

State's fastest growing county gets daily newspaper

Michigan's fastest growing county will have its first daily newspaper - and the nation's first new daily since 1997 - when *The Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* hits newsstands Sept. 6.

The new daily, published by HomeTown Newspapers, will merge the *Livingston County Press* and *Brighton Argus*, two of the oldest and most respected twice-weekly newspapers in the state.

The *County Press*, based in Howell, is 156 years old. Ten miles to the southeast is

Brighton, where the *Argus* is 120 years old. Both papers currently are published twice weekly - on Wednesdays and Sundays. They will be combined into a single newspaper that will be published in the afternoon Monday through Friday. A weekend edition will be delivered Sunday mornings.

The Livingston County Daily Press & Argus will maintain both editorial staffs as well as their offices. The company anticipates the creation of several new positions. Phil Jerome will retain his position as executive

editor. The dynamic growth of Livingston County has created the need for a daily newspaper, according to Rich Periberg, vice president and general manager of HomeTown Newspapers. "This is an exciting announcement for both the company and the people of Livingston County," he said. "This newspaper will play an important role in unifying the county."

With approximately 150,000 residents, Livingston is the largest county in the state without a daily newspaper. Located

west of Oakland and north of Washtenaw counties, the county is expected to grow by another 70,000 people in the next 20 years, according to population projections by the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG).

The county currently has the highest median household income (\$58,349) in the state. During a formal announcement to employees on June 8, company officials promised that the new daily would be guided by traditional HomeTown values. "Our objective has always been

to be the sole unsubstitutable source of information to people in this county," said Periberg. "We will continue to provide the essential tools for living the good life in Livingston County. These are the values that have brought us this far and they will drive us in the future."

The *County Press* was named the best weekly newspaper in the United States last year by the National Newspaper Association. The *Argus* has been named the best community weekly newspaper in the state by the Michigan Press Association for the past two years.

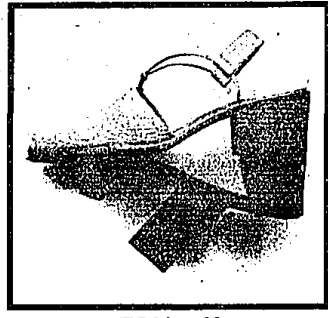
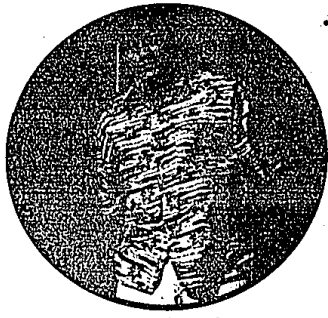
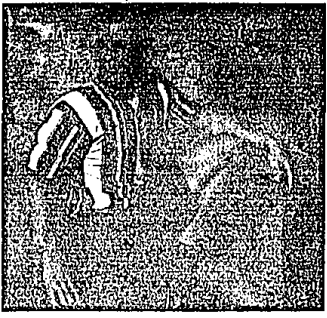
The new paper is expected to debut with a paid circulation of more than 20,000. That would make its circulation larger than the combined circulation of all other newspapers in Livingston County. It would also make it one of the 20 largest of the state's 50 daily newspapers.

Press & Argus readers will continue to find the extensive local coverage they've come to expect in their HomeTown weekly newspapers. In addition, the new daily will carry state, national and world news as well as a complete sports line-up, nationally recognized syndicated columnists, stock reports and all the other features commonly associated with daily newspapers.

HomeTown Newspapers is a subsidiary of the Livonia-based HomeTown Communications Network, which publishes 70 weekly and twice-weekly newspapers in Michigan, Ohio and Kentucky, including all Observer & Eccentric editions.

This will be the corporation's first daily newspaper. HomeTown Communications also publishes phone directories, specialty publications and the Insider-Business Journal of Livingston, West Oakland and Washtenaw counties.

Last month, the corporation announced the formation of HomeTownDigital.com, which will develop Internet solutions for local merchants and manage all Web activity for HomeTown Communications Network (www.hometownnewspapers.net).



50% off
Choose from a wide selection of men's Preswick & Moore printed and striped knit shirts or shorts. Reg. 34.00-42.00, sale 17.00-21.00. IN MEN'S SELECTION MAY VARY BY STORE.

50% off
Young men's tropical print sport shirts by Pineapple Connection, Rayon. Sizes M-L-XL-XXL. Reg. 28.00, sale 14.00. IN MEN'S.

50% off
Large selection of ladies' shoes and sandals from Sesto Meucci, Cole Haan, Enzo Angiolini, Nine West, White Mountain, Aerosoles, Ipanema, Unisa, Calico and Naturalizer. Reg. 39.00-145.00, sale 19.50-72.50. IN WOMEN'S SHOES.

your special day

save 25-50% on gifts for dad, summer fashions for everyone
saturday, june 17 at 10:00 am, just in time for father's day

40% off Columbia sale 13.20-20.40	30% off Columbia sale 18.60-19.20	sale 27.99 Columbia sale 13.99-15.99	sale 27.99 Columbia sale 13.99-15.99	50% off Columbia sale 9.50-20.00	30% off Columbia sale 31.50-91.50
sale 29.99 Columbia sale 13.99-15.99	sale 17.99 Columbia sale 13.99-15.99	30% off Columbia sale 8.30-21.00	30% off Columbia sale 1.90-57.50	40% off Columbia sale 11.10	now 19.99 Columbia sale 21.99
40% off Columbia sale 11.10-16.00	sale 59.99 Columbia sale 13.99-15.99	50% off Columbia sale 32.50	50% off Columbia sale 17.00	40% off Columbia sale 19.20-28.00	sale 24.99 Columbia sale 13.99-15.99
25-40% off Columbia sale 16.20-22.50	40% off Columbia sale 13.10-17.00	sale 9.99 Columbia sale 13.99-15.99	30% off Columbia sale 17.00-50.00	sale 19.99 Columbia sale 13.99-15.99	extra 30% off Columbia sale 13.99-15.99

State fixes MEAP snafu

BY TRACY BURENBAUER
STAFF WRITER

For those students worrying they were cheated out of \$2,600 in scholarship money, here's some good news.

The state knows about the problem and it's being fixed, according to Farmington public school administrators.

Hundreds of students who qualified for the Michigan Merit Scholarship were not properly notified. For these students, the award certification form deadline has been extended.

Farmington Training Center administrators sent letters to parents on June 7 informing them of proper protocol.

Students should receive forms from the state by the end of June. Award certification forms must be returned to the state within two weeks. The Treasury Department says it will transfer the award money to students' educational institutions in time for fall classes.

"This was a snafu at the state level," said Farmington schools Superintendent Bob Maxfield. "The databases got messed up. It's an enormous process involving thousands of students, but it will be fixed."

Students who don't hear from the state treasury department by June 30 are encouraged to call Farmington schools at (248) 489-3402.

Budget adopted

The Farmington City Council Monday night, June 5, adopted the 2000-2001 budget.

Described by City Manager Frank Lauboff as a "straightforward" document, the \$9.6 million budget will be supported by 16.1477 mills.

FARMINGTON

About 8.4 of those mills will be for city services.

A 3-percent increase in taxable value is expected. There was a public hearing held prior to the budget adoption, but nobody commented.

YOU'RE SPECIAL. SPECIAL.

15% off your first day's purchases when you open a Parisian credit card. See an associate for details.

Get in line with fashion online at www.parisian.com and see more of what's on sale.

Sorry, we can't make price adjustments to previously purchased merchandise.

CALL 1-800-494-8188 TO ORDER ANYTIME. STORE HOURS: Laurel Park Place open Sun. 12-6, Mon.-Sat. 10-6.

FOR INFORMATION call 248-7522. CHARGES TO Parisian Credit Card, MasterCard, Visa, The American Express® Card by Discover.

LOCATED AT LAUREL PARK PLACE IN LINCRA, ON THE CORNER OF HAWKSPUR ROAD AND SIX MILE ROAD (TAKE THE SIX MILE ROAD EXIT OFF INTERSTATE 475).

PARISIAN