

CANTON OBSERVER

online at hometownlife.com

Canines compete at
annual dog show

Neighbors, B7



Connection

Frog hunters

If you ever wanted to play a role in monitoring the health of the Rouge River, there is an upcoming workshop that could be of some interest. Friends of the Rouge, a nonprofit organization dedicated to revitalizing the river, will host a frog and toad survey workshop 7-9 p.m. March 4 at Canton's Summit on the Park (in the Walnut Room).

Volunteers who are willing to survey nearby wetlands to locate frogs and toads, which are indicators of the watershed's health, are asked to sign up for the workshop. To sign up, call (313) 792-9621 or e-mail monitoring@therouge.org and leave your name, home address, phone number, number of attendees and date of the Canton workshop.



Join the band

The award-winning Plymouth-Canton marching band is hosting a series of informational meetings for students (and their parents) who are interested in joining the 2009 marching band program.

The meeting is designed for existing eighth-graders, but is open to any high school student. Interested students will spend time with the existing marchers, while parents listen to a presentation by the Plymouth Canton Music Boosters on how eighth-graders can become a member of the 2009 summer/fall season. Future musicians and color guard members are welcome.

Parents and students are asked to attend one of the following open house meetings at Plymouth High School (8400 Beck Road, Canton — enter near the big yellow truck):

- Tuesday, March 10, at 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 22, at 7 p.m.
- Thursday, May 7, at 7 p.m.
- Monday, June 15, at 7 p.m.

For more information, contact Barb Hawkins, new member representative, at (734) 420-5355, or visit www.pcmb.net.

Meetings online

Canton's Board of Trustees and Planning Commission meetings can now be viewed online at www.canton-mi.org/committees/board_video.aspx. The meetings are also shown on Canton Community Television (Channel 10 on WOW and Channel 12 on Comcast).



Indian Motorcycle dealer Jeff Scott astride an Indian. At left, Terry Berendt, Kaitlyn Dwyer, and Lisa Beam.

Return of an American icon

Dick Scott one of a handful of dealers selling revitalized Indian motorcycles

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The first American-made motorcycle is making a comeback, and the Dick Scott Automotive Group — Dick Scott Nissan in Canton and Dick Scott Dodge in Plymouth — plans to be part of it.

Indian Motorcycles, which dates back to 1901, is back in production after going out of business in 1953. The Dick Scott Automotive Group is one of only seven dealers nationwide selling the exclusive bikes that sell for between \$31,500 to \$38,500.

"We've been open since Jan. 5 and we've already sold 10," said Jeff Scott, 45, whose motorcycle dealership is on Michigan Avenue west of I-275. "It's amazing the brand equity that Indian carries in the motorcycle community. Even though they've had their problems and have been back once since 1953, the Indian name is an iconic brand."

Indian was big in racing in the early part of the 20th century and supplied the majority of police and military motorcycles during World War II. After the war ended, the company fell on hard times and stopped production in 1953.

Scott, who's the motorcycle rider in the family, said he pushed hard to get the automotive group to add Indian to its lineup.

"We're dealing with customers in California, Illinois, Ohio, Indiana ... from all over," said Scott, who noted the features on Indian bikes are very distinctive. "You've got premium leather seats, the deep valanced fender is an Indian trademark as is the



The classic Indian logo on the fuel tank of one of the motorcycles in stock.



The new Indians feature lots of chrome and fine detail.

lighted Indian head fender ornament.

"What makes them great motorcycles is they're all hand built by two-man teams in North Carolina from start to finish," he added. "They have the highest content of American-made parts of any bike made."

INDIAN MOTORCYCLES

Where: Dick Scott Nissan, 41775 Michigan Avenue, Canton

Hours: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday

Phone: (734) 398-5454

Scott said the Baker six-speed transmissions are made in Haslett, Mich., and the high-level of chrome is standard.

"The power of the engine is great for a cruiser," Scott said. "It's got 84 horsepower and 100 foot-pounds of torque. That will get you moving pretty quick."

The Indian Chief comes with four different trim packages, pricing it much higher than its well-known competitor, Harley-Davidson, which sells from between \$14,000 to \$18,000.

Scott plans to have his grand opening June 27 when the riding weather should be much better.

tbruscato@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2637

Local road projects could be eligible for stimulus money

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton Township officials will know this week which of five submitted road projects will be completed with transportation funds from President Barack Obama's economic recovery package.

While Canton officials certainly would like all five to be funded, the likelihood — according to a Wayne County official — is that no more than two will make the final cut as the county divides \$24 million in transportation stimulus money among cities and townships outside of Detroit.

"I would expect one or two of the projects will make the list," said Ken Kucel, deputy

Canton has submitted a total of 27 projects to the governor's office for economic stimulus money, including some that will save energy and preserve historical buildings. For the story, please see A9.

director of engineering for Wayne County and chairman of the Wayne County Federal Aid Committee. "We have a total of \$24 million in

funding, with a quarter of that (\$6 million) to city jurisdictions. The remaining \$18 million will go to the townships.

"We're being instructed by MDOT (Michigan Department of Transportation) and SEMCOG (Southeast Michigan Council of Governments) to have an approved program by the end of this month," he added. "We'll use next week to come up with a solid program to present to the Wayne County Federal Aid Committee for approval."

Among the projects Canton Township submitted for funding are:

■ Canton Center between Palmer and Cherry Hill

■ Sheldon Center from Canton Center to Joy

■ The Warren-Lilley intersection

■ Cherry Hill from Canton Center to Sheldon

■ Warren from Beck to Canton Center

Some of the projects are scheduled for widening. However, Kucel said because of the parameters of the stimulus money, reconstruction may be the only alternative.

"We have to spend the money within a year," Kucel said. "If the projects are not designed and have environmental clearance, the process lends itself to preservation projects."

Wayne County Commissioner Kevin McNamara, D-Canton Township, said he believes the Canton projects are "shovel ready" as required by the Obama administration.

"A lot of those projects are ones we've had on the list for quite a while," McNamara said. "We're hoping to take advantage of the opportunity. It's good for the community to fix the roads and good for the economy."

Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy is realistic, knowing many communities have submitted dozens of projects for federal stimulus money.

"We're just hoping to get our fair share," he said.

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Federal funds could ease district's budget crunch

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Administrators in the Plymouth-Canton school district were already staring at a potential \$3 million deficit in the 2009-10 budget before Gov. Jennifer Granholm started talking about a \$59 per-student cut in state aid to public schools.

With the state's third-largest school district at some 19,000 students, Plymouth-Canton was looking at nearly \$1.2 million in further cuts. And since the district has cut some \$16 million the last half-dozen years, officials were wondering where the additional cuts were going to come.

President Barack Obama's federal stimulus plan apparently took care of that. Granholm said this week the money from the federal stimulus package would

negate the need for the \$59 cut to which she'd been alluding.

"This certainly helps, this is better news," said Dr. Craig Fiegel, Plymouth-Canton's superintendent. "We were looking at \$4 million (in cuts) before we even got started."

Even the \$59 cut Granholm had earlier suggested would have been better than numbers Fiegel said they'd been hearing, perhaps as much as \$130 per student.

Granholm said this week rules governing the federal stimulus money prohibits cutting state aid to education below 2008 levels. Even so, Plymouth-Canton will need to cut some \$3 million.

They're trying to do it, Fiegel said, without affecting the classroom, but with some 90 percent of the costs people-related, it's getting tougher. That's why the district is looking at areas such

as food service, which the school board just decided to take in-house, for improvements.

"You look at places like operations or food service or transportation," Fiegel said. "Are there ways to be more efficient, energy costs, those types of things. Can we control them better? Those kinds of things don't affect the classrooms."

The school board has already begun looking at next year's budget. Fiegel said a budget workshop is likely to be held in mid-March and the public is certainly welcome to attend as the board decides where it can cut.

"It just gets harder and harder, because there's just not much left in there," Fiegel said. "The board has been very concerned about class size, and we certainly don't want those to go up. But there aren't a lot of other places to look."

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"I Participate in the Chamber Discount Program"

Rotary poker fund-raiser

The Canton Rotary Club will host a "Texas Hold-em" tournament fund-raiser at 5 p.m., March 4-7 (Wednesday-Saturday) at Town and Country Lanes, 1100 S. Wayne Road, Westland (south of Cherry Hill). After all payouts, all additional money will be used by the Rotary Club for local programs. For more information call (734) 787-5758 or (734) 722-5000.

Canton Follies

Destination Theatre, in cooperation with Canton Township, will present the third annual Canton Follies March 12-14 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. This year's all new show will be a musical review of one hit wonders of the 50s through 80s. The Canton Follies is a yearly tradition that brings together local singers and dancers from the Canton area. Produced by Pam Rossi, music direction by Kylee Phillips and choreography by Craig Nichols.

Tickets are \$15 for general admission, and may be purchased at DestinationTheater.org. Tickets are also available at Canton's Summit on the Park box office, 46000 Summit Parkway, (734) 394-5460.

3-on-3 hoops

Boys and girls in grades 3-8 are invited to participate in the Youth 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament on Saturday, Feb. 28 at the Summit on the Park. Boys and girls divisions will be set up for grades 3-4, 5-6, and 7-8 to play starting at 10 a.m. Awards will be given to each division winner and runner-up.

All games will be officiated and teams will be guaranteed two games.

Early registration is encouraged. Team registration will close at 3 p.m., Feb. 27. Four players may be on the roster. Only one person from each team is needed to register. Registration fees are \$52 per team. For more information or to register, call (734) 483-5600.

'Brazil and Beyond'

Brazil and Beyond will be performing at 8 p.m., Friday, March 6, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill at Ridge Road in Canton. Tickets are \$12. For more information call (734) 394-5460.

Charity bowl-a-thon

Seedlings' 22nd Annual Bowl-A-Thon for Braille Books will take place Sunday, March 22, at the Super Bowl Lanes in Canton. This event will help put braille books into the hands of blind children. There will be many great raffle prizes and the bowlers who raise the most pledges will be eligible for top prize packages. The 2009 goal is to buy 25,000 braille books.

Register or pledge a bowler online or download a brochure at www.seedlings.org under the "special events" section. Bowlers will receive three games, lunch, a goody bag, and a free ticket for a chance raffle drawing. Tax-deductible door prize and lane or T-shirt sponsorships are still available to local businesses. Register now and reserve a spot at the event. The registration deadline is March 7, and the minimum donation per bowler is \$50.

Seedlings Braille Books for Children is a non-profit organization in Livonia dedicated to increasing the opportunity for braille literacy by providing high quality, low-cost braille books for blind children. Every \$10 earned at this bowl-a-thon will create one more book. Last year, bowlers raised more than \$23,000 to provide blind children access to popular children's books in braille and to bring them the materials they need to "read and succeed."

For more information, visit www.seedlings.org.

St. Michael open house

St. Michael Christian School is hosting an open house on Thursday, Feb. 19 from 6:30-8 p.m. The school offers 3 year old preschool through fifth grade classes including all day kindergarten and half day Young Fives. St. Michael Christian School provides a Christ centered education using the Holy Bible, the Concordia Publishing House study series, and a weekly chapel service led by the pastoral staff.

St. Michael Christian School is located at 7000 N. Sheldon Road in Canton. For more information, call (734) 459-9720 or visit www.stmichael-church.org.

Pom prominence

More than 50 high school and collegiate pompon teams from throughout Michigan competed in the Junior Varsity, Varsity and Collegiate Divisions at the Mid American Pompon 30th annual State Championship at Eastern Michigan University on Sunday. Canton High School pompon placed first in the Junior Varsity Division. Plymouth earned second and Novi took third place. Each team performed a traditional Mid American style, original pompon routine. The routines featured athleticism, visual effects, rhythmic timing, showmanship and outstanding kicklines. Teams were judged on 10 categories by a select group of pompon experts. There was a guest performance from the Detroit Spark, the dance team of the professional indoor soccer team, the Detroit Ignition. For more information please visit www.pompon.com.

Canton Toastmasters

The Canton Communicators Toastmasters Club, a non-profit group where members learn both communication and leadership skills, meets every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Canton Coney Island at 8533 Lilley Road, just south of Joy Road, in the Golden Gate Plaza. Visitors are always welcome. For more information, please contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237.

Business Network Professionals

Business Network Professionals, a local chapter of Business Network International, meets weekly on Wednesday mornings from 7-8:30 a.m. at the Canton Coney Island (at the corner of Lilley and Joy roads). Any person in business in the Plymouth, Canton and surrounding area is invited to attend as a guest and meet with other businesspersons, for purposes of networking, referrals, and supporting one another.

Contact Bill MacFarland, chapter president, at (734) 812-3845 for more information.



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CORRECTIONS

■ In the story "Police make series of arrests in unrelated thefts" that ran in the Feb. 19 *Observer*, Jarrod Alan Voss of Trenton, who was charged with stealing hats from JC Penney, was incorrectly identified as Jarrod Alan Robinson.

■ A story in the Feb. 19 *Observer* about green projects at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park should have identified the Canton company working with school officials as Mechanical Energy Systems.

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Students 'shine' at annual talent show

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The stars came out form an afternoon of rock'n'roll. Michael Jackson was there. Kiss made an appearance. Even Bob Seger put in an appearance ... Well, sort of. Students at the Burger Center for Students with Autism put on their best rock star faces and took to the stage recently to present a talent show that had something for everyone.

"It's amazing for us to see," said James Boogren, the center's associate director. "We like to think we know the kids, but with this, they show us another side."

The students showed off their moves, "strumming" guitars and singing with performances ranging from a simple children's song, *Wheels on the Bus*, by Logan King-Campbell to a rocking rendition of *Hound Dog* right down to Elvis Presley's swivel hips by Brandon Davis.

Robyn Castle and Donna Lober's Crew - Brandy Abgell, Rylee Crawford, Carmela Dean, Chelsey Goslin, Erica Hall, Trinity Irby, Nicole Johnson, Tamara Little, Renee Mills, Mary Ann Muldoon, Jeni Ottathengil, Meghan Perkins and Lauren Wadrzck - high kicked their way into the hearts of the audience, drawing loud applause for their dance routine set to the music of Cyndi Lauper's *Girls Just Want to Have Fun*.

Gladys Knight and the Pips may have made *Heard It Through the Grapevine* a hit, but Charlotte Yaeger and her backups Ameer Abdelrahman, Colin King-Campbell, Michael Lomas and Jordan Lee Peterson gave it a California Raisin spin dressed as bunches of grapes and singing into oversized telephones.

"They've been practicing for weeks, it's not easy because they're not in the same classroom," teacher LeeAnn Dye said. "They've been getting together and working their



Allan Mo of Canton lip syncs and dances to 'A Guy Like You' during the annual talent show held last week at the Burger Center for Students with Autism Garden City.



Nicholas Bair of Canton, who designed his guitar and props, acts out 'Crocodile Rock.'

heiniies off." Jonathan Walker glided across the stage in his version of the Michael Jackson hit, *Thriller*, while Kayla Duka impersonated preteen idol Miley Cyrus with her performance of *Best of Both Worlds*. And Brandon Davis rocked with *Hound Dog*.

And Gabrielle Kreza didn't need the platform shoes and face makeup to get the audi-

ence into her performance of the Kiss hit, *I Want to Rock and Roll*. She got help singing the chorus from the members of the audience like Ryan Goldsworthy of the DSHL Band who were waiting to perform *Seek and Destroy*.

There was even feats of prestidigitiation, as Jared (Rudolph) the Masked Magician amazed his audience

PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Jared 'The Masked Magician' Rudolph showed off his prestidigitation skills during Burger's talent show.

with his ability to make things disappear and guess which one of three items his helper had selected.

"Is it the pot of flowers?" he asked.

This is the sixth year the students have presented the talent show.

"It's wonderful to see how capable and entertaining our students can be," said Susan Pinto, talent show co-chair. "They really shine on stage."

"The staff put a lot of time into this, but to see the kids come out for this, it's hard to find words," Boogren added.

Charity event will mark return of 'Diabetic Rockstar'

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Friday will be a homecoming, of sorts, for Christopher Thomas of New York City.

The 27-year-old former Canton resident will hold a concert fund-raiser at the Cherry Martini Lounge in Cherry Hill Village for his Fight It charity that supports diabetics who can't afford the high costs associated with medications and supplies.

Thomas was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes and takes insulin to avoid kidney failure, blindness or even amputations. However, instead of the "woe's me" attitude he could have had, Thomas — who dubbed himself Diabetic Rockstar — moved to New York where he waits tables, pursues his writing career and created diabeticrockstar.com, an online community where people can share personal stories, information and resources.

"If you are looking for a 'Poor me, I am diabetic' support group, you've come to the wrong place," writes Thomas on the Web site.

"This Community is for those who wish to live the life the way it's meant to be lived, the true Rockstar way."

Friday's fund-raiser will include a \$5 cover charge, which will go to the charity. There will also be raffles and door prizes to raise money.

"I know how important every dollar is for people these days, so we kept the amount low, while at the same time trying to give back something for their money, like a concert and raffle," Thomas said. "It's hard to raise money, these days, for non-profits ... especially being new."

Thomas said he's raised about \$12,000 in cash and received another \$16,000 in product donations from



A blog on MySpace has evolved into a Web site for Christopher Thomas who will be in Canton this week to raise money for his Fight It! which provides medications and supplies to uninsured diabetics.

FIGHT IT!

What: Diabetes concert event.

When: 6 p.m. to close, Friday, Feb. 27.

Where: Cherry Martini Lounge, 50296 Cherry Hill, west of Canton Center, Canton.

What: Two local bands, Shawn Riley Band and Outshine, will perform for the Fight It charity.

Admission: \$5.

companies and individuals.

Cherry Martini General Manager Chris Phillips decided to host the fund-raiser after talking with one of his customers, Rose Burns, who is Thomas' mother.

"We wanted to open our doors to a group that could benefit," Phillips said. "We'll have a couple of live bands, which is a change of pace of what normally goes on in this neighborhood. People who know the family are excited about it."

"There are a lot of people who are uninsured and can't afford supplies, it's an awareness people need to know," Burns said. "I'm proud he took a negative in his life and turned it into a positive."

Michigan Eye Doctor Helps Legally Blind

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

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

Dr. Smith, a Low Vision Specialist, helps people with these types of eye diseases see better. A Fellow of the International Academy of Low Vision Specialists, Dr. Smith is one of a select group of doctors serving the visually impaired.

"People don't know that there are experienced doctors who can help them with specialized low vision care," says Dr. Smith. Patients often end up using weak, clumsy hand-held magnifiers trying to help themselves see better. Conversely, Dr. Smith prescribes hands-free devices that are easier to use.

In addition to the spectacle vision aids, Dr. Smith offers training to help people accomplish their daily activities. Visual aids help patients use their remaining vision to its fullest capacity while rehabilitative training improves the patient's ability to carry out necessary independent activities.

Of course, safeguarding present

vision levels is crucial. Sun filters and nutritional supplements can improve vision and prevent further loss.

Leo Champagne, wearing special reading glasses



"It's wonderful to be able to see again. I have a new lease on life!"

-Dr. Smith's patient.

Special prismatic reading glasses and microscopes help make reading a little easier. Special reading glasses start at \$ 600 and custom telescopes can cost from \$ 1800 to \$ 2500.

If you or someone you know is struggling with their vision, call Dr. Smith to find out how low vision care can help. There is help available. You just need to know where to find it.

Dr. Smith has offices in Warren, Livonia and Greater Lansing. You can reach Dr. Smith and Suburban Low Vision of Michigan at:

877-677-2020

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EDUCATION

ON CAMPUS

State Department intern

Canton's Alexander Marinica is one of four Wayne State University students who will be interns at the United States Department of State this summer, receiving \$6,000 stipends as part of the inaugural Internship Fellows Program (IFP). Wayne State University is the only post-secondary in Michigan selected for the pilot of the IFP.

Marinica, a pre-med junior, will graduate with a philosophy degree. She, along with the other three WSU students, will spend the summer in Washington, D.C., or at embassies throughout the world.

"I am honored to participate in the Internship Fellows Program," Marinica said. "This opportunity with the Department of State will provide a solid foundation for my career in public health and health policy."

Engineering scholarship

Canton's Kyle Stabile earned a \$1,000 University of Michigan-Dearborn scholarship from the Michigan Society of Professional Engineers (MSPE).



Stabile

Stabile, a graduate of Salem High School, is attending U of M-Dearborn's College of Engineering and Computer Science.

Madonna Dean's List

The following Canton residents made Madonna University's Dean's List for superior academic achievement during the fall 2008 term: Fernando Joseph

Adams; Donna Jean Anson; Courtney Rae Arcenal; Chelsea Danielle Archibald; Courtney Lorraine Bachus; Donna J. Barancewicz; Danielle Marie Born; Luis Abraham Carrera; Nicole Lavonne Carrera; Sandra L. Cook; Renata Bachi DaCosta; Roberto D'Amico; Daniel S. Danaher; Kathleen Sarah Dizon Dantes; Tamica R. Dean; Gina M. Dembinski; Christine Marie Liwag Dixon; Tamekia A. Dobbs; Ann Espinoza; Paul Michael Flis; Patrick Lawrence Fogarty; Njabi Anyoh Fombad; Jamie Leah Fournier; Adina M. Fratila; Jenna Lynn Gambino; Darla Lynn Goulet; Allison Michelle Greiner; Jenny S. Hartl; Lindsay Ann Heimerl; Stephanie Jean Heincy; Danielle Sue Henry; Joshua Daniel Hoover; Elaine Catherine Howard; Deanna Rose Janisse; Hye Ji; Andrea Rose Johnson; Donna M. Kahlon; Carrie Ann Kovachevich; Bridgette Ann Lansu; Lisa Renee Larabell; Laura E. Lauer; Christopher Ryan Leach; William Leddy; Feliciana Reyes Lee; Annette Sue Luke; Elizabeth Anne Lulek; Scott Charles Marinski; Marie Elisabeth Martin; Lisa Jean McBride; Meghan Nicole Miller; Deanna Brenae Mitchell; Gary John Mlinek; Jessica Rose Molnar; Lorela Myftiu; Fadi Nader; Britany Lynn Norris; Kimberly Ann Olech; Becky R. Pakos; Seol-A Park; Kenneth Richard Patterson; Joseph Michael Pomorski; Melissa Elizabeth Povlich; Rachael Anne Reyes; Nancy Ruth Richards; Nicole Riedel; Sarah Sadek; April Lee Sawyer; Carly Elizabeth Scanlon; Brittney Lynn Scero; Tamara Marie Shirey; Mark S. Sigler; Cedric Pierre Sims; Alyson M. Sloane; Ashley L. Stoychoff; Elizabeth Mary

Sutherland; Liza M. Terkoski; Robin Marie Tramel; Ashley Lynn Van Conant; Mark Varney; Gustavo Roman Vasquez; Aliisa Sofia Vint; Charles Lacey Walker; Brittany L. Warner; Stase Anita Wendland; Melissa Lee Wilks; Lisa Willerick; Jeanne Marie Winn; Melissa Maxine Wroblewski; Julia Marie Zahn; and Christine Diane Zuerner.

Olivet Dean's List

Christopher Gregory and Benjamin Kosmalski, both of Canton, made the Olivet College fall semester Dean's List. To make the Dean's List, a student must be full-time and earn a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

Honor Society membership

Western Michigan University student and Canton resident Daniel Matthew Nowak accepted membership and was initiated into National Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society for First Year Students on Feb. 15.

Alpha Lambda Delta is a national honor society that recognizes and encourages academic excellence among first year students. Membership is open to full-time freshmen students who earn a scholastic average of 3.5 or better at a four-year college or university.

Daniel has taken an oath to continue to "maintain high scholarship and to use my education for the benefit of my community, my nation, and the world in which we live."

For more information about National Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society for First Year Students, visit the national website at www.nationalald.org.



Storyteller Jacqueline Galloway-Blake uses authentic African artifacts, musical instruments and fabric samples to take Bird Elementary students on a 600-year journey through Black history.

One-woman show

Storyteller takes students on cultural journey

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

If someone had said "Jamba!" to Bird Elementary School fifth-grader Drew Smiley before Thursday, he wouldn't have known how to respond.

Now, Drew knows the proper retort: "Hello!"

It's one of the many things Drew and his fellow Bird students learned last week from author and storyteller Jacqueline Galloway-Blake, who conducted a storyteller assembly on Black History Month at the school Thursday afternoon.

Blake used musical instruments, storytelling, authentic ethnic artifacts, singing, visual aids and a ton of audience participation to take students on a 600-year journey through African-American history and culture.

"She was wonderful," Bird Principal Susan Kelty said of Galloway-Blake. "It was rich in African history, children's lit-

erature and historical facts."

It was rich in fact partly because Galloway-Blake has a pretty rich history herself. Her great-grandfather was a slave. At 15, she marked with Dr. Martin Luther King in the March on Washington, and heard King's "I Have A Dream" speech.

When civil rights legend Rosa Parks died in October 2005, Galloway-Blake was a flower bearer at her funeral. And when Americans elected their first African-American president in November, she was invited to Barack Obama's inauguration.

With that kind of history, it's no surprise Galloway-Blake's presentation drew raves from administrators, teachers and students. Kelty said by Friday morning she'd already received several thank-you notes from students, including one from Drew Smiley.

"I thought the way she asked for so many volunteers was cool because we got to partici-

pate in the show," Drew said. "Even though I already knew a lot of the information, it was a fun way to review."

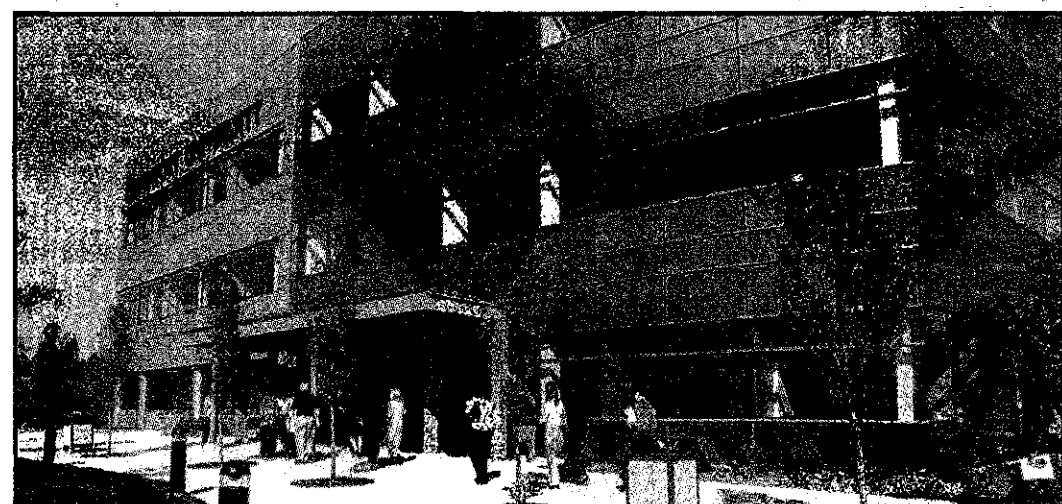
"I also learned some interesting new facts ... like 'Jamba' means hello," he added. "That will be a fun way for me to greet my family!"

Galloway-Blake, who has done hundreds of presentations to schools and libraries around the area, approached Kelty last month with the idea of doing an assembly in conjunction with King's birthday, but an assembly couldn't be worked into the school's schedule.

Kelty said she wanted to take advantage of Galloway-Blake's availability, and the pair coordinated a Black History Month assembly, instead.

"I think it's important for our children to understand all cultures," Kelty said. "They need to value all people, of all races and colors and religions."

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ON THE AGENDA

Canton Board of Trustees

The board will hold a regular meeting at 7 p.m., Feb. 24 at the Canton Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road. Agenda items include:

- Consider purchase of 4 Stalker radars for police
- Consider purchase of patrol vehicles
- Consider merit commission recommendation for non-union employees' 2009 compensation
- Consider authorizing payment of the \$6,000 invoice from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for Canton's storm water discharge permit
- Consider payment of Cityview annual software maintenance fees
- Budget amendment – carry over of federal grants fund 2008 Community Development Block Grant
- Extension of governmental consultant services contract



Bollywood - Music of India will feature the culture of India during a performance at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 28 at the Costick Center, at 28600 W. 11 Mile Road in Farmington Hills.

Slice of Bollywood music coming to area

The culture of India takes center stage at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 28 at the Costick Center, located at 28600 W. 11 Mile Road in Farmington Hills.

Bollywood - Music of India, presented by the Farmington Hills Cultural Arts Division, will feature traditional Indian melodies along with new, upbeat movie songs from India's expansive cinema.

The concert, which will be produced and directed by Narendra Sheth, will feature a select group of soloists and musicians of national repute.

Sheth, a community leader known for his humanitarian activities, developed the radio show, *Geetmala*, in 1974 with the purpose of promoting cultural exchange.

Geetmala, heard all over the world through the Web site www.wpon.com, features celebrities and legendary figures from India in the areas of music, dance, religion, education, and humanity/social service. Sheth has also produced shows from Indian music legends such as Amitabh Bachchan, Lata Mangeshkar, Asha Bhosle, Bhimsen Joshi, and Ravi Shankar.

Tickets for Bollywood - Music of India are \$25 for adults and \$20 for seniors and students. Tickets are available at the Costick Center, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or can be charged by calling (248) 473-1848. Some tickets may also be available at the door on the night of the concert.

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Presented by
Andrea S. Vivian, D.D.S.

PREVENTION STRATEGY QUESTIONED

While both the American Dental Association and the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons recommend giving prophylactic antibiotics to patients with prosthetic joints, there is no evidence that doing so will stave off infection. So says a recent study that looked for evidence that this standard practice of administering antibiotics to dental patients with artificial joints had any effect. With the number of artificial joints implanted annually expected to rise to about four million by 2030, and many authorities urging less use of antibiotics, this is bound to be a big issue for people with artificial joints. Health experts have been warning for some time that unwarranted antibiotic use is leading to a rise in antibiotic resistance.

As part of your healthcare team, we are concerned about all aspects of your health. If you have artificial joints, you may want to discuss the necessity of taking antibiotics prior to dental visits with your health care professional. If a medical condition comes to our attention during a dental exam, you can be sure we will discuss the issues with you as well as any other healthcare provider if you choose. We bring you our dental column as a way to inform our friends and neighbors here in the community of the many benefits of professional dentistry. For gentle dental care for the family, please call us at **734-453-9413, 496 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Ste. 201, Plymouth (one block East of Kellogg Park).**

P.S. New guidelines also suggest that dental patients at risk for endocarditis (infection that can strike an artificial heart valve) receive fewer antibiotics that previously recommended.

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Group wants to harmonize area's cultural environment

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton High School junior Heidi Nguyen-Tran serves on the schools' Diversity Council, helping students bridge cultural gaps and broaden horizons. Now she's willing to serve in a group designed to do the same thing for the community as a whole.

Nguyen-Tran was one of several students among the crowd of nearly 100 people who filled the meeting room at Plymouth Township Hall for a meeting aimed at creating a more inclusive community in increasingly diverse Plymouth and Canton townships.

The meeting, sponsored by the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity, drew an eclectic



Ann Conklin, Canton Township's director of leisure services (right) was among government officials attending the meeting on diversity.

PHOTOS BY FREDA SAMPSON

mix of school administrators, teachers, government officials, students and residents.

"I think it's necessary," Nguyen-Tran said of the meeting. "It brings all cultures

together, it creates diversity in our community. Instead of just tolerance, hopefully it will create more acceptance."

The Michigan Roundtable, an organization committed to building bridges across differences in race, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, and other cultural characteristics, is putting a \$1 million grant it got from the Ford Foundation to work building cultural tolerance and acceptance in three targeted communities, including Plymouth-Canton. The group is also talking to City of Warren officials; officials didn't want to say who the third community is because talks are in the preliminary stage.

Tom Costello, president/CEO of Michigan Roundtable, said the changing cul-



Plymouth-Canton students (from right) Heidi Nguyen-Tran, Angie Zou, Marvic Malabanan and Joel Mallare led a panel discussion about the cultural differences at the high school complex.

ture in these communities makes Plymouth-Canton a viable candidate for change. According to Costello, the area was 90 percent white 10 years ago; that figure, he said, has dropped to 70 percent.

"At every level - law enforcement, schools, business, faith, government - you want people to know regardless of what my socio-economic status, race or religion, there's a place for me," Costello said, "not just to live, but to be a voice, a presence."

The idea, at least in part, is to build a cultural presence in places such as local government. While the Canton Township Board of Trustees has one trustee - Syed Taj - of Indian descent, the Plymouth Township and City of Plymouth governing bodies are made up of white men and women.

"We hear so much about how diverse the community is, and that's wonderful, but it also has to be inclusive," said Michigan Roundtable spokesman Steve Spreitzer, himself a Plymouth resident. "The face of public service in this community should look like the public being served."

It's not just whether ethnic diversity exists on the governing bodies. Plymouth City Commissioner Stella Green, the former director of the

Plymouth Community Arts Council who now works in Dearborn, has seen first-hand the feelings of an ethnic group that feels it isn't being heard.

She thinks the group being discussed Thursday for Plymouth-Canton could help prevent that here.

"We have a diverse community, and we need to recognize that and include them before we have a problem," Green said. "I work in Dearborn, and I've seen what happens when you ignore an ethnic group."

It was the second meeting in the community for the group, which first met last month in Canton. On Thursday, the focus shifted to key areas the group will tackle during a year-long timeline, including law enforcement, youth, community life, history and public service.

The group hopes to build a consensus on action areas by April, build an organizational structure and rally public support by summer, kickoff a strategic plan in September and spend the rest of the year executing the plan.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 26, at the Plymouth Cultural Center. For more information, visit the Michigan Roundtable's Web site at www.mroundtable.org.

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FRIDAY THE 13TH (R)
12:55, 3:05, 5:15, 7:25, 9:35
FRI/SAT LS 11:45

HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG-13)
11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R)
11:00, 1:35, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40
3D CORALINE (PG)
11:30, 1:50, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10
FRI/SAT LS 11:25

TAKEN (PG-13)
12:15, 2:30, 4:55, 7:10, 9:20
FRI/SAT LS 11:35

HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG)
12:20, 2:40, 5:00

GRAN TORINO (R)
7:20, 9:50

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Money held by custodian companies not subject to creditors

Q: Dear Rick: Thank you for your advice over the years. About 10-15 years ago, I decided to consolidate my holdings at Charles Schwab. I now have accounts at Schwab and Fidelity. I own mostly mutual funds, but I do own some stocks and individual bonds. With all the economic chaos, my fear is what would happen to my money if Schwab or Fidelity went under. I do not plan to sell my investments, but I am wondering if it would make sense to hold them individually as opposed to Fidelity or Schwab. What do you think?

A: Thanks so much for being a loyal follower. It is an honor to come into people's homes through the radio and the newspaper to help them make better decisions with their money.

As to your question, I do not believe you have to move your money out of Charles Schwab or Fidelity. Even if one of those companies did declare bankruptcy, your money would be protected.

It is important to understand that when you use a custodian such as Schwab or Fidelity, you are not investing in the custodian. They are operating as a fiduciary to hold and maintain your investments. Your money would not be subject to the creditors of the bankrupt company because it is not their asset.

Using companies like Schwab and Fidelity makes it easier for investors. Basically, these companies are super-markets of investments. As opposed to getting individual statements from every investment you own, you get one consolidated statement. It's much easier for an investor to manage his/her portfolio. In addition, with companies like Schwab, Fidelity, TD Ameritrade and Vanguard, you can invest in many commission-free mutual funds. I am a believer of commission-free investing.

When using a company such as Schwab or Fidelity, it is important to recognize that certain funds may be commission-free (no load) if you purchase them directly through the mutual fund company, but do have fees if purchased through one of the custodians. Some mutual funds, in order to purchase them through one



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

of the custodians, will have a transaction fee. Although the transaction fee is substantially lower than a commission, nonetheless, it is still a fee. If you wish to avoid that fee, purchase the investments directly through the company. For convenience purposes, you may pay the transaction fee in order to have the benefit of consolidated statements.

Q: Dear Rick: I've started reading about the Stanford Group and how investors lost billions of dollars on CDs purchased through that company. I thought CDs are federally insured up to \$250,000, so how can investors lose that money?

A: The fraud perpetrated by the Stanford Group is still being uncovered. However, the simple answer to your question is the that the CDs they were selling were not federally insured. They were CDs issued by an offshore bank. The Stanford Group used its own bank on the island of Antigua. Those types of CDs are not federally insured and have virtually no protection.

Many investors got scammed by the Stanford Group because they were enticed by the high rates of return that the CDs were paying. Unfortunately, investors never considered the CDs were not federally insured. If purchasing CDs, you are saying this is the very conservative portion of your portfolio and there is no reason to take risk.

I recommend shopping around for the highest rate possible on a certificate of deposit. However, I only recommend shopping at federally-insured institutions. Whether issued by internet banks or out of state banks, as long as CDs are federally insured, you are protected.

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

Growth Works lauds kids who overcome, their helpers

Young people and those who help them overcome obstacles to success were recognized Thursday, Feb. 19, at the Growth Works 2009 Recognition & Awards Dinner.

The Plymouth-based agency offers help to young people with substance abuse problems as well as those who've experienced trouble with the law. The annual dinner was held Feb. 19 at Fox Hills Country Club west of Plymouth.

"It's been a great year in terms of the services we are providing for kids," said Dale Yagiela, Growth Works executive director. He's pleased with outcomes, but also concerned about funding in this rough economy.

Yagiela praised Wolverine Human Services' partnership with Growth Works which includes substance abuse treatment for boys started in 2006. "We were able to begin a girls' program this year," with Wolverine at a facility in Vassar, Mich., Yagiela said.

Growth Works leaders are looking to a similar partnership approach for kids with mental health issues. "I think we've got some very good quality efforts to help kids," said Yagiela of that endeavor, with more news to come in April.

Recognized at the Fox Hills dinner for milestone years of dedication and service were: Ann O'Flaherty of Plymouth (20 years), David Sculati of Farmington Hills and Bill Ventola of Plymouth Township (five years), all Growth Works board members.

Academic Awards included: For special achievement and outstanding effort in academics earning the General Education Development certificate or high school diploma: Lawrence Jordan Anquetil of Canton (GED), Brendan Allender of Livonia and Rick Bergquist of Livonia.

Growth Works Program Awards included: For special achievement and outstanding effort over the last year in Aftercare and Residential Treatment: Steve Chapman of Westland and Christopher Rothley of South Lyon.

For special achievement and outstanding effort over the last year in the Western Wayne Care Management Organization: Janell Reeves of Westland and Brennan Orndorff of Dearborn.

For special achievement and outstanding effort over the past year in Community Intervention & Treatment (Youth Programming):

Amanda Mog of Canton, Tori Bergquist of Livonia and Resul Bahtijari of Dearborn Heights.

For special achievement and outstanding effort over the past year in Community Intervention & Treatment (Adult Programming): Steven Harsch of Belleville and Arnie Newman of Westland.

Community Awards included:

For efforts aimed at improving the lives of young people: Ronaele Bowman of Westland, Phil Cavanagh of Redford, Kay Beard of Canton and Cindy King of Belleville.

Yagiela, in an interview before the dinner, noted lower-

income families have been on the edge. "Their lives have been affected for the last five-six years." He's seeing more middle-class kids in treatment.

Yagiela and others at Growth Works are concerned about increased heroin use among young people. He noted one teen could ride from his western Wayne County home on his bike to buy heroin in Detroit.

"I think it's cost and availability," said Yagiela, adding there's a strong link between juvenile delinquency and drug use.

- By Julie Brown

Ficano asks community leaders to help with census

During a breakfast meeting Thursday, Executive Ficano urged mayors and supervisors of the 43 Wayne County communities to help with the census 2010 count.

"We need to stand up and be counted," said Executive Ficano at the Guardian Building in Detroit. "We depend on this count for federal funding. We need to bring together a cross-section of community members whose only focus is 2010 Census awareness. We need to increase the Census questionnaire - mail-back response rate through a community wide/neighborhood-to-neighbor program."

As the Chair of the Committee for Wayne County, Executive Ficano has formed several subcommittees. He asked that mayors and supervisor identify people who can work on the various committees that include government, religious, community based, recruiting Subcommittee, education, media, business, multi-

To find out more about Census 2010 log onto census.gov/2010census/

cultural and labor.

Dwight Dean, Detroit regional director, said that they would be opening several offices and hiring dozens of people to work on the census count during the next year.

"With just 14 months before the next Census, we are reaching out to local officials, and community leaders to deliver the message to every resident of the importance of an accurate and complete population count for each locality. People listen to leaders they know and trust, and the Mayors and other elected officials that serve in Wayne County are critical to our success with an accurate and complete count."

To find out more about Census 2010 log onto <http://www.census.gov/2010census/>

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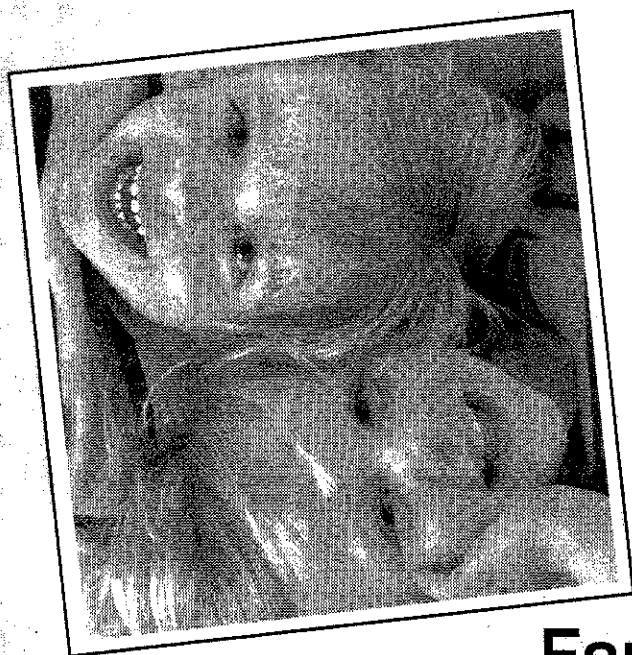
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McCotter: GM, Chrysler did what they had to do

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

The new restructuring proposed by General Motors and Chrysler to obtain additional federal loans is as painful as expected, said U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, who serves on the House Financial Services Committee.

"It will save some workers' jobs and there will be others they can't save," he said Wednesday in a phone interview.

On Tuesday, General Motors and Chrysler came back to Congress with extensive cost-cutting proposals and requests for \$21.6 billion in loans, in addition to the \$17.4 billion loaned to the companies in December. GM proposes closing 14 plants, cutting 47,000 workers, eliminating several brands including Hummer and Saturn and reducing its number of suppliers. Chrysler is proposing cutting 3,000 jobs, eliminating some brands including the popular PT Cruiser and reducing production capacity by 100,000 vehicles. McCotter has complained that



U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, has complained that the auto industry has been treated unfairly in Congress.

the auto industry has been treated unfairly in Congress compared to the no-questions-asked \$300 billion plus bailout for the banking industry.

"If you tell them no after this, you say that the people who didn't restructure and got more money were in the right," he said. "They did what they had to do."

President Barack Obama has created a task force led by Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner and Lawrence Summers, chair of the National Economics Council, to replace a "car czar" as originally proposed by the Bush Administration.

"The task force will have to do due diligence," McCotter said.

He said he wants to see if someone with experience in the auto industry will be on the task force. He said he believes that someone other than Geithner or Summers will be the point person for handling the next loans and that the terms will actually be worked out between the auto companies and the president's task force.

While supportive of the bridge loans for auto companies, McCotter joined the other Republican members of the House of Representatives in opposing the economic stimulus

package signed into law by Obama on Tuesday.

"I was open to do it, seen from Michigan's point of view," McCotter said.

He said an amendment by Sen. Barbara Mikulski, D-Maryland, would have been good for Michigan. The amendment in the original Senate bill would have given a tax break to car buyers, allowing them to deduct loan interest and state sales taxes on purchases of new vehicles. McCotter said that was replaced in the end by a high-speed rail proposal by Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nevada.

McCotter called the stimulus package "a post-manufacturing" bill with more emphasis on government programs than on helping businesses. He also said the bill could lead to the "stagflation" problems of the late 1970s, making Michigan's situation worse. Stagflation is when the economy remains sluggish but prices continue to rise.

"The auto industry is still hanging. It doesn't matter what you do if our industry fails," he said.

But he said more could have been done to win over Republican votes with more emphasis on shovel ready public works projects.

"It should have been a relatively easy bipartisan vote," he said. "I don't blame the president. It doesn't matter what the president wants when he's jammed up by the old bulls."

The White House issued a projection that the stimulus package would create or save 7,800 jobs in McCotter's 11th District. He said he didn't know how they could project how many jobs would be "saved."

"In the end people will make a determination whether it helped them or not," McCotter said.

He said he wanted to see more tax help for small businesses and more proposals like Mikulski's. He said there was a "myriad of things" that could have been done to improve the bill.

"All along, we supported a shovel-ready stimulus. A lot of Republicans in the Midwest and Northeast were supportive," he said.

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Canton proposes innovative projects for stimulus money

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton Township officials have submitted 27 projects totaling \$41.6 million for consideration by Governor Jennifer Granholm when federal economic stimulus money is released by the Obama administration.

While many on the list are road, water and sewer projects, there are a number of other interesting projects Canton officials are hoping to fund with a slice of the federal economic recovery pie. Among those:

- \$7.5 million for construction of a facility that would extract methane gas from the

township landfill and turn it into electricity for use in Canton.

- \$1.5 million for acquisition and rehabilitation of a Henry Ford-era factory listed on the National Register of Historic Places in Cherry Hill Village to incubate arts related businesses, stimulate economic development, serve as an arts education center and preserve the pristine wetlands and forests on the property.

- \$1 million for replacement of the existing softball field lighting at the Canton softball and sports complex with energy efficient lighting.

- \$500,000 to create a spur off I-275 to connect to Haggerty Road to improve

traffic flow on Ford Road.

- \$360,000 for housing rehabilitation projects for low income families in Canton.

- \$102,000 to build office space in the unfinished basement at the Human Resource Services building on Cherry Hill Road.

Granholm's office has indicated no decisions on submitted projects will be made until the Obama administration finalizes the amount of money the state will receive.

Details on Canton's project submissions, as well as those from communities throughout the state, can be viewed at www.michigan.gov/recovery.

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He's a pro at Pick the Pros

A Livonia resident proved he was a real pro when it comes to football and picked enough winners to take first place in the *Observer & Eccentric's* Pick the Pros contest.

Bruce Lambert, a self-employed television producer and director, scored 193 points to take first place out of 573 contestants. Season scores were the sum of the best 17 out of 21 weeks, with the worst four thrown out.

Lambert won a room and golf package for two at the Garland Resort in Lewiston.



Lambert

Lambert came on strong during the NFL playoffs, picking all four wild card game winners, then three of four victors in the conference playoffs and both winners of the conference championships along with the eventual champion Pittsburgh Steelers in the Super Bowl.

Contestants earned one point for each accurate pick

during the regular season, four for playoff games, eight for the conference championships and 16 for the Super Bowl.

Lambert has played Pick the Pros for four years.

On picking winners, Lambert said: "It's just a gut feeling. I just started picking them right and left." (Translation: He guessed.)

Lambert said he was "pleasantly surprised" at the news of his win. "Some weeks I got all 16 points," he said. "It was fun."

KNOW THE SCORE: Check out the numbers in today's **Sports** section

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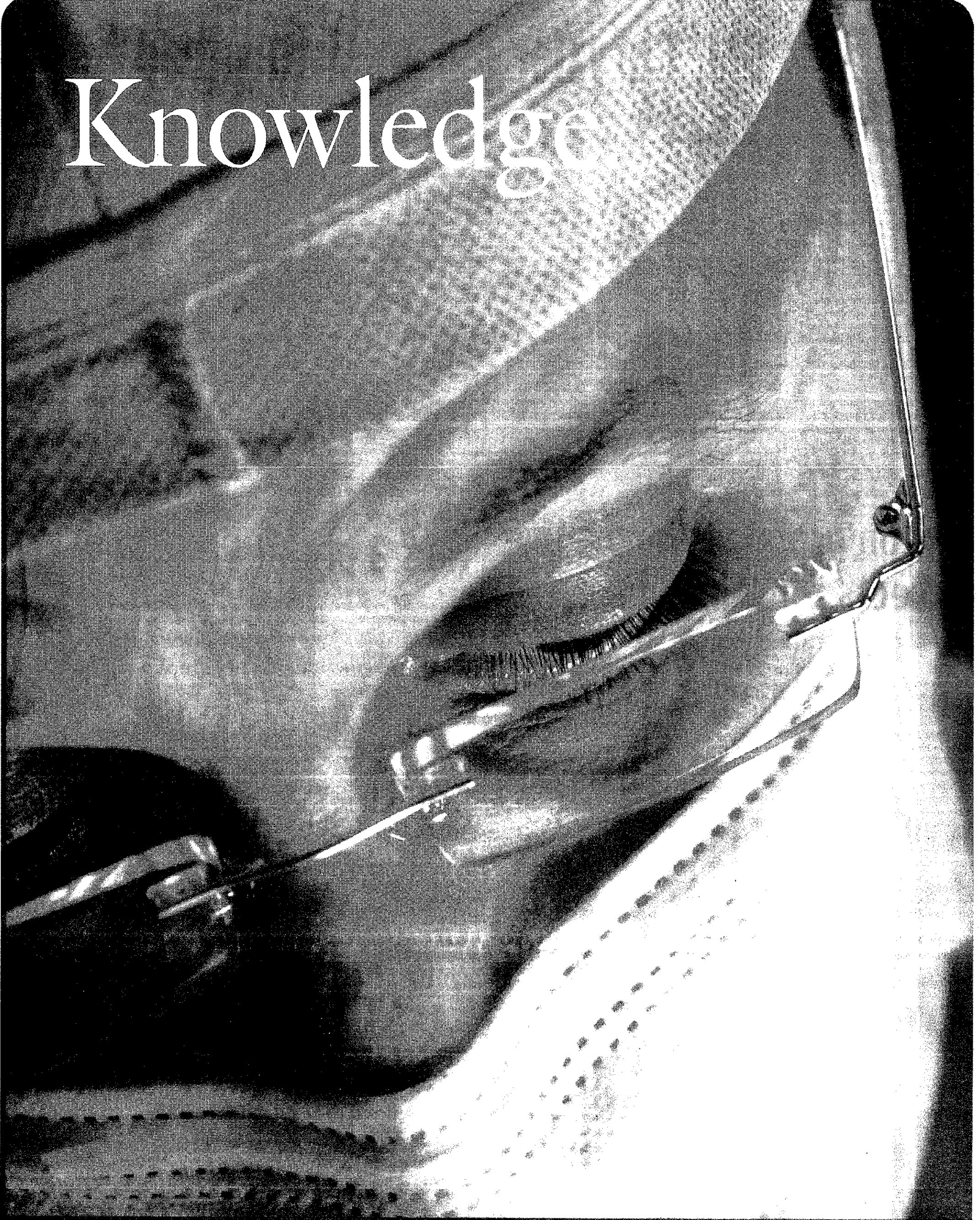
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SECTION B
(CP)

Ed Wright, editor, (313) 222-2047
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Unlocking traumatic events frozen in time - Health, B10

SPORTS, HEALTH & FITNESS, NEIGHBORS

HOMETOWN LIFE

Chiefs edge Salem for 5th straight district title

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Even if he coaches another 50 years, 24-year-old Canton wrestling coach Cory Mancuso will probably never forget Keith Zech's drama-coated overtime victory Wednesday night in the Chiefs' Division 1 District final match against Salem.

With Canton leading 31-13 — and three talented Rock upper-weight performers waiting in the wings — Zech clinched the Chiefs' fifth-consecutive

District championship — and Mancuso's first as a head coach — when he rallied to edge Colin Gross, 8-6, in overtime in a 171-pound thriller.

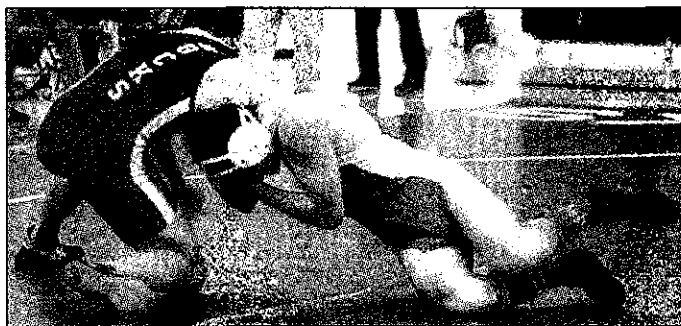
When referee Tom Arsenault stuck up the two fingers on his right hand that confirmed Zech's triumphant OT take-down, Mancuso pumped both his fists and jumped at least three feet in the air, much like the members of his jubilant team that celebrated behind him.

Canton voided the final three

matches and won 34-31.

The Chiefs' quest for a second-straight trip to the team finals in Battle Creek will continue on Wednesday at Westland John Glenn when they take on Southgate Anderson, which is 33-5, in a Division 1 Regional semifinal. A victory against the Titans would earn Canton a berth in the Regional final against the winner of the John Glenn-Temperance-Bedford semifinal

Please see **CHIEFS, B2**



BRIAN ABBEY

Canton's Keith Zech (right) defeated Salem's Colin Gross, 8-6, in a 171-pound overtime match Wednesday to secure the Chiefs' fifth-consecutive Division 1 District title.

GAME WRAPS

Wildcat icers fall

Plymouth's hockey team dropped a 4-0 decision to South Lyon Wednesday night that dropped its record to 12-9-2 heading into Friday's final home game of the season.

Despite the loss, Plymouth coach Paul Fassbender praised "Considering we were outshot 42-16 and outworked in every area, I thought Mike did an outstanding job keeping us in it."

The game was scoreless following the opening period in which the Lions outshot the Wildcats, 12-6.

"We didn't show up for the second period and trailed 2-0 after two," said Fassbender. "In the third period, I thought we showed some spark, but we took too many chances."

"It was a tough game for us mentally. We have a lot of young kids who we rely on and coming off our extremely emotional victory over Canton on Tuesday, I thought we just came out flat."

"We have to regroup. We have a week before our last regular-season game."

The Wildcats will host Waterford Mott Friday at 7 p.m. at Compuware Arena.

PCA girls win pair

The Plymouth Christian Academy girls basketball team continued its successful season this past week with a pair of Michigan Independent Athletic Conference victories over Taylor Baptist Park (58-53 on Thursday) and Allen Park Inter-City Baptist (40-32 on Tuesday).

The Eagles improved their record to 12-6 overall and 5-5 in the MIAC heading into Saturday's game at Novi Franklin Road (results will appear in Thursday's Observer).

Brooke Williams' 15 points spearheaded the impressive victory over Baptist Park, which suffered its first league setback of the season. Jessica Murphy (14 points) and Kristin Malcolm (10 points, eight blocked shots) also shone. The Eagles won despite the fact Malcolm and Brianna Harris (nine points) both missed significant time due to injuries suffered in the game.

PCA led 27-19 at the half, but BP rallied to take a 51-50 fourth-quarter lead. A Malcolm putback during the game's closing moments proved to be the eventual game-winner.

Malcolm, a freshman, also sparked in the win against Inter-City, tallying 14 points and double-digit rebounds. Williams added 12.

Amanda Isom, one of the top players in the MIAC, was limited to 12.

"We played very good man-to-man defense against Amanda," said PCA coach Carol Gerulis. "We tried to keep the ball out of her hands as much as possible."

Jordan rules in Whalers' 8-3 triumph

Defenseman Michal Jordan registered his first career hat trick, and Chris Terry and Matt Caria each tallied two goals and two assists as the Plymouth Whalers hammered the Sarnia Sting, 8-3, in an Ontario Hockey League contest played Friday night before 3,635 at the Sarnia Sports and Entertainment Centre.

Tyler G. Brown scored the other goal for the Whalers, who won their sixth straight game and fourth in a row on the road. Plymouth is now 30-22-5-0, good for 65 points and in fifth place in the tight OHL Western Conference race.

Gregg Sutch scored twice for Sarnia (now 28-23-3-3, 62 points, sixth in Western Conference) and Matt Martin added one.

The Whalers moved to the lead early, scoring on their first five Grade-A scoring opportunities.

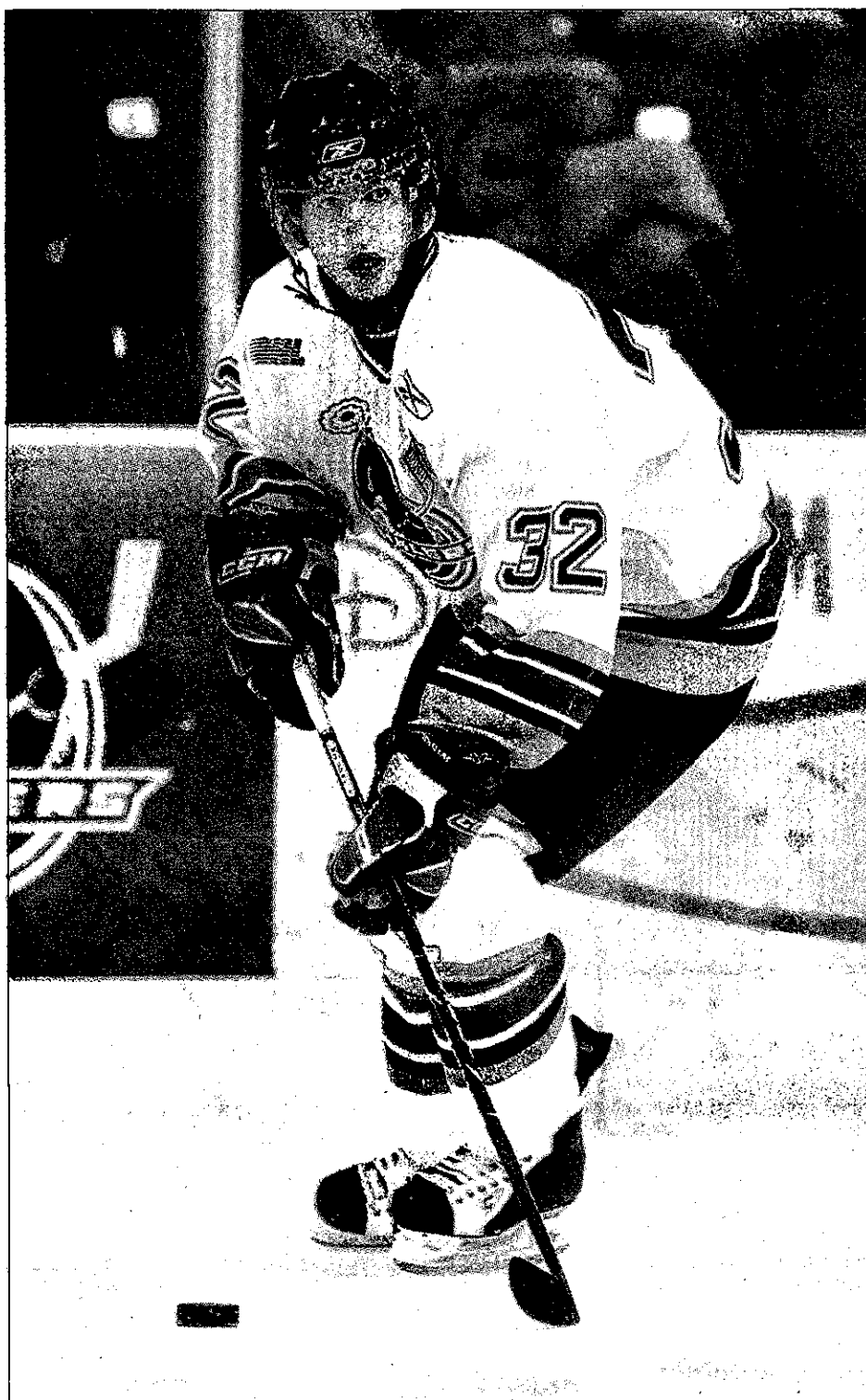
Brown got Plymouth rolling with his sixth of the year at 2:42 after tipping AJ Jenks' shot from the left circle past Sarnia goaltender Dan Spence.

Jordan scored his first of the game at 6:54 of the period, tapping home a loose puck home from the right of the Sarnia goal.

Later in the period, Plymouth blew the game open with three goals in a span of 1:42 — Caria at 15:30 (one-timer and 21st of the year all alone from the right doorstep), Jordan at 16:08 (8th of the year with a shot from the top of the left circle that deflected past Spence) and Terry at 17:12 (32nd of the year on a shot from the left wing).

Plymouth led, 5-0, after one period.

Please see **WHALERS, B4**



WALT DMOCH

On Friday in Sarnia, Plymouth's Michal Jordan became the first Whaler defenseman to register a hat-trick since James Wisniewski registered the feat in 2002.

'Cats maul Zebras on Senior Night

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Right on cue, the girls of the hour stepped up big-time for Plymouth Friday night against Wayne Memorial.

Playing on "Senior Night", seniors Shaakira Haywood (23 points, 15 rebounds and two blocked shots), Kelsi Robinson (10 points, eight rebounds) and Megan Quinlan (eight points) led the Wildcats to a lop-sided 68-24 victory over the Zebras.

The win improved Plymouth's record to 7-11 overall and 5-5 in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association's South Division. Wayne fell to 2-16 and 0-10, respectively.

"Our entire starting line-up was made up of seniors tonight and our first player off the bench was a senior, so it worked out nice," said Plymouth coach Ted Strudivant.

Joining Haywood, Robinson and Quinlan in the starting line-up were Jalesa Moise and Bri'annah Hightower with Nicole Rottell coming off the bench. The team's seventh senior, Paige Visser, did not play due to an injury.

Plymouth led 15-5 after one quarter, 29-16 at the half and 47-22 after three quarters.

Allie Coleman led Wayne with nine points.

The winners hit 3 of 7 free throws. The Zebras drained half of their six freebies.

GIRLS PREP HOOPS

Captain Vince

Rizzo combines strong mat skills with leadership

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Vince Rizzo's close-to-impeccable technique was honed by countless hours in the Wildcats' wrestling room.

His admirable strength was built up by lord knows how many repetitions in the school's weight room.

And the endurance that has helped him compile a 75-20 record heading into yesterday's Division 1 Individual District tournament was developed by the kind of monotonous cardiovascular



Prep Profile

workouts only other accomplished wrestlers can relate to.

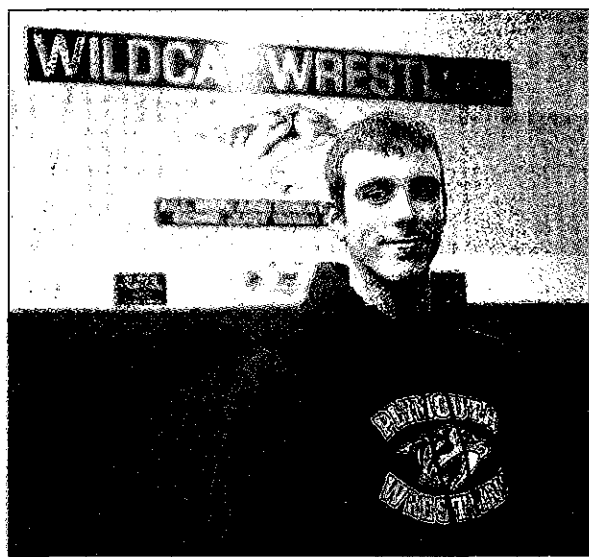
But Rizzo's most impressive

trait — his unwavering leadership ability — is an inherent quality that can't be measured in sweat or muscle mass.

"Vince is the best captain I could have asked for," emphasized first-year Plymouth wrestling coach Quinn Guernsey. "He's the heart and soul of this team. He's our leader. The entire team looks to him to be our pride."

"We were in a couple tough individual tournaments this year when a lot of our guys were out of it in

Please see **RIZZO, B2**

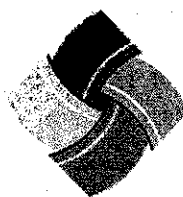


BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior captain Vince Rizzo has been an outstanding leader both on the mat and off for Plymouth's wrestling team this season.

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RIZZO

FROM PAGE B1

round one, two or three, but they stuck around just to cheer on Vince. There's been a lot of pressure on Vince, but he's risen to it."

Best in the 'Land

Rizzo was never better than he was at last month's talent-stocked Observerland tournament. The senior bulldozed through the 171-pound brackets before outlasting Livonia Churchill's Curtis Castleberry, 12-5, in an overtime thriller. "That's been the highlight of my career so far," said Rizzo, referring to his Observerland triumph. "Winning that last match in overtime was more mental than it was physical." Rizzo's introduction to the sport unfolded when the then-sixth-grader attended one of former coach Sam Amin's youth clinics at Plymouth High School. It didn't take him long to make a major decision: He

loved it.

"I liked the independence that comes with wrestling," he said. "It's all on you. You don't have to rely on anyone else."

Steady improvement

After spending his freshman year wrestling at the junior-varsity level, Rizzo racked up an impressive 14-2 record at 140 pounds as a sophomore before suffering a season-ending injury.

As a junior, he went 33-12 at 152 and 160 before sculpting a stellar 28-6 mark heading into Saturday's D1 individual competition.

"The toughest parts of the sport in my opinion are the endurance it takes and the mind games," Rizzo said. "You have to be mentally strong or you're not going to be successful."

Rizzo's discipline in the wrestling room has carried over to the classroom — where he's established a solid 3.0 grade-point average — and at

the dinner table, where he's learned to avoid fast food and all other edibles that would threaten to push his weight past his 171-pound wrestling limit.

"I stay away from sugar and bread," he said. "I've learned to like a lot of fruits and veggies and drink a lot of water. I'll splurge once in a while, but not much during the season."

Family matters

Rizzo, who said he will attend either the University of Detroit Mercy or Schoolcraft College in the fall, has enjoyed serving as a mentor to his younger brother, Nick, a sophomore on the Plymouth wrestling team.

"It's been cool having Nick on the team," he said. "We're closer now than we would have been if he wasn't wrestling because we spend so much time together and we can relate a lot to wrestling."

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CHIEFS

FROM PAGE B1

showdown.

"This feels good," said Mancuso, clutching the District trophy tightly in his right hand. "I was nervous the whole day because I know Salem is getting good. Their upper weights are very tough, so I knew we had to try and put them away in the lower weights. It was close."

Zech led Gross 5-3 with 38 seconds left in regulation when he was penalized two points for stalling.

Gross grabbed a 6-5 lead seconds later with an escape, but the intensity-driven Zech drew even at 6-all with 11 seconds left.

Eighteen seconds into the extra session, Zech managed to haul Gross to the mat.

The 160-pound showdown that pitted Canton's Anthony Abro against Salem's Chris Sweet may not have been quite as dramatic, but it was equally

crucial to the Chiefs' title hopes.

Abro built an early 4-2 lead before hanging on to win, 7-4.

"That was huge," said Mancuso. "They wrestled each other Saturday in the KLAA individual tournament and it went to overtime, so we knew it would be close. That was a big win."

Canton, which advanced to the finals of the three-team event by hammering Plymouth 55-15, fell behind early against Salem when 103-pound Rock Nick Kim registered a 15-5 victory. However, the Chiefs won six of the next seven matches to secure a 28-7 cushion. Included in the streak were pins from mainstays Carl Lucke (119), Donnie Watkins (135) and Brent Winekoff.

Salem stayed alive when Robbie Schultz pinned Austin Mach with two seconds left in their 152-pound battle to bring the hosts to within 28-13, however, Abro and Zech reversed the momentum.

Salem's formidable trio of

Austin Root (189), Sam Lepper (215) and Blake Abbey (285) were the benefactors of the voids.

"When Zech won, we sealed it, so why risk getting anybody hurt," Mancuso said, explaining the match-ending voids.

ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 578-2767

CANTON 34

Salem 31

Wednesday at Salem

103 pounds: Nick Kim (S) won by major decision over Danny Filippelli, 15-5;
112: Waleed Faraj (C) won by major decision over Ian Phillips, 13-3;
119: Carl Lucke (C) pinned Devon Stratton in 1:55;
125: Mitch Wolski (C) decisioned John Bills, 9-4;
130: Jeremy Filippelli (C) decisioned James Middleditch, 6-4;
135: Donnie Watkins (C) pinned Ben DeWitt in 44 seconds;
140: Johannes Olind (S) decisioned Ryan Terrel, 6-3;
145: Brent Winekoff (C) pinned Dylan Hatcher in 1:18;
152: Robbie Schultz (S) pinned Austin Mach in 5:58;
160: Anthony Abro (C) decisioned Chris Sweet, 7-4;
171: Keith Zech (C) decisioned Colin Gross, 8-6, in OT;
189: Austin Root (S) won by void;
215: Sam Lepper (S) won by void;
285: Blake Abbey (S) won by void.

Storm stalls Ignition, 15-7

Reeling from injuries and playing its third game in five days, the Detroit Ignition (7-4) had its 15-game home winning streak snapped by the Chicago Storm (4-8) Friday night.

The Storm won, 15-7, to improve to 4-8. Despite the loss, the 7-4 Ignition remains in a first-place tie with Milwaukee.

The Ignition surged to a 4-0 lead in the first quarter with goals from Mikki Djerisilo and Zach Wilkes, but the Storm answered with a six-goal run that went unmatched by Detroit until the fourth quarter. Ryan Mack scored a three-pointer for the Ignition with just over a minute to play, but

the Storm's Ian Bennett completed a hat trick with a three-pointer of his own at 14:48 that brought the final tally to 15-7.

On Feb. 18, even different Ignition players found the back of the net in its 21-13 rout of the New Jersey Ironmen (4-7).

Detroit wasted no time getting on the board, as Kyt Selaidopoulos and Mack scored goals a few seconds apart to give the Ignition an early 4-0 lead.

The Ironmen responded with goals from Chile Farias and Randi Patterson.

Following a two-pointer from New Jersey's Tiguinho five minutes into the second, Detroit launched an 11-point

run with goals from Drew Crawford, Leo Gibson, Wilkes and Josh Rife, who had a three- and two-point scores.

Farias and Adauto Neto tried to close the gap for the Ironmen with a goal each, bringing the score to 15-10 heading into the fourth.

Selaidopoulos opened the final stanza for Detroit with his second tally of the match, an unassisted two-point goal at 2:21. Farias notched his third of the game at 6:53, but Mack and Drew Ducker knocked in two more for the Ignition to bring the final score to 21-13.

The Ignition will return to action on Saturday when it battles the Ironmen.

Cougars no match for Rocks

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Salem's boys basketball team completed the two-part, week-long "South Lyon Sweep" Friday night.

And, as expected, the first part was a lot tougher than the second.

The Rocks pounded South Lyon East, 62-38, Friday night 72 hours after handing South Lyon its first KLAA Central Division loss on Tuesday.

Friday's 24-point win lifted the Rocks record to 6-10 overall and 4-6 in the division. The Cougars slipped to 0-16 and 0-10, respectively.

The two teams' first encounter earlier this month was much closer: a 59-56 Salem triumph.

"We played a lot better defensively tonight than we did the first time we played them," said Salem coach Bob Brodie. "We did a lot better job of defending their three-point shots and we took care of the basketball."

Salem led 16-6 after one quarter, 34-12 at the half and 45-28 with eight minutes to play.

Senior Joe Posler turned in his second straight big statistical game, registering 19 points and 10 rebounds. Fellow senior Anthony Mullins also excelled, scoring.

Rock senior Heath Parling dished out a team-high six assists.

Andrew Mapley led the Cougars with 10 points.

Salem hit 10 of 17 free throws while the Cougars nailed 3 of 8.

Salem will travel to Livonia Franklin on Monday before hosting Livonia Churchill on Thursday.

WAYNE MEMORIAL 63, PLYMOUTH 56: On Friday at Wayne, the Zebras buried nine shots from beyond the arc to improve their record to 12-4 overall and 9-1 in the KLAA's South Division.

Plymouth, which has now lost four straight games, slipped to 8-8 and 4-6, respectively.

Jimmel Bennett spearheaded a balanced Wayne attack with 16 points, 12 coming on four threes. Robert Woodson added 15 and Daniel Hill tossed in 12. Sophomore Brennen Beyer paced the Wildcats with 15 points. Senior guard Cliff Buttermore added 13 and sophomore Justin Moss contributed 11.

Wayne led 19-15 after one quarter, 29-27 at the half and 49-38 after three periods. The Wildcats rallied to within four points in the final stanza, but couldn't quite catch the Zebras. Plymouth made 7 of 10 free throws. Wayne hit 2 of 4 from the stripe.

The Wildcats host Novi on Monday at 7 p.m. for "Senior Night." They'll travel to



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Eagle eye

Plymouth Christian Academy's Caleb Middleton takes aim at the rim during Friday night's Michigan Independent Athletic Conference game with Birmingham Roper. Results of the game were not reported to the Observer.

BOYS PREP HOOPS

Northville on Thursday.

JOHN GLENN 63, CANTON 54: On Friday at John Glenn, the Rockets' victory was fueled in the second quarter when they outscored their visitors 21-7.

John Glenn improved to 9-6 overall and 5-5 in the KLAA's South Division while the Chiefs slipped to 8-8 and 5-5, respectively.

"The second quarter was definitely a problem for us," said Canton coach Dan Colligan. "We got into foul trouble and we had a hard time containing Austin Anderson."

Anderson, the Rockets' slick-shooting senior guard, scored 13 of his game-high 28 points in the pivotal second quarter. He also drained 5 of 6 fourth-quarter free throws to help seal the win.

Sophomore guard Dietrich Lever led the Chiefs with 15 points, 13 of which came in the second half.

Seniors Marlan Glenn (11 points) and Kyle Biega (eight) also played well for Canton.

Daniel Stoney was solid in the paint for the Chiefs, contributing a team-high seven rebounds to go along with his five points.

John Glenn led 14-10 after one quarter before stretching its lead to 35-17 at the intermission.

The Chiefs battled back to within 45-35 after three quarters and to within six in the final eight minutes.

"I was proud of the way we played in the second half," said Colligan. "We made a nice comeback, but Glenn's big guys really did a nice job on the boards to hold us off and Anderson made some big free throws."

Canton made 15 of 25 attempts from the charity stripe while the Rockets were 13 of 20.

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Rocks prep for conference title game with 50-21 win

Salem's girls basketball team will be riding a wave of momentum into Tuesday's Kensington Lakes Activities Association Conference championship game against Livonia Franklin following Friday night's resounding 50-21 victory over visiting South Lyon East.

GIRLS PREP HOOPS

Tuesday night's title game is set for 7 p.m. in the Rocks' gym.

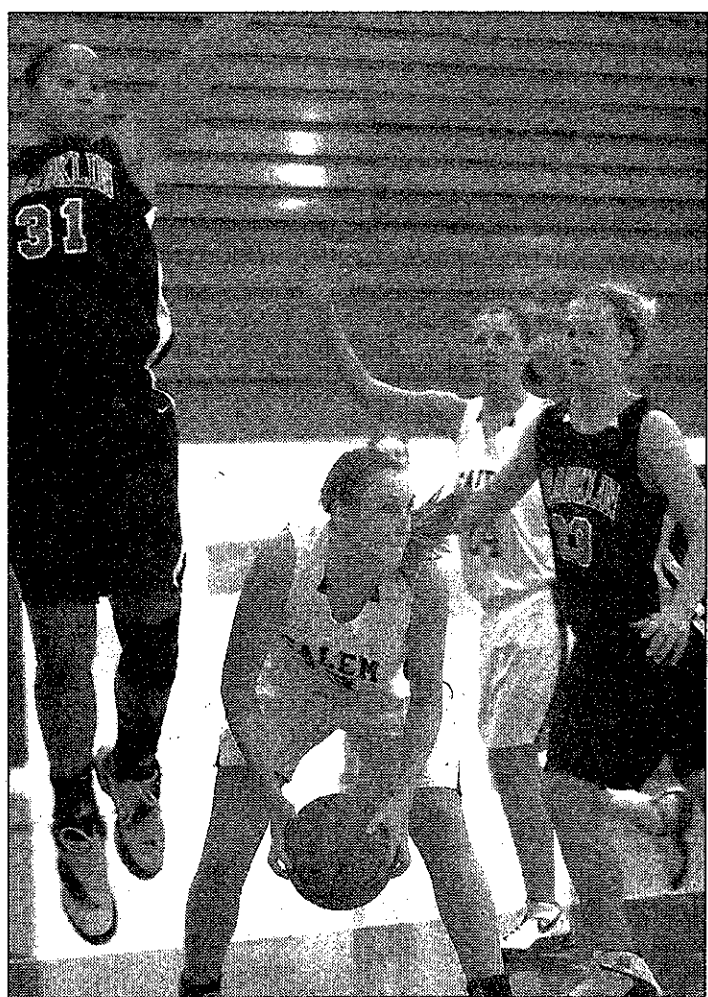
Senior Chelsea Davis spearheaded Friday night's victory by posting a double-double (10 points and 12 rebounds). Also making major contributions to the Rocks' cause were Rachel Norman (nine points), Sarah Durocher (eight points and eight rebounds), Brett de Bear (five points) and Heidi Schmidt (five points).

CANTON 32, JOHN GLENN 13: In a low-scoring game Friday, the host Chiefs (16-2, 9-1) earned a share of the KLAA South Division crown with a win over Westland John Glenn (7-11, 3-7).

Kari Schmitt and CarolAnn Sexauer paced Canton with nine and eight points, respectively. Sara Schmitt made 5-of-6 foul shots, while Melanie Pickert grabbed 12 rebounds and had four steals.

Canton, stymied by Glenn's packed-in zone defense, led only 4-3 after one quarter and 13-7 at halftime before pulling away in the second half.

Glenn senior center Brittany Holbrook tallied five points.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Rachel Norman (with ball), pictured in a game earlier this season against Livonia Franklin, tallied nine points in the Rocks' 50-21 victory over South Lyon East Friday night. The Rocks will host the Patriots Tuesday at 7 p.m. for the KLAA Kensington Conference title. The winner will advance to the KLAA Association championship game on Friday.

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Advertising Feature

NEW CONSTRUCTION AT PRICES BETTER THAN FORECLOSURES



The Belmont

Livonia Builders and Breault Homes have a winning formula that has worked for the past 2 years. Although the housing market has been dismal here in Michigan, they have been able to sell over 120 homes since January, 2007. Producing great homes with excellent standard features at foreclosure prices is a winning combination for the consumer.

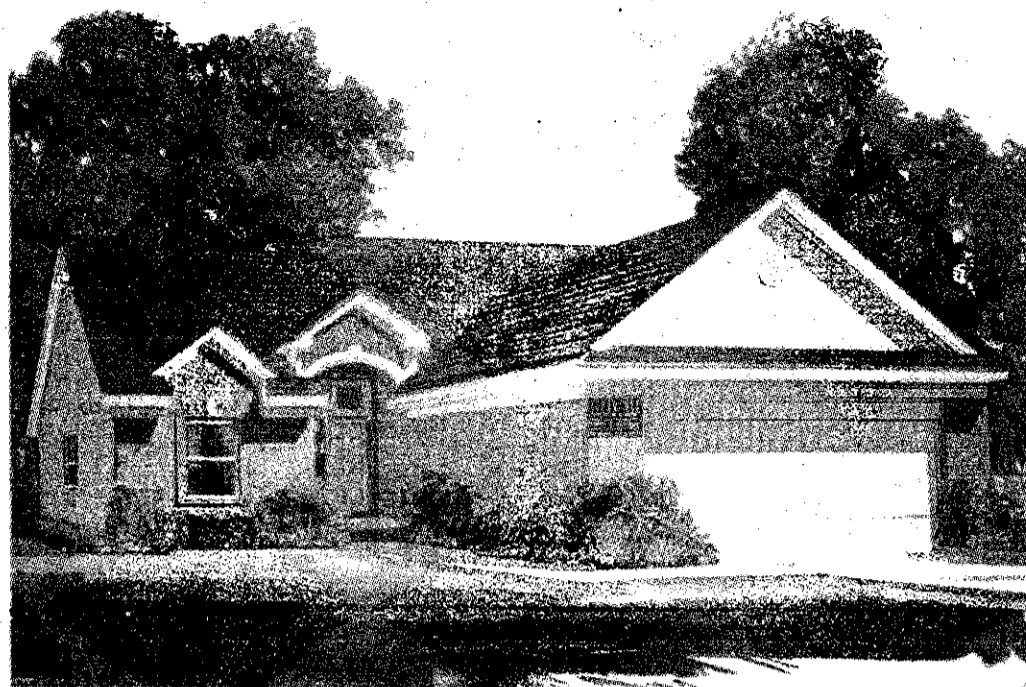
"Two years ago we met with our contractors and suppliers and discussed our philosophy moving forward. We must offer standard features that exceed our customers' expectations at a price more attractive than our competition," said Danny Veri, partner of Livonia Builders. "Our competition isn't other home builders, it's the used home market and foreclosures. We need to

make sure the buyer can see what our homes have to offer, and once they do that there will be no comparison."

When the new home buyer walks into a Livonia Builders or Breault home they are welcomed with upgraded features at standard prices. Features include: granite countertops, site sanded and stained hardwood floors, oversized baseboards and casings, Andersen or Jel-Win windows, Merrilat cabinets, 12 inch ceramic tile in baths and laundry, bedroom ceiling lights and an egress basement window. They also have outstanding energy products such as high-efficiency furnaces and hot water tanks, up to R-49 insulation in the attic, energy seal package,

windows have low E glass with argon gas, and Energy Star dishwasher.

"What we hear over and over from our customers is that they never expected to be able to afford a brand new house with all of these features as their first home," said Veri. "It is unbelievable to think that someone can buy a home from us for only \$5,000 down and have a payment with taxes and insurance for around \$1,000 a month. When you calculate the net payment after writing off interest and taxes, the monthly payment is down to around \$700." A household income of \$20 an hour can qualify for this



The Regency

type of financing. Another quality product they offer is the financing. "The mortgage broker we work with has 5% and 3.5% down programs. "With interest rates extremely low, pricing depressed, and the first time home buyer tax credit being proposed, this is truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

"We focus on good neighborhoods with good schools," said Veri. We have sites in Canton, Westland, Woodhaven, Ann Arbor, with South Lyon and Northville coming soon. The pricing of the neighborhoods are as follows: Canton starts at \$189,900 with 2-story



The Jenkins

homes starting at 1600 sq ft, Westland

has ranch and colonial homes that are 1330 to 1650 sq ft starting in the \$140's, Woodhaven has ranches and colonials starting in the \$130's, the Ann Arbor area starts in the \$160's and has homes that range from 1330 to 2100 sq. ft. South Lyon starting price is in the \$160's and the homes start at 1800 sq ft. Northville homes start at 2600 sq ft and are in the low \$300's.

"The major difference between our homes and a foreclosure is that you know what you are getting with ours. It is brand new and comes with a warranty. With a foreclosure, there are no warranties or disclosures, it is buyer beware." In most cases with foreclosures, there is a huge time delay getting a

response back from the bank once you make an offer. With us you deal directly with the owner of the company and have an immediate answer. Our homes are much more energy efficient than even homes built just a few years ago. Finally, our homes have more up-to-date features than most foreclosures have. So you don't have to spend another \$20-\$30,000 to remodel the kitchen and/or bathrooms," said Tim Breault of Breault Homes.

To learn more about the homes that Livonia Builders and Breault Homes are constructing, or to view a model home, call Danny Veri at 734-NEW-HOME email him at: dannyveri@sbcglobal.net or visit the website at www.michbuilder.com.

HIGH VELOCITY SPORTS

WINTER 3 (Mar. 2--Apr. 28)

Reg. Deadline: Feb. 20th

SOCCER LEAGUES

Under 6--Under 8 Free Agent Fee: \$80 OR,
Under 6--Under 8 Team Fee: \$600

Under 9--Over 40 Free Agent Fee: \$100
Under 9--Over 40 Team Fee: \$950



FLAG FOOTBALL LEAGUES

Youth (6-12 years old) Agent Fee: \$100
Youth (6-12 years old) Team Fee: \$950

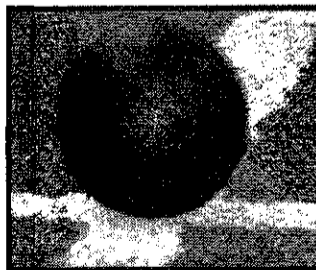
Adult Free Agent Fee: \$100
Adult Team Fee: \$950



DODGE BALL LEAGUES

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Hi-Density Foam Balls
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BASKETBALL

WINTER: Mar. 1--May 31

Reg. Deadline: Feb. 27th
Adult Team Fee: \$550
(\$20 referee fee due each game).

Youth Team Fee: \$850
Youth Free Agent Fee: \$100
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Plymouth Christian Academy's Brent Zinn (seated, middle) recently signed a National Letter-of-Intent to play soccer for Cedarville (Ohio) University. Also pictured are Cedarville coach Ben Belleman (seated to Zinn's right), Zinn's mom Brenda, (standing from left) PCA soccer coach Larry Machonga, PCA Director of Schools David Butler and PCA athletic director Rick Swilley.



Onward and upward

Six members of the 2008 Plymouth High School football team will be playing collegiate football in the fall. Pictured (from left) on "National Signing Day" earlier this month are Kelly Waite (Northern Michigan University), Mike Rose (Butler University), Ronnie Goble (Bowling Green State University), Travis Newton (Northern Michigan), Jake Gilbert (Hope, Kalamazoo or Elmhurst) and Matt Skubik (Heidelberg, Adrian or Kalamazoo College). Pictured behind the players are Plymouth head coach Mike Sawchuk and Carl Lowe, the team's receivers coach and recruiting coordinator.

Lady Ocelots humble OCC, 80-51

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Even though Wednesday was a very special event at Schoolcraft College — a so-called "pink out" to raise awareness and funds to fight breast cancer — it was just another day at the office for the high-flying Lady Ocelots and their coach, Karen Lafata. Schoolcraft, ranked No. 2 in the latest NJCAA Division II poll and perennial champions in the MCCA-East, rolled to an 80-51 victory over Oakland Community College to move to 24-2 overall and 17-0 in the conference. "It wasn't a distraction at all," said Lafata, referring to Get in the WBCA Pink Zone night honoring the memory of legendary North Carolina State head women's basketball coach Kay Yow while helping build awareness

toward American Cancer Society Initiatives such as Relay For Life. "They (Schoolcraft players) were really excited about it. It was fun for me and for them to have fans and a DJ." Yow recently died from breast cancer after battling the disease since 1987. All of the festivities of the first-annual event might have hampered some teams, but not the Lady Ocelots. They stormed out to a 10-2 lead, with four points each from sophomore forwards Tayler Langham (Salem) and Sheray Brown. The Raiders (19-6, 13-4) did hold Schoolcraft to just 34 points in the opening 20 minutes, but still trailed 34-22 at the break. Schoolcraft really took off in the second half, shooting at a 60 percent clip (17-29) to bust the

game wide open. Epitomizing that surge was Langham, who led the Lady Ocelots with 17 points. Seven of those came in a two-minute span when she tallied all of her team's points to build a 67-40 edge. Langham converted a layup after a spin-a-rama move through the lane, then drained a triple from the right corner. In between, Langham stole the ball and made two free throws. **BALANCED ATTACK** Also in double figures for Schoolcraft were Brown (16 points, 15 rebounds), freshman forwards Jasmine Brown (12 points) and Southfield-Lathrup product Amber Avery (10 points, 7 boards). Freshman center April Goins contributed nine points and six rebounds.

Chipping in with eight points, six rebounds and six assists was freshman forward Antania Shepherd while freshman guard Angela Burrell tallied eight assists. Lafata also pointed to her team's potent attack and ability to win with any style of play. "You choose it," she emphasized. "If you want to sit in a zone, we'll do it one way. If you want to come out man-to-man, we'll do it another way. And we're so conditioned that you can't beat us down the floor the whole game." After Saturday's regular season finale against Henry Ford Community College, Schoolcraft opens MCCA-East action with a 7 p.m. Wednesday contest against the fourth seed in the East. That game will be played at Schoolcraft.

SPORTS BRIEFS

YMCA programs

The Plymouth Family YMCA is currently holding registrations for instructional programs. The focus of these programs will be on fun, exercise and social interaction through sports instruction. The programs are preschool basketball for 4- and 5-year-olds; preschool soccer for 3- to 5-year-olds; and youth volleyball for kids between the ages of 8 and 12. The programs run the weeks of March 2 through April 10. All classes are held in local schools. For more information, contact the YMCA at (734) 453-2904 or visit www.ymcadetroit.org. The YMCA is also looking for instructors for these programs. If you are interested, please call the number listed above.

LAX coach needed

Plymouth High School has an opening for a head coach for its junior varsity team. Prior playing and coaching experience at the high school level is preferred. The season runs from March through May. Candidates must be available from 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. daily and available on some weekends. This is a paid

position. If interested, please contact Athletic Director Tom Willett at (734) 416-7775 or willett@pccs.k12.mi.us; or varsity head coach Michael Costello at (313) 520-6553 or cozemodo@aol.com. **Scouting combine** SportsWeave will be holding its 2009 All-American College Football Scouting Combine and free NCAA Football Recruiting Seminar at Canton on Saturday March 28, 2009. Open to all High School Football Players graduation classes 2009 through 2012. Top Performers will be invited to the annual All-American Football Skills Academy in April 2009. Register before 2.27.09 at www.SportsWeave.com. **Precision Baseball** Canton's Precision Baseball will be holding open-gym sessions every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. The charge is \$10 per players, who can hit off the machines, off tees or off live pitching in the cages; or throw on the facility's spacious fields. For more information call (734) 459-5921.

WHALERS

FROM PAGE B1

The teams traded goals the rest of the way, with Caria and Terry scoring in the second period for the Whalers and Sutch and Martin replying for Sarnia. Jordan completed his

hat trick for Plymouth and 9th goal off the year at 4:41 of the third period with a hard shot from the top of the left circle. Sutch completed the scoring with his second of the game at 6th of the year at 5:28 of the third period. Sarnia outshot Plymouth, 45-34, by the Whalers had the

better scoring opportunities all game long and capitalized. Jordan's hat trick for Plymouth is the first for a Whalers defenseman since Nov. 2, 2002, when James Wisniewski (now with the Chicago Blackhawks) completed the feat in a 9-3 victory over London. The eight-goal

outburst is the first of the season for Plymouth this year. The Whalers scored eight goals last season in an 8-1 victory over Erie on Jan. 12, 2008. The Whalers are home against Saginaw this afternoon at 2 p.m. Tickets are available by calling (734) 453-8400.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Charter Township of Canton 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 disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Canton. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Canton by writing or calling the following:

David Medley, ADA Coordinator
Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road
Canton, MI 48188
(734) 394-5260

Publish: February 15 & 22, 2009

CE0841376-2x2.5

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for **Broadcast Video Distribution Server**. Bid documents are available by contacting Dan Phillips, Assistant Director of Finance & Purchasing at (734) 416-2746 or via e-mail at dphillid@pccs.k12.mi.us. Sealed bids must be clearly marked "PCCS BROADCAST SERVER BID" and are to be received at the E.J. McClendon Educational Center 454 South Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170 no later than 3:00 p.m. local time on Wednesday, **March 4, 2009** at which time they will be read publicly. A notarized familial disclosure agreement must accompany every bid. For technical information, please phone Jim Casteel, Director of Integrated Technology Systems at (734) 416-2708. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids and to waive any bid irregularities, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

Board of Education
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
THOMAS WYSOCKI, Secretary

Publish: February 15 & 22, 2009

CE0841401-2x2.5

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a **Bid for Asbestos Abatement at the District Curriculum Center and Transportation Building**. The project will be completed prior to the April 14, 2009 building renovation activities and will include the removal and disposal of asbestos flooring materials, asbestos thermal system insulation, and windows with asbestos window caulk as needed. Bid documents will be available on or after Monday, February 23, 2009 by contacting Steve Roach at The healthAIR Group at 248-426-0165 or in writing at 23437 Research Drive, Farmington Hills, Michigan 48335. A Pre-Bid meeting will be held on Thursday, March 5, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. at the PCCS Transportation Building located at 1024 South Mill Street, Plymouth, MI 48170. All submissions should include 3 bid copies (1 original, 2 duplicates) which are due to the PCCS E.J. McClendon Educational Center, RE: Abatement Bids, 454 South Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170, on or before 2:00 p.m., Thursday, March 12, 2009 where they will be read publicly. For additional information, phone Dan Phillips, Assistant Director of Finance & Purchasing at (734) 416-2746. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

Board of Education
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
THOMAS WYSOCKI, Secretary

Publish: February 22 and March 1, 2009

CE0845347-2x4

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for **School Bus Tires**. Specifications and bid forms are available by contacting Dan Phillips in the PCCS Purchasing Department at (734) 416-2746. Technical questions can be directed to Kurt Miles of the PCCS Transportation Department at 734-416-3040. Sealed bids are due to the E.J. McClendon Educational Center (attn: Bus Tire Bid), 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48187 on or before 2:00 p.m., Friday, March 13, 2009. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

Board of Education
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
THOMAS WYSOCKI, Secretary

Publish: February 15 and 22, 2009

CE0844390-2x3

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE TO PUBLIC BOARD OF REVIEW APPOINTMENTS

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, Terry G. Bennett, Clerk of the Charter Township of Canton, County of Wayne, State of Michigan to all residents of the Charter Township of Canton: that all persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions prior to appearing before the Board. A personal appearance is not required. All petitions must be received in the Assessor's office by March 13, 2009 at 12:00 p.m.

The Board of Review will be held in the Canton Township Hall on the first floor, at 1150 S. Canton Center Road. Entry into the building can be accessed through the front doors of Township Hall. Please come prepared, as an eight (8) minute limit before the Board will be strictly adhered to.

The following is the schedule for March Board of Review.

Tuesday, March 3, 2009 Organizational Meeting - 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(No Appointments)
Monday, March 9, 2009 Hearings from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(Appointments Only)

Tuesday, March 10, 2009 Hearings from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. and
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
(Appointments Only)

Wednesday, March 11, 2009 Hearings from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. and
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
(Appointments Only)

Thursday, March 12, 2009 Hearings from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
(Appointments Only)

Friday, March 13, 2009 Hearings from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
(Appointments Only)

Please be advised that on Tuesday March 10 after 5:00 p.m. and Wednesday, March 11 after 5:00 p.m. entry to the building can only be accessed through the front entrance of the Township Hall.

If you have any questions regarding the March Board of Review, you may call Courtney Dugger, Secretary to the Board of Review (734) 394-5111.

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK
Charter Township of Canton Township

Publish: February 12, 15, 19 and 22, 2009

CE0841376-2x2.7

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for **School Bus Parts**. Specifications and bid forms are available by contacting Dan Phillips in the PCCS Purchasing Department at (734) 416-2746. Technical questions can be directed to Kurt Miles of the PCCS Transportation Department at 734-416-3040. Sealed bids are due to the E.J. McClendon Educational Center (attn: Bus Parts Bid), 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48187 on or before 2:30 p.m., Friday, March 13, 2009. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

Board of Education
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
THOMAS WYSOCKI, Secretary

Publish: February 15 and 22, 2009

CE0844400-2x3

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a **Bid for Bid Packet #23: Miscellaneous Projects at Isbister Elementary School along with Central Middle School and Canton and Salem High Schools**. Bidding documents prepared by TMP Associates, Inc. are available for public inspection and pick-up (1 set per company) at the office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith Inc., 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI, 48335; (248)-427-8400. They can also be viewed at: FW Dodge Plan Room, Southfield; Construction Association of Michigan Plan Room, Bloomfield Hills; Daily Construction Reports Plan Room, Detroit; and the Builders Exchange, Lansing.

Bid Division descriptions include: 109:Roofing (Salem) / 124:Gymnasium Wood Flooring (Isbister) / 133:Pool Equipment (Central, Canton, & Salem) / 141:Fire Protection (Canton) / 151:Cafeteria Folding Pocket Tables (Isbister) / 178:Automotive Spray Booth Assembly (Canton).

A pre-bid meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 19, 2009 at the construction trailer site located at Canton High School - 8415 Canton Center Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Bidders are STRONGLY encouraged to attend. Any and all questions in regards to the bidding or the Project Documents should be addressed in writing and faxed to the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith Inc. Questions or clarifications will be promptly answered and returned to the bidder/bidders.

Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope supplied by the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith Inc. with the corresponding bid division identified on the outside of the envelope. All submissions should include 2 bid copies (1 original, 1 copy), a valid familial disclosure statement, and a Bid Security in the amount of five (5) percent of the amount of the bid. Bids are due to the PCCS E.J. McClendon Educational Center on or before 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 3, 2009 where they will be opened and read publicly. Faxed bids will not be accepted. For additional information, phone Dan Phillips, Assistant Director of Finance & Purchasing at (734) 416-2746. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.


Board of Education
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
THOMAS WYSOCKI, Secretary

Publish: February 15th and 22nd, 2009

CE0844402-2x5.5

Rescue Rocky

Rocky is an 11-year-old greyhound in need of a "Forever Home." He's very affectionate and up to date on his vaccinations and has been neutered. For more information, contact Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption at (866) 438-4739 or www.greyheart.org. The nonprofit is hosting a Meet and Greet with several greyhounds available for adoption noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 1, at the Canton Petco, 43435 Ford Road.



IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

The Observer Newspapers wants to know what's going on in your neighborhood. Send items to Linda Chomin, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226-3124 or lchomin@hometownlife.com.

ST. PADDY'S PARADE BENEFIT

The United Irish Societies Annual St. Patrick's Parade Fund-raiser is 1-7 p.m. Sunday, March 1, at Monaghan Council Knights of Columbus Hall, 19801 Farmington Rd., south of Eight Mile, Livonia. Donations \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door, and available at the hall (248) 476-8385; Colleen's Gaelic Gifts, 15373 Farmington Rd., Livonia, (734) 513-2107; International Minute Press, 1058 Main, Plymouth, (734) 414-6203; Murphy's Restaurant, 36009 Five Mile, Redford, (313) 534-5809, or Mike Kelly (313) 791-2600 or mikek@teameme.com. There will be food and beverages available.

Entertainment includes Irish dancers from the Heinzman School of Dance, Shamrock Shore, Bill Grogan's Goat, Birmingham Celtic Pipe & Drums, Brian Bonner, Inis-Ceol, FOUJ Chowder Society, the Kreellers, and Kathleen O'Neill along with the Irish Radio Show. The Maid of Erin and Court and The Queen and Court of St. Brigid will also be there.

The theme of the 51st parade Sunday, March 15, in Detroit, is "Irish were green before it was cool."

SPAGHETTI DINNER

It's time for Schoolcraft College's annual Spaghetti Dinner and Wine Glow Tuesday, March 10, in the VisTaTech Center on the college's main campus in Livonia, 18600 Haggerty, between

Six Mile and Seven Mile. The evening's festivities include a 6 p.m. Wine Glow, Dinner at 7 p.m., 8 p.m. program, and the popular Basket Raffle. The Spaghetti Dinner and Wine Glow is sponsored by Schoolcraft College Transitions Center and Advisory Board. The Transitions Center incorporates the services of the Women's Resource Center, Adult Student Services, Family Resources and Student Engagement Programs. Proceeds from the event go to scholarships for students and the Transitions Center at Schoolcraft College. Last year nearly \$15,000 was raised from the event.

Tickets, sponsorships and advertising space in the program are currently available. Tickets are \$30, sponsorships \$75 (includes two dinners and listing in the program). Advertisements available in varying sizes from \$20 to \$100. For information, call (734) 462-4443.

Schoolcraft College is a public two-year college offering classes at the Livonia campus, the Radcliff Center in Garden City, and online at schoolcraft.edu.

UPCOMING CONCERTS

Local symphonies are busy rehearsing for upcoming concerts ranging from ballet masterpieces to selections focusing on freedom.

The Livonia Symphony Orchestra performs a program featuring Tchaikovsky's Swan Lake Suite as well as timeless treasures written by Chopin, Bizet, Berlioz, Saint Saens, and Debussy 4 p.m. Saturday, March 7, at Clarenceville High School, 20155 Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile, Livonia. Tickets \$17 adults, \$5 children and students, and available by calling (734) 421-1111 or (734) 591-0266.

The Plymouth Symphony Orchestra rings in freedom with a fanfare featuring a grand performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony 8 p.m. Saturday, March 14, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile at Haggerty. Joining them on stage are the Plymouth Oratorio Society, Madonna University Chorale, members of Ward Presbyterian Chancel Choir, and soloists Martha Sheil, soprano; Deanna Relyeamezzo; Juan Héctor Pereira, tenor, and Stephen Lusmann, baritone. Also featured is a short work, "Rhyme of Taigu" by composer Zhou Long who's experiences as a young composer in the conservatory in Beijing during the Cultural Revolution compliment the theme of freedom for this concert. Zhou will be visiting as guest composer for this piece and will be speaking about his music and his experiences at the Canton Library 7 p.m. Friday, March 13, and the Plymouth Library 2 p.m. Saturday, March 14. Concert tickets will be available for purchase at both of these programs and cost \$25 adults, \$20 seniors, \$10 children/students. For information, visit www.plymouthsymphony.org or call (734) 451-2112.

A secret causes big expense to consumers

A secret is something that is private, not to be revealed and sometimes very mysterious. A little detective work in deceptive ways can bring to light what that secret is and so I give you what Ken recently wrote me about his front loading washing machine:

"A picture is worth a thousand words. My son sent me this picture of my washer and a way to fix the problem. My washer quit spinning the water out because the filter was plugged up and this picture shows just how to fix the problem. My washer is not on a pedestal and with lots of towels on the floor I drained the water out myself and fixed the problem. One more thing, from GE, they told me to run the washers with hot water and baking soda in a regular cycle to take care of the smelly water problem."

Thank you Ken, now I'll try to create a picture for the readers of this column.

Folks, Ken has a stinky problem with his front loader just like millions of other homeowners have across this coun-



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

try. He solved the problem, not with help from the manufacturer, but from his son who I suspect is an engineer.

On the front of his washer there is a lower panel which is removable. There are two screws on the bottom of the front panel which you can't see unless the washer sits on a pedestal. If the washer is just sitting on the laundry room floor you will have to tip it back to get to the two screws. Once you remove the front panel you will see a plastic cap the size of the palm of your little hand. It unscrews in the normal way.

Once you remove it there is going to be plenty of water that comes out of this hole plus a brush type of filter clogged with lint, guitar picks and whatever. From the way Ken described it in his phone call with me, you may want to pinch your nose with a clothes pin.

The odor will be worse than a skunk. This is the reason that Ken had a bunch of heavy bath towels lying on the floor in front of the washer.

Now if the washer is on a pedestal you will be able to let the water pour into a bucket or attach a hose to the spout. Or you could lift the washer up and place it on couple of cinder blocks.

Ken told me that because the washer wasn't draining out all

the water that the wash time had increased to three hours. He believes that the plugged filter caused this because now it works normally. He thinks that it is totally irresponsible of the company not to put down instructions on how to do this simple maintenance in their customer's instruction booklet. As a matter of fact, I think it is absolutely despicable that a manufacturer can create a problem in the life of a clothes washer knowing full well that the majority of consumers will have to spend money to have a trained service technician come out and do a job that so many of us are easily capable of doing. Plus, after millions of complaints regarding this national odor problem, why do they not give us the cause and solution?

Ken's machine is only three years and you know he will have to clean that filter again down the road. Oh how I wish for the old days when the lint filter was in or around the tub area and was easily removed to be cleaned. You didn't need to break someone's secret to clean it. It wasn't a secret! Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600 and Sundays at 2 p.m. on WDTK 1400. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twmi.rr.com.

Learn about green interior design, home fashion fabrics

The International Academy of Design & Technology will host its annual Interior Design Conference, Campus Green, Thursday-Friday, Feb. 26-27 at its Troy location, 1850 Research Drive, in conjunction with American Society of Interior Designers (ASID).

Campus Green is a two-day event dedicated to educating students and professionals about the applications of environmentally-friendly products for interior design. It also includes guest speakers and a showcase of student work.

Rachelle Schoessler Lynn of Studio 2030 in Minneapolis, Minn., will talk about thinking outside the box when it comes to sustainability, innovation and interior design, during her keynote address from 5:30-8:30 p.m., Thursday. She has devoted her career to sustainable design, serves on the licensing board for the State of Minnesota, previously chaired the National Sustainable Design Council for ASID, and currently serves on the ASID National Board of Directors.

She'll expand on the topic by presenting a case study, from 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m., on Friday.

Tickets must be purchased in advance to attend one or both days. To RSVP and for more information on the Thursday program, e-mail to Admin@ASIDMI.org. To RSVP for more information on the Friday program, call the Academy at (866) 544-2200.

COMMUNITY HOUSE CLASS

Have you ever wondered if


stripes and plaids can mix? What about mixing florals with florals? Or luxurious silks and cotton weaves?

Wonder no more. The Community House in Birmingham is offering a one-night class that will help you understand pattern-mixing and will teach you how to incorporate texture for a warm, cozy feeling. The instructor will bring designer fabrics to class to demonstrate how fabrics blend in one room.

The class, from 7-9 p.m., Thursday, March 12, costs \$25. There's also a \$5 materials fee payable to the instructor.

Register for the class by calling (248) 644-5832 or by visiting www.communityhouse.com

The Community House is located at 380 South Bates, Birmingham.




Passages

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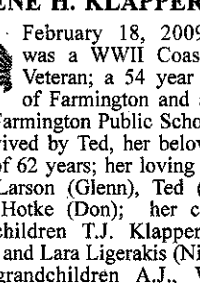
GERALDINE I. CASLER
"Gerri"

Age 79, passed away February 18, 2009 following heart surgery. Gerri was born in Toronto, Ontario, grew up in Detroit, married, raised her family in Livonia and retired in Canton. Gerri will be reunited with her parents James and Irene Barr, mother-in-law Ruth Cullers and brother James Barr. She is survived by her loving husband of 57 years, Robert "Bob", brother-in-law William (Dorothy) Casler. Dearest mother of Sue, Gayle, Barb (Mike) Mikulski and Jim (Kim). Grandmother of Jennie (Eric), Bobby, Jonathan and Meagan. Great-grandmother of Addison. She is also survived by special cousins, the Pons, Guerin and White families. Gerri was a wonderful wife, the best Mom and a loyal friend to so many people. She will be remembered by her sweet personality and bright smile. Family will receive visitors Sunday 2-8 p.m. at the Fred Wood Funeral Home (Rice Chapel), 36100 Five Mile Road (One Mile West of Farmington Road). Funeral service will be held at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church 9601 Hubbard, Livonia Monday 11 a.m. (Visit 10 a.m.). Memorials to Rosedale Gardens Church or American Heart Association.



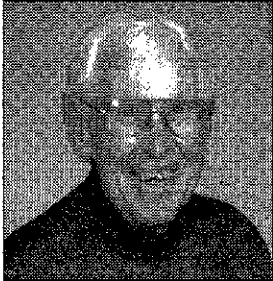
GERALD D. JURVA

Age 75, Of Farmington Hills, MI. Feb. 17, 2009. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK Funeral Home, Farmington.




IRENE H. KLAPPERICH

February 18, 2009. Irene was a WWII Coast Guard Veteran; a 54 year resident of Farmington and a retiree from Farmington Public Schools. She is survived by Ted, her beloved husband of 62 years; her loving children Judy Larson (Glenn), Ted (Nancy), Terry Hotke (Don); her cherished grandchildren T.J. Klapperich, III (Julie) and Lara Ligerakis (Nick); and great-grandchildren A.J., William, Hudson, Eleni and Stelios. Dear sister of Virginia Baran (Joe), Leonard Krasnowski (Patricia), Frank Krasnowski (Pat) and Lenore Lobo (Mike). She is also survived by other loving family members and friends. Irene is preceded in death by her daughter Mary F. Klapperich. Funeral Mass, Monday, February 23rd, 10 a.m. (in state 9:30 a.m.), at Our Lady of Sorrows Church, 23615 Power Rd., Farmington. Visitation Sunday 2-8 p.m. with a 7 p.m. rosary at the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Rd. (Just N. of Grand River, btw. 9-10 Mile Rd.), downtown Farmington (248-474-5200). In lieu of flowers, memorial tributes suggested to the Parkinson's Foundation, www.parkinsons.org. heeney-sundquist.com



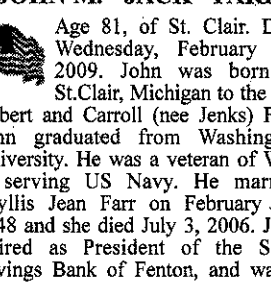
ROBERT RICHARD WELCH

Age 87, of Annapolis, MD and formerly of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, died of respiratory failure on February 12, 2009 at Anne Arundel Medical Center in Annapolis surrounded by his children. Mr. Welch was born January 30, 1922 in Detroit, Michigan to the late George Welch and Grace McInerney Welch. He attended Lincoln High School and grew up in Pleasant Ridge, Michigan. The family owned a cottage at Higgins Lake and spent most summers there. He attended college and attained an Associates Degree. He was a Navy pilot in World War II and flew corsairs. He owned an outdoor advertising company in Detroit and was a small business owner and entrepreneur. He was committed to volunteerism and helped out at Focus Hope, a training school for the underprivileged. He also worked at a soup kitchen in Pontiac, Michigan for many years. He spent 13 summers in Ireland with his deceased friend, Mary McSherry Ward. He had a great interest in genealogy and his friends. He was divorced from the late Marian Rae and is survived by his children, Nancy Welch Almgreen of Annapolis, Jon D. Welch of Murietta, California and Robert R. Welch, Jr. of Evergreen, Colorado. He is also survived by four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Inurnment will be at Arlington National Cemetery on Tuesday, April 14, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. Condolences can be sent through www.johnmtay-lorfuneralhome.com In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Focus Hope at www.focushope.edu.



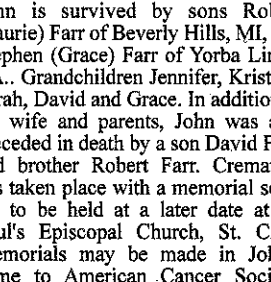
HAZEL "ELAINE" LODEN

Age 63, February 19, 2009. Dearest mother of Tony (Suzie) Loden. Loving grandmother of Tony Jr. and Jesse, and great-grandmother of Riley Ann. Dear sister of Carol Gooch, Dottie Downing, Lanny Haynes, Debbie Arrwood and the late Jonnie Sue King. Also survived by a large extended family. Memorial Service Monday, February 23, 6 p.m., at Abundant Life Church, 2100 Hannan Rd. Canton, MI 48188. Final resting place in Hornbeak, TN. Memorials in her honor suggested to the church. Arrangements by Generations Funeral & Cremation Services, Farmington Hills.



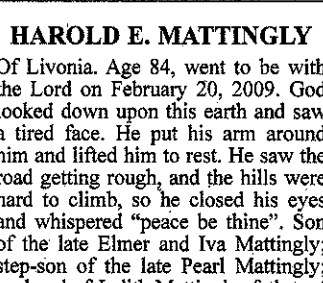
JOHN M. "JACK" FARR

Age 81, of St. Clair. Died Wednesday, February 18, 2009. John was born in St. Clair, Michigan to the late Robert and Carroll (nee Jenks) Farr. John graduated from Washington University. He was a veteran of WW II serving US Navy. He married Phyllis Jean Farr on February 14, 1948 and she died July 3, 2006. John retired as President of the State Savings Bank of Fenton, and was a member of the Sarnia Yacht Club. John is survived by sons Robert (Laurie) Farr of Beverly Hills, MI, and Stephen (Grace) Farr of Yorba Linda, CA.. Grandchildren Jennifer, Kristine, Sarah, David and Grace. In addition to his wife and parents, John was also preceded in death by a son David Farr, and brother Robert Farr. Cremation has taken place with a memorial service to be held at a later date at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, St. Clair. Memorials may be made in John's name to American Cancer Society. Arrangements by L.C.Friedrichs & Son Funeral Home, St. Clair.



PAMELA M. HUMEN


Age 48, February 16, 2009, of Westland. Beloved wife of Robert. Dear mother of Katrina. Loving daughter of Claude and Constance Conn. Memorial contributions may be made to the Katrina Humen Education Fund. To share a memory with the family, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com



HAROLD E. MATTINGLY

Of Livonia. Age 84, went to be with the Lord on February 20, 2009. God looked down upon this earth and saw a tired face. He put his arm around him and lifted him to rest. He saw the road getting rough, and the hills were hard to climb, so he closed his eyes and whispered "peace be thine". Son of the late Elmer and Iva Mattingly; step-son of the late Pearl Mattingly; husband of Judith Mattingly; father of JoAnne McCulloch of White Lake, MI and Patricia Krulikowski (Alex); step-father of Sherri Haller (Jeff), Michelle Byrne (Michael) and Michael Reese (Susan); grandfather of Denise Wioskowski (Chris) and Kenneth Blinn, Jr.; step-grandfather of Heather Molnar (Jim), Adam, Daniel, Becky, Sara and Cathy Haller, Derek and Sean Riberdy, Evan and Olivia Byrne and Mark and Jany Krulikowski; great-grandfather of Gavin Wioskowski; brother of the late James Mattingly; brother-in-law of Juanita Mattingly. Mr. Mattingly served in the U.S. Navy during WWII and retired from Grand Trunk Rail Road. He liked to travel and attend family gatherings. A Celebration of Harold's Life will be held Monday, February 23, 2009, 11:00 a.m. at Donelson, Johns and Evans Funeral Home, Waterford. Interment to follow at Perry Mt. Park Cemetery. The family will receive friends at the funeral home Sunday 2-5 and 7-9 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to Angela Hospice or the American Cancer Society. Envelopes available at the funeral home.

May You Find Comfort in Family & Friends



OBITUARY POLICY

The first five "billed" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$6. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)

Deadlines:

Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday
Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to:

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ask for Jennifer or Charlotte

NEIGHBORS

A family affair

Pierogi business a labor of love

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

It's been a busy day at Lila's Pierogi but the family who owns the business remains unfrazzled. Waleria "Lila" Orlowska, son Antonio Calimazzo and his wife, Connie, love working together, although making 150 dozen of the Polish dumplings at a time is a chore.

A typical run is 90 dozen but they're preparing for the Easter rush. That's not easy because the Livonia shop offers 21 different fillings from potato and onion to mushroom with portabella and mozzarella. All are sold frozen so that gives them some breathing space between batches but it's not unusual for them to come in after church on Sunday to mix up the farmer's cheese or potato and cheddar, their best seller.

"You just don't quit. When you're ready to pass out you go home and sleep and then start again," said Antonio Calimazzo, who admits he's not too fond of onion day when the three peel and chop 50 pounds of the tear jerkers. He loves his pierogi fried in butter and onion though. Sons Luc, 7, and Logan, 8, love them straight out of the frying pan.

"Christmas is chaos when they're waiting outside the door. It's our busiest time when they load up for parties and to take to their families out of town," said Connie. "Once they try them they keep coming back. We have one family that comes once a month with a hamper, others with laundry



Lila Orlowska works with her son and daughter-in-law, Tony and Connie Calimazzo at their pierogi shop in Livonia. Here they're pictured in front of a mural by Orlowska.

baskets. We're busy before Christmas and through Easter and we're gearing up for Lent so we're stocking up."

WORKING TOGETHER

In years past, the entire family pitched in. Antonio works construction so weekends and rainy days find him at the shop.

"My brother worked to 3 a.m. in the morning," said Lila Orlowska. "Connie's sister sometimes works and my mother and brother."

Lila (pronounced Leela) is proud of the authentic Polish recipe she learned at her mother's knee. Both were born in Poland and came to this country in 1967 when Lila was 14. Today Janina, age 82, doesn't help out much any more. She lives with Lila in Redford.

"We'll be here five years next month," said Orlowska. "It was my grandmother's recipe. I was named after my grandmother. She was a tough lady. We had four kids in our family. Mom made the oldest girls learn. They had to learn."

ART AND PIEROGI

Orlowska's strength must have come from Waleria and Janina because she raised Antonio as a single mother from age 2 after her divorce. It took Orlowska 11 years to earn three arts degrees from College for Creative Studies and Oakland Community College in Farmington Hills, but she kept pursuing her dream of becoming a graphic artist. While she cleaned houses to pay the bills, Lila never stopped painting or making pierogi. She eventually opened the shop. Her mural of the Polish eagle is one of the first things customers see when they enter the door.

"It's a lot of hard work, but I never get enough of pierogi," said Lila.

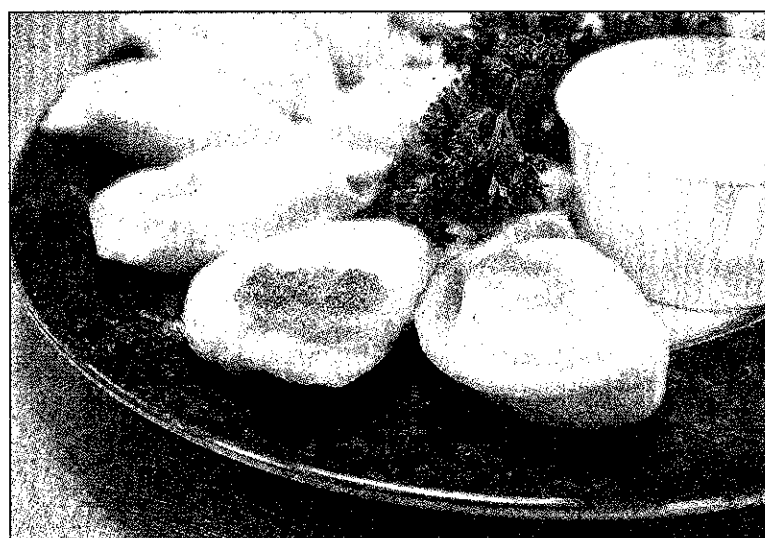
Antonio couldn't agree more. Pierogi are a staple at the family's kitchen table.

"You don't get sick of them because then you just move on to another flavor. As far as the work, even on rough days we still have fun. We have fun constantly," said Antonio as he demonstrated how pierogi are filled two at a time and then the edges of the dough sealed in a machine.

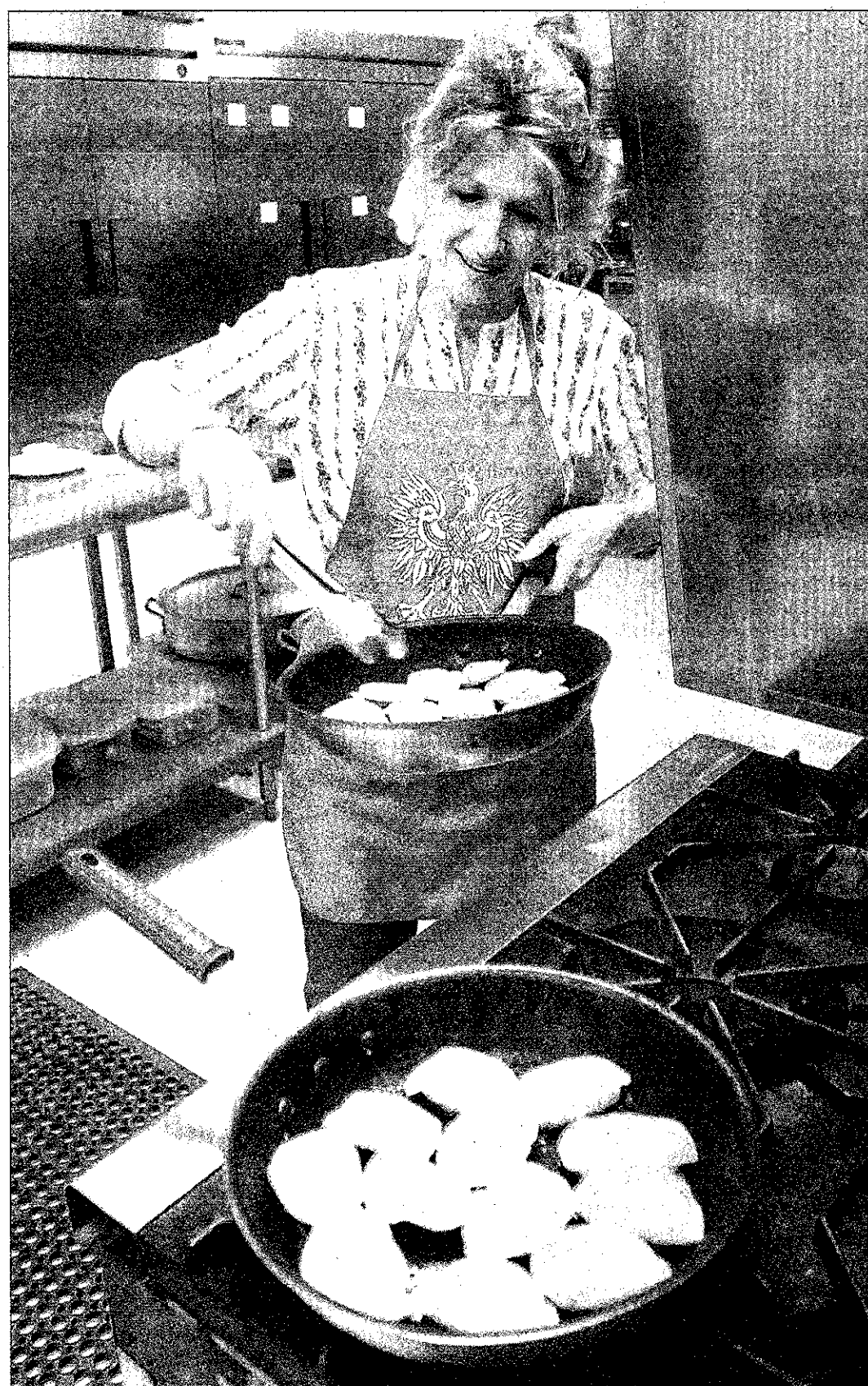
Annmary Demyan is a regular customer at Lila's shop. A week ago Friday, she was picking up a dozen farmer's cheese pierogi.

"They're the best around," said Demyan of Redford. "I've told people in church about them. I come from a Slovak family. My mom used to make them. My sister and I tried a couple of times but it's a lot of work."

Lila's Pierogi is at 27811 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads. Hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday, until 4 p.m. Saturday. Call (734) 421-7444 or visit www.lilaspierogi.com.



Potato and cheddar cheese pierogi are always a big seller at Lila's.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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Waleria "Lila" Orlowska fries up a batch of potato and cheese pierogi at Lila's Pierogi in Livonia.



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SYMPATHETIC NEURODYSTROPHY

The term sympathetic neurodystrophy is an example of a forbidding looking medical phase that breaks down to an understandable concept. "Sympathetic" refers to the sympathetic nervous system, a part of the body's neural system that controls the size of blood vessels. "Neuro" refers to the nerve endings that connect to the body's small arteries. "Dystrophy" means that a part of the body's machinery is not working right. The term, in total, states that the nerve endings are not regulating the blood vessels properly.

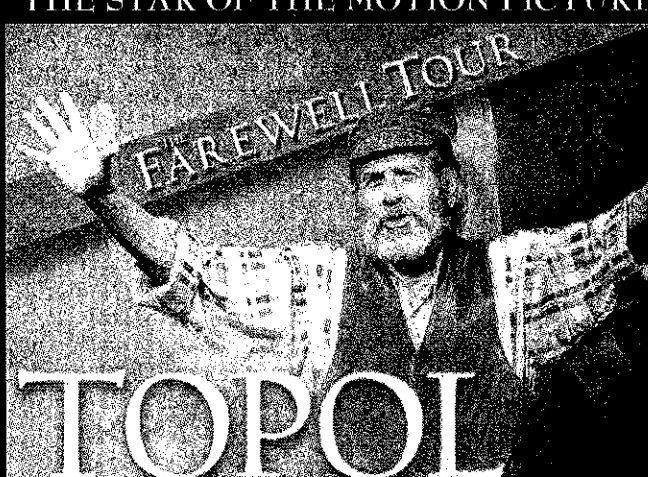
The main features of sympathetic neurodystrophy are swelling and pain, usually involving one hand or one foot. The problem comes on over several days and often is not associated with recent injury or an underlying condition such as diabetes.

A doctor cannot usually make a diagnosis of sympathetic neurodystrophy on the patient's first visit as the swelling and pain may mimic injury, gout, infection or a blood clot. These possibilities need evaluation, and at times trials of treatment for infection or arthritis. When therapy fails to bring improvement, the possible diagnosis arises of sympathetic neurodystrophy.

Initial treatment requires daily cortisone at a high dose for at least a month. Thereafter, the doctor slowly lowers the dose. Taking high dose steroids for a prolonged period brings on unwanted side effects such as weight gain, irritability, hypertension, susceptibility to infection, and possibly diabetes. Unfortunately, to date no other regimen has successfully substituted for this draconian treatment.

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Series addresses economic crisis

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O & E STAFF WRITER

Rev. Paul Perez isn't thinking about basketball when he talks about March Madness. The name of the economic series was meant to illustrate the dire circumstances facing many families today.

Perez has seen the effects of the financial crisis first hand as it effects members of Newburg United Methodist Church where he is a deacon and directs adult and children education. That's why he's starting March Madness, a series of forums on surviving and thriving in the current economy. On Monday, March 2, Perez has invited Cindy LaFond and Tracey Emmanuel of the Livonia Housing Department to speak about Home Foreclosure. All forums start at 6 p.m. on Monday nights in March at the church in Livonia.

"The series came about from discussion with me and my pastor about how we can respond to the current economic crisis. We have church members, folks who have lost jobs, have foreclosed houses within their neighborhoods. I thought about issues folks may be facing and wanted to connect with folks in Livonia who could speak to the issues," said Perez, a Rochester Hills resident. "The financial crisis has hit close to home, at the church, if not

ourselves friends and family members."

Perez has lined up a number of experts in the community to share their knowledge. On March 9, Julie Puginni of Career Counseling at Schoolcraft College speaks about Career Transitions. March 16 is living in Anxious Times with Paul Melrose of the Samaritan Counseling Center. Sue Sweeney, department of Gerontology, Madonna University, redefines retirement on March 23. Closing the series is Observer & Eccentric columnist Rick Bloom of Bloom Asset Management focusing on Investing in a Down Economy.

"The series is a new thing for us, an opportunity to connect with the surrounding community on an important issue. Newburg as a faith community has been part of this community for 175 years and we have a lot of deep concern for the community," said Perez who grew up in Livonia. "We wanted to help the community while partnering with the community."

The forum is open to all communities not just Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-0149. Newburg United Methodist Church is at 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, between Newburgh and Wayne roads, Livonia.

lchomin@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2241

MILESTONES



Miriani-McLeod
Carolyn and Dean McLeod of Livonia are pleased to announce the engagement of their son, Matthew Dean McLeod, to Allison Renee Miriani, daughter of James and Barbara Miriani of Oakland Township.

Matt is a 1999 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and a 2003 graduate of Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering.

Allison is a 1999 graduate of Lake Orion High School. She also graduated from MSU in 2003 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism. She is currently the news editor of the Steamboat Pilot & Today newspaper and co-editor of At Home in Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

Matt and Alli reside in Steamboat Springs where their April 2009 wedding will take place at Perry-Mansfield Performing Arts School.

Allen-Coleman

Jennifer Lyn Allen and Joshua Mark Coleman, both of Livonia, announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be is daughter of Tresa and Jim Stille of West Jordan, Utah, and her fiancé is the son of Chris and Kim Coleman of Rochester.

They plan to marry in November 2009 in Rochester.



Orza-Sergent

Alfredo and Anna Orza of Port Orange, Fla., are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Dr. Danielle Marie Orza, to Dr. Adam William Sergent, son of Jerry and Karen Sergent of Plymouth.

Danielle graduated from Spruce Creek High School in Port Orange in 2002, the University of Florida in 2005, and the University of St. Augustine in 2008. Adam graduated from Franklin High School in Livonia in 1997, Madonna University in Livonia in 2002, and Palmer College of Chiropractic in Port Orange in 2006.

A spring wedding is set for May 16 at St. Paul's Basilica in Dayton Beach, Fla., followed by a reception at the Daytona Beach Hilton and a honeymoon in St. Lucia.



Zengerle wedding

Sarah Plafchan and Ryan Zengerle were married on July 19, 2008 at The Chapel at St. John's in Plymouth. The bride is the daughter of Larry and Rosemary Plafchan, of Farmington Hills. The groom is the son of Michael and Mary Ann Zengerle, of Fenton.

Sarah and Ryan are graduates of Michigan State University. Sarah is employed by DIRECTV in Chicago, as an account service representative. Ryan is a dental solutions specialist to Nobel Biocare in Chicago. The couple spent their honeymoon in Italy and they reside in Chicago.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Department of Management and Budget, Office of Retirement Services and the Department of Labor and Economic Growth, State Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules

The Public School Retirement Board, the State Police Retirement Board, the Judges Retirement Board, and the State Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules will hold a public hearing on March 9, 2009, from 10:00am to 12:00pm. The hearing will be held in Conference Room A, 1st Floor of the General Office Building, 7150 Harris Drive, Dimondale, Michigan.

The public hearing is being held to receive comments from interested persons on the promulgation of General Rules: Adding R 38.1371 - R 38.1386 and rescission of R 38.1201, R 38.1203, R 38.1204 and R 38.1207 for the Public School Retirement Board; adding R 38.1761 - R 38.1886 for the State Police Retirement Board; and adding R 38.2171 - R 38.2186 for the Judges Retirement Board by the State Office Administrative Hearings and Rules.

The Rules for the State Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules are being promulgated under the authority of Executive Order 2005-1, MCL 445.2021. It is proposed that all of the Rules will take effect immediately after filing with the Secretary of State.

Comments may be presented in person and in writing at the time of the hearing. Comments may also be submitted by mail or FAX until March 9, 2009, at 5:00pm. Address any comments to:

Public School Retirement Board
or
State Police Retirement Board
or
Judges Retirement Board
Attention: Executive Secretary to the Board
P.O. Box 31070
Lansing, Michigan 48909
Or FAX: 517-322-6145

All hearings are conducted in compliance with the 1900 Americans with Disabilities Act. Hearings are held in buildings that accommodate mobility impaired individuals and accessible parking is available. A disabled person who requires accommodations for effective participation in a hearing should call Linda Albro-Sparks at 517-636-6039 (voice) to make the necessary arrangements. To ensure availability of the accommodation, please call at least one (1) week in advance.

Date: February 5, 2009 SOAHR# 2008-046 SR, 2008-047
SR, 2008-048 SR

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Help Wanted-General 5000

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Help Wanted-General 5000

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Please call: (734) 287-4111 or fax resume: (734) 287-4011

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Farmington apartment community is looking for a 20 to 30 hour experienced leasing consultant. Wages plus commissions for the right candidate. Sales exp. necessary. Fax resumes to (248) 599-1508 or email to cmihelp@comcast.net

Help Wanted-General 5000

Legal Secretary

Experienced legal secretary needed for new bankruptcy firm located in Farmington Hills. Must be efficient and well organized. Experience with Best Case, TABS3, Microsoft Word and Excel preferred. Experience with CM/ECF required. Please call 248-539-5500 or email resume to mleberman6160@yahoo.com

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Additional information and applications are available at the City of Birmingham HR Department, 151 Martin, Birmingham, MI 48009 or www.bhamgov.org/jobs

The City of Birmingham is an equal opportunity employer seeking qualified applicants, without regard to race or other protected status.

Help Wanted-General 5000

TECHNICAL EDITOR PART-TIME

Tech. society in Farmington Hills seeks editor (20 hrs/wk) to perform review of technical documents, editing for grammatical correctness, readability and technical clarity. Must have extensive knowledge of English language and its rules of grammar; attention to detail; excellent writing and technical editing skills; proficiency in MS Suite; and a Bachelor's Degree in English, Journalism, or pertinent experience. Resume and salary requirements to FAX 248.848.3771 or EMAIL: barb.cheyne@concrete.org

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

LEGAL ASSISTANT

Thriving Troy law firm seeks full-time legal assistant. Must have a minimum of 2 years experience in probate and estate planning; long term care and/or Medicaid planning a plus. Excellent communication, organization, and computer skills (including Word-Perfect) required; familiarity with TimeMatters is a plus. Competitive salary and benefits.

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Part-Time, 10 yrs. + experience. Bingham Farms Call: (248) 594-0009

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Select Specialty Hospital

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Help Wanted-Medical 5060

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Part-Time. Exp. Resume to: 43422 West Oaks Drive, PMB #167, Novi, MI 48377-3300

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OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS



Cleo Parker and her three English Bull Terriers Anna Nicole (left), Ada and Marley in their Livonia home.

Learn about doggie quirks at shows

Marley and Madeleine have a lot in common with Clancy our Irish Wolfhound when it comes to stubbornness. The cute English Bull Terrier and large Great Pyrenees breeds require extra patience from the owner during obedience training just like our big guy.



Linda Chomin

Lucky for Cleo Parker, Marley's owner and Alexa White, Madeleine's mom, they're competing in conformation trials based on looks at the Detroit

Kennel Club Dog Shows Saturday, Feb. 28, and Sunday, March 1, at Cobo Hall in Detroit.

Parker fell in love with English Bull Terriers long before the Target dog in TV commercials made the breed popular. She lives with three of the dogs in Livonia where they have her wrapped around their paws. If they want a toy or treat they beg first on one side then the other and never give up. They might even lick an arm or leg to get what they want.

"They're extremely friendly with people and pretty much go up to anybody," said Parker. "They have a lot of personality and make you laugh with the things they do, but they're very independent and stubborn and can be hard to obedience train."

If you're looking to add a four-legged member to your family the DKC shows are a good way to find out about a particular breed's little quirks. Parker brought home her first English Bull Terrier at age 14 after saving her money and begging for a dog. Three-year-old Marley, CH

DKC DOG SHOWS

What: Detroit Kennel Club spotlights more than 2,000 dogs in competition in two separate shows

When: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, and Sunday, March 1, with Best in Show contenders entering the ring at 6 p.m.

Where: Cobo Hall, Detroit

Tickets: \$12 adults, \$8 children under age 12 and seniors age 60 and over, free for children under age 2, \$35 for family packs of two adults and three children, and available at the door. For group rates, call (248) 540-5206

Nuance Nonsense, has won trophies in Canada and the U.S. Anna Nicole, Marley's mom, age 6, and Anna's mother Ada, almost 11, have retired to a nice cozy couch in Parker's home.

"The DKC shows are a bench show to meet with the general public," said Parker who's been breeding the dogs since 1985. "When you're not rushed going into and out of the ring, it gives you a chance to educate people."

Parker showed her first dog at 16 in the DKC shows in the early 1970s as a junior handler. This year Alexa White is one of the competitors getting her feet wet in the ring with her first show dog, United Kennel Club CH Depyrmont La Belle Absolve. The 16-year-old Livonia girl has wanted to become a professional handler since attending a match several years ago. Many young people share her dream. That's why the DKC is shutting down the rings from noon to 1 p.m. Saturday for youth to talk to handlers from prestigious shows such as Westminster.

White probably could use



Alexa White of Livonia is showing her nearly one-year-old puppy Madeleine in the Detroit Kennel Club Dog Shows at Cobo Hall.

a few tips since Madeleine is still a puppy at nearly one year old.

"I have to compete against all the kids ages 9 to 18. It's broken down into six classes of handling skills," said White, a student at Livonia's Stevenson High School. "They judge on how you groom and present yourself. If the dog misbehaves you can't lose your cool."

"Depyrmont La Belle Absolve means the absolutely beautiful in French. She is all white with some reddish color on her back. I love their temperament. They're very stubborn and independent but very loyal, a good watchdog, and I love all of the hair."

Linda Ann Chomin is the health and community life reporter for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. She can be reached at lchomin@hometownlife.com or (313) 222-2241.

REUNION CALENDAR

The Reunion Calendar runs Sundays in the newspaper as space allows, and online in its entirety at www.hometownlife.com. Submit your reunion announcement at least two weeks in advance to Linda Chomin, e-mail lchomin@hometownlife.com.

Brighton High School

Class of 1989

Planning a July 25 reunion at Barnstormer Entertainment Complex in Green Oak Township. There will be a buffet dinner, DJ, and cash bar. Tickets \$75 per person or \$140 per couple. Contact Kelley (Doan) Simpson at (269) 375-5773 or at email4kelley@yahoo.com, or see groups.yahoo.com/group/brighton-classof1989.

Class of 1959

50th reunion with activities June 5-7, 2009. Events will include a Saturday evening dinner party at Plum Hollow Country Club in Southfield. Visit www.casstech59.com or contact Marge Teramino Knable, reunion@casstech59.com; Debbie Friedman, (248) 626-3729; or Steve Sperling, (248) 360-9658.

Dearborn Fordson

Class of 1969

Planning a reunion. Contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: Kaynini@aol.com or Kathy Shoebridge @ Klvingston@nu-core.com.

Dearborn Heights Riverside

Class of 1967

A 42-year reunion is planned for Sept. 18-19, 2009. Event includes: Friday night graduate-only get-together with pizza and salad (\$10) at DeLuca's, 27424 W. Warren Rd., Westland; Saturday night dinner at Joy Manor, 28999 Joy Rd., Westland. Tickets for Saturday event are \$35 per person. Contact Gerry Porta for more information at (734) 718-9401 or gwiatr@gmail.com.

Detroit St. Brigid

Class of 1959

Planning a reunion and looking for classmates. Contact szonyek@att.net with any information about classmates.

Detroit schools

We are planning a mini reunion for anyone who graduated from Bagley Elementary in January 1957 or Post Junior High School in January 1960 in Detroit. If interested, call Gloria Weinman Little at (248) 352-9114 or Marlene Kutnick Yamron (e-mail) hahatdc@yahoo.com. The reunion is planned for Feb. 27, 2009.

Henry Ford II

Class of 1982

Looking for classmates. We are having a reunion picnic on June 6, at Stony Creek MetroPark and we're also planning a reunion in 2010. For details, contact Gwynne (Doemer) Bambach at 248-740-9759, ford21982@aol.com or visit our FREE class webpage on www.classreport.org.

Detroit St. Casimir High School

Class of 1959

Planning a Sept. 13, 2009 Class Reunion. All upper and lower classmates invited. Contact Judy (Zimski) Coogan at JudyCoo@hotmail.com or (734) 675-0148 or Pete Rakowski at PJCruisin@wowway.com.

Garden City High School East

Class of 1959

3 p.m. Friday, Sept. 18, 2009 High School Tour; 6:30 p.m. Albert's On The Alley; 11 a.m. Saturday Sept. 19, Garden City Museum Tour; 6 p.m. to midnight party at K. of C., 30759 Ford Road and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 20, picnic and old car show at Garden City Park Large Pavilion. Bring your own picnic and some to share. For more information, call Lana Clark at (734) 721-2331, Jim McKendrick (734) 788-5165, Carl Gowan (517) 548-1523, or Jim Porth (734) 522-1845.

Garden City High School

Class of 1960

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

Class of 1989

20th reunion 6 p.m.-midnight, Aug. 29, 2009, at Joy Manor. No tickets will be sold at the door. Tickets include dinner, premium open bar, dj, door prizes, picture cd and other gifts, and available for purchase at www.gardencity89.com or contact Paula at gchsi989reunion@hotmail.com.

Grosse Pointe North

Class of 1991

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

Lincoln Park High School

Looking for members of Lincoln Park High School class of 1958 for 50-year reunion. Contact Nancy, (313) 535-8777 or nc6897@sbcbglobal.net.

Livonia Bentley High School

Classes of 1968-1970

Combined class reunion Friday, Nov. 27, 2009, at the Radisson Hotel Detroit-Livonia, I-275 and Six Mile. For details, visit www.bentley686970.org to e-mail, or call Connie (Scarlett) Flynn class of '68' at (734) 812-7936, Bev (Valentine) Wilkie class of '69 at (248) 366-6492 or Colleen Siembor class of '70 at (734) 455-1395.

Livonia Franklin

Class of 1969

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

Livonia Thurston

Class of 1972 37th Reunion/55th Birthday Bash May 2, 2009, at Mama Mia Restaurant in Livonia. For more information, contact ths72reunion@gmail.com or call (248) 348-9214.

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written by
Eddie McPherson

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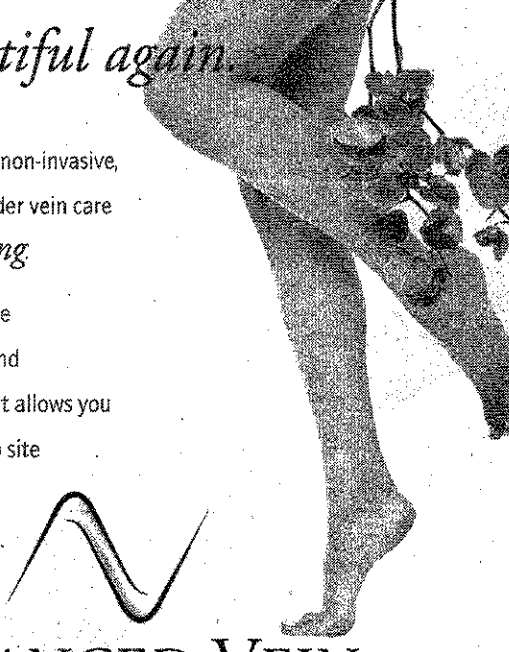
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HEALTH & FITNESS

Moving on

EMDR unlocks traumatic events frozen in time

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O & E STAFF WRITER

More than 10 years after Dan Chaloux's grandmother died he was still having problems dealing with his grief. It wasn't until the 39-year old Farmington man started having flashbacks that he sought help from psychotherapist David Breeden at Life Cyle Family Counseling in Livonia.

Complicated grief is one of the traumatic events in which Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) can be used to unlock and resolve disturbing events that remain frozen in time. Chaloux had been partying with a friend on Super Bowl Sunday and missed the call that his grandmother was dying. Family thought his presence might have strengthened her will to live since the two were close. Chaloux's grandmother helped raise him.

"It was like I was living through it all again," said Chaloux who admits he felt guilty about not being there before she slipped into a coma. "I had wonderful memories of my grandmother. I'm who I am because of my grandparents. EMDR is a way to touch base with those feelings. It brought up a conversation I had prior to her passing away about how proud she was of me and loved me and I blocked it out. EMDR made me feel better. It was very enlightening. You're talking your way through it."

Chaloux went from not being able to visit her gravesite to sharing memories of her with his young children after EMDR. Last Tuesday Breeden demonstrated the method in his office. Chaloux was asked to focus on the traumatic event and follow Breeden's hand with his eyes back and forth for about 30 seconds of bilateral stimulation. Typically EMDR is used for 15 to 20 sets a visit for several sessions.

"We're not sure why or how it works but it begins to reduce the anxiety that's part of the trauma. EMDR allows communication to occur within the client," said Breeden



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Psychotherapist David Breeden demonstrates how EMDR is used to unlock and resolve disturbing thoughts surrounding traumatic events.



Psychotherapist David Breeden (left) listens as Dan Chaloux talks about how he was helped by Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing.

of Beverly Hills, "The traumatic event is stuck, locked in a disturbing area like a hot spot and you can't touch it. The effect of the trauma is the world looks a little less safe. I believe anxiety disorders are rooted in traumatic events and could be helped. EMDR helps with any disturbance."

Psychologist Francine Shapiro discovered the method of psychotherapy back in 1987 to help Vietnam War veterans suffering with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Breeden has used EMDR to deal with a variety of traumatic events from a teen who suffered child

abuse to youth frightened by nightmares and thunderstorms, and an adult afraid to drive on expressways after witnessing a truck accident.

Clients dredge up the emotionally disturbing memories while focusing on external stimulus such as a hand or sound so it's essential that Breeden assesses them first through a history. If their anxiety over the trauma has remained high on a scale of 1 to 10 over time then EMDR might help especially if talk therapy has failed. Breeden begins by giving clients a safe place to retreat if the memories become too much. Chaloux recalled sights, sounds and smells of the beach.

"It's important to tell if somebody is ready to do this," said Breeden. "With Dan 10 years later it was still a 10 plus. Clients therefore develop negative beliefs about themselves and begin to say I'm a failure. It's the legacy of trauma. With EMDR the number begins to come down and helps a person instill a positive belief about themselves."

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HEALTH & WELLNESS

FEBRUARY

'Go Red' luncheon

The American Heart Association event features a fashion show, keynote speaker Dr. Annabelle Volgman, and a silent auction including celebrity purses donated by the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25, at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, 100 Renaissance Center, Detroit. Tickets \$250, available by calling Tasheena Young at (248) 936-5806. Proceeds benefit education and research for women and heart disease.

Lupus support group

The Lupus Alliance hosts a free meeting 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25, at the Lupus Alliance of America's office, 26507 Harper, St. Clair Shores. Guest speaker is Chuck Pottenger on how memory is affected by lupus. Call (800) 705-6677 to pre-register or for more information online at www.milupus.org.

Families in action workshops

The National Association for Mental Illnesses 10-week educational program begins 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25, at St. Regis Parish School Campus in Bloomfield Hills. The program is for people with a loved one diagnosed with a serious mental illness. The workshop meets either every Wednesday or Thursday evening and ends on April 29/30. The goal is to help families better understand mental illness, how it affects the family and what they can do to help. A nominal fee of \$20 per person or \$30 per couple will be charged at the time of registration. Families in Action is funded in large part by the Oakwood Healthcare Foundation and the Oakwood Heritage Hospital Auxiliary. Call Mary Ellen at (248) 348-7197. Space is limited, so pre-registration required.

Thyroid cancer support

The group is free and open to all thyroid cancer patients and survi-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Go Red Auction

A silk butterfly yoga mat bag from Blue Lotus in Franklin (www.bluelotusyogawear.com) is up for auction at the American Heart Association's Go Red Luncheon Feb. 25. It is among 30 purses, totes, satchels and clutches donated by the community and gathered by the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers for the cause.

vors as well as their family members and friends. The next meeting is 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 27, at 1641 Charlevoix Drive, Troy. For more information, call Gwynne at (248) 740-9759.

Reconnect with food

Registration is now being taken for a Candlelight Yoga and Discussion Program 7:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, at the Center for Yoga, Birmingham. The program is for individuals interested in exploring their relationship with food, body image and emotions. Cost is \$29, one week prior to program. Pre-registration required. Visit reconnectwithfood.com or call (248) 390-4150.

Winter fitness classes

Exercise classes for men and women continue through April at the Metropolitan Adventist Jr. Academy Gym, 15585 Haggerty, north of Five Mile. Jeanie Weaver is a certified personal fitness trainer with 30 years of teaching/training experience. The session infuses Pilates, functional strength training, balance work, flexibility, and motivational techniques in a 90-day fitness plan. Call (248) 446-9176 or (313) 300-0957. E-mail jeanieweaver@charter.net.

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A Note from Florine

There are a few four letter words that shouldn't be said in polite company and I'm adding another one: "Diet". Dieting implies a temporary change in eating habits. Losing a pound or two is one thing, but achieving a healthy weight takes more than just a diet. It takes a commitment to better eating habits and sensible portion control. Don't deny yourself the foods you love, just add things that are good for you. Cut up some carrots for a snack instead of grabbing some chips or enjoy an apple to curb your mid-meal hunger.

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