

CONNECTION

Faith grants

The Plymouth Salvation Army, which has programs to help low-income and needy people with rental assistance, utility bills, food and more, now has a way to reach out to those who've recently lost their jobs.

"Faith Stimulus Grants" are grants intended to help the newly unemployed. Using matching funds from the Plymouth Community United Way, the Plymouth Salvation Army (which covers Canton, Plymouth, Northville and Belleville) may be able to assist with rent, utilities, medical care and food (spiritual counseling and volunteer opportunities are also available).

To provide the assistance, Salvation Army staffers must be able to verify applicants' enddate of work. Proof can come in the form of a letter of separation or proof of unemployment from the state.

Laurie Aren, the Plymouth Salvation Army's director of Family and Community Ministries, said she understands the reluctance to ask for help.

"We know that reaching out is hard," Aren said. "We know you have been our donors and now may be in need. We want to help you, as you have helped us so faithfully in the past." Faith Stimulus Grant funds

Faith Stimulus Grant funds expire Sept. 30. For more information call the Plymouth Salvation Army, (734) 453-5464.

Just like eBay

Parents wanting to pay on-line for everything from athletic payto-play fees to meals are now able to do so after Plymouth Canton Community Schools officials went on-line this week with a PaySchools option. On-line payments for high school and middle school athletic fees and cafeteria accounts are now available, with plans to add to elementary school cafeteria accounts and other fees coming in the near future, according to James Larson-Shidler, the district's assistant superintendent for business services. Benefits of the program include 24/7 access on-line, the ability to view account history and the assurance of private and secure transmissions. The district, for example, does not see any banking or credit card information, Larson-Shidler pointed out. The link includes frequently asked questions and easy-to-follow instructions on how to get started.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Barbara Gondick of Canton brought Abbie, a Jack Russell terrier, to the first Paws in the Park event in Heritage Park Saturday.

Paw print

Animal event raises awareness, money

BY BRAD KADRICH Observer Staff Writer

Jessica Durkin of Plymouth boils the issue of whether Canton should have a park dedicated to dogs down to one simple question:

"Kids have parks, why shouldn't dogs?" The philosophy was the primary reason Durkin was in Canton's Heritage Park Sunday with her husband, Terry, their boxer, Apollo, and their pug, Owen, to support the first Paws



'Express' rolls with 30 riders

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A new commuter bus line between Canton and Ann Arbor rolled into service Monday, drawing about 30 passengers as transportation officials scrutinize ways to build ridership.

"It's about what we expected," said Neil Greenberg, the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority's service development and communications coordinator.

Canton resident Julie Vanderhoff, a teacher at Thurston Elementary School in Ann Arbor, caught a morning ride in Independence Park on Denton Road south of Cherry Hill, then returned on an afternoon bus with passengers who otherwise would have driven separately.

"I was setting up my classroom," she said after she got off bus.

When asked to describe her trip, Vanderhoff said, "It was wonderful. It's comfortable, and it's good for the environment. That's why I'm doing it."

Vanderhoff brought a friend's son, 8-year-old Bennett Barker, back from Ann Arbor so he could visit her 9-year-old son Calvin, who was waiting in Independence Park along with Vanderhoff's mother, Gladys Lock.

The new service, dubbed Canton Express, leaves the park at 6:05 a.m. and 7:17 a.m. Monday through Friday and returns passengers to the same spot at 4:16 p.m. and 5:49 p.m., with multiple stops in between. It's intended for riders from Canton and neighboring communities who work, shop or have other business in Ann Arbor.

The 55-seat buses make stops at the Cherry Hill-Ridge Road intersection in Canton's Cherry Hill Village, not far from business owner Michael Provenzano's Le Cocca Bean Chocolatier & Coffee House. He said some riders stopped in Monday morning before catching the bus.

"It gives good exposure to our Village," Provenzano said.

The buses make numerous stops at the University of Michigan Medical Center, U-M's campus and downtown Ann Arbor. Greenberg has said more than 3,000 Canton residents work for U-M, and another 1,000 or so are employed elsewhere in the city.

Canton Express can help commuters save fuel costs and mileage on their own vehicles and avoid Ann Arbor parking fees. The service is offered free for the first two weeks. Afterward, it will cost \$125 a month for a full-time commuter pass, with some employers paying half the tab; \$40 for 10 rides within a year; or \$5 for a single, one-way trip.

Once it's up and running, the on-line payment option can be linked on the district's Web site at www.pccs.k12.mi.us. in the Park fund-raiser. More on Paws in the Park, A6. The event was designed to raise money both for the Humane Society of Huron Valley

and Canton's effort to establish a three-acre dog park adjacent to the Bartlett-Travis property on Ridge.

The Durkins, who frequently walk their dogs in Plymouth and wouldn't mind seeing their own community establish a dog park, are fully supportive of the idea in Canton.

"I think it's a good idea," Jessica Durkin said. "Dogs should have a place to be social and play."

All the events provided volunteers for one of the beneficiaries of the event — the Humane Society of Huron Valley — a chance to educate the public about their own existence (many people, they say, don't know HSHV is the place for animal issues in Plymouth and Canton, not to mention all of Washtenaw County), microchip identification and to adopt out pets to good homes.

Over the course of the weekend, 20 animals found new homes. Midwest Small Dog Rescue had nine small dogs adopted, while HSHV adopted out six dogs and five kittens. Just as importantly, HSHV volunteers did outreach work to educate the public.

"A lot of people don't know HSHV is the service area for Canton," said Deb Kern, HSHV's marketing director. "It was so important for us to do this outreach."

BY BRAD KADRICH

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When Plymouth-Canton Community Schools

After a summer where many fewer students left

"(Enrollment) is still a moving target, and there

are positions to be filled," Ray Bihun, the district's

assistant superintendent for human resources,

ing Tuesday. "That's why we're able to bring all

When administrators looked at enrollment figures toward the end of last school year, it

appeared Plymouth-Canton was down more than 480 students from their Fall 2008 student count.

But when they went back to the figures earlier this month, turns out the district as a whole

· 4 ,

told Board of Education members at their meet-

for charter schools and enrollment didn't drop the

way they thought it might, officials have brought

administrators issued layoff notices in April, as

required by the teachers union contract, they

were expecting to lose some 200 students to

Canton charter schools, so 50 teachers were

issued pink slips.

all 50 of them back.

these teachers back."



Scout, a border collie, competes in the air dog competition at Saturday's Paws in the Park event.

Kern estimated 35 percent of the animals coming in to HSHV don't make it back to their owners, and attributes it largely to the lack of knowledge about HSHV's purpose.

"We put them up for adoption," Kern said of stray animals. "But they were someone's pets." Robin Liberatore of Canton hopes the event helps and the dog park becomes a reality.

"Canton always has nice events, and this was great," said Liberatore, at the event with daughters Reagan and Sarah, who are all in favor of the dog park. "It'll be nice for the dogs to have a place to go."

O'Brien said the event could never have succeeded without the help of Canton officials and dozens of volunteers. "We couldn't have done it without them," she said — and pointed out that, if nothing else, the event provided a social opportunity and a chance to raise awareness.

"What we noticed was for a lot of the people their animals are their 'kids," O'Brien said. "So this was a chance to come out and have a day with their 'kids." Please see EXPRESS, A2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

First-day bus riders disembark the Canton Express at Independence Park in Canton.

Index

Apartments C3
Automotive C6
Career Builder C5
CROSSWORD PUZZLE C2
Filter B8
FOOD & WINE B9
Obituaries B6
PUBLIC SAFETY A4
Real Estate C2
SERVICE GUIDE C3
SPORTS B1

For Home Delivery call: (866) 887-2737



District brings back 50 teachers

is actually up some 30 students. Enrollment is down at both the elementary (69) and middle school (49) levels, but is up at the high school park (149).

In a memo to board members, Bihun said a "steep decline" in enrollment in the March/June numbers, the district reduced staffing by 8.5 teachers at that level. Since then, enrollment has climbed, classrooms were added back at Bentley, Farrand, Dodson, Hulsing, Isbister and Workman elementaries, necessitating the return of 6.5 fulltime equivalents.

While middle school numbers didn't change, enrollment at the high schools - up 149 students allowed the district to bring back six teachers.

Figures provided by Bihun show the district expects to have 18,844 students, up 31 from the September 2008 head count. Current numbers (which will certainly change by the Sept. 8 opening of school) show 8,335 students in 16 elementary schools, 4,306 middle schoolers in five schools and 6,203 at the district's three high schools.

"I'm very optimistic," Bihun told the board.

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-8899



FROM PAGE A1

A2

For more information about the service, log on to www. a2express.org and click on Canton Express, or call (734) 996-0400.

"We've had requests from Canton for this for a long time," said Mary Stasiak, AATA manager of community relations, standing in Independence Park just before the first return bus arrived precisely on schedule.

A similar service already is in place with Chelsea.

ÂATA officials acknowledged the bus lines won't accommodate all work schedules, and they said it's possible they could tweak or add new departing and arrival times depending on how successful the service becomes.

"It's really meant to serve individuals who have a pretty consistent work schedule," Stasiak said.

Vanderhoff estimated she will use Canton Express a couple of days a week, saying she would use it more if the ride home fit her schedule a little better.



Julie Vanderhoff was the first rider off the Ann Arbor-to-Canton commuter bus.

Township officials have agreed to provide as many as 100 parking spaces at Independence Park for commuters.

Meanwhile, Greenberg said **Canton Express organizers** will continue to seek ways to increase ridership, possibly by asking homeowners associations to include information in newsletters. He said AATA officials didn't expect packed buses on the first day, yet they are hopeful the service will become more popular.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2238



Wayne County, IT firm open **Plymouth Township tech center**

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

It's appropriate that football season has started, because Wayne County and Plymouth Township officials apparently made a gamesaving tackle that kept alive a partnership with technology expert Secure-24 both sides say should be mutually lucrative.

The county and Secure-24, which provides IT security products and systems, along with Plymouth Township and various government officials, cut the ribbon Tuesday on the \$5 million, 18,000-square-foot Wayne County Technology Resource Center on Helm Court in Plymouth Township. Among the guests were Plymouth Township Treasurer Ron Edwards and Wayne County Commissioners Laura Cox, R-Livonia, whose district includes Plymouth, and Joan Gebhardt, D-Livonia, whose district includes Westland and part of Livonia.

The facility was designed to "offer and deliver critical IT services" to all 43 communities in Wayne County, as well as "creating capacity for private business IT services," according to Secure-24 vice president of sales Matt Wenzler. The center provides communities Information Technology infrastructure and disaster recovery services.

"Michigan doesn't have the kind of inclement weather issues that would cause us problems." said Wenzler, who pointed out Michigan is one of three states never to have a federally declared natural disaster. "They're using it as an economic incentive for out-of-state business to come here."

It was almost built to attract business to northern Ohio, which is where Secure-24 management had actually decided to build the center before Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and Plymouth Township officials made them an offer they decided not to refuse, a deal that included tax incentives that drew the firm back into the state.

OBSERVER NEWSPAPERS

c) GANNETT

HOW TO REACH US

Home Delivery/Customer Service.....1-866-88-PAPER (866-887-2737)

Classified Advertising......1-800-579-SELL (7355)

online at hometownlife.com

615 West Lafayette, Detroit, MI 48226

..(734) 582-8363

Display Advertising.....

WHERE HOMETOWN STORIES UNFOLD



JAMES WALLACE

Matt Wenzler of Secure-24, Tahir Kazmi of Wayne County, Plymouth Township Treasurer Ron Edwards, Wayne County **Executive Robert Ficano and Wayne County Commissioners** Laura Cox and Joan Gebhardt cut the ribbon on the new technology center in Plymouth Township.

'We were going to leave until we were armwrestled to the ground by Wayne County and Plymouth Township," Wenzler said. "We were headed to Ohio, but Wayne County and Plymouth Township enticed us to stay here."

Both sides are calling the deal "a unique private/public partnership" that will reduce costs and create capacity for IT services for both government and private enterprise.

"It's the wave of the future," said Ficano, who said the deal would save the county some \$2 million per year. "In the past, government did its own IT work, and we couldn't keep up with the private sector. This shows we have the ability to think out of the box, and it shows government can function with a private entity.

Secure-24 invested an initial \$5 million to build the facility and expects its total investment to exceed \$10 million over the next several years. The facility, officials said, brings 40-50 jobs to the township now, but Secure-24 officials say the facility will generate more than 250 jobs in the county.

CORRECTION

In the story, "Bond work on target as schools get remodeled," about **Plymouth-Canton school** construction projects in the Aug. 23 Canton Observer, the quote from Plymouth-**Canton Community Schools Deputy Superintendent** Ken Jacobs, speaking about work being done on the E.J. McClendon Educational Center on Harvey, should have read, "This was always part of the plan from the start ... This was a need, not a want.*





You deserve the best dialysis care available.

Accepting New Dialysis Patients Fresenius Medical Care Sheldon Corners 6064 North Sheldon Road, Canton, MI

CALL US to learn more about Fresenius Medical Care Sheldon Corners. Schedule a tour of our spacious, friendly facility with heated massage chairs, cable TV, and ample parking. Our experienced and courteous staff will be glad to answer your questions and fully explain all the dialysis treatment options and flexible scheduling available to our patients.

For more information call Stacey Webster at (734) 207-3674.

Learn about the latest treatment technologies available to the Canton dialysis community including:

- * Fresenius Dialysis Machines
- * Single-use Dialyzers
- * High-flux Dialyzers
- On Line Clearance Monitoring
- Adequacy Monitoring Program (AMP)
- * Urea Kinetic Modeling (UKM)
- DiaSafe Filters Yielding Ultrapure Dialysate



AROUND CANTON

"Around Canton" is designed to announce upcoming events taking place in the community. Items will run on a space-available basis. Send details to bkadrich@hometownlife. com

Health screening

Meijer Pharmacy, located on Ford Road at Canton Center, will be holding their monthly health screening clinic 8 a.m. to noon Thursday, Sept. 3.

Cholesterol, dïabetes, and liver function screening are available at a very affordable cost. Appointments are required; please contact the pharmacy for details at (734) 844-2733.

Village Faire

Step back in time and enjoy the Village Faire noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 30 at the Preservation Park, formerly known as the site of the Bartlett-Travis House, located at 500 N. Ridge.

Enjoy a simpler time and pay tribute to Canton's rich history and heritage as you watch historical demonstrations, such as: cooking, knitting, blacksmithing, candlemaking and plowing. There will also be music, face painting, a petting farm, guided tours of the Bartlett-Travis House and more. We'll offer a variety of activities for the whole family.

And don't miss the alwaysirresistible corn roast sponsored by the Canton Lions Club. Food wristbands will be on sale at the event, and preregistration is not necessary.

Residents of all ages are welcome to this free event, brought to you by Canton Leisure Services in partnership with the Canton Historical Society and the Canton Lions Club. No registration is required. To learn more about Village Faire, visit cantonfun.org or call (734) 394-5460.

Golf scramble

Hickory Creek Golf Course hosts a Junior Golf Scramble 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29.

The event takes place at Hickory Creek Golf Course in Superior Township, just west of Canton off of Ford Road. Cost is \$25 for golf, pizza and prizes.

For more information contact Tami Bealert via e-mail at trainwithtami@yahoo.com or by calling (734) 731-0238.



BeckRidge Chorale auditions

Auditions for the BeckRidge Chorale's 2009-10 season take place Tuesday, Sept. 1 and Tuesday, Sept. 15, at First United Methodist Church in Plymouth. Singers can register for an audition by visiting www.beckridgechorale.org.

Chiefettes clinic

Youngsters who would like to be a Junior Canton Chiefette have their chance. The Chiefettes are hosting a Kids' PomPon Clinic for children ages 5-14 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29, at the Canton High School gym in the Phase III building.

Cost is \$40 per child and includes a T-shirt and snack. Discounts are available for additional siblings. Parents are invited to come see their daughters perform at noon and all girls attending the clinic will be invited to perform at the Chiefettes annual variety show on Sept. 19.

Registration is from 8:30-9 a.m. the morning of the clinic. Pre-register at www.cantonchiefettes.com before Aug. 27 and receive a \$5 discount. Registration is limited to the first 100 participants.

For more information e-mail PomClinic@cantonchiefettes. com

Bike raffle

Starting Aug. 31, Buffalo Wild Wings customers including those at the Canton location - can enter a raffle for a chance to win a one-of-akind Great American Chopper Pro-Street, valued at \$26,000, and support a great cause at the same time.

Patrons can purchase raffle tickets for \$10 each from their server, and all proceeds benefit Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan, a statewide agency whose mission is to help families cope with leukemia, lymphoma, and related blood disorders. "Buffalo Wild Wings has

really stepped up to the plate to host an amazing fund-raiser to benefit Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan," said the foundation's President & CEO William Seklar. "The money raised will help us develop more robust programs and continue to provide for the families we serve."

The grand prize raffle drawing will take place 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 7, at Buffalo Wild Wings, 1873 E. Big Beaver Road, Troy.

Mom2Mom sale

The Mothers of Preschoolers at Connection Church in Canton host a Mom2Mom sale 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12, at the church, located at 3855 Sheldon (west of I-275, north of Michigan Ave.) in Canton.

Admission is \$1. For more information, email CCMopsMom@gmail. com or call (734) 334-0486.

Junior Miss

Plymouth-Canton Junior Miss is looking for contestants to participate in this years program, which takes place Friday, Nov. 20 at the Cherry Hill Village Theater in Canton. Senior girls who will graduate from high school in 2010, reside in Plymouth or Canton and are interested in participating should go to the www. ajm.org Web site and register as a contestant.

The program is for senior girls who reside in Plymouth or Canton, no matter which high school they attend. Questions should be directed to Marissa at pcjrmiss@ yahoo.com. Officials are also still looking for volunteers who would be interested in helping with the program.

Church crafts

Connection Church (previously Tri-City Christian Center) is currently accepting applications for its annual Holiday Craft Fair 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 5.

Connection Church is located at 3855 Sheldon in Canton, north of Michigan Ave. For more information con-

tact Katy Reitz, (734) 693-5656 or katyreitz@mac.com

Canton newcomers

Interested in meeting your neighbors and getting involved with various interest groups? If so, the next monthly adult general meeting of Canton Newcomers will be held 7:15 p.m. Sept. 2, at the Sunflower Clubhouse (45800 Hanford, west of Canton Center).

The evening will include Dianne Cojei, president of the Canton Chamber of Commerce, as well as time for socializing, neighbor introductions, signups for our over 20 interest group activities (Playgroups, Bunco, Scrapbooking, Book Club, Men's Poker Night, Couples Social and more), and a raffle to benefit a local nonprofit in need.

For more information, or to receive a complimentary copy of our newsletter, please visit www.cantonnewcomers.org or call Melanie at (734) 207-3341.

Sweetest Day dance

PLAV Post #166 and VFW Post #6695 will co-host a Sweetest Day Dance 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Oct. 17, at the VFW Post located at 1436 Mill in Plymouth.

Tickets, which are tax deductible, are \$10 each and are available at the VFW lounge/club room. Entertainment will be provided by Benny Spear, of Benny and the Jets (specializing in '50s and '60s music) along with Greg Jaqua (an Elvis impersonator). There will be door prizes offered throughout the evening along with a cash bar. For more information, call

(734)459-6700.

Crafters wanted

The Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters (PCMB) is hosting its Annual Holiday Arts and Crafts Ensemble on Saturday, Nov. 21. Exhibitors who hand-craft their own items are invited to submit an application to exhibit at the fund-raising event to be held at Plymouth High School in Canton. The juried art event is produced twice each year by the PCMB to help support the band and color guard programs at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

Artists and crafters who are interested in applying for consideration to exhibit should visit www.pcmb.net/artcraft to download an application and submit with photos by June 26 for the first wave of jurying. For more details, contact exhibit coordinator Carol Rosati at (734) 455-0714. Only 100 exhibitors will be permitted to exhibit at this artistic event. Over the last four years, over 7,000 attendees have visited the PCMB Arts & Craft Ensembles.

Plymouth High School is located at 8400 Beck Road in Canton, Mich. The Holiday Arts & Craft Ensemble will be held from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Nov. 21. In addition to over 100 exhibits, there will be food, a raffle, and entertainment by local musicians and artists throughout the day. Admittance is \$2.



(C) A3



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, August 27, 2009

PUBLIC SAFETY

Canton board honors six for saving woman

Pair jailed after home invasion pleas

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Six people are credited with saving a 33-year-old woman who collapsed on a softball field at the Canton Sports Arena.

Their efforts, described by public safety officials as a textbook response, could easily have saved the life of Kimberly Lewis, who suffered what Fire Chief Michael Rorabacher described as a "cardiac problem."

Their valiant response prompted the Canton Township Board of Trustees on Tuesday to honor them for helping Lewis survive the inci-

dent, which happened around 8:30 p.m. June 28.

Steve Engebretson, a Canton sports staffer, was working when he heard a softball umpire, Jim Morris, yell "she's down." Engebretson quickly radioed the chief umpire, Dave Bartig, in the office and asked him to call 911 and bring an automatic external defibrillator, or AED, to the field.

Nick Johns, a Canton parks employee, was in the front office when the call came in, and he quickly drove Bartig and the AED out to the field, where several bystanders, players and Lewis' husband, Anthony,

were attending to her.

Meanwhile, Karen Donohue, an Oakwood nurse and teammate of Lewis, and Stephanie Schultz, a player on the opposing team, were administering CPR, and Donohue started using the AED when it was brought to the scene.

Moreover, Canton emergency medical service personnel arrived and were directed by Johns and Engebretson to the field where they took over efforts to rescue Lewis. Once Lewis was stabilized, she was taken to a hospital for further treatment.

On Tuesday, the township board honored Donohue, Schultz, Engebretson, Johns,

Bartig and Morris for their "commendable contribution" to the Canton community and to Lewis' survival.

"Thanks to you," Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin told them, Lewis "is here to play baseball another day."

Rorabacher later said Lewis survived the incident and has since attended another game to cheer on her team. He credited the team of rescuers for their efforts.

"There's such a little window with things like this," Rorabacher said. "It's nice to see everything work out like it did."

dclem@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2238

paroled in late 2008 after

in prison for incidents in

Washtenaw County that

assaulting a police officer,

felony firearms, carrying a

concealed weapon, and sec-

serving more than two years

involved resisting arrest and

No sale, so thief swipes truck

A man who refused to sell a Ford F-550 told police it was then stolen.

CRIME WATCH

The victim told police he was working on the truck, owned by the city of Detroit, at a business he owns on Ronda, southeast of Joy and Lilley. He also said he is a subcontractor for Jorgensen Ford.

The man had received a phone call from someone offering money for the truck after seeing it in the lot. The man told the caller it was owned by the city of Detroit and he couldn't sell it.

However, he said the truck was stolen sometime during a three-day period ending at 7 p.m. Saturday. He said he didn't notice any broken glass that might indicate how the thief got inside the truck.

The truck was described as a yellow, 2004 Ford F-550 truck with Detroit Lighting Department emblems on both doors and an aerial bucket on the back end.

Home invasion

Police are investigating a home invasion that occurred after a car was broken into - and personal belongings taken - from the Emagine Theater on Ford east of Lotz around 10:30 p.m. Saturday.

The owner said the vehicle was broken into in the theater parking lot, and a garage door opener was taken along with the car registration and a cell phone.

About the same time, police were alerted to an alarm on Forest Bridge Drive, southeast of Denton and Geddes, and that led to a home invasion investigation. A police report didn't indicate what, if anything, may have been taken from the home.

Wallet swiped

A man who went to Life Time Fitness on Haggerty, just south of Ford, reported that his wallet was missing after he placed it in a locker that was left unlocked.

The man arrived at the fitness center on Sunday afternoon, changed clothes and placed his wallet in the top portion of a locker without locking it. When he later returned, the wallet was gone.

Police advised the man to check his debit and credit cards promptly for any potential illegal activity.

Windows smashed

A man reported that windows of several tractors were smashed out sometime between 6 p.m. Friday and 8 a.m. Monday at a farm on Mott, between Denton and Ridge roads.

The man told police the tractors were locked up in a field where the incident occurred. He said he didn't know of anyone who might have done the damage. Police indicated they would have more of a presence in the area.

Missing money

A resident of Amherst Court, northwest of Warren and Lilley, told police someone stole \$150 from a table next to her bed while she and another resident had invited friends over. She found the money missing about 1:10 a.m. Monday.

Another woman also noticed \$15 missing from her wallet, which also was in the bedroom, according to police reports.

- Compiled by Darrell Clem from Canton Police Department reports.

Check out the bargains at area garage sales inside today's Classified section

Expert Care Close to Home

BY DARRELL CLEM **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Two Ypsilanti men already have been sent to prison after police nabbed them during a home invasion in late June in Canton.

Joel Allen Boyd, 24, and Keith Eugene List, 26, were sentenced earlier this month after they pleaded guilty in Wayne County Circuit Court to charges of second-degree home invasion, according to the Michigan Department of Corrections.

The charges stemmed from a June 26 incident on Napier near Ford, on the township's west side. The pair was

arrested amid accusations a surveillance team trailed them to a residence, watched them knock on a door and enter the house to steal property.

Boyd was ordered Aug. 13 to spend one year/seven months to 15 years in prison after he pleaded guilty to seconddegree home invasion. His earliest release date will be March

12, 2011. List was ordered imprisoned on the same day as Boyd and was slapped with a sentence of one to 15 years for seconddegree home invasion. His earliest release date will be Aug. 12, 2010.

The pair's decision to plead guilty averted a trial that had

District Court. Authorities had followed Boyd and List to the house on Napier after the men had been under surveillance following a

been ordered when they vol-

untarily waived their prelimi-

nary hearings July 10 in 35th

included Canton. "When the officers lost sight of the men, they approached the house and witnessed the men inside the residence attempting to remove property," a Canton Police Department statement said at the time.

Boyd and List were taken

According to MDOC

records, Boyd had been

string of home invasions that ond-degree home invasion. List had been placed on probation for a 2008 incident in the same county that included possession of cocaine and

resisting/assaulting a police officer. He also had prior offenses including larceny from a vehicle and receiving stolen property worth \$1,000 into custody without incident. to \$20,000.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2238

A4

(C)

Same or Next Day Appointments Available

Alberto Aviles, M.D.

Plastic Surgeon

5641 W. Maple Road West Bloomfield 26850 Providence Pkwv Ste 250 Novi

Phone: 248-538-3020 www.dralbertoaviles.com

Fellowship-trained hand and reconstructive plastic surgeon

experienced in a wide range of surgical and microsurgical services including: advanced techniques for breast reconstruction and enhancement, surgical correction for hand and wrist problems, body contouring procedures such as abdominoplasty and liposuction and procedures to rejuvenate and enhance facial appearance.

Robert Zaid, D.O. Family Medicine

PrimeCare of Novi 39555 W. 10 Mile Road Ste 302 Novi Phone: 248-426-7200

www.primecareofmi.com Passionate about developing

relationships with his patients and friendly, values open

communication. Dr. Zaid provides complete care for the entire family with special interest in childhood asthma, dermatology, diabetes and osteopathic manipulation.



Rebecca Studinger, M.D., M.S.

Plastic, Cosmetic and **Reconstructive Surgeon**

26850 Providence Pkwy Ste 125 Novi 3270 W. Big Beaver Ste 415 Trov

Phone: 248-305-8400



Fellowship trained in microsurgical reconstruction and specialty trained in lymphatic reconstruction for lymphedema. Dr. Studinger offers the most advanced breast reconstructive procedures and a full range of cosmetic procedures such as tummy tucks, face lifts, brow lifts, breast augmentation, Botox and facial fillers.

Kelly Burke, M.D. **Obstetrics & Gynecology**

26850 Providence Pkwy Ste 315 Novi Phone: 248-465-4340 www.yourobgyns.com

Committed to listening to patient concerns Dr. Burke provides the highest quality care for women of all generations. A background in

social work and medicine blends to provide compassionate obstetrical and gynecological care with a special focus on adolescent gynecology and minimally invasive surgery.



A. Damadi, M.D. **Colorectal Surgeon**

26850 Providence Pkwy Ste 425 Novi 22250 Providence Dr. Ste 702 Southfield Phone: 248-557-9650

Specialized in colonoscopy, cancer screenings, minimally

invasive management of diverticulitis, colorectal cancer and treatment of hemorrhoids.



Todd Frush, M.D. Orthopaedic Surgeon

26750 Providence Pkwy Ste 200 Novi 22250 Providence Drive

Ste 401 Southfield Phone: 248-349-7015 www.porrettacenter.com



Fellowship trained in sports

medicine and orthopaedic surgery. Coordinates care with other physicians, physical therapists, and athletic trainers. Specializes in arthroscopic surgery, knee replacements, cartilage restoration, rotator cuff repair, knee ligament reconstruction, tennis elbow and other sports related injuries.

Mubashir Sabir, M.D.

General and Bariatric Surgeon

26850 Providence Pkwy Ste 460 Novi **Phone:** 248-662-4272 27483 Dequindre Ste 204 Madison Heights Phone: 866-823-4458 www.stjohnweightloss.com



Fellowship trained in bariatric surgery at University Medical Center at Princeton and performing bariatric and general surgery since 2005, Dr. Sabir offers a full range of surgery services to his patients. His special interest is bariatric surgery which he offers as part of St. John Weight Loss, a Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence.

Madhuri Gudipaty, M.D.

Obstetrics and Gynecology

26850 Providence Pkwy Ste 500 Novi Phone: 248-662-4388 www.womensdocs.com

Dedicated to providing comprehensive women's health care including pregnancy, child

birth, menstrual problems and menopause management with an emphasis on wellness through annual physicals, pap smears, breast exams, and preventive medicine.



Susan Lyons, M.D., Ph.D.

Oncology and Hematology

47601 Grand River 2 South Novi Phone: 248-344-2000 22301 Foster Winter Drive

Ste 200 Southfield Phone: 248-552-0620 www.newlandmedical.com



Dedicated to providing optimal, state of the art and progressive care for cancer and hematologic conditions. Combines vast research and clinical experience to provide maximal benefit for her patients while focusing on quality of







Flash drive

Curiosity, camera help document Sheldon Road project

BY MATT JACHMAN **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Take a self-described "curious taxpayer," add a camera, an engineering background and a construction project that dominated the Plymouth area for two years and what do you get?

Gene Dickirson's latest book, The Sheldon Road Project, which documents, in more than 200 photographs, the construction of the \$15 million railroad underpass at Sheldon Road south of M-14 during the project's last six months.

Dickirson, a retired Ford Motor Co. mechanical engineer who lives in Plymouth Township, self-published The Sheldon Road Project earlier this year. It's his second book; his first, GDT Speedster From Dream to Reality, documents the design and building, from scratch, of an open-topped car by a team that included Dickirson and eight other engineering and automobile experts. (The car was sold to a collector in Texas, but the team would like to do another, Dickirson said.)

The underpass project piqued his curiosity in the summer of 2008, when it appeared not much was being

done, Dickirson said. "There was so little progress, it wasn't clear what was going on," he said.

So he picked up a camera and visited the site - frequently. Access wasn't a problem, he said, as long as he kept out of the way of workers. Visits by other onlookers — or "sidewalk superintendents," as he called them - weren't uncommon.

Dickirson apparently arrived on the scene at the tail end of several problems that had slowed the underpass project, and work picked up steam just over a year ago. The underpass was completed, and Sheldon Road reopened, last December.

The curious taxpayer became a curious engineer. Dickirson watched, and snapped, as railroad track was taken up, temporary track was put down, beams were laid, forms were made and concrete was poured.

He noted the coordinated efforts, and the inspection oversight, that helped convince him the project was a good one.

"I was really impressed by the way the team worked together. There was no dawdling on this thing," and no

obvious waste, Dickirson said. The underpass is important, Dickirson said, because traffic on Sheldon will no longer be stalled by trains, saving many hours over time. Public safety personnel, too, won't be delayed in getting to emergencies.

"The way this community continues to grow," despite current economic troubles, Dickirson said, "this is a good thing."

Dickirson, who hails from southern Illinois, worked at Ford in Dearborn for 35 years. He started out in 1963 as a draftsman, worked his way up to designer, then switched tracks and, with an engineering degree he earned while also working, became a mechanical engineer specializing in climate control systems.

His career spanned the transition from slide rule to pocket calculator to computer, he said. "It was a great era," he said.

'The Sheldon Road Project' is available at Michigan Made and More in Plymouth, As The Page Turns in Northville, and through online bookstores.

mjachman@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2405

BILL BRESLER I STAFE PHOTOGRAPHE

Gene Dickirson's 'The Sheldon Road Project,' is his second book, coming on the heels of 'GDT Speedster from Dream to Reality.'

Le Cocoa Bean

Chocolatier & Coffee House

50166 Cherry Hill Rd. • Canton, MI

Located in Canton's historic Cherry Hill Village area

734.340.5865

We make our own brand

Carnival time

Come one, come all to the Garden Carnival 6-7:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 28, at the Wayne County 4-H Children's Garden 5454 Venoy, Wayne.

NEWS BRIEF

Visit the garden for an evening of fun-filled garden education. Try your luck with bobbing for apples, add some facial color with face painting, look for riches in the compost treasure hunt or go wild with

pollination pandemonium, The event is free and open to the public. It's geared for families with youngsters ages 7-14. To reserve a spot, call (734) 722-6576 or send and e-mail to segarama@msu.edu.





(CP)

A5

www.CentralCityDance.com

Fall Schedule

Members of Canton Chamber of Commerce Cecchetti Council of America

Vendors, volunteers help make first Paws a success

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Humane Society of Huron Valley and the Canton Dog Park initiative got a paw up on awareness over the weekend.

An estimated 2,100 people came to Paws in the Park on Saturday (numbers weren't available for Sunday), with some 200 of them — along with 86 dogs — taking part in the Paw Walk fund-raiser Saturday morning. They dressed in costumes, made floats and generally had a good time.

The day featured performing dogs (the Purina Incredible Dog Team and the Rock 'N' Roll K-9s), and competing dogs . (the Ultimate Air Dog longjumping competition).

Paws in the Park sprang from a conversation folks at Street Marketing had with officials at HSHV, according to Street Marketing's Terri O'Brien, who organized the event. The idea of benefiting HSHV and the Canton Dog Park was too good to pass up. "(USUV) had more an implicit

"(HSHV) had many animals

turned in because of the economy, because people just can't afford to keep them any more," O'Brien said. "We decided to have an event that benefited both the Humane Society and the dog park."

For vendors, it appeared to be a successful event. Joann Julian of Joann's Jewels in Eastpointe, who travels to various events most weekends, had high praise for the event.

"It was an awesome show," she said. "It was well-managed, attendance was great and everyone was very helpful."

O'Brien said the event could never have succeeded without the help of Canton officials and dozens of volunteers. "We couldn't have done it without them," she said — and pointed out that, if nothing else, the event provided a social opportunity and a chance to raise awareness.

"What we noticed was for a lot of the people their animals are their 'kids," O'Brien said. "So this was a chance to come out and have a day with their 'kids."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-8899



Joe Janiszewski of Canton and Rocco try out the ramp on the obstacle course.



7 of 9 performs with the Purina dog team.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Bob Hill's dog, Blue, works out on the obstacle course. Dog and owner are both from Plymouth.







OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS Plymouth

Contact...

Nicole Stone your local advertising representative

248.756-2380 Email: nstone@hometownlife.com

...and in

Canton

Wes McLucas your local advertising representative

734.582.8363

and watch your business grow!



No, Janelle Kowal of Livonia didn't get trampled by a dog. She just got paw prints painted on her face at Paws in the Park.

The Charter Township of Plymouth Public Notice

Beginning 9-1-09, the Charter Township of Plymouth Department of Public Works will start its fire hydrant winterization program. You may notice a temporary discoloration of your water. This should only be for a short period of time. Any prolonged problems should be reported to the DPW by calling 734-354-3270 x3.

> Joe Bridgman, CMC Clerk

> > Attention Summit

Members: Don't Miss a Workout while the

Summit is Closed (August

plan ahead! Try us FREE

for a Week. Join before

or on your 7th Day and

Offer also available for

non-Summit members.

Snap

receive FREE Enrollment!

31st – September 5th),



PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN CITY HALL, 201 S. MAIN WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2009 7:00 PM (734) 453-1234

PUBLIC HEARING FOR PUD EXTENSION

PUD 08-02 077 Amelia Amelia Row Planned Unit Development, Approval Extension Zoned: PUD, Planned Unit Development Applicant: Connektiv

All interested persons are invited to attend.

In accordance with the Americans with disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

> Maureen Brodie, ADA Coordinator 201 S. Main Street Plymouth, MI 48170 (734) 453-1234, Ext. 206

> > OE08670525 - 2x4.

Publish: August 27, 2009



1945): August 23 and 27, 2009

Canton Twp.

Handle college savings plans with careful thought

t's hard to believe that there's only another month or so of summer. One issue many families face every fall is how to pay for their child's college education. This puts pressure on families and this year more than even because of the recession and the high unemployment in Michigan.

Most of the time when I discuss a college education it generally deals with saving. My advice is always to start early and to recognize that the cost of college is increasing faster than anything in our society other than health care.

It is important that parents have a strategy on how to deal with the withdrawals from investments when the money is needed. There is no one right answer when it comes to withdrawals. It all depends upon one's individual situation. However, there are some factors to take into consideration when it's time to withdraw money from a college savings account.

Typically, a college savings plan can be divided into two separate areas - money that is invested in taxable accounts and money that is invested in tax-free accounts, such as 529 plans. I prefer to use the taxable accounts first and once those are exhausted begin withdrawing from the 529 accounts. My reasoning is partly based on what has happened to the market over the last year. Many college saving accounts have taken a beating and the tax ramifications can be considerable.

In a taxable account, if you sell the investment and have a loss, you are going to be able to deduct that loss on your tax return. On the other hand, because of the nature of 529 accounts, losses are not deductible. Therefore, if you have losses, like many people do, you might as well take advantage of them. And because 529 plans grow tax free, you want to take advantage of that opportunity for as long as you can.

Another reason to use taxable money first is the new American Opportunity Tax Credit. We used to have something called the Hope Credit to provide relief for college tuition. The Hope Credit expired last year and has been replaced by the American Opportunity Tax Credit. The American Opportunity Tax Credit is available only for 2009 and 2010 and provides

and storage.

Ford

Dodge

GMC

Honda

Ford

Ford

Dodge

YEAR

1992

2003

1994

1991

1997

1998

1991

1996

1993

1997

1998

1982

1992

1982

1995

a \$2,500 credit for qualified education expenses. The old Hope Credit was an \$1,800 credit. **Money Matters**

Another good thing **Rick Bloom** about the American

Opportunity Tax Credit is it can be used for any year of college. The Hope Credit was only available for the first two

years of college. In addition, the income limits to take advantage of the American Opportunity Tax Credit have increased from the Hope Credit. If you were single, the maximum amount of income to qualify for the Hope Credit was \$58,000. That has now been increased to \$90,000. For married couples who filed returns jointly, the income limit has risen from \$160,000 to \$180,000.

The American Opportunity Tax Credit allows you to obtain the tax credit on your federal return for 100 percent of eligible costs up to \$2,000, plus 25 percent of college cost of more than \$2,000. In other words, to take advantage of the full \$2,500 credit you will need at least \$4,000 in college costs.

The one hiccup with the American Opportunity Tax Credit is that eligible college costs cannot be paid from a 529 or even a Coverdell Education Savings account. Therefore, depending upon the cost of college you need to make sure you coordinate the 529 and American Opportunity Tax Credit.

The American Opportunity Tax Credit is only available for 2009 and 2010, therefore, you generally want to use this credit first before you touch your 529 plan.

For those who have children going to college in the fall, now is the time to coordinate the different accounts and know what accounts you should access and what accounts you should let grow. A good, well-thought-out strategy always works to your

Plymouth gears up for Fall Festival

The Plymouth Fall Festival annually brings some new events as well as the "old reliables," and the 2009 festival, scheduled for Sept. 11-13, is no different.

Among the events for the annual Festival, which centers around Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth, are:

• The first Party Lot, which promises "a rockin' party, Plymouth-style," takes place Sept. 11-12 and will feature two evenings filled with live entertainment. Sponsored in part by E.G. Nicks, Budweiser, WRIF-101.1 FM and Signature Professional Group, The Party Lot will fuse a lively mix of music, spirits and fantastic food.

Kicking off the party on Friday, Sept. 11, 2009 RIFF Rock Girl, Sarah Myrand, will be on-site broadcasting live from E.G. Nick's with WRIF's on-air midday talent, Meltdown, from 3-7 p.m.

Live entertainment will include Mass Transit Friday, Sept. 11, see www. masstransitband.com; and Global Village featuring a three-piece horn section, powerful vocals and a driving rhythm section, Saturday, Sept. 12, see www.gvparty.com

The Party Lot hours are 6-11 p.m. Sept. 11-12. The Party Lot will be located off of Harvey Street and Ann Arbor Trail in the parking lot behind E.G. Nicks in downtown Plymouth. Admission to The Party Lot is \$3; minors under 21 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. For more information, call (248) 960-0700.

• Fall Festival Taste Fest - The Plymouth Fall Festival 7th Annual Taste Fest is Friday, Sept. 11 at Station 885, 885 Starkweather Road. The Taste Fest will feature more than 30 area restaurants sampling their finest fare from 6-8 p.m. Tickets are available now at the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce, 850 W Ann Arbor Trail. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children 10 and under. Contact Colleen at (734) 455-1614 or cbrown57@ comcast.net for more information.

• Plymouth Fall Festival Antique and Classic Cars from 1979 and older Sept. 12-13, with the pre-registration "Cruz Night," Friday, Sept. 11.

Pre-registration cost (before Sept. 11) is \$10 for one day, \$15 for two; same-day costs are \$15 and \$20, respectively.

Registration forms can be found online at www.plymouthfallfestival.com; mailed forms must be received by Sept. 9. For more information call Dave Reeves, (734) 455-4018, or Chris Gurriere, (734) 756-7781.

• Perennial exchange - The Trailwood Garden Club, a branch of the Woman's National Farm and Garden Association, will sponsor a perennial exchange at the Plymouth Fall Festival on Saturday, Sept. l2 from 9-11 a.m.

It will be located at the east end of Kellogg Park at Union and Ann Arbor Trail. This is a free-bring something, take something event. Members will answer



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Downtown Plymouth becomes a carnival for Fall Festival, scheduled this year from Sept. 11-13.

Office Hours: Monday-Friday / 8 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. Call (313) 224-5990

For additional information call (734) 459-7146.

• Cutest baby - Personalized Nursing LIGHT House sponsors its first Cutest Baby Contest during the Plymouth Fall Festival Sept. 11-13. Winners will be announced Sunday, Sept. 13 at 5 p.m.

Parents should send one 5x7 (or smaller) picture with the required \$10 entry fee by Sept. 1. Mail entries to Cute Baby, c/o Teresa Smith, 575 S. Main, Ste. 6, Plymouth, MI 48170. Child must be 36 months old or younger.

For more information, call (734) 451-7800.

• Fall Fest crafts - The Plymouth Fall Festival is accepting applications for the Craft Show, which takes place during the Fall Festival Sept. 11-13. The show will

per day or \$200 for the weekend. Jewelry Vendors are juried and must have their applications in by June 30. All other vendors are awarded spots on a first comebasis.

Applications can be downloaded at www.plymouthfallfestival.com or for more information e-mail Colleen Brown at cbrown57@comcast.net or call her at (734) 455-1614.

• Business booths - The Fall Festival is accepting a limited number of applications from businesses interested in having a booth at the Fall Festival.

A 10-foot by 10-foot space is \$800 for the weekend. The Fall Festival runs Sept. 11-13. Applications can be downloaded at www.plymouthfallfestival.com or for more information call or e-mail Colleen

(CP)

A7



We have openings in our 2's, 3's, and 4's classes, and Science Enrichment classes.

Fantastic prices for the most amazing preschool!



Tuesday, September 1, 2009





Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

OUR VIEWS Going to the dogs was a good thing

A seasoned vendor who spends her weekends traveling the craft show circuit said last weekend's Paws in the Park event in Canton's Heritage Park was "well-managed" and organizers "did an outstanding show, especially for their first event."

Well, even without the qualifier, we agree wholeheartedly. The first Canton Paws in the Park was as big a success as it could have been.

The event raised money for the Humane Society of Huron Valley (the branch of the Humane Society that handles Plymouth and Canton, along with Washtenaw County), and for the Canton Dog Park project.

But as important as the fund raising was, there were several facets of the weekend that made the event even more crucial:

• Twenty animals — six dogs and five kittens from the HSHV, nine small dogs from Midwest Small Dog Rescue - were adopted, changing their status from "abandoned" to "pet."

• Nearly 90 dogs took their families (amounting to some 200 people) for the Paw Walk to benefit HSHV. Dogs dressed up and people created floats to compete for prizes, and a fun time was had by all.

• It gave the HSHV a chance to do an all-out educational assault on the lack of knowledge of their existence. HSHV handles stray animal issues for Plymouth and Canton. HSHV spokeswoman Deb Kern estimated 35 percent of strays that come to them don't make it back to their owner, and she attributes the statistic to the fact many people don't even know they exist.

• Some 76 vendors — the vast majority of them in the pet business - were on hand to provide everything from organic food to microchip identification.

There were performing dogs (the Purina Incredible Dog Team and the Rock 'N' Roll K-9s), and competing dogs (the Ultimate Air Dog longjumping competition). And, of course, there were the pets, strolling the grounds with their owners in tow, socializing with each other and generally having a

COMMUNITY VOICE

What's the first thing you think of when you hear the words "back to school"? We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



"I'm happy. Keeps them busy."

> Sandra Allain **Plymouth Township** Who was with sons Thomas, a second-grader, and Louis, 3



store and buying calculators and backpacks and new shoes. ..." **Mike Bellaire Canton Township**



"Shopping. The kids need their school supplies. New crayons, new pencils, new shoes."

> Angela MacLellan **Plymouth Township** Who had daughters Caroline, a second-grader, and Elizabeth, a first-grader, in tow



"School supplies. ... I would give them as gifts ... It's top of mind because of TV." **Mike Brace** Plymouth

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

I read the editorial, "Bridge project adds to Canton's nature," in the Aug. 6 Local Opinion We welcome your Letter to the Editor. column about the many bridges being built on the new trail, and my frustration over a Geddes Road pedestrian access issue was reinvigorated. Let it be known, I'm 100 percent for the trail

and its needs, but I have been trying for several years to get the attention of local, county and even state officials toward a situation that I believe requires the same kind of resolve and enthusiasm.

That is, the gap in the sidewalk on the south side of Geddes Road between Beck Road and Canton Center Road, which causes pedestrians to climb a hill, narrowly traverse a busy bridge, valk along the soft shoulder and risk

Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats. Web: www.hometownlife.com E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com. Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com.

Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m.

Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

LETTERS

against countries not trading in a fair manner, abandoning free trade and resorting to protectionism would be a grave mistake.

History tells us the Great Depression of the 1930s was prolonged and made even more severe because of the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act of 1930, which dramatically increased tariffs on over 20,000 imports. Obviously other countries retaliated against our exports in like fashion, cutting global trade in half.

It is a natural reaction in a bad economy to try to protect jobs at home by blocking imports that compete with products made here. I have noticed that a few countries have recently implemented protectionist measures that they disguised so as not to appear blatantly protectionist but to start a global tariff war at this time would be extremely counterproductive and would repeat the mistake we made in 1930. Many U.S. companies depend on exporting their products globally. Many U.S. workers are kept employed because of exports. In fact, our export industry is strong and growing stronger each year, unfortunately we like to import even more than we export but that's the way we are. I believe we will exit this economic recession stronger and hopefully smarter but only if we do not succumb to reactionary economic measures that sound good politically but make no sense in the real world of economics. Janusz M Szyszko

Geddes gap

It was all brought together by the organizers, dozens of volunteers, the vendors ... it's a long list. Folks were helpful, knowledgeable and, equally importantly, passionate about pets.

The event gave the term "going to the dogs" a whole new meaning, one of which Canton should be proud.

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS

Here's a look at what readers are saying about stories on our Web site, www.hometownlife.com:

In response to the story "Online campaign nets \$51K for Village Theatre":

artsbabe wrote:

'Thanks to eveyone who made a donation! We so appreciate the outpouring of support. You can still donate ... through Aug. 31 at www.cfsem. org. You can also check out the 2009-10 theater season_at www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater. Buying tickets and attending the shows is the number one best way to support the arts in our community - and you'll have a great time in return!

In response to the story "Canton fills police, firefighter slots":

MulberryBank wrote: "Welcome!"

In response to a letter headlined "Frustrated with McCotter":

MrScott wrote:

"McCotter I have found does listen. Further, as for Levin and Stabenow, you might do better talking to a cement wall as I have found. Have you heard Stabenow's latest revelation?"



safety.

They all agreed, there needs to be a pedestrian connection to the two separate sidewalks that get the folks off of the roadway crossing the bridge, but no one has a monetary solution to the challenges that exist. So, it goes ignored.

The closest thing to a solution came in the form of a suggestion that the Canton Sidewalk Gap Committee would look at it as a possible target of theirs, because their task is to fill gaps that future development projects will not likely fulfill, but the funding of that entity is only about \$50,000 per year, and the estimate for construction of a pedestrian bridge, right of way acquisition and design is probably twice that amount.

So, it goes unresolved and out of mind. Meanwhile, safety issues exist in mingling pedestrian traffic and high speed vehicular traffic on a fairly narrow two-lane bridge, not to mention the nearly impossible access concerns for the physically challenged. Surely, there are some potential Americans with Disabilities Act concerns with this situation.

There is sidewalk on the south side of Geddes that runs west from the Rite Aid shopping center at Canton Center, all the way to within maybe a half-mile from Denton Road. When residential development picks up once again, there will be continued sidewalk to Denton, as such projects were already approved in the planning process.

You can literally walk, jog, ride your bike, Rollerblade, push a stroller, etc., all the way to the store from midway between Beck and Denton to the stores at Canton Center, that is, if you care to leave the discontinued sidewalk by Hunters Grove subdivision, climb the rather steep grass slope to the narrow bridge over a drain, be exposed to 50 mile an hour traffic, navigate soft shoulder in order to get to the other sidewalk by the Kimberly Meadows subdivision.

The sidewalk has been installed in bits and pieces over time by residential development projects. There is not only the drain to get over, there is a single residential property between the two subdivisions.

Granted, these are challenges to overcome, but I see no reason why the same concern and interest to connect pedestrian pathways with bridges on the nature trail cannot be extended to this pedestrian pathway.

Greg Greene

Canton

Lack of planning

My family and I have lived in Canton for the last 23 years. We live in the square between Haggerty and Lilley, Cherry Hill and Ford roads. In case you are unfamiliar, BOTH Lilley and Haggerty roads are undergoing construction at this time.

Really, with some planning this should not be a major issue. Oh, yes, key word is PLANNING! Obviously, whoever is in charge of this construction failed to realize that they have made getting to and or from my house and back a huge ordeal. If those in charge had closed one of these roads northbound and the other one southbound, we could have made a loop. No, instead you closed BOTH northbound or southbound at the same time!

This necessitates my having to go all the way to Sheldon, then down Saltz when I make a trip to the store or the church. This not only wastes my time but wastes my money on additional gas and wear and tear on my car.

Please, township people in charge of construction, try and be a little more considerate of the people living in these construction areas. It is not rocket science to think of the most ergonomic way to do these things. Even an ordinary citizen like myself could figure it out.

I certainly understand the need to fix the roads, but would appreciate your consideration of my time and money too. In this difficult economic time, this is the least you can do for the people that live in our community!

Pamela Lincoln

Canton

Walker thanks

I would like to thank the city of Plymouth and all those who came out to support the Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk this past Saturday.

This was my second year participating in this great event and the second year that Plymouth has taken my breath away. Making our way down Ann Arbor Trail we could begin to see the crowd, but once we hit the corner and saw the pink fountain and all the people, it was amazing.

Feeling all the love and support from family, friends, and even strangers really lifted our spirits and reminded us of how many lives breast cancer has affected.

I hope and pray that the Breast Cancer 3-Day will continue to make Plymouth a part of the route for years to come. Thank you again from the bottom of my heart.

Kim Riley

Canton

Nothing reactionary

In the letter "First to worst," the writer blames some of our current economic malaise on our support of free trade policies.

Although I feel free trade is not as free as it can be and the U.S. should take action Canton

Economic loyalty

A 1966 Pontiac is parked in the Murray's auto store lot several days before the Dream Cruise. Two-door hard top, green in color, and a wonderful example of what Detroit used to produce.

Several spaces down, a 25-year old BMW convertible, white in color, is parked. No styling at all, just an ugly white box, something the Russians could have made then.

Now there is no more Pontiac brand, and the BMWs of today are the prime example of the concept of making cars people want to buy.

How could this happen? How could the BMW change from an ugly duckling to a lovely swan and the Pontiac from a beautiful swan to a dead duck? Has nothing to do with free trade, or blaming the workers, and the unions that represent their interests (heck, I'll bet the BMWs in this country were produced by union auto workers in Germany!).

It has everything to do with the Big Three's management, and losing their way morally and becoming culturally bankrupt, worrying much more about their CEO bonus, and executive pay rather than concentrating on making cars that people want to buy. THIS CAN CHANGE.

Anyone who doubts the spirit and will of the American companies and their workers is making a big mistake and is doing so at his own risk. Maybe it started with that old, ugly BMW with that all important BMW logo on the back deciding we're going to make great cars. The Big Three will do the same, starting with the blue Ford logo being put on world class autos.

Economic loyalty to this country is our salvation for getting out of this mess. I know we can do it.

> **Dave Travis** Livonia



MALLS & MAINSTREETS



Gwen Joy of Redford is known for her whimsical works, such as this hand-painted purse at 'Handbags & Heels,' at River's Edge Gallery, 3024 Biddle, in Wyandotte.

Legally Blonde

Ticketmaster in the center court location at Twelve Oaks mall will begin selling tickets to Legally Blonde The Musical from 8-10 a.m. Friday, Aug. 28. Metro Detroiters, theatre lovers and Legally Blonde fans alike will have the opportunity to purchase tickets to the Fisher Theatre's presentation of Legally Blonde The Musical before the general public, exclusively at Twelve Oaks Mall, in Novi.

The first 50 people in line will receive *Legally Blonde* T-shirts. Breakfast goodies will be available while supplies last. All attendees will receive a Twelve Oaks VIP Pass, with special discounts and giveaways from more than 50 stores and restaurants throughout the mall. A look-alike of Elle's four-legged friend Bruiser will be on site.

Tickets will go on sale to the general public at 10 a.m. following the presale. Customers can also enter the "Live Like Elle" contest in Center Court or online at www.shoptwelveoaks.com through Âug. 28. The grand prize winner will win two tickets to the show, a one-night stay at the Hotel Baronette, a \$50 dinner at California Pizza Kitchen and a \$200 Twelve Oaks Mall Gift Card. One



Denim purse by Westland artist Kelly Darke at 'Handbags & Heels,' at River's Edge Gallery, 3024 Biddle, in Wyandotte.

runner up will receive two tickets to the show. Donating to hung

Come Together. Through Come Together, Macy's is asking customers to host dinner parties and raise funds for Feeding America and local food banks across the country. Customers can donate online at www.macys.com/cometogether or in any Macy's store. Macy's will match donations up to 5 million meals. Visit the Macy's store at Westland Mall, Warren and Wayne roads in Westland or Twelve Oaks

Mall in Novi. **Fashionable art** Farmington Hills artist Mary Brombach crafted this glass purse with glass 'surprises' inside at 'Handbags & Heels,' at River's Edge Gallery.

techniques. She made a life size glass purse sculpture with handmade glass surprises inside for the exhibit.

Darke, a multi-media and textile artist known for a funky style, reuses designer fabric swatches, wire and bright colorful threads.

Joy breathes new life into old objects. She creates fashionable necklaces out of old antique jewelry and broken musical instrument parts. Her purses are recycled as well and hand painted.

For more about Handbags & Heels, call (734) 246-9880.

New product

Neiman Marcus is offering neuLash, in eleven stores nationwide, including it's store at Somerset Collection, in Troy.

neuLash is a conditioner, created by Skin Research Laboratories, that naturally improves the overall appearance of lashes and brows in as little as two weeks. neuLash protects against breakage by hydrating and nourishing lashes. It allows lashes to

stay on the lid longer, giving them the appearance of fuller, thicker and healthier-looking lashes. neuLash can be used on the eyebrows as well.

Ophthalmologist and dermatologist approved, neuLash has been found to be safe and gentle to eyes without any known adverse side effects. There have not been any cases of eye color change with neu-Lash.

neuLash should be applied once daily in the evening before bedtime to the base of the upper eyelash on a clean. dry area, starting from the inner corner of the eye to the outer corner. It is made for both men and women, and it can be used by those who have evelash extensions and contact lenses.



Funeral

OE08667912

In celebration of Macy's partnership with Feeding America through a campaign called Come Together, more than 650 Macy's stores will host the World's Largest Dinner Party at 6 p.m., Sept. 15. Macy's stores across the country will serve a first course to the first 100 customers to officially kick-off

Local artists, Mary Brombach of Farmington Hills. Kelly Darke of Westland and Gwen Joy of Redford, are showing their works in an accessory-themed exhibition called "Handbags & Heels," at River's Edge Gallery, 3024 Biddle, in Wyandotte. Brombach is a glass artist

who works with "slumping"



make your legs beautiful again. **VISIT HOMETOWNLIFE.COM** Advanced Vein Therapies uses the latest technology to provide you safe, non-invasive, oalitiest and effective varicose and solder vein care was no stripping seano scarring SIMPLY SELF STORAGE All procedures are in-office, and most are Notice is hereby given that on September 16, 2009 on or after 9:30 convreit by invantance you's be up and a.m. that Simply Self Storage will be offering for sale under the uskine unmediately with Relief that allows very judicial lien Process by Public Auction the following units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. Terms to get back to your life. Please visit our web site of the sale are <u>cash only</u>. Simply Self Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: to see how we've helped others at 34333 E. Michigan Ave., Wayne, MI 48184 (734) 728-8204. A140 Sharon Worthy Mattress, BBQ Grill, Sofa A190 Percy Madison Tools, 5 totes, Clothes Big Screen TV, Audio Equipment, A340 Felicia Skeen Entertainment Center B142 Jerisha Hawkins Bike, Couch, 20 Boxes C111 Taffani Sloan Mattress, Couch, 2 Chairs Combo, Console TV, C142Jake McDaniel Washer/Dryer Dresser 3 Tool Chests, Floor Jack, Engine Stand E155 Jon Green TOP DOCS+ E146 Redmon Russell Toys, 25 Boxes, Tote Publish: August 27 & September 6, 2009



PNA Centennial Dancers **Open Registration**

Welcoming dancers age 4 through 17

We are a dance school promoting

Polish Heritage through dance,

performing proudly throughout Metro

Detroit for over 30 years. Sponsored by

the Polish National Alliance.

Practices to be held Wednesday

evenings utilizing Livonia Schools

For More Information or to

register call: 734-266-9995



Mark your Calendar: PNA Debutante Ball January 16, 2010 St. Aidan in Livonia **PNA Centennial Recital** February 13, 2010 The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton



HOMES THAT NEED ROOFING A select number of homeowners in Wayne County and the surrounding areas will be given the opportunity to have a lifetime Erie Metal Roofing System installed on their home at a reasonable cost.

As seen in the Yellow Page

THERAPIES

www.AVtherapies.com

Call today to see if you qualify. Not only will you receive the best price possible, but we will give you access to no money down bank financing with very attractive rates and terms.

An Erie Metal Roof will keep your home cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter.

An Erie Metal Roofing System will provide your home with unsurpassed "Beauty and Lasting Protection"!

Don't miss this opportunity to save! www.ErieMetalRoofs.com





The Wildcats were paced by tournament medalist Kelsey Murphy, a talented freshman who registered an 18-hole score of 80 for the day. In the top-10 were freshman Sarah Thompson (102) and sophomore Lindsay Dean (102) while junior Chloe Marentic and freshman Mandy Kirsch tallied scores of 106 and 120, respectively.

Invitational at Fox Creek Golf Course in Livonia.

On Monday at the Huron Valley Invite at Prestwick Village Country Club in Highland, the Wildcats registered a 393 for the record that would fall the next day.

The medalist was Murphy, with 79, with Thompson tallying a 97. In 11th place was junior Chloe Marentic (105), followed by Kirsch (112) and senior Liz Cizek (134).

Alumni soccer at PCEP

The Salem and Canton annual Men's Soccer Alumni Game is slated for 9 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 12. The contest will follow the annual Salem-Canton varsity boys soccer contest at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park and will be played at the varsity soccer stadium.

All alumni players from any year are invited to attend.

Salem players can contact coach Ed McCarthy at (248) 561-2846 and Canton players can contact coach George Tomasso at (734) 812-2290.

Travel baseball tryouts

Football might be in the air, but there's still time for youngsters to try out for 2010 travel baseball teams. Both of the tryouts are Sunday, Aug. 30. Following are the details: The 2010 Canton Cardinals are holding tryouts from 2-4 p.m. Sunday for 9U and 4-6 p.m. for 10U. The age groups are determined by the player's age as of April 30, 2010. Players should arrive 15 minutes early to fill out registration forms and warmup. Tryouts will be at Fields 1-4 at Canton Sports Center. To pre-register, contact Alan Zidzik for 9U at (734) 397-5739; Jim Good for 10U at (810) 397-6272. **Greater Canton** Youth Baseball-Softball Association seeks to attract the most-talented players who are willing to commit to weekend tournaments and play between 30-50 games. The season runs from April through July. Also on Sunday will be tryouts for the 2010 Motor City River Sharks 10U travel baseball team of the Kensington Valley Baseball/ Softball Association. The River Sharks, helmed by Canton High School boys cross country coach Bill Boyd, are permitted to bring in three out-of-district players, so Plymouth and Canton youngsters will have an opportunity to impress. Registration is 1:30 p.m. with tryouts following from 2-4 p.m. at West Middle School, 44401 W. Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth. For more information, send and e-mail to motorcityriversharks@gmail.com.

ADJUSTN T

Salem head varsity football coach Kurt Britnell, talking things over with his team during a pre-season practice, is putting a positive stamp on the proceedings thus far.

Salem won't be solemn with new coach Britnell leading the way

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Who knows whether Salem's varsity football team will have a worst-to-first renaissance under new coach Kurt Britnell in the KLAA Kensington Conference's Central Division.

But beginning with Friday's 7 p.m. opener against Plymouth, folks will get a good read on how quickly the work ethic and positive attitude Britnell is preaching is sinking in to the players on the 2009 Rocks. "Since I've been here with these guys, I've never talked about winning and losing," said Britnell, a former quarterback during his high school days at Salem. "But it's just doing the right things, paying attention to details. It sounds cliche, but if you do the right things all the time and worry about the details, the scoreboard will take care of itself."

don't forget, the word "Attitude" is emblazoned on their team T-shirts.

"There are some things that you don't have any control over," Britnell said. "But you can control your attitude and your work ethic. That's been our message."

Salem is trying to begin a new era, one that would be much more successful than the last one. The Rocks went 1-8 in 2008 and have managed to scratch together only 13 wins over the most decade "Flutie-like" senior Brian Maksimovic are vying for the starting spot, but both figure to be key players regardless.

"Peterson has a decent arm, he can make all the throws," Britnell said. "Max is like our Doug Flutie, a scrambler guy throwing on the run. He makes plays, too and he can be a multiple offensive threat" including lining up at wide receiver or in the slot."

When Maksimovic is not at quarterback, he'll be one of several key targets for Peterson to throw to. The others are senior Alex King, juniors Drew Thompson and Matt Morton.

FAST FACTS

School: Salem. Head coach: Kurt Britnell, 1st season. League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (Central Division). Last year's record: 1-8.

ANNA MARIE WILSON

Notable losses to graduation: Drew Grabowski (second-team All-Area); Heath Parling (second-team All-Area); Justin Bashi; Anthony Mullins.

.

But just to make sure the players

past decade.

MIXING IT UP

Britnell, starting his first job as a varsity head coach, said he does like what he is seeing out of the team during workouts, and will now see how it does under the bright lights of Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

He has talent at the quarterback spot to start the process.

Lanky senior Jake Peterson (6-7), described as a "pure quarterback," and

"They all have really good hands, they catch it with their hands and separate a little bit," Britnell said. "They tend to get yards after the catch. And we'll have junior Kenneth Middlebrooks who will push for some time."

Augmenting the wide-outs will

Please see SALEM, B3

Starters returning: Jake Peterson, Austin Root, Brian Maksimovic, Blake Abbey, Dana Baltazar, Ed Merhi, Ethan Walsh, Mike Grodus.

2009 schedule: Aug. 28 (vs. Plymouth at PCEP); Sept. 3 (Walled Lake Northern); Sept. 11 (Livonia Stevenson); Sept. 18 (at Novi); Sept. 25 (South Lyon East); Oct. 2 (at Northville); Oct. 9 (South Lyon); Oct. 16 (at KLAA crossover); Oct. 23 (vs. Canton at PCEP).



The back of Salem head coach Kurt Britnell's T-shirt says it all about what he's trying to change with this year's team.



BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Turning around a program beset by losing and negativity in recent years drives Salem head football coach Kurt Britnell, even though he sometimes gets some unsolicited opinions on the subject.

During last week's Kensington Lakes Activities Association coaches' meeting, several coaches from other high schools came up to Britnell and said "Oooh, that's a tough job you're taking on over there," said the Rocks' new coach. "I just said 'Let's get it on." Britnell is amped up on different levels. He is a former starting quarterback at Salem who later was an assistant coach there before moving over to Plymouth High School.

In 2008, he was offensive coordinator for the Wildcats but came over to fill Salem's top spot after Parker Salowich decided to return to North Farmington. It is his first crack at a varsity head coaching position and he intends to hold onto it for a long time.

A classroom teacher, too, Britnell explained the approach he carries to the gridiron.

"You teach them, you show them what you're doing, you don't just hoot and holler," he said. "Sometimes you get on them a little bit, but you have to teach them."

READY TO ROLL

However he does it, Salem certainly needs a boost, having managed just 13 victories over the past decade or so. In 2008, the Rocks were 1-8.

And Britnell is ready for the challenge.

"We don't talk about the past," said Britnell, an energetic, positive guy who directs the Rocks with passion and purpose. "We don't say if you don't do this that this (losing) is going to happen again. It's about what you do today. You learn from your mistakes, you just get better every day." During the two or three

weeks of practices leading up to Friday's season opener (7 p.m. against Plymouth at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park), players found out that things move so quickly that there isn't time to dwell on things that might not be going

Please see BRITNELL, B3



Teammates swarm around Canton's

Bobby Budiong (No. 5) after he

scored the clinching penalty kick

against Salem in the Gary Balconi

Invitational Soccer Tournament.

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Gary Balconi sat in the stands Saturday to watch the annual high school soccer tournament bearing his name and must have been riding on cloud nine.

Eight varsity teams took to the four fields on the sprawling campus of Plymouth-Canton Educational Park and the season-opening day featured plenty of excellent, sometimes compelling soccer.

Each having won twice earlier during the Balconi Soccer Tournament, both Canton and Salem squared off in the championship match at the varsity soccer stadium. A second-half tally by senior midfielder Yusef Bazzy lifted the Chiefs into a 2-2 tie.

Soccer invitational yields exciting day

well.

The 60-minute contest ended that way, with the Chiefs and Rocks officially finishing 2-0-1 — although both teams did proceed with a round of penalty kicks which Canton prevailed in.

Those point-blank 1-on-I chances were only tacked on to the end of the match to determine which side would receive Balconi medals.

But they also enabled both teams the chance to get in some practice on the tiebreakers.

"The PKs were just like practice," said Canton head coach George Tomasso. "To play three games in one day is always a very hard task to complete and we played very well in the first two games.

"We've got some things to iron out, but Salem is one of those great teams and to be on their competitive level, with them being pre-ranked No. 1 on the season, I think puts our boys at a very good, confident level."

MAKING THE SHOT

The clinching PK was off the foot of Canton forward Bobby Budlong, who rifled his shot into the cage past Salem's Dan Adsit.

"After you score it's just a relief," said

Please see SOCCER, B2

Sunday Night Mixers

Superbowl in Plymouth is hosting a mixed bowling league on Sundays, with action beginning at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 13.

League president Chico Rodriguez said he needs couples who are interested in joining the fun to hurry and sign up. Contact secretary Sandy Carpenter, (734) 637-3363, or Rodriguez, (734) 453-2980; rosecater@comcast.net) for more information.

to 2-1.

box.

Eagles was freshman Dan

Ross on a penalty kick with

about 30 minutes to go in the

match to cut an early deficit

Ross took the shot after

sophomore teammate Alex

Chapman was fouled in the

But perennial powerhouse

"The score is not indica-

Oakland Christian tacked on

two more goals past senior

goalkeeper Jordan Allen to

tive of how we played," said

Larry Machonga. "We had

numerous scoring chances

of them. But we're looking

forward to the next time we

play those guys at the end of

Lancers was "Mr. Soccer"

hopeful Caleb Stanko.

Scoring three goals for the

but we didn't take advantage

Plymouth Christian co-coach

seal the victory.



PHOTOS BY ANDY RUBENSTEIN

Diving to make a stop Saturday against Salem is Canton goalkeeper Kai Walther, who registered two shutouts earlier in the day to propel the Chiefs into the finals of the Gary Balconi tourney.

FROM PAGE B1

Budlong, who assisted on both of his team's regulation markers. "Before my shot I just looked to the right corner, and be sure to give a little fake there, and then just hit it the other way."

Salem head coach Ed McCarthy said it is "a little bit of a stretch" to be called a No. 1 team although he agrees the Rocks should again be extremely competitive.

He credited the Chiefs for rallying from a 2-1 halftime deficit. Salem senior midfielders Evan Antich and Alex Tramel scored to overcome an early Canton lead (Mitch Pasuniak opened the scoring).

"I thought it was great the way they (Chiefs) fought back on a great individual effort by Bobby Budlong for that second goal," McCarthy said. "He got the assist, but he did a fantastic job of hitting that first strike that there's no way a keeper can hold on to that and then the rebound was right there. It was an exciting game."

NO MISTAKE

On the tying goal, Budlong smoked a hard shot from the right side of the cage that Adsit managed to get in front of. But there was nothing he could do as Bazzy knocked in the rebound, with 26:39 to go in the second half.

Both teams had chances

Driving the ball Saturday is Salem's Alex Tramel, who scored one of his team's goals against Canton.

to go ahead. Salem's Tramel sent a crossing pass over to Jeff Cantin for a sharp-angle shot with 21 minutes remaining, but Canton keeper Kai Walther dove to knock it aside.

A rising shot by Salem senior midfielder John Krutty drifted over the crossbar a few minutes later.

At the other end, a Canton player's bid missed the mark as his shot dribbled through the goal-mouth.

Tomasso said playing on par with Salem would give his team a boost entering the Kensington Lakes Activities Association regular season (the Balconi games are registered as nonleaguers).

"It's really discouraging in these 60-minute games to

go down by a goal," Tomasso noted. "But we just kept our focus, we kept defending and we just worked really hard to get that equalizer in the second half.

The Chiefs might not have earned medals without the excellent work of Walther in goal. Earlier Saturday, he blanked University of Detroit-Jesuit (1-0) and Dexter (2-0).

"Kai had an outstanding day today, he made at least seven outstanding saves during the day and made a lot of good saves as well."

Salem, meanwhile, nipped Novi-Detroit Catholic Central 3-2, with Sal Savage netting two of the Rocks' goals and then defeated Plymouth (1-0). The Wildcats did get past

Pontiac Notre Dame Prep, 1-0.

POSITIVE PROOF

Following the championship tilt, McCarthy reiterated how important soccer is to the Plymouth-Canton community. One of the main architects for that was Balconi, a former

athletic director in the district. "Gary Balconi was here

today and it was fantastic to spend a few minutes with him," McCarthy said. "The whole community takes great pride in the soccer that goes on here."

Saturday provided ample evidence that Balconi definitely was on to something when he launched the tournament in the early 1990s.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Salem nips Wildcats 2-0

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Two days after the dust cleared from another Gary Balconi soccer tournament, two of Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's three teams got together for a Kensington Lakes Activities Association conference crossover tilt.

Salem scored a pair of firsthalf markers and that was enough Monday night as the Rocks blanked Plymouth 2-0 to improve to 3-0-1 on the young season. The Wildcats dropped to 2-2-0.

"It was a good start against a good Plymouth team," said Salem head coach Ed McCarthy. "It's always a more fun, more intense game when we play against each other in a campus rivalry." Salem head coach Jeff

Cool happenings

Plymouth Cultural Center Ice Arena continues to be a busy place even during the summer. Drop-in Hockey sessions take place 4:30-

5:50 p.m. weekdays and 10-11:50 a.m. on Sundays through Aug. 30.

There also are open skating sessions (noon to 2:15 p.m. weekdays; 11 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. Saturdays) and "Sticks and Pucks" (2:30-4:20 p.m. weekdays; 12:30-2:20 p.m. Saturdays), also until the end of this month.

For more information, contact the Open Skate Line (734) 455-6620 or go to www. ci.plymouth.mi.us for up-to-date changes if anv.

Sunday Night Mixers

Superbowl in Plymouth is hosting a mixed bowling league on Sundays, with action beginning 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 13.

League president Chico Rodriguez said he needs couples who are interested in joining the fun to hurry and sign up. Contact secretary Sandy Carpenter (734-637-3363) or Rodriguez (734-453-2980; rosecater@comcast.net) for more information.

Fall hoops league

Madonna University will sponsor a Sunday fall basketball league at 1 p.m. (ages 11-13) and 3 p.m. (ages 14-16) beginning Sept. 13 (through Oct. 25).

Each player will be guaranteed a minimum of seven games and will receive instruction prior to each game. (Game times will very each week.)

Neschich said his team played a solid game, but the Rocks could not solve Canton goalkeeper Dan Adsit (6 saves).

"We had our chances, but we didn't capitalize on them," Neschich said. "They're a strong team."

The Chiefs got on the board first when senior midfielder Alex Tramel deposited a shot past Plymouth junior goalkeeper Kyle Brindza. Assisting on the tally was junior midfielder Dan Martin.

Canton went up 2-0 when senior forward Sal Savage set up Martin.

Eagles clipped

Plymouth Christian dropped a 4-1 decision Tuesday to Auburn Hills Oakland Christian in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference opener for both squads.

Scoring for the visiting

SPORTS ROUNDUP

The cost is \$125 per player (includes reversible jersey).

September."

For more information, visit www.madonnacrusaders.com (click on summer camps link at the top of the page).

Whaler alum game

The Plymouth Whalers start their 20th season in the Ontario Hockey League with their annual training camp, Aug. 26-29 at Compuware Arena in Plymouth.

Several special events will augment the camp itself, including the first-ever Whalers' Alumni Game set for 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 30, also at Compuware.

Whalers alumni currently committed to playing in the game include Pat Peake (1990-93), Chris Terry (2005-09), John Vigilante (2002-06), Steve Ward (2004-07), Andrew Fournier (2003-08), Tom Sestito (2004-07), Damian Surma (1998-2002), Dan Pawlaczyk (1993-97), Shaun Fisher (1997-2000), Bill McCauley (1992-95), David Liffiton (2001-04), Zack Shepley (2003-08), Kris Purdy (1997-2000), Scott Holsinger (1997-99), Jamie Lalonde (1997-2000), Duane Harmer (1993-95), Jeff Mitchell (1992-95) and James Ramsay (1998-2001).

More alumni are expected to be added to the roster.

The game is the capper to a busy week. The 2009-10 training camp begins with off-ice testing Wednesday, Aug. 26, followed by scrimmages 9-11 a.m. and 2-4 p.m. both Thursday and Friday, Aug. 27-28.

The scrimmages are open to the public. Rosters will be provided the days of the scrimmage.



WHO: Runners of All Ages and Ability Levels

WHAT: Screening • Examination By One of Our Board Certified Clinical Specialist (Flexibility & Strength Assessment Biomechanical Screening, Shoes and Orthotics)

WHEN: 1st Wednesday of every month at Plymouth PT Specialists - Plymouth Canton Center 2nd Wednesday of every month at Running Fit - Novi 4th Wednesday of the month at New Balance - Farmington Hills

Running Fit - Novi 43280 11 Mile Road Novi Town Center facing Grand River Ave. Novi, MI 48375 248-347-4949 www.runningfit.net

New Balance - Farmington Hills 37606 West 12 Mile Road NW corner of 12 Mile and Halsted in the Halsted Village Shopping Center Farmington Hills, MI 48331 248-324-0506 www.nbdetroit.com

Plymouth Canton Center 9368 Lilley Road Plymouth, MI 48170 734-416-3900

Call TODAY to schedule your SCREENING 734.416.3900 www.plymouthpts.com

B3

(CP)



be tight ends Ethan Walsh (junior), Matt Kelty (senior) and junior Rodney Polk who is a good blocker. Walsh adds to the equation as a solid kicker, too

MOVING THE CHAINS

The Rocks will employ a zone-style offense with one tailback at a time. It will either be junior Brad Trublowski (tough to bring down despite being just 5-9, 160) or sophomore Evian Pardo.

"Trublowski is a real hard downhill runner, it always seems like he's falling forward and that's a good thing," Britnell said. "Pardo is more of a slasher guy, he has quick feet."

With an offensive line that Britnell said should provide ample pass protection, the Rocks could enjoy some long, productive drives this season.

Up front will be plenty of size and strength: 5-10, 200pound senior center Blake Abbey: 6-4, 330-pound senior guard Ed Merhi; 6-4, 275pound senior guard Dana Baltazar; 6-2, 285-pound senior tackle AJ Smith; and 5-10, 185-pound junior tackle Devin Burke.

"I think if we need a couple yards we can get 'em," he emphasized. "(The offense) has a chance to be a ball-control offense, without a doubt, that can just grind out yards, get first downs and make them quick games.

"We have passing potential. Jake is very accurate and the receivers have good hands. So I think we can be multi-faceted in our run-pass ration and really keep teams guessing."

DOGGED DEFENSE

Many of those linemen will see double duty on defense, with seniors Gunnar Eisenmenger, Mike Guido, Chris Sweet and Colin Gross expected to be part of a deep rotation.

Manning the linebacker spot will be hard-hitting seniors Mike Grodus, Austin Root and junior Ethan Walsh.

Salem's secondary includes seniors Derek Draplin, juniors Davon Mullins and Drew Thompson and Alex Smith.

"We're athletic, that's the key," Britnell added. "... We'll tag-team tackle and rip-andstrip the ball. I like our style of defense, I like our mentality of defense. We've looked good lately against both the run and the pass."

tsmith@hometownlife.com



Salem senior quarterback Jake Peterson (red shirt) shouts out instructions before a play during Tuesday's scrimmage.



next door is Plymouth head coach Mike Sawchuk, who hated to see both Britnell and



Let's get it started

With the high school football preseason finally over with, players such as Canton's Chris Merbler and kicker Nick Dibendetto (right) can't wait for the points to count, which they will beginning Friday night. Canton will visit Brighton while Plymouth-Canton Educational Park rivals Plymouth and Salem will hook up at 7 p.m.

PREP GRID PICKS				,	
week 1	Brad Emons	Dan O'Meara	Tim Smith	Jim Toth	
Thursday, Aug. 27					
Farmington (6-4) at Southfield (11-2), 5:30 p.m.	Southfield	Farmington	Southfield	Southfield	
Waterford Kettering (4-5) at Wayne (1-8), 7 p.m.	Kettering	Kettering	Kettering	Kettering	
Westland John Glenn (4-5) at Waterford Mott (4-5), 7 p.m.	Glenn	Glenn	Mott	Glenn	
Friday, Aug. 28					
Ferndale (8-2) at Redford Thurston (6-4), 7 p.m.	Ferndale	Ferndale	Thurston	Thurston	
Garden City (2-7) at Dexter (1-8), 7 p.m.	Dexter	Dexter	Dexter	Dexter	
Dearborn Edsel Ford (8-2) at Redford Union (4-5), 7 p.m.	Edsel Ford	Edsel Ford	Edsel Ford	Edsel Ford	
Livonia Stevenson (10-3) at Livonia Franklin (5-5), 7 p.m.	Franklin	Franklin	Stevenson	Franklin	
Hartland (9-3) at Livonia Churchill (3-6), 7 p.m.	Hartland	Hartland	Hartland	Hartland	
Livonia Clarenceville (9-2) at Detroit University Prep (3-6), 7 p.m.	Clarenceville	Clarenceville	Clarenceville	Clarenceville	
Plymouth (6-4) vs. Salem (1-8) at CEP, 7 p.m.	Plymouth	Plymouth	Plymouth ·	Plymouth	
Canton (10-2) at Brighton (3-6), 7 p.m.	Canton	Canton	Canton	Canton	
Pontiac (0-0) at North Farmington (2-7), 7 p.m.	Pontiac	Pontiac	North Farmington	Pontiac	
Bloomfield Hills Lahser (11-2) at Farmington Harrison (4-5), 7 p.m.	Harrison	Harrison	Lahser	Harrison	
Saturday, Aug. 29					
Dearborn Heights Annapolis (6-4) at Lutheran Westland (4-5), 1 p.m.	Annapolis	Annapolis	Lutheran Westland	Annapolis	

Stocker wins O&E golf tourney; Plymouth's Coury takes 3rd

BY BRAD FMONS **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Darci Stocker surprised

home the first-place trophy and a \$90 gift certificate. "I won my club championship at the Fortress in

grainy and tough to read."

ANDREWS RULES 1ST FLIGHT As dominant as Stocker was around 40 puts, but today I had only one 3-putt." Andrews plays co-ed soft-

ball and volleyball leagues,

"Let's go, reps, reps, reps," said the coach during an afternoon session when players might have been dragging from the morning drills.

Just in case anybody needed a reminder about the new regime, the team shirts have a key word on the back "Attitude."

With seniors Blake Abbey, Derek Draplin, Brian Maksimovic, Jake Peterson, Austin Root, AJ Smith and Oronde Watkins, along with junior Ethan Walsh forming a so-called "leadership committee," Britnell is confident the positive vibe he and his staff (including another ex-Plymouth coach in Ricky Styes) is trving to establish will take hold throughout the locker room.

MESSAGES COUNT

"Those eight guys, through their leadership by action is really pushing the message that we're sending: great attitude, you work hard, structure, great character and doing the right things can help you be successful," Britnell said.

Changing a culture and having a team committed to turning things around won't guarantee the Rocks will suddenly become a contender in the KLAA-Central. But Britnell is almost beaming about how the team has meshed throughout August.

"It's like night and day, they've improved so much in two weeks," he said. "They've grasped the philosophy of what we're doing on offense and defense. ... They're really enthusiastic, and parent and booster support and alumni support has been incredible with the e-mails and phone calls even to this day. There's a positive change going on."

Noticing a new approach

offensive line coach Styes leave for Salem.

"Kurt left because he had an opportunity to be a head coach." Sawchuk said. "I'm proud of him and he'll do a great job over there. And who wouldn't want their assistants to aspire to be head coaches, you know?"

TRUE BLUE

But Britnell bleeds Salem blue and he has plenty of bounce in his step these days.

"It's more special for me being here coaching *this* team than it is going against Plymouth (Friday)," Britnell said. "It's special when you step back and take a look at it, because of the relationship I built with those guys over there, the players and coaches.

"... There's no bad blood, but obviously we want to win. It's going to be like playing your brother.'

Britnell also is excited about leading the Rocks to a comeback this season because it would give a number of the seniors a chance to taste some success at the varsity level and establish a template for 2010 and beyond.

"The program's been down a few years," Britnell said. "I want to do it (coach) for all the guys that have been here. This senior class, as a JV team went 5-4. We want them to set the tone for the future.'

Of course, the Rocks could stumble against the Wildcats. Although the scoreboard is important, Britnell is more interested in how his team would mentally deal with any early season setbacks.

"That may happen, but how are they going to respond?" summed up Britnell. "They have nothing to lose, absolutely nothing to lose."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

even herself during Saturday's **Observer & Eccentric Women's** Golf Open held at Livonia Whispering Willows.

The school teacher from Flint, a late entry in the O&E after the tournament was washed out on Aug. 8, carded an impressive 18-hole round of 74 to win the Championship Flight low gross honors over two of her playing partners - six strokes over Livonia's Janina Jacobs and eight shots better than two-time defending champion Susan Macinkowicz of Chesterfield Township.

A regular on the Michigan Women's Golf Association circuit, the varsity girls coach at Davison High School took

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC

WOMEN'S GOLF OPEN

Aug. 22 at Whispering Willows

CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT RESULTS

FIRST FLIGHT RESULTS

Low gross: 1. Darci Stocker (Flint), 37

37-74; 2. Janina Jacobs (Livonia), 44-40-

84; 3. Susan Macinkowicz (Chesterfield

Township), 42-40-82; 4. Sonia Physh-

Dennison, 41-47-88; 5. Michelle Sroka,

Low gross: 1. Shellee Andrews

(Livonia), 44-43-87; 2. Peggy Stevens,

49-46-95; 3. Barbara Coury (Plymouth),

52-44-96; 4. Kathy Brennan, 56-42-98; 5.

Pat Cheal, 52-47-99; 6, Denise Buechel,

55-48-103: 7. (tie) Monica Oliver. 51-53-

104; Lu Stockton, 55-49-104; and Joan

Cleland, 55-49-104; 10. Elaine Crawford,

12. Pat Shelton, 55-59-114; 13. Linda Cox,

OVERALL LOW NET: 1. (tie) Stevens

and Coury, 69 each (\$67.50 gift cards); 3.

CITY GOLF

CHAMPIONSHIPS & CHALLENGE

Aug. 8-9 at Fellows Creek G.C.

CITY CHALLENGE SCORERS

Westland (376): Kevin Ryan, 70; Claud

Individual medalist: Kevin Ryan

Johnston and Jim McComb, 74 each; Briann Gabbeart, 77; Rick Fontaine, 81.

Canton (395): Zach McCurley and

58-51-109; 11. Meghan Davis, 55-56-111;

65-49-124

Sroka, 72 (\$50).

(Westland), 70.

48-42-90: 6. Pat Witek, 50-45-95.

Frankenmuth, but I was terrible in the Michigan Women's Open and didn't make the match play," said Stocker, who played collegiate golf at

Oakland University. "I hit the ball the best I've hit it all summer. I had one birdie and lots of pars. I only three-putted once.'

An overnight rain softened up the course. 'This is my first time ever on this course (Whispering

Willows)," said Stocker, who played collegiate golf at Oakland University. "They have some challenging holes, but it's fair. It's a great course and a great course for women. The greens were tough, a little

in the Championship flight, even more impressive was Livonia's Shellee Andrews in the first flight.

Andrews, playing in her first tournament ever, shot an 87 to win by eight strokes over Peggy Stevens (Livonia) and nine over Barbara Coury (Plymouth).

"With two kids I've never had a chance to play, but now they're a little older," said Andrews, who won a firstplace trophy and an \$80 gift certificate. "I've never broken 90, the best I've shot is a 92. You can call it beginner's luck. I was finally hitting my drives and I putted better than I've ever putted before. Usually I'm but recently joined an 18-hole Thursday morning league at Whispering Willows.

She had a home course advantage despite her lack of tournament experience.

"I've never taken a lesson," said Andrews, a Southfield High alum. "I got a tip from my husband. I changed my hand placement and moved my position forward. I also changed where to place the ball below my feet.'

First flight low net honors (69) were shared by Stevens and Coury, while Sroka had a 72 to earn Championship Flight low net.

bemons@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6851

GOLF RESULTS

MBER CO.

Matt Wiley, 73 each; Bob Selberg, 79; Ross Gerulis, 84; Ken Eck, 86.

Wayne (427): Ted Salvatori, 78; Bill Hawley, 84; Mike Lorenz, 85; Rick Stoner, 88: Buddy Stoner, 92. Livonia (no score): Steve Mato, 86; John Jordan, 89; Tyler Bledsoe, 91; Mike

Mato, 109. WESTLAND RESULTS Men's championship flight: 1. Ryan, 70; 2. McComb, 74; 3. Gabbeart, 77; 4. Fontaine, 81

Men's senior flight: 1. Johnston, 74; 2. Bob Decker, 86; 3. Brian Pilarski, 112. CANTON RESULTS

Men's championship flight: 1. Z. McCurley and Wiley, 73 each; 3. Selberg,

79. Men's first flight: 1. Gerulis, 84; 2. Eck, 86; 3. Tim McCurley, 89.

WAYNE RESULTS Men's championship flight: 1. Salvatori, 78; 2. Hawley, 84; Lorenz, 85. Men's senior flight: 1. R. Stoner, 88; 2. B. Stoner, 92; 3. Doug Tompkins, 98. **LIVONIA RESULTS -**Championship flight: 1. S. Mato, 86; 2. Jordan, 89; 3. Bledsoe, 91; 4. M. Mato, 109. WOMEN'S RESULTS Championship flight: 1. Sandy Felan,

80. Senior flight: 1. Linda Granfieldt; 2. Darlene Hawley; 3. Bev Woodard. **OPEN DIVISION RESULTS** Championship flight: 1. Greg Gliha, 79; 2. John Sobczak, 92; 3. Jerry Maynor, 104.

Best selection, service & price New deck or redo your old deck Do-it-yourself or have it done Like a Lumber Yard Should Be" Stop by and see us. Stewart Oldford, Jr., Owner 615 E. Baseline Rd. in Northville ORTHVILLE Located across the street from the Northville Cider Mil

> ph 248.349.0220 fx 248.349.0222 www.northvillelumber.com

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

MIAC castoffs bolster PCA hopes

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The breakup of the Metro Conference makes things tougher this season for the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference. Plymouth Christian Academy included.

But for Eagles' varsity boys soccer co-coaches Larry Machonga and Evan Baker, having always strong programs such as Lutheran Westland, Grosse Pointe Woods University Liggett and Ann Arbor. Greenhills in the MIAC is a welcome

challenge.

"Fourteen of our 18 regular season games will be against conference opponents, many who are ranked in the top 10," Machonga said. "But come district time, we'll be prepared."

The Eagles (11-9 in 2008 in the MIAC Blue Division) benefited from the Metro's demise another way, with former Canton Agape Christian standout Don Mullett (a senior outside-midfielder) and his sophomore brother Dan Mullett (a midfielderdefender) joining PCA.

"We have a lot of returning players

and with Canton Agape going down we picked up a couple players and they're starting," Machonga emphasized. "He (Don Mullett) is a great acquisition and just a wonderful team player."

The Mulletts join a balanced squad comprised of equal contingents of seniors/juniors and sophomores/ freshmen.

Leading the returnees is senior forward Jordan Machonga, who led the Eagles in 2008 with 18 goals and 14 assists.

"He's having a good season already," coach Machonga said. "He scored two goals in the first invitational and is drawing interest from some colleges."

Returning senior midfielder Blair Robinson possesses perhaps the hardest shot on the team and provides excellent skills in dribbling and passing the ball.

Other key players include senior outside-defensive back Matt Zandee and junior center-defender Travis DeKruyter, both solid two-way performers who the Eagles can count on.

Some youngsters who can provide a shot in the arm offensively include sophomore midfielders Alex Chapman, Josh Middleton and freshman midfielder Dan Ross.

One area of potential concern is goalkeeping, only because senior Jordan Allen is taking over the reins from three-year starter Brent Zinn (starting on a scholarship at Division 3 Cedarville University in Ohio).

But Machonga is very confident that Allen will capably take over the important job. "Jordan fills a huge pair of shoes and he's doing extremely well."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Advertoria Your local golf guide

Playing from outside the teeing ground

By Jeanne Myers

The teeing ground is defined as a rectangular area two club-lengths in depth, the front and sides of which are defined by the outside limits of two tee markers.

In match play, if you play from outside the teeing ground, you do not get a penalty, but your opponent may immediately require you to cancel that shot and play from inside the teeing ground. He is not required to do so, and I suspect if you hit that tee shot out of bounds, he will be very silent! On the other hand, if you have a career shot, I'm sure he will ask you to cancel and re-play correctly

Suppose you are playing a match and hit your tee shot out of bounds from the wrong teeing ground. This

is easy to do on many of our courses with unmarked holes. Obviously, a wrong teeing ground is joutside the teeing ground.î Your opponent does not recall your shot and require you to play from the correct teeing ground. Your ball was put into play, but is now out of bounds. Under penalty of one stroke, you are required to play from where you last played, so you must play again from the wrong teeing ground. And, interestingly, you may not tee the ball because the original ball was not played from the teeing ground of the hole being played. Therefore the wrong teeing ground is really part of ithrough the greenî and the ball must be dropped. That's adding insult to injury, isn't it?

In stroke play, the situation is very different. The penalty for playing

from outside the teeing ground is two strokes, and you must correct the mistake by playing from within the teeing ground. If you do not correct the mistake before teeing off on the next hole, you are disqualified. In the case of the 18th hole, you must declare your intention to correct your mistake before leaving the putting green. The tee shot played from outside the teeing ground and all subsequent shots before the correction is made do not count.

Let's look at an example of the correct way to deal with this situation if it happens to you. You and your fellow competitors, after finishing the 10th hole, play from the teeing ground of the 15th hole instead of the 11th hole. You realize your error before finishing the 15th

hole, and return to the 11th tee and complete the round. Each of you adds two strokes to his score for the 11th hole. All the strokes made on the 15th hole do not count. But remember, if you didn't realize your mistake before teeing off on the 16th hole, you are disqualified.

Many competitions are played on golf courses that do not have hole signs. A Committee in charge of a competition should put some identifying marker on the holes so that players do not play from wrong teeing grounds. However, it is the responsibility of every player to know the istipulated roundî which is one of the conditions of the competition. A istipulated round consists of playing the holes of the course in their correct sequence, unless otherwise authorized by the

Committee.î Therefore, a lack of hole signs will not absolve a player from penalty.

A further word about tee-markers -Before and during the first stroke from a teeing ground the teemarkers are fixed, and may not be moved. After that, they are obstructions. Therefore, if by chance, your tee shot caroms off a tree and comes to rest next to a tee marker, you will get relief from the tee marker for your second shot under the movable obstruction rule.

Jeanne Myers is currently an Assistant Tournament Director for the Golf Association of Michigan and also served as the Chairman of the USGA Women's Committee and is a Past President of the GAM.

Check out the bargains at area garage sales inside today's Classified section



To advertise in this directory, call Jim Sabatella at 313-223-3246

BOOST YOUR LOCAL ECONOMY ... SHOP LOCAL

What kind of community do you want to live in? How we spend our money makes a difference in the wellness of our residents and the overall success of our businesses.

Each time you shop, your decisions will

impact your local economy. Choose locally owned businesses that are truly invested in your community's future!

> **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC OMETOWN**

> > Online at www.hometownlife.com

The Observer, Eccentric & Hometown Newspapers proudly supports this message.

Thursday, August 27, 2009

B5

Canton Strictly Business

BUSINESS MILESTONES

Green suppliers

Yazaki North America, Inc., a leading supplier of vehicle power and data solutions to the automotive industry, has initiated a supplier recognition program to encourage its supplier partners to focus on environmental considerations as part of their production and product life cycle processes.

The "Green Suppliers of the Year" program recognizes suppliers who have made significant contributions to the preservation of the environment through their manufacturing, production and delivery processes and have exceeded others in their effort to reduce their impact on the environment.

Yazaki recognized Tyco Electronics, PTI Engineered Plastics and Emhart Teknologies in a luncheon and award ceremony hosted by George Perry, president and CEO of Yazaki North America, and Olga Alavanou, vice president of Purchasing and Logistics at Yazaki North America.

"At Yazaki, we continue to drive for a greener planet by expanding our environmental scope to our supply base", said Ken Pichla, senior manager of Commodity Purchasing. "After piloting our Green Purchasing initiative and realizing positive results, we intend to expand the scope for the new performance year to not only help our suppliers improve, but to learn from them through the sharing of knowledge."

Jimmy Fund

HomeGoods shoppers nationwide will have the opportunity to donate funds for cancer research and care as part of the ninth annual "Be a Hero" pin-up campaign benefiting the Jimmy Fund. The campaign will run in

HomeGoods stores, including the Canton location at 42615 Ford Road, from Aug. 27 through Sept. 20.

HomeGoods customers who would like to donate can purchase "Be a Hero" cards for \$1 each with 100 percent of the proceeds benefiting the Jimmy Fund, which supports cutting-edge research and care at the worldrenowned Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

"All of us at the Jimmy Fund would like to thank HomeGoods and its generous customers across the country for helping make a big difference in the fight against cancer," said Mike Andrews, former Boston Red Sox second baseman and Jimmy Fund chairman. "New discoveries are happening at a rapid pace, and funding is needed to develop the new treatments and cures that will benefit all facing this disease."

"We are honored to support the Jimmy Fund and the amazing work they are doing in cancer research and care," said Robyn Arvedon, HomeGoods spokesperson. "The 'Be a Hero' campaign, allows us, in partnership with our customers, to raise much needed funds for this very worthy cause."

Leadership forum

WARM Training Center and Paragon Leadership International are teaming up to launch an innovative one day leadership forum for emerging leaders in environment, energy and sustainability seeking reallife leadership development



George Perry (left), president and CEO of Yazaki North America, presents the Green Supplier of the Year Award to John Budreau, PTI's director of new business, and Kurt Nerva, president of PTI.

experience.

The event takes place at Next Energy's Detroit headquarters, 461 Burroughs Thursday, Oct. 15. To register and for more detailed information go to www.paragon-lead.com/EnE/ or call (877) 264-6200. Additional topics on the EPPRENTICE Experience™ agenda include expanding an alternative energy business, increasing the recycling efforts throughout cities in Michigan and creating strategies for diversifying manufacturing businesses into alternative forms of energy such as wind.

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

Canton couple takes aim at sweet teeth with CandyLicious

Observer: Please tell us about your business.

CandyLicious: We have over 165 varieties of candy, old and new; fresh popcorn, soda, ice cream, wedding candy tables, mylar balloons. **Observer: How did you first decide**

to open your own business? CandyLicious: We wanted something fun in Plymouth, and we love candy. Observer: Why did you choose Plymouth?

CandyLicious: All the events, foot traffic, and the town's great atmosphere. Observer: What makes your business unique?



BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Million-dollar challenge

In an effort to help the community and area renters, Sean Cragg and Gold Star Mortgage Financial Group have partnered with area real estate professionals to help put \$1 million back into the local economy and new homebuyers' pockets.

This goal will be accomplished by providing education and assistance concerning the purchase of a home to at least 125 first-time homebuyers by Nov. 30.

An event will be held today (Thursday) at The Summit On The Park in Canton. Attendees will have a chance to win an Apple itouch. The seminars are free and open to the public. Advanced registration is required and a free credit report and credit analysis will be provided for registered attendees. Call (866) 249-2145 to register.

In February, President Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. One provision of this legislation is the Homebuyer Tax

Credit, a reimbursement of up to \$8,000 available to first-time homebuyers. According to a survey released by the National Association of Realtors, nearly 50 percent of all homebuyers were unaware that a tax credit of up to \$8,000 currently exists for gualifying parties. Of those Americans actively shopping for a home, fewer than one in five knew about the credit and planned to use it. Individuals who have never owned a home as well as those who haven't owned one during the past three years are eligible for this year's Homebuyer Tax Credit. The modified adjusted gross income for a member of either of these groups is limited to \$75,000 for single taxpayers and \$150,000 per married couple. Individuals whose earnings exceed these amounts may be eligible for a partial credit and should contact their accountants for additional information. For information about these seminars, or the tax credit, contact Sean Cragg at (734) 585-7040.

TO TONG STIMMER...

CandyLicious: It's original, clean, bright and fun, and we have great variety. Observer: How has it changed since you opened?

CandyLicious: Word of mouth has been very helpful. We've received a lot of positive comments. **Observer: How has the economy**

affected your business?

CandyLicious: We're not sure yet, but the customers give us "two thumbs up." They love it.

Observer: Any advice for other business owners?

CandyLicious: Open seven days and stay open later. Plymouth is a great night environment.

Observer: What's in the future for your business?

CandyLicious: We'd like to expand and, hopefully, franchise.

Observer: Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share about your experience as a business owner?

Spotlight Players

The Spotlight Players per-

form Oliver next month at the

Village Theater of Cherry Hill,

50400 Cherry Hill in Canton.

Performances take place:

8 p.m. Sept. 18; 2 and 8 p.m.

Sept. 19; 2 p.m. Sept. 20; 8

p.m. Sept. 25; 2 and 8 p.m.

Cost is \$16 to \$18, senior,

student and group discounts

394-5460 or go on-line to

eater to purchase tickets.

of an orphan in Victorian

Call (734) 394-5300 or (734)

www.canton-mi.org/villageth-

Oliver is the well known

Charles Dickens-based story

London as he makes his way

from the cruel workhouse to

the even crueler streets, find-

ing a home amidst a gang of

loveble pickpockets and a best

Sept. 26; 2 p.m. Sept. 27.

available.

al, we Owners of CandyLicious recently cut the ribbon on their new store in downtown Plymouth. The store features hims full of classic candies of

downtown Plymouth. The store features bins full of classic candies, shelves with name-brand favorites and other candy accessories. On hand to cut the ribbon were owner Robin Khoury of Canton, William Khoury and members of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors Committee. Not pictured is owner Jim Khoury of Canton.

CANDYLICIOUS CANDY SHOP

- Business Name: CandyLicious Candy Shop
- Business Address: 424 S. Main, Plymouth
- Your Name and position: Jim and Robin Khoury, owners
- Your Hometown: Canton
- Business Opened: June 2009
- Number of Employees: 3
- Your Business Specialty: Old-fashioned candy, popcorn, ice cream, Mylar balloons
- Hours of Operation: Noon to 9 p.m. Monday-Saturday; noon to 5 p.m. Sunday

• Business Phone: (734) 451-2263

CandyLicious: We didn't think we'd have to hire anyone

the first year, but we did.

CHAMBER CHAT

friend in The Artful Dodger. Go to www.spotlightplayersmi. org for more information.

BYOB Party

Indigo Salon and Day Spa hosts a "BYOB" (Bring Your Own Blow Dryer; Bring Your Own Brush) party 7:30 p.m. today (Thursday), Aug. 27.

The open-house event will feature fun, food and education on perfecting your style at home. Learn the tricks and tips of today's trends; bring a new client and receive entry to win a beauty make-over.

There is no charge for the event. Indigo Salon and Day Spa is located at 50545 Cherry Hill in Canton.

Networking breakfast

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts a Chamber to Chamber Business Networking Breakfast 7:30-9:3 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 1, at Sam's Club, 39800 Ford Road in Canton.

All businesses are encouraged to bring an invoice from your current products supplier for a complimentary Cost Comparison.

RSVP by calling (734) 469-0116.

Literacy fund-raiser

A Fund-raiser For Literacy takes place from open to close Sunday at Buffalo Wild Wings, 41980 Ford Road in Canton.

The only cost is for what you eat. CLC gets 20 percent for its adult literacy programs.

Contact joycesilagy@ wideopenwest.com for your printable coupon. Coupons are also available at the chamber office located at 45525 Hanford.





.

BELIEFS & VALUES

New associate pastor trades career for the priesthood

BY LAUNA WAKENHUT CORRESPONDENT

Parishioners of St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church in Livonia welcomed one of the Archdiocese of Detroit's five newly-ordained priests as their associate pastor last month. The Rev. Raymond E. Arwady, who grew up in Northville and Troy, is an identical twin and the last-born son of Lester and Judy Arwady, now of Sterling Heights. He was ordained to the priesthood on May 30 at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Detroit.

At 36, he represents a growing trend of men choosing the priesthood later in life, after having successful educational and employment careers in the secular world. Holding his B.S. in mechanical engineering and his master's in engineering management from Oakland University, Arwady worked at General Motors' Pontiac Truck Product Center for nearly six years before hearing the call to the priesthood.

"I began to feel at around 27 or 28 years old that I had achieved almost everything in life that I thought would make me happy," Arwady explained, "and then I real-ized that I was not all that happy.

"I consider myself a product of my generation, drawn to what I call material gluttony."

He was making \$60,000 a year in a career that held promise. He was a homeowner, with a \$37,000 SUV, a growing investment portfolio, and a large circle of friends.

Although he rejected the call from God when he first heard it, he continued to pray. Eventually he found himself increasingly drawn to reading scripture, praying the Rosary, and frequently visiting Jesus present in the tabernacle.

"Once I became convinced through prayer that God loves me more than I love myself, wants my happiness



the Rev. Raymond Arwady

more than I want it, and knows better than I do what will make me truly happy, then I could take that initial leap of faith and say 'Yes' to God. Only then could I give it all up to follow Jesus."

ENTERING THE SEMINARY

In 2002, Arwady began his studies at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, where he received his bachelor of philosophy, followed by his master of divinity, as well as his bachelor of sacred theology from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome. He and his twin brother James, who will be ordained May 22, 2010, were among the first few Detroit seminarians who had the opportunity to complete a 10-week spiritual formation program offered by the Institute for Priestly Formation at Creighton University, Omaha, Neb. The program, highly regarded by many bishops and seminaries, is an option for all Detroit seminarians.

Arwady said he believes the two greatest challenges facing the Catholic Church in the United States today are catechesis and evangelization.

"If we were to add a third I'd say the attack on the human family. There is much disharmony in families today. It seems to me that we Catholics do not know much about our own faith.

'I began to feel at around 27 or 28 years old that I had achieved almost everything in life that I thought would make me happy, and then I realized that I was not all that happy. I consider myself a product of my generation, drawn to what I call material gluttony." REV. RAYMOND ARWADY

nor do we seem to be zealous or have a readiness to share it with others. I see parishes clustering and merging, schools closing, and vocations dwindling. Evangelization and Catechesis are the cure. We need to reprioritize our lives and put God first. We need to return to the basics of family prayer, Eucharistic Adoration, and the daily use of our Bibles if we expect to grow as a Church."

SETTLING IN

Arwady is happy to be at St. Michael's and said he is "adjusting to the rhythm of his new lifestyle." He is surprised to find out how difficult adjusting to a new life can be, especially one as busy as the life of a parish priest.

"I had forgotten how difficult it was to adjust to the new life of a seminarian seven years ago and now I have to do it all over again."

St. Michael's is the oldest Catholic parish in Livonia. Established in 1931, it serves about 1,500 families and runs a formally recognized "School of Distinction," with approximately 800 students from kindergarten through 8th grade. He has been meeting as many of those parishioners as he can, "getting to know the people so I can serve them better." His hope for his ministry is simple: "To bring as many souls as possible into deeper relationship with Christ and to heaven, and to never grow weary in serving God and His people."



Matthew and Andrea Machemer of Westland are excited about his new position as music minister at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Livonia. He grew up in Eastpointe and has a bachelor's degree in music education from Concordia University Chicago.

New music director joins Livonia Lutheran church

Matthew Machemer was installed as music minister Sunday, Aug. 23, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Livonia. He is serving as church organist and oversees all choirs and musical ensembles in the congregation.

Machemer grew up in Eastpointe with parents, Melvin and Susan, and his brother, Joel. His musical interest grew through the influence of his family and by the piano lessons he began at age 5. Throughout his elementary and high school years he actively participated in nearly all school music ensembles.

Machemer attended Concordia University Chicago and graduated in December 2007 with a bachelor's degree in music education with an emphasis in choral music. During his time at

RELIGION CALENDAR

Concordia he was involved with a variety of choral and instrumental groups, took organ and voice lessons, and served as a substitute organist at various local congregations.

In January 2008, he was hired as parish musician at St. John Lutheran Church in Wheaton, Ill., where he directed children's choirs, adult instrumental groups, composed music, planned worship and played piano and organ for regular worship services.

Machemer has had pieces published by Concordia Publishing House and has been a contributing composer in their Acclamations project.

He and his wife, Andrea, live in Westland.



MARIE DAWES

August 21, 2009, age 85. Beloved wife of the late James L. Dear mother of James N. (Deborah), Donald L. (Rosemary), Thomas J. (Kimberly), and the late Jeanette Hanvy. Grandmother of 12, Great-grandmother of seven. Marie was a 53 year resident of Livonia and a Deacon at Ward Church. Share a memory at: www.mannsfuneralhome.com



1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 email: oeobits@hometownlife.com View Passages Online: www.hometownlife.com

Obituaries, Memorials

OBITUARY POLICY The first five "billed" lines of an

& Remembrances

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

Deadlines:

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

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

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Char Wilson 313-496-4968

> For more information call: Char Wilson 586-826-7082 or Liz Keiser

586-977-7538 or toll free 800-579-7355

ask for Char or Liz OE08658429

May peace be with you in this time of JOTTOW.

Religion calendar items appear on Thursdays on a space available basis. To submit an item, e-mail sdargay@hometownlife.com or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette-2nd Level, Detroit, MI 48226, Attn: Sharon Dargay. Item must include the venue address and phone number and any admission costs for events. Items must be submitted at least a week in advance of publication. For a complete listing of events online please go to hometownlife.com.

AUG. 27-SEPT. 2

Prayer service

The Metropolitan Detroit Chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Moses the Black will hold an akathist praver service honoring the saint at 7 p.m. Aug. 27 at St. Innocent Orthodox Church, 23300 W. Chicago Road, Redford. St. Moses the Black is the Orthodox Christian patron saint of African-Americans. He was a 4th-century Ethiopian slave and gang leader who repented his sinful life and became a monastic in the Egyptian desert, known for his humility, wisdom and power over demons. An akathist is a hymn that recalls the life of a saint, a holy event, or one of the persons of the Holy Trinity. There will be an informal discussion of the life of St. Moses following the service. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call Sharon Gomulka, secretary of the Detroit chapter, at (248) 477-6411, or Robert Mitchell, chapter president, at (313) 204-5103.

Bethany fun

Bethany Together Dance, 8 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 29 at Don Hubert V.F.W. Hall, 27345 Schoolcraft, just east of Inkster Road, in Redford. Dance until midnight. Admission fee is \$12. For more information, call Loretta from Bethany East at (586) 264-0284.

Free concert with Air Margaritaville, for Bethany West and Bethany South Downriver, 4:30-7 p.m., at Lincoln Park Days 3525 Dix, in Lincoln Park. Bring your favorite refreshment and a chair. Call Kathy M. for information (734) 513-9479.

Open house

6:30-8 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 2, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Early Childhood Center, 14175 Farmington

Road, just north of 1-96, Livonia. Toddler (starting at 18 months), preschool, pre-K and day care are available. The Center is open 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday-Friday. If you have questions; call Maureen at (734) 513-8413.

SEPT. 3-9

Bethany dance

8 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Sept. 5, at St. Robert Bellarmine 27101 W. Chicago Road, at Inkster Road, in Redford. Admission \$10 includes refreshments. Tango lesson runs from 7:30-8:30 p.m. Call Diane K. for information at (734) 261-5716.

SEPT. 10-16

Mom-to-mom 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 12, at Connection Church, 3855 S. Sheldon, west of I-275, north of Michigan Ave., in Canton. Presented by Mothers of Preschoolers. Admission \$1. For more information e-mail to CCMopsMom@gmail.com.

SEPT. 24-30

Health fair 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Sept. 26, at Livonia Church of Christ, 15431 Merriman, Livonia. Includes free bone density screening, free body fat analysis, cholesterol screening on site for \$12 per person with onsite counseling regarding results, free blood pressure screening, massage therapy and other services. Call (734) 427-8743 for more information.

Movie

See "Fireproof" at 7 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 26 at Livonia Church of Christ, 15431 Merriman, Livonia. The screening is free and it's followed by six weeks of free classes on Fireproofing Your Marriage, 7-8:30 p.m., Wednesdays, Sept. 30 - Nov. 4. Free Bible classes are available for children of all ages during the class. Call (734) 427-8743 for more information.

ONGOING

AWANA Every Wednesday night Faith Bible Church offers an AWANA program for children from kindergarten through fifth grade at Faith Bible Church, 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. Drop children off or stay for a Bible study offered to parents from 7-8:30 p.m. For more information, call (248) 426-0096. Classes/study

New Life Community Church. 42200 Tyler, Belleville, offers a jobs seminar, 8-9 am., Fridays, a reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m., Sundays. (734) 846-4615 Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, is hosting a Tai Chi Class by Sam Purdy, Wu Style Tai Chi. This meditative form of Martial Arts is designed to reduce stress and is great for over-all health memory and balance. Everyone is welcome from beginning to experienced participants at any time. Classes continue every Monday. Cost per class depends on number of participants. For information or to reserve your space, call (248) 701-1587 or (248) 626-3620. Visit www.orchardumc. org for updates.

Adult and English as a Second Language literacy classes are available for those who want to improve reading, writing and English conversational skills. Open to age 18 and over. Trained tutors available for day or evening.

For information, call Merriman Road Baptist Church in Garden City at (734) 421-0472.

Leave your name and phone number and someone will contact you.

Scripture studies, from 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the lower level of Our Lady of Loretto Church, Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford. Call (313) 534-9000.

Learner's Bible study, 7 p.m., Mondays, in Room A101, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville. Call (248) 374-5920. Learn Qigong, the ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine – a safe and effective way to rid the body of toxic pathogens and years of painful emotions – at Livonia Unity, 28660 Five Mile. Classes include: Monday movement Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday Qigong meditation, 10-11:15 a.m., and Friday Therapeutic Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m. Call (810) 813-4073 for more information or send e-mail to gary@energeticarts.org. Bible study, 7 p.m., first and third Thursdays, at St. Michael the

Archangel Church, located at the southwest corner of Plymouth and Hubbard Roads. The informal classes are open to all interested persons regardless of religious affiliation. To register, call (734) 261-1445, Ext. 200.

Bible talks, 4 p.m. Sundays at the

Friendship Center, 1119 Newburgh, Westland. Call (734) 728-9157. Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Livonia invites adults with developmental disabilities and special needs to attend a new Open Arms Bible class the second Monday of the month at the church, 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia. The class will include songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun. Contact Judy Cook at Emmanuel, (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to elc-ed@arounddetroit.biz.

Tuesday Ladies Bible Study from 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays, at Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile. \$15 registration fee includes interdenominational study materials. Child care available for children through age 5, Call (248) 348-7600.

A study/discussion group focuses on relationship with God and that of other religious groups and philosophical and scientific issues that might impact faith, at 10:30 a.m., Wednesdaỳ, at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 26701 Joy. A group at 10:30 a.m., Thursday examines early writings not included in the Bible as well as other versions, extensions and controversies concerning Christianity. Led by interim pastor Larry Hoxey. (313) 274-3820. Concerts

Rush Hour concert series continues every Tuesday with gathering and refreshments at 5 p.m., concert 5:30-6 p.m., featuring performances by local and national jazz artists at Metropolitan United Methodist Church, 8000 Woodward, Detroit. Free. Visit www.metroumc.org.

Fellowship dinner

Dinners will resume Sept. 18 at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Cost is \$8. Call (313) 534-7730.

Films

10 a.m. Wednesday Kids Matinees and 4 p.m., Saturday family movie, at Kenwood Church of Christ, 20200 Merriman, Livonia. Guitar Praise game precedes the film on Saturday. Children in second grade or younger can play prior to the film; those in third grade and up can play after the movie. Pizza will also be served following the movie. All events are free. (248) 476-8222 Hall rental

Volkmar Hall located in Good

Please see RELIGION, B7

BELIEFS & VALUES

RELIGION FROM PAGE BG

Hope Lutheran Church, 28600 Cherry Hill, between Inkster and Middlebelt roads, Garden City, is available for rent. For information, call (734) 427-3660.

St. James Presbyterian, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. For information call the church at (313) 534-7730

Prayer

■ Music, singing, prayer at 7 p.m. Thursdays at St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through entrance #2, at the back of the church. For more information, call Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656, or Geri at (734) 464-8906.

■ 7 p.m. Wednesday, at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Participate in an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests. Call (248) 476-8860.

■ Parish prayer and Eucharistic Adoration, third Wednesday of each month at St. Michael's Church of Livonia, corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads. The church will be open for worship from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. followed by Benediction service. For information, call (734) 261-1455.

■ 7-9 p.m. the first and third Tuesdays of the month for prayer, spiritual healing and outreach at Good Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City. Call (734) 427-3660.

Singles

■ Single Point Ministries, for ages 30 and older, offers fellowship and related topics at 11:30 a.m., Sundays, in Knox Hall at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Coffee, doughnuts, conversation. Call (248) 374-5920. Tennis continues from 1-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, and 4-7 p.m. weekdays any time the weather is above 45 degrees, at Rotary Park, Six Mile and



Taking the stage

The Paul Keller Orchestra, a 15-piece big band, plays a concert at the First United Methodist Church in Plymouth 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 27. This concert is part of the noteworthy – concerts with a cause – series of First United Methodist Church. Admission is free; a free-will offering will be received to benefit Habitat for Humanity. The church is located at 45201 N. Territorial Road in Plymouth Township, a mile east of Beck. For more information, call (734) 453-5280.

Hubbard, Livonia. Walking club meets at 6 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday in the Single Point office. All fitness levels welcome.

■ Single Place Ministry continues to meet Thursdays 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program, at First Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Main St., Northville. Call (248) 349-0911 or visit www. singleplace.org. Cost is \$5. Soup kitchen

Learn about the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and the Solanus Casey Center in Detroit by participating in its "Day of Service" program. Dine with guests at the soup kitchen, tour the Earth Works urban garden, and take a self-guided tour of the Solanus Casey Center, a spirituality center dedicated to the Capuchin friar who is credited with miraculous cures and valued for his wise and compassionate counsel. The minimum age is seventh grade and the maximum size of the group is 30. The day starts at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 2:30 p.m. There is no cost. Lunch included. For information, send e-mail to ccrane@thecapuchins.org. To learn more about the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, visit www. cskdetroit.org.

Support

A weekly drop-in Food Cupboard (nonperishable items) is available 10 a.m. to noon Saturday mornings at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 16360 Hubbard, Livonia. There are no requirements, this a service the

church wants the community to be aware of and utilize if needed. Donations of nonperishable items also accepted for the cupboard. Are you or someone you know struggling with depression, divorce, grief, addiction, relationship difficulties, or job loss? Real Life Church through its volunteers and partnerships with area ministries and professionals provides classes, seminars, care, support & recovery groups, counseling, and prayer to help you get through life challenges. Visit the Web site for details on current classes and groups offered as well as location, days and times www.realifeplymouth.com.

■ The Clothing Bank has moved to a new location west of Canton Christian Fellowship. Free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need is available 10 a.m. to noon the fourth Saturday of each month, at 41711 Joy Rd. Call (734) 404-2480, visit www.CantonCF.org or send e-mail to info@cantoncf.org for information.

Overeaters Anonymous meets 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Courtyard Room at Unity of Livonia Church, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads, Livonia, and 7 p.m. Sundays, in Classroom 1 at the Marion Professional Building at St. Mary's Hospital, 14555 Levan at Five Mile, Livonia. (313) 387-9797. www.oa.org St. John's Support Group for the Caregiver's of Alzheimer's patients or patients with other forms of dementia meets at 10 a.m., the first and third Friday of each month at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth. Respite care is provided. Call Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426. This group is authorized by the Alzheimer's Association.

■ Take Off Pounds Sensibly, meets at 7 p.m. every Thursday at St. Thomas a' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton. Weigh-in is from 6:15-6:55 p.m. for this weight support group that encourages members to lose weight and keep it off. Call Margaret at (734) 838-0322.





L. KONDEK

Brett Moore (left) as Oliver; Robert Doyle as Mr. Bumble; and Leah Page Cooley as Widow Corney in Spotlight Players' production of 'Oliver.'

Spotlight Players sing way through start, end of season

Spotlight Players kicks off its new season with *Oliver!*, the classic musical based on Charles Dickens' novel.

The show features a cast of local actors and follows the story of an orphan, played by Brett Moore in Victorian London as he makes his way from the cruel workhouse to the streets, where he joins a gang of lovable pickpockets and finds a friend in The Artful Dodger, played by Jeffrey Selewski.

Barbara Bloom choreographed the family-friendly show and directed the cast that includes actors from age 8 to 60-plus.

Shows are at 8 p.m. Sept. 18-19, 25-26 and at 2 p.m. Sept. 19-20, and 26-27 at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton. The Village Theater has free parking, is handicap accessible and has a concession stand.

Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$16 for seniors and students under 19. They're available by phone at the Village Theater Box Office at (734) 394-5300 or (734) 394-5460 or online at www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater or in person at The Summit on the Park or at the door. Box office opens an hour before showtime.

nition.

Spotlight Players, the resident adult theater group for the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, follows *Oliver!* with a drama, *Crimes of the Heart*, in November. *Barefoot in the Park* will open in February 2010 and *Oklahoma*! rounds out the season in April 2010.

Here's what's planned at other community theatres this fall:

■ Barefoot Productions kicks off its fall season with Mister Roberts, Oct. 8-25 at the Walker/Buzenberg building, 240 N. Main, Plymouth. (734) 582-9688

■ Rosedale Community Players Farmington Players includes *Twelve Angry Men, Last Night of Balyhoo, Twigs* and *Funny Valentines* in its 40th anniversary season.

Exact running order and show dates are to be arranged. The Redford troupe is searching for a new home and has found a temporary stage at Bushnell Congregational Church in Detroit. (313) 532-4010

■ Farmington Players starts its new season with And the Winner Is, a play written by Mitch Albom, Oct. 2-17. The Players' home is the Barn Theater, 32332 West 12 Mile, Farmington Hills. (248) 553-2955

Hear rock, country, gospel music at Michigan State Fair

Watch horses prance, enter contests, ooh and aah your way along aisles of vegetables and perfect pastries, eat cotton candy, take a spin on a gutwrenching ride, watch acrobats and drill teams, dancers and rock musicians and much more at the Michigan State Fair.

FILTER

The nine-day event starts Friday, Aug. 28 at the fairgrounds, located at Eight Mile and Woodward in Detroit.

In addition to the livestock, agricultural displays, home and community arts exhibits, the fair offers a myriad local performers, as well as celebrity musicians.

Mark Farner, formerly of Grand Funk Railroad, kicks off a series of free nightly concerts in the fair bandshell. Farner performs at 7 p.m., Aug. 28. Farner sang with Grand Funk Railroad on such memorable hit songs as *Closer* to Home, Foot Stompin' Music, and We're in an American Band. The Detroit area Gospel

The Detroit area Gospel Show takes the stage from 4-9 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 30. Dennis Edwards and his Temptations Review will be perform at 7 p.m., Monday, Aug. 31 — Motown Day at the

fair.

ART

Pete Rivera, original lead singer of Rare Earth will appear with Mike Pinera, original lead singer of Blues Image, Jerry Corbetta, original lead singer of Sugerloaf, and local Detroit bass player and session man Larry Prentiss. Performing as The Classic Rock All-Stars, the band will appear at 2 p.m. and as the Temptations Review opening act at 7 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 31.

Red, Cavo and Pop Evil rock out at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 1. The fair will feature the final Michigan competition of the Colgate Country Showdown at



PHOTO BY CALEB KUHL



Pop Evil

3 p.m. and 7 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 3. The showdown includes musicians who have won competitions at various locations around the state. The winner of this country music competition will compete for the national title.

Starship starring Mickey Thomas will perform at 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 4. The show will feature a complete retrospective of the biggest hits of the Jefferson Airplane, Jefferson Starship and Starship.

Survivor will take the stage at 7 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 5, followed by country artists Jake Owen and Love and Theft at 7 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 6.

The bandshell series ends at 7 p.m., Monday, Sept. 7, with Billy Squier, who is touring with his band for the first time since 2001.

The concert series is free. Admission to the Michigan State Fair is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children, age 3-12 and senior citizens, age 62 and older.

Children under 2 enter free. Fair hours are 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. (313) 369-8250.

GETOUT

Eastern Michigan University

Time/Date: Elements of Photography, Sept. 3-Oct. 2, Coping with the Unknown, Sept. 8-Oct. 2; Excavations, Botsford Commons "Cruise In" classic car show Time/date: 4 p.m. to dusk, Friday, Aug. 28 Location: Botsford Commons, 21450 Archwood Circle

Education is Available to Your Children



AMA is a charter school, funded by the state, offering a quality education focused on helping students reach their full potential and building awareness of respect for community and environment.

Students enjoy unique learning activities and individualized attention, fostering a life-long desire to learn and be successful.

Now Enrolling K-2 For Fall 2009

Space is limited

- A Stimulating Environment
- A Michigan Charter School
- Tuition-free
 - State-certified Teachers

For more information, call 734-525-7100 or visit **www.montessoriacademy.us**.

14800 Middlebelt Rd., Livonia, MI 48154 • South of Five Mile Rd.

through Aug. 28

Location: Photography in the University Art Gallery, 900 Oakwood on EMU's Ypsilanti campus; Coping and Excavations in the Ford Gallery, in Ford Hall, north of Cross Street at Normal Street on EMU campus Details: Photography exhibit features work of nationally and internationally acclaimed photographers. Artist reception is 4-6 p.m., Sept. 9. Coping shows the work of Joe Meiser and Adrian Hatfield. Artist reception is 4-6 p.m., Sept. 10. Excavations is a master's degree thesis show

Contact: (734) 487-0465 or e-mail to jlocke1@emich. edu

Farmington Hills City Gallery

Time/Date: "Studies of Place and Views of Space" through Sept. 25

Location: Costick Center at 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Works by Rachel Reynolds and Robert Zahorsky

Contact: (248) 473-1856. Lotus Arts Gallery

Lucus Arts Ganery **Fime/Date:** "Impressi

Time/Date: "Impression & Expressions: Exploring Modern Printmaking," through Aug. 29. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Location: 995 West Ann Arbor Trail, downtown Plymouth

Contact: (888) 889-4ART (toll free) or (734)453-5400 Northville Art House

Location: 215 W. Cady Street, downtown Northville Contact: (248) 344-0497, or visit www.northvillearts. org

Village Theater at Cherry Hill

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday through Aug. 30

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton Details: "Michigan Comics: Mirth, Mockery, Mayhem," features more than 100 pieces of original artwork – editorial cartoons, gag panels, comic strips, comic books, graphic novels and other works on paper – and showcases the talents of 40 Michigan artists Contact: (734) 394-5300 or visit www.canton-mi.org/ villagetheater

BENÉFITS

Dawn Farm Jamboree

Time/Date: 1-6 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 13 Location: Dawn Farm, 6633 Stoney Creek Road, Ypsilanti Details: Free admission. Proceeds for the farm that helps recovering alcoholics and drug addicts, raised through an auction, gift tables and sales. Live music by NoteWorthy, hayrides, pony rides, rock climbing wall, children's tent, chair massages, farm tours, live and silent auctions, vendors, food and beverages. Farm fresh eggs available for purchase Contact: (734) 485-8725 pr visit www.dawnfarm.org Farmington Hills **Details:** Fifth annual event, cars, free outdoor concert

with big band sounds Contact: (248) 477-7400

COMEDY

Go Comedy!

CAR, CRUISE EVENTS

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays

Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale

Details: Improv most nights. Three original sketch comedies 8 p.m. Thursdays: Jeremy Conn and Garrett Fuller, both of Garden City, in their one- act comedic play, "Travel Earth Timeshares," through Sept. 24. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays

Contact: (248) 327-0575; www.gocomedy.net

JD's House of Comedy Time/Date: Various show times We

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings

Location: 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield

Details: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday

Contact: (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com Jazz Cafe at Music Hall

Time/Date: 9 p.m. third Thursdays

Location: 350 Madison Ave., Detroit Details: Show Up, and Go Up, open call, free Contact: (313) 887-8532, www.jazzcafedetroit.com

Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays, Open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex.com

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle

Time/Date: Open Mic 8 p.m. most Wednesdays Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak

Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com Palace of Auburn Hills Time/Date: Frank Caliendo/Bill Engvall, Oct. 24

Location: 1 Championship Drive, Auburn Hills Contact: (248) 645-6666 or Palacenet.com

CONCERTS

The Ark Time/Date: Little Feat, Aug. 27; Notorious, Aug. 28; Great Lake Swimmers, Aug. 29; Yid Vicious, Aug. 30 Location: 316 South Main, Ann Arbor Contact: (734) 763-8587; www.theark.org Canton jazz series Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 28 at Sam's Club on Ford Road

Details: Bugs Beddow Band; free **Contact**: (734) 394-5460





ŝ

bl T

89 (*)

New classes, tasting events offer expert tips on wine, spirits

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI CORRESPONDENT

If you've ever sat at a nice restaurant and wished you had a clue about what drinks complemented the food you just ordered, maybe taking a class at a local college, speciality store or wine bar is all you need to make your taste buds dance.

You don't have to be a wine snob to know the difference.

"From a social gathering standpoint it's becoming more popular and not as scary for people to understand what to do," said Shawn Loving, Schoolcraft College culinary arts department chair.

Schoolcraft College's fall enrichment classes give students a chance to learn about the new wines of Tuscany (class begins Monday, Sept. 28, for three weeks) and Bordeaux (class starts Monday, Nov. 2) with instructor/consultant and wine guru Lee Hershev.

In Oakland County, Oakland Community College is hosting "Wine Tasting Viva France," 6-9 p.m. Tuesdays, now through Sept. 8. Students will "travel" through France tasting wines from the most important regions while learning how to decipher different French wine labels. The cost is \$149. For more information, go to www.oaklandcc.edu/ce.

Other area community college enrichment classes will take students to regions around the world to learn about wines that are coming from New Zealand, Chile and Africa.

"They are doing much better and becoming much more popular and much more popularly priced," said Darlene Levinson, OCC Culinary Studies Institute instructor.

If you want to try something new, drinks with fresh herbs and savory flavors are among the latest drink trends, Levinson said.

"Some students are interested in know-

ing what's out there," she said. "They want to know about wines and how to read a wine menu."

If you think you know it all, there's always something new to learn.

"This weekend I'm having a girl party," said Levinson, who plans to serve friends pureed cucumbers, mixed with lemonade and lemon vodka.

Or, she said, you can use soda water and fresh herbs, like rosemary and thyme, from the garden. "There's a big movement to make drinks fresh and not use mixes," she added.

In one of her classes, Levinson says, "We taste something every week. Sometimes I put out 10 different vodkas and we taste the differences or 10 different whiskies and taste the differences. That's a lot of fun."

Loving, of Schoolcraft College, said, "I always followed a myth that wines had to be expensive. It's fun to know this red wine goes well with this protein or meat. It's a fun challenge to coordinate wines and spirits as opposed to be standoffish. It's more relaxing and inviting as a whole." Area restaurants and wine shops also

offer a variety of tasting events.

Grape Expectations, 555 Forest Ave. in downtown Plymouth, will host an Italian Wines/Wine Tasting Dinner at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 15. Patrons will sample wines from the Piedmont region and specifically from the winery Beni Di Batasiolo. Go to Grape Expectations on the Web at www.gewinebar.com or call (734) 455-9463.

WineStyles, 17386 Haggerty in Livonia, offers a variety of wine events each month. On Tuesday, Sept. 1, WineStyles offers Ladies Night from 5-9 p.m. Flights of wine (a sampling of six different wines) are just \$10. For more information, go to www. winestylesstore.com or call (734) 464-9600.



Let fall culinary classes stir up your passion for good food

The Food Network and the popular movie, Julie and Julia, have put culinary arts in the spotlight.

Personalities, like Emeril Lagasse and Rachael Ray and the economy are feeding our basic instinct to learn how to cook, and bake well in our own homes.

Community colleges are offering a wide range of classes this fall through continuing education programs for cooking enthusiasts who want to spice up their international culinary repertoire, learn a new technique for cutting vegetables and herbs or create decadent desserts at home.

Schoolcraft College in Livonia offers an extensive list of classes from indoor grilling and breadmaking to intricate pumpkin carving and cake decorating.

Popular continuing education classes at Schoolcraft involve preparing vegetarian meals, making homemade baby food and healthy food preparation.

Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn offers culinary adventures to tempt anyone's sweet tooth with offering such as gourmet chocolate confections and "stuffed" cupcakes.

Oakland Community College's "Decadent Gourmet Apples" class lets students create five applies covered in rich caramel, enrobed in four flavors of chocolate and sprinkled with layers of crunchy toppings. Learn how to create a gourmet fresh fruit bouquet at an OCC this

For a complete list of continuing education classes and seminars: Schoolcraft at www.schoolcraft.edu/pdfs/ cepd/2009_fall_culinary_seminars.pdf; HFCC is at, www. hfcc.edu/programs and OCC is at www.oakland.cc.edu/ce.

-Correspondent Diane Andreassi contributed to this story.

Sample wine, food at festival this weekend

Wine and Food Festival 1-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29, and 1-5:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 30.

the event, and include eight free wine samples, wine and food seminars and non-stop live entertainment. Designated Driver tickets may be purchased for \$10 and include two free soft drinks. Tickets for kids, age 12 to 17 years, are \$5 and those under 12 are admitted free.

Palace and DTE Energy Music Theatre Box Offices and all Ticketmaster locations. Tickets will also be available at the Meadow Brook Music Festival Box Office the day of the event. Each ticket is valid for one-day admission to the festival grounds.

Express, Discover, Visa and MasterCard by calling (800) 745-3000.

Award-winning wineries from the state of casing more than 100 varieties of wine including Chardonnay, Merlots, Rieslings, Sparkling, Dry Red and dessert wines. The festival's on-site retail store will have select wines available for purchase at the

Presenting sponsor Kroger will host a tent fea-

A special sales area will allow attendees to pur-



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, August 27, 2009

B10

casual upscale dining with reasonable prices 380 S. Main Street **Downtown Plymouth** (734) 416-9340 www.fiammagrille.com **Reservations Gladly Accepted** Book Your Private Parties Now!

7 days a week! 20-150 cjuesis!

Competilitye Pricing Leireja Manu nort ecoord of Unel A einer Manu To Suli Your Occusion



The food was great. Thanks for your attention to every detail - it was greatly appreciated. I will strongly recommend your establishment for parties.

A great time was had by all."

Thank You again Paula

Northville

"The party Friday night was wonderful! Thank you very much for your own fine efforts in the coordination. The wait staff is to be commended for their outstanding service

But the food, Gayle, was from HEAVEN!!! We assembled a group of very discriminating palates (Seattle, San Francisco, Chicago, Manhattan and Atlanta). I am still getting rave reviews.

KUDOS to the chef for his culinary expertise."

Betsye Ross Cleveland, OH

> "It was a pleasure to have our shower for Liz and Justin at Fiamma Grille.

Everyone involved was very Professional and Friendly.

We also had many compliments concerning the wonderful food and beautiful banquet room."

Thank You.

Margaret, Dennis, Linda and Will Livonia & Plymouth

"We wanted to tell you what a wonderful job you did for our rehearsal dinner on May 26. The Banquet room in Fiamma Grille was just perfect for the occasion.

The food was wonderful and the service was exceptional."

Joe And Jenny

Holiclery Baptisms **Baby Showers** Events Louislew Rehearsal Dinners Birindary Paniles cettino inementies Iniimcite Wedding Receptions eiblogio Trucuent lerennid 🕄

รอเทราสุร รูจองเราเบรา อุตางโล โฟองอบละ รูอเ ฟที่ โดง ไฟล์ เกิง เรา เกิง เกิง เกิง เกิง เกิง

"Last evening my husband and I hosted our Corporate Christmas party at Fiamma Grille. From Start to finish it was a wonderful evening.

The food was excellent, the service smooth and knowledgeable, the wine selection perfect. I know that during this busy time of year things don't always run smoothly.

Not last night, it was truly a delightful experience. "At Fiamma Grille eating and drinking is always a pleasure" says it best."

Thank You very much Karen and Ed

"Thank You so much for all your help with our wedding reception at Fiamma Grille! You did an exceptional job-we couldn't have asked for a better coordinator! Thank you to everyone who helped out as well - everything from food/drinks to the service to the decor was superb. We still receive compliments on our reception today, weeks afterwards."

Sincerely Kevin and Amy

"I wanted to drop you a quick note to tell you what a wonderful job both John & Gayle did for my party. The food was beautifully executed and our server made sure everyone always had a full glass or cup.

Everyone had a great time. Especially me since I did not have to worry about the meal or

Thank You Betty Jean

casual italian

350 S. Main Street

(734) 416-0100

Downtown Plymouth

bistro dining



REAL ESTATE **THURSDAY** August 27, 2009



Local pros: Market's 'starting to look up'

BY JULIE BROWN O&F STAFF WRITER

Gary Reggish, owner of Remerica United Realty in Novi, has been in real estate 10 years. The Livonia resident's president of the Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors.

"Things are absolutely starting to look up," Reggish said. The multiple listing service numbers through June show more homes sold in June than in previous Junes for many years.

"That is awesome news," Reggish said. "June was a record month for home sales."

He's pleased with a 27 percent drop in houses on the market, reducing inventory and helping with supply and demand issues. "That's absolutely a direction we want to be moving in," Reggish said.

The WWOCAR president cites good depth of homes available and the \$8,000 tax credit available to firsttime buyers. That's getting many people off the fence, as it sunsets Nov. 30.

"We've been working very hard in promoting that it's a good time to buy," Reggish said.

Some people treat the housing market like the stock market, waiting for prices to drop. They may miss a great buying opportunity, he said.

We're moving in the right direction" toward stabilizing property values. "We're heading toward stability."

He sees people relocated by their employers coming back to Michigan; some were in temporary corporate housing and may qualify for the \$8,000 credit.

Reggish is seeing more sold signs on properties, which boosts additional sales. "When they see movement, they start to buy.

More realistic pricing is also help-ing. "Same rules have always applied. Price a home right, you're going to get activity and you're going to sell."

In a declining market, as opposed to appreciating or stable, the seller should aim just below recent sales. "We're shooting at a moving target," Reggish said.

The economic downtown in Michigan related to auto company woes has certainly hit housing. "People tend to hold off on spending because they're uncertain about the future," he said, citing older cars on the road and home repairs delayed.

"They're going to have to start investing in goods." Reggish and others at Farmington-based WWOCAR



600,000 jobs since 2000, mostly in auto manufacturing. "That has a huge impact in the salability of our houses." He and others are working at the state level to bring in new companies for job creation and boost small business startups as well.

Michigan is below the national average on small business ownership, Reggish said.

Dan Elsea, president of brokerage services for Southfield-based Real Estate One, also has his finger on the pulse of the housing market.

"There's cause for optimism," said Elsea, a 25-year veteran of real estate who lives in Troy. The main thing he sees is first-time buyers and investors buying, driving down inventory. "That's always the first sign you look

Clarkston

Commerce Township

Farmington

Farmington Hills

Keego Harbo

Lake Orion

Lathrup Village

Milford

BIA

6645 Almond Ln

5074 Greenview Dr

23610 Bicking Ct 33880 Glenview Dr

23340 Longacre Ct

29018 Lorikay St

29254 Stillwater

2836 Beland Ave

3415 Blasser Dr

1822 Valley Ln

29844 Tanglewood Dr

66 Goldengate St 3817 Long Meadow Ln

18202 Wiltshire Blvd

30484 Ramblewood Club Dr

8595 Elkrun Dr

2464 Ivy Hill Dr

2516 Ivy Hill Dr

5311 Weston Ct

\$67,000

\$212,000

\$150,000

\$263,000 \$350,000

\$170,000

\$180,000

\$156,000 \$430,000

\$281,000

\$214,000 \$175,000

\$174,000 \$147,000

\$900,000 or so.

That category was created in the 1990s largely by dual income families, Elsea said, a less stable economic unit. There's also a demographic gap in that category between baby boomers and the next generation of buyers.

Realtor Adam Hammons of RE/ MAX Classic in Canton agreed things are looking up in the housing market. "We've been seeing the market since about April pick up," said Hammons, a Westland resident. "We've had a real improvement in sales."

Homes up to about \$80,000 are selling well, and Hammons is seeing movement in Canton in the \$125,000-\$165,000 range. "It's been a great time to buy," he said, adding he sees increased consumer confidence.

Hammons finds the \$8,000 credit has helped but the driving factor is elsewhere, "how much home you can buy for these prices right now." He's a seven-year veteran of real estate, and agreed many consumers were scared and holding off on purchases.

"Now it seems like everyone is relaxing a bit and spending more. I think it's going to continue," he said. Hammons is encouraged that there will even be small increases in values.

'So that's good news."

Ruth Martin, associate broker with Remerica Hometown One in Plymouth Township, said, "I would definitely say it is looking up. We are getting rid of a lot of inventory. There are starting to be some competing offers.'

Some investors are picking up fore-closed properties. "The banks are trying to work out the short sales a little faster. I'm very optimistic, absolutely," said Martin, a Livonia resident with 23 years in real estate. "I think the stimulus check is helping a lot of first-time buyers."

Realtor Ron Jasgur, who owns Homesource Realtors in Southfield, is seeing an upswing. Jasgur, with 12 years in real estate, noted home sales have increased in the last six-eight months.

"Pricing, on the other hand, is another story," the Commerce Township resident said. There are still homes in good neighborhoods with good schools.

'The volume has definitely picked up," he said. "It's a great time to buy." He's seeing first-time buyers interested in the credit, up around the \$250,000 point and below. "Obviously, there is pent-up demand for the higher end items," Jasgur said.

He added high unemployment in Michigan puts a damper on home ouying if sales: Everybody would be they knew they could sell."

Southfield

Troy

Walled Lake

Waterford

West Bloomfield

White Lake

\$379,000

\$15,000

\$132,000 \$78,000

\$163,000

\$389,000 \$226,000

\$99,000

\$185,000

\$118,000

\$136,000

\$145,000

\$290,000

\$173,000 \$173,000 \$110,000

\$151,000 \$60,000

\$180,000

\$263,000

23622 Prescott Ln E

19405 Addison Dr

3766 Horseshoe Dr

4949 Rivers Edge Dr

6579 Vernmoor Dr

274 Wellsboro St

1048 Erskine Way

5530 River Park Dr

2215 Eastman Blvd

1236 Foxpointe Dr

5765 Kingsfield Dr 5873 Kingsfield Dr

6138 Palomino Ct

7393 Westbury Blvd

9045 Huron Bluffs Dr

4023 Lotus Dr 3970 Maiden St

20985 Constitution St 21420 Potomac St

Attorney can advise on land contract

Q: I have a land contract which. allows me, as the seller, to exercise my option to accelerate the unpaid balance because the land contract vendee has defaulted. Do I need to give notice of such acceleration?

A: The answer is no. Under a recent case in the Michigan



Court of Appeals the court held that no particular form or type of notice is prescribed for exercising the right to accelerate and

that, in fact,

Robert Meisner

commencement of an action for foreclosure would evidence the seller's desire to exercise and would constitute an exercise of the right and option to accelerate. You should, however, review the contents of your land contract with an attorney to ensure that there is not an additional requirement in your land contract form.

Q: My property has been foreclosed on and I am trying to get refinancing. I am hoping that the bank who did the foreclosing will extend the redemption period. Do they have any obligation to do so?

A: No, even if the bank's refusal was based on spite or for any other reason, the bank has no obligation to make any concession by extending the redemption period based upon a recent case out the Michigan Court of Appeals. If you do not tender the money before the expiration of redemption period sufficient to satisfy its tolling, you will be out of luck. You should retain an attorney, however, to see if something can be worked out with the lending institution. Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. For more information, call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

are working with Michigan legislators on job creation. He noted our state has lost some

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area resi-

Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cit-

Beverly Hills

Bingham Farm

Birmingham

Bloomfield Township

of May 18-22, 2009, at the Oakland County

ies, addresses, and sales prices.

15719 Kirkshire Ave

30200 Bristol Ln

1785 Bowers St

1256 Cedar Dr 1199 Henrietta St

2494 Pembroke Rd

774 Brookwood Walke

1733 Hickory Bark Ln 6830 Orinoco Cir

2808 Downderry Ct 2375 E Hammond Lake Dr

Career Seminar

regarding startup cost, com-

mission and success potential

will be answered. It is offered

48154. Call (734) 266-9000 to

Real Estate as a Second

A seminar for individuals

considering real estate will be

held each Saturday at noon at

Home Smart Realty, 20853

426-6754 to reserve your

Foreclosure tours

Farmington Road. Call (248)

seat. Offered by Home Smart

Tour foreclosed homes in

by Keller Williams Realty,

36642 Five Mile, Livonia

reserve a seat.

Career

Realty.

1741 S Eton St

1382 Westboro

971 N Old Woodward Ave

dential real-estate closings recorded the week

pared to 120, Elsea said. He anticipates the higher end will improve, with the slowest category the \$500,000 to

Nov

Oakland Township

Rochester

Rochester Hills

South Lyon

\$60,000

\$295,000

\$50,000 \$159,000

\$685,000

\$250,000

\$340,000

\$405,000 \$635,000

\$439,000

\$475,000

\$283.000

\$234,000

\$190,000 \$315,000

\$185.000

\$442,000

\$100.000

\$107,000

\$70,000

\$133.000

\$66,000

for in a housing recovery," Elsea said,

adding that recovery piece isn't always

tied to the economic requirement. For

has to kick in at some time. This is the

first stage of the good news." The shift

Elsea agreed the \$8,000 tax credit

helped; until recently, 70 percent of

their sales were in the \$100,000 market. They're starting to see activity at

prices above that, and he noted great

"They're still staying and buying

because 80's still a good price as com-

interest rates and housing deals got

a full recovery, "the economic piece

will be to a neutral or even seller's

market.

people to buy.

3380 Morrow Ln

45167 Nine Mile Road

2026 Austin Dr 28380 Carlton Way Dr

50945 Chesapeake Dr 45108 Roundview Dr

45736 White Pines Dr

5295 Ashmonte Ct

144 Linwood Ave

1619 Springview Ct

1793 Apple Ridge Ct

2522 Brilliance

633 Millstone Dr

1036 Olympia Dr

123 Stratford Ln

187 Orchardale Dr

2931 Pheasant Ring Dr

1834 Streamedge Ct

58735 Carriage Ln

208 Oakbrooke Dr

61391 Dean Dr

2647 Invitational Dr

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND COUNTY

\$108,000 \$310,000

\$187,000

\$240,000 \$240,000

\$165,000

\$75,000 \$210,000

\$190,000

\$55,000 \$135,000

\$207,000 \$125,000

\$35,000

\$157,000

\$103.000

\$197,000

\$126,000

\$100,000

BRIEFS

area residential real-estate closings recorded the week of May 11-15, 2009, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities,

Canton						
41569 Ayrshire Dr	\$130,000					
40459 Bay Harbor Ln	\$102,000					
Garden City						
5756 Gilman St	\$90,000					
Livonia						
29120 Broadmoor St	\$200,000					
9928 Brookfield St	\$112,000					
18914 Glengarry Dr	\$295,000					
29729 Nottingham Cir	\$120,000					
17173 Stamwich St	\$160,000					
17305 Vacri Ln	\$195.000					
Northville						
18922 Heather Ridge Dr	\$573,000					
16521 Mulberry Way	\$259,000					
15537 Prestwick Cir N	\$549,000					
42955 Whitestone Ct	\$210,000					
Plymouth						
342 Pacific St	\$168,000					
157 S Mill St	\$135,000					
480 Sunset St	\$105,000					
Redford						
9216 Berwyn	\$105,000					
18852 Brady	\$75,000					
26155 Cathedral	\$80,000					
19371 Garfield	\$43,000					
15085 Gaylord	\$140,000					
Westland						
6770 Chirrewa St	\$112,000					
34335 Parkgrove Dr	\$191,000					



HOMES SOLD-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the Observer & Eccentricaddresses, and sales prices.

Association of Southeastern Michigan's (BIA) Sales & Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan's (BIA) NAHBR **Professional Remodelers** Council presents a seminar on "Financial Planning" on Wednesday, Sept. 9,

from noon to 1:30 p.m. at Association Offices, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills.

Brad Hinkson of Hinkson Construction, Inc. and NABHR chair, will moderate the presentation that will address how to evaluate the financial health of your business, self-diagnosis and how to get back on the right track.

There is no charge for council members and \$15 for guests. Advance payment is required. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at www.builders.org.

Building Industry

Marketing Council (SMC) will hold a Real Estate **Continuing Education course** on Thursday, Sept. 10, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at BIA Offices, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills. Lori Chmura of Middleton Training will present the

course that meets the statemandated requirement for six hours of Real Estate Continuing Education. **Registration fees are \$60** for SMC members, \$80 for BIA members and \$125 for guests. Continental breakfast and lunch are included. For

registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at www.builders.org.

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will present an overview of the Michigan Uniform Energy Code on

Thursday, Sept. 17, from 9-10:30 a.m. at Association Headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills.

Chris Pratt of Construction and Development Services, LLC will present the training including comparison of the four compliance strategies, an explanation of the various methods of demonstrating compliance, a discussion of construction related changes, a description of the different foundation insulation systems, a comparison of insulation materials, and a view of the Sample Cost Scenarios of the different methods.

Registration fees are \$55 for Green Built[™] Council members, \$75 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members and \$95 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at www.builders.org.

the Farmington and surrounding areas on every Sunday at 1 p.m., offered by Come to a free 59-minute Career Seminar 7 p.m. Home Smart Realty, 20853 Tuesday, Sept. 8, to find out why now is a good time to get 426-6754 for more informainto real estate. Questions

Learn about legal updates concerning the real estate industry including mortgage debt relief, first-time buyers, lead paint, license requirements, energy credits, Proposal A, military housing relief, etc. This seminar will give Realtors 2.0 hours Continuing Education credits. Sponsored by Real **Estate Investors Association** of Oakland Thursday, Sept. 10, 5:30-9:30 p.m. at MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Seminar free to members, \$20 nonmembers. Call (800) 747-6742. (www. REIAofOakland.com)

Farmington Road. Call (248) tion and registration.

Investors

. . ..

Challenging fun for ALL ages	REAL ESTATE HOMETOWN IT	e.com
PUZZZLE CORPACIONAL DUZZZLE SOLVED DUZZZLE SOLVED Separate	OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS Classified Classified Classified Classified Contact Us: PHONE PHONE MALE DEALIVERY/CIRCULATION BeedS Deadlines: Sunday edition Contact IS Sunday edition Contact IS Sunday edition Contact IS Sunday edition Contact IS Contact	
20 de force 2 Opposite of "paleo" A K I N B C L A N G M U L E "paleo" 24 Erudite person 3 been had! 28 Cajole 4 Not 'neath 30 Sketcher's need 5 Snuggles 31 Action film high- light 6 Happen 32 "Peanuts" kid 8 TV news source 33 Snorts with glee 9 Back when 36 August sign 10 Worst-smelling 37 Pursuit 11 Crystal-clear 40 Pay out 13 Hardly a wall- flower 41 Loes 21 Rowboat need 45 Does perfectly 23 Walk unsteadily 46 Nearly wins 24 Talk up 47 Sorcerers 25 Wailed 50 Type of needle- work 26 Vietnam capital 51 Well-versed 28 idea was 52 Boxer's punch that? 51 Well-versed 28 idea was 52 Boxer's punch that? 53 Legal matter 29 Playwright 54 Fragrant com- pound 31 Where castles 57 Turms toward 31 Where castles 48 Perfect 47 Heats up	Offices and Hours: Eccentric office	ty. 1,020 ces, iight pen Sat. 9,900. 121-1959 E E fpm 00 O O NLY room bed- vith full Circle 8168 70
57 Turns toward move 48 Perfect 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 15 15 16 16 16 16 17 20 21 22 23 1 19 24 25 26 27 28 29 1 10 30 31 33 34 35 36 33 33 34 35 36 337 43 44 1 40 41 42 43 44 1 47 48 49 50 50 50 50 51 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 51 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 65 66 66 67 1 1 1	30 Yr. Pts. 15 Yr. Pts. Other 1st Choice Mortgage Lending (734) 459-0782 5 0 4.375 0 J/A Accurate Mortgage Solutions (800) 593-1912 5 0 4.375 0 J/A Arrenplus Mortgage Corp. (248) 740-2323 5.125 0 4.5 0 J/A BRINKS Financial (800) 785-4755 4.625 1.625 4.25 0.5 J/A/V/F Cleent Services by Golden Rule (800) 991-9922 4.875 0.125 4.25 0.375 J/A/V/F Dearborn Federal Savings Bank (313) 565-3100 5.375 0 4.625 0.25 J/V/F First State Bank (800) 792-830 5.125 0.25 J/V/F O Luts & Acreage/Vecan Gold Star Mortgage (900) 784-1074 4.875 0.125 4.25 9.375 J/A/F	14-9760 15, 3 full 15, fit, al 1419,000. 15 15, 100. 15
SUDOKU 8 7 1 9 7 4 9 7 4 4 6 7 3 9 7 3 2 9 7 3 2	Golden Rule Mortgage (800) 991-9922 4.75 0.75 4.25 0.375 J/A/V/F Group One Mortgage (248) 282.1602 5.25 0 4.875 0 J/A/V/F Mortgages by Golden Rule (800) 991-9922 5 0.25 4.5 0 J/A/V/F Mortgages by Golden Rule (800) 991-9922 5 0.25 4.5 0 J/A/V/F Mortgages by Golden Rule (800) 991-9922 5 0.25 4.5 0 J/A/V/F Mortgage (810) 844-2222 4.625 1.5 4.125 1.125 J/A Northlawn Financial (248) 988-8488 5 0 4.375 0 J/A/V/F Shore Mortgage (800) 678-6663 4.875 2 4.375 2 J/A/V/F Above Information available as of 8/21/09 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 Is the Stuff in your house Is upour house In your house J/A/V/F J/A/V/F J/A/V/F J/A/V/F J/A/V/F	3880 3880 TERY den of ach.



square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!



rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com. Key to "Other" Column - J = Jumbo, A = Arm, V = VA, F = FHA & NR = Not Reported. All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders.



From start to finish we will guide you every step of the way.

Call Classifieds today

1-800-579-7355

Whether it's fixed or adjustable, for 15 or 30 years, buying a home is a big commitment. You need someone who defiantly knows where the relationship is going. A REALTOR* is committed to making sure that

you're comfortable during the entire home buying experience, and that you're satisfied in the end. Everyone knows that a good relationship takes work.

So when it comes to buying a home, work, with someone who'll work with you.



Recommends that you to contact a Realtor.*

Metropolitan Consolidated Association of Realtors 901 Tower Drive, Suite 190 Troy, MI 48098 248 879-5730

Real Estate Is Our Life.







of Farmington, N. of 5 Mile. Baby & children's clothing,

furniture, toys & household items. Thurs.-Sat., Aug. 27-

29th. 9am-4pm.

MISC Refrigerator \$125; elec-

tric stove w/microwave \$85;

42" maple table \$45; dehu-

chest freezer \$65 10,000 BTU air condition \$65;

small

5, E of Beech Daily. Thurs-Mon., 8-27 thru 8-31, 10-6pm

ROMULUS YARD SALE Aug.

FOUND KITTEN: Aug. 23

Grey, 9 Mile & Chubb. (248) 860-5688

6 %

online at hometownlife.com

Turn your "junk" into someone else's treasure!



CHILD CARE ASSISTANT

Full & Part-Time

Christian Center in Plymouth 734-455-3196

Zatkoff Seals & Packings

PO Box 486 Farmington MI 48332-0486



OF08

coloradolandbargains.com

> buildmydreamteam.com or 1-877-Fill-A-Job

careerbuilder.com®

newspaper for details.

3.6 million readers. Contact this

newspaper for details



Sometimes it's a blessing for your business. Replace departing employees with the contributors you need today. We know how to find them.

LAWN MAINTENANCE

Lawn Alive Lawn Care needs

full-time help with experience. 734-595-8525

ORAL SURGERY ASSISTANT

Full-Time. Commerce Twp

IMMEDIATE. Exp. needed. Fax resume: 248-779-1813

A A A

-16

START BUILDING

and the stand of the stand of the



we are doing	요. 이 이 이 이 아이아 드 집 []
PART TO KE	
TADVING AT	-
UICK-PONTIAC-GMC	M-14
	Sheldon Road
	5 Mile Road
BDEALSt"	
15 PONT, GR. PRIX GXP White, V8	10,495
6 CHEVROLET HHR LT Blue, Leather	
95 GMC EXT. PU Z71 z71 Blue ⁶	
9 PONTIAC VIBE Red, Auto	14,995
18 PONTIAC G-5 Coupe, Black	
D7 CHEVY T-BLAZER White, 4x4, 35K	
07 CADILLAC CTS TanONLY	
)7 JAGUAR X TYPE Silver, Moon	- K (
D5 BUICK LACROSSE CSX Black	
D9 CADILLAC CTS Black,ONLY S	
)1 CHEV. ASTRO VAN Tan, Loaded	
D5 SATURN VUE Red, 38K	
16 CHEV. IMPALA SS Black, 29K	
16 SATURN VUE White, 37K⁶	
D7 CHEVROLET IMPALA LT Dark Blue. ⁴	13.995
D8 IMPALA Cloth TrimONLY ⁶	13.695
3 GRAND AM GT COUPE RedONL	^{\$} 4.495
J6 WALIBU LS Special Purchase!	\$9,995
77 DODGE CALIBER SXT silver	.\$9,995
18 PONTIAC G-6 GT Silver	12,495
D4 EXPLORER White, Sharp	12,995
18 CADILLAC CTS Silver, 35k	25,695
Our 34th Year	14,495 13,995 13,695 13,695 *9,995 *9,995 12,495 12,495 12,995 25,695 GM
Proud to be part of the New	GM
734-453-2500 (3. 1
	2290



