 63. Sweet & Sour Chicken.....7.50
- 64. Chicken with Broccoli.....7.50
- 65. Moo Goo Gai Pan.....7.50
- 66. Cashew Chicken.....7.50
- 67. Kung Pao Chicken\*.....7.50
- 68. Almond Chicken.....7.50
- 69. Lemon Chicken.....7.50
- 70. Moo Shu Chicken.....7.50
- 71. Yu-Hsiang Chicken\*.....7.50
- 72. Szechuan Chicken\*.....7.50
- 73. Hunan Chicken\*.....7.50
- 74. Chicken with Snow Peas.....7.50
- 75. Curry Chicken\*.....7.50
- 76. Empress Chicken\*.....7.50
- 77. Chicken with Vegetables.....7.50

#### Beef

- 78. Mongolian Beef.....7.50
- 79. Beef with Broccoli.....7.50
- 80. Yu-Hsiang Beef\*.....7.50
- 81. Szechuan Beef\*.....7.50
- 82. Hunan Beef\*.....7.50
- 83. Beef with Vegetables.....7.50
- 84. Kung Pao Beef\*.....7.50
- 85. Moo Shu Beef.....7.50
- 86. Pepper Steak with Onion.....7.50
- 87. Beef with Snow Peas.....7.50
- 88. Sha Cha Beef\*.....7.50

#### Seafood

- 89. Sweet & Sour Shrimp.....8.50
- 90. Shrimp with Snow Peas.....8.50
- 91. Cashew Shrimp.....8.50
- 92. Kung Pao Shrimp\*.....8.50
- 93. Shrimp with Broccoli.....8.50
- 94. Moo Shu Shrimp.....8.50
- 95. Yu-Hsiang Shrimp\*.....8.50
- 96. Szechuan Shrimp\*.....8.50
- 97. Hunan Shrimp\*.....8.50
- 98. Curry Shrimp\*.....8.50
- 99. Shrimp with Lobster Sauce.....8.50
- 100. Shrimp with Vegetables.....8.50
- 101. Yu-Hsiang Scallops\*.....8.50

#### Pork

- 102. Sweet & Sour Pork.....7.50
- 103. Moo Shu Pork.....7.50
- 104. Yu-Hsiang Pork\*.....7.50
- 105. Twice Cooked Pork\*.....7.50
- 106. Hunan Pork\*.....7.50
- 107. Pork with Vegetables.....7.50

#### Vegetables

- 108. Vegetarian's Delight.....6.50
- 109. Moo Shu Vegetables.....6.50
- 110. Yu-Hsiang Broccoli\*.....6.50
- 111. Family Style Bean Curd\*.....6.50
- 112. Bean Curd Szechuan Style\*.....6.50

### Chow Mein

(Crispy Noodle)

- 113. Chicken Chow Mein.....6.50
- 114. Beef Chow Mein.....6.50
- 115. Pork Chow Mein.....6.50
- 116. Shrimp Chow Mein.....7.50
- 117. Combo Chow Mein.....7.50

### Lo Mein

(Soft Noodle)

- 118. Chicken Lo Mein.....6.50
- 119. Beef Lo Mein.....6.50
- 120. Pork Lo Mein.....6.50
- 121. Vegetable Lo Mein.....6.50
- 122. Shrimp Lo Mein.....7.50
- 123. Combo Lo Mein.....7.50

### Fried Rice

- 124. Chicken Fried Rice.....5.95
- 125. Beef Fried Rice.....5.95
- 126. Pork Fried Rice.....5.95
- 127. Vegetable Fried Rice.....5.95
- 128. Shrimp Fried Rice.....6.95
- 129. Combo Fried Rice.....6.95

### Side Orders

- 130. Steamed Rice.....0.50
- 131. Fried Rice.....1.25
- 132. Crispy Noodle.....0.50
- 133. Fortune Cookie.....0.10
- 134. Soft Drink.....1.25

### Chef's Specialty:

Served with Steamed Rice

- C1. General Tso's Chicken\*.....8.95  
*(Chunks of chicken quickly deep fried with red pepper, garlic & ginger in a red, hot & sweet sauce)*
- C2. Sesame Chicken.....8.95  
*(Crispy chicken with chicken in spicy, sweet brown sauce)*
- C3. Peking Chicken\*.....8.95  
*(Crispy chicken with peppers, carrots, mushrooms & celery in a Peking style special sauce)*
- C4. Orange Flavor Chicken\*.....8.95  
*(Crispy chicken in our orange flavor hot & spicy sauce)*
- C5. Orange Flavor Beef\*.....8.95  
*(Chunk slices of beef, sauteed in our orange flavor hot & spicy sauce)*
- C6. Orange Flavor Shrimp\*.....9.95  
*(Jumbo shrimp deep fried in our orange flavor hot & spicy sauce)*
- C7. Hunan Double Delight\*.....9.95  
*(Jumbo shrimp & chicken with green pepper, broccoli, carrots, mushrooms & water chestnuts in our special garlic sauce)*
- C8. Yu-Hsiang Delight\*.....9.95  
*(Beef, shrimp & chicken with select vegetables in spicy garlic sauce)*
- C9. Scallop Beef.....9.95  
*(Fresh scallops with slices of beef in light brown sauce)*
- C10. Happy Family.....9.95  
*(A combination of chicken, shrimp, beef, pork & scallops sauteed with assorted vegetables in chef's special sauce)*
- C11. Seafood Combination.....9.95  
*(King crab, shrimp & scallops stir-fried with vegetables)*

\* Denotes HOT & SPICY

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# McCotter supports Bush on war, but not domestic proposals

BY HUGH GALLAGHER  
STAFF WRITER

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter (R-Livonia) finds himself in an odd position. While supporting President George W. Bush's new Iraq strategy, McCotter is unhappy with many of the domestic proposals announced Tuesday during the president's State of the Union address.

"I'm going to be more conservative than my conservative president," McCotter said Wednesday in phone conversation from his Washington office.

McCotter said Bush would try governing from the center-left to reach out to the Democratic majority in hopes of winning their support for the war in Iraq.

"He dealt with a Democratic Legislature in Texas, so this is not unusual for him," McCotter said.

McCotter compared Bush's strategy to President Clinton's attempts to deal with a Republican majority by working from the center-right to reduce government spending.

"He's taking a page from the Bill Clinton playbook," McCotter said.

McCotter had a long list of areas where he disagreed with Bush on domestic issues, particularly in areas that he thought were detrimental to Michigan.

"In terms of domestic initiatives, I'm not happy to hear about the CAFE (corporate average fuel economy) proposal. It's hard to see that as being very helpful," he said. "It will hurt manufacturing in Michigan and the country."

McCotter said he doesn't support the president's health care insurance proposal.

Under the plan, workers who receive up to \$15,000 in health insurance would receive a tax deduction, but those who pay for a better insurance program would pay a tax on any premium over \$15,000.

McCotter said the plan is a tax increase and that UAW workers would be among those paying the tax.

Bush received applause from Democrats for his continued support of a guest worker program for illegal immigrants. McCotter was a strong supporter of a House-passed immigration bill that did not include a guest worker plan and proposed stricter enforcement measures.

"I'm still against the guest worker plan. It is amnesty, no matter what he calls it," McCotter said.

He said with a new Democratic-controlled House, chances were much better that the president's immigration program would pass. A bill supported by the president was passed in the Senate last year.

## SUPPORTS WAR STRATEGY

On Iraq, McCotter said he supports the president's new initiative to send 21,500 additional U.S. troops to Iraq to reinforce combat forces in Baghdad and the al Anbar province.

"The troops are there or are being sent; it will work or it won't," he said.

On Monday, McCotter, chair of the Republican Policy Committee, joined with House Minority Leader John Boehner of Ohio and Republican Conference Chairman Adam Putnam of Florida to call for a select committee to monitor implementation of Bush's new strategy. A letter was sent to Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi requesting that she form the committee with an equal number of Republicans and



McCotter

Democrats. The proposal calls for a series of "strategic benchmarks" for measuring progress in Iraq. These include military benchmarks of Iraqi government cooperation, investment by the Iraqi Army, per-

formance of the Iraqi police force and Iraqi Army rotation to trouble spots. It would also include political benchmarks measuring the Iraqi government's progress in creating a tolerant, peaceful environment, equal access to all Iraqis to resources, democratic reforms, judicial reforms and accountability. The proposal would require monthly reports by the president on meeting

these benchmarks.

"We lose — that would be the consequences of not meeting the benchmarks," McCotter said.

He said he told Bush that he would support the additional troops only if they were being sent as combat forces and not as "contractors and social workers."

On Tuesday, as a member of the House leadership, McCotter escorted the presi-

dent into the House chamber. He said they had a long wait outside.

"It's hard to make small talk with a president, so I didn't," he said.

He said he tries not to become too wrapped up in the ritual.

"I have to listen to what he says and how it affects the district," McCotter said. "It's worked for me. The pageantry

becomes a distraction. I'm there to hear what he says, not to look around. I did that with (former Gov. John) Engler, during the state of state addresses."

McCotter said the recent announcement by Pfizer that it was closing Michigan operations and laying off more than 2,000 workers was devastating.

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# SPORTS

**B** (CP)

Thursday, January 25, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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## Sidelines

### Skating district

The third and final district competition for area high school figure skating teams will take place 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27, at the Taylor Sportsplex, 13333 Telegraph Rd., Taylor.

The top three teams in the high and low categories will advance to the state championship meet in late March at the Detroit Skate Club in West Bloomfield.

Teams competing in the Taylor district include United Farmington (skaters from North, Harrison and Farmington high schools), Livonia Ladywood, Farmington Hills Mercy, Plymouth-Canton, Northville, Milford, White Lake Lakeland, Walled Lake, Ann Arbor Huron and Novi.

Individual competition for skaters attempting to qualify for the state meet will be 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, March 3, at Novi Ice Arena.

### Wildcat gymnastics

The Plymouth gymnastics team compiled 121.20 points in Monday night's tri-meet against Walled Lake Central (125.05) and Walled Lake Western/Northern (131.40).

Among the highlights for the Wildcats were Jordan Brodeh's first-place effort on the floor exercise (8.65) and Danielle Gornick's second-place showing in the event (8.4). Kasey Zebari also shined for coach Diane Hodur's squad, placing third in the vault with an 8.35.

Hodur also praised the performance of first-year competitor Kirsten Engstrom.

### Crusaders 2nd

Coming off a third-place finish in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference a year ago, Indiana Tech has been tabbed as the preseason favorite in the 2007 WHAC baseball poll as chosen by the league's five head coaches.

Madonna, two-time WHAC regular season champions and NAIA Region VIII runner-up, was picked second as the Crusaders return 24 lettermen, including preseason all-conference picks Will Kennedy, a junior pitcher from Westland John Glenn (4-1, 3.34 ERA); senior outfielder Tony Luttmann of Farmington (.321, 11 homers, 64 RBI); and junior DH David Herrick of Livonia Churchill (.331, 16 doubles, 30 RBI). MU is ranked No. 25 in the NAIA national preseason poll.

### MU signs golfer

Madonna University women's golf coach Scott Marzolino recently announced the signing of Jillian Kloc of Belleville High for the first commitment to the 2007-08 freshman class.

The former softball standout switched to golf before her junior year where she finished ninth in the Mega Conference's Red Division tourney. She averaged 91 over 18 holes with a career-best of 41 for nine

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

## Local wrestlers aim to stop Franklin 3-peat

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

Studs are nice, but balance is better.

That's the motto Livonia Franklin has lived by while capturing the past two Observerland Wrestling Invitationals.

The Patriots will be shooting for a three-peat on Saturday when 17 teams converge on Livonia Churchill for the 16th annual meeting of the top grappling squads in Observerland.

In 2006, Franklin outpointed second-place Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, 240.5-225, even though just one Patriot — 125-pound Mike Warren — earned a first-place medal.

"We haven't had a lot of individ-

### 16TH ANNUAL OBSERVERLAND WRESTLING INVITATIONAL

ual champions the past two years — last year we only had one — but we had eight of our 14 wrestlers in the finals, so we get a lot of points from a lot of different people," said Franklin coach Dave Chiola, whose team finished dead last as recently as 2001.

"It's not necessarily the way I'd want to do it. You'd always rather have a lot of studs. But we've shown that a well-balanced team can win it, too."

Heading into Saturday's meet, not one Patriot is ranked No. 1 in his respective weight class in the Observerland individual rankings. However, Chiola's deep and balanced unit is listed first in the

team rankings, just ahead of Canton and Belleville.

Chiola said the impressive roster of teams that annually attends the Observerland meet makes it one of the most-anticipated on his unit's schedule each year.

"It's definitely one we look forward to every year — it's one that's circled on our calendar," said Chiola. "A lot of the kids from the different teams know each other because they attend a lot of the same camps during the summer, and it's big because if you win Observerland, you can say you're the champion of Wayne County for that year."

PLEASE SEE WRESTLING, B3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Nick Steiger (top) is the No. 4-ranked grappler at 125 pounds heading into Saturday's Observerland Invitational wrestling meet set for Saturday at Livonia Churchill High School.

## 'Cats can't corral the Mustangs

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

Something about the Plymouth High School gymnasium brings out the best in Northville's Alvin Storrs.

The Mustangs' senior guard ripped the nets for a gymnasium-record 36 points Tuesday night to lead Northville to a 58-42 victory over the Wildcats. The triumph improved the winners' record to 9-1 overall and 3-0 in the Western Lakes Activities Association's Western Division. Plymouth slipped to 3-7 and 0-3.

Storrs made 16 of 19 free throws.

"We tried to tire him out by playing man-to-man against him, but he ended up tiring us out," said Plymouth coach Tom Van Wagoner, referring to Storrs, who many consider the WLAAs' best player. "He played well, but they had some other kids chip in as well. It wasn't like he was the only one out there."

As usual, the Wildcats received a strong offensive effort from their junior guard tandem of Brandon Roberts and Myron Puryear. Roberts twined a team-high 17 while Puryear added eight. Mike Hanchett also played well, scoring six points. Austin Barnett contributed four points and eight rebounds to the Wildcats' cause.

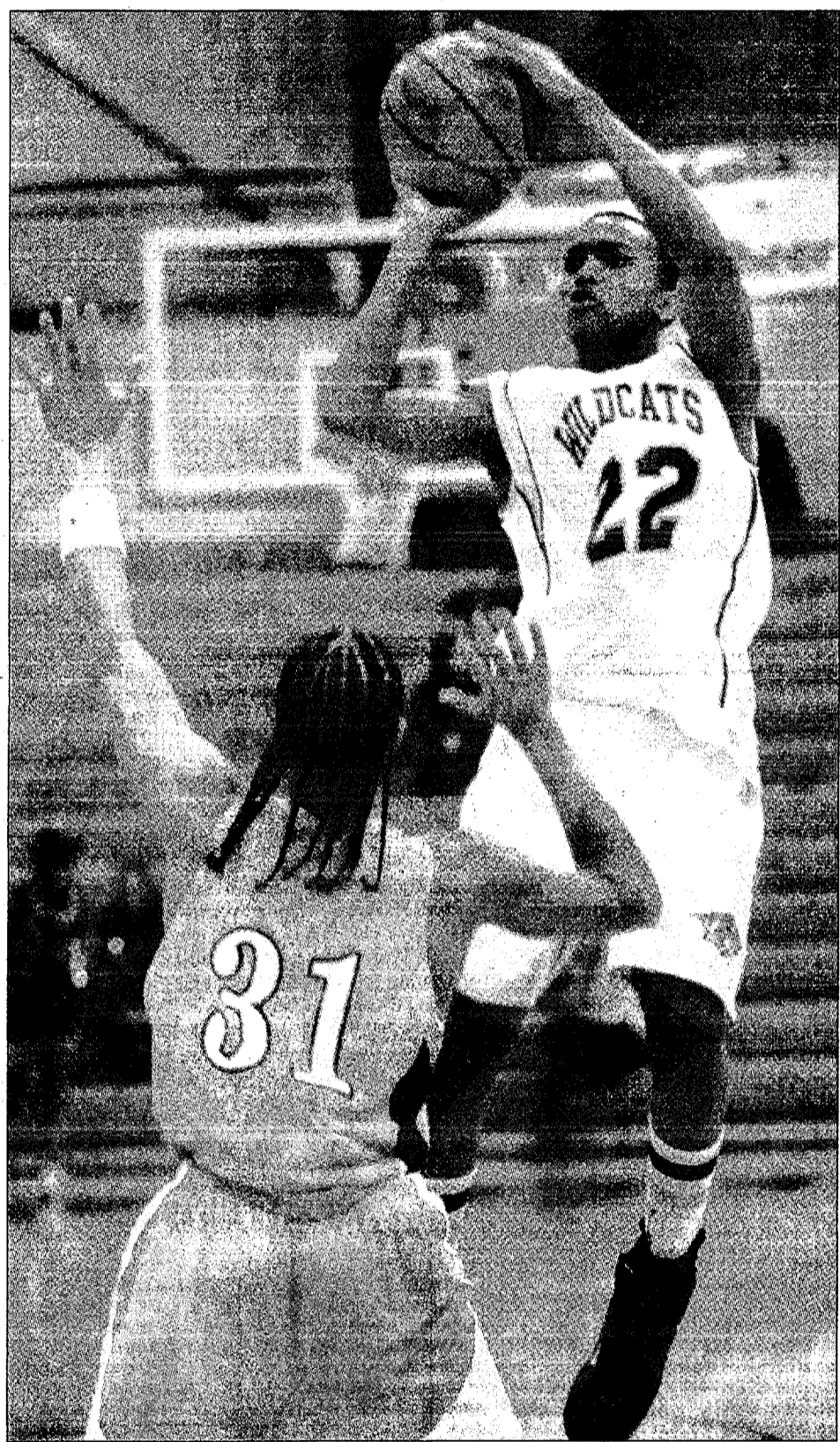
After Storrs, the Mustangs next-highest scorer had six.

Northville led 14-11 after one quarter, 31-25 at the half and 39-30 with eight minutes to play.

"We were only down nine in the fourth quarter, but we didn't make the plays we needed to get back into it," said Van Wagoner. "Brandon had a good game for us. He hit a couple of threes."

Led by Storrs' exceptional free throw shooting, the Mustangs went 20-for-27 from the charity stripe (74 percent). The Wildcats made 7-of-13 attempts (53.8 percent).

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth junior point guard Brandon Roberts fires up a floating jumper over Northville's Alvin Storrs during Tuesday night's Western Lakes Activities Association game at Plymouth. Roberts scored a team-high 17, but the Mustangs triumphed, 58-42.

## Canton gymnasts nip Salem

See complete results on Page B2.

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

Canton's gymnastics team didn't have to wait long to receive a good omen during Tuesday night's talent-rich meet against cross-campus rival Salem.

Senior captain Alyssa Kelley registered a school-record 9.825 score on the vault — the first event of the night — to get the positive vibes rolling for the Chiefs, who went on to record a tense 143.875-141.290 victory over the Rocks in a competition held in the Plymouth High School gymnastics room.

The victory improved Canton's record to 8-1; Salem slipped to 4-1.

"It's always nice to get things rolling with a school record in the first event," said Canton coach John Cunningham. "That definitely got us going. We had four nines on vault tonight, which was a great way to start a meet."

"Another key for us was that none of our top five girls fell on the balance beam. We lost to Troy Athens earlier in the year because we gave up too many five-tenths with falls on the beam."

"We had some difficulties on floor tonight, but other than that, we were pretty solid across the board."

Sophomore Katie Koetting shined for the Rocks, finishing first in the all-around with 37.375 points, just .150 points ahead of runner-up Kelley. The top five was rounded out by Canton Jessie Murray (36.05), Salem's Autumn Collins (35.30) and Canton's Kate (35.15). Koetting placed first in the uneven bars (9.4) and the floor exercise (9.5). Collins (9.5) edged Murray (9.45) to win a tight balance-beam competition. Both teams competed without a top-of-the-line performer as Salem's Sarah Bugosh and Canton's Chelsea Selden were sidelined with injuries.

## Waidmann follows in brothers' successful footsteps

Chief cagers outlast Western, See Page B2

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

Welcome to "Waidmann Lane," the 15-foot-by-12-foot, red-painted section of hardwood that is located under each rim on the Canton High School basketball court.

For most of the past decade, the lanes in the school's Phase III gymnasium have served as basketball proving grounds for members of Canton Township's Waidmann family — from the oldest sibling, 24-year-old Jason, an assistant coach with the Chiefs and student at Eastern Michigan University; to 21-year-old middle son, Jason, a student and decathlete at EMU; and now Ryan, 17, the Chiefs' starting senior center and leading scorer.

Since 1996, all three have been multi-year starters for the Chiefs' basketball team — and very successful ones at that.

While the Waidmanns' long and successful legacy at Canton is approximately

two months from ending, their contributions won't soon be forgotten by fans and coaches who have followed the program since Jason first suited up as a freshman in the mid-90s.

"It's definitely going to be different not having a Waidmann playing for Canton next year," said Canton coach Charlie Paye. "Obviously, we're going to miss the size and inside presence they've brought to the program from a basketball standpoint, but they're also going to be missed because they're such good people."

### LAST BUT NOT LEAST

Ryan Waidmann has done more than his share to uphold the family's rich basketball heritage. At 6-foot-7, he is the tallest of the three brothers, and his ability to take bigger defenders off the dribble makes him possibly the most difficult to guard.

"For a 6-7 guy, Ryan moves very well," said Paye. "He creates match-up problems



Prep Profile

for other teams because he's quicker than most of the big guys who guard him."

The youngest Waidmann put his team on his shoulders in the second half of the Chiefs' Jan. 9 Western Lakes Activities Association cross-over game

against Walled Lake Northern. Following a rough first half during which he turned the ball over six times, Waidmann exploded for 23 second-half points — 17 in the fourth quarter — to lead Canton to a five-point win.

"In the second half of that game, I just started playing basketball and stopped thinking so much," remembered Waidmann, who is averaging close to 15 points and six rebounds per contest this season. "Everything I threw up there was going in. I hit a couple jumpers, some inside shots and I got a couple of 'and-ones,' too."

### BROTHERLY GUIDANCE

PLEASE SEE WAIDMANN, B3

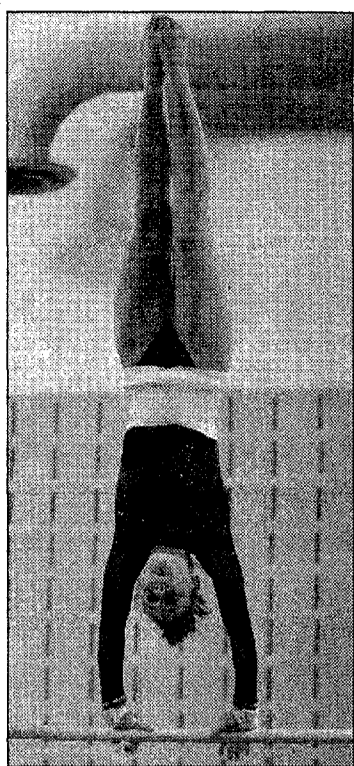


BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton senior center Ryan Waidmann lays the ball into the basket over Salem's Anthony Mullins during a game earlier this year. Following in the footsteps of his two older brothers, Waidmann has been a steady three-year contributor to the Chiefs' varsity.

GYMNASTICS RESULTS

CANTON 143.875 SALEM 141.290 Tuesday at Plymouth H.S. VAULT: 1. Alyssa Kelley (C), 9.825 (new school record); 2. Katie Koetting (S), 9.45; 3. Jessie Murray (C), 9.2; 4. (tie) Kaitlyn Burns (C) and Autumn Collins (S), 9.1; 6. Kate Staley (C), 9.0. UNEVEN BARS: 1. Katie Koetting (S), 9.4; 2. Alyssa Kelley (C), 9.35; 3. Brittany Young (S), 9.05; 4. Kate Staley (C), 8.9; 5. Jessie Murray (C), 8.6; 6. Autumn Collins (S), 8.2. BALANCE BEAM: 1. Autumn Collins (S), 9.5; 2. Jessie Murray (C), 9.45; 3. Alyssa Kelley (C), 9.3; 4. Kate Staley (C), 9.05; 5. Katie Koetting (S), 9.025; 6. Kaitlyn Burns (C), 8.9. FLOOR EXERCISE: 1. Katie Koetting (S), 9.5; 2. Kaitlyn Burns (C), 9.05; 3. Alyssa Kelley (C), 8.95; 4. (tie) Jessie Murray (C) and Kat Kariotis (S), 8.8; 6. Shawdi Dasher (S), 8.55. ALL-AROUND: 1. Katie Koetting (S), 37.375; 2. Alyssa Kelley (C), 37.225; 3. Jessie Murray (C), 36.05; 4. Autumn Collins (S), 35.30; 5. Kate Staley (C), 35.15. FARMINGTON INVITATIONAL Jan. 20 at Farmington Training Center TEAM SCORES: 1. Troy Athens, 143.90; 2. Forest Hills, 143.65; 3. Farmington Unified A, 143.40; 4. Livonia Red, 142.575; 5. Livonia Blue, 141.55; 6. Salem, 140.60; 7. Canton, 139.90; 8. Farmington B-Novi, 133.10; 9. Walled Lake Western-Northern, 131.70; 10. Freeland, 128.35; 11. Walled Lake Central, 128.10; 12. Fraser, 120.10; 13. Troy, 116.325. DIVISION I RESULTS VAULT: 1. Alyssa Kelley (C), 9.6; 2. Emily Quint (LB), 9.55; 3. (tie) Paula Guzik (LR) and Karen Verbrugge (FH), 9.5; 5. Megan Mather (TA), 9.4; 6. Michelle Mather (TA), 9.25; 7. Meghan Powers (LB), 9.2; 8. (tie) Andrea Pisani (LR), Elana Cocke (FA) and Jessica Nieman (FRE), Brooke Madzia (TA) and Alicia Dimauro (LR), 8.9; 15. Lauren Scholtens (FH), 8.875. BARS: 1. Paula Guzik (LR), 9.4; 2. Katie Koetting (S), 9.375; 3. Samantha Kohl (FA), 9.35; 4. Jill Haapaniemi (FA), 9.3; 5. Karen Verbrugge (FH), 9.275; 6. Michelle Mather (TA), 9.25; 7. Emily Quint (LB), 9.2; 8. Hannah Saarinen (WLW-N), 9.15; 9. Andrea Pisani (LR), 9.05; 10. Alyssa Kelley (C), 9.0; 11. Meghan Powers (LB), 8.95; 12. Jessie Murray (C), 8.85; 13. Elana Cocke (FA), 8.8; 14. Megan Mather (TA), 8.775; 15. Autumn Collins (S), 8.75. BEAM: 1. Karen Verbrugge (FH), 9.675; 2. Andrea Pisani (LR), 9.65; 3. Jessica Nieman (FRE), 9.6; 4. Emily Quint (LB), 9.55; 5. Paula Guzik (LR), 9.525; 6. Megan Mather (TA), 9.5; 7. Naomi Cherup (TA), 9.45; 8. Jessie Murray (C), 9.4; 9. Autumn Collins (S), 9.35; 10. Lauren Scholtens (FH), 9.15; 11. Elana Cocke (FA), 9.0; 12. (tie) Katie Koetting (S), Michelle Mather (TA) and Kate Staley (C), 8.95; 15. Samantha Kohl (FA), 8.9. FLOOR: 1. Elana Cocke (FA), 9.4; 2. Andrea Pisani (LR), 9.375; 3. Katie Koetting (S), 9.35; 4. Emily Quint (LB), 9.3; 5. Alyssa Kelley (C), 9.25; 6. Megan Mather (TA), 9.225; 7. Jessie Murray (C), 9.2; 8. Paula Guzik (LR), 9.15; 9. Meghan Powers (LB), 9.1; 10. (tie) Karen Verbrugge (FH) and Samantha Kohl (FA), 9.0; 12. Michelle Mather (TA), 8.75; 13. (tie) Brooke Madzia (TA) and Alicia Dimauro (LR), 8.7. ALL-AROUND: 1. Emily Quint (LB), 37.60; 2. Paula Guzik (LR), 37.575; 3. Karen Verbrugge (FH), 37.45; 4. Andrea Pisani (LR), 37.175; 5. Megan Mather (TA), 36.90; 6. Katie Koetting (S), 36.575; 7. (tie) Elana Cocke (FA) and Samantha Kohl (FA), 36.30; 9. (tie) Alyssa Kelley (C) and Michelle Mather (TA), 36.20; 11. Meghan Powers (LB), 36.05; 12. Jessie Murray (C), 35.75; 13. Autumn Collins (S), 35.15; 14. Lauren Scholtens (FH), 35.075; 15. Brooke Madzia (TA), 35.00.



LORETTA O'FLYNN

Canton's Alyssa Kelley, pictured competing on the uneven bars in a meet earlier this season, led the Chiefs to a narrow victory over Salem on Tuesday.

Canton hoopsters win sixth straight, 42-34

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

The temperature was a balmy 50 degrees, a gallon of gas cost a hefty \$2.50 and there were still six shopping days left before Christmas the last time Canton's basketball team lost.

Yes, it's been a while — Dec. 19, to be exact — since coach Charlie Paye's team has tasted defeat.

On Tuesday, the Chiefs overcame a horrendous early-game shooting rut to knock off Walled Lake Western, 42-34, in a key Western Lakes Activities Association contest played in Canton's Phase III gymnasium.

The victory — Canton's sixth straight since losing its first four — improved the Chiefs' record to 6-4 overall and 3-0 in the WLA's Western Division. The Warriors slipped to 3-7 and 2-1, respectively.

The first quarter was more of a finger painting than a Picasso as both teams' shooting touches were as rusty as the new statue on the corner of Canton Center and Ford roads. After Canton senior guard Ryan Langdon converted a layup off the opening tip, the Chiefs missed 23 consecutive shots.

The good news for Canton: Western was equally cold, which explained the 2-2 score at the end of the first stanza.

Paye wasn't sure if he'd ever coached in such a low-scoring first quarter.

"Maybe a fourth- and fifth-grade game," he said with a smile. "It was frustrating early because we were getting good shots. It's like the kids were getting it inside and fading away and just throwing it up there instead of shooting it."

"It was another game that we may not have deserved to win, but it was huge for us to be able to pull it out."

Canton was paced by junior forward Neil Sharma, who tallied a game-high 17 points, 15 in the second half. Caleb Lerner contributed eight points — and some much-needed energy off the bench — in a reserve role for the Chiefs.

"Caleb was basically the only one who could score for us in the first half, so what he did for us was huge," said Paye. "I don't know where we would have been without him in the first half."

"I thought Caleb, Devy Jackson and Ryan Langdon all gave us good energy. They kept us in the game."

Tony Morgan led the Warriors with 13 points and 11 rebounds. Quinton Cooper added nine points. The Chiefs held

Western's Darryl Warthen to 2-of-17 shooting from the floor.

Both teams heated up following the dismal first quarter and Canton took a 14-13 advantage into the half. Western led by as many as seven in the third quarter before settling for a 25-24 lead with eight minutes to play.

Sharma gave the Chiefs their first second-half lead when he converted a high-light-reel one-handed scoop shot while falling out of bounds with 7:41 left in the game. Canton took the lead for good when Josh Butler threaded a perfect half-court fastbreak pass to Ryan Waidmann, who basket with 4:15 to go put the Chiefs ahead, 31-29.

Sharma, who led the Chiefs with 10 boards, scored Canton's final 11 points, the last six on free throws.

Canton made just 16-of-56 shots from the floor (28.5 percent). Western connected on 16-of-52 (30.7). The Chiefs were prolific from the free throw line, draining 8-of-10. Western hit just 1-of-5 attempts from the charity stripe.

The Warriors were plagued by 18 turnovers. Canton registered just nine miscues.

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Rock cagers notch huge road win

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

It's too early to tell how well Salem's basketball players did on this week's final exams, but the Rocks passed Tuesday night's grueling test against Walled Lake Northern with flying colors.

Salem shrugged off the long, one-hour-plus trek to Northern by knocking off the host Knights, 55-50, in a crucial Western Lakes Activities Association Lakes Division match-up. The victory improved the Rocks to 6-4 overall and 3-0 in the division. Northern fell to 4-6 and 1-2.

Coach Bob Brodie's squad will square off with Westland John Glenn Friday night in a battle of Lakes Division

unbeatens. The game is set to tip off at 7 p.m. in the John Glenn gymnasium.

"Northern pressured us the entire game and we handled it well," said Brodie, whose team has won four straight. "Defensively, I thought Ross Davis and Grant Stone did a good job on Northern's best player, Ryan Bahnmiller. It was a good team effort."

The Rocks not only overcame the long bus ride to Northern, but a tough atmosphere inside the gym as well.

"We've had a lot of home games early, so I wasn't sure how we'd react going on the road against a good team tonight," Brodie said. "Their place was packed, they had the baton twirlers, the pom-pom girls and the music blaring, too, but our kids did a nice job reacting to it."

Stone led Salem with 25 points and nine rebounds. Dan Cassidy, on the heels of Friday night's game-winning three-pointer against Walled Lake Central, added nine.

Bahnmiller had 16 for the Knights. Northern led 18-15 after one quarter and 27-26 at the break. The Rocks forged a 41-38 lead with eight minutes left. Salem led by six with under a minute to go when Bahnmiller delivered a long triple. The Knights then fouled Cassidy, who calmly drained two free throws to put the game on ice.

The Rocks hit 14-of-22 free throws. Northern went 10-of-16 from the charity stripe.

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Agape fastbreaks past Hawks, 80-33

Canton Agape Christian's basketball team was running on all cylinders Tuesday night in its 80-33 victory at Westland Huron Valley Lutheran.

The Wolverines surged to a 28-14 first-quarter lead and never looked back to improve their record to 6-3 overall and 3-0 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference's Red Division. Coach Jim Ott's Hawks slipped to 0-8 and 0-2, respectively.

Ty Majeski paced the winners with 15 points. Jack Anleiter (13 points and seven steals), Showla Olojo (12 points), Joel Ruffin (six points and five assists), Jared Miller (eight points and five rebounds) and Will Pientowski (eight points) also turned in stellar performances for the Wolverines. Kurt Metzger led the Hawks with 16 points.

"We played good man-to-man defense

and we pushed the ball up the court offensively," said Agape coach Keith Anleiter, discussing the keys to his team's lopsided win. We went to a zone in the second half."

Agape raced to a 28-14 lead after one quarter before taking a 46-16 advantage into the half. The Wolves extended their lead to 60-28 after three quarters and outscored their hosts, 20-5, over the final frame.

Agape canned 14-of-17 free throws (82.3 percent). The Hawks were 4-of-6 from the line.

The Wolverines host Ypsilanti Calvary Christian tonight at 7 p.m. at Garden City United Christian Church.

SOUTHFIELD CHRISTIAN 48, PCA 46: On Tuesday at Plymouth Christian, Southfield overcame a four-point deficit with under two minutes left to escape with a big MIAC Blue road win.

Matt Saagman and Devyn Govan both scored 11 points to pace PCA. The winners were led by Steve Lewis's 12 points.

"We were up, 44-40, with 1:20 to go, but we committed a couple of fouls that hurt us," said PCA coach Dave Yost. "We've been in just about every game down the stretch, but we can't seem to finish."

The setback dropped PCA to 5-6 overall and 0-4 in the MIAC Blue. Southfield evened its mark at 5-5.

PCA led 14-12 after one quarter and 22-20 at the half. Southfield owned a 35-33 lead heading into the final eight minutes.

Southfield scored the game-winner with three seconds left on a put-back.

"We did a nice job defensively on their top scorers," said Yost. Steve Lewis was averaging around 18 and we held him to 12. And their other top scorer only had seven."

KiXX boot Ignition

The Detroit Ignition (10-7) fell to the Philadelphia KiXX (9-4), 8-6 in front of 6,840 at the Wachovia Spectrum in Philadelphia, PA on Saturday.

The game-winning two-point goal was scored by Philadelphia's Edgar Bartolomeu with just 11 seconds remaining in the fourth quarter.

The loss dropped the Ignition to 10-7; Philly improved to 9-4 with the win.

Detroit's defense was led by Droo Callahan. On the offensive end, rookie forward Mauricio Salles tallied a two-point goal in his first-ever

Major Indoor Soccer League contest.

The Ignition's Jamar Beasley, who leads the MISL in scoring, netted a pair of goals in the losing cause. Goalkeeper Sanaldo stopped 10-of-14 shots.

IGNITION 18, CALIFORNIA 8: On Friday at the Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth Township, Detroit notched its fifth-consecutive victory in front of a sellout crowd of 3,677.

The game-winning, three-point goal was scored by Ignition captain Novi Marojevic at the 1:35 mark of the second quarter.

THE WEEK AHEAD

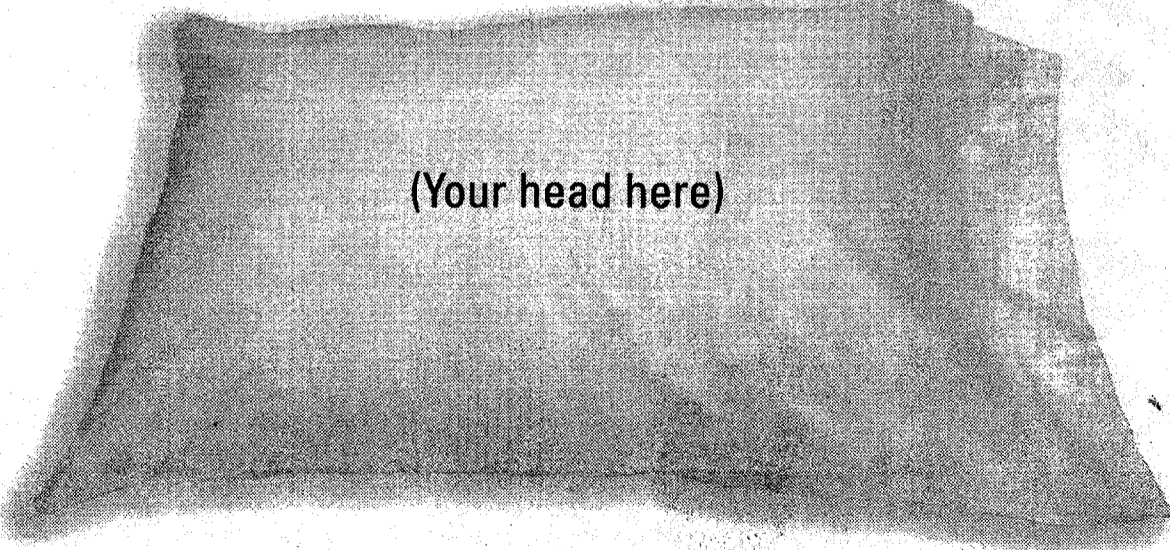
BOYS BASKETBALL Thursday, Jan. 25 Calvary Christian at Agape at G.C. United Christian, 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26 Salem at John Glenn, 7 p.m. Wayne Memorial at Plymouth, 7 p.m. Livonia Franklin at Canton, 7 p.m. Inter-City Baptist at PCA, 7:30 p.m. PREP VOLLEYBALL Thursday, Jan. 25 Canton Agape at PCA, 6:30 p.m. PREP HOCKEY Friday, Jan. 26 Salem at W.L. Central at Lakeland Arena, 8:20 p.m. Utica Stevenson at Canton

at Arctic Edge, 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27 Ladywood vs. Ply.-Canton-Salem at Arctic Pond, 6:30 p.m. PREP WRESTLING Thursday, Jan. 25 Westland John Glenn at Salem, 6:30 p.m. W.L. Western at Plymouth, 6 p.m. Canton at Wayne Memorial, 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27 Observerland Invitational at Livonia Churchill, 9 a.m. BOYS SWIMMING Thursday, Jan. 25 Salem at W.L. Northern, 7 p.m. Plymouth at Livonia Franklin, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 27 Salem at Dexter 9/10 Invite, 11 a.m. GIRLS GYMNASTICS Saturday, Jan. 27 Salem Invitational at Plymouth H.S., 9 a.m. Canton at Troy Athens Invitational, 10:55 a.m. MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Saturday, Jan. 27 Schoolcraft at Kirtland CC, 3 p.m. Madonna at Davenport, 3 p.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Saturday, Jan. 27 Schoolcraft at Kirtland CC, 1 p.m. Madonna at Davenport, 1 p.m.

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE Friday, Jan. 26 Whalers vs. Ottawa Generals at Compuware Arena, 7:05 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27 Whalers vs. Sault Ste. Marie at Compuware Arena, 7:05 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 28 Whalers at Toronto Marlies, 2 p.m. MAJOR INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE Saturday, Jan. 27 Ignition at Baltimore Blast, 7:35 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 28 Ignition vs. Philadelphia KiXX at Compuware Arena, 4:35 p.m. TBA — time to be announced.

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WRESTLING

FROM PAGE B1

"Canton is definitely one of the teams to beat. John Glenn and Belleville should be near the top of the standings, too, along with Catholic Central. After that, there's a whole slew of teams that could be up there, including Churchill, Stevenson and Lutheran Westland."

Perennially strong Belleville has been added to the already-potent mix of teams this season.

"The Observerland tournament seems to get more and more competitive every year," said Westland John Glenn coach Bill Polk. "The addition of Belleville will only add to that."

"Franklin has to be considered the favorite to win it all, but I think there are at least four or five teams — maybe more — that can win it depending on who shows up."

The Rockets will be led by 152-pound senior James Zerebiny, who had chalked up a 34-1 mark through last weekend's action.

"James is one of those kids who, for the past three years, always seemed to have one guy ahead of him at the weight he was at," said Polk. "But he paid his dues, worked hard and now he's taking advantage of the opportunity he's earned this year."

Judging by the individual rankings, the Chiefs should fare well as four of its grapplers — Donnie Watkins (103 pounds), Brent Winekoff (130), Corey Phillips (140) and Donnie Laramie (285) — are top-ranked. Watkins, a freshman, and Phillips, a senior who has earned a scholarship to wrestle at Eastern Michigan

MAT EXTRAVAGANZA

**What:** 16th Annual Observerland Wrestling Invitational;  
**When:** Saturday — first round starts at 9 a.m.; finals at approximately 5:30 p.m.;  
**Where:** Livonia Churchill High School, 8900 Newburgh Road;  
**Admission (all day):** \$5 (family rate available);  
**Participating schools:** Livonia Churchill, Livonia Franklin, Livonia Stevenson, Livonia Clarenceville, Westland John Glenn, Wayne Memorial, Lutheran High Westland, Canton, Salem, Plymouth, Garden City, Redford Union, Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, Farmington High, North Farmington, Farmington Hills Harrison, Belleville.  
**Past winners:** Catholic Central (1993, 1996, 1999, 2000, 2002, 2003); Stevenson (1994, 1995, 1997); Canton (2001); Salem (1998); Franklin (2005, 2006); Churchill and John Glenn (2004); Farmington (1992).

University beginning in the fall, are both unbeaten. The first matches are scheduled to be at 9 a.m.

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WAIDMANN

FROM PAGE B1

With his two older brothers as mentors, Waidmann soon became a force on the basketball court — as well as on the family's driveway court, the site of several high-intensity, fun-filled brother-on-brother hoop games.

"I learned a lot about basketball from my brothers when I was young," said Waidmann. "We still play a lot out on the driveway, but it's more fun now than when I was younger because I have a little height advantage over them."

Waidmann became a regular in the Canton gymnasium as a fifth-grader when he was named one of the team's ballboys during Jason's junior season.

"That was really cool at the time," he said. "I'd get to do some ball-handling drills with the team and I learned a lot just by watching the games."

As a freshman at Canton, Waidmann starred for the junior-varsity squad. That turned out to be his final non-varsity season.

As a sophomore, he played a pivotal role in the Chiefs' run to the Class A District final, which ended with a heart-breaking, one-point loss to South Lyon. Last year, he was a key component in the school's most-successful season ever, one that included a District title and a near-miss in the Regional final against Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

"When Ryan was a sophomore, he was one of our first big guys off the bench," said Paye. "His role was to rebound and give us some interior

defense, and he did it well.

"Last year, he was our second or third option on offense behind Andre Bridges and Andy Larsen. This year, he's our No. 1 option. A lot of teams zone us now and when he catches the ball they send two or three guys at him. He gets a lot of attention from the other teams, but that's a sign of respect."

"He's really improved his shooting range the past couple of years. He can hit the 8- to 10-footers pretty regularly now."

REVERSAL OF FORTUNE

Following an 0-4 start, the Chiefs have caught fire, winning their past six, including Tuesday's 42-34 victory over Walled Lake Western. Waidmann said the team's turnaround has been the result of more than just on-the-court performance.

"Our team chemistry is better now than it was early in the season because we hang out more together away from the gym," said Waidmann. "That's had a lot to do with why we're winning more. Plus, we're not turning the ball over like we were our first four games."

Waidmann's basketball skills have drawn interest from a few colleges, including Albion and Madonna.

"I definitely want to play basketball in college, but I haven't thought a lot about where I want to play yet," he said.

Who can blame him?

Why think about the future when there's plenty of success still waiting to unfold on "Waidmann Lane."

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THE WAIDMANN FILE

- Name: Ryan Waidmann;
- Age: 17;
- Parents: Scott and Denise;
- Siblings: Jason, 24; and Brad, 21;
- Why he wears No. 15: "That's the number both my brothers wore when they played for Canton."
- Grade-point average: 3.0;
- Interesting fact: Served as a ballboy for Canton's basketball team while in 5th and 6th grades;
- Favorite... Subject: English; Teacher: Mr. deBear (Ecology); NBA player: Dwyane Wade; All-time sports movie: Caddyshack; Restaurant: Outback; TV show: 'Pardon the Interruption'.

WRESTLING RANKINGS

- OBSERVERLAND INVITATIONAL FINAL WRESTLING RANKINGS**  
TEAM: 1. Livonia Franklin; 2. Canton; 3. Belleville; 4. Westland John Glenn; 5. Novi-Detroit Catholic Central.  
INDIVIDUAL  
103 pounds: 1. Donnie Watkins, Canton; 2. Tommy Myshock, Livonia Stevenson; 3. Chad Dunn, Wayne Memorial; 4. Namic Kerimov, Farmington; 5. Brad LaRose, Lutheran Westland.  
112: 1. Justin Fleeson, Belleville; 2. Carl Lucke, Canton; 3. Ben Kosmalki, Plymouth; 4. Dustin Ashley, Garden City; 5. Jared Pieknik, Livonia Franklin.  
119: 1. Jamie Preiss, Wayne; 2. Jared Stephens, John Glenn; 3. Nieko Ianni, Novi-Detroit Catholic Central; 4. Martin Rivera, Churchill; 5. Seth Wald, North Farmington.  
125: 1. Dustin Zak, Belleville; 2. Jeremiah Austin, John Glenn; 3. Jon Roos, Franklin; 4. Nick Steiger, Salem; 5. Steve Cox, Canton.  
130: 1. Brent Winekoff, Canton; 2. Greg Roberts, Churchill; 3. Josh Billiau, Franklin; 4. Nick Shak, John Glenn; 5. Alex Kemp, Salem.  
135: 1. Brian Augsburger, Belleville; 2. Jon Reale, Stevenson; 3. J.P. Gaffke, Churchill; 4. Kevin Hayter, Salem; 5. Jon Cauchi, Franklin.  
140: 1. Corey Phillips, Canton; 2. Jim Wood, John Glenn; 3. Steve Coak, Belleville; 4. Gramos Pallaska, Churchill; 5. Derek Robbins, Livonia Clarenceville.  
145: 1. Matt Edwards, Lutheran Westland; 2. Adam Kibner, RU; 3. Steve Sherman, Belleville; 4. Dan McCahill, John Glenn; 5. Andrew Saunders, Plymouth.  
152: 1. James Zerebiny, John Glenn; 2. Steve Kemp, Lutheran Westland; 3. Jeremy Epley, Salem; 4. Ryan Brown, Novi-Detroit CC; 5. Brian Wisniewski, Garden City.  
160: 1. Ziad Kharbush, Stevenson; 2. Nate Turco, Franklin; 3. Stefan Gatt, Novi-Detroit CC; 4. Wassim El-Alwadi, Belleville; 5. Kiel Price, Canton.  
171: 1. Jeff Elswick, Wayne; 2. Dan Woodall, Franklin; 3. Andrew Hein, John Glenn; 4. Mike Nordby, Garden City; 5. Isaac Burris, RU.  
189: 1. Joe Kinville, Novi-Detroit CC; 2. Joey Kowtko, John Glenn; 3. Marc Kadrich, Franklin; 4. Vince Darofil, Plymouth; 5. Adam Powers, Canton.  
215: 1. Shamir Garcia, John Glenn; 2. Matt Aubrey, Novi-Detroit CC; 3. Vince Benavides, Franklin; 4. Paul Rockrohr, Lutheran Westland; 5. Dan Wanshon, Canton.  
285: 1. Donnie Laramie, Canton; 2. Kyle Brown, Franklin; 3. Mike Martin, Novi-Detroit CC; 4. Dean Hubbard, Plymouth; 5. Frank Taormina, John Glenn.  
Note: The Observer Sports Staff would like to thank Jim Gourlay (Franklin) and Aaron Davis (Garden City), who compiled this year's rankings.

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# Whalers sting Sarnia, 5-1

The Plymouth Whalers broke open a scoreless game with three goals in a span of 2:31 in the second period and went on to defeat the Sarnia Sting, 5-1, in an Ontario Hockey League game played Saturday night before 2,988 at the Compuware Sports Arena.

Dan Collins led the Plymouth attack with a pair of goals, his 18th and 19th of the season. Collins has scored six goals over the last four Plymouth games.

James Neal (20), Dan Ryder (28) and Joe McCann (6) added single goals for the winners. Harrison Reed (22) scored the lone Sarnia goal.

Plymouth improved to 30-12-1-2, good for 63 points and first place in the OHL West Division. Sarnia has lost four games in a row and is 26-15-2-3, good for 57 points and second place in the West. The Whalers also picked up ground on Saginaw, which lost, 4-

3, Saturday night in Barrie.

After a scoreless first period, Neal ignited the three-goal Plymouth outburst at 7:08 at the end of a Whaler power play when he split the Sarnia defense at the hash marks in the Sting zone and shot the puck top shelf past Sarnia goaltender Parker VanBuskirk and he was being dumped by Sting defenseman Steven Ferry. Perry received a hooking call on the play and Plymouth took a 2-0 lead on the subsequent power play at 8:00 when Collins received a pass from Daniel Ryder from the left wing in the Sarnia zone and ripped a shot under the bar.

Collins scored again at 9:39 when he was battling for the puck at the right goal line in the Sarnia zone and centered the puck out in front of the Sting goal. The puck was inadvertently batted in by a Sting defenseman to give the Whalers a 3-0 lead. VanBuskirk

was lifted for Peter DiSalvo, who made his OHL debut at 9:30 of the second period.

After Reed scored for Sarnia on a power play at 11:05 to cut the Plymouth lead to 3-1, Ryder scored his 28th of the season and fourth for Plymouth since coming over in a trade with Peterborough at 17:24 when he skated in tight on the right wing in the Sarnia and roofed the puck by DiSalvo.

McCann closed the scoring on a Plymouth power play at 16:46 of the third period.

Plymouth outshot Sarnia, 38-31. Plymouth is back in action next Friday when they host Ottawa at 7:05 p.m. and Sault Ste. Marie next Saturday at 7:05 p.m., both at the Compuware Sports Arena. Tickets are available by calling the Compuware Sports Arena at (734) 453-8400 or by going to Ticketmaster at www.ticketmaster.com.



## Stingrays triumphant

The Plymouth Stingrays Mite A travel hockey team capped off a successful December by winning the Igor Larionov Future Stars showcase in Troy. The Stingrays piled up 23 goals in four games, the last of which was a 7-3 victory over Allen Park in the title contest. Pictured (front row) Marcus Morton, (second row from left) Nolan Turi, Emerson Taylor, Jared Lee, Timmy Baldwin, Dan Sealy, Nick Corker, (second row from left) Michael Wischer, Paul Cotter, Jake Saunders, Michael Gaffka, Matthew Schaumburger, Drew Hunter, Colton Borke, Marty Mills and Shane Bryans. The team is coached by Tom Bryans, Laurie Saunders, Bob Wischer, Brent Sealy, Steve Borke, Garrick Lee, Lynwood Taylor and Bruce Schaumburger.

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# 2nd-half surge lifts SC women

A torrid second half lifted Schoolcraft College to a 72-57 women's basketball victory at St. Clair County Saturday afternoon.

The Lady Ocelots trailed 38-34 at halftime of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association contest, before breaking things open in the second half thanks to hitting 15 of 25 from the floor (60 percent).

Conversely, Schoolcraft put enough defensive pressure on the Skippers after intermission that they connected on only six of 30 field-goal tries (20 percent).

Ashley Sibby tallied 19 points to pace Schoolcraft (16-2 overall,

9-0 in the MCCA-East) while Antoinette Brown and Maricka Seay each scored 13 points.

Janelle Harris had 15 rebounds and seven points for the Lady Ocelots, ranked No. 4 in NJCAA Division II.

For St. Clair County (9-11, 6-4), Kim Lackowski and Kelly Burton scored 16 and 13 points, respectively.

## MU women edged

Siena Heights - making six of 11 triple attempts in the second half - rallied from a seven-point halftime deficit Saturday to defeat host Madonna University, 71-68 in a Wolverine-Hoosier

Athletic Conference tilt. The Saints (14-7, 4-2 in the WHAC) trailed 35-28 at the break before coming to life over the final 20 minutes of action. Laura Panozzo had a lot to do with the comeback, registering 14 points and 10 rebounds while Che Rogers scored 20 points.

Cali Crawford paced Madonna (7-14, 2-4 in the WHAC) with 16 points, while the Crusaders received all-around performances from forwards Christie Carrico (15 points, 14 rebounds) and Martina Franklin (15 points, 12 boards).

Contributing 10 points was Stephanie Piotrowski.



Madonna University junior guard Charlie Henry, a Canton resident, made a clutch triple Saturday that helped lift the Crusaders to victory.

# Crusaders

Madonna University defeated host Siena Heights 71-68 Saturday night in Adrian.

The key bucket for the Saints was a trey by junior guard Henry (Canton/Agape) with less than a minute in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference matchup. Madonna led it with Henry's trey.

Thanks to Henry's trey, MU (7-15, 3-8 in the WHAC) overcame an eight-point deficit to subdue the Saints (5-11, 2-4 in the WHAC).

The win for the Crusaders...

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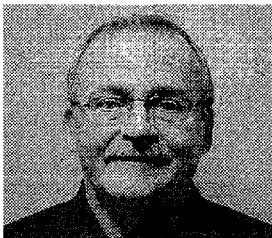
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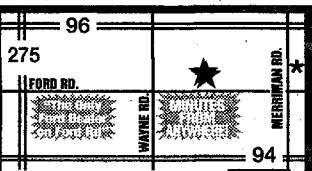
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# Crusaders rally for victory over Siena Heights

Brought back... to edge... Saturday... Crusaders... Charlie... remaining... Athletic... giving... not relin... three... WHAC... deficit to... 2-4 in the... ders was

just the fourth all-time against Siena Heights in 29 tries — and the first road conference win. Henry (12 points) wasn't the lone Observerland product to have a big say in Madonna's triumph. Junior forward and Canton alum D. J. Bridges posted 27 points and 14 rebounds, good for his second double-double of the season. Freshman forward Nick Bortz (Walled Lake Northern) also came through, tallying a career high 14 points. He hit six of nine second-half field-goal tries, accounting for all of his scoring. Providing support were senior forward Derrick Mudri (nine

points) and senior guard Adam Kerfoot (seven points). For Siena Heights, which led 34-32 at halftime, forward DeMarcus Berry scored 13 points, with forward Victor Hamilton and guard Curtis Stephens each registering 10 points. Henry chipped in with 12 points, including the big three-pointer and a pair of free throws which helped seal the win for the Crusaders. His trey highlighted a second half in which Madonna shot better from the floor (13-32, 40 percent) than did the Saints (10-27, 37 percent) and also hit 12 free throws compared to Siena Heights' seven.

Each team committed 14 turnovers and MU outrebounded the Saints, 45-30. **Ocelots prevail** The Schoolcraft College men's basketball team improved to 11-7 overall with an 91-84 triumph Saturday at St. Clair County Community College. Schoolcraft avenged a 66-61 December loss at home to the Skippers, who fall to 14-6 overall and 7-3 in the Eastern Conference of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association. Schoolcraft is 6-3 in the conference.

## WAYNE STATE RECAP

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Wayne State University women's basketball squad (8-10 overall, 6-2 GLIAC/3rd) rallied from a halftime deficit for a 62-61 triumph over visiting Michigan Tech (11-6 overall, 5-4 GLIAC) last Thursday, Jan. 18 at the Matthaei. WSU trailed 61-58 with 43 seconds remaining before Warrior sophomore guard Joy Nash drained a jumper to cut the deficit to one. Sophomore Monique George tallied the game-deciding putback bucket with 10 seconds to go. The Warriors extended their winning streak to four games with a 63-54 victory over visiting Northern Michigan University (6-13 overall, 2-8

GLIAC) Saturday afternoon.

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

The Warriors men's basketball team (8-8 overall, 4-4 GLIAC/4th) scored a season-high in an 80-74 victory over visiting Michigan Tech (9-9 overall, 4-5 GLIAC) last Thursday, Jan. 18 at the Matthaei. They followed that up Saturday with a 75-55 loss to Northern Michigan (10-9 overall, 4-6 GLIAC).

### SWIMMING

The men's swimming and diving team fell to host Eastern Michigan, 142-93, in a dual meet on Friday. Chris Totten of Garden City made the cut in the one-meter competition, finishing with 280.57 points.

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← Last Week's Record → Season Record

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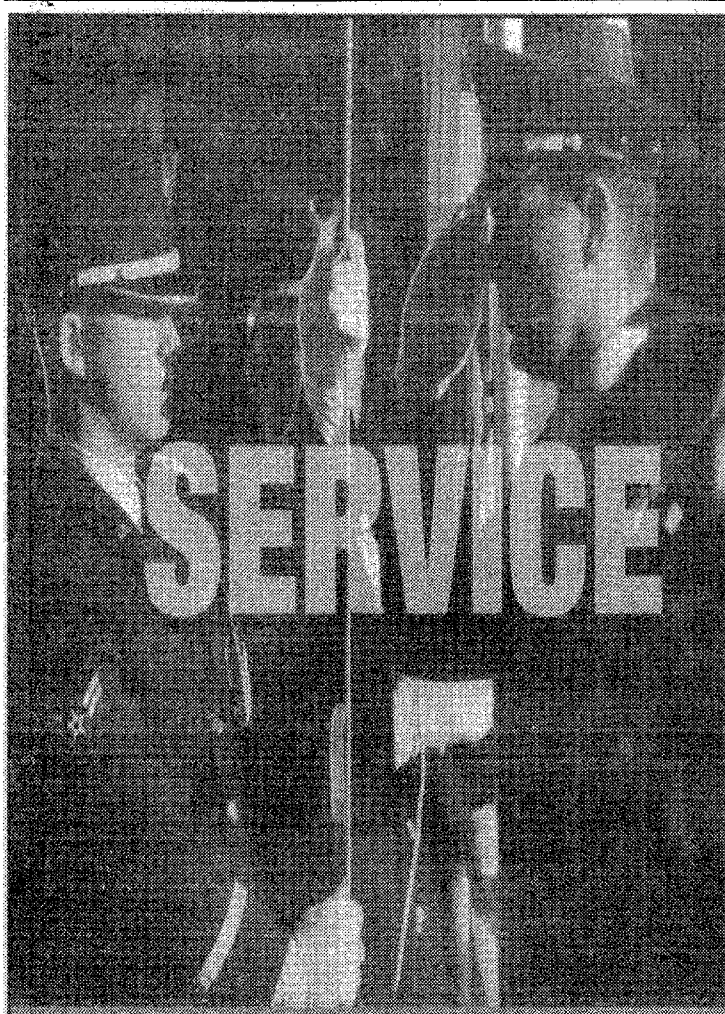






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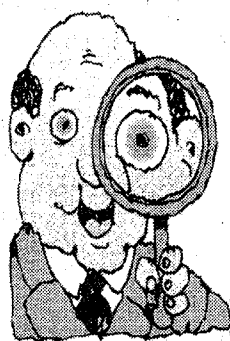
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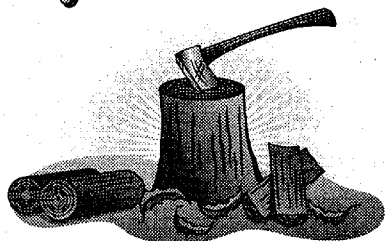
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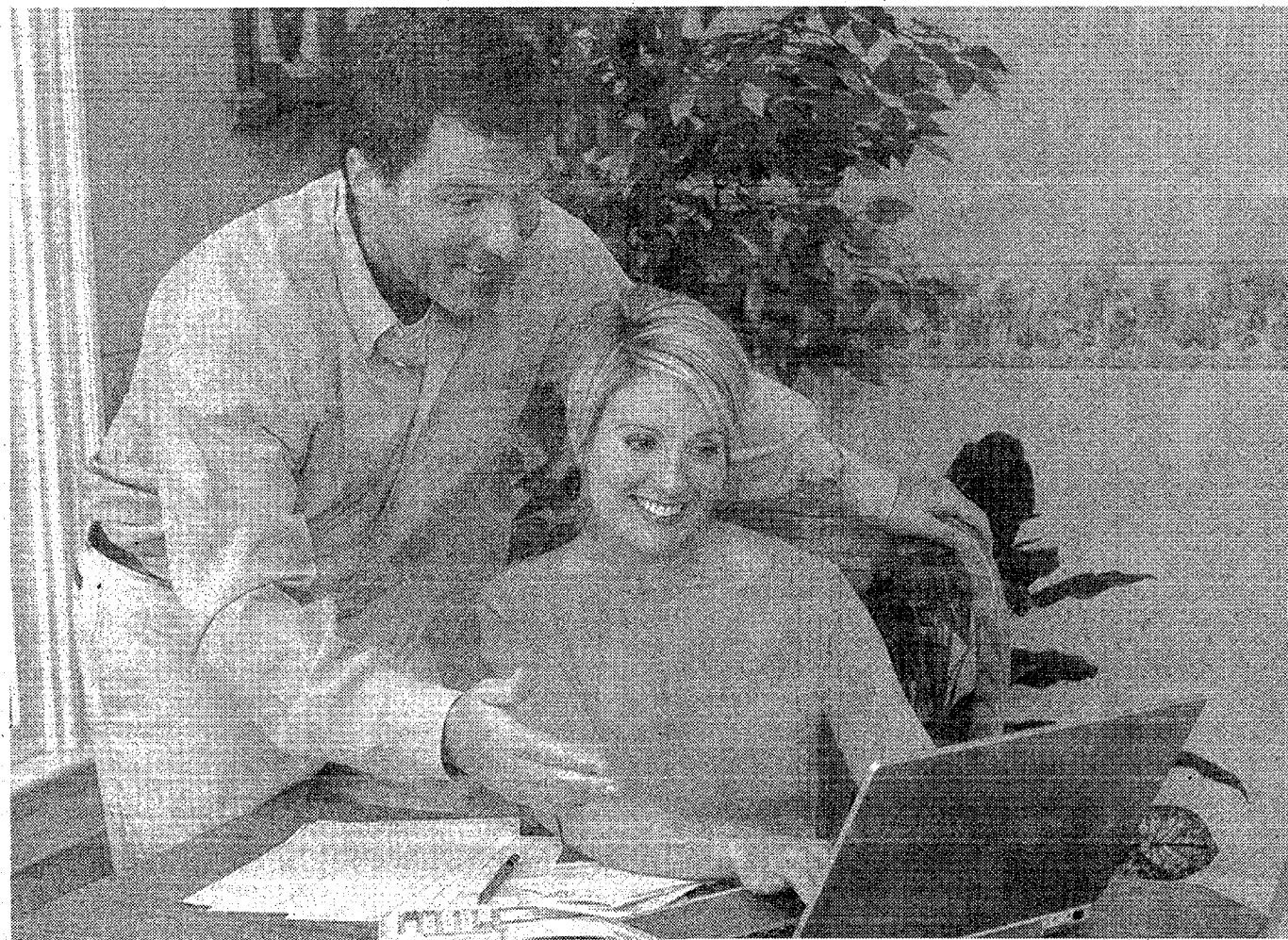
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# Automotive

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## The Dodge Nitro Mid-Size SUV

Advertising Feature

### CAReport



By Dale Buss



Chrysler would be in deep, deep trouble if its TV advertisements were true reflections of the merits of the featured vehicles.

There were the disastrous spots a few years ago featuring songstress Celine Dion touting the Chrysler Pacifica, a monstrous mismatch of a mainstream artist with an upscale and, actually, rather remarkable crossover vehicle. And, of course, as capable as he was as Chrysler Group's CEO, Dieter Zetsche didn't exactly stir echoes of Lee Iacocca last year in the unfortunate series of semi-humorous advertisements that featured him as the answer man "Dr. Z" on behalf of Jeep Liberty and some other pretty good vehicles.

The TV campaign for Dodge's new Nitro mid-size SUV strikes me the same way: some pretty disappointing attempts at creative messages on behalf of a vehicle that, frankly, deserves much better. The spot showing a Nitro owner lending a battery jump to a stranded driver - and then blowing his car into the stratosphere - is a statement about the robustness of a vehicle that really isn't plying that particular attribute. Similarly, the ad that shows a Nitro descending through the center of the earth and emerging, upside-down, somewhere in China seems not to have a discernible point.

So it'd be better for Dodge if they dispensed with these ads and just allowed Nitro owners and wanna-be owners to pass the word-of-mouth about this vehicle. What they would hear is that Nitro is a great execution of a reasonably sized SUV at a time when Chrysler really needed one. It's got no-nonsense styling, high seating, a great selection of powertrains, plenty of interior room, decent mileage and very reasonable pricing.

A huge part of Nitro's appeal is its signature boxy styling. Chrysler designers wanted



For a sticker price of \$25,240, the Nitro SLT also provides a worthy feature package.

to make sure that they let potential customers know that Nitro isn't simply a shrunken Durango, which is nearly two feet longer than Nitro. So in contrast to Durango's rather rounded lines, Nitro is squared-off all the way, from its big cross-hair grille to an upright windshield, rectangular windows and blocky rear end. The exaggerated fender flares are the only rounded aspects of the design.

All of this enhances the feeling of largeness that you get with Nitro. So does the fact that the seats are higher than you might expect, an important consideration for big-SUV fans that might consider Nitro as a reasonable compromise with higher gasoline prices.

Chrysler also made sure that the Nitro's powertrains were plenty robust, the distracting implication of the "battery-jumping" commercial notwithstanding. It comes in two- or four-wheel drive, with a choice of V6 engines, one old and one new. The new, 4.0-liter engine comes only in the top-of-the-line R/T model, which costs about \$2,700 more than the more popular SLT. A five-speed automatic also comes only with the R/T.

But in the SLT 4x2 version that I drove, I found power more than adequate in the 3.7-liter six-cylinder engine, which falls about 50 horsepower short of the 4.0-liter. At EPA-rated 24 miles a gallon on the highway, the Nitro SLT's fuel economy is

pretty darn good for the category and certainly a number that most owners could live with. The city mileage of 18 mpg isn't bad either.

The Nitro's ride was adequate as well. I found the handling to be pretty sure-footed, particularly in contrast to the larger Durango. I'm told that the handling and ride of the R/T model is another, significant step better.

A primary feature of all versions of Nitro is what happens behind the front seat. Chrysler's patented Loan 'n Go seat configuration quickly flips the 60/40 rear seats and front passenger seat totally flat. With the liftgate raised, the carpeted cargo floor slides rearward 18 inches, out over the bumper, and can hold plenty of weight. These machinations, again, give Nitro some of the capabilities that most vehicles of its size lack.

For a sticker price of \$25,240, the Nitro SLT also provides a worthy feature package, which includes supplemental side airbags and other safety features, a 115-volt auxiliary-power outlet, a leather-wrapped steering wheel, fog-lamps and power-heated fold-away mirrors. Optional add-ons on the version I drove were a power sunroof and Sirius Satellite Radio, the latter of which - along with competitor XM radio -- is pretty much becoming an expectation in any decent vehicle these days.

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# Used car prices take hard tumble

## New car incentives push used car marketplace to record low

by J.L. Sims Independent ad features

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

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

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

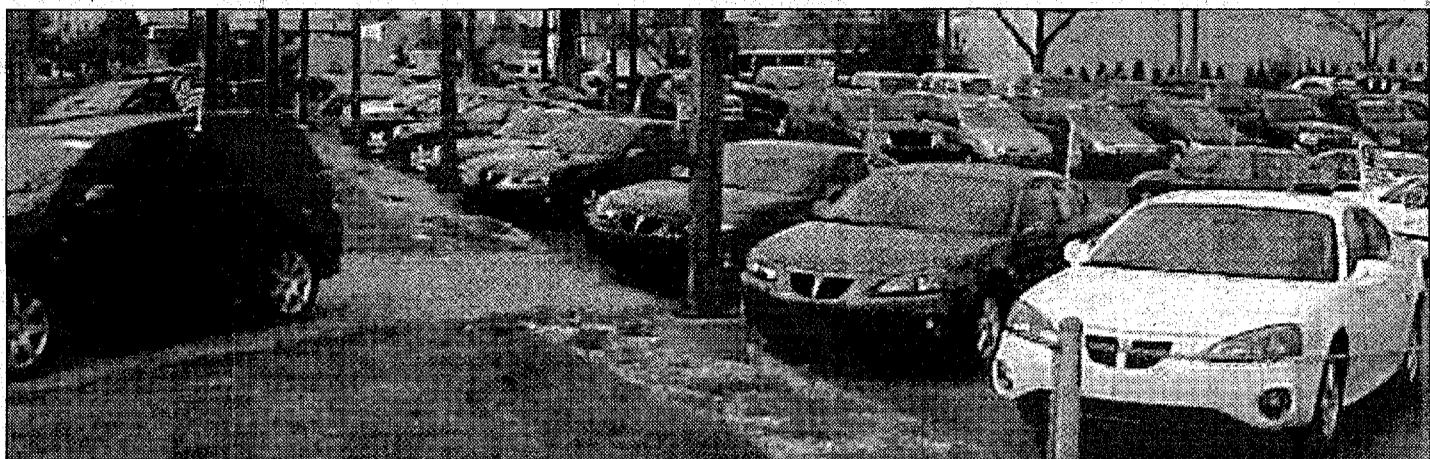
A "program" car is a vehicle that has been leased by a premium rental company through a special "program" from the manufacturer. Strict maintenance is required, and all vehicles are carefully inspected upon return. In many cases, these program units receive better maintenance than vehicles owned by private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

John Rogin Buick-Livonia has long been known as Michigan's "bargain hunting" dealer. Currently, they're selling more

2006 Pontiac Grand Prix's than any other dealer in the nation. (Over 150 Pontiacs & Buicks were sold during the first 30 days of their sale.) Last year, they sold the most pre-owned 2005 Impalas and Pontiac Grand AMs in the nation from their single location. And the year before they set the sales record selling the most off-lease GMC Yukons and pick-ups.

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

So, once again, John Rogin has gone shopping for the vehicles with a huge cart. They have just made a multi-million dollar purchase of these units from General Motors, bringing in



Bargains abound in pre-owned 2006 program vehicles

truckload after truckload from across the country. In addition to filling their giant used car facility to the brim, John Rogin had to lease additional storage lots to accommodate their massive acquisition of vehicles. And they

currently stock the largest inventory of 2006 program cars in Michigan.

The purpose of 0% financing is to clear out the remaining new 2006's. In another week or two, these vehicles will all be gone,

along with the incentives. In the meantime, the 2006 program vehicles are truly today's "sleeping" bargain... But they'll soon disappear as smart shoppers begin to "wake up" and recognize the real deals.

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

## A Beautiful Buick

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

Equipped with a powerful 175-horsepower V-6 boasting 20 mpg city and 29 mpg highway fuel economy, the Buick LaCrosse will capture your heart from the moment you slip behind the wheel. There won't be any need

for a salesperson to explain how to operate "all the buttons," because this LaCrosse will greet you like an old friend, or a comfortable pair of slippers. The cabin is exceedingly driver friendly, with all controls neatly laid out before you like an elegant table setting. And everything just seems to "fit."

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

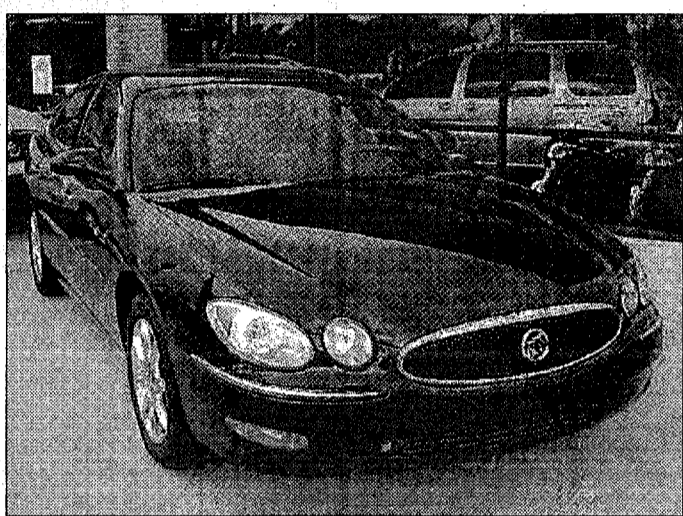
The standard features provide evidence that the Buick still remains just one step down from the Cadillac in GM's lineup. Dual (driver and passenger side) heat and air conditioning controls, six-

position tilt steering wheel, cruise control, power windows, locks, and seats, remote key fobs operating doors and trunk, rear window defroster, plus a stereo system that will blow you away.

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

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

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



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

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throughout the country and brought them to Livonia. Best of all, today you can purchase a pre-owned 2006 LaCrosse from John Rogin for nearly half its original value of \$24,000 list price new. While they last.

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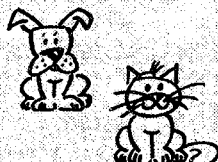
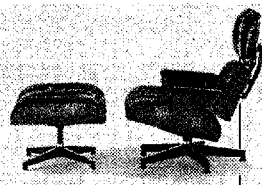
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Thursday, January 25, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

# HOMETOWN LIFE.COM

Mary Klemic, editor . (248) 901.2569 . mklemic@hometownlife.com

www.hometownlife.com

## Put your tunes on a Microsoft Zune

For anyone who didn't find an iPod under the tree last month, allow me to suggest an alternative: the Microsoft Zune.

Unveiled in November, Microsoft's answer to the iPod has little of the sex appeal, a fraction of the available accessories, and some boneheaded shortcomings.

However, it's a better music player than the iPod, and it has the potential to be much better at video, too. Hear me out before you decide which to buy.

Let's start with the hardware. Available in black, white and brown, the Zune looks fairly plain, a rectangular minibrick with understated controls and none of the iPod's "wow" factor. Nevertheless, the device packs some decent specs, including a 30GB hard drive, an FM radio tuner, and a color screen that's nearly twice the size of the video iPods.



**Tech Savvy**

**Rick Broida**

It also includes a Wi-Fi radio, which for the moment isn't good for much. You can wirelessly beam songs and photos to other Zune users - assuming you can find any - but that's it.

Next, let's talk content. The Zune pairs with Microsoft's eponymous Windows software and an online store called Marketplace. Together, they're the equivalent of Apple's iTunes.

However, while iTunes stocks TV shows, movies and games in addition to music, Marketplace sells only music (for now).

Sadder still, Microsoft saddles users with a ridiculous and pointless points system for buying songs and albums.

So why would anyone choose a Zune over an iPod? First, Microsoft offers something Apple doesn't: a music-subscription service. For \$15 per month, you gain unlimited access to Marketplace's library of 2.5 million songs.

Want 2.5 million songs from iTunes? That'll be \$2.5 million, please.

I've written about subscription services before; I still feel they're an unbeatable deal for anyone who wants to pack a portable player with all the music it can hold.

Second, the Zune has a better interface. In place of the iPod's famous scroll wheel, the Zune employs a four-way control pad. I find the latter much more precise for navigating menus and song lists.

As for the onscreen interface, the Zune features Microsoft's nifty "twist" menu system (which, interestingly, also appears in Windows Vista's Media Center). It's not only sexier than the iPod's, but also smarter.

Instead of hopping from one screen to another and back again as you do on the iPod, you scroll left and right to find the desired category (songs, albums, artists, etc.), then scroll down to choose the specific item.

Meanwhile, album art displays prominently on the Zune's spacious screen, filling the entire width of it.

The screen is vastly superior to the iPod's when it comes to watching videos. The Zune automatically rotates the image 90 degrees to give you a widescreen viewing experience.

For now, you have to rely on third-party software if you want to, say, rip a DVD for Zune viewing, but I suspect it won't be long before you can buy movies from Marketplace the way you can from iTunes.

The Zune will get better with time, as Microsoft rolls out new content partners and tweaks the device with new software.

**Rick Broida** is the co-author of numerous books. He welcomes questions sent to [rick.broida@gmail.com](mailto:rick.broida@gmail.com).

Microsoft's brick-like Zune offers a few advantages over the iPod, including support for an all-you-can-eat music service.



THE SUPERMARKET DIET COOKBOOK

Corn and Jack Quesadillas offer a lower fat alternative for your Super Bowl gathering.

# Super time

## Food and fun make the menu

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
STAFF WRITER

A year ago, we were all gearing up in great anticipation of hosting Super Bowl XL at Ford Field.

By now you're used to the annual rite of January called the NFL playoffs, and your lovable, lamentable Detroit Lions weren't in it once again (so what else is new?).

Local football junkies pick an alternative team to quietly root for.

The Pittsburgh Steelers - last year's Super Bowl champs - were a sentimental local favorite last year as Detroit Mackenzie grad and Steeler running back Jerome Bettis made a curtain call on his career, but now he's retired. That team didn't even make the playoffs this year.

This year's Super Bowl XLI is played in Miami, featuring the Chicago Bears and the Indianapolis Colts.

If you like smashmouth, gritty linebacker play, then maybe you'll root for Da Bears

and Brian Urlacher.

But who couldn't help but cheer for the Indianapolis Colts, watching Peyton Manning exorcise the demons - the arch-rival New England Patriots?

Maybe it's his turn to win the Super Bowl, too.

Or you don't care. You just want to relax with a few friends Super Bowl Sunday, enjoy some good food and may the best team win.

Perhaps you are one of those "fans" who watch the game strictly for the commercials. How about a little food for your crew? Here are two lower fat favorites for those of you on New Year's diets, and then some other recipes with a few more calories you can enjoy at your gathering.

And if the game is a blowout, who cares? In less than two months, the greatest American sports event, the NCAA basketball tournament, begins.

Now that's something to look forward to.

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### SEE RECIPES PAGE D3:

- Corn and Jack Quesadillas
- Thai Chicken Sate with Pickled Cucumbers
- Sausage-stuffed Mushrooms
- Teriyaki Wrap-ups

## Let's talk about what women talk about - and why they talk about it

As the father of six daughters, I am somewhat of an expert at observing the female condition.

This isn't to say that I am an expert about women. That would not only be presumptuous but also suicidal. My home oozes with the female. Heck, even my dog is a girl.

So, if I were to go on the public record and state that I am an expert on women, well, let's just say the dog and I would likely be bunkmates.

My expertise is in *observing* the actions of women. I wouldn't ever



Dick Purtan

### DICK PURTAN & PURTAN'S PEOPLE

attempt to analyze or otherwise pontificate on the *motivations* for these actions. I leave that for greater (and braver) minds than mine.

I am also not attempting to make fun of the actions that are the focus of my upcoming commentary. There are already too many clichés and stereotypes about women written by men.

I mean, how many jokes about shoes can you write? There are already more of those than there are Starbucks flavor variations.

OK, now that I have sufficiently disclaimed what I am about to say, let me get to the point of my expert observation.

Recently, I was driving home from the Charity Preview at the Auto Show with my daughter, Jackie (who also happens to share a microphone with me on my radio show every morning on WOMC).

We were heading back to my house to pick up her car. A house, by the way, that is also home to my wife - her mother.

As soon as we get into the car, my daughter calls her mother - my wife - on the cell phone.

They proceed to have a conversation that lasts the entire drive home - about 30 minutes.

Now keep in mind they were actually going to see each other in 30 minutes. What did they talk about? I have

absolutely no idea. Oh, there were topics that were important at the moment - children, the auto show, shoes - but not one single one stuck with me.

I was awestruck and dumbfounded (a not altogether rare occurrence).

Weren't they concerned that they would exhaust all conversational probabilities before they met, leaving them with long moments of awkward silence when they were face to face?

Do they just make this stuff up on the fly or do they store it, like chipmunks with acorns, for later use?

(Now, before you e-mail me in outrage, the above line was written as a joke. I am in no way comparing women talking to chipmunks. Chipmunks never buy shoes. Sorry.)

I have to admit I don't understand this stuff at all. A man would never do something like this. We have a limited amount of conversations within us and we wouldn't waste this precious resource on something like, say, shoes.

We know there are more important things to discuss with our fellow men. Important things. Meaningful things. Things that allow us to bond in a way a woman would never understand.

Like what, you ask? I don't want to talk about it.

You can listen while **Dick Purtan** talks from 5-10 a.m. every weekday morning on The Motor City's 104.3. Tomorrow-morning you could win a seven-night, warm-weather fly-away vacation. But no shoes.





SUPERMARKET DIET COOKBOOK

Thai Chicken Sate with Pickled Cucumbers adds a little imaginative flair to your Super Bowl menu.

## These Super Bowl recipes sure to score

The first two recipes feature lower fat alternatives for your Super Bowl party; the last two feature great appetizers or finger foods for a large gathering.

### CORN AND JACK QUESADILLAS

3 ears of corn (or substitute about 3 cups of cooked corn)  
4 burrito-size flour tortillas, preferably whole wheat (120 to 140 calories each; see Note)  
4 ounces reduced-fat Monterey Jack cheese, shredded (1 cup)  
1/2 cup mild or medium-hot salsa (with fewer than 140 mg sodium per 2 tablespoons)  
2 green onions, thinly sliced  
1 head romaine lettuce, thinly sliced  
1 tablespoon olive oil  
1 tablespoon cider vinegar  
1/2 teaspoon coarsely ground pepper  
1/4 teaspoon salt

Place corn on hot grill rack. Cover grill and cook corn, turning frequently, until brown in spots, 10 to 15 minutes. Transfer corn to plate and let cool until easy to handle. With sharp knife, cut kernels from cobs. (If using frozen corn, cook according to package directions.)

Place tortillas on work surface. Evenly divide Monterey Jack, salsa, green onions and corn on half of each tortilla. Fold tortillas over filling to make four quesadillas.

Place quesadillas on hot grill rack or in flat pan. Cook quesadillas, turning once until browned on both sides, 1 to 2 minutes. Transfer quesadillas to cutting board, cut each into 3 pieces.

In large bowl, toss romaine with oil, vinegar, pepper and salt. Serve quesadillas with romaine salad.

Each serving: about 400 calories, 18 g protein, 59 carbohydrates, 14 g total fat (5 g saturated), 12 g fiber, 18 mg cholesterol, 804 mg sodium.

Note: Also a good choice are whole-wheat/soy-flour tortillas, such as La Tortilla Factory's Whole-Wheat Low Carb Low Fat Tortilla, which are only 80 calories each.

Recipe courtesy of *Good Housekeeping's The Supermarket Diet Cookbook*, Hearst Books.

### THAI CHICKEN SATE WITH PICKLED CUCUMBERS

12 (12-inch) bamboo skewers  
1 English (seedless) cucumber, thinly sliced crosswise  
1 1/2 teaspoon salt  
1 tablespoon Thai green curry

paste  
1/4 cup plus 1/3 cup well-stirred unsweetened coconut milk (not cream of coconut)  
4 medium skinless, boneless chicken-breast halves (1 3/4 pounds), each cut diagonally into six strips  
1/4 cup creamy peanut butter  
2 teaspoons reduced-sodium soy sauce  
1 teaspoon packed dark brown sugar  
1/8 teaspoon ground red pepper (cayenne)  
1 tablespoon hot water  
1/4 cup rice vinegar  
3 tablespoons granulated sugar  
2 medium shallots, thinly sliced  
1 jalapeno chile, seeds and membrane discarded, minced

Soak skewers in water to cover for 30 minutes. Drain before using.

While skewers are soaking in medium bowl, toss cucumber with salt; let stand 30 minutes at room temperature. In another medium bowl, stir curry paste and 1/4 cup coconut milk until combined. Add chicken and turn to coat. Marinate 15 minutes at room temperature, stirring occasionally.

Prepare charcoal fire or preheat gas grill for covered direct grilling over medium heat.

Prepare peanut sauce. In small bowl, with wire whisk, mix peanut butter, soy sauce, brown sugar, ground red pepper, remaining 1/3 cup coconut milk, and hot water until blended and smooth. Transfer sauce to serving bowl. (Makes about 2/3 cup.)

Drain cucumber, discarding liquid in a bowl. Pat cucumber dry with paper towels. Return cucumber to bowl; stir in vinegar, granulated sugar, shallots and jalapeno; refrigerate until ready to serve.

Thread two chicken strips on each skewer, accordion-style; discard marinade. Place skewers on hot grill rack. Cover grill and cook, turning skewers over once, just until chicken loses its pink color throughout, five to eight minutes.

Arrange skewers on platter. Serve with peanut sauce and pickled cucumbers.

Each serving without peanut sauce: about 252 calories, 34 g protein, 20 g carbohydrate, 4 g total fat (52 g saturated), 1 g fiber, 82 mg cholesterol, 734 mg sodium.

Each serving with 2 tablespoons peanut sauce: about 373 calories, 38 g protein, 28 mg carbohydrates, 13 g total fat (6 g saturated), 1 g fiber, 82 mg cholesterol, 986 mg sodium.

Each tablespoon peanut sauce: about 60 calories, 2 g protein, 4 g carbohydrate, 4 g total fat (2 g saturated), 0 g fiber, 0 mg cholesterol, 126 mg sodium.

Recipe courtesy of *Good Housekeeping's The Supermarket Diet Cookbook*, Hearst Books.

### SAUSAGE-STUFFED MUSHROOMS

2 pounds mushrooms  
3/4 pound pork sausage  
1 teaspoon Italian seasoning  
3/4 cup shredded mozzarella cheese  
1/4 cup bread crumbs

Remove stems from mushrooms; chop stems. Set mushrooms and stems aside.

In skillet over medium heat, cook sausage until well browned. With slotted spoon, remove sausage to paper towels to drain. Spoon off all but 2 tablespoons drippings from skillet.

In hot drippings over medium heat, cook mushroom stems until tender; about 10 minutes, stirring frequently. Remove skillet from heat; stir in sausage, seasoning, cheese and crumbs.

Preheat oven to 450 degrees Fahrenheit. Fill mushroom caps with sausage mixture. Place stuffed mushrooms in pan and bake 15 minutes.

Recipe courtesy of Ken Abramczyk.

### TERIYAKI WRAP-UPS

1 tablespoon sugar or honey  
1 tablespoon chopped onion  
1/4 teaspoon ginger  
1 garlic clove, minced  
1/4 cup soy sauce  
1/2 pound sirloin steak, cut into thin strips  
8-ounce can water chestnuts, drained

Combine first five ingredients in small bowl, mix well. Add steak strips and water chestnuts, tossing to coat with soy mixture. Marinate for one hour and no more than 12 hours in refrigerator, stirring occasionally. Drain steak strips and wrap around water chestnuts, cutting large ones in half. Secure with toothpicks. Arrange on broiler pan. Broil 4 to 5 inches from heat for 5 to 8 minutes or until desired doneness, turning once. Makes about 20 appetizers.

For two appetizers (one serving size), 79 calories, 4 g protein, 3 g carbohydrates, 5 g fat, 529 mg sodium, 46 mg potassium.

Recipe courtesy of Ken Abramczyk.

## Tablas Creek crafts superior Rhone-style wines

Named after a small creek running through the 120-acre property, Tablas Creek, a joint American-French vineyard venture was all the buzz in Paso Robles when it was established on California's Central Coast in the late 1980s.

### Focus on Wine

Ray and Eleanor Heald

Talk is cheap. Performance is not. Partners, Robert Haas, founder of Vineyard Brands, a wine import company, and brothers Jean-Pierre and Francois Perrin of the renowned Chateau de Beaucastel (Chateaneuf-du-Pape) in the southern Rhone Valley of France, took on the challenge.

They imported several clones of typical southern Rhone white and red grape varieties and placed them in U.S. Department of Agriculture-mandated three-year quarantine to guarantee virus-free vines for planting. In 1993, vines were released to the partners and multiplication for a vineyard planting began.

Importation and quarantine of additional varieties continued over the next several years. By 2006, all 13 Chateaneuf-du-Pape varieties have been propagated and planted. They have become the stable for outstanding Tablas Creek wines.

### TWO DECADES

"We're very happy with the model we developed," said Jason Haas, Robert's son and Tablas Creek general manager. "In a sense, my father and the Perrins pioneered a new venture on the west side of the appellation, where soils have more limestone, better suited to Rhone varieties.

"Like the French, we believe in minimum human intervention in the winemaking process. This preserves the wine's link to its place of origin."

All Tablas Creek wines are estate grown, organically

farmed and hand harvested by a skilled crew that works year-round, also doing other vineyard and winery tasks. Each variety is fermented separately, using only native yeasts.

As might be expected, Tablas Creek follows the centuries-old Chateaneuf-du-Pape wine-making tradition of blending varietal wines to produce complex wines, in better balance than a single varietal alone.

White grapes are whole-cluster pressed and juice is fermented in a mix of French oak barrels and stainless steel tanks. Sorted and destemmed red grapes are fermented as whole berries. After fermentation, the red wines are pressed, then blended and aged 12 months in 1,200-gallon French oak cooperage.

### WHAT TO BUY

Tablas Creek signature white wines available now are:

■ 2005 Cotes de Tablas Blanc \$22 (viognier, roussanne, marsanne and grenache blanc blend) is delightfully aromatic with mineral notes, crisp acidity and a generous mouthfeel. Pair it with mussels marinere, scallops or lighter fish, such as halibut or sole.

■ 2004 Esprit de Beaucastel Blanc \$38 (roussanne, grenache blanc and picpoul blanc blend) showcases deliciously vibrant ripe aromas and flavors with punched-up acidity to match it with shrimp, lobster and crab or fish such as salmon and swordfish. Foods cooked with garlic and extra virgin olive oil make this wine shine.

Tablas Creek signature red wines available now are:

■ 2004 Cotes de Tablas \$22 (grenache, syrah, counoise and mourvedre blend) is marked by raspberry, red currant and anise spice aromas. Similarly flavored, this wine has the structure to pair well with a grilled steak or grilled spicy sausages.

■ 2004 Esprit de Beaucastel \$45 (mourvedre, syrah, grenache and counoise blend) is highlighted by dark red fruit aromas and dark cherry, somewhat meaty flavors and smoky notes. Consider grilled duck breast or any lamb preparation

as a delicious pairing.

■ 2004 Mourvedre \$35 (100 percent mourvedre) is a philosophical change from the blending of varietals to make a wine that's greater than the sum of its parts. Most of Tablas Creek's mourvedre goes into the Esprit de Beaucastel blend but in some years, exceptional lots get bottled as a single-varietal wine. On a cold winter night, prepare a rich beef stew and drink a bottle of this wine. You'll believe winter is a great time to live in Michigan.

Eleanor and Ray Heald 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.

### WINE PICKS

Vina Cobos wines are the result of a shared dream inspired by the wine passion of Paul Hobbs, whose eponymous California winery is at the top of its game, and two partners Andrea Marchiori and Luis Barraud. Nestled at the foot of the Andes Mountains in the unique microclimate of Perdriel, Argentina, the Marchiori Vineyard provides an outstanding environment for malbec as well as other varieties.

From the Vina Cobos portfolio, two wines are superlative values at \$17: 2005 Lagarto Merlot and 2005 Cocardillo Cabernet Sauvignon.

Climbing the price ladder buys you some ageable wines that are marked by one word, delicious: 2005 Bramare Chardonnay \$60, 2004 Bramare Cabernet Sauvignon \$70, 2004 Bramare Malbec \$85 and Cobos Malbec \$150.



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Contest courtesy of **THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS**  
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# fit

PURE

## Folk Baby

PAGE 6

Ann Arbor's  
appeal

PAGE 3

Delirium's humanity

PAGE 19

# Concert celebrates local musical treasure

BY MARY KLEMIC  
STAFF WRITER

A local treasure will be shared at the next concert of Chamber Music at the Scarab Club. The treasure is René Becker, who is part of Detroit's musical history.

**Live**

The concert, René Becker: From Alsace to Detroit, will take place Sunday, Jan. 28, at Sacred Heart Chapel at the Marygrove College campus in Detroit.

Becker was a prolific composer who wrote hundreds of scores for organ, voice, violin, cello and piano. Besides his music, Sunday's concert will also feature two compositions by his wife, Angela Landzettel Becker.

"The organ music is very luscious, as expressive as that of Widor, who was the big name of the time," said cellist Nadine Deleury of Birmingham, Oakland University faculty member and co-artistic director of Chamber Music at the Scarab Club. "His string music is so

## RENÉ BECKER:

### FROM ALSACE TO DETROIT

**What:** A concert of the music of René Becker, who was the first organist of Blessed Sacrament Cathedral and who founded the Palestrina Institute in Detroit. A reception will follow.

**When:** 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 28.

**Where:** Sacred Heart Chapel at Marygrove College, 8425 W. McNichols at Wyoming in Detroit.

**Tickets:** \$18 reserved, \$20 at the door, \$10 for students under 25. Group rates available.

**Tickets and information:** [www.scarabclub.org/chambermusic](http://www.scarabclub.org/chambermusic), (248) 474-8930

much lighter."

Becker (1882-1956) was the first organist of Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, and founded the Palestrina Institute in Detroit to teach area organists Gregorian chant and liturgically correct music.

He was also a performer, lecturer and teacher, often giving free lessons during the

Depression.

"It's really beautiful ... There's something romantic about it that you don't always expect from early 20th century music," violinist Velda Kelly of Farmington, co-artistic director of Chamber Music at the Scarab Club, said of Becker's music.

"It's also sentimental, but in a good way."

Deleury and Kelly will perform in the concert. Also performing will be organists Joanne Clark, Charles Echols, Edward Maki-Schramm and Joseph Palazzolo; pianists Jacqueline Csurgai-Schmitt and Eduard Perrone; and soprano Gail Mitchell.

Echols will come from Minnesota to play Becker's *Second Organ Sonata in F major*.

Former professor of organ and music history at St. Cloud State University, he wanted to perform the composer's music after hearing it on the National Public Radio program *Pipe Dreams*, Kelly said.

Kelly's favorite Becker works include *Moonbeams* and *Sonata for violin and piano*. They will also be featured, performed by Kelly and Perrone.

"The sonata is more serious," Kelly said. "*Moonbeams* is light-hearted."

Angela Becker's works in the concert will be *Grand Chorus* (performed by Clark) and *Imogene*, which was dedicated to René (by Palazzolo on piano).

Other compositions by René that will be performed are *Marche Triomphale* and *Méditation*, by Maki-Schramm; *Romance*, by Palazzolo on piano; *Aria*, and *Blumenlied* and *Walzer* (from *Six Melodious Pieces* for cello), by Deleury and Csurgai-Schmitt; *Valse d'amour* and *Allegro con Spirito*, by Kelly and Perrone; *Supplication* and *Elégie*, by Clark; *Ave Verum In Te Sperant*, by Mitchell and Clark; and *Toccata en ré mineur*, by Palazzolo on organ.

"What was published in Becker's time is not available any more ... Some music of the concert will be performed off manuscripts," Deleury said.

### NEW PUBLICATION

Becker was born in Alsace, France. His father was the organist at the Cathedral of Chartres and Strasbourg



René Becker

Cathedral.

René joined two of his brothers in St. Louis in 1904 and formed the Becker Conservatory of Music.

In 1930, Becker moved to Detroit, where he became the organist at the newly built Blessed Sacrament Cathedral. He was its organist for 13 years.

Becker became organist at St. Alphonsus Church in Dearborn after 1943. He retired in 1952.

By coincidence, the concert date is the anniversary of

PLEASE SEE BECKER, E11



Photo by Sam Sarkis Photography

## Perfect For You.

The Community House presents our

Bridal Open House

Saturday, February 3, 2007

1:00 to 4:00 pm

Discover the perfect location for your wedding reception and meet with metro Detroit's finest wedding professionals.

Admission is complimentary, however reservations are required.

248.594.6400 or [bridal@communityhouse.com](mailto:bridal@communityhouse.com)

380 South Bates Street, Birmingham, MI 48009

# Inside this week's

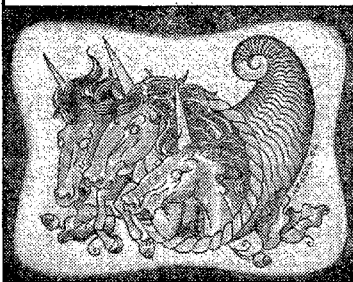
# filter

PURE ENTERTAINMENT!



## HOT TICKET — 3

Ann Arbor is less than an hour away for most metro Detroiters and offers plenty of things to do.



## ART — 5

View Mark Heggie's exhibit of quirky animals at the Majestic Cafe.

## COVER — 6

Rufus Wainwright considers himself "a folk

child," so it's only appropriate that he perform at the Ann Arbor Folk Festival.

## MOTOWN WINTER BLAST — 8

Enjoy skating, great music and food in downtown Detroit.

## READERS CHOICE — 10

Filter readers know what restaurants, entertainment and family outings they like. Fill out our Readers Choice survey and send it in.

## FAMILY — 11

Take a look at the 17th annual Michigan Historical Collectibles Show on Sunday, Jan. 28.

## TABLE HOPPING — 12

Crust Pizza & Wine makes a great pizza and offers up great wines, too.

## GET OUT! — 14

Got no plans? Make some after you check out our expanded entertainment calendar of events.

## MUSIC — 16

Ferndale hosts its nine-day annual blues festival, starting Jan. 26.

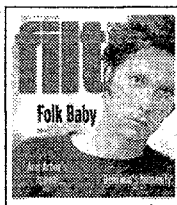
Want to read about more entertainment news? Visit the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers' Web site at [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com) and click onto the Filter entertainment section for more entertainment news and updates throughout the week.

### Observer & Eccentric

NEWSPAPERS

Ken Abramczyk Editor	Marty Carry Advertising Director
Lana Mini Staff Writer	Dan Dean Design Editor
Stephanie Angelyn Casola Staff Writer	Susan Rosiek Executive Editor
	Peter Neill General Manager

### ON THE COVER



Rufus Wainwright headlines the Ann Arbor Folk Festival.

Editorial offices: (248) 901-2587 / Advertising: (734) 953-2153



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ann Arbor residents Lisa Sutton and Levi Powell enjoy a late-afternoon lunch at Grizzly Peak Brewing Company on West Washington Street.

# Ann Arbor

Don't miss its widespread appeal

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
STAFF WRITER

For decades, Ann Arbor's magnetic cityscape has attracted metro Detroiters seeking a quick getaway or a new adventure in dining and culture.

Easily accessible by I-94 or M-14, the city has something for everyone. Home to the University of Michigan's thriving campus, the Wolverines reign supreme. Still, shopping, dining and entertainment options far surpass blue-and-gold sporting events, college bars and T-shirt shops.

Blocks and blocks of Ann Arbor's walkable streets are lined with stores that lure residents and visitors alike. For quirky gifts, including a Pez lunch box, visit Acme Mercantile general store. Revamp a dorm room, apartment or wardrobe, with modern accessories from Urban Outfitters. Add to that leg-warmer collection or find a new shirt — in any imaginable color — at American Apparel.

Seeking vintage attire? Check out the Ann Arbor PTO Thrift Shop or Recycle Ann Arbor. If it's time for a

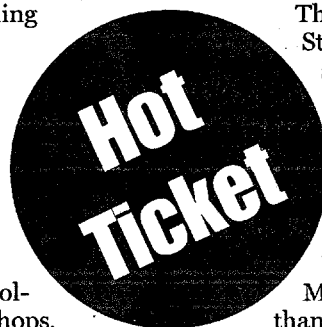
full-blown shopping spree, head straight for Briarwood Mall.

When it comes to that hard-to-find used record or CD, there's no better place to be than the dusty stacks and bins at Encore Records. "It's perfect for any music-lover," said Irene Kao, an Ann Arbor resident.

Then, hop across Liberty Street and browse the shelves at the original Borders Books & Music. Seek out a good read at Dawn Treader or — for that rare find — Old Westside Book Shop. Vault of Midnight, on Main Street, sells more than just comic books. A graphic novel collector, Kao recommends heading downstairs for a peek at original art.

Once visitors work up an appetite, Ann Arbor offers a diverse array of eateries and destination restaurants to suit any taste.

Start out with a lazy Sunday brunch in the city. For photographer Doug Coombe, a longtime Ann Arbor resident, Angelo's tops the list. "It's all about the Cinnamon Raisin French Toast," he said.



## Night or day, hit the town

### EAT AND DRINK

- Amer's Mediterranean Deli**, 611 Church St. (734) 769-1210
- Angelo's Restaurant**, 1100 E. Catherine St. (734) 761-8996
- Ashley's Restaurant and Pub**, 338 S. State St. (734) 996-9191
- Aut Bar**, 315 Braun Court (734) 994-3677
- The Blue Nile**, 221 E. Washington St. (734) 998-4746
- B.D.'s Mongolian BBQ**, 200 S. Main St. (734) 913-0999
- Cafe Felix**, 204 S. Main St. (734) 662-8650
- Café Zola**, 112 W. Washington St. (734) 769-2020
- Carson's American Bistro**, 2000 Commonwealth (734) 622-0537
- Casey's Tavern**, 304 Depot St. (734) 665-6775
- The Chop House**, 322 S. Main (734) 669-8826
- Crazy Wisdom Tea Room**, 114 S. Main St. (734) 665-9468

PLEASE SEE ANN ARBOR, E17

PLEASE SEE TO DO, E17


128th UMS SEASON **2006 | 2007**

Mambo! A tribute to Machito, Tito Puente, and Tito Rodriguez

## Big 3 Palladium Orchestra

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 8 PM  
Hill Auditorium

In Michigan, "Big 3" is usually associated with the automobile industry. But in this case, "Big 3" means one of the hottest Latin jazz bands this side of Havana. Mario Gulle (Machito's son) and Tito Rodriguez, Jr. bring the mambo craze of the 1950s back to life for one hot winter night.

Co-Sponsored by 

Funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Media Partners WEMU 89.1 FM, WDET 101.9 FM, and Michigan Radio.

This is a NETWORK event.

**Joshua Bell** violin

**Jeremy Denk** piano

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 8 PM  
Hill Auditorium

Grammy Award-winning violinist Joshua Bell returns to the Hill Auditorium stage for a captivating solo recital.

**PROGRAM**

Schumann Sonata No. 1 for Violin and Piano in a minor, Op. 105  
Beethoven Sonata No. 10 for Violin and Piano in G major, Op. 96  
Corigliano Sonata for Violin and Piano  
Selections from *Voice of the Violin*

Supported by Dennis and Ellie Ferras.

Media Partners WGTE 91.3 FM, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, and WRCJ 90.9 FM.

A Prelude Dinner precedes the performance.

This is a CLASSICAL KIDS CLUB concert.

## Hubbard Street Dance Chicago

**Jim Vincent** artistic director

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 8 PM

Power Center

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago returns to Ann Arbor for the first time in five years with a performance of engaging, seductive, human, and often edgy works that inspire audiences to think — but also to have fun.

**PROGRAM**

Lickety-Split (Choreography by Alejandro Cerrudo)  
From all sides (Choreography by Jorma Elo)  
Strokes Through The Tail (Choreography by Marguerite Donlon)  
Gnawa (Choreography by Nacho Duato)

Supported by  

Funded in part by the Performing Arts Fund.

Media Partner: Metro Times

## Stephen Petronio Company

**Stephen Petronio** artistic director

Music by **Rufus Wainwright**

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 8 PM

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 8 PM

Power Center

Music, visual art, and fashion collide in Stephen Petronio's dances, producing powerfully modern landscapes for the senses. This expressive company performs to new music by singer/songwriter Rufus Wainwright.

**PROGRAM**

Bud Suite (Music by Rufus Wainwright) (2006)  
BLOOM (Music by Rufus Wainwright) (2006)  
The Rite Part (Music by Stravinsky and Mitchell Lager)

Funded in part by National Dance Project of the New England Foundation for the Arts.

Media Partners: Metro Times and Detroit Jewish News.

**FREE EDUCATION EVENT**

**Beginner Salsa Lesson & Practice Session**

Laura Geldys, instructor

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 6-7:30 PM

danceRevolution Dance Studio

603 East William Street • Ann Arbor

Learn how to strut your stuff on the dance floor prior to the Big 3 Palladium Orchestra's performance! Cost: \$5. To register, contact DanceRevolution Dance Studio at info@danceRevolution.biz or 734-945-8428.



Justine Blazer

## Local musician opens for Lonestar

The last time Justine Blazer was featured in Filter, she was headlining a show at the legendary St. Andrew's Hall and working on a *Jimmy Kimmel Live!* commercial as a pop music artist.

Blazer's singing/songwriting career is steadily climbing but now she's a little less rock 'n' roll and a little more country.

The Canton recording artist is opening for country music sensations Lonestar for two shows at Andiamo's Celebrity Showroom in Warren on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 26-27.

In the past, Blazer has performed at professional baseball, football and basketball games, at Madison Square Garden, Detroit Music Hall, *The Mitch Albom Show* and at television stations. More than anything, the sultry blonde with her strong voice, self-confidence plus street and business smarts loves the stage.

"I just live one day at a time, do what my heart tells me," Blazer said. "Music is my passion and all I can be is me."

Lonestar just released its ninth album *Mountains*.

Lana Mini

### LONESTAR WITH SPECIAL GUEST JUSTINE BLAZER

**When:** Doors 7 p.m., showtime 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday, Jan. 26 and 27

**Where:** Andiamo Celebrity Showroom, 7096 E. 14 Mile Road, Warren (586) 268-3200

**Tickets:** \$45-\$100, visit [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or [www.andiamoshowroom.com](http://www.andiamoshowroom.com)

Hear the music: [myspace.com/justineblazer](http://myspace.com/justineblazer) music and [myspace.com/lonestar](http://myspace.com/lonestar)

**Support local musicians:** Buy the CD at [www.cdbaby.com](http://www.cdbaby.com)

**ums Call or Click for Tickets! 734.764.2538 | www.ums.org**

# Quaint Quandaries is a cure for Detroit winter blues

It's cold, it's gray and smiles can be hard to find in Detroit during these long winter days.

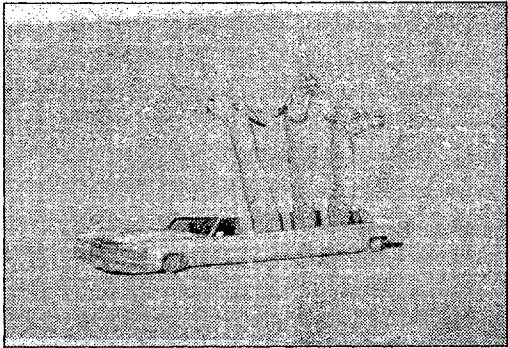
Find the cure to help quash the winter doldrums at the urban-style Majestic Cafe, where one of Detroit's most celebrated artists exhibits his work and, as always, we never know what to expect.

Dinner, drinks and art. What a perfect combination.

Mark Heggie is a Warren-based painter also known as one of the area's best-known tattoo artists. He's also an established illustrator and fine art commercial painter.

While his work leans toward industrial, the exhibit, Quaint Quandaries, which runs through Sunday, Feb. 4, at the Majestic Cafe, includes both small and mammoth size, light-hearted paintings of quirky animals that are all cute and also a little weirdly quirky.

Heggie attended Art Center College in Pasadena and refined his talents in New York. Eventually he settled back in Detroit, his hometown, where he has created posters for the Dally in the Alley Festival, and had exhibits at hipster cafes and bars like Xhedo's Cafe in Ferndale and the Belmont in Hamtramck. His work has also been included at the Dirty Show and at Octane Photographic Studio in Ferndale.



Mark Heggie's work will be exhibited through Feb. 4 at the Majestic Cafe in Detroit.

The Majestic Cafe is an eclectic, casual bistro known for its Sunday brunch with mimosas and "very berry" pancakes with blueberries, strawberries, blackberries and raspberries.

The regular menu includes portabello ravioli that includes pesto-seared tofu served over portabello mushrooms tossed with artichokes, mushrooms and sundried tomatoes in a lemon caper butter sauce, for example. The salad and appetizer menu is extensive.

The restaurant focuses on Mediterranean and American cuisine and



"Unicornicopia" is the brainchild of Mark Heggie.

its decor includes hardwood floors, exposed bricks and big windows offering views of Woodward Avenue.

The exhibit is free. The Majestic Cafe is

located at 4120 Woodward Avenue in Detroit. For details visit [www.markheggie.com](http://www.markheggie.com) or [www.majesticdetroit.com](http://www.majesticdetroit.com).

Lana Mini

## A walk down memory lane...



Entry Deadline:  
Monday, Feb. 5,  
5:00 p.m.

Starring:

**Johnny Maestro & The Brooklyn Bridge**  
**Gary Puckett**  
**Grass Roots**  
**The Reflections**  
**Barbara Harris of the Toys**

Contest brought to you by The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Employees of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and their families are not eligible. You must be 18 years older to enter. Entries must be received by close of business Monday, February 5, 2007. Winners will be contacted by phone & listed in FIFTEEN on February 8.

Enter to win tickets to:  
**The Motor City's 104.3 WOMC**  
**6th Annual Valentines Concert**  
**Detroit Opera House**

**Saturday, February 17, 2007**

Performances at 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.

6 lucky winners will each win 4 tickets to the 4:00 p.m. performance on Saturday, February 17, 2007

To enter, send a postcard answering this question:

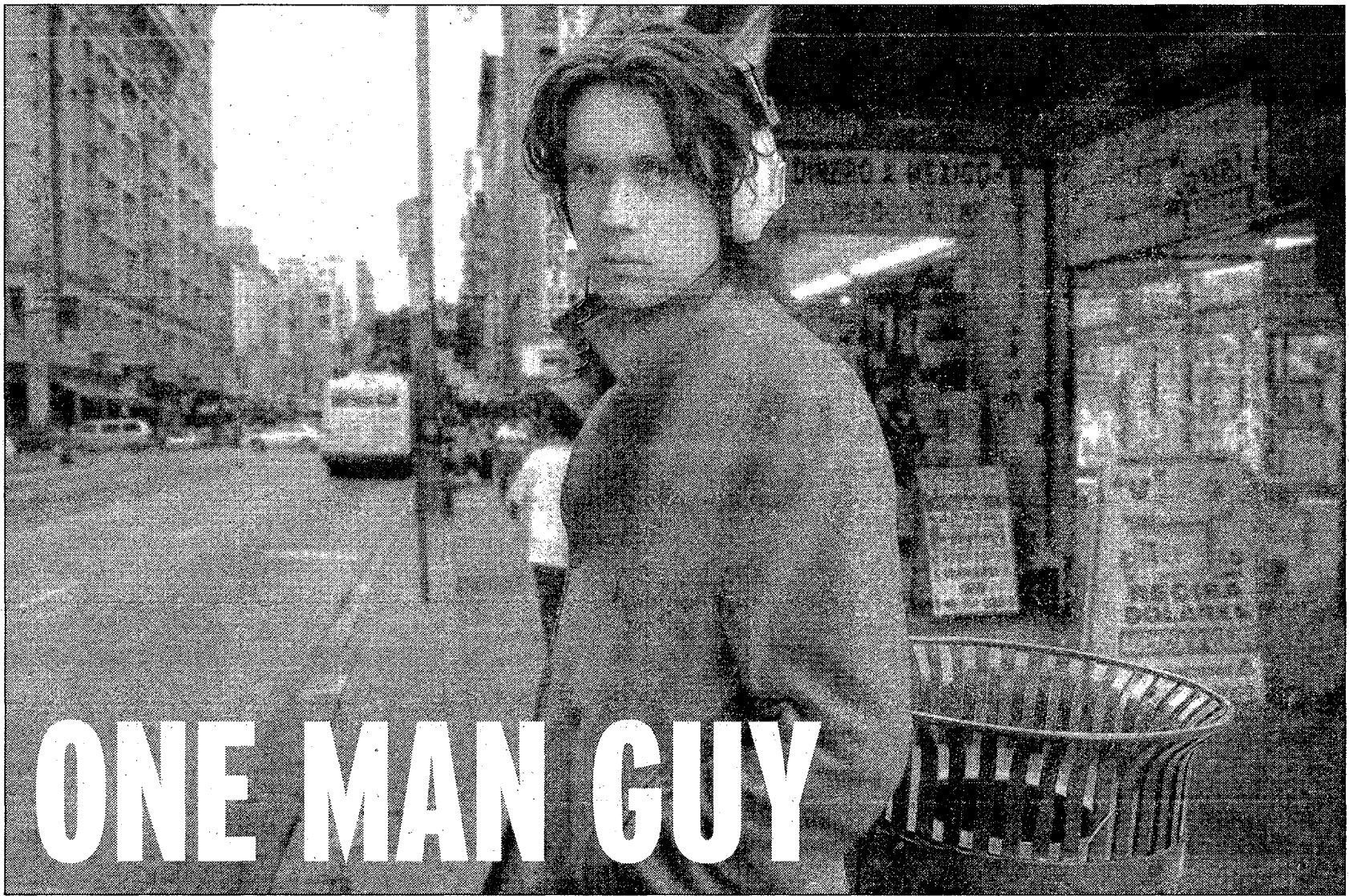
*If you could write a song for your valentine  
what would you name it?*

Send your entry to:

Motor City's 104.3 WOMC 6th Annual Valentines Contest  
Observer & Eccentric Newspapers  
36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150  
or email: [cyoung@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:cyoung@oe.homecomm.net)

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Tickets available at all Ticketmaster Ticket Centers including Macy's.  
Charge by phone 248-645-6666 [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com)



Rufus Wainwright

# ONE MAN GUY

## RUFUS WAINWRIGHT RE-EMERGES FOR FESTIVAL'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY



JOHN CHIASSON

John Prine

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
STAFF WRITER

Folk music echoes through his bones. Musician Rufus Wainwright has spent the past decade cultivating a sound best described as baroque pop. On first listen, the accomplished pianist and songwriter doesn't seem like a folk artist at all. But that tradition can be traced back through his roots.

His singer-songwriter parents, Loudon Wainwright III and Kate McGarrigle, have run the gamut when it comes to folk style. The elder Wainwright gleaned notoriety with the 1972 hit *Dead Skunk*, while Canadian-born McGarrigle has long performed in a duo with her sister, Anna.

This month, Rufus Wainwright will return to Michigan to headline the first night of the Ann Arbor Folk Festival. "I've played there for years now," he said. "I know the people who own The Ark. My mother played there a lot."

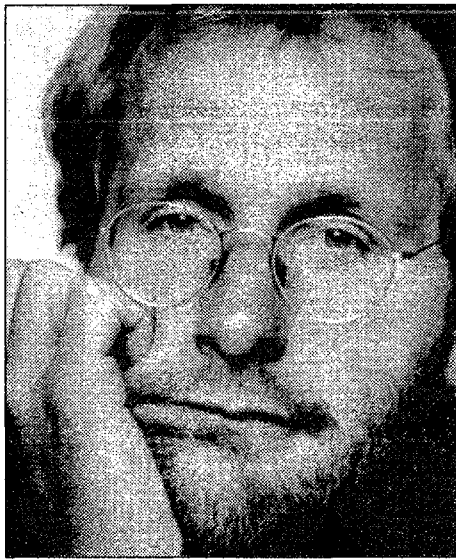
Cover story

Wainwright's parents divorced when he was just a child. Much of the resulting drama has played out on the musicians' respective albums. Most recently, his younger sister, Martha, released a scathing ode to her father on her self-titled solo record.

Martha, too, will perform in this year's festival. Raised by their mother in Montreal, Canada, the Wainwrights' musical fate seemed to be sealed at birth. "I do consider myself a kind of folk child," said Rufus Wainwright. "I was very much raised to the sound of strumming banjos and reeling fiddles. In fact, my first crib was a guitar case. Before going home after the hospital, we went to the studio. I do feel like it's in my bones."

Despite a lifetime of recording and performing with his mother, aunt and siblings – on records like *The McGarrigle Family Album*, and at the Wainwright Family and Friends evening Dec. 13, in New York's Carnegie Hall – Wainwright

PLEASE SEE FOLK, E7



Michigan's own Jeff Daniels will emcee the festival this year.

## FOLK

FROM PAGE E6

knew early on he'd stray from the folk world.

"I decided a long time ago not to really go that route," he said. "In the end, if you listen hard, I'm always aware of a solid structure ... One of the great things about folk music, and in my opinion one of the essences of the genre of songwriting – you have to be able to perform it solo."

That's just what he'll do. Rather than appearing on a stage crowded with something shy of a full orchestra, he'll perform alone.

Wainwright first broke out on his own in 1998 with his self-titled debut. It was an experience he still calls "very glamorous."

"I was the first artist signed to DreamWorks Records," he recalled. "It was the most anticipated, sought-after label around. There was so much money there. I arrived in Hollywood with a major

### ANN ARBOR FOLK FESTIVAL 2007

**What:** The 30th anniversary of a festival that explores folk music and its roots. It's a benefit to support The Ark in Ann Arbor.

**When:** 6:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 26-27

#### Performers:

##### ■ Friday

Headliner: Rufus Wainwright  
With Jackie Greene; Ember Swift; Kiyoshi Nagata Ensemble; Martha Wainwright; Gandalf Murphy & the Slambovian Circus of Dreams; Millish; and RFD Boys.

##### ■ Saturday

Headliner: John Prine  
With Mountain Heart; Over the Rhine; Terri Hendrix & Lloyd Maines; Bill Staines; Paul Thorn; Daisy May; and RFD Boys.

**Festival Emcee:** Jeff Daniels.

**Where:** Hill Auditorium, 825 N. University, Ann Arbor.

**Tickets:** Patron tickets cost \$75 for one night or \$125 for both, call (734) 761-1800. Sponsor tickets cost \$150 for one night or \$250 for both.

General tickets cost \$30-\$45 for one night; \$50-\$80 for both, call (734) 763-TKTS or purchase at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, Herb David Guitar Studio, any TicketMaster outlet, or at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).

calling card."

From the start, Wainwright said he didn't want to "spare anything for the album" and never compromised his music to "fit into radio." The downside? It's taken longer for him to break out as an artist.

Wainwright released the elegant *Poses* in 2002, *Want One* in 2003 and *Want Two* in 2004. His new album is due in May.

"What's fun about the new record, *Releasing the Stars*, is it's the first album I've produced myself. I did much of it in Europe, and in New York actually. It's very much the album I wanted to make in the beginning of my career. I didn't have the experience and the knowledge of how to



KEN SCHLES  
Martha Wainwright

produce."

When it came time to record, Wainwright traveled to Berlin, calling it a place that has "experienced defeat, destruction and horror." He wanted to go somewhere where "people have a sense of the dark side of humanity. I found it comforting. Also, I love castles."

On this record, Wainwright takes a critical view of the world, and of certain people in his life.

"The first song *Do I Disappoint You* is sort of a rhetorical question," he said. "It says I don't disappoint you, don't disappoint me either. *Releasing the Stars* is very much a metaphor of releasing love, compassion, strength – and not being selfish with it."

In addition, Wainwright is pursuing a lifelong dream. He has been commissioned by The Metropolitan Opera to write his first opera.

"It's coming along quite fast," he said, justifying that in opera terms that's still quite a while. "I peck away at it everyday. I'm excited about the whole process."

"I'm at a point in my life, maybe it's the age or certain events that have occurred, I need to express myself in a truly grandiose



Mountain Heart

medium. I love making records and I'll make records till I drop, but the opera – I do think it demands your entire existence."

When he's not surrounded by some blend of classical or pop music, Wainwright can be found contributing to songs by an array of performers – from Burt Bacharach and Elton John to David Byrne and Antony and the Johnsons.

He's also taken to the stage to recreate Judy Garland's legendary 1961 concert in its entirety. His folk beginnings never drew any definite boundaries when it came to musical direction.

There's no telling where he'll head next.

[scasola@hometownlife.com](mailto:scasola@hometownlife.com) | (248) 901-2567

## The Ark's timeline of folk tradition

This year's two-day Ann Arbor Folk Festival marks the 30th anniversary of the event, a major annual fund-raiser to support The Ark. It also marks the return of John Prine, Saturday's headliner, who earned top billing in the festival's maiden year, and performed in 1989.

The event has brought major folk acts to Ann Arbor since 1977.

Here's a look back at past headlining acts:

1977, 1989 John Prine  
1979, 1980, 1982, 1983, 1984 David Bromberg  
1981 Leon Redbone  
1985 Bonnie Raitt  
1986 Arlo Guthrie  
1987 Donovan  
1988 Holly Near & Ronnie Gilbert  
1990 Sweet Honey in the Rock

1991 Don McLean  
1992 Lyle Lovett  
1993, 1997, 2002 Nanci Griffith  
1994 Richard Thompson  
1995 Doc Watson  
1996 Chet Atkins  
1998 Paula Cole  
1999 Emmylou Harris  
2000 Shawn Colvin  
2001 Peter Yarrow  
2003\* Patty Griffin,  
Taj Mahal  
2004 Ani DiFranco,  
Emmylou Harris  
2005 Indigo Girls,  
Keb Mo'  
2006 Robert Cray Band,  
Lyle Lovett Trio

\* Becomes a two-day festival

## WINTER BLAST RUNDOWN

### PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS AND FOOD VENDORS

The Almond Hut  
Andy's Gourmet Basket  
Buscemi's Pizza and Sub Shoppe  
Coach Insignia  
Detroit Beer Company  
Frank's Creative Catering  
Harbor House  
Kola's Food Factory  
Longhorn Steakhouse  
Lot 1012  
Mercurio Food  
Moe's Southwest Grill  
Nick's Concessions  
Olympian Café  
Popcorn Royalty  
Premier Desserts & Specialty Foods  
Trenton Ice Cream  
Zoup!

### STAGES

#### JAZZ/ETHNIC

##### Friday, Feb. 9

TJ Kelly (country), 1:30-2:30 p.m.  
Basiks (reggae), 3-4 p.m.  
Jesse Palter (jazz), 4:30-5:30 p.m.  
Straight Ahead (jazz), 6-7 p.m.  
Zydecronch (zydeco), 7:30-8:45 p.m.  
Persuasion (pop/r&b), 9:15-10:30 p.m.  
Midtown Underground (funk/r&b), 11 p.m. to midnight

##### Saturday, Feb. 10

TBA, 9:30-11 a.m.  
TBA, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
TBA, 1:30-2:30 p.m.  
Edit Concern (power pop), 3-4 p.m.  
The Project, 4:30-5:30 p.m.  
Jeff Tuttle (country), 6-7 p.m.  
Larry Lee & The Back In The Day Band (r&b), 7:30-8:45 p.m.  
Impact 7 (Motown) 9:15-10:30 p.m.  
TBA, 11 p.m. to midnight

##### Sunday, Feb. 11

Nightengale (jazz), 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Millish (celtic), 1:30-2:30 p.m.  
Chunky Funk (r&b), 3-4 p.m.  
Ragbird, 4:30-5:30 p.m.  
Tumbao Bravo! (Cuban jazz), 6-7 p.m.  
Champagne & the FBJ Band (funk, blues, jazz), 7:30-9 p.m.

### MUSIC AT THE GREENTOWN CASINO STAGE

##### Friday, Feb. 9

Kaleidoscope, 1-4 p.m.  
Serieux, 5-9 p.m.  
Larry Lee and the Back in the Day Band, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

##### Saturday, Feb. 10

Hotsauce, 1-4 p.m.  
Detroit All-stars (aka Thique), 5-9 p.m.  
Spider Turner, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

PLEASE SEE RUNDOWN, E9



The Howling Diablos are a Detroit punk/rockabilly favorite.

# Winter Blast features Dine in the D, music and fun

Live music, kids' games, Olympic ice skating, snowboarding, snowshoeing, marshmallow roasting, ice sculpting, shopping and food ... do you need more?

Most of the scheduled activities for this year's Detroit's Winter Blast, Friday through Sunday, Feb. 9-11, were unveiled this week for the outdoor festival in downtown Detroit that served as a backdrop last year for the Super Bowl XL in the Blast's inaugural year.

Hundreds of thousands of people attended the

**family  
Fun**



Jesse Potter performs jazz.

event. Now the plans are for the event to be Detroit's annual winter festival.

The festival is organized and promoted by Jon Witz, whose magic touch made Arts, Beats & Eats the most popular summer festival. What Arts, Beats & Eats is to Pontiac is what Winter Blast can be to Detroit, Witz has said.

And yes, it will be cold, but there are heat stations scattered throughout the 11-city block festival.

Here's the schedule, subject to change. Check out Filter next week for more details about this event.

Lana Mini



# RUNDOWN

FROM PAGE E8

## Sunday, Feb. 11

Stereo Addict, 1-4 p.m.  
Hidden Agenda, 5-9 p.m.  
Rock and Soul, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

## MEIJER KIDS STAGE

### Friday, Feb. 9

Vikki (ventriloquist), noon  
Rosco (magic/clown), 1 p.m.  
Kevin (poetry/music), 2 p.m.  
Ben (magic/juggler), 3 p.m.  
Vikki (ventriloquist), 4 p.m.  
Rosco (clown), 5 p.m.  
Kevin (music/puppets), 6 p.m.

### Saturday, Feb. 10

Gratitude (music), 11 a.m.  
Rosco (clown/magic), noon  
Kevin (music/puppetry), 1 p.m.  
Ben (comedian/juggler), 2 p.m.  
Gratitude (music), 3 p.m.  
Rosco (clown/music), 4 p.m.  
Kevin (puppets/poetry), 5 p.m.  
Ben (juggler/comedian), 6 p.m.

### Sunday, Feb. 11

Vikki (ventriloquist), 11 a.m.  
Ben (comedian), noon  
Kevin (music/poetry), 1 p.m.  
Gratitude (African music), 2 p.m.  
Rosco (clown/music), 3 p.m.

Ben (juggler), 4 p.m.  
Gratitude (music), 5 p.m.  
Rosco (magic/comedy) 6 p.m.

## MICHIGAN LOTTERY STAGE

### Friday, Feb. 9

South Normal (rock), 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Rev. Marc Falconberry (blues), 1:30-2:30 p.m.  
Horse Cave Trio (country rock), 3-4 p.m.  
Tall Cool One (rock), 4:30-5:30 p.m.  
Lucas (blues rock), 6-7 p.m.  
Question Mark & the Mysterians (rock), 7:30-8:30 p.m.  
Twistin Tarantulas (rockabilly), 9:15-10:30 p.m.  
Downtown Brown (rawk), 11 p.m. to midnight

### Saturday, Feb. 10

TBA, 9:30-11 a.m.  
Sweet Claudette (blues), 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Guitar Army (rock), 1:30-2:30 p.m.  
The Orbitsuns (phycobilly), 3-4 p.m.  
Rev. Righttime (funk), 4:30-5:30 p.m.  
Carl Caballo (blues), 6-7:15 p.m.  
GRR special guest Alvin Youngblood Hart (blues/rock), 7:45-9 p.m.  
Howling Diablos (rock/funk), 9:30-10:45 p.m.  
Trainwreck with GRR (rock/blues/funk), 11 p.m. to midnight

### Sunday, Feb. 11

Alvin Youngblood Hart (blues), 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Laith Al-Saddi (blues), 1:30-2:30 p.m.  
Broadzilla (rock), 3-4 p.m.  
Bump (jam rock), 4:30-5:30 p.m.  
Reeferman (rock), 6-7:15 p.m.  
Rev. Ron Sexton (blues), 7:30-8:45 p.m.

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# Readers Choice

Hey, Detroit and 'burbs: Let us know your faves

Metro Detroit residents check out Filter each week and our Web site each day for the latest news in the entertainment world.

Whatever you need to know on the nightlife and entertainment scene, whether it is news about concerts, plays, movies, restaurants and bars throughout the metro Detroit area, it's all here in Filter.

So what we at Filter would like to know is: Where do you like to go?

Readers of the Filter section can fill out our Readers Choice form and let us know the "what" and "where is" of your favorite burger joint, pizza place, vegetarian restaurant and many other restaurant categories. Fill out the survey, and you may win tickets in a random drawing to *I Can't Stop Loving You* at the Fisher Theatre.

Where do you like to see a movie? Where is that favorite lunch place with mom or dad? Where is your favorite day trip?

Fill out the form and return it to Ken Abramczyk, Filter editor, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham MI 48009 or visit the link at <http://www.hometownlife.com/news/ReadersChoice/ReadersChoice.html>. The deadline is Feb. 2, but you can fill it out today.

Let us know what you think. We'll let you know what the most popular choices are with our readers.

**THE Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS**

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Nightlife & Entertainment

Family & Fun

Food & dining

Download this form at  
[www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)

What are your favorite places?

## Food and dining:

Best pastry or sweet shop:

Best down-home soul food:

Best restaurant for a first-date:

Best 24-hour restaurant:

Best Indian:

Best Thai:

Best Chinese:

Best Italian:

Best Sushi bar:

Best Greek:

Best Vegetarian/Vegan:

Best fine dining:

Best burger:

Best pizza:

Best place for coffee:

## Nightlife/Entertainment:

Best signature cocktail:

Best place to share a bottle of wine:

Best wine bar:

Best microbrewery:

Best beer menu:

Best bar jukebox:

Best bar to discover new bands:

Best gallery to find new artists:

Best live jazz joint:

Best local record label:

Best place to sing karaoke:

Best high-energy dance club:

Best place to see-and-be-seen under 30:

Best place to see-and-be-seen over 40:

Best late-night dance club:

Best happy hour:

Best Irish pub:

Best acoustic venue:

Best live rock club:

Best place to dance Salsa:

Best place for Tango:

Best place to watch bellydance:

Best place to country line dance:

Best place to see Flamenco dancing:

Best martini bar:

Best place to avoid the meat market scene yet still be hip:

## Family stuff:

Best place to take kids in the winter:

Best place to take kids in the summer:

Best museum to wander on a weekend:

Best movie theatre:

Best family restaurant:

Best cheap eats:

Best lunch place with mom or dad:

Best beer with dad:

Best day trip for the family:

Best venue to take kids under 10:

Best venue for teen-agers:

# Toy Soldier show features live historians

If you were one of those kids who played war games with miniature toy soldiers, then this event is for you.

Live historians dressed in period uniforms from the American Revolution through World War II will be scattered throughout the 17th annual Michigan Historical Collectibles Show on Sunday, Jan. 28. And if you dress as a re-enactor in period costume, you can come to the show for free and offer your expertise on your era of choice.

The show, sponsored by the Michigan Toy Soldier Company of Royal Oak, will be held at the

Holiday Inn in Livonia. It's a popular father-son event.

It's actually three shows in one including: one room featuring 175 toy soldier vendors from around the world selling new and antique items; the Red Arrow Militaria Show where more than 50 vendors will sell antique militaria uniforms including equipment, medals, patches, books and other items. Also at the event is the seventh annual Michigan Historical Miniatures Club Figure Show and Competition where local modelers display their figure works in a friendly competition.

Kids can paint and build a

shoebox diorama, and see historical war demos at the kids' activity center.

Many who attend the event are in search of the play things they had as a child or have a curiosity in historical periods the toys represent. Some are veterans.

A typical show features new and old toy soldiers, historical miniatures to build and paint, vehicles, civilian figures, 12-inch action figures, history-related books, prints, videos and memorabilia.

Hours are from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Livonia Holiday Inn (Laurel Park) at Six Mile off of the I-275 exit.

Admission is \$6 per person. Visit [www.michiganshow.com](http://www.michiganshow.com) or call (248) 586-1022.



Lana Mini Visit the Michigan Historical Collectibles show on Sunday.

# Bring your guitar and jam for charity

Calling all guitar players. Be part of the annual Guitar Jam to raise money for the Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan during a 28-hour live radiothon.

The event will be broadcast live on WCSX-FM (94.7).

Bring a \$5 donation, your guitar and a small amp to the center court in Oakland Mall at 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 25, and get ready to play the classic rock song *Sunshine of Your Love* by Cream.

The more guitar players that attend, the more money will be raised for the

Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan. CLF is a statewide organization that provides information, financial assistance and support for adults and children affected by leukemia, lymphoma, and other related blood disorders.

The JJ & Lynne's 28 Hour Radio-thon is one of the major sources of revenue for the foundation.

For more information, contact Jennifer Williams of WCSX at (248) 840-0828 or [jwilliams@greatermediadetroit.com](mailto:jwilliams@greatermediadetroit.com).

Lana Mini

## BECKER

FROM PAGE E2

Becker's death.

The concert came about after René and Angela's only surviving child, Jay, told Deleury about the more than 425 scores by his parents that were in his Birmingham home. He shared the music with her and other musicians.

Deleury had been researching Detroit composer and musician Tom Kuras and learned that Kuras studied at the Palestrina Institute. Her search for pictures of the institute led her to Jay Becker.

Deleury recently took more than 40 manuscripts by René Becker to a publisher in France. It is expected that they will

be published there this spring.

The publisher is an organist and knew about René Becker and Becker's father, Deleury said.

"So, he was very interested in seeing his music!" she said.

Now in its ninth season, Chamber Music at the Scarab Club is a series of chamber music programs performed in informal, intimate settings.

René Becker: From Alsace to Detroit is presented in collaboration with the Marygrove College Department of Music, and with the support of the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the Detroit Recreation Department.

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# Crust

Where pizza goes to Naples

BY ELEANOR HEALD  
CORRESPONDENT

Success breeds success and that applies to pizza joints too!

Crust Pizza & Wine, the brainchild of experienced restaurant partners Curtis and Greg Nordeen and Jon Sherer, was so successful that the original Rochester Hills location (opened in March 2006) now has a sister eatery in Bloomfield Township, open about six weeks.

"You've asked why pizza," Sherer said. "Because it's the number one food sold in the U.S. It's in the fast casual category which is the most popular. Additionally, we wanted to create our own brand."

Crust represents an on-the-edge concept in hand-crafted pizza. Against a backdrop of bright wall colors, natural wood elements in both high-top and regular tables, an efficient open kitchen turns out Neapolitan thin-crust pizzas from a gas-fired 900 degree oven that bakes gen-

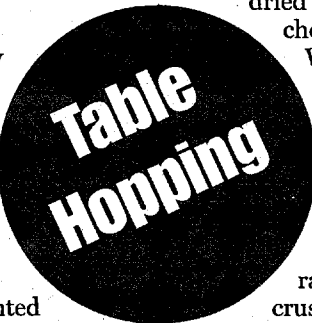
erously-sized individual pizzas in 90 seconds.

## PIZZA PIZZAZZ

The number of pizza choices gets you thinking "they all sound delicious." If you're a first-timer, those who've gone before you order Shrimp Pesto with sun-dried tomatoes, fontinella and goat cheese as "numero uno" in the White Pizza category. In second place is the Prosciutto with its toppings of Academia Barilla Prosciutto di Parma, Maytag blue cheese and arugula.

From the two Naples Classics, pizza Margherita ranks at the top with its crushed San Marzano tomato sauce, extra virgin olive oil, fresh mozzarella and hand-torn basil.

Although a Margherita pizza is the delight of Naples, Italy, Crust raises the bar with its Original Red Pizza, topped with daily housemade, fire-roasted San Marzano tomato sauce. With that sauce base, you get to choose my favorite top-



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

One of the specialty pizzas at Crust Pizza & Wine in Rochester Hills is the Chicken and Artichoke pizza, which is a favorite.

pings of sausage and peppers. Top quality Molinari fennel sausage is accompanied by red peppers, mozzarella, provolone and a sprinkling of chopped parsley for enhanced eye appeal.

The people's Red Pizza choice, however, is "Roni," topped with Molinari pepperoni, mozzarella, provolone, hand-torn basil and white truffle oil. For meatless, there's "Shroom," with an assortment of chianti-roasted mushrooms, mozzarella and provolone or "Cheese, Glorious Cheese," what Italians refer to as a quattro formaggi.

If you'd like to challenge the young kitchen crew, go for it with a Build Your Own. Choices are endless with each topping priced between \$1 and \$3 above of a

base price of \$6.

## PART TWO

The second part of Crust's name is "Wine," 35 by the glass or bottle and more reds than whites. Six-ounce pours average \$5 to \$10 and bottles \$20 to \$30 with a few higher-priced exceptions. Can't decide? Order a flight of three two-ounce samples.


Signature cocktails, beers and standard non-alcoholic beverages are also available.

Typically, pizza joints don't emphasize dessert. Not so at Crust. From a rotating list of 30 layered desserts at \$1.95 each, served in oyster shooter-style glasses, there are five choices daily. They may

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## CRUST PIZZA & WINE

**Where:** 2595 Rochester Rd. at Barclay Circle, Rochester Hills (248) 844-8899 and 6622 Telegraph Rd. in Bloomfield Plaza, Bloomfield Township (248) 855-5855.

**Open:** 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, until 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and noon-9 p.m. Sunday.

**Food style:** Neapolitan thin crust pizzas for eat-in or take-out, along with soups, sandwiches, pastas and some small plates.

**Cost:** check average \$14 per person.

**Reservations:** for group of eight or more.

include Banana Custard, Caramel Brunch, Strawberry Cheesecake, Peanut Butter Mousse and Brownies or Key Lime.

## NEW TWISTS

In addition to several attractively plated salads served with warm flatbread, there's soup, lasagna, linguini with shrimp or a perfect-for-lunch "Combo" at \$8 which includes a small salad, soup and a half chicken sandwich or a half-sized individual pizza with a small salad.

With its no compromise on quality ingredients and moderate prices, Crust Pizza & Wine over-delivers.

**Eleanor Heald** is a nationally published writer and long-time resident who writes about restaurants, food, wine and spirits for the *Observer & Eccentric* newspapers. Contact her by e-mail at focusonline@aol.com.

## PIZZA BITES

Generally, dine-in pizza spots are willing to bake a pizza for take-out. In addition to Crust, my area favorites are:

**Alibi**, 6700 Rochester Road, Troy (248) 879-0014.

**Assaggi Mediterranean Bistro**, 330 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale (248) 584-3499.

**Buca di Beppo**, 270 N. Old Woodward, Birmingham (248) 540-9463 and 38888 Six Mile Road; Livonia (734) 462-6442.

**Buddy's**, 31646 Northwestern Highway, west of Middlebelt Road, Farmington Hills (248) 855-4600 and 33605 Plymouth Road, between Farmington & Stark Roads, Livonia (734) 261-3550.

**California Pizza Kitchen**, 2800 W. Big Beaver Road, in Somerset Collection North (248) 816-0900; 37546 W. Six Mile Road (Laurel Park Place Mall), Livonia (734) 591-0476; and 870 Briarwood Circle, Ann Arbor (734) 222-6320.

**Carraba's Italian Grill**, 1900 N. Haggerty Road, Canton (734) 844-7400.

**Green Lantern Pizzeria**, 4326 Rochester Road, Royal Oak (248) 298-3004 - take-out and area delivery only.

**Pasquale's**, 31555 Woodward Ave., Royal Oak (248) 549-4002.

**Pizzapapalis**, 32740 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills (248) 932-2288.

**Primo's Pizza**, 996 S. Adams Road, Birmingham (248) 642-1400 - take out and area delivery only.

Eleanor Heald

# Morton's founder visits Southfield for book signing

Morton's The Steakhouse in Southfield will host a special book signing event with *Morton's Steak Bible* author and co-founder of Morton's Steakhouses, Klaus Fritsch, at 6 p.m. Monday, Feb. 5.

*Morton's Steak Bible* was published in June 2006 by the Clarkson Potter division of Random House.

Klaus Fritsch and Arnie Morton co-founded Morton's in 1978 and soon began expanding the business from the original State Street location in Chicago. Today, as vice chairman of Morton's, The Steakhouse restaurants, Fritsch is responsible for the business growth and menu development of the 72 Morton's locations around the world — the largest company-owned-and-operated fine-dining restaurant brand in the world.

The event will feature cocktails and hors d'oeuvres and an exclusive silent auction to benefit the Michigan chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Tickets are \$30, which includes a copy of *Morton's Steak Bible*. Admission

to the event will be complimentary if a guest brings a pre-purchased copy of the book.

Morton's of Southfield is located at One Towne Square, in the Virchow Krause Building, off of Northwestern Highway, north of 10 1/2 Mile, between Lahser and Evergreen.

Reserve a place by contacting Gaye Lynn Murdoch at

cm.ms@mortons.com or by calling (248) 354-6006 by

Jan. 29. Space is limited.

Several popular downtown Detroit restaurants are making a citywide celebration of the Michigan Camper, Travel & RV Show at Ford Field with specials and discounts.

Just show your ticket stub and take advantage of the following discounts and deals:

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PLEASE SEE BITES, E21



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# Nine days of blues at 20 Ferndale venues

If you're a blues fan, then Ferndale and Hazel Park are the places to be from Friday, Jan. 26, through Saturday, Feb. 3.

It's the 2007 Ferndale Blues Festival where 20 venues will host at least 60 established and up-and-coming blues acts.

And while smoke, booze and blues usually go hand-in-hand, at least two clubs are geared toward nonsmokers: Pub 442 located at 1 W. Nine Mile at I-75 in Hazel Park inside the Park Inn & Suites and Sakana Sushi Lounge, 22914 Woodward Ave., Ferndale near the Magic Bag.

Other participating venues are: **Buffalo Wild Wings**, a chain restaurant with a loud, friendly atmosphere; **New Way Bar**, known for its laid-back, friendly crowds; **Club Bart**, a well-established, casual and intimate venue; **Post Bar**, which is wild with a sports-loving crowd; **Como's**, the Italian restaurant with a very

social, hip crowd; **Danny's**, the tiny bar where everyone knows each other and welcomes new people; **Rosie O'Grady's** with billiards and a popular place for the locals; **Dino's**, it's hip and swanky and if you have a parking ticket drinks are half off; **Emory**, the sister venue of **Woodward Avenue Brewery** with a very stylish, successful clientele; **Sneakers**, that is super-casual with no pretense; **End of the Park** that often features karaoke; **SOHO**, a martini bar with a huge menu; **Gracie's Underground**, it's cool with a rock crowd; **Via Nove** with contemporary southern Italian cuisine in a trendy atmosphere; **Tony's Sports Bar** with a sports crowd of all ages; **Howie's Bayou** with an upscale crowd, and, of course, the **Ferndale Elks**.

For the full band schedule and maps, visit [www.ferndalebluesfestival.org](http://www.ferndalebluesfestival.org).

Lana Mini

# Local a cappella group performs with The Nylons

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
STAFF WRITER

It's not enough that elmoTHUMM won an open a cappella competition in the Midwest, performed for President Bush and were asked to perform on *America's Got Talent*.

The group gets to perform with its idols, The Nylons, in a night of a cappella pop music at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 1 at the Brighton Center for the Performing Arts.

Paul Ellinger of Canton, one of the elmoTHUMM members, said the group is thrilled to be singing on the same stage with The Nylons.

"The reason that this is such a big deal for all of us is because none of it would have happened without the Nylons, as they were the group that all of us heard individually years ago and said, 'I want to learn how to do that!'" Ellinger said.

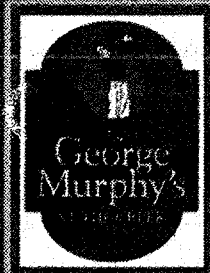
"For us, it would be the equivalent of a Celine Dion fan getting to perform with Celine, or a Led Zeppelin fan getting to perform with Led Zeppelin. There's nothing like getting to meet, let alone getting to perform, with your heroes."

The Nylons are celebrating their 25th year in the business on this tour and have six platinum and seven gold albums.

Tickets are \$29 and all seating is reserved. Tickets may be purchased by calling the theater at (810) 299-4130.

The Brighton Center for the Performing Arts is located at 7878 Brighton Road inside Brighton High School.

Take I-96 west to exit 147 (Spencer Road, Brighton). Turn right (west) onto Spencer Road, then Spencer Road becomes Main Street. Follow Main Street to the high school entrance (first traffic light after Grand River).



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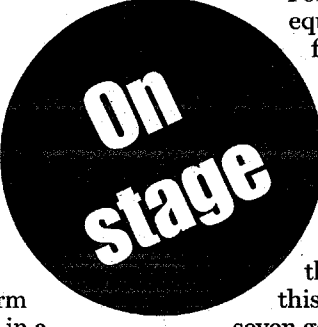
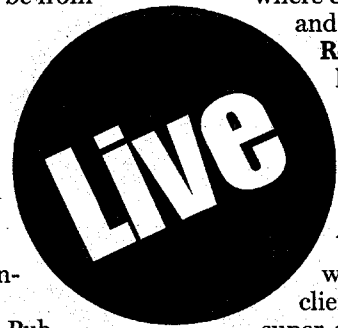
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## ANN ARBOR

FROM PAGE E3

When it comes to atmosphere, and a delectable buffet, he recommends Gandy Dancer, housed in an old train station. Craving the best waffles or crepes and a great cup of coffee? Look no further than Cafe Zola.

Buck a predictable coffee shop stop with a recharge at Sweetwaters or Crazy Wisdom Tea Room.

Don't miss the world-class sandwiches at Zingerman's Deli. Or, fill up on hearty pub fare at Red Hawk or Casey's Tavern.

For dinner, the limits sound endless. Feel like Chinese? Try the generous portions and bubble tea at TK Wu. Go for heaping pasta, Italian-style, at Palio. Taste spicy Indian flavors at Shalimar.

Families will find plenty to keep kids busy at the Ann Arbor Hands On Museum, or the current Wild Weather, Changing Climate show at the Exhibit Museum of Natural History. Take in an independent, foreign or classic flick at the Michigan Theater. The University Musical Society hosts an array of cultural activities at Power Center and Hill Auditorium.

Ann Arbor blends its cityscape with pastoral charm. Spend a sunny day at the park — either Gallup Park or Bird Hill. Or visit the Matthaei Botanical Gardens.

At night, lively bars and music venues bring in the crowds. Folk music fills Old Town on Sundays, and has made The Ark famous. Catch live music at Kerrytown Concert House. Feel like dancing? Seek out The Bang, a must-try monthly dance party at The Blind Pig. For jazz, check out the Firefly Club on Ashley.

The city also hosts a slew of annual events. This weekend's Ann Arbor Folk Festival benefits The Ark. Each March, movie buffs nestle into their seats for the Ann Arbor Film Fest. By June, local actors and students are ready to take on Shakespeare in the Arboretum. The Ann Arbor Art Fairs practically flood the city's streets with tents and shuffling crowds in mid-July.

In any season, Ann Arbor is always a worthy stop for a Southeast Michigan day trip.

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## TO DO

FROM PAGE E3

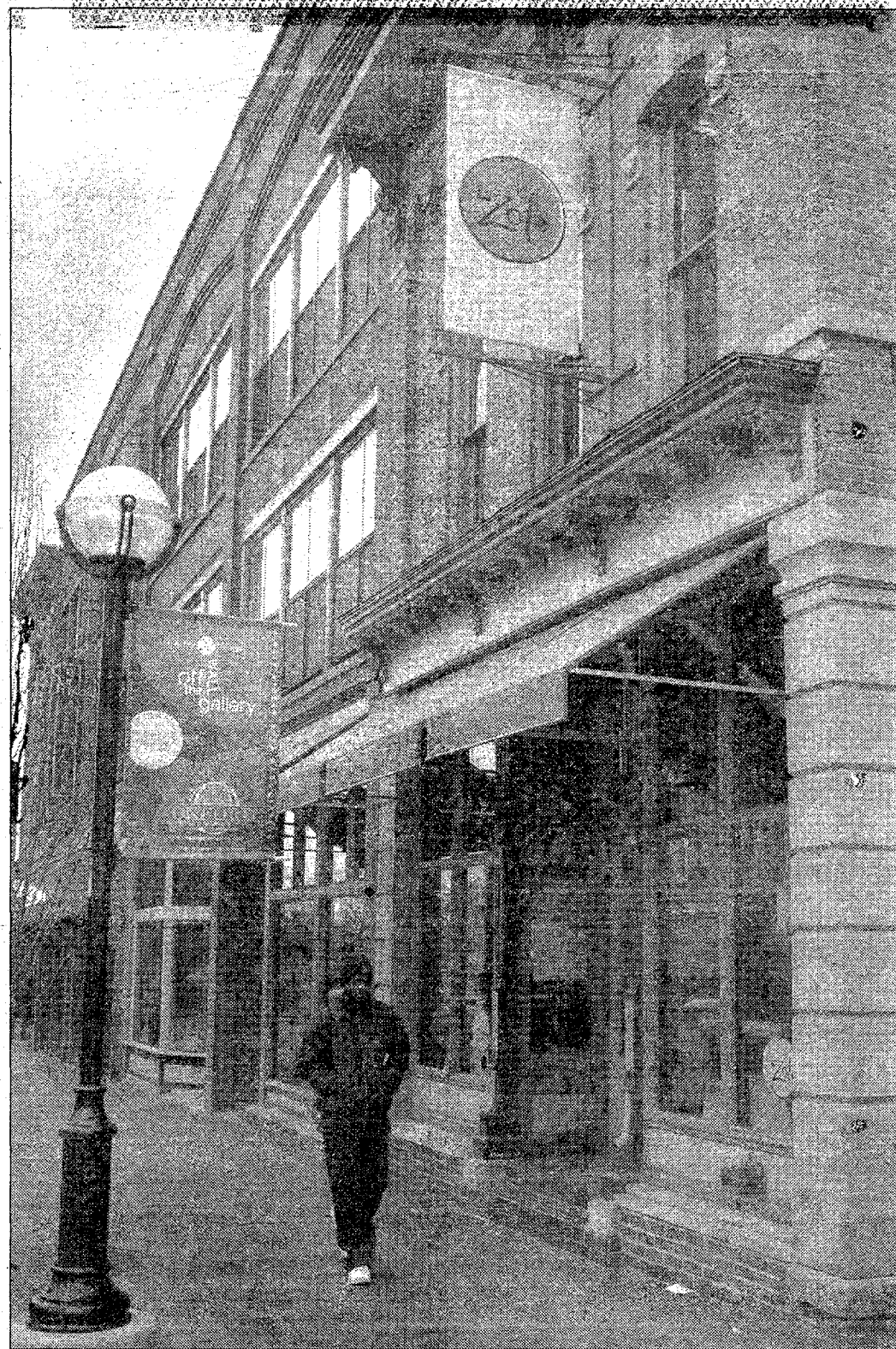
- The Earle**, 121 W. Washington St. (734) 994-0211
- Espresso Royale Café**, 214 S. Main St. (734) 668-1838
- Gandy Dancer**, 401 Depot St. (734) 769-0592
- Gratzi**, 326 S. Main (734) 663-5555
- La Dolce Vita**, 322 S. Main (734) 669-8826
- Le Dog**, 306 S. Main St. (734) 327-0091
- Melange Subterranean Bistro**, 314 S. Main St. (734) 222-0202
- Palio**, 347 S. Main St. (734) 930-6100
- Prickly Pear Southwestern Cafe**, 328 S. Main St. (734) 930-0047
- The Real Seafood Co.**, 341 S. Main St. (734) 769-5960
- Red Hawk Bar & Grill**, 316 S. State St. (734) 994-4004
- Seva Restaurant**, 314 E. Liberty St. (734) 662-1111
- Shalimar Restaurant**, 307 S. Main St. (734) 663-1500
- Sweetwaters**, 123 W. Washington (734) 769-2331
- Szechuan West**, 2161 W. Stadium (734) 769-5722
- TK Wu**, 510 E. Liberty St. (734) 747-6620
- Zanzibar**, 216 S. State St. (734) 994-7777
- Zingerman's Deli**, 422 Detroit St. (734) 663-DELI

### TAKE IN THE NIGHTLIFE

- The Ark**, 316 S. Main St. (734) 761-1451
- Bab's Underground Lounge**, 213 S. Ashley St. (734) 997-0800
- The Blind Pig**, 208 S. First St. (734) 996-8555
- The Cavern Club**, 210 S. First St. (734) 913-8890
- Conor O'Neill's**, 318 S. Main St. (734) 665-2968
- The Firefly Club**, 207 S. Ashley (734) 665-9090
- Goodnight Gracie**, 301 W. Huron (734) 623-2070
- Hill Auditorium**, 825 N. University (734) 763-8587
- Kerrytown Concert House**, 415 N. Fourth Ave. (734) 769-2999
- Leopold Brothers Brewery**, 529 S. Main St. (734) 747-9806
- Michigan Theatre**, 603 E. Liberty St. (734) 668-8397
- The Necto**, 516 E. Liberty St. (734) 994-5436
- Old Town Bar** 122 W. Liberty St. (734) 662-9291
- Power Center**, 121 Fletcher St. (734) 763-8587
- Scorekeepers**, 310 Maynard St. (734) 995-0100

### DO AND SEE

- Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum**, 220 E. Ann St. (734) 995-5439
- Bird Hill Park**, bordered by Newport and Bird roads, on Huron River Drive and M-14. Call (734) 994-2780.
- Exhibit Museum of Natural History**, 1109 Geddes Ave. (734) 763-6085



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

West Washington Street in Ann Arbor is home to some of Ann Arbor's more interesting restaurants, like Café Zola.

- Gallup Park**, 3000 Fuller Road (734) 662-9319
- Matthaei Botanical Gardens**, 1800 N. Dixboro Road (734) 998-7061
- Michigan Theater**, 603 E. Liberty St. (734) 668-8397
- Nichols Arboretum**, 1610 Washington Hts. (734) 998-9540
- State Theater**, 233 S. State (734) 761-8667

### SHOP AROUND

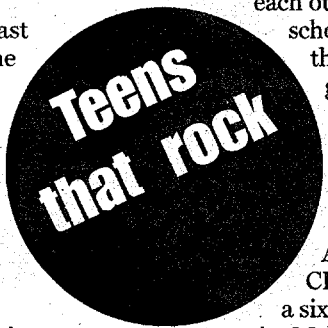
- Acme Mercantile**, 111 W. Liberty St. (734) 213-3722
- American Apparel**, 619 E. Liberty St. (734) 213-3530
- Borders Books & Music**, 612 E. Liberty St.,

- (734) 668-7652
- Briarwood Shopping Center**, 100 Briarwood Circle (734) 761-9550
- Dawn Treader**, 514 E. Liberty St. (734) 995-1008
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- Kerrytown Market & Shops**, 410 N. Fourth Ave. (734) 662-5008
- Old Westside Book Shop**, 113 W. Liberty St. (734) 995-1891
- Peaceable Kingdom**, 210 S. Main St. (734) 668-7886
- Urban Outfitters**, 231 S. State St. (734) 994-5500
- Vault of Midnight**, 219 S. Main St. (734) 998-1413

# Young rockers

## The Displays open for The Hard Lessons

BY REBECCA JONES  
STAFF WRITER



Encouraged by a cast of local musicians, the members of The Displays went from songwriting over last spring break to sharing the stage with the bands they study.

The Royal Oak eighth-graders were inspired by the Detroit garage rock scene, which now supports The Displays by inviting them to open at local venues.

"Most of our audience is people in other bands," said Andrew Hecker, 13, bass and vocals. "They recognize us as the ones who were up front for every all-age show."

The trio — with guitar and vocals by Brandon Mallon, 14, and Scott Ryan, 13, on drums — open for The Hard Lessons on Friday and have already lined up a spot at the Hamtramck

Blowout in March.

Scott and Andrew have known each other since pre-school. Mallon met them in fourth grade.

The former soccer teammates turned their attention to music when

Andrew brought a CD by The Sights on a sixth-grade camping trip. Mallon was already a

fan of The Hard Lessons, and Scott already had five years of drum lessons.

"We thought about starting a band, but we were sure that if we put it on MySpace, someone would steal the name," Andrew said.

They wrote their first song, *The City*, last spring.

"That was why we started the band because we had a song," Brandon said.

By then, a Chicago garage band already had the name the



The Displays are Scott Ryan (left), Andrew Hecker and Brandon Mallon.

Dials.

"I was looking at my stereo and saw Volume ... Band ... Display. I thought, 'That could work,'" Andrew said.

They recently recorded a demo. A full-length album is in the works, and the boys are busy lining up more shows.

As always, their parents will be there — and not just because the band needs a ride home. They're fans of the main acts too.

Brandon started attending concerts with his dad at age 8. Andrew's dad is in his own band, The Orbitsuns, and his mom created an exercise program called Punk Fitness.

Their upbringing gives The Displays a leg up, said a supporter, John Szymanski, of The Hentchmen and SSM.

"They're listening to the right stuff," he said. "I didn't start listening to the right stuff until I

### THE DISPLAYS

**With:** The Hard Lessons  
**When:** 10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26  
**Where:** Small's, 10339 Conant, Hamtramck  
**Admission:** \$6 at the door  
**More information:** (313) 873-1117

was in my 20s. They're definitely at an advantage because their parents are already listening to the scene. My parents were listening to Sergio Mendes."

Chris Ryan — Scott's mom and Brandon's fifth-grade teacher — is still getting used to the idea.

"I'm at a bar with my 13-year-old son," she said, manning the merchandise table at the Lager House. "There's something wrong with this."

The Hecker family will also appear in an upcoming *Extreme Parenting* program on the TLC network.

"We were the Detroit rock family. They invaded our family for three days for 15 minutes of tape," Andrew said.

But, he added, "It's good for the band."

rrjones@hometownlife.com  
(734) 953-2054

# Progressive rockers master music despite distance

The experimental-progressive rockers of Lock Your Door have rapidly gained attention on MySpace.

With more than 16,000 supporters, the young musicians are successfully promoting their latest CD *I Am The Sea*.

The band's members attend separate high schools and colleges, yet still perform tight, well-crafted music as if they practice together constantly.

Lock Your Door is Brennan Quenneville, a vocalist and pianist from Novi who attends the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor; Kevin Dye, a guitarist and vocalist from Novi who attends Michigan State University; Matt Dye, a bass player from Novi who attends Novi High School; John McCambridge, a guitar player from Northville who attends Central Michigan University; and Matt



Rutkowski, a drummer from Northville who also attends U of M.

When they aren't studying, they play live — from places like the Modern Exchange in Southgate to St. Andy's in Detroit.

"We focus on the one thing people have been losing focus on in the past few years — the music," Quenneville said. "We do not play what we think other people want to hear, but instead focus on writing the best songs we possibly can for ourselves."

Lock Your Door has performed with bands such as The Devil Wears Prada (Rise Records), Wolf Eyes (Sub Pop), Island View Drive (Acutest), Autumn and the Wasp (Hearts on Fire) and A Fatal Denial (Duckphone). Hear them at [myspace.com/lockyourdoor](http://myspace.com/lockyourdoor).

Lana Mini



The musicians from progressive rock band Lock Your Door create music they want to hear, rather than what they believe to be popular.

# Cirque du Soleil

## 'Delirium' strives to bring back the human element

BY LANA MINI  
STAFF WRITER

The technology is still there. Computerized special effects and giant video screens help make Cirque Du Soleil's *Delirium* show seem larger than life, but the

human element is what makes the show intimate.

It's intimate despite the show's location at The Palace of Auburn Hills, one of the larger venues in Detroit.

And that's just what lead performer Karl

Baumann wanted.

"We come back to the human experience — not just to show off big machinery," Baumann said.

*Delirium* visits The Palace on Thursday, Jan. 25, and Saturday, Jan. 27, after opening to strong reviews nationwide.

Baumann, who has been with the Montreal-based company since the early '90s, was also in its first big Las Vegas show, *Mystere* — the show that's still going strong and gave the company its stellar reputation as a human circus that elevated performance art to a mile-high level.

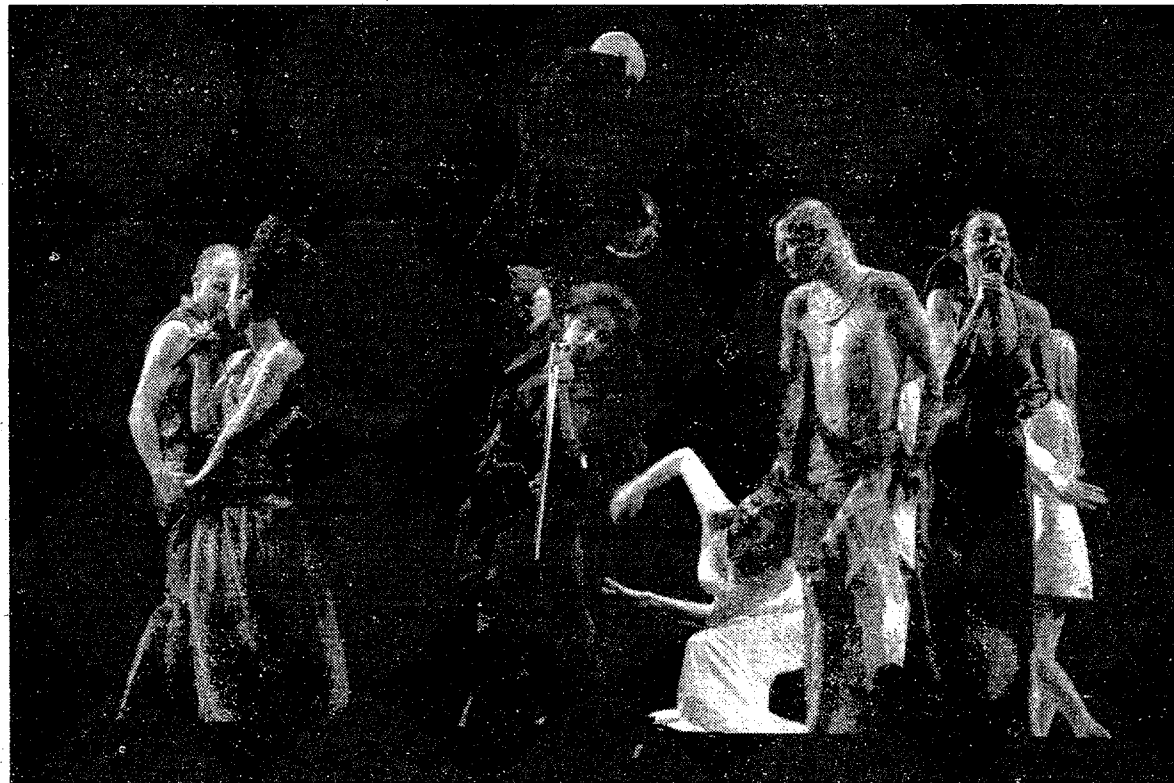
"We took many risks with this show, we want it to touch everyone — young and old — and I believe it does," Baumann said. "Dancing, acrobats ... performers who will make jaws drop."

He wants the audience in awe and to hear them say, "I can't believe what I just saw."

With contortionist and death-defying acrobats, *Delirium* does just that.

Baumann plays the role of Bill, a normal man who lives inside a bubble. He's a recluse in a society where relationships are virtual and he finds himself watching the world from above ... in a hot air balloon, to be exact.

Created and directed by Michel Lemieux



Cirque du Soleil performs tonight, Jan. 25 and Saturday, Jan. 27 at The Palace of Auburn Hills.

and Victor Pilon, *Delirium* is a multi-faceted event featuring Cirque du Soleil music remixed. Driven by urban tribal beats plus surreal visual, eclectic world musicians, singers and dancers, the goal is to transform the arena into a joyous frenzy.

Baumann said taking the show on the road, rather than housing it at one Las

Vegas location, brought new challenges. But living life under the tent, with performers he calls family, is an experience he wanted. At age 45, he's not tired yet.

"I can say that I've accomplished more than I ever thought possible," Baumann said. "But I'm not finished yet."

Baumann was also in Cirque's *Quidam* and performed it more than 1,000 times. The dancer, actor

and acrobat artist was born in Austria and trained at Julliard School. He toured with *Momix* as principal performer/choreographer and has appeared on *The Rosie O'Donnell Show* and *The Tonight Show*. His credits also numerous music videos, including Aerosmith's *Jaded*, and he was involved in character animation for the movie *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe*.

For the first time in Cirque history, lyrics were created for the instrumental tracks and real words integrated in place of invented language. Lyrics are in English, French, Spanish, Wolof and Portuguese. Robbie Dillon, who contributed text for *Zumanity*, composed the English lyrics for this show.

Also for the first time, musicians and singers are center-stage rather than hidden on the sidelines.

More than 300 feet of projections domi-

nate the scene — the equivalent in width of almost two IMAX screens — setting the stage for a colossal multimedia presentation.



### CIRQUE DU SOLEIL PRESENTS

#### DELIRIUM

**When:** 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 25, and Saturday, Jan. 27

**Where:** The Palace of Auburn Hills

**Tickets:** \$112.50, \$72 and \$40. Available at Palacenet.com, The Palace box office and all Ticketmaster locations or call (248) 645-6666

# 'Our Body' exhibit opens, shows anatomy in a new way

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
STAFF WRITER

As the first visitors walked into the new *Our Body: The Universe Within* exhibit at the Detroit Science Center the common word uttered throughout the darkened spaces was simply "Wow."

The exhibit — the first-of its kind to come to Michigan — features actual human bodies, about 20 of them, and 135 additional displays of human organs.

"It's unprecedented in what it can teach people," said Julie Flashner, a former science teacher and current sales manager at the center.

From one display to the next, the donated bodies are posed to highlight various aspects of anatomy. In some cases, muscles are peeled away exposing the chest cavity, in others tendons are cut or bones are revealed to offer an unprecedented view of the human form.

Using the process of Plastination, all body fluids are replaced with polymers which prevent decay and take about 60 days to harden.

From a running pose, to bicycling or kicking a soccer ball, to

At the  
museum

## OUR BODY: THE UNIVERSE

### WITHIN

**What:** Exhibit that literally goes under the skin, featuring actual human bodies and organs.

**When:** Through May 28.

**Where:** Detroit Science Center, 5020 John R, Detroit

IMAX: Featuring the film *The Human Body*

**Tickets:** Museum admission is \$24.95 adults, \$22.95 seniors, \$19.95 for children. IMAX admission costs an additional \$3 adult, \$2 children and seniors.

**More information:** Call (313) 577-8400 or visit [www.detroit-science-center.org](http://www.detroit-science-center.org).

sitting crossed-legged in a chair, each specimen shows a different perspective. Each makes it easy to imagine these specimens in motion.

But the most awe-inspiring aspects of the exhibit involve the bodies presented in pieces. The Divided Male Body shows two sides of one man, each side facing the other. On the second floor of the center, the exhibit shows a specimen sliced into seven parts, each encased sepa-

rately in glass. And the centerpiece of the room is a specimen presented horizontally, divided into more than 170 pieces.

The *Our Body* exhibit may not appeal to more sensitive viewers, one reason it's limited to those ages 12 and older.

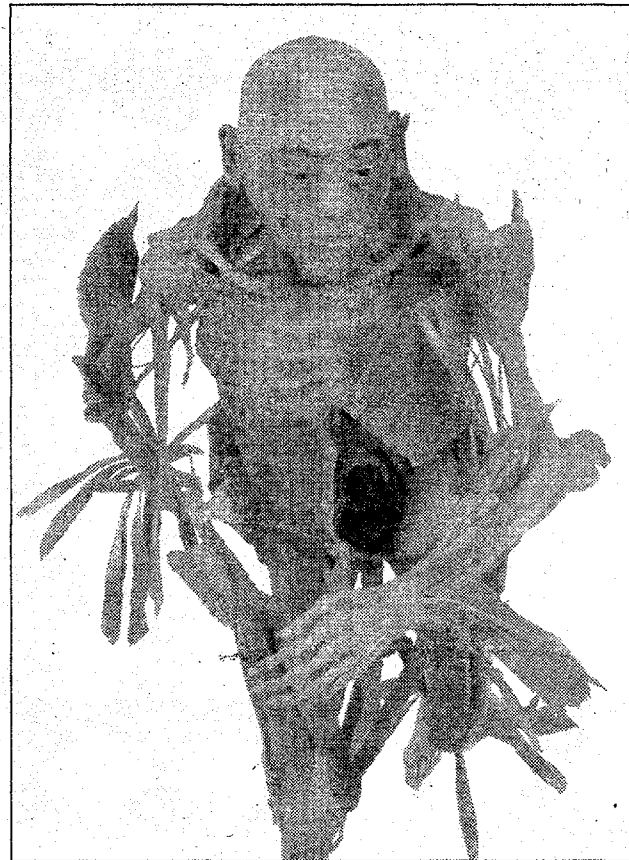
Some of the displays may be easier to view than others. Comparing a healthy lung with a diseased lung may seem somewhat less shocking, than seeing the enlarged head of a child with hydrocephalus.

Visitors can expect to encounter what they've only seen diagrammed in science books before now — a spinal column, a human heart, the urinary tract in a man and in a woman.

The prenatal area comes with a warning for sensitive visitors. Those willing to step beyond the boundaries of this exhibit will witness the stages of development in an unborn child. Encased in glass, the display shows stages at 12 weeks, 18 weeks, 25 weeks, 32 weeks and 36 weeks.

At 32 weeks, the child appears to be sucking a thumb.

Todd Slisher, vice president of science programs at the center, said the focus of the exhibit is on education. While there is a healthy dose of information and a chance to explore and compare your own lifestyle, the exhibit



See detailed displays of actual human bodies at an upcoming exhibit, *Our Body: The Universe Within*, at the Detroit Science Center.

also comes across as rather artistic. Each piece is displayed in a way that makes it easiest for visitors to investigate.

"It's fantastic, even as a doctor," said Dr. Kenneth Gitlin, who previewed the show Thursday. He is a retired surgeon from

William Beaumont Hospital and lives in Orchard Lake. Gitlin said he hopes visitors come away with a new sense of "how beautiful the human body is."

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(248) 901-2567

# Del Toro weaves magical world in 'Pan's Labyrinth'

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
STAFF WRITER

In his sixth and latest film venture, *Pan's Labyrinth*, acclaimed director Guillermo del Toro welcomes viewers into the tumultuous world of 1944 Spain, as seen through the eyes of an innocent young girl named Ofelia.

Del Toro spins an engrossing gothic fairy tale, traversing at once through the dark landscape of Spain's post-war repression and Ofelia's own mystical world of fairies and fauns, mischievous creatures with horns and the legs of a deer.

The story unfolds as Ofelia accompanies her mother Carmen

on a journey to a rural military outpost where she will live with her new stepfather, the cold and controlling Captain Vidal (Sergi Lopez). Carmen (Ariadna Gil) is pregnant, carrying the captain's child.

Tension builds the moment Vidal steps on screen. His black-gloved hand grabs Ofelia's tiny palm as she greets him. In her right hand she clutches a stack of books containing her beloved fairy tales.

Portrayed brilliantly by Ivana Baquero, Ofelia seeks an escape from the haunting new home she's come to know, and the loneliness that lies within it. Meanwhile, her mother grows more ill throughout her pregnancy.

Danger surrounds the outpost. Ofelia takes refuge in a caring housekeeper named Mercedes, played by Maribel Verdú.

Despite Mercedes' warning, Ofelia wanders through the forest and into an intricate labyrinth where she imagines wondrous creatures, like the giant faun portrayed by Doug Jones. There, Ofelia begins her quest to discover whether she is truly an otherworldly princess — all the while seeking a way to reunite with her late father. She is faced with three challenges, all which must be completed before the pending full moon.

In Ofelia's dreamy world, anything is possible. She sees a simple dragonfly transform into a fairy before her eyes. She creates secret passages with a simple chalk drawing. She battles a hideous creature with eyes in the

palms of his hands. Regardless of her dangerous quests, Ofelia fears nothing.

At home she lives in the dark shadow of the rigid Captain Vidal. He cares only that his unborn son be born into a world he envisions to be under his strict rule. In Vidal, del Toro crafts a classic villain and mirrors the state of Francisco Franco's Spain.

His home, an abandoned mill run by obedient servants, is constantly teeming with military men. They are eager to seek out and destroy any resistance fighters found approaching the outpost from the foreboding mountainous landscape.

Del Toro's images evoke familiar folklore, tales like *Alice in Wonderland*. His use of cavernous places, cold blue lighting and shadows contribute to the

overarching sense of danger.

Within the world of *Pan's Labyrinth*, audiences take on a familiar journey — rooting for good to prevail over evil — though it's presented in a completely new, visionary way.

Del Toro delivers a strong moral message, all while melding a child's fantasy world together with a grim political history. With hope and inspiration, he claims, one can overcome all odds. This proves as true for Ofelia as it did for Spain, following the rule of iron-fisted Franco.

*Pan's Labyrinth* opens Friday, Jan. 19, at the Landmark Main Art Theatre in Royal Oak. It is rated R for language and violence.

[scasola@hometownlife.com](mailto:scasola@hometownlife.com)  
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At the  
movies

## BITES

FROM PAGE E13

Hard Rock Café, is offering a free coffee with the purchase of a pastry.

**Baile Corcaigh**, 1426 Bagley at Trumbull, two blocks south of Old Tiger Stadium, offers a 10 percent discount.

**Carl's Chop House**, 3020 Grand River Ave., corner at the Lodge Freeway, across from Motor City Casino, free shuttle service to enjoy dinner and dessert before or after the show and 10 percent discount from food entrées.

**The Caucus Club**, 150 W. Congress, 10 percent off food bill.

**Coach Insignia**, GM Renaissance Center, 71st and 72nd Floor, 20 percent off food bill and after 6 p.m. a complimentary shuttle ride to the show.

**Detroit Beer Co.**, 1529 Broadway, behind the Detroit Opera House, two free samplers of house-brewed beer.

**Detroit's Breakfast House and Grill**, located within the Lofts of Merchant Row, in the heart of the Campus Martius development, 1241 Woodward Ave., 10 percent off your bill of \$30 or more.

**Grand City Grille**, located on the first floor of Detroit's Fisher Building, corner of East Grand Boulevard and Second

Avenue in Detroit's New Center area, a complimentary dessert with the purchase of an entree.

**Opus One**, 565 E. Larned St., a mixed green salad and complimentary dessert with lunch or dinner.

**The Rattlesnake Club**, 300 River Place (at the foot of Joseph Campau off of East Jefferson), in Detroit, enjoy a complimentary dessert to any guest having lunch or dinner.

**Seldom Blues**, 400 Renaissance Center, a complimentary dessert with the purchase of an entree.

**Sweet Georgia Brown**, 1045 Brush St., a complimentary dessert with the purchase of an entree.

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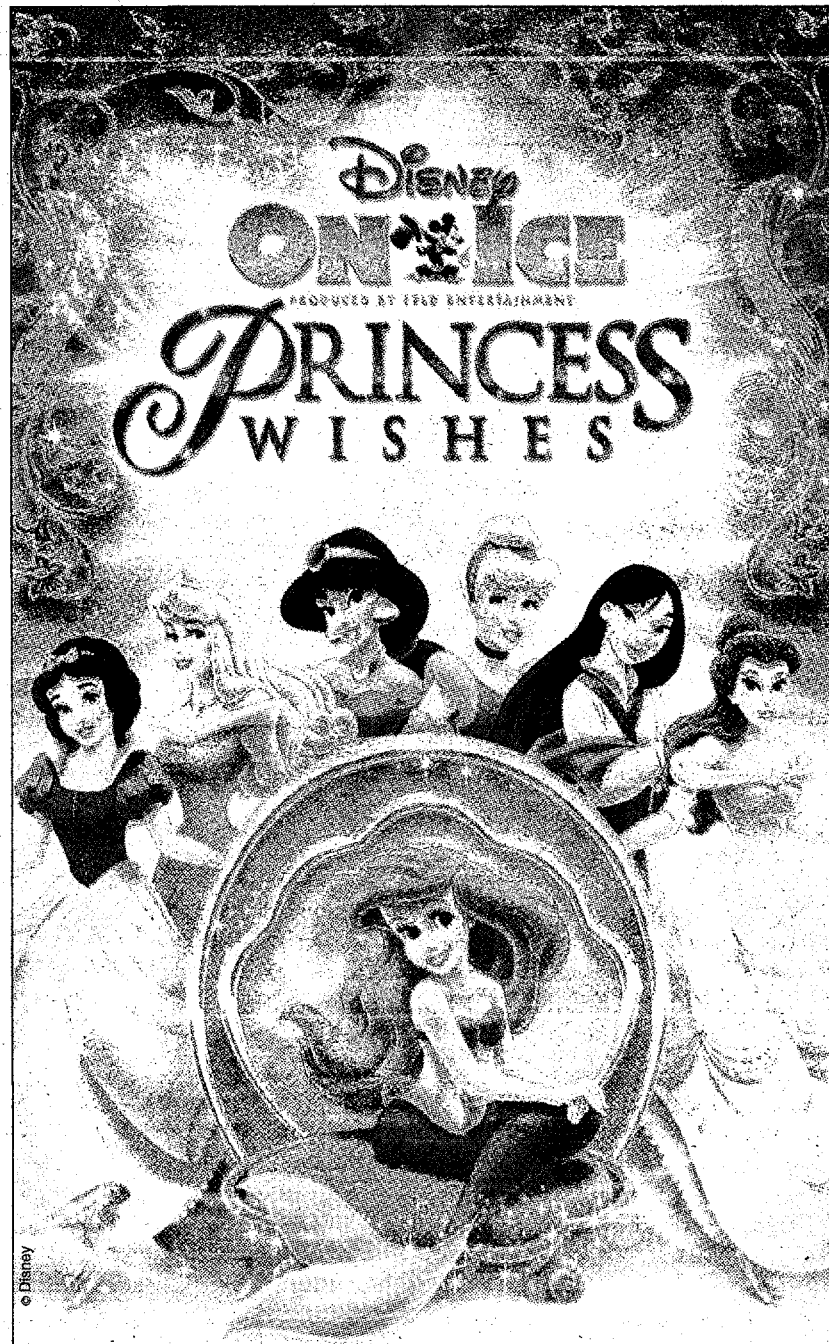
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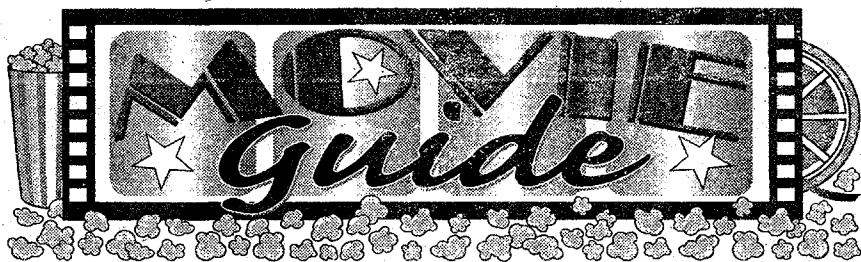
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THE HITCHER [R]  
ALPHA DOG [R]

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# Oscar nominations mean re-releases

January and February are slow movie months.

But with the announcement of Oscar nominations combined with results from the Golden Globe, great movies that we may have missed seeing last year are released now.

For example, Paramount Vantage has just expanded the release of *Babel* to 900 theaters.

*Babel* took a Golden Globe for best motion picture drama, along with other awards from many critics and publications, such as for Rinko Kikuchi for best supporting actress; best ensemble; best score; director of the year; and best screenplay. It also made the top 10 list from critics.

Ebert & Roeper listed it at No. 6 and Stephen Holden of the *New York Times*

named it his No. 1 choice.

Featuring Brad Pitt and Cate Blanchett, *Babel* depicts the very real connection between strangers on three different continents.

Another expanded, re-released Oscar contender is Fox Searchlight's *Last King of Scotland*. Forest Whitaker, of course, won a Globe for best actor. Directed by Kevin Macdonald, the film is about a

Scottish doctor (James McAvoy) on a Ugandan medical mission. He becomes irreversibly entangled with one of the world's most barbaric figures: Idi Amin (Forest Whitaker).

Don't wait for either to come out on DVD, as both films are very worthy to see on the big screen.

Lana Mini

## DIA exhibits Ansel Adams' photographs

Over 100 black and white photographs made during the course of Ansel Adams' long and influential career are on view in the exhibition *Ansel Adams* at the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) March 4–May 27.

Adams' photographs of the great American West as well as his interest in the commonplace communicate his personal response to the grandeur and complexity of the world around him.

The exhibition begins with early works from Yosemite National Park around 1917; Adams' soft-focus and romantic photographs from the 1920s, including his first serious landscape series, photos of Pueblo Indians, and mountain views of the Canadian Rockies; large-format pictures from the 1930s; and Western land-

scapes of the 1930s through the 1960s. Lesser-known works include Adams' abstract studies, still life, urban and architectural views as well as portraits of his friends and fellow artists Georgia O'Keeffe, John Marin, and Edward Weston.

Tickets, which include an audio tour and general admission, are \$10 for adults, \$9 for adult groups of 20+, and \$5 for ages 5-17. DIA members are admitted free. This exhibition was organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. In Detroit, the exhibition is sponsored by DTE Energy Foundation. Additional support has been provided by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the City of Detroit.



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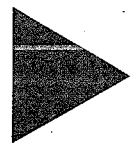
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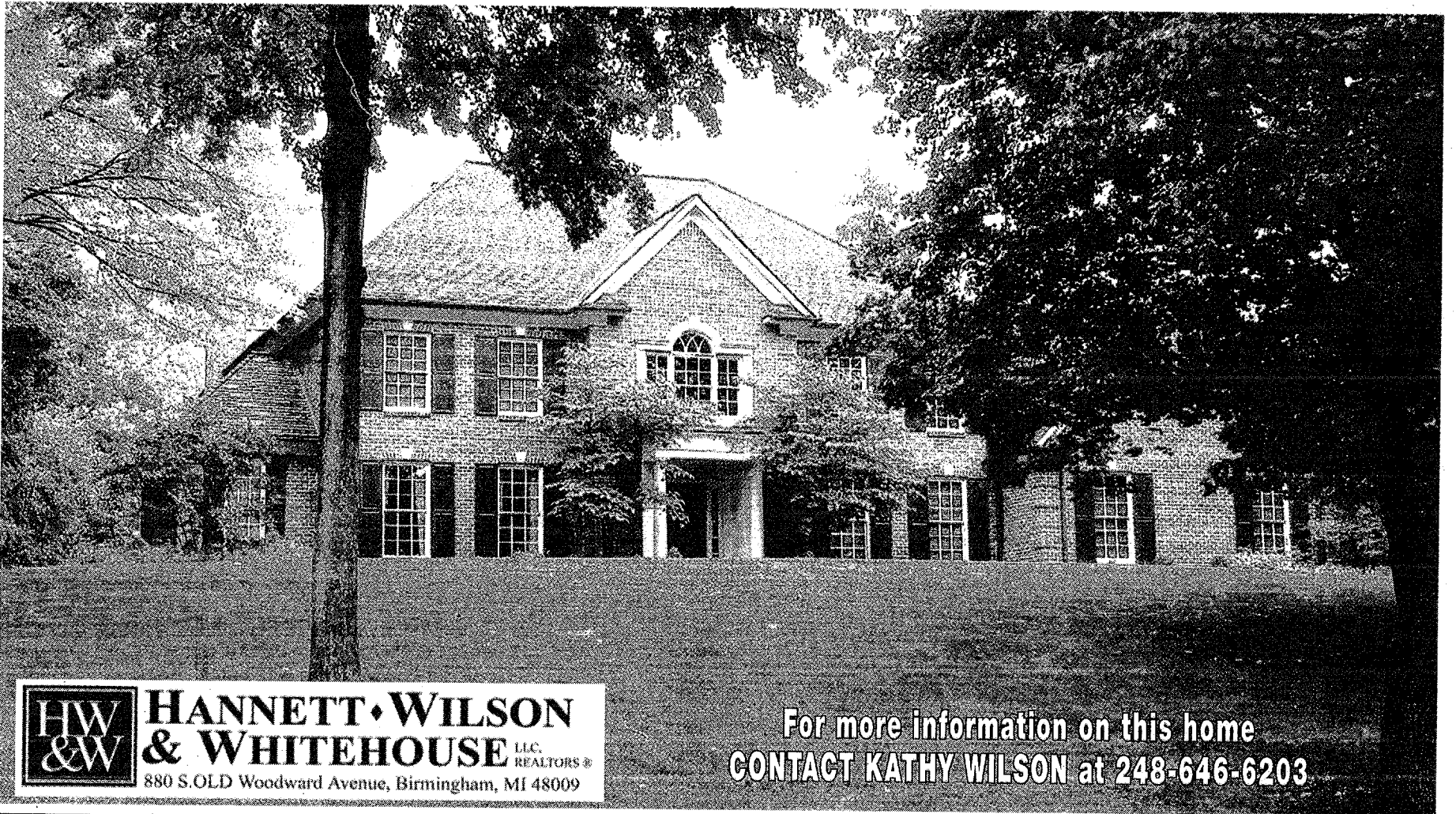
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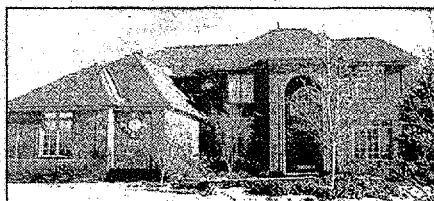
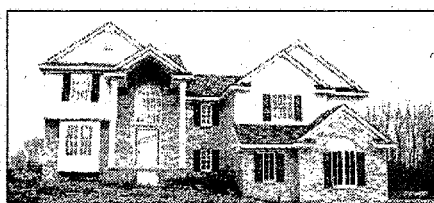
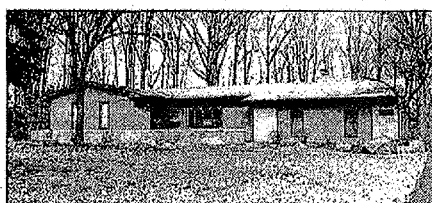
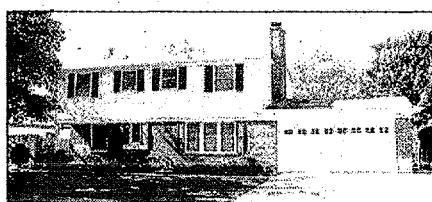
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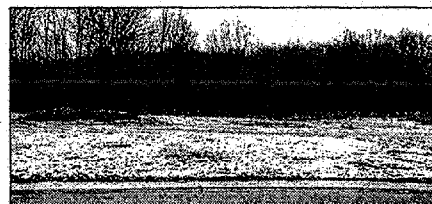
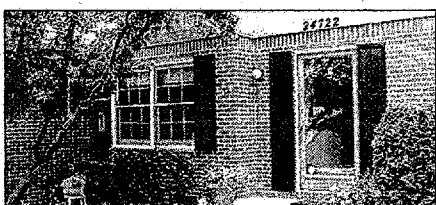
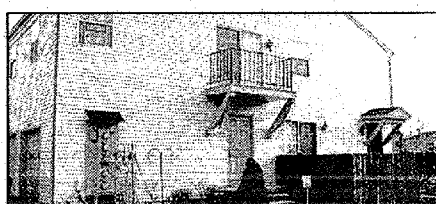


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MLS# 27005658 248-347-3050**WIXOM** **\$225,000**  
Gorgeous w/Upgrades Galore! Gourmet Kitchen W/new Countertops, New Windows, Hrdwd Flrs, Crown Molding, Vaulted Family Rm w/Frpl, & Brick Paver Patio.  
MLS# 27004444 248-347-3050**LIVONIA** **\$220,000**  
Livonia's Best! Located Near Schools, Shopping & Expressway w/updated kitchen, Hrdwd Flrs, Family Rm w/Frpl, Master Bdrm w/Priv Bath & Heated Garage.  
MLS# 27008934 248-347-3050**DEARBORN HEIGHTS** **\$209,900**  
HW fir in foyer, DR & hallways. 1st flr Indry, GR w/ Vaulted ceiling, Gas FP & adjoining DR, granite in kit, atchd garage, deck & p. fin bsmnt.  
MLS# 27006010 248-347-3050**CANTON** **\$204,000**  
3 BR 2 full BA, updated Quad w/lots of HDWD flrs. Kit is new in 06 w/granite, oak cbnts & cust backsplash. New roof, newer wndws. All appls incl.  
MLS# 26208510 734-453-6800**COMMERCE** **\$199,900**  
HW Flrs T/o Main Flr. Updated Kit W/oak Cabs & SS Appl. Package. DR Big Enough For Hutch &lg Table. 4th BR Could Be Study. Backyard Has Covered Patio  
MLS# 27002664 248-347-3050**LIVONIA** **\$189,900**  
Brick Colonial. 150 Ft Lot, nicely Landscaped. Newer Kit, Energy Furnace, Lrg FR W/FP Leads To Covered Patio. Oak Flrs. Cement Turn-around In Front.  
MLS# 26204290 248-347-3050**CANTON** **\$180,000**  
3 BRs & 1.5 Bths. Brick Ranch w/Almost 1300 SqFt, C/a Plus Ceiling Fans, FP In Fam Rm, Appls Stay, Fin Bsmnt & 2 Car garage W/ Opener. In-ground Pool  
MLS# 26215913 248-347-3050**LIVONIA** **\$180,000**  
1600 SqFt Ranch W/4 BRs, 2 Full Ceramic Tile Bths, Updated Kit w/all Appls Incl, 2 Car Garage & Fin Bsmnt W/Pool Table Incl! LR Open To View Of Yard.  
MLS# 27007063 248-347-3050**NOVI** **\$155,000**  
Bring your own builder. Northville Schools, Private Lot end of cul-de-sac with wetlands/woodlands around lot. Lot was originally sold with Premiums.  
MLS# 27006867 248-437-4500**ROMULUS** **\$150,000**  
4 Br Ranch. Lrg Kit With Island. Master Bedroom With Jetted Jacuzzi Tub. Some Appliances Stay. Sold As Is. Motivated Seller Will Look At All Offers.  
MLS# 27008782 248-347-3050**NOVI** **\$142,500**  
Condo W/ 2 BRs & 2.5 Bths Garage, Security Alarm & All Appls. Pergo Flrs In Lg LR, DR W/doorwall To Prvt Deck. Each Bdrm Has Prvt Bth & WIC. Fin Bsmnt  
MLS# 26215970 248-347-3050**NORTHVILLE** **\$139,900**  
End Unit, Great Rm W/gas Fp. Fin LL W/wet Bar & Full Bth. Paver Patio. Updates Incl Roof, Windows, Hwh & Carpet. All Appls Incl. Pool, & Tennis Courts  
MLS# 27006076 248-347-3050**REDFORD** **\$134,900**  
Wow! Must see this fully loaded & updated bungalow. HDWD floors, wet plaster, new windows, new furnace, finished basement & garage! much more!  
MLS# 26201660 734-453-6800**REDFORD** **\$129,900**  
All Brick Home, Highly Maintained, 1-1/2 Lots, Fin Bsmnt w/Storage. Updates Incl; Bth, New Roof, Windows, Carpet(1st Flr), HWH, & Landscaping. HW Flrs,  
MLS# 27001044 248-347-3050**NOVI** **\$122,000**  
2 BR Condo. Mstr W/dble Closets, 6 panel Drs T/o, Atchd Garage W/direct Access. updates: Carpet, Kit W/ pergo Flrs, Bth W/jet Tub & Ceramic Tile.  
MLS# 26213367 248-347-3050**CANTON** **\$120,000**  
Ranch end-unit w/open floorplan. Gourmet kit, din rm, liv rm w/doorwall to patio. Master ste w/ceiling fan, updates incl: newer windows & doorwall.  
MLS# 27007224 734-453-6800**FARMINGTON** **\$118,000**  
Packaged to Sell! Formal Living Rm, Dining Rm, Kitchen W/Snack Bar, Appliances Included, 2 Master suites each W/Private Bath, Patio, Clubhouse, & Pool  
MLS# 27004236 248-347-3050**VAN BUREN** **\$110,000**  
2 BR, 2 Bth Upper Level Condo. Open Flr plan, Drwall To Balcony, All Appls Stay Incl W&D In Utility Rm. Mstr BR Has Wic, full Bth & Ceiling Fan.  
MLS# 26215944 248-347-3050

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020800018

# New law makes mortgage insurance tax deductible

(NAPSI) — Private mortgage insurance has always been an easy and predictable way for informed buyers to finance the purchase of their home. Now, it's also tax deductible, making it an even better choice in many cases.

Mortgage insurance allows borrowers with a less than 20 percent down payment to purchase a home by providing lender coverage against borrower default.

## SAVINGS FOR FAMILIES

For many first-time homebuyers, the biggest hurdle is saving up for the down payment. In today's high-priced real estate markets, 20 percent can amount to a significant chunk of change. But don't give up. With private mortgage insurance, even if you've got a down payment of just 3 percent or less, you can still buy a home.

This new tax break passed by Congress gives you one more reason to consider purchasing or refinancing your home with private mortgage insurance. Steve Smith, chief executive officer of The PMI Group, Inc. and president of the Mortgage Insurance Companies of America, explains: "Making the cost of mortgage insurance tax deductible helps those who need it most — low-to-moderate-income Americans, primarily first-time homebuyers, who are simply unable to save enough for a 20 percent down payment. This

deduction will save homebuyers with insured loans hundreds of dollars."

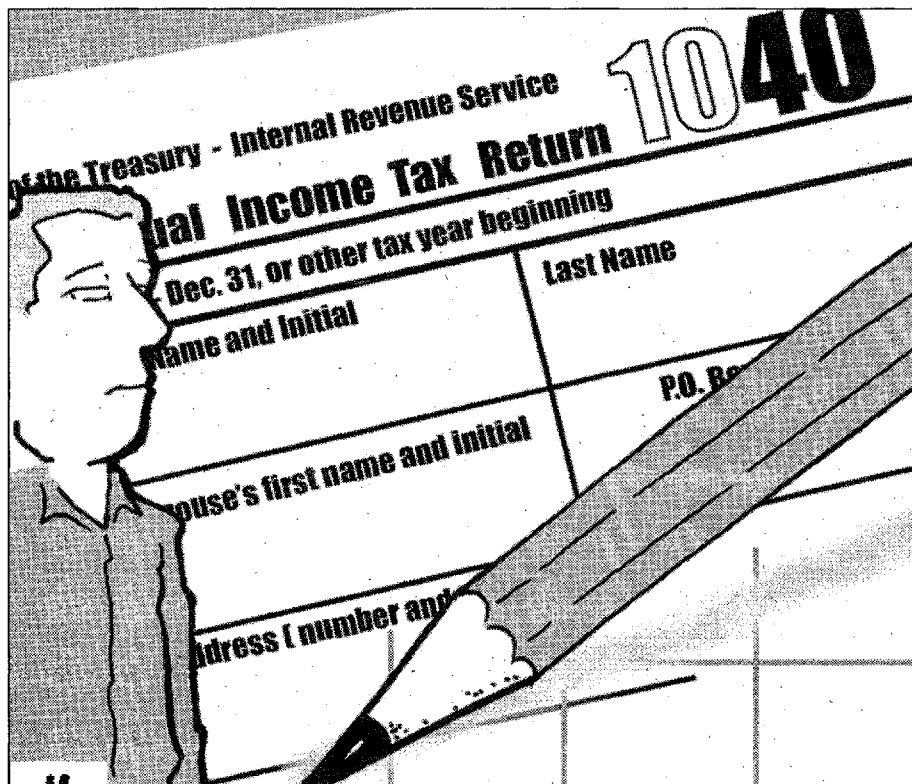
If you or your family earns \$100,000 or less and purchases a home during 2007 with private mortgage insurance, Mortgage Insurance Companies of America, an industry trade group, estimates that this new law may save you \$200 to \$400 annually. Consult with your own tax adviser concerning the applicability of this new deduction in your particular circumstances under the Internal Revenue Code and the laws of any other taxing jurisdiction.

Families earning up to \$109,000 can take advantage of a partial deduction. Your home will probably be the largest investment of your lifetime and every extra bit of money helps.

## GOOD REASONS TO CHOOSE PMI

By making private mortgage insurance tax deductible, the new federal law allows more people to become homeowners.

"There are lots of loan choices," said John Taylor, president and chief executive officer of the National Community Reinvestment Coalition. "Mortgage insurance is straightforward. It is a reliable and prudent way for you to get the loan best suited to your needs. And you can cancel it as soon as your equity builds to 20 percent."



Over the years, many homebuyers have chosen private mortgage insurance because it's simple, safe and smart. Now it's also tax deductible. As you're considering your home-financing alternatives, consider private mortgage insurance. It may be a product that's right for you.



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## Now may be the right time to make a vacation home a reality

Austin, TX — You've been kicking around the idea of buying a vacation home for quite a while now. A few years ago, it seemed like a great idea. The real estate market was hot, hot, hot, and properties everywhere were appreciating rapidly. Getting a good return on your investment felt like a sure bet. But now, things have cooled off considerably. With home sales slowing across the nation, and interest rates poised to rise, your enthusiasm is waning. But don't shelve your vacation home dream just yet. According to Christine Karpinski, now is actually the perfect time to take the plunge.

"It's true that the real estate market has stabilized, but that's a good thing," says Karpinski, director of Owner Community for HomeAway.com (an online vacation home rental marketplace) and author of *How to Rent Vacation Properties by Owner: The Complete Guide to Buy, Manage, Furnish, Rent, Maintain and Advertise Your Vacation Rental Investment* and *Profit from Your Vacation Home Dream: The Complete Guide to a Savvy Financial and Emotional Investment*. "It's actually an easier leap of faith to buy when the market is normal than to buy when real estate prices are going up 10 to 20 thousand dollars a month."

There are several reasons why now is

### FURTHER READING

*How to Rent Vacation Properties by Owner: The Complete Guide to Buy, Manage, Furnish, Rent, Maintain and Advertise Your Vacation Rental Investment* — Christine Karpinski (Kinney Pollack Press) 2004, \$26

*Profit from Your Vacation Home Dream: The Complete Guide to a Savvy Financial and Emotional Investment* — Christine Karpinski (Kaplan) 2005, \$19.95

a good time to buy a vacation home. First, says Karpinski, we're in a buyer's market. Because houses aren't flying off the shelf, there's less pressure on you to make a quick decision. You can afford to take your time, do your research, and refine your plan.

Second, more stable home prices usually mean more stable property taxes and insurance costs. That's good for your bank account over time.

Third, even though overall real estate sales are down, sales of second homes are stronger than ever. In fact, 2004 and 2005 were record years for vacation home buying. That means if you want to rent out your vacation home there is a healthy customer base said Karpinski.

"An estimated five million vacation homes are currently being rented

worldwide, yielding an estimated \$100 billion-plus in transactions on an annual basis," she said.

If you do decide to purchase a vacation home, Karpinski offers a few tips:

- Don't buy in a "bubble" market. In other words, don't buy in an area where there are too many speculators; i.e., such as Southeast Florida. In rapidly developing areas where lots and lots of developers build and hope to quickly sell, real estate prices tend to be artificially inflated. "The last thing you want to do is buy in a marketplace where there are too many speculators," says Karpinski. "The risks of the bubble bursting when supply exceeds demand and your getting soaked are much higher. It may be better to purchase in an older area that's already well-developed, like Cape Cod. The supply is so low in these areas that real estate tends to hold its value."

- Buy with your wallet, not your heart. "Make sure you're buying a smart investment," says Karpinski. "This is especially difficult for vacation homebuyers because we're risk-takers who tend to use our emotions more than our heads. It's easy to get caught up and sign on the dotted line when you see that gorgeous beach home or perfect ski

PLEASE SEE VACATION, 7

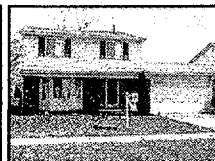
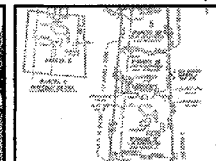
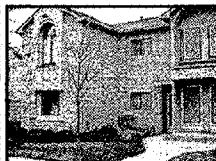
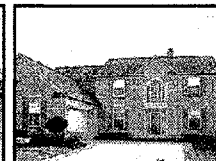
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**\$189,900 (P-645OR)****LAKE FRONT HOME** Completely remodeled colonial on Silver Lake. Maple Kitchen, Great Room w/soaring ceiling, 1st floor laundry, finished walkout w/bath & frpl, 2 tiered Deck, & Garage.  
**\$419,900 (C-289FI)****GREAT HOME** Great curb appeal on this cute bungalow w/large Master, formal Dining, full finished bsmt, bay window, & so much more.  
**\$194,900 (C-331AN)****CUSTOM RANCH** Unique 3 bd, 2 bath ranch on gorgeous lot w/ 1.5 acres of trees & streams. Open floor plan, custom Kitchen, finished bsmt, hwd floors, & great location.  
**\$289,900 (C-461BR)****EXCEPTIONAL VALUE** 3 bd, 2 bath ranch is priced to sell! Updated t/o, private yard, 1 yr home warranty for Buyer, & too much more to list. Call today!  
**\$109,900 (C-905CE)****RANCH CONDO** Gorgeous condo offers ceramic tile, Great Room w/soaring ceiling & gas frpl, private deck, 1st floor laundry, finished bsmt w/daylight window, 2 car Garage & private entrance. Also for lease.  
**\$289,900 (C-450CO)****WOODED LOT** 4 bd, 2.5 baths, 2289 sq ft colonial w/premium lot, wood floors, formal Dining, Living Room w/gas frpl, Master Suite w/jetted tub, & soaring ceilings. Great location.  
**\$335,000 (C-853LA)****INCOME PROPERTY** Earn income while living in your home! This 2 family home was completely remodeled in 2004. Each unit has its own entry, parking, & Kitchens w/appl. Perfect for investors!  
**\$149,900 (C-380MA)****SPRAWLING RANCH** This home sprawls on . acres of a wooded & hilly, deep lot. Boasting 4 bd, 2.5 baths, finished walkout, spectacular views from many large windows, 2.5 car Garage, & Patio.  
**\$334,900 (C-795MA)****RANCH ON 4 ACRES!** Located in Canton, offering a large floor plan with over 4 acres (possible split), 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths and a 40x48 pole barn. Family room fireplace & appliances stay. Call now.  
**\$364,900 (C-331SA)****SPARKLING COLONIAL** Beautifully updated kitchen w/oak cabinetry, bright living room w/pergo style floor, vaulted family room w/fireplace & doorwall to patio overlooking a manicured yard. Really nice.  
**\$200,000 (C-371BE)****BETTER THAN NEW** 3 bd, 1.5 bath colonial in a great neighborhood. This home features newer carpet, Pergo, remod Kitchen & baths, fireplace, finished bsmt, new windows, gutters, roof, & more.  
**\$224,900 (C-802BI)****BUILDABLE LOTS** 2 lots still available in Superior Twp w/ Plymouth mailing address. Both lots nestled among mature trees & set off private rd. Plenty of options. Lot sizes are 2.25 acres & 2.49 acres. Call for details.  
**\$175,000 & up (C-847AN)****PARK LIKE SETTING** Updated 3 bd all brick ranch w/bsmt, 2.5 car Garage, white Kitchen, peaceful yard w/Deck, Patio, & mature trees.  
**\$179,900 (C-888HE)****IMMACULATE** You'll love this neutral home w/3 bd, 2 baths, spacious floor plan, Master w/bath, Great Room, brick paver Patio, fenced yard, & Livonia Schools.  
**\$189,900 (C-465LO)****TOP SHELF!** This ultimate condo is waiting for you! Brand new vinyl windows, prof decorated, finished bsmt, vaulted ceilings, impressive Master Suite, & great location.  
**\$189,900 (C-409PL)****LIVONIA COLONIAL** Kimberly Oaks colonial featuring 4 bd, 2.5 baths, hwd floors, Family Room w/frpl, Deck w/hot tub, & backyard leading to park. A must see.  
**\$255,900 (C-308AL)****A BARGAIN IN THE CITY** Enjoy all the amenities that living in Plymouth has to offer. This super cute bungalow is loaded w/updates, too many to list. You have to see it to believe it! Don't wait to long.  
**\$214,900 (C-799AR)****GREAT STARTER HOME** This home has been reduced over \$28,000 for a quick sale! Move in condition, short sale approval needed from bank. Call for details.  
**\$42,000 (P-450AS)****GOOD BUY** Gorgeous 3 bd, 2.5 bath ranch w/updated shingles, furnace, C/A, & siding. Large addition offers 19x13 bd & a huge wall of closets. 1st floor laundry, neutral décor, & spotless.  
**\$175,000 (P-504AV)****ROOM TO ROAM** Awesome open floor plan ranch featuring new carpet in Living Room, spacious Kitchen w/raised panel cab's, dining/hearth area, neutral décor, & large . acre lot just minutes from Depot Town.  
**\$214,900 (P-291BE)****GREAT INVESTMENT** This multi family unit is priced to sell! Separate entrances, furnaces, hwh's, & more. Updated bathrooms, newer roof, & can be converted back to a single family home.  
**\$104,900 (C-132CH)****JUST WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR** Canton ranch w/3 bd, 2.5 baths, 1st floor laundry, bsmt, 2 car Garage, Family Room w/frpl, Master w/bath, great location, & priced just right!  
**\$224,900 (P-776DE)****CASUAL ELEGANCE** This home features over 2500 sq ft of open living space. Great Room w/frpl, oversized island Kitchen, Master w/cath ceiling, prof finished bsmt w/1/2 bath, lots of storage, & so much more.  
**\$357,500 (P-033GR)****A MUST SEE!** Fabulous St James colonial in popular sub. Open floor plan, premium lot, 2 story Foyer, hwd floors, island Kitchen, bsmt w/high ceilings, & prof landscaped w/Patio. Ready to move into!  
**\$244,900 (P-191HU)****A RARE FIND** Here it is! Ground floor ranch condo offering 2 bd, 2 baths, freshly painted, newer carpet, all appliances stay, Patio, end unit w/carport close to unit. Don't wait on this one!  
**\$120,900 (P-579LI)****A MUST SEE!** You'll fall in love with this one! Over 2200 sq ft in this 4 bd, 2 bath home. Family Room w/frpl, refinished hwd, newer carpet, updated furnace, windows, & bathrooms w/granite.  
**\$156,500 (P-976LU)****CENTRAL PARK BEAUTY** Transfer forces the sale of this Pulte Belmont featuring 4 bd, 3 full & 3 half baths, huge island Kitchen w/cherry cab's, 2nd floor laundry, huge Master w/bath, awesome finished bsmt w/bar, & 3.5 car Garage.  
**\$443,900 (P-366MA)****BEST VALUE IN SUB** Impressive inside & out! Gourmet maple Kitchen w/all appl, spacious Family Room w/2 sided frpl, finished bsmt w/bath & wetbar, extensive landscaping, & a covered Patio.  
**\$349,900 (P-227HU)****UPDATED COLONIAL** Immaculate 3 bd colonial features newer Kitchen, windows, C/A, hwd in Foyer & Nook, freshly painted, newer shingles, fenced yard w/mature trees, & large Deck.  
**\$184,900 (P-613ME)****LARGE LOT IN PLYMOUTH** Great price on this home that offers 3 bd, 2 baths, Family Room w/frpl, Florida Room, extra storage space, ceramic baths, tear off roof, & attached Garage. Great lot on a dead end street.  
**\$179,900 (P-151MI)****UPSCALE ELEGANCE** Beautiful home in Canton featuring 2 story Great Room, cherry cabinets, granite, 3 car Garage, 4 bd, 2.5 baths, convenient location & too much more to list.  
**\$539,900 (P-060NO)****IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY** Transfer forces the sale of this wonderful 4 bd, 2.5 bath home in popular South Lyon sub. 9 ft ceilings, 2 story Foyer, Family Room w/cath ceiling, huge Master, 1st floor laundry, & an oversized Garage.  
**\$309,900 (P-054PO)****SURE TO PLEASE!** Wonderful bungalow on an oversized lot features a maintenance free exterior, completely refreshed interior, new carpet, paint, remod oak Kitchen, windows, glass block, & more.  
**\$124,900 (P-541RU)****MOVE TO THE LAKE!** Here's an opportunity you can't afford to miss! Over 2700 sq ft, newly built, 4 bd, 2.5 baths, formal DR, maple cab's, Great Room w/frpl, Master w/sitting area & bath, 1.3 acre lot w/privileges to all sports lake.  
**\$324,900 (P-515SA)****HARD TO DESCRIBE** Start w/ 11,000 sq ft, 4 bd, 6 full & 2 half baths, extremely private lot surrounded by woods, custom details t/o, 4 fireplaces, walkout lower level w/wine cellar, & a 2 story building w/an in-ground pool, sauna, & hottub! Too much more to list!  
**\$2,350,000 (P-775ST)**

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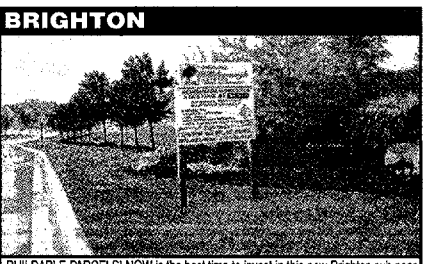
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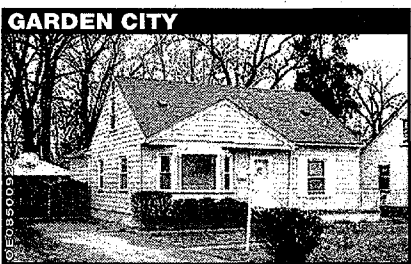
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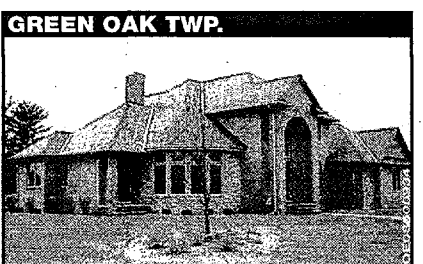
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# Posting notifies drivers of possible towing

**Q. Are you familiar with a new statute regarding towing a vehicle in a private parking lot as it may affect our condo? Do you have any information?**

**A. Yes, in most condominiums, an owner or lessor of private property must post a notice that meets the following requirements before authorizing the towing or removal of a vehicle from real property without the consent of the owner or other person who is legally entitled to possess a vehicle:**

- (a) The notice shall be prominently displayed at a point of entry for vehicular access to the real property. If the real property lacks curbs or access barriers, not less than one notice shall be posted for each 100 feet of road frontage.
- (b) The notice must clearly indicate in letters not less than 2 inches high on a contrasting background that unauthorized vehicles will be towed at the owner's expense.
- (c) The notice must provide the name and telephone number of the towing service for towing or removing vehicles from that property.



**Robert Meisner**

(d) The notice must be permanently installed with the bottom of the notice located not less than 4 feet from the ground and is continuously maintained on the property for not less than 24 hours before a vehicle is towed or removed.

However, caution should be taken by any association utilizing self-help remedies in regard to removing a vehicle unless there is an emergency. The association should also consult with a knowledgeable community association attorney before taking such action.

**Q. Our board is in the process of establishing a community association newsletter to provide notice of meetings and to announce community events. Do you have any suggestions regarding how the publication of the newsletter should be handled?**

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- Southfield Eccentric
- South Lyon Herald
- Troy Eccentric
- West Bloomfield Eccentric
- Westland Observer
- and on

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# VACATION

FROM PAGE 4

resort. Why do you think so many people own timeshares? Because they get caught up in the moment and see only the romantic side of ownership without doing the due diligence necessary."

■ No intention of renting? Leave your options open. Never say never, urges Karpinski. "Today it may be financially feasible to not rent your home, but what will tomorrow bring?" she asks. "What will change in your finances over the years? Will you be retiring? Will your children be attending college? Will the tax rate for the property skyrocket? What about the simple costs of ownership? Buy where you know you can utilize the option to rent your property—i.e., not in an area with a short-term rental ban. You know the old saying 'It's a woman's prerogative to change her mind'? Well, it should be a vacation homeowner's, too."

■ Consider renting by owner rather than using a property management company. Worried that it's too hard or time-consuming to become a do-it-yourselfer? Don't be. A survey conducted through HomeAway Inc., indicates that vacation homeowners who have taken the plunge to rent out their properties "by owner" find it very easy and inexpensive to do so. Being a "do it yourselfer" can save 20 to 50 percent in

management company commissions. "As I mentioned earlier, the Internet has made renting by owner much easier," says Karpinski. "Advertising on the HomeAway.com Network, a group of established vacation rental Web sites, is one simple and inexpensive way to find guests. It costs only \$299 a year to list on four Web sites."

■ Rent out only seventeen weeks and your new vacation home will pay for itself. When your monthly mortgage payment is less than or equal to one peak week rental, 12 weeks of rental will cover your mortgage payments for the entire year. Other costs, including bills for your phone, power, cable, and association dues, may be paid out of your earnings from approximately five off-week rentals.

"Surveys conducted through HomeAway Inc., reveal that the average weekly rate is \$1,656, and that the average property is rented out twenty weeks or more per year," says Karpinski. "These figures suggest that the average vacation home brings in more than \$33,000 in rental revenue each year. According to survey results, 67.15 percent said that the cost savings is the primary reason that they rent by owner. Interestingly, 37 percent said they do it because they like the sense of control. They feel they can take better care of their property than anyone else and like to know who is renting their homes."

PLEASE SEE VACATION, 9



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5 Bdrm, 4.2 Baths, Lake Frnt, Prof. Fin. Walk Out L/L w/ 5th Bdrm & Kit., Mstr St. w/ Balcony



**\$949,900 - Northville**  
4 Bdrms, 4.1 Baths, Lake Frnt, Prof. Fin. Walk Out L/L w/ 5th Bdrm & Kit., and Lrg Gathering Area.



**\$172,500 - Madison Heights**  
3 Bdrm, 1.5 Baths, Brick Ranch, W/ Garage, Fin. Bsmt, Lrg. FR, CA, Updated Home



**\$128,500 - Center Line**  
3 Bdrm, 2 Bath, Fin Bsmt, Remodeled Brick Bungalow, Redone Bathrooms, New Windows



**\$124,900 - Redford**  
3 Bdrms, 1 Bath, Brick Bungalow, 2 Car Garage, Fin. Bsmt, Lrg. Deck, Many updates.

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**674,900 Troy** - 4 Bdrms, 2.5 Baths, Proff. Fin Bsmt w/Kit and full bath, Sunroom, extra lrg lot, pool table Exl. Also for lease at \$4,500  
**519,900 Northville Twp** - 4 Bdrms, 3.5 Baths, Colonial Condo, 9 Ft Ceilings on 1st Floor, 2 Story Foyer, Home Warranty, Many upgrades.  
**409,900 Novi** - 4 Bdrms, 3.5 Bath Colonial w/ Dream Bsmt - Home Theatre, Wet Bar, Sauna, Cedar Closet.  
**379,900 Canton** - 4 Bdrms, 3.5 Baths, Two way fireplace in Fam Rm and Study, Prof. finished Bsmt.  
**355,000 Plymouth Twp** - 4 Bdrms, 3.5 Baths, Many upgrades, Hdwd Flrs, Crown Moldings in LR, FR, and DR. Mstr Suite w. Private Bath.  
**334,900 Farmington Hills** - 4 Bdrms, 3.5 Baths, Great lot w/ huge deck, Prof. Fin. Lower level, w/wet bar.  
**303,000 Canton** - 4 Bdrms, 2.5 Baths, Fin Bsmt w/pool table, Gazebo & hot tub. Also for lease at \$2100  
**299,900 Van Buren** - 5 Bdrms, 3 Baths, Custom built in 2004, open floor plan, Lrg kitchen, 3 car garage.  
**299,900 Plymouth** - 3 Bdrms, 3.5 Baths. Built in 2004 w/open floor plan. Finished Basement. Walk to Downtown.  
**295,999 Canton** - 4 Bdrms, 2.5 Baths, 2 Story Foyer, Open Floor Plan, Large Deck, Southern Exposure, Master Suite w/ Private Bath.

**295,000 Canton** - 3 Bdrms, 2.1 Baths, Charming Cherry Hill Village Colonial. Hdwd Floors, Breakfast Nook, and 2 car garage  
**289,900 Plymouth Twp** - 4 Bdrms, 2.5 Baths, Located on a wooded lot, wet bar in FR, Walk To Park, Oversized 2 Car Garage.  
**280,000 Canton** - 4 Bdrms, 2 Baths - Stately Colonial w/ Master Ste w/ cathedral ceilings, prof. landscaped and drwl to brick paver patio.  
**264,900 Farmington Hills** - Updated 4BR, 2.5 Bath Brick Colonial located deep in the sub. Newer roof, windows & more  
**239,900 Flat Rock** - 3 Bdrms, 2.5 Baths, New Construction, large backyard, spacious Bdrms, Maser suite w/ full bath and wic.  
**234,000 Novi** - 4 Bdrms, 2.5 Baths, Large private, treed lot, remodeled Kitchen and Bathrooms. New roof, Furn, and A/C. Won't last long!  
**224,999 West Bloomfield** - 3 Bdrms, 2 Bath, Dimensional Roof, Jacuzzi Tub, Close to Schools, Seller is a Licensed Agent.  
**229,900 Farmington Hills** - 4 Bdrms, 2.5 Bath Colonial located on a quiet St. Library, newer cement driveway.  
**229,900 Plymouth** - 3 Bdrms, 2 Baths, Breezeway converted to cozy FR w/Fireplace, Att. 2 car garage.  
**219,999 Wayne** - 4 Unit, 4 Bath Multi-Family, Separate Unit Entrances and private parking lot, close to shopping and restaurants.  
**219,900 Livonia** - 3 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath, Huge Deck, Lrg Great Rm

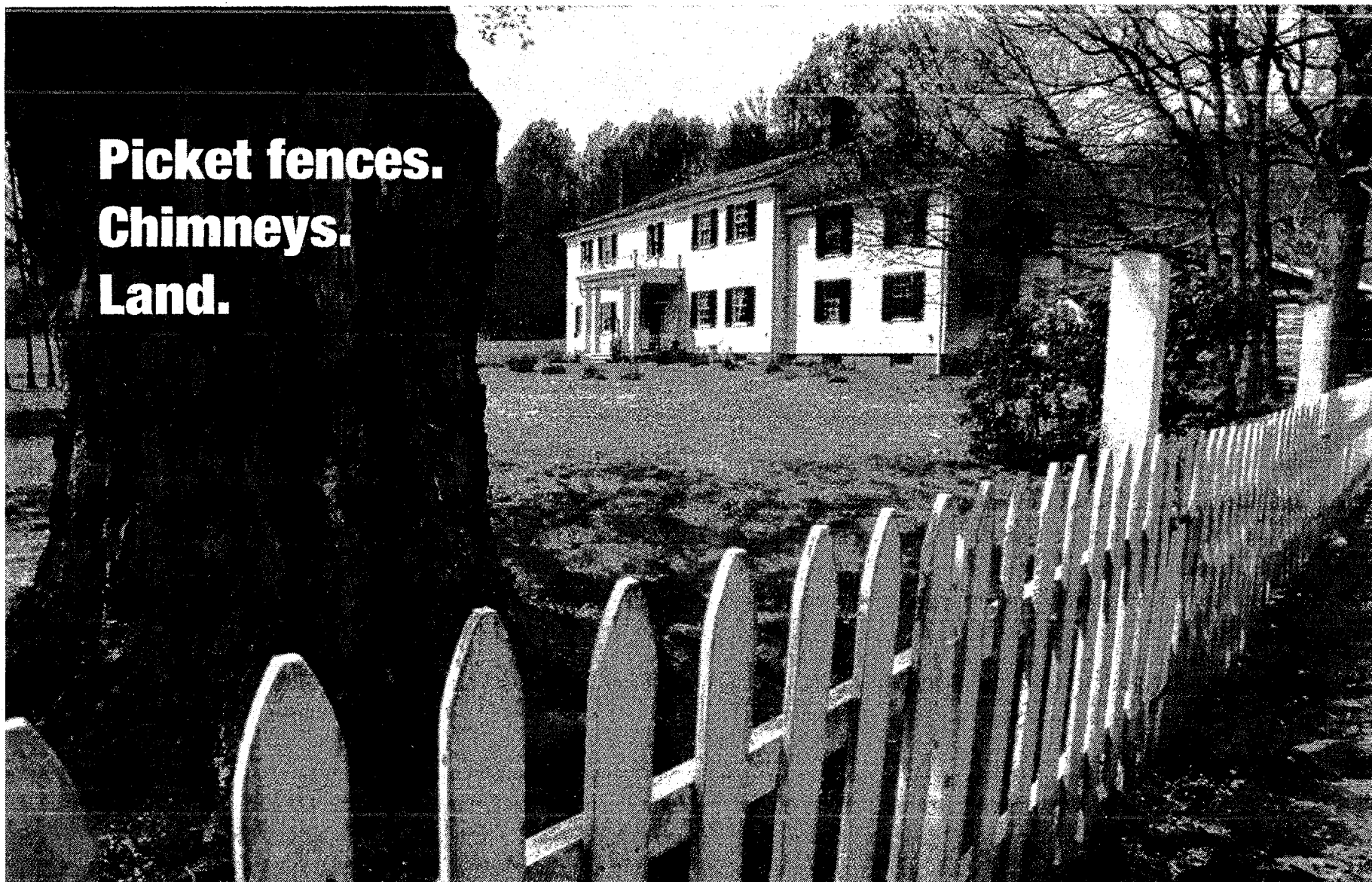
w/cathedral Ceilings.  
**209,900 Canton** - 4 Bdrms, 2 Baths, Cape Cod near Summit and Heritage Park, 3 Level Deck w/ fenced Backyard, Fin Bsmt, All appliances stay.  
**209,900 Dearborn** - 3 Bdrm, 2 Bath - Brick Cape Cod, prof. english gardens landscaping, walk to schools, parks, shopping, and restaurants.  
**189,900 Plymouth Twp** - 3 Bdrms, 1.5 Baths, Charming Colonial, Corian Kitchen counters, Walk to Elementary and Downtown.  
**189,500 Dearborn** - 3 Bdrms, 2 Bath, Totally remodeled Interior, FP, CA, Fin Bsmt, Lrg Deck, 2 Car Garage, Immed. Occ.  
**186,000 Westland** - 3 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath. Basement, Lrg Fam Rm, Lrg fenced Backyard  
**184,900 Canton** - 4 Bdrms, 2 Baths, Charming Quad with Plymouth/Canton schools. Large Backyard backing to commons.  
**154,900 Dearborn** - 3 Bdrms, 1 Bath, Oakwood Hosp Area, Hdwd Floors, Fin Bsmt, New Cherry and Corian Kitchen. 1 Yr Home Warranty  
**137,000 Dearborn Heights** - 3 Bdrms, 2 Baths, Immed Occ. Hdwd Floors throughout, Full Fin Bsmt, 12 x 20 screened Rm on back of house.  
**128,500 Center Line** - 3 Bdrms, 2 Baths, 1940'S Charmer, Bathrooms Remodeled, newer windows and cement driveway. Finished Basement.

**Condos**  
**307,500 West Bloomfield** - 2 Bdrms, 2.5 Bath Ranch Condo. Lrg Deck, Vaulted Ceilings, Full Bsmt, Fabulous Master Suite and 2 Car Att Garage.  
**279,900 Farmington Hills** - 2 Bdrms, 3 baths, Fin Basement w/full Kitchen and Bath  
**239,900 Livonia** - 2 Bdrms, 2.5 Baths, Newer Construction, 2 Story Grt Rm w/fireplace and view of pond.  
**244,900 Flat Rock** - 3 Bdrm, 2.5 Baths, New Construction! Unfinished loft above 2.5 car garage  
**214,900 Canton** - 3 Bdrms, 2.1 Baths - Detached condo in great location. Neutral décor, hdwd floors, 1 year home warranty.  
**199,000 Plymouth** - 3 bdrms, 2 Baths - New Kit in '02 w/Maple Cabs, New Furn, Humidifier and C/A in '03, Beautiful Hdwd in living room.  
**184,000 West Bloomfield** - 3 Bdrms, 2.5 Baths, Townhouse Style Condo w/Garage and full Bsmt, Privt entry, All Appl, Immed. Occ.  
**179,900 Canton** - 3 Bdrm, 2.1 Baths - End Unit in Lovely Canton Forest. private setting w/ lrg deck, full fin. bsmt, immed occ.  
**164,900 Plymouth Twp.** - 2 Bdrms, 2 Baths, Sky lights in Kit and Master bdrm, Lots of upgrades. Grt Rm w/Cath ceilings.  
**140,000 Wayne** - 3 Bdrms, 2.5 Baths, Two Story Condo, First Fr Mstr Suite w/ WIC and Private Bath, Loft overlooking Grt Rm.  
**134,900 Southfield** - 2 Bdrms, 2 Baths, Sharp Ranch style condo, Common Pool, large basement storage.  
**129,900 Canton** - 2 Bdrm, 2 Bath, Ground Level End Unit Condo. Backing to quiet commons area.

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# MEISNER

FROM PAGE 6

A. You must recognize that when publishing a community association newsletter, it can lead to liability for the association. Here are five rules to help you avoid liability when publishing a newsletter. (1) Maintain control over what material gets published; (2) know which photos of members you can and cannot publish without permission; (3) print over verifiable facts; (4) do not print ads that violate fair housing laws; and (5) be especially careful when publishing names of delinquent

members. You should consult with your community association lawyer concerning the content of your newsletter and it may be appropriate for you to have him or her review it before it is being sent.

**Robert M. Meisner** is a lawyer and the author of *Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track*, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote *Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium*, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. For more information, call (248) 644-4433 or visit [bmeisner@meisner-associates.com](mailto:bmeisner@meisner-associates.com). This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

# VACATION

FROM PAGE 7

Of course, owning a vacation home isn't right for everyone. Karpinski emphasizes the importance of doing your homework as well as plenty of soul-searching before making the decision to buy.

"Yes, I've enjoyed my vacation homes

and have profited from them, financially and otherwise," she says. "It's nice to have a place to escape to, and I've made some great friends over the years. But no doubt about it: Buying a vacation home, especially one you're going to rent out, means embarking on a whole new lifestyle. Read up on the subject so you'll know what to expect. Doing plenty of research and making an educated decision will keep your vacation home dream from turning into a nightmare."

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A Perfect Mortgage Co.	(248) 203-7726	5.875	0	5.625	0	J/A
AAXA Discount Mortgage	(877) 728-3569	5.75	0.5	5.5	0.25	J/A
AFI Financial	(877) 234-0600	5.625	1	5.375	0.875	J/A
American Home Mortgage	(877) 478-7289	5.625	2	5.25	2	J/A/V/F
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	5.875	0	5.625	0.375	J/A
Benchmark Lending	(586) 463-2255	6	0	5.75	0	J/A
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Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	6	0	5.625	0	A
DFCU Financial	(800) 739-2770	6	2	5.625	2	J/A
Earth Mortgage	(877) 327-8450	5.75	1	5.375	1	J/A/V/F
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	6.25	0.25	6	0.25	J/V/F
First Alliance Mortgage Co.	(800) 292-7357	6.125	0	6	0	J/A/V/F
First International Mortgage	(248) 540-1065	5.875	0	5.625	0	J/A
Gold Star Mortgage	(800) 203-1546	5.875	0	5.625	0.125	J/A/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage	(800) 991-9922	5.375	2.375	4.875	2.75	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(734) 953-4000	6.125	0	6	0	J/A/V/F
LaSalle Bank Midwest	(800) 466-3800	5.875	2	5.75	2	J/A/V/F
Mainstreet Mortgage	(800) 900-1313	6	0	5.75	0	J/A/V/F
Manufacturers	(586) 777-1000	5.75	1	5.375	1	J/A
Michigan Schools & Gov. C/U	(586) 263-8800	6	0	5.75	0	J/A
Mortgages by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	6	0	5.625	0.25	J/A/V/F
Michigan United Mortgage	(610) 844-2222	5.625	1.25	5.125	1.625	J/A
National City Bank	(586) 825-0825	5.75	2	5.5	1.875	J/A
Northlawn Financial	(248) 988-8488	5.875	0	5.625	0	J/A/V/F
Pathway Financial LLC	(800) 726-2274	5.875	0	5.625	0	J/A/F
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York Financial Inc.	(888) 839-9675	6	0	5.75	0	J/A

Above information available as of 1/19/07 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculations & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at [www.rmcreport.com](http://www.rmcreport.com). Key to "Other" Column - J = Jumbo, A = Arms, V = VA, F = FHA & NR = Not Reported. All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders. 

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## HOMES SOLD

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Sept. 25-29, 2006, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office, plus some from Oakland County. Listed below are cities, addresses and sales prices.

City	Address	Sale Price	City	Address	Sale Price	
Canton	43677 Applewood Rd	\$215,000	Farmington	23888 Fairview St	\$277,000	
	40423 Bay Harbor Ln	\$190,000		24025 Farmington Rd	\$218,000	
	41705 Bedford Dr	\$127,000		32718 Grand River Ave	\$74,000	
	3971 Berkeley Ave	\$144,000		Farmington Hills	21803 Albion Ave	\$106,000
	50125 Black Horse Ln	\$281,000			29998 Barwell Rd	\$231,000
	42065 Briarcliff Ct	\$227,000			30328 Castleford Ct	\$250,000
	775 Buchanan St	\$70,000			38655 Darbyshire	\$230,000
	43269 Candlewood Ct	\$250,000			22540 Glenmoor Hts	\$162,000
	8361 Chatham Dr	\$468,000		28200 Green Meadow Lane	\$147,000	
	40281 Chatsworth Ct	\$210,000		22409 Heatherwood Ct	\$265,000	
	39858 Cheviot Rd	\$210,000		30659 Huntsman Dr W	\$475,000	
	50651 Colchester Ct	\$545,000		30699 Huntsman Dr W	\$490,000	
	401 Country Club Ln	\$365,000		35605 Johnstown Rd	\$295,000	
	1536 Crowndale Ln	\$335,000		37680 Mckenzie Ct	\$365,000	
	49335 Dominion Ct	\$512,000		29693 Medbury St	\$199,000	
39434 Dorchester Cir	\$287,000	24119 Scott Dr	\$255,000			
7102 Fox Hills Rd	\$317,000	36609 Valley Ridge Dr	\$280,000			
7044 Foxthorn Dr	\$104,000	28644 Westerleigh Rd	\$225,000			
43832 Fredericksburg St	\$178,000	Garden City	29933 Balmoral St	\$140,000		
51067 Gold Ridge Ln	\$403,000		29415 Barton St	\$94,000		
42263 Greenwood Dr	\$245,000		28927 Beechwood St	\$110,000		
49111 Hawksbury Rd	\$196,000		31200 Block St	\$120,000		
8375 Holly Dr	\$190,000		28414 Bock St	\$106,000		
42479 Lilley Pointe Dr	\$129,000	32212 Bock St	\$156,000			
1311 Mistwood Ct	\$456,000	31030 Brown St	\$211,000			
50167 Monroe St	\$171,000					
1682 Orchard Dr	\$85,000					
43941 Palisades Dr	\$198,000					
1550 Peninsula Ct	\$232,000					
49774 Potomac Rd	\$297,000					
49802 Potomac Rd	\$271,000					
4013 Ravensfield Dr	\$194,000					
3264 River Meadow Cir	\$229,000					
48156 Roundstone Ct	\$521,000					
299 S Village Way	\$40,000					
42358 Saratoga Cir	\$190,000					
253 Selkirk St	\$177,000					
440 Shana St	\$187,000					
51113 Sleepy Hollow Ln	\$254,000					
41117 Southwind Dr	\$120,000					

You'll find more property listings in the Classified sections of these fine community newspapers:

Birmingham Eccentric  
Canton Observer  
Farmington Observer  
Garden City Observer  
Livonia Observer  
Milford Times  
Northville Record  
Novi News  
Plymouth Observer  
Rochester Eccentric



Royal Oak and Clawson Mirror  
Redford Observer  
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Livonia \$219,900

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Westland \$159,900

Excellent Condition Move-in Quality! Great for young family. Located in the Livonia School system. Home offers eat-in kitchen, with exit to back and 10' X 20' covered patio. Good size finished family room on lower level with 1/2 bath off laundry room. Newer furnace, carpet, roof, and driveway. Exterior offers fenced yard, 2 1/2 car garage with opener, sprinkler system. Appl. Included!

Ferndale \$155,000

Price Reduction!! Popular Ferndale Offering 3 Bedroom Colonial Located Short Distance From Woodward. Large Livingroom With Immitation Fireplace. Dining Room Located At Back Of House With Doorwall To Large 16 X 16 Deck. Tastefully Lanscaped. New Roof And Windows! Appliances Remain And Home Includes Home Warranty. Seller Says Bring All Offers!!

Redford Top \$149,900

One Of A Kind In This Sub!! Brick ranch with 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, with an update kitchen. Dining room with newer china cabinet and bay window. Open concept from kitchen to dining to living room. Family room with fireplace off kitchen. New front porch, with deck off family room, and porch at back. Full size basement with walk out to back yard. Bring Your Offers!!

Redford Top \$129,900

Great Starter Home For Young Family! 3 bedroom brick bungalow with great curb appeal. Located in south Redford. 3rd. possible 4th. bedroom on upper level, can be one large room or divided into two separate rooms. Freshly painted interior with pleasing updated color. Back yard garage, deck and swing set. Home Warranty!

Detroit \$84,500

Great Family Home!! Neat and tidy 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath ranch with natural fireplace in living room, and open concept to dining room. Large basement waiting to be finished with your ideas, already has a 1/2 bath. Covered patio with door from 2nd bedroom that overlooks a spacious yard with brick barbecue. Sellers Says Bring All Offers!!

**PLYMOUTH** - Custom Rossi built 4 bedrm, 2.5 bath cape cod backing to commons! 1st floor mstr w/luxury bath, lrg bedrms w/ walk-in-closets, 2 story great rm & foyer, beautiful ktchn w/ huge island, wet bar/butlers pantry, fin'd basement + more! \$539,900 (D12Coo)

**CANTON** - Spacious 3 bedrm, 2.5 bath condo in beautiful golf course/pool & tennis community. Offers soaring ceilings, great rm w/ frplc, 1st floor mstr w/ luxury bath, gourmet ktchn, lrg windows, 16x12 deck for entertaining + more! \$314,500 (D81Lex)

**CANTON** - Exquisite 4 bedrm, 2.5 bath colonial, nearly 3600 sq ft & located in great area of Canton. Walk to new high school from this contemporary home w/ 1st flr library, circular stairway, sun rm + 3 car garage! \$429,000 (L94Lab)

**CANTON** - This 4 bedrm, 2.5 bath home offers updated ktchn, hardwood flrs in liv rm, dining rm, ktchn & hall, bay wndw in liv rm, stunning colonial frplc, Anderson wndws, crown molding, 6 panel doors, 3 level deck, etc. Walk to Miller Elem! \$209,900 (L66Wes)

**SOUTH LYON** - Exquisite 4 bedrm, 4.5 baths colonial in Tanglewood! 1st flr library/in-law qtrs w/ full bath, custom ktchn w/ hickory cabs, granite counters, double-sized butlers pantry & stunning island, beautifully fin'd LL w/ all the amenities! \$499,900 (L60Gre)

**NORTHVILLE** - Move right into this stunning, well cared for home offering 4 bedrms, 2.5 baths, French doors, crown moldings, 3 season porch, neutral Italian tile, freshly painted, + more. Premium lot! Great community & outstanding schools! \$365,000 (L00Vic)

**NORTHVILLE** - Lowest priced condo in Country Club Village! 2 bdms, 3.5 baths, great rm w/ FP, ktchn w/ white bay cabs, hrdwd flrs, wainscoting, curved staircase, prof fin'd bsmnt w/ full bath & all appliances stay. Great club house w/ pool & tennis cts. \$249,900 (L46Edg)

**LIVONIA** - Spectacular 2004 built 3 bedrm, 2.5 bath condo offering 2019 sq ft of luxurious living. 1st floor mstr & bath, upgraded gourmet ktchn w/ cherry cabs, oak hardwood flrs, full bsmnt, att'd garage, 1st flr laundry, decorated to perfection! \$274,900 (L69Bro)

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