10 THINGS SMART JOB SEEKERS DO SEE CLASSIFIED SECTION C

26-YEAR VETERAN OFFICER RETIRES LOCAL NEWS, A3

SUNDAY January 9, 2011

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CONNECTION Chamber concert

Spend a delightful Sunday afternoon with the Plymouth Canton Symphony Orchestras as they present a Chamber Concert featuring Harp, Strings and Flute at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 16, at the First Methodist Church in Plymouth.

The program includes a multitude of small, spectacular works from past to present and around the world. Featured will be "Danses Sacree et Profane," by Claude DeBussy written for Harp and Chamber orchestra to be performed by symphony harpist Maurice Draughn.

Draughn, a native of Detroit, has appeared as soloist with the Birmingham-Bloomfield Symphony, Orchestra Canton, Rochester Symphony, Detroit Symphony Civic and Southern Seminary Orchestras. He has performed with noted performers such as Aretha Franklin, Ray Charles, Robert Sims, the Three Irish Tenors, and Glen Campbell. He is also an arranger and composer of music for the harp, voice and choir

Tickets for the concert are \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors and \$10 for students. Call (734) 451-2112 or online at www.plymouthsymphony.com for tickets and information.

Super Bowl recipes

Super Bowl Sunday is nearly a month away, but it's not too soon to begin planning party menu

Sikh forum aims at understanding

EXHIBIT IS A COMING OF AGE STORY FOR ARTIST

COMMUNITY LIFE, B5

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As Plymouth-Canton school officials and local Sikh leaders strive to reach an accord to uphold the district's weapons policy while accommodating religious customs, about 100 people Thursday evening attended a public forum detailing how Sikhism was misunderstood long before a dagger-shaped, blunt-edged kirpan fell out of a fourth-grader's clothing.

At times, misconceptions have led to deadly hate crimes, such as the post-9/11 slaying of a turban-wearing Sikh man who was gunned down in Arizona, not long after he gave money to aid terrorist-attack relief efforts. As Americans, fearful Sikhs watched a horrendous assault on their chosen nation even as they personally faced discrimination.

"It was like being attacked twice," said Jaspal

K. Neelam, a Sikh mother of three and keynote speaker during Thursday's forum, organized by Plymouth-Canton Citizens for Diversity and Inclusion at St. Thomas a'Beckett Catholic Church.

At other times, suspicion toward Sikhs - fueled by religious attire and customs some people simply don't understand - has led to less-dire yet still-painful reactions, such as taunting of young Sikhs on school playgrounds or hateful stares inside grocery stores

After a kirpan - worn by baptized Sikhs as a religious symbol against violence toward the defenseless - fell from the Bentley Elementary boy's clothing, a controversy ensued as the local spotlight shone on Sikhs, who have six gurdwaras, or places of worship, in metro Detroit and as many as 1,500 families in Michigan.

Please see FORUM, A8



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jaspal Neelam offers what she calls 'Sikhism 101,' a basic overview of the faith.

School board set to pick new leaders

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education conducts its organizational meeting Tuesday, and the board could have a distinctly different look coming out of that meeting than it has going in. After a tumultuous year that included deep factions caused by the decision not to renew Supt. Craig Fiegel's contract, and a lengthy term marked with a variety of challenges, current board President Steven Sneideman is ready for a break, and won't seek re-election. Though most officer terms for the board are one-year terms, Sneideman has held his Sneideman for 18 months because the Plymouth-Canton board shifted its elections from May to November last year. "Being president is difficult at best," Sneideman said. "Being president for 18 months is even more difficult and being president in Jackson difficult times makes



What will you serve for the big game on Sunday, Feb. 6? Do you a have favorite recipe for appetizers, snacks or an entree that's perfect for hungry fans?

We're compiling Super Bowl recipes for an upcoming issue and we don't want to miss out on yours. Send recipe, your name, city of residence and a telephone number by e-mail to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

Got a photo from last year's Super Bowl party that you organized or attended? Send it along, too, in jpg format attached to the e-mail. Identify individuals in the image by first and last name, as well as city of residence.

If mailing, send to Dargay at the Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette, Level 2, Detroit, MI 48226. But hurry, deadline. for submissions is Jan. 23.

Make hearts sing

If Cupid's arrow hit the mark, we'd like to hear about it.

Tell us in 200 words or less your favorite or most memorable love story and we'll share it with readers in an upcoming issue. Include a photo of yourself.

You'll also be in the running to win dinner for two or movie tickets.

The deadline for submissions is Feb. 1. Include your name, city of residence, telephone number and e-mail address and send to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Make sure the photo is attached as a jpg. Or mail submissions to Dargay at The Observer, 615 W. Lafayette, Level 2, Detroit, MI 48226.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jan Conner and friend Luna gather in her Canton home. Conner's company, Pet-Nanny, Inc., has been taking care of people's pets for a decade.

The pet protector Nanny takes away the worry for pet owners

BY DARRELL CLEM

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton entrepreneur Jan Conner turned a canceled trip to Chicago with friends into a business venture that has celebrated its first decade.

And thousands of household pets across Canton and beyond are better off for it.

Conner was ready for a getaway with friends when she realized she had no one to care for the two dogs, two cats, four ferrets and numerous fish she and her sons, Jason and Michael, had collected.

"It dawned on me - what am I going to do with my pets?" she recalled.

Though she was in a quandary, Conner had a long-term idea. She used her professional background in sales, marketing and management

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to start Pet-Nanny Inc., a service that provides care for pets in their own homes when their owners are at work, on vacation or elsewhere.

Conner started her business on the side, and it became a full-time venture.

"It just took off like it was on a mission," she said, smiling as she sat in her kitchen with a Great Dane, Luna, who belongs to son Jason, daughter-in-law Sarah and their children Dylan, 6, and Ava, 5.

Conner and six other pet nannies now have 500 clients in Canton, Plymouth, Livonia, Northville, Novi and Ann Arbor. They have cared for dogs, cats, rats, guinea pigs, birds, rabbits and - yes - spiders and snakes.

"We've had a tarantula and a potbellied pig," Conner said. "We've cared for llamas and a few horses."

And there was the python.

"The heat and humidity has to be just right in the house for a python," Conner said.

With their motto of "we love them when you have to leave them," pet nannies initially meet with pets and their owners before they begin independent visits that start at \$16. Conner has learned that a simple gesture, such as shaking an owner's hand and then letting a dog sniff the owner's scent on her hand, can build trust with pets.

"I've got this down to a science," she said.

Pet nannies feed pets, give them water, take them for walks, drive them for a visit to a groomer - whatever the owner needs. The service allows pets to stay in their own

Please see NANCY, A2

it even more so. I was glad to do it ... I might be interested in still being an officer, but I could use a break (from president)."

There are candidates to replace him. Barry Simescu, re-elected to his second term in November 2009 and current vice president, said he'd be interested in "either of the top two" jobs, either retaining the vice presidency or moving up to the presidency.

Please see BOARD, A3

FRONT OF THE CLASS

What: Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education organizational meeting

When: 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11 Where: E.J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 S. Harvey in Plymouth Why: Among other routine "bookkeeping" items, the board will elect its president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.

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4. 4



LOCAL NEWS



(C)

A2

homes while owners are away, and nannies pick up newspapers, turn lights on and off, adjust window blinds and take other steps to give the appear-

ance the home is occupied when owners are away. Some clients who don't even have pets hire Pet-Nanny.

Jan and Tim Cory of Canton have used Pet-Nanny for eight years for their mixed-breed dogs, Romi and Rocky

"I think Jan is fabulous," Jan Cory said.

The couple prefers not to leave their dogs in kennels but, rather, have them cared for in the place they know as home. Moreover, the Corys and other pet owners don't worry about having pet nannies come into their homes because they are experienced, bonded and insured. Pet-Nanny also has an A-plus rating from the Better Business Bureau and is a member of the Canton Chamber of Commerce, Pet Sitters International and the National Association of Professional Pet Sitters.

Conner's love of pets hasn't been limited to her business. Through Paws With a Cause, she also has helped raise dogs that ultimately are trained to live with and assist people with disabilities. She also has taken in puppies from the Cantonbased Homeward Bound

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Nannies work with a checklist of duties.

Rescue League until they find permanent homes.

Conner also still has her own pets - golden retriever Ginger; husky-shepherd mix Maya; cats Reznor, Molly and Trixie; and fish with no names.

Being a pet nanny can have its issues, like the time a stray bird found its way down a chimney into a house with four cats. Conner actually tried to get the bird to light on her hand, but she finally secured the cats, opened a door and, to her delight, the bird flew out.

On a personal note, owning Pet-Nanny Inc., has allowed Conner to spend more time helping out with her grandchildren, and she gets to be her own boss.

"I have no regrets," she said. "I never get tired of this."

Pet-Nanny can be reached by phone at (734) 981-6108, by e-mail at jconner@pet-nanny. com or online at www.petnanny.com.

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

"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

Business women meet

The Canton Business & Professional Women meet 6-8:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 10, at Palermo's Restaurant, 44938 Ford Road in Canton.

The group's goal is to promote full participation, equity and economic self-sufficiency for America's working women.

It's designed for women looking for leadership development, informative programs, business contacts and networking opportunities, mentor relationships, professional growth and political advocacy.

Guest speaker for Monday's meeting is Judy Ellis, executive director of First Step.

For more information e-mail June Nicholas at junenicholas@comcast.net or call (313) 610 256. RSVP's are required.

Charity event

United Home Health Services, a local home care company in Canton, hosts its fifth annual charity event 6:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 28, at Hawthorne Valley Country Club in Westland.

The evening consists of an all-you-can-eat buffet dinner followed by the comedy of Dwayne Gill, by day a police officer and by night a professional stand-up comedian. Known for his engaging personality and stage presence, Gill has been performing comedy since 1993. His topics range from current events and male/female relationships to the crazy situations he's encountered as a police officer.

Reservations are \$50 per person and can be made by calling Mary Jane Swanson at (734) 981-8820 by Jan. 18. All proceeds go toward United's Patient Support Fund, which is used to provide home care to patients who do not have health insurance or whose needs go beyond insurance coverage. It is also used to provide food, clothing, emergency medications, transportation, and medical equipment for patients in need.

New Morning events

• New Morning School will host open houses Thursday, Jan. 13 at 9:15 a.m., and Wednesday, Jan. 19 at 7 p.m. for families interested in enrolling their children in preschool through 8th grade for the 2010-2011 school year. Prospective families will be offered opportunities to see classrooms in action, meet with teachers, and tour the building. New Morning, located at 14501 Haggerty in Plymouth, is an independent parent cooperative offering individualized education, multi-age classrooms, a 12:1 student-teacher ratio, and student-directed goal management plans.

AROUND CANTON



Honoring King

As this year marks the 25th anniversary of the national holiday celebrating the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the Canton Community will host a special presentation of 'Building Bridges: Canton Honors Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.' at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill. This year's event takes place Monday, Jan. 17, 2011 starting with refreshments at 5:30 p.m. and the main stage presentation at 6 p.m. The evening's program kicks off with a welcome from ReGina Coles-Shamberger and Darian Moore, both members of Canton's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Subcommittee and the Commission for Culture, Arts and Heritage. Featured presentations will include performances by the P-CCS Festival Singers, under the direction of Jennifer Kopp and the P-CCS Breakdancing Club lead by Faculty Advisor Lance Putrus. There is no entrance fee to attend this event, but donations will be gratefully accepted at the door. The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton.

starting on Saturday, Jan. 15. This session's theme is Little Chefs; kids will mix, shake, blend, and stir different child friendly and healthy recipes. These parent and child classes provide special one-on-one time for parents and children while acclimating young children to the social and learning routines of preschool. The cost for the 10-week session is \$90, payable in 2 payments. Classes run Saturday mornings from 9-10 a.m. or 10:30-11:30 a.m. Call (734) 420-3331 or visit www.newmorningschool.com for more information.

Grief support

Compassionate Care Hospice is conducting a grief education series for anyone grieving the loss of a loved one. The goal of the program is to provide education on the grief process. The first program of the series, "Why do I Feel so Depressed?" will be held on Thursday, Jan. 20, at the **Compassionate** Care Hospice office located at 5730 Lilley Rd., Ste. A, Canton, from 6-7:30 p.m. There is no charge. For information or to register, contact Ann Christensen, **Compassionate Care Hospice** Bereavement Coordinator at (734) 983-9050.

Canton High School cafeteria. The clinic is open to potential cheerleaders from kindergarten to eighth-grade. Clinic goers should wear comfortable shorts and gym shoes. The \$30 cost covers the clinic, drink/snack and a Canton Cheer T-shirt.

Registration starts at 9:30 a.m., and space is limited. For more information, call (734) 397-3766 or e-mail cindydruck@gmail.com

Chef Jesse cooks

Chef Jesse Gales will offer a taste-testing opportunity at the Canton Township Weight Watchers center Thursday, Jan. 20.

The meeting is open and free to the public so anyone who is interested in learning more about Weight Watchers, without having to pay a meeting fee, is welcome.

Chef Jesse, the official chef of Weight Watchers Group, will also share tips on healthful eating and cooking techniques, as well as answer questions about the new PointsPlus Program.

The Canton Township Weight Watchers center is located inside the Willow Creek Plaza at 41814 Ford Road. Meetings will begin at

Friday, Jan. 28. Ticket prices range from \$20 for non-reserved seating and go up to \$75 for front row seats. All tickets include a dessert afterglow. All proceeds will go to two great causes - St Pat's Food Pantry in Detroit and World Youth Day.

Child care will be provided for a small donation. Tickets must be purchased in person with cash or check at St. Thomas a Becket, located at 555 S. Lilley Road in Canton, south of Cherry Hill Road. Contact the church at (734) 981-1333 for further information.

One-act festival

TLC Productions has organized Canton's first One Acts Festival, Jan. 21-23, at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

Six original plays have been chosen from among more than 100 nationwide submissions. Three of the one-acts are by Michigan playwrights, including Canton's David Lew Cooper and Jacob A. Zinke, and Randy Wyatt of Grand Rapids. Note to parents: this production is PG-13.

TLC Productions is made up of Canton's own Tim Chanko, Linda Pohl and Christopher Tremblay.

Show dates are Jan. 21-22 at 8 p.m., and 2 p.m. Jan. 23. The One Acts Festival

is organized by TLC Productions, sponsored by the Partnership for the Arts and the Humanities, and offered in partnership with The Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

Tickets are \$10 each. Go to tlcprod.wordpress.com/thefestival or call the Village Theater Box Office at (734) 394-5300.

Band auditions

Has it been a while since you dusted-off that musical instrument of yours? Anyone getting that urge to perhaps start playing that clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone or any other musical instrument has their chance.

The New Horizons Band of Canton is looking for new members. Musicians 18 years of age or older who would like to become a part of this unique music ensemble are invited to attend a "free" onetime rehearsal on Tuesday evenings.

For more information, call

Foundation grant provides Girl Scout aid

Girl Scouting will be available to financially-challenged girls in Plymouth this year, thanks in part to a grant from the Plymouth Community Foundation.

A \$1,000 gift from the foundation will help to provide membership dues, books, resources, recruitment materials, training and administrative support. The funds are targeted at the 15 percent of students in the Plymouth-Canton School District who qualify for free or reducedprice school lunches.

"We believe that the benefits of Girl Scouting should be available to all girls," said Beth Braaksma, fund development specialist for Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan, "especially those

have access to the high-quality programming available to members, such as field trips, community service projects, travel and more than 300 programs sponsored by Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan," she said

Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan has a goal of serving 650 girls out of a potential of 1,855 girls, aged 5-17, in the Plymouth-Canton School District in school year 2010-11.

Through the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, girls discover themselves, connect with others, and take action to make the world a better place. Girl Scouting offers girls the tools they need to be successful leaders, and now and throughout their lives. In partnership with committed adults, Girl Scouts develop strong values and improve society. Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan invites girls everywhere to become Girl Scouts. To learn more, visit www.gshom.org or call 1-800-49-SCOUT.

.....(313) 223-3318

..(734) 582-8363

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girls who do not have access to quality after-school activities such as Girl Scouting due to socio-economic barriers.

"Participation in Girl Scouting opens a world of opportunity for girls who might not otherwise be able to

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More information is available at www.newmorningschool.com. Please call 734.420.3331 with questions or to set up a private appointment to discuss and observe the school.

• Parents of children ages 2 to 4 will be interested in New Morning School's Me and My Shadow program

American songbook

Celebrate the classic American standards of yesteryear at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill on Saturday, Jan. 15, at a special performance of "A Salute to the Great American Songbook," featuring a talented cast of Las Vegas-quality performers. Enjoy the favorite songs of Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Nat King Cole, Ella Fitzgerald, and Sammy Davis, Jr in this unique act featuring Canton resident Kevin Brazell, Chris Scarlett of Novi, with Marcia Allen and Jymi Dill both from the Flint area.

These crooners will take the stage at 8 p.m. Tickets are priced at \$20 with a fivedollar discount for seniors, students and groups of 15 or more. Tickets can be purchased at the Village Theater Box Office, online at cantonvillagetheater.org or by phone at (734) 394-5460.

Cheer clinic

The Canton High School cheerleaders host a "Kids

Cheer Clinic" 10 a.m. to 1

p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15, at the

10:30 a.m. and at noon.

New Hope seminar

Anyone who has recently suffered the loss of a loved one might want to check out a seminar being offered by New Hope Center for Grief Support in Northville.

On Wednesday, Jan. 19 at 6 p.m., attorney Ron Thompson of Thompson-Platte will offer a legal perspective regarding the many issues someone might face when someone they love dies. These include minimizing tax consequences, dealing with decedent's creditors, methods to best protect surviving family members and the issues involving updating wills and trust.

The free seminar will be offered at New Hope Center for Grief Support at 315 Griswold, Northville. Seating is limited; call (248) 348-0115 to register.

Nuns in charge

"Put the Nuns in Charge," a long-running comedy from the author of "Late Night Catechism," is coming to St. Thomas a Becket Catholic Church in Canton 7 p.m.

Evola Music at (743) 455-4677.

Hairspray on stage

Forever After Productions presents "Hairspray-The Broadway Musical" Jan. 28-30 and Feb. 4-6 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

"Hairspray-The Broadway Musical" features a pop/rock musical style. Audiences will recognize many familiar songs like "Good morning Baltimore," "Welcome to the 60's" and "You Can't Stop the Beat."

Forever After Productions is a youth theater company for children and young adults ages 6-20. Their production of "Hairspray" hits the stage 7 p.m., Friday, Jan. 28; 2 and 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 29, and Sunday, Jan. 30; 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 4; and 2 and 7 p.m. Feb. 5-6.

The Village Theater at . Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton. Purchase tickets at The Summit at the Park or by phone at the Village Theater Box Office at (734) 394-5460 or at www.foreverafterrpoductions.com. Tickets cost \$15.

WILLIAM D. FORD CAREER • TECHNICAL CENTER Vayne-Westland Community Schools OPEN HOUSE 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm • Tuesday, January 11, 2011 Everyone is welcome to explore our 18 different **Technical Training Programs** for High School and Adult Students 734-419-2100 William D. Ford **Career-Technical Center** 36455 Marguette • Westland, MI ford.wwcsd.net It is the policy of the Wayne-Westland Community Schools Board of Education to prohibit any acts of unlawful discrimination In all matters dealing with students, employees or applicants for employment. The Wayne-Westland Schools reaffirms its policy of equal educational and employment opportunities for all persons without regard to race, color, gender, religion, age, height, weight, marital status or disability which is unrelated to an individual's qualifications for employment or promotion, or which is unrelated to an individual's ability to utilize and benefit from the School District's services, activities, benefits, privileges or programs. Inquiries concerning the application of Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 and Title II legislation should be directed to the Executive Director of Student and Legal Affairs, Wayne-Westland Community Schools, 36745 Marquette, Meetland MI48185 (734.419-2083). Westland, MI 48185 (734-419-2083)

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LOCAL NEWS

Police officer retires after 26-year career with Canton

For 26 years, David Boljesic reported for duty with the Canton Police Department.

That streak ended at the end of last month, when Boljesic, who joined the Canton Police Department in February 1985 after a 10-year career with the Detroit Police Department, hung up his badge and retired.

During his 26-year watch over Canton, Boljesic was most commonly known in the community for his special assignment as Canton's Motor Carrier Officer. He is the original and only officer to hold the position since it was created in 1991. As Motor Carrier Officer, Boljesic has been primarily responsible for enforcing the commercial vehicle code on the roads and highways in Canton.

In his early years, Boljesic was assigned as one of Canton's first Community. Relations officers, where he

helped to shape the future of the position within the department Among the numerous let-

ters of appreci-

Boljesic

ation written by community members regarding his work in this assignment, a local school administrator put it best, stating that Boljesic had "built the position into an effective, visible and meaningful part of the police department.

Throughout his career, Boljesic earned several awards for meritorious service, including a commendation for physically subduing a dangerous suicidal subject; and a commendation for the apprehension of a bank robbery suspect along with \$17,000 in stolen cash; and most notably a commendation for heroic action displayed during the apprehension and shooting of an armed robbery suspect who was posing an imminent mortal threat to a fellow officer.

While these awards begin to describe the quality of work Boljesic displayed throughout his career, there are two prestigious awards he is most proud of:

In 1990, Boljesic received a Distinguished Service Medal from the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police. That same year he was named Michigan Police Officer of the Year by the Police Officers Association of Michigan. Boljesic was selected from over 4,500 police officers across the state for his valor and professionalism while setting aside his own personal safety for the sake of another.

In addition to Boljesic's dedication while on the job, since 1989 he has donated countless hours serving on the Police Officers Association of Canton's Executive Board, the last eight years as president. In 2008, the Police Officers Association of Michigan presented Boljesic with their Loyalty Award, recognizing his tireless work on behalf of Canton police officers for the past 20 years.

"Dave Boljesic has played a prominent role in establishing the high-level of professionalism at which Canton police officers perform their duties on a daily basis," said **Public Safety Director Patrick** Nemecek. "Boljesic has left a mark on the department, and will be missed by fellow officers and administrators alike.

Boljesic and his wife Jan have been married for 25 years and have two adult children, Jonathon and Jennifer.

"I think I've been around enough years that I ought to have one of the top ones," Simescu said. "Quite honestly, it's not my decision."

The other candidate - and likely the next president

 is Trustee John Jackson. Appointed to the board three years ago and elected in 2009 to finish the two years remaining on former Trustee Mark Slavens' term, Jackson said he's also interested in ascending to the presidency.

Jackson, who led the charge to strip Fiegel of his duties and install Deputy Supt. Ken Jacobs as the district's chief operating officer, figures to have the votes of the three board members who voted with him on Fiegel's situation.

Jackson, who has never held an officer's position, chairs the board's policy committee. He acknowledged the board needs to get off the negative revolving around the Fiegel situation and focus on more positive efforts.

"I can still talk to everybody on the board," Jackson said. "I think there's a chance for us to come together, and I'd like to be the person who makes that happen. I have a track record for doing that and I'd like to try that here. If enough board members agree with me, I'd be honored and I look forward to the challenge."

The other positions - vice president, secretary and treasurer - are also up for grabs. **Current Secretary Nancy** Eggenberger said she'd like to remain an officer, perhaps treasurer.

"I've got a strong math background, and I'd like to be a part of that," Eggenberger said. "I've been on the board 31/2 years, and I'd be interested in trying other officer positions, but it's not up to me how that happens."

Trustee Dianne Gonzalez, Fiegel's most outspoken critic, said she has communicated her desires to other board members, but wouldn't say which job she'd like, other than to acknowledge she thinks it's time for her to take on a leadership role.

"I feel sort of bad because

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I've always kind of taken a back seat," said Gonzalez, who has also started her own business during her tenure. "I'm going to talk to everyone and let them know. I feel like I should step up, and this is a good time to do it."

A3

Current Treasurer Judy Mardigian, the board's longestserving member and a former board president, did not return calls seeking comment. If the voting stays the way it's been on major issues the last several months, Mardigian could retain her position.

Trustee Adrienne Davis, the newest member of the board who became the district's first African-American board member when she was elected in November 2009, wouldn't say whether she'd seek an officer position.

"I'm still awaiting information on how we're approaching it," Davis said. "I don't want to say.

Regardless of how the officer elections turn out, Simescu said he'd like to see the board continue the work started in a series of workshops on developing superintendent goals and working more efficiently together as a body. The workshops have been led by Mary Kerwin of the Michigan Association of School Boards, who has told board members they "need to heal."

"I would like to continue the work we've started with Mary Kerwin," Simescu said. "The budget (process) is going to start up again soon, and we're going to have to deal with some rather scary numbers coming out of Lansing. We've got a lot of things we're going to have to discuss."

Jackson said board members have to put the acrimony of the last several months behind them.

We have to get our focus off of where we disagree and focus on what we agree on and what's necessary to make this district successful," Jackson said. "I think we're spending too much time focusing on the negative and not enough on the positive. We spend an awful lot of time on stuff that's not productive."

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

Caregiver faces trial in scalding case

BY DARRELL CLEM **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

A Canton group home caregiver has been ordered to stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court following allegations he placed a 53-year-old man with mental and physical disabilities in scalding water.

Willie Lee Shorter Jr., 38, faces trial on a charge of abuse of a vulnerable adult after he waived his preliminary examination Tuesday in 35th District Court, authorities said. His decision to give up his right to a



Shorter

Shorter was charged in late December following accusations he placed the disabled man in a tub of hot water, causing second-degree burns to his legs, buttocks, feet and back, Canton Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner has said.

Shorter

The man was critically injured and taken to the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor.

The incident occurred at a state-licensed group home on Whittier, near Sheldon and Ford, where authorities say two people with disabilities typically receive care. Shorter works the night shift and, according to police, hasn't given an account of how the injuries occurred on Dec. 21. Schreiner has said another

caregiver who came to work the following morning found the man had been injured and sought help.

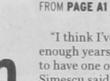
Shorter has been released on a \$5,000 personal bond as he awaits a new round of legal proceedings in Wayne County Circuit Court. As the man's caregiver,

Shorter was entrusted to care for him, and Schreiner has said the job has "legal accountability that comes with it.'

Authorities have said the group home has no history of similar problems.

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Just as important is the role of the caregiver. "We educate that caregiver to help the patient," said Nanos. "If a caregiver's involved, the patient has a much better outcome. We teach cargivers to read blood sugar results and educate them on the effect of diet to get diabetes under control."

Families talk about the quality of care at Four Seasons



Michael Goree with his siste Winifred Drumright Michael Goree and his family were involved with the care of their sister Winifred Drumright when she suffered loss of oxygen to the brain during a medical procedure. Thanks to Four Seasons, Winifred returned home and is making further progress with care by Residential Home Health.

(my sister) had a wonderful nurse who has become a personal friend...))

"Winifred's Four Seasons nurse is a wealth of information, gave us these great tips. We're so grateful to the people there," said Michael Goree. "Residential Home Health kept the regimen the same as Four Seasons - the same bed time, feeding time, medicine. They showed

us how to care for her, techniques to turn her to make sure she wouldn't get infections or skin break downs and things to keep her healthy."

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EDUCATION hometownlife

Sunday, January 9, 2011

Kiwanis dictionary donation 'elementary'

It didn't take long for third graders in schools from Allen Elementary to Workman Elementary to discover all of the fun facts in their new dictionaries. In fact, all of the PCCS third graders were using their dictionaries to look up works like "service" and "volunteer.'

Those words would be music to the ears of folks in the Kiwanis Club of Canton, which donated some 1,300 dictionaries to third-graders in the 16 elementary schools in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools district.

Joanna Uhl's class at Eriksson Elementary School was one of many in the district to receive complimentary dictionaries from the Canton Kiwanis Club.

According to club president Mark Ott, the distribution is done with books purchased through The Dictionary Project, a national organization supporting literacy by providing access to affordable books for students. The Kiwanis Club of Canton (formerly Plymouth Canton Breakfast) has supplied books to students for the last six years and during that time they have provided over 10,000 books to the children.

Ott said it's been a fun project for the club.

"The response from the students, parents, teachers and principals has been heartwarming," he said. "We enjoy the opportunity to make a difference in their ability to read, write and be successful students.'

These books are specifically designed for the grade level, and as such the students can use them immediately, Ott



Students in Joanna Uhl's third-grade class at Eriksson Elementary School were happy to receive their dictionaries from Kiwanis Club of Canton members.

pointed out. But definitions aren't the only thing included in these dictionaries. Also included are maps of the continents, biographies of the presidents, information on the 50 states, sign language and the longest word in the English language, which has 1,909 letters.

For information on The Dictionary Project or other Kiwanis service projects in the Canton community, contact Mark Ott at (734) 981-0460. The club meets every Tuesday at 7:15 a.m. at the Canton Coney Island.



Students at Smith Elementary hit the books after receiving their dictionaries from the Kiwanis Club.

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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

HOW TO FILE

Two four-year terms, commencing July 1, 2011, and expiring June 30, 2015, will be filled on the Wayne-Westland Board of Education in the May 3 election

The district has more than 12,000 students and takes in the city of Wayne and portions of Westland, Inkster, Canton, Dearborn Heights and Romulus.

District residents interested in serving on the school board have until 4 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 8, to file. They have two ways to do that:

 Submit nominating petitions containing a minimum of 40 up to a maximum of 100 signatures of registered voters in the school district. Pay a \$100 fee in lieu of petitions and file an Affidavit of Identity.

Residents can pick up the necessary paperwork between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at the clerk's office in Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford, west of Wayne Road, or 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday at the clerk's office in Wayne City Hall, 3355 S. Wayne Road, north of Michigan Avenue.

For more information, call the Westland clerk's office at (734) 467-3185 or the Wayne clerk's office at (734) 722-2204.

Monit says yes, Pitsenbarger no to new term on W-W school board

BY SUE MASON **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

There will be a new face on the Wavne-Westland school board come July 1 with the announcement that Martha Pitsenbarger will not seek re-election to a fifth four-year term.

"This is it," said Pitsenbarger, the most senior member of the board. "I knew that four years ago. Sixteen years is enough."

Pitsenbarger's seat, as well as the one held by board President Skip Monit, will be filled in the Tuesday, May 3, school election. Monit, who is completing his 12th year on the board, plans to seek a fourth term.

"I feel my work isn't done, I still have things to do and I believe I have valuable experience I can give to this district," said Monit, a Wayne resident. "I originally hadn't planned to run

the for the state

again, but as I went through the process and things progressed, I could see what was coming down the road and decided to serve one more term."

For Pitsenbarger, the decision to leave the board comes at a time when she is caring for her husband who is recovering from a bacterial fungus that left him hospitalized for two months and in a wheelchair for more than three weeks. She is now caring for him in Myrtle Beach, N.C., where he is getting therapy three days a week and recovering from the infection with the help of the salty air.

During her almost 16 years on the board, she has served as the board president for two years and as the secretary for 13 years. It probably would have been 14 years, but Pitsenbarger ask not to be nominated for the position last July in part because of her husband's illness.



LOCAL NEWS

At 'Peace' in the Corps Plymouth volunteer building 'amazing' experience

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Caroline Ahlquist has done volunteer work in India, and she's studied abroad in Argentina.

So when Ahlquist decided she was going to join the Peace Corps and work in Paraguay, family members weren't all that stunned. Father Sam was a little concerned, mom Diane "freaked out a little," according to her daughter, but the general reaction seemed to be, "That's Caroline being Caroline."

"Really, I just thought it went right along with everything else she's done," said her nephew, Nick Evans.

Caroline, a 2002 graduate of Salem High School whose parents, Sam and Diane, live in Plymouth, has done her share of traveling. She went all the way across the country - to Portland State University in Oregon to earn a degree in Latin American Studies (with a minor in Spanish) in 2008. As part of a study-abroad program through Eastern Michigan University, she said she's been to 17 countries, including her studies in Argentina.

Though she'd initially considered studying psychology and English, Caroline opted to turn her love of all things Latin American into an opportunity.

When someone told her, during her last semester of college, they'd heard a rumor the Peace Corps paid its workers \$30,000 a year, Caroline decided to check it out. A Peace Corps recruiter quickly debunked that myth, but her discussion with him awakened something in Caroline.

"The more I learned about it, the more I liked the idea,' Caroline said. "It sounded like something that was for me.'

She briefly considered going to Africa, but the uncertainty about what Peace Corps life would be like sent

Peace Corps volunteer Caroline Ahlquist came home to Plymouth for the holidays. She's now back in Villa Oliva, Paraguay. her to Paraguay, where her

background in Spanish came in handy. That was OK with her fam-

ily, who were concerned about where their daughter, once she made the decision to join, might end up.

'There were places that scared us," Sam Ahlquist said. "But I read all the Peace Corps information, and they take care of their people. I felt a lot better about it after that.

While the \$30,000 rumor turned out to be unfounded, Caroline said the Peace Corps does provide a way of life for its volunteers, including a place to live, and enough money to eat. In fact, she said, by Paraguayan standards, it's a fairly comfortable stipend.

Her Peace Corps project is education and youth development, working with elementary school students. She's already built a library, which she said is "up and running, people are borrowing things." Over the next year (her commitment expires in





Plymouth's Caroline Ahlquist is doing her Peace Corps duty in Villa Oliva, Paraguay.

April 2012) she hopes to help students improve communication skills, among other objectives.

It hasn't been completely smooth. Caroline said the Paraguayans are sometimes slow to accept people, particularly those who are different, so the social aspect of the job has been a little daunting.

ICHIBAN

STEAKHOUS

"I've had to learn how to get along with people who aren't used to getting along with you and your culture," Caroline said. "But it's the most fun part, too, if you're with people who can laugh at you, and you

can laugh at yourself." Life in Paraguay is much more laid back than Caroline is used to - "It's the most

'tranquilo' place in the world,"

There are challenges. Most days in case the weather ren-But it has its rewards, too.

"I speak enough Guarini to make people giggle," Caroline said, smiling. "I speak Spanish, which sometimes comes off a little cold, because it's the 'official' language.'

The best part, she said,

is the people. She said she's made amazing friends, people on whom she can call for just about anything, despite the fact she's only been there since February.

"The people I've met, my friends there, have been so amazing," Caroline said. "I'm shocked people who've known me for so little time can be so amazing to me.'

When her tour is up, it's off to grad school (she's considering the University of Michigan, Georgetown or school in Switzerland). Caroline said she'd like to continue the same kind of work, though perhaps "higher up the chain," maybe fundraising to help even more people do the kind of work she's doing.

"What I really hope to leave (Paraguay) with is having had this amazing experience and made these wonderful Paraguayan friends," she said. "I hope I will have had as great an effect on them as they've had on me."

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Participants in a 2.5K run organized by Caroline Ahlquist. she said with a laugh - dotted with sleepy little towns like Villa Oliva, where she lives.

of the roads in and out of town are dirt, so when it rains, she said, life basically stops because "you can't get anywhere." She went into town a couple of days before her flight home for the holidered the roads impassable.

The work, Caroline said, is fun, and the people she's met have "been amazing." Her students call her "prof" (for professor) and they're getting used to her "weirdness." Her Spanish has come in handy, because she has struggled with the local language, Guaranese.

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ON CAMPUS



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The long-closed Amoco station, which the property owner wants to replace with a restaurant/retail development, is gone, torn down Wednesday by a crew from the company of Rick Perlongo in Plymouth.

Vacant gas station razed; redevelopment plan revised

BY MATT JACHMAN OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Visitors to downtown Plymouth might be doing double-takes at the corner of Ann Arbor Trail and Main Street.

A long-closed gas station, which the property owner wants to replace with a restaurant/retail development, is gone. The station was torn down on Wednesday by a crew from the company of Rick Perlongo in Plymouth; it had sat empty for years while the redevelopment of downtown Plymouth seemingly passed it by.

Meanwhile, Ed Dombrowski and Omar Hamdan are preparing to return Wednesday to the Plymouth Planning Commission, which last month asked them to revise plans for a three-story building of restaurants, retail stores, or a combination of the two. Under the current proposal, the 789 Building (named for its address on Ann Arbor Trail) would have a food court of five kiosks and a dining area on a below-grade first floor, two restaurants on the second floor, and one restaurant, with outdoor rooftop seating, on the third floor.

Planning commissioners in December raised concerns about trash disposal, the amount of parking spaces required and the sunken first floor. Consultant Don Wortman's written analysis of revised plans says the latter two concerns remain: the area's Central Business District zoning frown on below-grade ground floors, and the building would require 17 off-street parking spaces, Wortman wrote. (Current plans do not provide for parking, but developers can reach deals with the city for a payment in lie of parking.) Wortman also called for details on some of the outdoor lighting. But Dombrowski is confident his proposal will be approved.

"Those are not final plans," Dombrowski said, but more of a concept. "As soon as the concept's accepted, the engineers have to follow through."

Dombrowski owns the property with his wife, Patricia, and Hamdan has a background in developing and managing restaurants.

Dombrowski said he is soliciting proposals from restaurateurs or retailers who might want to locate at the site.

"Everybody wants to get into business today, but it's not as easy as they think," he said.

He said he hopes to break ground on the project by early spring. "Sooner if we get a warm streak," he said.

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

3. 2. 1. 1. 1. 1.

Grand Valley

Ashley Fallon, a 2009 graduate of Salem High School, made the Dean's List at Grand Valley University for the Fall semester of 2010.

Fallon, who is majoring in Russian studies, is the daughter of Mike Fallon, the late Helen Fallon, and stepmother Jeanette Fallon.

Hope College

Seven students from Canton and three more from Plymouth were named to the Dean's List for the first semester of the 2010-11 school year at Hope College.

To be named to the Dean's List a student must have a minimum 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale. Students from Plymouth who made the list included

freshman Gina DeBiasi, senior Amanda Karby and junior Sophia Daly.

Students from Canton who made the list included junior Lauren Maslyk, junior John Lutz, senior Jessica Zomermaand, junior Wayne Titus, senior Emily Baracy, junior Hannah Mielke and senior Danielle Silletti.

Albion College

Jennifer Polinski of Plymouth has been accepted into the Prentiss M. Brown Honors Program at Albion College.

Honors students are required to enroll in four "Great Issues" seminars in humanities, science, social science, and fine arts. In addition to the seminars, Honors students must graduate with a 3.5 cumulative grade point average and produce an Honors thesis.

Polinski is the daughter of Craig J. Polinski and Peggy A. Cummins of Plymouth and a graduate of Ladywood High School.

Rasmussen College

Canton resident Monek Harris has been selected to attend the Rasmussen Leadership Academy, launched by Rasmussen College to help online students identify and strengthen their unique leadership skills and learn about their application in educational, professional, and community settings.

Harris was chosen from a pool of nearly 70 applicants as one of 20 students who will benefit from the one-of-a-kind program in its inaugural year. She is pursuing her Bachelor's degree in Business Administration with specialization in Human Resources through the School of Business at Rasmussen College.

"At Rasmussen College, we are dedicated to providing the education and skills training necessary for students in all programs to succeed in today's dynamic and diverse professional environments. This well-rounded approach often includes exposure to leadership and personal development opportunities," Rasmussen College Online Campus Regional Academic Dean Ann Morgan said. "The Rasmussen Leadership Academy provides a forum for students to begin thinking about their future vocational and career goals and the attributes that will help them meet those goals following graduation from Rasmussen College."

For more information about degree programs and opportunities offered online through Rasmussen College, visit www.Rasmussen.edu.

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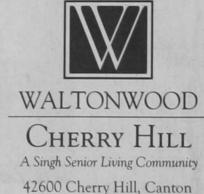
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LOCAL NEWS

Canton man grabs \$250,000 lottery prize

Three lucky winners across the state won \$250,000 prizes in the Mega Millions game from Tuesday night's huge jackpot. Two of the winners have come forward to collect their winnings.

Jerry Pekala, a retired rigger from Ford, claimed one of three \$250,000 prizes on Thursday in Lansing. The Canton man recalled winning on the first-ever Michigan Lottery game in 1972. "It was for \$25, with a chance to win \$1 million. I didn't win." Fortunately for Pekala, 2011 brought him his long-lost fortune. He says he plans to pay off his mortgage with the winnings.

Pekala's winning easy-pick ticket was purchased at Sav-on Richardson's Drugs, 42433 Ford Road, in Canton.

The C11 Lottery Club of Livonia claimed its \$250,000 prize Thursday. It was the first time the 13-person club had ever played as a group. The club was named after the special education classroom in which all 13 members teach at Stevenson High School in Livonia.

First time's a charm for the club members and for some, it was the first time they had ever purchased a Lottery ticket. "We were walking out of the room for the day, and I decided to throw a dollar into

Heise unveils website

State Representative Kurt Heise Friday unveiled his Online Office to inform local residents about state issues and get them involved in the state government process.

"The website makes communicating with local residents easier while providing updated information on issues being debated





Jerry Pekala of Canton, a retired rigger from Ford, had one of three \$250,000 tickets in Tuesday's lottery drawing.

the pot. I had never played before," said one club member. C11's winning easy-pick ticket was sold at Bottle N

Stuff, 15365 Newburgh Road, in Livonia. The winner of the third

\$250,000 Mega Millions tickets from the Jan. 4 drawing has yet to come forward. The lucky ticket was bought at Clark No. 1457, 926 N Main, in Adrian.

Over 94 cents of every dollar spent on Lottery tickets is returned to the state in the form of contributions to the state School Aid Fund, prizes



Three members of the C11 Lottery Club of Livonia claim the group's prize. The members asked the Lottery not to release their names.

to players and commissions to retailers. In fiscal year 2010, the contribution to schools was \$701.3 million. Since its

inception in 1972, the Lottery has contributed more than \$15 billion to education in Michigan. For information on all Lottery games, visit the Lottery's Web site at www. michigan.gov/lottery.

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Livonia

January 13, 2011

Doris Biscoe, former TV News Anchor, may personally attend some of these workshops.[†]



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Heise

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serve them better." Heise's website can be accessed at www.repkurtheise. com. The website will also provide media with a one-stop source of current and archived information including news releases, a gallery with downloadable photos, and video and audio clips.

Local residents can call Heise's office at (517) 373-3816, toll free at 1-855-REP-KURT or e-mail him at kurtheise@ house.mi.gov. Heise's Lansing office is located at N-0699 House Office Building, 124 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing.



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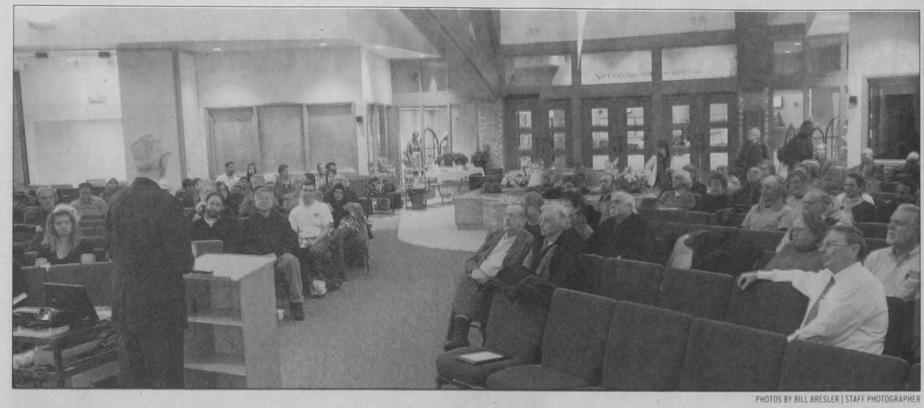
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Too large for the meeting room, the group met in the sanctuary of St. Thomas a'Becket Church.



The gathering broke up into small groups. Hannah Glodich, a senior at Salem High School, Moussa Hamka, assistant principal at Canton High School, and G.S. Khalsa begin introductions.



Seven-year-old Hatley Hudak waits for his mom, Ann Marie Hudak, chair of the Plymouth-Canton Citizens for Diversity and Inclusion.

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FORUM FROM PAGE A1

"We all have the same hopes and desires for our children and their safety and welfare," Neelam said.

Plymouth-Canton officials have banned kirpans as they seek a new policy. Frank Ruggirello, the district's director of community relations, issued a statement Thursday indicating the district will continue to prohibit weapons and items that look like weapons to ensure a safe educational environment.

"Our attorneys have informed us, however, that the courts have exempted religious artifacts, and there are documented methods that courts have approved," the statement read. "We have identified the related case law and will use it to help us make decisions related to this particular situation."

School officials and Sikh leaders plan to meet Wednesday, and Ruggirello said, "We are optimistic that we will be able to work out the details of an accommodation plan. When we do, we will communicate the plan to our school community and the media so that the greater community will understand."

Meanwhile, the culturally and racially diverse crowd attending Thursday's forum listened attentively as Neelam, who attends the Gurdwara Sahib Hidden Falls of Plymouth Township, gave a historical perspective of the world's fifthlargest religion, which believes in one God, equality for all, truth and social justice and the brotherhood of humanity. It was started in 1469 by Guru Nanak as a religion against oppression, and its followers are expected to work hard, help the needy and remember God throughout the day.

TejKiran Singh, a representative of the Gurdwara Sahib Singh Sabha of Michigan in Canton, welcomed Thursday's forum: "We are Americans, and we want all of our brothers and sisters, as Americans, to know who we are."

Dilpreet Kaur, government affairs and policy associate for the Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund in Washington, D.C., said it's incumbent on Sikhs to educate others.

Robert Bruttell, who chairs the InterFaith Leadership Council of Metropolitan Detroit, said other religions also

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have faced difficulties. He said President John F. Kennedy had to overcome prejudices toward Catholics when he ran for office.

Bruttell urged the crowd, which also engaged in small group discussions, to serve as ambassadors to teach others about Sikhism: "Learn something and take it to the rest of your community."

That's just what Elizabeth Barker of the 100-member women's Plymouth Study Group plans to do by inviting Sikh speakers to address the group.

Neelam said Sikhs number 25 million worldwide, and though many live in India, they remain a minority even there. The Sikh population has grown to 700,000 in the United States, and Neelam said many are involved in their communities by feeding the homeless and offering free health-care fairs.

Neelam said Sikhs respect all religions, though "we believe in one creator for the entire universe."

She said Sikh customs such as tucking long hair in turbans and carrying kirpans stem from centuries-old rules to cement a relationship with God and defend against oppression. The kirpan, she said, usually is a few inches long, has a small wooden or steel handle and a blunt blade.

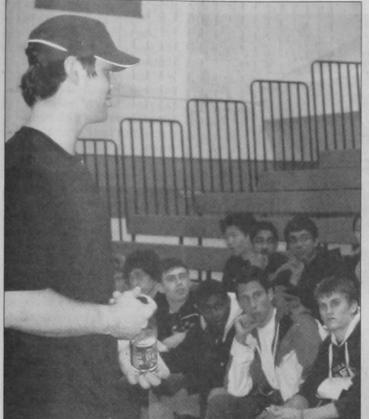
Meanwhile, Sikhs hope to further educate the public with open houses, tentatively Jan. 30 at the Canton gurdwara and Feb. 6 at the Plymouth Township gurdwara. Singh said more details will be forthcoming.

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



Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, January 9, 2011

Lions' Stanton gives P-CEP students a 'High 5ive'



Detroit Lions quarterback Drew Stanton spent time with students at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Jan. 5 as part of his work with his foundation 'High 5ive.'

Volunteers needed to look for stoneflies in Rouge River

Friends of the Rouge is looking for volunteers who want to help look for stoneflies in the Rouge River on Saturday, Jan. 22. The hunt begins at the University of Michigan-Dearborn at 9 a.m. No searching is done in Dearborn; volunteers venture out in 10-12 teams to Rouge streams located around metropolitan Detroit.

Volunteers must pre-register by Jan. 14 on the FOTR website www.therouge.org or by calling (313) 792-9621.

Winter stoneflies have an unusual lifestyle in that they hatch from streams in winter rather than the more pleasant spring or summer like mayflies. Friends of the Rouge has been monitoring stoneflies since 2002 because their extreme sensitivity to pollution makes them good indicators of water quality. They are found

in tributaries and branches of the Middle and Lower Rouge River and occasionally in the Upper Rouge. Last winter, they were found for the first time on the Main Branch of the Rouge in the city of Detroit. It is hoped that they will be found again at that site and nearby. Volunteers must dress for

the weather and be prepared to be out in the cold for several hours. Only trained team leaders go in the water; volunteers search through samples on the bank. Children age 5 and older are welcome when accompanied by a participating adult; groups of up to six people can be accommodated.

The Annual Winter Stonefly Search is part of a long-term monitoring program coordinated by Friends of the Rouge. It is supported by the Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation.

Detroit Lions guarterback Drew Stanton spent time with students at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Jan. 5 as part of his work with his foundation "High 5ive."

The foundation aims to "give kids a hand, anyway we can" and he did just that for a group of students excited to meet the NFL quarterback. Stanton attended the football class at Salem High School and gave the student-athletes some football pointers, and then spoke to a crowd gathered in the Canton High School gym.

Stanton encouraged the students to give back and thanked them for their efforts in collecting 14.376 cans of food for the Detroit Rescue Mission's Mountain of Food drive. The Mountain of Food is organized to create a canned food competition for Metro area high schools.

Salem High School won the competition for the second time in three years and was awarded with this visit from Stanton. In other school news:

Website honors

The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' new website earned a "Commendable Award" from the Michigan School Public Relations Association. P-CCS was one of only two districts in Michigan to earn an MSPRA Award for its website. The district launched the new site in

May 2010. Among other positive comments, the judges said P-CCS' website had "excellent and diverse content that was very user friendly and easy to read.'

The new website was a developed by the P-CCS Community Relations Department in conjunction with its website design partner, the Great Lakes Education Network. The P-CEP student web team also was recognized for its contribution to website.

Explore Life at the Park

Parents of current eighth-grade students are invited to attend Parent Coffees at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park 12:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 10 at Plymouth High School, 8 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 12, at Salem High School, and 8 a.m. Friday, Jan. 14, at Canton High School.

These are the first events of many to prepare their student for high school in the fall. The purpose is for parents to get acquainted with the high schools, learn about the resources available to them and become familiar with faces at the

Whalers fund-raiser

The Plymouth Whalers and the **Educational Excellence Foundation** (P-CCS' foundation) have joined forces to raise money for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools at the Whalers' 2 p.m., Jan. 17 game at Compuware Arena.

Students will receive a special flyer during the week of Jan. 10. If they present that flyer at the Plymouth Whalers' box office, EEF will receive \$4 from every ticket (tickets cost \$11) sold. If the game sells out, EEF could earn as much as \$10,000 to support programs at P-CCS.

Students have the day off for the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. The Whalers will face off against the Saginaw Spirit in this OHL regular season game.

Anti-bully forum

The Isbister, Tonda, Bird, Smith and Dodson Elementary School Parent Teacher Organizations have come together to host a parent education presentation called "Stop the Meanness, Spread the Kindness - Creating a culture where everyone feels welcome" 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 25.

Parents will learn how to deal with relational aggression, bullying, and meanspirited behavior; what it means to be an empowered kid; what confidence and true self-esteem are & why your kids want them; tools and strategies to help kids deal with meanness & sticky situations; why ignoring someone when they are mean creates kids who are doormats; why people are bystanders; how to stand up for one's self and others; and tips about how to help kids appreciate each other's social and physical differences and similarities.





City of Livonia employee Mary Via views photos by members of the Schoolcraft Photography Club on display in the lobby of Livonia City Hall.

Schoolcraft shutterbugs hold exhibit

Members of the Schoolcraft Photography Club are exhibiting their work in the lobby of Livonia City Hall this month. More than 50 photographs are on display.

The exhibit can be viewed 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Livonia City Hall is on Five Mile Road, east of Farmington Road.

Participating club members include Anita Mishra of Farmington, Mandy Getschman of Northville, Charlotte Lawrie of Garden City, Robert Bowden of

Farmington, Vanilza Rodriguez of Westland and Rena Laverty of Redford. Getschman's uncle started the club in the 1970s, but it fizzled out shortly after he left. Getschman, a third-generation Schoolcraft Community College student who is majoring in computer graphics technology, revived the club in April. Any Schoolcraft students interested in joining the club can contact the Schoolcraft Student Activities Office at (734) 462-4422.



LOCAL NEWS

Lettin' it roll: Friends keep Bunco night going for 25 years

BY STACY JENKINS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A10

They've been through a lot in 25 years, but they've never rolled the dice on their friendship — or on having a good time.

This group of eight Bunco dice game players — plus or minus a sub here and there — keeps the laughs, the memories and a sort of sisterhood alive and well with monthly Bunco.

They are longtime friends who, between them, since starting the group, have had 15 children, 10 grandchildren, numerous graduations, communions and other milestones and, notably, no divorces.

Carol Livingston of Farmington Hills started the Bunco group 25 years ago in the neighborhood — Flanders Street, west of Farmington Road, between Eight Mile and Nine Mile.

"It's a good way to keep in touch with what's happening in the neighborhood," said Livingston.

Bev Rotenheber, who hosted a recent Bunco night at her Flanders home, said it's not really about playing the fastpaced dice game at all.

"Just to get together with my friends — we've gone through so much with each other and with our kids," said Rotenheber. "I don't play for the game, I like to see my friends."

Kay York of Farmington Hills said it's definitely social time at the not-so-serious Bunco nights.

"It takes no concentration, which is why we like it — we can talk while we play," said Kay.

Carol McElroy of Farmington Hills said having the group of friends meeting monthly has been handy in exchanging tips and the do's and don'ts, especially when the



Each month, eight women gather to play Bunco, just as they've been doing for the past 25 years. The newest member, Jennifer Frusch, on right in striped sweater, is the daughter of Bev Rotenheber.



and don'ts, especially when the The Bunco ladies play four per table during the fast-paced dice game.



Bunco is a time-honored dice game involving eight players, who rotate between two tables.

kids were school age. Now, Bunco has a second generation, with Bev Rotenheber's daughter,

Jennifer Frusch of Northville, joining the fun as the newest member. "I bridged the generation gap," she said.

But, seriously, she's having an awesome time with these Bunco Babes.

"I consider my mom to be my best friend," said Frusch, 32 years old and mother of two. "This is my girls night out. I'd rather hang out with them than with most people my age."

She remembers her mom and friends playing Bunco when she was a little girl — and being startled by the sudden shouts of "Bunco!" as she tried to go to sleep.

As one might expect after 25 years of playing the same game, each player has taken on her own Bunco persona.

We have the ever-witty Kitty Ostach, who is quick with a joke and plenty of laughs.

There's the steady, sweet Carol McElroy, who serves as a main substitute — in December she subbed for Colleen Pace.

Then, you have Barb Ksiazek of Novi, who is likely the most serious of the Bunco players and is known for her scorekeeping prowess.

Bev Rotenheber is called the therapist of the group, with her sweet and caring demeanor.

LaJean Nagrant of Northville is "our toy," said Ostach, noting she's also her "sidekick in trouble."

Carol Livingston is called The Queen, since she organized the group, and keeps it on track for its monthly games eight months out of the year. Plus, she collects the money that goes into a summer Bunco field trip to somewhere like a musical, comedy club, the casino or a race track.

Finally, there's Kay York, who just enjoys laughing — a lot.

"That's all she does is laugh," said Frusch. "It's contagious — she starts and we follow."

And that's the Bunco experience in a word.

sjenkins@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2369

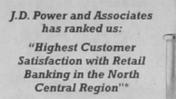
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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, January 9, 2011

Fixed annuity can be good retirement plan tool

Q: Dear Rick: I am in my mid-60s and recently retired. My wife, who has been retired for a few years, has a pension. I have one as well. Our pensions more than cover our needs and we are delaying collecting Social Security until we're each 70. We have no debt, our house is paid off and following your recommendations, my portfolio is about half and half between stocks and bonds. We have about \$50,000 in cash to invest. We want to be conservative with the money and, therefore, I was thinking of CDs or fixed annuities. I know from your column that you have no problem with fixed annuities. Does a fixed annuity make sense for me

and which one should I use? A: Congrat-

Rick Bloom

without money being an issue. It's obvious from your letter that you and your wife have been successful in accumulating enough resources to maintain your lifestyle.

You are correct. I do not have a problem with fixed annuities. There are many very good fixed annuities and particularly for someone who wants to protect the principal of his/her money, a fixed annuity makes sense.

I prefer fixed annuities over CDs, based upon returns. If you haven't noticed, rates of return on CDs are very low. That's not to say that rates on fixed annuities are high because they're not. However, they are higher than CDs. In addition, fixed annuities do have the benefit of allowing money to grow tax deferred.

When money accumulates in a fixed annuity there are no tax consequences until the money is withdrawn. With a CD, you are taxed on the money annually, whether you have the interest reinvested or not.

In analyzing fixed annui-

ties, there are two types - traditional-fixed and equity-index.

The traditional-fixed guarantees a rate of return for a set period of time. The equity-index gives a guaranteed rate of return, plus a bonus based upon the performance of an index (i.e. S&P 500) linked to the stock market.

Equity-index annuities are fixed income investments because you cannot lose your principal, however, the return can fluctuate based upon the stock market.

Unfortunately, buying fixed annuities, whether traditional-fixed or equityindex annuity, is not easy. Unlike a mutual fund where you can go directly to the

company, you can't do that with an annuity. You must go through a representative of the company. In addition, what makes it more complex is that not all annuities are the same. There are some annuities stuffed with high fees while others are more "investor friendly."

When buying an annuity proceed with caution.

Whenever it comes to retaining the services of a professional, whether it is a lawyer, financial advisor or an annuity salesperson, dealing with honest and competent people is the key.

I recommend speaking with family and friends to find out who they've used and if they have confidence in them. In addition, you can always email me.

I generally recommend Jim Hutton from Hutton Financial, (800) 870-4444. He has been in the business for over a quarter century and understands the importance of low-cost investing.

Annuities can play an important part in someone's portfolio. However, like every other investment, some are good and some are bad. Investors should steer away from annuity products that are not investor friendly. Good luck!

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

Next BaseLine folk concert is Saturday

Craig Porter & Friends will be the featured performers on Saturday at the BaseLine Folk Society's first coffeehouse concert of 2011.

The show begins at 7 p.m. at the Plymouth Community Arts Council building, 774 North Sheldon, at Junction, south of M-14, Plymouth. Admission at the door is \$5.

The night will also feature up to eight folk and acoustic performers during an openmicrophone session. Signup for the open-mic event is 6:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.; a lottery will be held if more than eight performers sign up. The guest host for the con-

cert will be Cliff Grupke. BaseLine is a group of musicians and fans dedicated to promoting and performing traditional folk and acoustic music. Originally in Northville, the group in 2009 moved its home base to the PCAC building.

For more information, call founder Mike Mullen at (248) 347-6881.

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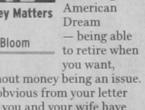
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CANTON GIRLS CAGERS ROUT SALEM – B2

SECTION B (CP)

SPORTS hometownlife

NOVELS, NEEDLES, HOOKERS BOOK CLUB: KNITTERS LOVE TO READ SEE PAGE B6

SUNDAY, January 9, 2011

Better late than never for 'Cats Rocks sturdy,

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

It took a quarter for Plymouth's varsity girls basketball team to shake off the holiday rust Friday against Livonia Franklin in the KLAA South opener for both teams.

Plymouth outlasted the visiting Patriots 40-37 in a game that began as "The Chelsea Williams Show."

Franklin's senior forward scored all but two of her team's 14 first-half points. She finished with 23, along with eight rebounds.

But Plymouth (3-3, 1-0) came out in the second half with pressure defense and some timely shots to seize control of the game.

"We just came out and played better defense," Plymouth head coach Bob deBear said. "I think a lot of the baskets were scored on turnovers.

According to deBear, it took a while for the team to get going in all phases of the game.

"We haven't played in 20 days," he said. "We had kids all over the place with vacation, so it was hard to have any continuity in practice. At the end of the game, it got better."

Frustrated about another close defeat was Franklin head coach Bob Ostrowski, who praised his team for playing as hard as it could.

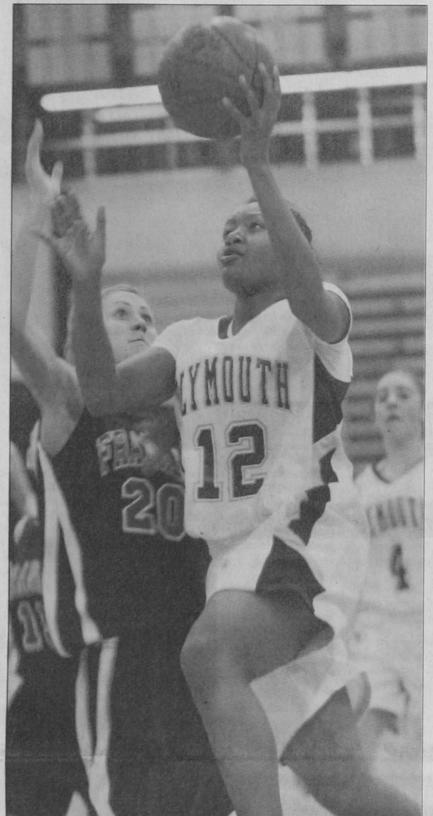
"It's hard to swallow, knowing you're playing so good and so hard," Ostrowski said. "But you know what, the girls are really upbeat and they said they're going to continue to work hard.'

Ostrowski added that the Patriots (2-4, 0-1) are "just not getting the right bounce off the rim, we're not getting the right step on a girl.'

TAKING OVER

The Patriots led 8-1 after one quarter (six points scored by Williams), 12-3 early in the second and 14-9 at halftime before Plymouth finally got in sync.

Setting the comeback tone for the Wildcats was senior guard Alex Roberts (11 points), who tallied the first seven points of the third - before Franklin could score any - to put Plymouth up 18-14.



topple Chiefs

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

For the second time in as many opportunities this season, Salem's varsity boys basketball team knocked off a campus rival.

The host Rocks outrebounded Canton by a 42-20 margin Wednesday night and benefited from a 23-point game by sophomore Chris Dierker to earn a 62-55 KLAA victory

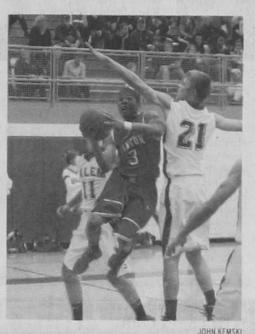
It was the second game of a varsity doubleheader between the Rocks and Chiefs; the varsity girls played earlier (Canton won, 42-10).

Dierker went off in the first quarter, scoring 12 points as Salem (5-0) broke out to a 16-10 lead after the stanza.

Midway through the first, Dierker calmly launched a majestic trey from behind the top of the arc. But he also scored on putbacks and short jumpers.

"I was just making my shots at the beginning of the game," said Dierker following the game, with a grin. "And once I got going, I just thought I could make

Please see RIVALS, B2



Salem junior forward Tyler Stewart (No. 21) tries

SIDELINES Chiefs bounce back

The Canton varsity boys basketball team overcame a slow start Friday night to get past Wayne Memorial 58-44 in the KLAA South opener for both teams.

Canton trailed 14-12 after one quarter, but stormed back with a combined 26-12 edge over the next two to take a 38-26 advantage.

Dietrich Lever II scored 26 for the Chiefs and added six assists, six rebounds and two steals, while other big contributors included Terrell Sewell (15 points, 13 rebounds) and Ben Spreitzer (12 points, 10 rebounds).

"I liked that we came back and rebounded the ball tonight," said Canton head coach Jimmy Reddy, whose team grabbed 40 boards to the Zebras' 25.

Plymouth prevails

In another KLAA South opener, the visiting Plymouth Wildcats defeated Livonia Franklin, 61-47.

Scoring 17 points each for the Wildcats (3-3, 1-0) were Brennen Beyer and Mike Nadratowski, while Pat Salo chipped in with 11.

"We came out and competed really hard for the first two quarters," Plymouth head coach Mike Soukup said.

Wolfpack tryouts

Tryouts are around the corner for the AAU Western Wayne Wolfpack girls basketball team.

Girls now in grades 5-8 are invited to come out either 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15, or Saturday, Jan. 29, at Salem High School.

Participants are asked to bring a \$20 fee. For more information, contact coach Brian Samulski via e-mail at

Please see SIDELINES, B3

Taking it to the basket for Plymouth on Friday night is senior guard Alex Roberts (No. 12), being guarded by Livonia Franklin's Chelsea Williams (No. 20).

to put the clamps on Canton senior point guard Dietrich Lever II.

North stars: Salem impresses at TC tourney



Salem sophomore forward Alek Zultowski (No. 2) skates into position to take a pass during the Rocks' tournament game against Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

If Salem varsity boys hockey coach Ryan Ossenmacher learned anything from his team's trip to northern Michigan for a holiday tournament, it's that he's got a pretty good team.

The Rocks (6-3 overall, No. 6 in Division 1) finished 2-1 at the Traverse City Central Hockey Tournament, good for third overall out of eight top-level prep programs.

"Everything went pretty well," said Ossenmacher, about the Dec. 27-29 tourney. "If you'd tell them going up there that they'd finish 2-1, in third place, and be down by a goal against Orchard Lake St. Mary's and have a chance to tie it and go the finals, I think we probably would have taken that.'

Ossenmacher said the Rocks trailed the Eaglets 4-3 late in the middle game played by Salem. With senior goalie Brandon Price pulled for an extra attacker, St. Mary's scored an insurance goal.

But Price played well in that game and also was stellar in Salem's two victories - a 2-0 shutout over Traverse City West and a 4-1 victory over Traverse City Reps.

"He's played really well," Ossenmacher said. "I think he's played every game for us and I can't say up to this point that he's had an off night at all."

PRODUCTION LINE

In the win over TC West, junior forwards Michael Manser and Mark McGee scored for the Rocks.

Salem's goal scorers against St. Mary's were junior forward Austin Sartorius, senior forward Matt Downey and senior forward Nick Hayes with senior forward Connor Berlin adding two assists.

Against the TC Reps, Salem's dangerous line of McGee, Sartorius and senior forward Ryan Quigley accounted for three of the four goals.

Quigley scored twice with Sartorius and McGee assisting each time; in turn, he set up McGee for his goal.

Also lighting the lamp was Hayes, from Downey and junior defenseman Kyle Eggenberger.

The only other Salem players to tally a point during the tourney was senior defenseman Michael Hochkins (one assist). McGee led the Rocks in scoring for the

Please see SALEM, B4



basketball team.

She carries a 3.4 grade-point

average and was a KLAA Scholar

Athlete Award recipient in 2010.

Heidi was named to the all-con-

ference softball team both in

2009 and 2010 and she was an

leader for my teammates both

on and off the court. This year,

I need to make my teammates

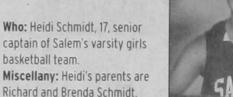
more comfortable on the court

because they are new to varsity

all-division choice in 2008.

Captain's job: "It's to be a

HEIDI SCHMIDT



basketball.

Leadership style: "I lead more by example than words and try to be as positive as possible to build confidence for the team and myself."

Why her? "I am the only senior on the team and have played varsity basketball for the past three years."



BOYS BASKETBALL

Tuesday, Jan. 11

Churchill at Canton, 7 p.m.

Salem at Novi, 7 p.m

Plymouth at Wayne, 7 p.m. Ply. Christian at Roeper, 7 p.m

Friday, Jan. 14

Plymouth at Canton, 7 p.m. Stevenson at Salem, 7 p.m. Ply. Christian at Oak. Christian, 7:30 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Monday, Jan. 10 Roeper at Ply. Christian, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11

Canton at Franklin, 7 p.m. Novi at Salem, 7 p.m.

Wayne at Plymouth, 7 p.m. Ladywood at Romulus, 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13

Ply. Christian at Det. Community, 5:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14

Plymouth at Canton, 5:30 p.m. Salem at Stevenson, 7 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY

Monday, Jan. 10 Ladywood vs. Ann Arbor at Veterans Arena, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 11 Ladywood vs. PCS Penguins at Arctic Edge, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 12

Franklin vs. Salem

at Edgar Arena, 6 & 8 p.m.

Brighton vs. Canton

at Arctic Edge, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 13

Ladywood vs. Cranbrook-Kingswood at Arctic Pond (Plymouth), 6 p.m.

Plymouth vs. Pinckney at Chelsea, 6 p.m.

BY TIM SMITH

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

On Wednesday night, area basketball fans

Instead of playing on different nights or

opposite venues, the Canton-Salem girls varsi-

ty teams and Canton-Salem boys varsity teams

played back-to-back. The girls game began at 6

Is it an idea that could catch on? It depends

According to parent Dennis Bridges, Sr.,

whose daughter (Kayla) is on the Canton var-

sity girls basketball team, bigger crowds typi-

So it was nice for more people to catch part

"I think this is a better situation, to have

the girls play first and then the boys, because

more fans will be coming in," Bridges said. " ...

the other way around, there would be concerns

that fans might leave as soon as the boys game

at Salem High School began to fill up. Fans

continued arriving after the nightcap started.

During the second half of the opener, stands

were treated to a unique doubleheader.

p.m., followed by the boys contest.

on who you talk to.

cally watch the boys.

of the girls game.

ended.

B2

LOCAL SPORTS

THE WEEK AHEAD

Friday, Jan. 14 PCS Penguins at Det. Country Day, 5:30 p.m. Canton at Showcase, TBA Saturday, Jan. 15 Saturday, Jan. 15 Churchill vs. Salem, TBA Canton at Showcase, TBA Muskegon Mona Shores vs. Plymouth at Compuware Arena, 2:30 p.m. Ladywood vs. Grosse Pte. North at Arctic Pond (Plymouth), 7:30 p.m. PREP WRESTLING Webserderu Inn. 12 Wednesday, Jan. 12 Churchill, Franklin at Plymouth Quad, 5:30 p.m John Glenn, Wayne at Canton, 5:30 p.m. Stevenson at Salem Quad, 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15 Stevenson Invitational, 9 a.m. Grosse Pte. Norseman Classic, 9 a.m Garden City Novice Inv., 9:30 a.m. Luth. Westland Tourney, 10 a.m. **BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING** Tuesday, Jan. 11 Canton at John Glenn, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13 Salem at Northville, 6:30 p.m. Novi at Stevenson, 6:30 p.m. Wayne at Plymouth, 6:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14 Wayne Invitational, 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15 Wayne Invitational, 12 p.m. Northville Quad: 12 p.m. **GIRLS GYMNASTICS** Monday, Jan. 10 Canton at Grosse Pt. North, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11 W.L. North/Central at Plymouth, 6:30 p.m.

Varsity twinbill puts girls in the spotlight

Wednesday, Jan. 12 Brighton at Salem, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13 Northville at Canton, 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15 Farmington-Lakeland Inv. 9 a.m. PREP BOWLING Tuesday, Jan. 11 Plymouth vs. Novi, John Glenn vs. Salem, Wayne vs. Canton at Super Bowl (Canton), 3:30 p.m Wednesday, Jan. 12 Clarenceville vs. Plymouth, Canton vs. Novi Wayne vs. Salem at Westland Bowl, 3;30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15 Super Bowl, 12 p.m. ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE Wednesday, Jan. 12 Plymouth Whalers at Saginaw. 7 p.m Friday, Jan. 14 Plymouth Whalers at Sarnia, 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15 Sarnia vs. Plymouth Whalers at Compuware Arena, 7 p.m. MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Wednesday, Jan. 12 Schoolcraft at Henry Ford, 7:30 p.m Saturday, Jan. 15 Madonna at N'western Ohio, 1 p.m. Alpena CC at Schoolcraft, 3 p.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Wednesday, Jan. 12 Schoolcraft at Henry Ford, 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15 Alpena CC at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m. Madonna at N'western Ohio, 3 p.m.

Canton girls cagers rout Salem

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Losing back-to-back games just before Christmas break put the Canton varsity girls basketball team in a sour mood.

And when the 2010-11 season resumed Wednesday at Salem, it was the Rocks who got squeezed like citrus. Canton rolled to a 42-10 KLAA victory in the opener of a rare girls-boys varsity doubleheader.

In Game 2, the Salem boys varsity defeated visiting Canton by a 62-55 score.

"Christmas break, losing against Inkster and (Detroit) Country Day, you learn a lot from that, it gives you a different mindset," said Canton head coach Brian Samulski. "The girls have really picked it up in practice. The focus is better, we're defending better and concentrating more."

Canton improved to 4-2 while Salem dropped to 1-5, with KLAA division play slated to begin Friday.

The Chiefs' pressure defense forced 17 turnovers (including four steals by senior forward Sara Schmitt) and pestered Salem shooters so much that they only connected on three of 25 field-goal attempts.

We knew that's the way they play," said Salem head coach Fred Thomann, about Canton's pressure D. "That's their style, they've been doing it for a lot of years.

... But I thought there were a number of times where we were in position to make the next pass and we just didn't make it early enough and consequently got caught. Our job is to get better, obviously.

SHUTTING THE DOOR

The Chiefs fell behind 5-1 a few minutes into the contest. But they blanked the Rocks for the rest of the first half, building leads of 15-5 after one quarter and 24-5 at the half.



Salem's Heidi Schmidt has a step on Canton's Paige Aresco on Wednesday.

Salem did not score again until junior guard Brianna Berberet drained a trey with 5:45 left in the third to make it 28-8

Many of Canton's buckets were fast-break layups, scored after the Chiefs picked off passes and subsequently raced to the Salem basket.

Seven straight Canton field goals in the first half were layups. Sophomore point guard Robyn Mack (eight points) was instrumental in several of those, including a nifty bounce pass in the paint to senior forward Sara Schmitt (seven points, four steals).

"I thought we defended pretty well and didn't allow them anything easy," Samulski added. "For the most part, I thought we blocked out and rebounded. Overall I thought it was a pretty solid game."

The top scorer for Canton was senior forward Kari Schmitt (10 points, five

rebounds). Also scoring eight and grabbing five rebounds was senior forward Kayla Bridges.

Salem was led by Berberet. who tallied six points. The other points were scored on buckets by senior point guard Heidi Schmidt and sophomore forward-guard Breanne Beaver.

According to Thomann, the infrequent playing schedule for the opening month of the season makes it difficult for teams to get into the swing.

That should change now that teams will begin playing at least twice a week.

"I think now that we're into two games a week, many of the teams will get a lot better because there's more of a rhythm to their contests." Thomann said.

The Chiefs and Wildcats will play a girlsboys twinbill on Friday, Jan. 14. Samulski noted that schools in Plymouth-Canton Educational Park can try such an arrangement because "the Park is a unique situation, and I think it's cool that we can do this and have some school spirit both on the Canton and Salem sides." Bob Brodie, coach of the Salem boys, thought the twinbill was good as a special

"It gives the students a chance to come out

and see both girls and boys at the same time,"

According to Canton girls coach Brian

Samulski, the girls-boys twinbill was "cool,

they're a lot of fun. We do them with Salem

he added. "I think that's a great idea."

and we do them with Plymouth."

event. But he doesn't want to see it become a fixture. "It was different, it was nice," Brodie said.

"But I prefer to watch my own players, my freshman and JV teams.

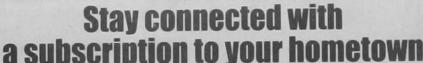
"If I had a preference to vote on that I'd rather stick with what we do as tripleheaders. It's better for gym time, it's better for us."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

FROM PAGE B1

them all."

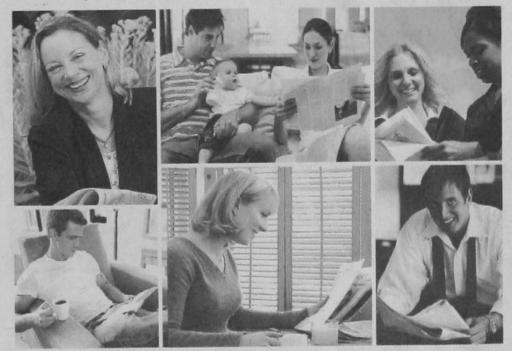
And by the way, Dierker was a defensive menace, I ing nine rebounds and three blocks — one of them on a layup bid early in the second by Canton sophomore guard Josh Mayberry. "He's a good athlete, he likes to play both ends of the floor," Salem head coach Bob Brodie said. "He can bring the ball up like a guard, he rebounds like a big man, he's just a pretty versatile player."



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WORKING FOR IT

Jimmy Reddy, head coach for 2-3 Canton, said the Rocks deserved to win based on their effort.

"I thought we played hard at times, but we didn't play hard for 32 (minutes)," Reddy noted. "Salem did, Salem played their butts off, they pursued the ball better and they killed us on the glass. That was the game right there.

A bright spot for the Chiefs, still without injured junior forward Paul Baumgart, was the play of senior point guard Dietrich Lever II.

The Ferris State-bound playmaker managed 30 points, seven rebounds and seven steals despite being covered like a blanket all night.

Brodie said Salem's defense "made (Lever) change his trajectory quite a bit. But give him credit for getting 30 even though we're trying to double him and triple him."

Adding 14 points was Mayberry while junior forward Terrell Sewell chipped in with 10 boards.

Sewell didn't have much help in the paint and Reddy let the team know about it following the contest.

"I just told them rebounding is about effort and will," Reddy said. "It's not about weight, it's not about height. It's if you're willing to go and block a guy out, pursue the ball with two hands. And we just couldn't do that.'

Perhaps because of the two-week holiday hiatus, poor shooting bothered both teams. Canton hit on just 20 of 60 field-goal attempts while the Rocks were only slightly better



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem sophomore Chris Dierker (No. 23), shown from a game earlier this season, scored a career-best 23 points against Canton.

(19-of-53).

Much of the game was a seesaw affair.

After forging ahead thanks to Dierker's run, both teams traded leads several times during the second quarter.

Lever was the big reason for that, as he spearheaded an 11-0 spurt (scoring nine of the points) to put Canton up 25-21 with 2:50 to play in the half.

Salem bounced right back, taking a 30-26 edge into the intermission.

Senior forward Zinoviy Pelekh (10 points, seven rebounds) and junior center Josh Peterson tallied clutch, short-range baskets during that rally.

CLOSING IT OUT

The Rocks then took a 44-37 lead into the wild and frantic

fourth, when each team scored 18 points.

A Dierker jumper gave Salem a 51-41 advantage, but sharp shooting from Mayberry (two treys) and Lever (one trey) pulled the Chiefs to within 58-52 with 1:10 left.

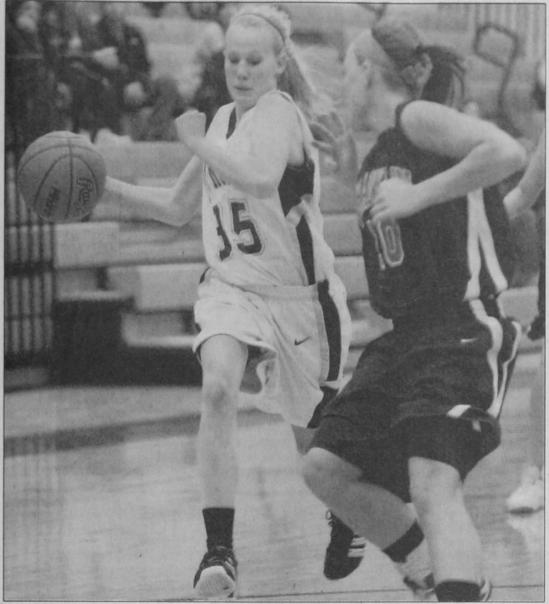
Sewell's subsequent layup made it 58-54, but Salem senior guard Josh Perrin went four-for-four from the freethrow line to clinch the win.

The Rocks received contributions from a number of players, with senior center Ethan Walsh (six points), Perrin and junior forward Tyler Stewart (five points each) helping the cause

Scoring four points each for the Chiefs were Sewell and senior forward Cody Sheeler.

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LOCAL SPORTS



Plymouth's Kate Watson (No. 35) makes her move past Livonia Franklin's Jessica Emery (No. 10) during Friday's game.

FROM PAGE B1

The Wildcats added a driving layup by junior guard Kate Watson (five points), a short jumper by freshman guard Kylie Robb (seven points) and a trey by freshman forward Jada Woody to help the home team go up 27-25 going into the fourth.

Plymouth never gave up the lead in the fourth, starting it with a 10-3 run to lead 37-28 with about three minutes to play.

Quickness on defense by Robb, freshman guard Alyssa Dillon (six points) and Watson helped frustrate the Patriots, who other than Williams had trouble generating any offense all night. Scoring seven for Franklin was senior Amanda Borieo.

"She (Watson) is a sparkplug," deBear said about the co-captain. "She brings enthusiasm to every practice and every game. She just plays 1,000 miles an hour." SALEM 50, SOUTH LYON EAST 31: The

host Rocks took control of their KLAA Central opener during the middle quarters, with margins of 15-6 and 10-6 to build a commanding 42-23 lead.

Junior guard Brianna Berberet and senior point guard Heidi Schmidt were big factors in the win with outstanding shooting from behind the arc. Berberet connected on three triples and Schmidt made two, as they tallied 21 and 16 points, respectively.

Schmitt had 10 rebounds, while sophomore forward Breanne Beaver pulled down

eight for Salem (2-5, 1-0). We made a few shots tonight," Salem head coach Fred Thomann said. "We did a little better taking care of the basketball and we played a little bit better on the defensive end."

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CANTON 67, WAYNE 17: There was little doubt who would win Friday's game between Canton and visiting Wayne Memorial following the first quarter, which ended with the Chiefs ahead 22-0.

Canton (5-2, 1-0) coasted from there in the KLAA South opener for both teams. Leading the Chiefs with 17 points each were seniors CarolAnn Sexauer and Kayla Bridges, who also had seven rebounds. Contributing 12 points was senior Kari Schmitt while senior Sara Schmitt had seven points and eight boards.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Salem bowls over Trojans

Now that the holiday break is over, Salem's bowling teams are working out the kinks and could be on the brink of an excellent season. said Rocks' head coach Kathie Hahn.

The reason for her optimism was Thursday's performances against Livonia Clarenceville at Novi Bowl. The boys and girls varsity squads each won by 28-2 scores while the boys JV finished in a 15-15 tie with the Trojans.

"The whole Salem team is pulling together finally after a rough start," Hahn noted. "They are all talented kids and I'm looking forward to a great season."

For the boys varsity, senior captain Ryan Clark rolled a 297 game en route to a 511 series while senior co-captain Tyler Foley (232-235-467) and sophomore Kevin Williams (265-193-458) also had solid showings.

Likewise, the girls varsity bowled well, with sophomore Bridget Maul pacing the Rocks with a 169-245-414 series. Senior Meaghan Eldridge racked up a 202 in the second game (she had a 334 series) while sophomore co-captain Kristin Larkins (157-188-343) and senior captain Ashley Kretschmer tallied a 143-170-313 series. Meanwhile, junior Rachel Amodio chipped in with a 157 in the first game.

As for the junior varsity boys, seniors Jordan Moore (190), Eli Engle (181) and sophomore Jimmy Bowling (173) were strong contributors to the tie with Clarenceville. Helping the cause were freshman Brandon Allison (163) and senior Jack Roberts (152).

Following are the varsity results from Thursday:

BOYS DUAL MATCH RESULTS SALEM 28 LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE 2 Jan. 6 at Novi Bowl

Salem scorers: Ryan Clark, 214-297-511; Tyler Foley, 232-235-467; Kevin Williams, 265-193-458; Evan Ross, 175; Steve Cadwell, 167; Joe Mirsky, 165; David Nikkila, 157. Team totals: 1,034-1,065-2,099 (18 points); Baker games: 202-215-417 (10 points)

Clarenceville scorers: Corey Coughlin, 164-247-411; Ricky Rutenbar, 182-226-408; Sean Diaz, 149-191-340; Tyler Fox, 213-105-318; Tyler McLean-Kaylup Richards, 165-115-280. Team totals: 873-884-1,757 (2 points); Baker games: 158-197-355 (0 points)

Dual match records: Salem, 2-2 overall; Clarenceville, 0-3 overall

GIRLS DUAL MATCH RESULTS SALEM 28 LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE 2 Jan. 6 at Novi Bowl

Salem scorers: Bridget Maul, 169-245-414; Kristin Larkins, 157-188-343; Meaghan Eldridge, 132-202-334; Ashley Kretchmer, 143-170-313. Team totals: 758-931-1,689 (18 points); Baker games: 166-148-314 (10 noints)

Clarenceville scorers: Bridget Moricz, 156-215-371; Nikki Iuliano-Katie Rogers, 137-146-283; Kaycee Chappell, 110-120-230; Hunter Iuliano, 113-99-212; Casey O'Rourke, 94-103-197. Team totals: 610-683-1,293 (2 points); Baker games: 82-111-193 (0 points).

Dual match records: Salem, 1-3 overall; Clarenceville, 0-3 overall.

PLYMOUTH 39

LIVONIA STEVENSON 37

103 pounds: Moe Youssef (P) won by void; 112: Trey Berry (P) won by void; 119: Shady Jammoul (P) won by void; 125: A. Breckenridge

(P) pinned Corey Davis, 0:46: 130: Said Youssef (P) p. Matthew

Garon, 3:16; 135: Samer Shebak (LS) won by major decision over

Chase Kallil, 11-2; 140: Kody Roy (LS) dec. Jimmy Ahearn, 3-1; 145:

Zach Auner (LS) p. D.K. Kim, 5:30; 152: Prince Kapoor (P) dec. Nathan

Collins, 13-8; 160: Trevor Drengk (LS) p. J. Chelmes, 4:00; 171: Matt

Walsh (P) p. Joseph Carroll, 5:28; 189: Joseph Scott (LS) p. Eshon

Flowers, 5:03; 215: Kyle Agar (LS) won by void; 285: Jacob Range p.

Stevenson's dual match record: 0-11 overall.

PREP WRESTLING RESULTS

KLAA QUAD MEET Jan. 5 at South Lyon **CANTON 49**

LIVONIA STEVENSON 19 103 pounds: Ben Griffin (C) won by void; 112: Richard DeMarius (C) won by void; 119: Alec Pantaleo (C) won by void; 125: Keshaw Patel (C) won by major decision over Corey Davis, 16-2; 130: Marc Przybylski (C) pinned Matthew Garon, 1:57; 135: Samer Shebak (LS) dec. Alex Eimers, 7-1; 140: Kody Roy (LS) dec. Dan Filippelli, 7-3; 145: Zach Marsh (C) p. Zach Auner, 3:06; 152: Nathan Collins (LS) p. Patrick Murphy, 5:27; 160: Trevor Drengk (LS) won by major dec. over Jevon Hill, 13-0; 171: Joseph Carroll (LS) dec. Marcus Smith, 7-2; 189: Anthony Abro (C) p. Kyle Agar, 1:18; 215: Robert Lincoln (C) p. Joseph

SIDELINES FROM PAGE B1

samulski@comcast.net.

Hoop leagues forming

You'd better hurry to sign up for the YMCA winter basketball leagues. The deadline to register is Friday, for leagues that will run from the week of Jan. 17 through March 25. Signups are handled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Spokesman Josh Landefeld said YMCA basketball programs build character and instill values of fair play and teamwork while

providing important exercise and of all ability levels to give kids physical development.

Adam Dulong, 1:12

There will be one practice a week and one Friday evening game per week. Fees are \$89 for YMCA members and \$121 for community participants.

For more information on this season or other YMCA programs, check the website at www.ymcadetroit.org or call the office at (734) 453-2904.

YMCA winter fun

The Plymouth Family YMCA is offering a variety of youth instructional programs this winter - designed for individuals

a chance to learn or improve on life and sports skills.

In each lesson, staff and volunteer will focus on youth development elements such as teamwork and dribbling as well as healthy living components such as exercise and making good decisions.

The programs include Fun and Fitness Clinic (ages 3-5), Preschool School Clinic (ages 3-5) and Club Kickball (ages 6-8) and run from Jan. 17 through Feb. 28. For more information, contact the YMCA at (734) 453-2904 or visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

Scott, 3:10; 285: Ben Poirier (C) dec. Jacob Range, 3-1.



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tournament, with two goals and four assists for six points. Tallying four points were Quigley (two goals, two assists) and Sartorius (one goal, three assists). Both Downey (one goal, two assists) and Hayes (two goals, one assist) picked up three tournament points.

Salem could now become a tourney fixture. "All things considered,

it was a good thing," Ossenmacher said. "They liked the way we played, they invited us back for next year and we accepted to go back." The Rocks will return

to Kensington Lakes Activities Association play with a game set for 8 p.m. Wednesday against Livonia Franklin at Eddie Edgar Arena.

Following that will be a game on Saturday, Jan. 15, against Livonia Churchill, tentatively slated at Canton Arctic Edge. The game originally was to have been played outdoors at Clark Park in Detroit, but it fell through.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

bin t ay nklin na. Il day, omia ly ctic gicen Clark

> Salem celebrates a tournament win over Traverse City Reps, cementing the Rocks' third-place showing among eight teams.

Whalers on hot streak in New Year

So far, 2011 has been very good to the Plymouth Whalers.

Plymouth won for the third straight time since New Years, earning a 4-1 victory Friday night against host Guelph.

The night before, forward Tyler Brown ended Plymouth's overtime victory over Windsor and he got things going Friday at Sleeman Centre with a shorthanded goal at 18:01 of the first period. Brown now has 14 goals.

The Whalers (21-16-1-1) added a goal at 10:25 of the second, when Mitchell Heard scored from forward Stefan Noesen and Farmington Hills native Austin Levi (2 assists), but Richard Panik scored midway through the third period for the Storm (18-16-4-1).

But center Robbie Czarnik put it away with two goals for the Whalers, one on the power play (at 14:26) and the final one into the empty net at 18:37. It was Czarnik's 22nd goal of the season.

One of the keys to the win was strong play by Plymouth goalie Matt Mahalak, who stopped 35 of 36 Guelph shots.

PLYMOUTH 5, WINDSOR 4 (OT): The visiting Whalers defeated Windsor on a goal by forward Tyler Brown at the 4:44 mark of overtime Thursday night in an Ontario Hockey League matchup.

Brown took a feed from winger Rickard Rakell and snapped the puck past Spitfires' netminder Troy Passingham for his 13th goal of the season.

The winner capped off a see-saw affair at WFCU Centre. Windsor took an early 1-0 lead but red-hot Plymouth center Robbie Czarnik tied it up at 18:29 of the first (from Garrett Meurs and Stefan Noesen). Czarnik's 20th of the season at 1:20 of the second gave Plymouth a 2-1 edge, but the Spits regained the lead on markers from Steven Trojanovic and Zack Cassian.

Undaunted, Plymouth's Nick Malysa scored his first goal of the season at 15:02 of the second to make it 3-3 entering the third.

Noesen tallied his 19th of the year at the 55second mark of the frame to give the Whalers a 4-3 lead. Windsor tied it at 5:20, when Saverio Poso beat Scott Wedgewood (who stopped 38 of 42 shots).

But Wedgewood shut the door the rest of the third, stopping the other 12 shots he saw and Brown rewarded him with the game-winning marker.

With the win, Plymouth (20-16-1-1, 42 points) climbed to within two points of second-place Windsor (21-14-1-1, 44) in the Western Conference West Division entering Friday's game at Guelph.

PLYMOUTH 6, SAULT STE. MARIE 4: On Sunday, Czarnik's power-play goal late in the third period snapped a 4-4 tie as the visiting Whalers welcomed 2011 with this

victory before 4,664 at Essar Centre. Czarnik tallied a three-goal hat trick to pace the Whalers, giving him 18 goals for the season. Czarnik scored twice in the middle frame to put Plymouth up 4-0 with 4:05 to play in the period. It was 4-1 after

two, following a power play goal by Brett Findlay. Plymouth withstood a three-goal surge by the Greyhounds, which tied the game with 6:58 left in the third.

Also scoring for the Whalers were forwards James Livingston (7), Brown (12) and Noesen (18). Farmington Hills defenseman Austin Levi, Noesen, Czarnik each assisted on two goals.

Stopping 25 of 29 shots for the victory was Wedgewood.



It was a morning that these young hockey players will never forget. On Dec. 11 at University of Michigan's 'Big House,' the '98 Pee Wee AA Plymouth Stingrays and '98 Pee Wee AA Indianapolis Racers battled to a 3-3 tie. With the final score posted behind them on the scoreboard, players and coaches from both teams gathered for a fittingly mammoth group photo. Wearing white jerseys are the Stingrays, including (in alphabetical order) Alec Allen, Ted Austin, Riley Brass, Max DiCicco, Zack Finzel, Brendan Guziak, David Kiers, Joe Mancinelli, Trevor McManus, Evan Newel, Zac Osaer, Carson Pakula, Ryan Radwan, Grant Reszczyk, John Sladic, Bailey Thompson and Josh Wilk,

Big thrills at 'Big House' for AA Rays

Imagine playing hockey in the Big House at sunrise with five-degree temps to boot?

That's exactly what the '98 Pee Wee AA Plymouth Stingrays and '98 Pee Wee AA Indianapolis Racers did on Saturday, Dec. 11 — the morning of the "Big Chill at the Big House," a game between Michigan and Michigan State which drew a record 113,411 spectators.

Despite the 7 a.m. puck drop (official sunrise was 7:02 a.m.) and bone-chilling cold, the two teams played a thrilling 3-3 tie with the Rays knotting up the contest with only 2.4 seconds left on the scoreboard.

"Just a great experience

that the players, coaches and families will never forget," said James Radwan, dad of Stingray player Ryan Radwan.

Both teams, by the way, are considered top-ranked rivals and have played three ties in as many meetings this season. Radwan said they are on a collision course for the International Silver Stick Tournament, regionals or possibly nationals.

The Stingrays are coached by Dave Brass and assistants Rob Reilly, Mike Osaer, Paul Wilk, Dave Austin and Joe Mancinelli. The team manager is Michelle Wilk.

Members of the Stingrays, listed alphabetically, are Alec Allen, Ted Austin, Riley Brass, Max DiCicco, Zack Finzel, Brendan Guziak, David Kiers, Joe Mancinelli, Trevor McManus, Evan Newel, Zac Osaer, Carson Pakula, Ryan Radwan, Grant Reszczyk, John Sladic, Bailey Thompson and Josh Wilk,

Representing the Racers (coached by Fred Knipscheer) were Joey Barone, Joey Bolger, Timmy Carpenter, Scott Corbett, Sam Dorff, Riley Doyon, Nick Eaton, Bryant Gunn, Jack Knipscheer, Zack Lauderback, Alex Lehmann, Devan MacKellar, Jack MacNab, Reece Morris, Sam Ruffin, Matt Sawyer, Will Schlagenhauf and Justin Whited.





COMMUNITY LIFE

Sunday, January 9, 2011

hometownlife

'Coming of Age': Artist puts social networking images on canvas

BY SHARON DARGAY O&E STAFF WRITER

Viewing Erica Podwoiski's first major one-woman art show is a little like peeking into a family photo album.

"What I love about her work is the narrative. She is chronicling coming of age, using herself and her sister as the subject. This is her sister," said Diane DeCillis, owner of Lido Gallery & Gifts in Birmingham, describing two of several portraits in the exhibit. "This is a self portrait It was at sunset. You can see shadows from the blinds. It's interesting to see."

Other pieces show Podwoiski, her sister or their friends as youngsters adorned in handmade dress-up gowns sewn by the artist's grandmother, on the sand at the beach, and playing in their Garden City neighborhood.

"I think she does it beautifully," DeCillis said. "I've been watching her over the years. She recently graduated and I decided she was ready for a show."

"Coming of Age in an Era of Celebrity Worship," which runs through Jan. 30, at Lido Gallery, includes pieces from Podwoiski's thesis show at the Columbus College of Art & Design, which explored notions of privacy, female stereotypes and the allure of Facebook and MySpace for image-conscious women and girls. Podwoiski, 22, who was Valedictorian of her class in May 2010, painted images she found on social networking pages for her student show. She also drew inspiration from old family photos and used her sister, herself and childhood friends as subjects.

"I've always been fascinated about pop culture. For me, it's about what happens when real girls and their lives become intertwined with



"Scopophilia," the centerpiece of Erica Podwoiski's exhibit, is all about looking at oneself – in the mirror, on Facebook and in photographs.

popular culture and what we value as society ... dressing up and wanting to be pretty," Podwoiski explained. "With MySpace and Facebook it's so easy now to put images of yourself out there and have an alternate persona projected on the world. There's that whole idea of fame, especially for girls, that everyone wants to be famous."

FROM THE WEB

When she began her thesis exhibit, she painted images of strangers on Facebook and MySpace pages, eventually posting her works on her own Facebook page. She heard from one subject, who took issue with the title of a painting in the series. "My sister had given me a link to her profile. She embodied what I was trying to say. She was about 14 and had a Playboy outfit on ... in the corner there was a picture of her little brother looking angelic. The contrast was funny to me. I painted it and titled it 'If You Nasty.' I put it online and she saw it and wrote me a message saying it was disrespectful. But I think part of it is that if you put images out there, there is no protection for you. Anyone can see it. Anyone can take it."

Toward the end of the thesis project, Podwoiski began to focus on acquaintances, friends and family as subject matter after the Web images "started to feel voyeuristic." She wanted some "interaction" with her models, even if it was only a memory sparked by a family photo.

She enlisted the help of a friend to pose for the centerpiece of the Lido exhibit. Scopophilia shows a woman looking at herself in a mirror, with Facebook page and self portraits nearby. A risque companion piece was accepted into this year's Dirty Show, an international erotic art exhibition that runs Feb. 11-19 at Berts Warehouse Theater, 2739 Russell, Detroit; www.dirtydetroit. com. Tickets are available online and from River's Edge Gallery in Wyandotte; (734) 246-9880 as well as Noir Leather in Royal Oak, (248) 541-3979.

GOOD CAUSE

A portion of the Lido exhibit also includes several embellished bras, the sale of which will benefit METAvivor, a research and support group for metastatic breast cancer. Podwoiski's mother, Leanne, has stage four breast cancer and suggested the organization.

Podwoiski credits her mother and





"Staring Contest," acrylic on canvas, is a self-portrait by Erica Podwoiski, from her show at Lido Gallery in Birmingham.

her father, Don, for supporting her interest in art, which began as soon as she could hold a pencil and draw. They held art exhibitions in their home during family gatherings and took her to museum shows. Lefanne gardens and sketched while in high school and Don, an engineer, has dabbled in painting. No one objected when she decided to pursue a fine arts degree. "I know it's a very competitive field to go into, but it's what I want to do and I couldn't see myself doing anything else," said, Podwoiski, who lives with her parents and sister in Garden City. She hopes to return to school and pursue a master's degree in 2012, while continuing to create art. Lido Gallery is located at 33535

Woodward, north of 14 Mile in Birmingham; (734) 792-6246.

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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



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207 Wilson Hall, Rochester, MI 48309 on the Campus of Oakland University Box Office (248)-377-3300 • Group Sales (248)-370-3316 www.mbtheatre.com or www.ticketmaster.com

Get creative this winter in a knit and crochet circle

BY SHARON DARGAY O&E STAFF WRITER

Marti Bush likes to knit and purl her way through a good yarn.

The Redford woman meets twice weekly with other knitters and crocheters who enjoy reading needlework-themed fiction and then discussing it while they knit or crochet. Bush, a certified Craft and Yarn Council knitting and crochet teacher started the group, called "Novels, Needles, Hookers Book Club," two months ago along with Kathleen Mahinske, owner of The Books Connection in Livonia.

"Almost every avid knitter I know is also an avid reader," said Bush, explaining the combination knitting circle and book discussion group. "There's a whole line of books built

around crafting and needlework. Debbie Macomber's Blossom Street Series is a wonderful series and it's so true in terms of the bonds and friendships of people who knit and crochet together." The book cur-

rently in discussion is Sally Goldenbaum's Death by Cashmere. Knitters meets the second Tuesday and fourth Friday of the month. The next session is 6 p.m. Jan. 11 at the store, 19043

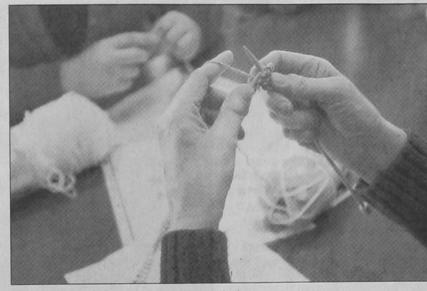
Middlebelt, south of Seven Mile, in Livonia; (248) 471-4742.

"Our group is really informal. If you're more advanced person we expect you to help people not as advanced. If you're a beginner, there is no criticism. It's a fun group."

It's among several local knitting groups that combine the art of needlecraft with socializing and informal instruction.

Bush's also holds a social knit and crochet Meetup - without the book discussion - at 9 a.m. Thursdays, at Panera, 28551 Schoolcraft.

Across town at Panera on Haggerty south of Eight Mile in Livonia, the Southeast Michigan Knitting Group welcomes Knitters, Crocheters, Spinners and Weavers to its 2 p.m. Thursday session. An evening group meets at 6 p.m. Tuesdays at the Panera on Six Mile east of



Ellen Steward of Farmington Hills begins a project.



Newburgh.

FIELD TRIPS, FESTIVALS

Sue Zoldak, a member, says the Meetup.com groups primarily draw knitters, but also include some crocheters and tatters.

"We are at all skill levels and are willing to help anyone who is stumped on project. It is not a class, but anyone interested in learning to knit, crochet or tatting could be directed to people who will be willing to teach them for a fee," Zoldak said. "We also schedule field trips to fiber festivals, yarn crawls to varn shops in the area, and we go to Mary Maxim's tent sale in August.

There is no fee for joining. All you have to do is go to www. meetup.com and put in Southeast Michigan Knitters and sign up."

MEETUPS AND MORE

Here's an assortment of other knit and crochet groups, as well as a few classes:

• Stitch-n-Bitch at Off the Beaten Path Books & Cafe, 23023 Orchard Lake Road, Bldg. C, Farmington. The group gathers weekly for knitting, crocheting, needlework, nosh and talk. The next session is 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13. All experience levels welcome. Free. www.otbpbookstore.com

• Old Village Yarn Shop, 42307 E. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth; (734) 451-0580. In addition to crochet and knitting classes, the shop also offers The UFO Club for those who want to work on their unfinished projects amid others. The "club" meets from 5:30-8:30 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month. · Center Street Knits, 111 North



Andrea Grace works on tatting, a form of crochet. She is a resident of Livonia.

Center Street, Northville, offers introductory knitting classes, slipper, hat and sock workshops and a Knitting Club. The ongoing Knitting Club sessions meet 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday and two groups, led by different teachers, meet 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday. Cost is \$54 and includes six two-hour classes. Sessions combine social knitting and help from an experienced teacher if needed. Knitters work on the project of their choice. (248) 349-6700

• Drop-in Knitting Nights at the Westland Public Library is aimed at all skill levels. The group, led by Linda Sparkman of Black Sheep Northville, meets from 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesdays. Crocheters may join, too. The library is located at 6123 Central City Parkway. (734) 326-6123

• Marti Bush teaches knitting and crocheting classes Tuesday and Thursday at the Redford Community Center. Sessions begin Jan. 25 and 27. Cost is about \$5 per class. For more information call (313) 387-2650.

· Plymouth Canton Schools' community education program offers a 10-week crochet class from 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays beginning in March, beginning knitting from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday beginning in March and advanced knitting from 7-9 p.m. Mondays, beginning Feb. 28. Call (734) 416-2937 for more information.

• Westland Schools offers a basic knitting class from 7-8;30 p.m. Thursdays, starting Feb. 10 and a crochet class from 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays, starting March 10. For more information call (734) 419-2426.

You can repair-it-yourself, but know limits

fter writing this column for over 20 years, I still get a great deal of gratification in knowing that I am helping others. I get tons of comments and

thanks from

readers that I

meet during

the course of

today under-

stand that

major home

incorporated

some pretty

delicate elec-

Consumers

appliances have

any day.



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

tronics in their designs. This is one area that has really hurt the do-it-yourselfer. The mother-board on an appliance controls all functions but it doesn't mean that certain Consumers today understand that major home appliances have incorporated some pretty delicate electronics in their designs. This is one area that has really hurt the do-it-yourselfer. The mother-board on an appliance controls all functions but it doesn't mean that certain parts don't fail on their own. The following e-mails will give you an example of how a certain part can fail without blaming the electronics.

parts don't fail on their own. The following e-mails will give you an example of how a certain part can fail without blaming the electronics.

Bob writes: "Joe, this has been a bad refrigerator. We are on our third mother-board and our second ice maker. GE is not interested and never has been. We are having problems again with the ice maker and water flow from the dispenser.

The water dispenser stops and restarts for no apparent reason. It's probably the mother board again. Please recommend an appliance repair company that would service the north Woodward area (Bloomfield Hills) and knows what they are doing. Thanks, Bob."

I suggested to Bob that he call my son Mark who is the best refrigeration technician in America. Bob could be having a freezing problem of the water line that runs through the cabinet of the refrigerator. This may mean tearing off some the plastic breaker strips and re-insulating around the plastic tubing. If so it is a bear of a job and if a person doesn't know what they're doing can cause a lot of unnecessary damage. Bob will let me know what Mark does to solve this problem.

Jeff writes: "I have a Magic Chef Gas range purchased in 1992. The problem is oven won't ignite. I noticed the pilot does ignite however the oven does not ... instead it just fills with gas. Any suggestions would be appreciated. Please feel free to call with any questions or comments."

Reply: There is no pilot in your oven. It is a glow-type igniter that glows bright red. I suspect this igniter is defective even though it is glowing. It is not providing enough milliamps to the oven safety valve. Remove the oven floor and it's mounted with two screws. Cut the two wires and purchase a new igniter. Should take care of the problem.

Jeff writes again: "Thanks for sharing your expertise. That's exactly what it was ... a bad igniter. After replacing it, now it works like a charm and Mom can bake her awesome Christmas cookies for us again. She's 87 and has listened to you on the radio for many years. She's the one who got me turned on to you years ago. I also owe you a BIG THANK YOU for returning my call leaving your cell number. Although I had resolved the igniter issue without bothering you, I'll keep it in a safe place for future reference. That was very kind of you to make yourself available like that. Most radio personalities aren't as generous. Hope you and your family have a Merry Christmas and we look forward to hearing you the radio and reading you Observer articles in 2011. All the best. Jeff."

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600 and Sundays at 2 p.m. on WDTK 1400. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twmi. rr.com



Wayne is 3 years old and a mellow, loving dog.



Cuddles is 2 and loves to play.

GREYHOUNDS NEED LOVING HOMES

Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption found families for 39 dogs last year, but continues searching to find the right match for two of its charges in particular: Wayne and Cuddles.

Wayne has been with us for about six months, due to no fault of his own," stated Jackie Bowen, the organization's public relations director. "He is a very handsome and loving boy but for some reason he hasn't been selected by a family and remains with his foster family.

"Cuddles was adopted by a couple and returned the same day. This also had nothing to do with her behavior or character traits. I believe that most likely it was the resident dog and Cuddles not immediately bonding and not enough time was given the resident dog to adapt to a new housemate. She lives with another Greyhound and cats so we know she is compatible with all other pets."

Wayne is 3 years old and has a brindle coat and mellow personality. Cuddles is 2, with a shiny black coat. She loves to play and cuddle.

If you're interested in finding out more about Wayne or Cuddles, call Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption at (866) 438-4739; www.greyheart.org.



Arthritis Today

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

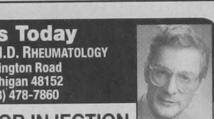
MEDICATION OR INJECTION

A patient with rheumatoid arthritis sees her doctor because of recent onset of a swollen knee. How does the doctor decide if a joint injection with cortisone will resolve the problem, or instead, the patient needs a change of medication to deal with the

The physician could do both an injection and prescribe another drug. However, doctors prefer to proceed by making one change at a time to be able to better judge if

bectors preter to proceed by manipulate characteristic and the characteristic of the cha is no question between joint injection and adding medication. The decision to inject medication also provides the opportunity to aspirate fluid from the knee. Sending that fluid for laboratory analysis allows the physician to determine if the knee swelling represents rheumatoid arthritis or is really osteoarthritis. The chance of having two arthritic conditions exists because the strain on a joint, particularly the knee, that rheumatoid arthritis brings, can cause a wearing down of cartilage leading the knee to become osteoarthritic

A physician's decision to inject a swollen joint or give medication also hinges on the patient's preference. A physician wants to know the patient's attitude since what the patient thinks may influence the effect of treatment as much as the injection or edicine itself.



River advocates plan annual stonefly hunt

Friends of the Rouge is looking for volunteers who want to help look for stoneflies in the Rouge River on Saturday Jan. 22. The hunt will begin at 9 a.m. at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, although no searching will be done in Dearborn. The volunteers will venture out in 10-12 teams to Rouge streams located around metropolitan Detroit. Volunteers must pre-register by Jan. 14 on the Friends of the Route Web site at www.therouge.org or by calling (313) 792-9621.

Winter stoneflies have an unusual lifestyle in that they hatch from streams in winter. Friends of the Rouge has been monitoring stoneflies since 2002 because their extreme sensitivity to pollution makes them good indicators of water quality. They are found in tributaries and branches of the Middle and Lower Rouge River and occasionally

in the Upper Rouge. Last winter, they were found for the first time on the Main Branch of the Rouge, in the City of Detroit.

Volunteers must dress for the weather and be prepared to be out in the cold for several hours. Only trained team leaders go into the water; volunteers search through samples on the bank. Children 5 and older may participate when accompanied by a participating adult.

3

online at hometownlife.com

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, January 9, 2011

Neicome by Sand Circles Were were searce Were were searce Were Were se

photo on what 3 things you want to do in 2011. Scoop will pick lucky winners from entries received:

Tell Scoop what you plan to do in 2011

Deadline for submissions: 2/1/11

Everyone who enters will receive a letter from Scoop and a small gift!

Send your entries for the New Year Contest to:

Scoop the Newshound c/o: Michele Austin 41304 Concept Drive Plymouth, MI 48170

Youth Comn	nunity:
Parent's informa (Phone, email, hi	ation to contact winning entry: ome address)



Scoop celebrated the holidays by visiting Santa at the Wayne County Lightfest at Hines Park, in Westland.

Lucky winners from last month's contest

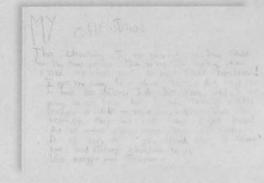
Send in your letter and photo, you may win a spot on Scoops Hound Dog Highlight page!



Angel Calhoun, 7 from Canton enjoys picking up her live Christmas tree.



Abigail Said, 9, along with Sara, 1, Adam, 4, Cecilia, 14, Noah, 12 from Westland love to decorate their house for the holidays.



Maggie Mae Thompson, 9 from Northville saved up her own money from doing chores, to celebrate the holidays by giving gifts to the poor.

Scoop, the newshound, will be offering contests on a monthly basis. Look for Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights page monthly in this newspaper!

COMMUNITY LIFE

GARDEN EVENTS

Send reunion items to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@ hometownlife.com

Belleville High School Class of 1971

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

Dearborn Fordson Class of 1971

The 40th reunion is planned for Saturday, Aug. 6, 2011 at Laurel Manor in Livonia. Tickets are on sale now for \$52 per person for dinner and open bar. Send a check payable to Fordson '71 Reunion to 16124 Golfview, Livonia, MI 48154. For more information go to Facebook, Classmates.com or the Web page at Fordson71Reunion.com. **Detroit Cody** Class of 1961

Banquet Center, Westland. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail codycomet61@gmail.com. Or call Connie Callear Majeske at (734) 425-7094 or Bernie Lekki Grudzien at (734) 522-3167.

REUNION CALENDAR

50th reunion Aug. 27, 2011, at Hellenic

Detroit Mackenzie

June Class of 1961

50th reunion will be Saturday, Oct. 29, 2011. For more information e-mail Ivanerian@msn.com or phone Joanne (Poloway) Glance at (734) 878-6543. Class of 1962

Planning class reunion in 2012. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail the committee at mackenzie1962@gmail.com.

Garden City High School Class of 1960

Mini-reunion luncheons held the second Saturday of every month at 1 p.m. in the banquet room in the Plymouth Denny's on Ann Arbor Road, east of I-275. Call Gary Simon at (734) 751-

4101 or send e-mail to GCHS.MCMLX@ vahoo.com. Ladywood High School

Class of 1961

Planning our 50th reunion in 2011. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail sandymacg@aol.com or call Sandy Phillips O'Leary (734) 453-0783 and leave a message if voicemail picks up.

Livonia Bentley Class of 1961

Planning a 50th class reunion for 2011. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail to dbruner@twmi. rr.com or call Don Bruner at (734) 524-0979 to register and for more information. **Rosary High School**

Class of 1966

said than done.

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

Send garden information and photos to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com

BUTTERFLIES

The Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association will show the film, Secret Life of Butterflies, at its next meeting, 7 p.m., Jan. 19, at Nankin Mills, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. For more information visit www.sembabutterfly.com

GARDEN TRIP

Party Animal Travel is accepting registration now for the The Garden Club of Wayne County trip to the North American Flower and Garden Show, Friday, March 4 in Chicago, Ill. Cost is \$88 and includes motorcoach transportation, time for

shopping and admission to the show, which will include garden displays, Master Gardeners and more than 100 informational booths. For more information call (734) 525-9777.

AT ENGLISH GARDENS

Learn how to create an outdoor room at a free program, 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15 at all English Gardens stores. Other upcoming programs:

• A free presentation on arranging fresh flowers is scheduled at 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 22 at all stores except Brighton and Eastpointe locations.

• A Make it & Take it workshop on floral arranging starts at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 22 at all stores except Brighton and Eastpointe. The store will

provide everything needed to design a gorgeous fresh flower arrangement with a touch of spring. The workshop costs \$24.99. Sign up online.

• Learn to attract birds and wildlife to your yard through a free presentation at 1 p.m. Saturday; Jan. 29.

• Youngsters can choose between a pine cone or orange cup bird feeder in a Make it & Take it workshop at 2:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 29. Cost is \$5. Sign up online.

Local English Gardens stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, (734) 332-7900; 4901 Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak, (248) 280-9500; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, at Maple, in West Bloomfield; (248) 851-7506.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE

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

Meeting dates: January 11, February 8, March 8 & 22, April 12, May 10 & 24, June 14

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

> Joe Bridgman, MMC Township Clerk

Publish: January 9, February 6, March 6 & 20, April 10, May 8 & 22, June 12, 2011

NOTICE **CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH** RESIDENTS

If you experience an overflow or backup of a sewage disposal system or storm water system, you must file a written claim with the Charter Township of Plymouth Department of Public Utilities within 45 days after the overflow or backup was discovered. Notice should be mailed to Charter Township of Plymouth, Department of Public Utilities, 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, Michigan 48170. Failure to provide the written notice will prevent recovery of damages. Contact the Department of Public Utilities, 734-354-3270, Extension 3, for assistance immediately upon discovery of an overflow or backup.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

> JOE BRIDGMAN, MMC Township Clerk

> > OE08726518 - 2x3

Publish: January 9 & 16, 2011

That's why the Botsford Commons Senior Community in Farmington Hills, along with Robert Ficano and the Wayne County Seniors and Redford Seniors have joined together for the "Living the Fullness

They aren't called "The Golden Years" for

nothing, but finding out how to live your

of Life" forum on Wednesday, Jan. 19.

The free event will provide information

for seniors. The forum, which includes refreshments, will be held at the Redford best life in those years is sometimes easier VFW. "Senior citizens can live full, happy lives"

said Margaret K. Lightner, President of Botsford Commons Senior Community. "Living the Fullness of Life" includes

'LIVING THE FULLNESS OF LIFE' PRESENTED FOR AREA SENIORS

on aging safely and other helpful resources

informal presentations by Botsford Commons experts and their affiliates, "Aging and Fitness to Drive" by Dr.

Richard Young, Ph.D., of Wayne State University, "Healthy Aging" by geriatrician Dr. Annette Carron, "Brain Fitness" by Diane Zide; and "Getting Your Documents in Order; Community Resources" by Dawn Doyle.

Space is limited, RSVP by Jan. 10 at (248) 426-6908, or call for more information. The event is from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Redford VFW at 27345 Schoolcraft, Redford, MI 48239.

Notice of Public Sale of Liened Property

Notice is hereby given that a closed bid sale will be held on January 27, 2011 at 1:00 PM at 40671 Joy Road Canton MI 48187 County of Wayne. AMERICA'S BUDGET STORAGE will sell to satisfy the lien on property stored at 40671 Joy Rd Canton MI 48187, by the following persons. The inventories listed below were notated by the tenants at the time of rental. AMERICA'S BUDGET STORAGE makes no representation or warranty that the units contain said inventories. Unit A 25 Simons, Furniture/Boxes: Unit J 15 Haynes, Household Goods: Unit J 39 Walker, Household Goods: Unit D 06 Pace, Household Goods: Unit D 14 Mullen, Household Goods-Tools: Unit G 23 Horn, Business Items: E 20 Cebelak, Household Goods: Unit I 43 Ghananyem, Household Goods: Unit K 19 Ferguson, Household Goods: Unit A23 Gerhart, Household Items: Unit D 41 Little, Household Goods: Unit E 14 Shannon, Household Items: Unit E 40 Hogan, Household Goods: Unit F 24 Jones, Household Goods: Unit G 03 Ritter, Misc Household: Unit I 35 Hancock, Household Items: Unit J 21 Barton, Household Items: Unit K 09 Ray, Household Items: Unit K 42 Lyons, Household Goods: Unit C

Publish: January 9 & 16, 2011

210 Bunt, Household Goods: Unit C 226 Speiser, Misc.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its annual meeting January 18, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. at the Friends Room on the main level of the Library at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

The Plymouth District Library will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon seven (7) days notice to the Plymouth District Library. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Plymouth District Library by writing or calling the following:

Barbara Kraft, Library Secretary Plymouth District Library 223 S. Main Street Plymouth, MI 48170 734-453-0750 X217 Publish: January 9, 2011

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- · Gas, water, electric" and heat included

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Sara, Affluent

Results.

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OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS HWEEKLIES



Connect with your best customers at the best time. Call Observer & Eccentric at: 734-582-8363 and Hometown Weeklies at: 248-437-2011

KATHRYN E. BLACK

Age 78; born on March 9, 1932 in Minneapolis, Minnesota and passed away on December 22, 2010 in Wayne, Michigan. Beloved mother of Vicki (Bill) Scott, Dorothy (Bob) Wallace, William (Jeanette) Black & the late Michael Balmer and Lynn Black; Loving grandmother of 9 grandchildren & 8 great-grandchildren; Dear sister of James (Rosie) Balmer. Memorial Service will be held on January 12, 2010 at 12:00 Noon at Cadillac Memorial Garden West Cemetery, 34224 Ford Road Westland, Michigan. Arrangements entrusted to the Harry J. Will Funeral Home Wayne Chapel.



NANCY JOOS BOOKMYER

Age 82 of Pinehurst, passed away peacefully on Christmas Day, 2010 at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital in Pinehurst, NC. Born in Detroit to Herman and Mary Joos, Nancy was raised in Grosse Pointe, MI. She attended The Convent of the Sacred Heart and graduated with a degree in journalism from Northwestern University. Her career included working for DB Brothers advertising agency and owning RSVP catering company. Nancy was married to the late Doctor Robert M. Bookmyer for 57 wonderful years. Together they raised seven children: Michael (Allison) of Boulder, CO; Peter of BC, Canada; Kelly Sallee (John) of Snowmass, CO; Brad (Becky) of White Salmon, WA; Julie Murphy (Dan) of Los Angeles, CA; Thaddeus of Wishram, WA; Robert of Portland, WA. Nine grandchildren: Snow Reinhardt (Rob), Cappy, Sarah, Peter, Gracen, Colette, Claire, Patrick and Mary, and great-granddaughter, Maia. Nancy is survived by her BFF and brother, Doctor Thad Joos (Suzanne) of Grosse Pointe, MI. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband, and grandchild, Huddy. Nana enjoyed her family most of all, traveling with Bob, and entertaining with her many friends in Pinehurst and Birmingham, MI. She was a member of the Silver Foils golf group, played a mean game of tennis and volunteered for Prancing Horse. Nancy enjoyed laughing and will be remembered for her rendition of the Irving Berlin favorite: Cheek to Cheek, "...Heaven, I'm in Heaven..." A private memorial service is yet to be determined.



DAVID M. CROCKETT



RAYMOND LARSEN 9/21/1938 - 12/18/2010

Son of Esther and Martin Larsen (Dec.), Ray died quietly at home, in Bloomfield Twp. on December 18, 2010. Ray had a million dollar smile, beautiful blue eyes and was the best husband possible to his wife, Barbara Brinker Larsen. He received a BS Lawrence Tech degree from University and worked in the computer industry for 20 years, living in and running offices in Europe, Michigan, Texas and California. He then obtained General and Refrigeration Contractor Licenses and, for the next 25 years, designed and fitted out the interiors of stores and warehouses throughout Western U.S. and Mexico. Ray loved the outdoors and hiked, biked, sailed, skied, fished and hunted whenever he could find a break in business. A world traveler, Ray spent time in nearly every state in the U.S., most of Europe, Japan, China, South America, Canada and Mexico. He was very resourceful, could fix or build anything and was an excellent chef and wine connoisseur. Ray will always be remembered as the ultimate storyteller, an incredible host and always a perfect gentleman. He will be missed most by his soul mate of 42 years, Barbara, as well as by his brother Roy, sister Edna, his Brinker brothers and sisters, Pat, Joann, Sue, Gene, Karen, Jim, Paul, Rose, John and Patrick, his Mother-in-law Rosemary Brinker Larkin, 45 nieces and nephews, 42 great nieces and nephews, many cousins in Denmark nd his caregiver angel, Leslie Williams. He was welcomed into heaven by his parents, father-in-law Ed Brinker, sisters and brothers-in-law, Gloria Larsen, Dave Pullen, Al Ash, Ed, Doug, Sue and Karen Brinker. A "Day of Remembrance" honoring his life, will be held at his residence on January 15. In lieu of flowers, please donate to family or friends having hard times, or a favorite charity.



1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 email: oeobits@hometownlife.com View Passages Online: www.hometownlife.com

Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances

assages

ISOBEL LOUISE ROSS

Age 87, January 4, 2011. Beloved wife of the late Harold S. Dear mother of Jean (Bob) Ramseyer, Bruce (Laurie), Laurie (Jeff) Maltby. Loving grandmother of Kimber, Daniel, Katie, Brian, Ross, Staci. Great-grand-mother of Zakk, Jules, Logan, Bella, Makenzie, Annalyse, and Grant. Sister of Jack (Maxine) Hunter. Visitation at the O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home 41555 Grand River Novi 248-348-1800 Friday 4-9pm and Saturday 12:00 until the funeral service 1:00pm. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made the Great Lakes Council Boy Scouts of America Camper Fund. Online sympathy message at: www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com.

ARTHUR L. SCHALDENBRAND, II

Age 75, January 4, 2011. Beloved husband of Linda and the late Mary. Father of Arthur L. III, Mary (Kent) James Rust, Patty (John) Fowler, Daniel, and Gerald Finch, and Greg (Mollie) Finch. Grandfather of 11. Great-grandfather of several. Brother of Wilford and Peter. Retired after 30 years with Garden City Public Works. Member Tri County Tractor Club, Early Engine Club, and Campeau Company. Funeral Service was Saturday at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 734-427-3800. www.santeiufuneralhome.com



ROBERT (BOB) A. SMITT SR.

82, of Westland, MI, formerly of Venice, FL, passed away Wednesday, December 22, 2010 at Maple Manor in Wayne, MI. Robert was born October 1928 to Tony and Lottie Szmytkowski. Robert counted his blessings in loving friends and family who brought special joy and laughter throughout his life, especially during his illness. Robert enjoyed cars, golfing, playing cards with family and friends and always carried a tune in his heart. He was an extremely hard worker. He was employed at Ford Motor Company for 42 years. Robert will never be alone for he'll be embraced by all the family and friends he has



MARGARET ALENA GOUDY WALDRON

of Birmingham, Michigan, was born on March 24, 1922 and died on January 2, 2011 at age 88. She is survived by her sister Kathleen Ogle of Morro Bay, California, and many nieces and nephews. She married Daniel Waldron; they later divorced. She was preceded in death by her parents, John and Pearl Goudy, and sister Ellen Slater. She was born in Goodrich, Michigan, attended public school in Big Rapids, and earned her nursing degree at Butterworth Hospital School of Nursing in Grand Rapids. She practiced nursing at the University of Michigan Hospitals in Ann Arbor and with the Detroit Visiting Nurses Association. Margaret enjoyed music. She played piano from a young age, attended Olivet College School of Music, and studied under Terri Yamasaki for many years. She loved her piano students as her children. Her career teaching piano spanned more than 40 years. She had been active in the Michigan Federation of Music Clubs. Her students consistently were awarded highest ratings. Margaret continued to teach full time until her death. She was preparing her students for the upcoming piano competitions when she died suddenly. Margaret was loved by her church family and friends. She will be missed. She donated her body to the Wayne State University School of Medicine. A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, January 15, 2011 at 11:00 AM in the chapel of St. James Episcopal Church, 355 W. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Memorials may be made to St. James Episcopal Church.

THERESA M. WELLS

Age 86, of Farmington Hills and Port Austin, Michigan passed away at her Farmington Hills home over the Christmas holiday. Ms. Wells up until the time of her death commuted, every two weeks depending on the weather, between her Farmington Hills and Port Austin home so as to stay in touch with her lifelong friends, neighbors and loved ones. Theresa was born on August 26, 1924 in Grindstone City to the late Anthony and Agnes (Wojchowski) Biarski, the last of eight children of her parents. Theresa graduated Grindstone High School in 1941 and shortly thereafter moved to Detroit to work at various companies, primarily Packard Car Company until its closure and then Ford Motor Company until retiring in 1989 from At Ford's she worked in the Ford's. early stages of computerization by working in its data processing center, as a clerk, initially in its keypunch operations, and transitioned with Ford's and the world to the computer age. Theresa recently lost her last two sisters, Margaret F. Bulley, age 95, this past April and Dorothy Levalske, 90, in 2007, both of Bad Axe Michigan a short drive from her Port Austin home. Theresa was also preceded in death by two other sisters and three brothers, Michael, Peter and Joseph Biarski, and Gertrude Wilkos and Goldie Millard, respectively. Visitation and services will be held on Friday, January 14, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Michael Catholic Church in Port Austin. Officiating will be Father Andrew Boom, pastor. Theresa will be interred next to her husband, Clifford, in the church cemetery.

MILESTONES

OCTOBER WEDDING PLANNED

Kristin Stahley of Northville and Matt Van Raaphorst of Lincoln Park announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Steve and Janine Stahley of Livonia, graduated from Livonia Churchill High. She earned a degree from Kalamazoo College and a master's degree from Wayne State University. She is employed by the Detroit Area Pre-College Engineering Program in development.

Her fiancé, son of Roger Van Raaphorst of Pinckney and Judy Van Raaphorst of Danville, Ill., graduated from Allen Park High School. He is

NATHAN ROBERT HIX

Susan is a former Livonia resident and graduate of Churchill High School. Nathan joins his big brother, Brycen, 5 1/2 and big sister, Kathryn, 3 1/2.

Proud grandparents are Andy and Devinee Neil of Livonia and Bob and Bar Hix of Montello, Wis.

Stahley-Van Raaphorst

planned in the Bahamas.



Nathan Robert Hix

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send calendar items to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife. com. Feel free to include relevant photos as attached jpgs. Or mail items to Sharon Dargay, The Observer, 615 Lafayette, level 2, Detroit, MI 48226. Submit items at least a week before expected publication date. Be sure to include a contact telephone number for readers, as well as any ticket prices for an event.

JAN. 13-19 Concert

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Jan. 15 Location: St. John Armenian Church, 22001 Northwestern

www.livoniastmichael.org

Widowed Friends

Time/Date: 2:15 p.m. check in; 2:30 p.m. Mass, Jan. 23 Location: St. Thomas a' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley Road, just south of Cherry Hill, in Canton Details: Mass for widowed men and women, with refreshments and social time after Contact: Pat at (734) 895-6246

ONGOING

AWANA Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m., Wednesdays Location: Faith Bible Church, 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills Details: AWANA program for children from kindergarten-fifth grade Contact: (248) 426-0096



Age 88, died on January 3, 2011, after courageous battle with Parkinson's Disease. He is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Mary, and four chil-dren, Jeffrey (Christine), Martha (Horace) Sneed, Paul (Theresa), and Amy (Ken) Carr. He also leaves four grandchildren, Andrew Crockett, Nicholas Crockett, Ali Crockett and Sarah Sneed, a sister-in-law, Martha (Leonard) Seale, and seventeen nephews and nieces. David was predeceased by his brother, Richard (June) Crockett, his sister, Laura McCamman, and his sister-in-law, Marjorie (Warren) Maxey. David served his country honas a Marine Corps Veteran of orably World War II and Korea. His professional career began with a Masters of Social Work from the University of Michigan. During his long career, he served as a probation officer for the Juvenile Court in Detroit, Director of St. Peter's Home for Boys, a social worker at the Plymouth Center for Human Development and, after retirement, as a probation officer for the Farmington Hills Court. David will be sadly missed by his family and his friends, including old friends many from his college days at Wayne State University, his fellow parishioners at Meadowbrook Congregational Church, where he served as a charter member and Life Deacon, and his fellow Kiwanians in Plymouth. David loved to garden, run in marathons, read books, sing in the church choir and follow Detroit sports teams. He was admired for his optimism, faith in God and his wonderful, dry sense of humor. He will always be remembered by his family as a devoted husband and father. Contributions can be made to the Meadowbrook Congregational Church Educational Endowment or Music Program. Arrangements entrusted to Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St., Plymouth. Share memories at

schrader-howell.com

CAROLE T. HALLER

Age 81 and a long time resident of Farmington, died on January 5, 2011. She was preceded in death by John, her beloved husband of over sixty-two years on Oct. 21, 2010. She is survived by loving children, Darlene (Mike) Solar, Dan Haller, Mike (Karen) Haller, Ken (Lori) Haller, Paula (Bob) Forsyth, Steve (Kathleen) Haller, Peggy (Dan) Matthews, Beth Tori, Ginger (Rick) Wellman & Ron Haller; 29 dear grandchildren and 22 great grandchildren. Also survived by much extended family and many dear friends. A Funeral Liturgy will be held at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 1955 E. Commerce Rd., Milford, on Saturday, January 8th at 10 AM, with Fr. Ron Anderson officiating. Cremation will follow. Friends may visit at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 404 E. Liberty, Milford, on Friday 4-9 PM. Rosary Friday 7 PM. For further information please phone 248-684-6645 or visit: www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

MARY V. MAURIN

Age 95, of Belleville, IL, formerly of Farmington Hills, MI, born November 7, 1915, in Baltic, MI, died Thursday, December 30, 2010, at Dammert Geriatric Center at the Shrine of Our ady of the Snows, Belleville, IL. Miss Maurin worked in civil service for 35 years with the Department of the Army until her retirement. She belonged to the 50-Plus group and was a member of St. Alexander's Catholic Church in Farmington Hills, MI. Mary was preceded in death by her parents, Paul and Lucille, nee Rauh, Maurin; a sister, Frances VanGorp; and two brothers, Peter and Joseph Maurin. Surviving are her sis-ter, Katherine Lanctot of Minot, ND; her nephew, David (Dottie) Lanctot of Belleville, IL; and other nieces and nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. In lieu of all other gifts, memorials may be made to The Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows, 726 Community Drive, Belleville, IL, 62223, or in the form of Masses. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.rennerfh.com. Arrangements were by George Renner & Sons Funeral Home, Belleville, IL

C.W. (BILL) OLSON

Age 82 of Redford, MI., formerly of Jackson, passed away Friday, Dec. 31, 2010. A Navy Veteran, born in Ottumwa, Iowa and preceeded in death by his wife of 32 years (Lucile), he is survived by sons Tracy, Pat, Steve (Stacy), daughter LynneAnn (Roy) Swihart, eight grandchildren and his companion of 12 years Elizabeth (Betty) Troop. As per his wishes, there will be no public memorial. Cremation has already taken place.

LUCILLE L. ROCCO (nee: Martek) Age 85, Jan. 5, 2011. Wife of Richard, mother of Susan (David) Harrison. Simple Funerals (248) 227-1954 SimpleFuneralsInMichigan.com

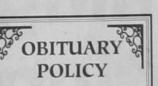
as one, and the circle of their spirits will shine brighter than the sun. Robert leaves behind his loving wife Marge who was his best friend and soul mate for 61 years. He also leaves behind 1 sister, 8 children, 15 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren. Robert will be missed dearly by all who knew him. Services will be held on Saturday, January 8th at 11:00am at St. Raphael Church in Garden City, MI. Father Ray Lewandowski will officiate

ever known. All their hearts will beat



WARREN CHARLES STOUT

Died peacefully January 5, 2011, sur-rounded by his family; born August 7, 1924, age 86. He grew up on a horse farm in Rochester, Michigan, and graduated from Rochester High School and Castle Heights Military Academy in Tennessee. Serving as a First Lieutenant in World War II, he saw action in Germany and France, earning the Silver Star for gallantry and the Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster. Warren owned Stout Real Estate in Pontiac and was later affiliated with Chamberlain Realty. We remember him for his grace, integrity, and love for his family. Beloved husband of the late Elizabeth Jerome Stout and the late Helen Lockwood (nee: Coffin) Stout. Also preceded in death by his step-son, Jay Coffin. Loving father of Craig Stout (Diane), Larry Stout (Debbie), Carol Miller (Doug), Diane Kutter (Dale), and Carol Ann Barnett (Tom). Cherished grandfather of Andy Miller (Mary-Katherine), Kyle Stout, Kary Miller (Mark Menaldo), Lauren Stout (Melissa Cordial), Ian Stout (Myriam Bourhili), and Kelsey Barnett. The family warmly thanks Janet Barnard, Carla White, and Barbara Sugarman from Hospice of Michigan, and home health aide, Masresha Gebrehiwot, for their care and support. In lieu of flowers, family suggests memorials to Leader Dogs for the Blind or E.L. Johnson Nature Center. A memorial reception will be held on Saturday, Peception will be held on Saturday, January 15, 10:00 a.m. at Christ Church Cranbrook, 470 Church Road, Bloomfield Hills, followed by a memorial service at 11:00 a.m. A. J. Desmond & Sons, 248-362-2500. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com



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

Deadlines:

Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

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

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Char Wilson 313-496-4968 For more information call: Char Wilson 586-826-7082

> or Liz Keiser 586-977-7538 or toll free 800-579-7355 ask for Char or Liz

> > OE08658429

Highway, Southfield Details: Oakland Choral Society

presents "Rachmaninoff's "Vespers" in Church Slavonic. Carols and an original composition will be included in the program; tickets are \$15 and \$25, available in advance or at the door

Contact: (248) 391-0184

Financial Peace University

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Jan. 18-April 12 Location: Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300 Middlebelt, Livonia Details: Discover a world of freedom by using proven, biblical principles to permanently break free from the bondage of debt. Contact: Register by calling (248)

474-3444 or by e-mailing to clarencevilleumc@att.net

Panel discussion

Time/Date: Approximately noon, after 9:30 a.m. Shabbat service and kiddush, Saturday, Jan. 15 Location: Congregation Beth Ahm, 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield Details: Five shul members who attended the recent annual international conference of the World Federation of Jewish Child Survivors of the Holocaust (WFJCSH), will share their thoughts about the conference Contact: Rene Lichtman at (248) 932-1834 or e-mail holocaustchild@ comcast.net

JAN. 20-31

Former Catholics

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Jan. 25 Location: St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia Details: Six-week series, "Catholics Returning Home," is designed for non-practicing Catholics who are seeking answers to questions about the possibility of returning to the Church. The sessions will be conducted by former lapsed Catholics in a casual, non-threatening environment, with plenty of opportunities for questions and discussion. Contact: (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200;

Classes/study

Emmanuel Lutheran Church Time/Date: 7-8 p.m., second Monday of the month Location: 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia

Details: Open Arms Bible class for adults with developmental disabilities and special needs. Includes songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun. Contact: Judy Cook at Emmanuel, (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to jcook59@att.net.

Livonia Unity

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

Location: 28660 Five Mile, Livonia Details: Learn Qigong, the ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine rid the body of toxic pathogens and painful emotions

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

Men's Bible study

Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m. Location: Kirby's Coney Island,

21200 Haggerty, Northville Township Contact: John Shulenberger at (734) 464-9491

New Life Community Church

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

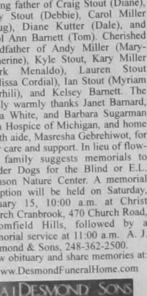
Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville Contact: (734) 846-4615 for information

Nicole's Revival

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m., Monday-Friday

Location: YWCA Northwest Branch, 25940 Grand River, west of Beech Daly, Redford Details: KJV Scripture Reading,

Communion and Prayer Contact: (313) 531-1234



Paying Tribute

to the Life of

Your

Loved One

HAVE A STORY IDEA? Contact Editor, Sharon Dargay Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883

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

HEALTH

Sunday, January 9, 2011

JANUARY

St. Mary Mercy Hospital Diabetes

Support Group will present "Healthy

Weight Loss Strategies" from 7-8:30

hospital's auditorium. Participants

will learn healthy strategies to lose

weight from Tamara Lark, a regis-

tered dietician and health educator

at the hospital. The support group

is no charge, and pre-registration

is not required. Call Community

Outreach at (734) 655-8950 with

Learn why exercise is important

to your health and try out a few

simple exercises at a free health

Jan. 17, at Cherry Hill Seventh-day

Jeanie Weaver will teach the ses-

sion. Participants should dress

comfortably. For more information

call (734) 524-0880 or (734) 329-

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit

and the Arthritis Foundation

have partnered to offer aquatic

pain of arthritis. Classes are held

10-11 a.m., Tuesday and Thursday

at the Farmington branch; 1-1:45

p.m. Monday and Wednesday at

the Livonia branch; and 2-3 p.m.

Birmingham branch. All classes are

offered to members and non-mem-

bers of every age and participants

do not need to know how to swim

to participate. To join, interested

individuals can contact their local

YMCA branch or visit www.ymcade

Exercise classes for men and

women continue through April

at the Metropolitan Seventh-Day

Adventist School, 15585 Haggerty,

north of Five Mile. Jeanie Weaver is

Wednesday and Friday, at the

classes designed to ease the

Adventist Church, 33144 Cherry Hill,

seminar at 6:30 p.m. Monday,

east of Venov in Canton.

2884.

ONGOING

Aquatic classes

any questions.

Health seminar

meets the second Wednesday. There

p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 12, in the

Diabetes

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Contact aferack@comcast.net or (734) 664-3297.

Incest Survivors

"LIVE," a self-help group for women who were victims of incest as children, meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 7-9 p.m. at St. Paul of the Cross, 2333 Schoolcraft, Redford. Call Antoinette at (313) 971-4747 or Cheri at (586) 489-1785.

Overeaters Anonymous

Meet 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Courtyard Room at Unity of Livonia Church, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads, Livonia; and 7 p.m. Sundays at the Marion Professional Building at St. Mary's Hospital, 14555 Levan at Five Mile, Livonia, in Classroom 1. Call (313) 387-9797.

Anyone who wants to stop eating compulsively is welcome. For more Greater Detroit Overeaters Anonymous information, call (248) 559-7722 or visit www.oa.org.

Breast cancer support group

Meets 6:30-8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan Road), Livonia. Call (734) 655-1100, or visit www.stmarymercy.org.

Caregivers support group

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

Metro Fibromyalgia

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

Wayne metro caregiver support

Are you a caregiver of an aging parent, spouse or relative? Wayne Metro's Caregiver Support Groups for those who need CPR for work and state licensure, at DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Dr., Commerce. First aid classes also available. Classes offered weekday evenings and Saturday mornings. Price varies. Pre-registration required at www.hvsh.org/hvsh/calendar or call (248) 937-3314.

hometownlife

Arthritis support group

2-3:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at the Krieger Center, DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Dr., Commerce, Enter the building via the South Garden entrance. Registration not required.

Tai Chi classes

At 165 E. Square Lake, Bloomfield Hills (7 p.m. Monday and Wednesday), and 38121 Ann Arbor Road (11 a.m. Wednesday, and 7 p.m. Monday-Thursday. Presented by nonprofit Michigan Tai Chi Association in Livonia. For details, call (734) 591-3530.

Recovery, Inc.

The support group meets at 10 a.m., Wednesdays at Prince of Peace Church, Walnut Lake Road and Green, West Bloomfield, Recovery, Inc. is an international, non-profit, self-help, community-based organization that helps people with nervous and emotional disorders reduce their suffering and improve quality of life. Call Martha Paul at (248) 682-9362 or e-mail marthapaul@sbcglobal.net. Self-help meetings in Livonia run 7:30 p.m. Mondays, St. Matthew's Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile; 1:15 p.m. Thursdays, Mt. Hope Congregational Church, 30330 Schoolcraft; and 2:30 p.m. Sundays at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard. Call (313) 561-2521 or visit www. recovery-inc.org. No charge, contributions collected.

Low vision support group

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

Health enhancement classes

Classes for exercise (including yoga), CPR and childbirth, and support groups for cardiac, cancer,

Make the most of your skin exam to maximize your overall health

The New Year is the perfect time to see a physician for an annual skin exam, to make sure that any skin cancer or potential problems are detected and treated early.

"Skin cancer is almost always curable when found and treated early," said Dr. Elizabeth Tanzi, a spokesperson for The Skin Cancer Foundation. "Annual skin exams performed by a trained physician, coupled with monthly self-exams, offer the best chances of detecting skin cancer before it progresses."

To make the most of your visit to the dermatologist, Tanzi and The Skin Cancer Foundation offer these tips:

BEFORE THE EXAM

• Perform a full-body skin self-exam (for instructions on how and what to look for, visit www.SkinCancer. org/Self-Examination/), and make note of any new or changing moles, growths, or lesions. Any mark or growth that itches, bleeds, or otherwise calls attention to itself should also be recorded, and pointed out to your doctor during your appointment. The Foundation recommends that you examine your skin once a month.

• Remove all nail polish from your finger and toenails. The doctor will need to look at your nails and nail beds, since skin cancers can form there.

• Wash off your makeup so that the doctor can look closely at your face.



• If you have long hair, pull it back so that the doctor can easily see behind your ears and neck.

AT THE EXAM

The exam itself will likely be brief.

"An annual skin exam on a patient who's never had dysplastic (atypical) moles takes about 10 minutes," Tanzi said. Atypical moles are benign, but look suspicious and could be a risk factor for skin cancer.

"The more moles you have, the higher your risk for skin cancer, and the longer the exam."

• Ask the dermatologist to examine closely any moles, growths, or lesions you noted during your skin self-exam. Your dermatologist may biopsy suspiciouslooking growths. • Have a pencil and paper on hand, so that you can take notes if necessary. Also ask your doctor to spell out terms you're not familiar with — this will make it easier for you to research facts on your own.

• Don't hesitate to request relevant literature, ask your doctor to recommend a reputable source of information, and/or find out about possible diagnostic tests, treatment

options, and cure rates. • Ask your dermatologist if he or she recommends any further action, and when you should schedule a follow-up appointment.

An annual skin exam is just one part of a complete prevention program, and an overall healthy lifestyle. For more information visit www.SkinCancer.org.

The Skin Cancer Foundation is the only global organization solely devoted to the prevention, detection and treatment of skin cancer. The mission of the Foundation is to decrease the incidence of skin cancer through public and professional education and research. For more information, visit, www. SkinCancer.org.

a certified personal fitness trainer with 30 years of teaching/training experience. The sessions infuse Pilates, functional strength training, balance work, flexibility and motivational techniques in a 90-day fitness plan. Call (248) 446-9176 or (313) 300-0957. E-mail jeanieweaver@charter.net.

Food Addicts

troit.org.

Fitness classes

Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous (FA) is a recovery program for people having trouble controlling the way they eat. Based on the 12 steps of AA. Open to all and free.

Weekly meetings are held 9-10:30 a.m. Wednesday, at Geneva Presbyterian Church, 5835 Sheldon, Canton. (866) 914-3663; www.foodaddicts.org

Hearing Loss Association

The Western Wayne Chapter; provides information, education and support for those with hearing loss, their families and friends. Meetings are 6:30 p.m. the second Wednesday of the month at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster, Garden City. offer assistance to thuse struggling to find or give quality care to loved ones. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month, 10 a.m.noon, at the Kay Beard Building on Michigan Ave., Westland. Meetings are also held at the Village of Redford on Six Mile. The morning group meets 10 a.m. to noon on the second Thursday of the month; the evening group meets the fourth Thursday of the month from 6-8 p.m. Adult care may also be available. Call Nancy Coman at (313) 843-2550, Ext. 233.

Parkinson Support

Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group meets 7-9 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August, at Farmington Hills Baptist Church, 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile. Enter at rear of church. For information, call (248) 433-1011.

CPR classes

University Physician Group

Classes range from basic CPR for people who wish to know how to help save a life to certification stroke and diabetes patients; eating disorders; Alzheimer's caregivers; and the hard of hearing. The classes are part of an array of offerings at Garden City Hospital's Health Enhancement Center. For more information, call (734) 458-3242. Blood pressure (free) and cholesterol (\$5) testing are also available noon to 2 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month in Garden City Hospital lobby. No registration required. The hospital also offers free blood pressure testing for senior citizens every other Wednesday at Maplewood Community Center. For information, call (734) 458-4330. Free mask fitting clinic For CPAP and BiPAP users, most insurances cover new supplies every year, try a new style of mask and learn how to get one 5-6 p.m. every Wednesday, at the Garden City Hospital Sleep Disorders Center of Michigan, 35600 Central City Parkway, Suite 103, Westland. No appointment needed. For information, call (734) 458-4330.

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Quicker Recovery

Shorter Hospitalization * Less Scarring

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St. Mary Mercy Livonia

Marian Professional Building

14555 Levan Road, Suite 311 Livonia, MI 48154

St. Joseph Mercy Oakland

Medical Office Building

44555 Woodward Ave., Suite 305

Pontiac, MI 48341



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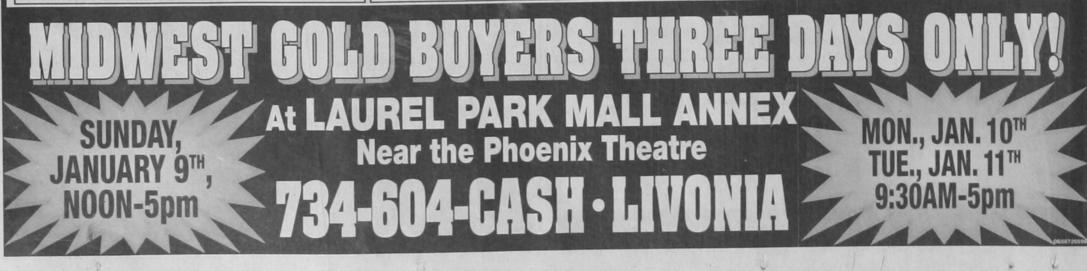
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10 Things Smart Job Seekers Do

Beth Braccio Hering, Special to CareerBuilder

What separates the smart job seeker from others looking for employment? Oftentimes, it is one of these 10 things:

1. They realize a potential job lead could be anywhere.

Smart job seekers aren't afraid to mention occupational aspirations to their book club, their parents' friends or their dentist. (One never knows whose golf partner might be the ticket to getting a foot in the door.) Caroline Ceniza-Levine, a partner at SixFigureStart -- a career coaching firm in New York City comprised of former Fortune 500 recruiters -recommends putting your LinkedIn public profile hyperlink in your automatic e-mail signature. "This is an elegant way to attach your résumé to every correspondence you send. Even friends who think they know you may click through to your profile, learn more about you and perhaps think of you for a job or lead that they might have overlooked."

2. They surf job boards for more than just open positions.

Ceniza-Levine calls job boards "goldmines" for research. "You might see companies you didn't know before -- add these to your list of targets. You might see the same requirements again and again -- this "Spend time to make your résumé the best possible written advertisementof you," says Lisa Quast, author of "Your Career, Your Way!" and founder of Career Woman Inc., a Seattle-based career development consulting company. "Analyze the job requirements against your own skills and abilities, and customize your cover letter."

Obviously, all correspondence should be free of errors and typos. And before sending off the application packet, look at the job posting one last time to ensure all desired material is included.

4. They do their homework.

It seems logical

to smart applicants to know something about potential employers. From Googling a company to checking out its financial statements, they learn what they can -- and use the info to enhance their correspondence.

5. They know employers do their homework, too.

Guide." Besides thinking twice about what you choose to post, she suggests doing a Google search on your name. If you find something undesirable, try to have it removed.

6. They make their value known quickly.

"An employer gives each résumé about a three-second window of time

> before he decides to either 'delete' or read further." says Patrice Rice, author of "How to Interview" and presidentof the recruiting firm Patrice & Associates in Dunkirk, Md. A smart applicant answers the "What can you do for me?" question right off the bat with a summary

of strongest accomplishments at the résumé's top.

7. They look and act like a professional.

Simple but effective: A smart applicant arrives on time, dresses appropriately, both talks and listens, displays confidence and minds his manners. position.

"Show enthusiasm during the job interview," says Rice. "Always make certain that the company you're interviewing with feels as if it is your first choice, no matter what other companies are involved in your job search."

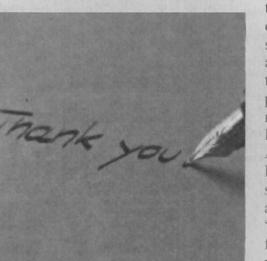
9. They don't get ahead of themselves.

As much as she may be dying to know about promotions, raises and vacation time, a smart candidate doesn't jump the gun and tackle these issues during the first interview. She focuses on landing the position, then on whether the package is suitable.

10. They ask for the position, follow up and thank.

"As strange as it sounds, you need to ask for the job," says Catherine Jewell, author of "New Résumé New Career: Get the Job You Want with the Skills and Experience You Already Have." "At the end of the interview, sum up your strengths, tell the interviewer that you are excited about the position and say, 'I would really like to contribute to this company. I am hoping you select me.""

Then, a smart interviewee keeps his name in the game with a follow-up note reiterating interest and offering thanks -- knowing that a great last impression can seal the deal!



indicates a standard for the job you want, so incorporate these items into your pitch and cover letters."

3. They put adequate time and effort into their applications.

"According to [a 2010] Coremetrics [study], 75 percent of companies require recruiters to research job applicants online, so you'll want to be sure you know what they'll find," states Sherrie Madia, co-author of "The Online Job Search Survival

8. They show that they want this job.

Smart job seekers are not "tire kickers." They focus on the needs of the employer and demonstrate how they are perfect for this particular Beth Braccio Hering researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues for CareerBuilder.com. Follow @CBForJobSeekers on Twitter.





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