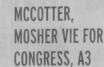
THURSDAY September 30, 2010

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CONNECTION Halloween photos



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Alumni outing

Board denies Fiegel extension



While members of one school board are pondering whether they want Dr. Craig Fiegel to lead their school district, the members of the Plymouth-Canton Community

Schools Board of Education decided they didn't.
Plymouth-Canton's board voted 4-3 Tuesday not to renew the contract of Fiegel, the district's superintendent who is in the final year of his three-year contract.
The move came one night before

Royal Rocks



Brett Foster and Jessica Pierce celebrated Friday after being selected Salem High School's Homecoming King and Queen. The night turned out better for Foster and Pierce than it did for the Rocks, who lost their homecoming lit to Northville, 49-7. The loss dropped Salem to 0-5 overall, 0-3 in the KLAA Central.

Incumbent, challenger spar over 21st House seat

Slavens touts first-term accomplishments

Please see SLAVENS, A5

Levi 'doing more, faster' in state House bid

Please see LEVI. A5



Home Delivery: INDEX

Canton votes for tax hike

Amid support from residents who fear plunging revenues could gut their police and fire services, Canton's elected leaders voted 6-0 Tuesday to impose a tax increase to thwart a budget deficit that could otherwise mushroom to nearly \$15

RESIDENTS WILLING

RESIDENTS WILLING

A majority of residents attending a Tuesday evening public hearing by the Canton Township Board of Trustees — and two earlier public forums — indicated they are willing to absorb a tax hike. The increase will generate an estimated \$5.4 million a year and raise the combined tax rate for police and fire services and the general fund from 8.65 mills to 10.40 mills.

Canton resident and Livonia business owner Rich Keenan spoke in favor of the township

DEEPER CUTS

DEEPER CUTS

Trustee Todd Caccamo, criticized for missing Tuesday's meeting due to job duties that took him out of town, had called for deeper budget cuts, particularly in Canton Leisure Services. He had indicated he could only support a lesser tax increase.

could only support a lesset tag-increase.

During Tuesday's meeting, resident Tony Cauchi criticized Caccame for missing numer-ous township board sessions for months and said he should resign "and let someone else take that seat."

When contacted for a response, Caccamo called his absences "temporary" due to job duties and said, "If it were to continue and I thought I could no longer satisfactorily fulfill my duties, I would con-



TAXES

sider (resigning). I get far too many positive comments that outweigh that at the moment." Even Caccamo's board coleagues have taken aim at him. Anthony, for example, dismissed suggestions of even deeper cuts to Canton Leisure Services, saying "political posturing" could lead to the sale of local golf courses and the closing of facilities such as the recreational Summit on the Park and the Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

TOUGH CHOICE

TOUGH CHOICE

"We could turn our parks into cornfields, but this still would not address the \$14 million budget deficit," Anthony said, calling such options "unacceptable."

Meanwhile, board members who voted 6-0 to raise taxes for police and fire services said their decision was difficult, even though ballot measures approved by voters more than 30 years ago gave officials the authority.

authority.

Trustee Pat Williams called it the hardest decision he has made as an elected official and said he has friends who have lost their homes. He called the tax hike 'painful' and said "it's the right decision."

Assessor Doug Shaw said Canton's residential property assessments have plunged 39 percent over a three-year period. Moreover, commercial assessments have plummeted 33 percent and industrial loss-es are expected to reach 15-20 percent.

percent.
Supervisor Phil LaJoy said
Canton has lost more than
88 million a year in property
tax revenues, and he said the
depth of budget problems
became chillingly clear as local
officials began a multi-year
approach to financial planning.

approach to financial plan-ning.
Canton's taxable value has fallen by \$1 billion since 2007, and auditors have warned it could take 14 years to recover. Resident Greg Demopoulos told the township board Tuesday he doesn't want to see crime increase due to layoffs of police officers.
"We cannot lose one officer."

olice officers. "We cannot lose one officer,"

he said.
Canton has 86 sworn police
officers and 62 firefighters —
fewer employees per 1,000 residents than other metro Detroit
communities of comparable
size, Public Safety Director
Patrick Nemecek said.

LAYOFFS POSSIBLE

During a public forum Monday, resident Nancy Schlager, a nurse, said the township may have to con-sider layoffs. She said families

What will it east Residents?

Taxable Value	Total Annual Impact	Monthly Impact		
\$70,000	\$122.50	\$10.21		
\$90,000	\$157.50	\$13.13		
\$110,000	\$192.50	\$16.04		
\$130,000	\$227.50	\$18.96		
\$150,000	\$262.50	\$21.88		
\$170,000	\$297.50	\$24.79		
\$190,000	\$332.50	\$27.71		

Source: Canton Two

on fixed incomes can't afford higher taxes, and her retiree husband, Robert Schlager,

Residents such as Mike Andro, however, voiced support Monday for the public safety tax hike, saying the increase has been offset by falling property values that ushered in lower tax bills. 'I'm more than happy to pay what I've been paying for years for the public safety,' he said. Township officials have said the tax increase will be accompanied by \$1.7 million in spending cuts in the Public

Safety, Leisure Services and Municipal Services departments. Officials have delayed purchases such as certain police and fire equipment. Publicly at least, employee groups have been quiet as township leaders have openly called for concessions in wages, health care and unpaid furlough days. Anthony said Tuesday the proposal essentially calls for a 5-percent wage cut and a 10-percent increase in health care co-pays.

Even as talks are ongoing, elected officials have repeatedly mentioned \$1.8 million in concessions during public meetings.

"We need that number."

"We need that number,"
LaJoy said during Monday's
public förum. "We're going to
get that number."

FIEGEL

FROM PAGE AI

Davis and Dianne Gonzalez
voted not to renew Fiegel's
contract. Board President
Steven Sneideman, Vice
President Barry Simescu and
Secretary Nancy Eggenberger
voted in favor of the motion.

"I made a decision two years
ago, and I've stuck with it,"
said Gonzalez, the only board
member who voted against
Fiegel's hiring two years ago
(Jackson wasn't on the board
then). "I didn't feel his background was conducive to this
district. My concern is our
superintendent courageously
attempts to do so many things... without consulting the team.
I believe we've encouraged collaboration, to no avail."
Fiegel, whose status has
been the subject of debate in
recent months, remained philosophical about the decision.

"That's what (the board) gets
elected to do, and they have a
right to do it," Fiegel said. "I
continue to stand by my character.
When you look at leadership,
that's what you look at first. I
think I did the right things for
the right reasons."

PUBLIC SUPPORT

PUBLIC SUPPORT
The large crowd gathered
at Thesday's meeting seemed
to agree. More than a dozen
people spoke during the citizen
comments portion of the meeting, urging the board to renew
Fiegel's contract.
"I think the board should
renew (Fiegel's) contract now,
rather than later, and for three
years, not one," resident Linda
Waldeck said. "If you don't,
he'll be snapped up by another
district, and we'll be spending
money on another expensive money on another expensi search, and I'd rather that

— Inarteit goal. It was every the decision.

Mardigian, the longest-serving member of the board and one who voted in favor of Fiegel's hiring two years ago, objected to the addition of the resolution to the agenda at a time when Fiegel is interviewing for a job in another district. Walled Lake trustees are expected to make a decision as soon as next week on their new superintendent.

It hink this is the wrong move tonight," Mardigian said. "He's in the middle of a job search. ... I'm disappointed it's on the agenda. I have concerns about the movement away from collaboration. I have talked to many people throughout the district who

CONTINUITY NEEDED

Simescu and Eggenberger argued a district that has changed superintendents five times in 14 years should strive for continuity, particularly in the face of a slate of retiring administrators next year — Deputy Supt. Ken Jacobs, Assistant Supt. for Instructional Services Cindy Swift, Director of Student Services Bob Hayes and Human Resources Director Ray Bihun are all retiring after this school year — and unparalleled academic achievement the last couple of years.

Brooming Fiegel now, they argued, would make it tougher to draw not only a new superintendent, but also replacements for all of the leaders the administration is losing.

"If you're an administrator and thinking about applying here, and you don't know who your superintendent is, or if you're afraid he's going to be gone in a couple of years, why would you want to come here?" Eggenberger said.

Gonzalez said she'd talked to many people who work in the district who were arriaid to speak up about their concerns over Fiegel for fear of losing their jobs. She said those concerns are what kept teachers from speaking Tuesday.

"I think it speaks volumes," Gonzalez said of the lack of teachers in the audience. "I speak for the silent majority."

STAFFERS SPEAK

STAFFERS SPEAK
While no district staff spoke
up against Fiegel, three of the
speakers who supported him
were on staff in the district.
"I think we're about to
make a mistake," said Mark
LaPointe, the Central Middle
School athletic director who
has spent 37 years teaching at
Central. "The carousel is going
round and round again. I think
(Fiegel) needs to be on board
... he needs time. I really firmly
believe if we do not renew,
we're making a big mistake."
In the end, the decision
not to renew Fiegel's contract
left residents in the audience
befuddled and angry.
"I'm upset this board
can't function together,
said Elizabeth Carlson of
Plymouth, who has put three
children through the district,
including one still at Canton
High School. "I'm very disappointed. We're going to waste
a lot of money. The problem
is some board members want
to be the administration, and
they're not."

AROUND CANTON

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

Wrestling boosters

The Salem Wrestling Boosters are sponsoring a Euchre Tournament Saturday, Nov. 6, 2010 at The Elrks Club in Plymouth, located at 41700 Ann Arbor Road.

ers must be 21 years of age

istration fee is \$25 and includes cash prizes, 50/50 drawing, raffles and complimentary food along with a cash bar. The top (3) individuals will share 30 percent of the total entry fees. Limited space is available.

percent of the total entry fees. Limited space is available. Contact Rich Rohn at rrohn@ tmgwest.com or visit the Salem Wrestling web site at "wrestling. salemrocks.com" for more infor-

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, 50-400 Cherry Hill in Canton. Organizers are looking for anyone who would like to display memorabilia during the event. Anyone who d like to take advantage of the opportunity should contact Sean Fletcher via e-mail at sean fletcher@canton-mi ory.

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) 398-5241. Those who participate will be invited to the Salute to Service program and be honored during the program

e program. They will receive a DVD of

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



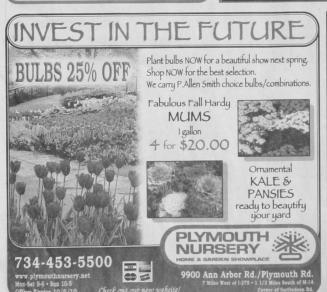




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Mosher: Stimulus plan is working

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Natalie Mosher supports the stimulus plan passed by Congress and believes governmental spending in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act can help turn the economy around.

'I think we can bring it close to home, by investing in alternative energy," Mosher said.

"Right in our own backyard in Livonia, we had the A123 plant that just opened up. It's North America's largest lithium ion auto battery plant."

Currently 300 employees are employed. Mosher said 3,000 will eventually be employed there.

"These are really good-naving."

will eventually be employed there.
"These are really good-paying jobs; they certainly can sustain a family, I think it gets us off the dependence on oil that we do need to get off of," Mosher said. "So I do support the recovery act money and I'm really happy to see it come back.



time and again in terms of alternative energy and in fa of big oil."

BUSINESSES NEED CREDIT

Mosher believes businesses need to be able to obtain loam: We have to provide credit to small business," Mosher said. "Small businesses are the ecomic engine of our country, they do create the jobs. We do need to work in partnership." One of the most pressing.

issues facing small businesses in southeast Michigan is the loss of capital and credit, Mosher said. "I've been knocking on doors

Mosher said.

"Tve been knocking on doors. If someone will open up and share with me that they own a small business, they are not able to get any credit. If they could get credit, they certainly would be able to hire people and expand their business.

"We need to work in concert, government with business. It's a true partnership."

Mosher believes the financial system needs "some serious" reform. "We need to end the predatory lending practices of the banking industry, regulate the high-risk behavior of hedge fund managers on Wall Street, close corporate tax loopholes, encourage companies to keep jobs in Michigan rather than outsourcing them overseas and keep lobbyists away from law-makers," Mosher said. Smart government policies will help small businesses create jobs.

FEDERAL RESERVE NEEDS OVERSIGHT

Mosher would like to use congressional oversight of the Federal Reserve to ensure that the U.S. monetary policy supports the interests of small businesses and entrepreneurs and "not just those of big corporations."

businesses and entrepreneurs and "not just those of big corporations."

Mosher proposes tax incentives for small businesses who hire new employees and for businesses that hire in high unemployment areas like southeast Michigan.

Mosher also supports tax cuts for middle-class families are paying too much in payroll taxes."

Mosher said. She promised to work to reform the tax code "so that the wealthiest Americans pay their fair share," she said. "There's nothing wrong with making money," Mosher said. "We just need to ensure some basic fairness in our tax policy."



McCotter: Tax relief means more jobs

Thaddeus McCotter believes

Thaddeus McCotter believes the stimulus plan is not working, and thinks tax relief is necessary so families can weather the economic storm. "The stimulus has not even lived up to what its proponents have said," McCotter said. The stimulus plan was an attempt to keep unemployment at 8.5 percent, but with interest, it put the country a \$1 trillion further in the hole, McCotter said. Stimulus plan supporters, including U.S. Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke, now realize there isn't much left to that plan to get the economy

Chairman Ben Bernanke, now realize there isn't much left to that plan to get the economy going, McCotter said.

"As we've see with the \$26 billion attempt to bail out states and others, there's not going to be a simple spending solution to this," McCotter said. "In fact, what the spending will continue to do, and we've already seen this, it will continue to deepen the recession and prolong it because the fiscal situation of the United States is untenable. "What you have to have, and again this is not a novel approach, but you have to hav tax relief that allows people, especially families and small businesses, to weather the storm and regain their con-



fidence," McCotter said. "For small business to be hiring again, you have to make sure the larger investors put their money into investment and creation of jobs, rather than hold it back, or rather than feel that there is no utility to it because the profit incentive has been marginalized or minimized to the point that they don't want to do it."

TOXIC ASSETS REMAIN

IOXIC ASSETS REMAIN
McCotter, who opposed the
Wall Street bailout, said that
bailout was unacceptable and
problems remain with the banking industry because the "zomb
anks are floating around."
"The Wall Street bailout
did nothing to clean those
toxic assets out of the system,"
McCotter said. "It did nothing

to decentralize the banking system in the United States by taking the large failed companies that had put us in this position and break them up and wall them off."

Instead the smaller community banks have had regulations tightened up when they weren't the problem, McOctter said.

The bipartisan banking reform through the Troubled Asset Relief Program was a failure. "It will continue to be the one largest drag on this economy," McOctter said.

To address the problem, the failed banks should be walled off and broken up. "We're still talking about AIG at this point," McOctter said. Much of the debt and toxic assets remained parked at AIG even after AIG's and TARP bailouts, McCotter said.

McOctter believes banks will continue to carry the toxic assets and not free up capital for the public. Without that infused capital and cleanup of the toxic assets, there won't be a solution, McCotter said.

MANUFACTURERS NEED CAPITAL

"States like Michigan which are capital intensive in the manufacturing sector are going to continue to suffer," McCotter said. "What's worse is federal regulators are coming into

community banks and forcing them to write down their book and telling them to recapitalize outside. They weren't the peo-ple who caused the problem. These are things that were not

businesses he were not addressed."

McCotter hopes that Congress will recognize that TARP failed.

On tax relief, McCotter said about 40-50 Democrats have signed on to let the tax cuts continue. He believes the tax cuts have enough votes in the House, but he doesn't know about the Senate.

"You have to do it because if you don't do it, you will have the people with the greatest ability to invest and create jobs not going to do it," McCotter said. "They will sit on the sidelines because their rate of return on investment will be diminished, "Right now, that probably is the worst place you want to start especially with the banks being frozen. You want to get private equity investment from outside of these financial institutions to start to come back in, to start to reinvest in the economy. "If you tell them they aren't welcome or tell them that they've somehow done something wrong where they merit special disparate treatment under the tax laws, then they're not going to do it."

McCotter, Mosher vie for Congress

McCotter, an attorney,

McCotter, an attorney, also was elected to the Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees, the Wayne County Commission and the state Senate. McCotter is a graduate of Catholic Central High School, the University of Detroit and the University of Detroit Law School. Mosher of Canton is a former school teacher. She served on the Eric (Ohio) County Commission, is a former director of her county's American Cancer Society organization, former chief development officer of the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy and director of the National Retiree Volunteer Coalition. Mosher received her bachelor's degree in education from Michigan State University. Members of Congress receive an annual salary of \$174,000.

Strategy series focuses on social networking

It's no secret social networking has changed the face of the nation — and the business world is no exception.

Two experts will discuss the issue during a program, "Soci Networking 201: Beyond the Chat," set for 7:30-9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 13, at the

4040. Cost is \$15 per person for

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PUBLIC SAFETY

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Drug collection

Canton police collected a startling 51 pounds of prescription drugs during a one-day collection Saturday that allowed residents to drop off unused drugs without question.

Sgt. Mark Gajeski confirmed the amount of prescription drugs collected at the Canton Police Department and turned over to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration for proper disposal. It's the first time Canton had participated in such a program.

had participated in such a pr gram.

The program — here and elsewhere — came as law-enforcement officials seek to combat abuse of prescription drugs. Gajeski had said it's important not to flush such medications because, even in trace amounts, they can get into the water system.

Footsteps at night

Pootsteps at night

A woman who lives on
Saltz west of Lilley called
police after she woke up, heard
her dog barking and noticed a
kitchen light go on and off
quickly inside her kitchen. The
incident happened about 2:30
a.m. when no one should have
been in the room.
The woman told police she
hear footsteps in the kitchen
and living room. Police officers
reported finding a doorwall
open at the residence.
Nothing was reported missing.

Retail fraud

Two juveniles were cited for retail fraud following an incident that happened at 7 p.m. Saturday at the Kohl's store on Ford Road west of Sheldon.



the noise may have scared an intruder off.

Spray paint damage

GPS gone

A man reported that some-one broke into his Ford Escape and stole his GPS unti-while it was parked near Meis Sysco, Van Born and Haggert-around 3:20 p.m. Friday. The man also said someone took \$40 from a center console. Th

cer saw two suspects — one male and one female — place fragrance gift sets in a backpack and a coat. The female also was accused of stealing a brassiere.

The young people were leaving the store when they were confronted. According to police reports, the fragrances were named after pop stars Britney Spears, Usher and Beyonce.

Open door

A man told police he returned home to find the front door of his home had been entered sometime between 5 p.m. and 6:10 p.m Sunday on Lone Wolf, southwest of Haggerty and Palmer He told police nothing appeared to be out of place. He said he had left a washer and dryer turned on when he left the home — and he said

driver-side window of his vehicle had been smashed out.

Video vandal

A woman who lives on Palmer Road east of Sheldon told police someone went into her home and stole her son's xBox and video games, along with a container of coins, between 8:30 a.m. and 2:45 p.m. last Thursday.

There didn't appear to be any signs of forced entry. The woman said the family leaves a key near their front porch.

Burgled vehicles

8 Canton police arrested a man who admitted he had taken several items from parked vehicles. He told police he was

venicles. He tord poince as washomeless.
The man was arrested about 4:30 a.m. last Thursday near Sheldon and Fair, according to police reports. The suspect told police he had stolen Vicodin, a GPS unit and an iPod from vehicles near Cherry Hill and Sheldon.

a GPS unit and an IPod from vehicles near Cherry Hill and Sheldon. Police had the man retrace his steps, and they returned the items to their owners.

Nail shop nailing

5 A woman who works at The Crossings, southeast of 1-275 and Joy, reported that someone spray-painted two vehicles that belong to her. She said the incident happened between 8 p.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. Sunday on Honeytree. She said someone spray-painted the word "b"tch" on one vehicle. Someone also sprayed paint on a small trailer attached to the back of one of the vehicles.

Police arrested a man for breaking into the Tic Tac Nails store on Ford Road east of Morton Taylor around I a.m. last Thursday.

Police went to the store after receiving a report of a possible break-in. Officers caught a man who was in the process of stealing three flat-screen TVs from the business, according to police reports.

The man was arrested at the scene.

7-Eleven suspects are bound for trial

BY DARRELL CLEM

Two of three defendants accused of robbing a Canton convenience store have been ordered to stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court. Teron Lesyd Daniels, 21, of Ann Arbor, and Nico Chavez Peterson, 20, of Ypsilanti, are facing trial amid charges they robbed the 7-Eleven store on Warren near Morton Taylor around 3:50 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 11.

Warren near Morton Taylor around 3:50 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 11.

Daniels and Peterson are facing trial after they voluntarily waived their right to a preliminary hearing Friday in 35th District Court — a decision that averted testimony.

However, a third defendant, 19-year-old Dan Christian Paul of Ypsilanti, will have to wait until Friday, Oct. 15, to learn whether he will face trial. Paul was in a hospital Friday, though it wasn't known why, and he is expected to return to court by mid-October.

The trio has been charged following an incident in which a handgun was pointed near the head of a female clerk. No shots were fired and no one was hurt during the holdup.

Canton police stopped an alleged getaway car and arrested the three defendants, who were arraigned Sept. 13 by 35th District Judge Ronald Lowe.

Paul, Daniels and Peterson all face armed reshes.

Lowe.
Paul, Daniels and Peterson
all face armed robbery charges. Paul also was charged with



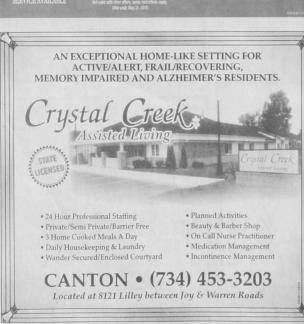


felony firearm, and Peterson was slapped with a charge of having less than 25 grams of cocaine in his possession. If convicted, all three defendants could face penalties ranging up to life in prison.

Lowe had ordered all three men jailed with a \$100,000 cash bond, and Paul was expected to be returned to jail after he leaves the hospital. Canton police officers had been dispatched to the 7-Eleven store after they received reports of a robbery in progress. According to police reports, one man ran behind the counter and pointed a gun at the female clerk, and another suspect held a bag in which the worker was ordered to place an unknown amount of money.

The two men fled the store and were captured within moments, along with a third suspect, when police spotted a green Chrysler Sebring near Morton Taylor and Oakbrook. The trio was handcuffed and taken into custody without incident.







SLAVENS

Slavens acknowledged during an interview what many political observers have long said — that Canton, with an increasingly diverse population, has become closely split between Democrats and Republicans. Yet, even in an election year when many voters appear restless and ready for change, Slavens predicted she wife find off a challenge from Levi, a tireless campaigner.

FIRST-TIME WIN

FIRST-IME WIN
Slavens gave Democrats the edge in the 21st District after she defeated GOP candidate Todd LaJoy two years ago for the seat formerly held by LaJoy's father, Phil LaJoy, now the Canton Township supervisor. Moreover, Slavens trumpeted a legislative record she said should make 21st District voters proud.
Slavens became involved in a



Number of years in the district: 22 years
Family: Husband Mark Slavens, daughters Damey and
Molly, son Patrick
Education: Associate's degree in allied health, graduate
of respiratory therapy, registered respiratory therapist
Professional background: Respiratory therapist
Related experience: State representative 2008-present
Community Involvement: Sunday school teacher and LOGO instructor at
Geneva Presbyterian Church, parent volunteer at Plymouth-Canton Schools
Website: www.dianslavens.com

THE SLAVENS FILE

Who: Dian Slavens, 52 What: Incumbent candidate, 21st state House seat (Canton, Belleville and Van Buren) Number of years in the district: 22 years

bipartisan freshman caucus she said has worked hard to reach across party lines, end petty bick-ering and place recession-ravaged Michigan's economic needs ahead of partisan politics. Together we need to focus on getting jobs here in Michigan and improving education, Slavens said.

She sponsored a bill she said provided tax incentives to lure

advanced battery industry to Michigan, saying the state has long had the reputation of "motor capital" and "we need to be the electric car capital, too." She said the bill already has produced

results.

Slavens also helped lead the charge to eliminate lifetime heath-care benefits for state legislators. Although her bill also would have eliminated th

perk for current lawmakers, she said her colleagues ultimately approved a measure only for future-elected legislators.

PAY CUT

PAY CUT
Regardless, she said she gave up the benefit for herself, because "to me, it's the right thing to do".
Some critics have said she didn't stand to lose lifetime health care because she is married to Wayne County Circuit Judge Mark Slavens. She responded to those allegations during an interview, saying it's 'not true' that her husband has lifetime health care. Slavens also co-sponsored a bill that she said is set to slash legislative salaries by 10 percent from their current \$79,650. She said lawmakers needed to lead by example and show they are willing to cut their own benefits in a state where many private-sector workers have lost jobs and benefits. Slavens said she knows people who now have food-aid Bridge Cards who never thought they would be faced with such a reality.

Slavens also called for continued efforts to help small businesses, saying the jobs they produce are what is needed to help Michigan recover. She called for greater efforts to remove government roadblocks and to streamline the process for business owners seeking to setup shop.

Moreover, Slavens said
Michigank eronomic success.

ing to set up shop.

Moreover, Slavens said
Michigan's economic success
remains tied to the need to provide schools and teachers with the
resources they need to prepare
students to work in a highly educated workforce. However, she
said simply throwing more money
at education isn't the answer.
Slavens said tough decisions,
such as having smaller school districts explore consolidation efforts
to save money, are needed.

"We have to be realistic," she
said, adding that "the money's just
not there" to continue the status
quo.

the sales tax to other services because businesses "are struggling as it is."
Slavens serves as co-chair of a House committee on senior citizen health and benefits, and she also serves on other panels such as ethics/elections and health policy. If re-elected, she said she would like to chair a committee on family and children services. In her first term, Slavens said she massed a 100-percent voting record. And though she said her legislative duties in Lansing have made it more difficult for her to spend as much time campaigning as Levi has, she said she feels an obligation to be on the job.
"I'm working hard," she said.

LEVI

heavyweights — in the August primary.

Levi, who has described herself as "mapologetically pro-God, pro life, pro-gun and pro-freedom," is waging an aggressive, door-to-door campaign in a district that includes most of Canton, Van Buren Township and Belleville.

After her primary victory, Levi said she is "doing more, faster" by working hard throughout the district to reach voters who will take their support of her conservative values to the Nov. 2 general election polls.

FLIPPING SIDES

Levi pointed to one organiza-tion called MIRS (Michigan Information & Research Service) that has placed the 21st District among the top 15 House seats most likely to flip parties this November:

November.
MIRS said its assessment is less about Slavens and more about Levi's tireless campaign efforts and pro-Tea Party views — popu-lar among certain voters who have rallied against established politi-

Though she has acknowledged Tea Party support, Levi also has said she has waged a campaign that appeals to a broad base of voters who share her views for cutting business taxes, streamlining regulations, improving Michigans infrastructure, slashing government spending and allowing the free market to thrive.

"I take no votes for granted," Levi said. "I am a political outsider, and I think people are looking for someone who is not a politician, who has business experience and who can make decisions not based on how it will look politically or what they party will think"—but what she views as best for Michigan.

SELF-DESCRIPTION

SELF-DESCRIPTION
Levi describes herself as
"conservative first, Republican
next." She is a pro-life, prosecond Amendment, National
Rifle Association member who
has called for phasing out the
Michigan Business Tax and seeking a fairer, flat corporate tax she
said "would create a stable playing
field."

believes state government should be cut "drastically" and has said the state should sharperrits focus on providing key services such as public safety, a better infra-structure and equitable education founding.

as public safety, a better infrastructure and equitable education
funding.

Although many local GOP
heavyweights had backed Price
in the August primary. Levi said
she believes Republicians will now
support her in the general election
because, she said, most realize the
ultimate goal is to get 'conservative, business-minded people'
elected to state offices.

Levi believes she has a solid
chance of winning the 21st
District seat, which shifted from
Republicans to the Democrats
just two years ago when Slavens
defeated GOP nominee Todd
LaJoy — son of former state Rep.
Phil LaJoy, now Canton Township
supervisor.

Levi acknowledged that Slavens
has certain tools as an incumbent,
such as mailings from her office
to her constituents, and Levi
didn't quibble with such advantages.

Tve got to catch up with the

Tve got to catch up with the name recognition," Levi said, "but I believe the anti-incumbent, anti-Democratic mood is working"



Family, Husband of 12 years, Brian, stepsons Jeffrey (19) and Jeremy (18), daughters Porscha (9) and Brietta (4).

Residency: 16 years

Community involvement: Chamber of Commerce, Rotary participation (not member), Northridge Church, Volunteer for Canton Township events — Christmas in Action, River Cleanup, Food Bank, Northridge Church hearuing the American Community in Commerce (19) and Commerce (19) and

Open Door Ministry Food Bank, Northridge Church security team and book store.

Related experience: Subcontractor HB Trucking Co. family business – Great Lakes Related experience: Subcontractor HB Trucking Lo. family Dusiness - Great Lakes
Sand Gravel. Fifteen years top sales and customer service award recipient at North
Brothers Ford.

Profession: SE Levi International (private franchising, Internet-based) and owner of
Porscha Enterprises rental management company.

Education: High school graduate, some college. Pursued entrepreneurial pursuits,
motivational and self-development training.

E-mail: Iori@lorilevi.com Website: www.lorilevi.com

Levi started her campaign in earnest in January, and she shows no signs of slowing down as she enters her 10th month on the trail. She said she takes time to listen to voters she encounters, and she doesn't mind spending 20 minutes at a single household to hear their concerns.

listen to their concerns," she said.
"Thave a solutions-oriented, for-ward-focused, positive agenda."
Levi said she prefers not to point blame for the state's prob-lems. She said it's time to stop assigning blame and focus on fix-ing the problems.
"I'm focusing on solutions," she



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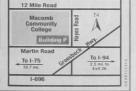




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Food, wine event: A delicious way to raise money for Schoolcraft students



ood, beverage and dessert purveyors from near (metro Detroit) and far (northern Michigan) offered tasty samplings for a good cause last Sunday at the 19th annual Schoolcraft College Culinary Extravaganza. Nearly 700 people tasted samples from 50 vendors. Guests sampled breads from 51 german's Bakehouse, biscotti and shortbread from The Biscotti Bar Bakery in Plymouth, crab cakes from the Schoolcraft Culinary Department and cupcakes from both the Cupcake Station in Birmingham and Just Baked (a cupcake shop and bakery) in Livonia. The pulled pork minisandwiches offered by Red Smoke Barbeque and the samples of flavored vodka at the McCormick table were popular spots all afternoon.

"We were very pleased with this year's event," said Marge Lynch of Schoolcraft's Special Events and Fundraising Office and member of the 2010 Culinary Host Committee. "The restaurants were great — we even had two show up we didn't know about. Ticket sales exceeded last year and our volunteers were wonderful.

wonderful.

"The most important part is that the proceeds will help our students through scholarship support," Lynch added. "This fall our Financial Aid Office has been overwhelmed with students in need of aid. The event also benefits the culinary arts department They use the funds to help with student support and for the students to prepare for and to attend competitions."















Janice Quinn of Canton Township enjoys the desserts and wine at Sunday's VIP culinary reception for sponsors.

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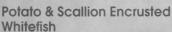
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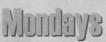


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Angela Hospice walkers remember loved ones

Sheila Wofford of Canton

Sheila Wofford of Canton normally gets up early week-days for her school bus driver job. Sunday is church, leaving Saturday for sleeping in.

She made an important exception Saturday for the Angela Hospice Wallk of Remembrance, held on the Felician Sisters' grounds in Livonia.

Felician Sisters' grounds in Livonia.
Livonia.
Wofford, husband Gary and others from their family were walking in memory of her mom, Betty Monteith, who died a year ago August.
"She had a wonderful life," Sheila Wofford said. "She had nine children. Very outgoing, always had something to say. Apples don't fall too far from the tree."

you, it's always nice to give back."

Her mom lived with them for six years when healthy. They'd planned to use hospice for home care, and used it in the hospital.

The family was wearing Betty's picture, with a number of other walkers wearing photos of their loved one as well as name ribbons. Michael Gluth of Westland, a Livonia Franklin High sophomore, was walking for 'my grandma, Ruth Gluth." She died three years ago. Gluth, if, was joined by his mom, brother, grandfather, aunt and uncle walking Saturday. "I like it," the teen said of the Walk of Remembrance. "It's good there's a way to remember.

"She was really nice," Gluth added of his grandmother. "Just everything is what he loved about her.

Barb Iovan of Livonia, events coordinator for Angela Hospice, was busy Saturday, but took time to talk. "We have over 500 already preregistered," she

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Walkers pass through the grotto on the Angela Hospice grou

said. "We'll be over 600, which is wonderful."

BENEFITS BEREAVEMENT PROGRAMS

This year's event, the third annual, included something new, about 17 fund-raising teams that got together in August and did fund-raising for Angela Hospice.

"Everybody's walking to remember someone," Iovan said. She was pleased with the partly sunny skies.
"We always count on Sister (Giovanni) for that, and it looks like she came through."
"It's something virtually everyone can do," she said of the event's appeal. "They had a loved one; they lost that person."
Proceeds are used for bereavement programs, not limited to Angela Hospice users, and offered free.
There's one for loss of a spouse, Heartstrings for those who lose a child under 25, suicide loss and programs for children and teens.

Walker Marion Wisniewski of Livonia walked for the first time this year, in memory of



ner sister, Carol Keith. "She passed away seven years ago," Wisniewski said. Volunteer Molly Rahmel of Livonia brought Wisniewski and five others to the event:

RAISING AWARENESS

was the most wonderful person. Giving. She was very young when she died. She had just turned 51." She agreed the walk was wonderful. "I think they're great because they bring an awareness," Wisniewski said. She agreed Carol would be proud. "I'm sure she is because I've never done anything like this."

never once anything like this."
Some 70 volunteers were at the event Saturday, with registration beginning at Madonna University, Syndie Best of Westland, hospice volunteer coordinator, said volunteers handled parking, registration, shuttles for older walkers, course marshal duties and refreshments and rock painting at the conclusion.

rock painting at the conclusion.

"And then, of course, the cleanup crew," Best said.
"There's lots to do.
"We could not do this event without the volunteers," she added of those who gave up a chunk of Saturday. "I believe time is more valuable than money these days. We are so busy, and time is such a precious commodity. To give of their time is really meaningful."

Rhonda Tinsley of Belleville

their time is really meaning-ful."
Rhonda Tinsley of Belleville was walking for her nephew, Jason Glenn, who died as a newborn. He died "last year today, Sept. 25," his aunt said. There were about 50 from Jason's family walking. "I think it's very special in regards to remembrance of loved ones," Tinsley said. "We love him so much."
She asked for prayers for Jason's parents, Jason and DeLisha Glenn of Romulus, both of whom walked. "They did a lot to help them through this grieving process," Tinsley said of Angela Hospice.
Canton's Sheila Wofford was also grateful to have matters tended to when her mom was dying. "It was nice just to concentrate on her," Wofford said. "We got to concentrate on being with her. Proud to be doing the walk."

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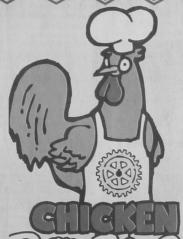


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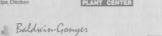


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)BSERVER Brad Kadrich, Community Editor Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor Grace Perry, Director of Advertising

OUR VIEWS

Stranger danger Keeping kids safe is everyone's job

The beginning of a new school year brings out a variety of warnings, cautions about increased school buses on the road and students walking to and from school.

One of the more important considerations has to be warnings about "stranger danger," reminding parents, guardians and neighbors to be vigilant in keeping kids, of all ages, in this community safe.

At home, it starts with talking to kids — telling them what to do if someone they do not know approaches them at the bus stop or on the walk to or from school.

This is important because children, even teenagers, have a false vision of "strangers" as being creepy, ugly, scary people who typically say things like, "Hey, little girl, do you want some candy?"

An ill-intentioned person can be a nice looking man, a woman, even a young adult who is dressed really cool.

Kids can't predict the motives of others — they think and live in the present moment. Even the most intelligent child cannot grasp that someone who looks nice, or someone who knows their name, is a stranger who could be trying to pick them up.

Children are taught to be nice; to respect adults and not be rude.

The following safety guidelines will help keep our children safe:

• Children should be aware of their surroundings.

Children should be aware of their surroundings.

dren safe:

• Children should be aware of their surroundings, including strangers or people in parked cars.

• They should avoid people they do not know.

• They should not respond to or accept offers or requests made by strangers. This includes comments like, "Can you help me find my dog?" or 'I'm lost, can you tell me which street I'm on?" Remember, adults wouldn't normally ask a child for directions.

• They should immediately report to their school, family and the police any suspicious approach made to them by a stranger.

• They should go directly home from school and check in with parents.

• They should walk in groups and not engage in conversations with strangers.

• Parents and guardians should not let their child dress in clothing that has his or her name on it— for example, a jersey with the child's first name on the back; or a name on the child's backpack. When kids are called by name, they tend to let their guard down.

• Parents and guardians should teach their children that it is OK to run away or to scream if someone is making him or her do something they don't want to do. Tell them they can run to a neighbor's house and knock on the door if they need help.

• Establish a family "code word" and teach children to ask for it, if they're approached by someone they do not know.

Some would argue that today's society is overreact-

know.

Some would argue that today's society is overreacting and being overly paranoid and it's causing children to grow up in fear and in sheltered environments. We do encourage kids in neighborhoods to walk to school — but only if they're taught to avoid contact with people they do not know.

They need adults to teach them that strangers who have ill intentions are tricky — they can contrive stories and scenarios that could easily sway a child in their direction.

We need proved.

direction.

We need parents, grandparents, guardians and neighbors to be the eyes and ears in our neighborhoods. It's unfortunate that we have to keep our guards up, but consider the consequences the one time that we do not. Obviously, a child's life isn't worth that risk.

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS



In response to "Plymouth-Canton School Supt. Fiegel interviews for Walled Lake post"

"Budgets were balanced before Fiegel and they will be balanced after. Shame on you for wanting to rubber stamp a superintendent just because of your vindictivness for certain board members. It's not about you or your hatred for these board members - I'm sick of hearing about it - it's about our kids and no one gets rubber stamped. Supt. needs to be reviewed yearly and the arrogance of some thinking the superintendent can get an early contract approval when the rest of the working people (parents) are losing jobs and finding out about our contract renewals at employers discretion. I've watched Fiegel at the school board mtgs and his public reports - I'm not impressed - his staff and administrators really do all the work. If anything, district test scores and budget balancing are from before Fiegel's reign. NO RUBBER STAMPS - yearly reviews!"

Melanie_Phillips

COMMUNITY VOICE

Do you think gays should be allowed to serve openly in the military?



"Yes. Anybody who wants to serve should be allowed to serve." Amanda Curtright

"I see no reason why they can't just because of their preference. It shouldn't stop them

from being allowed to

serve their country."



"I actually think ves. We shouldn't be judging people for their preference." Shelia Macionis



'Yes. They're people like anybody else. To not let them serve is like saying a black person can't serve in the Army."

Jordan Finegan

Canton

LETTERS

Supporting Fiegel

There is discussion among the Board of Education on whether to renew the contract Craig Fiegel. I am wondering why the board would want to get rid of a super ident who is doing as well as his record

Last year, PCCS got an all "A" schools ma ing for the first time and the highest MEAP

ing for the first time and the highest MEAP scores in PCCS history. There is an energy savings program, and he's come up with creative funding for bus replacement. He has restructured the Park, a long-standing need. There's an updated Code of Conduct that actually might make sense. The budget has balanced over the past two years in the midst of tough economic times. He's involved the community in the hudden tracess and now is community in the budget process and now is calling on the community to help in strategic

2009 when districts around us closed down for a week for HINI, he shut down for two days to await the decision from the CDC. After two days, the CDC said it was safe to open school, and PCCS was back in business while

districts around us had families that had left town thinking school was out for a week...

Over the last 15 years, PCCS has spent over \$100,000 to hire new leaders. That's just the dollars. What about the time and energy expended in the state of the section. the dollars. What about the time and energy expended in transition, getting a new person up to speed, and all the challenges that accompany each change of administration?

I've sat in those chairs and know it's a thankless job. It takes hard work and unbe-

on the PCCS board and saw board members drive away Chuck Little in 1999. A few years later, some former board members pushed Kathleen Booher out. Board members also made Jim Ryan's life difficult. None of these

made Jim Ryan's life difficult. None of these superintendents were perfect, but I worked closely with all of them, and know they would have done far better if the majority of the board had stood behind them.

The adversarial spirit on the PCCS board troubles me. It's a spirit that seems to think superintendents should walk on water or solve every issue in the district. Sorry, that kind of leader just doesn't exist, but with the track record of this district, if Fiegel is pushed out the door, I'm not sure ANY superintendent will want to come our way.

pushed out the door, I'm not sure ANY super-intendent will want to come our way.

The job of the board is to educate children in the best manner possible. It's time for the community to tell the board to quit infighting, get their hands and noses out of administra-tion, and start leading with solidarity. They hired a superintendent and need to support him to do the job, not criticize every move he makes.

Elizabeth M. Givens

PCCS board 1996-2004 With the support of Tom Wysocki, Marcy Staley, Dar Watts, and Carol Saunders – former PCCS board members

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com



Read or comment online www.hometownlife.com

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

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

No flag benefit

Am I missing something? The identification flags on Ford Road have been up for quite a while now. I have not seen store advertising in print that correlates with those flags. Right now it is just one more thing adding to the jumble

When I read the Observer Newspaper ads or the circulars that come to my house, I look for a flag denoting where on Ford Road is that par

a flag denoting where on Ford Roda is that paticular business. I have seen nothing.

I believe the DDA probably went through a great deal of planning and expense to have those flags erected, but so far I haven't seen any benefit to the consumer who is trying to

any Defented the constantial wins of ying to work his/her way through the Ford Road maze Are there still parts of the program that haven't been rolled out yet? Even if the busi-nesses begin to correlate the flags with their reductions the program of the flags with their whether a particular store would be on the north side or the south side of Ford. An "n" for north side and an "s" for the south side on the flags would have made it easier, should that

Nancy Austin

Colbeck misleading

In response to the Sept. 23 letter to the editor submitted by Vasu Kotha in support of

editor submitted by Vasu Kotha in support of Patrick Colbeck for state Senate: Patrick Colbeck's Campaign Finance Report discloses that he received \$2,500 from Senate Majority leader Mike Bishop. This is a direct contradiction to Mr. Kotha's words that "He (Colbeck) will not be just another senator who goes along with the Senate majority leader." Upon further evaluation of Colbeck's finance report, it is clear that Colbeck is the poster child for special interests. His contributions

report, it is clear that Colleck is the poster child for special interests. His contributions and support have come from Bruce Patterson Robert Young, and outspoken Tea Party mem-ber David Janda (www.sos.gov).

pass himself off as a candidate for the people

Great vets event

I would like to commend Joan Noricks, Canton Community Foundation President

Canton Community Foundation Presiden for presenting the first Veterans Educational Summit at Laurel Manor. The group of knowledgeable speakers and the companies that helped sponsor this event were invaluable to us veterans My husband and I both are vets and pi My husband and Lboth are vets and proud of that fact. Besides getting veteran information, we were served breakfast, lunch and had an opportunity to talk to many of the speakers. We were given the necessary data to be able to contact the agencies in person. I am hoping this program will be offered again next year. It's not just for older veterans, they have many helpful programs available for the younger vets to help them in their fransition back into the help them in their transition back into the

James Fausone for making this day pos-sible. Their tireless efforts in helping veter ans goes above and beyond and is greatly appreciated. They are to be applauded as members and leaders in our community. People like Joan and James help make

Gale Owens

Stewart understands

Thank you to the scores of people from Plymouth, Canton, Northville, Grosse Ile and many other communities for being with us on Sunday, Sept. 19.

We held a "Meet the Candidate" open

We held a "Meet the Candidate" open house at our home so that voters of all political persuasions could meet and chat with John Stewart of Plymouth. John Stewart is an independent candidate for Senate for the Seventh District, a longtime resident of Plymouth, a prominent attorney, a former state representative, and an individual that we believe represents the best in public service.

We think that John Stewart understands that successful government of, by, and

We think that John Stewart understands that successful government of, by, and for the people requires that voters view themselves as the government. He believes that voters must tell elected officials how they want to be governed, how they want their tax dollars spent, how they want their ducation system improved, and to give priority to job creation.

We suggest that voters take the time to look at the records of the five candidates for the Senate from the Seventh District. What are their past voting records, community involvement, past (if any) attendance records at legislative sessions in Lansing, and try to determine if their political partisanship makes it impossible for them to truly represent their constituency?

Once again, our sincere thank you to everyone who made our Sunday gathering such a success, proving that people of all political persuasions can gather together

political persuasions can gather together for constructive dialogue

Paul and Lee Coer



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He says Manning and Farve are real studs



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SALEM BOYS TENNIS TEAM CAPTURES TOURNAMENT TITLE - B2

SECTION B

THURSDAY, September 30, 2010

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LOCAL ARTIST INVITES PEOPLE TO SEE HER ART - IN STUDIO ENTERTAINMENT, B6

BUSINESS, B5



Sqt. Justin Winch (left) and Canton Soccer Club director Pete Alexander greet each other after Winch donated a \$500 check to fundraising efforts to help three youth teams travel to a tournament in Scotland next spring. Two days later. Winch was redenloyed to Iran.

Lifetime 'Experience' awaits soccer teams

Soccer is viewed by many as the world's game, and young players in Canton — through the generosity of many, includ-ing an American sergeant now based in Iraq — hopefully will soon find out first hand what that means.

soon find out first hand what that means.

Three Canton Celtic teams (two U9, one U12) were invited to go to Scotland in April 2011 for a week's worth of games and cultural experiences. But for that to happen, \$35,000 or so in airfare money for the players needs to be generated through a series of fund-raisers.

players needs to be generated through a series of fund-raisers.

Bottle drives, restaurant nights and bake sales are ongoing, but really jumpstarting money-raising efforts was an unexpected \$500 donation by \$50t. Justin Winch at an August picnic just two days before being redeployed to Iraq. Winch's \$-year-old nephew is Noah Bachir, a player on one of the U9 Celtic squads.

All of the teams are part of Canton Soccer Club, which got the ball rolling for a "Scotland Experience" by hosting the Woodwynd Wolves of Scotland at the 2010 Celtic Invitational (part of the Canton Cup over Memorial Day weekend). "Initially, he (Winch) walked over and the boys were all practicing," said Noah's mom, Jackie Rodriguez of Canton. "They called him over to do pictures with him. They all came up to him with their hands up, saying 'We surrender,'

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Individuals and businesses interested in helping the teams raise money for the trip, please

SHOCKINGLY SELFLESS

SHOCKINGLY SELFLESS

It was pretty incredible, too, according to Canton's John
Savona, whose son Justin is on the Scotland-bound U12 tents.

'I think just having a soldier like that around (for the kids) was kind of a big deal," Savona said. "They don't have access to that, usually. And because it was Noah's uncle, that was pretty special.

"And of course, he caught all of us off guard by saying he wanted to help and he pulled out his checkbook and wrote a \$500 check. It kind of shocked all of us."

Savona added that he is a military veteran himself, "and I know when you are serving the country they take care of you very well. But you don't get paid very much to do it."

Please see CELTIC, B3



Members of two Canton Celtic U9 boys soccer teams pose with Sqt. Justin Winch (standing, back row middle), during an August practice/picnic. Players include Winch's 8-year-old nephew, Noah Bachir. Also standing in the back row is coach Dana Jackson.

Wildcats answer bell, win 2-1

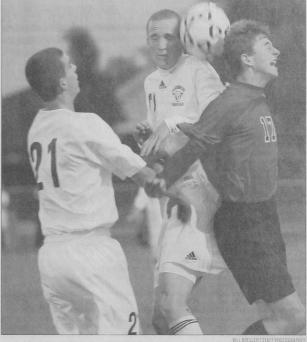
Plymouth played with a bit more purpose to open Tuesday's KLAA South boys soccer matchup against Livonia Churchill and it paid off with an early lead and eventual 2-1 triumph.

The host Wildcats (8-3-3 overall, 5-2-0 in the South) never trailed, although the Chargers briefly evened things at 1-1 on a first-half goal by junior forward Allen Woodruff.

But Plymouth sophomore Do-Hyung Kim converted the winning goal with less than four minutes to go in the half and the Chargers — despite spurts of offensive pressure down the stretch — just could not score the equalizer. "They're a tough club. They got us last time we played them," Wildcats head coach Jeff Neschich said. "It was good to come out on top tonight."

the night.
"I think the key was keeping the pace a little faster," Neschich said. "I think we had a little more pace on them and we could control the ball better.
"Our possession was very

FALLING BEHIND



Battling for a 50/50 ball Tuesday night are Plymouth's Zachary D'Agostino (No. 21), Joe Klonowski (middle) and Livonia Churchill's Austin Henson (No. 17).

Top line powers Whalers in home opener

Tyler Brown is on a mission as he opens the 2010-11 season with the Plymouth Whalers. Brown, 20, is fully aware he has the Pittsburgh Penguins' full attention after an impressive stint at the NHL team's rookie tournament and

full attention after an impressive stint at the NHL team's rookie tournament and main training camp.

But who could blame Brown, who lives with a billet family in Canton, if he might decide he's having too much fun to the team of the



Celebrating his first of three goals Saturday night at Compuware Arena is Plymouth Whalers ce Alex Aleardi (behind net) of Farmington Hills. At left is linemate Tyler Brown (No. 12).

is how fast and dangerous it can be. Plymouth (1-1-0-1, three points) outshot Barrie 45-21 and scored two goals in each frame against goalkeeper Peter DiSalvo.

"I thought the speed was awesome, put so much pressure on their 'D' that

Please see WHALERS, B2



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PREP GRID PICKS

PREP GRID PICKS

Week 6
Friday, Oct. 1

Southfield (2-3,1-3) at Farmington (5-0,4-0), 7 p.m.

Farmington Harrison (5-0,4-0) at Oak Park (2-3,1-3), 7 p.m.

North Farmington (1-4,1-4) at Betkley (5-0,4-0), 7 p.m.

Plymouth Salem (0-5,0-3) at South Lyon East (1-4,0-3), 7 p.m.

Livonia Chrishili (2-3,1-2) at Waryle (5-0,5-0), 7 p.m.

Livonia Frankini (3-2,1-2) at Worthville (5-0,5-0), 7 p.m.

Livonia Steverson (2-3,1-2) at Worthville (5-0,5-0), 7 p.m.

Livonia Clarenceville (3-2,1-0) at Vorthville (5-0,5-0), 7 p.m.

Livonia Clarenceville (3-2,1-0) at Porthar Notre Dame Prep (0-5,0-3), 7 p.m.

Livonia Clarenceville (3-2,1-0) at Porthar Notre Dame Prep (0-5,0-3), 7 p.m.

Dearborn Heights Robichaud (2-3,2-1) at Redford Thurston (4-1,3-0), 7 p.m.

Redford Union (1-4,1-2) at Dearborn Heights Crestwood (2-3,1-2), 7 p.m.

Weslland John Glenn (2-3,1-2) at Plymouth Christian (0-4) at Saginaw Buena Vista (2-3), 7 p.m.

Last week

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, September 30, 2010

ad Emons	Dan 0
mington	Farming

Jim Toth



em's varsity boys tennis team again was 'Rocks solid' Saturday at th odhaven Warrior Classic Invitational, capturing first place out of sevi ms with 20 points.

WHALERS

they had no time to react, none whatsoever," Vellucci said.
"Our owner, Mr. Karmanos, was just sitting in there talking about our speed, he noticed this is a very fast team and we're going to have to utilize that."

this is a very fast team and we're going to have to utilize that."

Brown — a Plymouth overage player (20) who could still sign a free-agent NHL contract for this season — jumpstarted the dominant performance with an even-strength goal at the 12-minute mark of the opening frame.

He hustled to get to the puck at the right side of Barrie's net and flipped in a wraparound shot in for his second goal in Plymouth's first three games. Brown only scored 14 goals in 66 games in 2009-10.

"I just wanted to throw it on met," Brown said. "I know both Meurs and Aleardi are crashing the net so I just thought shoot it and see what happens."

But Aleardi was the player of the game, scoring a three-goal hat-trick to give him seven markers already. Meanwhile, Meurs collected an assist, and the line wreaked havoc against the Colts, playing their first game of the season.

"It's a great feeling," said Aleardi about playing in his backyard after a recent trade from Belleville. "It feels good

to be home, seeing all my family and friends. And this is a great group of guys here, they pass the puck well and I got three goals so I feel great."

11-2 (.846) 58-13 (.817)

FITTING RIGHT IN

FITTING RIGHT IN
Vellucci chuckled when talking about how quickly Aleardi
has meshed with the Whalers
– a welcome sight indeed due
to the team still being without
No. 2 NHL draft pick Tyler
Seguin, Robbie Czarnik and
James Livingston (all with
NHL teams or their affiliates
at camp).

James Livingston (all with NHL teams or their affiliates at camp).

"He was even better the first two (games) than he was tonight, if you can imagine that," Vellucci said. "We were very fortunate to pick him up, but it is early. It's only three games, but he's played very well in those three."

The game also was a big one for Plymouth forward Peter Neal, who scored his first-ever OHL goal with 5:19 left in the third period, assisted by linemates Mitchell Heard (who scored in the second) and 16-year-old Tom Wilson (first OHL, point).

Neal swept in and back-handed the rebound of a Wilson shot into the Barrie cage.

Cage.
Also helping Plymouth's offens were Livonia's Austin Mattson, newcomer Rickard Rakell (each with two assists), Farmington Hills' Austin Levi, captain Beau Schmitz (Howell) and Jamie Devane (one assist each).

MU aces golf Jamboree

The Madonna University men's golf team continued its strong fall showing by tying for first place in Monday's Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Jamboree No. 3 tourney held at Quail Ridge Golf Club in Grand Rapids.

The Crusaders, who qualified for last year's NAIA National Tournament, tied Davenport with a 13-over 301 each.

each.
Rounding out the field was Siena Heights Unviersity, led by individual medalist Andy Myers (Westland John Glenn), third, 310; Cornerstone, fourth, 316; Indiana Tech, fifth, 318; Aquinas, sixth, 319; Northwestern Ohio, seventh, 322; and Concordia, eighth, 379.

322; and Concordia, eignun,
379.

Myers shot an even-par 72
on the 6,938-yard layout, while
MU's Tommy Lucko (Livonia
Churchill) and Austin Stillman
(Livonia Franklin) finished
second and third, respectively,
with 73 and 74.
Other MU finishers included Vince Carango and Nick
Sears, tied for 11th, 77 each;
Jimmy Uelmen, tied for 14th,
78; and last year's NAIA
National runner-up medalist
Brett Quitiquit, tied for 34th,
83.

83. The Crusaders hold an 11-stroke overall advantage hea ing into this weekend's final

MEN'S COLLEGE GOLF RESULTS WHAC JAMBOREE NO. 2 Sept. 25 at Fellows Creek (Canton) TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Madonna iversity, 292 strokes (4-over); 2.

ights/Westland John Glenn), 72.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE GOLF RESULTS
OLIVET FALL INVITATIONAL
Sept. 24-25 at Medalist Golf Club
TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Wheaton College

GIRLS GOLF RESULTS

Salem netters win tournament

Salem's varsity boys ten-nis team captured Saturday's Brownstown-Woodhaven Invitational, with several per-fect performances leading the

way.

The Rocks totaled 20
points to top the eight-team
field. They were followed by
Chelsea (17), Livonia Frankli
(15), Trenton (13), Warren
DeLaSalle (12), Woodhaven
(10), Riverview (7) and
Carleton Airport (2).
Perfect showings and flight
titles were registered by

Perfect showings and flight titles were registered by Salem's Brock Foster (3-0, No.

2 singles), Brett Foster (3-0, No. 3 singles), Dion Walker (3-0, No. 4 singles) and the No. 2 doubles tandem of Michael Keum and Greg Selewski. Meanwhile, No. 1 singles player Jacob Scott also had an excellent day with a 2-1 mark—topped only by Franklin's Steven Payne, who was named the tournament's "Top Gun." Salem's No. 1 doubles duo (Josh Perrin-Scott Devine) finished 2-1 for the day, as did No. 3 duo Cody Hazen-Alek Zultowski and No. 4 duto Tyler Foley-Vishnu Rajendran.

Ocelots jump to top spot

Two key victories over the weekend have propelled the Schoolcraft College men's soc-cer team alone atop both the Michigan Community College and NJCAA Region XII stand-

ings.
On Sunday, the host Ocelots

On Sunday, the host Ocelots avenged a tie earlier this season to beat Ancilla College (Ind.), 2-0.
Gavin Kelly scored what proved to be the game-winner in the 57th minute off an assist from Brent McIntosh.
Alex Tramel (Salem) then added an insurance goal five minutes later off an assist from Mark Djokaj.
Adrian Motta (Livonia Churchill) went the distance in goal making four stops to post the shutout as the Ocelots improved to 8-1-1 overall, 6-0-1 in Region XII and 4-0-1 in the MCCAA.

In a battle of nationally-ranked NJCAA Division I on Saturday, No. 5 Schoolcraft downed No. 3 Cincinnati State, 3-0. Second-half goals by Brent McIntosh, Mark Djokaj and Joe Carver proved to be the difference for the host Ocelots. Schoolcraft goalkeeper Ian McDonald-Wilkins made four saves to earn the shutout. The loss drops Cincinnati State to 8-2 overall and 6-1 in Region XII.

Lady Ocelots win

Jessica Lyon's goal 10 min-utes into the first half of play Friday lifted Schoolcraft Friday lifted Schoolcraft College's women's soccer team a hard-fought 1-0 triumph over visiting Cincinnati State. The victory was the ninth in 10 games for coach Deepak Shivraman's club.

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WEEKEND SPECIAL -18 HOLES w/cart Sat - Sun-

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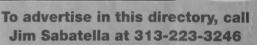
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Provided fundraising efforts are successful, the third Canton Soccer Club team to go to Scotland next year is the Canton Celtic U12 team coached by soccer club director Pete Alexander (back row). Here, the team celebrates after winning the Michigan Challenge Cup in Lansing.

CELTIC

Winch returned for his second stint at Iraq's Alpha Company Combat Support Hospital, where he is a combat nurse. He earned a Purple Heart his first go-around. Rodriguez said Noah's uncle gave the youngsters more than a gift of money. What he did will forever be stamped on their hearts and minds. "I think they really look at it as something special," she said. "Not every day do you get somebody who's home from Iraq to come and visit, and peel off \$500 out of his money to donate to their fund so they can get to Scotland. "He's already serving our country, and then to go ahead and give his own money that he's earned from being in the war to the kids, that's the least selfish thing that you can do."

SWEET PAYBACK

SWEET PAYBACK

The soccer families did what they could to repay Winch for his generosity by packaging up 21 pounds of baked goods left over from a recent sale and shipping the cookies and cakes to him.

Savona said a care package is being put together tor Winch, which will include T-shirts signed by all three teams, a Detroit Lions football (yes, Winch is a fan) and cases of Mountain Dew — a soft drink they apparently cannot get in Iraq.

of Mountain Dew — a soft drink they apparently cannot get in Iraq.

As for coming up with enough money to fly the players over to Scotland (any coaches and parents who go on the trip will need to come up with their own money). Savona said some kind of auction event is in the works while businesses (and individuals) can sponsor the kids.

Details for a sponsorship program are still being firmed up, he noted.

"Businesses can sponsor and get a plaque or banner on back of the net," Savona explained. "If not, they can provide an auction item, we're looking to develop some kind of auction program."

WHAT A REWARD

WHAT A REWARD
Rodriguez stressed that the concept of traveling to Scotland to play soccer is something her son is crazy about.
"Noah's so pumped (about playing in Scotland)," she said. "He tells everybody and anybody he knows that he's going to Scotland."
More importantly, the kids are involved in helping with the fund-raising efforts. More than \$2,000 has been raised just from the bottle drive.
"It's a team-building thing, it also teaches them you have to work hard at the things you want to do," Rodriguez continued. "Those are good you want to do," Rodriguez continued. "Those are good life lessons that they'll have

It took a while, but
Plymouth volleyball coach
Kelly McCausland gave her
team full marks for a complete
performance with Tuesday's
3-1 victory over KLAA South
rival Westland John Glenn.
The visiting Wildcats (10-4-1
overall, 2-1 South) rolled to 25-13
and 25-18 wins in the first two
games, dropped the third game
21-25 and came back to clinch
with a 25-15 triumph in Game 4,
We finally played outstanding volleyball tonight with all
cylinders running together,
McCausland said. "Everything
was finally clicking like we have
been waiting for all season.
"I am so proud of our back
court play tonight. Our passing

forever. And the reward they get is huge, they get to go to Scotland."

Once the teams and their chaperones are in Scotland, during the 2011 spring break, they will compete in tournaments, train with professional soccer clubs, soak in the Scottish culture.

"I think we're going for seven days, over spring break, playing in tournaments, doing training with some of the clubs over there," Rodriguez said. "They're putting the agenda together. It's all very family-oriented, we're going to go sight-seeing and visit some historical sties that are in relation to soccer."

FUN AND GAMES

FUN AND GAMES

Actual soccer contests are only part of the fun awaiting the Canton teams.

"There's a lot of street-type soccer games that they do in Europe that we're not familiar with, fun things especially at this age," Savona said. "Like being able to control a ball and kick it into the back of a dump truck.... They do a lot of that stuff in the streets, it's just a way of life there.

"It will give our boys a taste of why it's so much more popular in Europe than it is here."

Meanwhile, Savona emphasized that the forthcoming "Scotland Experience" wouldn't have been possible without Canton Soccer Club's invitation to the Woodwynd Wolves to compete at the Celtic Invitational.

"They played as part of a brill-

Wolves to compete at the Cettic Invitational.

"They played as part of a tournament and part of a brilliant effort to try and expand soccer here in the U.S. and get a little more excitement and gain that cross-country relationship with another club," Savona recalled.

He said the Wolves, who stayed in Canton at no cost, "wrote us a letter when they got back home" and invited the Canton Celtic teams to visit their country for a tournament.

their country for a tourna-ment.
"All of the boys are very excited," Savona said. "I don't know if any of these boys have been to Europe, so they're very excited about going there and they're very excited about play-ing somebody from another country."
Although Rodriguez will have to foot the bill berself to

Although Rodriguez will have to foot the bill herself to accompany Noah, she is just as excited to have a trip to Scotland on the horizon.

"I have never been overseas I've never been to Europe," Rodriguez said. "This will be my first opportunity to go and I am just ecstatic that it's for my son (and) for his soccer. "What more can a parent ask for?"

Chiefs roll to 12-0 mercy victory

it to Wayne Memorial Tuesday night.

Four goals by recent JV callups Ryan Killgore (3 goals) and Cody Kahrs (1 goal) sparked a 12-0 rout, called at halftime because of the MHSAA mercy rule.

Also scoring for the Chiefs (11-2-2, 5-1-1 in the KLAA South) were senior Garrett Derian-Toth, juniors Shean Krolicki (2 goals), Bryan Ren (2 goals), junior Brian Berinti,

sophomore Bobby Budlong and sophomore Dan Ovesea.

Dividing the shutout were seniors Brandon Laabs and Garren Carr.

Collecting two assists each were Berinti and Budlong, with single helpers by Derian-Toth, junior Steven Murphy (also his first varsity point after being called up from JV), Ovesea, freshman Griffin Parks, juniors Tyler Winningham and Neil Zech.

PCA 2, LUTHERAN WESTLAND

I: Alex Chapman scored with a few minutes left in Thursday afternoon's game t lift host Plymouth Christian Academy to a 2-1 victors.

lift host Plymouth Christian Academy to a 2-1 victory over Lutheran Westland in a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference boys soc-cer matchup. The Eagles (6-4 overall, 4-3 in the tough MIAC Blue) led 1-0 in the first half on a goal by Chapman, who fielded a long clearing ball from PCA goalie Jayme Putney and went all the

way down the pitch to place a shot past Warriors keeper Marc Rosin. Lutheran Westland then evened things up early in the second half on a well-executed crossing play, but that only set the stage for the late excite-ment.

ment.
PCA captain Travis
Dekruyter threw the ball in,
leading to a flick by junior Dan
Mullett. The ball then bounced
over to where Chapman could
rip it home.

WILDCATS

forward Jeffrey Thomas from about 20 yards in front. "He (Mejia) had to come

HELPING OUT

Mejia had a lot of help from his friends, clearing loose balls out of danger areas away from dangerous Chargers such as Thomas and senior midfielder Stephen Foster (who set up Woodruff's goal).

"They had four forwards at the end and coach just told me to drop back on center-D and I just got physical back there," said senior midfielder Joe Klonowski, one of the all-around standouts for Plymouth. "We had a disappointing effort against Canton (a 3-1 loss last Thursday), so we were just looking to turn it around against Churchill." Klonowski, senior Andrew Yoder and senior Mitch Vaughn were all in the defensive mix with less than three minutes to go and Churchill threatening to tie the score off a corner kick.



Maintaining sharp focus on the ball is Plymouth's Derek Austin (No. 16), with Livonia Churchill's Alex Jones (right) closing in.

Somehow, the Wildcats teamed up to keep the ball out of the goal and that pretty much locked up the victory.
"I saw it bounce right on the goal line," Klonowski said. "So I just tried to scissor it and I

hit one of our own guys and then I turned around and the ball was out."

That sequence summed up the night for the Chargers.

"We created a lot of oppor-tunities, a lot of restarts. The

ball was bouncing in the box all over," Friedrichs said. "We just needed someone to put a foot on it and we're always just a second behind."

OPPORTUNISTIC

OPPORTUNISTIC

The Wildcats took a 1-0
lead about 15 minutes into
the match, when Klonowski
set up senior forward Derek
Austin for a nifty goal again
Churchill junior goalkeeper

Churchill junior goalkeeper Bryan Bartig.
Woodruff netted the equalizer around the 30th minute, but Plymouth chipped in the lead goal off of a scrum and never looked back.
On the winner, Bartig came out for the ball, but slipped and injured an ankle in the process, leaving the goal wide open.

process, leaving the goal wise-open.
"He (Bartig) just slipped, rolled his ankle as he slipped and their guy (Kim), with him on the ground, headed it in," Friedrichs said. "It was unfor-

Friedrichs said. "It was unfor-tunate."

The Chargers brought in junior goalkeeper Mario Canestraro to finish up the half. Canestraro played anoth er five minutes in the second half, grabbing a low, hard shot by junior Rob Korstjens, before Bartig was able to return.

Salem divides and (almost) conquers at invites

Members of Salem's girls cross country team competed Saturday at two invitationals, with the Rocks having solid showings both places.

The "A" team placed fifth at the Jackson Invitational, with 137 points. Meanwhile, the Salem "B" team came in second at the Catholic Central Invitational, held at Cass Benton Park.

At Sharp Park in Jackson, Salem freshman standout Kayla Kavulich came in fourth overall with a time of 18-minutes, 51.6 seconds to pace the Rocks.

She was followed by Victoria Tripp (15th, 19:16.6), Shannon Flynn (31st, 19:51.2), Adrianna Beltran (35th, 20:00), Kara Booms (52nd, 20:19.1), Amanda Beyer (85th, 20:56.8) and

Beyer (85th, 20:56.8) and Autumn Burin (104th, 21:24.8), • Meanwhile, the "B' team (2nd with 69 points, trailing Grosse Pointe South's 32-point tally) featured Emily Bizon (8th, 20:47), Alejandra Beltran (9th, 21:05), Madison Goodpasture (10th, 21:07), Natasha Stevenson (16th, 21:42), Phoebe VanHoof (26th, 22:54), Adelaida Jepperson

(33rd, 22:57), Mariam Mrot (34th, 23:10) and Emily Marcero (3-JV, 22:30).

Canton girls fifth

Sparked by Bianca Kubicki's ourth-place finish of 19-min-tes, .08-seconds, the Canton

Invitational.

Kubicki wasn't too far
behind the overall winner,
Livonia Franklin's Megan
McPherson (18:29).

Other Chiefs to finish on

a windy day were Rachel Rohrbach (17th, 20:10); Abigail Gorzalski (32nd, 21:00), Emily Southern (37th, 21:22), Jessica Siegler (39th, 21:28), Katie Grimes (42nd, 21:41) and Chelsea Smith (51st, 22:24).

22:24).
"Despite the tough conditions, the girls performed really well," said Canton head coach Eric Pahl. "It was very windy but still they posted some fast times.
"When I looked at the results, I couldn't believe how fast we ran."

PREP CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

GIRLS DUAL MEET RESULTS
LIVONIA FRANKLIN 21, PLYMOUTH 39
Sept. 28 at Cass Benton Park
Individual winner: Menanth Chris

rankiin), 19-38.

Other Franklin finishers: 2. Leslie

omez, 2022; 5. Megan Wickens, 21/17, 6. f.

ein, 2124; 7. Tiffany Lamble, 2147; 8. kel

alblay, 2157; 10. Madeline Herman, 22:19,

Plymouth finishers: 3. Nicole Traitses

5.50; 4. Brianna Lax, 20:52; 9. Marina

Bisse, 2214; 11. Julie Hahn, 22:28; 12.

sssica Scarpello, 22:56; 13. C. Manettas,

102:14. Sophis Paperts, 29:19.

O KLAK JERNIA UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF THE

Dual meet records: Canton, 3-0 overal

ONIA STEVENSON 23, SALEM 39 iept. 28 at Cass Benton Park vidual winner: Stevenson

Drouillard, 18,19; 15. Tom Patterson, 18;38;16, Mason Mills, 18:39;17. Alex Creekmore, 18:39; 18. Evan Bruyere, 18:50. **Dual meet records:** Stevenson, 2-1 overall, 2-1 KLAA Central Division; Salem, 1-2

26. Franklin finishers: 3. Austin Jones 28; 8. Mike Witt, 19:14; 9. Josh Beesm 48; 10.Gabe Martinez, 20:07; 11. Chad

3 overall, 0-3 KLAA South.

MONROE JEFFERSON INVITATIONAL

CROSS COUNTRY MEET

Sept. 25 at Sterling State Park

BOYS TEAM STANDINGS: 1, Brighton, 2

walski, 18:16:16: GIRLS TEAM STANDINGS: 1, Brighton,

ore. Individual winner: Megan McPhersor anklin), 18:29.7 (school record) Canton finishers: 4: Bianca Kubicki, 28:45; 17. Rachel Rohrbach, 20:11,34;

28.47: 42. Katie Grimes, 21.41.02, 31. elsea Smith, 22:24.91. Plymouth finishers: 8. Brianna Lax, 2. Mirola Traitses, 19:59.44; 34.

Plymouth clicks in four-game win Other Salem finishers: 4. Andy Rabe Big return for Plymouth Christian's Malcolm

and defense led to an aggressive offensive night."
The sparkplug was Kayla Bridge, who "was on absolute fire tonight both offensively and defensively," the coach noted.
Bridge led the Wildcats to victory wit 19 kills, 24 defensive digs and a 100-percent passing rate.
Jessica Scott also was stellar with 35 assists and a perfect night in the serving department. "She continued to get the ball to our hot hitters all night," McCausland said.
Those would include Dani Risi (14 kills) and Madelyn Betts (9 kills).
Adding 24 digs with a hardnosed game was Mariah Tesarz.

Betts (8 kills).
Adding 24 digs with a hard-nosed game was Mariah Tesarz.
Lindsay Stemberger chipped in with nine digs and a 100-percent night serving-wise.

Plymouth Christian Academy warmed up for a big division showdown by defeating a pair of opponents in a tri-match Thesday at Whitmore Lake.

The Eagles — with standout middle hitter Kristin Malcolm back in the lineup after recovering from an injury — defeated Whitmore Lake 25-16, 24-26, 15-10 and followed up with a 16-25, 25-13, 15-13 win over Detroit Country Day.

Malcolm had 11 kills and three blocks against Whitmore Lake, her first game back.

Other PCA standouts included outside hitter Amy Zinn (11 service points, 6 disc) settler Rrianna Harris

(21 assists), libero Abby Bartes (11 service points) and middle blocker Folake Olojo (7 kills). Against the Yellow Jackets, Malcolm fared just as well with 11 kills and 11 digs. Harris (21 assists), Bartes (10 digs), Olojo (9 kills) and Jessica Rich (10 service points, including eight consecutively in the key Game 2) also were key players for PCA. Next up for the Eagles is Thursday night's Michigan Independent Athletic Conference showdown against Lutheran Westland.

Salem sweeps

Every player contributed to Salem's 25-12, 25-15, 25-

12 victory last Thursday over South Lyon East. Kerry MacDonald (18 assists), Ouinn Fillinger (10 assists), Nicole Merget (11 kills, 4 aces, 5 digs), Bree Berberet (3-for-3 in kills), Kara Hewett (2 kills, 1 ace) and Katie Heitmeyer (4 digs) all were instrumental to the win.

Chiefs win silver

Canton head coach Mary Kryska said her team was inconsistent at Saturday's Bedford Invitational. But the Chiefs, after going 1-3 in pool play, turned it around to captur the sliver bracket thanks to a 25-20, 25-18 win over Bedford. The Chiefs defeated

Pinckney (19-25, 25-22, 15-10) and Livonia Stevenson (25-20, 25-20) earlier in the bracket. The lone win in pool play was against Grand Ledge, 25-20, 19-25, 15-11. Following that were defeats to Carleton Airport (19-25, 25-21, 8-15), North Farmington (19-25, 23-25) and Stevenson (25-22, 21-25, 15-17). Statistical leaders for Canton included Alaina Turner (54 kills, 18 blocks, 6 aces), Kristen Muir (38 kills, 88 digs, 6 aces), Erica denBoer (25 kills, 75 digs, 6 aces), Maggie Deloy (21 kills), Jackie Watte (67 assists, 31 digs, 7 aces), Lurren Martin (56 assists, 30 digs, 4 aces) and Laura Fasani (27 digs).







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May You Find Comfort in Family Friends



CROP walkers fight hunger one step at a time

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Local businesses have stepped up in support of this year's Plymouth-Canton CROP Hunger Walk.
Barb Fichtenberg of Canton, CROP Walk coordinator, lists Community Financial Credit Union, Hiller's Markets and the Canton dental practice of Drs. Pinkney, Greenbaum, MacFarland and Timpner as supporters. Holiday Market of Canton will provide bottled water for the Sunday, Oct. 17, benefit, which will begin at St. John's Episcopal Church on Sheldon in Plymouth Township.
Organizers appreciate that business support, which has made possible special event T-shirts to mark the 20th Plymouth-Canton CROP Walk.
'I think there may have been a year or two we missed in there," said Fichtenberg, a Garden City Hospital staffer. This year's event adds up to the 20th. There's another local CROP Walk. Livonia's, taking place Sunday, Oct. 3.
Registration for Plymouth-Canton will begin at 1:30 p.m. with the walk starting at 2 p.m. Walkers are being recruited from Plymouth-Canton churches.
This year's congregations include First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, Geneva Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, Geneva Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, Geneva Presbyterian Church of Canton, St. John's Episcopal, Praise Baptist Church of Plymouth, Herbymouth, Canton Salvation Army, Living Peace of Canton — which meets at Field Elementary School — and First United Methodist of Plymouth.
Last year's Plymouth-Canton walk raised just over \$7,000.

"Tthink last year the economy affected the walk," Fichtenberg said. "We're hop-

LIVONIA WALK

LIVONIA WALK

The 27th annual Livonia Area (Livonia and Garden City) CROP Walk will be held on Sunday, Oct. 3, from Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church in Livonia. Registration is at 1:30 p.m. and the send-off celebration and walk at 2 p.m. Participants can walk the two-, four- or six-mile route. Those with mobility problems can do the short walk in the park.

Livonia organizers expect about 250 walkers from about 20 churches from Livonia and Garden City. Their goal is to raise \$30,000 for the fight against hunger. Last year, they raised over \$23,000 with one-quarter of that money going to local food banks in Livonia, Garden City, Redford and Detroit. Contact John Hirtzel at (248) 477-5181 for further information or pledge sheets.

That walk can also be accessed through cropwalkonline.org, which has walks throughout Michigan listed.

WORLD, U.S. RELIEF

WORLD, U.S. RELIEF
Of Plymouth-Canton proceeds, 75
percent will go to Church World Service
(www.churchworldservice.org) which
provides disaster relief, humanitarian
assistance and development work worldwide. The remaining 25 percent will got
the Salvation Army locally, which serves
Belleville and Northville in addition to
Plymouth and Canton.
Walkers will raise pledges and walk
either two or four miles. The Salvation
Army locally received almost \$1,800 last
year from the event, assisting 2,452 people from 669 families.

"Everybody is very supportive of

the Salvation Army and their work,"
Fichtenberg said, adding organizers are pleased the Army's involved in planning and participation. Church World Service appeals to walkers and donors as well, giving money both overseas for projects like helping with recent Pakistan flooding, as well as U.S. relief.

"It's a community event and churches are working together," she said. "A lot of people are aware of it."

The name now is CROP Hunger Walk with a new logo, to help people who didn't know the acronym of Communities Responding To Overcome Poverty.

Three participating churches, Geneva, Living Peace and St. John's Episcopal, also supported the T-shirt project, Fichtenberg said.

There's "Walking on the Web" information at www.cropwalkonline.org, in which participants can pick Michigan and then their local walk, signing up as an individual or team. For information on the Plymouth-Canton walk, call Fichtenberg at (734) 981-4205.

The Salvation Army will provide a canteen on walk day, she said, and can transport anyone who gets tired walking. The walk has been held in Canton in the past, but in Plymouth in recent years.

"We get more visibility walking through the city," Fichtenberg said. "The Canton walkers don't mind going to Plymouth."

This year's goal is to have 120 walkers, who are encouraged to raise \$100 each.
"Basically we just want to increase our walkers and our total amount," she said. "Im sure we will do that."

Strollers and wagons are welcome at the Plymouth-Canton walk, but organizers ask participants to leave bicycles and Rollerblades at home.

Your Invitation to Worship

CATHOLIC

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Tridentine Latin Mass St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 38100 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200

Livonia, MI 48154 * (734) 462-3200

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

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Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am

GREEK ORTHODOX

NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

PRESBYTERIAN

Fellowship Presbyterian Church Stunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. w Owrship: 10:30 a.m. Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church 16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia * South of Six Mile Road Nuncery provided * www.fclie/mxhipp/gepis/train.org

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

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church



9:45 am Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413

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Dr. Mark P.Jensen Rev. Mary E. Biedre

STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, September 30, 2010 hometownlife lik com

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

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS O&A



Compuware Arena draws large crowds for Plymouth Whalers games, and also offers a restaurant and drive-in movitheaters.

Compuware becomes entertainment mecca

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

Whalers/Compuware: The Plymouth Whalers play in the Ontario Hockey League, which is the highest talent level of hockey players in the world in the age group of 16-20. The Whalers have made the playoffs 19 straight seasons, which is a current OHL record. The reputation of the Whalers is the team never rebuilds, but reloads.

The Whalers are one of the most active teams in the Canadian Hockey league in terms of community involvement. As a result, the local community has embraced this team. It seems that nearly every player on the team has his own cheering section, because they've connected in one way or another with someone in the community.

The Compuware Arena Drive-In Movie Theatres run

community.

The Compuware Arena
Drive-In Movie Theatres run
in the summer months and has
developed its own following.
Drive-in movie patrons are as
passionate about the drivein as Whalers fans are about
their hockey team.

CJ's Brewing Company
is the restaurant located at
Compuware Arena. Like the
Whalers and the Drive In.
CJ's has developed its own
passionate following. CJ's is
packed before, during and
after Whalers games and has
started gathering crowds for
other events like Motor City
Trivia on Thursday evenings.
Compuware Arena also
hosts high school and college
graduations, Detroit-Novi
Catholic Central hockey,
the Michigan Boys State
High School Hockey finals,
Compuware AAA hockey,
concerts, Fox Sports Net/
Gatorade Replay, chamber
events, figure skating shows,
boxing and wrestling events
and was the home of the
Detroit Ignition of the Major
Indoor Soccer League.
Observer: How did you first decide
to open your business?
Whalers/Compuware:
Compuware CEO and Whalers
owner Peter Karmanos
wanted to build a clean, firstclass facility for the Whalers.



Compuware Arena also hosts graduation ceremonies, like this one for Schoolcraft College.

COMPUWARE ARENA

Business Name and Address: Plymouth Whalers and Compuware Arena, 14900 Beck

Business Opened: 1996 Number of employees: 50 Your Business Specialty: Provide fun and safe entertain-ment for the entire family at an

Hours of Operation 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Business phone | website:

(734) 453-8400 www.plymouthwhalers.com and

Observer: Why did you choose Plymouth? Whalers/Compuware: Centrally located and excellent

Centrally located and exceller area.

Observer: What makes your business unique?
Whalers/Compuware:
Compuware Arena is a place where people can have fun, follow their passions (hockey, figure skating, etc.) and enjoy themselves. Something is happening here pretty much seven days a week.

Observer: How has it changed since you opened?

Observer: How has it changed since you opened?
Whalers/Compuware: With the opening of the restaurant and the drive-in - and the willingness to bring in other events - Compuware Arena is much more than a hockey aren

Observer: Do you have a funny tidbit of story to share with our readers about your experience so far as a small business owner?

Whalers/Compuware: We once had a marriage proposal during a Whalers game. The perspective bride accepted. We've had sellout crowds for the last two Division I high school hockey finals between Detroit-Novi Catholic Central and Howell, where people were lined up out the door trying to buy a ticket. You haven't lived until you've seen Mascot Madness during a Whalers game. Strange, but funny nonetheless. A number of years ago, we had the Green Men invade Compuware Arena during a Whalers playoff run. It started with one man dressed in green, then two and multiplied exponentially throughout the playoff run. We may have had as many as 20 Green Men by the second round of the playoffs. We had the Oscar Meyer Weiner Mobile visit Compuware Arena several years ago.

Observer: How has the recent

Mobile visit Compuware Arena several years ago.

Observer: How has the recent economy affected your business?
Whalers/Compuware:
Attendance was up 25 percent last season for the Whalers.
Attendance was excellent for the high school hockey finals.
Observer: Do you have any advice for other small-business owners?
Whalers/Compuware: It's great to have fun when you work.

work.

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

Whalers/Compuware: I
think we'll continue to find
ways to keep people coming to
Compuware Arena.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Life Improvement contest

IKEA has launched the Life Improvement Sabbatical Contest offering one person the chance to win a year-long sabbatical (worth \$100,000) to advance a project that improves the life of others. Whether you'd like to volunteer at a homeless shelter to start a non-profit organization, this contest gives one winner the opportunity to pursue their passions, and share their experience with the world.

Through Nov. 8, those who are interested can submit their Life Improvement proposal online at www.thelifeimprovementproject.com. Five finalists will be chosen from submissions by a panel of judges, and announced on December 13, 2010.

The winner will be determined by public vote, and announced on January 31, 2011.

Art classes

Art classes

Art classes

Fall is almost here, the leaves will be turning soon, children are back in school and so are D&M Art Studios classes. This year the studio has established new times for the home school art classes: Monday 3-4-30 p.m. for ages 10 to 16, Thursday 1:30-3 p.m. for ages 11 to 16, and Friday 1-2:30 and 2:30-4-p.m. for ages 6 to 16. The preschool youth classes are held Tuesday, 1:30-2:30 p.m., for ages 3 to 6.

The studio offers new Fashion Design classes, held in three-week sessions. The first session of classes runs Thursdays, Oct. 7, 14, and 21 from 5:15-6:15 p.m. for first grade and up.
D&M Art Studios special Harvest Pumpkin Painting classes will be held in each class the week of Oct. 18-23.

For more information, check out D&M's website at www.dmartstuiod.com or call (734) 453-3710.

IEP workshop

Huntington Learning Center Canton presents a workshop on the IEP process 7:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. II at its Canton location, 44630 Ford Road. All interested parents are invited to attend. Admission is \$10 per person/family. All proceeds will go to the Liberty Kids charity. Liberty Kids is a Michigan non-profit charity aimed at helping children with Autism and other related challenges and disorders in making their needed therapy more affordable.

The workshop is designed to help people faced with an IEP meeting who are new to the



The Art Camp Exhibit at D&M Studios drew more than 400 art pieces.

process or who just need to learn more about the process, and give them a better understanding of the process and learn how to prepare for a more productive meeting with good results that your child deserves.

Staci Bockmann offers insight to help parents navigate the unknown world presented at the IEP meeting. She also offers tactics that encourage Educators and parents to become true partners with a common goal.

For more information, call (734) 207-7930.

Axis open house

Axis Open house

Axis Music Academy, 42114 Ford Road in Canton, hosts its fall open house 6-9 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 30.

One of the leading music instruction centers in Southeastern Michigan, the Axis Music Academy is opening its doors to the public to see its facilities and to have the opportunity to meet the musicians/instructors. The open house will feature live entertainment, hors d'oeuvres, sweepstakes, prizes and giveaways and free music mini-lessons.

Attendees who sign up for lesson packages at the event will leave with a free Fender guitar and amp pack, T-shirt or a free lesson.

Founded by John Antone in 1996 as a guitar teaching center, Axis Music Academy now conducts lessons in more than 10 instruments, including voice, from over 40 instructors. The firm has locations in Southfield and Canton and also offers in-home lessons as well. Axis is Michigan's first and only licensed and certified trade school program for music. For more information, visit www.axismusic.com.





October 12th and 13th, 2010

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CHAMBER CHAT **Business** awards

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts its 2010 Business Awards Luncheon Oct. 6, at 11:30 a.m. at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton. The cost for lunch is \$20 (advance member registration) \$30 (Non-member) and includes a full buffet lunch, beverages and dessert. This luncheon is open to the public. The October Luncheon will recognize the chamber's 2010 Chamber Business Anniversary Awards for 10, 25, 30 and 35 years, the Business Person of the Year and Ambassador of the Year Award. "This is a very special luncheon "said chamber".

Award.
"This is a very special luncheon," said chamber president Dianne Cojei. "It's the Chamber's opportunity to recognize the Business Community and the members who support the Canton Chamber of Commerce."
October's luncheon is hosted by the Canton Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by: Event

Sponsor, Yazaki North America, Inc., Business Anniversary Sponsor, Oakwood Healthcare Systems, Business Person of the Year Sponsor, Molly Maid and Ambassador of the Year Sponsor Showroom of Elegance. Seating is lim-ited and reservations are required. To make a reservation, contact the Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040.

Arts fund-raiser

The Blackthorn, annual fund-raiser for the Partnership for Arts and Humanities takes place 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 16, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, in

Canton.
The evening features a Celtic music performance from Blackthorn. Event proceeds benefit the Partnership, which provides financial support for the arts in the greater Canton community.
Cost is \$25 per ticket. RSVP to (734) 394-5300.



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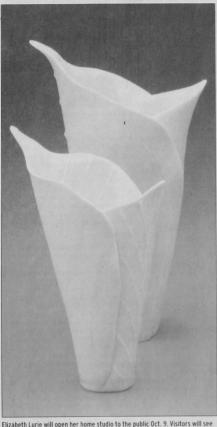
ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, September 30, 2010 hometownlife file com

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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

Visit a working porcelain studio at artist's open house



Elizabeth Lurie will open her home studio to the public Oct. 9. Visitors will see ceramics, such as these hosts wases.

Elizabeth Lurie exhibits art

canzaoeth Lurie exhibits art on her own terms and turf.

"I'm in a new place in my career where I'm cutting back on the places I am exhibiting. I'm producing less, but I want to produce less, but I want to produce less, but I want to the community," said Lurie, a Farmington Hills ceramicist who works in porcelain. "I'm not as interested in maintaining relationships with galleries. It's not worth it in the present economic climate.

"I haven't done art fairs in 10 years except for Philly (Philadelphia Museum of Art Craft Show). But one thing I always enjoyed about art fairs was that I was able to talk to the public."

Feedback from art lovers was so important, that Lurie simply began to invite the public to her home studio a few years ago. Her annual studio open house is 10 a.m. -5 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 9, at 29228 Summerwood, Farmington Hills; (248 951-1732.

Home studio open houses aren't new, but Lurie says "not enough" local artists market their works that way. She prefers to bring people to her art because they get a chance to see a functioning ceramicist's work space.

LARGE KILNS, STUDIO

udents from Oakland munity College and





An Elizabeth Lurie tea pot

friends will assist with the show, freeing Lurie to talk with visitors.

The 800-square-foot studio includes a room for making pieces and glazing them and a kiln room for firing.

Last year Lurie bought two newlarge kilns — for the first time in 30 years — and

Chash Enland

Edagio TOTAL STORE

demonstrated firing. The equipment was so large she had to remove a garage wall for the installation.

"They are very large. I knew I wanted to start making larger pieces. For the Pewabic (Pottery) show in the spring I'll have large pieces."

MAJOR MUSEUMS

Lurie took her first ceramic class in the late 1960s at Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association, before studying at Pewabic Pottery in downtown Detroit for three years. At Pewabic she experimented with glazes, salt firing, honed her skills on the wheel and tried porcelain for the first time. "Working in porcelain still intrigues me, still frustrates me and still fills me with wonder at times," she said.

year.
Lurie suggests that visitors check out her Web site at www.elizabethlurie.com before heading out to the open house.

open house.
"This is very important because my subdivision entrance is off Middlebelt, which is closed between 12 and 13 Mile Roads because of a major sewer collapse," she said

said.

The Web site has a map and alternative routes. She plans to update the site to adjust for changes in road closures the night before the event.



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NEWSPAPERS

ART

Art & Ideas Time/Date: Oct. 1-Nov. 14, with opening reception 5:30-9 p.m., Oct

2 Location: 15095 Northville Road, south of Five Mile, Plymouth Details: "Diverse Forms, Diverse Meanings." with works by Schoolcraft College Art Faculty, Robert Bielat, Sarah Olson and Ellen Mourchills

Moucoulis Contact: (734) 420-0775

City Gallery
Time/Date: Through Oct. 15 Location: Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills Details: Great Lakes Beadworkers

show beads with "attitude Contact: (248) 473-1856

Music Hall
Time/Date: 2-5 p.m., Oct. 2
Location: Jazz Cafe at Music Hall,
350 Madison, Detroit
Details: "The Artist Survival
Seminar - The Class They Don't
Teach in Art School," with Rick
Manore and guest speaker artist,
Jaclyn Schanes, deals with the real
world problems and pitfalls that are young or emerging artists encoun ter in this highly competitive and dog-eat-dog world of art. Tickets \$15 per person, \$10 for students, available at the door Contact: (313) 887-8508

Northville Art House Time/Date: Oct. 1-23; artist reception 6-9 p.m., Friday, Oct. 1 Location: 215 W. Cady Street,

Details: Figurative juried exhibit with works by more than 60 artists Contact: (248) 344-0497

COMEDY

Go Comedy!

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale Details: Improv most nights. Open mic/jam session show for improvis ers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays Contact: (248) 327-0575; www.

JD's House of Comedy Time/Date: Various show times
Wednesday-Saturday evenings
Location: 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside
Star Theatre complex, Southfield
Details: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m.



night, 8 p.m. Wednesday Contact: (248) 348-2420 or www

Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays, Open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays Location: 36071 Plymouth Road

Livonia Details: Ira Proctor, through Oct. 2; Steve Brewer, Oct. 6-9; Eddie Gossling, Oct. 13-16; Shang, Oct. 20-23; Angel Salazar, Oct. 27-30 Contact; (734) 261-0555, www.kick:

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle Time/Date: Ralph Harris, Sept. 30-Oct. 2; John Heffron, Oct. 7-9; Tommy Savitt, Oct. 14-16; Kathleen Madigan, Oct. 21-23; Collin Moulton Oct. 28-30; Dave Attell, Nov. 4-6; Mike Lukas, Nov. 11-13; Lisa Landry, Nov. 18-20; J. Chris Newberg, Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.

BENEFIT

Jam for a Cure

Jam for a Lure
Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 1
Location: Village Theater at Cherry
Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, in Canton
Details: Trilogy Variety Band holds
its 2nd Annual Muscular Dystrophy
Association (MDA) Benefit Concert
"Jam For A Cure." The band will
denate all proceeds to a local donate all proceeds to a local chapter of the Muscular Dystrophy Association. It will play music of



Spotlight on Youth will present "Alice in wonderland, Jr.," Oct. 21-22, in Canton. Cast members are Lexi Fata of Westland, who plays the cat, Amanda Buchhalter of Canton (middle left) and Maggie Donnelly, also of Canton. Hayley Boggs of Oaland (right) plays Alice Medium.

Ellington, as well as Motown tunes classic rock and more. Tickets are \$12 available online or by calling

the theater Contact: (734) 394-5400; www

Oktoberbreast

Time/Date: 7 p.m.-midnight, Oct

Location: Bennigan's, 40441 Ann

Arbor Road, Plymouth
Details: Breast Cancer Awareness
Fundraiser, with beer tent and
live music, DJ, grilled brats and
pub chips, raffles, and dancing.
Red Swill will perform Friday with Serious Jack taking the stage

Contact: (734) 459-8907

CONCERTS

Antioch Lutheran Church Time/Date: 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 5 Location: 33360 W.13 Mile, at Farmington Road, Farmington Hills Details: Pro Mozart Society of Greater Detroit presents The Berick

Berick and pianist Pauline Martin will perform music by Mozart, Brahms, and Stravinsky. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$5 for students. Send checks payable to: Pro Mozart Society, 37099 Sandalwood Drive, Farmington Hills, MI. 48331, or visit www.promozartdetroit.org Contact: (248) 788-2479

The Ark

Time/Date: Bruce Molsky and Monthleau Band, Oct. 1; Doyle and Debbie Show, Oct. 2; Eric Johnson, Andy McKee and Peppino d'Agosti Oct. 3; Tannahill Weavers, Oct. 4; Oct. 3, Idanianiii Weavers, Oct. 4, Abigail Stauffer and Wolfie Geske, Oct. 5; Antje Duvekot and Lucy Wainwright Roche, Oct. 6; The Stee Wheels, Oct. 7; Jill Sobule, Oct. 8; Raul Maio and Shannon Whitworth, Oct. 9; Justin Roberts & the Not Ready for Nap Time Players, Oct. 10; Willy Porter & Carpe Diem, Oct. 10; **Location**: 316 South Main, Ann

Contact: (734) 763-8587; www



"Woman with Glasses" by Eugenia Hoag is among the works on display at Northville Art House.

Baseline Folk Society

Time/Date: Third Saturday of

Location: The JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon,

Plymouth
Details: Eight "Open-Mic" performances plus a featured grouperform. Individual membershi
is \$25 and includes monthly
concerts from September
through May. Otherwise, admission to each concert is \$5 at
the door. Family memberships
are \$50 and include monthly
concerts.

Contact: (248) 719-3464 or mim

Detroit Institute of Arts Time/Date: 6 p.m. Friday, Oct

Location: 5200 Woodward Ave **Details**: George Winston per forms; tickets \$8

Contact: (313) 833-7900, www

Detroit Symphony Time/Date: 8 p.m. Oct. 1 Location: 3711 Woodward Ave

Details: Michael Camilo's Big Band - Caribe; tickets \$19-\$63 Contact: (313) 576-5111

Jazz Cafe
Time/Date: 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.,
Sept. 30 and Oct. 1
Location: Music Hall, 350
Madison Ave., Detroit
Details: Allan Holdsworth, Sept.
30 and Oct. 1; tickets \$30 in
advance or \$40 at the door
Contact; www.ticketmaster.com
(313) 887-8500

Livonia Symphony Time/Date: 4 p.m., Oct. 9 Location: Louis Schmidt Auditorium, Clarenceville High

School
20155 Middlebelt, Livonia
Details: Program includes
Tchaikovsky, Mendelssohn,
Beethoven and more; adults,
\$20, students of any age, \$5 and
senior citizens, 60 and over, \$18
Contact: (734) 421-1111; www.

Time/Dates: Bettie Serveert. Location: 22920 Woodward.

Contact: (248) 544-3030, www

Music Hall

Music Hall
Time/Date: 8 p.m. Oct. 7-9
Location: 350 Madison, Detroit
Details: "The Merchants of
Bollywood," a dance and music
spectacular based on the reallife story of the Merchant family
dynasty, whose members have
been prominent choreographers
and filmmakers since the beginning of the Hindi film industry
in the 1920s; tickets are \$25-\$65
Contact: Ticketmaster.com,
Ticketmaster Outlets or charge
by phone at (800) 745-3000



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2010 Paws for Applause

Each winner received four tickets to a Detroit Tigers baseball game, autographed photo of a Tigers player, gift card for a Little Caesars Pizza and pre-game recognition by Paws, the Tigers mascot!







The local youth of the communities we serve matter to us!

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Garage sale benefits Plymouth theater

Love a good garage sale?
How about a "reverse" sale?
Barefoot Productions in Plymouth is offering both.
The more traditional garage sale runs 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday,
Oct. 2, in its theater at 24 oN. Main. The troupe will sell a variety of items, including furniture, a piano, electronics, decor, household items, clothing, books, toys, sporting goods and more.
All proceeds benefit the theater.
The new twist to its fund-raiser is the "Reverse Garage Sale."
The theater maintains an ongoing wish list of needed items and its members are asking supporters to consider donating. The full list is available on the Barefoot Productions Web site at www. justgobarefoot.com. It includes such items as 100 wine glasses, 150 mobile upholstered seats, a shop vac, table lamps and more.
All donations receive a tax-deductible receipt. Any unsold garage sale merchandise will be donated to a local charity.



Blackthorn will perform a benefit concert for Partnership for the Arts and Humanities, in Canton.

Concert benefits cultural arts in Canton

Blackthorn, a Michigan-based group known for Celtic music, will perform a benefit concert for the Partnership for the Arts and Humanities, 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 16, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, at Ridge Road. Canton.

50400 Cherry Hill, at Rioge Road, Canton. Partnership for the Arts and Humanities is a non-profit organization that advocates for the arts and educates, encouraging the development of cultural arts in Canton. It also financially supports art-iets.

ists.
Blackthorn has played throughout the Great Lakes region since 1984. The group performs traditional songs of emigration, sea shanties, lively jigs and reels, and haunting ancient airs, along with some

of Ireland's best contemporary

of Ireland's best contemporary songs.

Each member of the band plays multiple instruments, including wooden flute, accordion, tin whistle, five string banjo, cittern, bones and more. These instruments complement the lead vocal of Belfast native Richard McMullan and the band's tight blend of four-part harmony.

Tickets are \$25, available online at www.cantonvillagetheater.org or by calling (734) 394-5300. For more information about the concert, call (734) 394-5460 or visit www.cantonvillagetheater.org or www.blackthorn1. com. To learn more about the Partnership for the Arts and Humanittes, visit partnershipforthearts.org



Opening night

hestras begin its concert season with "Flute Fantastique," 7:30 p.m., Oct. 9, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, The program features flutist Eric Lamp with Bernstein's Candide Overture, Lieberman's Concerto for Flute, and

Symphome Familiary by Bernol.

Subscriptions for five concerts are \$110 general admission, \$85 for senior citizens and \$40 for students. Individual concert tickets are \$25 general, \$20 for senior citizens and \$10 for students. For more information or to buy tickets, visit www.plymouthsymphony.com. Or call (734) 451-2112

Auditions set for Detroit Pistons dance team

Got a bit of a "spare tire" around the middle but a lot of spunk and showmanship? You may be a prime candidate for the Detroit Pistons Spare Tire Dance Team. The group includes larger-than-life, "Chris Farley-type" entertainers who perform during Pistons home games during time outs and make appearances representing the Pistons and Palace Sports & Entertainment.

Auditions for the team are set for 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 5, at the Palace of Auburn Hills.
Potential Spare Tires must

be at least 18 years old.

The audition process will include registration, learning and performing dance moves, performing a special talent and personal interviews. Candidates can pre-register at Pistons.com. Walk-ins will get a chance to audition subject to time constraints. Candidates should enter through the West Atrium and will be directed to the registration area.

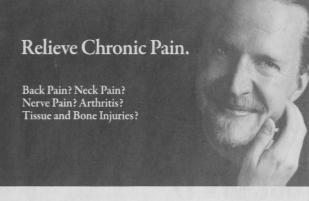
The Palace of Auburn Hills is located at 6 Championship Drive, off Lapeer Road, in Auburn Hills.





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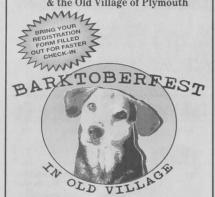
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tomeers, Executive Administrator for Extra Space Storage, will ferring for sale under the judicial lien process, by public on, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are rally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will sh only. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to refuse any ull bids. The sale will be at the following locations: Extra Space Ige, 6729 N Canton Center Rd., Canton, MI 48187 at 9:00 AM.

2.5 Mile Fun Dog Walk

Benefitting Homeward Bound Rescue & the Old Village of Plymouth



Saturday, October 2, 2010

The Old Village, Plymouth

Starkweather and Mill
Day of Event Registration @ 8:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

Walk Starts at 10 a.m.

Day of Event Registration \$25

Forms available at OldVillagePlymouth.com, The Old Village Market, or day of event

Public service announcements sought for contest

Michigan high school students can compete to win gift cards in a student filmmaking competition sponsored by The Meijer Foundation, M.E. Davenport Foundation, The Van Singel Fine Arts Center and Celebration Cinema.

Contestants must submit a 30-second public service announcement promoting positive choices in the areas of character education, healthy lifestyles, and/or celebrating diversity. Students must target one of two audiences with their PSAs: Kindergarten through 6th grades Deadline for submission is February 11, 2011 with a \$10 registration fee; or submit by January 14, 2011 and pay a \$5 registration fee. Students and their teachers can download registration materials and guidelines at meijergreatchoices. Audiovisual students and not set.

guidelines at meijergreatchoices.com.
Audio/visual students
and professors from several
Michigan universities are the
preliminary judges and choose
the finalists based on specific
criteria. The top three winners
from each category will receive
prizes of \$2,000, \$1,000, or
\$500 in the form of a gift card
to their choice of Meijer, Apple,
or Dell. Eighteen winners also
will be chosen in first, second
and third place.
More than \$20,000 in prizes
will be awarded at a VIP ceremony and reception tentatively
scheduled for Saturday, June
4, 2011 at Celebration Cinema
North in Grand Rapids.
The winning PSAs in each
category will be reproduced on
DVDs and distributed to schools
across the state as tools for their
character education, health education and diversity programs.

T.



Festival combines wood art and raku at recreation trail

Enjoy an afternoon of arts and eats from noon-4 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 9, at the Chainsaw Art & Fall Festival, at the Lower Rouge River Recreation Trail located off Morton Taylor Road at Michigan Avenue, in Canton.

Throughout the event, chainsaw artists will use their special talents turning logs into intricate sculptures. Popular carvings include totem poles, birds, bears, and other wildlife. Completed pieces will be available for purchase. These trails are the perfect location to show-case the unique art of chainsaw carving, "stated Jon LaFever, recreation coordinator. "We've recently added a permanent wooden bench and

additional carvings along the Lower Rouge River Recreation Tail to enhance these open

spaces."

New this year, Raku artists will be on site New this year, Raku artists will be on site demonstrating the ceramic glazing process that uses both fire and smoke to create exceptional patterns and designs.

Tim & Sally's Awesome Eats and Canton Coney Island will sell lunch items and Home Depot will provide a fun craft for kids to make and take home.

For more information about this family-friendly event visit Cantonfun.org or call (734) 394-5460.

Canton program marks Festival of Lights

Celebrate Diwali, the Festival of Lights, and the anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's birth, Saturday, Oct. 2 at the Village Theatre at Cherry Hill in Canton. The theater will open at 6:30 p.m. and a program will begin at 7 p.m. Canton Supervisor Phil Lajoy

program will include songs, skits, dances, displays and speakers. Diwali is a Hindu festival celebrated over five days, with the third day regarded as the most important celebration day. Lighting candles during the Festival of Lights is meant to illuminate the darkness of the New Year's moon and strengthen close friendships and personal

knowledge.
The program also will honor the life and legacy of Mahatma Gandhi by celebrating the values that he lived every day.
Admission is \$1 donation at the door. The theater is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road Visit Cantonvillagetheater.org or call (734) 394-5300 for more information.



Oct, 16 & 1

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS HOMETOWN

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Sat: 10-5pm • Sun: 11-4pm



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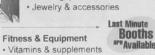
· Vein treatment





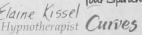


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It's easy to do – and it's FREE! Email your information with a photo (jpg format only) to Sharon Dargay, Features Editor at sdargay@hometownlife.com or go online www.hometownlife.com and fill out the online form and attach a photo (jpg format) or mail your information and photo to Sharon Dargay,

Features Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette, 2nd LEVEL, Detroit, MI 48226-3124

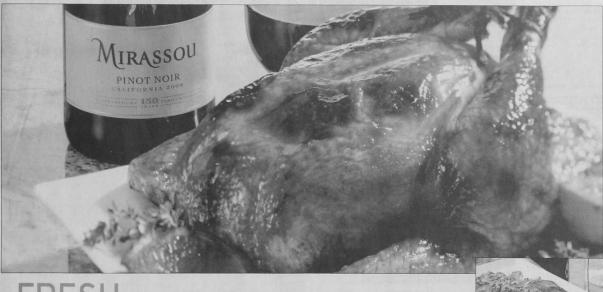
Where hometown stories unfold

FOOD

Thursday, September 30, 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



FRESH Fall FLAVORS

Seasonal ideas for adding full flavor from Food Network Chef Aida Mollenkamp

This fall, create a menu to remember by incorporating fresh, seasonal flavors into the traditional, comforting dishes of the season. As the air becomes crisp and the sun sets a little earlier each day, it's the ideal time to warm up your kitchen while experimenting with fresh ingredients. Plus, matching each dish with a corresponding wine is a simple technique for enhancing the flavors in the food

simple technique for enhancing the flavors in the food and wine.

Chef Aida Mollenkamp, host of the popular Food Network show Ask Aida and Cooking Channel series Food Craffers, suggests adding bright bursts of flavor, such as citrus zest, or a unique topping like chimichurri, to give a dish an unmistakable taste of the season.
To start off a great meal, or even as a light main dish, try Aida's version of creamy corn soup topped with an indulgent cheese toast and crumbled bacon. Paired with a glass of crisp Chardonnay from California's Mirassou Winery*, this is a perfect pairing for any autumn evening.

formia's Mirassou Winery®, this is a perfect pairing for any autumn evening.

For a main dish, pump up the flavor of a juicy roasted chicken by following Aida's recipe that incorporates a spiced pomegranate-orange glaze. Served with Mirassous's fruit-forward California Pinot Noir, this pairing is a crowd-pleaser for any occasion. Or try topping a grilled hanger steak with a colorful and spicy basil chimichurri, and pair with a glass of Mirassous' lush Cabernet Sauvignon to create an unforgettable fall flavor combination.

For more recipe ideas from Aida, and wine pairing tips, visit www.mirassou.com.



CREAMY CORN SOUP WITH BACON TOASTS

I medium sweet onlon, interly chopped
4 medium garlic cloves, crushed
1 cup Mirassou California Chardonnay
4 cups vegetable or chicken broth
1½ cups water
1 cup half-and-half

28-inch-thick slices french bread, toasted 4 slices cooked bacon, crumbled 4 slices cooked bacon, crumbled Prepare corn by cutting kernels from cob; reserve cobs. You should have approximately 5 cups of corn kernels from 6 cobs of corn. Heat butter in a medium saucepan over medium heat. When it foams, add onion and cook, stirring occasionally, until browned, about 5 to 7 minutes. Add garlie and cook until fragrant, about 1 minute. Add half of the corn kernels and cook, stirring constantly, until golden, about 3 minutes. Add wine and scrape up any browned bits on bottom of pan. Cook until alcohol smell is gone, about 2 minutes. Add broth, water, reserved corn cobs, and season with salt and freshly ground black pepper, increase heat to high and bring to a boil. When soup is boiling, reduce heat to low and simmer, stirring occasionally, for 40 minutes. Remove soup mixture from heat, discard cobs and set aside. Place half of soup mixture in a blender and puree until very smooth, about 2 to 3 minutes. Repeat with remaining soup mixture. Repeat with remaining soup mixture. Return mixture to saucepan, add remaining corn kernels, half-and-half, and vanilla bean and cook over medium heat for 20 minutes, stirring occasionally to prevent burning. Taste and adjust seasoning as desired. Meanwhile, prepare garnish. Mix cheese and chives and season with salt and freshly ground black pepper. Divide cheese mixture evenly among toasts. To serve, remove vanilla bean from soup and ladle soup into bowls. Garnish soup with bacon and float 1 to 2 cheese toasts in each bowl.

WITH BASIL CHIMICHURRI

1 packed cup fresh basil leaves, immed of thick stems 3 medium garlic cloves 3 tablespoons red wine vinegar

½ cup olive oil

Finely chop basil and garlic (or
process in a food processor several pulses). Place in a small bowl.

Stir in remaining ingredients
and season to taste with salt and
freshly ground black pepper.

Let sit at least 15 minutes before
using. (Serve qr refrigerate until
ready to use. If chilled, return to
room temperature before serving.

Can keep up to 2 days.)

For the steak:

*k teaspoon ground cinnamon
2 teaspoons consolar or vegetable oil
11% to 1% pound beef hanger steak or
skirt steak, sliced crosswise into 4 pieces
Combine spices and salt in a
bowl and mix thoroughly. Lay
steaks on baking sheet, drizzle all
over with 1 tablespoon oil. Sprinkle on spice mixture, and rub it in
until moistened. Repeat, coating
steaks as evenly as you can. Let
sit at room temperature at least
15 minutes before cooking.
When ready to cook, heat a
large cast iron skillet over medium-high heat and add remaining
tablespoon oil. When oil begins
to smoke, place steaks in pan and
cook, undisturbed, until crust
has formed and blood appears on
surface, about 3 to 5 minutes, flip
and repeat on second side.
Remove steaks to a carving
board, cover loosely with foil, let
rest for 10 minutes. To serve, slice
against the grain and serve drizzled with basil chimichurri.

ROAST CHICKEN WITH SPICE

POMEGRANATE-ORANGE GLAZE Pair with Mirasou California Pinot No Makes 4 to 6 servings Prep Time: 20 to 30 minutes Cook Time: 1 hour 30 minutes Difficulty: Medium 1 tablespoon kosher salt ½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper 2 tablespoons canola or vegetable oil 14 to 5-pound roasting chicken ½ medium oranne

*medium orange

½ cup pomegranate juice
½ cup kirassou California Pinot Noir
½ cup orange juice
3 tablespoons honey
3 garlic cloves, smashed
2 teaspoons freshly ground black pepper
2 cloves

2 tablespoons Dijon mustard

Heat oven to 425°F and arrange
rack in middle. Mix together salt and,
pepper in a small bowl and set aside.
Pat chicken dry and rub all over
(under skin, too) with oil and season
with salt and pepper. Stuff cavity
with orange half, and let sit at room
temperature while oven heats up,
about 20 to 30 minutes. Place, breast
side up, on a roasting rack; roast
until skin is golden brown, about 30
minutes.

minutes.

Meanwhile, combine pomegranate juice, wine, orange juice, honey, garlic, black pepper and cloves in a large pan and boil, stirring frequently, over high heat until syrupy (you should have about % cup), about 25 to 30 minutes. Remove from heat, discard garlic and cloves, whisk in mustard, and reserve half of the glaze for serving.

and reserve nan or the gree-ing.
Continue roasting chicken, brush-ing with glaze every 5 minutes, until chicken is cooked through and an instant-read thermometer inserted in the thickest part of the thigh, avoiding bone, registers 165°F, about 30 to 45 minutes more. Let rest 10 minutes; carve and serve with reserved glaze passed on side.

- Courtesy Family Features

Tell us why family dinners are important

The Observer wants to hear about your family dinnertime and to encourage and challenge local families to eat together.

Share your family's experience and you could win a \$25 Kroger gift card (to help fix that dinner) and other prizes.

Send a photo of your family eating dinner and short essay (100 words or less) explaining why your family's meal-sharing is important or how/why you plan to start a new tradition of family dinnertime to:

Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Attach the photo (jpg format only) and provide first and last names of everyone in the photo.

The Observer will award

photo.
The Observer will award three prizes — one for a chil-



dren's essay and family dinner photo, one for a teenager's essay and family photo and one for a couple's essay and family photo.

Other prizes include a copy of Let's Fix Dinner, by award-winning author and illustrator Todd Parr (child's prize) and movie tickets to Emagine Theater.

Family Day - A Day to Eat

Dinner with Your Children⁷⁸, is a national movement launched by The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University in 2001 to remind parents that frequent family dinners make a difference.

Statistics show that eating dinner together every night keeps the doors of communication open. It's the perfect time and place to reconnect and to show your kids and/or your spouse that they are your priority.

Plan a meal, talk, turn

Plan a meal, talk, turn off the television and put down the cell phone and eat

and Substance Abuse at Columbia University CASA has consistently found that the more often kids eat dinner with their families, the less likely they are to smoke, drink or use drugs. Family Day began as a grassroots initiative and has grown to become a nationwide celebration. In 2009 President Barack Obama, all the governors and more than 1,000 mayors and county executives proclaimed and supported Family Day.

For more information on Family Day, see www. casafamilyday.org. Sharon Dargay can be reached online at sdargay@hometownlife.com or (313) 222-8883.

CITY BITES

Benefit for braille

Benefit for braille
Livonia - Eat at California
Pizza Kitchen in Livonia from
Sunday-Thursday, Oct. 3-7,
and you can support Seedlings
Braille Books for Children,
he local nonprofit that provides high quality, low cost
children's literature in braille.
Download a flyer from the
Seedlings Web site, www.seedlings.org, and present it when
you dine. The organization will
receive 20 percent of your bill.
Every \$10 raised at this event
will make another braille book
possible.
Dining hours are 11 a.m.-10
p.m. Monday-Thursday and
noon-8 p.m. Sunday. California
Pizza Kitchen is located in
Laurel Park Place, Six Mile
and Newburgh, Livonia.

At Farmer's Market

At Farmer's Market

dispenses federal food assistance dollars to needy families and individuals through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly Food Stamps. Clients can exchange their food assistance benefits for wooden tokens at the farmers market that are accepted by vendors who sell qualifying foods, like fresh fruits and vegetables, baked goods and meats.

Milford Farmer's Market is open 3-9 p.m. Thursdays on Liberty between Main and Union.

Union.

Other local farmer's markets that accept Bridge Cards are:
• Canton — 500 N. Ridge Road, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday through Oct. 17.
• Redford — 12121 Hemmingway, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, through Oct. 31
• Wayne — 35319 Michigan Ave., 3-7 p.m. Wednesday, through Oct. 27

Vegetarians celebrate national awareness month

BY SHARON DARGAY

VegMichigan wants to make it easy for you this month to eat more vegetables, fruits and grains and less meat. The organization is celebrating national Vegetarian Awareness Month with events throughout October.

"VegMichigan is a very welcoming group and people love it when new people join," said Cyndi Summers, who handles publicity.

Vegan potluck dinners are

publicity.

Vegan potluck dinners are planned for 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 7 and 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 24, at Unity of Livonia, 28660

Five Mile, Livonia.

Vegans eat no animal products of any kind, including dairy foods. The Oct. 7 dinner will include a demonstration and raw foods. The Oct. 24 potluck will include a video.

Participants should bring a dish to pass or \$7.50.

"We really do encourage people to bring a dish," Summers said. "There are plenty of different things vegetarians can eat. You don't have to be an accomplished cook. You can bring vegetables, a side dish, salad. You can bring watermelon, a fruit salad.

"The potlucks can be pretty intingate, sometimes fewer than 20 people."

The group's Thanksgiving potluck draws upwards of 100 individuals all in various stages on the same path.

"Some may be vegan, some raw vegan, some people may just be trying to eat less meat."

VegMichigan offers lectures, classes, social outings and an enewsletter that goes out to approximately 6,000 e-mail addresses. VegFest — a mix of food tastings, guest speakers, and educational workshops—grew so large that it will move from Ferndale High School to Rock Financial Center in Novi next year.

next year.
"The vegetarian food market is growing from year to year.
In an economy where things



VegMichigan holds monthly potluck dinners at Unity Church in Livonia

usually are on the decline, the vegetarian category continues to increase. Vegetarian options grew 100 percent this year over last year," she said, citing statistics from farmusa.org. VegMichigan cites three major reasons — health, environment and humane treatment of animals — for eating a plant-based diet.

Its Web site points out that vegetarian diets are typically high in fiber and low in saturated fat and cholesterol; animal agriculture creates waste and methane gas emissions that contribute to pollution; and factory farming creates cruel, crowded living conditions for animals that are

headed for slaughter.

"People are starting to seek out more information. It's a subject people avoided for many years, but the more they hear from the mainstream media and see clips of factory farms, they know where their food comes from and it's hard to maintain that disconnect," Summers said.

Other VegMichigan events in October include a screening of the documentary, Earthlings, followed by a speaker and discussion, at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 6, at the Caroline Kennedy Library, 24:590 George, Dearborn Heights. The film, narrated by Joaquin Phoenix,

Here's a sampling of veg-etarian recipes to celebrate Vegetarian Awareness Month

VEGETARIAN TRADITIONS

looks at the way society tre animals. Call Rob Butler at (313) 791-3800 for more information
The group's monthly dinner club will visit
Jade Palace, 13351 W. 10
Mile, Oak Park, at 7 p.m.,
Oct. 9. Cost is \$15. E-mail to karen@vegmichigan.
org by Oct. 7 for details.
A Halloween potluck is planned in Troy and VegMichigan representatives will offer a cooking demo in Rochester Hills. For more information about VegMichigan visit http://vegmichigan.org.

ROASTED STUFFED POLENTA

½ cup pine nuts ½ teaspoon garlic, minced 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil

Polenta: In a sauce pan on medium heat, add water, leeks carrots, corn, bay leaf and sea

30 minutes. Cut polenta mto 4inch squares and then angle-cut
into triangles.

Baking sauce: Preheat oven
to 400 degrees. Mix together all
baking sauce ingredients and
spread onto a parchment-lined
baking sheet. Place individual
polenta pieces on the sauce and
bake for 15-20 minutes or until
edges are browned. Remove
from oven and allow to cool.
Basil Pesto:
Puree all basil pesto ingredients in a food processor
until they become a paste with
texture. Spread pesto on half
the polenta triangles and place
the remaining halves on top
sandwhich-style. Toast in a 400
degree oven for 8 minutes just
before serving.

TUSCAN WHITE BEANS AND ROASTED

ASPARAGUS

The beans and asparagus are a perfect topping for roasted, stuffed White beans:

white beans:

1 tablespoon of extra-virgin olive
1 cup of leeks, diced
2 cups fresh fennel bulb, trimmed
cored and thinly sliced
½ teaspoon of garlic, minced

Preparing beans:
Heat oil in a medium-sized saucepan on medium heat. Add leeks, fennel and garlic. Cook until leeks are clear, then add water, soy milk, white pepper, sea salt and beans. Simmer until beans start to break up. Add almond meal and simmer anotheer 5 minutes.
Preparing asparagus:
Mix asparagus with all ingredients. Spread out on a parchment-lined baking sheet. Bake for 10 minutes.
To serve:

All recipes courtesy of Chef George Vutetakis, former chef at Inn Season restaurant in Royal Oak. All are from his book Vegetarian Traditions. For more on the book visit thevegetarianguv.com

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Appraisal remains important aspect of selling a home

CANTON PUBLIC LIBRAY

Pam Kapture of Livonia has been doing residential appraisals locally since 1992.

"I was a Realtor before that," she said. Her work with her Kapture Appraisals gives her insight into the appraisal process.

"Everything helps, anything you do to the house," Kapture said. "If you want to sell your house and you put in a new kitchen, that might be overdoing it."

Preparing for an appraisal is mostly cleaning your home and clearing out clutter, she said. The borrower will get a copy of the appraisal, and should make sure it reflects number of baths, and things like a redone kitchen. "Just basis stuff," she said of accuracy. Kapture does exterior measurement in an appraisal, showing where rooms are. "It's not a floor plan per se," she said. "The bank just wants to know it's got all the pieces.

"We take interior pictures now,"
Kapture said of shots she does of the living room, bathrooms and kitchen. An appraisal, done between a lending institution and the seller, doesn't have an appeal process.

An appraisal can have a big impact on a house sale, since the mortgage company is relying on the appraisal in deciding how much it will lend a prospective buyer, according to Steve Bernstein, an attorney practicing in Farmington Hills.

In agreement is Michael Tarnow, co-owner and founder of Northern Michigan Real Estate Consultants Inc. He has been in real estate since 1968, worked in Detroit area and has done appraisals in southeast Michigan, including Livonia.

Northern Michigan Real Estate Consultants does commercial appraisals throughout Michigan, with residential appraisals confined to Grand Traverse/Leelanau and nearby areas.

areas.

"People need to understand they are unable to choose the appraiser," Tarnow said, noting the appraiser is chosen through a process by the lender. Lenders have a number of appraisers qualified through them.
"They work with them on a rotation basis," Tarnow said.

Preparing for an appraisal is mostly cleaning your home and clearing out clutter. The borrower will get a copy of the appraisal, and should make sure it reflects number of baths, and things like a redone kitchen.

HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

"The lenders have these appraisal management companies they work with. Prior to the appraiser coming out to make the inspection of the home, the property owner should treat the event as if they were showing the home to a prospective buyer. Clean it up, light it up, 'Tarnow said. It's best to make minor repairs you had planned before the appraisal, and to finish up painting, If it's a refinance, and you're disappointed with appraisal value, look it over carefully and make sure all information is accurate, such as the size of the house, which should include a floor plan drawing.

"Check that over and make sure it's

correct," Tarnow said, adding age, lot size and other property details should also be accurate.

"Most people are going to be disappointed with value these days."
There's a lot of competition in selling homes, Tarnow said, with homes being sold often distressed "because that's the current market. Those are the homes that are selling."
Appraisers are restricted in comparable sales they can use in the appraisal process, he said.

An appraiser makes plus and minus dollar adjustments. "They have to use recent sales and houses that are in the subject's neighborhood," he said. Sales used must be within a reasonable

market time.
Houses "are likely selling for a lot less than they did a few years ago."
Kapture agreed many are disappointed now with appraisals. "I figure my house has lost maybe \$90,000" in her Livonia neighborhood."
She likes to ask the seller on an appraisal what upgrades have been made. Contact for Kapture with a buyer is highly unlikely for a sale involving a bank/lending institution. The real estate appraisal process is a concern of Gary Reggish of the Farmington-based Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors. Reggish, a Livonia resident, is broker/owner of Remerica United Realty of Novi.
Reggish and Realtor colleagues are concerned about appraisal issues forcing the lowering of home prices. "There shouldn't be an issue with that property appraising," he said of an example of three houses identical to another being appraised at \$200,000, the fourth at \$190,000.
"We're not short of buyers," he said. "We have to get the guidelines loosened up on these appraisals."
According to the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor & Economic Growth, a license is mandatory for any person in Michigan who issues an evaluation, opinion, conclusion or analysis relating to the value of real property. An appraisel incense is not required for, nor are the following considered appraisals:

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*An assessment of the value of real property performed on behalf of a local unit of government authorized to impose property taxes when performed by a certified assessor, or an individual employed in an assessing capacity.

*A market analysis of real property for a fee when performed by a licensed broker or associated broker, which does not involve a federally related transaction.

Paris market still is strong

Q: I recently went to Paris and loved the architecture. After returning home, I realized that I may want to purchase a second home there. Do you know anything about the real estate market?

anything about the real estate market?

A: Having recently met with several Realtors in Paris, I am advised, to my surprise, that the market is strong in Paris and there is no economic turndown as far as real estate is concerned. So before you decide what you want to spend, you are going Robert Meisner



Robert Meisner to determine how many square meters you want (the size), the district in Paris that you like, and if you want to do new construction or buy a used unit with or without furniture. The prices vary based upon the district you choose and obviously being on the river and/or near the Effel Tower will command a greater cost than in other districts. Obviously the center of the city is the most expensive and the views overlooking the Seine are, frankly, spectacular. You are best advised to talk to at least several real estate brokers before choosing the ore that may be best for you.

O: I have read so much about Venice, Italy, and I am wondering if It is time to consider purchasing an apartment as a second home there because of business I have in Italy. What do you think?

A: The real estate market for residential housing in Venice has been down approximately 25 to 30 percent for the past three years. It appears to be a good time to purchase if you can afford Venice, for example, as it is still very expensive.

I am aware of and visited a new apartment complex being constructed near the Hilton Hotel where a one bedroom, with a garden view, development starts at \$898,000 Euros and a two bedroom is approximately \$1.5 million Euros.
Obviously, the closer you are to San Marco Center, the more expensive it becomes although most residences obviously overlook water. As in any situation, you are best advised to consult with an attorney in Venice who may recommend a good real estate broker to you.

Robert M. Melsner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Gulde to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. For more information, call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeister@meisner.associates com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

Robert M. Melsner is a lawye

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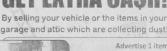
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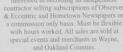
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By Dale Buss

Looking at the initial phase of General Motors' marketing launch for the new Chevrolet Cruze, the company is betting heavily that American consumers will agree with its own exalted judgment of the new compact. GM's first TV ads for Cruze are out, and while understated in terms of technique, the spots make clear the company's strategy for positioning and promoting its biggest new product since last year: unapologetically going for the throats of the traditional segment leaders.

"We're hoping to change the rules for Chevrolet and for small cars," said Mary Kubitsey, Cruze advertising manager. "That's holistic and simple, but that's what we're trying to do. And with our first campaign, we're hoping to entice people to take a second look at Chevrolet."

Already, perhaps, the ads are having some effect. Cruze site traffic on

at Chevrolet."

Already, perhaps, the ads are having some effect. Cruze site traffic on Edmunds.com more than doubled over the two weeks ended September 19, up 129 percent compared with August, according to Santa Monica, Califbased Edmunds.com. And its share of visitors gathering information on compact cars on the site rose 161 percent during the same period.

These ads are the first in which Chevrolet utilizes actor Tim Allen to do the voiceovers, but his persona isn't a huge factor in the company's

advertising strategy just yet. His identifiable role as Chevy's new homegrown spokesman will grow for the Michigan-born funny man over coming weeks.

Instead, the point of the first ads to introduce Cruze as "the new kid on the block," as one spot puts it, and to pointedly challenge the reigning small-car champs to one-on-one duels. In the stage-setting overall spot, Cruz – in the "first person" as it were –admits to being the newest entry in the segment baut, with faux modesty, notes that third-party experts already are comparing features such as its leather seating and interior appointments favorably to Lexus and Cadillac. At the end of the spot, Cruz pulls into a driveway of a house where the trees in the front lawn have been toilet-papered – presumably by jealous rivals.

"That ad really says, 'We're keeping

tolet-papered – presumanly by Jeanous rivals.

"That ad really says, 'We're keeping pretty good company' with the name-dropping," observed George Cook, executive professor of marketing for the University of Rochester, and a former marketing executive for Ford. Kubitsey explained, "We like to think it's confident. It's not like us to come out mud-slinging, but frankly, Chevy isn't in a good place with small cars, and [Cruze] is a home run followed. So to have relevant third-party people loving this car – it's a good



The 2011 Chevrolet Cruze isn't backing do from the competition.



Cruze is built.
Lordstown, Ohio
opportunity for them to speak.
Actually, the mud-slinging is pretty
much reserved for the other two of
Chevrolet's first trio of spots for Cruz.
In "Dear Corolla," Cruze "brags,"
among other things, about having
Bluetooth connectivity, whereas
Toyota Corolla doesn't. "It's saying,
'We've got the hottest new features,
and you don't." Cook said. "It's raising
the bar for Toyota.

And in "Dear Civic," Cruze warns
the venerable Honda subcompact not
to "look over your shoulder" as the
Chevrolet upstart lurks in the
shadows for the ideal spot to ambush
a Civic nearby.
"Saying that 'we're after you; don't
look back' is a very positive thing for
Chevrolet," Professor Cook said. "It
reconstructs GM's small-car image."
And like the other two ads, this spot
ends with a new tag line for Chevrolet.
"Get Used to More."
Intentional or not, that tag line is a
double entendre for Cruze and for
Chevrolet. GM's new chief marketing
officer, Joel Ewanick, has promised
that Cruze launch-marketing efforts
would provide the first clear
indication of the re-direction of the

company's marketing and branding efforts under his watch, especially for the crucial Chevrolet brand, which represents about 70 percent of GM's U.S. sales.

Formerly CMO for Hyundai of America (and then briefly for Nissan USA) before jumping to GM in May, Ewanick even brought in an old lieutenant, Chris Perry – who had succeeded him as CMO at Hyundai – to take over the Chevy division. It's uncertain how much influence Perry could have had on these TV spots in just a few weeks on board, but there's no doubt that he and Ewanick are on the same page in constructing the brand's future.

The way Ewanick described that path in a recent interview with AutoObserver.com, the redefinition of Chevrolet will become increasingly distinct over the next several weeks. GM will introduce the highly anticipated Chevrolet Volt extendedrange hybrid in November. And then, Ewanick has promised, GM's re-entry into Super Bowl advertising in February, after a two-year absence, will focus on bolstering Chevrolet.

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