

Fond memories for 105-year-old, A3

SUNDAY

April 11, 2010

The Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers

Volume 35
Number 83

\$1.00

CANTON OBSERVER

online at hometownlife.com



Dolls come to life at convention – Neighbors, B5

CANTON CONNECTION

Trail open house

The Michigan Department of Transportation and project team staff will host an open house to provide an overview of the scope and boundaries of this project to fix an approximately seven-mile section of the I-275 Metro Trail. This section is planned for reconstruction beginning this spring, and this is the last open house planned prior to construction. There will be an opportunity to review the final design selections prior to construction. The public open house runs 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 13, at Fellows Creek Golf Club, 2936 Lotz, in Canton.

For more information, contact Gorette Yung at (313) 375-2400, yungg@michigan.gov; Leah Groya at (313) 961-3650, lgroya@wadetrim.com; or Jayson Nault at (810) 220-2112, jayson.nault@tetrattech.com

Famie visits

The Plymouth-Canton Educational Park will hosts chef Keith Famie, currently the director/producer of a video called "Detroit's Greatest Generation," Friday, April 16, from 9:30-11:30 a.m.

The presentation is designed to help students gain understanding of how historians tell stories in a public arena. Famie will promote his craft and an upcoming DVD to be released about Detroit's Vietnam veterans. This event will be attended by 160 P-CEP students. There is room to accommodate about 40 community members. Reservations will be accepted on a first-come-first-serve basis by calling (734) 416-2757.

Tax help

State Sen. Bruce Patterson, R-Canton, is offering free tax guides to assist constituents with tax questions.

The guide gives the latest information in simple-to-understand terms, all in one publication. It includes information for the 2009 tax year on property taxes, homestead property tax credits, farmland and open space tax relief, the home heating credit program, the Michigan Income Tax, the Single Business Tax, and other tax related subjects.

The guides are available at a variety of locations in the 7th Senate District, including Canton Township Hall, the Canton Public Library and senior center.

An online version of the 2010 Tax Guide is available by visiting Patterson's Web site at www.senatorbrucepatterson.com/.

Forum set to detail hike in water rates

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Details of Canton's new water and sewer rate hike proposal couldn't be obtained Friday afternoon, just six days prior to the first public forum scheduled by township officials to educate residents and answer their questions about an inevitable increase.

Canton's finance department still was working on a draft of water-sewer rate hikes Friday afternoon, in hopes of finishing the task by Tuesday, Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said.

The first of three public forums on water and sewer rates is set for 6-8 p.m. Thursday at the township's

administration building, on Canton Center between Cherry Hill and Palmer. Two similar meetings have been scheduled for Monday, April 19, including one from 3-5 p.m. and another 6-8 p.m.

Though the Canton Township Board of Trustees will have to approve any rate hike, Faas has said an increase "absolutely" will be proposed to offset rising costs, partly passed on by the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department.

Some neighboring communities already have adopted double-digit rate hikes. Detroit has indicated a 15-percent increase for Canton, but that is only one factor local officials consider in developing a water and sewer rate structure.

"The rate increase is necessary to cover the true cost of service to operate, maintain and repair the public water and sewer systems for our nearly 90,000 residents and businesses," Faas said. "Our expenses to do so total roughly \$30 million each year. The Detroit Water and Sewerage Department has increased the cost of water supplied to Canton by 15 percent this year to reflect our reduced demands and its increasing system-wide costs."

On the surface, it may seem odd that reduced usage has led to higher rates. Yet, as consumers use less water, that means less revenue that is raised to offset the cost of doing business — resulting in a potentially higher percentage increase.

The average Canton household uses 32,283 gallons of water every three months. Currently, residents pay a combined water-sewer rate of \$8.20 per 1,000 gallons of water used, including \$2.87 for water consumption and \$5.33 for sewer-related services.

Those rates became effective last May. Faas has said this year's rate hike likely will not become effective until June 1.

Following the public forums, the Canton Township Board of Trustees is expected to have a study session on Tuesday, April 20, to discuss the rates, which could be voted on during the board's April 27 meeting.

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

'Escape' mechanism

Station provides jump-start to broadcasting careers

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It used to be that Katherine Mercieca thought she wanted a career in broadcasting, which is how she ended up in the fundamentals of radio broadcasting class and working at the student-run Plymouth-Canton Community Schools radio station, WSDP 88.1-FM, The Escape. Since then, Katherine has decided she wants a career in science or medicine. But she's still not giving up on The Escape.

"I thought it would be a fun, unique thing to do," said Katherine, whose dad, Robert, a 1972 grad, also worked at the station. "I've definitely benefited. My writing skills have improved since I've come here. In various projects, getting things together and doing it with a deadline, that's what I've benefited from."

It's the attitude shared by the 34 students who make up the current staff at the 200-watt radio station which went on the air in February 1972. The station reaches about five-10 miles, according to veteran station manager Bill Keith, a range that's been tightened as other stations have moved closer to The Escape's 88.1 setting on the dial.

The station, which also streams live on the Internet and can be heard anywhere in the world that way, broadcasts 24 hours a day, seven days a week, playing specialty music programs, classic rock, '80s music, country music and other genres.

According to Keith, who's been at the station 19 years, those shows all



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The staff at WSDP (above) includes Katherine Mercieca, John Bonello, Hannah Glodich, Mason Mills, Mary Hourani and Kyle "The Dude" Linford. Music Director Mary Hourani (top) spends a lot of time listening to new music for the station.

help the station attain its mission, which is "kind of two-fold," he said: training students in broadcasting and provide communication skills, and focusing on providing unique programming.

"We recognize a small station isn't

going to be able to go head-to-head with the Top 40 powerhouses in Detroit," Keith said. "We look for things that aren't being heard on other stations. We focus on new and up-and-coming artists, mix in some older favorites, try to maintain a

little bit of an alternative programming."

In addition to the radio station staff, more than 30 students are taking the broadcasting fundamentals

Please see **STATION, A6**

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Brandon talks 'change' at Canton Economic Club

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

David Brandon describes the choice of taking the University of Michigan job or running for governor.

David Brandon says he's all about change in business.

When the former CEO of Domino's got research that said the company, a leader in the pizza industry for 50 years, wasn't growing at the pace it could be — "People said Domino's was 'OK' but not great," he recalled — he decided a change was needed. The company developed a marketing concept where they admitted their pizza could be better, listened to customers about changes that could be made, and then made changes.

And it worked.

"It was bold," Brandon told a gathering at the Canton Economic Club Wednesday. "It's hard after 50 years at the top to feature people (in commercials) telling you your product is terrible. It was a big risk, but we felt it had a great reward."

"I would characterize what happened to us as transformational," he added. "And it was all

about change."

That's the message he most wanted to deliver at the Economic Club lunch — that business has to be willing to change, and not just for change's sake, but to grow. It's an attitude he's had at all his jobs, whether it was at Valassis Communications, at Domino's or in the athletic department at the University of Michigan, where he is now the athletic director.

He made change at Valassis where, he said, he had to develop a leadership team that was all on the same page. He made change at Domino's, and now he's made changes in himself, by taking the U-M job.

He said he's been getting the same question a lot — "Why take this job that pays a little less?" he said, drawing laughs — since moving to U-M.

"They ask, 'Why would you do that?'" Brandon said. "Anyone who asks me that doesn't know me very well. It's all about 'change to grow.'"

Please see **BRANDON, A2**

AROUND CANTON

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

Historical meeting

The Canton Historical Society hosts its meeting Wednesday, April 14, 7 p.m., in the Walnut Room at Canton's Summit on the Park.

The evening features Native American dance and storytelling with Tom Johns, an accomplished performer and passionate story-teller. The performance is open to all ages, so bring the children and share in the rich history.

For more information, contact the Canton Historical Society at www.cantonhistoricalsociety.org or call the museum, (734) 397-0088.

Slavens coffee

State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, invites residents to join her for a cup of coffee and conversation at one of her upcoming coffee hours.

Slavens will host her April coffee hours 9-10 a.m. Monday, April 12, at the Canton Big Boy, 45250 Ford Road in Canton, and 11 a.m. to noon Monday, April 19, at Mike's Red Apple Restaurant, 60 Main, in Belleville.

Slavens hosts regular coffee hours and town hall meetings throughout Canton Township, Belleville and Van Buren Township. If your business or organization is interested in hosting an event with Slavens, call her office toll-free at (888) 347-8021 or send e-mail to DianSlavens@house.mi.gov. Residents also can sign up for Slavens' e-newsletter and take her brief community survey by visiting her Web site at www.house.mi.gov/dslavens.

Business women meet

The Canton Business & Professional Women meet 6-8:30 p.m. Monday, April 12, at Palermo's Restaurant, 44938 Ford Road in Canton.

Guest speaker Kathy Henning will talk about being less stressed by showing how important it is to stay present in the moment because the mind can get carried away, in particular worrying about the future.

For more information and to RSVP, contact June Nicholas at junenicholas@comcast.net or by calling (313) 610-2561.

Captain meetings

Canton Relay for Life hosts team captain meetings 7 p.m. April 13 at the Canton Public Library, and 7 p.m. April 27 at the Summit.

Teams currently registered for the local Relay For Life

event or anyone interested in learning more about participating in the event should attend. Team Captain meetings will be held periodically as the community ramps up for the annual Relay For Life of Canton on May 15-16 at Heritage Park.

Community members can join the movement for a world with less cancer and more birthdays by starting a new team or joining an existing team by following the links at www.relayforlife.org/canton-mi. Donations can be made to this local Relay For Life event by visiting www.relayforlife.org/cantonmi as well.

Leisure open house

Canton Leisure Services opens its doors even wider on Saturday, April 24 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for a special Open House at the Summit on the Park.

A full spectrum of services, facilities, and programs will be represented at this department-wide event, including: The Summit on the Park, Pheasant Run Golf Club, The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, The B.L.O.C.K., Canton Sports Center, parks and trails, Canton's Dog Park, Farmers Market, camps, special events and more.

In addition, guests of the open house will have a chance to win an iPod Nano, a four pack of wristbands to 2010 Liberty Fest, Summit memberships, personal training sessions and more! Patrons do not have to be present to win. Register for an ActiveNet.com account onsite and automatically receive a \$5 coupon that can be applied towards a Leisure Services recreation program.

Enjoy a free performance of "The Eco Show" by the Zippy2Dads starting at noon, as well as inflatable attractions. Tours of the Summit on the Park facility will also be available. The first 100 people to come to the event will take home spring seed packets.

For more information about the Canton Leisure Services Open House or anything else Leisure Services, visit Cantonfun.org or call 734/394-5460.

Double the pleasure

The Canton Public Library wants you tired, your poor, your worn-out magazines, newspapers, and catalogs; your huddled masses of school and office papers; the wretched refuse of your teeming junk mail yearning to be recycled.

For the entire month of April, when you place your recyclable papers in the library's yellow and green bins



Hear it for the band

Sixth-grade band students, here with band director Karen Storey, put on a show for concert-goers at the school's Spring Band Concert. The band played a variety of music in their annual concert, one of three annual performances. Storey directs some 220 sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade band students.

in the southwest corner of the parking lot, the Canton Public Library will receive double earnings from Paper Retriever Recycling.

Library officials call April "the perfect month for spring cleaning and clearing out your unwanted papers. Plus, you'll be making a difference by recycling during the month when people across the globe celebrate the 40th anniversary of Earth Day!"

For more information, call the library, (734) 397-0999.

Rose party

The Canton Lions Club hosts a "Millionaire's Party" April 15-17 at Rose's Restaurant.

All proceeds will benefit the Canton Lions Club and fund programs for sight- and hearing-impaired folks in Canton Township. The party runs 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. each night.

Rose's Restaurant is located at 201 N. Canton Center Road in Canton.

Damaris scholars

The Plymouth Community Arts Council will recognize a Plymouth-Canton School district senior who has displayed outstanding abilities in visual arts and plans to continue his/her education in this field with the \$1,000 Damaris Fine Arts Award.

Students' artwork will be judged on its originality, creativity, and use of material. Artwork will be professionally juried.

Applications will be accepted April 27-30, the work will be judged April 30-May 3, and the Damaris Fine Arts Award will be announced May 4.

Applications can be downloaded at: www.storytellerdesign.com/DamarisAward.pdf Contact Tamara Trudelle at the PCAC, (734) 416-4278 to

make an appointment to submit application and portfolio.

For more information, contact Debra Madonna, (734) 377-0914, clarion@storytellerdesign.com.

Clothing bank

The Plymouth/Canton Clothing Bank located in Salem High School is now fully stocked with gently used clothing from infants to adults. People who need clothing and live in the Plymouth/Canton school district can call (734) 416-6179 for information and an appointment.

The Plymouth/Canton Clothing Bank is open Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. when school is in session.

Bible study workshop

Precept Ministries International will be holding Training Workshops at Calvary Baptist Church on June 18-19 to teach students and potential or current Bible study leaders how to study the Bible inductively, improve their Bible study skills or be equipped to lead a Bible study discussion group.

Experienced instructors lead sessions that teach the Inductive Bible Study Method, using the skills of observation, interpretation, and application to help students understand the Bible for themselves. Courses will also be offered to train people to lead small group bible study discussions. Experienced trainers use tried and true methods to help students develop more effective Bible study or leading skills.

For more information or to register for workshops go to www.precept.org. For questions or an informational brochure call Lee Anne Young,

(734) 455-0022, Ext. 2144, or e-mail leeanne@cbejoy.org.

Hospice support

Compassionate Care Hospice is offering a seven-week grief support series, "Understanding Your Grief," beginning Thursday, April 15.

The group is for any adult who has experienced the death of a loved one and will provide support and education on the grieving process. The group will be conducted at the Compassionate Care Hospice office located at 5820 N. Lilley Rd., Ste. 1, Canton, from 7-8:30 p.m. There is no charge.

For information or to register, contact Ann Christensen, Compassionate Care Hospice Bereavement Coordinator, at (734) 983-9050.

St. Michael open house

St. Michael Christian School, located at 7000 N. Sheldon Road in Canton, hosts an open house 6-8 p.m. Thursday, April 15.

The school offers preschool and elementary, including a "Young Fives" program and all-day kindergarten. Register before April 16 and apply full registration fee toward first month's tuition.

Contact the school office at (734) 459-9720 for more information.

Summer camp enrollment

Plymouth-Canton Montessori School is offering a Summer Camp program for children between the ages of 3 and 6 years. The nine-week summer day camp, located on the school's campus at 45245 Joy Road in Canton, begins June 21 and ends Aug. 20.

Children have the opportunity to participate in a wide

variety of theme-related projects that include lots of arts and crafts, in-house presenters, science experiments, dramatic play, cooking, picnics, outdoor time, music, stories and games.

"Our program is especially designed to meet the developmental needs of young children," said Linda Myers, summer camp director. "Our professional and experienced staff of early childhood educators offers young campers a wonderful balance of learning and play."

Full and half-day programs are available during the summer session with morning-only groups running from 8:45 to 11:45 a.m. and afternoon groups from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Full time care for day campers is also available from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. as needed.

While parents are encouraged to enroll children for the full summer camp, Plymouth-Canton Montessori accepts part-summer enrollments to accommodate families' work and vacation schedules.

For additional information about Plymouth-Canton Montessori School and the summer camp program, call 734-459-1550 or visit www.pcmontessori.org. Early enrollment is recommended to ensure availability.

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BRANDON
FROM PAGE A1

Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy, a former state representative in the Michigan House, loved what he heard.

"I thought it was terrific," LaJoy said. "He's looking for ways to be better at what you're doing. He talked about hard work and how you have to keep finding different ways of doing things. I thought it was a great message."

The message also resonated with the audience. Bennie Hayden is getting ready to start a small business related to "going green," and he thought Brandon's speech was right on target, not only for business but to rally the state's economy.

"I think that's where our state is at, as well," Hayden said. "We need to change the way we do things to change our economy."

Brandon's latest change comes largely as a result of his passion for the university that has affected his life so much. Consider:

- He went to U-M on an athletic scholarship, proceeded to be a part of three Big Ten football championships and earned an education that cost him all of \$5 — "There was some lab kit that for some reason wasn't covered" by the scholarship, he said.

- When his twin sons were born very ill, they were taken to Mott Children's Hospital at U-M, where he said doctors saved their lives.

"We were in a situation where we were going to lose those boys," Brandon remem-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

David Brandon, the new U-M athletic director and former CEO of Domino's Pizza, spoke to the Canton Economic Club Wednesday.

bered. "But we didn't, because a guy at Mott knew what to do."

- When he was diagnosed with prostate cancer, he said he traveled the world trying to find the right doctor to treat it. He said all of the advice he got wherever he traveled led back to one doctor: a U-M doctor.

"I traveled the world and found out the best doctor to treat me was three miles from my front door," he said. "That's the University of Michigan. It's a special place."

He said he's always been an unconventional candidate for most of the jobs he's taken. He didn't know much about Valassis when he took over, nor did he know much about the pizza business. But he was successful in both.

That's why he shrugs off the fact he knew little of running an athletic department when he agreed to replace Bill Martin as U-M's athletic director.

"People said, 'What does he know about athletic administration?'" Brandon said. "Well,

we'll figure it out."

Brandon said change-to-grow is coming to U-M, too. For instance:

- In December, Michigan and Michigan State will play the first outdoor hockey game in Michigan Stadium history. Brandon figures the national attendance record for a hockey game — more than 70,000 — could fall at The Big House.

- In September 2011, Notre Dame travels to the Big House for the first night game in stadium history.

Brandon, whose original career goals would have led him into education, took the business path instead, being guided by, among other things, advice given him by Bo Schembechler, the legendary football coach. Now, he's as close to that educational goal as ever.

"I never got to be a teacher or a coach, like I wanted to," said Brandon, a football and basketball player himself in high school. "But I'm close now."

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OLYMPIA GROUP

After 105 years, local woman recalls 'very different Canton'

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Gladys Kincaid Gotts, a longtime Canton resident who used to ride a horse to school, is drawing close to her 105th birthday on May 4.

Gotts was born in 1905 — a year when Theodore Roosevelt was president, the city of Las Vegas was founded and the Wright brothers flew their third airplane for 39 minutes.

"She's physically very, very well," her 77-year-old Canton daughter, Dorothy Richards, said.

Gotts was born in Silverwood, Mich., and her family moved to Detroit before they bought a farm on Geddes Road in Ypsilanti, where she lived until she married Percy Gotts of Canton in 1923.

They raised three daughters — Richards, Joyce Gyde and the late Betty DeKarske — on their Ridge Road farm, and they attended the nearby historic Cherry Hill United Methodist Church.

As a youngster, Canton Township Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin recalled attending the same church as the Gotts family. She remembers Gotts as "just a sweet little lady."

"She was very much like women of her generation, including my grandmother. They were very ladylike but knew how to work hard," McLaughlin said.

Gotts went to work as a secretary at Ford Motor Co. in Ypsilanti in 1954, the year



Gladys Gotts, approaching her 105th birthday, was born the year Theodore Roosevelt was president and the Wright brothers flew for 39 minutes.

before her husband died, and she worked there until 1967.

"Although she missed her husband after his death in 1955, she traveled with friends to several areas of the world and enjoyed her life," Richards said. "She lived on the Gotts farm until 1973."

Gotts has memories of "a very different way of life" in Canton, Richards said. During her high school years, Gotts had no access to bus service or an automobile to ride to

Ypsilanti High School, so she and a friend either rode their horses, which they placed in stables behind the old school, or they rode in a buggy pulled by a horse.

Richards said Gotts "has seen many important happenings and changes in her long life, and she is still a happy and extremely healthy, young-at-heart woman."

Richards, who still attends the same church where she grew up, has asked that friends

send birthday greeting cards to her mother at Superior Woods Healthcare Center, 8380 Geddes Road, Room 404, Ypsilanti, MI, 48198.

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

Grant lets Livonia study dispatch pact with Canton

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Livonia Police Department will receive a grant and will negotiate a contract with a Washington D.C. firm to examine a consolidated public safety dispatch operation between Livonia and Canton Township.

The City Council is expected to approve the item at its next regular business meeting on Monday.

Police Capt. Ben McDermott requested that the council accept the public safety interoperable grant of \$72,425 and negotiate a contract with Winbourne & Costas of Washington D.C.

McDermott told the council at a study session March 29 that the grant will help pay for the contract with Winbourne. McDermott believes that if the company returned with a consolidation plan that was feasible for the two communities, it could easily develop into a larger system. "If recommended, this could lead to a central dispatch center in western Wayne County," McDermott said.

The two communities

worked together on the requests for proposals, McDermott said. Canton and Livonia both reviewed the bids, then rated the vendors and invited the four highest back for interviews.

The top-rated vendor was Winbourne by both Livonia and Canton. Livonia's contract with Winbourne totalled \$59,824. The Law Department would then negotiate the final contract's legal language if council approved the police request on Monday.

Councilman Brian Meakin said that examining the consolidation was another example of the police administration and Mayor Jack Kirksey "working outside the box." Meakin said he spoke with Canton Supervisor Phil LaJoy, and both of them were looking forward to the possible arrangement between the two communities. Meakin moved to support the police request.

Councilwoman Maureen Miller Brosnan added that the proposed consolidation "goes a long way toward doing exactly what we hear from residents all the time."

"In order to reduce costs, we need to start sharing services," Brosnan said.

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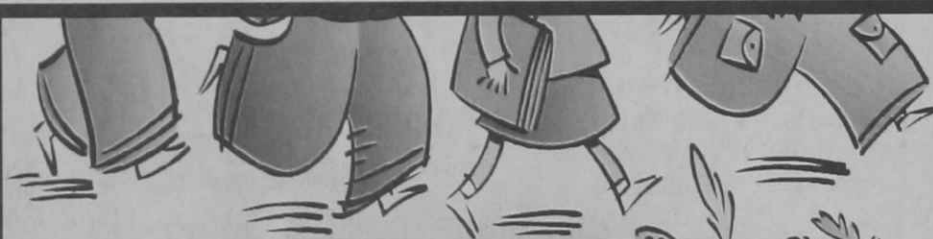


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EDUCATION



Bill Keith offers advice to WSDP staffers Mason Mills and Katherine Mercieca, who are loading tunes for the playlist at the 200-watt student-run radio station. WSDP staffers, including Mercieca, won a bevy of awards.

Student station staffers earn broadcast honors

The Michigan Association of Broadcasters Foundation and the Michigan Association of Educational Broadcasters honored student broadcasters at WSDP.

The MAB Foundation presented their awards at the Great Lakes Broadcasting Conference.

Awards for 88.1-FM included:
• Best Radio Newscast - Andrew Milad and Sean Fitzpatrick, second place
• Best Radio Station Activities Report - Rodney Harris, second place

"I'm continually amazed by the work our students do," station manager Bill Keith said. "They're definitely deserving of the honor."

The MAB Foundation is dedicated to promote, support and enhance the broadcast

industry for the good of all Michigan citizens through education, research, public service, historical preservation, information dissemination and a commitment to diversity in all aspects of the broadcast industry.

WSDP staff members received individual awards at the Michigan Association of Educational Broadcasters' (MAEB) Share-a-thon, March 23 at the University of Detroit Mercy.

The following 88.1FM student broadcasters received individual awards:

- Alex Rogowski, Plymouth High School junior, gold, production
- Rogowski and Salem freshman Sarah Balaj, silver, newscast
- Derek Harbison, Plymouth

junior, and Paige Heaven, Salem senior, gold, production

- Harbison, bronze, production
- Harbison, bronze, aircheck
- John Bonello and Mary Hourani, Salem juniors, gold, production
- Bonello, bronze, production
- Andrew Milad, Salem junior, and Sean Fitzpatrick, Canton junior, silver, newscast
- Milad and Fitzpatrick, bronze, production
- Rodney Harris, Canton senior, bronze, aircheck
- Tom Halling, Salem senior, bronze, sports play-by-play
- Christina Edgerton, Canton sophomore, bronze, aircheck
- Katherine Mercieca, Plymouth sophomore, silver, talk show

SCHOOL BRIEFS

Essay winner

West Middle School eighth-grader Marisa Iafano captured first place in The America & Me Essay Contest.

Founded by Farm Bureau Insurance in 1968, the contest is designed to encourage Michigan youth to explore their roles in America's future. Since that time, nearly a



Iafano

half-million Michigan eighth graders have participated in the contest.

The 2009-2010 top 10 winners competed against more than 5,000 other students from nearly 500 Michigan junior high and middle schools to win their top positions.

This year's student essays were based on the topic, "My Personal Michigan Hero." The top 10 winners from this contest will receive plaques, medallions and a cash award of \$1,000 at an awards banquet in Lansing next month.

Marisa, the daughter of Vince Iafano and Cari Cucksey of Plymouth, chose herself as her Michigan hero. She has survived the loss of her mother to cancer and at the beginning of the school year her home burned to the ground. In her essay, she compares herself to the legendary Phoenix rising from the ashes, stronger than

before.

Educator of Distinction

Canton High School English teacher Jeff Blakeslee was recently selected as a Claes Nobel Educator of Distinction by The National Society of High School Scholars.

A role model to pupils, Blakeslee was nominated by student Alexander Rahill for "outstanding dedication and commitment to excellence in the classroom."

Scholarship applications

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools and the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce are accepting applications for the Student Citizenship Award scholarship. Nominations from all employees, parents and friends of high school seniors from the Plymouth and Canton area will be accepted before 4 p.m. on Friday, April 16.

The \$250 scholarship is based on community service only. Grade point average does not play a role in the committee's decision. The selection committee will pick one student each from Canton, Plymouth, Salem, Starkweather and a non-P-CCS high school for the award. The scholarship application, which is available at the Board of Education office, requires the student to give a one-paragraph description of what community service means to them, a one page, bulleted list

of the student's community service and a one page testimonial by the person nominating the student for the award.

Inquires should be directed to the P-CCS Community Relations office at (734) 416-2755.

Civil War assembly

Eighth-grade students at West Middle School will participate in an assembly led by Civil War Re-enactor, Michael Deren Tuesday.

During the active presentation, students will learn about the life and times of a Civil War soldier. In addition, students will see a musical presentation about American "Roots" music. "Roots" music is what links the many styles of American traditional music together and ties this traditional music to modern American music. This musical presentation is presented by professional musicians Matt Watroba and Robert Jones.

Sparty visits

Michigan State's world-famous university mascot, Sparty, visits students at Allen and Farrand Elementary Schools Friday to deliver a message about reading.

The Michigan State Alumni Association (Western Wayne chapter) is sponsoring the visit. The all-school assembly takes about an hour, which includes time for the children to visit with the lovable, muscle-bound mascot.

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Target goes green with recycling stations

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Though its corporate logo is red, retail giant Target is going green.

Canton stores on Ford Road and Michigan Avenue are among 1,740 locations across the nation that have placed recycling stations at their entrances to collect aluminum, glass and plastic beverage containers, plastic bags, MP3 players, cell phones and ink cartridges, company officials said.

The effort has drawn praise from Canton Township officials, and it comes as the 40th anniversary of Earth Day nears April 22.

"Although the township doesn't have any specific role in managing the solid waste for commercial businesses, here's a corporate citizen that has two stores in the community that is willing to show the leadership to institute a recycling program," Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said. "I hope they do it year-round. I think it would be great for all commercial businesses to adopt a recycling program."

Target spokeswoman Amy Reilly, during a telephone interview from corporate headquarters in Minneapolis, said the project is expected to continue long past Earth Day.

"This is permanent — it's totally ongoing," Reilly said. "This is about convenience for our guests, and it's another reason for them to come to our stores."

Target's effort obviously isn't intended to replace municipal programs such as Canton's move one year ago to a single-stream recycling plan that allows residents to place all their recyclables in a single container for curbside pickup.

"We don't want people pulling up with a flat-bed truck full of materials," Reilly said, with a laugh.

Rather, Target simply wants to make it easier for customers to become more environmentally friendly by recycling as they shop, officials said.

"We know that eco-friendly living is top-of-mind for our guests, and the launch of store recycling stations allows us to continue to partner with them to curb unnecessary waste in our stores and our communities," Shawn Gensch, Target's vice president of brand marketing, said in a company-issued statement.

The effort coincides with the launch of an online eco-boutique where customers can find environmentally friendly products and learn more about Target's commitment to becoming more green, officials said.

It also comes as Target launches other efforts such as a monthlong sweepstakes including prizes and an April 18 reusable bag giveaway.

For more information, log on to www.target.com/eco-friendly.

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

Lumber suspect faces circuit court trial

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Barring a plea, an Ypsilanti man is expected to face trial in Wayne County Circuit Court following accusations he spilled a load of stolen lumber on Michigan Avenue and led Canton police on a chase before he was captured.

Robert Dale Wilber, 51, is awaiting his next court date in front of Judge Edward Ewell, Jr., following his arraignment on information Monday in circuit court. He had been ordered to stand trial after he voluntarily waived his preliminary exam March 29 in front of 35th District Judge James Plakas.

Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Maria Miller said Wilber's bond has been reduced from \$100,000 to \$25,000/10 percent, meaning he would have to post \$2,500 for his release. As of Friday morning, a Wayne County Jail spokesman said Wilber remained locked up.

Canton police arrested the defendant following reports of a large spill of expensive Trex outdoor decking boards on Michigan Avenue near Belleville Road around 10:30 p.m. Saturday, March 20, police Sgt. Mark Gajeski said. A passing motorist reported the incident.

Police spotted a stolen Mans Lumber & Millwork truck on Michigan Avenue — the same truck Wilber is accused of stealing to haul stolen deck boards from Mans to a nearby storage unit, Gajeski said.

Police believe the spill happened while the truck was being used to steal thousands of dollars of decking boards. Wilber is accused of leading authorities on a chase back to Mans, where it was believed he had parked a getaway car.

"He jumped out of the truck while it was still rolling, and it hit another company truck that was parked at the site," Gajeski has said.

Police chased Wilber on foot and captured him, and he was subsequently charged with stealing the Mans truck, receiving and concealing materials valued between \$1,000 and \$20,000, fleeing a police officer and being a fourth-degree habitual offender.

If convicted, Wilber could face penalties ranging from probation to life in prison due to his status as a habitual offender.

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Staffer Hannah Glodich likes running the control board at the station.

STATION

FROM PAGE A6

class, brought back after years. Keith said the class was cut from the curriculum “years ago” when the teacher was let go and the decision was made not to continue it.

Now, students are learning the basics — writing, broadcasting, deadlines, communication skills. The class provides students with their first exposure to radio. And it drew enough interest to be offered in the second semester.

“We felt there was a real need to provide more students with an opportunity to benefit from the radio station,” Keith said. “We thought we should at least teach the class one semester a year, but we were overwhelmed and got enough kids to offer it both semesters. That’s very exciting.”

The station operates on a budget of some \$110,000, plus another \$20,000 to \$30,000 Keith estimates the station raises each year with a variety of fund-raisers, like the annual

auction coming up May 15. The station occasionally comes up when the district’s Board of Education considers its budget, but thus far board members have been reluctant to cut the station.

“We’re fortunate the school board members have really seen the value of the program,” Keith said. “They work incredibly hard to try to find a way to preserve unique programs like this. Even though we reach a small number of students, they still see the value it provides students being able to connect with the school, but also the value they receive if they decide to go into broadcasting as a career, and the educational value the station provides.”

Keith said a small percentage of students actually go into broadcasting. The vast majority take the course as an extra-curricular, he said, but the ones who do go into it “definitely get a big head start.”

“In some cases, they’re getting a four-year head start on other kids going into it,” said Keith, who pointed out that 88.1 alums have broadcast jobs ranging from a television news reporter in Traverse City to a program director. “The benefit to students who go into broadcasting is obvious. But even kids who don’t

MONEY MAKER

What: WSDP auction to benefit radio programming

When: 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, May 15

Goal: \$10,000 (the 2009 auction raised \$9,000)

Highlights: Variety of items on which to bid, including autographed memorabilia, restaurant gift certificates, and services from local businesses. “My dream is that someone is a friend of (Red Wings goalie) Chris Osgood and they can convince him to have dinner with one of our high bidders,” said Bill Keith, station manager.

How to help: Listeners can help by calling in bids; anyone with an idea for the auction or who wants to donate an item can call (734) 416-7732.

go into it really benefit from the communication skills they learn, the leadership opportunities they had, the teamwork. Alums always point back to the things they learned at the station.”

Jake Bugeja, a 2002 graduate who staffed the radio station, is one of those alums. He said he loves to speak with great passion about his

experiences. And Bugeja, currently the program director and midday DJ at Rewind 94.9 in Cincinnati, is building a resume that backs up his words.

Bugeja was on a Toledo station for 18 months, worked at WDRQ in Detroit for 18 months, spent time in New York City working for MTV and VH1 as a voiceover guy, and even spent two years as a program director and DJ in the Cayman Islands.

“As a teenager who wasn’t that good at sports, and wasn’t necessarily the best academically, I was a little lost going into high school as to what I wanted to do,” said Bugeja, 26. “Finding a place like (88.1) and meeting so many different people really gave my life a direction.”

“I was blessed to discover at 15 or 16 years old what I wanted to do with my life, and to have a real working FM radio station with all the rules that govern me now, and to have Bill Keith there to learn from, was really a blessing,” he added. “It was a chance to work at a radio station before most people even think they want to work at a radio station.”

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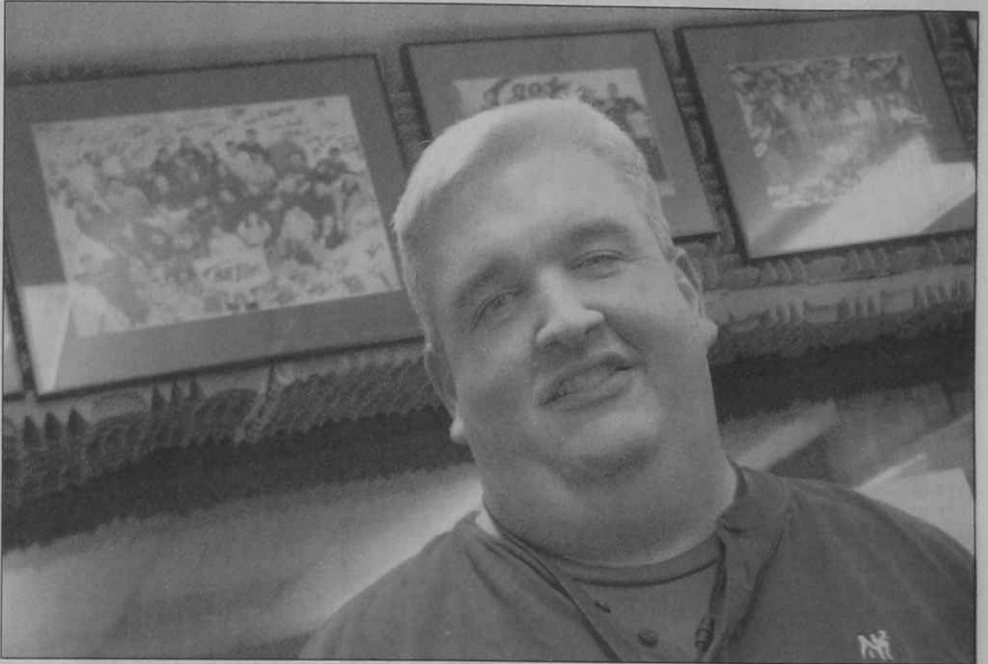
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Station manager Bill Keith is in his 19th year at WSDP.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



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BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
CORRESPONDENT


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Students are also invited to take courses online through the Michigan Virtual University as enrichment for

Gabrielle Houska, a 14-year-old Plymouth resident and Ladywood freshman, said when she visited the school last year she liked the girls she met and enjoyed the welcoming atmosphere. "I wanted a good education that would prepare me well for college. And I really liked the classes they were offering."



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Don't wait for IRS to track you down – file amended return

Q: Dear Rick: My husband and I filed our 2009 tax return and received and spent our tax refund. We discovered we made a mistake. We won some money in a lottery and we never reported as income. We did receive a 1099 and my husband figures that it will cost us about \$5,000 in additional taxes. My husband says we should immediately file an amended return. My thought is that since we do not have the money to pay the tax that we should wait until the IRS contacts us. After all, I think it is possible that they won't contact us. What should we do?

A: I agree 100 percent with your husband. The proper course of action is to file an amended return. Whether you have the money to pay the tax or not is not the issue. There can be all sorts of negative consequences to not filing a correct return.

The fact that you received a 1099 means that the IRS also received a 1099. Eventually, IRS computers will discover the unreported income and that is when the problems will develop. First, the IRS will assess you with addi-



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

assess you penalties — which can be substantial. Therefore, from a financial standpoint, it makes sense for you to voluntarily correct your mistake as opposed to waiting for the IRS.

Another consequence of failure to report income is an increased risk of an IRS audit. You don't want IRS scrutiny. Therefore, filing an amended return and admitting your mistake will not increase the risk of an audit as much as if the IRS discovers your mistake.

In these difficult economic times, there are people that owe money to the IRS but cannot afford to pay them. In those situations, I always rec-

ommend at a minimum, filing a return. By filing your return, you are showing good faith and it makes dealing with the IRS much easier.

The IRS offers a variety of programs that allow taxpayers to pay their tax liability over time. When you file your amended return, you can request an installment payment program.

I, like most of you, do not like paying taxes. However, taxes are a fact of life and the law. Therefore, it is incumbent to properly report taxes and correct a mistake as opposed to waiting for the IRS.

In addition, don't forget the state of Michigan. More likely than not, failure to report income to the IRS will also impact your Michigan Tax Return. When you amend your federal return, you also need to consider whether you should amend your state of Michigan return.

I know when it comes to taxes the real question that many people have is not whether they should file an amended return but, rather,

what is the risk of being caught if they don't? Obviously, it is a very difficult question to answer, but one thing I will tell you is that with technology the way it is, the IRS has gotten more sophisticated. Especially when it deals with underreporting of income, the IRS' track record of catching taxpayers is very high.

However, I believe the real issue is not whether the IRS will catch you. The real issue is what the law says. The law says that we are responsible to accurately file tax returns and that should be the issue.

I have found throughout my years in business that people that play it loose with taxes eventually run into problems. To avoid problems and difficulties in the future, file amended returns when the situation calls for it.

Good luck!

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

Underage Drinking Coalition to meet

To help bring underage drinking issues to the forefront, the Plymouth-Canton Changing Alcohol Policies & Perceptions Coalition will be holding an organizing meeting 7 p.m. Thursday, April 15, in the city commission chambers at Plymouth City Hall.

Anyone interested in participating in this coalition, is welcome and encouraged to attend.

With the success of three town-hall style meetings presented by PC-CAPP in

March, area business men and women are more aware of the issues our youth are facing concerning alcohol.

Organizers say the April 15 meeting will "move us forward in forming a strong group of students, parents, business people and area leaders to help educate our community about the problem and reduce the occurrence of underage drinking."

For more information, contact the Knopf Company at (734) 455-4343.

Deputy clerk part of panel discussion

Eric Bacynski, Plymouth Township's deputy clerk and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Plymouth District Library, participated in a panel discussion last month during the Young Government Leaders symposium at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

Bacynski, a U-M-Dearborn graduate, joined other area elected officials under the age of 35 in sharing "war stories" with the 50 to 60 students in attendance.

The all-day symposium, on March 26, was sponsored by U-M-Dearborn's Institute for Local Government.

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Museum archives keeps record of Plymouth's history

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

From the jobs people had to the way they and their homes looked to the items stocked and sold in the general stores, details of the area's history are cataloged, indexed and stored in the archives at the Plymouth Historical Museum.

The archives, with photographs, maps, tax and business records, tape-recorded oral histories, family histories and scrapbooks, and decades worth of telephone directories and newspapers, are a "treasure trove" for researchers, said Heidi Nielsen, the museum's archivist.

"For a small museum, this is a phenomenal archives," said Nielsen during a tour of the archives last week.

The archives get 10 to 15 visits a month from people researching their families, the history of their properties, local businesses and other pieces of Plymouth-area history, Nielsen said.

The archives' collection is largely donated by individuals and businesses and kept in a temperature- and humidity-controlled environment. General information is kept in an outer room, where there are work tables and computers for public access. An inner room contains the older, more fragile items, and has a more specific Plymouth focus; staff members, most of them volunteers, assist visitors.

The archives included records from long-ago Plymouth firms such as the John McLaren Feed Store and the Gayde Bros., a grocery store. The details in those records — who bought what, when, and for how much — can't be found anywhere else, Nielsen said.

Genealogical research, property research and the history of BB guns — Plymouth was home to two BB gun manufacturers,



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Heidi Nielsen manages the archives at the Plymouth Historical Museum.

Daisy and Markham (later King) — are the most popular topics for archive visitors, Nielsen said.

Brant Starkweather of Huron Township was visiting on Wednesday, looking for a connection to the family of the same name that was instrumental in the founding of the city. He and friend Dorothy Scannell of Livonia were reading a handwritten family history by Mary Hillmer, a Starkweather descendant.

Hillmer wrote that the first Starkweather to settle in the New World (in the 1600s) was from Wales, Scotland or the Isle of Man, but couldn't

pin down the region with certainty; Brant Starkweather's father had told him the Starkweathers were from the Isle of Man, he said.

"There's a good possibility that there is a connection somewhere," said Scannell. It was the pair's second trip to the archives, she said.

The archives also contain the museum's registrar's office, where all donated items, from century-old photographs to scrapbooks to Civil War-era crutches to kitchen implements of the 1940s, are catalogued.

The archives boast an extensive collection related to Abraham Lincoln, the 16th



Dorothy Scannell and Brant Starkweather research Starkweather's ancestry in the archives.

president, including about 500 Lincoln-related books, plus newspaper pages and clippings and artifacts from Lincoln's time.

The Lincoln collection was purchased in 1998 from Weldon Petz, a local Lincoln scholar and collector who wanted to keep the collection safe and intact.

"It was an opportunity for them, I think, on both sides," said volunteer and Plymouth Historical Society board member Dan Packer.

Though the vast majority of the archives is on traditional media, such as paper and printed photographs, a small portion is on computer discs, and Nielsen expects to see more of those in the future.

"People aren't generating as much paper," she said. "Slowly, we start to get more and more things on disc."

She showed off a box of about 100 snapshots, some of them probably nearly a century old, that were recently donated by a relative of photographer Davis B. Hillmer. They hadn't been closely examined or catalogued yet, and Nielsen seemed eager to take up the task.

"Something like this is just really amazing," she said.

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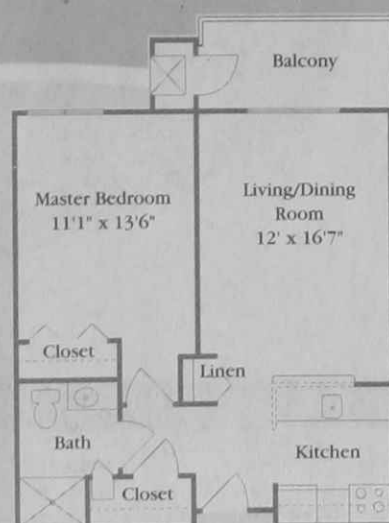
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JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Farm Center employee Carol Fink holds a newborn lamb as Leah Motowski, 4, of Hartland, pets the baby lamb.

Kensington Farm Center is maternity ward this spring

BY STACY JENKINS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Three sets of twins; two sets of triplets and a set of quadruplets — all born in recent days.

No, it's not the birthing center at a major metropolitan hospital; it's the non-stop miracles of spring time at the Farm Center at Kensington Metropark in Milford.

"It's been a busy couple of weeks," said Chris Williams, who works at the Farm Center and often helps the mother animals, like the ewes and sows, deliver their babies — not a typical job for a born and reared city kid. "It's a lot of on-the-job training. I try to help out."

Farm employee Carol Fink said the mothers know what to do, but the staffers are there, just in case there's trouble.

"We like to be there, first because it's watching a miracle and, second, to make sure there are no complications,"

Fink said.

So far, so good. Twin lambs were born to Ms. Ewe, joining others in the straw-filled maternity ward: Possum the sow, with her four pink, fuzzy piglets; mother ewe Lucy with her triplet "girls" who were born March 18; mother ewe Isabella and her newborn lamb; and mother ewe Gloria, who safely delivered triplet lambs.

Out in the farm yard, Rosebud, a young goat, is expecting any day now.

It's a magical time at the farm, said Fink, of West Bloomfield, who helps run programs and helps care for the animals.

"It's the rebirth of life, and spring; of optimism, and hope that good times are ahead," she said.

A recent near 80-degree day brought visitors out to the farm, from all around metro Detroit.

"We came out to enjoy the

park and to see all of the baby animals," said Nancy Smith, of Farmington Hills, who brought Gavin Gollan, 2, of Farmington Hills and Nolan Davis, 3, of Farmington Hills. Smith is the boys' nanny. "I think it's a great learning experience for them to see all of the animals and to get that exposure."

Brian Melonio, of Redford, spent the beautiful day with daughter, Julianna, 3.

"I'm working nights this week, so I thought I'd keep her out of daycare today and come out for some fresh air," he said. "She's been bugging me all week to come and see the chickens and the horses."

David and Jenny Timblin, of West Bloomfield, brought their twin granddaughters, Annalia and Matilde, 1 year old, of Ferndale, to the Farm Center in their comfy double stroller.

"I heard there were babies here," Jenny Timblin said. "It's a nice day and they love the

outdoors."

Another grandparent, Jerry O'Hara, of Milford, pushed a stroller through the Farm Center, with his 14-month-old grandson Markus O'Hara, of Brighton. He's retired from a Ford Motor Co. plant in Livonia, after 35 years.

"This is a great place," he said. "I come out here and I just chill out."

There are special programs happening for children and families throughout the spring and summer months. The Kensington Farm Learning Center Springtime Festival will be Saturday, April 24, and Sunday, April 25. The event features Rosco the Clown, horse harness demonstration, horse-drawn hayrides, wool spinning, the Kid's Cottage, a border collie demonstration, sheep shearing demonstration, a rock climbing wall, a honey bee talk, a dog agility demonstration, old-fashioned candle dipping, antique tractor plowing and an apple butter demonstration. The events go from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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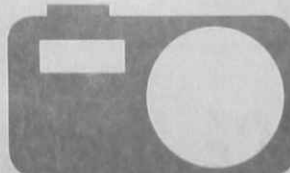
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2010 SOFTBALL PREVIEW – PT. 1

Softball sequel?

Chiefs look to pick up where they left off

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton varsity softball coach Jim Arnold is in a bit of a comfort zone entering the 2010 season, and with good reason.

The 2009 Chiefs finished 31-7 and Arnold's 2010 roster features many of the key components.

"This year we are looking forward to the same success as our entire infield is back plus both of our pitchers," said Arnold, whose team opens up the season with a home double-header Wednesday against Wayne Memorial.

Those pitchers are senior Amy Dunleavy (22-5 in '09) and sophomore Alyssa Boucher (9-2 last year).

"Both of them will be very good pitchers," Arnold said. "I'm not afraid to throw either one of them at any critical time in a game."

It won't hurt their efforts to have several key returning infielders who can hit and field very well.

Junior shortstop CarolAnne Sexauer is at the top of that list. She batted .409 last year and smacked a school record five homers.

Her double-play partner is junior second baseman Samantha Partain, with the corner spots going to junior first baseman Kaitlyn Matson and junior third baseman Heidi Lucke.



Lucke

Behind the plate will be sophomore catcher Jesse Lerner.

OPTIMISTIC VIEW

If there is any question entering the season, it is that Arnold is still trying to determine who will start in the outfield although junior returnee Lauren Leskovitz is a strong possibility.

New players looking to make an immediate impact will be freshmen Jessica Webster, Sarah Wagner, Hailee Craig and Katherine Porter.

"We've got a couple new outfielders and we're seeing how they develop," Arnold said. "So we don't know who's going to be starting out there."

But with the team's experienced nucleus back, Arnold is very optimistic that the Chiefs will be a force to be reckoned with in the KLAA South Division.

"I'm very confident that we're going to have a successful season this year," he added, "We've got a lot of talent on the team. Our hitting has come along extremely well and defensively we'll be very strong."

tsmith@hometownlife.com



Canton junior pitcher Amy Dunleavy, pictured in this file photo, is expected to again be the ace of the Chiefs' pitching staff. She went 22-5 in 2009.

SIDELINES

Watkins to wrestle at U-M

Canton senior wrestling stalwart Donnie Watkins recently signed to wrestle at the University of Michigan.

Watkins, a perennial first-team All-Observer selection, finished this year with a record of 55-4 to eclipse 200 career victories with the Chiefs.

Watkins intends to now go for his goal of becoming a NCAA All-American.

"I am really happy that Donnie has decided to continue his wrestling career at the University of Michigan," said Canton wrestling coach Cory Mancuso. "We will be cheering for him."

Hole-in-one

Plymouth resident Ed LaMirand, who has been playing golf for 42 years, scored his first-ever hole-in-one on April 1 at Whispering Willows in Livonia.

LaMirand used a Ginty on the par-3 fifth hole, acing his tee shot from 136 yards. He finished his 18-hole round with a score of 81.

Dragons hoops

Parents, it's that time again to register your fifth-, sixth-, seventh- or eighth-grader for the Michigan Dragons summer basketball program. Go to michigan-dragons.com and register. The registration period ends April 16.

Please see **SIDELINES, B2**

Plymouth teams show potential

TRACK & FIELD PREVIEW

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Tuesday's opening track and field meet launches the 2010 season for Plymouth's boys and girls teams, and coaches for both have reason to believe it should be a very competitive season for the Wildcats.

There are state meet prospects on both sides of the Plymouth equation, giving Ricky Styes and Jon Mikosz plenty to smile about.

According to Styes, who coaches the girls, a "good mix of experience and youth" will be worth watching, beginning with Tuesday's KLAA South opening matchup against campus-rival Canton.

"With only three seniors on the team, (we) will rely on a good number of underclassmen during the season," said Styes, referring to senior distance runners Paula Green (3200-meter run, 1600 run, 4-by-800 relay), Kelly Hahn (800 run, 1600 run, 4-by-800 relay) and Kelsey Reineri (800 run, 4-by-800 relay).

Those seniors will be called upon for consistency and leadership, and Green is a definite state meet prospect with oft-injured Hahn having an outside shot, Styes said. The co-captains are Green,



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Among key returnees for Plymouth's girls track and field team are Paula Green and Nicole Traitses (receiving the baton in this 2009 photo).

junior Carissa Buttermore, sophomore Rachael Hille and junior Reagan Engstrom.

But for the Wildcats to improve upon last year's 2-3 record, a number of underclassmen will be counted on.

Key returning underclassmen include

Hille (400 run, 4-by-800, 4-by-400), sophomore Becka Knox (400, 4-by-400, long jump), Buttermore (400, 4-by-400), Engstrom (pole vault) and sophomore Nicole Traitses (1600 run, 4-by-800).

Please see **TRACK, B2**



ALLIE CARPENTER



Who: Allie Carpenter, senior captain of Salem's varsity girls tennis team.

Miscellany: Carpenter, 18, carries a 3.8 grade-point average. Her parents are Gayle and Denny Carpenter. Allie has been playing varsity tennis since her freshman season, moving up from No. 3 singles to No. 1 singles over that span. She is a member of National Honor Society, was on the 2009 All-Observer team and also is on Salem's student congress and the Plymouth Youth Advisory Commission. In her spare time, she teaches tennis lessons to kids.

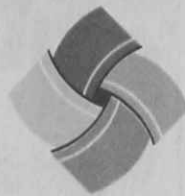
Captain's job: "The job of a captain starts well before you are actually selected to be captain, when you are earning the respect of your teammates. Once selected the job includes: helping to organize the team, generating team spirit, being a role model, being a team spokesman and supporting and encouraging your team."

mates."

Leadership style: "I try to mostly lead by example. I work hard on and off the court and hope that the other girls will too. With someone who is motivated, that is all it takes. Sometimes, however, it takes a bit of encouragement to make that happen. It depends on the situation, and the person, which kind of encouragement is effective."

Why her?: "Tennis is a very technical and mental game, not just going out there and hitting a ball around. I think my teammates see me as someone who has been playing the game for many years and has a combination of both technical and mental skills that can be a help to them both on and off the court. Also, I think they respect me."

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PCA 'tracking' toward success TRACK

FROM PAGE B1

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

No matter what happens competitively in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference, Plymouth Christian Academy is building a solid track and field program.

Head coach Jennifer Lemieux has 28 members on its coed team, including 11 girls. In 2007, there were only two girls and five boys.

There is plenty of potential among both the boys and girls as the 2010 season draws near; the Eagles will visit Whitmore Lake on Friday after taking part in Saturday's Shrine Invitational at Livonia Ladywood.

Jordan Allen, a senior, returns as high jumper. He was fifth in the state in Class D last season and broke PCA's school mark (6-foot, 4-inches).

Lemieux said Allen also excels in the 400-meter dash and is being offered several track scholarships.

Perhaps the strongest all-around athlete, she noted, is senior Riley Groenwood.

Among his many contributions last year was first place in the long jump (18-foot, 11.5-inches), fifth in shot put, third in 100-meter dash and the lead leg in the 4-by-400 relay that finished second at the conference championships. Groenwood also was fifth in the region for the long jump.

Junior and team captain Robert Fergan is "an exceptional leader and is looking strong to lead our distance team," Lemieux said.

Also back is junior thrower Josh Allen, who

will team up with new assistant coach Mike Rumschlag.

"Josh was eighth in our MIAC last year in discus and (he) is in an excellent position to set a new school shot put record," Lemieux added.

Eleven boys are freshmen, led by promising Trever Baloga (distance events), Collin Kieft (long jump, sprints) and Jimmy Parks, a strong cross country runner who is new to track and field.

Speedsters Ethan Levack and Jacob Nicoles will complete the 4-by-400 relay team while Abraham Kalasse, Mousa Farraj and Robert Stafford will join the throwing team.

Completing the boys side of the roster are Brandon Marker, Steven Zomermaand, Ian Rose, Chad Ibach and Zac Gibson.

"It is our strongest team in years," said Lemieux, who will be assisted by former head coach Jim Varney.

On the girls side, senior captain Jessica Soblesky will be the key sprinter (third in the region in the 200 dash) and is going to compete in the long jump.

The Eagles will look for strong outings from junior hurdler Rachel Yerke, sprinter Erica Smith and senior distance runners Elizabeth Aitken (a newcomer), Natalie Smith and Maggie Slagenwhite.

Rounding out the squad are five freshmen, including Megan Lemieux (the team's first shot putter in recent years), Leaha Dotson (long jump, sprints), Karen Weidle (hurdles, mid-distance events), Sydney Carpenter (high jump) and Lindsay Roedding (distance runs).

Plymouth also will insert two promising freshmen (Madi Lewis, Kyra Neumann) into the relays (4-by-400, 4-by-800, respectively) while freshman Taylor Reickhoff will compete in the high jump. Lewis in particular has a lot of potential and versatility, being primed for 100 hurdles and the 200-meter dash in addition to the aforementioned relay.

How the Wildcats do will "depend on the growth and development of some underclassmen," Styes emphasized, adding they are very coachable and competitive group.

BOYS HAVE PROMISE

On the Plymouth boys track and field team (which also opens against Canton on Tuesday) are a number of important athletes from last season, who all should help lift the Wildcats to contention in the KLAA South.

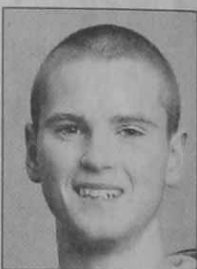
At the top of his list, coach Mikosz will have junior Kyle Brindza to go out in sprint events as well as the high jump and shot put.



Kyle Brindza



Justin Heck



Matt Neumann

"He is the type of guy you need on your team because he is willing to do what it takes to win," Mikosz said. "He is an elite shot putter that has already thrown over the automatic qualifying mark for states in our first meet (an Eastern Michigan-hosted relay meet)."

The Wildcats have solid depth in distance events, with "strong, silent" Warren Buzzard (state qualifier last year in the 800, 1600, 4-by-800), heart-and-soul guy Matt Neumann (1600, 3200 runs), Joe Porcari and Justin Heck.

"He (Heck) will be a big part of our 4-by-800 making it to the state meet for the fourth year in a row," said Mikosz.

Pawan Dhaliwal looks to continue his excellence as a high jumper in his fourth

varsity season, and has the potential to be among the area's best.

In hurdles, the Wildcats return Brandon Piligain and Grant Senkbeil (also a pole vaulter).

"Brandon ran a lot over the indoor season and it really shows," Mikosz said. "He is going to be one of the best hurdlers that has ever come out of Plymouth."

Senkbeil, meanwhile, is a consistent point-getter who should do well enough to automatically qualify for the state meet, the coach noted.

Alex Ruffin will bring determination to his quest to become one of the area's top sprinters and long jumpers while Anthony LeMerise and Victor Hicks III also bring strong potential.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP BASEBALL
Monday, April 12
Canton at Salem, 4 p.m.
Plymouth at South Lyon, 4 p.m.
Ply. Christian at Lenawee, 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 13
Ply. Christian at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 14
Franklin at Plymouth (2), 4 p.m.
Wayne at Canton (2), 4 p.m.
South Lyon East at Salem (2), 4 p.m.
Friday, April 16
Ply. Christian at Xenia Christian, TBD
Saturday, April 17
(all double-headers)
Avery Invite, 9 a.m.
Midland Dow Invite, TBD
Niles Tournament, TBD
Ply. Christian at Xenia Christian, TBD
GIRLS SOFTBALL
Monday, April 12
Plymouth at South Lyon, 4 p.m.
Ply. Christian at Lenawee (2), 4 p.m.
Tuesday, April 13
Ply. Christian at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 14
Franklin at Plymouth (2), 4 p.m.
Wayne at Canton (2), 4 p.m.
South Lyon East at Salem (2), 4 p.m.
Thursday, April 15
Ladywood at Divine Child (2), 4 p.m.
Saturday, April 17
(all double-headers unless noted)
Mercy Invitational, 8 a.m.
Allen Park at Salem (2), 11 a.m.
GIRLS SOCCER
Monday, April 13
Luth. Northwest at Ply. Christian, 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 13
Summit at Ply. Christian, 4:30 p.m.
Canton at Northville, 7 p.m.
Churchill at Salem, 7 p.m.
Ann Arbor Huron at Plymouth, 7 p.m.
Thursday, April 15
Bishop Foley at Ladywood, 5:30 p.m.
Canton at W.L. Northern, 7 p.m.
W.L. Western at Plymouth, 7 p.m.

Friday, April 16
Greenhills at Ply. Christian, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 17
Salem at W.L. Central, 1 p.m.
Saline at Plymouth, 12:30 p.m.
Ladywood at Warren Regina, 1:45 p.m.
BOYS & GIRLS TRACK & FIELD
Tuesday, April 13
Canton at Plymouth, 3:45 p.m.
Stevenson at Salem, 4 p.m.
Warren Regina at Ladywood, 4 p.m.
Friday, April 16
Mansfield (Ohio) Mehock Relays, 11 a.m.
Ply. Christian at Whitmore Lake, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 17
Birm. Groves Invitational, 9 a.m.
Airport Athletics Inv., 9:30 a.m.
Ypsilanti Invitational, 10 a.m.
Mansfield (Ohio) Mehock Relays, 10 a.m.
Dearborn Elks Relays, 10 a.m.
GIRLS TENNIS
Tuesday, April 13
Churchill at Plymouth, 4 p.m.
Northville at Salem, 4 p.m.
Canton at Wayne, 4 p.m.
Trenton vs. Ladywood at Schoolcraft College, 4 p.m.
Thursday, April 15
Canton at Plymouth, 4 p.m.
Salem at South Lyon East, 4 p.m.
Ladywood at Mercy, 4 p.m.
Saturday, April 17
Saline Invitational, TBA
Monroe Olson Invitational, 8:30 a.m.
Stevenson Golf, 9 a.m.
BOYS GOLF
Tuesday, April 13
Huron Valley vs. Ply. Christian at Idyl Wyld, 3 p.m.
Wednesday, April 14
John Glenn vs. Canton, 3 p.m.
Thursday, April 15
Canton vs. Wayne at Hilltop, 3 p.m.
Huron Valley vs. Oakland Christian at Idyl Wyld, 3 p.m.
Plymouth vs. Churchill at Whispering Willows, 3 p.m.

Sunday, April 18
Fox Hills Invitational, 12 p.m.
BOYS LACROSSE
Tuesday, April 13
Salem at Gabriel Richard, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 14
Huron Valley at Salem, 6:30 p.m.
Ypsi Lincoln at Plymouth, 8 p.m.
Thursday, April 15
Catholic Central at Canton, 7 p.m.
Friday, April 16
W.L. Western at Salem, 7 p.m.
Saturday, April 17
Plymouth at Canton, 2 p.m.
GIRLS LACROSSE
Monday, April 12
Warren Regina at Ladywood, 6 p.m.
Tuesday, April 13
Plymouth-Canton-Salem (PCS) at Saline, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, April 14
Brighton at PCS, 7:30 p.m.
Ladywood at Notre Dame Prep, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, April 16
Saline at PCS, 7:30 p.m.
COLLEGE BASEBALL
(all double-headers)
Sunday, April 11
Madonna at Davenport, 1 p.m.
Friday, April 16
Madonna at Concordia, 1 p.m.
Saturday, April 17
Concordia at Madonna, 1 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOFTBALL
(all double-headers)
Wednesday, April 14
Madonna at Concordia, 4 p.m.
Friday, April 16
Madonna vs. Rochester College at Oakland University, 3:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 17
Siena Heights at Madonna, 1 p.m.
Sunday, April 18
Madonna at UM-Dearborn, 1 p.m.
TBA - time to be announced.

SIDELINES

FROM PAGE B1

Captain's Corner

The *Observer* looks to continue running the Captain's Corner series, which gives senior student-athletes a chance to give their views about leadership.

Please e-mail sports editor Tim Smith (tsmith@hometownlife.com) with any candidates for the weekly spotlight. (Limit nominees to one per team.)

Spring coaches call

The spring season for high school sports is here and, as always, the *Observer* wants to spotlight the efforts and accomplishments of athletes from the Canton and Plymouth communities.

Please call sports editor Tim Smith at (313) 222-2637 with detailed recaps of games, matches or meets. Those also can be e-mailed to him at tsmith@hometownlife.com.

Deadlines are 11 p.m. Tuesday for the Thursday paper and 10 p.m. Friday for the Sunday paper.

Hoop shootout

The boys basketball season around the tri-county area isn't quite over yet as the Palace of Auburn Hills will play host to the Michigan Slam Dunk Championship & 3-Point Shootout Saturday at 7 p.m.

The event, featuring both high school and college participants, begins with the women's 3-Point Shootout and will be followed by the men's 3-Point Shootout. The winners of each contest will then square off against one another to determine the best long-range shooter in Michigan.

In accordance with the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan, the evening's activities will conclude with the state's top leapers competing in the always-electrifying Slam Dunk Championship to be judged by area celebrities.

Tickets are \$20 VIP, \$15 reserved and \$10 general admission and may be purchased at the Palace Box Office and all TicketMaster locations.

Check-up 5K

The Spring "Check-up" 5-kilometer run-walk will be held 11 a.m. Sunday, April 11, at the Belle Isle Remick Music Shell in Detroit.

The event will raise awareness for Detroit's uninsured and the importance of primary care for all. It will benefit The Robert R. Frank Student Run Free Clinic and the Wayne State University School of Medicine Chapter of the AMA.

Race day registration begins at 10 a.m. Food and music will be provided after the race. The cost is \$20.

For more information, e-mail springcheckup5K@gmail.com; or to download a registration form visit www.springcheckup5K.org.

Football combine

A pair of football combines for high school players will be from 4:30-6 p.m. (linemen) and from 6-7:30 p.m. (combine training) for eight sessions beginning Sunday, April 18 at the Auburn Hills Sports Dome.

To register, visit www.coach-jacksonspeed.com; or for more information call Jaime Jackson at (248) 535-7404.

Compuware to host 'REPLAY' 1999 CC-Trenton hockey game

Plymouth will grab national attention Sunday, May 9 as players from the then-Redford-Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks and Trenton Trojans high school hockey teams of 1999 take the ice as a part of REPLAY/Fueled by Gatorade at

Compuware Arena.

Hosting the event is FT, Mich., and will feature 23-time NHL All-Star and "Mr. Hockey," Gordie Howe, who will serve as game day commissioner.

REPLAY/Fueled by Gatorade, re-stages classic games between

some of the nation's biggest high school sports rivalries and the CC and Trenton players are grabbing this second chance to determine the winner of their 1999 game which ended in a 4-4 tie due to a life-threatening injury.

"The excitement the athletes and the Detroit community has shown for this game is unbelievable, and we look forward to hosting an amazing authentic hockey experience that cel-

brates this storied rivalry," said Lauren Fritts of The Gatorade Company. "The players' tireless preparation has been an inspiration to all of us. Their dedication and passion to compete sets the stage for a game no one will want to miss."

Game day tickets will be general admission and sold through the Catholic Central and Trenton High School athletic departments for \$10 each. Information on when tickets

will go on sale as well as the official game time is still forthcoming, but all information will be posted to replaytheseries.com later this month.

Fans also can win tickets through the "Meijer's REPLAY/Fueled by Gatorade Sweepstakes," hosted by 41 Detroit-area Meijer Supermarket locations.

From April 11 through April 25, 2010, fans can enter the sweepstakes to win one of five

pairs of tickets that each of the 41 stores will give away. No purchase is necessary and fans can also participate by mail. Additional information on the sweepstakes will be posted at participating Meijer locations.

For those who aren't able to catch the action live, the game will be broadcast on a live tape delay on Fox Sports Detroit (air date and time will be publicized at fsdetroit.com prior to game date).

Invitation to Bid Livonia Public Schools Career Technical Center Residential Construction Class Newly Built Homes - Located at 37450 and 37454 Eagle Drive, Livonia, MI 48150

The Livonia Public Schools, Board of Education, is accepting sealed bids ONLY, for the above referenced homes. Minimum starting bid is \$199,000.00, each location.

Livonia Public Schools, Career Technical Center- Residential Construction Class, completed construction on these homes in 2009.

These approximately 1800 sq. ft. homes (three (3) bedroom, three (3) full bath and beautifully finished basements), will be available for viewing on Thursday, April 15, 2010, from 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. and Saturday, April 17, 2010, from 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. Sealed Bid procedure information will be provided at the open house viewings.

All bids must be marked "SEALED BID" LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS - CAREER TECHNICAL CENTER HOMES". Please list specific address of home on envelope. Bids will be accepted until 12:00 p.m. on the 22nd Day of April, 2010, at the Livonia Public Schools, Board of Education office located at 15125 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Michigan, 48150. ATTN: Ray Raymond, Jr. NO bid will be accepted after the above mentioned time and date.

All bids will be publicly opened and read at 1:00 p.m., Thursday, April 22, 2010, in the Board of Education building.

The Terms are Cash, Conventional Mortgage, FHA and VA. You must have a current pre-approval letter from your Mortgage Company or proof of funds, if cash offer.

All Bids will be considered, however, The Livonia Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids, either in whole or in part; to award to other than the high bidders; to waive any irregularities and/or informalities; and in general to make awards in any manner deemed to be in the best interest of the District, including awarding by line item, with rationale to support such a decision.

This information will be available at the open house. Or viewed at www.livoniapublicschools.org. Any questions, please contact Ray Raymond, Jr. at 734.744.2511 or <mailto:r.raymond@livoniapublicschools.org>.

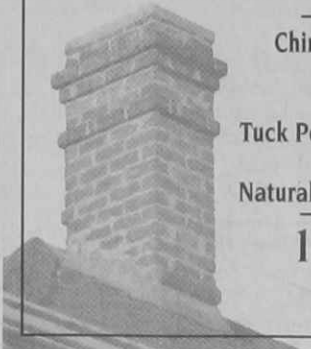
Please Note: The Livonia Public Schools will NOT be paying commission to brokers/realtors on the sale of these homes.

Ray Raymond, Jr.
Administrator of Operations

Publish: April 11 and 15, 2010

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Ryan finds niche with talented Spitfires

BY MARTY BUDNER
ECCENTRIC STAFF WRITER

Either way, Kenny Ryan was destined to have a rewarding 2009-10 hockey season.

The 18-year-old Franklin Village resident began the season as a member of the Boston College Eagles. BC advanced to the NCAA Frozen Four championship game which was played Saturday evening at Ford Field.

However, Ryan did not skate with the Eagles.

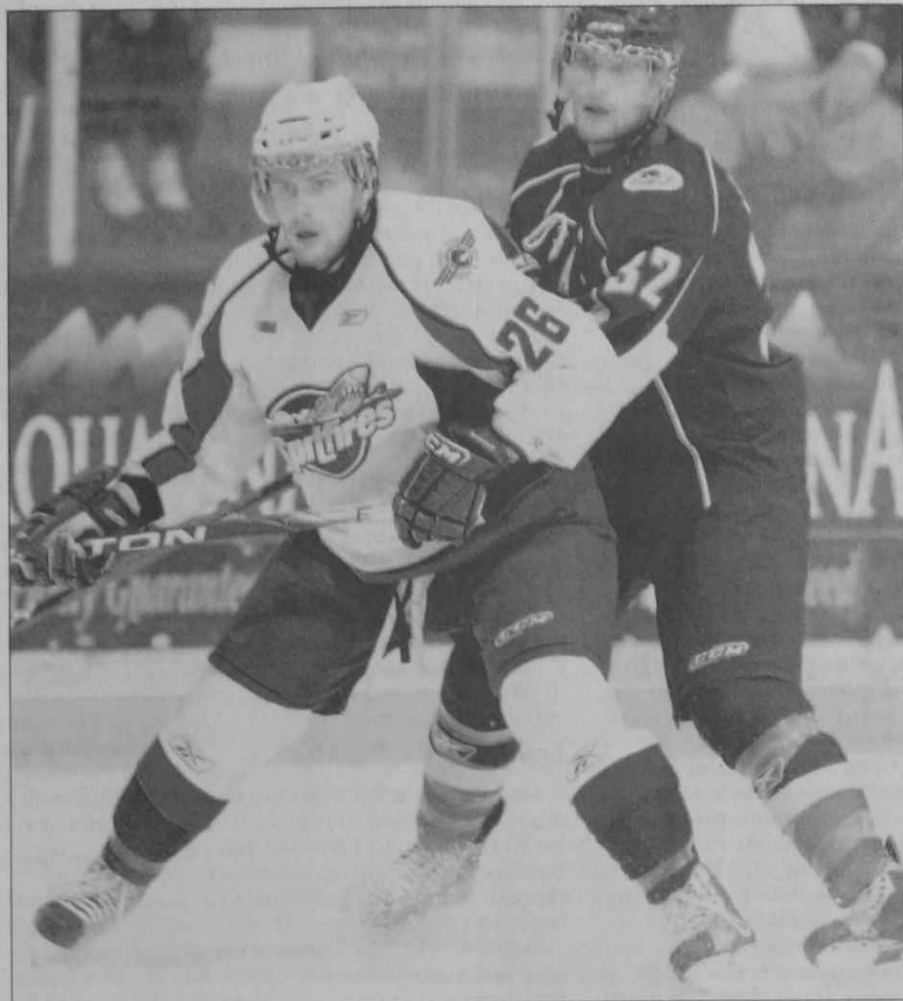
Instead, he was busy taking care of business in another part of town with the Windsor Spitfires of the Ontario Hockey League.

Ryan and the Spitfires wrapped up their Western Conference semifinal series Wednesday evening at Compuware Arena in Plymouth with an exciting 3-2 overtime victory over the host Whalers. The win vaulted the 'Spits' into the Western Conference finals and kept alive their chances to repeat as OHL and Memorial Cup champions.

"I'm having a great time here," said Ryan outside the jubilant Windsor locker room after the team's second consecutive playoff sweep in this year's OHL tournament. "I love the guys on this team and we're having a fun time right now."

Ryan, who was hoping to see a few of his former Boston College teammates while they were in town for the NCAA Frozen Four, spent nearly two months at the Chestnut Hill-based college. He left the program in mid October after having played a couple of exhibition games.

While Ryan still has full respect for college hockey, he left for Windsor because he felt it would ultimately provide a better route to the NHL. Ryan was selected 50th overall by the Toronto Maple Leafs in the 2009



WALT DMOCH

Hard-working Kenny Ryan tallied 35 regular-season points as a second-line forward for the Windsor Spitfires who swept Plymouth with a 3-2 overtime win Wednesday. At right is Whalers defenseman Michal Jordan (No. 32).

entry draft.

"I had a great time at Boston College, but I thought playing hockey (in Windsor) would be a lot better for me," said Ryan. "I don't regret my decision. I have the utmost respect for all the people at Boston College."

"It was a hard decision. But, I think for me to further my career in hockey, that this would be the best opportunity for me. I think at the end of the day everyone's dream is to play in the

NHL some day and I think this is the best way for me.

"Boston College has an unbelievable program and I hope they win the national championship this year," he said. "But, for me personally, I think this was a better fit."

Ryan, who grew up playing in the Birmingham Rangers hockey program, was selected by the Windsor Spitfires in the OHL draft three years ago. He kept in contact with Spitfire General Manager Warren Rychel through the years

and always kept that OHL option open.

Ryan started skating with the high-profile Spitfires 16 games into the season.

The 6-foot, 204-pound right wing played 52 regular-season games, collecting 35 total points (14 goals, 21 assists). He was a plus-9 on the season with four game-winning goals and 33 penalty minutes.

In the playoffs, Ryan has a goal and an assist in eight games.

Ryan, who does not play

on the power play or penalty kill, is considered a hard-working winger on a team with a lot of depth and talent. He is one of 11 NHL draftees on the roster. Left wing Taylor Hall is tabbed by NHL Central Scouting as the No. 2-ranked North American skater.

"I came here and the coaches here have all played in the NHL and there are a lot of older guys on the team who are high draft picks or signed professionals," he said. "Playing here is only going to make me a better player. I have to elevate my game every night that I play."

"We have a lot of older guys on the team so it is a learning experience for me," said Ryan. "Watching the Taylor Halls and Adam Henriques (New Jersey Devils draft pick) and Greg Nemisz (Calgary Flames draft pick), just learning from them what they do day-in and day-out at the rink is only going to make me a better player next year so that I can further my career."

Ryan also believes the 68-game regular season and the long playoff run eventually will prepare him for the longer NHL season.

"There is no other league that is designed like this, just like the NHL, so I'm having a great time here," he said. "I need to learn to play in every different situation, using the players around me and just making the right plays."

For Ryan, the ultimate destination is still the NHL.

"I think it's why like everyone in the locker room is here," he said. "They all want to further their hockey career in any way they can, and I think with the facility we have, the people in Windsor and the coaching staff we have, it will just lead to success."

Whalers swept by Spitfires

The second round Ontario Hockey League playoff series between the Plymouth Whalers and Windsor failed to live up to the hype of the top-2 prospects in the upcoming NHL draft going head to head.

The Spitfires' Taylor Hall was part of an offensive machine that steamrolled over Plymouth in four straight games — including Wednesday's 3-2 overtime clincher at Compuware Arena before 3,412.

Only the unbelievable performance of Plymouth fill-in goalie Scott Wedgewood (70 saves) enabled the Whalers to have a chance to extend the series. Wedgewood was brilliant throughout, blanking Windsor until early in the third and helping the Whalers stay in front until 19:41 of regulation.

Goals by the Adam Henrique (4:10 of the third) and Greg Nemisz forced OT and the final dagger as far as the Whalers were concerned came at 6:50 of the extra session when Scott Timmins scored to end the game and series.

Wedgewood, who was forced into duty because regular starter Matt Hackett was suspended in Monday's 5-0 loss in Windsor, stopped all 39 shots he faced in the first two frames and then was pelted with 27 shots in the third as the Spitfires turned up the heat.

Hall, meanwhile, didn't collect a point in the victory. But he was a big contributor in the first three games, with three goals and three assists. Meanwhile, Plymouth forward Tyler Seguin — projected to be one of the top two NHL draft picks in June, failed to pick up a single point in the series.

If there was a bright spot for Plymouth, it was the play of winger Ryan Hayes. He scored in Wednesday's first period for his seventh goal of the OHL playoffs (the most by any Whaler). It was 2-0 in the middle stanza when Joe Gaynor drove a shot past Windsor netminder Philipp Grubauer (19 saves).

Seguin finished the playoffs (Plymouth defeated Sault Ste. Marie in five games in a first-round series) with 10 points (5 goals, assists). Plymouth forward Phil McRae tallied 15 points in the playoffs (6 goals, 9 assists) with Hayes next with 14 points (7 goals, 7 assists).

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New coach ready to spur Wildcats

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Rob McLaren is looking forward to his first season as head coach of Plymouth's girls tennis team after two seasons as an assistant.

And with senior co-captain Priya Joshi back and several youngsters looking to push their way into the lineup, McLaren likes his team's prospects in the KLAA South Division.

"I think we really have a good chance of doing well in our division this year," McLaren emphasized. "If our doubles teams come through for us, and if we can stay strong in singles, we should have a good season."

That season begins at home 4 p.m. Tuesday against division foe Livonia Churchill. (On Monday, the Wildcats will compete in a scrimmage against Canton, also at 4 p.m.)

Joshi undoubtedly will be at the top of the singles lineup, followed by returning sophomore Sarah Mitchell. They will be joined by sophomore Lindsay Stemberger and freshman Kirthi Duraiswamy

to comprise an enthusiastic but somewhat inexperienced group.

"Most of our experience will be in the doubles lineup," McLaren said.

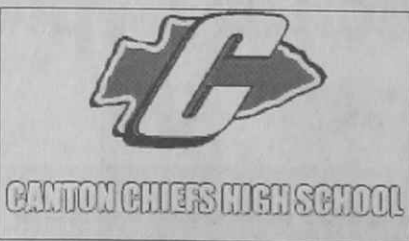
Senior co-captain Allison Santori and senior Lauren Jeong are all set for No. 1 doubles. Taking the No. 2 spot will be juniors Kayla Griffey and Britta Swanson while juniors Andrea Haidar and Brittany Rose will play at No. 3.

The fourth doubles tandem will feature senior Annie McKenzie and junior Iulia Fratila. At No. 5 doubles will be seniors Jahnavi Patel and Mandy Martin.

The other Plymouth-Canton Educational Park teams also start KLAA action this week.

Canton visits Wayne Memorial at 4 p.m. Tuesday before taking on Plymouth 4 p.m. Thursday in a match that counts. Salem, meanwhile, hosts Northville at 4 p.m. Tuesday and then visits South Lyon East (4 p.m. Thursday).

tsmith@hometownlife.com



Canton football camps

It's not too soon to begin planning for Canton Chiefs summer football camps.

• First up is the Skills Camp slated for players entering grades 7-9 in 2010-11. That camp will take place 5-7:30 p.m. Monday, June 14 through Thursday, June 17. The fee to sign up for the camp is \$45, with that money due by May 24. Contact Richard Mui at (248) 229-2738 for more information.

• The following week will be the Wing T 3/4 Camp, for players entering grades 10-12 next year. The camp begins with a session from 2-5 p.m. Monday, June 21. Then there will be sessions 5-8 p.m. from Tuesday, June 22 through Thursday, June 24.

Camp fee is \$30, also due by May 24. Please contact head football coach Tim Baechler, (734) 455-7691 or via e-mail at tim.baechler@pcscmail.net.

• The third and final offering is the Fundamental Camp, for kids entering grades 3-6. The program runs from 9 a.m. to 12 noon Monday, June 28 through Thursday, July 1. The fee is \$75 with money due by June 4. Please contact Enza Lanava at (313) 300-1173 or elanava@wowway.com.

All prospective campers and their families might want to check out www.cantonchiefsfootball.com for further information.

Michigan Dragons hoops

Parents, it's that time again to register your 5th, 6th, 7th or 8th grader for summer basketball. Go to michigan-dragons.com and register. The registration period ends on April 16.

Thunderbirds fastpitch

Thunderbirds Fastpitch Softball is looking for a few more enthusiastic and committed young women who love to play softball.

The organization is comprised of travel teams with players ranging in

SPORTS ROUNDUP

age from 8 to 19 on 10U through 18U teams. For more information, please contact Ray Barnes (Pres.) at 734-417-1421, or Humaira Afzal (V. Pres.) at thunderbirdsfastpitch@comcast.net.

Flag football

The city of Plymouth Recreation Department will be taking Summer NFL Youth Flag Football Registrations (for grades three-eight) now through April 16 at the recreation office from noon to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

The office is located in the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer St. For more information, call (734) 455-6620. Check out more program and registration information, including Spring Classes which are now open for registration, at www.ci.plymouth.mi.us.

Rec lacrosse coach sought

The City of Plymouth Recreation Department is taking applications for a recreational lacrosse coach for girls in grades 5-8. Female lacrosse playing or coaching experience is preferred but not required. Please contact recreation director Steve Anderson, (734) 455-6620 x 302 or via e-mail, sanderson@ci.plymouth.mi.us.

Are you a Bad Bowler?

Super Bowl on Ford Road in Canton might be your place if you are. The facility is hosting a 12-week "Bad Bowlers Club" at 8 p.m. Thursdays through March. The program is for beginning or low-average bowlers.

Teams of four (any combination of men and women) may participate in a pressure-free environment. The cost is \$9.95 per person per week. Call (734) 459-6070 for more information.

Plymouth Y programs

Several spring offerings are being served up by the Plymouth Family YMCA, including:

• Registration is ongoing for instructional clinics. The focus of these programs will be on fun, exercise and social interaction through sports instruction.

Clinics include: Preschool Soccer for ages 3-5; Preschool Basketball for ages 4-5; and Youth Basketball for ages 6-7. The programs run the weeks of March 17-April 28.

All classes are held in local schools during the week.

• Speed and Agility Training, a class to focus on improving your speed (stride length and frequency, starting and stopping ability, sprint form and technique) and agility (the ability to explosively brake, change direction, and accelerate again). Rarely in team sports do you run in a straight line at a fixed pace for a fixed length of time.

The class will improve movements in any direction at any sport, improve foot speed and increase strength and power.

Participants will learn new techniques through drills and play games to put learned skills into use. The class will be taught by an NCAA Division I athlete with a degree in Exercise Science.

• Registrations are being accepted for the Spring Co-Ed Soccer League and Girls' Volleyball League.

Both seasons run from April 19-June 12. There will be one practice and one game each week. The cost is \$71 for program members or \$103 for community members. All participants need a YMCA Youth Sports Reversible Jersey (\$15).

The signup deadline is April 1. Coaches also are welcome.

• For all programs, contact the Plymouth Family YMCA at (734) 453-2904 or visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

Give 'Pickleball' a try

Plymouth and Canton residents are welcome to sign up for a unique recreational sport being offered by Northville Parks and Recreation — pickleball.

The sport combines ping pong and badminton, with a hard paddle used to send the ball over the net. Open pickleball sessions are held at the Northville Recreation Center based out of Hillside Middle School.

Beginner to intermediate play is 1-3 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays (\$2 per person) and 10 a.m. to 12 noon Wednesdays and Thursdays (\$2). Three courts are available.

Intermediate to advanced play is 12 noon to 3 p.m. Wednesdays (\$3) and 6-8 p.m. Saturdays (\$4).

Paddles and pickleballs are provided at the center. Call (248) 349-0203 for more information.

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NEIGHBORS

Dolls come to life at convention

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
CORRESPONDENT

The pretty painted eyes almost seem to wink as visitors enter the upstairs room devoted to Janie Hunt's dolls and sewing projects.

Hunt's grandson used to wait for the dolls to move when he was a toddler. It's his sister Emily's turn to stare at the shelves lining both walls from top to bottom in the Canton home.

The dolls of Hunt and Pam Kletzka, a Livonia collector, seem ready to spring to life in time for the Grant-A-Wish Fund Convention, Friday-Sunday, April 16-18, at the Livonia Marriott. The convention part of the weekend is sold out, but the sales room is open to the public Saturday and Sunday.

Proceeds from the auction of collectibles Friday benefit the 32nd Detroit Masonic Learning Center for Dyslexic Children, Salvation Army and Leader Dogs for the Blind. The Friday event is open only to members of the Great Lakes Fashion Doll Club that is hosting the weekend activities, including luncheon speakers Bill Greening, Mattel's leading Barbie designer, and Lauren Doucette, marketing coordinator for Barbie Collectibles.

"We'll have dolls of all kinds for sale and accessories, including vintage," said Debra Forde, a doll club member from White Lake. "Dealers come in from Toronto, Chicago. One woman does jewelry for dolls. Other club members sell clothes for dolls. You name it, we've got it there for the dolls."

Mattel donates dolls for the charity auction. Forde designed the jewelry and members provided the outfits.

"Over the years we've donated \$320,000 to charities



Janie Hunt holds a 1960 play Barbie, at right. At left is the 2009 50th Anniversary collectors version made of silkstone instead of vinyl.

and produce a souvenir doll for those who come to the weekend event," Forde said. "We've had people from Taiwan and this year from Australia. We're the second largest convention and have more than 70 members. Some members have thousands and thousands of dolls. I collect because I enjoy it and like to sew for the dolls."

CHILDHOOD TREASURES

Hunt loves to sew for the dolls as well. One wall in her home holds dozens of spools of colorful threads. Some were used to make clothes for 30 centerpiece dolls for the luncheon.

It's obvious Hunt loves dolls. She still has 30 from when she was a little girl.

"I don't count them," said Hunt, who has been collecting since 1989. "I always loved my dolls. At age 14, I got Barbie. I loved sewing clothes for the dolls."

Fashion dolls are her favorites. Hunt has sewn many of the outfits for them.

"Dolls are the next most collectible item in the world after coins and stamps," Hunt said. "I

wanted it so that I could dress and play with them. Mine are not in boxes. Mine are played with."

Souvenir dolls will be given to all convention attendees. It's up to each individual if they want to play with them.

"Barbie is a big doll to collect because she's affordable. The (souvenir) doll from two years ago that Mattel gave us we repainted and redressed them and today they sell for \$400 on eBay," Hunt said. "There were only 250 dolls, so they're limited. We take all of the paint off and repaint. Most dolls have stenciled on eyes. They don't have the spark from a portrait artist. Portrait artists give them life."

INCREASED VALUE

Hunt holds an original Barbie from 1960, purchased at a hardware store for \$2.95 and worth \$600 today. The striped sun suit-attired doll stands next to the 50th anniversary replica made of Silkstone. Hunt is a wealth of information as she talks about the dolls.

"Vinyl dolls were for play. The Silkstone (version) feels like

porcelain," said Hunt, who's especially proud of her Gene dolls modeled after actress Gene Tierney. Designed by Mel Odom for Ashton Drake Galleries, the dolls started the 15-inch trend of fashion dolls.

Pam Kletzka's collection is 98 percent Barbie dolls that stand 12 inches tall. She started thinking about buying a Barbie in 1989, when they first came out for the holiday.

"I found out about the Barbie club in 1995-96 and attended the first convention, and made outfits for the souvenir doll," Kletzka said. "Conventions are a lot of fun and we're always looking for new club members."

Mattel came out with its first Holiday Barbie in 1988, when her daughter was born. At the time Kletzka couldn't afford the \$30 to \$35 to purchase the doll.

"You dream about having all those outfits. Some vintage outfits are more expensive than the dolls," said Kletzka, who estimates she owns a couple of hundred dolls.

Tucked inside the master bedroom closet are boxes and boxes of unopened Holiday Barbies. Kletzka's vintage dolls, including ones from around the world, are showcased in two large curio cabinets in the living room. It's obvious, like Hunt, she loves the dolls and the convention.

SHARING BIRTHDAYS

"Barbie is 51 today. My daughter's birthday is on the same day as Barbie's, March 9. Last year our convention celebrated Barbie's 50th birthday," Kletzka said. "A lot of people just look, come and have fun. We have dolls from \$5 to thousands of dollars."

Kletzka picks up a Twist and Turn Barbie with moveable waist. Earrings on the older dolls can leave green ears. She uses Clearasil to remove the stains.



Pam Kletzka holds two doll from her collection. At right is a 1961 "Bubble Cut" Barbie, so named for the doll's hairstyle. At left is a "Twist and Turn" Barbie from the mid to late 1960s.

"I've run out of room and keep an overflow of dolls," Kletzka said.

On the shelves, one Barbie from 1961 is dressed in lime green, another doll in a hippie era outfit. Even Kletzka is wearing Barbie. Her shirt was on auction at one of the conventions and spotlights the fashion doll loved by millions.

The sales showroom is open to the public 7:30-9 p.m. Saturday and noon to 3 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$10 Saturday and includes Sunday, or \$5 Sunday only. Girl Scouts in uniforms get in free to the show at the Livonia Marriott (Laurel Park), 37700 W. Six Mile. For information, contact Debra Forde at (248) 421-1140 or damforde@earthlink.net.

Arthritis Today

JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY
18829 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone: (248) 478-7860

THE INTERPLAY OF DIABETES AND ARTHRITIS

When a doctor cares for a patient with arthritis, the doctor invariably asks the patient if he or she has diabetes. If the doctor wants to treat the patient's arthritis with a steroid injection, then the patient's diabetic status becomes important. Cortisone causes a rise in blood sugar. If the patient is not a diabetic, this increase will be slight and the body will handle the blood sugar elevation with no difficulty. If the patient is a diabetic, then a steroid injection can raise the blood sugar very high, and the elevation may continue for 2-3 days. The doctor will need to instruct the patient on how to temporarily increase the diabetic medication and/or insulin to counter the steroid effect.

If the patient's arthritis brings up a question of daily steroids by mouth, then the doctor will usually look for an alternative medicine rather than have the patient remain at risk for ongoing high blood sugar and poor diabetic control.

Diabetes also causes a number of arthritis problems including thickening of the hands that interfere with the ability of the fingers to move freely, loss of shoulder mobility known as adhesive capsulitis, loss of nerve ending feeling that can cause a fracture in the foot, and susceptibility to infection in joints such as the knee and ankle.

On the other hand, arthritis and diabetes share several goals of treatment. In both conditions weight control and daily exercise are vital to the success of therapy.

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The name is Jed. I find myself without a family and someone to love. I have so much to give to the right family and it is so lonely to be a party of one. Would you like a handsome gentleman in your life? I'm a 10-year-young male greyhound with a sleek fawn colored coat and magnificent brown soulful eyes. I love to be loved and will return the favor for the rest of my days. If you would like to meet me call GreyHeart Greyhound Rescue & Adoption of Michigan at (866) 438-4739 and please check out our Web site for another handsome picture of yours truly. www.greyheart.org

IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

SEEDLINGS FUND-RAISER

Seedlings Braille Books for Children is encouraging supporters to sign up for the Kroger Rewards Program as a means of raising funds for the organization. Kroger donated nearly \$4,000 to Seedlings through the shopper program last year.

Supporters sign up online for a card and then use it every time they shop at Kroger.

A portion of the total will be donated to Seedlings, a Livonia-based organization dedicated to increasing the availability of braille books, promoting literacy skills and a love of reading.

April is the month for enrolling or re-enrolling at www.krogercommunityrewards.com.

SHE SEES GHOSTS

Paranormal events have captivated Kristy Robinett since birth. The psychic medium uses her abilities to help paranormal investigation teams deal with the psychological side of ghosts.

She'll talk about her experiences from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, April 17, at the Farmington Civic Theatre, 3332 Grand River Ave., Farmington. Participants will learn about local spirits and enjoy a gallery reading which will entail Kristy touching into the spirits and guides of those in the audience.

Cost is \$25 or \$35, which includes a copy of her *Ghosts of Southeast Michigan* now available on

Amazon, Barnes and Noble and Borders

Visit www.tangledwishes.com to buy tickets.

VARIETY SHOW

Barefoot Productions, Plymouth's non-profit, volunteer-driven community theater, presents Variety Show Extravaganza Fund-raiser, 8 p.m., Saturday, April 24, at the Walker-Buzenberg Building, 240 N. Main, Plymouth.

The program will highlight local talent through acting, singing, dancing, comedic sketches, improv, acoustical music and more. Admission is \$20 and includes entertainment and beer, wine, soft drinks and snacks.

The event will also feature raffles and chances to win a Barefoot Productions' 2010/2011 season pass and gift certificates for its fifth season.

All proceeds go toward the Barefoot Productions/Wilcox Foundation Partnership Grant, a matching grant awarded to Barefoot to help subsidize its marketing expenses. For each \$20 admission, the Wilcox Foundation will match that amount.

Barefoot's goal is to raise \$10,000 before the June 30 grant deadline.

Buy tickets online at www.justgobarefoot.com or at the door on April 24. Only checks and cash will be accepted at the door. (734) 582-9688.

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An appliance rebate for consumers who want to buy a new refrigerator, washer or dishwasher went into effect on Feb. 10, but I don't believe that it is going all that well.

This rebate program was designed to remove old energy-guzzling models, give homeowners an incentive to get rid of the old and introduce new energy-saving products and stimulate appliance sales in Michigan. This slowly is being accomplished in our area but not nearly as fast as

in some other states. The reason is that the rebates offered in other states are much larger than in Michigan. We get \$50 or \$100 dollars when buying a refrigerator whereas you could get as much as \$300-\$700 dollars in some other parts of the country. We started out with some \$6.5 million allocated for appliances and two months later we still have more than \$5 million dollars to dish out to Michigan residents.

We really can't complain because something is always better than nothing. You can make arrangements for getting a rebate by going to MIrebates.com or calling (866)-621-8782.

In a big push to save water a new washing machine is being designed for use in

commercial laundries as early as next year. This new washer made by Xeros will use eight gallons of water instead of 80 to wash a 45 pound load. A home-style washer is expected for the home market in 2013 that will use 90 percent less water than current washers. The principal of operation is using small plastic beads made of the same material (nylon) used in carpets. The properties that make nylon easy to stain also make it a great scrubber. Its polarized molecules attract soil, and in the humidity created by a little water, the polymer chains separate slightly to absorb grime and lock it into the beads' cores. I do hope this new concept works but it surely brings a lot of questions into my mind.

STOLEN APPLIANCES

Recently in our local news we've heard reports of major appliances being stolen from vacant homes in well-to-do neighborhoods and being sold on the Internet by the thieves. This brings to mind the story of great police work in Hernando County, Fla. For months, appliances had been stolen in the same fashion and a husband and wife recently were arrested and confessed to dozens of home break-ins. The husband told detectives that he had been selling the appliances on craigslist and that was how he supported his family for the past year. Authorities suspect he listed and sold 35 appliances in the past month alone. The police department placed GPS devices in the

appliances of some vacant homes and even placed a huge green sticker announcing this fact on the houses. Apparently the crooks didn't notice the sticker and are in jail as a result.

Speaking of crooks and appliances, let me give you a personal story. I recently replaced our 11-year-old hot water heater. I asked my darling Valorie what to do with the old one and she told me to place it on the street where it would be picked up and we would get a bill from the city for doing so. The same day I received a fax on our machine from a company that buys used metal anything. I called them and was told they would give me \$50 for the old heater. I put it by the garage door

and felt pretty smart by possibly making a few dollars. For seven straight days I kept calling this company who sent me the fax and they told me they would get to it and call me. They had my address and all that and yet they never showed up. I began to wonder if this company was just getting addresses to scout out the neighborhood and do some hauling away on their own. Be careful who you deal with because there are times when things are not the same as they seem. Stay tuned.

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



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

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. Feel free to send a related photo in jpg form. For a complete listing online, go to hometownlife.com.

APRIL 11-14

Congregation Beth Ahm
Time/Date: 1:30 p.m., Sunday, April 11
Location: 5075 West Maple, West Bloomfield
Details: Dr. Amy Brode will talk about the overactive bladder and incontinence, at a program sponsored by the congregation's Sisterhood; free admission and open to the public
Coming up: The Sisterhood starts a weekly Mah Jongg group, 12:30-3 p.m., Tuesday, April 13. Cost is \$1 per person; participants should bring current Mah Jongg card. Also a free weekly DVD series continues at 1 p.m. Wednesday; topics for April 14 are "Rome Arrives in Jerusalem" and "Parting with the Temple," drop-ins welcome and no reservations needed
Contact: (248) 851-6880 or www.cbahm.org for Brode's program; Gail Ellenbogen at (248) 626-4123 or e-mail gellenbo@yahoo.com for Mah Jongg; Nancy Kaplan at (248) 737-1931 for DVD series

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church
Time/Date: 6-7 p.m., April 11, 18, 25
Location: 9601 Hubbard, Livonia
Details: Ballroom dancing lessons, followed by a practice session, with music. A dance party will be held 7-9:30 p.m., April 25. Light refreshments will be served. Cost is \$6 for

each lesson and \$6 for the dance. Attend the class and dance for \$10. Pay at the door in Fellowship Hall. The proceeds from the March classes will go to the Cancer Relay for Life; April's proceeds will go to the Capital Improvement Fund
Contact: (734) 751-1957 or (734) 422-0494

APRIL 15-21

Birmingham Temple
Time/Date: 8 p.m., Saturday, April 17
Location: 28611 West 12 Mile, Farmington Hills
Details: Vivace Music Series features pianist Ralph Votapek performing works by Copland, Schubert, Ravel and Albeniz. Afterglow and refreshments follow the concert; tickets are \$20 for members and seniors, \$23 non-members. Student and group rates available
Contact: Joyce Cheresh at (248) 788-0338 or Ann Sipher at (248) 661-1348

Congregation Beth Ahm
Time/Date: 10:30-11:30 a.m., April 17
Location: 5075 West Maple, West Bloomfield
Details: Shabbat Club for kids provides a morning of parasha play, games, interactive learning and Shabbat fun
Contact: RSVP to Amy Newman at reishool@cbahm.org or (248) 851-8820

The Corners
Time/Date: 5 p.m., Saturday, April 17
Location: 2075 Walnut Lake Road, just west of Inkster, in West Bloomfield
Details: Enjoy a "Moment of Shabbat" with your 2- through 6-year-olds and celebrate Shabbat with songs, stories, arts and crafts and a special Havdalah service, sponsored by Temple Shir Shalom; no charge
Contact: (248) 406-4255

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m., Saturday,

April 17
Location: 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington Road and Newburgh, Livonia
Details: "Spring Fling" dance designed for adults with developmental disabilities, special needs, and their caretakers includes music, fun, and friendship. Snacks and beverages will be served
Contact: RSVP no later than April 9 to Judy Cook at (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to judy@emmanuel-livonia.org

Leon's
Time/Date: 9:30 a.m., April 17
Location: 30149 Ford Road, south side (next to Tim Horton's) in Garden City
Details: Bethany Suburban West monthly breakfast meeting; all separated, divorced and singles may attend
Contact: Kathy at (734) 513-9479

St. Aidan
Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., Thursday, April 15
Location: 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: David J. Conrad, M.A., Theology is the presenter at a program called "The Church: Its Essential Qualities and Purpose"
Contact: RSVP by noon the day of the event to (734) 425-5950

St. Theodore Catholic Church
Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to noon, Sunday, April 18
Location: 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland
Details: All you can eat pancake and French toast breakfast also includes ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, tea, coffee, milk and juice. It's sponsored by St. Theodore Men's Club. Cost is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children, age 2-10
Contact: (734) 425-4421

APRIL 22-28

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday, April 23 and 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, April 24
Location: 28000 New Market, just north of 12 Mile, east of Farmington Road in Farmington Hills
Details: The Woman's League of the church sponsors a rummage and bake sale. In addition to clothing and homemade baked goods, the sale will feature small appliances, furniture, books, bedding, linens, toys, jewelry and much more. \$3 and \$5 bag sale on Saturday
Contact: Lucille Ehlers at (248) 553-2889

April 29-May 5
Antioch Lutheran Church
Time/Date: Rummage sale 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday, April 30, and 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, May 1
Location: 33360 West 13 Mile, Farmington Hills
Details: The church also is collecting items for the sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 5-9 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, April 26-28
Contact: Judy Glass at (248) 476-9074

Congregation B'nai Moshe
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., May 2
Location: 6800 Drake, West Bloomfield
Details: "Torah, Technology and the Future of Israel," will explore the relationship of Torah values to the applications of modern technology. There will be a panel presentation with Steven Bekhor, on "Israel's Nuclear Horizon," Ellen P. Rosenberg, on "Water Resources and Conservation in Israel," and Steven H. Schwartz with "Torah Values and the Environment. The B'nai Moshe Choir will perform and there will be a question and answer period followed by a social hour with refreshments. Admission is free
Contact: RSVP to (248) 788-0600

GARDEN & NATURE

At English Gardens

• "Gardening 101," 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 14, in West Bloomfield and 10 a.m. Saturday, April 17, in Ann Arbor and Dearborn Heights.
Area stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, (734) 332-7900; 22650 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, (313) 278-4433; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, in West Bloomfield; (248) 851-7506. For information, log onto www.EnglishGardens.com.

Orchid festival

The Ann Arbor Orchid Society presents thousands of colorful orchid blooms from area orchid societies and growers, Saturday-Sunday, April 17-18, at Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Road. Show displays open at noon Saturday and 10 a.m. Sunday. The show closes at 4:30 p.m. each day. Vendors will sell orchids and orchid-related items 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., both days. Orchid raffle Sunday. Free talks and demonstrations:

- 2 p.m., Saturday, Orchids: Different But Not Difficult
- 3 p.m. Saturday, Growing Hardy Lady Slippers (Cypripediums)
- Noon, Sunday, Making Clay Orchids

- 1 p.m. Sunday, Stanhopeas, Gongoras & Other Orchid Oddities
- 2 p.m. Sunday, Miniature Dendrobiums
- 3 p.m. Sunday, Orchids 101

Free admission to show displays, \$5 admission to Matthaei Botanical Garden Conservatory on both days. Handicap-accessible. More information at aaonline.org or call (734) 663-0756.

Butterflies

Master Gardener Randy Zeilinger of Yardwerks Landscaping Company will demonstrate how to use butterfly-attracting plants to make beautiful container gardens, at the next meeting of the Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association. The meeting starts at 7 p.m. April 21, at Nankin Mills, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. Parking on Hines Drive and Ann Arbor Trail. \$3 for nonmembers. Questions? Call (734) 326-0578 or visit www.sembabutterfly.com.

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METROPOLITAN OPERA: HAMLET ENCORE
WED. 4/14 6:30 PM

DATE NIGHT (PG-13) 11:00, 3:15, 5:20, 7:25, 9:30 FRI/SAT LS 11:35
CLASH OF THE TITANS (PG-13) 11:05, 1:35, 4:10, 6:50, 9:25 FRI/SAT LS 11:50
WHY DID I GET MARRIED TOO? (PG-13) 11:00, 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:15 FRI/SAT LS 11:45
THE LAST SONG (PG) 11:45, 2:10, 4:30, 7:00, 9:20 FRI/SAT LS 11:40
3D HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON (PG) 12:50 PREMIUM PER 3D TICKET 11:40, 1:55, 4:20, 6:45, 9:00 FRI/SAT LS 11:15
HOT TUB TIME MACHINE (R) 1:15, 3:25, 5:35, 7:45, 9:55 FRI/SAT LS 12:00
DIARY OF A WIMPY KID (PG) FRI-TUE/TH 11:10, 1:20, 3:25, 5:30, 7:35, 9:40 FRI/SAT LS 11:45 WED 11:10, 1:20, 3:25

Fisher Funeral Home

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Michael J. Fisher,
Owner and licensed Funeral Director

Traditional Service with Burial
\$2895 includes metal casket, outer burial container, viewing & service

Basic Cremation
\$695* inclusive of all fees & services
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Affordable funerals tailored for any budget

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

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: On or before May 1, 2010, it shall be the duty of every owner, occupant or person having charge of any land within the Township of Plymouth, Michigan, to cut and destroy noxious weeds before they reach a seed bearing stage and to prevent such weeds from perpetuating themselves or becoming a detriment to public health, or shall cause the same to be done. Failure to comply with this notice and Section 32.050 of the Plymouth Township Ordinance means that the Township will enter upon such lands and mow the weeds and bill the property owners for the service, as provided in Section 32.070 of the Plymouth Township Ordinance.
The Charter Township of Plymouth will begin mowing all unmowed lots or plots of land on May 15, 2010, without further notice to the property owners.

Joe Bridgman, CMC
Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: April 11 & 18, 2010

PLYMOUTH HOUSING COMMISSION PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plymouth/Dearborn Heights Housing Commission is pleased to be opening its Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) Waiting List from 8:00 AM on April 23, 2010 through 5:00 PM on April 26, 2010. After 5:00 PM on April 26, the waiting list will be closed and the application will no longer be available. All applications must be post-marked by May 7, 2010 in order to be considered. Applications accepted will be contacted by October 15, 2010. All other applications will be destroyed.

The application can only be obtained from our website <http://www.phhousing.net>. DO NOT come to the Plymouth Housing Commission offices. Applications will not be available at the Plymouth Housing Commission offices. If you need access to a computer and the internet, you can go to your local library. For any updated information refer to our website. For any updated information you may call (734)455-3670, extension 224.

All applications MUST be processed through the US Postal Service. Hand delivered applications will NOT be accepted. Faxed copies will NOT be accepted. Only ONE application per person will be considered.

Publish: April 11 and 18, 2010

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its regular meeting April 20, 2010 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: April 11, 2010

WHY BE CATHOLIC?

An exciting new monthly series of personal stories and testimonies to answer the questions: what attracts people to the Catholic faith, what holds them there, what brings them back?

Paco Gavrilides

Series continues Wednesday, April 14th at 7 PM
with Archdiocesan Coordinator of Evangelization, author, speaker, and orthodox Episcopalian convert, Paco Gavrilides.
No charge, no reservations, no pressure. All are welcome.

St. Michael the Archangel School
11441 Hubbard Rd.
(South of Plymouth Rd.) Livonia
734-261-1455 • www.livoniastmichael.org

Publish: April 11, 2010

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for **Card Key Security System for the High School Educational Complex**. Specifications and bid forms are available by contacting Ms. Hunter in the PCCS Purchasing Department at (734) 416-2741.

A pre-bid meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. EST., on Tuesday, April 13, 2010 at Salem High School, 46181 Joy Rd., Canton, MI 48187. Bidders this is a MANDATORY pre-bid meeting. Any and all technical and pre-bid questions should be directed to Harry Lau in the PCCS Maintenance Department (734) 416-2970.

Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope to the E.J. McClendon Educational Center (attn: Card Key Security System at HS Complex Bid) 454 S. Harvey Street, Plymouth, MI 48170 on or before 2:00 p.m. EST., Tuesday, April 20, 2010 where they will be opened and read publicly. Faxed bids will not be accepted. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

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

Publish: April 4, 2010

Detroit Zoo hosts free admission day for seniors on April 28

Senior citizens living in Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties are invited to enjoy a free day at the Detroit Zoo on Senior Day, Wednesday, April 28, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Seniors 62 and older and their caregivers will receive complimentary admission and parking. Sponsored by radio station AM580, Senior Day will feature

live music, tractor train tours, bingo and a senior resource area. The day's activities will also include animal enrichment activities and zookeeper talks highlighting some of the zoo's senior residents. The spring Senior Day is one of two free days for tri-county seniors held annually at the Detroit Zoo in

appreciation for voter approval in August 2008 of the ballot proposal to keep the Zoo. A fall Senior Day will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 8. The Detroit Zoological Society is a nonprofit organization that operates the Detroit Zoo and Belle Isle Nature Zoo. Situated on 125 acres of naturalistic exhibits, the Detroit Zoo is located at the intersection

of 10 Mile and Woodward Avenue, just off I-696, in Royal Oak. The Detroit Zoo is open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. April through Labor Day (with extended hours until 8 p.m. Wednesdays during July and August), 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. the day after Labor Day through October and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. November through March. Admission is \$11

for adults 15 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 14; children under 2 are free. The Belle Isle Nature Zoo is open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. year-round; admission is free. For more information, call (248) 541-5717 or visit www.detroitzoo.org.



CITY OF PLYMOUTH ORDINANCE #2010-01

Sec. 6-31. Short title.

This article shall be known and may be cited as the "Liquor Management Ordinance."
(Ord. No. 2003-4, § 1, 5-19-03)

Sec. 6-32. Statement of purpose.

(a) The purpose of this article is to allow the city to establish and administer a policy for the issuance and transfer of liquor licenses and permits which allow the service by the glass of any alcohol (beer, wine, spirits) to be consumed on the premises, to provide for the enforcement of liquor laws, regulations and ordinances, and to manage the number of On-Premise retail liquor licenses in the city.
(b) This article shall also create the liquor license review committee (LLRC), which shall be composed of at least three members of the city commission. The purpose of the LLRC is to review applications and make recommendations to the city commission as required by this article.
(c) It shall be the policy of the city to notify all known existing Service by the Glass also known as On-Premise Retail type liquor license holders of proposed changes in this article via first class mail at least ten business days in advance of the city commission acting on a change.
(Ord. No. 2003-4, § 2, 5-19-03)

Sec. 6-33. Licensing policy.

(a) New licenses or liquor license permits, transfer of ownership of existing licenses, transfers into the city of new licenses, will be approved at the sole discretion of the city commission.
(b) The City shall have a cap or a total of not more than 22 State of Michigan Liquor Licenses of any type of On-Premises Retail License that would allow for the service of any alcohol (beer, wine, spirits) by the glass or for consumption on premises of any establishment. This would include but not be limited to State of Michigan Class C, Club, B Hotel, A Hotel, Tavern, Brewpub, Micro-Brewer, Resort, DDA, Economic Development, winery and/or other type of State License allowing the regular serving of alcohol at a licensed establishment.
(c) The City Commission shall NOT recommend to the State of Michigan Liquor Control Commission the approval of any On Premise Retail Liquor License in excess of 22 as outlined here.
(d) The City shall conduct an annual review of the limit of 22 On Premise Retail Liquor Licenses. This review shall be conducted by the Local Liquor License Review Committee and a recommendation shall be forwarded to the City Commission.
(e) Further, the city shall conduct an annual review of all existing licenses in the city.
(Ord. No. 2003-4, § 3, 5-19-03)

Sec. 6-34. Plan of operation required.

(a) *Business operation.* All new requests for permits, requests for transfers of ownership of existing licenses or requests for transfers of licenses into the city of on-premises licensees shall operate in accordance with a plan of operation approved by the city commission.
(b) *Plan of operation.* A plan of operation shall contain an operational statement outlining the proposed manner in which the establishment will be operated, including, but not limited to, the format, schedule of the hours of operation, crowd control, security, alcohol management, use of the facilities, parking provisions, plan for interior use and layout, and any other pertinent information as requested by the city or city's liquor license review committee (LLRC).
(c) *Compliance.* Licensees shall comply with all applicable state and city regulations, this general policy, and a plan of operation as approved by the city commission. Any change to a plan of operation shall be approved by the city commission prior to implementation of the change by the licensee. Failure of such compliance or variance from an approved plan is a violation of this ordinance and may result in the city commission recommending to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission that the license be revoked or not renewed.
(Ord. No. 2003-4, § 4, 5-19-03)

Sec. 6-35. Review procedures.

Each applicant for a new license, the establishment of a new permit, the transfer into the city of a new license, or the transfer of an existing license shall make a request to the city in accordance with the following procedures:

- (1) *Application.* Each applicant must submit to the city clerk an application (on a form provided by the city), a plan of operation, plot plan of the site, a plan for interior use and exterior design, and the layout of any ancillary facilities. As part of the application, each applicant shall submit a written statement explaining in detail how their proposal meets the factors as listed in subsection 6-35(4).
- (2) *City departmental review.* Upon receipt of an application and plans, the city manager will refer same to the chief of police, fire chief, planning department, building department and other city officers or employees, who shall cause a thorough review and investigation, including, but not limited to a complete history of past business experience and liquor law violations, if any, to be made of the persons and/or premises which must meet or exceed codes. The applicant shall provide all requested information to, and fully cooperate with, all city departments requesting any and all additional relevant information. The findings resulting from such review and investigation shall be reported to the city manager, who then will report same to the LLRC and the city commission.
- (3) *Public hearing/review.*
 - a. *Hearing.* The city commission shall hold a public hearing upon a request for a new license, the establishment of a new permit, transfer of an existing license to new owners, or for the transfer of a new license into the city.
 - b. *Notice.* Notice of all hearings shall be provided to all property owners, residents and voters, within 300 feet of the proposed establishment, all LCC Service by the Glass-On Premise Retail license holders, the Chamber of Commerce, all neighborhood associations and the Plymouth Canton Community Schools. The applicant shall pay the cost of such notice.
 - c. *Appearance.* The applicant will be required to appear at the hearing before the LLRC committee or the city commission, and make a written and/or oral presentation concerning the request.
 - d. *Recommendation.* The LLRC shall review and may recommend approval or disapproval of all requests to the city commission.
- (4) *Review factors.* In reviewing a request for a new license or permits or transfers of ownership of existing licenses or transfers into the city of new on-premises licensees, the city commission or LLRC may consider and/or weigh the following factors:
 - a. Conserve the expenditure of funds for public improvements and services to conform with the most advantageous uses of land, resources and property.
 - b. Total number of similar licenses in the city.
 - c. Input from residents and surrounding business owners.
 - d. Impact of the establishment on surrounding businesses and neighborhoods.
 - e. Whether a proposed licensed premise is part of a multi-use project with substantial new retail, office, or residential components. The size of the licensed premise relative to the overall project or development.
 - f. Crowd control.
 - g. Parking availability.
 - h. Preservation or restoration of historic buildings.
 - i. Locating in an underdeveloped area.
 - j. Concentration of drinking establishments and impact on policing requirements.
 - k. Policing requirements.
 - l. Business history.
 - m. Business experience.
 - n. LCC violation history.
 - o. Will facility be a sit down full service restaurant serving alcohol or other "bar only" type establishment.
 - p. Will restaurant have a 70% - 30% sales of food over alcohol
 - q. Percent of floor area devoted to dining versus bar area.
 - r. Size of bar area.
 - s. Size of dance floor, if any.
 - t. Type or character of the establishment, e.g. dining, nightclub, hotel, dance club.
 - u. Overall benefit of the plan to the city.
 - v. Non-payment of taxes or other payment due to the city.
 - w. Any other factor(s) that may effect the health, safety and welfare or the best interests of the community.
- (5) *Approval.* If after a review by the LLRC, and/or a public hearing, the city commission is satisfied that the establishment or operation will provide a benefit to the city and constitute an asset to the community, it will adopt a resolution granting approval, subject to the satisfaction of any conditions stated in the resolution.
 - a. *Building-Remodeling.* If the request involves a change to the physical size or layout of the establishment, when the applicant's building or remodeling is completed, it must meet all state and local regulations, and must comply with the representations made to the city commission and LLRC committee by the applicant. If such physical alteration is approved by the city commission and it is subsequently determined that the project was not substantially completed as required by the plans and specifications presented to the city, or in substantial compliance with representations made to the city, the city may recommend that the license be revoked or not be renewed for the following year.
(Ord. No. 2003-4, § 5, 5-19-03)

Sec. 6-36. Permits and transfer of ownership.

(a) *Permits.* New requests for permits for dance, entertainment, or dance and entertainment shall be reviewed by the llrc and approved in the sole discretion of the city commission after an evaluation of the factors listed in subsection 6-35(4). The city will not consider requests for topless entertainment permits.
(b) *Transfer of ownership.* Requests for transfer of ownership of existing licensed establishments shall be reviewed by the LLRC and approved or disapproved by the city commission. The city commission may hold a public hearing. If the continuation of an existing operation is contemplated, the applicant must present a plan that indicates that it will continue the existing operation as established. If there are proposed changes in the operations then the request for transfer of ownership shall be subject to the reviews outlined in subsection 6-35(4).
(c) Any change in existing operations from a full service sit down restaurant that serves alcohol to an establishment that features primarily alcohol would be subject to a new review as outlined in subsection 6-35(4).
(Ord. No. 2003-4, § 6, 5-19-03)

Sec. 6-37. Annual license and permit review.

(a) The city commission will undertake a review of any license or permit for the purpose of making a recommendation to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission regarding renewal of said license or permit. The commission shall consider whether a licensed establishment has been operated in a manner consistent with the provisions of this article and all other applicable laws, and regulations of the city and the State of Michigan.
(b) Each year, the city manager shall cause an investigation to be made relative to each existing on-premises licensed establishment. The investigation shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) Licensee shall submit copies of current valid licenses from appropriate county, state or federal governments to insure authorization to serve food at the establishment.
- (2) An inspection of the premises to determine whether the licensee is in compliance with the license itself, its approved site plan and if applicable its plan of operation, as well as any conditions imposed by the city or the Michigan Liquor Control Commission or representations made by the licensee at the time of issuance or transfer of the license.
- (3) An inspection of city records to determine whether all taxes and other monies due the city are timely paid.
- (4) An inspection of police files or other sources of information to determine whether any activity in connection with the licensed premise is in violation of the law, disturbs the public peace and tranquility, constitutes a nuisance, or contributes to the disruption of the normal activities of those in the neighborhood of the licensed premise.
- (5) A review to determine the existence of any of the criteria as described in section 6-39.
- (6) A review of the operation of the licensed establishment to determine whether the business is being operated in compliance with any and all representations that may have been made by the licensee to the city or the city commission.

(c) *Recommendations from city departments.* Following receipt of a fully completed application, fees, and such other information as may be requested by the city, the city clerk shall forward the application to the police department, fire department, building department, treasurer's office, and such other departments as required by the city manager, which departments shall make their reviews and recommendations prior to consideration by the city commission. In conducting its review, the city may request other pertinent information from the licensee. The completed report shall be reviewed by the llrc prior to being considered by the city commission.
(7) The Local Liquor License Review Committee shall annually review and report to the City Commission its recommendations to maintain, expand or delete the total number of allowable On-Premise Retail Licenses for establishments that serve alcohol by the glass under a variety of State of Michigan Licenses, including but not limited to; Class C, Club, B Hotel, A Hotel, Tavern, Brewpub, Micro-brewer, Resort, DDA, Economic Development, winery or other type license.
(Ord. No. 2003-4, § 7, 5-19-03)

Sec. 6-38. Revocation and non-renewal.

(a) Each establishment within the city for which a liquor license or permit is granted shall be operated and maintained in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations of the City of Plymouth and the State of Michigan. Upon any violation of this article, the commission may, after notice and hearing, request the Michigan Liquor Control Commission to revoke such license and/or permit. Upon any violation(s) of this ordinance, the city will notify the licensee of the specific violation(s) and afford the licensee an opportunity to come into compliance with this article. Licensee must reach compliance in that time established by the city manager, but in no event more than ten days after notification to licensee by city of such violation. Absent compliance within that time established by the city manager, the city may hold the above mentioned hearing and request that the Michigan Liquor Control Commission not renew and/or revoke such license and/or permit.
(b) Before filing any objection to renewal or request for revocation of a license or permit with the Michigan Liquor Control Commission, the city shall serve the licensee with notice and proceed in accordance with this article, as amended. The city shall serve the licensee by first class mail mailed at least ten days prior to the hearing with notice of hearing, which notice shall contain, the following:

- (1) Date, time and place of hearing.
- (2) Notice of the proposed action.
- (3) Reasons for the proposed action.
- (4) Names of witnesses known at the time who will testify.
- (5) A statement that the licensee may present evidence or any testimony that may refute or respond to the claims of adverse witnesses.
- (6) A statement requiring the licensee to notify the city attorney's office at least three days prior to the hearing date if they intend to contest the proposed action, and to provide the names of witnesses known at the time who will testify on their behalf.

(c) Upon completion of the hearing, the city commission shall submit to the licensee and the Michigan Liquor Control Commission a written statement of its findings and determination.
(Ord. No. 2003-4, § 8, 5-19-03)

Sec. 6-39. Criteria for non-renewal or revocation.

(a) The city commission may recommend non-renewal or revocation of a license or permit originally authorized on or after July 1, 2003 to the liquor control commission upon a determination based upon a preponderance of the evidence presented at the hearing that any of the following exists:

- (1) Failure to comply with all standards, plans or agreements entered into in consideration for the issuance, transfer or continuance of the license or permit, or failure to comply with all agreements or consent judgments entered into subsequent to the issuance of the license or permit.
- (2) Failure to comply with an approved plan of operation and other plans, specifications, or representations made or submitted to the city by the licensee.
- (3) Violations of the state liquor laws or regulations of the liquor control commission.
- (4) Violations of state laws or local ordinances including, but not limited to those laws or ordinances concerning the public health, safety or public welfare.
- (5) Maintenance of a nuisance upon or in connection with the licensed premises including, but not limited to, any of the following:
 - a. Failure to correct violations of building, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, zoning, health, fire or other applicable regulatory codes, to include the history thereof;
 - b. A pattern of patron conduct in the neighborhood of the licensed premises, which is a violation of the law and/or disturbs the peace, order and tranquility of the neighborhood; Including types of police, fire or medical services related to this operation.
- c. Failure to maintain the grounds and exterior of the licensed premises, including litter, debris or refuse blowing or being deposited upon adjoining properties;
- d. Entertainement on the premises or activity in connection with the licensed premises which by its nature causes, creates or contributes to disorder, disobedience to rules, ordinance or laws, or contributes to the disruption of normal activity of those in the neighborhood of the licensed premises.
- (6) Failure by the licensee to permit the inspection of the licensed premises by the city's agents or employees in connection with the enforcement of this article.
- (7) Failure to pay taxes or make other payments due to the city in a timely manner.

(b) The city commission may recommend non-renewal or revocation of a license or permit originally authorized to operate in the city on or before June 30, 2003 to the liquor control commission upon a determination based upon a preponderance of the evidence presented at the hearing that any of the following exists:

- (1) Violations of the state liquor laws or regulations of the liquor control commission.
- (2) Violations of state laws or local ordinances including, but not limited to those laws or ordinances concerning the public health, safety or public welfare.
- (3) Maintenance of a nuisance upon or in connection with the licensed premises including, but not limited to, any of the following:
 - a. Failure to correct violations of building, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, zoning, health, fire, property maintenance or other applicable regulatory codes, to include the history thereof;
 - b. A pattern of patron conduct in the neighborhood of the licensed premises, which is a violation of the law and/or disturbs the peace, order and tranquility of the neighborhood;
 - c. Failure to maintain the grounds and exterior of the licensed premises, including litter, debris or refuse blowing or being deposited upon adjoining properties;
 - d. Entertainement on the premises or activity in connection with the licensed premises which by its nature causes, creates or contributes to disorder, disobedience to rules, ordinance or laws, or contributes to the disruption of normal activity of those in the neighborhood of the licensed premises.
- (4) Failure by the licensee to permit the inspection of the licensed premises by the city's agents or employees in connection with the enforcement of this article.
- (5) Failure to pay taxes or make other payments due to the city in a timely manner.

(Ord. No. 2003-4, § 9, 5-19-03)

Sec. 6-40. Capacity limits.

The total capacity of each room of a licensed establishment shall be established and determined by the appropriate fire and building safety codes.
(Ord. No. 2003-4, § 10, 5-19-03)

Sec. 6-41. Termination of escrowed licenses.

The city commission may, through resolution, request that the Michigan Liquor Control Commission terminate an on-premises license that has been placed in escrow for more than one (1) year after its expiration.
(Ord. No. 2003-4, § 11, 5-19-03)

Sec. 6-42. Fees.

Each applicant for a new license or permit, for transfer of an existing license or permit, for expansion of an existing establishment, and for renewal of an existing license or permit shall pay a non-refundable application investigation fee. Each applicant for renewal of a license that was originally established on or before June 30, 2003 shall be exempt from annual renewal fees; all others shall pay an annual review fee. Such fees will be in addition to any fee required by the liquor control commission and shall be set by a city commission resolution.
(Ord. No. 2003-4, § 12, 5-19-03)

ADOPTED: April 5, 2010

EFFECTIVE: 4/12/2010

DANIEL DWYER, MAYOR

LINDA LANGMESSER, CITY CLERK

MILESTONES

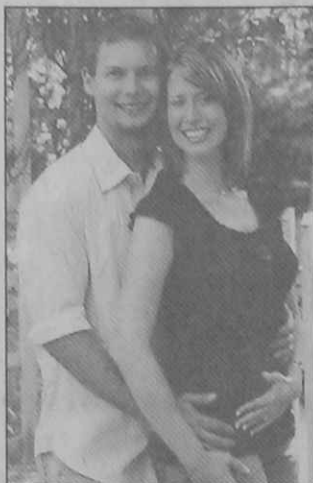
OCTOBER WEDDING PLANNED

Laura Christine Geverink and Lee Henry Miller announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Todd and Diane Geverink of Livonia, is a 2003 graduate of Stevenson High School. She graduated from Central Michigan University in 2007 and earned a master's degree in speech language pathology from Central in 2010.

Her fiancé, son of Kim Miller of Lansing and Paul Kennon of Holt, is a 2003 J.W. Sexton High School graduate. He graduated in 2008 from Central Michigan University and is employed with Lansing Parks and Recreation.

An October wedding is



Geverink-Miller

planned at St. John's Chapel in Plymouth.

MAY WEDDING PLANNED

Joanna Margaret Chudzinski and Thomas Joseph Danowski, Jr. announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Andrew and Phyllis Chudzinski of Livonia, graduated in 2007 from the University of Michigan-Dearborn, with a bachelor of science degree in engineering-mechanical Engineering.

Her fiancé, son of Thomas and Margaret Danowski of New Boston, graduated in 2008 from the University of Michigan-Dearborn with a bachelor's of science degree in engineering-mechanical engi-



Chudzinski-Danowski

neering.

A May wedding is planned at St. Genevieve Catholic Church.

JULY WEDDING PLANNED

Emily Lewalski of Commerce Township and Eric Edoff of Farmington Hills, announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Dan and Karen Lewalski of Commerce Township, is a 2004 graduate of Lakeland High School and a 2008 graduate of Michigan State University. She teaches fifth grade in the Holly School District.

Her fiancé, son of Bill and Pat Edoff of The Villages, Fla., is a 2002 graduate of Catholic Central. He currently is completing a degree in education at Oakland University.

A July wedding is planned at Our Lady of Sorrows in Farmington.



Lewalski-Edoff

NORA HELEN MASON

Nora Helen Mason was born March 2, 2010, at Providence Hospital, Southfield.

Proud parents are Jesse and Leslie Mason of Livonia.

Grandparents are Jeffrey and Linda Douglass of Westland and Joseph and Sharon Mason of Saline.

Great-grandparents are Helen Wendland and Ray Disney of Livonia, Evelyn and Henry Romans of Saline, and Dorothee Brasseur of Caseville.

Kelly Mason of Ypsilanti, Kenneth Douglass and Jeffrey Douglass, both of Westland, are Nora's uncles.



Nora Helen Mason

REUNION CALENDAR

Submit your announcement at least two weeks in advance to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

Dearborn Heights Haston High Class of 1965

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

Detroit Cass Tech

Cass Tech Alumni Association
Pancake breakfast, 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, April 17, at the school, 2501 2nd Avenue, Detroit. Tickets are \$20 at the door and \$15 in advance. Call (313) 963-9988 and leave your name, phone number and e-mail address. Tickets will be held at Will Call at the door for pick-up at the breakfast. Students pay \$10 and kids under 6 pay \$5. Cass Tech music students will entertain from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Fellowship, school news and building tours included.

Detroit Cooley High School Class of 1960

50th Reunion May 1 at Crown Plaza-Metro Airport. Call (248) 625-4598 or (734) 464-1692 for more information.

Detroit Mackenzie Class of 1962

Planning class reunion in 2012. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail the committee at mackenzie1962@gmail.com.

Class of 1960

50th reunion will be held Oct. 16 at The Marriott in Livonia. For more information contact: Tim Yarde at (248) 573-7147 or Russ and Judy (Mackinder) Sarns at (734) 464-7166

Detroit Pershing Class of 1960

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

Farmington High School Class of 1970

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

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.

Garden City East Class of 1964

Picnic, Aug. 21, in Garden City Park. For more information e-mail Karen Berry at karber@comcast.net or Teri Friedman at sweet112001@yahoo.com

Garden City West Class of 1970

40th reunion on Saturday, Oct. 9 at Hawthorne Valley Country Club in Westland. Dinner and DJ for \$50 per person. Classmates from 1968-72 also invited. For more information, call Larry Conn at (734) 788-5254.

Livonia Stevenson Class of 1975

35th reunion, 6 p.m. Saturday, July 24, at Fellows Creek Golf Club, 2936 Lotz, Canton, includes buffet, cash bar and DJ. Attire is dressy/casual. Cost is \$30 per person through PayPal or by check in advance or \$40 at the door. Send checks to Stevenson Class Reunion, 115 Continental Road, Cornwall, N.Y. 12518. Send PayPal payments to payments@institutional-markets.com Send e-mail correspondence to stevensonclassof75@yahoo.com. (845) 534-2228

Oak Park High School Class of 1980

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

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OE8659491



JEAN P. ANDERSON

April 3, 2010, age 64. Beloved wife of Robert for 35 years. Also survived by her sister Ann Purman, as well as many loving friends.

"OUR HEARTS ARE BROKEN."

Memorial Service Saturday, May 22 at 9:30 AM at White Chapel Cemetery. Memorial Tributes to PAAW (Pet Adoption Alternative of Warren). View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

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KSENIA BZDEL

Age 91, of Farmington Hills, passed away April 1, 2010. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME, Farmington, MI

BETTY JEAN MARIE GERICH

Age 78. March 31, 2010. Beloved wife of the late John Gerich. Loving mother of Michael Gerich and Susan (Ray) Rogal. Grandmother of Michael, Heather, Caroline, Lauren, and Rachel. Great-grandmother of Mikayla and Mikenzie. Will also be missed by a long list of loving family members and friends. Visitation was held on Monday at Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Livonia. Funeral Service was Tuesday, at Grace Lutheran Church, Redford. Interment Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia. Memorial contributions may be made to Grace Lutheran Church in Betty's honor.



JOHN K. MARIKIS

March 31, 2010 age 82. Beloved husband of the late Eleni. Loving father of Sandy (Curt) Hamilton, Bessie (Kevin) Bone, and Dina (Robert) DeMerrell. Dearest grandfather of eight. Survived by his siblings Dimitri, Christoforos, Paraskevi and George. Memorials to church or Alzheimer's Assoc. www.neely-tuwowski.com.

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

Deadlines:

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

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NANCY ELLIOTT MCCUEN

Miss McCuen, age 66, of Nottingham Village Nursing Center, Northumberland, Pennsylvania, passed away early Thursday morning, March 11, 2010. She was born in Detroit, Michigan, on September 8, 1943, daughter of the late Newell Hoyt McCuen and Amy Jose McCuen. Miss McCuen attended Bloomfield Country Day School in Michigan and was a resident of Birmingham, Michigan for almost 65 years before moving to Graysonview Manor in Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania in July 2008. Miss McCuen lived a very challenging life from an early age. At age 7, she was hit by a truck while crossing the street with a green light going to buy her younger sister a birthday present. Despite being seriously injured in that accident, which left the right side of her body paralyzed for life, Miss McCuen pursued her education through high school and then worked for a company that employed handicapped persons to assemble parts for the automobile industry. In the 1970s, she became an unpaid volunteer for the public television station in Detroit where she assisted the station staff in organizing its fund raising efforts. For her voluntary efforts, Miss McCuen was presented in 1974 with the "Heart of Gold" Award of the United Way of Greater Detroit. She was a lifetime member of the Birmingham Unitarian Church. Miss McCuen was a vocal spokesperson for the rights of handicapped persons to be treated with respect and dignity, and she set off boldly on many adventures on her own without being intimidated by her circumstances or surroundings. Despite her disabilities, she particularly enjoyed traveling and visiting friends and family across the United States and vacationing at Lost Tree Village in Florida and Walloon Lake in Northern Michigan. She also devoted herself to corresponding with friends and spent many happy hours doing weavings, needlepoint and decorations for friends and family. Miss McCuen is survived by two siblings, Marcia L. (Husband Lee) McDonnell of Goodyear, AZ and Charles M. (Wife Sharon) McCuen of Selinsgrove, PA; three nieces and nephews, Lauren Kristen Roberts, Heather Marise McCuen and Graham Scott McCuen; and three great nieces and nephews, Kiera Christine Roberts, Aidan Christopher Roberts, and Luca Francis Andino. A memorial service of celebration and thanksgiving for the life of Nancy Elliott McCuen will take place at the Birmingham Unitarian Church on Saturday, May 8, 2010 at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to: DPTV Channel 56, Riley Broadcasting Center, 1 Clover Court, Wixom, MI 48393

LEE RAY McDOWELL

73, passed away suddenly on March 29, 2010. Loving and devoted father to Timothy McDowell (Teresa), Todd McDowell (Patty), Traci Godfrey (Mark) and Terri Kariniemi (Dean). Cherished grandfather of Joshua McDowell, Aiden and Brodie McDowell, Christopher (Stacy), Brady and Kevin Christensen, Tim (Kimiko), Trevor, Mackenzie, Matthew and Fiona Godfrey, Daniel, Kati and Nicholas Kariniemi. Leaves behind to cherish his memory loving uncle, Ivan McDowell, aunt Dorothy McDowell, brother, James McDowell and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. A celebration of his life will be held at Crosspointe Meadows Church, 29000 Meadowbrook Rd, Novi on April 17th at 3:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation at www.JDRF.org or the American Heart Association at www.americanheartassociation.org

CHRIS NIEMI

Age 38, April 8, 2010 of Livonia. Loving son of Patricia and Tom (Pamala) Niemi. Also survived by many family and friends. He was a Wayne State graduate with a Masters in Special Education and History. He was an avid gamer and sports enthusiast, and touched the hearts of many throughout his short life. Please sign Chris's online guestbook at: www.rggharris.com



ELSIE E. OSMAC (HENDRICKSON)

Age 90, passed away April 2, 2010. Survived by husband Anton (Tony), daughter Beverly (Brian) Barna and brother Melvin (Brendan) Barna. Also survived by Pete, Paul, Irene (late Joe) Osmak and many nieces, nephews and cousins. Preceded in death by her parents and brothers Hugo, Elden and Gordon.



DARWIN B. SCHLESING

82, husband of Dorothy Headrick Schlesing, died Friday, April 2, 2010 at Self Regional Medical Center. Born in St. Louis, MO, he was the son of the late George and Louise Schlesing. Surviving is his wife, Dorothy; a daughter, Nancy Stock and her husband, Mark; a son, Bill Schlesing and his wife, Michelle; two sisters, Audrey Johanson and her husband, Sam, and Doris Hartman and her husband, Bill; a brother, Orville Schlesing and his wife, Betty Lou; loving sister-in-law, Marie Headrick; grandchildren, Erin Schlesing, Elyse Schlesing, Janet Stock and Elliot Stock. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday at Wesley Commons, Asbury Hall, with the Rev. Carol Peppers-Wray officiating. It is respectfully requested that flowers be omitted and memorials be made to the American Cancer Society, PO Box 1741, Greenwood, SC 29648 or to the American Diabetes Association, Greenville-Spartanburg NC-SC Office, 16-A Brozzini Court, Greenville, SC 29615. Harley Funeral Home and Crematory, Greenwood, SC, is in charge of arrangements. Messages may be sent to the family by visiting www.harleyfuneralhome.com



TOM E. SCROGGS, JR.
"The Troll"

Age 51, April 4, 2010, of Livonia. Beloved husband of Victoria. Loving father of Joseph and Anthony. Dear son of Wilma. Brother of Virginia (Tom) Chambers, Cheryl (Paul) Wyndendorf, Tammie, Robin (Jim) Roberts, and Fred. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Visitation was held Thursday at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Please sign Tom's online guestbook at www.rggharris.com.

LAWRENCE AVON SETTER

Age 98, passed away Thursday, April 1, 2010 in the comfort and presence of his family. Larry was born and grew up in Sanilac County, Michigan; later moving to Detroit to work as a welder and raise his family. The son of Alonzo and Annie Setter, he married the late Alberta Hephfinger on September 3, 1935. He is survived by his loving daughters Marie (Bill), LaVonne (Doug), and Cindy (Mark), his brother Charles Setter of Brown City, nine grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. Larry enjoyed life, travel and the company of his friends and loved ones. His life included a long history with the Lola Valley Masonic Lodge 583 as a Lifetime Member and Master Mason where he served as Worshipful Master in 1970. He was also named Lola Valley Lodge Mason of the Year. Larry was also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. Later in life, Larry married the late Lillian Lannom. He also was a long time companion to the late Bessie Barber. Visitation was held at Fisher Funeral Home (24501 5 Mile, Redford Twp). The family has requested that all donations be directed to the Lola Valley Lodge 583 F.&A.M. or the charity of your choice.

JOAN B. WEIGLE

Age 78, Bradenton, formerly of Redford Twp., passed away April 7, 2010. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Survivors include four sons & one daughter; four sisters & nine grandchildren.

MARY ESTHER WILLIAMS Nee VanGunt

Suddenly. Devoted wife of the late Harry. Loving Mother of Mary (late Wendell) Clark, Dale and Robin (William) Ward. "Bestest" Grandma to Lauren (Chris), Justin and Kathryn. Great Grandma to Caleb. Sister of John E. VanGunt, Jr. Preceded in death by brothers Paul VanGunt and Walter VanGunt and Sister Nancy Vogelsohn. Survived by many nieces and nephews. Visitation Sun. 2-8pm at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 6 Mile, Livonia, Funeral Service Mon. 11am at St. Paul's Lutheran Church 20805 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills. www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com



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Sunday, May 9th...in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
Thursday, May 6th...in the Hometown Weekly Newspapers

Deadline for both issues: Friday, April 30th

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Parkinson's support important for survival

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
CORRESPONDENT

Ruth Ann Butler wants patients with Parkinson's disease to know they're not alone. Even though she is slowing down at 85, Butler continues to facilitate the Livonia (Western Wayne) Support Group with the hope of helping patients and their families.

The monthly meetings provide the latest information about the progressive neurodegenerative disorder that causes tremors, rigidity and stiffness, slowness of movement, and difficulty with balance.

A retired R.N., Butler brings in neurologists, pharmacists and various speakers to talk not only about the disorder and side effects of medication, but benefits of exercise and movement.

Butler continues to learn as well. Information was unavailable when her husband Pierce was diagnosed with Parkinson's at age 36. Dopamine-producing cells in the brain allow the muscles to move smoothly. In Parkinson's patients, 80 percent or more of these cells are damaged, dead or degenerated.

"The tremors weren't evident to me and he had gone to the doctor without me knowing," said Butler of Westland. "We had four children and were expecting the fifth child when he noticed stiffness in his writing and it became very small."

"As years passed he had problems with shuffling, balance ... later on, problems speaking and throwing out his voice. Parkinson's affects the speech and patients have hallucinations often brought on by the drugs. Eventually he could not speak or swallow, had to have a stomach tube put in. He was bed-ridden 18 months before dying in 2001 at age 77."

As his caregiver, Butler struggled as well until the founding of the Michigan Parkinson Foundation in 1983 and the Livonia support group 26 years ago. Today, she serves on the Professional Advisory Board of MPF.

"They did not know as much about Parkinson's then. He lost his job. He was a proud man and supported his family. He couldn't work, so I went back to work," Butler said. "It was humiliating for him and yet he never complained. Back then you were overworking and misdiagnosed. We've come a long way. We didn't talk about it. Many people think it's an old person's disease. It's not. I've seen a boy 12 years old with Parkinson. It can hit anybody."

UNIFIED

Today, a total of 55 support groups in Michigan offer valuable information in addition to social interaction. Frustration is prevalent among Parkinson's patients, their caregivers and families. The groups allow



Runners show their support for the Michigan Parkinson Foundation during its annual walk/run fundraiser last year.



Ruth Butler of Westland facilitates a support group for individuals with Parkinson's disease.

individuals in similar situations to share their thoughts.

"The support group provides unity for those having the same disease. We want them to understand there are others out there," Butler said.

"We have a picnic, Christmas party, because that's also therapy. We have singing, someone playing an instrument, dancing afterward at the meetings. On St. Patrick's Day, we get the Irish dancers to come and show Parkinsonians how they can move a little bit. One gentleman with Parkinson always brought his harmonica. He said, he played it in the evening and his breathing was much better and he could sleep at night."

It's Deborah Orloff's job as CEO of the Michigan Parkinson Foundation to let patients and their families know about the latest information. According to Orloff, MPF estimates that 30,000 Michigan residents have Parkinson's. The average age at diagnosis is 58, with 2 percent of the population over 60, 10 percent under 40. As yet, there is no diagnostic test and treatments vary among individuals.

GETTING THE WORD OUT

"We're getting so many more calls from the newly diagnosed. People are hearing more that there are resources available for them. There's more publicity for Parkinson," Orloff said from her Southfield MPF office. "I'm excited about the walk-a-thons, a new Living with Parkinson's series at St.

John's Hospital, and new support groups in West Bloomfield, Hillsdale, Monroe and Dearborn. The important thing is getting the word out. We want people to know we're here for Parkinson's patients and their families."

Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm signed a proclamation making April Awareness Month for Parkinson. U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow of Michigan took it to the national level to spread the word in time for the annual fund-raisers for MPF.

This year the nonprofit is providing demonstrations of BIG Therapy at the I Gave My Sole for Parkinson's Walk-a-thon and 5K Run, May 22 in St. Clair Shores and May 23 in Northville. BIG retrains the brains of Parkinson's patients.

"We'll have DMC rehab and physical therapists from St. John to demonstrate a new therapy to get people to move better, walk better and speak louder," Orloff said. "They'll be showing how to make movements big to counter the tremor and slowness of movement."

Last year, MPF raised more than \$75,000 and had 1,200 walkers at the two sites. The money goes to programs for referral and information, and educational programs for patients and their families.

"People bring their dogs and dress them up in the T-shirts," Orloff said. "What's exciting to me is that people that don't generally move around were walking. Exercise is very important. It might be a protective. That's why the walks are important, too, for people to get out and walk. If anyone wants to volunteer, we have openings."

To volunteer or for information about Parkinson's or the walk, call (248) 433-1011, visit www.parkinsonsmi.org or the Facebook page for the Michigan Parkinson Foundation.

The Livonia area Parkinson's Support Group meets at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month at the Senior Citizens Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia. For information, call Ruth Ann Butler at (734) 421-4208.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Memory lecture

CareLink of St. John Providence Health System presents "Memory concerns: Is it Normal Aging or Alzheimer's, 10:30-11:30 a.m., April 13, at Providence Park Hospital, 47601 Grand River Ave., Novi. Learn about diagnosis and treatment for memory issues. There will be an optional tour of the neurology unit following the lecture. The scheduled presenter is Norman Burns, M.D., neurologist on staff at Providence and Providence Park Hospitals. To reserve a seat, contact St. John SeniorLink at (888)

751-5465

Mature driver workshop

The workshop, scheduled for April 21-23, at the Beaumont Health Center, 4949 Coolidge Highway, north of 14 Mile in Royal Oak, will assess and improve driving strategies for older adults. The goal is to help them continue to drive for as long and as safely as possible. The workshop runs 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. each day. \$35 per person. To register, call Beaumont's Physician Referral Service toll-free at (800) 633-7377.

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6 Ways to Get the Job When You're Not the 'Ideal' Candidate

It may seem like a waste of time to apply for a position that, at least on paper, doesn't exactly match your skills and experience. After all, many job seekers can't even get a hiring manager's attention when they *do* appear to be a perfect fit.

But if you believe you're capable of performing a job well despite the fact that your background doesn't completely align with the requirements of the position, there might still be hope. You need to consider yourself from a hiring manager's perspective and build a case that shows why you're the best person for the position. Following are some tips:

1. Don't waste their time

First, make sure your background meets at least the most basic criteria for the position. If the job requires expertise in three specific software programs, for instance, and you are familiar with only one, don't apply. But if candidates should possess seven years of experience, and you have five, an employer might consider your application. Keep in mind, however, that some firms simply will not interview you if you don't meet every requirement, no matter how close your qualifications are. After all, companies still can afford to be picky.

2. Find an inside connection

One of the best ways to get your foot in the door when you're a near fit for a job is by getting a referral from someone who can speak to the hiring manager on your behalf. Ask those in your network if they -- or

someone they know -- can provide an entrée into the firm. Social networking <<http://www.careerbuilder.com/jobs/keyword/social+networking/>> Web

Robert Half International



sites such as LinkedIn and Facebook can be especially helpful in uncovering individuals who may have an "in" at your target firm, but be judicious when requesting assistance. You should have established trust and credibility with anyone you ask to go to bat for you.

If you can, try to leverage your contacts to arrange a meeting with the hiring manager. Sometimes, all it takes to get a chance at the job is a face-to-face meeting where you can make your case directly. This allows you to establish a rapport with the employer and demonstrates your enthusiasm for the position.

3. Address concerns upfront

Instead of hiding any shortcomings you possess, acknowledge them. For example, if you're overqualified for a position, use your cover letter or

the interview to explain why the job nonetheless appeals to you. Perhaps after managing <<http://www.careerbuilder.com/jobs/keyword/management/>> a large team of employees for years, you've decided you'd prefer to do more hands-on work as an individual contributor and not oversee others. Or if you're a bit underqualified, you might note how strength in one area (such as a well-regarded certification you recently earned) could make up for weaknesses in another (your lack of necessary experience, for instance).

4. Highlight return on investment

Hiring managers seek employees who have a track record of saving previous employers time or money. Promote the bottom-line benefits you can offer by highlighting accomplishments in your résumé or cover letter. You could note, for example, how you spearheaded the implementation of a new billing <<http://www.careerbuilder.com/jobs/keyword/billing/>> system that saved people time when uploading data <<http://www.careerbuilder.com/jobs/keyword/data/>>, freeing up staff to focus on other critical tasks.

5. Offer a trial run

With some companies only beginning to cautiously add new staff, hiring managers are less likely to take a risk on someone who doesn't exactly match the job criteria. As a result, you might have to sweeten the deal to persuade an employer to take a chance on you. You might offer to start the job on a

project <<http://www.careerbuilder.com/jobs/keyword/project/>> or temporary basis, for instance, with the agreement that you will be brought on full time <<http://www.careerbuilder.com/jobs/keyword/full+time/>> if certain performance objectives are met.

6. Be truthful

Above all, keep in mind that you should never stretch the truth in an attempt to improve the odds of getting a job. Your lie could easily be uncovered, and you could damage your professional reputation, seriously harming your prospects of finding a job not only with your target firm but also other companies.

Many organizations are willing to take smart risks on seemingly promising employees, but it's up to you to show them why taking a small leap of faith would be a wise move. By addressing any potential concerns upfront and building a compelling case for yourself, you'll improve your chances of convincing them that an "imperfect" candidate like you is the right choice.

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A Human Service Agency serving homeless & at-risk youth in Detroit has the following positions:

SUPERINTENDENT'S & SCHOOL BOARDS' SECRETARY

FT responsible for providing required support services to the Superintendent of Covenant House Academies and the three School Boards. Performs a full range of executive secretarial and related duties using considerable independent judgment in making decisions. HS diploma, 3+ yrs exec sec exp & MS Office proficiency required. \$35-40K + excellent benefits.

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER-DIRECT MAIL/DATABASE

FT responsible for planning, developing, implementing & evaluating the direct mail solicitation program to strengthen & support the fund-raising goals & objectives of CHM. Re-sponsible for maintaining Raiser's Edge database of donors & potential donors. Bachelor's degree, 2+ yrs exp & MS Office proficiency req'd. Raiser's Edge exp desired. \$28-38K + exc benefits.

Please send resume to:
Attn: HR, CHM
2959 Martin Luther King
Detroit, MI 48208
Fax: 313-463-2222
Email: dherndon@covenanthouse.org
No phone calls please.
EOE

Help Wanted-General 5000

CUSTOMER SERVICE CAFE MANAGER

Busy Wayne County Gourmet Market needs Creative, Enthusiastic person to manage small staff in cafe area.

- 2-3 yrs mgmt/customer service exp
- Barista/Coffee knowledge preferred
- Must be able to multi-task w/dedication to exceptional guest service
- Excellent decision-making and leadership skills
- Ability to buy and sell cost effectively
- Exp. with inventory control
- Commitment to sanitation standards and food safety
- Marketing and display experience a plus.

Please submit resume to:
recruit26@att.net

DELIVERY DRIVER

Full-Time.
\$12.50/hr. with monthly incentive bonus. Overtime, April thru Sept. Medical, Dental, Life Insurance, Paid Vacation, 401K. Person Must have Class A license with Hazmat. Must be physically fit. Email: jackson@bluerhino.com Fax: 269-423-6737

DIRECT CARE STAFF

\$8.20 wages & benefits. Must be trained/valid license. (313) 255-6295

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PT positions available. Positive attitudes a must. Must have clean driving record. Starting \$7.61/hr. (734) 394-5620

DIRECT CARE-- Make a difference!

Support people with disabilities living their life the way they want to! Assist with personal care, meals, taking care of their homes, getting places etc. Many locations, many shifts! If you are at least 18 years old, have a valid Michigan's Driver's License & are CLS, Inc. trained, call our Job Line 734-728-4201, or

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Help Wanted-General 5000

DONATION CENTER ASSOCIATE/DRIVER

Drive route vehicle, collect donations, unloading trucks, trailers and carts, lift and carry objects, weight loads, stack, store product, complete reports. Must pass Drug Test, MVR and Criminal Background Check. Send resume to: cszuma@noh.easterseals.com or fax to: 419-841-1534

Driver: Fleet owner leased to Landstar needs Drivers!! 1yr. OTR/FLATBED EXP. Hazmat Endorsement Req. Call: 586-491-3377

FLOOR CARE TECHNICIAN

Professional individual to maintain marble and tile floors and stairways throughout historic clubhouse. Absolutely must have prior experience with marble floor care. Must be dependable, detail-oriented, Full-Time, 3rd shift, benefits, parking, meals. Apply: Detroit Athletic Club 241 Madison, Security Office, Mon-Fri. 9-5PM. FAX: 313-963-5995 Email: humanresources@thedac.com

GENERAL LABORERS

\$8-\$10.00/hr, 60+ hrs/wk. Electronic Restoration Services, a Livonia company, seeking general laborers for disaster recovery work in the northeast (Warwick, RI). Ability to clean item to a pre-loss condition. Some on the job training for cleaning provided. Requirements: This job requires less than high school education and 1 year of experience. You must be able to travel for up to 4 weeks. Must be able to pass a background check & drug test. Must be a US Citizen. Travel room & board covered by the co. Call 734-552-5917 Fax resume: 734-464-4070

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

Seasonal help for general & exterior bldg maintenance in Plymouth. General handyman skills required. \$10/hr. approx 20 hours per week. Call: (734) 459-5440 for application.

Help Wanted-General 5000

HAIR STYLISTS/BARBER

Upscale but casual salon. High commission. Private stations. 248-477-0909

HOME HEALTH AIDE

Help the elderly at home. PT, flexible hrs. No exp. Abundant Living Senior Care: 810-299-2279

HOUSEHOLD ASSISTANT

Needed in Northville. Responsibilities include household/ small business duties and administration of homework for 10 & 11 yr olds. Organized, dependability, home schooling helpful. Call: (248) 449-6263

LAB TECHNICIAN/ FLAVOR CHEMIST

Specializing in juices & syrup concentrates. Must be familiar with juice HACCP program. For small co. in Westland co. Fax resume to 734-467-7382 Email: penguinjuice@sbcglobal.net

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Help Wanted-General 5000

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Eberspaecher North America, Inc. seeks a for a position in Novi, MI. Successful candidates must have a MS in Mech Eng or Manufacturing Eng & 2 yrs experience in the job offered. E-mail or send resumes to Chantal Boulet at: hr-ena@eberspaecher.com or Eberspaecher North America, Inc., 29101 Haggerty Road, Novi, MI 48377.

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Accounting and hotel background preferred. Direct applications to: 8800 Wickham Rd. Romulus, MI 48174 Fax: (734) 728-5580

Help Wanted-General 5000

LEGAL SECRETARY

Farmington Hills law firm is searching for an experienced insurance defense legal secretary. 30-35 hours per week. Qualified candidates should have a minimum of 5 yrs. litigation experience and detailed knowledge of court rules and procedures. Strong organizational abilities and good communication skills are also required. Please fax resume and salary requirements to: (248) 851-4243

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

OFFICE HELP

Must have 2-4 yrs exp in Heating & Cooling office environment. Growing co. Please call btwn 10-2pm 313-543-2300.

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

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CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Forever, in verse
- 4 Japanese wine
- 8 Flower holder
- 12 Turkish potentate
- 13 Noted lab assistant
- 14 Cosmetics brand
- 15 In a whirl
- 17 In a while
- 18 Cinnamon goody
- 19 Ms. Verdugo
- 20 Beat decisively
- 23 Clumsy
- 26 Tad
- 27 Mark of Zorro
- 28 Big bankroll
- 31 "The Bells" poet
- 32 Took steps
- 34 Bravo, in Spain
- 35 Ave. crossers
- 36 Owed right now
- 37 Cable car

DOWN

- 38 Explorer — Polo
- 40 Vegas rival
- 41 Flash
- 44 Glasgow turnaround
- 46 Chieftain
- 47 Many layers
- 52 Three oceans touch it
- 53 "Peter and the Wolf" duck
- 54 Scurry
- 55 Judge
- 56 Fish habitat
- 57 Hot spring
- 1 Sense organ
- 2 Conceit
- 3 Tell on
- 4 In — (as found)
- 5 Curing cheese
- 6 "— Tiki"
- 7 Work unit
- 8 Like some lizards
- 9 Musical note

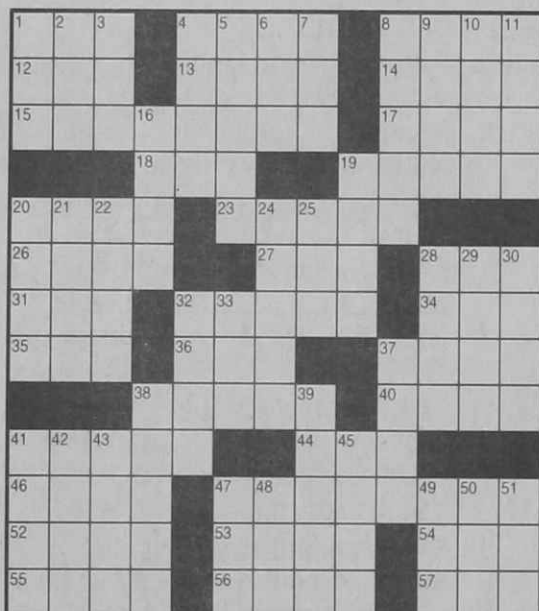
Answer to Previous Puzzle

GAP POSE MOLE
ITS ARUN AKIN
BOY CANVASSED
EPCOT TODO
HT PAY NERD
DYE MAN ARGUE
AI CUM ANY BK
UPPED CNN FEE
BEAR BRA PI
AYLA ERASE
SLAMDUNKS SKY
HOPI SKIS CEE
EXEC HYDE OWS

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- 10 Thames school
- 11 Chatty pet
- 16 "Fernando" band
- 19 Used sparingly

- 20 Short swims
- 21 Tree anchor
- 22 Rocky Mountain people
- 24 Cortes foe
- 25 Barely visible
- 28 Became frayed
- 29 Ladd of films
- 30 Deejay's disk
- 32 Rodin sculpture
- 33 Mongrel
- 37 Long hike
- 38 Lady's title
- 39 Pizza topping
- 41 Delighted
- 42 Come in second
- 43 Old barge canal
- 45 Sailed through
- 47 Ticket giver
- 48 Showtime rival
- 49 Codgers' queries
- 50 Bite
- 51 Bounding main



SUDOKU

4	9	7	5			6		
				8	9			
8	5			6				4
7				4	5	3		
5		9		3		8	6	
	3	6		1				
3	7					4		8
	2				8	3	7	
6			7	9				

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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PATTERNPINCUSHION
PINS
RIPPER
SCISSORSSHEARS
THIMBLE
THREAD
THREADER

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

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A T R I P P E R C N
T H R E A D E R I M
T I S H E A R S S M
E M P U I E O K S A
R B F A B R I C O C
N L Z F G H H J R H
A E S Q U T R E S I
P I N C U S H I O N
X C D A N E E D L E

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

5	2	1	8	6	7	4	8	9
9	7	8	4	1	5	2	6	
8	6	4	2	5	9	1	7	3
6	7	4	2	1	8	9	5	3
1	9	8	7	5	2	6	4	3
2	8	9	4	9	6	8	1	7
7	1	6	9	7	5	2	9	8
7	5	2	6	8	7	9	1	
8	9	1	2	5	7	6	7	

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

E	T	D	E	E	V	A	D	C	X
N	O	I	H	S	C	N	I	P	
I	S	E	R	I	N	O	S	E	V
H	R	I	H	H	O	S	Z	T	N
C	O	C	I	R	B	V	E	R	
V	S	R	O	E	I	N	M	E	
W	S	R	E	V	E	H	S	I	L
W	I	R	E	D	V	E	R	H	J
N	C	R	E	D	I	R	T	A	V
S	A	C	S	V	S	N	I	P	

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Help Wanted-Office

Clerical 5020

Secretary/Receptionist
30 hrs/wk.
Mental Health Clinic in Bloomfield Hills. Need excellent phone etiquette, bookkeeping and computer skills. \$11.50/hr. Email resume and letter of intent to: adenamoy@aol.com

Help Wanted-Dental

5040

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Full/part time for north Westland office. CDA, RDA, or experienced only.
Call 734-425-9130
Or fax resume: 734-425-7675

Help Wanted-Medical

5060

CHIROPRACTIC ASSISTANT
Duties include clerical work, some billing, taking patients to rooms and learning x-rays. Requires good communication skills, friendly & outgoing personality. Must be mature & responsible & have computer skills. 20 hrs/wk.
Mon-Wed-Fri. 8:45-12:30pm. Tue. & Sat. 8:45am-1:30pm. 27527 Joy Rd. Westland. 734-522-5501

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Help Wanted-Medical

5060

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FAX: 248-932-0182

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5080

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Help Wanted-Food/Beverage

5080

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5120

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Apartment/Unfurnished **4000**

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Apartment/Furnished **4010**

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Condos/Townhouses **4020**

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Duplexes **4030**

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WESTLAND/CANTON: Remodeled, all new carpet & appli. 2 bdrm lower with c/a. \$675. 1 bdrm avail. 734-341-6203

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3 Bed/2 Bath Home for Sale from ONLY:

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Very clean, 2 bdrm, 1 bath, w/garage. Backs to park. \$725. Call Todd 248-535-2300

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MELVINDALE - Remodeled 2 bdrm ranch, \$8000 avail from Obama, immed occ, option/LC avail. \$550. 248-788-1823

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WESTLAND - Cherry Hill/ Wayne Rd. 3 bdrm, garage, private st, newly remodeled. \$950/mo. **ALSO LIVONIA - 1 bdrm, fully furnished lower unit, all util incl, \$800/mo. Call: (313) 729-3400**

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WESTLAND: 2 bdrm, fresh paint, new carpet, appliances, C/A. Avail. Immed. \$600/mo. (586) 978-9172

WESTLAND: 3 bdrm, Ranch, 1.5 bath, bsmt, very clean, c/a, no pets. Exc. area, Ford Rd area. \$900. 734-591-9163

WESTLAND: Just remodeled ranch style duplex, 2 bdrm, full bsmt, all appli. \$350 every 2 wks. (734) 335-7365

Homes For Rent **4050**

Westland: Newly decorated 2 bdrm ranch, \$650 & 3 bdrm ranch w/garage, \$725. Both fenced yard. 313-418-9905

Mobile Home Rentals **4070**

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FARMINGTON HILLS: Park Motel. Furnished rooms, efficiency & apts from \$150/week. No deposit. (248) 474-1324

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Announcements

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Announcements & Notices 6200

Livonia Franklin Alumni Class of 1999 A reunion committee is seeking your contact information for a possible upcoming reunion. Please email your preferred method of being contacted to FHS1999Reunion@yahoo.com 810-632-6229

Over 10,000 listings online

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REAL ESTATE

Announcements & Notices 6200

Paid Focus Group-April 15th America's #1 provider of retirement distribution strategies and is looking for qualified participants for a focus group study. Must be 50+ years old and have an IRA or 401(k). Catered Lunch and parking provided. All participants will receive a \$75 gift certificate. Focus group is limited to 10 people. Call Brian Lane for more details. 866-225-1786

Pictures Can Make A Difference!

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OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS

Legal & Accepting Bids 6220

File No. 10-62 NC PUBLICATION AND NOTICE OF HEARING CHANGE OF NAME

STATE OF MICHIGAN - Judicial Circuit - Family Division, County of Wayne. In the matter of the Change of Name of: LUKE ROBERT URCHUCK to LUKE ROBERT NOYES, a minor, whose natural or adopted parents as Heather Janosky and Shannon Noyes.

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Your interest in this matter may be barred or affected by this upcoming hearing. **TAKE NOTICE:** On April 27th, 2010 a hearing will be held ON THE PETITION OF LUKE ROBERT URCHUCK FOR A NAME CHANGE TO LUKE ROBERT NOYES, at Washtenaw County Court, Judge O'Brien. Dated: April 11, 2010 SHANNON NOYES 35082 NANCY WESTLAND MI 48185

Artificial Tree- 7 ft. high, good shape. FLOOR LAMP - Marble base, 6ft. high brass, 5 lights, good shape. Call: (734) 495-3049

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355)

Cards Of Thanks 6300

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved & preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude Worker of Miracles pray for us. J.A.

7000-7780 Merchandise

Absolutely Free 7000

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SNOWBLOWER - ARIENS ST 350 Self propelled. Old but serviceable. (734) 422-5496

Antiques/Collectibles 7020

2010 Ann Arbor Antiques Market

April 17th & 18th

Market Hours Saturday 9am-4pm Sunday 9am-4pm \$6 Admission - Good for 2 Days

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355)

Auction Sales 7060

AUCTION - April 18, 2010 Previewing 9am. Bidding at 11am at: Morse Moving & Storage 27651 Hildebrand Rd.; Ste 100, Romulus, MI 48174 (734) 484-1717 Abandoned / unpaid household for Sharma, Schaffer, Lucas, GVC Winstar, Newble, Scales, Hogan, Pawl, Leonard, Bell, Wilson, Autry, Hatheway, Harbert and Lindsey

Huge Auction Contents of the OLD NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY 45245 W Ten Mile Novi, MI 48375 Wed April 14th open 4:00 pm auction 6:00pm for list of items email snewton@midwestautoauction.com NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

PUBLIC AUCTION Undercover Self Storage 13995 N. Haggerty Rd. Plymouth, 734-354-9855 April 16, 2010, 9:10am.

CASH ONLY. Units to be auctioned: A14, C01, E05, F01, G67, G10

Total Resource Auctions Detroit Public Auction: Sat April 17th. Doors Open 8:30 A.M. *Household Auction @ 10A.M. Featuring Appli. Bdrm Sets, Power Tools, TVs, Cabinets, Furn, Dixie Chopper Mower, kids toys & much more!! **Auto Auction @ 12P.M. Featuring up to 75 cars. We also would like to announce that the Van Buren Township Police Dept. will have a Police Auction at our facility for abandoned/unclaimed vehicles. Preview Sale items 48hrs before sale @ www.protectionauction.com 13300 Haggerty, Belleville, MI 48111 (800-497-7900)

Garage Sales 7110

LIVONIA- April 15, 16 & 17. 9-3pm. No children's items. Men's x-lg clothing & entire home contents. 33970 Roycroft, N. of 5 Mile, W of Farmington Rd

Garage Sales 7110

CANTON - Giant Garage Sale! April 15-17, 9-4pm. Tools, auto, shop, lawn, health kit & locksmith supplies; kitchen & household items; trumpet, violin, collectibles & much more. 45755 Gainsborough, W of Canton Center, N of Warren.

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355)

Rummage Sale/ Flea Market 7080

BIRMINGHAM BERKSHIRE MIDDLE SCHOOL RUMMAGE SALE 14 Mile between Lahser/Evergreen. Saturday, April 17, 9-3pm. Early Entry 8-9am, \$1. Half Price Noon. Bag Sale 1:30

BLOOMFIELD HILLS Rummage Sale - Cong Church of B'ham, 1000 Cranbrook Road, (Woodward/Cranbrook). Wednesday, 4/14, 5-8 pm (early admission 4 pm for \$3). Thursday, 4/15, 11-4 pm 1/2 price sale, 4-7 pm Bag Sale. No Strollers!

FARMINGTON HILLS Finnish Cultural Center Fri. Apr 16 & Sat. Apr 17th, from 10-4pm. 35200 W. 8 Mile, Just E. of Hockey Arena

St. Thomas a' Becket Church MOM 2 MOM SALE 555. S. Lilley Rd. Canton 734-981-1333 Sale is Sat. April 17, 9am -12 noon Admission is \$1 Strollers welcome after 10am Over 80 tables, Lg item room

7100 Estate Sales 7100

LIVONIA- April 15, 16 & 17. 9-3pm. No children's items. Men's x-lg clothing & entire home contents. 33970 Roycroft, N. of 5 Mile, W of Farmington Rd

Garage Sales 7110

CANTON - Giant Garage Sale! April 15-17, 9-4pm. Tools, auto, shop, lawn, health kit & locksmith supplies; kitchen & household items; trumpet, violin, collectibles & much more. 45755 Gainsborough, W of Canton Center, N of Warren.

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355)

Garage Sales 7110

FARMINGTON HILLS- Multi-Family Sale! April 15-17th, 9-5pm. 10 Mile & Middlebelt area. Furniture, organ, household items, clothes, toys, etc.

LIVONIA MOVING SALE Sun 10-5, 36301 Hees. Btwn. Wayne/Newburgh and Joy/Ann Arbor.

PLYMOUTH - Multi family sale. Furniture, accessories, video games & clothes. Thurs-Sat, 9-5pm. 199 Hamilton St., 2 blks E of Kellogg Park.

PLYMOUTH YARD SALE TONS of GYMBOREE, baby stuff, nursery set, and misc. April 16 & 17, 9am-4pm. 40355 Gilbert, Ann Arbor Trail & Haggerty.

PLYMOUTH'S OLD VILLAGE ANNUAL YARD SALES Sat. April 17, 8am-3pm. Over 20 homes & shops. TRUNK SALE - Station 885, \$15 for 2 spaces. www.oldvillageplymouth.com or 734-455-4169 for info.

Moving Sales 7130

BLOOMFIELD- Moving/Estate Sale. Art, vintage jewelry, many new household. 9-5, Fri-Sun. April 16, 17 & 18. 4340 Stony River Dr. 14 & Telegraph. 734-678-8681

Household Goods 7160

APPLIANCES - Gas dryer, gas stove/oven, refrigerator. All good cond. Call: 734-578-7981

DINING TABLE - FORMAL Cherry wood, 8 chairs, china hutch, server, 2 leaves. Exc. cond. \$1100/best offer. (248) 486-4153

Household Goods 7160

FURNITURE Recliner, like new \$85; couch & matching chair, good condition \$95; walnut dining table + 4 chairs \$95; reclining couch weath tone colors \$45; lamps & end tables, reasonable; sofa bed, brand new, never used \$95. Livonia area. 734-367-0556

MATTRESS New queen pillow-top mattress. Can Deliver. \$200. (734) 444-7277

Hospital/Medical Equipment 7460

MOTORIZED WHEELCHAIR- 2 new batteries, battery charger for chair. Exc. cond. \$475. 248-437-2442

Miscellaneous For Sale 7500

WHEELCHAIR - ELECTRIC \$300. Alice: (248) 437-3531

Musical Instruments 7510

CASH FOR GUITARS/ MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS Any Condition. Will Pick Up. 313-424-9212

Wanted to Buy 7540

CASH PAID For costume jewelry, vintage to antique. Marcy. Cell: 248-880-5700

CEMETERY LOTS 4 Plots, Farmington Oakwood Cemetery Call 248-478-1336.

Dogs 7840

AKC PEMBROOK WELSH CORGI PUPS. Champion blood lines & great family pets. 517-468-3298 313-550-4429 corgibreeder.com

HAVANESE PUPS Hypo-allergenic. Beautiful quality. Home Raised. 313-999-6447

MASTIFF PUPS-NEAPOLITAN 11 wks old. Dewormed, shots. Females. Blue, Vet Checked. \$850. Call: (734) 671-5324

ROTTWEILER PUPPY 6 weeks old. AKC, shots, beautiful & big. Good blood-line. \$650. 734-772-4768

Lost - Pets 7930

LOST CAT, 3/22 Champagne/Orange, answers to Hari. Vicinity of State Sts. Livonia. Reward. (734) 516-7877

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Answer an ad:

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2. Call 1-900-950-3785

It's only \$2.39/minute. Must be 18+,

or: Call 1-800-510-4786, and use a major credit or debit card

Place your own ad:

1. Call 1-800-506-5115

2. Answer some simple questions to create your ad

3. Record a voicemail greeting

WOMEN SEEKING MEN

SEARCHING FOR A MAN... 40-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. I'm a 47-year-old who's bright, spunky and pretty. Only Jewish men please. ☎362317

PLUS-SIZED LADY... 34, 200lbs, sexy single mom, looking for SM, 37+, for friendship and dating leading to LTR. Is this you? Call me! ☎217234

LOOKING FOR NICE GUY Hi! I'm a widowed, white female, 58 years old, dark blonde hair, blue eyes. I wear glasses. I have no kids but have three cats. I enjoy reading, music, old movies, going up north, museums, historical places. I have a good sense of humor and loves to laugh. I am also a very caring and considerate person. ☎137067

SOPHISTICATED LADY SBF, middle-aged, attractive, laid-back yet serious-minded and responsible, enjoys dining, movies, plays and bowling, seeks a SM, 48-69, N/S, responsible, good sense of humor, with good values and morals, for serious relationship. ☎207254

ARE YOU A MATCH? SBF, 36, 5'8", 150lbs, looking for a SBM, 35-45, who likes movies, dining, concerts, walks in the park, hanging out. ☎324444

LADY OF QUALITY SBF, 30-something, 5'7", laid-back, down-to-earth, seeks open, honest, loyal, faithful professional man, 35-55, for LTR. No games, race open. ☎310218

ME: Black, short, young, extremely sexy, very sensitive, slightly dominant ways, lives alone. You: not white, under 50, tall, 200-300lbs, stable, gentle, compassionate, handsome, very affectionate. Us: NS, ND, N/Children, monogamist, serious, poetry, cooking, jazz, home-body, very laid back wants marriage, no pets. Leave name and number only. ☎328635

SASSY SILLY AND SENSITIVE 57-year-old nurse, 5'5", medium build, red hair, Christian, very amusing, loves outdoors and animals, ISO honest, loyal gentleman, who loves to laugh and have fun. ☎328133

CURVACEOUS SBF, 47, 5'7", 155lbs, hazel eyes, dimples, enjoys r&b music, jazz, dancing, dining out, blues, sports. Seeking SBM, 21-42, with similar interests, for friendship first, possibly more. ☎283605

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ARE YOU A MATCH? SBF, 36, 5'8", 150lbs, looking for a SBM, 35-45, who likes movies, dining, concerts, walks in the park, hanging out. ☎324444

LADY OF QUALITY SBF, 30-something, 5'7", laid-back, down-to-earth, seeks open, honest, loyal, faithful professional man, 35-55, for LTR. No games, race open. ☎310218

ME: Black, short, young, extremely sexy, very sensitive, slightly dominant ways, lives alone. You: not white, under 50, tall, 200-300lbs, stable, gentle, compassionate, handsome, very affectionate. Us: NS, ND, N/Children, monogamist, serious, poetry, cooking, jazz, home-body, very laid back wants marriage, no pets. Leave name and number only. ☎328635

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TAKE A CHANCE ON ME SWPF, 48, educated, H/W proportionate, seeks educated, professional male, 40-55, N/S, with sense of humor. Let's meet for coffee or a drink. ☎311355

SEEKING MR. RIGHT SBF, 37, 5'5", nurse, mother of three, Christian values, N/S, social drinker, seeks SM, 32-50, race open, with similar values. ☎310924

SINGLE DAD WELCOME PBF, 40, looks younger, attractive, independent, loving, caring, enjoys working, dining out, quiet times at home. Seeking handsome, well-built, warm-hearted, considerate WM, 36-43, to share what life has to offer. ☎298002

SEEKING A REAL MAN Retired SBF, 48, likes the internet, watching tv, shopping, visiting friends, picnics, taking walks, parks, dining, hanging out with friends. Looking for a SB/WM, 29-58. ☎314707

ARE YOU OUT THERE? SBF, 36, 5'4", 160lbs, brown/brown, drama-free, disease-free, looking for SWBM, 35-60, to talk to. I like movies, music, hanging out, travel, having fun. ☎317137

HONEST AND CARING Sensitive SWF, 41, 5'5", likes Ben Joni and Van Halen, spaghetti dinners, gardening, hockey and baseball, old movies, arts and crafts, picnics, reading. Looking for a gentleman, 45-57, race open, for friendship. ☎318717

TOTAL LOSER! I have no looks, no interests, no talent, no IQ, no friends, no job, and haven't dated since 1982! OK, stop laughing and here is the truth. I am a SJ/PF, 47, 5'8", blonde, shapely, bright (advanced degree), fun, caring, passionate, and one of the nicest people you will ever meet. Among other things, I love great conversation, a great sense of humor, and great kissing. Seeking compatible male, late 40s - mid 60s, for permanent best friend and lover. I'm temporarily living in Milwaukee but may move to Michigan soon. ☎324039

COULD YOU BE THE ONE? Bright, spunky, pretty SF, 47, educator, outgoing, pretty eyes, wishing to meet a kind Jewish man, 45-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. ☎330694

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Terrain SLT-2 Gets GMC In The Crossover Game

AdvertisingFeature

CAReport



By Dave Menard
For Avanti NewsFeatures

The crossover SUV market must be pretty darn profitable; it seems like just about every automaker has an entry in this segment. Not every company does, of course. There's no Jaguar crossover, although Porsche entered the fray with the Cayenne (base price: \$124,000). Something a little more realistically priced comes from the folks at GMC, the all-new 2010 GMC Terrain SLT-2.

You'd expect GMC, the GM division that manufactures only trucks and SUVs, to put together a pretty good SUV and there is a lot to like about the Terrain. Based on the Chevrolet Equinox platform and available as either front-wheel or all-wheel drive (like our test vehicle), the Terrain is very nicely styled. It looks tough with a large, three-element grille, projector beam headlamps and lots of chrome (the door handles, outside heated mirrors, and chrome inserts in the roof rack side rails). Fog lamps are standard, as are 18-inch machined aluminum wheels. For another \$900, you can get 19-inch chrome clad aluminum wheels instead. The rear liftgate on the SLT-2 is power programmable.

Inside, the cabin is well put together. The cockpit has an almost spaceship-like feel to it with a nice mixture of colors between the instrument panel and the ambient lighting. The ambient lighting includes the center console, center console cupholders and the door pull cups, and the center stack. The instrument cluster includes a driver information center, and a tachometer and it's laid out very well.

There is room for a laptop in the closed storage compartment under the center armrest.

The five-passenger SLT-2 comes with leather-appointed seats which can be heated and they provide very good support. A memory feature is included and the driver's seat is eight-way power adjustable. There's plenty of room in the Terrain in both the front and rear seating areas. The rear seats are 60/40 fold-down split seats and the rear cargo area gives you 31.6 cubic feet of storage.

The SLT-2 version of the Terrain gives you a whole lot of nice standard features; the power sunroof is included, as are leather-wrapped steering wheel, automatic climate control, power windows, keyless entry, remote vehicle start, cruise control, and a rearview camera system.

The standard audio system is an AM/FM/CD system with an auxiliary input for your mp3 player and a USB port. Satellite radio is also included for 90 days. This system includes eight speakers and Bluetooth for your phone. You can add a rear entertainment system and a navigation system, if you like. As with all General Motors vehicles, OnStar is standard with the Terrain. With OnStar, you can make and receive calls hands-free, get updated vehicle diagnostics, ask for directions or restaurant recommendations, or summon emergency help at the touch of a button. The system also automatically calls for assistance in the event airbags are deployed.



Lots of standard features make it worth a look.

You have your choice of powertrains in the Terrain SLT, and here's where you'll find out what matters to you in an SUV, power or economy. The standard engine is a 2.4-liter four-cylinder engine that is rated at 182 horsepower. It's the same engine that comes in the Equinox, and I thought that was a bit sluggish in a recent test. GM says you can get up to 32 mpgs in highway driving with this engine, but to do that you'll need to engage the "ECO" button, which will lower the torque converter lockup speed to 1,125 rpm to save fuel. I'm not a big believer in four-cylinder engines on SUVs, particularly if you want all-wheel drive. If you want AWD, or just want a little more power, opt for the 3.0-liter DOHC V6; it's rated at 264 horsepower. Your mileage will suffer a bit (17/24), but the extra power and towing ability might be worth it to you. The larger engine adds \$1,500 to the base price of the Terrain.

The test vehicle has the larger engine and it's mated with a six-speed electronically-controlled automatic transmission. It performed well enough most of the time, but there were a few times where there was a little lag between pushing the accelerator and powertrain response. Whether this was just the test vehicle or something that could be a problem for all of them I don't know; in the week I had the Terrain it only happened two or three times, but it was noticeable.

No complaints with the way the Terrain handles. It features a front suspension

system that includes coil springs, independent struts and stabilizer bar. In the rear, it's an independent four-link system with coil springs and trailing arm and stabilizer bar. Stabilitrak stability control with traction control is standard and the Terrain is easy to keep under control. The 19-inch wheels (and the AWD) increase the turning circle.

If you get in trouble, the Terrain comes loaded with airbags – dual frontal, side impact, and head curtain side airbags. A tire pressure monitoring system is standard.

The 2010 GMC Terrain SLT-2 starts at \$31,000. Add the larger engine, the larger wheels, and the "cargo package," that includes roof rack crossbars, a rear cargo security cover and a cargo net, and you're at little over \$34,000. The Chevrolet Equinox that the Terrain is based on comes in a little less expensive, but there are a few more standard features and the styling is somewhat different. They share the same powertrains, so if you are thinking about the Terrain, check out both.

Write to Avanti NewsFeatures auto critic Dave Menard at Avanti1054@aol.com

2010 GMC Terrain SLT-2
Vehicle class: SUV.
Power: 3.0-liter six-cylinder/automatic.
Mileage: 17 city/24 highway.
Where built: Ingersoll, Ontario, Canada.
Base price: \$31,000.
Price as tested: \$34,740.

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