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OFF TO KOREA, BI



WINE EXPERT ENTERTAINS, EDUCATES  
AT SCHOOLCRAFT CULINARY EVENT

FOOD, B12



THURSDAY  
September 9, 2010

The Observer & Eccentric  
Newspapers

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# CANTON OBSERVER

hometownlife.com

## CONNECTION No Mom2Mom

The Plymouth Salvation Army's Mom 2 Mom sale, originally scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 11, has been cancelled.

Salvation Army officials said they reluctantly had to make the decision due to a lack of rented tables.

For more information, call the Salvation Army at (734) 453-5464.

## Waste not

Canton's annual Hazardous Household Waste Day takes place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 11, at Canton's Division of Public Works Building, 4847 Sheldon Road. This event is open to Canton residents only and is an opportunity to make your home and environment safe by properly disposing of waste that is considered toxic, flammable or corrosive.

Examples of acceptable waste being collected include fluorescent light bulbs, oil-based and latex paint, paint thinner, turpentine, bug sprays, floor-care products, expired medicine, computers and scanners, dry cleaning solvents, rat poison, household batteries, propane tanks, mercury waste, anti-freeze, brake fluid, diesel fuel, kerosene, motor oil and acids.

For more information, call (734) 397-1011.

## Art walk

Canton hosts its latest Public Art Walk Saturday, Sept. 25, giving visitors a chance to explore the latest public art installations along Ford Road.

Held along Canton's primary retail corridor, this Public Art Walk is free and open to the public. Participants will be led on a two-mile walk



Canton hosts its latest Public Art Walk Saturday, Sept. 25, giving visitors a chance to explore the latest public art installations along Ford Road.

by Ken Thompson, docent and artist from the Midwest Sculpture Initiative, who will provide insight into the various pieces that are currently on display.

Walkers should meet at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, at 9:30 a.m. and will be shuttled to the starting point and then returned to the Summit at the end of the walking tour. All walk participants will also receive a free T-shirt courtesy of Midwest Sculpture Initiative. Pre-registration is required and can be accomplished at [www.Cantonun.org](http://www.Cantonun.org) or in person at the Summit.

For more information call (734) 394-5460.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Language arts teacher Ryan Ballard begins getting to know his sixth-grade class at Central Middle School.

## Back to school special

Kids aren't the only nervous ones as classes resume

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER



New Central Middle School teacher Lakeisha Love passes out class schedules to Julian Thornton and the rest of her sixth-grade class.

A teacher once told Ryan Ballard if educators aren't nervous the first day of school for their entire career, they should get out of teaching.

As he herded students into his very first classroom Tuesday, the butterflies in his stomach were telling Ballard — a new language arts teacher at Central Middle School — he may have a nice, long career.

"I was definitely nervous, but I was excited at the same time," said Ballard. "I was excited and ready to help the kids as much as possible."

It's a far cry from where Ballard wanted to end up when he was coming out of high school. With a desire to be a sports broadcaster, Ballard got his bachelor's degree in communications from the University of Michigan-Flint, then went to broadcast school at Specs Howard.

But with student loans to pay, Ballard accepted an offer for an office job in Chicago. It didn't take long, though, to realize that wasn't where he wanted to be.

"I was sitting in an office making 60 cold calls a day to people who didn't want to talk to me," said Ballard, who'd always been encouraged toward a teaching career by family members who saw how good he was with kids. "I love being around kids, I love helping kids."

He spent last year student-teaching at Bentley Elementary (fifth grade) and Pioneer Middle School (language arts), and was one of some 5,000 applicants for teaching jobs in Plymouth-Canton. The 26-year-old from Flushing, who now makes his home in Ann Arbor, said last year's experience helped cement his desire to teach here.

"I knew from day one, after meeting all the people in the

Please see **SCHOOL, A6**

## District: Change doesn't signal drug attitude shift

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Despite a concern it'll look like the district is softening its position on drugs in the schools, Plymouth-Canton administrators started school Tuesday with a new Code of Conduct that gives the district more discretion in handling drug offenses.

Revisions to the code — a copy of which each student signs when school starts — back off in some instances

from the "zero tolerance" policy, though that remains the district's obvious attitude toward drugs.

The new policy gives administrators "some leeway" to handle controlled substance offenses they deem less serious. The changes, district officials said, remove some ambiguity in the policy.

"There was some contradictory language in the old handbook," said Bob Hayes, the district's director of student services. "The (old) code said

two different things in two different places. It was hazy."

The former code listed suspension as a possible penalty for distribution of banned substances, while in another place listing expulsion as the consequence. And the zero tolerance policy left no room for determining degrees of a possible offense.

For instance, Hayes pointed out, a student who provided another student with an aspi-

Please see **DRUGS, A3**

## Canton eyes fee hikes to absorb costs

BY DARRELL CLEM  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Building a home, adding a deck, installing solar panels or replacing a furnace could become more costly as Canton's elected leaders consider increasing certain fees to absorb rising expenses.

The fees, locked in place since 2006, could be increased as the Canton Township Board of Trustees ponders a higher price tag for certain services to offset township costs that have been partly driven up by wage hikes.

The board potentially could vote as early as October to increase some — but not all — of the 283 fees the township charges for building and inspection, planning and public works services.

A new fee structure could come as township officials, in a separate matter, move to update Canton's long-range master plan for water system improvements, specifically by prioritizing \$13 million in projects for the next 30 years.

"Overall, our system is in excellent condition," Bob Belair, assistant township engineer, told trustees during recent talks.

Yet, Belair said certain water system improvements, particularly on Canton's southwest side, will be especially needed if potential projects, such as a new Oakwood Hospital facility near Michigan Avenue and Beck, occur.

Funding could come from an array of sources such as private developers or the township's capital improvement fund, among others. Already, Walmart has paid to improve water service for the site of the Michigan Avenue store it plans to open this fall.

The new fee structure, meanwhile, would drive up permit costs for a three-bedroom, \$180,000 home from \$2,940 to \$3,223 — a \$283 increase, Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said.

Canton's current price tag of \$2,940 compares to \$2,893 for Livonia, \$4,861 for Northville and \$2,227 for Southfield, according to a report submitted to township board trustees.

Any fee changes would not become effective until 2011, Faas said. The township also could impose fees for the first time for newer services, such as a \$30 permit fee for installing solar panels.

Examples of fee changes could include:

Please see **FEES, A3**

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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

**Service salute**

Canton's Veterans Day Salute to Service takes place 6-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 11, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton.

Organizers are looking for anyone who would like to display memorabilia during the event. Anyone who'd like to take advantage of the opportunity should contact Sean Fletcher via e-mail at sean.fletcher@canton-mi.org or call (734) 394-5472.

The focus this year will be on Korean War veterans. The Canton Cable Studio will be recording interviews with Korean veterans. Veterans who are interested in volunteering to be interviewed will contact Cable TV studio manager Dave Harris at (734) 394-5241.

Those who participate will be invited to the Salute to Service program and be honored during the program. They will receive a DVD of their interview.

The interviews will be compiled into a presentation for the Salute to Service program.

**Mortgage education**

Homeowners age 62 and older have a chance to get the facts about how a reverse mortgage may help at a reverse mortgage educational seminar Tuesday, Sept. 14, at 2 p.m. at the Canton Public Library.

Organizers say a reverse mortgage can help pay off existing mortgage, cover day-to-day expenses, including health care costs, stay in your

home or purchase a new residence.

The Canton Public Library is located at 1200 S. Canton Center in Canton. To RSVP or for more information, call Stephen Bartus, (248) 635-7091.

**Moon fest**

Experience a Chinese cultural celebration as Canton Leisure Services hosts the Chinese Moon Festival at Heritage Park on Saturday, Sept. 18. Visitors can stroll around the reflective ponds with friends and family or walk hand-in-hand with a loved one surrounded by the picturesque scenery of one of the most beautiful spots in Canton.

Event goers can also sample tasty moon cakes as they enjoy live contemporary Chinese music from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Celebrated in the autumn, the Moon Festival is an occasion for families to reunite. When the full moon rises, families gather together to watch the full moon, eat scrumptious moon cakes, and sing moon poems.

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

**Color blind**

The Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion sponsors a discussion with essayist, author and educator Tim Wise, author of *Colorblind: The Rise of Post-Racial Politics and the Retreat from Racial Equity*, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 6, in the Vista TEch Center presentation room 55Q at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

If an under-privileged or disadvantaged group exists, then there must be a privi-



**Come to the Cabaret**

The Spotlight Players' are taking The Biltmore Studio at The Village Theater and transforming it into an intimate night club for one night only, Oct. 16. Directed by Roy Sexton with Musical Direction and Accompaniment by Rebecca Biber and Choreography and Additional Direction by Lauren London, Cabaret night - The Great American Songbook from Tin Pan Alley and Beyond - will feature songs from Ellington to Loesser, Berlin to Sondheim. Show time is 8 p.m.; Cabaret-style seats are limited. The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located 50400 Cherry Hill Rd., Canton, MI, 48187. The Village Theater has free parking is handicap accessible. The \$15 tickets are available by phone at the box office at (734) 394-5300 or online at www.canton-mi.org/village-theater or in person at The Summit on the Park or at the door! Box office opens 1 hour prior to show-time.

leged or advantaged group that also exists. As part of the Michigan Roundtable's public education effort, Wise will discuss how structures and institutions have been put in place and reinforced by people of privilege in order to marginalize the other. The message is quite clear: Acknowledge your privilege and take responsibility to eradicate it.

Admission is free to the public, but pre-registration is necessary. Registration is available online at www.miroundtable.org or by contacting Tanaya Parker by phone at (313) 870-1500.

**Call for crafters**

The Delta Kappa Gamma Education Society hosts its annual juried handmade-only Craft Show on Saturday Oct. 16, at West Middle School in Plymouth from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The event draws some 1,500 customers and features food and drawings.

For information on how to take part, call or e-mail Judy Stone at JBSTONE 716@comcast.net or Alice Chrenko, (248) 348-9610 or dachrenko@hotmail.com

**Christmas auditions**

Central City Dance in Canton is holding open auditions for its annual Christmas Spectacular Broadway Show on Sunday, Sept. 12.

Performers from all over southeast Michigan are welcome to try out. Auditions will be:  
• Dancers: 11-11:45 a.m. ages 6-8; noon-12:45 p.m. ages 9-12; 1:30-2:30 p.m. ages 13 to adult.  
• Singers: 2:45-3:30 p.m. for all ages.  
• Gymnasts: 1-1:30 p.m. all ages.

Sponsored by Central City Dance in Canton for the last five years, the show includes more than 300 costumes in eight scenes and 100 performers showcasing some of the most talented dancers, singers, and gymnasts from area dance studios, community theaters, and colleges throughout southeast Michigan.

This year there are five shows, Dec. 16th-19th at Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

Additional information regarding the audition process can be found on the studio's website: www.CentralCityDance.com

**Check out Canton**

The Canton Economic Development office and the Canton Public Library have teamed up to help the community "check out" Canton businesses.

"Check Out Canton" works like the library's very popular Museum Adventure Pass program. Local businesses supply special offers that patrons can check out from the library with a library card. Use the passes to save on goods and services throughout Canton.

Want to know what's being offered? Simply search the library catalog for "Check Out Canton" and you'll find a list of the businesses and their offers.

Businesses interested in participating in this program can call Canton's Economic Development office at (734) 394-5182.

**Chiefettes variety**

The Canton Chiefettes Pom Pon teams present "Fame-A Variety Show" 1:30 and 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18, in the Gloria Logan Auditorium at Salem High School.

Tickets are on sale now for \$6 and are available from Chiefette team members and parents or can be purchased for \$8 at the door on show day. For more information visit our website www.cantonchiefettes.com

**BPW meets**

The Canton Business & Professional Women meeting takes place 6-8:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 13, at Palermo's Restaurant, 44938 Ford Road in Canton (in the strip mall behind Murray's Auto Supply on north side of Ford Road, east of Canton Center Road and west of Sheldon).

Guest speaker will be Marilyn H. Bell, Executive Director of the MICHPA

(Michigan Purchase Health Alliance). She will be talking about controlling health care costs.

Please RSVP by Thursday, Sept. 9, by contacting June Nicholas at junenicholas@comcast.net or (313) 610-2561.

**AAUW meeting**

The Plymouth/Canton branch of the American Association of University Women will host its monthly meeting on Sept. 16, at 6 p.m., at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon (just north of N. Territorial) in Plymouth.

The meeting will feature Lisa Noel, the branch's college delegate to this year's NCCWSL Leadership Conference. Noel will share information about the conference and describe its effects upon her life and future plans. AAUW is dedicated to advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. AAUW membership is open to all.

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

**Mom 2 Mom**

The Plymouth Canton Mothers of Multiples host their semi-annual Mom-to-Mom sale 8:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 25, at West Middle School, 44401 Ann Arbor Trail (at Sheldon) in Plymouth.

The event features department-style shopping (grouped by boy or girl, then by size), fall and winter boys and girls clothing (newborn to size 10), sets for twins and triplets and multiples items, clothes, toys, baby gear, strollers, maternity clothes and a bake sale.

Admission is \$1, cash only, all sales final (no strollers before 10 a.m.). For more information e-mail pcmom@hotmail.com.

**Ensemble auditions**

The Vocal Arts Ensemble of Michigan announces auditions for new members, all voices:

Soprano, Mezzo Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Baritone or Bass. All must have the ability to read music and embrace music of the a capella choral tradition both sacred and secular. Musical periods include the Renaissance to current musical experiences both costumed and in traditional concert attire.

Auditions will be held at Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road, 3-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 12. Weekly rehearsals are on Sunday from 3-5 p.m. at Orchard United Methodist Church.

For more information, contact Charles Whitmore, Director, at (313) 254-1821 or e-mail chuck-whitmore@live.com.

**Prison effects**

Hope 4 Healing Hearts, a support group for those with incarcerated loved ones, hosts "Incarceration: Who is Affected?", a seminar with Envoy Stephen Johnson, correctional ministries director for the Salvation Army-Eastern Michigan Division, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 13, at Kirk of Our Savior, 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland.

The talk will center on showing participants who is really affected when someone goes to prison. The public is welcome; the seminar is free, though donations will be gratefully accepted.

For more information, visit www.hope4healinghearts.com or e-mail Bonnie at bonnie@hope4healinghearts.com or call (734) 646-2237.

**Crafters wanted**

Officials at St. Thomas a Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley in Canton, are accepting applications for handmade crafts for their Christmas Craft Show, to be held Saturday, Dec. 4, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All interested crafters can e-mail crafts@abecket.org or call St. Thomas a Becket at (734) 981-1333.

**New school opportunity**

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

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

Contact: membership@plymouthnursery.org or call (734) 455-6250. Membership applications are available at www.plymouthnursery.org.

**Montessori openings**

Plymouth-Canton Montessori School is continuing fall enrollment throughout August. Preschool, kindergarten and extended day kindergarten programs are available for children between the ages of 3-6 years old. The school is located at 45245 Joy Road in Canton, and fall classes are scheduled to begin Wednesday, Sept. 8.

In addition to its preschool and kindergarten programs, PCMS provides before and after school day care, and a summer program that includes lots of arts and crafts, in-house presentations, science experiments, dramatic play, cooking, picnics, outdoor time, music, stories and games.

For enrollment information or to schedule a school tour, call (734) 459-1550 or visit www.pcmontessori.org.

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# Canton continues to draw eateries

BY DARRELL CLEM  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Even though many consumers have reined in their spending to weather a stubborn economic slump, Canton officials say the township has continued to lure new restaurants.

Local officials and restaurant owners say Canton, already home to a wide array of eateries, has the demographics that appeal to business people who want to open their first dining establishment or expand an existing chain.

"I think it's ongoing that Canton is a desirable place to be," township Economic Development Manager Debra Bilbrey-Honsowetz said.

Earlier this year, Hayden's Grill & Bar owner Brent Skaggs made similar statements when he revealed his restaurant would be coming to the former Don Pablo's on Ford Road east of I-275.

Canton, he said, "has an upwardly-mobile feel to it."

Like any Michigan community, Canton has had its share of businesses, including restaurants, that failed to survive the economic recession, yet the township continues to become home to new dining establishments that create jobs for servers to managers.

The latest:

- Hayden's is expected to open in coming weeks, Bilbrey-Honsowetz said. It has been billed as a family friendly, affordable place that has an upscale decor.

- Ichiban, a Japanese steak-



Red Olive located one of its newest spots earlier this year on Canton Center north of Cherry Hill.

house and sushi bar, has opened on Ford Road east of Sheldon, on the site of a former restaurant.

- Los Tres Amigos is expected to open possibly in October where the former Central City Diner once offered a nostalgic menu at 6600 N. Canton Center.

- Red Olive, a growing chain, located one of its newest spots earlier this year on Canton Center north of Cherry Hill.

- Kabuki, a Japanese restaurant and sushi spot, recently opened on Ford Road east of Lilley, Bilbrey-Honsowetz said.

- Roy's Burgers hasn't yet opened but has announced it will be coming to a former ice cream parlor on Canton Center just north of Ford, Bilbrey-Honsowetz said.

- Vinnie's Italian Sub Shop opened several months ago on Michigan Avenue between

Lilley and Haggerty, and Carol Altier, who owns it with husband Vinnie, said the couple plans another restaurant — an old-fashioned hamburger stand — in coming months near Michigan and Beck.

"This has been Vinnie's dream," Carol Altier said.

The Altiers actually bought an old-fashioned diner in New Jersey and had it moved all the way to Canton, she said.

Meanwhile, Bilbrey-Honsowetz said some restaurants have battled a tough economy by offering coupons or special menu items that cost less. Even when times are hard, she said, penny-pinching residents still want to spend money on an occasional outing, and dining out can offer the right deal.

"Sometimes," she said, "people just need to have a little break."

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

## DRUGS

FROM PAGE A1

rin to battle a headache faced expulsion, while the student who asked for the aspirin faced a four-day suspension. Expulsion is the same penalty facing a student caught with a pound of marijuana to sell or distribute.

It's all a matter of degree, according to Hayes. "Is distributing drugs in school appropriate? Of course not," he said. "It's wrong, and it should be punished, (but) expelling someone for providing an aspirin is overkill. There are degrees."

Trustee Dianne Gonzalez, who raised a concern about the changes at the Board of Education's last meeting, wants to make sure the district isn't softening its stance on drugs.

"My main concern is for student safety," Gonzalez said. "We are a zero tolerance district with regard to drugs. I think the policy is becoming more ambiguous, based on the changes. The consequences should be clear. We have so many administrators dealing with children ... There should be consistency."

To more fully explain the policy, administrators will make a presentation on the Code of Conduct at the Sept. 14 Board of Education meeting. The meeting starts at 7 p.m. in the meeting room at the E.J. McClendon Education Center on Harvey.

The Code of Conduct also appears to be working, as the incidents of alcohol, tobacco and other drug offenses on the high school campus has dropped the last three years (data for 2009-10 is not yet available). In 2008-09, there were 107 incidents, compared to 149 in 2006-07, a

### BY THE NUMBERS

Alcohol, tobacco and other drug offenses at the high schools, according to statistics provided by Plymouth-Canton Community Schools:

	'06-07	'07-08	'08-09
Alcohol possession	1	6	4
Drug possession	32	33	22
Tobacco possession	35	19	13
Alcohol distribution	0	0	4
Drug distribution	1	1	3
Alcohol use	5	6	16
Drug use	4	8	11
Tobacco use	46	15	17

drop of nearly 30 percent. Over the same period of time, controlled substance offenses have dropped by nearly half (27-13) at the middle school level.

"It's something we need to constantly be aware of and we keep an eye on it," Hayes said. "But do we have a huge drug problem? No, we do not."

Canton Township Police agree. Officer Sara Boritzki, assigned as one of the department's School Resource Officers, said there doesn't seem to be a rampant drug problem in Plymouth-Canton. She said the highest number of actual offenses involve prescription drugs.

"We do have issues, just because of our size here," Boritzki said of some 6,000 students who attend the high school complex. "Other districts seem to have a bigger problem than we do."

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## FEES

FROM PAGE A1

- Raising building and inspection administrative fees from \$25 to \$28, a 12-percent hike.

- Increasing permits for a Christmas tree sales lot from \$35 to \$50.

- Hiking the costs of installing a mobile home from \$100 to \$150, a 50-percent increase.

- Raising the fee for a temporary certificate of occupancy for a commercial, industrial, office or multi-family building from \$150 to \$250.

- Increasing the permit fee for decks from \$105 to \$108 and for a fence from \$55 to \$58.

Faas' office has asked township board trustees to review a lengthy report on proposed changes and provide any feedback prior to a vote that could come as early as October.

Already, two trustees indicated some resistance to the plan. Trustee Todd Caccamo said he would have no problem increasing fees for a carnival, for example, but he questioned raising certain fees for Canton homeowners.

Trustee Pat Williams took

his criticism one step further, saying the increases essentially amount to raising taxes on homeowners. His colleagues took strong exception to his comment, saying there are clearly defined legal definitions that separate fees from taxes.

Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin said fees, such as those for a deck or a water heater, amount to a "pay as you go" policy. In many cases, homeowners can decide if — or when — they want to make an improvement and pay the cost, she said.

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# No injuries in fire at Coney Island

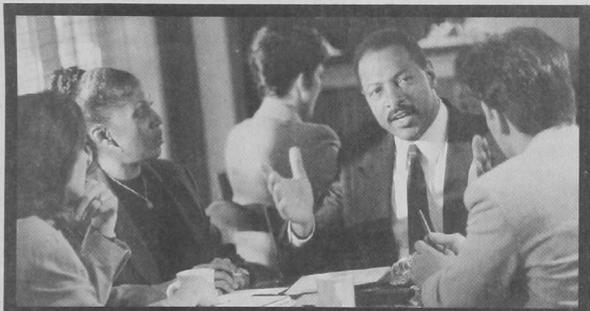
No one was injured, but several businesses were damaged by a fire that started in a Canton eatery early Wednesday morning.

The fire, which started in the Olympus Coney Island on Joy Road, did "significant damage" to the restaurant, Canton fire officials said.

Canton's emergency dispatchers got the call shortly after 5:30 a.m. Canton firefighters found heavy smoke emanating from the restaurant when they got there. After extinguishing the blaze, firefighters tried to minimize the damage to the other businesses in the complex.

According to fire officials, other businesses that sustained damage included a Hallmark card shop, the UPS store, Izakaya Sanpei restaurant the ACO Hardware store.

Canton fire investigators are still working to determine the origin and the cause of the fire.



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# Fall fest food is service club meal ticket

BY MATT JACHMAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth's Fall Festival gives local service organizations a chance to flex their fund-raising muscles and support a variety of causes, while providing visitors with home-cooked meals away from home.

The festival, which starts at noon Friday, is a collection of events, activities and fund-raisers sponsored by churches, athletic boosters, neighborhood groups, cultural groups and nonprofits.

But its three major meals in downtown Plymouth (Taste Fest is Friday in Old Village) are each sponsored by a service club and have together become the festival's signature events. They've also become vital sources of revenue for the work promoted by the clubs.

"Everything we take in goes back into the community in one way or another," said Michael Richardson, chairman of the Rotary Club of Plymouth's barbecue committee.

The Rotary, which annually serves more than 10,000 barbecued chicken dinners, is preparing for its 55th barbecue, scheduled to run from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday at Kellogg Park, with a takeout location at West Middle School.

The festival actually grew out of an annual Rotary picnic from the 1950s.

Beneficiaries of barbecue proceeds include the Rotary's ramp-building program for people in wheelchairs, its fund for academic and vocational scholarships, the Salvation Army and Rotary International programs, such as the one providing safe drinking water sources in Honduras.

"That's why I'm in Rotary and that's why I have no hesitation working four or five days this week to make it a success," Richardson said.

Some 650 to 700 volunteers, working two- and three-hour shifts, will help out during



Sunday's Rotary Chicken Barbecue is the mainstay of Plymouth's Fall Festival.

the barbecue, Richardson said. Volunteers include club members, family members and local high school students in need of community service hours.

"It's just a pleasure to sit back and watch everything come together," Richardson said.

Saturday's spaghetti dinner is put together by the Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M., a smaller, newer group. It's the fifth year for the dinner, and 50 to 60 volunteers help out, including the 32 club members.

"With the club itself, it's all hands on deck," said Kate Rosevear, co-chair, with Tim Patino, of the dinner committee.

This year's spaghetti dinner is 4-8 p.m. in Kellogg Park. The dinner is typically attended by about 1,000 people a year.

"It makes the community aware of what we're doing, so it's an awareness-raiser," said



The Kiwanis pancake breakfast is 7 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at The Gathering, next to the Penn Theatre and across Peninman from Kellogg Park.

Rosevear, a club past president and one of the founders of the spaghetti dinner. "It's a chance for the Rotary to kind of rub elbows with each other, come together as a group."

Much of the dinner's proceeds will go to the Miracle League of Plymouth, which

is raising money to build a baseball field for use by children with physical limitations and other handicaps. Groundbreaking, behind Central Middle School, is scheduled for next spring.

Saturday's pancake breakfast, 7-11:30 a.m. at The Gathering, next to the Penn Theatre, is sponsored by the Plymouth Kiwanis

Foundation, which represents two local Kiwanis clubs.

The pancake breakfast serves between 2,600 and 3,000 people a year, said Jim Grutza, the chairman this year. The money raised goes toward Kiwanis college scholarships, a local anti-hunger initiative, community events such as the Fourth of July Fireworks and the Plymouth Ice Festival and groups such as the Salvation Army and the United Way, Grutza said.

"It's important that, especially business people, give back to the community that's supporting them," Grutza said when asked about his involvement. "It's something I believe in, it's something I do. I don't even think twice about it."

For more information on the Plymouth Fall Festival, and on the meal events mentioned above, visit the website [www.plymouthfallfestival.com](http://www.plymouthfallfestival.com).

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

## Get ready to chow down at Fall Festival

• The Kiwanis pancake breakfast is 7 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at The Gathering, next to the Penn Theatre and across Peninman from Kellogg Park.

Tickets are \$6 in advance and \$7 at the door. Children 5 and under are free. The menu includes pancakes, sausage and coffee.

• The A.M. Rotary all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner is 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday at Kellogg Park, rain or shine. Tickets are \$8 in advance and \$9 at the door, \$4 for children 12 and under. Children under 2 are free.

On the menu are spaghetti with marinara sauce, optional meatballs, tossed salad, bread, a 16-ounce water and a cookie, plus coffee and tea. There will be a tent at the park in which visitors can enjoy their dinners, or dinners can be packaged for takeout. In case of bad weather, there will be drive-up to-go service at Ann Arbor Trail and Union Street.

• The Rotary Club chicken barbecue is 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday (or until the 10,500 dinners are sold out) at Kellogg Park, with a takeout location at West Middle School. The menu will have barbecued chicken, corn on the cob, a roll, soft drink and a cookie.

Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door.

For a list of where tickets can be purchased in advance for any of the meals, visit the Website [www.plymouthfallfestival.com](http://www.plymouthfallfestival.com).

Tickets will also be available, during Fall Festival hours, in a ticket booth at Main and Peninman streets.

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# Last first day brings mixed feelings

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Tuesday was a day of firsts and lasts as schools opened in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

For some 19,000 students, it was the first day of school. For four building principals, it was the last first day of their careers.

The four — Marcia Moore at Allen Elementary, Lynn Haire at Miller Elementary, Sue Kely at Bird Elementary and Amy Potts at East Middle School — have all announced

their retirements. Potts leaves in December, the others retire when the school year ends in June.

The day produced mixed emotions. Moore, who has spent the last 10 years of her 40-year career at Allen, said she approached the day with the same attitude she's used every other year. People like her daughter made mention of it — Aww, Mom, it's your last first day — but Moore said it's no different.

"The fact it's the last year isn't even on my mind," said Moore, who has taught in the Plymouth-Canton system for 35 years. "Your mindset has

to be in the here and now. You can't address each day as if it was the last day. I couldn't do my job if that's how I thought."

Potts, the principal at East Middle School the last three years, decided she'd leave at Christmas to give herself options for a potential out-of-state opportunity. She said it didn't even hit her until she was on her way to work that it would be her last first day.

"We've been so darned busy I haven't even had time to reflect on my decision," said Potts, who has been an educator for 27 years. "Just getting started, we had some unpre-

dictable glitches. It wasn't the smooth start we'd hoped for, but my staff has been awesome. I like what I'm doing, so for me it's kind of mixed feelings."

Haire, who has been the principal at Miller for 11 years, said she's "a little bit sad" about it being her last year, but it's having no impact on how she's going to approach the year.

"You balance (the sadness) by saying, 'It's going to be the best year ever,'" said Haire, an educator for some 34 years. "That's going to be my focus, making it the best year I can."

Kely had "mixed feelings" on the first day, but her focus for the year

will be on the children. As she does every summer, Kely made home visits to her kindergarteners and, armed with a new school motto — "Every Child. Every Chance. Every Day." — she's diving into "my favorite time of the year" with gusto.

"The first day of school is always an exciting time," said Kely, an educator for 37 years, the last four at Bird. "It's sort of sad because it's my last first day ... on the other hand, it's a celebration because a new year is beginning and we're off to a great start."

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

## SCHOOL FROM PAGE A1

district, and getting to know the students, that Plymouth-Canton was where I wanted to get a teaching job," said Ballard, who earned his master's degree in elementary education from U-M in Ann Arbor in June. "I was thrilled, to say the least."

Ballard was one of some 90 new teachers hired into the district after a large number of veteran teachers took advantage of a new state retirement plan earlier this year. He was among some 5,000 applications administrators received for their various openings.

According to Ray Bihun, the district's executive director of human resources, an estimated 800-1,000 applications flooded in for a single elementary school position alone.

Bihun pointed out the district had to fill the footsteps of some 90 teachers, all of whom had at least 30 years of experience. No one thinks replacing some 2,700 years of experience will be easy, but Bihun thinks the district got a good start.

"It was one of the best talent pools I've ever seen," Bihun said. "We got some brand-new teachers, and we got some really experienced teachers. These are some of the most talented teachers I've seen."

One of the new teachers is Lakeisha Love, also a new language arts teacher at Central Middle School. Love, who lives in Ypsilanti, taught for a few months at West Village Academy, a charter school in Detroit where she took over a classroom that had been manned by three other teachers last year.

When she welcomed her students Tuesday morning, she was doing it in her own classroom for the first time. Love, whose mother and great-aunt are also teachers, admitted she was "a little nervous" before class started Tuesday.

"I used to get into trouble for finishing my work early and helping other kids," Love said of her own academic experience. "I really liked school, and my friends didn't, so I'd say, 'How can I help you?' I really like to help kids."



Maya Powell and her mom, Amy Powell, are both working. Maya works on her first kindergarten project and Mom fills out forms.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Kindergarten teacher Heather Scott-Kearney talks with her new class at Allen Elementary School.



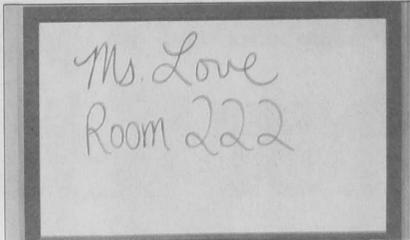
Principal Marcia Moore welcomes the last bus of the morning at Allen Elementary School.



Ryan Ballard watches as a cafeteria full of brand-new sixth-grade students meet their new teachers and head for class. Ballard is a first-year teacher, one of some 90 new teachers hired this year.



New teacher Lakeisha Love assures the new middle school students that she, too, is new to the building, and they will all learn together.



Central Middle School teacher Lakeisha Love got her first very own classroom, Room 222 at Central Middle School.

## COMMUNITY VOICE

### What's the best thing you did this summer?

We asked this question at Allen Elementary School



"I went to my grandma's house. We played a game called Candyland." Benjamin Deems, 6



"We went to my grandma and grandpa's. We slept over at our cousin's house." Carly Johnson, 6



"I got my hair done, and then I got it pressed." Trinity McCartha, 6



"Go to my grandma and grandpa's cottage. We went to my Uncle Jack's campsite." Dennis Rennells, 6



"Probably going to my cousin's cottage. It was very chilly." Olivia Connolly, 5

# Regional Marketplace

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PHOTOS BY ALISON BERGSEKER  
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BY ALISON BERGSEKER  
ADVERTORIAL WRITER

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In June 2009, Executive Director and Franchise Owner Wie Pan opened a Huntington Learning Center in Canton on Ford Road after extensively researching a variety of tutoring services. Dr. Pan, a 30-year corporate business professional with a doctorate in Chemistry, attributes a good education to the successes he's achieved and is now focused on helping kids succeed in their education to secure brighter futures.

"A lot of people ask, how do we compare to others?" Dr. Pan said. "I can't say much about the others, but I can say that I did extensive research before getting into this franchise. My conclusion is that this is the best tutoring service of all those that I evaluated."

Dr. Pan's conclusion is well supported by results. A Solomon & Associates Inc. survey reported 93 percent of Huntington families recommend the tutoring service to others.

Huntington Learning Center offers one-on-one and individualized tutoring for students pre-K through adult for Reading, Writing, Math, Study Skills, Spelling, Phonics, State Testing Prep and ACT/SAT/PSAT Test Prep.

"Each program that we offer is individualized for each student," said Tracy Andrzejewski, Center

Director. "Most of our tutors are substitute, part- or full-time certified teachers in local school districts and have real classroom experience. To qualify to teach at Huntington, a teacher must possess at least a four-year college degree."

Tutors undergo a criminal background check from the state of Michigan and the FBI before being hired.

### One-on-one programs

Because each student is different, Huntington always does a thorough academic evaluation to pinpoint areas of weakness and strength. The staff then meets with each family privately to review the results and to recommend a personalized program of instruction.

"Most students that come here are behind in their studies," Andrzejewski said. "As they continue to fall behind in their grade level, they create gaps in their basic foundation that further impair their ability to keep up with classroom subjects. At Huntington, we start the students at their level and proceed to build and rebuild the skills that they need to succeed in the classroom."

Most students attend just a few hours a week after school. Individualized instruction takes place in a caring and nurturing environment.

"Many students find the environment here comforting and because each student is basically in a classroom of one student, they don't feel the kind of peer pressure that may exist in a classroom of some thirty odd students," Dr. Pan said. "Also, in this more individualized environment, a student is more willing to ask questions and does not need to worry about keeping up with or waiting for other kids to catch up. This is not to

indicate that our learning center replaces the classroom. What we do is address the basic skills that the students need in order to better handle classroom subjects."

At the request of and with permission of the parents, Huntington staff will meet with teachers and counselors at the school in order to keep up with the students' progress.

The Huntington program and environment work very well for students with learning disabilities.

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Huntington Learning Center's one-on-one Exam Prep program has helped countless number of high school students to successfully prepare for their entrance to college of their choice. The Exam Prep program focuses on maximizing scores in the standardized test, but students are taught study skills that they can use in their high school years, college and beyond. While the Canton Huntington Learning Center offers both ACT and SAT/PSAT preparation, the majority of local students choose the ACT program.

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Huntington Learning Center in Canton supports and sponsors community events and school programs, is highly referred by students and parents alike, and has tutored students in Ann Arbor, Belleville, Canton, Plymouth, Dearborn, Farmington Hills, Northville, Novi, West Bloomfield and other neighboring communities.

Get started today by calling 1-800 CAN LEARN or visiting [canton.huntingtonlearning.com](http://canton.huntingtonlearning.com).



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A student interacts with a tutor during a summer session.

### Testimonials

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— Plymouth High School student  
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— Parents of high school student

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# Comic Opera Guild hosting auditions

The Comic Opera Guild holds auditions for its upcoming season from 7-10 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 14, on the second floor of The University of Michigan Music School, 1100 Baitz, Ann Arbor and Friday, Sept. 17, 7-10 p.m., at the Plymouth Community Arts Council Building, 774 Sheldon in Plymouth.

The featured show of the group's 38th season is Offenbach's *Grand Duchess of Gerolstein*, a hilarious opera that has fun at the expense of the military. This production will be the Michigan premiere of the show, which is quite popular in Europe, but relatively unknown here due to the lack of a good translation, Guild officials said. The Guild will perform its own translation, which modifies the show especially for American audi-

## NEWS BRIEFS

ences. The Guild's artistic director, Thomas Petiet, is hoping to attract people who are not familiar with performing in an operetta.

"Most people think they can sing in a musical," he said, "but not an operetta because it sounds like 'opera.' Yet operettas are all about fun in music, and while the main leads are likely to be classically trained, most of the others are singing actors. Chorus members need to be able to learn music, sing in tune, dance a bit, and mainly add spirit to the production."

The *Grand Duchess of Gerolstein* opens in the Lydia Mendelssohn Theater in Ann

Arbor, Feb. 24-26, and close in The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton April 2-3.

The Guild will also be auditioning for its Fall Concerts, which will be performed by a company of about 16 singers. Since 2003, the company has performed rare shows by composers such as Victor Herbert, Jerome Kern and John Philip Sousa in concert, and recorded them for distribution around the world. Many of the shows were recorded for the first time and are sought after by theater lovers and music libraries.

People should prepare a song, with sheet music for our accompanist. For chorus, if a singer does not have sheet music, we will simply vocalize them. All auditionees will read dialog, as there are a number of acting assignments in each

show. Auditions will be in half hour sessions; officials prefer people sign up for a specific time by calling (734) 973-3264 or by e-mailing the Guild at [constu@comcast.net](mailto:constu@comcast.net).

## Bone marrow drive

The NMDP's North Central Region will participate in Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity's National Donor Day at Eastern Michigan University. The Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity is officially back at EMU in 2010, with over twenty Undergraduate members volunteering and working with a combined total of over one hundred total volunteers comprised of the Delta Sigma Phi Chapter at University of Michigan-Dearborn as well as other organizations from both EMU and UM-D's campuses. The drive provides local community members the opportunity to join others across the country who want to give the gift of life by joining the "Be The Match" registry, which is operated by the National Marrow Donor Program.

The local drive takes place 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 22.

Volunteers will be helping inform and register people, located at four of the busiest locations on the EMU campus with directional signage posted as well. The goal is to help more than 200 people join the registry.

"Thousands of patients with life-threatening diseases need transplants and do not find a donor in their family. We are encouraging local residents to come to the drive to learn how they could help save a life," said Tarita Gibson from the North Central Region Donor Center in Detroit.

Each year, thousands of patients are diagnosed with life-threatening blood diseases such as leukemia. For a chance to survive, these patients need healthy marrow and blood cells to help their bodies make



## Artists in Birmingham

Plymouth artists Heidi Macintyre (painting) and Donna Williams (ceramics) will be featured in Common Ground's 36th annual Birmingham Street Art Fair, formerly known as Art in the Park, taking place Sept. 25-26. This year the art fair moves to an all-new location and becomes part of the vibrant street scene in downtown Birmingham, with artists booths lining Old Woodward south of Maple Road joining with Birmingham stores and restaurants. For more information about Common Ground's 36th annual Birmingham Street Art Fair go to [www.theguild.org](http://www.theguild.org) or call (734) 662-3382.

## new, healthy marrow.

The first step to becoming a donor is to join the "Be The Match" registry. Anyone age 18-60 who meets the health guidelines can join. Volunteers should be committed to helping any patient in need. To join, volunteers complete a short health questionnaire and sign a form stating that they understand what it means to be listed on the marrow registry. Then, a cheek swab sample is taken to determine the tissue type to be matched against patients who need a donor. This information is added to the "Be The Match" registry.

For more information about marrow and blood cell donation, contact the North Central Region donor center in Detroit at (313) 833-2624 or the NMDP at 1-800-471-4627.

## Grants training

The Community Foundation of Plymouth invites nonprofit

organizations serving the greater Plymouth area to an informational session scheduled for 10-11 a.m. Monday, Sept. 20 at the Plymouth District Library's Dunning Room.

CFP will introduce its grant-making program, application requirements, and a brief tutorial on how to apply for grant funding through an online application: [www.communitygrants.org](http://www.communitygrants.org). All nonprofits serving the greater Plymouth area who are interested in applying for grant funding from CFP are encouraged to attend.

To RSVP, contact Tammee Fensch via e-mail at [tfensch@aacf.org](mailto:tfensch@aacf.org) or call (734) 663-0401. The fall deadline for grant applications to the Community Foundation of Plymouth is Wednesday, Oct. 6. For more information on how to apply, visit [www.cfpplmouth.org](http://www.cfpplmouth.org).

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# Meet the candidates

The Observer, in an effort to allow readers to become as informed as possible before the November general election, will try to let readers know where they can meet and greet candidates for public office in local elections.

## Slavens coffee

State Rep. Dian Slavens, (D-Canton), invites residents to join her for a cup of coffee and conversation at one of her upcoming coffee hours in September. Slavens is the incumbent running in the 21st State House district.

Slavens will host coffee hours on:

- Monday, Sept. 13, from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Canton Big Boy, 45250 Ford Road in Canton.

- Monday, Sept. 20, from 11 a.m. to noon at Mike's Red Apple Restaurant, 60 Main St. in Belleville.

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

## Wadsworth conversations

Joan Wadsworth, Democrat



## ELECTION 2010

candidate for the Michigan House of Representatives 20th District seat, will host two more informal Community Conversations with voters in Northville, Plymouth, Canton, and Wayne during September.

At an ice cream social in Wayne on Sept. 14 and a coffee in Plymouth on September 21, Wadsworth wants a conversation with voters about her vision for revitalizing Michigan. She will share her plans for creating jobs, strengthening education, and supporting community services. Wadsworth also will be available to discuss any other issues on the minds of voters and answer questions.

The two Community Conversations will take place:

- At an Ice Cream Social on Tuesday, Sept. 14, 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the Wayne Activity and Banquet Center, 35000 Sims Avenue, Wayne

- At a Coffee Hour on Tuesday, Sept. 21, 9:30-10:30 a.m., at the Coffee Bean, 884

Penniman Avenue, Plymouth.

Those interested in attending one of the Community Conversations are welcome to come for the entire hour or they can stop by any time during the hour to meet Wadsworth and get answers to questions about her plans for Michigan and her experience.

## Coffee with Heise

Candidate for the open 20th state House seat, Kurt Heise, announced that he will hold a "Coffee with the Candidate" event in Northville on Sept. 16th.

"In order to effectively represent the citizens of Western Wayne County, it is important that I hear where they stand on the important issues that are facing our district and state. I invite area residents to come out for a cup of coffee and discussion on how we can work together for Michigan's future," said Heise.

Heise will meet with people 8-9:30 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 16, at the Senate Coney Island, 39430 Dun Rovin Dr., in Northville for coffee and conversation with residents of the 20th State House District.

The district covers the portions of Northville and Plymouth south of 8 Mile road, Canton Township east of I-275, and the entire City of Wayne.

Those interested may learn more about the campaign at [www.heise4us.com](http://www.heise4us.com).

# County to sell tax-foreclosed properties online

The Wayne County Treasurer will auction 13,000 properties — including move-in homes, fixer-uppers and vacant land — online starting Sept. 17.

It's the county's first time using the Internet to sell tax-foreclosed properties, according to officials.

The online preview and auction (bidding takes place Sept. 17-23 at [www.bid4assets.com/wayne](http://www.bid4assets.com/wayne)), is the largest ever for Wayne County, which has hired Bid4Assets.com, an online real estate auction site.

To preview properties, go to [www.bid4assets.com/wayne](http://www.bid4assets.com/wayne).

County officials hope that by getting the properties back on the tax rolls, they will be taken care of (lawns mowed, homes and vacant land maintained, etc.) and neighborhoods will thrive.

Preview traffic is reported to be heavy.

"I've never seen website traffic like this before," said Matt Baker, CEO of Bid4Assets.com. "This is the highest traffic for any auction in the company's 11-year history."

A county press release stated the decision to use the online auction service is a "result of the sheer number of properties, demands placed on the treasurer's office staff, the need to provide other essential services and the opportunity to maximize revenue from the sales that will be dispersed to the county's taxing municipalities."

All bidders must register with Bid4Assets.com and submit a \$1,000 deposit and \$25 processing fee, a total of \$1,025, in the form of a Cashier's Check or bank wire in U.S. funds, to Bid4Assets, Inc. prior to Sept. 10.

See Bid4Assets.com Web site at [www.bid4assets.com/](http://www.bid4assets.com/)

wayne for deposit instructions. Potential auction bidders without a computer should contact Bid4Assets at 1-877-4-ASSETS for more information on how to register and bid.

Special procedures are in place to accommodate these bidders and will require completion of an Offline Bid Form. No auction activities will take place at the office of the Wayne County Treasurer.

For additional information on the auction and to view the properties, visit: [www.bid4assets.com/wayne](http://www.bid4assets.com/wayne).

The Term and Conditions of Sale and a list of the properties offered are available online at the Wayne County Treasurer's website: [www.treasurer.waynecounty.com](http://www.treasurer.waynecounty.com).

Bid4Assets, Inc. ([www.bid4assets.com](http://www.bid4assets.com)) was founded in 1999. It is a privately held company located in Silver Spring, Md.

# Ficano to discuss economic development, jobs

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano will discuss economic development and jobs in western Wayne at the fall program kick-off barbecue of the Northville Democratic Club on Saturday at a private home, 399 Rayson, in Northville.

Club President Scott Craig said Ficano, a graduate of Livonia Public Schools, Michigan State University and U of D Detroit Law School,



Ficano

will outline his sixth trade mission to China, coming up in November.

One of Ficano's earlier missions aided in the recent acquisition of Nexteer Automotive by Tempo, keeping thousands of jobs in Saginaw.

Nexteer has an engineering center in Milford and a customer service center in Dearborn.

The barbecue, with more than 100 people in attendance, is being held at the Northville home of Tom and Janet Hess at 4 p.m. Suggested contribution is \$25, with food and refreshments served. Anyone interested in attending may RSVP at (734) 420-2133.

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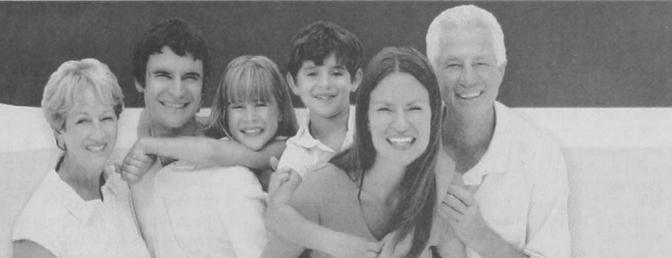
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# Community Open House



## 5K Run/Walk for Cancer

Sunday, September 12  
9 a.m. - Race begins  
St. Mary Mercy grounds

The 5K run/walk is for cancer awareness to celebrate and Embrace Life™. Proceeds support St. Mary Mercy cancer services.

Awards to top three overall male/female runners and to age group winners. D-tag chip timing.

For more information or to register visit [smarymercy.org](http://smarymercy.org).

USATF-certified course

Thank you to our Gold Sponsors:  
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Thank you to our additional Open House sponsors:

- Archiver's
- Bright House Networks
- Comcast
- Laurel Park Place Mall
- Livonia Family YMCA
- Plymouth Whalers Hockey
- Temperature Services, Inc.

## Celebration of Health

Sunday, September 12  
10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

### FREE activities for the entire family!

#### Health Activities

Sponsored by the St. Mary Mercy Hospital Medical Staff

- Blood Pressure & Bone Density Screenings
- Education and Prevention for Cancer, Diabetes, Stroke, Heart Disease and more!
- "Ask the Doctor" Booth
- Meet our stroke robot B.U.S.T.E.R. and our Pet Therapy Dogs
- Tour the operating room and meet our new da Vinci® surgical robot

#### Kids' Activities

Sponsored by the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

- Teddy Bear Clinic (bring your stuffed toys)
- Inflatable Bouncers
- Score-O Hockey Game (Get Plymouth Whalers' autographs!)
- Clowns, balloon animals and face art
- Livonia Fire truck, Police, Huron Valley & Concord Ambulance and Midwest Medflight Helicopter on site
- Civil Air Patrol Unit: Livonia Thunderbolt Squadron
- Kids' Crafts

#### Entertainment

- Music by the Sunset Boulevard Band
- Road Runner demonstration trailer
- Meet Dora the Explorer!
- Detroit Tigers Mascot PAWS
- Magic Shows at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
- Food and refreshments, hospital tours, prizes and more!

For more information, visit [smarymercy.org](http://smarymercy.org) and click on Community Open House, or call 734-655-1590.

Enter to win a 19" flat screen TV!



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

CANTON  
**OBSERVER**

Brad Kadrich,  
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Executive Editor  
Grace Perry,  
Director of Advertising

## OUR VIEWS



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Girl Scouts from Troop 199 at Hoben Elementary and Boy Scouts from Troop 781 at Our Lady Of Good Counsel volunteered to carry and sort donations during the Salvation Army's Back to School Blitz. The Salvation Army, which serves Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Belleville, depends heavily on volunteer service.

## Get connected Plenty of volunteer opportunities await

Volunteerism. It can be the difference between keeping the Canton community bustling with events that attract people from surrounding communities — or not.

It could have meant the difference this past weekend in communities like Royal Oak, which hosted the Arts Beats and Eats festival; or downtown Detroit, home to the long-standing international jazz festival; or to Hamtramck, where Polish culture was celebrated all weekend on Jos. Campau and surrounding streets.

All of these Labor Day weekend festivities could not have happened without volunteers. And, a lot of revenue wouldn't have poured into these cities without those events.

As the Canton Chamber of Commerce, Canton Township Leisure Services, civic organizations and others continue to offer events throughout the calendar year, we continue to encourage people to get involved, volunteer at least a little time or talent to the events — whether it's newer events such as the recently completed Paws in the Park or a dependable community staple like the annual Liberty Festival, or the myriad of other special events that make this community what it is, it's worth the investment.

Students in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools are required to put in a certain number of community service hours, in order to graduate from high school. Parents, aunts, uncles and grandparents who also volunteer — just because they'd like to be involved and help to pull off these events — set an excellent example for students.

Being a part of a community means more than simply waving hello from your porch, or strolling through town on a nice evening. It's more than buying your gasoline at the corner station and choosing local businesses for your other purchases. It's more than paying attention to local government and it's more than attending special events. It's about being involved, being connected and being contributors.

Volunteerism, in the current tough economic times, has risen. According to the United States Department of Labor, the number of volunteers and the volunteer rate nationwide rose over the year ended in September 2009, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. About 63.4 million people, or 26.8 percent of the population, volunteered through or for an organization at least once between September 2008 and September 2009. In 2008, the volunteer rate was 26.4 percent.

There are several outstanding volunteers in the Canton community, and we don't want to imply that they're not doing great things.

We're encouraging more people to step up and help out.

## COMMUNITY VOICE

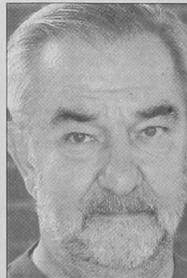
### Do you know whether you will be supporting Republican Rick Snyder or Democrat Virg Bernero in the Michigan governor's race?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



"Rick Snyder. I think it's time for a businessman to run this state, and he's more a center-of-the-road moderate."

Kim Byk  
Canton



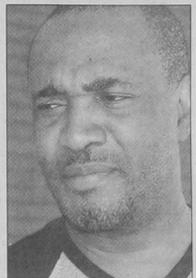
"Actually, I'm looking for an independent. I want someone who has no political experience, someone who is not political."

Ed Stevens  
Canton



"Rick Snyder. He's not a Democrat. We've had eight years of Democrats."

Phillip P. Macunovich  
Ypsilanti



"I live near the Lansing area, so naturally I will be supporting Virg Bernero."

Alozie Asika  
Jackson

## LETTERS

### Marching elite

Broken Arrow, L.D. Bell, Carmel, Tarpon Springs, Marian Catholic, Kenosaw Mountain, Avon, Lawrence Central; these high schools are unknown to most Canton residents, but to a certain few they epitomize the best and elite in high school marching bands. Your Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Marching Band is among this elite!

This year, over 200 student musician athletes have begun a journey, under the direction of Mr. David Armbruster, Mr. Sheldon Frazier, Ms. Jennifer Leseth, and their talented associates, that will lead them to Indianapolis in November. This journey will be a first for some and the last for others, but these students will become a marching whole unifying Canton, Plymouth, and Salem high schools.

Each high school maintains and develops their own specific identity, but they share more than just the park grounds. Throughout the band's phenomenal and storied history Chiefs, Rocks, and more recently Wildcats have come together to embody the true nature of the marching band: Three Schools. One Band. One Goal. Champions!

There exists no other educational facility that maintains three separate high schools and contributes students to a shared music program. This exclusivity is something the entire school district and community should be aware and proud of.

As football, soccer, cross country and other fall sports practice so does the marching band. By the time school begins, these students will have practiced over 180 hours. When school begins practicing continues along with performing at football games and marching band competitions. They will embody the history, tradition, and spirit of the band and perform at Troy Athens; at Canton High School for the Great Lakes Invitational; at the BOA (Band of America) Regional at the Silverdome; at the BOA Super Regional in the Edward Jones

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats.

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com.

Read or comment online:  
www.hometownlife.com

Deadline: Letters must be received by 10 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at www.hometownlife.com.

Dome in St. Louis; at Lakeland High School; at the MCBA State Championship at Ford Field; and the BOA Nationals at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis.

"When a gifted team dedicates itself to unselfish trust and combines instinct with boldness and effort — it is ready to climb" (Anon). These students will hone their talents through the coming months. The directors and staff will oversee the process and field a corps that our entire community will be proud to call their own. Freshman parents will be amazed at the transition their child has encountered; while senior parents will be astounded how fast four years have flown by.

Your Plymouth-Canton Marching Band's 2010 journey has begun. These students and staff will focus on the journey, not the destination, and relish the joy and camaraderie achieved getting there. Be a part of this journey. Come out and support your band. Experience what others in the nation already know — Your Marching Band is indeed one of the elite.

Carl Katafiasz  
Canton

### Big House nostalgia

This past Saturday was a very nostalgic time for my family and me with the re-dedication of the Michigan Football Stadium in Ann Arbor. My father, Bob Stewart, was privileged to play for Ohio Wesleyan against the University of Michigan in the first football game that was played in "The Big House" on Oct. 1, 1927.

The football team for Ohio Wesleyan University took the train to Ann Arbor for this dedication game in the "Big House" against the University of Michigan. The starting fullback for Ohio Wesleyan University was Bob Stewart. He had played on an undefeated high school football team in Coshocton, Ohio, and was timed in the 100-yard dash at 10.2 seconds.

When Ohio Wesleyan got the ball on offense, they handed the football off to their fullback, Bob Stewart. He ran up the middle and got knocked down. Later, in that game, the U-M team broke my father's nose. Bob Stewart leaned down to the ground, picked up a little mud, and put it into his nostrils to stop the bleeding. Stewart finished the game, but the University of Michigan had won their opening game in the "Big House" 33-0.

A few years later, my Dad moved to Wyandotte, Mich. In 1934, Bob Stewart started to attend the Wyandotte Kiwanis Club every Tuesday noon. This was the beginning of an international, perfect attendance record for a service club, set by my father, which was 65 years and six months (same club, same time and same day).

On Sept. 18, 2010, my Dad would have celebrated his 101st birthday. He would have loved to have been there for the re-dedication of "The Big House" Sept. 4, 2010.

John Stewart  
Plymouth

## Open-carry a nonissue at AB&E; Plymouth should hope for same

Officials in Royal Oak are breathing easier this week after the open carrying of firearms during the city's Ford Arts, Beats & Eats festival turned out to be, in the words of the police chief, "a non-issue."



Matt Jachman

"I'll try to avoid any cheap dodging-the-bullet metaphors here. AB&E, and Royal Oak's first turn as its host, after the annual festival moved from Pontiac, were the focus last month of an effort by open-carry advocates to make a statement about their right to walk around in public, without a spe-

cial permit, wearing a holstered pistol. That's different from legally carrying a concealed pistol, which requires a minimum of training, a background check and a license.

The open-carry right was apparently not widely understood (state law is silent on the matter, though Michigan has an extensive list of places, such as schools and banks, where guns explicitly cannot be carried, and businesses can set their own rules) until activists descended on Royal Oak and pressured the council there to repeal its no-guns-at-the-festival rule.

"We didn't see anyone carrying," said Christopher Jahnke, the city's police chief, in Tuesday's *Detroit Free Press*. "It's been a nonissue."

An open-carry fan on michiganopencarry.org agreed with Jahnke — albeit from a different perspective. Using the handle Small Arms Collected, he (or, less likely, she) expressed disappointment at not being noticed at AB&E.

"Of all the thousands of people there I don't think hardly anyone even noticed that I was carrying. I got no comments, no questions, nothing. I might have gotten a couple of glances, but I'm not sure, it really speaks volumes for the lack of situational awareness for most people," wrote the poster, who also declared the festival "uneventful, overcrowded and boring."

Folks in Plymouth and fans of the city's many festivals may

think they've been overlooked by the open-carry advocates, but they'd be wrong.

Police Lt. Al Cox, Plymouth's acting police chief, said open carry at festivals is something his department has dealt with for the past few years.

"We've gotten to the point where we kind of expect it at a lot of our festivals," Cox said recently.

Typically, Cox said, a festival goer who isn't familiar with the practice of open carry, and alarmed at the sight of a fellow attendee strapped with a pistol, will report same to police. But unless the person with the gun is brandishing it or threatening to use it, there isn't much officers can do.

"It's perfectly legal," Cox said.

"There's nothing illegal about it."

No one could accuse Cox of being anti-Second Amendment, but he has strong opinions about open carry, pronouncing it "a ridiculous thing."

"Sometimes what is legal and what is smart are two different things," he said.

Cox prefers the concealed-carry approach. The training required by the permit process brings with it at least a minimal assurance that the person with the pistol has been through the basics, Cox said, whereas open carry has no minimum standard. And people who are openly wearing pistols, he said, could make themselves targets of those bent on committing crimes, while concealed-carry

adds the element of uncertainty that could work against a would-be criminal.

Personally, I cannot see what open-carry folks are preparing to defend themselves against, short of stumbling upon another O.K. Corral, which is unlikely.

I've been robbed twice at gunpoint — I spent my reckless youth in Detroit — and am under no illusions that, if I had had been wearing a pistol, concealed or unconcealed, I would have been successfully able to resist an armed mugger at close quarters who already had the drop on me.

Matt Jachman is a staff writer for the Plymouth Observer. He can be reached at (313) 222-2405 or at mjachman@hometownlife.com.

# Life insurance is a poor excuse for investing money

While waiting for a plane last weekend, I talked to a young man in his late 20s about the stock market and investing in general. He said he owned a variety of stocks, but had no clue about the companies. He said the only reason he bought the stocks was that he got a tip from a friend who said they would double within six months.



**Money Matters**  
Rick Bloom

He has owned the stocks more than a year. When I asked how the stocks had performed, let's just say that as opposed to doubling in value, they went in the opposite direction. I explained that he didn't make an investment, he took a gamble. I explained that the only way to be a successful investor is to have a game plan, focus on a goal and never rely on tips.

As long as I have been involved in the financial world, people have bought investments based on some sort of hot tip. I have yet to see any of these hot tips pay off. In fact, when I get a hot tip, my general reaction is to ignore it. Consequently, my recommendation to anyone who receives a hot tip is ignore it.

The young man also mentioned that another friend is encouraging him to establish an investment program. The program is basically a life insurance policy. He asked my opinion. He said his friend sells life insurance and is pushing him in this direction. I suggested that he needs new friends.

For years, I've seen salespeople push life insurance as an investment vehicle. They provide all sorts of projections showing how much you can withdraw tax-free if you

hold the policy for so many years. They make it seem as if this option is a no-brainer.

I believe that insurance is not an investment but, rather, a means of covering risk. Insurance and insurance-type vehicles are not the best way to establish an investment program. As far as I am concerned, it's one of the worst ways, if for no other reason than, when you buy an insurance policy, you are paying a significant cost for the life insurance. In addition, the investment alternatives within most insurance policies have higher costs and fees. Despite the favorable projections, which never come true, insurance policies are not good investment vehicles.

That doesn't mean you shouldn't purchase insurance. If you have family members who are financially

dependent upon you, you need life insurance to protect your loved ones upon your death. Your focus should be on what type of policy offers the best protection. For the majority of situations, I recommend term insurance. It is the most cost-effective type of life insurance, the easiest to understand and you can shop policies around and receive competitive bids.

My recommendation to the young man at the airport was there are many different types of investment vehicles that provide much greater flexibility and, most important, put more money in his pocket than life insurance. They include vehicles such as his company's 401(k) plan and investing any additional money into a Roth IRA.

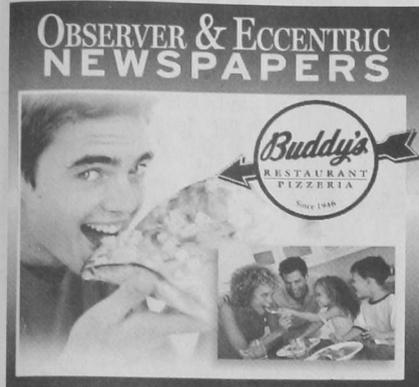
I recognize that the stock market has been erratic at best and that some of the

guaranteed returns countered by some insurance companies seem attractive, however, the devil is in the details. When you dig deep into the option to use insurance policies as investments, you soon realize that they are more about insurance than they are about investing.

As I got ready to board my plane, I told the young man to remember the story about the tortoise and the hare. When it comes to investing, the only way to achieve success is to have a game plan and to be patient.

Good luck!

**Rick Bloom** is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at [monymatters@hometownlife.com](mailto:monymatters@hometownlife.com). For more information, visit Rick's Web site at [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com).



## Share your good news, win dinner at Buddy's

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and Buddy's Pizza present "Good News, Good Chevs!"

Share your good news with our readers and you could win lunch or dinner for four at any Buddy's Pizza (dine-in or carry-out) location.

Want to read about the hometown hero, the terrific student, the helpful neighbor, the group, church or synagogue that's working hard to make our region a good place to live, work and play?

The Observer & Eccentric and Buddy's Pizza are partnering to make sure good news is recognized and rewarded.

Tell us about that special event, person or group effort that made you smile and feel good. Tell us about the good things going on in your community and we'll share them with readers.

To top it off, you could win a scrumptious meal for four at Buddy's.

Marcy Brontman and Michelle Lawton of Buddy's along with O&E editors will select one overall winner each month (through 2011) to enjoy a special meal at Buddy's.

"Sometimes just reading a good news story can simply inspire and make you remember

that it's the little things in life that are still important," said Brontman, of Buddy's public relations and special promotions.

E-mail your good news story (include a photograph) to: [goodnews@hometownlife.com](mailto:goodnews@hometownlife.com).

Tell us your story in 150 words or less (attach photos in a jpg format as large as possible and be sure to identify everyone in the photo).

Deadline is the last day of each month.

Buddy's Pizza was established in 1936 on the corner of Conant and Six Mile as a neighborhood tavern. It was not until 1946 that Buddy's introduced its famous square pizza — the first of its kind — to Detroit. It was as the Buddy's official website states: "love at first bite."

More than 61 years later, Buddy's continues to thrive under the stewardship of Robert Jacobs, the son of the late Billy Jacobs and Shirlee Jacobs (now living in Florida).

Buddy's dine-in locations are: Auburn Hills, Dearborn, Detroit (the original Buddy's), Farmington Hills, Detroit/Grosse Pointe, Livonia and Warren. Carry-out locations are Bloomfield Township and Royal Oak.

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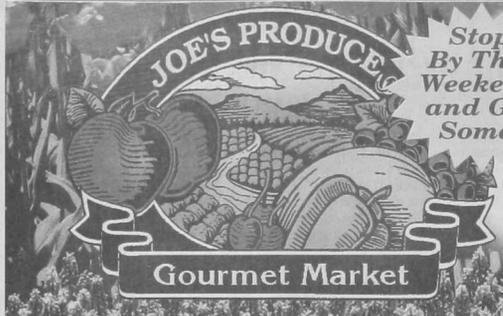
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# Wildcats breeze to 3-0 win

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton's boys soccer team didn't get the kind of "W" it wanted Tuesday night. The Chiefs instead got the wind and the pesky Plymouth Wildcats, who won 3-0 on a breezy evening at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's varsity soccer field.

First-half goals by sophomore Josh Priebe and senior Derek Austin got the Wildcats (4-1-2) on their way and junior goalkeeper Rene Mejia held off a late offensive surge for the

shutout. Mejia made his first varsity start a perfect one, giving senior Kyle Brindza a night off. With less than a minute left in regulation, Mejia slid out toward the right side of the box to deny Canton forward Bobby Budlong.

Mejia then snared a last-second header attempt off a corner kick to keep Canton (4-2-1) off the scoresheet.

"It was pretty scary, but my defense held them off," Mejia said. "We've got Steve Jahn and Mike Ambrose ... they're all really good."

As for the final save, "I had it all the way," Mejia continued. "It was coming straight at me, all I had to do was cradle it. It was all good."

**EXTRA CREDIT**

Plymouth head coach Jeff Neschich said Mejia "had a heck of a game tonight," and also gave an assist to Brindza for working with the youngster — especially on making long

Please see **SOCCER, B2**



Kellie Fairbanks (left) and Westland's Steven Thompson are representing Midwest Tae Kwon Do of Plymouth at the ongoing Korean Open. Both qualified by winning bronze medals at the U.S. nationals held in July.

# Kicking it in Korea

Midwest Tae Kwon Do students competing at Korean Open

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Steven Thompson and Kellie Fairbanks of Plymouth's Midwest Tae Kwon Do have proudly gone global.

Both 17-year-olds are in South Korea, competing this week at the Korean Open Tae Kwon Do tournament, having been selected to the United States contingent based on their bronze-medal performances at nationals in July.

"It's a great thing for them," said their instructor, Midwest Master Russell Gale. "It's the last opportunity for Steven and Kellie both to compete at the junior level, from this point on they're competing in the adult division (ages 18-32)."

**'I love it, I've been doing it ever since I was a little kid. I like the excitement of it, I can't even explain it.'**

STEVEN THOMPSON, Midwest TKD

After flying from Detroit to Los Angeles on Aug. 29, the two martial arts aficionados met up with the rest of the U.S. team (20 juniors, five adults) for the trip's second leg, a 15-hour red-eye flight to Seoul, South Korea.

Following what is certainly a spell-binding mix of competition and culture, the teens will return this weekend — undoubtedly with plenty of memories to share about training at the legendary Kukkiwon.

**WORLD-WIND TOUR**

Go ahead then and call it the trip of a lifetime for Thompson — a senior at Westland John Glenn — and Fairbanks, who commutes from the Jackson, Mich., area twice a week to train at Midwest Tae Kwon (Ann Arbor Trail).

"I'm having a blast with Tae Kwon Do, so anything that I have to do involving another country is great for me," said Thompson, during a training session at Midwest just days before leaving. "... I'm looking forward to meeting new people, going to another country."

"Korea is the founder of Tae Kwon Do, and we're going to be at the Kukkiwon, which is like the headquarters."

Please see **KOREA, B2**

## SIDELINES

### PCA kickers prevail

A second-half goal by Chris Scagnetti lifted Plymouth Christian to a 2-1 victory over Summit Academy in a varsity boys soccer match.

Dan Ross also scored for the Eagles, about 25 minutes into the nonconference contest.

Summit's lone tally was an own goal kicked in by a PCA player.

Plymouth Christian improved to 5-1-1 overall and 2-1-0 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference entering the Grosse Pointe Woods University Liggett Tournament this weekend.

### Captain's Corner

Once again, the Observer will spotlight captains of prep sports teams, particularly those with a strong take on the importance of leadership.

If coaches would like to suggest someone to be highlighted (one per team, please), send an e-mail to sports editor Tim Smith, tsmith@hometownlife.com.

### MU golfers fourth

The Madonna University men's golf team placed fourth overall in the 12-team Lou Collins Memorial Tournament held last Friday and Saturday at Bedford Valley Country Club in Battle Creek.

Host Olivet College won the team title with a two-day total of 306-299-605.

Rounding out the top five were Trine University (Ind.), 302-307-609; Wheaton College (Ill.), 306-303-609; Madonna, 311-303-614; and Calvin College, 312-303-615.

MU's top finisher was Jimmy Uelmen, who tied for third with a 74-75-149. He was followed by NAIA National runner-up Brett Quitquit, tied for 14th (78-74-152); Vince Carango, tied for 24th (79-77-156); Livonia Franklin's Austin Stillman, tied for 31st (80-77-157); Tyler Skiba, tied for 57th (83-80-163).

### Alumni soccer Sept. 11

Salem and Canton boys soccer alumni are all invited to play in the annual Alumni Game, 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 11, at the varsity soccer field at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

The alumni will compete immediately following the varsity match between the 2010 Rocks and Chiefs slated for 6:30 p.m. Interested alumni can call Salem coach Ed McCarthy (248) 561-2846 or Canton coach George Tomasso (734) 481-2290.

### Blazers earn tie

In a Catholic League girls lacrosse match Tuesday, host Livonia Ladywood and Bloomfield Hills Academy of the Sacred Heart fought to a 1-1 draw.

After a scoreless first half, Kylie Birney scored for the Blazers, while senior Kylie Mezwa countered for Sacred Heart.

Ladywood junior goalie Mackenzie Holme made just one save, while the Gazelles' Natasha Aubrey made two stops.

Ladywood is now 1-1-1 overall and in the Catholic League, while Sacred Heart is 3-0-1 and 2-0-1.

Please see **VOLLEYBALL, B2**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A large contingent of upperclassmen make Plymouth one of the KLAAs teams to watch in 2009. Danielle Risi (right), shown in this file photo, is one of several key seniors for the Wildcats.

# Plymouth could be top 'Cats

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth is stacked as the 2010 prep volleyball season tips off, much to the chagrin of other KLAAs South foes such as Canton.

"Last year, Churchill was our archrival but now it's Plymouth," said Kristen Muir, co-captain of the Chiefs.

It's easy to see what she means, because Muir's team will have to deal with an extremely balanced and gifted Plymouth squad — which features a blend of strong returnees and promising youngsters.

Wildcats' coach Kelly McCausland can't wait to see if it all translates to improvement on last year's third place record of 26-13-1.

"With our well-conditioned veterans and an abundance of talented newcomers," McCausland noted, "we are excited to get competition under way."

Plymouth starts the KLAAs schedule 7 p.m. Wednesday at Salem.

Five seniors who were top players

in '09 will help make the Wildcats a dangerous opponent.

Co-captain Kayla Bridge is slated to start at outside hitter, as will Danielle Risi.

"She (Bridge) will be one of our starting outsiders who brings leadership on and off the court," McCausland said. "She is an astute hitter who can read the court well."

Meanwhile, Risi is aggressive and powerful, but the coach likes that her defensive game has improved. "We are looking for her to contribute all around."

Another senior captain is libero Mariah Teşarz, her second year at the position.

"She (Teşarz) is our vocal leader and will be expected to run our backcourt defense."

Two other key seniors are middle hitter Alex Roberts and defensive specialist Laura Schmid.

The ability of Roberts to block and score up front is one of the rea-

**VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW - PART 3**

sons the Wildcats are so tough.

"Alex has really been connecting with our setter so far, so we will be looking for her to run a quicker offense," McCausland continued. "Her blocking has also improved, so she will be a dominant force at the net."

Schmid is expected to contribute as a primary passer and defender, on the right side.

**VERSATILITY HELPS**

McCausland also has a pair of returning juniors, utility players Jessica Scott and Lindsay Stemberger. Both had strong seasons as sophomores and can more than adequately handle several positions.

Scott will be used at right-side hitter, middle hitter and setter.

"Jess is coming off of a remarkable sophomore season where she contributed as a middle and a right-side attacker," McCausland said. "This season she will be called upon to be



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**KOREA**  
FROM PAGE B1

But when the whistle blows to start competition, that's all he'll be focused on.

"I love it, I've been doing it ever since I was a little kid," Thompson said. "I like the excitement of it, I can't even explain it."

He said the magnitude of going to the Korean Open was finally starting to sink in, "but there's so much to accomplish. You still have the Olympics and Worlds and Pan-Ams."

Fairbanks is making a rapid rise in the sport, reaching international competition after just two years of competing.

"I'm really excited," Fairbanks said. "It's going to be an extremely long trip, but I'm really excited and really pumped because I get to represent the United States."

The trip will be a challenge for her from a dietary standpoint, however.

"I'm gluten intolerant, so that will be interesting," said Kellie, with a grin. "I'll be eating lean meats, vegetables and rice, so that should be OK."

**GREAT DISCOVERY**

She started to make major strides as soon as she discovered Gale and Midwest Tae Kwon Do.

"This is the best school, by far, in the area," Fairbanks said. "I was with a school in Jackson and I was working with a guy in Grand Blanc for a while."

"Once I found out about this place, and started com-



Plymouth's Midwest Tae Kwon Do studio collected 10 medals at the recent United States National Championships in Orlando, Fla. Pictured are as follows: (front row, from left) Madison Lilla, Karen Jiang, and Sam Gaines; (back row, from left) Jennifer Palmer, Katie Whitehill, Noah Whitehill, Kyle Kelley, Grant Slombowski, Selena Perez, Marshall Gaines, and Steven Thompson. Not pictured are Caleigh Lin, Kellie Fairbanks, Gabe McDowell, Kaylyn Thompson and Chris Dykes.

ing here, the instruction and level of athletes here is much higher."

It didn't take long for her to sharpen her technique to the point where she earned a bronze medal at nationals in Orlando, Fla.

Asked about why she thought she scored so well at nationals, Fairbanks explained that it's due to honing "the technique that Master Gale has been working with me on, just following his directions and the amount of practice we've put in."

Meanwhile, Gale had plenty of praise for Thompson and Fairbanks, who took home two of 10 medals Midwest Tae Kwon Do athletes won at nationals — a high-profile competition in its own right, with nearly 4,000 partici-

pants. "My whole team has done fantastic with Kellie and Steven taking the lead," Gale said. "It's been a great run for all of them. I'm very proud of them."

In fact, Gale said this year's hardware haul was bigger than that of the previous years combined.

"Steven has worked a long time to get to where he's at and Kellie's worked with us for six months," Gale said. "It's a great accomplishment for her to get to this level so quickly. This is actually her first jump into something of this magnitude."

What a jump it's become, stretching halfway around the world.

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**Spits down Plymouth in preseason contest**

Import Alex Khokhlachev scored a hat trick to lead Windsor to a 6-2 victory over Plymouth in an OHL preseason game played Monday afternoon at Windsor Family Credit Union Centre.

Khokhlachev — selected 23rd overall by Windsor in the 2010 CHL Import Draft — scored all of his goals in the first period and Michel Whaley added another as the Spits jumped to a 4-1 lead after 20 minutes.

The lone Plymouth goal in the first period came from the Whalers' import selection, Rickard Rakell (taken 41st in the 2010 CHL Import Draft), at 13:51 of the period, from Mitchell Heard and Austin

Levi. The teams traded a goal aside in the second period. Plymouth defenseman Chris Albertini cut the Windsor lead to 4-2, finishing off a 2-on-1 rush with Stefan Noesen at 5:53. Peter Neal also drew an assist on the play. Nick Ebert replied for Windsor at 17:53 and the Spitfires led, 5-2, after 40 minutes.

Derek Lanoue completed the scoring at 12:38 of the third period for Windsor.

Windsor outshot Plymouth, 32-31. Matt Mahalak started in goal for Plymouth and stopped 18-of-22 shots in 27:07 of work. Scott Wedgewood played the rest of the way, stopping 8-of-10 shots.

**SOCCER**  
FROM PAGE B1

kicks from the goal area. "Kyle has coached him up as much as any of us," Neschich noted.

According to Canton head coach George Tomasso, his team did not play up to the standards set in recent shutout victories over tough opponents such as Novi, Walled Lake Western and Ann Arbor Pioneer.

"We started off pretty good, beat some quality teams and came in a little overconfident tonight and Plymouth did a good job to finish their opportunities," Tomasso said. "Now, we're working hard to climb our way out of the hole we just dug ourselves in."

Neschich said strong breezes did have an impact on some of the action, including Austin's goal against Canton goalkeeper Brandon Laabs.

"On the second goal the wind held it up, gave it a nice bend and kind of threw their goalie off," Neschich recalled.

That 2-0 lead held up for most of the second half. But senior co-captain Nick Russ tacked on an insurance goal with about eight minutes remaining.

Russ dribbled the ball up the right side of the pitch, cut in front of Laabs and ripped a high drive over the crossbar from about 15 yards out.

Although Tomasso wasn't happy about seeing three goals against, he did like how his offense created scoring chances. "We just need to finish them a little better."

Canton will face KLAASouth rival Wayne Memorial at 4 p.m. Thursday before hooking up with Salem at 6:30 p.m. Saturday before the annual Canton-Salem alumni game.

Meanwhile, Plymouth played Livonia Churchill Wednesday and will next host Wayne Memorial at 7 p.m. Tuesday.

**Salem defeated**

Also Tuesday at PCEP, on the varsity turf field, visiting Novi earned a 4-1 victory over Salem in a KLAAS Central matchup.

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**Tough time for Madonna**

It was a lost weekend for the Madonna University women's volleyball team.

The 21st-ranked Crusaders were swept in all four matches during Embury-Riddle (Fla.) Labor Day Tournament to fall 3-5 on the year and extend the program's longest losing streak to five matches (dating back to 1991).

On Saturday, Desiree Luevano had 17 kills and Whitney Bryant added 14 as Wayland Baptist (Tex) defeated MU in five games, 19-25, 25-16, 25-18, 13-25, 15-13.

Wayland Baptist (4-3) had a total of 101 kills as Tatiana Gonzalez and Kate Trejos finishes with 24 each.

Four MU players reached double figures in kills with Karie Altman and Megan Fricke getting 18 apiece. Liz Dempsey (Livonia Franklin) and Nastija Baranovska added 16 and 12, respectively.

Setter Eva Prieditis had a match-high 67 assist-to-kills, while Amanda Koszela added 37 digs. Dempsey also finished with 31 digs.

Earlier in the day, unbeaten Lewis & Clark State (Id.) rallied from an 0-2 deficit made it eight in a row with a with a 22-25, 25-27, 27-25, 25-22, 15-12 win over MU.

Five Warrior players reached double figures in kills led by Dedydi Alaimaleata's 14.

Setters Kim Fong and Naomi Hernandez had 33 and 22 assists, respectively, for No. 15-ranked Lewis & Clark.

Altman led MU with a match-best 24 kills, while Dempsey and Fricke added 12 each. Prieditis had 28 digs, while Fricke added 18.

In Friday's opening day of the tournament presented by the National Guard in Daytona Beach, MU fell to host Embury-Riddle, 3-0, and Oklahoma Baptist, 3-1.

MU returns to action Friday and Saturday it hosts the Julie Martin Memorial Classic.

**Lady Ocelots stand 6-3**

The Schoolcraft College women's volleyball team went 3-2 in last weekend's Owens Technical Community College (Ohio) Tournament.

On Friday, Schoolcraft split a pair of matches defeating host Owens, 25-18, 25-18, 25-13, before falling to Sinclair (Ohio) CC, 25-22, 25-12, 21-25, 16-25, 6-15.

In Saturday's opener, host Kishwaukee (Ill.) defeated the Lady Ocelots, 25-23, 25-15, 25-14.

Schoolcraft rebounded with wins over Vincennes (Ind.), 25-23, 25-26, 25-18, 25-22, and Genesee (N.Y.) CC, 25-12, 25-22, 25-18.

The Lady Ocelots are 6-3 overall.

**Plymouth martial arts studio enjoying success**

Midwest Tae Kwon Do's Steven Thompson and Kellie Fairbanks — who are representing the United States this week at the Korean Open — aren't the only success stories coming from the Plymouth school.

Master Russell Gale and Master Tanya Panizzo, whose school includes students who commute from as far away as Jackson, reported that Midwest Tae Kwon Do had an outstanding team performance in July at the U.S. National Championships in Florida.

Ten medals were collected at the Orlando event, more than the previous three years combined, Gale said.

In addition to Thompson and Fairbanks, the team includes the following members: Chris Dykes, Marshall Gaines, Sam Gaines, Karen Jiang, Kyle Kelley, Madison Lilla, Caleigh Lin, Gabe McDowell, Jennifer Palmer, Selena Perez, Grant Slombowski, Kaylyn Thompson, Katie Whitehill and Noah Whitehill.

Thompson (from Westland)

and Fairbanks qualified for the Korean Open by earning bronze medals U.S. National Championships. They were held in July.

They were then selected by 2000 Olympic coach, Yong In Cheon to represent the USA at the Korean Open held in Seoul, South Korea.

Gale said Thompson and Fairbanks are now enjoying nearly two weeks of travel and competition. They are training at two universities as well as the Kukkiwon (world headquarters for all of Tae Kwon Do).

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**SPORTS ROUNDUP**

**Meeting: Salem girls lax**

There will be a pre-registration and information meeting to determine if there is enough interest in having the first Salem girls varsity lacrosse team in 2011. The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 15, in the library at Salem High School. Parents and students are encouraged to attend.

Salem returns the least amount of players from the now-defunct Plymouth-Canton-Salem United team, which was composed of players from the three schools

at PCEP. There are about 70 returning players from the United squad, with only a dozen or so from Salem.

Former United head coach Dave Medley (who coached the team from 2006-09) said "this is a wonderful opportunity to be a part of Salem's rich athletic history, and for girls to experience the fastest growing sport in the country."

Lacrosse also provides girls with a chance to play at the collegiate level. Nicole Rotell (Plymouth) and Chelsea Olson (Canton) are currently playing at Indiana Tech University, for example.

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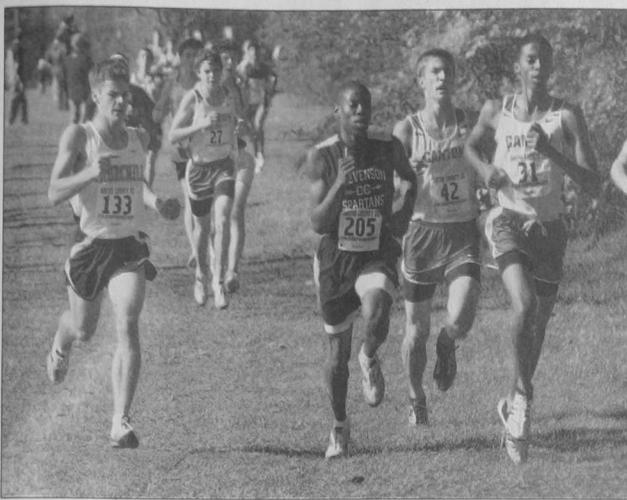
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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Although Canton's Paul Rakovitis (No. 42) graduated, the 2010 Chiefs should still be plenty good with returnees such as Mitch Clinton (No. 27, second from left) and Miles Felton (No. 31), shown from the 2009 Wayne County Invitational. Also pictured are Livonia Churchill's Quinn Osgood (far left) and Livonia Stevenson's Matt Williams (No. 205).

# Chiefs to trot out proven cast

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Some of the best runners in Canton cross country history are history, graduating after stellar prep careers. You can list Zack Spreitzer, Keith Zech and Paul Rakovitis as just a few of those losses. But for Chiefs head coach Bill Boyd, plenty of excellent talent remains as the program looks to catch the next wave of success. "Canton returns one of its best runners in school history (Miles Felton) and two other runners who have broken 17:10," Boyd noted. "If the team can fill out its top five, stay healthy and find some depth, they could compete for the (KLAAs South) division and a spot in the state meet."

Felton excelled for the third straight year in 2009, earning kudos as the team Most

## CROSS COUNTRY PREVIEW

Valuable Runner with a personal best of 16 minutes, 23 seconds and again capturing all-time honors. "Miles holds the records for fastest sophomore and fastest freshman in school history," Boyd said. "After only two years, he is already one of the best runners the school has ever seen." Helping Felton out as the Chiefs try to make their mark in 2010 are junior Mitch Clinton (2009 PR of 16:48) and junior Bradon Conley (PR of 17:05 in '09). Seniors Jim Hodgeson and Keegan Sullivan ('09) provide additional experience for Canton, with the other seniors including Kurt Kowalski and Alex Krul (JV last year) plus newcomers Mitch Pepper and Zach Cox expected to help the

cause. Boyd said Pepper and Cox are track runners with promise. Meanwhile, Cox led the Chiefs in mileage over the summer months. Promising sophomore Andrew Stephens could make strides on an impressive debut, which featured a personal best of 17:52 and team rookie of the year honors. Sophomores Owen Ash, Jay Drennan, Josh Joy, Keith Olsen and Steven Wintner will look to move up the ladder after running for the Canton JV in '09. Ten other athletes new to the program include juniors Jeff Molchan, Jackson Lytle, sophomores Brendan Noble, James Hildreth and freshmen Tom Walkinshaw, Grant Mast, Justin Kolbicz, Sebast Yager, Jack Chaney and Mace Gatzke.

# Kids stepping right in for Wildcats

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth's girls cross country team has a different look than last year's, due to the graduation of three top runners. In fact, out of 29 girls on the team (which includes the junior varsity), 12 are newcomers. But with several of those promising youngsters ready to step in, Wildcats head coach Mary Kerwin is looking forward to what 2010 might bring. "Although we are a young team, we show a lot of

## CROSS COUNTRY PREVIEW

promise," Kerwin said. "We have had some girls step up to help fill the gaps left from last year. The girls have done all that I have asked them to do... If we keep working hard every day and run smart during races we will surprise some teams by the end of October." The Wildcats will be led by senior captains Britta Swanson, Jess Graham and Adrienne White as well as

junior Nicole Traitses — the team's top runner and a 2009 state qualifier. But Kerwin is also pleased to see freshman Brianna Lax quickly make her mark; she is slotted as one of the frontrunners. Other girls who the coach expects to help the cause are Sophie Roberts, Marina DeBiasi, Elyse Grymiewicz, Julie Hahn, Constanadina Manetta, Mandi McSween and Jordyn Strahm.

# Depth sparking Lady Ocelots

BY JIM TOTH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Just three games into the season, the depth of talent found up-and-down the Schoecraft women's soccer roster is already paying dividends. "I thought all three girls — Sierra, Jessica and Kim — did a great job of keeping Iowa Western's players at bay," Shivram said. "And Sam played very well again in goal." The triumph over Jackson CC featured five different Lady Ocelots boot home a goal. Giegler staked the Lady Ocelots to an early lead in the game and teammates Renee Boudreau (Livonia Stevenson), Shannon Merritt (Livonia Stevenson), Adriana Guerrero and Lindsay McMullen (Livonia Churchill) chipped in with one apiece to provide the comfortable margin of victory. "We came out and played very strong," Shivram said. "Jackson is a rival and you never know about those kinds of games. We played with a little more focus and offensively things are clicking and the girls are doing a nice job of working together." Suter registered the shut-out in goal in the first half and freshman Stacey Briebe made that effort in the sec-

ond half. "Both these wins were important to us and I just think we're in a better position than what we were," Shivram said. "It's just a combination of everything clicking for us right now." ROBERTS WESLEYAN 2, MADONNA 1 In Rochester, N.Y., a pair of first-half goals held up Saturday as host Roberts Wesleyan (4-2) downed Madonna University (0-3-1) in a women's match. The Crusaders outshot Roberts Wesleyan, 19-12, and held an 11-7 edge in shots on goal, but could not get the equalizer following a penalty kick by senior Ellen O'Rear (Madison Heights Bishop Foley) got the Crusaders on the board in the 37th minute. Roberts Wesleyan scored in the game's third minute on an Erika Luedke goal off a pass from Kelsey Medeiros. The Raiders made it 2-0 in the 33rd minute when Mandi Hochheimer scored to make it 2-0. O'Rear's first goal of the season made it 2-1 and the Crusaders forced Amanda Prestigiacomo to make four saves in the second half, but could not tally the equalizer. Chelsea Gregg (Livonia Clarenceville) made five saves for MU.

## GOE MEN'S GOLF

**OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEN'S GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
Sept. 4 at Fox Creek Golf Course  
Sept. 5 at Whispering Willows GC  
**FINAL RESULTS**  
**Championship Flight (low gross):** 1. Jim Omelanski, 77:70-147 (won playoff); \$400 gift certificate; 2. Chris Kohler, 71:64-127 (\$200 gift card); 3. Matt Lee, 80:68-148 (\$160 gift card); 4. Andrew Rousos, 72:71-149 (\$120 gift card); 5. Kirk Osler, 79:71-150; 6. Tommy Lucko, 76:75-151; 7. (tie) Thomas Morris, 79:73-152; Dave Reese, 80:72-152; Ben Proben, 74:79-152; 10. (tie) Kenny Klee, 77:76-153; Bruce West, 79:74-153; 12. Razi Boghian, 76:79-155; 13. (tie) Adam Powers, 79:77-156; Adam Giordano, 79:77-156; Don Breen, 79:77-156; Jimmy Johnson, 80:76-156; 17. Dan Higham, 80:79-159; 18. (tie) Riley Butcher, 84:76-160; Matt Robinson, 81:76-160; 20. Jim McComb, 86:77-163; 21. (tie) Daniel Tacker, 84:81-165; Kevin

Thomas, 81:84-165; 23. (tie) Jason Peick, 87:81-168; Evan Yarnas, 80:86-168; 25. Rub Ambrosi, 84:85-169; 26. Kevin Robinson, 83:87-170; 27. Leon Kashiwaki, 85:87-172; 28. Michael Palmer, 84:90-174; 29. Doug Harmala, 92:88-180; 30. Nicholas Orsivold, 94:87-181; 31. David DeLano, 76:76-172; 32. Walter Bills, 89:77-173; 33. Steve Butcher, withdrew. **Low net:** 1. (tie) Oslar and Johnson, 140 each (\$160 gift cards each); 3. (tie) Proben and Breen, 142 (\$95 gift cards each); 5. Higham, 143 (\$75).  
**First Flight (low gross):** 1. Tim Proben, 78:80-158 (\$165 gift card); 2. Kyle Thom, 76:86-162 (won 3-way playoff); \$25 gift card; 3. (tie) Dan Omelanski, 79:83-162; Nick Proben, 81:81-162; 5. Peter Mianowski, 84:80-164; 6. (tie) Bryan Boyd, 83:82-165; Henry Russell, 88:79-165; 8. (tie) Stephen Connolly, 87:80-167; Zor Compagnari, 86:81-167; 10. Kevin Morino, 86:83-169; 11. Matt O'Neill, 85:91-176; 12. Alex

Estes, withdrew. **Low net:** 1. Compagnari, 141 (\$10 gift card).  
**Senior Division (low gross):** 1. James Mynarczyk, 74:74-148 (\$200 gift card); 2. Paul Rys, 77:73-150 (\$160 gift card); 3. Bill Himm, 79:76-155; 4. Larry Stephens, 80:77-157; 5. (tie) J.B. Brown, 77:85-162; Mark Johnson, 80:82-162; 7. (tie) Sam Williams, 85:79-164; Tom Wheeler, 80:84-164; 9. Matt Rybinski, 85:80-165; 10. (tie) Doug Fox, 85:81-166; Greg Withy, 85:81-166; 12. (tie) Greg Meyer, 85:85-168; Larry Parker, 87:87-168; 14. Lew Jeffries, 89:80-169; 15. Gordy Harrison, 88:83-171; 16. (tie) Shane Goodhall, 90:87-171; Vince Hoopre, 89:88-171; 18. John Smith, 89:93-182; 19. (tie) Mike Keller, 90:93-183; Jack Wash, 94:99-193; 21. Roger Pattee, 99:97-196; 22. Rick Wheeler, 97:103-203; 23. Kevin Brown, 91:103-203; 24. (tie) Fox and Park, 138 each (\$130 gift card each); 3. Stephens, 139 (\$100 gift card); 4. T. Wheeler (590 gift card).

## BOYS TENNIS RESULTS

Payne (Canton) def. Matt Cezal, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2; No. 3: Jalen Woods (LC) def. Varun Bandri, 6-1, 6-0; No. 4: Rishabh Aruikar (LC) def. Jordan Anderson, 6-4, 6-3.  
**No. 1 Doubles:** Jimmy LaFontaine-Austin Payne (Canton) def. Mike Houphan-Joe Mulka, 7-6, 2-6, 7-5; No. 2: Rocky Willett-Josh Wendel (Canton) def. Abe Alhabet-Alex Zuccarini, 4-6, 7-6, 6-3; No. 3: Ashwin Kumar-Aliam Halim (Canton) def. Ryan McPherson-Eric Stromberg, 6-3, 6-4; No. 4: Luke Freeman-James Dodge (Canton) def. Kyle Appel-Mike Ingle, 6-7, 6-3, 6-1; No. 5: Nirmal Palahak-Steve Price (Canton) def. Brian Baumgartner-Kenny Denstaele, 6-4, 7-5.  
**Churchill's 5 dual match record:** 2-2 overall, 0-1 KLAAs South.  
**LIVONIA FRANKLIN 8, WYANKE MEMORIAL 1**  
Aug. 31 at Franklin  
**No. 1 Singles:** Stephen Payne (LF) defeated Brandon Haros, 6-1, 6-0; No. 2: Christian Woods (LF) def. Zach Williamson, 6-0, 6-0; No. 3: Brandon Kozy (LF) def. Zach Lankton, 6-1, 6-0; No. 4: Tim Croston (LF) def. Michael Bataglia, 6-2, 6-2.  
**No. 1 Doubles:** John Veltula-Tyler Kalodsky (LF) def. Abhishek Roy-Stephen Gush, 6-3, 6-1; No. 2: Jarret Williamson-Gabriel Torres

Campos (WM) def. Brian Haupt-Connor Benson, 4-6, 7-5, 6-1; No. 3: Joe Bastas-Quentin Palais (LF) def. Michael Toms-Corey Robbins, 6-0, 6-0; No. 4: Chase Semonich-Jacob Liberti (LF) def. Shane Scholey-Cody Huffaker, 6-3, 6-3; No. 5: Jake Turchan-Chris Sitaraki (LF) def. Antonio Heberling-Sam Herber, 2-6, 6-1, 6-1.  
**Dual match records:** Franklin, 2-1 overall, 1-0 KLAAs South; Wyank, 1-2 overall, 0-1 KLAAs South.  
**LIVONIA FRANKLIN 8, ROYAL OAK 0**  
Aug. 25 at Franklin  
**No. 1 Singles:** Stephen Payne (LF) defeated Jessie Friedman, 6-0, 6-0; No. 2: Christian Woods (LF) def. Dominic Norantonia, 6-0, 6-0; No. 3: Brandon Kozy (LF) def. Matt Lutz, 7-5, 6-3; No. 4: Tim Croston (LF) def. Max Lewis, 6-3, 6-4; No. 5: Jake Turchan-Chris Sitaraki (LF) def. Connor Benson-Brian Haupt, 7-5, 3-6, 6-3; No. 6: Chase Semonich-Jacob Liberti (LF) won by default; No. 7: Jake Turchan-Chris Sitaraki (LF) won by default.  
**Franklin's dual match record:** 1-1 overall.



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# Omietanski wins playoff, O&E crown

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Jim Omietanski entered Sunday's final round of the Observer & Eccentric Men's Golf Open seven shots off the lead.

Doing the math, the Livonia Stevenson boys golf coach had a figure dancing in his head to get back into contention after settling for a 77 in Saturday's opening round at Livonia's Fox Creek Golf Course.

"The only way I thought I'd have a chance is to shoot between 70 and 68 and they'd shot somewhat higher and post some high numbers," Omietanski said. "I felt if I shot even-par, I could get first or second."

Omietanski, a material handling supervisor at Ford Motor Company, rallied on Sunday at Livonia's Whispering Willows G.C. with a 70 and captured his third O&E crown in a sudden death playoff over Chris Kiehler of South Lyon.

Kiehler, a 1996 Livonia Churchill High grad and former O&E champ (1998), led the field with a 71 on Saturday, but settled for a 76 on Sunday after three-putting in the final hole where he took a bogey on the par-4, No. 18.

"The only holes I three-putted were No. 17 and 18," said Kiehler, also a Ford Motor Co. engineer. "On No. 18 I thought I had a good putt."

In the playoff, Omietanski landed his drive safely just off the left side of the fairway on the par-4, 451-yard, No. 10 hole.

Meanwhile, the 32-year-old Kiehler launched his drive well to the left of the fairway and into a cluster of trees where he was forced to lay up from about 80 yards out.

"It was not a good swing, a little quick,



PAUL WORLEY

The winners of the Observer & Eccentric Men's Golf Open were (from left) Tim Proben, First Flight; Jim Omietanski, Championship Flight; and James Mylarczyk, Senior Division.

that's what happened," Kiehler said. Omietanski's approach shot landed pin-high on the green from approximately 25 feet out where he two-putted for par.

Meanwhile, Kiehler's 15-footer to save par slid just to the left as he settled for bogey, giving Omietanski his first O&E crown since 2006.

"Today I only hit one bad tee shot," said Omietanski, who won his first O&E title in 2005. "I kept the ball in play and only missed five greens. I putted real well. I made the putts I had to make and I hit my irons as good as I've hit them all year."

Kiehler simply could not continue his momentum following a 71 on Saturday.

"I did not hit the ball good today," Kiehler said. "I hit it good yesterday. I thought the course today was fair. Yesterday it was tougher, but things went well."

Kiehler, a regular on the Michigan Publix circuit at Canton's Fellows Creek,

## Complete O&E golf tournament results, B3.

had taken two weeks off prior to the O&E.

"I played a lot this summer," he said. "I had a 14-day break, but I was hungry to play golf. I played another round Saturday at Walnut Creek (Country Club)."

Meanwhile, Omietanski noted his 77 on Saturday at Fox Creek was a bit out of character.

"Saturday my score was higher than normal," he said. "I was 6-over on the par-3s. I took three penalty strokes - two unplayables along the fence - and on No. 14 - where I was in the weeds and tried to chop it out."

Just prior to the O&E, Omietanski participated in the 2010 Golf.com World Amateur Handicap Championship in Myrtle Beach, S.C., a tournament that attracted 3,071 golfers in 68 different flights.

In four days of stroke play, Omietanski shot rounds of 73-73-77-78 in the Senior Men division (ages 50-59) for handicaps 0.6-to-4.6 where he finished seventh in his flight.

"I played nine rounds, some really nice courses," Omietanski said. "The finals of the championship round were at the TPC of Myrtle Beach."

After finishing with an 80 on Saturday, the low round of the tournament went to Matt Lee, who fired a 31 on the front nine Sunday and wound up with 68 despite taking a double-bogey 7 on the par-5, No. 16. Lee finished third with a 148 total, while Andrew Rousos placed fourth with a 72-77-149.

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### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY PARK, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE AND GREENWAY PLAN

**PROPOSED ACTION:** A public hearing will be held regarding the proposed 2010 Charter Township of Plymouth Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plan.

**PURPOSE:** To receive final comments from the public regarding the proposed plan.

**DATE OF HEARING:** Wednesday, September 22, 2010

**TIME OF HEARING:** 4:00 PM to 7:30 P.M.

**PLACE OF HEARING:** Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Charter Township of Plymouth, Wayne County, Michigan, has completed a review of the Township's Recreation and Open Space Plan adopted by the community in 2005. The purpose of the review was to update the Recreation and Open Space Plan to make sure the new plan (2010 Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plan) reflects the needs of the community for the next five years, and establishes a method for implementing the plan. Your input has been requested throughout this process. The intent of this public hearing is to receive any final comments you may have before the plan is considered for adoption by the Township Board. To assist you in this matter you can find a "Draft" copy of the 2010 Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plan online at the Township's web site <http://www.plymouthmi.org/>. In addition, a hard copy can be found at the following locations: Plymouth District Library, the Township Clerk's office, Township Treasurer's office, Township Building Department and the Township Community Development Department. You will have an opportunity to present us with your comments or recommendations at the meeting or, if you wish, you may provide us with your written comments or recommendations by sending them to:

Ms. Jana Pritchard  
Division of Public Services  
9955 North Haggerty Road  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
e-mail: [jpritchard@plymouthmi.org](mailto:jpritchard@plymouthmi.org)  
Phone (734) 354-3258

If you have any questions regarding this matter please contact Ms. Pritchard at the Division of Public Services at (734) 354-3258.

James D. Anulewicz  
Director of Public Services

**PLEASE TAKE NOTE:** The Charter Township of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at all Township meetings to individuals with disabilities at the meetings/hearings upon one week notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the Supervisor's Office, 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, MI 48170. Phone 734-453-3840, TDD users: 800-849-3177 (Michigan Relay Service).

Publish: September 9, 2010

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### PREP GRID PICKS

Week 3 Friday, Sept. 10	Brad Emons	Dan O'Meara	Tim Smith	Jim Toth
Garden City (0-2) at Redford Union (0-2), 7 p.m.	Union	Union	Union	Garden City
Deraborn Heights Crestwood (0-2) at Redford Thurston (1-1), 7 p.m.	Thurston	Thurston	Thurston	Thurston
Wayne (0-2) at Plymouth (1-1), 7 p.m.	Plymouth	Plymouth	Plymouth	Plymouth
Canton (2-0) at Livonia Franklin (2-0), 7 p.m.	Canton	Canton	Canton	Canton
Westland John Glenn (1-1) at Livonia Churchill (1-1), 7 p.m.	Churchill	John Glenn	Stevenson	Churchill
Novi (0-2) at Livonia Stevenson (1-1), 7 p.m.	Stevenson	Stevenson	Stevenson	Stevenson
Oxford (1-1) at Farmington (2-0), 7 p.m.	Farmington	Farmington	Farmington	Farmington
Salem (0-2) at South Lyon (0-2), 7 p.m.	South Lyon	Salem	Salem	Salem
Livonia Clarenceville (2-0) at Macomb Lutheran North (2-0), 7 p.m.	Lutheran North	Lutheran North	Clarenceville	Lutheran North
Farmington Harrison (2-0) at Rochester Stoney Creek (0-2), 7 p.m.	Harrison	Harrison	Harrison	Harrison
North Farmington (1-1) at Hazel Park (2-0), 7 p.m.	Hazel Park	Hazel Park	North Farmington	Hazel Park
<b>Saturday, Sept. 11</b>				
Sterling Heights Parkway Christian (2-0) at Livonian Westland (0-2), 1 p.m.	Parkway	Parkway	Parkway	Parkway
Plymouth Christian (0-2) at Oregon (Ohio) Cardinal Stritch (0-2), 2:30 p.m.	Cardinal Stritch	Cardinal Stritch	Cardinal Stritch	Cardinal Stritch
<b>Last week</b>	<b>13-4 (.765)</b>	<b>15-2 (.882)</b>	<b>7-10 (.412)</b>	<b>12-5 (.706)</b>
<b>Overall</b>	<b>27-5 (.844)</b>	<b>28-4 (.875)</b>	<b>17-15 (.531)</b>	<b>23-9 (.719)</b>

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Thursday, September 9, 2010

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## IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Karen Kellems Bailey, owner of Custom Creations and Invitations, gives a lot of credit to husband Bob Bailey.

## Invitations with a homemade touch

**Observer:** Tell us about your business, including the types of services and/or products you feature?

Custom Creations: We design unique and original custom wedding invitations (and also any other special occasion ... anniversaries, baby showers/announcements, special parties, graduations, etc.), where every one is made by hand. They are made to specifically reflect the style and personality of the couple. We work within client's budgets to give them something unique and different and something their guests will want to tuck away with their memories of this special day. I have a selection of over 3,000 handmade papers from all over the world. Our prices begin at \$4 per invitation, which is a basic (but unique) style and includes the reception card, response card and envelopes. The price from there is dependent upon the papers and designs and embellishments chosen ... we can do all the bells and whistles a client wishes to make it uniquely theirs ... there is no maximum price ... that is up to whatever the client wishes for their custom design. **Observer:** How did you first decide to open your business?

Custom Creations: Well I like to say that if you want to make God laugh ... just tell Him your plans! I did just that ... and absolutely nothing I planned came to fruition. My life did drastically change, but not in the way I thought it would. When my husband and I got married 10 years ago, we planned to travel a lot ... we both had good jobs and loved to travel. Immediately after our wedding, I had a number of health issues arise and ultimately had to leave my job. My family and friends told me I was creative and that I should try something in that area. I have always loved the beauty and symbolism of weddings and decided to try my hand at wedding invitations. More recently, I tried the larger bridal shows, such as the Novi Bridal Expo at Rock Financial. **Observer:** Why did you choose Canton?

Custom Creations: Canton has flourished in the last few years and has a very diverse culture. My designs have no limit and my creativity has never been stumped, so I like to think I can create something unique and different for anyone's taste. That makes for a good mutually satisfying experience

### CUSTOM CREATIONS & INVITATIONS

**Business name and address:** Custom Creations & Invitations, 1801 Vineway Drive, Unit 5, Canton, MI 48188 (Arbor Village condos)

**Your name and title:** Karen Kellems Bailey, Owner/Designer

**Your hometown:** Canton

**Business opened when?:** It began to flourish 5-6 years ago when we moved to Canton. I previously worked out of my home office in Farmington Hills for 2-3 years until I outgrew that space.

**Number of Employees:** 4-5 part-time independent contractors, two calligraphers, and my husband, who is invaluable to me

**Hours of operation:** 7 days a week, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

**Your business specialty:** Unique custom-designed wedding invitations; every invitation is made by hand, including unique wedding programs, beautiful custom seating charts and easels, wine bottle collars, escort cards, favor tags, table number cards, memorial tributes, and so much more. I have privileged access to over 3,000 handmade papers from all over the world.

**Business phone and/or website:** www.customcreations-invitations.com / (734) 398-9795

for everyone. I have gotten to know other businesses owners in the area and we are successful in promoting one another and in open networking, which I think is the best way to run a business. We all need to help one another.

**Observer:** What makes your business unique?

Custom Creations: Again, what I do is custom and different. I design specifically for the couple. I have over 3,000 handmade papers from all over the world. My personality is outgoing, very friendly, extremely creative, adaptable and I think what's important to my clients is that I listen to what they want and what they hope to convey to their guests about the wedding with their unique invitations. Then I make their dream invitation a reality that sets the stage for the wonderful event to follow.

**Observer:** How has it changed since you opened?

Custom Creations: I started out by just offering wedding invitations. Over the years my creativity and scope of design ability has drastically evolved and I am now able to offer many more items and unique ideas to the bride/client. I am basically one-stop shopping when it comes to invitations and stationery type items. People seem to like that fact that when they come to me, I will do everything they need for their wedding (including referring them to other vendors for their other needs) right down to a unique style of wrap-around addressing that I recently created where I also offer addressing of all their envelopes in a unique fashion. **Observer:** How has the recent economy affected your business?

Custom Creations: I have

to say that I have been so fortunate. I do have clients who are on smaller budgets and I still design something unique and different for them. I offer more options and smaller prices to fit their budget. I'm kind of known for giving little extras that I don't charge people for ... I just want to make it so special and I tend to add in a few freebies and surprises along the way, which sometimes elicits squeals of delight. That always makes my day. I know how expensive weddings can be so I try to be as reasonable as I can. **Observer:** Any advice for other business owners?

Custom Creations: Remember you are there to provide a service. Be happy and thankful that you are doing something you enjoy. Let the client know you are there for them and will do your utmost to give them a product that is memorable and unique. Make your part of their wedding something they will remember as a very positive experience. Referrals and word of mouth are the sincerest form of flattery - make them want to refer you to others. It will come back to you ... even if it's just in your own personal satisfaction!

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

Custom Creations: I continue to create new and unique designs and stay on top of current colors and trends ... although I have to admit "I pretty much do my own thing." I hope to expand my horizons and be able to offer even more to my clients, including expanding my line of other special occasion invitations. I hope to continue making clients happy with my creativity for many years to come.

## CHAMBER CHAT

### Franchising seminar

The Canton Chamber of Commerce sponsors an Educational Seminar on Franchising featuring four franchise experts discussing "Futures in Franchising 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 11, in the chamber board room, 45525 Hanford.

The event will feature financing expert Dennis Murphy, franchise attorney Kelly Hayes, franchising consultant Terry Coker and Dan Foss, vice president of financial services for southeast Michigan franchisor, Children's Orchard and Newcomers.

Admission is free; reservations are requested by phone or e-mail. Contact Terry Coker at (734) 459-4121 or tcoker@eAuth.com

### Consumer Expo

The Canton Chamber of Commerce and Canton Downtown Development Authority will present the biannual Consumer Expo on Thursday, Sept. 16, at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton. The expo runs 5-7:30 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom.

"The Consumer Expo is an initiative of the Canton Chamber of Commerce and the Canton DDA to encourage the public to get to know their business neighbors," said Dianne Cojei, president, Canton Chamber of Commerce.

The Consumer Expo is held twice annually in February and September, and features over 50 businesses from the community who display their products and services to the public. Participating businesses include banks, insurance, travel agents, pet services, carpet cleaning, and many more.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Canton Chamber of Commerce and Canton Downtown Development Authority will present the biannual Consumer Expo on Thursday, Sept. 16, at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton.

Each vendor gives away a door prize, admission is free and the expo is open to the public. The Consumer Expo is proudly sponsored by L. J. Griffin Funeral Home, Inc., and Sign-A-Rama, both located in Canton.

### Ribbon cutting

Michigan Institute Aviation Technology comes to the community with a ribbon-cutting Wednesday, Sept. 22, at its location at 2955 Haggerty in Canton. It's located on the east side of Haggerty between Palmer and Michigan Ave.

The event starts with networking from 10-11:30 a.m. and a luncheon buffet starting at 11:30 a.m. The luncheon presentation starts at noon, with the ribbon cutting immediately after. The company offers an open house/networking/tours from 2:30-7 p.m.

Everyone is invited to the buffet lunch. Please RSVP if you plan to attend luncheon. Call Holly at (800) 447-1310 or

e-mail her at hkonrad@miat.edu by Sept. 15.

### Eat with Phil

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts "Breakfast with Phil LaJoy" Thursday, Sept. 23, at 7:30 a.m. at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton.

The cost for breakfast is \$10 (advance member registration) \$20 (nonmember) and includes a full buffet breakfast, beverages and guest speaker presentation. This breakfast is open to the public.

The breakfast will feature guest speaker Phil LaJoy, Canton Township supervisor. Topic of discussion will be "Canton Happenings" and what he sees as Canton's future.

"Breakfast with Phil LaJoy" is hosted by the Canton Chamber of Commerce and is sponsored by Xuereb Snow PC and PNC Bank. To make your reservation, contact the Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040.

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## Fall fun returns to annual Plymouth festival

Cars, crafts, food and carnival fun will take center stage in downtown Plymouth this weekend, Sept. 10-12, for the 55th annual Plymouth Community Fall Festival.

The festival will run noon to 11 p.m. Friday; 7 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday; and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday.

What started as a community picnic and chicken barbecue during the 1950s has evolved into a food and fun fest that not only offers barbecue, but breakfast, lunch and spaghetti dinner as well.

Taste Fest kicks off the weekend activities from 6-8 p.m. Friday, at Station 885, 885 Starkweather. Advance tickets are \$15 and available at Station 885 or the Chamber of Commerce Office, 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail. They'll be available until 5 p.m. Friday at the ticket booth at Main and Penniman. Ticket-holders will have a chance to sample foods from more than 30 restaurants. Beverages will be available for purchase. The Wile E. Coyote Band will perform at the Taste Fest Stage.

The Kiwanis Club will serve its annual pancake breakfast



Youngsters take a train ride at the carnival during Plymouth Community Fall Festival.



Visitors will find vintage and antique cars on display at the Plymouth Community Fall Festival.



Carnival games offer chances to win prizes at the Plymouth Community Fall Festival.



Families enjoy a pancake breakfast served by the Kiwanis Club.

from 7-11:30 a.m. Saturday, under the Gathering, across from Kellogg park. Tickets are \$6 in advance and \$7 at the

door. Children, 5 and under eat for free. Get tickets from Jim Grutza at (734) 216-2858. Or buy them at the festival at the ticket booth at Main and Penniman.

Can't decide between spaghetti or chicken? Try both. AM Rotary Club will serve pasta from 4-8 p.m., Saturday, at the northeast corner of Kellogg Park. Tickets are \$8 in advance and \$9 at the door; \$4 for kids, 1-12. Children under 2 eat for free. Call Rotary past-president Kate Rosevear at (734) 455-5810 for tickets or more information. Spaghetti is carry out or eat in.

The Rotary Club's Annual Chicken BBQ runs 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday in Kellogg Park and includes a half chicken, corn-on-the-cob, roll with butter, pop and a cookie for \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. Advance tickets are available at Horton Plumbing, 1382

W. Main, Plymouth. Rotary ticket booths will be located at Ann Arbor Trail and Main or Penniman and Main.

After eating your way through the festival, try walking off the calories through the festival craft show on Union Street, between Ann Arbor Trail and Roe. Hours are noon-dusk, Friday, 9 a.m.-dusk Saturday, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. Take a spin on a carnival ride or browse through antique cars on display Saturday-Sunday.

The Kellogg Park entertainment stage will offer music all weekend, starting with Parker Welling on Friday, The Randy Brook Group and The Crutches on Saturday, and Double Cross Band on Sunday. Other entertainment includes an Optimist Club pet show, dance performances, and martial arts demonstrations.

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# Luncheon program is to 'dye' for

BY SHARON DARGAY  
OGE STAFF WRITER

Look at a Marilyn Prucka quilt and you almost can see river eddies and ordered corn rows in the dyed, embroidered and burned patterns.

Take a whiff during the dye process and you can smell the landscape that inspires her work.

"The batting underneath is dyed with walnut hulls from walnut trees that grow along the river. When you boil the hulls ... it smells so earthy and wonderful," said Prucka, explaining the coloring process used on three quilts in her mudflats series.

Three pieces from the series, as well as 14 other quilts are on display this month at Plymouth Community Arts Council (PCAC). An artist reception for the exhibit will be held 6-8 p.m., Sept. 24 at the PCAC's JoAnne Winkleman Hulce Center for the Arts, 774 Sheldon, Plymouth. Prucka also is the guest speaker at the Council's Art Lunch, 11:45 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 15. The program includes a gourmet box lunch and Prucka's presentation, "Not Afraid to Dye," about her fiber art, creativity and process. Tickets for the luncheon are \$15.

Pat Adams, a member of the lunch committee who also handles exhibits, said PCAC offered two previous luncheons, one in December 2009 and one in May.

"They used to do them in the olden days here and then they got away from it," Adams said. "And the exhibits went away. We restarted those a year ago. There was a lot of interest in the luncheon and speakers and we decided to re-start them."

She said the first two luncheons sold out, drawing more than 50 participants. Monthly exhibits have included a variety of art styles and media.

"We're trying to offer different kinds of art. We go from watercolor to oil to woodcut to pastels. We haven't done a quilt exhibit since January," Adams said, adding that Prucka's work was recommended for display.

## INSPIRED BY WATER

Prucka was volunteering as a docent at the Riverside Art Center in Ypsilanti when a PCAC member asked her to speak at Art Lunch. Prucka agreed to waive her usual speaker's fee in exchange for a quilt exhibit at the center.

"I'm tweaking it a bit," she said Tuesday, while hanging a few additional pieces for the show. "My inspiration has always been from the Raisin River. My studio is on the river. I take inspiration from the landscape. My studio is in a very rural area. I have a huge field across the road."

The Monroe artist combines river and land in many of her works, include a series of mini quilts called "River Meets Land."

She uses a variety of methods, including dye, bleaching, painting, needlework and a technique that burns cotton fabric to produce her images.

A former hospital emergency room nurse, Prucka, took community college art classes before studying printmaking at the University of Toledo, where she earned a bachelor's degree. She switched to fiber arts for her master's degree at Eastern Michigan University.

"During course work on printmaking, a friend urged me to take an elective class called dyes and fibers. It totally changed my life."

Prucka said she works on art every day, whether weaving, quilting, or crocheting.

"It's something I love to do and I do it every day. I crave it," she said.



Fiber art by Marilyn Prucka is on display through September at the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

## Westland theater offers youth classes

Inspire Theatre will register children and teens Saturday, Sept. 11, for its new Inspire School of Theatre Arts.

Registration for children, 7-16, runs 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 3344 Warren Road, Westland.

Students will learn about work on stage as well as behind the scenes. Study topics will include stage directions, finding your voice, understanding how to act, and working with others. Cost is \$20 weekly. A \$50 discount is available for full payment at registration.

Inspire Theatre began in 2005 and has produced such plays as the *Wizard of Oz*, *Father of the Bride*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, and many original productions, most written by Inspire Theatre founder Len Fisher.

Fisher, who majored in theatre at Youngstown State and holds a degree from North Central University, has been involved in theatre most of his adult life. He has acted, produced, written, and directed more than 50 productions and has directed children and adults both professionally and on the community level.

Most Inspire Theatre productions have included children but the classes are the theater's first venture solely for children.

Classes will begin Saturday Sept. 18 and run for 10 weeks, concluding with a Christmas production, *Charlie Brown's Christmas*.

Inspire Theatre will offer classes for homeschoolers on Tuesdays beginning Sept. 21. Registration will run 1-3 p.m., Tuesday Sept. 14.

Class size is limited to 25. For more information e-mail Fisher at inspire@inspiretheatre.com or call (734) 751-7057.

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**ART**

**Art & Ideas**  
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**Contact:** (734) 420-0775

**City Gallery**  
**Time/Date:** Through Sept. 9  
**Location:** Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** Photography by Jennifer Berkemeier  
**Contact:** (248) 473-1856

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

**JD's House of Comedy**  
**Time/Date:** Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings



Curtis Fuller and his quintet open the Jazz Cafe season Sept. 17 at Music Hall in Detroit.

**Location:** 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield  
**Details:** Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday  
**Contact:** (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com

**Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia**  
**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Mondays, Open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays,

**Local Legends;** 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays  
**Location:** 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia  
**Details:** Chad Daniels, Sept. 8-11; Marc Ryan, Sept. 15-18; Doug Williams, Sept. 22-25; Ira Proctor, Sept. 29-Oct. 2  
**Contact:** (734) 261-0555; www.kickerscomplex.com

**Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle**  
**Time/Date:** Mike Green, Sept. 9-11; Brian McKim, Sept. 16-18; Jackie Flynn, Sept. 23-25; David Alan Grier, Sept. 30-Oct. 2  
**Location:** 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak  
**Contact:** (248) 542-9900; www.comedycastle.com

**CONCERTS**

**The Ark**  
**Time/Date:** The Straws, Sept. 9; The Spring Standards, Sept. 10; Billy Bragg, Sept. 11; Ramblin' Jack Elliott, Sept. 14; Toad The Wet Sprocket, Sept. 15-16; Vishten, Sept. 19; Aimee Mann, Sept. 21; The RFD Boys, Sept. 24; The Chenille Sisters, Sept. 25  
**Location:** 316 South Main, Ann Arbor  
**Contact:** (734) 763-8587; www.theark.org

**Barn Theatre**  
**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m., Sept. 25  
**Location:** 32332 12 Mile, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** Jill Jack; tickets are \$19 for adults; \$17 for seniors and students  
**Contact:** (248) 473-1856

**Detroit Institute of Arts**  
**Time/Date:** Friday Night Live concerts, 7 and 8:30 p.m.  
**Location:** 5200 Woodward Ave  
**Contact:** (313) 833-7900; www.dia.org

**Jazz Cafe**  
**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. and 10 p.m., Sept. 17-18  
**Location:** Music Hall, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit  
**Details:** Curtis Fuller and his quintet kick off the new season of Jazz Cafe; tickets \$30  
**Contact:** www.ticketmaster.com; (313) 887-8500

**Magic Bag**  
**Time/Dates:** The Ultimate Retro Party with The Mega 80's, Sept. 10, 18 and 25; Lewd Society & Lucky Brown, Sept. 11; Robert Bradley's Blackwater Surprise with Jamie McCarthy and Alyssa Simmons, Sept. 17; Stan Ridgeway, Sept. 21; Michelle Shocked, Sept. 24; Rick Emmett, Sept. 26; Bettie Serveert, Sept. 30  
**Location:** 22920 Woodward, Ferndale  
**Contact:** (248) 544-3030; www.themagicbag.com

**Music Hall**  
**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Oct. 7-9  
**Location:** 350 Madison, Detroit  
**Details:** "The Merchants of



Jill Jack will perform Sept. 25 at the Barn Theatre in Farmington Hills.

**Bollywood;** a dance and music spectacular based on the real-life story of the Merchant family dynasty, whose members have been prominent choreographers and filmmakers since the beginning of the Hindi film industry in the 1920s; tickets are \$25-\$65  
**Contact:** Ticketmaster.com, Ticketmaster Outlets or charge by phone at (800) 745-3000

**Seligman Performing Arts Center**  
**Time/Date:** 8 p.m., Sept. 11  
**Location:** On the campus of Detroit Country Day School, 22305 W. 13 Mile, Beverly Hills  
**Details:** The Romeros, the "Royal Family of Guitar;" tickets \$75  
**Contact:** (248) 855-6070 or www.ComeHearCMSD.org

**Trinity House Theatre**  
**Time/Date:** Cairn to Cairn, Sept. 10; Stewart Franck, Sept. 11; Matt The Electrician, Sept. 16; Pat Terry and John Austin, Sept. 18; Martyn Joseph, Sept. 23; Nobody's Darlin', Sept. 24; Kevin Meisel, Oct. 1; Jason Dennie and John Latini, Oct. 2; Madcat and Kane and Maxwell Street, Oct. 8; Rob Lute with Jo Serrapere, Oct. 9; Dana Cooper with Daphne Willis, Oct. 15; Daniel Martin Moore and Ric Hordinski, Oct. 21; David Nefesh with Delta Twins, Oct. 23; Roy Bookbinder,

Oct. 29; Gaslight Square with Joel Palmer, Annie and Rod Capps, Jim Bizer and others, Oct. 30  
**Location:** 38840 West Six Mile, Livonia  
**Contact:** (734) 464-6302; www.trinityhouse.org

**FAMILY**

**Bakers Keyboard Lounge**  
**Time/Dates:** 2-5 p.m. Sundays  
**Details:** Jazz for Kids Program  
**Location:** 20510 Livernois Ave., Detroit  
**Contact:** (313) 345-6300; www.bakerskeyboardlounge.com

**Detroit Institute of Arts**  
**Time/Dates:** 2 p.m. Sundays  
**Details:** Target Family Sundays, storytelling, performances, free with admission  
**Location:** 5200 Woodward, Detroit  
**Contact:** (313) 833-7900; www.dia.org

**Detroit Zoo**  
**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Labor Day  
**Location:** I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak  
**Details:** Admission is \$11 for adults 15 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$9 for children ages 2 to 14; children under 2 are free  
**Contact:** (248) 541-5717

**FILM**

**Penn Theatre**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m., Sept. 9  
**Location:** 760 Pennington Ave., Plymouth  
**Details:** "Knight and Day;" \$3 admission  
**Coming up:** "The Sorcerer's Apprentice;" 7 p.m. and 9:05 p.m., Friday-Saturday, Sept. 10-11, 5 p.m. and 7:05 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 12 and 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 16  
**Contact:** (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

**Redford Theatre**  
**Time/Date:** Sept. 10-11  
**Location:** 17360 Lahser, Detroit  
**Details:** "African Queen"  
**Coming up:** "The Godfather;" Sept. 24-25; \$4  
**Contact:** www.redfordtheatre.com

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY**

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, at public sale by Competitive bidding on **September 20th 2010 at 9:00 A.M.** at the Extra Space Storage facility located at:

**6729 N. Canton Center Rd  
 Canton, MI 48187  
 734-459-4821**

The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but are not limited to general household, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances.

**D128- Bradd Rigoni - Skate Shop business machines & goods, two motor scooters, business sign, etc**  
**J346- Rene Kurtzyz - Household goods, furniture, appliances etc**

Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the time of sale. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to bid. Sale is subject to adjournment.

Publish: September 2, 2010

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# High Holy Days focus on responsibility, repentance

## Jews mark Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur or Day of Atonement

BY SHARON DARGAY  
O&E STAFF WRITER

Members of the metro area Jewish community will gather together today, Sept. 9 to celebrate Rosh Hashana, the beginning of the new year and start of High Holy Days that end Sept. 18 with Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

According to the Jewish Community Relations Council in Bloomfield Hills, worshippers will pray for peace in Israel and Jerusalem, security for the Jewish State, successful peace negotiations to bring Israelis and Palestinians together and a diminished threat of terrorism from such groups such as Hamas and Hezbollah.

But at Congregation Bet Chaverim in Canton, members will hear a message that resonates closer to home.

"The central message of High Holy Days is personal responsibility," said Rabbi Peter Gluck. "I will talk on how each of us needs to take better care of ourselves and families and to make small changes we are capable of making. I can't make international peace, but I can do better with family, friends, the work place.

"For me, the message (of High Holy Days) is that while there are global issues going on, that many people feel are beyond control, let us remember that our personal lives are what God asks us to take care of."

That includes eating better, exercising, avoiding excess, being responsible, being kind to others, organizing the day to accomplish important tasks, responding to others with love rather than anger, maintaining a positive outlook and giving thanks.

"Peace can come, but it starts with our own homes and friends and then we let that ripple out to the world," Gluck said. "If you look at the theme of Yom Kippur, the whole point is to start with yourself and assume personal responsibility in the part of

the world you live in, in every day life. If everyone did that you wouldn't have to worry about the world. The message is that in the flow of events, to show consideration and kindness and not just talk about it."

### COLLABORATIVE EFFORT

Bet Chaverim's relationship with Cherry Hill United Methodist Church is a living example of peaceful coexistence, mutual respect and care.

The congregation began using a portion of the church for services 14 years ago. Through the years the Christian and Jewish congregations have collaborated on church maintenance tasks and on an occasional joint education program. They invite each other to their services every year, including Sukkot, the harvest celebration of thanksgiving held a few days after Yom Kippur.

Families and congregations, like Bet Chaverim, build a sukkah — a hut or booth — made of boards and covered by a roof of branches and leaves at the holiday. The improvised structure is a reminder of the temporary dwellings used by the Israelites during their wandering through the desert.

Bet Chaverim will invite Cherry Hill United Methodist Church to help decorate the sukkah and give thanks together.

"We celebrate together as mutually caring communities. We have different pathways to God but the common values are there," Gluck said.

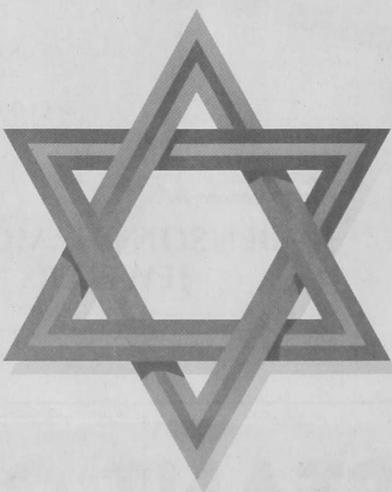
"It's a wonderful example of what can be when people take charge and relate and are responsible and live what they are teaching."

Rosh Hashana morning service at Bet Chaverim is 10 a.m. Sept. 9; Yom Kippur services are 7 p.m. Sept. 17 and 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sept. 18. The Sukkot celebration is Sept. 26. It's located at 321 Ridge Road Canton.



Members of Congregation Bet Chaverim in Canton celebrate Sukkot. The harvest holiday follows the High Holy Days, which start with Rosh Hashana and end with Yom Kippur.

ARCHIVE PHOTO



Bet Chaverim's relationship with Cherry Hill United Methodist Church is a living example of peaceful coexistence, mutual respect and care. The congregation began using a portion of the church for services 14 years ago. Through the years the Christian and Jewish congregations have collaborated on church maintenance tasks and on an occasional joint education program. They invite each other to their services every year, including Sukkot, the harvest celebration of thanksgiving held a few days after Yom Kippur.

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Sat. 11:00 a.m.  
Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m.  
Confessions Hour Prior to Each Mass  
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions  
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M. OC08090901

**St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church**  
St. Genevieve School - PreK-8  
29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220  
(East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries)  
MASS: Tues. 7 p. Wed., Thurs. 9 a.,  
Sat. 4 p., Sun 11a

**St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church**  
32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-523-1616  
(between Meridian & Farmington Roads)  
MASS: Mon. 8:30 a., Fri. 8:30 a.,  
Sat. 8 p., Sun 9a OC08090901

### CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

**PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
45001 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525  
Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.  
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.  
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.  
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.  
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### LUTHERAN-ELCA

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN, ELCA**  
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Saturday Worship • 5:30 PM  
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10:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL - ALL AGES  
11:15 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE  
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### UNITED METHODIST

**ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
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www.orchardumc.org  
248-626-3620  
Worship:  
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
10:00 a.m. Christian Education for all ages  
Pastors: Carol J. Johns, Jim Braid, Margo Dexter OC08090901

### PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

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### GREEK ORTHODOX

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39851 West Five Mile, Plymouth Twp., MI  
Sunday Services  
Matins 8:30 am. Divine Liturgy 10:00 am  
Rev. Fr. Demetrios Sean Gouvetos  
Parish Office 734-420-0131  
Office Hours M-F: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
www.nativitygochurch.org

### PRESBYTERIAN

**Fellowship Presbyterian Church**  
Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m.  
Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.  
Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire  
Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church  
16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road  
Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org OC08090901

### LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

**Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church**  
14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96  
www.christsaviors.org  
Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional  
Sunday School/Bible Class 9:45 am  
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**Risen Christ Lutheran**  
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THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M.  
website: www.stpaulslivonia.org OC08090901

### EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

**WARD CHURCH**  
40000 Six Mile Road  
Northville, MI 48168  
248 374 7400  
www.wardchurch.org  
Traditional Worship 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m.  
Contemporary Worship 9:30 & 11 a.m.  
Children's Programs available at 9:30 & 11 a.m.  
The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 560 AM OC08090901

### CONGREGATIONAL

**North Congregational Church**  
36520 12 Mile Rd.  
Farmington Hills (bet. Drake & Halsted)  
(248) 848-1750  
10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School  
Faith - Freedom Fellowship  
Ministers  
Dr. Mark P. Jensen Rev. Mary E. Biedron OC08090901

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 248-437-2011, Ext. 247 or e-mail: dhart@dnps.com

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

**SEPT. 9-15**

**Detroit Lutheran Singers**  
**Time/Date:** Auditions by appointment only; rehearsals 7:30-9:30 p.m., Mondays, beginning Sept. 13  
**Location:** Westminster Church, on west Outer Drive, east of Greenfield in Detroit  
**Details:** The group plans auditions and will begin preparing for its fall concerts

**Time/Date:** To schedule an audition, call (248) 644-1091 or e-mail to righthady@comcast.net

**Grief Share**  
**Time/Date:** 6-8 p.m., Sundays, beginning Sept. 12

**Location:** Faith Community Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia  
**Details:** This 13-week seminar features practical suggestions and reassurance through video interviews with counselors, grief experts and others who have experienced the loss of a loved one. "The Effects of Grief," "Your Family and Grief," and "Stuck in Grief" are just three of the topics that will be discussed. Worksheets will be provided. There is no charge for the program, but a \$15 donation is suggested to help cover costs.

**Picnic**  
**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. Bible class, 11 a.m. worship, followed by picnic, Sunday, Sept. 12

**Location:** Livonia Church of Christ, 15431 Merriman, Livonia

**Details:** Bounce House for the kids and other children's activities as well as lots of food

**Prayer service**  
**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 6:45 p.m., silent prayer vigil; 7-8 p.m., prayer service; Thursday, Sept. 9

**Location:** 28660 Five Mile, Livonia

**Details:** Unity World Day of Prayer involves people of all faiths joining in prayer for the health and well-being of the world, as well as for one another.

**Time/Date:** (734) 421-1760; www.unityoflivonia.org

**Rediscovering Catholicism**  
**Time/Date:** 9:30-11:30 a.m., Mondays, Sept. 13-Oct. 18

**Location:** St. Aidan, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

**Details:** Discussion of Matthew Kelly's book, "Rediscovering Catholicism." Participants will follow the author's study guide of questions for reflection, as the group reads selected passages of the book. A limited number of free books are available. Participants can pick one up from the church office when they register for the discussion group.

**Contact:** Register by calling Nancy at (734) 591-9164, or e-mail to mnajokas@hotmail.com

**Schedule change**  
**Time/Date:** Sunday morning Eucharist is at 8:30 a.m. (non-singing) and 10:30 a.m. (singing). Sunday School for adults and children is 9:30 a.m.

**Location:** Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit, 9083 Newburgh, Livonia

**Details:** The church resumes its regular worship schedule on Sept. 13. A new priest, the Rev. Wayne Knoekel, will start the regular service schedule.

**Contact:** (734) 591-0211

**Sunday school**  
**Time/Date:** 9:30 a.m. worship; 10:30 a.m. Sunday school, Sunday, Sept. 12

**Location:** Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, just west of Newburgh in Westland

**Details:** Music, crafts, games and fun kicks off the new season of Sunday school. Activities are designed for kids age 3 through fifth grade, but Sunday school is offered to individuals of all ages who are curious about God and Jesus' teachings; no prior experience necessary. An additional activity is designed for young adults and adults

**Contact:** (734) 722-1735

**Sept. 16-30**  
**Breakfast**

**Time/Date:** 8:30 a.m. to noon, Sunday, Sept. 19

**Location:** St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland

**Details:** All you can eat pancake and French toast breakfast includes ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, tea, coffee, milk, juice; \$3 adults; \$1.50 children, ages 2-10. Sponsored by St. Theodore Men's Club

**Contact:** (734) 425-4421

**Drug, alcohol talk**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 30

**Location:** St. Joseph Parish multi-purpose room, 830 S. Lafayette, South Lyon

**Details:** Alcohol and drug discussion is designed for abusers, family members, anyone interested in the topic. Theresa Lilly, author of "Addiction of a Loved One," and James Balmer, president of Dawn Farms in Ypsilanti, are the speakers. There will be time for questions and answers and refreshments will be served

**Contact:** (248) 349-3127

**ONGOING**  
**AWANA**

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

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

**Details:** AWANA program for children from kindergarten through fifth grade

**Contact:** (248) 426-0096

**Classes/study**  
**Emmanuel Lutheran Church**

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

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

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

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

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

**Location:** 28660 Five Mile, Livonia

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

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

**Men's Bible study**  
**Time/Date:** Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 p.m.

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

**Contact:** John Shulenberg at (734) 464-9491

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

**Location:** 42200 Tyler, Belleville

**Contact:** (734) 846-4615 for information

**Nicole's Revival**  
**Time/Date:** 9 a.m., Monday-Friday

**Location:** YWCA Northwest Branch, 25940 Grand River, west of Beech Daly, Redford

**Details:** Scripture reading

**Contact:** (313) 531-1234

**Our Lady of Loretto**  
**Time/Date:** 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday

**Location:** Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford

**Details:** Scripture study

**Contact:** (313) 534-9000

**St. Andrew's Presbyterian**  
**Time/Date:** 10:30 a.m., Wednesday and 10:30 a.m. Thursday

**Location:** 26701 Joy

**Details:** Wednesday study/discussion group focuses on relationship with God and that of other religious groups and philosophical and scientific issues that might impact faith. Thursday group examines early writings not included in the Bible as well as other versions, extensions and controversies concerning Christianity. Led by interim pastor Larry Hoxey

**Contact:** (313) 274-3820

**Ward Presbyterian**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m., Mondays

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

**Details:** Learner's Bible study is held

**Contact:** (248) 374-5920

**Clothing bank**

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

**Location:** 41711 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty

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

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

**Crafters wanted**  
**First United Methodist Church**

**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Oct. 23

**Location:** Eight Mile and Taft in Northville

**Details:** 3rd Annual Community Bazaar to benefit Village Banking at the church. A great opportunity for local entrepreneurs and artists to showcase their talents and products to hundreds of local customers. Booking now

**Contact:** For details and to reserve a place, e-mail to Pat Breslin at fumbazaar@gmail.com. Learn more about Village Banking at www.FINCA.org

**Riverside Park Church of God**  
**Time/Date:** Oct. 22-23

**Location:** 11771 Newburgh, Livonia

**Details:** Applications are being accepted for the annual fall craft show. Rental spaces are 8- by 5-feet and can be reserved for one day at a cost of \$20 or two days for \$30. Tables an additional \$5

**Contact:** (734) 464-0990; download an application at www.riverside-parkchurch.org

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
**Time/Date:** Oct. 9

**Location:** 555 South Wayne Road, Westland

**Details:** Looking for crafters and vendors to participate in a fall craft sale

**Contact:** (734) 721-5023

**St. Thomas a'Becket**  
**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 4

**Location:** 555 S. Lilley, Canton

**Details:** Accepting applications for handmade crafts only for 20th annual Christmas Craft Show

**Contact:** craftshow@abecket.org or (734) 844-1232

**Fellowship dinner**  
**St. James Presbyterian**

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

**Location:** 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford

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

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

**Food bank**  
**New Hope Church**

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

**Location:** is 44815 Cherry Hill, Canton

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

**Moms**  
**Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church**

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

**Location:** 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

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

**Contact:** Angie at (248) 427-1020

**Dunning Park Bible Chapel**  
**Time/Date:** 9:30-11:30 a.m., first and third Tuesdays

**Location:** 24800 West Chicago Road, Redford

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

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

**Prayer**  
**Nardin Park United Methodist Church**

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Wednesday

**Location:** 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

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

**Contact:** (248) 476-8860

**St. Edith Church**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday

**Location:** 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through the back of the church

**Details:** Music, singing, prayer

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

**St. Michael's Church of Livonia**  
**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. third Wednesday

**Location:** Corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads, Livonia

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

**Senior citizens**  
**Riverside Park Church of God**

**Time/Date:** 11:30 a.m., third Thursdays

**Location:** 11771 Newburgh, Livonia

**Details:** Senior adults, age 50 and over, enjoy social interaction and food

**Contact:** (734) 464-0990

**Singles**  
**First Presbyterian Church**

**Time/Date:** Thursdays 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program

**Location:** 200 E. Main St., Northville

**Details:** Single Place Ministry meets; cost is \$5

**Contact:** (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org

**Steve's Family Restaurant**  
**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday

**Location:** 15800 Middlebelt, 1/4 mile north of Five Mile, Livonia

**Details:** Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet with others who are ready to help cope or become involved in the other social activities offered by Widowed Friends.

**Contact:** (313) 534-0399

**Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church**  
**Time/Date:** 11:30 a.m., Sunday

**Location:** 40000 Six Mile, Northville

**Details:** Single Point Ministries, for 30 and up, offers fellowship. Coffee, doughnuts, conversation

**Contact:** (248) 374-9520

**Song Circle**  
**Congregation Beth Ahm**

**Time/Date:** Noon to 12:30 p.m., every Shabbat

**Location:** 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

**Details:** Sing zemirot (traditional Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services. Lyrics are provided in transliteration as well as the original Hebrew.

**Contact:** (248) 737-1931 or e-mail nancyellen879@att.net.

**Support**  
**Detroit World Outreach**

**Time/Date:** 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday

**Location:** 23800 W. Chicago, Redford, room 202

**Details:** Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems, drugs, alcohol, overeating, gambling

**Contact:** (313) 255-2222, Ext. 244

**Farmington Hills Baptist Church**  
**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m., second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August

**Location:** 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile

**Details:** Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group

**Contact:** (248) 433-1011

**Merriman Road Baptist Church**  
**Time/Date:** 1-3 p.m., second and fourth Thursday

**Location:** 2055 Merriman, Garden City

**Details:** Metro Fibro-Myalgia support group meets; no dues, but donations are accepted

**Contact:** www.metrofibrogroup.com; or call Lucy with questions at (734) 462-1768

**Riverside Park Church of God**  
**Time/Date:** 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

**Location:** 11771 Newburgh, Livonia

**Details:** Riverside Park Adult Day Care offers an adult daytime care program with a specialty in dementia care

**Contact:** (734) 367-4220; www.riversideparkchurch.org

**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**  
**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to noon Saturday morning

**Location:** 16360 Hubbard, Livonia

**Details:** A weekly drop-in Food Cupboard (nonperishable items) is available. There are no requirements, this a service the church wants the community to be aware of and use if needed. Donations of nonperishable items also accepted for the cupboard.

**Contact:** (734) 421-8451

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
**Time/Date:** 10 a.m., the first and third Friday

**Location:** 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth

**Details:** St. John's Support Group for the Caregiver's of Alzheimer's patients or patients with other forms of dementia meets. Respite care is provided. The group is authorized by the Alzheimer's Association

**Contact:** Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426

**Thomas a' Becket Church**  
**Time/Date:** Weigh-in is 6:15-6:55 p.m.; support group meeting starts at 7 p.m., Thursday

**Location:** 555 S. Lilley, Canton

**Details:** Take Off Pounds Sensibly encourages members to lose weight and keep it off

**Contact:** Margaret at (734) 838-0322

**Unity of Livonia**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday

**Location:** 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Livonia

**Details:** Overeaters Anonymous

**Contact:** (313) 887-9797. www.oa.org

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**RICHARD R. ARONSON**

Age 84, of Livonia, passed away September 6, 2010. He was born July 26, 1926 in Detroit to Carl and Anna (Martenson) Aronson. On April 17, 1982 he married Sherry Elison and they were very devoted to one another. He was a teacher with Riverview Public Schools for 32 years and also was an adjunct faculty member at Eastern Michigan University. Richard was a member of the Wayne County Reading Assoc., the Michigan Reading Assoc., the International Reading Assoc., and the Scholarship Fund for Children. He enjoyed gardening and loved roses. He was an avid reader and would read anything. He is survived by his beloved wife Sherry; his children, Karl R. Aronson, Jane A. (Chris) Flieler, and Charlotte J. Aronson; and his brother Carl (Mary Kay) Aronson. He was preceded in death by his parents, his son Kris M. Aronson, his son David J. Aronson, and his sister Lenore Bly. Visitation will be held Friday, September 10 from 2-8pm at Casterline Funeral Home, Inc. 122 W. Dunlap, Northville. The funeral service will be held Saturday, September 11 at 11am with visitation beginning at 10am at Ward Presbyterian Church, 4000 Six Mile, Northville. Contributions would be appreciated to Cooper Upper Elementary 28550 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland, MI 4

# FOOD

Thursday, September 9, 2010 [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)

## HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor Sharon Dargay  
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# Wine expert entertains, educates at Schoolcraft culinary event

BY BILL EMERICK  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Lee Hershey is into wine. He teaches a class about wine. He has experience as a retail consultant for wholesalers, wine shops and restaurants. He hosts wine-tasting events at homes and businesses. He reads about wine, writes about wine and extols the virtues of the drink at every occasion.

Mostly, though, he just wants to get people to taste the ancient fermented-grape beverage. Most anyone who does, Hershey feels, will be hooked.

Hershey, 74, will be conducting a wine-tasting seminar at the 19th annual Culinary Extravaganza, a food and beverage event to benefit the Schoolcraft College Culinary Arts Program. The event, scheduled for 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 26, is at the college's ViStaTech Center.

More than 50 vendors, featuring the area's leading restaurants and pastry shops, will be on hand to offer samples of food and beverages, including wine and distilled spirits. Tickets are \$50, \$20 of which is tax-deductible.

Hershey's role at the Extravaganza is the same one he's pursued for the last 35 years — entertaining and educating about the wide world of wine. "I'm kind of like this conduit for wine," he said in describing his avocation.

For the past 23 years, Hershey has taught classes on wine at Schoolcraft College as part of the school's personal enrichment program. His fall schedule includes Wines of the Southern Hemisphere and The Heart of Great Lakes Wines, both five-week courses that introduce students to the history and significance of the wine-making tradition in those regions — as well as plenty of tasting.

### PASSION FOR WINE

Hershey has also been involved in various consulting positions, including with the famed Beaulieu Vineyard in Rutherford, Calif., located in the legendary Napa Valley. He's spent time as a sommelier at the Bay Harbor Yacht Club near Petoskey and most recently was instrumental in building the wine collection



Lee Hershey teaches wine classes at Schoolcraft College and will conduct a tasting seminar at the annual Culinary Extravaganza.

at The Grapevine restaurant in Novi.

It's his passion for wine, though, that's evident after even a short conversation about his beverage of choice. Hershey looks forward to his seminar at the Extravaganza as a way to widen the cult of devotees.

"It introduces people to me and, if you like my presentation, you may take my wine class," he said. "That benefits the school, it benefits me and it may benefit them in the end. We never know what you learn, but we all learn a little bit from each event."

Hershey will be offering samples of some of the half-dozen wholesalers and vintners expected at the Extravaganza, including Black Star Farms from Michigan's Leelanau Peninsula, J&J Importers and Ann Arbor Beverage. The idea is to give patrons a taste of different varietals and vintages in the hope they'll later hunt for something they enjoyed.

"You're tasting it, you're not really guzzling it," he said, "just like you're not going to eat 50 meals. If you pour a wine and you like it and want it, you'll go to a retailer and ask for it later."

"People can come and eat and drink and have a good

time and learn a lot."

### 'ENJOYABLE AND APPROACHABLE'

The seminar is just a small taste — pun intended — of what Hershey offers in his ongoing enrichment classes at Schoolcraft. He's seen a bit of a dropoff in enrollment in light of the state's economic woes, but he also said up to 45 percent of students take the class more than once, some as many as 35-40 times. Ages range from 21 (minimum) to as old as 80. And women outnumber men by a large margin.

"All the guys are in the bar, drinking beer," he said, chuckling.

Even so, there's no one demographic that dominates his students.

"Every imaginable (type of) soul on the planet has taken my classes," he said. "You name it — all kinds of folks have taken the classes."

Once they've enrolled, it's Hershey's job to see that they put aside any misconceptions that abound about wine and wine drinkers.

"The problem with people getting involved (with wine) is the amount of pretension in the world," he said. "A Frenchman or an Italian

### ALL ABOUT WINE

Lee Hershey will conduct his wine seminar and tasting at the 19th annual Culinary Extravaganza, 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 26, at the ViStaTech Center on the campus of Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia. Tickets are \$50 and can be obtained by calling (734) 462-4518 or going online at [www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation](http://www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation).

Hershey is also teaching two classes this fall as part of Schoolcraft's personal enrichment program. Wines of the Southern Hemisphere starts Sept. 20 and The Heart of Great Lakes Wines starts Nov. 8. Each meets 7-9 p.m. Mondays for five weeks and costs \$169 (\$135.20 for seniors). To enroll, call (734) 462-4448 or go online at [www.schoolcraft.edu/cepd](http://www.schoolcraft.edu/cepd)

things of wine like we think of groceries — you know, pick up a loaf of bread, a salad and a bottle of wine. In this country, there's a standoffish attitude about alcohol, I think from in the prohibition days.

"There's an aura that's been created and people are intimidated. It's hard to get people into (wine) because of this attitude. In a class like mine, we try to show people it's fun and something they can enjoy. It's very enjoyable and approachable. That's the biggest hurdle to getting people into the wine world."

Hershey's seen a lot of trends in his years in the industry, but the current economic downturn has actually contributed to some positive aspects in his mind.

"The economy is such that you don't have a lot of enthusiasm for getting into wine like it once was," he said. "People are very cautious and becoming better wine buyers. We're putting pressure on wine makers to produce better wines. It doesn't matter if it's cheap — if it's no good, you won't buy a second bottle. If it's garbage, it's garbage."

"A lot of retailers don't necessarily know their market.

If you've got a stack of \$4.99 bottles of wine, you're going to end up marrying them," he added with a laugh.

"The sale of \$25-\$30 bottles of wine haven't changed that much. The people who spend \$40 on a bottle of wine with dinner haven't been affected by this economy. They never moved like a forest fire, but they haven't been hurt."

Hershey still attends several dozen trade tastings a year and estimates he tries up to 5,000 different wines each year. He doesn't have a favorite ("My favorite wine is the one someone else pays for"), but he will offer this allegory.

"If I was stranded on an island and a voice from above said you can have only one wine for the rest of time, but you can have as much as you want for the rest of your life, for me it would be a red Burgundy from France," he said.

It might not be the same for everyone, but Hershey would like to help his students find out for themselves — one glass at a time.

[bemeric@hometownlife.com](mailto:bemeric@hometownlife.com)  
(313) 223-4340

### A SPIRITED VENDOR

If wine is not your beverage of choice, fear not. Attendees of the Culinary Extravaganza at Schoolcraft College's ViStaTech Center can also partake in a "flavored martini" promotion courtesy of McCormick Distillery. According to Joe David, McCormick's area manager for the Midwest, the company will offer tastings of its 360 vodka line of "eco-friendly" products. This is the third year McCormick has participated in the Extravaganza, but David said the variety will be larger this year thanks to new flavors introduced this summer.

The 360 brand of vodka features locally sourced grain for the company's distillery in Kansas City, Kan., and recycled and bio-degradable packaging. David said the vodka is distilled four times and filtered five times. "It's a very clean-tasting product," he said. McCormick will serve half-ounce tastings either chilled or on the rocks of eight different flavors of vodka: double chocolate, cola, Mandarin orange, Bing cherry, Madagascar vanilla, sorrento lemon, Concord grape and Georgia peach.

"The way we infuse these products is so that they taste just like the flavor right out of the bottle," David said. "Unlike some flavored vodkas, we added residual sugars. We tried to collect the essence of the flavors."

David said the martinis were very popular at last year's Extravaganza: "We ran out of olives," he said.

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First Year Of Maintenance Is Free! \$34,788. Stk #11C5005A. **DEALER** 734-402-8774

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**Sports Utility** (8290)

**GMC ENVOY SLT 2007**  
Leather, 40K, \$19,995

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Black! Only \$ 9,995

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**GMC ENVOY XL 2004**  
Silver, 4x4, 67K, \$14,995

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Phantom Black, SLE, 4wd & Ext. Cab! Camping trip ready! Just \$27,995! 888-372-9836

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**GMC YUKON SLT 2003**  
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**GMC YUKON XL 1999**  
Silver, 4x4, \$9,995

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**GMC YUKON XL 2005**  
Dark blue, 3rd seat, \$14,995

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4 wheel drive, loaded, real sports utility! Runs/looks very good! 140,000 miles. \$4200. 734-536-5811

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Certified, chrome, heated/cooled seats, all-wheel drive. \$25,999

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**MERCURY MARINER 2008**  
Certified warranty, alloy wheels, leather, moonroof. \$17,999

**METROPOLITAN LINCOLN MERCURY (888) 808-9161**

**MONTANA 2004**  
Dark Blue, Sharp! \$6595

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White Frost, LT, 9K, ABS & AWD! Safety for any season! Call for details! 888-372-9836

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**Antique/Classic Collector Cars** (8320)

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FL car, 2nd owner, \$1K m. Hemmings book value \$5000. Asking \$490. Will consider any reasonable offer. Picture at Aco Hardware in Milford. 248-685-1616

**6360**

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Burgundy Auto, \$4,995

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**CENTURY 2003**  
White, Only \$6,495.

**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
**PONT, BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500**

**LESABRE 2003**  
Dark blue, leather, \$9,995

**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
**PONT, BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500**

**REGAL 2000**  
Save, Only \$4,995

**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
**PONT, BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500**

**RENOVEZOUS 2006**  
Tan, leather, \$10,495

**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
**PONT, BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500**

**8380**

**CTS 2007**  
Leather, surround sound and XM radio, dual exhaust \$15,525

**METROPOLITAN LINCOLN MERCURY (888) 808-9161**

**CTS 2007**  
Pearl white, Only \$19,995.

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**PONT, BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500**

**CTS 2009**  
Black, leather, \$23,995

**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
**PONT, BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500**

**MERCURY MARINER 2008**  
Certified warranty, alloy wheels, leather, moonroof. \$17,999

**METROPOLITAN LINCOLN MERCURY (888) 808-9161**

**DTA 2007**  
Pearl white, loaded! \$19,995

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**DTA 2007**  
Black, chrome, \$20,995

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**8400**

**CTA 2009**  
Victory red, auto, alloys and pl! Budget friendly! Only \$13,981. 888-372-9836

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**Chevrolet** (8400)

**MONTE CARLO 2006**  
Fire Engine Red, Alloys, LT and OnStar! A proven champion! Just \$11,975! 888-372-9836

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Sandstone, air, cruise and CD! Perfect for all ages! Just \$5,995! 888-372-9836

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Pearl white, 24K, \$10,995

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Sea Foam Blue, Stow-n-go, Alloys & ABS! Roomy Family Vehicle! Just \$21,975! 888-372-9836

**Low LaRiche**

**TOWN & COUNTRY 2009**  
White, Tinting, \$19,995

**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
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**8440**

**Dodge**

**CALIBER SXT 2009**  
Silver, auto & more! \$11,995

**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
**PONT, BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500**

**8480**

**Ford**

**FOCUS 2009**  
First Year Of Maintenance Is Free! \$13,788. Stk #10C9335A. **DEALER** 734-402-8774

**FOCUS 2009**  
First Year Of Maintenance Is Free! \$17,488. Stk #10C8735A. **DEALER** 734-402-8774

**FOCUS SE 2010**  
A/C, ABS, alloy wheels, 6-disc CD, satellite radio, \$15,999

**METROPOLITAN LINCOLN MERCURY (888) 808-9161**

**FUSION 2008**  
First Year Of Maintenance Is Free! \$17,488. Stk #10T185A. **DEALER** 734-402-8774

**FUSION 2008**  
Jet blue, SE, ABS and alloys! Very eye appealing! Call for price! 888-372-9836

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**FUSION 2009**  
First Year Of Maintenance Is Free! \$18,788. Stk #P21206. **DEALER** 734-402-8774

**MUSTANG 2005**  
72,000 miles, black, premium package, 6 disc, CD changer with MP3 player. Custom wheels. Asking \$8000. 734-812-9963

**MUSTANG 2009**  
First Year Of Maintenance Is Free! \$26,488. Stk #10T1362A. **DEALER** 734-402-8774

**Taurus 2009**  
First Year Of Maintenance Is Free! \$18,999. Stk #10T9433A. **DEALER** 734-402-8774

**8520**

**Toyota**

**SCION TC 2007**  
Plum, 25K, sunroof, alloys! Fun to drive! Just \$15,795! 888-372-9836

**Low LaRiche**

**8580**

**Volvo**

**S60 2006 2.5T**  
83,500 miles. One owner. Silver/charcoal interior. Dual power & heated leather seats. Moonroof. Service history. \$11,500. 248-399-3528.

**VOLVO XC90 2005**  
Gray, loaded, 45K, \$20,995

**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
**PONT, BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500**

**Lincoln** (8560)

**LS SPORT 2004**  
Moonroof, heated and cooled seats, chrome, remote start. \$12,988

**METROPOLITAN LINCOLN MERCURY (888) 808-9161**

**Mazda** (8580)

**MAZDA 3HB 2009**  
Air, auto, black, \$13,995

**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
**PONT, BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500**

**MIATA 2003**  
3,300 miles, garage kept, rear spoiler, silver/grey, loaded, 5 speed, \$16,000. 734-765-6016

**Mercury** (8600)

**GRAND MARQUIS LS LIMITED 2006**  
Leather, traction control, power, cassette & CD. \$13,589

**METROPOLITAN LINCOLN MERCURY (888) 808-9161**

**Oldsmobile** (8640)

**INTRIGUE 2011**  
Very good cond, runs great, 135,000 miles. \$4200. Westland area, 734-912-0165

**Pontiac** (8680)

**G-6 2007**  
Tan, air, only \$10,495

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**5K 2009**  
Red, riot, 31K, pwpl and CD! One fun coupe! Just \$12,995! 888-372-9836

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**68 2008**  
Wagon red, 21K, alloys and OnStar! Sports car handling! Just \$15,995! 888-372-9836

**Low LaRiche**

**8700**

**Saturn**

**AURA 2007**  
Silver, 29K, \$13,995

**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
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**AURA 2008**  
Royal Blue, ABS, OnStar, and 20K! Well maintained! Just \$14,973. 888-372-9836

**Low LaRiche**

**ION 2007**  
Gray, auto, \$10,395.

**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
**PONT, BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500**

**ION 2007**  
White, Only \$9,995

**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
**PONT, BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500**

**ION COUPE 2007**  
Red, 27K, \$11,995

**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
**PONT, BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500**

**VUE 2008**  
Red line, Only \$16,995

**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
**PONT, BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500**

**8720**

**Toyota**

**8780**

**Volvo**

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First Year Of Maintenance Is Free! \$4,999. Stk #10T9229A. **DEALER** 734-402-8774

**8000-8780**

**Automotive Recreational Vehicles**

**HONDA Shadow Aero 2008**  
Black and Silver, 2131 miles, \$5500/best. 734-516-7144 or 248-761-8703

**Motorcycles/Minibikes/Go-Karts** (8070)

**Camper/Motor Homes/Trailers** (8120)

**FLAGSTAFF POP UP TRAILER**  
Sleeps 8, \$3750/best. 2 dinettes that fold out into full sleepers. 2 queen beds, propane stove (inside or outside), refrigerator, sink, and propane heat. Includes all hoses and hook ups needed. Blue interior and in great shape! Top weight is 1675, currently towed with a mini van. Call Tammy at 734-765-4221 to set up an appt. summer isn't over, plenty of camping time left.

**SUN VOYAGER 2003**  
40,000 miles, steps 6, 3 slide-out, fully contained. 2 a/c. \$50,000/best. 313-381-6474.

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**Auto Auctions** (8145)

**AUCTION**  
9/15/2010, 9:00 AM  
Keford Nov Towing  
3586 Grand River  
Nov, MI 4837

1996 Mercury, Marquis, Silver. Vin #ZEMEL75W8T612376. 1999 Ford Contour White. Vin #FAPG59XK1037194. 1997 Mazda Protege, Tan. Vin #JM1BC142V0104706. 2005 Chevy Cavalier Black. Vin #1G1UC12F75190650. 1998 Mercury Cougar Green. Vin #1MEBM60P04696588. 1990 Buick Skylark Red. Vin #G4GNV5U0M086938. 1993 Pontiac Bonneville Green. Vin #1G2H53L6P1270781.

**Auto Financing** (8180)

**WE PAY TOP DOLLAR For Clean USED CARS**

**AVIS FORD**  
(248) 355-7500

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Pacific blue, LS, ABS, power optional. Truck driving bliss! Only \$15,695! 888-372-9836

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**CHEVY SILVERADO 2006**  
Blue Steel, LT, 4x4 & ABS! You deserve this truck! Call for details! 888-372-9836

**Low LaRiche**

**CHEVY SILVERADO 2007**  
Shadow black, LT, rmt start, ABS! Strong working engine! Just \$20,995! 888-372-9836

**Low LaRiche**

**DODGE DAKOTA**  
First Year Of Maintenance Is Free! \$18,988. Stk #P21212. **DEALER** 734-402-8774

**DODGE RAM 1500 1999**  
2 Dr. Auto, 145,000 miles \$2900. 248-860-7300

**DODGE RAM 2500 2000**  
Regular Cab Long Bed, Includes snow-plow, 53,000 miles. Runs good \$3700 or best offer. Call 586.826.7499

**FORD F-150 2004**  
First Year Of Maintenance Is Free! \$17,488. Stk #P21205A. **DEALER** 734-402-8774

**Trucks for Sale** (8220)

**FORD F-150 2009**  
Khaki, 6K, XLT, Sync and chrome! Own the road! Call for details! 888-372-9836

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**FORD RANGER 2002**  
First Year Of Maintenance Is Free! \$10,488. Stk #10T384A. **DEALER** 734-402-8774

**FORD RANGER 2009**  
First Year Of Maintenance Is Free! \$20,488. Stk #P21207. **DEALER** 734-402-8774

**FORD RANGER XLT 2002**  
Extended cab, sports body, chrome, bedliners cover. \$10,586

**METROPOLITAN LINCOLN MERCURY (888) 808-9161**

**LINCOLN MARK LT 4X4 2008**  
Certified, leather, chrome w/rolls, wood trim, 37,063

**METROPOLITAN LINCOLN MERCURY (888) 808-9161**

**TOYOTA TACOMA 2009**  
Certified, leather, chrome. \$18,995. First Year Of Maintenance Is Free! \$25,488. Stk #10T5111A. **DEALER** 734-402-8774

**Mini-Vans** (8240)

**CHEVY VENTURE 2002**  
Good cond, runs extremely well, pw, pl, \$3500. Call: (248) 586-4310

**DODGE CARAVAN 2002**  
First Year Of Maintenance Is Free! \$5,988. Stk #10T608A. **DEALER** 734-402-8774

**FORD FLEX 2009**  
First Year Of Maintenance Is Free! \$27,488. Stk #10C708A. **DEALER** 734-402-8774

**FORD FREESTYLE 2007**  
First Year Of Maintenance Is Free! \$14,988. Stk #10T926A. **DEALER** 734-402-8774

**FORD WINDSTAR 2002**  
First Year Of Maintenance Is Free! \$5,988. Stk #10T3198A. **DEALER** 734-402-8774

**Sports Utility** (8290)

**BUICK RAINIER 2004**  
Silver, 64K, XLS, \$15,995

**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
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**CHEVROLET HHR 2008**  
Black Wind, 5 speed, SS, and sun roof. Vroom! Just \$17,995! 888-372-9836

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**CHEVY BLAZER 2001**  
Powder, loaded, leather, moonroof, 115K miles, 1 owner, \$5000. 734-536-4550

**CHEVY EQUINOX 2010**  
Silver Cloud, 14K, LT, Remote start & more! Redesign! Beautifully! Call for price! 888-372-9836

**CHEVY TRAILBLAZER 4X4 2006**  
Sunroof, OnStar, XM radio, class III towing package. \$12,999

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**CHEVY TRAILBLAZER 2008**  
Black, leather, Only \$14,995

**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
**PONT, BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500**

**CHEVY TRAILBLAZER 2007**