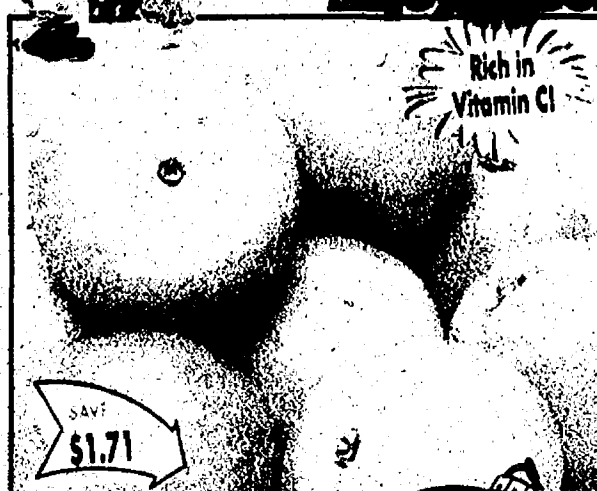




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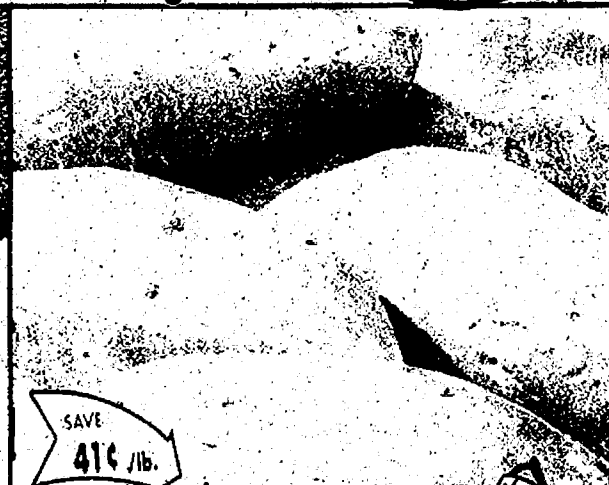
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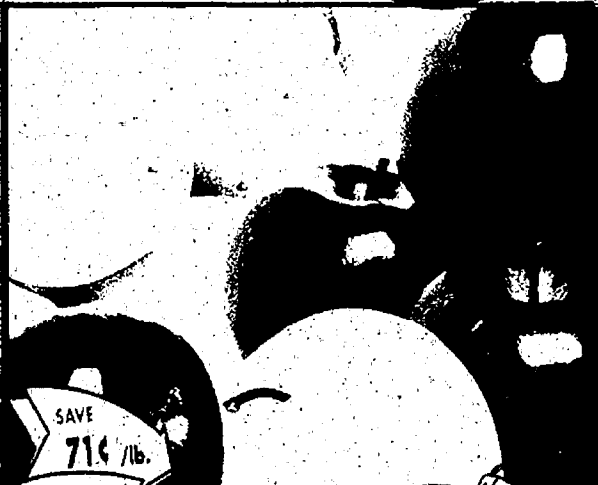
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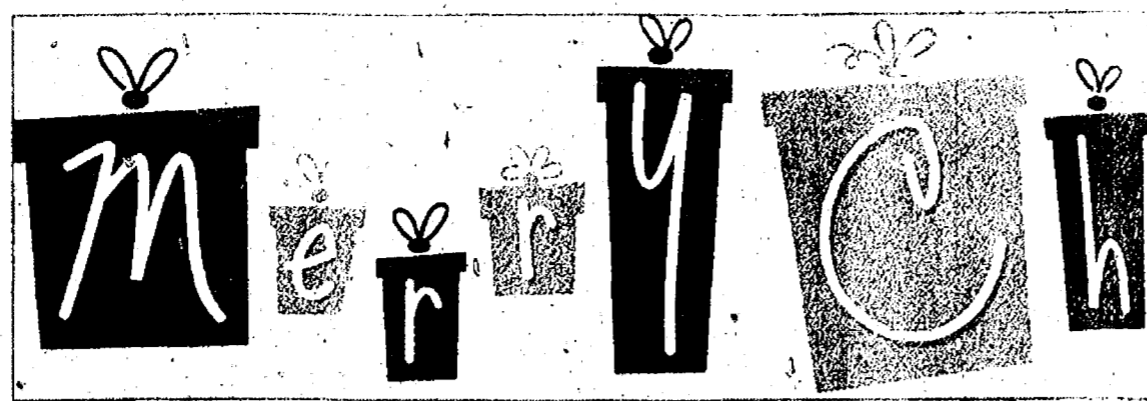


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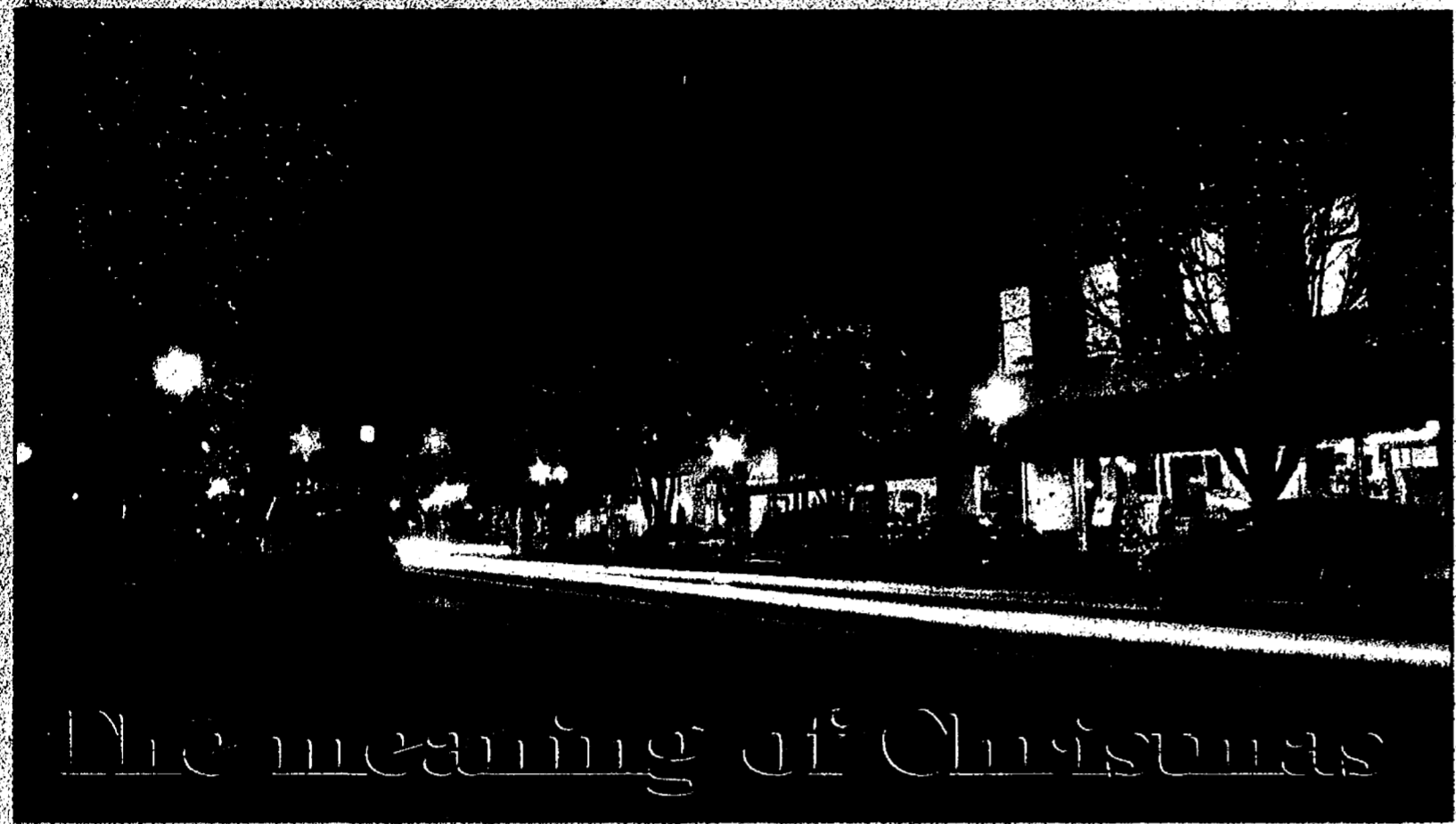


ChelseaStandard.com

Chelsea Standard



Vol. 136, No. 52 **75¢** Thursday, December 24, 2009



Downtown Chelsea on a December evening.

Photo by Burrill Strong.

By Crystal Hayduk
 Special Writer

Last week a friend posed the question: "What was the best Christmas present you ever received?" It was a compelling question that took hours of concentrated soul-searching thought to answer. Visiting Christmas Past like Scrooge with his ghostly visitor, some especially memorable gifts stood out in my mind's eye. Santa brought a desired chemistry set, but after seeing the directions, my mom wouldn't let me do any of the experiments. The chemicals were needed all snug in their bottles, while visions of explosions danced through her head. I rehearsed future parenting skills on baby dolls, and tested the emotionally unhealthy role of women when Barbie repeatedly rescued Ken from his danger-

ous decisions.

My father gave presents that encouraged my curiosity, despite the mortification of other family members. The model of the human body and the "Life Cycle Library" were a couple of favorites. No wonder I became a nurse with a special interest in obstetrics. Dad also surprised me with my first typewriter when I was 11. It was a manual beast that weighed more than I did, but it held a place of honor on my desk and took with it to its grave the humble thoughts, stories, and assignments of the next 10 years. The prize for antique gifts went to my grandmother's piano, which she gave me when I was 7. The chipped and scuffed Fischer console still graces my home as the fourth generation of my family is learning to play. As an adult, I've received a personal pool cue (very cool, but I don't have a

pool table); shaped skis (from my husband who hoped to improve my skiing via technology); countless perfumed candles (too afraid of fire to use them very often) and a variety of shawls, hats, gloves, scarves, and blankets (needed for temperatures below 76 degrees). My favorite homemade gifts come from the precious hearts and grubby hands of my children. All of these gifts have something in common, though. No matter how much I wanted, needed, loved, or appreciated them, not one has satisfied my deepest desires. Most gifts have limited use or don't live up to expectations. They can be lost, stolen, and destroyed. And then it hit me. There really is a best Christmas present. It's perfect, doesn't wear out, break, or get old, and isn't the wrong size or color. It fits every

PLEASE SEE MEANING/3-A

School officials 'investigating' drug possession by CHS students

By Sean Dalton
 Heritage Newspaper

Word reached The Chelsea Standard last week from several credible sources that a number of members of the Chelsea High School's hockey team were caught with an illegal substance. Chelsea School District officials said they are in the middle of an investigation when questioned about the situation last Friday and Monday. District officials refused to confirm the location that the students were caught with the offending substance, how many were involved or when the incident occurred. "I cannot respond to that right now," said Chelsea High School Principal Julie Deppner. "The answer is that there are no suspensions or expulsions (right now)." She said that she could not respond further until the report goes to the Board of Education for review. "I can just say that that information has to go to our school board and be taken care of in a schoolboard closed session," Deppner continued. As an administrator, Deppner is allowed to suspend students

for no more than 10 days without school board approval. "We're still in the process of the investigation," Deppner said Friday. "The board has not received an initial report at this time. Any information will be provided to our school board on Jan. 11." Superintendent Dave Killips echoed Deppner's comments when asked for specifics. "I'm not keeping anything from anyone," Killips said. "I don't have the file on my desk because (Deppner) is still investigating ... the investigation is ongoing." Killips added that the details would probably never come out, indicating that the students involved are under 18 years old. Neither Police Chief Ed Toth or Washtenaw County Sheriff's Commander Dieter Heren had any knowledge of the situation. "I can (confirm) that we're not involved in that," Toth said. Toth said department involvement would depend on the location at which the substance was discovered by school officials, presumably the scene of a school sanctioned event like a game, practice, assembly or during school hours.

Chelsea honors 'citizens'

By Sean Dalton
 Heritage Newspapers

Last week the Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce honored 2009 Citizen of the Year Nancy Harris for her many contributions to the Chelsea community. Harris founded Hearts Community Service, a non-denominational organization



County Commissioner Mark Oulmet, Chelsea Mayor Jason Lindauer, 2009 Citizen of the Year Nancy Harris, Lifetime Achievement Honoree Will Johnson, Lifetime Achievement Honoree Will Chandler, MC and Downtown Development Authority President Mike Jackson.

PLEASE SEE CITIZEN/7-A

Schools continue budget planning

By Crystal Hayduk
 Special Writer

According to Superintendent David Killips' report to the board last Monday evening, the district has already begun implementation of changes that should reduce expenses by more than \$330,000. The board is expected to make further decisions regarding expense reduction in February, after the public forums in January. Killips reviewed the board-approved "step-down" plan for the equity fund, which was 20 percent of the total budget at the

Upcoming events

Board meeting - Monday, Jan. 11 at 7 p.m.; Washington Street Education Center (WSEC)
 Public Forum - Thursday, Jan. 14 at 7 p.m.; WSEC
 Public Forum - Wednesday, Jan. 20 at 8:30 am; WSEC

end of the 2009 school year and is projected to be 15 percent at the end of the 2010 school year.

PLEASE SEE SCHOOLS/7-A

'Instability comes with the territory'



By Thomas Leonard
 Guest writer

Thomas E. Leonard, 21, of Dexter, was accepted into the U.S. Peace Corps and departed for Niger in July to begin pre-service training as a community and youth education Peace Corps Volunteer. Upon graduation from volunteer training in September, Leonard's work will include raising awareness about girls' education, running after-school clubs and working with out-of-school youth. He will write articles exclusively for Heritage Newspapers on his activities with the Peace Corps. The following is his second in the series.

Welcome to part two of my ongoing series detailing my experiences in Peace Corps Niger. Although I had hoped to publish, and had even partially written my second article about life in

Larba Birno, wrenches have been thrown into my Nigerian life. In a developing world country, especially in one that finds itself in last place on the United Nations' survey of human development worldwide, instability comes with the territory. Already having experienced ethnic rebellion in the north over the spoils of uranium exploitation and political instability due to the tests facing democratic governance at the national level, Niger is now caught up in the Trans-Saharan threat of Islamic extremism at the hands of Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM). While countries such as Mali and Mauritania have recently made international news due to AQIM's actions aimed at westerners, Niger had been affected in a localized area until recently.

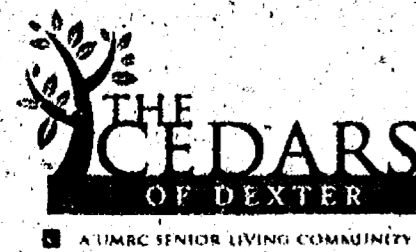
PLEASE SEE PEACE/7-A

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Tips for happy returns, refunds and exchanges

By Tim Burns
Guest Writer

It's the season for giving, but what happens if the gift you have given or received needs to be returned or exchanged?

This holiday, your local Better Business Bureau wants to remind consumers to know their rights before making a purchase.

Just like perfectly tuned clockwork, we can always count on customer complaints flooding into the BBB right after the holidays from unhappy consumers who upset that they have gifts they can't return.

In Michigan, all sales are final unless a purchased product is defective, has been misrepresented to the buyer, or a retailer has an established return and exchange policy that they are than legally obligated to abide by. Consumers should familiarize themselves with the seller's return policy before making a purchase to prevent any confusion in the event the item they purchased needs to be returned.

The Better Business Bureau wants to remind you to know your rights before making a purchase.

■ Know the seller's return policy. Be sure to find out about

a store's return policies before making a purchase, especially a major one. Keep in mind that returning or exchanging items is a privilege, not a right. Generally speaking, state and federal laws do not require that retailers provide returns or exchanges.

A business is not obligated to accept items for refund, exchange, or credit, except in cases where the item is defective or misrepresented. In some cases, defective products must be returned to the manufacturer rather than the retailer based upon the product's warranty, so make an effort to understand any warranty terms and conditions before making a purchase.

Take for example you purchase a new toaster for some one. If the side is dented in or it doesn't turn on, than the product is defective. If you open up the box and there is a waffle iron in it or the toaster is just a display model and doesn't actually work, than the product has been misrepresented.

Finally, if the store has a posted policy that states all toasters can be returned for a refund if you bring it back with a receipt of purchase within 60 days, the store can't change the rules after the fact and refuse providing you a refund."

■ The merchandise was defective. Now what? Regardless of a store's policy, if the goods you have purchased were misrepresented or are defective, you have every reason to expect the store to provide a suitable substitute or refund, or make proper repairs. The laws in all states require a store to make good in such cases. Keep in mind though that health regulations may forbid returns of such items as bathing suits or other intimate apparel.

■ Check if there are restocking fees if an item is returned. If you custom order a product, many stores charge a restocking fee for the return of such a product. It is a good idea to keep the packaging an item was wrapped in just in case it is required for return by the store to the manufacturer. Or if you know you are going to return it, don't open the package at all. Many retailers have restocking fees for high-priced merchandise such as electronics and furniture.

You want to return an item and get your money back. A customer's money may be returned under a refund policy. Stores that offer refunds as a policy do so voluntarily and, in

most cases, are not compelled by state or federal law to do so. These policies usually require that products be returned to a store within a specific period of time and in original purchase condition. In almost every case, a sales slip or some other evidence that the item was actually purchased at a particular store is also required. If a customer does not have evidence of purchase, he or she may not receive a refund or may not receive the full amount of the purchase price. In some stores, all sales are final.

■ Understand exchanges or credits. In a product exchange, an item may be returned and another item of equal value may be received in its place. This privilege is usually extended when the buyer has made a reasonable mistake; for example, in the size or color of the product purchased. In other instances, customers may receive a credit slip after returning an item. This store credit allows the consumer to purchase any other item at that store that has the same monetary value as the item he or she has returned.

■ What to do if the product has a separate written warranty. Some products have warranties that spell out the manufacturer's liability if the product is defective. Reading a product's warranty before returning an item to a store from which it was purchased is highly recommended.

In some cases, warranties exempt stores from product liability and require consumers to mail the product to a manufacturer or other business to receive monetary refunds, credit or product replacement.

If the purchase is made under a written contract, normal return privileges may be affected. Written contracts sometimes have special provisions for the return of goods. A contract usually provides its own conditions for return of the goods and cancellation of an agreement. Always read and understand a contract before you sign it; never sign a blank contract and always keep a copy of the contract.

■ Don't delay if a store has a return policy, there may be time limits for returns. And always keep receipts and original packaging!

With these tips in mind, here are a few important questions

PLEASE SEE TIPS/8-A



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The Manchester Enterprise
The Milan News-Leader
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The Ypsilanti Courier

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CHELSEA BRIEFS

Financial aid workshop
Nicki Crupper from the University of Michigan will host a workshop on financial aid for parents of high school juniors and seniors on Tuesday, Jan. 5 at 6:30 p.m. in the Chelsea High School Auditorium. Prior to this meeting, Sandra Tuner, CHS counselor, will give a brief overview of the College Board entrance examinations ACT and SAT. Parents are welcome to come at 6:10 p.m. with their questions.

'Around Town with Linda'
'Around Town with Linda' will feature Winston Boyer - 'The Cookie Man,' beginning today. 'Around Town with Linda' features interviews conducted by the local host Linda Meloche. The show airs daily on Channel 18 at 7:30 a.m., noon, 7:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

A new interview begins every Thursday evening and runs for a week. The guests all live or work in Chelsea, and everyone

connected with the show is a volunteer.
Previous shows are available to view at McKune Memorial Library.

Toys for Tots
The U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program will have sign-up forms available at Edward Jones, 1100 S. Main St., Chelsea, for families who will have a need for toys during the Christmas Holiday. The objective of Toys for Tots is to help less fortunate children throughout the United States experience the joy of Christmas. The mission of the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community in which the campaign is conducted. Chelsea/Dexter drop-off locations are:
Edward Jones, 1100 S. Main St.,

Chelsea.
Chelsea Chevrolet Buick, 1500 S. Main St., Chelsea.
Wackenhut Gardens, 11511 Jackson Road, Dexter.
Chelsea Village Hardware, 110 N. Main St., Chelsea.

Sounds & Sights CD
"The Best of Sounds & Sights - Volume 1 - 2009" CD is now available. The cost is \$5 and all proceeds go to Sounds & Sights on Thursday Nights. Artists such as Bill Bynum, Matt Watroba, Coconut Radio, Royal Garden Trio, Black Train, Kitty Donohoe and more are featured. These unique CDs are available at the chamber office. For more information, call 433-2787 or visit www.chelseacenterforhearts.org.

Faith in Action
Faith in Action is currently seeking donations of clean, gently used winter clothing and household supplies. Donations will be accepted at

the Chelsea location during open hours Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
People who may need help with food or other emergencies of eviction or utility shut off are welcome to seek help during operating hours, or in Dexter on Mondays from noon to 4 p.m., and Wednesdays from 4 to 7 p.m.
Food stamp applications, appointments for Chelsea Grace Clinic, WIC appointments are all available at Faith in Action. Sponsors are needed for Christmas sponsorship program. Interested groups or individuals can call Doug or Nancy at 475-3305 or 426-7002.

DEXTER BRIEFS

Dexter Luminary Dec. 24
As the Holiday Season approaches, the annual Dexter Luminary display will take place on Dec. 24 in the Village of Dexter. Over 12,000 candles and bags are used to create the Christmas Eve luminary.
The Dexter tradition began in 1985 when residents Doris Waggoner and Betty Steinaway packaged and distributed kits to Central, Ann Arbor, Broad, Baker and Fourth streets. Since

that time, the Christmas Eve Luminary has grown to encompass the entire village, including the newer areas of Westridge, Huron Farms and Dexter Crossings.
Six years ago, the Dexter Area Chamber of Commerce took on the project in order to keep the tradition alive. Donations from village residents and anyone else who would like to contribute are strongly encouraged to defray the cost

of luminary supplies, and can be directed to the Dexter Chamber.
If any village resident has their kit from last year and does not need another for 2009, call the chamber office at 426-0887 and leave a name and address.

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MEANING
FROM PAGE 1-A
budget, because it can't be bought or earned. It's free and available without discrimination to all who accept it, but its value is priceless.
The best Christmas present is the whole reason we celebrate in the first place - the baby Jesus, born of a virgin and laid in a manger in Bethlehem. This Jesus who is also called Immanuel, Messiah,

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. Because of His love for us, He purchased our salvation from sin with His own blood and gave us eternal life when He was raised from the dead. "God saved you by His grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this, it is a gift from God." (Ephesians 2:8)
I double-dog-dare you to find a better Christmas present; and triple-dog-dare you to receive it.

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Functional Art

Art center teaches silk dyeing

By Lisa Allmendinger
Heritage Newspapers

There are endless possibilities for color and design when using a Japanese silk dyeing technique called shibori.

Michele Montour of Belleville taught about 10 women how to use color and fabric manipulation to create colorful scarves Dec. 15 at the Ann Arbor Art Center.

"Whatever color you lay out will mix," Montour told the women.

The technique included folding the fabric, then wetting it in vinegar before applying premixed Procion H dyes.

The scarf was then wrapped in plastic and placed in the microwave for 2 1/2 minutes.

After a cold rinse and a warm rinse under running water, followed by an additional cold rinse, each woman ironed the silk to see the color pattern.

"The first one is always for me," says Janette Borke, who drove from Fenton for the class.

Although she said green was her favorite color, "I'm not sure if I'm in a green mood tonight or not," Borke said.

Each student made two scarves during the class.

Ellen Vaughan of Ann Arbor made one for her daughter and another for her daughter-in-law.

"I took Michele's class a month or so ago, and I was so struck by it. So, I came back," Vaughan says.

Costume designer Christianne Myers of Ann Arbor says, although she has experience in other fabric dyeing techniques, shibori was new to her.

"I took a class before," Myers said. "It's fun. It's like going to camp."

Myers says she wears scarves around her head a lot. She used taupe and lime green as the base colors on her creation.

Deb Gerhardt of South Lyon chose grape and raspberry as her first two colors.

"I'm going for the fruit the first time around," she says, adding she wanted a "very bold scarf."

Carol Repasky of Ypsilanti tied yarn around her first scarf creation, and then dyed it in lime, yellow and blue.

Although familiar with fiber arts, Connie Spooner of Whitmore Lake says fabric dyeing was new to her.

"This is an experiment," Spooner says of her first creation.

As each artist created one-of-a-kind wearable art from a blank white scarf, Montour helped them discover how folding and tying resulted in different patterns and color depth.

Starting with the lightest colors and moving to the darker ones, the students created colorful pieces of unique art.

Lisa Allmendinger can be reached at 1-877-995-NEWS (6397).



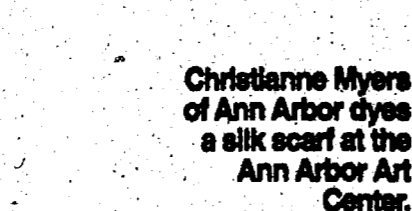
Connie Spooner of Whitmore Lake gets ready to iron her dyed silk scarf at Ann Arbor Art Center.



Marlene Kukuzka of South Lyon unknots the scarf she dyed during a class in shibori dyeing techniques at the Ann Arbor Art Center Dec. 15.



Ellen Vaughan of Ann Arbor rinses out the dye from a silk scarf during a class taught by Michele Montour at the Ann Arbor Art Center Dec. 15.



Christianne Myers of Ann Arbor dyes a silk scarf at the Ann Arbor Art Center.



Carol Repasky of Ypsilanti dyes a silk scarf while visiting the Ann Arbor Art Center Dec. 15.



Ellen Vaughan of Ann Arbor dyes a silk scarf during a class at the Ann Arbor Art Center Dec. 15.



BRIEFLY

Model train show to benefit Habitat

Retired pastor John Morris and his wife, Karol, will open their home at the holidays to show off their model train display as a benefit for Habitat for Humanity.

"Why do we share this lovely hobby model with all? So that by freewill offerings — no admission fees — others may benefit," the couple said in a written statement.

The exhibit will be open from 2 to 5 p.m. Dec. 27 and 28 at 10461 Pauline Drive, south of Cady, north of Sharon Valley, off Wolf Lake Road in Jackson County's Napoleon Township.

"In the last seven years, Habitat for Humanity has benefited over \$12,000 from door donations, and also through the Jackson Chorale Scholarship Fund a High School student was the recipient of \$500."

After 40 years, three suitcases full of Lionel trains and no place to permanently put them together to run, retirement arrived, as well as a new home and a full basement with space available, making the endeavor

possible for the couple.

"Now, for the sixth year running, we've given the 'all aboard' call to all to come, see, and enjoy our 27-by-34 foot layout with 16-plus Lionel trains running," the said. "You'll see mountains, rivers, vineyards, farms, villages, factories, zoo, circus, football game, drive-in theater, etc., in all seasons, with over 1,300 persons, 300-plus cars and trucks, 200-plus buildings, and over 30 buttons to press or push for actions to happen."

Trains from 1918 to present day are running and displayed as part of the exhibit.

"It is our aim for all to enjoy our models and for others to benefit," they said.

Robert Bobb to speak during Ethos week

Robert Bobb, who has quickly established a reputation for integrity and vision as emergency financial manager for the Detroit Public School System, will be the keynote speaker for the fourth annual Ethos Week at the Eastern Michigan University College of Business. Ethos Week, scheduled for

March 15 through 19, raises awareness of ethical considerations in a variety of business and personal contexts. The week is the nation's only high-level celebration examining ethics in business and education.

"Robert Bobb has tackled an astonishing array of administrative challenges during his career, most recently his work with the Detroit Public Schools," said David Mielke, dean of the College of Business. "His experience, integrity and energy make him an instructive and inspiring speaker for Ethos Week. He is an excellent role model for our students."

Bobb has more than 30 years executive management experience in both the private and public sectors. He is the owner, president and CEO of the LAPA Group LLC, a multi-faceted private/public sector consulting firm.

Among his many roles, he has served as the president of the Washington, D.C., Board of Education, as the former city administrator and deputy mayor for Washington, D.C., and as the District of Columbia's Homeland Security adviser. He served as city manager of

Oakland, Calif.; of Richmond, Va.; of Santa Ana, Calif.; and of Kalamazoo.

He is an expert on the issues facing urban government in a variety of realms, including in education, economic development and municipal budgeting and finance, according to a news release from EMU.

Bobb earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Grambling State University in Grambling, La., and a master's degree in business from Western Michigan University.

More than 500 EMU students, faculty and business leaders are expected to attend the keynote lunch program March 19 at the EMU Student Center, according to the press release. The luncheon begins at noon, with a reception for the speaker, and ends at 2:30 p.m.

For more information about Ethos Week or the College of Business, visit www.cob.emich.edu.

Recycle Center's Drop-Off Station to charge

Recycle Ann Arbor's Drop-Off Station will begin charging

a \$3 per vehicle entry fee beginning Jan. 2.

In a news release, Recycle Ann Arbor said the entry fee is necessary to ensure the continuing operation of the Drop-Off Station, following the end of funding support from Washtenaw County, the city of Ann Arbor and Pittsfield Township in 2009.

Two different discount options offer savings for customers who use the Drop-Off Station's recycling and disposal services frequently. A 10-visit punch card is available for \$25; and a yearly pass good for unlimited visits is \$75.

Those who purchase a yearly pass also will receive 5 percent off trash disposal services. Customers who visit the Drop-Off Station to purchase compost or mulch will not be charged an entry fee.

Recycle Ann Arbor CEO Melinda Uerling said the Drop-Off Station has historically generated operating income from the resale value of the collected recyclable materials and municipal funding support.

"With the dramatic decline of market values for recyclable materials, and the discontinua-

tion of municipal funding support, it has become necessary to generate support from the Drop-Off Station's customers to ensure it may continue to serve the needs of the community," Uerling said.

The Drop-Off Station is the state's largest community recycling drop-off center. It is located at 2950 E. Ellsworth Road in Ann Arbor, just west of Platt Road, and operated by Recycle Ann Arbor with support from the city of Ann Arbor.

Many recyclable items are accepted for free, such as paper, metals, glass, batteries and some electronics. In addition, a wide variety of items is accepted for disposal at minimal cost. All accepted items and fees are listed on the Drop-Off Station page at www.recycleannarbor.org.

Pick-up service is available for large bulky waste items, at additional charge. Dump trailers are available to rent.

The Drop-Off Station may be reached directly by calling 971-7400. For more information about Recycle Ann Arbor, call 662-6288.

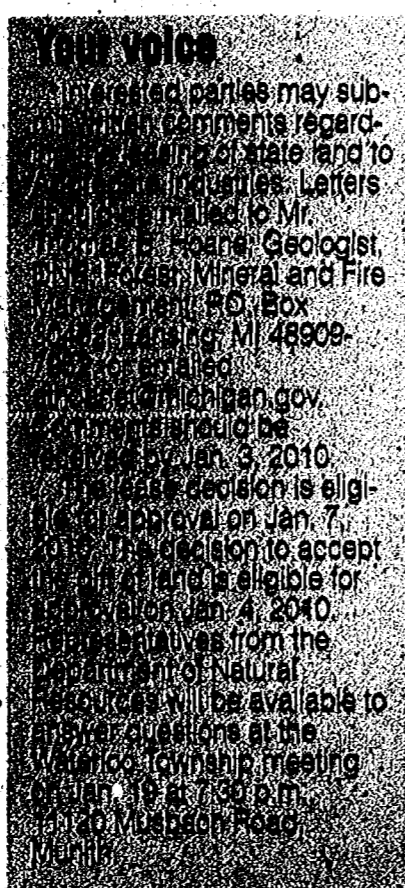
DNR may lease Recreation Area land for gravel pit

By Crystal Hayduk
Heritage Newspapers

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) released information earlier this month that Aggregate Industries (AI) may soon be leasing about 72 acres of land from the state for the purpose of sand and gravel mining. The lease would be for a ten year term, with up to three extensions of three years each if it is determined to be in the best interest of the State of Michigan.

According to Mike Sadler, Waterloo Township Supervisor, Aggregate Industries also intends to give 324 acres to the Department of Natural Resources, which consists of their current gravel pit operations with the exception of the "Dault" property. AI will reserve the non-metallic mineral rights of the property, as well as the right to continue operating the processing facility located on the gift land.

Martin Landes, Area Land and Environmental Services



Manager for AI, said that his company is in a "...continual

search to maintain our abilities to meet the demand for our products in the general area."

He quotes an estimate that every Michigan resident requires 11 tons of aggregate annually. Since sand and gravel is limited on specific pieces of property, as supplies are depleted in one place, then additional supplies must be found and extracted. It is hoped that the 72 acre lease area will supply eight to nine million tons of sand and gravel.

It is expected that AI will pay an annual minimum royalty of \$25,000 as well as a royalty rate of \$0.90 per ton of sand and gravel mined. "The royalties will be paid into the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, one of the premiere programs in the country," said Paul Yauk of the DNR. "It is funded by royalties on state land, and then the money is used for the protection of natural resources and

outdoor recreation."

Yauk is not concerned about the possibility of the state losing anything on the deal. "The lease has a bond on it, so if AI walks away, we get the land and the money," he said.

Because the transfer of private land to the state may create a loss in property taxes to the township, Yauk explained that the state will give Waterloo Township PILT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) funds. Aggregate Industries will still be responsible for paying property taxes on the infrastructure.

Richard Steffens, Management Analyst for Washtenaw County, agreed that PILT is a possibility for funding, but he also explained that the state reserves the right to decide the amount of the payment and even whether they can afford to make the payment.

Sadler is unclear about whether the township will have any say in whether or not

the land acquisition deal is ultimately passed in January. "There are a lot of unanswered questions the township has regarding this transaction that we will be looking to get answered from the DNR," he said.

"At least the state is getting the deed to the gifted land up front, even though AI will still be using it. We (the township board) have spent an enormous amount of time and resources on AI and issues of compliance. We have made big headway in the last year in making them comply."

Board member Bill Richardson agrees. "This may get very interesting and will change many things; including the term discussion behind Mr. Stockton's property since that may be state land very soon," he said.

Stockton reported that at the present time the verbal agreement made in November regarding AI's repairing the berm along his property line is "...up in the air."

Yauk said that he plans on looking at the township regulations and specifications to ensure that the state and the township will be working together.

Aggregate Industries will be responsible for implementing the DNR's reclamation plans. "The plans developed in concert with the State detail specific reclamation requirements that will be required in each phase of the process to return the excavated lands to recreational use," said Landes.

Yauk said that the DNR has a long track record of working with other companies in forests in Northern Michigan, and does not anticipate problems working with AI locally. "We hold the cards," he said. "They play by our rules or they don't play."

Sadler said that if the deal is approved, he hopes that the reclamation plan will benefit the Waterloo Recreation Area in the long run.

Chelsea Area Fire Department adds new fire engine

By Lisa Allmendinger
Heritage Newspapers

Last week, the Chelsea Area Fire Authority picked up Engine 1 in Appleton, Wis. It's equipped with the newest technology including the ability to spray water while on the move.

Shiny red Engine 1 seats four firefighters and has a designated area what can keep a patient on a backboard out of the elements while awaiting transport by HVA to a hospital.

There's plenty of room for all the equipment fire fighters need - whether it's tools needed for an extrication or a water rescue.

"It will have all the equipment and we won't have to wait for a second truck when we get to a scene," says firefighter Matt Rose.

The 32-foot-long engine can carry 750 gallons of water and pump it at 1,500 gallons per minute.

"It will be our primary, first



A side view of the new \$522,000 Chelsea Area Fire Authority engine that seats four fire fighters and can pump 1,500 gallons of water per minute and can carry 750 gallons of water. In addition, the engine can spray water while moving.

out engine," says Capt. Sam Norton.

Engine 1 will replace the current heavy rescue engine, a 2001 model with 28,000 miles on it. This vehicle is going out of service and will be sold.

"It's so much faster," Norton says, and will be outfitted "with positive pressure fans," which can push smoke out of a house.

Plus, there's a built-in air system that firefighters can use for their pneumatic tools.

The \$522,000 engine will be paid for in part from the truck fund and the remainder will be financed over 10 years, says Fire Chief Jim Payeur.

The new engine joins a fleet of two engines, one tanker,

one tower, two brush trucks, one hovercraft, two trailers, one Gator and one light rescue vehicle.

It's expected that the engine will be in service in the next few weeks after company repre-

sentatives train all the firefighters to use all of its features.

The engine is 10.2 feet tall and weighs 48,000 pounds. Lisa Allmendinger can be reached at 877-995-NEWS (6397), or at

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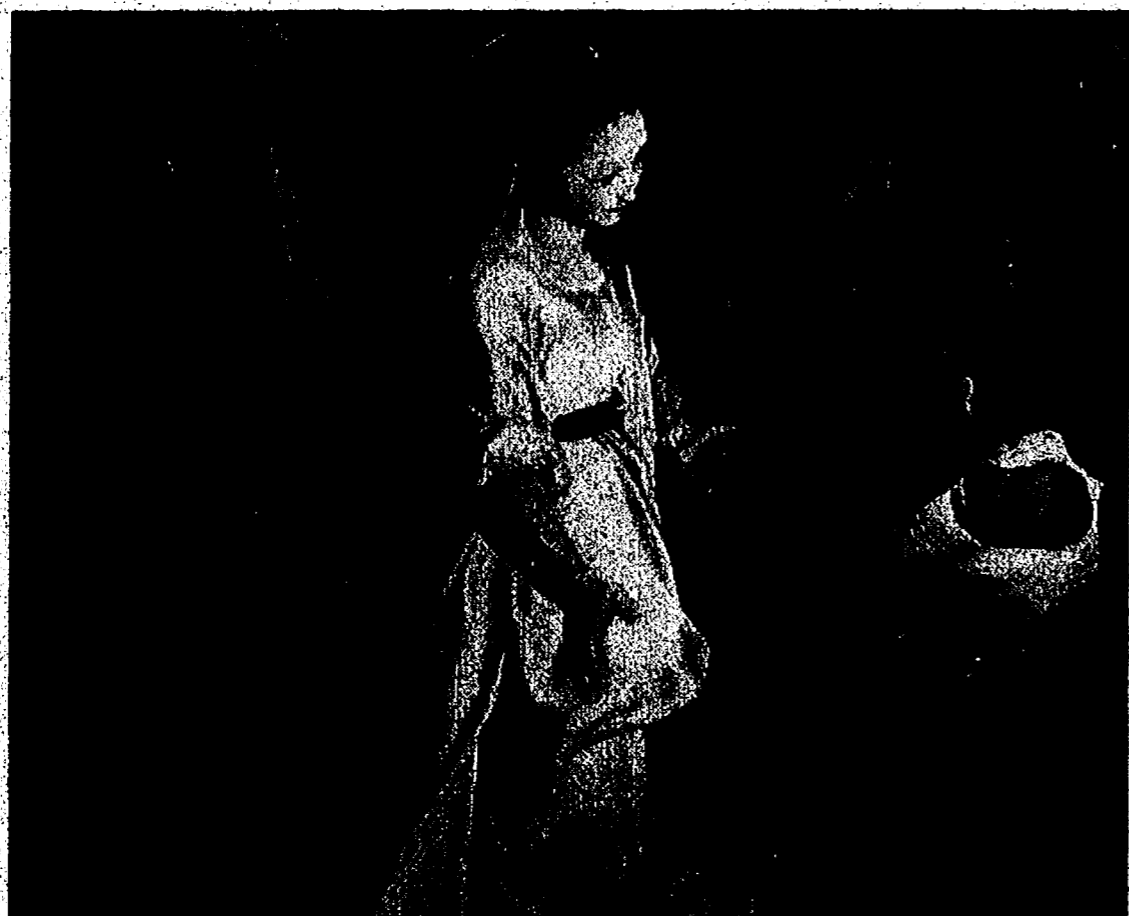
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Letters to the Editor

Letters may be sent to Michelle Rogers at mrpgers@heritage.com or mailed to Letters, 106 W. Michigan Ave., Saline, MI 48176

HERITAGE

PAGE 6-A

EDITORIAL

Our policy

It is our policy to run all local letters to the editor that deal with local issues and are not personal attacks. Letters must be e-mailed and include the writer's full name, address and phone number.

www.heritage.com

December 24, 2009

Question:

WEB VIEWS

This week's question

What's your Christmas wish?

A. World peace

C. Health and happiness

B. An end to poverty

D. Cure for cancer

Elected officials have an obligation to support troops

Recently, I had the honor of addressing the 119th Michigan Army National Guard out of Battle Creek, at the last gathering this unit would have together until 2011.

The 119th is deploying to Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan in support of the ongoing War on Terror. These brave men and women will be leaving Michigan and their families for a year or more.

As an experienced Marine Corps combat veteran, I was asked to give them advice

before their deployment. I took this opportunity to encourage these proud troops never to get complacent in their duties or mission.

The reality is that one of the easiest ways to get injured or killed in a hostile fire zone is by complacency. It's easy to gear up for battle, but the long periods of down time and boredom require a sharp and focused

OTHER VOICES



BRIAN ROONEY

mind. I encouraged the soldiers and their families to handwrite letters instead of sending e-mails because those letters would have more meaning and lasting value for them and their children.

Finally, I told the soldiers never to be too proud — overseas and especially when they come home — to seek out a chaplain or doc to talk through any issues they may have from being separated from their families or from what they experience abroad.

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder can affect a majority of the troops deployed, whether in combat or not. The divorce rate and suicide rate are at all-time highs in our armed forces, so we need to do a better job of taking care of our soldiers' needs when it comes to PTSD. This means starting with destigmatizing PTSD and encouraging our men and women to face it with the same determination with which they will face Al Qaeda or the Taliban.

As the only veteran in the race for the 7th Congressional District, I have been waiting with anticipation for the president's decision on the troop increase in Afghanistan. The 119th will be split up, but its members will be part of this new surge.

I was not pleased with how long the president took to decide because, as a Marine, I was always taught that a good plan powerfully and quickly executed is better than a perfect plan never executed.

With General McChrystal being hand-picked by President Obama to lead the charge in Afghanistan, I advocated either implementing McChrystal's plan or pulling the troops out and bringing them home. Half measures do not work in that part of the world. I was pleased with the commander-in-chief's final decision and support it as well as the troops tasked with implementing it.

Unfortunately, our representative, Mark Schauer, doesn't seem to know if he supports the president's decision or the troops implementing it. As perplexing as Mark Schauer's record has been in his first year in Congress, I am baffled that he cannot understand the moral imperative we have to prevail in Afghanistan and support the president in this mission.

Schauer has identified the cost of the

mission and job growth as his primary concerns. It is difficult not to be cynical about his argument, given his knee-jerk support for every outrageous spending increase that Nancy Pelosi has brought to the House floor.

His sudden concern for Michigan job growth had nothing to do with his other votes and, in fact, several of them would actually threaten Michigan jobs. Unemployment was a top concern to Michiganders when Schauer took the oath of office in January, and he's done nothing in the year since to help get Michigan back to work. But all of a sudden, he is concerned about the cost of victory and its effects on job growth.

Career politicians like Mark Schauer who have the luxury of debating issues like our increased presence in Afghanistan in safety do so because our troops abroad are keeping them safe. His position, however, undermines the morale of our fighting men and women as they risk their lives while separated from their families to protect us.

Should the voters of the 7th District elect me in 2010, I pledge that politics will never play a role in determining my support of our troops and their mission — no matter who serves as commander-in-chief.

Our elected representatives owe this much to our service members. We can, and should, debate these important decisions, but once they are made, our elected leaders have an obligation to support our troops.

Brian Rooney
Candidate for Michigan's 7th Congressional District

OUR TAKE: Editorial

Drive responsibly this winter

Are you ready for winter driving? The Michigan Department of Transportation is reminding motorists that winter driving is here.

"Some motorists may have forgotten how to drive on slick roads when visibility is limited," state Transportation Director Kirk Steudle said in a prepared press release.

"Our snowplow drivers are preparing for winter conditions and motorists should be getting ready also. The key is planning ahead."

MDOT encourages motorists to monitor the weather, winterize their vehicles, and check traffic flow and lane closures online at www.michigan.gov/drive before getting behind the wheel.

Normal winter conditions are identified as temperatures above 20 degrees, light to moderate winds and snowfall amounts from one to 5 inches in a 24-hour period.

During normal conditions, MDOT and its contract agencies can generally keep the trunkline systems free of ice and snow. However, the pavement may still be wet.

When temperatures fall to 10 to 20 degrees, the action of the salt, which lowers the freezing temperature of water, takes longer to work and refreezes at a much faster rate.

Salt is ineffective at temperatures below 10 degrees. The melting rate and dilution of the salt slows way down, and the refreezing process accelerates even more. This causes potential for a more dangerous condition than what previously existed.

Motorists are encouraged to follow basic driving precautions:

- Follow Michigan's basic speed law, which requires them to drive at a "careful and prudent speed" in all conditions and which allows them to stop within the clear distance ahead. It may mean driving lower than the posted speed limit.

- Be cautious of bridges that may be icy when the approaching pavement is clear and dry.

- Always wear safety belts and be sure children are properly buckled up.

- Don't text or talk on your cell phone while you are driving.

- Slow down when visibility is low or when road conditions are snowy or icy.

- Accelerate and brake slowly and avoid abrupt steering maneuvers.

- Don't pump anti-lock brakes.

- Snowplow drivers need all the help they can get when it comes to maneuvering large trucks through traffic and along the roadways for the benefit of all of us. Please do your part and "Don't Crowd the Plow."

- Make sure windshields are clear of ice and snow before starting out. "Peephole driving" is unsafe for you and other drivers on the road.

The tips are common sense, yet it seems way too many people lose this basic instinct when the weather gets rough.

Young people and those new to the state are often shocked by what they need to do to maintain control of their autos. Hopefully they soon learn without the lesson of an accident. Even a fender-bender is costly these days.

Surprisingly, even native Michiganders seem to forget how to drive on slippery or at least less than optimal roads. For most, the knowledge comes back fairly quickly, thank God.

State, county and local road crews will do everything they can to clear roadways, but due to declining funds, this may not happen as quickly as in the past.

They can't ensure motorists will drive safely. That's our job as drivers.

—Courtesy of The Oakland Press

YOUR VOICE: Letters to the Editor

Give the gift of life this holiday

Every day, I realize how lucky I am. After 15 challenging months on dialysis, I was fortunate to receive a donated kidney from my brother-in-law. My life became normal and healthy again.

I'm lucky partly because I would have struggled with the four- to five-year wait for a kidney on the waiting list in Michigan.

The other lucky part of my life is working at the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan, where I can talk with and help fellow kidney patients find resources and information.

What I can't give them is something you can. You can give the gift of life — literally — to another human being by signing up to become an organ donor.

What a remarkable opportunity to be able to do such a thing — for them and for you. I hope you take advantage of this chance to impact someone else's life, and yours. Think of it as a holiday gift that can last a lifetime.

Currently, more than 104,000 people in the U.S. are waiting for an organ transplant, while nearly 3,000 wait in Michigan alone. In making their holiday gift lists, I encourage your readers to think about giving someone a truly useful gift — one that

can't be bought at any price and requires no wrapping or shipping.

The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan's Holiday Gift of Life campaign reminds us all that for any occasion, the greatest gift we can give is the promise to save or enhance someone else's life with organs and tissues that we no longer need.

If you can, you might also consider becoming a living donor. Every day, 18 people die while waiting. End the wait for those on the national waiting list and give the gift of life. Learn more at www.nkfm.org.

Bob Meyer
Ann Arbor

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

DANIEL FENECH
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PEACE

FROM PAGE 1-A

Last month an attempted kidnapping of American embassy workers in the north central Nigerian city of Tahoua brought the threat closer to home. Appropriate measures were taken both by the American Embassy and the Peace Corps to ensure volunteers' safety. Our staff in Niamey worked extra hours for over a week. Volunteers were brought to safe locations, and regular communication was maintained between the bush and the capital, Niamey.

Thankfully, after nearly two weeks on alert, many volunteers were allowed to return to their post and continue work if they chose to, as long as they

adhered to upgraded security measures. Those in unsafe regions were allowed to continue work in a new village or return stateside with a year to return to Peace Corps service.

My former village, Larba Birno, is located in such a region. Thus I find myself in Niamey waiting for a new village, where I may be installed before this article goes to print.

While such a turn of events — especially the part where I leave my village unexpectedly, hastily pack up and never return (at least for the foreseeable future) — may appear somewhat cinematic in its drama, the weeks of stress make a three-hour epic's nail-biting plot pale in comparison.

The stress stemming from new information and fellow volunteers departing, some

of them close friends, was compounded by the logistics of living geographically and mentally in limbo.

Taken in perspective, my life became more interesting than I had ever imagined it would. I thought that Peace Corps in general would be an adventure, but now I have the chance to see Niger from two perspectives — Songhai-Zarma from Larba Birno and Hausa from my new village (the most widely-spoken West African language) — learn two languages (Zarma and Hausa), and as a bonus, see more of Niamey than I ever would have as a volunteer in the bush.

The bush versus city dynamic is a striking contrast in West African society: it is almost as if two worlds, one rapidly modernizing and one largely pre-

industrial, exist side by side. The time invested in the city or the country brings out both the absurdities and subtleties of life in Niger.

Consider the fact that cool drinkable yogurt, soft drinks, bananas and other delicacies never make it to Larba but arrive daily to its commune seat less than 15 miles away — all because of location.

A man plays songs on a cell phone while his wife pounds millet with mortar and pestle. Even in Niamey, people will cook millet paste over a fire on the street when others dine in air-conditioned comfort on gourmet continental cuisine.

While Peace Corps volunteers have budgets far below the standard lavish lifestyle, life in Niamey is a far cry from life at post.

SCHOOLS

FROM PAGE 1-A

"The equity fund will continue to decline gradually rather than be used all at once," he said.

Killips clarified the recent news regarding the mid-year School Aid Fund decrease of \$127 per student.

"Many people think that Governor Granholm rescinded the proration. But what she did was 'pause' it until January," Killips said. "What that's done is put everybody in limbo for one more month."

Property tax adjustments and falling taxable values are also adding to the school's budget crunch.

County Commissioner Mark Outmet stated during the public input that the county is

projecting a continuing decline in property values, both for homeowners and for commercial properties.

Other public input included comments from Susanna Bucholz, who works as a paraprofessional within the district. She addressed the board on behalf of non-union employees who are now burdened with retroactive pay cuts and increased insurance costs.

"What are you gaining to take from those who make the least amount of money to begin with?" she asked. Bucholz explained that her pay reduction of \$200 each month is a huge financial burden for her family. "I just want you to see the human side of your decisions," she said.

Connie Cook spoke for the transportation department. "We have agreed to a 2.5 per-

cent wage reduction effective Jan. 1," she informed the board. Cook went on to question the reported figure of \$1.3 million of potential savings in the transportation department, and pointed out realities regarding number of passengers per bus and cost versus safety issues.

"Having all grade levels on one bus means that it is impossible to carry 72 children on one bus at a time," she said. "Especially when you add in instruments, backpacks, laptops and winter clothing."

In other school news: * Pat Little, principal of Beach Middle School, facilitated a pre-

sentation about the Small Group Counseling Program, part of the targeted intervention for groups of students with similar behavioral and social needs and issues.

* Board President Laurel McDevitt announced that Killips was named Regional Superintendent of the Year in November, and Lucy Stieber was named State Elementary Principal of the Year.

* The board commended Students Leading Students for being chosen as Chapter of the Year at the State Conference. The organization also recognized Chelsea Lanes for supporting after-prom activities for 20 years.

CITIZEN

FROM PAGE 1-A

that serves those in need by providing furniture and clothing, as well as household goods and children's items. HCS also has a special "Sunshine Room" where children who have lost their belongings in a disaster can collect new and gently used toys.

During the ceremony she told the crowd that if people donated just some of what they throw away in the garbage "it could make a real difference in many peoples' lives."

In addition to Hearts Community Service, Harris has volunteered a significant amount of her time to church outreach programs, Chelsea High School band activities, Faith in Action, Friends of the Library and the Chelsea Area Garden Club to name a few.

Will Johnson and Bill Chandler were also recognized during the Dec. 16 ceremony at the Chelsea Comfort Inn & Village Conference Center.

Johnson has served Chelsea Community Hospital in several capacities over the years. He was president of CCH for 23 years, during which he turned the organization around financially and built seamless operating relationships with the University of Michigan Health System and St. Joseph Mercy Health System.

"When you're sick and you're

scared you want to have things figured out for you in advance," Johnson said of the way he envisioned CCH and the other health systems in the region that might typically otherwise have been treated as competitors.

Chandler started a successful work study program in Chelsea while teaching in Milan, a help line for those suffering from depression and spent eight years as a Village Council trustee.

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EMU teaching alumni can enter contest

Supplies and other benefits available

With school budget cuts putting a dent in the classroom experience, Eastern Michigan University is reaching out to help its teaching alumni by offering free classroom supplies

and other benefits through a special program this winter.

The EMU Education First Stimulus package seeks to give EMU's education alumni help where they need it most — in the classroom. The university sent a letter to its 13,000 education alumni members this month urging teachers to enter a drawing for a year's worth of school supplies, or indicate an

interest in other available, useful items.

There is no cost to participate. Teachers can simply send an e-mail before Jan. 15 to education.stimulus@emich.edu and indicate their interest in receiving any or all of the following benefits:

■ Entry into a random drawing for one year's worth of school supplies, such as paper,

pencils and the like (a \$1,000 value) delivered directly to the classroom.

■ EMU-branded pencils, pen-nants and/or posters.

■ EMU-branded hand sanitizers, at one per request for the first 1,000 who respond.

■ An EMU Eagle Discount Program alumni card to receive discounts at more than 125 Ypsilanti-area businesses. Visit

emich.edu/eaglediscount.

"We appreciate all that our education alumni do to help educate tomorrow's leaders, and understand the hardships imposed by tightening budgets," said Ted Coutilish, EMU's associate vice president for marketing. "We wanted to help, so we created the EMU Education First Stimulus package."

Education alumni were also

encouraged to take advantage of practical educational content, tips, podcasts and videos available on two EMU-media partnership programs for teachers, parents and their children. Those are WWJ Radio's (950 AM) "Education Minute," at wwj.com/pages/1924535.php and WXYZ TV's (Channel 7) "Spotlight on Education" at wxyz.com/education.

Gross named to Leaders Council

Douglas Gross, a certified financial planner and financial adviser in Saline at Raymond James Financial Services, has been named to the firm's 2010 Leaders Council in recognition of pro-

viding outstanding guidance and service to the investing public and exemplary professional growth.

Leaders Council honors are presented only to those financial advisers who demonstrate

an extraordinary level of commitment to clients through personal service and professional integrity, according to a news release from Raymond James Financial.

Gross, who joined Raymond

James in 1996, has more than 15 years of financial and investment experience. He offers a comprehensive range of investment planning services for individuals and businesses.

TIPS

FROM PAGE 2-A

to ask when shopping for holiday gifts:

■ Ask the store about its return policy. Can a customer obtain a refund, a store credit, or exchange unwanted merchandise? You will also want to make sure the return time limit doesn't start until Dec. 25 if it's a gift.

■ Ask for a gift receipt and enclose it with the present. Also, don't remove electronics or similar products from their boxes before wrapping as the original packaging may be required for a return.

■ Do not assume the regular return policy applies to sales or clearance items. Some merchants consider sales items to

be final, so ask. If you are the gift-recipient, do not assume you have the right to return or exchange an unwanted present. Like the shopper, you are bound by the merchant's return policy. Health regulations, which can prohibit the return of hats and intimate apparel, also apply.

■ Ask about restocking fees. Some merchants charge a restocking or "open box" fee for returns of electronics products or large-ticket items. Ask if that is their policy. A common amount for a restocking fee can be as high as 25 percent of the purchase.

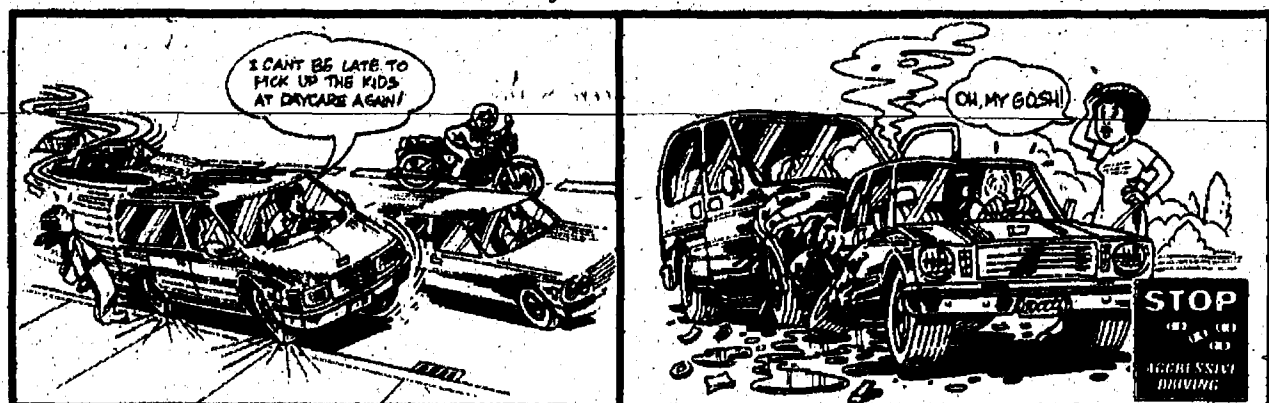
■ Look for a posted return policy when shopping online. If returns are permitted, ask what procedures and timeframe need to be followed.

■ Save your gift receipt. Keep the item in its original packag-

ing and be aware that some merchants charge "open box" or restocking fees. You don't have to brave the crowds the day after Christmas, but don't wait too long to return the item. Pick a time when the store is not likely to be crowded and be polite when talking to customer service. If you are a regular customer, or have a store credit account, mention that fact as you discuss your return options. Merchants are usually willing to accommodate loyal customers.

For more useful tips about holiday shopping and charitable giving, visit the BBB online at www.facebook.com/myBBB or www.bbb.org.

Timothy Burns is public affairs director of the Better Business Bureau. He can be reached at 1-248-799-0353.



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Tips for keeping thieves at bay after the holidays

By Art Aisner
Special Writer

So that holiday gift wasn't exactly on your wish list or may not fit just right.

Or maybe the post-holiday deals are just too enticing to pass up.

Whatever the reason you may find yourself in a busy store come this weekend, local police want to remind shoppers that criminals don't care.

The fact that you're there at all is exactly what will have opportunistic thieves out looking for prey in the days after Christmas just as much as they were before the holiday.

"It's because of the number of people," said Lt. Angella Abrams of the Ann Arbor Police Department. "There's just as much shopping, if not more, in the week after Christmas than in the days leading up to it, and thieves know there will be large crowds of people just about everywhere."

It's primarily why Ann Arbor police will continue the department's common practice of having additional foot and car patrols around the city's most popular shopping areas this weekend, Abrams said.

Matt Harshberger, director of police services for the Pittsfield Township Department of Public Safety, reiterated the importance of shoppers remaining vigilant and prepared in case of an incident while taking advantage of the post-holiday sales.

The police department will respond to situations as needed, and does have one officer dedicated to a special contract to patrol the stores along the Oak Valley Drive corridor through early January, he said.

But they can't hear and see everything, so a lot of how safe you are or at least may feel depends on, well, you, police officials said.

Here's some simple safety precautions police want to remind residents about as the holidays approach.

■ Abrams said be aware that purse snatchers and pickpockets do some of their biggest business during the holiday season, so handbags should not be dangling from your shoulder. Instead, keep purses tightly tucked under your arm or even inside your coat.

■ For men, keep wallets, checkbook, cash, and debit/credit cards in your front pocket.

And avoid carrying them all together in one spot. Any combination of them could wreak havoc on your bank accounts and credit card bill in a very short amount of time.

■ Police recommend using the trunk of your car for gifts, or keeping them concealed, if possible, in the back of sports utility vehicle, to keep your packages out of sight.

■ Don't be afraid to get that extra exercise by making multiple trips to your vehicle on rather large shopping outings. Shoppers overburdened with packages, heavy bags and a multitude of other possible distractions, such as cell phones and texting devices, make easy targets for crooks.

■ Stay aware of your surroundings and walk with authority. Sometimes giving the impression that you're passive makes for a tempting target.

■ Always keep the doors locked, and if you're willing to fight for parking, it's not a bad idea to move your vehicle once you've loaded it with gifts and want to continue shopping.

Abrams said many a criminal have been known to patient-

ly wait in parking lots for the right opportunity.

"Parking lots are not the place to be fumbling with a wallet, or cash, or updating your checkbook. Do that from the comforts of your own home," said Abrams.

She also recommended keeping the doors locked, even while sitting in the car to lessen the possibility of being surprised by a robber or car-jacker.

■ When leaving the vehicle, make sure to remove any items of value out of sight, including GPS systems, cell phones, laptops and any associated cords.

■ Keeping a log of the serial numbers, brand name, model and cost of those electrical devices may also help police recover the items if they are stolen.

■ Do not leave remote garage opening controls openly displayed in your car either because that can make your

home become the next target.

Keeping homes safe is just as much a priority during the holidays, when most crooks expect people to vacation or at least be away for long stretches of time, Abrams said.

Locking doors and windows is the first step, but there are some other easy ways to prevent becoming a burglary victim include:

■ If planning a long trip, use light timers to keep the perception that someone is home at various times.

■ Don't leave drapes or shades open with gift packages in plain view. Though a decorative sight around a Christmas tree, they're also tempting to prowlers.

■ Have a neighbor or friend pick up the newspaper or mail, or have those services stopped temporarily while you're away.

■ Also encourage a neighbor to park in the driveway and shovel snow from the drive and

sidewalk, if necessary.

■ Residents who choose to have a live tree should remember to always keep it properly watered. Also, never leave tree lights on when no one is at home and keep in mind that ornaments are flammable.

Once the gifts are opened, police also encouraged residents not to dispose of the boxes for bigger-ticket electronic items in the driveway with the trash.

You'll be saving the environment, while, at the same time, not painting a target on your back.

"No boxes on the curb. It lets people know what's in there and tells everyone what you've got that's brand new," Abrams said. "That's exactly what the criminals are looking for."

Wiser to break the boxes down and take them to the Washtenaw County area's recycling center at 2950 E. Ellsworth Road.

Yoga Day set for Jan. 23

Yoga Day USA is an annual event where the yoga community comes together to share the health and wellness benefits of yoga by donating time to host free or low-cost workshops around the country.

Yoga Day USA at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital will take place from 9 a.m. to noon Jan. 23 at Ellen Thompson Women's Health Center located on the campus of St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor.

Participants will join novices, couch potatoes, athletes, young, old and everyone in between to stretch mind, body and spirit through the practice of yoga.

Keeping with the practice of karma yoga, the workshop is a fundraising event for Catherine's House, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital's local charity

that provides emergency food and clothing for employees in need. Donations are accepted the day of the event by cash or check. Suggested donation is \$10 for an individual or \$20 per family.

Light refreshments and raffle drawings are included. Space

is limited and registration is required for each session separately. Sessions will run 45 minutes each.

For workshop schedule and registration, call 712-3583 or visit www.sjmercyhealth.org and click on "Classes and Events."

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Friends of Michigan Animal Rescue create happy tales

Facility is home to about 80 animals

By Gerald LaVaute
Heritage Newspapers

The dogs that greet visitors to the animal shelter are a lively bunch. They bark, pacing back and forth with tails wagging, as the visitors make their way to the site after parking in a gravel lot.

The main structure is like a pole barn, high on function and utility, low on aesthetics. But it's clean, well illuminated and welcoming to two- and four-legged creatures alike.

This is home to about 80 animals, and the shorter their stay, the better, because the goal for each of them is a loving home.

Pete and Marcy LaFramboise have run the Friends of Michigan Animal Rescue for seven years.

Marcy, 54, said that when Pete retired from General Motors Corp. in 2002, he had always liked animals and together they came up with the idea for a post-retirement activity that would help keep him busy.

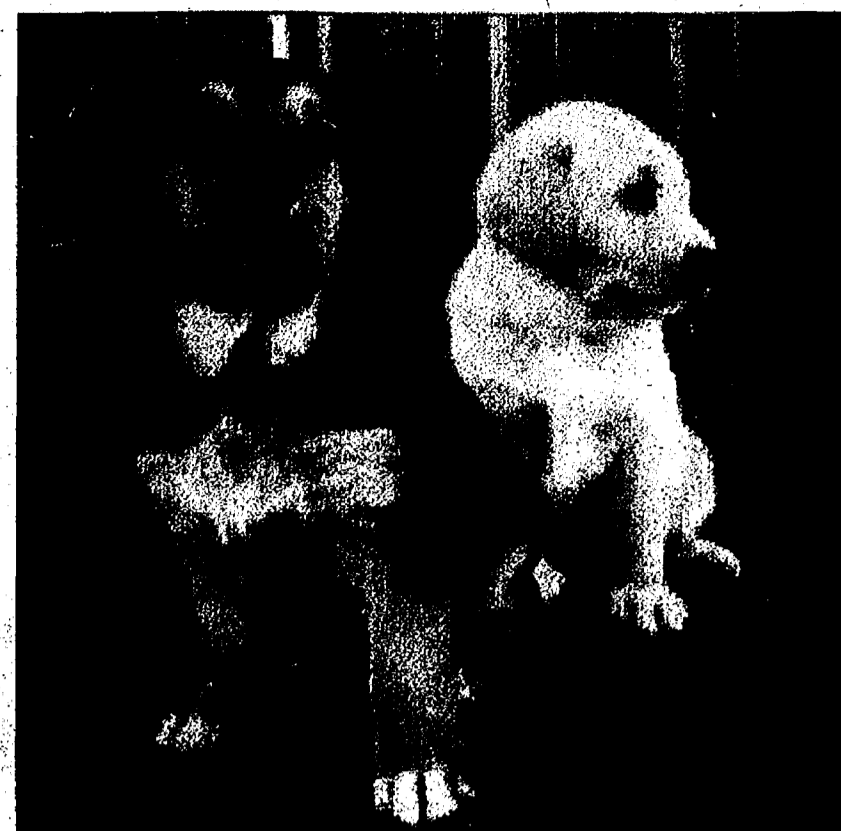
And has it ever. They started by volunteering for the Humane Association of Huron Valley, where, Marcy said, they learned many things, including testing animals for illness and administering vaccinations.

But, with their help, Marcy also learned how to conquer a lifelong fear of animals, helpful with a job like hers.

Marcy also has a full-time job with Ford Component Sales, a subsidiary of Ford Motor Co. It sells automotive parts and systems to aftermarket suppliers of specialized vehicles like limousines.

When they became sufficiently confident to take on the challenge, the couple sold their home and bought a house at 51299 Arkona Road in Sumpter Township. The property also featured two barns, and it's there that the animals are sheltered.

A third barn was moved to their property recently, and Pete said that they hope to move all the cats into the renovated facility by the end of summer 2010.



Two puppies available for adoption at the shelter are Mary (left) and Joseph (right) in the background on the right.

There are currently about 70 cats and 10 dogs at the shelter run by the Friends of Michigan Animal Rescue, or FMAR, as it's known. Marcy said they keep about five more dogs and three cats in their house. The dogs are either too ill or too occasionally aggressive to place in homes.

Upon entering the back room of the living quarters for the cats, there's an area surrounded by a tall chain link fence that contains maybe 10 to 20 cats. This, Pete said, is the Teen Room, so called because the cats that occupy it are older than kittens, but younger than mature cats.

They are too large and too strong to play with the kittens, but their everyday level of activity is still so high that they likely would annoy the mature adults, who are kept in a separate enclosed room a few feet away.

To the right of the Teen Room, across the aisle, is where the kittens are kept. Pete said that the first cage was home to two 6-month-old sisters who had feline leukemia, and were separated from the others.

Later in the week, one of the cats died from the illness, said Vic Franzoi, a volunteer.

Franzoi said that he played with the cats on his most recent visit, trying to cheer them up, but noticed that the one who died recently appeared to have lost a lot of weight, and he was concerned for her.

Marcy said about 40 volunteers are actively involved in tasks ranging from cleaning and exercising the animals, to applying computer skills to help with the communications and fundraising efforts. The volunteers are individuals in many cases, but in some instances whole families volunteer to help.

FMAR's annual budget is \$150,000, Marcy said, and they count on several types of activities to raise funds for their operation. Included among these is the annual Cinco de Mayo celebration and fundraiser in May at the PNA Hall on Sumpter Road.

The biggest fundraiser, Marcy said, is a newsletter published quarterly. A recent copy featured high-quality paper, full-color photos and 16 pages of information ranging from recent FMAR activities, profiles of the animals at the shelter, profiles of volunteers, updates of animals who have recently been adopted, an events calendar, a reflection titled "A Pet's



Marcy and Pete LaFramboise play with the cats in the Teen Room.

Ten Commandments," and even an obituary for a beloved cat at the shelter who was unable to survive bladder surgery.

The newsletter, Marcy said, is the organization's biggest fundraiser. It's mailed every three months to 2,600 subscribers, who also receive a small envelope for a donation.

The shelter is accountable to an eight-person board of directors.

The rescue uses as a veterinarian at the Michigan Avenue Animal Hospital in Ypsilanti, operated by Dr. Ajaib Dhaliwal. Pete LaFramboise said FMAR receives a discount for veterinary services for the animals.

There are many happy tales at the rescue. Marcy said in one case a cat had survived Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans and was sent to the shelter for placement. The shelter, which puts photographs of its animals online, connected with the cat's family. Several e-mails between New Orleans and Belleville were exchanged, and resulted in the cat being positively identified as belonging to the family.

Shortly thereafter, the cat was

placed on an American Airlines flight bound for home to the family who loved it enough to search and find it hundreds of miles away.

At Christmas, Marcy said the rescue selects a family wishing to adopt a pet for a free adoption, and sometimes includes toys for the kids and Christmas dinner for the family.

To adopt a pet, visit the shelter on Arkona Road, call 461-9458, or e-mail Vb-petlover@comcast.net.

The cost for adoption is \$80 per cat or \$150 per dog (\$175 for a pure breed). The price includes all vaccinations, neutering and a microchip in the animal to help locate the pet in case it gets lost.

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At left, Pudge is six weeks old, and will be ready for adoption in two weeks.



At right, Shadow is Pudge's littermate.

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EMU ATHLETICS PREPARES FOR BUSY TWO WEEKS
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YPSILANTI, Mich. (EMUEagles.com) — The Eastern Michigan University men's and women's basketball programs will provide plenty of home competition over the holiday break.

Head Coach **Charles E. Ramsey's** men's team will have two home games while Head Coach **AnnMarie Gilbert's** women's club will host three games, including the 2009-10 Mid-American Conference season opener.

The men's basketball team is set to host Northwood University, Wednesday, Dec. 30, followed by a second non-conference game against Chicago State, Sunday, Jan. 3.

The women's squad will host Cleveland State Tuesday, Dec. 29, followed by a Monday, Jan. 4, home game against North Dakota before opening the MAC season Wednesday, Jan. 6, in the Convocation Center against Central Michigan.

In addition to the men's and women's basketball programs, the men's and women's indoor track teams will open their 2010 seasons Saturday, Jan. 9, at the EMU Open in Bowen Field House.

Following is a breakdown of home EMU athletic events from Dec. 29-Jan. 9.

EMU HOME ATHLETIC EVENTS (Dec. 29-Jan. 9)		
Dec. 29	W. BASKETBALL HOME, CLEVELAND STATE	7 p.m.
Dec. 30	M. BASKETBALL HOME, NORTHWOOD	7 p.m.
Jan. 3	M. BASKETBALL HOME, CHICAGO STATE	2 p.m.
Jan. 4	W. BASKETBALL HOME, NORTH DAKOTA	7 p.m.
Jan. 6	W. BASKETBALL HOME, CENTRAL MICHIGAN*	7 p.m.
Jan. 9	M. INDOOR TRACK	HOME, EMU OPEN
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	Bob Parks Track	All day

MEDLOCK, DOBBINS, BOWDRY CLIMB EMU CAREER LADDER: The EMU men's basketball trio of Carlos Medlock (Detroit, Mich.-Murray Wright), Justin Dobbins (Cleveland, Ohio-Glennville), and Brandon Bowdry (St. Louis, Mo.-Taylor (Mich.) Truman) are all making major moves up the EMU career rankings in scoring, rebounding and three-point shooting. Medlock is now 21st in career scoring with 1,167 points while Bowdry has moved up to 33rd with 936 and Dobbins is 38th at 847. Bowdry has 512 career rebounds for 21st while Dobbins is 36th in rebounding with 424 and Medlock is 70th at 247. Medlock is the sixth-ranked three-point shooter with 158 career triples and is 10th in career assists at 325. Medlock is the 12th player in school history to reach 300 career assists while Bowdry is the 22nd player to grab 500+ career rebounds.

www.emueagles.com

Corvette rolls power, handling, affordability into package

By Russ Heaps

Journal Register Newspapers

Achieving iconic status is both a plus and a minus for Chevrolet's Corvette.

On one hand, it's an aspirational vehicle for untold numbers of "boy racers." On the other hand, it's been "America's sports car" for such a long time, many among younger generations of enthusiasts pass it over as being an "old man's" car.

As recently as last year, I overheard a young automotive blogger blathering about how Corvette's time had passed and that today's performance enthusiasts are better served by Nissan's GT-R, Mitsubishi's Lancer Evo and Subaru's WRX.

He bragged about panning the Corvette in his blogs at every opportunity, in spite of the fact that he admitted he'd never been behind the wheel of one. Welcome to the power of the blog.

Watching this automotive know-it-all choke on a heaping helping of crow after putting in some actual wheel time in a Corvette at GM's full-line media preview in Dallas, Texas last year was nearly as much fun as putting the new Cadillac CTS-V through its paces.

His effusive praise for the Corvette and unbridled wonder over an American carmaker's ability to produce so much performance at such a competitive price was almost embarrassing to witness.

The lesson is that despite its long history — some of it not always terribly distinguished — the Corvette still has the ability to awe. It rolls power, handling, comfort and affordability into a single package. It's a speed merchant that's comfortable enough to serve as a daily driver and delivers better fuel economy than its neck-snapping 0-60 time gives anyone the right to expect.

Chevrolet recently provided a Corvette Grand Sport for a 1,500-mile driveabout that began in Greenville, S.C. with stops in Louisville, Ky.; Toledo, Ohio; and Nashville, Tenn. before ending in Atlanta. Whether slingshotting around the twist-

ies of I-40 between Asheville and Knoxville, motorizing by the Corvette plant in Bowling Green, Ky., or simply pounding up the water-slick asphalt of I-75 through Ohio during hours of torrential downpour, the Corvette performed brilliantly.

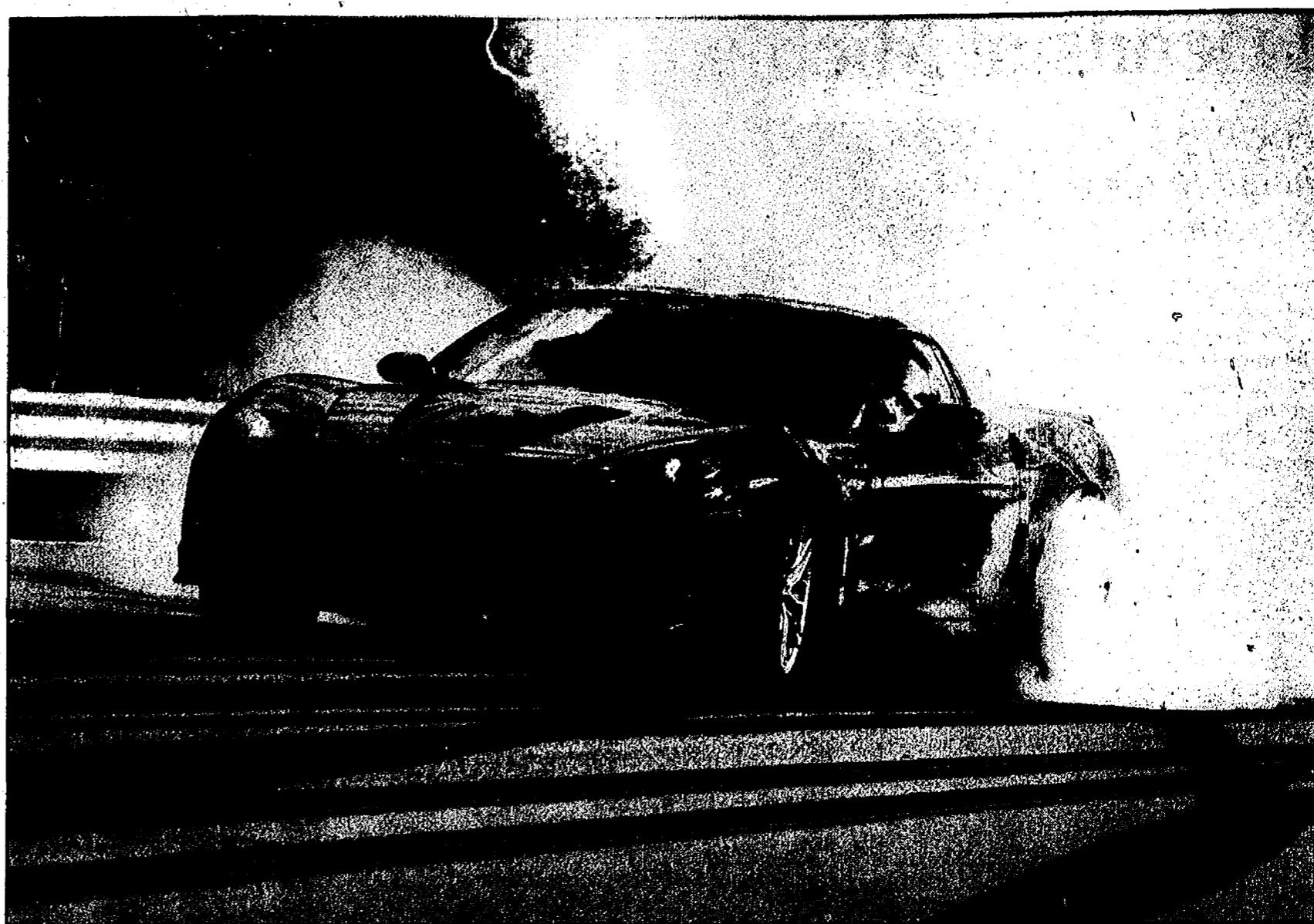
On a trip that was overwhelmingly interstate driving, this Corvette bested its EPA-estimated highway fuel economy number, getting 27 mpg rather than the estimated 26 mpg. In city driving, it delivered on the EPA's promise of 16 mpg.

The GS is a new Corvette model. It doesn't replace a model from last year, but more or less expands on the Z51 Performance Package option offered on last year's base Corvette and discontinued for 2010.

Side-impact airbags are standard in all Corvettes, as are 4-wheel antilock brakes, traction control and electronic brakeforce distribution.

Four trim levels from LT1 to LT4 bring an ever increasing number of standard features and a sticker that escalates from the GS base of \$55,720 to the GS LT4 at \$63,425. For that premium price you get two-toned leather interior, heated multi-adjustable power seats with lumbar and side bolster adjustments, full power accessories, heads-up display, keyless entry and start, power telescoping steering wheel, dual-zone automatic climate control, OnStar, and a 7-speaker Bose-infused audio system with XM satellite radio, CD player and auxiliary input jack.

Shelling out more money for the ZO6 (\$19,515) or the ZR1 (\$52,110) will translate into quicker 0-60 and quarter-mile times, but most mortals will be quite satisfied with the performance experience of the GS. Very few cars can keep up with the GS and most of those that can, cost thousands of dollars more. As the sweet exhaust note filters into the cockpit under hard acceleration, you can't help but grin. This level of value and performance is rare indeed.



It's a speed merchant that's comfortable enough to serve as a daily driver and delivers better fuel economy than its neck-snapping 0-60 time gives anyone the right to expect.



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CONLEY, ROBERT N., age 94; went to be with our Lord on December 15, 2009. He lived and worked as a carpenter in Fenton, from 1947 to 1963. He was a member of the Fenton Methodist Church and served on the Old Time Dance Committee that held dances at the Community Center. He moved to Saline, MI, in 1963 and worked in the Carpenter Shop at EMU, until his retirement. Bob was a special person who was loved and respected by all who knew him. He is survived by his loving wife of 68 years, Gertrude; daughters, Nicki Alvesteffer of Jenison, MI, and Sherry Eversole of Manchester, MI; grandchildren, Bob Alvesteffer, Ted Conley and Traci Snyder; Robert also leaves eight great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, George and Agnes, his sister, Ila Mae Westcoat, half-brother, Henry Rouse, and half-sister, Elinor Rouse. A Memorial Service was held Friday, December 18. Memorial Contributions may be made to Odyssey Vistacare Hospice Foundation, 717 N. Harwood St., Ste. 1500, Dallas, TX 75201. Share memories at www.legacyfuneralhome.com



EVILSIZER, FAY, age 82; of Manchester; passed away December 16, 2009 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. He was born on July 30, 1927 the son of Benjamin and Josephine (Murphy) Evilsizer. He worked at Ford Motor Company as an inspector until his retirement in 1985, and was also a member of the UAW 892. Fay enjoyed farming, hunting, horse racing, going to the casino and spending time with his family. Fay is survived by 3 step-children: Terry (Michelle) Brown, Jerry Brown, and Pam Brown; loving companion of 25 years Udean "Dee" Richardson and her daughters Lisa (Gary) Brighton, Sherry (Roger) Johncox; foster son Bob (Connie) Barth; brother Jack Evilsizer; 18 grandchildren; 30 great grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife Maxine Sturdevant, 3 brothers Benjamin, James, and Raymond, 3 sisters Ione, Erma, and Betty. In honor of Fay, memorial donations may be given to St. Joseph Mercy Health Systems. Envelopes will be available at Borek Jennings Funeral Home, Jenter Chapel, Manchester where the family will receive friends on Sunday December 20, 2009 from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. A Healing Farewell Service will take place on Monday, December 21, 2009 at Borek Jennings Funeral Home, Jenter Chapel, Manchester beginning at 11 a.m. with Pastor Bobby Toler officiating. Interment will follow at Lenawee Hills Memorial Gardens in Tecumseh. Please sign Fay's guest book at www.BorekJennings.com or leave a message of comfort for his family by calling 1-877-231-7900.

POLAND, DUANE EDWARD, SR., age 87; of Brighton; died December 16, 2009, in the loving care of his family. In 1988, Duane retired as the elevator mechanic from the University of Michigan. Duane served his country bravely in the 82nd Airborne, 325th Glider Infantry, Company L, W.W.II October 1940 to September 1945; he was a very proud and highly decorated veteran and an active member at the Brighton VFW Post #4357 and the American Legion. Duane was preceded in death by his granddaughter, Tammy Bough (d. 2007), and brother, Geordie Poland. Duane is survived by his loving children, Duane (Teresa) Poland, Jr., Nancy (Edward) Lobdell, Lois Poland, Tim Poland, Sharon (the late Herb Wright) LaPorte, Thomas (Viktoria) Poland and Theresa Poland; 12 grandchildren; 17 great grandchildren; siblings, Betty (the late Thurlow) Rayment, Suzanne, Joyce, Nina and Jim; also many nieces, nephews and dear friends. Funeral was from Lynch & Sons Funeral Directors, 600 East Main St., Brighton, Saturday, December 19, 10 a.m. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery. Friends visited Friday, 2 to 9 p.m. For further information, please call 810-229-2905 or visit www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

HERTLER, CHARLES C. "Charlie"; Sand Creek, MI; age 54; passed away suddenly at his home on Sunday, December 20, 2009. He was born February 19, 1955, in Saline to Willard C. and Constance (McCarthy) Hertler. On July 27, 1996 in Saline, he married Deborah Gallatin and she survives. Charlie was a member of St. James United Church of Christ in Saline Twp. He collected farm toys and enjoyed repainting and restoring them. He was a member of the Sons of the American Legion in Saline. He had been employed by Versum Farms in Manchester for many years. He had also been employed as Street Foreman in Saline, retiring in 2000. Survivors include his mother, Constance Strait; a son Joshua (Kate Feldkamp) Hertler; a sister Dona (Richard) Jelele; special friends, Sheryl and Jeff Feldkamp, Lawrence Chatterton, and Jerry Hill; a granddaughter, MacKenzie Hertler; a nephew Kevin (Carrie) Versum; a niece Kelli (Jonah) Jeffrey; a special nephew Jeff (Tracy) Feldkamp II; a special niece Jennifer (Kevin) Dubnicki; great niece Addyson Versum; and a great nephew Jonah Jeffrey, Jr. He was preceded in death by his father, step-father, Mike Strait, grandparents, Carl and Frieda Hertler and Charles and Ruth McCarthy, and a nephew, Ryan Wood in infancy. Funeral Services will be held on Wednesday, December 23, 2009 at 11 a.m. at St. James United Church of Christ in Saline Twp., MI with Rev. David Bucholtz, officiating. Burial will follow at St. James Cemetery, Saline Twp., MI. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, December 22, 2009 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Robison-Bahn Miller Funeral Home in Saline, and at the Church on Wednesday, December 23, 2009 from 10 a.m. until time of Service at 11 a.m. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Lenawee, the American Cancer Society, or the American Legion of Saline. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home and at the Church. To sign Charles' guestbook or to leave a memory please visit www.rbfhsaline.com or www.mlive.com.

NIKOLAUS GUGENHEIMER; Chelsea, Michigan; age 84; went to be with his Lord Monday, December 21, 2009; at his home. He was born August 30, 1925 in Neu-Hochstadt, Ukraine, the son of Jakob and Ida (Eva) Gugenheimer. Mr. Gugenheimer came to the US with his wife Helene and daughter Gabriela in 1956. After retiring from GM, where he worked for more than 32 years, he moved to Chelsea in 1990. Always a Christian, he was born-again in 1978. He was very active with the Full Gospel Businessman Fellowship, sharing the message of salvation both here and abroad. After coming to Chelsea, Nikolaus was active in the prison ministry at Cassidy Lake, until his health declined. He was a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Chelsea. On January 6, 1951, he married Helene Gerok in Nurtlingen am Neckar, West Germany, and she survives. Other survivors include his daughter, Gabriela (David) McCubrey of Ann Arbor; his granddaughters, Alexandra and Elizabeth; a sister, Martha Hoffman of Des Plaines, IL; a brother, Robert (Marta) Gugenheimer of Germany; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his infant son, Ralph; and his sister, Lilly Sembler. His answering machine message proclaims, "Praise the Lord, this is the day the Lord has made, so rejoice, again I say rejoice, Jesus loves you." A Celebration of his Life will be held Wednesday, December 23, 2009 2 p.m. at Our Savior Lutheran Church, Chelsea, with Rev. Dale Grimm officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Our Savior Lutheran Church or the National Kidney Foundation. Arrangements were handled by Cole Funeral Chapel, Chelsea.

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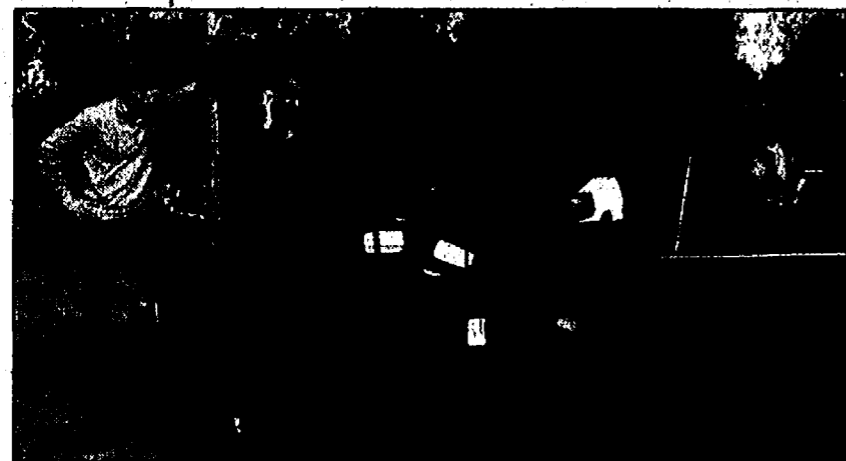
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Motorists can give their families the gift of safety this season

As families get ready for annual holiday road trips, motorists should perform some simple car maintenance checks to protect their families from an unexpected roadside breakdown during the coldest time of the year.

Checking and replacing components such as belts and hoses, spark plugs and antifreeze at the correct time and mileage intervals for your vehicle could mean the difference between a \$5 part or replacing a \$3,000 engine.

Poorly maintained cars and trucks lead to thousands of traffic accidents each year.

According to the National Car Care Council, the cost of accidents caused by vehicles that are not properly maintained is more than \$2 billion annually.

Cooling system failures are the No. 1 cause of engine-related roadside breakdowns.

"Nobody likes being stranded on the highway, yet so many motorists wait until their cars break down to perform needed maintenance," said AutoZone spokesperson Sarah "Bogi" Lateiner, ASE certified Master Mechanic and owner of 180 Automotive. "The engine cooling system is one of the most

important yet most neglected systems in a vehicle. Replacing antifreeze at regular intervals keeps the vehicle from overheating and provides freeze protection during colder months."

Bad belts and hoses are the second most common cause of roadside breakdowns.

"It's easy to neglect your car's engine, especially when there's no visible sign of trouble," Lateiner said. "Hoses for example, usually wear from the inside out and won't always show signs of wear. That makes it even more important for motorists to proactively check and replace parts such as belts and hoses and spark plugs at regular intervals. These parts are readily available at automotive retailers such as AutoZone."

Replace spark plugs to get better performance and fuel economy.

"Driving around with a worn spark plug is equivalent to throwing gas money out your exhaust pipe, Lateiner said. "As spark plugs burn out, they do not burn fuel as cleanly, so it's important to replace them as your vehicle manual specifies."

—Courtesy of ARAcontent

Does hands-free system cause a distraction?

Q: I want to say something about cell phone usage in cars, specifically about your recent comments about how unsafe it is. I have a hands-free system in my Mercedes and I've used it for more than a year with no difficulty. I find that it's just like talking with someone who's in the car with me and don't feel I'm distracted in any way while I'm talking. I don't like "experts" telling me what I can and cannot do and I don't like the way people are categorizing the cell phone companies as complicit in the crashes that take place while some people are using cell phones. It seems to me that the problem is individuals, not the public at large. What do you say about that?

A: I agree with only one point you made that I didn't mention:

ASK DR. CRANKSHAFT



LES JACKSON

that certain individuals are such incompetent drivers that they shouldn't have licenses, much less be allowed to talk on cell phones. As for the general public, I'm sure you feel that

you're not distracted by using your hands-free phone while driving, but every study done so far (by universities, insurance companies and NHTSA) disagrees with you. Specifically, the amount a driver is distracted while talking on a cell phone is dependent upon the length of the conversation. Studies show that short conversations have little or no effect on the driver's concentration but longer conversations take the driver's mind away from the road and too often, reaction times are greatly lengthened. The majority of tests done with professional drivers and volunteers have shown that the resultant lack of focus is very similar to driving after a couple of alcoholic drinks. Those are the facts, so we'll just have to agree to disagree on this issue.

Q: Is there any way to pull out my car's radio without setting off the theft-disabling function? My owners' manual says that removing the radio unit from the dash will cause the system to become inoperable if installed in another vehicle — even if it's put back into my own. I need to pull the unit to get to some under-dash components for repairs and I'm reluctant to try to do this until I know how to un-disable the radio. Thanks.

A: You can pull out the stereo and get the serial number off the unit. Contact the dealership and they should be able to give you an enabling code to allow the system to work once it's reinstalled. You'll have to

be able to prove that you own the car, of course, and maybe have to pay a fee for the code retrieval but if you're lucky, they might do it for nothing.

Q: Does anybody make foolproof jumper cables? I've heard horror stories about people helping jump start a car and destroying the engine computers and other electrical items. I get confused looking at some batteries and I can't easily tell which is the positive and which is the negative terminal, not to mention whether the ground should be to the car's body or the battery ground. When will somebody make a set of cables that anyone can use without making a mistake?

—Anonymous

A: I just tested Michelin's new "Smart Cables" and they work like a charm. The cables (all four clamps are blue, so there's no guessing about which one goes where) have a microprocessor embedded that figures out how the two vehicles should be connected and routes the current appropriately. It also has a surge protection device that prevents voltage spikes from ruining any electrical equipment. I found them to work perfectly and recommend them highly, although you'll have to fork out about \$50 for a set.

Dr. Crankshaft is an automotive writer, radio host and restorer Les Jackson. Send your questions to Dr. Crankshaft at nusan.dboits@journalregister.com; please include your name and a location.



Expert offers tips to take stress out of winter driving

With winter weather arriving in many parts of the country, drivers are bracing themselves for potentially treacherous road conditions. Bridgestone Americas' team of winter driving and tire experts offer tips each year to help ease some of the anxiety that comes with getting behind the wheel during inclement weather.

Mark Cox, General Manager of Bridgestone's Winter Driving School, offers up these strategic tips to keep drivers and passengers out of harm's way this winter.

■ Use winter tires in winter conditions. An all-season tire is a compromise that can't perform as well as a winter tire. If your car has all-season tires, remember that the car in front of you may have winter tires and be able to stop up to 50 percent faster.

■ Suspension. Shocks and struts are critical to handling, and every bit of vehicle performance helps on ice and snow. Worn shocks or struts can cause excessive weight transfer, which reduces the ability of the tires to grip the road.

■ Have your battery tested before winter arrives. Even new batteries can lose as much as 40 percent of their cold-cranking ability in cold weather, and worn batteries lose even more.

■ Check exhaust system for

leaks. Carbon monoxide is a silent killer.

■ Winter wiper blades. Replace worn wiper blades with new winter blades. Many drivers replace the wiper blades annually when they put on their snow tires.

■ Check for snow and ice in the wheel wells. Snow and ice in wheel wells could be detrimental to the control and health of your vehicle. Clear out any snow with a durable scraper. To help prevent snow build up on a slushy day, spray the wheel wells with silicone.

■ Know your car, know your brakes. In everyday driving situations, cars with both anti-lock brakes (ABS) and traditional braking systems are basically identical. In an emergency stopping situation, two distinctly different techniques are required. With traditional brakes, the cadence, or pumping technique, is effective, but the driver must lift off of the brake if steering is required to avoid an obstacle. The beauty of ABS is that pressing the brake pedal as hard as possible and holding it there allows the computer to pump the brakes while still maintaining some steering effectiveness. Remember that ABS can't perform miracles.

■ Be alert at intersections and on hills. Intersections and hills are typically the most slip-

pery portions of the roadway. With numerous drivers braking in the same area, ice becomes ultra-smooth and polished. In the case of hills, drivers may be spinning tires in the same area with an identical result.

■ When driving at night. Leave headlights on low beam when driving in snow and fog. This practice minimizes reflection and glare, improves visibility, and reduces eye fatigue. When oncoming cars approach, focus on the right side of the roadway to help maintain good vision.

■ Learn to read the terrain. Bridges and overpasses ice over faster than normal roads because they don't have the warmth of the earth underneath them. Shady areas cool more quickly than areas in full sun. At dusk or the onset of a winter storm, take notice of areas that never get direct sun and expect ice there. The shadows from large trees, buildings, mountains and even billboards can cause isolated icy spots. With just a bit of practice, drivers can identify these problem spots in advance.

■ Use floor mats for traction. The floor mats of most vehicles can be used as a tool if you're stuck. Simply turn the mats upside down and place them under the drive wheels as a traction aid.

— Courtesy of ARAcontent

Are premium products worth the extra cost?

When does it make sense to upgrade to a premium automotive product? That's a question that stumps a lot of people when confronted with the wide range of prices for seemingly comparable products.

"Small steps that motorists take today can go a long way toward improving the safety and reliability of their vehicles," the Car Care Council says. Here are a few tips on common automotive product categories to help you make informed decisions.

Gasoline

Engines are designed to use a particular grade/octane of gasoline. Some consumers purchase a higher octane gasoline thinking that it's better for the car. However, there is no substantial benefit in using a higher octane than recommended by the manufacturer. In fact, if you paid 40 cents a gallon extra to purchase super premium gas as opposed to regular, that would cost you an additional \$320 a year (assuming 12,000 miles driven and 15 mpg).

The bottom line: Don't use a higher octane rating than recommended by the car's manufacturer.

Motor oil

There have been substantial improvements in lubrication technology over the past few years. The longer oil life of high performance synthetic motor oil allows for extended oil drains which save time and money, and reduce the impact on the environment.

Additionally, some performance synthetic oils such as Royal Purple have been reported to improve mileage as much as 3 percent or more. Three percent may not seem significant, but it can result in hundreds of dollars in savings throughout the year.

The bottom line: Upgrade to a high performance synthetic motor oil for extended oil drains and improved fuel economy.

Wiper blades

The climate where you live is the critical factor in determining the value of upgrading to a premium wiper. There is a noticeable performance difference in low cost wiper blades versus those specifically designed for rainy and snowy climates. Premium wiper blades are significantly sturdier and

more durable than low-priced blades.

The bottom line: Rainy and snowy climates justify spending a few dollars more for a premium wiper blades.

Oil filters

Inexpensive filters are typically made with the 3,000 mile interval in mind. These filters often use low-quality paper media for filtration and they deteriorate rapidly after 3,000 miles. The new generation of high performance premium oil filters from manufacturers such as K&N, Royal Purple and others allow for extended oil drain intervals. For example, Royal Purple uses a proprietary long-life, micro-glass media that provides protection for 12,000 miles. It also provides an increased level of protection due to the density of the filtration. You can find out more at www.royalpurple.com.

The bottom line: Upgrade to a premium oil filter if you plan to extend oil drain intervals or if you operate your vehicle in extreme conditions such as dusty environments or cold weather climates.

— Courtesy of ARAcontent

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Keep your car running at its best

In today's economic times, it's more important than ever to protect the investment in your vehicle — whether it's a vintage collector, luxury car or an everyday car. Yet, there are many misconceptions about car maintenance that make it difficult to know how to best keep your car in good running condition. Properly maintaining the engine and using high-quality fuel in the right grade will go a long way to help protect the life of your vehicle.

Here are a few useful tips from Shell Oil Products U.S. that separate fact from fuel fiction:

Regular maintenance will help keep your vehicle running longer and can help save money at the pump: Fact

Keeping up on regular car care services, such as changing the engine air filter, oil changes and transmission checkups, can help your vehicle run more efficiently and avoid major expenses in the future — no matter how old your car is. Following a vehicle manufacturer's motor oil recommendation can improve gasoline mileage by 1 to 2 percent. Be sure to look

for motor oil that says "Energy Conserving" on the API performance symbol to ensure it contains friction-reducing additives. Keeping your engine properly tuned can improve gas mileage by an average of 4 percent. Also, finding and correcting smaller mechanical problems before they turn into bigger ones can help save you money in the long run.

All gasolines are the same: Myth

In addition to basic vehicle maintenance, gasoline choice plays a vital role in the cleanliness and performance of an engine. So if you've been using lower-quality gasolines in your vehicle, it is important to clean up the gunk left behind in your engine. Gunk, also known as carbon deposits, can begin to build up in as little as 5,000 miles.

Audi, BMW, General Motors, Honda, Toyota and Volkswagen believe that TOP TIER detergent gasolines will help keep engines cleaner than gasolines containing only the Lowest Additive Concentration (LAC) set by government standards. Using high-quality, TOP TIER gasolines

like Shell Nitrogen Enriched Gasolines can help protect your engine against gunk and keep it performing at its best. For more information, visit www.passionate-experts.shell.com.

Octane levels in fuel don't really make a difference: Myth

You probably associate octane with the numbers you see at the pump, but the technical explanation for octane is a fuel's ability to resist engine knock. If you use a lower octane fuel in an engine designed to use higher octane, engine knocking may occur, causing the car to shudder and lose performance. Most modern engines can sense knocking and go into a "safe mode" in order to protect the engine from serious damage, yet can reduce its ability to perform at its best.

Properly maintaining your engine is an important component in helping protect the life of a vehicle. Making these smaller, daily choices can help you to drive your vehicle longer, keeping more money in your pocket down the road.

— Courtesy of ARAcontent

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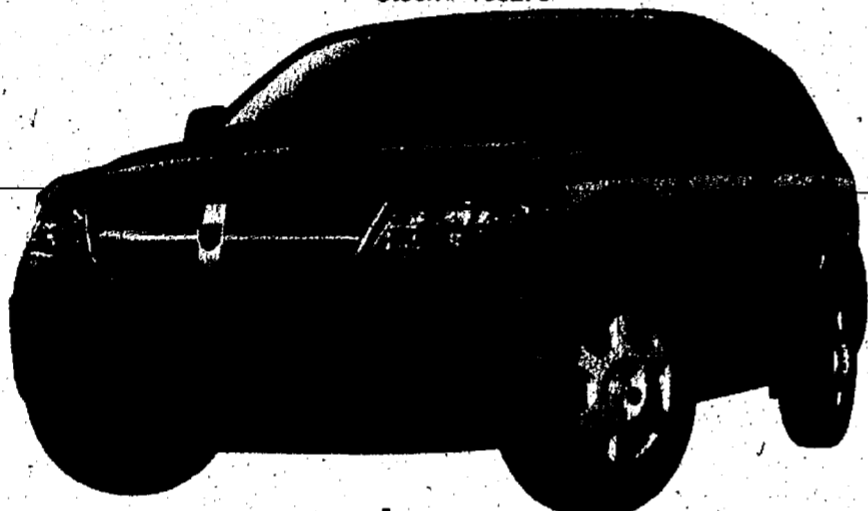
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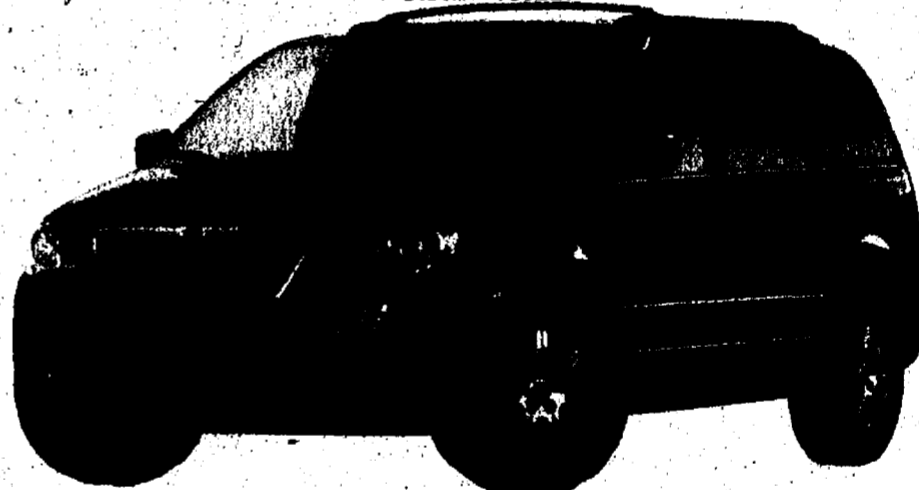
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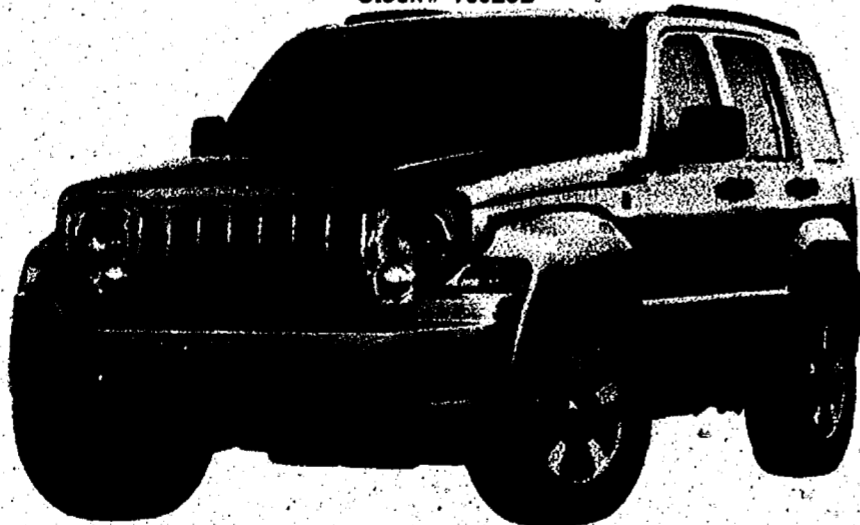
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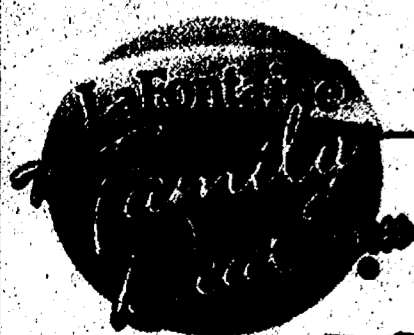


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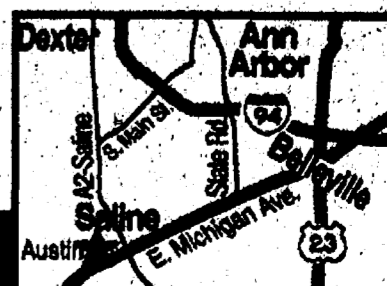
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Chelsea places first at meet

WRESTLING

By Don Richter
Heritage Newspapers

Chelsea's JV wrestling team finished first at a tournament in Adrian Dec. 12.

Scoring for the Bulldogs against Temperance Bedford were Avery Osentoski (125 pounds), Alan Longworth (130), Chris Millen (152), Luke St. Pierre (160) and Michael Hovater (171).

Scoring for Chelsea in the Adrian match were Travis Nichols (112), Nate Miller (119), Jake Brown (135), Steven Scibor (140), Chad Hill (145), Alex Beaumont (152), Jay Szcodronski (189), Dean Kempf (heavyweight), Osentoski (125), Longworth (130) and Hovater (160).

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Beach ends season at 6-6

BASKETBALL

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The Bulldogs missed 21 free throws in the game.

Leading Beach was Scott Crews with 11 points.

Matt Caffrey added seven points, while Tim Mantel had six points and Bailey Weatherwax, Aidan Fahle, Ethan Whitaker and Ryan Hilbert each finished with two points for Chelsea.

Also playing an all around fine game for the Bulldogs was Brandon Alder.

On Dec. 16, Chelsea defeated host Adrian 29-16 in its regular season finale.

Caffrey paced the Bulldogs (6-6) with 16 points.

Crews chipped in nine points, while Fahle had eight points, Mantel six points and Josh Bach and Whitaker four points apiece.

Aaron Strucki and Hilbert each ended up with two points.

On Dec. 9, Beach lost to Saline 25-20.

Fahle led the Bulldogs with 11 points, while Crews had nine points.

Hilbert chipped in five points, while Whitaker had three points.

Tyler Staelgraeve and Caffrey each netted two points for Chelsea.

On Dec. 7, Beach lost to Monroe in overtime 29-23.

The Bulldogs rallied from a double-digit deficit to tie the game with four seconds left and force overtime.

Mantel led Chelsea with 11 points.

Caffrey and Crews each added eight points, while Fahle had six points and Weatherwax four points.

Whitaker and Hilbert each ended up with two points, while Staelgraeve had one point.

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SWIMMING AND DIVING



Chelsea Aquatic Club members Logan DeYoe holds her first-place ribbon after winning the 25 backstroke at the youth swimming championship meet Dec. 5 and 6. Seated next to DeYoe is Chelsea Aquatic Club member Andrew Thomson.

Chelsea finishes fifth

By Don Richter

The Chelsea Aquatic Club finished fifth at the youth swimming championship meet at the Ypsilanti Y.M.C.A. Dec. 5 and 6.

Chelsea's overall team score in recent meets has been 3,810.5 points.

The club's overall title was won by the Ypsilanti Y.M.C.A. with 3,810.5 points.

In the girls' 8-years-old and younger division, the four-year-old Chelsea team, led by Olivia Oik and Logan Holden finished fifth in the 200 medley relay with a time of 2:33.64.

In the boys' 8-years-old and younger division, the group of Owen Brown, Wes Wickens, Sean Smidhammer and Trenton Holden placed seventh in the 100 medley relay with a time of 1:23.73.

In the girls' 9- through 10-year-old division, the team of Catherine Wellman, Clara Nelson, Anna Vanneste and Madison O'Hara finished eighth in the 200 medley relay with a time of 2:45.64.

In the boys' 9- through 10-year-old bracket, the quartet of Patrick Conlin, Zach Lee, Sean Smidhammer and Tom Holden finished sixth in the 200 medley relay with a time of 2:45.64.

In the girls' 11- through 12-year-old division, Maddie Brown, Kaylin Zacharyski, and Logan Simpson and Sydney Whitaker finished ninth in the 200 medley relay with a time of 3:23.84.

In the boys' 11- through 12-year-old division, the quartet of Logan Simpson, Nick Deppner, Aidan Fahle and Ryan Hilbert finished tenth in the 200 medley relay with a time of 3:23.84.



The Chelsea Aquatic Club finished fifth at the youth swimming championship meet Dec. 5 and 6. The placing was Chelsea's highest in recent memory.

Dylan Ousley and Kurt Jolly finished seventh in the 200 medley relay with a time of 2:36.67.

In the boys' 13- through 14-year-old division, the group of Connor Christian, Tanner Snyder, Preston Ewald and Patrick Conlin placed ninth in the 200 medley relay in 2:53.36.

Other top performers for Chelsea included Wes Wickens, who finished first in the 100 freestyle in 1:10.62, the 25 butterfly in 15.70 and the 25 backstroke in 17.53 in the boys' 8-years-old and younger division.

In the girls' 8-years-old and younger division, Morgan DeYoe placed fourth in the 25 backstroke with a time of 17.53.

In the boys' 11- through 12-year-old division, Jacob Hartman finished second in the 50 butterfly with a clocking of 34.47. Also in the same division, Ben Thoms was third in the 200 freestyle in 2:24.64.

In the boys' 13- through 14-year-old bracket, the four-some of James Hansen, Zach Ousley, Logan Simpson and Nick Deppner finished second in the 200 freestyle relay in 1:48.95.

In the boys' 15- through 18-year-old division, Andrew Wickens placed third in the 200 individual medley with a time of 2:24.31.

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Entering the fourth quarter, the Bulldogs continued building on their lead with a 46-27 margin.

In the fourth frame, Chelsea put away the Phoenix netting 20 points, while limiting Ypsilanti to eight points for the night's ending tally.

Individually for the Bulldogs, Hannah Fitzsimmons led the attack with 14 points, four assists and two steals.

Grace Martin added a double-double of 12 points and 11 rebounds, with six steals and two assists, while Rachel Cooperrider had 10 points and four steals for Chelsea.

Mackenzie Cole chipped in nine points, three assists and three rebounds, while Amber Stebelton had seven points, six boards and three steals and Jessica Ruikka and Amanda Gates each had four points and six rebounds for the Bulldogs.

Emily Cottrell finished with three points, while Megan Hall had three points and two assists for Chelsea.

BASKETBALL

On Dec. 8, the visiting Bulldogs defeated Stockbridge 39-38.

Chelsea led 10-6 after one quarter.

At the break, the Bulldogs increased their lead to 21-15.

In the third quarter, the Panthers outscored Chelsea 8-5 closing the gap to 26-23 entering the fourth frame.

In the fourth quarter, Stockbridge outscored the Bulldogs 15-13 for the night's final margin.

Cole paced Chelsea with 13 points, five rebounds and four steals.

Martin added six points and three rebounds, while Fitzsimmons had six points and four steals.

Cooperrider and Stebelton each had four points, while Gates, Cottrell and Keene each had two points for the Bulldogs. Stebelton also grabbed five rebounds.

As a team, Chelsea committed 40 turnovers.

From the free throw line, the Bulldogs were 9-of-19.

Stockbridge ended up 18-of-30.

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Chelsea's Rachel Cooperrider had 10 points and four steals in helping lead the Bulldogs to a 66-35 win over Ypsilanti Dec. 15.

Low numbers hurt tankers

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"We currently have 14 swimmers and two divers," said Chelsea coach Dave Jolly.

"It's going to be tough to win meets with those low numbers. A bright spot is that we are much improved over last year with the kids that are back."

Jolly said multiple key performers from last year's team have left the program.

"We had an All-State swimming senior quit which really put us in a bind," he said. "I had another senior flyer and IM'er (individual medley) quit because they were involved in too many things and couldn't do them all. I also had our No. 1 returning distance swimmer quit. He also was too invested in other things. It's been really hard to go from having such great pieces in place, to not having them, in such an abrupt fashion."

Despite losing so much talent, Jolly said there is talent to

work with.

"We have some really nice pieces returning like Andrew Wickens, a (butter) flyer and All-Southeastern Conference placer," he said. "John Skidmore, who swam at last year's state meet and placed individually at the conference meet. Also, Jacob Bogarin returns and he is our top sprinter."

Divers Michael Heydlauff and Colby Wrathall, two of the state's top performers in the event, return for the Bulldogs.

"That's pretty exciting," Jolly said.

In the backstroke, returning to the Chelsea line-up will be Robby Everard.

Nick Burris looks to help in the 50, 100 and 200 freestyle events, along with the butterfly.

Logan Simpson will score points in the butterfly and the 200 individual medley, while Nick Deppner will be a key contributor in the backstroke, individual medley and distance freestyle for the Bulldogs.

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Dexter High School has started its own field hockey team this year. The Dreadnaughts are the second squad to split off from the original Whippets line-up. Three years ago, Saline left the program to begin its own team.

The Whippets are currently seeking players for their 2010 season. Washtenaw will be running clinics for those interested in learning how to play field hockey. Those eligible to play are athletes in sixth- through 11th-grade.

FIELD HOCKEY

The clinics will be from 11 a.m. to noon every Saturday beginning Jan. 9 and running throughout February. The clinics will be at Pierce Lake Elementary School's gymnasium.

"No experience is necessary and we can provide sticks, shin guards and ball," said Washtenaw Whippets coach Roxy Block. "They just need to wear gym shoes and wear a mouth guard."

To learn more about field hockey and the Michigan High School Field Hockey Association, check out the league and Whippet team Web site at <http://etamz.com/michiganfieldhockey/index.cfm?form=invited>.

The Whippets are also on Facebook as Washtenaw Whippets field hockey.

A former Whippet, Chelsea's Corey Block, was named earlier this month to the Big Ten All-Academic team for having a 4.0 grade point average.

Block, a member of Michigan State University's field hockey team, helped lead the Spartans to a Big Ten regular season and Big Ten tournament titles this year. MSU advanced to the Final Eight of the NCAA tournament this past season.

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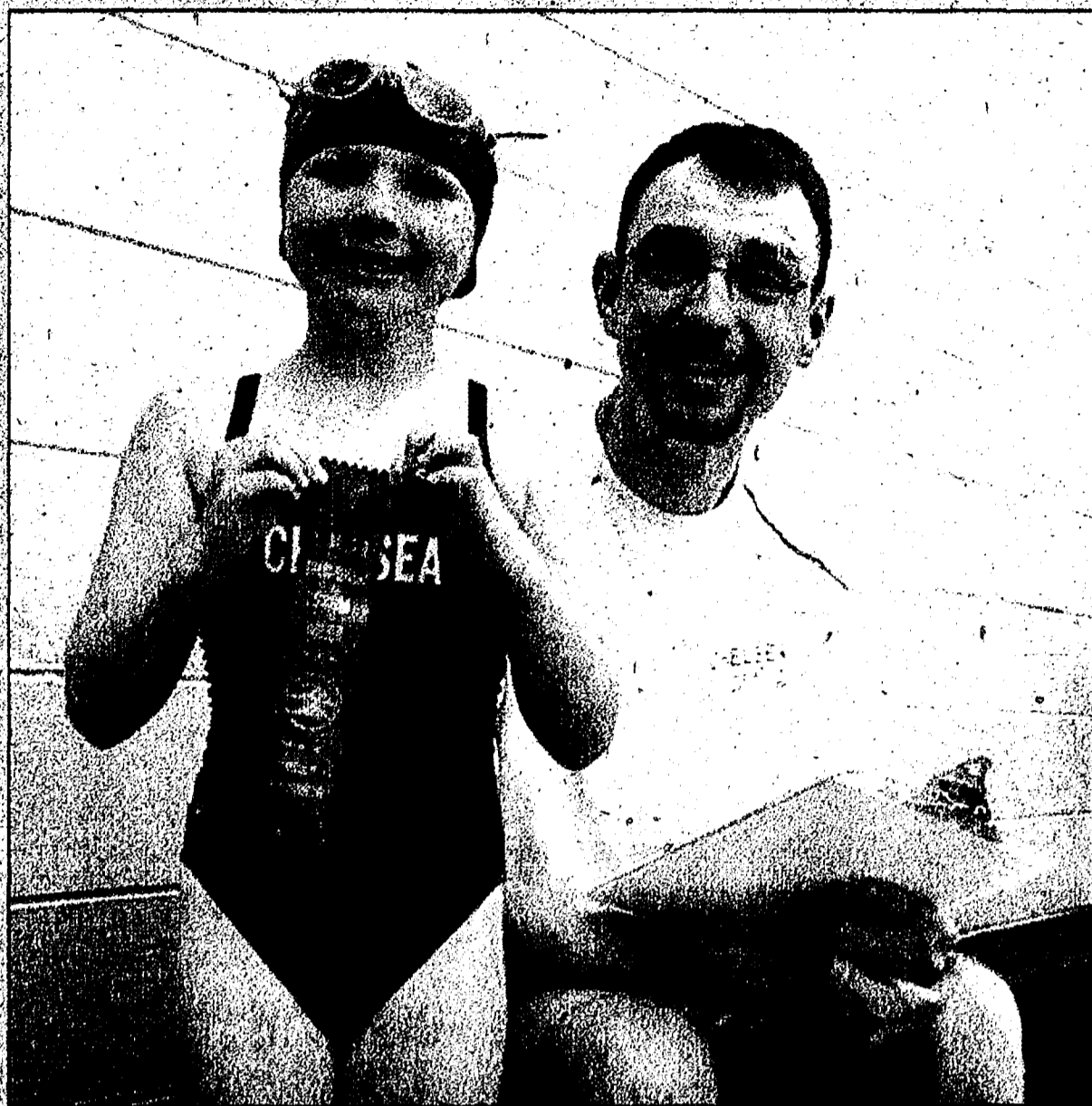
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Chelsea finishes fifth

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The Chelsea Aquatic Club finished fifth at the league fall championship meet at South Lyon and Dundee Dec. 5 through 6.

The placing was Chelsea's highest finish in recent memory. The locals ended up with 3,812.5 points.

Winning the overall title was the Dexter Community Aquatic Club with 3,810.5 points.

In the girls' 8-years-old and younger division, the foursome of Eve Beauchamp, Olivia Ousley, Olivia Olk and Kamryn Holden finished fifth in the 100 medley relay with a time of 1:33.64.

In the boys' 8-years-old and younger division, the group of Owen Brown, Wes Wickens, Jacob Smedshammer and Trenton Holden placed seventh in the 100 medley relay in 1:51.73.

In the girls' 9-through 10-year-old division, the team of Catherine Wellman, Clara Nelsen, Anna Vanneste and Meagan O'Hara finished eighth in the 200 medley relay in 2:47.42.

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County has plenty of state land to enjoy

The lights are off in my living room, but that doesn't stop the subtle glow coming from the Christmas tree my son cut down a few days ago. I find the use of soft, white lights to be simplistic, yet elegant, at the same time. While in the living room, I find myself going over the past week and everything that has happened. It's been a good week, to say the least.

Earlier today, I sold two homes and even harvested a doe two days ago. Furthermore, I've got venison jerky being made which I'll pick up tomorrow. Oh yeah, I turned 41, too. Well, I almost had the perfect week.

More than anything, I wanted to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Next week's column will focus on the past year, along with a few upcoming feature stories.

I spend a great deal of time writing about fishing and hunting. However, I don't spend a lot of time talking about the thousands of acres of state land in and around the Washtenaw County area. We have the Waterloo Recreation Area, the Pinckney State Game Area, the Potawatomi Trail, even state and local metroparks at our fingertips free of charge.

The Potawatomi Trail is famous for its mountain bike trails. But the "Poto" is also well known for its walking trails and hunting areas. As a matter of fact, the largest buck I ever harvested came from the Potawatomi Trail. The "Poto" has miles upon miles of trails that allow for all skill levels of biking. Mike Casey, owner of Aberdeen Bike and Outdoors in Chelsea, gives out free maps of various state land bike trails, including the Potawatomi Trail. Mike is intimately familiar with the local biking trails and will happily field your questions should you have any.

Lyndon Park North and Lyndon Park South are located on North Territorial Road and also have numerous walking trails. Feel free to walk without the noise of gunfire because no hunting is allowed at Lyndon Park.

But, the best park in Washtenaw County by far is

TAYLOR MADE ADVENTURES



RICK TAYLOR

Hudson Mills Metropark.

First and foremost, no hunting of any sort is allowed in any of the metro parks. That being said, there are many things to do at Hudson Mills. There's a gorgeous golf course that's open to the public. It's a challenging course with panoramic views from every hole. The biking and walking paths are paved for a smooth ride, perfect for families who want to enjoy the day outside. There are many other things to enjoy at Hudson Mills. There's disc golf, numerous playgrounds for kids, barbecues and finally some of the best small mouth bass fishing in the area. There's a small fee to gain entry to the park or you can buy a permit which is good for the whole year.

The winter season is finally upon us opening the way for cross country skiing. The metroparks are a wonderful place to cross country ski and get a heck of a workout in the process.

So, what's my point to all of this?

Take advantage of the beautiful land that surrounds us and is open to everyone. Our taxes pay for maintaining this property, so we might as well enjoy it. So, get out there and take in the beautiful land that's available to everyone.

Your comments and story ideas are warmly welcomed. Also, please send in your outdoor photos. You could be featured in our Outdoor Corner section. I can be reached by call at (734) 223-5656 or e-mail at rtaylor@reinhardtrealtors.com.



Rick Taylor's son Ricky pauses on the bike trail at Hudson Mills Metropark this past summer.



Rick Taylor kneels next to a 10-point buck he harvested years ago. Besides hunting and fishing, Taylor enjoys exploring Washtenaw County's miles and miles of state land.

OUTDOOR CORNER



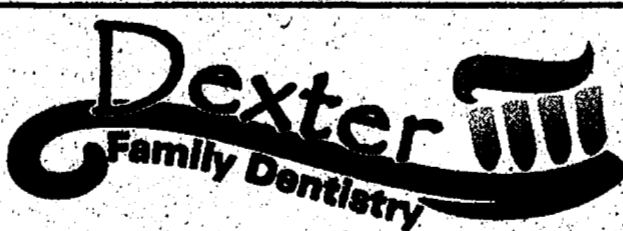
Jeff Hess

Seline's Jeff Hess kneels next to his 11-point, over 200-pound buck he harvested earlier this year. He used a 12-gauge shotgun to bag his buck in an area west of Bridgewater.



Joe Lathers

Joe Lathers sits next to his 13-point buck harvested this year on opening day of gun season.



Dr. Brent Kolb

Happy Holidays!

Dr. Brent Kolb and Staff are grateful for your continued support throughout the year and wish everyone a wonderful Holiday Season.



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At 98, hunter finally harvests an elk

There's an old adage about how it's better to give than to receive.

And in at least two cases this fall, Michigan hunters discovered how much joy can be gained from giving, by giving away the opportunity of a lifetime — a chance to harvest an elk in Michigan.

Anyone in Michigan can hunt deer. As long as they are of sufficient age, have passed hunter safety education and have not had their hunting rights terminated by the courts, all hunters must do to pursue whitetails is purchase a license. But that's not the case with other big-game species. Because there is more demand for elk or bear licenses than there are available animals, hunters must apply for a license for those species.

Until recently, winning the license lottery was the only way to get one of those big-game tags. But a few years ago, the Natural Resources Commission revisited the rules, making it legal for lottery winners to transfer their right to a license to an unsuccessful youth applicant or to a person with an advanced illness.

Former Natural Resources Commissioner Bob Garner, who has been active in initiating youngsters into the hunting fraternity, said when the idea of transferring hunting lottery success came up with the NRC, he was all for it.

"We had a legislator who had an illness that gave her cause to think about these sorts of things," Garner recalled. "We passed it unanimously. It's just a natural progression from what we were doing already and we didn't want tags to be a problem."

Garner himself has twice transferred his success in drawings for bear tags to youngsters.

"Anything we can do to get a kid out there is great," he said.

But this fall, through some very special circumstances, a transfer was approved for a wounded Iraq War veteran. Another was authorized for an old-time sportsman who is 98 years old.

Mary Briskey of Luna Pier, who has been applying for an elk license for years, drew the right to purchase an antlerless elk tag, but she was drawn to participate in the December hunt.

"I can't hunt in cold weather," she said. "I have asthma and I can't breathe in the cold air. I was ecstatic to get it, but I couldn't use it, so I decided to give it away to a disabled vet."

Briskey contacted Safari Club International, which helps match disabled servicemen with available hunting opportunities. SCI found Sgt. Jeremiah Jones.

Sgt. Jones, 40, was a truck driver in Iraq when the vehicle in which he was traveling ran over a land mine. Jones suffered nerve damage and a brain injury in the subsequent explosion.

"This was my first real hunt," said Jones, who tagged a 420-pound (dressed) cow near Wolverine during the December elk hunt. "I'm a hunter, but the military has taken over my life. I don't get to go very often."

As it was, Jones, who joined the Army in 1989 and also participated in Desert Storm, had to jump through some hoops to go on this hunt.

Assigned to the National Guard Armory in Kalamazoo, the Cassopolis resident said he had to apply for leave months in advance to be able to take advantage of the situation.

"I almost couldn't go," he said.

Because he's fairly healthy despite his war injuries, Jones chose to pursue his elk on foot.

"You walk and walk and walk," he said. "And that's what we did — we walked for three days. I bet I walked 25 miles over those three days. I passed up two risky shots. Then I got lucky. I took the high percentage shot and it paid off."

"From now on I'm going to compare every other hunt to this one."

Jones' success delighted everyone involved in the hunt.

"The DNR bent over backward to accommodate us," said Ralph Cagle, the education director of the Southeast Michigan Bow Hunters Chapter of SCI.

"We couldn't be happier."

Neither could Briskey, who was pleased with who received her tag.

"I was just lucky to get someone who fought for our country," she said.

"I would have liked it to have been a bull, but it didn't matter. Either way, it's a wonderful thing for him."

Despite his status as a wounded war veteran, Jones is a relative youngster compared to another recipient of a transferred tag. Chet Briggs, of Traverse City, was the recipient of a tag drawn by his longtime friend Larry Burcz.

Burcz, 68, thought it would be appropriate to transfer the tag to an older hunter with a medical condition. He chose Briggs, who is 98.

"I've had more than my share of thrills," said Burcz, who killed a Pope and Young-class bull elk in Colorado with his bow this fall. "I got to see how much those hunts mean to people — especially those gray-haired guys who don't have any other way to go on these hunts."

Burcz, who guides elk hunters at Canada Creek Ranch, guided Briggs on the hunt.

"I've applied for an elk license all these years and I figured I'd never get one and then this good friend of mine gave me one," said Briggs. "It shocked me. I said, 'Larry, you know how old I am? Do you think I'll live long enough?' He said he'd take that chance."

Briggs killed a 1x3 bull elk on the third day of his hunt.

"It was the hunt of a lifetime for me," Briggs said. "It was not real nice that day, cold and about 20 inches of snow. But it was just wonderful. The trees were loaded with snow. It was just beautiful out there."

Briggs, who lives by himself — he keeps his own house, does his own cooking and shopping — said he killed a four-point buck with a crossbow this fall, too. But he thinks the elk might be his last big-game animal.

"At 98, you can't figure you've got many more," he said.

But for Burcz, the experience was even better than if he'd done it himself, in part because Briggs was so deserving of the opportunity, he said.

"He's a true sportsman — the epitome of a sportsman," Burcz



Photo courtesy of Canada Creek Ranch
Larry Burcz (left) and Chet Briggs pose with the elk that Briggs, 98, shot Dec. 10 at Canada Creek Ranch in Montmorency County. Briggs had applied for an elk license for years, but always came up empty-handed. Burcz was selected for a license this year and transferred his drawing success to Briggs.



Photo courtesy of Canada Creek Ranch
Chet Briggs, 98, harvested this 1-by-3 bull elk on the third day of the December elk season while hunting in Montmorency County. Briggs had applied for an elk license for years, but was always unsuccessful. His luck changed this year when friend Larry Burcz transferred his drawing success to Briggs.

said. "He was a gunsmith, a waterfowl hunter, a deer hunter — he was active in conservation activities his whole life and he helped a lot of guys out when he was younger."

"It was the experience of a lifetime."



Photo by David Kenyon
Chet Briggs (right) of Traverse City steps up to receive his hunting license at the elk hunt orientation held at the Atlanta High School the day before the state of the December elk hunting season. Briggs, who is 98, was accompanied by his grandson, David Briggs Jr.

These shoes were found 40 yards from the crash caused by a drunk driver. Carissa Deason was thrown 30 yards and not even her father, a doctor, could save her.

Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.

U.S. Department of Transportation

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7		5	8	2		1
3						4
	9		1		6	
6		3	7	9	8	1
		8	6	5	4	3
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EASY # 35

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.

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6		7			1	2		
						5	9	
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8	4	6	2			7		
			8	3		9		

MEDIUM # 35

Solutions published in this newspaper, or check "JRC Publications" on the Solutions page of www.sudoku.com

FINANCIAL MATTERS

What should you do with your 401(k) after a layoff?

By Ed McClellan
Guest Writer

As you're no doubt aware, the long and deep recession has resulted in the highest unemployment rate in decades. But if you've been laid off, or if you fear a layoff may soon be coming, you're less interested in statistics than in your immediate financial future. How will you get by until you land a new job? This is a scary question, of course. And it can cause you to look at all your available financial resources — including your 401(k), which may well be the largest single financial resource you have.

But before you cash out your 401(k), make sure you understand what's involved. Your former employer is required to withhold 20 percent of your account balance to prepay federal taxes. Also, all your 401(k) proceeds will be taxed as ordinary income. And if you're under age 59½ when you liquidate your 401(k), you may also be subject to a 10 percent penalty. And worst of all, the money may not be available to you when you retire. Obviously, if you have no other financial resources, you may have no choice but to tap into your 401(k) plan. However, if you can find an alternative way to tide yourself over until you're working again, you may be better off in the long run by not cashing in your plan.

If you decide against the "cash-out" option, what can you do with your 401(k)? Here are two possibilities:

Keep the money in your former employer's plan. If your former employer permits it, you may be able to leave your money in your 401(k). You won't have

to pay any immediate taxes, and your money can continue to grow tax deferred. But you may no longer be able to add funds to your account.

Roll your money over to an IRA. If you roll over your 401(k) assets to an IRA, you'll avoid paying immediate taxes, and your money can continue to grow tax deferred. Furthermore, you can fund

your IRA with many types of investments, as opposed to a 401(k), which may offer only a handful of choices. And when you can afford it, you can make additional contributions to your IRA. Also, when you retire, you may find that an IRA gives you more flexibility in making withdrawals

How will you get by until you land a new job? This is a scary question, of course. And it can cause you to look at all your available financial resources — including your 401(k).

than a 401(k).

While there are some clear benefits to keeping your 401(k) with your former employer or moving it to an IRA, neither choice helps you answer the question of how you'll make it, financially speaking, until you're working again. If you've built up a cash cushion in the preceding years, you can turn to it now, of course. And if you've created an investment portfolio outside your 401(k), take a close look at it. You can consider adjusting your investment mix to add more income-producing investments, if appropriate. Keep in mind that your portfolio should reflect your risk tolerance, long-term goals and time horizon.

A layoff is never easy — and it can force you to make some tough choices. But if you can help protect your 401(k) today, you'll be helping yourself tomorrow.

Ed McClellan is a financial advisor with Edward Jones, 12855 E. Old US Hwy. 12, Suite 4, in Chelsea. He can be reached at 1-734-475-3519.

December 2009

Staring At A

for Using Your
Health Benefits?

Use it. Don't lose it.

If you participate in a Healthcare Savings Account (HSA), "Flex Plan" or "Cafeteria Plan" through your company benefits program, time may be running out. Some plans require the money you contributed to be spent by **December 31**, or you risk losing it.

Here is a list of vision-related services and expenses that may qualify for reimbursement:

Eye Health Examination
Contact Lenses
Laser Vision Correction
Eyeglasses
Computer Eyeglasses
Prescription Sunglasses

Note: Check with your plan administrator to determine the specific requirements of your plan. Please let our office know about your major medical or vision plan coverage when you call for an appointment. We'll help you get all the benefits you have coming to you.

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CHRISTMAS SERVICES

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Savior is Born

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Christmas Eve

1:30 pm Worship
with Holy Communion
7:00 pm Candlelight
Worship with
Holy Communion
11:00 pm Candlelight
Worship with
Holy Communion at
Historic Zion

Webster United Church of Christ

5484 Webster Church Rd.
Dexter, MI
(734) 426-5115

Welcoming All People and
All Families Whoever and
Wherever They are on
Their Faith Journey...

Please Join Us for
Christmas Eve
Family Service, 7:30pm
Candlelight Service, 11pm

Chelsea Free Methodist Church
Christmas Eve
Worship Celebration Services



5:00 PM

7:00 PM

*11:00 PM
*Communion Service

All services are held in the
auditorium at Washington Street
Education Center

(500 Washington St. • Chelsea)
visit www.chelseafmc.com

For more information call 475.1391

Manchester United Methodist
Christmas Eve Services

7:30 & 11:00

501 Ann Arbor St. — (M-52)
Manchester, MI
(734) 428-8495

Musical preludes
begin one-half hour
before each service.

First Presbyterian Church

143 E. Michigan Ave.
Saline

Christmas Eve
Services

7:30 p.m. Family Candlelight
11:00 p.m. Candlelight &
Communion



North Lake United Methodist Church
14111 N. Territorial Rd.
Chelsea, MI 48118
734-475-9348

Holiday Worship Schedule
Sunday, Dec. 20th & 27th
10:00am Only
Child Care Provided

Christmas Eve
Candlelight Services
6:00pm & 7:30pm
~Everyone Welcome~
No Child Care Provided
Email: contact@northlakeumc.org
Web: www.northlakeumc.org



St. Mary Roman Catholic Church
Manchester

Downtown at 210 West Main Street

Rejoice!!!

Celebrate the
Sacred Liturgy.
Holy Masses on...

♦ Christmas Eve at 5 pm
♦ Midnight Mass
♦ Christmas Morning at 10 am

PUER NATUS EST NOBIS!
FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN!

The night when Jesus was born

For centuries European and American artists have portrayed the night of Jesus' birth as a snowy scene, much like our winters here. It's possible: The Holy Land is about as far north as our state of Georgia, but has a milder climate due to the nearness of the Mediterranean Sea. In the vicinity of Jerusalem, however, about six miles north of Bethlehem, snow falls about three or four days in an average year.

In January 1950, there was a 20-inch snowfall, and in February 1920, a 29-inch storm. We're not really sure, though, that Jesus was born in the winter.

To make the 80-mile trip from their hometown of Nazareth to Bethlehem would have taken Joseph and Mary four or five days, or longer, due to Mary's advanced stage of pregnancy. The fact that there was no lodging when they arrived in the town might indicate that they arrived rather late in the day. There is no reason to suspect that anyone was unkind to them, however, since the Jewish people were known for their hospitality.

It's quite likely that the place Mary and Joseph ended up was actually a grotto, a small cave, since the area around Bethlehem is perforated with such caverns, and they are often used to shelter cattle and sheep. The Bible doesn't say whether any animals were present when Mary and Joseph were there.

Also, no mention is made of anyone helping Mary deliver her Baby. It's possible that some woman saw her and came to her aid. It's unlikely that Joseph helped, since it was considered

MINISTERIAL MESSAGE



MARK PORINSKY

inappropriate for the husband to play the role of midwife. Mary might have given birth without anyone's help, since self-delivery was not uncommon among the women of Palestine. After the Baby was born, Mary wrapped

Him in long bands of cloth and laid Him in a feeding trough - likely carved out from stone.

We celebrate this event the night of Dec. 24, which we refer to as "Christmas Eve." Our celebration continues on Dec. 25, which we call "Christmas Day." Note that the Jewish day begins at sundown, so the evening of our Dec. 24 and the morning of our Dec. 25 would both fall on the same day.

There are some places in the Holy Land where shepherds spend the night outside with their flocks only in the spring, during lambing time. But there are shepherds, including those around Bethlehem, who are known to stay outside year-round. It is significant that God would send His angels to announce the birth first to these lowly herdsmen, rather than to people higher up on the social, political, or theological chain. The Bible doesn't say

whether anyone stayed behind to tend the sheep while the shepherds went to see the Baby.

What did the shepherds see? A man, perhaps in his late teens to mid-20's, and a girl, probably younger, and a Baby who looked totally normal. And this Baby, the shepherds believed, was the Savior, Christ the Lord.

This doesn't seem to be the kind of story one would invent if you want people to believe that Jesus of Nazareth is the Savior of the world. But that is exactly what we are celebrating tonight and tomorrow.

Mark Porinsky is the pastor at Faith Lutheran Church, 9575 North Territorial Road in Dexter. The Web site is www.faithdexter.org.



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Worship 10:30 AM
Wed. Evening 7:00 PM Devotion & Bible Study

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Dexter, MI 48130

Zion Lutheran Church (ELCA)
3050 S. Fletcher Rd., Chelsea
(734) 475-8064

Christian Ed. 9:15 am
Worship 10:30 am
Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays

Pastor Doris Sparks
www.zionchelsea.org

First United Methodist Church
128 Park Street, Chelsea, MI
734-475-6119

December 20 - One Service at 10:45am
December 21 - 7:00pm Longest Night Service

Rejoice in the birth of Christ with us on Christmas Eve!
4:00pm Children's Christmas Eve Service
6:00pm Christmas Eve Service with Communion
10:00pm Musical Celebration
10:30pm Candlelight & Communion with Chamber Orchestra

December 27 - One Service at 10:45am
The Rev. Joy Barrett
The Rev. Barbara Lewis-Lakin
www.chelseaumc.org

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121 E. Middle St.
Chelsea 475-1844

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Worship Service 10 AM
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Dexter, MI 48130
www.faithdexter.org

Immanuel Bible Church
145 E. Summit St.
(734) 475-8838

Dominic Aquilino, Pastor

1st Service... 8:00 a.m.
Sunday School... 9:30 a.m.
2nd Service... 10:30 a.m.
Evening Service... 5:45 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting... 7:00 p.m.
AWANA Club... 5:30 p.m. Sundays
www.immanuelbiblechurch.net

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11:00 a.m.

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Sunday Worship
8:30AM Spirited Traditional
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9:45AM Contemporary
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www.dexterumc.org
secretary@dexterumc.org

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(734) 475-7569

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Sunday Worship 10:30am
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Children's Church Provided
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9:30am Education Hour
10:30am Celebration Service
& Childrens Church

Webster United Church of Christ
5484 Webster Church Rd.,
Dexter, MI
(734) 426-5115

SUNDAY:
First Sunday Communion
Church School, 10:00 a.m.
Worship, 10:00 a.m.

WATERLOO VILLAGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
8110 Washington St.
Service:
Sunday 11:00 a.m.
(734) 475-1171
Breakfast-2nd Sunday
Sept. to May

St. Paul United Church of Christ
14800 Old U.S.12
Chelsea
Rev. Curties DeMars-Johnson, Pastor
475-2545

Church service
begins at 10:00 am
Third Sunday
Morning Praise Service
We'd love to have you join us!

St. Thomas Lutheran Church
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between Parker & Fletcher

Sunday Worship
10:00am

Pastor Charles R. Schulz
734-663-7511
StThomasFreedom.org

Dexter Gospel
2253 Baker Road, Dexter
(734) 426-4915
John O'Dell, Pastor

Sunday: Sunday school,
9:30 a.m.;
Worship 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Independent Fundamental Baptist
Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.
Awana September till May

St. Andrew's United Church of Christ
7610 Ann Arbor St.
Dexter, Michigan
Dr. Bob Summers, Pastor
734-426-8610

Sunday Services
8:30am Worship Service
9:30am Adult Sunday School
10:30am Worship Service
Sunday School R-12
Youth Group - Wednesday Evenings
www.standrewsdexter.org

St. Paul United Church of Christ
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Chelsea
Rev. Curties DeMars-Johnson, Pastor
475-2545

Church service
begins at 10:00 am
Third Sunday
Morning Praise Service
We'd love to have you join us!

Chelsea Free Methodist

Worship Services
11:00 am
Contemporary Service
at Pastor's Street Education Center's Auditorium

8:30 am
Traditional Service
at Pastor's Street Education Center's Courtyard

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10:00-10:50 am

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ANNOUNCEMENT



Carol Jean and Daniel Joseph Murphy

Carol Jean and Daniel Joseph Murphy of Chelsea recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. The couple was married on Oct. 17, 1959 at Christ the King Church in Detroit. They celebrated the happy day on Sunday, Oct. 11 at Reddeman Farms in Chelsea. The couple's children are: Dana Murphy-Love of Mukitoo, Wash., Patrick Murphy of Chelsea, Ross Murphy, LaGrange, Ga. and Brady Murphy of Chelsea. They have five grandchildren. Daniel was a pharmacist for more than 50 years and was president/owner of Chelsea Drug Store, then Chelsea Pharmacy Inc. The couple have a home in Spring Hill, Fla., where they spend the winter enjoying the sunshine and warm weather.

Washtenaw County Legal Notice

Washtenaw County Purchasing Division is issuing a Request for Proposal for water testing services. Detailed specifications may be obtained at the Washtenaw County Finance/Purchasing Department located at 220 North Main Street, Room B-35, Lower Level, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. RFP 6516 Due: by January 14, 2010, by 2:00pm local time. For more information, please call (734) 222-8780 or logon to our website at <http://bids.ewashtenaw.org> and click on "open bids".

Publish December 24, 2009

Washtenaw County Legal Notice

Washtenaw County Purchasing Division is issuing a Request for Proposal for Audio Visual Equipment and Installation for Sheriff Administration Conference Room. There is a MANDATORY Pre-Bid meeting as Sheriff Administration Conference Room scheduled for 11:00AM, Monday, January 4, 2010 at 2510 Hogback Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48106. Detailed specifications may be obtained at the Washtenaw County Finance/Purchasing Department located at 220 North Main Street, Room B-35, Lower Level, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. RFP 6507 Due: Thursday, January 14, 2010 at 3:00 pm local time. For more information, please call (734) 222-8780 or logon to our website at <http://bids.ewashtenaw.org> and click on "open bids".

Publish December 24, 2009

For home delivery of The News-Herald call 734-246-0110

Webster Township Regular Board Meeting December 15, 2009

The Webster Township Regular Board Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Supervisor Kingsley on December 15, 2009 at the Township Hall, 5685 Webster Church Road Dexter, MI 48130.

Members present Supervisor Kingsley, Clerk Heller, and Treasurer Whitney, Trustees: Koch, Westman, Estleman & Kleinschmidt, and Township Engineer/Zoning Administrator: Pindzia and six citizens.

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Approve Minutes
Motion Koch second Kleinschmidt to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on November 17, 2009 and the Special Board Meeting held on December 9, 2009. All ayes and carried.

Supervisor Remarks

Approve Agenda
Motion Heller second Koch to amend the Agenda to move Item A under New Business ahead of Old Business. Motion Westman second Kingsley to add Item C. PDR Approval of Appraisals under New Business to approved Amendments. All ayes and carried.

Call to Public

Reports

- A. Treasurer's Report:**
Motion Koch second Kleinschmidt to accept Treasurer's report and pay bills as presented as well as those anticipated bills received before the January meeting. Roll call vote, all ayes and carried.
- B. Planning Commission:**
Report received.
- C. Parks & Recreation Committee:** No report received.
- D. Zoning Inspectors Report:** Report received. Two new permits issued and five zoning inspections.
- E. Sheriff's Report:** No report received.
- F. Zoning Board of Appeals:** No report received.
- G. PDR Committee:** Report received.
- H. Fire Department Report:** Report received.

New Business:

- A. Development Agreement St Joseph Church**
At this time Koch recused.

himself. Motion Westman second Heller to approve third Amendment to Webster Township Standard Development Agreement for St. Joseph Church to approve the church language and thus authorize signing of the document. Roll call vote Kleinschmidt, Estleman, Kingsley, Heller, Whitney and Westman all ayes and carried.

Old Business:

A. Earth Art

At this time Koch recused himself. Motion Westman second Kleinschmidt to post pone until February meeting. All ayes and carried.

B. Snow Removal

Motion Koch second Westman to accept the snow removal bid from Milligan Landscape Service. Roll call vote, all ayes and carried.

C. Budget Discussion of Township Cost Cutting

Discussion took place, post pone until the Regular Board Meeting of January 19, 2010.

New Business:

- B. Capital Improvement Transfer of Funds**
Motion Kleinschmidt second Estleman to transfer \$175,000.00 from General Fund to Capital Improvement. Roll call vote Koch, Kleinschmidt, Estleman, Kingsley, Heller and Westman all ayes and carried. Whitney no vote.

- C. PDR Approval of Appraisals**
Motion Westman second Whitney to approve the expenditure of up to \$4,500.00 for appraisals of two properties submitted for participation in the purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Program. Roll call vote, all ayes and carried.

Correspondence

Call to Public

Adjourn:
Motion Kleinschmidt second Heller to adjourn meeting. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m. All ayes and carried.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Dee Heller, Clerk
Webster Township

Publish December 24, 2009

Sudoku Solutions
Puzzles by Pappas.com

7	4	8	5	8	2	9	3	1
3	8	1	9	8	7	5	2	4
2	5	9	4	1	3	6	8	7
4	2	3	7	9	8	1	5	6
6	7	5	3	2	1	8	4	9
1	9	8	6	5	4	3	7	2
8	1	7	2	3	6	4	9	5
9	6	2	8	4	6	7	1	3
5	3	4	1	7	9	2	6	8

EASY #35

4	7	8	3	9	8	2	1	5
9	5	1	7	2	8	4	3	6
3	6	2	1	4	8	9	6	7
4	2	4	9	7	1	8	6	3
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7	3	9	6	1	4	5	2	8
8	4	6	2	6	9	3	7	1
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MEDIUM #35

Dexter Township 6880 Dexter-Pinckney Rd. Dexter, MI 48130 (734) 426-3767

Summary of Action of the Dexter Township Board of Trustees Regular Board Meeting December 15, 2009

Called to order at 7:00 PM

Members Present: Supervisor Kelly, Treasurer Kooyers, Clerk Rider, Trustees Brushaber, Knight, Lesser, and Maciejewski

Absent: None

Also Present: Patrick Sloan, Director of Planning & Zoning

The Board approved the Consent Agenda, along with December gross payroll of \$45,539.81, Fire Fund bills of \$32,251.56 and Police Fund bills of \$37,746.25.

The Board also approved Supervisor Kelly's reappointment of John Shea and Molly Wade to the Planning Commission to terms ending 12/31/12; reappointed Mary Herda-Sprawka to the Township Zoning Board of Appeals for term ending 12/31/2012; reappointed Tom Ehman and Dave Moody as regular members, and Libby Brushaber as alternate member, to the Portage-Base Lakes Sewer Board, for terms ending 12/31/2013.

The Board also: Authorized a two-year extension of AT&T's EFTO Act right-of-way permit; accepted the donation from Servants of the Word and directed Treasurer Kooyers to deposit the funds as specified by the donor into the Township General, Fire and Police Funds; approved attendance at the MTA Educational Conference by Board members, their deputies and the Director of Planning & Zoning, and approved attendance at the MTA Board of Review Workshop for Peggy Clough.

Paul Feltes, Dave Dieing, Jim Drolett, Pat Kelly, and Vickie Kooyers, approved attendance to include the reimbursement by the Township for all applicable and requested registration, transportation and lodging expenses that are within Township guidelines, with the exception of meals, which shall be at the participant's own expense.

The Board discussed the property appraisal for 11485 North Territorial Road and the Copper Meadows Drain Technical Report. These were discussion items only, and did not require Board action at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Harley B. Rider, Clerk,
Dexter Township

Summary approved by

Pat Kelly, Supervisor,
Dexter Township

This Summary of the December 15, 2009, Regular Meeting of the Dexter Township Board of Trustees was prepared by Harley B. Rider, Dexter Township Clerk and approved by Pat Kelly, Dexter Township Supervisor in accordance with the provisions of MCL 41.72a(6). A draft of the full minutes of the December 15, 2009, Regular Meeting of the Township Board is available for examination at the Township Hall during regular business hours (8:30 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Friday, except holidays). The full minutes of the December 15, 2009, Regular Meeting of the Dexter Township Board of Trustees will be presented at the January 19, 2010, Regular meeting for review and approval by the Board. Following approval the full minutes will be posted on the Township's web site www.twp-dexter.org.

Publish December 24, 2009

NOTICE OF LETTING OF DRAIN CONTRACT AND DAY OF REVIEW OF APPOINTMENTMENTS FOR THE WING DRAIN SCIO TOWNSHIP, WASHTENAW COUNTY

The following notice gives information on acceptance of bids for construction work on the Wing Drain and assessment for the cost of the construction. The Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner will accept bids for construction work on the Wing Drain, as explained below until 2:00 P.M. on the 4th of January, 2010. Property owners and other affected parties may review the appointment of the costs for this project at the Office of the Water Resources Commissioner on the 13th of January, 2010 from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Please call the Water Resources Commissioner's Office at (734) 222-6860 for clarification of this notice or if you need additional information.

Information on Bid Letting

Sealed bids will be received on the 4th of January, 2010 until 2:00 P.M. at 705 North Zeeb Road, 2nd Floor, Ann Arbor, Michigan, at which time the bids will be opened and publicly announced. Following is a brief description of the project:

Project Description: The work shall consist of, but not be limited to, the following approximate quantities:

The Wing Drain project consists of the replacement of storm water piping, re-grading of open channel sections, and the creation of an additional branch to the drain. Approximately 3200 feet of storm water pipe will be removed and replaced with a combination of HDPE pipe, perforated HDPE pipe, CMP and RCP. In addition, 4500 feet of the open channel sections will be re-graded, including restoration of the banks. Numerous trees and crossings will be removed as a part of this process. Finally, a new branch to the drain will be added that consists of a closed pipe network and open channel connection to the existing main channel of the Wing Drain.

Bids will be made and received in accordance with plans, proposal forms and specifications available to prospective bidders at Fitzgerald Henne & Associates, Inc., 3125 Sovereign Drive, Suite D, Lansing, MI 48911 for a non-refundable reproduction charge of \$40.00. Plans may also be viewed at the Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner's office, 705 North Zeeb Road, 2nd Floor, Ann Arbor, MI 48103; 734.222.6860.

The lowest responsible bidder giving adequate security for the performance of the work will be awarded the contract. The Water Resources Commissioner reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and if no satisfactory sealed bids are received, she reserves the right to proceed immediately after the rejection of sealed bids and without further notice to let the contracts by open bidding, likewise reserving the right to reject any and all bids and to adjourn the letting to a time and place as shall be publicly announced.

In the event, the County receives two or more bids from responsive, responsible bidders, one or more of whom are Washtenaw County vendors and the bids are substantially equal in price, quality and service, the County shall award the contract to the most responsive, responsible Washtenaw County vendor. For purposes of this section, Washtenaw County vendor means a company which has maintained its principal office in Washtenaw County for at least six (6) months. Maintaining a Washtenaw County P.O. Box is not, in and of itself, sufficient to establish a company as a Washtenaw County vendor.

Information on Review of Appointmentments

Notice is hereby given to you, as a person liable for an assessment, that a the appointment of costs for the above work and the lands comprising the Wing Assessment District will be available for review on the 13th of January, 2010 from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. at the Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner's Office, 705 North Zeeb Road, 2nd Floor, Ann Arbor, Michigan. The computation of the costs for the project will be open for inspection by interested persons.

The following is a description of the lands constituting the Wing Drain Special Assessment District:

Notice is also given to:

Supervisor of the Township of Scio
Clerk of the County of Washtenaw
Washtenaw County Board of Road Commissioners

That you may also be assessed for a portion of the costs of this project.

Any property owner in the assessment district who may disagree with the apportionment of costs made by the Water Resources Commissioner may, within 10 days after the day of review, appeal the apportionment by filing with the Probate Court of Washtenaw County for appointment for a Board of Review, as provided in Section 185 of the Michigan Drain Code (Act 40 of the Public Acts of Michigan, 1966, as amended).

Prior to filing an appeal, a property owner should either appear in person on the Day of Review or file a letter of objection on or prior to the Day of Review with the Office of the Water Resources Commissioner in an attempt to resolve the conflict. We would be happy to discuss your apportionment with you before legal alternatives are sought.

The County of Washtenaw will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers, for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with special needs who plan to attend the meeting upon 7 days' notice to the County of Washtenaw Human Resources Department, 220 North Main Street, P.O. Box 8845, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107-8845 (734) 222-6823 or TDD (734) 994-1733.

Questions regarding this notice should be directed to 734.222.6860.

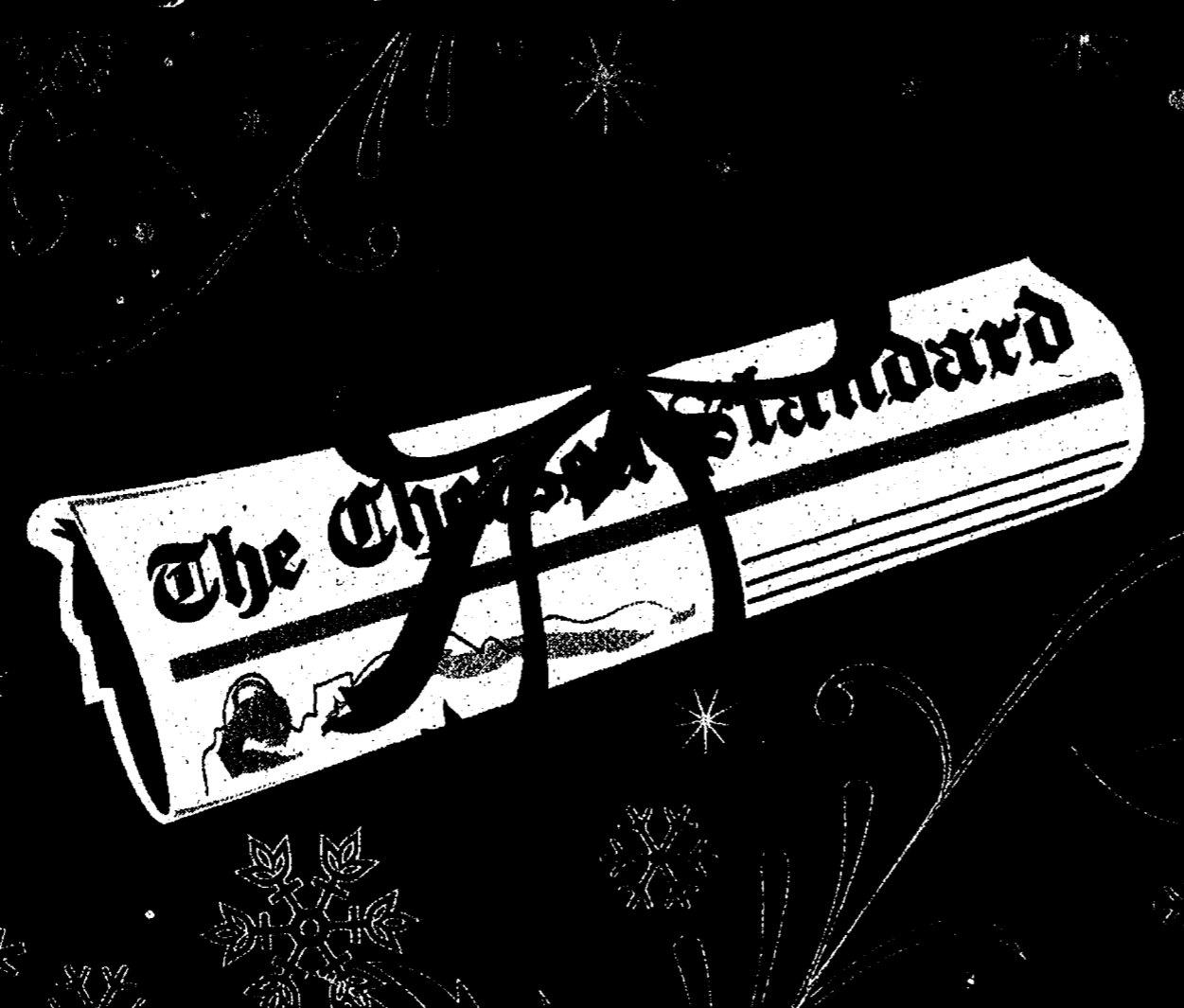
Dated this 18th of December, 2009.

Janis A. Bobbin
Water Resources
Commissioner

This document has been reviewed and approved for signature.

Publish December 24 & 31, 2009

The Gift that Gives All Year Long The Chelsea Standard



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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Gift Giver Information:

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Signature _____ CID # _____

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Western Region Newspapers: A2 Journal, Belleville View, Chelsea Standard, Dexter Leader, Manchester Enterprise, Milan News Leader, Saline Reporter, Ypsilanti Courier - Tuesday, 4:30 p.m.; The Monroe Guardian - Wednesday, 11:00 a.m.
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Source: Yahoo! HotJobs site poll, October 2007

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FORECLOSURE NOTICE RANDALL S. MILLER & ASSOCIATES, P.C. IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Mortgage Sale - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Grace L. Dyer, Michael E. Dyer, wife and husband to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Fidelity Mortgage of NY, Mortgage, dated November 15, 2008, and recorded on January 8, 2007, in Liber 4601, Page 145, Washtenaw County Records, said mortgage was assigned to HSBC Bank USA, National Association, as Indenture Trustee for the registered Noteholders of Renaissance Home Equity Loan Trust 2006-4 by an Assignment of Mortgage which has been submitted to the Washtenaw County Register of Deeds, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Ninety-Four Thousand Four Hundred Four and 59/100 (\$94,404.59) including interest at the rate of 6.950000% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the Circuit Court in said Washtenaw County, where the premises to be sold or some part of them are situated, at 10:00 AM on January 21, 2010. Said premises are situated in the Township of Dexter, Washtenaw County, Michigan, and are described as: DE 5-6A-1B-1 (012) COM S 1/4 COR OF SEC. TH N 1-19-18E 1785.59 FT, TH N 89-55-18E 349.4 FT TO POB TH N 89-55-18E 905.14 FT, TH S 1-19-18W 220.81 FT, TH S 89-55-18W 914.37 FT, TH N 3-42-40E 221.23 FT TO POB, PART SE 1/4 SEC. 5 T1S R4E, 4.81 ACRES. Commonly known as: 9054 Glenbrook Road. The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. Dated: December 24, 2009 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for HSBC Bank USA, National Association, as Indenture Trustee for the registered Noteholders of Renaissance Home Equity Loan Trust 2006-4 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302 248-335-9200 Case No. 090MI00294-2 ASAP# 3380579 12/24/2009, 12/31/2009, 01/07/2010, 01/14/2010

FORECLOSURE NOTICE RANDALL S. MILLER & ASSOCIATES, P.C. IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Mortgage Sale - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Randal Keith Marshall, a married man and Patricia Marshall, his wife as Joint Tenants to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Renaissance Home Equity Loan Trust 2006-4 by an Assignment of Mortgage dated November 28, 2007 and recorded December 14, 2007 in Liber 4657, Page 992, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Twenty Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety and 48/100 (\$120,790.48) including interest at the rate of 3.950000% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the Circuit Court in said Washtenaw County, where the premises to be sold or some part of them are situated, at 10:00 AM on January 21, 2010. Said premises are situated in the Township of Superior, Washtenaw County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 662, Woodland Acres Subdivision No. 7, according to the Plat thereof as recorded in Liber 21 of Plats at Pages 29 and 30, Washtenaw County Records. Commonly known as: 5588 Canterbury Court. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. Dated: December 24, 2009 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for HSBC Bank USA, N.A., as Trustee for the registered holders of Renaissance Home Equity Loan Trust, Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2007-3 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302 248-335-9200 Case No. 090MI00508-1 ASAP# 3380426 12/24/2009, 12/31/2009, 01/07/2010, 01/14/2010

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT WASHTENAW COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION
PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING
FILE NO. 09-2152-KC
In the matter of Rochelle Diane Martinez-Moelleseaux.
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS, including:
whose address(es) are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:
TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on Tuesday, January 12, 2010, at 3 p.m., at 101 E. Huron Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48107 before Judge Deanna D. Brian, Bar No. P-33182, for the following purpose:
Petitioner would like to take back her maiden name of Rochelle Diane Martinez.
Susan E. Zale Bar No. P-33736 134 W. Middle St., Suite D Chelsea, MI 48118 (734) 475-5777
Rochelle Diane Martinez-Moelleseaux 3750 Silver Fox Drive Chelsea, MI 48118 734-475-1660
Publish December 24, 2009

EARLY HOLIDAY DEADLINES
Due to the Christmas Holiday our Classified Dept. will be closed on Friday, December 25, 2009.
On Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24th, office hours will be from 9-2 p.m.
For More Information Please Contact Us At 877-888-3202

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SPORTS VIDEOGRAPHER
The Oakland Press is seeking a sports videographer. This full-time position is for someone who possesses the technical skills for video editing and uploading to the Web as well as the journalistic experience to help others see and participate in the sports future on the Web. Four-year degree a must. Video experience desired. Will work weekends and evenings or nights. Will cover games for video stories and assist in managing multiple Web sites. Will instruct others how to understand, contribute and edit a Web site with an ever-expanding community. Resume and samples to: jeff.kuehn@oakpress.com

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FORECLOSURE NOTICE RANDALL S. MILLER & ASSOCIATES, P.C. IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Mortgage Sale - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Grace L. Dyer, Michael E. Dyer, wife and husband to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Fidelity Mortgage of NY, Mortgage, dated November 15, 2008, and recorded on January 8, 2007, in Liber 4601, Page 145, Washtenaw County Records, said mortgage was assigned to HSBC Bank USA, National Association, as Indenture Trustee for the registered Noteholders of Renaissance Home Equity Loan Trust 2006-4 by an Assignment of Mortgage which has been submitted to the Washtenaw County Register of Deeds, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Ninety-Four Thousand Four Hundred Four and 59/100 (\$94,404.59) including interest at the rate of 6.950000% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the Circuit Court in said Washtenaw County, where the premises to be sold or some part of them are situated, at 10:00 AM on January 21, 2010. Said premises are situated in the Township of Dexter, Washtenaw County, Michigan, and are described as: DE 5-6A-1B-1 (012) COM S 1/4 COR OF SEC. TH N 1-19-18E 1785.59 FT, TH N 89-55-18E 349.4 FT TO POB TH N 89-55-18E 905.14 FT, TH S 1-19-18W 220.81 FT, TH S 89-55-18W 914.37 FT, TH N 3-42-40E 221.23 FT TO POB, PART SE 1/4 SEC. 5 T1S R4E, 4.81 ACRES. Commonly known as: 9054 Glenbrook Road. The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. Dated: December 24, 2009 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for HSBC Bank USA, National Association, as Indenture Trustee for the registered Noteholders of Renaissance Home Equity Loan Trust 2006-4 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302 248-335-9200 Case No. 090MI00294-2 ASAP# 3380579 12/24/2009, 12/31/2009, 01/07/2010, 01/14/2010

FORECLOSURE NOTICE RANDALL S. MILLER & ASSOCIATES, P.C. IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Mortgage Sale - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Randal Keith Marshall, a married man and Patricia Marshall, his wife as Joint Tenants to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Renaissance Home Equity Loan Trust 2006-4 by an Assignment of Mortgage dated November 28, 2007 and recorded December 14, 2007 in Liber 4657, Page 992, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Twenty Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety and 48/100 (\$120,790.48) including interest at the rate of 3.950000% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the Circuit Court in said Washtenaw County, where the premises to be sold or some part of them are situated, at 10:00 AM on January 21, 2010. Said premises are situated in the Township of Superior, Washtenaw County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 662, Woodland Acres Subdivision No. 7, according to the Plat thereof as recorded in Liber 21 of Plats at Pages 29 and 30, Washtenaw County Records. Commonly known as: 5588 Canterbury Court. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. Dated: December 24, 2009 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for HSBC Bank USA, N.A., as Trustee for the registered holders of Renaissance Home Equity Loan Trust, Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2007-3 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302 248-335-9200 Case No. 090MI00508-1 ASAP# 3380426 12/24/2009, 12/31/2009, 01/07/2010, 01/14/2010

PLEASE Help Find Hank! Check Garage, shed & yard for Dark striped tabby CAT, needs meds. Lost in Trenton. REWARD! 734-671-6034

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FORECLOSURE NOTICE RANDALL S. MILLER & ASSOCIATES, P.C. IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Mortgage Sale - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by John Johnson, AKA John H. Johnson and Sanae Johnson, AKA Sanae L. Johnson, Husband and Wife, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Pathway Financial, LLC., Mortgage, dated February 17, 2006, and recorded on March 1, 2006, in Liber 4541, Page 227, Washtenaw County Records, said mortgage was assigned to HSBC Bank USA, N.A., as Trustee on behalf of ACE Securities Corp. Home Equity Loan Trust and for the registered holders of ACE Securities Corp. Home Equity Loan Trust, Series 2006-ASAP3, Asset Backed Pass-Through Certificates by an Assignment of Mortgage which has been submitted to the Washtenaw County Register of Deeds, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Two Hundred Seventy-Nine Thousand Two Hundred Nine and 30/100 (\$279,209.30) including interest at the rate of 5.514000% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the Circuit Court in said Washtenaw County, where the premises to be sold or some part of them are situated, at 10:00 AM on January 21, 2010. Said premises are situated in the Township of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 138, of Greendale Village West, according to the Plat thereof recorded in Liber 35 of Plats, Pages 38, through 66, of Washtenaw County records. Commonly known as: 6910 Lakeway Street. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. Dated: December 24, 2009 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for HSBC Bank USA, N.A., as Trustee on behalf of ACE Securities Corp. Home Equity Loan Trust, and for the registered holders of ACE Securities Corp. Home Equity Loan Trust, Series 2006-ASAP3, Asset Backed Pass-Through Certificates 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302 248-335-9200 Case No. 090MI00564-1 ASAP# 3380533 12/24/2009, 12/31/2009, 01/07/2010, 01/14/2010

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Advertisement for Bids for Ypsilanti Public Schools
Project Information
Sealed bid proposals will be accepted from qualified contractors by Ypsilanti Public Schools for the Transportation Building. Proposals may be mailed or delivered in person to:
Dedrick Martin Superintendent C/o Ypsilanti Public Schools 1885 Packard Rd. Ypsilanti, MI 48197-1846.
Pre-Bid Meeting
A pre-bid meeting and project walk-through will be on January 4, 2010, at 1:00 PM (local time) at the Ypsilanti High School Board Room.
Bid Information
Proposals must be received prior to 2:00 PM (local time) on January 13, 2010, at the Ypsilanti Public Schools Administration Office. Proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud at 2:05 PM in the Ypsilanti Public Schools High School - Board Room. All bids received after 2:00 PM on the bid date will not be accepted and will be returned to the Bidder unopened.
Proposals and Award
The Owner will award contracts on or about 1/25/2010.
Plans and Questions
Interested Bidders should contact Wolgast Corporation at (989) 790-9120.
Bid Security
A Bid Security by a qualified surety, authorized to do business in the state where the Project is located and in the amount of five percent (5%) of the Base Bid shall accompany each proposal or proposal combination.
Familial Disclosure
All bidders must provide familial disclosure in compliance with MCL 380.1287 and attach this information to the bid. The bid shall be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the Owner or the employee of the bidder and any member of the board, intermediate school board, or board of directors or the superintendent of the school district, intermediate superintendent of the intermediate school district, or chief executive officer of the public school academy. The District shall not accept a bid that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement.
Owner's Rights
The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, accept a bid other than the low bid, and to waive informalities, irregularities, and/or errors in the bid proposals, which they feel to be in their own best interest.
Publish December 24, 2009

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FORECLOSURE NOTICE RANDALL S. MILLER & ASSOCIATES, P.C. IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Mortgage Sale - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Grace L. Dyer, Michael E. Dyer, wife and husband to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Fidelity Mortgage of NY, Mortgage, dated November 15, 2008, and recorded on January 8, 2007, in Liber 4601, Page 145, Washtenaw County Records, said mortgage was assigned to HSBC Bank USA, National Association, as Indenture Trustee for the registered Noteholders of Renaissance Home Equity Loan Trust 2006-4 by an Assignment of Mortgage which has been submitted to the Washtenaw County Register of Deeds, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Ninety-Four Thousand Four Hundred Four and 59/100 (\$94,404.59) including interest at the rate of 6.950000% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the Circuit Court in said Washtenaw County, where the premises to be sold or some part of them are situated, at 10:00 AM on January 21, 2010. Said premises are situated in the Township of Dexter, Washtenaw County, Michigan, and are described as: DE 5-6A-1B-1 (012) COM S 1/4 COR OF SEC. TH N 1-19-18E 1785.59 FT, TH N 89-55-18E 349.4 FT TO POB TH N 89-55-18E 905.14 FT, TH S 1-19-18W 220.81 FT, TH S 89-55-18W 914.37 FT, TH N 3-42-40E 221.23 FT TO POB, PART SE 1/4 SEC. 5 T1S R4E, 4.81 ACRES. Commonly known as: 9054 Glenbrook Road. The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. Dated: December 24, 2009 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for HSBC Bank USA, National Association, as Indenture Trustee for the registered Noteholders of Renaissance Home Equity Loan Trust 2006-4 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302 248-335-9200 Case No. 090MI00294-2 ASAP# 3380579 12/24/2009, 12/31/2009, 01/07/2010, 01/14/2010

FORECLOSURE NOTICE RANDALL S. MILLER & ASSOCIATES, P.C. IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Mortgage Sale - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Randal Keith Marshall, a married man and Patricia Marshall, his wife as Joint Tenants to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Renaissance Home Equity Loan Trust 2006-4 by an Assignment of Mortgage dated November 28, 2007 and recorded December 14, 2007 in Liber 4657, Page 992, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Twenty Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety and 48/100 (\$120,790.48) including interest at the rate of 3.950000% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the Circuit Court in said Washtenaw County, where the premises to be sold or some part of them are situated, at 10:00 AM on January 21, 2010. Said premises are situated in the Township of Superior, Washtenaw County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 662, Woodland Acres Subdivision No. 7, according to the Plat thereof as recorded in Liber 21 of Plats at Pages 29 and 30, Washtenaw County Records. Commonly known as: 5588 Canterbury Court. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. Dated: December 24, 2009 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for HSBC Bank USA, N.A., as Trustee for the registered holders of Renaissance Home Equity Loan Trust, Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2007-3 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302 248-335-9200 Case No. 090MI00508-1 ASAP# 3380426 12/24/2009, 12/31/2009, 01/07/2010, 01/14/2010

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PUBLIC AUCTION
by Michigan Department of Treasury, January 6, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. at Operations Center, 7285 Parsons Dr., Dimondale, MI 48821. For Auction: One 2009 Class C Liquor License #76801 with Sunday Sales Permit. The license can be moved within the County of Livingston. The minimum bid is \$11,700 and payment must be made the same as auction b 3 p.m. in cash or certified funds made payable to State of Michigan. The sale is conditional upon meeting the criteria established by Local Governmental Agencies and The Liquor Control Commission. You must submit an application to transfer the license within 10 days of the successful bid. Transfer fees of \$690 due upon approval of the license. If the license is unable to be transferred to the bidder, the purchase price will be refunded less any renewal fees paid by the State to keep the license active. Contact Barbara Weatherbee, 517-636-5232.
Published Dec. 24 & 31 2009

King Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13				14	
15				16					17	
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48				49					50	
51				52					53	

ACROSS
1 Cry like a banshee
5 "Say again?"
9 Crafty
12 Europe's neighbor
13 German car name
14 Tiny veggie
15 Peter Parker's alter ego
17 Catesian conclusion
18 Hostels
19 Doves
21 Founded (on)
24 Unaccompanied
25 Swiss peaks
26 Directly
30 Floral neckwear
31 Actor Alan
32 NASA deviation
33 Last page?
35 Small combo
36 Nestling
37 Hawk
38 Dashboard features
40 Painter
42 Actress
43 1984 mockumentary subject
48 Buddy
49 Sea flock
50 Therefore
51 Wapiti
52 Method (Abbr.)
53 Turned blue?
DOWN
1 Existed
2 Cleopatra's slayer
3 Mid-afternoon hour
4 Restroom designation
5 Caution
6 Runs smoothly
7 Oklahoma city
8 Small timer
9 Freshwater algae
10 Begin
11 Sweet potato
16 Conclude
20 Yale student
21 Hairless
22 Sheltered
23 It takes
24 Use a tea spoon
26 Spheres
27 Guitar's kin
28 Greet
29 Pairs
31 Accumulates
34 CBS logo
35 Named
37 Narcs' org.
38 Jerry Herman musical
39 Ellipse
40 Needles' mates
41 "Meet Me - Louis"
44 Use a crowbar
45 Take a shot at
46 Time of your life?
47 Home for 14-Across

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December 24, 2009

Gingerbread house building

Library hosts workshop as Chelsea kids show off their creative side



Photos by Burrill Strong



(Clockwise from top left) Hannah and Maria Alshenid

Carlo Sainelli



Lori and Jake Cheever

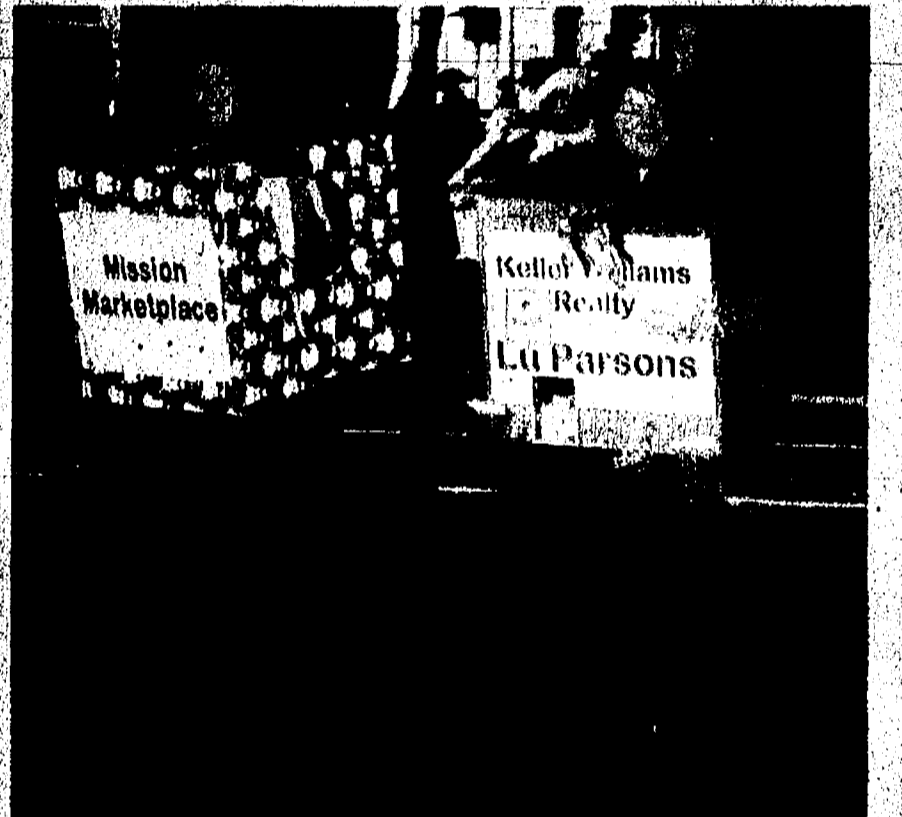
OUR COMMUNITY

December 24, 2009

Chelsea's Hometown Holiday Parade

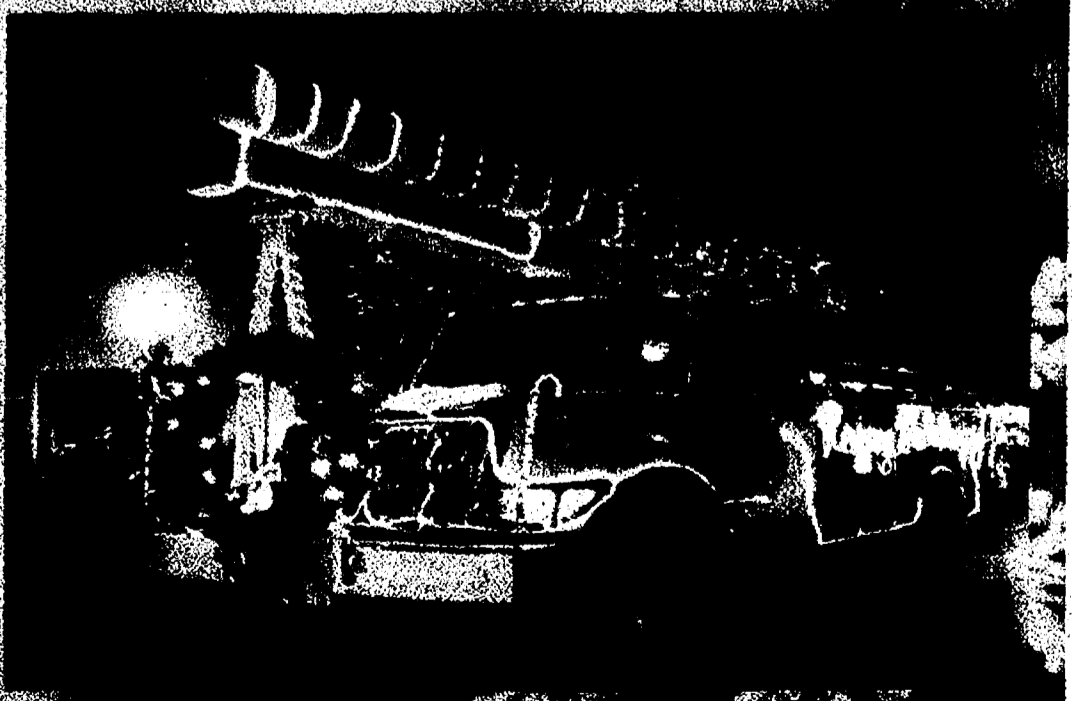


Aaron Fody and Ethan, 11 months.



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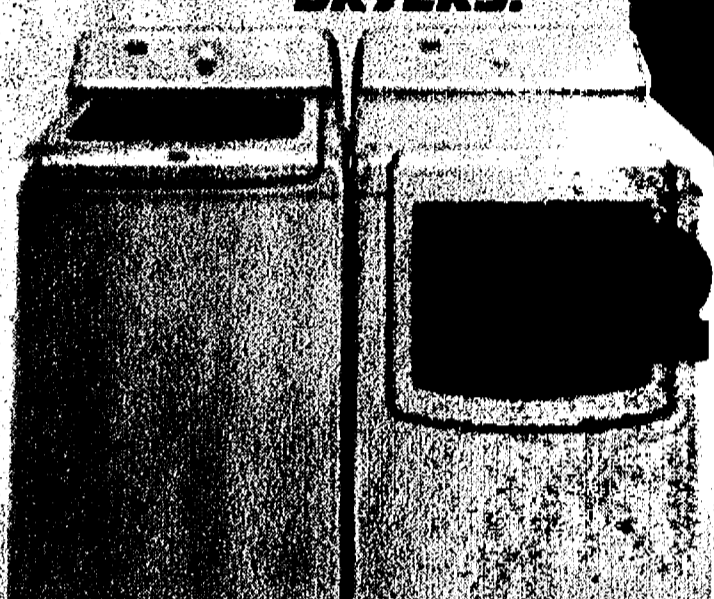
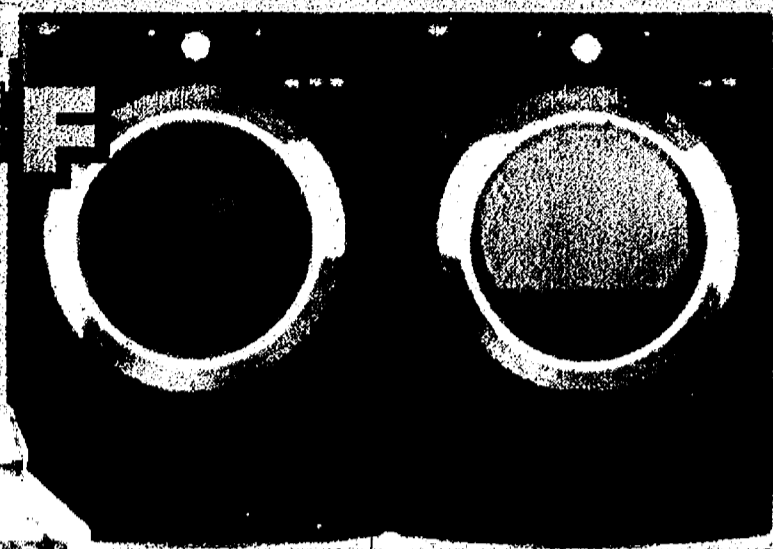


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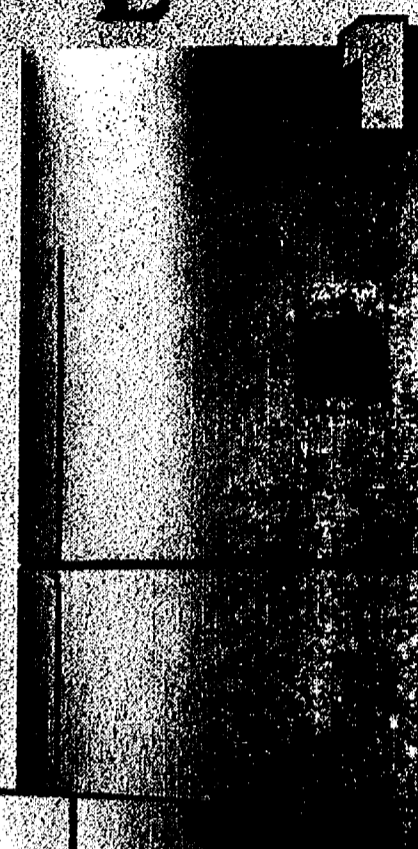
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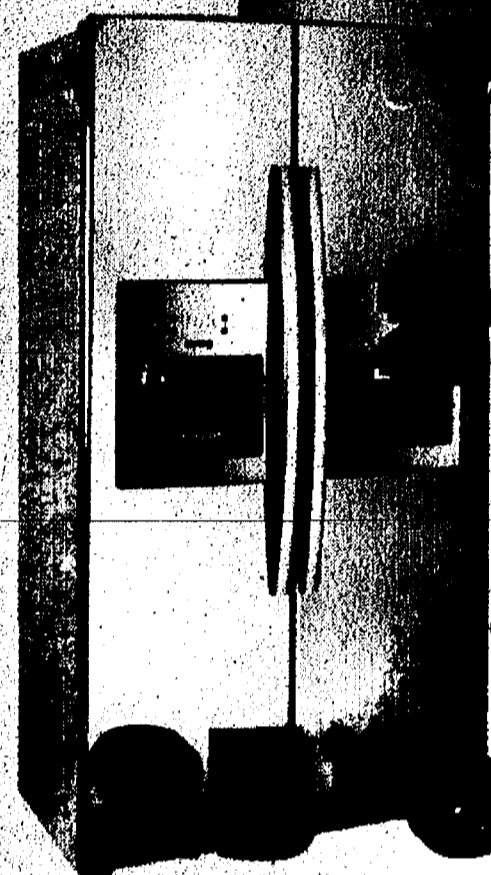
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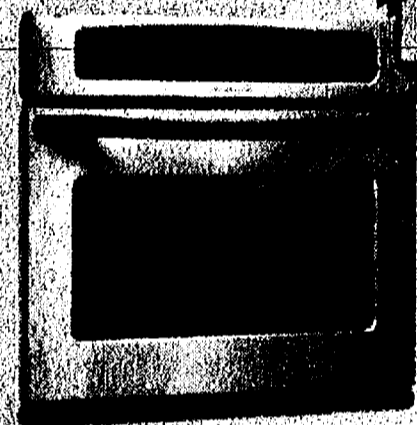
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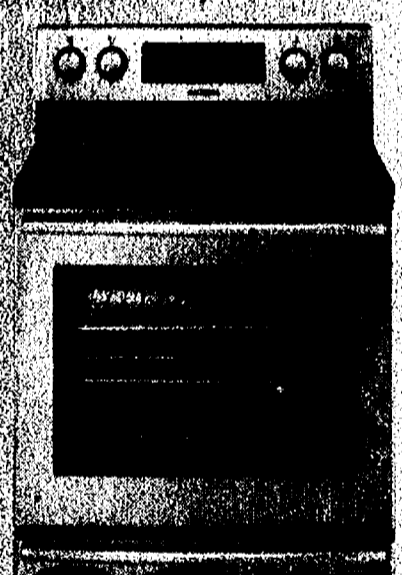
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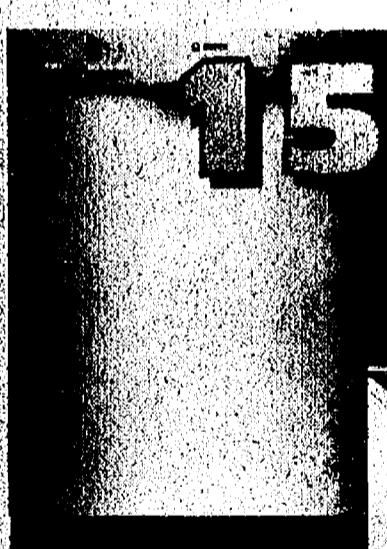
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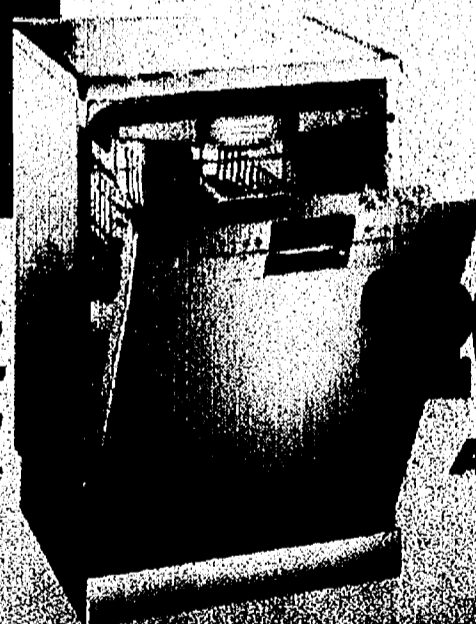


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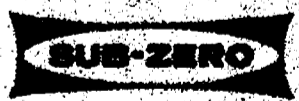


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Landmarks depicted in gingerbread

Gandy Dancer offers Big House display, others

By Lisa Allmendinger
Heritage Newspapers

Just inside the Gandy Dancer restaurant is a holiday gingerbread village populated by historic Ann Arbor buildings.

The real and gingerbread version of The Big House is still under construction.

In fact, University of Michigan Athletic Director Bill Martin and football announcer Jim Brandstetter visited the gingerbread Big House in the kitchen while it was under construction.

So far, there are 4 pounds of marshmallows and 12 pounds of Rice Krispies on a plywood base to support its large size.

"I was amazed at how long it has taken to do it," says Cate Ackerman, the Gandy Dancer's pastry chef who created the unique replica.

In fact, the colorful confetti crowd includes a maize-colored student section.

"People point to their seats and say, 'That's me,'" Ackerman says.

In addition to adding the new sky box section to match the current Big House renovations, a visiting critter munched on one of the edible scoreboards.

"It ate both scoreboards and loved them," says Ackerman, laughing.

In addition to Michigan Stadium, the sugary replicas of Burton Tower, Michigan Union, St. Thomas Church, the Kempf House Museum and the State Theater dominate the ever-expanding landscape.

Santa and his tiny reindeer have landed on the roof of the large-scale Gandy Dancer, while a U of M train on tracks, donated by the M Den, circles the restaurant.

Ackerman began the gingerbread village during the summer of 2005. It began as a vision of corporate management, she says, something that would honor local historic architecture.

There's an Ann Arbor Division of Santa's workshop, which includes an employee entrance with elf footprints outside in the snow.

Burton Towner has sand-

stone sides made of chewing gum.

"We went at it from an architectural aspect," Ackerman says.

And although the pastry chef is the main architect, she's gotten help from many of the restaurant's 100 employees.

In addition, students from Washtenaw Community College have lent a hand.

"My daughter even helped," Ackerman says.

Each year, despite careful wrapping and placement in more secure containers, which are stored off site, there are still repairs that need to be made.

In fact, in 2006 and 2007, the many hours she spent on the village were devoted to repairs.

The work begins each year in October and each year, more detail is added, including lighting.

"If you consider Elmer's Glue edible, then everything's edible," she says.

Except, of course, the plywood base under the Big House.

So what's planned for 2010? "I might do Cobblestone Farm," she says.

Matt Foyteck, general manager of the restaurant, says the plan is to grow the village each year and have a really nice display of historic buildings based on ones in the community.

The display goes up each year the day after Thanksgiving, he says, and draws a lot of attention from diners.

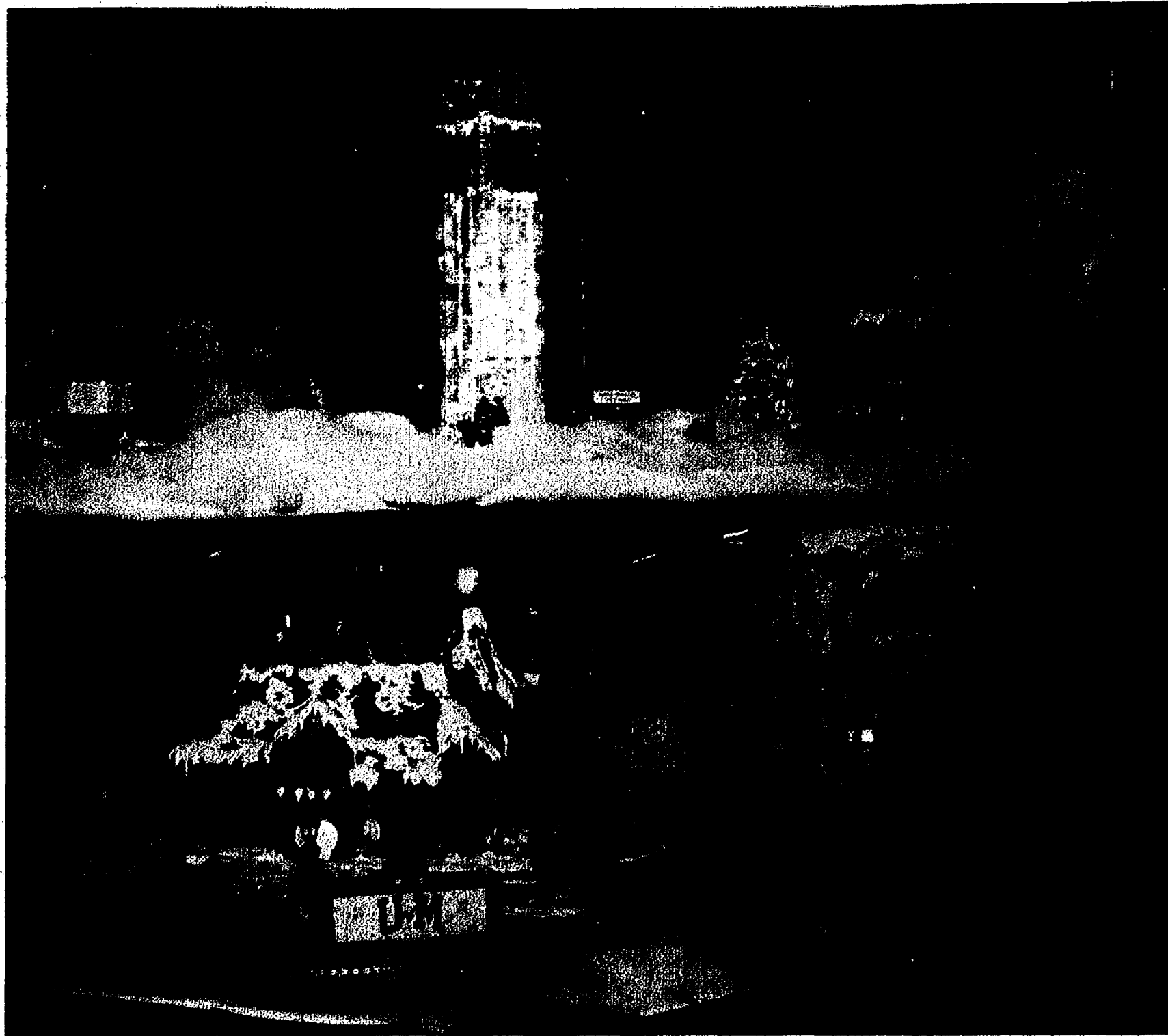
"Cate will stay later and later to give people insights," into the buildings and how they were made, Foyteck says.

The village, he says, gives people another reason to come to the restaurant, like the live jazz that was added last summer along with a happy hour "with deeply discounted appetizers."

"There are so many opportunities to create historic buildings," Ackerman says.

Gandy Dancer is open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday, 4:30 to 11 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday for brunch and from 2 to 9 p.m. for dinner.

Lisa Allmendinger can be reached at 1-877-995-NEWS (6397) or at lallmendinger@heritage.com.



Photos by Lisa Allmendinger

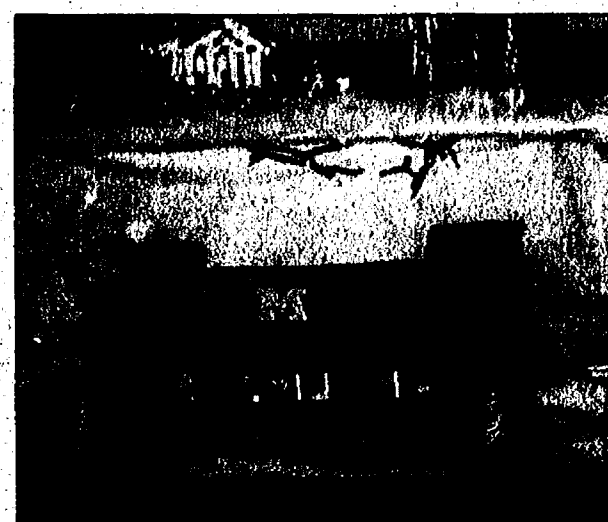
Pastry Chef Cate Ackerman shows off her gingerbread display of historic Ann Arbor buildings inside the Gandy Dancer restaurant. The display will be set up through the second week in January.



Ann Arbor fire station and Hands-on Museum in gingerbread.



The Gandy Dancer restaurant in gingerbread.



The Big House in gingerbread. It, too, is under construction, says pastry chef Cate Ackerman.

AccuWeather.com SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR WASHTENAW COUNTY

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
31° to 37°	24° to 30°	41° to 47° 26° to 32°	30° to 36° 18° to 24°	25° to 31° 14° to 20°	22° to 28° 12° to 18°	23° to 29° 5° to 11°	18° to 24° 7° to 13°

ALMANAC

Statistics for the week ending Monday, Dec. 21

Temperatures:

High/Low: 37°/21°

Normal high/low: 34°/21°

Average temperature: 27.7°

Precipitation:

Total for the month: 1.24"

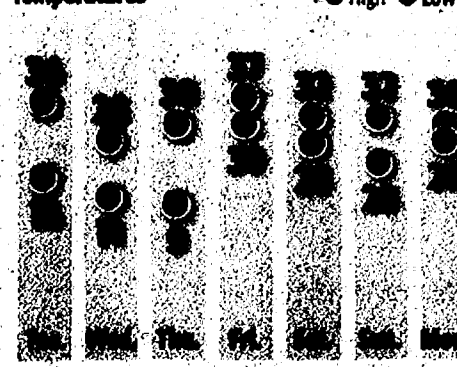
Normal for the month: 2.00"

Normal for the year: 34.91"

PAST WEEK'S TEMPS

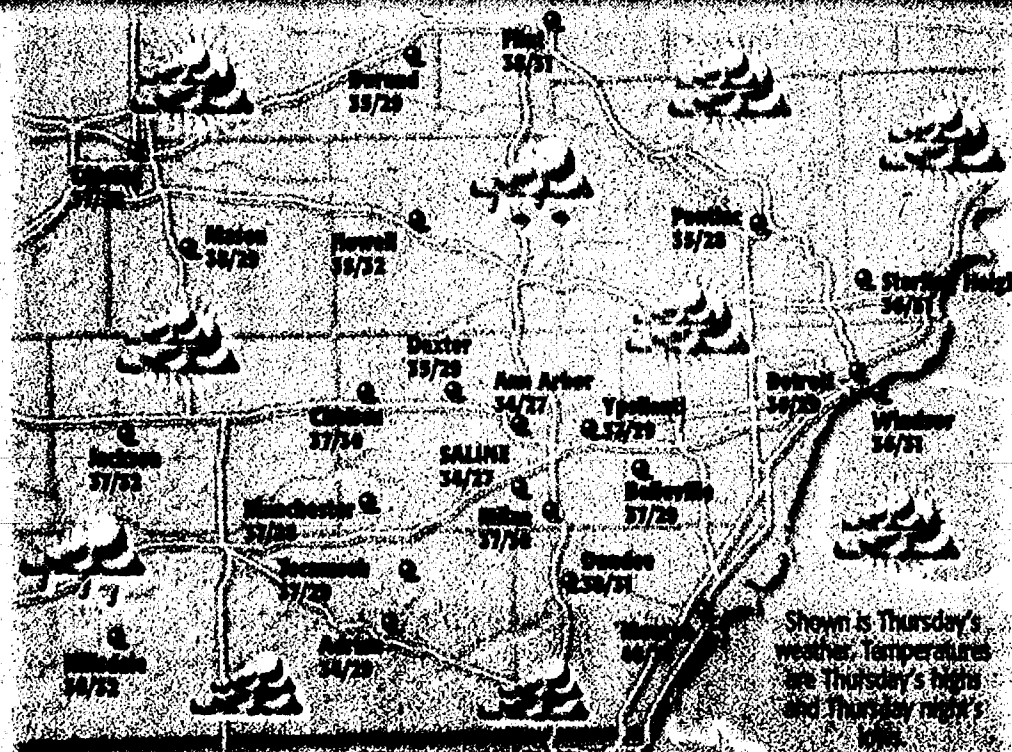
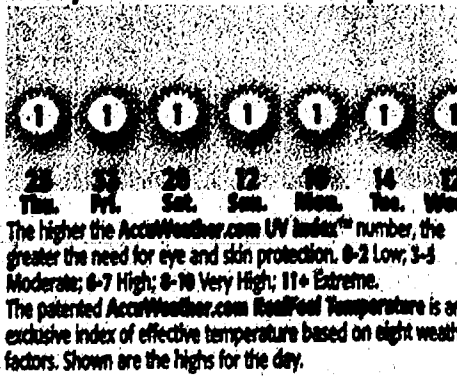
Temperatures

● High ● Low



THIS WEEK'S CONDITIONS

Weekly UV Index and RealFeel Temperature*



SUN AND MOON

The Sun	Rise	Set
Thursday	8:02 a.m.	5:08 p.m.
Friday	8:02 a.m.	5:09 p.m.
Saturday	8:03 a.m.	5:10 p.m.
Sunday	8:03 a.m.	5:11 p.m.
Monday	8:03 a.m.	5:12 p.m.

The Moon	Rise	Set
Thursday	12:04 a.m.	12:15 a.m.
Friday	12:27 p.m.	1:17 a.m.
Saturday	1:25 p.m.	2:25 a.m.
Sunday	1:25 p.m.	3:31 a.m.
Monday	2:06 p.m.	4:43 a.m.
Tuesday	2:56 p.m.	5:54 a.m.
Wednesday	3:00 p.m.	7:01 a.m.

RIVER LEVELS

As of 7 a.m. Monday	Flood stage	Current stage
Ecorse Creek		12.60 ft
Maumee River		16 ft
Maumee Creek		16.38 ft
Maumee River		12 ft
Maumee River		12 ft
Maumee River		12 ft

LAKE LEVELS

Lake	Normal	Current
Lake Erie	580.11 ft	570.79 ft
Lake St. Clair	575 ft	573.80 ft

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Thu	Fri	Sat
Ann Arbor	34/22/c	44/28/sn	33/21/sf
Dearborn	33/21/c	44/28/sn	33/21/sf
East Lansing	32/27/c	37/27/sn	35/22/sf
Flint	38/31/c	39/28/sn	33/22/sf
Kalamazoo	38/32/f	38/28/sn	33/24/sf
Lansing	37/28/c	39/28/sn	33/22/sf
Livonia	37/28/c	39/28/sn	34/23/sf
Midland	34/27/c	39/25/sn	34/21/sf
Monroe	37/33/sn	39/28/sn	32/22/sf
Pontiac	35/28/c	39/27/sn	32/22/sf
Rochester Hills	32/27/c	39/27/sn	35/22/sf
Saginaw	32/27/c	39/27/sn	35/22/sf
St. Louis	35/30/f	38/28/sn	33/23/sf
Sturgis	35/30/f	38/28/sn	33/23/sf
Traverse City	36/30/c	37/28/sn	33/23/sf
Warren	35/30/c	42/31/sn	35/28/sf

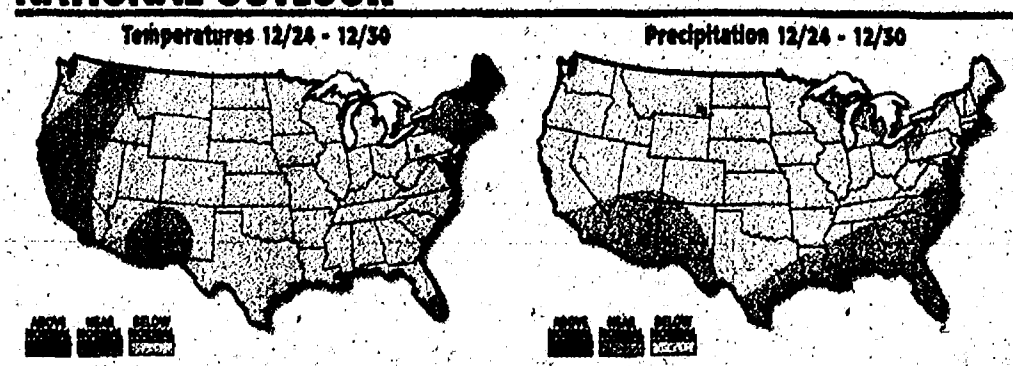
WORLD CITIES

City	Thu	Fri	Sat
Amman	67/55/c	64/51/c	62/52/c
Berlin	39/34/sn	37/30/sf	34/28/c
Buenos Aires	72/55/pc	74/56/pc	76/60/s
Cairo	72/55/pc	74/56/pc	76/60/s
Calgary	67/55/c	64/51/c	62/52/c
Hong Kong	74/66/s	67/64/c	67/59/sh
Jakarta	84/68/s	86/68/s	89/68/s
Johannesburg	78/59/pc	81/60/f	80/61/f
London	33/34/sn	43/33/c	46/33/pc
Mexico City	73/56/pc	74/57/s	74/61/pc
Monterrey	32/21/sn	30/23/sn	36/27/sn
Moscow	32/21/sn	30/23/sn	36/27/sn
Paris	32/21/sn	30/23/sn	36/27/sn
Rio de Janeiro	86/75/f	86/75/f	87/76/pc
Rome	62/64/f	67/64/f	69/68/pc
Seoul	41/25/pc	30/9/f	24/10/pc
Singapore	83/73/pc	83/73/pc	84/74/pc
Sydney	93/72/pc	84/64/f	75/64/r
Tokyo	46/34/pc	46/34/pc	46/34/pc
Warsaw	40/34/f	40/30/c	36/25/sf

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Thu	Fri	Sat
Albany	33/45/s	39/57/pc	32/52/pc
Boston	37/30/c	38/31/pc	41/36/r
Chicago	40/33/s	40/33/s	37/22/sf
Chennai	46/38/r	45/30/r	41/28/c
Columbus	37/33/pc	40/33/pc	39/28/sf
Dallas	52/31/c	51/28/s	47/28/s
Denver	20/33/sn	22/33/pc	31/31/sf
Honolulu	79/67/pc	80/67/sh	81/68/s
Houston	66/40/pc	66/40/pc	65/57/pc
Kansas City	42/24/r	32/22/sf	31/14/c
Las Vegas	35/51/s	33/52/s	31/30/pc
Los Angeles	66/44/s	66/46/s	66/46/pc
Minneapolis	32/24/sn	31/18/sn	20/8/c
New Orleans	70/63/pc	70/63/pc	70/63/pc
New York City	38/30/pc	41/37/sn	45/38/r
Philadelphia	34/29/pc	40/38/f	47/33/r
Phoenix	61/38/s	62/37/pc	63/40/pc
Pittsburgh	36/28/pc	40/34/f	36/26/sf
San Diego	48/33/f	48/33/f	48/33/f
San Francisco	57/45/s	57/44/s	58/46/c
Seattle	40/28/pc	42/30/pc	42/28/pc
Wash., DC	34/25/pc	45/37/f	46/33/c

NATIONAL OUTLOOK



the BIG event

win \$500



Search throughout this tab and find each of the 6 "big event" logos hidden in the advertisements (cover excluded). Mark on the form the advertiser name and page number on which each of the 6 logos appear. You must use the form provided here.

Entries should be mailed or dropped off to:

**Heritage Newspapers
Attn: The Big Event
106 W. Michigan Ave.
Saline, MI 48176**

All entries must be received in our offices by Monday, January 4, 2010, 4:00 p.m. You must be at least 18 years old to enter. Employees of Heritage Newspapers and their families are not eligible.

One lucky winner will be randomly drawn from all correct responses and will win \$500

Advertiser #1	_____	Pg #	_____
Advertiser #2	_____	Pg #	_____
Advertiser #3	_____	Pg #	_____
Advertiser #4	_____	Pg #	_____
Advertiser #5	_____	Pg #	_____
Advertiser #6	_____	Pg #	_____
Name: _____			
Address: _____			
City	_____	ST	_____ ZIP _____
Phone Number: _____			
E-mail Address: _____			

Drawing will be held on January 5th. Winners will be notified by phone or email.



Heritage Newspapers - West

*The Belleville View, The Chelsea Standard, The Dexter Leader,
The Saline Reporter, The Milan News-Leader,
The Manchester Enterprise, Ypsilanti Courier*



Ann Arbor JOURNAL

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Clinical Research Division of IHA

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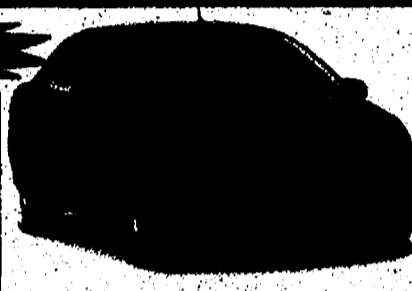


Steve Williams

2009 AVEO ILS

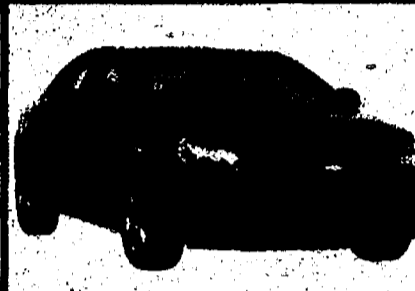
0% 72 Months Available
PLUS \$500 Bonus Cash

MSRP	\$12,675
GMS EMP.	11,800.48
CHEVY REBATE	-1500
BONUS CASH	-1500
PURCHASE PRICE	\$8,800.48



2010 CHEVROLET MALIBU ILS

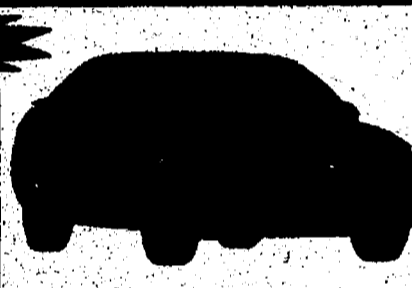
MSRP	\$22,990
GMS EMP.	21,218.13
CHEVY REBATE	-1500
BONUS CASH	-1500
PURCHASE PRICE	\$18,218.13
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2009 CHEVROLET IMPALA LS

0% 72 Months Available
PLUS \$500 Bonus Cash

MSRP	\$24,765
GMS EMP.	23,097
CHEVY REBATE	-3500
BONUS CASH	-1500
PURCHASE PRICE	\$18,097



2009 CHEVROLET 1500 EXT.CAB 4x4

0% 72 Months Available
PLUS \$1000 Bonus Cash

MSRP	\$36,540
GMS EMP.	32,796
CHEVY REBATE	-3500
BONUS CASH	-300
PURCHASE PRICE	\$26,296



2009 CHEVROLET 1500 CREW CAB 4X4

0% 72 Months Available

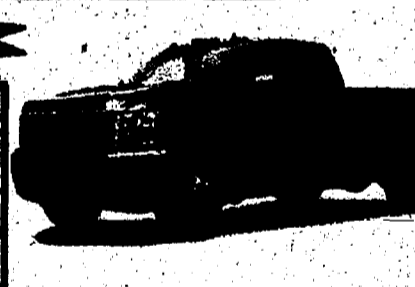
MSRP	\$39,835
GMS EMP.	35,702
CHEVY REBATE	-3000
BONUS CASH	-3000
PURCHASE PRICE	\$29,702



2009 CHEVROLET 3500 CREW CAB DUALY DURAMAX

0% 72 Months Available
PLUS \$1000 Bonus Cash

MSRP	\$51,472
GMS EMP.	47,881.82
CHEVY REBATE	-3000
BONUS CASH	-3000
PURCHASE PRICE	\$41,881

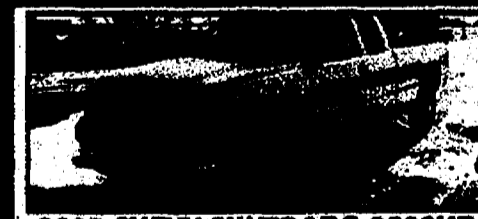


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2006 CHEVY HHR LT	\$9,995
2005 CADILLAC CTS	\$14,995
2004 CHEVY MALIBU	\$7,995
2007 CHEVY SILVERADO CREW	\$22,995
2007 CHEVY TAHOE LT 4X4	\$27,995
2004 FORD F150 XL REG.	\$8,495
2002 JEEP LIBERTY LTD	\$7995



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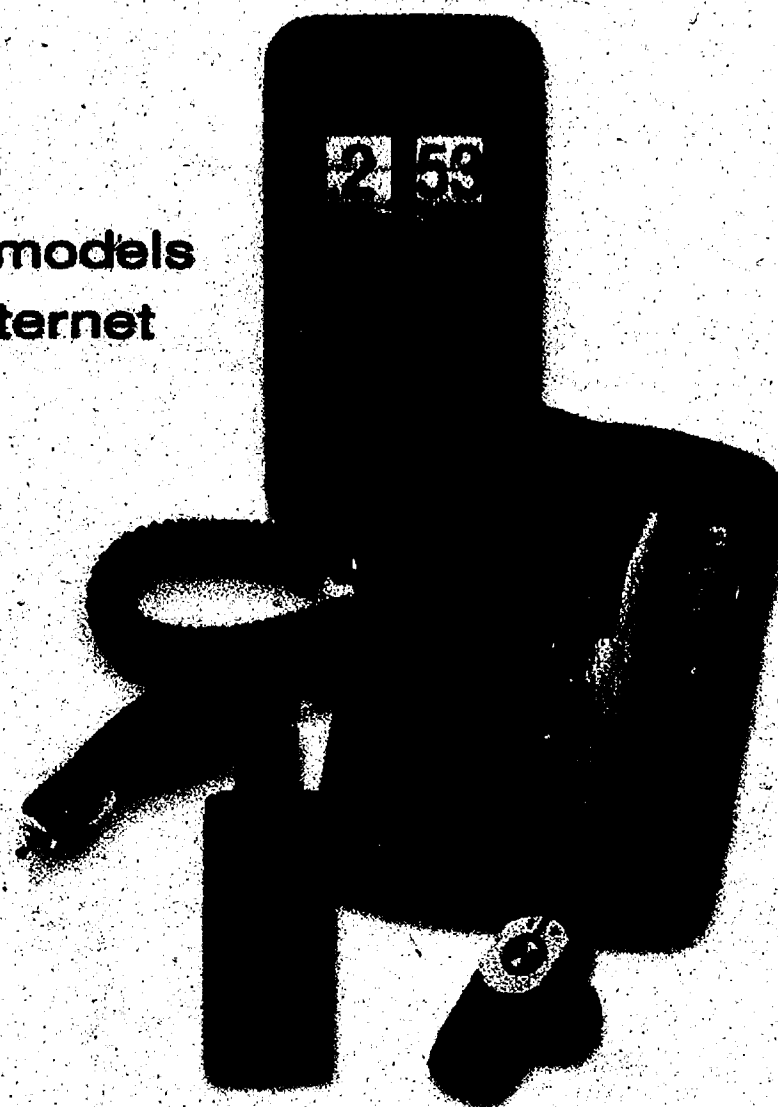
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\$198 per month

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2009 Tahoe LTZ Loaded Navigation DVD Sunroof \$43,595⁰⁰	2009 Suburban Stk. #09C1145 GMS SALE PRICE \$35,999⁰⁰ 0 DOWN • 72 MOS. AT '569' mo.	2009 HHR LS \$14,999⁰⁰	2009 Cobalt SS Stk. #09-171 GMS SALE PRICE \$18,995⁰⁰ 0 DOWN • 72 MOS. AT '299' mo.	2010 Camaro LT \$27,965⁰⁰	2009 Traverse LT Stk. #09C1156 GMS SALE PRICE \$26,728⁰⁰ 0 DOWN • 72 MOS. AT '419' mo.

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M.S.R.P. \$16,690 • #3304



Ford A-Plan Price..... \$15,616
Ford Rebates 4,500

\$11,116

or 36-Mo. RCL Lease

\$123

PER MONTH**

2010 Base MSRP
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DEPOSIT WAIVED UPON
APPROVED CREDIT.

DAVE KNAPP FORD YEAR END SALES EVENT



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2010 FORD FUSION SE

M.S.R.P. \$22,500 • #3281



Ford A-Plan Price..... \$20,435
Ford Rebates 3,500

\$16,935

or 27-Mo. RCL Lease

\$199

PER MONTH**

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2010 Ford ESCAPE XLT

M.S.R.P. \$26,490 • #3280

Ford A-Plan Price.....
Ford Rebates

\$20,434

or 27-Mo. RCL Lease

\$283/MO.

2010 Base MSRP
PLUS TAX, TITLE AND
LICENSE FEES, SECURITY
DEPOSIT WAIVED UPON
APPROVED CREDIT.

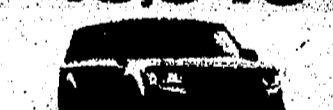


2010 Ford TRANSIT CONNECT XLT

M.S.R.P. \$23,325 • #3216

Ford A-Plan Price..... \$21,343
Ford Rebates 2,000

\$19,343



2010 Ford F-150 STX REG. CAB

M.S.R.P. \$27,865 • #3291

Ford A-Plan Price..... \$23,838
Ford Rebates 4,000

\$19,838



2010 Ford FLEX SE FWD

M.S.R.P. \$29,915 • #3332

Ford A-Plan Price..... \$27,785
Ford Rebates 5,000

\$22,755

2009 Ford F-250 4X4 XLT SC

M.S.R.P. \$41,300 • #2805

Ford A-Plan Price..... \$38,854
Ford Rebates 7,500

\$29,354



2010 Ford EDGE SE

M.S.R.P. \$27,790 • #3348

Ford A-Plan Price.....
Ford Rebates

\$20,867

or 27-Mo. RCL Lease

\$259/MO.

2010 Base MSRP
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Service & Body Shop Customers

DAVE KNAPP FORD LINCOLN-MERCURY

CHANGE OIL & FILTER \$9.95

COUPON SPECIAL

Get 5 quarts of oil and filter.
on all Ford, Lincoln or Mercury
vehicles with diesel engines.

COUPON

2010 Ford Focus SE
\$11,116

*PLUS TAX, TITLE AND LICENSE FEES. **10,500 MILE PER YEAR LEASE. INCLUDES ALL FORD MOTOR COMPANY REBATES. EXCESS MILEAGE CHARGE 20¢ PER MILE. OFFER ENDS 12/31/09.



Jeff Gordon Sam Cepeda Bern Cremeans Scott Cremeans Richard Ellis Lou Graf Steve Orlovski Fred Rossi Paul Summerford Mike Tabone

DAVE KNAPP

Customer Driven! Employee Powered!

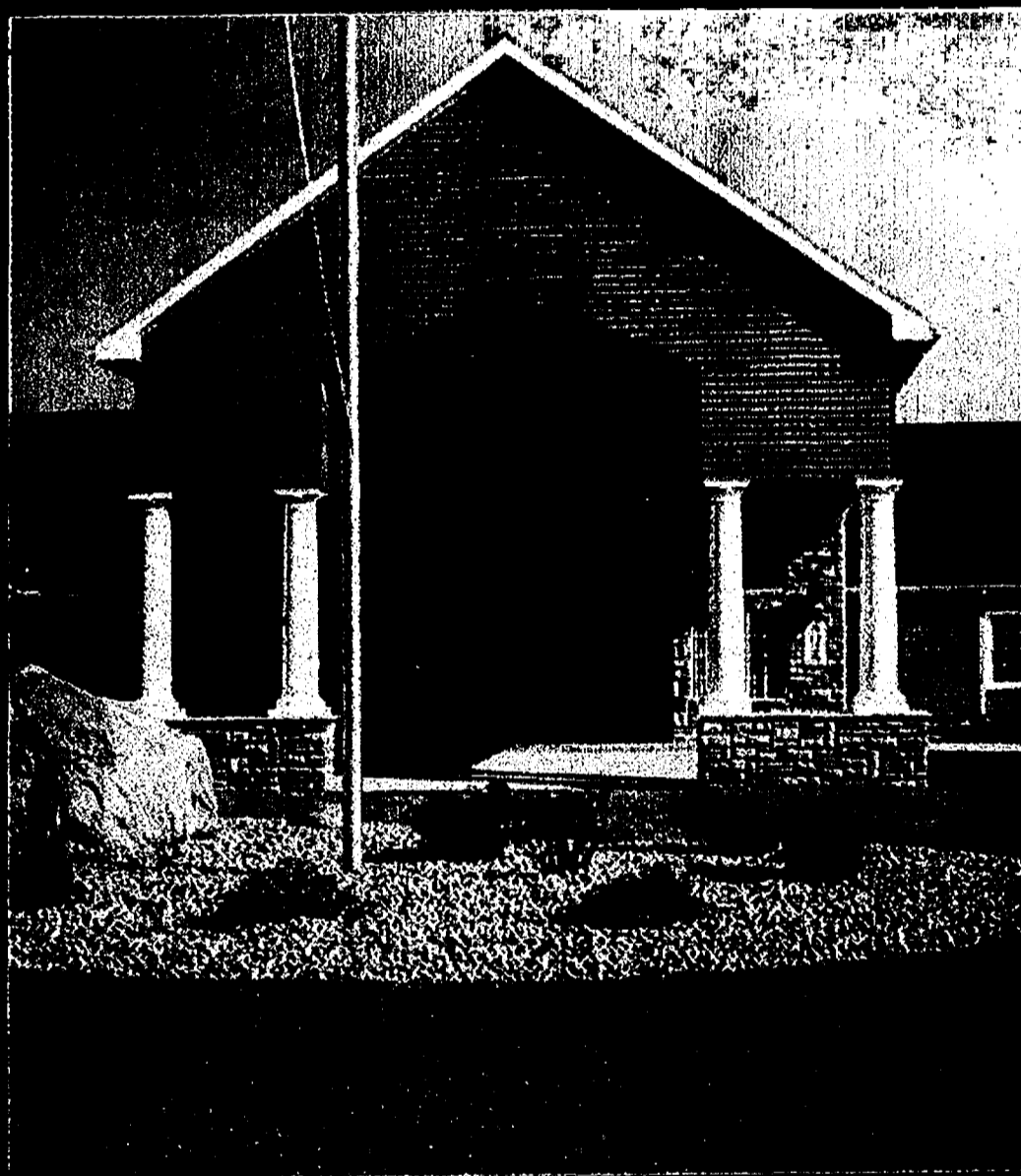
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U.S. 223 IN ADRIAN

Call Us Today
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www.knappford.com

Legacy Assisted Living & Legends Alzheimer's Center



- JUST 15 MINUTES FROM CHELSEA
- LOCATED RIGHT OFF I-94
- NO ENTRANCE FEE
- Prices starting at \$2,895 per month
- 24-hour emergency call system
- Licensed registered nurse on-site
- Planned activities
- Three exceptional meals daily
- Medication administration included in level 1 Care.

Call 764-2000 for your tour of this
state-of-the-art center!!

5025 Ann Arbor Road • Jackson, MI
517-764-2000

the
big
event



Lloyd
GANTON
RETIREMENT
CENTERS, INC.

BIG RED TAG YEAR END CLEARANCE!

It's the **BIGGEST SALE OF THE YEAR...**
DON'T MISS OUT! WE MUST CLEAR OUT OUR WAREHOUSES!
 IT'S INVENTORY TIME AND WE DON'T WANT TO COUNT IT...

6 BIG DAYS!

HARRY'S HAS SLASHED PRICES THROUGHOUT OUR 3 SHOW ROOMS WITH OVER AN ACRE OF NAME BRANDS!

HURRY LIMITED QUANTITIES!

LA Z BOY

Simmons
Beautyrest

TEMPUR-PEDIC
 welcome to bed™

Serta

RESTONIC
MATTRESS

Lane
 HOME FURNISHINGS

ASHLEY
 FURNITURE INDUSTRIES, INC.

CHROMCRAFT
 A Chromcraft / Revington Company

England

HOWARD MILLER

klaussner
 home furnishings

BERKLINE
 BUILT FOR COMFORT

Broyhill
 Home Furnishings Gallery

Vaughan-Bassett

and many, many more!

LIVING ROOMS & SLEEPER SOFAS

BROYHILL CASUAL STYLE SOFA
 Upholstered in Durable Micro Fiber Fabric
 Compare At: \$2,199
NOW ONLY: \$587

2 PIECE MOTION SECTIONAL
 Seating for 5 Adults, Micro Fiber Cover
 Compare At: \$2,999
NOW ONLY: \$996

QUEEN OR FULL SIZE SLEEPER SOFA
 Casual Style, Innerspring Mattress
 Compare At: \$1,099
NOW ONLY: \$695

LEATHER ITALIA SOFA
 All Top Grain Leather with Memory Foam Cushions
 Compare At: \$2,499
NOW ONLY: \$1,248

CONTEMPORARY SOFA & LOVESEAT
 Upholstered in Durable Textured Fabric
 Compare At: \$1,399
NOW ONLY: \$598

BERKLINE 3 PC SECTIONAL
 Seating for 5 with Two Recliners on Each End.
 Compare At: \$2,999
NOW ONLY: \$1,497

QUEEN, FULL OR TWIN SIZE SLEEPER SOFAS
 Choice of Styles, Deluxe Innerspring Mattress
 Compare At: \$1,199
NOW ONLY: \$746

LEATHER RECLINING SOFA
 Choice of Colors with Wall Saver Recliners
 Compare At: \$1,199
NOW ONLY: \$697

BERKLINE MOTION SOFA
 Plush Casual Style with 2 Wallway® Recliners
 Compare At: \$2,599
NOW ONLY: \$897
PLUS MANY, MANY MORE SALE ITEMS

BEDROOMS & KIDS BEDS

4 PC. MASTER BEDROOM
 8 Drawer Dresser, Mirror, 5 Drawer Chest & Queen/Full Headboard
 Compare At: \$1,599
NOW ONLY: \$1,176

BOOKCASE & WAGON WHEEL BUNK BED
 Two Twin Beds, or One Bunk Bed
 Compare At: \$499
NOW ONLY: \$342

TRUNDLE BED
 All Wood Construction with a Rich Warm Finish
 Compare At: \$429
NOW ONLY: \$265

7 PC. MASTER BEDROOM
 Contemporary Design, Rich Oak Finish. Includes Dresser, Mirror, Chest, Headboard, Footboard, Rails & Nightstand
 Compare At: \$2,799
NOW ONLY: \$1,887

MISSION STYLE FUTON SOFA
 Solid Wood, Rich Oak Finish
 Compare At: \$479
NOW ONLY: \$343

DELUXE DAY BED
 Gloss White Decorative Finish, Includes Spring Unit
 Compare At: \$499
NOW ONLY: \$333
PLUS MANY, MANY MORE SALE ITEMS

OCCASIONAL CURIOS, DESKS & MORE

3 SIDED CURIO
 Fruitwood Finish, Lighted Interior
 Compare At: \$399
NOW ONLY: \$248

HOWARD MILLER HALLWAY ORGANIZER
 Bench Seat, Storage Compartment, Coat Hooks & More
 Compare At: \$1,999
NOW ONLY: \$998

TELEVISION CONSOLE
 Lots of Storage
 Compare At: \$299
NOW ONLY: \$190

COMPUTER DESK
 Oak Finish
 Compare At: \$399
NOW ONLY: \$243

HOWARD MILLER CORNER CURIO
 Rich Cherry Finish
 Compare At: \$799
NOW ONLY: \$376

ROLL TOP COMPUTER DESK
 Choice of Finish
 Compare At: \$699
NOW ONLY: \$443

3PC. TABLE GROUP
 Includes 2 Ends & Cocktail table, Black Finish
 Compare At: \$299
NOW ONLY: \$187

JEWELRY ARMOIRE
 Beautiful Oak Finish
 Compare At: \$299
NOW ONLY: \$137

42" TELEVISION CONSOLE
 From Kathy Ireland Home Collection by MARTIN
 Compare At: \$779
NOW ONLY: \$472
PLUS MANY, MANY MORE SALE ITEMS

MATTRESSES GALORE

DELUXE TWIN SIZE MATTRESS AND FOUNDATION
 Your Choice of Plush or Firm
 Compare At: \$299 2 PC. SET
NOW ONLY: \$198 2 PC. SET

PREMIUM QUALITY QUEEN SIZE SET
 Ultra Plush Comfort
 Compare At: \$1,599
NOW ONLY: \$587 2 PC. SET

2009 SPRING AIR MODEL CLEARANCE 50-70% OFF

FULL SIZE 2 PC. SET
 Euro Top Comfort
 Compare At: \$599
NOW ONLY: \$298 2 PC. SET

GREAT SAVINGS ON SIMMONS BEAUTY REST, EVERY MODEL REDUCED SAVE UP TO 50% AND MORE

PREMIUM QUEEN SIZE 2 PC SET
 Choice of Plush or Firm, 10 Year Warranty
 Compare At: \$1,999
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SHOP THE TEMPUR-PEDIC GALLERY FOR COMFORT & SAVINGS

RESTONIC KING SIZE 3 PC. SET
 Euro Top Comfort, 10 Year Warranty
 Compare At: \$1,999
NOW ONLY: \$887

2009 SERTA MATTRESS SETS, MODEL CLEARANCE 50% OFF OR MORE

RECLINERS & ROCKERS

GLIDER ROCKER & GLIDER OTTOMAN
 Featuring Reversible Back & Seat Cushions
 Compare At: \$299
NOW ONLY: \$146

BERKLINE® FEEL GOOD MASSAGE RECLINER
 Leather, Choice of Colors
 Compare At: \$1,799
NOW ONLY: \$998

HIGH BACK WOOD ROCKING CHAIR
 Rich Warm Finish
 Compare At: \$249
NOW ONLY: \$157

LANE® COMFORT KING RECLINER
 Choice of Colors
 Compare At: \$1,199
NOW ONLY: \$685

DELUXE ROCKER RECLINER
 Micro Fiber Upholstery
 Compare At: \$499
NOW ONLY: \$248

GATNAPPER® POWER LIFT RECLINER
 Durable Fabric
 Compare At: \$799
NOW ONLY: \$498

BERKLINE® ROCKER RECLINER
 Plush Padding with Micro Fiber Upholstery
 Compare At: \$599
NOW ONLY: \$298

BERKLINE® POWER AUTO RECLINER
 Durable Micro Fiber Fabric
 Compare At: \$599
NOW ONLY: \$493

SWIVEL GLIDER ROCKER RECLINER
 Choice of colors
 Compare At: \$899
NOW ONLY: \$348
PLUS MANY, MANY MORE SALE ITEMS

LAMPS, ACCESSORIES, CLOCKS AND MORE

OAK & BRASS FLOOR LAMPS
 Your Choice of 3 Different Styles
 Compare At: \$149
NOW ONLY: \$88

5 PC. TABLE ACCESSORIES
 A Variety of Accent Pieces For Your Room
 Compare At: \$99
NOW ONLY: \$47

HOWARD MILLER® GRANDFATHER CLOCK
 Beautiful Chimes and Gorgeous Cabinetry
 Compare At: \$1,399
NOW ONLY: \$594

HOWARD MILLER® WALL CLOCK
 Black Metal Finish
 Compare At: \$69
NOW ONLY: \$25

PAIR OF TABLE LAMPS
 Universal Style That Goes with Any Decor
 Compare At: \$199
NOW ONLY: \$77

HOWARD MILLER® MANTLE CLOCK
 Solid Wood & Metal Design
 Compare At: \$139
NOW ONLY: \$47
PLUS MANY, MANY MORE SALE ITEMS

DINING ROOM & DINETTES

7 PIECE DINING ROOM
 Includes Rectangular Table with Butterfly Leaf & 4 Side Chairs & 2 Pc. China Rich Spice Finish
 Compare At: \$1,999
NOW ONLY: \$1,376

5 PIECE PUB DINETTE SET
 Includes Pub Height Leg Table & 4 Stools
 Compare At: \$599
NOW ONLY: \$298

5 PIECE GRANITE TOP DINING SET
 Round Pedestal Table & 4 Upholstered Side Chairs
 Compare At: \$1,299
NOW ONLY: \$698

3 PC. DROP LEAF DINETTE SET
 Table and 2 Side Chairs
 Compare At: \$429
NOW ONLY: \$261

5 PC. DELUXE CASTER DINETTE SET
 Double Pedestal Table with 4 Swivel Tilt Caster Chairs
 Compare At: \$1,999
NOW ONLY: \$998

7 PC. DINING ROOM SET
 Nostalgic Style Trestle Table with 4 Chairs & 2 Pc. China
 Compare At: \$2,299
NOW ONLY: \$1,643

5 PC. GLASS TOP DINETTE
 Includes Round Table & 4 Upholstered Side Chairs
 Compare At: \$899
NOW ONLY: \$298

OAK 5 PC. DINING SET
 Pedestal Table and 4 Solid Oak High Back Side Chairs
 Compare At: \$999
NOW ONLY: \$643
PLUS MANY, MANY MORE SALE ITEMS

HARRY'S FURNITURE

A LITTLE OUT OF THE WAY, A LOT LESS TO PAY!

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 Between Saline & Clinton on US-12

734-429-9705 • TOLL FREE 800-273-6752

INCREDIBLE FINANCING OFFER

No Payments & No Interest for up to 15 Months† or up to 5 Years Same As Cash†!

STORE HOURS: Monday & Friday 10-8 (CLOSED CHRISTMAS) Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 10-6 • Saturday 10-6 • Sunday 12-5

Shop Harry's Before You Buy.

BUY ON CONVENIENT CREDIT TERMS!

Get up to \$5000 Express Credit! Use Harry's Credit Advantage Card. Open a new account... Add on to your present account.

†Subject to approved credit with deposit and/or balance requirement. †Buyer will be responsible for accrued interest over the period of the term if the purchase is not paid off by the due date.

SEE STORE FOR DETAILS. All Prior Sales Excluded. Sorry, No Extra Discount on Tempur-Pedic. (Fabrics, Leathers and Colors may not be as shown). Not responsible for printer's errors.

Worth the Drive! Save Hundreds!



Home of the Better Deal!

New Year's Eve 10-4

Enjoy this Season at TOWNE CENTRE PLACE



Elderly Families Only (head or spouse 55+)

Rent from \$418 to \$575 • Spacious 1 Bedroom Apartment Homes • \$200 Security Deposit

Paid Gas & Water • Exciting Planned Social Activities • Huge Balconies

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Call Today for Your Personal Tour!

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FORESTCITY

401 W. Michigan Avenue • Ypsilanti, MI 48197





ONE WEEK TO YEAR END WRAP UP

Dec. 24th & 25th
Merry Christmas

OPEN SATURDAY
Dec. 26th - 10am-5pm

2010 PT CRUISER TOURING



MSRP.....\$18,995
Employee Savings.....\$1,305
Rebates.....\$2,000
Customer Cash/Trade.....\$2,000
O'Hara Cash Match.....\$2,000

AS LOW AS \$10,970

2010 DODGE JOURNEY



MSRP.....\$21,280
Employee Savings.....\$1,650
Rebates.....\$2,500
Customer Cash/Trade.....\$1,500
O'Hara Cash Match.....\$1,500

AS LOW AS \$13,455

2010 AVENGER SKT



MSRP.....\$20,970
Employee Savings.....\$1,620
Rebates.....\$2,000
Customer Cash/Trade.....\$1,000
O'Hara Cash Match.....\$1,000

AS LOW AS \$13,996

2010 DODGE RAM 1500



MSRP.....\$22,560
Employee Savings.....\$2,443
Rebates.....\$1,000
Customer Cash/Trade.....\$1,500
O'Hara Cash Match.....\$1,500

AS LOW AS \$15,217

2010 DODGE NITRO 4X4



MSRP.....\$24,010
Employee Savings.....\$1,722
Rebates.....\$2,000
Customer Cash/Trade.....\$1,500
O'Hara Cash Match.....\$1,500

AS LOW AS \$16,543

DOWN PAYMENT MATCH UP TO \$2000!
\$1500 BONUS CASH FOR CURRENT LESSEES!

2010 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN



MSRP.....\$24,040
Employee Savings.....\$2,008
Rebates.....\$1,000
Customer Cash/Trade.....\$1,500
O'Hara Cash Match.....\$1,500

AS LOW AS \$17,214

2010 DODGE JOURNEY



LEASE FOR ONLY

EMPLOYEE / FAMILY **\$199**

EVERYONE ELSE **\$217**

2010 JEEP LIBERTY SPORT 4X4



LEASE FOR ONLY

EMPLOYEE / FAMILY **\$206**

EVERYONE ELSE **\$228**

2010 TOWN & COUNTRY TOURING



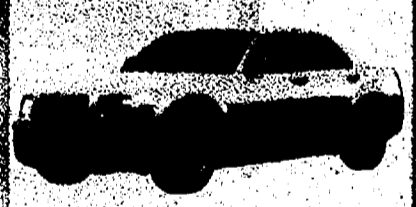
Ask About
FREE
DVD

LEASE FOR ONLY

EMPLOYEE / FAMILY **\$259**

EVERYONE ELSE **\$288**

2010 CHRYSLER 300

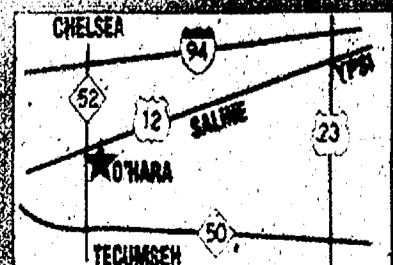


MSRP.....\$28,140
Employee Savings.....\$2,293
Rebates.....\$3,000
Customer Cash/Trade.....\$1,000
O'Hara Cash Match.....\$1,000

AS LOW AS \$19,997

**WE ARE LENAWEE, HILLSDALE &
JACKSON COUNTY'S #1 SELLING
CHRYSLER, DODGE & JEEP DEALER**

1-800-449-JEEP



Grand Opening Special: Join Free! Join Now! NO Dues 'til February!

If you haven't stepped into the NEW Arbor Fit Club, now's the perfect time! With all the latest in...

- strength equipment
- cardio equipment with personal TVs
- executive locker rooms with showers
- personal training
- spinning, aerobics, yoga
- juice bar • sauna • tanning
- supervised child care
- Ann Arbor's only club with the Les Mills BODYPUMP™

No wonder it's been called the 'best atmosphere to get strong!'

"The perfect lifting atmosphere. Top notch strength and conditioning equipment!"

Ann Arbor City Guide

"The area's best crossover between gym and club!"

Ryan C.



Must present coupon!

no
enrollment fee
when you join! \$99 Value

arbor **fit** club

free
three-day pass!

Come in today to redeem this pass!

arbor **fit** club



arbor **fit** club

2723 Oak Valley Drive, Ann Arbor 48103
(Located in the Target/Oak Valley Shopping Center)

For more information, call 734-214-6426

*Restrictions apply.

Alzheimer's Disease and Memory Loss

Alzheimer's disease and memory loss touch the lives of millions of Americans, as well as their families and friends —
PROBABLY SOMEONE YOU KNOW.



TODAY
Call 734-475-8633 to learn
more about the latest in care
options for you or your
loved one.



TOWSLEY VILLAGE
AT CHELSEA RETIREMENT
COMMUNITY

A UMRC MEMORY CARE CENTER

www.towsley.com
805 West Middle St., Chelsea • 734-433-1000

Pre and Post Natal Education

It's easy to Register!

You can register for classes online at www.myurbantoddler.com, call or register in person at My Urban Toddler (734) 944-3828

One-Time Seminars (6:00-7:30pm)

Infant Care (1st Tuesday of month)

January 5 or February 2 \$39 per couple

This practical, hands-on class will prepare expecting parents for the basic care of their newborn. Facilitator: Deborah Monty, RN

Breastfeeding (2nd Tuesday of month)

January 12 or February 9 \$39 per couple

This essential class will prepare parents for a positive and confident start to breastfeeding. Facilitator: Sherrill Black, LPT

Happiest Baby on the Block

(3rd Tuesday of month)

January 19 or February 16

\$39 per couple

Provides new parents or parents to be a step-by-step guide to help infants sleep longer and soothe even the fussiest baby in 10 minutes. Facilitator: Dawn Blackburn, RN

Soon to be Sisters

(4th Tuesday of month)

January 26 or February 23

\$39 per family

Class will help new families for the birth of a second child and the changes in the day-to-day routine. Facilitator: Dawn Blackburn, RN



All classes are held at
The Learning Center
located inside
MyUrbanToddler
play • shop • learn

7025 E. Michigan Ave., Saline, MI 48176

734.944.3828

www.myurbantoddler.com

Classes

Childbirth Preparation

Wednesdays 7:00-9:00pm

(January 6 - February 10 \$235)

Childbirth preparation series that is both INFORMATIVE and MEANINGFUL.

Each Childbirth series is specifically designed to meet the interests, needs, and questions of our participants. Particular emphasis is placed on:

- Understanding the physical and psychological process of birth
- What to expect from your birth setting
- Information gathering
- Decision-making and informed consent
- Confidence building and pain coping
- Communication, connection and support during your birth and beyond
- The early postpartum experience
- Parenting a newborn

Facilitator: Terri Pickett, Certified Birthing from Within

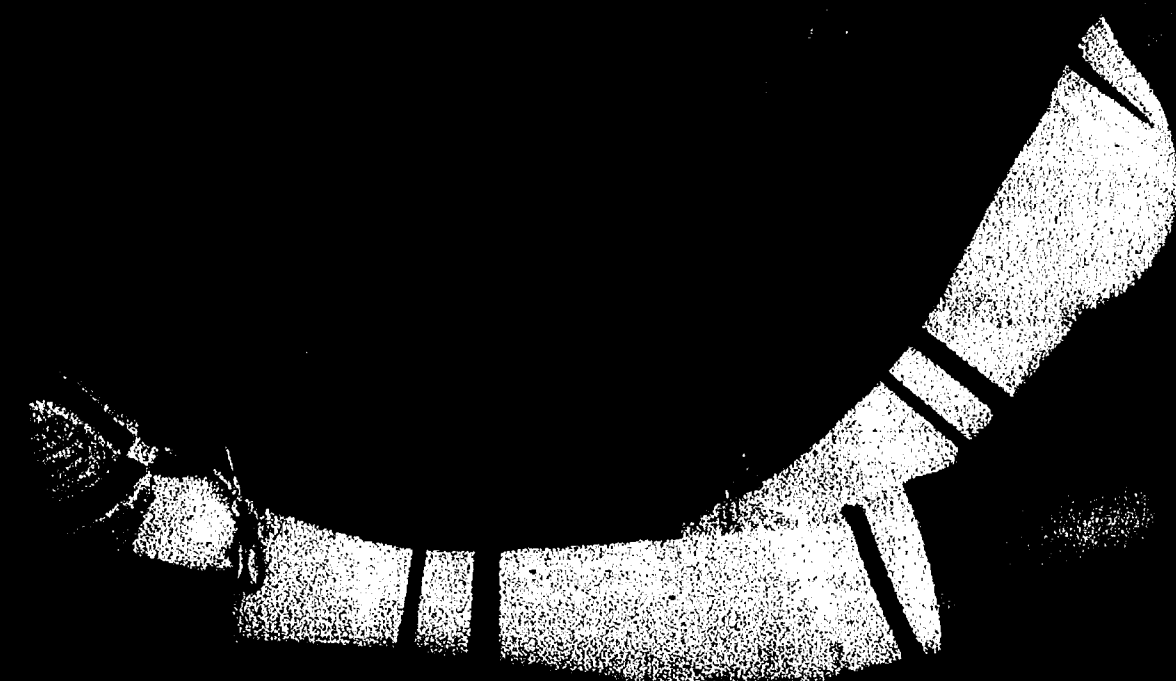
Postpartum Newborns

Wednesdays 10:30am-12:30pm

(January 13 - February 10 \$66)

Mother and newborn ages 0-12 months
A relaxed and comfortable class for meeting and supporting new mothers.

DEFLU... and
... clinical



Has Arthritic Knee Pain Taken You Out of the Game?

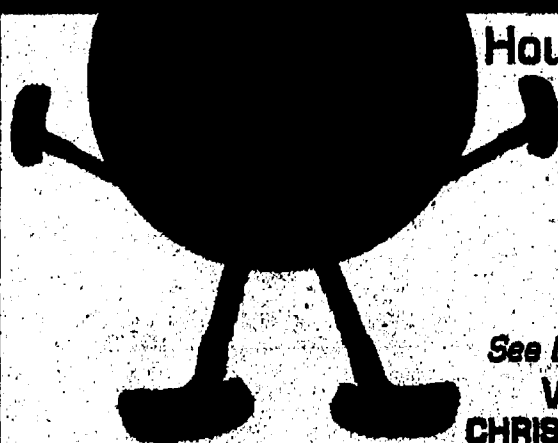
If so, you may be eligible to participate in a research study. Michigan Head•Pain & Neurological Institute (MHNI) is currently seeking individuals over the age of 40 to participate in a study evaluating an investigational medication for osteoarthritis of the knee. Participants receive study medication at no cost, and will be compensated for their time.

To learn more, please contact a research nurse at:
(734) 677-6000, option 4

MICHIGAN HEAD•PAIN & NEUROLOGICAL INSTITUTE
3120 PROFESSIONAL DRIVE, ANN ARBOR, MI 48104

Learn more about research at www.MHNI.com

Putt N Glow is an Indoor 18 hole miniature golf course that Glows under Black Lights.



Hours: REGULAR FALL/WINTER HOURS:

THURSDAY 3:00-8:00

FRIDAY 3:00-10:00

SATURDAY 11:00-10:00

SUNDAY 12:00-6:00

See below for extended hours during school break

WINTER SCHOOL BREAK HOURS

CHRISTMAS WEEK:

Mon, Tue & Wed
Christmas Eve
Christmas Day
Saturday
Sunday

Noon -8:00pm
CLOSED
CLOSED
11:00-10:00pm
Noon-8:00pm

NEW YEARS WEEK:

Mon, Tue & Wed
New Years Eve
New Years Day
Saturday
Sunday

Noon -8:00pm
Noon -8:00
CLOSED
11:00-10:00pm
Noon -8:00pm

We have Party rooms available for any occasion.
We also offer: Wii, PS2, Ping Pong, Foosball & Air Hockey.

Best Party Place in Town

**We offer 3 Fun and Affordable
Birthday Party Packages**

Private Parties

Scouts, Teams & Business Parties
Call for Personal Party Quotes

(Our closed days are available for parties.)

Ask manager for details.)

Just off our Shining Shirts

NO COUPON NEEDED

\$5 off a \$25 Gift certificate*

*May not be used with or to purchase any other offer/discount/
coupon special. May not be used with party packages. No cash value.

FREE Round of Mini-Golf
with each purchase of a Putt N Glow T-Shirt*

*May not be used with any other offer/discount. no cash value



COUPON

FAMILY DEAL
\$26

4 Individual Rounds
of Mini-Golf PLUS
1/2 hour of one choice:
Ping Pong, Foosball, or Air Hockey
A savings of up to \$7

*Not valid with other offers or discounts
*Coupon good for same day/same visit
MUST BRING IN COUPON

COUPON

\$3
THURSDAY

Each round
of Mini-golf is
only \$3

*Not valid with other offers or discounts
*Coupon must be presented at time of
original purchase.

COUPON

**HIGH SCHOOL
& COLLEGE
STUDENTS**
\$6

with STUDENT ID
No limit on coupon but each person
must have student ID.



Joseph A. Merkel
Director 2006-2010

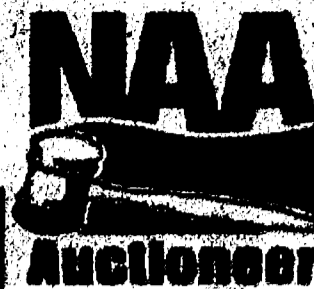
Need money or Want to settle the Estate?

Need to clean out the attic, barn(s) or cellar?

BOOK YOUR AUCTION TODAY



Estates, Antiques, Collectibles, Real Estate



Joseph A. Merkel
Life Member

Experience & Excellence in handling: Estates - Real Estate - Charity Events



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- **Proven Marketing:** We consistently bring the right type of buyer's to your type of sale. Over the years, our successful auctions have been featured, as the cover story, in the Auction Exchange and our head auctioneer was honored on the cover of a national publication back in October of 2000.
- **References & Testimonials:** Our past clients includes: Numerous Individuals, Trustees, Executrix/Executors & Attorneys. Past clients have consistently praised our efficiency, hard work, ethics and common sense approach.
- **Staffing:** Our staff consists of trustworthy, good natured people who help assemble & conduct the auctions.
- **Costs:** Very Competitive. Call to discuss your needs.
- **Timeline:** As quick as 30 days after you call 734-320-9828. Upon agreement that a auction is required and a date is set, our team will organize, photograph and advertise your items, utilizing the appropriate media types. Audited, post auction settlement statements and payment, in full, within 10 days. There is No charge to have us come see what you may be selling.

TO DISCUSS YOUR AUCTION, CALL 734-320-9828 TODAY...

All items will be presented in the best possible manner with obvious flaws or damage being described to buyers.

All buyers shall have the right to inspect any/all items offered on the day of sale.

All Vehicles & Equipment shall have clear titles, otherwise we will not offer them at auction.

All known information shall be disclosed prior to any Real Estate being offered on auction day.

All items that you contract us to sell, will be sold at the auction... NO PRE-SALES.

AND, We will work just as hard for you; as we have done for all of our past clients.



We don't take any bull and we won't give you the horns.



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Allstate

BILLIARDS
PATIOS • FIREPLACES
HOT TUBS • POOLS

YEAR-END

**We Would Rather
Sell it Than Count it!**

BLOWOUT!

Pool Tables

Reg. \$1999
CLEARANCE
From
\$888

Allstate Pays Your Sales Tax!*

Through Sunday, January 3rd!

ALL FLOOR SAMPLES & 2009 MODELS MUST BE SOLD!

1/2 OFF!

**5 PC.
POKER
TABLE
SETS**

\$998

EVERY GAME IN STOCK

1/2 OFF!

Table Tennis • Foosball
Shuffleboard • Air Hockey

SLASHED!

**Kitchen &
Bar Stools**

From
\$27

1/2 OFF!

BARS

\$499

Model shown is not pictured. Pictured #2783

EXTRA 20 OFF!

FIREPLACES

Stock for
immediate
delivery
Installation!
Saving up
to \$1000 on your
fireplace!

Model shown is not pictured. Pictured #2783

SAVE 3000!

**ALL 2009 SPAS
CLEARANCED**

**FREE
TAVAWAY
SPRING!**

Sundance Spas

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All Fun, All the Time... Always the Lowest Price!

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**SALE ENDS
January 3rd**

*See store for details.
Artwork may not accurately
represent product.

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Secure A NEW
Independent Living
Apartment By 1/31/09
And Receive

* 25% off entry fees
(a savings of up to \$55,000)

PLUS

* 25% off monthly
service fees for
the first 3 months
(a savings of up to \$795 monthly)

Call today to schedule
your personal tour.
We can also arrange for you
to meet and enjoy lunch
or dinner with residents.

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OF CHELSEA
RETIREMENT COMMUNITY



Sometimes
Money
Does
Grow On Trees

COOL GIFTS. INSTANT SAVINGS!

New D3000 Outfit includes 3x 18-55mm VR Zoom-NIKKOR® lens, camera case and DVD

10.2 Megapixels | up to 3 Frames Per Second | 3" LCD Monitor

WAS \$599⁹⁵

NOW \$549⁹⁵

AFTER \$50 Instant Savings



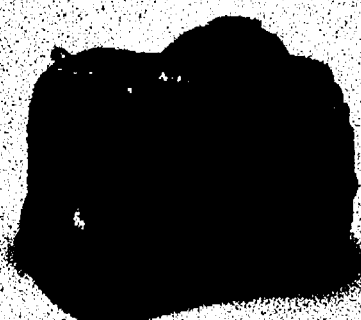
New D300S FAST. PRECISE. AGILE. EVOLUTION IN MOTION. Outfit includes 11x 18-200mm VR II Zoom-NIKKOR® lens

12.3 Megapixels | up to 7 Frames Per Second | 3" Super Density LCD Monitor

WAS \$2549⁹⁵

NOW \$2299⁹⁵

AFTER \$250 Instant Savings



D5000 SMART. SHARP. SIMPLY BRILLIANT.

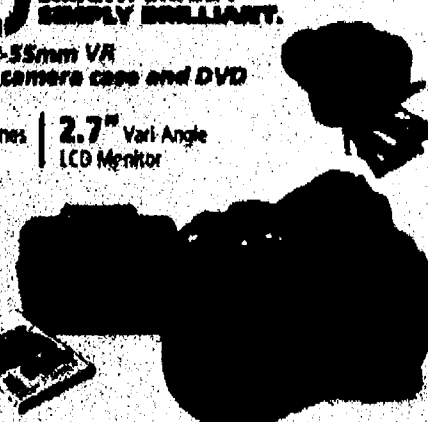
Outfit includes 3x 18-55mm VR Zoom-NIKKOR® lens, camera case and DVD

12.3 Megapixels | up to 4 Frames Per Second | 2.7" Vari Angle LCD Monitor

WAS \$799⁹⁵

NOW \$699⁹⁵

AFTER \$100 Instant Savings



D5000 Body Only: \$599⁹⁵ After \$30 Instant Savings*

D90 ENGINEERED FOR ARTISTRY. UNLEASH YOUR POTENTIAL.

Outfit includes 5.6x 18-105mm VR Zoom-NIKKOR® lens

12.3 Megapixels | up to 4.5 Frames Per Second | 3" Super Density LCD Monitor

WAS \$1199⁹⁵

NOW \$1149⁹⁵

AFTER \$50 Instant Savings

D90 Body: \$899⁹⁵



NIKKOR LENSES

Purchase the D3000 or D5000 and get \$100 Instant Savings* on the purchase of:

3.6x 55-200mm Zoom-NIKKOR® lens OR

WAS \$199⁹⁵

NOW \$99⁹⁵

AFTER \$100 Instant Savings

3.6x 55-200mm VR Zoom-NIKKOR® lens

WAS \$249⁹⁵

NOW \$149⁹⁵

AFTER \$100 Instant Savings

Purchase the D5000, D90, D300S or D700 and get \$200 Instant Savings* on the purchase of:

4.3x 70-300mm VR Zoom-NIKKOR® lens

WAS \$589⁹⁵

NOW \$389⁹⁵

AFTER \$200 Instant Savings

Purchase the D90 or D300S and get \$250 Instant Savings* on the purchase of:

11x 18-200mm VR II Zoom-NIKKOR® lens

WAS \$849⁹⁵

NOW \$599⁹⁵

AFTER \$250 Instant Savings

COOLPIX S220

Uniquely slim. Ultra savvy.

10 Megapixels | 3x Optical Zoom | 2.5" LCD Monitor

WAS \$149⁹⁵

NOW \$129⁹⁵

AFTER \$20 Instant Savings



COOLPIX S230

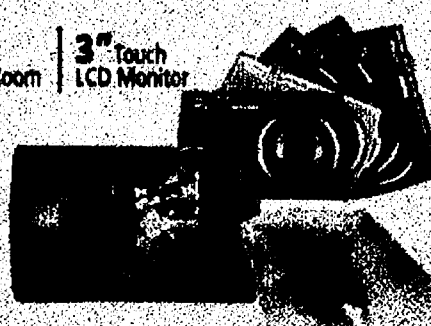
Stay in touch.

10 Megapixels | 3x Optical Zoom | 3" Touch LCD Monitor

WAS \$179⁹⁵

NOW \$149⁹⁵

AFTER \$30 Instant Savings



COOLPIX S70

In style with a cool touch.

12.1 Megapixels | 5x Optical Zoom | 3.5" Touch OLED Monitor

WAS \$299⁹⁵

NOW \$279⁹⁵

AFTER \$20 Instant Savings



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