# **CANTON BOARD** HONORS VIETNAM

# VETERANS, A3

# **SUNDAY**

September 19, 2010

The Observer & Eccentric

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# CONNECTION

#### Hearing set

Robert Bojaj of Farmington faces a preliminary hearing Sept. 24 before Judge Ron Lowe at 35th District Court in Plymouth. The Farmington man is accused of killing 25-year-old Shelby Gunn of Westland in a traffic crash on northbound 1275 near Koppernick in Canton Aug. 15.

The hearing was delayed while lawyers waited for blood results from the Michigan State Police, along with other pretrial discovery. Michigan State Police, along with other pretrial discovery. Michigan State Police said they have a witness who reported a vehicle passed him at a high rate of speed before the accident. A blood-alcohol test was administered to Bojaj. Bojaj was charged with second-degree murder in the death of Gunn; if he's convicted, he faces the possibility of life in prison. He's also charged with manslaughter with a motor vehicle, operating under the influence of liquor causing death and driving with a suspended license causing death. Those charges are all 15-year felonies.

#### Food drive

## Fly like an eagle

Lucas McKinney, an Ith-grader at Plymouth High School, who enjoys school, hanging out with friends, playing on the varsity football team and going to the movies with his girffriend, now stands out from other 16-year olds as a student pilos with his solo certificate.

According to David Phipps, a flight instructor with Ktze Aviation at Mettetal Airport, McKinney has been taking flying lessons at Mettetal, located at Lilley and Joy roads in Canton. He has learned about aerody-namics, lift and drag, takeoff and landing calculations, Cessna 152 flying and handling characteristics and even emergency light signals and radio calls.

"When practicing wing stall recovery, usually the most stressful maneuver for pilot applicants, Lucas just laughed and said, That was awesome," Phipps said. "Learning every-thing there is to know before an instructor lets you fly the implane all by yourself is like completing a college course and getting an X'on yourself is like completing an X'on your final exam." According to Phipps, McKinney actually received his student pilot's license on his list brithday before he went to the Secretary of State office and received his filoth in the sidney received his pilot's license on loss the flack of the FAA.



# Meal money

## Students, staffers embracing food service success

BY BRAD KADRICH

When the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education decided before the 2009-10 school year to end a 20-plus-year relationship with food service contractor Sodexho, it raised a lot of eyebrows and drew more than a few concerns.

A little more than a year later, most of those concerns have been quieted.

With things running more smoothly and the food service program turning a first-year profit of some \$230,000, all's quiet on the food front in Plymouth-Canton schools. And Kristen Hennessey, the food service manager the district hired to replace a popular, longtime Sodexho manager, knows exactly why.

"It was a culture change for the employees," Hennessey said of moving to an in-house program. We were so successful in the first year because of the incredible staff. The majority of them were very eager to hear new ideas and try new things."

Hennessey was hired in May 2009, bringing with her some 16 years experience working for Aramark Education, a food service and facilities management company. She spent the rest of the 2008-09 school year observing, then started the job for real in September 2009.

FIRST THINGS FIRST



Plymouth sophomore Tommy Lemke gets the but

out where the problems were. Since then, the staff has gone about trying to fix them.

According to Hennessey, the biggest problems — as the kids saw things — were the lack of variety of food and the length of time it took to get through the lines. Hennessey and her staff solved both problems: Shifting some food lines around between the high schools, and adding some variety to the menu.

Where kids basically had a chicken line and a pizza line, plus some a la

carte items, now they can get, among other things, pizza, several chicken items, Asian food, Mexican and subs. "Students used to get some other variety items only occasionally," Hennessey said. "(Now) we've created a food court concept, so they can still get a full meal. That really wasn't what they were doing."
Lines also weren't consistent between the three high schools, something on which Hennessey and her staff focused

# Canton collector proud of his patriotism

BY DARRELL CLEM

A wooden statue of Uncle Sam stands on Walter "Budd" Montgomery's front porch, proudly facing a U.S. flag. Smaller versions of Old Glory adorn his yard, near flowers and a signpost that reads "God Bless America."

In a tumultuous era of polarizing politics, Montgomery, 80, shows no symptoms of cynicism or apathy, and he displays his patriotism just as unwaveringly

as he did decades ago, when he started an Americana collection he estimates has grown to more than 700 items. He has meticulously filled two rooms of his Canton home with pictures of presidents and letters they sent him, wooden carvings of American bald eagles, brass seals for every U.S. state, a Civil War-era poster of President Abraham Lincoln and his administration, Bicentennial medals, histori-

Please see COLLECTOR, A5



Walt Montgomery has filled two rooms of his Canton home with what he proudly calls 'Americana.'

# **Rec director** steps down from 'gift' job

Canton Leisure Services
Director Ann Conklin, who for a
decade has overseen local parks
and recreation programs that won
national accolades and became
the envy of other communities,
confirmed Friday she will leave
her job in late December
"It has been a wonderful experience," she said, describing her
imminent departure as "bittersweet" from a job that has "truly
been a gift."
Conklin, 55, was hired in June
2000 to lead a restructured
departurent of employees who
have collectively drawn acclaim
for pristine parks, recreational
facilities such as Summit on the
Park, events such as the soccer
Canton Cup and
township Liberty
Fest, and the toptier entertainment
venue Village
Theater at Cherry
Hill.

In a crowning achievement,

Heater at Cherry
Hill.

In a crowning achievement,
Canton captured the 2008 National
Recreation and Park Association
Gold Medal Award for U.S. communities with populations of 50,000 to 100,000 people.

Though Conklin conceded the award was significant, she downplayed it Friday and said she is most proud of the strides Canton
Leisure Services made because of its employees, the township's elected leaders and community supporters.

elected leaders and communicy supporters.

"It's an end result of everybody working together," she said, adding later, "I love what I do. I have a passion for it, and I believe in what we do."

Conklin, with a \$124,048-a-year salary, has overseen a department of 60 full-time and 300 seasonal or part-time workers. While she has had differences with some employees, she said challenges are inherent in any high-level administrative job.

"We all have them," she said, "and that's what makes us stronger and better."

Conklin attributed her decision to leave to her desire to change career paths after three decades of being a top-ranking parks and recreation official, first in Howell and then in Independence Township before she was hired by Canton.

"It's time for a change and to explore some new opportunities," she said.

Township Trustee John Anthony said Conklin's expertise will be difficult to match.
"She's going to be missed, no doubt about it," he said. "She's a great Leisure Services director, and it's going to be tough to replace her. I feel like Canton has lost a lot with her leaving."

Supervisor Phil LaJoy said no formal decision has been made about the process for replacing Conklin, though he said he favors hiring internally if possible.

"I've always been a person who looks inside first if we can," he said.





Home Delivery: INDEX

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED!

#### Mom 2 Mom

Mom 2 Mom
The Plymouth Canton
Mothers of Multiples host
their semi-annual Mom-toMom sale 8:30 a.m. to noon
Saturday, Sept. 25, at West
Middle School, 444-01 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 permom@
hotmail.com.

#### Spotlight auditions

Spotlight auditions
Spotlight Players, the resident adult theater group at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton, announces auditions for "Proposals," by legendary playwright Neil Simon. This comedy is about the Hines clan and their gathering at their summer retreat one last time, 1953, with father Burt looking forward to the arrival of his ex-wife whom he still loves.

Auditions are Sept. 20-21, with registration starting at 6:30 p.m. and auditions from



## **Backpack donation**

At the Canton Rotary meeting held Sept.13, the club presented a variety of school supplies and backpacks to the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Clothing Bank. It marked the fourth year the club has supported the clothing bank. Dorthy Blazek from the clothing bank accepted the donation. The clothing bank is located at Salem High School and is open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9:30-11:30 a.m. The bank provides free clothing to families and students in need. To donate or for more information call (734) 416-6179.

students in need. To donate or for mor 7-10 p.m. Performance dates are Nov. 12-14 and Nov. 19-21. All auditions and performances are at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, in Canton. Tickets are available by phone at the Village Theater Box Office at (734) 394-5460 or online at www.spotlightplayersmi.org or in person at The Summit on the Park or at the door. Box office opens one hour prior to show-time. Tickets are \$18/ adults; \$16/seniors, \$16/students under 19.

For more information about Spotlight Players call (734) 480-4945 or visit www.spotlightplayersmi.org. Click on auditions.

### Mackinac Island trip

Area seniors are encouraged to experience the ultimate Mackinac Island vacation at the magnificent Grand Hotel Oct. 11-14 during this annual autumn trip. This all-inclusive bus trip, presented by Canton Senior Center in partnership with the Michigan Recreation and Park Association (MRPA), is designed for individuals 50 years or older, but spouses, sons, daughters, and caregivers under 50 are also welcome. This fun four-day getaway to Mackinac Island includes: roundtrip transportation; accommodations at the historic Grand Hotel; baggage handling, taxes and tips; a

full breakfast each morning; a five-course dinner each evening; carriage tours; nightly dancing; contests; movies; a history lecture; a walking tour; special discounts; a final evening celebration; and more! "Our hope is that seniors don't miss this opportunity to experience the beauty and serenity of one of Michigan's great treasures," said Susan Doughty, Recreation Specialist. "The Grand Hotel has played host to many well-known names over the years, including several U.S. Presidents; Mark Twair; Madonna; and Barbara Walters. We'd love for as many seniors as possible to experience a visit to this historic gem where cars are not allowed and the horse and

We'd love for as many seniors as possible to experience a visit to this historic gem where cars are not allowed and the horse and carriage is the favored mode of transportation."

Fees for this unforgettable trip are: \$869 single/\$679 double/\$620 triple. A deposit is due at the time of registration at the Senior Center and the registration deadline October 1, 2010. For additional information, contact the Senior Center Front Desk at 734/394-5485 or visit Cantonfun.org.

#### Service salute

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 todis
play 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 may contact Cable TV studio manager Dave Harris at (734) 394-5241.

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

#### Call for crafters

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@
comeast.net or Alice Chrenko,
(248) 348-9610 or dachrenko@hotmail.com

#### Check out Canton

The Canton Economic Development office and the Canton Public Library have teamed up to help the com-munity "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.

Crafters wanted

#### 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 craftshow@abecket.org or call St. Thomas a Becket at (734) 981-1333.

#### CORRECTION

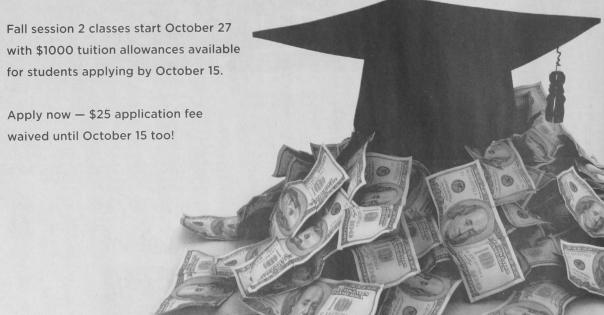
A story in the Sunday, Sept. 12, Observer should have said the "thumbs-up" consensus vote on whether the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools should proceed with the Dynamic Planning program should have said the 5-1 vote had Trustee Dianne Gonzalez voting "thumbs up."



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# Canton board honors Vietnam veterans



Canton Trustee John Anthony poses with Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 528 President Mike Steffes, Joe Agius, John Spencer, first vice president Jim

A group of Vietnam veterans that formed an organization 20 years ago has been honored by Canton Township's elected leaders. With just over 200 members, the Vietnam Veterans of America Plymouth-Canton Chapter 528 was lauded for their two decades of service Thesday by the Canton Township Board of Trustees. Chapter President Mike Steffes, Vice President Jim Hodsgon, founding member Joe Agius and member John Spencer, accompanied by an associate member, Spencer's wife Nancy, attended the board meeting as township officials adopted a resolution honoring the VVA Chapter 528's 20th anniversary.

sary.

Reading from a formal resolution, township Trustee John Anthony noted that the national VVA was formed to guarantee that "never again

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will one generation of veter-ans abandon another" — a reference to the lack of respec-some people paid to Vietnam veterans at the time of the

war.
Anthony also said the VVA
was formed "to promote and
support the full range of
issues important to Vietnam
veterans, to create a new
identity for this generation of
veterans and to change public
perception of Vietnam veterans."

ans.
, Since it was formed, VVA
Chapter 528 has been involv

Chapter 528 has been involved in community events such as parades, educational programs, veteran funerals and memorial services.

VIA Chapter 528 meets at 7 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at the VFW Post 6695, located at 1426 S. Mill Street just north of Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth. For more information, visit the group's Web site at www.vva528.org.

# Canton police head effort to snag unneeded meds

BY DARRELL CLEM

With prescription drug abuse increasing, Canton police have announced an effort to get unneeded medica tions out of local homes and turned over to federal authori-

ties.
Anyone who has prescription drugs they don't need may bring them to the front desk area of the Canton Police Department, 1150 S. Canton Center south of Cherry Hill, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 25, police Sgt. Mark Gajeski said.
Canton police will accept

Saturday, Sept. 25, police Sgt. Mark Gajeski said.
Canton police will accept the drugs, which Gajeski said will be placed in receptacles provided by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. This is something new for us, "Gajeski said.
Federal authorities will properly dispose of the drugs. The program comes amid studies showing that millions of Americans who don't need prescription drugs for legitimate medical reasons are using them, Gajeski said. "More Americans are abusing psychotherapeutic drugs than heroin, cocaine and hal-

lucinogenic drugs combined, he said.

lucinogenic drugs combined," he said.

According to a U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration Web site, the abuse of prescription drugs such as Lortab, Lorcet, Vicodin, OxyContin and Methadone is increasing in Michigan.

The website cites Detroit as one of the cities from which OxyContin is transported and distributed to users in states such as Kentucky and West Virginia, where the drugs are sold for a high profit margin.

Anyone who wants to get rid of unused prescription drugs in their homes should bring them to the police department rather than disposing of the substances themselves, Gajeski said.

substances themselves, Gajesk said.

"You never want to flush it down the toilet and introduce it to the water system," he said. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Flushing the drugs or pouring them down a drain may result in them ending up in lakes, streams and water supplies where "they may be harmful to fish, wildlife and their habitats."

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# Drunken, distracted driving simulation a 'wake-up call'

About 80 students at Schoolcraft College in Livonia experienced what it was like to drive while drunk or distracted Tuesday without actually going out onto the road.

The students participated in The National Alive Tour 10, which uses a high tech simulator, impact video and other resources to educate the students about the dangers of texting while intoxicated.

The program uses real cars that remain stationary, but the participants are able to accelerate, brake and turn. A 180-degree headset allows them to see shopping plazas as they "drive" by, pedestrians in the roadway, and the like. "This is as close to driving as you can get without actually driving a vehicle," said Patrick DeGrasse, owner of UNITE International, the Grand Rapids-based nonprofit that puts on the program.

The college sponsored the tour as a public service; it was free to students.

DeGrasses said 99 percent of participants say they weren't aware of how dangerous texting while having only a couple drinks is. "It's definitely a wake-up call," DeGrasses said. "A lot of the students do crash. The students are not set up to fail; however, the majority of them do."

Participants who fail or crash are issued mock tickets for drunken or distracted driving.



Tabby Hadad, 18, of Plymouth, gets instructions from driving coach Jan Griffith

drinking enough to have a blood alcohol level of .08, the legal limit, because that is when most accidents happen. Many people have the misconception that it's OK to drive when simply "buzzed," he said. "We want these students to realize just because you think you're not that drunk doesn't mean you aren't." He said the car simulates wide turns, delayed braking and other actions characteristic of a drunken driver. In the simulation, the driver is sober but the car is drunk, he said.

During the testing while driving simulation, the participants are sent a text they are

supposed to reply to.

In the meantime, during the simulations "things happen," such as a pedestrian walking out from between two parked

out from between two parked cars.
"We're not simulating anything that couldn't happen in real life," DeGrasse said. He said the program has been proven to be effective.
Michelle Gaynier, communications coordinator for Schoolcraft College, said this is the third year a drunken driving simulator has been on campus thanks to the support of the Schoolcraft College. Foundation. It was the first time for UNITE's program.

She said drunken and dis-She said drunken and distracted driving programs have a tremendous impact not only those who experience the simulation, but also on those who observe the simulation and hear the feedback from the students after their experience.

ticipate in the simulation, she said.

Cheryl Hagen, dean of student services, said one of the school's top priorities is keeping students safe. "We are grateful to the Foundation for supporting worthy efforts like this one that engage and educate students with experiential learning through simulation," she said.



Mike Nshiwat, 17, of Canton gets out of car after flunking the driving test.



Brad Beleski, 18, of Plymouth participates in the simulation

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# Canton man bound for trial on sex charges

A Canton man accused of sexually abusing a 13-year-old girl remains jailed with a \$1 million bond as he awaits trial in Wayne County Circuit Court on numerous criminal sex-related charges.

Horst Gustav Drost, 51, consideration of the prison if he is convicted of three counts of



against him during a Sept. 10 preliminary hearing in 35th District Court. "She did a good job," Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner said

said.
Since the defendant was arrested in August, law-enforcement officials have combed through thousands of images on his computer, including many police labeled as child pornography.
"There are at least 1,000

images we've been able to confirm are likely child por-nography." Detective Andrew Colthurst has said. "There are also images of the victim ... that are pornographic in seature."

... that are pornographic in nature."

Drost had initially been scheduled for an Aug. 27 hearing in 35th District Court, but it was delayed for two weeks as authorities sorted through the images they said they found on Drost's computer.

don't fight like cats and dogs like, say, some Republicans and Democrats are prone to do.

Montgomery appears well-liked in his subdivision, and he said his story wouldn't be complete without mentioning his friends and crime-fighting neighborhood watch buddies — Aaron Batchelder, Roger Craske, Kurt Long, John Long, Rick Bowling, Mike Donovan, Garrett Chandler and Mark Whitaker.

"They're waiting for me to play horseshoes if I ever get over this knee-replacement surgery! Thad'n nearly a year ago, Montgomery said.

Knee surgery or not, nothing can keep him from tending to his patriotic collection. And if he tires of the items he has on display, never fear. Just ask his wife.

"He's got a lot of stuff still stored outside in the shed," she

vire. Ie's got a lot of stuff still ed outside in the shed," she

CONKLIN

involved in the process because it would have to give permission to simply seek candidates from within rather than broaden the search. Either way, he said, LaJoy would ultimately choose Conklin's successor.

"I'm going to have to have some discussion with the township supervisor in the very near future," Medley said. "I'm sure he's going to have some discussions with board members" from the Canton Township Board of Trustees.

The salary range for the position is \$95.419 to \$124.048, Medley said. He indicated that discussions also could center on whether to maintain the director's position for Leisure Services or to potentially revamp the duties and assign them to other employees as a cost-saving measure.

LaJoy lauded Conklin's job performance in a township that prides itself on its parks and recreation amenities and programs.

"She has made a significant contribution to the quality of life we know today in Canton,"

"She has made a significant contribution to the quality of life we know today in Canton," LaJoy said. "She has done an outstanding job, and we're going to miss her."

Conklin said she plans to take a few months off work and then might consider seeking a job as a consultant or with a nonprofit organization.

"I want to do something where I can really make a difference," she said. "I want to give back."

COLLECTOR

cal books and red, white and blue memorabilia such as a tie, a chair and a quilt, among numerous other items.

"I love this country so much," Montgomery said. "I just like everything it represents, because this is the best country in the world, and I've been all over the world."

A Detroit native, he worked as a teenager taking pictures on the Boblo boat long before served in the U.S. Army in 1947-50 and 1956-59.

Though his service took him no farther than Canada, that changed when he followed his father's path and became a U.S. Merchant Marine in 1961-70, traveling to countries such as India and Australia.

"I probably made 25 trips to Vietnam," Montgomery said.

A retired construction worker, he said he seriously started his Americana collection some 30 years ago. His wife, Janet, doesn't mind and has even bought a few items for him.

"I think he does a good job," she said. "He dusts it and cleans it, and I do the vacuuming."

They have three grown chil-

cleans it, and I do the vacuuming."

They have three grown children and two grandchildren, who enjoy visiting because they know their sweet-tooth cravings can be satisfied by Montgomery's old-fashioned bubblegum machine.

In one room, pictures of U.S. presidents of both political



Walt Montgomery's bedroom is adorned

Walt Montpomery's bedroom is adorn parties can be seen, though Montgomery is a Democrat who recalls the year he wrote President Bill Clinton and received a Christmas card in return. He also penned a letter to President Barack Obama and got a reply thanking him for his support.

"I told him I thought he would be a good president. It didn't matter to me what race he is," Montgomery said, adding that he still supports Obama for reasons such as his efforts to extend unemployment benefits to laid-off, struggling Americans. On one shelf in Montgomery's house, a bust of President John F. Kennedy stands next to a wooden American eagle, given to him by his late brother, Ronald.

"My brother lived in the Philippines and brought the eagle from there," Montgomery said. "He was in the Merchant Marines, too, and he later owned a bar in the

Philippines."

Montgomery has traded and bought his Americana collection mostly in Michigan, finding sometimes-rare items in places such as flea markets, yard sales and antique stores. However, he found items such as brass state seals as far away as San Francisco.



a 9-year-old Pekingese, Zipper, and 10-year-old cat, Gage, who get along just fine. The pets



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## Help Shape Canton's Future! Canton Leisure Services Wants To Hear From You!

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antonfun.org Helping Our Members Live Healthier Lives



# More students qualify for reduced-price meals

OBSERVER STAFF MRITER

It's a sign of the times
— an increased number of
Plymouth-Canton Community
Schools students qualify for
free or reduced-cost lunches
through the federal school
lunch program.

That means more kids are
also eating breakfast at school.
Some 15 percent of
Plymouth-Canton's 19,000
students qualified for the program at the end of the 2009flo school year, compared
to some 14 percent the year
before, according to Kristen
Hennessey, the district's director of food services. Figures
for 2010-11 aren't yet available because families are still
applying, she said.

While that statistic means
more students also now qualify
for the breakfast program,
Hennessey said it won't have
any operational impact on the
district because PlymouthCanton has for years offered
breakfast at all its buildings,
something that's not required
based on numbers.

"That's huge, because a lot
of districts, especially a dis-

trict that's only at 17 percent, wouldn't offer it because they don't have to," Hennessey said. "For us, it was all about education, about letting parents know they're eligible for this benefit."

L'e an important benefit to.

know they're eligible for this benefit."
It's an important benefit to have, Hennessey said, because studies show the impact a good breakfast can have on student achievement.
"Statistics tell it all," Hennessey said. "Teachers report there are fewer disciplinary issues, students are more attentive and they're ready to learn because their bellies are full."
Elementary school students pay \$2.50 per meal in the Plymouth-Canton district, while middle- and high-school meals range in cost from \$2.75 to \$3.50.
A family of four with an annual income of \$40,793 or less qualified for a reduced-cost lunch last school year; a family of four with an annual income of \$28,665 or less qualified for a free lunch, according to U.S. Department of Agriculture website.



Students find the dining experience a little quicker and easier since food lines and a variety of food choices were added

FOOD

their first year. Salem High School, Hennessey said, had been sort of "the" meeting place but changes throughout the campus have changed that.

#### SPREAD THE WEALTH

SPREAD THE WEALTH
For instance, Hennessey found a little-used room at Canton High School and converted it into "The Bistro Room," a quiet, deli-style area with high tables and a soothing atmosphere. It had the convenient effect of adding yet another line at Canton.
"It has a really cool atmosphere, and the kids know we've invested something (in Canton)," Hennessey said.
"They see we arent just putting effort into Salem or the 'new' building (Plymouth)."
Donna Barnes, the cafeteria manager at Plymouth High School and a 13-year employee in the department, admit-\*\*



An Asian food line was added to the food repertoire at the high school campus. "I'm not a big fan," said Plymouth High School senior Joey McBride, "but it gives people choices."

ted to a little angst when the board made the decision to ax Sodexho and bring the operation in-house, noting "things were good" under Sodexho.

"I'm very pleasantly surprised... it's been a great change," said Barnes, who notes changes such as the line shifting and additional food choices on the self-serve line have made lines go quicker. "(Hennessey) has blown this program out of the water."

#### ALL ABOUT CHOICE

ety and in time.

"It's easier to get through (the lines)," said Plymouth High School senior Joey McBride, who noted a significant reduction in time wasted in line. "It's been getting better, the taste and the variety. Now we have subs and wraps and all that good stuff. We have Asian food; I'm not a big fan myself, but it gives people more choices."

In addition to adding food, the department is making sure to focus on healthy choices. For instance, the district hopes to switch to all whole-grain bread items, use enhanced breakfast programs, focus on Michigan fruits and vegetables, and attain "bronze level" status for all 16 elementary schools in the Healthier U.S. Schools Challenge.

With so much extracurricular activity in the district, Hennessey and her staff also felt it was important to offer students an after-school option. Hennessey said she was troubled seeing parents

driving up to a building and handing off a bag of fast-food to their children.

Now, the district's food service department stays open 45 minutes after school, offering students a chance to grab a sub, some protein bars and drinks such as Gatorade.

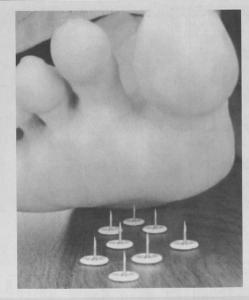
"It's been a really great thing," she said. "Tve had parents calling to thank me."

It seems to be working, total meals being consumed in the district rose from 1.44 million in 2008-2009 to hearly 1.6 million in 2008-2009 to hearly 1.6 million in revenue. The program, which had been projected to make some \$80,000 in its first year, nearly tripled that.

And Hennessey thinks it can get better. "This district has so much

And Hennessey thinks it can get better.

"This district has so much to tap," she said. "They just got used to doing things in a cer-tain way. We had some fresh ideas, and they seem to be working."



# Do you experience...

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# **Canton Foundation sponsors** vet benefits education seminar

Educating veteran advo-cates, and the estimated 400,000 veterans in metro Detroit, about benefits avail-able from the Department of Veterans Affairs is the focus of a two-day seminar, sponsored by the Canton Community Foundation with the support of the Holbrook Charitable Trust.

of the Holbrook Charitable
Trust.
Space is still available for
the conference Sept. 21-22 at
Laurel Manor and Conference
Center, 39000 Schoolcraft,
Livonia.
The first day of the conference
will be devoted to the
training of professionals who
work for veterans, including
attorneys, County Service
Officers (CSO), Veteran
Services Officers (VSO) and
independent veteran advocates.

The second day, which is free of charge, will focus on Wayne County veterans, their families

and the host of benefits available through the VA. Those benefits and programs include health care, disability benefits social services, housing, and

social services, housing, and burial.

As of 2009, the VA reported approximately 23.1 million liv-ing U.S. veterans, 8 percent of whom are women. But at an estimated 36 million, there are

estimated 36 million, there are even more surviving spouses and dependent children of living and deceased veterans, who may be eligible for certain benefits.

Pre-registration is required for professionals, and veterans and their families. A continental breakfast and lunch will be served both days of the conference. Registration for attorneys is \$125. Registration for veterans is free. Registration may be completed online at www.cantonfoundation.org or by calling the CCF at (734) 495-1200.

## Rabbit rescue celebrates five years

Rabbit rescue celebrates five year

Midwest Rabbit Rescue & Re-home,
a non-profit organization dedicated to
rescuing domestic rabbits from abandonment, abuse and neglect, then adopting
those rabbits into permanent, loving
homes, celebrated its fifth anniversary
Saturday.

A dramatic renovation and expansion of
the rescue facility occurred this summer,
and the 100 resident rabbits now have a
brighter, more inviting space.

In its five years, Midwest Rabbit Rescu
& Re-home has helped over 875 rabbits
(the third most common household pet)
find permanent homes, which is an adop
tion rate of about one rabbit every other
day. Midwest Rabbit Rescue & Re-home
receives a large portion of its funding
through public donations, and is run
entirely by volunteers who donate over
1,200 hours per month to care for the
resident rabbits.

Hospice walk

#### Hospice walk

On Saturday, Sept. 25, Angela Hospice will host its third Annual Walk of Remembrance, in which individuals, families and friends can walk in honor and celebration of loved ones they've lost, while supporting programs for terminally ill patients and their families.

The walk begins at Madonna University in Livonia, with registration at 8 a.m. and

**NEWS BRIEFS** 



Lisa Powell of Canton holds Denier, a resident the Midwest Rabbit Rescue in Plymouth. Midwe Rabbit Rescue celebrated its fifth anniversary over the weekend.

the opening ceremony at 9 a.m.

"The Walk of Remembrance is a wonderful event for anyone who has lost a loved one," said Syndie Best, volunteer coordinator for Angela Hospice. "It's a chance to set aside a couple of hours in our very buys lives and choose to remember the ones we love who have passed on. The beautiful surroundings of the walk route are enhanced by musicians and volunteers placed along the way. At the end of the walk, having an opportunity to

decorate a rock with the name of a loved one is a very moving experience."

Last year more than 500 people participated in the Walk of Remembrance and an even greater response is expected this year. The walk is a 2.3-mile route through the idyllic grounds of the Felician Sisters, including Madonna University, the Central Convent, Ladywood High School and Angela Hospice. All proceeds from the Walk of Remembrance will benefit Angela Hospice's programs for terminally ill patients and their families, including free grief support counseling, which is available to anyone in the community.

"Participants have been so positive about the event," said Barb Iovan, event coordinator for Angela Hospice. "This year, we are inviting people to form teams as a way to both memorialize their loved ones, while bringing friends and family together, and at the same time raise funds for Angela Hospice programs."

Individuals and teams may register in advance for the Walk of Remembrance by calling Barb Iovan at (734) 953-6045 or downloading a registration form at www. angelahospice.org.

Registration includes a commemorative T-shirt, ribbon, craft and refreshments. Fees for adults are \$20 each in advance for \$25 each the day of); children ages 6-12 are \$5; children 5 and under are free and do not need to register.













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# Fans 'Plum' happy to meet favorite author

BY BRAD KADRICH

One couldn't have blamed Allen Youngpeter for feeling a little bit alone at the Northville Barnes & Noble store Thursday.

He was, after all, one of very few men in a sea of women waiting patiently to see best-selling author Janet Evanovich, in town to promote her latest book, Wicked Appetite. While Evanovich said women make up some 60 percent of her readership, the lines at Barnes & Noble bore a much higher female presence. Youngpeter, a Canton resident, took his lone-maleness in stride, satisfying himself simply with getting Evanovich's autograph.

"I picked up one of her books at the airport, and I was hooked," said Youngpeter, who bought one copy of Wicked Appetite for himself and another to give as a Christmas present. The characters are quirky, they're fun. It's a laugh-a-minute read with a lot of adventure thrown in. Her books are character-driven, and that's nice.

Fans lined up deep into the store Thursday after having secured color-coded tickets. They brought loads of books and their own personal cameras, were entertained by Evanovich's daughter, Alex, and local residents drafted to help with the event.



the signing drifted into what Evanovich proudly calls a "party atmosphere," where fans could grab a photo and a hug. "I'm not an ivory-tower writer," said the author, best-known for her Stephanie Plum series. "I love having the fams right there in front of me, I like to take pictures (with them), I like that they can yell at me."

their favore author.
But it hasn't always been that way. Evanovich, who went to Douglass College as a painter, got her start years ago writing stories that went unpublished — when rejection letters piled up high enough, she set them on fire — and transitioned into writing romance novels. She spent five years writing those, an experience she called 'rewarding,' before tiring of it and make the decision to move into mysteries.

#### NEW DIRECTION

She spent a couple of years retooling herself, learning to shoot and "drinking beer with law enforcement types" while crafting her image of Plum,

the lingerie-buyer-turned-bounty-hunter who has become easily her most popu-lar character. Plum stumbles through the career change, and through her personal life, the same way Evanovich her-self greevi

the same way Evanovich herself grew up.
"There's a lot of me in
Stephanie, and a lot of my
daughter," Evanovich said.
"I'm like a big stew ... you just
dump everything in."
Her first Plum novel, One
for the Money, was a little
darker than the rest of the
series, the latest of which is
Sizzling Sixteen. That's by
design, Evanovich said, in an
effort to capture a little wider
audience. She said she did ton
of research in the beginning,



Best-selling author Janet Evanovich posed for hundreds of pictures and

talking to law enforcement officers and bail bondsmen, but needs less of that now, since the books have focused as much on the characters as the careers.

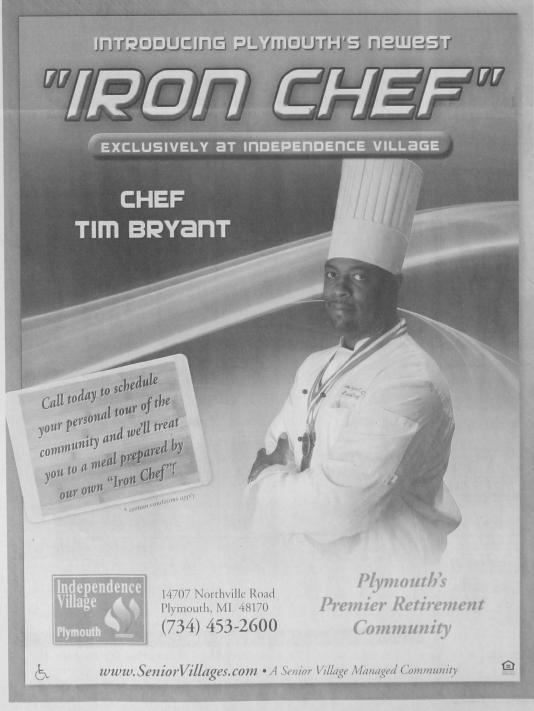
That focus is fine with readers, who find the Plum novels easy to read. The characters, from Plum herself to her quirky Grandma Mazur, are endearing to the readers. "They make you laugh," said Alice Brooks of Northville, who waited in line with Barb Hendrickson of Livonia, copies of Wicked Appetite in hand. "I love everything about Grandma Mazur. I can relate to them with their sense of character."

#### LAUNCH VEHICLE

LAUNCH VEHICLE
While the Plum series draws
legions of fans to Evanovich,
she was in town to launch
Wicked Appetite, the vehicle
for a character named Diesel,
a hero with strange powers.
While Evanovich developed
him in the Plum books, fans

have taken to him in droves, prompting Evanovich to break him out into his own series. "He became so popular it became obvious we had something really appealing," Evanovich said. "We decided to give him his own show." While she's gotten famous writing Plum, Evanovich said Diesel might be her favorite character, and she called Wicked Appetite her favorite character, and she called Wicked Appetite her favorite character, and she called Wicked Appetite her favorite most with the same series of the more normal characters she's crafted. "Of all the heroes I've created, he's the most normal," Evanovich said. "He has all these powers, but he's the 'guy'. He's confident, he's a little pushy in a charming way, he's the guy who steps out of his underwear and just leaves them there. He's an endearing character." While there won't be any crossover between Diesel's world and Plum's, Evanovich also pointed out the creation of the Diesel series does not mean the end of the Plum series. Evanovich, who gets up at 5:30 a.m., figures she'll write Stephanie "until I die." "It's all I do," she said of writing. 'I don't have any hobbies. I'm the world's most boring person. I live in a fabulous place. I can't imagine not going to the computer. It doesn't seem right."

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UNITED TEMPERATURE

# Freshman assembly rolls out rules in fun way

Deserver staff writer

Learning the rules had a football flavor for freshmen at Wayne Memorial High School who met their "super team," not in the classroom, but at the high school football stadium.

Led by Coach Wiz, also known as Mary Wizinsky, teachers wearing everything thing from football jerseys and T-shirts promoting Wayne Pride and bandanas and sunglasses, teachers in the four main subject areas — mathematics, science, English and social studies — and the class sponsors took to the football field to introduce the class of 2014 to the school rules.

One by one, the teachers took the field, with the emceproviding students with humorous information about them.

"She's notorious for tripping."

them.
"She's notorious for tripping.
She's fallen in her classroom, in the hall and on the stairs.
She's been taken out of the school in a wheelchair twice," the emcee said of English teacher Amy Story.
Teacher Scott Raisanen was greeted with cheers. Wayne Memorial's one and only math rapper, he let the students know what they face the next four years.

rapper, he let the students know what they face the next four years.

"You're done with eighth grade and you think you're a big shot, but you're not, you got four more years," Raisaner napped for the students.
"Here's where you'll shine for the next four years."
There also were skits to introduce the rules, with flags being thrown for such things as a dress code violation, loi-tering in the hallways, tardy to class and using electronic devices like cell phones and iPods in school.

"Walk and talk," the announcer said as the flag flew on loitering in the hallways." No student is allowed to loiter, it's a safety issue. You're not allowed to congregate in the hallway, walk and talk," the "Hallways" that Call," students learned that the first offense for using their phone or iPod in school is a three-day in school suspension, while the second offence is good for a three-day out-of-school suspension.

"Any active cell phone is a

a three-usy one of pension.

"Any active cell phone is a suspendable offense," student were told.

Freshmen also got a few tips, including "there's no fourth floor, no matter what seniors say."



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FRI-MON/WED/TH TUE 12:00, 2:30 VAMPIRES SUCK (PG-13) VAMPIRES SUCK (PG-13)

THE EXPENDABLES (

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2010 6:00 P.M.

**CANTON CINEMA** 

# STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF WAYNE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

AMENDMENT TO THE CRIMINAL CODE ORDINANCE

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NUMBER C-2010-13

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NUMBER C-2010-13

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. C-2009-26, THE CRIMINAL CODE FOR THE TOWNSHIP, ADOPTING BY REFERENCE CERTAIN 90 DAY AND 93 DAY MISDEMEANOR SECTIONS OF THE PENAL CODE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN; PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION BY REFERENCE OF THE CURFEW FOR CHILDREN ACT, PUBLIC ACT 41, OF 1960; PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION BY REFERENCE OF DISORDERLY PERSON, POSSESSION OF A BB GUN BY A MINOR, RECKLESS USE OF A FIREARM, NAUTY BY FIREARM; AND RECKLESS USE OF A FIREARM, PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES; PROVIDING FOR CITATION, LARCENY, UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE OF LAW, ATTEMPT AND ACCESSORIAL LIABILITY; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

SECTION I. AMENDMENT OF ORDINANCE.

Section 2. Curfew, Adoption by Reference. This provides that the Curfew for Children Act, Public Act 41 is being adopted by reference.

Section 6. Attempts. This section pro

Section 8. Violation and Penalty. This section that the penalty for violation of the hereby adopted by e State Penal Code sections shall be a maximum of 90 jail and/or a maximum fine of Five Hundred (\$500,00) or both, unless the penalty under state law for a violation

This section provides that an n be severed from the rest of the Ordina

SECTION IV. SAVINGS CLAUSE.

SECTION VI. EFFECTIVE DATE.



Math teacher Kim Brannon hits high fives with her super teammates.



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#### ORDER OF PUBLICATION ON HEARING

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

STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF ST. CLAIR CIRCUIT COURT-FAMILY DIVISION

A petition has been filed in the above matter A hearing will be conducted by the Court on Wednesday, October 13, 2010, at 1:30 p.m. in the Family Division Courtroom, Room 2108, County Building, 2011 McMorran Blvd, in the City of Fort Huron, Michigan, praying that further disposition be made in the matter of Sarah Corinne Decker, who was born on 5/221/995 and Justin Paul McMeekin who was born on 6/7/1996, to Deborah Leslie, and who was heretofore adjudged as coming within the provision of Probate Act No. 54, P.A. extra session 1944, Section 2, as amended.

#### **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

Stavens 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. 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, Belleville and Van
Buren Township, Belleville and van
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take her brief community survey by visiting her web site at www.house.mi.gov/ dslavens.

#### Wadsworth conversations

Wadsworth conversations
Joan Wadsworth,
Democratic candidate for
the Michigan House of
Representatives 20th District
seat, will host an informal
Community Conversations
with voters in Northville,
Plymouth, Canton, and Wayne
during a coffee Tuesday at The
Coffee Bean, 884 Penniman, in
Plymouth.
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 sertif. Wid-Reaveth bales will her

strengthening education, and supporting community services. Wadsworth also will be available to discuss any other issues on the minds of voters and answer questions.

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.

# New Miss Wayne County crowned



Sarah Suydam of St. Clair Shores waves to the audience after being crowned 2010 Miss Wayne County.

A 20-year-old Wayne State University student is the wear-ing a crown after being select-ed as the new Miss Wayne

County.

Moments after being selected, Sarah Suydam of St. Clair Shores shared her excitement about winning the Miss Wayne County title.

"I am already looking forward to my duties this year-traveling, meeting new people, and getting the word out about my platform, which is Animal Cruelty Prevention and Awareness," said Suydam.

The pageant was held at Churchill High School in Livonia and featured 12 contestants from around the Wayne County, Suydam receives a \$745 scholarship and the opportunity to compete for the Miss Michigan title in Muskegon on June 18, 2011. Suydam is majoring in broadcast journalism and hopes to become a reporter for a top news network or host a radio morning show.

During her year as Miss Wayne County, Suydam will travel throughout the state advocating her platform issue. She will talk to various government representatives, business leaders, community groups and citizens-at-large, urging them to get involved promoting animal cruelty prevention. "Sarah Suydam embodies the qualities a role model for young women and girls should have," said Sheila Sigro, executive director of the Miss Wayne County Scholarship Program. "She's talented, ambitious and accomplished. We are excited about working with her this year."

A number of other contestants received awards during

the competition, including:
• First Runner-Up and
Talent and Swimsuit Awards
Rachel Manna of Farmingtor
Hills.
• Second Runner-Up and
Companyity Service Award

Second Runner-Up and Community Service Award - Elyse Losen of Belleville.
 Third Runner-Up, People's Choice Award, and Miss Congeniality - Lauren Allen of Inkster.
 Fourth Runner-Up - Erin Hall of Dearborn.
 Non-Finalist Talent Award (tie) - Da'Stanza Murphy of Taylor and Christina Besh of Canton.

(tie) - Da'Stanza Murphy of Taylor and Christina Besh of Canton.

Rounding out the contestants were Brittany Andrews of Livonja, Christina Stachel of Clawson, Gabrielle Boyer of Belleville, Jasmine Jones of Detroit and Teresha Hendricks of Westland.

Established in 1991, the Miss Wayne County Scholarship Program provides opportunities for young women to achieve their personal and professional ambitions. Contestants also participate in community service activities and develop leadership skills that help them excel in their chosen career and life goals. A not-for-profit affiliate of the Miss America Organization, winners of the annual Miss Wayne County Competition are eligible to compete in the Miss Michigan Competition. The Miss America Organization is one of the nation's leading achievement programs and the world's largest provider of scholarship assistance for young women. Each year, the Miss America Organization makes available more than \$40 million in cash and tuition scholarship assistance.



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Youngsters will have a chance to try their hand a playing Hoops at the

# Nankin Mills returns to 1800s with Pioneer Day

Did you ever wonder what it would be like to live in the 1800s?

Bring the entire family to experience yesteryear from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 25, at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center in Westland.

There will be period demonstrations featuring blacksmithing, barrel making, wool spinning, weaving and much more. The musical sounds of Pix n' Sticks, with live hammer dulcimer, guitar, banjo, fiddle and vocals will fill the air. Historical storytellers will portray Harriet Tubman of the underground railroad, and Bela Hubbard, early Michigan geologist and explorer.

Kids will enjoy free pony and trackless train rides and have the opportunity to pet farm

animals. There will also be kids' old time crafts and family pioneer games. In the new kids chore area, kids will see what it was like to wash clothes on a washboard, carry a yoke on their shoulders and churn but-

a washboard, carry a yoke in their shoulders and churn but-ter.

The event is free of charge, however, there will be tickets sold for kids' crafts of \$4 per child. A snack concession also will be available.

The Nankin Mills Interpretive Center is located on Hines Drive, just east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland. Parking is available off of Hines Drive, and can be reached even, if the road is closed at Ann Arbor Trail. For more information, call the Wayne County Parks at (734) 261-1990.

# Old GM stock is worthless; new GM stock is risky

rupt General Motors) stayed with the old GM and that compa-ny is still under the jurisdiction of the bank-

Q: Dear Rick: I'm a former employee of General Motors and I still own a large number of shares. In addition, I still have a number of stock options that don't expire for a few years. When GM starts selling stock again, will the shares that I own be worth something? Will I be able to sell them? Do the stock options that I have transfer to the new stock? Do you recommend that people buy GM stock again. My feeling is GM will once again be the No. 1 car maker in the world, so why not get in on the ground floor.

A: First, the bad news. The GM stock you own is virtually worthless. The issuance of new stock will have no effect on the shares you own. The stocks, even though they are both General Motors stocks, are from two separate corporations.

When GM went into bankrupte; it was divided into old GM and new GM. The new GM took the good assets and formed the new corporation. That is the GM that you see building and selling cars. The stock that GM is issuing in a few months reflects the new company.

The so-called bad assets (and

reflects the new company.

The so-called bad assets (and most of the liabilities of pre-ban)



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

that you possess reflect the old company. This stock is virtually worthless.

In the future there may be some nominal value, but I doubt it. After all, that corporation is still in bankruptcy and its liabilities far exceed assets. Once attorneys are paid and liabilities are settled, there will be nothing left, thus shareholders of the old General Motors will get nothing. Even if the new GM stock takes off, it will have no impact on the old stock.

Should you buy the new General Motors stock in the initial public offering (IPO)? Keep in mind the GM of the past, which at one time was the largest corporation in the world and for stock and have a support of the largest corporation in the world and for stock as the largest corporation in the world and for stock as the largest corporation in the world and for stock as the largest corporation of the largest corporation in the world and for stock as the largest corporation in the world and for stock as the largest corporation in the world and for stock as the largest corporation in the world and for stock as the largest corporation in the world and for stock as the largest corporation in the world and for stock as the largest corporation in the source of the stock as the largest corporation in the source of the stock as the largest corporation in the source of the source of the stock as the stock as the stock as the source of the source

in the world, is gone for good. The new GM, although having many of the same elements as the past such as Cadillac, Buick and Chevrolet, is a new entity with new management. From a financial standpoint, it is a mere shadow of its old self. As much as I am rooting for the new GM to be successful, I have to look at things without emotion. Always remember that as an investor the goal is to make money. I believe the new company faces many challenges, making its new stock offering speculative at best.

Some of the issues affecting GM include the economy as a whole and increased competition at home and abroad. In addition, even after this initial public offering, the major shareholder will be the government. I am not one of those people that believe in conspiracies nor am I in any way anti-government. However, the reality is the government's interest and those of ordinary shareholders can and do differ. An example was recently disclosed in a new book, Overhaul: Auto Triumphs of "Unshaven, Sockless Men,"

by former car czar, Steven
Rattner. While General Motors
was restructuring itself, the
company decided it should
move its world headquarters
from Detroit to the Tech Center
in Warren for financial reasons. According to the book,
the Obama administration
vetoed this based upon the
economic impact on the city
of Detroit. Shareholders of the
corporation want the company
to be a good corporate citizen,
however, the bottom line is the
bottom line. With the government involved, other issues,
albeit important issues, may
take more precedence.
At this point, I have a hard
time recommending the GM
IPO except to someone who
wants to make a speculative
investment — someone who can
afford the loss if it occurs. There
is no guarantee that GM will
end up being a financial success.
Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial

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





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# McCotter met with auto suppliers on forum day

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus
McCotter did not attend a
candidate forum in Livonia
Sept. 9 because he was in
Washington, D.C., meeting
with a senior vice president
at the Motor & Equipment
Annufacturers Association,
according to a press release
issued Tuesday by the Wayne
11th Congressional District
Republican Committee.
The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the current
economic climate's impact
on small auto suppliers and
their access to credit, the press
release said.
The press release was issued
in response to incorrect statements made by McCotter's
opponent, Democrat Natalie
Mosher, about his where-



abouts that day, said Carl Berry, chairman of the 1th Congressional District Republican Committee. Mosher had issued a press release saying McCotter wasn't at the forum because he was "spend(ing) time with crooked lobbyists" at a conference in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the Faith and Freedom Coalition (FFC). McCotter did not attend the FFC Coalition, He was invited to address the conference the evening of Sept. 11, but he was unable to do so because he spoke at the 9/11 ceremony spoored by the American Lecion in

Livonia, Berry said.

McCotter's campaign office sent an e-mail to the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County, which sponsored the forum, shortly after 1 p.m. Sept. 9 saying McCotter's official responsibilities precluded his attendance. "Such things often occur when any organization chooses a date and publicizes a forum without confirmation from a campaign," the e-mail read.
Paula Bowman, president of the league, said the organization was disappointed. It had sent McCotter a "save the date" card June 25 and purposely scheduled the forum for when Congress wasn't in session, she said, adding he has attended past forums.



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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.
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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.

"Some-times 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 Bront-man, of Buddy's public relations and special promotions.

E-mail your good news story (include a photograph) to: goodnews@hometown-life.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."

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SECTION B

SUNDAY, September 19, 2010

hometownlife

LIFE. B5

HEALTH, B12





Stefan Noesen (No. 11) skates for the Plymouth Whalers during a recent preseason game. Noesen, who lives with a Northville family, is one of the players the Ontario Hockey League team will be looking for increased ice time and production from in 2010-11.

# **Changing tide**

## Seguin-less Whalers to mix new faces with vets

Even though Tyler Seguin is still on the Plymouth Whalers roster, everybody connected with the Ontario Hockey League team knows that's just a technicality.

A new wave of Whalers is rolling into Compuware Arena, led by 16-year-old defenseman Max Iafrate of Livonia (the team's No. 1 draft pick of 2010) and second-round pick Tom Wilson, a promising right winger.

Compuware fans will get to see those two players beginning 7 p.m

2010-11 PREVIEW

Saturday against Barrie — following road games Thursday and Friday to open the 2010-II season.

Of course, those fans couldn't be blamed one bit for hoping to again cheer for Seguin, the high-scoring center who was drafted by the Boston Bruins of the NHL. That probably won't happen, however.

"If he (Seguin) sticks around for his 10th game (in the NHL) that means he's a Boston Bruin for the rest of the season," said Brian Sommariva, Whalers assistant gen-

eral manager and a Plymouth resident. "He'll probably play up to nine and then they'll make a decision on it. But all signs look like he's going to stick in Boston."

#### TURNING THE PAGE

TURNING THE PAGE

That means life and hockey go
on at Compuware without the No.
2 overall draft pick as well as other
top performers from 2009-10.
Goalie Matt Hackett and forwards
AJ Jenks and Phil McRae have
moved on to NHL organizations.
It should be interesting to see how

Please see WHALERS, B2

# **Miscues** plaguing 0-4 Rocks

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

For the first half Friday, Salem hung tough against Novi in a KLAA Central football game at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's JV field.

It was just a 7-6 Novi lead at the break, although the Wildcats' points were gift-wrapped.

Instead of Novi attempting a 43-yard field goal with the game scoreless, an encroachment call kept the Wildcats on the march. Senior Brady Sheldon then ran it in from 5 yards out.

Salem (0-4, 0-2) came right back to score and make it 7-6. But the second half was something else altogether, much to the dismay of Rocks head coach Kurt Britnell.

The Wildcats outscored his team 28-6 over the final two quarters, giving Novi (2-

The Wildcats outscored his team 28-6 over the final two quarters, giving Novi (2-2, 2-0) a 35-12 win.

"We did OK score-wise (in the first half)," Britnell said. "But we're making the same mistakes we did in Week I.

"It's just awful, terrible. Our guys aren't getting better."

BRIGHT SPOT

BRIGHT SPOT

One Salem player who was outstanding was senior wideout Matt Morton, who hauled in five passes for 111 yards and a touchdown.

Following a sliding interception by junior Evian Pardo near Novi's 30-yard line,
Salem senior quarterback Drew Thompson (9-of-29, 140 yards) lofted a pass down the left sidelines that Morton snared for a 23-yard TD play with 7:03 left in the first half.

After Novi scored a pivotal touchdown following a blocked punt, the Thompson-Omorton combo again helped keep Salem close. The receiver made a 35-yard circus catch inside Novi's 10-yard line during the third, beating two Novi defenders in the process.

process.

His leaping grab set up an 8-yard sing run by junior running back Marc Houston (19 rushes, 86 yards).

Please see ROCKS, B3

## SIDELINES

#### Canton girls win

Canton's girls cross country team defeated Westland John Glenn 20-43 Tuesday behind the running of Hannah Ferree, Anna Lang and Andrea Rapson – who finished 1-2-3 in close proximity, said Chiefs head coach Eric Pahl, who changed things up a bit.

Rounding out the top five were Marina Milad and Courtney Camphell

were Marina Milad and Courtney Campbell.

"The Canton girls did things very different from what we normally do and the girls responded." Pahl said. "The change brought a lot of different girls to the front of the pack and we had a lot of girls running at the front who don't normally. "It was nice to see the team step up, work through the change and still perform as well as they did. It really speaks to the work ethic of the team."

"Take had not file."

#### 'Cats tee off

With medalist Kelsey Murphy and Sarah Thompson collecting scores of 39 and 41, respectively, Plymouth defeated Livonia Churchill 178-194 Wednesday in a KLAA South girls golf matchup. Also breaking 50 for the Wildcats (5-0) were Christy Pattison and Lindsay Dean, each tallying 49.
Danielle Allen and Mandy Kirsch chipped in with scores of

Kirsch chipped in with s 53 and 54, respectively

#### Salem bested

led Salem with a 52, follo by Ewa Zajac (53), Lizzie

Please see SIDELINES, B3

# Wildcats jump out early, blank Rockets

Although Plymouth boys soccer coach Jeff Neschich likes to see his Wildcats come out firing on all cylinders as it did Thursday against host Westland John Glenn, he wasn't so enam-ored with the entirety of the team's showing — a 3-0 victory propetheless.

reams showing — a 3-0 victory nonetheless.

"We started the game strong, we put in three early ones,"
Neschich said. "But we didn't do a whole lot for the rest of the

do a whole lot for the rest of the game."

Senior forward Derek Austin netted two of the goals while senior midfielder Mitchell Yoder added the other tally. "We got out on them and we knew we were the stronger team," the coach said. "We wanted to make a statement early."

According to Neschich he

According to Neschich, he thought his team "kind of relaxed" after breaking out to

division and conference, he stressed. "We have a lot of tough ball-games coming up," Neschich said. "It's not good to play relaxed."

said. It's not good to play relaxed."
Meanwhile, the Wildcats blitzed Wayne Memorial 9-0 on Tuesday, at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.
Senior midfielder Caleb Divens and Mitch Yoder each scored two goals for the Wildcats, who face Livonia Franklin 7 p.m. Tuesday at PCEP's varsity turf field. Plymouth and Canton then hook up 7 p.m. Thursday at the PCEP soccer stadium.

#### Posuniak nets 4, Chiefs romp 9-1

The goals came early and often Thursday for Canton's boys soccer team, as the host Chiefs bombarded Livonia

Franklin 9-1 in a KLAA South matchup.
Canton (8-2-1 overall, 3-1-0 in the KLAA South) needed just four minutes to get it going as junior Mitch Posuniak scored his first of four goal. Posuniak converted a crossing feed from junior Tyler Winningham.
Senior Phil Baciak made it 2-0 about eight minutes into the contest, for his first goal of the season. Baciak cleaned up a rebound, finishing a play started by sophomore Dan Ovesea (1 goal, 2 assists).
The onslaught continued in the 11th minute on an unassisted goal by Posuniak and the Chiefs padded the margin to 4-0 in the 33rd minute as Baciak (from Posuniak) tallied a goal identical to his first.
Franklin (7-2-0, 3-1-0) broke through less than a minute later, with junior Jordan McGuire finding the range after a scramble.
It was Posuniak gain before

of the half on a nice pass from Ovesea.

Posuniak's fourth of the game came in the opening minute of the second half, netting the rebound of a direct kick. Sophomore Bobby Budlong drew the helper.

Wrapping up the romp were goals by Ovesea (from sophomore Connor Shennan), sophomore Connor Shennan), sophomore Found Flyan Ren) and junion Brian Berinti. The final goal was unassisted as Berinti stripped the ball from a Franklin defender and broke in alone on the goalkeeper.

Splitting Canton's goal-tending duties were seniors Brandon Laabs and Garren Carr.

Canton seniors Brandon
Laabs and Garren Carr split time in goal.

The Chiefs now gear up for a

Laabs and Garren Carr split time in goal.

The Chiefs now gear up for a busy week, with home games Tuesday (vs. Livonia Churchill) Thursday (vs. Plymouth) and Friday (vs. Northville).



Miscellany: The 17-year-old Halewicz. He also was on the 2010 state cup champion Michigan Wolves club soccer team as well as Salem's 2009 district and regional soccer champs. Halewicz was named 2009's top varsity defensive player for the Rocks.

Captain's job: "To be the motivator of the group and to set an example. A captain needs to have a character that is respected by



the team and must be one of the hardest workers on the field."
Leadership style: "I try to lead by example on the field, I work hard to win every ball that meets the back line and try to keep our must creating throughout the

SALEM

team and leave everything I have on the field. I think the guys appreciate my effort and com-mitment."



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# WHALERS

the Whalers go about their business without Seguin (who tied Windsor's Taylor Hall in scoring with 106 points) and the others.

If the team's formidable 20-year history is any indication, opponents should expect them to at least find their way into the postseason.

Plymouth finished second in the Western Conference-West Division with 79 points last year, before bowing out to eventual Memorial Cup Windsor in the second round of the OHL playoffs.

"I think the players we're returning saw what a Memorial Cup team looks like, they saw it two years in a row by watching Windsor," Sommariva said. "I think our players need to realize the sacrifices Windsor's players made and we need to adopt those."

Complicating matters even more for head coach and general manager Mike Vellucci, Sommariva, associate coach Joe Stefan and others is the fact a handful of '09-10 players who can return to the Whalers also are tied up with NHL clubs.

Those include center Robbie Czarnik (Los Angeles),

who can return to the Whales also are tied up with NHL clubs.

Those include center Robbie Czarnik (Los Angeles), Farmington Hillis native and defenseman Austin Levi (Carolina), goalie Scott Wedgewood (New Jersey), forwards James Livingston (Edmonton) and Tyler Brown, the latter who went to Pittsburgh's camp on a tryout. "He was at rookie camp and was just invited to the main camp," said Sommariva about the speedy Brown (14 goals, 25 assists, 39 points last year). "We heard that he's done real well there."

Czarnik (17-32-49), Livingston (17-18-35) and Brown would bring leadership to the Plymouth fold as overage players (OAs, players who start the season age 20) if they are sent back to the OHL.

"When you have the possibility of three or four OAs coming back, or not coming back, that can sort of make or break

your season," Sommariva said.
"So we're just hanging on and seeing what happens with the NHL and go from there."

#### INCOMING TALENT

Sommariva said young
Iafrate and Wilson (drafted 27th overall) are part of an incoming nucleus of players who have outstanding work ethic and potential to be core players in Plymouth.

"Max is our first-round draft pick, he's got incredible upside," Sommariva said. "He's one of the better skaters in the draft, one of the best shots in the draft.

"We're just going to have to

the draft.

"We're just going to have to teach him some of the finer points of the game, but he's got all the tools."

As for Wilson (6-4, 195), he was projected as a first-rounder in the OHL draft, but remained on the boards when Plymouth picked in the second round.

rymouth picked in the second round.

"We were absolutely elated we got him in the second because he's a high-skilled forward, a big guy, he competes and we think he'll be a big part of our future. Hopefully, he'll be an NHL player one day."

Iafrate already is a physical presence (6-2, 220) who will be on the top defensive pairings along with Levi (6-4, 190), Jay Gilbert (6-2, 205) and Beau Schmitz (5-11, 195).

Levi will bring a booming point shot to the power play, too.

point shot to the power play, too.

"We're looking to get some production on the power play from Austin," Sommariva added. "He's got a great shot and it's a shot not too many guys want to block."

Plymouth's defense will have plenty of depth. Other players who Vellucci could give plenty of ice time to include Colin MacDonald, Nick Malysa and Clarkston native Josh Bemis. All should contribute to a defense that Sommariva thinks could be the team's strongest aspect. He said MacDonald is "a real defensive defenseman" while Malysa's speed, grit and work ethic are real pluses.

"Josh is another local boy who was pretty good for us

#### WHALERS WHO'S WHO

Hinduchs with Jostition-by-position breakdown of the 2010-11 Plymouth Whalers, with less than a week to go before opening night. Players with an asterisk (\*) listed after their names are currently in camp with NHL teams.

Goal: Scott Wedgewood \*, Matt Mahalak.

Defense: Austin Levi\*, Colin MacDonald, Nick Malysa, Jay Gilbert, Josh Bemis, Beau Schmitz, Dario Trutmann, Max Iafrate, Chris Albertini.
Forward: Tyler Seguin\*, Robbie Czarnik\*, Jamie Devane\*, Tyler Brown\*, James Livingston\*, Austin Mattson, Tom Wilson, Stefan Noesen, Mitchell Heard, Garrett Meurs, Adam Restoule, Ben Holtom, RJ Mahalak, Rickard Rakell, Adam Nanji, Peter Neal.

in the playoffs," Sommariva said. "He does the little things

WHO'LL SCORE?

One forward who could light up the scoresheet ala Seguin is 17-year-old forward Garrett Menrs (16-18-34).

"Garrett is a real honest two-way player," Sommariva noted. "He's got a good shot, (he's) good from the blueline in and plays all areas of the ice.

in and plays all areas of the iee.

"He's a real competitive kid and we think he's going to have a great year for us."

Meurs competed for Team Canada at the recent Ivan Hlinka Memorial U-18 tournament in London, Ontario. At that same tournament, forward Rickard Rakell showed his skills for Team Sweden.

Rakell and Meurs, both just 17, could be linemates on one of Plymouth's top lines.
"Rickard's a guy that sees the ice real well, and he can be a good playmaker for Meurs if that becomes a top-end line." he said.

Forward Stefan Noesen

that becomes a top-end line." he said.

Forward Stefan Noesen (Northville) tallied just eight points last season, but Sommariva said the player has the ability to do much more. "He's a kid with real good hands and real good scoring instincts," Sommariva stressed. "He'll be a guy we look for increased offense from and I think he'll be a big part of our team this year."

Depending on which players return from NHL camps, the Whalers will need scoring from many different sources to remain in the playoff pieture.

It wouldn't hurt for players such as power forwards RJ Mahalak, Mitchell Heard or Adam Restoule to chip in with timely goals.

"A couple years ago when we won the OHL championship we played defense by committee," Sommariva said. "This year we may have to play offense by committee. We may not look for one guy, like a Seguin or Jenks to provide 40-50 percent of our offense."

#### HOLDING THE FORT

HOLDING THE FORT

The good thing is the team's defense and goaltending might be strong enough to help the Whalers win low-scoring tilts.

Expected to divide time between the pipes will be last year's backup, Scott Wedgewood (69 saves in a Round 2 playoff game against Windsor) and Monroe native Matt Mahalak (RJs younger brother).

"It's still up in the air, but I think they're both going to push each other (for top billing)," Sommariva said.

Wedgewood, the New Jersey draft pick, plays a style not unlike Devil's 'standout net-minder Martin Brodeur.

"Scott doesn't care what it looks it, he wants to make the save," Sommariva said. "So I guess he's a little like Brodeur in that regard."

Meanwhile, Matt Mahalak is big (6-3, 180), quick and a total competitor.

"They both possess the right traits, mindsets and mental aptitude to be good goaltenders," Sommariva emphasized.











# Rocks solid in singles play

Salem's boys tennis team edged Northville 5-4 Thursday in a KLAA Central contest, with strong singles play a key feeter.

agen Northville 5-4 Indrsday
in a KLAA Central contest,
with strong singles play a key
factor.
At No. 1 singles, Salem's Jacob
Scott bested Anthony Rossi
— Brock and Brett — took
care of their respective opponents at No. 2-3 singles. Brock
Foster won 6-3, 6-4 over Matt
Satterfield, Brett Foster's win
was 6-4, 6-1 against Nathan
Albanelli.
At No. 4 singles, Northville's
Matt Evasic earned a 6-1, 6-1
victory over Michael Keum.
In doubles flights, the
Mustangs prevailed three out of
five times. Those results included the following: No. 1, Josh
Perrin-Scott Devine (Salem)
over Phil Lee-Austin Weaver,
6-3, 6-3; No. 2, Salem's Dion
Walker-Zenik Pelekh won 6-2,
6-5 over Bryce Groshek-Veer
Shah; No. 3, Northville's Drew
Baldwin-Brian Manney over
Cody Hazen-Alek Zultowski;
No. 4, Northville's Rahul RajTrevor Page over Greg SelewskiTyler Foley; No. 5, Robert HsuLuke Jacobi over Josh AmannKyle Latack.
Salem is 7-1 in the KLAA and
5-1 in the division.

Wildcats win another

#### Wildcats win another

Wildcats win another
On Tuesday, visiting
Plymouth romped 9-0 over
Wayne Memorial in a KLAA
South boys tennis match.
Tallying wins in singles
play for the Wildcats (3-1, 3-1)
included Aaron Zhang at No. 1
(6-1, 6-0 over Brandon Harnos)
Matt Dwan at No. 2 (6-0, 6-0
over Zach Williamson), Ian
Fleming (6-0, 7-5 over Zach
Lankton) and Kevin Standifer
(6-2, 6-0 over Stephen Gush.
Plymouth also swept the
doubles flights with wins by
Kyle Brzezenski-John Lopus
(No. 1), Akash Yerakola-Mitch
McKinstry (No. 2), Cameron
Earls-Josh Postel (No. 3), Mo
Siwani-John Halpin (No. 4)
and Kyle Yergenson-Raleigh
Belanger (No. 5).

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## **Men's Health Event**

Tuesday, October 5, 2010 6 - 8 p.m. St. Joseph Mercy **Canton Health Center** 

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Join us for an evening with Freddie Scott, prostate cancer survivor, former NFL wide receiver and College Football Hall of Famer, and a panel of medical e discuss men's

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First 25 people receive a regulation size football and the next 75 receive a stadium chair.

This event is free. Registration is required.
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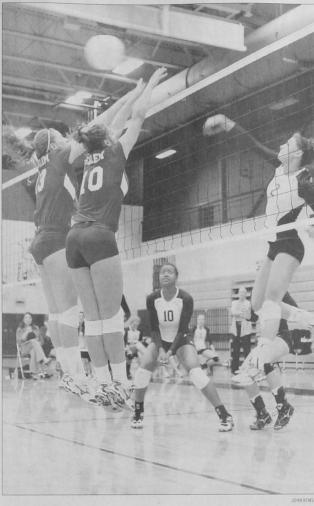
A limited number of free PSA screenings available.\* To prescreen and register for a free PSA call 734-712-5948.

\* For qualifying individuals









Plymouth's Dani Risi (No. 2, right) hammers the ball over Salem's blocking wall of Jillian Sommerville (No. 13) and Kerry MacDonald (No. 10, blue) during Thursday night's KLAA volleyball crossover. The Wildcats' Alex Roberts (No. 10, record from right) bathers and from the Charles and the Part of the Charles and the Charles and the Part of the Part

# Salem 'D' enough to nip 'Cats

Salem's nearly error-proof defense Thursday night sty-mied cross-campus rival Plymouth in a KLAA crossove volleyball tilt.

The Rocks (5-3-0) earned wins of 25-16, 25-20 and 25-21, overcoming an aggressive opening salvo by the Wildcats (4-3-1).

"Our sent

"Our serve receive was awe-some with only four errors the whole match," said Salem head coach Amanda Nies. "M defense really deserves the

win."
Salem also played well on offense when needed, as Nicole Merget contributed 16 kills (and 5 blocks) while Kerstin Johnson (8 kills, 2 aces), Kerry MacDonald (34 assists, 3 aces) and Jillian Sommerville (5 kills, 3 blocks) helped keep the Rocks' clicking.

Lauren Aschermann had a strong game with nine digs, Nies added.
"We started out strong ... with some smart shots from Dani Risi," said Plymouth head coach Kelly McCausland. "But then our offense started shutting down in games 2 and 3.

"We were able to stop some of Merget's powerful swings, but we were not able to convert those stops into points." Risi and Madelyn Betts collected seven kills each for Plymouth, while Kayla Bridge tallied 15 digs.

McCausland praised the defensive efforts of libero Lindsay Stemberger (24 digs).

## Canton sweeps Wayne

to 7-0-1 overall and 1-0-0 in the division.

"We played well overall but we definitely had some times where we weren's stepping it up," said Canton head coach Mary Kryska.

The Chiefs did weather the storm in the middle game. Although Maggie Deloy's sharp serving to open Game 2 put the Chiefs up 11-0, the Zebras nearly pulled off a comeback.

Having big games for

comeback.
Having big games for
Canton were Kristen Muir (14
kills, 9 digs), Alaina Turner (11
kills, 9 digs), Alaina Turner (11
kills, 8 blocks), Erica denBoer
(7 kills, 4 digs), Lauren Martin
(16 assists, 4 digs), Jackie
Waite (13 assists, 5 digs), Becca
Middleton (11 digs) and Deloy
(4 aces, 7 digs).
Kryska said the play of
Middleton and Deloy were key
factors in the victory.

## Morton was in no celebratory mood later, of

course.
"The individual effort might have been OK at times," a dejected Morton said. But as a team, we need to pick it up a lot.
"We didn't bring our 'A' game today and we paid for it. We need to come out next week and do better. It's homecoming."

#### NOW'S THE TIME

**ROCKS** 

NOW: 5 THE TIME

Novi head coach Todd Pennycuff wasn't sure his squad came to play, either. And he let his team know at halftime.

"We told them, 'Hey, you're going to have to punch people in the mouth or be punched,"
Pennycuff said. "Our kids came out and had a couple breaks and the floodgates opened in our favor and we're fortunate to get out of here with a victory."

lavor and we re fortunate to get out of here with a victory."
Trailing just by a point, Salem started the second half with possession inside its own 15-yard line, but couldn't move the football.
Senior Ethan Walsh — who did have a 60-yard punt during the game — dropped back to kick, but Novi's pesky Derek Cingel got in front of the ball and it bounced into the end zone. Both Brady Sheldon and Alex King were there for Novi, and King finally fell on it for the six points.

"I rolled over it and missed it." Sheldon said.
"But my friend (King) was there. My teammate, my best friend got it."

Pennycuff said the play pumped up the team. "There's no question about it, that was a

game-changer," Pennycuff said. "That changed the whole momentum, got the sideline going and got our kids thinking, 'Hey, we're going to be all right."

be all right."

Salem responded, for the time being, with the big play by Morton and up-the-middle surge by Houston finishing the drive.

FINISHING UP
But the Rocks' bid to tie the game with a
two-point conversion didn't hit paydirt and the
Wildcats took over.
Novi senior tailback Dominic Sabo (15 carries, 118 yards) made it a 21-12 game with a 6yard carry through the line. A tackle-breaking
36-yard run by senior Zach Mohr set up that
TD.

TD. When Novi did have some adversity, fumbling the ball to Salem's Brian Aquier in the late stages of the third, the Rocks could not cash in. The Wildcats then finished off the job with touchdown runs of 58 and 63 yards by Sabo and Sheldon during the final eight minutes of the

Sheldon during the final eight minutes of the game.

Of no help to Britnell was Novi winning the battle of the trenches. The Wildcats outgained Salem 354-221, with the Rocks managing just 81 yards rushing (all by Houston).

"We just didn't get off the ball," Britnell said. "We have two sophomores starting and we're very green with the other three. It's just tough." After a bitter overtime loss to South Lyon, Friday's disappointment weighed heavily on the second-year Salem coach.

"They are not better than we are," Britnell added. "That's the sad part about the last two weeks."

# Wildcats pile it on in 2nd half

victory Friday night at Livonia Churchill.

The Wildcats, now 3-1 overall and 2-0 in the division, found themselves deadlocked at halftime 14-14.

Notre Dame-bound kicker Kyle Brindza helped the second-half Plymouth cause with field goals of 53 and 29 yards. Churchill (1-3, 0-2) opened the scoring on Mike Kutek's Lyard run with 4-55 left in the first quarter, but the extra point failed.

Plymouth took a 7-6 lead with 6-45 left in the second quarter on Fox's 21-yard run, but the Chargers answered on quarterback Jordan Groboski 5-yard touchdown run followed by a Grohoski-to-Dean Bokuniewicz two-point conversion toss with 2:33 remaining.

The Wildcats however

version toss with 2:33 remaining.

The Wildcats, however,
answered just 13 seconds later
when Fox returned the ensuing kickoff 90 yards for a TD.
Brindza converted the PAT to
make it 14-14.

Plymouth then scored 17
unanswered points in the third
quarter, including Brindza's
lengthy field goal followed by a
Jerel Jenkins 64-yard run and
Fox's 27-yard run for a 31-14
advantage.

Mazorowicz (56), Katie Veno (57), Christine Li (57) and

The Madonna University women's volleyball team made uick work Thursday of host Concordia University winning in tree straight sets, 25-13, 25-9, 25-14. The Crusaders took just 52 minutes to record the victory

**SIDELINES** 

MU spikers cruise

#### PREP FOOTBALL

PREP FOOTBALL

Grohoski then hit David Boucher with a 2-yard TD pass with 10:33 left in the final quarter and Bokuniewicz added the extra point to cut the deficit to 31-21. Jenkins, who had a teambest 86 yards rushing on 11 attempts, added a 2-yard run followed by another Brindza field goal.

Steven Klisz's 9-yard scoring pass to Lamont Johnson Jr. with only one second left in the game completed the scoring for Churchill.

Churchill actually outgained the Wildcats in total offense, 419-307.

Plymouth quarterback
Shaun Austin was 15-of-23 passing for 136 yards, while Grohoski was 10-of-17 for 192. Bokuniewicz had six catches for 91 yards. Grohoski also rushed for a team-high 78 yards on 20 carries.

Michigan-bound Brennan Beyer led the Plymouth defense with 10 tackles, including three sacks. Tony Rhodes added 4.5.

Mike Harp led the Chargers

added 4.5.

Mike Harp led the Chargers with seven tackles.

#### Canton belts Wavne

Canton's penchant for burning up yards and opponents

pummeled Wayne Memorial, 53-0.

The Chiefs (4-0, 2-0 in the KLAA South) rolled up approximately 400 yards of offense, spearheaded by senior running back Davion Stackhouse (two TDs), who rushed only six times but collected 136 yards.

Canton got on the board in the first when Stackhouse raced for a 49-yard touchdown.

Fellow speed merchant Kevin Buford (eight carries, 78 yards, two TDs) also scored in the opening quarter on a 46-yard run.

The onslaught continued with the Chiefs leading 33-0 at halftime and 46-0 after the third.

Stackhouse and Buford

third.
Stackhouse and Buford
weren't the only players to
score twice as junior Ryan
Jones (six rushes, 32 yards)
also crossed the goal line

also crosset are goar mic-vice.
Other Canton TDs came on a run by senior Nick Alaniva and a 52-yard pass from senior quarterback Ben Merbler to senior Angelo Lanava.
Wayne (0-4, 0-2) man-aged just 129 yards total offense with 111 coming on the ground.
Demitrius Renfroe was Wayne's top tackler with seven.

# while improving to 8-6 overall and 1-1 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference. Karie Altman's 10 kills led a balanced MU hitting attack. Liz Dempsey (Livonia Franklin) added eight kills, while setter Evia Prieditis had 27 assist+to-kills. Amanda Koszela contributed a learn-high 17 digs. Jaymee Wise recorded 18 assists for the Cardinals (4-12, 0-3).

Lady Ocelots fall On Thursday, host St. Clair County Community College rolled to a 25-19, 25-19, 25-15 MCCAA Eastern Conference vic tory over Schoolcraft College. St. Clair is 5-8 overall and 1-2 in the conference, while Schoolcraft falls to 8-4 and 2-1.

# **Senior Fall Health & Living**



Social Security Progra Services and Updates

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AMS30

Fall golf classes

Fall golf classes
Fall classes at Hickory Creek Golf
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Among offerings: New to Golf (6-7 p.m.
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Wednesdays); Golf Kinematics (7-8:30
p.m. Mondays) and — for kids — "Little
Linksters" (ages 5-7) and "Junior Golfers"
for ages 8-10.
To register, go to www.TrainwithTami.

r ages 8-10. To register, go to www.TrainwithTami. om or call Bealert at (734) 731-0238. Hickory Creek is located just west of anton, off of Ford-Napier roads.

YMCA Co-Ed Soccer leagues are form ing for children ages 4-10 with sessions from Sept. 20 to Oct. 30. Fundamentals in a safe and fun environment will be the

focus.
Planned are one practice and one game
per week on Saturdays.
The program cost is \$64 for program
members or \$96 for community members

Co-ed soccer leagues

Girls on the Run

# Lady Ocelots still on roll

The Schoolcraft College women's soccer team ran its season mark to 6-1 Wednesday with a 4-1 stomping of visiting Concordia University.

Two goals in the first half and two more in the second half proved to be the difference as coach Deepak Shivraman's club continued its stellar play. "Defensively we were solid, except on one situation there, and offensively we did have most of the possessions," Shivraman said.

The Lady Ocelots opened the scoring in the first half on a goal from Molly Bellairs, assisted by Jenny Giegler. Sophomore Adriana Guerrero found the back of the Concordia net before the halftime to increase the margin to 2-0.

After Monica Palushaj

2-0.
After Monica Palushaj
scored for the Cardinals (3-2),
Schoolcraft came storming
back with back-to-back goals
from Renee Boudreau (Livonia
Stevenson) and Giegler.
"Concordia did a good job
of collapsing back so our forwards had to see maybe seven,

eight or nine players in the box," Shivraman said. "That proved to be a challenge for us, but in the second half we did a much better job of being patient."

Sophomore Sam Suter was once again in goal for the Lady Ocelots, who are ranked No. 8 in the latest NJCAA Division I poll.

#### Crusader women tie

In a non-conference match Wednesday, host Albion College and the Madonna University women's soccer team battled to a 1-1 draw in two overtimes.

Lauren Eckler scored for the Britons (1-4-1) in the 48th minute, while Diana Brda (Livonia Franklin) countered for MU (0-4-1) on a rebound shot that was assisted by Lilliana Serratos.

was assisted by Lilliana Serratos. Albion goalkeeper Sam, Bowditch made eight saves, while the Crusaders' Chelsea Gregg (Livonia Clarenceville) had two stops in 110 minutes of action.

FEDERAL LAW REQUIRES US TO ADVISE YOU THAT COMMUNICATION WITH OUR OFFICE COULD BE INTERPRETED AS AN ATTEMET TO COLLECT A DEBT AND THAT ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. BY YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE, PERSON OFFICE, AS YOU ARE ENTITLED TO SPECIAL PROTECTIONS. THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SAKE YOUR HOME TO Keeth L. Bowman 1920 Snowden Street Detroit, MI 4825 County. Wayne State law requires that you receive the following notice You have the right to request a meeting with your mortage bolder or mortgage service. The person to

#### SPORTS ROUNDUP

on a first-come, first-serve basis. Parents or guardians must be present in-person, may only register their own daughter(s), and should bring a form of payment. Registration and health history forms are available at the Plymouth YMCA with additional signups now being accepted in person, by fax or by mail at the Plymouth YMCA. Registrations will not be accepted at schools or by coaches. For more information, please contact the YMCA at 734-453-2904 or visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

#### YMCA youth programs

YMCA youth programs

The Plymouth Family YMCA is offering a variety of youth instructional programs this fall, having the focus on fun, exercise and social interaction through sports instruction.

Programs — open to YMCA members and community members — include Parent/Child Soccer, Preschool and Youth Basketball, Intro to Volleyball, Preschool T-ball, Tiny Tikes Sampler and Club Kickball. All will run between Sept. 20 and Oct. 25.

There will be morning and evening classes available. Ages vary by program but there is something for children ages 2-12. For more information, please contact the YMCA at 734+453-2904 or visit www. ymcadetroit.org.

## MU hosts golf fund-raiser

MU hosts golf fund-raiser
Early registration is still open for
Madonna University's annual Scholar-Am
Classic to benefit the student scholarship
fund, Friday, Sept. 17, at Western Golf &
Country Club in Redford.
The Early Birdie rates (including golf,
lunch and dinner) is \$175 per individual
and \$700 per foursome. Those who sign
up early can have two strokes shaved off
their foursome's score and also golf with a
Madonna scholar, professor, dean, board
member or coach.
A busy fun day is planned. The schedule
is as follows: 11:30 a.m., check-in; noon,
lunch at clubhouse; 1 p.m., shotgun start;
5:30 p.m., cocktails and raffles; 6 p.m.,
dinner and awards.

Girls on the Run

Late registration is ongoing for Girls on the Run of Greater Detroit, an affiliate program of the YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit. Girls on the Run is a life-changing, experiential learning program that uses running to educate and prepare girls for a lifetime of self-respect and healthy living. During the 10-week season, girls in grades 3-8 meet twice a week with trained coaches who lead them through fun games, uplifting workouts, and themed discussions on topics like dealing with body image and the media, resisting peerpressure, making healthy decisions, and contributing to their communities and running or walking in a special, non-competitive 5k event for Girls on the Run participants and their families. The 20-lesson program costs \$105.00 and is open to all girls in eligible grades at participating schools.

Up to 15 girls will be accepted per team

For more information, contact Alan Pinon (734-432-5556, apinon@madonna. edu) or Ann Cleary (734-432-5421, acleary@madonna.edu).

#### Volleyball on tap

Volleyball on tap

The YMCA Girls Volleyball leagues are forming for girls ages 9-12. The session will run from Sept. 13 to Oct. 29 and is a great opportunity for girls to learn the fundamental skills of volleyball in a safe and fun environment.

The program cost is \$71 for program members or \$103 for community members. Memberships are \$39 for individuals and \$59 for families.

All participants need a YMCA Youth Sports Reversible Jersey, \$15. Programs are filled on a first come-first serve basis, so hurry in. The registration deadline is September 13. For more information, please contact the YMCA at 734-453-2904 or visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

Whalers making waves

#### Whalers making waves

After a trial run in 2009-10, the Ontario Hockey League's Plymouth Whalers will return to WSDP-FM (88.1) "The Escape" as their radio home for the upcoming season. "The Escape" — an award-winning radio station located at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park — will resume its broadeast schedule with coverage of the Whalers season opener, set for Thursday, Sept. 23, in Windsor. Pete Kruneky remains 11.

in Windsor.

Pete Krupsky remains Whalers play-byplay voice, with Sean Baligian providing
analysis of home broadcasts. Also, WSDP
will carry the bulk of the Whalers games
this season with a minimum of preemptions. All regular season and playoff games
will be streamed online at www.plymouthwhalers com

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# **COMMUNITY LIFE**

Sunday, September 19, 2010 hometownlife com



# Dog town

# Canine walk debuts in Plymouth's Old Village

bout 100 walkers have preregistered up to help launch
the first annual Barktober Fest
in The Old Village Plymouth. At least
a dozen of them don't even own dogs
to take along on the 2',-mile walk for
canines and their companions.
But event organizer Amy Rector
isn't surprised. She says the combination of a "good cause," and a leisurelystroll among the "great old architecture and houses" of Old Village
makes Barktober Fest the place to be
at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 2.
"This was my little idea and it has
ended up being quite a large idea,"
said Rector, a resident who attends
Plymouth Old Village Association
meetings, the walk beneficiary along
with Homeward Bound Rescue
League in Canton. "We've got great
people in the community and the
city of Plymouth has been fantastic. They've done everything in
their power to get this event off the
ground."

Participants, both those who preregistered by Sept. 11, and those

uner power to get this event off the ground."

Participants, both those who pre-registered by Sept. II, and those registering on site, will sign in beginning at 8:45 a.m. on Liberty, between Mill and Starkweather. The walk fee is \$25 and includes a T-shirt while supplies last. The first 150 to check in will receive a goody bag filled with coupons for pet-related services, toys, treats, chew bones and shampoos.

"I thought it was the coolest thing — Rachel Ray and Ellen Degeneres sent their dog food," Rector said. Pet adoptions and vendors will be on site until noon."

Scott Farmer, an Old Village registered.

Scott Farmer, an Old Village resi-dent and association president, said a former member suggested the walk



Homeward Bound Rescue League, Canton, will receive half of the proceeds from the Barktober Fest walk in Plymouth. It places adoptable dogs like these into permanent, loving homes.

a few years ago, but the organization was spread "too thin" and unable to proceed with the event. It also presents an annual Halloween party and summer car and motorcycle show. "The ball dropped and Amy picked it up and ran with it," Bramer said. "Really, it's Amy's event and Old Village Association took a supporting role.

"Plymouth, as a whole, is a dog-friendly place. Myself and all my neighbors own a dog. It (Barktober Fest) seems like a good fit for us."

#### WISH LIST

WISH LIST
Rector, a nursing clinical manager
at Detroit Medical Center, owns a
rescued dog and participates in other
canine walks in the metro area. She
hopes to make Barktober Fest an
annual event,
"We've done a lot of beautification
in the community. We don't have a big

bank account, but whatever we gain we give back," she said, adding that the association's wish list includes banners.

Teri Daniels, a Homeward Bound member, said the group's dream list includes a transport van to help volunteers rescue more dogs and a storage shed to hold the many different brands of does foods that individuals. age shed to hold the many different brands of dog foods that individuals

mate. 'We're limited in how many dogs w



Julie Wakefield fosters 'Queenie,' for

bring it up here. But it has their logos on it. We want people to realize we don't just rescue, but we're all about spay and neuter."

Her ultimate dream is for a transport van that's stocked with kennel cages, emergency food, water facilities, and items for emergency vet care. In the meantime, proceeds raised from the walk will help the group continue to rescue, feed, provide veterinary care and spay and neuter services for adoptable dogs.

She said Homeward Bound rescues dogs from breeding facilities, takes owner surrenders and strays. Its foster network has some 100 dogs in private homes. When it was founded six years ago it found homes for about 150 dogs. Now it adopts out between 400-500 dogs annually.

"For every dog that goes out we get a dog that comes in. We rescued 96 dogs and needed emergency foster homes. The public stepped up. The problem was that once (the dogs) got homes, these temporary emergency fosters feel off too. Right now we're in dire

The public stepped up. The problem was that once (the dogs) got homes, these temporary emergency fosters feel off too. Right now we're in dire need of foster homes."

The group seeks individuals or families with time and patience for fostering. Foster parents attend adoption events and help train and socialize their charges.

"I don't know of any organization that will go to the length we do. We're 100 percent no kill. And we take any and all breeds of dogs. It doesn't matter if it's a Bull Mastiff or a Pit bull."

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Livonia Location

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**Redford Location** 

Upper Elementary (3-6) 17175 Olympia, Redford, MI 48240 313-533-0000

## SEPTEMBER

Health workshop

#### CPR Class

St. Mary Mercy Hospital offers a "Heartsaver" Cardiopulmonary Resuscriation class (CPR) 6-9 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 29, in the Community Outreach Department, Classroom ID, at the hospital, 3.6475 Five Mile at Levan, in Luonia. The class is offered through a partnership with the American Heart Association. The class will teach CPR and choking techniques for children and adults. This course includes classroom-based training and coaching from a trained instructor, There is a fee. Call

#### Thyroid cancer support

(WGcReLCP) Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, September 19, 2010

## OCTOBER

#### Melanoma walk

The 5th Annual KDB Melanoma 5K Run/Walk will be held on Sunday, Oct. 10 at Kensington Metropark, in Milford. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and the walk/run will begin at 11 a.m. Register online, www.melanomawalk.org - click on First Giving. All proceeds go to the Melanoma Research Foundation.

## **ONGOING**

Alzheimer's Association

The Greaster Michigan Chapter prov

#### Fitness classes

ILINESS CIASSES

Exercise classes for men and women continue through April at the Metropolitan Seventh-Day Adventst School, 15586 Haggerty, north of Five Mile. Jeanie Weaver is a certified personal fitness trainer with 30 years of teaching/training experience. The sessions infuse Pilates, functional strength training, balance work, flexibility and motivational techniques in a 90-day fitness plan. Call (248) 446-9176 or (313) 30-975. Email jeanieweaver@charter. net.

#### Incest Survivors

#### Overeaters Anonymous

BELLE TIRE

#### Breast cancer support group

#### Caregivers support group

St. John's Support Group for the Caregivers of Alzheimer's Patients or patients with other forms of dementia meet the first and third Friday of each month at 10 am AST. John's Episcope Church, 574 South Sheldon, Plymouth. Respite care for your loved one will be provided. Call Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426 for information. Authorized the Alzheimer's Association.

#### Metro Fibromyalgia

Meets the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 2055 Merriman, Garder City. For more information, call Lucy at (734) 462-1768.

#### Wayne metro caregiver support

Call Nancy Coman at (313) 843-2550, Ext. 233

### Parkinson Support

#### CPR classes

#### Arthritis support group

2-3:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at the Krieger Center, DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, I William Carls Dr., Commerce. Enter the building via the South Garden entrance. Registration not

#### Tai Chi classes

#### Low vision support group

Meets 1-3 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main. For information, ca Ellen Stross at (734) 453-0750, Ext. 232.

#### Arthritis Foundation programs

Winter classes begin for warm-water and land-based exercise programs, Tai Chi, and a six week series that offers keys to successful arthritis self-manag ment, in Canton, Redford and Westland Call (800) 968-3030 or visit www.

#### Health enhancement classes

Classes for exercise (including yoga). CPR and childbirth, and support groups for cardiac, cancer, stroke and diabetes patients; eating disorders; Alzheimers; caregivers, and the hard of hearing. The classes are part of an array of offer-ings at Garden City Hospital's Health Enhancement Center. For more informa-tion, calif (734 458-3242.

# Cabaret offers classics and hit Broadway tunes for benefit

Dynamic Stage Production/D2 Productions will present the "Best BREAST Night of Broadway," a cabaret benefit to support the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. The show runs 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7-10, at Riverside Arts Center,76 North Huron, Ypsilanti. Detroit State Production performers from past and upcoming productions will share

songs.
Tickets are \$15 with \$5 being donated from each ticket. Ticketing information and details are available at www.D2Productions.org.

# THIS FRI • 8 PM TICKETS START AT ONLY \$101

# **FREE** Varicose Vein Screening

# Saturday, September 25, 2010

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM **Providence Park Campus Outpatient Center, Main Entrance** 

Please call (248) 424-5748

to schedule the time of your screening

## Do you, your family or friends suffer with varicose veins and the discomfort they cause?

Please plan on attending this free screening for varicose veins and counseling for various management modalities.

You will learn what types of treatment are available including surgical procedures, compressive stockings, sclerotherapy and laser ablation.

Registration is required so that we may staff accordingly.

Screening conducted by: Comprehensive Vascular Care, P.C. Dr. Kevin Nolan, Dr. William Oppat, Dr. Tamer Boules



# Join the Schoolcraft College Foundation for the Culinary Extravaganza

Sunday, September 26, 2010 Schoolcraft College, VisTaTech Center

A celebration of food & wine to benefit Schoolcraft College Students and the Culinary Arts Program

For more than 18 years, proceeds from this event have helped thousands of students achieve their educational goals and transform their lives. We hope you will join us as we celebrate 19 years of helping students create the lives they envision for themselves and their families.

Patrons will enjoy samples from these restaurants, pastry shops & beverage vendo
2-Unique Caterers & Event Planners/
Pure Food 2 U, Royal Oak
Sive Restaurant-The Inn at St. John's, Plymouth
American Harvest at Schoolcraft College,
Livonia

Andiamo, Warren
Arbor Beverage Company, Ann Arbor
Armitage Catering/Finnish Cultural
Banquet-Center, Farmington Hills
Bakel at Zingerman's Bakehouse, Ann Arbor
Black Star Farms, Suttons Bay
Cadillac Coffee Company, Madison Heights
Cana Wine Distributors, West Bloomfield
Caterer One, Livonia
Cava, Bay Harbour
Central Distributors, Romulus
Chandlers—A Restaurant, Petoskey
Cinco Lagos, Millord
The Claddagh Irish Pub, Livonia
Coffee Express Co, Plymouth
Cupcake Station, Birmingham
Elite Catering Company, Livonia

Cupcase Station, Birningham Elite Catering Company, Livonia Executive Wines Galaxy Wine Distributors, Livonia Great Oaks Country Club, Rochester Henry's Food Court at Schoolcraft College, Livonia

McCormick Distilling Co., Fraser

Visit our Web site at www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation for current restaurant listings and to order tickets, or call 734-462-4518.

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS



Schoolcraft College Foundation
18600 Haggerty Road
Livonia, MI 48152-2696

# Drink, eat and dance to benefit the Canton Dog Park

Rock 'n Roll Wine will present a wine tasting to benefit the Canton Dog Park from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 1 at the Cady-Boyer Barn in Preservation Park, 500 N. Ridge Road in Canton. "The mission of Rock 'n Roll Wine is to make wine tastings more fun and less pretentious," stated David Hammond, Canton resident and owner of Rock 'n Roll Wine, in a press release. "We love to drink great wines, but hate the stuffy, traditional, wine tasting environment. We want to create an environment where you can dance, laugh with your friends, and support a great

cause."

Advance tickets, bought before Oct. 1, cost \$35 and include sampling of a wines from throughout the world, live music from Nadir and the Trio of Soul, and finger foods and appetizers. Attendees will also be able to bid on silent auction items, including rare wines and dog-related toys and gifts.

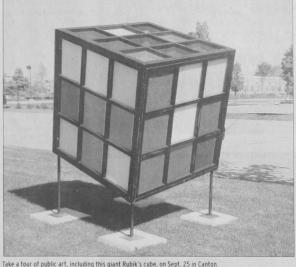
Proceeds will help cover construction and maintenance costs for the five-acre Canton Dog Park, which is scheduled to open adjacent to Preservation Park next year.

Debi Greene, a member of the Friends of the Canton Dog

whatever it takes to maintain the site.

The fund-raiser is for those 21 and over. Tickets are \$40 the day of the show. Advance tickets are available by calling Rock 'n Roll Wine at (734) 862-1928. Or buy them online at RnRWine.com. Checks, cash, and all major credit cards are accepted.

For more information about the Canton Dog Park and the fund-raiser, visit Cantonfun. org or call (734) 394-5310.



# Local troupe holds auditions for comedy written by Neil Simon

Spotlight Players, the resident adult theater group at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton, will hold auditions for Proposals Sept. 20-21.

The comedy, by legendary playwright Neil Simon, will be staged Nov. 12-14 and 19-21 in the Biltmore Studio.

This comedy is about the Hines clan and their gathering at their summer retreat

one last time in 1953. Burt, the father, is looking forward to the arrival of his ex-wife. Daughter Josie, with a broken engagement to Ken, yearns for his buddy, Ray, who shows up with a dim-witted model on his arm. Throw in a gangster and a witty housekeeper and it makes for a humorous yet poignant story.

There are nine roles for men

# Show offers spooktacular works

Twenty-three artists will show their Halloween-themed works at the fourth annual Ghoultide Gathering -A Halloween Artists Spectacular, a one-day sale and exhibit from 9 a.m. to 2

p.m., Saturday, Oct. 2, in Mill Race Village, 215 Griswold, Northville. Admission is \$5 at the gate. Juried artists use both traditional and non-tradi-tional mediums, to create their

KNOW THE SCORE: Check out the numbers in today's **Sports** section

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# Tour public art in Canton during Saturday, Sept. 25, walk

Ken Thompson, docent and artist from the Midwest Sculpture Initiative, will lead a free public art walk along Ford Road in Canton on Saturday, Sept. 25.

The two-mile walk will give participants an insider's view of popular outdoor works of art. Walkers will be encouraged to interact and examine the art from a variety of angles to enjoy their many different perspectives.

Art lovers should meet at 9:30 a.m. the Summit artway. They'll be shuttled to the starting point and then returned to the Summit at the end of the walking tour. Light refreshments will also be served following the tour. All walk participants will also receive a free T-Shirt courtesy of Midwest Sculpture Initiative. Pre-registration is required. Register online at Cantonfun.org or in person at the Summit

on the Park.

Canton's temporary public art display is made possible by the Downtown Development Authority (DDA), in partnership with the Canton Cultural Commission's Public Art Commission. Sites displaying this temporary outdoor public art exhibit include Canton Cinema; Griffin Funeral Home; Hampton Inn; Home Depot; New Towne Center at Kohl's; Target; and Willow Creek Plaza Pieces in this current collection were created out of materials such as bronze, welded steel, cast iron, and glass. Subject matters range from whimsical to poetic with an assortment of identifiable pieces including a Rubik's cube to glass totem poles.

For more information about Canton's Public Art Walk, visit Cantonfun.org or call (734) 394-5460.

# EASONS REHABILITATION **GREAT STAFF. GREAT CARE.**

Families talk about the quality care available to residents and short-term patients at Four Seasons Rehab & Nursing



Kevin B. has been a nurse for long-term care patients for 15 years. He worked in three different states before joining the staff of Four Seasons so he knows the importance of good skilled care. His Uncle Jerry moved into Four Seasons' Memory Care Unit with dementia 6-months ago. When extended care and short-term rehabilitation become necessary, choose Four Seasons for the attentive professional staff and skilled nursing. In addition to physical, occupational and speech therapy, the facility offers one-of-a-kind services such as in-patient and beside dialvisis.

66 My parents are so happy because they don't have to worry. My uncle is happy. As a nurse I would bring my parents here If I have a question or concern the doctors are always here. ))

#### Socialization plays an important role in daily life at Four Seasons

Four Seasons Activities Center enhances care for residents and rehabilitation patients. Betty Noe practiced cooking breakfast in the new kitchen before going home, receiving physical therapy during a three-month stay at Four Seasons after fracturing a wrist and leg. The new kitchen allows residents to make fresh fruit and pasta salads for lunch.

In addition to cooking, a variety of social groups focus on favorite pastimes. Board games and cards round out the offerings. A flat screen TV with surround sound gets residents moving with Wil video sports like bowling.

"We encourage all residents to participate," said Pat Lyden, admir an R.N. "This is how they socialize."

Quality Care Dignity and Compassion by Socialization plays an important role in daily life whether in the dining room or newly renovated Activities Center, "The purpose is to get residents involved," said Lori McLeskey, activities director, "They adore it. A core group spends most of their day here in the activities center."

In-House Dialysis | Cardiac Rehab | Respiratory Therapy Secured Memory Care Unit | Short & Long-Term Care | Medicare and Medicaid Provider | Private Insurance

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## Dearborn Lowrey High School Classes of 1949-51

## **REUNION CALENDAR**

(Mackinder) Sarr Detroit Pershing Class of 1960

## Farmington High School Class of 1970

# Garden City High School Class of 1960

GCHS.MCMLX@yahoo.com.

Garden City West
Class of 1970
40th reunion on Saturday, Oct. 9 at
Hawthorne Valley Country Club in
Westland. Dinner and DJ included
for \$50 per person. Classmates from
the classes of 1968-1972 also invited
to attend. For more information.
call Larry Conn at (734) 788-5254.
Livona Bentley

## Rosary High School Class of 1966

Planning 45th reunion in July of 2011. Seeking classmates and con tact information. E-mail Pam at Taffttoo@aol.com

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a subscription to your hometown

6 p.m., Oct. 16, at Red Run Golf Club, 2036 Rochester Road, north of 12 Mile, Royal Oak, \$50.00 per person, \$50 per person, choice of entree. Make checks payable to Class of January 1950 Reunion and mail to Margaret (Hobbs) Monroe, 3045 Helen Court, Royal Oak, MI 48073. For more information call Monroe at (248) 435-3306 or Roy Leet at (248) 737-2845. Guests welcome; deadline for ticket is Sept. 30. Warren Fitzgerald Class of 1968 op. 10 to 1a.m., Saturday, Oct. 9, at DeCarlo's Banquet Center, 10 Mile and Mound, Warren. Buffet dinner, cash bar. Tickets are \$35. Contact Ken Rix at (586) 781-4552, kenrix@ameritech. pet. of Bill (Eimeba at C448) 689-6216. billiziembal968@aol.com Wayne Memorial High School Class of 1985.

## estland John Glenn

# Get creative at Canton festival scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 2, at Preservation Park

Canton.

The event will run 1-5 p.m. and will include a mystery maze for the little ones, face painting and "The Scarecrow Invasion" decorating contest, in addition to a petting farm and seasonal

Teams of two or more participants can

enter to win "The Scarecrow Invasion" for a chance to win prizes. Teams will use clothing, decorations, and tools to create their outdoor masterpieces. Hay will be supplied. Pre-registration and a \$10 per team entry fee are due Oct. I. Scarecrows will be on display throughout October at Preservation Park. Judging is set to take place at 4 p.m. and with winners announced at 4:30 p.m. "We hope that 'The Scarecrow Invasion' gives families, groups, and businesses the opportunity to pull out

all the stops and get creative with their designs," stated Jennifer Provenzano, recreation specialist. "These creations will be on display at Preservation Park throughout the fall, so we're looking forward to seeing traditional, historical, whimsical and comical scarecrows when the contest is finglly finished."

Although most of the activities at the Cherry Hill Harvest Fest are free, some may require a small fee. For more information visit Cantonfun.org or call (734) 394-5460.





પ્રિંગ હતા પ્રસાંદ્ર પુરુપ દોવપ દેવન કે તમાનુ કે કે ઉપનામાં છે!

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## SEPT. 19-22

Bible study
Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., first and third Tuesdays, beginning Sept. 21 Location: St. Michael the Archangel, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, between Farmington Road and Merriman,

Livonia
Details: Catholic author and speaker, Gary Michuta, teaches this class
focusing on St. Paul's Letter to the
Romans, which has been regarded
as a primer on Catholic doctrine.
Open to all faiths; no registration or fee required Contact: (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200

Breakfast

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to noon, Sunday, Sept. 19 Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 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

Contact: (734) 425-4421

Concert

Time/Date: 4:30 p.m., Sept. 19 Location: St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon Road in

Details: Collins-Allvin Jazz Quartet performs at the first concert of the season for the Resounding Art in a Sacred Space series. The church suggests a donation of \$25 for families and \$10 for individuals for

Guest speaker

Time/date: 7-8:30 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, Sept. 20-22 Location: 34500 Six Mile, Livonia Details: British theologian, pasto

36475 Five Mile Rd. Livonia, MI 48154

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and author John Peck will teach and author John Peck will teach three sessions entitled, "Worldview Revisited," exploring the issue of learning to think as a Christian about everything. He is author of "UnCommon Sense: Biblical Wisdom For Today." for Today's World" and co-founder of the Greenbelts Arts Festival in England. Everyone is welcome. No charge. Child care provided. Contact: (734) 421-7602

Widowed men and women Time/Date: 2:15 p.m. Sept. 19 Location: St. Thomas a' Becket Parish, 555Lilley, Canton Details: Mass and fellowship for owed men and women; include: Contact: (734) 895-6246

## SEPT. 23-29

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 26 **Location**: First United Methodist Church, 6443 Merriman, Garden

**Details**: Abby Paskvan, 14, a record ing artist from Bowling Green, Ohio

Contact: (734) 421-8628

Convention

8 a.m.; worship at 9 a.m., with an afternoon session following the 12:15 p.m. luncheon on Saturday.

Church, 5885 Venoy, Westland

Details: Michigan Southeast

District Lutheran Laymen's Leagu

Convention features the Rev. Mar

Larson, director of United States Ministries for Lutheran Hou

Contact: Jean Wellhousen at (734)

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 24 Location: Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy, Canton Details: Old-fashioned gospel fest

and hymn sing Contact: (734) 455-0022

Lobster Fest

Lobster Fest
Time/Date: 5-6:30 p.m., Sept. 25
Location: St. John's Episcopal
Church, 574 Sheldon, Plymouth
Details: The lobster dinner is \$22
and includes potatoes, Caesar
salad, baked beans, rolls; dessert
and beverages. Fresh, live lobsters
for carry-out are \$17 each and

must be picked up 4-5 p.m. on Sept. 25, Orders must be received and paid for in advance no later than Sept. 22. Order forms for carry out are available on the church Web site, www.stjohnsplymouth.org. Proceeds from Lobster Fest support the church's work with Episcopal Appalachian Ministries and in the Dominican Republic Contact: (734) 453-0190

Music membership

Music membership
Time/Date: Through September
Location: Rosedale Gardens
Presbyterian Church, Livonia
Details: The church invites community members to join its music
groups in this membership drive.
The music groups for all ages
include an adult choir for men and
women, a praise team, high school
youth group band, young children's
choir, two adult hand bell groups,
three youth hand bell groups and
opportunities for instrumentalists
through the year

through the year Contact: (734) 422-0404

Scripture discussion Time/Date: 5 p.m. Sept. 26, Oct. 24,

Nov. 28
Location: St. Aidan Parish, 17500
Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: "4th Sunday Tune-ups,"
monthly program of scripture
discussion. Topics are "Setting the
Stage: A Real Encounter with Sacred
Scripture is Anything but Tame" for
September; "Celebrating Biblical
Saints" for October; "The Cathegral
of Chartres on Jesus' Birth" for
November. A potluck dinner follows
the sessions. Contact: (734) 425-5950

## **SEPT. 30-OCT 6**

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

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 beserved.

Contact: (248) 349-3127

Location: St. John Bosco, 12100 Beech Daly, Redford

Beech Daly, Redford

Details: Mass at 4 p.m. Saturday
and 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday;
mission talk at 7 p.m., Sunday; 8
a.m. Mass and 7 p.m. mission talk Monday-Wednesday Contact: (313) 937-9690

Rummage sale
Time/Date: pre-sale 5-8 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 30; sale 9 a.m.-1
p.m. Oct. 1 and 9 a.m.-noon Oct. 2
Location: Newburg United
Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor

Trail, Livonia. **Details:** Admission for pre-sale event is \$2; admission is free Oct.
1-2. Everything will be half price on

Contact: (734) 422-0149

Rummage sale

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Sept.

Location: St. Innocent Orthodox Church, 2330 W. Chicago Road,

Details: Outdoor rummage sale Contact: Matushka Rose Marie Star

Wine tasting Time/Date: 3:30-5:30 p.m. Oct. 2 Location: 27565 Spring Valley,

Farmington Hills

Details: Fund-raiser for Helping Hands Touching Hearts to Clothe a Village. Rene Tovar with National Wine and Spirits will serve the wine. In addition to wines and light wine. In addition to wines and light snacks, a massage therapist from Michael's Golden Lotus will be on hand, along with a plam reader, Mary Coddle with unique gifts and Path Lite Jewelry. \$20 per person Contact: Sidney Bonvallet at sid-

Women's conference

Women's conference
Time/Date: Saturday, Oct. 2
Location: St. James Presbyterian
Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford
Details: 2010 Sisters in Christ
Women's Conference, "Harvest
Blessings" with speaker Vicki
Bryant. Conference topics
are "Dead 'N' Dry No More,"
"Reflections of a Lovely Lady," and
"Practicing His Presence - Mary &
Martha:" Cost is \$40, which include
a continental breakfast at 8:15 a.m. a continental breakfast at 8:15 a.m

Contact: Register by Sept. 27 by

calling Sandy Bousquette from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at (313) 534-7730 and

### OCT 7-13

Angels program
Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Thursday,

October 7
Location: St. Aidan Parish, Bixman Hall, (church building) 17500
Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: David J. Conrad, M.A.

diversity of God's creative work Contact: RSvP to (734) 425-5950

## **ONGOING**

AWANA

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

Wednesdays Location: Faith Bible Church, 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hill Details: AWANA program for chil-dren from kindergarten-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

**Details**: Open Arms Bible class for adults with developmental dis abilities and special needs. Includes

activities, prayer, snacks and fun.
Contact: Judy Cook at Emmanue
(248) 442-8822 or e-mail to
jcook59@att.net.
Livonia Unity
Time/Date: Monday movement

Location: 28660 Five Mile, Livonia Details: Learn Digong, 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@

study at 8 a.m.
Location: Kirby's Coney Island,
21200 Haggerty, Northville Township
Contact: John Shulenberger at
(734) 464-9491
New Life Community Church

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

Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville Contact: (734) 846-4615 for infor

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

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JO ANN "JENNIE" SHINN



C. THOMAS (TOM) WILSON

Age 81, of Bloomfield, beloved band and father, died August 12, a result of complications follol heart surgery. Survived by his







JOHN HENSLEY





#### Deadlines:

May peace be with you in this time of Jorrow.

# Celebrations

## Golden anniversary

Louis and Barbara Herremans of Farmington Hills celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday, Aug. 27. Lou and Barb were high school sweethearts. Lou graduated from Walkerville High School and Barb



Louis and Barbara Herremans of Farmington Hills

Louis and Barbara Herremans of Consulting firm, Arthur Anderson. At 34, he became the youngest partner and went on to lead all government operations for Anderson Consulting. He is now retired and enjoying time with his grandchildren, golfing, financial consulting and travel.

Barb has dedicated her life to raising three boys who now all have families of their own. All three currently enjoy successful careers. Barb also enjoys tennis, golf, travel and of course time with their grandchildren.

The couple celebrated their anniversary with the

children.

The couple celebrated their anniversary with the entire family on Mackinac Island, with a family retreat at Mission Point resort and an anniversary dinner at the Grand Hotel.



Louis and Barbara Herremans on their wedding day



Jablonicky-Kozak

## March wedding planned

April Jablonicky and Chaim Kozak of Westland plan to wed March 26, 2011.

The bride-to-be, daughter of James Jablonicky of Westland and Pamela Jablonicky of Garden City, is a 2001 graduate of John Glenn High School. She is employed by Meijer.

The groom-elect, son of Tom and Bongchae Kozak of Westland, is a 2004 graduate of the Michigan Technical. He was with the United States Marine Corpes from 2004-2007 and currently is employed by the Boyd County Sheriff Department.

The couple plans to wed at Heritage Park in Taylor.

## **Birth Announcement**



Elliot Grace Messina

Elliot Grace Messina was born May 13, 2010, at the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor. Elliot Grace joins parents, Vince and Chris Messina, and siblings, Avery, 12, and Emerson, 1, at home in Plymouth.
Grandparents are Rick and Gail Urchyk of Davison Frank and Marlene Messina of Monroe and Diane Carriero of Plymouth.



## Perfect setting

Kristy Marie Bell and Beau Pierre Jasmund tied the knot Sept. 11 at the fountain in Kellogg Park during the Plymouth Fall Festival. Family, friends and their children, Devin LaMere and Amber Nicole Rose watched as the Rev. E. Wayne Byrum officiated. The couple lives in Plymouth.



## June 2011 wedding

Dayna Michelle Patrick and Ryan Patrick Mullaly happily

Dayna Michelle Patrick and Kyan Patrick Mullaly happily announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of Linda and Larry Patrick of Farmington Hills, is a 2001 graduate of Farmington Harrison High School. She earned a degree in psychology from Michigan State University in 2005, and now attends Wayne State University's master's program in social

ork.
Her fiancé, son of Sandi and Tom Mullaly of Hillsdale, gradu
ted from Hillsdale High School in 2002. He attended Lansin,
ommunity College where he earned an associate's degree.
Ryan has his own landscaping company.
A June 2011 wedding in Jamaica is planned.



## Married June 5

David William Baker and Christina Ann Sash were married June 5, 2010 at St. John Chapel in Plymouth. The Rev. Kevin Thomas officiated.

The bride's parents are Mr. and Mrs. David Sash of Westland. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Selleck of Livonia. The matron of honor was Valerie Heacock, sister of the groom. Bridesmaids were Nicole Simpson and Dr. Vida Fiorentino. Samantha Baker, daughter of the groom, and Alexis Collier served as flower girls.

The best man was William Baker, brother of the groom. Groomsmen were Joe Yates and John Martz. Ushers were Adam Sash, brother of the bride, David Yates and Frank Hilkowski Jr. Mark Collier was the ring bearer.

A reception was held in the Grande Ballroom at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth Township.

The couple took a honeymoon trip to Hawaii and an Alaskan cruise.

The couple associated and R.N. at Select Specialty Hospital of Ann Arbor and the groom is employed at LOC Performance Products, Inc.
The couple resides in Livonia.



Phil and Corine Samuelson of Redford share cake on their wedding day.

## Golden wedding anniversary

Phil and Corine Samuelson of Redford celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday Aug. 21, with a renewal of vows and reception at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church in Livonia.

Philip Raymond Samuelson and Corine Mae Short were married August 27, 1960, at the Archbold Methodist Church in Archbold, Ohio. The couple has three children, Britta (Kevin) Fesler, Sten Samuelson and Kirsten (Andrew) DeVault. They are grandparents to five grandchildren: Nika, Emily, Eli, and Austin Fesler, and Luke DeVault. Phil and Corine are both retired music teachers.

They share a life that is centered around their joy of celebrating and creating music. They have both been very involved in various choral groups in Michigan and Texas.

Phil and Corine have lived in Redford since 1966.



## March wedding planned

Traci Bash and David Lake announce their engage

ment.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Kristi and Allan Bash of Florence, S.C., is a graduate of West Florence High School and Clemson University. She is employed by South Carolina, State Parks.

Her fiancé, son of Charla Lake of Livonia and Robert Lake, of South Carolina, is a graduate of Franklin High School, Albion College and the University of Michigan. He is employed with Centerplate, Inc.

A March 5, 2011, wedding is planned in Greenville, S.C.



## October wedding

Ann Miller and Michael Kerrigan announce their

engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Robert and Barbara Colegrove of Hartland, is a Franklin High School graduate. She works as a hair stylist at Beau Chic Salon & Boutique in Plymouth.

Her fiancé, the son of Patrick and Barbara Kerrigan of Livonia, graduated from Stevenson High School. He is the CEO and owner of Mike's Yard Service.

# HEALTH

Sunday, September 19, 2010 hometownlife (iii) com

## HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Sharon Dargay Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883

E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com Comment online at hometownlife.com

# Consider tooth health in lunch picks

Think you're sending your kids to school with a healthy lunch?

Think again. Some popular lunch items can contain almost as much sugar as a lunch hox full of candy bars, according to Delta Dental of Michigan.

"Common lunch foods actually contain a shocking amount of sugar," said Dr. Jed Jacobson, chief science officer and senior vice president at Delta Dental of Michigan. "With small changes, it is surprisingly easy to pack a lunch that is healthier overall and better for your child's teeth."

Consider a lunch with a packaged ham, cheese and crackers meal, a small can of diced peaches, fruit snacks, and a piuce box. While it seems healthy and balanced, the sugar count is a whopping 62 grams. An average candy bar contains about 25 grams of sugar.

A few substitutes can reduce the sugar count tremendously. Switch to a ham and cheese sandwich on wheat bread and skip the fruit snacks. In addition to high sugar content, their stickiness holds sugars against, teeth for prolonged periods.



Swap out the juice for a kidsized sports drink or milk and opt for fresh fruits or vegetables instead of canned. These small changes bring this lunch's sugar total down to a more tooth-tolerable 19 grams.

For other teeth-friendly substitutes, consider yogurt as a good option for boosting calcium with only 10 grams of sugar. Even better is string cheese, which also offers calcium but with zero grams of sugar. For a special treat, vanilla wafer cookies have less than half the sugar of chocolate, crème-filled cookies. Potato chips, pretzels and cheesy crackers are good options for low-sugar items. "Check the nutrition labels on the foods you buy to make sure you know what your kids are eating," Jacobson said. "A healthy and nutritious diet paired with good oral hygiene at home and visits to the dentist can go a long way toward protecting against tooth decay."

If possible, kids should brush their teeth after lunch at school. Keeping a toothbrush and travel-sized tube of toothpaste in a lunch box, desk or locker is a convenient way to encourage this healthy habit. If kids can't brush at school, Jacobson recommends having them rinse their mouths with water or milk after lunch.

Jacobson suggest parents try to avoid packing these high-sugar lunch items:

• Can of pop (40g)
• Fig cookies (22g)
• Chocolate-hazelnut spread (21g)
• Granola hars (10g)

Chocolate-hazelnut spre(21g)
 Granola bars (19g)
 Pudding (17g)
 Delta Dental of Michigan with its affiliates in Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, New Mexico and Tennessee, is one of the largest dental plan administrators in the nation. Its Michigan offices are located in Okemos and Farmington Hills.

Three new physicians have joined the staff at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, in Livionia. Joshua Faley, D.P.M., podiatry, received a degree from Barry University, Miami Shores, Fla. He completed his residency at the Detroit Medical Center, Detroit, Faley is a member of the American Podiatric Medical Association, Michigan Podiatric Medical Association, and Association, and Association. College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons.

Surgeons.
He practices at 14555 Levan,
Suite 302E, Livonia, (734)
591-6612; and at the Michigan
Foot & Ankle Center, 24725
W 12 Mile Road, Suite 270,
Southfield, (248) 353-9300.

Khaghany

**NEW FACES** 



Azadeh Khaghany, M.D., pediatrics, received a degree from Wayne State University School of Medicine and completed her residency at Children's Hospital of Michigan in Detroit. She is board certified in pediatrics and a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Her office, Infinity Primary Care, is located at 37595 Seven Mile, Suite 210, Livonia; (734) 432-7581.

Walid Osta, M.D., pain management, received his degree from the American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon. He completed an Anesthesiology residency at Wayne State University School of Medicine and a fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh, Medical Center, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Pa.
Osta is board certified in anesthesiology. He practices at the American Pain & Spin Center, 8534 N. Canton Center, 8534 N. Canton Center, 8534 N. Canton (313) 320-1116

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Sunday, September 19, 2010

# Keys to Researching Your Next Employer

"I know right away when a candidate doesn't know the current news about our company," states Chris Brabec, director of leadership talent acquisition for Western Union "If you don't know the CEO is retiring, or if a company made a big acquisition recently, that's not a good sign. If a candidate can't tell me what the company does (or thinks Western Union still does telegrams), that's another sign she hasn't done her homework.

In a job market where applicants frequently cast a wide net with the hope that anybody will respond, job seekers sometimes cut corners by not thoroughly checking out potential employers. But failure to know about the place you claim you want to work at can make you seem unprepared and disinterested -- and cost you a job offer.

Here, experts weigh in on things you should learn before seeking employment and how to go about finding that information.

#### What to know

"Companies have told us that one of the things they use to weed out candidates is that the student didn't know anything about the company, says John M. Thompson, executive director of career services at Texas

Christian University in Fort Worth.

Among the things Thompson encourages his students to find out

- · What does the company do?
- · What are its products?
- What is the company's mission?
- Where are its offices located? · How big is the company in terms of employees/revenue
- · How is it positioned in its

"Everyone (but particu-larly for more senior-level roles) should know our stock price," says Yolanda Bush, director of human resources for Western Union. "Research the company's leadership team and the company's efforts around corporate social responsibility. This will help candidates position themselves to discuss how their skills and experience will help us succeed in the marketplace.

Julie Rulis, a senior recruiter for Western Union's talent acquisition team, agrees with her colleague's advice and adds, "If you are doing an interview at a company, find out if it's in the Fortune 500 and where it is on that list. Even better: Find out where it was a year ago, and if it's different, maybe ask why. It shows you've done your homework. A job candidate should know our products

and services beyond just the basics. With all the tools available nowadays, there's no excuse not to

How to play detective
The "tools" Rulis is referring to are all the different ways a job seeker can go about finding information. Abby M. Locke, master résumé writer and personal brand strategist for Premier Writing Solutions in Seattle, Wash., offers these suggestions on how to find information on the company:

- Review the company's website
- Read press releases
- · Pay attention to industry publications
- Use Google alerts to stay on top of current company news
- · Do an informational interview with past or current employees.
- · Talk to a representative at a career fair or trade show.
- · Follow key decision-makers on
- · Utilize Linked In groups and other online social media tools Online directories such as Bloomberg and Standard & Poor's also give information on many businesses. For additional help in finding appropriate databases, job seekers may want to consult their local library or the college career

center of their alma mater

## Show what you know

Finally, while you don't need to be a walking fact book, be ready to incorporate your knowledge of the company into correspondence and conversation when opportunities

"I ask job candidates questions like what they know about the company beyond what's on the website, how they feel they fit in with our overall values and corporate culture, or what they found out about the company in their research that they didn't know before," Rulis says. "This is a great opportunity to show off your preparation -- talk about our competitors or the fact that you read that we're entering an entirely new business segment.

Get to know your potential employers, and chances are they will want to get to know you!



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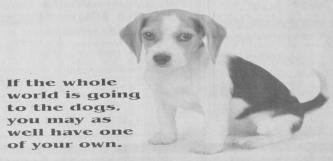
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