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CANTON CONNECTION

Classic cars

Waltonwood Cherry Hill Senior Living hosts its sixth annual Classic Cars for a Cure to show support and raise money for the Alzheimer's Association 5:30 p.m. Friday, June 25, at Waltonwood.

America's Most Wanted Car Club will be participating in the event by showing a collection of classic cars. A silent auction will take place inside Waltonwood where items such as Detroit Tigers tickets and signed memorable will be up for bidding. There will also be live entertainment and barbecue.

All proceeds from the event will go to the Alzheimer's Association. Waltonwood Cherry Hill is located on the corner of Lilley and Cherry Hill in Canton. This event is open to the community.

For more information, contact Renee Wertheimer or Jennifer Alwin at (734) 981-7100.

Write a play

TLC Productions has organized Canton's first One-Acts Festival and is accepting scripts for consideration, postmarked no later than Aug. 24. Comedies, dramas and yes, even musicals will be considered. Canton's first One-Acts Festival takes place Jan. 21-23 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

TLC is looking for original plays and musicals in length from 15-60 minutes (preference given to 30-45-minute shows). Multiple submissions from a playwright are welcomed; however, no children's shows will be considered. For a list of complete guidelines and for information on the TLCprod.wordpress.com.

Seat open

The Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees invites individuals interested in filling a vacancy on the board to apply by 3 p.m. July 2.

Applications are available from the Office of the President, Room 190, Administration Center, at Schoolcraft College's Livonia campus. The board intends to interview selected applicants and make an appointment in July.

The seven-member board is the college's policy-making body. Applicants must be registered voters and residents of the Schoolcraft district, which includes the Clarenceville, Garden City, Livonia, Northville and Plymouth-Canton school districts and part of the Novi school district

The term runs through Dec. 31. In order to be considered, applicants must be willing to complete this term and to run for the new six-year term in the Nov. 2 general election. The new term will begin Jan.

1, 2011, and run through 2016. The vacancy is the result of Dr. Philip Cascade's decision to step down July 1 due to work obligations. Cascade was appointed to fill a vacancy in 2004 and was elected to a six-year term in 2005.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mike Schultz plows and Richard Waldecker discs the soil along the land that will be farmed.

Blast of the past

Farming project digs up Canton's roots



Mike Schultz drives a tractor in the shadow of the ITC power lines. That land is where the crops will be planted.

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Richard Waldecker knows of Canton's long history in farming, just like he knows that history is moving farther into the past the more Canton grows.

But Waldecker, who's lived in the community nearly 50 years, is working with a variety of partners to try and keep at least a piece of the township's legacy intact in a unique way.

Waldecker is leading the charge to farm some seven acres of land that lies beneath a string of power lines that run next to the area known as Preservation Park at Cherry Hill and Denton.

"We're trying to preserve the not-too-long-ago history of Canton," said Waldecker, who retired after a long career at Ford Motor Co. "We're using old equipment and demonstrating old-style farming techniques. We want to show people a living

The idea began germinating after a 2005 conversation Waldecker had with Canton Township Clerk Terry Bennett and Melissa McLaughlin, now

the township treasurer. He said McLaughlin and Bennett talked about "their idea of having a living farm." Waldecker knew he'd be retiring from Ford and was going to be looking for something

The township's master plan included such a project, Waldecker said; what needed to be done was to acquire the land, which belonged to the International Transmission Co. Canton parks and facility manager Brad Sharp started working with ITC in 2007, the contract was signed in 2009 and the project was on its way.

After some consultation with the Wayne County Conservation District, things got started with the planting of some three or four acres of sweet corn in 2009.

"Dick had this great plan for farming it," said Connie Boris, executive director of the Wayne County Conservation District. "We looked in the Wayne County Soil Survey book for the best crop to plant, and it turned out to be sweet corn."

Now Waldecker plans to plant

Please see FARMING, A2

Audit shows Canton faces 'rough waters'

BY DARRELL CLEM **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Barring a housing market rebound and an uptick in the business sector, Canton faces a difficult, 14-year climb to reach the taxable value it had in 2007, a newly released audit report shows.

The latest report from the auditing firm Plante & Moran, released Tuesday night, reveals the severe fallout that a crushing economy has had on Canton - a community that nonetheless has fared much better than its recession-battered neighbors.

"This is grim," township Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin said, as Plante & Moran officials rolled out the latest audit during a Canton Township Board of Trustees meeting.

Yet, local officials refused to accept projections - largely based on the current economic climate - that Canton's taxable value will not fully rebound until 2024. Rather, they vowed an aggressive pitch to spur new business growth, and they remain hopeful that new housing starts and the sale of existing homes can help to reverse the gloomy forecast.

Township officials are keenly aware of the difficult road ahead as they try to maintain services amid declining property tax revenue and state-shared funding sources.

"Tighten up your boots. We've got some rough waters ahead," Trustee Pat Williams said.

Consider why:

 Canton's unreserved general fund balance plunged from \$7.5 million in 2008 to \$5.8 million in 2009, as local officials dipped into the surplus to offset declining revenues and to maintain services. The balance fell despite budget-cutting measures such as opting not to fill certain job vacancies.

· Canton's general fund revenue fell from \$27 million to \$25.1 million during the same period.

 Property tax values decreased 5.8 percent for 2010, and Finance Director Rick Eva said even steeper declines are expected at 12 percent in 2011 and 6 percent in 2012.

Plante & Moran manager Alisha Davis warned that declining property tax revenues are expected to affect the local budget through 2013, saying recent drops are "just the

• State-shared revenue has fallen dramatically, from nearly \$7.1 million in 2002 to \$4.8 million in 2010, and Plante & Moran partner Michael Swartz said another 4 percent is likely looming as Lansing grapples with its own budget problems.

Please see AUDIT, A4

Thousands enjoy Canton's Liberty Fest

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

To celebrate his 6-year-old daughter Olivia's kindergarten graduation from Canton Charter Academy, Vince Ilagan brought her to Liberty Fest for a rollicking good time.

Seriously, where else could Olivia climb into an inflatable ball that rolls around in a pool of water? "It's like you're a gerbil," she said,

It's not the first time Ilagan had brought his daughter to Liberty Fest, a celebration of family, friends and

freedom that, according to Canton Leisure Services Director Ann Conklin, draws as many as 50,000 to 60,000 visitors over three days to picturesque Heritage Park

Said Ilagan, "It seems to keep growing.

Canton resident Tammy Pitt strolled around Heritage Park on Thursday with 8-year-old grandson Taylor Pitt, who was visiting from Presidio, Texas.

"I rode the roller coaster and the bumper cars. They were awesome," Taylor said. "I want to ride that big roller coaster some more. We don't

have any roller coasters where I live." Pitt was planning to return Friday with Taylor's 7-year-old brother, Ronin, who was visiting other relatives Thursday.

"Ronin's going to want to ride the train, I know that for sure," Pitt said.

To complete a three-day trek to Liberty Fest, Pitt said a family outing was being planned for Saturday night's festival-crowning fireworks display - and festival revelers hoped for cooperative weather.

"The fireworks are the best part,"

Please see LIBERTY, A7

B8

C2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Todd Frey and daughter Sydney Frey stop to talk with Canton Officer Joe Bialy.





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an additional three acres of crops - more corn, green beans, melon and pumpkin among them - this year.

"The property hadn't been farmed in 30 or 40 years," Waldecker said. "We were looking at weeds and rocks and everything. We had to clear it all out."

Waldecker is quick to point out all the help he's gotten. He's talked to current farmers for advice and some physical help. For instance, people have donated several pieces of vintage farm equipment. Volunteers like Mike Schultz - "I'm a laid-off electrician," he said. "This is a great way not to have to sit around"

- help out however they can. "I depend heavily on people," Waldecker said. "That's how farmers are. They help each other.

Plans for the farm include more than just preserving the



Richard Waldecker is creating an historic farm next to the Bartlett-Travis House.

farming. Waldecker is working with Plymouth-Canton Community Schools officials to figure out a way to get elementary school children out to the site to teach them about the project. And last year's

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corn crop went to Connection Church in Canton for the church's food bank, which Waldecker said fed some 1,300

"That's part of the intent of this project," he said. "We want



Mike Schultz attaches the disc to the tractor. Richard Waldecker found the disk, which dates back to the 1930s, in a wooded area off Canton Center Road.

to help people."

It also fits in with the township's desire to preserve its legacy. Waldecker's farming project is located adjacent to Preservation Park, which already houses the Bartlett-Travis house and a relocated

"It's an educational process for the public," Sharp said. "It fits with Preservation Park. This was a farming community. We wanted to enhance that by showing all of this together."

St. Joe's hosts 13th golf classic June 28

The 13th annual St. Joe's Pro Am Golf Classic is scheduled for June 28 at Pheasant Run Golf Club, 46500 Summit Parkway in Canton.

The event aims to raise \$150,000, and the funds will support prescription co-pays, medications and supplies, and transportation for the uninsured and underinsured cancer patients receiving care at the new St. Joseph Mercy Canton Center for Advanced Medicine and Surgery.

Providing support such as this helps ensure that the cancer program offered in the center meets the needs of the patients, their families and the community.

Hockey great Ted Lindsay, bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-8899 the golf classic's chair emeritus, will be on hand for the day's events. Celebrity appearances include Joe Kocur, fourtime Stanley Cup Champion, former Detroit Red Wing player and assistant coach; and Jeff Lesson, sports anchor, and

host of "Lesson on Golf". Registration begins at 8 a.m. and a shotgun start follows at 9 a.m. The St. Joe's Pro Am Golf Classic will conclude with a cocktail reception, awards

dinner and silent auction. It's not too late to sign up, but officials say spots are going fast. Sponsorships and dinner tickets are available for pur-

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

Cancer concert

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is the site for a benefit concert by Michael McDermott 7:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 20.

McDermott will be performing an acoustic set of his

Tickets are \$22 each. All proceeds go to the Susan G. Komen 3-Day for the Cure.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.cantonvillagetheater.org or at (734) 394-5300. Find out more about McDermott at www.michaelmcdermott.com

Church picnics

Living Peace Church is inviting all Canton area residents to join them at four picnics this summer.

Picnics will be held June 27 at Heritage Park and July 25, Aug. 22 and Sept. 5 at Freedom Park. The members of Living Peace Church want to meet Canton Area residents and hear about their concerns and ideas for the Canton community. Food will be provided free of charge from noon to 2 p.m. on all four dates and children's activities will be

provided. Living Peace Church is coming to Canton this fall and will begin meeting for worship in Field Elementary School, 1000 S. Haggerty in Canton on Sunday, Sept. 12.

For more information call or text us at (734) 233-1466 or e-mail us at livingpeacechurch@yahoo.com.

Wine and dine

The Pheasant Run Golf Club has a special Father's Day gift idea that Mom can enjoy too - its popular "9, Wine & Dine" golf and dinner package on Friday, July 30.

The package features a ninehole golf scramble followed by a gourmet strolling dinner with unique wine pairings at the Summit on the Park. A wine sommelier will be on-site to provide insights on the wine offerings.

The cost is \$70 per couple for Pheasant Run Golf Club members or \$90 per couple for non-members.

"This is a great opportunity for couples to get out on the golf course together and then enjoy a relaxing gourmet dinner and delicious wines following their round," said Emily Lee, sales manager at Summit on the Park. "The '9, Wine & Dine' promotion is one of our most popular and successful events of the season."

Golf begins with a 5:30 p.m. shotgun start. For reservations, call the Pheasant Run pro shop at 734-397-6460

Pheasant Run is located at 46500 Summit Parkway in Canton Township. The Summit on the Park Banquet and Conference Center is located at 46000 Summit Parkway.

Chiefette fund-raiser

Buffalo Wild Wings of Canton sponsors a fund raiser for the Canton High School Chiefettes Pom Pon team 5-9 p.m. June 23. During this time, 20 percent of qualifying purchases will be donated to the squad by BW3 by presenting an event sponsor form.

Forms are available at



Great outdoors

Harvest Bible Chapel of Canton hosts its third annual outdoor service 5-6:15 p.m. Sunday, June 27, at the Heritage Park Amphitheater in Canton. A free picnic dinner follows at 6:15 p.m. and will include chili dogs, chips, drinks and watermelon. The event features volleyball and activities for children. Anyone who attends and fills out an entry form will be entered into a drawing for a new Apple iPad. The drawing takes place following the service (must be present to win). For more information visit the chapel's website at www. harvestcanton.org or call (734) 459-7795.

www.cantonchiefettes.com (no forms will be available at the restaurant). Buffalo Wild Wings is located at 41980 Ford Road in the Willow Creek Shopping Center.

Cheer clinic

The Canton High School Cheerleading "Summer Kids Cheer Clinic" takes place Monday, June 21, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (check-in at 8:30 a.m.) at Phase III-Canton Gym.

The clinic is open to kids ages kindergarten through eighth grade. Participants should wear comfortable shorts, gym shoes and sun screen.

Cost is \$50 (\$90 for two family members, \$120 for three), which includes the clinic, lunch, afternoon drink/ snack and a Canton Cheer sports bag. Registration deadline is June 11.

For more information, email allikl62@gmail.com or visit the website at www.cantoncheerleading.com.

Pancake breakfast

The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band will be the beneficiary of the first annual "Good Morning USA" Pancake Breakfast scheduled for July 4 in downtown Plymouth. The pancake and sausage breakfast

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is hosted by the Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters.

Tickets are available at the door for \$6 per person, children under five are free. The breakfast will begin at 6 a.m. in The Gathering, right off of Kellogg Park, and will continue as the "Good Morning USA Parade"

gets underway and run through 11 a.m. or until sold out.

In addition to pancakes and sausage, patrons can enjoy juice and coffee as they watch the annual Independence Day parade. Proceeds from the sale of tickets will benefit the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band as it prepares for its 2011 appearance in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City.

Summer Camp

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Early Childhood Department will have Preschool Summer Camp for four weeks beginning on Monday, July 12, and running through Thursday, Aug. 5. Camp will meet in the mornings from 8:30 to 11:30. Two-day and four-day options are available, depending on your preschooler's age.

In the 3-year-old and young four's class, the weekly themes will be: I am Special/a Super Hero, Treasure Island and Exploring Nature, Science Spectacular and Water Works, and Transportation and Space.

In the older 4s class and 5-year-old class, the weekly themes will be: Digging in the Dirt, Treasure Island, Exploring Nature, and Playing it Safe.

All classes are taught by certified teachers and experienced paraprofessionals. Call the Early Childhood Office now for more information at (734) 416-6190 or visit the department's website at web. pccs.k12.mi.us/earlychildhood for a Summer Camp Application.

Preschool Enrollment

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Early Childhood Department is enrolling for fall preschool. Classes are taught at various schools throughout the district. It offers classes for 2-, 3- and 4year-olds. All classes are half days and are taught by credentialed teachers and experienced paraprofessionals. The program focuses on kindergarten readiness with strong ties to the district's kindergarten cur-

riculum. Call the Early Childhood Office now for more information at 734-416-6190 or visit web. pccs.k12.mi.us/earlychildhood.

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, pienics, outdoor time, music, stories and games

Full and half-day programs are available during the summer session with morningonly 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. pemontessori.org. Early enrollment is recommended to ensure availability.

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· Due to a deficit in the local golf course budget, local officials are expected as early as Tuesday to transfer \$106,000 from the public improvement fund to offset the losses.

Despite the grim economic news, auditors said many deficit-plagued Michigan municipalities would relish Canton's financial position, given its \$5.8 million general fund balance.

"There are a lot of communities that would be pretty envious of you," Swartz told township trustees.

To be sure, Canton has the ability to raise its tax rate by 1.5 mills without going to

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voters, because the township has levied less than it has the authority to impose. But local officials, aware of the economic struggles of many local residents, haven't even hinted at such a measure.

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"We're just going to keep doing everything we can to be good stewards of the people's money," township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said Tuesday.

In response to a question from Trustee John Anthony, Swartz described Canton's financial position as "strong with a lot of clouds on the horizon because of a (declining) revenue stream that is beyond your control."

But, he warned, "to make it stay strong is not easy."

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W-W board tells Lansing 'hands off' school money

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Wayne-Westland school officials want to send a clear message to Lansing: hands off the \$400 million surplus in the School Aid Fund.

The board, at the urging of Superintendent Greg Baracy, has approved a resolution calling on residents of the district to contact lawmakers and let them know that the money should be spent on the K-12 program not to offset the state's general fund deficit.

"For at least the last five years, Wayne-Westland has lost millions of dollars, this money is needed to go into the classroom," said Baracy. "This is a critical issue. We need every staff member and every parent to protest. Don't raid the fund and take that money out."

At the heart of the battle cry is a proposal to shift money from the School Aid Fund to the general fund to bolster community colleges

and university and other educational programs. It appears that Gov. Jennifer Granholm, House Speaker Andy Dillon and Senate Majority Leader Michael Bishop are on board with the idea which one superintendent described as "stealing from our children.

The resolution recognizes that bills before the House and Senate don't divert any school aid funds to other areas and requests that the legislature not be used for general fund expenditures. However, it "recognizes that any resources available in the current economy that have been set aside for public education need to be maintained in order to eliminate additional funding cuts and possibly restore some of the recent cuts."

"There is a structural problem at the state level that we have to react to year after year," Baracy said. "If we work together, talk to legislators who don't understand, we could be successful. Local legislators

understand, but there are those who don't understand it's not easy for us, it's not for school districts across the state."

William H. Mayes, executive director of the Michigan Association of School Administrators, sent out a letter urging school officials to launch the letter writing campaign after news reports surfaced about the possible money shift.

"Despite the rhetoric coming out of Lansing, Michigan's schools do not have any surplus revenue, and that the past few years have been devastating for schools - massive cuts, record layoffs and school closures have been commonplace.

"As parents, grandparents and public servants, we need to ensure that every child has access to the same quality education that our parents afforded us," he said. "The threat of the legislature raiding School Aid dollars is very real. Tell Lansing to keep their hands off of our children's future."

School funding was slashed \$165 per student last year and that the "extra revenue" projected in the most recent fiscal estimate is not even enough to restore that cut, let alone cover the \$150 per pupil cost of the retirement rate increase or the over 20 percent health care cost increase coming next year, Mayes said.

And even with an improved economic forecast, schools will still be forced to layoff staff and cut programs, he said.

Wayne-Westland just closed six elementary schools and reconfigured its elementary program in an effort to cut expenses by \$5 million. It also is seeking concessions from all of its employee groups, laid off employees and cut spending in hopes of making it through the next two years without ending up in deficit.

"If enough people do this, we may have a sliver of hope to accomplish this," said Baracy.

smason@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6751

Giving Circle hands out grants

Grants totaling \$5,000 were recently awarded to three local non-profit organizations by the Giving Hope Women's Giving

First Step, the Canton Public Library and the Plymouth Community Council on Aging each received funding for programs operating in the area that support the Giving Circle's mission of helping local women and their families.

A much-needed fitness program for senior citizens will be offered at one of the Independent Senior Living Apartments thanks to a \$1,000 grant to PCCA. Senior Chair Aerobics is a pilot program that consists of a sixweek session designed to provide a cardiovascular workout for those with certain physical limitations.

The Canton Public Library received \$2,000 to support a mother-daughter book club. Books and other supplies will

additional cost

be provided to a target group of mothers and their daughters in the 5th to 7th grade.

And finally, First Step will use a \$2,000 grant for the establishment of a Safe Children/Safe Families program to increase public awareness of the issues of violence and how it impacts women and children. This is a one-year program scheduled to begin in July.

Established in 2006, the Giving Circle consists of 65 local women who pool their philanthropic dollars to benefit local women and children in need. In addition, they are learning about community needs and are creating an endowment fund to meet future needs.

Anyone interested in learning more about the Giving Circle can contact the Canton Community Foundation at 734-495-1200, or send an e-mail to GivingHopeWGC@gmail.com.

NEWS BRIEFS

Spanish camp

Students in preschool through fifth grade are invited to join Bilingual Fun for a week long day camp 9 a.m. to noon July 26-30 at Praise Baptist Church.

Children will learn Spanish through thematic activities, music, movement, hands on activities, cultural crafts, outdoor play, and the week ends with a Fiesta! Registration is now open.

Contact Bilingual Fun at info@bilingualfun.com or (877) 686-7399 for more information.

Scottish fun

The Scottish American Society of Michigan will host a fun summer Ceilidh (pronounced kay-lee) 3-7 p.m. Sunday, July 25, at the Commonwealth Club, 30088 Dequindre Road in Warren. Partial proceeds from the second annual fund-raising event by the group will go to benefit the Vietnam Veterans Post 154 in Roseville.

The Ceilidh will feature a Scottish meal of steak pie, mushy peas, chips (fries) and cole slaw, plus great entertainment including Detroit Caledonian Pipe Band, solo piping competition, Highland dancers, Celtic fiddler, Raggle Taggle Band, and more. Tickets are \$20 per person or \$15 for kids 10 and under. Kids 4 and under are free. Seating is limited to 150 and the cut off for tickets is Monday, July 21. No tickets will be sold at the door. For more ticket information, please visit www. scotsofmichigan.com or send e-mail to scotsofmi@yahoo.

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-

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HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor Brad Kadrich Voice Mail: (313) 222-8899 E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com Comment online at hometownlife.com



Sunday, June 20, 2010

The Old Hickory Stick, the trophy awarded to the winner of the EEF's annual golf outing, has made a variety of pit stops since being swiped from the office of the winner shortly after last year's event.

Golfers await Old Hickory Stick

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Old Hickory Stick

apparently gets around. The stick, which serves as the trophy/plaque awarded to the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools team with the best score at the annual PCCS Open golf outing to benefit the Education Excellence Foundation, has been seen in places such as along a highway in Florida and on a racetrack.

Where it hasn't been seen recently is the place it most belongs - on the wall of Clint Smiley's office. Smiley earned the right to display the stick at the 2009 Open, where his West Middle School team won its second straight title.

But shortly after the stick went on display, it was stolen and though there are suspects, nobody really knows who swiped it.

It was actually a repeat offense. After the West Middle School team won the stick in 2008, it was stolen, and no one knew whether it was a student prank or - perhaps - the work of a sore loser. While suspects were questioned, school officials said,

few clues were discovered. However, the Old Hickory Stick made its dramatic reappearance last year in the

GOIN' GOLFING

What: Educational Excellence Foundation golf outing When: Wednesday, June 23, shotgun start at 7:30 a.m. Highlights: Hot dogs chips and a drink at the turn; lunch afterward Details: E-mail Carole Kody at Carole.Kody@pccsmail.net or call (734) 416-2718.

clutches of a Gorilla, who brought it into the clubhouse at Fox Hills, where the outing is played, during the luncheon. Smiley, officials said, gave chase, but the gorilla escaped.

Smiley vowed then to keep the stick safe, even if it meant chaining it to the wall, which he did. Shortly afterward, though, he entered his office to find the chain cut and the stick, once again, missing.

Since then, someone (the gorilla?) has been updating the escapades of the Stick using the Internet (find its journey at www.oldhickorytravels. blogspot.com).

Officials are hoping the stick makes its reappearance again when the EEF hosts the annual fund-raiser Wednesday at Fox Hills.

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

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The leaders of Liberty City are anxiously waiting for proof

hometownlifemcom

their voices will actually be heard outside the city limits. Those "leaders" are fourth-

grade students in Wendy Gravlin's class at Gallimore Elementary School, where they created the fictional town to further the learning in their social studies curriculum.

Since they were learning about government anyway, the students put their lessons to good use, crafting a bill that would give Michigan something it heretofore hadn't owned: A state fruit.

Liberty City inhabitants, with the help of state Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, authored a bill that would make the tart cherry the state fruit. Slavens introduced the bill in the House, where it will now be discussed in committee.

"We are thrilled our voices have been heard," Gravlin said.

It was the latest lesson for the inhabitants of Liberty City, who spent the year learning about government. The students formed all three branches of government, with students holding down jobs ranging from police officer to Supreme Court justice.

Students voted on the town name, decided on the differences between rules and laws, and were responsible for deciding where local services would be located.

"We modified everything to fit our community, and then we kind of lived it," Gravlin said. "I wanted to make it as hands-on as possible. We tried to make it come alive.

It worked, as students learned what each role encompassed, devised business plans and learned, for instance, how taxes work.

"I didn't know much about



Students use their 'voice' in Lansing

Fourth-graders from Gallimore Elementary School join state Rep. Dian Slavens, (D-Canton) on the House floor during a visit to the Capitol.



Gallimore fourth-grader Natalie Meloche asks a question of state Rep. Dian Slavens, who was at the school for a 'March is Reading Month' appearance.

the branches of government," said 10-year-old Lindsey Torey, who served as the lieutenant governor (Gravlin was governor). "It's like ... when a law was passed, we got to

decide if it was fair, and if we were going to veto it or approve it. It made social studies more fun."

Slavens made an appearance during "March is Reading Month" to read to the students and talk to them about government. She was impressed with some 19 letters students wrote her, explaining why they thought the tart cherry should be the state fruit.

Then, on a subsequent visit to the Capitol, Slavens had a surprise for the students: She had turned their idea into a bill, which is now in commit-

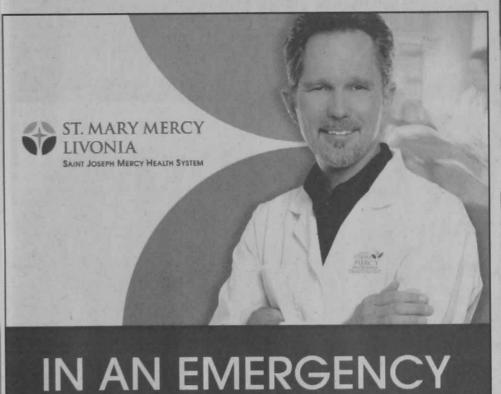
"I was very impressed they'd done the research," Slavens said of the fourth-graders. "It's important the children know they have a voice in the process. When they came to

Lansing, they had great questions. I think that's great. That (interest) hopefully will keep growing as they become

The hands-on development of their own city, the trip to Lansing and actually getting a voice in the system changed some students' outlook on school in general and social studies in particular.

"When we used to do social studies, it was kinda boring," said 9-year-old Karlyn Siterlet. "When we learned about the branches (of government), we got to DO the branches. "Usually we just memorize it. This time, we got to do it. I used to tell my friends I didn't like social studies; now I can't wait to get to it."

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Canton police nab seat-belt scofflaws

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A surprising number of Canton motorists still aren't buckling their seat belts, even though Michigan has one of the nation's highest compliance rates at nearly 98 per-

New statistics obtained from Canton police reveal that township patrol officers issued 218 tickets for seat-belt violations during a two-week Click It or Ticket campaign that ended June 5.

Motorists who still refuse to buckle up face a \$65 fine.

"We hope they will wear their seat belts the next time, and maybe it will save a life, Scott Hilden, Canton special services lieutenant, said. "That's the whole purpose of the program."

Canton has some of the state's highest-crash intersections, particularly along bustling Ford Road, yet police officers nabbed motorists all across the township during the Click It or Ticket campaign.

Local officers initiated nearly 300 traffic stops during the special two-week initiative. Hilden released the following statistics:

· Officers cited 218 motorists for seat-belt violations.

· They issued 30 tickets to drivers who blew through red

traffic lights. Police wrote two tickets for each of the following violations: illegal turns, speeding

and driving without insurance. Officers caught four drivers for driving with a suspend-

· Police made four arrests, including one for drunken driving and three for other misdemeanor offenses.

· Officers wrote an additional 32 tickets for other traffic violations.

Police hope the federally funded Click It or Ticket program, part of an annual nationwide campaign, convinces motorists to drive safely to avoid possibly injury to

themselves and others. "Absolutely I would say the program was a success," Hilden said. "There's a tremendous volume of traffic in the areas where the officers do the

(Click It or Ticket) details." The vast majority of motorists obey seat-belt laws, he said, but for those who didn't, "everyone got a ticket."

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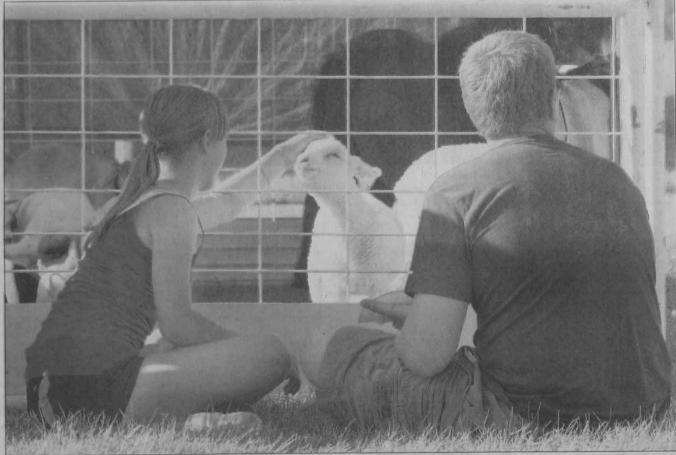
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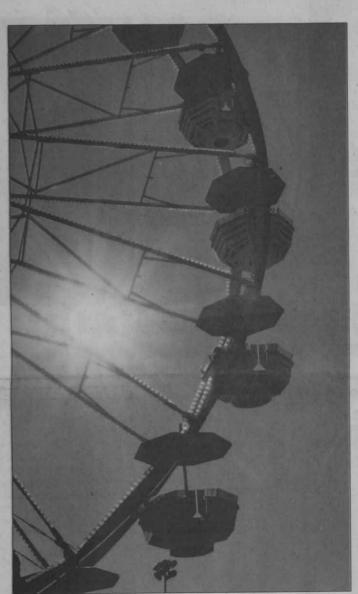
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SINGH Q&



Megan LeMieux and Josh Allen spend a little time with the animals.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Thursday night's Canton Liberty Festival featured the sneak preview of the

Pitt said. "I love the festival. I enjoy walking around and looking at all the things they have in the tents."

Some festival fans favor the Saturday morning parade along Ford Road. Some charitable organizations use Liberty Fest, in its 19th year, to raise money to help others. Other people enjoy rock bands and a diverse display of interna-

tional music and dance.

Shawn Mueller, a Canton employee who works at the Summit on the Park day-care center, stood Thursday evening inside a booth to hand out town-ship promotional brochures and to direct festival visitors.

"It has been a really good turnout for

opening day," he said.

Opening day included a ceremony unveiling Canton's latest recreation offering — a new cricket field in Heritage Park.

And, really, what's a festival without food — and lots of it, from Cajun to cot-

Cherie Pollard of Romulus ate french fries as she sat on a bench with daughter Courtney Chaney, who works in Canton. They waited for other family members such as Pollard's grandson, 9-year-old Jordan Wilcoxson, who could hardly contain his excitement.

"I just went on the Super Slide, and it was awesome," he said. "Now I want to go on the Twister."

Off he ran - into a crowd that, one more time, embraced Liberty Fest for the summer memory-making event it has become.

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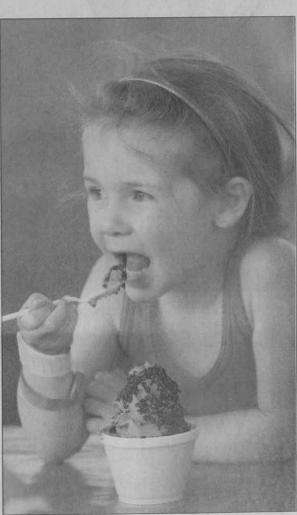
Gyl Savoie and 15-month-old daughter Rhiana stay cool in a water mister.



Josh Cox hangs on with a little help from dad, Michael Cox.



The Super Slide drew a crowd for Liberty Festival's opening preview night.



Malea Smith enjoys a little ice cream on the opening preview night of the 2010 Canton Liberty Fest.

My first childhood memory, of Dad's lessons, was when I was about 4 years old in a grocery store with Dad. I picked up a grape in the produce section and started to put it in my mouth but dad made me put it back and taught me not to steal. From that moment on, I knew right from wrong, as far as stealing from a store, and never stole from a store.

Dad also was ingenious, he would tell his 5 kids when they were in the store with him buying groceries and the usual wining would start, asking for candy or other treats at the check out counter. Dad would simply say we couldn't have candy because it wasn't on the grocery list, he faithfully carried with him in the store-and for years we believed him!! My brother when he grew up, a father of 4, said the

same things to his kids and it worked! No candy unless it was on the list! And they believed him for years!

Above all, my Dad, now

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, June 20, 2010

age 85, taught me the most important things in life were religion, job, family and saving money, being frugal. He raised 5 kids, worked full time, went to school at night and got degrees until I was married at age 20, and had an income tax business on the side. We missed out on Father and daughter dances in high school because he was at night school, but I knew he cared and I learned what sacrifice meant. I learned how important family, religion, and working was. I learned by his example. I am grateful for his example and love. I'm proud to call him my Dad. Happy Father's Day!

Well, my 80-year old father (Ivan McKinney) had one heck of a week at the U.S. Air Force Academy during the last week of May. He watched his grandson, Austin McKinney, graduate as Valedictorian of his Class of 2010 and get commissioned as a new second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. I am Austin's father (Blaine McKinney) and we are proud that Austin is now a third-generation Air Force officer. My dad is a retired lieutenant colonel and former navigator. I am a retired major and flew as a pilot. I got to swear Austin in because I am a retired officer; 32 years ago, my dad swore me in because he is also a retired officer. My dad used to tell us, "Luck is when opportunity meets preparation." Austin departs in September for the University of London, where he will begin his graduate work as a Marshall Scholar.



Jerry Grimes

As I think about the many memories my dad and I have shared; fishing, shooting rockets off, and pie eating contests, one stands out. Going to the zoo. I remember finding an eagle feather, being scared by a peacock, buying Popsicles and running ahead of everyone, so I could be first to see the next animal. Even though Father's Day only comes once a year. I think every day is a special day with my dad around. I love you Dad!

Grace Grimes



You have taught me to cherish life. Whether it's making dinner together, going to a Tigers game, or watching a Sunday mass on TV, we always have a great time. I'm going to sincerely miss you in the fall as I leave for college, but don't worry, I'll be spending all my time in my new home away from home... the library!

Sarah Duxter



My dad (here giving a how-to lesson to grandkids Dillon, 13, and Emilie, 8) during his hardworking days was in charge of production at Awrey Bakeries. Now with the slower-paced days of retirement, he bakes yeast bread and cooks nearly everyday. He has perfected many different kinds of bread: English muffin bread (great toasted with jelly!), an artisan loaf and most recently, cinnamon rolls. He has shared this love of baking with his four daughters and grandchildren, often giving us his freshly baked goods. In addition, he donates his time and talents by baking and cooking for the Miles Christi Priests once a month. Our Papa also plants an enormous vegetable garden every year from seed. We are a tomato-loving family because of my dad. Food and family go together, and my dad has taught us this well! I love

> Jeanne Stevenson Plymouth



After eighth grade my father, Alvin L. Givens, was needed on the farm. His schooling came to an abrupt halt, but he never stopped learning and working hard. He was raised in the Pennsylvania Dutch culture where parents never praised their kids because it would make them conceited and proud. You proved your worth by working hard, obeying God and your parents, and loving your neighbors as yourself.

I remember once when as a high school student, I had won the regional competition as a Youth for Christ song leader. The area director asked me to lead singing every Saturday night. I overheard my father talking to my mother about getting me a new suit, since I was in front of people so much. That was unusual in our family of six boys who lived on hand-me-downs. I knew it was an expression of his love.

Fast forward 20 years. We were working in the Philippines when we got the news that Dad was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease (ALS). I felt like my father died right then and I was half a world away. However, we returned to our headquarters in Michigan and settled in Canton. In March 1982, Dad made his last trip before he died in November that same year. My in-laws brought him to see and experience our life here in Michigan.

Thanks for the life lessons, Dad. And even though you're not here to see your great-grandkids, they know about you. And they know how much God loved you so you could love us.

David Givens



Gone Fishing

My favorite memories of my dad happen out on the lake. He is a wonderful fisherman who loves catching (and eating) walleye. We both wake up at 6:30 on some Sunday mornings to go fishing. Together we cruise out on the boat and start our fishing voyage. One time when we were on the lake we got terribly lost. Instead of heading back to our docking destination, we drove the boat in the complete opposite direction. We must have gotten very disoriented to drive so far out of our way. We eventually got back home but with sunburned faces and dashed spirits (After our little escapade, my dad went out and bought a GPS.). There are many more memories that have taken place on the lake and countless more to come. Love you dad! Can't wait till we catch a Muskie!

Ellen Grimes



John Stewart

When we think of our dad we think of determination and support. There is nothing that he would not do for his girls or his community. Whether it is running for office, being a lawyer, or singing the National Anthem he does it all giving it 100%. Through all of those endeavors he still had plenty of time to play catcher for his daughter the softball pitcher and he had time to go to a regatta for his daughter the crew team member. He shows his support for his girls by making time for us and not letting anything get in the way of quality dad and daughter time.

Our dad is an amazing dad and a dedicated member of his community. He has taught us the value of being involved in your community and that one person can have a significant impact. But through it all he stayed committed to showing us the value of family. So even though we are in another city we feel loved and supported no matter where we are or what tasks we want to conquer. We love you dad and all the way from Charlotte we want to love and support you in all that you do! Happy Father's Day!

Laura and Sarah Stewart Plymouth



Richard Bronkhorst My dad (Richard Bronkhorst, pictured with his grandson, Caden Bronkhorst) is the smartest man I know. He taught me to work hard and save my money for things I really want in life. He has worked hard all of his life to provide my sisters and I with everything we needed. I hope I can teach my son everything he taught me. I love you dad! Happy Fathers Day!

Kerri Bronkhorst



In the 1950s, my dad took an informal vacation picture of the children our family - my older sister was about age 9, I was 7, my brother was about 6, and my baby sister was about 2. The picture was taken in the woods at the Shenandoah Valley in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. My father carried this picture with him constantly. It was a simple illustration of how important family was to my Dad and we always felt the depth of his love. This picture was in his wallet when he passed away this spring, March 2, 2010, at age 92.

Christine Day

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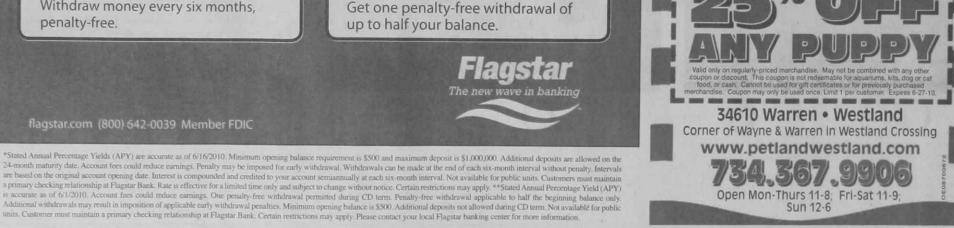
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The most important lesson my dad has taught me so far is to have fun and always try your best. He is always there to play with me and teach me a new sport. He helps out with my T-Ball team and encourages me to do my very best - I might not always be the best, but as long as I try, he is there to help me out. I love you daddy and I thank you for being the best daddy there is. Happy Father's Day Daddy!

Olivia White



Greg Rutkowski

The most important lesson my dad taught me is to fight for what you want. If someone shuts you down or tells you it can't be done - prove them wrong and find a way to make it happen. I have always lived by this. I don't think I would have? of what I do today, if I didn't find a way and fight for what I wanted. My dad also taught me how important a family is to you. They may not always agree with a choice you've made or like what you are doing, but they are your family and they will always stand behind you and defend you in any way they can. My dad (and my entire family) are the most important part of my life. Thank you dad for all that you have given to me and taught me. I love you and I hope you have a wonderful Father's Day.

Tracy White



John Toth

One of my most endearing memories is dancing with my father; my little barefoot feet on top of his, step for step. I would hang on to his hands for dear life, trying not to fall off amidst the giggles. He seemed so tall! We danced without music; his simple hum was enough to make the living room spin.

My father was, and is, fervently loyal to his family. Perhaps his devotion stems from having his family of seven children separated during the great depression. Perhaps his memories of the 1930s orphanage and being "rescued" by his older brother shaped his "do anything for family" attitude. Perhaps it is simply that John Toth is a good man.

My Dad's humble silence is an admirable quality, yet it often pangs me with sadness, for I know time is short, and there is so much yet to discover about my daddy. My silent hero is too silent, and I am resigned often to use my imagination to fill in the gaps of his life story. Each day and each memory is a gift from God. As I watch my father's body weaken with age and cancer, I realize the best gift I can give him demonstrate the qualities he has taught me; it is now my turn to show my devotion to him. Happy Father's Day Dad!

Christina Rearick Plymouth Township

Stanley Clinansmith

ish for years to come.

My father, Stanley Clinansmith (who would be 100 years old if alive today) began a construction business with his brother Walter back in the 1940s. The company, Clinansmith Brothers Construction, grew to become Plymouth Excavating and one of many projects was demolishing



buildings for the City to make way for urban renewal

Like my father, I love learning the history of the town I grew up in. He saved whatever he could, parts of structures, antiques, etc., and donated his findings to Margaret Dunning and the Plymouth Historical Museum.

My brother, Tom, worked closely with my dad and remembers many trips to the new museum (back then just a converted house) where he would call Margaret out to say, "Well, Margaret, I have another load for you out in my pickup." This was his way of preserving the history of Plymouth, as well as recycling and reusing. I am proud of my father that he took the time to preserve

Plymouth history and left so many memories for all of us to cher-Nancy (Clinansmith) Jowsey





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SECTION B

SPORTS

SUNDAY, June 20, 2010

hometownlife

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Tim Smith Voice Mail: (313) 222-2637 E-mail: tsmith@hometownlife.com Comment online at hometownlife.com

Blazers hit roadblock

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Livonia Ladywood hit a ton of road construction on Telegraph Road during its trek north to the Division 2 girls soccer state semifinal Wednesday at Bloomfield Hills

The Blazers then found an all too familiar roadblock when they arrived — defending state champion Bloomfield Hills Marian, which scored early and late to earn a 2-0 victory.

The victory put Marian, 21-1-2 overall, on the verge of its fourth state title in school history Saturday against Grand Rapids Forest Hills Northern at Williamston High School.

Ladywood, meanwhile, finishes its season at 14-5-4 overall.

Erin Ring's rebound goal off a deflection following a shot from teammate Stephanie Pilarski proved to be the gamewinning goal just 2:11 into the match.

The Mustangs, who outshot Ladywood 13-4 for the game, finally put it away when Danielle Mazur scored on a give-and-go play with Alexa Finger with only

6:49 remaining. Marian won all four meetings this season against its Catholic League Central Division rival by scores of 2-0,

6-2, 4-0 and 2-0. Ladywood junior goalkeeper Maddie Reed repelled several serious Marian scoring threats to keep it a one-goal game until the final seven minutes after the Blazers had to push more players up top.

"In the 2-0 loss the first time, (Reed) was great in that game, too," Ladywood coach Ken Shingledecker said. "Today she showed what kind of goalkeeper she can be going forward. She was incredible.

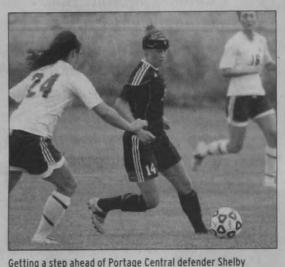
The first goal bugaboo, however, came back to haunt the Blazers once again.

Please see BLAZERS, B2



Plymouth junior standout goalkeeper Marissa Williams corrals the soccer ball, keeping it away from onrushing Charlie Socia (No. 23) of Portage Central during Wednesday's Division 1 semifinal at Holt High School.

Plymouth boots way into D1 final



Humphries (No. 24) during Wednesday's D1 semifinal is Plymouth junior forward McKenzie Hengesh - who scored during the second half.

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Before too long, Plymouth junior goalkeeper Marissa Williams will be able to write the book on how to succeed in soccer shootouts.

Williams on Wednesday stoned an opponent in the penalty kick tiebreaker for the third time this postseason.

Only this time, it wasn't any team she thwarted. Williams and the Wildcats shocked defending champion Portage Central 2-1 in the Division 1 girls soccer semifinal at Holt High School. The last time the Mustangs lost was in

"Wow, wow," said Plymouth head coach Jeff Neschich, whose unranked underdogs played

bronze medals on the line.

"I think it's really interesting," said Plymouth var-

sity boys hockey coach Paul

Fassbender. "It should be a

lot of fun for players to play

in a mini-Olympics. It's a

very unique opportunity."

Two of Fassbender's

man Justin Bauer and

2009-10 players, defense-

forward Ryan Brown, are

two of six PCEP players to

suit up for the Metro West

SIX FROM THE PARK

Saturday against No. 3 Novi (20-2-2) at Michigan State University with the state title at stake. "She (Williams) almost had two of them saved and they missed one. It's just incredible the confidence she plays with."

Plymouth (15-5-5) scored on three of its first four penalty kicks against junior goalie Mara Bennett, with sophomore Jessica Scott, senior Jessica Heck and junior Katelyn Moss finding the

Meanwhile, after the first bid by Portage Central (25-1-2) sailed over the net, junior Lindsey Arnett bounced a shot off the left post and past Williams. The third shooter, senior Natalie Hall, scored. But

Please see PLYMOUTH, B2

Take Pride

The PC Pride is looking for experienced coaches to lead teams of all ages for the 2010-11 fast pitch softball

Applicants must have a commitment to help their teams play at a top level. Currently, teams are in place for ages 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U and 18U (with the latter having an emphasis on college exposure).

Those interested in coaching for the Pride should email applications/resumes to Jon Olszewski (j4olszewski@ sbcglobal.net). Applications are available online at www. eteamz.com/PCPride. You can also send a resume to: Jon Olszewski, 48465 Antique Road, Canton, MI 48187.

For more information, contact Olszewski at (313) 570-0800.

Fall baseball

The Greater Canton Youth Baseball Softball Association will be opening registration for Fall Baseball Friday, June 25 through July 20.

Games are set to begin in mid-August and continue into early October. For more information or to register online, go to www.gcybsa.com or contact cott@canton-mim. org. Programs are available for ages 4-14 for fall.

Free golf clinic

PGA golf pro Tami Bealert is hosting a 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.

College showcase

Local high school baseball players (classes 2010-13) who might want to play at the collegiate level someday are invited to participate in the "Michigan All-Star Showcase," June 29-30 at Fifth Third Ballpark in Grand Rapids (home of the minor league Whitecaps). Fifteen colleges will be in attendance. For more information, call (616) 635-0010 or go to grandvalleystatebaseballcamps.com.

Olympic experience in store for PCEP hockey players

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

February's electrifying Winter Olympics hockey showdown between Canada and the United States is still a hot topic for anybody involved with the sport.

And for Michigan high school hockey players - including six from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park - they'll have a unique chance to compete in what's being touted as "an Olympic-style sports festival" later this week.

The 2010 Meijer State Games of Michigan will give hockey teams from the state's eight regions the opportunity to go after each other for medals and bragging rights. Competition takes place Thursday through Sunday, June 27, in Grand Rapids.

An opening ceremony at Van Andel Arena promises to be a once-in-a-lifetime experience for the hockey players and all other athletes participating. "Players get to walk out, just like

they do at the Olympics," said Ryan Ossenmacher, Salem varsity head coach and general manager of the Metro West region team. "That's kind of a unique atmosphere that they typically don't get to be a part of, to walk out in front of that many people in a kind of parade of ath-

Hockey is one of 15 sports on the State Games menus. Others include rowing, boxing, swimming, basketball, figure skating, rugby and track & field. About 3,500 athletes of all ages from across the state will

The hockey games will be slated for Walker Ice & Fitness, Kentwood Ice Arena and Belknap Park Arena (Griffs Icehouse) with each team guaranteed a four-game slate. Semifinal crossovers are Saturday

Canton forward AJ Rosales and defenseman James Lafontaine will compete on the team as will Salem forward Mark McGee and blueliner Ryan Quigley. Livonia Churchill's Pete Mazzoni will be the head coach with other assistants including

Farmington's Mark Vellucci and Novi's with the medal round games June 27 at Griffs, Todd Krygier. with gold, silver and

Team officials had the tough task of putting together a 20-man roster from a deep and very talented pool of

According to Ossenmacher, several evaluators tried to find the right blend of size, speed and toughness both up front and on the blueline. Having such a deep and balanced roster is essential because teams will play 60-minute games, he added.

"We need a group of guys who all can contribute and all can play," Ossenmacher said. "I think we've got a pretty good mix."

Fassbender concurred, noting that putting together an all-star team really wasn't the objective.

They were looking for (players to fill) roles," Fassbender said. "Such as having two top lines, good skaters, a lot of skill. There are a lot of good kids who tried out."

Please see STATE GAMES, B2

Whalers Alumni Game

The Plymouth Whalers will play their second annual Alumni Game on Saturday, Aug. 7, at Compuware Arena. Much like last season, the game will feature alumni from all eras of the team, going back to the team's early days as the Detroit Compuware Ambassadors and Detroit Junior Red Wings to the Detroit and Plymouth Whalers.

Last year's first Alumni Game featured 26 players from all eras of the franchise in a game that ended 12-11 for the Whites over the Blues.

More information will be released to the public later in the summer. Alumni interested in playing in the game or attending the event can contact Natalie Shaver at (734) 453-3216 or natalies@plymouthwhalers. com for more information.

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Williams waited, waited, and dove to her right to get her hands on junior Charlie Socia's try

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, June 20, 2010

"I knew I had it," said Williams, who exudes confidence without being brash.

When Plymouth junior Jen Babcock's kick found the top right corner, for the Wildcats' fourth straight shootout goal, the victory and trip to the finals was all theirs. That then set off a happy mob scene on the field and in the Plymouth side of the bleachers.

According to Neschich, the 4-for-5 performance by Plymouth shooters underscored how much the extra practice time on penalty kicks is also paying off from an offensive standpoint.

"We've just been practicing them and sticking with what's working," he noted. Norman, meanwhile, said his goal-

keeper (Bennett) had never been in such a situation and couldn't match Williams'

'She (Williams) has been there, she's been under that pressure," Portage Central veteran head coach Pat Norman said. "Our goalie's never been under that pressure before."

Williams is "just feeling really confident right now," and in a PK comfort zone - having beaten Northville, Dearborn and the Mustangs in shootouts this postseason. "But I have a great defense in front of me.'

Still, the nimble, aggressive goalkeeper was a major reason for the Wildcats even getting to the shootout. She blocked the onrushing Lauren Brown from pointblank range in the final moments of the first 15-minute overtime.



Portage Central's Paige Wester (No. 25) and Plymouth's Katelyn Moss (No. 18) are in a footrace during Wednesday's hard-fought Division 1 semifinal. The Wildcats earned a 2-1 victory in a shootout and play against Novi Saturday for the

During the second OT, Arnett ripped a shot from inside the box that looked labeled for inside the left post, but Williams sprawled and got her hand on it.

The only mark on her ledger was the tying goal, scored by Paige Wester with just under seven minutes left in the second half. A free kick bounced off a defender over to Wester, who made no mistake.

That energized the Mustangs, but they were unable to get the next one.

"That (tying goal) gave us an emotional swing and from that point on we owned the field," Norman said. "We just couldn't put the damn ball in the net."

Norman estimated that his slick-passing team took 25-to-30 shots, easily three times as many as Plymouth took.
There were chunks of the OT sessions

where the Mustangs were so strong that the Wildcats could not clear the ball out

But Plymouth was effective when it counted with it's bend-but-don't-break defensive style.

That's just something we've been working on all year, not just having one person go to the ball," said Neschich, about team defense. "Two people go to the ball and when we move we all move together."

ON THE BOARD

Plymouth did have periods of offensive intensity and it yielded dividends with a goal at 8:23 of the second half, putting the Wildcats up 1-0.

Speedy junior forward McKenzie Hengesh took a nifty through ball from sophomore Stephanie Sheridan.

Hengesh then deftly controlled her body and the ball within close quarters inside the box — spinning and burying a kick into the top right corner.

"It was really exciting because I hadn't scored in a while," Hengesh said. "It felt so good to finally score again, and of all the games the state semis. It's amazing."

After the tying goal, Hengesh nearly scored the winner in the final minute of

Goalkeeper Bennett stopped Hengesh's

in-close header at the left post, off a corner kick by freshman Stephanie Dillon. "I just didn't get enough oomph on to it," Hengesh added.

Both Hengesh and freshman Morgan Klabunde, among others, gave the Mustangs fits with their speed and relent-

less pursuit of the ball. "McKenzie had a great game for us up there, she scored our goal in regulation," Neschich said. "And Morgan Klabunde and Stephanie Sheridan have stepped in and have really brought some speed and

spark to the lineup up there.
"As well as Jen Babcock and Abby Livingston, who also played smart up top.

For results of the D1 final, go to www.hometownlife.com.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

LEARNING CURVE

That selection process wasn't so cut-and-dried, either.

"It was a big learning experi-ence," Fassbender said. "Some players got cut who thought they were really elite players, and others made the team who were thinking they weren't in the elite field.

Ossenmacher, meanwhile, said the Metro West team should be very competitive in Grand Rapids, having been picked from 20 of the state's best high school hockey pro-

In addition to the PCEP contingent, players from the Kensington Lakes Activities Association on the Metro

West include: Churchill forward Steven Klisz; Livonia Stevenson forwards Timothy Pruchnik, Justin Shureb and defenseman Christian Wood; Novi forward Joey Ferriss, defenseman Brock Krygier and goaltender Michael Pesendorfer.

North Farmington defenseman Andrew Debrincat also is on the squad, as is Orchard Lake St. Mary's goalie Joe Janiga.

'We've got some offensive defensemen and defensive defenseman and we also have two of the better goalies in the state," Ossenmacher said.

To keep up on the Metro West team's progress at the State Games, go to www.stategamesofmichigan.com/ sports/hockey.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

"We lasted two minutes and 30 seconds longer this time we did the last time," Shingledecker said. "It is what it is. (Marian) is a great team. We just settled in after that, but you've got to score goals on them. Until you can do that, they're going to always win

when they score."

action.

Marian's backline also kept the Blazers from penetrating most of the 80 minutes of

The future looks promising as 15 of Ladywood's 20 players return for next season, but Shingledecker won't forget the efforts of his 2010 squad.

We left it on the field," he said. "This is the best group of kids I've ever coached. Great experience from day one."

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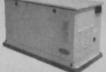
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Boys track & field athletes raise the bar

FIRST-TEAM INDIVIDUALS Kyle Brindza, Jr., Plymouth (shot put): Brindza – an outstanding foot-ball punter-kicker and soccer goalie

is just as excellent in track & field. The junior set a new Plymouth school record in the shot put with a personal best and first place throw of 52 feet, 3 inches at the KLAA

conference meet. Other highlights this spring included placing second at the association and regional meets with respective tosses of 50-11 and 51-3.5. At the Division 1 state meet at Rockford, Brindza's 45-11 throw

earned him 25th place. "Kyle, as a junior, is an amazing all around athlete," said Wildcats coach Jon Mikosz about Notre Dame-bound punter-kicker. "On top of being one of the top throwers in the state he also scored points for

us in the high jump and in relays. "Kyle is determined to make sure he is one of the top throwers in the

state for his senior year. Nate Coleman, Sr., Liv. Franklin (discus): The senior was the team's

anchor in a deep group of throwers. Coleman, bound for Howard University on a football scholarship, was undefeated in dual meets and was Livonia City and Kensington

Conference champion this season He threw a personal best 156-1 and he broke the 150 mark three teams while finishing runner-up in the regional to qualify for the

Division 1 state meet Jordan Allen, Sr., Ply. Christian (high jump): Eagles coach Jennifer Lemieux said Allen was born to be a high jumper and he backed that up

Allen jumped 6 feet, 6 inches at the Division 4 regionals, breaking the PCA record he set in 2009.

He was the model of consistency, placing first in every meet except the season opener and won at the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference, regionals and Larry Steeb Championship meets. Allen then took seventh at the state finals.

The honors student will study psychology and criminal justice at Michigan State University and return next spring to help Lemieux

coach PCA high jumpers. "He is a wonderful young man with a strong faith in God," Lemieux

Scott Coppola, Sr., Liv. Churchill (long jump): The senior co-captain and team MVP was a Division 1 state qualifier for the third year in a row after winning the regional at

Coppola, a two-time All-Observer selection, is the school's record holder in the long jump (21-

He also took runner-up honors in the 100-meter dash at the Kensington Conference meet. As a junior, he was a member of Churchill's All-State 4 x 400 relay team which placed fifth. His season best in the 100 was 11.0 and he placed sixth in the 200 at the conference meet

Scott has been a steady varsity performer since his freshman year,' Each year he became stronger and

Joe Marlow, Sr., Liv. Churchill (pole vault): The senior co-captain. who posted a personal best of 14-2, repeated as Kensington Conference champion and captured the Division 1 regional.

Marlow also competed in the long jump where he recorded a season

"Joe has been a steady performer for us in the pole vault - 14 feet all season long," Austin said. " He's a naturally gifted athlete combining speed and strength on the runway." Shammah Carter, Jr., N.

ALL-AREA TRACK & FIELD 2010 ALL-OBSERVER **BOYS TRACK TEAMS**

Shot put: 1. Kyle Brindza, Jr., Plymouth; 2. Ed Merhi, Sr., Salem; 3. Dana Baltazar, Sr., Salem Discus: 1. Nate Coleman, Sr., Livonia

Franklin; 2. Sean McAuliffe, Sr., Franklin; 3. Tom Norris, Jr., Farmington. High Jump: 1. Jordan Allen, Sr.

Plymouth Christian; 2. Anthony Blair, Sr. Westland John Glenn; 3. Pawan Dahliwal, Sr., Plymouth. Long Jump: 1. Scott Coppola, Sr.

Livonia Churchill; 2. James Vincent Taylor, Jr., Farmington; 3. Will Burek, Sr. Livonia Stevenson

Pole vault: 1. Joe Marlow, Sr., Churchill; 2. Nick Alaniva, Jr., Canton; 2. Mike Kaplan, Sr., Franklin.

110-meter hurdles: 1. Shammah Carter, Jr., North Farmington; 2. Kenton Janzen, Sr., Farmington Harrison; 3. (tie) Antonio Hawk, Sr., Livonia Clarenceville: Chris Ryba, Sr., Farmington,

300 hurdles: 1. Scott O'Connor, Sr. Salem, 2. Ben Watts, Sr., Clarenceville, 3. Dennis Hardaway, Sr., N. Farmington.

100 dash: 1. Charles Anthony, Sr., Farmington; 2. Jeremy Langford, Sr., John Glenn; 3. Stefon Anthony, Jr., John

200: 1. Jaifus Ingram, Sr. Farmington; 2. Zack Gaskell, Sr., Salem; 3 Kassius Kelly Soph, Clarenceville

400: 1. Kevin Buford, Soph., Canton; 2. Keith Marshall, Sr., Redford Union; 3. Anthony LeMerise, Jr., Plymouth.

800: 1, Dan Martin, Jr., Salem; 2. Warren Buzzard, Sr., Plymouth; 3. Matt Williams, Jr., Stevenson.

1,600: 1. Matt Neumann, Sr. Plymouth: 2. Zack Spreitzer, Sr., Canton: 3. Adam Chludzinski, Jr., Stevenson,

3,200: 1. Joe Porcari, Jr., Plymouth; 2. Thomas Windle, Jr., Churchill; 3. Derek Gielarowski, Soph., Plymouth. 400 relay: 1. Farmington (Davud

Kucukarslan, Sr.; James Vincent-Taylor, Jr.; Jaifus Ingram, Sr.; Charles Anthony. Sr.); 2. John Glenn (Rico Cole, Jr.; Luciano Kenle, Sr.: Stefon Anthony, Jr.; Jeremy Langford, Sr.); 3. North Farmington, (Daniel Davis, Sr.; Chad Bridges, Jr.; Josh

800 relay: 1. Farmington (Anthony Ward, Jr.; Charles Anthony, Sr.; James Vincent-Taylor, Jr.; Jaifus Ingram, Sr.); 2. Clarenceville (Levonte' Brooks, Sr. Moses Hobson, Jr., Leonard Hogan, Sr., Kassius Kelly, Soph.); 3. John Glenn (Rico Cole, Jr., Luciano Kenle, Sr., Stefon Anthony, Jr.; Jeremy Langford, Sr.).

1,600 relay: 1. Salem (Scott O'Connor, Sr.; Ken Middlebrooks, Jr.; Zack Gaskell, Sr.: Dan Martin, Jr.); 2. Canton, (Ben Spreitzer, Jr.: Jordan Wisniewski Sr., Keith Zech, Sr., Kevin Buford, Soph.): 3. Stevenson (Pat Smith, Jr.; Travis Gosselin, Sr.; Adam Chludzinski, Jr.; Matt

3,200 relay: 1. Plymouth (Matt Neumann, Sr.: Justin Heck, Jr.: Joe Porcari, Jr.: Warren Buzzard, Sr.); 2. Canton, (Keith Zech, Sr.; Max Schmiel, Sr.: Paul Rakovitis, Sr.: Zack Spreitzer, Sr.): 3. Stevenson (Adam Chludzinski, Jr. Travis Gosselin, Sr., Matt Williams, Jr.,

CO-COACHES OF THE YEAR

Jon Mikosz, Plymouth Charles Bridges, Kim Sturm, Farmington

Farmington (110 hurdles): Carter has been North Farmington's leading scorer the last two years. He's a twotime OAA Blue Division champion, and he set the school record of 14.5 seconds at the division meet this year. Carter was undefeated in duals for two years in the 110 hurdles. He was second at the regional and a state semifinalist. Carter also led North to victories in the shuttle

hurdles): The versatile O'Connor capped off an excellent high school



Kyle Brindza Plymouth



Nate Coleman Franklin





Jordan Allen Ply. Christian

Jaifus Ingram

Farmington



Scott Coppola Churchill



Joe Marlow Churchill

Salem



Shammah Carter





Plymouth



career, breaking Salem's

up time of 39.4 (FAT).

ished his quest

Meteyer added.

school record in 2010.

school record in the 300 hurdles at

the association meet with a runner-

Meteyer said O'Connor had been

"chipping away" at the record since

his sophomore season. Over the past

"He peaked at the right time his

O'Connor also was part of the 1,600 relay team that broke another

Charles Anthony, Sr., Farmington

(100): Anthony had the best finish

with an 11.18 time. He is a regional

champion and the city champ in the

100 and long jump. He was second

at the Observerland and Oakland

Anthony went to state four

straight years - in the 400 relay

sophomore and the last two years

as a freshman, in the open 100 as a

in the sprint relays and the 100. He

will run for U-of-D Mercy next year.

Jaifus Ingram, Sr., Farmington

County meets in the 100.

among area runners at the state

meets, taking fifth in Division 1

three years, he kept his event time

under 41 seconds and finally fin-

senior year, breaking the school

record in the next to last meet,"

Scott O'Connor

Salem

Joe Porcari Plymouth



Charles Anthony

Davud Kucukarslan Farmington



James Vincent-Taylor Farmington



Farmington

Kevin Buford

Canton





Justin Heck Plymouth



Warren Buzzard Plymouth







Farmington co-coach



Kim Sturm Farmington co-coach

(200): Entering the season, coach Bridges and Ingram thought the 400 would be his best event, but it ended up being the 200. He was third in the regional and an additional state qualifier with a 22.4 time, and he was sixth in Oakland County. Ingram ran his best time of 22.1, from a FAT time of 22.37, in the county prelims. He ran a sub-50 quarter in the 1,600 relay at the city meet, an he was outstanding in the sprint relays.

Kevin Buford, Soph., Canton (400): The explosive sophomore dazzled as a football player last fall and he followed that up with a record-breaking track season for the

Buford finished 48.6 at the

Division I state meet, earning him

sixth place and breaking the 2000

school record of 49.3 set by Jerry

'So he didn't really just beat it, he kind of crushed that school record," said Canton head coach Bob Richardson.

The All-Stater brings solid leadership and a strong work ethic to the team, qualities Richardson said augment his amazing running abil-

"Obviously he's very talented, he sees the big picture that the more success you get the harder you have to work," Richardson said. "Otherwise, stuff falls apart. We're looking forward to two more great seasons out of him."

Dan Martin, Jr., Salem (800): Martin eyed Salem's school record in the 800 run as something he could finally reach as a senior, but

Please see ALL-AREA, B4

hurdles relay at the Huron and

Scott O'Connor, Sr., Salem, (300

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Notice is hereby given that on June 25, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., Mayflower Auto Transport, 1179 Starkweather, Plymouth, MI

GMC Pick-up 1995 Ford Windstar KIA Spectra 1994 Ford 1995 Half-ton 1992 Ford Escort

Dated: June 16, 2010 Publish: June 20, 2010

1GTFK24Z2KE502412 2FMDA5149SBC78308 KNAFB12183526470 1FTCR10U8RTA77206 JT4RNO1P4S7071863 AFAPP14J1NW127613 JNKNG01C2MM109857 1FALP64LJTK175970



Publish: June 20, 2010

May 11 & 25, June 22

Trustees Meetings.

CITY OF PLYMOUTH ACCURACY TESTING FOR VOTING EQUIPMENT FRIDAY, JULY 2, 2010, 3:30 p.m.

Joe Bridgman, CMC

The City of Plymouth has scheduled and will be conducting the accuracy testing for the Optical Scan Voting Equipment, as well as the Hearing Impaired Equipment, for the Primary Election to be held on TUESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2010. The testing is scheduled for FRIDAY, JULY 2, 2010 3:30 p.m. at the Cultural Center, 525 Farmer Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

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. They are also posted in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N

Meeting dates: January 19, February 23, March 9 & 23, April 20,

The public is invited and encouraged to attend the Board of

Publish: Jan. 24, Feb. 21, Mar. 7, Apr. 18, May 19, 23 & June 20, 2010 OE08687742 225

Haggerty Road Plymouth, Michigan for public perusal.

This is an open testing session and any interested person is encouraged to attend. Election Source will be conducting the testing to assure that the voting equipment has been programmed appropriately.

If there are any questions, please direct them to the City Clerk's office at 734-453-1234, ext. 234. The Plymouth Cultural Center is in compliance with the American Disabilities Act and is handicapped accessible.

> Linda Langmesser, CMC City Clerk

(734) 354-3232 NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

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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, July 1, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI, to consider the

Non-Use Variance Requested

Applicant: Rod & Heidi MacIntyre All interested persons are invited to attend.

mpliance 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:

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ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS THURSDAY, JULY 1, 2010 6:00 P.M.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

PLEASE NOTE that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, July 1, 2010 commencing at 6:00

Application 1473: 47248 Beechcrest, Requesting an 8 foot. vooden privacy fence when only a 4 foot fence is allowed. Requesting a 4 foot variance in fence height.

The meeting will be held at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

For further information contact Plymouth Township Building Department 734 354-3210.

Publish: June 20, 2010

his red-hot finish to 2010 helped him get it a year early.

His strong, first-place time of 1:56 at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park-hosted D1 regionals made the pursuit more immediately realistic, Meteyer said.

Martin's FAT of 1:53.4 at the Rockford-hosted state meet gave him his record along with an All-State status for finishing in fifth.

*Dan (then) ran great at the state meet, earning a fifth place finish." the coach continued. "He'll set his sights even higher next year in that event, as well as the 400 and 200."

Matt Neumann, Sr., Plymouth (1,600): The senior proved that working hard and being at the front of the pack during practice can pay off during meets.

Neumann finished third at the D1 regional with a time of 4:33 and also had solid performances in the conference (2nd, 4:35.93) and association (5th, 4:29.02) meets.

"Matt was my go-to-guy that I could rely on in any situation, Mikosz said. "He can run anything from the 400 to the 3200 and would never question or complain.

"He would just go out and give it his all. It is the main reason he holds two Plymouth school records."

Joe Porcari, Jr., Plymouth (3,200): Porcari enjoyed an outstanding season in 2010 and he'll have one more year with the Wildcats, to the chagrin of Plymouth's KLAA opponents.

He was first at the DI regional with a personal best and school record time of 9:42.60. At the subsequent state meet, Porcari's 9:57.97 earned him 32nd place. He finished seventh at the association meet (9:58.4).

Next year could bring more of the same and then some, perhaps enabling him to add to his growing list of accomplishments. Besides the 3200 run, he also is part of Plymouth's record-holding 3,200meter relay team.

"Joe, as a junior, is a talented runner who has yet to reach his full potential," Mikosz said. "Once he realizes what he is capable of he could end up being one of the best runners in school history."

FIRST-TEAM RELAYS Farmington, 400 (David Kucukarslan, Sr.; James Vincent-

FINAL BOYS TRACK & FIELD LISTINGS

Taylor, Jr.; Jaifus Ingram, Sr.;

Charles Anthony, Sr.): The Falcons

placed third in the D-1 state meet.

setting a school record with a time

of 42.27 seconds. They also set an

ning time of 42.48.

Oakland County record with a win-

That was a great accomplish-

enal time," coach Bridges said of the

ment, and the time was a phenom-

state result. "Going back 25 years,

that's going to win the state meet

half those years or more."
Farmington, 800 (Anthony Ward,

Jr.; Charles Anthony, Sr.; James

Vincent-Taylor, Jr.; Jaifus Ingram,

Sr.): The Falcons set a school record

when they ran 1:29.35 and finished

sixth at the D-1 state meet. They

were unbeaten in dual meets and

Bridges expected them to break 1:29

Salem, 1,600 (Scott O'Connor, Sr.;

at the New Balance Meet last week.

Ken Middlebrooks, Jr.; Zack Gaskell,

top stories for Salem's track & field

Sr.; Dan Martin, Jr.): One of the year's

placed second at Observerland.

necati (Farmingo 3,200 occai (Plymouth) 9423 ss Windle (Churchill) 945 8 sielarowski (Plymouth) 952,2 dlin Jones (Frankina) 0001,4 (Plymouth) 1002,4 dni) 10.0

1,600 RELAY

3,200 RELAY

"Breaking records that are four decades old is quite an accomplishment," said Meteyer about the Rocks'

But the runners weren't done vet. At the state meet in Rockford, they repeated the feat with a FAT of 3:21.1,

Plymouth, 3,200 (Matt Neumann, Sr.; Justin Heck, Jr.; Joe Porcari, Jr.; Warren Buzzard, Sr.): Plymouth's academic all-staters (all with GPAs

the goals they set for themselves including finishing first at the D1 regional (8:01.90), KLAA conference (8:05.73) and association meets

Most importantly, they qualified for the D1 state meet and earned All-State status with an eighthplace showing of 7:54.49 - their personal best and a new Plymouth school record.

This group of guys is probably the hardest working and most determined group of guys I have ever coached," Mikosz said.

The coach added that having senior Buzzard as the anchor seemed to take the pressure off the other three.

"You just knew, if the rest of the guys ran their race and kept us in the pack, that when Warren got the baton the race was over," Mikosz said. "Warren will be hard to replace."

CO-COACHES OF YEAR Jon Mikosz, Plymouth: Mikosz had success as a cross country and track runner at the high school level as well as Eastern Michigan

University. Now, Mikosz'is transferring his running expertise and knowledge to youngsters as a high school coach in both sports. Good things keep following him.

First, he received back-to-back honors as Observer Coach of the Year in cross country. This spring, his Plymouth boys track & field team kept his coaching mojo working and the result was a 5-0 record in dual meets and KLAA South Division championship as well as coach of the year kudos once again.

Plymouth also finished second at the KLAA conference meet and won the D1 regional at PCEP despite thunderstorms and a thundering challenge from neighbors Salem and Canton (2nd and 3rd, respectively).

"This team was fun to coach because everyone knew their role and knew what was expected of them," Mikosz noted.

Mikosz also acknowledged the key contributions of assistant coaches Kevin Palmer, Brad Fairchild, Will Hundley, Jeff Reynolds, Gary Stanford and Ricky Styes in helping the Wildcats reach that level of achievement.

Charles Bridges and Kim Sturm, Farmington: As co-coaches of the boys and girls teams, they guided the boys to a third consecutive OAA White Division championship, an unprecedented seventh straight city crown, a regional runner-up finish and 14th place at the Division 1 state meet with two all-state relays and two all-state individuals.

Smashing

Rocks have record year

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Don't blame Salem boys track & field coach Kyle Meteyer for feeling a little older these days.

A handful of old school records went by the wayside this season - including the shattering of Ian Searcy's 1998 record in the 800 run, set when Meteyer was a sophomore trackster at North Farmington. Some of the records dated back to the

It was junior Dan Martin whose time of 1:53.4 seconds (converted fully automatic time) surpassed Searcy's 12year-old 1:53.6 mark. Martin earned fifth place state honors as a result.

"I was in high school when Ian Searcy set the 800 record," Meteyer said. "I remember watching him fly around the track, so I'm still in shock that Martin was able to get that record.'

That's not all that has Meteyer shaking his head in amazement here in 2010.

He can't believe that several very promising freshmen from the 2007 season finished up their high school careers in record-busting "I knew this senior class

was going to be good when they were freshmen," Meteyer said. "(Scott) O'Connor broke our freshmen record in the 300 hurdles, and (Zack) Gaskell and O'Connor were on a team that broke the 4x400 freshmen record in '07. 'Add (Dan) Martin and

(Ken) Middlebrooks to that, and it's a winning team."

The other four broken records and the new standard-bearers include the fol-

lowing: 200 meter dash: Set in 1975 by Mark DeMeritt (22.3); beaten by senior Gaskell at the regionals with a 22.2

(FAT) 300 hurdles: Set in 1996 by Dan Johnson (40.0), senior O'Connor's FAT time of 39.4 at the KLAA Championship Meet did the trick.

1600-meter relay: The former record of 3:23.4 set in 1975 was smashed at the regional meet by the Salem quartet of O'Connor, Gaskell, Martin and Middlebrooks (3:22.5). They broke it again with a 3:21.1 (FAT) at the

state championships. Shot put relay: In 1988, Jay Blaylock (a current Plymouth teacher), Maura and Cygan tallied 131-feet, 7-inches for the school record.

That was broken in 2008 by Ed Merhi, Dana Baltazar (both seniors this year) and Anthony Davis and broken twice in 2009 by Baltazar, Merhi and Cortney Frazier (140-8).

At this year's Observerland Relays, Baltazar, Merhi and junior Ethan Walsh combined for a strong 148-7.25 to totally crush the former record. "Merhi, Baltazar, and

Walsh are a rare combination of power, strength, and technique that I don't think we'll see here for decades," Meteyer said. "Salem might close before someone breaks that record.'

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3:22.5 - breaking the school's 35year-old record of 3:23.4 seconds.

hard-working, determined relay team.

impressive quartet included four

tering the school record in the event At the D1 regional, O'Connor,

Mikosz said they reached all

Gaskell, Martin and Middlebrooks

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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, June 20, 2010

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HOMES OF MICHIGAN

COMMUNITY LIFE

Sunday, June 20, 2010

hometownlife

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor Sharon Dargay Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883 E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com Comment online at hometownlife.com

Role model, mentor

Dad plays a crucial role in raising kids

BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI CORRESPONDENT

As dad encourages his child to explore and climb up to a newly built tree house, odds are that mom stands nearby armed with apprehension and a first aid kit.

The inherent characteristics that differentiate the sexes find themselves neatly packaged in the dynamics of average families. It's not a secret that women tend to be more verbal and emotional. On the other hand, men tend to talk less and take more risks.

"You have this beautiful balance in a healthy family," said the Rev. William Moore of Trinity Presbyterian Church in Canton Township. "I'm generalizing, but moms tend to be the relationship makers and dads are goal oriented. God knew what he was doing when he created men and women."

When fathers and fatherhood are celebrated today, June 20, children - young and old - will reflect on the men in their lives who guided them into the tough world of reality, who helped them establish personal and professional goals, and who taught them the consequences for bad choices and misbehavior.

DIFFERENCES

"Men nurture in a very different way," said Mike Kildee of the Michigan Fatherhood Coalition, which includes members in Wayne and Oakland counties. "Mothers are more about holding their children close. Men nurture by Typically, it is dad who will enforce rules, or when their children want the benefits of maturity, but not its consequences and responsibilities. If a teenager begs for a car of his or her own, it is dad who tells them to get a job to pay for it. Mom, meanwhile, is likely pondering how she can afford a car for their child. Moore said.

encouraging them to try and take risks.

The coalition is a network of some 250 professionals - psychologists, judges, service agencies, and social workers - who work directly with families to raise awareness of the need for responsible fatherhood.

Like Kildee, area clergy and psychologists believe the roles men and women play in their families are equally difficult and equally important. Yet dads play a distinctly different role than mom in raising children. Some behaviors are based on how parents themselves were parented, while others are due simply to how men and women differ, he added.

"Fathers bring to the family relationship a certain course of boundaries and the fostering of self control over immediate gratification," Moore said.

Typically, it is dad who will enforce rules, or when their children want the benefits of maturity, but not its consequences and responsibilities. If a teenager begs for a car of his or her own, it is dad who tells them to get a job to pay for it. Mom, meanwhile, is likely pondering how she can afford a car for their child, Moore

In his role as father, a man provides an additional layer of support for his children. But as the children mature, dads tend to defer more responsibility to them individually. "He lets life become the corrector of consequences. Dads are more realistic about life," Moore added.

DAD'S ROLE CRUCIAL

Psychologist Jim Dignan of Abundant Life Christian Counseling in Livonia believes fathers play a crucial role in providing children with support and a sense of security and self value.

While mom nurtures with hugs and kisses, dad through example or discussion - nurtures by preparing his children for a competitive, and often, cruel world. "Typically, fathers will bond through an activity, whether it's sports, jokes, or stories," Dignan said.

Sports are often a dad's way of connecting with his son, while with his daughter he may seek another type of common interest that will encourage time spent together. "A father doesn't change his mode of operation between the kids,"

Please see MENTOR, B7

Juggling roles: He's dad and mom and loves it

Greg Hinkle, 41, of Garden City is dad and mom to his five children ages 15, 14, 11, 12 and 9. He is very busy and

he *loves* every minute of it. As you read this on Sunday morning - Father's Day - Hinkle and daughter, Elizabeth, 12, are participating in the Plymouth YMCA Father's Day Fun Run. He's running because he knows the exercise is good for him and because he is Elizabeth's dad and "she wanted to do

Hinkle's wife, Cynthia, died of complications from pneumonia in June 2009. She wasn't sick for long about a week - but when she eventually ended up in the hospital it was too late. Her condition deteriorated and even modern medicine couldn't save the wife and mother of five.

The family was devastated but pulled together and life went on - forever changed with help (from family), lots of love and patience.

Hinkle works tirelessly to give his kids the best dad possible. To that end, he underwent gastric bypass surgery in October 2009 because I wanted to as healthy as I can for the kids.

He weighed 322 pounds at surgery (he lost weight before the surgery). He is now down to 218 pounds and wants to lose another 48-50 pounds in the next year. Hinkle knows that

Greg Hinkle (back middle) is dad and mom to his children (from left back) Erich, 15; Christopher, 14; (front row left) Matthew, 11; Jason, 9, and Elizabeth, 12.

Erich, 15; Christopher, 14; Matthew, 11; Elizabeth, 12; and Jason, 9 are counting on him being around for a long

Hinkle, a 1987 graduate of Garden City High School, works full time as a quality leader at the Ford Michigan

Assembly Plant in Wayne.

He says his biggest challenge is trying to be both mom and dad to his young, energetic family. He gets help from Sherri Frost, his late wife's sister, and his dad, John Hinkle for which he is grate-

Please see JUGGLING, B7

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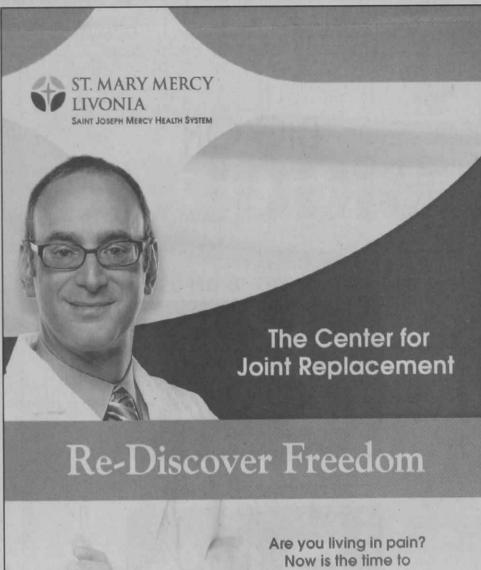
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McCann: Dad set the bar high

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, June 20, 2010

My father is very special because of his dedication to family and community.

Throughout his lifetime he has made a special effort to remain close, not only to my family, but to his brothers and their children as well.

His dedication to the community was not just being a Judge. It was being involved in the Michigan District Judges Association, the Tenure Commission, creating the Probation Department, and drug abuse counseling. He always remained involved in every aspect of his work. To this day, he still represents the Michigan District Judges Educational

My father pushed all of his children to get a strong education. My brother Wade, my sister Kathleen and I received our jurist doctorate degrees from Detroit College of Law (now Michigan State College of Law). My sister Maureen received a master's degree in education from Michigan State University.

My father urged his children to excel in our

jobs and be involved professionally within our field. I am on the Board of Directors of the Wayne County Probate Bar Association and serve as president of the Livonia City Council.

When I walk into the James R. McCann Hall of Justice I feel a real sense of pride of my father's accomplishments and his teachings. It brings out the emotional attachment I have to a community where I was born, raised, and have raised my family.

Although it is hard to express in words how important a person is to you in your life, my parents created a culture and gave us the tools we needed to succeed. We have been fortunate to raise our children in such a wonderful city and have our family so involved in the success

James McCann is president of the Livonia City Council. He and wife, Linda, have four children and one grandson.



Retired 16th District Judge James R. McCann (left) is pictured with his daughter, 16th District Judge Kathleen McCann, and son, City Council President James C. McCann, earlier this year at Livonia 175th anniversary celebration.

Following in dad's footsteps: Judge pays tribute to her dad

My dad is an Irishman through and through. Every cliche' and stereotype fits him like a fisherman's sweater from the old sod.

He was gifted with wavy dark hair - which has changed several colors to find a respectable gray - and piercing blue eyes that either made his kids laugh hysterically or hide in fear. While he came from a very poor background, he did not lack in self esteem. Dad's father died when he was eight, leaving a widow and four boys during the height of the Great Depression.

He was called upon to contribute to the family as there were no employment opportunities for my grandmother. He worked paper routes, grocery deliveries and planted trees in northern Michigan as part of the CCC until the start of World

Dad attended Cass Tech and was told that although perhaps not a scholar he was a very talented student. He didn't buy into that though and decided he was worthy of great

College would not have been likely without the GI Bill so Dad enlisted with the Army Air Corps right out of high school. He served in France, England and Germany before returning to college at Hillsdale.

Dad met and married my beautiful mother, Lillian, while they were still in college, and I was born less than a year later. Dad got a job teaching school in Ferndale and then along came my sister, Maureen.

He transferred to Dearborn where the pay was a little better and registered for law school at Wayne State University at night. He was a busy guy but he would give my mom a break and take my sister and I out on weekends to the drug store for a fountain Coke or to visit our grand-

A few years later Jim was born, Dad had a law degree and we needed more space. They opted for that western frontier Livonia, and bought a small but comfortable home on

Dad needed his benefits, so he taught days and practiced law evenings and weekends. Within a year, in 1956, he decided this new place needed leadership and he was just the guy to lend a hand.

Dad filed for Livonia City Council, gathered his troops and all the neighborhood kids and won his first elec-

Politics became a way of life in the McCann household. If Dad wasn't running for office he was running someone else's campaign. Once he was on the Livonia City Council he worked with others to bring order to the burgeoning growth of the city.

By 1960, Mom was pregnant again, this time with my brother, Wade. That meant another move, this time to the new area by Idle Wyld Golf Course. We were thrilled and thought that meant we would all take up golfing. Actually, it meant that we were the gofers for Dad's friends who needed a beer off the first tee.

Although Dad was busy during these times, we were very fortunate children. Every summer, my parents would pack up a pop-up trailer and we would take off for a few weeks,

In 1966, Dad decided to run for the Municipal Judge position in Livonia. It was hotly contested and we all joined in again for door-todoor campaigning. Dad won that election and became the first District Judge in Livonia, the longest serving Judge from the District Bench on the Michigan Judicial Tenure Commission and President of the Michigan District Judges Association and the Wayne County District Judges Association.

My dad had many other professional accomplishments, however, the best thing about him is that he always made us feel loved and protected. When we rebelled (and being Irish we each did to some degree) he took it somewhat in stride.

He was a strict disciplinarian. My mom figured that he always said "no" so we would learn how to argue.

He told me when I was very young that I should go to law school, and

after watching him for so many years, it seemed like a natural goal.

Dad has always been ambitious for each of us, however, his ultimate goal is only that we are happy and healthy. No one has loved life more than my dad. He enjoys every occasion, every job, and almost every person he

I had the great pleasure of taking over as judge when he retired in 1994. I have always been proud of the attorneys who come in and wish him the best and I am grateful every day that the Court I now work in bears

When I see his face on the plaque I always remember those blue eyes, his indomitable energy, and his laugh... he could always make us laugh.

Kathleen McCann is chief judge of 16th District Court in Livonia and the eldest child of James and Lillian McCann. She is president of the Michigan District Judges Association and chair of the Judicial Tenure Commission.

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Dad, children create harmonious relationship through music

BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI

Music — the love of it and the performance of it - is a common bond in the relationship Larry Hutchinson has with his children. But he's the first to admit that it's mom who knows the details of his children's

"I think at least in our family, Carol (Hutchinson) is so much more involved in the details. I tend to be the one on a needto-know basis. I often learn of things after the fact," said the Farmington resident.

A professional bassist and full-time member of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Hutchinson is the father of Brian, 38, Chris, 22, and Ashley, 19. He is also a grandfather to Brian's two children.

Although he doesn't know all the details of his children's daily lives, Hutchinson said he is much more involved than his own father was. "I always felt much closer to my mom. I had intimate conversations with my mom. But my relationship with my dad changed when my

mother passed away.' Hutchinson has watched the relationship with his children change as they have matured. Brian, his son from a previous marriage, lives in Arizona. Chris just graduated from Kalamazoo College and Ashley attends Michigan State University, where she studies music education.

"Now that I am in music, it's given us more to talk about," said Ashley, who just finished her first year at MSU. "I'm going through what he has gone through."

CLOSE TIES

With Chris, a guitarist, Hutchinson found an instant connection with their shared love of jazz music. He also saw their relationship take on a new life when he invited his



Larry Hutchinson of Farmington and his daughter, Ashley, 19, share a love of

younger son to a jazz convention in Pennsylvania. The two are developing a stronger and deeper relationship that has included a "guy movie week," an event that does not include "mommy movies," Hutchinson

But he does believe being the father of a daughter is quite different than parenting his sons. Teenage girls have more things to go through," he said.

More than that, Hutchinson said he has a special bond with Ashley because he was the one who delivered her - right on the staircase in their home. "It took one hour and 10 minutes."

Even though he realizes he is the parent who learns of things long after they have happened, Hutchinson spent time with Ashley in a different way than he did with his boys.

"I used to carry her in a backpack. I would take her to the mall and the zoo. I even had a rearview mirror on me so I could see her."

DIFFERENT CONVERSATIONS

As the youngest child and the only girl, Ashley chalks

up her love of sports to hanging out with her brothers and their friends. Dad just isn't into sports. And, sure, her conversations with her dad are different than the ones she has with her

"I really don't talk about personal relationships with Ashley. It is more about social things with friends, and politics," Hutchinson said.

Though Ashley and her dad are close, Hutchinson still defers a lot to his wife. "When I ask him things, he'll say, 'I don't know. Go ask your mom," Ashley said.

"But mom knows the plans," Hutchinson defended, adding that he believes he is able to have simple fun with his kids "because I am not the sergeant at arms.'

Reflecting on the years he and his wife raised their children, Hutchinson believes dads should just enjoy their kids because they grow up so fast.

Ashley has a different take on fatherhood: "Be firm. But at the same time, let your kids make their own mistakes. Just be there when they screw up."



Breakfast with dad is always special

I've never been one who relishes belonging to an elite group. But in one respect I do belong to a specially blessed group that gives me a feeling of daily gratitude.

I'm a son who gets to eat breakfast each week with my dad. For the younger among us, it may seem a mundane occasion. But for me it's a grand event. Every week, when I'm not on the road working, Vic Barnaby, my dad, and I gather at Bode's restaurant in Plymouth to order our precisely cooked eggs (Dad's, over easy, mine, over hard), corn beef hash, bacon and wheat

Each week is a unique experience, the conversation ranging from the mundane to the magnificent. Politics, movies, new books, computer challenges and, of course stories from "the good old days." Dad and I are both expert at the

We laugh a lot, vent our frustrations over the political issues of the day, celebrate our differences and listen to each other's everyday concerns. Every once in a while a tear or two is shed.

This breakfast tradition began a decade or so ago. I was eating lunch with a business colleague. In the course of our conversation, I made reference to my dad. The reply from my client was life-changing.

"Steve, I would do anything to have 15 minutes to talk with my dad just one more time in my life," he said, noting that his father had died several

years previously. On the way to my next appointment I was on my cell phone to my dad.

"Pa, I've got an idea. I think we should meet for breakfast once a week." Of course, being the great dad that he is, he readily agreed, despite the



Steve Barnaby of Plymouth Township and his dad, Vic, enjoy breakfast at Bode's on North Main Street in Plymouth.

Each week is a unique experience, the conversation ranging from the mundane to the magnificent. Politics, movies, new books, computer challenges and, of course stories from "the good old days." Dad and I are both expert at the later.

fact that I had pretty much neglected our relationship, choosing rather to spend more than enough time on my

"And Pa, I love you." I concluded our conversation.

My dad was in his 70s at the time. Now he is in his middle

Our weekly breakfast meets have renewed our relationship. Not everyone gets another chance, but I did.

Recently, I was reminded of how fortunate I am. Coming

out of another restaurant where we occasionally meet, my dad tripped and took

a hard fall. It was one of those slow motion incidents. Watching him fall, I thought I was losing my dad right before my eyes. I pictured a broken hip, an internal head injury or something even worse that

He did fall hard, but quickly bounced to his feet. A large egg was rapidly growing on the side of his head. But a visit to the doctor determined that

would lead to his death.

all was fine.

The next week we had a good laugh as my dad sat at breakfast with sunglasses on to mask the two black eyes, the result of the fall.

"Well, Dad, we certainly dodged a bullet," I said as we left Bode's.

I grabbed his arm as we walked back to the car. "You are going to have to get used to me holding on to your arm, Pa. I'm not ready to lose you yet."

Indeed, I'm a lucky guy. I've gotten to spend a lot of additional 15 minutes with my dad.

Steve Barnaby lives in Plymouth Township, His dad, Vic Barnaby, a retired Detroit police officer, lives in Saline with his wife of more than 60 years, Béverly, and their cat, Max.

Even when teaching his son how to be a responsible male, a dad simultaneously shows his daughter how she should expect men to treat her. "He teaches her that respect from any man is part of the package," Dignan said.

Kildee agreed. "Of course, it depends on the relationship you had with your father. But fathers do model to their sons what it is to be a man and they model to their daughters what to expect from a man."

Raising a daughter can put a father on edge at times, simply because dad knows more about men than his little girl.

"We know what we were like at that age. But you have to establish a trusting relationship and explain to her what she should expect," Kildee continued.

TODAY'S DAD

The Rev. Debbie Schueneman, interim pastor for the Salem United Church of Christ in Farmington, believes fathers can handle girls as aptly as they do boys.

"I am married to a man with daughters," Schueneman said. "I don't see the difference. He is extremely involved with our daughters.

Schueneman's husband just might be part of a growing trend. Gone are the traditional fathers of the Baby Boomer generation. Fathers of adults, who are now in their 50s and 60s, may have been portrayed as somewhat emotionally distant, tough and demanding, but always as the consummate bread-winner and stoic protec-

"I think there is a generation difference. A great deal has changed. I see fathers who are involved in the (church) mission trips and other activities," Schueneman said.

For Dignan the key is to establish a trusting relationship that allows both the parent and the child - regardless of gender — to communicate

"I think the role of a father changes as children grow. During the first portion of life - like one to 12 years - a dad is trying to exercise love and responsibility for creating a model for responsible living," Moore said. "When they become teenagers, dad acts as a mentor. He is never quite a peer. Sometimes, parents rob their child when they try to be a pal.

Children want and need authority and limits in their lives. That's why psychologically and spiritually, Moore said, the father is an important figure in the family. The greatest gifts he can give to his children are acceptance, support, love, and sense that they are valued for who they are.

His mom died Feb. 6 this year so the family has suffered lots of hurt over the last couple

"Cindy's passing was tragic and devastating for our family but by the grace of God, Greg and the kids are doing amazingly well," said Frost.

A native of Garden City, Hinkle moved away for a short time but moved back in 2000. He says he found comfort in his familiar community.

What does the future hold for Hinkle and his family?

"Endless possibilities," he said with a laugh. "They are running my life and it's great."



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REUNION CALENDAR

Belleville High School Class of 1971

Planning 40th reunion in 2011. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail 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 or Groves Class of 1975 - 35th Class Reunion, on Facebook.

Birmingham Seaholm Class of 1970

40-year reunion, 7 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 18 at The Community House, in Birmingham. Visit www.seaholmclassof70reunion.com for information and to register contact information.

Bloomfield Hills Andover

Class of 1970 Reunion planned 7 p.m. Aug. 14 at the Heathers; contact Cis Sloan Stokas at

Quintop@aol.com. Bloomfield Hills Lahser Class of 1990

20-Year Class Reunion Weekend is Aug. 6-7, with a meet & greet, family picnic and reunion party. For tickets and additional information, contact Matt Fox at sub-

blime71@vahoo.com Dearborn Lowrey High School

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, June 20, 2010

Classes of 1949-51

A joint reunion of all three classes will be held Sept. 26 at the Warren Valley Golf Club in Dearborn Heights. Call Peggy Webster at (313) 383-4699, Bob Rock at (313) 274-8370 or Shirley Vonn at (313) 291-6069. Or e-mail to yankeesouthern@ hotmail.com.

Dearborn Heights Haston High Class of 1965

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

Detroit 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. 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 or call Chris Snopkoski 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 mackenziel962@ 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. For more information 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 the group on Facebook by searching Farmington High School Class of 1970 Reunion. Or e-mail Carla Campbell Lehn at dblehn@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 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 email to 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 or Teri Friedman at 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 included for \$50 per person. Classmates from the classes of 1968-1972 also invited to attend. For more information, call Larry Conn at (734) 788-5254

Livonia Franklin

Class of 1980 Reunion Friday July 30. Call Ron at (734) 834-2566 or send an e-mail to info@livo-

niafranklin1980.com Livonia Stevenson

Class of 1971

Reunion Potluck Planing Picnic, from 3-6 p.m., July 10 at the Clements Circle Park, located at W. Chicago and Harrison Roads, in Livonia. The 40th class reunion will take place July 9, 2011 at The Historic Wilson Barn, in Livonia. Contact Kay Zimmerman Thomas at (734) 855-4094.

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 Send e-mail correspondence to stevensonclassof75@ yahoo.com. (845) 534-2228

20-year reunion, Saturday, July 24. RSVP by July 1st for discounted tickets. Visit 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 Plymouth-Canton, Plymouth-Salem

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. Class of 1990

Joint 20-year reunion, 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, July 17 at The Woodlands Golf Course, 39670 Ecorse Road, Wayne. Cost is \$54 per person and \$108 per couple. Open bar, full buffet and music. Payment deadline is June 30 through PayPal or by mailing a check to Natasha Gulkewicz, Bank of America, 825 W. Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302. The check should be made payable to Gulkewicz, Questions? E-mail to popsolassof1990reunion@gmail.com

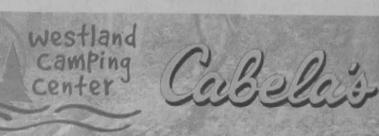
Plymouth High School Class of 1950

60th reunion, Saturday, July 10-11; contact Russ Maxwell at corumax@hotmail.com for details.

Redford Union Class of 1960

50-year reunion will be held 5:30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 14. For more information on the Redford Union reunion, contact Mike and Carol (Gerogeff) Pontius (248) 446-9948 or e-mail to mikecarol91500@ att.net. Or call Tena (Fear) Keith at (248)

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In this composite photo, Shalonda Hubbard of Detroit, (left) stands

next to her mother, Marguita Hubbard of Detroit, who is next to

grandmother, Rhonda Sylvester of Detroit, (right). Seated in the

center is Willie Mae Clark, the family's great-great-grandmother from

Shalonda's great-grandmother, Barbara Finney of Livonia and

MILESTONES

WATKINS-BEJGER

Amber T. Watkins and Spc. Jason Bejger announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Thomas and Debbie Watkins of Garden City, is employed as a receptionist at St. Mary Mercy Hospital.

Her fiancé, son of Brenda and Bill McCune, of Garden City, is serving in the Army National Guard.

A June 2010 wedding is planned at McClumpha Park



Watkins-Bejger

Petersen-Ferraro

Minneapolis, Minn.

is employed by General Mills,

is planned at St. Aidan, in

Livonia, with a reception to

follow at Western Golf and

Country Club, in Redford.

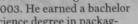
A December 2010 wedding

DECEMBER WEDDING PLANNED Claire Petersen and Brandon

Ferraro announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of John and Colleen Petersen of Livonia, graduated in 2003 from Stevenson High School, Livonia. She earned a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering in 2007 from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and is employed as a mechanical engineer at Medtronic, in Minneapolis,

Her fiancé, son of Bob and Janice Ferraro, also graduated from Stevenson High School in 2003. He earned a bachelor of science degree in packaging engineering in 2007 from Michigan State University. He



JULY WEDDING PLANNED

Stephanie Rothenberg and Matthew Carroll announce

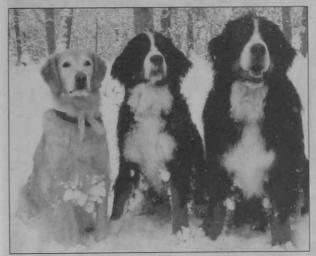
their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of Kathie and Sol Rothenberg of Livonia, holds bachelor of arts degrees in Spanish and English and a master of arts degree in education, all from Michigan State University. She is a tenured Spanish and English teacher at Brighton High School.

Her fiancé, son of Jeannine Tissington of Park City, Utah and Richard Carroll of Saginaw, holds bachelor of science degrees in psychology and biology. He works as a regional sales manager at Brinkmann Pumps Engineering, in Wixom.



Rothenberg-Carroll

A July 2010 wedding is planned at Glen Oaks Golf Course in Farmington Hills.



Pets star in calendar

The Michigan Humane Society (MHS) has extended its deadline for 2011 calendar photo submissions. Entries must be received by June 30. A \$20 tax-deductible entry fee guarantees your pet's photo will appear in MHS' 13th annual wall calendar, and 12 top photos will be selected for special "Pet of the Month" placement. For dog and cat photo entries, those wearing collars and ID tags, and cats photographed indoors, will receive the best consideration. Birds, rabbits and other companion animal photos are welcome as well. Download an entry form and complete photo guidelines at www.michiganhumane.org. Proceeds will help the Michigan Humane Society rescue and care for animals in need. Maddie, Bella and Oscar of Livonia earned a spot as the December Pets of the Month in this year's Michigan Humane Society calendar.

Local Zonta Club seeks scholarship applicants

The Northwest Wayne County Zonta club is offering a \$500 scholarship to assist women with their academic goals.

Zonta International is a nonprofit women's organization that works to improve the status of women locally and globally. Women who live in Livonia, Plymouth, Canton, Redford, Wayne,

Garden City, Westland, Northville Township and the Wayne County portion of Northville are eligible to apply for the scholarship.

Applicants must be a U.S. citizen, attending a Michigan college or university, have a concentration in math or science and have successfully completed one year of undergraduate studies with at least a 3.0 GPA.

The scholarship is renewable for a second semester with successful completion of course work. It is open to all women without regard to race, ethnic origin, disability or age.

Request an application form by e-mailing to rsrand521@sbcglobal.net. Applications must be returned by mail and postmarked by July 30. Scholarship money will be awarded in August for the fall

2010 semester. To learn more about Zonta International, visit www.zonta.org.

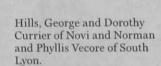
CHANCE DAVID CURRIER

Chance David Currier was born April 14, 2010 at Providence Park Hospital, Novi. He weighed 8 pounds, 14 ounces and measured 22 inches.

Proud parents are Dave and Tracey Currier of Livonia. Grandparents

Terry and Linda Crawford and George and Kathy Currier, all of

Northville. Great-grandparents are Sue Murphy of Novi,





Chance David Currier



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LAWRENCE CARDINAL

Memorial for Lawrence Cardinal. Location: St. Priscilla's Catholic Church, Livonia, MI, Time: 10:00am Monday, June 21st. Larry passed away May 8, 2010.



MARJORIE A. CLARK

84, died peacefully June 11 at her home in Sun 'n Lakes, Sebring, FL, after a long illness. Born & educated in Columbus, Ohio, & formerly of Birmingham & Troy Michigan, many will remember her indefatigably posiwill remember her inderlangably posi-tive attitude & dedication to commu-nity service. Always willing to lend a hand, impeccably dressed & invari-ably coifed, Marge organized any-thing & everything to perfection, with a sense of humor & a ready & recoga sense of numer & a ready & recog-nizable laugh. She enjoyed many activities, including golf, bridge, bowling, traveling, arts & crafts, dec-orating. & cooking. As our own Queen Mother, we will all affection-ately remember her presiding over the deck of the cabin on our spectacular island hideaway, near Desbarats, Ont., anada. She was beloved by all & vill be dearly missed - John, Deborah, Rebecca, Jennifer, Sophia, Wes & Jeremy. Donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association of America, 225 N. Michigan Ave., Fl. 17, Chicago, IL 60601-7633 or online at: alz.org/join the cause donate.asp.



GEORGE M. CLELAND

Passed away on June 13, 2010 at the age of 85. Born in Detroit, MI on June 24, 1924, Mr. Cleland graduated from the Detroit Institute of Technology with a degree in Business Administration. While an undergradu-ate, Mr. Cleland served as the Treasurer of Chi Phi fraternity. A veteran of World War II, he served with valor in the Pacific Theater in the U.S. Army's Quartermaster Corps. During his pro-fessional career in the aerospace indus-try, Mr. Cleland supplied materials and product to the airline and air cargo industries. He was renowned and respected for his finely-tuned negotiation skills, and was twice called out of retirement to provide his expertise in negotiating with national and international clients. Mr. Cleland was an active member of various men's groups including the First United Methodist Church of Birmingham. A dedicated family man, Mr. Cleland was noted for his devotion to church and love of his country. Mr. Cleland was the beloved husband of Geraldine; father of Lynda (Michael) and Kim (Michael); grandfather of Colby, Kendall, Jordan and Chelsea; and great grandfather of Campbell. Memorial contributions may be made to The Salvation Army or First United Methodist Church of Birmingham. A memorial service will be held in July, 2010.

A.J. Desmond & Sons 248-549-0500

view obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

A J. DESMOND SONS





ERNESTINE W. (NEE DRAKE) DURHAM

Age 91. June 12, 2010. Beloved wife of the late Walter, Jr. Loving mother of Cheryl (Phillip) Beuckelaere. Cherished grandmother of Amanda and Matthew. Funeral services were held Wednesday at THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME, Farmington. Memorial contributions may be made to Angela Hospice. www.thayer-rock.com



MAGGIE KATHLEEN **FURLONG**

Age 15, of Plymouth, suddenly June 16, 2010. Loved daughter of Cheryl and Dennis. Best sister ever of Bridget. Dearest granddaughter of Robert and Ellene Moeller, Beverly Moeller, Maggie and Jim Fieler, and the late Daniel and Kathleen Furlong. Cherished niece of Maureen and Gary King, Kevin and Cindy Furlong, Anne and John Hill, Sean and Dianna Furlong, Gary and Sherrie Moeller Lori and Gerry Mullen and Sandy and Todd Goyer. Dearest cousin of Mike, Brian, Shannon, Eric, Allison, Daniel, Keegan, Nolan, Nathan, Brenda, Kim, Molly, Kelly, Caitlin and Lauren. Loved by many great aunts, great uncles, cousins, family and friends. Maggie was a sophomore at Plymouth Maggie was a sopnomore at ryimoun High School, a member of the Varsity Golf team, earning a Varsity letter as a freshman. Enjoyed traveling, playing golf, jumping on the trampoline, playing with her sister Bridget and watching the Gilmore Girls. Interred at Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia, Michigan. Donations in memory of Maggie can be made to the Plymouth-Canton Education Excellence Foundation Maggie Kathleen Furlong Memorial Scholarship Fund.

WILMA LEE

(HARDESTY) GELINAS June 13, 2010, Age 49, of Garden City.
Beloved daughter of the late Claude (Cotton) and Deloris (Dee) Hardesty.
Loving sister of Roger (Fran) Lundell, the late Lonnie (Mary) Lundell and the late Jimmy (Stacy) Hardesty. Also survived by two penhews, four nieces survived by two nephews, four nieces and many loving friends. A service was held on Wednesday June 16 at the & G.R. Harris Funeral Home in Garden City. Please sign the on-line guestbook at: www.rggrharris.com.



JORDAN ROBERT HILL

Age 20, June 14, 2010 of Westland. Beloved son of Shawn and Kimberly. Loving brother of Sarah. Grandson of James and Helen Joslin, and the late Evelyn Joslin., the late Brian and June Hill. Great nephew of Carolyn Norton and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends who dearly loved him. Visitation Thursday 2-9 pm at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 31551 Ford Rd., Garden City. Scripture service Thursday 7 pm. In-state Friday from 10:30 am until Funeral Mass at 11:00 am at St. Raphael Catholic Church, 31530 Beechwood, Garden City. Please sign the on-line guestbook at www.rggrharris.com guestbook at: www.rggrharris.com

EDGAR JANES

Five generations

June 14, 2010. Loving husband of the late Marion.
Dear father of Diane (Bob)
Hobbs, Bill (Kathy) Janes,
Linda (Larry) Behringer, Susan
(Gary) Dunning and Colleen (Gordie)
Rowe. Grandfather of 13 and greatgrandfather of 25. Brother of Harry
and Bert and brother-in-law of Gracie. Edgar was a long time resident of Livonia, served in the Army in WWII Livonia, served in the Army in WWII from 1941-1945. His legacy is preserved in the many buildings that display his masonry skills. Later in life, he fulfilled his lifelong passions of golfing and ballroom dancing. Visitation Thursday 4-8 pm and funeral service 10 am Friday at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 Six Mile, Livonia. Burial at Holy Sepulchre.

HENRY PAUL KRUSIK

June 14, 2010, age 93. Beloved husband of the late Katharine for 68 years who passed away June 16, 2009. Loving father of Kim Rae (William) Mikkelsen, Mark (Lori) and Brent. Dear grandfather of Ian Isaac Mikkelsen. A Funeral Service was held on Sat, June 19, 2010 at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home. Henry was laid to rest next to his wife at Parkview Cemetery, Livonia, MI. Messages of condolence may be sub-mitted in the online guestbook at:

www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com

MAUREEN L. MADISH

Age 67, June 14, 2010 of Westland. Loving mother of Jon (Autumn) Madish, Melissa Blanchard and Christopher (Tiffany) Madish. Proud grandmother of 8 grandchildren. Dear grandmother of 8 grandchildren. Dear sister of William Cronin. Visitation Thurs 5-9PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 980 N. Newburgh Rd. (btwn Ford & Cherry Hill) Westland. Funeral Service Friday 12 Noon at the Funeral Home. Memorial contri-butions to the Michigan Humane Society would be appreciated. To share a memory please visit

To share a memory please visit www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com

FREDRICK CLARK PYLE

Age 60, of Pahrump, Nevada, formerly of Livonia MI, passed away May 17, 2010. Beloved husband to Melodie, Dear father of Matthew (Theresa) and Scott (Renee). Grand-father to Jacob, Lauren, Payton and Cooper. A small memorial will be held in Michigan this July.

MARTHA RAMBIE

Formerly of Birmingham and Rochester, MI, passed away June 15, 2010 at the age of 91 in Naples, Florida. Martha was very active at Eight. First Presbyterian Church Birmingham and remained very active in church work after moving to Naples, Florida. Her vibrant love of life, and her compassion for others has affected hundreds of lives, and her nas affected nundreds of thes, and ner strong influence lives on as her lega-cy. She is survived by her three chil-dren, Gail Grenillo, Tim Rambie, and Deb Haines, as well as seven grand-children, and six great-grandchildren. Memorial service will be at First Presbyterian Church in Naples, Presbyterian Church in Naples, Florida on June 19, 2010. In lieu of flowers, should anyone desire to make a donation, the family asks that dona-tions be made in Martha's name to Ayow Hospice; 1095 Whippoorwill Lane, Naples, FL 34105.



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, symbols, etc.)

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or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Char Wilson 313-496-4968 Char Wilson 586-826-7082 or Liz Keiser 586-977-7538 800-579-7355



JOHN F. VOS III

John passed away Wednesday, June 16, 2010 at the age of 70. He is survived and greatly loved by his wife Carol, sons J. Jeffrey(Jamie) Vos and Christopher Randall(Jennifer) Vos Sr. Grandchildren Tyler, Morgan, Emily, Christopher Jr., Calvin, Spencer, Cameron, Elizabeth and Genevieve. John spent his life as a practicing attorney. He made Plymouth his home since 1950 having graduated from Plymouth High School in 1957. He as the Past President of the Plymouth Rotary, an organization which he loved and was very dedicated to. Funeral Services will take place Wednesday, June 23, 2010, 11am at Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Westland Stake, 7575 N. Hix Rd., Westland, Michigan. Friends may visit Wednesday at church beginning at visit Wednesday at church beginning at 10am and at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St., Plymouth Monday 4-8pm and Tuesday 2-8pm Memorials may be made to the Plymouth Rotary Foundation. To share a special thought or memory:

www.schrader-howell.com

MAGDALENA WARNER

Age 93. Died June 13, 2010. Beloved wife of the late James. Loving mother of Mary (Robert) Connelly Kathleen (James) Connelly. Kathleen (James) Connelly. Dear grandmother of Kristin (Jeff) Denman, Laura (Bryan) Byerly, Steven Connelly, Katheryn (Tom) Hogg, Megan (Adam) Clous and Susan (Brandon) MacShara. Also survived by ten great-grandchildren. Dear sister of Theresa Smith. Lifetime Farmington resident and Trinity Episcopal Church organist for over 45 years. Arrangements entrusted to THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME, downtown Farmington. Memorial confederations. downtown Farmington. Memorial contributions may be made to the church. www.thayer-rock.com

In Memory Of



MARY ELIZABETH BRIGHT

March 4, 1917 ~ June 21, 2009 One year ago, the Lord called you home. You will never be forgotten. For though we are apart you are always and forever alive and within our hearts.

We miss you! - Gene - Mikki - Misty - Emie - Dutch



JOHN HENSLEY

It's been a year, I've shed many tears. To know that you are free from pain is comforting. Please know that all the family will always love you! ~Joan Hensley & Family



KRISTINE HUSSEIN (GRESKO)

June 22, 1979 ~ June 20, 2009 We cannot believe it has been a year since we lost you. The emptiness that we feel in our hearts without you is immeasureable. May you continue to watch over your little boys. We Love & Miss you Every day, Your Family Sunday, June 20, 2010

hometownlife

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor Sharon Dargay Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883 E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com Comment online at hometownlife.com

County in top 10 for cancer fund raising

Wayne County raised more than \$1.7 million for the American Cancer Society through its annual Relay for Life

It ranked ninth nationally among other counties with 1 million or more residents for per capita Relay for Life fund-raising in 2009. This is the first time Wayne County has ranked in the

As the largest non-governmental organization committed to eliminating cancer, the American Cancer Society relies on an army of passionate, local volunteers to increase awareness and raise funds in support of its mission to eliminate cancer.

We congratulate Wayne County for being a community dedicated to giving back and fighting cancer, not to mention meeting this hallmark during one of the toughest economic times in our region's history," stated Jill Elder, senior executive director, American Cancer Society, Great Lakes Division. "We are inspired by our volunteers, whose hard work and dedication are the driving force behind the American Cancer Society's efforts to create a world with less cancer and more birth-



Jill Elder, senior executive director for the American Cancer Society (right), presents Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano with an award that recognizes county residents for their fund-raising efforts for the American Cancer Society. Theresa Burgess, a volunteer with Relay For Life of Redford, also was on hand at ACS's Southfield office for the award presentation.

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano accepted an award of recognition on behalf of Wayne County on June 11. Ficano joined Theresa Burgess, a volunteer with the Relay For Life of Redford, at American Cancer Society's Southfield office for the award presentation.

Relay For Life takes place in more than 5,000 communities across the country, allowing community members an opportunity to celebrate those who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost and participate in fighting back against the disease.

With an estimated 58 people diagnosed with cancer every day in Metro Detroit, the American Cancer Society relies on local

volunteers through events such as Relay For Life to help support its mission. Funds raised from Relay For Life events help the American Cancer Society save lives locally and across the country by investing in cancer research and providing critical support to patients throughout their cancer journey, including 24/7 access to information through cancer.org and a toll-free National Cancer Information Center at (800) 277-2345. The Society has approximately \$15 million currently invested in cancer research at Michigan hospitals and universities, providing promising cancer researchers the opportunity to make the latest advances in research.

Parents not prepared to reduce concussion risk among youth

With growing media attention to concussions among athletes young and old, and recent actions of the National Football League to reduce dangers from multiple concussions among its players, the spotlight is now on what schools are doing to protect their student-athletes.

Do parents feel that their kids are safe, and do parents agree with school policies?

The latest C.S. Mott Children's Hospital National Poll on Children's Health finds that nearly twothirds of parents of young athletes, ages 12-17, worry that their children will get a concussion while playing school sports - yet half don't know if their children's school has a concussion policy.

Over the past few years, researchers have found that youth athletes are more likely to sustain concussions, and to take longer to recover from concussions, than adults. If a second concussion occurs before a child's brain recovers from the first, there is a greater chance of long-term neurologic affects.

The poll, conducted last month, also finds that more than one-third of parents of young athletes are unaware of the dangers of repeat concussions.

"Even though parents of youth athletes lack awareness about effects of repeat concussions, they demonstrate strong support for strategies to minimize the risk of concussion," stated Sarah J. Clark, research assistant professor of pediatrics at the University of Michigan, and associate director of the poll.

A majority of parents would support these school requirements:

 After a concussion, athletes would be evaluated and cleared by a doctor before returning to sports For coaches to receive education about the risks of concussions

After a concussion, for athletes to have a mandatory period of nonparticipation in sports

· Having a certified trainer on hand for practices

Parents are aware of the pressure to allow young athletes to continue playing, despite injury. In fact, 62 percent of respondents know of a parent who would have a young athlete return to school sports too soon after a concussion, and 50 percent know of a coach who would have a player return too soon.

These figures are not surprising to those who work in youth sports," Clark stated. "However, the latest research makes it clear that early return to play after a concussion is very risky."

High school athletic organizations, injury prevention groups and professional sports leagues have become increasingly active in promoting policies to minimize the risks of repeat concussions among young athletes. However, not all policies include educating parents, which Clark views as a missed opportunity.

"Parent involvement in guarding against repeat concussions is critical. Most concussions do not result in loss of consciousness, and symptoms may not occur until several hours after the injury. If young athletes are afraid of losing playing time, they may not be honest with the coach or trainer about their symptoms," Clark stated.

Parents are in a unique position to recognize concussion signs and symptoms that occur outside of school, and to work with coaches, trainers, and other health care personnel to ensure that their child is appropriately monitored throughout his or her recovery and return to play.

Some common signs and symptoms of a concussion include confusion, loss of memory, headache, dizziness, a sensation of the world spinning (vertigo), imbalance, lack of awareness of surroundings, nausea and vomiting.

If these symptoms appear after a head injury, Clark says to consult a medical professional promptly for a full evaluation.

Arthritis Today

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

DELAY OR DECISION

hasty action.

However, there are circumstances when delay in making a decision is not reasonable and only adds risk to personal health.

One instance where delay is damaging is when weight bearing x-rays of the involved knee reveal "bone on bone." What that phrase means is that knee cartilage is completely gone and that the 2 bones that form the joint are rubbing against each other. Another instance where delay in knee replacement is dangerous is when x-rays indicated both knees are severely involved, not yet being "bone on bone," but nearing that rount.

that point.

The reason that timely knee replacement is necessary is that in both instances the knee joint is unstable. That instability can lead to an unexpected fall, which in turn can result in a serious fracture of the head, hip, knee or ankle. Furthermore, if a fall and fracture occur, the usual sequence of events is that EMS takes the patient to the nearest hospital, and the orthopedist on call, not the patient, makes the decision of w

When a physician tells a patient that the only treatment for a painful knee operation, the patient can certainly obtain a second or even third opinion. But the oatient must act in a timely manner. If the other doctors reach the same conclusion, the oatient should decide promptly on the orthopedist to perform the replacement, and go orward immediately with scheduling and undertaking the preoperative clearance the

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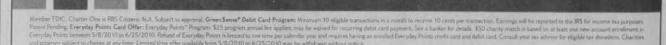




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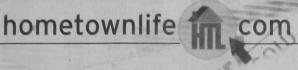
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Sunday, June 20, 2010

Can You Come Back Successfully After Long-Term Unemployment?

Beth Braccio Hering CareerBuilder Writer

Despite many years of experience in the medical field, Betty Robinson had difficulty finding a job when she moved to northern New York. During her unemployment, she decided to boost her skills and sought an online degree from Rasmussen College. Armed with her associate degree in health information technology, she secured a position as a coding clerk six months after graduation. While happy to return to the work force, Robinson notes that she had to regain her confidence. Her biggest concern was trying to quickly learn the system used by her new

workplace after prolonged unemployment may have special concerns or expectations. Here are a few ways to get off on the right foot and keep on progressing in the right direction. Getting to know the place While you might be

eager to show your knowledge and make an impression on your new colleagues, experts often recommend patience.

"Take some time to

scan the environment

before charging ahead with recommendations for new ways of doing things. Get to know the culture," says Roberta Chinsky Matuson, president of Human Resource Solutions in Northampton, Mass. Observations to make that will help you fit in and maximize your chances for success include:

Noting how people



dress. Studying the structure of meetings, such as who leads and how people contribute. Getting to know who holds the key to the resources you need to get your job done. Remembering people's names. Seeing when people arrive in the morning and how late they stay at night. Learning how goals and objectives are defined and measured.

David Hughen, founder of

AustinWorkNet, a firm in Austin, Texas, specializing in human resources strategies, recommends asking for an employee handbook or policies manual before your first day. "Even better is to find as many people as possible who you know work for this new employer and quiz them on the formal and informal practices of the company." This is your new job,

and now you have a windowless cubicle. While your disappointment might be understandable, your new coworkers probably aren't interested in hearing how things used to be for you. Likewise, you might think your new employer has a strange filing system, but trying to revamp it on your second day can come off as more pushy than helpful. Better ways to make an impression include:

Volunteering for a project that others do not want to take on. Offering genuine compliments. Asking others if you can help. Joining colleagues for lunch and other social gatherings. Refraining from criticizing the company or fellow workers. Demonstrating an

Leave your past behind and keep your future growing With personal knowledge of the financial and emotional stress of unemployment, workers returning to the work force may be especially eager to avoid ever being in that situation again. "From a psychological standpoint, it's difficult to check your baggage at the door. But you must do so in order to thrive," Matuson says. "You have to quiet your mind from thinking that it will only be a matter of time before you lose your job again. Presume that everything will be fine. You've been selected from a vast pool of candidates, so clearly you must have what it takes." At the same time, the reality of the everchanging job market is that no employee has a 100 percent

worker to continue to develop skills and contacts. "Though there's much to be excited about with a new job. and that excitement can be allconsuming, it's critical to be prepared for a professional life beyond the immediate work in front of you," Hughen says. A last bit of advice

Having been away from the work force, it will take a bit of time to get a rhythm and routine going again. Give yourself a break and some time to adjust. Robinson's tip for returning workers: "It is important just to relax and learn the new way things are done."

Get the latest job search news and advice on CareerBuilder.com's job blog, "The Work Buzz," and follow us on Twitter @CBforJobSeekers.

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Challenges face

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returning to the

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CROSSWORD PUZZLER

Answer to Previous Puzzle

UTA SUNUP RED

LEFT BIC EYES

DRAB LEAPED

TAU TOS SCENES OOPS

LAIR LED MUTT

UND PLAID PRO

CD MAE TAN AR ARNOLD SHERPA

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FROLIC

AIDFU

LEASH

24 Impolite sound

26 Fixes a clock

27 Toga party

28 Subtle glow

29 Rider's gear 31 Sister of

32 Rank above

marquis

36 London cop

38 Monastic title

41 Twins share

45 "Et tu" time

them 43 Made cookies

25 Coup d'-

UNHIP

HEEDED

SAFES

11 "The Gold

Bug" author 16 Lysol target

AGA

ACROSS

- 1 "60 Minutes"
- network 4 Wade through
- 8 Cut grain
- 12 Villain's cry
- 13 Long-legged
- 14 Woody's son
- 15 Like a bachelor
- 17 Broad valley
- 18 Fend off
- 19 Not pro
- 21 Vicksburg fighter
- 23 Feelings 27 Rural business 30 Sunset colors
- 33 Arapaho foe
- 34 Wishes undone 35 Promise to pay
- 36 Neighbor's kid
- 37 Onassis nickname
- 38 Kind of job
- 39 Casts a vote
- 40 Ballroom dance
- 42 Wane
- 44 Sultan's cousin

place 56 Dublin's land 57 Pentathlon

47 Residence

54 Boat repair

51 Verve

- event
- 58 Driving hazard
- 59 Allows to
- 60 Pit or stone 61 Scout

DOWN

- 1 "Moonstruck" star
- 2 Cotton unit 3 Travel choice
- 4 Pasture entrance
- 5 Frankenstein milieu 6 Earthen jar
- 7 Singer Campbell
- 8 Diameter
- halves 9 Epoch

SUDOKU

8

5

3

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will

appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

VSKFZ

C

V

A C

R T

> 1 X U

M

Z E P M U

K N

DG

E

В 0 V

P S S

YA

PM

SGR

В

RAH

Q

Z R

D D

B F Y

EBQAIJRGBB

cud

dairy

fence

YF

GR

Z

X

M

A Z

P P

E

K A

N

T C R

Z N P

N

R

JU

RN

grain

grass

heifer

XB

Y

F

C

В W

S

Q

O

T

WM

VW

E

herd

pasture

ranch

5 1

1

3

Here's How It Works:

Word Search

N N

B

S 0

D

E C N E F W H E 1 F E R D

S F

Z A

angus

barn

beef

C

L U N

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BARN

E D

U F

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brand

calf

cows

G E D

E 1

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K C J

L V

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1 4

3

5

6

8

- 10 Sum total
- 20 Motel room fixtures 22 Crusty cheese
 - - 46 Heavy gold chain 48 Louts 49 Send by
 - parachute
 - 50 Uptight
 - 51 Japanese delicacy
 - 52 Stretch the truth

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mind-bending

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puzzle will have

you hooked from

the moment you

square off, so

sharpen your

pencil and put your sudoku

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Numbers

4

9

5

1

6

4 6

9

53 Gallery display 55 Third letter

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5040

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7110

7110

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BIRMINGHAM NEIGHBORHOOD SALE June 25-26th, 9am

541, 950 Bennaville 1355, 1391 Bird 195 Catalpa 609 Chapin 1180, 1351 Cedar 1450 Edgewood 825, 847, 1144 Emmon 876 Humphrey 192, 752 Lincoln 1136 Pierce 471, 673, 1124 Smith

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1629 Banbury

Garage Sales

BLOOMFIELD HILLS: June 25-26, Fri-Sat. 9-4, 1451 Courtleigh Terrace, E/Lahser, S/Quarton, Accessories, appls, furniture, clothes,

BLOOMFIELD VILLAGE June 24-25, 9-4pm, Household furniture, antiques, golf clubs electronics, toys, 619 Overhill N.of Maple, E.of Lahser.

CANTON - 4 Family Sale! 1975 Woodbridge, N o almer, E of Lilley, June 24-27 1-5p. Furniture, clothes, tools ousehold, 2 snakes, etc.

CANTON: Woods of Central Park Sub Sale, June 24-26. 9-4pm. Off Denton, btwn Cherry Hill/Geddes Rd. Furn Iture, household, kids items.

"It's All About Results"

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Garage Sales



Friday, June 25 and

Saturday, June 26, 9am-5pm. Sunday, June 27, 10am-2pm.

Located at corner of Rotunda & Greenfield

FARMINGTON HILLS - Green

Hills Sub. 15+ homes! 6/24-6/26, 8-4pm. S. of 9 Mile btwn. Halsted & Drake. Household,

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FARMINGTON HILLS

S 11, E Mid, 28845 Raleigh Wed-Sat/ 9am-5pm. Boy's size 4T-8, Girl's size 7-16 &

coats, Petites size 6-8, misc

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TOTAL RESOURCE

AUCTIONS Detroit Public Sale:

Sat. June 26th. Doors Open 8:30am. **Non-Auto Auction at 10am. Featuring:

Appliances, Bedroom Set V's, Furniture, Generator Piano, Die Cast Collectible

Cars, Power Tools, Dinin

Room Sets, kids toys and

**Auto Auction at 12pm.

Featuring up to 75 cars. We would also like to announce that the Van

SUB-WIDE GARAGE SALE Thurs., 6/24 -Sat., 6/26, 9am-fpm. Colony Park, 13 Mile & Farmington Rd. Dearborn Historic LAKE ORION METHODIST Springwell Park

CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE June 24 & 25, 9am-5pm & June 26, 8am-10am 140 E Flint St., 3 blocks E. of M-24 LIVONIA - 19243 Levan Ct

Garage Sales

6/24 8a-1p; 6/25 8a-12p. Sofa, air hockey table, clothing, household items, TVs, baby tems, x-mas tree, tools, etc. LIVONIA - 3 FAMILY SALE

14635 Lyons, Western Gull Estates, off Inkster Rd. June 24-27, 10-5pm. Huge variety, lots of household items! LIVONIA - HUGE SALE!

of 6 Mile, E off Hubbard. hometownlife.com Garage Sales

LIVONIA - Multi Family Sale urs-Sat, June 24-26, 9-4pm ins, comics, sports cards 14679 Park, E of Levan, S of 5

7110

LIVONIA 2 House Sale! Baby, child, household items, furniture, electronics, clothes, tools, fishing boat, 14731 & 14736 Melrose, June 24, 25, & 26, 9am-5pm.

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

Block Sale! June 24-27th; 9-4pm. Foch St., N of 5 Mile, 2 streets W of Inskter, Furniture

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Garage Sales

LIVONIA-3 HOUSE SALE June 24-26, 9am-5pm, Hand tools, garden tools, Nordic Track, Torso Track, Ab Roller, other exercise equip, Pack 'n Play (like-new), twin sleeper sofa, twin bunk beds, BRAND NEW Path Laves Play (like-new), twin sleeper sofa, twin bunk beds, BRAND NEW Raliph Lauren twin bedding, beige side chair, end table, stereo speakers, wood wall cabinets, Epson printer, Epson scanner. High quality adult clothes (some still with price tags), purses, BRAND NEW Nike women's shoes 10-speed blike' Karaoke machine, board games, 18571; 18595 & 18643 Westbrook (7 Mile to Levan, S. 1 blk. to Dardenella, left to Westbrook).

LIVONIA: 16 HOME

SUB-WIDE SALE! June 24, 25, 26, 9am-5pm North of Joy, btwn Newburgh & Hix.

NORTHVILLE: Multi-Family S of 6 Mile, E of Sheldon

Garage Sales

PLYMOUTH - WE'RE BACK! recognize all of ems - Clothing quality items - Clothing (J Crew, B. Republic & more name brands), household, children's clothing & equip-ment, and assorted furniture. Thurs-Fri June 24-25, 9am 9275 McClumpha, 48170.

PLYMOUTH Garage Sale - Furniture, Household Items, Toys, Kid's clothes & more. 680 Simpson. une 24-26, 9am-4pm

PLYMOUTH TWP 2-SUB GARAGE SALE - JUNE 24 - 26. Andover Lakes and Andover Lakes. West Subdivisions Located off of N. Territorial, between Ridge and Napier.

PLYMOUTH- 8800 Corinne.

Joy & Main 6/23-6/25, 9-5pm 300 Perennials, dishwasher recliner, strollers, clothes boys 0-4, girl's 0-2 & 5-7 PLYMOUTH: Trailwood Sub

Household Goods

MISC - Wood playscape, Step 2 playhouse, 280 12' land-scape blocks. Kimball plano. Make offer. 248-446-9823

MISC. COUCH & loveseat, overstuff leather, taupe, set \$250; coffee table, 40x30x14,

oak w/glass top \$75; Oak bookcase, 70x30x10 w/six shelves, \$50; misc. floor & table lamps, \$25 each. Call btwn 10-3pm. 248-349-3295

MISC. ITEMS Air Conditioner Room, 5150 BTU, GE, like new \$50; Jenson AM/FM auto tape

receiver + tuner, \$15; Smith-Corona electric Typewriter \$20; GE cordless telephone

w/answering machine, lik new \$20. (231) 645-1094

Wide Garage Sale. June 24-26th, 9-5pm. Btwn. Sheldon & Beck, N. of Ann Arbor Rd.

7160

Garage Sales

REDFORD BLOCK SALE Glenmore St, 1 blk E of Beed Daly off Grand River, June 24 th, 9-5pm. If rain, J. 18th. Baby items, tools, appliances, fur clothes (plus sized), etc

REDFORD- Garage sale -20448 Fox. June 24, 25, 26th -9am-5pm

SOUTH LYON Multi Home Sale Burgandy Estates, off of Peer Rd, N of 10 Mile. Thurs-Sat, June 24-26, 8-4pm.

SOUTH LYON Multi-Femily One Day Only! Thurs. June 24th, 9am-5pm. Toys, house-hold. DVDs. 945 W. Hill Dr., W. of Pontiac Trail, N off of 9 Mile.

WESTLAND -Emerald Pointe Condo Assoc. Community Wide Sale. S of Kopernick, W of Hix Rd. Fri-Sat, June 25-26, 9-4pm.

Moving Sales

FURNITURE & PIANO 248-943-8660

NORTHVILLE MOVING SALE EVERYTHING MUST GO! 6/24-6/26, 6/29-7/1, 9am-5pm. 511 Baseline Rd., Northville 248-946-0126 Call for list AFTER 6/20!



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w/bench dark oak, & spindle legs, model M500, \$2600, Leave message, 248-477-4164

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FARMINGTON FLEA MARKET Sat. June 26, 9-5 & Sun., June 27, 10-4, at Historic Winery 31505 Grand River at Orchard Lake Rd. 248-739-4877 VENDORS ALSO WANTED

7100 Estate Sales

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ESTATE SALE - Furniture and accessories from a professionally decorated home Baker, Hancock and Moore Pottery Barn and Custom pieces. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 10am-5pm. 32800 Franklin Rd, Franklin 248-539-8879

LATHRUP VILLAGE House, bsmt, garage FULL! All must go! 27040 Lathrup Blvd. 1 blk E of I-696/Southfield Rd, 1st house N of 11 Mile. June 24-26, 9-6pm. 7100 Estate Sales 7100

LIVONIA - ESTATE SALE 30489 Bonnydale, 48154
Thur-Sat, June 24-26, 9-3.
14-inch, ¼ hp wood band saw with stand 14-inch, 3 wheel, 2 speed, 1/8 hp table model hob-pyist band saw 24-inch throat,

byist band saw 24-inch throat, 1/6 hp motor jigsaw with stand Craftsman 4-inch joiner and 6-inch lathe/sander on same stand variety of finished and unfinished walnut Various hand and electric tools, hard wear and gadgets from a 50-year-old work shop, 0EM pick-up bed cover for 2003-06 Subaru Baja, Records, hooked ruos, antique trunk, antique from a subary antique trunk, antique from a subary from a sub rugs, antique trunk, antique walnut kitchen clock, walnut china cabinet and dining suite. urniture misc household and kitchen items

NORTHVILLE/SALEM- Kiln porcaline molds, household, furniture, tools, crafts. 8121 Beacon Ln., btwn 5 & 6 Mile off Curtis, 6/26-6/27; 10-5pm.

Household Goods

BDRM SET - Contemporary 7 piece, king size bed, dresser & 2 armoires, \$750. 313-580-1511, 248-471-9987

7160

COMMERCIAL GRADE white White china w/a scallop edge detail. No cracks, chips or

DINING ROOM SET - 1920's WALNUT, Fancy legs, 3 leaves, 6 chairs, 78 in sideboard, can email pics. Kris: 248-444-5015

FURNITURE- White formica kitchen set, table & 4 chairs \$350 Dining room set, glass top table w/4 chairs, \$400. top table w/4 chairs, \$4 Make offer, 248-932-3366

MOVING SALE- Lg Hutch \$450, end table \$25, chairs \$60+, all wood kitchen set (6 chairs & table) \$150, 2 beds \$250/ea., couch \$75. Call 734-464-7109 LEADED GLASS TABLES Beautiful, 3 pieces - two tables, 1 sofa table, \$350

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1964 & before. Paying \$9 per dollar face value. Call 734-679-7121 now for cash today!

Wanted to Buy 7540 CASH paid for US Silver Coins

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Parrot plus condo cage. Must find new home! \$700/best. 734-915-1473 & serving pieces. \$1000/make offer, 248-642-8697

KITTEN, 7 wk. old, male, gray markings. Very

GERMAN SHEPHERDS AKC Black & Tan, 7 months, house-broken, crate trained, beautiful

markings. Have been raised with kids, excellent family pets. \$500/best. 248-763-4524 Horses & Equipment

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. TRIMMING Bob Decker 313-320-7505

With cage. To a good home ,248-685-7249

PUBLIC AUCTION 6,747 Sq Ft Eloquent Stately

Custom Built Home on Lake St. Clair Friday, July 16, 2010 @ 5:00PM



Location: 555 Lake Shore Rd. Grosse Pte Shores, MI 48236 Featured on HGTV **Dream Drives!!**

Please visit our Website for Photos & Details

Professionally designed by Architect Dominick Tringali, this Colonial custom built home was constructed in 1998 & contains 5 BR, 4 Full BA, 2 Half BA, professional kitchen on the main floor & a full kitchen in the basement w/4,568 sq. ft. on the first floor & 2,179 sq. ft. on the 2nd floor & a full kitchen in the basement w/4,568 sq. ft. on the first floor & 2,179 sq. ft. of living space. This stately home has a brick & limestone exterior; blue flagstone entry & decks & offers a 4-car attached garage on a 100'x301' lot w/100'frontage on beautiful Lake St. Clair. This stately lake front Colonial home offers all the amenities in a home of this caliber; no expense was spared & only the finest materials used. Make YOUR private appointment TODAY to view this exquisite once in a lifetime offering & MAKE SURE that you get qualified to bid!! Terms: 10% down day of sale; balance at closing. 2% Buyer's Premium added to final bid. \$10,000 Cashiers Check is required to register to bid. (The successful bidders check will go towards down payment; if unsuccessful, the check will be returned at conclusion of auction.) Broker Participation Welcome.

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ARE YOU MR. RIGHT?

DWF, 47, 576", four children, loves baseball, running in the park, bowling, movies, family and friends. Seeking tall SWM, 43-53, 510"+, tall, honest, employed, fun, who enjoys children, is committed and loyal. \$\mathbf{T}\$330707

PLUS-SIZED LADY...
34, 200ibs, saxy single mom, looking for SM, 37+, for friendship and dating leading to LTR. Is this you? Call mel 12217234

LOOKING FOR NICE GUY
HII I'm a widowed, white female, 58
years old, dark blonde hair, blue eyes, I wear glasses, I have no kids but have
three cats, I enjoy reading, music, old
movies, going up north, museums,
historical places. I have a good sense
of humor and loves to laugh. I am also
a very carring and considerate person.
\$\overline{\pi}\$137067 SOMEONE TO BE WITH
Easygoing DWF, 49, 57°, 200lbs, blonda'green, wears glasses, likes comedies and dramas. Seeking SWM, 45-55, who is easy to get along with, for fun and trienda'hip. Ilike bowling, camping, canoeing, dining, relaxing at home, tv, quilet times, cooking. 27330721

DOWN-TO-EARTH
Easygoing DWF, early 50s, would like
to meet a really nice WM, 50-65, with
the same qualities, minimal baggage, to
share the ups and downs of life. Seeking
possible LTR. 1279171

possible LTR. T279171

CURVACEOUS

SWF, 47, 57" 155ibs, hazel eyes, dimples, enjoys râb music, jazz, dancing, dining out, blues, sports. Seeking SBM, 21-42, with similar interests, for friend-ship first, possibly more. T283605 ARE WE A MATCH?

SBF, 36, 58", 150lbs, looking for a SBM, 35-45, who likes movies, dining, concerts, walks in the park, hanging out.

SEEKING COMPANIONSHIP

SEEKING COMPANIONSHIP
Attractive SWF, 55°, 125lba, fun-loving
blonde who is retired and would love the
companionship of a gentleman, 65-75,
with a pleasing personality. T330211

SEARCHING FOR A MAN...
40-60, who's looking for commitment,
love and laughter. I'm a 49-year-old
who's bright, spunky and pretty. Only
Jewish men please. T3962317 POSITIVE OUTLOOK
DWCF, 72, looks much younger, 52°, long dark brown halr, brown eyes, NS, ND, seeks SVM for friendship, possible LTR. 12656264

I AM A CHARMER
Retired WiWF, 125ibs, 69 years young and outgoing, don't let life pass you by until we get together. 2323678

LET'S ENJOY LIFE TOGETHER mi-retired WF, young 60s, 5'6", own/brown, easy on the eyes, H/W oportionate, seeks WM, 58-66, N/S, health-conscious, with a good sense of humor. I enjoy music, theater, movies, museums, art fairs in the summer and enjoy life and general. 2327176

SAYIDO

Me: Black, short, young, extremely sexy, very sensitive, slightly dominant ways, lives alone. You: not white, under 50, stall, 200-300bs, stable, gentle, compassionate, handyman, very affectionate, US; NS, ND, NChildren, monogamis, serious, poetry, cooking, jazz, homebody, very laid back wants marriage, no pets, Leave name and number only. \$\overline{T328635}\$ ARE YOU SEEKING?

DWF, 60s, 5'2", Italian, brunette, attractive, well-dressed, sincere, loving, optimistic, likes theater, travel, dining, fitness. Wishing to meet N/S WM, 60-72, financially secure, easygoing, good morals, loves family, for dating. TF530808

SEKING A REAL MAN
Retired SBF, 48, likes the internet, watching tv, shopping, visiting friends, picnics, taking walks, parks, dining, hanging out with friends. Looking for a SB/WM, 29-58. \$\mathbf{T}314707\$

ARE YOU OUT THERE?
SBF, 36, 5⁴⁷, 156lbs, brown/brown, drama-free, disease-free, looking for SW/BM, 35-60, to talk to. I like movies, music, hanging out, travel, having fun. \$\overline{\pi}\$317137

T317137

HONEST AND CARING
Sensitive SWF, 41, 55°, likes Bon Joyl and Van Halen, spaghettl dinners, gardening, hockey and baseball, old movies, arts and crafts, picnics, reading. Looking for a gentleman, 45-57, race open, for friendship T318717

T0TAL LOSER open, for friendship \$\overline{T318717}\$
TOTAL LOSER!

I have no looks, no interests, no talent, no l.Q, no friends, no job, and haven't dated since 1982! OK, stop laughing and here is the truth. I am a \$JPF, 47, 58", blonde, shapely, bright (advanced degree), fun, caring, passionate, and one of the nicest people you will ever meet. Among other things, I love great conversation, a great sense of humor, and great klassing. Seeking compatible male, late 40s - mid 60s, for permanent best friend and lover. I'm temporarily living in Milwaukee but may move to Michigan soon. \$\overline{T324039}\$ COULD YOU BE THE ONE? Bright, spunky, pretty SF, 47, educator, outgoing, pretty eyes, wishing to meet a kind Jewish man, 45-60, who's look-ing for commitment, love and laughter. TZ30694

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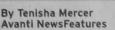
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Lincoln Navigator gets a new look

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Lincoln's Navigator SUV gets some new technological upgrades this year: A standard electronic system that comes with trailer sway control, improvements to Sync, and a standard Ford MyKey system that allows drivers to set maximum speed and volume for

The minor improvements, though, still don't put the Navigator anywhere near its chief competitor - the Cadillac Escalade. The Escalade offers better fuel economy, horsepower, a more powerful V-8 and a hybrid model to boot.

First introduced in 1998 as a more luxurious Expedition, the Navigator is now in its third generation. It still shares the Expedition's chassis and powertrain. The Navigator was one of the first luxury SUVs out of the gate, but it has now fallen behind in that segment.

When it was first introduced, big, brawny luxury SUVs were in --- and so were low gas prices. Filling up the big engine was nothing back then in the era of low gas prices, and pulling three tons of weight was barely an afterthought. Those years were heady status symbol moments for the Navigator, along with the Escalade and the Mercedes

It symbolized Detroit at the height of its SUV years: Customers were buying and luxury SUV sales showed no signs of slowing down. Fast forward a few years, higher gas prices, a recession and the popularity of gas sipping cars like hybrids and the Navigator seems a big ostentatious, wasteful even.

No one wants to brag that they spend \$100. on gas - without filling up. Sadly, the luster that once shone bright on luxury SUVs is now gone. While it used to be cool to brag about how much your SUV cost, now it's cool to brag about how much you saved on your SUV or crossover.



Big and flashy, the Navigator isn't the iconic luxury SUV it once was. Yet, it still holds its weight even after all these years. It still has bragging rights: It was the first fullsize SUV offered by a domestic luxury brand. No one can take that away, even if luxury SUVs aren't as popular as they once were

10.75

And while behemoth SUVs aren't as popular, the Navigator still competes with the Cadillac Escalade, the Mercedes GL-Class, the Infiniti QX56 and premium Toyota Sequoia. Despite those pitfalls, the Nav still has a lot to offer, including a lower price tag, superior handling and a functional third row seat that's roomy. If you're looking for an eye catching vehicle with class and style, the Navigator still fits the bill. This model is largely unchanged since a design overhaul in 2006. The Navigator's distinctive grille hasn't changed. It is still one of the most prominent features on the Navigator, boasting an egg-crate shaped design with a large horizontal bar and Lincoln logo, surrounded by xenon headlights.

Overall, the Navigator comes with a bevy of standard features: capless fuel system, rain sensing wipers, power liftgate and 18-inch aluminum wheels. A moonroof is optional, as well as 20-inch chrome rims. A heavy duty trailer tow package includes load leveling rear suspension, an integrated tow hitch and a heavy duty radiator and transmission cooler. Properly equipped, the Navigator can tow more than 9,000 pounds.

The Navigator comes in a base trim and a longer wheelbase L trim, with your choice of a two-wheel and four-wheel drive.

Inside, it's the finer details that count. The Nav is downright opulent, with plenty of luxurious features. The leather seats are heated and cooled, and pedals are adjustable. Wood accents are contained throughout the cabin. Second row captain's chairs are



The Navigator has new technology for 2010.

standard, but you can substitute a split bench seat with no extra charges. A power folding third-row seat is standard.

If you're looking for a vehicle big enough for the whole family - and then some - the Lincoln Navigator fits the bill. It's roomy and features a lot of cargo space. It's big enough for seven or eight people, and includes a backup camera, heated second-row seats, Sirius satellite radio with a 14-speaker, 600watt sound system as standard. A backseat entertainment system with an 8-inch screen is optional. Stow away the send and third-row seats, which fold flat, and total cargo space is 104 cubic feet on the base Navigator.

Inside, the Snyc voice activation system gives drivers hands-free operation of cell phones, iPods and MP3 players. Lincoln upgraded the Sync to include the ability to get driving directions, traffic and other info with Bluetooth cell phones. And while we like the MyKey System, I'm not so sure that the Navigator is a vehicle that I'd turn my teen loose in. An Expedition? Yes, with a nearly \$20,000 price difference. The Lincoln Nav?

As far as interior packages, there are many. Choose among several packages: The Elite includes a touch-screen, DVD-based navigation, a rear DVD entertainment system and reverse camera. The Limited edition monochrome package includes a chrome grille, ebony wood trim and interior trim. The Premium package includes upgraded leather

with contrast stitching. The Navigator comes with a standard V-8, and offers rear or four-wheel drive. It boasts 310 horsepower, a 5.4-liter engine with 365lb. feet of torque. The engine is one of the Navigator's biggest disappointments, because it lacks sufficient power. Rear wheel drive is standard; four-wheel drive is a

It has 100 less horsepower than its chief competitor, the Cadillac Escalade. That's troubling considering the stiff competition in luxury SUV segment. For the price tag, we think the Navigator should have a more powerful engine.

The Navigator comes with a variety of safety features including:

· Anti-lock brakes.

- · Electronic stability system with Roll Stability Control.
- · Side-impact airbags for front-seat occupants.
- · Side curtain airbags for all three rows of seats.
- · Front and rear parking sensors.

Overall, the Navigator is quite agile and easy to maneuver for its large size. The only thing that concerns us is the lack of power. It's glaringly apparent if it's loaded with cargo or towing a trailer.

Make no mistake. The Navigator is a big vehicle with 6,200-pound curb weight. It seems to strain the engine, especially when compared to other vehicles. The four-wheel suspension gives a smooth, enjoyable ride.

Write Avanti NewsFeatures auto critic Tenisha Mercer at avanti1054@aol.com.

2010 Lincoln Navigator Vehicle class: Full-size luxury SUV. Power: 5.4-liter V-8 engine. Mileage: 14 city / 20 highway. Where built: Louisville MSRP: \$54,400.



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