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**Student VOICES** Teen journalists  
return to the pages  
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# PLYMOUTH Observer

**SUNDAY**  
November 11, 2007

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## Business owners weary of underpass delays

BY BRAD KADRICH  
STAFF WRITER

Nicole Ortiz-Rich thinks it's pretty easy to pinpoint the reason business is down at her Subway shop, located at Five Mile and Sheldon, some 27 percent.

It's the same reason Bob Jeannotte Sr. gives for business at Jeannotte Pontiac-Buick-GMC dealership being off some 13 percent.

And now it's the same reason some 32 businesses in that area of the com-

munity have banded together and hired a lawyer to explore possible options.

The reason: the Sheldon Road underpass.

"We've been a consistent high-volume store, but now we're going down fast," said Ortiz-Rich, who manages the Subway for her mother, Kathy Ortiz. "Our service has remained consistent, surveys show our customers are satisfied. We're kind of left with the underpass."

Sheldon Road businesses north

of the construction zone depend to varying degrees on traffic coming from south of the project, particularly restaurants like Subway and the Nassau Grill & Bar. Since Sheldon Road was closed at the railroad tracks last spring, that traffic has dried up.

One property owner wouldn't give up an easement that would have allowed a temporary road because it would have come too close to the property. That means drivers from the south seeking to use businesses

north of the construction zone must find their way around it.

Fewer and fewer are doing it.

"It's tough enough (to succeed) with the Michigan economy the way it is without this hanging over our heads," Jeannotte said.

Frustrated because it's been weeks since any digging in the project has been done, Jeannotte organized the businesses into a group, then hired Plymouth lawyer Salem Samaan to help the group explore its options. Samaan drafted a letter to Wayne

County officials, laying out the group's concerns about the lack of road access, including difficulty emergency vehicles would have getting to those businesses north of the construction zone, and asking for a temporary road to be opened.

But Alan Helmkamp, the assistant Wayne County executive overseeing the underpass project, reiterated Friday work is being delayed because utility companies still have things to

Please see **UNDERPASS, A6**

## Area teens add their 'voices' to our pages

The Plymouth Observer is proud to present "Student Voices," stories for teens and by teens in today's hometownLIFE.com section.

A group of high school students, mentored by O&E staff members will report, write and photograph issues important to them throughout the 2007-2008 academic year.

If you wonder what teens are thinking about, don't miss this first installment of Student Voices in print and online at www.hometownlife.com (click on the Student Voices logo and read all the stories by teens throughout western Wayne and Oakland counties).

The students, with help from their mentors, Canton reporter Tiffany Parks and photographer Bill Bresler, prepared today's stories and photos.

Today's featured writers applied to be a student journalist at the start of the school year. They attended a two-hour orientation session on writing and photography, brainstormed ideas, did the interviews and research and submitted the material for editing and feedback to their mentors.

"Not only was I thrilled when all of our students arrived at the orientation session with great story ideas, I was excited about the work they submitted," Parks said. "I am looking forward to seeing more from our students."

This installment will touch on the college application process, a new method of foreign language instruction and Catholic school funding.

As your hometown newspaper, we believe it's important to hear from younger readers and give them a forum to express themselves. They will be the journalists of the future.

Congratulations to these outstanding students.

This marks the second year for the program. Last year's crop of budding journalists did such a great job and their work was met with such enthusiasm by print and online readers, continuing the program was an easy decision. A handful of students who participated last year are back.

We hope you enjoy their work and look for more to come from our panel of teen writers and photographers in 2008. We welcome your comments.

- Susan Rosiek, executive editor  
Observer & Eccentric Newspapers  
srosiek@hometownlife.com



Plymouth's Roger Kehrier poses with a former North Vietnamese Army commander who operated with the 2nd NVA Division in the Que Son Valley.

## Burying his demons

### Vietnam vet uses trip back to heal old wounds

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER

#### HOLIDAY HOURS

■ Plymouth Township offices and local post office branches will be closed Monday, Nov. 12, in observance of the Veterans Day holiday.

■ City of Plymouth offices will be open Monday, regular hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

■ The Plymouth District Library will be open, 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

It had been nearly 40 years since Roger Kehrier of Plymouth was in Vietnam, a total of 18 months while serving in the U.S. Army from 1965-71, and in the Army Reserves from 1980-98.

However, a recent two-week trip to what the retired Army major remembered as only a war-ravaged country — 32 years after the end of the Vietnam conflict that claimed more than 58,000 American lives — proved to be both humanitarian and therapeutic.

"I was interested in what changes had occurred in the country," Kehrier, 62, said of his Sept. 27-Oct. 14 mission. "The second reason ... I had a lot of bad karma, bad memories and personal demons that I hoped — by going there — I would leave behind."

"The third reason was Lt. James Marvin Stone, who I knew had been killed on the seventh of January in 1968, in a battle I participated in," Kehrier added. "I didn't learn until 2002 he was officially listed as killed in action,

Please see **VIETNAM, A9**

## Rising count pushes district higher up list

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER

Despite a rough Michigan economy which has resulted in many people losing their jobs and moving out of state, the Plymouth-Canton school district continues to grow.

While many school districts throughout the state are recording enrollment declines, P-CCS reported to state officials its student count increased by 219, which is up from administration predictions of 183.

"I think it's a point of pride that we're still a destination and have programs that attract people," Supt. Jim Ryan said.

"Last year, I said we would have 200 kids a year for the next five years, and I still believe that."

The increase keeps P-CCS as the fourth-largest school district in the state,

but it's gaining on Grand Rapids, which lost 880 students this year for a total enrollment of 20,064. Detroit remains the largest district with an unofficial 109,474 students, followed by Utica with 29,575. Dearborn is fifth, behind Plymouth-Canton, with 18,808 students, followed by Livonia at 17,713.

Ryan said he's not concerned about the increasing size of the district.

"I don't feel the number of kids is ever daunting," Ryan said. "It's how you choose leadership to lead students, how you work with your school board and use key leaders to the very best of their ability."

Ryan said the enrollment increase, along with a \$90 jump in per-pupil funding from the state, will give the district \$1.8 million more in the general fund, which could go a long way in reducing this year's projected budget deficit.

"We're hanging around the \$3.4 million mark, and our job is to take preliminary figures and try to better perform," Ryan said, "and that comes from looking at utilities and health care, the two primary areas for spending, and our own spending."

"The goal is to try and have the budget finish in the black, and it's in reach," he added. "We cut \$12 million in the last six years."

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#### BY THE NUMBERS

Here's a look at the top five districts, by student population, in the state:

District	Students
Detroit	109,474
Utica	29,575
Grand Rapids	20,064
Plymouth-Canton	18,808
Livonia	17,713

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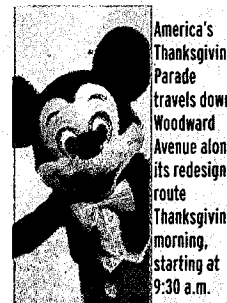
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#### Coming Thursday



America's Thanksgiving Parade travels down Woodward Avenue along its redesigned route Thanksgiving morning, starting at 9:30 a.m.

# Recall effort needs appeal

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER

Plymouth Township resident John Hett, thwarted by the Wayne County Elections Commission in an effort to begin circulating recall petitions against 20th House District Rep. Marc Corriveau, D-Northville, has filed an appeal.

Corriveau came under fire for his vote in favor of an income tax increase from 3.9 percent to 4.35 percent on Oct. 1 to balance the state's deficit budget.

The county Elections Commission voted 2-0 to reject the recall petitions, claiming the wording wasn't clear enough for voters to understand. The three-member panel, which is chosen by statute, included Wayne County Treasurer Raymond Wojtowicz, a Democrat, and Probate

Chief Judge Milton Mack, Jr., a non-partisan. The third member, Wayne County Clerk Cathy Garrett, also a Democrat, was not present to vote.

"Wayne County is a Democratic stronghold and we expected partisan politics," said Hett, 44, who said he has no party affiliation. "What they are saying is the people of the 20th District are not smart enough to know Corriveau raised our taxes and we want to recall him."

Corriveau said he expected the appeal, which for him will mean more time taken away from his work in Lansing.

"It continues to be a distraction for me," said Corriveau. "Any time devoted toward defending this concept is taking me away from me working for my constituents."

Corriveau confirmed Mack is a resident of

Wayne, a portion of the 20th House District, and was a contributor to his campaign. However, the first-year lawmaker said he believed that didn't come into play, as Mack's reputation is "impeccable."

Hett said he's received some criticism for wanting to recall Corriveau, for which a vote could take place only months before Corriveau's attempt at reelection.

"The recall process is a citizen's recourse to put pressure on their representative to vote the correct way," said Hett. "Rep. Corriveau could have been the difference between a tax increase and no tax increase. That increase was more expensive than holding him accountable with a local recall election."

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# Data pours in on liquor survey

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER

In a survey of 10 somewhat comparable cities conducted by the Plymouth city administration, the average number of liquor licenses in the downtown areas is one per 1,202 residents.

For the City of Plymouth, with 12 liquor licenses and a population of 9,022, that average increases to one per 751 residents.

The data comes as approximately two months remain in a 90-day moratorium on new or transferred liquor licenses in the downtown business district, initiated by the city commission Oct. 15. With the rise in the number of drinking establishments in downtown Plymouth, city commissioners are trying to determine how many more liquor licenses should be allowed in the four-square block downtown.

"Our intent is to see if by allowing more liquor licenses does it enhance the character of downtown, or will it diminish the character of down-

## ON TAP

How Plymouth stacks up in liquor licenses:

City	Licenses	Population
Northville	8	6,459
Birmingham	14	19,291
Royal Oak	28	60,062
Milford	12	6,400
Farmington	5	10,423
Brighton	9	7,547
Plymouth	12	9,022

town," said Mayor Pro-Tem Phil Pursell, the chair of the commission's Liquor License Review Committee. "It's a tight rope and delicate balance, and until we get input from everybody, we're not going to make a decision."

City Manager Paul Sincock said there will be input from the Chamber of Commerce, current liquor license holders and citizen groups to help decide if the city has enough downtown establishments selling liquor, or if there can be more.

By comparison, Northville has eight and Farmington five downtown liquor licenses.

Milford, which has a population about two-thirds of Plymouth, has the same number of downtown liquor licenses (12) as Plymouth. Traverse City, with 14,500 people, has an average of one license per 660 residents.

Some commissioners fear the city's police department may be stretched too thin by an increasing number of late-night drinking establishments, with officers having to spend hours to process an increasing number of drunk driving tickets.

"If it means more police time, how do we pay for that cost?" asked Pursell. "One cop on the street is \$250,000 (for salary, benefits and equipment)."

Sincock said the city's annual police department budget is about \$3 million of the \$7 million general fund.

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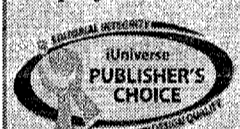
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# A hero not forgotten

## French government honors bravery, sacrifice of World War II combat medic

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS  
STAFF WRITER

With a replica of Old Glory gently swaying above the garage door and another American flag breezing in the backyard, it's not hard to believe that a decorated WWII veteran resides at the well-kept Devon Lane home in Canton.

"I don't have bad memories of that time," says Paul Coen, 84, as he strokes his cat, Smokey, and smiles at his wife, Lee. "Being a combat medic was a tough way to make a dollar but human nature is kind. It lets you remember the pleasant things."

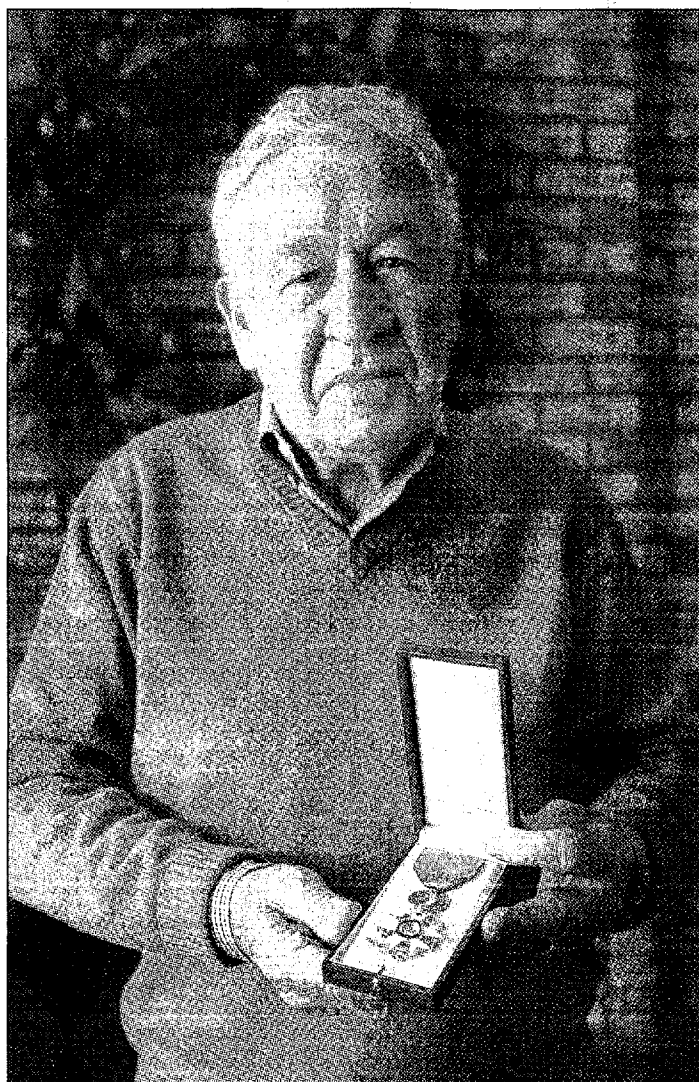
Coen, who touched down in Normandy on D-Day and was captured six days later, recently received the Knight of the Legion of Honor from the French government.

As he opens the small burundy box that contains the prestigious green and white medal, Coen shakes his head and says he didn't do anything out of the ordinary during his service.

"It was tough duty but we were only doing our jobs," the grandfather of four says. The French Republic kindly disagrees.

In a letter to Coen, French Counsel General Jean-Baptiste Main de Boissiere wrote: "My fellow countrymen will never forget your sacrifice. Their children and grandchildren are as proud of your courageous actions as can be your own children and grandchildren."

Main de Boissiere, who is based in Chicago, was in Detroit Nov. 2 to present Coen and three other WWII veterans with France's highest honor. The country has been recognizing U.S. veterans since the 60th anniversary of



Paul Coen received the Legion of Honor from France, for his service in World War II.

D-Day in 2004.

"Nov. 2 (was) a time to celebrate the extraordinary achievements of these men, as well as the crucial contribution of the United States at a difficult period of French history," Main de Boissiere wrote.

The other honored veterans were Richard Rizzio of Interlochen, Sarkis Atanosian of Allen Park and Vernon Zimmerman of Monroe.

Coen, who grew up in the Boston area, joined the Army in January 1943.

"Nobody wanted to stay home or be caught in civilian clothes," he chuckled. "The camaraderie that existed in the military you don't get in civilian life. I've never run into it anywhere other than in the armed forces."

Coen, who was imprisoned for 11 months after running

### PAUL COEN

**Age:** 84  
**Home:** Canton  
**Military service:** Joined the Army in January 1943, and served as combat medic; landed at Normandy on D-Day; German POW for 11 months; U.S. Air Force, 1951-69.

**Honor:** Knight of the Legion of Honor from the French government

into a NAZI ambush with his comrades, was the only survivor among a group of more than 20 men.

"You had to stay positive or else you would have went bananas," he said.

Having later escaped from the prison camp, Coen's Army service ended in 1945. He later joined the U.S. Air Force and served from 1951-69.

"We are both very patriotic and I'm really proud of him," Lee Coen said.

The two, who have been married since 1991, have a glass case in their Canton home that displays the veteran's collection of medals.

"I think we are going to frame this one, too," Paul Coen said, adding that he and his wife have traveled to France several times to visit the sites of his imprisonment.

"The French are wonderful people," he said, running his finger across his new, polished medal. "This is an honor and a surprise."

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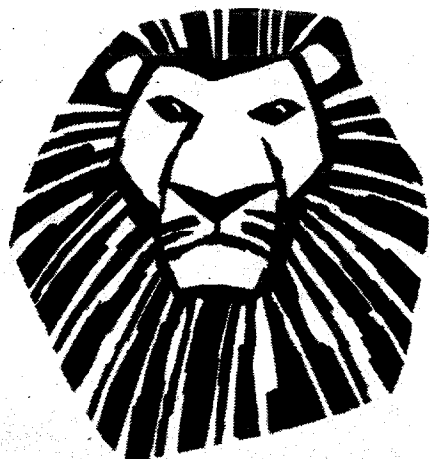
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**Jaycees meet**

The Plymouth Jaycees are holding an informational meeting Wednesday, Nov. 14, at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty, in Plymouth.

Young persons aged 21-40 who would like to get more information on the revised Plymouth chapter are encouraged to attend.

For more information, please contact Don McDurmon at (734) 765-9691.

**Coffee with Corriveau**

State Rep. Marc Corriveau, D-Northville, invites residents to talk over a cup of coffee during his coffee hour at the Plymouth Coffee Bean, 884 Penniman Ave. in Plymouth, on Monday, Nov. 12, from 8-9 a.m.

Corriveau holds coffee hours, office hours and other events throughout the 20th District to talk with as many residents as possible about any issues or concerns.

Corriveau's regular office hours are scheduled for the first Monday of every month at the Wayne Public Library; the first Friday of every month at Northville City Hall; and the third Monday of every month at the Plymouth District Library. All office hours are from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Businesses or organizations wishing to schedule an event with Corriveau can contact his office at (877) 20TH-REP (208-4737).

**Potters Guild**

The Village Potters Guild sponsors its holiday sale in its newly remodeled studio, 340 N. Main, Suite G-11.

The sale takes place 5-8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 15; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16; and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17.

For more information, visit the guild's Web site at www.villagepottersguild.org

**Penn classics**

Movie-goers with a yearning for holiday classics get their chances at the Penn Theatre.

The Penn will show several holiday movies next month, starting with *It's A Wonderful Life* at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6.

The rest of the schedule: *Bells of St. Mary's*, Dec. 13, 7 p.m.; and *The Bishop's Wife*, Dec. 26, 1 and 7 p.m. and Dec. 27, 7 p.m..

All seats are \$3. The Penn is located at 760 Penniman in downtown Plymouth.

Also, hand-painted Penn Theatre Christmas ornaments are now on sale for \$25. Available while supplies last at the Penn Theatre as well as Michigan Made & More.

For more information, call (734) 453-0870.

**Benefit concert**

WSDP 88.1-FM sponsors a Thanksgiving Eve Concert Wednesday, Nov. 21, at the Summit on the Park in Canton.

The concert will feature the Plymouth-Canton area's best bands, including Monument Monument, Forever in A Day, The Dry Leaf Project, and Brion Riborn.

The bands are donating their performances as part of a benefit for 88.1FM. All proceeds from the concert will go back to the student radio station.

Awareness and Activism, a student group at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, will be on hand with an informational table. The group was formed to raise awareness and fund-raise for nations caught in humanitarian crises. Two of their main focuses are the Sudan and Northern Uganda.



**Rehab reunion**

Medilodge of Plymouth, the skilled nursing center in downtown Plymouth, recently hosted a 'Celebration of Wellness' during which the enthusiastic staff recognized the success of their residents. Invitations were extended to clients who had undergone rejuvenation through their hard work in the facilities therapy department. Guests were entertained in the main dining room as the 'songs of the good old days' were played by pianist Florence Sopko and the rehabilitation graduates reminisced about their hurdles and successes.

Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. and the show will start at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$7, and available at the door. More information is available at www.881TheEscape.com.

**Council on aging**

The Plymouth Community Council on Aging hosts "Medicare Part D Open Enrollment" 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 20, at the Plymouth Library in the Waldorf Room. The Senior Alliance will sponsor this seminar for people who want to join, switch or drop their Medicare Part D.

There will be counselors on hand to work with individuals on a one-on-one basis.

This will also be a good time to identify individuals who may qualify for the Extra Help Program. Make sure to bring a list of all prescription drugs that you are presently taking; this will allow the counselors to make sure you are receiving the best prescription program. Call (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236 to sign up.

The Plymouth Council on Aging hosts the third part of its series of health screenings, all sponsored by Heartland Rehabilitation, Monday, Dec. 3. This series will be Massage Therapy. Seniors often need a special touch! Especially good for those who experience tightness, pain or limited movement in the shoulders, back, arms or neck. While fully

clothed the massage will help to increase circulation, reduce stress and remove toxins from the body.

Call (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236 to sign up.

**Civil War round-table**

The Abraham Lincoln Civil War Round Table hosts Rand Bitter of Canton 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 15.

Bitter's presentation will be the subject of his book "Minty and His Cavalry - A History of the Saber Brigade and its Commander". Robert H.G. Minty Served with the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Michigan Cavalry regiments before being appointed to command a brigade which fought in many engagements ending their service by capturing Jefferson Davis at the end of the war.

The meeting will be held at the Elks Lodge #1780 at 41700 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth. The public is invited, admission is free. For more information call (734) 451-7998.

**Lecture series**

The Plymouth Community Arts Council hosts a brown-bag luncheon the second Tuesday of the month or on the third Monday evening of the month at the Plymouth Library for a lecture presented by the Speakers Bureau from the Detroit Institute of Arts. The series is co-sponsored by Huron Valley Ambulance.

Pauline Mengebier will talk about "Art and Politics," at the Brown Bag Lecture at the

PCAC noon to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 13.

Will Owens will talk "Money and Art" at the Plymouth Library 7-8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 19.

For more information, call (734) 416-4278.

**Council on Aging**

The Council on Aging and Senior Transportation will sponsor "Holiday Nights" at Greenfield Village on Saturday, Dec. 15, including dinner, fireworks, sing-along, live reindeer carolers, musicians, sleigh and carriage rides, ice skating, turn of the century tree lot. All the homes will be decorated and hundreds of lanterns will light the path.

Register by calling (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236 by Nov. 14. There are still a few seats left for on the Senior Bus for seniors who need transportation. Cost is \$42.50 without the bus and \$46 with the bus. Call for more information; this event is open to all ages.

Tuesday, Dec. 4, the PCCA and Senior Transportation will sponsor the trip to "Genitti's Hole in the Wall" for a seven-course lunch, theater and transportation. Cost is \$38 per person. Deadline for tickets is Nov. 30.

Call (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236 to reserve a spot on the bus (bus pick-up will begin at 9:30 a.m.)

**New museum exhibit**

There's always something new on Main Street — the Plymouth Historical Museum's Main Street, that is.

When the museum reopens Nov. 17, a new exhibit, "A Red Ryder Christmas Story," will be showcased. The exhibit draws its inspiration from the popular 1980s movie, *A Christmas Story*, in which the main character, Ralphie, longs for a Red Ryder BB gun for Christmas. Throughout our Main Street there will be vignettes of scenes from the movie and from the original story that the movie is based on — Plymouth Historical Museum style. Red Ryder BB guns were sold by Daisy Manufacturing Company of Plymouth.

The Museum's exhibit seeks to recapture that nostalgic spirit by displaying period toys, clothing, and other arti-

facts. Visitors familiar with the movie will get a chuckle from the vignettes showing the Parker's living room, complete with "FRA-GEE-LAY" lamp; Flick getting his tongue stuck on a metal pole; the window at Higbee's Department Store; and other memorable moments.

Each Saturday, from Nov. 17 until Dec. 22, Santa Claus has promised to be present for visiting children. The museum will be open 1-4 p.m. on Saturdays, as well as Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays. Santa has also agreed to be available from 9 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 1, during the museum's annual open house, craft show and bake sale.

**Grief group**

Ward Presbyterian Church sponsors a holiday workshop for those who are grieving. All adults who have experienced the loss of a loved one are welcome and encouraged to attend this free workshop presented by Cathy Clough, Director of New Hope Center for Grief Support.

The workshop takes place 7-8:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 12 in Room A-105 at Ward Church, located at 40000 Six Mile Road in Northville. The workshop will end with a special time of remembrance.

There is no need to register, but for further information call Barb at (248) 374-5966.

**Miller Woods calendar**

The Friends of Miller Woods are offering a 2008 calendar showcasing the seasonal beauty and wildlife of Miller Woods, by photographer Marcia Fowler. The proceeds will be used to support the preservation of Miller Woods.

The calendar costs \$20, with orders due by Nov. 15. Mail a check to Fowler's attention at 49113 Fox Drive S., Plymouth, MI 48170. Call (734) 459-6479 for more information.

**Blood drive**

St. John's Episcopal Church hosts an American Red Cross blood drive Monday, Nov. 12, from 2-8 p.m.

Drop-ins are welcome, but appointments can be made by calling Carolyn Liebau, (734) 455-5395.

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**LIONS FOR LAMBS (R)**  
12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:30, 9:55  
FRI/SAT LS 12:00

**BEE MOVIE (PG)**  
11:00, 1:05, 3:10, 5:15, 7:20, 9:25  
FRI/SAT LS 11:30

**AMERICAN GANGSTER (R)**  
11:45, 3:00, 6:20, 9:40

**MARTIAN CHILD (PG)**  
11:55, 2:15, 4:35, 6:55, 9:20  
FRI/SAT LS 11:40

**SAW IV (R)**  
12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30  
FRI/SAT LS 11:50

**MICHAEL CLAYTON (R)**  
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# A diversified portfolio is best defense against recession

Dear Rick: I was reading an article that said that we were headed towards a recession. Are there things that I should do to my portfolio to protect myself?



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

If you ask 10 economists you will get 11 different opinions as to whether we are headed for a recession. Part of the reason is there is no strict definition of recession. Some define a recession as two consecutive quarters of negative Gross Domestic Product growth. Others define a recession based upon other broader indicators of the economy.

In fact, when economists use the GDP to determine a recession, we don't know we're in a recession until we're already out of it.

What also makes it difficult to determine a recession is that government numbers are constantly being revised. For example, last month we saw a major revision in the monthly jobs report.

How a recession would affect the economy is difficult to say. We live in a diverse economy and how a recession would affect one state may be totally different than how it would affect another state.

A perfect example is the U.S. economy over the last year. In most states the economy has been performing very well and then we have Michigan. You can make a good argument that Michigan already is in a recession because we were the only state last year that had a declining GDP. If the national economy goes into a recession, it may not have the same impact on Michigan as it would in other states.

The best way for investors to protect themselves is to maintain a well-balanced and

diversified portfolio. This includes investments in fixed-income areas such as U.S. Treasuries, corporate bonds and even fixed annuities as well as a diversified portfolio of equities including foreign and domestic stocks.

There is no question there are issues with the economy. We have rising energy prices, a problem in the credit market and a difficult real estate market. However, it is not a certainty we will enter into a recession. Whether we go into a recession, investors should be very cautious about making radical changes in their portfolios. If we do have a recession, there is no reason to panic. We've been in recessions before. One thing that has always happened is the U.S. economy, over a short period of time, begins to grow and investors who were patient and did not panic were able to prosper over the long run.

Dear Rick: Hopefully,

you can settle a bet with a friend of mine. He entered a poker tournament and won \$10,000. I told him he has to pay taxes on his winnings. He says since he is not a professional gambler he doesn't have to report the money as income. Does he have to pay taxes on his winnings?

Congratulations! You won the bet. Whether your friend is a professional gambler is only one factor in determining how he reports the income and any deductions he's entitled. Bottom line is the \$10,000 is subject to taxes. It is similar to winning the lottery. Playing the lottery is a form of gambling and is subject to income tax.

There has been an explosion in poker tournaments throughout the country over the last few years. According to new rules and regulations recently issued by the IRS, poker tournaments are required to report winnings of

more than \$5,000 to the IRS starting March 2008.

Gambling earnings always have been subject to income taxes. A lot of people believe since those earnings are not reported to the IRS they are not subject to taxes. That is not the case.

It is important to understand the great majority of our tax laws are self-enforcing. Just because income such as gambling winnings are not currently reported to the IRS does not mean that it is not subject to income taxes — they are. Unfortunately, gambling

losses on the other hand are not deductible. Many people would say that's not fair, however, who said tax laws had to be fair. One of the greatest misnomers about tax laws is that they are supposed to be fair and equitable. They are not. It's a reality all Americans must accept.

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

## Enter for chance to dine with Mark

The Observer & Eccentric and Mirror Newspapers are teaming up with Buddy's to present "Dining With the Stars" featuring Florine Mark of Weight Watchers. Mark is known throughout metro Detroit as a successful businesswoman and philanthropist.

In 100 words or less, tell us why you would like to have lunch or dinner with Florine Mark at Buddy's Pizza.

Mark has a "healthy" pizza named after her on the Buddy's

menu.

It's "The Florine Mark Pizza" with brick/fat-free cheese blend, spinach, mushrooms, diced tomatoes, garlic and black olives.

Send your fan letter to [BuddysDiningStars@gmail.com](mailto:BuddysDiningStars@gmail.com) and be sure to include your name, address, daytime phone number and e-mail address.

Deadline to enter the contest is 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16.

The winner will be treated to a limo ride, courtesy of All

Class Transportation, make-over by Utopia Salon & Spa on Main Street in Northville (hair by Sebastian and makeup by ILSE), a \$100 gift certificate to the Reaver Diamond Co. in Southfield and a dance exhibition courtesy of Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Bloomfield Hills.

No purchase is necessary to enter. Buddy's Pizza will review all entries and select the top "fan" letters. The star featured for the month makes the final selection.



Mark

## Contest to award dinosaur dig to Michigan classroom

Michigan paleontologist PaleoJoe has announced a contest for Michigan schools, grades 1-6, for an entire classroom to win a dinosaur dig at Wyoming Dinosaur Center in Thermopolis, Wyo.

"We are very excited to offer this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," said PaleoJoe, who found

a triceratops three months ago. One of less than 50 have been found.

The children and their chaperones will be taken to the dig by Blue Lakes Charters and Tours. The contest, which started Oct. 12, ends Nov. 25. To enter visit [www.MyFoxDetroit.com](http://www.MyFoxDetroit.com) or [www.paleojoe.com](http://www.paleojoe.com).

Each week, for six weeks, kids, parents and teachers can enter by answering a series of questions based on PaleoJoe's Dinosaur Detective Club books written by PaleoJoe and Wendy Caszatt-Allen, a graduate of Interlochen Academy of Arts and Michigan State University. To find the books, go to your

local bookstore or [www.mackinacislandpress.com](http://www.mackinacislandpress.com).

Each week there will be four new questions based on PaleoJoe's Dinosaur Detective Club series. Parents, teachers, and each child (with their parent's permission) can enter every week to increase their classroom's chance to win.

## Arts Commission spotlights photography, quilts

The Livonia Arts Commission exhibits photography and quilts through Nov. 29.

Van Nazarian's images continue on display in the second

floor Fine Arts Gallery at the Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington road.

For information, call (734) 466-2490 during the regularly

scheduled library hours.

The Michigan Quilt Artist Invitational fills the Livonia City Hall Lobby, 33000 Civic Center Drive, east of Farmington road.

For information, call (734) 466-2540 between 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

There will be special collections in the City Hall Display case as well.

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Repeated doctors' visits and laboratory tests disrupt the tempo of your day. Because a movement in bed can bring on a sharp pain, you cannot ever expect a full night's sleep.

The ongoing changes in medication and the slow pace of their effect seems at times, to perpetuate your pain rather than lessening it. How often do you hear from your doctor: "Take this new medicine but give it at least a month to take effect."

You experience embarrassment at the way people look at your hands or at the awkward way you walk.

Your doctor has no balm for such hurts. The appropriate therapy is to know you are not alone; to meet with other people with arthritis to share experience and feelings.

The best way to do that is to contact the Arthritis Foundation (248) 649-2891. Learn about the Foundation's programs designed to facilitate meeting other people who have arthritis like your own.

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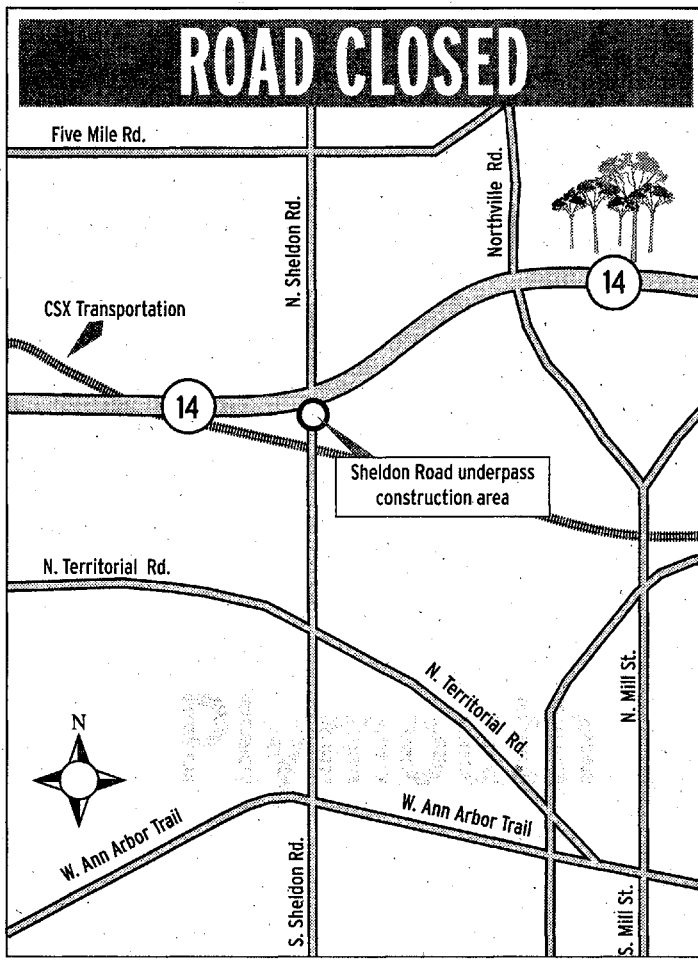
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# UNDERPASS

FROM PAGE A1

do in the zone. In this case, he said, AT&T had fiber optic cable it was supposed to get out of the way, and it hasn't happened. "It's a domino effect," Helmkamp said. "When one (company) doesn't do what they need to do, it affects the other things to be done." Helmkamp said he's continued to try to pressure AT&T into responding. For instance, he pointed out, the communication company hasn't been represented at planning meetings for months, but has agreed to have a representative at Tuesday's scheduled meeting. He said AT&T has also agreed to increase manpower in an effort to catch up. "(Utility companies) always have their reasons for not doing something," Helmkamp said. "All I can do is keep putting pressure on them, but I don't have any real leverage." The business owners are tired of hearing that, though. Jeannotte points out the planning on this project has been

going on for seven or eight years, and millions of dollars in engineering and planning costs spent, yet nothing appears to be getting done. "For four months, absolutely nothing has happened there," Jeannotte said of the construction zone. "The burden is on all these businesses, and on thousands of people who use that road. I think (the county) has misled us ... and they've been incompetent." "We don't want to stop the project," Jeannotte added. "But someone should be out there kicking ass. The way they're going, it's never going to get done." Jeannotte said he heard someone on a radio program a few weeks back predicting the project, which is scheduled to be completed in late 2008, might take more than another two years. Helmkamp said he's not moving off his official position that the project will be done on time, although he acknowledges the chances of hitting the target date get longer with every delay. "I had an e-mail earlier this week (from AT&T) saying they were making good progress, so



hopefully they can get excavation going in a matter of days," he said. "I haven't come off of that (completion date), but the odds get longer to stick to it."

We have to have people commit to more resources, and get caught up." bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (734) 459-2700

# Griffin service helps holiday mourning

The folks at the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home in Canton know the holidays present a challenge for families grieving the loss of loved ones. That's why the funeral home hosts its 13th annual Holiday Service 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 15, at the Griffin Funeral Home-Canton Chapel, located at 42600 Ford Road (west of Lilley). The service is open not only to families who have been served by Griffin, but also to other families in the community, as well. "Our service is for those families ... who wish to honor their memory," David Griffin said. "This memorial service has given great comfort to families in the Plymouth, Canton and surrounding communities." This year's service will feature Cathy Clough, the Plymouth resident who runs the New Hope Center for Grief

Support in Northville, leading the service in asking questions such as why it's important to plan for holidays, what can be done about decorating, sending holiday greetings and other holiday-related activities, and how to make the holidays special for small children when you don't really feel like celebrating. "The holiday season is a very difficult time for those who have experienced a death," Griffin said. "Cathy's seminar will help families cope with those feelings during this time of year." A candle-lit service will also be featured, led by Fr. Jack Baker of St. Mary Catholic Church and Pastor Drexel Morton of St. Michael Lutheran Church. Refreshments will follow the service, along with a time to mingle with others who face similar feelings and emotions. For more information about the service, call (734) 981-1700.

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# McCain cancels Livonia visit

Presidential candidate Sen. John McCain cancelled a scheduled campaign stop in Livonia Wednesday. The Arizona Republican decided to extend his stay in Iowa after Sen. Sam Brownback, who recently dropped out of the race, announced his endorsement for McCain Wednesday morning in Iowa. McCain was scheduled to speak at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday at the American Legion Post 32 on Newburgh Road. His visit will be rescheduled, according to McCain's campaign press office. McCain was

still expected to attend events Wednesday evening in Grand Rapids, and a town hall meeting Thursday in Jackson. Livonia resident George D. Kosnich, a World War II veteran, was prepared to ask him about Social Security and Medicare. "I was going to vote for him, but I wanted to get his views about why he supported this bill to give illegal aliens Social Security benefits," Kosnich said. Organizers said they were expecting a capacity crowd, of more than 200 people. The visit had been in the works for weeks.

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# YWCA luncheon honors Women of Achievement

The YWCA of Western Wayne County is honoring its 2007 Women of Achievement at an awards luncheon Nov. 16, at the Dearborn Inn.

The program begins at 11 a.m. with a silent auction, the awards presentation at 12:15 p.m.

Tickets are \$40 per person, \$400 for table of 10. The YWCA will also be unveiling an exclusive Women of Achievement sterling silver charm bracelet and omega necklace created by Solstice Designs to commemorate the event. Call (313) 561-4110, Ext. 14, to purchase tickets.

Marjorie Sorge of Plymouth will be honored as Arts and Communication Woman of Achievement. Sorge is passionate about her work for Metaldyne Corp. and many philanthropic organizations.

Ashlee Baracy of Westland will be honored as Young

Professional Woman of Achievement. Baracy, a recent graduate of the University of Michigan, is currently working on her masters' degree in Integrated Marketing and Communication and serving as Miss Wayne County.

Megan Knuth of Livonia will be honored at the event as Young Woman of Achievement. Knuth is currently a senior at Divine Child High School and has been involved in many activities and service projects throughout the community. Carolyn Clifford from WXYZ-TV 7 will be recognized as Woman of the Year at the event.

Cheryl Phillips-Thill of Northville will be honored as Dedicated Volunteer. Phillips-Thill is the Director of Corporate Purchasing for Masco Corp. in Taylor. She is a strong supporter of charitable work and currently serves on

the board of directors of the Oakwood Healthcare System Foundation and the Michigan Humane Society.

Marilyn French Hubbard of Detroit will represent the Business Leadership category for her work with Henry Ford Health Systems. Jennifer Giering of Dearborn will be recognized in the Law and Government category for her work as president of the Dearborn Chamber of Commerce. Isabelle Behm of Dearborn is president and owner of Xceed Business Solutions and will be honored in the Leadership category.

"These women are true inspirations to our community," said Karen Murphy, CEO of the YWCA of Western Wayne County. "The YWCA is proud to honor these women for their work and dedication to making our community a better place to live."

# New terminal will feature more than 30 shops and restaurants

The Wayne County Airport Authority yesterday approved contracts to add more than 30 new shops and restaurants at Detroit Metro Airport's (DTW) new North Terminal scheduled to open in fall 2008.

When complete, the terminal's concession program will add approximately 50,000 square feet of new concession space to DTW, including 14 new gift/news and specialty retail stores and 15 food and beverage facilities, including two multi-concept food courts.

"With this vote of confidence from our board members, these new restaurant and retail spaces will bring a new level of quality, variety and choice to passengers dining and shopping at our efficient new North Terminal," said Wayne County Airport Authority CEO Lester Robinson. "These new concessions will be a tremendous boost for our local

economy, creating 740 new jobs and generating more than \$24 million in economic impact."

The new North Terminal will include brands, such as Brookstone, Borders, Champps Restaurant and Bar, Wendy's, Quiznos, Villa Pizza, McDonald's, National Coney Island, TGI Friday's, Sora Sushi Bar, The Coffee Beanery, Pasta Bravo, Everything ASAP, Relay news & gift store, Duty Free Americas, Max & Erma's, Caribou Coffee, USA Today Travel Zone, LePetit Bistro and XpresSpa.

The terminal will also feature five concepts that are firsts in any airport including: Ruby Tuesday, Hockeytown Café, Corona Bar & Grill, Cheeburger Cheeburger, and Paul Maison De Qualité—a unique European-style fresh gourmet deli.

DTW's award-winning concession program has impressed

travelers and industry groups alike. The airport's McNamara Terminal was recently honored in the 2007 Airport Revenue News (ARN) Concession Poll as: Best Overall Concession Program, Best Concession Management Team, Best Concession Program Design, and Airport with the Most Unique Services.

DTW also finished first place among large North American airports in the categories of Best Food & Beverage Program and Best Retail Specialty Program, in Airports Council International - North America's (ACI-NA) 2006 Excellence in Concessions Contest. When the North Terminal opens in fall 2008, the airport will house more than 120 world-class shops and restaurants airport-wide, and will offer one of the largest and most diverse airport concession programs in the world.

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Note - sink holes & stove cutouts are extra charge. Minimum order 30 sq. ft.



## Ceramic Tile Sales Inc.

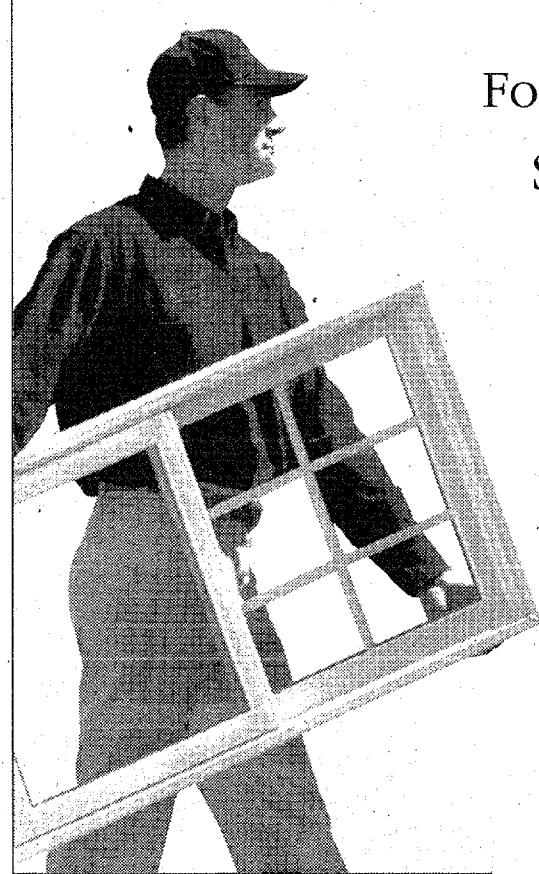
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Sat. 9-5pm  
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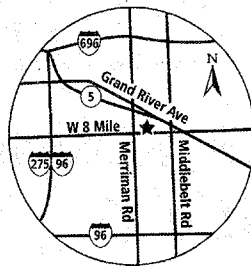
For 4 days only—  
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off your total purchase of 4 or more windows when you schedule a free in-home consultation during this showroom event

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\* DETAILS OF OFFER - Offer expires December 22, 2007. Additional \$200 off total purchase of 4 or more windows or patio doors, when an appointment is scheduled at this showroom event. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Financing available with approved credit only. Available only at participating locations. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. License number available upon request. "ENERGY STAR" is a registered trademark of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. © 2007 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved.

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# VIETNAM

FROM PAGE A1

but not recovered."

Kehrier's journey actually began about two years ago, while surfing the Internet about two o'clock in the morning because he couldn't sleep.

"I found a group called Vets with a Mission out of South Carolina, a humanitarian agency whose purpose is to reconcile the war with Americans and Vietnamese," said Kehrier, a national deputy representative of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, a group of combat wounded veterans.

"The most striking thing, as we landed I didn't see any bomb or artillery damage, which was amazing. The people were extremely friendly, capitalism is in place big-time, there's electricity in the countryside, thatched-roof structures have been replaced by masonry buildings with a lot of television sets," he said. "Western attire is big; the majority of people wear jeans, T-shirts and they love baseball caps."

Kehrier was part of a group of about 18 people who were there to help administer medical care.

"We went to four clinics in the Da Nang area and provided real basic medical care to hundreds of patients," said Kehrier, who served in non-medical functions. "We also brought into the country 750 pair of reading and prescription glasses, which we dispensed."

"After every day, when we went back to the hotel, we felt great," he added. "You knew you made somebody's world a better place, no matter how minor. I would equate helping the Vietnamese as the same emotional feeling I have when I visit the Ann Arbor veterans facility."

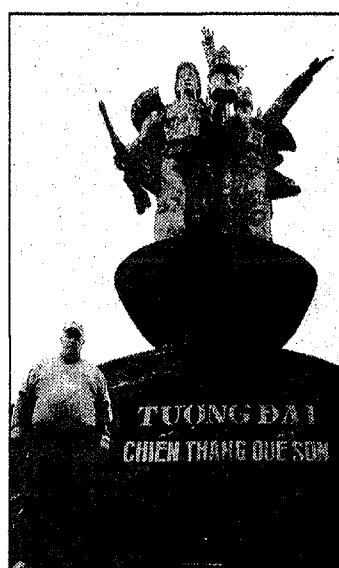
Because of his size in comparison to the typical Vietnamese, Kehrier was dubbed "Buddha" by countrymen with whom he came into contact.

"They wanted to touch my stomach and arms and compare them to their own," Kehrier said. "It was comical. But what I discovered was once the Vietnamese people determined that you were a veteran, they had the ultimate respect."

As for his friend, Lt. James Marvin Stone, despite a day searching Que Son Valley, Kehrier wasn't able to determine the exact location where villagers say an American was buried.

"After the rainy season, I hope the Vietnamese or the American recovery team has a dig and tries to determine there's an American body buried there," Kehrier said. "And, 'til the day I die, every October I'll write (U.S.) Sen. Carl Levin (D-Detroit) to seek help in recovering his remains."

Kehrier noted that while he is committed to finding the Charlie Co. commander, Stone isn't the only soldier he



Plymouth resident Roger Kehrier poses in front of a War Memorial on what U.S. Marines knew as Hill 51 in the Que Son Valley.

remembers from his days of survival as a combat soldier.

"On the Vietnam Wall there are 33 names of guys I personally knew, and of those 13 are soldiers whose lives I was responsible for, and they will remain in my mind forever," Kehrier said. "I have a vivid recollection of the face of every one, their names, where they are from and if they were married or single. They didn't die in vain. That was the place picked to stop communism in southeast Asia."

"No veteran will accept we lost the war," he added. "The people who lost the war were in Congress. They decided to no longer fund the war and not equip the Vietnamese military."

As for the changes he witnessed, Kehrier said it certainly was an eye-opener.

"It was a Third World country when I was first there, it isn't any longer," Kehrier said. "What we attempted to accomplish with M-16 rifles and bayonets in the '60s and '70s has been accomplished in the '90s and 2000s by capitalism. The country might not be a democracy, but I believe in my lifetime I'll see communism lose control of the country."

As for his personal demons, Kehrier said there will always be memories of the war, but he'd like to return to Vietnam in a few years to see even more progress being made.

"The demons ... primarily memories of combat experiences ... I feel I've left them behind," Kehrier said. "Those memories I will take to my grave, but based on my trip, now they'll never again run my life."

"I've met a lot of guys who said I must be crazy going back there," he added. "But I personally know about 15 people who have gone back, and there's not one that regrets it. They've found some sense of personal healing just by doing what they've done."

The Michigan chapter of The Military Order of the Purple Heart is looking for combat wounded veterans, and offering a free lifetime membership. Those interested can contact Kehrier at (734) 453-2031 or at rkehrier@hotmail.com.

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

## AROUND TOWN

### Holiday bazaar

Crafters are needed for Holiday Bazaar American House-Northville. Thursday, Nov. 15, 1-7 p.m. No charge for table space. For more information, please contact Carol, (248) 449-1480.

### Tuned out contest

Americans spend more than \$36.7 billion and approximately 18 billion hours tuning, customizing, and pimping out their minivans, SUVs and family cars each year. According to a recent survey, 17 percent of men say their favorite place to spend time at home is in the garage, while 22 percent of women say they'd rather give up an evening with their significant other than have to give up their vehicle for the same night. To help these tuners and tuners-in-training get the cool rides they're looking for, without having a breakdown in their relationships, the Dodge brand is launching a search for the most "tuned out" car tuners. Car enthusiasts, their significant others, friends and family can register on-line at www.DodgeRUTunedOut.com for a chance to win an all-new 2008 Dodge Caliber SRT4. Registration is open now and closes at 5 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 15. The most "tuned out" tuner will win a high-performance, race-inspired vehicle that comes "tuned" directly from the factory. Interested participants can nominate themselves, a friend or a relative, and must submit a 250-word essay answering the questions, "Why are you or your significant other tuned out?" and "How will winning an all-new Dodge Caliber SRT4 help you or your significant other tune back in?"

### Martial arts clinic

The fourth annual Martial Arts Clinic, featuring Grandmaster Daniel Suchon, will be held Friday-Sunday, Nov. 9-11, at Guardian Martial Arts on Ford Road in Garden City and in the Cheer Room at the Livonia Stevenson High School in Livonia. Grandmaster Suchon holds a seventh-degree black sash in Nei Wai Chia Kung Fu. The clinic will be comprised of classes in Arnis, Tai Chi fighting, ground techniques and more. For more information, call Julie Evans at (734) 502-5399 or go online to www.NWCmartialArtsAcademy.com.

### Railroadiana

The Ss. Simon and Jude Ushers Club will sponsor a buy-and-swap toys and trains show noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2, at the church hall, 32500 Palmer west of Merriman, Westland. Admission is \$2 per person, \$4 per family. Food is available and parking is free. There will be operating train layouts of various gauges and more 150 dealer tables. Tables are \$10 per table. Reserve tables by calling (734) 595-8327. Dealer setup is at 9 a.m. the day of the show.

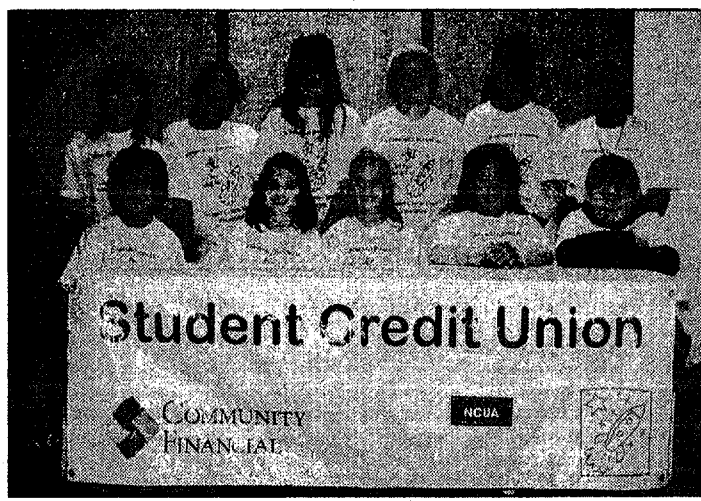
### Craft show

Sts. Peter & Paul Church in Dearborn Heights hosts its 19th annual Arts and Crafts Show in the church hall, located at 750 N. Beech Daly, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17. The event features a raffle, bake sale, cabbage rolls and other ethnic food, all for a \$1 admission. For more information, call (734) 522-9653 or (248) 946-0173.

### New Year's Eve party

Ring in the New Year with Jimmy Howard & Company at a New Year's Party at the Livonia Elks, 3117 Plymouth Road in Livonia Monday, Dec. 30. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; party goes until 1 a.m. Dinner (oven-baked chicken and port tenderloin)

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR



### Bentley branch

Students from teacher Jeff Fordell's fifth-grade class at Bentley Elementary in Canton prepare to work as volunteers at the school's student-run credit union, operated in partnership with Community Financial of Plymouth. Bentley is one of eight elementary schools in Plymouth-Canton Community Schools to partner with Community Financial. The credit union operates 26 school partnerships as part of its financial literacy program. "The entire Bentley community is very excited about the student-run credit union opening," said Jerry Meier, principal of Bentley Elementary. "We hope to have this opportunity available at our school for many years to come." The student-run credit union program extends into middle school and high school, including classroom presentations on financial topics such as building credit and investing basics.

served at 7:15 p.m. Tickets are \$60 per person. Due to the Christmas holiday, tickets must be purchased by Dec. 19. For more information, call Linda at (734) 507-9173 or Mary Ann at (734) 654-0115, or e-mail parties.2go2@yahoo.com

### Suicide Loss Support Group

New Hope Center for Grief Support is offering an ongoing support group for those who have lost a loved one to suicide. This monthly group meets 7-9 p.m. on the second Thursday and fourth Monday of each month at the First United Methodist Church in Northville located at 777 W. Eight Mile Road. No registration is necessary for this monthly drop-in support group. For further information about this group or about the many other free, age and loss specific groups offered for children, teens, and adults, please call New Hope Center for Grief Support at 248-348-0115 and visit us at www.newhopecenter.net

### Caring for aging parents

With the fastest growing population segment being 85 years and older, the demands of caring for an aging loved one, baby boomers, spouses and even adult grandchildren are finding themselves spread thin for knowledge and resources in caregiving. In honor of National Home Health Care and Hospice month this November, Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan would like to let people know about its free Consumer's Guide to Home Health Care. Containing information on home health care and Medicare fraud this booklet provides harried caregivers with a place to begin. To receive the booklet, call (800) 882-5720, Ext. 8374.

### Gardeners meet

The Gardeners of Northville & Novi meet the second Tuesday of the month September through May at 6:30 p.m. Locations rotate between Novi Civic Center and the Northville Library. Visitors are welcome. For more information, call (248) 231-2334 or visit our Web site www.gardeners-northville-novi.org

### Travel clinics

When traveling to a foreign country, a vaccination and travel consultation could be just as important as a passport. From diseases you may have already heard of such as hepa-

titis, to the more exotic illnesses like Japanese encephalitis, Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan's TravelWise Travel Clinic can provide the vaccinations and information you need to consider. This new service from VNA provides inoculations for many common diseases including influenza, pneumonia, meningitis, tetanus and diphtheria, in addition to vaccinations specific to your travel destinations such as hepatitis A and B and typhoid. Additionally, VNA is a certified provider of the yellow fever vaccine. In order to prepare for VNA's travel consultation, individuals should bring their anticipated travel dates, itinerary and lodging plans. Past immunization records and a list of allergies and current medications will also help. For appointments, cost, on-site clinics and general information, contact the VNA TravelWise Travel Clinic at (248) 967-8755 or visit www.vna.org.

### Heartland Hospice

Heartland Hospice, located in Southfield and serving the tri-county area, is looking for caring and compassionate individuals to register for volunteer training. Evening and day-time classes are available for anyone interested in being a support person for clients and their families during their end-of-life journey. Office support is also needed. To register, call Mary, (800) 770-9859.

### Card party/luncheon

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

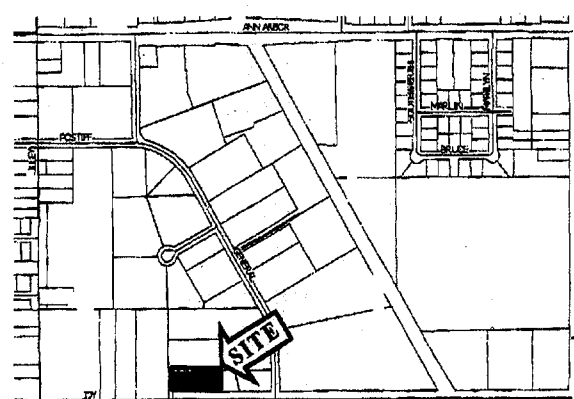
## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PLANNING COMMISSION

**PROPOSED ACTION:** Request Approval of a Special Land Use  
**DATE OF HEARING:** Wednesday, November 28, 2007  
**TIME OF HEARING:** 7:00 P.M.  
**PLACE OF HEARING:** Plymouth Township Hall,  
9955 North Haggerty Road

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Planning Commission of Plymouth Charter Township has received an application requesting **Special Land Use Approval** for a Dance Studio in an Industrial District, (IND), on Tax ID R78-062-99-0020-001, pursuant to zoning Ordinance No. 99, Section 19.2-14. The property is located on the north side of Joy Road, east of Lilley and west of General Drive at 41950 Joy Road.

Application 1976/1007.

Applicant, Dance Athletics  
Competitive Edge



**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** For parcel description, see tax records based on Tax ID No. R-78-062-99-0020-001.

The application may be examined at the Plymouth Township Division of Public Services, Community Development Department, during regular business hours from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. Written comments will be received prior to the meeting and may be mailed to 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, MI 48170 or call 734-354-3270, ext. 6. The meeting will be held in the Meeting Room at Township Hall which is located at 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth Township, MI 48170.

**PLEASE TAKE NOTE:** The Charter Township of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at all Township meetings to individuals with disabilities at the meetings/hearings upon one week notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the Supervisor's Office, 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, MI 48170. Phone 734-354-3201. TDD users: 800-849-3777 (Michigan Relay Service).

KENDRA BARBERENA, Secretary  
PLANNING COMMISSION

PUBLISH: November 11, 2007

0E0689772-2a.5

## PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its REGULAR November meeting Tuesday, November 20, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan 48170.

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

Barbara Kraft, Library Secretary  
Plymouth District Library  
223 S. Main Street  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
734-453-0750  
X217

Publish: November 11, 2007

0E06891389

## St. Michael Christian School 7000 Sheldon Road, Canton, MI 48187

Still Accepting Applications for 2007-2008 School Year  
Preschool - 5th Grade  
(Including all day Kindergarten & 1/2 day Young Fives)  
For more information, call (734)459-9720

## NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

The St. Michael Christian School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

Publish: November 11, 2007

0E0689981 - 2a3

## PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

### NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a **Bid for the Remodeling of Tanger Center**. Bidding documents prepared by TMP Associates, Inc. will be available for public inspection at the office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith Inc., 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI, 48335; (248)-427-8400; FW Dodge Plan Room, Southfield; Construction Association of Michigan Plan Room, Bloomfield Hills; Daily Construction Reports Plan Room, Detroit; and the Builders Exchange, Lansing.

Bid Division descriptions include: 103:Selective Demolition / 106:Masonry / 107:Steel / 108:Carpentry/General Trades / 109:Roofing / 113: Hollow Metal/Wood Doors/Finish Hardware / 114:Aluminum Windows/Entrances/Glass & Glazing / 115:Metal Studs, Drywall IFS / 116:Hard Tile / 117:Acoustical Treatments / 118:Carpet & VCT Flooring / 120:Painting / 128:Pre-Manufactured Casework / 130:Window Treatments / 140:Plumbing / 142:HVAC / 143:Electrical / 160:Pre-Pricing of Vertical Unit Ventilators (for reference only).

A pre-bid meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 20, 2007 at the Main Office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith located at 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, Michigan 48335. Bidders are STRONGLY encouraged to attend. Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope supplied by the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith Inc. with the corresponding bid division identified on the outside of the envelope. All submissions should include 2 bid copies (1 original, 1 copy) and a valid familial disclosure statement. Bids are due to the PCCS E.J. McClendon Educational Center on or before 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 5, 2007 where they will be opened and read publicly. For additional information, phone Dan Phillips, Assistant Director of Finance & Purchasing at (734) 416-2746. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

Board of Education  
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools  
STEVEN SNEIDEMAN, Secretary

Publish: November 11 & 18, 2007

0E068969788 - 2a8

## Environment a concern for Bird Girl Scouts

BY BRAD KADRICH  
STAFF WRITER

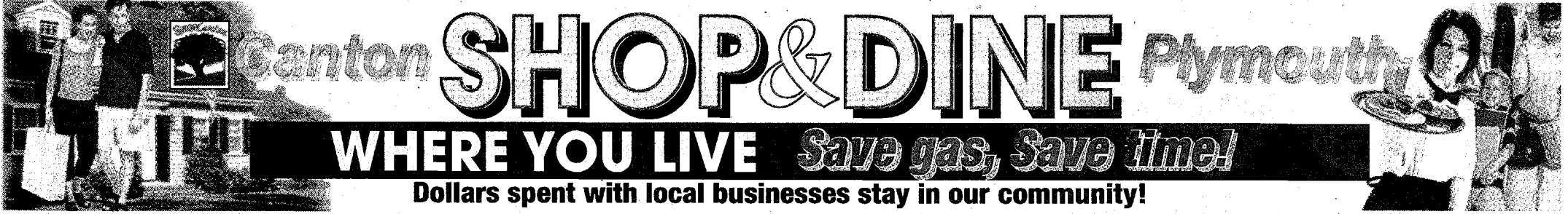
The girls in Junior Girl Scout Troop 1301 at Bird Elementary School are an environmentally aware lot, paying attention to stories about global warming and shrinking icebergs and endangered polar bears. As they continued working toward their Eco-Action

Badge, a necessary first step toward earning the Girl Scout Bronze Award, they naturally began looking for community service projects they could use to enhance the environment in their own community. "The girls ... are very anxious about their environment," said Kelly Warkoczeski, a troop leader (along with Nancy Heitzman), for Troop 1301. "We

decided it would be great if we could do some things to help them feel empowered to make a positive impact." Troop members placed a call to Susan Vignoe, solid waste and public service coordinator for Plymouth Township, and asked for ideas. Vignoe suggested marking storm drains, an ongoing project required by the Clean Water Act.

So, on a recent Wednesday, troop members - with help from parents and supplies provided by the township - labeled some 50 storm drains in the Trailwood Subdivision. They also passed out door hangers to residents in the area, making them aware of the decals and their purpose. "Labeling the drains helps people remember that the

storm drains flow directly into the creeks and streams and eventually into the rivers and lakes," Warkoczeski said. The girls picked up a second community service project a few days later, purchasing and donating two trees, one to Bird School and one to Jack Wilcox Park in Plymouth.



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**Fantastic Sams**

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**Kids Cut**

**\$6.95**

reg price \$9.95

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Precision Cut

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Kids thru age 11.  
Specials good at these locations only.  
Expires: 12/31/07

**FS Color**

**\$29.95**

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OE0859722

## Michigan Eye Doctor Helps Legally Blind

Dr. Sheldon Smith fits special glasses to help those with macular degeneration and other eye conditions keep reading and driving.

By Elena Lombardi

Most of us take things like reading, watching TV or playing cards for granted. But poor vision from conditions like macular degeneration, glaucoma, diabetes or cataracts makes these tasks difficult or even impossible. When people have insufficient vision to do the things they want to do, they have low vision.

Today Michigan Optometrist Dr. Sheldon Smith has the answers many of these people have been seeking. Dr. Smith, a Low Vision Specialist, helps people with these types of eye diseases see better. A Fellow of the International Academy of Low Vision Specialists, Dr. Smith is one of a select group of doctors serving the visually impaired.

"People don't know that there are experienced doctors who can help them with specialized low vision care," says Dr. Smith. "Many people are told by their own doctors that nothing more can be done for their eye condition, but there are ways to improve vision" says Dr. Smith. "We fit special devices to help patients meet their various visual goals."

Patients often end up using weak, clumsy hand-held magnifiers trying to help themselves see better. Conversely, Dr. Smith prescribes hands-free devices that are easier to use. "We use the same



Buddy Standafer wearing driving telescopes

telescopic devices surgeons use during operations," says Dr. Smith. "That's how powerful and convenient they are.

Special prismatic reading glasses and microscopes help make reading a little easier. Telescopic glasses primarily focus on distance objects like TV, passing neighbors or scenery. Telescopes can also be adapted to closer tasks like playing cards or computers. "Telescopes can even help people meet the driver vision requirement" Dr. Smith explained. Michigan is one of the 46 states that allow bioptic telescopic glasses for driving.

Mr. Charles Willim, age 81, of Taylor came to get his driver license restored after macular degeneration reduced his vision to 20/70. Dr. Smith fit him with special driving telescopes that improved his vision to 20/40. A few weeks later Charles passed his road test and is now a licensed driver again. "Those telescopic glasses are pretty darn good" he said.

Buddy Standafer, age 70, of Westland had diabetic eye problems. He came to reinstate his driver license and read better. His regular vision was 20/200 but with special driving telescopes he saw 20/50. Prismatic reading glasses got him reading newsprint. Two months later his license was restored. "Now I see the traffic lights much better. I am happy to be on the road again. I tell a lot of people about Dr. Smith" Buddy said.

Dr. Smith also advises patients on using sun filters and nutritional supplements to prevent further vision loss. Special glasses and telescopes range in price from \$600 to \$2,500. "Every patient is unique, with different amounts of vision and individual goals," says Dr. Smith. "I strive to help patients resume doing what matters most to them. Meeting patient goals with suitable solutions ultimately improves their independence and quality of life."

If you or someone you know is struggling with their vision, call Dr. Smith to find out how low vision care can help. There is help available. You just need to know where to find it. You can reach Dr. Smith and Suburban Low Vision of Michigan at

## 1-877-677-2020

Dr. Smith has offices in Livonia, Warren, Shelby Township and the Lansing area.

Visit Suburban Low Vision of Michigan at [suburbaneyecare.com](http://suburbaneyecare.com) or find out more about the International Academy of Low Vision Specialists at [ialvs.com](http://ialvs.com).

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OUR VIEWS

## Economic impact just one reason deer hunting is important

Much has been made recently about our state lawmakers taking time off for the annual firearms deer hunting season that starts Thursday. They have been criticized because, as it turns out, only a handful of legislators actually hunt. Yet they are all taking about two weeks off anyway. Only in Lansing.

Actually, the annual hunting holiday for state lawmakers dates back a long ways, when hunting was much more ingrained in the daily lives of Michiganders. But that's not to say that it isn't still a huge deal here in Michigan. Just ask small business owners, especially in the northern part of the state, who have come to rely on the annual migration of hunters to help boost their cash registers. In fact, by some estimates, deer hunters contribute about \$500 million to the state's economy through purchases of hunting gear, food, lodging and transportation.

While numbers have dropped in recent years, there will still be more than a half million orange-clad hunters (both male and female) in the woods at the crack of dawn Thursday. The traditional firearms opener of Nov. 15 is still akin to a holiday in many parts of the state, as numerous schools and businesses will be closed. And deer hunters still spend more days afield in Michigan than in any other state or Canadian province.

For many families, deer hunting season is celebrated as an annual rite of passage that brings them together at camps that have been in the family for generations. It's about more than just trying to bag a deer, though there is certainly plenty of opportunity to do that.

Michigan's whitetail deer population is estimated at 1.6 million, though more than half live in the southern third of the state, a reversal from a generation ago when most of the deer lived "Up North." State biologists believe about 450,000 deer will be killed in all hunting seasons this year, and the vast majority will be taken in the next two weeks.

The other important role that hunters, especially deer hunters, play in Michigan is being the financial backbone of the state's Department of Natural Resources, which is charged with taking care of our forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife. Hunting licenses pump millions into the department's coffers.

DNR officials have asked the Legislature to dramatically increase the cost of hunting and fishing licenses, because they know that it is the one source of funding they can count on. But state lawmakers have refused to act on it. It must be because they fear a backlash from their constituents that do hunt. It can't be because they don't want to pay the increases themselves, because as we found out last week, there aren't many of them that actually hunt.

For all our readers that do take to the field, enjoy the wonderful outdoors our state has to offer, happy hunting and good luck bagging that deer.

### Fix it now

Chrysler has just announced that another 12,000 jobs will be cut. Headcount has been reduced from 126,000 in 1998 to 64,000 projected in 2008. This is what has been going on throughout the domestic auto industry -- Ford, Chrysler and GM and all the supply base -- Tier 1/2/3.

Downsizing/re-engineering/restructuring is necessary to survive. What is the result? Short term pain for your constituents. Some of the highest unemployment and foreclosure rates in the United States. Declining real estate values. Bankruptcies. Lost population -- we are tied with North Dakota for the highest outbound migration of any state. Less disposable income -- our per capita is 8 percent below the national average. Less government revenue.

How much has our state spending and headcount been cut? Oh -- State spending is actually going up \$700 million. State employees don't see a change in benefits like private sector folks -- they even get a pay increase. There are actually new spending programs. The State Budget is over \$40 billion and our legislators can't even manage to cut 5 percent of that.

Proposed cuts include closing crime labs and eliminating state troopers, yet the state is in the business of warehousing and distributing booze! We have state employees checking dry cleaners! We force schools to pay "prevailing wages" for construction projects.

Teachers still receive old-fashioned pensions instead of 401(k) plans. State employee health benefits haven't been reduced. When it comes to rating Michigan as a good place to do business, Forbes ranks Michigan as 45th out of 50 states. And the governor is traveling overseas to encourage foreign companies to invest in Michigan without even fixing the root causes of the problem. And we should pay even more taxes?

It is not useful to blame others for the state's budget disaster. You all have to look in the mirror. Business as usual won't work. Restructuring tomorrow won't work. It needs to be done now. One poll showed that 65 percent of the voters thought the entire deficit should be made with spending cuts.

Robert Harris  
Plymouth

### Don't change school elections

Over the past few weeks, we've heard about and read the discussion surrounding a proposed idea of moving the school board election to November so that it would coincide with the national election.

LETTERS

Proponents of this idea say it will save the district money. And, it will, \$50,000 per year. There is also the likelihood that more voters will go to the polls in a November election. That stands to reason, as well.

However, I would suggest a savings of \$50,000 against the district's overall budget is hardly a strong enough reason for a change as extensive as moving the timing an election. I think the district can find that \$50,000 somewhere else.

Also, I fear that a shift in the election date will take us down a path that replaces a more "local" community process with one that more so resembles national campaign politics. We don't need that. I would rather have a smaller number of voters who cast their ballots for school board candidates they've come to know and who they've evaluated rather than a larger voter turnout who blindly pick names based on party affiliation, for example.

Isn't it better to evaluate and elect candidates who measure up to the qualifications of the job based on their skills and ability to deliver substantive contribution toward the board's key objectives?

The Board of Education is doing the right thing -- compiling data from a variety of resources from which the Board can fairly evaluate and reach consensus on the correct course of action to undertake.

Scott Ragland  
Canton

### An honor

November is National Hospice and Palliative Care Month. As a hospice nurse, I wanted to bring attention and raise awareness to this special kind of care.

As a hospice nurse at Angela Hospice in Livonia I am frequently asked, "How can you work in hospice -- it's important work, but it must be so sad!"

Actually, it is an honor and privilege to provide comfort, support, and guidance to help families care for their loved ones nearing the end of their life. Death is a part of life and we all travel that road at one time or another during our lifetime.

As hospice nurses, we are well trained in pain and symptom management and with our team members we are also able to provide emotional and spiritual support that patients and families need most when facing the end of life.

Fortunately, hospice is a fully covered benefit under Medicare and is also covered by most other insurance companies. Each year, more and more people choose hospice care. Another reason that hospice care means so much to those who choose it is because it serves both the patient and

the family. In the last several years, I have begun to notice a trend where we are now providing care to patients who were former family members of patients -- well versed in hospice, as they were former caregivers.

It has truly been my honor and privilege to provide care to hospice patients in their own home/nursing home/assisted living facility. I have held many hands, said many prayers together (if wanted), rubbed tired feet, provided backrubs and witnessed beautiful moments. I have laughed over joyous memories with families, cried with families and am humbled to be among those who provide end of life care.

Laurie Comps, RN, CHPN  
Livonia

### Way to start

It is the time for the United States to leave Iraq as soon as our defense secretary organizes an orderly and safe exit.

It is time for President Bush to announce that the U.S. Armed Forces will be redeployed from Iraq by Christmas, 2008. Setting that goal publicly will create the best opportunity for bringing all the Iraqi parties to the bargaining table to end the violence and ethnic cleansing.

This plan of redeployment can leverage the Shiites, Sunnis and Kurds to reconcile to share the power and the revenue from oil. The Iraqis need to pass legislation to ensure the distribution of oil. They need to revise the ban on jobs for low- and mid-level members of the former Baathist Party.

This plan will require the U.S. to recruit the United Nations, the Arab League and other nations to come together to develop a regional plan for the stabilization of Iraq. This regional plan needs to include the financing of the reconstruction of Iraq with major financial support from our country.

When this plan is announced and implemented, it has a good chance of uniting Americans. Then we can also tackle the national needs such as revitalizing the American automobile companies, decreasing poverty and seeing that medical insurance is available for all our children.

The way to start is for our senators and representatives in Washington to approve the use of our tax dollars for only the redeployment of our courageous troops by Christmas, 2008. Therefore, we, the citizens, need to ask Senators Levin and Stabenow and Representative Knollenberg to use our resources to only bring our troops home and rebuild Iraq.

The Rev. Rich Peacock  
Troy

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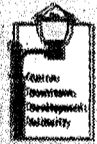
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# SPORTS

**B** (CP)

Sunday, November 11, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth Township resident John Kahler is pictured riding his ultra-light racing bike through Hines Park last month. Kahler, an emergency room doctor at the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor, competed in four sprint triathlons this year.

## WORTH A 'TRI'

Local ER doctor finds satisfaction in endurance-testing triathlon events

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

On a sun-drenched, chilly morning two weeks ago, a few hours after hanging up his stethoscope at the University of Michigan Hospital, emergency-room doctor John Kahler unhitched his ultra-light racing bike from the back of his SUV and set out for a multi-mile training ride through Hines Park.

The healing-to-wheeling transition is one the Plymouth Township resident has made on a regular basis since taking up one of the fastest-growing (and physically demanding) hobbies in the United States — competing in triathlons, events that require participants to swim, bike and run great distances, all in one endurance-testing afternoon.

According to the Web site www.Wikipedia.com, thousands of athletes of all ages are picking up the sport each year.

"It's a great way to get back into shape, that's for sure," said Kahler, who in the U of M hospital emergency room treats everything from abdominal pains to serious injuries suffered in automobile accidents. "With a job like mine, it's also a good stress-reliever."

Kahler competed in four sprint triathlons this year, including his first, the Hawk Island Triathlon, which was held in Lansing on June 4.

The sprint triathlon could be considered the little brother of the more-publicized Ironman Triathlon — the nationally televised ultra-test that calls for a 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike ride and 26.2-mile run.

Like its name suggests, the sprint is a shorter version of

the Ironman as it includes a 1-kilometer swim, 20-kilometer bike ride and 5-kilometer run. Invariably, it also attracts a greater age range of participants than the longer, more-rugged Ironman competitions.

"In a lot of the sprint and Olympic triathlons, my age group is the largest as far as the number of competitors," said the 41-year-old Kahler, who placed in his age group in his inaugural event. "There are a lot of people in their 40s, 50s, 60s and even 70s who not only compete, but do extremely well."

"Competing in triathlons can get expensive, depending on how serious you take it. You can use the mountain bike in your garage if you want, but the serious competitors have specially made bikes, wet suits for the swimming and other gear that can improve your performance."

Kahler said he spent approximately 10 hours a week training for the triathlons this summer.

"I usually ran three days a week, biked three days a week and swam four days a week at Lifetime Fitness," he said. "Swimming in the triathlons is more difficult than in a pool because in the open water there are no turnarounds like in a pool where you get a split-second rest. When you're in the open water, you're always moving."

"The swimming can also be tough — especially in the beginning when there's a lot of traffic — because there are a lot of thrashing arms and legs."

One valuable tip Kahler offers prospective triathletes is to carry along some kind of sports energy drink while training for the biking and running segments of the race.

Please see TRIATHLON, B3

## Sidelines

### YMCA programs

The Plymouth Family YMCA is offering a variety of instructional sports programs that will focus on fun, exercise and social interaction through sports instruction.

Among the programs offered are a Sports Sampler class for kids between the ages of 3- and 5-years-old, and a Hoops Skills class for kids between the ages of 6 and 8. The six-week programs run every Monday from Nov. 12 through Dec. 17.

The cost is \$55 for Y members and \$87 for community members. For more information, call (734) 453-2904 or visit www.ywmcadetroit.org.

### PCS hockey fund-raiser

The Plymouth-Canton-Salem girls hockey team will be holding an open skate fund-raiser on Saturday, Nov. 17, from 7:30-9 p.m. at the Arctic Edge Ice Arena, which is located on Michigan Ave. in Canton.

The fundraiser costs \$5 per person. Skate rental will be available.

### Korean Karate

Adults and kids 4-years-old and older are invited to take advantage of a free Tang Soo Do Karate lesson at the World Tang Soo Do Association, which is located at 14501 Haggerty Rd. in Plymouth on Nov. 15 at 7 p.m. Tang Soo Do is a form of Korean Karate.

The association's 25th birthday will be celebrated on this night and cake and refreshments will be served after the free demonstration and lesson.

Regular classes are held for people 7 and older on Mondays and Thursdays from 7-8:30 p.m. and for kids 4 and younger on Thursdays from 7-7:30 p.m.

The school is located on the west side of Haggerty, just north of Schoolcraft. For more information, visit www.gtma-plymouth.com.

### 'TRI' IT, YOU'LL LIKE IT

Following are a few tips from John Kahler for people who may want to try a triathlon:

- Because it's such a physically demanding activity, check with a doctor to make sure your body is ready for the intense training;
- Train safe — wear visible clothes while running and biking, and always have a spotter when swimming in open water;
- During the winter months, try to at least maintain a

baseline of fitness by running and swimming indoors or using a stationary bike;

- Equipment can get pricey, so decide at what level you plan to compete. Among the essentials for top-notch tri-athletes are a wet suit (which can be worn when the water is less than 78 degrees), an ultra-light bicycle (costs start at around \$1,500) and a good pair of running shoes; and
- To find out where events can be found near you, visit www.trifind.com.

## Whalers put the bite on IceDogs

Brownstown native Jeremy Smith pitched his second straight shutout while Kaine Geldart, Andrew Fournier and Patrick Lee scored goals as the Plymouth Whalers won their fifth straight game, 3-0, over the Mississauga St. Michael's Majors in an Ontario Hockey League game played Friday night at Compuware Arena.

The win pushes Plymouth's record to 11-6-1-0, good for 23 points and third place in the OHL West. Mississauga is 7-9-1-0.

Plymouth penalty-killers pitched a shutout for the fourth straight game, going 8-for-8. Smith shut out the Niagara IceDogs on Nov. 1 in a 4-0 victory. Including a scoreless third period against Sarnia on Oct. 24, Smith's current shutout streak is at 139:23.

Fournier's goal gave him points in nine straight games with eight goals and seven assists. Chris Terry added two assists and has four goals with 11 assists over his last eight games.

Geldart started the scoring at 2:13 of the first period when he batted home a rebound from AJ Jenks' shot from the right win past Mississauga goaltender Anthony Grieco. Fournier scored his team-leading 16th of the season at 19:09 when he scored on a rebound in the middle of a scramble in front of the Mississauga goal to give Plymouth a 2-0 lead after one period of play.

After a scoreless second period, Lee scored his fourth of the season when he deflected Christian Steingraber's shot from the point past Grieco at the left hash mark. Plymouth outshot Mississauga, 39-37.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton sisters Kayla, 9, and Jessica Hughes, 7, recently completed the Grand Rapids First Big Feat for Little Feet Kids Marathon, which required them to compile 25 miles of running and/or walking in the months leading up to the event. They then ran the final 1.2 miles on Oct. 27.

## Canton sisters run 'Big Feat' marathon

Canton sisters Kayla and Jessica Hughes completed the Grand Rapids First Big Feat for Little Feet Kids Marathon, which was held Oct. 27 in Grand Rapids.

Kayla, who is 9 years old, and Jessica, 7, were required to run and/or walk 25 miles in the months leading up to the event. The two Miller Elementary School students then capped their impressive accomplishment by running the 1.2 miles of a marathon course on Oct. 27.

"Kayla and Jessica counted all their miles that they walked and ran to school (1.6 miles each day) and then once a week we made sure we did a nice paced run for one mile," said Christine Hughes, the girls' mom. "They had log books to put down their miles. By the day of the marathon, the girls were well over the 25 miles."

"It was cold and chilly on run day and they had the kids go in waves. The goal was — just like for any first-time marathoner — was to finish, which they both did."

Both Christine Hughes and her husband, Eric, our avid long-distance runners, so they weren't surprised by some of the comments that came out of their daughters' mouths following the race.

"Later that day, Kayla was walking down the steps and she said, 'Oh my legs. I can barely walk down the stairs,'" Christine Hughes said. "We laughed because we knew she had heard those words many times before in our household."

The girls received a medal and T-shirt for their efforts.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Plymouth Wrestling Club

The Plymouth Wildcats Wrestling Club's 2007-08 season will run Tuesday, Nov. 27, through March of 2008.

Practice times are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Plymouth High School wrestling room.

Kids in grades kindergarten through eighth grade are welcome to attend. For more information, visit the club's Web site at [www.wildcats-wrestling.org](http://www.wildcats-wrestling.org); or call head coach Jeff Harden at (248) 231-7789.

Compuware adult hockey

Although Compuware Arena is the home of the Ontario Hockey League's Plymouth Whalers, Compuware Youth Hockey, Detroit-Novi Catholic Central hockey and other high school programs, the arena is ready to host another important component of the hockey community.

Compuware Arena — with association with Ed's Hockey — is offering a Winter Adult Hockey League, running on Friday evenings at 8:40 p.m. and 9:40 p.m. The league starts Dec. 7 and runs 10 games through April 4. Adults 18-and-older are invited to participate in the program.

The cost for the program is \$2,200 per team, plus insurance. Teams receive ice, referees, scorekeepers and jerseys. For more information, call Compuware Arena at (734) 453-6400; or visit the Web site at [www.compuwarearena.com](http://www.compuwarearena.com).

Canton Leisure Services

The annual "Turkey Trot For a Cause" will be held Nov. 22 at 8:30 a.m. at Pheasant Run Golf Course in Canton. The fee is \$20 and anyone 4 years old and older is welcomed to participate.

The traditional 5K walk/run winds through Heritage Park and Pheasant Run Golf Course. All proceeds are donated to the Epilepsy Foundation. A custom T-shirt is included in the entry fee.

For more information on these events, call (734) 483-5600.

# New coaches look to lead PCEP icers to prominence

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

There's been a 100 percent turnover in boys high school hockey coaches at the three P-CEP school since the opening day of tryouts in 2006.

Former Salem assistant Ryan Ossenmacher has been promoted to the top spot, filling the void left by the retirement of Fred Feiler, who stepped down during the off-season after leading the Rocks since the program's inception in 1999.

Plymouth's new leader is Paul Fassbender, who replaces Chuck Dubois behind the Wildcats' bench. Fassbender may be new to Plymouth, but he's not new to coaching. The Marquette, Mich., native is coming off an eight-year coaching stint at Eastern Michigan University — the previous five as the Eagles' head coach.

And Dan Abraham is back for his second go-around at Canton. The Discovery Middle School physical education instructor coached the Chiefs from 1999 to 2004 before stepping down. He regained the reins of the program two weeks into last season when he was hired to succeed Mike Behen, who had replaced him two years earlier.

With opening night less than a week away for two of the three squads, here are previews of the three local boys' teams.

SALEM

Ossenmacher inherits a roster that is stocked with lightning-quick skaters.

"This year it looks like we're going to have good overall team speed," said Ossenmacher, who assisted Feiler for the previous four seasons. "We're going to be an aggressive team that pursues the puck and goes after teams."

Ossenmacher, a native of Northville, played travel hockey in high school before competing four years for the University of Dayton. He is currently a teacher at Walnut Creek Middle School, which is in the Walled Lake School District.

Ossenmacher's coaching staff consists of Nick Reid, Miles Meibers and Ryan Nagorsen. The Rocks will be captained



JIM JAGDFELD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Aaron Cheesman (top), pictured in a game early in his high school hockey career, brings a wealth of experience and skill to the Rocks.

by four-year letter-winner Joel Cheesman, a slick-skating forward who brings a wealth of experience and talent to the team's No. 1 line.

Junior forward Dave Russell has earned the title of assistant captain as he lettered since his freshman season.

The defense will be anchored by captain Mike Haburne and a pair of first-year players — senior Ian Barnaby and junior Sam Ott.

Senior Mark Barkoff will head a solid stable of goalies.

"We have eight of our first 10 games at home, so hopefully we can get off to a good start."

"The Livonia teams — Stevenson and Churchill — will be good again in the division, but we should be right in the mix."

The Rocks open Nov. 23 at home against Canton. The opening face-off is set for 6 p.m. at

the Plymouth Cultural Center.

PLYMOUTH

Fassbender's first squad will be young and inexperienced, but not void of talent.

Even though the Wildcats graduated 15 of the 20 players who were on last year's season-ending roster, the first-year coach is optimistic.

"We had a scrimmage (earlier this week) and I liked what I saw," he said. "It looks like we're going to have a pretty solid team."

The Wildcats' No. 1 line will consist of seniors Jerry Pitts (captain) and Rick Cigile (assistant captain); and sophomore Noel Aspenwall.

"Rick provides us with a lot of leadership with his work ethic and talent," said Fassbender. "Noel and Jerry are good players, too, so we'll have a solid top line."

A pair of first-year players will be manning the blue line for the Wildcats: senior Jake Jossey, a former top-notch travel player, and junior Jason Payne. Jossey will also see time at forward.

As of Thursday, Fassbender had yet to select a starting goalie, so sophomore Zach Lizzio and junior Justin Hasty will split time until one emerges as the top performer between the pipes.

Fassbender will be assisted by Darrin Silvester and Quent Riha, a former goaltending coach for the U.S. National Development Team.

The Wildcats open their season Friday against Walled Lake Western in the Novi Invitational.

CANTON

The Chiefs will be bolstered by a strong defense and goaltending duo, according to

PREP BOYS HOCKEY PREVIEWS

Abraham, whose squad finished 9-11-4 last season.

"We should be strong goaltending-wise and defensively," said Abraham. "We've looked OK so far. I think we'll be improved from last year."

"There's not a team out there that we can take lightly. Every team on our schedule can beat us if we're not focused and if we don't play hard. If we let up at all or we're unprepared mentally, we won't be successful."

The Chiefs' roster consists of 14 juniors, five seniors and one sophomore.

The offense should be led by the No. 1 line of junior Ryan Lash, who missed a good chunk of last season with an injury, senior Clark Albers, who was switched from defense to forward, and first-year players Cory Sosnowski, a senior captain, and Nick Tomilenko, a junior.

"Clark was good in the back last year, but I like what he has to offer up front, too," said Abraham. "He has good hands, he reads the ice well and he has good speed."

"Ryan Lash has looked really good so far, and both Cory and Nick look like they know how to finish."

A pair of newcomers — Donny Barlow and Brian Davison — will take over as the team's top blue-liners.

"Brian is a big, strong kid with good hands and a rocket for a shot."

Senior Kevan Swanberg and junior Zane Birchler will provide the Chiefs with two solid net-minders.

"We'll go game-by-game as far as who starts," said Abraham.

Other key players include Ryan May, Dan Bielak and Jason Avedesian, Abraham concluded.

Abraham will be assisted by Jerry Majszak and Brad Wolfe.

The Chiefs open the 2007-08 campaign Friday at the Arctic Edge Ice Arena against Detroit Country Day.

The opening face-off is set for 8 p.m.

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Stingrays take Holland

The Stingrays Squirt A hockey team captured first place at the Great lakes Tournament in Holland Sept. 28-30. Pictured are (front row from left) are Trevor McManus, Kevin Onofrio, (second row from left) Carson Pakula, Baily Thompson, Ryan Radwan, Nick Beers, Chase Danol, Brendon Guziack, Keeghan Howdshell, Cody Borke, Evan Newell, C.J. Regula, David Kiers, Riley Brass, William Borrows, (back row from left) coaches Robby Rielly, Ray Danol, Steve Borke, Dave Brass and Russ Borrows.



MU kickers make history

The Madonna University men's soccer team made history Wednesday night, going on the road and defeating Goshen (Ind.) College 1-0 to claim their first NAIA Region VIII men's soccer championship.

The 14-3-2 Crusaders advance to the NAIA National Championships, which begin Wednesday at the College Boulevard Activities Center in Olathe, Kan. MU will await its draw later in the week.

MU's Doron Drai scored the game-winning goal 11:30 into the match when he received a Makes Lewis pass near the front of the Goshen goal box and deposited it into the top-left corner of the net.

The Crusaders' defense would bunker down and hang on through a flurry of Goshen shots down the stretch, including a great opportunity by Maple Leaf forward Tony Janzen, who misfired on a shot with under four minutes to play that would have tied the match.

MU senior goalkeeper Kristofer Lyons stood tall during the final five minutes, making a pair of critical saves to help cement the victory.

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**TRIATHLON**

FROM PAGE B1

"The ideal sports drinks are the ones that provide carbohydrates with no sugar added," he said. "When I go out on 30-mile bike rides with friends, they're wearing out after 20 miles if they don't have some kind of sports drink, and I'm still going strong."

Kahler's avocation and profession meshed perfectly on Oct. 13 when he volunteered to work as a medical assistant at the Ironman World Championship Triathlon in Hawaii.

"It was close to 90 degrees, so there were a lot of cases of dehydration," said Kahler. "It was a great experience, though, as some of the most fit athletes in the world were there."

Competing in triathlons is a family affair in the Kahler household as John's wife, Shelly, completed two sprint events this year. The couple are the proud parents of four children: Roman, 17; Calvin, 13; Ali, 9; and Leah, 6.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth Township resident John Kahler competed in four sprint triathlons this year.

**Hollingsworth's 7 TDs lead Lions into Super Bowl**

Canton Lions junior varsity running back Malcolm Hollingsworth was in the end zone as much as he was out of it in his team's Western Suburban Junior Football League playoff game against the Lakes Area Hawks.

Hollingsworth scored a Lions record seven touchdowns as well as piling up 374 yards rushing in the team's 54-40 triumph over the Hawks. The victory lifted Canton into today's WSJFL Super Bowl.

In addition Jamal Eiland ran for one TD and connected with Scott Gring for a pair of extra-point conversions. Other offensive contributors were Dillion Farmer, Benjamin Slater, Travis McCall, Andrew Hunt, Alex Smith, Michael San Millian, Samuel Woods, Dean Underwood and Chandler Burgos.

Defensively, the Lions were paced by Luke Denzler (two PAT blocks), Nathan Emminger, Collin Hall, Kyle Durham, Tyler Langer, Daniel Jipping, Evan Thomas, Westen Price and Tyler Searls.

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# 'Glory Days' describes pro athletes' post-sports lives

BY DAN O'NEARA  
STAFF WRITER

If you're among the hundreds of thousands of sports fans who root for Detroit's major professional teams, Kurt David's new book will no doubt be of interest to you.

*From Glory Days* is not your usual sports book either. As opposed to tales of great feats in uniform, his book is about the athletes' lives after their playing days were done.

David, a counselor at East Middle School in Farmington Hills, tells the personal stories of 20 former Detroit athletes — five each from the Lions, Pistons, Tigers and Red Wings — and how they made the transition from playing a professional sport to the work-a-day world of ordinary life.

The 6-foot-9 David, who played a year of pro basketball in Europe before a bad knee cut short his career, was motivated in part by his own experience as a player and counselor.

"That made it a personal and professional interest in that transition," he said. "Detroit is a phenomenal sports town. *The Sporting News* named it the No. 1 sports town in the country. That's why I chose the Detroit theme.

"For me it was an entertainment theme as well. What happened after they dropped off the radar? Where are they now? What are they doing?"

David said his purpose in writing the book was two-fold and was intended to be a story of successful transitions.

"Part of it was to help people know what they did after they got out of sports and, two, how they used their attributes to have success," he said. "You hear about those who don't do well. I wanted this to be a book about

guys who do well after sports."

The 20 athletes included in David's book are Bill Gadsby, Johnny Wilson, Ted Lindsay, Shawn Burr and John Ogrodnick of the Red Wings; Joe Schmidt, Lem Barney, Ron Kramer, Tom Nowatzke and Eddie Murray of the Lions; Frank Tanana, Rick Leach, Jim Northrup, Roger Mason and Dan Petry of the Tigers; and Harvey Marlatt, Dave Bing, Greg Kelsner, Kelly Tripucka and Allan Houston of the Pistons.

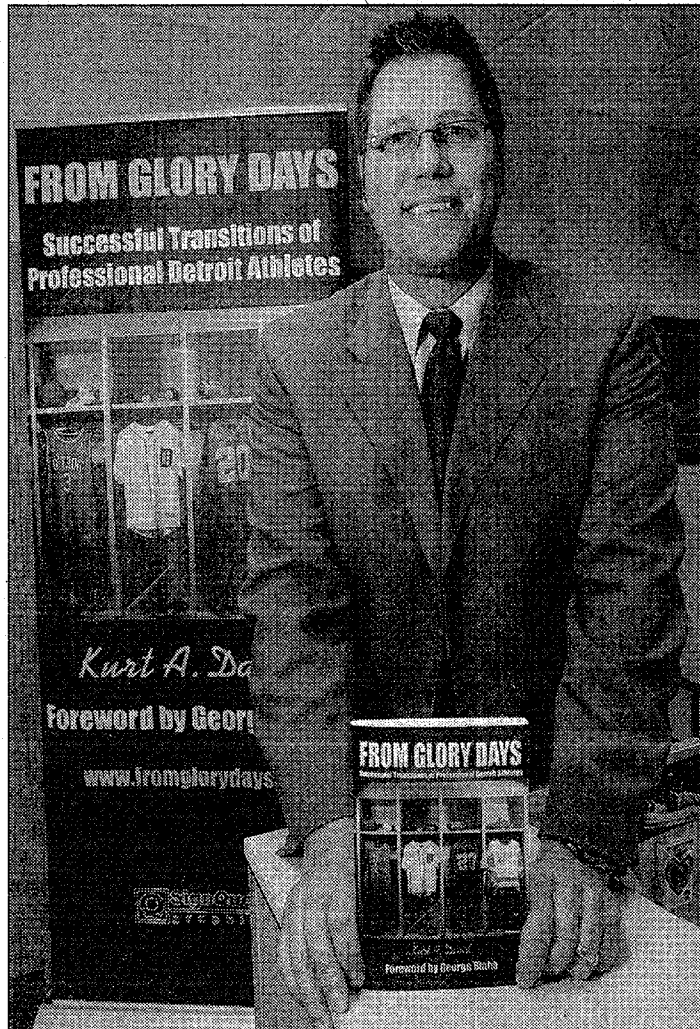
Leach, who chose baseball over football after four years as the starting quarterback for Bo Schembechler's University of Michigan football teams, Petry and Ogrodnick are residents of either Farmington or Farmington Hills.

"Many of them, when I told them of the concept, were very interested," David said. "It was a niche topic not too many people had talked or written about. And they liked not being the only guy in the book. They're fans of each other.

"As it grew, the momentum continued. It was rather difficult lining up the first couple interviews. Then it spun from there. They'd give me a cell phone (number) and tell me how I could contact someone else.

"I purposely interviewed guys from different eras. Each guy has a different story of transition, depending on the era he played. Many of them have all-star, hall of fame or world champion status. To me these 20 guys are the heart of this book. Having (Pistons and Michigan State football broadcaster) George Blaha do the forward is like icing on the cake."

One guy David sought to interview but declined was former Tiger pitcher Mark "The Bird" Fidrych. David was



Kurt David is the author of "From Glory Days," a book about former Detroit athletes transitioning from pro sports careers to the work-a-day world.

turned down twice by Bing until Blaha, unbeknownst to David, made a phone call on his behalf. David was surprised to get an e-mail from Bing's office, saying "Mr. Bing would like to do an interview with you."

"I had the same line of questions for each player," David said. "Those were derived from my own experience and the counseling side of me as well. Each player went on his own. Some elaborated more. I gave

them some latitude to talk. I never asked about salaries or dirt; yet, some shared some of the struggles that occurred. There was a variance in their transitions, which led to a difference in each of their stories."

*From Glory Days* consists of 184 pages with a chapter devoting seven to 11 pages to each player's story.

"Lem Barney talked about how he was so passionate about the game of football it took

him 18 years to stop having dreams about football," David said. "Kelly Tripucka and Greg Kelsner went into broadcasting when they came out of pro sports. Sitting on the sidelines and broadcasting games was very difficult. They were very professional, but they still felt they could be out there playing.

"Harvey Marlatt was an All-America basketball player at EMU. He was drafted the same year as Bob Lanier. Harvey was cut the day before he would have received an NBA pension. That was the business side of the league. He was so upset he went up North, became a coach and teacher and did very well for himself.

"Roger Mason played 14 years of professional baseball between the minor and major leagues. He was very generous with his money, buying his parents a house. He thought he had another two-three years in baseball.

"(After an injury cut short his career), he went from pitching in the World Series to two years later working in a factory to make ends meet. Yet, he was able to have a positive attitude through all that. He could have been working in the factory 14 years earlier, but he was fortunate to have that (baseball) experience."

David remembers vividly the moment he got the inspiration to write his book.

"It was one of those middle-of-the-night ideas, literally 3 or 4 in the morning," he said. "I woke up and had a crystal clear idea. I got up and wrote it down. That was five or six years ago."

After a delay of several years while he dealt with his father's illness, David got busy and went to work on his idea.

After three years of inter-

views and writing, *From Glory Days* will have its official release Oct. 15 by Publish America of Baltimore, but it's currently available online through Barnes & Nobles book stores and Amazon.com. The book sells for \$19.95. More information is available at [www.fromglorydays.com](http://www.fromglorydays.com).

David was turned down by a couple publishers until he was offered a contract by Publish America last November.

"Part of it is it's a regional topic," he said. "It's very much geared to metro Detroit or Michigan. Many publishers are looking for national sales. I was happy after two or three turned it down that I was able to find a publisher that was interested."

David has been busy in recent weeks, juggling his school job and traveling around lower Michigan to do TV and radio interviews to promote the book.

Eric Smith of FastLife Marketing has been a big help to him in that regard, he said. An official book release party is planned for 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 21, at Doc's Sports Retreat, which is located at Seven Mile Road and I-275 in Livonia.

"That's something I'm learning about publishing as well," David said. "It doesn't matter how good a book it is; if people don't know about it, it doesn't matter."

David, who wrote the book "whenever I could find the time — early morning, middle of the afternoon or late at night," said it was a great experience.

"I enjoyed the whole process of doing the interviews and doing the writing," he said. "This is the fun part now, promoting the book and traveling after all that work. The topic was of high interest for me, so it was a labor of love."

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## Spartans slide into semis thanks to air-tight defense

BY BRAD EMONS  
STAFF WRITER

Thanks to its stellar defense, Livonia Stevenson survives to play another day in the state football playoffs.

Before an overflow crowd Friday night, the undefeated Spartans improved to 12-0 Friday night with a hard-fought 10-7 victory over rival Livonia Franklin for the Division 1-Region 4 championship.

The Spartans, who took advantage of one of Franklin's four turnovers as Jonny Myshock's 27-yard field goal with 6:01 left in the third quarter proved to be the difference.

Stevenson also earned its first state semifinal berth since 1979 when quarterback Dave Hall called the signals.

Stevenson stymied Franklin's offense much of the night, limiting the Cinderella Patriots, who entered the playoffs as a 5-4 at-large team, to 162 total yards.

The Spartans also contained Franklin junior running back David Fortin, who had rushed for 238 and 188 yards, respectively, in playoff wins over Monroe and Dearborn Fordson.

Fortin, who missed eight regular season games with an arm injury, was held to 44 yards on 14 carries.

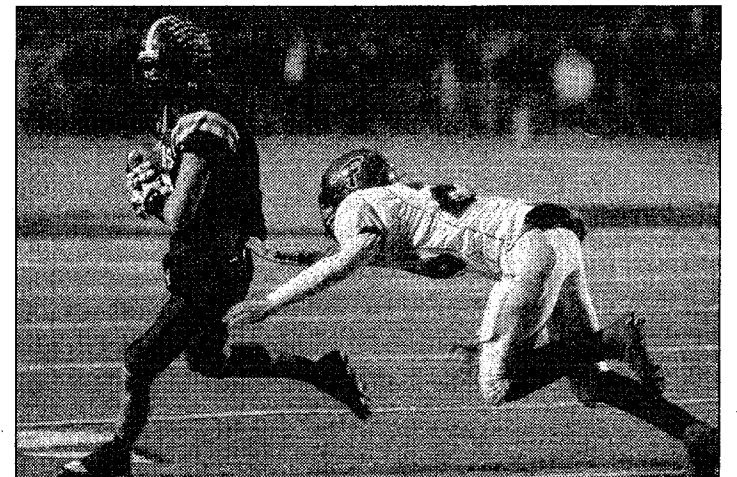
"Tonight we got bailed out with our defense," said Stevenson coach Tim Gabel, whose Spartans face 10-2 Troy in Saturday's semifinal at a site yet to be determined. "It's a team game and we've won other games on our offense, but we made plays defensively all night. It felt like we were hanging on at the end even though we take pride in our offense and were still trying to score."

Stevenson, which averaged 38 points per game this season, faced its stiffest test of the season as the upstart Patriots made three different key fourth-down stops.

Stevenson had only 233 total yards of its own, but didn't commit any turnovers.

"I thought Franklin's kids played hard, got to the ball and hit well," Gabel said. "They played some 4-4 defensively and we definitely had to play a guessing game as far as what they would run."

Helped by a pass interference call, Franklin scored first when senior quarterback Jesse Carpenter hit Brian Humenay in stride over the middle for a 23-yard touchdown pass with 11:04



Livonia Stevenson wide receiver Derek Buskey tries to elude Livonia Franklin's Connor LeDial during Friday night's Division 1 Regional final football game at Stevenson. The Spartans prevailed, 10-7, to advance to next week's state semifinal showdown against Troy.

left in the first half. Carpenter converted the extra point to make it 7-0.

Stevenson answered right back with a 10-play, 80-yard drive as sophomore Austin White, who led all rushers with 139 yards on 19 carries, ran in from the 1 with 5:10 remaining on the half. Myshock's extra point knotted the count at 7-all.

After both teams went three-and-out, Franklin threatened to score just before the half as Mark McRobb, returning from a knee injury suffered in the season-ending win over Livonia Churchill, scampered 19 yards to the Stevenson 25.

But on the very next play, Carpenter was sacked for a 16-yard loss and time expired.

"He (Carpenter) is a good quarterback and we knew they'd pass lot, so we had to get some pressure and make him throw some incomplete passes," said Stevenson's 6-foot-2, 310-pound senior defensive tackle Chris Golonka.

Carpenter was indeed under duress most of the game, completing only 5-of-16 passes for 127 yards. He was sacked four times and threw three interceptions.

The lack of a running game certainly did not help his cause.

"It's been our strength the last couple of games, but they (Stevenson) beat us up front," said Franklin coach Chris Kelbert, whose team bowed out at 7-5 overall. "We also hurt ourselves with penalties, offsides where our backs jumped, which is inexcusable."

"And we did not take advantage of our opportunities when we did

have them."

John Samaan recovered a Franklin fumble at the Patriots' own 29 with nine minutes to play in the third period, which led to Myshock's game-winning field goal.

The Patriots got inside the Stevenson 40 on their next drive, but couldn't capitalize as Dan Plagany came up with an interception.

An acrobatic catch at midfield by Franklin's Israel Woolfork on third-and-18 gave the Patriots life with 10:37 left in the final quarter. Carpenter hit Jeff McCullough on a key third down pass for 10 yards and Fortin added three yards to the Stevenson 32, but the drive stalled again when Carpenter was sacked.

The Patriots punted down to the Stevenson 7 and made the Spartans give up the ball again, but John Saaman's interception killed the threat with 4:10 to go.

After Stevenson made a first down, but had the yardage taken away because of personal foul, Austin White raced 83 yards for what appeared the game-clinching TD, but the play was whistled back to the Spartans' own 39 because of an illegal block and another personal foul.

Franklin then stopped the Spartans on fourth-and-inches with only 1:50 to go at their own 30.

Carpenter hit Humenay for a first down, but on the next play he was sacked by Golonka, who jarred the ball loose. Teammate Pat York then picked off another Patriot pass and returned it to the 25 to seal the win with 1:21 remaining.



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

## MEDICAL DATEBOOK

### NOVEMBER

#### Inner engineering

Isha yoga - Free Teacher led Introductory Talk 3 p.m. Sunday Nov. 11, at Baldwin Public Library Rotary Room, 300 W. Merrill St. Birmingham MI 48009. Refreshments will be served. For questions, call (734) 716-1628.

#### Team in training sessions

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team in Training offers informational meeting 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 12, Troy Athens High School, 43333 John R. For information, call (800) 456-5413 or visit www.teamintraining.org/mi.

#### Isha yoga

Internationally acclaimed yoga master Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev will be offering Isha Yoga's Inner Engineering Program Nov. 13-18, weekdays 7-10:15 p.m., Saturday-Sunday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Come and experience an unparalleled upliftment for body, mind, and spirit, at the St. Clement Banquet Hall, 19600 Alter Rd., Dearborn 48128. To register, call (866) 424-ISHA (4742) or visit www.ishafoundation.org.

#### Divorce support group

Group discussion 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 13, at the Women's Resource Center, Room 225 of the McDowell Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. Attorney Patricia Kasody-Coyle will also be available to answer questions in a private setting on a first come, first served basis. For more information, call (734) 462-4443.

#### Flu shot clinics

University of Michigan Health System's Michigan Visiting Nurses is offering flu clinics throughout the area in November and December. Flu shots are \$33, pneumonia shots \$84. Payment options include cash, check and credit card, Blue Care Network, CareChoices, Health Alliance Plan, M-Care, Medicare Part B and Priority Health, all cover entire cost of flu shot. Clinics are open to the public, and most are limited to age 12 and older. For a weekly listing, call 888-547-7295 or visit www.umvn.org. sClinics includes the following locations: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 26, Busch's, 15185 Sheldon Rd., Plymouth; Saturday, Dec. 1, Busch's, 37083 Six Mile, Livonia and Saturday, Dec. 15, Busch's, 24445 Drake Rd., Farmington Hills.

#### Divorce support group

Getting through the holidays - Marjorie Lang, an attorney and counselor with the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, discusses the intense emotions triggered by divorce during holidays and other special occasions and offer helpful coping skills 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 27, at the Women's Resource Center, Room 225 of the McDowell Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 462-4443.

#### Gastric bypass seminar

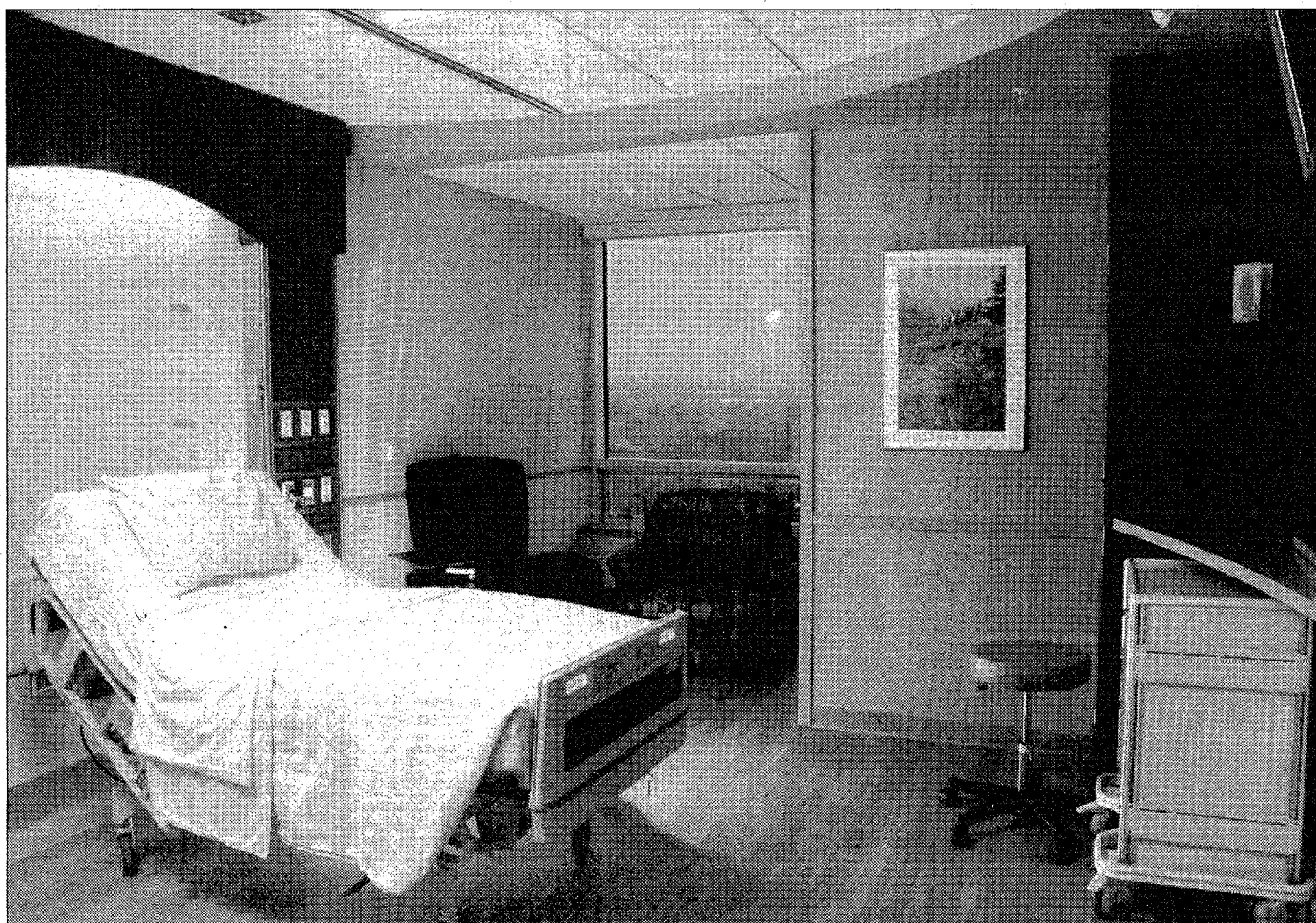
Learn about Gastric Bypass, Adjustable Gastric Banding, and Sleeve Gastrectomy at MBI's upcoming Educational Seminars 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 28, in the St. Mary Mercy Hospital Auditorium, 36475 Five Mile at Levon, Livonia. Interactive speakers are Tallal Zeni, MD, medical director, Minimally Invasive and Bariatric Surgery; and Paula Magid, program director and post-op patient. Call (734) 655-2693, (or Toll free (877) Why-Weight), to register for the free seminars.

#### Flu shot clinics

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at Livonia Urgent Care, 37595 Seven Mile, Livonia, (734) 542-6100, and Western Wayne Urgent Care, 2050 Haggerty, Suite 140, Canton, (734) 259-0500. The cost is \$25, but it is covered for those with Medicare.

#### Flu shots

Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan are providing flu shots (\$25) and pneumonia shots (\$40) at Oakland and Wayne County locations. Medicare, HAP, Priority Health, Blue Care Network, cash or check payable to VNAHSS accepted. For weekly listings of locations, call (800) 296-8660 or visit www.vna.org. Homebound service also available. \$40 service fee applies that is not covered by insurance. Must have a physician's prescription. Call (800) 882-5720, ext. 8752 for an appointment.



The new patient rooms are twice as large as the old ones at Saint Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor.

# Healing tower

## Hospital's new patient rooms provide soothing environment

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
STAFF WRITER

The rolling stool in every patient's room is only one of the details that went into the design of the East Tower, yet it reflects the overall healing concept for the 11 new floors at Saint Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor.

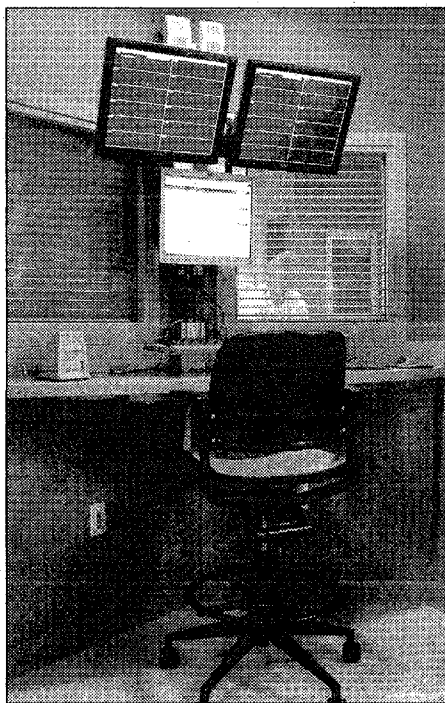
Every aspect of the structure not only makes hospitalization easier on patients, but staff and visitors. From waterfall sculptures to a magnificent view of the area surrounding the 340-acre hospital campus, the tower provides a calming environment. Even the gold and green walls soothe much like the trees outside the expanse of windows. Throughout the hallways, nature photographs by Sister Anne Marilyn Tyler offer a peaceful oasis in between each of the 362 private rooms.

Physicians requested the stools during the design phase when patients, staff and community members came together to share ideas.

The result was the \$128 million East Tower which opened Oct. 14. The first phase of new construction will be followed by the demolition of six wings and the building of a seven-story North patient tower in 2009, and a new entrance and chapel in 2011, the 100th anniversary of the Sisters of Mercy starting the first Saint Joseph hospital in Ann Arbor. Today, Saint Joseph Mercy Health System consists of three hospitals in Howell, Saline and Ann Arbor, and 18 outpatient facilities including one in Canton.

The East Tower is the cornerstone of the health system's \$744 million investment which began in 2006 with the building of the Woodland Cancer Center in Brighton, a surgery pavilion with 17 state-of-the-art operating rooms at Saint Joseph hospital in Ann Arbor, and the acquisition of the CyberKnife radiosurgery system for cancer treatment, and a robotic surgical system for minimally invasive procedures.

"We mocked up a patient room and people came through, laying in bed, testing the chairs," said Garry Faja, president and CEO of Saint Joseph Mercy Health System. "We took all of their suggestions. The nurses wanted a bigger door so a collapsible panel was built alongside the entrance to rooms. In the future physicians said they'd probably be doing more exams and procedures in the patients'



Charting alcoves between every two patient rooms replace the centralized nursing station. Staff is able to record a patient's progress as well as access test results.

rooms so we provided lighting over the bed. Physicians wanted a stool in the room so they could sit eye level with patients. Studies show that if a physician is standing it looks like they're ready to leave and patients are hesitant to ask questions."

Night lights not only give a pool of light but are part of the system that signals bathroom lights to turn on automatically when a patient leaves the bed in the middle of the night. Lights come on in patient, bathroom, reflection and conference rooms when occupied.

In addition to saving on electricity, the system helps stop the spread of germs because there is not a switch to turn on and off.

A walk-in shower with hand-held shower head was suggested by nurses to make bathing easier. Lighting, temperature and visiting hours are all controlled by the patient. Although nurses are available to help manage visitors who stay too long.

A recliner, custom-designed for the hospital, provides comfort for the patient when out of bed. Another chair opens into a single bed for visitors. Still more folding chairs are available in the closet. Each of the new 300-square-foot rooms

is double the size of the old rooms.

"There are supplies like linens right outside the rooms. Nursing staff wanted everything at their fingertips so they can spend more time with patients," said Mary Lou Wesley, chief nursing officer for the Saint Joseph Health System. "We've installed patient lifts in all patient rooms. Some lift up to 1,000 pounds. The rest go up to 500 pounds with a sling to save our nurses' backs. With one hand you can move a patient."

#### DETAILS

Wesley leads a tour through the 11th floor of the new tower pointing out details like a curved hallway. Nestled in the interior are storage rooms so hallways remain uncluttered.

"There are not a lot of angles to give a sense of calm and quiet details in floors and ceiling to muffle noise," said Wesley. "All patient rooms are on the exterior for outside views. There are interior work stations for staff, and all supplies come up in interior elevators so you don't have the noise. These are the advantages you can have when you build new instead of renovate."

Physicians like to take the COWS or computers on wheels with them on rounds. In between every two rooms, a charting alcove provides a stationary computer to record patient information. Nursing stations have been decentralized to allow staff to remain close to patients.

"The nurse in the alcove can see into two rooms, but the blinds are controlled by the patient for privacy," said Wesley.

"The family space (or waiting area) is wireless so they can use their own computer or use the hospital computer."

Nursing and health care in general have changed dramatically since Wesley became a registered nurse in 1978. Before opening the new tower, staff had to go through extensive training.

"Technology changed," said Wesley. "There were no computers back then. Now we have patient information you can read, safety technology like IV pumps. Back then it was common to have three-four nurses for 46 patients. (Today there is one nurse for four to six patients at the hospital).

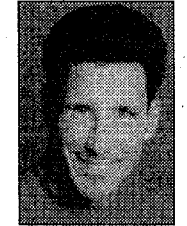
There's been a big explosion of medication. A computerized system allows physicians to put orders for medications right into our system."

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## Relationship can affect your health

Elaine from Troy e-mails that she is concerned about her relationship with her boyfriend. They fight all the time and she is just not happy. What should she do?

Elaine, you may want to think twice about that relationship, it could be heartbreaking, literally. Researchers followed more than 9,000 people in close relationships. They found those who had a high level of intensity



Peter's Principles

Peter Nielsen

in their relationships were 34 percent more likely to have a heart-related event than those with positive relationships. Experts say those with negative relationships are more likely to suffer with depression, low self-esteem and anger issues. All these problems have been found to increase the risk of heart disease.

Sue from Farmington Hills e-mails and says her sister has a couple of glasses of wine every night. Is this bad for her?

Sue, you may want to warn your sister that those drinks could raise her risk of cancer. Researchers studied the drinking habits of more than 70,000 women. They found those women who had more than three drinks a day raised their risk of breast cancer by 30 percent. The study also found just having one drink a day raised a woman's risk of developing breast cancer by 10 percent. And it did not matter what type of alcohol, beer, wine or liquor. Earlier studies suggested red wine could help protect against heart disease. While that may be true, experts warn, this new study shows drinking any alcohol could raise your breast cancer risk.

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

## Bank offers sites for flu shots

TCF Bank Michigan in conjunction with the Visiting Nurse Association will offer flu shot clinics for the public at select TCF Bank branches from Monday, Nov. 12 through Friday, Nov. 16. Cost for a shot is \$25. Visit the following branches to receive a shot.

Canton: TCF Ford Road branch, 45375 Ford Road (between North Canton Center and West Franklin Drive), from 3-6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 13.

Royal Oak: TCF Branch, 1811 Crooks Road, 3-6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16.

Troy: TCF Branch, 2138 E. Big Beaver Road, 3-6 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14.

Rochester Hills: TCF Rochester Hills South Branch, 200 E. Auburn Road, Rochester Hills. Shots will be available 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 15.

Southfield: TCF Branch, 17535 12 Mile, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Nov. 12.

Westland: TCF Warren Road Branch, 37151 Warren Road (between Newburgh and Central City Parkway), 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14.

For more information, call 734-542-2985.

## Holiday toys wanted for children with leukemia

Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan (CLF) invites individuals, schools, businesses and community groups looking for a way to help families dealing with leukemia to participate in its annual Holiday Toys Program. Last year, through the efforts of participants conducting toy drives and many generous donations, CLF provided approximately 3,850 gifts to 1,100 child patients, their sib-

lings and the children of adult patients throughout the state of Michigan. An adult patient living in Oakland County who benefitted from the CLF holiday toy program last year wrote this about the program and CLF: "If it wasn't for CLF, my children would not have received any gifts. CLF took a tremendous burden off my mind, knowing my children would receive something for Christmas. Now that's a

definite uplifting of my spirit! God bless CLF, its workers, volunteers, and sponsors for your hard work and dedication to families in need. I love you and truly appreciate your help and support."

Because a leukemia diagnosis can be emotionally, physically and financially draining for families, especially during the holiday season, in December CLF sends packages to the families with 3-4

new gifts for each child.

To learn more about the CLF holiday toys program and how you can help, call (800) 825-2536 or visit www.leukemiamichigan.org. CLF is an independent, statewide organization that provides information, financial assistance, and emotional support to families of adults and children affected by leukemia, lymphoma, and related blood disorders.

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## Teacher flips foreign language instruction

BY KIRBI FAGAN  
TEEN JOURNALIST

Kathy Hunt wants her students to acquire the Spanish language — not memorize aspects of it for a test and then be done with it.

Hunt, a Spanish teacher at Canton High School, has recently revamped the way she teaches.

Her approach combines a collection of materials such as familiar children's books, class conversation, storytelling, writing stories, flash cards and Spanish music.



Kirbi fagan

The method is called "total physical response storytelling."

"It's a natural way to learn," Hunt said. "It's in context."

She introduces new phrases each week that students put into stories. Homework includes weekly pop quizzes, reading assignments and re-telling stories to an adult.

Hunt said the students, who are learning orally and visually, are picking up Spanish the same way they were taught English, by constantly being surrounded by the language.

Plymouth-Canton students, who are required to earn two credits of a foreign language class, have responded well to Hunt's teachings.

Canton senior Marie Martin is in one of Hunt's advanced Spanish classes and said the new teaching method has boosted her interest level.

"I talk in Spanish at home for fun," she said, adding that she is considering taking Spanish when she enrolls in college.

Emily Lipe, a sophomore, said Hunt has created a warm atmosphere in her classroom.

"(It's) very relaxed," she said. "Everyone can say what they want and not feel embarrassed."

Lauren Roberts, 15, also said the new lesson plans were beneficial.

"I can speak easier with little hesitation than other students," she said. "I love learning new things and I realize how useful a foreign language can be in future careers."

Hunt said TPRS, which hasn't been approved in all schools, has not only helped her as an instructor, it's aiding in her personal life. The teacher is using the method to learn German in hopes of becoming trilingual.

Hunt, who will continue using the method next school year, called it "teacher driven" and challenging.

Kirbi Fagan is a junior at Canton High School.

## Teachers, students adjust to crowded PCEP campus

BY ALEX BERGMANS  
TEEN JOURNALIST



Alex bergmans

There's a massive mob of teenagers of every variety, bumping, stumbling and crashing in a space that doesn't seem to have enough room to fit everyone.

Can you guess where this is?

Please see **CROWDED, C2**



Band members Alex Rodriguez, 15, Bruno Yoshioka, 17, and Kristen Riggs, 15, hang out before practice.

## One big, happy, marching, honking, drumming, crazy family

BY MOLLY FESSLER  
TEEN JOURNALIST



Molly fessler

Upon entering the band room at Plymouth High School, a visitor is greeted with the sounds of laughter, conversation, slammed lockers and random instruments.

And, oh, yeah, there are about 200 kids.

People know that the Plymouth-Canton marching band is talented and nationally ranked but what they may not know is the dedication of band members to their music and each other.

"We are pretty much one big family," said Kristen Riggs, 15, a flutist.

Band members, who practice every day during the week, also meet for 12 hours on Saturdays. When you throw in a required

summer camp, it's no surprise that band members say they are close.

"It's a really strong bond," said saxophonist Bruno Yoshioka, 17.

"When someone ends up in a bad situation, everyone else is willing to help out."

Alex Rodriguez, 15, said the marching band functions like a family. Members call each other nicknames and often reminisce about their favorite memories.

"You spend so much time with these people," said Rodriguez, a flutist. "You know them so well. Whenever you need a hug, there are tons of people to help you out."

Being involved in the marching band also impacts the real families of its members.

Parents must commit to volunteering at competitions, getting their kids to practice and paying for competitions. In spite of this, band parents are just as dedicated as their children.

A solid mass of adults decked out in the band's color fill the stadium seating at every competition.

Some parents, who also sell popcorn and attend booster meetings, have even let the band's lingo creep into their own vocabularies.

Parents who measure the band outfits are referred to as "uniform magicians." Parents with children new to the band are known as "newbies," whereas their seasoned counterparts are called "veterans." Band members, who affection-

ately refer to their section leaders as "my seniors," sometimes have to tune out other students that aren't involved in their craft.

"I just ignore it," Yoshioka said, adding that being misunderstood only makes the group closer.

Riggs agreed.

"We just want to play our instruments," she said.

Yoshioka said when students agree to join the band, they are saying they want to be included in something more than the average extracurricular activity.

"It's what I do (and) it's what I love," he said. "I get to hang out with the people who accept me."

Molly Fessler is a sophomore at Plymouth High School.

## Can you hear me now?

### Students still rail against cell phone policy

BY JILLIAN HATTIE  
TEEN JOURNALIST



Jillian hattie

Almost everyone has a cell phone these days.

That's too bad for the students in the Plymouth-Canton school district.

The administration's ban on electronic device usage is still getting a rise out of teens months after the policy was created.

class, it does not necessarily mean that they are texting the answers to their friends. After class they can still go to their friends and tell them the answers."

Many students, like Horger, are against the

policy, which states that all electronic devices need to be off, concealed and not in use. Students in violation will receive an automatic one-day suspension.

Second and third offenses are handled with a three-day suspension and the phone is confiscated.

With more and more students using their phones during class, Salem Principal Gerald Ostoin said the ban, although unpopular, is necessary.

"The policy was proposed for several reasons," he said. "The main one is instruction, our main

focus. Cell phones were interfering with that. Referrals for electronic devices, mostly cell phones, had doubled."

Even though students may grumble about the policy, administrators feel it's working.

Less than 100 students in each of the district's three high schools have been suspended for cell phone violations.

A warning, in the form of a sign that reads "Cell phone or electronic device=suspension," have been posted in the schools.

"I feel that my privileges are being taken away," said Salem senior Natalie Tripp.

Natalie, 17, also voiced concern that the policy expands to some school



Cell phone use is a hot issue.

buses, too.

"Even though I do not ride the bus, I feel that students should still be able to use electronic devices while riding on the school transportation," she said.

Jillian Hattie is a sophomore at Salem High School.



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# A whole new world

## Moving from distant lands a challenge

BY NATALIE FILKOSKI  
TEEN JOURNALIST

The Plymouth-Canton school district is recognized for its diverse student population but with a wide range of ethnic backgrounds can come personal struggles.

When Plymouth High School senior Nina Redzovic left Bosnia at age 8 to come to the United States, not only did she not know any of her peers in America, she didn't know English.

Attending school without having a grasp on the country's primary language did nothing to make her transition smoother, Nina says.

"Trying to interact with the other students without being able to talk with them was difficult," she said. "Especially since kids at that age are pretty cruel when you are an outsider."

Like Nina, Etleva Mema left her home country at a young age to come to America.

"My dad thought there would be better opportunities for his kids (here)," the Plymouth High School junior said.



Cari Skrzynski (left), Noelle Skrzynski, and Nina Redzovic work on an assignment together during AP German.

Etleva's family left Albania when she was 7 years old. Due to experiences both in the states and in her home country, the teenager said she placed a high value on her education.

"I'm a 4.0 student," she said. "I value my education more than most students because I have been in a position where education is not valued and it made me realize that if I wanted a better life, a good education would be essential."

Nina agreed. "I have experienced and seen my parents struggle in restarting our lives without college degrees and I have seen the things that they have had to endure," she

said. "I know I want something better for myself. This is what I work for everyday I go to school."

Having faced some challenges in their coming to the states, both Nina and Etleva want to give hope to others students who are new to the country.

"Take advantage of every opportunity you get to succeed," Etleva said. "Try to adjust yourself to the surroundings but keep your traditions and culture, because in the end, that is what defines you as a person."

Natalie Filkoski is a senior at Salem High School.

# Quo Vadis legacy lives on despite dark screen

BY TYLER VOSGERCHIAN  
TEEN JOURNALIST

One day, while ironically walking home from a movie, I stumbled upon the magnificent derelict that is the Quo Vadis. The old out of business theater on Wayne and Warren across from the mall. I was awe-stricken by its magnificent beauty, and its stunning Art Deco facade. I was inspired to, with the help of a few cohorts, set upon a crusade for the truth of this monolith of a bygone era. To accomplish this feat I employed the same old repertoire of research techniques. Top among them was the Internet, but good old legwork helped out as well. I was able to contact the owner.

The Quo Vadis, designed by Minoru Yamasaki's firm Yamasaki and Associate, the same firm that designed the World Trade Center, was introduced to the public in 1966, featuring the aptly named romantic comedy *The Glass Bottom Boat*, about a glass-boat operator who dresses up as a mermaid in order to attract customers.

The theater's success contin-



tyler vosgerchian

ued throughout the years, and as a result the building itself was treated to various renovations; in '68, and '70. The final seating capacity of the three theaters, and three penthouses was 1,798 people. Not counting the adjacent Algiers Drive-In Theater, which itself was demolished in order to make way for expansions, and the ever-encroaching strip mall.

But sadly, like all great legacies, the Quo Vadis eventually had to face its twilight, on the night of Jan. 21, 2002, the last movies seen on the Vadis' silver screens were *Harry Potter*, *Ali* and *Vanilla Sky*. Today nearly six years after it closed, the Quo Vadis' future still looks quite bleak. A renovated Quo Vadis is just what the city needs to brighten up its spirits during this economic downturn.

Tyler Vosgerchian is a student at Livonia Churchill High School.

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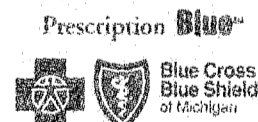
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## CROWDED

FROM PAGE C1

No, it is not a Metallica concert. It's not any concert for that matter.

It is the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, also known as "The Park," or PCEP.

The Park, which houses three high schools, can be likened to a college campus.

On top of making it hard for students to get around, teachers, such as Jeff Blakeslee at Canton High School, have their own concerns about the 6,000-student campus.

Blakeslee, who teaches advanced composition and sci-fi, said having a class of 35 students makes it difficult to dole out individual help.

"I would love to see class sizes reduced to 25, but I don't know the financial reality of the situation," he said.

With individual attention on a premium, some students may not understand everything being taught and could end up with a decline in their grades.

In some classes, there aren't enough desks and chairs but the worst area for the bulging student population are the hallways.

There are large groups of immovable kids, teachers pushing carts and seniors exercising their authority over freshman.

Canton sophomore Paul Shanks said the hallway scramble is like playing a real-life version of Frogger.

"I think that the hallways have way too many people in them," he said. "It makes it tougher to get from place to place."

Students, who have largely resigned themselves to being among the massive crowds, have offered various suggestions on how to thin out traffic at the high schools. One idea involves constructing an additional building.

As of now, the administration hasn't laid out any plans to expand the campus.

In the meantime, Paul has his own idea of how to curb hallway backups.

"Teachers could give tickets for blocking the hallway, and once you get a certain number of tickets, you would get a detention," he said.

Alex Bergmans is a sophomore at Plymouth High School.

## KNOW THE SCORE

check out the numbers in today's SPORTS section



# Catholic schools get creative with fund raising

BY RYAN BRIDGES  
TEEN JOURNALIST

Within a given city, a high percentage of school-age children attend the public schools that the city provides for its residents.



ryan bridges

However, there is a small percentage of students that attend the Catholic or private schools sporadically located throughout any tri-county area.

One huge difference between public and private schools would be that private schools receive no funding from the government.

As a result, the question has been raised: Where are private schools coming up with funds?

For the most part, private schools are parish schools, meaning they receive funding from the parish that they support.

However, this is not the case for Father Gabriel Richard High School in Ann Arbor.

Liz Schoch, the development director for the 139-year-old high school, said private schools receive money from two main sources: tuition and donations. She also said fund-raisers bring in dollars.

In addition to an annual dinner auction, FGRHS benefits from schools plays and golf outings. Those connected to the school also help clean the University of Michigan's football stadium after home games for a fee.

Eight times during the college football season, FGRHS officials, along with parents and students, trek to the university's stadium to pick up

recyclables and collect trash.

As with FGRHS, each private school must come up with its own ways to bring money for its budget. Many ideas are simple, yet beneficial.

As a sign of changing times, Schoch indicated that many public schools have increased their fund raising and that, in turn, puts a dent in what a private school may bring in.

"Dollars are competitive," she said.

In the end, whether the money comes from parents, alumni donations or fund-raisers, private schools receive money just as public schools do — it just happens to be in a more creative way.

Ryan Bridges is a junior at Father Gabriel Richard High School.

The Father Gabriel Richard community celebrates Mass after the ever-popular stadium cleanup.

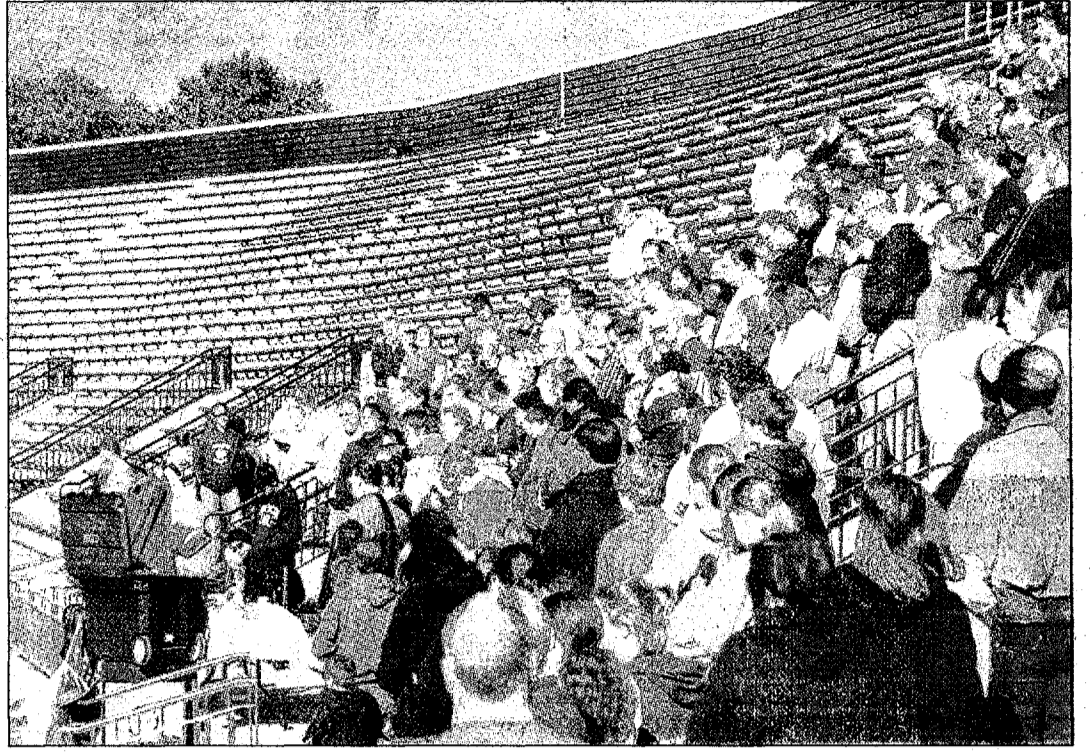


PHOTO BY RYAN BRIDGES

# Seniors gearing up to submit college applications

BY JENNA GAMBINO  
TEEN JOURNALIST

It's that time of year. The season for high school seniors around the country to put pen to paper and apply for college.

"We generally recommend that students apply to three (or) four schools," said Rene Eley, a counselor at Salem High School.

Eley said various factors, including tuition and fees, often go into deciding on a college.

According to a survey by the National Center for Education Statistics, the average in-state, full-time tuition and fees for an undergraduate at a four-year public universi-



jenna gambino

ty was \$5,206 per semester in 2006.

To offset costs, Eley encouraged would-be college freshman to apply for as many scholarships as possible.

"There are so many available and lots of different ways to access them," she said. "They are online, there are local/community, state and national scholarships (and) parents place of employment."

Eley also said loans and grants are available through government financial aid. Scholarships, which are also

offered through universities, can be dependent upon grade-point averages and standardized test scores.

Jennifer Hunsaker, a Salem High School senior, will take Eley's advice and try her hand at earning some scholarships.

"I'm going to apply for an (ice) skating scholarship," she said.

Hunsaker plans to find other scholarships on Web sites such as FastWeb.com.

Scholarships on FastWeb and similar sites don't usually place a high priority on a student's GPA. These awards may be handed out by major corporations such as Coca-Cola.

Eley said many students fund their college education

through financial aid.

In January, thousands of students will submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid and in turn, colleges will determine that individual's eligibility for financial assistance.

In choosing where to send a college application, Eley recommended that students take their time and make wise decisions.

"We like students to apply to a school they want as their first choice, second choice and then always have a backup plan," she said.


Jenna Gambino is a senior at Salem High School.



Tiffany Tan, Canton High School junior, looking at information on colleges.



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\*Visit www.adoptionassociates.net/news/international\_reduction\_program\_fee\_reduction/ for offer details

# Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 ♦ fax: 734-953-2232  
e-mail: oeobits@hometownlife.com



## ELIZABETH ANN BUNO

Pinckney, MI Formerly of Plymouth

**HER FAMILY...** Beloved wife of the late Robert, Loving mother of Robert (Alison) Buno of Mystic, CT, Dennis Buno of Brighton, Katherine (Michael) Ratliff of Dexter, Patricia (Lee) Simchak of Pinckney and Daniel Buno of Pinckney, Dearest sister of Marian (Bo) Paradise of Decatur, AL, Norma (Eddie) Patrick of Hermitage, PA, Richard (Patricia) Shuster of Mercer, PA, sister in law of Gladys Shuster of Farmington Hills. Preceded by her sister Ruth Shuster and brother Stephen.

**HER FAREWELL...** A Healing Farewell was held Saturday, November 10, 2007 at Borek Jennings Funeral Home, Hamburg Chapel. Please leave a Message of Comfort to Elizabeth's family by call 877-231-7900 or sign her guest book at: www.borekjennings.com.

## SHIRLEY RUTH CEASAR (NEE: Chapman)

Born November 11, 1928 in Detroit, MI. Passed away October 26, 2007, at age 78. Loving wife of the late Albert. Beloved mother of Carey Lynn Murphy and Patricia Ann Ayoub. Grandmother of Heather Smith (Rick), Siobhan Murphy, Sinon Ayoub, Paul Murphy, Ameer Ayoub and Wah'ja Ayoub. Great-grandmother of Sianna, Lanae, Arianna and Jaisen. There will be a memorial service on November 18, 2007 at 2:00pm at Nativity United Church of Christ, 9435 Henry Ruff Road, Livonia, MI 48150. (734) 421-5406. Call Carey at (248) 830-4911 for more information.

## DONALD L. HORNBACK

Of Harrietta, MI, passed away Nov. 9, 2007. Hitesman-Holdship Funeral Home, Cadillac, MI

May You Find Comfort in Family & Friends



## WILLARD D. DEN HOUTER M.D.

Age 76, passed away Sept. 7, 2007. Born and raised in Ann Arbor, Bill grew up working in the family restaurant, The Roundtable. Upon graduation from the University of Michigan Medical School, he settled in Plymouth with his wife, the late Katherine, and sons Willard B. Den Houter M.D., of Canton and John Den Houter of Edwardsville, IL. A family practice physician for 35 years, he retired in 1994 to an active schedule of fishing, swimming, gardening, bird watching, and babysitting his grandchildren. Kate, Claire, Gwen, Greer, Ben and Jack, and culinary adventures with his siblings Dave, Danie (Elaine) and Mary (Duane) Clark. An "M" man in baseball, Bill maintained a lifelong passion for the "Maize and Blue". Having battled renal disease for many years, Bill embraced the kindness of his caregivers, finding special friendships among the staff at St. Joe's Dialysis and the AATA A-Ride Transportation Staff. Bill's love of family and friends, humble and gentle nature, and zest and appreciation for life will be forever remembered by all the lives he touched. Bill's family welcomes his friends to join them for a period of reflections and to celebrate his memory, on Friday, November 16, from 5:00 PM until 8:00 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd. (btwn Sheldon and Beck), Plymouth. To leave a message of condolence for the family please visit: www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com



## LOUIS WILLIAM LESSARD SR.

East Lansing, MI. Louis William Lessard, Sr., former resident of Clarkston, age 86, died at his East Lansing home on November 8, 2007. Born in Pontiac, Michigan, he was the son of Katherine McKeown of Kinkora, Perth Co., Ontario, and William Joseph Lessard of Hayward, Wisconsin. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Marian (Kaul), and four children, Catherine (Vytautas) Virskus of Mason, Dr. Louis William Lessard Jr. (Alicia Jones) of East Lansing, Dr. Joseph G. Lessard (Luann Wieber) of Traverse City, and Judith Lessard of Mason. He is survived by ten grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and numerous nieces and nephews. The family also grieves the loss of Marian's brother, Vernell Kaul of Clarkston, who followed Louis in death several hours later on November 8, 2007. Louis was preceded in death by his parents, and brothers, Jack and Robert, and sisters, Francis (Olsen), Margaret (Kitzman), and Luella (Kitzman). Louis grew up in Pontiac and worked while attending school to help his family survive the Great Depression. He graduated from St. Frederick's Catholic High School in 1938 and joined the Civilian Conservation Corps. He volunteered to join the Army Air Corps during World War II, where he excelled at aerial gunnery training and was first in his class in Bombardier School. He and his crew flew B-24 Liberators out of Manduria, Italy, as part of the 450th Bomb Group participating in numerous dangerous combat missions. After a promotion, 1st Lieutenant Lessard spent the next year as a telephone and telegraph officer in the 450th Signal Corps Construction Battalion in Bari, Italy. During this time he was in command of soldiers responsible for repairing communications equipment damaged or destroyed by the enemy. Louis returned to Pontiac in August 1945. He resumed employment with Michigan Bell Telephone while attending the Detroit Institute of Technology, where he earned an engineering degree in 1946. Louis worked for MI Bell for 42 years and retired in July, 1982. Louis married Marian Arlene Kaul of Pontiac June 28, 1947. Louis built the home in Clarkston where they raised their family and resided for 32 years (1953 - 1985). The Lessards were members of Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church in Waterford, where Louis was a member of the ushers club and St. Vincent de Paul. He was also a member of the Elks Club in Pontiac and the Clarkston Rotary Club, serving as president in 1968 - 1969. Louis was a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Louis enjoyed close friendships with many Clarkston residents, including the "Hale Open" golf group. In the 1970s, Lou and Marian and a group of Clarkston friends built condos on Marco Island, FL. The Lessards also jointly purchased a home with their daughter and son-in-law on Lake Charlevoix in East Jordan, enjoying both residences during their retirement years. Many memorable family get-togethers took place at "the cottage". The Lessards enjoyed spending time with family and friends, golf outings and world travel. A Funeral Mass will be held Saturday, November 24, 2007 at 11:30 am at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in East Lansing, MI 48823. Louis will be interred at White Chapel Cemetery in Troy, Michigan. Louis' family is deeply grateful to his physicians, nurses and medical staff, as well as those at Heartland Hospice for their kind and compassionate care. In lieu of flowers, a memorial may be made to Heartland Hospice, 865 South Cedar, Mason, MI, 48854. The family is being served by the Gorsline-Runciman Funeral Homes, East Lansing, MI

## SHERI A. OZAK

Age 46, of Northville, passed away November 6, 2007. She was born on January 20, 1961 in Pontiac, Michigan daughter of Philip and Billie Schuricht. She was united in marriage to Terrence "Terry" Ozak on September 1, 1989. Sheri was a realtor with Re/Max Prestige. She was a member of the Realtor Association. Sheri enjoyed many winter activities, especially skiing. She is survived by her beloved husband Terry; her cherished children Caitlin and Tyler; her devoted parents Philip and Billie Schuricht; and her dearest siblings Philip "Brad" (Patty) Schuricht and Renee (Schuricht) Slabinski. Sheri will also be missed by many loving aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. A time of gathering will be held Saturday, November 17 from 11am-1pm with a Memorial Service at 1pm at Casterline Funeral Home, Inc. 122 West Dunlap, Northville. In lieu of flowers contributions would be appreciated to the Ozak Children's College Fund, PO Box 837, Northville, Michigan 48167. Memories maybe shared at: www.myspace.com/remembersheri



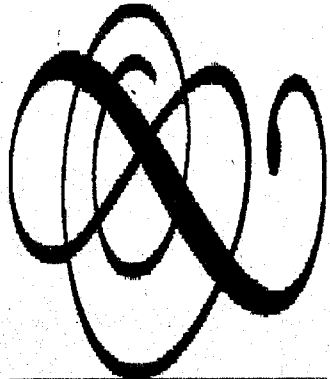
## DOROTHY ANN SCHALL

Age 84, of Plymouth, died November 8, 2007. She was born August 2, 1923, in St. Louis, MO. A former longtime resident of Westland, she was a member of St. Theodore Church. She was a homemaker, and she enjoyed swimming, bowling, sewing, reading, ceramics, and gardening. She is survived by her children, Diane (Robert) Burton, Donna Schall, David (Margaret) Schall, Donald Schall Jr., Dorothy (Phillip) Pefley, Daniel (Lucie) Schall, and Matthew (Sandra) Schall; 14 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her husband, Donald, and her brother. Funeral from St. Theodore Church, 8200 Wayne Rd., Westland, Monday 10am. Friends may visit at church beginning at 9:30am. Visitation at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main, Plymouth, Sunday 3-8pm. Scripture service Sunday 4pm. Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

## MILTON STOVER

Of Fenton, formerly of Traverse City, died Wednesday, November 7, 2007 at Crestmont Health-care Facility. Funeral Services were held Saturday, November 10, 2007 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Rd., Fenton. Roger Cook officiating. Interment in Franklin Cemetery, Franklin, Michigan. Memorial contributions may be made to the Milton and Ella Stover Endowment Fund for Starr Commonwealth. Milton was born August 15, 1921 in Temagami, Ontario, Canada, the son of David L. and Lucilla Ann (Brown) Stover. He married Ella Patterson on June 15, 1946 in Ann Arbor. Milton was 1st Lieutenant in the U.S. Army, serving in WWII and the Korean War. He retired from the Amoco Oil Company in 1978 and moved from Franklin to Traverse City in 1981. Milton attended the Presbyterian Church in Franklin and was a life member of the University of Michigan Alumni Association. He was on the Board of Directors of Michigan Manufactured Housing Institute, Chairman of Grand Traverse Housing Commission and was a counselor and on the board of S.C.O.R.E. Milton was a licensed pilot, loved flying and fishing. Surviving are his wife of 61 years, Ella of Fenton; daughter, Janet Polluck (Larry) of Holly; two sons, Milton Stover and special friend, Brenda of Reno, NV. Ward Stover (Carol) of Columbiaville; 12 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; sister, Bessie McGregor of Rose City. He was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers, George, Sydney, Walt; three sisters, Agnes, Lottie, Edna. Online condolences and tributes may be posted on the obituaries page of: www.sharppfuneralhomes.com

Paying Tribute to the Life of Your Loved One



## ENGAGEMENTS

### Tulppo-Ake

Megan Jane Tulppo and Kevin James Ake are engaged to be married. The bride-to-be is the daughter of Judi Stonik of Westland and the late Fred Tulppo. She is a 2001 graduate of Wayne Memorial High School and a 2005 graduate of Western Michigan University with a bachelor of arts degree in secondary education. She is employed as an accounting specialist with Burns and Wilcox in Farmington Hills.

The future groom is the son of Lois and Jim Ake of Fenton. He is a 2001 graduate of Fenton High School and a 2005 graduate of Western Michigan University with a bachelor of business administration degree in human resources management. He is employed as a human resources specialist with Domino Pizza in Ann Arbor.

### Tulppo-Richardson

Elizabeth (Betsy) Marie Tulppo and Christopher Ryan Richardson are engaged to be married.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Judi Stonik of Westland and the late Fred Tulppo. She is a 1999 graduate of Wayne Memorial High School and a 2005 graduate of Schoolcraft College with an associates degree in general education. She is employed as an office manager with Cleaning Authority in Plymouth.

The future groom is the son of Tim and Sheryl (Cookie) Carner of Garden City. He is a 1997 graduate of Wayne Memorial High School. He is employed as a service representative for Consumers Energy in Royal Oak.

### Mezza-Walsh

Livio and Loretta Mezza of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Judith Ann Mezza, to Ryan Walsh, son of Ann Walsh of Gilbert, Ariz.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University.

The groom is a graduate of Schoolcraft College and is employed by Yazaki of North America.

A May 2008 wedding is planned for Mill Race Historical Village, followed by a reception at St. Mary's Cultural Center.

### McPhee-Brodie

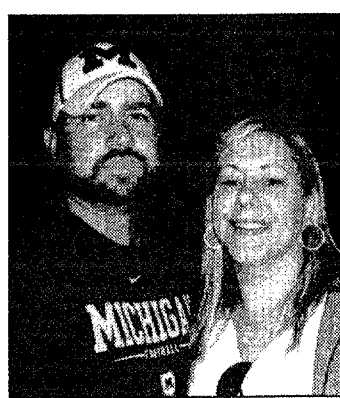
Kate Elizabeth McPhee and Scott Phillip Brodie announce their engagement to be married.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Mike and Marie McPhee of Potteryville. She is currently attending Ferris State University and is graduating in May with a degree in human resources management.

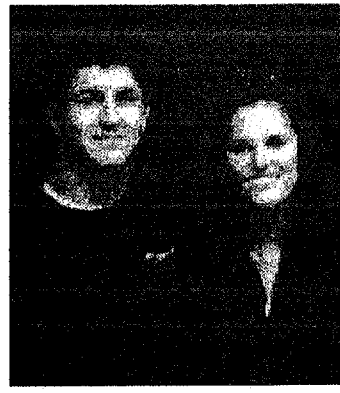
The future groom is the son of Mark and Theresa Brodie of Livonia. He is a 2002 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and graduated from Michigan State University. He is currently employed at Microsoft in Seattle, Wash.



resources management. He is employed as a human resources specialist with Domino Pizza in Ann Arbor.



He is employed as a service representative for Consumers Energy in Royal Oak. No date has been set for the wedding.



A July 2008 wedding is planned.

## ANNIVERSARY



### Whites celebrate 50th anniversary

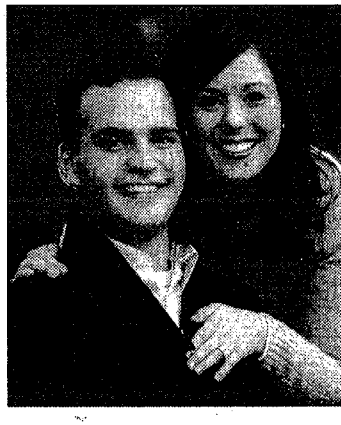
Bob and Gail White of Garden City are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married in Detroit, on Nov. 16, 1957. They have lived in Garden City for 49 years.

Bob retired from General Motors (Cadillac) after 30 years, and Gail worked for a while at Montgomery Ward. They enjoy camping, bowling, golfing, playing games (rummy, and various card games), and going to the casino. They've had a camper for over 30 years at Greenwood Acres, in Jackson Michigan where they spend lots of time.

Bob and Gail have been devoted grandparents to their 10 grandchildren, attending various sporting, and extracurricular events.

They have three children; Crystal (Pat) Brozek, Carrie (Keith) Kerr, and Robert Jr. Ten grandchildren are; Keith Jr., Nick, Mallory, Tim, Nolan, Liz, Sarah, Zach, Andrew, and Jillian. They have one great-grandson, Chase.

They will be celebrating their anniversary with family and close relatives at a restaurant continuing at their daughter's home. For their gift, their children are sending them to Las Vegas.



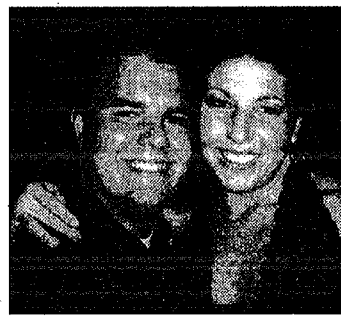
### Karbo-Conradi

Richard and Mary Ann Karbo of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Linda Catherine Karbo, to Mark Daniel Conradi, son of Robert and Louise Conradi of Saline.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Michigan State University with a bachelor of arts degree in English. She is a special events coordinator at Mercy High School in Farmington Hills.

The future groom is a graduate of Michigan State University with a bachelor of science degree in environmental economics and policy. He is a departmental analyst for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

An April 2008 wedding is planned for the Inn at St. John's in Plymouth.



### Cain-Venier

David and Patricia Cain of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Kristin Renee Cain, to David Alfred Venier, son Ann Venier of Berkley.

The bride-to-be is a 2001 graduate of Divine Child High School and a 2006 graduate of Michigan State University. She is employed by Teach for America in Philadelphia while attending the University of Pennsylvania toward a master's degree in education. She will graduate in 2008.

The future groom is a 2001 graduate of Berkley High School and 2006 graduate of Oakland Community College. He is attending Drexel University while working for Health Care Information Systems.

A July 2008 wedding is planned at St. Raphael Church in Garden City.

# Holiday greeting cards wanted

Is your charity or nonprofit organization offering holiday cards for sale to raise funds?

On Sunday, Nov. 25, the Observers' Life section will feature an entire page of holiday greeting cards in full color.

Send your cards with information on how to purchase them and who the charity serves to Hugh Gallagher, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. The deadline for receiving information is Friday, Nov. 16. There is no charge.

LIKE NUMBERS? there are a pile of them in today's SPORTS section



Cheer for the hometeam, read today's SPORTS section



Filter PURE ENTERTAINMENT! Every Thursday!



EMILY MCALISTER

Sleep experts say teens need nine hours of sleep each night to maintain good health, safety and to achieve their best in school.

## How much Zzzzzz?

### Researchers say teens need nine hours nightly for health, achievement

BY MICHELLE KAPPY

Do you slam the buzzer of your alarm clock and stumble out of bed a mere five hours after you've gone to sleep? Do you often feel like a "walking zombie" in the morning? Do you fall asleep in class even when you're not bored?

If so, you share in a phenomenon common to most teenagers, that phenomenon is commonly known as sleep deprivation. There is little question

that sleep deprivation has negative effects on overall mood and performance, even impacting driving ability.

According to the National Center on Sleep Disorders Research, teenagers need at least nine hours of sleep per night on a regular basis for their health, safety and to achieve their best in school and extra-curricular activities. Why is it difficult for teenagers to fall asleep on school nights and wake up on school mornings? Why are so many teens sleepy in their morning classes?

Teenage years are a time when school, homework, extra-curricular activities, social lives and part-time jobs keep us busy from morning to night. They often try to compensate for a lack of sleep by "sleeping in" on the weekends. Facebook, instant messaging and TV are 24/7 temptations, contributing to an irregular sleep schedule and making the problem worse.

"I feel like I am always dozing off in class, because I went to bed so late the night before, which causes me to

get behind in my academics" says Leigh Grinberg, 15, of West Bloomfield.

When teenagers stay up late and sleep in over the weekend, their internal clock is reset to a later time. Teenagers are giving themselves "jet lag" over the weekend without even getting on a plane.

At most high schools, classes begin at 7:30 a.m. Sleep researchers state that teenagers aren't meant to climb out of bed that early. Studies suggest that classes should begin later in the morning to accommodate teenager's need for sleep. Sleep experts recommend a school day that begins at 9:30 or 10 a.m. for teens.

Dr. Lourice Kafols, a pediatrician at Henry Ford

West Bloomfield Center, maintains that starting high school later could improve attendance, tardiness, achievement and grades. As many as 80 school districts around the country are changing their starting time to begin later, and one can only hope this fad spreads to Michigan schools.

Sleep is vital to your well being. It can help you to feel better, perform better in school and manage the stresses of being a teenager.

So the next time your parents tell you to get off the phone and go to bed, you should surprise them and take their advice!

Michelle Kappy of Orchard Lake is a sophomore at Frankel Jewish Academy in West Bloomfield.

## CLASS REUNIONS

### Berkley

#### Class of 1987

A 20-year reunion. 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 24, 2007, at the Birmingham Community House. For information, www.bhsreunion1987.com for event details, to register and pay for your ticket.

### Birmingham Seaholm

#### Class of 1977

A 30-year reunion 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24, at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham. For more information and to make reservations, call Sharon at (734) 261-3264.

### Bloomfield Hills Andover

#### Class of 1997

A 10-year reunion 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24, 2007, at The Sea Grille in West Bloomfield. For more information and to make reservations, call Sharon at (734) 261-3264 or e-mail rsculbert@sbcglobal.net.

### Dearborn Fordson

#### Class of 1969

Planning a reunion. Please contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: Kaynini@aol.com or Kathy Shoebrieger @ Klivingston@nu-core.com.

### Dearborn Heights Riverside

#### Class of 1977

A 30-year reunion, 6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17, 2007, at Warren Valley Banquet Center in Dearborn Heights. For information, call Sharon at (734) 261-3264.

### Detroit Cody

#### Class of 1967

Planning an informal reunion. For information, go to codycomets1967@aol.com.

### Detroit Christ the King

#### Elementary

#### Class of 1963

A 45-year reunion is being planned for 2008. Searching for classmates. The reunion date has not been set. Contact Dennis Place at (734)354-0223 or e-mail denplace@bigfoot.com.

### Detroit Girls Catholic Central

#### Class of 1967

Searching for classmates of the class of 1967 for a 40th reunion this summer/fall. Contact Diane Kangas (Krok) at (586)446-9011 or Mary Mezzardi (Winowiecki) at mmezadri@hotmail.com.

### Detroit Henry Ford

#### Class of 1977

Looking for classmates for a 30-year reunion. Information at henryfordhighschool.com.

### Farmington High School

#### Class of 1977

Looking for classmates to plan

30th reunion. Call Elaine (Stewart) Conn at (248)-476-4821 or shakacconn129@yahoo.com.

### Class of 1997

A 10-year reunion. 8 p.m. to midnight, Saturday, Nov. 24, 2007 (Thanksgiving weekend), Cheli's Chili Bar in Detroit. For information, visit www.fhsclof1997.com.

### Garden City High School

#### Class of 1960

Mini-Reunion Luncheons held the second Saturday of every month at 1 p.m. in the banquet room in the Plymouth Denny's on Ann Arbor Road, east of I-275. Anyone interested in more information can call Gary Simon at (734) 751-4101 or send e-mail to GCHS.MCMLX@yahoo.com.

### Class of 1987

Searching for all class of '87 Alumni for a 20-year reunion. Need to find current information on alumni (name, address; phone, e-mail, etc.). Contact GCHSClassof87reunion@comcast.net or call Sheryl (Pietryka) Catton at (734) 367-0898.

### Class of 1989

Need classmates to register online with names, addresses and e-mail addresses to Paula at gchsl989reunion@hotmail.com and check out web site at www.myspace.com/gchsl20threunion. The reunion date has not been set yet.

### Grosse Pointe North

#### Class of 1991

Call (800) 677-7800, visit www.taylorreunions.com or e-mail: info@taylorreunions.com.

### Livonia Bentley High School

#### Class of 1982

A 25th reunion, 6:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Friday, Nov. 23, 2007 at Baker's of Milford. For information visit www.classmates.com or call 877 376 1703

RSVP soon to reserve your spot!

### Livonia Franklin

#### Class of 1969

A reunion is in the pre-planning stages for 2007. For more information, contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: Kaynini@aol.com.

### Plymouth High School

#### Class of 1968

Searching for classmates for a 40th reunion on July 19, 2008. Only about 63 percent of the class have been located. Contact Sue (Keith) Johnson at (734)451-1048 or contact phs40threunion@charter.net.

### Plymouth Salem and Canton

#### Class of 1987

A 20-year reunion, 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24, 2007, at Hyatt Regency Dearborn, 600 Town Center Drive. Tickets \$75 per person. All payments by Nov. 9. Mail check or money order to Chris Courtney, RE Reunion, 41025 Ann Arbor Road E., Plymouth, MI. 48170. For information, call Courtney at (734)354-8405 or chrisccourtney@remerica.com.

### Trenton High School

#### Class of 1987

A 20-year reunion 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 23, 2007, at Grecian Center in Southgate. Call Sharon at (734) 261-3264 or e-mail rsculbert@sbcglobal.net.

### Wayne Memorial High School

#### Class of 1967

A 40-year reunion at Fellows Creek Golf Club in Canton Township, 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Nov. 24, 2007. \$50 per person; no tickets sold at the door. Missing contact info for more than 200 classmates. Contact Vicki Porter Wood at (734)718-3559 or (734)641-7771.

### Westland John Glenn High School

#### Class of 1987

20 Year Reunion 7 p.m. Saturday Nov. 24, at St. Mary's Cultural Center, Livonia. For more information and to make reservations, call Sharon at (734) 261-3264.

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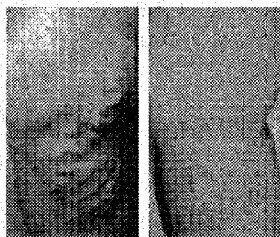
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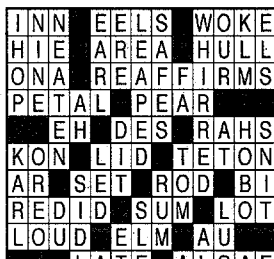
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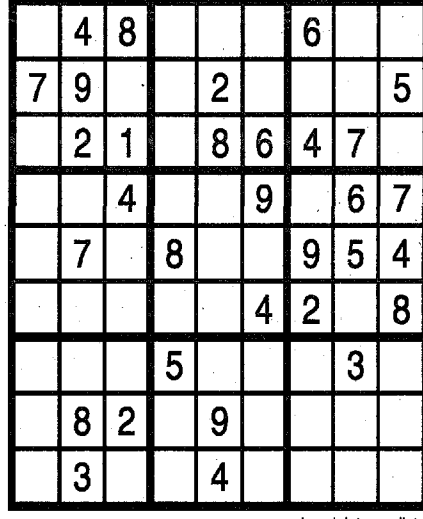
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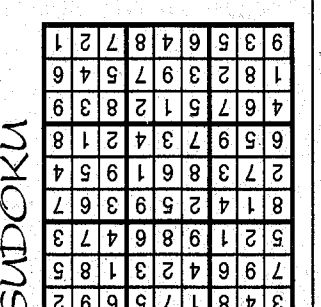
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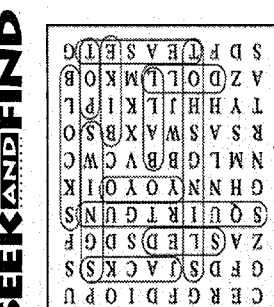
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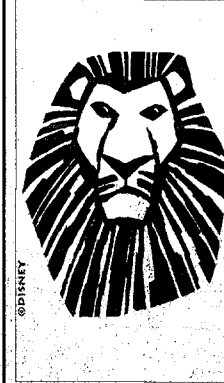
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## Accent SE a solid entry-level car

Advertising Feature

### CAReport



**By Dave Menard  
Avanti News Features**

I have a confession to make right up front: I own a 2007 Hyundai Accent. Well, I own it, but my college-age daughter is the one who drives it, back and forth to school. When I bought it, I looked at the research, plus I have the advantage of having driven Hyundai Accents and their main competition in the past as part of what I do for this space. For us, the combination of features and price tilted us in Hyundai's direction, but your situation may be different.

We own a GS three-door; the test car this week is the Accent SE three-door. Meant to be an entry-level vehicle, Hyundai has packed this one full of options I never would have put on our car, and those options make it pricier than your basic entry-level transportation. More on those in a bit.

The SE three-door is a typical compact three-door, with a lift gate in the rear. While there is nothing exotic about the styling, it does come with fog lights, a body-color rear spoiler and 16-inch alloy wheels. The SE also comes with heated exterior mirrors, something most entry-level cars don't have. You can add a sunroof, if you like. The test car came with a ground effects kit priced at almost \$1,500, one of those options I wouldn't add, but this version of the SE is obviously not aimed at me.

The Accent SE is powered by 1.6-liter 16-valve DOHC 4-cylinder engine. Rated at 110 horsepower and 106 lb.-ft. of torque, it gives you a few more horses than other engines in this segment. With its small size, 110 horses are enough for decent acceleration.

You'll get pretty good mileage from this engine; it's EPA rated at 32/35 mpg and it's certified as an Ultra-Low Emission Vehicle. A 5-speed manual is standard. Hyundai has moved the reverse gear to the far left; I'm not that thrilled with the way it feels. Going from reverse to first gear doesn't feel natural, to me anyway. Otherwise, shifting is just fine. You can get a 4-speed automatic, if you prefer.

The Accent SE handles pretty well for a small car. Bumps aren't too bad and the steering feels good. The front suspension is a MacPherson strut system with coil springs and gas shocks, and the rear system features a coupled torsion beam with coils springs and gas shocks. Rack-and-pinion steering is standard and the small turning circle makes the car easy to maneuver. Inside, there's more room than you might think from looking at it from the outside. With 92.2 cubic feet of passenger volume, it's one of the more roomy cars in the entry level segment. The rear seat is actually usable for people, and the seat folds down to add to the cargo volume. Leg room and head room are fine, even for tall drivers.

The cloth seats provide good support and are fairly comfortable. The driver's seat is eight-way adjustable (manually). Power seats



The Hyundai Accent offers excellent gas mileage - 32/35 mpg and its an Ultra-Low emission vehicle.

are not available for the Accent SE, but other power options are actually included. Power windows, mirrors, and locks, plus keyless entry are all included. Air-conditioning is standard, as are a leather-wrapped steering wheel, and a rear window defogger. For some reason, though, cruise control is not available.

The instrument panel includes a tachometer and a coolant temperature gauge.

The standard audio system is an AM/FM/CD system with six speakers. You can, if you choose, spend a lot more on audio. The test vehicle was set up with the optional Kenwood audio system (\$400), Kenwood rear speakers (\$105), subwoofer (\$420), and iPod adapter (\$129).

I don't care for the way it looks - it looks like an aftermarket system you can buy yourself, instead of something that looks like it belongs in the Accent. The system comes with a wireless remote control, which comes in handy, because the head unit is poorly labeled, hard to read, not intuitively laid-out, and confusing.

The subwoofer has a hand-held control switch that is stored in the glove box. That's where the iPod adapter is, as well. You hook up the iPod and put it in the glove box; the head unit controls the iPod's functions. You may have to consult the owner's manual (I did) to figure out how to get it to play a particular playlist. I have more than 6,000 songs on my iPod (shared with my wife Ro), so getting the proper playlist to play is important. You can also choose to play by artist, genre or album.

As confusing as the controls are, the good news is that the adapter allows you to play audio directly into the head unit. This can be an advantage over the mini-FM tuner iPod adapters that make you find an unused FM frequency to play the iPod's audio through.

The sound is better, while the iPod charges at the same time.

It would be nice if the display would give you the song title, but it will display the playlist name. Overall, the system sounds pretty good, but at more than a thousand bucks total, you may want to look at an after-market system.

One of the things that sold me on the Accent for my daughter Kell was the safety features it has. We were replacing a car in which she just had an accident, so safety was an important consideration. The Accent SE comes with 4-wheel ABS brakes, dual front airbags, dual front side-impact airbags, roof-mounted side curtain airbags and an energy-absorbing steering column.

Hyundai's warranty also figured into the picture. It's a five-year/60,000-mile new-vehicle warranty, while the powertrain is warranted for 10 years/100,000 miles. Five years of roadside assistance is also included.

The Accent SE is priced at a little over \$14,000. Add the high-end audio package, leather-wrapped shift knob, ground effects, front strut tower brace and sport pedals, and you come in at about \$18,000. That's a bit more than an entry-level price, but if the extras aren't important, you can get a pretty well-equipped car for under \$15,000.

Avanti NewsFeatures Senior Editor Dave Menard, who considers himself a good buy, can be reached at Avanti1054@aol.com -mailto:Avanti1054@aol.com> . @2007, Fracassa Communications LLC.

2007 Hyundai Accent SE  
Vehicle class: Compact car.

Power: 110 horsepower 4-cylinder engine, 5-speed manual transmission.

Mileage: 32 city / 35 highway.

Where built: Ulsan, Korea.

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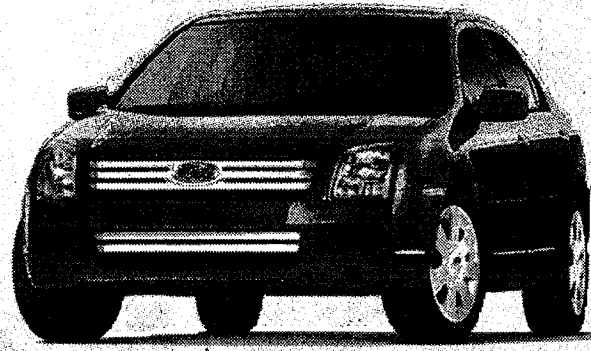
**\$11,495**



**TAURUS**

Over 30 to choose from

AS LOW AS **\$189\*** Per Mo.



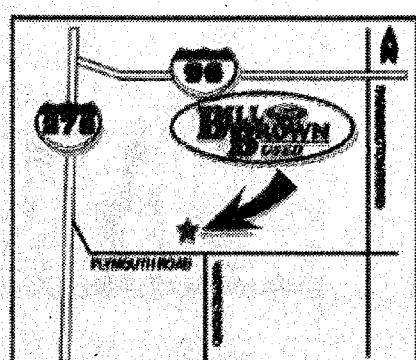
**FUSION**

Over 15 to choose from  
Starting at

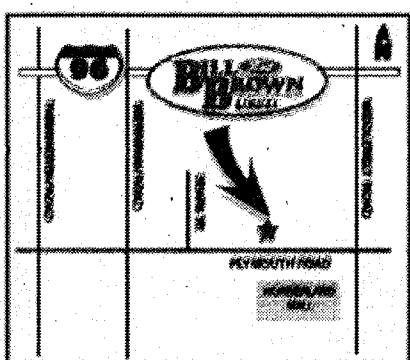
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NOVEMBER  
15th!

\*Based on \$500 down payment, 60 mos. @ 5.9% APR with approved credit.

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**2008 FOCUS SE COUPE**  
 Auto, air, aluminum wheels, power windows & locks, power mirrors and much more. Stock #81227

**24 Month Lease**  
**\$138** Per Mo.  
 \$2500 due at signing

Was \$16,510  
**NOW \$14,535\***

**2008 MERCURY MILAN**

5 speed auto transmission, 2.3L 14 engine, P205/60R16 all season tires, wood appearance package, 16" aluminum wheels. Stock #80682

**\$146** Per mo.  
 24 Month Lease  
 \$2500 due at signing

**2008 FUSION SE**  
 2.3L 14 engine, 5-speed auto trans, P205/60R16 all season tires, air, speed/tilt wheel, pwr wndws/locks, perimeter anti-theft system, 1st & 2nd row air curtains, fog lamps, 6-way power seat. Stock #80758

**24 Month Lease**  
**\$151** Per Mo.  
 \$2500 due at signing

Was \$20,295  
**NOW \$17,818\***

**2008 MERCURY SABLE**

6 speed auto trans, 3.5L V6 Duratec engine, P215/60R17 BSW tires, Sirius satellite radio w/6 mos. service. Stock #80758

**\$196** Per mo.  
 24 Month Lease  
 \$2500 due at signing

**2008 ESCAPE XLT**  
 Moonroof, privacy glass, power windows, power seats, power locks, speed control, tilt, fog lamps. Stock #81310

**24 Month Lease**  
**\$207** Per Mo.  
 \$2500 due at signing

Was \$23,020  
**NOW \$19,259\***

**2008 MERCURY MARINER FWD**

Power moon roof, privacy glass, leather steering whl, roof rack w/crossbars, fog lamps, 3.0L V6 Duratec eng, 4 spd auto w/OD, 6-CD/MP3, auto headlamps, Sirius, 17" satin finish alum wheels and more. Stock #80649

**\$217** Per mo.  
 24 Month Lease  
 \$2500 due at signing

**2008 TAURUS LIMITED**  
 18" aluminum wheels, heated dual power seats, 6-disc CD, auto temp control air, anti theft, auto headlamps, power windows and locks, power mirrors and more. Stock #80634

**24 Month Lease**  
**\$215** Per Mo.  
 \$2500 due at signing

Was \$27,595  
**NOW \$23,310\***

**2008 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER**

4.0L SOHC V6 eng, 5 speed auto trans OD, crossbars, ultrasonic reverse sensing, keyless entry, 17" machined alum whls, auto headlamps, illum visors and much more. Stock #80220

**\$219** Per mo.  
 24 Month Lease  
 \$2500 due at signing

**2007 EDGE SE**  
 4 wheel anti-lock braking system (ABS), 3.5 L V6 Duratec engine W/6 speed auto trans, pwr wndws/locks, remote entry, air, privacy glass, speed control & tilt wheel, advance trac w/RSC. Stock #73732

**24 Month Lease**  
**\$209** Per Mo.  
 \$2500 due at signing

Was \$26,580  
**NOW \$21,483\***

**2008 LINCOLN MKZ**

3.5L V6 Duratec eng, 6 speed automatic transmission, 17" chrome wheels, fog lamps, message center, side air curtain, wood trim, and more. Stock #80809

**\$245** Per mo.  
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 \$2500 due at signing

**2008 EXPLORER XLT**  
 4.0L SOHC, 5-speed auto OD trans, cargo area cover, conven. group, XLT appear. group, XLT comfort grp, cast alum whls, auto lamp headlamps, running boards and keypad. Stock #81168

**24 Month Lease**  
**\$239** Per Mo.  
 \$2500 due at signing

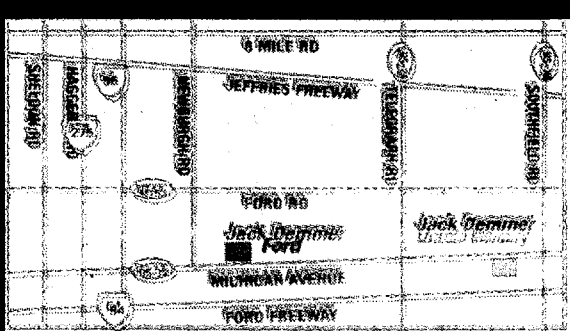
Was \$26,740  
**NOW \$21,207\***

**2008 LINCOLN MKX**

3.5L V6 engine, automatic transmission, ultimate package includes 18" chrome-clad alum wheels, adaptive headlamps, power liftgate, reverse sensing system, sync voice activated system and more. Stock #80909

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# New Homes



Sunday, November 11, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Julie Brown, editor (734) 953-2111. jcbrown@hometownlife.com

www.hometownlife.com

## Family-size Linden ideal for entertaining good friends

At 2,103 square feet, the Linden (D2638) is an ideal size for a family of four or five. It has four bedrooms, with a large family room and a formal parlor. The exterior has the farmhouse look that has been modernized with the use of many windows and brick accents. It has a two-car garage with a single door.

The porch provides a covered area to enter the home. Once inside, the parlor is on the left and the dining area is on the right. The stairs to the second floor are unique as one can start up them from two different directions. It adds a special feature to the look of the stairs. The parlor is fairly isolated

from the rest of the home, providing a cozy area for entertaining friends. There is a half bath off this room. Down the hall, through French doors, is huge family room with a fireplace on one wall, surrounded by bookshelves. A large transom lined with windows faces the backyard, bathing the room with the afternoon sunlight.

The kitchen and nook openly face the family room, making this area ideal for family gatherings. The cooks can stand in the kitchen and still hear the conversations that go on in the family room or nook. On the other hand, the dining room is separated from this area and is designed for more formal get-togethers. The kitchen has a garden window over the sink, an island in the middle, and a pantry to one side. Beside the pantry is the utility room and a door to the garage, ideal for unloading groceries.

Upstairs are all the bedrooms. The master suite occupies the right side of the



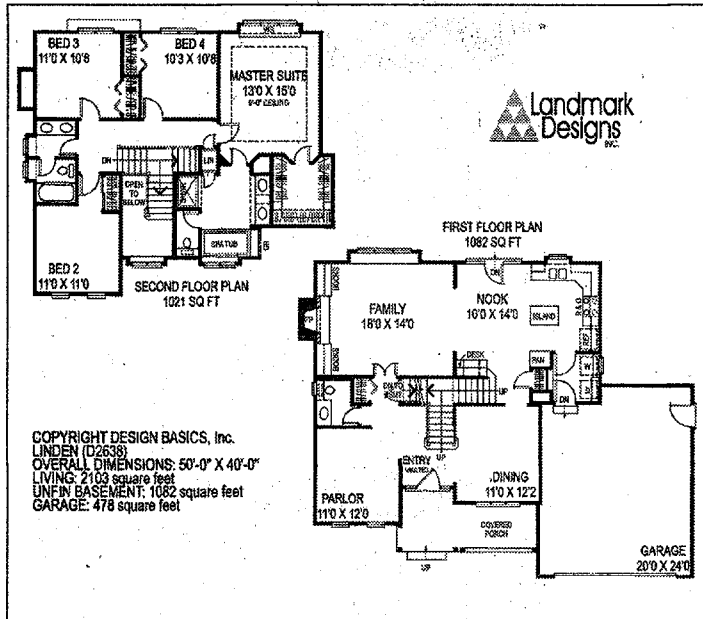
second floor. The ceiling has a 9-foot coffer and there is a window seat down one wall. In the corner is a large walk-in closet. Adjacent is a huge bathroom with "his and her" sinks, a large spa tub, a private stool area, and a shower. A linen closet that opens from inside and outside the bathroom has been added for convenience.

Bedrooms 3 and 4 are side-by-side and are about the same

size. Each has a wall closet and large windows. Convenient to all the bedrooms is the full bath with dual sinks and a tub. Bedroom 2, similar to the other two bedrooms, is adjacent to the bath and the stairs.

For a study plan of the LINDEN (D2638), send \$15 to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Rd. E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or call (800) 562-1151. Be sure to specify

plan name and number. Compact disks, with search functions are free of charge, to help you search our portfolio for your dream home (\$5 shipping and handling will apply). Or you may order or search online at www.ldiplans.com. Save 15 percent on construction plans using the code (LOE48) online, mailing, or calling (800) 562-1151.



### BRIEFS

#### Appraising and Sales

Century 21 Today offers career seminars Tuesday or Saturday noon to 1 p.m. at 28544 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. Contact Steve Leibhan at (248) 855-2000, Ext. 238.

#### Careers

For anyone interested in a real estate career, Keller

Williams Realty will be hosting a Career Seminar Tuesday, Nov. 13, at 6:30 p.m. and again on Friday, Nov. 23, at 2 p.m. The seminars will take place at the Plymouth Market Place, located at 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, a half block west of I-275 adjacent to Bally's Fitness Center. Please call in advance to reserve a seat: (734) 459-4700.

#### Building class

Get the help you need to pass the Michigan State builder's license examination with a 15-hour comprehensive seminar offered by Royal Oak Community Education in cooperation with Oakland Builders Education Seminars. The seminar is scheduled for Monday/Wednesday, Nov. 26, 28, Dec. 3, 5 and 10, from

6:30-9:30 p.m. at Royal Oak High School, 1500 Lexington, Royal Oak.

The course is for those who want to subcontract the construction of their own homes, real estate investors and developers and building trades people who want to work legally in Michigan. The cost of the seminar is \$199 plus \$20 for the course textbook and sam-

ple questions. Pre-registration with payment is required no later than Wednesday, Nov. 21, to Royal Oak Community Education. Please call (248) 588-5050 to register Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

#### Seminars

Real Estate One will hold two Foreclosure Investment

Seminars. The events start at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 12, at Macomb Community College and Tuesday, Nov. 13, at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. There is no charge but please pre-register at www.ourforeclosurehomes.com. Real Estate One is on Northwestern in Southfield. For additional information, call (248) 208-2917.

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Hauling/Clean Up 1030

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Landscaping 1210

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Free Estimates.

Painting/Decorating Paperhangers 1420

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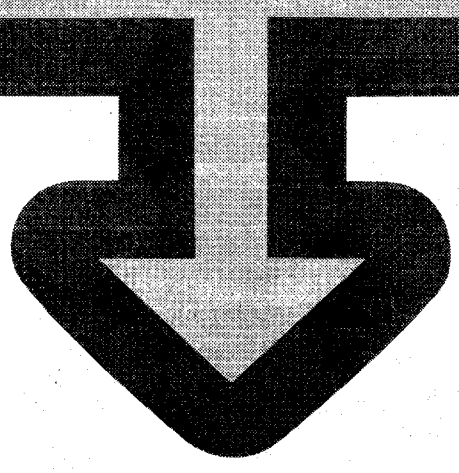
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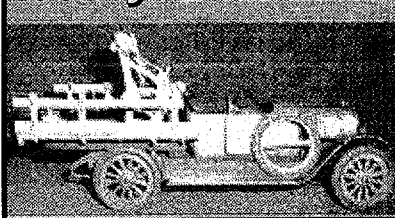
### 2007 F150 XLT SUPERCAB 4X4

Pref. equip. pkg., 5.4L FFV V-8 engine, electronic 4-speed auto w/OD, P235/75R17 BSW all-terrain, 3.55 ratio lim slip axle, 7155 GVWR pkg., trailer tow, fog lamps, power signal heated mirrors, elec. rear view mirror, chrome wheels and much more. Stock #7T6181

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**WAS \$17,005 NOW \$14,964\***

24 MONTH LEASE  
**\$155** PER MO.  
\$2000 Down \$2439.61 DUE AT SIGNING



### 2008 FUSION SE

2.3L I4 engine, 5-speed automatic transmission, P205/60R16 all season and more. Stock #8C8104

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\$2000 Down \$2439.43 DUE AT SIGNING



### 2008 TAURUS AWD LIMITED

3.5L V-6 Duratec engine, 6 speed automatic transmission, P225/55R18 BSW tires and much more. Stock #8C7059

**WAS \$29,445 NOW \$24,920\***

24 MONTH LEASE  
**\$225** PER MO.  
\$2000 Down \$2615.98 DUE AT SIGNING



### 2008 F150 4x4 XLT SUPERCAB

5.4L FFV V-8, electronic 4 spd auto O/D, P255/70R17 OWL all-terrain, 3.55 ratio lim. slip axle, 7150# GVWR pkg., sliding rear window, elec. shift-on-fly, trailer tow pkg., 17" Mach alum w/pain accents. Stock #BT6017

**WAS \$33,475 NOW \$26,129\***

24 MONTH LEASE  
**\$226** PER MO.  
\$2000 Down \$2631.27 DUE AT SIGNING

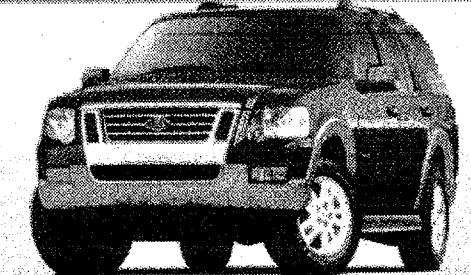


### 2008 EDGE FWD SE

Automatic overdrive transmission, 3.5 L V6 engine, 17" painted aluminum wheels, P235/65R17 BSW tires and more. Stock #8T3035

**WAS \$26,094 NOW \$23,089\***

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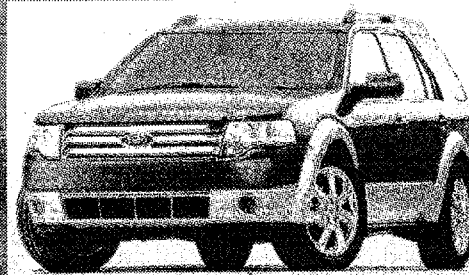


### 2008 EXPLORER XLT 4 DOOR 4X2

Air, illum. visors, 4.0L SOHC V6 engine, 5 speed auto trans with O/D, P245/65R17 A/S tires, 3.73 ratio reg axle, running boards, trailer tow, 17" cast alum whls, convenience group: electr. mirror, auto lamp headlights, keypad and more. Stock #8T5005

**WAS \$27,710 NOW \$22,004\***

24 MONTH LEASE  
**\$248** PER MO.  
\$2000 Down \$2684.74 DUE AT SIGNING



### 2008 TAURUS X FWD LTD

3.5L V-6 Duratec engine, 6 speed automatic transmission, 60/40 2nd row 3-passenger bench seat. Stock #8T0300

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4.0L SOHC V6, 5 speed auto trans, Pony pkg, rear decklid spoiler, 17" prem. paint cast alum whls, Pony center cap, leather, air, power drivers seat, Shaker 500 audio system, AM/FM stereo/6-CD in dash/MP3, 3.31 ratio reg axle, and more! Stock #8C6009

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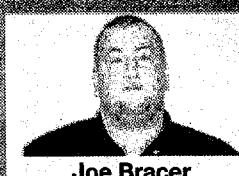
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Affordable luxury!  
**\$7950**

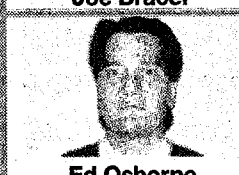
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**2003 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR 4X4**  
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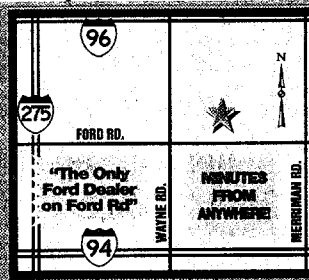
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