

Thursday
December 16, 1999

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VOLUME 5 NUMBER 11

Clarkston High School to add several new classes — A4

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IN THE PAPER TODAY

Pardon Our Phones

The Eccentric Newspapers apologizes for any inconvenience our advertisers, readers and carrier force may have experienced in calling our Birmingham office late last week. A new telephone system has been installed and like most new technology the "bugs" are still being worked out. We regret any delays this may have caused in connecting with our customers. We are improving our phone system to meet our company's needs into and beyond 2000. We appreciate your understanding and patience.

Sincerely,

Justin W. Wilcox

Justin Wilcox
Publisher
Eccentric Newspapers



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The Real Estate ads
in today's
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SPORTS

County meet: The 40th
annual Oakland County
Wrestling Meet is this Fri-
day and Saturday. / C1

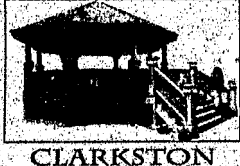
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VINTAGE



Editor's note: Vintage Clarkston,
written by Kim Huttenlocher, a member
of the board of directors of the
Clarkston Community Historical Society,
will return to this spot next week.



New law aims to make food safer



■ Legislation proposed by state Rep. Ruth Johnson streamlines the food inspection process and updates regulations that are 30 years old. The new law would incorporate what experts know today about food safety.

BY SALLY SLAUGHTER
STAFF WRITER

sslaughter@oe.hometown.com

Proposed legislation could make checking a local grocery store's most recent state health inspection report as easy as picking up a gallon of milk.

House Bill 5196, sponsored by state Rep. Ruth Johnson (R-Holly) also is aimed at increasing food safety and

making the licensing process easier for retailers. Part of the plan is to put inspection reports, or at least portions of them, on the Internet.

The legislation was introduced last week. Johnson, whose district includes Clarkston, Independence and Springfield townships, held a press conference about the proposed legislation Tuesday at the Clarkston Cafe.

Johnson and Gerald Wojtala, a scien-

tist with the food and dairy division of the Michigan Department of Agriculture, explained how the proposed bill, called the Michigan Food Law, would work.

Wojtala said the current code is made up of 12 laws that are 30 years old.

"A big impetus behind this is the risk," he said. "We know a lot more about this than we did 30 years ago. The (proposed) code addresses those things we know make people sick."

Things like hand washing, keeping sick workers away from food and putting stricter guidelines on food holding temperatures are in the proposed

food law.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's 1999 Food Code was the model for Michigan's proposed law, Johnson said. It takes a confusing and sometimes contradictory combination of statutes and combines them.

"It gives businesses the confidence they are serving safe foods," she said. "I view the legislation as a crucial step in improving government."

She said it improves food safety and eliminates duplication of services.

What happens now is local health departments inspect restaurants. The

Please see FOOD, A8

Springfield Library about to start new chapter

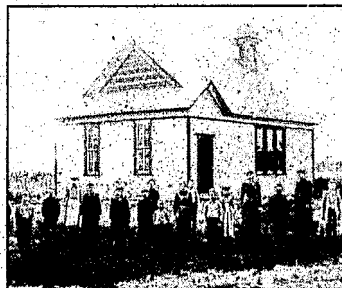


Outgrown: The tiny library is easy to pass by on Andersonville Road.



STAFF PHOTOS BY STEVE CANTRELL

Close-knit staff: Springfield Township Library Director Cathy Forst (left) and two of her staffers, Francie Bauer and Kathryn Kraepel, work in close quarters in the former one-room school house.



Old-fashioned education: The library uses what once was Andersonville School. This photo was taken in 1894.

BY SALLY SLAUGHTER
STAFF WRITER

sslaughter@oe.hometown.com

It's hard to say who will be more glad when Springfield Township's new library opens in about 18 months — the moms who have to pull up a piece of floor during children's story hour or Library Director Cathy Forst who for 20 years has served readers in a space that is way too small.

And at 12,000 square feet, the new library will be about seven times bigger than the current 1,800-square-foot area residents now use. The library will move from the former one-room school house it has occupied since its inception in 1976 to the top floor of the township's new civic center that's currently in the design phase.

"We envision a lot more books and an expanded reference section," Forst said.

The \$4.5 million civic center project was approved by Springfield Township voters in November 1998. Plans

were begun but stopped abruptly when the Michigan Department of Natural Resources took months to approve a land swap that is part of the deal. The details are finally being worked out, and the township is going forward with design work for the entire building. The building will include township offices, a meeting room and the new library.

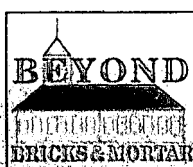
The building will be on Davisburg Road near Ormond Road across the street from Davisburg Elementary. The library and township portion will have separate entrances and parking. The meeting area will be toward Davisburg Road as people walk in to the left, and the library will open up to the right.

Space in the library will be almost equally split between youth and adult services, Forst said. Windows are planned for the north wall, providing lots of natural light and lovely vistas of the wetlands, Forst said. The youth area will be to the west and the adult area to the east.

Please see LIBRARY, A8

North Sashabaw Elementary: Eyeing excellence and undergoing change

(Editor's note: Clarkston's seven elementary schools are abuzz with construction or renovation work. But beyond the new accent stripes in revamped building facades, the expansive windows and the technological bells and whistles, each school maintains its own unique character. This story, the fifth in an occasional series, looks at one of those schools.)



certainly won't read that line in an official brochure. But consider what's happened to the spunky, 32-year-old

BY JAN BAKER
SPECIAL WRITER

North Sashabaw Elementary ... the Mr. Potato Head of Clarkston schools?

Well, you

building over the past year and a half. Not only has it watched human beings turn its front into its back — and its back into its front, it has:

- Undergone replacements, lifts, tucks and augmentations
- Donned new footings
- Changed hands (with a new principal)

- Switched faces (with 21 new staff members out of a total of 64 — and a

Please see N. SASHABAW, A2



STAFF PHOTO BY STEVE CANTRELL

Dedicated staff: North Sashabaw teacher Mari Ann Pac-Bleau plays for students.

Clarkston Eccentric

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HOW TO REACH US

Justin Wilcox,
Publisher
(248) 901-2537
jwilcox@oe.homecomm.net

Phillip Sherman,
Managing Editor
(248) 901-2563
psheer@oe.homecomm.net

Karen Hermes Smith,
Editor
(248) 625-1900 ex. 13
ksmith@oe.homecomm.net

Susan Tauber,
Reporter
(248) 625-1900 ex. 12
stauber@oe.homecomm.net

Sally Slaughter,
Reporter
(248) 625-1900 ex. 11
sslaughter@oe.homecomm.net

Daniel Stickrad,
Sports Editor
(248) 901-2564
dstickrad@oe.homecomm.net

Steve Cantrell,
Photographer
(248) 625-1900 ex. 15
scantrell@oe.homecomm.net

Robbie Haworth,
Ad Representative
(248) 625-1900 ex. 20
rhaworth@oe.homecomm.net

Marsha Wengrow,
Receptionist
(248) 625-1900

Veronica Sexton,
Home Delivery
Manager
(248) 625-1900 ex. 18

Jean Tredway,
Classified Account
Executive
(248) 625-1900

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N. Sashabaw from page A1

slew of new students).
■ Missed a heck of a lot of its pieces (57 pupils dropped out in the 1998-99 school year alone).
■ Sported different colors (teal, plum and apricot interior accents — just to name a few).
■ Endured an assortment of “players” — architects, engineers, construction crews, administrators, teachers, students and parents.

■ Kept teaching little people through it all — and even better than ever.

Though Debra Latozas, North Sashabaw's second-year principal, didn't exactly compare her building to the popular spud toy during a recent interview, she did say that the school's long-term success would depend largely on the strength of its body and its ability to stay ahead of change.

So far, she's pleased with the progress that's been made.

On the right track

As the first Clarkston elementary school to realize the completion of extensive renovation, North Sashabaw looks better prepared to be both strong and flexible in the service of students. The sheer size of the building has grown from 38,600 to 55,500 square feet. Purple student lockers line the hallways, creating more learning space in the classrooms. The school features a dedicated cafeteria with a stage that can be used for student assemblies, plays, presentations, grade-level activities, evening family activities and more.

At the same time, the gym is no longer compromised for physical education. That room has a new rubberized floor for increased student safety, shiny new basketball hoops and a new paint job. On top of that, big windows, elevated ceilings and a bright interior color scheme give the school's interior a child-friendly appeal.

“I'm happy with the way it turned out,” Latozas said. “And I think the biggest plus is that we now have a lot of little (support) rooms for small group instruction and bigger-sized rooms for groups of 20 or more. This means we can give attention to a greater range of students.”

But while a year and a half of construction work created a school with a rejuvenated physical body and lots of potential, the story isn't over. Latozas said that school is busy developing a culture that maximizes the opportunities provided by the new physical plant. That inner-growth process started when she walked in the door as principal last year and will probably continue for a longer period of time than the construction phase did.

Establishing the right climate

According to the principal, having the building torn apart was probably one of the worst — and best — things that happened to North Sashabaw's staff



STAFF PHOTOS BY STEVE CANTRELL

Teaching by example: North Sashabaw Principal Debra Latozas looks at a book with student Allie Reeves.

during her tenure. While staffers commiserated with each other over the multitude of construction obstacles they were working around, they also extended themselves to help their co-workers. From teachers to custodians to classroom aides, a lot of people ended up learning valuable lessons about trust and individual worth.

“Going through all of that pulled us together as a staff,” Latozas said. “We became stronger because we went through that experience together.”

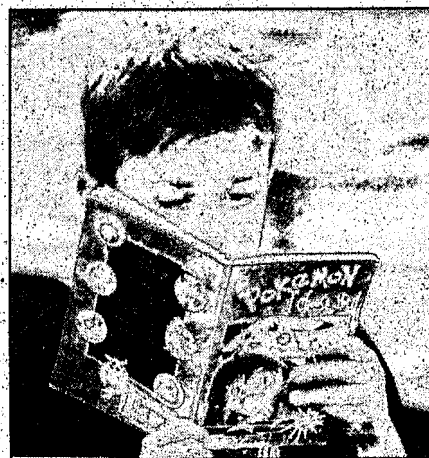
This year, the staff had to pull together again.

The principal pointed out that North Sashabaw opened its doors in August with 21 staff members who were working there for the first time. And the construction saws were still buzzing away.

“It was frustrating this summer when we couldn't get into the building to work on our classrooms or even to put things away,” Latozas said. “So when we finally were able to come into rooms, everybody worked with each other. Anybody who didn't have a classroom that was going to have kids in it on Monday morning pitched in to help a classroom teacher.”

One swingin' staff

Eager to celebrate the end of the renovation project and promote the continuation of working together, Latozas decided to arrange a half-day team-building activity at Camp Tamarack the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Fifty-seven staffers participated in “The Adventure Challenge.”



Reading is fun: North Sashabaw Elementary student Nicholas Kellogg finds reading about Pokemon to be fun.

Teachers, custodians, classroom aides, support staffers — and the lunch lady — swinging from ropes and landing onto wooden discs?

(Somehow, one can't help but wonder if there'll be a video of this that kids can rent at Blockbuster.)

It was a pretty funny — and revealing — exercise, Latozas admitted.

“When you're swinging over on a rope, you have to trust that the people (on the other side) are actually going to grab you and hold onto you,” she said with a chuckle. “And then, of course, you're supposed to land on the discs. But you end up landing on people's toes. Or you knock them sideways so they're off balance. And we learned that a lot

of things that we were doing to each other physically, we all do to each other in our daily lives.”

The principal said that the platinum rule — treating others the way THEY would like to be treated — doesn't often dawn on people as they are focused on getting from point A to point B. As a result, one person might say something that offends someone else. Or a person might require something of someone that he or she isn't comfortable doing.

“The biggest lesson we learned is that a lot of this relates to what we're asking kids to do,” Latozas said. “When we're asking kids to work cooperatively — when we're saying, ‘Work with

Please see N. SASHABAW, A3

OBITUARIES

Warren “Bud” Temple

Warren “Bud” Temple of Clarkston died Dec. 11, 1999, at age 69.

Mr. Temple was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, Korea. He was a member of Cedar Lodge No. 60 F. & A.M., Clarkston, and Clarkston United Methodist Church.

Mr. Temple is survived by his wife, Christina; two daughters and two sons, Karen Adcock, Irene (David) Golen, Scott (Pauline) and Ken (Cindy). He is also survived by six grandchildren, Joe and Tom Adcock; David, Kathy and Matt Golen; and Nina Christine Temple; and dear friend Scott Adcock.

Funeral services were held Monday, Dec. 13, at Coats Funeral Home Inc., Waterford, with the Rev. Christopher Cowdin of Wesley United Methodist Church officiating.

The family requests that memorials be sent to the Karmanos Cancer Institute.

Florence May Gremel

Florence May Gremel of Clarkston died Dec. 11, 1999, at age 78.

Mrs. Gremel was retired from

C & O Railroad and touched all with her caring heart.

Mrs. Gremel is survived by her husband, George H.; sister, Maxine King; and brother, Frank McCarthy.

Funeral Mass was held Wednesday, Dec. 14, at Our Lady of the Lakes Church, Waterford.

Rite of Committal followed at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Our Lady of the Lakes Church, Waterford.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Coats Funeral Home Inc., Waterford.

Gerald L. “Jerry” Misiak

Gerald L. “Jerry” Misiak of Clarkston, formerly of Detroit, died Dec. 11, 1999, at age 36.

Mr. Misiak was preceded in death by a brother, Danny.

Mr. Misiak is survived by his wife, Mary; three children, Geoffrey, Gregory and Olivia; parents, Marvin and Delores Misiak of Dearborn Heights; and father-and-mother-in-law, Ken and Donna McAlpine of Gaylord.

Mr. Misiak is also survived by four sisters and two brothers, Elaine, Joyce, Joann, Karen, Richard and Jim.

Funeral Mass was held Tuesday, Dec. 14, at Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church, Waterford, with the Rev. Larry Delonay officiating.

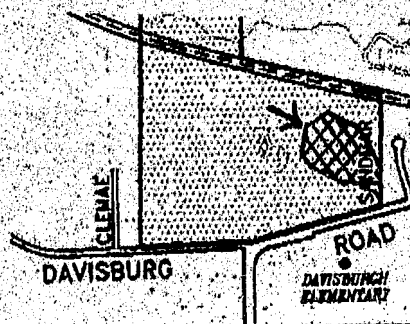
Memorials may be made to Mary for the future education of their three children.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to the Lewis E. Wint & Son TRUST 100 Funeral Home, Clarkston.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD PROPOSED REZONING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Springfield will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, December 20, 1999, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Springfield Township Hall, 650 Broadway, Davisburg, MI.

The purpose of the Hearing is to receive public comment on a proposal by the Planning Commission to rezone approximately 7.5 acres of land owned by the Charter Township of Springfield from RO (Resource Conservation) to PL (Public Lands) for construction of a Township Civic Center. The property is located north of Davisburg Rd., south of the Canadian National rail tracks, west of Sandmar and east of Clemas. Part of P.L. 07-18-261-009.



NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that documents relating to the proposed rezoning may be examined at the office of the Springfield Township Clerk, 650 Broadway, Davisburg, MI during regular business hours. Written comments may be submitted to the Springfield Township Clerk, P.O. Box 1098, Davisburg, MI 48350 until the time of the Public Hearing. Those persons needing a special accommodation at the Hearing should contact the Clerk's Office at least two (2) business days in advance.

NANCY STROLE, Clerk
Charter Township of Springfield

Published November 20 and December 16, 1999

12/15/99

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N. Sashabaw from page A2

that person and put together this project' — there's more to it than that."

And how well is North Sashabaw doing in establishing a cooperative culture?

According to Latozas, "I think we're there."

She described the current climate at the school as warm, welcoming, encouraging, supportive and stable. Staff members do come and go. And the school continues to house a transient student population — drawing quite a few children from apartment complexes and mobile home developments. However, the behavioral philosophy is set, the principal said.

It's hard to dispute that there's warmth at North Sashabaw. On a tour of the school with the principal, several first-graders spotted Latozas in the hallway and immediately ran to hug her. She appeared as excited to see them as they were to encounter her.

Maureen Moss, a North Sashabaw teacher for 10 years, credited Latozas for helping to improve the school's atmosphere. "We're moving upward in that area — most definitely," she said. "And it's because the leadership here has been wonderful. Debbie (Latozas) has provided us with a great morale boost. She's here in a support role and she gives you the leeway to try new things."

On a climate scale of one to 10 — 10 being Richard Simon's workout studio — Moss gave the school's current climate a nine.

Appreciative students

Having incredibly grateful students probably doesn't hurt the school's climate, either.

Latozas — who's in her 21st year with the Clarkston school district — said that she's had the opportunity to be in a lot of other school buildings during that time, but other student populations don't come close to the thankfulness she sees at North Sashabaw.

"I'd have to say that the best thing about North Sashabaw is that the kids here appreciate everything that you do for them. No matter how small, they think it's great," she said.

An example of that grateful spirit is the school's garden club, the principal said. The club was formed last year as an after-school activity for students who had to wait an additional half-hour at the end of the day for their departure bus.

This year, the bus departs on time. The club has opened its membership to other students in the building and it is growing — from 15 members last year to 36 this year. Parent volunteers in the activity now number five.

According to parent volunteer Becky Pieknik, who oversees the club, the members — girls and boys — are by no means a half-hearted bunch. They take a lot of pride in their landscaping work and are thankful for the opportunity to get their hands dirty. Members have planted spring bulbs by the school's front sign, constructed bird feeders and landscaped around the school's new wing. The club has also secured a \$1,000 Nature Education Site of Tomorrow Grant for its work, an ongoing bird seed donation from Pet Supplies Plus and help from Bordin's.

Promoted by the garden club, the building now boasts its own school flower — the bell-shaped violet/blue-blossomed bellflower.

Pieknik — a parent with a green thumb who confesses that she's still had to do some researching on some of the club's endeavors — said the club has been a win/win situation for everyone in it.

"I work full-time — two part-time jobs," Pieknik said. "So this gives me the opportunity to be

involved after school when it fits into my schedule."

The academic forecast

While the climate and attitude of a school define its character, so does its academic expectations. Schools, after all, exist as places to learn.

Latozas said that North Sashabaw "is improving and needs to improve" in academics, but that other foundations must be in place first for long-term success in that area to happen.

"First, the climate needs to be established. Then the desire to improve needs to be there. Then you need to give the staff time to plan and implement and get things in place. And then you'll see scores go up," she said.

Where does she see her staff on that multi-tiered ladder?

"We're doing the planning and the implementing, right now," the principal said.

Latozas described her staff as a shining example of "desire to improve."

Going through their first-ever North Central Association accreditation process for North Sashabaw, the school's staffers received their first visit by NCA officials in October. They were judged on how well they had worked on goals to improve informational reading and problem solving as well as pride, attitude and respect.

It turned out to be good news.

The NCA visitors said that they were so impressed with how far the school's staff had come, that NCA chairperson Peg Sell was going to recommend North Sashabaw to the state NCA committee as a school for site visits.

As a "site visit" school, Latozas said that North Sashabaw would represent an example of exemplary progress to other schools who are just starting the NCA process, which takes about three years.

"So, academically, we're getting the plans in place, so we should start seeing some improvements," the principal said. "We have a long way to go. Parents send the best students that they have. Our job is to take them from where they are when they get here, to where they need to be by the end of fifth grade. And that's an uphill battle."

North Sashabaw, Pine Knob and Andersonville elementaries house the highest number of students who receive free or reduced lunches — a prime indicator of student achievement. North Sashabaw and Pine Knob also draw the most transient student populations from within their boundaries, which means they have the lowest number of students who attend their schools from kindergarten straight through fifth-grade.

To give North Sashabaw extra help in its efforts to reach the broad spectrum of student achievers that it houses, Latozas said Clarkston's school board approved two teachers as "floaters" in the building this year.

Maureen Moss and Sandy Chenet are formally called general education partners. But they carry around full calendars, popping into grade-level classrooms for a week or two at a time to help with guided reading or another area of curriculum. They also work with children in small groups within a class, speeding some along to keep them challenged and reviewing work for others to keep them from falling behind.

Parents speak

To Jennifer Krausman, the North Sashabaw parent of first-grader Katie, the school is a winner.

"My daughter loves it," Krausman said in a recent interview. "She's in a regular first-grade class (the school also has a

positive experiences ensure the successful development of all individuals."

Parental attendance at parent-teacher conferences:

Fall 1999 - 100 percent

Spring 1998 - 100 percent

(All parents were contacted, either in person, by phone or through student-led conferences.)

1998-99 MEAP Scores:

Reading, Grade 4: 72.9 (up nine points from 1997-98)

Math, Grade 4: 86.4 (about even with 1997-98)

Science, Grade 5: 24.1 (down 22 points from 1997-98)

Writing, Grade 5: 69.9 (up two points from 1997-98)

kindergarten-first grade multi-age class), but she goes to math enrichment once a week. And she moves ahead at her own pace in reading. The teachers are wonderful. And she's being challenged."

The mother — who works full-time — said she particularly likes the school's organization and its willingness to accommodate working parents.

"Everybody here is more than helpful when I come in to help," she said. "And it's good to be able to sign up well ahead of time so I can get the time off."

Lori McKay, who has two children at the school — both in multiage classrooms — said she's grateful that her kids are getting the multiage experience.

"The whole school focuses on social skills and values," McKay said. "And it has a family atmosphere. Everybody makes you feel included. You don't feel like an outsider."

Becky Pieknik, the garden club's sponsor, said that it all reflects on the work of one group.

"The staff is just wonderful here," she said. "They really go above and beyond for our kids. That's one reason I won't move."



STAFF PHOTO BY STEVE CANTRELL

Eager reader: North Sashabaw Elementary student Amber Thuot finds an out-of-the-way place to enjoy her book.

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North Sashabaw at a glance

Year built: 1967

Year renovated: 1999

Size before and after renovations: 38,600 to 55,500 square feet

Address: 5290 Maybee Road, Clarkston, MI 48346

Principal: Debra Latozas

Enrollment: 440

School mascot: Wildcat

School colors: Teal and plum

(adopted this school year)

School flower: Bellflower (new)

School motto: "Up to P.A.R.

— Pride, Attitude and Respect"

Mission statement: "The mission of North Sashabaw is to provide an environment where

New classes to better prepare kids

BY SUSAN B. TAUBER
STAFF WRITER

stauber@oe.homecomm.net

Imagine Clarkston High School graduates making names for themselves in the world of computer graphic design, sculpture, studio art, environmental sciences and Spanish and French languages.

Thanks to approval of new and revised courses by the school board Monday, students are one step closer to being geared to succeed in these areas.

Clarkston High School students will be able to enroll in beginning computer graphic design, advanced placement studio art, sculpture II, Spanish 9-10, French 9-10 and environmental science/advanced placement environmental science classes sometime in the year 2000.

"These classes will help our kids to reach as far as they can reach," school superintendent Al Roberts told the school board. "If these opportunities are there for our kids to learn, they will stretch a little more."

While these won't be of inter-

■ The new language classes, the studio art and the science classes will also help students prepare for the advance placement tests. If students score high enough on these, they are exempt from certain beginning required classes in college.

est to all OHS students, they will help those who want to pursue careers in these areas.

The advanced placement studio art class, for example, will attract highly motivated college students, according to Geraldine Moore, director of curriculum, research, planning and evaluation.

"This class is a great opportunity for students to fulfill their portfolio requirements for college entrance and scholarship assessment," she said.

The full-year class will be offered to students in the 11th and 12th grades. Its prerequisites are introduction to art, drawing and design.

The sculpture II class will allow students to work in three-dimensional forms of sculpture

including wood, alabaster, clay and light metals. It's a continuation of the sculpture I class.

Although a classroom is available for this class at the high school, it needs a ventilation system. A company in Wixom submitted a bid to install the ventilation system at a cost of \$7,380.

The beginning computer graphic design class won't teach vocational skills, but it will introduce students to the graphic design potentials. The students will leave with software competence and skills to create computer-generated designs and compositions.

While a CHS room is wired for this class, more computers are needed so each student can work on a computer at the same time. The environmental

science/advanced placement environmental science class is a revision of the environmental science course with mathematical modeling and research writing added from another course. This new class won't be available to students until fall 2000. Its purpose is to focus on real science behind environmental problems and issues, according to the class proposal. It will offer a broader base opportunity for the study of ecology and related topics than current classes do.

The additional Spanish and French classes are a continuation of the existing language arts program. They will meet the needs of CHS students who began studying these languages in eighth grade.

The new language classes, the studio art and the science classes will also help students prepare for the advance placement tests. If students score high enough on these, they are exempt from certain beginning required classes in college.

NOTABLES

Tom Fugitt

Tom Fugitt of Clarkston has joined the staff of First Commercial Realty & Development Co. Inc. in Southfield as project manager. Fugitt will be responsible for overseeing construction of commercial real estate projects of the firm.

A 40-year veteran of the construction and commercial real estate industry, Fugitt comes to First Commercial from the Rite Aid Corp. where, since 1995, he was the company's local construction manager. Prior to that, he worked for 35 years for the former Perry Drug Store chain. His career at Perry included positions in construction, real estate and operations.

Kris Ehlke

Kris Ehlke of Waterford has been promoted to consumer lending officer of the Clarkston State Bank.

Ehlke joined the bank's staff in January 1999 after several years with NBD. She was previously with NBD in Troy where she worked in the Mortgage Lending Department.

School Notes

Watch out, graphic artists

Clarkston Elementary students demonstrated to the school board what they're doing with computer technology in their classrooms. Second-grader Evelyn Wright and fourth-grader Brandon Hughes showed the computer pages they made about themselves with the HyperStudio program. These included pictures taken by a digital camera and drawings they did with a mouse. Fifth-grade student Brittany Davis talked about the triple-fold brochure, The Wonderful Wilderness, her class made while Richard Meyer and Nick Johnson showed the newsletter their fifth-grade class made in teacher Jennifer Sturk's class. Meyer was the publisher; Johnson, the editor. Clarkston El staffers who helped with these projects are media specialist Sandra Kool, second-grade teacher Evelyn Wright, fourth-grade teacher Tammy Gerard and fifth-grade teacher Lisa Crawford.

Employee Recognition Awards

Five Clarkston schools employees received special recognition at December's school board meeting. Those recognized were Clarkston High School Spanish teacher Kristy Glenn, nominated for "making a difference;" Andersonville Elementary first-grade teacher Kathy McEwen for her contribution to the school's Multicultural Day; Joyce Morris, kitchen manager at Clarkston High School, for her dedication to the school district, the students and staff; Pine Knob Elementary social worker Pam Schoemer for her sense of humor and "whatever-it-takes, our-kids-are-worth-it" attitude and Clarkston High School psychologist Tina Verlinden for her complete devotion to students and their needs.

NorthSashabaw gardens

North Sashabaw Elementary had much help from the community for its new and improved gardens. Contributors include Bordine's for landscape design plans and for mums, bulbs and flowers; parents for mums, bulbs and flowers; Kmart, Jacobson's, Bordine's and Clarkston True Value for garden tools; James Lumber, ACO Hardware and Teresa Fougine for materials and supplies for bird feeders; North Sashabaw PTO and Michigan DNR NEST 2000 Grant for trees, shrubs and plants and Global Releaf Grant for trees.

Youth assistance volunteers

Nine residents met approval by the school board to be part of the Clarkston Area Youth Assistance Board of Directors for the 1999-2000 program year. These volunteers are Jeff Alstead, Joyce Bleim, Jan Colbrunn, Mary Alice Cook, Janet Howse, Sheila Hughes, Amy Kociszewski, Nancy Rodda and Pat Shepanek.

CLARIFICATION

Dree Wint is a member of the Pine Knob Elementary School PTA, not the Andersonville Elementary School

PTO as reported in the Sunday, Dec. 12, edition of the Clarkston Eccentric.




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Money for OCC training center clears key legislative hurdle

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

State money for Oakland Community College's Combined Regional Emergency Services Training (CREST) center cleared an important hurdle in the legislature Tuesday, Dec. 7.

Money for planning of the center was added to the state's capital outlay appropriations bill before it was approved and sent along to Gov. John Engler for a signature.

But the grant application for the project faces other hurdles, perhaps taller ones, in the future. One of the largest may be Engler's own pen. Engler has a line-item veto power. His Department of Management and Budget had told lawmakers it wanted a "clean" capital outlay budget bill. Since the OCC amount was tacked on with a number of other additions, he may exercise that veto power on all amendments.

The amount is small, just

\$100, but according to Sen. Shirley Johnson (R-Royal Oak), that counts as a critical first step in winning approval for the entire \$3.5 million that OCC is seeking for the CREST center.

Without some money in the budget for planning, further funding of the center cannot be approved, she explained.

Johnson, a former student and strong supporter of the college, was able to add the amount just before the bill won final approval.

An earlier effort by Rep. Patricia Godchaux (R-Birmingham) to add the full amount of the request — \$3.5 million — failed to win House approval on Dec. 2.

OCC is seeking that much state help for an overall project expected to run to \$7.27 million, according to Cheryl Kozell, executive director of resource development at OCC. Once constructed, the CREST center will be a simulated city giving police, firefighters and other emergency service workers a place to train

in life-like surroundings. When finished, it is expected to be the only such training center in the Midwest and is often compared to a similar center at the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

Actually, planning on the center is already completed. In fact, OCC expects to break ground on the project this spring.

State funding for the center faces yet another big hurdle. The state is very near to its legally set cap on bonding for construction projects. Even if it is

■ Without money in the budget for planning, further funding cannot be approved.

Sen. Shirley Johnson
—R-Royal Oak

approved, OCC may have to wait for other state funded projects are paid off.

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POLICE NEWS

Following are some incidents recently reported to police and fire agencies in Independence and Springfield townships and the city of the Village of Clarkston.

Independence Police

Larceny from vehicle

On Dec. 11, someone removed a rear license plate from a vehicle parked in a driveway in the 4600 block of Cobden.

Retail Fraud

On Dec. 11, someone removed a 30-pack of beer from the Farmer Jack's Supermarket at 6555 Sashabaw Road without paying for it. Police recovered four cans of the beer from a nearby field.

Malicious destruction of property

On Dec. 11, someone threw a bowling ball through the rear window of a vehicle parked in the 6000 block of Sunnydale. The ball struck the front windshield, cracked it, and then landed in the front passenger seat.

Home invasion

On Dec. 11, someone knocked open the front door of a home under construction in the 7800

block of Old Forest Drive and removed several items from the basement. These included a television dish antenna, two ceiling fans, two fan remote controls and four packages of light bulbs, valued at approximately \$575.

Outstanding warrants

On Dec. 11, police arrested a 19-year-old Davisburg man for outstanding warrants. Police consider him a suspect in numerous break-ins in Independence and Springfield townships, according to the police report.

Check fraud

On Dec. 9, police took a report about a Clarkston man cashing two checks from a roofing company for \$576.82 at Comerica Bank. The business reported the checks stolen. Comerica Bank set up two appointments with the man to return the money, but he failed to show.

Springfield Police

Larceny from construction site

On Dec. 13, someone removed several tools from a construction site storage trailer in the block of 6000 Long Point after cutting the lock off the trailer.

Home invasion

On Dec. 18, a homeowner in the 9800 block of Forest Ridge Drive reported returning home from a vacation and finding several rooms in his house ransacked and several items missing. These included firearms, VCRs and jewelry. Someone entered the home through a rear basement window, according to the police report.

Independence Fire

Fire calls

Independence Township Fire Department responded to 16 calls Dec. 9-12. These included seven medical calls, three investigations, three personal-injury calls, two vehicle fires and one other call.

Fire engineer Robert Pursley severely sprained his ankle after fighting a vehicle fire on Pelton at Waterford Road Dec. 9. The injury occurred when he stepped onto the fire truck after the fire was extinguished. The bottoms of his shoes were slippery from diesel fuel that had leaked from the Road Commission for Oakland County truck that was on fire. Pursley will be out of work for four to six weeks.

Davisburg Candle Factory being sold to new owners

BY SALLY SLAUGHTER
STAFF WRITER

sslaughter@oe.homecomm.net

Mary Tebo's Davisburg Candle Factory has been so successful, she's selling it.

"I've been doing three people's jobs. I'm tired," she said.

She is negotiating with three people willing to split up the administrative work she doesn't care for including supply work, accounting and inventory.

"I'm a candle maker; I want to make candles," she said.

The breeze of success has not snuffed out her future at the factory. She will stay on to help the new owners and teach classes. A Davisburg resident, Tebo also will do consulting work for larger candle companies.

The candle factory has been around for more than 30 years, Tebo said. She bought it from Charlie and Patia Going 14 years ago. Patia Going still

I've been doing three people's jobs. I'm tired.

Mary Tebo

Current owner of Davisburg Candle Factory, who will stay on as a candle maker

lives in Davisburg, Tebo said. Tebo learned the business by doing it. She said good employees taught her and after awhile, the skills came naturally.

lives in Davisburg, Tebo said.

Tebo learned the business by doing it. She said good employees taught her and after awhile, the skills came naturally.

"I love the creativity of candle making. I love finding the colors," she said.

Tebo is hoping to close on the sale of the factory by Feb. 1, but first she needs to clear up a discrepancy with the township.

The Springfield Township offices are next-door to the candle factory. Around 1950 a bathroom was added to the

offices. Tebo said she thinks the room extends into an area that she is being taxed for. She asked the township board at its Dec. 9 meeting to straighten out the property line so that the township bathroom shows up as township property. She said the area adds up to 12 percent of her property. In a letter dated Nov. 30 she suggested the township pay her for the property, which would come out to \$14,400 according to the appraised value of the whole candle factory. She also wants to be reimbursed for the taxes she has paid on that portion, which come to \$2,030. A new survey also will be needed, she said.

"I'm looking at the survey to sell the building," she said.

The township turned the matter over to its attorney. Tebo said that because the buildings are so old and records scattered, the best thing is for an attorney to try to find the correct information.



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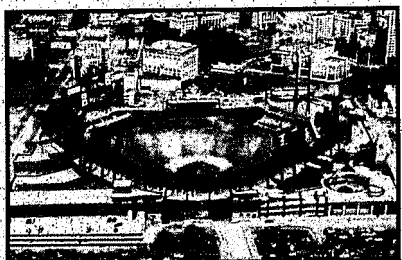


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Kindergarten artistry: Students decorate Franklin eatery

BY KEN VAN STEENKISTE
STAFF WRITER

Although winter has yet to treat metro Detroit to the white stuff, snow flakes and snow men abound inside one local eatery.

Of course, the snow flakes are construction paper cut-outs and the snow men have noses drawn on with crayon. But for the group of kindergarten students who made them, that's every bit as fun and exciting as the real thing.

Students from Beverly Hills' Greenfield Elementary School played Santa Claus on Monday morning during a special field trip. The kids delivered hand-made holiday ornaments to the Flying Fish Tavern, 17600 W. 13 Mile Road, in Franklin.

The 34 students spent a little over an hour taping their decora-

■ **'This is the first one (field trip) I've been on.'**

Mike Pendracki,
—Southfield parent

tions up in the tavern's booths, doorways and stairwells before having lunch.

Little bodies darted down the restaurant's hallways, with hands clutching tape, in a frenzy of holiday excitement. For some, the thrill of sharing their art work with others was too much to contain.

"I hung up my picture! I hung up my picture," exclaimed 5-year-old Dustin Taylor, bobbing back and forth, stamping his feet and waving his hands like a

wide receiver who just scored a game-winning touchdown.

Construction paper ice skates — complete with tin foil blades — were a popular craft, along with penguins sporting Santa hats and snow men of construction paper, crayon and paste.

Five-year-old Scott Feist eagerly grabbed a pair of construction paper skates from a box brimming with decorations, peering around the restaurant with an intent gaze.

"Where should I put them," he asked his teachers, before darting off to a booth, holding the skates up to the wall with an inquisitive look.

"They were so busy working on this stuff all week that I would

have to remind them 'hey let's have our snack now,'" said Laura Miller, a teacher at Greenfield's kindergarten plus afternoon enrichment program.

Miller explained that her student's preoccupation with holiday crafts was a surprising change in priorities.

"They never forget about snack time," she said.

Decorating the restaurant afforded little opportunity to forget about snacks — the kids were treated to a complimentary lunch of chicken nuggets and fries after they finished "decking the halls." Adults got to pick a lunch from the "big kids" menu.

A few Greenfield Elementary parents found out that, while

there is no such thing as a free lunch, a day of holiday decorating could be a rewarding way to spend some quality time with their children.

Margie Laskill, of Southfield, accompanied her daughter Alyssa on the field trip.

"I'm on driving and tape duty," she explained as she affixed rolls of masking tape to the back of the kid's decorations. "I was lucky enough to have the day off today."

Mike Pendracki, of Southfield, explained that the time was right for a field trip with his son.

"This is the first one I've been on, but he's been wanting me to go on one for quite a while," he said.

The trip had some other very practical applications, explained Miller.

"It's a good way for (the students) to practice their manners and skills at interacting with others," she said.



STAFF PHOTO BY JERRY ZOLYNSKY

Good job: Eric Vergeldt, 5, gets help from Natalie Stavali as he and other students helped decorate the Flying Fish Restaurant.

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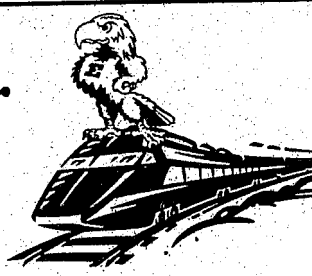
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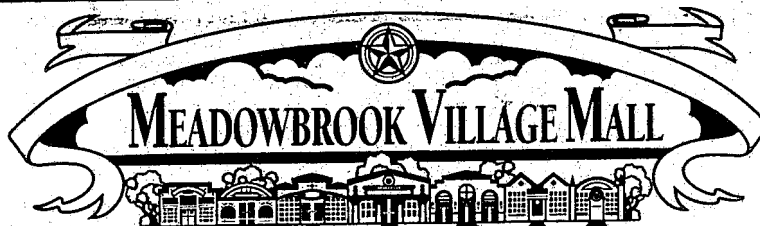


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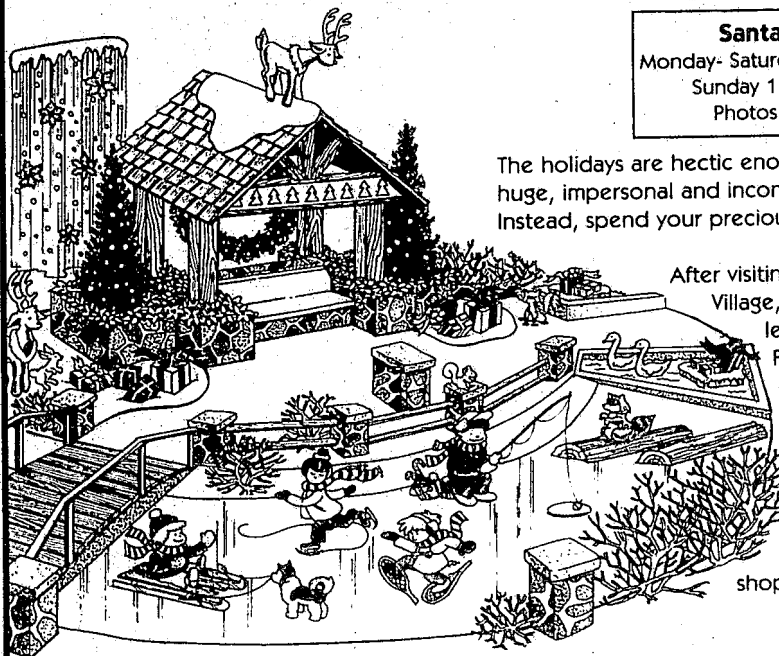
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Library from page A1

"Right now we can only have story hour when the library is closed," she said. There isn't enough room upstairs so children have to gather downstairs. Parents sit on the floor for lack of better accommodations.

The new library will have a separate story area for children. It will have sections for different age groups. Forst said the furnishings may even reflect the size ranges of young patrons. It could include places for the younger ones to climb into or on to read.

In the middle of the open room will be approximately six computer stations. Forst said they will likely have Internet access and be used for CD-ROMS and the library card catalog, too. Study and small group meeting areas also will be a part of the plan. Display cases also are planned.

Ample staff working room and storage will be provided. In the current building, staff eat

lunch in a crowded office area and files are stored in the restroom.

Forst said she does her best to keep materials fresh at the library and make residents happy. There just isn't enough room.

"We have a storage unit that's 10 feet by 10 feet. It's pretty full. The books are over my head," Forst said.

She said in many cases she cannot display multiple copies of books because that means leaving others off the shelves. Sometimes earlier works of a certain author or some classics are in storage because of space constraints. Every inch of the current space is used for not only books but the other materials people expect from a library like newspapers, magazines and reference materials. The library gets donations it can't always display because of limited space.

Other less obvious adjustments will be made to make

'Right now we can only have story hour when the library is closed (because of space limitations).'

Cathy Forst

Springfield Township Library director

library life easier for residents. One patron said it's difficult to see titles on the bottom two shelves — especially with bifocals, Forst said. That is to be addressed with the new library. The bottom shelves are tilted to make things easier for the middle-aged set.

"The idea is that we're going to be able to offer people what we've wanted to be able to offer," she said.

Approximately 5,500 people have library cards now.

"Most libraries find that when the new library opens,

their circulation goes up," Forst said.

Library staff toured many libraries and talked to people to get ideas for the building.

Part of the budget included money for more materials. But Forst said some space will be left open so there is room to enlarge the collection.

The library did a needs assessment several years ago and decided to go in with the township on the building. The 0.5-mill library millage pays for operating expenses, which includes five employees.

Forst said the current library building will be sold and they already have had several offers. Operating expenses will rise in the new building, but some of that will be offset temporarily by proceeds from the sale of the current building. Forst said she hopes a millage increase won't be needed.

The library's 2000 budget is \$200,000.

Library building has been well-used

The Springfield Township Library building dates to 1891 when it was Andersonville School.

According to "Springfield: For Those Who Come After" by the Springfield Township Historical Society, the first school was built in 1838 at the intersection of Andersonville and Big Lake roads.

Clarissa Anderson was the first teacher. That building burned and was replaced. In 1871 a third building was constructed and 20 years later the current structure went up. It was built in 40 days for \$700, according to newspaper articles kept in a scrapbook by Library Director Cathy Forst.

The school was closed in 1951 when District No. 5 consolidated with Clarkston Community Schools.

Forst has kept a scrapbook since she began working at the library 20 years ago. The building was donated to the Springfield Township Historical Society in 1976. Old newspaper articles say Virginia King gave

the building to the historical society, which turned it over to the library board.

It was moved to its present location on Andersonville Road and Hogback Lake Road and renovated.

— By Sally Slaughter

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Food

from page A1

state Agriculture Department inspects grocery stores, warehouses and processing plants. The problem is that there are two sets of regulations that can contradict each other. For example, one set might say food has to be at 41 degrees and the other says 45 degrees.

Food Code Trainer Jasmine Lincicome explained that businesses that have seating and also sell packaged food — like a bakery — often have two licenses, two inspections and two inspection teams. Under the proposed law, only one inspection covering all aspects of the operation would be needed. Lincicome, a Clarkston resident, was a food inspector and has just begun her new role to educate people about the proposed new law.

A 90-member committee worked for two years to come up with recommendations that are included in the proposed law.

Clarkston Cafe owner Dennis Brinker also is president of the Michigan Restaurant Association. He said retailers are happy about the change because it makes it easier to train people and improves the inspection process.

"This at least gets everyone on the same level," he said.

Since it is more streamlined, it will root out bad restaurants more quickly.

† "The key here is we've raised the level of education," he said. "When someone gets sick, the whole industry gets looked at."

Wojtala said local health departments will still be responsible for restaurant inspections and the state will do the others, but all will use one code. Local departments also may set their own fees.

Penalties in the proposed legislation are stiffer and broader. Now, retailers could face a misdemeanor charge for compliance failure. Under the proposed law, the state could impose a fine, give them a warning or still charge them with a misdemeanor. It also gives the ability to charge a person with a felony if they knowingly and intentionally mishandle food to make people sick.

Another safeguard is each retail establishment must have a person in charge who knows all the regulations and checks to be sure food is handled properly. If it isn't done, the state can make a person from that establishment attend training.

The bill is in the Health Policy Committee. There will be about three more months for public comment and there will be a public hearing before it goes to the House floor. Johnson said it will be a priority bill.



Roads are open unless noted.
Alternative routes are advised in all instances.

Drive carefully in construction areas — many Oakland County road projects are still in the works, including these:

NORTH OF M-59

BALDWIN ROAD

From: I-75 to Maybee
Community: Orion Township
Details: Orion Township is restoring the road after installing water and sewer lines. Construction crews will flag traffic through, and lane closures are possible. Completion date unknown.

BROWN ROAD

From: Joslyn to Baldwin Road
Community: Orion Township and Auburn Hills
Details: Gravel road closed for paving. Detour is Baldwin, Lake Angelus and Joslyn roads. Completion by June 2000.

From: Joslyn to Giddings
Community: Auburn Hills and Orion Township
Details: As part of the reconstruction of the Brown/Joslyn intersection, Brown Road

NORTH HOLLY ROAD

From: Grange Hall Road to north of Lahring Road

Community: Holly Township
Details: Road being reconstructed. North Holly Road south of Lahring Road is closed until the end of December for culvert replacement. The road will then be re-opened for the winter, but will close again in the spring for the completion of the project. Detour is Grange Hall Road, Dixie Highway and Belford Road. Completion by the end of December.

MOST PRIMARY ROADS

Community: Groveland Township
Details: Consumer's Energy is installing gas lines throughout the township. Locations could change daily. Lanes may be closed or reduced to one-way traffic. This will be ongoing for several months.

WILLIAMS LAKE ROAD/MACEDAY LAKE ROAD

Community: Waterford Township
Details: RCOC is reconstructing this

intersection, expect delays. Completion by mid-December.

JOSLYN ROAD

From: At Brown Road
Community: Auburn Hills and Orion Township

Details: In conjunction with the paving of Brown Road, the Joslyn/Brown intersection is being reconstructed and reconfigured. Throughout construction, one lane of Joslyn will be open in either direction, though Brown will be closed in both directions. Expect delays in the area. Completion date is June 2000.

SOUTH OF M-59

BIG BEAVER

From: At Rochester Road
Community: Troy

Details: The City of Troy is widening Rochester Road in this area. The work will effect the Big Beaver/Rochester intersection. Expect delays. Completion date unknown.

MARTINDALE ROAD

From: South of 11 Mile Road
Community: South Lyon/Lyon Township

Details: A developer is paving this section of road. The road is closed to through traffic. Completion date unknown.

MILFORD ROAD

From: Davisburg to the railroad tracks north of Rose Center Road

Community: Rose Twp.

Details: This section of road is closed for resurfacing. The detour route during the closure is M-59, Hickory Ridge and Fenton Road. Completion date is mid-December.

ORCHARD LAKE ROAD

From: At Northwestern Highway
Community: West Bloomfield Township

Details: A developer is adding a north-bound left-turn lane to provide access to a new shopping center. Completion date Dec. 31

WOODWARD

From: At 14 Mile Road
Community: Royal Oak and Birmingham

Details: Storm water drains are being replaced along Woodward near 14 Mile Road. Work could cause delays on 14 Mile (east and west of Woodward) and on Woodward. Completion date unknown.

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Clarkston Eccentric®

OPINION

A10(C1)

7073 DIXIE HIGHWAY, CLARKSTON, MICHIGAN 48346

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1999

Downtown revitalization Proceed, but proceed with caution

The city of the Village of Clarkston now has the results of a long-awaited study suggesting ways city officials, business leaders and residents can work together to revitalize downtown Clarkston.

We suggest everyone involved keep a few things in mind as they consider the recommendations, which include relocating offices to make way for more stores, eliminating truck traffic, improving signage and adopting a strong marketing campaign.

■ The recommendations are just that — recommendations. Nothing is a mandate, and every suggestion is up for discussion. While HyettPalma Inc., the organization that conducted the study, has expertise in helping to revitalize cities around the country, no one knows Clarkston and its unique characteristics and challenges better than the folks who work and live here.

■ Take your time; don't rush into any decisions. It's necessary to consider all the ramifications before acting, especially when many of the recommendations would be hard to reverse after being implemented.

■ Don't allow the study to collect dust on a shelf somewhere. If nothing else, use it to launch a robust, ongoing discussion among all groups — city officials, business leaders and residents — about where the city of the Village of Clarkston should be headed in the new millennium.

■ Remember that indecision is a decision.

■ **Nothing is a mandate, and every suggestion is up for discussion. While HyettPalma Inc., the organization that conducted the study, has expertise in helping to revitalize cities around the country, no one knows Clarkston and its unique characteristics and challenges better than the folks who work and live here.**

By doing nothing because they can't agree on what should be done, those involved are deciding they like the status quo and no changes need to be made.

■ Look for creative ways to pay for the recommendations deemed worthwhile. The city has limited resources, and some of the recommendations are costly.

■ Choose wisely which recommendations are worth implementing because finances are so limited.

We commend the Downtown Revitalization Process Committee (now called the Downtown Clarkston Partnership) for its efforts in commissioning the study to be done by HyettPalma Inc. Now the committee's work really begins. We remind everyone involved to proceed, but to proceed with caution.

Study indicates broad support for culture and the arts locally

While new casinos and sport stadiums may soon offer marquee attractions, the region of what is considered as "metro Detroit" shouldn't simply be defined by the Big Three, sports stadiums and a roll of the dice.

There is compelling evidence to put an end to parochial thinking about what is needed to "improve the quality of life" in our communities.

A recently released, exhaustive analysis of audiences attending classical concerts, dance performances, opera, theater and exhibits at art and historical museums revealed that nearly 58 percent of the households in seven-county southeastern Michigan attend cultural events. That figure is considerably above the national average of 49 percent for major U.S. metro areas.

The report, "Southeastern Michigan Geodemographic and Database Analysis," was coordinated by ArtServe Michigan of Southfield, a statewide arts advocacy agency. The findings were made public 10 days ago, and have overtaken the controversy over the abrupt closing of the "shock art" exhibit at the Detroit Institute of Arts as the main topic of conversation throughout the arts community.

And this discussion about the future of art is worth sustaining.

Funded by a \$75,000 grant from the Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan, the analysis conducted by the Artsmarket Consulting of Bozeman, Mont., offers an unprecedented profile of audiences who attend everything from a concert by their local symphony to a major exhibit at the DIA. What emerges is a portrait of a regional culture driven from the grassroots.

The region's cultural institutions, along with many Oakland County arts groups, were among the 59 participating organizations, including Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, Birmingham Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra, Cranbrook art and science museums, Jewish

Ensemble Theatre, Meadow Brook Theatre and Southfield Centre for the Arts. Studies for profit venues were not considered in the research, but experts contend that audiences at cultural and entertainment events are even larger than reported.

On one level, the report's findings offer a gold mine of statistics to small arts organizations struggling to market themselves to prospective audiences. Yet on another level, the report makes it quite obvious that arts organizations must collaborate and work together for their common interests. Apparently, the creative spirit must go hand-in-hand with entrepreneurial ingenuity and networking.

Of course, ArtServe's immediate challenge is to assist local arts groups in disseminating and properly utilizing the information in the report.

Advocates for a regional cultural tax are predictably thrilled over the report. Basically, the cultural tax would be a half-mill assessment on a homeowner's property with revenue earmarked to fund operating budgets of the region's cultural institutions and county grants to cultivate arts participation at the local level.

While the geodemographic and database analysis presents a compelling portrait of the grassroots support for cultural institutions and arts organizations, until now the public discussion has lagged behind the apparent cultural realities.

Based on what we now know, how can county commissioners look away from the fact that people living in Oakland County are prepared to go anywhere in the region for a cultural event? (For instance, according to the report, 46 percent of the audiences living in Oakland County travel to Wayne County.)

A new century and millennium may not be the only major changes ahead. Perhaps the cynicism about regional cooperation will also be put to rest.

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:

Are there any politicians you trust these days. If so, who?

This question was asked at the Clarkston Post Office.



"I think they're all big bags of wind."

Robert Vance
Independence Township



"Not many. (I trust Independence Township Supervisor) Dale Stuart. I've known him a long time."

Mike Luchenbach
Independence Township



"I don't know that you can trust anything any of them say anymore. They talk out of both sides of their mouths."

Connie Liming
Holly



"I couldn't answer that too well. I don't check it out too well."

Ed Tripp
Independence Township

LETTERS

More letters, page A11

Golf course plan has many pluses for the environment

The future of the roughly 200 acres along Sashabaw Road, which includes the Clarkston Creek golf course, is one of the most significant issues to come before the community in years. Hopefully, it will receive the reasoned attention it deserves.

According to the newspaper editorials and letters to the editor, the focus seems to be on the future of the golf course. While there are a number of important issues pertaining to the ownership of the course that deserve serious attention, we suggest that the primary issues should be water, financial integrity and open space.

The proposed plan for the Clarkston Creek area will provide the community with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to develop a comprehensive, regional storm water management system with the potential to provide protection of surface and ground water for generations. Development along Sashabaw and Waldon, and north of I-75, has placed challenging burdens on the purity of the water flowing south in the corridor already. The further development along Sashabaw, proposed to be expanded to five lanes in the future, will make matters worse. Just consider for a moment what the increase in run off of petroleum products and salt from a major roadway, if unfiltered, will do to surface waters (i.e., lakes and streams) and ground water (e.g., home wells). The land occupied by, and adjacent to, the golf course does, and with appropriate technical enhancements, can continue to assist in filtering water as it flows south toward Townsend Lake and beyond, and seeps into the ground.

In addition, the proposed plan has the potential of accomplishing such an environmentally responsible goal of protecting the water at a lower cost to the taxpayers than may ever be possible again. Consider that land values are increasing, that costs of technological solutions are increasing, and that open land available for any purpose is decreasing. And, there is the prospect of the township (read: taxpayers) breaking even, perhaps even making some money, based on the proposed plan. Thus, it is impractical to defer the implementation of a storm water management plan to the future, particularly if effective financial safeguards for the township are included in plans negotiated with the developer.

Lastly, while the proposed plan for the development of the Clarkston Creek area can provide protection of our precious water, in a fiscally responsible fashion, the result would be the preservation of valued open space and, perhaps, a golf course. If the worst that could happen is the failure of the golf course operation and the use of the land as our version of a Central Park, aren't we still better off as a community?

Dr. Thomas K. Stone
Past President, North Oakland
Headwaters Land Conservancy

Hotel plan would benefit investors only, not residents

Regarding your front-page article of Dec. 5, "Revised hotel plan submitted," I would like to correct some misinformation I read in the article.

First, the parcel of land Maria Baylis wants to sell for the proposed 80- to 82-room hotel is not six acres, but rather 2.5, according to Independence Township records. Secondly, according to their records, this particular piece of property was purchased by her and another buyer in 1990, not 30 years ago as she stated. There is a huge difference between building any sizable structure on 2.5 acres versus six acres. I personally can look to either side of my property to homeowners who each have two acres and unequivocally cannot imagine an 80- to 82-room hotel with its necessary additional rooms, i.e. lobby, storage areas etc., and the parking lot and driveway being built on either of these, without it intruding significantly into my and my family members' lives. And, yes, the surrounding properties should, without question, be considered. The township should not fail these property owners in their decision. They have voted once against Mrs. Baylis and Eagle Investments of Mid-Michigan for very good reasons and should do so again.

I say the integrity of our community is worth fighting for, that Independence Township has a golden opportunity to make the I-75/M-15 corridor one that serves all its township residents, not just a few. A hotel will not serve many Independence Township residents to any worthy degree. Who it will serve are Mrs. Baylis, Eagle Investments and patrons of the Auburn Hills business community. This is not working towards a "perfect world" as Mrs. Baylis put it.

Therese Bickford-Laub
Clarkston

(Editor's note: The hotel is planned for the 2.5-acre site, but Mrs. Baylis owns an adjoining site, which together make up six acres. Mrs. Baylis could not verify when she bought the property but said it was at least before 1986 when her husband died.)

Opinions are to be shared: We welcome your ideas, as do your neighbors. That's why we offer this space on a weekly basis for opinions in your own words. We will help by editing for clarity. To assure authenticity, we ask that you sign your letter and provide a contact telephone number.

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Clarkston Eccentric®

KAREN HERMES SMITH, ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR, 248-625-1900, ksmith@oe.homecomm.net
PHILIP SHERMAN, MANAGING EDITOR, 248-901-2563, psherman@oe.homecomm.net

BILL CLUGSTON, RETAIL SALES MANAGER, 248-901-2501

LARRY HESSEN, HOME DELIVERY MANAGER, 248-693-4900

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RICK FIGORELLI, MARKETING DIRECTOR, 734-953-2150

JIM JIMMERSON, OPERATIONS DIRECTOR, 724-734-2180, jimj@homecomm.net

JUSTIN WILCOX, PUBLISHER, 248-901-2537, jwilcox@oe.homecomm.net

BANKS DISHMON, VP/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, 734-953-2252, bdishmon@oe.homecomm.net

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— Philip Power

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POINTS OF VIEW

As school district grows, so does need for full-time PR coordinator

Editor's Note: Barbara Johns, former public relations coordinator for Clarkston Community Schools, wrote this week's column for Supt. Al Roberts on the district's search for a new PR coordinator. Johns gives an historical account of the position, and her perspective on what's needed today.

Since 1991 I've had a front-row seat at Clarkston Schools, being in a unique position to watch the district face the challenges of growth and actually being able to do something about it!

My relationship with the district really began more than 18 years ago and evolved as I followed the educational paths of my three children. Like many new residents, I had not done my homework before buying a new house in Clarkston and was shocked when I first walked into Clarkston Elementary School. There was no cafeteria so the kids grabbed lunch trays in the hall and went back to their classrooms to eat. There was no multipurpose room or gym so volunteer moms taught physical education in the wide front entry hall. The entry area was also used regularly for showing films, and I remember well the morning I opened the front door and promptly tripped over one of the kids sitting cross-legged on the floor in the darkened space. There was no fine arts curriculum, but volunteer parents visited the classroom occasionally to teach art appreciation. (Remember the Picture Lady?) Our first computer lab was carved out of a storage facility and featured the Commodore 64. One of my most frustrating volunteer assignments was arriving in the lab early in the day to warm up those babies before the class arrived. They were NOT user-friendly!

My husband and I jumped headlong into the bond issue cycle, working for larger buildings, better facilities, more generous operating money. What an education! I finally found out why the district we left had so much more to offer its kids than Clarkston. (It was out-of-formula, densely populated and wealthy.) I began to realize that a tax burden was imposed on rural areas with minimal commercial real estate. The inequity of educational funding was as clear as the nose on my face, and it made me angry but determined to help with change.

Over the years my newfound knowledge evolved into volunteer writing for the superintendent and freelance support to keep district publications going. Because Clarkston did not have the funds for a full-time PR position, the superintendent asked me to work 25 hours a week and get as much district communications work done as possible within that framework. It's been a unique experience.

Being so close to the center of the district has given me a clear view of what it takes to run a public school system. Part of what it takes is a clear plan for communication. Parents expect to know what is going on at the building where



AL ROBERTS

their child or children attend. Business people expect to know how well prepared local graduates will be to fill tomorrow's job openings. Senior citizens want to be assured that the schools are still doing their best to teach the "three R's." Everyone wants a chance to use the gym, the swimming pool, the theater or a conference room. Out-of-towners ask for concise school information mailed to them or posted on the Internet. Realtors expect school brochures to help them "sell" the area. Employees need to be fully informed about district decision-making and school board business. Local newspapers want interesting stories about kids, teachers and events. Regional media insist upon instant interviews when headlines develop. Graduates want to stay in touch and know what's happening with former classmates and instructors. Growing reliance on Internet communications dictates a web site that is current, interesting and informative. But most agree that printed materials, cable television, video productions and personal contacts remain very important. And don't forget word of mouth, telephone skills and parent-teacher relationships!

Whew! We outgrew that part-time stuff a long time ago! Just as we can no longer control local traffic with one stoplight, we can't satisfy all of the above needs with an obsolete approach to communications. A district truly committed to excellence must have an intelligent communications plan and the staff to put that plan into action. The school board has decided to make communications a full-time job, and administrators have worked hard to find the right person. After two rounds of interviews, several exceptional candidates have emerged, and I don't envy those who must make the final selection. But it is a relief to see that Clarkston is shaping a future in which it will fully communicate with its many publics.

Everyone with a stake in this district — and I believe that includes all of us — should be informed about our educational system. Clarkston Community Schools is doing its part, and it will be up to us to do ours. Read the papers, keep the school newsletter, take in a school event, and support our Clarkston kids. Don't forget: We are the village.

LETTERS

Wallace's position on golf course deal merits support

Since the Dec. 7, 1999, Independence Township board meeting, which was adjourned due to conflict over the agenda, many more people have expressed their support of Neil Wallace's position to not accept "the concept" of Independence Township purchasing Clarkston Creek. You, the taxpayers of Independence Township, need to make a prominent showing of your support for Neil Wallace's position by talking to the other board members.

This is not a situation where you can put your head in the sand, get angry, be disgusted with the government and not act! Get out your pens, warm up your computers and ring up the Independence Township Board members now!

Peggy Dryer
Clarkston

Hats off to you!

I would just like to say thank you to all the schools, organizations and individuals who donated hats for the Hat's Off For Cancer hat drive. The response was unbelievable. Working together with this great community has been a blessing. As a community we have touched the hearts of many and gained ourselves from this experience.

I would like to add a special thank you to Don Brose for all his support and help in delivering hats and to the Junior Optimist clubs of Clarkston for believing in the program enough to sponsor the event and all the work they put into making it successful. Thank you to Ashley Lindahl, Dana Schlosser, Matt Dudek and Matthew Prunette for their leadership and commitment. A big thanks goes to Tom Bialk, principal of Sashabaw Middle School, for his encouragement and cooperation. I also would like to thank all the newspapers that ran articles on the project. Getting the work out played a major part in the success of the drive.

Our goal was to collect 500 hats. On Make a Difference Day, a total of 1,622 hats were collected. The final count to date is 1,680. So far hats have been delivered to the Clarkston Cancer Medical Center, Karmanos Cancer Institute and The Rose Center at Beaumont Hospital. Hats will also be taken to the U of M Cancer Center and Henry Ford Hospital. Some adult

hats that were donated are being given to the Detroit Rescue Mission. They will distribute them to homeless shelters in Michigan.

Your giving has helped a lot of people. Thank you once again and may you and your families be richly blessed this holiday season.

Maria Blaine
Oakland County Director for Hats Off for Cancer

Make your experience count

The recent column by Phil Power ("Report provides advice on growing a healthy economy," Thursday, Nov. 25), was excellent, touching upon several potential sources of new job training and development whose implementations could have a lasting and positive effect upon Michigan's future.

That Michigan's economy should be and most likely will be driven and influenced by manufacturing other than the auto industry stands to reason. New technologies are formed and move into our economic mainstream on a continuing and increasing basis — and certainly that is all to the good.

From the technology viewpoint, I believe that the Michigan community college system, the best in our nation, has much to offer graduating secondary school students, young and older adult workers and virtually anyone and everyone seeking a new or necessity-forced work life.

Career education and lifelong learning are both alive and well in Michigan. Advice to adults thinking about returning to postsecondary educational opportunities is this: Use your lifelong learning skills by applying them towards your academic degree — based aspirations. Shorten your college stay by taking "credits-by-examination" whenever possible. Make sure that when you take a two-year community college degree to a four-year postsecondary institution, that you receive the "full two years of credit" you've earned at the community college level into your four-year BA qualification requirements. You have to persist and know how to do it.

Thousands of adult workers, statewide and nationally, do not fully realize the possibilities of transferring their life experiences into academic credits. It's there. It's real. And it works.

L. Bruce Kingery
Rochester Hills

3rd terms for governors ill-advised

The big political news last week was the legislature's failure to authorize more charter schools, despite weeks of intensive arm twisting and foot stomping by Gov. John Engler.

Amazingly, the defeat was bipartisan. House Democrats have never been enthused by the charter school movement, though some reps from Detroit find them a better alternative than the public schools. Although most Republicans are ideologically pro-charter, the governor's key failure was to win over a handful of moderate GOP legislators, some of whom had been endorsed by the very anti-charter teachers' union, the Michigan Education Association.

Engler's spin meisters tried to put on a brave face, talking cheerily about getting back to the issue after the New Year. But this defeat, so unexpected for a politician as experienced and capable as Engler, got me to musing about this governor, now in his third term in office.

After the Republican landslide last November, everybody expected John Engler to bask in the state like a colossus. His Republican Party controlled both houses of the legislature, had a 5-2 iron grip on the Supreme Court and won all the executive offices except for Attorney General. The governor had only to nod his head, so the conventional wisdom went, and stuff would happen. Quick.

But it hasn't quite worked out that way. Consider three examples.

First was this fall's bungled attempt to clip the wings of Attorney General Jennifer Granholm, the only Democrat to survive last year's debacle. Republican bills attempting to cut back the force of her opinions were roundly criticized as a naked power grab, and when documents were leaked proving the whole plot was initiated in the governor's office, John Engler wound up with lots of egg on his face.

Second was the Governor's attempt to persuade Secretary of State Candace Miller, to be a team player and run against popular U.S. Rep. David Bonior, the Democratic minority leader in the House of Representatives and a favorite GOP target. A component in the calculus was that such a campaign likely would have derailed Miller's interest in running for governor against Engler's hand-picked candidate, Lt. Gov. Dick Posthumus.

Miller eventually said, "Thanks, but no thanks." Recently, she's been talking about her interest in running for governor.

Third is the still unresolved spat over a constitutional amendment to allow direct public support for private and religious schools. Headed by billionaire Dick DeVos, the husband of state Republican Party Chair Betsy DeVos, a bunch of hard line GOP stalwarts are hell bent to collect enough signatures to put the measure on the ballot next November. Engler has been trying his damndest to kill the drive because he's afraid passions ignited by the measure might increase turnout next November and thus jeopardize U.S. Senator Spencer Abraham's campaign for reelection.



PHILIP POWER

Despite public disclosures of barbed correspondence, meetings of the Republican State Central Committee and assorted attempts to kiss and make up, the fight between the governor and some of his closest political friends and allies is still going on. It's not a pretty sight for any colossus, least of all John Engler.

All of which brings to my mind the Iron Rule of Michigan Politics: No governor in his/her right mind should run for a third term.

The reasons are compelling. After eight long years in office, all the good ideas a governor came in with are pretty much used up. Moreover, most of the bright people who had the good ideas have been drained dry after eight years and have gone on to better jobs outside state government. Finally, any governor worth his/her salt will inevitably make enemies in the course of daily governing. After eight years in office, any governor thinking third term better also think of the number of snakes lying in the high grass, ready to strike.

Worst, after eight years as governor, an office abounding with perks and awash with sycophants, even the most balanced person will be under tremendous pressure to let it go to his/her head. The ancient Greeks called it "hubris," which my dictionary defines as "overbearing pride or presumption." Whether it's hubris or a swelled head, it's most unattractive, and you see it most in third terms.

History endorses the "no third term under any circumstances" doctrine.

William Milliken, perhaps Michigan's best loved former Governor, had a terrible time in his third term. Jim Blanchard simply ran out of gas at the end of his second term; his campaign for a third term was mishandled from start to finish.

Engler himself talked grandly about "two terms and out" at the start of his governorship. Well, he's a year into his third term. I wonder if he worries about how the next couple of years are going to turn out. Or is his heavy involvement in the presidential campaign of Texas Gov. George W. Bush his strategy for an early exit from third term woes?

Phil Power is chairman of HomeTown Communications Network Inc., the company that owns this newspaper. He welcomes your comments, either by voice mail at (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1880, or by e-mail at ppower@homecomm.net

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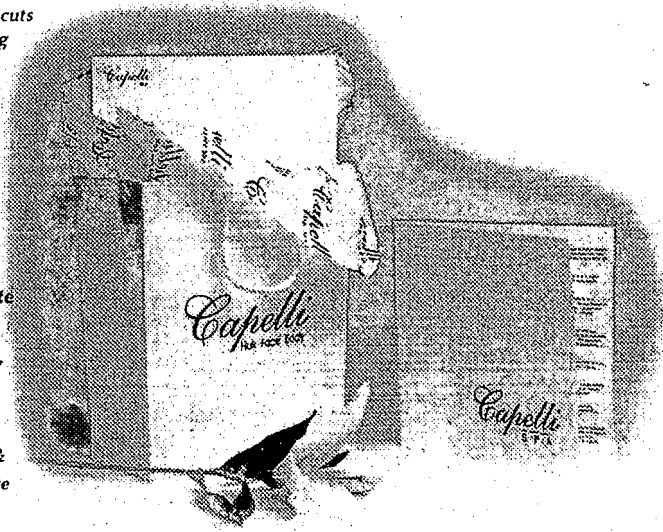
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Clarkston Life

The Eccentric

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Karen Hermes Smith, Editor 248-625-1900

on the web: <http://observer-eccentric.com>

Thursday, December 16, 1999



CAROLYN WALKER

Santa, Please preserve my daughter's trust

Dear Santa: My daughter came into the kitchen the other day which, as you know, is not such an unusual thing, given her love for eating.

This time though, instead of flinging open the refrigerator door for a good look-see, she surprised me by taking out pen and paper and commencing a letter to you. This simple act was, in itself, a testimony to the fact that life sometimes brings unexpected gifts. Who would ever have guessed all those years ago that she would someday be able to compose a letter?

"What are you doing?" I asked her. I was filled with curiosity as she shoved over a stack of unpaid bills, silverware and loose change on the countertop and prepared herself with a loud clearing of her throat, "Mm-hmm."

"I'm writing a letter to Santa," she replied, matter-of-factly. Her developmentally-delayed speech was garbled like always.

I peered over her shoulder as she began to scrawl big uneven letters on a tattered scrap of typing paper. "CHRISMASLIST," she wrote in

Please see WALKER, B3

Attorney helps townships avert problems



■ Attorney balances legal needs of many municipalities — including his own, Independence Twp.

BY SALLY SLAUGHTER
STAFF WRITER

sslaughter@oe.homecomm.net

To residents, land-use laws may run together into a confusing jumble of who gets to build how much where.

To municipal attorney Jerry Fisher, each instance is different, interesting and presents its own challenge.

"It involves the Constitution all the time," he said. "Due process. The government can't take property without reasonable compensation."

An Independence Township resident, Fisher represents many communities in Oakland County. He doesn't think residents understand his role.

When developers come in, he is often called upon to interpret what they can or cannot do on the property. That means interpreting zoning ordinances and other land-use regulations.

"Solving problems for local communities" is how Fisher defines what he has done since 1972.

His specialty is land use and as northern Oakland County becomes more populated, it is an issue at the forefront of many communities' agendas.

Fisher is a senior partner in Farmington Hills-based Secret, Wardle, Lynch, Hampton, Truex and Morley. With degrees from Michigan State University, the Detroit College of Law and Wayne State University, he has served in leadership positions with the State Bar of Michigan, the Oakland County Bar Association and the Intergovernmental Growth Management Consortium.



STAFF PHOTO BY STEVE CANTRELL

Taking a break: Julie and Jerry Fisher relax at their Independence Township home before a township board meeting. Municipal attorney Jerry Fisher spends about two nights a week at public meetings around Oakland County.

tium. He also is director of the William Booth Legal Aid Clinic for southeast Michigan.

He keeps matters involving multiple communities straight by putting them in "different cells" in his mind. Communities he is legal counsel for include Independence, Waterford, West Bloomfield, Bloomfield, Orion and Oakland townships. He also helps Bingham Farms and Ortonville as well as Salem Township in Washtenaw County.

Municipal law is rewarding, Fisher said, because he gets to see and help people interact with government at the most basic level. His interest in land use blossomed in law school when he took a summer course in London through the University of Notre Dame. The class was about British land use, and the instructors brought the subject alive. A stint as a law clerk at Oakland County Circuit Court working on land-use cases solidified his ambitions.

For many years, going to at least two public meetings a week after a day at the office has been normal for Fisher. It can mean creative scheduling to fit in a family. Julie Fisher, Jerry's wife, said an important practice was for the family to eat at least one meal together every day.

The Fisher children, 19-year-old Martin and 17-year-old Jessica, are as busy these days as their dad. Martin is

Please see ATTORNEY, B3

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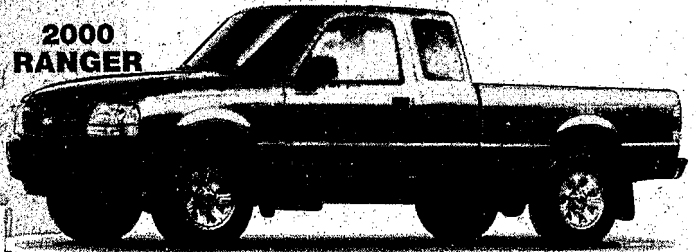
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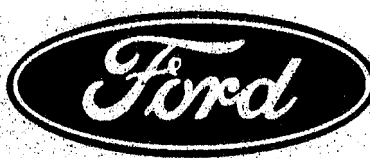
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All I want for Christmas is picture-perfect memories

Here it is — Christmas time again. The joyous holiday where all life's cares melt away and everyone is happy and friendly. Families laugh together in their best Christmas outfits while putting up Christmas decorations and enjoying each other's company as they eat homemade Christmas cookies. Carolers sing cheerful songs of peace and joy while the family gathers around, hugging each other, in the warmth of chestnuts roasting on an open fire.

Does that describe your holiday? Gosh, I hope not. Sorry, I shouldn't say that. I hope it describes your holiday, but I don't want to hear about it if it does. I've been striving for that picture-perfect holiday event for years and have decided that it only exists in old movies and Christmas card scenes.

When my first child was a toddler, I expected decorating the house for Christmas to be one beautiful "Kodak moment" after the next. I turned on the Elvis Christmas Album, lit scented candles and made homemade cookies. Now it's not every day that I actually bake cookies at home. As I recall, the cookies were burnt, my son broke some treasured old ornaments and I slowly pro-

gressed into a foul mood.

I was not defeated, though. I was sure the next year would be better. By then he would be 2 and ready for the whole "treasured moments" experience. If I recall correctly, that year the cookies were too gooey to eat, another keepsake ornament was broken and I was, again, in a foul mood by the end of the day.

Each year for the past 14 years I have been determined that decorating the house for Christmas was going to be a special, heart-warming experience, no matter how much aggravation it caused. When the kids were small, they seemed to be too young to handle hanging the glass ornaments on the tree or staying focused on decorating instead of playing with each piece of trimming. Now, at ages 11 and 14, they are definitely old enough.

Again this year I turned on the Elvis Christmas Album (yes, we still have a turn-table), lit scented candles and baked Christmas cookies from scratch. You may not realize what a rarity it is for me to actually bake anything from scratch. Usually my version of homemade cookies is buying the roll of Pillsbury cut and bake cookies and sliding



ROCHELLE SMITH

them into my oven. As far as I'm concerned, if they come out of the oven in my home, they are homemade. But this year I went all out. I found my recipe box, located most of the ingredients — who actually keeps vanilla and baking powder in the house, anyway? — and exercised my arm muscles stirring a bunch of sticky peanut butter into an unbelievable amount of flour to make some golden brown peanut butter cookies. I even sprinkled little green and red sugar on top. This year the cookies actually turned out edible. I was sure this would be the year that decorating the house for Christmas would be the stuff Christmas memories are made of. My first mistake was being in a gener-

ous holiday mood and letting my kids rent a video game only minutes before expecting them to join me for family decorating time. "It's time to decorate the Christmas tree" didn't get their attention like I thought it would. "After we decorate the Christmas tree, we're going to eat some of those cookies that are warming in the kitchen." Still no response. Even if I had to act like a jailhouse warden and insist that they get their bodies into that living room and help me decorate the tree before I sentence them to a week worth of hard labor, I was determined we were going to enjoy each other's company. Amidst complaints of how totally unfair it was to let them rent a new video game and then not let them play it, I convinced them that decorating the tree together was an enjoyable experience which they were going to participate in whether they liked it or not.

As I reminisced about the days when they made the little paper ornaments with their pictures in them during church, they kept throwing the ornaments on the tree as quickly as possible so they could scarf down some cookies and get back to their video game.

Next year I have a new plan. I'll hide

■ As I reminisced about the days when they made the little paper ornaments with their pictures in them during church, they kept throwing the ornaments on the tree as quickly as possible so they could scarf down some cookies and get back to their video game.

all their video games; buy cookies that actually taste good; invest in a new Elvis Christmas Album; figure out where you go to buy chestnuts — I've seen peanuts, cashews, pecans ... but no jars of chestnuts — to roast in our gas fireplace. I just know it will be better next year. They will be 12 and 15 by then. Yes, that will surely be the year that we truly enjoy the Christmas decorating (whether they like it or not).

Rochelle R. Smith is a free-lance writer who lives in Independence Township.

Youngest child's bar mitzvah is something to celebrate

For the past 10 months, I've asked myself if Jewish leaders had the right idea when they decided young people become bar mitzvah (for a boy) and bat mitzvah (for a girl) at age 13.

The bar mitzvah ceremony has a double meaning. By tradition, it is a time when a young boy is considered old enough to participate in religious duties. (Girls' bat mitzvahs became accepted only in the 20th century. Before then, females were supposed to leave the learning to the males.)

Today's bar/bat mitzvahs take on an extra dimension. Now children at the time of their 13th birthday lead a worship service and read from the Torah, the sacred scroll containing the five books of Moses. It's hard enough to read Hebrew as it is, but to read it from the Torah is like reading a book in English without any vowels.

The bar (bat) mitzvah child not only learns to read several lines for his service, he or she also learns to chant it, or sing it to a melody unique to that passage.

And as you can imagine, the melodies won't make the top 10.

Our temple also requires bar/bat mitzvah children chant from the Haftarah, or Books of Prophets written in Hebrew, lead almost all the Hebrew prayers in a Sabbath service, write a speech and do weekly volunteer work for one year.

Pre-teens approaching their 13th birthday would rather do just about anything than spend time learning prayers and readings in a language that's seldom used except in a religious service or in Israel. This isn't an easy age to convince that learning ancient prayers and melodies is important to their lives.



SUSAN B. TAUBER

Spending time with their friends; conquering a difficult part of a video game; learning words to a popular song seem more important to them. Attending Sunday School and Hebrew school doesn't seem very cool.

But my husband and I are proud to say all three of our children have become bar or bat mitzvah. Our youngest son became a bar mitzvah Sat-

urday.

Our children grew up knowing they had no choice in this matter. It was something that was required of them.

Our youngest followed in the footsteps of his brother and sister and did a splendid job.

The ceremony reminded me of why Jewish leaders may have designated 13 as the age for a bar mitzvah.

Seeing the pride in our son's face as he completed one of the most intensive learning tasks in his young life was something to behold. He knew his part. He chanted for more than an hour as the sages from thousands of years ago did. He spoke clearly and without hesitation the Hebrew words that have been read out loud and in silence during times of Jewish emancipation and persecution in countries around the world. He clearly connected with ancestors he never knew.

I'm proud of our children. They will always be able to say they purposely studied to become bar and bat mitzvah.

And when their children balk at learning the Hebrew prayers and their Torah and Haftarah portions and at attending Sunday and Hebrew school for many years, I hope they will remember their own feelings of accomplishment as they stood before the congregation and took their place as responsible members of the Jewish faith.

Saturday was a beautiful day filled with spirituality, family closeness and love. What more could one ask out of a day in the life of a parent and a child?

Susan B. Tauber is a staff writer for the Clarkston Eccentric. Her family belongs to Congregation Shir Tikvah in Troy.

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ACHIEVERS

Adrienne Trager

Adrienne M. Trager of Clarkston, a first-year student at Albion College, recently traveled to France as part of an exciting class assignment. Trager and 11 classmates in professor Dianne Guenin-Lelle's seminar, "Cultures, Connections and Communities from Albion to France and Back," visited French cities, interviewing residents and American visitors to learn more about a vastly different culture.

This seminar was recently featured on the Albion College SportsNet, a radio consortium that broadcasts Albion Britons football games at locations from the Upper Peninsula down to Northern Indiana, and around the world via the Internet. SportsNet regularly features outstanding and unique Albion College students on their worldwide broadcasts.

Trager is the daughter of Aaron Z. and Victoria D. Trager of Clarkston and a graduate of Clarkston High School.

Paul J. Talbot/Lynda G. Gronlund

Paul J. Talbot and Lynda G. Gronlund of Clarkston enjoyed a successful season with the British Eighth, Albion College's marching band.

The British Eighth prides itself in maintaining the traditional look of the Queen's Honor Guard and the use of the British Eighth step during parades and pre-game.

Talbot is a sophomore majoring in music and a member of the Ford Institute for Public Policy and Service and Pre-Law. He is the son of Stephen P. and Elizabeth G. Talbot of Clarkston and a graduate of Clarkston High School.

Gronlund is a sophomore majoring in music. She is the daughter of Roderick D. and Cindy K. Gronlund of Clarkston and a graduate of Clarkston High School.

David J. Clark

Air Force Airman David J. Clark, son of Alise R. Lopez-Lewis of Merced, Calif., and David L. Clark of Clarkston and a former graduate of Merced High School, Calif., has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

Walker from page B1

dark, bold strokes, squeezing in a small "r" as an afterthought when she realized she had spelled Christmas wrong. Apparently she didn't notice that she had left out a "t" as well.

She continued in this fashion, sharing the wishes she has been talking about for over a month now. They are wishes, Santa, (in case you are wondering) that stem from her love for the movie "Titanic," and for all who were even vaguely associated with that film.

My daughter's list looks like this:

1. C LINE DION "ALL THE WAY CD" (You'll recall that the popular singer Celine Dion sang the title song.)
2. MY VERY OWN MUSIC BOX LIKE THE HEART OF THE OCEAN PLAYED. MY HEART WILL GO ON.
3. KENNY G GREATEST HITS VOLUME 1
- 4.

Santa, as I stood and watched my daughter compose this misspelled, mis-matched list to you,

I could not help but be moved by her innocence and the simplicity with which she believes.

Her bulky body pressed against the cupboard as she hunched over her task, she cocked her face down close to the paper so that she could better see to write. Her stubby fingers grasped the pen while her deformed, stick-straight thumb stuck up like it always does.

Santa, she has become so grown up that I can no longer remember when it was that she learned to hold a pencil and print.

After 22 years of struggling — mixed with an innate optimism — my daughter, Santa, still trusts in you.

Mentally disabled people make up for the abilities they lack with blind trust, you know.

Even though she can sometimes scarcely articulate her thoughts, I know my daughter believes in miracles. And why not? She has seen them unfold in her own life.

After she completed her list,

Santa, she folded the paper several times over and stuffed it into an old, yellowed, Hallmark envelope which she addressed thus: Santa Clause. North Pole W, U.S.A. And then she placed it in our mailbox, apparently having an equal faith in our U. S. Postal System.

Santa, I am sorry that you will be gone from our home on Christmas morning when she finally gets to dive into the packages you have left behind. She will be thrilled beyond belief.

P.S. Santa, I don't know what wish my daughter intended to place next to the number 4 in her list. May I make one on her behalf?

Please preserve that trust.

Carolyn Walker lives in the city of the Village of Clarkston. She is a staff writer for the Waterford Eccentric.

Attorney from page B1

a sophomore at the University of Chicago, which gives his parents a chance to visit the windy city. He is studying bio-chemistry. Jessica is a senior at the Academy of the Sacred Heart in Bloomfield Hills.

Fisher, 54, has represented Independence Township since 1972, except for five years. He and Julie Fisher have been married for 20 years and have lived 18 of them in their home overlooking Parke Lake. One of their favorite vacation activities is hiking.

Fisher said he usually has to attend evening meetings on Mondays and Tuesdays; that's when the majority of communities have their meetings.

"You kind of get used to it," Julie Fisher said.

When the children were younger, the one-meal rule worked well, she said. Often that would mean catching dinner or lunch between Fisher's office and a meeting some place or hooking up at one of the kids' school activities.

"We just got used to driving separate cars. You just get creative," Julie Fisher said.

Son Martin attended Cranbrook schools, and often Jerry would drop him at school on his way to Farmington Hills. He even made time to be president of the Dad's Club and help out

■ 'He's among the best qualified municipal attorneys available.'

Dale Stuart

Independence Township Supervisor speaking of Jerry Fisher

on the Strategic Planning Committee. Fisher helps out in his own community by being auditor for the North Oakland Headwaters Land Conservancy.

Julie Fisher said she limited her evening commitments when the kids were little since her husband had to be gone. But she is obviously proud of her husband's work and converses about pertinent cases and issues.

Independence Township Supervisor Dale Stuart called Fisher a gentleman.

"He's among the best qualified municipal attorneys available," Stuart said. And living in the community gives him a "real heart" for it, Stuart added. He looks for creative solutions to problems.

Fisher's work entails everything except labor issues. It includes zoning, planning, taxation, setting up special assessment districts, litigation and contracts with firms of all sorts.

He said he knows he is suc-

cessful because the communities he represents have less litigation pending. He said trying to work through problems creatively is much more productive for everyone. Creating master plans and visions for the communities before problems arise is important, he said.

If developers know the community's plan for an area well ahead of time, it puts them on notice about what their expectations can be.

"People are entitled to reasonable use (of their property), not the most profitable use," he said.

Some of his most interesting cases in Oakland County have revolved around boat docking and regulations. Those issues include how many slips are permissible on a lake and who gets access. Fisher said other interesting issues include sign and billboard regulations and, at this time of year, the question of religious symbols on public property. Environmental issues also go hand-in-hand with land use.

Fisher spearheaded a growth management study in 1988-89 that involved seven communities, including Independence Township.

"My optimistic prediction is communities are getting better at regulating in a way that doesn't repeat past mistakes," he said.

CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Clarkston Eccentric publishes calendar items free of charge. Items should be from non-profit community groups or individuals announcing an event. Type or print event, date and time, location, telephone number and any additional information and mail to the Clarkston Eccentric, Attn: Marsha Wengrow, 7073 Dixie Highway, Clarkston, MI 48346, or fax to (248) 625-5712. E-mail to mwengrow@oe.homecomm.net. The deadline is noon Friday for the following Thursday.

MONDAY, DEC. 20

ANNUAL AUDITIONS FOR DORA DAWSON SCHOLARSHIPS

9:30 a.m., Central United Methodist Church, 3882 Highland Road, Waterford. Applicants must be 17-25 years of age;

enrolled in college with a music major or minor; a United States citizen; and a resident of the greater Pontiac area which includes Clarkston and Waterford. For further information, contact Charlotte Maybee, scholarship chairman (248) 922-1975.

EVERY 2ND AND 4TH TUESDAY MORNING

MOPS (MOTHERS OF PRE-SCHOOLERS)

9:30 a.m. St. Trinity Lutheran Church, 7925 Sashabaw Road, Clarkston. For further information contact Nancy Schutt (248) 922-9460.

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

NORTH OAKLAND COUNSELING ASSOCIATES-STRENGTH IN NUMBERS: A WOMAN'S PREVENTION GROUP

7-9 p.m. Wednesday evenings, North Oakland Counseling Associates, 6401 Citation Drive, Clarkston (248) 620-1019. This free 10-week educational group focuses on issues such as building self-esteem, developing communication and conflict management skills, learning about alcohol and other drugs and practical ways to develop a healthy, happy lifestyle. Enrollment is still open.

Worship With Us

KING OF KINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

Reverend Luther Wright
1715 South Lapeer Road,
Lake Orion • 693-1676

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Contemporary Service-8:30 a.m.
Traditional Service-11:00 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:45 a.m.
(all ages)

CALVARY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

6805 Bluegrass Dr. • Clarkston
(near M-15 & I-75 junction
next to Oxford Bank)
Revs. Robert Walters & Jonathan Heleman
625-3288

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:15 a.m. • Traditional
9:45 a.m. • Traditional
11:15 a.m. • Contemporary Praise

SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

9:45 a.m. • All Ages
Relevant messages, inspiring music & caring people

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

6490 Clarkston Rd., Clarkston
Sunday Services: 8:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m. with Church School and Nursery
William McDonald, Priest
625-2325

WORDS OF FAITH

(248) 652-8857

By Pastor Terry Rebert
for

Words to Live By!

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2512 Joslyn Court
Lake Orion • 391-0663
Rev. Chris Humphrey, Rector

Sunday Services

8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Nursery & Church School

10:00 a.m.

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Orion Township, MI 48359
Telephone: 248/391-9211

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Website: www.unitynorth.org

To place your ad in this directory call:

Geri Jacklyn at (248) 693-4900
Lake Orion/Oxford

Robbie Haworth at (248) 625-1900
Clarkston

1999 Christmas Tree Guide

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• Pine • Spruce • Fir

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Reg.. \$100

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We carry Top Brands, Oxygen, Sims, Vans, Airwalk, Ride, Vision, Rage & more.

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734-873-1636

WATERFORD
4288 Dixie Hwy.
248-674-8220

KEEO HARBOR
2500 Orchard Lake Rd.
248-881-2138

FARMINGTON HILLS
28946 Orchard Lake Rd.
248-737-0370

ROCHESTER HILLS
1330 Walton Blvd.
248-859-8300

For information about advertising in this unique section please call Rich at 734-953-2069

Waterford man turns directors' visions into reel-ality

BY PAUL PACE
STAFF WRITER

ppace@oe.hometown.net

Hollywood is known for its huge filming and video production companies.

But believe it or not, so is the Detroit area.

We're right behind Hollywood and New York, says Mark Karavite of Waterford Township, a free-lance director of photography for film productions, ranging from television commercials to independent films.

"Detroit's (film) crews have a lot of talent," he said.

But spend just a morning with Karavite, and you'll likely discover how tough the business of film-making is.

To put it simply, Karavite's job is to take a director's vision of a scene and make it a reality on film or videotape.

On Monday he was in Detroit

helping oversee production of a one-hour talk show featuring author Marianne Williamson, a popular spiritual writer, talking about her new book, "Enchanted Love: The Mystical Powers of Healing."

The crews arrive at 7 a.m. to begin setting up the thousands of pieces of equipment for the show to be taped around 3 p.m. before an audience. It is being filmed in a room at the Fisher Mansion because of its classical setting and rich detail including a stone fireplace with statuettes as the backdrop.

But in no time Karavite's cell phone chirps this morning. He's talking about getting another shoot the next day put together, something concerning the need for an airport hanger.

He admitted he's got a lot on his plate as postponed productions are taking place and shoots planned for the future move up.

Through it all, he appears calm and confident production today will be ready.

He said he doesn't have any war stories about productions gone awry.

"The more uneventful it is, the better for us," he said with a laugh.

The director of photography noted there's enough work through the auto industry in Detroit to film those types of productions full-time, but he prefers to keep a diverse clientele.

"It's more exciting this way," he said amid observing production crews busily installing the lighting rigs on the set in the beautiful room.

"That's what I like about this: I will be on a job tomorrow with a totally different crew."

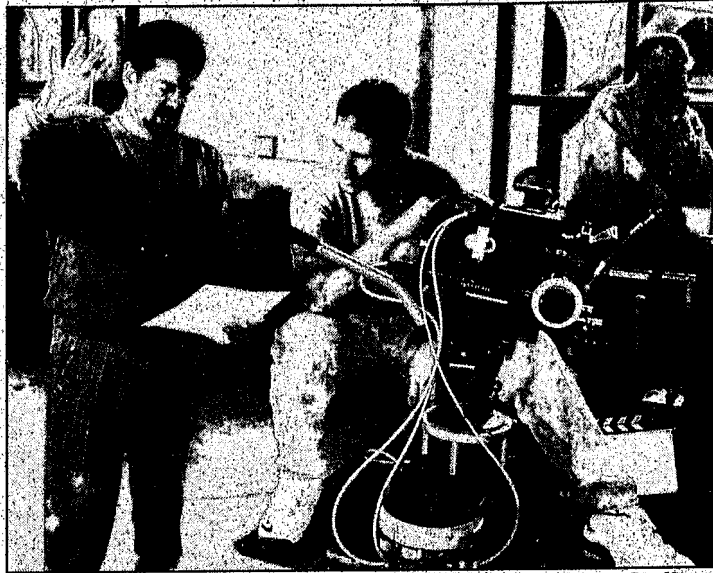
On this day, he is the director of photography for a one-hour show to be aired on WTVS Detroit Public Television during pledge week. If the production proves popular in the Detroit market, it will likely air nationally for the Public Broadcasting Service.

The crew has one day to set up, shoot and tear everything down. It will take about 14 hours to film the one-hour show with four different cameras. Editing the videotape will be handled by producer and director of the shoot, Bob Gothor, owner of RFG Production.

He said Karavite is a highly talented director of photography. "I trust him," Gothor said of Karavite while on the set. "I know he will make it look good."

Gothor added Karavite is in great demand because of his quality work.

Karavite, 36, grew up in Bloomfield Hills and graduated from Lasher High School. He attended college for a year, but a film production company he was working with was taking off. He decided to skip the next year of



STAFF PHOTO BY GARY MALEKHA

school to see how it would work out.

"I've never looked back since," he said.

This is the 20th year he's been in the business where he started as an assistant camera operator.

Watching the crews Monday assemble the set just before taping is like witnessing planned chaos. Not only must every piece of video, lighting and sound equipment be put in precise places in the building, it must all be torn down and taken away without leaving a scratch to the pristine mansion.

A 10-ton truck outside the mansion carries the lighting equipment alone.

Karavite pointed out this is a relatively small production.

He said the filming business relies on a collaborative effort of all the production crews working together for the final product.

He said the best part of the job

is the variety of work it provides.

"I get to use both sides of my brain," he said. "It's technical at times and the other part is creative."

The job also takes him outside the area.

"I've shot in all but three states," he said.

The downside, he said, is he has no set schedule and is usually forced to devote long hours to each project.

He mentioned he has to be flexible for the client paying for the production.

"We're at the mercy of other people."

Karavite films everything from television commercials to music videos, to independent films, to industrial projects and marketing films.

After Monday's production is done, there's no time to rest as he sets up a shoot in an empty airport hanger the next day at

Detroit City Airport. The production is being set to film a three-minute promotion for a new Pontiac sport utility vehicle. It will air at the Los Angeles Auto Show.

Karavite also performed a nice gesture recently by devoting his time to tape public service announcements for the Pontiac Rescue Mission in October.

"I was feeling like I was overdue for charity work," he said. "The rescue mission is a charity right in our back yard."

Along with producer Greg Pike who wrote the scripts, the crew volunteered its time to tape three public service announcements.

"We produced three really moving spots," Karavite said. "They should be airing now and it will hopefully help the mission raise funds."

"It was the least we could do to help them in their cause."



Dr. Janet Heasley

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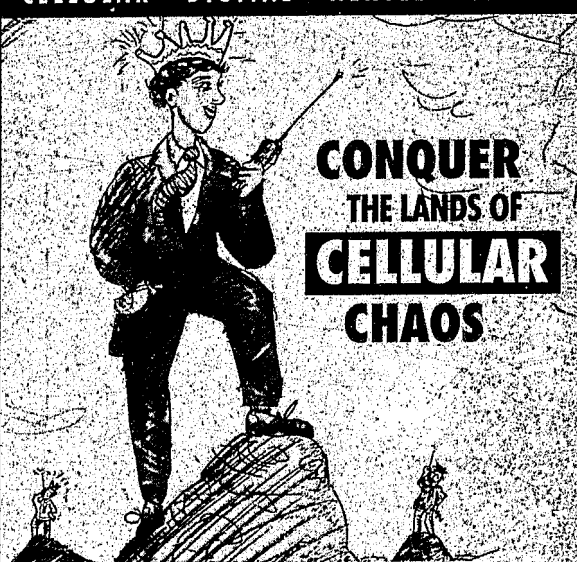
Set the date - As soon as possible after getting engaged, select a wedding date and decide on the type of wedding you will have. From traditional ceremony in a church, to a surprise wedding where guests are invited to a "party" that turns out to be a wedding, couples are personalizing the event and planning weddings that reflect their lifestyles and interests.

Bridal Directory

For information regarding advertising in this section please call Rich (734) 953-2069



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Store Hours: Daily 10-9 • Saturday 10-9 • Sunday 11-7

*limited to in stock merchandise & not all sizes and models at all locations

Beaumont physicians envision 21st century medical advances

A hundred years ago, who would have predicted the medical marvels that we take for granted today, among them antibiotics, artificial body parts and assisted reproduction?

As the start of the 21st century

draws near, Beaumont doctors offer their vision for what the next 100 years may hold for key medical specialties, including genetic engineering to regenerate discs in the spine; test tube babies that are not only conceived in the lab, but born there

as well; and even anesthesia without drugs!

Anesthesiology

"It is now clearly possible to inject anesthetics into tiny 'bags' of natural substances that

circulate in the blood and break them open by focusing external microwaves or ultrasound at the site we want to anesthetize," says N. Sean Ohanian, M.D., chairman of anesthesiology and perioperative services.

"This delivery would let us vastly reduce doses of anesthesia drugs, enhancing the patient's safety and speeding his recovery."

"Even more exciting is early progress on the possibility of sedation, pain relief and even complete anesthesia by using external microwaves to activate pain-blocking receptors on the cells' surface — in other words, anesthesia without drugs."

Cardiology

"First, within the next two years total artificial hearts will be produced that will replace heart transplantation," says William O'Neill, M.D., director of cardiology.

"Second, we'll find a cure for atherosclerosis, the fatty deposits that clog up arteries."

"Prenatal genetic engineering will eliminate many inheritable diseases, and prenatal surgery done while the fetus is still in the womb will reverse many birth defects," says John R. Musich, M.D., chairman of obstetrics/gynecology.

"In addition, being conceived, grown and born in the laboratory

is not out of the realm of possibility!"

Orthopedic Surgery

"Genetic engineering will enable doctors to grow cartilage and transplant it to relieve arthritic joints," says Harry Herkowitz, M.D., chairman of orthopedic surgery.

"We will also be able to repair worn out discs in the spine by inserting a gene that produces healthy collagen, offering relief for the most common cause of back pain."

General Surgery

"Minimally invasive surgery will become the norm in the operating room, made possible by sophisticated systems for imaging deep within the body, the use of computer-enhanced fiberoptic visualization systems and micro-instruments," says Gerald Zelenock, M.D., chairman of the department of surgery.

Diagnostic Radiology

"Invasive forms of diagnosis such as angiography, where we inject dye to get a better picture of blood vessels, may be replaced by non-invasive imaging such as computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging and ultrasound," says Kenneth Matasar, M.D., chairman of diagnostic radiology.

"We will also increase our use of computers to assist the radiologist in the 'reading' of mammograms, chest X-rays and other diagnostic images."

Cancer

"I think research on the study of oncogenes, genes that promote cancer, will take us very quickly further along the path toward a cure for cancer," says Ronald Irwin, M.D., director of oncology services.

"I would also hope that information and education on environmental and behavioral factors that increase a person's risk of getting cancer would lead people to take steps to reduce his risk."

Home care tips can help warm your winter

Winter weather can be just as hard on your house as it is on your car, especially if temperatures reach sub-zero levels. To help homeowners prepare homes for winter now to cope with the cold, AAA Michigan has the following winter home care tips:

■ Get your mind on the gutter. Roof drains that are blocked with leaves can cause ice dams to form and force water up under the shingles. Clear gutters now and periodically during the winter.

■ Trim your trees. Through selective pruning, weak branches can be removed that might otherwise break in high winds and damage your car or home.

■ Inspect your insulation. If necessary, add extra insulation to attics, basements and crawl spaces.

■ Pamper your pipes. Make sure your water pipes are adequately protected from the cold. If you wish to install "heat tape" on your pipes, hire a professional. Improperly installed heat tape can cause fires. Do not attempt to thaw pipes using an open flame; hairdryers have been known to do a great job.

■ Stay warm and safe. Only use alternate heat sources as a last resort. Kerosene, propane and electric heaters are a frequent cause of home fires. When using, always follow manufacturer's guidelines and never leave unattended. Keep heaters away from curtains, corners and walls. Keep electrical cords off carpeting. Refuel kerosene heaters outdoors and use only kerosene recommended by manufacturers.

■ Never use gas ovens as an alternate heat source.

■ Clean your chimney and have your furnace inspected annually. These services can each range between \$50-\$100, but could prevent your house from burning down. Change your furnace filter every month to 45 days.

■ Do not overload electrical outlets.

■ If planning to purchase a wood-burning stove, have it installed by a professional, meeting all codes and manufacturer installation guidelines. Use a humidifier to add moisture to the dry winter air.

■ Use ceiling fans to distribute warm air more efficiently throughout the home.

■ Install and maintain smoke detectors on all living levels and near each bedroom.

■ Keep snow clear from utility meters for easy access.

If possible, don't pile snow against the side of the home.

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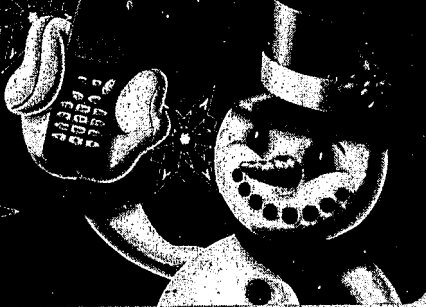
Royal Oak (248) 549-6400
3450 W. Thirteen Mile Rd.

Canton (734) 844-3060
2000 N. Canton Center Rd.

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Legacy Club offers younger swimmers a chance to dive right in

BY KEN VAN STEENKISTE
STAFF WRITER

An Oakland University swimming coach is diving in to a world of challenges by starting a new competitive club.

Dubbed the Legacy Club, its members kicked off practice this week led by coach Loren Smith, or as his students affectionately call him, "Buck."

Smith, who has coached swimming and diving for 9 years, is in his first year at Oakland University. His previous experience was at Walled Lake Western and Central High Schools.

He said his motivation for starting the club was broadening young swimmer's horizons. Smith was a high school diver himself at Walled Lake Central, where he started in 10th grade — and he laments the lack of opportunities for young divers.

"It was part of the deal I worked out when I came to (Oakland University) that I could use the facilities for this club. There's a great deal of interest in this area in swimming and diving and I want to channel that," he explained.

He named the team Legacy because helping young divers hone their talents is his gift to a new generation of athletes.

"Being a diving coach isn't really something you do for the money, you do it because you love the sport," Smith explained.

U.S. Diving Conference

The club will have as many as 20 meets scheduled year round with other clubs in the U.S. Diving conference. The first meets will be at various locations through out the state, but later on the club could travel to locations as remote as Florida for competition.

Most Olympic divers start out in clubs like Legacy, Smith explained.

"These are kids that spend five days a week during their summer break in the pool. You can go down the line at high school meets and say club diver, club diver, high school diver. Good divers are built from clubs like this," he said.

The tight schedule of high school team practices doesn't allow for much focus on mechanics and the finer points of form and balance, Smith explained.

"You're in and out of the pool, you just fly right through it," he said.

Smith said he would eventually like to see his team grow to 40 or more members — it's open to all levels of mastery and all age groups.

"We're starting out a little smaller, but we're just getting off the ground. It's definitely going to be a growth process," Smith said.

Katy Ballantine met Smith

through high school competitions. A 17-year-old diver who goes to Livonia Stevenson High School, Ballantine has about four years of diving experience.

"It was part of the deal I worked out when I came to (Oakland University) that I could use the facilities for this club. There's a great deal of interest in this area in swimming and diving and I want to channel that."

*Loren Smith
OU swim coach*

She said she's looking forward to practicing with "Buck."

"He's a good coach," she said. But how did he get his nickname?

"'Bucky' was an old nickname of mine from when I was a real little kid, and over the years it got shortened. It's just handy because when you're on a team or club

you say your coach's name a lot and it's so short," he said.



STAFF PHOTO BY JERRY ZOLYNSKY

Back in style: Elana Lebovic 13-year-old gets some help with her diving technique from coach Buck Smith at the Oakland University pool.

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ASCENSION
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Christmas special to air

The Lutheran Hour Ministries' Christmas special "Red Boots for Christmas" is set to appear throughout December on the FOX Family Cable Network.

The program shares the story of a better shoemaker who is visited by an angel on Christmas Eve. "Red Boots for Christmas" will air on Dec. 17 at 5:30 p.m., Dec. 20 at 8:30 a.m. and Dec. 23 at 5:30 p.m.

Broadcast times may be changed. For local broadcast information, contact the ministries' TV Specials Hotline toll-free at 1-800-442-0324.

Lutheran Hour Ministries is a service of the International Lutheran Laymen's League, a volunteer organization of 150,000 members. The International LLL is an auxiliary of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and Lutheran Church-Canada.

Five more moments of sleep and you miss something great

Each phase of nature, while not invisible, is yet not too distinct and obvious. It is there to be found when we look for it, but not demanding our attention.
— Henry David Thoreau

You are too late today. If you had flopped your bare feet down on the floor before the sun came up, instead of pushing the snooze alarm a half dozen times and burying your head under that fluffy pillow you could have treated yourself to a frosty morning surprise. But no. You slept in. Again. Yes you. And then you sipped coffee. Read the paper. You are running out of time.

OAKLAND... NATURALLY



JONATHAN SCHECHTER

Subtleties of cold weather nature wait for no one.

Whether you live in the orderly, manicured kingdom of Bloomfield Township, the wild woods of Brandon Township, a quaint downtown Clarkston home or in

a glass and steel Southfield high-rise, it makes no matter. What does matter is that you get yourself outside within a few minutes of sunrise and start walking on the wilder side of nature. And I guarantee you—at least for this excursion—there are wild places near you. Even in Bloomfield. Even near Telegraph. Even on your street.

For this excursion into nature's way all you need is a thin slice of the wild side. And if you are one of those folks who sneaks the dog out early to do his "thing" without getting caught by neighbors, you may already have a site. That weedy spot where you stand innocently by as if you do not know what your dog is doing would be perfect.

Even with the continuous mushroom-like sprouting of developments and shopping malls, there are plenty of thin wild side slices. An unkempt meadow would be grand as would be the Paint Creek Trail or West Bloomfield's Nature Pre-

■ Evening primrose pods, now open and empty of seeds are frosted on the pod lips, dry within. Queen Anne's lace umbrellas sparkle like country club chandeliers—upside down ones at that. Milkweed pods, curved and split, shine with the luster of pearl-bearing wet oysters.

serve. So would the steep banks of a meandering stream, the edge of a country road or even the weedy edge zone near train tracks that slice through Pontiac, Birmingham and down to rockin' Royal Oak. Perhaps near your mailbox would work.

Oh yes, you also need frost. Frost is easy to find. I do not mean the stuff you scrape off the car windshield with a bent credit card. I am talking sparkly angelic-like frost that clings to plants, twigs and stems; delicate short-lived frost. A photographer's dream. Frost that melts when sunlight dances.

Next time, roll out of that bed earlier, slurp down the coffee and get outside to greet those first rays of sunshine. Go hunt

for barren seed pods and dead weeds for it is they that capture the subtle moments of natural beauty that do not demand our attention. Early morning frost grants moments of crystalline beauty, momentary splendor, to weeds.

Pods, or the empty seed holding canisters of wild plants, are generally overlooked by humans. They tend to be drab, appearing rough about the edges, torn by chickadees, mice, wind and rain. But add a thin sparkly layer of frost and you have exquisite delicate beauty. Explore that early morning beauty and you increase your power of observation and contemplation. And you find a world that the best of florists could not duplicate.

Pod-holding winter skeletons of common roadside weeds transform into wild bouquets with the magic of frost. Evening primrose pods, now open and empty of seeds are frosted on the pod lips, dry within. Queen Anne's lace umbrellas sparkle like country club chandeliers—upside down ones at that. Milkweed pods, curved and split, shine with the luster of pearl-bearing wet oysters. Even the iced golden rod stalks politely ask for our attention. Frost transforms teal into dazzling crown jewels of dawn. Touch any of these with a warm finger and they transform back into "just weeds." Discover these moments and you discover that nature does not die in winter. We just don't look.

Flop those feet down early. Forget the snooze alarm. Nature won't wait.

Jonathan Schechter is the park ranger and naturalist for West Bloomfield Parks and writes on nature's way for the Eccentric Newspapers. He pod-hunts on eleven frosty acres in Brandon Township with the help of his wet-nosed dog. E-mail: oaknature@aol.com.

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Holiday sharing programs seek volunteers

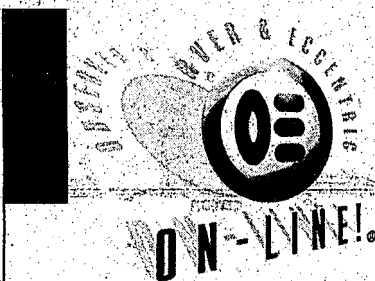
The holiday season is fast approaching and Focus: HOPE is calling for volunteers for its Share with a Senior and Family to Family programs.

When individuals, groups or organizations participate in Share with a Senior—which runs until February 2, 2000—they "adopt" an older person who is usually homebound and living on a fixed income. They provide the makings for a holiday meal and a modest gift; and deliver the items to the senior.

The Family to Family program is similar. The makings for a holiday meal are provided to a

family and a modest gift is given to each child. Families selected for this program are usually headed by one parent; or parents who are unemployed or underemployed. Families will be helped until December 23, 1999.

To become involved, or for more information, contact Focus: HOPE's Volunteer & Community Resources Department at (313) 494-5500. Focus: HOPE also accepts monetary donations for these programs. Food and gift items will be purchased, packaged, and delivered through volunteers.



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BILL PARKER

Understand all of the rules before hitting the hunting grounds

A surprise encounter with a Michigan black bear has landed a Thumb-area bow hunter in a world of trouble.

While hunting deer from a tree stand in Tuscola County on the afternoon of Oct. 7, the hunter allegedly shot a black bear because "she was fearful and did not know what the bear would do," according to Michigan Department of Natural Resources conservation officer Jason Haines.

Bear encounters are extremely rare in southern Michigan so it's not inconceivable to think the hunter was quite surprised by the appearance of the bear. However, since there is no bear hunting season in the Thumb, or anywhere in southern Michigan, shooting one is a game law violation.

A Tuscola County property owner notified the DNR that a black bear had been killed on his property by an archery deer hunter. The hunter allegedly shot the bear at approximately 6 p.m. Oct. 7 and the bear was found dead the following morning.

"Basically the hunter claimed she was fearful and did not know what the bear would do," explained Haines. "The animal didn't make any attempt to climb the tree and was on the ground on all four feet when she shot it. I couldn't determine any good, valid reason for the bear to be killed."

Please See PARKER, C3

Wolves matmen hope to contend in OAA



With close to 65 athletes in its wrestling program, Clarkston hopes that there will be strength in numbers. Among that large group are seven returning starters, two who were state medalists last March.

BY DANIEL STICKRAD
STAFF WRITER
dstickrad@aol.com

Mike DeGain hopes that there is strength in numbers. If there is any truth in the belief, the Clarkston wrestling coach should be just fine.

DeGain has around 65 wrestlers in his program this year, including a couple of standouts that have been putting up some pretty impressive numbers that past few years.

"We have a pretty good group of guys," said DeGain. "We have a lot of talent, both in the returnees and some of the newcomers. Plus, we have about 65 guys to accommodate."

Clarkston is coming off another solid season, where the Wolves were runners-up both at the Oakland County meet and Oakland Activities Association Division I meet to Rochester Adams, the team that knocked the Wolves out in the Division I regional finals.

The Wolves finished 15-6 overall last season, with all six losses coming against rank teams, including two against Adams.

This year, the league and county races are wide open and DeGain hopes his team can remain in the hunt.

"I think we'll be pretty competitive," he said. "Our league is going to be very tough. There are going to be a lot of very close matches with just about everybody."

The 44-school county meet is scheduled for this Friday and Saturday, and DeGain sees the same picture as in the league.

"This is as even as it's been in a long time," he said. "A number of teams could end up winning it."

If the Wolves are to challenge, they will rely heavily on seven returning starters in the 14 weight classes.

Leading that cast are two of the state's best in senior Pat DeGain, the coach's eldest son, and senior Jon Robinson.

Pat DeGain, who recently inked a national letter-of-intent with Indiana, is the two-time defending state champion in the 215-pound class with a combined 76-0 record the past two years. Robinson, a heavyweight, was seventh in the state last year.

"Those two are tough," said coach DeGain. "We're confident that those two will be very tough to beat, regardless of who we are wrestling."

Also returning for Clarkston are senior Dave Welanco at 135, a regional qualifier last season, senior Brett Gove at 145, junior Derek Sheets at 152 and junior Kevin Jenks at 189. Junior Brian Chism, a regional qualifier at 140 last year, is sidelined until January with a knee injury.

However, as strong as the Wolves are in the upper weight classes, Clarkston is very inexperienced in the lower weight classes.

Four freshmen have cracked the Wolves' starting contingent so far this season, including Blake Harlow at 103, Nate May at 125, Nate Parker at 130, and Clint DeGain, the coach's youngest son on the team, at 160. Clint DeGain is off to a 5-0 start this season.

"We have a lot of new faces this season, but they are good kids," said DeGain. "A lot of them, I'm hoping, can step in and become very good wrestlers."

Sophomore 112-pounder Jason Spencer, Jeremy Hertzler at 119, and senior David Endrezi, who is filling in for the injured Chism at 140, are the other new starters in Clarkston's lineup.

After that, the Wolves have plenty of depth as well. Junior Chris Jaronowski

Please See PARKER, C3



PHOTO BY BOB KNOSKA

It's all technique: Clarkston assistant wrestling coach Frank Laferty watches two Clarkston hopefuls during a recent intra-squad scrimmage.

Into the great wide open

Clarkston, Oxford, Lake Orion are among the list of teams that could emerge as champions of 40th annual Oakland County wrestling meet

BY DANIEL STICKRAD
AND CHRIS MAYER
STAFF WRITERS

Clarkston and Rochester Adams have enjoyed a stranglehold on the Oakland County Wrestling Tournament title for much of this decade, combining to win seven titles since 1990. But as the prestigious tournament turns 40 this year, neither the Wolves nor the Highlanders are the heavy favorites.

In fact, quite simply, there isn't a clear-cut favorite.

"This is as even as it's been in a very long time," eighth-year Clarkston head coach Mike DeGain said. "A number of teams could end up winning it."

While the talent level for prep wrestling is strong once again throughout Oakland County, that talent is more evenly dispersed throughout the area. Clarkston and Adams join Troy, Oxford, Walled Lake Western, Lake Orion, Birmingham Seaholm, Rochester, Milford, Holly, Novi and South Lyon as teams that will be vying for the top spot in the 44-school tournament — the nation's largest prep wrestling team tournament — which takes place Friday and Saturday.

Friday's preliminary rounds will be held at both Lake Orion and Clarkston high schools. Quarterfinals, semifinals and finals will take place Saturday at Lake Orion. The finals are scheduled to begin at approximately 5 p.m.

"It should be very interesting," said Lake Orion veteran coach Doug Kline. "A lot of these teams have three or four really good wrestlers, so it will depend on which team can get the most points out of their other kids. It will likely go down to the last couple of weight classes to determine the winner."

Rochester Adams, the two-time defending Oakland County champion, which recently lost a dual meet to Troy, will be hard-pressed to repeat since the Highlanders lost several key grapplers to graduation. Still, Adams 11th-year coach Pat Milkovich feels his team can compete.

"It's going to be tough to repeat. We lost a lot of big guns from last year, but there's a lot of parity this season. We're just going to go out and wrestle the best we can and maybe win a few individual championships and perhaps win another title."

"I really believe four or five teams have a shot at

winning the title this season," Milkovich added. "I don't think anyone will run away with it this season — and I might be wrong — but this could be a very close county tournament, one of the closest in years."

Troy and Walled Lake Western, incidentally, placed 1-2 at this year's Eccentric Tournament.

The Colts placed first at the county meet in 1992, and with the exception of last season's 17th-place showing, Troy has been one of the area's most consistent teams at this event. The Colts are off to a strong start this season, but coach Gary Harlan believes the upcoming two-day tournament will provide a rugged challenge for his team.

"We have been doing well the first couple of weeks here, but we're realistic," Harlan said. "This is the real test, because there are so many people with so much talent at this meet. I'm just hoping to be able to take my team to this tournament and hopefully we can come out and do a decent job. We've been getting contributions from everyone so far and that's what we'll need to do at the county tournament."

■ **This is as even as it's been in a very long time. A number of teams could end up winning it.**

Mike DeGain
—Clarkston wrestling coach

"The Oakland County meet is such a big tournament. There are over 40 teams there and everybody gets a shot at it. I can remember wrestling in that meet when I was in high school and it's like an endurance test. It's a two-day tournament and you have to be sharp because there are so many things you have to concentrate on."

Experience is one thing Walled Lake Western has going for it. The Warriors also placed second at the Berkley Invitational last weekend and currently boast a 2-1 dual-meet record, highlighted by a recent victory over rival Walled Lake Central.

"We've got a lot of experience this year," Western coach Dick Watson said. "We've got six or seven seniors in the lineup, a couple juniors and several tough sophomores. Hopefully we can get a lot of kids through to the second day and can pick up points from a lot of kids."

"I think the (county) meet is a little more open than usual. When you look at returning points (from last year's meet) it's Clarkston and us, but that really doesn't mean much. They just use that for seeding at the different sites. We were fourth or fifth last year and we didn't have any champions, but we had a lot of thirds, fourths, fifth, and sixths and built up some points."

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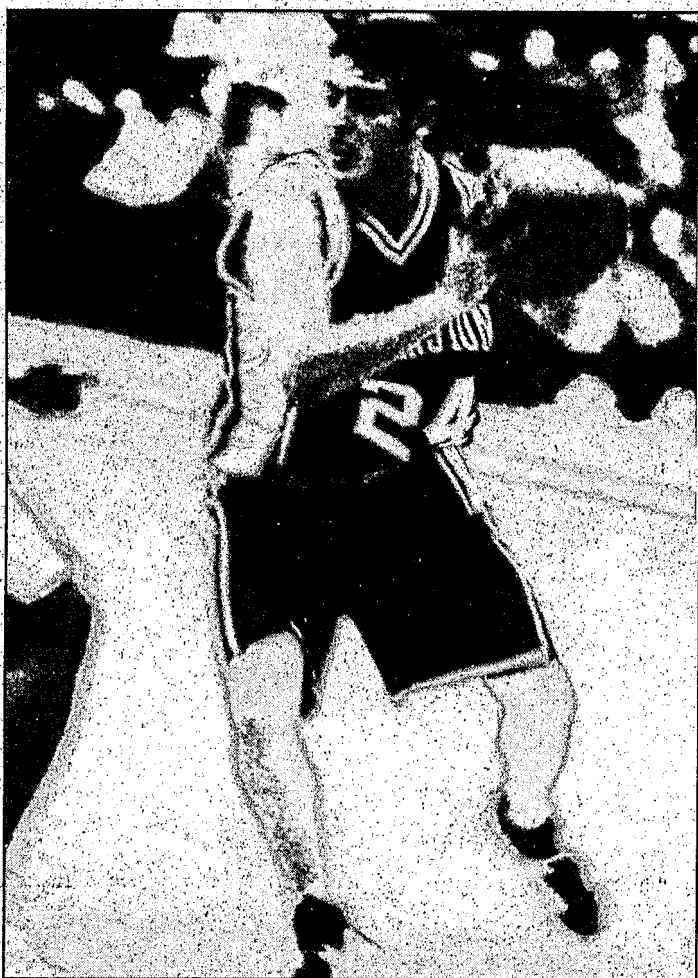


PHOTO BY BOB KINOSKA

Who is open: Clarkston senior forward Rocky Lund looks for an open teammate during Tuesday's 55-50 OAA Division I loss to Pontiac Northern.

Round one goes to Northern

Huskies turn back Clarkston 55-50 to take league lead

4BY DANIEL STICKRADT
STAFF WRITER
dstickradt@oe.com

The best analogy to describe a Pontiac Northern-Clarkston boys basketball game is that of a heavyweight boxing match-up. The two rivals take turns pummeling on each other until only one team remains standing at the end.

On Tuesday in the Oakland Activities Association Division I opener for both teams, host Northern got the upper hand on the rivalry — and league race — as the Class A sixth-ranked Huskies turned back seventh-ranked Clarkston 55-50 in front of a boisterous, near-packed crowd at Northern's Sy Green Gymnasium.

The Huskies (3-0, 1-0) connected on 6 of 8 free throws during the final 1:14 to ice the victory — their fourth straight over Clarkston.

"I guess Northern got us in the 12th round," said Clarkston veteran coach Dan Fife, whose squad lost to Northern three times last year, including a 64-64 loss in the regional semifinals. "I thought this was a game we could win and a game we probably should have. We were just a little bit unlucky down the stretch with our shots falling. We played hard enough to win."

After falling behind 34-23 with 4:38 remaining in the third, Clarkston (2-1, 0-1) came back behind the 1-2 punch of seniors Ryan Marino and Pete Ritzema.

Back-to-back wide-open three-pointers by Marino cut the deficit to 36-31. And then the 7-foot-1 Ritzema closed off a 15-3 Clarkston run with a pair of inside buckets — the second which gave the

Wolves their first lead of the game at 38-37 with 1:25 left in the quarter.

However, Northern responded with a 5-0 run to close the period and opened the fourth with a triple from the wing from 6-5 sophomore forward Lester Abrams to help put the Huskies back on top at 45-38 with 7:50 to play.

Clarkston would threaten again as a three-pointer from senior forward Rocky Lund closed the gap back to 47-46 with 4:09 left, but that was as close the Wolves would get down the stretch as

■ 'We have got a lot of attitude adjustments and mind sets to work on from last year ... I think these guys need to get into the mind-set that they can win these types of games.'

Dan Fife
—Clarkston basketball coach

Northern was sharp from the charity stripe.

"We have got a lot of attitude adjustments and mind sets to work on from last year," said Fife. "The guys thought they should have lost last year. But we are a better team this year and I think these guys need to get into the mind-set that they can win these type of games."

"We did a great job coming back in the second half," continued Fife. "We got it back to 47-46, but then we turned the ball over on two of our next three pos-

sessions. We had a shot at it, but we didn't take care of the ball when it counted."

Northern led 15-8 after the first quarter and extended that advantage to 18-10 midway through the second as the Wolves rallied to within 18-16 and 24-21 thanks to eight points in the period from Marino.

But the 6-0 sharpshooter was held scoreless over the game's final 11:11 and the scoring void was felt by the Wolves.

"Ryan's our shooter — our three-point shooter," explained Fife. "When he's on he can hurt you. But sometimes the shots are not going to be falling for him and we need to do a better job going to our second or third options."

Marino scored a game-high 22 points on 10 of 25 shooting to go along with five rebounds. Ritzema added eight points, cleared a career-high 14 rebounds and had two blocks, but was 0-for-5 from the free throw line and missed two wide-open dunks.

Lund also added 10 points and four rebounds, 6-5 senior center Adam Schapman collected five points, four rebounds and three blocks, and junior point guard Ryan Kaul dished out 10 assists for the Wolves.

Abrams led a balanced Northern attack with 14 points, nine rebounds, three steals and two blocks.

Paul Haynes, a 6-6 junior forward, added 14 points and nine rebounds, sophomore forward Derrick Ponder added 10 points, seven rebounds and four steals, senior guard Anthony Styles added eight points, and junior point guard Ricky Morgan supplied seven points and six assists for the Huskies.

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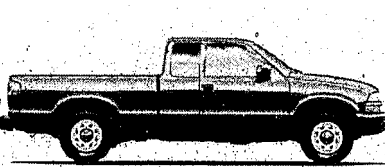
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NORTH OAKLAND SPORTS SCENE

MHSAA grid replays

The Michigan High School Athletic Association has announced a football finals replay schedule on FOX Sports Net. The eight state championship games were held Nov. 26-17 at the Pontiac Silverdome. Following is the replay schedule:

Division 8: Gaylord St. Mary vs. Mendon, 1 p.m., Dec. 18; Division 2: Saginaw vs. Birmingham Brother Rice, 3:30 p.m., Dec. 18; Division 6: St. Charles vs. Hopkins, noon, Dec. 19; Division 4: Grand Rapids South Christian vs. Orchard Lake St. Mary's, 2:30 p.m., Dec. 19; Division 7: Traverse City St. Francis vs. Gobles, 11:30 a.m., Dec. 25; Division 1: Walled Lake Western vs. Utica Eisenhower, 2 p.m., Dec. 25; Division 5: Detroit Country Day vs. Muskegon Orchard View, noon, Jan. 2; Division 3: Grand Rapids Creston vs. Farmington Hills Harrison, 2:30 p.m., Jan. 2.

Roll in the Dome

The Pontiac Silverdome again is a happening place for in-line skaters.

From now through April of next year, in-line skaters will be allowed to skate around the Silverdome's main walkway. There are 112 sessions of skating available over the next five months.

Skaters are asked to enter at the West Gate Skating on the Third Level. The fees are as follows: \$6 for adults; \$5 for students with ID; \$5 for seniors 55-over; \$5 for Pontiac residents; and \$4 youths 12-under. Skate rental is available with pads for \$5. Safety gear rental is \$2.50.

The 24-hour hotline number to find out exact skating sessions and times is 1-877-876-2832.

Suburban hockey schools

Rochester and Farmington Hills will be two sites for the 1999 Suburban Hockey Christmas Clinics.

The Onyx-Rochester Ice Arena will host the session from Dec. 20-23. Mites will have two power skating and puckhandling sessions from 9-10:20 a.m. and 10:30-11:50 a.m.; Squirts will go from noon to 1:20 p.m. A checking and scoring clinic for pee wees and bantams from 1:30-2:50 p.m.

For more information or to register, call the Suburban Hockey Schools, at (248) 478-1600.

Oxford Christian topples Bethany for first win

BY DANIEL STICKRADT
STAFF WRITER
dstickradt@homecomm.net

A month of near-misses finally came to an end for Oxford Christian — in the form of a victory.

The Warriors, who were 0-7 this season despite vast improvements since last year, recorded win No. 1 Tuesday with a 54-43 triumph over Troy Bethany Christian.

"We played really well as a team," said second-year Oxford Christian coach Jeff Alexander, who only had seven of 11 players dressed for the game for various reasons. "We played very hard on the defensive end of the court and we were able to come off with a victory."

Oxford Christian dropped a 51-47 heartbreaker last Friday to host Wixom Christian. Alexander felt that his cagers built on that loss and were able to finally turn the tables against Bethany.

"The guys kind of felt bad after that loss to Wixom because they played so well only to lose in the fourth quarter," recalled Alexander. "But these guys built on that game and were able to bring it up a notch tonight."

Perhaps nobody played more inspired than Tim King.

The 6-foot-1 senior center scored a game-high 16 points and cleared an amazing 25 rebounds — one of the all-time best efforts at Oxford Christian — in only his second game after having open-heart surgery in mid-October.

"I knew he had a lot of rebounds, but when I looked at the sheet after the game I was very surprised," admitted Alexander. "Tim did a great job on the boards, scrapping for the ball. He was a leader for us. We need Tim out there in order for us to do well."

The Warriors raced out to a 16-4 advantage through eight minutes and then upped that lead to 32-21 by halftime.

Dakota holds off Oxford late

BY MIKE SCOTT
SPECIAL WRITER

Heading into its non-conference battle with Macomb Dakota Tuesday night, Oxford knew it had to slow down Cougars center Sam Anderson. Unfortunately for the Wildcats, it never happened.

Anderson finished with a game-high 36 points to go along with 10 rebounds as Dakota pulled away in the final few minutes for a 58-47 victory over winless Oxford.

The game was close throughout as the Wildcats (0-2) stayed within four points despite playing without 6-foot-5 starting junior center Mike Spencer for most of the first three quarters. Spencer picked up two fouls in the first 1:30 of the first quarter, and Anderson drew a third on him early in the second half.

But Spencer was a factor down the stretch. He finished with 13 points and six rebounds and was able to get good post position on Anderson nearly every time down the court.

Oxford coach Jesse Heck wanted his team to pound the ball inside and the Wildcats responded. After Dakota senior guard Todd Wojciechowski scored four quick points to start the fourth quarter, Spencer got loose inside and converted a three-point play, drawing Anderson's third foul.

Late in the second, Dakota switched to a 2-3 zone but allowed Ethan Fay to get loose inside for a short turnaround. Then Galle's runner along the baseline with five seconds left in the half gave Oxford a 22-21 lead. Both teams shot under 30 percent from the field for the first half.

Backup center Chris Daniels played well for Oxford with Spencer on the bench for foul trouble. The Wildcats were also able to get the ball inside to him and used an effective inside-out attack to stay with Dakota in the third quarter.

Presteniezi said his squad needs to play better defense and realize their responsibilities on the floor. Dakota hosts Utica Ford tomorrow, one of the league favorites in the MAC Division.

"We need to get better and we need to deny the ball," he said. "(Anderson) kept us in the game by himself because no one else could hit their shots. I don't know what we finished from the three-point line but it was awful."

The Wildcats used nine players from their bench but fell into the same trouble that had been plaguing the Cougars besides Anderson for the whole game. In the fourth, Oxford just couldn't hit an outside shot and it cost them.

For the game, athletic Dakota outrebounded Oxford by five rebounds and its offensive rebounding was its main weapon most of the first half. Dakota did fare better at the free-throw line.

Parker from page C1

so I turned the case over to the prosecutor's office and charges were filed."

A costly mistake

The illegal killing of a bear in Michigan is a misdemeanor and carries a sentence of a mandatory five days and up to 90 days in jail, revocation of hunting privileges for the remainder of this year and the next three years, \$1,500 in restitution along with additional fines and court costs.

The Upper Peninsula and the extreme northern haunts of the Lower are traditionally thought of as Michigan's black bear range, but sightings and bear encounters in the southern Lower Peninsula are occurring with more frequency as the bear population grows and its range expands.

The DNR estimates that Michigan's bear population is growing at an annual rate of approximately six-percent in the Lower Peninsula and five-percent in the Upper Peninsula. Prior to the Sept. 10-Oct. 26 bear hunting season there was an estimated pop-

ulation of 14,000 bears across northern Michigan.

"Their range is expanding, too," said DNR bear biologist Tim Reis. "Based on the number of observations we have received there are more and more instances when bear show up in the southern Lower Peninsula, particularly on the west side of the state. We've had several reports of bear sightings just north of Grand Rapids and one of a sow with cubs."

Summer residents

Reis feels the young, 160-pound bear shot in Tuscola County may have been establishing a home range in the area and could have been there since early last summer.

"It's uncommon for a bear to make long movements like that at this time of year," Reis said. "Cubs will stay with a sow for two winters. Then, when she's ready to reproduce again in the spring, she'll get real aggressive with her cubs, especially the young males who will leave the area and

venture out on their own. As they try to establish their own home range they'll undoubtedly encounter other bears and they'll get run off until they find a suitable area. But that usually occurs in the spring and early summer, not in the fall. There's a pretty good chance this bear had established a home range and maybe even started denning in the area."

Two summers ago a young male bear was spotted several times near Clarkston and Grand Blanc. That bear showed up in early summer and eventually made a 100-mile-plus trek to Port Austin before being captured and relocated back into northern Michigan.

(Anglers and hunters are urged to report your success. Questions and comments are also encouraged. Send information to: Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Fax information to (248) 644-1314 or call Bill Parker evenings at (248) 901-2573.)

Wrestling from page C1

at 215 and senior Aaron Karns were both regional qualifiers last season despite being reserves behind a pair of state medalists. Plus, promising sophomore prospect R.J. Booker could earn a starting spot at 152 he continues to develop.

"When you have around 65 kids, it's a nice luxury," said DeGain. "To have regional qualifiers as backups, it really shows you how hard the kids on the team work. We have a lot of guys that are back-ups now, but could step in if there is an injury or

two, and that is already the case with Brain Chiam being out for a while with a bad knee."

DeGain added that he feels his team could be just as strong as in recent years if some of the newcomers can develop at a fast pace.

"There is a lot of potential here," said DeGain. "I think if some of those guys come on strong, we could be really good again. It will be one of those wait and see periods, but the potential is there."

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Pool sharks

All-staters headline all-area swimming team

BY CHRIS MAYER
STAFF WRITER

cmayer@oe.hometown.com

The Eccentric's annual All-Area Girls Swimming and Diving Team encompasses some of the state's most talented performers. And this year is no different.

The 1999 season, which culminated Nov. 20 with the Class A and B-C-D state meets, featured impressive efforts from a number of local teams and individuals. Bloomfield Hills Lahser senior Sara Johnson placed first in two individual events at the Class A finals, while Birmingham Marian finished 10th in Class A under first-year coach Bill Thompson.

Lahser leads this year's First Team with selections in four of the 12 events. Marian received the nod in three events, super sophomore Clinique Brundidge landed two spots for the Southfield Unified, and Troy, Walled Lake Unified and Birmingham Seaholm are represented in one event apiece.

Selections were made based on state, county and league meet performances. Here is a brief profile of this year's First Team:

200 MEDLEY RELAY: Bloomfield Hills Lahser (Sara Johnson, Sarah Hartman, Amanda Johnson, Erin Toth) — A pair of seniors, Sara Johnson and Hartman, Toth, a junior and freshman Amanda Johnson joined forces to place sixth at the Class A state meet in a time of 1:50.36. The foursome swam a 1:50.26 in the Class A preliminaries, touched first at the Oakland Activities Association Division I meet (1:51.25) and second at the annual Oakland County Championships (1:51.47).

200 FREESTYLE: Clinique Brundidge, Southfield Unified — Only a sophomore, Brundidge's illustrious rise in this event came on strength of a third-place performance in the Class A final (1:54.75) and a season-best 1:53.83 in the Class A prelimi-

naries. Her previous accomplishments included a first-place effort at the OAA Division III meet, in which she established a new division record with a time of 1:58.38, and a runner-up showing at the Oakland County Championships (1:55.95).

"Clinique is an outstanding freestyler," SPS coach Bob Harding said. "She works hard during the season and in the off-season and her dedication and desire make her that much better."

200 IM: Sara Johnson, Bloomfield Hills Lahser — Johnson simply owned this event during her exceptional prep career. The talented senior posted victories this season at the Class A state meet with a time of 2:03.48 — the performance enabled Johnson to win third 200 IM state championship in four years — the Oakland County Championships (2:06.15) and the OAA Division I meet (2:05.92).

50 FREESTYLE: Liz Hipp, Troy — Hipp was the lone area performer to place among the top 12 (11th, 25.15) at the Class A state meet. The aforementioned junior clocked a 24.76 in the Class A preliminaries, placed second at the OAA Division I meet (25.10) and tied for fifth at the Oakland County Championships (26.10).

DIVING: Tonya McCarty, Walled Lake Unified — McCarty, who spent most of her junior season recovering from a stress fracture in her foot, recorded first-place finishes at the Oakland County Championships (412.70) and the Western Lakes Activities Association meet (416.85) before concluding the year with a third-place showing at the Class A state meet (364.50). McCarty's top six-dive score, 271.60 vs. Farmington Hills Harrison on Oct. 21, represented a school (Walled Lake Central) and program dual-meet record.

"Tonya made some great improvements this year and she's made a commitment to keep herself in 'good shape,'" Walled Lake coach Jeremy Brandon said. "She really had a tremendous season when you consider the amount of pain she sometimes had to go through with her foot injury."

100 BUTTERFLY: Amanda John-

son, Bloomfield Hills Lahser — The future looks bright for this promising freshman. Johnson touched first at the Oakland County Championships (59.78) and OAA Division I meet (1:00.39) and clocked a seventh-place time of 58.55 at the Class A state meet.

100 FREESTYLE: Clinique Brundidge, Southfield Unified — Brundidge improved on last season's 10th-place finish at the Class A meet by placing third this year in a time 52.96. Her accomplishments also included a season-best 52.89 in the Class A preliminaries, a first at the OAA Division III meet (53.63, division record) and a tie for second at the Oakland County Championships (54.38).

500 FREESTYLE: Liz Eberlein, Birmingham Marian — Only a sophomore, Eberlein was hampered by a wrist injury during the season but still managed to place among the top 25 at the Class A state meet (5:25.62). Eberlein also tied for sixth at the Oakland County Championships (5:33.17) and placed sixth at the Catholic League meet.

"Liz really got up for the state meet and turned in a solid performance when we needed it," Marian coach Bill Thompson said.

200 FREESTYLE RELAY: Birmingham Marian (Kate Runyon, Jenna Fromm, Erin Spiro, Kim Beals) — Sophomores Runyon and Fromm, Beals, a junior and a senior Spiro teamed up to place first at the Catholic League meet in a league-record time of 1:41.32, second at the Oakland County Championships (1:41.57) and seventh at the Class A state meet (1:39.30).

"These four girls worked very well together," Thompson said. "Runyon led off the relay and she really came on this year, Fromm was very good in championship-meet situations, Spiro is just one of those swimmers who you know is going to come through and Beals has that competitive drive in her that benefits the anchor leg of the relay."

100 BACKSTROKE: Sara Johnson, Bloomfield Hills Lahser:

Please See SWIMMING, C5

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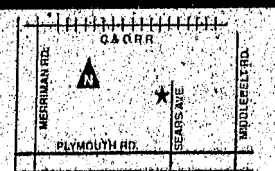
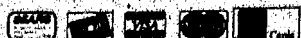
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1999 Eccentric All-Area Girls Swimming and Diving Team

200 MEDLEY RELAY: 1. Bloomfield Hills Lahser; 2. Birmingham Seaholm; 3. Birmingham Marian.

200 FREESTYLE: 1. Clinique Brundidge, Southfield Public Schools; 2. Kim Beals, Birmingham Marian; 3. Kristen Burgess, Cranbrook Kingswood.

200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY: 1. Sara Johnson, Bloomfield Hills Lahser; 2. Erin Spiro, Birmingham Marian; 3. Leah Ingram, Birmingham Seaholm.

50 FREESTYLE: 1. Liz Hipp, Troy; 2. Julie Kramb, Bloomfield Hills Lahser; 3. Jill Bihler, Detroit Country Day.

DIVING: 1. Tonya McCarty, Walled Lake; 2. Megan Dankovich, Birmingham Marian; 3. Kim Consiglio, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood.

100 BUTTERFLY: 1. Amanda Johnson, Bloomfield Hills Lahser; 2. Laura Cappelli, Detroit Country Day; 3. Erin Spiro, Birmingham Marian.

100 FREESTYLE: 1. Clinique Brundidge, Southfield Public Schools; 2. Julie Kramb, Bloomfield Hills Lahser; 3. Jennifer Thompson, Seaholm.

500 FREESTYLE: 1. Liz Eberlein, Birmingham Marian; 2. Sarah Pittel, Rochester; 3. Meagan O'Neill, Troy.

200 FREESTYLE RELAY: 1. Birmingham Marian; 2. Bloomfield Hills Lahser; 3. Birmingham Seaholm.

100 BACKSTROKE: 1. Sara Johnson, Bloomfield Hills Lahser; 2. Jennifer Thompson, Seaholm; 3. Jennifer Tille, Birmingham Seaholm.

100 BREASTSTROKE: 1. Brady Kosnik, Birmingham Marian; 2. Jana Burrell, Cranbrook Kingswood; 3. Laura Cappelli, Country Day.

400 FREESTYLE RELAY: 1. Birmingham Seaholm; 2. Birmingham Marian; 3. Bloomfield Hills Lahser.

COACH OF THE YEAR: 1. Bill Thompson, Birmingham Marian.

Eccentric All-Area Swimming 1999

Elizabeth Eberlein
Birmingham MarlanBrady Kosnik
Birmingham MarlanKate Runyon
Birmingham MarlanJenna Fromm
Birmingham MarlanTonya McCarty
Walled Lake UnifiedKelly McGill
Birmingham SeaholmJenny Thompson
Birmingham SeaholmBill Thompson
Marlan CoachClinique Brundage
Southfield UnifiedErin Spiro
Birmingham MarlanKim Beals
Birmingham MarlanKathleen Moyer
Birmingham SeaholmSara Johnson
Bloomfield Hills Lahser

All-Area First Team

Amanda Johnson
Bloomfield Hills LahserErin Toth
Bloomfield Hills Lahser

Swimming from page C4

Johnson's four Class A state meet appearances in this event produced three consecutive championships, including this year's first-place time of 56.58, following a runner-up finish her freshman season. Johnson's time of 58.03 enabled her to win at the Oakland County Championships and a 58.46 at the OAA Division I meet left her in first place as well.

100 BREASTSTROKE: Brady Kosnik, Birmingham Marlan — Kosnik concluded her season by clocking a season-best time of 1:08.81 at the Class A state meet, good for 13th place. The aforementioned senior touched second at the Catholic League meet in 1:09.64 — she swam a 1:08.97 in the prelims — and finished fourth at the Oakland County Championships (1:10.17).

"Brady was one of those seniors you just love to have on your team," Thompson said. "The breaststroke is the event we focused with her on this year and she was tremendous with the other swimmers on the team as far as being a support person."

400 Freestyle Relay (Leah Ingram, Kathleen Moyer, Kelly McGill, Jenny Thompson), Birmingham Seaholm: This relay, featuring a freshman (Moyer),

sophomore (Thompson), junior (McGill) and senior (Ingram) teamed up at the Class A state to place sixth in a time of 3:40.25. The foursome had an even stronger showing in the Class A preliminaries, posting a 3:39.01.

"This relay really epitomized what kind of team we had this season," Seaholm first-year coach Tom Wyllie said. "You had a girl from each class come together and put together two strong swims."

COACH OF THE YEAR: Bill Thompson, Birmingham Marlan: Thompson's first season at the helm certainly qualified as a success.

The Mustangs earned runner-up honors at the Catholic League meet behind Farmington Hills Mercy, finished third at the Oakland County Championships (168.20 points) and utilized a balanced team effort to place 10th at the Class A state meet.

"The girls surprised me a little bit," Thompson admitted. "In the back of my mind I was hoping to get into the top 10 (at the state meet), but I didn't know if we'd be able to pull it off."

"The team gelled and it was just one of those magical seasons. And it helped me that I was dealing with some real good kids."

TEAM TRYOUTS

BASKETBALL

■ The Metro Magic, a Troy-based girls AAU basketball team, will conduct open tryouts for this year's squad on Sunday, Dec. 12 at Baker Middle School (1291 Torpey Drive) in Troy. All participants should bring a basketball and gym shoes. There is no fee involved.

Tryout times by age group, determined by age as of Jan. 1, 2000, and contacts are as follows: 12-under, 4 p.m.-6 p.m., Dave Hanson (248-528-1655); 13-under, 2 p.m.-4 p.m., Scott Perz (248-528-1422); 14-under, 6 p.m.-8 p.m., Don Sutherland (248-828-7444); 15-under, noon-2 p.m., Jerry Cooper (248-680-1949); and 16-under, 10 a.m.-noon, Jeff Debandt (248-689-8659).

BASEBALL

■ The Birmingham/Troy Red Sox 12-year-old baseball team is having indoor tryouts for individuals interested in federation baseball. Anyone wishing to try out should contact Joe Matos at

(248) 740-8687 or e-mail Mark Sackett at redsox@bignet.net. Birthdays of individual participants should be between 8/1/87 and 7/31/88. Tryouts will begin immediately.

■ The WaCo Wolves Travel Baseball teams in the Little Caesar's League are looking for 11-, 12-, 13- and 14-year-old baseball players for next spring's teams. The teams will travel out of state at least three times. For information on the 13-14-year-old teams, call (734) 595-2975; for information on the 11-12-year-old teams, call (313) 562-4667.

■ The USB Stars has rescheduled their tryouts for Sunday, Dec. 12 at the Oakland Community College Auburn Hills from 1-4 p.m.

The Stars is searching for players ages 13-18 to represent the U.S. in international competitions. Registration fees are \$25 per athlete.

For more information, call (313) 417-8974.

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Primary responsibilities will
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General maintenance for apart-
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Mature, responsible per-
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Must have general maintenance
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Canton Apartment Community is
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Candidates must possess a high
school diploma (or equivalent),
ability to pass a Level I and II
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experience, excellent communica-
tions skills, and the ability to
lift a minimum of fifty (50) lbs.
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Need experience in multiple site
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experience a plus. Resumes
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Wanted for Clinton Twp apart-
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\$9 and up 2 shifts
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must be creative, have
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equivalent required w/ 1 yr.
experience. Attractive com-
pensation & benefits.
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person needed at new Almont
distribution facility. Medical ben-
efits, 401K plan, profit sharing.
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aptitude, reliable & construction
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Part-time permanent positions
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Northwest suburban distributor
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Furniture experience a plus.
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ads. Bachelor's degree or
equivalent required w/ 1 yr.
experience. Attractive com-
pensation & benefits.
Resume to:
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Top law firm. Training and user
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Furniture experience a plus.
Good driving record & must
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pensation & benefits.
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Candidate must be a self-
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Attention: Andy S.

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Ideal candidate will have a min-
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Birmingham/Bloomfield
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opportunity. Send resume and
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West Bloomfield, MI 48322

ADMINISTRATIVE OPENINGS
• Administrative Assistant - Support
Leasing Directors of Shopping
Malls. Great benefits!
• Prominent RenCon employer
seeking Administrative Assistant
proficient in MS Word,
Excel & PowerPoint.
• Personable front office Sec-
retary with terrific computer skills
will be greatly appreciated by
friendly team of recruiters.
• Bloomfield Hills Executive
seeks Personal Assistant/MS
Office, QuickBooks, & Quick-
en. President of an international
co. seeks Executive Secretary
bilingual in German with 5-
years executive level experience.
Harper Associates
Fax resumes: 248-932-1214
or call Gloria: 248-932-3661
www.harper-jobs.com

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Temp producing Realtor in
Birmingham/Bloomfield
areas has an opening for an
experienced Administrative As-
sistant. Excellent pay and growth
opportunity. Send resume and
cover letter stating salary
requirements and avail-
able commencement date.
Mr. Finley
Fax: (248) 642-4210

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Looking for an Administrative
Assistant for the CEO of a high
profile television production
company.
Ideal person is in office/organizational
has several years

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502 Help Wanted-Office Clerical

Executive or Legal Secretary
Bloomfield Hills
Fax resume 248-694-1189

FULL TIME Accounts Payable person needed for busy West Bloomfield, Builder. Computer experience helpful but not necessary. Please mail or fax your resumes to: 7322 Village Square Drive, West Bloomfield, MI 48322 or Fax (248) 788-2710

GENERAL OFFICE

Custom building company looking for reliable person to fill entry level clerical position. Responsibilities include data entry, filing and back-up receptionist. Applicants should have basic computer skills, knowledge of general office procedures and ability to handle multiple phone system. Compensation and benefits based on experience. Send resume with cover letter to: 17117 W. 9 Mile, Suite 1100, Southfield, Michigan 48075 or fax to (248)557-4288

GENERAL OFFICE

For family business, friendly person wanted. 248-945-3695

GENERAL OFFICE

Immediate Opening! Full-time, Bookkeeping experience helpful. Duties include some computer, filing, typing and phones. \$9 per hour. Blue Cross. Hours are Mon-Fri, 9am-6pm. Ask for Pam: 248-644-8555

GENERAL OFFICE

West side Import dealer is accepting applications for clerical support. Duties include answering phone, data entry & filing. Accounting experience helpful but not necessary. Ideal candidates must be dependable and well organized. Apply in person: Plymouth Township, 200 W. Ann Arbor Rd., ask for Linda Yates. Or fax your resume to: 248-643-9261, Attn: Nancy

GROWING MULTI-COMPANY

organization located in Troy seeks Collection Department Clerk, Microsoft Office & Excel experience preferred. Full-time position. Good benefits & perks. Send resume & salary requirements to: Resource Technologies Corp., Attn: Jaime, PO Box 3201, Troy, MI 48067-3201

LAW OFFICE IN TROY SEeks

• **SECRETARY**
Legal experience preferred but not necessary.
• **RECEPTIONIST**
Light typing, filing & phone duties. Both positions flexible full or part-time. Fax resume and salary requirements to: 248-813-8700

LEGAL ASSISTANT

Birmingham law firm. Contact Rebecca 248-258-7074, x234

LEGAL SECRETARY

For Southfield P.I. & malpractice law firm. Minimum 3 years experience. Windows/MS Word knowledge a must. Send resume to: 24472 Northwestern Highway, Southfield, MI 48075

LEGAL SECRETARY

For large Farmington Hills law firm with minimum 2 years experience. Excellent benefits. Send resume to: Office Administrator PO Box 3040 Farmington Hills, MI 48333 Or Fax to: (248) 851-2158

LEGAL SECRETARY

Small friendly Rochester firm. WordPerfect skills needed. Call: (248) 608-1900 or fax resume to (248) 608-1925

LEGAL SECRETARY

with appellate experience for senior partner in established law firm. Competitive wages and benefits. Send resume to: B.P. 2677 Centerville Park Blvd, Suite 275 Southfield, MI 48076, or Fax 248-799-8265

LICENSED REAL ESTATE ASSISTANT NEEDED.

Must have computer skills. People oriented. Part or full-time. Fax resume to: 248-973-0001

MEDICAL BILLING- EARN EXCELLENT INCOME!

Full training provided. Home computer required. Call toll free (800)540-8333 ext. 2237

OFFICE/CLERICAL

Mature, self-starter for innovative Rochester company. Computer and telephone skills required. Full or part time position available. (248) 656-1700

OFFICE MANAGER

Electronic manufacturer has an immediate opening for Office Manager. Duties include, HR, sales and accounting administration. BBS or 10 years minimum experience, electronic component & computer knowledge required. Key employee position with excellent benefits. Send resume to: Deborah Industries, Attn: CEO, 591 Executive Dr, Troy, MI 48063 or fax to 248-588-5236

OFFICE MANAGER

Plymouth Township has an immediate opening for an Office Manager. Candidate must have previous dealership experience with knowledge in all areas of the office. Benefits include paid vacation, paid holidays, medical, dental and 401(k) with company match. All applications will be kept in strict confidence. Fax resume to: 248-643-9261 Attention: Nancy

RECEPTIONIST - Administrative Assistant, full time, Troy

contracting firm. Call Call: 248-689-9300

502 Help Wanted-Office Clerical

PARALEGAL/LEGAL ASSISTANT
For W. Bloomfield law office specializing in collections. Experience required. Please call Alister 248 851-8302 or fax resume to: 248 851-9597

PART-TIME SECRETARY

For friendly real estate office in Plymouth. Prior experience in an office setting is helpful, but not required. 15-25 hours per week. Weekday evenings till 9pm & weekend days till 5pm. Call Doug or Linda at: (734)459-6222

PART-TIME SECRETARY

Wixom construction company looking for energetic professional secretary experienced in WMS Word types 60 WPM. Flexible hours. Send resume to Oliver/Hatcher Construction, P.O. Box 930358, Wixom, MI 48393.

PAYROLL ASSISTANT

Detailed oriented individual needed for payroll department in a rapidly growing company. Must be skilled in 10key, MSWord, MSeExcel. Minimum one-year payroll experience. Ideal candidate should be team oriented, with good people skills. Send resume with salary requirements to: Job #3509-PAY, P.O. Box 307, Southfield, MI 48037-0307, fax 248-352-0018 attention #3509-PAY, or e-mail kozikowskib@plante-moran.com

PLANTE & MORAN LLP

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Payroll Coordinator

ACRO Service Corp., a \$50 million organization, is one of Michigan's fastest growing staffing companies. We currently have an opening for a Payroll Coordinator to join our team in our Livonia office. Responsibilities include processing and distributing weekly payroll. Selected candidates will be detail oriented, computer literate and have the ability to work in a fast paced environment. Must have prior experience with computerized payroll processing. Please mail or fax your resume to: ACRO Services Corp., Human Resources, TM 17187 N. Laurel Park Drive Suite 165, Livonia, MI 48152 FAX: (734) 591-1217 e-mail: tmrsh@acrocpr.com

RECEPTIONIST

• Birmingham Law firm • Friendly, pleasant working environment, full or part time, great benefits, light typing. Call Kim at: (248) 644-4529

RECEPTIONIST - Immediate opening for entry level receptionist position in fast-paced office. Candidate must enjoy working with the public, be organized, detail oriented and have an entry-level Secretary/Receptionist. Excellent growth opportunity. Need dedicated and detailed individual. Send resume and cover letter stating career goals and available commencement date.

RECEPTIONIST

Top producing Realtor in Birmingham/Bloomfield area has an opening for a Receptionist/Secretary. Full general computer skills. Full-time position. Mon, thru Fri. and every other weekend. Fax to 734-455-1159 or send resume to: Box 2265 Observer & Eccentric Newspapers 36251 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI 48150

RECEPTIONIST

National management company headquartered in Troy needs full time Receptionist. Requires excellent communication skills, professional manner & attire. Must be high school graduate with computer experience. Competitive salary with benefits including health/dental/life, full tuition reimbursement after one year, & 401(K). Send resume to: The Hayman Company, Attn: J.B., PO Box 7777, Troy, MI 48007-7777

RECEPTIONIST - Need extra spending money? We need a Wee-end Receptionist who is a "People Person" Friendly Farmington Hills real estate office, 9-5 Sat. and 10-5 Sunday. Call Barbara at: (248)851-6700

RECEPTIONIST

Needed for property management office. Duties include answering phones, filing, word processing and some accounts payable. Computer experience required and organizational skills a plus. Full time with benefits. Fax resume to Cheryl Miller at: 248-855-3192.

RECEPTIONIST

Optical company has a receptionist position available in our Garden City location. We offer a competitive salary & benefit package including medical, prescription, dental & 401k plan. Apply in person at: 5952 Middlebelt, Garden City

RECEPTIONIST

Part-time Fitness Receptionist at busy fitness facility in Waterford, 8-12 hrs/wk - early morning 2 times/wk and rotating week-ends. Start at \$7/hr with free membership Call or fax Tim Curtis at Prescription Fitness. Phone 248-674-8858 Fax 248-674-0188

RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY

Phonics, Microsoft Windows helpful Troy 248-344-9510

RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY

Needed, hardworking, full time receptionist/secretary. Must have experience with WordPerfect 6.0 & 8.0. Good organizational skills & very dependable. College night students welcome. Send resume via mail to: Office Manager, 100 W. Big Beaver Rd., Ste. 130, Troy, MI 48064 or via fax (248) 989-5874

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502 Help Wanted-Office Clerical

RECEPTIONIST
Wanted, vibrant, expanding company. Khrushchik, Salary adjuster with experience. (248)827-7678

RECRUITING SUPPORT SPECIALIST

This HR support position will maintain resume database, search job internet sites and perform general office administration. Seeking a self-motivated person to join placement company in new Novum office/retail building. Will train!

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SECRETARIAL OPENINGS

Automotive - Executive support
Banking - Both branch and headquarters
Advertising - Creative and client service departments
Healthcare - openings in Detroit and suburbs
Call Sandy for directions. Birmingham 248-646-7683 Clinton Twp 810-226-9642 Farmington 734-283-2933 Taylor 734-284-6457

Advantage Staffing

SECRETARY
Detail oriented for expanding Bloomfield Hills law office. Responsibilities include: phones & filing, great memory & organizational skills, some computer knowledge required. Fax resume and hourly salary to: (248) 335-4889

SECRETARY

Mature Mingle Senior Center, 25 hrs. per week, \$11.60-\$13.49/hr. Excellent working conditions. People skills and the ability and desire to work with senior members of the community required. Must possess accurate computer word processing and documentation skills. Individual will assist with volunteers, trip planning, special event tasks and home meal program. Apply: Bloomfield Hills Schools, Personnel, 4175 Anderson, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302 or call 248-645-4518 for an application.

SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST

Property Management firm has immediate opening for a part time experienced secretary/receptionist. Must be detail oriented, 12-5pm. Successful applicant must possess excellent phone etiquette, professional appearance and strong sense of responsibility. For immediate consideration, please call Certified Realty, Inc. at (248) 471-7100 or mail your resume to: 23900 Orchard Lake Rd, #200 Farmington Hills, MI 48336

SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST

Top producing Realtor in Birmingham/Bloomfield area has an opening for a Receptionist/Secretary. Full general computer skills. Full-time position. Mon, thru Fri. and every other weekend. Fax to 734-455-1159 or send resume to: Box 2265 Observer & Eccentric Newspapers 36251 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI 48150

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Part-time Fitness Receptionist at busy fitness facility in Waterford, 8-12 hrs/wk - early morning 2 times/wk and rotating week-ends. Start at \$7/hr with free membership Call or fax Tim Curtis at Prescription Fitness. Phone 248-674-8858 Fax 248-674-0188

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503 Engineering

Engineers Required
Froude Conine are established manufacturers of Engine and Vehicle Test Equipment to the Automotive and Aerospace Manufacturing Industries.

Following relocation to our brand new facility in Plymouth, and to support our expansion plans, we urgently need Engineers at varying levels in the following departments:

- Sales & marketing
- Contracts
- Service & refurbishment

Call Ken Barnes 734-416-8000 or send your resume to: Froude Conine Inc. 45225 Polaris Court Plymouth, MI 48170 Fax (734) 416-9113

504 Help Wanted-Dental

Observer & Eccentric

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714 Clothing CHRISTMAS COATS - 2 fur coats, 2 leather coats w/fur. Great styles & prices. 248-353-8315 FUR COAT: Beautiful Silver Fox, 3/4 length, size 10-12, worn twice. Asking \$500/best. 734-354-4282 FUR JACKET, Fox & coyote 3/4 length, original bill of sale. \$500. Call after 7:00pm 248-661-8201 FURS FURS FURS CARMELA'S Wholesale - Resale Next to New. Gently worn fine furs & clothing. For the discriminating buyer & connoisseur. Open Tues. - Sat. 12-5 2546 Orchard Lake Rd. (1 mile W. of Telegraph) (248) 582-3200 * Celebrating 25 Years * LADIES - long hair beaver coat, full length, brown, outstanding condition, \$900. Ladies black mink coat, full length, fox collar/trim, beautiful, \$1800. 248-850-8851 or 810-530-5169 MINK COAT, 52" length, 68" sweep, 52 skin. Truly spectacular! \$2000 NORWEGIAN Blue Fox full length coat w/ white fox tufted collar to hem, \$1,500. 248-901-1290	716 Household Goods ANTIQUE - sterling silver trim tea set, (7 pieces). Ten mahogany china cabinets, (excellent condition), \$800 each. Kindel Chippendale, black/iron chest & other Kindel bedroom pieces. Bookcase/secretary with solid wooden doors/slant front top. Banquet size mahogany dining room tables (opens to 10'). Sets of mahogany dining room chairs, (straight legs & ball & claw feet). Large Baker & Robert Irwin mahogany breakfast. Curio cabinets with glass on 3 sides. Demi-Lune (1/2 moon) cabinets & tables. Hoppelwhite sideboards, buffets, servers. Oil paintings (impressionists, landscapes, nautical, garden scenes, more). Lamps, bachelor chests, dressers, hi-bays, mirrors, oriental rugs. Too much to list. Visa, MC, American Express MAHOGANY INTERIORS 506 S. Washington, Royal Oak (248) 545-4110 (near 11 Mile Road & Washington Street, between 4th & 6th Streets)	716 Household Goods DESIGNERS Gorgeous contemporary 8 dinette chairs from Gormans. Good deal. 313-565-8908 DINING ROOM set w/ 6 chairs and cabinet. All wood. \$600/best. (248) 844-9328 DINING SET: Full wood Buffet, china cabinet, table & 6 chairs. \$1500/best. Call for other household items. (734) 397-5261 DINING SET: 11 pc. solid cherry, 92" double pedestal table, 2 leaves, 8 Chippendale chairs, lighted hutch & buffet. Unused still in box. \$210,000. Sell \$2800 734-658-8866 DINING TABLE set, solid hard Maple, 42" wide, 64-100" long with pads, 6 high back chairs & 2 captain chairs, \$1200. Large sofa, chair & ottoman. \$3000. corner curio, \$400. All colonial from House of Maple. (734) 455-8939 BEAUTIFUL CUSTOM furniture, 3 pcs. never used, neutral tones, \$4,000/best. 810-752-5395 BEDROOM - Heirloom Traditional, queen, dresser, mirror, armoire, etc. \$700. 734-459-6578 BEDROOM SET, full, maple w/mattress \$300. (734) 427-3958 BEDROOM SET: 7 pc., solid cherry, hand carved 4 poster bed, 2 night stands, dresser w/hi-fold mirror, high boy. Unused still in box. Cost \$5000. Sell \$1850. 734-658-8866 BEDROOM SET, 5 piece, all wood, Drexel, Mediterranean. \$1950. 248-855-8703 BEDROOM SET: queen, immaculate, oak & wrought iron. \$2000. Dining room set: light solid pine, \$1000. 734-641-4803 BELLINI CRIB/YOUTH bed 3 piece set. Excellent condition. \$875. (248) 358-1322 BLUE velvet swivel rockers (2) w/ matching ottoman. Excellent \$150/best. 2 love seats, neutral, \$35 each. 734-421-4921 BRAND new name-brand Queen Mattress set in plastic, retail \$599, sell \$199. 734-421-4310 BRAND NEW queen pillow top mattress set, still in plastic, with warranty. Cost \$800, sell \$295. Delivery. 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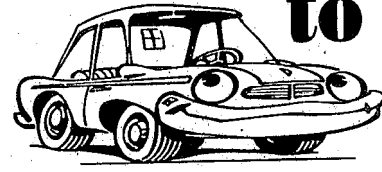
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7500 N. Canton Center Rd.
Canton
734-451-9400


FLORENCE WASHINGTON



"Wishing a healthy &
prosperous New Year for
you & your family"

**CENTURY 21
GOLDHOUSE, INC.**
7500 Canton Center Rd.
Canton
734-451-9400


REMARK



"Happy Holidays
to you &
your family"

REMARK
For Sale
By Owner Systems
www.remarkfsbo.com
313-232-6262

DEBBIE SARATA



"Merry Christmas to my clients
& friends. Thank you for your
continued support. Wishing you
great health, happiness &
prosperity in the New Year."

**CENTURY 21
HARTFORD NORTH**
32826 Five Mile Rd.
Livonia
734-525-9600

NADA ILICH



"Season's Greetings &
sincere thanks for your
support in 1999"

**CENTURY 21
Nada, Inc.**
83443 W. Nine Mile Rd.
248-477-9800

JERRY & JUDY CHAUNDY



"Season's Greetings &
sincere thanks for your
support in 1999"

**PRUDENTIAL
ACCENT REALTY, INC.**
37569 Five Mile Rd.
Livonia
734-591-0333

MAUREEN HERRON



"Season's Greetings &
sincere thanks for your
support in 1999"

**RE/MAX CLASSIC
REALTY**
38777 W. Six Mile
Ste. 103 • Livonia
734-492-1010

JOYCE M. CORNELL



"Thanks for your continued
business & referrals. Happy
Holidays to you & yours"

**CORNWELL & BUSH
Real Estate, LLC**
33104 Grand River Ave
Farmington
248-477-0157


MARY L. BUSH



"Happy Holidays to all my
Clients & my sincere
Thanks for your support
in 1999!"

**CORNWELL & BUSH
Real Estate, LLC**
33104 Grand River Ave
Farmington
248-477-9600

BRIAN DUGGAN



"Happy Holidays to you
& your family, from the
Duggan family"

**AMERICAN CLASSIC
REALTY**
29240 Buckingham
Ste. 88 • Livonia
734-591-1900

AALIYAH SALAAM



"Greetings of Peace &
Prosperity to my
clients & friends"

**CENTURY 21
TODAY, Inc.**
28544 Orchard Lake Rd.
Farmington Hills
248-855-2000

ANITA M. SACHS



"Into the new
millennium I take my
old & new friends &
clients. Happy 2000!"

**CENTURY 21
TODAY, Inc.**
28544 Orchard Lake Rd.
Farmington Hills
248-855-2000


JULIA WASHBURN



"Best Wishes for a
Happy, Safe &
Prosperous New Year"

**CENTURY 2
TODAY, Inc.**
28544 Orchard Lake Rd.
Farmington Hills
248-855-2000

YVETTE R. JACKSON



"May 2000 be the most
Prosperous & Happiest
year ever!!"

**CENTURY 21
TODAY, Inc.**
32100 Telegraph Rd.
Ste. 175 • Bingham Farms
248-647-7321


MICHELE COLTON



"Wishing all my family,
friends & clients a very
Happy, Healthy &
Prosperous New Year"

**CENTURY 21
TODAY, Inc.**
28544 Orchard Lake Rd.
Farmington Hills
248-855-2000


PAUL G. KANELAS



"Happy Holidays
to all my
friends & clients"

**CENTURY 21
TODAY, Inc.**
26000 Five Mile Road
Redford
313-538-8871

HAROLD M. GLASS



"Happy Holidays
to all my
friends & clients"

**CENTURY 21
TODAY, Inc.**
28544 Orchard Lake Rd.
Farmington Hills
248-761-4698


JESSICA R. TOOMER



"Best Wishes
for a Safe &
Prosperous New Year"

**CENTURY 21
TODAY, Inc.**
28544 Orchard Lake Rd.
Farmington Hills
248-855-2000

JOSEPH H. ZEIGLER



"Season's Greeting to
you & for your support
from 1969-1999"

**CENTURY 21
TODAY, Inc.**
19500 Victor Parkway
Ste. 190 • Livonia
734-462-9800


TANJI GRANT, GRI



"Wishing you & your family
Season's Greetings & sincere
thanks for your support in
1999. Happy Millennium!"

**CENTURY 21
TODAY, Inc.**
28544 Orchard Lake Rd.
Farmington Hills
248-538-2850


LARRY PAWLOVICH



"Seasons Greetings &
sincere thanks for your
support in 1999"

**CENTURY 21
TODAY, Inc.**
6545 Commerce Rd.
West Bloomfield
248-360-9100


MAGGIE DUGNAN



"Happy Holidays
to you &
your family"

**CENTURY 21
TODAY, Inc.**
32100 Telegraph Rd.
Ste. 175 • Bingham Farms
248-647-7321


VIRGINIA VARTANIAN



"Happy Holidays
to all my
friends & clients"

**CENTURY 21
TODAY, Inc.**
19500 Victor Parkway
Ste. 190 • Livonia
734-462-9800

BILL OPRE



"Best Wishes for a
Happy, Safe &
Prosperous New Year"

**CENTURY 21
TODAY, Inc.**
6545 Commerce Rd.
West Bloomfield
248-360-9100


TAMARA KARMO



"Best Wishes for a
Happy, Safe &
Prosperous New Year"

**CENTURY 21
TODAY, Inc.**
28544 Orchard Lake Rd.
Farmington Hills
248-855-2000


PAULA GAUDIO



"Happy Holidays
to you &
your family"

**CENTURY 21
TODAY, Inc.**
32100 Telegraph Rd.
Ste. 175 • Bingham Farms
248-647-7321

ROXANNE M. FITZPATRICK



"Happy Holidays
to all my
friends & clients"

**CENTURY 21
TODAY, Inc.**
28544 Orchard Lake Rd.
Farmington Hills
248-855-2000

BARBARA DUTTON



"Best Wishes for a
Happy, Safe &
Prosperous New Year"

**CENTURY 21
TODAY, Inc.**
28544 Orchard Lake Rd.
Farmington Hills
248-855-2000

Real Estate

Observer & Eccentric *It's all about you!*
NEWSPAPERS

HOMETOWN CLASSIFIED

NO Page 1, Section F

Thursday, December 16, 1999

Barry Jensen, editor (734) 953-2125 bjensen@oe.hometown.com

on the web: <http://www.observer-eccentric.com>

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HOME SEEKER'S CHECK LIST

- ☒ SELLER DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(REQUIRED BY LAW)
- ☒ LEAD DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(REQUIRED BY LAW)
- ☒ HOME SUMMARY FEATURE SHEET
(ROOM DIMENSIONS, ETC.)
- ☒ SCHOOL DISTRICT SERVING NEIGHBORHOOD (WHERE EXACTLY ARE BUILDINGS, BUS STOPS)
- ☒ AGE OF MAJOR MECHANICAL/STRUCTURAL COMPONENTS (FURNACE, WATER HEATER, SHINGLES, WINDOWS, ETC.)
- ☒ APPLIANCES INCLUDED?
- ☒ PROPERTY TAXES (BASED ON SELLING PRICE, NOT CURRENT RECORDS)
- ☒ MUNICIPAL SERVICES PROVIDED (TRASH COLLECTION, LEAF PICK-UP, SNOW REMOVAL, LIBRARY)
- ☒ CONDITION OF NEIGHBORING PROPERTIES

Tired of your condo? Try a ship

REAL ESTATE QUERIES



ROBERT M. MEISNER

A year or so ago you wrote about the construction of an ocean liner that will be used as a residence. Do you have any additional information on it?

An ultra-luxury, 40,000-ton ship will feature 107 spacious residences of approximately 1,100 square feet to 3,200 square feet, all fully equipped and furnished, as well as 88 guest suites. The maiden

voyage of the ship is scheduled for late 2001.

Apparently, half of the apartments have already been sold, and the developer anticipates a high demand for the remaining residences.

The ship offers comprehensive concierge services, travel arrangements, daily maid service, a complete medical center and a helipad.

Apparently, the ship will embark upon a continuous circumnavigation of the globe, and each year residents of the community on the ship will enjoy approximately 250 days in port with extended stays for in-depth exploration and special events.

Residences are priced from \$2 million, which includes furnishings, appliances, carpets, draperies and linens, china, cutlery and crystal.

There is an annual assessment, of course, which includes maintenance, insurance services, refurbishment and club membership dues.

Robert M. Meisner is an Oakland County area attorney concentrating his practice in the areas of condominiums, real estate, corporate law and litigation. You are invited to submit topics that you would like to see discussed in this column, including questions about condominiums, by writing Robert M. Meisner, 30200 Telegraph, Suite 467, Birmingham Farms MI 48025. His e-mail address is rmeisner@nich.com, and his Web site is www.meisner-law.com. This column provides general information and should not be construed as legal opinion.



STAFF PHOTO BY ELIZABETH CARNEGIE

Incoming president: Dave Kellett Sr., a custom builder and remodeler, will lead the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan.

Incoming president loves his job building homes

Maybe it's the sparkling eyes or enthusiasm in the voice when he talks about residential construction.

Maybe it's a sense of historical perspective.

But it's very clear that Dave Kellett Sr., incoming president of the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan, knows and loves what he does with his working life.

And Kellett hopes to energize other builders and associate members by advocating increased professionalism when he becomes their 64th president after the first of the year.

"It's a great business," he said. "Builders in the 1200s, the cathedral era, were among the most respected people in the world. People relied on their integrity."

And that's just the way things should be now, added Kellett, who specializes in custom-designed homes over \$1 million and upscale remodelings.

"We're involved with the single-biggest expenditure any family would normally get involved with," he said. "People trust us. They're not looking for price (first). They want security to go to work and know the job will be done right."

"My biggest enjoyment is getting a project done and seeing a satisfied customer," Kellett said. "The way to do that is communicate the hell out of them. Let them know what's going on all the time. It's a service business."

Kellett built his first house with William Pulte, founder of the firm

that bears his name today, after they graduated from high school in 1950. Kellett worked at Pulte 1957-70, and in a residential building partnership 1970-78 before hanging out his own shingle.

Kellett Construction will do upwards of \$8 million business this budget year divided half and half between new and remodeling, Dave said.

"I was a good mechanic, a fairly good artist and loved the outdoors," he said. "Building let me do all three. I'm an idea man - whether it's management of the business or design of a beam for a house. I'm a people person. I can relate ideas to people."

The BIA is the second-largest nationally in terms of builders and associate members combined, fourth-largest when just builders are counted.

"My goal is to increase membership, increase professionalism of existing members and show existing and new members networking opportunities," Kellett said. "If people want to be successful in business, they have to reach out and say, 'How can I be better?' Builders are very, very willing to share."

"The biggest problem we have in our business is we aren't as good system-oriented as we should be," he said. "We're all small. We don't have the sophistication of a General Motors."

"That's where the association comes in, that's what the association offers - shortcuts on the learning curve to develop efficient operating

systems for builders."

Kellett, 67, lives in Bloomfield Hills and serves as chairman of that city's zoning board of appeals. He's also chairman of code committee for the Michigan Association of Home Builders.

He has a civil engineering degree from the University of Detroit.

Two sons, Tom and Dave Jr., are involved in the business, too, and grandsons Matthew and Brian got a taste this summer working clean-up on construction sites.

Kellett Sr. is married to Janet. A daughter, Mary Clare, lives in the Seattle area.

"If you do something you enjoy, it keeps you young," he said. "My brain power is still good, but it's a little harder going up and down stairs."

Communities with a solid tax base to support services that people demand provide the best return on home remodeling dollars, Kellett said.

"As far as new, moving out to the far-out suburbs, people still want freedom of choice," he said. "It's like going from grade school to high school, the excitement. It's part of the American Dream."

Robert R. Jones, a West Bloomfield builder, is a former state and local association president.

"He has the ability to bring people together collaboratively," Jones said of Kellett. "Not only that, he's intelligent and very bright. He's a very hard working man. He's a very vital guy."

CURRENT INVENTORY

Here are the number of apartment units in the metro area by submarkets.

AREA	NUMBER
Birmingham/B'field	5,090
Central Macomb	27,382
Detroit	57,912
Far West Wayne Cty	8,966
Farmington	19,048
North Macomb	1,611
N'west Oakland	15,517
Pontiac	5,918
South Macomb	13,646
S'east Oakland	27,063
Troy/Rochester	9,377
West Wayne Cty	26,370
Total	236,778

Source: Marcus & Millichap

The price of privacy

MORTGAGE SURVEY.COM



DAVID C. MULLY

Part 2 of 2

The bigger the down payment, the lower the risk. Statistics show that the more equity people have in a house, the less likely they are to default on a loan. When they do default, there is usually enough equity left in the house to allow the lender to sell the house and get his or her money back.

To keep the loan-to-value ratio low, lenders require a down payment of at least 20 percent. The larger the down payment you have and the better your credit, the easier it is to get a loan, said Nagy Henein, president of the Greater Mortgage Corp., in New City, N.Y.

With a No-Doc loan, all the lender will ask for, according to Henein, is a name, a phone number, a Social Security number and the address of the property you want to buy. It's the sort of loan that used to be known as a signature loan.

For a Low-Doc loan, the borrower is usually required to get a letter from his bank verifying assets and showing that monthly payments can be made.

Henein points out that you will also need an excellent credit record, and might have to show one month of bank statements to verify the source of down payment and closing costs. You also may have to show one pay check stub.

Today the industry is turning toward risk-based processing, where the emphasis is on the credit history. If it's good enough, it doesn't matter where you work, how long you've been working, or how much you earn.

No-Doc loans were initially designed for the self-employed person such as a doctor, lawyer, or other professional, self-employed entrepreneurs and consultants, or those who have either a lot of income sources, or difficulty in verifying income sources.

We're talking about people with multiple companies or cash businesses. However, nowadays anyone can get a No-Doc or Low-Doc loan, as long as he has an excellent credit history and AAA credit. That means that his credit score must be at a certain level. With an outstanding credit history and a down payment, Henein claims that some - but not all - lenders will make a No-Doc loan.

The credit record is the key factor here. It had better be excellent. It's not as liberal as the No-Doc loan, and it also requires good credit. While a Low-Doc loan costs less than a No-Doc one does, it still can cost a half a percentage point more in interest than a conventional loan.

Is a No-Doc or Low-Doc loan for you? If you have an excellent credit history, want to expedite the process, or have an aversion to strangers looking through your finances, this might be a type of loan to consider.

David Mully's company, Mortgage Search Services, surveys lenders and provides updates on mortgage rates for homeowners. His survey and weekly column can be accessed online at www.MortgageSurvey.com. The survey report appears inside Thursday's Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. The company provides consumers with a Mortgage Search Hot line at (877) MTG-SHOP (684-7467). You can contact Mully at (248) 305-7337 or e-mail dmully@mtgsearch.com.

Schonscheck employees help out needy

Schonscheck, a design-build company in Wixom, coordinated efforts with Lighthouse Emergency Services of Pontiac for a holiday food drive.

The Thanksgiving Basket program provided traditional Thanksgiving meals for low-income families and seniors in Oakland County.

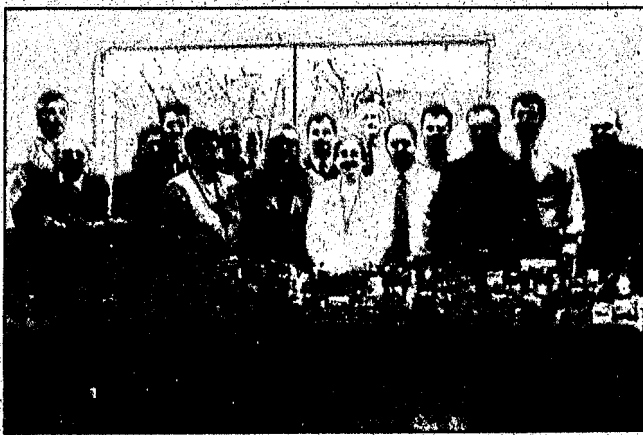
Non-perishable food items were collected at Schonscheck offices and delivered directly to All Saints Church in Pontiac.

In 1998, Lighthouse volunteers coordinated Thanksgiving baskets to feed more than 5,000 people.

Schonscheck also plans to adopt two families from the Lakes Area for the Christmas season as part of a program put together by Wixom Mayor Michael McDonald and staff.

Toys, clothes and food will be collected and delivered to hardworking families in the area.

Schonscheck employees, who are encouraged to give back to the community by Ian Schonscheck, president, also participate in other volunteer opportunities throughout the year such as Special Olympics of Michigan and Adopt-A-Road of Oakland County.



Fruits of labor: Schonscheck employees pose with some of the canned goods collected to help needy families during the holiday season.

HOMES SOLD IN OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real estate closings recorded the days of Aug. 9, 10, 11, 12, 1999, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office and compiled by Advertising That Works, a Bloomfield Township company that tracks deed and mortgage recordings in southeastern Michigan. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Bloomfield Hills	81 Douglas Dr. \$199,000	81 Douglas Dr. \$199,000	81 Douglas Dr. \$199,000	81 Douglas Dr. \$199,000	81 Douglas Dr. \$199,000
Bloomfield Hills	3030 E Bradford Dr. \$221,000	3030 E Bradford Dr. \$221,000	3030 E Bradford Dr. \$221,000	3030 E Bradford Dr. \$221,000	3030 E Bradford Dr. \$221,000
Bloomfield Hills	645 E Fox Hills Dr. \$87,000	645 E Fox Hills Dr. \$87,000	645 E Fox Hills Dr. \$87,000	645 E Fox Hills Dr. \$87,000	645 E Fox Hills Dr. \$87,000
Bloomfield Hills	779 E Fox Hills Dr. \$74,000	779 E Fox Hills Dr. \$74,000	779 E Fox Hills Dr. \$74,000	779 E Fox Hills Dr. \$74,000	779 E Fox Hills Dr. \$74,000
Bloomfield Hills	6450 Gilbert Lake Rd. \$290,000	6450 Gilbert Lake Rd. \$290,000	6450 Gilbert Lake Rd. \$290,000	6450 Gilbert Lake Rd. \$290,000	6450 Gilbert Lake Rd. \$290,000
Bloomfield Hills	791 Hawthorne Dr. \$330,000	791 Hawthorne Dr. \$330,000	791 Hawthorne Dr. \$330,000	791 Hawthorne Dr. \$330,000	791 Hawthorne Dr. \$330,000
Bloomfield Hills	2414 Hickory Glen Dr. \$459,000	2414 Hickory Glen Dr. \$459,000	2414 Hickory Glen Dr. \$459,000	2414 Hickory Glen Dr. \$459,000	2414 Hickory Glen Dr. \$459,000
Bloomfield Hills	2595 Kent Ridge Ct. \$1,597,000	2595 Kent Ridge Ct. \$1,597,000	2595 Kent Ridge Ct. \$1,597,000	2595 Kent Ridge Ct. \$1,597,000	2595 Kent Ridge Ct. \$1,597,000
Bloomfield Hills	3811 Millington Rd. \$410,000	3811 Millington Rd. \$410,000	3811 Millington Rd. \$410,000	3811 Millington Rd. \$410,000	3811 Millington Rd. \$410,000
Bloomfield Hills	545 Newburne Pointe \$395,000	545 Newburne Pointe \$395,000	545 Newburne Pointe \$395,000	545 Newburne Pointe \$395,000	545 Newburne Pointe \$395,000
Bloomfield Hills	4640 Quanton Rd. \$250,000	4640 Quanton Rd. \$250,000	4640 Quanton Rd. \$250,000	4640 Quanton Rd. \$250,000	4640 Quanton Rd. \$250,000
Bloomfield Hills	5879 Raven Rd. \$322,000	5879 Raven Rd. \$322,000	5879 Raven Rd. \$322,000	5879 Raven Rd. \$322,000	5879 Raven Rd. \$322,000
Bloomfield Hills	830 Rock Spring Rd. \$385,000	830 Rock Spring Rd. \$385,000	830 Rock Spring Rd. \$385,000	830 Rock Spring Rd. \$385,000	830 Rock Spring Rd. \$385,000
Bloomfield Hills	2945 S. Woodward #30 \$116,000	2945 S. Woodward #30 \$116,000	2945 S. Woodward #30 \$116,000	2945 S. Woodward #30 \$116,000	2945 S. Woodward #30 \$116,000
Bloomfield Hills	2418 S. Woodward #2 \$117,000	2418 S. Woodward #2 \$117,000	2418 S. Woodward #2 \$117,000	2418 S. Woodward #2 \$117,000	2418 S. Woodward #2 \$117,000
Bloomfield Hills	1480 Valley Forge Rd. \$395,000	1480 Valley Forge Rd. \$395,000	1480 Valley Forge Rd. \$395,000	1480 Valley Forge Rd. \$395,000	1480 Valley Forge Rd. \$395,000
Bloomfield Hills	3669 W Bradford Dr. \$288,000	3669 W Bradford Dr. \$288,000	3669 W Bradford Dr. \$288,000	3669 W Bradford Dr. \$288,000	3669 W Bradford Dr. \$288,000
Bloomfield Hills	3026 W Ridge Ct. \$220,000	3026 W Ridge Ct. \$220,000	3026 W Ridge Ct. \$220,000	3026 W Ridge Ct. \$220,000	3026 W Ridge Ct. \$220,000
Bloomfield Hills	6940 Woodbank Dr. \$265,000	6940 Woodbank Dr. \$265,000	6940 Woodbank Dr. \$265,000	6940 Woodbank Dr. \$265,000	6940 Woodbank Dr. \$265,000
Bloomfield Hills	6746 Almond Ln. \$149,000	6746 Almond Ln. \$149,000	6746 Almond Ln. \$149,000	6746 Almond Ln. \$149,000	6746 Almond Ln. \$149,000
Bloomfield Hills	8005 Barrington Ln. \$371,000	8005 Barrington Ln. \$371,000	8005 Barrington Ln. \$371,000	8005 Barrington Ln. \$371,000	8005 Barrington Ln. \$371,000
Bloomfield Hills	7973 Brookwood Dr. \$77,000	7973 Brookwood Dr. \$77,000	7973 Brookwood Dr. \$77,000	7973 Brookwood Dr. \$77,000	7973 Brookwood Dr. \$77,000
Bloomfield Hills	8026 Overwood Rd. \$255,000	8026 Overwood Rd. \$255,000	8026 Overwood Rd. \$255,000	8026 Overwood Rd. \$255,000	8026 Overwood Rd. \$255,000
Bloomfield Hills	7614 Devils Rog. \$825,000	7614 Devils Rog. \$825,000	7614 Devils Rog. \$825,000	7614 Devils Rog. \$825,000	7614 Devils Rog. \$825,000
Bloomfield Hills	9030 E Lake Rd. \$143,000	9030 E Lake Rd. \$143,000	9030 E Lake Rd. \$143,000	9030 E Lake Rd. \$143,000	9030 E Lake Rd. \$143,000
Bloomfield Hills	5393 Forest Ridge Dr. \$239,000	5393 Forest Ridge Dr. \$239,000	5393 Forest Ridge Dr. \$239,000	5393 Forest Ridge Dr. \$239,000	5393 Forest Ridge Dr. \$239,000
Bloomfield Hills	5197 Glenwood Crk. \$247,000	5197 Glenwood Crk. \$247,000	5197 Glenwood Crk. \$247,000	5197 Glenwood Crk. \$247,000	5197 Glenwood Crk. \$247,000
Bloomfield Hills	1523 Humphrey Ave. \$120,000	1523 Humphrey Ave. \$120,000	1523 Humphrey Ave. \$120,000	1523 Humphrey Ave. \$120,000	1523 Humphrey Ave. \$120,000
Bloomfield Hills	1777 Norfolk St. \$530,000	1777 Norfolk St. \$530,000	1777 Norfolk St. \$530,000	1777 Norfolk St. \$530,000	1777 Norfolk St. \$530,000
Bloomfield Hills	635 Purinton Ave. \$810,000	635 Purinton Ave. \$810,000	635 Purinton Ave. \$810,000	635 Purinton Ave. \$810,000	635 Purinton Ave. \$810,000
Bloomfield Hills	366 Southfield Rd. \$459,000	366 Southfield Rd. \$459,000	366 Southfield Rd. \$459,000	366 Southfield Rd. \$459,000	366 Southfield Rd. \$459,000
Bloomfield Hills	648 Vinewood Ave. \$151,000	648 Vinewood Ave. \$151,000	648 Vinewood Ave. \$151,000	648 Vinewood Ave. \$151,000	648 Vinewood Ave. \$151,000
Bloomfield Hills	1322 Washington Blvd. \$199,000	1322 Washington Blvd. \$199,000	1322 Washington Blvd. \$199,000	1322 Washington Blvd. \$199,000	1322 Washington Blvd. \$199,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Real estate briefs features news and notes on professional associations, office activities, upcoming meetings and seminars, new services/products and consumer publications.

Write: Real estate briefs, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, 48150. Our fax number is (734) 591-7279.

TOYS FOR TOTS

Coldwell Banker Schweitzer real estate associates are participating with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve in the Toys for

Tots giving program this holiday season.

Call the company headquarters at (810) 268-1000 to find out the closest office to drop off a new unwrapped toy for a needy child.

ASSOCIATION ABC'S

The Community Associations Institute Michigan Chapter presents a class, "ABC's for Condo & Homeowner Associations," 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 22, at Holiday Inn Livonia West.

Beginning course fee is \$45 for members, \$60 for non-mem-

bers. Advanced course fee is \$60 for members, \$70 for non-members.

To register, call Carol Romero at (248) 539-2677.

CONTRACTORS SEMINAR

The American Subcontractors Association of Southeastern Michigan hosts a seminar, "Embracing Change," 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 25, at the MSU Management Education Center in Troy.

A series of one-hour classes will be available.

Cost is \$95. For information,

call Julia Smith at (248) 666-1234.

COMPUTER NETWORK

Realcomp II, a multiple listing informational service headquartered in Farmington Hills, bought a state-of-the-art, Web-based computer system.

When the system is installed and operational some time next year, brokers and agents will be able to access listing information, public record data, e-mail and Internet links on one integrated computer system.

"Our goal is to continue to be

the premier provider of real estate information and services for Michigan Realtors," said Karen S. Kage, CEO for Realcomp II.

"They will find that Fusion MLS is intuitive, very easy to use and offers the fullest functionality of present technology," Kage added.

Realcomp II serves 9,600 Realtors.

COMMISSION SEARCH

A South Lyon firm has established an Internet site for Michigan residents to check competitive

bids from real estate agents to utilize their services.

Home seller post details and photos of their property online, specifying that they want proposals for listing services. Agents receive that information via e-mail, then submit confidential proposals and descriptions of services back to the homeowner.

The Web address is www.propertymover.com

Commission rates are negotiable. The going rate here is 6 percent.

Utility passes out warm winter tips and home heating advice

Want to stay warm this winter without getting the chills from your heating bills? MichCon advises some simple tips to save your heat and your money.

Heating and cooling bills account for the largest cost, 44 percent, of home energy use, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. To maxi-

mize your energy dollars follow these simple steps.

■ Get a professional annual furnace check-up once a year.

■ Clean or replace your furnace's air filters monthly during the winter season. Cleaning ducts, vents and registers is also important. People with pets need to be especially con-

scious, that hair builds up quickly in your home.

■ Install carbon monoxide detectors that warn against the colorless, odorless toxic gas that can make you sick. Also make sure that your fire alarms are in proper working order.

■ Install attic insulation to keep out drafts and make your home more

energy efficient and warm this winter. ■ Seal windows and doors with weather strips.

■ Clean fireplace chimneys of buildup and debris. Install a screened chimney cap to keep out the birds and other pests.

■ Store or cover window air conditioning units and partially cover free-

standing units.

Replace any missing shingles and check that proper metal flashing is in place around chimneys, dormers, skylights and vents.

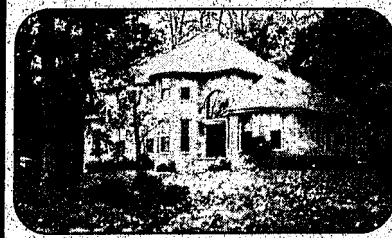
MichCon is one of the nation's largest natural gas distributors, with 1.2 million residential and business customers.



PRIVATE, PARK-LIKE SETTING
Fabulous newer home with hardwood floors, family room with full wall fireplace. Luxurious master suite, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, partially finished lower level, central air, sprinkler system, lake privileges. \$267,500 (25/LAK) MLS#972899



WHAT A VIEW!
Clarkston Bluffs condominium with complete privacy, 3 bedrooms, great room with fireplace, finished walkout, private entry, hardwood floor, two decks, 3/4 baths. Beautifully appointed. \$249,900 (74/SCE) MLS#952462



CLARKSTON SCHOOLS
Stunning country colonial on premium lot, 1st floor master suite, 2 story foyer, great room with fireplace and cathedral ceiling, custom kitchen, formal dining room and library, walkout lower level. Clarkston schools. \$409,900 (71/KEL) MLS#953785



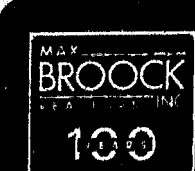
LIGHT AND BRIGHT COLONIAL
In one of Ortonville's newer subs. Less than 10 minutes from I-75. Wood floors in kitchen and foyer, cathedral ceilings in bedrooms, neutral colors, daylight basement, and wooded lot. \$189,900 (90/TIM) MLS#966866



35.78 ACRES OF FUN
Two rivers run behind the 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home. Open floor plan and master bedroom w/jacuzzi. Mature trees around home, volleyball court, stocked pond, and yard. Plenty of room for horses. Splits available. \$389,700 (44/HOR) MLS#943414



CUSTOM CONTEMPORARY RANCH
Clarkston home full of quality - Andersen windows, Rheem furnace, Moen faucets, walk-in pantry, 1st floor laundry and mud room; central air, story and a half great room with fireplace. On 3/4 acre lot secluded by trees. \$219,000 (48/HUB) MLS#964483



27 S. Main Street
Clarkston
248-625-9300

MOVERS & SHAKERS

This column highlights promotions, transfers, hirings, awards won and other news within the real estate, construction, architecture and mortgage communities.

Send a brief summary including town of residency and black and white photo to Real Estate Movers and Shakers, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, 48150.

Our fax number is (734) 591-7279.

Karen Thomas, an associate broker with Coldwell Banker Schweitzer West Bloomfield/Farmington Hills, has acquired the professional designation of Certified Residential Specialist.



Thomas

Thomas also has the designations Graduate Realtor Institute and Accredited Buyer Representative.

William Watch, president of First Commercial Realty & Development in Southfield, was honored by the Detroit Community Initiative for his role in bringing a shopping center to Detroit, now under construction.

Watch received the Northeast Village Visionary Award for efforts to develop the Shops at Northeast Village, a 23,000-square-foot retail center at the Gratiot/Lapin intersection.

Margaret S. Feskorn of Standard Federal Bank was installed as president of the Mortgage Bankers Association of Michigan.

Other officers are **Bruce J. Carr**, Homestead USA, vice president; **Mark C. Stevens**, DMR Financial Services, secretary/treasurer; and **Lisa C. Harris**, Comerica Bank, immediate past president.

Board members include **Raleigh E. Allen**, Ross Mortgage; **Douglas E. Brandewie**, Republic Bancorp Mortgage; **Michael J. Fontana**, Prism Mortgage; **Joya Pastorini**, Sterling Bank & Trust; **Timothy L. Ross**, Ross Mortgage; **Richard H. Shaffner**, Lender Ltd.; **Gayle Suddick**, Standard Federal Bank; **Jan Wetzel**, Wetzel & Associates; **Deann M. Anderson**, East Michigan Affiliate; **Don Grimes**, Mid-Michigan Affiliate; and **Marcy Lindhout**, Western Michigan Affiliate.

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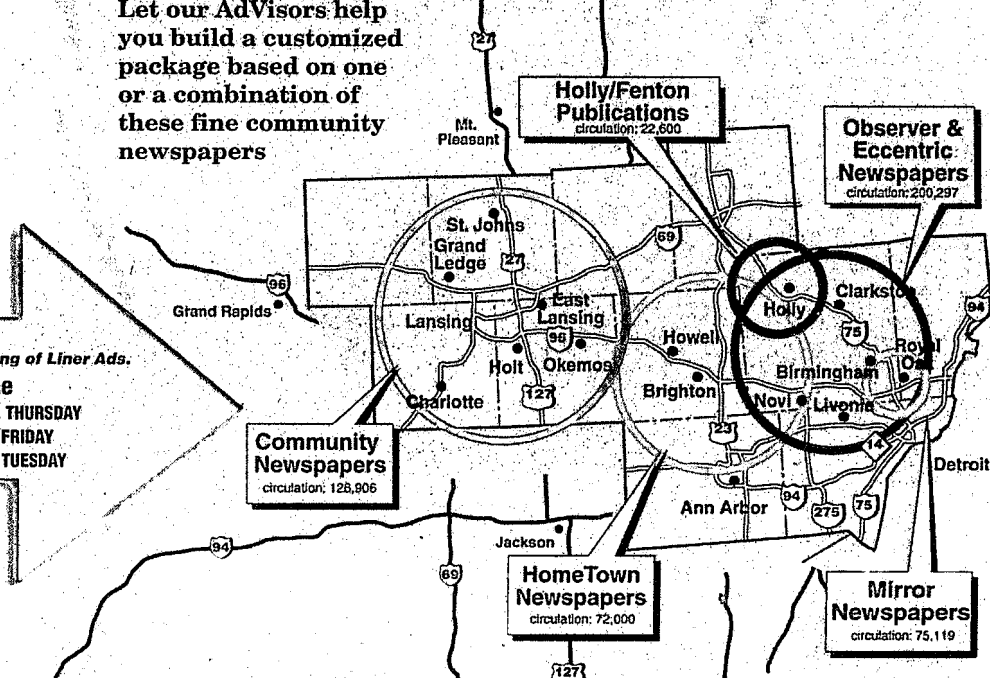


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EQUAL HOUSING

305 Birmingham/Bloomfield

Bloomfield Hills, on Oakland Hills Golf Course, large detached townhouse, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 248-540-7555

GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD!!

4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath colonial with finished lower level/full bath. Enclosed heated porch off back. Formal dining room, walk-in closets/all bedrooms. Brick paver walkway. \$445,000

(248) 851-6700

CENTURY 21 MUL CORP. TRANS. SERVICE

JUST LISTED

PREMIUM WOODED SITE Beautiful mldg, neutral decor, circular staircase & 3 fireplaces, 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths & gourmet kitchen. Finished lower level includes 5th bedroom, rec room & exercise room. \$775,000

ECHECHICHE

MAX BROOK REALTY

(248) 846-1400

JUST LISTED

WONDERFUL STARTER RANCH Located in lovely neighborhood. Loads of updates in this 3 bedroom, 1 bath home with a family room & 1 car attached garage. Brick patio with gas grill. \$169,000

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306 Brighton

BRIGHTON COLONIAL - Walk to charming downtown Brighton. This home features 3 large bedrooms, 2 full baths, dining room, breakfast room, and a full basement. \$139,900. For more information call ERA Country Ridge, Inc.

(248) 350-0450



www.oenonline.com

306 Brighton

GORGEOUS COUNTRY ESTATE Don't miss out on this 1990 built 2100 sq.ft. Cape Cod. 2.5 acres, large country back porch, 3 car attached garage, basement and 2.5 baths. #F6815 \$239,900

REMERICA

HOMETOWN ONE

(734) 420-3400

308 Canton

BEAUTIFUL

3 year old brick ranch, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car attached garage, full basement, neutral colors, large deck overlooks wide open commons area. Golf course community, won't last - asking \$210,000

DONT MISS this beautiful, 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath colonial, huge kitchen w/dining area, spacious family room w/fireplace, C/A, many updates, basement, garage, and lovely yard. \$169,900

Century 21

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HOMES FROM \$199/MO. REPOS! 4% down, OK credit. For listings & payment details 800-319-3323, ext H091

MEADOW VILLAGE

Spectacular home with the view to match - pride of ownership really shows. Newly built home w/custom premium lot. Upgrades thru-out on a beautiful pond setting. Over 2000 sq.ft., 4 bedroom Colonial. Upgraded neutral carpet, hardwood floors in kitchen, nook & foyer. Basement plumbed for full bath. Professionally landscaped, sprinkler system, too many features to list - a must see! (ELPO-P) \$274,900

ED LAROCHE

REMERICA

HOMETOWN II

(734) 453-0012

311 Dearborn-Deerborn Heights

DEARBORN HTS - 3 bedroom brick ranch, 2 car garage, finished basement, 621 Charlesworth, S of Warren/E of Inkster \$137,000. (734) 420-2047

312 Detroit

DESIRABLE Mint condition brick ranch w/2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Lots of updates. Finished basement w/office & guest room. Very large 1 car garage w/workshop. \$88,500

REMERICA

HOMETOWN

(734) 459-8222

312 Detroit

SUPER STARTER Neat and clean 3 bedroom ranch in a great family area west of Telegraph. Large spacious kitchen with stove and fridge. 1 1/2 car garage. Bargain priced at \$64,800. (GUJO-P)

GARY or PATTY

REMERICA

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(734) 453-0012

314 Farmington/Farmington Hills

BUILDER'S SPEC

4 bedroom, 2 1/2 baths, gourmet size kitchen, family fireplace, 2 car side entry garage, 100x135 lot. Priced at \$303,935. Call 248-476-7561

BUILDER'S SPEC

1st floor master, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, open floor plan, skylight & volume ceiling in kitchen. Available immediately. Priced at \$305,455 includes upgrades. Call 248-476-7561

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CENTURY 21 TODAY

(734) 462-9800

BUILDER CLOSE OUT

Farmington schools, 3 homes left, available immediately. Priced from \$304,900. Price includes upgrades. Call 248-476-7561

FARMINGTON HILLS: Colonial,

3200 sq. ft., on more than 1/2 acre corner lot. 4 bedroom, 2.5 baths. Large rooms inc. 11'x24' kitchen, 18'x18' family room, 24'x13' master bedroom. Also zoning approved large 1st fl. office w/separate entrance, suitable for home business or additional living space. In desirable Colony Park West, just E of Drake, S. of 13 No Brokers \$304,900 (248) 553-9166

Farmington Hills - By owner

3 bedroom ranch, 1 1/2 bath, \$138,900 - 248-478-8177 www.elfwhitney.com/house.htm

FARMINGTON

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"CHEAPER THAN RENT" Why rent when you can own? \$2,547 moves you into this clean well maintained and updated ranch located in Farmington Hills with Farmington Schools offering 0 down FHA and VA Terms. Payment of only \$627.33 \$84,900. Ask for:

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Re/Max Great Lakes

317 Garden City

CLEAN 3 bedroom ranch, semi-finished basement, central air, 1.5 baths, 2 car garage, fenced yard. 734-459-8268

321 Highland

HURON VALLEY schools. 3 bedroom ranch has a 2 car attached garage & basement \$0 down to qualified buyers. 8.5% 30 yrs. \$1,076.59 P & I payment. 8.722% APR rates subject to change w/o notice \$139,999. Call THE BOSS at Century 21 Meck (248) 887-7575 939917 (34SH)

325 Livonia

ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS 1997 built 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath colonial offers attached garage, full basement, ceramic tile & hardwood floors. Also, professionally landscaped yard, deck & brick pavers. Won't last long! Only \$155,000 (DE202)

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BEAUTIFUL COLONIAL, 4 bedroom, 1 1/2 baths, approximately

1800 sq. ft., updated & neutral decor Andersen windows, finished basement, large fenced yard, 2 patios 7 mile/Merriman area. \$225,000. (248) 473-0538

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The situation is perfect for a quick move. Immaculate and beautifully maintained 3 bedroom 2 1/2 bath colonial with traditional floor plan and extras galore. 2 car attached side entry garage \$290,000 (#964616)

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3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch in Rosedale Gardens across from park. Many updates, finished basement central air and 2 car garage. "Move in" condition \$147,900

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TROY. Great location for this large family Colonial with 4 bedrooms and 3 full baths. Custom kitchen, ceramic foyer, library, large family room with wet bar, finished basement. Newer neutral carpet and fresh paint. \$289,900 (84ORC) 248-524-1600



BIRMINGHAM. Fabulous 4 bedroom, 3 bath Rosetti-designed home built in 1935. Newer kitchen, baths, roof, windows, furnace, and CA. Has finished basement and a great back yard. Home of the Year - 1937. \$464,900 or for lease/\$2750 a mo. (84MOH) 248-642-8100



BIRMINGHAM. THIS IS IT! MARTHA STEWART'S RIVAL! Birmingham 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath well-maintained Colonial. Beautiful decor, newer roof, 21x15 rec. room, glass, block windows, hardwood floors, newer kitchen and bath and fireplace in living room. \$374,900 (69WOR) 248-642-8100



BIRMINGHAM. Beautiful 4 bedroom, 3 full bath 2 story home. Fabulous master suite, hardwood floors, newer carpet and paint. Full basement, great deck and garage. \$369,900 (28RUF) 248-642-8100



FABULOUS KENDALLWOOD. Subl. 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath ranch that features a full basement, huge rec room, newer windows, updated living & family rooms, side entry garage and more. Act now! \$200,000 (28THO) 248-626-8800



NEWLY UPDATED 4 bedroom tri-level. Newer roof, window blinds, maple Tahoe cabinets, ceramic kitchen entrance floor, Berber carpet in family room, refinished hardwood floors and much more. Must see! \$239,900 (55WIL) 248-626-8800



NORTHERN FARMINGTON HILLS! 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, spacious family room and living room, large lot. Many updates & improvements throughout. Side entry garage. Great location. \$194,900 (28LOR) 248-626-8800



294 E. Brown, Birmingham
(248) 642-8100



CONTEMPORARY 3 bedroom Colonial in great condition. Two fireplaces, newer carpet, 2 car garage with newer door, enclosed sun porch, all on a very nice lot. Excellent house. Must see! \$179,000 (18BUN) 248-626-8800



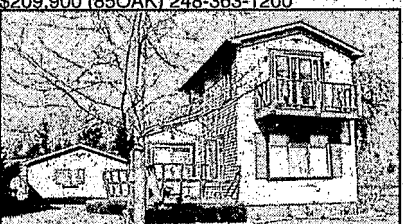
REAL BEAUTY! 5 bedroom brick Colonial has everything! Natural fireplace, 2 car garage, large 1st floor lav, custom built blinds throughout, 1st floor laundry, neutral decor, white ceramic foyer and more! \$231,000 (18STR) 248-626-8800



NEWER CONTEMPORARY Colonial. Priced to sell quickly. Don't wait, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath open floor plan almost 2000 sq. ft. Neutral tones, shows great. Large great room with fireplace. Loaded with extras. \$234,888 (23POT) 248-626-8800



STUNNING COLONIAL. Oversized kitchen loaded with solid oak cupboards! 3 bedrooms, finished basement, dining room, C/A, 2 car att. garage, large deck, Walled Lake schools. Everything about this home shows it's well cared for. You will love it too! \$209,900 (85OAK) 248-363-1200



APPROX. 40 FT. LAKEFRONT on all sports Sugden Lake. Lakefront living, many updates, newer roof, windows, carpet, siding and paint! 2 car att. garage. New well in '99, newer engineered septic field! A must see for the all sports enthusiasts! \$184,900 (43CAS) 248-363-1200



RANCH WITH FINISHED BASEMENT. 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, large fenced in yard, 3 car garage, fireplace in family room, island kitchen. \$184,900 (44APP) 248-363-1200



COUNTRY CHARMER IN NOVI. Well maintained 3 bedroom, 2 full bath farmhouse. 3 car garage. Large fenced yard. Zoned light industrial. \$134,900 (10TAF) 248-363-1200



WELL CARED FOR RANCH IN COMMERCE. With beautiful view of Long Lake. Backing to State Land. Enjoyment year round. \$139,900 (15GIT) 248-363-1200



GOLF COURSE COMMUNITY - OXFORD. New construction, Paint Creek G.C. ranch, granite counters, ceramic tiles, 3 car garage, 9' ceilings, cherry cab. MSTR suite w/whirlpool. Crown moldings, LBR w/wood fl, CA, full BSMT. Orion schools. \$399,900 (46TUR) 248-652-8000



4 BEDROOM, 2 1/2 BATH COLONIAL. Beautiful country home, high elevation wrap around front porch, treed lot, hardwood floors, custom fireplace, large living and dining room. 6 person Jacuzzi, Fla. room, 9' basement. \$359,900 (10DUT) 248-652-8000



ROLLING HILLS OF OAKLAND TWP. Pride of ownership shows in this immaculate 3 bedroom, 2 bath raised ranch. Approx. 1/2 acre, hillside setting, nature and trees overlook state land w/beautiful views and large deck. Minutes away from Rochester. \$219,900 (95WAH) 248-652-8000



GREAT HOME IN ROCHESTER HILLS. Heatherwood Village Colonial in move in condition with quick occupancy. Andersen windows, freshly painted, newer carpet, all kitchen appliances included. Large master suite with WIC. Brick fireplace. Home warranty. \$195,900 (13DAL) 248-652-8000



SHARP AND UPDATED. Wooded lot, walk to downtown Rochester. '98 updates include gorgeous kitchen with oak cabinets and corian counters, thermadore oven, appl. included, 1st floor laundry, CA, updated baths. \$189,900 (85CHI) 248-652-8000



CHARMING 3 BEDROOM COLONIAL. Park-like commons, mature area, close to downtown and shopping. Newer carpet, oak kitchen, 1st floor laundry, partially finished basement, C/A, sprinklers, home warranty. \$184,900 (61ARL) 248-652-8000

CENTURY 21 America's CENTURY



NATURE HAS PROVIDED 2+ wooded acres surrounding this lovely open neutral contemporary. Master bedroom suite, separate tub and shower. All bedrooms have walk-in closet, private bath. Updates and upgrades galore. \$598,888 (50SUN) 248-652-8000



ESSENCE OF ELEGANCE! All white kitchen with extensive ceramic tile floors. Home total rebuilt in '97 to perfection! Huge master suite with Jacuzzi/bidet & chrome. Gold/chrome plated faucets. Full basement w/kitchen and full bath. \$294,900 (80KIN) 248-363-1200



Town & Country



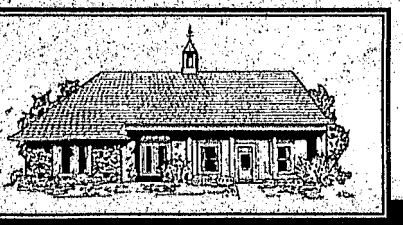
TROY. Gorgeous 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath Colonial with 2-story foyer and Great Room. Oak kitchen with wood floors. Formal dining room, study with French doors. Open floor plan. Troy schools. \$332,900 (82CHA) 248-524-1600



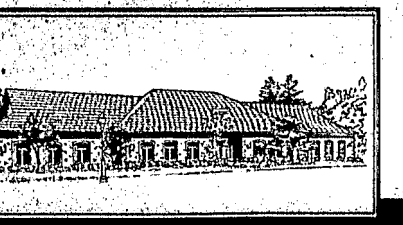
TROY. Wonderful 3 bedroom brick home. Spacious kitchen open to family room with fireplace. Florida room, finished basement, attached garage. Close to shopping, elementary school. \$159,900 (80PAR) 248-524-1600



TROY. 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath Colonial built in 1992. Finished basement, side entry garage, ceramic tiled floor. Family room with skylights. Master bedroom suite with Jacuzzi. Huge cedar deck. Troy schools. \$329,000 (11WES) 248-524-1600



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(810) 939-2800



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ROCHESTER HILLS. 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath executive caliber Colonial with basement, 3 car side-entry garage. Formal dining room, butler's pantry. Large island kitchen, library, great room. \$524,900 (63GRE) 248-524-1600



FARMINGTON HILLS. Wooded walkout lot includes 9' ceilings, corian counters, 2 story great room and huge master suite. 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath home in one of Farmington Hills newest sub. \$519,900 (65LIL) 248-642-8100

Century 21 Town & Country



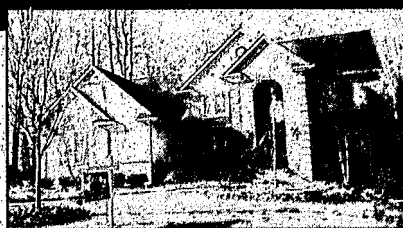
BIRMINGHAM. 3 bedroom brick Ranch. C/A, hardwood floors, newer windows, and finished basement. Ready to move right in! Truly adorable! \$182,900 (85HUM) 248-642-8100



BIRMINGHAM. 2 bedroom Ranch with vaulted ceilings, skylights, newer kitchen and windows. Fenced yard, deck and hot tub. \$164,999 (88BEN) 248-642-8100



FABULOUS custom built 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath Colonial. Large rooms. Magnificent family room with fireplace. Newer kitchen, library with built-ins. This home offers a luxurious master bedroom and much more! \$278,888 (28TAV) 248-626-8800



4-BEDROOM 1997 built home on premium wooded lot features: partially finished walk-out, ceramic floors, 9 ft. ceilings, crown molding, 42" cabinets, wet bar, library, family room with fireplace and more! \$489,500 (76WAT) 248-626-8800



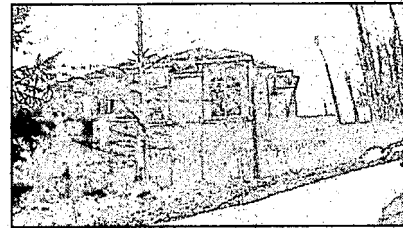
CLASSIC VINTAGE TUDOR. Charm galore in this gorgeous 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home. Living room, formal dining room, white kitchen, huge family room, library. Superb master suite. Rec room, cathedral ceilings and archways. \$729,900 (88WIM) 248-626-8800



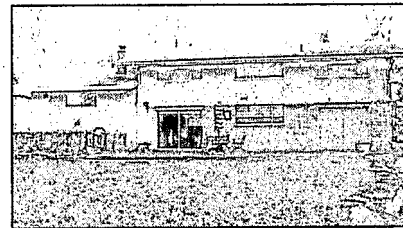
SPECTACULAR TUDOR. 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 4 fireplaces & 4 car garage. Fabulous 2 bedroom in-law suite over garage. Great room, formal dining, garden room, island kitchen, superb master suite, private courtyard. Spa. \$850,000 (39LAP) 248-626-8800



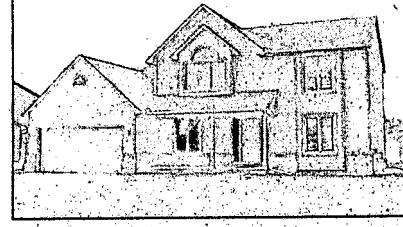
GORGEOUS COLONIAL with walkout basement. Absolutely stunning home with 5 bedrooms and 4 1/2 baths. Two master suites, marble bath and Jacuzzi. Includes a finished walkout with a second kitchen. \$829,900 (55WAR) 248-626-8800



SPECTACULAR CONTEMPORARY home with 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 2 lavs. Spacious kitchen with Subzero and Jenn-Air. Finished walkout with home theater system, wet bar, fireplace and much, much more. \$1,290,000 (21BIR) 248-626-8800



APPROX. 1.3 ACRES WITH LAKEFRONT. 4 bedrooms. Cont. pristine condo with new appliances, newer kitchen, ceramic tile floor, new carpet, 8 ft. drywalls with view of lake, master bedroom with bath. Enjoy year round vacation, near x-way. Won't last! \$279,900 (32PON) 248-363-1200



STUNNING 4 BEDROOM - NEW CONSTRUCTION. 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 2 story home in newer sub. Full basement, upgraded carpet, ceramic floors, large master suite with Jacuzzi and much more. \$252,900 (45KIN) 248-363-1200



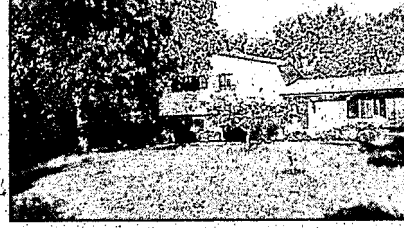
LOCATION. CUL-DE-SAC. STATE LAND. All in one! I dare you to find a better location, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, backs up to DNR state land, freshly painted and brand new carpet. \$250,000 (88WIN) 248-363-1200



COMMERCE WALLED LAKE SCHOOLS. Sharp 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath Colonial. Island kitchen, formal dining, family room, with cathedral ceiling, brick fireplace, 1st floor laundry. \$229,900 (89WOO) 248-363-1200



FARMINGTON HILLS. Well priced site condo with 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, attached garage. Cathedral ceilings on second floor and in family room. Neutrally decorated. \$25 association fee. \$249,900 (20POT) 248-524-1600



WHITE LAKE - GREAT SUB. Well maintained spacious quad on treed lot, beach privileges, updated kitchen, fireplace in lower level, hot tub, fenced for pets and much more. \$174,900 (44FOX) 248-652-8000



ROCHESTER COLONIAL. Charming downtown Rochester Colonial with 3 bedrooms and 2 baths. All appliances included. Tree lined quiet street. Immediate occupancy. Large cedar deck. Basement. Garage. \$189,900 (15CAS) 248-652-8000



AUBURN HILLS RANCH. Close to Palace and CTC, nice 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath with partially finished basement, large spacious rooms, new doorwall to deck overlooking large fenced yard. 2 car attached garage. Avondale schools. Great neighborhood. \$154,900 (91HEM) 248-652-8000



TROY. Updated 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath Quad in Stoneridge sub. Newer roof, furnace, central air. Updated oak kitchen with wood flooring, updated baths. Paver porch and walk-ways, private yard. \$219,900 (91PAT) 248-524-1600



BIRMINGHAM. 4 bedroom, 2 bath home close to downtown Birmingham. Updated windows, furnace, C/A, roof and siding. Large covered front porch. Create your own classic. \$164,900 (84RUF) 248-524-1600



TROY. New construction. St. Moritz floor plan with hardwood foyer, circular staircase, family room with panoramic window, fireplace and mantle. First floor laundry. Master bedroom with walk-in closet and separate shower. Court location. \$324,900 (40MAN) 248-524-1600



TROY. This 4 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath home is truly spotless. 2 car attached garage, fabulous private yard with paver patio. Family room, dining room. Beautiful setting. Nice sub. \$189,900 (47WIN) 248-524-1600



BEVERLY HILLS. 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 lav Colonial on cul-de-sac in beautiful area. Fireplace in family room with doorwall to deck overlooking wooded ravine. Finished walk-out with wet bar, white kitchen and neutral decor. \$319,850 (36FOX) 248-642-8100



BIRMINGHAM. Fantastic 3 bedroom, 2 bath bungalow! Lots of updates. Features include master bedroom suite with vaulted ceilings and skylights, hardwood floors and enlarged kitchen, finished basement with exercise room. \$289,900 (40VIL) 248-642-8100



BIRMINGHAM. Wonderful brick Cape Cod with cove ceilings, hardwood floors and beautiful mirrors 3 bedrooms, 3 full baths, spacious family room, living room with fireplace, skylight in dining room. Nice size master bedroom with full bath 2 bonus rooms in LL. \$278,000 (62MAR) 248-642-8100



WEST BLOOMFIELD. Beautiful oversized corner lot in West Bloomfield. Pond in back yard, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, walkout and family room. \$239,000 (62NOR) 248-642-8100



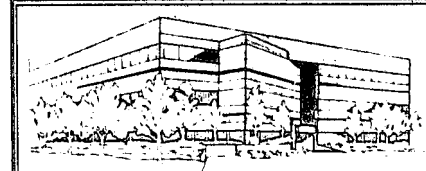
39750 Garfield, Clinton Twp.
(810) 286-6000



2600 Union Lake Road, Commerce Twp.
(248) 363-1200



48680 Van Dyke Avenue, Shelby Twp.
(810) 731-8180



7125 Orchard Lake, West Bloomfield
(248) 626-8800



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325 Livonia

CLASSIC COLONIAL
Beautifully decorated 4 bed room, 2 1/2 bath brick home. Family room with fireplace & cathedral ceilings, library, formal living & dining rooms, country kitchen, foyer, professionally landscaped, great sub, attached 2 1/2 car side garage. \$289,900.

BRICK RANCH
3 Bedroom, updated kitchen, 18x12 living room, nice private lot, 2 car garage. \$12,000.

CUSTOM BRICK RANCH
3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, wet plaster walls, fireplace, in-family room w/doorway to patio, large living room, hardwood floors, country kitchen, basement, nicely landscaped, attached 2 car garage. \$245,000.

CENTURY 21
Nada, Inc. 248-477-9800

NEW LISTING
Kimberly Oaks colonial w/4 bedrooms, formal dining room, family room w/fireplace. Hardwood floors under plush carpet. Pella windows, basement, 2 car garage. Great lot! \$204,900

GREAT RANCH!
Brick ranch on large, treed lot. Three bedrooms, living room w/fireplace, good size kitchen, 1st floor laundry. Newer windows, furnace. Two car attached garage. Don't wait! \$158,500

JUST LISTED!
Nice starter home or investment property. Aluminum ranch w/living room & dining room. Fenced yard w/nice size shed. \$64,900

Century 21 (734) 464-7111

326 Milford

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS
Move in this week! Immediate occupancy with a pre-closing rental agreement. 1992 built, 4 bedroom, brick colonial with wrap around porch, jacuzzi & hot tub, family room with fireplace, den, living & dining rooms, basement. 2.6 treed acres, 3 car garage. \$419,900

MARLENE KLIMECKI

(248) 348-3000, X261

329 Novi

NOVI-NORTHVILLE
Just listed. Beautiful, Mystic Forest 2 story features premium wooded lot. Popular floor plan with nice extras including library, vaulted ceilings, and much more. \$375,000. (W/233) CENTURY 21 TODAY (734) 462-9800

334 Plymouth

ATTRACTIVE
Mini condition, prime Trillwood colonial w/many updates throughout. To many to mention. Must see to appreciate. \$272,900

GENE LEVENGOOD

HOMETOWN (734) 459-6222

SHEER PERFECTION
Best describes this 4 year old Cape Cod out of Better Homes. First floor master bedroom, kitchen, walk in closet, 2nd floor bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 1st floor library or den. Almost 2500 sq ft. Big kitchen, sprinklers, 2 car attached garage, private court. \$329,900.

Call Hal Romain 734-367-8161

Century 21 Hartford North

335 Redford

IMMACULATE RANCH
w/3 bedrooms, finished basement and a garage. Updated kitchen, furnace, carpet & more. \$119,900. (1443-0)

REMERICA

HOMETOWN III (734) 459-9898

336 Rochester/Auburn Hills

JUST LISTED
HILLTOP DELIGHT!
In town soft contemporary 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath paradise. Hardwoods & fireplace in living room. Gourmet kitchen leads to tiered decks & terraced yard. Office/bedroom in lower level. \$254,000 ECH-131R

MAX BROOK REALTY (248) 646-1400

Rochester Hills - Avondale
schools, 1994 built 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath on premium lot. Livestock/Auburn area. Info: 888-646-7448

ROCHESTER HILLS - Townhouse
condo, premium end unit, custom kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath, finished basement, 2 car garage, private patio & much more \$168,000. 248-375-0843

337 Royal Oak/Oak Park/Huntington Woods

HUNTINGTON WOODS - 8246
Huntington Rd. 2000 sq ft, ranch on large lot, 2 car attached heated garage, full basement. Neutral decor. Loads of amenities & upgrades. Priced to sell! \$229,900. (248) 851-9039

ROYAL OAK - beautiful, 1800
sq ft, updated & renovated with new 800 sq ft. upstairs loft. \$198,000. 248-644-4784

339 Southfield/Lathrup

LOOK NO FURTHER!
Southfield condo has 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, recently decorated. New appliances, new carpeting, move in condition! Pool & carport. Convenient location. \$75,900. 248-723-8832 Ask for Dee.

342 Union Lake/White Lake

WHY BUY NEW?
Flawless 9 year old 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch w/attached garage shows like a model. Large master suite with bath, walk in closet, cedar deck. Deck views pond. \$139,900. (248) 887-6900

FIRST AMERICAN

344 W. Bloomfield/Orchard Lake/Keego

COLONIAL N. Potomac Green
Marble & crystal foyer, 5 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 2 fireplaces, finished basement, new wood deck. \$365,000. (248) 682-9710

ORCHARD LAKE COMFORT CONDO YOURS
Brick chateau surrounded by nature, jacuzzi, lower level, 3 fireplaces, library, 3 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths, & so much more. \$565,000. (248) 851-6700

CENTURY 21 MAIL CORP. TRANS. SERVICE

345 Westland/Wayne

FANTASTIC
VALUE in this 4 bedroom colonial with 1 1/2 baths, partially finished basement, attached 2 car garage, better hurry on this one! Only \$104,900.

BEAUTIFUL - 3 bedroom brick
ranch with a large kitchen, central air, finished basement, 2 car garage, many updates and a great area. Newly listed at \$135,000

Century 21

CASTELLI 734-525-7900

345 Westland/Wayne

FARMINGTON, CITY - 2
Bedrooms, underground parking, completely updated. Won't Last Long! Call: Dolores, 248-477-3086

Page 810-450-0671

Real Estate One 2336 Farmington

345 Westland/Wayne

VALLEY VIEW CONDOS!
Outstanding unit in immaculate condition. Enjoy the convenience of this delightful home. Walk to downtown Farmington. Great location within the community. Remodeled kitchen; 3 season porch. Specially priced to sell at \$91,900. This one won't last long! Call Harry Hooker personally for details. 734-673-6415

Real Estate One

345 Westland/Wayne

IMMACULATE OCCUPANCY
S. Lyon Schools, Clean 2 bedroom. Only \$482/mo., includes home & lot rent. HEARTLAND HOMES 248-380-9950

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345 Westland/Wayne

WESTLAND WOODS
This well maintained 1600 sq ft, brick & vinyl colonial boasts 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, 2 car garage, family room, fireplace, 3 season Florida room, newer vinyl flooring & more. Immediate occupancy. Call today! \$178,900. (20381) CENTURY 21 TODAY (734) 462-9800

348 Wixom/Walled Lake/Commerce

BEAUTIFUL HOME with an up North feeling! Less than 10 years old with formal dining room, side entry garage, first floor laundry, fireplace, finished basement, eat-in-kitchen w/sketch bar. \$234,900. Call ERA Country Fridge, Inc. for more information! (248) 474-3303

363 Farms/Horse Farms

SOUTHERN COLORADO RANCH SALE \$9AC/WELL
\$38,500. Don't miss this opportunity! Rolling fields, min. views, tremendous wildlife & recreation. Yr. access, tele & elec. Use of corals. Excellent financing. Only 1 available. Call now 719-678-6867

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BIRMINGHAM-2 bedroom, hard-
wood, gas/water, appliances, 1000 sq ft. \$200,000. Call D&H Properties 248-737-4002

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372 Condos

SO MUCH TO OFFER
3 bedroom, 3 bath condo with finished walkout lower level. Wonderful potential for new quarters. Close to shopping and expressway. \$229,900. (8964668) MARY MCLEOD

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PAGER: (313) 990-7649

www.marymcleod.com

372 Condos

LIVONIA - Spacious 1 bedroom,
quiet community near shopping & X-ways. All appliances. Patio. \$105,900. (734) 464-3619

REMERICA

HOMETOWN (734) 459-6222

PLYMOUTH - 2 bedroom, 1.5
bath, finished basement. Move in condition. \$125,000. (734) 451-3210

374 Manufactured Homes

IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY
Huron Valley Schools, Clean 2 bedroom. Only \$388/mo. Includes home & lot rent. HEARTLAND HOMES 248-380-9950

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CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Not lower
- 6 — down
- 11 Bearlike
- 12 Refuse (sl., 2 wds.)
- 14 Grate
- 15 East
- 16 European
- 17 Bahoid
- 18 Plamire
- 19 Sound heard when glasses meet
- 20 High card
- 21 Symbol for ruthenium
- 22 Window covering
- 23 "By the time — to Phoenix"
- 24 Pouring forth
- 26 Paint layers
- 27 Citrus fruit
- 28 Small aperture
- 29 Useful

DOWN

- 31 Class
- 34 Strike with the head
- 35 Of wine
- 36 That is (Latin abbr.)
- 37 Mil. school
- 38 Kind of fabric
- 39 Dress border
- 40 Equally
- 41 Is spiritless
- 42 Antiquely
- 43 Act of pulling
- 44 Inquired
- 45 Spring or summer
- 47 More recent
- 48 Inquired

Answer to Previous Puzzle

FLICE DIET ERAT
EARL ADS NICE
LOLA MOO DONE
TSETSE LOOTED
ET SAAR
OVER NITRATES
NIL RIDES ORR
SALVAGED IDEA
EYED UT
LERNER BACALL
ALAI ICE HUEY
MARC AVA ENDO
SNEE NIN STAN

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- 6 Toppie
- 7 Bundle
- 8 Cigar residue
- 9 Nova Scotia (abbr.)
- 10 Organ stop
- 11 Arrow poison
- 12 Bards
- 13 Vim
- 14 Region (poet.)
- 15 Semiprecious stone
- 16 Erected
- 17 Poetry foot
- 18 Narrow openings
- 19 Waxy substance in cork
- 20 Actress — L. Williams
- 21 German submarine (typ.)
- 22 City in Arizona
- 23 Climbing plant
- 24 Car part (2 wds.)
- 25 Red Sea country
- 26 Snake
- 27 Theater box
- 28 Stockings
- 29 Gullet
- 30 Asian ox
- 31 You and I
- 32 Plural ending



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SOUTHFIELD - 3 bed, 2 car garage, large fenced yard, Kids OK, \$800/mo + security. 313-322-5161

SOUTHFIELD - 4 bedroom, appliances, fenced, pets negotiable, \$900. RENTAL PROS (248)356-RENT

TROY - Beautiful 3 bedroom ranch on almost an acre treed lot. Natural fireplace in living room, some new carpet, all appliances. Birmingham Schools. Rent includes snow removal and law service \$1,450. (248) 851-4400

CHAMBERLAIN-STIEHL

TROY - 3 bedroom, 2.5 baths, 2 car garage, basement, central air, all appliances. \$1,250/mo. (248) 619-0555

TROY - 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 2 car garage. All appliances. \$900 per Mo. Call: 248-619-0535

TROY - 3 bedroom ranch, Birmingham schools, appliances, 2 car, air, lawn service, \$1850/mo. D&H Properties (248)737-4002

Westland LIVONIA SCHOOLS Move right in this spacious 4 bedroom brick ranch. Only 1 1/2 months security deposit & 1st month rent required. 1 yr. minimum lease. No pets allowed. (FR882) Call Virginia Vartanian (610)590-9478

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405 Homes

TROY DUPLEX - 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 baths, basement, stove/fridge, \$3000/mo. 4 1/2 mo security. Call Debbie, toll-free, 877-809-4634

W. BLOOMFIELD - 4 bed, 2 1/2 bath, family room, library, air, lake privileges, newly decorated. \$2450/mo. (248) 855-4411

W. BLOOMFIELD - 4 bedroom, 3200sq. ft., library, hot tub, wetbar, MiddleStrails access. \$2500/mo. D&H Properties 248-737-4002

WESTLAND - 3 bedroom, 1 car garage, finished basement, 1 car garage. Available 1-5, \$875. 248-348-8189, #728

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405 Homes

WOW! - 30 acres in Waterford 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath w/basement, horses allowed. \$1100. RENTAL PROS (248)373-RENT

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ACCOUNTANT
For real estate development co. Fax resume to: 248-559-8070.

ACCOUNTANT
FULL/PART TIME. For staff position in CPA firm with a diverse client base. Send resumes to: 32100 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 202, Birmingham, MI 48025

ACCOUNTANT
Livonia based company needs an Accountant for a 3-5 month assignment. Must have experience in preparing journals, entries and financial statements. Knowledge of Excel and Lotus required. Please call Chris at 734-591-1100, ext 214

ACCOUNTANT - STAFF
Staff accountant is needed for full-time position. Excellent work atmosphere for highly-motivated individual interested in immediate hands-on experience. Must have one-year experience and be familiar with accounting software. Candidates, please send resume in confidence to: AH, PO Box 250125, West Bloomfield, MI 48325

ACCOUNTING SUPPORT
All positions tend to hire. Financial and manufacturing. Payables/receivables, data entry, and general ledger. Call Date for four convenient locations: 248-473-2833 Livonia 734-284-6457 Birmingham 248-646-7663 Clinton Twp 810-226-8642

ACCOUNTING TO \$30,000
Major Marketing company seeks recent graduate with Bachelor's degree to perform general accounting functions. Seeking a team-player attitude for this fast paced environment. Excellent advancement opportunities for professional/individual.

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ACCOUNT MANAGER
Experience in Landscaping or sales industry. Full benefit. 401K. Fulltime position. (313) 588-3416

Active Plymouth gift store hiring Clerks.
No experience necessary. Competitive pay & benefits. Call: Georgia's 1-800-562-3655

ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR, HOUSEKEEPING, DIETARY & MAINTENANCE PERSON
Full & part-time positions. Apply within: American House, 99201 Joy Rd., Westland.

AMERICAN HOUSE TROY
Grand Opening near Oakland Mall. Immediate openings for:
• Weekend Manager
• Housekeepers
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Please call 248-589-3555 or fax 248-589-9949

APPRAISING & SALES
We're looking for experienced appraisers & sales people to join our team. We'll train. Steve Leblan, 248-851-4100, ext. 312.

Real Estate Bro.
APT. ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR
Beautiful upscale community in West Bloomfield is looking for an individual who is enthusiastic and motivated to prepare and assist the leasing staff. Computer knowledge helpful, but we will train the right person. Full time position available (Mon-Fri) offers generous salary package with bonus program and benefits. Please call 248-661-6801 or fax resume: 248-661-3246

AQUATIC DIRECTOR - up to \$30,000. Excellent benefit package & career development. Must have college degree & 2-3 yrs. experience. Send resumes to: Farmington YMCA, 26100 Farmington Hills, Farmington Hills, MI 48334. Attn: R. Dufre

Aquatics Director
May - September
Will direct summer pool program (19 weeks) for private Country Club. Teach swim lessons and supervise lifeguard staff. WSI certification required. \$16-20K/yr. Call/fax resume to: Stacey at Harper Associates, 248-932-1176 Fax 248-932-1214

ATTORNEY
For fast paced Oakland County law office specializing in Collections. Fax resume to: Stittman Law Office 248-851-9967

Auto Dealer in Millard seeks to fill the following full time positions:
• Service Advisor
• New Car Prep Tech
• Porters
• Excellent pay & benefits. Please apply in person or call. Tammy now for more information.
Hinos Park Road, 130 S. Millard Rd., Millard (248) 584-1715

500 Help Wanted General
AUTOMOTIVE SALES PERSON - TIRE TECHS
Novi area. Top pay, flexible hrs. some benefits. Call 248-348-2080 or fax resume to 248-348-2081, ask for Harvey, Tom or Vicki.

AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE CONSULTANT
Large luxury import dealer seeking customer service oriented individuals with a minimum of 3 years experience. Room for advancement in a nice working environment with no weekends. We offer excellent pay including Blue Cross/Blue Shield, 401K, and life insurance. Fax resume to Jaguar of Troy at 248-643-7980 or contact 248-614-3183

AUTO OIL CHANGE TECH
Busy auto repair facility, top pay & benefits. Novi Motive Inc., 21530 Novi Road, between 8 & 9 Mile. 248-349-0290

AUTO PARTS TRAINER
Some experience required. Right person for right position. Must be dependable and willing to learn. Full-time days. Benefits include Blue Cross, 401K, life, Jaguar of Troy, call Doug Manare: 248-643-7894

AUTOTECH
Certified in brakes & front end. Pipe bending helpful. Good pay & benefits. Muller Mah, Lk Orion, Call Randall. 248-814-9292

BENCH HAND - gage maker
with bench experience. Greater benefits package. Working for a Farmington Hills based commodity management & gage manufacturing company. 2 years experience. Top pay, full time permanent. Benefits, insurance. 401K. Call 248-651-5287

BORING MILL/DEVILG OPERATOR
Experienced, top rates. 401K. Bradley Tool Company, (248) 352-1466 or fax 248-352-7907

SEAMSTRESS & SALES POSITIONS
in bridal salon, new location, Shelby Twp. 248-651-5287

BUILDING SUPPLY COMPANY
needs mature individuals for inside sales and warehouse shipping/receiving. Must have experience. Some part-time available. Redford area. Call (313) 634-2978 between 9am and 11am, Mon-Fri.

Cabinet Shop - specializing in
large format custom cabinets. 3 years experience. Top pay, full time permanent. Benefits, insurance. 401K. (248) 288-4100

CABLE INSTALLERS
Need motivated, reliable & have own truck & tools. Great pay. Will Train. Call for more details. (248) 542-6905

CARPENTERS (Rough)
Good Pay Northville Area. 734-776-6117

CARPENTERS
Rough framing. Novi area. BlueCross/BlueShield + Dental. Call 517-223-7518

CARPET COMPANY
No experience needed. CARPET & VINYL INSTALLERS 248-735-8405

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zation seeks qualified individual for our team. You will call for major home products, some required. Merchandising/ display background skills required. Electrical/plumbing knowledge a plus. Excellent salary, benefits, expenses reimbursed. For consideration call or fax: J. Benjamin 847-378-1531. RMG, 1506 Elmhurst Rd., Elk Grove Village, IL 60007.

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Farmington Family YMCA. Flexible hours. Call Juli 248-553-6298

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for infants, toddlers & preschoolers. 248-471-1022

CLEANING HOMES. Starting at \$8 an hour. Males N' More. (248) 471-7861

CLEANING PERSON
full time for night community in Westland. Benefits available & 401K 734-422-5411

CLEANING PERSON
Needed full-time for busy hair salon. \$8 per hr. 248-851-7688

CLEANING PERSON
The Orion Township Public Library is seeking cleaning assistant for mornings, Mon-Fri, 8-11 a.m. Applicant must be able to perform all aspects of cleaning maintenance and have an understanding of the tools and materials used in commercial cleaning. Applicant must be in good health, dependable, a self-starter, able to follow directions and perform duties with minimal supervision. Duties include, but are not limited to: vacuuming, sweeping, dust mopping, wet mopping, cleaning rest rooms, and polishing/dusting, cleaning glass doors and washing windows. Excellent position for a college student, homemaker or as a supplemental income. Starting wage is \$8.00/hour. Applications are available at the circulation desk at the Orion Township Public Library, 825 Joslyn Road, Lake Orion, MI 48362, 9:00am-3:00pm. Position open until filled.

CLEANING AVAILABLE
• OFFICE CLEANERS - evos up to \$9/hr. to start
• FLOOR SPECIALISTS - exp. Stipping & finished floors. Walled Lake, Howell, Troy & Plymouth areas. (248) 449-7600

CNC MILL PROGRAMMER/OPERATOR
To run a new Mazak, Experienced. Redford 313-632-1674

500 Help Wanted General
CNC MILLS and Lathe. Must be able to make set up and run production. Experience preferred. 1-86 & Millard Rd. area. Call (248) 685-3711 Fax resume: (248) 684-5242

COMMUNITY EDITOR
For the Birmingham edition of the award-winning twice-weekly Observer & Eccentric newspapers. Must have excellent writing, editing, communication & news judgment skills; desire for active community participation; ability to manage budgets & supervise staff; proficient with QuarkPress; understanding of libel, privacy & copyright law; (journalism or equivalent) required. Attractive compensation & benefits. R e s u m e s to maryab@home.com.net or fax (734) 953-2057; mail 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI, 48150. Include job code BCE on resume. EOE

CONSTRUCTION
Punch-list Person/Laborers Wanted to start immediately for Farmington Hills Builder. Multi single family new home construction. Competitive starting wage, must have Transportation. Experience helpful, but will train the Right Individuals. Call 248-538-1514 for interview

CONSTRUCTION SUPERINTENDENT
Experienced construction company looking for qualified superintendent in commercial/industrial construction with 5-10 years experience. Fax resume & salary requirements to: (248) 489-0960

CUSTOMER CARE REPRESENTATIVE
BancNet.com has immediate openings in our blended call center. We nurture personal relationships with established customers by providing exceptional customer service & product info. Requirements: min. 2 yrs. call center experience; familiar w/Windows 98, ability to work well with minimum supervision; extensive organizational and communication skills; multi-task oriented. F/T & P/T available. Competitive pay (premium wage for closing shift). Benefits & 401K. Contact Anne-Marie @ 888.947.2265 ext. 2 or forward resume: 445 Elmwood Dr., Farmington Hills, MI 48333. Email: anne-marie@rocketimaging.com

DIRECT CARE AIDE
Group home openings for after-school, midnights, and weekends. Must have valid driver's license, paid training. Competitive wage & benefits. 734-762-0338, 734-677-7929, 734-454-3764, 734-946-4971

DIRECT CARE STAFF
Seeking motivated, caring people to teach & assist adults w/physical and/or mental challenges in their homes. Full or part-time. \$7.75-\$8.50/hr., with benefits. For interview in: Novi (248) 449-3119 or Howell (517) 548-9029

DISPATCHER
NOVI Police Department is accepting applications for the positions of Dispatcher. This is a career position, not an entry level for police or fire candidates. Duties include dispatching police, fire and EMS, matching police, fire and EMS requests to available units, computer experience and typing skills desired. Starting salary \$25,265 plus a comprehensive fringe benefit package, shift work. Obtain and submit an application to the City of Novi, Human Resource Dept. at 45175 W. 10 Mile, Novi, (248) 347-0452. Previous applicants need not reapply. Open until filled. EOE

DISTRIBUTOR in Novi
has full time opening in warehouse. Wrapping, packing & various duties. Benefits include: health insurance, 401K, profit sharing & bonus. Please call for interview. (248) 347-6800

DOCK WORK
Livonia based distribution company has full and part time positions available. Positions include sorting and segregating of freight and a wage of \$10.50 along with medical, dental, vision and 401K after 90 days. Please apply in person at: 31750 Enterprise Dr., Livonia (North of Plymouth, West of Merriman)

LOCAL DRIVERS
wanted for Westland manufacturer. Home every night. Competitive salary with full benefits package. CDL-A & 1 year experience required. Call: 1-800-800-0288

SEMI DRIVER - CDL CLASS A
Local driving, home every night. Send resume or apply in person to: Classic Container 350 S. Mill Street, Plymouth, MI 48170. No phone calls.

DRIVER COVENANT TRANS-
PORT \$1,000 sign-on bonus for experienced Company Drivers 1-800-441-4394. Owner Operators - Call 1-888-867-3729. Bud Meyer Truck Lines Reintegrated Hauling - CDL-A, FREE 1-877-283-6393 Solo Drivers & Contractors.

DRIVER - Full time, Plymouth
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500 Help Wanted General
DEALER SALES REPRESENTATIVE
Conseco Finance Servicing Corp has an exciting opportunity in our Livonia regional office for a Dealer Sales Representative. This individual will be responsible for developing and expanding our active dealer base in manufactured housing and meeting/exceeding indirect loan production objectives (new and used) and maximizing market share by implementing the Company's marketing programs. Conseco Finance Servicing Corp, a proven leader in manufactured housing and home improvement lending, offers a competitive salary, full range of benefits, and excellent opportunities for career growth, please reply by submitting your resume and salary requirements to: Conseco Finance Servicing Corp, 39209 Six Mile Rd., Ste 104 Livonia, MI 48152 Attn: Regional Manager An Equal Opportunity Employer m/v/d

DESIGN FIRM seeks installation assistant/delivery person for full time position at upscale Birmingham firm. Person must be very organized, meticulous about detail, able to work well under pressure, enthusiastic about design work and have a good driving record. Fax resume to: (248) 645-8113 or mail to: 211 N. Old Woodward, 2nd Floor, Birmingham, MI 48009.

DIRECT CARE AIDE
Group home openings for after-school, midnights, and weekends. Must have valid driver's license, paid training. Competitive wage & benefits. 734-762-0338, 734-677-7929, 734-454-3764, 734-946-4971

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Seeking motivated, caring people to teach & assist adults w/physical and/or mental challenges in their homes. Full or part-time. \$7.75-\$8.50/hr., with benefits. For interview in: Novi (248) 449-3119 or Howell (517) 548-9029

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LOCAL DRIVERS
wanted for Westland manufacturer. Home every night. Competitive salary with full benefits package. CDL-A & 1 year experience required. Call: 1-800-800-0288

SEMI DRIVER - CDL CLASS A
Local driving, home every night. Send resume or apply in person to: Classic Container 350 S. Mill Street, Plymouth, MI 48170. No phone calls.

DRIVER COVENANT TRANS-
PORT \$1,000 sign-on bonus for experienced Company Drivers 1-800-441-4394. Owner Operators - Call 1-888-867-3729. Bud Meyer Truck Lines Reintegrated Hauling - CDL-A, FREE 1-877-283-6393 Solo Drivers & Contractors.

DRIVER - Full time, Plymouth
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area. 2 yrs. experience. CDL Class A. \$10.00/hr. required. Excellent wages. Home every night. Call 9am - 5pm. (810) 329-5809

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500 Help Wanted General
DRIVERS: INEXPERIENCED
training available. No prior experience necessary. American Van Lines has tractor/trailer 48-state hauling opportunities for owner/operators/temporary company drivers. Call 1-800-348-2147, Dept. MIS

DRIVERS
Livonia based grocery/retail distribution and warehousing company needs dependable local drivers with CDL class A with HAZMAT and 2 years experience. Position offers a \$250 bonus every 90 days for the first year along with full benefit package and excellent starting wage. Apply in person: Commerce Distribution 31750 Enterprise Dr., Livonia, MI (N. of Plymouth, W. of Merriman)

DRIVER: VAN
Part-time for the Oxford-Addison Transportation Authority located at the Addison Twp. Fire Station. The hours would be from 8am-5pm Thursdays & Fridays, along with other days during the week as needed. Please send resume to: Oxford Twp. Treasurer, P.O. Box 3, Oxford, MI 48371

DRIVER WANTED
With own car. Experience preferred but not required. \$50/hr. (248) 627-7678

ELECTRICAL JOURNEYMAN
Apprentice positions available. Experience needed in commercial & industrial work. Excellent wages, benefits & opportunities for advancement. 248-332-4646

ELECTRICIAN LICENSED Journeyman.
Benefits. (248) 280-3900

ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN
The Observer & Eccentric publishes newspapers to 16 suburban Detroit communities and is in search of a self-starter/professional/electronic test equipment, 4 years electronic schooling, ability to troubleshoot & the component level, maintain & repair electronic & mechanical test equipment & lift 80 lbs. Submit resume to: maryab@home.com.net, fax (734) 953-2057, or mail 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. Include job code EMT on resume. EOE

EMERGING COMPANY NEEDS
Medical Insurance Billing assistance immediately. If you have a PC you can earn \$25,000 to \$50,000 annually call 1-800-291-4683, Dept. #107 (SCA Network)

FIELD SERVICE TECHNICIAN
Wixom firm has immediate opening for Field Service Technician. Previous electrical/electronic experience required. Full benefits. Call: (248) 0300-6264 ext. 640

FINISHED CARPENTRY / GENERAL HELP
Will train. (248) 689-6750

FORECAST ANALYST
Brass Craft Mfg. Co. a Masco subsidiary co., has an immediate opening in its Novi headquarters. Essential job functions include: maintaining the current AS-400 System (with future use of the Manugistics Demand & Planning Module), acting as liaison between sales & planning, running reports, and communicating the forecast results to middle & upper management. Job requirements include a business degree, or an associate degree in business or math with a minimum of 3 yrs. related experience, strong analytical skills, proficiency in MS Office, excellent communication skills, oral & written, and positive interpersonal skills. We offer a competitive wage & benefit package. For consideration please submit your resume (no phone calls please) in confidence to: Brass Craft Mfg. Co., Attn: HKFA, P.O. Box 8032, Novi, MI 48376-8032 Equal Opportunity Employer m/v/d

FORKLIFT DRIVER
Experienced only Apply in person or send resume Classic Container 350 S. Mill Plymouth, MI 48170. No phone calls

GAGE COMMODITY MANAGER
Tool & sign gage maker &/or gage engineer with great people skills & a desire to work in a consulting role. Possible relocation & travel required. 248-474-5150 or email dbirdsall@birdsalltool.com

HARDWARE SALES
Ideal for retirees Part time flexible hours. Mathison Hardware 28243 Plymouth Rd. Livonia 6130 Canton Center. Canton

Birmingham/ Bloomfield
• (248) 647-6400
Clarkston • (248) 625-5700
Farmington Hills • (248) 324-3800
Rochester Hills • (248) 651-8850
Royal Oak • (248) 547-2000



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Relocation • 1 (800) 521-4264x280
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ROCK SOLID RESULTS IN REAL ESTATE



BLOOMFIELD HILLS LUXURY
• Custom home overlooks natural water preserve
• Open floor plan, extensive glass throughout, vaulted ceilings
• Hardwood floors, large open rooms & updated corian kitchen
• Pond/waterfall, trees, gardens, decking & patio. (K1458)
\$1,290,000 • Gwen Williamson • 248 646-6089



WEST BLOOMFIELD - PRESTIGIOUS ROYAL PTE
• Over 5,000 sq. ft. with soaring ceilings & windows
• Five bedroom suites, including incomparable master
• White gourmet kitchen with marble flooring
• Pond view, circular drive - the epitome of elegance! (OA619)
\$879,000 • 248 851-4400



BIRMINGHAM - SELLER MOTIVATED!
• Vintage four bedroom, 3 bath brick home on premier street in the "Heart of Birmingham"
• This unique home is well maintained
• Large lot offers potential to expand. (GL690)
\$659,000 • Jane Jacobson/Adrienne Stumell • 248 591-2020



ADDISON - 2.6 COUNTRY ACRES
• Beautiful five bedroom, two story Colonial - all brick
• Finished basement & walkout with in-law quarters
• 4.5 baths, 7 sided solarium, hot tub/spa
• Wooded area, security alarm, pond, two pole barns. (P1432)
\$439,900 • 248 651-8850



CLARKSTON SCHOOLS
• Custom built all brick ranch on three acres
• Large, open floor plan, beautiful maple cabinets
• Wood floors, three car garage, natural fireplace
• Only two miles from expressway! (CL102)
\$339,900 • 248 625-5700



ROCHESTER HILLS - UNIQUE CUSTOM HOME
• Includes 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, plus 2 laboratories
• Complimented by a large family & game room
• Spacious living room, raised dining area, a very efficient kitchen, and open, airy atrium area. (RO124)
\$298,000 • 248 651-8850



TROY - LONG LAKE VILLAGE - MINT!
• Spotless Colonial located deep within subdivision
• 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, spacious family room w/ marble surround fireplace, elegant living/dining room combo
• Sun room w/ Jacuzzi, 2.5 car garage. Many updates! (WE169)
\$254,900 • 248 641-1660



OAKLAND
• California style 4 bedroom contemporary home
• Great open floor plan with vaulted ceilings
• Two-way fireplace separates dining & living rooms
• Lots of privacy, decking & doorways. (AD367)
\$219,900 • Anna Penry • 248 656-4400



OXFORD TOWNSHIP LAKEFRONT
• Newer windows through-out, updated kitchen
• 60 feet of frontage on all sports Clear Lake
• Large master bedroom with deck overlooking lake
• Three bedrooms, 2 full baths. (MA584)
\$189,900 • 248 625-5700

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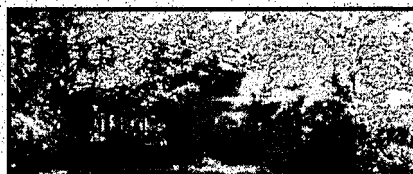
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OAKLAND TWP - ROLLING WOODED SETTING
• Fabulous Paint Creek Valley setting with 7.4 acres (2 parcels - 1 vacant, 1 with home)
• Spacious walkout ranch with sweeping views
• Very private yet minutes to Rochester. (OR375)
\$580,000 • Chris & John James • 248 641-1660



HUNTINGTON WOODS
• 3,200 sq. ft. custom contemporary on Hendrie Blvd.
• Open floor plan, great kitchen and large family room
• 4 bedrooms, master with walk-in closet & spa. Decks
• Florida room, perennial gardens, inground pool. (HE841)
\$530,000 • 248 647-6400



BLOOMFIELD HILLS
• Dynamite contemporary ranch, approx. 6,400 sq. ft.
• Nestled on a private treed site
• Three steam showers and jetted tubs
• Thermador appliances, exercise room. (WA457)
\$1,049,000 • 248 324-3800



ORCHARD LAKE - CASS LAKE VIEWS
• Rare opportunity - beautiful shorelines
• Freshly painted Colonial with old world charm
• Spacious rooms, two Florida rooms, four bedrooms
• Fabulous sunset views! (WA367)
\$680,000 • 248 624-3015



CLARKSTON
• Clarkston custom home on 6.7 acres, 5 bedrooms
• Full finished walkout basement w/kitchen, 3.5 baths
• Beautiful architectural details throughout
• Close to I-75 and downtown Clarkston. (PE835)
\$489,750 • 248 625-5700



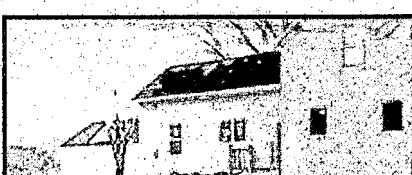
COUNTRY LIVING IN BEVERLY HILLS!
• Ideal for entertaining & functional for family living
• Grand 2-story foyer, brick hearth & fireplace in family room
• Hardwood floors throughout, oak kitchen w/ doorwall to deck
• Large living room, master bedroom w/ walk-in closet & updated bath. (MA310)
\$397,000 • 248 647-6400



FRANKLIN - RIVER FRONTAGE
• Beautiful brick Colonial with great curb appeal
• Full, finished basement, fireplace in family room
• Central air. Three car garage. (CH305)
\$394,900 • 248 324-3800



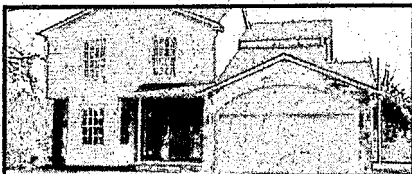
BEAUTIFULLY REDONE NORTHVILLE HOME
• Captivating ranch with gorgeous park-like yard
• Three bedrooms, 2,000 sq. ft., 2 full & 2 half baths
• Pond & gardens to the side overlooking woods
• Enjoy the numerous updates. (MA473) MUST SEE!
\$299,900 • 248 324-3800



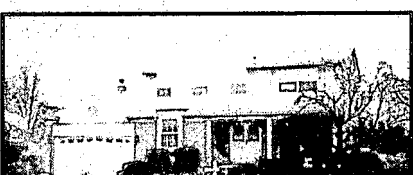
SPRINGFIELD TWP
• Everything new in this totally remodeled farmhouse on 2.8 acres
• 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, wood floors in kitchen and living room
• Ceramic tile, new 3 car garage
• Professional landscaping. Close to I-75 & M-59. (NF148)
\$289,900 • 248 625-5700



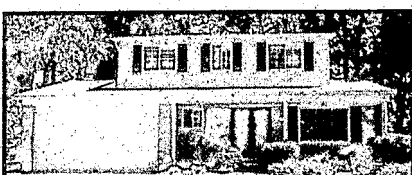
FARMINGTON - OPEN SUN 1-4
• 24205 Farmington Rd. - N. of 10-Mile, W. Side of Farmington
• Dramatic marble foyer & sun-drenched living level
• Soaring ceilings, striking views, designer appointments
• Kitchen w/ breakfast area leads to deck. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths
• Private yard w/ arbor & patio backs to River Rouge. (FA242)
\$269,900 • 248 647-6400



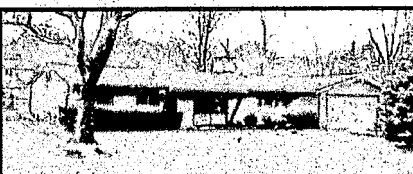
BIRMINGHAM SCHOOLS - NEW CONSTRUCTION!
• Sharp 2-story Colonial with over 2,200 square feet
• 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, and hickory kitchen w/ breakfast area
• Master bedroom w/ walk-in closet, bath w/ spa details, 2nd floor laundry
• Family room w/ fireplace and cathedral ceilings. (EL191)
\$259,921 • Ellen Ehrlich • 248 647-8047



ROCHESTER HILLS - PRIME GOLF COURSE VIEW
• Wonderful 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath Colonial in lovely setting!
• Breakfast room, formal dining, rec. room, family room with natural brick fireplace, den and 1st floor laundry
• Club recreation, 2 car garage, home warranty. (BA654)
\$245,000 • 248 651-8850



TROY - WONDERFUL SETTING & HOME!
• Great updates include: all new oak kitchen windows, roof, carpet and paint, many more
• Superb treed site on court deep into subdivision
• Four bedroom, 2.5 bath Colonial, Troy Schools. (M1222)
\$225,000 • 248 641-1660



TROY
• Enjoy viewing this lovely updated 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch home with Birmingham Schools
• Beautiful use of full windows & vaulted ceilings plus 2 way fireplace. Newer carpet, paint, kitchen, bath, & more! (BO276)
\$209,000 • 248 647-6400



NOVI CONDO
• Secluded ranch end unit on cul-de-sac
• 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, dining, family, & rec rooms
• Gorgeous entry, high volume ceilings, finished walkout, 2 decks, private patio. Nearby golf & more! (JA109)
\$189,900 • 248 324-3800



ROCHESTER HILLS
• Ranch condo custom designed with two baths, two car garage and full basement
• Great room, fireplace with marble surround
• Club house, nature trail, pool, tennis courts. (CH186)
\$164,900 • 248 651-8850



BLOOMFIELD HILLS - CONDO
• Beautifully updated first floor condo
• New kitchen with built-in appliances and desk
• Large master bedroom with walk-in closet
• Lovely landscaped gardens & pool area. (LO801)
\$95,500 • 248 851-4400



HISTORIC DISTRICT - VINTAGE COLONIAL
• Filled with Warmth, Charm & Character - updated
• 2 large bedrooms, 2 full baths, bright & sunny kitchen
• Beautiful treed lot, extensive decking, 2.5 car garage
• Hardwood floors, arched entry doors, front porch! (TI100)
\$174,900 • 248 641-1660



WARM & LOVELY SOUTHFIELD HOME!
• Spacious foyer & living room w/ recessed window seat
• Large family room w/ fireplace, hearth & pegged wood floor
• Updated kitchen w/ breakfast area & 1st floor laundry
• Formal dining room & great master w/ walk-in closet. (V1214)
\$210,000 • 248 647-6400

VRM - Value Range Marketing
Donations were made to the Sunshine Kids



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