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The Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers

Volume 34
Number 83

75 CENTS

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CONNECTION

Great outdoors

For all of you nature buffs and tree huggers, Canton Leisure Services will be celebrating Arbor Day by conducting a special clean-up day Saturday, April 25 (from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.) on the Lower Rouge River Recreational Trail. And volunteers are needed to help.

There are several projects scheduled including the planting of saplings and wild flowers, general trail maintenance and cleaning up trash and debris along the trail. In addition, people will have the opportunity to participate in a Geocaching Scavenger Hunt or visit with Leslie Science & Nature Center staff.

The event will take place rain or shine. All those interested should bring gloves and dress according to the weather. Check in is at the trail head located on Morton Taylor Road, just north of Michigan Avenue. Pre-registration is not required, but please RSVP to Paula at (734) 394-5191. Volunteers must be at least 8 years old (adult supervision is required for all minors).

For more information on this opportunity to beautify Canton, contact the Canton Parks Division at (734) 394-5310 or visit www.canton-mi.org.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Help beautify Canton by planting wildflowers and saplings along the Lower Rouge Recreation Trail.

Concert Band

The Canton Concert Band will help the community get into the spring spirit with its concert "In The Spotlight" on Saturday, April 18, at 8 p.m. at the The Village Theater, 50400 Cherry Hill Road. The show is for all ages.

Some of the pieces to be performed include "Sterling Brass" by James Barnes, "Breaking the Cage" by Jennifer Sullivan, "Encanto" by Robert W. Smith, "Rush" by Samuel R. Hazo, "Appalachian Morning" by Robert Sheldon, "To Dance in the Secret Garden" by Robert W. Smith, Mozart's 'Clarinet Concerto: 2nd Movement' and Frank Erickson's "Second Symphony for Band: Finale."

Tickets are \$12 and available at the door or by calling (734) 394-5460.



Students at All Saints Catholic School perform the Stations of the Cross as part of their study of the Passion of Christ.

Passion of Christ

All Saints performance helps students see crucifixion through Christ's eyes.

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Stations of the Cross are the traditional depiction of the final hours (or Passion) of Jesus. The object of the Stations is to help the faithful to make a spiritual pilgrimage of prayer through meditation at the 14 chief scenes of Christ's sufferings and death. It has become one of the most popular of Catholic devotions.

For the past nine years, seventh-graders at All Saints Catholic School in Canton — as part of their study of the Passion of Christ — perform the "Living Stations of the Cross," taking K-8 students back to Jerusalem and the journey of Jesus as he carried the cross to Calvary, a hill outside Jerusalem where the crucifixion took place.

"I can really understand what pain Jesus went through, how the people reacted and what it was like for the people who loved him," said seventh-grader Erica Hammerstein, 13, of Canton. "I think I

understand it more to see it happening before my eyes. It really makes me feel like I should do something to help other people see what it's like."

Patrick Otto, 13, of Canton played one of the guards who mocked Jesus and led him to his death on the cross.

"I think he went through a lot of pain and agony in getting crucified," said Otto. "He was known, but then he was more known for saving our sins."

Pam Sarlito and Elizabeth Parusch, both of Canton, volunteer their time each year to direct the seventh-graders in performing the 14 Stations to other students.

"I think, especially for the younger students, it's important for them to see the Stations, to see that Jesus was tortured," said Sarlito. "We all can do the Stations of the Cross at church where it's read to us, but somehow that visual picture makes it more vivid and brings home the message."

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



'Guards' (from left) Logan Lazorka, Nathan Forster, Patrick Otto and Domenic Mancinelli watch over Jesus (Sam Flesher).

Marketing Canton

New economic team puts together plan to fill empty buildings

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When economic times were good, Canton was a booming community as builders constructed so many new homes the township was at or near the top in the number of housing permits issued in southeastern Michigan. And retailers quickly filled in empty land along Ford Road and Michigan Avenue with businesses that thrived.

Fast forward a few years and while Canton is still near the top in the number of construction permits, it's about a tenth of what it was during the building boom. And more and more retail and industrial sites are struggling, with many becoming vacant.

Instead of waiting for the economy to improve, Supervisor Phil LaJoy has assigned an economic development director to take a proactive stance in filling Canton's empty buildings.

"We need to be out in front and have a strategy," said LaJoy. "We have empty industrial and commercial buildings and we need to make sure we're doing everything possible to attract business."

"We have the airports, close proximity to great universities and community colleges, a great school district as well as charter and private schools, and we're near highway infrastructure," he said. "Canton is culturally diverse, which is the cornerstone of our community, and we have a very educated workforce."

LaJoy named Deb Bilbrey-Honsowetz as economic development director, who has been with Canton Township for 14 years, most recently with the Leisure Services Department. Bilbrey-Honsowetz said marketing will be a key component of the plan to pursue business.

"We know that Canton is an awesome community and very dynamic, and we need our materials to explain that at a glance," said Bilbrey-Honsowetz. "We're in the process of updating our Web site because we have a global economy and that may be someone's first view of Canton from across the globe."

"We want to provide searchable data bases for

'We need to be out in front and have a strategy. We have empty industrial and commercial buildings and we need to make sure we're doing everything possible to attract business.'

PHIL LAJOY, Canton supervisor

available properties, and develop a film-friendly initiative to make Canton a film destination," she said.

Bilbrey-Honsowetz noted the Web site will have photos of all kinds of places to film in Canton, including scrap yards, the landfill, barns and exteriors of buildings, such as the police department.

"We actually had an independent filmmaker shoot footage at the Village Theater for a trailer he was making to ultimately promote the film that will be made," she said. "We will also provide a list of businesses they might need, such as dry cleaners, lumber yards and landscapers so if they come to Canton we can keep them in Canton and they won't need to go to another community for a service."

Bilbrey-Honsowetz said key to finding businesses and companies to locate in Canton will be to streamline the approval process through the planning commission.

"We need to be introspective and ask ourselves if our procedures and processes are still valid today as they may have been five-10 years ago when they were initially established or modified," Bilbrey-Honsowetz said. "We don't want to compromise on our standards, but time is money for business and if it's reasonable to save a little bit of time it's going to be more appealing for business to come to Canton."

LaJoy said it's especially important to be proactive when economic times are tough, not just when the economy is good.

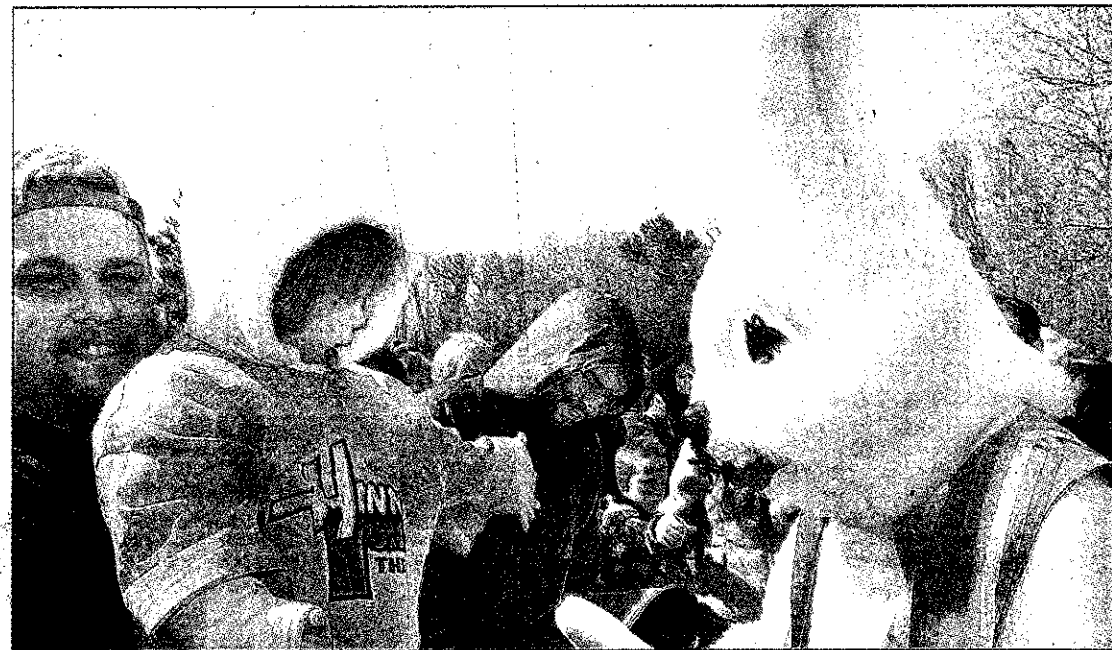
"We have a government committed to working with business," he said. "We know we have an incredible story to tell and we need an approach to tell that story, as well as the tools, process and strategy to do it."

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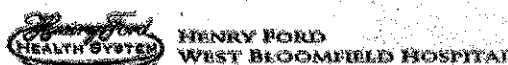
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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Harbinger of spring

Two year old Selena Trudell, of Canton, greets the Easter Bunny during the annual Wayne County Parks Marshmallow Drop at Nankin Mills in Hines Park. She's held by Uncle Jimmy Valenti, a Livonia resident.



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Farmers Market to open

Preparations are underway for the opening of the Canton Farmers Market third season on Sunday, April 26 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Bartlett-Travis House, located at 500 N. Ridge. It will then be open every Sunday from April 26-Oct. 25 rain or shine at this historic site.

New and returning vendors will offer a wide-variety of merchandise, as it becomes available, including: fresh fruits and vegetables, bread, baked goods, flowers, herbs, jellies, jams, cider, honey and much more. New vendors this season with Michigan-made products, include Aunt Violets Cottage offering mosaic tile work; Sansonetti Gourmet Foods offering pasta sauces, appetizers, mustards, barbecue sauces, salsa, and dipping oil; Sun River Natural offering home-made bath salts and lotions.

Returning vendors include Baubles by Barb, Boblin Honey, John the Wood Guy, Just for Fun, Kapnick Orchard, Linda's Lighthouse Beads, Paluch Farm, Parran's

Greenhouse and Farm, Skin Essentials, Vena's Greenhouse and West Farm.

Special activities are planned for the opening including the Spice Up Your Summer Cook Off Series challenge, featuring the Best Burger Blowout, where all you closet chefs can show off your culinary skills. While at the market, be sure to purchase a Farmers Market tote made from recycled materials, while supplies. The public is encouraged to attend and there is no admission to enter the Market.

Canton Farmers Market is always looking for new and unique vendors to add to our outdoor market, especially meat, cheese, seafood, and dairy vendors. Applications are still being accepted for the 2009 season. Vendor market applications and registration forms are available at leisure.canton-mi.org or by contacting the market manager at spavlo@canton-mi.org or (734) 398-5570 extension 5.

Cheer open call

Michigan Xtreme Cheer and Dance, a cheerleading training center, is holding open call for



Hunting for eggs

Roughly 200 people, and the Easter Bunny, participated in the Brookside Village subdivision's Egg Hunt last Sunday. The Canton sub has been holding the annual event for more than 20 years. Children between the ages of 1 and 13 were allowed to look for the 2,500 plastic eggs, which contained candy and prize tickets that could be exchanged for toys. If the kids turned in their empty plastic eggs so they could be used next year, they were given freebies from 7-11 on Cherry Hill Road, SuperBowl, Plaza Bowling Lanes, Skatin Station II and McDonald's on Ford Road. Realtor Rose Lang from Keller-Williams and Childrens Shriner's Hospital also helped sponsor the event.

its 2009-10 season. Michigan Xtreme, which offers classes for various ages and skill levels, ranging from competitive cheer teams to tumbling and dance, has locations in Canton, Ann Arbor, Hartland and Lansing. Evaluations for

placement of Canton teams is being held on Thursday, April 9 and 16 from 5-6:30 p.m. and Tuesday, April 14, from 5-7:30 p.m. at the Canton location, 7857 Ronda Drive.

Michigan Xtreme's two level 5 competitive cheer teams will

travel to Florida to compete at the Cheerleading Worlds, which is a huge honor according to Director/Coach Lisa Hemmie. If you want to learn what Michigan Xtreme is all about, families of these athletes are hosting a "Kick-off to Worlds Friends and Family Night" to celebrate this accomplishment on April 21 from 5-6:30 p.m.

For more information on the program and/or to register for classes, please call the Canton office at (734) 737-0560 or visit our Web site at www.mix-cheer.com.

Teacher's art

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill will be showcasing the art works of a number of talented art teachers from the Plymouth-Canton Community School District. The exhibit, on display through April 26, features artwork from several gifted teachers representing all levels of the district from elementary to high school, as well as alternative education.

The Gallery@VT is featuring a selection of art in an array of media: paintings, sculptures, drawings, print making, fiber, mixed media, and photography. Many of the teachers are artists who exhibit frequently and are award-winning at the state and national levels. Many of these exhibited pieces will also be available for purchase.

The featured artists include Susan Fisher, Judy Hanson, Craig Linderman, and Graham Martin.

"This wide breadth of work on display exemplifies the many talents of the Plymouth-Canton Community School District faculty," said Jennifer Tobin, Canton Arts Coordinator.

The exhibit is free and open to the public 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Monday-Friday, and during public performances at the theater. For more information call (734) 394-5300 or visit canton-mi.org/villagetheater.

Corriveau meeting

State Rep. Marc Corriveau (D-Northville), who represents a portion of Canton, invites residents to his upcoming town hall meeting at 6 p.m., Monday, April

13 at the Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady Street in Northville. He will be discussing buying Michigan-made products and services provided by local businesses as a way of supporting Michigan's workers and strengthening our state's economy.

"Buying products that are produced here in Michigan by our own workers is an excellent way to support our community and state," Corriveau said. "Local shops are the heart and soul of our business community, and it's important that consumers support them in order to help get our economy and our state back on track."

Corriveau will be joined by Lisa Diggs, founder of BuyMichiganNow.com, a Web site dedicated to building a strong, vibrant and diverse Michigan economy.

In addition to the town hall, Corriveau will host a follow-up seminar on Monday, May 11, for businesses interested in doing business with the state and competing for government contracts. The seminar will take place from 9-11:30 a.m. at Genitti's Hole-In-The-Wall, 108 E. Main Street in Northville.

For more information, please contact Corriveau's office toll-free at (877) 20TH-REP (208-4737), or by e-mail at MarcCorriveau@house.mi.gov.

County commission meeting

If you've ever wanted to see your county government in action, you'll have a chance Tuesday, April 14, when the Wayne County Commission will hold a full board meeting in Westland.

The commission will meet in the Council Chambers of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford, west of Wayne Road, at 10 a.m.

According to commission Chairman Edward A. Boike Jr., the meeting will serve as the commission's annual equalization meeting.

"State law requires every county to hold an equalization meeting on the second Tuesday of April each year to determine the equalized value of the county," Chairman Boike said.

The meeting is open to the public.

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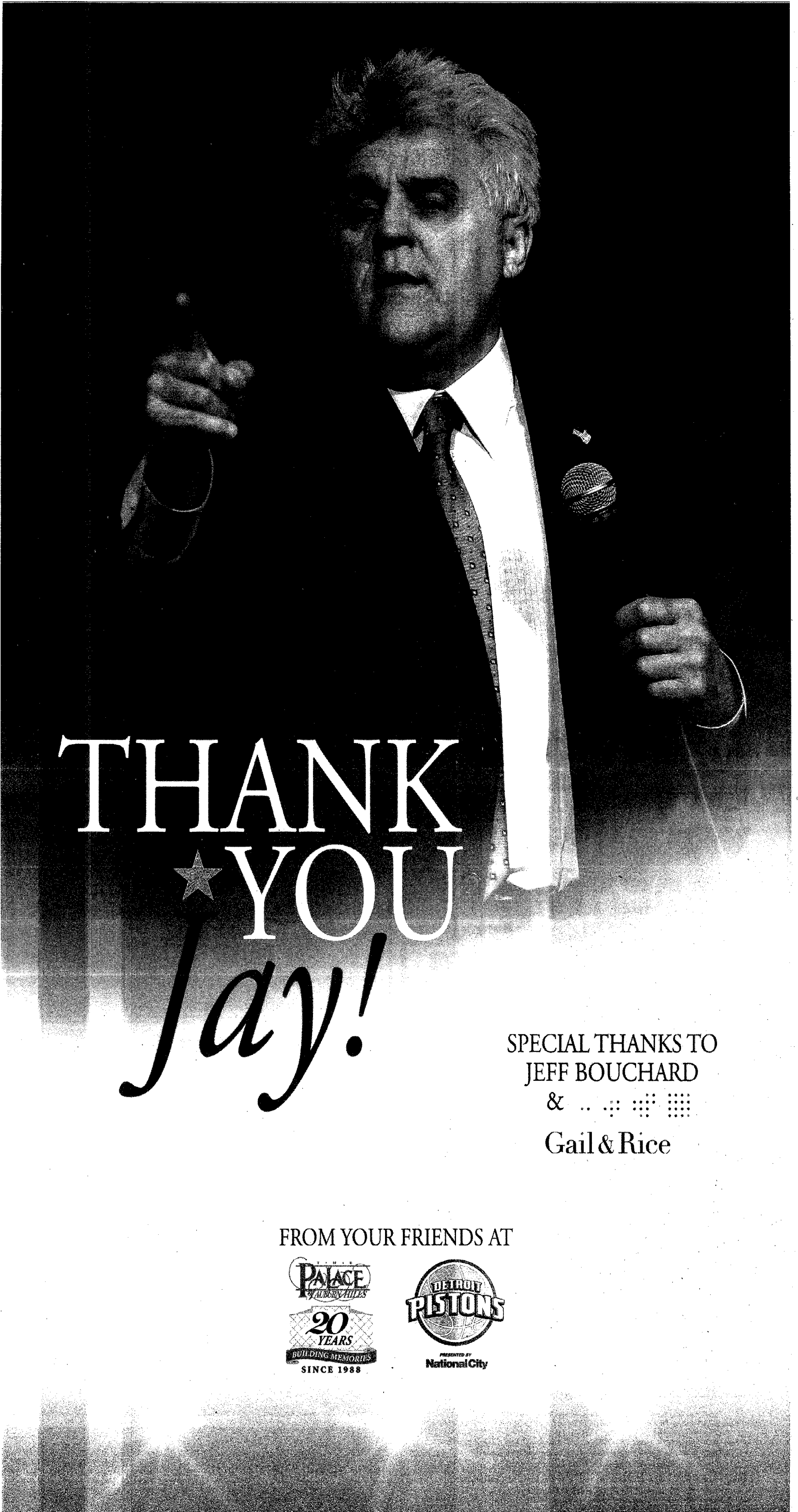
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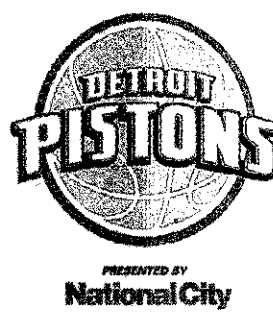
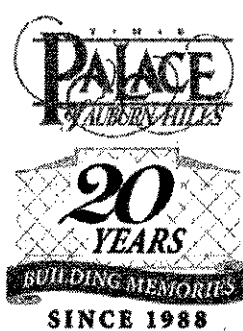
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WAYNE-WESTLAND SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES

Neal: Work to ensure stable school district

1. Why are you seeking a position on the Wayne-Westland Board of Education?

I have been fully engaged in community service in the Wayne-Westland area for more than 32 years. I see my participation on the school board as an opportunity to continue serving my community by ensuring the stability of our school system. Not only is our future dependent upon the education of our youth, but the strength and prosperity of our community today depends on a quality education system.

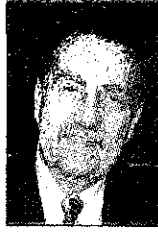
2. What qualities or skills do you believe you would bring to the board, if elected?

I am a professional curriculum developer and training consultant for Eureka Educators and adjunct professor at Jackson Community College and Madonna University. I have been involved in organized labor for 40 years. As the chief of the Westland Fire Department, I managed the department budget, personnel and services provided. **3. What do you see as the issues facing the school district at this time?**

The most immediate concern is revenue. The governor proposes to help balance the state budget by eliminating \$7 million for Wayne-Westland. This will cause the district to enter

MARK NEAL

Who: Mark Neal, 59, Westland
Employment: Creative director, Eureka Educators, L.L.C.; retired Westland fire chief
Family: Married with three children and seven grandchildren
Education: Bachelor of science degree in general science and chemistry, 1980, Eastern Michigan University; licensed emergency medical technician specialist; Army field medic and occupational therapy technician
Community Involvement: Member of Westland Civil Service Commission and Westland Breakfast Lions Club, board member of the Elderly Housing Corporation, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Angel Flight and Western Wayne County Hazmat Team



deficit spending and severely affect the school system and our children.

Our district is losing more than 300 students each year. It causes two major problems - the loss of revenue and an imbalance between school population and school capacity.

4. How would you address those issues?

I support a coalition of parents, teachers, administrators and the Michigan Education Association to lobby to maintain the Wayne-Westland language in the state budget. I would also support the hiring of a legislative advisor to ensure the safety of our revenue. I propose we do more to advertise the quality education and services our

school system provides.

5. Are you seeking the endorsement of organizations or individuals in your bid for a seat on the board? If so, who?

I have the endorsement of Mayor William Wild, City Clerk Eileen DeHart, several Wayne-Westland school board members, and more, but most importantly, I'm seeking the endorsement of the citizens in our district who care about quality education.

6. What do you want voters to know about you?

This is the first time I've been in an election. I offer the knowledge and ability to work with the district's administration, the great people who work in our schools and the families to preserve the quality of education in the Wayne-Westland school district.

MEET THE CANDIDATES

This is the second in a series of profiles of the seven candidates who are vying for the two four-year terms on the Wayne-Westland Board of Education in the May 5 school election. The candidates are incumbent Ed Turner and challengers Gregory Maxwell, Carol Middel; Lori Mireles-Smith, Brian Mulligan, Mark Neal and incumbent Shawna Walker, who was appointed to the board last September. There are also three candidates running for one one-year term. Look for those profiles in an upcoming edition of the Observer.

Mireles-Smith: Experience can help district

1. Why are you seeking a position on the Wayne-Westland Board of Education?

I am running for school board because the education of children is important to the future of this community. I believe that I will be an asset to this group because of my experiences and dedication. I was the chairperson of the Wayne County Head Start Policy Council when my sons were in preschool and I have served on the PTA since they began school.

2. What qualities or skills do you believe you would bring to the board, if elected?

I have been an active volunteer at the schools. In addition, my professional experience in administration and finance will also benefit the board. I work for a software engineering firm in Troy and have been with the company for 15 years. I strongly believe that I have the ability, drive, determination, and skills to prove my worth and value to the team.

3. What do you see as the issues facing the school district at this time?

I believe the top three issues facing our district are funding, enrollment and the quality of education.

LORI MIRELES-SMITH

Who: Lori Mireles-Smith, 38, of Westland
Employment: LMS North America, Inc. since 1994
Family: Married with two children
Education: 1988 graduate of John Glenn High School and received a bachelor of arts degree in history in 2006 from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor
Community Involvement: Chairperson of the Wayne County Head Start Policy Council and Schweitzer PTA, serving as secretary, vice-president and president



4. How would you address those issues?

For funding, the district will have to carefully and constructively cut spending where possible while still providing the best educational environment for the children. I will work to help focus the cuts and pursue additional funding wherever possible.

Enrollment is declining in our district due to the economy. I will focus on programs that positively promote our district which would encourage those in the surrounding areas to want to attend. WWCS should not be one step above poorer districts but instead be one step above every district.

Finally, WWCS has done a great job with the No Child Left Behind program despite poor funding. Going forward, I

believe we need more focus on the best and the brightest in our district and to give them the best opportunities to shine. When that happens, everyone around us will want to attend our schools. We need to promote ourselves with great educational resources, quality extra-curricular programs, and successful sports teams.

5. Are you seeking the endorsement of organizations or individuals in your bid for a seat on the board? If so, who?

No, I am not seeking any endorsements but would welcome them from any group who feels I am qualified.

6. What do you want voters to know about you?

I want voters to know that I will do my best to promote and ensure that the quality of education in our schools.

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- 11:30 AM** - Ted Tenenbaum, Cancer Center Administrator and the Radiation Oncology physicians, will present an overview of the **Radiation Oncology Services**.
- 12:30 PM** - Richard Zekman, D.O., The Oakland Medical Group will present **Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma**.
- 1:30 PM** - Michael Berkovic, D.O., F.A.C.O.I., The Oakland Medical Group, will be providing an update on **Lung Cancer**.

Each presentation will allow time for questions from the audience.

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 12121 Hemmingway
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- Saturday, April 25, 2009 - 9:30am to 1:00pm**
 Wayne County Community College
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W-W SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES

Mulligan: Will use logic to make decisions

1. Why are you seeking a position on the Wayne-Westland Board of Education?

I am seeking election to the board because I believe in activism and service to the community.

2. What qualities or skills do you believe you would bring to the board, if elected?

I believe that I am just your average middle class guy. I listen to both side of an issue to make the best informed decision that I can. I try to use logic more in decision making than emotions. I am fair, and honest and caring. These are the values I teach my son.

3. What do you see as the issues facing the school district at this time?

Three of the priority issues facing our district are the three "R's" of Respect, Responsibility and Representation. Together as a community, we ALL need to be PROACTIVE in the education of our children. Teaching them not only to respect other people and their ideas, but self-respect as well. As parents, we not only teach responsibility by example but by the expectations we place on our children. Our students, while they are in school and after, are our representation as a community, whether it is sportsmanship on the field, MEAP test scores or the careers they choose after they

BRIAN MULLIGAN

Who: Brian Mulligan, 40, Westland
Employment: State licensed electrician and member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Family: Married with one son
Education: 1987 graduate of Detroit Catholic Central High School and attended classes at Eastern Michigan University and Oakland Community College. Entered a five-year electrical apprenticeship program in 2000, completed and earned state electrical license in 2005.

Community Involvement: Most people who recognize me as "Tyler's Dad." I am usually seen at after-school events, dances, track and wrestling meets and band concerts as well as volunteering for community service projects through my union and Tyler's scout troop.



4. How would you address those issues?

I would address these issues first by leading by example as I do in my own family, union and community groups.

I treat others as I expect to be treated - with respect. There is always a bit of room for good nature poking fun at friends, family and acquaintances, but rude, insulting behavior is not acceptable. Second, as a board member, I would make myself accessible for discussions and input from all members of the community, parents, teachers and students, all of whom have valuable input. And thirdly, I would encourage

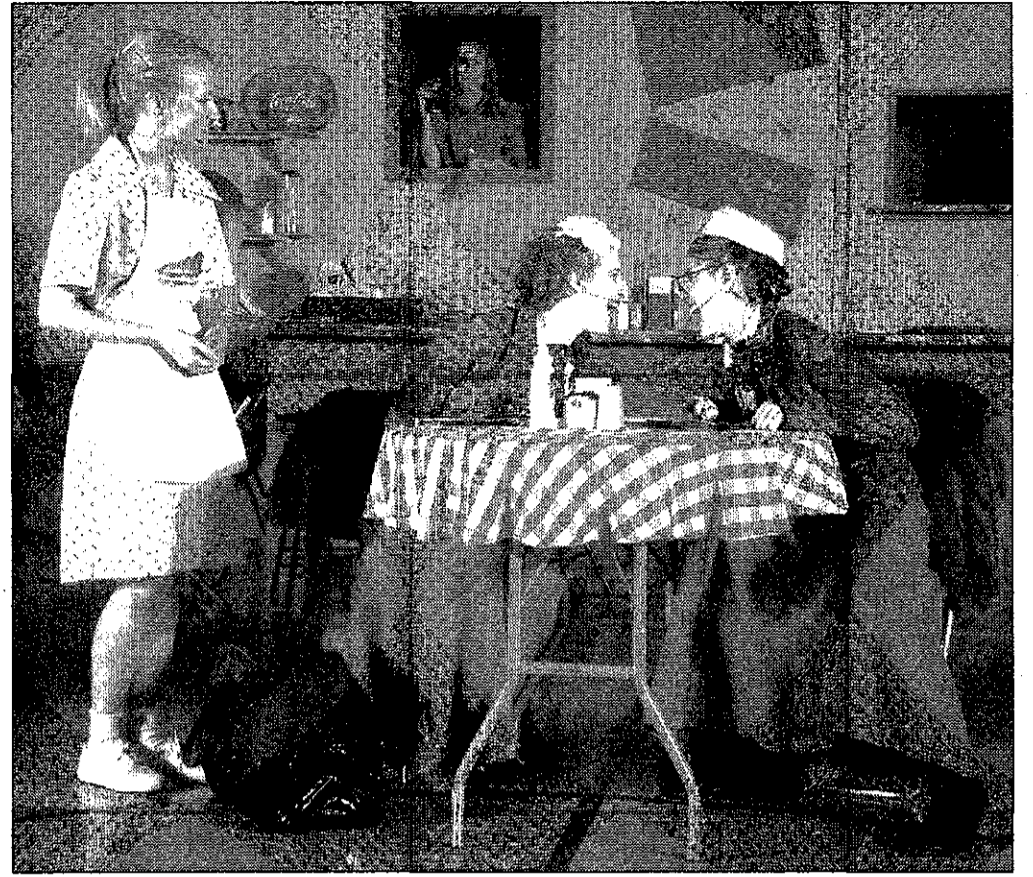
anybody in the district to become involved and donate their time and talent to the education of our children. Volunteer, help out during and after school.

5. Are you seeking the endorsement of organizations or individuals in your bid for a seat on the board? If so, who?

Yes and no. I would welcome the endorsement of almost any organization or individual, but I really think that the education of our children should not be turned into a political circus.

6. What do you want voters to know about you?

I'm not perfect, I make mistakes, but I learn from them and I believe in doing what's right.



'Daddy's Girl' packs 'em in

PCA Players Maggie Slagenwhite, Natalie Smith, Jessica Koloian and Catherine Koloian were part of the student cast that performed 'Daddy's Girl' to packed houses April 2 through April 4 at Plymouth Christian Academy's activity center. The director, Mrs. Laura Landrum, double cast the production allowing more students an opportunity to perform the two act comedy. "During my tenure at Plymouth Christian Academy this has been by far our most successful show. The students have grown as actors and I was delighted by the overall success of the production," said Landrum, Plymouth Christian Academy's drama teacher. The PCA Players will be performing an evening of original works at the Cherry Hill Village Theater on Thursday, April 30. Tickets are available at the Village Theater box office.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its regular meeting April 21, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at the Friends Room on the main level of the Library at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

The Plymouth District Library 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 seven (7) days notice to the Plymouth District Library. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Plymouth District Library by writing or calling the following:

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Plymouth District Library
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X217

Publish: April 12, 2009

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STOW & GO SELF STORAGE AUCTION NOTICE

Pursuant to state law, Notice is hereby given that a public auction will be held at **STOW & GO SELF STORAGE, 41999 ANN ARBOR ROAD, PLYMOUTH, MI** on April 18, 2009 at 10:00 a.m., on past due tenants listed below. The entire contents of the following units will be auctioned and sold to the highest bidder on each individual unit. **CASH ONLY! DESCRIPTION IS BRIEF SUMMARY OF ITEMS, MAY OR MAY NOT CONTAIN MORE OR LESS ITEMS.**

UNIT #222-RICK RAMIREZ, 760 BLUNK, PLYMOUTH MI 48170
Two couches, vacuum cleaner, microwave, floor lamp, fan, ladder, floor tiles, misc garden & carpentry tools, barbells, vcr, cabinets, books, 16 boxes and other misc items.

UNIT #328-VALERIE CLARK-BROWN, 87409 HONEYCOMB #163, CANTON, MI 48187
Gm Automobile, Engine, Transmission, And Other Misc Car Parts.

UNIT #339-JAMES ALTER, P.O. BOX 512, DEARBORN HTS, MI 48127
Lumber, tape player, alarm clock, fax machine, misc. boxes, and other misc. items.

UNIT #417-LAURA THUMA, 1497 SHERIDAN, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170
China cabinet, (4) chairs, picture frames, (4) dining rm chairs, (2) vases, table lamp, glass coffee table, suitcase, (2) dressers, buffet, shelving unit, (20) misc boxes and other misc. items.

UNIT #552-KIMBERLY BAYNARD, 36417 HEES, LIVONIA, MI 48150
Two book shelves, dresser, tire, table, computer desk, rocking chair, Ironing board, toy elec. keyboard, table lamp, globe w/ stand, snowboard, exercise machine, baseball bat and other misc items.

UNIT #581-ANN MILSON, 26309 ETON, DEARBORN HTS, MI 48125
Vacuum, (3) satellite receivers, wooden box, (3) modems, (24) tubs, electric heater, table lamp, folding chairs, luggage, radio, dresser, dishes, angel statue and other misc items.

UNIT #612-TYLER LANG, 6375 NAPIER RD, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170
Microwave, shoes, portable drill, gas can, socket set, flag, dvd player, extension cords, powerstrip, set of dishes, framed picture, and other misc items.

UNIT #670-KENNETH MICOL, 8110 E. PERRALTA AVE, MESA, AZ 85212
Computer monitor, chair, turntable, train set (battery), golf clubs in bag, car jack, toolbox, cds, tapes, (3) dressers, vcr, stereo equipment, floor fan, bass drum, TV, fax machine, shelving, books, pool cues, dart set, street signs, bookshelf and other misc items.

UNIT #687-IKIE GROSS, 8740 HONEYCOMB CIRCLE BLDG #5, APT 154, CANTON, MI 48187
Car stands & ramps, Coldspot refrigerator, battery charger, garden tools, carpentry tools, (18) fishing rods, plastic tool chest, pipe vise, (3) metal toolboxes, air pump, fishing equip. desk, bookshelf, armchair, electric radiator, (2) car battery charges, books, sledgehammer, misc. boxes and other misc items.

SALE DATE IS APRIL 18, 2009 AT 10:00 A.M.

Publish: April 12 and 16, 2009

OE00682644_2x0.5

District hires new food service manager

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education made the decision last month not to renew the contract of Sodexo, the district's long-time food service contractor, in favor of moving to an internal operation.

On Tuesday, the board hired veteran food-service worker Kristen Hennessey to run it.

Hennessey comes to the district from Aramark Education, a food service and facilities management company where she's worked for some 16 years. Hennessey has served

since 2005 as that company's Michigan Regional manager, overseeing 15 food service directors and some 500 Aramark and district employees.

"We're getting someone with very unique leadership abilities," said Ray Bihun, Plymouth-Canton's executive director for human resources. "What I like is she also had training at the Culinary Institute of America."

Hennessey was food service director for Wayne-Westland schools from 1999-2003 and has also worked in Farmington, Minn., and Chicago. She's got a bachelor's

degree in hospitality and tourism management from Grand Valley State University.

Sodexo's contract with the district runs out at the end of the summer, and the board decided not to renew it, ending the company's 20-plus-year relationship with the district.

Instead, the district hired Hennessey to run the program, which produces some 1.6 million meals a year, according to James Larson-Shidler, the district's assistant superintendent for business services. While the three managers who worked in the program the longest - all of them employees of Sodexo - will

no longer work there, Larson-Shidler said the 85 other food service employees who are on the district's payroll will keep their jobs.

They'll work for Hennessey, a Canton resident who grew up in Traverse City and said landing the Plymouth-Canton job "is so exciting."

"I always said when the perfect position comes up I'd love to work in this community," Hennessey told board members. "I'm excited to work with the staff, and I think we're going to do some really great work for you."

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ON THE AGENDA

Canton Board of Trustees

The board will hold a regular meeting at 7 p.m., April 14 at the Canton Administration Building. Agenda items include:

- Consider special land use request for coin operated amusement device establishment - Chuck E. Cheese's expansion
- Consider the purchase of upgrades for existing GIS software licenses and additional software tool set
- Consider approval of a change order

for intersection improvements at Lilley and Hanford to Peter A Basile Sons, inc.

- Consider purchase of a new maintenance truck and service body for public works water section
- Consider award of contract for 2009 dust control program and local gravel roads
- Consider resolution of support for the Van Born Road paving improvements
- First reading, amendment to code of ordinances, related to water billing and water meters
- Consider resolution of support for the

DDA Lotz to Lilley streetscape

- Approval of union contract for the Technical, Professional and Office Workers of Michigan (TPOAM)
- Authorize the purchase of softballs for Canton Sports Center
- Approve Goosework's contract for goose control
- Approve lawn and landscape maintenance of township properties contract
- Approve purchase and installation of storm windows for Cherry Hill School
- Presentation - single stream recycling program

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

NOTICE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

WEEDS TO BE CUT ON LOTS IN THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: On or before May 1, 2009, it shall be the duty of every owner, occupant or person having charge of any land within the Township of Plymouth, Michigan, to cut and destroy noxious weeds before they reach a seed bearing stage and to prevent such weeds from perpetuating themselves or becoming a detriment to public health, or shall cause the same to be done. Failure to comply with this notice and Section 32.050 of the Plymouth Township Ordinance means that the Township will enter upon such lands and mow the weeds and bill the property owners for the service, as provided in Section 32.070 of the Plymouth Township Ordinance.

The Charter Township of Plymouth will begin mowing all unmowed lots or plots of land on May 15, 2009, without further notice to the property owners.

Joe Bridgman, CMC
Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: April 12, and 19, 2009

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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 *Diving Board Platforms for Salem High School Pool*. 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 Harry Lau of the PCCS Maintenance Department at (734) 416-2970. A pre-bid meeting will be held at the Salem High School Pool, 46181 Joy Road; Canton 48187, on Wednesday, April 22, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. Sealed bids are due to the E. J. McClendon Educational Center (attn: Salem Diving Platforms), 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48187 on or before 10:00 a.m., Monday, May 4, 2009. A notarized familial disclosure statement and valid bid bond must accompany all bids. 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: April 12 and 19, 2009

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U-M students learn while observing in Tonda classrooms

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Fourth- and fifth-grade students at Tonda Elementary in Canton may not have realized it, but they just completed a project in which they helped education students from the University of Michigan learn how to teach.

It's a long-standing partnership which has nearly two dozen college students performing some of their student teaching at a number of Plymouth-Canton schools, including this year at Tonda and Hoben elementaries. During the second half of the school year at Tonda, the U-M class was held in one of the portable classrooms, with the future teachers then using what they learned in elementary classrooms.

"We're observing (the student teachers) as well so we can see how they did with what we thought we were teaching them, and how that played out in the classroom as they work with the teachers and students," said Klotylda Phillippi of Plymouth, the college students' U-M professor who also taught for 30 years in Plymouth-Canton. "It's a wonderful relationship for our student teachers and U-M. The quality of the Plymouth-Canton teachers, administration and curriculum are so strong. It's a good place for my students to see what good teaching looks like."

Student teachers helped the fourth- and fifth-graders gather information for a school museum, with topics including mysterious animals, natural disasters and things in the ocean.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

University of Michigan students Haley Murdock, Katie Fromm and Marly Van Huis helped curate the Tonda Museum with students Anna Ruedger, Hannah Rhode, Tiffney Cicotte, Alycia Gaworecki, Sarah Lynn, Nikki Schroeder, Antoinette DeSmit and Jessica Roberts.

Fifth-grader Hannah Rhode, 10, researched the Lochness Monster for the museum's mysterious animals display.

"No one is really sure if it's real or not," Hannah said. "There has been a lot of proof, but then there hasn't. I do believe in it because there's been proof, though some people say it's not real."

For the museum's display on places, 11-year-old Jordan Montagano studied the

ancient Italian city of Pompeii, which was buried under 60 feet of volcano ash and lost for nearly 1,700 years before its accidental rediscovery in 1748.

"We thought it happened all at once, but it happened over two days," Jordan said,

explaining his group's display like a museum docent. "All the people were just stopped in motion."

As for working with the student teachers, Jordan said, "It was really cool because they taught us so much and they are really nice people."

Meredith Miles, 21, of Flushing, is completing her first year in the U-M education program.

"They picked the topics, did all the research, planned the museum and presented them to other classmates," Miles said. "As student teachers, we helped guide them to different books and sites on the Internet, but they came up with the whole idea themselves. I was impressed with how it all came together."

"They provided us with a lot of learning experiences, such as how to use different management skills and how to plan ahead," she added.

Tonda Principal Kurt Tyszkiewicz said he enjoys the partnership, remembering his days as a young teacher.

"When I started teaching, someone had to give up their classroom for me, and that's what teachers do here," Tyszkiewicz said. "It gives (student teachers) a chance to learn hands-on with our kids. It's a wonderful partnership, and gives us a chance to give back to the profession."

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Paula Guzman helped build a display about the ancient city of Petra, located in Jordan. It is carved into the rock side of a mountain.

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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 Bids for Moving Bentley and Tonda Elementary Schools.

Bidding documents may be picked up at the office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335 on or after April 12, 2009. Bids will be received until 10:00 a.m., local time on Wednesday, April 22, 2009 at which time they will be opened and read publicly at the Plymouth Canton Community School, E.J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170. Bids received after this time and date will be returned. Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope supplied by McCarthy & Smith, Inc. and Faxed proposals will not be accepted.

There will be a Pre-Bid Meeting and Site Walk-Through on Wednesday, April 15, 2009 @ 1:00 p.m. at the Tonda Elementary Cafeteria located at 46501 Warren Road, Canton, MI 48187. Questions regarding the scope of the project may be addressed to Mr. Doug Underwood of McCarthy & Smith, Inc. at (248) 427-8400. Plymouth Canton Community Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids received and to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding documents. This project is to be bid at the prevailing wage rate.

The bidder shall disclose any familial relationship as required by the State of Michigan on the proposal pricing form. This form must also be signed and notarized in order for the bid to be accepted.

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

Publish: April 12 and 19, 2009

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Computer class helps students get credits

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Ninth-grade students at John Glenn High School who didn't make the grade when it comes to math and English are getting a second chance, thanks to an online credit recovery class.

Offered the second semester to freshmen who failed to get a D or better in Algebra and Literature/Composition and credit the first time around, the E2020 computer-based class lets them learn at their own pace while completing courses mandated by the state.

"It's self-paced, they can go back and review a topic as often as they want," John Glenn Principal David Ingham said. "They get a grade for this. The bad grade stays on their record, but they get the credit which they need for graduation."

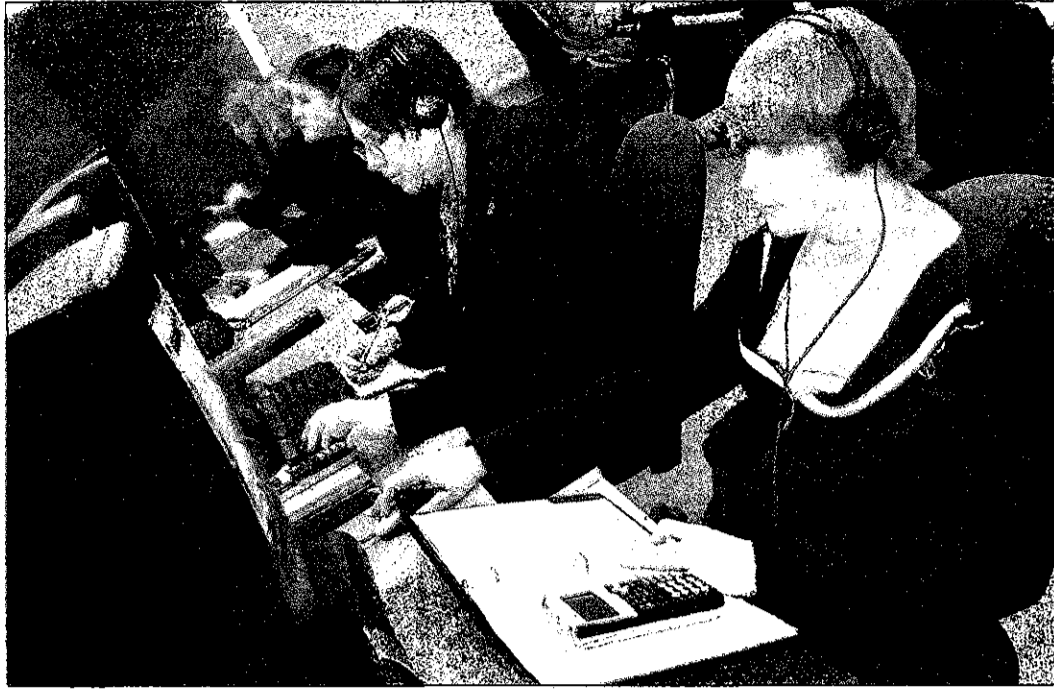
Close to 100 students are taken the pilot classes. Three Algebra classes are offered during the school day while two English classes are offered as seventh-hour classes after school. Directed study is also available throughout the school day in the media center.

Ingham spent two years researching the computer-based instruction to find the best one and determined the E2020 would meet the needs of the students. It provides mini lectures and has built-in timed practice quizzes and tests. Students can't get to the latter without doing the work, and they can do up to three retakes, with the highest score counting, before moving on, Ingham said.

And there's also no room for fudging on the time spent online. The program keeps track of how many minutes a student works on it.

"There's a highly qualified teacher built into the program that they can ask questions of, but we also have a teacher in here, so they can ask questions," Ingham said.

Four teachers are a part of the program. Ingham said the teachers were "pretty excited" to find an alternative deliv-



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

John Glenn sophomores Tyler Gower (from right), Devin Russell, Brittany Whited and Maria Papas with their other classmates work on Algebra I in the computer credit recovery class at John Glen High School. Gower likes the program, "it's much better than sitting in a classroom."

ery method for the students. There are still ups and downs with good students and not so good students, but for those who complete the program and get the credit, it means no summer school and advancing to the next grade.

Heather Rumley, math department chair, likes the class. She calls it "organized chaos."

"I'm on my feet, I'm always running," she said. "Every student could be at a different spot. It's definitely not a course where you can sit down and do nothing."

Class size is limited to 30 students, and according to Rumley, it's the perfect course for a student who may not do homework, since all work is completed online. For students who don't understand math, it helps build their knowledge. Those students who don't want to do the work on the computer, can print it out and work on it, then input it afterwards.

"It's a nice altogether program," she said.

Freshman Tim Hill is taking the pilot class. He admits he hasn't been "knuckling down" in school and is glad to have the opportunity to catch

up, but admits that "you want to put in the time."

"It's starting to click, the program gives good detail on



Sophomore Armonte Black receives some help with Algebra I from teacher Heather Rumley.

how a problem is put together," he said. "You can listen to the lecture. If you don't get it, you can't ask questions, but Miss Rumley is here to help."

The pilot program is being watched closely by Wayne Memorial High School which may try it in the fall. It also

can be used as part of the summer school program.

"We hope the students can get more credit this way and move on," he said. "It's a pretty intense hour, but we've had very few drop out."

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© FAST AND FURIOUS (PG-13) 11:50, 2:15, 4:40, 7:05, 9:35 FR/SAT LS 11:55

© 30 MONSTERS VS. ALIENS (PG) 12:40, 2:50, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20 FR/SAT LS 11:30

© HAUNTING IN CONNECTICUT (PG-13) 1:15, 3:20, 5:25, 7:30, 9:35 FR/SAT LS 11:40

© I LOVE YOU, MAN (R)
FRI-WED 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00
TH 1:00, 3:15

© KNOWING (PG-13) 11:00, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40

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Fri., May 8, 2009 • 5:00-8:00 pm

Elliott Elementary

30800 Bennington St., Westland

Wed., May 27, 2009 • 4:00-8:00 pm

Taft-Galway Elementary

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Fri., May 29, 2009 • 5:00-8:00 pm

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Sat., May 30, 2009 • 9:00 am-1:00 pm

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Asset allocation strategy helps reduce risk

Q: Dear Rick: I recently heard you speak at the Livonia Library about investing and I am confused about asset allocation. Is it the same as diversification?



Money Matters

Rick Bloom
Diversification spreads risk within an asset class.

cation it is important to recognize that there are many different classes. Asset classes are subcategories of investments. For example, some of the asset classes that I use in portfolios I manage are U.S. Large Cap, growth, value and blend; U.S. Small Cap, growth, value and blend; Foreign Large Cap, growth, value and blend; and, both foreign and domestic energy and real estate.

These asset classes are equity classes — stocks. In addition, there are many asset classes within the fixed-income or bond area such as U.S. Treasury, intermediate and short-term investment grade corporate bonds, short and intermediate term foreign bonds, inflation protected bonds and GNMA's. The strategy of asset allocation is to spread

money into many different classes to reduce the overall risk to the portfolio without hurting returns.

Diversification is spreading investments within asset classes. For example, if you want to invest in an emerging market, diversification means investing in many companies and in many different emerging markets as opposed to investing in

one company or even in one emerging market.

I believe, for the great majority of individuals, following an asset allocation strategy that is diversified will protect an investor. That does not mean that those individuals who follow an asset allocation strategy did not lose money last year because they did. However, generally they lost less because they followed this

strategy. An investment strategy is key. The successful investor is one who has a proper game plan based on his/her individual situation.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at moneyatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit Rick's Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.

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SPOTLIGHT ON YOUR DENTAL HEALTH

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

ORAL INDICATIONS

Many people are not aware of the many ways in which oral health is linked with overall health. For instance, according to a survey recently conducted by the Academy of General Dentistry, nearly 60% of those surveyed did not know that a painful jaw is one warning sign that may indicate an impending heart attack. Thus, a visit to the dentist may be a patient's first sign of an impending dangerous heart event. In fact, research indicates that over 90% of systemic diseases have oral symptoms. With this in mind, careful dental examinations of patients with a history of heart disease (or other conditions) for signs of oral pain, infection, or inflammation is crucial to overall health.

Acknowledging the inherent connection between oral health and a patient's overall health, your dentist will use many techniques to diagnose, treat, restore, and promote total patient well-being. We offer this column in the hopes of educating the general public about the benefits of oral health. If we can help, either by answering questions or by providing comprehensive dental care, please call us at **734-453-9413**. State-of-the-art dentistry and a dedicated professional dental team make **496 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Ste. 201, Plymouth**, the ideal place to achieve optimum oral health. We are located one block east of Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth.

P.S. Recent studies also suggest that people who have gum disease are at a higher risk for heart attack.

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SPORTS, HEALTH & FITNESS, NEIGHBORS

SECTION B
(CP)
Ed Wright, editor, (313) 222-2047
enwright@hometownlife.com

HOMETOWN LIFE

Chiefs 'corner' Churchill with late goal

GAME WRAPS

PCS girls lacrosse team clips Hartland

Following six consecutive road games, the Plymouth-Canton-Salem girls lacrosse team pulled off an exciting 12-11 home win over Hartland April 2.

"It was a game that could have gone either way, but we were not going to be denied," said PCS coach Dave Medley.

The Eagles nearly deadlocked the contest with 1:23 to play, but the potential equalizing goal was waved off due to a Hartland foul.

"I'll take the win," said Medley. "We had somewhat of an offensive drought (coming into the game), but the shooters decided to show up tonight. That takes some of the pressure off the defense and goalie, all of whom have been playing outstanding the past couple of games."

Defensive standouts for the Lady Warriors included Taylor Martin, Natalie Sitko, Emily Cox, Sarah Coleman and Lauren Manner.

Offensively, the winners were paced by Lauryn Ebersole (four goals), Chelsea Olson (three), Nicole Rottell (three) and Edra Burris and Lauren Allard, who both tallied single net-finders.

Hartland outshot PCS, 30-22.

Canton netters edge Plymouth

In a cross-campus showdown played Wednesday at the PCEP tennis courts, Canton out-swung Plymouth 6-3.

The contest was knotted at two-all following the singles matches before the Chiefs took command in doubles.

Plymouth's Chelsea Craig edged Janelle Burdiss, 7-6, 5-7, 6-3, at No. 1 singles while Wildcat Jessica Bracey ousted Canton's Vicki Chen, 7-6, 7-5, at No. 2.

The Chiefs won at 3 and 4 singles thanks to strong efforts from Megan Leung, who defeated Sarah Mitchell, 6-7, 7-6, 6-3; and Rachel Youseff, who dined Gina Matar, 6-3, 7-5.

In doubles action, Canton's Paige Babala and Kayla Davis swept Prija Joshi and Katie Binger at No. 1; the Chiefs' Kaite Noetzel and Jaclyn Hollingsworth outplayed Claire Marchesano and Radhika Patel, 6-1, 6-0, at No. 2; Canton's Katelyn Montgomery and Taylor Eppler nipped Allison Santori and Lauren Jeong, 5-7, 6-4, 6-4, at No. 3; Canton's Catherine Sanctorum and Brittany Vance netted a 6-4, 7-6 triumph over Britta Swanson and Kalya Griffey at No. 4; and the Wildcats' Julia Fratila and Lindsey Stemmer trumped Michelle Nagy and Maggie DePent, 6-2, 6-0, at No. 5.

The match was the season opener for the Wildcats.

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday afternoon, Canton's girls soccer team spent a significant amount of time practicing corner kicks.

On Wednesday night, practice made perfect.

With nothing but goose eggs on the scoreboard and just under eight minutes showing on the second-half clock, Canton's Lisa Pierce struck a perfect, curving corner kick that landed within striking distance of the right foot of teammate Lauren Peeler, who nudged the ball past Churchill goalie Stefanie

GIRLS PREP SOCCER

Turner from less than five feet away.

"We've been working on corner kicks a lot at practice," Peeler revealed. "We've run that same play that we scored on so many times. It was a great corner by Lisa. The ball stopped right in front of me and I just kind of poked it in."

The one-goal decision left both teams with 1-1 overall records. More importantly, Canton rose to the head of the class in the newly formed Kensington Lakes Activities Association South Division.

"Both teams played a great game," said

Canton coach George Tomasso. "I was disappointed after we came up short (3-2) against Novi in our opener, but we made some minor adjustments and they worked tonight against a very good Churchill team."

"In the first half, I felt we didn't attack the end lines much. We only had one or two corners. In the second half, we focused more on attacking the end lines, which created more corners and goal-scoring opportunities."

"I credit the entire team for the win tonight. All 18 girls that were here played, and they all did a great job. It was a total team effort."

Junior goal-keeper Samantha McPartin registered the shutout for the Chiefs, turning away seven Charger shots.

The Chiefs fired 12 shots at Turner. **PLYMOUTH 8, LIVONIA FRANKLIN 0:** On Wednesday at the PCEP varsity stadium, the surging Wildcats dominated the Patriots to improve to 3-0.

Three Wildcats registered two goals each: Kelly Dobbs, Liz Koet and McKenzie Hengesh. Jen Babcock and Megan Peplinski tallied single goals for the winners.

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Spartans give Rocks kickers 2nd-half blues

After playing to a scoreless draw the opening half, Livonia Stevenson began to find the range and rolled to a 5-0 KLA Central Division girls soccer win Thursday at home over Salem.

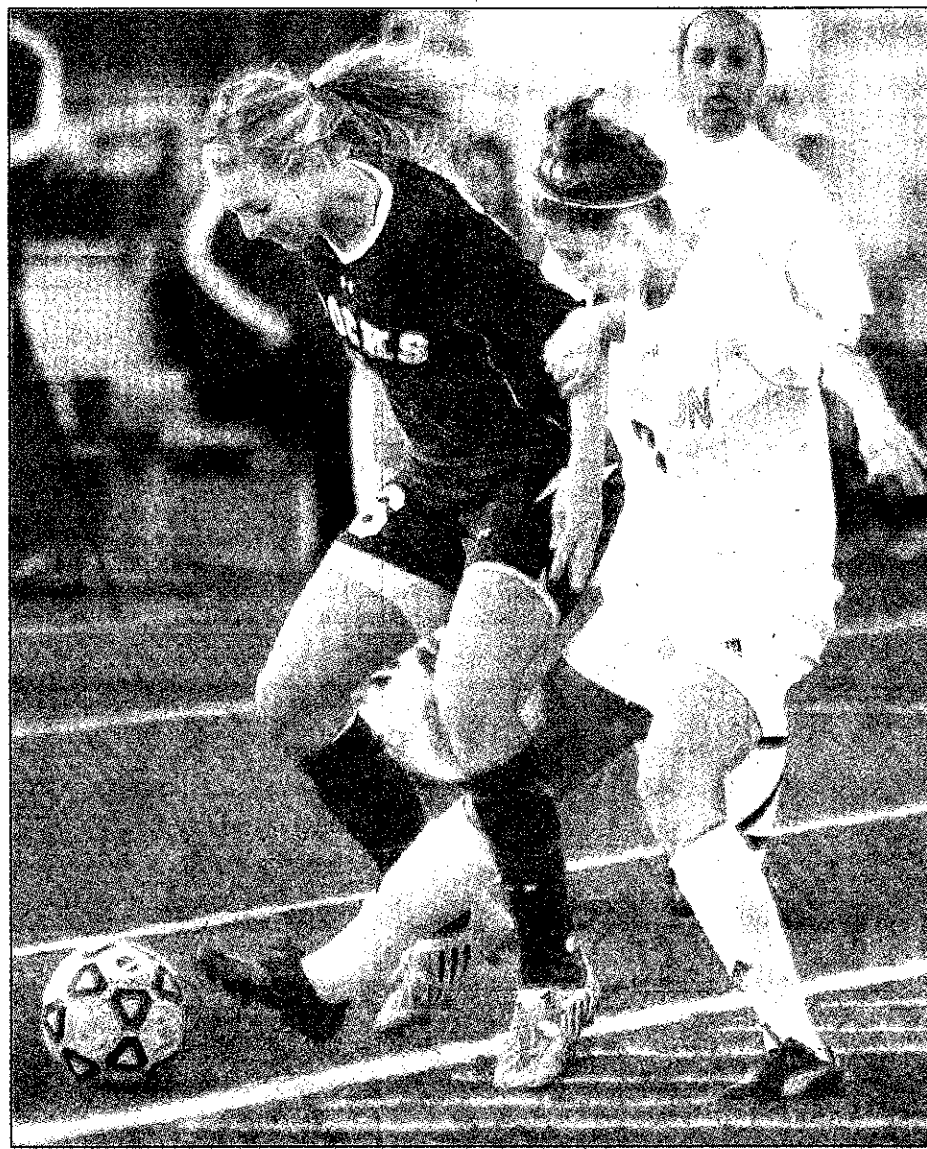
Stevenson is now 3-3 overall and 2-0 in the Central, while Salem falls to 2-1 and 0-1.

"We totally broke down defensively (in the second half)," said Salem coach Joe Nora. "We put late pressure on the ball allowing Stevenson to do whatever they liked against us in the second half. Their running off the ball and desire to win the loose balls frustrated us and then created unorganized defending."

"It's so early that it's not something we are worried about. We will just learn from it and work to keep improving."

The story was reversed for the Spartans during the final 40 minutes. "After struggling to get behind their back line, which was pretty organized in the first half, we played with some more urgency in the second half," Stevenson coach Chris Pinta said.

Five minutes into the second half, Renee Boudreau won a tackle at the top corner of Salem's box and dumped a



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Jill Behrman battles for possession of the ball during Thursday night's KLA Central Division match against Livonia Stevenson. The Spartans won, 5-0.

Please see SOCCER, B4

Whalers can't withstand Spits' 61-shot barrage

Rob Kwiet and Scott Timmins scored power play goals in the second period to snap a 1-1 tie and the Windsor Spitfires went on to defeat the Plymouth Whalers, 5-2, in an Ontario Hockey League playoff game played Thursday before 6,496 at the Windsor Family Credit Union Centre.

Windsor leads the best-of-seven OHL Western Conference playoff series, three-games-to-two. Game six was played Saturday at Compuware Arena. If necessary, game seven will be played Monday at 7 p.m. in Windsor.

Besides Kwiet and Timmins, Taylor Hall led the Windsor attack with a goal — his ninth of the playoffs — and two assists while Justin Shugg and Greg Nemisz added singles.

RJ Mahalak and Matt Caria scored for Plymouth.

Similar to their victories in Games 2 and 3, the Spitfires enjoyed a territorial edge in the game, going two-for-eight

Please see WHALERS, B3

Canton earns 1st 'City' title since '03

For boys track results, see Page B4.

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton's girls track-and-field team was running at less than full strength Thursday, but you'd have a hard time convincing that to PCEP rivals Salem and Plymouth.

Despite holes in their line-up created by heat-seeking, pre-spring break defectors, the Chiefs rolled to their first Bolger/Mangan Memorial Meet title since 2003 when they racked up 76 points, 25 more than second-place Plymouth. Salem placed third with 36 points.

"We had a slew of girls missing due to spring break starting, but we still had enough depth to stack our events and earn a victory over our neighboring rivals," said Canton coach Pamela Stom. "Having that trophy in our hands and knowing that we have earned every effort it took to win meant more than I could say."

"This was one of the proud-

est moments for me as a coach. Watching the excitement from the girls and seeing everyone pull together was wonderful."

The Chiefs built a hefty lead in the field events by placing first in the pole vault, high jump, Long jump and Discus.

They strengthened their grip on first place thanks to first-place efforts from Bianca Kubicki in the 1,600-meter run and Beth Swanberg in the 400 dash.

"I was very proud of the way our girls performed today," said Plymouth coach Kurt Britnell. "We have a lot of freshmen running this year, so we're going to take our lumps early on. But in a couple of years, this team is going to be very good."

Among the Wildcats' standouts were Jenna Hamed, who won the 800 run; Molly Slavens, who crossed first in the 3,200; and Tyler Buchanon, who placed first in the shot put and second in the discus.

Salem's Deja Wright had an afternoon to remember, winning the 100- and 200-meter dash races.

2009 BOLGER/MANGAN MEMORIAL MEET Thursday at PCEP Stadium

FINAL STANDINGS: Canton, 76; Plymouth, 51; Salem, 36.

3,200-meter relay: 1. Plymouth, 10:21; 2. Canton, 10:26; 3. Salem, 10:49.

100-meter hurdles: 1. Paruta (S), 18:68; 2. Jenna Hamed (P), 19:68; 3. Singh (S), 20:40.

100 dash: 1. Deja Wright (S), 12:61; 2. Lindsay Lipa (C), 13:39; 3. Rebecca Knox (P), 13:65.

800 relay: 1. Salem, 1:55.59; 2. Plymouth, 1:56.66; 3. Canton, 1:57.08.

1,600 run: 1. Bianca Kubicki (C), 5:39; 2. Julie Forster (P), 5:44; 3. Moore (S), 5:47.38.

400 relay: 1. Canton, 53.98; 2. Plymouth, 54.38; 3. Salem, 1:06.07.

400 dash: 1. Beth Swanberg (C), 1:03.83; 2. Lindsey Schmidt (C), 1:05.51; 3. Cathy Huang (C), 1:06.25.

300 hurdles: 1. Jenna Hamed (P), 54.61; 2. Baruta (S), 55.54; 3. Yuki Kroiicki (C), 56.24.

800 run: 1. Kelly Determan (S), 2:34.32; 2. Julie Forster (P), 2:36.44; 3. Bianca Kubicki (C), 2:37.42.

200 dash: 1. Deja Wright (S), 26.79; 2. Mirana Milad (C), 28.44; 3. Christina Bradley (C), 28.62.

3,200 run: 1. Molly Slavens (P), 12:16; 2. Sarah Thomas (C), 12:34.42; 3. Paula Green (P), 12:36.3.

1,600 relay: 1. Canton, 4:27.28; 2. Plymouth, 4:46.93.

Pole vault: 1. Kara Bongionvanni (C), 8 feet, 0 inches; 2. Paruta (S), 7-6; 3. Sarah Balgooyen (P), 6-6.

High jump: 1. Lindsay Lipa (C), 5-0.5; 2. Kretschmer (S), 4-5; 3. (tie) Christina Bradley (C), Rachel Hill (P) and Kristyn Sturtz (P), 4-3.

Long jump: 1. Michelle Lu (C), 15-1; 2. Rebecca Knox (P), 14-8; 3. Winans (C), 14-3.

Discus: 1. Hakala (C), 87-10; 2. Tyler Buchanon (P), 83-7; 3. Nicole Douglas (C), 75-9.

Shot put: 1. Tyler Buchanon (P), 33-2; 2. Nicole Douglas (C), 30-0; 3. Hakala (C), 26-1.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Bianca Kubicki, pictured in a meet earlier this season, played a key role in the Chiefs' title-winning effort at Thursday's Bolger/Mangan Memorial Meet.

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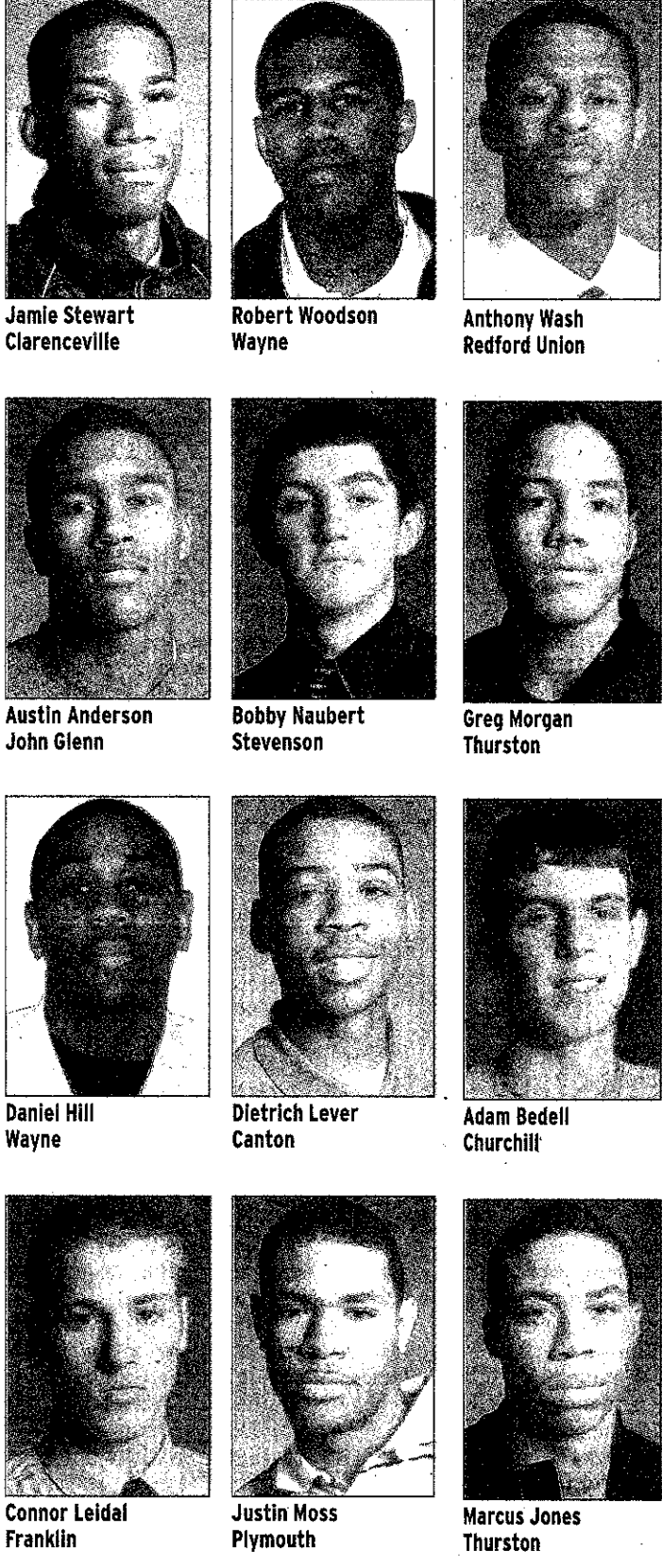
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All-area hoops team named



FIRST TEAM
JAMIE STEWART, SR. F, LIV. CLARENCEVILLE: The 6-4 Stewart averaged 27.2 points, just under 10 rebounds and 3.4 assists per contest to lead the Trojans to another Metro Conference championship. He collected his second straight Metro MVP award for his efforts and was named to Bankhoops.com's Class B All-State first-team. An indication of Stewart's value to the Trojans came in the title-clinching victory over Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood when he tallied 31 points including several key buckets down the stretch. "Jamie had an outstanding year for us," said Clarenceville coach Corey McKendry. "He produced despite having a huge bull's-eye on his back every night. He really rounded his game out this year by filling up the stat columns, instead of just being a scorer."

ROBERT WOODSON, SR. PG, WAYNE: The 6-1 senior guard averaged 15 points, five assists and 2.5 steals a game. The All-KLAA South Division selection was a three-year starter and a two-year captain. "Robert is a leader on the court and in the classroom," Wayne coach Wayne Woodard said. "He has a 3.5 grade point average. He was our go-to guy all season."

ANTHONY WASH, SR. PG, REDFORD UNION: Just 5-8, Wash made a huge impact at the point for the Panthers, earning All-Mega White first-team honors with an average of 17.4 points, including 39 treys. Wash, RU's MVP, accounted for nearly half of the squad's overall offense (40.3 PPG) and excelled in every facet to help the Panthers to a 13-8 record. In one win over Farmington, he scored 29 of RU's 38 points.

"He is one of the three best players to wear an RU uniform in my tenure," said head coach Brett Steele. "Without him on the floor, our team could not succeed. He was our leading scorer and was the focal point of every opponent's defensive game plan."

AUSTIN ANDERSON, SR. PG, WESTLAND JOHN GLENN: The 6-1 senior point-guard averaged 21 points per game en route to All-KLAA South Division honors. "Austin had a great year and has improved in every aspect of his game over the three years he started for us," Glenn coach Dan Young said. "We have won 43 games in that span and he was a big part of it. This season has been asked to score more and had the second best single season scoring mark only behind Darin Armstrong (1980)."

BOBBY NAUBERT, JR. G, LIV. STEVENSON: The junior guard averaged 17 points and 5.5 assists per game for the Class A district champions. "His work ethic in the classroom has carried over to the hardwood," Stevenson coach Mike Allie said of the All-KLAA Central Division pick. "He is the ultimate team player and knows exactly what it takes to be a winner. He's all about basketball and improving his game. His heart and determination became contagious toward the end of the year as he guided us to a district championship."

GREG MORGAN, SR. G, RED. THURSTON: The 6-0 shooting guard was a sparkplug for Thurston's Mega Blue co-champs, averaging 14.5 points, 4.4 rebounds and hit 53 percent of his three-point shots. Morgan, the team co-captain, earned All-Mega Blue first-team honors and received Thurston's Sportsmanship Award.

"Greg is a great shooter who has hit some huge shots for us over his career," said Eagles' head coach Brian Bates. "Greg is a very unselfish player. ... He has done great things for our program during his time here and we are going to miss him greatly."

SECOND TEAM
DANIEL HILL, JR. C, WAYNE: The 6-3 junior center averaged 13.5 points, eight rebounds, and two blocks per game for the KLAA South Division champs. "Daniel was a captain this year as a junior," Woodard said. "He was also an outstanding student athlete with a 3.4 grade point average. Daniel was always able to get the job done without drawing attention to himself."

2008-09 ALL-OBSERVER BOYS BASKETBALL

FIRST TEAM
 Jamie Stewart, Sr. F, Liv. Clarenceville
 Robert Woodson, Sr. PG, Wayne
 Anthony Wash, Sr. PG, Redford Union
 Austin Anderson, Sr. PG, John Glenn
 Bobby Naubert, Jr. G, Liv. Stevenson
 Greg Morgan, Sr. G, Red. Thurston

SECOND TEAM
 Daniel Hill, Jr. C, Wayne
 Dietrich Lever, Soph. G, Canton
 Adam Bedell, Jr. C, Liv. Churchill
 Connor Leidal, Sr. C, Liv. Franklin
 Justin Moss, Soph. C, Plymouth
 Marcus Jones, Sr. G, Red. Thurston

THIRD TEAM
 Joe Posler, Sr. F, Salem
 Nathan Clark, Sr. G, Liv. Clarenceville
 Ronald Pummil, Sr. C, Liv. Franklin
 Jeff Poole, Sr. G, Liv. Franklin
 Brennan Beyer, Soph. F, Plymouth
 Ryan Woods, Sr. G, Liv. Churchill

FOURTH TEAM
 Marlan Glenn, Sr. G, Canton
 Anthony Mullins, Sr. G, Salem
 Leonard Werneffe-Leff, Sr. C, RU
 Sam Ahlersmeyer, Sr. F, Luth. Westland

COACH OF THE YEAR
 Mike Allie, Liv. Stevenson

HONORABLE MENTION
 Churchill: Tony Frezzell, Scott Senczyzyn, Cameron Norscia; Franklin: Mike Gadsby; Stevenson: Ricky Chrzasz, Jordan El-Sabah, Mark Grisa, Brian Rowe, Kendal Snow, Austin White; John Glenn: Dorian Prather, Jeremy Langford, Marquise Graves; Wayne: Derric Horton, DeLorean Holland; Clarenceville: Corey Reynolds, Jeremy Gainer, Jalen Reynolds; Lutheran Westland: Josh Kruger, Eric Shoats; Huron Valley Lutheran: Tyler Wagaman, Chad Fielek; Garden City: Michael Pack, Kevin Burek; Redford Union: Julian Rivera, Tyrone Temple, Justin Floyd, Kyle Schuett; Thurston: Cameron Mitchell, Josh Miller, Brandon Rivera; Redford Covenant: Jammone Chester; Canton: Kiere Daniels; Kevin Weisz; Plymouth: Cliff Buttermore, Brad Lineberry; Salem: Jake Peterson, Heath Parling; Plymouth Christian: Justin Govan; Agape: Mark Mullett.

DIETRICH LEVER, SOPH. G, CANTON: The sophomore turned in a scintillating season, doubling as the Chiefs' point guard and top scoring threat. He led the team in scoring (14.6), assists and steals, and could break full-court presses almost single-handedly with his superb dribbling skills.

MARCUS JONES, SR. G-F, RED. THURSTON: Jones, a 6-1 small forward, was in the mix almost constantly to help the Eagles to another winning season. The co-captain averaged 16.8 points but also contributed across-the-board (2.5 assists, 4.4 rebounds, 2.3 steals). He earned team MVP honors as well as selection to the All-Mega Blue first team. "He had the ability to score by either a drive or jump shot, which made him a really hard player to guard," Bates noted. "He could not only score points from anywhere, but he was a great rebounder and defender. Marcus helped make us a better team and we are going to miss him very much."

CONNOR LEIDAL, SR. C, LIV. FRANKLIN: The 6-4 senior forward averaged 14 points, eight rebounds per game en route to All-KLAA South Division and Team MVP honors. Leidal had season highs of 16 rebounds vs. Wayne and 25 points against Howell.

MARCUS JONES, SR. G-F, RED. THURSTON: Jones, a 6-1 small forward, was in the mix almost constantly to help the Eagles to another winning season. The co-captain averaged 16.8 points but also contributed across-the-board (2.5 assists, 4.4 rebounds, 2.3 steals). He earned team MVP honors as well as selection to the All-Mega Blue first team. "He had the ability to score by either a drive or jump shot, which made him a really hard player to guard," Bates noted. "He could not only score points from anywhere, but he was a great rebounder and defender. Marcus helped make us a better team and we are going to miss him very much."

COACH OF THE YEAR
MIKE ALLIE, LIV. STEVENSON: The 24-year-old second-year coach guided the Spartans to a 14-10 record and a Class A district title before losing a close regional game against Novi Detroit Catholic Central, 43-39. Allie, a 2002 Stevenson grad, is the co-owner of M&M Sports Apparel along with assistant coach Matt Bartnick, also a former Spartan player and teammate. Allie also referees Big Ten soccer games. "This is a great honor for our entire coaching staff and a testament to the outstanding character of the kids we coach," Allie said. "Coach Bartnick and I were fortunate to have had the opportunity to coach such self-motivated student-athletes this season. We are confident that these young men have laid a solid foundation for the continued and growing success of the Stevenson basketball program."

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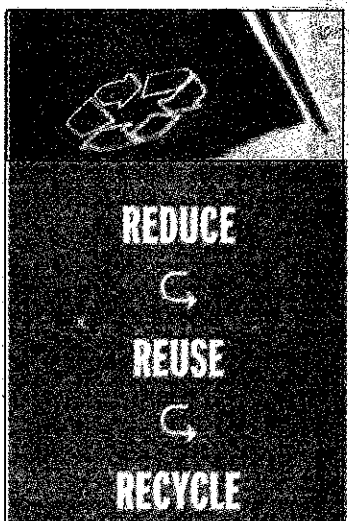
Mike Allie - Stevenson Coach of the Year
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NEIGHBORS

On a roll Friends share love of strudel

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
OSE STAFF WRITER

The last time Marilyn Alimpich had "real" strudel was before her grandmother died in 1977. Through the years, her mother and the rest of the family tried making the pastry without much success. It takes a certain knack to stretch the dough thinly enough over a tabletop without making holes. The entire strudel is then rolled up using the momentum of a tablecloth after spreading the surface with cheese, apple, cabbage, or a filling of the baker's choice.

Several ethnic groups in Europe enjoy the tasty delight as Alimpich found out when she mentioned the family's strudel-making attempts to her manicurist, Suzana Pallaska, at Gerald's Salon in Northville. Before long, Alimpich was organizing a daylong project to learn the skill from Pallaska, who brought her expertise from Macedonia in southeastern Europe 10 years ago. Last month, Pallaska, a Westland resident, shared her secrets during a baking extravaganza that included Alimpich's parents, Muriel and Nick Alimpich of Redford, friend Sandy Kline of Plymouth and her mother, Sonia Phillips. Alimpich's mother is of Croatian descent. Their family made strudel year-round.

"My grandmothers, who came from Europe, made strudel

and I mentioned it to my friend Sandy whose grandmother used to make it and would she like to make it sometime," said Alimpich of Plymouth. "I also mentioned it to Suzana and asked if she would help us along. She's of Albanian descent but grew up in Macedonia. Her foods are similar to the way we cook but Suzana had a different way of doing this so several of us of various Slavic ethnicities got together to practice making strudel. My family made huge batches. Suzana had us break the big ball into smaller balls."

Alimpich's family would try stretching the large dough ball over the table as her grandmother did. With Pallaska's method, they ended up making and then splitting about eight or nine strudel with a variety of fillings between themselves.

"She had one of those old metal tables and would hang the dough over the sides," said Alimpich. "It was always covered in an old sheet or tablecloth so you're picking up the cloth and the dough just sort of rolls."

STRUDEL-SAVVY

Muriel remembers her mother making as many as seven batches of strudel in one morning. She tells the story of her mother, Mary Medunic, then age 14, coming over on a German ship three weeks before World War I started. She was from Yugoslavia, a Croatian



Suzana Pallaska (left) and Marilyn Alimpich stretch dough during a day of strudel making at Alimpich's Plymouth home.

province under Austrian rule. "She was an expert at it," said Muriel Alimpich, 86. "She could stretch it all the way down past the table, no holes ever. She had gotten it down that well. She made cottage cheese and apple strudel. My husband loves Hubbard squash so she would make that. She also used to make cherries and walnuts. Nobody like the sauteed cabbage but me. I loved cabbage. I miss the strudel so maybe one day I'll buckle down and make some." Pallaska remembers her mom making it as well when she was a girl.

"It's our food. I make those all the time for my kids," said Pallaska. "Strudel can be made as a sweet with apples, but if we want main food like a meal we make with spinach; cabbage; cheese, eggs and yogurt, whatever you want, leeks, onions and mush-



Muriel Alimpich (left), her daughter Marilyn Alimpich, Sandy Kline, Suzana Pallaska, and Kline's mother Sonia Phillips show off their finished strudel. The day-long baking extravaganza took place in Marilyn Alimpich's Plymouth home.

rooms, and tomatoes. Everybody makes it over there all the time."

SLAVIC TRADITIONS

Sandy Kline wanted to learn the skill of making strudel so the tradition doesn't die. Her father is Macedonian, her mother Sonia Phillips, Ukrainian. The Republic of Macedonia declared its independence from Yugoslavia in 1991 as did Croatia.

"Macedonians don't call it strudel but Zelnick," said Kline, who met Marilyn Alimpich through Plymouth Business & Professional Women. "Marilyn and I have been friends for years and have Slavic backgrounds and talk about different foods of our ethnicities. There are so many similarities between different countries. My grandmother, baba, used to come

to our house and make it from scratch. It's like phyllo dough and you put whatever fillings you want. Macedonians use more savory fillings, cottage cheese. My favorite is cabbage, cheese and leeks. Greeks call it spanikopita and fill it with spinach and cheese. It's all kind of similar because we're all in that area."

Kline was making the dough-filled creations last Friday with her mother and sister-in-law, Robin Phillips, who has a culinary arts degree from Schoolcraft College. The zelnick would be a special Easter treat for the family.

"Every holiday my godparents would bring zelnick," said Kline. "My family's really excited somebody's going to carry on the tradition because everyone else is too old to make it or gone."

BASIC STRUDEL RECIPE

Suzana Pallaska bakes by "feel," not a written recipe. This is not an exact science. She brought the recipe with her to Michigan from Macedonia 10 years ago.

MACEDONIAN STRUDEL

Yields: About 8-9 rolls


Approximately 4 pounds
King Arthur flour
2 whole eggs
2 teaspoons salt
2 tablespoons vinegar (they used cider, could be white)
1 cup warm water
¼ pound butter plus ¼ cup canola or olive oil, warmed together
cornstarch
Fillings: cottage cheese, grated apple, cherry, grated yellow squash, sautéed cabbage, spinach, anything you like

Cover table with clean cloth on which to stretch and roll dough.

Mix together in a bowl, or on board or table, flour, eggs, salt, vinegar, ½ cup water at first, then add another ½ cup water as the dough firms up while you're mixing it. Mix using a spoon and as it gets firmer, by hand.

Once firm, knead the dough until dimples disappear. Since this quantity makes a lot of strudel, divide the dough into several small balls then pat with cornstarch before flattening them into approximately 8-inch rounds (using a rolling pin). Stack two to three of the flat sheets together, spreading a warmed mix of butter and oil on top of each. This keeps the dough from drying too fast.

Stretch each set of flattened dough separately until very thin. Dab small quantities of filling across about ⅓ to ½ of the dough. Pick up one end of the tablecloth and use it to roll the strudel over the filling until you have a single roll. Place onto a lightly greased baking pan (you may have to "snake" it around the inside of the pan) and spread more butter-oil mixture on top. Bake at 350 degrees for about 30 minutes. Cut, eat and enjoy!



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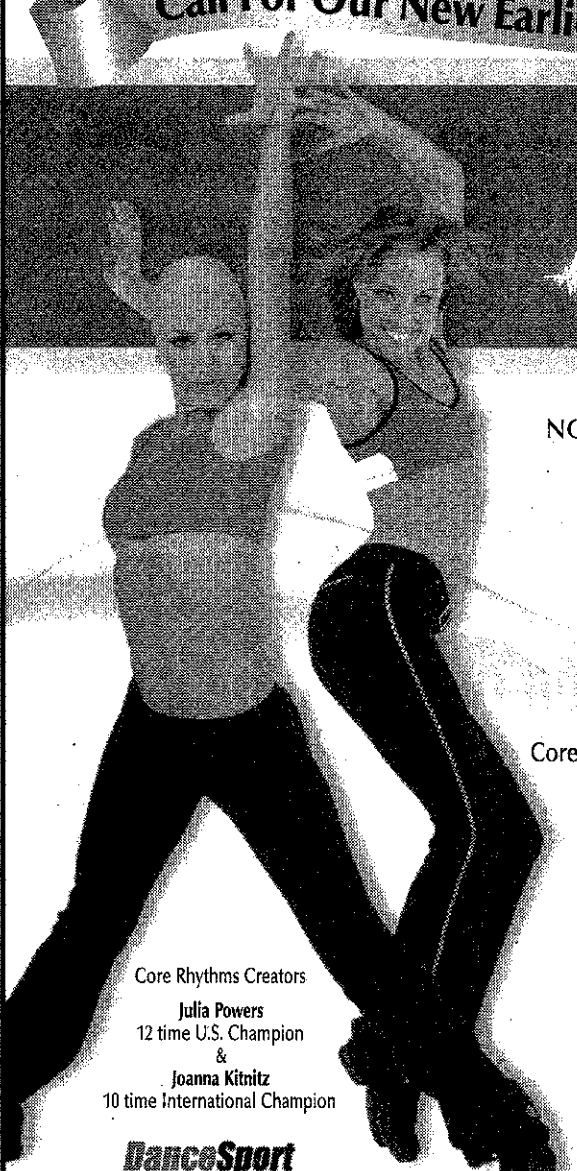
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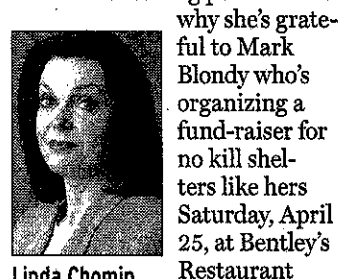
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Fund-raiser to help guardian angels

Sandy Mezza is a guardian angel. No, she doesn't hover around human beings. The Westland woman takes animals no one else wants and finds them forever homes. She's been doing it for 10 years, but it's not always easy. Mezza sometimes reaches a breaking point. That's



Linda Chomin

why she's grateful to Mark Blondy who's organizing a fund-raiser for no kill shelters like hers Saturday, April 25, at Bentley's Restaurant in West Bloomfield.

Mezza started caring for strays with other groups, but eventually went on her own to found Guardian Angel Animal Rescue. Over the years, she's taken in cats, dogs, snakes, birds, and hamsters. A week ago Saturday, she was on her way to PetSmart in Commerce for an adoption event. Mezza is there every Saturday from 1-4 p.m. During the summer, she holds dog washes every other

Sunday at Specialty Pet Supplies in Plymouth to raise money. By day, she works in advertising at Kroger, but her free time is devoted to the animals. She is one of the many guardian angels helping homeless animals through several rescue groups in the area.

"There are a lot of groups that call themselves no kill and aren't," said Mezza. "I was caring for a colony of feral cats behind a fast food restaurant in Canton. There were probably 100. I spent almost five years trapping them, taming them and adopting them out to good homes."

Foster homes are Mezza's first choice for rescued animals, but when none are available the overflow of dogs and cats are kept at a kennel in Flint. Currently the group has about four dog foster homes and six cat fosters. Mezza estimates she has about 20 dogs and 50 cats ready to go to good homes.

"Because we're a no kill we have a lot of hard-to-adopt animals, some have seizures. We keep them if they can live a good quality life and all they need is

medication or socialization," said Mezza. "We just placed a hard-to-adopt dog last week. He was 7 years old and left outside his whole life from a puppy. He's very needy. We found an older woman who saw him and fell in love with him and he follows her around everywhere."

The barking in the back-ground doesn't seem to bother Mezza as she drives a car full of dogs to PetSmart in Commerce. Another carload is coming from the kennel in Flint. The non-profit consists of about 25 volunteers including cat coordinator Donna Johnson of Canton.

"There's probably more sadness than good stuff because of the stuff you see," said Mezza. "Sometimes I say I can't do that anymore but then you look at their cute faces."

Mark Blondy has a soft spot for furry faces just like Mezza. Rescue groups were his first thought when coming up with the idea for Pets & Bets, a project for his Self Expression and Leadership class at Landmark Education development and training company in Livonia. The event features an afternoon

of family fun with a pet fashion contest and adoptable animals, and an evening for grown-ups with a Casino, Texas Hold'em Tournament and dinner.

"I have a close friend who's rescued dogs before my very eyes and gave me a taste of what it's like," said Blondy, who grew up with dogs and currently lives with one. "Pets & Bets (the fund-raiser) allows me to be involved with what I have a passion for and I'm practicing the skills I've learned in class. The casino portion goes to Sandy's group. The other rescue groups will get the money from what's left of ticket sales, an auction, antique appraisals, a light-hearted tarot card reader. The site lists all the different vendors and rescue groups that will have ferrets, birds, dogs and cats for adoption. They're all donating time and services and making it happen. It's one person's dream but starts with us sharing with one another for this noble effort for these animals. We're getting the word out about these groups and we can make a difference for the rescue groups and the animals in need of a home.



Sandy Mezza of Westland with Blondy, a stray dog from Detroit, and Carly, a 4-month-old female kitten from a kill shelter. Both are considered hard to adopt because Blondy is 12 years old and very shy, and Carly tested positive for feline leukemia but is doing well now. Mezza is founder of Guardian Angel Animal Rescue.

"Somebody out there can really make difference."

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.

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The correct date of the public hearing for the proposed water system improvements of approximately 7,750 feet of water main construction along Thornapple Drive, Valencia Street, Seven Mile Road and Pickford Avenue, is **Monday, April 27, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at Township Hall located at 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, Michigan 48168.**

Publish: April 12 & 16, 2009

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Highland Park Housing Commission is requesting proposals for Professional Architectural Services to implement the Capital Fund Program, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Funds, Fair Housing Act and ADA Compliance Certification. A Request for Qualifications packet can be obtained by an email to general@highlandparkhc.org or by mail at the address listed below. All final proposals must be submitted by April 30, 2009 at 5:00 pm EST by mail:

Attn: Dorene Jamerson, Highland Park Housing Commission, 13725 John R. Street, Highland Park, MI 48203, (313) 868-4500 phone.

Publish: April 12 and 19, 2009

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Publish: April 6 and April 12, 2009

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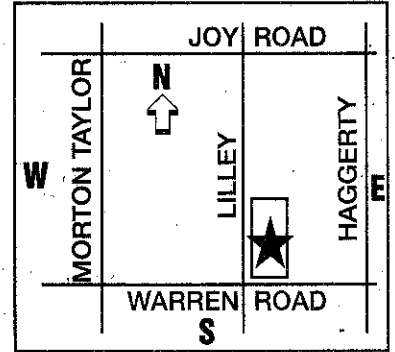
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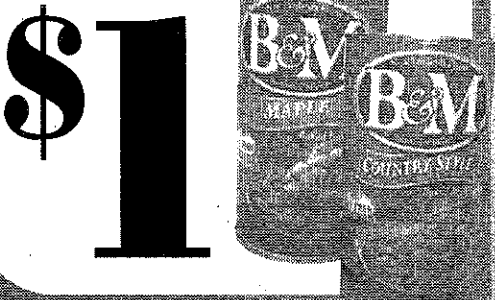
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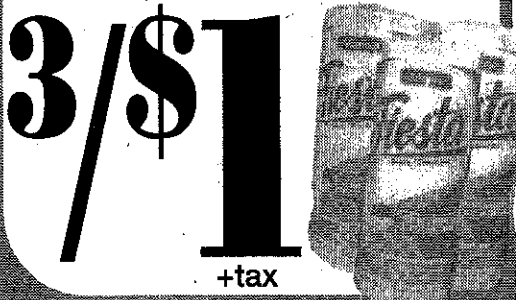
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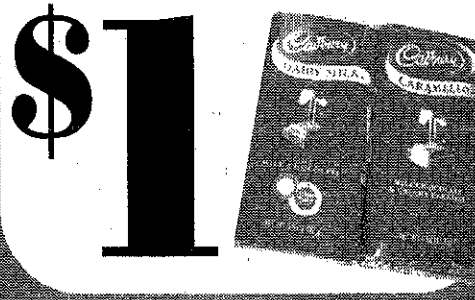
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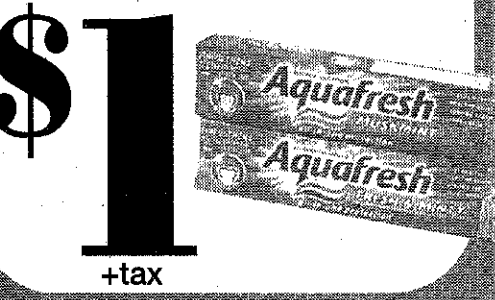
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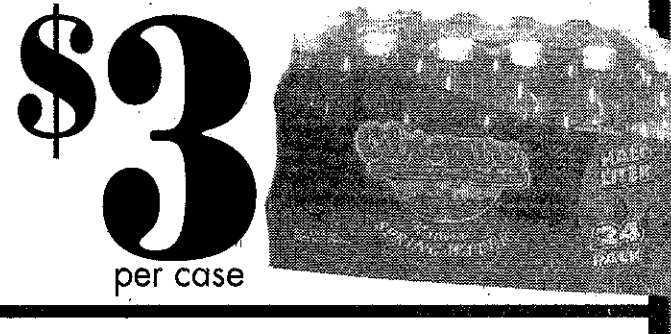
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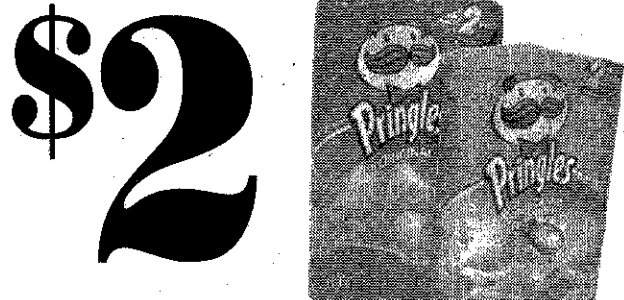
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MILESTONES

Maxwell Lucas Quiambao

Maxwell Lucas Quiambao was born at 11:24 p.m., Feb. 7, 2009, at St. Joseph Hospital in Ann Arbor. He was 20 inches long and weighed 6 pounds, 15 ounces.

His parents are Cassie and Edmund Quiambao of Pinckney. Grandparents are Julie and Bill Skrent of Livonia and Robin Jackson and John



Maxwell Lucas Quiambao

Castro of Lake Orion. Great-grandparents are John and Betty Schaar of Livonia.

Brandon Richard Gordon

Brandon Richard Gordon was born on March 17, 2009, in St. John's Hospital. He weighed 8 pounds 3 ounces. Proud parents are to Laura and Rick Gordon, of Chesterfield Township. Brandon joins two sisters, Gillian, age 5, and Rebecca, age 1.

Grandparents are Ed Stephens, of Dallas, Ga., and Joann Stephens of Redford. Step-grandfather is Mike Cortell who lives in Redford.



Brandon Richard Gordon

65th anniversary

Jane and Les Bowden will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary on April 15 with their daughter, Darleen Sweeney; grandchildren, Debbie (Jason) Sprawka, Donald (Erica) Sweeney and two great-grandsons, David and Aidan Sweeney.

The couple resides in Ft. Worth, Fla., and Livonia.



Jane and Les Bowden

Michael Donat Deschaw

Michael Donat Deschaw was born Oct. 13, 2008, at University of Michigan Hospital, Ann Arbor, to Genevieve Leclair and Ryan Deschaw of Plymouth.

Grandparents are Diane Leclair of Plymouth, Teresa Deschaw of Plymouth, Don and Barb Leclair of Canton and Larry and Wanda Deschaw of Plymouth.

Great-grandparents are June Lazarus of Venice, Fla., and



Michael Donat Deschaw

Barbara Leclair of Fairfield Glade, Tenn.

Camden R. Schlaud

Camden R. Schlaud was born at 9:53 a.m., Feb. 28, 2009, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, in Ann Arbor, to Rick and Amy Schlaud of Canton. He weighed 6 pounds, 7 ounces and measured 16 1/2 inches.

Camden joins older brother, Cole, at home. Grandparents are Rudy and Lou Cervantes of Canton, Kathy Schlaud



Camden R. Schlaud

and Lindsay Schlaud, both of Lapeer.

Fry-Naylor

Carolyn LeeAnna Fry and Stuart Allen Naylor plan to marry in June 2009 in Kualoa Ranch, Oahu, Hawaii.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Gary and Mary Beth Fry of Plymouth. She graduated in 1999 from Plymouth Salem High School and from the University of Michigan in 2003. She holds a bachelor of arts degree in Japanese language and has done post-graduate work at University of Hawaii. She teaches Japanese at Aiea High School, Aiea, Hawaii.

Her fiancé, son of Greg and Gail Naylor of Jackson, graduated in 1999 from



Carolyn Fry and Stuart Naylor

Marmion Academy, Aurora Ill., and from the University of Michigan with a bachelor of science degree in biomedical engineering in 2003. He is a quality assurance engineer for Tissue Genesis, Inc., Honolulu, Hawaii.



Amanda Wilson and Robert Baker

Wilson-Baker

Joe and Kathy Wilson of Westland announce the engagement of their daughter, Amanda, to Robert Baker, son of Jim and Teresa Baker of Twin Lake.

The bride-to-be will graduate in May from Eastern Michigan University with a secondary education degree. Her fiancé graduated from Concordia and works as a management trainee with Enterprise.

The couple plans to wed in June 2010 at the Baker's home on Twin Lake.

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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.

NEIGHBORS MEETING

Livonia Neighbors & Friends, a Livonia women's club, will hold its next meeting 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 14, at Emmanuel Lutheran Church on Seven Mile, west of Gill Road, Livonia. New members are always welcome. A surprise speaker will be make an appearance.

For more information, visit LivoniaNeighborsFriends@hotmail.com. For questions, call Dorrie at (248) 777 3848.

THE GRAVEYARD SHIFT

The Western Wayne County Genealogical Society meets 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 20, at the Livonia Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road and Five Mile, in Livonia. The main speaker, following the business meeting, is Diane Oslund on The Grave Yard Shift. Oslund will include tips on finding ancestors' burial sites and will answer the questions "Why bother?" and "How important is it anyhow?" She is the current vice president of the Ford Genealogy Club. The 6:30 p.m. program will be Stephanie Smith discussing how to use jump drives and thumb drives.

The meetings are open to the public. Guests are always welcome. For more information, visit www.rootsweb.com/~miwwcgs/.

SPRING FLING

Emmanuel Lutheran Church and their Special Needs Ministry Team invite anyone with special needs to a Spring Fling Dance, 6:30-8 p.m. Saturday, May 16, at the church, 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia. This event is designed for adults with cognitive and developmental disabilities, other special needs, and caretakers. The event includes music, fun, friendship, snacks and beverages. Space is limited, so reservations are required. Call Judy Cook at (248) 442-8822, or e-mail elc-ed@arounddetroit.biz no later than Friday, May 8.

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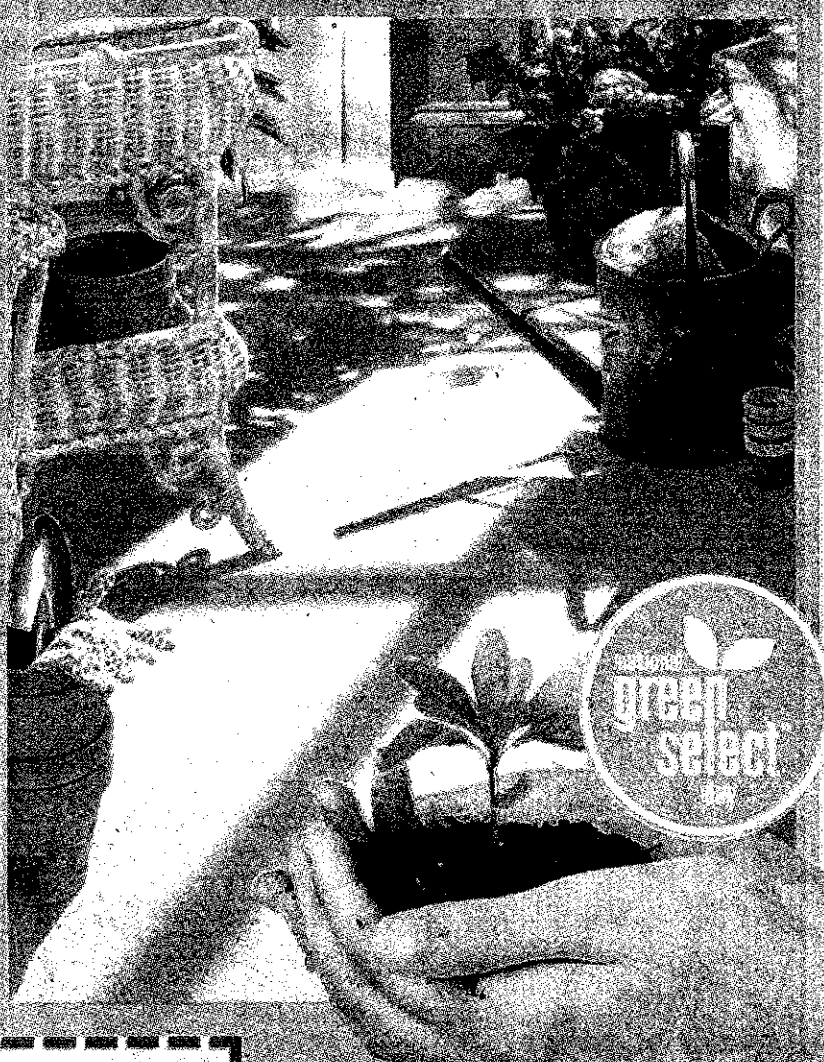
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HEALTH & FITNESS

VegFest promotes the benefits of a plant-based diet

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Dr. Joel Kahn brings up plant-based diets to most, if not all, of his patients at the Michigan Heart Group in Troy. Over the last 20 years he's seen an increase in the number of younger people seeking treatment for cardiovascular disease and it troubles him as a cardiologist.

That's why he's looking forward to speaking about the topic at VegFest, a plant-based tastefest and expo Sunday, April 26, at Ferndale High School. The event is presented by VegMichigan, a nonprofit organization promoting the health, environmental and ethical benefits of a plant-based diet. Kahn quit eating meat 25 years ago and went vegan (no dairy products) for the last 10.

"I'm now seeing a lot of patients in their 40s who are not necessarily smokers or diabetics. I'm concerned about the trend of people gaining weight and exercising less," said Kahn, medical director of cardiac rehabilitation at Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak. "I'll be speaking about the most common disease of heart attacks and strokes caused by clogging of arteries, disease that's preventable and that it's better to prevent than reverse it. Diet and lifestyle is a major component."

Kahn believes a plant-based diet is safe for everyone.

"Plants provide every nutrient even if you're an exerciser," said Kahn, a West Bloomfield resident who does a combination of swimming, yoga and exercise on machines 30 to 60 minutes a day. "Diabetics can safely use vegan diets. It's probably the healthiest diet choice. I think the key is to read. The VegFest is a great place to get started. Most doctors get little training in nutrition and it's usually funded by the milk and

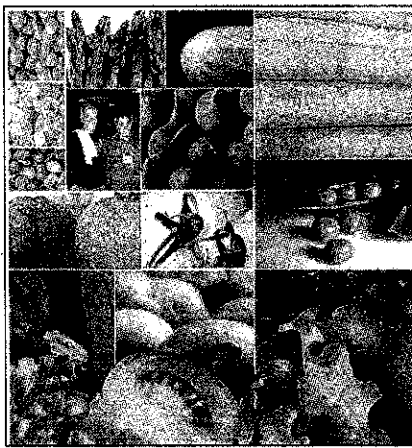
VEGFEST

What: VegMichigan hosts annual vegetarian tastefest featuring food from local restaurants, lectures, cooking and raw food demonstrations, exhibitors, free samples and literature

When: Noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 26

Where: Ferndale High School, 881 Pinecrest, south of Nine Mile, west of Woodward

Tickets: \$10 adults, \$5 students, free for children under age 6 and VegMichigan members. For discounted tickets and memberships in advance, visit www.VegMichigan.org or call (877) 778-3464.



children is eliminating saturated fats, cholesterol, a totally animal based product. Fat content is lower. There's a lower risk of diabetes, heart disease, obesity. All of those problems are increasing."

Sylwestrzak referred to a recent Ohio State-Temple University study as proof that even young children are overweight. The research showed one in five 4-year-olds are obese.

"I personally have seen more and more older kids with Type 2 diabetes taking medication in the last 5 or 6 years and an increase especially in overweight children due to the standard American diet of too much fast food, processed food, not enough fruits and vegetables, not enough activity. Like any diet it should be well thought out and planned, take into account requirements for B-12, vitamin D and calcium. If you make a good attempt to have a variety of foods every day you're probably going to be good."

The irony, she said, is pediatricians routinely tell parents to feed their child nothing but fruits, vegetables and grains for the first nine months.

"They're basically vegan," said Sylwestrzak. "There are benefits for kids of all ages, but different things you have to keep in

mind whether infant or adolescent. At VegFest I'm part of the ask the experts panel, an open forum, and a group of us will answer questions on anything related to a plant-based diet."

Harry Pianko went vegetarian 10 years ago and quit eating dairy products five years ago. As president of VegMichigan, he's looking forward to sharing information about healthy food choices at VegFest (formerly The Great American Meatout).

Pianko learned about vegetarian food from a college friend born in India. He quit eating meat after learning about the health benefits, cruelty perpetrated on the animals during factory farming and the resulting pollution and damage to the environment.

Before long he noticed the physical changes, which included an increase in energy and loss of weight. The 31-year-old Birmingham resident hasn't taken a sick day as vice president of finance and business operations for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society's Michigan chapter since 2000.

"It's a big vegetarian festival. We bring in speakers, local and national, to tell the benefits of a plant-based diet," said Pianko. "I'm especially excited about our keynote speaker John Salley who went vegetarian with the Pistons and is now vegan and going to share his story. There are people who want to quit eating meat but want to know where to get information. We have 13 or 14 restaurants confirmed like Q'doba and Inn Season who give out samples. For those who ask 'but how do I cook it,' we also have food demonstrations cooking everything from quinoa (a grain) to a smoothie. We're looking for-

ward to educating people who normally don't know about the benefits of a plant-based diet. We'd like to encourage people even if you're a meat

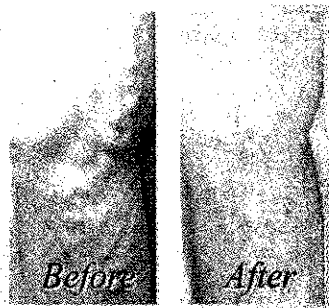
eater or just curious to check out VegFest and VegMichigan. We hope to get more meat eaters than vegetarians to show people how great it is."

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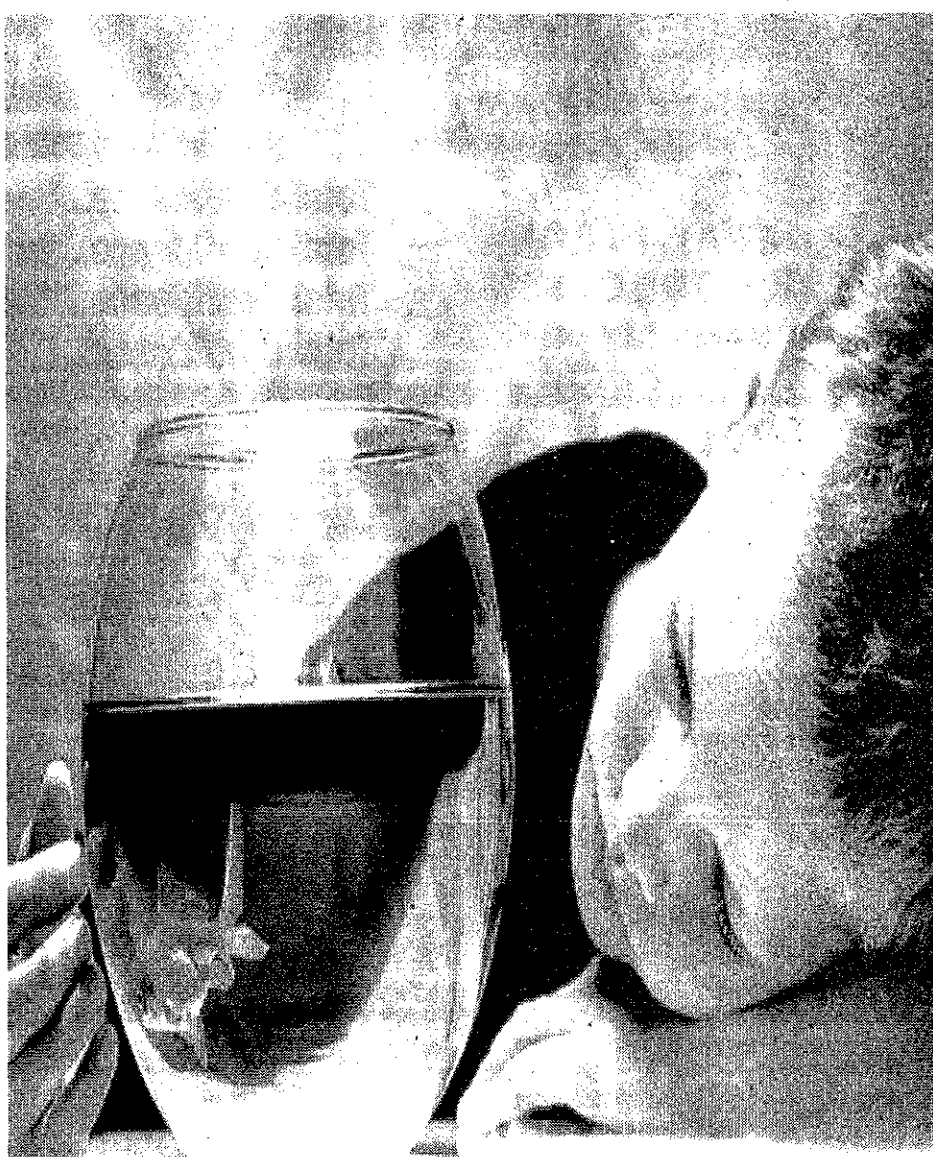
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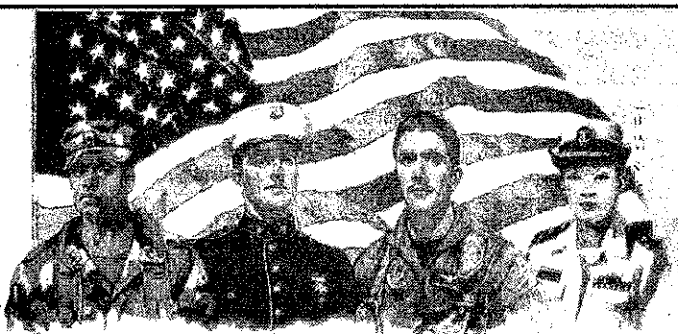
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<p>New 2009 Ford Escape XLT FWD Sun & Sync Value PKG</p> <p>Was \$25,370</p> <p>A/Z Plan Purchase \$18,109*</p> <p>OR...</p> <p>36 Months/36,000 Miles Lease \$293* PER MO. \$1743 Due at Signing</p> <p>Stock #91461</p> 	<p>New 2009 Ford Mustang GT CPE</p> <p>Was \$32,840</p> <p>A/Z Plan Purchase \$24,226**</p> <p>OR...</p> <p>36 Months/36,000 Miles Lease \$332* PER MO. \$2814 Due at Signing</p> <p>Stock #90002</p> 

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