

CANTON CONNECTION

Eat with Phil

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts "Breakfast with Phil LaJoy" 7:30 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 15. at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton. The cost for breakfast



LaJoy

is \$10 (advance member registration) and $\overline{$20}$ (non-member) and includes a full buffet breakfast. beverages and guest speaker presentation. This

breakfast is open

to the public. The breakfast will feature guest speaker Phil LaJoy, Canton Township Supervisor. Topic of discussion will be "Canton Happenings and what he sees as Cantons future.'

"Breakfast with Phil LaJoy" is sponsored by Alphagraphics and National City Bank. To make a reservation, contact the Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040.

Mama's night

Experience the hilarious comedy of America's funniest moms at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 16. 'Mama's Night Out' three performers - Karen Morgan, Sherry Davey and Nancy Witter - who know how to treat motherhood like a laughing matter. Tickets are \$27 for all seats,

reserved seating. Tickets for groups of 15 or more are \$22 per person. To get tights online, visitiwww. CantonVillageTheater.org and click on Box Office or call (734) 394-5460. Tickets can also be purchased in advance at Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Rock royalty

Seniors Chris Sweet and Brittney Cicotte are Salem High School's 2009 homecoming king and queen. Plymouth defeated South Lyon East 19-0. Turn to page B1 for all the Friday night action.

Fire chief: Building wall was legal

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's a tale of two neighborhoods divided by what one resident has dubbed The Not So Great Wall of Canton.

But the people who legally built it on private property have their reasons and it has nothing to do with being mean-spirited toward their neighbors to

the south. Many residents who

New ordinance would deal with foreclosure blight

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

With 3 percent of Canton homes in foreclosure or facing the threat of it, township officials are considering new blight-battling measures aimed at bolstering property values and ensuring safety around vacant homes.

In all, 1,033 of Canton's nearly 36,800 homes are in some state of foreclosure. Officials say some property owners have failed to address deteriorating conditions, spurring local leaders to explore a new ordinance requiring owners to register vacant properties, pay a \$175 fee, get an inspection and fix problems posing safety hazards.

However, township board members appear reluctant to force banks, mortgage companies and other owners of vacant properties to make lesser, more cosmetic repairs to items such as furnaces and water heaters. They indicated those issues would best be left to private entrepreneurship and new buyers before they move in.

'We can hardly get (the banks) to mow the grass," township Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin said.

Canton officials debated a potential vacant-property ordinance during a Tuesday study session, in the wake of complaints from township residents who fear their neighborhood property values are further eroding due to blight of foreclosed homes.

However, local elected officials cited revisions they want township staff members to make before a new ordinance is approved, possibly in time to become effective early next year. The debate comes as many metro Detroit communities, besieged by foreclosures, already have adopted similar measures.

Homes targeted by a local ordinance would likely be those that have been vacant for 30 days or more. Essentially, local officials want to ensure that foreclosed homes are safely secured so they don't pose safety hazards and drive down property values due to blight. Some local officials indicated support for having new buyers address the lesser, indoor problems before they could get a new code compliance certificate and move in. But township Trustee Pat Williams called it a "slippery slope" to require such certificates, saying he fears it could lead to a broader inspection program even for residences and apartments that aren't vacant. "I don't believe the township has to micromanage this," Williams said, saying it could drive up costs for consumers. Williams does, however, support efforts to force banks and other property owners to fix problems involving safety and blight. Of the 1,033 township homes currently in some state of foreclosure, the new ordinance likely would currently apply only to 394 houses that already are in ownership of banks and other lending institutions, **Municipal Services Director Tim Faas** said.

Parkway. The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton.

Spooky stories

This fall, Canton Leisure Services' Stories from the Shadows is sure to send goose bumps down your spine and frighten all who are brave enough to attend at its new location in the historic Cady-Boyer Barn on Wednesday, Oct. 14 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Audiences can enjoy an evening of spooky stories in the crisp autumn air as storytellers do their best to assure age appropriate entertainment throughout the program.

Registration is required to participate and space is limited, so sign up today online at Cantonfun.org to enjoy an evening of spine-chilling stories. The Cady-Boyer Barn is located in Preservation Park at 500 N. Ridge Road. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information call (734) 394-5460 or visit www.cantonmi.org.

live in the Morton Taylor Palmer area relished a northbound shortcut to Cherry Hill Road when Cherrystone Drive, part of The Hamptons condominium development, was built in recent years.

Rather than driving over to Lilley or Sheldon, they could simply head north on Morton Taylor and connect to Cherrystone, which travels through The Hamptons to Cherry Hill Road.

Recently, though, the condo association first blocked off access to Cherrystone with plywood and snow-fencing, then replaced those materials with 18 heavy, concrete blocks measuring 25 inches tall, 25 inches wide and 51 inches long.

Chuck McHenry, senior sales consultant for **Robertson Brothers Co.**, which is handling the sales,





BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Other trouble spots include 305 homes under notice of trustee sale and 334 under notice of default. In many cases, residents

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School cuts less than expected in budget deal

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The school aid budget lawmakers sent Friday to Gov. Jennifer Granholm provided a good news, bad news situation for local school districts.

While the bill slashes school aid by \$165 per pupil, it's less than the \$218 lawmakers had been discussing. In a district of more than 19,000 students, that means Plymouth-Canton stands to lose more than \$3.1 million in state funding this year.

But the fact the cut is smaller than feared doesn't mean it's going to be any easier for the district to swallow.

"It's kind of like someone telling you they're going to cut off your arm, but then only having to cut off your hand," said Dr. Craig Fiegel, the district's superintendnent. "Do we feel good? No, but it beats \$218. It's more than we anticipated when we built the budget in July."

In preparing the 2009-10 budget, assistant superintendent for business services Jim Larson-Shidler had already figured in a \$100 cut (about \$1.9 million), meaning the district only has to find another \$1.2 million.

Unfortunately for Plymouth-Canton, that's the good news and the bad news. In a district that has shaved some \$18 million off its budget the last seven years or so, further cuts might be tough to come by.

Fiegel said the district could use its fund balance to cover the rest, but such a measure is really just delaying the problem.

"You can use that one time, but it leaves us with bigger cuts next year," Fiegel said. "You're going to have to make up for this next year, then on top of that whatever they do next year."

State lawmakers Friday sent a school aid budget to Granholm that will cut per-pupil funding by \$165, which is less than the \$218 that had been discussed, plus some \$65,000 in cuts for career technical and adult education. The cut leaves Plymouth-Canton at \$7,439 per pupil.

The budget deal came within a day of the deadline for releasing federal funds to the school districts and 10 days in advance of when districts are scheduled to receive their October school aid payment.

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WALL FROM PAGE A1

said condo officials decided to block Cherrystone after people began dumping garbage near a wooded area on the south end of their development. Moreover, he said too many motorists used the northbound shortcut, causing heavy traffic volume.

"That was part of the problem," McHenry said, "but it was also the (high) speed of the traffic."

The problem worsened this summer as road-construction projects began along other north-south arteries such as Lilley and Haggerty.

One man who lives south of the wall contacted the *Observer* with questions about the legality of blocking the road. He also pointed to vulgar graffiti spray-painted on what he called The Not So Great Wall of Canton, but he didn't want his name used because he feared the vandals might target his house.

Some residents didn't appear as upset by the wall.

"It's a little bit of a hindrance, but there are worse things," Dale VanWashenova said. "I understand why they put it up, because of the traffic and the dumping."

Canton Fire Chief Michael Rorabacher said the condo association had every legal right to block off access to Cherrystone Drive.

"It's private property, and

BLIGHT FROM PAGE A1

still have time to try to save their homes and remain in them.

As initially proposed, the new ordinance could carry additional fees and fines on banks and other owners who refuse to fix problems cited by the township. But until the new rules are revised and adopted by the township board, it remains unclear how far-reaching those measures might be.

Township Clerk Terry Bennett said she is concerned about forcing banks and other owners to completely restore vacant homes that, in some instances, have been virtually stripped inside — even



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Resident Dale VanWashenova called the blocked road a minor hindrance but says he understands why the condo association did it.

they have the right to do that," he said. "The fire department likes to have as much access (to neighborhoods) as we can have, but it's private property and we have no standing to force them to open it up."

Rorabacher said the increased traffic flow became a problem for The Hamptons.

"With the construction (along other roads), more and more people found it as a shortcut," he said, adding that the problem "just came to a head."

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of copper. Safety issues aside, Bennett said it might be better to let new buyers decide for themselves how they want to fix up the houses.

While Trustee John Anthony said he agreed with many of the views of his colleagues, he did say it appears on some level that banks "are skating" by not being required to more fully restore homes. Like others, however, he said the main goal is to make sure vacant homes are safe and secured.

If anything, local officials have learned that adopting a new ordinance for vacant homes isn't an issue that's quickly resolved. As such, they told township staff members to revisit the matter before a new round of talks is scheduled in coming weeks.

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"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

Historical society meets

The Canton Historical Society conducts its October general membership meeting Wednesday, Oct. 14, at 7 p.m. at the Cherry Hill School at Cherry Hill and Ridge in Canton.

Guest speaker will be Dr. James Schwartz, who will talk about "taming the 'savagery Michigan's native people" and will discuss the effort to establish formal legal and informal customary boundaries to tame the perceived wildness and savagery of Michiagn's native people. Schwartz is assistant professor of history at Eastern Illinois University.

For additional information contact the historical society at www. Cantonhistoricalsociety.org

Woman to woman

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts "Woman To Woman: Making A Difference," at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 14. Cost is \$10.

"Woman to Woman...making a difference" will be the keynote address of Detroit area businesswoman and philanthropist Denise Ilitch. All local women are welcome and encouraged to attend. Refreshments will be served and coffee and dessert will conclude the program.

Giving Hope was born out of the belief that there are women in the Canton and Plymouth communities who together, can make a meaningful impact on the lives of women and families in need.

For more information or to make a reservation, call (734) 495-1200 or visit givinghopewgc@gmail.com website

Chamber fund-raisers

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts a fund-raiser at Rose's Restaurant Oct. 29-31, from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. - a Texas Hold'em fund-raiser to be held in a private, smokefree environment. There will be a full service bar, late night menu and a midnight pizza buffet in the lounge.

"This is a great way to sup-

AROUND CANTON



Promoting literacy

Starfish Family Services and IKEA Metro Detroit are partnering to promote children's literacy. IKEA will have events at their Canton location throughout the month of October, including a book drive for children in the community and hosting a field trip for 200 Starfish Head Start children that will feature guest readers and lunch in their cafeteria. A Book Drive for children in local communities takes place at the IKEA store in Canton through Saturday, Oct. 24. The community is asked to donate new or gently used books for children 12 years old and younger. There will be a drop off bin located in the exit area of the store. The Starfish Head Start children will visit IKEA on Tuesday, Oct. 20 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. and from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. They will be treated to a free lunch and guest readers. Starfish Family Services offers programs to help educate and empower vulnerable families and children in western Wayne County. For more information on donation opportunities please visit www.starfishonline.org.

on the Chamber Web site and presenting it to their server at Rose's Restaurant. The Canton Chamber of Commerce will receive 15 percent of net purchases made that evening.

A is for Amarone

Vintner's Canton Winery, winner of 19 medals in WineMaker Magazine Competition, will be hosting an "A is for Amarone" dinner on Sweetest Day Saturday, Oct. 17, and Oct. 24 at the Vintner's Canton Winery, 8515 N. Lilley Rd., Canton.

Guests will be treated to the opening of the 2008 Amarone - a double Gold Medal Winning wine. The "Amarone Dinner" celebrates the conclusion of five years of awards and great wine. The dinner will be catered by A Family Affair Catering with Chef BJ Page preparing foods of the Veneto area of Italy, home to Amarone. Reservations are limited to 34 guests each night. The dinner features Gold Medal winning wines with each course includingVintner's Gold Medal Pinot Grigio, Gold Medal Amarone and Gold Medal Bello Bacio, cherry chocolate dessert wine.

Girls want to scrap

Canton Newcomers will be hosting "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun," a two-day crop, as their fall fund-raiser.

This fun-filled event will feature amazing "make and takes," as well as exciting raffles and door prizes. You can look forward to working with a talented and spirited group of scrappers.

Space is still available, contact Laura Malone on (734) 945-0749, or visit www. cantonnewcomers.org. Ticket cost is 2-days for \$50 or 1-day for \$30, meals and drinks are included. The crop will be held on Friday, Oct. 23, from noon to midnight and Saturday, Oct. 24, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

BPW meets

The goal of the Canton Business & Professional Women is to promote full participation, equity and economic self-sufficiency for America's working women.

The Canton BPW meets 6-8:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 12, at Palermo's Restaurant, 44938 Ford Road in Canton. Palermo's is located in the strip mall behind Murray's Association of University Women hosts its monthly meeting Oct. 15, at 6:30 p.m., held at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon Rd. Plymouth (just north of North Territorial Rd.)

The meeting will feature a light dinner (\$10 per person) followed by a presentation of "Lily Ledbetter - A Fair Act Play." Increasing awareness of pay inequities is one of the goals of AAUW.

For more information contact Esther Nelson at enelson1c@att.net or 734 981-4938.

Book signing

Award-winning author and photographer Cheryl A.Vatcher-Martin of Canton has published her second children's book, "The Cornstalks Are Whispering."

She kicks off her latest book signing tour on Oct. 16 for a jam packed weekend of author events. Her first event is 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 16, at Borders Books in Brighton for the children's story time.

"I'm looking forward to reading "The Cornstalks Are Whispering' to the children who will be there for story time. I hope to read excerpts from my book, "Haiku For You: With Some One Room School House History too." she said.

She'll also be at the Southgate Borders Express 2-4 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 17, and the Westland Mall Borders Express 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 18.

To make the book signing events complete, she autograph copies of this book and others on Halloween, 1-3 p.m. Oct. 31, at the Livonia, Borders Express inside of the Laurel Park Mall in Livonia.

Martin can be reached at (734) 397-1626 or by e-mail at peroinc5@comcast.net. As an instructor she is offering a new children's writing course, and, writing your life story, other writing classes, French, and, Spanish classes through Wayne-Westland Community Schools. For further information (734) 419-2426.

Vegan diet

The health benefits of the vegan diet will be the subject of a program held Oct. 20 at 7 p.m. at the Canton Public Library. Gaia Kile, a Family Nurse Practitioner working with natural and holistic approaches to health and disease, is the featured speaker. His talk will address the science behind some of the benefits and key factors for success through vegan nutrition. October is Vegetarian Awareness month. To register for this free program, visit www.cantonpl.org or call (734) 397-0999.

CORRECTION

A story headlined "Realtor offers weight-loss challenge" in the Thursday, Oct. 8, *Canton Observer* was actually about a Canton, Ga., Realtor and was mistakenly identified as a Canton, Mich., program.

OBSERVER NEWSPAPERS WHERE HOMETOWN STORIES UNFOLD C) GANNETT

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port the Canton Chamber of Commerce and have fun while doing it," said Dianne Cojei, president of the Canton

Chamber of Commerce. For more information on this event, go to www.cantonchamber.com click on forms & flyers and go to Rose's Restaurant Fundraiser and get all the details. • Also on Oct. 27, from 5-9 p.m., diners can turn pasta

• Also on Oct. 27, from 5-9 p.m., diners can turn pasta into cash for the Canton Chamber by printing the flier

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The \$30 cost includes dinner, wine, tax and gratuity.

Reservation deadline is Oct. 13 for the Oct. 17 event, and Oct. 20 for the Oct. 24 dinner. Reservations by phone with credit card or stop by the winery in Canton. Vintner's Canton is located on Lilley between Joy and Warren. Winery hours are Tuesday-Friday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., or call (734) 354-9463. Auto Supply on north side of Ford Road - east of Canton Center Road and west of Sheldon.

The guest speaker, attorney Gary Sackett, will talk about wills and trusts.

For more information contact June Nicholas, (313) 610-2561 or junenicholas@ comcast.net

AAUW meeting

The Plymouth/Canton branch of the American





LOCAL NEWS

SENIOR HEALTH & LIVING EXPO

OCC - Orchard Ridge Campus

Building H

EXPO CENTER

Short-Term

Parking Parking Disabled Parking Parking

Testimony wraps up in Orlewicz hearing

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A forensic psychologist testified Friday that J.P. Orlewicz, the Plymouth Township teen convicted last year in the beheading death of Daniel Sorensen, exhibits no sign of any diagnosable mental abnormality.

Dr. Charles Clark, a clinical/forensic psychologist with a Ph.D. in clinical psychology, testified he found Orlewicz to be highly intelligent with no signs of psychosis.

Clark was testifying before Wayne County Circuit Judge Bruce Morrow at a hearing to determine whether Orlewicz, convicted of killing Sorensen in November 2007, should be granted a new trial. Orlewicz's appelate attorney, Elizabeth Jacobs, is asking Morrow to grant the new trial because the original trial judge, Annette Berry, refused to allow testimony about Orlewicz's mental state at the first trial.

"What he did raises a question, but does not answer it, about a potential personality disorder ... in a case of this sort I'm not able to obtain enough information to make that judgment," Clark testified. "What's noteworthy in my findings is the absence of findings. What's most striking is there really are no findings of a major abnormality or even anything less severe."

Clark examined Orlewicz in July at the request of Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Jeff Caminsky, who is handling the hearing for the county. He spent about six hours with Orlewicz, including a threehour interview and several hours of interaction. Jacobs said Orlewicz's original legal team arranged for Birmingham psychiatrist Gerald Sheiner to

examine her client, but that Berry forced Shiener to stop the exam and refused to allow his testimony, calling it irrelevant.

A subsequent report prepared by Shiener which he said was based on an examination of police reports and interviews with Orlewicz, concluded the teen was "operating under a reasonable fear of death or great bodily harm" when he lured Sorensen to his grandfather's garage in Canton, stabbed him multiple times, then beheaded him and dumped his body in a Northville field and set it on fire.

The fear, Shiener testified, grew from Orlewicz's belief Sorensen was involved with organized crime. The doctor said Orlewicz also told him Sorensen threatened his girlfriend and family.

Caminsky tried to counter that fear with tesimony from Clark and psychiatrist Victor Bloom, a retired state examiner. Bloom reviewed the transcript of the original trial, reports from Shiener and reports of things Orlewicz said in phone calls to his father from prison.

Clark said Orlewicz was insistent that his stabbing of Sorensen was in self-defense, an argument the jury at the original trial didn't buy. Clark said he disagreed with Shiener's finding of "an unspecified depressive disorder."

"I didn't not find that," Clark testified. "There's sim-

aid ply no reason to believe it was there."

Final arguments in the hearing are scheduled for Nov. 6. Both attorneys left Friday's hearing expressing positive feelings about the outcome.

"We have some good testimony showing (Orlewicz) was very susceptible to feelings of vulnerability," Jacobs said. "(Berry) wouldn't allow (Shiener) to testify, and that's a denial of right to counsel. She interfered with that right. This hearing is to explore whether (Shiener's) testimony would have been relevant to the jury."

Obviously, Caminsky doesn't think so.

"We think the jury had all the facts," he said. "It's our position the psychological testimony (Jacobs) is seeking to introduce would have had no effect on the jury. We think (Morrow) has all the facts and we're hopeful he'll make the right decision."

The two people stuck in the middle — Sorensen's parents, Jim and Kim Sorensen of Westland don't believe any psychological testimony would make a difference. All one need do, they feel, is look at the other testimony, particularly that of Alexander Letkemann, who pleaded guilty and is in prison after testifying against Orlewicz.

"It comes down to who do you believe," Jim Sorensen said. "I don't think Alex Letkemann puts himself in prison for 20 years unless he's telling the truth. You have to believe what Alex said, or what (Orlewicz) said, and every witness corroborated what Alex said."

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Celebrate senior life, health at Friday Expo

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Health screenings, demonstrations, expert speakers and a meet and greet with the star of *Ethel Merman's Broadway* at the Gem Theatre are all part of the *Observer & Eccentric* and *Hometown Newspapers* Senior Health & Living Expo set for 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday at Oakland Community College in Farmington Hills.

The free event will feature more than 40 exhibitors offering resources, demonstrations and information on health, finance, housing and more at the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College, 27055 Orchard Lake Road, Building H, Farmington Hills. (Patrons will be shuttled by a classic red trolley from the parking lot to Building H and parking is free.)

Experts will provide presentations and/or demonstrations on topics such as income and tax strategies, when is the right time to make a move, stress management, massage therapy, yoga, dental care and nutrition.

The OCC Nursing School will provide free health screenings. Expo patrons are invited to

meet and greet Rita McKenzie, star of *Ethel Merman's Broadway*, at the Gem Theater beginning at noon. Stop at the Gem Theatre booth for a chance to win free tickets to the show, playing through Nov. 22.

Ethel Merman's Broadway recreates a theatrical era filled with charm, wit, personality and, most of all, wonderful music.

The expo is presented by the OSE and Hometown Newspapers in partnership with Oakland Community College, AM580 Motor City Favorites and V98.7 FM.

Come enjoy free morning coffee and enter to win movie tickets and other prizes. Attorney Jack Bolling will

discuss legacy and estate plan-

ning 10-11 a.m. and Richard Paul, certified financial planner and owner/president of Midwest Financial Consultants, will discuss tax strategies for 2009 and beyond from 11 a.m. to noon. Steve Falcone, executive vice president of Senior Village Management/Unified Management Services, will explore "at what point does changing one's residence make sense for an older adult" 1-2 p.m. Falcone has been in the multi-family real estate industry for more than 28 years and holds a CPM designation through the Institute of Real Estate Management.

Attend the free expo and visit the following exhibitors: The Preservation of Affordable Housing — 920 On the Park and 8330 On the River, Abbey Park at Mill River, AM 580 Motor City Favorites, American House Senior Living Residences, Ameriprise Financial, Bath Fitter, Bergman Porretta Eye Center, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, Botsford Hospital, Brookside Senior Living, Chelsea Retirement Community, Denopt Inc., Detroit Media Partnership (Michigan Senior Living), Erickson Living/Fox Run, Fluke Hearing Instruments, Garan Lucow Miller P.C., Gem & Century Theatres, HeathQuest's Back & Neck Solution Centers.

Look for the red Trolley Car!

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Rd

Lot 3

Lot 2

Lot 1

Also exhibiting at the Oct. 16 Expo will be Heartland Healthcare, HearUSA, Hug Center for Hearing, Humana, Huron-Clinton Metroparks, Innovative Hearing Services, Jack W. Bollling, P.C., Medical Diagnostics, Medilodge, Metlife Bank, Midwest Financial Consultants, Inc., National Multiple Sclerosis Society (Michigan Chapter), Oakland Community College, Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens, Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Newspapers, Optimum Hearing Care, Oreck Clean Home Centers, Planned Home Improvement, Saturn of Farmington Hills, Senior Helpers, Senior Village Management, Stevens Worldwide Van Lines, Trinity Senior Living Communities, University of Michigan Livonia Vein Center (Livonia), V98.7 and Waltonwood Senior Living.





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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, October 11, 2009 (CP)

EDUCATION

Incumbents: Experience needed 'now more than ever'

Mardigian: Student achievement 'point of pride' Simescu: Budget, student achievement the focus

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

A4

The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Trustees have made more than \$15 million worth of cuts to the district's budget over the last eight years or so, and Judy Mardigian is the only board member who's been around for all of it.

It's that kind of institutional knowledge Mardigian believes is critical as the district faces more challenges in the form of a struggling state economy and expected cuts to the state per-pupil foundation grant.

That's why she decided, after some contemplation otherwise, to seek re-election in the Nov. 3 school board election. She's one of five candidates for three four-year terms.

Mardigian considered not running again, but with many of her fellow trustees in their first terms, she felt ultimately that her experience would benefit the board.

"It wasn't an easy decision," she said of her choice to run. "We're moving into difficult times, and now more than ever we're going to need the experience.

Mardigian, like everyone else, knows the biggest challenge facing the district is the budget. The district is facing possible deficits of some \$4 million now and some \$10 million next year, without the fund balance or revenue sources to cover it if the state, as expected, goes through with cuts.

Still, she said, the district has to make decisions with one goal in mind: Student achievement. To do that, Mardigian said, the district needs to plan in advance.

THE MARDIGIAN FILE

• Who: Judy Mardigian • What: Seeking a four-year

term on the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education • Where: Plymouth Township resident

Mardigian • Family:

Husband, Sy Nahra; son Charlie, a student at Michigan State; daughter Sandy, student at Albion

 Profession: She and her husband own Health Decisions, Inc., specializing in electronic auditing of medical claims for employees

"You have to be very careful about what you cut so you don't impact student achievement," she said. "We need a multi-year crisis plan. We also need to look at what programs we can pare down and keep viable.'

Mardigian believes the board has handled the budget well, helped enormously, she said, by the district's performance on projects funded by the 2004 bond. Every building in the district built before 2000 was renovated, and every project came in on time and under budget.

Another point of pride for Mardigian, currently the board treasurer who is also the past president, is student achievement. Student scores on tests like the MEAPs, the ACT and the Michigan Merit Exams has increased every year.

Helping students continue to improve is where she wants the board's focus.

Student achievement needs to be the focus." she said. "It's a very strong point of pride. I'm proud we've dealt with the financial crisis, and we've been able to manage our budget."

To deal with future cuts, Mardigian said the district will use a proactive process including as many as 14 committees to make decisions. Those committees will have board members, district officials and, most importantly, members of the community at

to us with recommendations,' she said. "We'll be very inclusive in how we approach it."

praise for the job being done by Dr. Craig Fiegel, who just started his second year at the helm, though she thought the administration's budget process could have been smoother.

She thinks Fiegel, who came curve.

"I think (Fiegel) has Plymouth-Canton," she said. pains, especially around the budget, but he's getting a betaround here.'

Mardigian has championed smaller class sizes in the past, and wants to keep them as low as possible while wrestling with budget issues. Class size has gone up a little, but Mardigian isn't in favor of raising it any higher.

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Barry Simescu knows the **Plymouth-Canton Community** Schools faces huge budget issues in the next couple of years and, after millions of dollars of cuts over the last five years, he's not sure how much more can be pared.

But he's hoping voters will give him a chance to find out. Simescu, the current vice president of the Board of Education, is one of five challengers for three four-year terms in the Nov. 3 general election.

Student achievement is up district students do better on **MEAP** and Michigan Merit Exams than their peers around the state - but the district is facing huge budget questions that could make focusing on achievement more difficult.

"We need to keep the focus on student achievement," Simescu said. "Our kids do better every year, and we're proud of that. As the two (achievement and the budget) cross, it'll be difficult to keep some of those programs intact.

"We've trimmed a lot of excess out of our programs already," he added. "We're really lean."

To help deal with the looming budget mess - there's talk of a \$218 per-student cut in the district's foundation grant - Simescu and other board members asked administrators for a more detailed and participatory budget process.

The result will be a series of as many as 14 committees providing input on various aspects of the district's financing.

THE SIMESCU FILE

 Who: Barry Simescu • What: Seeking a four-year

term on the Plymouth-**Canton Board** of Education • Where: Plymouth resident

• Family: Wife, Simescu Dorothy; sons Dan and Tyler

• Profession: Manufacturing representative for DuBois Cooper, selling water/waste water equipment

School board members and administrators will also take part in a series of public meetings with parents to explain the financing situation.

"(Committees) will look four ideas of savings and cuts," Simescu said. "I don't have a solution yet, but we'll have input from a wide section of the community."

One of those solutions could well be an increase in class size, an idea Simescu and other board members would like to avoid as long as possible.

"Hopefully, it doesn't come to that," Simescu said. "It's not a popular idea, but the majority of our costs are people. It's a challenge when we have limited resources coming to us."

If cuts from the state do come, Simescu said, he hopes they'll come equitably. District officials don't think it's fair that a district getting some \$7,000 per student faces the

same cut as a district getting \$13,000 per student.

As a percentage, obviously, it's higher for the lower-end district. Simescu said board members are lobbying legislators to make it equal.

"We're asking our legislators to do a percentage cut across the board," he said. "We don't think it's likely, but we're asking."

If the funding cuts come, Simescu knows the district's options will be limited. They can't use the sinking fund for anything other than brick and mortar, there's no way to increase the millage rate and the district is still responsible for things like busses, which he said can run \$100.000 apiece "and you've got to keep your kids safe."

"We won't have a choice," Simescu said of more trimming. "If they reduce it like they're talking about, we aren't going to have a choice. We have to have a balanced budget."

Simescu said he'll campaign with some lawn signs and "maybe some electronic" mailings, and he took part in the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County candidate forum Thursday.

He hopes voters agree with him that experience will be vital to dealing with the issues facing the district.

"I've been in the trenches and I know what we've done," he said. "It's going to be difficult for someone to come in in January and do the budget by June. These aren't easy decisions. Experience is going to be the key."

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





those committees will come

Mardigian generally has

to Plymouth-Canton from a 1,900-student, elementaryonly district in Evergreen Park, Ill., is doing a good job despite a bit of a learning

had to make a big jump to "He's had some growing ter idea of how things work

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Board set to approve Van Born improvements

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton's elected leaders, competing to retain local companies and save jobs, are expected Tuesday to approve a bid to improve Van Born Road near food-service company Sysco — a vote that comes on the same night of public hearings on proposed tax abatements for three other businesses.

The latest developments come as Canton, like other Michigan communities struggling to save jobs, embraces extraordinary measures to bolster the local economy.

"The reality is you've got to compete to keep jobs in Michigan, and you've got to compete to keep jobs in your local community," Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said.

To that end, the Canton Township Board of Trustees appears certain to approve a \$797,635 contract to have Sole Construction, Inc., resurface a section of Van Born west of Haggerty and add a turn lane to accommodate Sysco's truck traffic.

The bulk of the money comes from the Michigan Department of Transportation, although Wayne County is expected to pitch in some \$64,000 while

Nankin Mills hosts Halloween Festival Oct. 17

Parents looking for a spookfree Halloween celebration for their children need only go to the Nankin Mills picnic area in Hines Park on Saturday, Oct. 17.

Children are invited to dress in their best non-scary costumes for the Wayne County Parks' Halloween Festival 2009.

Wayne County Parks will offer a free afternoon of games and activities, including hayrides, inflatables, costume parade, games and trick-ortreating from 1 to 3 p.m. This year's festival also will feature performances by magician Ben Spitzer and Tim Salisbury's

the township handles the bidding and administers the funding.

Sean McCausland, Sysco's executive vice president, called the road improvements crucial to traffic safety as the company not only pledged to remain in Canton — but to expand here. In other developments

Tuesday, the township board has scheduled public hearings to consider tax abatements on personal property for three other local companies:

• Grupo Antolin Wayne, 47440 Michigan Ave., is seeking a 50 percent, five-year tax abatement on a \$1,268,224 investment it plans to make at its automotive headliner assembly operation.

• Durcon Inc., 8464 Ronda Drive, is asking for a 50 percent, five-year tax abatement on \$120,000 it plans to invest in a conveyor system for postconsumer recycled glass.

• Danotek Motion Technologies, 8680 N. Haggerty, is seeking by far the latest tax break — 50 percent over 12 years amid plans to invest \$5 million in its business. The company researches, develops, tests and manufactures wind-powered electrical generators and components for electric and hybrid vehicles.

Township Trustee John Anthony said that, in a better economic climate, tax abatements wouldn't seem as attractive because the township loses tax revenues.

However, he said such an option now amounts to "a winwin" because it helps companies survive and keeps jobs in Canton.

"The company remains here in Canton, and the jobs stay here," Anthony said. "The money the workers make gets spent, so it just snowballs through the community. "It's a good deal for everybody," he said.

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



Comedy Juggling Show.

For those of you looking for a different type of Halloween event, the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center offers a spook-free Halloween Hike on Friday, Oct. 23. Hike outdoors and meet some funny forest dwellers. Costumed characters relating to nature will both entertain and educate as they share their stories.

Pick from starting times of 6:45 p.m., 7:15 p.m. and 7:45 p.m. The hike will last about an hour and afterwards there will be a short live animal presentation.

Space is limited so pre-register before the day of the event at Nankin Mills Interpretive Center.

The Hines Park Nankin Mills Area is on Hines Drive, east of Ann Arbor Trail, in Westland. For more information, call (734) 261-1990.



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'World' of memories

Local pitcher remembers his own Series experience from 1950 Phillies-Yankees matchup

BY PAT MURPHY OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A6

(CP)

Like many baseball fans at this time of the year, Robert Miller is looking forward to the World Series.

Unlike many of them, however, Miller has some personal reflections. He started the fourth game of the World Series against the New York Yankees in 1950, the same year he was runner-up for rookie of the year honors as a member of the Philadelphia Phillies.

The Yankees — with Joe DiMaggio, Yogi Berra and other baseball legends — weren't kind to Miller, who was removed in the first inning of the game as the Phillies lost 5-2 and were swept in the series. Even so, starting the game was a milestone in a 10-year career during which he won 42 games and lost 42.

Miller and his late wife Maureen moved to Redford in 1954, his fifth full year with the Phillies. Over the years, he continued playing baseball and they raised four youngsters — Thomas, Robert Junior, Pat and Mary (now Kobliska) who graduated from Redford Union High School. One of his off season jobs was driving a Hires root beer truck.

By 1959, his final season with the St. Louis Cardinals, Miller had settled in with his family and became a full fledged member of the community. Among other things, he hosted baseball clinics when he called on old colleagues — including Al Kaline and Denny McLain, both Tiger greats — to demonstrate the fundamentals of the game.

In 1963, he became assistant baseball coach at the University of Detroit. Two years later, when head coach Lloyd Brazil died following a car crash, Miller became head coach.

"Over the years we did some very good recruiting," Miller said, including baseball standouts Bill Fehey from Redford Union and Bob Atkins, who graduated from Thurston High School. In 1978, his teams defeated the University of Michigan, starring Rick Leach, and



Bob Miller, left, wearing the same Philadelphia Phillies jersey he wore in the 1950 World Series against the New York Yankees. Pictured with him is son, also Bob Miller, one of the players the senior Miller recruited when head baseball coach at the University of Detroit-Mercy.

Michigan State University led by Kirk Gibson.

Miller also recruited two of his sons, Pat, who later signed to play professionally with the Milwaukee Brewers, and Robert, now deputy



to the Redford Township Supervisor. The senior Miller, now 83.

remains active, particularly

when it comes to one of his

strongest passions - base-

he said, but it's still a great

national pass time. Perhaps

the biggest change, he said,

is the salary structure, with

some mediocre players get-

ting absurdly high salaries.

As a rookie sensation in

1950, Miller remembers mak-

ing 5,000. His father – Al

Miller, then a Detroit police

officer – made \$5,100. But

at that time, he recalled, you

could buy a very good suit for

Miller doesn't begrudge

major leaguers getting the big

Not that the ensuing years

bucks. He just wishes he and

his team mates would have

were a time of poverty. He

fared better financially.

\$25.

ball. The game has changed,

made decent money as a player and later in life — when among other things, he sold insurance. He was rich in many ways, Miller said, particularly in memories of the game he loved.

He graduated from Redford St. Marys in 1944, and after accepting a U of D basketball scholarship was drafted in the Army. He saw combat in the Pacific before being stationed in Japan in 1946. He was signed by the Phillies as a free agent in 1948.

His fondest memory, Miller said, was his first pitching victory in April, 1950, when he beat the Boston Braves 2 to 1. He allowed two hits, while the opposing pitcher, Lew Burdette, allowed four

including one to Miller.
 One of his biggest regrets,
 he said, was not developing a change-up pitch that might
 have prolonged his career.

In 1950 Miller won 8 games before losing any. Pictures of him - along with those of teammates Robin Roberts, an MSU grad, catcher Stan Lopata, another native Detroiter, and others – were featured in Life, Look and Time magazines. A back injury, however, cut into his effectiveness, and he finished the season with 11 wins and six defeats. He finished second in voting for Rookie of the Year honors, behind Sam Jethroe, one of the few black players in the league at that time.

Miller's second best season was 1953, when he won 8 games and lost 9.

While winning was a priority, he and his team mates had a lot of fun, Miller said. "Everybody had a nickname," he recalled. "Mine was 'Booger.' I don't know where I got that name. But I had been Booger since the eighth grade."

Hall of Fame outfield Richie Ashburn was nicknamed "Horse Turd," Miller said, because that was the strongest expletive he ever used. Pitcher Jim Konstanty was known as "Ymca," he said. "He was so cheap, he only stayed at YMCAs."

Miller has great empathy for today's players, especially for Fernando Rodney, a relief pitcher for the Detroit Tigers. "He's called on to close out the games (in the last inning). You can't imagine the pressure he's under." Rodney is loved when he is effective, Miller noted, and defiled when he's not — but that part of the game hasn't change much, he insisted.

While the Tigers have a good team, Miller is not overly optimistic about their chances in the playoffs and, possibly, the World Series. "They have some great players," he said, but they can be inconsistent at times.

But then again, that's part of why baseball is so great, he said, "You never know."









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Desmond Roberts lost his license to drive. He saw Dr. Sheldon Smith of Low Vision of Michigan desperate to maintain independent driving. With telescopic driving glasses prescribed by Dr. Smith his license was reinstated. "My life ended at my

"My life ended at my front door, but this gave my life back," said Roberts. "You saved my life."

David Welch sought to read without hand magnifiers and drive with confidence. The doctor prescribed one pair for driving and another for reading. "No other specialists helped me like Dr. Smith," said Welch, moved to tears by seeing better.

"Today we can make durable eyeglasses that noticeably improve sight," said Dr. Smith. They can be used anywhere, unlike electronic tabletop magnifiers. And unlike awkward, clumsy hand magnifiers, spectacles are

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David Welch with driving glasses

Whether helping some one see faces and television, read, drive, work a computer, knit, play cards or sight see, one thing remains constant. Urgency is critical to success.

Treating vision loss promptly always gives better outcomes. There is no advantage in doing nothing, living with flawed vision, waiting to get worse. Sight may change slowly or not at all. Waiting just puts off seeing better and frustrates people. When reading resumes, visual and language skills stop regressing and start improving. When starting early, milder devices are usually effective. If necessary, evolving to stronger devices is easier after mastering mild ones.

Also with driving, the best time to start is early on, with milder devices, while the patient is younger. Telescopic driving aids greatly enhance seeing the road ahead. Safe confident driving helps maintain independence and overall wellness.

Help is available. We help people with mild, moderate and severe vision loss. Every situation is unique. Special reading glasses start at \$600 and custom telescopes cost from \$1800. Sun filters and nutritional supplements improve vision and prevent damage.

Patients are welcome to call and discuss their case with us and schedule an appointment. Referring physicians are also invited to call or fax for patients needing care.

We can help. If you or someone you know is struggling with their vision, call Low Vision of Michigan to find out how.

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Dr. Sheldon Smith and Dr. Don Haiderer low vision optometrists www.suburbaneyecare.com

Disinheriting children can be a touchy affair

Q: Dear Rick: After nearly 30 years of marriage, my wife and I divorced. It was a very messy divorce and, to my disappointment, my two adult children took the side of my ex-wife. After much deliberation. I've decided to disinherit them from my will. How do I go about doing it? I have an existing will and at the same time I have a software program that does wills that I would like to use. Can you help?

A: I'm sorry to hear about your divorce and even sorrier to hear that it was messy. Unfortunately, even with good people, things happen in the judicial system.

In regards to your question: Yes, you can disinherit a child. The key to doing so is not to leave them out of the will, but rather, clearly state that you are disinheriting your child and you wish them to receive



why you're disinheriting them, but you must clearly

You do not

that you are **Rick Bloom** disinheriting

them. There is no legal requirement that you leave money to a child, however, there is a presumption that if you did not name a child, you forgot that child and, thus, he/she would have rights in your estate.

On the question of using a software package to draft your will: Many legal software programs are acceptable and there are no problems. However, when it comes to disinheriting a child, you want to make sure that you dot your

I's and cross your T's.

After you draft the will using your software program, have an estate planning attorney review it. The review of the will should only cost you a nominal amount of money.

I recommend that anyone who goes through a divorce draft a new will or trust. If you have an addition or a subtraction to your family, that may also be a sign that, at a minimum, you should have your estate planning documents reviewed.

One problem many people run into is they diligently complete an estate plan and then fail to update it when personal changes occur. Not only can family situations change, which would necessitate a change in your documents, but laws change.

I recommend an estate plan review every two to three years - at a minimum. There may

be no changes needed, but it's still a good idea to have the documents reviewed.

One area of the law that has changed significantly over the last decade deals with rules regarding medical durable powers of attorney. It is important that those documents are always kept up to date. I have made available a free medical durable power of attorney at www.bloomassetmanagement. com (click on Legal Forms under the Bloom University tab).

Also available on the Web site is a free Michigan Statutory Will - a fill-inthe-blank will that has been authorized by the state of Michigan. I recommend this will for relatively straightforward estate planning needs such as leaving everything to a spouse or children.

This is also a great will for young couples with limited

means who need to name guardians for their children.

I always tell people there is only one reason to execute an estate plan. It's not to avoid taxes or probate (although those are very good goals and something that we should all strive for), it is because you love your family.

By the time your estate plan is read, you're six feet under. However, your love for your family is eternal. Therefore, it is important for every adult to execute some sort of estate plan. Not everyone needs a living trust. Although living trusts are great estate planning vehicles in order to avoid probate, save on taxes and keep your family affairs private, they are not for everyone.

A7

(CP)

If you have an estate plan and you have not reviewed it over the last few years, now is a great time to pull it out. If you've never executed an estate plan, now is the time to get it done. Good luck!

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





Fund-raising phenom

Canton teacher takes cancer walk in stride

One might think a 38-year career as a high school math teacher, countless awards and honors bestowed by students, staff and professional organizations as well as a marriage that is still going strong after 31 years would be all one highly motivated professional woman would need to fill her days.

But Canton High School educator Barbara Marshall has added an enormous passion for the ongoing race against breast cancer. It's a passion that is already paying big dividends.

Named to Who's Who Among America's Teachers on 10 separate occasions, "Staff Member of the Year" in her district nine times and selected as co-winner of the "Math/Science Teacher of the Year" for Washtenaw County in 2007, it's easy to recognize Marshall's achievements as an educator.

Bring up her accomplishments as the top fund-raiser in the state of Michigan for the past three years and it's even easier to understand why she sees her participation in the American Cancer Society's annual "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" campaign as a personal crusade. Some might even say it's a higher calling.

Marshall participates in the annual walk in Ann Arbor, working fervently during the weeks and months prior to raise as much money as possible for this important cause. "I began walking as part of a team from the church I attend - Bethlehem United Church of Christ in Ann Arbor," she said. "Our team, the 'Bethlehem Striders,' was formed in 2003 as a result of our assistant pastor's recently completed treatment for her own breast cancer.'

A 27-year resident of Chelsea, Marshall said she'd Celebrate Survivorship hope starts her

Plymouth-Canton teacher Barb Marshall is one of the top cancer fund-raisers in the country.

never asked people for money before.

"This was a totally new experience for me," she said. "It was so rewarding that first year, we have continued every year since."

In addition to being a top fund-raiser in Michigan, Marshall has been among the top 25 fund-raisers in the United States for the past two years

"This is a very real, very personal issue for so many people, and they give more willingly than I could ever have imagined," she said. "My family and friends, students, parents and colleagues at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, and people I didn't even know have become one huge team for a

'This was a totally new experience for me. It was so rewarding that first year, we have continued every year since."

BARB MARSHALL, Plymouth-Canton teacher and breast cancer fund-raiser

common cause.

"I have a simple motto for fund-raising: 'If you don't ask, you won't get,' because all anyone can say is 'no.'

This statement is borne out by the fact that last year's walk in Ann Arbor included some 3,900 walkers, raised over \$310,000 and was the only walk in Michigan that exceeded the previous year's contributions.

The Bethlehem Striders and thousands more will participate in this year's walk. Organized and sponsored by the American Cancer Society (http://www.cancer.org), the

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its regular

LIBRARY WATCH

The following events are taking place at the Plymouth District Library in August:

• ONLINE LANGUAGE LEARNING RETURNS - Mango Languages has been added to our list of electronic learning products. Plymouth Library Card holders go to plymouthlibrary. org and simply login to their Mango Account from home. Languages provided include French, Spanish, Japanese, German, Greek, Italian, Russian, Mandarin Chinese and Brazilian Portuguese. In addition, there are also courses in ESL Polish, ESL Spanish and ESL Brazilian Portuguese.

• YOUR POETRY GROUP, Sunday, Oct. 11, 1:30 p.m. -Roundtable readings of poems, your own or by others, are held on the second Sunday of the month. Reader's discretion of language is asked in the works read. No registration required - just drop by on the second Sunday of the month.

 RHAPSODY MUSIC SERIES: American Songbook II, Sunday, Oct. 11, 3 p.m. -Singers Maria Cimarelli and Mark Vondrak return with a lively revue of classic and contemporary songs from musical theatre, thanks to the Friends of the Plymouth District Library. Piano accompanist Amanda Sabelhaus joins them with all new musical selections. Register for this free program by calling (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4.

 CONTEMPORARY BOOKS DISCUSSION, Wednesday, Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m. - Members of this book discussion group are invited to read The Story of Edgar Sawtelle by David Wroblewski. Copies of this book are available at the circulation desk. New members are welcome at any time. For further information, please call Sue Patterson at the Library, (734) 453-0750, or e-mail spatterson@plymouthlibrary.org

 MONEY MANAGEMENT SEMINARS: TAX TALKS -THE AMERICAN RECOVER AND REINVESTMENT ACT AND YOU, Wednesday, Oct. 14, 7 p.m. - Lois Beerbaum, H & R Block tax professional will highlight new tax provisions including increased unemployment benefits, health insurance subsidies, first-time home buyer credit, new vehicle tax deductions, energy credits and more. Registration is request-

ed, call (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4. LIBRARY GARDEN

READ AUTHOR VISIT: Bich Minh Nguyen, Saturday, Oct. 17, 1 p.m. at the Penn Theatre -Selected as the Great Michigan Read book of the year, Stealing Buddha's Dinner is Ms. Nguyen's coming –of- age story about her life in 1980s Grand Rapids as a young Vietnamese refugee. No registration is required for this program,

made possible by the Michigan Humanities Council. Seating at the Penn Theatre is on a first come-first served basis. • STARS, MOONS & PLANETS, Monday, Oct. 19,

7 p.m. - He loves the skies and after this informal gathering, you will too. Plymouth resident Mike Best leads a lively discussion each month for adults and children over the age of 6. No registration is required. For more information contact (734) 459-BEST or starmikebest@comcast.net

• LEARN THE ART OF PRESSURE COOKING -Monday, Oct. 19, 7 p.m. - Cook and author, Toula Patsalis will share professional tips on pressure cooking - covering ingredient selection, cooking techniques and equipment information, all found in her book The Pressure Cooker Cookbook. Guests will get to sample the special autumn recipe prepared at the program. Register for this free program by calling (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4

 MIDWEEK MOVIES - Wednesday, Oct. 21, 1 p.m. - Enjoy free popcorn, pop and a movie at the Library. No registration required. • MONEY MANAGEMENT

SEMINARS: HOMEOWNERS AND AUTO INSURANCE CONSIDERATIONS, Wednesday, Oct. 21, 7 p.m. - Brady Burns of Hantz Financial Services will discuss premiums, property/casualty overview, collision and comprehensive coverage, personal injury protection, uninsured and underinsured motorists, deductibles, umbrella policies, the declaration page and much more. Registration is requested, call (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4.

• Popular war series continues: VIETNAM VETERANS PANEL DISCUSSION, Wednesday, Oct. 28, 6:30 p.m. - Members of the Vietnam Veterans of American Chapter 528 Plymouth-Canton – Don Dignan, Gary Kubik, Bob Paul, Rick Popa, Dennis Shrewsbury, Rich Whipple will snare their experiences and reflections of their military service. Register for this free program by calling (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4. • NEEDLECRAFTERS MEETING, Monday, Oct. 26, 7-9 p.m. - Knitters, quilters, needlepointers are all invited to attend this informal group gathering. Lessons are not provided, but ideas exchanged among attendees. No registration required. Bring your latest project!



event takes place Saturday,

Oct. 17 at Gallup Park in Ann

Arbor beginning at 9 a.m. It

includes a 5K walk held rain

or shine and is non-competi-

requirements to participate

to walk the walk she so excit-

of the friends I have who have

edly talks? "I walk in honor

beaten the disease or who

might currently be in treat-

ment, and I walk in memory

of the friends and family who

walk simply because 'I CAN."

OE08641302_2x3

have succumbed to this dis-

ease," she said. "In short, I

- it is open to all.

tive. There are no fund-raising

So What motivates Marshall



Thank you for protecting our freedom We love you and miss you and hope to see you home soon Love Mom, Dad & Janie

The Observer & Eccentric will be publishing a special Veteran's Day page honoring the service of Veteran's, past & present.

REMEMBER THE SACRIFICES OF AMERICA'S VETERANS

This is the perfect opportunity to honor the Veterans in your life who have served our country so bravely.

Publication Dates:

Thursday, November 5th in the Hometown Weekly Newspapers - Sunday, November 8th in all the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers Deadline: Friday, October 30th

We join the rest of the nation on Veterans Day in remembering the sacrifices of American's veterans and expressing our appreciation of their service.

Observer & Eccentric **NEWSPAPERS**

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PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

RFP-USF FORM 470/FY2010 - Plymouth-Canton Community Schools is accepting Bids for Telephone Services/Dedicated Circuits for FY2010 of the Universal Services Fund (USF) E-rate Program. Specifications are available at the following web site: triple-r.us/ erate/RFP-PCCSFY10.pdf.

Bidders may also obtain, upon request, a copy of the RFP at the E. J. McClendon 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170. RFP's are to be labeled "USF Telecommunications Bid" and received in the Technology Department by no later than 2:00P.M., Friday, October 30, 2009. All questions regarding this RFP should be directed to James Casteel at 734-416-2708. The Plymouth Canton Community Schools Board of Education reserves the right to reject or decline any/or all Bids received.

Statement of Assurance of Compliance with Federal Law

It is the policy of the Plymouth Canton Community Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, height, weight, disability, religion or marital status in any of its programs, activities or employment.

Address Inquiries To: Jim Larson-Shidler, 454 South Harvey, Plymouth, Michigan 48170 or by phone at (734) 416-2740.

> Board of Education Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Nancy Eggenberger, Secretary

Publish: October 11 & 18, 2009

OE08676268 2X4.5

meeting October 20, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at the Friends Room on the main level of the Library at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170

The Plymouth District Library will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon seven (7) days notice to the Plymouth District Library. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Plymouth District Library by writing or calling the following:

Barbara Kraft, Library Secretary Plymouth District Library 223 S. Main Street Plymouth, MI 48170 734-453-0750 X217 Publish: October 11, 2009



GROUP, Thursday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m. - This popular group meets monthly to discuss common garden concerns, new ideas and how the current gardening season is progressing. Gardeners at all skill levels are invited - no registration is required. This is the last meeting of the year. The group will reconvene next April on the third Thursday of the month. No registration is required. • GREAT MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE **OF LIENED PROPERTY**

Notice is hereby given that a closed bid sale will be held on October 29, 2009 at 1:00 P.M. at 40671 Joy Road, Canton Michigan 48187, County of Wayne. AMERICA'S BUDGET STORAGE will sell to satisfy the lien on the property stored at 40671 Joy Road, Canton Michigan 48187, by the following persons. The inventories listed below were notated by the tenants at the time of rental. AMERICA'S BUDGET STORAGE makes no representation or warranty that the units contain said inventories. Unit D44, Olack, Furn./Boxes; Unit F16, Robinson, HHG; Unit H07, Furn./Boxes; Unit I12, Love, HHG; Unit C111, Jenkins, Furn./Boxes; Unit I35, Hancock, HHG; Unit J21, Carnovsky, HHG; Unit C109, Perkins, Furn./Boxes. Publish: October 11 &18, 2009 OE08676294 2X

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

To all residents and other interested parties:

Agenda's and Minute's for the Charter Township of Plymouth Board of Trustees Meetings scheduled for July 21, August 18, September 8 & 22, October 13 & 27, November 17, and December 15, 2009 are available for review under the Reference Desk Page of the Township Website: www.plymouthtwp.org .

Agendas and minutes are also posted in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, for public perusal.

> Joe Bridgman, CMC Clerk

Publish: October 11 & 25 & November 15 & December 13, 2009

OE8676447 2X2.5

NOTICE OF SALE

Confiscated/Seized Bicycles

Notice is hereby given that the City of Plymouth, Michigan will conduct a sale of bicycles confiscated/seized by the City of Plymouth Police Department on Saturday, October 17, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. The sale will be held in the City Hall garage, 201 S. Main, Plymouth, MI.

The only items to be sold are bicycles confiscated/seized by the Police Department. No other items will be available.

All sales are as is with no warranty either expressed or implied.

City of Plymouth Police Department 201 S Main Plymouth, MI 48170 http://www.ci.plymouth.mi.us Publish: October 11, 2009

OE08675458 - 2x2 /

Salvation Army hopes donors will adopt 'Angels'

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth Salvation Army is changing its approach to the holidays, dropping its Adopt-a-Family program and shifting its focus to what officials hope will be a more equitable Christmas for the families they serve.

Salvation Army officials are looking for donors for their new "Adopt An Angel" program, an idea designed to recruit donors for some 2,500 children they hope to help have a merry Christmas.

"Instead of adopting entire families, we're going to adopt angels," said Laurie Aren, the Salvation Army's director of family and community ministries. "We're looking for a more equitable Christmas for everyone."

Under the old Adopt-a-Family program, donors would adopt entire families, with no limits on what they could provide. As an example, Aren pointed to two situations last year. One adoptive family outfitted its

WHERE TO TURN

Various organizations run Christmas programs to help needy families in the Plymouth-Canton community. Here are just a few:

Plymouth Salvation Army Adopt an Angel program. Appointments necessary for application interview. Appointments start Oct. 27. Application deadline is Nov. 11. Distribution/Toy Towne is Dec. 18, 21-22. Toys, clothing and food will be available. Call or e-mail Laurie Aren at laurie_aren@usc.salvationarmy.org or (734) 453-5464.
Plymouth Goodfellows. Application deadline is Nov. 11, with individual consideration of late applicants depending on budget. All applicants must be residents of Plymouth. Distribution of gifts is Dec. 12. Contact Penny Irwin, (734) 453-4007 or anchorsales@ wideopenwest.com or Goodfellows at (734) 262-3199.

• Canton Goodfellows. Application deadline is Oct. 12. Applicants must be residents of Canton. Packing of gifts (volunteers are needed) is Dec. 14-18; distribution Dec. 19. Contact Nancy Spencer at (734) 397-8975 or johnancysp@aol.com

adoptees with two full bedrooms, while another spent \$250.

That inequity, coupled with declining numbers of both adoptees and adoptors, prompted Salvation Army officials to reconsider the method it uses to help people.

Under its Adopt-an-Angel program, donors will be asked to stick as close to a \$50 limit as possible. Donors will know whether they're buying for a boy or a girl and what age group, and all donated gifts will be placed in the Salvation Army's toy shop, which officials have renamed "Toy Town."

Toy Town will be set up to resemble a toy store in the Salvation Army's gym, and parents of needy children will be able to shop in the store. "It's really important that the gifts come from the parents, and not the Salvation Army," Aren said. "We want everyone to feel better about themselves. We're trying to make it more personal for the families. We want everyone to have a warm, comfortable Christmas."

Local groups are already on board — Unisys will run its annual toy drive and PEO International will adopt 50 angels — and other community organizations will work in concert with the Salvation Army to make sure as many children have a happy holiday as possible.

Both the Plymouth and Canton Goodfellows will work with the Army, cross-referencing their list of needy families in an effort to eliminate duplicate effort, thereby increasing the numbers of children who benefit.

"We want to make sure we cover all the kids we can so that nobody misses out," said Nancy Spencer, president of Canton Goodfellows, which helped some 650 kids last year and figure to provide for more than that this year. "Our motto is, 'No Canton child without a Christmas' and I believe this a community able to support their own children. I can't bear the thought of a child not having something on Christmas Day. It's why I've been doing this for 35 years."

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, October 11, 2009

Suffocating economic conditions have forced the Salvation Army, which helps families in Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Belleville, to deal with an ever-increasing need. A few years ago, most of the need centered around the holidays. Now, it's a daily need.

"The whole fabric of what we do has changed the last couple of years, from emergency management to daily maintenance," Aren said. "The economy is bad. We're hoping people who couldn't afford to adopt an entire family might be able to adopt an angel or two."

For more information on the Adopt an Angel program, call Aren at (734) 453-5464.

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

Internship helps student lay green foundation

Marie Galante, a physics major at Albion College, laid the foundation toward a career in a green industry while completing a summer internship at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, Colo.

A native of Canton, Galante came to Albion with an interest in chemical engineering. She learned about NREL while surfing the web for internship possibilities and then spent the course of the internship running experiments making transparent conducting oxides out of indium zinc oxide to increase solar energy production.

"I was making the top layer of a solar cell," Galante said. "The top layer needs to be transparent to let the light in and conductive so the electricity can flow. That's what I was trying to maximize over the summer – how light can come into the solar cell and power it."

Galante explained indium is a better material to use as a solar cell coating because of its resistance to water. She created these thin films of a solar cell by a process called magnetron sputtering where argon ions collide with indium zinc oxide in a vacuum chamber. She would change the ratio of direct current and radio frequency used to power the reaction in order to find a ratio that maximizes the conductivity and transparency of the film.

"Usually direct current is used in industry to make these thin films for solar cells, but



Marie Galante (far right) and her team in Golden, Colo.

what I was doing was mixing the direct current with radio frequency," Galante said. "It was a new process. No one had explored what happens when you mix them."

Radio frequency, Galante reports, keeps positive charges from building on the indium zinc oxide, which limits the attraction of positive argon ions. The indium zinc oxide won't be deposited to form the thin film if argon ions don't collide with the indium zinc oxide.

Galante, who has already been invited back to NREL to work on another project this summer, said she may be included as an author if her mentor completes the paper he is considering to write.

"It would be amazing (to be the co-author of an article published in a scholarly journal). He said if I had been a graduate student I could have used (the research) for my master's thesis," Galante said. "It was cool to be involved in groundbreaking research.

"It was a great opportunity," she added. "I was there with students from MIT, Brown, and Yale ... All these Ivy League schools. I was there with really smart interns."

Back on the Albion campus, Galante is hoping to continue the work she started at NREL while working in the lab a couple hours a week with associate professor Charles Moreau.

Studying under the dual-degree program at Albion, Galante will complete her science and mathematics courses in the liberal arts setting this spring before moving on to fulfill the requirements for her engineering degree at the University of Michigan.

After the successful completion of the required number of units at U-M, Galante will be granted a B.A. degree from Albion and she will receive the bachelor's degree from U-M.

Amazed by the natural beauty in Colorado, Galante marveled at the differences in the sustainability efforts of the residents of the Rocky Mountain state.

"Everyone there has a different state of mind," Galante said. "Everyone recycles. It is standard for everyone to take the bus or ride bikes everywhere. It is a completely different atmosphere there compared to Michigan."

Sophomore treated after being hit by bus

BY MATT JACHMAN OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A Plymouth-Canton Educational Park sophomore was injured when she was struck by a school bus just outside the high school campus Tuesday afternoon.

The girl, whose name was being withheld by Plymouth Canton Community Schools officials, was treated at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ypsilanti. Her injuries were not considered life-threatening.

Frank Ruggirello, the district's communications director, said the accident occurred about 2:40 p.m. Tuesday at Ann Arbor Road and McLumpha. The female bus driver, who had no passengers on her bus, was turning left onto Ann Arbor Road from southbound McLumpha when the accident occurred, he said. Only sketchy information from the Plymouth Township Police Department could be obtained. Officer Jamie Senkbeil said a report indicated the girl was on a road shoulder when she was struck.

Ruggirello said the district is investigating the incident and could discipline the bus driver if she is found to be at fault. "We're still looking into this," he said. The driver had returned to work as far as he knew, Ruggirello said.

P-CEP principal Bill Zolkowski sent out an email informing parents of the incident.

Township resident Valerie Gutta, who has a daughter in the ninth grade at Salem High School, said she's been concerned about the safety of the intersection for several weeks.

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Chiefs win with work

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Canton varsity volleyball coach Mary Kryska knows that the secret to her team's success is hard work. Thursday night against visiting Westland John Glenn, the Chiefs followed the script.

Led by the "unstoppable" Jordan Kielty (16 kills, 14 assists, 15 digs and 3 aces) and Kristen Muir (9

VOLLEYBALL kills, 17 digs, 4 aces), the Chiefs came away with

25-7, 26-24 and 25-15 wins. When they (Chiefs) get too comfortable that's when they don't work as hard," Kryska såid.

So by switching things up in the rotation, every player knows they have to keep "working for their spot."

That approach is one of the reasons why Canton sports a record of 14-4 overall and 5-1 in the KLAA South Division.

Of course, Kryska is far from satisfied. No coach ever is.

"Our blocking is continuing to get better which was our biggest weakness in the beginning of the season," she noted. "I am very pleased with how the girls have been doing but we still have some goals that we need to achieve when in it comes to beating a few teams."

Against the Rockets, the play of Kielty and Muir again was worth the price of admission.

"I give a lot of credit to both players for how well they are doing this season," Kryska continued. "They deserve a lot of credit for our team." Of course, starting Game

Please see VOLLEYBALL, B4



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Off to the races, as he was all night Friday, is Salem sophomore running back Marcus Houston (No. 31). He scored a touchdown and gained more than 230 yards against South Lyon.

Houston's Texas-sized game lifts Rocks

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Nothing could stop Salem sophomore Marcus Houston Friday night. Not the rain nor slippery turf. Not visiting South Lyon.

Houston, a mid-season callup from the junior varsity, rushed 26 times for 232 yards to spark the Rocks to an impressive 19-0 victory over the Lions at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's varsity field.

"I felt good, the blocking was good, and we just kept moving it down the field," said Houston, a key contributor to Salem's second win of the season.

The biggest play he made came in the fourth quarter of the KLAA Central Division varsity football game to put the Lions away. Houston scored on a 26-yard touchdown with 7:28 remaining to make it 13-0.

He took a pitch around right end and raced down the sidelines before hurdling a defender at the 5-yard line and taking it home.

"I just jumped and everything happened good," he said with a smile, knowing he did a lot to help his senior teammates enjoy their Homecoming/Senior Night game. "I wanted to do good for the seniors on their day."

A fumble recover by Evian Pardo made that short TD drive possible.

Please see ROCKS, B3

GAME WRAPS Murphy medalist at **D-1 golf regional**

All three Plymouth-Canton Educational Park girls golf teams finished just short of qualifying for the state meet at Thursday's Division 1 regional at Giant Oak Golf Course.

Finishing fifth was Plymouth with a team score of 379 and paced once again by excellent freshman Kelsey Murphy - the overall medalist with a round of 77 strokes.

Murphy qualified for the state tourney set for Friday and Saturday at Forest Akers in East Lansing. Other Wildcats doing well

included freshman Sarah Thompson, with a career-best 86. She missed qualifying for the state meet by two strokes, head coach Chris Moore said.

Also with a career best in her final match was Plymouth senior LeeAnn O'Shaughnessy (107). Freshman Mandy Kirsch and junior Chloe Marentic finished with respective scores of 109 and 110. Canton finished in sixth place, with a final score of 435.

Rocks gear up

Salem's varsity girls cross country team tuned up for Saturday's Wayne County meet with a 15-47 triumph Tuesday over South Lyon at Willow Metropark.

For the Rocks (4-0 in the KLAA Central), Autumn Burin, Kelly Kerwin and Kara Booms finished in a virtual three-way tie at the front of the pack with times of 21 minutes, 12 seconds. But they were joined in the top 10 by Victoria Tripp (fourth, 21:23), Emily Bizon (fifth, 21:23), Jordyn Moore (seventh, 21:44) and Phoebe Van Hoof (ninth. 21:57).

All in the family

Yoder twins keep soccer tradition going

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Must-see TV for twin brothers Andrew and Mitch Yoder is IN THE BLOOD the World Cup, not the Stanley Cup.

The 16-year-olds also relish playing soccer for the Plymouth High School varsity team, following in the cleat imprints of older brother Evan Yoder, a 2009 Plymouth grad.

That tells you all you need to know: Soccer is king in the household of Tom and Carole Yoder and both Andrew and Mitch are more than happy to continue a family love affair as players on the Wildcats.

"I've just been playing since I was young and my brother's been playing," said Andrew Yoder, who like Mitch is a junior for the Wildcats. "It just became a family thing, I guess. don't forget her nonstop soc-

"But yeah, I wanted to play varsity soccer my whole life.

Watching my brother play made me want to play for Plymouth more."

Chiming in to that end was Mitch Yoder, in his first season on the varsity after being captain of the Plymouth JV in 2008. Andrew and Evan were varsity teammates last season.

"I guess because we always came and watched my older brother play a bunch of games and just see how intense he would get in the games and how fun that looked," Mitch said. "So that just made me want to play even more."

They help each other, on and off the field, but they also can look to soccer mom Carole for further encouragement and probably more importantly - a no-favorites stance. And

Please see **YODERS, B2**



Not only are Andrew Yoder (left) and Mitch Yoder twin brothers and part of a soccer-loving family, they are teammates on Plymouth High School's varsity boys soccer team.



Who: Jordan Kielty, Canton senior/volleyball co-captain. Miscellany: Jordan, 17, carries a 3.6 grade-point average. Her parents are Gail and Dave Kielty. Career honors include: All-State third team as a junior; All-Region, All-Conference and All-Observer both her sophomore and junior years; named to Prepvolleyball.com's Frosh 59 list as a freshman. Captain's job: "I think that the job of a team captain is to encourage your team and be there for support on and off the court. Keeping your team together is a key to success." Leadership style: "I would say that my style of leadership or the way I lead my team is to be encouraging, supportive and to give advice or constructive criticism to someone who may need it. I like it when people give me





advice or constructive criticism in return."

Why her?: "I think that my team chose me because I was a captain my junior year and I have been on this team for three years. They know that I have experience in the game from my years of playing and my level of playing through my club teams."





LOCAL SPORTS

online at hometownlife.com

GIRLS SWIMMING RESULTS

CANTON 97 PLYMOUTH 88 Oct. 8 at Canton

B2

200-yard medley relay: 1. Plymouth (Emily Toro, Sijia Hao, Abby Kelly, Linda Erickson), 2:02.90; 2. Canton (Caitlyn Orr, Sara Krebs, Catherine Irwin, Sara Schmitt), 2:03.39; 3. Plymouth (Rachel Huhta, Lydia Matson, Ave

Dewale, Lexi Eithier), 2:05.70. **200 freestyle**: 1. Stephanie Matsui (P), 2:03.96; 2. Kayla Eyster (C), 2:04.13; 3. Delaney Marm (C), 2:06.57. Adams (C), 2:08.57 200 individual medley: 1. Erickson (P).

2:20.79; 2. Irwin (C), 2:21.39; 3. Krebs (C), 2:23.51. 50 freestyle: 1. Kari Schmitt (C), 26.56; 2. Michelle Chang (P), 26.63; 3. S. Schmitt (C), 27.49

27.49.
 1-meter diving: 1. Malfory Hudak (C), 197.65
 points; 2. Robyn Piwowar (C), 182.90; 3. Kay
 Borst (P), 163.50.
 100 butterfly: 1. Adams (C), 1:04.35; 2.

Erickson (P), 1:06.87; 3. Kaitlyn Dugas (C),

1:07.36. 100 freestyle: 1. Chang (P), 56.94; 2. K. hmitt (C), 57.38; 3. S. Schmitt (C), 59.63. 500 freestyle: 1. Matsui (P), 5:32.81; 2. Irwin

 (C), 5:35.07; 3. Carolyn Stoddard (P), 5:47.77.
 200 freestyle relay: 1. Canton (K. Schmitt S. Schmitt, Adams, Eyster), 1:47:;45; 2. Plymouth (Chang, Kelly, Emily Weiner, Matsui), 1:48:71; . Plymouth (Chantel Cote, Dewale, Eithier,

Stoddard), 1:53.18. Stoddard), 153.18. **100 backstroke**: 1. Orr (C), 1:06.84; 2. Toro (P), 1:07.42; 3. Huhta (P), 1:08.51. **100 breaststroke**: 1. Krebs (C), 1:12.72; 2. Hao (P), 1:15.12; 3. Kelly Bedro (C), 1:15.36.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Canton (K. Schmitt, Eyster, Adams, Krebs), 3:53.07; 2. Plymouth (Chang, Erickson, Weiner, Matsui), 3:53.07; 3. Plymouth (Stoddard, Toro, Huhta, Hao), 4:05.70.

Dual meet records: Canton, 5-1 overall, 4-0 in KLAA South Division; Plymouth, 3-3, 2-1.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Plymouth YMCA eyes grant

Liberty Mutual will soon donate a \$2,500 Responsible Community Grant to 20 youth sports organizations demonstrating their commitment to doing the right things on and off the playing surface.

The Plymouth Family YMCA is hoping to be one of the recipients.

The Liberty Mutual Responsible Sports program targets many of the issues we see happening at youth sporting events by shining a positive light on what it means to be a responsible coach and a responsible sports-parent," said Greg Gordon, vice president of Consumer Marketing at Liberty Mutual. "Beyond that, Liberty Mutual is making a significant financial contribution to support the efforts of local organizations like Plymouth Family YMCA.'

The ongoing, communitybased program offers meaningful, easy-to-use educational resources for youth sports parents and coaches, including access to on-the-field game and practice preparation tools as well as selfpaced online courses filled with learning tools, videos and topics addressing youth sports issues.

The Responsible Sports program, including community grants, comes at a crucial time for communities where youth programs are under pressure from increasing numbers of participants, limited volunteer activity and mounting program-administration costs.

Through the resources provided by the grants, it is hoped that "our organizations thrive even under challenging circum-

stances."

For more information, contact the YMCA at (734) 453-2904 or go to www.responsiblesports. com.

Arctic Edge shavings

Arctic Edge on Michigan Avenue in Canton is hosting a "Learn To Skate" program Saturdays from Sept. 26 through Nov. 14 with sessions from 10-10:45 a.m. and from 11-11:45 a.m. Each class is 30 minutes with 15 minutes of full ice practice time.

Cost is \$100 per skater per eight-week session. For more information, contact Learn to Skate director Theresa McKendry at learntoskatearcticedge@ yahoo.com.

Sunday Night Mixers

Superbowl in Plymouth is hosting a mixed bowling league 6 p.m. Sundays. 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.

Cool happenings

Plymouth Cultural Center Ice Arena continues to be a busy place. Open skating sessions through Nov. 7 will take place from 12 noon to 1:20 p.m. Tuesdays-through-Fridays with the fees as follows: adults, \$5; kids (under age 16) and senior citizens (over 55), \$4. Skate rental is \$2. 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 any.



Frosh footwork

It's good to know there are some promising players in the Plymouth-Canton soccer pipeline. On Sept. 30, the Salem and Canton freshman boys soccer teams got after it and played a high-spirited 1-1 tie. Both goals were scored on penalty kicks. Here, Canton's Jake Brekke (No. 15) dribbles between Salem defenders Ryan Chin (No. 10) and Kevin Williams (No. 21). In the background for Canton is Josh Joy (No. 18).

Chiefs, Wildcats battle to 1-1 tie

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Sparks fly whenever two teams from Plymouth-Canton **Educational Park compete** against each other, and Thursday's varsity boys soccer matchup between Canton and Plymouth followed suit.

There was high-intensity and physical play all over the rainslickened pitch, with plenty of sprawling blocks and hustle plays. When 80 tough minutes had been played, the KLAA South Division squads finished in a 1-1 deadlock.

"It's not every day that they put three schools on one campus," said Canton head coach George Tomasso. "But then they put two of the schools in the same division, so there's going to be a lot of emotion, a lot of heart, a lot of hard work and energy."

It took what Tomasso described as "Lady Luck" to garner the tying goal with 33:07 remaining on a play that began with a direct kick.

Not by design, sophomore forward Mitch Posuniak booted a grounder into the wall of players lined up for the kick. The ball somehow bounced to where freshman midfielder Daniel Ovesea was and Ovesea made no mistake - ripping the rebound top shelf past Plymouth junior goalkeep

PREP BOYS SOCCER

from Danny Ovesea's finish, his shot was incredible," Tomasso said. "But we did have Lady Luck on our side to get the bounce our way."

COMING CLOSE

The Chiefs (9-7-2, 6-3-1 in the South) and Wildcats (10-6-2, 7-1-2) both had opportunities over the final 20 minutes to grab the victory.

Canton senior forward Jon Allen just missed converting on a crossing pass along the goal line with about 17 minutes left and shortly thereafter made a dangerous rush toward Brindza only to be cut off by senior defender Sam Maccani.

A couple minutes later, Canton senior forward Brandon Tolinski set up freshman midfielder Bobby Budlong, but his diving header barely missed the mark.

Plymouth senior forward Daniel Jasewicz and junior midfielder Andrew Yoder each sailed in-close tries over the Canton goal.

Then, with time running out, it took a sliding block by Chiefs' senior midfielder Matt Edwards to keep Wildcats' junior forward Nick Russ from breaking in on junior goalkeeper Brandon Laabs (who relieved and if we are in an unfortuenior Kai Walther at halftime) "We had a real strong first half, I thought we could have

done better in the second half," said Plymouth head coach Jeff Neschich. "Even though we had a lot of scoring opportunities, we gave them too much space in the second half and they (Chiefs) came out fired up.

Neschich did praise his defense and gave kudos to Russ, who scored for the Wildcats at 20:01 of the first half.

On that tally, off a corner kick by senior forward Vin Nguyen, junior forward Derek Austin ripped a shot from in close that Walther got in front of.

But Russ was there to drive the rebound into the net.

That was all the Wildcats could muster, however.

'We played great in the first half," Neschich said. "If we would have matched that in the second half I'd be a little happier

"All in all, not bad, it was good intense soccer."

LOOKING AHEAD

Meanwhile. Tomasso said the late goal is a good sign as districts draw near.

"It's nice to see they can rally back from a goal down, not give up a goal and get one," said Tomasso, adding that the team's mindset is "not to give anybody an inch, you can't give them anything nate situation being a goal down we know we can come back."

Both teams have conference and association crossover matches to deal with before districts, however.

On Monday, second-place Plymouth will square off against the Central Division runner-up (Salem); the Wildcats then will play either Walled Lake Northern or Brighton on Wednesday.

Third-place Canton also are slated for Monday and Wednesday contests. Tomasso said he wasn't yet sure of the opponents.

Salem to finish 2nd

After tying Novi 1-1 Thursday night, Salem's varsity boys soccer team will finish second in the KLAA Central Division behind Northville.

The Rocks (10-4-4, 6-2-2) got on the board first against the Wildcats when Lachlan Savage scored, on an assist from Dan Martin. But Novi evened it up in the final 10 minutes.

Salem Tuesday lost 1-0 to Livonia Stevenson on a wet and windy night. Marco Bernardini's header in the first half was the difference although Rocks' goalkeeper Sasa Miskovic played well with six saves.

Next for Salem is a conference crossover matchup 7 p.m. Monday against Plym







Kyle Brindza. "Not to take anything away

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The other half of the Yoder twin duo is Mitch Yoder (No. 2), shown during a game earlier this season against Salem. At right is Lachlan Savage of the Rocks.

FROM PAGE B1

cer shuttle service to practices and matches.

"I've probably watched hundreds of soccer games, between high school and travel soccer," Carole said. "And though I still don't understand all of the rules, I love watching them play.

"And I love the fact that they play so well together, without trash talking or egos or comparisons." The twins acknowledge

their parents have had no small role in their soccer careers.

"They've been very supportive, even though we've been on different teams so they've had to drive to a lot of practices and games," Mitch said. "It's very good to have them support us and be behind us

so we can still have fun in soccer."

Andrew and Mitch still are having a lot of fun on the pitch.

"If we make a play, if I make a play to him and he hits it in," Mitch said, "they say we have the 'Twin Connection' or whatever."

That kind of ribbing is no big deal.

"I'm fine with it; I think it's funny," Andrew said.

DON'T LAUGH

But the longstanding family devotion to soccer is far from a laughing matter.

Both were little kids when they were signed up for recreation soccer in Canton.

They kept improving and dedicating themselves to the sport during formative years in Canton Soccer Club (beginning U9 for Andrew and U11 for Mitch) and middle school. There was no letup when high

school life beckoned them. In fact, both kept up their homework and are maintaining excellent grades while being team leaders, Carole said.

earlier this season.

Plymouth junior midfielder Andrew Yoder goes to work against an opponent

"They've learned time management and to make sure they always have time for homework," she said, "even with practice every day."

Yet when hanging out at home, the twins and older brother Evan gravitate to soccer as the thing to talk about or get immersed in.

"We watched a bunch of soccer games like the World Cup, when that was on USA (Network) a lot," Mitch said.

The soccer-is-life environment also spills over to their dad, who has played over-40 travel soccer.

"So everyone in the family plays, except me," Carole said. I'm the cheerleader."

MORE TO COME

Both Andrew and Mitch are optimistic the 2009 Wildcats will have a strong tourney showing and have high hopes that their senior season will be a great one.

After that, the twins have disparate views on the role soccer will play in their college lives.

Andrew will look to find a college soccer team to keep going, while Mitch will walk away from the sport – to a certain degree. He'll probably play some intramural soccer.

"College soccer is too intense," Mitch said. "I think I'm just going to focus on school."

That's two years away, more than enough time for the Yoders to still carry the Plymouth Wildcats soccer torch while their parents cheer them on.

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100 A



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Appropriately enough on 'Homecoming/Senior Night' at Salem, Rocks' senior Alex King (No. 82) lays a big hit on South Lyon running back Justin Tolinski.

ROCKS

NIGHT CAPPER

Salem first-year head coach Kurt Britnell also was beaming because the Rocks (2-5, 2-4) surpassed last season's one-victory total with two games to go. Both wins were shutouts.

"It was bad weather and we had one win going into tonight," Britnell said. "But our kids are working and it was something to play for.

"It was huge, it was their night and it was good way to cap it off by getting win number two."

About the running of Houston, the coach said, "He's gotten better at learning how to read plays, where he's supposed to go and find the creases."

But Britnell gave a lot of credit to the work his offensive line did, namely seniors AJ Smith, Dana Baltazar, Ed Merhi and Blake Abbey, among others.

"Our big boys up front, they're the reason why he got what he got so it was definitely a team effort," Britnell said. "And the defense played great, so it was a great team win."

The sound of raindrops bouncing off umbrellas in the stands wasn't the only noise heard during the game. There was the pad-cracking tackling of senior linebacker Austin Root and junior linebacker Ethan Walsh.

"They're just all over the place," Britnell said.

ONLY DOWNER

If there was a negative to the evening, it was a spate of unnecessary penalties during the fourth quarter that kept the Lions moving down the field instead of punting. But South Lyon (1-6, 1-4) could not punch it into the end zone after taking it down to Salem's 12.

"I talked to them after the game," Britnell said. "It was a great win, but I was disappointed to see that, the lack of composure. You have to win with class, lose with class no matter what the case may be. But they'll learn from it."

Salem got on the scoreboard with 4:59 to go in the first half with what proved to be the winning TD.

A 35-yard end-around by Houston and an 11-yard completion from senior quarterback Jake Peterson to junior Brad Trublowski moved the ball inside the 5 and Peterson's sneak from 1 yard out did the job.

Booting the extra point was Walsh, who also boomed a third-quarter punt that traveled a total of 80 yards (some of it on a favorable bounce).

The Rocks tacked on another score with 1:20 to go in the game. Houston gained 21 and 34 yards on two of the carries and senior Kyle Middleditch finished the job with a 7-yard TD run.

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Wildcats pass acid test, thump Pats

BY TIM SMITH Observer staff writer

After getting kicked in the stomach by a bizarre final play the previous week against Westland John Glenn, Week 7 was gut check time for Plymouth's varsity football team.

And on a rainy, windy Friday night at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's junior varsity field, the Wildcats answered the call with a convincing 31-8 victory over KLAA South Division rival Livonia Franklin. The win gave Plymouth a record of 5-2 overall (one shy of qualifying for the playoffs) and 3-2 in the division.

"Absolutely it was," said Sawchuk about how the Franklin game would be an opportunity to measure his team's resilience. "You never know how the kids are going to respond until you get to practice on Monday. "We had the best practices of

"We had the best practices of the year from Monday-through-Thursday and I can't tell you how proud I am of those kids. That was a tough one to take last week." Franklin head coach Chris

Kelbert said the way his team (3-4, 2-3) played early on in a key conference matchup was inexplicable. It was 21-2 at one point during the second quarter.

"It was the most miserable day of my life," Kelbert said. "For an important game we did not come out of the chute the way we should have. I wish I knew (why)."

Kelbert said the rain didn't impact the Patriots, who actually outgained the Wildcats 260-204. "They played on it and they were just fine."

But the kicking of Plymouth junior Kyle Brindza didn't help.

According to Kelbert, his offense had to start a number of drives inside their own 20-yard line. "We didn't have very good field position."

Senior Tyler Grosh set the tone in the first quarter with a 60-yard punt return touchdown.

The Patriots got on the scoreboard in the second stanza on a safety. A snap to Brindza sailed over his head and through the end zone.

But the Wildcats bounced back with rushing touchdowns of five and 23 yards, respectively, from junior quarterback Victor Hicks and sophomore tailback Donte Fox.

Franklin sliced the lead to 21-8 just before the intermission on a two-yard TD plunge from senior running back Mike Baumgardner.

Plymouth tacked on some insurance points in the second half. Brindza connected on a 34yard field goal in the third and Fox — who garnered 121 yards in just nine carries — scored on an 80-yard touchdown run where he broke up the middle and outraced the coverage down the right sideline.

"With our offense the way it's spread out more, we found a couple seams and scored some touchdowns," said Sawchuk, whose team will host Novi next Friday in a KLAA crossover.

Leading the Patriots with over 100 yards rushing was senior tailback Chris Vantuyl.

Sawchuk, meanwhile, served up praise to an assistant on his staff (freshman offensive coordinator Leo Souldourian) for his work in getting the grass field ready for the game. Despite the week-long rains, the plush surface held up well with minimal mud, Sawchuk said.

Canton unplugs Chargers

The rushing stats told the whole story Friday night as unbeaten Canton rolled to a 42-7 KLAA South Division triumph at Livonia Churchill.

The state-ranked Chiefs racked up 440 yards on the ground on 47 attempts to improve to 7-0 overall and 5-0 in the KLAA South.

Canton will face KLAA Central Division champion Livonia Stevenson (5-2, 5-0) for the Kensington Conference crown 7 p.m. Friday at home.

Adam Payter led the way with a game-high 258 yards and three touchdowns on only nine carries. He scored on runs of 53, 56 and 57 yards as the Chiefs raced out to a 27-0 first-quarter advantage.

Davion Stackhouse added two TDs on runs of 1 and 16 yards. He finished with 98 yards rushing on 17 attempts.

Meanwhile, Canton quarterback Kevin Delapaz, who was 2of-4 passing, added a 20-yard TD toss to Arron Boudreaux in the final period.

Churchill (1-6, 0-5) tallied its lone touchdown in the second quarter when Steven Klisz hit Dean Bokuniewicz on a 16-yard pass.

Klisz was 11-of-17 passing for 145 yard. Devonte Woods had five receptions for 53 yards, while Bokuniewicz added four catches for 44 yards.

Tony Frezzell was Churchill's top rusher with 44 yards on 10 carries.

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VOLLEYBALL

FROM PAGE B1

(CP)

B4

1 with 14 service points from Anna Larner is a great way to start a match, and that's what happened Thursday.

"John Glenn came out a lot stronger in the second game to give us a run for our money," Kryska said. "But we came out on top and we again served well in the third game."

Other top players for the Chiefs included Lauren Macuga (16 digs), Traci Breitmeyer (17 assists) and Alaina Turner (6 kills, 2 blocks, 2 aces).

Wildcats spike Wayne

With spot-on serving, host Plymouth registered a 3-0 victory Thursday night against WLAA South opponent Wayne Memorial. The Wildcats won by scores of 25-14, 26-24 and 25-13 to improve to 17-6-1 overall and 4-2 in the division.

Mariah Tesarz (22 digs), Dani Risi (13 kills), Katie Salo (22 assists) and Kelly Smoltz (4 blocks, 4 kills) all were perfect in the serving department, making it that much harder for the Zebras to get in sync.

"One of our focuses for this evening was to serve 100 percent and react to every ball defensively," Plymouth head coach Kelly McCausland said. "Wayne is a much improved team, and I would like to give them credit for almost taking a set from us."

McCausland added that after a sluggish effort Tuesday against Livonia Churchill, her team played much more inspired volleyball. "We were able to work the dig to kill combo tonight."

A sparkplug for Plymouth was sophomore Jessica Scott, who stepped in as setter for several rotations and chipped in with four blocks along with 5-for-7 in the assists department.

Franklin sophomore strikes it rich with 300 game reams sometimes really do

come true. That was just how it went for Bryan Anderson, 15, of Livonia as he delivered his first 300 game in league play

last Saturday at Woodland Lanes on Plymouth Road. His parents, Sue and Duane Anderson, were equally excited as they both are avid bowl-

ers. They got **Al Harrison** Bryan started bowling at age

four in bumper bowling and now he competes in the Woodland Rangers Juniors league on Saturdays. His league is the United States Bowling Congress Certified and Bryan will receive the appropriate award.

Bryan credits the youth coaches - Charles Cain and Kurt Suokaf - for helping him with the fundamentals of the game. "I was a little nervous in the 10th frame," Anderson said. "Every shot was right in the

The Schoolcraft College

the NJCAA Division I rank-

ings for the first time this

spot in the national poll.

improved to 8-1-1 overall

and 5-0 in the Michigan

at home over Delta CC.

Stevenson) scored for

Chris Long (Livonia

as Long drew the assist.

Community College Athletic

Association with a 2-1 victory

Schoolcraft in the 15th minute

off an assist from Jordan Ford.

with a goal in the 60th minute

Gavin Kelly made it 2-0

men's soccer team has cracked

season moving up to the No. 11

On Wednesday, the Ocelots

pocket except for one lucky Brooklyn hit. His previous high mark was 279 and he averaged 165 last year in league play and the average is climbing higher yet."

He is a 10th-grader at Franklin High and a wellrounded young man, carrying a 3.5 grade point average and on the school soccer team

His first love is bowling and he has even put in an application to serve on the Metro Detroit USBC Youth Committee. Congratulations to Bryan Anderson, let's hope this one was the first of many more in the future.

· Did you know that the Manoogian Mansion in Detroit has a bowling alley? I did not know that until all of the Detroit mayoral fallout took place recently and the fate of the building was up for discussion. I wonder now if former Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick and family were availing themselves of that facility. Wouldn't it be nice to have a lane or two in your basement?

• Welcome back, Ray Buchalter. His job required him to relocate

But Delta answered with

a goal in the 85th minute off

Motta (Livonia Churchill),

minute.

who came on for starter Ian

a little nervous, but our guys

came through," Schoolcraft

assistant coach Eric Scott said.

"We played the game without

some key guys due to injury,

but the boys picked up nicely

to get a tough conference win

The loss drops Delta to 5-5-1

overall and 1-5 in the MCCAA.

in conditions that were not

ideal with heavy winds."

Schoolcraft goalkeeper Adrian

McDonald-Wilkins in the 80th

'Delta scored to make things

to Minnesota last year, but now he is back here and his old spot on the team was still open, so he fit right back in with the Sunday Morning Goodtimers at Country Lanes in Farmington Hills.

The league also observed a moment of silence for the recently deceased former member and league officer Mort Silverman, who passed away in August.

• Roger Phillipi has been selected to receive the Judge John D. Watts Award from the Detroit Bowling Hall of Fame committee. Roger is a most deserving individual for all that he has accomplished in the promotion of bowling in the Detroit area. He also is the person who led the fight against adding the Michigan sales tax to bowling, and every proprietor, manager and bowler can appreciate what he did for all of us in regard to that victory.

Al Harrison is a resident of Southfield, and a member of the Detroit Bowling Hall of Fame and the Bowling Writers Association of America. He can be reached by email: tenpinalley710@yahoo. com.

AQUINAS 1, MADONNA 0: In a physical,

hard-fought match that featured

Wednesday, Aquinas College (8-3,

5-2) came away with the Wolverine-

University (1-6-2, 1-4-1) in a match

The match's only goal came in

the 37th minute when the Saints'

finish off a Jeo Pantioa pass that

snuck inside the right post for a 1-0

Senior goalkeeper Steve Besk

Crusaders while Jesse Guevara-

Lehker stopped four MU shots for

(Northville) made two stops for the

Brian Himes used a header to

eight yellow cards handed out

Hoosier Athletic Conference

Park No. 1.

lead.

the Saints.

win Wednesday over Madonna

played at Northville Community

Salem spikers win another

Salem continued to play strong volleyball Thursday night with a 3-0 match triumph over host South Lyon East.

The KLAA crossover matchup rarely was in doubt for the Rocks, who came away with wins of 25-11, 25-20 and 25-17.

'Overall it was a great night," said Salem head coach Amanda Suder. "I got to mix it up a lot and have Kerry (MacDonald) hitting and Mary (Ganich) set. It was nice, everyone got to play and had fun."

MacDonald tallied 25 service points along with four aces, and Ganich chipped in with 12 assists and five defensive digs.

Other top contributors for Salem included Nicole Merget (11 kills), Jillian Sommerville (10 kills) and Lauren Aschermann (15 digs).

Canton tankers excel

With several Canton girls swimmers qualifying for the state meet Thursday, the Chiefs nipped Plymouth 97-88 in a KLAA South Division dual meet.

Canton coach Ed Weber said his team "swam verv well" against the Wildcats, paced by Catie Irwin and Christine Pray in the 500 free (new MISCA cut) and Caitlyn Orr in the 100 back (new MISCA cut).

Other bests were registered by Kayla Eyster (200 free), Kaitlyn Dugas (100 fly) and the trio of Sara Krebs, Kelly Bedro and Abby Madison in the 100 breast. Weber added that the victorious 400 freestyle team of Kari Schmitt, Eyster, Delaney Adams and Krebs scored a season's best with a time of 3:53.07 seconds.

The Chiefs (5-1, 4-0) and Salem will square off 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, at Canton.

Ocelots clip Delta, 2-1, earn national ranking **BOYS TENNIS RESULTS**

KLAA KENSINGTON CONFERENCE BOYS TENNIS TOURNAMENT Oct. 5 at Novi Middle School t. 6 at Farmington Racquet Club

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Northville, 29 points; 2. Novi, 28; 3. Plymouth, 14; 4. Livonia Stevenson, J. S. Saleman, H. G. South Lyon East, 10; 7. Canton, 8; 8. Livonia Franklin, 7; 9. South Lyon, 5; 10. Livonia Churchill, 4; 11. Westland John Glenn, 2; 12. Wayne Memorial, 0. CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT RESULTS

No. 1 singles: Kevin Renehan (SLE) defeated Melvin Joseph (N'ville), 6-4 (retired-cramps); semifinals: Renehan def. Stephen Payne (LF), 6-1, 6-4; Joseph def. Aaron Zhang (Plv.), 6-7,

No. 2: Walter Woods (LF) def. Tim Wasielewski (N'ville), 6-3, 6-3; semifinals: Woods def. Peter Zhang (Novi), 6-3, 6-1; Wasielewski def. Matt Dwan (Ply.), 4-6, 6-3, 6-3. No. 3: Steve Irvine (N'ville) def. Pavan Rao (Novi), 6-0, 6-1; semifinals: Irvine def. Andy

Mitchell (Ply.), 6-3, 6-1; Rao def. Chris Kyanka (SLE), 6-2, 6-4. No. 4: Nick Kalweit (N'ville) def. Alex Brizard

(Novi), 6-4, 2-6, 6-4; **semifinals:** Kalweit def. Pat Bailey (Ply.), 6-3, 6-1; Brizard def. Vince Sabatini

No. 1 doubles: Nathan Faroog-Greg Richard (Novi) def. Evan Gatz-Anthony Rossi (N'ville), 6-0, 6-2; semifinals: Faroog-Richard def, Josh York-Paul Franchina (LS), 6-3, 6-0; Gatz-Rossi def Brock Foster-Josh Perrin (Salem) 6-2 6-4

No. 2: Jason Carless-Kyle McGuire (Novi) def. Albert Chen-Bryce Groshek (N'ville), 7-5. 7-5: **semifinals:** Carless-McGuire def. Kirk Willette-Andrew Tidwell (Canton), 6-0, 6-0; Chen-Groshek def. Drew Leist-Ian Fleming (Ply.), 6-4.6-4.

No. 3: Chaitanga Kanikar-Vishnu Venugopal (Novi) def. Matt Satterfield-Phil Lee (N'ville), 6-2, 7-5; **semifinals:** Kanikar-Venugopal def. Josh Heinze-Hank Eckhardt (Ply.), 6-0, 6-3; Satterfield-Lee def. Marcus McCathney-Kaeman Holman Ravos (LS), 6-2, 6-1.

No. 4: Bill Bell-Andrew Cho (Novi) def. Jordan Blough-Alex Hsu (N'ville), 6-3, 6-2; semifinals: Bell-Cho def. Zenik Pelekh-Greg Selewski (Salem), 6-0, 6-2; Blough-Hsu def. Kartik Bhatt-Austin Payne (Canton), 7-6 (7-5),

No. 5: Ani Ravi-Zhao Wang (Novi) def. Austin Weaver-Rahul Raj (N'ville), 6-3, 7-6 (7-2); semifinals: Ravi-Wayn def. Luke Freeman-Ashwin Kumar (Canton), 6-0, 6-2; Weaver-Raj def. Sean Wallace-Jacob Ratliff (LS), 6-0, 6-1





online at hometownlife.com

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NEIGHBORS

Foundation chair values community service, family

BY SHARON DARGAY O&E STAFF WRITER

Joyce Pappas knows a gem when she sees one.

"I get to look at diamonds all the time," said Pappas, sales manager of Orin Jewelers in Garden City, a family business founded by her father.

"This diamond I'm wearing was my mother's," she added, fingering the sparkling stone on her necklace. "They were raising four children and didn't have a lot of money, but I can remember her paying a little bit whenever she had the money."

Her eye for detecting rare finds goes beyond the gemologist loop. She also discovers gems in the people she meets and the institutions she supports. Garden City Hospital is among her favorites.

"I've been at the hospital as a volunteer 16 years," said Pappas, who has chaired its foundation for the past six years. "I've been on the hospital board nine years. I'm involved in the hospital because I just really believe in it.

"I think it provides a great service to the community. We've had family members that used the hospital and they always got excellent service. The people who work there are very caring and they do an excellent job."

She'll be on hand at the foundation's 18th annual fall fund-raiser, "Out of this World," an intergalactic theme gala, 6:30-11 p.m., Friday, Oct. 23, at Laurel Manor, 39000 Schoolcraft, Livonia. Money raised from the \$75 per ticket event, which includes music, silent auction and a strolling buffet, will refurbish the hospital's old surgery center into endoscopy



Joyce Pappas chairs the Garden City Hospital Foundation.

suites.

In addition to the annual fall gala, the foundation sponsors a spring fund-raising campaign called "Partners in Health," a golf outing in June and handles major gifts and annual giving.

RELYING ON DONORS

"With health care today, with so many people not having health care, every hospital — and Garden City is no exception — renders services that aren't paid. It's costly. Every hospital is facing challenging times, but a fund-raising arm, a foundation, can help to do so many things to support the hospital. Philanthropy today is where it's at as far as survival for so many institutions."

Pappas, who grew up in Garden City and still lives in her hometown with her husband, Perry, learned about philanthropy while still a teen-ager. She, her three siblings and their parents lived above the family jewelry store on Ford Road and Middlebelt. The family worked the store together, and Orin Sr. taught his children important lessons about giving back to community.

"Much was expected of us," Pappas recalled. "We were always involved in something, whether it was a function of the Chamber of Commerce..or we always had floats in the parade. It was a great town to grow up in. Everybody knew each other and there was a lot of community activity here."

She was secretary of her senior class at Garden City High, involved in plays and active at the store. LEARNING FROM FAMILY

Pappas said family life was important and that she feels privileged to have grown up in a household with "great parents and great role models."

After high school graduation she worked for the city and then took classes to become a bridal consultant, followed by a course through the Gemological Institute of America, where she earned certification as a registered jeweler.

Now she balances both her foundation work and family business.

"I enjoy what I do. I enjoy being productive and being with people." She hopes the upcoming fund-

raiser will draw people from Garden City and surrounding communities to support the hospital while having "a marvelous time."

"We want to make it affordable for everyone. It's an enjoyable evening. The decorations are phenomenal. When you walk in there, it's pretty amazing."



Richard C. Spinale, (left) D.O., surgery; Joseph G. D'Avanzo, D.O., gastroenterology; Louis C. Tegtmeyer, D.O., surgery, are looking forward to new endoscopy suites at Garden City Hospital.

Aliens, astronauts will send gala 'Out of this World'

With \$65,000 in sponsorships for its upcoming fall fund-raiser, Garden City Hospital Foundation is well on its way to generating the money needed for new endoscopy suites.

"We've been doing very well. I've been very happy with it," said Judy Wernette, Resource Development Associate, Garden City Hospital Foundation.

Last year's fall fund-raiser took in \$139,000 before expenses. Organizers of this year's gala, called "Out of this World," because of its intergalactic theme, hope to make a big dent in the \$130,366 the hospital needs to pay for new endoscopy suites.

"The third floor was where surgery was, so what we're doing is moving endoscopy suites into some of the old surgery rooms," Wernette said.

"There will be six of them. Part of it is installing a new patient restroom. They'll install new scope washing equipment inside the rooms."

The suites will gain more room and more privacy in their new location. Outpatient infusion services will move to the former endoscopy department after the new suites are built. The fund-raiser for the endoscopy suites will run 6:30-11 p.m., Friday, Oct. 23, at Laurel Manor, 39000 Schoolcraft, Livonia.

"It's a spectacular event," Wernette said. "We have a great band, fabulous decorations, a silent auction."

Guests will be able to bid on 75 items and buy raffle tickets for extensive gift baskets. Costumes in keeping with the theme are encouraged, but not required. T-shirts with the Out of this World theme also will be available.

Wernette said the gala is known for its decorations.

"One year they did 'Under the Sea,' so you walked in and were on land, and it progressed to the beach and then the main room was like walking under water. Last year we had a M.A.S.H. theme," she said. "I'm looking forward to seeing it this year."

Tickets are \$75 per person. Reserve by Friday, Oct. 16, by sending payment — payable to Garden City Hospital Foundation — name, address, and phone number to Garden City Hospital Foundation, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City, MI 48135



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online at hometownlife.com

Italian flag flies at Livonia City Hall Is your dryer vent line clean?

BY SHARON DARGAY **OSE STAFE WRITER**

Mary Galasso's not Italian, but she stood under the flagpole at Livonia City Hall last week and proudly sang out Inno di Mameli, also known as Fratelli d'Italia - the Italian National Anthem - while the red. green and white was hoisted overhead.

"We're very proud to have that fly," said Galasso, the first woman and non-Italian to head the Italian American Club of Livonia.

The flag raising is an annual event for the club, which also celebrates its 32nd birthday today, Sunday, Oct. 11 with dinner at Laurel Manor in Livonia. Although Columbus Day is Monday, the club held the flag ceremony on Oct 5, giving it a full week to fly. It will come down after the holiday.

The group also gives scholarships to college-bound students on Columbus Day and will honor its outstanding man of the year, Joseph Bernardini of Livonia Travel.

"I love the Italian culture. They are so family-oriented," Galasso said, explaining that her husband is from Italy. "My heart is Italian."

Prospective new club members must have "Italian blood" or a spouse with Italian heritage, according to Galasso. Members may socialize in the clubhouse, play cards, bocce, attend Thursday night pasta dinners, and more. The banquet hall at the facility, the Italian language classes and other events, such as the birthday celebration are open to the public.

"We're up to 889 families," Galasso said. For more information about the club call

(734) 953-1137.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Members of the Livonia Italian-American Club gather at Livonia City Hall to raise the flag of Italy. The flag is flying through Columbus Day, Monday, Oct. 12. Club members present for the flag raising and singing of the national anthem of Italy are: club President Mary Galasso, Mario Galasso, Vito Guarano, Diane and Carl Catallo, Carmela Soroi. Tony Stanta. Fran and Hurley Fields, Bea King, Angela Centi, Mary Panackia, and Joseph Bernardini. They are joined by **Livonia City Council** President Laura Toy and Mayor Jack Kirksey.

and two sons who started a new business and demonstrated a lot of courage in doing so. Ron Reiher with sons Tim and Jonathan are going to clean the vent lines on clothes dryers

I spent an

could feel the

compassion

they have for

homeowners

who don't seem

recently met with a father



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

to know any better. They told me stories and showed me pictures of plugged up vent lines they have already cleaned and it is absolutely amazing how these homes didn't burst into flames. They not only clean the vent lines but will straighten out improper hook-ups to make living in the home safe again. The story and picture that really caught my attention was the closet in a little girl's bedroom that contained the washer, dryer and the gas hot water heater. Not only was there gas lines all over the place, the dryer vent line was installed into the vent line for the hot water heater. This scenario could easily have introduced carbon monoxide into that kid's room and taken her life. There is no doubt in my mind that these three entrepreneurs will do more than just clean dryer vent lines. They will save several lives in the months ahead.

Any service technician in this country who repairs clothes dryers can tell you hundreds of stories about dryer vent lines being plugged up and the consequences. My wife's friend Patti recently had my son Mark over to fix her dryer which was taking too long to dry the clothes. He removed the lint that filled the vent line and then showed her the pile of lint inside the dryer which was all charred because it had caught fire in recent days. Patti was very fortunate

If you have an item for the garden

sdargay@hometownlife.com.

At English Gardens

calendar, submit it at least two weeks

prior to the event to Sharon Dargay at

Attract birds to the garden.

The store will provide tips and

a list of plants at 7 p.m., Oct. 14.

The store will provide materials

Decorate your porch or

patio with a container of sea-

sonal, cold-tolerant flowers.

that the fire went out by itself or today she might have been a memory to our family.

PREVENTABLE TRAGEDIES

I have spent the past 30 years writing, talking, and preaching about the importance of keeping the dryer vent line clean and yet the service industry reports that over 85 percent of service calls are caused by plugged vent lines. It's important to me that you don't have to spend money for a service call but much more important that you don't burn the house down and have someone perish in a house fire that was so preventable. October is fire prevention month in this country and fire departments will do their share of educating. They are the front line heroes who can really tell you the tragedy of what happens when a dryer vent line is plugged up.

The recent house explosion in St. Clair Shores is still being investigated for cause. The senior citizen who lived there has passed away and the statement she made before she died from the burns suffered has a profound message. "The last thing I remember is turning the dryer on."

DANGEROUS FUMES

Ron Reiher was telling me of the lady whose vent line came apart and kept blowing back into the house the carbon monoxide that's supposed to go outside. She couldn't understand why she was always suffering headaches and nausea until the problem was fixed.

Cleaning the vent line is critical not only to your health but also to the proper operation of your clothes dryer. It's not hard to do.

Look at it and common sense will take over but if it's something you don't want to tackle, you know that there is someone out there who will do it for you. Stay tuned.

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



10 am - 6 pm

Innennisse, sociedières définis





PATIENCE AND TIME IN THE TREATMENT OF ARTHRITIS

JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY

18829 Farmington Road Livonia, Michigan 48152 Phone: (248) 478-7860

It may seem ironic, but in the treatment of arthritis the older a person is, the more important time and patience becomes. The problem for the elderly individual is that many of the medicines used in treating arthritis create risks that a younger patient does not

The liver and kidneys normally lose a portion of their reserve as we grow older. Individuals born before 1950 had a greater exposure to lung conditions such as tuberculosis or histoplasmosis. Arthritic drugs such as Enbrel, Humera, or Remicaid carry a risk of activating past tuberculosis that may be residing in the lungs for years in a latent manner. Physicians have insufficient experience with new arthritic drugs such as Orencia or Rituxan to use these medication with confidence in patients older than age 65. Also, a number of muscle and bone pains in the elderly are difficult for physicians to

explain. The doctor needs time to observe how the pain evolves and from the pattern of pain eventually make a diagnosis that permits reasonable treatment.

In many cases what the physician does is to provide the patient with pain relief. These decisions can be difficult, as too little relief continues the patient's distress and too much pain medication leads to the danger of falls, urinary retention or loss of appetite.

Often the best medical advice is to direct the patient to exercise patience, continue activity as much as possible, use analgesia sparingly, and let time and nature heal the hurt

or bring out the cause. www.drjjweiss.yourmd.com OE0867626

WORLD PREMIERE OF THE

GARDEN CALENDAR

and instructions at 7 p.m., Oct. 15. The fee is \$24.99. Register online or in the store.

Find out what it takes to prepare your garden for winter at 7 p.m., Oct. 21.

Bring fall indoors with a collection of flowering and tropical plants. The store will provide everything needed to make and take home a "fall European garden" at 7 p.m., Oct. 22. Fee is \$24.99. Register online or at the store.



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Barefoot Productions Presents The classic comedy by Neil Simon The Good Doctor

Directed by Craig A. Hane

Concerned on the several learning (comme

October 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24 at 8:00 p.m.

October 18 & 25 at 2:00 p.m. *October 8 at 8:00 p.m. Special Benefit Performance for VFW Post 6695! All tickets \$20

Tickets: \$12 General Admission \$10 Semiors (60+)



Хорошай

доктор

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240 N. Main, Plymouth (Walker/Buzenberg Bldg.)

The Good Doctor replaces our previously scheduled production of Mister Roberts Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc



MILESTONES



Caleca-Schroeter

Cheryl and Joe Caleca of Fenton and Pete and Kathy Schroeter of Plymouth are pleased to announce the engagement of their children Liana Caleca and Joe Schroeter.

The bride-to-be graduated from Powers Catholic High School and the groom from University of Detroit Jesuit High School. They are both graduates of Michigan State University and now make their home in San Diego, Calif., where Liana is a pharmaceutical sales representative and Joe is in sales in the biotechnology industry.

A July 2010 wedding is planned in Plymouth.

Gregory-Koch

Amanda Koch and Jason Gregory were married June 26, 2009 at Waldenwoods Resort in Hartland. Rocco and Nina Messana officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Gary and Susan Koch of Plymouth. The groom is the son of Ralph Gregory of Westland and Josephine Kujawa of Gaylord.

Amanda is a 2001 Plymouth Salem High School graduate and a 2006 Eastern Michigan University graduate. She is a language arts teacher at Crescent Academy.

Jason graduated from Plymouth Canton High School in 1991 and from Appalachian State in 2009. He is a music therapist for Variety Far Conservatory.

ister of the Lisa Drumm bride, served as Matron of Honor and Ryan Koch, brother of the bride, was Man of Honor Best Man was Mike Stankiewicz, brother-in-law of the groom.



The flower children were Anna Drumm, niece of the bride, and Rowan Drumm and Lucas Drumm, nephews of the bride.

Groomswoman was Carole Dean, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were friends of the groom Glen Wiseman, David Fedorko and Jeffree St. John, and brother-in-law of the groom, Kevin Graham.

Ring bearers were Adam Stankiewicz, nephew of the groom and Kara Stankiewicz,

Nephews of the groom,

Graham, served as bell ringers.

Owen Graham and Logan

After a reception at

Waldenwoods Resort, the

couple took a honeymoon trip

They reside in Dearborn

niece of the groom.

to Cape Cod, Mass.

Heights.



PEGGY E. CLOUGH

Passed away on October 6, 2009 at the age of 84. She was born in Southampton, England and was a career accountant. Peggy was an avid football fan and remembers the Lions last championship season. She also enjoyed growing orchids. She is sur-vived by her husband Richard and children Robert Clough and Joanne (Nathan) Atkinson. Grandmother of Nicole Marble and Felicia Atkinson one great-grandson Austin. and Visitation and services were held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home of Plymouth on Saturday. Share your special thoughts and memories at:





MARILYN J. KANAKIS (KNACK) May 23, 1929-September 13, 2009

of emphysema (COPD). Loving mother to Sandi, Jody (Rick), Ted, Steve (Julie), and Jay. Also survived by her brother Jim (Jane), sister Barb (Luke), and many nieces and nephews. Marilyn was born to Herbert & Ethel Knack. A bright child, she learned to read on her own prior to attending school. She had a good memory for words and won many spelling bees including the Detroit Public School District for grades 6 & 8. She loved music and learned to play piano, attending the Redford Conservatory of Music. She specialized in classical music. At age 12 she was featured at the Olympia in Grinnell's Piano Festival. She also loved family summers at Barlow Lake, and attended Redford High School. Just after, while working at S.S. Kresge's downtown, she met her husband John, to whom she was married 23 years. Marilyn was meticulous in her appearance and is remembered for her good looks, reminding people of Marilyn Monroe. After her divorce and with no marketable skills, she entered the workforce and retired with 22 years from

the Observer-Eccentric. She also held a special place in her heart for 'Jaws'. a Rottweiler she shared with her son Steve for eleven years. After Jaws passed, she missed him dearly and spoke of him often. With the help of her children, she was able to live independently until the end. She passed peacefully at Botsford Hospital in the company of her loving family.

A memorial will be held October 18. Inquiries call: 313-531-2878





JUTTA LETTS

October 6, 2009. Age 80. Long-time resident of Birmingham and Les Cheneaux Islands of northern Michigan. An advocate for conservation and environmental concerns, Jutta served on many boards and supported the arts and education. Beloved wife of Charles "Chuck" for 60 years. Loving mother of Chip (Kathleen), David (Genevieve) and Martin (Susan). Grandmother of Zita, Erika, Elizabeth, John, Sarah, William and Joshua. Great-grandmother of Max, Molly and Phillip Homer. Sister of Karin Aichorn. Funeral service Saturday 11am at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward (btwn 13-14 Mile). Family will receive friends Friday 2-8pm. Memorials to Little Traverse Conservancy, 3264 Powell Rd., Harbor Springs, MI 49740 or online at www.landtrust.org. View obituary and share memories at:

www.desmondfuneralhome.com UDESMOND/86NS



JAMES BENJAMIN McATEER

On October 11, 1929, the good Lord ve the earth a son, James "Benny Benjamin McAteer Jr. Ben would grow, learn, marry, have children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. He then became their mentor, teaching all he knew, preparing them for their journey, and then becoming their hero. od left him here on loan to fill many people's lives with many memories. On October 3, 2009, the Lord brought him home, ending his journey here on earth. He is survived by his wife: Pat McAteer of Beaverton; son: Jim B. McAteer III; daughter: Trish (Duke) McAteer Wilson; son: Tim (Melissa) McAteer; daughter: Darlene McAteer Villaire; daughter: Kathy (Scott) McAteer Taft; 21 grandchildren; 5 great grandchildren; brother: Thomas McAteer; many nieces & nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents; daughter: Jean; brother: John P. "Jack' McAteer; sister-in-law: Eileen McAteer. Funeral Services were held St. Anne Catholic Church, Edenville, Michigan. Visitation was at Hall-Kokotovich Funeral Home, Beaverton, Michigan. He will be laid to rest at Billings Twp. Cemetery, Beaverton, Michigan. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Toy's for Tots or to be used according to the wishes of the family. hall-kokotovichfuneralhome.com



October 3, 2009. Age 94, for-merly of Bloomfield Hills. Proud veteran of U.S. Army Air Corp., WWII. Founder and chairman of the board of National Association of Investors Corp. (NAIC). Beloved husband of Eleanor M. (nee Urguhart) for 60 years. Dear father of Dr. Thomas E., Jr. (Melissa), Robert A. (Jill) and Shelley J. Genord Dennis). Grandfather of Brandon, Andrew, Thomas III, Megan, Tyler, Julia and Javden. Family received friends Wednesday 4-8p.m. at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward. Funeral Service was Thursday 10a.m. at Kirk in the Hills, 1340 W. Long Lake Rd., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302. Memorial tributes to Kirk in the Hills Outreach and Benevolence. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

NORMA SUSAN RICHARDSON

Age 81, died Sunday, September 27, 2009 at Rolling Fields Senior Living, Conneautville, PA. She was born December 26, 1927 in Detroit, Michigan, daughter of the late Ferdinand and Susan Martin. Norma graduated from Redford High School, Redford, Mich. She was a school bus driver for over 20 years. Norma played the organ and violin, loved gardening, and traveling by motorhome. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband Robert R. Richardson. Survivors include three sons: Robert Richardson, III and his wife Gwynne of Edinboro, Martin Richardson, Todd Richardson and his wife Ursula; 10 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren. Arrangements entrusted to Burton Funeral Home and Crematory, Inc., 602 West 10th Street.



IRENE A. RUCINSKI

October 1, 2009, age 90. Former longtime resident of Birmingham. Loving wife of Chet for 66 years. Dear mother Jeanette Stump, James Rucinski,



KEN VOGRAS

Of Bella Vista, AR, formerly of Plymouth, MI, started his journey home on September 26, 2009 after a long battle with lung cancer. Survived by "Beloved Wife and Best Friend" Deanna, who he married in August 1985. Ken is also survived by his daughter Jacke (Jim) Kilmartin, son Loren (Gail) Vogras, stepson Scott (Kristin) Bennett, stepdaughter Shannon (Rick) Smith, grandchildren, Anthony and Doug Kilmartin, Lisa Vogras, Jason, Michael, Jeffrey and Matthew Bennett, Allen and Karla Smith and seven great-grandchildren, sister Carol (Ken) Hilley, sisters-inlaw Patt (Orin) Ribar and Kay (Bo) Rhudy, brothers-in-law John (Jackie) Wohn, Ron (Joyce) Wohn, also some very special nephews and nieces. Ken worked for the City of Plymouth for over thirty-five years and was the Director of Public Works for twentyfive years and ten years with the Sewer and Water Director of West Bloomfield Township, MI, prior to his retirement in 2001. Ken loved to golf and was a member of the Wild Men, The Duffers and The Jelly Bellies. He was the #1 fan of the Detroit Red Wings and University of Michigan Football. A memorial servce will be held at 11AM, October. , 2009 at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth, MI www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com



STUART E. WOOD

Age 83, of Charlevoix, formerly of Bloomfield Hills, October 6, 2009. Beloved husband of Lois J. Wood. Dearest father of Carol W. (David R.) Peterson, and Douglas N. (Lori J.) Wood. Dearest grandfather of Sarah (Jason) McGovern, Stuart, Joseph, and Jacob Peterson; Alyssa, Shannon, and Katelyn Wood. Visitation at Winchester Funeral Home, 209 State, Charlevoix, 49720, from 2-5 PM, Monday, October 12. Memorial service to be held in the Detroit Metro area in early November will be

announced at a later date. In lieu of

flowers, contributions to Hospice of Northwest Michigan, 220 W. Garfield, Charlevoix, 49720; The

Salvation Army (any location); The Charlevoix Food Pantry, 101 State,

OBITUARY

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The first five "billed" lines of an

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Charlevoix, 49720.

Bridesmaids were Cara Ciaglo, Michelle St. John, Kate Maples and Karen Holmes, all friends of the bride.

Brooke Rylee Frederick

Brooke Rylee Frederick was born June 26, 2009 in Providence Park Hospital, Novi.

She joins proud parents, Amy and Anthony Frederick and siblings, Hunter, 4, and Gavin, 3, at home in Livonia.

Grandparents are Edmund and Lynda Mohacsi of Livonia, Ronald Frederick of Harrison, and Sandra Malone of Bonita Springs, Fla. Great-grand-

mother is Rita Frederick of Harrison.



Ryleigh Mae Dunn

Ryleigh Mae Dunn was born Sept. 29, 2009 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor

Proud parents are Brandi Pietruszka and Chad Dunn of Westland.

Grandparents are Ross and Tonya Pietruszka and Keith and Lisa Dunn, all of Westland. Great-grandparents are Carol Hall of Louisville, Ky., Dale and Jean Hall of Bridgewater and Esther and Bob Hanadel of Wayne.





SUSAN KENYON

Age 60, passed away on October 6th surrounded by her loving family. Survived by her devoted husband of 41 years, Barry Kenyon and loving children Jim (Jami), Michelle (Mark) & the best grandchildren: Ryan, Brandon, Michael & Tawni. A celebration of Sue's life will be held at Papa Joe's Bar & Grill on Ford Rd in Westland on October 18th, 1 to 5pm. In lieu of flowers, a donation well will be provided for Susie's preferred charity.

JAMES A. KILGORE



Jackson, Michigan, on April 4, 1924. His family later moved to Royal Oak, Michigan where he passed through the Royal Oak educational system. He graduated from Royal Oak High School in February, 1942. During his high school years he was active in the Boy Scouts of America program attaining the rank of Eagle Scout with Palms. In World War II he served as a B-17 bomber pilot and flew 25 combat missions in the European Theater of Operations. He was decorated 3 times, earned 6 Battle Stars, and 2 Distinguished Unit Citations. After the war he enrolled in the University of Michigan College of Architecture and Design. It was here that he met his future wife Helen. He and Helen were married while still attending school. After graduation he worked in several local Detroit offices including those of Eero Saarinen, and Minoru Yamasaki. During his last 20 years he was the Chief Corporate Architect and Director of Planning and Design for K-Mart Corporation at their international headquarters in Troy, Michigan. He retired in 1990 but continued to work for K-Mart Corporation as a consultant for 5 more years. He and his wife Helen were avid sailors and enjoyed many years cruising the Great Lakes in their live-aboard sloop. He was also an experienced videographer and enjoyed filming his travels around the world. He was a member of the American Institute of Architects and the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards. He is survived by his wife Helen and children James A. Kilgore, Jr., David N. Kilgore, and Dr. Sue Ann K. Bauserman.

FRED OBLINGER

82, Cheboygan, Michigan was called home by his heavenly Father on October 06, 2009 while surrounded

by his family. Fred was born in Doylestown, Pennsylvania on October 25, 1926 to the late Fred and Josephine (Clark) Oblinger. Fred loved his coun-try and enlisted on May 25, 1944 days after graduating from Solebury School in New Hope, Pennsylvania. Fred proudly served in the 82nd Airborne Division (80th AB Anti AC Bn.) from 1944-1946 and Fred earned expert infantry and parachutist badges. Fred earned a mechanical engineering degree from Yale University in 1950. He began his career with Pratt & Whitney and joined Ford Motor Company in 1954 where he retired after 42 years of dedicated service. Fred had a very productive career at Ford where he coauthored several patents. He designed many gadgets for his colleagues that were referred to as "Fred things". Fred never boasted of his accomplishments, but consistently praised the contributions of his colleagues. Fred married Jeanne T. Gurney in 1947 and was blessed with six children during their 48 years of marriage. Jeanne entered her heavenly home in 1996 after a difficult battle with cancer. Happiness was restored to Fred's life when he married Joyce Trapp in 2000. They were blessed with nearly ten years together. Fred dearly loved his family and was a devoted husband. He would sacrifice or do anything for the benefit of his family. Fred is survived by his beloved wife, Joyce Oblinger; his sister, Dee; his children James, Deborah, Nikki, Jill, Daniel, and Eric; stepchildren Renae, Chris, and Beth; 18 grandchildren, and great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife Jeanne and his sister Marion. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to St. John's Lutheran Church, 8757 N. Straits Hwy., Cheboygan, MI 49721 or Hospice of Little Traverse Bay, One Hiland Drive, Petoskey, MI 49770

8780

M.D. (Nancy), and the late Jack Rucinski (Phyllis). Beloved grand-mother of Jan-Michael, Andrew, Sherry, George, Bob, Kimberly, and Jamie. Great-grandmother of 10. Services have been held.

A. J. Desmond & Sons Troy, 248-362-2500

View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com



SARAH MARIE THURMOND

October 8, 2009, age 20, of Westland. Beloved daughter of David Paul & Carol Lynn. Dear sister of Joshua Granddaughter of Dean & David. Judy Thurmond, Grace (Lowell) Morgan, the late Melvin Peter. Greatgranddaughter of Evelyn Williams. liece of Mark Thurmond, Ella Weltin, Janet Soper & Dan Peter. Also survived by nine cousins. Funeral 11 AM at Westland Free Methodist Church, 1421 Venoy Rd., Westland, MI 48186. Friends may visit Sunday 2-9 PM at the Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood, Westland, MI. Family requests memorials to Wayne Westland Friends of EB, Make A Wish Foundation or Regents of the University of Michigan. Please visit and sign a tribute at:

www.uhtfh.com

Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday Obituaries received after these deadline 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





REUNION CALENDAR

The Reunion Calendar runs Sundays in the paper as space allows, and online in its entirety at www.hometownlife.com. Submit your announcement at least two weeks in advance to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife. com. Got a photo of your graduating class? Maybe a prom photo or some other special moment? Send it along, too, as a jpg attachment.

Annapolis High School Classes of 1973, '74 and '75

The Dearborn Heights high school's multiclass reunion will be Oct. 16, 2010 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Dearborn. The organizing committee is looking for classmates. E-mail to ANNAPOLIS73REUNION@YAHOO.COM, or call JoAnn Maynarich at (734) 671-6005, John Ross at (313) 908-9507 or RoseAnn Drouillard at (810) 923-9892.

Detroit Pershing

Class of 1960

50th reunion festivities in September 2010 will be held at the Doubletree Guest Suites Fort Shelby in downtown Detroit. For more information call Sherry Forbush (Sharon Bailey) at (248) 994-0664 or Joan Harrington (Mazey) at (734) 595-7508.

Detroit St. Brigid

Class of 1959

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

Detroit St. Thomas

Reunion for anyone who attended Detroit St. Thomas Apostle, 7 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Oct. 24, 2009, at The American Polish Cultural Center, 2975 E. Maple, Troy. There will be a complete sit-down dinner including all drinks and music. The cost per person is \$45. For information, call Rose Ann Filar-Novik at (248) 770-1271.

Farmington High School Class of 1970

Planning reunion in 2010. Seeking classmates. Join the group on Facebook by searching Farmington High School Class of 1970 Reunion. Or e-mail Carla Campbell Lehn at dblehn@aol. com.

Fordson High School

Class of 1984

25-year reunion, 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Nov. 28, Burton Manor in Livonia. Cost is \$65 per person and includes dinner, dancing/DJ, and full bar. A photographer will be on-site taking and selling group and individual photos. Invitations will be mailed out in October. E-mail Michele (Tonna) Belczak at michelebel@sbcglobal.net or Melanie (Monaghan) Scharboneau at mscharboneau@yahoo.com to provide current mailing address.

Garden City High School Class of 1960

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



Redford Union High School's class of 1984 shows off its school spirit. Now all grown up, class members will celebrate their 25-year reunion Nov. 7 at St. Mary's Cultural Center in Livonia.

Garden City West Class of 1979

Holds a 30-year class reunion on Oct. 24, 2009 at the Hellenic Cultural Center on Joy Road in Westland. Classmates should register on the private Web site, http://www.classcreator. com/Garden-City-MI-Garden-City-West-1979, to get all information. Tickets will go on sale in the upcoming months on the Web site. E-mail questions to gcw79reunion@yahoo.com.

Dearborn Heights Haston High Class of 1965

45-year reunion, 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. July 24, 2010; Contact Pat Beadle-Kopczyk, 3334 Kneeland Circle, Howell, MI 48843, at (517) 552-1182 or email to her at patkopczyk@aol.com Ladywood

Class of 1984

25th reunion, Dec. 26; for information e-mail to Sara Czarnecki Levitsky at saralevitsky@ comcast.net

Livonia Bentley

Classes of 1968-1970

Combined class reunion Friday, Nov. 27, 2009, at the Radisson Hotel Detroit-Livonia, I-275 and Six Mile. For details, visit www. bentley686970.org to e-mail, or call Connie (Scarlett) Flynn class of 1968 at (734) 812-7936, Bev (Valentine) Wilkie class of 1969 at (248) 366-6492 or Colleen Siembor class of 1970 at (734) 455-1395.

Classes of '78, '79, '80

Combo-Class Reunion Friday, Nov. 27, at St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100, Livonia. Tickets are \$50 before Nov. 1 and \$60 after. Doors open at 6 p.m. The event includes food, live music and an open bar. Visit www.bentleyclassof1979.com. Contact bentleyclassof78@yahoo.com or call John at (734) 358-3272

Livonia Franklin Class of 1969

40th high school reunion, 6:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., Nov. 14, at Lyon Oaks Banquet Center, 52251 Pontiac Trail, Wixom. No tickets will be sold at the door. For information, contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail Kayninilu@aol.com or Kathy Shoebridge at Klivingstone@nu-core.com. **Livonia Stevenson**

Class of 1979

30th reunion, 6 p.m., Nov. 28, Station 885, 995 Starkweather, Plymouth. Tickets cost \$35 per person before Nov. 14 and \$50 per person after the date and at the door. Contact Lisa Falk at lisannefalk@comcast.net

Oak Park High School

Class of 1980

30th reunion, July 2-4, 2010; for information e-mail to ophighschool1980@yahoo.com Redford Union

Class of 1984.

Saturday Nov. 7, at St Mary's Cultural Center in Livonia. To register visit celebrations2remember.com. Questions? E-mail to Bethany Payton-0'Brien at spikepayton@hotmail.com or Lori Suski Manus at lorimanus@yahoo.com Class of 1989

20 year reunion Saturday, Oct. 24 at Warren Valley Golf Club. For information or to register call Sharon at (734) 261-3264 or e-mail to celebrationstoremember@yahoo.com **St. Mary of Redford**

Class of 1969

40-year reunion, Saturday Nov. 14, 2009 at the Monaghan Knights of Columbus in Livonia. If interested in helping to plan the event or contacting classmates call Mark Coulter at (734) 453-5423 or e-mail to mcoulter@gr-lakes.com.

Enter Metroparks photo contest

Do you have an eye-catching photo taken at a Huron-Clinton Metropark? Enter it into the Huron-Clinton Metroparks and the West Oakland Camera Club's 2009 Photography Contest.

Photo entries will be accepted through Nov. 3. Contest rules and entry information are available at www.metroparks.com.

Anyone can enter up to a total of two images in any of the following categories: nature/scenic, wildlife and recreation/education. Photographers will be grouped by age: 5-12, 13-17, and adults.

Color or black and white digital images will be accepted, and must be at least six megapixel resolution. Cell phone photos will not be accepted. All photo entries must have been taken within the Huron-Clinton Metroparks.

Entries will be judged by members of the West Oakland Camera Club, who publish in *Audubon*, *Sierra Club* and National Geographic.

Winning photos will be part of a traveling display within the Metroparks. Prizes will be announced at a later date.

Located along the Huron and Clinton rivers, the Metroparks provide a natural oasis from urban and suburban life as well as yearround recreational activities and events. A regional park system, the Metroparks consist of 13 parks covering nearly 24,000 acres, 10 public golf courses and two marinas on Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair, respectively.

The parks also offer scenic nature trails, beaches, educational activities and exciting winter sports. A vehicle entry permit is required to enter any Metropark and is only \$20 annually for regular admission, \$12 annually for seniors, or \$4 daily. General information can be found at www. metroparks.com or by calling (800) 47-PARKS

RELIGION CALENDAR

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 online, go to hometownlife.com.

OCT. 11-14

Blood drive

8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 11, St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia; Call for appointments at (734) 425-8115. CROP walk

The annual Plymouth/Canton CROP Hunger Walk will take place on Sunday, Oct. 11. Registration is at 1:30 p.m. with the Walk beginning at 2 p.m. from St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth. The Walk raises funds for Church World Service and the Salvation Army of Plymouth. For more information, contact Barb Fichtenberg at (734) 981-4205 or e-mail to bfichtenberg@ hotmail.com.

Film

"The 13th Day," a film about children from the village of Fatima in Portugal who experienced apparitions of Mary in 1917, will premiere at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 13 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 47650 North Territorial Road, Plymouth. RSVP at www.CatholicScreenings. com. For questions e-mail to Screenings@

Maximusmg.com Special presentation

Mary Ann Wheeler will give a presentation on Marcus Swifts' life, entitled "Slavery in Michigan, The Underground Railroad, and Abolitionist Preacher Marcus Swift" at 7 p.m. at historic Newburg Church at Greenmead in Livonia. Swift was the first pastor of the Newburg United Methodist Church. (734)422-0149

OCT. 15-21

Anniversary celebration

- 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 18 and Sunday, Oct. 25, celebrating God's Grace Ministries five-year church anniversary. Theme is "Continuing The Good Fight." The church is
- located at 26941 Plymouth Road, Redford. (313) 937-5900

Auction fund-raiser

The Servant Church of St. Alexander presents a silent auction with appetizers, 1 p.m., followed by a family-style dinner at 4 p.m. and live auction at 5 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 18, at Vladimirs, 28125 Grand River Ave., Farmington. Tickets, \$45 per person. Proceeds will benefit the church's outreach activities, which include a weekly food pantry that feeds approximately 50 families and a youth mission that assists families in rebuilding homes. **ENDOW for girls**

Girl Genius, a one-day ENDOW retreat for girls runs 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 17, at St. Aidan church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Cost is \$30 for girls, adults are admitted for free, and includes lunch and snack. (248) 477-2555

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\$5.00 1834 to 1838up to	\$1,000	\$10,000
\$5.00 1839 to 1908up to	\$1,500	\$6,000
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 Λ^{\bullet} **OCTOBER 10TH** in the AMC Theater Building, 1st Floor 10am-7pm 10am-6pm

Hospitals rely on loyal donors in tough economy

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Fund-raisers for health care organizations feel the pinch in these bad economic times, but creativity and perseverance helps maintain their vital signs.

Loyal donors are key.

"There are core people who can't donate as much as they used to, but they still haven't dropped us off and we are grateful for that," explains Angela Hospice Business Development Manager Bob Alexander.

In the past year there has been a 30 percent decline in fund-raising for the Livonia facility. He points to many reasons for the drop.

"We're seeing smaller donations from the same people and in some cases, and we're seeing folks who just aren't donating," he says.

The weak economy couldn't have come at a worse time, because a capital campaign is underway to pay for an addition at Angela Hospice, which has a waiting list of more than double the capacity.

"We had to wait nine years for permission, which came all the way from Rome," Alexander says. "We are doing whatever we can and we're confident the support will come. It may delay the process somewhat, but everything will go forward."

Hospice managers are trying to react to lower donations in smart ways, like using volunteers as much as they can.

"We are doing what we can not to have services affected, because we still provide robust services to patients and their families," Alexander says adding that the facility is operated by the Felician Sisters and there is an element that "somehow or another we will get donations. It's as God desires. I feel like there is a very faithful forward motion regardless of the economy."

LOYAL DONORS

Sara Stauffer, director of major gifts and special events at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia says corporate gifts are down, but the news isn't all bad.

"St. Mary Mercy is very fortunate to have donors who are committed and are loyal to our programs," Stauffer says. "They are the reason that we have continued to be successful here at St. Mary Mercy."

The hospital recently finished its first capital campaign, Caring for the Future, to advance cancer care and cardiac services. And a 50th anniversary fund-raiser held Friday, Oct. 9, was on track to exceed a \$150,000 fund-raising goal.

"I think it's important to communicate well with your donors and to help them understand the impact of their philanthropy," Stauffer says. "They have so many choices of where they can give."

Joyce Pappas, Chairperson of Garden City Hospital Foundation, the fund-raiser arm of the hospital, says the facility has also been "very



fortunate."

The hospital's three annual major fund-raising events have met or exceeded goals. This month's event is drawing a lot of attention with an intergalactic theme that asks guests to dress the part.

"There are some very dedicated people to the hospital," Pappas says pointing to employees, patients and the community. "Everybody is realizing that health care today is hit hard. Garden City Hospital doesn't turn anyone away and I think that's realized in the community. There are caring doctors and we're all appreciative if we have a good physician. We like to support things that they support."

MORE DONATIONS

The economy presents challenges for fundraising at Botsford Healthcare, but they aren't insurmountable, explains Margo Gorchow, Botsford Foundation executive director. The foundation is the fund-raising arm for the hospital.

"Interestingly enough we have received a greater number of donations this year than we have in past years, but they've been smaller amounts," she says.

Botsford Foundation, at eight years old, is relatively new in the fund-raising arena and employees are working to build a donor base, staff, software to manage the data base, research capabilities and other infrastructure, she says.

"An advantage, I think to this time, is that it allows us as fund-raisers, whose real work is to build relationships, to continue to evolve and develop those relationships," Gorchow says. "It's really about friend raising, not just about funds."

Wealthy donors continue to pledge, she says, however, their donations are often extended over a longer period of time than in the past.

"People who want to support an organization continue to want to support it and it's our job to figure out the best way for them to do that," Gorchow says.

Christina Johnson, manager of special events for the American Diabetes Association in southeast Michigan says the economic slump makes some people afraid to ask for support.

Johnson, who is walking in a diabetes fundraiser, says even she is sometimes reluctant to ask people to make a pledge.

"Once you do make the ask, people are so willing to donate," she says. "Their donations might not be as much as in the past, but people are still more than willing to donate to a great cause. They know that these causes don't decline and they don't stop affecting people's lives, because the economy is declining."

Benefits support healthcare

ANGELA HOSPICE

Light Up a Life: Harvest Happenings for Angela Hospice in Livonia, Saturday, Oct. 17 in the Novi Sheraton. Tickets for the 22nd annual event are \$100 and include dinner, dancing, a silent auction and raffles. Call (866) 464-7810 for more information.

Donations accepted at the "Tree of Life" Christmas trees, on display starting next month at Laurel Park, also benefit Angela Hospice. The trees will be decorated with angels that have the names of loved ones.

JINGLE BELL RUN/WALK FOR ARTHRITIS

Start a team and organize your very own holidaythemed costumes. Then tie jingle bells to your shoelaces, and complete a 5 kilometer route. Go to www.arthritis.org/jinglebell-run.php. Saturday, Dec 5 at Northville Downs Race Track, 301 S. Center Street. Race begins at 9 a.m. or Saturday, Dec. 12 at Covington School, 1525 Covington, Bloomfield.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk, Saturday, Oct. 17 at Gallup Park in Ann Arbor. For more information go www. cancer.org/stridesonline or call (248) 663-3400 or (734) 971-4300.

GARDEN CITY HOSPITAL

"Out of This World: An Intergalactic Gala" Friday, Oct. 23 in Laurel Manor Banquet and Conference Center, 39000 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia. The proceeds from this year's event will go towards renovating the endoscopy suites at the hospital. Tickets are \$75 per person (open seating). Call the foundation the Garden **City Hospital Foundation** at (734) 458-4331 or visit gchosp.org. The 18th annual event will feature food. entertainment, raffles and a silent auction.

ST. JOHN PEDIATRIC HOSPICE

The seventh annual Oktoberfest Friday, Oct. 23, at Franklin Hills Country Club, Franklin, will raise funds for pediatric and palliative care. The programs provide comfort care to children of all ages, including the unborn and young adults. The St. John Hospice Walk With Me program serves families in five counties in the Detroit metropolitan area. Tickets are \$100 per person. Event begins at 6:30 p.m. with a cocktail and hors d'oeuvres reception, followed by a strolling buffet, a 50/50 raffle and the highlight of the evening, a silent auction. Contact Lorraine Owczarek at (586) 582-7509.

ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION

Bone Bash benefit for Arthritis Foundation with That 80's Band and DJ Julio, 9 p.m., Friday, Oct. 23, at the Royal Oak Music Theatre on Fourth between Lafayette and Washington in downtown Royal Oak; 21+ only, tickets \$25,\$30 and \$100; (800) 919-6272; www.royaloakmusictheatre. com

BOTSFORD AUTUMN GALA

The Botsford Autumn Gala, Saturday, Nov. 14. This year's event raises money for breast cancer care at Botsford's Breast Center, the second phase of the Botsford Cancer Center. For more information call The Botsford Foundation at (248) 442-5065.

CS. MOTT CHILDREN'S AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL

University of Michigan Football program is selling all spirit towels that say, "All In for Michigan" with money going to C.S. Mott Children's and Women's Hospital. They are available at the MDen and M Go Blue Shops, Dunham's Sports, Dick's Sporting Goods and select metro Detroit Meijer stores.



SUNDAY

SECTION

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