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COMMUNITY LIFE, B6

SUNDAY
February 6, 2011

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CANTON
OBSERVER
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CONNECTION
Water vote

The Wayne County Commission this week voted against a resolution presented by fellow commissioners opposing any legislative change in governance structure, operation, control or management of the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department.

In an 8-5 vote (with two abstentions), the commission supported a resolution opposing proposed legislation of restructuring the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department.

"Three of the four million DWSD customers reside in the suburbs, we deserve a voice," said County Commissioner Laura Cox, R-Livonia. "It's not singularly about the rates, it is about fair representation."

State Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth, recently introduced legislation to create a nine-member board to oversee the department. The board would be comprised of one representative for Detroit; one each for Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties; and five elected by representatives of the communities served by the department.

Relay for Life

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Canton gets under way Thursday, Feb. 17, as event volunteers and participants gather at Tonda Elementary School, 46501 Warren in Canton, for a kick-off rally to launch their fund-raising efforts for the year.

Residents are invited to attend the kick-off celebration to learn more about the upcoming Relay For Life and how they can become part of an exciting overnight event that will pave the way to a world with less cancer and more birthdays. Coffee, hot cocoa and desserts will be served.

Community members can start or join a team by visiting www.relayforlife.org/cantonmi. Donations can be also be made by visiting the website.

The 2011 Relay For Life Canton takes place May 14-15 at Heritage Park from 10 a.m. to 10 a.m. For more information, contact Kelsey Ruder at Kelsey.Ruder@cancer.org or (248) 663-3441.

Cans and bottles

WSPD 88.1-FM is sponsoring a can and bottle drive to raise money for the student radio station.

Cans and bottles can be dropped off noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 12, at the east end of Salem High School (nearest the student parking lot). The station will also have a table to accept donations at Holiday Market (at Lilley and Cherry Hill) in Canton from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Everyone who drops off cans and bottles will receive a wooden nickel, good for a cup of coffee at the Plymouth Coffee Bean, while supplies last.

Diaper dandy

Canton mom finds a way to change the world

ONE BABY AT A TIME
Who: Marybeth Levine
Where: She lives in Canton
What: Executive director, Detroit Area Diaper Bank, which has donated more than 356,000 diapers since April 2010
Family: Husband Steve; sons John, 8, David, 6, and Nathan, 4.
Education: Degree in political science, Penn State University
Background: Grew up in a military family, Washington, D.C., and ran her own recruiting and staffing firm in Virginia Beach, Va.

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton mom Marybeth Levine smiles and shrugs off the post-college, idealistic years she spent in Washington, D.C., working as a congressional special assistant and as a higher education lobbying association employee.

"I was going to change the world," she said.

She became disillusioned and left the nation's capital, yet Levine, now 42, has found a way to change southeast Michigan — one disposable diaper at a time.

As the unpaid executive director of the Detroit Area Diaper Bank, Levine started a nonprofit agency that, since last

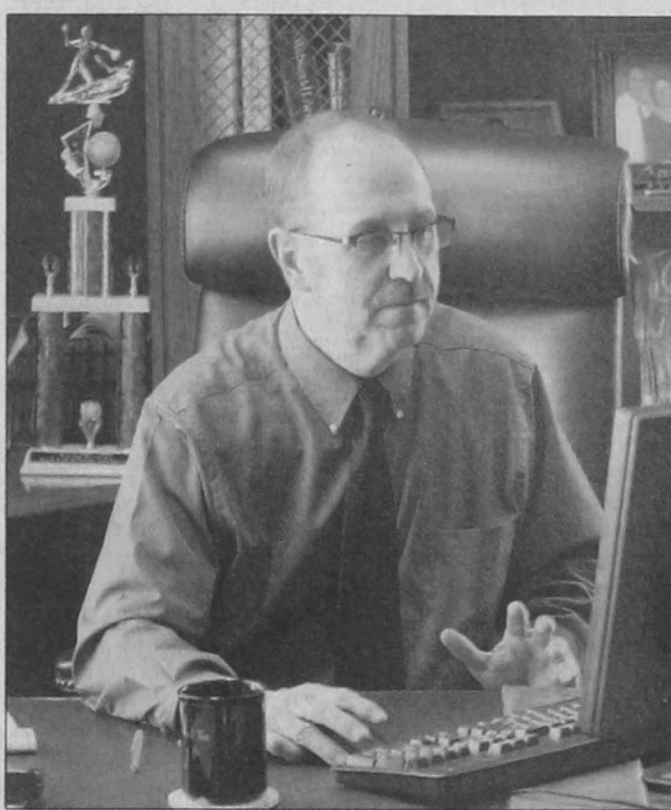
April, has donated 356,833 diapers to 45 organizations such as Starfish Family Services, the Redford Pregnancy Counseling Center, First Step domestic violence shelter, The Salvation Army Plymouth Corps and the Westland-based Wayne County Family Center.

Levine has tapped into a small army of donors — civic groups, businesses, charitable foundations, Canton Township employees and many others — who sponsor diaper-collection drives that ultimately help jobless, single mothers, recession-ravaged families and sickly people, mostly the elderly, who have become incontinent.

Please see **DIAPERS, A2**



Marybeth Levine runs the diaper bank from a donated storage locker.



Judge Michael Gerou of 35th District Court in Plymouth said the court "continually looks for ways to better provide ... justice."

Ticket decline
drives drop in
court filings

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Case filings in 35th District Court have fallen steadily in the last two years, with traffic cases, which make up more than half of the court's caseload, driving the decline.

A total of 34,951 cases (excluding parking violations and juvenile cases) were filed in the court in 2010 from communities in its jurisdiction — Plymouth and Plymouth Township, Canton Township, Northville Township and the city of Northville. That's down more than 15 percent from the 2008 total of 41,473.

The number of traffic cases fell by more than 20 percent in the same time period: the court saw 22,879

Facts about 35th District Court, A6.

traffic cases filed last year, vs. 28,828 in 2008.

The decline is expected to impact the amount of money — collected through ticket penalties, fines and filing fees — the court returns to its five communities, but court officials say they've taken steps in recent years to cut costs by increasing efficiencies and trimming the court staff.

"We have built a great relationship with the communities that we serve and we are continually looking for ways to better provide excellent, cost-effective justice and we continually share ideas with the communities that we serve," Judge Michael Gerou,

Please see **COURT, A6**

Poker room could be jackpot for charities

IN THE CHIPS
What: Trip Kings poker room
Where: 8669 N. Lilley in Canton
When: Monday-Thursday, 4 p.m. to 2 a.m.; Friday-Sunday, noon to 2 a.m.
What else: Poker, blackjack, roulette, craps and a Big Six wheel are available, along with a deli and raffles of sports memorabilia
Contact: (734) 934-6703

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

If Ed White's plans for his new Canton poker room pan out, nonprofits and charitable organizations in the area could be the ones hitting the jackpot.

White, with 22 years of gaming experience, including a stint as the poker manager for Detroit's Greektown Casino, has opened Trip Kings, a poker room in the Golden Gate Shopping Center on Lilley south of Joy Road.

While all similar rooms in the state must have the charity component, White's Trip Kings is a little different in that it's a stand-alone poker room (many others, including rooms he

owns in Garden City and in Woodhaven) are set up in other establishments such as bowling alleys, and this one comes with a goal: Raising \$1 million for charity.

"We thought Canton would be a perfect fit," said White, who opened Trip Kings last week with a benefit for the American GI Forum. "We wanted to make it as top-notch as possible."

Like all other poker rooms in the state, Trip Kings (by law) caters to charitable organizations, each of which has to procure a license to use the room. Charities can schedule either a three- or four-day event, and can sell up to \$15,000 worth of chips per day.

Please see **POKER, A5**



Ed White hopes to raise \$1 million for charity with his new Trip Kings Poker Room in Canton.



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DIAPERS

FROM PAGE A1

"This is the most fulfilling thing I've ever done," Levine said. She used to store diapers in the Canton home she shares with husband Steve, a Ford Motor Co. purchasing project manager, and sons John, 8, David, 6, and Nathan, 4. She delivered diapers to charitable agencies in her 1997 Ford van.

COMMUNITY HELP

As the diaper bank grew, Levine's project became unwieldy for home, and now she houses as many as 40,000 diapers in a storage unit a Canton company, Extra Space Storage, lets her use for free. Another local business, MSA Delivery Service, has helped her by receiving shipments of donated diapers.

The storage unit has given Levine a place where charitable agencies can pick up the diapers they need, though she still makes some deliveries. On a bone-chilling winter morning, Levine bundled up, stood inside her makeshift office and waited for Edward Washington, a 20-year building maintenance worker for Detroit-based Matrix Human Services Center, to arrive.

"I think this is awesome," Washington said, loading diapers into an old school bus. "We've got so many babies who need help."

Levine helps people such as low-income mothers who often don't have access to laundry facilities to wash reusable diapers. On a wintry night last November, Canton Public Library Director Eva Davis collected diapers by camping in a box truck donated overnight by a



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Marybeth Levine carries donated diapers to the Matrix Family Human Services bus. Behind is Marybeth's own Ford van, festooned with Diaper Bank signs. It's a common sight around Canton.

Canton-based catering company, Fat Chef in a Little Coat. Davis commended Levine's efforts.

"I admire her tenacity and her energy," Davis said Thursday. "She cares about people. She's so articulate and passionate, yet she's practical at the same time. She doesn't just point out a problem. She looks inside herself and does something about it. It says a lot about her as a caring person."

HER BACKGROUND

Levine grew up in a military family, earned a degree in political science from Penn State University, worked in the nation's capital and ran her own recruiting and staffing firm in Virginia Beach, Va. She went to Tucson, Ariz., for a friend's wedding, met and fell in love with her eventual husband and lived in Arizona before he was hired by Ford Motor Co. in 2003.

Levine was driving her car in Tucson when she heard a radio announcement about a diaper drive. She bought diapers, dropped them off and has since learned that government-assistance programs, such as food stamps and Medicare, don't cover diaper costs.

"This was one of those light bulb moments," she said.

After moving here, Levine saw a definite need for a diaper bank, but she put her idea on hold while her sons were younger. She launched the nonprofit Detroit Area Diaper Bank last April, marketed it on Facebook and Twitter, formed a small board of directors and drew support from dedicated helpers like Canton resident Bruce Will, a Ford Motor Co. retiree and Gleaners Community Food Bank volunteer.

Levine has received help from small children who had birthday parties and asked

for disposable diapers as gifts. Her diaper bank has received \$5,000 grants from Bank of America, Pepsi Co. and Art Van Furniture. And a diaper collection is set for Joe Louis Arena when the Detroit Red Wings roll out their "Hockey for Huggies" benefit during their Feb. 24 game against the Dallas Stars. Donors also may text the word "Wings" or "Redwings" to 501501 to donate \$5 to the diaper bank, Levine said.

For much more information on diaper drives and ways to donate, go to www.detroitareadiaperbank.org. Checks or money orders, made payable to The Detroit Area Diaper Bank, Inc., also may be sent to 45361 Indian Creek Drive, Canton, MI 48187.

Levine shrugs when asked how many hours each week she volunteers her time. It doesn't seem to matter.

"This is something that needs to be done," she said.

AROUND CANTON

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

Mom to Mom

Bentley Elementary School hosts its PTO Mom-2-Mom Sale 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 5, at the school, located at 1100 S. Sheldon in Canton.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the PTO and Bentley students, with the hope, organizers say, to be used for future playground equipment and classroom grants at the school.

Entry fee is \$1; strollers allowed after 11 a.m. Table fee is \$15, and there are still a few available.

For more information, call Christine Wegrzyn at (734) 331-2160 or e-mail rcwegrzyn@gmail.com

Prom dresses

The Plymouth Canton AAUW Prom Dress Sale takes place noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 10, and 6-8 p.m. Monday, April 11, at Memorial Elementary School, 3001 Marquette, Garden City (between Henry Ruff and Middlebelt).

The sale is to provide prom dresses for girls who are not able to afford them in this economic climate. AAUW thanks all those who have contributed and will continue accepting donations through March 31. Accessories such as purses, and jewelry are also welcome.

AAUW volunteers will pick up contributions or donors can bring them to any meeting.

To arrange for pick up, e-mail or call S. Zaetta at szaetta@wowway.com (734-455-6366), K. Bellows at kiggitykate83@aol.com (734-421-8807) or E. Nelson at genelson1c@att.net (734-981-4938).

February events

The Village Theater is host to two events in February: • African American History Through Artist Eyes, Feb. 7-10, 9:30-11:30 a.m. — If school is canceled, the program is cancelled — Friday is a make up day if necessary. There is no charge. This program has won the

Michigan Parks and Recreation Award for Innovative Programming and attracted grant funding from the State of Michigan - Michigan Council for the Arts and DTE, Comerica and Target through the Partnership for the Arts and Humanities in Canton.

Come learn about the history of African Americans from slavery through the civil rights movement as Matt Watroba, Robert Jones and Kevin Collins share their talents with fifth-graders.

• All You Need Is Love! Saturday, Feb. 12, 6:30 p.m.

— A Valentine fund-raiser for The Village Theater featuring the resident arts groups, welcome reception with punch, wonderful appetizers, fast-paced performance of love-themed songs, dances, art and drama, and a dessert reception by our usher volunteers.

Cost is \$25 per person, \$10 for youth 18 and under. Tickets can be purchased online at www.cantonvillagetheater.org

Guitar heroes

Canton Leisure Services is teaming up with Axis Music Academy, Canton's full service music education resource, to offer classes to "Real Guitar Heroes," so that fans of the Guitar Hero video game can now learn how to play the real thing.

Instead of playing video games, students can get their hands on a real guitar, strumming, picking, and exploring their talent. These classes are perfect for the absolute beginner who has never played a cord, as well as for guitar students currently taking private lessons or for those already playing another instrument. While no one class teaches everything, "Real Guitar Heroes" is a low-commitment, educational, and fun class where both kids and adults can become their own guitar hero. "Real Guitar Heroes" classes are at the Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton. Participants can now register in person at the Summit or online at www.cantonfun.org.

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Slavens eager for second-term efforts

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The 2010 election is in her rear view mirror, and a possible third term is in her crystal ball.

For now, though, Dian Slavens's focus is right in the middle as she turns her attention to the business at hand in her second term.

The Canton Democrat, who in November held off Republican challenger Lori Levi, a small business owner

and Tea Party favorite from Canton, said that business at hand is, largely, jobs.

"We've got to get jobs," she said simply.

"(Legislators) don't create jobs, but we can cultivate the state to make it a better business environment. We need to find a way to get Michigan people back to work."

Toward that end, Slavens was in Belleville Monday to talk about Democrats' desire to reintroduce the Hire Michigan First Plan, which would put Michigan workers first in line by rewarding companies that employ Michigan workers and crack down on those who hire undocumented workers.

The plan:

- Gives companies that hire Michigan workers priority in the awarding of state tax incentives and other economic development tools.
- Requires companies that accept incentives to report on who they hire to ensure that Michigan residents are put first.
- Creates penalties that can include requiring companies hiring undocumented workers to pay back their tax incentives and barring them from future state contracts.

"This plan is about standing up for our working families and making sure that they always come first," said Slavens, a



State Reps. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, and Douglas Geiss, D-Taylor, right, discuss the Hire Michigan First plan at a press conference at Belleville High School Monday. Joining Slavens and Geiss at the press conference are (left to right): BHS Assistant Principal Abdul Madyun, Van Buren Public Schools Director of Buildings and Grounds Brian Brice, Van Buren Public Schools Interim Supt. Tom Riutta and BHS Principal Michael VanTassel.

sponsor of the plan. "It's unbelievable that our displaced workers are watching jobs that their tax dollars helped create go to workers from Ohio, Indiana or even other countries. Our plan will fix this problem and make sure that we are doing everything we can to ensure that taxpayer dollars are being used to help create jobs for Michigan workers now."

No longer a freshman representative, Slavens has stepped up her leadership a bit starting her second term. She's the assistant Democratic floor leader this year, and is minority vice chair on the Family, Children and Senior Services Committee, one of three committees of which she's a part (the others are regulatory reform and natural resources/tourism).

She had hoped to be chosen for the education committee and the committee near to the heart of a respiratory therapist — the health policy committee.

"I was really disappointed because I really wanted to be on that one," she said.

Slavens said she liked

what she heard in Gov. Rick Snyder's State of the State address, some of which surprised her a little, particularly Snyder's willingness to consider the Detroit River International Crossing project, a plan to build a second bridge to Canada over the Detroit River. Slavens said the measure passed the House last year, but never came up for a vote in the Senate.

"It's a shovel-ready job," Slavens said. "We could get started right away. It's nice to see he's on board with that."

While she likes Snyder — "He has good vision" — she doesn't agree with him on everything. For instance, Snyder wants to look at the Earned Income Tax Credit, something Slavens doesn't think the state should touch.

"I don't want to get rid of that ... it keeps food on the table," Slavens said. "I hope people will talk to him about what that would do to people."

She looks forward to the Family, Children and Senior Services committee work — "We've got to make sure our children and our seniors have

COFFEE WITH SLAVENS

What: Coffee hour with state Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton

When: 9-10 a.m. Monday, Feb. 7

Where: Canton Big Boy, 45250 Ford Road in Canton

Why: Slavens hosts regular coffee hours and town hall meetings throughout Canton Township, Belleville and Van Buren Township.

Details: (888) 347-8021 or e-mail at DianSlavens@house.mi.gov

a voice" — and, as a member of the tourism committee, likes Snyder's support of the Pure Michigan advertising campaign.

"I've always been big on 'Pure Michigan' and buying Michigan first," she said. "For every \$1 spent, \$2.90 comes back, so it's exciting. I was happy to hear (Snyder) talk about it."

She's also happy to see the freshman bipartisan caucus, which she had a hand in launching last term, continue to grow. While her peers in their second terms aren't part of that, they have continued to caucus together. She thinks it's important for incoming legislators.

"A lot of the work is getting to know the process," Slavens said. "Getting to know how Lansing works is important."

Slavens thinks she's accomplished that much. She sponsored a bill that brought hundreds of jobs in the battery industry to the state, and fought for — but ultimately lost — the elimination of lifetime health care for state legislators, a bill she'll bring back this term.

And, while she's sure she'll seek a third term, for now Slavens is focused on her second term.

"I really feel like I did some good things in the first term," she said. "I feel I'll be a strong voice in my second term."

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Expo a chance for businesses to gather

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As many as 55 businesses representing travel agents, health-care providers, arts organizations, insurance companies and retail stores, among others, will converge at Summit on the Park for the next Consumer Expo, an event that gives area residents a chance to check out Canton's business scene.

It happens 5-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 24, inside the Summit's Grand Ballroom, and it costs nothing.

Consumer Expo since 2002 has become a twice-a-year initiative by two business-promoting organizations, the Canton Chamber of Commerce and the Canton Downtown Development Authority.

"The expo is a great opportunity to learn firsthand about the businesses in our community," chamber President Tracey Rettig said. "Attendees have the opportunity to meet local business owners and learn about the great products and services they have to offer."

Summit on the Park is located at 46000 Summit Parkway, northwest of the Palmer-Canton Center intersection.

It's a cost-efficient evening out for area residents who need only show up — no registration is necessary.

"And let's not forget the door prizes," Rettig said. This year's major spon-

sors are Atchinson Ford Sales, Inc., and Molly Maid, but attendees also can browse among vendors such as Central City Dance, Huntington Learning Center, John Middlestead Fine Art Photography, the Plymouth-Canton Symphony Orchestra, Plymouth Community United Way, The Salvation Army's Canton-based thrift store and Showroom of Elegance jewelry store, among many other businesses and organizations.

Consumer Expo has become only one of several ways the Canton community has tried to market local businesses in an effort to help them thrive, even during a tough economy when consumers tend to spend less.

Other efforts, such as an ongoing Shop Canton campaign, also have rallied around the local business community.

As chamber president, Rettig said she hopes Consumer Expo visitors will leave the event realizing that the chamber has continued to "celebrate 39 years of helping businesses network in the local community."

For more information about the chamber, visit www.cantonchamber.com. For more on the Canton DDA, go to www.canton-mi.org and look under the Doing Business tab.

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EDUCATION

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Contact Editor, Brad Kadrich
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Innovative Hydro Volt wins science center honor

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

In 2008, the William D. Ford Career Technical Center's Hydro Volt was the toast of the town, collecting six trophies in the Convergence Foundation's biennial Innovative Vehicle Design competition.

Two years later, the student-built retro Rat Ride is still collecting honors, the latest the presented by Don Nicholson of Don Nicholson Enterprises, acknowledging the vehicle, a flat black scaled-down 1940s fuel cell/plug-in hybrid pickup, for its involvement in the Detroit Science Center's 2010 Future Cruise and the center's commitment to going green.

"The trophy cases are filled with trophies from that little car," said Jim Schirmer, the center's automotive technology instructor. "It's a pretty cool thing. I'm still amazed at how well it's done."

"I invited the car to show for a specific class, it was the only hydrogen fuel cell there," said Nicholson, whose name is synonymous with car cruises in and around western Wayne County. "The school was the winner of the Green Class for Future Cruise."

Future Cruise was a premiere event for the Detroit Science Center. Held Aug. 19-22, the four-day event celebrated what makes Detroit the Motor City with an advanced technology car showcase and competition designed to award trophies and prizes to independent car enthusiasts who have successfully designed, fabricated or modified, and implemented the most advanced technology into their rides.



William D. Ford Career Technical Center Principal Steve Kay (left) is joined by Don Nicholson- presented award; Jim Schirmer (second from right), automotive technology instructor, and Len Sheko (right), automotive technology teaching assistant, and the students from Automotive Technology in receiving the Detroit Science Center Green Class Award for the Hydro Volt vehicle from Don Nicholson of Don Nicholson Enterprises.

Hydro Volt was part of the promotion for the event and shared the limelight with a Model T built at a factory in Detroit. Known as a Tin Lizzy, Nicholson said the car was too good to be called that.

"We called it Elizabeth, it was too beautiful to be called Lizzy," he said.

GREEN CLASS AWARD

Since representatives of the center couldn't be there for the awards presentation, Nicholson went to the school last week to present them with the trophy. Designed by the Detroit Science Center, the award featured a beaker, representing science, filled with trees standing for the green award.

"We do a lot of green around the building," said Assistant Principal Sue Wilk. "We use going green as an extracurricular activity, we've become a well-knit building because of it."

The Hydro Volt won six trophies in the former Convergence Education Foundation, now the Square One Education Network. It's traveled to conferences in Wisconsin and in Detroit and has been in and out of Cobo Hall and the RenCen so many times that "we know every freight elevator," Wilk said.

It was featured at Autorama where organizers were so impressed that they made a \$500 contribution to further the work being done at the center.

"It had a lot of good support," said Schirmer. "It was the perfect storm with the kids, the contacts, the ideas. It was something else."

Dozen of students spent two years designing and building the car for the Convergence Innovative Vehicle Design competition. Wilk and Schirmer credit graduates Angela Czarniowski and Mike

Paonessa, lead students on the IVD project, with their role in the project. Building the IVD lit Czarniowski's "fire" and motivated her to go on to college. The same with Paonessa who focused on the hydrogen fuel cell. He researched it and came back to push for its use in the car.

"That was his passion, he really believed in it," said Schirmer. "When you have a hands-on project like this was, the students realize why they need science and math."

FOSTERING INTEREST

Nicholson sees what they're doing at the center a little bit differently. His concern is that the interest in restoring cars, like building hot rods years ago, is a dying art. Technology is making it difficult for people to work on their own vehicles.

"When I was young, you got your training in the garage from your dad or your neighbor," he said. "You could sit under the hood and work on the engine. You can't now, there's no room because of all of the electronics."

"Cars today aren't like the hot rods, there's so much electric now," he said. "You have to be knowledgeable today, that's what's so important about what they're doing there. They're preparing the kids for what's coming."

The Hydro Volt was two years in the making and was designed and fabricated from scratch by students in a variety of programs at the Career Technical Center. Its notoriety has overshadowed a gas-electric hybrid students built for the last two-year competition.

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13 residents file to fill W-W board vacancy

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Wayne-Westland school board will have its work cut out for it after receiving 13 letters of intent from residents interested in filing a vacancy created by the recent resignation of Trustee Martha Pitsenbarger.

The applicants range from a former Westland city official and a retired high school teacher to parent volunteers and several residents who regularly attend school board meetings.

The most recognizable of the applicants is former Westland mayor and City Council member Charles "Trav" Griffin of Westland who also served a four-year term on the school board in the 1970s.

Also applying were:

- Wayne-Westland retiree Thomas Buckalew of Westland who was with the school district for 41 years and taught at John Glenn High School.

- Lori Mirales-Smith of Westland who had filed to file a board vacancy in 2008 and sought election to the board in 2010. She is an order processing manager with LMS North America Inc. in Troy.

- Scott Davis of Westland, the general manager of Value City Furniture in Westland.

- Andrea Clawson of Westland who said her "continuous attendance" at the monthly board meetings has allowed her to keep current with the issues facing

the school district.

- Aja Lavander of Westland, a claims specialist with AAA Auto Insurance.

- Susan Webb of Wayne who has volunteered at Franklin Middle School and Taft-Galloway Elementary and volunteers at Wayne Memorial High School where she is a parent representative on the district school improvement team and as a parent liaison.

- Jeffrey Hayton of Westland who is a quality assurance analyst with the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget.

- Pamela Prough of Westland, the general manager of My Lady's Florist and a graduate of Wayne Memorial High School.

- Wilma Jackson of Wayne who is a quality assurance works as a visiting teacher in the school district. She also is a graduate of Wayne Memorial High School.

- Kevin Headrick of Westland, manager of materials services at Providence Park Hospital in Novi and Providence Hospital in Southfield.

- Michelle Sample of Westland who is a regular at school board meetings, has been a parent volunteer at Hamilton Elementary and currently is part of the Team at Marshall Upper Elementary and parent volunteer at Stevenson Middle School.

- Carolyn Byndas of Westland who currently is business unit controller for SKF Bearings.

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Hurting From A Car Wreck?

If you've recently been involved in a car wreck and suffer from any of the following...

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- Sharp, shooting pains in the arms
- Numbness and tingling in the arms or hands
- Painful headaches or dizziness
- Unrelenting muscle soreness

...there may be cause for concern. This may be the most important article you will ever read about your injuries.

It's amazing how different life can be after a split second collision.

One minute everything is fine, the next you are hurting for days and uncertain if life will ever get back to normal. Tasks you used to perform with ease, like reading, concentrating or even sleeping, now take more energy and cause annoying pain.

If you feel like this, or have any of the symptoms listed above, you could be suffering from whiplash. Whiplash is an injury to the spine caused by a jerking motion, either backward, forward or from the side.

Whiplash can severely damage your ligaments, even if you feel just a little sore after the accident. If not healed properly, painful scar tissue will develop, causing misery in your neck joints for decades.

One medical study concluded 43% of patients "will suffer long-term symptoms following 'whiplash' injury, for which no conventional treatment has proven to be effective."

This means that almost half the people who have neck trauma from a car wreck will suffer for years. Plus the traditional methods of treatment like neck collars, 'wait-and-see', and pain pills are not working.

My name is Dr. Greg Kramer, clinic director at Livonia's Spine and Injury Center. I am one of only a few doctors in Michigan to be a Diplomat with the American Academy of Medical Legal Professionals and I've been helping people heal and be pain free after car wrecks for over 20 years. Chiropractic treatment has proven to be a very effective method of healing whiplash injuries. Here's the results of one chiropractic study...

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-- European Spine Journal

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POKER

FROM PAGE A1

At the end of the day, the charity walks out with 50 percent of the money, and Trip Kings gets the other half, with all expenses borne by Trip Kings. On a good day, White said, charities can make as much as \$1,500.

So far, in addition to the American GI Forum, the men's club from St. Robert Bellarmine in Redford and Frost Middle School in Livonia have benefited from Trip Kings. The money raised this weekend for Frost will help pay for a trip to Washington, D.C., for the school's eighth-graders.

Rich Roberts of Canton, who coaches Team Michigan, a wrestling team that just brought home a national title from Tulsa, Okla., said the money raised in Trip Kings — his team has had events at the Garden City room — has been invaluable to the team's success.

"We've consistently raised good money ... funds that make it affordable for our parents," said Roberts, a 19-year Canton resident who noted Team Michigan's trip to Tulsa cost some \$12,000. "Without these rooms, our kids might never make it. Whether it's wrestling or drama or choirs — whatever activity — we're giving those kids the opportunity to fund-raise to alleviate



Dealer Ghada Sirghani has one of some 40 jobs Trip Kings brought to Canton when it opened last week.

some of the (financial) pressure on parents."

Trip Kings is a spacious, clean facility with brand-new everything, from the crown molding to the tables and the deli. It took White some three months to get through the regulatory process of opening — he had to buy a liquor license from Carl's Chop House in Detroit and transfer it to Canton, for instance — and now he's ready to roll.

The room includes a "high-limit" room, which is adorned with a variety of sports memorabilia, including signed jerseys from athletes such as Red Wings goalie Chris Osgood, a Plymouth resident, Tigers pitcher Joel Zumaya and hockey legend Wayne Gretzky, whose jersey is autographed by players who've scored 500 goals or more in their careers. The memorabilia is for sale (the Gretzky jersey goes for

\$2,500) through a partnership through sporting goods giant Fanatic U.

Trip Kings brings some 40 jobs to town, including bartenders, wait staff and dealers — "We're very excited to be putting people to work," White said — and hopes to build something special in Canton.

"There wasn't anything like this out here," White said. "There are a lot of great chari-



Lanny Hall of Taylor contemplates his cards during an evening at Trip Kings.



The cards started flying at Trip Kings last week.

ties in the area, and it seemed like a great place to come and raise a million dollars."

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Detroit man charged in gas station heist

A 50-year old Detroit man was arraigned Friday on several charges in connection with a Dec. 21 gas station robbery that occurred in Canton.

Jimmie Lee Morris was in 35th District Court Friday, where Judge Michael Gerou set bond at \$500,000 (10 percent).

Morris was arraigned on one count of armed robbery, a felony punishable by up to life imprisonment; one count of a felon in possession of a

firearm, a five-year felony; felony firearm second notice, a five-year felony; assault with a dangerous weapon, a four-year felony; habitual offender fourth offense, punishable by up to life imprisonment.

Morris is accused of entering a Shell gas station on Michigan Avenue in Canton Dec. 21 at approximately 9:30 a.m., producing a black semi-automatic handgun to the clerk behind the counter and demanding cash from the register.

Witnesses told police the suspect struck the clerk in the head with the gun and left with an undisclosed amount of cash.

Morris' preliminary exam is scheduled for Feb. 18 at 35th District Court in Plymouth.



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Roger Fox, nationally Registered and Licensed Respiratory Therapist, joins Four Seasons' pulmonary team

Meet Roger Fox, a nationally Registered and Licensed Respiratory Therapist with hospital-based and sub acute experience since 1996. Roger gained sub acute and Intensive Care Unit experience at Harper Hospital before joining the staff of IPC (Inpatient Consultants). Today he is director of respiratory therapy services for IPC in Michigan and serves as a consultant for Four Seasons.

IPC is a leading national physician group practice focused on the delivery of hospital medicine with comprehensive training, information technology and management support systems necessary to promote the highest quality of care for patients. Under the supervision of Four Seasons' staff pulmonologist, Roger educates staff on medication changes and the latest techniques and information.

"It's something we're able to provide," said Pat Lyden, Four Seasons' Administrator and RN. "It's not traditional. You typically find people with respiratory therapy credentials in a hospital. Four Seasons is on the cutting edge."

Recent renovations of the facility included the installation of in-wall oxygen and suction in patient rooms.

"A lot of nursing homes don't offer in-wall," said Roger Fox. "We're able to treat trach(eostomy) and in-house dialysis patients. We take some pretty special patients. We're able to provide decannulation (removal of the tube). We have people come with trachs and get them out. It's a luxury not offered everywhere."

Roger Fox works with physicians and members of the health care team at Four Seasons to care for patients with a range of breathing disorders including congestive heart failure, COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) and exacerbation of COPD, emphysema, pneumonia, pulmonary fibrosis, and tracheostomy.

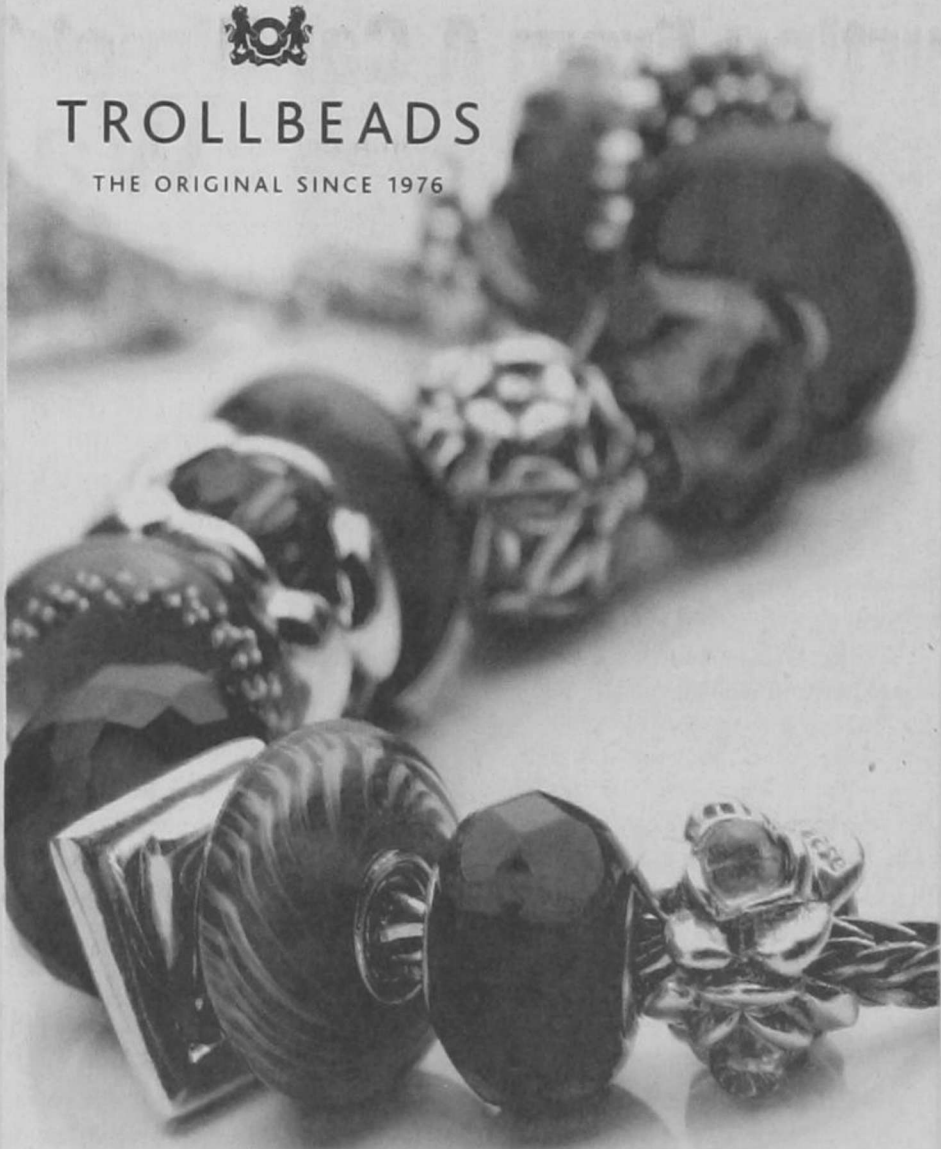
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Deputy chief post combines fire duties

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Amid efforts to streamline duties, Canton has created the job of deputy fire chief to replace the former position of fire marshal — a move officials say increases the workload while keeping the salary at \$83,533 a year.

The change comes as Canton, battling declining revenues, continues to seek ways to become more efficient while protecting services residents have come to expect, township offi-

cials say.

Former Fire Marshal Frank Barrett retired last year, and a deputy fire chief could be on the job as early as March after an outside firm, Career Directions of Ann Arbor, completes job-testing procedures involving four applicants, Canton Human Resources Manager David Medley said.

The newly hired deputy chief will continue the fire marshal's duties supervising fire-prevention efforts while taking on added responsibilities of coordinating emergency medi-

cal services and overseeing department training, Fire Chief Tim Dunn said.

"We're rolling those duties into one position," he said.

Medley said the township's Merit Commission approved the changes amid support from Canton Professional Fire Fighters Union Local 2289, part of the International Association of Fire Fighters.

The change came as township officials sought concessions from all employees as local leaders strike back

against a budget deficit that, prior to cost-cutting measures, had threatened to swell to \$15 million by next year.

Already, the township had declined to fill certain jobs as they became vacant, and Barrett's retirement as a longtime, acclaimed fire marshal provided yet another opportunity to consolidate duties, officials say.

"But we're not adding more money to the position," Medley said.

He also said the township has chosen not to fill a fire inspector position.

Meanwhile, Medley said the town-

ship could name its deputy fire chief as early as March, after the testing process has been completed.

The latest Canton Fire Department changes come after former Fire Chief Michael Rorabacher retired late last year, ending a 36-year career. He was replaced by Dunn, a longtime fire department employee who rose through the ranks to become battalion chief before he was tapped as Canton's new fire chief.

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COURT

FROM PAGE A1

the court's chief judge, wrote in an e-mail. "We have been pro-active."

FALLING REVENUE

Court revenues for 2009 were \$3,791,324, according to an audit for that year. Some \$577,462 was returned to the communities; for 2008, more than \$1.1 million was returned out of about \$4.2 million in revenue.

Public safety officials cited several reasons for the decline in filings.

"I don't think you can point to one thing. I think you have to look at all of the factors," Plymouth Township Police Chief Tom Tiderington said.

Those factors, Tiderington said, include fewer hours dedicated to traffic enforcement and a drop in the number of violations issued per traffic stop. The township currently has 26 officers, following four retirements last fall, and is in the process of hiring three officers, which will leave the department with one less officer than a year ago.

But, the chief said, officers are no longer working dedicated traffic details on an over-time basis, as they were a few years ago, and the township's participation in multi-jurisdictional units has also taken manpower from traffic duty. The township currently has one officer on a U.S. Drug

Enforcement Administration task force, another on a western Wayne County narcotics unit, and will soon have an officer on a third regional team, the chief said.

"Collectively, we probably have fewer officers in a traffic-enforcement capacity," Tiderington said of the township and the four other communities in the court's jurisdiction.

TICKETS DWINDLING

Township officers also have been writing fewer violations per traffic stop in recent years, Tiderington said. Officers had been writing two or three violations during the same traffic stop, but those tickets were often getting bargained down in court to just one violation, he said, and that proved to be financially inefficient. Each violation meant the court opened a new case, he said.

Despite a decline in traffic violations, Tiderington said, accidents have also been on the decline, and the township directs traffic patrol to problem areas. "Perhaps we're working smarter and as a result we're more efficient," he said.

In Canton Township, Patrick Nemecek, the public safety director, said the police department's internal case numbers have been fairly steady, and the results have been good.

"All the important factors that we look at in Canton are going the way we want them to go," Nemecek said. Arrests and traffic stops are up, accidents and serious crimes are



Source: State of Michigan and 35th District Court

down, and the number of calls for service doesn't vary widely from year to year, he said.

But, Nemecek said, Canton also may have fewer hours dedicated to traffic patrol, because some retired officers have not been replaced in recent years and others are participating in regional task forces.

Another factor in the court's numbers, he said, is Canton's policy, adopted within the last two or three years, of handling certain kinds of motor vehicle violations outside of court if offenders correct the problem within 20 days. These include equipment violations, such as

a nonworking headlight, as well as having no registration and no proof of insurance, said Lt. Scott Hilden, who oversees the department's records and traffic bureaus.

Of the 3,617 such violations Canton officers wrote in 2010, Hilden said, only 381 were not corrected within 20 days and sent to the court.

FEWER OFFICERS

In Plymouth, a drop in the number of officers has likely had an effect on the number of cases police generate, Mayor Dan Dwyer said. The city went from 17 officers in 2001 to 15

JUST THE FACTS ON 35TH DISTRICT COURT

There are five communities in the 35th District Court's jurisdiction: Plymouth, Canton and Northville townships and the cities of Plymouth and Northville.

The court and its three judges handle traffic offenses, misdemeanors and civil infractions, parking violations, small claims and landlord-tenant cases, and felony arraignments and preliminary hearings. Traffic violations make up well over half of the court's annual case filings.

Through a special arrangement, the court also handles juvenile cases, even though those cases are technically the responsibility of Wayne County Circuit Court and do not show up on the district's court's annual caseload statistics, which are filed with Michigan's court administrative office. The number of juvenile cases filed in the district court has averaged 288 a year in the last three years.

Parking violations are not included in the case filing numbers reported by the state for each district court. In 2010, 35th District Court had 641 parking cases.

Between full- and part-time personnel, the court has 42 full-time equivalent employees, plus Judges Michael Gerou, James Plakas and Ronald Lowe. That's down from close to 44 FTEs in 2005; controller Pam Avdoulos said more work in recent years has been transferred to part-timers, who do not receive benefits.

The court's total audited budget for 2009 was more than \$4.6 million.

currently, Dwyer said, and the number of cases generated in the city has dropped by about 7 percent in the same time frame.

But Dwyer, who is a member of the District Court Authority board, a group of representatives from each community within the area the court serves, said he's confident in the court's ability to stay ahead of the curve and cut costs. "I think Judge Gerou is making positive changes at the court," Dwyer said.

But the number of yearly case filings will continue to be watched, he said.


"If the caseload continues to

plummet, they'll have to make even more changes," Dwyer said.

Gerou said not too much should be made of short-term filing trends.

"While we do multi-year budget projections and collect and examine a lot of data, trends in and of themselves mean nothing. If numbers go up or down for three consecutive years, it has no logical bearing on whether that trend will continue in the following year," Gerou said. "One has to look at the reasons for any trend before one can safely predict or even guesstimate future numbers."

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Good News campaign honors youngsters

Westland teen rewarded for making a difference

Austin Klotz, 13, of Westland, is dedicated to making a difference in the lives of others.

That's why Austin was honored late last year in the *Observer & Eccentric*/Buddy's Pizza Good News, Good Chews Campaign.

Austin's "good news" efforts were sent it by his sister, Nicole White of Walled Lake.

White said her brother has been making a difference in the lives of others for at least four years.

"It started at his family's parish, St. Robert Bellarmine, in Redford Township," White said. "Every year around Christmas, he would take a card off of the tree for the needy and buy mittens and gloves, with his own hard-earned money."

"This led to helping out his elderly neighbors by mowing lawns and shoveling snow. He also passed out fliers, door-to-door, to collect winter coats, hats and gloves for the underprivileged."

"Last year, he sent 20 bags of clothing and other donations to the Our Lady of Good Counsel, PBJ (Peanut Butter & Jelly) Outreach Program."

"Austin has volunteered much of his free time with the PBJ Program on Saturday mornings with his grandmother, his mom and our younger brother, Hunter," White said.

"Thanksgiving weekend, Austin's family helped to serve a turkey dinner to over 200 people in downtown Detroit."

"I am so very proud of my brother because he strives to make a heartfelt difference in people's lives. I look up to him for all of his accomplishments and his continuing efforts."



Austin Klotz, with his brother, Hunter, was honored late last year in the *Observer & Eccentric*/Buddy's Pizza Good News, Good Chews Campaign.

"We are proud of Austin, too," said Marcy Brontman of Buddy's Pizza. "That's why Austin and his family were treated to dinner at the Buddy's in Livonia in December."

Austin's efforts are what the Good News, Good Chews Campaign seeks to support and promote, Brontman said.

"It's great that someone so young has shown such compassion to help others less fortunate," Brontman said.

To submit your good news for consideration, e-mail a story in 150 words or less to good-news@hometownlife.com. Include a photograph (jpg format) and a daytime phone number if we need to contact you. One story will be selected each month throughout 2011. The winner will receive lunch or dinner for four at any Buddy's Pizza restaurant.

Buddy's, O&E team up to honor Warner student

Margaret Amshay of Farmington Hills is only 10 years old, but she's already keenly aware that some people don't have enough to eat.

The Warner Upper Elementary School fifth-grader was visiting relatives last year in Arizona when she found out about a program called One Can A Week (go to onecanaweek.blogspot.com).

The community service program not only collects food for the needy, but helps foster good citizenship and neighborhood involvement.

She was "so taken with the concept," said her mom, that she came home and started the program in her neighborhood.



Margaret Amshay started the One Can A Week food program in her neighborhood.

Jon Grant Community Center in Farmington Hills.

Since last August, Margaret has collected more than 450 pounds of food.

"She an amazing girl," said

Margaret asked neighbors to donate one can or box of food each week. She collects the donations every Sunday and, with the help of her parents (Ann and Mike Amshay), delivers them to Neighborhood House at the

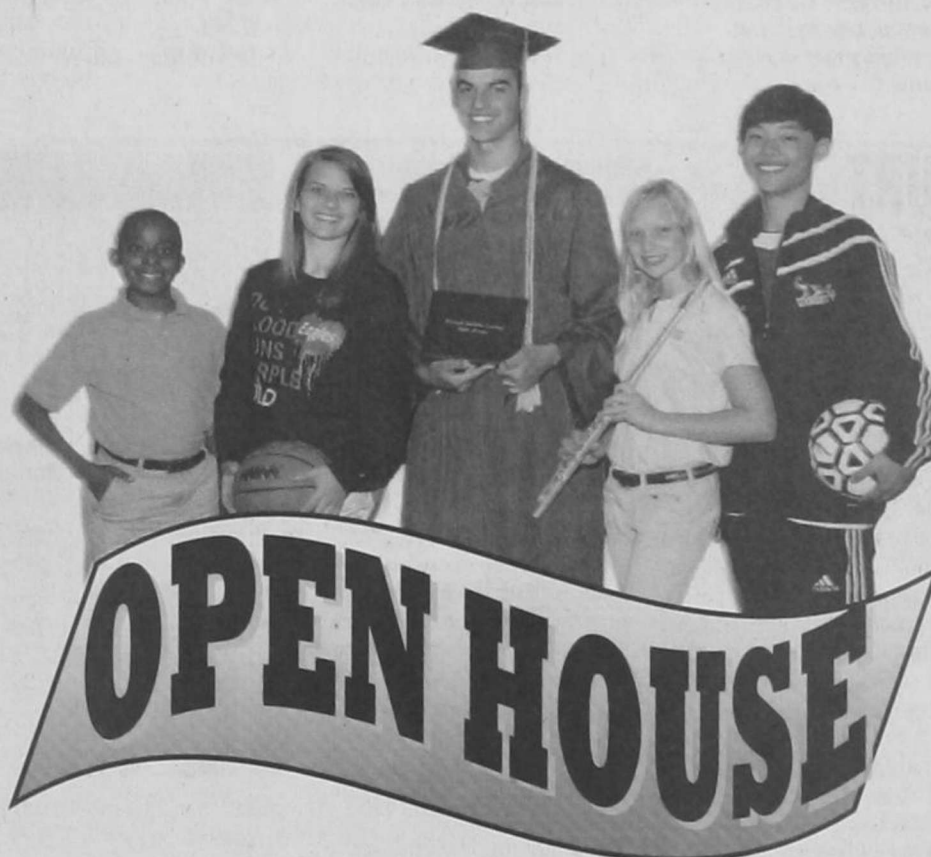
Ann Amshay, who nominated her daughter's story for the *Observer & Eccentric* Newspapers/Buddy's Pizza Good News, Good Chews Campaign.

"We are pleased to start 2011 by naming Margaret and her local One Can A Week program as the January good news story," said Susan Rosiek, publisher of the *Observer & Eccentric* Newspapers. "We hope that by publicizing Margaret's good news story that others will join her in helping to feed the hungry in southeast Michigan."

Margaret and her family will be treated to lunch or dinner at the Buddy's restaurant of their choice in metro Detroit.



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0608727197

Refinancing makes sense in the right situation

Q: Dear Rick: I've been approached about refinancing my home and I want your advice. I refinanced a few years ago and I have been making extra payments since. If I keep making the same payment, the house will be paid off in 12-13 years. If I refinance, according to my mortgage person, it would cut my payments by a little less than \$100 a month. My strategy — if I did refinance — would be to continue to make the same payment. I figure that would save



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

about a year or two in payments. The problem is it will cost about \$1,700 out of pocket to refinance. What do you think? I have no intention of moving. I plan to be in my house forever.

A: In reviewing your situ-

ation, it makes sense to refinance.

When reaching that conclusion, a number of issues entered into my thought process. The first is you plan to be in your house long term — one of the most critical issues in deciding whether to refinance. For someone who plans to be in their house for a couple of years, I may not recommend refinancing.

In addition, the type of

mortgage you select also depends upon your time frame and situation. In most situations, I would not, in today's environment, recommend an adjustable-rate mortgage. However, for someone who plans to be in their house for a short period of time, an adjustable-rate mortgage may make sense.

The next issue is how long will it take to recoup the cost of refinancing. In your situa-

tion, about 18 months. After that is when the real savings come in. My general rule is to recoup costs within a two-year period. Since you are going to be in the house for the long run and can recoup costs in less than two years, it makes good economic sense to refinance.

With mortgage rates near record lows, there are opportunities for people to refinance a mortgage. However, this is a different mortgage industry than it was a few years ago. A few years ago, a customer who could walk and talk at the same time would be approved for a mortgage. That's no longer the case. It is more difficult to obtain mortgages than in the past. However, I'm not so sure that's a bad thing. I like the idea that the mortgage industry is getting back to basics.

If you have good credit scores and your home appraises out, there are some very good opportunities to refinance.

One lesson we should all have learned from the past is that it's important to deal with quality people. Check the mortgage company out with the Better Business Bureau

and get referrals from family and friends to make sure that you deal with a professional — someone who can assist you in the very complex world of mortgages.

One problem with the mortgage industry in the past was that brokers were very aggressive and in many situations failed to give an individual the proper amount of time to review their various options. All too often, people got mortgages and they had no idea of the true terms. One of the keys of a good mortgage person is that he/she takes time to explain your rights and obligations and to answer your questions. If you're dealing with someone who doesn't want to answer your questions or is too aggressive, then you're dealing with the wrong person.

There are many qualified mortgage individuals and companies, so there is no reason to deal with someone who doesn't act as a professional.

Good luck!

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

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Kus, president of the Plymouth Area Jaycees, and

Dinsler are business partners and want to share planning strategies and their forecast for the economic future. The event will include breakfast; seating is limited. Call the chamber at (734) 453-1540 a reservation.

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AAUW brings 'Wonderland' to life in children's show

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The last time the Plymouth-Canton AAUW performed *Alice in Wonderland*, Sharon Belobraidich played the Red Queen.

This year, the Plymouth resident has a totally different role and she couldn't be happier.

"I don't like this play," said Belobraidich, who is co-directing the annual production. "I like to be the antagonist and the only one in this play is the Red Queen and she's more rude and obnoxious. I've never been one to be a goody two-shoes."

Belobraidich is partnering with Pam Dean of Canton in co-directing the branch's children's theater production, which will be presented Thursday through Saturday, Feb. 10-12, at Garden City High School's O'Leary Auditorium.

Pulling parts from six different scripts, Belobraidich has crafted a production that caters to the younger crowd. She's beefed up the jury scene at the end of the play and built up the Humpty Dumpty character. She's also added the Dodo Bird to the cast.

"I always try to find something else we can do," she said. "The last time we did the play, we had a wonderful tea party scene and then it went into the jury trial. It was very blah, so I pulled what I liked from each one and put it in the play. It was fun to do."

The all-woman cast read through the script eight times before heading to the high school to rehearse onstage, where the cast has been fine tuning its performance for five weeks.

Playing the lead of Alice is Lisa Noel of Redford, who stepped in after the original Alice had to drop out. Playing her adversary, the Red Queen, is Sue Bellows of Garden City, while Mickey Edell of Canton is the White Rabbit.

Also appearing in the production are Dawn Parker as

CHILDREN'S THEATER

What: Plymouth-Canton AAUW's 'Alice in Wonderland'

When: Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 10-12

Where: Garden City High School's O'Leary Auditorium, 6500 Middlebelt, north of Ford, Garden City

Tickets: Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$6 at the door. The Thursday performance is sold out. Tickets are available for the 7 p.m. Friday and 2 p.m. Saturday shows and a limited number is available for the 10 a.m. Saturday show. Advance tickets are available at Fanatic U, 30409 Ford, Garden City; Sideways, 505 Forest Ave., Plymouth; and Perkos Shoes, 33426 Five Mile, Livonia. Check the website www.aauw-pcmi.org for availability.

the Cheshire Cat, Kathryn Bellows as Tweedle Dee and Mary Beth Riblet as Tweedle Dum, Kathy Sharpe as the Dodo Bird, Monica Nick as the White Queen, Becky Copenhaver as the Duchess, Elaine Bain as the Caterpillar, Julie Brown as the King of Hearts, Melissa Uhl as the Mad Hatter, Sandy Finn as the March Hare, Michelle Churchill as the Dormouse, Karen Landers as Alice's sister Sarah, Esther Nelson as Humpty Dumpty and Kay Paupore, Laurie Kenpisty and Shirley Zaetta as the Flowers — Lily, Rose and Daisy.

Playing the cards are Marissa Ryan, Helene Lusa, Kristal Kish, Kathy Kish, Janet Blumberg, Lena Packard and Andrea Witkowski.

This is the 51st installment of the branch's children's theater production.



FILE PHOTO

The last time the Plymouth-Canton AAUW performed 'Alice in Wonderland,' Sharon Belobraidich (left) played the Red Queen. This time the Plymouth resident is co-directing the play with Pam Dean of Canton.

ater production. The plays started out as a branch interest group aimed at bringing live drama to children in Plymouth. It has now become the major project of the branch, which is known around the state for it. The plays also are a drawing card for new young members, Belobraidich said.

"A majority of members in the AAUW in the U.S. are over age 65," she said. "The push now is to bring in young people, and we bring in more members to the branch because of the plays."

The branch has a repertoire

of seven plays it performs, ranging from *Peter Pan* and *Pinocchio* to *Cinderella* and *Jack and the Beanstalk*, although the latter play most likely will be dropped because of its lack of popularity.

"The kids don't know it because there isn't a movie," Belobraidich said. "All the others they know very well, but we have a hard time getting them to come and see *Jack and the Beanstalk*."

The plays are kept to about 45 minutes in length and include some audience participation. There's also a chance for youngsters to meet the cast

in the theater lobby after the show. Many youngsters also dress in costume for the show.

The plays are popular with the Girl Scouts, who are able to work on a badge by spending time with the cast and crew and seeing the production. It was started several years by Finn and has grown by leaps and bounds. The Thursday night performance for Girls Scouts is sold out and only a limited number of tickets is available for the 11 a.m. Girl Scout program Saturday.

"It's great for the Scout leaders," Belobraidich said. "The Scouts come here, learn

about the theater and earn a badge. They come from all over — Redford, Ann Arbor, Livonia. It's also a great connection for us. Those are our next members."

Tickets are available in advance at Fanatic U in Garden City, Sideways in Plymouth and Perkos Shoes in Livonia at \$5 each. They also are available at the door for the 11 a.m. Saturday show as long as they are available. Check the branch's website at www.aauw-pcmi.org for availability.

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FRI/SAT LS 11:50

THE MECHANIC (R)

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FRI/SAT LS 11:50

THE KING'S SPEECH (R)

11:15, 1:45, 4:20, 6:50, 9:20

FRI/SAT LS 11:50

NO STRINGS ATTACHED (R)

11:40, 2:15, 4:40, 7:05, 9:30

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11:10, 1:40, 4:15, 6:45, 9:15

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Rouge friends want help with toad, frog survey

Volunteer training for the annual volunteer Rouge River Watershed Frog and Toad Survey begins this month, and it starts with a training session in Plymouth Township.

Interested volunteers attend a two-hour workshop where they learn the basics of recognizing frog or toad type by their call. Volunteers are assigned nearby wetlands they then survey on their own on damp warm evenings and submit results to Friends of the Rouge.

Last year's results are available at www.therouge.org.

Interested volunteers need to register for one of four workshops at www.therouge.org. For more information, call Sally at (313) 792-9621 or monitoring@therouge.org.

The first workshop will be held 10 a.m. to noon Saturday Feb. 12, at the Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty, Plymouth. The other workshops are:

- 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, March 2, in the Walnut room of Canton Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton.
- 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 5, in the Farmington Hills Council Chambers, 31555 Eleven Mile, Farmington Hills.
- 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 12, at the Bloomfield Township Hall, 4200 Telegraph, Bloomfield Township.

The survey has been conducted since 1998 and provides information on the health of Rouge wetlands. The presence of several species of frog and toad is a good indication of healthy wetlands which are critical in restoring the water quality of the Rouge River because they absorb rain water, filter pollutants, reduce flooding as well as provide habitat for many species.

As many as 600 people participate in the survey each year, including families (children are welcome when accompanied by a participating adult), seniors, students and scouts. Survey areas are limited to wetlands within the Rouge River Watershed which encompasses 466 square miles in the Detroit area. Participants must be willing to survey after dark several evenings a month March through July.

TRW looks for better fuel efficiency

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

In the quest to create more efficient engine and vehicle operation, a Livonia supplier is working with another company to increase fuel efficiency in commercial vehicles.

TRW Automotive, which is headquartered in Livonia, will be exploring possible applications in commercial vehicles with Fallbrook Technology's continuously variable accessory drive technology.

Fallbrook announced on its website this week that the two companies entered a memorandum of understanding.

The specific applications covered by the memorandum were not disclosed. John Wilkerson, senior communications manager for TRW, said Thursday TRW's property in Indiana was doing work with Fallbrook. "They'll see if the technology can help fuel efficiency in vehicles," Wilkerson said. The work was in its very early stages, Wilkerson said.

Fallbrook noted on its website that the applications are designed to improve both system performance and efficiency, which would directly increase vehicle fuel efficiency.

TRW Automotive supplies more than 40 major vehicle manufacturers and 250 nameplates. TRW's products include braking systems, steering and suspension systems, occupant safety systems (airbags, seat belts and steering wheels). TRW Automotive reported \$11.6 billion in sales in 2009.

Based on its research and testing, Fallbrook believes that CVADs have significant potential as a "clean" technology because improved accessory performance can result in improved fuel economy. A vehicle's accessories, such as the air conditioner, power steering pump, water pump or alternator, draw power from the engine and impact the vehicle's fuel efficiency when they are running at speeds that are above or below their optimum revolutions per minute.

Under existing practices, these accessories are connected to the engine and therefore dependent on the speed of the engine for their power. As the engine speed goes up or down, the accessories' speeds go up and down. A CVAD, which operates between the engine and these accessories, is designed to allow accessory speed to vary according to performance needs independent of the engine speed, the company stated.

Under the memo of understanding the companies will continue to investigate development of applications with the possibility of entering a definitive joint development agreement. Both companies expect negotiation of a joint development agreement to conclude in 2011.

"This is yet another example of how our NuVinci technology has the potential to reduce the carbon footprint from vehicle use," said William G. Klehm III, chairman and CEO of Fallbrook, in a prepared statement. "Together with partners like TRW, we're creating affordable, advanced clean-tech products that can help make a difference in the near term."

Fallbrook Technologies Inc. is a technology company dedicated to improving the performance and flexibility of transmissions for vehicles and equipment. Fallbrook's NuVinci® continuously variable planetary technology is applicable to machines that use a transmission such as bicycles, light electric vehicles, automobiles, agricultural equipment, and wind turbines, among others.

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Chiefs dive into share of first place

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

There was a little bit of everything Thursday night at Canton's natatorium. During the KLAA South Division boys swimming and diving showdown between the host Chiefs and Plymouth, three Canton swimmers were honored on Senior Night.

There was a delay while meet officials tried to sort out an apparent scoring discrepancy on one of the lanes and a junior Chief set a new pool record in one event.

But when all was finally said and done, Canton eked out a thrilling 97-89 victory to go to 3-1 in the division and join a logjam at the top with Plymouth and Westland John Glenn.

"It was a pretty good meet," said record-setting Victor Zhang, who tallied a time of 53.13 seconds in the 100 butterfly. "Our whole team swam pretty well despite the fact that (Wednesday) was a snow day and we weren't able to practice."

Although happy to set the record, Zhang downplayed the achievement.

"It's all about the team, not individuals," Zhang said. "Because one person cannot change the outcome of the meet. It's all about what your team can do."

STILL FOCUSED

Canton head coach Dave Le concurred about the midweek snow day hampering preparation for the dual meet.

"The good thing is we were both in the same boat," Le said. "So it came down to the guys and they were incredibly focused for having two days off."

He said his swimmers still had good times for the most part.

"But as you look at the events," Le said, "as we got into some of the boys' third and fourth events, they just didn't quite have the stamina."

Although the teams nearly split available firsts (Canton won seven events, Plymouth five), Wildcats head coach Doug Schade said Canton earned enough secondary points to stay ahead.

"In events where they didn't have Victor Zhang or (junior) Jay Jin, their depth was just enough to keep us at bay," Schade said. "So we couldn't gain any points on them. It was just their night."

Schade did like how his team competed, however. He cited Plymouth junior Adam Liakos (first in the 50 free, 100 free and 200 freestyle relay) and senior Alex Jouney (first in the 100 breaststroke).

"I think Adam had his best times in both of his events and I know Alex had



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER (STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER)

Canton junior Victor Zhang slices through the water during the 200-yard freestyle Thursday night. Zhang later set a new Canton pool record in the 100-yard butterfly.



One of the top swimmers Thursday night for Plymouth was senior Alex Jouney, shown competing during the 200-yard medley relay.

his best time in the 100 breast. That was a great swim for him," Schade said. "We did great. We just came up a little short and we look forward to seeing them at the division meet and the conference meet."

Liakos took the 50 free with a mark of 23.80 seconds and the 100 free in 51.09, then teamed up with Ian Smith, Todd Maslyk and Zach Koch to win the 200 relay in 1:41.87. Jouney's 1:07.03 was best in the 100 breast, while Cameron Earls

won the 100 backstroke with a time of 59.84 seconds.

Canton won the other two relays, the 200 medley (1:43.82) and meet-capping 400 freestyle (3:33.55). Comprising the former were Jin, senior Jacob Dillon, Zhang and senior Even Champine. Winning the latter was the unit of senior Christopher Krebs, Jin, Adrian Simion and Zhang.

Garnering firsts in two individual events for the Chiefs were Zhang (100 fly; 200 free, 1:50.46) and Jin (200 IM, 2:06.22; 500 free, 5:15.80).

NICE SPRINGBOARD

The meet got off to a good start for Canton, as junior Ryan Kilgore finished first in the 1-meter diving event with a personal best 207.5 points.

His sixth and final dive of the day not only catapulted him over the 200-point mark, it drew a loud cheer from fans sitting in the bleachers.

"It (dive) had great height and was almost a splashless entry," Chiefs diving coach Joe Le said. "It was almost perfect form."

Kilgore started by standing with his back to the water. He then sprang high off the board and did a one and a half

Please see **FIRST PLACE, B2**

It's official

Beyer, Brindza lead cast of college football signees

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Right after Brady Hoke replaced Rich Rodriguez as head football coach at the University of Michigan, Brennen Beyer — who had been recruited by Rodriguez — made sure he wasn't wavering about being a Michigan Man.

"Right now, I'm still loving Michigan," Beyer, a 6-3, 225-pound stalwart for the 2010 state finalist Plymouth Wildcats, said last month.

Beyer added that he still planned on talking with Hoke to determine whether he would follow through on his original plans to wear the maize and blue.

On Wednesday's National Signing Day, Beyer did just that, inking his letter of intent to play linebacker for Hoke's Wolverines. The hard-hitting senior registered 47.5 tackles and 11.5 sacks for Plymouth and also is a clutch receiver, although it remains to be seen if Michigan will use him on offense.

Beyer has a Plymouth teammate basking in the NCAA Division 1 spotlight right along with him. Top-rated kicker/punter Kyle Brindza, as expected, signed with Notre Dame. The 6-foot-1 Brindza successfully kicked 19 of 26 field goals in '10 and averaged 57 yards on kickoffs.

While the Wildcats boasted the highest-profile recruits in Beyer and Brindza, Canton's Chiefs had the most players to sign with colleges this week.

FIVE CHIEFS SIGN

Canton, 10-1 in 2010 (with the lone defeat by Plymouth in Round 2 of the playoffs) had a players signed by several Michigan colleges.

Headed to Northern Michigan University will be 5-11, 175-pound free safety/receiver Ryan Powell while 6-3, 190-pound quarterback Ben Merbler and defensive back Josh Nolen (5-8, 165) will play at Saginaw Valley State.



Beyer



Brindza

Canton head coach Tim Baechler said Northern Michigan will be welcoming a "very smart" and versatile player in Powell and a promising, strong-armed quarterback in Merbler. As for Nolen, the Cardinals' recruit will provide plenty of speed in the defensive secondary, Baechler added.

The other players from the Chiefs to ink letters this week are linebacker Garrett Bryden (6-1, 210), with Northwood University and 6-0, 205-pound running back Davion Stackhouse (North Dakota Junior College).

Baechler said Northwood will be getting "a very smart and quick linebacker who has a nose for the ball" in Bryden and noted that wherever NDJC plays Stackhouse (running back or defensive safety) he will make things happen with "very explosive" ability.

WARRIORS INK WALSH

Salem also has a football player moving on to play college football in 2011. Wayne State University announced it signed 6-4, 240-pound tight end Ethan Walsh to a letter of intent.

Rocks head coach Kurt Britnell said the Warriors will be getting an excellent player and person.

"We are very excited for Ethan and the opportunity he has to play at the next level," Britnell said. "He has worked very hard to fulfill a dream to play college football. Ethan will do some good things for Wayne State University. I'm sure he'll do Salem proud."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Canton boys cagers rally late to edge Wildcats

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The last time Canton and Plymouth got together for a boys basketball game, Mike Nadratowski drained a basket at the buzzer to give the Wildcats a road win.

On Friday night, the teams played the rematch and Nadratowski again had the ball and a chance to finish off the KLAA South rival Chiefs with a last-second triple.

This time, Nadratowski's shot from behind the 3-point arc rimmed out. And two seconds later, after Plymouth senior forward Brennen Beyer's reverse layup bid from under the rim failed to connect, the Chiefs had a 46-44 victory.

"I would rather have it in

nobody else's hands than him (Nadratowski), nobody," Plymouth head coach Mike Soukup said. "He had a good look, wide-open, it just clanged out. Story of the night."

Canton senior point guard Dietrich Lever II, who scored 12 fourth-quarter points and 22 for the night, smiled and said he couldn't let Nadratowski beat the Chiefs again because "it hurt too much last time. I had to do something to stop him."

Things looked as though late heroics wouldn't even be in the script, as the ice-cold Chiefs went four minutes without a point in the third quarter.

Meanwhile, Nadratowski (12 points, three steals) canned two treys in the third, from opposite corners of the

floor, to put the Wildcats up 37-27 late in the quarter. His second triple was followed by an enthusiastic arm pump.

After a trey by senior forward Pat Salo (11 points) made it 42-33 with about 5:30 to play in regulation, it didn't look like a Canton comeback would be in the cards.

But the Chiefs started to pick it up less than a minute later, when junior forward Terrell Sewell (seven points) converted a three-point play to slice the deficit to 42-38.

Lever then took over, burying a three-ball to make it 44-43 with 1:35 left and stealing an inbounds pass that put Canton up by a point.

The Wildcats could not hit a field goal try with 0:27 left and Lever sank a foul shot to give the Chiefs a 46-44 lead.

After Nadratowski's miss, Salo was fouled and went to the line with a chance to knot the score. But after his first free throw did not fall, the Wildcats called timeout to map out strategy to try to force overtime.

Salo intentionally missed his second foul shot, and Beyer somehow got to the rebound despite strong defensive pressure from Canton forward Paul Baumgart.

TURNING IT AROUND

But the attempted reverse layup by Beyer (four points, 13 rebounds) didn't connect, ending the contest.

"Beyer did a great job of getting across the lane and grabbing a one-handed rebound

Please see **BASKETBALL, B5**



MAX MILLS



Who: Max Mills, senior co-captain Salem varsity boys swim team.

Miscellany: The 17-year-old carries a 3.66 grade-point average and is a member of the National Honor Society. Mills also is entering his fourth year on the varsity lacrosse team.

Captain's job: "My job is to motivate the team before every meet and to make sure they know what is expected of them on a daily basis."

Leadership style: "I lead by example. I do what is expected of everyone and show what

exactly should be done day in and day out to be a great swimmer."

Why him? "I think they chose me because I am a confident and vocal person. I try to be friends with everyone on the team but understand that when work needs to be done, I can't always be their friend."

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PLYMOUTH

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NOVI

Non-profit status for 'Linebackers' could boost Salem grid program

The Salem Linebackers Booster Club has received notification that the IRS designated the group a 501(c)(3) organization.

Now a recognized non-profit organization, this designation will help the Linebackers more effectively secure support for the football program at Salem High School.

"Being designated as a non-profit organization opens many doors we previously were unable to knock on," said Mike Kelty, newly elected president of the Salem Linebackers. "Any individual or organization that makes an outright gift to the Linebackers can claim a deduction for that gift on their

taxes."

As Salem has taken steps to revive a once thriving but recently struggling football program, this new opportunity to attract support for the Rocks will help fill some gaps that could make a significant difference.

"We are excited about this opportunity to attract more resources for the program," Kelty said. "When we see the success that our brother programs, Plymouth and Canton, have achieved, there is a direct relationship between the support they've been able to bring to the table and their recent playoff runs."

Entering his third year

as Salem head coach, Kurt Britnell is excited about what this means for the program.

"We have a great group of kids coming up through the ranks with a lot of talent," Britnell said. "We have also built a strong coaching staff. Providing our coaches the resources they need to cultivate that talent will help us move toward our goal of building a playoff-caliber team."

Those interested in taking advantage of this opportunity to make a tax deductible gift to support Salem Football can contact Dennis Howie, a member of the Linebackers fundraising committee, at salemsuccess@gmail.com.

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL

Monday, Feb. 7

Roeper at Ply. Christian, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 8

Franklin at Canton, 7 p.m.

Salem at South Lyon, 7 p.m.

Plymouth at John Glenn, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 11

Churchill at Plymouth, 7 p.m.

Canton at John Glenn, 7 p.m.

Salem at Northville, 7 p.m.

Oakland Christian at Ply. Christian, 8:45 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Tuesday, Feb. 8

Ply. Christian at Roeper, 7 p.m.

Canton at Franklin, 7 p.m.

South Lyon at Salem, 7 p.m.

John Glenn at Plymouth, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 11

John Glenn at Canton, 7 p.m.

Northville at Salem, 7 p.m.

Plymouth at Churchill, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 12

Ply. Christian at Lenawee Christian, 5:30 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY

Tuesday, Feb. 8

PCS Penguins vs. F.H. Mercy at Arctic Edge, 6:30 p.m.

Livonia Franklin vs. Canton at Arctic Edge, 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 9

Canton, Plymouth, Salem

at Public School Showcase, TBD

Thursday, Feb. 10

Canton, Plymouth, Salem

at Public School Showcase, TBD

Friday, Feb. 11

Canton, Plymouth, Salem

at Public School Showcase, TBD

Saturday, Feb. 12

PCS Penguins at Bloomfield, TBD

Canton, Plymouth, Salem

at Public School Showcase, TBD

BOYS WRESTLING

Thursday, Feb. 10

Team districts at Salem, 5 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 12

Canton, Plymouth, Salem

at individual districts, TBD

BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING

Wednesday, Feb. 9

Lakeland vs. Plymouth, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 10

Millford at Canton, 6:30 p.m.

Howell at Salem, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 11

Canton, Plymouth, Salem

at MISCA diving, TBD

Saturday, Feb. 12

Canton, Plymouth, Salem

at MISCA swimming, TBD

GIRLS GYMNASICS

Thursday, Feb. 10

Canton at Brighton, 7 p.m.

PREP BOWLING

Wednesday, Feb. 9

Plymouth vs. Novi,

Salem vs. John Glenn,

Canton vs. Wayne,

3:30 p.m. at Westland Bowl

Thursday, Feb. 10

Plymouth vs. Clarenceville,

Canton vs. Novi,

Salem vs. Wayne,

3:30 p.m. at Super Bowl (Canton)

Saturday, Feb. 12

Divine Child Tournament

at Westland Bowl, 9 a.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Wednesday, Feb. 9

Madonna at Davenport, 7:30 p.m.

Oakland CC at Schoolcraft, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 12

Marygrove at Madonna, 3 p.m.

Henry Ford at Schoolcraft, 3 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Monday, Feb. 7

Madonna at Wayne State, 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 9

Oakland CC at Schoolcraft, 7 p.m.

Davenport at Madonna, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 12

Henry Ford at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m....

OHL HOCKEY

Friday, Feb. 11

Plymouth Whalers

at Mississauga, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 12

Owen Sound vs. Plymouth Whalers

at Compuware Arena, 7 p.m.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER (STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER)

Wowing spectators with his series of dives was Canton junior Ryan Kilgore, who won the event and cracked the 200-point plateau for the first time this season.

FIRST PLACE

FROM PAGE B1

somersaults before completing the dive.

The Chiefs were already looking forward to facing Plymouth and swimming well on Senior Night — to help give senior co-captains Champine, Dillon and Krebs a happy sendoff.

But the cheers for Kilgore and other divers "kind of gets them fired up for the rest of the meet, for their own events," Joe Le added.

Kilgore finished well ahead of Plymouth's Connor McManus (166.35) and Ian Smith (161.95).

Now, both coaches eagerly anticipate the Feb. 18-19 division meet, to be hosted by John Glenn.

Plymouth's Schade said whoever wins that meet will nab the KLAA South championship.

"It will be very intense," Canton's Dave Le said. "Not only just between us, Plymouth and John Glenn. But Franklin has very good swimmers, Wayne has very good swimmers, so does Churchill. It's going to be a very tough meet."

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BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING

DUAL MEET RESULTS

CANTON 97

PLYMOUTH 89

Feb. 3 at Canton

200-yard medley relay: 1. Canton (Jay Jin, Jacob Dillon, Victor Zhang, Evan Champine), 1:43.82; 2. Plymouth (Nick Weber, Todd Maslyk, DeLeon Morris, Ian Smith), 1:45.34; 3. Canton (Christopher Krebs, Alex Bourdreau, Jonathan Marceau, Ryan Sheeler), 1:59.76.

200 freestyle: 1. V. Zhang (C), 1:50.46; 2. Adrian Simion (C), 1:56.07; 3. Kyle Strobel (P), 2:08.13; 4. Zach Koch (P), 2:08.75; 5. Mike Pool (P), 2:09.66.

200 individual medley: 1. Jin (C), 2:06.22; 2. Alex Jouney (P), 2:12.87; 3. Krebs (C), 2:16.53; 4. Weber (P), 2:18.75; 5. Marceau (C), 2:27.75.

50 freestyle: 1. Adam Liakos (P), 23.80; 2. Champine (C), 23.97; 3. Ethan Christensen (P), 24.61; 4. Sheeler (C), 26.72; 5. Smith (P), 26.97.

1-meter diving: 1. Ryan Kilgore (C), 207.05 points; 2. Connor McManus (P), 166.35; 3. Smith (P), 161.95; 4. Mitch Posuniak (C), 138.10; 5. William Harrington (P), 114.20.

100 butterfly: 1. V. Zhang (C), 53.13, new Canton pool record; 2. Champine (C), 52.78; 3. Dillon (C), 55.00; 4. Maslyk (P), 58.18; 5. Sheeler (C), 1:00.90.

100 freestyle: 1. Liakos (P), 51.09; 2. Champine (C), 52.78; 3. Dillon (C), 55.00; 4. Maslyk (P), 58.18; 5. Sheeler (C), 1:00.90.

500 freestyle: 1. Jin (C), 5:15.80; 2. Pool (P), 6:01.16; 3. Koch (P), 6:04.72; 4. Nate Basch (P), 6:25.12; 5. Nathan Benjamin (C), 6:27.87.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Plymouth (Liakos, Smith, Maslyk, Koch), 1:41.87; 2. Canton (Champine, Chris Jenner, Bourdreau, Dillon), 1:42.97; 3. Canton (Simion, Drew Wade, Kyle Spence, Sheeler), 1:44.92.

100 backstroke: 1. Cameron Earls (P), 59.84; 2. Krebs (C), 1:01.39; 3. Simion (C), 1:01.78; 4. Weber (P), 1:07.54; 5. Kyle Bindas (C), 1:11.52.

100 breaststroke: 1. Jouney (P), 1:07.03; 2. Dillon (C), 1:11.10; 3. Bourdreau (C), 1:16.44; 4. Maslyk (P), 1:16.74; 5. Michael Wilyard (C), 1:17.05.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Canton (Krebs, Jin, Simion, V. Zhang), 3:33.55; 2. Plymouth (Koch, Earls, Christensen, Jouney), 3:45.94; 3. Plymouth (Weber, Pool, Austin Ryan, Strobel), 4:03.16.

Dual meet records: Canton, 3-1 KLAA South Division; Plymouth, 3-1 KLAA South.



Plymouth senior Ethan Christensen (above) tries to catch up to Canton pace-setter Victor Zhang during the 100 butterfly. Christensen finished second behind Zhang, who set a new pool record in the event.

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| | 7:30 pm | \$30 | \$30,000 | 20 min. | None | None | \$1,000 |
| Tuesday | 4:30 pm | \$25 | \$25,000 | 20 min. | None | None | \$1,000 |
| | 7:30 pm | \$30 | \$30,000 | 20 min. | None | None | \$1,000 |
| Wednesday | 4:30 pm | \$25 | \$25,000 | 20 min. | None | None | \$1,000 |
| | 7:30 pm | \$30 | \$30,000 | 20 min. | None | None | \$1,000 |
| Thursday | 4:30 pm | \$25 | \$25,000 | 20 min. | None | None | \$1,000 |
| | 7:30 pm | \$35 | \$35,000 | 20 min. | None | None | \$1,400 |
| Friday | 1:30 pm | \$25 | \$25,000 | 20 min. | None | None | \$1,000 |
| | 4:30 pm | \$25 | \$25,000 | 20 min. | None | None | \$1,000 |
| | 7:30 pm | \$30 | \$30,000 | 20 min. | None | None | \$1,400 |
| Saturday | 1:30 pm | \$25 | \$25,000 | 20 min. | None | None | \$1,000 |
| | 4:30 pm | \$25 | \$25,000 | 20 min. | None | None | \$1,000 |
| | 7:30 pm | \$35 | \$35,000 | 20 min. | None | None | \$1,400 |
| Sunday | 1:30 pm | \$25 | \$25,000 | 20 min. | None | None | \$1,000 |
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| | 7:30 pm | \$35 | \$35,000 | 20 min. | None | None | \$1,400 |

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

Little League signups

Spring registration is around the corner for the Plymouth/Canton Little League. On-line registration is available at www.ply.canll.com and there will be a walk-in signup session, 12 noon-to-4 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 19 at Plaza Lanes in Plymouth.

Available leagues include the following: T-ball, ages 5-6; Machine Pitch, ages 7-8; Minor Division, ages 8-10; Major Division, ages 10-12; and Junior Division, ages 13-14.

Visit the web site listed above for additional information.

Salem lacrosse meeting

There will be an informational meeting for all Salem girls interested in playing varsity lacrosse, 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 17 at the high school's library (Room W2122, 2nd floor).

Both parents and students should attend to obtain information for try-outs, and fees for the season. This will be the first season Salem will field its own varsity team after the split of the PCS United team. Further information may be obtained by visiting www.eteamz.com/Salemrockgirlslacrosse.

For girls only

Looking to boost the profile of girls hockey, Canton Arctic

Edge hosted Saturday night's "Hockey Night in Canton" featuring the Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins.

But that's not all. The arena at 46615 Michigan near Canton Center Drive welcomes girls for some informal sticks and pucks, between 8-8:50 a.m. Saturdays.

The program carries the point-blank slogan "No Cuts! Boys!" and is just \$5 per participant.

Girls must bring their own equipment or use rental equipment available at Arctic Edge on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, call (734) 487-7777 or go to www.arcticarenas.com.

Bowl with the Whalers

The Plymouth Whalers of the Ontario Hockey League will participate in "Bowl with the Whalers," from 6:30-9 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 8 at Westland Bowl, 5940 N. Wayne Road.

It should be a fun night as players will try to knock those pins down along with members of the community.

Information is available during Whalers games at Compuware Arena, at the Whalers Booster Club table or by calling (734) 453-8400.

The cost is \$15 for members of the Booster Club and Kids Club (and chaperones) and \$25 for non-members.

'Cats Williams to play soccer at Tusculum

Tusculum College head women's soccer coach Mike Joy received the commitment of Plymouth Wildcats goalkeeper Marissa Williams to join the Pioneers for the 2011 season.

The 5-foot-7 Williams spearheaded the Wildcats to the 2010 Division 1 state finals, stopping penalty kicks to defeat three opponents during the postseason — including defending champion Portage Central in the D1 semifinals.

Williams has another chance to help Plymouth win the title, entering her fourth season as the starting keeper for the Wildcats.

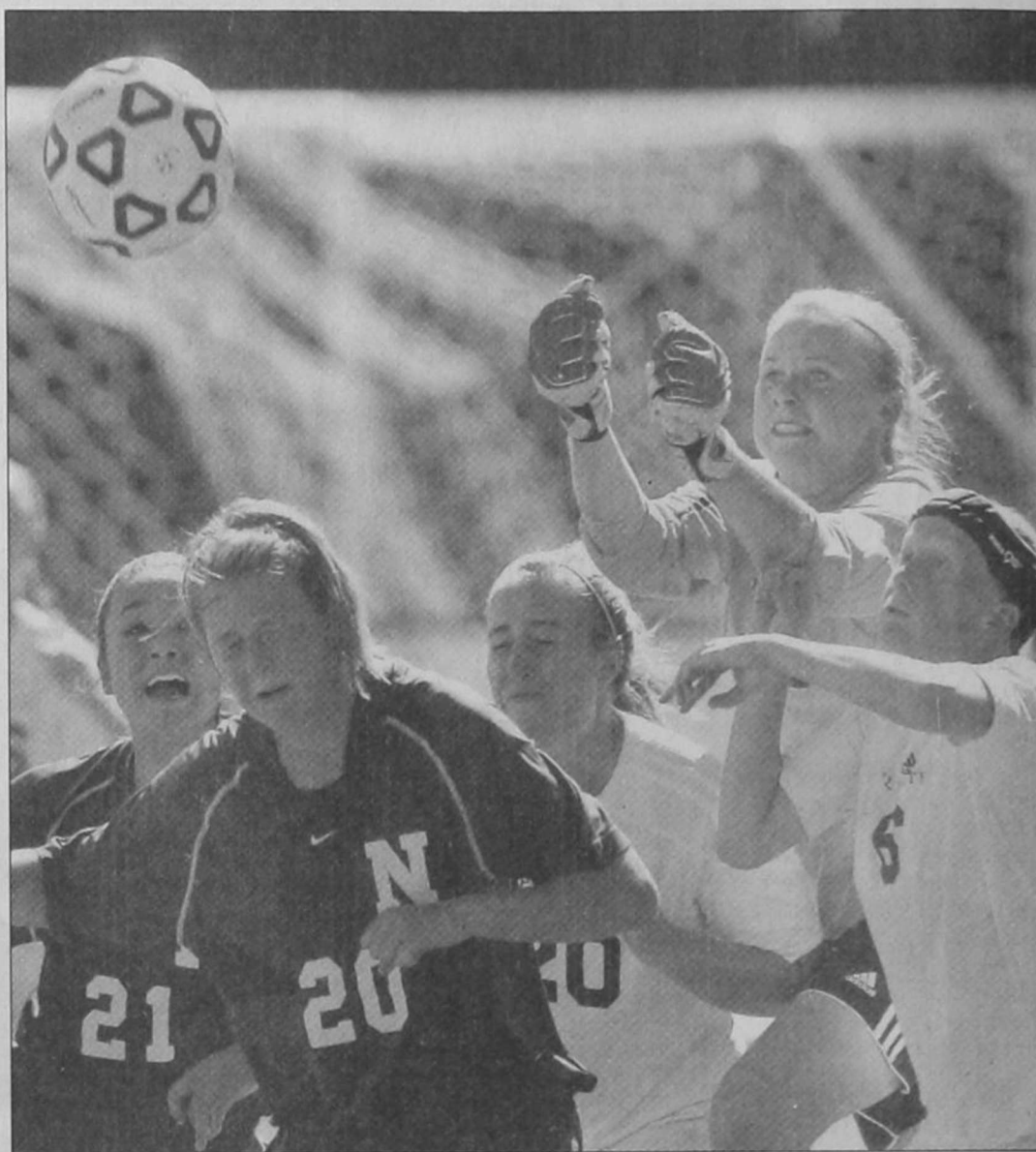
No matter what she does this spring, Williams brings quite a resume to Tusculum College. She has been named All-State twice, All-Region twice, All-District three times and All-Conference twice. Williams also helped the Michigan Hawks club team reach the ECNL State Cup finals.

"We are tremendously excited to sign Marissa Williams," Joy said. "I believe she is going to have a brilliant career at Tusculum College, and we are hoping that she comes in and has an immediate impact on our program and competes for the starting position of goalkeeper."

Joy, who recently finished his 14th season as Pioneer head coach, said Williams "has quick reactions and the ability to make the exceptional saves. I look for her to be one of the top keepers in the South Atlantic Conference over her collegiate career."

The Pioneers finished 9-9-1 overall and 3-5-1 in the SAC in 2010, advancing to the semifinals for the 10th time in 12 seasons.

Tusculum College, located in



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

During last year's Division 1 girls soccer final, Plymouth goalkeeper Marissa Williams (wearing gloves at right) got up to stop a Novi scoring try. She will play at Tusculum College beginning in 2011-12.

Greenville, Tenn., is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church, USA and is a NCAA Division II member of the South Atlantic Conference which is comprised of 10 colleges and universities in Tennessee, North Carolina and South Carolina.

Pickert signs

As expected, Canton senior Melanie Pickert signed her national letter of intent to play soccer at the University of Iowa.

Details from a press conference Friday night were not available as of press time.



Pickert

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Shorthanded Chiefs still prevail

Injuries and illnesses decimated Canton's girls gymnastics team Thursday night, but the Chiefs still managed a 143.8-133.15 victory over Livonia Red.

The win gave Canton a record of 5-0 in the conference and 3-0 in the division. But head coach John Cunningham said the team might not be back up to speed for Saturday's Canton Invitational.

Among those out of action Thursday were Robyn Piwowar, Cathy Huang, Nicole Lasecki and Marina Milad.

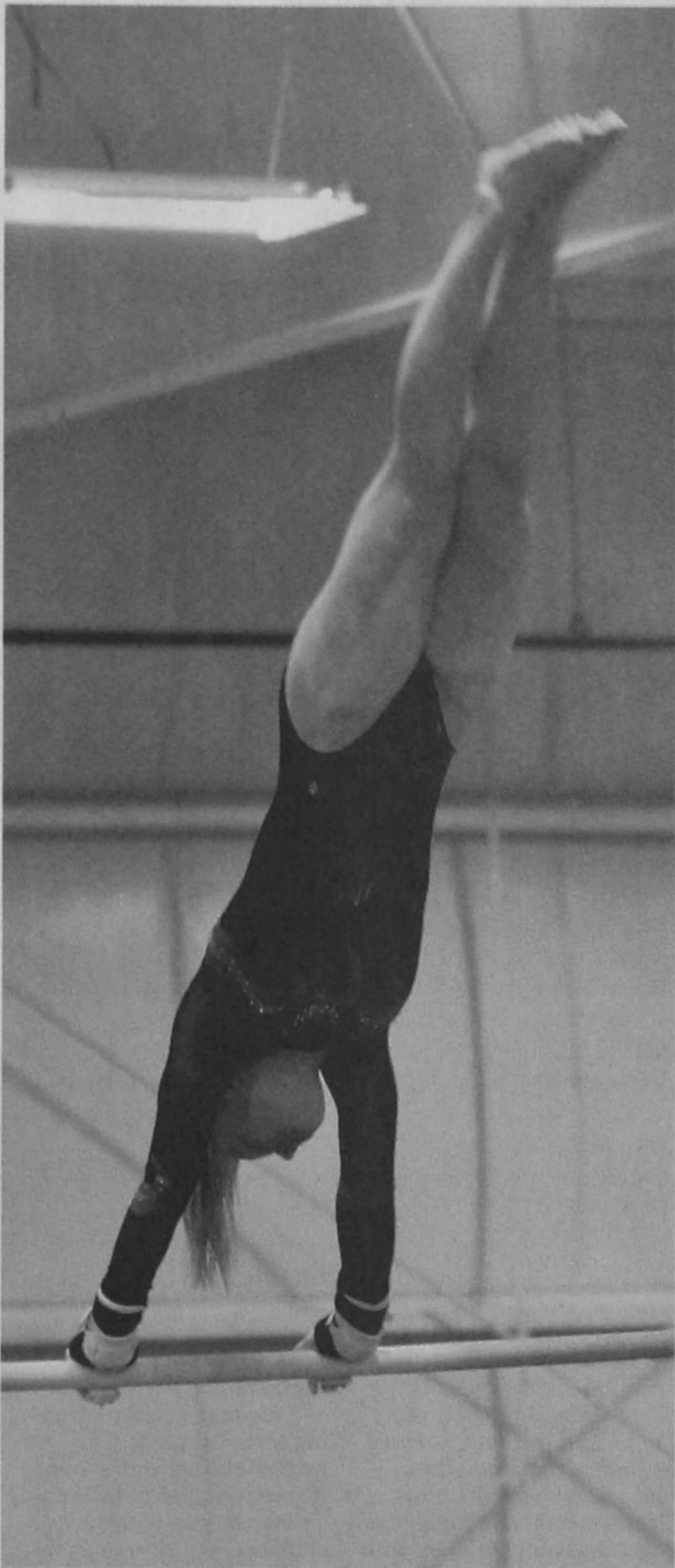
But the Chiefs showed their team depth, taking the top three places in every event.

Firsts went to Erica Lucas (vault, 9.35), Ayana Lewis (uneven bars, 9.45; all-around, 36.65) and Alex Fideler (balance beam, 9.2; floor exercise, 9.45).

Other notable showings were turned in by Lewis (seconds on vault, 8.9; beam, 9.1; floor, 9.2) and Fideler (seconds on bars, 9.4; all-around, 36.6).

Meanwhile Melissa Green (thirds on bars, 8.7; floor, 9.0), Kali Pierce (third on beam, 9.0) and Brooke Granowicz (fourth on floor, 8.95) also helped chip in for the Chiefs.

DUAL MEET RESULTS
CANTON 143.80
LIVONIA RED 133.15
Jan. 3 at Plymouth H.S.
Vault: 1. Erica Lucas (C), 9.35; 2. Ayana Lewis (C), 8.9; 3. (tie) Alex Fideler (C), Shannon Diaz (Red) and Meghan Lark (Red), 8.55 each.
Uneven bars: 1. Lewis (C), 9.45; 2. Fideler (C), 9.4; 3. Melissa Green (C), 8.7; 4. Lucas (C), 8.55; 5. Lark (Red), 8.35.
Balance beam: 1. Fideler (C), 9.2; 2. Lewis (C), 9.1; 3. Kali Pierce (C), 9.0; 4. Rose Preboba (Red), 8.75; 5. Green (C), 8.6.
Floor exercise: 1. Fideler (C), 9.45; 2. Lewis (C), 9.2; 3. Green (C), 9.0; 4. Brooke Granowicz (C), 8.95; 5. Lark (Red), 8.85.
All-around: 1. Lewis (C), 36.65; Fideler (C), 36.6.
Canton's KLAA dual meet record: 5-0 overall, 3-0 in KLAA Kensington Division.



Erica Lucas, shown during a routine on the uneven bars earlier this season, helped Canton Thursday night by taking first in vault.

BASKETBALL

FROM PAGE B1

and putting himself in position to even get a shot off," Canton head coach Jimmy Reddy said. "But Paul did a nice job of contesting it."

Reddy also praised Lever for jumpstarting the comeback, adding that his team's defensive energy turned the game around.

"We defended a lot better, got some steals and some deflections that created some easy transition baskets for us," Reddy said.

Conversely, Soukup shook his head about the way the game ended.

"We just couldn't get it done against the press," Soukup said. "I can't explain why."

Both teams now are 9-4 overall and 6-1 in the division, and Westland John Glenn is right behind with a 5-2 mark

'We defended a lot better, got some steals and some deflections that created some easy transition baskets for us.'

JIMMY REDDY, Canton head coach

in the KLAA South.

"We put ourselves in position to at least have a shot at it," Reddy said. "It's by no means over."

Soukup, who said he was proud of his team's effort Friday, added that the tough loss "will be a great test to see how we respond."

Duo sparks PCA

Eric Jipping scored 24 points and Mick Noel added 22 to lift host Plymouth Christian Academy to a 71-64

win over Lutheran Westland on Friday night.

Jipping and Noel also were strong on the glass, pulling down 15 and seven rebounds, respectively.

Also scoring in double figures for the Eagles (3-8, 3-6 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference) were Alex Huber (11 points) and Daniel Mullett (10 points).

Keys to the win, PCA head coach Keith Anleitner said, included the inside work of Jipping, Noel's speed in transition and the poise of point guard Mullett, who had eight assists.

Lutheran Westland's Tim Reum scored 16, while Don Krzyske added 13 for the Warriors (2-9, 1-8).

The Eagles led 40-32 at halftime and 57-54 after three, but didn't let that lead slip away.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Canton seniors lead the way

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton's varsity girls basketball team took care of division rival Plymouth Friday night, earning a 56-32 victory.

But Chiefs head coach Brian Samulski said the KLAA South matchup was closer than the final score might indicate.

"We sort of had to grind it out," said Samulski, whose team remains on top in the division with a 7-0 mark (the team is 11-2 overall). "We were able to hang in there, keep plugging away and we were able to get some easy scores."

Turnovers plagued the visiting Wildcats (5-8 overall, 3-4 in the division), who trailed 19-5 after one frame and 31-11 at halftime. Canton then really broke it open with a 17-8 third quarter to cap off the "Senior Night" victory.

"They put that press on and it's intense," Plymouth head coach Bob deBear said. "We just coughed it up."

He estimated his team had

23 turnovers, many of which led to Canton baskets.

A bright spot for Plymouth was the play of junior guard Kate Watson, who scored 18 points — including all 13 of her team's points in the fourth.

"She was terrific (in the final quarter), she was good all game," deBear said.

Freshmen Kylie Robb (5 points) and Shelby Cheston (5 rebounds) had good efforts and deBear noted the play of junior Chyna Williams, who had three rebounds in eight minutes despite getting over the flu.

For Canton, the five seniors led the scoring. Kari Schmitt tallied 19 points and 10 rebounds while Kayla Bridges (9 points), Melanie Pickert (6 points, 6 steals), CarolAnn Sexauer (6 points) and Sara Schmitt (6 points) all contributed.

The Chiefs visit Livonia Franklin on Tuesday, and then host Livonia Churchill in a Wednesday makeup game. On Friday, Canton welcomes division rival Westland John

Glenn, currently one game back of the Chiefs.

Salem rolls

Junior guard Brianna Berberet drained seven triples and tallied 27 points Friday night to pace host Salem to a 52-49 victory over Livonia Stevenson in a KLAA Central tilt.

She was a main reason the Rocks (6-7, 5-2) built a 30-16 halftime lead, which turned out to be enough to withstand a late rally by the Spartans.

Other Salem contributors included senior guard Heidi Schmidt (11 points), junior wing guard Katie Heitmeyer (7 points) and junior guard Katelyn Krause (5 points). The top rebounder was sophomore center Breanne Beaver, with eight.

Salem head coach Fred Thomann said Berberet and Schmidt combined to make six free throws late in the ballgame "to ice the win."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Rocks fall at Stevenson, 60-49

Livonia Stevenson maintained its first-place standing in the KLAA Central Division boys basketball race Friday with a 60-49 homecourt victory over Salem.

The Spartans, who improved to 12-1 overall and 7-0 in the division, got a game-high 24 points from 6-foot-9 senior center Jalen Reynolds.

Junior guard Jonathan Campbell chipped in with 18 points, including four 3-pointers, while senior point-guard C.J. Mwila added 14.

"C.J. was a great floor general for us," Stevenson coach Mike Allie said. "He found guys who were in open spot and that's the reason why we got off to a good start."

Stevenson led 22-13 after one quarter and put it away with a 13-7 fourth-quarter run.

Chris Dierker and Zinovy Pelekh led the Rocks (10-3, 4-3) with 12 points apiece.

Salem was 16-of-24 from the foul line, while Stevenson hit 10-of-17.

PREP BOWLING RESULTS

BOYS JV DUAL MATCH RESULTS
CANTON 26
NORTHVILLE 4
Jan. 31 at Town N'Country (Westland)
Canton scorers: Gary Barnett, 252-161-413; Andrew Champagne, 190-150-340; Michael Richards, 184-155-339; Josh Pozan, 171; Nick Blain, 162; Trent Montgomery, 149; John Leclerc, 144. **Team totals:** 927-781-708 (16 points); **Baker games:** 153-156-309 (10 points).
Northville team totals: 797-711-1,508 (4 points); **Baker games:** 132-125-257 (0 points).
WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 22
PLYMOUTH 8
Jan. 31 at Town N'Country (Westland)
John Glenn team totals: 965-914-1,879 (16 points); **Baker games:** 204-164-368 (6 points).
Plymouth scorers: Charlie Anderson/Matt Brace, 160-199-359; Joey McBride/Tyler Latigo, 183-172-355; Joe Langell/Eric Combee, 193-151-344; Burnan Yaish/Sean Silhgy, 195-143-338; Zack Behr/Burnan Yaish, 159; split game, 157. **Team totals:** 890-823-1,713 (4 points); **Baker games:** 137-226-363 (4 points).
SALEM 16
LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE 14
Jan. 31 at Town N'Country (Westland)
Salem scorers: Brandon Allison, 224-208-432; Jimmy Bowling,

189-168-357; Jordan Moore, 177-160-337; Eli Engle, 157-137-294; Jack Roberts, 102-130-232. **Team totals:** 849-803-1,652 (10 points); **Baker games:** 170-165-335 (6 points).
Clarenceville team totals: 718-844-1,562 (10 points); **Baker games:** 125-178-303 (4 points).
GIRLS JV DUAL MATCH RESULTS
NORTHVILLE 19
CANTON 11 4
Jan. 31 at Town N'Country (Westland)
Northville team totals: 658-598-1,257 (9 points); **Baker games:** 163-141-304 (10 points).
Canton scorers: Beth Stark, 165-156-321; Jessica Holowicki, 109-175-284; Amber Holly, 97-144-241; Kimberly A'Hearn, 131-104-235; Laurie Vicko, 112-98-210. **Team totals:** 614-677-1,291 (11 points); **Baker games:** 144-111-255 (0 points).
WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 26
PLYMOUTH/SALEM (Combined) 4
Jan. 31 at Town N'Country (Westland)
John Glenn team totals: 572-594-1,166 (16 points); **Baker games:** 151-114-265 (10 points).
Plymouth/Salem scorers: Anna Haugstrup (S), 95-141-236; Emily Simmons (S), 92-135-227; Megan Brewer (P), 124-83-207; Jenna Collins (P), 90-109-199; Chloe Boyer (S), 92-98-190. **Team totals:** 493-566-1,059 (4 points); **Baker games:** 97-112-209 (0 points).

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COMMUNITY LIFE

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BECOME A FAN TODAY

Cold medal event

Polar Plunge athletes earn funds for Special Olympics Michigan

BY SHARON DARGAY
OSE STAFF WRITER

Imagine walking outside without a coat in today's freezing temperature.

Now replace that coat with a skimpy Cupid outfit, a Peter Pan costume or thin Goldilocks pinafore.

Add the icy Detroit River and jump in.

Shivering at the thought? You've got some idea what's in store for Shawn Riley of Canton this month.

"It's a shock to your system," said Rowley, who has jumped into frigid water while costumed every February for the past four years. "Once you get in it's get out as quickly as you can because it's cold."

He'll do it again Feb. 19 at Milliken State Park along the Detroit River. It's one of 24 jump sites for Special Olympics Michigan's annual "Polar Plunge" that raises money to support athletic training and competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Last year the events, which consist of costumed participants collecting donations and then plunging into lakes and rivers, raised approximately \$480,000 for the cause.

Rowley, retired as Southfield's deputy police chief and now director of campus safety at Baker College in Allen Park, has been involved with Special Olympics' law enforcement torch run for 25 years. The



Shawn Rowley poses pre-jump in a Goldilocks costume with "Baby Bear," his brother, Tom, (left) and children, Chris, as "Papa Bear" and Amanda as "Mama Bear" at the Polar Plunge last year.

750-mile, non-stop relay that starts in Copper Harbor and ends in Sterling Heights, will celebrate 30 years in September.

The Plunge was another way to increase involvement in the organization. The first year he donned a Cupid costume and convinced one co-worker to participate in the Plunge with him at Belle Isle in the Detroit River.

"At Belle Isle you had to wade in and wade out. That changed when they took it to the Roostertail. You'd get wet all at one time."

FRIENDS AND FAMILY

He also has jumped off the

dock at the Moose Lodge on Belleville Lake, the site of a Plunge on Feb. 12. He has hit the water in style dressed as one of the Blues Brothers, Peter Pan and Goldilocks, accompanied by the three bears, portrayed by his son, Chris, 22, daughter, Amanda, 24, and his brother, Tom.

"This year I've got nine people plunging with me. It's exciting to get more and more people involved," Rowley said. "We're tossing around a couple of ideas, leaning toward Wizard of Oz or Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs."

Michelle Alexander isn't certain how she'll dress



Polar Plunge participants jump in formal wear, casual digs and bare-chested attire.

POLAR PLUNGE

What: A fund-raiser for Special Olympics Michigan

When: Saturday Feb. 12, 19, 26-27 and March 5 and 19

Where: Twenty four sites in Michigan, including Detroit and Ann Arbor on Feb. 19 and Belleville on Feb. 12

Details: Participants collect at least \$50 in pledges to jump into icy lakes and rivers. Each plunger receives a Polar Plunge long sleeve T-shirt and entrance into a Post-Plunge Party, plus the chance to win additional prizes for raising more money.

Contact: (800) 644-6404 or sign up to plunge at www.firstgiving.com/polarplunge

this year for her second jump into the Detroit River. Last year Alexander, who lives in Livonia and studies criminal justice and sociology at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, dressed as Hannah Montana in a blue jean skirt and T-shirt. She's a member of Phi Sigma Sigma on campus, along with Kristin Marciw of Redford. Their sorority participated in the Plunge along with other members of the campus Greek Leadership Council.

TRYING AGAIN

Marciw had to withdraw from the event last year because of an ear infection,

but is looking forward to plunging — possibly dressed as a penguin — at Milliken State Park this year with Alexander.

"This year I plan on finding some ear plugs. I'm getting excited and I hope it goes well," said Marciw, a senior in pre-optometry studies.

Alexander suggests that first-timers get it over with as soon as possible, giving themselves no time to wimp out after watching others leap.

"All of the divers in line watch the other divers go. It would be harder to be at the end of the line," she said.

How hard?

"There was a video of my online. I was trying to climb up the staircase in the water. I was moving so slowly," she said, recalling the images. "I remember I could feel the cold in my body. It was that — oh my gosh — that feeling of being prickly all over. It's so cold it's almost burning."

Jumping, surfacing and climbing out takes about 30 seconds, Alexander said. A hot tub and cups of hot coffee welcome Plunge participants as they return from the river.

Rowley's advice to newcomers: "If you go with multiple people, jump closest to the ladder so that you'll be the first one out."

Register online for the Plunge at www.firstgiving.com/polarplunge or at the event. For the Detroit River Plunge on Feb. 19, registration runs from 10 a.m.-noon at the Renaissance Center. Shuttle service to Milliken State park begins at 10 a.m. and the event gets underway at 11:30 a.m. Party at 1 p.m. at the Renaissance Center. Registration for the Belleville Plunge on Feb. 12 starts at 10:30 a.m. at the Belleville Moose Lodge. Dive into the lake beginning at noon and party at the Lodge at 12:45 p.m.

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Mark Year of Rabbit with adoptable bunnies

BY SHARON DARGAY
OSE STAFF WRITER

Rabbit and Small Animal Rescue (RASAR) of Westland will take a cue from the Chinese lunar calendar and hold a special adoption event noon to 3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 12-13 at Petco, 35725 Warren Road, east of Central City Parkway.

The Chinese New Year began Thursday, Feb. 3, ushering in the "Year of the Rabbit," said to be a peaceful year and prosperous for those born under the rabbit sign on the Chinese zodiac.

Judy Durfy, a RASAR volunteer, hopes some of the organization's 25 bunnies now in foster care find

peace — and loving new homes — this year, too.

"Animal control called me with a baby Californian rabbit found outside an apartment complex. They found a purebred Mini Rex in the snow in the road two days before Christmas," said Durfy, recounting some of the circumstances in which rabbits have come into RASAR's care. "These were pets, just babies. They weren't born outside."

Durfy, a long-time animal rescuer, had been fostering dogs and cats until she took a call from Wyandotte Animal Control about a black rabbit that had been abandoned at its front door.

She took the rabbit in, found RASAR and agreed to foster "Lucy" for the group.

"She was never caged. She would sit on the couch. I had her over a year and she was just adopted a few months ago by a family in Allen Park," Durfy said. "She was a plain black rabbit. But we have fancy breeds — Lionheads that have a long tuft of hair like a mane and a mohawk. We have Angoras. They are like a powder puff. We have tea cup-sized rabbits. We have the Lops that everyone loves.

"We have handicapped bunnies. Rabbits are fragile and if a child drops them they can become paralyzed from a fall. Paralysis in rabbits is super common."

LIKE PUPPIES

Visitors to the group's adoption event will get a chance to meet adoptable rabbits, ask questions, get advice on rabbit food, health and living arrangements and find out what it takes to adopt and care for a rabbit.

"They need two to four hours of attention a day. They need training and socialization like a puppy does. They have the intelligence and playfulness of a



Marie, a special needs bunny, uses a cart for mobility.

puppy. They're like having a puppy that uses a litter box. But they chew and you have to bunny-proof the house."

She said rabbits don't like to cuddle, as a dog or cat might, but don't mind petting. They also enjoy running and learning tricks.

They can be caged for a portion of the day, but not confined day after day — like a hamster or gerbil.

"They can live 10 years or more if fed and housed properly and spayed or neutered. They bite if they aren't spayed or neutered and live only three years."

Durfy said veterinarians who routinely sterilize dogs and cats may not have experience in rabbit spay or neuter procedures. NASAR deals only with specialists and spends about \$150 per rabbit sterilization.

"Rabbits need a different kind of anesthesia. Without it there is a high rate of death."

She said new rabbit owners who buy their furry friends from a pet store may simply abandon the animal after they discover how much spaying and neutering costs.

"The reason we work with Petco is that they decided not to sell rabbits and only to do adoptions," Durfy noted. "When people get them at pet stores, they give them a tiny little cage with wood chips and food with alfalfa that kills them. Baby rabbits can eat alfalfa, but not when they are older."

RASAR holds an adoption event noon to 3 p.m. the last Sunday of the month — except this month because of the Feb. 12-13 event — at the Westland Petco. In addition to rabbits, it finds new homes for such "pocket pets" as gerbils, hamsters, guinea pigs, lizards and birds.

DOGS OF THE WEEK

Abuelo and Ruby are featured adoptable dogs this week at Guardian Angels Animal Rescue, (GAAR). Here's what Sandra Mezza, director of the Livonia group, says about these two pooches:

Abuelo is a senior dog who lived in very heavy drug area in Detroit. His owner was placed in the hospital and poor Abuelo and no where to go. When Guardian Angel took him in, he was not neutered, but was very sick and thin. He has severe back arthritis and we are managing his pain with medication. He is such a loving and sweet boy; he gets along with other dog and cats. He is very gentle and deserves to live out the rest of his years in a safe and loving environment. Abuelo is about 10-12 years old. He now is neutered and is up to date on all of his vaccines. We had a full blood panel done and all came back good. We are unsure of the breed mix, but we do know

he is a very good boy and is looking for a family to call his own.

Ruby is a sweet ol' gal just looking for her retirement home. Ruby was saved twice. The first time, her family relinquished her to a high-kill shelter. Guardian Angel saved her and she was adopted by another family. After a year, they couldn't keep her and returned Ruby to Guardian Angel. Ruby is very laid back and is good with everyone she meets — dogs, cats, and kids. She weighs about 65 pounds and probably is about 12 years old. She spends most of her time sleeping and loves C-O-O-K-I-E-S and belly rubs. You'll fall in love if you meet Ruby.

If you're interested in meeting Abuelo or Ruby or any of the group's other rescued animals, call (734) 516-2171 or visit www.gaarmichigan.org.



Ruby is laid-back and gets along with everyone.



Abuelo, a senior dog, is looking for his retirement home.

Zoo photo exhibit highlights nature's beauty

The 2010 Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition, a collection of images from the world's largest and most prestigious wildlife photography competition, made its North American premiere at the Detroit Zoo's Ford Education Center Feb. 5. The exhibition is open during zoo hours and is free with regular zoo admission.

The exhibition features 118 photographs displayed as illuminated large-format color transparencies. The

winning images were chosen from more than 31,000 entries from 84 countries. The North American premiere exhibition, which is taking place at the Detroit Zoo for the sixth consecutive year, runs through May 1.

An educational and interactive family learning guide corresponding to the 2010 Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition can be downloaded and printed from the zoo's Web site to aid visitors in interpreting

the exhibition.

A hardback commemorative portfolio book of the winning photographs is available for sale in the Detroit Zoo's Zoofari Market.

Now in its 46th year, the Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition is owned by the Natural History Museum, London, and *BBC Wildlife Magazine* and aims to showcase the finest wildlife pictures taken by photographers worldwide.

The Detroit Zoological Society is a nonprofit organization that operates the Detroit Zoo and Belle Isle Nature

The Detroit Zoo, located at Woodward Ave. and 10 Mile (I-696 service drive) in Royal Oak, is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Admission is \$12 for adults, 15 to 61, \$10 for senior citizens, 62 and older, and \$8 for children, ages 2 to 14. Children under 2 are free.

Chorus gives valentines to military families

The HarmonyTown Chorus is accepting reservations for its annual singing valentines for delivery Saturday-Monday, Feb. 12-14.

This year, the group also will offer the service for free to loved ones of military men and women. That includes the spouse, parents or sweetheart of military personnel on deployment.

The chorus will send its quartets throughout western Wayne County and portions of Oakland County, delivering two love songs, a personalized card and a rose per visit. The cost is \$40 or \$20 if the person who requested

the valentine sings with the quartet.

Delivery times are 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and Monday and 1-8 p.m. Sunday. Singers have delivered their harmonious messages in homes, workplaces and restaurants.

The chorus will book valentines through Feb. 12. Call (734) 743-1764 to reserve one.

To order a free valentine for a military serviceman or woman's loved one, send delivery information to harmonymen@att.net. Or visit www.WeSingBarbershop.com for more information.

Arthritis Today

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ARTHRITIS COMBINATIONS

When a doctor evaluates a patient with arthritis, the doctor looks for more than what joints or muscles are involved with pain, tenderness or swelling.

For example, in the condition of polymyalgia rheumatic it is not enough that the patient notes intense stiffness in the shoulders, and that this stiffness usually is worse in the morning. What sets polymyalgia apart from other arthritic conditions is that similar stiffness occurs in the thighs. The patient often complains about the terrible state of the shoulders, it takes questioning by the doctor to bring out that leg stiffness is also present. Once the doctor knows the pattern involves shoulders and legs then the diagnosis of polymyalgia becomes evident.

Another example of pairing in arthritis occurs in rheumatoid arthritis. One may think of rheumatoid arthritis as a condition of the small joints of the hand. Swelling of the finger joints is typical and usually symmetry exists as both hands are involved. However, rheumatoid arthritis is also a condition of the feet. In particular, the arthritis causes swelling at the balls of the feet.

Usually the patient is painfully aware of the crippling effect of the arthritis on the hands. The doctor has to ask if the patient, when arising from bed in the morning, feels like the feet are walking on marbles. If the patient answers yes, then the doctor knows that swelling of the hands in conjunction with the foot pain means the underlying problem is rheumatoid arthritis.

The same is true in osteoarthritis. If a person has osteoarthritis of the hands, then the doctor will examine the knees and watch the patient's gait as arthritis of the knees may often co-exist.

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The journey continues

Hills classical guitarist goes solo on new CD

BY STACY JENKINS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The house was quiet. His children were visiting their grandparents in Canada and his wife was at a conference in Wisconsin.

Steven Dearing picked up his guitar, set up his recording equipment in his Farmington Hills living room and pressed "record."

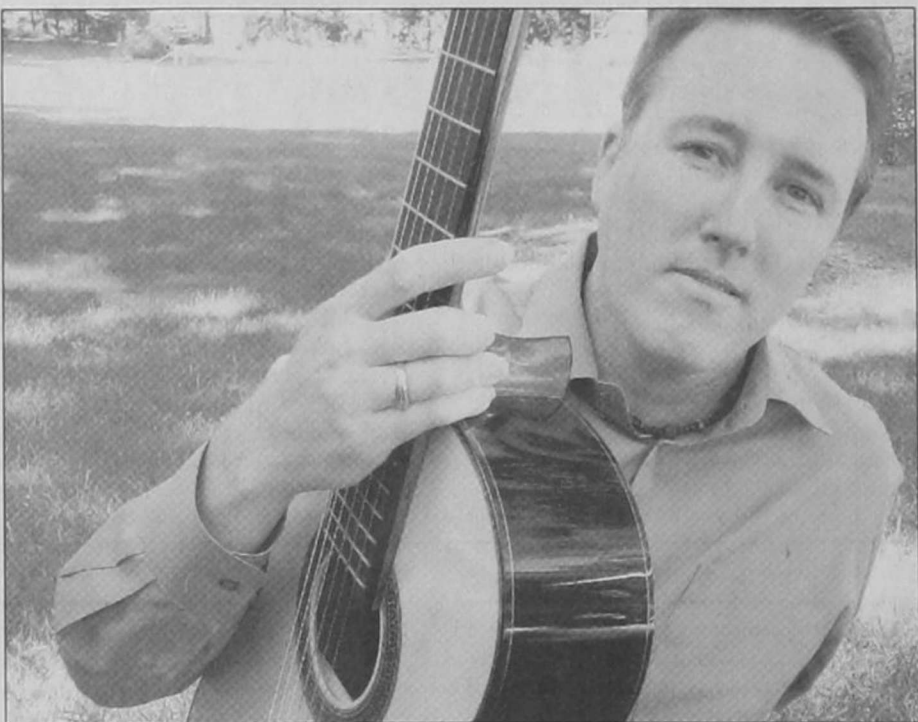
The classical guitarist who has toured the world with his wife, soprano and accomplished flutist Abha Dearing, tuned everything else out and created a *July Recital*.

"The next thing I knew, I had a CD," said Dearing.

It's his first solo work since collaborating with his wife — the other half of the Dearing Concert Duo — in 1998. The two have recorded three albums together.

Before recording *July Recital*, on July 16, 2010, Dearing had performed a faculty concert at the University of Windsor, where he teaches classical guitar. The selections he played by composers from all around the globe were fresh in his mind, prompting him to go for it. Being a busy dad and music teacher put this long-awaited project on hold, until then.

He played each intricate and emotional piece three times and took the recording to Solid Sound Studio in Ann Arbor for mixing. He's already sold more than 100 copies since its Dec. 12 release.



Steven Dearing, of Farmington Hills, is a classical guitarist and his new solo CD is titled, "July Recital."

Even as a seasoned performer, Dearing admits it's still a bit unnerving to hear himself play.

"I tell my students that it's like looking at yourself naked in a mirror," he said. "It's not something you necessarily relax to."

July Recital includes 14 pieces by French composer Roland Dyens; British composer Lennox Berkeley; Polish composer Alexandre Tansman; Spanish composer Fredrico Moreno Torroba; Mexican composer Andantino Variatio and South American composer Jorge Morel.

Dearing said the CD represents 20th century classical guitar music, which he prefers to play.

July Recital is \$15, plus \$2 shipping, and is available on his website www.stevendearing.com.

THE DISCOVERY

Dearing grew up in Windsor and didn't start seriously playing guitar until he was 23 years old. Prior to that, he played the electric guitar, by ear.

He heard a friend play classical guitar and he was hooked immediately.

"That's when it flipped, right then and there," he said, adding that he began practicing eight hours a day.

He switched his college major from chemistry to music and went on to earn a master's of guitar performance at Wayne State University, where he attended on a talent scholarship. He delved into classical guitar studies in Windsor and Toronto.

Dearing met Abha at Wayne State and the two began performing together in 1998. They toured the U.S. and Europe. Now, Abha is a music teacher at Waterford Mott High School and they have two children, ages 3 and 5.

They managed to play 40 concerts in 2010 and they're planning a New England tour in April and a Wisconsin and Minnesota tour in the fall. Dearing said their concerts offer a lot to the listener, because there are portions that feature guitar and voice; guitar and flute and solo guitar.

"I think that's why we've been as successful as we are," said Dearing. "We've been invited to play at quite a few places."

For more information and to listen to performances, visit www.stevendearing.com and www.dearingconcertduo.com.

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

A front load story

I would like to thank the Canton Library for arranging the seminar I did in December 2010 and the wonderful people who attended and asked some great questions on the subject of front load washers. Most people know my opinion of front load machines and if you click on the subject on your computer you can get the frustrations felt by consumers across the county.

Today's column is an e-mail from Bonnie in Livonia who spent somewhere around \$800

for one of these units. Before I go any further let me point out that the companies and names mentioned by Bonnie did not do anything wrong. Their actions were normal operating procedures in the appliance industry.

Bonnie bought a Frigidaire HE Front Loading Washer-Model ATF6700FS2 from Sears in November 2009 and had it installed the following month. In September last year she noticed the washer wasn't completing the wash cycle. During a service call RSI Appliance service removed the front of the washer and cleared the pump, which had several smelly items trapped within it. They advised continued cleaning with bleach and hot water. She started cleaning regularly with Afresh Tablets and bleach, leaving the door open frequently for added circulation. Because the mold smell hadn't subsided, she called Sears and was told to increase the amount of bleach she used during cleaning cycles.

She asked Frigidaire how small items, such as socks, kept getting trapped in the pump and was told to safety pin socks together.

A service person subsequently tightened a hose on the washer because it had begun to leak as well as smell bad. Last month she noticed the spin cycle wasn't working and the machine had begun to leak again. Because the

manufacturer's warranty had expired, her husband cleared the pump, but that didn't resolve the spin cycle and leaking problems.

A service technician looked at the machine and said the entire tub needed to be replaced because of a problem with a seal. The estimate was approximately \$587.

In the end, she contacted Sears and was given a credit towards a new washer in lieu of paying for repairs.

"Needless to say I have selected a top loader!" Bonnie wrote.

In my speaking engagement at the Canton Library I talked about the removal of the five-year warranty on major components that all manufacturers had carried on major appliances since day one. That warranty is not included these days or else Bonnie would have had repairs done for next to nothing. Now you get a one-year warranty and after that you are out of luck unless you are as persistent and detailed as Bonnie was. She didn't want that washer as she would never have had confidence in its future operation or dependability. She had a mold smell she couldn't get rid of and she joins the many thousands of consumers who can't stand their front load washers. A recent study points out that an unhappy customer will tell between 30 and 35 others about their experience. I believe Bonnie might double that number.

It is a crying shame that the manufacturers of products sold in this country can't realize how brand loyalty has become a thing of the past and my past experience in this appliance industry leads me to yearn for the quality we once knew. Today I speak with appliance retailers who are very frustrated with the people who build them. Retailers want to make friends with each customer and that is difficult to do with a product sold that doesn't equal the consumer's expectations. Stay tuned.

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

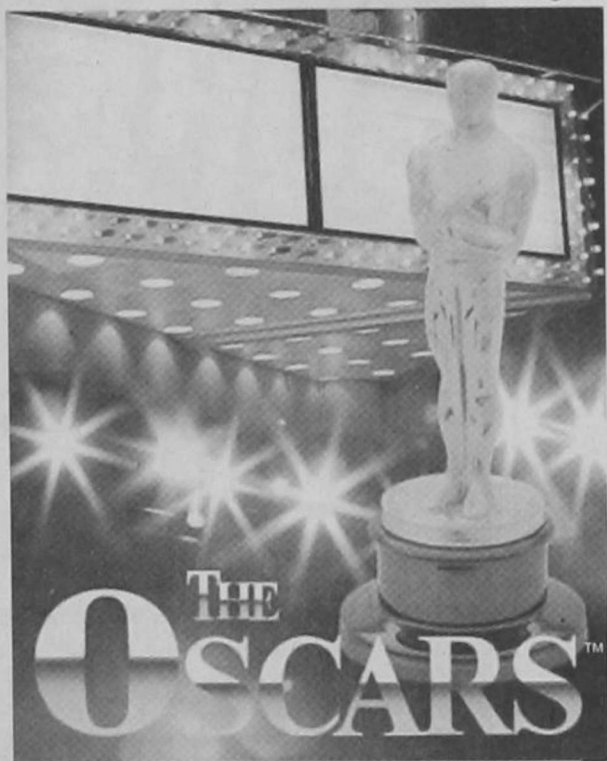


Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

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

Think you know who will win an OSCAR™ this year?



Choose correctly and YOU could win!

Go to www.hometownlife.com to enter. Correctly identify the top 7 Oscar™ categories and you could win one of the following prizes:

- 1st Place: 12 month movie pass for two to Emagine Theatre
- 2nd Place: 4 movie passes

Correctly Identify the Top 7 Categories.

The person with the most correct answers wins!

- Best Picture
- Actor in a Leading Role
- Actress in a Leading Role
- Animated Feature Film
- Actor in a Supporting Role
- Actress in a Supporting Role
- Director

Tie Breaker

Categories:

- Music (original score)
- Documentary Feature

Novi Emagine Theatre Features The Best of 2010 Academy Award™ Nominated Films:

One day pass (\$35)

5 films plus a large popcorn with refills (Feb. 11 - Feb. 17)

Two day pass (\$60):

10 films plus a large popcorn with refills (Feb. 18 - Feb. 24)

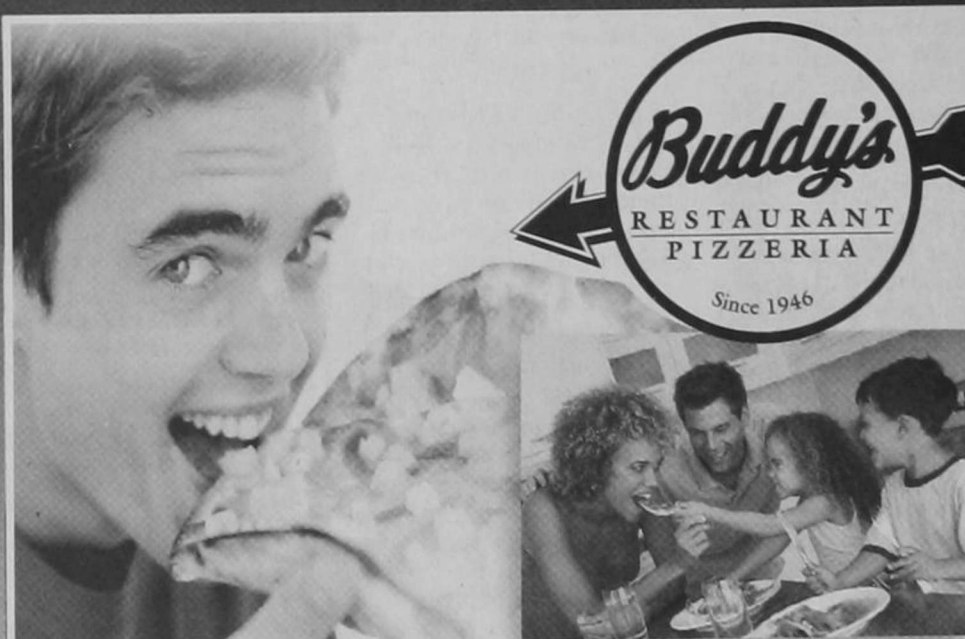
For further info and show times call 248-468-2990 ext. 1 or go to (www.emagine-entertainment.com)

Join us to watch the Academy Awards® at our new Rochester Hills location

All entries must be received by Saturday, February 26, 2011 at 11:59 p.m. to be considered.

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OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS



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

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

Email your GOOD NEWS (include a photograph too if that helps to tell your story) to: goodnews@hometownlife.com.

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

Deadline is the last day of each month.

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.

FEB. 6-9

Fellowship

Time/Date: 11 a.m., following Sunday worship, Feb. 6
Location: Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, between Ann Arbor Trail and Joy, Livonia
Details: A fellowship hour of soups to raise attention to the fact that many Americans can't afford even a bowl of soup, while others will spend freely on food for Super Bowl Sunday. A \$1 offering is suggested to raise money for the Wayne Co. Family Shelter
Contact: Jean Coleman at (734) 422-8855

Why be Catholic

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 7
Location: St. Michael the Archangel school, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, in Livonia
Details: Lisa Campbell, a young wife and mother, was baptized Catholic in infancy by parents who left the faith shortly afterward. Sometime in her youth, she became an avid and faithful member of the Assemblies of God congregation and later an active member of their pastoral leadership. She'll talk about why she returned to the Catholic Church
Contact: (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200, or visit www.livoniastmichael.org

FEB. 10-17

Blood drive

Time/Date: 1:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 11
Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Livonia
Details: Blood drive walk-ins are welcome, but appointments also accepted
Contact: (734) 722-1735 for an appointment
Concert
Time/Date: 4 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 13
Location: St. John Lutheran Church, located on Gill Road, between Grand River Ave. and Freedom Road in Farmington Hills
Details: Trio Fiori performs. A free will offering will be taken. Refreshments will be served during intermission
Contact: (248) 474-0584



Michigan Concert Choir members Brian Dalling and Selena Pengally sing about the wedding of Job's daughter. The choir will present the musical story of Job.

Concert

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 13
Location: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 7575 Hix, Westland
Details: Michigan Concert Choir presents the musical story of Job; free admission
Contact: comcentials@aol.com

Revival

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Feb. 9-12 and 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 13
Location: Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300 Middlebelt, near Eight Mile, Livonia
Details: Spirit Explosion: A Time of Revival will feature the Rev. Dr. Bernadine Wormley Daniels and pastor Matthew Denney. Nursery care will be provided nightly and programs for children Pre-K through 5th grade will be held. Daniels will hold a workshop 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 10 called "Hearing the Voice of God." The cost for the workshop is \$8 and includes lunch. Registration is required. On Friday and Saturday, youth in grades 6-12 will gather for meetings with bands and speakers.
Contact: For information or to register for the workshop call (248) 474-3444 or e-mail to clarencevilleumc@att.net.

Veteran's retreat

Time/Date: 5:45-9 p.m., Feb. 10 or April 6
Location: St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center, 23333 Schoolcraft, between Telegraph and Outer Drive, Detroit
Details: An evening of reflection for veterans and their families will include dinner, prayer and conversation. Child care will be provided. \$5 for individuals and \$10 for families
Contact: RSVP to the Dominican Center for Religious Development, (313) 387-9574 or e-mail to info@dominicancenter.org

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

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: Pastor Scott Sessler at (734) 673-2485 or e-mail to pastortscott@emmanuel-livonia.org

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 a.m., Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m., Sundays
Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville
Contact: (734) 846-4615



CITY OF PLYMOUTH
ORDINANCE NO. 2011- 03

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 78, THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH ZONING ORDINANCE IN THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING REGULATIONS FOR FENCES, WALLS, AND BERMS.

Section 1 The City of Plymouth Ordains:

Section 78, "Zoning" in the Code of Ordinances of the City of Plymouth is hereby amended by adding the following described text revisions.

Modify Section 78-206
City of Plymouth Zoning Ordinance
Walls and Berms

(a) For the use districts and uses listed below, there shall be provided and maintained on those sides abutting or adjacent to a residential district, a screening wall, fence, landscaped berm or landscape strip as required below. The height of the fence, wall, or berm shall be measured from the surface of the parking area or land on the nonresidential side of the wall.

| | Use | Height Requirements |
|-----|---|--------------------------|
| (1) | RM, RM-1 and RM-2 districts (on those sides adjacent to one-family residential districts) | 4 1/2 feet to 6 1/2 feet |
| (2) | P-1 vehicular parking districts | 4 1/2 feet |
| (3) | Off-street parking area (other than vehicular parking districts) | 4 1/2 feet |
| (4) | O-1, O-2, B-1, B-2 and B-3 districts | 4 1/2 feet to 6 1/2 feet |
| (5) | I- and I-2 districts | 4 1/2 feet to 8 feet |
| (6) | Utility buildings, stations and/or substations | 6 1/2 feet |

(b) In the case of variable wall, fence or berm height requirements such as in subsections (a)(1), (4), and (5) of this section, the extent of the obscuring wall, fence, or berm shall be determined by the Planning Commission on the basis of land usage, provided further that no wall, fence or berm shall be less than the above required minimum.

Modify Section 78-208
City of Plymouth Zoning Ordinance
Residential Fences

Fences or walls are permitted, subject to the paramount provisions of the City of Plymouth Fence Ordinance (Chapter 18, Building Regulations Article X, Fences 18-371 – 18-380) and subject to the further provisions of this section. If any of the provisions of this section should conflict with the City of Plymouth Fence Ordinance, such provisions shall be controlling on the question of fences. It is the intent, however, that the following provisions be construed harmoniously with the fence ordinance where possible.

(1) Fences on all lots of record in all residential districts which enclose property and/or are within a required side or rear yard shall not exceed six and one-half (6 1/2) feet in height, measured from the surface of the ground, and shall not extend toward the front of the lot nearer than the front of the house or the required minimum front yard, whichever is greater. In the case of a rear yard abutting a side yard, the side yard abutting a street shall be continuation of the required front setback on the lot to the rear, and no fence shall project into this area. When side yards abut on frontages across a common street, the side yard abutting a street shall not be less than the required front yard of the district and no fence shall project into this area. (See Figures 1, 2, and 3)

Figure 1. Fence Location

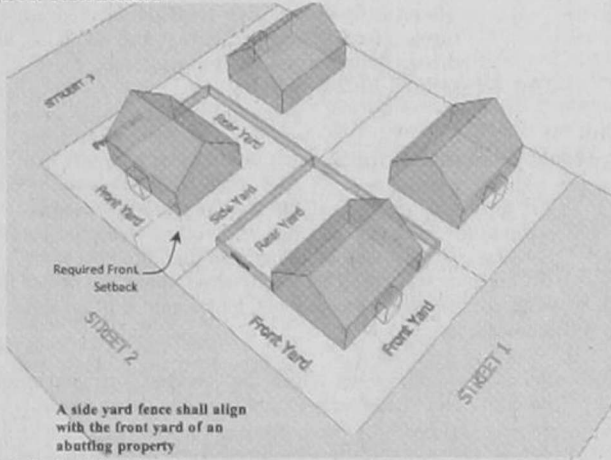


Figure 2. Fence Location

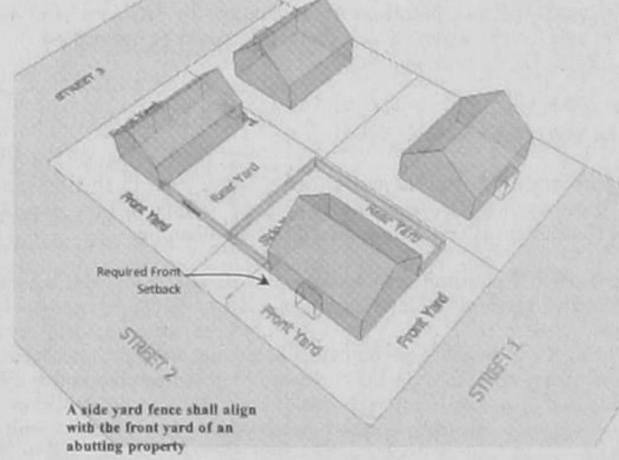
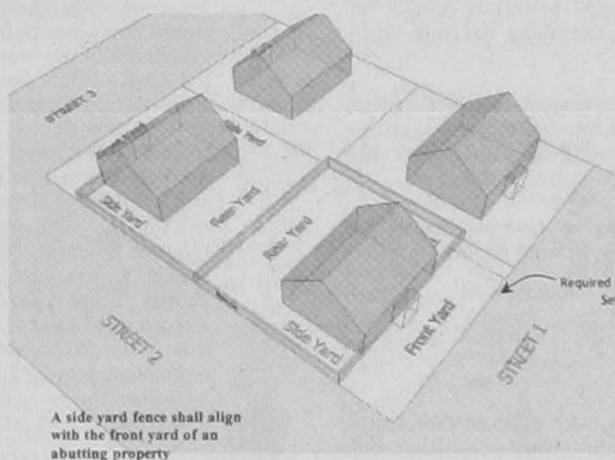


Figure 3. Fence Location



(b) In the case of variable wall, fence or berm height requirements such as in subsections (a)(1), (4), and (5) of this section, the extent of the obscuring wall, fence, or berm shall be determined by the Planning Commission on the basis of land usage, provided further that no wall, fence or berm shall be less than the above required minimum.

Modify Section 78-208
City of Plymouth Zoning Ordinance
Residential Fences

Fences or walls are permitted, subject to the paramount provisions of the City of Plymouth Fence Ordinance (Chapter 18, Building Regulations Article X, Fences 18-371 – 18-380) and subject to the further provisions of this section. If any of the provisions of this section should conflict with the City of Plymouth Fence Ordinance, such provisions shall be controlling on the question of fences. It is the intent, however, that the following provisions be construed harmoniously with the fence ordinance where possible.

(1) Fences on all lots of record in all residential districts which enclose property and/or are within a required side or rear yard shall not exceed six and one-half (6 1/2) feet in height, measured from the surface of the ground, and shall not extend toward the front of the lot nearer than the front of the house or the required minimum front yard, whichever is greater. In the case of a rear yard abutting a side yard, the side yard abutting a street shall be continuation of the required front setback on the lot to the rear, and no fence shall project into this area. When side yards abut on frontages across a common street, the side yard abutting a street shall not be less than the required front yard of the district and no fence shall project into this area. (See Figures 1, 2, and 3)

(2) Recorded lots having a lot area in excess of two (2) acres and a frontage of at least two hundred (200) feet, and acreage or parcels not included within the boundaries of a recorded plat, in all residential districts, are excluded from these regulations.

(3) Fences on lots of record shall not contain barbed wire, electric current, or charge of electricity. This shall exclude underground electric fences used for pet containment.

(4) All fences or walls shall be constructed with the finished side exposed to neighboring properties, the support posts placed on the inside, and in a manner which serves to enhance the aesthetic appearance of the neighborhood or surrounding area.

(5) Posts and finials may extend no more than six (6) inches above the maximum permitted height of a fence.

(6) Fences for swimming pools shall comply with the regulations of the State Construction Code.

(7) No fence, wall, or plantings shall interfere with visibility from a driveway, alley or intersection, as described in Section 78-207.

(8) Fences which enclose public or institutional parks, playgrounds, or public landscaped areas, situated within an area developed with recorded lots, shall not exceed eight (8) feet in height measured from the surface of the ground, and shall not obstruct vision to an extent greater than twenty-five (25%) percent of their total area.

(9) Fences or walls within a required front yard area shall be decorative style only consisting of wrought iron, metal, or picket fences and masonry or stone walls. Decorative fences or walls placed within a front yard shall not exceed thirty (30) inches in height. A decorative fence or wall shall contribute to the identification and beauty of the principal building. Chain link fences are not allowed within a required front yard area.

(10) Walls constructed of masonry, stone or pre-cast materials and constructed within a side or rear yard shall have a maximum height of thirty (30) inches. This shall exclude screening walls constructed between conflicting land uses as specified in Section 78-206.

Section 2 Rights and Duties.

Rights and Duties which have matured, penalties which have incurred, proceedings which have begun and prosecution for violations of law occurring before the effective date of this ordinance are not affected or abated by this ordinance.

Section 3 Validity.

Should any section, clause or paragraph of this ordinance be declared by a Court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, the same will not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or part therefore, other than the part declared invalid.

Section 4 Ordinances Repealed.

All other ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are to the extent of such inconsistencies hereby repealed.

Section 5 Effective Date.

This ordinance shall become effective one day after publication.

Introduced: January 3, 2011
Enacted: January 17, 2011
Effective: February 7, 2011

DANIEL DWYER
MAYOR

LINDA LANGMESSER, CMC
CITY CLERK

Publish: February 6, 2011

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REUNION CALENDAR

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.
Dearborn Heights Robichaud Class of 1961
50th class reunion Sept. 24, 2011 at the Dearborn Hills Golf Course. All classes are welcome as Robichaud High School also celebrates its 50th anniversary. Contact Bill Haskin at billsmustangs@msn.com; (734)595-4927 or Nancy at woloni@aol.com; (248) 529-6461.

Detroit Cody
Class of 1961

50th reunion Aug. 27, 2011, at Hellenic 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.

Detroit Mackenzie
June Class of 1961

50th reunion will be Saturday, Oct. 29, 2011. For more information e-mail lvanerian@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@yahoo.com.

Ladywood High School
Class of 1961

Planning a 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 voice mail 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

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



CITY OF PLYMOUTH
ORDINANCE NO. 2011-02

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 18, THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING REGULATIONS FOR FENCES.

Section 1 The City of Plymouth Ordains:

Chapter 18, Article X, Fences in the Code of Ordinances of the City of Plymouth is hereby amended by adding the following described text revisions,

Modify Article X, Sections 18-375 and 18-380
City Code of Ordinances

ARTICLE X. FENCES

Sec. 18-371. Purpose, intent.

It is the intent and purpose of this article to assure to occupants of all properties adjacent to structures and in yard areas, effective and desirable sight distance from the front of all structures in all directions, the right to provide for their own privacy within their properties, to protect plantings from damage by trespass, and to prevent such construction related thereto as would be hazardous. (Ord. No. 82-11, § 1(8.21), 8-16-82)

Sec. 18-372. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Border means a planting area composed of shrubs, trees, etc., which is utilized as a part of the landscaping of a lot.

Decorative fence means a permanent barrier not used for enclosure. Any such fence shall be a part of the overall landscape plan and shall be composed of natural materials such as wood (i.e., split rail fence, picket, etc.) or a decorative metal construction (i.e., wrought iron, etc.).

Fence means a permanent barrier enclosing a plot of land or portion thereof composed of manmade or processed materials erected on posts, for the purpose of preventing or controlling entrance or to confine within or to mark a boundary.

Gutter grade means the lowest point of integral curb and gutter down which water flows; or, when no curb or gutter exists, is the lowest point between the street and sidewalk down which water will flow or drain.

Wall means a barrier constructed of masonry or other solid materials for the purpose of controlling entrance, sound and/or view or aesthetics. (Ord. No. 82-11, § 1(8.22), 8-16-82)

Sec. 18-373. Prevention of hazards.

(a) No fence, border or wall shall have exposed beneath a height of eight (8) feet any sharp protrusions which would be likely to cause physical or material damage to persons or clothing passing by the fence, border or wall.

(b) Any wall shall be capped with a peaked coping of sufficient pitch to discourage walking. (Ord. No. 82-11, § 1(8.26), 8-16-82)

Sec. 18-374. Line fences and walls.

All fences and walls must be located entirely on the private property of the person constructing the same; provided, however, that if adjoining property owners jointly apply for and sign a permit to erect a fence upon their common property line, such fence may be so erected. No temporary type of barrier or temporary fence of any type shall be permitted in the front yard areas. (Ord. No. 82-11, § 1(8.27), 8-16-82)

Sec. 18-375. Electric fences.

It shall be unlawful for any person to construct or maintain, or to allow to be constructed or maintained upon property owned or occupied by such person, any fence charged or connected with an electrical current in such manner as to transmit such current in the form of shock to persons or animals which might come in contact with such charged fence. This shall exclude underground electric pet containment fences. (Ord. No. 82-11, § 1(8.28), 8-16-82)

Sec. 18-376. Appeals.

If there is believed to be a conflict between the stated intent and any specific provisions of this article, the Zoning Board of Appeals may, in accordance with established procedures, permit modification of such specific provision, while retaining the intent, in such appealed instance. (Ord. No. 82-11, § 1(8.29), 8-16-82)

Sec. 18-377. Permits.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to construct, or cause to be constructed, any fence or wall upon any property within the city without first having obtained a permit therefore.

(b) Any person desiring to construct, or cause to be constructed a fence or wall upon property in the city shall first apply to the Building Department of the city for a permit, for which there shall be a fee, the amount of which shall be set by resolution of the City Commission. Such permit shall be issued by the Building Inspector upon a written application, and shall contain such information as may be required by the inspector in order to determine that such fence or wall will not violate any provision of the City Code or state law. (Ord. No. 82-11, § 1(8.23), 8-16-82)

Sec. 18-378. Establishing lot lines.

The Building Inspector may require the owner of property upon which a fence is to be constructed to establish lot lines upon such property, through the placing of permanent stakes located by a licensed surveyor. Such lot line shall be established before such fence

shall be erected, and the building inspector may withhold the issuance of the required permit until the lot lines are established and permanent stakes are placed. (Ord. No. 82-11, § 1(8.30), 8-16-82)

Sec. 18-379. Borders.

Borders may be planted in any yard area subject to the following provisions:

(1) Borders shall not be located nearer than two (2) feet to any drive or walkway. Borders are also subject to additional restrictions as specified in this section.

(2) No border shall obscure visibility within the triangular area formed at the intersection of any street right-of-way lines by a straight line drawn between the right-of-way lines at a distance along each line of twenty-five (25) feet from their point of intersection. Shrubs or hedges or other plantings (excluding trees) in this area shall not exceed thirty (30) inches in height above the average gutter grade adjacent to this area. Trees planted within this same area shall not have branches lower than eight (8) feet above the average gutter grade. Sight visibility shall be in accordance with Section 78-207 of the Zoning Ordinance.

(3) Similar restrictions as above shall be required in a fifteen (15)-foot corner triangle formed at the intersection of any driveway and alley or any driveway and street right-of-way line. (Ord. No. 82-11, § 1(8.24), 8-16-82)

Sec. 18-380. Fences and walls.

(a) All posts thereof shall be of materials designed to withstand rusting, rotting and other weather-related deterioration for a period of not less than ten (10) years.

(b) No fence or wall shall be constructed along the street line of a lot closer than one (1) foot from the established sidewalk line.

(c) Solid masonry walls shall be erected on continuous foundations at least forty-two (42) inches below grade.

(d) Fences or walls within a required front yard area shall be decorative style only consisting of wrought iron, metal, or picket fences and masonry or stone walls. Decorative fences or walls placed within a front yard shall not exceed thirty (30) inches in height. A decorative fence or wall shall contribute to the identification and beauty of the principal building. Chain link fences are not allowed within a required front yard area.

(e) In residential zoned areas, fences and between lots shall not exceed a height above ground level of more than six and one-half (6 ½) feet, and shall not extend toward the front of the lot nearer than the front of the house or the required minimum front yard, whichever is greater. In the case of a rear yard abutting a side yard, the side yard abutting a street shall be continuation of the required front setback on the lot to the rear, and no fence shall project into this area. When side yards abut on frontages across a common street, the side yard abutting a street shall not be less than the required front yard of the district and no fence shall project into this area (see Figures 1, 2 and 3).

(f) For those properties having side yards abutting upon streets, a fence may be constructed from the front building line to within one (1) foot of the front sidewalk line, not to exceed thirty (30) inches in height above gutter grade.

(g) In business zoned areas, fences and walls should not exceed a height above ground level of more than six and one-half (6 ½) feet. On corner lots, no fence, wall, shrubbery or other obstruction to vision above a height thirty (30) inches from the established street gutter grades shall be permitted within the triangular area forward at the intersection of any street right-of-way lines by a straight line drawn between such right-of-way lines for a distance along each line of twenty-five (25) feet from their point of intersection. Barbed wire may be installed on the top of such fences on arms or supports over the private property of the owner of the fence at least eight (8) feet above the adjacent grade level. (Ord. No. 82-11, § 1(8.25), 8-16-82)

(h) In industrial zoned areas, fences and walls may be constructed up to eight (8) feet in height. On corner lots, no fence, wall, shrubbery or other obstruction to vision above a height of thirty (30) inches from the established street gutter grades shall be permitted within the triangular area formed at the intersection of any street right-of-way lines by a straight line drawn between such right-of-way lines for a distance along each line of twenty-five (25) feet from their point of intersection. Barbed wire may be installed on the top of such fences on arms or supports over the private property of the owner of the fence at least eight (8) feet above the adjacent grade level. (Ord. No. 82-11, § 1(8.25), 8-16-82)

Section 2 Rights and Duties.

Rights and Duties which have matured, penalties which have incurred, proceedings which have begun and prosecution for violations of law occurring before the effective date of this ordinance are not affected or abated by this ordinance.

Section 3 Validity.

Should any section, clause or paragraph of this ordinance be declared by a Court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, the same will not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or part therefore, other than the part declared invalid.

Section 4 Ordinances Repealed.

All other ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are to the extent of such inconsistencies hereby repealed.

Section 5 Effective Date.

This ordinance shall become effective one day after publication.

Introduced: January 3rd, 2011

Enacted: January 17, 2011

Effective: February 7, 2011

Publish: February 6, 2011



Living Fire orchid

GARDEN EVENTS

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

FARMINGTON CLUB

David Sharpe, an avid supporter of preserving natural habitats, is the guest speaker at the next meeting of the Farmington Garden Club, noon, Monday, Feb. 7, at the Spicer House in Heritage Park, located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile. Guests are welcome. For more information call Joann at (248) 474-0866 or visit www.farming-tongardenclub.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

The store's 9th annual Orchid Festival continues Sunday, Feb. 6 and Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 12-13. Learn about orchids at a free presentation at 1 p.m. Feb. 12.

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.

Rabbi speaks at Temple Beth El

Temple Beth El will host the 69th annual Rabbi B. Benedict and Ada S. Glazer Memorial Lectures on Judaism for the Catholic, Protestant, Eastern Orthodox, Muslim and Jewish clergy. This year's scholar-in-residence will be Rabbi Elimelech Goldberg.

Goldberg, is the founder and national director of Kids Kicking Cancer and a clinical assistant professor of pediatrics, Wayne State University School of Medicine. The holder of a First Degree Black Belt in Choi Kwon Do, Goldberg first provided a therapeutic martial arts program at Camp Simcha, a summer camp in New York for children with cancer, where he served as the director from 1990 to 2002. Having lost his first child to leukemia, he brought a wealth of personal experience to dealing with children and families facing life-threatening illness. His commitment to ease the pain of sick children and his dream

of bringing healing through the empowering focus of the martial arts resulted in the creation of Kids Kicking Cancer in June, 1999. In 2009, alone, the program served 1,800 children in Michigan and New York. Rabbi Goldberg is rabbi emeritus at Young Israel of Southfield where he served as rabbi for over 20 years.

On Feb. 11, Goldberg will present two lectures in Beth El's Maas Chapel. His topic at 9:30 a.m. will be "The Power of Purpose in Healing." After a brief intermission, he will speak again at 10:45 a.m., discussing "The Breath Brake: Reaching Up, Out and In." There is no charge and the community is welcome.

A light lunch will be available at noon following the lectures. Charge for the lunch is \$15. Lunch reservations may be made by making checks payable and mailing them to Temple Beth El, 7400 Telegraph Road, Bloomfield Hills 48301, attn. Glazer Lunch.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its regular meeting February 15, 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:

Sandy Young, Library Secretary
Plymouth District Library
223 S. Main Street
Plymouth, MI 48170
734-453-0750
X217

Publish: February 6, 2011

MILESTONES

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Floyd and Carolyn Jones of Livonia marked their 50th wedding anniversary on Jan. 28. They were married in 1961 at Aldergate United Methodist Church in Redford.

Floyd and Carolyn met while in high school. Both graduated from Thurston High School in Redford.

They're the parents of two daughters, Cari Czako and Cathy Farrell. They have five grandsons, Eric, Bryan, Mitch, Nick and Kyle.

Floyd is a retiree from GM Photographic. They've lived in Livonia for 49 years.



Floyd and Carolyn Jones of Livonia

APRIL WEDDING PLANNED

Kelly Griffith and Peter Klomparens announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Lynn and Dennis Griffith of Livonia, is a graduate of Michigan State University and is employed by Bissonnet Southampton Veterinary Clinic.

Her fiancé, son of Ken and Sue Klomparens of Grand Rapids, also graduated from Michigan State University. He is employed by the city of Houston, Texas.

An April 2011 wedding is planned at the MSU alumni chapel.



Griffith-Klomparens

ABIGAIL ARRIVES

Abigail Louellen Osborne was born Dec. 29, 2010, at Providence Park Hospital-Nowi.

Abigail joins her parents, Andrew and Amanda Osborne, and siblings, Addison, 5, and Andrew, 2, at home in Livonia.

Grandparents are David and Linda Regelin of Monroe and Keith and Kathleen Osborne of Coloma. Helen Regelin of Monroe is Abigail's great-grandparent.

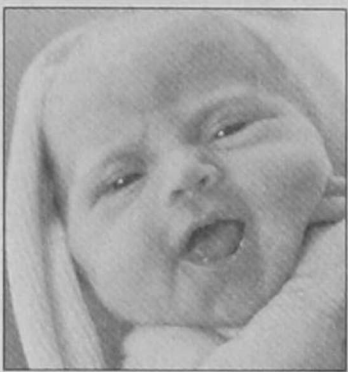


Abigail Louellen Osborne

MARIE ARRIVES

Marie Elizabeth Grabowski was born Jan. 4, 2011, at White Plains Hospital Center, in White Plains, N.Y. She weighed 8 pounds. Proud parents are Lisa and Alex Grabowski of Scarsdale, N.Y.

Grandparents are Michael and Dorothy Gill of Livonia, Anna Grabowski of Eastchester, N.Y., and the late Alexander W. Grabowski.



Marie Elizabeth Grabowski

JUNE WEDDING PLANNED

Jennifer David and Gary Klump announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Michael and Jill David of Plymouth, graduated from the University of Michigan in 2009. She will complete a master's degree in student affairs in higher education in May at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colo.

Her fiancé, son of Robert and Karen Klump of Canton, graduated from Franciscan University of Steubenville in 2008. He will complete a master's degree in sacred Scripture in May at the Augustine Institute in Denver, Colo.

A June 2011 wedding is planned in Plymouth.



David-Klump

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

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances

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RUTH BAXTER

93, passed away on January 18, 2011 after a prolonged illness. She was the wife of Joseph Baxter (deceased) and loving mother to Michael (Marilyn) of Laurel, Maryland, Jan (Judy) of Charlotte, MI and Mary Fuelling (Dennis) of Canton, MI. She had 11 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and three great, great grandchildren. She was devoted to her family and they are comforted knowing she is with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Remembrances can be made in her name to 3for5.org

ANTHONY S. "BUTCH" DELORENZO

Age 70 of Westland. Passed January 30, 2011. Loving father of Anthony (Chandra) Delorenzo. Brother of Mary Delorenzo, Jenny Delorenzo, Jo Delorenzo, Frank (Pat) Delorenzo and Brother Vincent Delorenzo. Brother-in-law Chris Krisciunas. Preceded in death by Nancy Krisciunas. Funeral service Thursday, February 3, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. Querfeld Funeral Home, 1200 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn 313-561-0002. Visitation will be Wednesday, February 2, from 2-8 p.m. www.querfeldfh.com



SUSAN MARIE FOLTZ

Livonia, MI - Susan Marie Foltz, 66, of Livonia, MI, formerly of Lancaster, OH, died Saturday, January 29, 2011, at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, MI. She fought a valiant battle with pancreatic cancer for two years before dying peacefully with family by her side. Susan was born November 7, 1944, in East Cleveland, Ohio and was the daughter of the late Walter Milton Smoyer and Marjorie Janet Wing. Susan grew up in the Cleveland area, attended Muskingum University in Ohio in the sixties and had a thirty plus year career in banking, mortgage lending & bookkeeping in both Ohio, beginning with Farmers & Citizens Bank, and in Michigan, last employed by Plastomer in the Detroit area. In retirement, Susan enjoyed time spent with family at Sand Lake, traveling with her husband, and raising her eight grandkids. Susan was loved and respected by all who knew her and to the very end was "the rock" of the family. Lovingly referred to as "Grams", Susan is survived by her husband Larry Kenneth Foltz of Livonia, MI; and brother Robert Smoyer, and his wife Hazel Smoyer of Chesapeake, VA. She is also survived by daughter Brenda Foltz Williamson, her husband John Edward Williamson & grandchildren Nicole, Hanna & Jack; son Daniel Kenneth Foltz, wife Erin Elizabeth Foltz & grandchildren Chloe, Allison, Isabel & Danny, all of Livonia, MI; and son Scott Ogden, wife Lara Berkley, and grandson Calvin of Wilmington, NC, as well as her first husband, Frank Ogden of Leland, NC. A visitation will be held at Harry J. Will Funeral Home at 37000 Six Mile Road, Livonia, MI from 2 pm to 9 pm on Friday February 4, 2011. A memorial service will be held at Harry J. Will Funeral Home from 2 pm to 4 pm, on Saturday, February 5, 2011 with an additional visitation from Noon to 2 pm on Saturday before the memorial. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society in the name of Susan Foltz. An online guestbook is available at: www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com.



GAYLE ZIELKE-FRANCIS

Age 55, born October 2, 1955. Passed away Thursday, January 13, 2011, in Mobile, Alabama. She is preceded in death by her father, Donald Zielke. Survived by her husband of 13 years, John Francis; mother, Jean Zielke; brothers, David (Deborah), Dean, Al (Jamee); sister, Laura (Randy) Goyette; in-laws, Jim and Una Lee; sister-in-law, Pat Walther, all here special nieces and nephews. The Committal service will be held Saturday, February 12, 2011, at 10:00 a.m., in the chapel of Glen Eden Memorial Gardens on 8 Mile Rd., in Livonia.



VIRGINIA SUE FRYER

February 2, 2011, Age 71. Beloved wife of Richard for 47 wonderful years. Loving mother of Lisa Rose Fryer and the late Jacqueline Marie Fryer. Adoring grandmother of Brittany and Courtney Bousamra. Sister-in-law of Gerald Fryer. Family will receive friends at A.J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, 2600 Crooks Road, (between Maple & Big Beaver), Monday 10:00 a.m. until Funeral Service at 12:00 p.m. Memorial tributes to Beaumont Hospice. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com



BARBARA A. GEIL

Age 81 of Livonia. Beloved sister of Thelma (the late Robert) Brown. Dearest aunt of David (Sherri) Brown, Kathryn (David) Duys. Great aunt of Bradley, Kelsey, Amanda and Robert. Also survived by many other loving family and friends. Active member of Zonta Club of Detroit I and past Vice-President of Student Services at Schoolcraft Community College. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Zonta International Foundation ATTN: Contributions 4837 Paysphere Circle Chicago, IL 60674. A memorial service will be planned for a later date. Please contact Fred Wood Funeral Home Livonia, MI 734-464-8060 for updates.

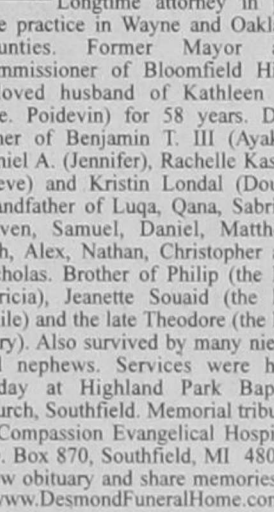


GEORGINA GERRES

Age 98 of Plymouth, died January 29, 2011. Beloved mother of Jeanette Merrill. Loving grandmother of Jonathan (Kathleen) Merrill and Anne Merrill. Dear great grandmother of Celia, Ian, Tess and Evan Merrill. Georgina exhibited a wonderful zest for life, and was proud to be able to care for herself throughout her lifetime. She was especially pleased when she could spend time with her daughter and great-grandchildren. Private cremation services have been held. To share memories please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com.



BENJAMIN T. HOFFIZ, JR.
January 30, 2011. Age 82 of Bloomfield Hills. Proud veteran US Army - WWII. Longtime attorney in private practice in Wayne and Oakland Counties. Former Mayor and Commissioner of Bloomfield Hills. Beloved husband of Kathleen M. (nee. Poidevin) for 58 years. Dear father of Benjamin T. III (Ayako), Daniel A. (Jennifer), Rachelle Kasten (Steve) and Kristin Londal (Doug). Grandfather of Luqa, Qana, Sabrina, Steven, Samuel, Daniel, Matthew, Seth, Alex, Nathan, Christopher and Nicholas. Brother of Philip (the late Patricia), Jeanette Souaid (the late Emile) and the late Theodore (the late Mary). Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Services were held Friday at Highland Park Baptist Church, Southfield. Memorial tributes to Compassion Evangelical Hospital, P.O. Box 870, Southfield, MI 48037. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com



GORDON C. LARZELERE

Age 67. January 30, 2011. Beloved husband of Nancy. Loving father of Matthew (Samantha) and Teresa Larzelere. Dear grandfather of Jake, Cody, Austin, Andrew, and Emily. Brother of Dale, Rick, Jack, Mike, Mary Pierce, and Helen Larzelere. Funeral Service was held Friday at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, 33603 Grand River Ave. Downtown Farmington. Visitation was held Thursday. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association. www.thayer-rock.com



BARBARA JEAN MCDUGALI

February 2, 2011 Age 74 of Northville. Beloved wife of the late Daniel W. McDougali. Dear mother of Karen (Dennis) Faletti, Katherine (Nicholas) Deluca, Gordon and Eric. Loving sister of Charles B. (Louise) Bernard, Patrick Bernard and Shirley (Al) Deluca. Grandmother of seven. Service at the Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood Rd., Westland, Monday 1 pm. Family will receive visitors Monday at the funeral home from 11 am until time of service. Cremation rites were accorded. Please view memorial and send tributes at: www.uhtfh.com.



THOMAS J. TATTAN

Age 61 of Northville, January 30, 2011. Beloved husband of Cynthia. Loving father of Jason (Megan). Dear son of Dorothy and the late John. Dear brother of Michael (Debbie), Tim, and Leanne (Mark) Clark. Also leaves several nieces and nephews. Visitation Friday 2-8 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd (btwn Sheldon & Beck) Plymouth, In State Sat. 10 AM until the 10:30 AM Funeral Mass at St. Kenneth Catholic Church, 14951 Haggerty Rd (south of 5 Mile) Plymouth. Entombment Michigan Memorial Park. Memorial contributions may be made to U of M Health System, Section of Thoracic Surgery. To leave a message of condolence or share a memory with the family, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

SHIRLEY ANN WOODRUFF
4/26/1934 - 1/26/2011

Loving wife of the late Donald Woodruff. Proud mother of David (Christine), Gary, Steven (Evelyn), Loretta (Patrick), Martin & Arthur. Grandma of 11: Donald, Michael, Patrick, Marie, Angela, Joshua, Jason, Carrin, David, Kevin & Lil Donald. Great Grandma to 8: Jaydin, Zander, Makenna, Brittany, Dakota, Brittany, Savannah, Elizabeth & Brian. A kind, loving woman to all she met. Full of smiles, joy and laughter! She is already missed but will live on in our hearts and fondest memories.

In Memory Of



In loving memory of
JOSEPH J. HOFFMANN
May 21, 1922 - April 17, 2008
Loving Husband, Father,
Brother, and Grandfather.
Deeply missed by your family



In loving memory of
JOSEPH S. HOFFMANN
May 26, 1964 - Feb. 6, 2008
Joe, you are so sadly and deeply missed.
We wish you were here to see your son Joseph II. Your spirit lives on in him. He is so much like his Daddy in so many ways. You would be proud. Joey will never forget his Dad and misses you so much and so do we. Love forever. Your mom, sister Audette, Karen Hoffmann, and Joseph S. Hoffmann II.

OBITUARY POLICY

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.

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May You
Find
Comfort in
Family &
Friends

HEALTH

Sunday, February 6, 2011

hometownlife.com

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Sharon Dargay

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883

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Comment online at hometownlife.com

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

FEBRUARY

Sleep Apnea

Livonia dentist John Colasanti will talk about treating sleep apnea with dental devices from 7-8:30 p.m., Feb. 10 at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. Discover the latest in medical equipment; masks and supplies for sleep disorders, such as continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) technology. Participants with a CPAP machine may bring it to the presentation for a free pressure accuracy check. Call (734) 655-4640 for more information, or to register.

Flu shots

Community Living Services, 35425 Michigan Avenue West, Suite 3653, Wayne, will hold an H1N1 flu vaccination clinic, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 10. Free. (734) 467-7600.

Healthy hearts

St. Mary Mercy Hospital offers these heart-related events for women next month:

- Marianne Simancek, a registered nurse, will talk about healthy habits for cardiovascular health, 1 p.m. Feb. 9 at the Westland Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, Westland.
- Dr. Roy Misirliyan, director of Noninvasive Cardiology, will discuss how diabetes affects the heart and cardiovascular system, 7 p.m. Feb. 9, in the hospital auditorium.
- Dr. Barbara Kong will be the speaker at "The Heart of a Woman," 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 16, at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. Bone density screening, blood pressure screening and massage will be offered from 5:30-7 p.m. Participants will learn to identify the unique signs and symptoms of a heart attack and the simple steps needed for a healthy lifestyle that can improve heart health. There is no charge, but a \$5 goodwill donation is requested to benefit Marian Women's Center Programs. Register at (734) 655-1182 or stmarymercy.org and click on "classes and events."

St. Mary Mercy Hospital offers a child-birth education class called, "Let's Get Ready to Have a Baby." This is a five-week program, 7-9 p.m. Mondays, Feb. 28-April 4, in classrooms 1 and 2. The class is based on the "Lamaze Method" and includes exercise, relaxation, breathing techniques and comfort measures to assist expectant moms through the different stages of labor. Classes also include information on anesthesia options, medication, nutrition, family adjustment and the importance of the support person's role. It enhances confidence and joy of the birthing experience. The class is open to expectant parents, not just those delivering at St. Mary Mercy Hospital. There is a fee of \$75 per couple, and registration is required. Call (734) 655-1162 for more information, or to register.

MARCH

Bariatric surgery

The Michigan Bariatric Institute presents educational seminars from 6-8 p.m. Thursdays, March 3 and April 7 at St. Mary Mercy Livonia, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. Dr. Tallal Zeni, director of Minimally Invasive and Bariatric Surgery, and Dr. Jacob Roberts, a bariatric surgeon, will make presentations. For more information, call the Michigan Bariatric Institute at (877) WHY WEIGHT.

ONGOING

Aquatic classes

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Arthritis Foundation have partnered to offer aquatic classes designed to ease the 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. Wednesday and Friday, at the Birmingham branch. All classes are offered to members and nonmembers 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.ymcadetroit.org.

Heart disease is still the No. 1 killer of women. This means mothers, sisters and friends are dying at the rate of one per minute because they don't know that heart disease kills. That's why the American Heart Association's Go Red For Women® movement is asking women to fight heart disease by telling five women they love that they want them to live.

"Eighty percent of cardiac events in women may be prevented, if they make the right choices for their hearts, involving diet, exercise and abstinence from smoking," said Dr. Jennifer Mieres, cardiologist and Go Red For Women spokeswoman. "This is why it is so important that women talk to one another about their No. 1 killer."

Actress Cheryl Hines kicked off Go Red events nationally Friday, Feb. 4, in New York City, N.Y.

Women in southeastern Michigan who want to live healthier and prevent heart disease will gather for the Go Red for Women luncheon from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Feb. 24, at the MGM Grand in downtown Detroit.

According to the Association, heart disease and stroke account for 34 percent of all deaths among women in Michigan. One in three American women die of heart disease, compared to 1 in 30 women that die of breast cancer.

"I am passionate about the American Heart Association and particularly, Go Red for Women," said Paula Silver, vice president of communications at Quicken Loans, Inc., and co-chairwoman of the local 2011 Go Red For Women campaign. "As someone who has a



Actress Cheryl Hines is a spokeswoman for the National Go Red for Women campaign.

history of heart disease in my family, I pay close attention to my eating habits and exercise. I feel better both physically and emotionally when I treat myself right, when I eat sensibly and when I get on the treadmill."

The American Heart Association Go Red for Women luncheon aims to educate women about heart disease and heart health. The half-day event features wellness seminars, a health exhibit, fashion show and silent auction.

Tickets cost \$175 per person and are available now by calling Shelley Rusinek at (248) 936-5807.

Other nearby Go Red for Women events:

- Living to the Beat (of your heart): 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 8 at Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History,

315 East Warren Avenue, Detroit; (313) 494-5800. Chef Jesse Gales of Weight Watchers demonstrates healthy cooking. Free to museum members; \$5 for non-members.

- Wellness Forum: The event, which starts with breakfast at 8:30 a.m., followed by a program at 9:30 a.m. Feb. 9, is open to all companies interested in starting a corporate wellness initiative or learning new ways to maintain an existing wellness program. Cost is free and free health screenings

will be available until 10:30 a.m. The event will be held at The Henry Ford, 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn.

- Living Better with Life's Simple 7: 1 p.m. Feb. 9, at Westland Friendship Center, 1119 Newburgh, Westland. Marianne Simancek, RN, will talk about improving cardiovascular health. The program is free. (734) 655-8950

- Diabetes and your Heart: 7 p.m. Feb. 9, at St. Mary Mercy Auditorium, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. Dr. Roy Misirliyan, director of Noninvasive Cardiology, will talk about how diabetes affects the heart in this free program. (734) 655-8950

- Hockey has Heart: Wear red to the game between the Plymouth Whalers and Owen Sound, 7:05 p.m. at Compuware Ice Arena, 14900 Beck, Plymouth. Free health screenings will be available and professional hockey player, Jiri Fischer, will make an appearance. Buy tickets at www.plymouthwhalers.com

- The Culinary Studio, a shared-use kitchen, will offer heart-healthy foods prepared by local chefs at its open house, noon to 7 p.m. Feb. 16, 29673 Northwestern Highway, Southfield. Free. RSVP to Cassandra Morrison at (248) 353-2500.

- Ladies Night Out: Dr. Barbara Kong, cardiologist, will identify the signs and symptoms of heart disease that are unique to women at this free program, 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 16, at St. Mary Mercy Auditorium, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. Bone density, blood pressure screenings and massages will be available. Register at (734) 655-1182.

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stjoeshealth.org