

DSO signs on for Salem concert, A2

DUCT-TAPE DRESS MAKES  
PROM A STICKY SITUATION  
EDUCATION, A4

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# CANTON OBSERVER

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## CANTON CONNECTION

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### Got a question?

The Canton Observer will soon begin talking to candidates for political office including the state Senate, state House and Wayne County Commission races about the issues facing the state and the county, and we'd like to know what you'd like to know.

Anyone who has a question they'd like to have asked can email the question directly to Canton Observer Editor Brad Kadrich at [bkadrich@hometownlife.com](mailto:bkadrich@hometownlife.com) and the questions will be used during the interview process.

### Board workshop

The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education will hold a special workshop meeting 6:15 p.m. Tuesday, May 25, at the E.J. McClendon Education Center on updating its policy covering school sponsored publications and productions. The public is welcome to attend this session.

### Teen queen

Canton resident Lisa Jackson, 14, became Michigan's "Teen Queen" in her age category in the statewide Sunburst Beauty Pageant held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel May 16 in Romulus.



Pioneer Middle School student Lisa Jackson was crowned Michigan's "Teen Queen" in her age category in the statewide Sunburst Beauty Pageant held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel May 16 in Romulus.

Jack-son, a Pioneer Middle School eighth grader, was also named first runner-up in the super model search and received a nod from a talent scout for a Chicago modeling agency. Lisa now goes to Atlanta in July to compete on the national level.

Along with winning the crown, Jackson received paid entry fee for the national competition; another photo shoot with Chicago model photographer George Papadakis; a watch and three-foot trophy; plus her crown, scepter, and state Teen Queen sash.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton hotels, restaurants and shops are eagerly bracing for an economic uptick during a Memorial Day weekend soccer tournament organizers say could draw as many as 40,000 people, including 670 soccer teams from metro Detroit, the Midwest, Canada and Scotland.

## Cup tourney a boon for business

BY DARRELL CLEM  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton hotels, restaurants and shops are eagerly bracing for an economic uptick during a Memorial Day weekend soccer tournament organizers say could draw as many as 40,000 people.

In its 28th year, the ever-growing Canton Cup is set to lure 670 soccer teams from metro Detroit, the Midwest, Canada and Scotland for a three-day tournament, May 28-30, that attracts youth and teen athletes, parents, coaches, diehard fans and curious spectators.

"It's huge," tournament Director John Vaughn said, estimating the Canton Cup will draw 35,000 to 40,000 people. "It's definitely one of the largest soccer tournaments in the entire Midwest."

The economic impact, though immeasurable, is certain to have a ripple effect across the township and beyond as players and their supporters seek lodging, restaurants, movie theaters and places to shop, local officials and merchants say.

"We do expect it will have a very great impact on the local economy," Downtown Development Authority Coordinator Kathleen Salla said. "It means a lot to our hotels and, of course, our restaurants will be very busy."

Vicky Hulslander, manager of the Fairfield Inn near Haggerty and Ford Road, said all 117 rooms already have been booked for the Friday and Saturday nights of the tournament.

"Every year we sell out due to the soccer event," she said. "I love it every year. I love it when the kids come to town. It really kicks



Multiple soccer games, recreational vehicles, parents, kids and vendors will turn Canton's Independence Park into a bustling town of its own for the Canton Cup soccer tournament May 28-30.

off our summer."

Richard Costantino, owner of Rose's Restaurant near Canton Center and Cherry Hill, said local eateries such as his benefit by delivering food to soccer sites and by opening their doors to hungry patrons.

"The families do come out after a game and visit the restaurants," Costantino said. "It's like a real boost with them coming in."

Business from out-of-town customers offsets what otherwise would be a slow Memorial Day weekend when many locals either leave town or have family cook-outs, he said.

Local officials plan to help businesses and, indeed, the township cash in as much as possible by promoting Canton as a destination — long after the soccer

tournament has ended — due to its restaurants, shops, parks and other amenities, along with its geographic location between Ann Arbor and Detroit.

Dianne Cojei, Canton Chamber of Commerce president, is enlisting volunteers to work two-hour shifts at Shop Canton gazebos in Independence and Heritage parks. Materials promoting Canton will be handed out, amid hopes of steering visitors to local businesses.

"I think it's always exciting when there are new people coming in," Cojei said. "This soccer tournament brings in a lot of people, even from the surrounding area who can easily come back here."

Please see **TOURNEY, A2**

## Area school employees to rally Monday

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Teachers and other union employees working in local school districts believe the state is trying to fund education on their backs, and Monday they plan to send what they believe is a firm message: "Enough is enough."

To deliver the message, the Michigan Education Association plans a variety of rallies Monday, including one in Plymouth that will feature not only employees of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, but also representatives from Livonia, Wayne-Westland, Garden City, South Redford, Van Buren and Gibraltar. Organizers expect representatives from teachers unions to be present, as well as employees from other unions such as custodial and transportation.

The rally will start at 5 p.m. with informational picketing at Ann Arbor Road and Haggerty, then move down Haggerty to Allen Elementary School, where a variety of speakers, including MEA Vice President Steve Cook, state Sen. Glenn Anderson and state Rep. Richard LeBlanc and other MEA leaders and political candidates, will address the gathering.

"We want to bring everyone together and make people aware of the situation we're in," said Joan Nenninger, president of Livonia Education Association. "Schools can't be funded on the backs of school employees. We've given many concessions. We're very concerned about the quality of education of our children and about class sizes."

Nenninger pointed specifically to the new rules passed last week by state legislators during a session that ended at 4:30 a.m. The measure, among other things, saves money by offering higher-paid teachers incentives to retire and filling most of the open positions with less-experienced, lower-paid teachers.

The MEA used a heavy e-mail campaign to urge members to call legislators to block the plan that would require teachers to contribute 3 percent of their pay to retiree health care while making no assurances they will get that benefit when they retire.

"It's very disturbing to us as educators and as school employees," Nenninger said. "We need to send a message to Lansing that we need to find better ways to fund our schools."

The Plymouth rally is one of more than 40 such events around the state union officials say will call on lawmakers to find what they call "real, balanced solutions to our school funding crisis, rather than continuing the cuts-only mentality that has dominated the past decade."

"Our local communities want to send the message to Lansing that enough is enough," MEA President Iris K. Salters said. "The constant cuts to education are risking the future of our students and the future of the state itself."

[bkadrich@hometownlife.com](mailto:bkadrich@hometownlife.com) | (313) 222-8899

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## Fallen Marine among Memorial Day honorees

BY DARRELL CLEM  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Marine Cpl. Jacob H. Turbett, shot and killed in February while serving in Afghanistan, will be among the fallen service people honored as veterans, their families and supporters gather in Canton for a Memorial Day service.

An engraved brick paver honoring Turbett, a 21-year-old graduate of Canton High School, will be installed near the granite wall of the Canton Veterans Memorial in Heritage Park, behind the township administration building at 1150 S. Canton Center, south of Cherry Hill.

During a tearful interview by telephone Friday morning, Turbett's mother, Sheila Turbett of Redford, said she and other family members plan to attend the Memorial Day service, which is open to the public at 1 p.m. Monday, May 31.

"It's still hard. Some days are OK, and other days I'm just really emotional," Sheila Turbett said. "It's a continual thing."

She welcomed the Memorial Day recognition of her son and other service people.

"I want the recognition for Jake, the Marine Corps and the other service people, but it's hard because we were so close," she said. "He was really loving and very honorable. This (service) is important not just for Jake, but for all the service people. I think it's a great sense of patriotism, and we need that."

Turbett, who also left behind a wife, Crystal, of Westland, will become the 37th fallen service member whose name will grace a special brick paver at the Canton Veterans Memorial, where observances have occurred each year since 1994, said John Spencer, a non-combat Vietnam veteran and president of the Canton Veterans Memorial Association.

All 37 service people — many dating back to the Civil War — had ties to the Canton community, and they and their counterparts across the nation will be honored during the Memorial Day service.

Please see **MARINE, A3**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Marine Cpl. Jacob H. Turbett, who was brought home after being killed in action in Afghanistan in February, will be among those honored at the May 31 Memorial Day remembrance in Canton.



# DSO signs on for Salem concert

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Officials at the Detroit Symphony Orchestra were looking for prime locations for a free community concert tour to promote the DSO and bring its music to the masses.

And Salem High School's Gloria Logan Auditorium is one of them.

The DSO will perform one of eight free community concerts 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 8, in the Plymouth-Canton

Community Schools' largest auditorium.

The orchestra will be divided into two ensembles to accommodate two performances on some days of the tour. Music director Leonard Slatkin will share conducting duties with the American guest conductor Kazem Abdullah. Slatkin will conduct the DSO during its Salem High School appearance.

The concerts, which mirror a week of similar performance last fall, are part of an effort

by Slatkin and the DSO to reach new audiences by taking the orchestra directly to the people.

Plymouth-Canton school officials called the selection "an honor."

"We're excited to have Maestro Slatkin and the DSO come to our community," said Frank Ruggirello, PCCS director of community relations. "I think it's a great opportunity for the people in this community, who might not have had the chance to get downtown to

see them, to hear some absolutely beautiful music and get to know a little more about the DSO."

Admission is free, but tickets must be reserved by calling (313) 576-5111.

The weeklong tour, which also features DSO performances in Beverly Hills, Detroit, Warren and Flat Rock, culminates with a free open house at the Max M. Fischer Music Center June 12.

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Detroit Symphony Orchestra conductor Leonard Slatkin brings the DSO to Salem High School for a 7 p.m. performance Tuesday, June 8.

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## TOURNEY

FROM PAGE A1

The business community, she said, "can't lose."

Salla, the DDA coordinator, said copies of a brand-new Canton Community Visitors Guide has been sent to local residents, but also will be distributed to visitors during the soccer tournament. The colorful, 40-page magazine is packed with information about Canton's history, recreation amenities, Ford Road art sculptures, shops, restaurants and hotels, plus it includes maps of shopping areas and the Lower Rouge River

Recreation Trail.

In a show of community pride, Salla said some of the DDA district's colorful banners along Ford Road are being temporarily replaced by banners that sport a soccer ball image and the words "Canton Cup."

Vaughn, the tournament director, said this year's event, a cooperative effort by the Canton Soccer Club, Canton Leisure Services and many others, is expected to be "even more memorable" due to an influx of international players.

For more information, log on to [www.cantonsoccerclub.com](http://www.cantonsoccerclub.com) or the tournament Web site at [www.cantonecup.net](http://www.cantonecup.net). The *Canton Observer* will also provide more coverage.

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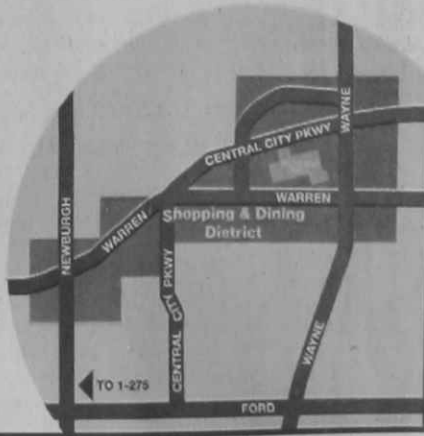


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## AROUND CANTON

"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

## Memorial Day concert

The BeckRidge Chorale presents "Because of the Brave - a Memorial Day Concert," May 31 at the Village Theatre at Cherry Hill in Canton.

The Chorale has always had a special affinity for patriotic music and this concert will be one you will never forget. Ticket proceeds, after expenses, will be divided evenly between the Memorial Day Committees in Canton, Plymouth and Northville. Tickets are available at [www.beckridgechorale.org](http://www.beckridgechorale.org) or at the door.

## Tiny Tots open house

The Plymouth Salvation Army's in-house preschool program, Tiny Tots, hosts an open house Tuesday, June 1. There will be opportunities to attend, one in the morning (11 a.m. to 1 p.m.) and the other in the evening (5-7 p.m.).

Corps officer Capt. Jolene Hull, Tiny Tots director Sheila Johnson and Tiny Tots assistant Lisa Spielman will be on hand to answer questions or concerns regarding the play-based curriculum. The open houses provide parents the chance to visit the facility, meet the preschool staff and learn about program philosophy.

The Plymouth Salvation Army is located at 9451 S. Main, just south of Ann Arbor Road, in Plymouth. For more information, call (734) 453-5464. Preschool information is also available at the website, [www.misaplymouth.org](http://www.misaplymouth.org)

## Slavens coffee

State Rep. Dian Slavens (D-Canton) invites residents to join her for a cup of coffee and conversation at her coffee hour 5:30-6:30 p.m. Monday, May 24, at Le Cocoa Bean, 50166 Cherry Hill Road in Canton.

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

## Rotary raffle

The Canton Rotary Club's foundation is having its annual "dream vacation raffle."

The cost of the ticket is \$10, with a \$3,000, all-inclusive trip to anywhere in the world up for grabs.

All profits will go into the club's foundation for use in community and world programs, including high school scholarships, The Salvation Army, Goodfellows, senior citizens, literacy, fighting polio, clean water and health.

Tickets can be purchased from any Rotarian or at the Farmer's Market each Sunday through June 13. Also look for



## Downtown hoedown

Members of the P-CEP Choirs, under the direction of Salem High School teacher Jennifer L. Kopp, did backup duty for country artist 'Jaron and the Long Road to Love' at the Downtown Hoedown in Detroit. According to Kopp, the choir performed at the request of Hoedown sponsor WYCD 99.5-FM.

the sign at your local business where a ticket maybe purchased.

For any ticket information contact Gerry Folk at (734) 455-3344.

## Adventure camp

Tutor Time Childcare Learning Center, 951 N. Canton Center, announced enrollment for its summer Adventure Camp program, designed for school age children ages 5-12 years old. (Children must have completed Kindergarten to participate).

Summer camp children go off-site four days a week on field trips. They go all over and do a variety of activities related to each of the week's themes. Examples of the themes are Operation Rising Dough (cooking week) and Creature Feature (animal week).

Tutor Time offers fulltime or flexible schedules which allows families the option for children to attend the entire summer or just a few weeks. Early enrollment is encouraged to ensure availability.

For additional information about Tutor Time Childcare Learning Center and the summer camp program, call (734) 981-8463 or visit [www.tutor-time.com](http://www.tutor-time.com).

## Kiwanis Club

The Canton Kiwanis Club is seeking new members who can help to have a direct impact on 1,400 children and provide gifts and activities that impact over 200,000 Michigan youngsters.

The Canton Kiwanis Club includes people who live and work in Canton, and it is looking for others who have a similar interest and desire to give back to the community.

The Canton Kiwanis is inviting people to join the club for breakfast during the month of May to find out more about the organization. Programs this month will include Canton Economic Development Manager Debra Bilbrey-Honsowetz and Downtown Development Director Kathleen Salla.

The club meets every Tuesday at 7:15 a.m. at the Canton Coney Island on Lilley Road south of Joy. It is actively looking for people who want to make a difference in the lives of others. Potential members are invited to join the Kiwanis for

the service.

Ceremonies have occurred on the same site for 17 years. Before the Canton Veterans Memorial was built, the service was held beside a flagpole near the Canton Administration Building.

Aside from the 37 brick pavers near the memorial's granite wall, the site also includes a walkway of bricks sold to people who wanted to support the war memorial effort. Some of those bricks, too, are in honor of lost loved ones.

In another Memorial Day event, the BeckRidge Chorale will perform a patriotic con-

breakfast or contact the club at [info@cantonkiwanis.com](mailto:info@cantonkiwanis.com).

## 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](http://www.pcmontessori.org). Early enrollment is recommended to ensure availability.

## New school opportunity

Plymouth Children's Nursery will be offering a bilingual English/Spanish program for 4-6 year olds this fall.

This popular co-op school has been in business since 1962 and is now working in partnership with the Bilingual Fun Company to offer an enrichment bilingual program.

Contact: [membership@plymouthnursery.org](mailto:membership@plymouthnursery.org) or call (734) 455.6250. Membership applications are available at [www.plymouthnursery.org](http://www.plymouthnursery.org)

cert, Because of the Brave, at 2:30 p.m. Monday, May 31, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road between Ridge and Denton.

Cost is \$8 per person, and proceeds after expenses will be divided among Memorial Day committees in Canton, Plymouth and Northville. Tickets may be purchased by calling (888) 459-4887 or by logging on to [www.cantonvillageheater.org](http://www.cantonvillageheater.org). More information also is available at [www.beckridgechorale.org](http://www.beckridgechorale.org).

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## MARINE

FROM PAGE A1

Spencer called it important to remember the sacrifices Turbett and others made for their country.

"It's part of why we're free," he said. "They have gone in harm's way — and sometimes given their lives — to protect our freedoms. This is a patriotic thing we do to thank them for their service."

Members of several veterans groups are expected to attend

## Livonia Public Schools Opens Renowned Academically Talented Program to Out-of-District Students

Eleven seats are open to students entering 1st or 2nd grade in fall 2010. Twelve seats are open to students entering 3rd or 4th grade in fall 2010.

Limited Registration window: May 24-June 7, 2010

Livonia Public Schools is opening its Alternative Classrooms for the Academically Talented (ACAT) program to Limited Schools of Choice for the 2010-11 school year.

This program is geared toward academically talented students looking for a specialized learning experience.

Registration will be open from May 24-June 7, 2010 at Webster Elementary, 32401 Pembroke, Livonia 48152 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday. All candidates MUST meet the ACAT selection testing criteria.

For complete information on the application process, contact Webster School at 734-744-2795.

DESIGN/ARTS



# EDUCATION

## All dressed up

Duct-tape dress makes prom a sticky situation

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Miranda Madias found herself in a pretty sticky situation at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park prom Friday at the Rock Financial Showplace in Novi.

And it was a situation of her own making.

Madias, an 18-year-old senior at Canton High School, didn't reach into her own closet for a dress to wear, nor did she head to her nearest department store to find just the right thing.

Instead, when Madias and her date, Salem High School senior Michael Skrzynski, outfitted themselves, they did it with material most easily found at a hardware store.

Madias and Skrzynski dressed in a dress and suit made almost entirely of duct tape.

"I've been working with duct tape since my sophomore year," said Madias, the daughter of Heidi Madias of Dexter and Marc and Debbie Madias of Canton. "I've made just about everything else, so I figured my prom dress wouldn't be that much more."

Madias said she started working on the outfits in April and figures she put some 200 hours of work into them. It took some 60 rolls of purple and green duct tape (for those uneducated in the ways of duct tape, it comes in some 20 colors, Madias said).

When she was done, she'd added a prom dress and suit to the more mundane things she's made out of duct tape, including bags, roses, shirts and even a Halloween costume she made a couple of years ago.

"I thought it was going to be a



Michael Skrzynski said his duct-tape suit, created by date Miranda Madias, was very hot. "Sweat was gathering on my shoes from dripping down my legs," he said with a laugh.

lot of work," Heidi Madias said of her daughter's effort. "She's been making duct tape stuff for years. It's a creative thing. It's like art work. She's creating and she enjoys it."

There were a couple of snags with the event. Although the design of her dress left Madias fairly cool, Skrzynski's suit made him extremely hot - "Sweat was gathering on my shoes from running down my legs," he said with a laugh - and they were at least able to dance.

Skrzynski said his suit was fairly tight in most places, but "there was plenty of room in the knees," he said, which made it easy to dance.

That allowed him to have fun in the unusual suit, the idea of which appealed to him from the moment Madias suggested it.

"It just sounded strange and different, and that's me," said Skrzynski, the son of Martin and Elaine Skrzynski of Canton. "I like to dance, and I also like to do things



Miranda Madias created her prom dress and date Michael Skrzynski's suit almost entirely out of duct tape.

that people don't understand. It's why I want to go into physics."

Now it's possible the duct tape clothing could pay off in ways other than surprising friends and family. Duct tape manufacturer Duck Brand is sponsoring its 10th annual Stuck on Prom contest, which will reward the creators of the top duct tape clothing in the country.

Entries - including Madias' - have to be submitted by June 7, and a panel of judges will select the top 10 to be voted on by on-line voters across the country (www.duckbrand.com). Judges will choose the top 10 based on workmanship, originality, use of color, accessories and quantity of duct tape used. During each

week of voting, the two couples with the lowest number of votes will be eliminated.

The winners will each receive a \$3,000 scholarship; second place gets \$2,000, third place gets \$1,000 and runners-up each get a \$500 scholarship.

For now, Madias is basking in the success of the outfits.

"I ended up making the suit in about four days, so that was stressful, but beyond that it went really, really well," Madias said. "People were shocked at the amount of work I put into it ... they thought it was cool."

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

### SCHOOL BRIEFS

#### Innovative teacher

Rania Hammoud is innovative.

The Discovery Middle School sixth-grade Social Studies teacher recently submitted one of her school projects, "Black History Month Video by the Diversity Council," to the Public Broadcasting Service 2010 Teacher Innovation competition. She was selected as one of the second-prize winners.

Her prize winnings include teaching materials and supplies along with an engraved plaque and certificate. She will also be invited to partner with PBS and local public television stations as a leader in classroom innovation.

"Rania continues to be a shining example of the district's drive to promote diversity in our schools," Discovery principal Roche LaVictor said.

#### History Day winners

East Middle School eighth-graders Madhurima Das, Brianna Lax, Sharanya Jayachandran and Neha Hafeez recently won the state competition for National History Day.

The students won the Junior Performance category and the James Campbell Award for Use of Oral History. They now advance to the national competition, which will be held at the University of Maryland in June where students from all 50 states will compete.

#### Graduation tickets

Tickets for the 2010 Plymouth-Canton Community Schools high school graduation commencements are on sale now.

Tickets are \$5 and may be purchased from Eastern Michigan University by phone at (734) 487-2282, on the EMU website or by visiting the university's ticket office Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets will not be sold at the door on graduation day.

Graduation takes place at Eastern Michigan University Convocation Center on Sunday, June 13. All persons over the age of five are required to have a ticket to enter graduation.

#### Salve Regina degree

Joshua Anthony Belfiore of Canton was awarded a bachelor of arts in Philosophy during Salve Regina University's 60th commencement last week in Newport, R.I.

Sister Jane Gerety, Salve Regina president, conferred 685 degrees, including 507 bachelor's degrees, 158 master's degrees, 16 certificates of advanced graduate studies, and four doctorates in philosophy.

Malaak Compton-Rock, founder of numerous charitable entities - including The Angelrock Project, an online e-village promoting volunteerism, social responsibility, and sustainable change - presented the commencement address and was awarded an honorary doctorate in humane letters.

Salve Regina, a Catholic, co-educational university founded by the Sisters of Mercy, enrolls more than 2,500 undergraduate and graduate students. Its 80-acre oceanfront campus is in the heart of the Ochre Point-Cliffs National Historic District.

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'Please Sit Down and Read Me a Story' by Douglas M. Gruizenga joins the collection of art along Ford Road in Canton.

## Sculptures added to Ford Road corridor

BY DARRELL CLEM  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Ford Road in Canton has earned a reputation for traffic jams, diverse restaurants, strip malls and, well, art.

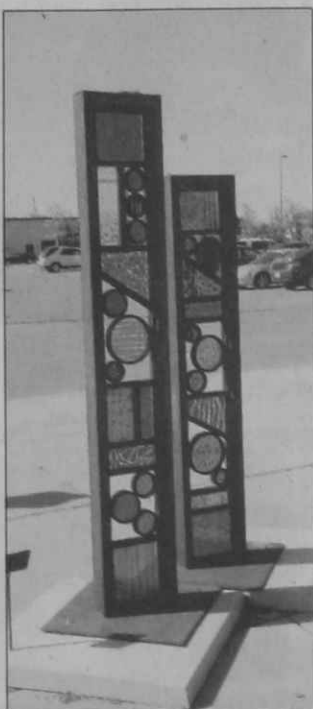
Eleven new sculptures have been added to Canton's bustling retail corridor, bringing temporary, outdoor public art near places such as Canton Cinema, Griffin Funeral Home, Hampton Inn, Home Depot, New Towne Center, Kohl's, Target and Willow Creek Plaza.

"It looks wonderful," Griffin Funeral Home managing partner David Griffin said Friday. "We've had just a marvelous response when people come into our funeral home."

"It just sort of highlights Ford Road a little bit," he added. "I think it's refreshing. It's a nice accent piece. It's our main road, it's traveled by most, and this gives it some class."

The art comes courtesy of the Canton Downtown Development Authority, which partners with the Canton Cultural Commission's public art committee to add artistic flair to busy Ford Road.

"These temporary displays help strengthen the presence



'Glass Totems' by Todd Kime is now part of the Ford Road corridor art collection.

of the arts in our community," DDA Coordinator Kathleen Salla said. "By enhancing these public spaces with dynamic pieces, we hope to illustrate that art is not limited to galleries and museums — and

can add to an already vibrant district."

Griffin Funeral Home has been involved with the public art project for a few years.

"We must have had two or three pieces that have been on our property," he said.

The DDA commissioned the Midwest Sculpture Initiative to install the eclectic collection, comprised of sculptures available for purchase. The exhibit includes works by artists Michael J. Barker, Marie Brown, Jim Gallucci, Judith Greavu, Douglas Gruizenga, Ray Katz, Todd Kime, Mike Sohikian and Jeff Wilcox.

Project coordinators say the pieces — created from materials such as bronze, welded steel, cast iron and glass — range from whimsical to poetic and include art ranging from a Rubik's cube to glass totem poles.

The latest effort marks the fifth such exhibit in Canton's ongoing series of temporary exhibitions. The DDA provides funding from tax dollars generated in the Ford Road corridor and designated to promote the economic vitality of the special district.

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# Expo offers facts, fun for area seniors

Nearly 1,000 people visited the 60-plus exhibitors and classes at last week's Senior Expo co-sponsored by the *Observer & Eccentric/Hometown Newspapers* and Schoolcraft College. The VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft was packed early in the day with seniors eager to hear about new advances, techniques, information and services to make their lives easier. Expo exhibitors included dentists, hearing aid providers, senior housing representatives and investment planners, among others. Classes focused on strength training, Medicare, eye health, dental health and home safety. The crowd enjoyed free coffee courtesy of Solid Grounds Coffee House in Northville and orange juice and cinnamon melts provided by the McDonald's Corp. "There's a lot of good information here, and you can always find something of interest to you," said one expo goer.

**Save the Date:** A fall Senior Health & Living Expo is planned for Friday, Oct. 15, at Oakland Community College, Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills. The focus is on health and living. Look for new classes, exhibits, demonstrations, health screenings, entertainment, free refreshments and door prizes. For exhibit and/or vendor information, call Choya Jordan at (313) 222-2414 or by e-mail at [cbjordan@hometownlife.com](mailto:cbjordan@hometownlife.com).

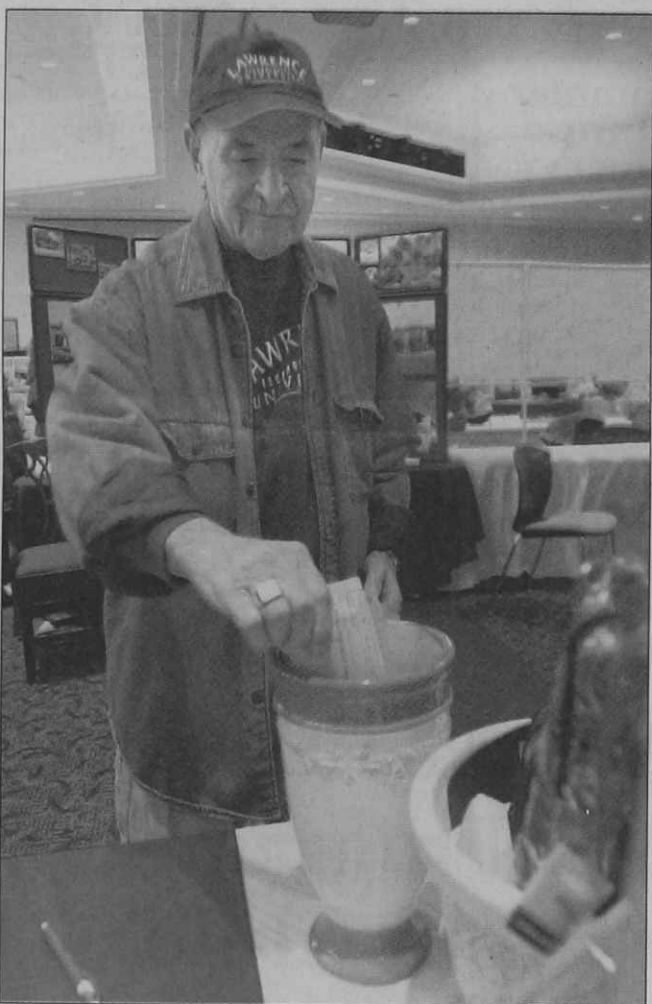


PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Anthony Talarek of Livonia speaks with Becky McCartney of Angels At Home Care.



Senior Expo-goers Norm and Virginia Kleiner were married in 1943. They'll hit 67 years of marriage in June. The Kleiners live in Northville.



Moses Movsesian of Plymouth Township enters a drawing at last week's Senior Expo.

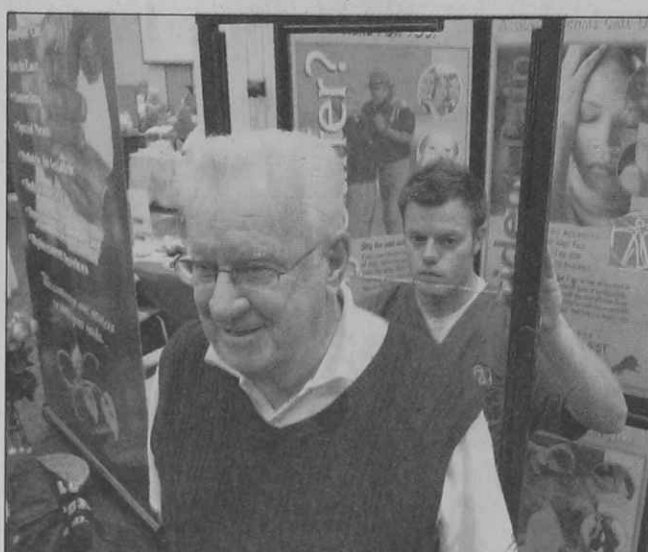


MICHELE AUSTIN

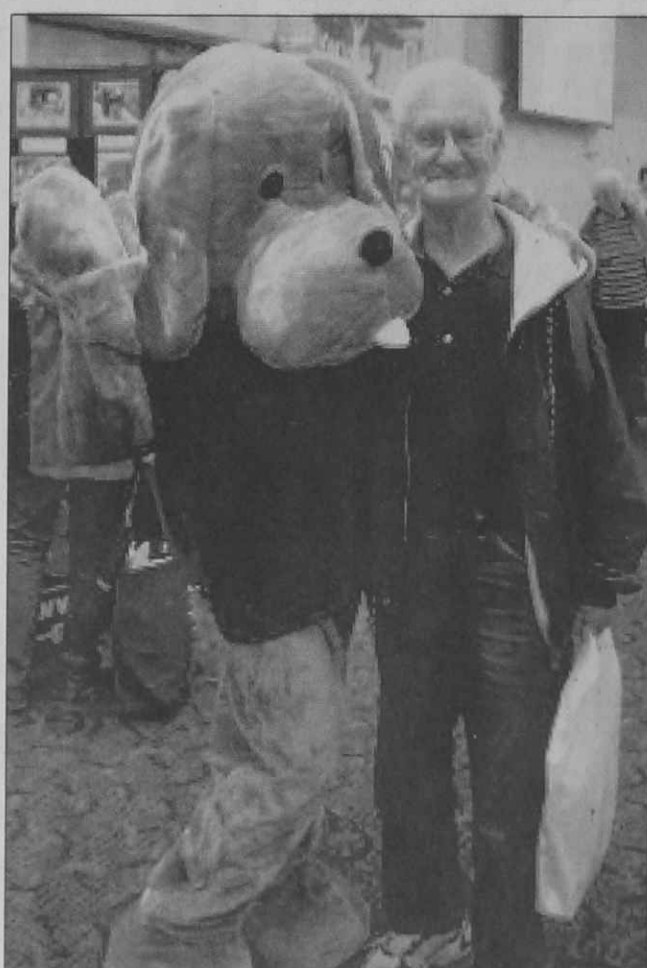
Dr. Sheldon Smith, a low vision specialist, discussed how special glasses can improve vision offering seniors greater independence, safety and life satisfaction. Smith is an optometrist with Low Vision of Michigan.



Volunteers Jo Evans of Farmington Hills, Martha Stopchinski of Westland, and Adrienne Gutowski of Dearborn work the entrance table.



Rudy Horvat of Farmington Hills gets checked out by David Saginaw of HealthQuest.



MICHELE AUSTIN

Scoop the O&E/Hometown Newshound caught up with Westland resident Leonard Poger for a photo.



Pam Mulliner of Priority Health speaks with Shirley Romeyn of South Lyon.



Mary Lemerand wants to talk with you about The Village of Royal Oak.



Dentist Abir Faraj talks dental care. Faraj, a Novi dentist, discussed dental issues those 65 and older face.



# Canton police join seat belt campaign

**BY DARRELL CLEM**  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton motorists who still refuse to buckle their seat belts should be ready to pay \$65.

Township police will be watching even more closely for violators as they join the national Click It or Ticket campaign that starts Monday and ends June 6, encompassing the Memorial Day weekend.

"Wearing a seat belt is a motorist's best defense in a crash, but some people still won't wear one," Canton Special Services Lt. Scott Hilden said. "That's why Canton police officers will be out enforcing the law. We hope the \$65 price tag on a seat belt ticket will convince them to buckle up."

Seat belt enforcement zones are typically conducted along



Canton Police Lt. Scott Hilden said Canton police officers will be out enforcing the seat belt law.

a Michigan State Police Web site. That statistic emerged even though there are nearly 10 times more vehicles on the road than in the 1920s.

Last year's fatality rate fell 11 percent from 2008, alone.

Each year, Canton police join the Click It or Ticket campaign, supported by federal traffic safety dollars that pay for widespread advertising.

Michigan law requires all drivers, front-seat passengers and all vehicle occupants ages 15 and younger to buckle up.

Moreover, children must be in a car seat or booster seat until they are 8 years old or 4 feet, 9 inches tall, whichever comes first. Children younger than 4 must be supposed to ride in a back seat if the vehicle has one.

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

# W-W gets elementaries ready for new use

**BY SUE MASON**  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools plans to spend \$2.6 million to ready its lower and upper elementary buildings for the start of school in the fall. On tap will be parking lot repairs and expansions and bus loops for the K-4 buildings, as well as playground equipment at it two grade 5-6 buildings.

According to Doug Underwood of McCarthy & Smith Inc., bids for the projects came in \$300,000 under budget, a reflection of the state's tough economic times.

"We had 130 bids for the projects, the highest it's ever been," Underwood told the school board. "We put these out for bid and got great results."

Some \$2.3 million in sinking fund money will be used to expand parking lots and add bus loops at eight K-4 schools — Edison, Elliott, Hamilton, Hicks, P.D. Graham, Schweitzer, Hoover and Taft-Galloway — and the two upper elementaries (Marshall and Adams) to transition from schools built for walkers to students brought in by bus.

In the case of Schweitzer, the bus turnoff will be on the Glenwood side of the school. However, the district has an alternative plan to put in a temporary loop in case a combined project by the cities of Wayne and Westland to resurface Glenwood isn't completed in time for school, Underwood said.

"They're going out for bids and everything is a go, but the one thing we can't say is whether the bus turnaround will be done in time," he said.

According to Supt. Greg Baracy, improvements at Schweitzer have been on hold for sometime.

"We knew Wayne was going to do the road work with Westland and it sped up with the federal money," he said. The playground equipment will cost almost \$260,000 and will come out of the district's building and site fund.

"The playground equipment goes to building and site because its not an item the sinking fund can pay for," Deputy Supt. Gary Martin said. "We budgeted \$500,000 for each and it came in around \$300,000 or \$175,000 per plan."

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Alberta Karll of Canton slices her famous apple pie, prepared for patients and their families at Angela Hospice in Livonia. Pam Shorter of Livonia helps out.

# Bakers sweeten hospice patients' last days

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Every Tuesday, the smell of freshly baked pies fills the hallway at Angela Hospice in Livonia.

Volunteer Alberta Karll of Canton spends four or five hours in the kitchen rolling dough, preparing fillings and piling the crusts with sweet goodness for patients and families, a welcome break for them from the sobering reality of mortality and a limited time left with loved ones.

The smell and tastes of Karll's pies and other sweets created by volunteer Pam Shorter of Livonia is a refuge for the patients, warming their hearts and filling their stomachs with a sweetness that matches the volunteers' intentions.



Pam Shorter of Livonia made brownies and cookies on Tuesday.

"I just feel that I'm blessed to be able to do this," Karll said. "It's a God-given talent to be able to bake and for me to be able to volunteer, it is a blessing to meet so many dear people."

She'll bake banana and chocolate cream pies, but the favorite is apple, according to Shorter, who is responsible for brownies, cookies and other sweets.

"People keep tabs," Shorter said. "They will be in here (the kitchen) asking, 'Where is that apple pie?'"

Karll has baked for 16 years at Angela Hospice. Karll had baked for friends who had battled cancer and found that they really appreciated her efforts. She also baked goods for special occasions for others, such as birthdays. "It's just something I've always enjoyed immensely," Karll said.

If she is baking apple pies, Karll will peel apples, usually golden delicious and empires, at home.

Karll uses an oil crust, then drops in flour, cinnamon and

sugar and apples into the crust before baking it for at least 45 minutes. She usually bakes four pies for the patients. "They like the cream pies, too," Karll said.

Shorter usually bakes cookies or a seasonal cake or bread, such as blueberry or banana.

Volunteers appreciate the work of the bakers. Virginia Hayes, a Plymouth resident who volunteers at Angela Hospice, said Karll is "absolutely fantastic." "The food is fantastic," Hayes said. "Her apple pie is outstanding."

"People will ask, 'When's the pie ready to be cut' and she'll say '5:45,' and she won't let it be cut early," Hayes said. (Karll likes to let the pies sit to settle so the fillings won't be too runny.)

"It's nourishing," Hayes said. "It's like a big home here. Sometimes it's better than home because I don't bake like this."

Karll will take the pieces to the rooms and tell them what

they've baked. "I want them and their families to come down to our new kitchen," Karll said. On Tuesday afternoons and evenings, the pie is served.

Volunteers serve meals on Wednesday nights, Thursdays a high tea is served and Fridays feature an ice cream social.

Karll remembers a patient wanting a piece at bedside because she was too ill to go to the kitchen. "She said, 'I just love apple pies. Please put a piece beside me because that will work.'"

"They like that smell," Karll said of the baking. "It's like that feeling of home," Shorter said.

"They really enjoy that; that's why I like to ask them if they have a favorite," Karll said. "They only have a short time on this earth. If I can make somebody's day, it's an answer to my prayers."

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# Husband-wife showcased at local Gallery exhibit

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill showcases the art works of ceramist John Mrozik and photographer Heather Sisto through May 28 in the Gallery at VT. This husband and wife duo has a combined total of 40 years of experience in their areas of interest.

Mrozik, winner of the Best in Show in the 2008 Canton Fine Arts Exhibition, is known across the state for his detailed creations of brightly colored ceramic tea pots, with over 50 percent of his teapots created in bright red.

Currently hailing from Flushing, the couple draws inspiration for each other's work. Mrozik describes his works as both functional and artistic works.

"The functional would be cups and bowls and casseroles and vases," said Mrozik. "The more artistic works are usually tea-pots."

John Mrozik started working in this medium at a pottery class at Flint Institute of Arts more than 30 years ago. He was taken in by how sensuous the clay is when it's wet.

"It's the basics: earth, water, fire and air," Mrozik said. "People don't think of air

being a part of it, but you need air to have fire."

Although Sisto has just recently started exhibiting her work, she has been accepted into several juried shows. The textures in her photographs of natural and architectural elements complement the textures and colors used in Mrozik's classic and whimsical teapot creations. Exhibited tea-pots range from classic sets of 10 inches to massive structures of 50 inches or taller.

This multi-media art exhibit at the Gallery@VT is free and open to the public Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and during public performances at the theater. The Gallery@VT is closed on holidays.

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road in Canton, is a regional center for the arts that offers the magic of live theatre, soul-stirring music, the thrill of the dance, and the enjoyment of fine art exhibitions and events, in addition to providing a home for several cultural organizations and community groups. For more information about this latest exhibition, please call (734) 394-5300 or visit [cantonvillagetheater.org](http://cantonvillagetheater.org).



The work of ceramist John Mrozik, known for his detailed creations of brightly colored ceramic tea pots, will be featured at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill through May 28.

# \$25 Million savings: Circuit Court and going forward

President Barack Obama acknowledged in his State of the Union address that we, as a people, face "big and difficult challenges" thanks to the economic storm that has rocked this country. To help weather this storm, over the last year the Wayne County Circuit Court has made significant advances in not only reducing its own costs, but also saving or earning the State of Michigan and Wayne County significant amounts of money.

How significant? The \$25,288,562.00 is precisely the amount of money that the Wayne County Circuit Court has earned for or saved the citizens of Wayne County and the State of Michigan over the past year. To achieve this, the court has trimmed its own operations through eliminating positions, cutting back on benefits and reducing inefficiencies.

Beyond these traditional cost cutting measures, the court has also accomplished large savings in successfully renegotiating contracts with attorney groups who represent minors in juvenile proceedings, and revising its procedures in its Juvenile Division which resulted in huge multi-million dollar savings for the County's Child Care Fund.

The court has brought about these accomplishments in the face of unique challenges.

First, the court has the largest caseload in the state, as well as one of the largest in the country. In 2009, the court's total caseload was 114,196 cases of all types, out of which were 79,741 new case filings of all types. And these statistics do not take into account approximately 12,000 post trial motions that are filed with the court in domestic relations cases after a case is supposedly closed! Nor do these statistics reflect the 286,674 open cases serviced by the Friend of the Court.

Second, the court lacks much of the technology that has enabled other neighboring courts and indeed, county government to maximize their effectiveness. For example, several of the court's computer systems are based on technology that, while current in the late 20th century, are now obsolete as we move into the second decade of the 21st century. Amazingly, the court still labors under several computerized systems that cannot communicate with each other!

Lastly, unlike virtually any other court in the state, the court's core operations in its four divisions (Criminal, Civil, Domestic Relations and Juvenile) and the Friend of the Court - both judicial and administrative - are spread out over four buildings, spanning a distance of more than 2 1/1 miles! The fact that the court's computer systems are not integrated and modernized only exacerbates the logistical prob-

lems faced by the court's administration in operating out of four buildings.

While staggering caseloads are an immutable fact of life for the court, having obsolete technology and being spread out over multiple sites need not be. Several months ago, Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano outed the fact that the county had spent more than \$30 million to acquire and technologically modernize the Guardian Building, and that by moving the county's administrative offices from the old County Building to the Guardian Building, the county would annually save \$2 million (more recent news accounts peg the total acquisition and renovation costs at \$47 million with savings of almost \$3 million per year).

Certainly, by that yardstick the county could use the savings and earnings that the court has already realized and conceivably save up to another \$8 million a year by consolidating all of the court's operations into one suitable building. Further significant efficiencies would be attained by having one building house the court's operations. These would include reduced security costs. Also, considerable savings could be realized from the reduction in the costs of maintaining all these buildings, since three of four buildings (Lincoln Hall of Justice, the Penobscot Building and the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice) need significant rehabilitation given their present dilapidated condition. Relocating the court's operations into a consolidated building would also allow the court to modernize its technology in a cost-effective manner similar to what was achieved by the county's move to the Guardian Building.

Beyond the substantial dollar savings that would surely come from consolidating the court's operations into one building are the immeasurable benefits to the public that would be realized by having all divisions of the court in one building. For example, no longer would a family who had a juvenile matter in the Lincoln Hall of Justice have to travel back into downtown to have a domestic relations matter heard in the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center or a Friend of the Court matter heard in the Penobscot Building. Instead, that family could have all matters related to it heard in one building by one judge, and thereby achieving the legislature's goal of "One Family - One Judge."

The only way to improve public service is to move the court into the 21st century. That means technological renovation and consolidation of court operations into one building. Citizens should demand these improvements for the fair, speedy and cost effective administration of justice by contacting their Wayne County commissioners immediately. We need to move forward now.

The Honorable Virgil C. Smith is chief judge of Wayne County Circuit Court.



Judge Virgil C. Smith

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# Skipping out on taxes is not a sound strategy

**Q:** Dear Rick: I went to a meeting a couple of weeks ago where a person said that income taxes are voluntary. I have attached the section of the Constitution and something from the Federalist Papers that was passed out at the meeting. I hate paying taxes; I think we are overtaxed and I agree with what the speaker said, that if we all stood up for our rights the system would change.

**Money Matters**  
Rick Bloom

**A:** I don't like paying taxes any more than you do. The one thing the great majority of us have in common is that we don't like paying taxes. However, the issue is not whether we like it, but what the law says. I wish I could tell you that taxes are voluntary. However, it would be irresponsible to do so. Despite reading the information

you provided, I cannot ignore the various court rulings regarding the government's ability to tax citizens. Every opinion has said the same thing — the government does have the right to tax income. Therefore, despite some interesting interpretations of the Constitution, the courts have ruled that you and I are liable for income taxes. Over the years, I have read and heard about many people who have taken contrary positions when it comes to tax law. Some are nothing more than scam artists attempting to sell a scheme to avoid taxes. Some of these schemes preach ideas such as forming your own religion, or claiming that you are a charitable organization. People who do this are then caught by the IRS. The outcome should not be a surprise to anyone. In the end, they have to pay taxes, penalties and interest. In some cases, there is criminal liability. Numerous people have been sent to jail for failing to pay taxes. Many have claimed, and honestly

believe, that taxes are unconstitutional. However, it doesn't matter if your beliefs are honestly felt or not. People who claim taxes are unconstitutional can always point to some court decision here and there that supports their position. However, we should all recognize that while there are anomalies that occur in our legal system, we shouldn't be relying on them.

There is a difference between tax avoidance and tax evasion. Tax avoidance is not against the law. The tax system allows you to take advantage of every provision of the tax law. After all, it is not more patriotic to pay more taxes than you have to. Therefore, there is no problem with using the tax law to your benefit. On the other hand, tax evasion, failing to properly and legally

report your income and pay your taxes is something that will cause you problems. One thing I've learned over the 25 years I've been involved in the financial world is that people who preach tax evasion or try to sell you certain investment products as a way of getting around taxes should be avoided and ignored. If your main concern is on taxes, you are focusing on the wrong

issue. The focus should be on maximizing wealth. Reducing taxes doesn't necessarily increase your wealth. Therefore, I always tell investors that the key is not what you're paying in taxes but, rather, what ends up in your pocket. If you focus on that, not only will your wealth increase, but you will also sleep better at night. Good luck! **Rick Bloom** is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at [moneymatters@hometownlife.com](mailto:moneymatters@hometownlife.com). For more information, visit Rick's Web site at [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com).

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SUNDAY  
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Motor City Youth Theatre revving up for show, summer camps, B5

SPORTS, HEALTH & FITNESS, NEIGHBORS

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## Galanty, Tidwell spark conference clincher

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

All it took Wednesday for Canton to win its first baseball conference title since 2003 was one big swing by senior Joe Galanty. That blast — a two-run homer in the bottom of the sixth against visiting Northville — came in the nick of time, providing the difference in a 2-1 win for the Kensington Conference championship. Galanty's fifth home run of the season helped senior pitcher Andrew Tidwell out-duel Northville's Colin Gerish. Both threw well enough to win. "I was expecting a fastball. He missed a

couple times with the curveball," Galanty said. "He hadn't thrown me one (a fastball) for a strike yet, so I was expecting it. I was ready for it."

Galanty's drive sailed over the 355-foot mark in left-center and scored teammate Cody Blakita, who reached on a bloop single.

"It took me a couple seconds (to react), because I didn't feel anything off the bat," Galanty said. "Once I saw it was gone, I was excited, it was great. We know how to score runs when we need to."

But the KLAA South champion Chiefs (21-4) still needed to bring in senior pitcher Kevin Delapaz to close out the victory.

Northville's Connor Smith singled and moved to third with one out. Delapaz struck out a batter and then retired Greg Cheslik for the final out.

Galanty's homer came shortly after the Mustangs (first in the Central) pushed across the first run of the game in the top half against Tidwell. Northville bunched together a walk, seeing-eye hit, bunt single and sacrifice fly (by Dylan Breault).

The Mustangs could have added two more runs, but Canton second baseman Bernabie Salinas dove to field a grounder up the middle and shoveled the ball to sec-

Please see **BASEBALL, B2**



## Chiefs seal 'Legacy'

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Legacy Field is turning out to be the perfect built-in motivator for Canton's softball team, which Wednesday won the Kensington Conference title with a 9-2 victory over South Lyon.

The No. 7-ranked Chiefs (22-3, 11-0 in the KLAA South) earned the right to play for the association championship on May 26 against host Lakeland.

"It's great for the girls, they're leaving a legacy and that's the name of our field," said Canton head coach Jim Arnold. "That's one of their goals, to leave a legacy for years to come and they've done that."

"They won their division, and won their conference so they'll get their numbers on the board."

Senior pitcher Amy Dunleavy gave up two runs in the first but then closed the door, allowing five hits and striking out seven — giving the Canton offense time to get going.

In the second, catcher Jessica Larner blasted a two-run homer to score Katie Mattson (who singled), tying the game at 2-2.

The Chiefs went ahead to stay with six runs in the third, including RBI hits by

Please see **SOFTBALL, B2**

## GAME WRAPS

### Boys golf

**PLYMOUTH CLINCHES DIVISION:** The Plymouth Wildcats defeated Canton on back-to-back days to capture the KLAA South Division.

After a 151-164 win Tuesday at Hilltop, the Wildcats clinched with a 143-161 victory Wednesday in a match at Fox Hills.

In the clincher, medalist Plymouth's Ryan Rieckhoff tied a school record with a nine-hole round of 32 strokes. He had plenty of company as far as excellence is concerned, with six other golfers from both teams eclipsing the 40-stroke mark.

In addition to Rieckhoff, Plymouth's Josh Heinze (35), Justin Bauer (37), James Bryans (39) and Kyle Rodes (39) were in that group. Ryan Bauer just missed, shooting 41.

For the Chiefs, Zach Conrad (37) and Brendon Muir (38) also finished under 40. They were followed by Josh Maxam (42), Kyle Korte (44), Travis Hall (44) and Frank Parzynski (46).

Plymouth improved to 8-0 on the season, while Canton dropped to 6-3.

On Tuesday, Bryans earned medalist honors with an even-par 35 as the Wildcats defeated the Chiefs.

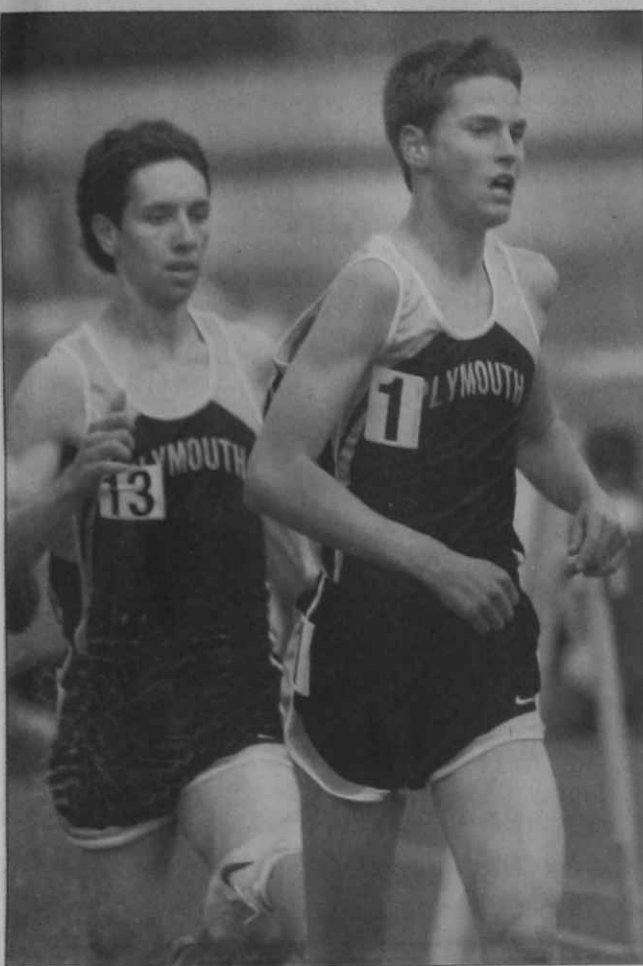
Heinze (38), Rieckhoff (39), Ryan Bauer (39), Justin Bauer (41) and Trevor Birdwell (47) rounded out the Plymouth scorecard.

For Canton, individual scorers were as follows: Muir, 40; Conrad, 41; Hall, 41; Parzynski, 42; Korte, 43 and Maxam 44.

**SALEM 163, NOVI 164:** Wednesday at par-36 Walnut Creek, Salem nipped Novi by a stroke in a KLAA Central dual match.

For the Rocks (4-4),

Please see **WRAPS, B4**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Division 1 boys track & field regional Friday night was suspended due to rain with two events left and was to be completed Saturday. But one of the events that did take place was the 1600-meter run, which Plymouth's duo of Warren Buzzard (left) and Matt Neumann finished 2-3 in.

## Rain check

### Plymouth boys in lead, but D1 regional on soggy hold

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Mother Nature threw a curve into Plymouth's party plans.

But Wildcats head coach Jon Mikosz and his Wildcats' varsity boys track & field team still hoped to celebrate a regional championship before the weekend was all said and done.

Friday night thunderstorms forced suspension of the Division 1 regionals with Plymouth in first with 92.50 points — ahead of campus neighbors Salem (2nd, 79.00) and Canton (3rd, 70.50).

Twice, the meet was stopped 30 minutes because of thunder; another time it was thunder as well as too much standing water on the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park track.

On Saturday morning, the 17 schools were to recon-

vene for the final two events, including the 3200-meter run and 4-by-4 relay. "Plymouth's never won a region," said Mikosz during one of several weather delays. "I don't think anybody in any other sport at Plymouth's won a region. It would be a pretty big deal if we could pull it off."

Mikosz emphasized that anything still could happen, noting that Salem's top-rated 4-by-4 relay team could win and creep 10 points closer. (Whoever wins the team regional advances to the team state meet, run by MITCA.)

No matter what happened Saturday morning, Mikosz knew the 4-by-8 relay team of seniors Matt Neumann, Warren Buzzard and juniors Justin Heck and Joe Porcari broke a Plymouth record with a first-place time of 8:01.90. Since the top-two finish-

Please see **RAIN, B3**

## Chiefs nip 'Cats in division showdown

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The usually hot campus rivalry between Canton and Plymouth's girls soccer teams bumped up a few degrees thanks to Thursday's tilt for the KLAA South Division title.

Canton's Megan Trapp scored in the first half and the goal held up for a 1-0 victory over the Wildcats to earn the division championship with a 9-0-1 record. Plymouth needed a win to take the division, but instead fell to 7-1-2 and second place with the defeat.

Weather-wise it was hotter, too, with the starting time moved back from 7 p.m. to 5 p.m. to accommodate an honors program for Canton seniors.

"On a hot day like this it was just the desire and the hard work that they put in there," said Chiefs head coach George Tomasso. "I give a lot of credit to all my reserve players that got into the game because they actually helped motivate and create a sense of urgency to help us keep applying the pressure."

Trapp's goal about 25 minutes into the match started with a corner kick from senior midfielder Lindsey Winters.

"She (Trapp) got on the end of it for a header to finish it," Tomasso said. "She



JOHN KEMSKI

Canton senior Lindsey Winters (No. 5), shown from earlier this season, took the corner kick that led to Thursday's only goal.

started at the penalty spot and then she made an arcing run to the back post and she got on the end of it, it was quite nice."

That was all that Plymouth goalkeeper Marissa Williams would give up as she played well. But Canton's tandem of

senior Sam McPartlin and junior Kayla Bridges was a little bit better.

According to Wildcats head coach Jeff Neschich, he thought some officiating played too much of a role in the final outcome of a game when the division crown was on the line.

"It's a shame that our kids worked so hard to get to this point of the season and the ref takes them out of the game like he did tonight," Neschich said. "He didn't call anything, so the advantage went to the more physical team. It wasn't fair."

### NOTEWORTHY

Neschich did highlight the efforts of several of his Plymouth players, including Williams in goal and others in front of her.

"McKenzie (Hengesh) and Megan Peplinski up top got behind them and caused a lot of chances," he said. "And our midfield was solid, our back four played a good game."

"(Kaitlyn) Moss and Meegan Hughes in the center were solid and good enough to win. It just didn't go our way."

For Canton, Tomasso said Winters "and all the seniors on the team" continued showing the strong leadership that they

Please see **SOCCER, B3**



### AARON THOMPSON



**Who:** Aaron Thompson, senior co-captain, Salem varsity boys golf team.

**Miscellany:** Aaron, 18, a four-year varsity golfer whose parents are Annie and Alan Thompson, carries a 2.7 grade-point average. Known as "The Weatherman" for his ability to fight through the elements, Thompson's accomplishments to date include firsts at the Spring Classic Tournament at Forest Akers in East Lansing and at the 2009 Adams Summer Tour, also at Forest Akers. He took second at the Meijer tour in '09 at Edgewood.

**Captain's job:** "The job of a captain is to be a team leader in many ways.

As a captain you need to represent your school, coach and your teammates.

To always make sure the team is ready to play each and every match."

**Leadership style:** "I make sure I fire up the guys when they tend to be a little tight and try to loosen them up to play better on the course. I try to work hard at the game almost every day and then lead by my example of practicing to become better at golf."

**Why him?:** "One reason they choose me was for my love and deep passion for the great game of golf.

I am a four year varsity player for Salem golf.

I want to be the best I can at golf and would like to thank Mr. Dave Kendall my golf instructor, my coaches, teammates and my parents who first taught me the game of golf."

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YVETTE DIXON

The Canton varsity baseball team celebrates after defeating Northville 2-1 on Wednesday to win the Kensington Conference championship.

## BASEBALL

FROM, PAGE B1

ond for the inning-ending force.

### WINNING ANSWER

"They scratched one out on a nice sac fly and we came right back, we answered back and that's what championship teams do," Canton head coach Mark Blomshield said. "Northville's a good team. They've had our number for a long time. "I'm just happy we finally got the one that mattered at this moment in time so we're pretty excited about that, obviously."

Blomshield tipped his cap to Galanty for "putting a good swing on it. He's a senior and that's what he's supposed to do."

Tidwell, who improved to 7-0 with the victory, scattered five hits to five batters.

"He was amazing, the kid was outstanding," Blomshield said. "They didn't hit him that hard at all. ... He's

been awesome all year."

But Canton's defense helped keep the Mustangs stymied.

In the second, junior catcher Seth Tschetter gunned down Garesh (who singled to open the inning) trying to steal second. That cost the Mustangs a run because Davin Montgomery followed with a double to right.

Tidwell knocked down a liner up the middle by Joey Close during the third and got the out.

Then in the fifth with the leadoff man on, Montgomery tried to bunt. That move backfired as Tschetter bare-handed the ball in the air and threw to first for the double play.

"Seth played a great game," Blomshield said.

Northville's inability to cash in had head coach John Kostrzewa shaking his head.

"Give their pitcher credit, he did a great job, he made the pitches when he had to," Kostrzewa said. "But we squandered a lot of opportunities."

### STAYING TOUGH

Canton, meanwhile, put runners

in scoring position the first three innings despite not hitting the ball hard. Each time, Garesh put out the fire with ease.

"Colin, I couldn't ask for anything more from him today," Kostrzewa said. "He pretty much matched him (Tidwell) pitch for pitch."

Tidwell said he knew he had to keep battling because of how tough Northville is and how well Gerish was pitching.

Few balls were even hit hard other than the Galanty homer, although Canton did collect seven singles (two each by Blakita and Garrett Bryden).

"When you've got a great ball team like that (Northville), you got to hang in there and tough out the bad moments," Tidwell said. "Like, when I had the bases loaded (in the sixth), I knew I had to fight through that."

The Chiefs will now play on the road for the KLAA overall title, May 26 against Brighton or Walled Lake Central.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

## Priebe's blast lifts Wildcats

Matt Priebe's three-run homer in the bottom of the sixth not only helped Plymouth defeat Livonia Stevenson 7-5 in a KLAA crossover baseball game Wednesday, it enabled Priebe to set his second school record in recent weeks.

Priebe's blast, which scored Rich Guglielmi (HBP) and Mike Nadratowsk (1B), was his 11th of his Plymouth career to break Brad Lineberry's record of 10 homers. Recently, Priebe set a new hits record.

"I am so proud of Matt," said Plymouth head coach Bryan Boyd. "He has worked very hard this spring to put himself in a position to break this record."

The Wildcats (13-11) did need to hang on to finish off the Spartans, the No. 4 team in Division 1. With the bases loaded in the seventh, reliever Zach Yokom recorded the final out on a liner to Nadratowski in center field.

Yokum earned the save while starting pitcher Ryan Nick (4 1/3 innings) was the winner.

Priebe's two-hit, 3-RBI game wasn't the only solid one offensively

for Plymouth. Nadratowski had two hits and scored three times and Phil Emminger had three hits.

"This is another big win for us," Boyd said. "Stevenson pounded us a week and a half ago."

**PLYMOUTH CHRISTIAN 7, BAPTIST PARK 2:** Matt Dodson pitched a complete game on Thursday as Plymouth Christian Academy earned a big win against Taylor Baptist Park.

PCA (7-2 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference) had a balanced offensive attack with seven of the starters collecting hits.

The big stick for the Eagles PCA was Matt Hagelin with two doubles and three runs. Ethan Walker had two singles with Dan Slater, Dodson, Jon Slater, Austin Smith and David Baum each adding singles.

• On Monday, PCA swept Lutheran South, 15-0 and 13-2. Jon Slater pitched his second no-hitter of the season in the opener while Ethan Walker gave up just two hits in the nightcap.

Dodson had a big day at the plate, with three hits in the opener and two more in Game 2.

## SOFTBALL

FROM, PAGE B1

Logan Lankford, CarolAnn Sexauer and a two-run double by Heidi Lucke.

### PITCHING IN

Canton closed out the win with flair as Larner picked off a South Lyon runner off first base.

"The team's come together extremely well," Arnold said. "Their motto is 'All on the Island' and they're all together as a team, they're playing together."

"Everybody's contributing no matter who I put into the lineup."

Canton also defeated the Lions on

Monday, 5-0, with most of the scoring coming on homers.

Dunleavy led off the game with a home run and freshman Jessica Webster (who had singled in a run in the fourth) belted a three-run homer in the sixth, her first as a varsity player.

Larner and Lankford reached base with hits before Webster brought them home.

"She (Webster) was pretty excited," Arnold said.

The Chiefs will tune up for the association showdown with tournament action over the weekend, also at Lakeland.

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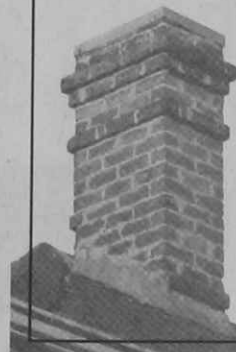
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# Plymouth 'D' tops Spartans

**BY TIM SMITH**  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Perhaps it's a good omen for the soon-to-begin state tournament.

Excellent defense and pitching sparked Plymouth's 3-1 victory over Livonia Stevenson in Wednesday's Kensington Conference cross-over girls softball matchup.

The Wildcats (20-6 overall) collected nine hits, including two by freshman Elaine Gerou — who backed pitcher Lauren Smith's complete game, four-hitter against the Spartans.

"Our pitching is definitely where it needs to be right now (entering the postseason)," said Plymouth head coach Val Canfield. "We seem to be keeping batters off-balance,

especially in that Madonna tournament.

"And it carried over to the Stevenson game because Stevenson has some really good hitters. We quieted their bats down a little bit."

Smith struck out seven Stevenson batters and issued only one walk, helping muzzle the Spartans.

Plymouth will face Livonia Churchill 4 p.m. Tuesday, June 1 in a pre-district game at Canton and hope to continue after that.

"That win sets a positive tone for us," Canfield emphasized. "And we were hitting real good, we had nine hits and we seemed to string together hits."

"I talked to my team and told them hitting is contagious, and you could see by

their performance yesterday."

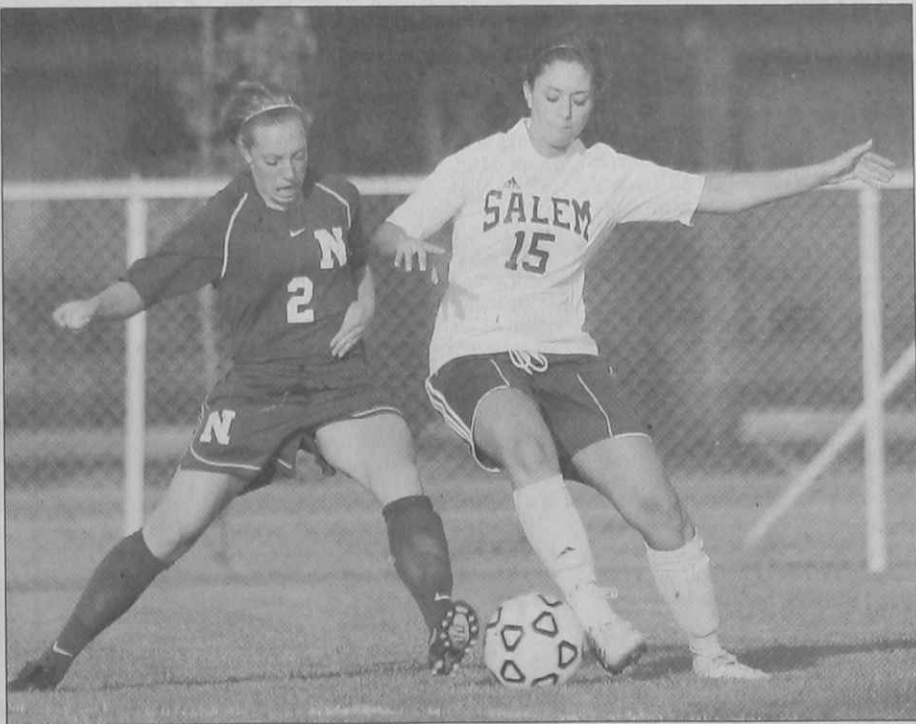
**SALEM 6, FRANKLIN 0:** The Rocks pounded host Livonia Franklin Wednesday, thanks to a two-hitter by junior pitcher Briana Lee and late fireworks.

Salem exploded for six runs in the sixth to account for all of the game's scoring. The big hit of that frame was a three-run homer over the fence by Sam Maksimovic with RBI hits earlier Alexis Powell and by Kelli Janiczek (2B).

"Sam was struggling at the plate today and had a great hit, right when we needed it most," said Salem head coach Bonnie Southerland.

... Lee had another excellent performance in the circle. She struck out six and gave up just one walk along with the two hits.

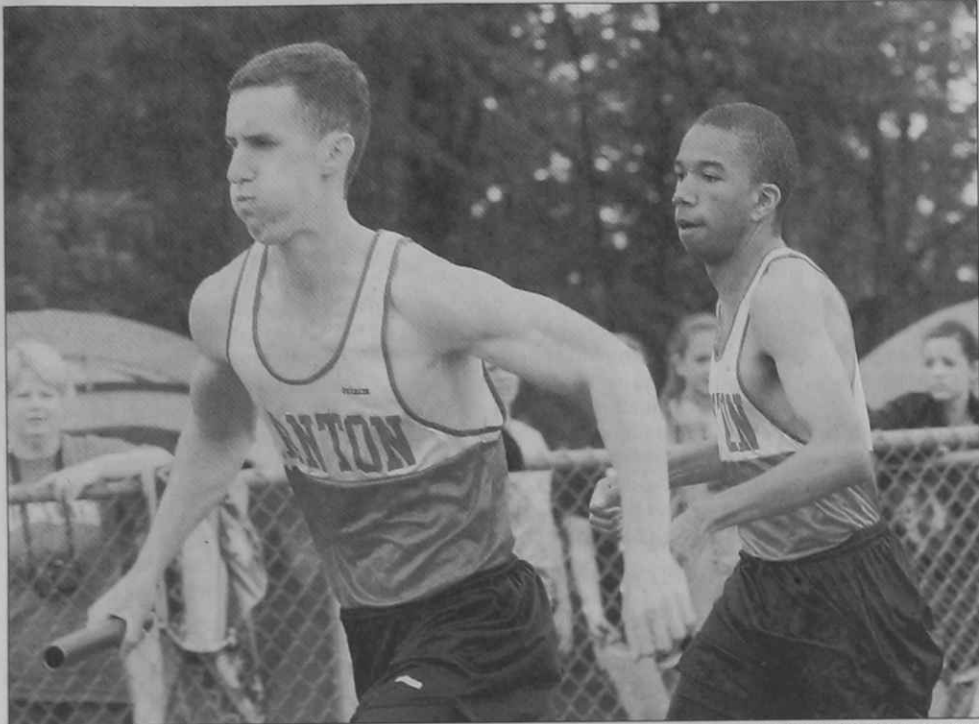
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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## 50/50 chance

Going for a 50/50 ball during Thursday night's KLAA Central varsity girls soccer game are Novi's Mary Reid (No. 2) and Salem's Lindsey Newton (No. 15). The Wildcats scored three goals in the first half for all the scoring in a 3-0 final. Despite the loss, Salem head coach Joe Nora said both teams played well and battled hard particularly in the scoreless second half.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Cal Coplai takes the baton from August Garrett during the 800-meter relay during Friday's Division 1 boys track & field regional at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. The proceedings were suspended shortly after 9 p.m. due to rain and were to have been completed Saturday morning.

## RAIN

FROM PAGE B1

ers in each event automatically qualify for the MHSAA-run D1 individual state meet, the quartet already earned a spot.

Other Wildcats to qualify — so far — for the D1 state meet included junior Kyle Brindza (2nd, shot put, 51-feet, 03.50-inches) and Buzzard with runner-up finishes in the 800- and 1600-meter runs.

### SAME CONDITIONS

Meanwhile, the crazy weather did hamper athletes as they needed to start and re-start their competitive juices.

"We had some guys getting on the track to run the (open) 400 and they had a delay, and that kind of put them back and they only gave them 15 minutes to warm up," Mikosz noted. "It was a little challenging, but they still ran all right. Everybody has to compete with the same conditions."

One of those who did OK in that 400 dash despite the elements was Salem senior Zach Gaskell.

"At first I was kind of worried about it because we went inside for a half-hour, 45 minutes and I got real tight," Gaskell said. "I got on the track and felt really slow."

But it didn't take long for Gaskell to "put everything into it" as he sprinted to a second-place finish of 49.60 seconds. Also state meet bound with a first place time of 49.50 was Canton sophomore Kevin Buford.

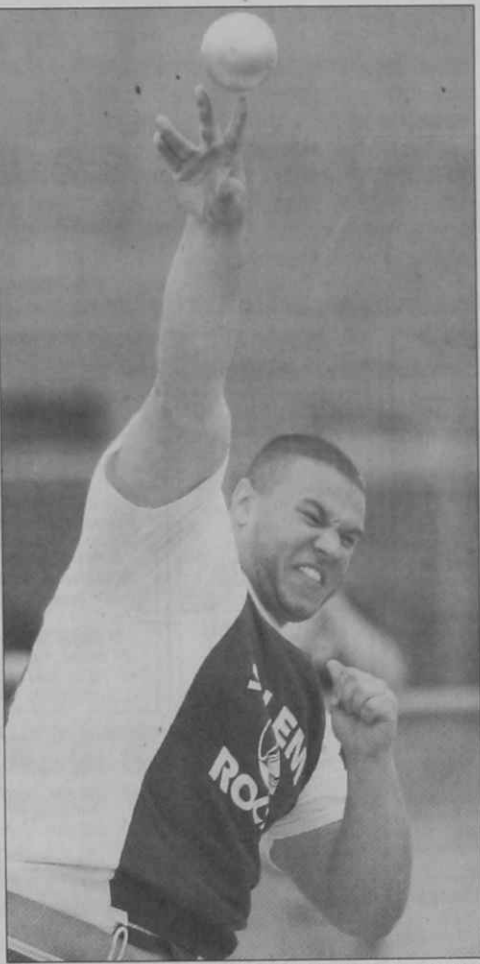
"When I got on the track I knew it was time to take care of my business," Gaskell noted.

Some of Gaskell's teammates did well enough during Friday's events to know they also will go to the state meet.

Those include senior throwers Ed Merhi and Dana Baltazar in the shot put, senior Scott O'Connor (300 hurdles) and junior Dan Martin (800 run).

Early Canton qualifiers, in addition to Buford, included the 3200-meter relay team of seniors Keith Zech, Max Schmiel, Paul Rakovitis and Zach Spreitzer, junior Nick Alaniva in the pole vault and sophomore Matt Schacht in the high jump.

According to Canton boys head coach Bob Richardson, the way the day unfolded was "unfortunate" for the athletes and plain unfair for everybody else watching the wet proceedings.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem senior powerhouse Ed Merhi puts everything he's got into the shot put toss. He finished third, but still qualified for the state meet with a mark of 51-feet, 00.50-inches.

"It's just unfortunate for the athletes to warm up, sit for an hour and a half, then warm up again and now we're going to sit for another half hour," Richardson said. "It's hard to keep focused. Again, everybody's in the same conditions so it's who reacts the best."

"But I feel bad for the athletes and the fan's aren't real happy sitting there getting soaked. But it happens sometimes."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

# Regional title looms for Churchill girls

As heavy rains forced suspension of Friday's Division 1 girls track & field regional at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, Livonia Churchill held a commanding lead of 110 points over runner-up Redford Thurston (77).

Plymouth's 50 points was good for fourth place after 15 events, with two to do on

Saturday.

Other PCEP teams were headed toward middle-of-the-pack finishes, with Canton eighth out of 17 teams (32.5) and Salem 10th (29.0).

Go to [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com) this weekend or come back to Thursday's Observer for full results.

## SOCCER

FROM PAGE B1

have all season.

But sophomore midfielder Ally Krause earned special mention from the coach.

"Ally Krause had a fantastic game," Tomasso said. "She was very exceptional defending in the midfield and amazingly she did a very good job attacking out of the midfield today."

Meanwhile, while the Wildcats now look forward to the state districts, Canton has another KLAA iron in the fire.

The Chiefs will go up against Northville 7 p.m. Monday for the Kensington Conference title in a matchup at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. The Mustangs won 3-2 in the previous meeting this season.

"If we win that game we get to play for the association championship," Tomasso added. "If we lose we play for third place in the conference."

"I'm very excited with the performance these last few weeks and hopefully we can keep it going."

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Meeghan Hughes (No. 20), shown from an earlier game against Salem (No. 21 is Gina Goble), was one of several Wildcats the coach said had strong games Thursday against Canton in a tough 1-0 defeat.

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## WRAPS

FROM PAGE B1

Brandon Duprey earned medalist honors with 36, with teammates Patrick Doty (41), Eric Duprey (42), Josh Perrin (43), Brian Patterson (44) and Tommy Halling (44) finishing out Salem scoring.

Top Novi performers were Kyle Edwards and Tommy Goers, with 39 and 40, respectively.

On Monday, Salem dropped a 156-157 match to Livonia Stevenson despite 37 by senior Aaron Thompson and 40 each by Doty, Patterson and Perrin.

## Boys lacrosse

**LAKELAND 6, SALEM 3:** In one of the lower scoring matches of the season, the visiting Rocks were doubled up in Wednesday's KLAA contest.

Salem lost 12 of 14 faceoffs, which helped pin the Rocks in their own end much of the night. Lakeland outshot the Rocks 35-13.

Scoring for Salem were Steve Haburne, Connor Berlin (his team-leading 34th) and Brandon Lee, with Berlin and Garrett Berg drawing assists.

## Track &amp; Field

**PCA AT MIAC MEET:** Plymouth Christian Academy's boys track & field team placed sixth at the May 18 Michigan Independent Athletic Conference meet at Ann Arbor Greenhills, with 50 points. Lutheran Westland took first with 118 points.

The Eagles had several highlights, including the 800-meter relay team of Riley Groenewoud, Chad Ibach, Collin Kieft and Jordan Allen setting a new school record with a time of 1-minute, 37.7 seconds. It was the team's seventh record of the season.

Other outstanding performances included Jordan Allen winning the high jump with a mark of 6-2 and taking second in the 400 dash (54.00); Groenewoud placing third in long jump (18-1.5), 100 dash (11.75) and fifth in the 200 dash (23.90); Kieft placing sixth in the 400 dash (57.07); Josh Allen, fifth in the discus (97-8.5); Chad Ibach taking fifth in the 300 hurdles (44.64) and Jimmy Parks coming in sixth in the 3200 run (11:42.62).

Two relay teams finished sixth, including the 1600 (Ibach, Jacob Nichols, Kieft, Jordan Allen) and 3200 (Robert Fergan, Ethan Levack, Ian Rose and Nichols) with respective times of 3:55.28 and 9:53.12.

Meanwhile, the PCA girls team finished fifth with 43 points. Jessica Soblesky won the 200 dash (27.63) and took second in the 400 (1:04.05) while Karen Windle finished fourth in the 1600 run (6:01.82) and fifth in the 800 run (2:43.38). Also in the 800, teammate Lindsay Roedding finished sixth with a time of 2:55.72.

The 1600-meter relay team of Soblesky, Roedding, Windle and Sydney Carpenter finished second, with a mark of 4:41.35. Other PCA relay teams took fourth (3200-meter team of Elizabeth Aitken, Maggie Slaggenwhite, Natalie Smith, Erica Smith; 400-meter team of Leah Dotson, Erica Smith, Rachel Yenke and Megan Lemieux); and fifth (800-meter relay team of Dotson, Erica Smith, Yenke and Lemieux).

## Girls soccer

**LADYWOOD 2, GABRIEL RICHARD 1:** Livonia Ladywood's late-season surge continued Thursday with a dramatic overtime victory at Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard in the semifinals of the Catholic League girls soccer tournament.

Ladywood's Paige Brennan dribbled down the middle of the field and found herself in a one-on-one situation with Gabriel Richard goalkeeper Anna Zekany, who made the initial save before the sophomore midfielder banged home the game-winning rebound.

"I believe that is Paige's fourth or fifth game-winning goal this year," Ladywood coach Ken Shingledecker said. "I couldn't be any prouder of my senior captains — Sydney DeLosh, Shea McParlane, and Rachel Maceri — and how they have kept this team organized and motivated."

The Blazers, who improved to 9-3-4 overall with the victory, earned a spot in Saturday's Catholic League championship game with state-ranked Birmingham Marian, which is ranked No. 2 in Division 2. (Game time is 2 p.m. at Ladywood.)

Ladywood led 1-0 at halftime when Dominique Sarnecky collected a errant kick by the Richard goalkeeper and scored in the 33rd minute.

The Fighting Irish, ranked No. 6 in Division 3, evened the count at 1-1 when Natalia Collins scored off a volley on a cross.

Ladywood keeper Maddie Reed made six saves, while Zekany had five. "Maddie Reed was fantastic," Shingledecker said. "She wasn't tested too much early, but she was forced to make multiple saves for us in the last 20 minutes of regulation."



## Spring puck champs

On April 16-18, the Michigan Bucks spring hockey team captured the Midget AA Division of Detroit Action Tournament Series at the Wayne Civic and Westland Modano arenas with wins over the Bloomfield Gamblers, Westland Warriors and Belle Tire. Members of the Bucks include: Brendan Hay, Garrett Duffany, Christian Wood, John Mandryk, Travis Gosselin, Kyle Wrathell, Eric Peters, Josh York, Patrick Coliton, Mark Brandstatter, Doug Perchall, Adam Kleven, Jimmy Labby, Sean Winkelseth, Jason Blacha, Gerry Kroft and Andrew Palushaj. The coaching staff includes George Wrathell, Pat York and John Winkelseth.

## GIRLS TRACK RESULTS

**MICHIGAN INDEPENDENT ATHLETIC CONFERENCE TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIP**  
May 18 at Ann Arbor Greenhills  
**GIRLS TEAM STANDINGS:** 1. Lutheran High Westland, 172 points; 2. Southfield Christian, 75; 3. Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest, 56; 4. Birmingham Roeper, 46; 5. Plymouth Christian Academy, 43; 6. Newport Lutheran South, 39; 7. Ann Arbor Greenhills, 26; 8. Auburn Hills Oakland Christian, 16; 9. Sterling Heights Parkway Christian, 16; 10. Novi Franklin Road Christian, 6.

## FINAL EVENT RESULTS

**Shot put:** 1. Christine Labaza (LNW), 33 feet, 5 inches; **high jump:** 1. Emilie Freeman (LW), 4-10; **long jump:** 1. Aneisha Bussey (SFC), 15-2; **pole vault:** 1. Storck (LW), 7-0; **100-meter hurdles:** 1. Briana Balford (Roeper), 17.13; **300 hurdles:** 1. Balford (Roeper), 50.95; **100 dash:** 1. Rynita Bohler (Parkway), 12.93; **200:** 1. Jessica Soblesky (PCA), 27.63; **400:** 1. Bussey (SFC), 1:02.19; 2. Soblesky (PCA), 1:04.05; **800:** 1. Nicole Zehel (LW), 2:25.98; 5. Karen Windle (PCA), 2:43.38; 6. Lindsay Roedding (PCA), 2:55.72; **1,600:** 1. Zehel (LW), 5:38.78; 4. Windle (PCA), 6:01.82; **3,200:** 1. Winonah Krug (LS), 12:45.48; **400 relay:** 1. Southfield Christian (Morgan Bates, Rachel Love, Peyton Brown, Kristian Wheeler), 55.48; **800 relay:** 1. Lutheran Westland (A. Flury, Hrdin, Terranella, Freeman), 1:54.3; 5. Plymouth Christian (Leaha Dotson, Erica Smith, Rachel Yenke, Megan Lemieux), 2:21.36; **1,600 relay:** 1. Lutheran Westland (Freeman, A. Flury, Terranella, Zehel), 4:26.4; 2. Plymouth Christian (Soblesky, Roedding, Windle, Sydney Carpenter), 4:41.35; **3,200 relay:** 1. Lutheran Westland (S. Mayard, Lyle, B. Maynard, Rice), 11:07.7; 4. Plymouth Christian (Elizabeth Aitken, Maggie Slaggenwhite, Natalie Smith, Erica Smith), 13:50.59.

## SPORTS ROUNDUP

## Play Golf America

Hickory Creek PGA golf pro Tami Bealert is continuing to host 10-minute free golf lessons on Saturdays (2-4 p.m.) throughout May as part of the Play Golf America program.

The course is located at Ford-Napier roads in Superior Township, just west of Canton.

Participants must make appointments in advance, however. To do so, call Bealert at (734) 927-3265.

## Free golf clinic in June

Meanwhile, Bealert is hosting another free family golf clinic (following a successful one on May 15). That will take place from 2-3 p.m. Saturday, June 26 at Hickory Creek Golf Course — located at Ford-

Napier roads in Superior Township, just west of Canton.

For more information, go to [www.TrainWithTami.com](http://www.TrainWithTami.com).

Golfers coming out that day will be encouraged to donate to the Susan G. Komen 3-Day Walk campaign to raise money for research to find a cure for breast cancer. "We will be taking donations (June 26) for those who would like to support the cause," Bealert noted.

## Thackaberry golf outing

Circle Saturday, June 26 on your calendar. That's the date for the 2nd Annual Milt Thackaberry Memorial Salem Baseball Golf Outing. A 1 p.m. shotgun start is slated for Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center, 8768

N. Territorial Road in Plymouth.

The fees are \$110 per golfer with paid registration before June 1; \$125 if they sign up after June 1 and \$50 per person for dinner only.

Included for those paying \$110 or \$125 are the following: 18 holes of golf, hot dog lunch, clubhouse dinner with open bar, prizes and a raffle.

Those interested should e-mail Steve Gordon ([sgordon88@sbcbglobal.net](mailto:sgordon88@sbcbglobal.net)), Denny Devine ([devinev@aol.com](mailto:devinev@aol.com)) or go to [www.rocksbaserball.com](http://www.rocksbaserball.com).

Entire proceeds of the event will go to the Salem Baseball Dugout Club, of which Thackaberry was a huge supporter. Milt Thackaberry passed away from cancer in 2008.



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# NEIGHBORS

## Motor City Youth Theatre revving up for show, summer camps

BY SHARON DARGAY  
OSE STAFF WRITER

As a child, Nancy Florkowski aspired to become an actor. At 61, the Redford woman and founder of Motor City Youth Theatre, still recalls the experience that crushed her dreams.

"I had a music teacher in junior high who made us audition. I was too shy to do it. I was really little and there were older girls standing there with make-up and ratted hair. I was so scared I couldn't sing. I never performed until after college.

"I feel like I was denied an opportunity because of that music teacher," Florkowski said. "She deflated my balloon. I don't want any kid to be denied this opportunity."

For 20 years her youth theater has remained true to its mission of helping "all children" improve their speaking, dance, music, artistic and life skills.

"We don't turn anyone away. That's what makes us different from most groups."

Florkowski said the troupe has included special needs children and young actors from a variety of skill levels and ages.

The theatre grew out of Florkowski's master's degree project at Eastern Michigan University. The former special education and middle school drama teacher also holds a an education specialist degree in special education. Offering summer programs in conjunction with Redford Schools, the Redford Youth Theatre — Motor City Youth Theatre's original name — drew students from throughout the district. As the troupe grew and expanded its offerings, "kids came out of the woodwork" from communities throughout southeastern Michigan. The theater changed its name to Tinderbox Productions and finally, Motor City Youth Theatre, as it moved from Redford to Detroit to its own build-



The cast of 'Seussical Jr.' at Motor City Youth Theatre in Livonia.

### MOTOR CITY YOUTH THEATRE

**Spring show:** "Seussical Jr.," 7:30 p.m., May 28-29, June 4-5 and 2 p.m. May 30, June 6. All seats are \$12. The Grantland Street Playhouse is located at 27555 Grantland, Livonia. (313) 535-8962

**Theatre Day Camp:** Musical Theatre and Motown Workshop runs 9 a.m.-noon, Monday-Friday, July 5-30. No audition is necessary and the program is open to age 8-18. Students learn Broadway and Motown songs and dances and perform on July 30. Campers also will get a chance to sing at the Redford Arts Festival, July 24-25. Cost is \$250 for students with family memberships; \$300 for new students. The afternoon session costs \$275 for those with family memberships and \$300 for new students. It will focus on Shakespeare from 1-4 p.m., Monday-Friday, July 5-30. Students will perform "A Midsummer Night's Dream" Aug. 6-8. Auditions for lead roles are 7 p.m., Monday, May 24. Students should prepare a minute-long sonnet or monologue from a Shakespeare play. To download a registration form visit [www.mcyt.org](http://www.mcyt.org).

ing in Livonia six years ago.

### TRI-COUNTY CAST

"In this (upcoming) production

of *Seussical Jr.* we don't have one Redford kid," Florkowski noted. But the show, which begins a two-week-end run May 28, brings cast members

together from Livonia, Westland, Canton, Farmington Hills, Novi, Northville, Clinton Township, Royal Oak, Beverly Hills, Lathrup Village,

Clinton Township, Dearborn Heights and Brownstown Township.

Florkowski's son, Jody, a former teacher at Berkley High School who's active at Stagecrafters in Royal Oak, is directing the production. Her husband, Fred, who co-founded the theater and designs sets, teaches scenic design at Wayne State University where he serves as technical director for the Bonstelle Theatre. Their daughter, Jenny, works in New York as an actor and has toured nationally in musicals, including *Cats* and *White Christmas*.

"Our whole family is in it. Once it (theater) gets into your blood you can't get it out of your system," she said.

### SHAKESPEARE AND MOIRE

She expanded Motor City Youth Theatre's programming by adding an annual Shakespeare production that maintains most of the original language ("I've always been a purist with Shakespeare") and last year started Broadway Kids, which teaches musical theatre.

"We do a lot of community outreach," she noted. "Yesterday we were at Starfish (Family) Services. The kids sang for toddlers. I think the community service makes it more of a community organization, not just 'we're divas and we're going to be in a play.' They enjoy helping others."

It may not be long before the group finds itself in a new venue. The existing theater is for sale and the Florkowskis are looking for a new site.

"We've outgrown this building," Florkowski explained, adding that larger quarters would be "so wonderful."

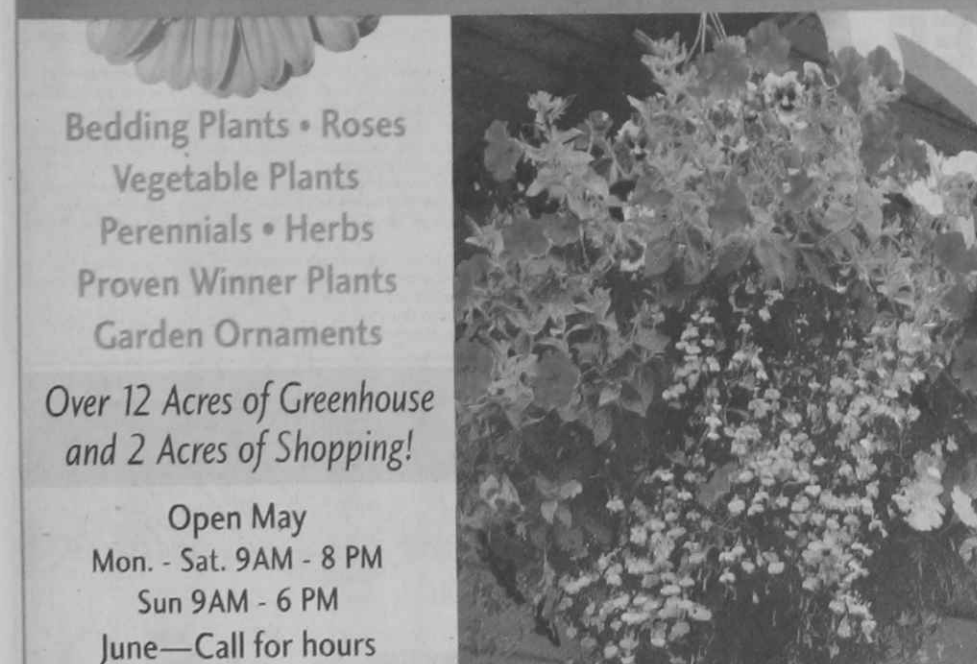
"We could build the stage the way we wanted."

For more information about Motor City Youth Theatre, visit [www.mcyt.org](http://www.mcyt.org)



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## Golf to help greyhounds, walk with Humane Society

Michigan Retired Greyhounds as Pets (REGAP) will present its 11th Annual Golf to Save Greyhounds on Saturday, June 5, at Tanglewood Golf Course in South Lyon.

The event helps Regap rescue greyhounds, provide them with medical care and place them into safe and loving homes.

The greyhounds rescued by Regap might otherwise be destroyed after running at various racetracks that operate in 11 states. Tracks have closed in the last year in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Wisconsin, meaning more greyhounds need help more than ever.

Regap's quest to stop the industry from killing thousands of dogs a year will continue until every track closes and every greyhound has a chance at life off the track.

Individual tickets to the golf outing are \$125; foursomes pay \$400. Admission includes a cart, contests and prizes, gifts, lunch, beverages, raffle tickets, door prizes and dinner.

The day will begin with continental breakfast at 8 a.m. and a "Putt for Pups" contest. The Spring Scramble tee off is at 10 a.m.

Rescued greyhounds, and their humans will be on hand at appointed holes, greeting golfers and reminding them



why they are there having so much fun.

After the golf game, Spring Scramble prizes will be awarded, sponsors honored and a buffet dinner will be served. A raffle will include such prizes as an exclusive Boyne get-away, golf at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, spa experiences and more.

Regap also is accepting tax-deductible Major (\$350) and Happy Tail Tee (\$100) sponsors for the event, as well as prizes for the raffle. For sponsorship details and golf forms visit [www.rescuedgreyhounds.org](http://www.rescuedgreyhounds.org) or write to [RegapGolf@yahoo.com](mailto:RegapGolf@yahoo.com) or call (248) 921-4041 to register and charge by phone.

Tanglewood Golf Course is located at 53503 10 Mile.

### WALK AT A MANSION

Hundreds of animal lovers will take a scenic stroll to benefit the Michigan Humane Society (MHS) from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sunday, June 6, at the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House in Grosse Pointe Shores.

The 22nd annual Mutt



Mike Birch of Plymouth is ready to golf and help rescued greyhounds.

March will offer several walking routes and refreshments will be provided for both individuals and dogs. All walkers turning in \$100 or more the day of the walk will receive an official Mutt March T-shirt and each canine participant will receive a bandana.

Last year's event drew more than 500 walkers and raised more than \$50,000. Proceeds benefit the Michigan Humane Society, which protects, rescues, and cares for more than 100,000 animals each year.

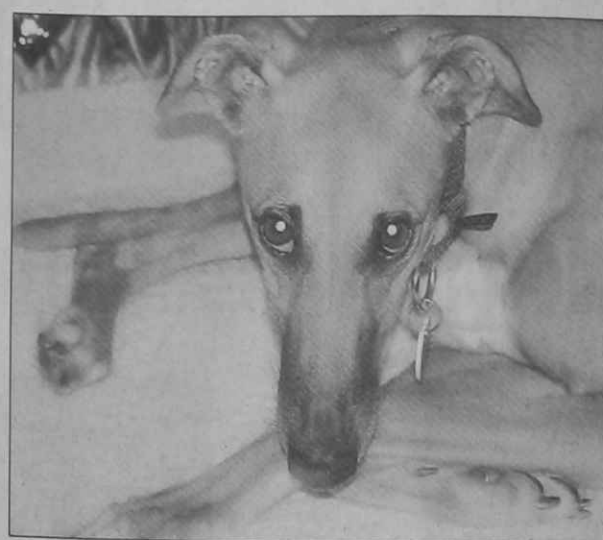
Pre-registration is not required, but individual walkers and teams can set up personalized Web pages and collect donations online at

[www.michiganhumane.org/muttmarch](http://www.michiganhumane.org/muttmarch).

Those walking with a canine companion must bring his or her current vaccination records. Dogs must be on leashes at all times.

The Edsel & Eleanor Ford House is located at 1100 Lake Shore Road between Eight Mile (Vernier) and Nine Mile in Grosse Pointe Shores. For more information or to register, call (866) MHUMANE or visit [www.michiganhumane.org/muttmarch](http://www.michiganhumane.org/muttmarch).

MHS is based in Bingham Farms and operates adoption centers in Detroit, Westland and Rochester Hills.



### Ready for adoption

Hello, my name is Chelsey. I just arrived in Michigan from a Greyhound racetrack in Florida. I am loving life at my foster home, playing with toys and running just for fun. Everyone says I'm a beautiful girl, with my fawn-colored coat and my big brown eyes. I would love to meet you if you are interested in adding a loving companion in your life. I would love to have my very own "Forever Home" and someone to love me. Please call Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption at (866) 438-4739 and you must visit our website and check out another lovely picture of me, [www.greyheart.org](http://www.greyheart.org).

### 'BOWLING FOR RHINOS' SET FOR JUNE 12

The Detroit chapter of the American Association of Zookeepers (AAZK) is inviting bowlers to help save rhinoceroses "one pin at a time" at the 21st annual "Bowling for Rhinos." The bowl-athon for the conservation of endangered rhinos will be held 7 p.m. Saturday, June 12, at Fairlanes Bowl in Madison Heights.

Bowlers may register individually or form a team of four to five for the event, which features bowling, a silent auction and 50/50 raffle. The registration fee is \$10 and includes shoe rental, two games, pizza and soft drinks.

Bowlers are asked to collect sponsor money of a minimum \$15 for adults and \$10 for children. All donations are tax deductible. Participants who raise over \$50 will receive a "Bowling for Rhinos" T-shirt.

Registration forms and fees should be received by June 5 as space is limited. Anyone who is unable to attend the event but

would like to support rhino conservation can visit [www.aazkdetroit.org](http://www.aazkdetroit.org) to make a donation.

Fairlanes Bowl is located at 29600 Stevenson Highway at 13 Mile Road in Madison Heights. Further information on "Bowling for Rhinos" is available by calling (248) 541-5717, Ext. 3000, or e-mailing [aazk@detroitazk.org](mailto:aazk@detroitazk.org).

Each year, over 40 AAZK chapters throughout the United States participate in "Bowling for Rhinos," raising over \$200,000 annually since 1990. The Detroit Zoo chapter alone has raised over \$145,000 to date.

One hundred percent of the proceeds directly benefit three rhino conservation projects in Africa and Asia.

The Detroit Zoological Society is a nonprofit organization that operates the Detroit Zoo and Belle Isle Nature Zoo. The Detroit Zoo is located at the intersection of 10 Mile and Woodward Avenue, just off I-696, in Royal Oak.

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Jimmy K & Ethnic Jazz

**Sunday, May 30th:**  
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One day the person awakes with ankle pain and swelling. The explanation of an injury doesn't make sense because no such episode occurred. Over the next week the ankle pain increases and the swelling remains. A doctor's appointment follows.

He takes a history including the past bowel problems and examines all the joints with attention to the ankle. He aspirates any fluid in the ankle joint for laboratory analysis; he may take an x-ray of the ankle.

With all the information in hand, he may then inform the patient that he or she has the arthritis of bowel disease, that is, the ankle arthritis is part of a larger problem and treatment requires a medicine for the bowel disease and another medicine for the arthritis.

A similar scenario can occur in people who have psoriasis but are unaware that the patches of dry skin on their arms or legs are psoriatic lesions. Knee or hand joint swells and then the patient learns that the diagnosis is psoriatic arthritis.

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# Livonia woman honored at recent AAUW convention

The Livonia chapter of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and one of its members, received awards at the organization's annual state convention held earlier this month at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

The Livonia branch earned the "Mission Matters" award for promoting AAUW's mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

Laura Carter Callow, a Livonia resident, earned the prestigious Martha Griffiths Award. During the 1970s and 1980s Callow worked for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment on both the state and national levels. Helen Milliken, wife of former Michigan governor William Milliken, referred to her as the "Susan B. Anthony of Michigan."

In 1972, because of discriminatory credit policies, Callow helped found the Northwest Wayne County chapter of the National Organization for Women. She spoke favor of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) at numerous conferences, meetings, and high school and college classes, including the University of Michigan Law School and School of Social Work.

In 1975, Callow was sent as a delegate to the League of Women Voters for a new coalition



Callow

entitled W.O.M.E.N., which brought together women's rights organizations. She was elected as secretary. The organizations and others joined Michigan ERAmerica which concentrated its efforts on ratification of ERA. She served ERAmerica as co-chair throughout the extensions granted those states which had not ratified the Amendment.

Callow served on the Women's Advisory Committee of Schoolcraft Community College from 1970-2009 and received an honorary degree in 2007. She also served on the Livonia Human Relations Commission from 1989-2005 and was named to its honor roll in 2007.

In 1980, Callow received the Alice Paul Award from the Metropolitan Detroit Area chapters of NOW and was appointed as a delegate to the Regional White House Conference of Families. She received the Salute to Women Award from the AAUW Livonia branch in 1978 and the Liz Kummer Award from AAUW of Michigan in 2004.

She served as president of the Livonia branch of AAUW from 2007-2008 and currently is its Public Policy Chair.



Members of the American Association of University Women gathered at Schoolcraft College this month for their state convention. Several members who posed for a photograph are: Kathy Shaw, (left, standing) Battle Creek and Marshall branches and immediate past president of the Michigan AAUW; Eleanor & #8220;Coco & #8221; Siewert, Birmingham branch and a member of the Michigan AAUW board; Polly Pan, Ann Arbor branch and Michigan AAUW vice president of finance; Pat Fosdick, Battle Creek branch; Carolyn Blackmore-Bell, Dearborn branch; Josie Burke, Wyandotte-Downriver branch; Jennie Lombard, Ann Arbor branch and vice president of membership for the Michigan AAUW; Beth Haynes, Wyandotte-Downriver branch; Sharon Belobraidich, Plymouth-Canton branch and a Michigan AAUW board member; Deb Ensign, Battle Creek branch and a Michigan AAUW board member; Gloria Conn, Wyandotte-Downriver and Ann Arbor branches; Janet Watkins, Detroit and Ann Arbor branches and a Michigan AAUW board member; Mickey Edell, Plymouth-Canton branch and a Michigan AAUW board member; Pam Hoffman, (seated left) Birmingham branch; Betty Chenoweth, Midland branch and a Michigan AAUW board member; Sally Doty, Birmingham branch and president of the Michigan AAUW; Delores & #8220;Doree & #8221; Miller, Wyandotte-Downriver and Ann Arbor branches; Barbara Bonsignore, Rochester and Detroit branches and a Michigan AAUW board member, and Charlotte Mahrt, Birmingham branch.

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Submit your announcement at least two weeks in advance to Sharon Dargay at [sdargay@hometownlife.com](mailto:sdargay@hometownlife.com).

**Andover High School**  
**Class of 1970**

Reunion planned 7 p.m. Aug. 14 at the Heathers; contact Cis Sloan Stokas at [quintop@aol.com](mailto:quintop@aol.com)

**Belleville High School**  
**Class of 1971**

Planning 40th reunion in 2011. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail [BHS.1971@yahoo.com](mailto:BHS.1971@yahoo.com). If on FaceBook join the group by searching BHS reunion 1971 40th sign up site; also on CLASSMATES/REUNIONS.

**Birmingham Groves High School**  
**Class of 1975**

35th class reunion, Oct. 22-23, will include homecoming game, Friday night, and party, Saturday night, at The Birmingham Community House. Contact [groves1975@gmail.com](mailto:groves1975@gmail.com) or Groves Class of 1975 - 35th Class Reunion, on Facebook.

**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 her at [patkopczyk@aol.com](mailto:patkopczyk@aol.com).

com.

**Detroit Cody**  
**Classes from 1950-1969**

Annual picnic for all '50s-'60s Cody Comets and friends, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 22, Nankin Mills Pavilion, at Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Drive, Westland. BYOB and bring a chair; organizing committee will supply music and memorabilia. The Optomystics will perform. Door prizes, hot dogs, bottled water, T-shirts and sweatshirts, tassels and music CDs will be available. Free parking for classic cars. No need to register - just show up. Classmates, com will have information and photos from past picnics. Questions? Call Phil Varilone at (313) 562-3579 or Jerry Marszalek at (313) 532-0134.

**Class of 1965**

Looking for graduates from the January and June classes for a September reunion. For more information call Tim Dunning at (248) 879-2148 or e-mail to [timdunning@wowway.com](mailto:timdunning@wowway.com) or call Chris Snopkowski Nashlen at (734) 261-3116.

**Detroit Mackenzie**  
**Class of 1962**

Planning class reunion in 2012. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail the committee at [mackenzie1962@gmail.com](mailto: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 [dblehrn@aol.com](mailto:dblehrn@aol.com).

**Class of 1980**

30-year reunion, 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 17, Dunleavy's Pub & Grub, 34505 Grand River, Farmington. Contact Kelly McDonald at [kelly\\_fhs1980@yahoo.com](mailto:kelly_fhs1980@yahoo.com) and Farmington High School Michigan Class of 1980 on Facebook

**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](mailto:GCHS.MCMLX@yahoo.com).

**Garden City East**  
**Class of 1964**

Picnic, Aug. 21, in Garden City Park. For more information e-mail Karen Medwid Berry at [karber@comcast.net](mailto:karber@comcast.net) or Teri Friedman at [terifriedman@gmail.com](mailto:terifriedman@gmail.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 Franklin**  
**Class of 1980**

Reunion planned for Friday, July 30. For more information call Ron at (734) 834-2566 or send an email to [info@livoniafranklin1980.com](mailto:info@livoniafranklin1980.com)

**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@institutionalmarkets.com](mailto:payments@institutionalmarkets.com). Send e-mail correspondence to [stevensonclassof75@yahoo.com](mailto:stevensonclassof75@yahoo.com). (845) 534-2228

**Class of 1990**

20-year reunion, Saturday, July 24. RSVP by July 1st for

discounted tickets. Visit [www.LivoniaStevenson1990.classquest.com](http://www.LivoniaStevenson1990.classquest.com) for more details.

**Oak Park High School**

**Class of 1980**

30th reunion, July 2-4; for information, e-mail to [ophighschool1980@yahoo.com](mailto:ophighschool1980@yahoo.com)

**Plymouth Canton, Salem**

**Class of 1980**

Joint 30th reunion with golf outing Sept. 3 and evening gathering, Sept. 4. For more information and to register on its Web site visit <http://home.comcast.net/~1980cantonsalem/site/>. Contact the reunion committee at [1980cantonsalem@comcast.net](mailto:1980cantonsalem@comcast.net)

**Plymouth High School**

**Class of 1950**

60th reunion, Saturday, July 10-11; contact Russ Maxwell at [corumax@hotmail.com](mailto:corumax@hotmail.com)

**Redford Union**

**Class of 1960**

50-year reunion, 5:30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 14. For more information contact Mike and Carol (Gerogeff) Pontius (248) 446-9948 or e-mail to [mikecarol191500@att.net](mailto:mikecarol191500@att.net). Or call Tena (Fear) Keith at (248) 437-6827.

**Royal Oak Dondero**

**All Classes**

Family picnic, 1-6 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 14, VFW Park, at Lincoln and Campbell in Royal Oak. Bring your own lawn chairs, food and non-alcoholic beverages. Admission free; music provided. Presented by the Royal Oak Dondero Alumni Club. For more information call Jack Aardal at (248) 547-5389 or go to [rodonderoalumni.org](http://rodonderoalumni.org).

**St. Hyacinth**

**All school**

The reunion on Sept. 19 will commemorate the 20th anniversary of the elementary school's closing. The reunion will begin with a Mass at 11 a.m. and include an open house with snacks and refreshments. Contact the rectory at (313) 922-1507.

**St. Suzanne**

The West Grands Catholic Youth Organization at the Detroit parish school plans a July 10 reunion and is looking for participants. Call Rose at (248) 437-6621 or Sharon at (734) 522-7924

**Warren Fitzgerald**  
**Class of 1968**

6 p.m. to 1 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 9, at DeCarlo's Banquet Center, 10 Mile and Mound, Warren. Buffet dinner and cash bar. Tickets are \$35. Contact Ken Rix at (586) 781-4552, [kenrix@ameritech.net](mailto:kenrix@ameritech.net), or Bill Ziemba at (248) 689-6216, [billziemba1968@aol.com](mailto:billziemba1968@aol.com).

**West Bloomfield High School**  
**Class of 1980**

Planning for a 30th reunion is under way. The main event will be held July 17 at Hotel Baronette in Novi. More events are being planned for the same weekend. For more information e-mail the reunion co-chairs, Lori (Hess) Conklin at [lconklin@conklinsystems.com](mailto:lconklin@conklinsystems.com) or Jill (Butts) Beaulac at [jibeau@cox.net](mailto:jibeau@cox.net). A Facebook group for the WBHS Class of 1980 has also been formed and can be found at <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=48471044685&ref=ts> (search Facebook West Bloomfield High School Class of 1980). The Reunion Committee is publishing monthly newsletters to help classmates reconnect, share memories, and locate missing classmates. Those not registered who would like to receive a copy of the newsletter should contact Lori (Hess) Conklin at [lconklin@conklinsystems.com](mailto:lconklin@conklinsystems.com).

**Westland John Glenn**

**Class of 1985**

25-year reunion, 7 p.m. to 2 a.m., Sept. 25 at Doc's Sports Retreat in Livonia. Tickets \$25 per person before Aug. 1. Includes appetizers. Mail payment to JGHS Class of 1985, P.O. Box 871023, Canton, MI 48187 or contact Tracy Dunsmore at [tracy1420@wideopenwest.com](mailto:tracy1420@wideopenwest.com) or (734) 748-8904.

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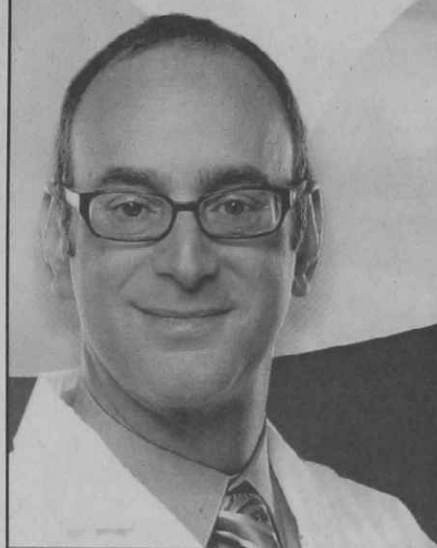
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**GROW IN FARMINGTON**  
The Chesley Street Community Garden in Farmington is accepting new gardeners. The garden is open to residents and business owners in the city of Farmington.  
Each 7-foot by 11-foot plot costs \$15 for one growing season. Rent a plot at the treasurer's department at Farmington City Hall, 23600 Liberty Street. E-mail to info@growfarmington.org for more information.

**GARDEN WALK**  
Visit six gardens with soothing waterfalls and ponds, unique art and ornamentation, and a diverse array of magnificent plants, trees, and shrubs at the Ann Arbor Garden Walk, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., June 12. Tickets for the 20th annual event are on sale at Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 North Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor, among other locations. They cost \$12 for adults, and \$3 for students K-12. Tickets can be purchased on the day of the Walk at any of the gardens, at a cost of \$15 per adult, and for \$3 students K-12. The ticket includes a map of the garden locations; participants can visit the gardens in any order and at their own pace. Descriptions of the featured gardens, and additional pictures, are online at [www.annarborfarmandgarden.org/events/garden-walk](http://www.annarborfarmandgarden.org/events/garden-walk).

**TRAILWOOD GARDEN CLUB**  
Tickets will be available beginning June 1 for the "Flowers are Forever Garden Walk" sponsored by the Trailwood Garden Club in Plymouth. Cost is \$8 before the walk; \$10 the day of the walk. Tickets for children, 12 and under are half off. Strollers will not be permitted in the gardens. The event runs noon to 8 p.m., Tuesday, June 29 and includes several gardens where complimentary refreshments will be served. Buy tickets at Saxton's Garden Center, 587 Ann Arbor Trail, Backyard Birds, 627 S. Main, and from Darlene Rinke, (734) 455-6867.



Thornton Creek third grade student Lilli Foland helps to spruce up some of the school's flower beds during the fourth annual grounds improvement project. Led by Jean Gertley, the kids raised \$1,400 throughout the year which was then used to purchase trees and bulbs and flowers and mulch which they then planted and spread around the school's property.

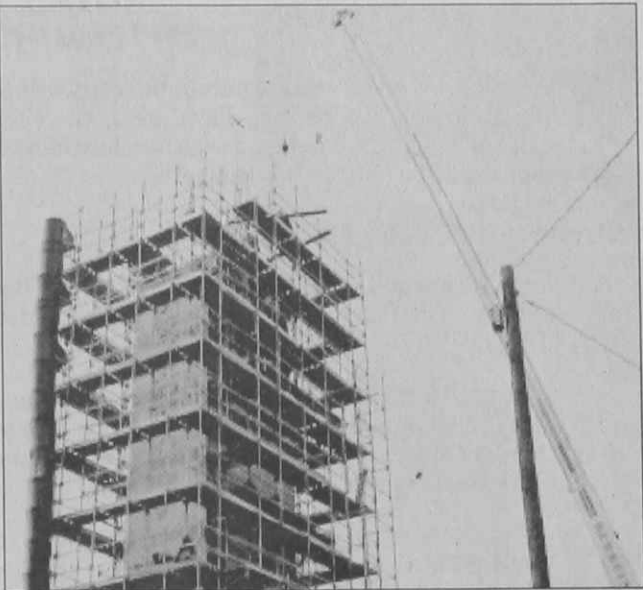
**NORTHVILLE GARDENS**  
The 17th Annual Garden Walk, sponsored by the Country Garden Club of Northville, Woman's National Farm and Garden Association, runs 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday, July 7. The tour includes six gardens. Other unique attractions include a garden market, live music, and refreshments at historic Mill Race Village. Proceeds from the event support charitable contributions to local and national horticultural causes.  
Tickets are \$10 in advance, available after June 7, at Gardenviews, 117 E. Main, Northville; (248) 380-8881. Limited tickets will be sold the day of the event and will cost \$12 at Mill Race Village, 215 Griswold Ave., Northville.  
Visit the Country Garden Club of Northville website at <http://cgcnv.org/>

**CHEER CLINIC**  
Youngsters in kindergarten through eighth grade can register now for Canton High School's summer cheerleading clinic. The program runs 9 a.m.-4 p.m. June 21, in the gym at the school, 8415 Canton Center, Canton.  
Registration deadline is June 11. The \$50 fee includes lunch, afternoon drink and snack, cheer sports bag and the clinic. Participants should wear comfortable shorts, gym shoes and sunscreen to the class and bring their own water bottle.  
Download an application at [www.cantoncheerleading.com](http://www.cantoncheerleading.com). For more information e-mail to [alik162@gmail.com](mailto:alik162@gmail.com)

**CRAFTERS NEEDED**  
St. John's Episcopal Church in Westland is looking for crafters and vendors who want to participate in the church's craft sale on Saturday, Oct. 9. For more information, call St. John's at (734) 721-5023.

**BELLS WORKING AGAIN**  
If you live near Rosedale Garden Presbyterian Church in Livonia, you may have noticed scaffolding at the bell tower and silence the past few months.  
According to Bill Dunphy, a member, the church's 46-year-old bell tower "was constructed poorly, allowing water to seep in and damage a significant portion of its brick façade causing joint and mortar deterioration and separation of the limestone from the tower." The bells fell out of their fixtures and the cross on the tower began to lean.  
It took four months to complete construction work, which involved more than 5,000 damaged bricks. Dunphy said a metal support frame was installed inside the tower "because the original back-up wall had been improperly constructed."  
"If you look up near the top of the tower you will notice that it is slightly larger than the lower part. That serves two purposes — a transition in the brick color, and more room for the new interior metal framework."

IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD



The bell tower at Rosedale Garden Presbyterian Church was under renovation for several months.

The bells are ringing again after the 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday services, funerals, and weddings. Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, located at 9601 Hubbard, offers a full music program with four hand-bell choirs and an adult vocal choir, as well. A staff of 20 individuals coordinates music, outreach, adult Bible study, Vacation Bible School and youth group. For more information call (734) 422-0494, or visit [www.rosedalegardens.org](http://www.rosedalegardens.org).

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CITY OF PLYMOUTH

ORDINANCE #2010-03

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 35 OF ARTICLE III OF CHAPTER 78, AS AMENDED, KNOWN AND CITED AS "THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH ZONING ORDINANCE"

THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH ORDAINS:

(1) Section 35 of Article III of Chapter 78, as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 78-35 District Regulations.  
Each district, as created in this article, shall be subject to the regulations contained in this ordinance. Uses not expressly permitted are prohibited. Uses for enterprises or purposes that are contrary to federal, state, or local laws or ordinances are prohibited.

(2) All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this ordinance full force and effect.

(3) Should any portion of this ordinance be held invalid for any reason such holding shall not be construed as affecting the validity of any of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

Effective Date

This ordinance shall become effective one day after publication.

Introduced: May 3, 2010

Enacted: May 17, 2010

Published: May 23, 2010

Effective: May 24, 2010

DAN DWYER  
MAYOR

LINDA LANGMESSER  
CITY CLERK

Publish: May 23, 2010

OE08701232 2x5.5

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for Classroom Chairdesks at Salem High School. Specifications and bid forms are available by contacting Ms. Hunter in the PCCS Purchasing Department at (734) 416-2741. Sealed bids are due to the E.J. McClendon Educational Center located on 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170 or on or before 1:00 p.m. EST, Thursday, May 27, 2010. 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: May 16 & 23, 2010

OE0870089 - 2x5.5

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

To all residents and other interested parties: Agenda's and Minutes for the Charter Township of Plymouth Board of Trustees Meetings are available for review under the Reference Desk Page of the Township Website: [www.plymouthtwp.org](http://www.plymouthtwp.org). They are also posted in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N Haggerty Road Plymouth, Michigan for public perusal.

Meeting dates: January 19, February 23, March 9 & 23, April 20, May 11 & 25, June 22

The public is invited and encouraged to attend the Board of Trustees Meetings.

Joe Bridgman, CMC  
Township Clerk

Publish: Jan. 24, Feb. 21, Mar. 7, Apr. 18, May 19, 23 & June 20, 2010

OE08687742 2x5.5

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

MEETING NOTICE

CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN

(734) 453-1234

A regular meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on Thursday, June 3, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI, to consider the following:

Z 10-05 840 / 852 W. Ann Arbor Trail  
Non-Use Variance Requested  
Signage  
Zoned: B-2, Central Business  
Applicant: Dan Johnson

Z 10-06 325 Parkview  
Non-Use Variance Requested  
Fence  
Zoned: R-1, Single Family Residential  
Applicant: Jason Konopka and Jennifer Gladd

Z 10-07 1090 William  
Non-Use Variance Requested  
Side Yard Setback  
Zoned: R-1, Single Family Residential  
Applicant: Cari & Christian Bockhausen

All interested persons are invited to attend.

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

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

Publish: May 23, 2010

OE08701267 2x6

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25% off all summer décor and floral

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
City of Plymouth  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
2010 / 2011 PROPOSED CITY BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held on Monday, June 7, 2010, at 7:00 P.M. in the portable band shell in Kellogg Park, or in the Commission Chambers of City Hall at 201 South Main Street in the event of inclement weather, for the purpose of discussing and receiving public comments on the proposed 2010 / 2011 City Budget.

Proposed 2010 City Millage Rates

The property tax millage rates proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing. The following statements are provided concerning the 2010 proposed millage levies for the City of Plymouth:

- The 2010 tax rate for City operating millage is proposed to be 11.3834 mills, which is the same as the 2009 operating tax rate. The City Commission has the authority under the City Charter to set the operating millage rate within the maximum allowed rate of 11.3834 mills, as adjusted by the Headlee millage roll-back formula.
- The 2010 tax rate for debt service millage to fund debt service requirements for the 2002, 2004, and 2008 General Obligation Street Bond issues is proposed to be 2.8900 mills, an increase of 0.1200 mills from the 2009 tax rate.
- The 2009 tax rate for City solid waste and recycling millage is proposed to be 1.7200 mills which is the same as the 2009 tax rate.
- The total City millage for all purposes is proposed to be 15.9934 mills for 2010, which is an increase of 0.1200 mills from the 2009 total City tax rate of 15.8734 mills.

Equalization Factors

Wayne County established tentative 2010 equalization factors of 0.9737 for the residential class of property, 0.8631 for the commercial class of property and 0.8795 for the industrial class of property. Since the City has decreased assessments for the residential, commercial, and industrial classes for 2010 by the proposed factors, all 2010 equalization factors will be set at 1.0000.

2010 / 2011 Proposed City Budgets

The budgets for the various funds of the City of Plymouth are proposed for 2010/11 as follows:

Revenues		Expenditures	
GENERAL FUND			
Property taxes	\$4,878,920	Administration	\$1,339,840
Licenses & Permits	4,600	Buildings & Grounds	409,630
Federal Grants	-0-	Police Department	2,975,630
State-shared Rev	721,500	Fire Department	1,000,150
Sales of Service	593,350	Public Works Dept	596,890
Cemetery Revenue	158,500	Other Functions	134,300
Parking Revenue	64,000	Capital Outlay	136,600
Other Revenue	552,700	Debt Service	126,830
Transfers-In	172,600	Transfers-Out	426,320
REVENUE TOTAL	\$7,146,170	EXPENDITURE TOTAL	\$7,146,170
MAJOR STREET FUND			
Gas & Weight Tax	\$ 326,800		
Contrib & Other	37,120		
REVENUE TOTAL	\$ 363,920	EXPENDITURE TOTAL	\$ 363,920
LOCAL STREET FUND			
Gas & Weight Tax	\$ 132,800		
Contrib & Other	130,730		
REVENUE TOTAL	\$ 263,530	EXPENDITURE TOTAL	\$ 263,530
RECREATION FUND			
Contrib. From G/F	\$ 208,300		
Prog. Fees & Other	844,650		
REVENUE TOTAL	\$1,052,950	EXPENDITURE TOTAL	\$1,052,950
WASTE & RECYCLING FUND			
Property Taxes	\$ 728,670		
Contrib & Other	372,150		
REVENUE TOTAL	\$1,100,820	EXPENDITURE TOTAL	\$1,100,820

Revenues		Expenditures	
OTHER CITY FUNDS			
Plym Community Youth Advisory Comm Fund	\$ 550		\$ 550
Recreation Capital Improvement Fund	\$ 10,800		\$ 10,800
Parking Fund	\$ 3,000		\$ 3,000
DDA Operating Fund	\$ 927,230		\$ 927,230
Building Fund	\$ 351,180		\$ 351,180
Neighborhood Services Fund	\$ 137,880		\$ 137,880
Brownfield Re-Development Authority Fund	\$ 381,620		\$ 381,620
Drug Law Enforcement Fund	\$ 5,100		\$ 5,100
OWI Forfeiture Fund	\$ 6,700		\$ 6,700
2002 GO Bond Debt Fund	\$ 200,380		\$ 200,380
2003 LTGO Debt Fund	\$ 71,040		\$ 71,040
2004 GO Debt Fund	\$ 426,790		\$ 426,790
2006 LTGO Debt Fund	\$ 123,660		\$ 123,660
2008 GO Debt Fund	\$ 660,210		\$ 660,210
2002 Capital Improvement Bonds Debt Fund	\$ 130,160		\$ 130,160
Michigan Transportation Fund Debt Fund	\$ 275		\$ 275
Water / Sewer Bond & Interest Debt Fund	\$ 285,020		\$ 285,020
DDA Debt Fund	\$ 266,230		\$ 266,230
Public Improvement Fund	\$ 6,500		\$ 6,500
DDA Capital Improvement Fund	\$ 1,545,000		\$ 1,545,000
GO Bond Construction Fund	\$ 1,016,000		\$ 1,016,000
MTF Construction Fund	\$ 50		\$ 50
Water / Sewer Capital Improvement Fund	\$ 548,100		\$ 548,100
Water / Sewer Operating & Maintenance Fund	\$ 3,768,240		\$ 3,768,240
Equipment Fund	\$ 687,810		\$ 687,810
Cemetery Trust Fund	\$ 11,000		\$ 11,000

Transfers between Appropriations

As provided in State law, the general appropriations resolution is proposed to allow the City Manager to transfer up to ten percent (10 %) of each appropriation to any other appropriation within each fund, but not from Reserve Accounts nor between funds.

Copies of Proposed Budget Available

A complete copy of the 2010 / 2011 City Budget is available for public inspection at the City Clerk's office during regular business hours, and also at the Plymouth District Library during its regular hours of operation.

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC  
City Clerk

Support group boosts  
fibromyalgia awareness

BY SUE MASON  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When members of the Metro Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Support Group met May 12, it was a chance to thank the folks at Merriman Road Baptist Church for providing meeting space and hopefully to get the word out to people who suffer from the disorder.

"It's important to know that others understand and know it's real," said president Ruthann Bruce of Canton. "The support group helps immensely, more than any doctor. You don't feel the loneliness because you're not alone."

The meeting actually was the group's annual Fibromyalgia Awareness Day Luncheon, held in recognition of National Fibromyalgia Awareness Day, observed on May 12, which also is Florence Nightingale's birthday. The connection is not lost on sufferers like Bruce. Nightingale, known as the pioneer of modern nursing and a reformer of hospital sanitation, also had the disorder.

The Metro Fibromyalgia and CFS support group is the only one of its kind in Wayne County. It meets 1-3 p.m. the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at the church on Merriman, south of Ford, in Garden City. It also is the only group that meets during the day. The other fibro group in the metropolitan area is in Macomb County and meets in the evening.

The support group has existed for 10 years and has 50 active members and more than 200 members. They range in age from 20s to 70s and come from communities as close at Westland, Plymouth, Canton, Livonia, Northville, Novi and West Bloomfield. They even have one member who drives an hour from Adrian to attend, Bruce said.

"Most of the members are women, but we do have a few men," she added. "Fibromyalgia is more difficult for men to accept because they've been the breadwinner, and are no longer able to do the things they used to do."

There are no fees to belong, but donations are accepted. That money allows the support group to make a donation to the church.

The group has speakers once a month and devotes one meeting to open table talk, a time to share in confidence what members are doing to help their fibromyalgia or CFS.

"We talk about what is not working for us, we talk about how FM has changed our lives," said Bruce. "We encourage all members to come, but we feel that the new members really benefit."

Little is known about the cause of fibromyalgia and many times it can take numerous visits to doctors before there's a diagnosis. It produces widespread pain, disturbed sleep

and exhaustion from head to toe. Although the muscles hurt everywhere, they are not the only cause of the pain. Instead, body-wide symptoms are greatly magnified by malfunctions in the way the nervous system processes pain.

Bruce was diagnosed in 2004, but she believes she may have had it much longer than that. She describes fibromyalgia as like having the achiness of the flu. If it lasts over three months, people should be tested.

"There are 18 tender points throughout the body, if you have 11 or more, you have fibromyalgia," she said. "But the tenderness can be on the right side or the left side. It knows no boundaries."

"There's no blood tests, you look normal," she added. "A lot of fibro sufferers have irritated bowel syndrome and sleep issues. They're very sensitive to touching. Someone can poke you in the arm and the pain can shoot you to the ceiling. Hot and cold, sometimes sounds can bother me."

Bruce said that by meeting with fellow fibro sufferers she has learned more about some of her own symptoms. After one meeting, she went home to explain to her husband that her difficulty remembering things was "fibro fog."

The group also has lists of doctors and such that members have found helpful, but Bruce stresses that "what works for one person doesn't work for all."

The group is participating in Jamie Goodwin's FibroDuck program. The former British comedian uses rubber ducks with spots, representing the 18 tender points, to raise awareness for fibromyalgia, while making people smile.

According to Goodwin's fibro-duck.com website, a duck can survive on land but its movement isn't quick and fluent the way it is in water. The challenge is to draw attention to fibromyalgia by using the duck in places a duck wouldn't usually go.

"People will ask us what's up with the duck, and we are able to share with them information about it," Bruce said. "We can tell them you won't die from it and that you can't let it control you. You have to control it. You have to change your attitude."

The Metro group also has its own website, [www.metrofibro-group.com](http://www.metrofibro-group.com), created by Bruce. It offers information about the group, about upcoming events and guest speakers.

"We want to show our appreciation to the church and we want our members to realize how important the group is," Bruce said of the recent luncheon. "We want the word to spread about the group especially to others who feel they've hit a wall in their life."

For more information about the Metro Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Support Group, call Bruce at (734) 981-2519.

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH  
RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

YOUR COMMENTS REQUESTED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Plymouth, Wayne County, Michigan, is beginning a review of the Township's current Recreation and Open Space Plan adopted by the community in 2005. The purpose of the review is to update the Recreation and Open Space Plan to make sure the new plan (2010) reflects the needs of the community for the next five years, and establishes a method for implementing the plan. **Your input as part of this process is important to the formation of the Plan.**

To assist you in this matter you can find a copy of the current 2005 Recreation and Open Space Plan at the following locations:

Plymouth District Library

Charter Township of Plymouth Offices located at 9955 N. Haggerty Road.

- Available on the main floor at the Township Clerk's office and
- 2nd floor at the Township Community Development Department.

What do think works? What suggestions do you have to improve recreation in the community? What activities do you think are missing? Please make your suggestions know by sending your written comments to:

**Mail:** Ms. Susan Vignoe  
Division of Public Services  
9955 N. Haggerty Road  
Plymouth, MI 48170

**E-mail:** [svignoe@plymouthtp.org](mailto:svignoe@plymouthtp.org)

If you have any questions regarding this matter please contact Ms. Vignoe at the Division of Public Services at (734) 354-3270 ext. 5.

**James D. Anulewicz**  
Director of Public Services

Publish: May 23, 2010



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.

MAY 23-26

Our Lady of Good Counsel

Time/Date: 7 p.m. May 26

Location: 47650 North Territorial Road, Plymouth

Details: Dr. Miriam Grossman presents "Real Protection in a Hook Up World: What every Parent needs to know about His Child's Sexual Health." No charge, but a free will offering will be accepted

Contact: Mark Renfer at mark.renfer@gmail.com

MAY 27-JUNE 2

Lighthouse Worship Center

Time/Date: 7-9:30 p.m., June 2

Location: 19827 Middlebelt, Livonia

Details: Murray Feldman, Fox 2 News anchor and host of the "Job Shop" is guest speaker. During his "Job Shop" segments on the news, Feldman offers advice on finding and landing a job.

Contact: (248) 476-7933

JUNE 3-9

Canton Christian Fellowship Church

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m., Sunday, June 6

Location: 8775 Ronda Drive, Canton

Details: Annual health assessment screening and education seminar will include screenings for blood sugar levels, blood pressure and cholesterol. Cholesterol test costs \$4

Contact: (734) 404-2480

St. Robert Bellermino

Time/Date: 8 p.m.-midnight

Location: 27201 W. Chicago Road, Redford

Details: Monthly Bethany Suburban West singles dance. Admission is \$10 which includes refreshments and a free "Fox Trot" dance lesson from 7:15-8:15 p.m.

Contact: (734) 261-5716.

JUNE 10-16

Faith Community Church

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, June 12

Location: 14560 Merriman, Livonia

Details: Outdoor sale; spots for rent. The church will supply the area and vendors supply "the stuff" to sell. Cost is \$10 for a 12-foot by 12-foot spot. All proceeds support the Vacation Bible School program at the church

Contact: (313) 541-0396 or (313) 255-9717

St. Anne Church

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday, June 11 and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, June 12

Location: 38100 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: Rummage sale

Contact: (734) 462-3200

St. Dunstan

Time/Date: Doors open at 6 p.m., silent auction starts at 6:30 p.m., starts at 6 p.m., June 11

Location: 1526 Belton, Garden City

Details: "Slide into summer" silent auction with fellowship, food and fun; tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Ticket price includes buffet dinner

Contact: (734) 425-6720

Unity of Livonia

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Friday-Saturday, June 11-12

Location: 28660 5 Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt, Livonia

Details: Rummage sale

Contact: (734) 421-1760

JUNE 17-23

Leon's

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m., June 19

Location: 30149 Ford Road, Garden City

Details: Bethany Suburban West monthly breakfast meeting

Contact: (734) 513-9479

JUNE 25-30

Canton Christian Fellowship

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 a.m., June 26

Location: Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft, Livonia

Details: Women in the Word ministry annual prayer breakfast with guest speaker Tara Jenkins; \$30

per person. Attire is dressy. The event colors are purple and white.

Contact: www.cantoncf.org or (734) 404-2480

ONGOING

AWANA

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m., Wednesdays

Location: Faith Bible Church, 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills

Details: AWANA program for children from kindergarten through fifth grade

Contact: (248) 426-0096

Breakfast

St. Michael the Archangel

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to noon, third Sunday each month, October through May

Location: 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth, in Livonia

Details: The Ushers' Club presents an "all-you-can-eat" pancake breakfast served in the school cafeteria and featuring pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, hash browns, and assorted breakfast beverages. Meals are served buffet-style. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children, 4-11, free for children under 3, and \$15 for a family with two adults and children

Contact: (734) 261-1455

Career workshops

St. Matthew's United Methodist Church

Time/Date: First and third Mondays

Location: 30900 Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Workshops are designed to help people in employment transition build a network and use their resources to find that next good job. Workshop leaders are available to work one-on-one with anyone looking for work.

Contact: (734) 422-6038

Classes/study

Detroit First Church of the Nazarene

Time/Date: 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesday

Location: 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile

Details: Tuesday Ladies Bible Study; \$15 registration fee includes interdenominational study materials. Child care available for children through age 5

Contact: (248) 348-7600

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 7-8 p.m., second Monday of the month

Location: 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia

Details: Open Arms Bible class for adults with developmental disabilities and special needs. Includes songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun.

Contact: Judy Cook at Emmanuel, (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to jcook59@att.net.

Livonia Unity

Time/Date: Monday movement Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday Qigong meditation, 10-11:15 a.m., and Friday Therapeutic Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.

Location: 28660 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: Learn Qigong, the ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine - a safe and effective way to rid the body of toxic pathogens and years of painful emotions

Contact: (810) 813-4073 or gary@energeticarts.org.

Men's Bible study

Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 p.m.

Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township

Contact: John Shulenberger at (734) 464-9491

New Life Community Church

Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 a.m., Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m., Sundays

Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville

Contact: (734) 846-4615

Our Lady of Loretto

Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday

Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford

Details: Scripture study

Contact: (313) 534-9000

St. Andrew's Presbyterian

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m., Wednesday and 10:30 a.m. Thursday

Location: 26701 Joy

Details: Wednesday study/discussion group focuses on relationship with God and that of other religious groups and philosophical and scientific issues that might impact faith. Thursday group examines early writings not included in the Bible as well as other versions, exten-

sions and controversies concerning Christianity. Led by interim pastor Larry Hoxey

Contact: (313) 274-3820

St. Michael the Archangel

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., second and fourth Thursday of each month

Location: 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, in Livonia

Details: Led by Catholic author and apologist, Gary Michuta. The in-depth study of the Gospel of St. Matthew continues, using the Hahn-Mitch study guide. New students of any faith are welcome

Contact: (734) 261-1455

Seeds of Mercy Mission Home

Time/Date: 7 p.m., every Friday

Location: 21819 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills

Details: Bible study

Contact: Nicole Christ at (313) 531-1234

Ward Presbyterian

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Mondays

Location: Room A101, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville

Details: Learner's Bible study is held

Contact: (248) 374-5920

Clothing bank

Canton Christian Fellowship

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., fourth Saturday and 5-6:30 p.m., second Wednesday

Location: 41711 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty

Details: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank offers free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need

Contact: (734) 404-2480, visit www.CantonCF.org or send e-mail to info@cantoncf.org

Fellowship dinner

St. James Presbyterian

Time/Date: 6 p.m., the first Thursday of the month

Location: 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford

Details: Cost is \$8 and includes dinner, beverage and dessert. The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro, provides the meals

Contact: (313) 268-7780. The church phone number is (313) 534-7730

Food Bank

New Hope Church

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m., every Friday by appointment only

Location: is 44815 Cherry Hill Rd., Canton

Contact: Call pastor Ranay Brown to schedule an appointment at (734) 270-2528

MOMS

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m., second Tuesday and 7-9 p.m., fourth Tuesday

Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Mothers of Preschoolers. Aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners

Contact: Angie at (248) 427-1020

Dunning Park Bible Chapel

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m., first and third Tuesdays

Location: 24800 West Chicago Road, Redford

Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope

Contact: Amy at (313) 937-3084 or Kristen at (734) 542-0767

Prayer

Good Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. the first and third Tuesday

Location: 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City

Details: Prayer, spiritual healing

Contact: (734) 427-3660

Nardin Park United Methodist Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday

Location: 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Participate in an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests

Contact: (248) 476-8860

St. Edith Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday

Location: 15089 Newburgh, Livonia.

Details: Enter through the back of the church

Details: Music, singing, prayer

Contact: Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656, or Geri at (734) 464-8906

St. Michael's Church of Livonia

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. third Wednesday

Location: Corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads, Livonia

Details: Parish prayer and Eucharistic Adoration. Benediction service follows. (734) 261-1455

MILESTONES

SEPTEMBER WEDDING PLANNED

Michelle Marie Curtis and Bradley Robert Rush announce their engagement.

Michelle, the daughter of Doug and Kathy Curtis of Gaylord, formerly of Livonia, graduated from Stevenson High School in 2002 and earned a bachelor of science degree in secondary education from Central Michigan University.

Bradley, the son of Dave and Kathy Rush of Berrien Springs, is a 2001 graduate of Berrien Springs High School and a graduate of Michigan Technological University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering.

A September wedding is planned. St. Joseph.

Purdy-Graczyk

PURDY-GRACZYK

Hayley Marie Purdy of Central Lake and Jason Gordon Graczyk of Belleville announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Robert and Donna Purdy of Central Lake, holds an associate's degree in administration from American Intercontinental University.

Her fiancé, son of Pat and Carol Graczyk of Belleville, is the chef at Garden City High School.

A summer 2011 wedding is planned.

Curtis-Rush

WILLIAM "BILL" HAUTAMAKI

Age 85, passed away May 18, 2010. Bill is survived by his loving children: Judy Wolfe, Carol Freeman, Bob Hautamaki, Dave Hautamaki, and Nancy Tietz. He was preceded in death by his wife June in January 2010. Visitation was Friday, May 21, from 2 - 4 & 5 - 8 p.m. at Phillips Funeral Home, 122 W. Lake St., South Lyon. A funeral service was held on Saturday, May 22, at 11:00 a.m. Final visitation began at 10 a.m. at Phillips Funeral Home. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

WILLIAM R. KUHN

Passed away on May 18th 2010. He was a long time resident of Plymouth, a Korean War Vet' and a beloved father and grandfather. He is survived by his daughter Jacqueline Kuhn-Crane, son and daughter-in-law James and Sarah Kuhn and his grandsons Boyd William Crane, Nathaniel and Ethan Kuhn. He will be laid to rest with a military burial at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, MI on Monday, May 24th at 11:30 a.m. to be followed with a remembrance gathering at his old stomping grounds, Richard's Family Restaurant @ 39305 Plymouth Rd in Livonia at 2:00 p.m.

VERDA THOMPSON

Age 77 of Westland. May 16, 2010. Loving mother of Nona F. Kaul and Roberta Rhoten. Proud grandmother of four and great grandmother of fourteen. Beloved sister of Alice Densmore. Also leaves behind special friends Sandy Salingue and Gloria Nesbit. Verda was the owner of Thompson's Dog Grooming. She loved to go to the casino, go to yard sales, read and most importantly she loved all her dogs. Vermeulen Funeral Home, 980 N. Newburgh, Westland, in charge of arrangements. Memorial contributions may be made to the Michigan Humane Society. To share a memory with the family, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com.

ORVILLE L. TUNGATE

Age 80, formally of Plymouth, passed away on February 8, 2010. A funeral mass will be held at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Plymouth on June 2, 2010 at 10:30am. A gathering will follow the mass at the Box Bar in Plymouth. Peggy and Orville will be interred at the National Cemetery in Holly, MI on June 3, 2010.

HELEN RUTH VENOS

May 15, 2010; Age 62 Of Auburn Hills, Mother of Kelli Ross and Gary Baum Jr. Arrangements by Simple Funerals (248) 227-1954 SimpleFuneralsInMichigan.com

OBITUARY POLICY

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

Deadlines:

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

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Paying Tribute to the Life of Your Loved One



# 'Overcome' words inspire

Publicist hopes personal story will help others with lupus

BY WENDY VON BUSKIRK  
CORRESPONDENT

When Mida Giragosian breezes into a business meeting, you'd never guess she may have just come from dialysis. Polished and pulled together, she's positive and full of energy



Mida Giragosian

as she helps her clients grow their businesses through expert publicity campaigns. Only her closest friends know she has achieved her success as co-owner of Lapides Publicity Giragosian despite 23 years of health challenges including lupus, kidney failure and quadruple bypass heart surgery.

Now, during National Lupus Awareness Month, Giragosian is sharing her story in the hope it will help others facing challenges of their own.

The Royal Oak resident penned a chapter in the new book *You Will Overcome: 52 Entrepreneurial Stories to Motivate & Guide You in Any Economy* by Minesh Baxi (Minesh Baxi and Associates LLC, The Busy Manager Series, \$19.95, March, 2010).

In it, she discloses her lifelong battle with lupus, a chronic disease that causes the immune system to attack the body's own cells and tissues.

Giragosian contracted lupus at age 21, and the debilitating condition caused such despair it broke up her young marriage and even drove her to attempt suicide.

She credits friends and family, especially older sister Anne Kersten, with saving her life.

"When I was first diagnosed, I was in deep depression. Every day my sister called me every 30 minutes, while she was at work or wherever, just to see if I was okay. I would just cry. Every weekend she'd take me away to Chicago or Florida or somewhere," Giragosian said. "My friends would pick me up

and take me around the block just to get me out and to see things besides darkness."

## A NEW JOB

When Giragosian was 28, her lupus finally went into remission and life began looking brighter, especially when her older sister, Annie, got her a job at Lapides Publicity in Royal Oak.

"They put me in front of a fax machine and they said, 'here, push these numbers,'" Giragosian said. "I faxed all day. I stapled. That's about all I could do, but I loved it. I was having so much fun because I wasn't thinking about my health."

Giragosian excelled at work and began training under Lisa Lapides-Sawicki, eventually becoming her partner and best friend, and one of the best "pitch people" in the business.

Her body grew strong enough for a kidney transplant, and her brother proved a perfect match. He donated his kidney in 2001, and after 12 years on dialysis, Giragosian was able to enjoy a "normal" life.

She moved to an apartment in Royal Oak and relished being on her own for the first time at age 38.

Yet recovery proved short-lived. In 2006, two days before Christmas, Giragosian suffered a heart attack and was faced with a devastating choice.

Doctors urged her to agree to a heart catheterization, even though there was a 90 percent chance the dye used in the procedure would cause her new kidney to fail.

"It took me a half an hour with six doctors hovering over me to make that decision. Finally I signed away my kidney just like that. It was hard for the doctors, too. Just like that my kidney was gone," she said. "I knew what was facing me. I wasn't even thinking of the quadruple bypass, which was like being hit by a car. I could only think of going back to dialysis."

## INNER STRENGTH

Lapides-Sawicki said Giragosian is an inspiration.

"All of us other mortals complain about little things that are not life threatening,

and here is Mida conquering serious health challenges and limitations every day. Things that we take for granted like drinking water whenever we want to, walking 30 yards, having the extra 15 hours per week that it takes her to go to and sit in dialysis, not to mention being poked with needles each time.... Does she complain ever? Never," Lapides-Sawicki said. "I am humbled every single day by the inner strength, positive attitude, love for life and love for others that she experiences every day, amidst her health challenges. No matter what she never gives up."

Minesh Baxi, a Troy-based motivational speaker and author, said Giragosian was perfect for *You Will Overcome*.

"She's one of those positive people who's out there, a go-getter," Baxi said. "Being in the hospital for months at a time, most people would give up, take the victim point of view, but that's not what she's about."

Baxi said all the real-life stories in his latest book are meant to motivate people.

"The message I want people to get is that despite physical, emotional or other challenges you have, you can overcome," Baxi said.

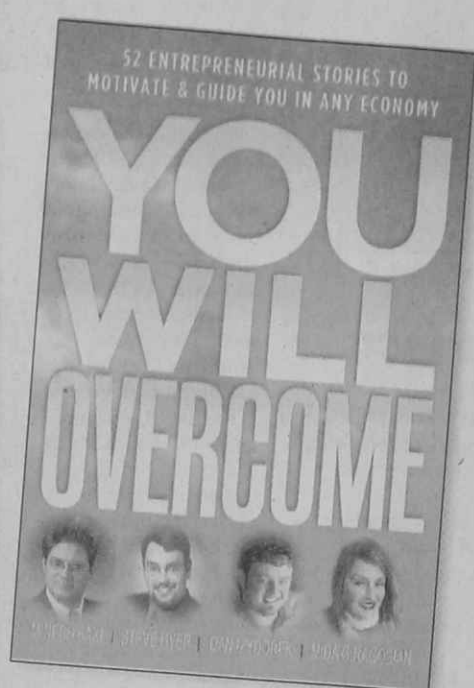
Giragosian is among 52 diverse entrepreneurs who contributed chapters. Baxi also included real-life success stories of businesspeople like Oprah Winfrey.

You can purchase the book, or download Giragosian's chapter alone for \$2, at [www.youwillovercomethebook.com](http://www.youwillovercomethebook.com).

"I wanted to make my chapter affordable for those who have lupus or heart disease or kidney disease," Giragosian said. "I hope they see the value in it."

Giragosian will donate some of the proceeds to her favorite charities. The rest, she said, will go toward her six-figure medical bills.

"My goal is to have one million downloads. That's my personal goal," she said.



## MEDICAL DATEBOOK

### MAY

#### St. Mary Mercy Hospital

• Learn beginning or intermediate Hatha yoga 5:15-6:30 p.m., Tuesdays, May 25-June 29, at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. Hatha yoga increases flexibility, energy level and strength at your own pace in a non-competitive setting. Class participants must be able to move between a standing position to a hands and knees position with ease.

The purpose of yoga is integration, purification and discipline of the mind, body and heart, which is designed to reduce pain, distress and anxiety. Cost is \$55 for the six-week session.  
• A prenatal breastfeeding class will be held from 7-9 p.m., Thursday, May 27, at the hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. Cost is \$25 per couple. To register for either class, call (734) 655-1162 or register online at [stmarymercy.org](http://stmarymercy.org) and click on "classes and events."

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## In Demand: Physician Assistants

### CareerBuilder.com

Sometimes there just aren't enough doctors to go around in rural and inner city clinics. To help ease these workloads, physician assistants step in to provide healthcare services under the supervision of physicians.

If you are interested in a career in medicine, but can't afford the time and expense of medical school, here is an overview of physician assistants from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS):

### Overview

Physician assistants (PAs) are formally trained to provide diagnostic, therapeutic and preventative health care services under the watchful eye of a physician. They take medical histories, examine and treat patients, order and interpret laboratory tests, make diagnoses and treat injuries.

In all states but Indiana, Louisiana and Ohio, PAs can write prescriptions for medications. In some rural or inner city clinics, a PA may be a principal care provider. They may also make house calls or go to hospitals and nursing care facilities to check on patients, reporting back to the physician.

### Training and Education

In all states, PAs must complete an accredited, formal education program, and most have at least a bachelor's degree. Most programs require at least two years of college and some healthcare work experience.

PA programs usually last



two years and are full-time. Upon graduation, all PAs must pass the Physician Assistants National Certifying Examination, administered by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants.

PAs need leadership skills, self-confidence and emotional stability.

### Opportunities

Many PAs work in primary care specialties; others work in

general and thoracic surgery, emergency medicine, orthopedics and geriatrics. Those specializing in surgery provide preoperative and postoperative care and may work as assistants during major surgery.

More than half of PA jobs are in the offices of physicians or other health practitioners. About 25 percent are in hospitals. The rest were mostly in outpatient care centers, the Federal government, educational services and

employment services. Some PAs hold two or more jobs.

### Pros and Cons

Becoming a licensed physician assistant requires far less education than it would take to become a doctor. PAs usually work in comfortable offices, and work fewer hours than physicians, usually around 40 hours per week. As they become more experienced, PAs generally receive higher pay.

However, by the nature of the job, PAs will always be supervised by physicians. They also may have to work weekends, nights or early morning shifts, and are sometimes on call.

### Salary

Median annual earnings of physician assistants were \$64,670 in 2002, according to the BLS. Income varies by specialty, practice setting, geographical location and years of experience.

### Job Outlook

As the healthcare industry continues to expand, employment of PAs is projected to grow much faster than the average for all occupations through 2012. The BLS expects physicians and institutions will employ more PAs to provide primary care because they are cost effective and productive.

PAs should find a growing number of jobs in institutions like hospitals, academic medical centers, public clinics and prisons. Opportunities will be best in states that allow PAs a wider scope of practice.

Source: BLS October 2004

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**Clerical Office Assistant** Entry Level \$15+hr & Full Benefits. Call: (313) 292-9300 Set driver schedules along w/office duties. Emp1 \$185 J#134

### OFFICE MANAGER

Needed for Plymouth area housing community. 3 years multi-family, A/R, A/P, Word, Excel, experience needed. E.O.E. Email resume to: [JobOpen308@aol.com](mailto:JobOpen308@aol.com)

### OFFICE MANAGER/ SECRETARIAL WORK

FT. Experienced  
TELEMARKETERS  
PT No Exp. Needed.  
Good pay for good people.  
Call Jason: 248-974-2028

## Help Wanted-Dental 5040

**DENTAL ASSISTANT**  
Part-Time.  
Exp. necessary. Livonia.  
Call: 734-591-0223

## Help Wanted-Medical 5060

Busy Ophthalmology practice now hiring for:  
**Ophthalmic Technician**  
PT possible FT w/benefits; prefers certified but not necessary; must retract.  
**Medical Assistant - FT**  
Email resume to: [physicianeyecare@yahoo.com](mailto:physicianeyecare@yahoo.com)

**HOSPITALIST**  
Wanted for Royal Oak, MI hospital. Send resume to: Ms. Mary Taylor, Human Resources, William Beaumont Hospital, 3601 W. 13 Mile Rd., Royal Oak, MI 48073  
An Equal Opportunity Employer

**Medical Assistant**  
Experienced.  
Canton Animal Hospital  
Fax: 734-397-7860 or Email: [tbhulan@hotmail.com](mailto:tbhulan@hotmail.com)

## Help Wanted-Medical 5060

### MEDICAL ASSISTANT

Needed for Westland clinic. Monday through Friday with occasional 1/2 day Saturdays. Experience or recent externship required. No evenings. Full-Time/Benefits.  
Fax resume and cover letter to: 734-525-2550

### MEDICAL ASSISTANT

Full-Time for busy Internal Medicine office in Troy. Supervisory experience a MUST. 5 yrs. experience in injections, phlebotomy & be proficient in EKG. Fax resume to Kim: (248) 267-6791

### Medical Billing & Collections Manager

Growing Orthotic & Prosthetic company based in Livonia seeks an experienced leader for our billing and collections team with the following minimum qualifications: 5 yrs. of managerial experience in billing and/or collections, 5 years of experience in the medical / 3rd party payer and reimbursement coding environment, works well in a fast paced team environment, Bachelors degree preferred, O&P industry experience preferred.  
Please email resume and salary history (required) to: [jcondon@michortho.com](mailto:jcondon@michortho.com)

## Help Wanted-Medical 5060

### MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST

Part-Time for Westland Clinic. Must have computer and phone skills and have insurance verification background. Must have recent office experience. Fax resume and cover letter to: 734-525-2550

### MT/MLT

Part-Time - Full-Time.  
Fax resume Attn. Hiring Manager: 248-426-9867

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

### OPTICAL DISPENSER

With exp., needed for large, beautiful new optometrist office in Auburn Hills across from Great Lakes Crossing Mall. Top salary, bonus, full benefits, 401K, no Sundays or evening hours.  
Please fax resume to: 248-858-8205 or email: [opticaldr@aol.com](mailto:opticaldr@aol.com)

## Help Wanted-Medical 5060

### PEDIATRICIAN

Wanted for Royal Oak, MI hospital. Send resume to: Ms. Mary Taylor, Human Resources, William Beaumont Hospital, 3601 W. 13 Mile Rd., Royal Oak, MI 48073  
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For Home Care Cases. Especially need Pediatric, Vent & Trach exp. Vent/Trache training available. All shifts available especially midnights.  
Email resume to: [HC-HR@healthcall.com](mailto:HC-HR@healthcall.com) or visit: [www.healthcall.com](http://www.healthcall.com) (800) 991-9933 x505

### RNs & LPNs

**RN Nurse Supervisor**  
For Private Duty Home Health Care patients in metro Detroit area. FT/PT, all shifts avail. Current, unencumbered State of Michigan license to practice as a RN or LPN. Minimum two (2) yrs. of nursing exp. required. Ventilator, Trach and G-Tube Care experience preferred. Excellent Pay!  
Email resume to: [HC-HR@healthcall.com](mailto:HC-HR@healthcall.com) or visit: [www.healthcall.com](http://www.healthcall.com) (800) 991-9933 x505

## Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080

**Banquet Servers, Bartenders, Dishwashers**  
Exp'd. PT, wkends. Nick, Plymouth Manor: 734-455-3501

### Buddy's Pizza

Now Taking Applications Full Time Servers  
Apply btwn 2 & 4 PM at 31646 Northwestern Hwy Farmington Hills MI 48334 (248) 855-4600

## Help Wanted-Sales 5120

### AUTO SALES

Dick Scott Dodge has immediate openings avail. for Sales Professionals. We offer an excellent pay plan & benefits package. Previous exp preferred but we will train the right people. Must have proven track record & strong closing skills. Email: [Apply@DickScott.com](mailto:Apply@DickScott.com)

### AUTO USED CAR SALESPERSON

Some sales exp. required. Exc. pay plan & benefits. Apply in person. Scott Merolissi, Blackwell Ford Inc., 41001 Plymouth Rd., Plymouth. 734-453-1100

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Auction Ends Soon  
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Mike Riggie RE/MAX Irish Hills  
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YOU WILL BE IMPRESSED!  
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**RE Auction**  
3 Bedroom Home with Walk Out Basement on 48 Acres, Nestled in Private Setting located on the Huron River  
1360 North Huron River Dr., Ypsilanti, Michigan  
Inspection: Wed, May 12th & Wed, May 19th 5:00 to 6:00PM  
Auction: Thursday, May 27th @ 6:00 PM  
Owner: Louise Williams  
Details with pics @ [BraunandHelmer.com](http://BraunandHelmer.com)  
**Braun & Helmer Auction Inc.**  
David Helmer  
734.368.1733

## Open Houses 3030

**LIVONIA:** Open Sun. May 23, 2-4pm.  
16319 Alpine.  
Updated 4 bdrm. Colonial, 2000 sq. ft. Burton Hollow Sub. \$177,500.  
Agent: 248-909-9300

## Open Houses 3030

**FARMINGTON HILLS:** Open Sun. May 23, 1-4pm. 23292 Canfield. Beautiful 3 bdrm, 2 bath, updated, 1800 sq. ft. home on a 9 wooded acre lot. \$160,000. Rick Flusher, Agt. 734-645-8979

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Give us a call let us show you how \$1,000.00 can start you down the road to owning your own home.  
Remodeled Mobile Homes For Sale!!  
Are you paying more than \$300 in rent please give Greg Potter a call and let me show you how you can own a home for less than your monthly rent fee. We Offer Easy Financing  
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WESTLAND 28495 Joy Rd. #F5, Mohawk Mobile Home Park. 12x65, 2 bdrm, exc. condition, some remodeling. \$4000/best. 734-578-3968

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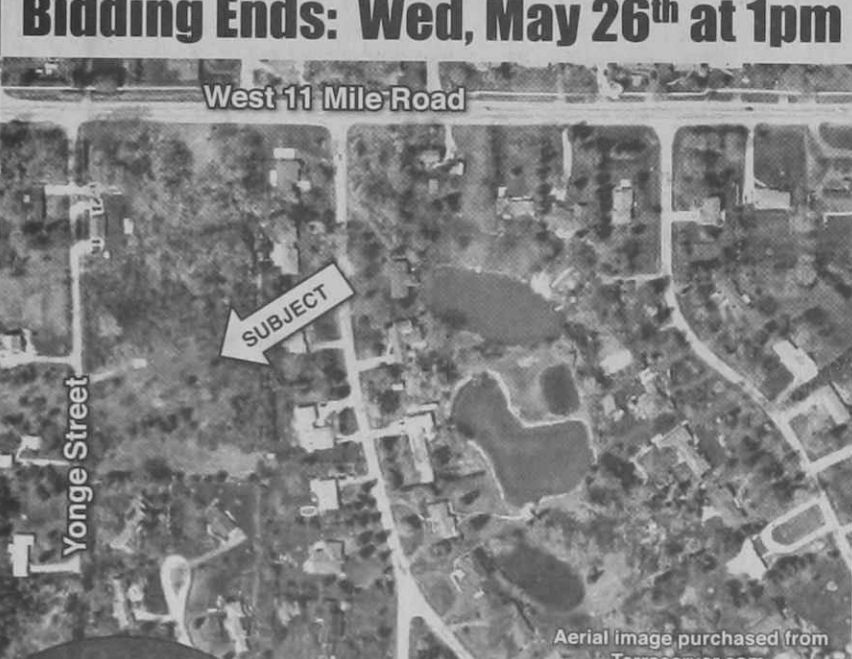
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# Avalanche Offers True Crew Cab Value

AdvertisingFeature

## CAReport



By Dave Menard  
For Avanti NewsFeatures

The crew cab body style is popular among full-size pickup drivers because it features a useable cargo bed and a rear seat that's as roomy as those found on most SUVs.

A big drawback of these types of vehicles is that the bed is usually too short and they don't offer the enclosed security of an SUV's cargo area. The people at Chevrolet overcame these hurdles nine years ago in 2001 when introducing the Avalanche, which was last redesigned in 2007.

The Avalanche's flexibility allows it to function as an SUV, truck or both, thanks to the exclusive Midgate. The Midgate opens to extend the cargo-carrying capability from the cargo bed's 5-foot-3-inch-long length to 8 feet 2 inches. The rear seat must be folded to achieve maximum storage capability; with the rear seat up and the Midgate closed, Avalanche has room for up to six passengers.

When the Midgate is open and the rear seat is folded flat, the Avalanche can carry 4-foot by 8-foot sheets of plywood with the tailgate closed.

Storage compartments alongside the cargo box provide lockable storage space. The storage compartments also have drains, so they can be filled with ice and used as coolers. A three-piece rigid cargo cover with interlocking panels also is available.

New for 2010 are a standard USB port

that's there to play music in the cabin through an mp3 player, a six-speed automatic transmission and a single speed transfer case for 4WD. The 1LT package comes with dual dual zone climate control, remote start, adjustable pedals and a heavy-duty locking rear differential.

The LS package features a composite cargo bed, a removable three-piece cargo cover, fully powered accessories, a front 40/20/40-split bench seat with center storage, cloth trim, a power driver seat with manual lumbar control, an auto-dimming rearview mirror, a single-CD player with auxiliary jack, satellite radio and basic OnStar capability.

The LT is similar to the LS but has standard front bucket seats, rear audio controls and enhanced OnStar with turn-by-turn navigation.

Moving up to the LT2 package gives you dual-zone automatic climate control, leather upholstery, power-adjustable pedals, a six-CD changer, rear park assist and remote vehicle starting.

The LT3 package provides the LT2's features, plus heated outside mirrors, upgraded power front seats, driver-seat memory and a Bose audio system with subwoofer.

The LTZ package has 20-inch wheels, chrome exterior accents, the Autoride adaptive suspension, heated windshield wiper fluid and rain-sensing wipers.

Depending on the trim level, other

stand-alone or packaged options include a navigation system, the Z71 off-road suspension group, power running boards, an integrated rearview camera, rear-seat DVD entertainment and a sunroof.

The Avalanche is available with either rear-wheel-drive or four-wheel-drive. All 2WD models come standard with a 5.3-liter V8 putting out 320 horsepower. Four-wheel-drive Avalanches are E85-capable and rated at 310 horsepower; this version of the 5.3-liter is optional on 2WD models. A larger 6.0-liter V8 delivering 366 horsepower is available.

A properly equipped 2WD Avalanche can tow up to 8,200 pounds.

The Avalanche fuel economy ratings are 15 miles per gallon in the city and 21 mpg on the highway on 2WD versions with the 5.3-liter engine. The 6.0-liter engine brings the numbers down to 12 city / 17 highway.

Standard safety equipment includes anti-lock disc brakes, stability control, GM's OnStar emergency communications system and a full-length side-curtain airbag system with a rollover sensor.

In government crash tests, the Avalanche earned a top five-star rating for protection of front occupants in head-on collisions.

The Avalanche's interior has flush-mounted accessories and controls, such as the climate control/radio center stack, creating a seamless, single unit appearance. There is almost no exposed

metal hardware or latches, as all models feature enclosing "close-outs" around the seat bottoms and door sill trim plates.

To ensure a quiet ride, noise-reducing components and materials are used throughout the Avalanche's body structure, including the headliner material, door seals and front-of-dash area. The engines also feature a quiet-tuned alternator and an acoustically tuned engine cover that reduces engine noise heard inside the vehicle.

The Autoride suspension system complements the engine quietness. This real-time damping system is intended to provide a refined ride with reduced body motion. The system responds accordingly to road and driving conditions, based on body and wheel motion sensors.

Similar crew cab designs are utilized in the General Motors Co. family on the Cadillac Escalade and Hummer H2. But the Avalanche is thousands of dollars cheaper and has a more practical use.

Write to Avanti NewsFeatures auto critic Kevin Koloian at [avanti1054@aol.com](mailto:avanti1054@aol.com). Distributed by Fracassa News Group. ©2010, Fracassa Communications.

**Chevrolet Avalanche**  
Vehicle class: Pickup truck.

Power: V8 engine.

Mileage: 15 city / 21 highway.

Where built: Silao, Mexico.

Base price: \$35,725.

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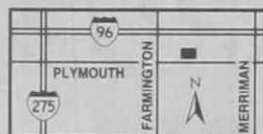
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 <small>Stock #10C9115</small>	<b>NEW 2010 FORD FOCUS SEDAN SE</b> <table><tr><td>A/Z PLAN Price*</td><td>\$17,233</td></tr><tr><td>Cash Back</td><td>-\$4,500</td></tr><tr><td><b>Buy For</b></td><td><b>\$12,733</b></td></tr></table> <small>*A or Z Plan, w/ renewal incentives. Plus tax, title, license &amp; DOC fee. Ends 6/1/10</small>	A/Z PLAN Price*	\$17,233	Cash Back	-\$4,500	<b>Buy For</b>	<b>\$12,733</b>	<b>36 Month Lease</b> <b>\$126<sup>09</sup></b> Month <small>12,000 miles per year / \$1,800 due at signing / lease renewal and all incentives to dealer with approved credit / Security Deposit Waived / A or Z plan plus tax, title, license &amp; DOC fee. Ends 6/1/10</small>
A/Z PLAN Price*	\$17,233							
Cash Back	-\$4,500							
<b>Buy For</b>	<b>\$12,733</b>							
 <small>Stock #10C8357</small>	<b>NEW 2010 FORD FUSION SE</b> <table><tr><td>A/Z PLAN Price*</td><td>\$20,474</td></tr><tr><td>Cash Back</td><td>-\$3,500</td></tr><tr><td><b>Buy For</b></td><td><b>\$16,974</b></td></tr></table> <small>*A or Z Plan, w/ renewal incentives. Plus tax, title, license &amp; DOC fee. Ends 6/1/10</small>	A/Z PLAN Price*	\$20,474	Cash Back	-\$3,500	<b>Buy For</b>	<b>\$16,974</b>	<b>36 Month Lease</b> <b>\$198<sup>53</sup></b> Month <small>12,000 miles per year / \$2,200 due at signing / lease renewal and all incentives to dealer with approved credit / Security Deposit Waived / A or Z plan plus tax, title, license &amp; DOC fee. Ends 6/1/10</small>
A/Z PLAN Price*	\$20,474							
Cash Back	-\$3,500							
<b>Buy For</b>	<b>\$16,974</b>							
 <small>Stock #10T3127</small>	<b>NEW 2010 FORD EDGE SE FWD</b> <table><tr><td>A/Z PLAN Price*</td><td>\$26,298</td></tr><tr><td>Cash Back</td><td>-\$5,500</td></tr><tr><td><b>Buy For</b></td><td><b>\$20,798</b></td></tr></table> <small>*A or Z Plan, w/ renewal incentives. Plus tax, title, license &amp; DOC fee. Ends 6/1/10</small>	A/Z PLAN Price*	\$26,298	Cash Back	-\$5,500	<b>Buy For</b>	<b>\$20,798</b>	<b>24 Month Lease</b> <b>\$253<sup>05</sup></b> Month <small>10,500 miles per year / \$2,800 due at signing / lease renewal and all incentives to dealer with approved credit / Security Deposit Waived / A or Z plan plus tax, title, license &amp; DOC fee. Ends 6/1/10</small>
A/Z PLAN Price*	\$26,298							
Cash Back	-\$5,500							
<b>Buy For</b>	<b>\$20,798</b>							
 <small>Stock #10T6060</small>	<b>NEW 2010 FORD F150 SUPERCAB 4X4</b> <table><tr><td>A/Z PLAN Price*</td><td>\$29,732</td></tr><tr><td>Cash Back</td><td>-\$6,000</td></tr><tr><td><b>Buy For</b></td><td><b>\$23,732</b></td></tr></table> <small>*A or Z Plan, w/ renewal incentives. Plus tax, title, license &amp; DOC fee. Ends 6/1/10</small>	A/Z PLAN Price*	\$29,732	Cash Back	-\$6,000	<b>Buy For</b>	<b>\$23,732</b>	<b>24 Month Lease</b> <b>\$271<sup>89</sup></b> Month <small>10,500 miles per year / \$3,300 due at signing / lease renewal and all incentives to dealer with approved credit / Security Deposit Waived / A or Z plan plus tax, title, license &amp; DOC fee. Ends 6/1/10</small>
A/Z PLAN Price*	\$29,732							
Cash Back	-\$6,000							
<b>Buy For</b>	<b>\$23,732</b>							
 <small>Stock #10T9156</small>	<b>NEW 2010 FORD ESCAPE XLT FWD</b> <table><tr><td>A/Z PLAN Price*</td><td>\$22,774</td></tr><tr><td>Cash Back</td><td>-\$3,500</td></tr><tr><td><b>Buy For</b></td><td><b>\$19,274</b></td></tr></table> <small>*A or Z Plan, w/ renewal incentives. Plus tax, title, license &amp; DOC fee. Ends 6/1/10</small>	A/Z PLAN Price*	\$22,774	Cash Back	-\$3,500	<b>Buy For</b>	<b>\$19,274</b>	<b>24 Month Lease</b> <b>\$276<sup>97</sup></b> Month <small>10,500 miles per year / \$2,500 due at signing / lease renewal and all incentives to dealer with approved credit / Security Deposit Waived / A or Z plan plus tax, title, license &amp; DOC fee. Ends 6/1/10</small>
A/Z PLAN Price*	\$22,774							
Cash Back	-\$3,500							
<b>Buy For</b>	<b>\$19,274</b>							
 <small>Stock #10T8075</small>	<b>NEW 2010 FORD FLEX SE FWD</b> <table><tr><td>A/Z PLAN Price*</td><td>\$27,586</td></tr><tr><td>Cash Back</td><td>-\$5,000</td></tr><tr><td><b>Buy For</b></td><td><b>\$22,586</b></td></tr></table> <small>*A or Z Plan, w/ renewal incentives. Plus tax, title, license &amp; DOC fee. Ends 6/1/10</small>	A/Z PLAN Price*	\$27,586	Cash Back	-\$5,000	<b>Buy For</b>	<b>\$22,586</b>	<b>24 Month Lease</b> <b>\$317<sup>37</sup></b> Month <small>10,500 miles per year / \$3,000 due at signing / lease renewal and all incentives to dealer with approved credit / Security Deposit Waived / A or Z plan plus tax, title, license &amp; DOC fee. Ends 6/1/10</small>
A/Z PLAN Price*	\$27,586							
Cash Back	-\$5,000							
<b>Buy For</b>	<b>\$22,586</b>							
 <small>Stock #10C7045</small>	<b>NEW 2010 FORD TAURUS SEL</b> <table><tr><td>A/Z PLAN Price*</td><td>\$25,633</td></tr><tr><td>Cash Back</td><td>-\$2,500</td></tr><tr><td><b>Buy For</b></td><td><b>\$23,133</b></td></tr></table> <small>*A or Z Plan, w/ renewal incentives. Plus tax, title, license &amp; DOC fee. Ends 6/1/10</small>	A/Z PLAN Price*	\$25,633	Cash Back	-\$2,500	<b>Buy For</b>	<b>\$23,133</b>	<b>24 Month Lease</b> <b>\$346<sup>87</sup></b> Month <small>10,500 miles per year / \$2,800 due at signing / lease renewal and all incentives to dealer with approved credit / Security Deposit Waived / A or Z plan plus tax, title, license &amp; DOC fee. Ends 6/1/10</small>
A/Z PLAN Price*	\$25,633							
Cash Back	-\$2,500							
<b>Buy For</b>	<b>\$23,133</b>							

### HUGE SELECTION OF QUALIFIED PRE-OWNED VEHICLES

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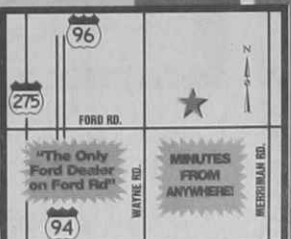
<b>2002 DODGE INTREPID</b> P21022A <b>\$4,888</b>	<b>1999 CHEVROLET S10</b> 10C1128B <b>\$5,998</b>	<b>2002 FORD TAURUS</b> 10C8427A <b>\$7,488</b>	<b>2002 MERCURY VILLAGER</b> 10C1290A <b>\$7,488</b>	<b>2004 CHEVROLET COLORADO</b> P21091 <b>\$7,900</b>	<b>First Year Maintenance is FREE</b> WITH USED VEHICLE PURCHASE
<b>2005 HYUNDAI TIBURON</b> 10C1286A <b>\$10,488</b>	<b>2006 FORD FOCUS</b> 10C1313A <b>\$11,388</b>	<b>Why Buy North Brothers?</b> FORD CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED VEHICLES <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ 115 Point Inspection</li><li>✓ 6 Year/75,000 Mile Limited Warranty</li><li>✓ Roadside Assistance</li><li>✓ New Wiper Blades</li><li>✓ Full Tank of Fuel</li><li>✓ First Year Maintenance Free</li><li>✓ Preferred Interest Rates</li></ul>	<b>Why Buy North Brothers?</b> NORTH BROS. CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED VEHICLES <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ 115 Point Inspection</li><li>✓ 3 Month/4,000 Mile Limited Warranty</li><li>✓ Extended Warranties Available</li><li>✓ Roadside Assistance</li><li>✓ New Wiper Blades</li><li>✓ First Year Maintenance Free</li><li>✓ Full Tank of Fuel</li></ul> QualityChecked Certified Pre-owned	<b>2006 PONTIAC VIBE</b> 10T9211A <b>\$12,988</b>	
<b>2009 FORD FOCUS</b> P21118 <b>\$14,388</b>	<b>2005 LEXUS ES330</b> 11C6000A <b>\$14,988</b>			<b>2008 PONTIAC SOLSTICE</b> 10T1254A <b>\$19,688</b>	<b>2008 MERCEDES BENZ C300W4</b> 10C8545A <b>\$26,488</b>

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\*A/Z Plan Price, plus tax, title, license & doc fees. Ends 6/1/10. †A/Z Plan price, plus tax, title, license & doc. fees. Ends 6/1/10.



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## New 2010 Ford Mustang Shelby GT 500 Coupe

Featuring: Torch red, white stripe, HID  
headlamps, electronic pkg. (voice activated  
nav system), Shelby GT 500 car cover.

One of a Kind! WAS \$51,270

**BUY \$46,990+**

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## New 2010 Ford Fusion SE

Featuring: remote start, power windows,  
locks, seat, speed control and tilt wheel.

**\$274\* Zero Down**  
36 month LEASE  
61 at this price

with \$365 due at signing.  
Security deposit waived.  
Plus tax and license,  
includes acquisition fee.

**BUY \$16,852+**

306 available



## New 2010 Ford Focus SE

Featuring: automatic, power windows,  
locks, speed control, Sirius satellite radio.

**\$198\* Zero Down**  
36 month LEASE  
65 at this price

with \$255 due at signing.  
Security deposit waived.  
Plus tax and license,  
includes acquisition fee.

**BUY \$12,189+**

182 available



## New 2010 Ford Taurus SEL

Featuring: remote start, power windows,  
locks, seat, speed control and tilt wheel.

**\$429\* Zero Down**  
36 month LEASE  
14 at this price

with \$530 due at signing.  
Security deposit waived.  
Plus tax and license,  
includes acquisition fee.

**BUY \$23,289+**

135 available



## New 2010 Ford Escape XLT

Featuring: 203 pkg, Sync, moonroof, cargo pkg, remote  
start, power windows, locks, speed control and tilt wheel.

**\$359\* Zero Down**  
36 month LEASE  
68 at this price

with \$458 due at signing.  
Security deposit waived.  
Plus tax and license,  
includes acquisition fee

**BUY \$19,842+**

249 available



## New 2010 Ford Edge SE

Featuring: remote start, power windows,  
locks, seat, tilt wheel, speed control.

**\$322\* Zero Down**  
36 month LEASE  
17 at this price

with \$612 due at signing.  
Security deposit waived.  
Plus tax and license,  
includes acquisition fee.

**BUY \$20,340+**

170 available



## New 2010 Ford Flex SE

Featuring: remote start, power windows,  
locks, seat, tilt wheel, speed control.

**\$405\* Zero Down**  
36 month LEASE  
4 at this price

with \$481 due at signing.  
Security deposit waived.  
Plus tax and license,  
includes acquisition fee.

**BUY \$22,555+**

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