

# CONNECTION **Eagle awards**

Officials at National Heritage Academies believe parental support is critical to a child's success in school. Understanding the importance of this, NHA has encouraged parent loyalty by recognizing its schools that demonstrate high levels of parental satisfaction and loyalty.

NHA recently announced its 2009-10 Eagle Award winners for Parent Loyalty, including Achieve Academy and Canton Charter Academy of Canton.

To receive this award, 60 percent or more of the school's parents must be "very satisfied" with their child's school - a statistic measured in an NHA parent survey. In total, NHA rewarded 22 schools with an Eagle Award in this category.

For more information about National Heritage Academies, visit http://heritageacademies.com.

# **Rita Rod auction**

Following her husband's example, Rita Rodriguez is offering up items for an auction to benefit The Salvation Army



# **Commercial values show big plunge**

#### **BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Canton's industrial and commercial property values will show a sharp decline in assessment notices hitting mailboxes by late February - a sobering reminder of tough times even as local home values show signs of stabilizing, officials said.

Industrial property values plunged 18 percent on average, a striking

departure from a year ago when they showed no change, Assessor Doug Shaw said.

Commercial values have fallen another 14 percent, continuing doubledigit losses that come just one year after they plummeted 15 percent.

"It was kind of expected that they would be down," township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said Tuesday, though local officials are hopeful of a turnaround after already losing millions of dollars in tax revenues as property values decline.

Shaw confirmed the latest industrial and commercial property values Tuesday, mere days after he said local home values had dipped just 1.9 percent during the last year - among the smallest declines across Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

Township officials will be crunching the latest figures to determine how much additional tax revenue Canton stands to lose amid steep losses in industrial and

commercial property values.

Shaw said the nonresidential sectors appear to have lagged behind as Canton home values began leveling off during the last year. He said it's too early to predict when a rebound in industrial and commercial property values might occur. In what could potentially signal a

turnaround, Canton during the last year has attracted several large com-

Please see VALUES, A5



# won't shift Heise's focus

#### BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Kurt Heise understands the agreement reached last week in the running of the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department "changes the dynamic" of the department.

But it's not enough to get Heise, the freshman state representative from



Heise

own; the other three

are nominated (by county officials)," Heise said. "They



Salvation Army Maj. John Aren said the new Canton thrift store will benefit from an auction of items donated by Rita Rodriguez.

The wife of former University of Michigan football coach Rich Rodriguez has donated some 170 clothing items, including new and gently used items, along with other items of memorabilia, to The Salvation Army.

Those items will be offered up in an auction at The Salvation Army Family Store in Canton starting at 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 19.

The store is located at 43403 Joy Road (at Morton Taylor) in Canton.

# Miracle McDonald's

Staffers at the Ann Arbor Road McDonald's in Plymouth and volunteers from the Miracle League of Plymouth partner today (Thursday) from 4-7 p.m. to benefit the Miracle League's efforts to build a baseball field for children with special needs in Plymouth.

The Miracle League of Plymouth is moving toward an April 29 ground-breaking for the field, which will be built behind Central Middle School in downtown Plymouth. That property is being used based on a lease agreement between The Miracle League and **Plymouth-Canton Community** Schools, which owns the property.

For more information, visit the league's website at www. miracleleagueplymouth.org.

# **Market madness**

# Winter shoppers flock to Michigan goods, goodies

#### BY DARRELL CLEM **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Canton resident Janet Muse made a beeline for Bobilin Honey after she entered Canton's historic Cady-Boyer Barn for the season's first local Winter Market.

Canton beekeeper Bob Jastrzebski and 15 other area vendors sold their locally made products Sunday as a steady throng of shoppers ranging from baby-toting young couples to retirees packed the 1800s-era barn, perfectly situated in a snowcovered landscape along Ridge Road for the second annual Winter Market.

"His honey is great," Muse said, walking away from Jastrzebski's table a satisfied customer. "To me this (Winter Market) is a real treat. I like all the fresh food you can get here."

Muse and large crowds of patrons returned Sunday to the same area where, during summertime, they flock to an outdoor Canton Farmers Market to buy Michiganmade products such as locally grown produce, organic meats, fresh breads, natural soaps, gourmet popcorn and tasty sweets.

Market manager Tina Lloyd said a record-shattering 550 shoppers — the biggest one-day turnout for a market inside the barn – scooped up



Squash from Prochaska Farms in Britton, Mich.

their favorite items 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday and gave the local economy a little boost. It marked the second year for Winter Market.

#### **OPEN DOOR**

Shoppers also donated a bin full of boxed, dried pasta for Open Door Ministry, a Canton-based food pantry that serves area families in need.

"We are thrilled with the community response," Lloyd said.

As outdoor temperatures reached the 40-degree mark, vertical heaters placed inside the barn helped patrons shake off any lingering winter chill.

Wayne residents David and Christine Blinn brought a shopping bag they had started to fill up with winter squash,

homemade mozzarella cheese and fresh-baked goods.

"This is lovely," Christine Blinn said. "We came out to get some fresh Michiganmade products."

The first business owner patrons encountered as they approached the barn was Garry Kuneman, owner of Plymouth-based Meat Local, who set up a row of tables outside to sell organic venison, lamb, chicken, bison and turkey, alongside fresh farm eggs, Michigan blueberries and homemade yogurt.

'I think people come out here because they have a pentup demand," he said. "I think they're trying to get in the spring mood a little bit."

Please see MARKET, A5

Plymouth Township, to stop pushing the first bill he introduced last month.

"I am not backing down on my bill," Heise said. "I met with House leadership (Tuesday) and let it be clear I'm moving forward with the bill. It hasn't been slowed down or delayed in any way."

Detroit Mayor Dave Bing and county leaders finalized an agreement Friday, signed by U.S. District Judge Sean Cox, that will give suburban communities more say in running the department, including the need for a super-majority of the sevenmember Board of Water Commissioners on things such as rate increases.

Under the agreement, Bing would appoint four members to the board, while county officials (the drain commissioners in Oakland and Macomb and Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano) would recommend appointments to the other three spots. However, Bing would still have to appoint

are not necessarily selected. I think that's significant."

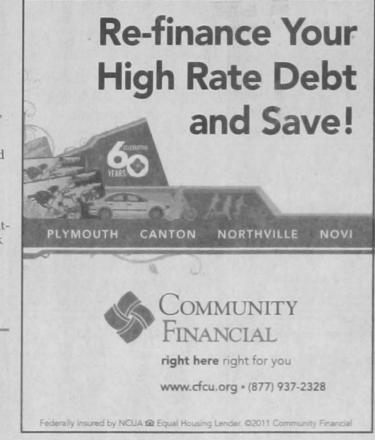
## ABOUT PERSONALITIES

The key to the success of this new system, according to Heise, is the independence of whomever Ficano appoints. Heise's concern is that Ficano's Wayne County appointee could simply vote with Bing's chosen representatives, undermining the suburban influence the new panel is supposed to have.

"It's going to be significant who (Ficano) appoints," Heise said. "If he appoints a Detroiter or someone who isn't aggressive, that person will be a fifth vote to go along with the four Detroiters and undermine the super majority. A super-majority sounds like a great idea, but the Wayne County representative could undermine that."

Under the agreement reached Friday, Detroit maintains ownership and management of the

Please see WATER, A5



1





AUTOMOTIVE \_\_\_\_\_B11 CAREER BUILDER \_\_\_\_\_B10

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# LOCAL NEWS

# Monit weighs write-in option in W-W school board election

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 17, 2011

#### BY SUE MASON **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Wayne-Westland school board President Skip Monit is continuing to explore his options after being disqualified as a candidate in the May school election.

Pointing out that the "upcoming election is extremely important to the future of the district," Monit said he was disappointed that he "may not be there to help.

"I have looked into my options legally to challenge this decision and have determined that taking this matter to court will quite probably have a very low level of success," said Monit at Monday's school board meeting. "My last and only possibility is to run a write-in campaign. I am encouraged by the number of people who have urged me to run on this basis, but before I can finalize that decision, I have to explore the realities it will take to compete without my name on the ballot."

Monit was disqualified after submitting nominating petition containing too few signatures of registered voters in the district. State law requires a minimum of 40 signatures in school districts with populations of 10,000 or more.

Monit said he was a given the "incorrect number" by the Wayne city clerk's office.

"I should have known the number needed," he said. "Since my last campaign was four years ago, I admit that I forgot the number needed and asked for the official number from the clerk's office."

Monit said his trust that the information given was official "was in vain," adding that he found no number of signatures needed recorded on the paperwork he was given.

## **FROM CITY CHARTER**

Wayne City Clerk Matthew Miller acknowledges that nothing in the information given candidates indicated what was needed and that the requirement of 25 signatures comes from the Wayne City Charter. That is the number needed to run for city council. However, he declined to comment on how the wrong infor-



candidate is responsible for the filing process, the city clerk verifies that

and that the signature matches their voters card."

The affidavits also are sent to Wayne County as part of the process

Miller said the petitions were submitted to the staff on Monday and the signatures were checked on Tuesday during the day. After the deadline of 4 p.m. on Tuesday, the affidavits of identity for Monit and Thomas Buckalew were faxed to Westland City Clerk Eileen DeHart Schoof, who is in charge of the election. It was DeHart who found that Monit had submit 29 signatures, 11 short of the 40 that was required.

The affidavits were not checked when they were submitted on Monday or before they were sent to DeHart, he said

"The City of Wayne from the City Council to the City Manager apologize for this grievous error," Miller added. 'He is a wonderful school board member and a great asset to our community."

## **DECISION TO MAKE**

Monit had planned to seek a fourth four-year term on the board, and now faces a decision on whether to run as a write-in candidate. The campaign would be far more costly and would require people to write in his proper first name of Lorne, not Skip, on the ballot.

In saying that he will continue to weigh his options, Monit said he was encouraged by the number of residents interested in filling a vacancy on the school board.

"I hope this gives us a new influx of talent and energy to help us to continue to offer the best for our kids," he said. "Many of these people have entered the election race and I would strongly suggest a closer look at each candidate before casting your vote."

"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

# Band booster craft show

The Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters host its annual Spring Arts and Crafts Ensemble on Saturday, March 12. The fundraising event, to be held at Plymouth High School in Canton, is a juried art show produced twice each year by the PCMB to help support the band and color guard programs at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

Over 100 exhibitors with handcrafted items will be on display at this artistic event. Visitors can expect a high quality show with jewelry, handmade clothing, soaps, artwork, sculptures, floral arrangements, and many spring related items.

Plymouth High School is located at 8400 Beck Road in Canton. The Spring Arts & Craft Ensemble will be held from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. In addition to over 100 exhibits, there will be food, door prizes, a raffle, and entertainment by marching and concert band musicians throughout the day. Admission is \$2. Strollers are welcome.

"The Arts & Craft Ensembles are two of the most successful fundraisers we host each year," said Erin Babcock, president of the 2011 Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters. "The money raised at this event will help send the 200-member Marching Band to the 2011 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City. We're hopeful the community will come out and support our kids by visiting our craft show."

# Waste recycling

Canton Waste Recycling will follow their regular curbside pick-up schedule for the week of Feb. 21-24. Canton's Administrative Offices will be closed on Presidents' Day, Monday, Feb. 21; however, CWR will be working so there will be no disruption of service for Canton residents.

All refuse and recycling must be placed at the curb on your regular collection day to ensure pick-up. CWR will not pick-up refuse or recycling that is placed passed the sidewalk on private property. All recycling must be placed separate from your refuse on the opposite side of your driveway. For questions or more information on solid waste collection, visit www.canton-mi.org or call CWR at 734/397-5801.



**AROUND CANTON** 

DAVID L. MALHALAB / MNS PHOTO

# Purtan person

Bee Friedlander of Canton was the happy winning bidder of a rare, legendary Dick Purtan license plate, from his early days at 800 CKLW radio, at the 2011 Museumania benefit for the Plymouth Historical Museum Benefit, held at The Inn of St. John's. Joe Carli of JCC Auction Service of Plymouth donated his services to the benefit and auctioned off a variety of donated items. Dozens of raffle prizes were also won by the full house of attendees.

ing this annual event has become a seasonal tradition for some families," said Jason Lombardo, Recreation Specialist. "Participants get a chance to enjoy the winter splendor and chase the winter blues away at the same time."

Participants are encouraged to bring their own equipment. Hot coco and snacks will be available for a small donation, regardless of the weather. Remember to dress appropriately for this outdoor event. For more information

call (734) 394-5460 or visit Cantonfun.org.

# Bingo night

Back by popular demand, Bingo Night with prizes donated by local businesses, pizza from ZZ's, a treat from Carvel, a raffle to benefit a local charity, and an opportunity to sign up for activities for the entire family is on the agenda at the Canton Newcomers' Wednesday, March 2, adult general meeting.

The club's own "March Madness" starts at 7:15 p.m. at the Sunflower Clubhouse, at 45800 Hanford, west of Canton Center, and visitors are welcome.

Request a complimentary newsletter at www.cantonnewcomers.org of this social, civic and charitable organization. To RSVP your attendance, to donate a small prize, or with any questions, call Noreen at (734) 981-0486 or e-mail nrybary@yahoo.com.

Canton. To request a registration form or any questions you can contact Hope at ascscropandcraft@gmail.com

# Saving for college

State Representative Dian Slavens, D-Canton, invites residents to learn about ways to save for college at her town hall meeting on Thursday, Feb. 24, in Canton. The meeting is free and open to the public.

The meeting takes place 7-8:30 p.m. in the firstfloor board room of Canton Township Hall, 1150 Canton Center. In addition to Slavens, it features Robin Lott, Executive Director of the Michigan Education Trust (MET); and Tom Freeland, Deputy Director of the Michigan Higher Education Assistance Authority.

For more information about the town hall, please call Slavens' office toll-free at (888) 347-8021 or send an e-mail to DianSlavens@house.mi.gov.

## 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.

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).

# Damaris scholarship

The Plymouth Community Arts Council will recognize a Plymouth-Canton School district senior who has displayed outstanding abilities in visual arts and plans to continue his/her education in this field with its annual awarding of the Damaris Fine Arts Scholarship.

To download an application, go to: http://www.storytellerdesign.com/Portals/4/ 2011Damarisaward.pdf

# Sagear scholarship

The Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. is striving to recognize a Plymouth-Canton School District High School Senior who has overcome adversity with its annual Sandra Sagear Rotary Scholarship.

Club officials are looking for students who have displayed courage, perseverance, spirit, and creativity in succeeding in achieving an education, despite a physical, mental or emotional barrier. They have also shown an appreciation of others and a commitment to their community. The recipient of this award will receive a scholarship.

The award is named after Sandra Sagear, a 1969 graduate of the original Plymouth High School who imagined and believed she could succeed as she lived everyday with Polio. To download an application, go to: http://www.storytellerdesign.com/Portals/4/ 2011ApplicationScholarRota ry.pdf

# 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. For fees and additional information about "Real Guitar Heroes" classes or additional music instruction, contact Axis Music Academy at (734) 844-0100 or Canton Leisure Services at (734) 394-5460.

mation was given out. Miller did say that "the

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# Skiing and shoeing

Looking for a great way to cure cabin fever this winter? Bundle up and join Canton Leisure Services Snow Skiing and Snow Shoeing Event at the Lower Rouge River Recreation Trail on Saturday, Feb. 19. Enjoy the great outdoors during this winter adventure from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Lower Rouge River Recreation Trail is located off Michigan Avenue at Morton Taylor. This free event is also part of Canton's 100 Days to Health Program, which encourages area residents to make healthy living a top priority in 2011.

"Hiking these trails dur-

# All Saints fundraiser

Crafters (scrappers, knitters, beaders, paper crafters) who are slightly behind can pack up your projects and craft tools and join the second annual Crop & Craft Day at All Saints Catholic School 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday April 2. Full-day (\$35), half-day (\$25) and share-a-table (\$50) options are available.

All Saints Catholic School is a preschool through grade eight Detroit Archdiocesan coeducational Catholic School. Gospel values are the basis of the formation of our students in faith, ethics, academics and community. All Saints Catholic School is fully accredited by the Michigan Nonpublic Schools Accrediting Association.

All Saints Catholic School is located at 48375 Warren in

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



# LOCAL NEWS

# online at hometownlife.com

# Expo designed to aid in home improvements

BY DARRELL CLEM **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

Despite declining property values across metro Detroit, local officials say Canton remains committed to helping area residents improve their homes, whether they intend to stay put or need a makeover to boost their chances of selling.

To that end, an estimated 125 carpenters, window experts, remodeling mavens, landscapers, roofers, energysaving pros, plumbers and others plan to gather at Canton's Summit on the Park for a twoday Home Improvement Expo marking its 10th year.

"I would consider it regional in scope," Canton Building Official John Weyer said. "I'd say it draws people from a 50mile radius.'

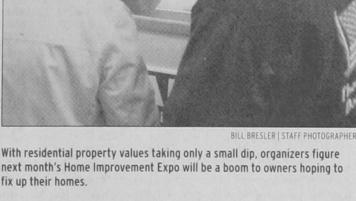
Home Expo happens 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 5, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 6. It brings together homeowners, businesses, contractors and workshop leaders offering expertise on design trends, lawn and gardening care, solar energy, deck work and other home-improvement topics.

And there's no cost to attend. Just show up at the Summit, 46000 Summit Parkway, west of the Canton Center-Palmer intersection.

Home Expo's milestone 10th year follows a tumultuous decade that, in communities such as Canton, brought a new-construction boom followed by a sharp downturn. However, Canton's assessor, Doug Shaw, said it appears the plunge in home values may be showing signs of easing in western Wayne County.

"We're hitting the bottom, it appears, based on home sales," Shaw has said.

Local officials say Home Expo comes as many residents have decided to stay in their houses and make improvements, especially if their homes are paid off or if they owe little on their mortgages.



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Many others, who owe more than their homes are worth, have chosen to ride out the housing-market storm in hopes their property values will eventually recover.

"More people are recognizing that they want to keep the best value they can for their home," Weyer said. "They might realize they're going to be living there for a number of years, so they're replacing windows or doors. Some people might not be finishing a full basement, but they might want a front-door installation."

Home Expo - sponsored by Canton's Building and Inspection Services Division, the Canton Chamber of Commerce and the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers - offers area residents a way to save time and money by interacting in one place with home-improvement

businesses, some of whom offer specials and discounts.

Radio personalities are expected to broadcast from the event, including Joe Gagnon "The Appliance Doctor" from WAAM-AM (1600) AM) and Murray Gula, host of "Your Home with Murray Gula" on WDFN-AM (1130)

Home Expo features numerous workshops, a hands-on children's project center, live woodcarving demonstrations and multiple raffles, according to the township. Attendees are urged to stop by a welcome station to pick up a free Expo advertisement booklet containing vendor coupons, a map of the show, workshop schedules and home-improvement tips.

For more on the event, visit www.canton-mi.org and click on the Home Improvement Expo link.

# Residents double recycling amounts

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 17, 2011

#### BY DARRELL CLEM **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Canton residents have more than doubled the amount of materials they recycle since 2006, spurred by heightened education efforts and the township's move to an easier, singlestream recycling program.

"There has been a tremendous response in the community to this program," Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said Tuesday evening during talks with Canton's elected leaders.

Canton residents recycled 3,638 tons of materials in 2010 – a dramatic increase over the 1,782 tons they diverted from a landfill just four years earlier.

Faas touted the latest numbers Tuesday during a Canton Township Board of Trustees study session.

Canton officials had hoped to double the amount of recycled materials by 2015 - a goal reached five years early.

'We are elated at the response of our residents to the single-stream recycling

program," Faas said.

The largest one-year spike occurred between 2009 and 2010, when the amount of recycled materials sharply increased from 2,492 tons to 3,638.

Local officials say it's no coincidence the improved numbers came after the township rolled out its single-stream, curbside-pickup program in April of 2009. It allows residents to place their recyclable materials, such as newspapers, plastic, glass and cardboard, in the same bin rather than having to separate them.

Faas said the program's performance can be measured as follows:

 The number of recycling program complaints fell sharply after Canton made it easier for residents to become more environmentally friendly.

• Residents more than doubled the amount of materials they recycle and, as a result, they have bought many more of the 18-gallon recycling bins sold for \$10 at the treasurer's office at

township hall, on Canton Center between Cherry Hill and Palmer.

· A so-called Recycling Superhero campaign has produced what Faas said are 'quantifiable results."

Since 2007, Canton has sold 4,800 recycle bins, and the township board in early February ordered an additional 1,000 bins as supplies dropped under 500 bins.

'We sell a lot of recycling bins," Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin said.

She said some people have several bins. She also said people who run out of space in their bins may place recyclable materials in clear plastic bags - available at certain hardware and retail stores — and place them at the curb.

Faas said the uptick in recycling efforts comes at no additional cost to residents or the township. Rather, the effort has kept an increasing amount of recyclable materials from ending up in the local landfill.

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

# Foundation gets new board member, officers

The Canton Community Foundation has a new board member and a roster of new officers for 2011.

Nancy Hillegonds of Plymouth began a three-year board term in January. She will serve on the foundation's grants and development committees, announced President Joan Noricks.

She is a Plymouth community leader and we are drawing on a broader representation in our region," Noricks said. "I find Nancy to be innovative, energetic and willing to help the foundation move forward."

A 14-year Plymouth resident, Hillegonds has a long history of community service, including the Plymouth Community Arts Council,



Hillegonds

Department of Commerce. Hillegonds, who is originally from Ohio, and her husband, Paul, have two college-age children allowing her time to become

of Michigan

involved in other activities. "This is a great way for me to ease back into community service," Hillegonds said. "The foundation is such a busy organization. I can't believe how many balls the foundation has in the air. I am still in the learning process."

The foundation board of directors also elected its new slate of officers, who serve for one year. Immediate past board chair Jim Demmer of Jack Demmer Ford, completed his term in November. Elizabeth Bland of Bank of America was elected the new board chair. Other officers include vice chair Jerry Grady, a certified public accountant with UHY LLC; treasurer Dan Durack, a community volunteer and retired Canton Township department director; and board secretary Barbara Church Rodenberg, a community volunteer, and former administrator and teacher with the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

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# Saturday

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# **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Thursday, February 17, 2011

hometownlife

# **CRIME WATCH**

# Weapons stash

Canton police making a routine I traffic stop recovered a rifle, several knives, jewelry, prescription drugs and personal mail belonging to a Garden City man who had been the victim of an earlier home invasion, according to a police report.

A police officer on patrol noticed a defective taillight as a vehicle was leaving a Marathon gas station in the area of Haggerty Road and Michigan Avenue around 8:30 p.m. Friday. The incident led to charges against three males and the release of a female passenger.

Canton Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner said the incident shows how "good police work by a veteran officer" led to a routine traffic stop having a larger outcome against suspects in their teens and early 20s.

One passenger faces charges in Canton for receiving and concealing stolen property, and he is under investigation by Garden City police for a home invasion that happened in that community. One other passenger is facing allegations he provided alcohol to minors in the vehicle, and the driver was cited with driving offenses including not having a valid license.

Police seized the vehicle.

# Illegal aliens?

**2** U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement are investigating the possibility that people questioned during a traffic stop in Canton may be illegally living in the United States after leaving Mexico.

Canton police stopped a 1991 silver Buick Century shortly before 9:30 p.m. last Thursday on Edinburgh, northwest of Lotz and Ford. The male driver identified himself by an expired driver's license, and police learned that two others had Mexican identification cards.

Police asked whether the men were living legally in the United States, and the driver indicated they were not. The men, who had an address in Canton, were released as U.S. immigration officials investigated to determine if they were, in fact, living here illegally.



# Drug stop

**3** A woman was arrested and cited for possession of a controlled substance following a traffic stop that occurred about 2:35 a.m. last Friday near Michigan Avenue and Morton Taylor Road, according to a police report.

Police stopped the vehicle after noticing the driver slow down for a red light and then put the vehicle in reverse in the roadway, according to a police report. The driver then weaved in the lanes after pulling off again and was driving 15 mph below the posted speed limit.

Police checked the license plate and learned the driver had a suspended license. Police stopped the car and learned that the driver was using her sister's driver's license.

In the car, police found a Crown Royal whiskey bag containing money, a small bag of marijuana, rolling

papers and prescription drugs. The woman admitted the items were hers after initially saying her sister must have left them in the car.

Police arrested the woman amid an investigation into possession of a controlled substance, possession of marijuana, providing false information to a police officer and having no proof of insurance. The vehicle was towed.

# Warrant arrest

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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Contact Editor, Brad Kadrich Voice Mail: (313) 222-8899

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Canton police arrested a driver for a felony warrant out of Ann Arbor after noticing she was driving erratically as she pulled away from a traffic light at Ford and Lilley roads shortly before 7:30 p.m. Feb. 9.

Police trailed the silver Kia, did a background check on the license plate and learned that the owner of the vehicle was wanted by Ann Arbor authorities. Police arrested the woman and made arrangements to turn her over to Ann Arbor police.

# Home invasion

**5** A man who lives on Hanford east of Ridge told police someone entered his home while he was at a neighbor's home between noon and 2:45 p.m. Monday. The man said he returned home, found the back door open and mud on his carpet and kitchen floor.

The man initially told police his car keys and a rifle were missing, but he later said he had found them. He said nothing otherwise appeared missing.

# Open door

Robbery suspect 'had

financial troubles'

6 A man walking his dog on Lakeview, northwest of Canton Center and Saltz, notified police after he noticed a door of a house had been forced open. Police learned that a Realtor was selling the vacant house and that the door had been forced open sometime prior to 7 p.m. Monday.

The Realtor indicated someone would be replacing a door frame. The house was mostly empty and the interior hadn't been damaged.

> - Compiled by Darrell Clem from Canton Police Department reports.

# the great indoors



#### BY DARRELL CLEM **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

A 58-year-old Canton man, arraigned Sunday on charges he rohbed a local PNC Bank branch, allegedly told authorities he needed money because he was having financial troubles, police Sgt. Mark Gajeski said.

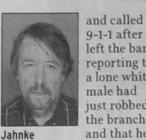
"He said he had fallen behind on his bills," Gajeski said

The defendant, Kurt William Jahnke, faces a Feb. 25 preliminary examination in 35th District Court on three counts of bank robbery for an incident police say happened about 4:45 p.m. Friday inside the PNC Bank on the northwest corner of Canton Center and Warren roads.

Though he didn't reveal a weapon, Jahnke is accused of going inside the bank, announcing the robbery and demanding money from three tellers, police Lt. Mark Schultz said.

The employees complied with the suspect's orders





9-1-1 after he left the bank, reporting that a lone white male had just robbed the branch and that he drove off in a

getaway vehicle, police said. The bank provided a vehicle description and license plate number, giving police the tip they needed to locate a suspect.

The suspect allegedly drove east on Hanford and was caught in the area between Lilley and Haggerty, Schultz said. Police issued a statement Monday saying officers arrived as Jahnke was pulling into his driveway, and he was arrested without incident a short time after the robbery occurred.

Authorities recovered "in excess of \$3,000," Schultz said

Jahnke was arraigned Sunday on three counts of bank robbery and released on a \$10,000 personal bond. A not-guilty plea was entered for him. If convicted, he could face penalties ranging up to life in prison.

Police said the robbery happened shortly before the PNC branch was about to close Friday. Jahnke's preliminary exam on Feb. 25 is expected to determine whether he should stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

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# LOCAL NEWS

A5

(C)



department. That would change under Heise's bill would, among other things, eliminate the Board of Water Commissioners and create the Southeast Michigan Water Quality Authority and hire a private company to operate the water/sewer system as a regional public utility.

#### LOCAL SUPPORT

The agreement includes a decision by Oakland County Drain Commissioner John McCulloch to drop a lawsuit he'd filed to force regional oversight - "I thought (McCulloch's) motion was far more draconian than my bill," Heise said - and leaves behind "a hybrid of my bill and the motion McCulloch wanted."

Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy, who took part in similar discussions when he was a state representative, called Friday's agreement "a step in the right direction," but said he still favors Heise's bill.

"The super-majority of five votes is a better thing (and) there's some inclusion of the suburbs, albeit through the county executive," LaJoy said. "I like Heise's bill. We've got to make changes, and I think this is a step in the right direction. There needs to be more transparency, and I'm glad this gives (suburbs) a little bigger role."

Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume, whose township is facing a potential 40-percent rate hike this summer, didn't return a call seeking comment. Plymouth Mayor Dan Dwyer said recently he hadn't seen details of Heise's plan, but was favorable impressed by a first glance at it.

"It would be a positive thing if in some way the suburbs have more of a vote in the system," Dwyer said.

Heise said Friday's agreement is "kind of an unusual, tenuous marriage between some of the players" in the decades-long drama, but doesn't address what Heise said are "long-term" issues.

"It doesn't involve customer communities the way it should, and it's very dependent on the personalities involved," Heise said. "I don't know how this is going to be settled long term ... my bill addresses a lot of those issues so there's a long-term plan in place."

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year, that showed a marked

2009 and 10 percent in 2008.

From a broader perspective,

improvement over sharp declines of 9.8 percent for

collapse.



panies such as W.F. Whelan, a global third-party logistics firm. W.F. Whelan announced a move from Romulus to the former Kmart distribution center on Haggerty near Joy, choosing Canton's largest industrial vacancy at 1.1 million square feet.

"We've had a lot of successes with buildings being filled up," LaJoy said. "I think things are beginning to turn around."

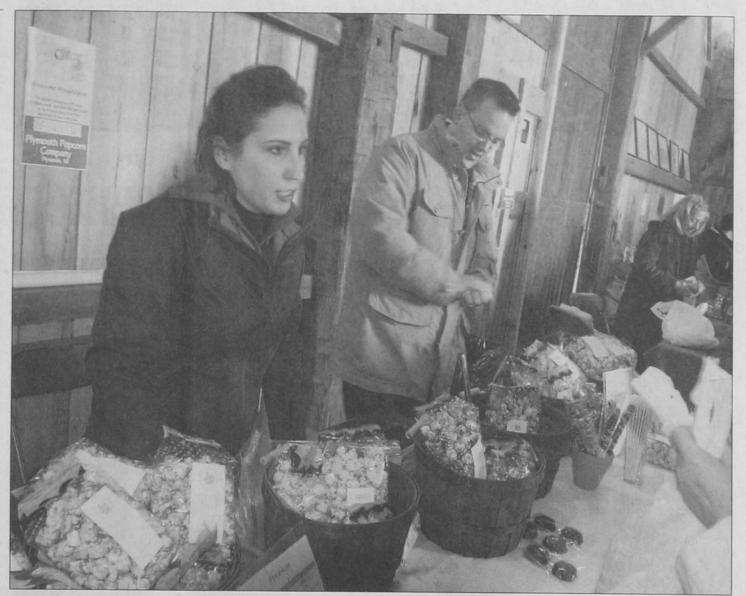
LaJoy held out hope that by this time next year, Canton's industrial and commercial

Though home values dipped

LaJoy pointed to an automo-FROM PAGE A1 tive industry turnaround that, this year, has led to employee bonuses in a recently **BARN DAYS** embattled sector where some Inside the barn, Jackie analysts had feared a potential LaJoy said an uptick in the

economy, both in Canton and from a regional perspective, offers hope of better times on the horizon, though local officials certainly will have to find ways to absorb another round of falling property tax revenues.

mistic," LaJoy said. "These are tough times. We've been through a lot.'



Patty and Eric Uram of Plymouth Popcorn.

Weber of Ann Arbor-based Zingerman's sold fresh cheeses, smoked mozzarella, cacciatore salami, fresh-baked bread and chocolate treats.

"I love the people at the market, and I love the vendors," she said. "Sometimes I barter with the other vendors. I exchange things with them. It's like bringing it back to basics."

mustards and hot sauces and fresh pasta - Patricia and Eric Uram of Plymouth Popcorn Co. sold popcorn flavors ranging

strawberry to jalapeno. They offer gourmet popcorn "from the mild to the wild," Eric Uram said.

Lloyd was pleased by Sunday's turnout, and she said Winter Market returns 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 13 and April 10 to the barn, off Ridge Road north of Cherry Hill. Lloyd has said the market helps strengthen ties between local businesses and shoppers. "It's all about building com-

munity," she said.

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jayne and William Merritt drove from Wyandotte to purchase bread and a big chunk of butter.



# STRICTLY BUSINESS hometownlife Thursday, February 17, 2011

# HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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

# **Canton vet opens pet rehab center**

Just as many baby boomers suffer from arthritis, achy muscles and stiff joints, so do many pets. And more of these pets are benefiting from the same types of therapy that humans have long relied on including acupuncture, lasers, underwater therapy, exercise and massage.

A6

(C)

In Allen Park, the newlyopened Water Gait Veterinary Rehabilitation is the newest of only a handful of pet rehabilitation centers in southeast Michigan. Water Gait, named after the water therapy used to treat many pet conditions and the movement or gait that veterinarians observe in assessing a pet's condition, treats dogs, cats and even rabbits to alleviate pain and help pets regain mobility.

The new state-of-the-art center features an underwater treadmill, therapy pool, exercise area and more.

"Pets suffer from the same injuries and health conditions as humans," said veterinarian Dr. Joyce Balnaves of Canton, founder of Water Gait Veterinary Rehabilitation. "Rehabilitation is essential in treating pain and improving mobility so that pets can live an active and pain-free life."

Pet owners can tour the new facility, see equipment demonstrations and get a free pet weight evaluation and infra-red thermographic scan at an open house 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Feb. 28 through March 4. Water Gait Veterinary Rehabilitation is at 15220 Southfield Road in Allen Park.

Water Gait Veterinary Rehabilitation treats pets that are recovering from surgery, have been injured, or are suffering from chronic conditions such as arthritis, disc disease and hip dysplasia. Some conditions are due to normal aging, Balnaves said, while others may result from an injury. Dogs are increasingly being called into physically-demanding roles to assist police departments, serve in the military and as service dogs to humans with disabilities demanding higher levels of performance over longer periods of time. Balnaves said Water Gait Veterinary Rehabilitation is one of a growing number of pet rehabilitation centers opening around the U.S. The Canine Rehabilitation Institute (www.caninerehabInstitute.com) has graduated more than 1,000 veterinary and physical therapy professionals since it opened in 2002. Of the 27 veterinary



Veterinarian Joyce Balnaves of Canton checks out Marley's progress after treatment at Water Gait Veterinary Rehab.

WATER GAIT Business name and address: Water Gait Veterinary Rehabilitation, 15220 Southfield Road, Allen Park. Your name: Dr. Joyce Balnaves, veterinarian/owner Your hometown: Canton Business specialty: Pet rehabilitation using water therapy to treat pet conditions Phone | Website: (313) 422-3318 | www.watergaitvetrehab.com

schools in the U.S., 17 now offer some form of rehabilitation training, and a new specialty college, The American College of Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation (www.vsmr.org), was approved for formation last year by the American Veterinary Medical Association AVMA (www. avma.org).

owners consid "As more pet



Dr. Joyce Balnaves puts Patches through the paces of the underwater treadmill.

helps speed up healing, reduce pain and increase circulation. Water therapy, using underwater treadmills and therapy pools, strengthens muscles and helps improve a pet's range of motion and flexibility. Exercise and massage relax and stimulate muscles, reduce pain and improve circulation. Pet rehabilitation centers, such as Water Gait Veterinary Rehabilitation, work in conjunction with a pet's primary care veterinarian who diagnoses the pet's health problem and makes a referral to a rehabilitation facility. In this way, the primary care veterinarian obtains a complete picture of the pet's health and can rule out any other underlying medical issues.

# **BUSINESS BRIEFS**

# Caregiver workshop

The Geriatric Care Management Network of Southeast Michigan and the Gerontology Department at Madonna University is hosting a free workshop entitled Difficult Decision Making as Your Loved One Ages: Medical, Legal, & Emotional Aspects on Saturday, March 5, from 8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. Topics include long term planning, advanced directives, and emotional stress.

Speakers include Dr. Patricia Schmidt, Medical Director of In-House Hospice, Katie Graham, Neighborhood Legal Services of Michigan Elder Law & Advocacy Center, and Peter Ostrow, Director of The Dorothy & Peter Brown Jewish Community Adult Day Care Program.

The workshop takes place in Kresge Hall Room 1316 at Madonna University located at 36600 Schoolcraft in Livonia. Continental breakfast is included. For more information, contact Serving Seniors at 248-375-9125.

# Dental records

Bright Side Dental group has taken over patient and some lab records for AllCare Dental and Denture clinics in Southeastern Michigan.

AllCare recently closed its locations in Michigan and 12 other states. Bright Side Dental is in the process of finalizing the transfer of AllCare patient records. When Bright Side Dental has access to all the records, patients from the Livonia AllCare location can access their charts at the Bright Side Dental office in Livonia at 36400 5 Mile Road. AllCare patients from the Roseville and Auburn Hills locations will be able to access their charts at the Bright Side Dental office in Sterling Heights at 13750 19 Mile Road

"Bright Side Dental has voluntarily taken ownership of these confidential records to better serve the dental community of metro Detroit," said Josh Gershonowicz, Vice President of Marketing and Public Relations. "We are not affiliated with AllCare and have not purchased or received any compensation for taking over the records and lab cases. Unfortunately, Bright Side Dental can not honor any patient or business agreements made with AllCare prior to closing its locations. We will however, do all we can to help reduce costs for AllCare patients in need of dental work. Its unfortunate what happened to All Care Dental and we want to do all we can to help their patients."

Bright Side Dental has been in business since 1978. It has four metro Detroit locations in Canton, Livonia, Royal Oak and Sterling Heights. Bright Side Dental is a member of the American Dental Association, Michigan Dental Association and Special Care Dentistry Association. The Better Business Bureau has given Bright Side Dental an A+ rating. For more information about Bright Side Dental call 1-800 Painless or visit http:// www.brightsidedental.com/.

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

# A New Year's resolution that you can keep!

er their pet part of the family, they want the same treatment options that are available to humans," Balnaves said. "And, like humans, pets are living longer. Pet owners want to make sure that their pet is able to get around and function while enjoying a good quality of life.'

Water Gait Veterinary Rehabilitation provides a number of treatment options. Acupuncture, which uses fine needles to stimulate the nerves, is typically used to treat pain from arthritis and other conditions. Laser therapy

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# CHAMBER CHAT

# 'Harvey' on stage

Spotlight Players presents romance, comedy and a fun night out at the theater with "Harvey' at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

"Harvey," featuring local WWJ celeb Greg Bowman in the lead role, is the story of a kind, gentle man whose best friend is an invisible six-foot tall white rabbit. Trouble ensues when his sister tries to get him committed to a sanitarium, so she and her daughter can once again hold their heads up in polite society.

Dates are Feb. 18-20 and Feb. 25-27. Show times Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 2 p.m. matinees. The Village Theater is located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton. Call (734) 394-5300 or go to www. spotlightplayersmi.org for tickets (\$16-\$18).

## March luncheon

The Canton Chamber of Commerce will host its March luncheon on Wednesday, March 2, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. A buffet lunch will be served beginning at 11:30 a.m., followed by Phil LaJoy's "State of the Township" presentation in the main theater. The cost for the luncheon is \$20 (advance registration), \$25 (at the door) and \$30 (non-members), and includes a full buffet lunch, beverages and dessert. This luncheon is open to the public.

"The chamber is happy to host the 'State of the Township' luncheon with (LaJoy)," said Tracey Rettig, President, Canton Chamber of Commerce. Mr. LaJoy will discuss Canton's goals for 2011 as well as what's happening in the township.

March's luncheon is hosted by the Canton Chamber of Commerce and is proudly sponsored by Durcon, Inc. and PNC Bank. Seating is limited and reservations are needed. To make reservations, contact the Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040. Deadline for reservations is Friday, Feb. 25.



Spotlight Players presents 'Harvey' at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton Feb. 18-20 and Feb. 25-27.

## Consumer expo

The Canton Chamber of Commerce and Canton Downtown Development Authority present the bi-annual Consumer Expo Thursday, Feb. 24, at the Summit on the Park. The expo will be held from 5-7:30 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom.

The Consumer Expo is an initiative of the Canton Chamber of Commerce and the Canton DDA to encourage the public to get to know their business neighbors," said Tracey Rettig, President, Canton Chamber of Commerce. "The expo is a great opportunity to learn firsthand about the businesses in our community. Attendees have the opportunity to meet local business owners and learn about the great products and services they have to offer."

The Consumer Expo is held twice annually in February and September, and features more than 60 businesses from the community who display their products and services to the public. Participating businesses include banks, insurance, travel agents, pet services, carpet cleaning, and many more.

# online at hometownlife.com

# A million served Mission accomplished as church packs meals for starving kids



Packing and hauling the boxes were all part of the program for NorthRidge Church volunteers at Whitmore Lake Middle School.

#### **BY STACY JENKINS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Omar was an 8-year-old boy who was literally starving to death.

He weighed 19 pounds. His ribs were showing and he'd lost most of his hair. The child, who lives in El Salvador, has 11 siblings and "is one of many mouths to feed" on his family's farm.

After eating just two 13-ounce bags of food provided by the hunger relief non-profit called Feed My Starving Children, Omar made great strides. Six months later, still receiving the food, he weighed a healthy 73 pounds.

"It's one child. It's one story," said Sarah Danielson, senior team leader for Feed My Starving Children, who set up a Mobile Pack unit for some 5,000 volunteers from Plymouth Township's NorthRidge Church to pack more than 1 million meals at Whitmore Lake Middle School last weekend.

"Tonight, you have had an impact on hundreds of children," Danielson told the crowd of volunteers who showed up Saturday night for a two-hour shift. "Know that you're giving hope, rejuvenation and life to kids."

More than 1 million meals were packaged and will be sent to Haiti, Somalia and Guatemala.

NorthRidge Church had been looking for a church-wide service project to add to its long list of outreach and charity on the local level. Feed My Starving Children was suggested by a church in Chicago and after NorthRidge staff checked it out, it seemed like a perfect match.

"We wanted to provide a way for people to make a difference in the world that's outside of us," said Michael Miller, director of stewardship and outreach at NorthRidge. "We needed a reason to let the seeds of generosity grow outward."

He said it was "a little scary" when they found out they'd need 5,000 volunteers to reach their goal of packing 1 million meals.

But all 5,000 slots were filled within a week, and the church was well on its way to raising the \$190,000 needed to pay for the food. He said one little first-grade girl at the church gave \$60 when the reality set in that there are kids around the world who don't have enough to eat.

"She may as well have given \$50,000," said Miller.

He said parents and their kids who were involved in the project were having those types of discussions, "and that's what it's all about," he said.

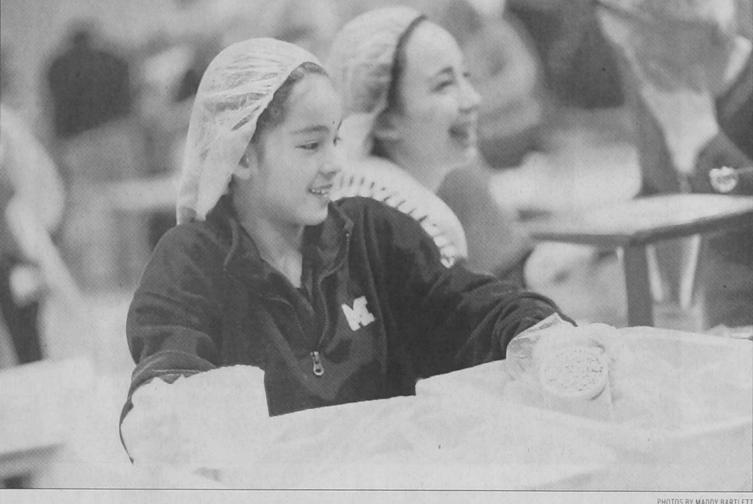
Volunteers worked for two hours on each of the 12 shifts last Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

For Nancy Farkas, of Redford Township, it was the least she could do.

"It's a short amount of time, for a lot of volume," she said. "It has a huge impact."

Volunteers scooped dried chicken powder, dried vegetables, soy and rice into the plastic bags, sealed them and packed them into boxes. By the end of the last shift, there were 1,005,048 meals packed, which will feed 2,754 kids for an entire year.

Ursula Maley, FMSC Mobile Pack supervisor, said she was impressed by the 5,000 volunteers. "We've had such a great reception with NorthRidge," she said



PHOTOS BY MADDY BARTLETT

Volunteers young and old were on hand over the weekend as NorthRidge Church took part in the Feed My Starving Children initiative at Whitmore Lake Middle School.



Some 5,000 volunteers turned out to help NorthRidge Church meet its goal of 1 million meals packed.

She said the million meal goal is one that's not typical, but it's been done by larger groups.

FMSC is a Christian non-profit that provides sustainable food supplies to children in 68 countries. Maley, who was born in the Philippines, said some of the food goes to feed children there, too.

She finds her work with FMSC rewarding.

"I think it lets people know that they don't have to hand out a lot of money and they don't have to give a lot of time to make a huge difference," she said. "It's fantastic that we can show them that.'

For more information about Feed My Starving Children, visit www.fmsc.org.

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Volunteers worked for two hours on each of 12 shifts Friday, Saturday and Sunday.



**A8** 



It's a crowded dance floor at the Daddy-Daughter Dance at the Summit.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# Dads, daughters take to the floor

Scores of daddies and daughters took advantage of some music and fun to create lifelong memories at last weekend's Butterfly Ball Daddy/Daughter Dance at the Summit on the Park.

"Attending these dances has become an annual tradition for some families, where little girls look forward to spending time with their dads," said Jennifer Provenzano, Canton Recreation Specialist. "It really is a special occasion where both dads and daughters get to create lasting memories."

In addition to the age-appropriate music that had their feet tapping, dads and daughters enjoyed refreshments and cheered when the event ended with the traditional balloon drop.







Matt Lesko and 6-year-old daughter Elizabeth burn up the dance floor.

a.

Tom Marten and 4-year-old daughter Elizabeth.

Lance Horton dances with 10-year-old daughter Nami. Teahn Horton, 13 years old, will have the next dance with Dad.



Chris Ryan and 5-year-old daughter Cassie.



The Daddy-Daughter Dance drew a good-size pre-Valentines Day crowd to the Canton Summit. Dave Cordon ties a corsage on 6-year-old daughter Mikaela's wrist. Behind Mikaela is her sister, 10-year-old Krystyna.

# online at hometownlife.com

# **Barefoot Productions** stages 'Black Comedy'

**Barefoot** Productions is lighting up the second half of its season with the popular Black Comedy, written by Tony-awarding winning playwright Peter Shaffer.

Set in London 1969, Black Comedy shines telling the story of Brindsley Miller, a struggling, bohemian artist, who desperately tries to impress his fiancée's father by "borrowing" his neighbor Harold's posh furniture to glamorize his own shabby flat. Chaos and prat falls ensue when an unexpected power failure jeopardizes all of Brindsley's plans.

"We know how much our patrons love comedies and true to Barefoot form, we wanted to deliver on that expectation by choosing a classic British farce," said Craig A. Hane, artistic director and founder of Barefoot Productions. "The show is very reminiscent of the comic delivery and timing of the Dick Van Dyke Show, a 'live' situation comedy that builds into zany and outrageous mishaps, one greater than the next.'

First performed in 1965, Black Comedy featured Maggie Smith, as the elderly neighbor, and Albert Finney



Barefoot Productions presents "Black Comedy" through Feb. 27 on weekends at Barefoot Productions Theatre, 240 N. Main, in Plymouth.

as Harold. Barefoot's cast includes Rick Berryman of Canton, Brian Cahalan of Flat Rock, Nathan Corliss, Christine Doulette and Mat DeLisle, all of Livonia, Carol Lipinski of Garden City, Samantha Lowry of Novi and a few mystery guests.

Black Comedy runs through Feb. 27 on weekends. Friday and Saturday performances are 8 p.m.; Feb. 20 and 27 are matinee performances at 2 p.m. All performances are

held at Barefoot Productions' Theatre, formerly the Walker-Buzenberg Building, at 240 N. Main St., Plymouth. Tickets are \$16 for general admission and \$14 for students and seniors. Group rates are available for parties of 10 or more.

For tickets or more information, please visit Barefoot's website at www.justgobarefoot. com or call (734) 560-1493. The box office will also be open one hour prior to each performance.

# Hire a pro and come clean with IRS on underreporting

ast week, the Internal Revenue Service unveiled a new taxpayer amnesty program. This program is similar to one in 2009 which was intended for taxpayers who earned income abroad and failed to report



cess. Thousands oftaxpayers **Money Matters** signed up. The result was that

**Rick Bloom** 

The majority of taxpayers don't keep money abroad so the amnesty program may seem relatively immaterial. However, it does bring up an interesting topic.

For most taxpayers, there are no formal amnesty programs. Therefore, if you haven't filed tax returns in the past or if you know that there were mistakes on your past returns, what should you do? Wait for contact from the IRS or voluntarily contact the agency? I believe it is always to the taxpayer's benefit to voluntarily contact the IRS.

Although there is no formal amnesty program for taxpay-

issues. A professional who has experience dealing with the IRS will not be intimidated. An individual taxpayer with no experience dealing with the IRS is in a very difficult situation. It's sort of like going to court where one side has an attorney and you don't. It just doesn't make sense.

One of the amazing things that people discover when they come clean with the IRS is that they don't owe as much as they think. Many people who haven't filed past tax returns find that because of deductions and withholding taxes, they owe nothing, or very little. I was once involved in a situation where a taxpayer

# OPINION



The Folk Laureates - Scott Ludwig (left), Cathy Fitzpatrick and John Delle-Monache – pay tribute Saturday to Woody Guthrie during a performance at the Plymouth **Community Arts** Council.

# Folk singer's truths resonate in today's hard times

Oh, the gamblin' man is rich an' the workin' man is poor, And I ain't got no home in

this world anymore. - Woody Guthrie. "I Ain't Got No Home"

hen popular musicians are lowered from the

rafters of the Cowboys Dome into a sea of special effects and bizarrely costumed danc-

ers, or prance about wearing dresses of sliced meat or bras made to look like twin machine guns, you know we're a long way from Woody Guthrie. But we need

more Woody Guthries.

The Oklahoma-born, plainspeaking Guthrie was a folk music pioneer who traveled the country with his guitar beginning in the 1930s, singing the stories and struggles of people caught in the tides of Great Depression, hard times that have been compared to our own. Later, he sang about World War II, a cause which, as he saw himself part of a worldwide anti-fascist movement, he erdorsed, even as he recognized the misery it brought.

Quirky and unglamorous, Guthrie sang about migrant workers, the importance of labor unions, slick but heartless bankers and company

men, war, the status of women, and the loneliness of Everyman tion at large U.S. companies trying to find his place in an impersonal and uncaring society.

and the growth of a poor, alienated underclass, those themes resonate today.

# FACADE VS. REALITY

Yet many of us are too mesmerized by wealth, glamor and high-tech razzle-dazzle to pay attention.

It's often said we're in the midst of the worst economic times since the Depression, but when the wealthy are granted the status of demigods, images of glitz bombard us constantly and average Joes and Janes are willing to camp out overnight to be among the first to drop hundreds of dollars on the latest smart phone or video game system - gadgets that will be called "obsolete" in six months - it's sometimes difficult to see that.

Strip away the veneer and the reality is sobering. Consider:

 An estimated 50 million Americans have no health insurance, up significantly from two years ago, when the still-raging debate over "Obamacare" began. Those lucky enough to have insurance are paying higher premiums and out-of-pocket costs.

• Some 38 million people in the U.S., or about one in eight, rely on food stamps to help them eat. Among children, one in four is fed with the help of food stamps. The number of people using food stamps grew by an estimated 10 million between 2007 and 2009.

· Income disparity is massive. In 2006, CEO compensa-

Plymouth who rely on its food bank to help make ends meet. Since Oct. 1 of last year, 179 families from Canton Township and 149 from Plymouth and Plymouth Township have sought help from the Plymouth Corps. The meal programs offered by the Plymouth Canton Community Schools are seeing increased demand.

Despite mounting economic troubles for the poor and middle class, the social safety net, programs like Medicare, Social Security, the minimum wage and unemployment insurance, programs that keep the United States of 2011 from looking like United States of 1931, is under attack from many quarters. Strangely, some politicians, after the profligate spending of the George W. Bush years, are suddenly wringing their hands over mounting budget deficits, ready to slash and burn programs that help those with the least say and the most at stake, though those programs are dwarfed when compared to the defense budget.

## **NO SMOKE OR MIRRORS**

On Saturday, The Folk Laureates, a trio of local musicians, will appear at the Plymouth Community Arts Council to offer a musical tribute to Guthrie, who died in 1967 at age 55. Scott Ludwig, Cathy Fitzpatrick and John Delle-Monache won't be wearing outfits made of meat or costumes that make them look like characters out of science fiction. They won't be descend-



hundreds of millions of dollars in taxes and

The 2009

penalties were collected. The new program, although

not as generous as the original plan in 2009, still allows taxpayers, who voluntarily come forward, to avoid jail. It is important to remember that U.S. taxpayers are obligated to report income on tax returns no matter where it is earned. All too often in the past, taxpayers avoided paying taxes on foreign income because that income was not reported in the same way as if it was earned here. However, because of technology and changes in laws, the risks associated with keeping money abroad have increased dramatically.

ers who have not filed returns or have underreported income, there is an unwritten policy. If you voluntarily come forward, it is unlikely that you will face jail time.

On the other hand, if the IRS discovers your mistake, it will be more difficult.

The IRS does put people in jail for failing to properly file a tax return. Just ask Wesley Snipes who is sitting in a federal prison.

If you know your past returns are incorrect or if you have not filed your returns, voluntarily correct your mistakes. In that regard, I don't recommend that you contact the IRS on your own. Hire a professional to work with you, someone who has dealt with the IRS in settlement

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had not filed returns for years and it turned out he was entitled to a refund.

The law says everyone who is eligible must file a tax return. By coming clean with the IRS, you are meeting your obligations as a citizen. However, another benefit is you will be able to sleep at night.

If you have issues with the IRS, be proactive and begin the process to resolve them. Yes, you may be a little lighter in the pocket, however, you will be able to sleep at night. Good luck!

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

With undocumented workers under attack (the cheap goods and services they provide are forgotten when we're looking for someone to blame), unions in retreat (even though they are the only hope many have for middle-class wages and benefits), home foreclosures and personal bankruptcies up, the U.S. bogged down in a costly war with an unclear mission,

# EXPLORE LOCAL **ONLINE VIDEOS** hometownlife macom

**CITY OF PLYMOUTH** 2011 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

The City of Plymouth Board of Review will be conducting the 2011 March Board of Review and will convene in the City Commission Conference Room, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

The regular Board of Review schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, March 8, 2011 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING 3:00 pm

Wednesday, March 9, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Thursday, March 10, 2011 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 15, 2011 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Monday, March 21, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed. Hearings are by appointments only. COMPLETED 2011 BOARD OF REVIEW PETITIONS ARE NECESSARY, and must be submitted to the Front Office located on the First Floor of City Hall, prior to your appointment. The "Deadline" for submitting petitions for all persons wishing to appeal in person before the Board of Review is Monday, March 21, 2011.

A resident or non-resident taxpayer may file a petition with the Board of Review without the requirement of a personal appearance by the taxpayer or a representative. An agent must have written authority to represent the owner. Written petitions must be received by Monday, March 21, 2011 by 3:00 p.m. Postmarks are not accepted.

Copies of the notices stating the dates and times of the meetings will be posted and published in the local newspaper.

All Board of Review Meetings are open meetings in compliance with the "Open Meetings Act"

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Assessor's Office at 734-453-1234, ext. 253 or 252.

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC City Clerk

Publish: February 17, 20 and 24, 2011

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averaged \$10.8 million each, 270 times the wages and benefits of the average full-time worker not in management.

## STATISTICS HIT HOME

• In Wayne County, more than 20 percent of the population was below the poverty level in 2008, up from just over 12 percent eight years earlier, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The Salvation Army's Plymouth Corps reports an increase in single men from

ing into billows of fog and a set that cost hundreds of thousands of dollars.

But neither are they wildeyed partisans - just citizens voicing their concern through the direct, timeless songs of a truth-teller from an era we like to invoke but whose crushing realities we seem to have forgotten.

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

**Achieve Charter Academy** 3250 Denton Rd Canton, MI 48188 734-397-0960 (phone) 734-397-0968 (fax)

#### **OPEN ENROLLMENT NOTICE**

Open enrollment for the 2011-2012 academic school year ends on Monday, 2/28/2011 at 5 p.m. Applications are available for grades K - 8 and can be obtained at the school or by calling 866-NHA-ENROLL. Applications may be mailed or faxed to the school. Applications can also be completed online at www.NHAschools.com. Should the number of applications received during open enrollment exceed available seats, a random-selection drawing will be necessary. The drawing, if needed, will be held on Tuesday, 3/15/2011 at 4:30 p.m. at the school. Applications received after open enrollment will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis for remaining open seats. Waiting lists will be formed accordingly.

> **Canton Charter Academy** 49100 Ford Rd Canton, MI 48187-5415 734-453-9517 (phone)

734-453-9551 (fax)

#### **OPEN ENROLLMENT NOTICE**

Open enrollment for the 2011-2012 academic school year ends on Monday, 2/28/2011 at 5 p.m. Applications are available for grades K - 8 and can be obtained at the school, at  $\underline{www.NHAschools.com}$  or by calling NHA at 866-NHA-ENROLL. Should the number of applications received during open enrollment exceed available seats, a random-selection drawing will be necessary. The drawing, if needed, will be held on Tuesday, 3/15/2011 at 4:30 p.m. at the school. Applications received after open enrollment will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis for remaining open seats. Waiting lists will be formed accordingly.

#### NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

Achieve Charter Academy and Canton Charter Academy admits students of any race, color, and nationality or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of intellectual or athletic abilities, measures of achievement or aptitude, disability, status as a handicapped person, homeless status, English proficiency, religion, creed, race, sex, color, or national origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies and athletic or other school-administered programs.

Publish: February 17, 2011

#### **CANTON POLICE AUCTION** These vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at

public auction. The auction will be on Tuesday, February 22nd at 10:00 AM. The auction will be held at 6375 Hix, Westland, MI 48185. The vehicles will be sold as is, the starting is for towing and storag

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	VIN
1999	Plymouth	Neon	1P3ES42C6XD144878
1999	Dodge	Neon	1B3ES47C6XD152263
2002	Oldsmobile	Alero	1G3NL52E22C183406
1994	Chevrolet	Pick-Up	1GCEC14Z6RZ108174
1995	Lincoln	Continental	1LNLM97V0SY729137
2000	Ford	Taurus	1FAFP56S1YG215486
Publish: Feb	ruary 17, 2011		0505750478 - 34

# NOTICE OF SALE

# MAYFLOWER TOWING

The following vehicles will be sold at Public Auction for cash to satisfy lien pursuant to F.S. 713.78 on February 24, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

NAL A		5760 Belleville F Canton, MI 4818 734-397-3560	
2000 1993 2005 1997 1994 2000 1999 1994	Chevrolet Ford Buick Ford Oldsmobile Ford Ford	Metro Lsi Econoline E150 Taurus Se Century Custom Aerostar Alero Gls Econoline E150 Ranger	2C1MR5228Y6728670 1FDEE14N6PHB13669 1FAHP53215A129686 2G4WS52MXV1403363 1FMDA31X0RZB53039 1G3NF12E6YC345983 1FDRE14W7XHB69467 1FTCR10A7RUD44013
		1179 Starkweathe Plymouth, MI 48 734-459-0053	
1992 1994	Dodge Plymouth	Dakota Sundance Duster	1B7FL26X0NS616469 3P3AP6437RT221733
Publish:	January 17, 2011		OE08730499-31

# **OPINION**

PAGE A10 (C)

THURSDAY, February 17, 2011 hometownlife mcom

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



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

# **OUR VIEWS**

# Donate blood Supplies low, need great

After Chrysler's Super Bowl ad featuring Eminem, the world has been reminded of what we do best in metro-Detroit: Manufacture.

However, there is one thing nobody can manufacture. .Blood.

And supplies took a major hit with the recent winter storms, which led to the cancellation of over 300 blood drives and a shortfall of more than 14,000 pints of blood since the year began.

Worse yet, the American Red Cross' supply of type Onegative (the universal type of which only 7 percent of the population has) is at critical levels.

And just in case you're sitting on the fence about donating, take note of these facts:

• Adults have about 10 pints of blood in their body; one pint is given during donation.

· One pint of blood can save up to three lives.

· Some 5 million patients in the U.S. need blood every year

· Donors can give blood every 56 days.

· One out of 10 people admitted to the hospital needs blood

· Every two seconds someone in our country needs blood.

"Fifteen years ago, when I started for the American Red Cross, 70 percent of the population was eligible to donate," said Diane Risko, who works out of the Southeastern Michigan Blood Services Region on Mack Avenue in Detroit. "Today, only 38 percent are eligible to donate due to donor criteria. Of that 38 percent, less than 5 percent donate blood.

Ten percent of our population is over 69 years old, yet this group uses about 50 percent of all whole blood and red blood cells transfused.'

Don't think that you need a special reason to give blood - you just need your own reason. Some people give because they're asked to by a friend. Or maybe you know a family member or friend who might need blood some day. Others just believe it's the right thing to do.

It doesn't matter why. What does matter is that the need is constant and contributions are necessary for a healthy, reliable supply of blood.

And it doesn't hurt knowing you'll feel good helping change lives. But there are other benefits, too. As a donor, you'll get a mini-physical to check your pulse, blood pressure, body temperature and hemoglobin.

So now that we've convinced why you should donate, here's some things to do prior:

· Drink plenty of fluids the day of your donation.

Wear sleeves that can be rolled up above the elbow.

# **COMMUNITY VOICE**

What do you think of the proposal to build a second bridge between the Detroit area and Canada?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



"I think it's a good idea because there's only one bridge (in the Detroit area) right now." Angela Goudos

Canton

"It seems to me like one bridge is enough." Linda Haywood Wayne



"It doesn't seem that necessary to me. I think the Ambassador Bridge is handling the traffic, and there's the Blue Water Bridge in Port Huron." **Gale Forster** 



"I think it might be a pretty good idea for the people who really need it."

> **Celeste Bulger** Belleville

# LETTERS

# Column was right

I felt Brad Kadrich's piece ("Use facts in talk about the kirpan issue," Observer, Feb. 10), was something the community needed to hear and hopefully learn something from this issue.

As far as the First Amendment is concerned, Mr. Kadrich is correct in saying that as far as the separation of church and state, no such demand exists in the First Amendment. I will point out that in 1801, the Baptist Association of Danbury, Ct., wrote President Thomas Jefferson asking for further clarification on the intent of the authors of the First Amendment to which Jefferson replied in 1802 that as to religion, the First Amendment, in effect, built a wall of separation between church and state.

# WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com.

- Read or comment online: www.hometownlife.com
- Deadline: Letters must be received by 10 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

# Reinstate strong defense

Canton

Interesting article regarding practical testing for a military history class. U.S. military history seems incomplete without the knowledge of who finances war and who benefits from it. The average citizen never benefits from war in any way; however, defense contractors always seem to make a good living.

The three basic ways of financing war (and government) are taxes, debt and inflation (printing of paper money). The inflationary finance of war is a fiscal illusion because it's a way for government to hide or disguise the costs of government including war.

Ludwig Von Mises said, "One can say without exaggeration that inflation is an indispensable means of militarism, without it the repercussions of war on welfare become obvious much more quickly and penetratingly. War weariness would set in much earlier." The longer a war lasts the more centrally planned and government controlled the entire economy becomes. The inaugural pledge of Thomas Jefferson was no less clear: "Peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations-entangling alliances with none."

 Include iron-rich foods in your diet a few weeks before donating.

Bring a list of any medications you take.

• Bring your donor card (if you have one), driver's license or two other forms of identification.

Donating is simple, too. The entire process takes about an hour, although the actual donation averages just 10 minutes. After registering, your health history will be reviewed and you'll get a mini-physical. Then you're ready to donate. After a pint of blood has been taken, you can relax with a snack and drink and be on your way in about 15 minutes. You should continue to hydrate yourself and avoid heavy lifting or exercise for the rest of the day.

If you're not sure you're eligible to donate, call (866) 236-3276. And now 16-year-olds can donate blood with a signed parental consent form. Call Risko to obtain a form and to schedule an appointment at (313) 549-7052. Walkins will be taken when possible.

Pretty simple, don't you think?

# **ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS**



The following are excerpts from readers participating in our online forum for discussing issues, In Your Voices. Find more comments or join the discussion on the Web at hometownlife.com.

## In response to "District won't seek legal, audit bids."

"John Jackson delivers on promise to bring board together ... NOT! The gang of four continues their lockstep voting. I wonder how many "meetings" and phone calls between these four took place to achieve this vote. These folks talk out of both sides of their mouth. Local school board's should not be a source of politics. Yet we in the PCCSD are exposed to this on a day to day basis. Hopefully this will change after the next school board election. I can't wait!"

#### bcanton

## In response to "State toughens test standards,"

"Somehow along the way we lost teaching ethics. The earliest schools in this country we're all religious schools. Moral responsibility was as much a part of the curriculum as reading, English writing, Greek, Latin and advanced math. If anything, we need to teach the joy of learning and not learning to get a job or to get into a professional finishing school. Today, I see more of the later and less of the former; this is why materialism is more important in this country than morality. Morality always seems to be rationalized away - particularly by the politicians.

Good luck to the public school students - these days it's even harder to compete with the private and parochial educated students both on an academic level and in establishing a deep understanding of a moral framework upon which to make reasoned and wise decisions." RedfordRaised

Our Supreme Court, in most cases, has tried to maintain that wall.

> Janusz M Szyszko Canton

# Vision of Progress

Pancreatic cancer is the fourth-leading cancer killer in the United States. Last year alone, more than 43,000 people were diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, and of those nearly 37,000 died from the disease. Pancreatic cancer remains the only major cancer with a singledigit five year survival rate at just 6 percent. This five-year survival rate has not improved substantially over nearly 40 years.

The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, a national organization fighting pancreatic cancer in a comprehensive way, is leading the way to increase the survival rates of people with this devastating disease by announcing The Vision of Progress: Double the Pancreatic Cancer Survival Rate by 2020. The organization is doubling its efforts to raise awareness, support patients and intensity advocacy for a national research strategy dedicated to finding a cure by undertaking this bold new initiative.

Working to double the survival rate by 2020 through a comprehensive approach to know, fight and end pancreatic cancer is creating hope for all those who have been touched by this insidious disease. This initiative is important to me because I lost my grandmother, Helen Jagielski, to this disease over 20 years ago. Since her passing, I have continued to watch numerous friends battle pancreatic cancer, many of whom have not survived. As a member of the cancer research field, I am confident that we can see major progress in this disease, but we can't do it alone.

In order to achieve this goal we must support those who have been afflicted by pancreatic cancer and advocate for greater awareness and more resources to fight this disease. To learn more about this initiative and how you can become involved in the fight against pancreatic cancer, please visit www.pancan.org. Christina Jagielski

Plymouth

# Super commercial

What a great way to show the rest of the world Detroit and how we're coming out of hard times.

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

I enjoyed every second of that commercial showing the way our city is someplace to be proud of being from. I'm quite a bit older than Eminem but he's OK in my book, and at the end saying "imported from Detroit" was the icing on the cake.

Even though it's been a few days since it was on TV, I'm still smiling.

**Robert Denstedt** 

Canton

# **Quick maturation**

It is interesting that after only a few weeks on the job our state Sen. Colbeck is writing as an expert on state finances.

How he got through hundreds of charts and documents in only a few weeks is amazing. Less amazing is that the majority of his proposals he writes of are almost word from word from the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, an extreme organization that advocates the elimination of the right to collectively bargain in Michigan, the elimination of public employee pensions and benefits and the most ludicrous assertion that if we simply do these things along with "aligning"

public wages and benefits to the private sector the state will save \$7 billion. Now how would we do this, it would be like comparing apples to oranges to bananas. If the public sector workers like at GM or Ford got a bonus, how would our state senator and his governor "realign" our wages?

Are we getting into the realm of the state setting wages and benefits for all public sector employees. Shall the Republicans appoint a "compensation czar?" I would suspect our freshman state senator is having his information fed to him, if not written by the Mackinac Center itself.

On top of this, eliminate the MBT (Michigan Business Tax) without any corresponding income replacement and we are supposed to see miracles although this will take out \$2.2 billion more from our state treasury.

Its nice to be new and enthusiastic; however, this job requires a quick maturation in the manner in which policy is studied and offered to our citizens.

> **Bruce Koldys** Canton

Our military industrial complex should strive to reinstate a strong national defense, not continue to finance an oppressive, international offense which we cannot afford.

> **Bruce Hartdegen** Plymouth

# Role changes are positive

There has been much talk about changes in gender roles in modern society. Many families are being affected by this shift, and I believe that this is a positive change. Not only are women getting higher power jobs, but a lot of women are the dominant supporter of the family.

Many people were laid off in Michigan due to the recession, and in some cases women were left with jobs while men stayed home. In other families, both spouses are working and day care is utilized.

This change has been going on for years, yet some people still look at the family with the "Leave it to Beaver" concept in mind. The woman was primarily the caregiver. Always seen with children, cooking and cleaning through out the day, she always had a hot dinner ready for her husband when he returned from a long day at work.

Not everyone wants that life. It is important to find meaning for oneself outside of the home. This change in gender roles over time has fueled the need for individuality and chance to do whatever one feels they should do or need to do, without feeling pressured to do something else. It is a unique thing to know exactly what one wants to be in their life. I do not believe anything is wrong with the changes in gender roles because they are making the roles themselves less important, which makes individual happiness more important than the social norm.

> Marissa Mullison Farmington

# ATTENTION! If your business or organization serves seniors, you'll want to be part of this exciting event! SIGNUPNOW!

# Sth Annual Spring Spring Senior Expo





Tuesday, May 17, 2011 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Schoolcraft College Livonia Campus in the VisTaTech Center

# Special Section Promotion

- Print Advertising
- Web Presence
- Exhibitor Listings

# Expo table

For more information about this event and to reserve your space, please contact:

Choya Jordan 313.222.2414 Fax: 313.496.5305

email:cbjordan@hometownlife.com

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Schoolcraft

College

SPECIAL O Customers who submit form and register by 3/11/11 will be offered the early bird and register by 3/11/11	I ER:
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mail:	FASTI
ustomers can call Choya Jordan for details and pricing 13) 222-2414, email cbjordan@hometownlife.com or fax 3-496-5305, Forms can be able	For a limited
3-496-5305. Forms can be obtained from Choya Jordan.	time only!

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS HWEEKLIES

www.hometownlife.com

St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia made the list of America's Top 50 cities for Hospital Care and was named a **Distinguished Hospital** for Clinical Excellence by HealthGrades for the seventh year in a row.



# St. Mary Mercy Hospital in top 50 for quality

#### **BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN** CORRESPONDENT

David Spivey couldn't be prouder of St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia. Not only did the institution make the list of America's Top 50 cities for Hospital Care, but was named a Distinguished Hospital for Clinical Excellence by HealthGrades for the seventh year in a row.

"It reflects the good work that has been going on in the Detroit metropolitan area and state of Michigan for a number of years," said Spivey, St. Mary Mercy Livonia CEO. "We're blessed with good health systems and supported by the progressive Michigan Health & Hospital Association which does much to support quality care in its member hospitals.

"Only approximately 50 hospitals have been named seven years or more in a row."

St. Mary Mercy Livonia is a 304-bed acute care hospital offering a 24-hour emergency department, general medicine, inpatient and outpatient surgery, an intensive care unit, cancer center, and cardiology, birthing, geriatrics, women's and rehabilitation services. The institution has provided medical care in the community for more than 50 years and is a member of the Saint Joseph Mercy Health System, a part of Trinity Health based in Novi.

'We're proud to be named a Distinguished Hospital. It reinforces the high quality received," said Spivey.

The ninth annual Health

HEALTHGRADES\*

# **Distinguished Hospitals for Clinical Excellence 2011 in the Top 50 Cities for Hospital Care**



Grades Hospital Quality and Clinical Excellence study identified the top 5 percent of hospitals in the nation based on an analysis of risk-adjusted patient mortality and complication rates for medical procedures such as hip replacement surgery and diagnoses including acute myocardial infarction, congestive heart failure and pneumonia, to name a few. HealthGrades then came up with the first list of America's Top 50 Cities for Hospital Care by ranking cities with the highest percentage of nearly 5,000 hospitals. West Palm Beach, Fla., was No. 1. Detroit came in at 18 on the list.

Other metro Detroit area

hospitals named to the list were Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital in Commerce Township, Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, Beaumont Hospital-Grosse Pointe, St. Joseph Mercy Oakland in Pontiac, Beaumont Hospital -Royal Oak, Providence Hospital Southfield and Beaumont Hospital in Troy.

In all more than 40 million Medicare patient discharges between 2007 and 2009 were studied.

St. Mary Mercy Livonia follows a comprehensive quality program to insure the institution offers the best care including the latest technology and treatments. As part of the plan, Spivey meets monthly with an

oversight committee.

"Our comprehensive quality program engages physicians, nurses and management to assure we provide high quality care," said Spivey. "The Saint Joseph Mercy Health System has a comprehensive quality plan updated every year. We use that plan to guide our work in terms of what areas we should focus on to further improve the quality here. (The fact we have an) oversight committee speaks to the importance the institution places on it."

The HealthGrades study showed Distinguished Hospitals for Clinical Excellence like St. Mary Mercy had a nearly 30-percent lower risk-adjusted in-hospital mortality rate and a nearly 2 percent lower risk-adjusted inhospital complication rate for Medicare beneficiaries than unranked hospitals.

If all hospitals in the nation performed as Distinguished Hospitals, nearly 160,000 Medicare beneficiaries' lives could have been saved and more than 3,500 Medicare inhospital complications could have been avoided during the study period.

"Another way to look at the data is that it's important for consumers and patients and businesses to know how their quality of care stacks up," said Spivey. "It should help attract businesses to the area and assist in the turnaround in the state that we have quality, cost-effective health care in the state."

# More info about the **HealthGrades study**

As part of its ninth annual HealthGrades Hospital Quality and Clinical Excellence study, HealthGrades identified those hospitals performing in the top 5 percent nationwide across 26 different medical procedures and diagnoses, then ranked cities by highest percentage of these Distinguished Hospitals for Clinical Excellence<sup>TI</sup>

West Palm Beach, Fla., ranked No. 1 in the nation, with nine out of 12 hospitals designated as top performers

Rounding out the top five markets for hospital care quality were: Brownsville, Texas, Dayton, Ohio, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn., and Tucson, Ariz., respectively. The complete list of Top 50 Cities for Hospital Care and all Distinguished Hospitals for Clinical Excellence can be found at www.healthgrades.com.

HealthGrades evaluates hospitals solely on patients' clinical outcomes: riskadjusted mortality and in-hospital complications. HealthGrades analysis is based on approximately 40 million Medicare patient discharges for 2007, 2008 and 2009.

This year's study found that consumers are highly aware of differences in hospital quality within their communities, expect continued transparency from hospitals when it comes to quality, and rely on clinical quality ratings as a trusted source when choosing a provider.

"Our research indicates that the recent health care reform debate and highlypublicized reports about the persistence of wide variation in the quality of patient care at U.S. hospitals have resonated with the American public," said Dr. Rick May,

HealthGrades vice president of clinical quality services and study co-author.

According to a survey of nearly 15,000 visitors to HealthGrades.com that was included in HealthGrades Hospital Quality and Clinical Excellence study:

•83.4 percent of consumers are very or somewhat concerned about hospital quality in their community.

•Almost all patients surveyed, 93.8 percent, reported being willing to go out of their way (drive further, reschedule appointments) to seek care at a more highly rated hospital.

•The majority of health care consumers surveyed, 64.9 percent, also stated that they would be willing to pay more out of pocket to seek care at a top-rated hospital.

•Over half, 57 percent, believe online hospital quality ratings are a trustworthy source of information.

 66.8 percent want access to more quality information and 60.7 percent of survey respondents feel the federal government should pay highly-performing hospitals more

 Distinguished Hospitals for Clinical Excellence (Top 5 percent in the nation) outperform all other hospitals across all of the 17 mortality cohorts and six of nine complication cohorts studied from 2007 through 2009.

·Specifically, Distinguished Hospitals for Clinical Excellence had a 29.82 percent lower riskadjusted in-hospital mortality rate and a 1.91 percent lower risk-adjusted in-hospital complication rate among Medicare beneficiaries compared to all other hospitals.

More information can be found at www.healthgrades.com.



LIVONIA SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM

ST. MARY MERCY

# Michigan's First... Senior ERs<sup>™</sup>

# Unique in Every Way

We recognize that seniors have unique health care needs. That's why we're the first health system in Michigan to create Senior Emergency Departments<sup>SM</sup> at all of our emergency locations.

## What is a Senior Emergency Department<sup>SM</sup>?

Our staff is specially trained in geriatric medicine and provides personalized care for seniors including, review of pre-existing medical conditions, medication assessments, and evaluation of nutritional needs. We also address the emotional needs of seniors, which can often affect their physical well-being. Our Senior ERs<sup>SM</sup> are uniquely designed to enhance the level of care and comfort for seniors and their caregivers, while providing the most advanced medicine and technology available.



stjoeshealth.org



350 S. Main Street **Downtown Plymouth** (734) 416-0100

# Featured February & March Specials

**Dine-In Only!** Monday's 1/2 Off Pizza After 4:00 pm Tuesday's \$5 Off Select Pasta Dinners After 4:00 pm

4 pm-6 pm

Monday's Choice of Pan Roasted **Chicken Breast** Accompanied with Italian sausage,

380 S. Main Street

**Downtown Plymouth** 

(734) 416-9340

mixed peppers, and fingerling potatoes

# Pan-Fried Lake Superior Whitefish

Wild mushrooms, asparagus tips, grape tomatoes and lemon butter sauce. Accompanied with garlic mashed potatoes.

Served with a Dinner Salad

**Compari's Happy Hour** Fiamma's Happy Hour Monday-Friday Monday-Thursday 5 pm-7 pm

# 合合合 "Mmm, good: Fiamma's a gem" EMILIANA SANDOVAL the Detroit Free Press

"The bonus at Comparis' is that it's casual, classic, southern Italian food is every bit as appealing as it's relaxed setting.", "It's all about excellent brick oven pizzas, 合合合 SILVIA RECTOR - Detroit Free Press homey Italian-American favorites"

Private Room Available for All Your Party Needs Compari or Fiamma-Banquet Menu Available in Private Dining Room Coupons not valid with these offers. Group-on Certificates not valid with Fiamma Special Offers . Some restrictions may apply.

# CANTON GIRLS GRAB KLAA TOURNAMENT OPENER – B3

# SPORTS hometownlife

# THURSDAY, February 17, 2011

# Postgame brawl mars Chiefs' division clincher

#### BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The always-intense hockey rivalry between Canton and Plymouth became just an ugly one on Tuesday night at Compuware Arena.

Following Canton's 2-0 victory over the host Wildcats, thus clinching the KLAA South Division, both teams forgot about the handshake line — instead launching into a full-scale brawl featuring fisticuffs and nasty stickwork.

There were no belated valentines as tempers and trash talk increasingly flared all night, particularly in the scrappy third period – as it became apparent the Chiefs and 'Cats had more in mind than merely playing hockey.

And that just was the prelude to the wild scene that will undoubtedly result in suspensions for players from both squads.

Right after the buzzer sounded, players started going at it along the boards in front of a rowdy student

cheering section for Canton. Then other groups of combat-

ants formed in the center ice circle, among other spots.

The refs called a little bit here and there, they could have called a little bit more," Canton head coach Jeremy Majszak said. "But you know, that's what happens in rivalry games and at the end of the year like this, we really wanted to be division champs and they really wanted to spoil it.

"There was a lot of emotion riding on it, so that kind of happens."

## PURE STUPIDITY

Majszak said his players protected each other yet "put themselves in front of the team," something he frowns upon.

"It's just stupidity," Majszak added.

Plymouth head coach Paul Fassbender and Majszak met with referees following the game to discern how many suspensions might be in order.

"We had six, seven guys out there," Fassbender said. "They had six, seven guys out there and then it just got stupid at the end."

Fassbender and Majszak also said they had to find out exactly how the postgame fight began. They agreed it's not a good time for any suspensions, what with the state playoffs around the corner.

Meanwhile, the ugliness even had one of the game's top players in a subdued mood.

Canton senior defenseman and co-captain Jimmy LaFontaine scored the first goal and assisted on the other, but did not seem all that happy following the game.

We knew we wanted it,' LaFontaine said. "We needed to win and we wanted this game bad, it's a big rivalry.

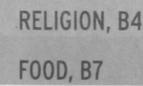
But he called the postgame shenanigans "just stupid," and said it probably would make it tougher for players to get their emotions

Please see HOCKEY, B2



**BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER** 

With Plymouth's Mitch Claggett (No. 10) trying to distract him, Canton netminder Spencer Craig makes one of 26 stops he made en route to a 2-0 shutout victory.



POLISH DANCE FESTIVAL

MOVES TO REDFORD, B5

# **SIDELINES** Salem strong at MISCA

Salem's varsity boys swimming and diving team had a solid showing at last weekend's Michigan Interscholastic Swim Coaches Association meet at Eastern Michigan University.

The Rocks really excelled in the 500 freestyle event, with three swimmers placing among the top seven.

Adam

Seroka

placed

second

with a time

utes, 38.65

of 4 min-

seconds.

trailed



in third place by teammate Matt Collingwood (4:45.11). Taking seventh with a time of 4:50.11 was Max Mills.

Seroka also took second in the 200 free with his 1:42.56 falling just four seconds shy of Battle Creek Lakeview's Clay Youngquist (1:38.56).

Other top 10 finishes by Salem included the following: Mills (seventh, 200 individual medley, 2:00.41); Collingwood (third, 50 freestyle, 22.15); 200 freestyle relay (the quartet of Collingwood, Eric Li, Mills and Seroka finished 10th with a mark of 1:31.47); and the 400 free relay (Collingwood, Jason Zhang, Mills and Seroka took third, with a 3:16.56 mark).

Canton's Jay Jin finished 10th in the 100 backstroke, with a time of 55.96. Look on page B2 for full

# results. Little League signups

Spring registration is around the corner for the Plymouth/Canton Little League. Online registration is available at www.ply.canll. com and there will be a walkin signup session, from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, 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 website listed above for additional information.

# Salem cagers drop thriller

#### **BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

It figures that Salem's varsity boys basketball team went ice cold Monday night in the makeup of a game that was snowed out.

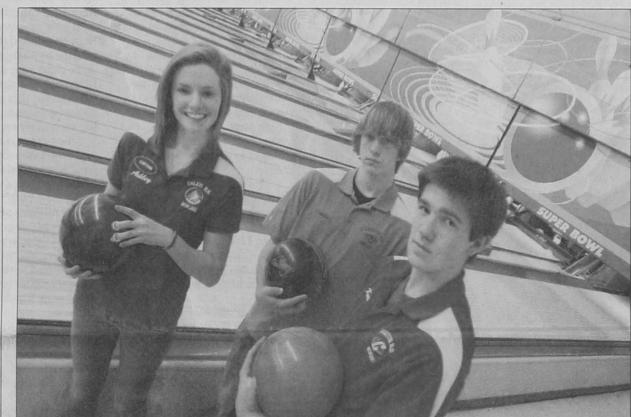
The Rocks missed chances to win the KLAA Central game against Novi both at the end of regulation and the first overtime before falling 63-57 in double OT.

"It's very frustrating, but the first time out they beat us by 25," veteran Salem head coach Bob Brodie said with a chuckle. "So I guess

BOYS BASKETBALL

we've improved a little bit or they haven't, I don't know.

"But it was a great game, an exciting game to watch, and it's just unfortunate we had our





opportunities and they wouldn't go."

The Rocks (11-5 overall, 5-5 in the Central) managed just one field goal over the final two overtimes, with free throws accounting for the rest of their points.

Brodie's squad had the ball with 20 seconds left in the fourth and the game tied 49-49, but a 15-footer by senior guard Josh Perrin was "right on, just a little short. Then we went to OT and it was the same scenario.'

This time, again with about 20 seconds to go and the score 53-53, sophomore forward Chris Dierker missed a shot and junior guard Grant Bettner's putback would not drop.

After Novi travelled on the ensuing play, the Rocks had another chance to win the game with three seconds left.

A subsequent try didn't even hit iron and that gave the Wildcats the opening to take control in the second overtime.

Novi's 6-6 forward Chris Milan then went to work with six of his 14 points in the extra OT and Salem could not recover.

'He got some loose balls and opportunities at the glass and scored on us," Brodie said.

Leading Salem with 11 points were Dierker (who also had 12 rebounds and five assists) and Bettner. Other solid performers included Perrin for his ball control and senior center Ethan Walsh, who was "a stabilizing force" off the bench, Brodie said.

Please see BASKETBALL, B3



Varsity bowlers (from left) Ashley Kretschmer of Salem, Justin Thompson of Plymouth and Kurt Kowalski of Canton are more than happy to compete for their prep teams in the KLAA.

# Striking a chord

# Bowling becoming popular choice for student-athletes

## BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Everyone knows how serious high school football and basketball players are about the particular sports represented on the back of their varsity jackets.

But perhaps this might surprise you - so are the young men and women who compete on the Canton, Plymouth and Salem bowling teams.

They go all out on the bowling lanes for titles, bragging rights at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park and a shot at college scholarships.

"It's only my junior year, so I'm hoping we go to regionals," Canton junior Kurt Kowalski said. "If I can bowl individuals then I'll have some people looking for me.

"Because any kind of scholarship could help. I'd be glad to bowl in college.

According to Plymouth junior Justin Thompson, "High school bowling is more serious than most leagues, because you are competing against a new team each time and everyone is trying to make it to states.'

## LEADING THE CHARGE

In Kowalski's case, he doesn't have to look very far for encourage-

ment and a glimpse into what it might take to bowl at the collegiate level.

Jim Keppen, co-coach for Canton's varsity boys and girls bowling teams, was a member of the Eastern Michigan University squad in the early 1980s and is a longtime advocate of bowling as a prep offering.

Keppen said athletic directors and the Michigan High School Athletic Association weren't keen on adding the sport back in the mid-1990s.

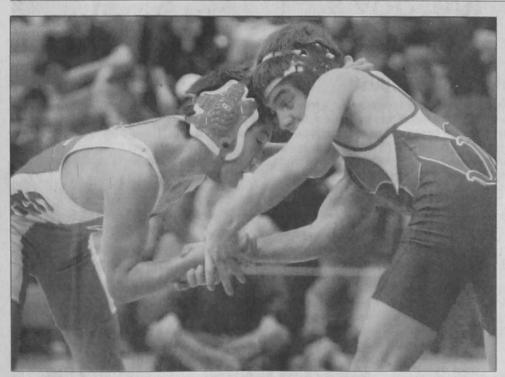
"Then they got it going, some

Please see BOWLING, B2

# Salem lacrosse meeting

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

Both parents and students should attend to obtain information for tryouts, 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/ Salemrocksgirlslacrosse.



Canton's Richard DeMarois (left) and Franklin's Danny Martinez tangle in a 112-pound match in Saturday's Division 1 individual district at Garden City.

# Canton contingent advances to regionals

#### BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Canton's wrestling machine continues to roll.

At Saturday's Division 1 individual districts hosted by Garden City, the KLAA Kensington Conference and South Division champion Chiefs nearly matched perennial powerhouse Novi-Detroit Catholic Central.

Canton boasted five individual champions and a runner-up, all qualifying for Saturday's D1 individual regionals at Plymouth. The Shamrocks had six individual champions.

Even so, Canton head coach Cory Mancuso was hoping for a larger group moving on.

"It was a bittersweet day for our team," Mancuso said. "We had

# INDIVIDUAL DISTRICTS

some guys wrestle real tough, which resulted in our team having five champions and a runnerup.

"And we also had a few guys fall short that we thought could make it.

The top four finishers in each weight class made the cut for individual regionals.

Placing first for Canton were: 285-pounder Ben Poirer (a 6-3 decision over Dearborn's Gerald Moore); 103-pounder Ben Griffin (a 6-4 win over CC's Evan Toth); Alec Pantaleo at 112 (thanks to a pin of Livonia Franklin's Danny Martinez in 1:27); 140-pounder Zach Marsh (a 7-3 decision over CC's Mike Babicz); and still-

undefeated 189-pounder Anthony Abro, who earned a 6-5 win over the Shamrocks' Miles Trealout.

Finishing second for the Chiefs at 171 was Braden Price, who lost 7-4 to CC's Kevin Beazley.

The six guys we got through all have a great chance to make it through the regional tournament and qualify for state," Mancuso said.

The other Plymouth-Canton Educational Park teams will be sending two wrestlers to the individual regionals.

Plymouth's Said Youssef and Alec Breckenridge each tallied a third-place finisher.

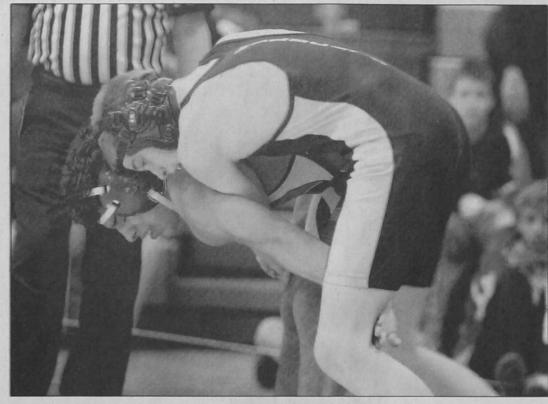
Youssef decisioned Alejandro Albuerne of Novi at 125 by a 4-2 count, while Breckenridge defeat-

Please see WRESTLING, B2

SECTION B

# LOCAL SPORTS

# online at hometownlife.com



Jon Conn (right) of Plymouth tries to keep a grip on Livonia Franklin's Gabe Martinez during an early round 119pound match.



B2

(CP)

ed Farmington's Kienuwa Davis at 130 by major decision.

As for Salem, fourth-place showings were turned in at 103 by Alex Arble (a 12-8 loss to third-place finisher Jon Locklear of Livonia Churchill) and Cody Korpus, who was pinned in 2:13 by third-place finisher Gabe Martinez of Franklin.

MHSAA INDIVIDUAL WRESTLING DISTRICT RESULTS **DIVISION 1** Feb. 12 at GARDEN CITY (top 4 advance to regional) 285 pounds: Ben Poirer (Canton) decisioned Gerald Moore (Dearborn), 6-3; 3rd place: Jacob Range (Livonia Stevenson) p. Omar Haymour (Livonia Franklin), 4:42. 103 pounds: Ben Griffin (Canton) dec. Evan Toth (Novi-Detroit Catholic Central), 6-4; 3rd: Jon Locklear (Livonia Churchill) dec. Alex Arble (Salem), 12-8.

112: Alec Pantaleo (Canton) pinned Danny Martinez (Franklin), 1:27; 3rd: T.J. Fagan (Catholic Central) won by injury default over Malik Amine (Catholic Central).

119: Jacob Meadows (Churchill) dec. Kevin Kennerly (Farmington), 7-3; 3rd: Gabe Martinez (Franklin) p. Cody Korpus (Salem), 2:13. 125: Ken Bade (Catholic Central) p. lan

Stirton (Northville), 1:13; 3rd: Said Youssef (Plymouth) dec. Aleiandro Albuerne (Novi), 4-2 130: Steve Tuyo (Franklin) won by

disgualification over Logan Marcicki (Catholic Central); 3rd: Alec Breckenridge (Plymouth) won by major dec. over Kienuwa Davis (Farmington).

135: Alec Mooradian (Catholic Central) dec. Riley Hanson (Catholic Central), 7-1; 3rd: Travis Compo (Northville) dec. Shahbaig Sidhu (Novi), 9-2.

140: Zach Marsh (Canton) dec. Mike Babicz (Catholic Central), 7-3; 3rd: Jonny Bannoura (Churchill) dec. Josh Hatfield (Franklin), 7-4.

145: Nick Mason (Catholic Central) won by injury default over Nick Tomski (Farmington); 3rd: Chris Caverly (Novi).dec. Avery Opperman (Franklin), 15-11.

152: Andrew Garcia (Catholic Central) p. Dan Wagner (Southfield), 1:30; 3rd: John Montgomery (Northville) won by major dec. over Alex Coe (Northville), 9-1.

160: Matt Roos (Franklin) won by major dec. over Andrew Erickson (Catholic Central), 10-2; 3rd: Alip Harp (Dearborn Fordson) won by injury default over Allen Steele (Franklin). 171: Kevin Beazley (Catholic Central)

dec. Braden Price (Canton), 7-4; 3rd: Trevor Maresh (Northville) won by major dec. over Ryan Southerland (Farmington), 10-0.

189: Anthony Abro (Canton) dec. Miles Trealout (Catholic Central), 6-5; 3rd: David Sparling (Novi) dec. Mouhamad Soukar (Fordson), 6-2

215: Lucas Luchonok (Dearborn Edsel Ford) p. Justin Roe (Farmington), 3:19; 3rd: Antonio Echols (Southfield) p. Andy Boyd (Northville), 3:44.

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BOWLING FROM PAGE B1

people got to the right people and got things working in the late '90s," Keppen said, "and now you can see there's hundreds of schools involved in high school bowling. "It wasn't offered way back

when. But a lot of us who did bowl in college pressed for it hard because we know how great the sport can be.'

For those who might have a stereotypical image of bowlers and bowling leagues, what the sport brings out of participants at the prep level might be very surprising.

Of course, there still are plenty of laughs, high fives and colorful shirts.

But there also are baker games. That's where bowling squads operate just like a baseball lineup, requiring each member of a team to follow a set rotation with the goal of accumulating a greater score than their opponent.

"It's different than other leagues," Ashley Kretschmer, senior captain for Salem's varsity girls team, said about high school bowling. "You bowl baker games. You bowl tournaments.

Prep bowling is different for another reason, namely the chance to compare notes five days a week.

"You seem a lot closer with your high school (team) because we see each other all the time," Kowalski said. "... We'll talk about the game, on how we're doing, what we should probably work on at our next practice.

"And just hang out like any regular guys do.'

Kretschmer also runs on the Salem varsity girls track and field team, doing sprints, high jumps and throws. But she describes bowling for the Rocks as an "awesome" experience.

The lefty said she signed up a couple years ago after the team's formation "and it was nice to do something different. Plus, I like bowling.'

She's doing pretty well at the sport, too, with a high game of 257 on her resume.

## **TEAM APPROACH**

One of the unique aspects of the prep game indeed are those baker games, which are good for 10 points and precede two regular games in a 30point dual match. Baker games, your whole

team bowls together, there's

five people that bowl,"

With a deliberate approach and left-handed release, Salem senior captain Ashley Kretschmer sends the ball on its way during a recent varsity girls bowling match.

this way. "If somebody messes up, you're still right there to pick them up the next frame."

The intensity of baker games is another plus as far as Keppen is concerned.

"It puts pressure on them," Keppen pointed out. "There's no time to waste, you have to score right away and have to fill spares and strikes."

He added that pure team format gets teammates cheering each other on.

"One person can't carry you and even two people can carry you," Keppen said. "You need all four or five of your bowlers doing their best."

Like athletes of the more high-profile prep sports, many of those who gravitate to bowling started young and participated in various recreational leagues before getting the chance to roll for their high schools.

"I've been bowling since I was in first grade," Kretschmer said. "My mom and dad both bowl, so it was kind of obvious that I would bowl too."

at the bowling alley. "My dad got me into bowling because he has bowled for many years," Thompson said. "And I always went to watch him when I was a kid."

He apparently is a quick study, racking up a season average of 206 as well as a top game of 276.

"Justin is very good at adjusting his line or changing his ball to get back on track," said his coach, Tammy Thompson (no relation).

#### NOT SO LAME

Unlike the more-established high school athletics, being a varsity bowler sometimes prompts a few smirks and raised evebrows, however.

Those are quickly dashed. "A lot of people when they find out I have bowling on my varsity jacket, they're like 'Oh, that's kind of lame,'" Kowalski said. "But they don't understand you have a big point system behind it, how you're not. just going up there and throwing a ball.

"How there's all different kinds of games, like individual games and baker games and all that. Then they find out that it's actually kind of cool." At the same time, they might discover that bowling is only starting to heat up in the high school sports world.



Canton goal scorer Duggan Tear (No. 8) celebrates with teammates Matt Cox

FROM PAGE B1

back in check. "It's going to be tough.'

The Chiefs, who finished 7-2-2 in the division (edging 7-3-1 Salem), outmuscled Plymouth from the get-go. "We knew they were smaller

than us and a little less physical," Majszak said, "so we were trying to keep them on the outside and play the body on them."

## HOT HAND

Canton enjoyed an 11-5 shots edge in the first period, and LaFontaine made it 1-0 with 9:32 remaining on a wrist shot from between the circles that beat Plymouth senior goalie Mike Justus (28 saves) low on the glove side.

The Wildcats played their best period in the second, outshooting Canton 13-10, but could not solve senior netminder Spencer Craig - who always seemed to be in the right place at the right time while stopping all 26 shots he faced

"He's just playing outstanding," Majszak said. "That's something you've got to ride in the playoffs."

Canton scored an insurance marker with 12:12 left in the middle stanza. LaFontaine's

shot from the top of the right circle glanced off Justus and junior forward Duggan Tear knocked in the rebound from the left post.

(No. 16), Josh Dickson and Jimmy LaFontaine (No. 2).

Craig, whose quick glove hand and padded legs frustrated the Wildcats all night, and Canton's physical defense teamed up to stymie a string of Plymouth power plays.

According to Fassbender, his team didn't challenge Craig quite enough.

"We were slow, we played soft," Fassbender said. "We

were playing afraid to get hit. We just didn't have any energy. Their goalie played well, but we didn't get any quality shots."

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth dropped to 6-8-8 overall and 4-3-4 in the division. Canton's overall record is 10-4-2.

But as far as both coaches were concerned, the KLAA South standings were of secondary importance on such a regrettable night.

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# **BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING**

MICHIGAN INTERSCHOLASTIC SWIM COACHES ASSOCIATION MEET RESULTS Feb. 11-12 at EMU's Jones Natatorium 200-yard medley relay: 1. Midland

Dow (Michael Pixton, Tyler Piotrowski, Daniel Biggs, Jackson Goethe), 1:38.3; 12 Plymouth (Cameron Earls, Alex Jouney, Ethan Christensen, Adam Liakos), 1:43.31; 13. Canton (Jay Jin, Jacob Dillon, Victor Zhang, Evan Champine), 1:44.03; 17. Salem (Jeremy Wellman, Turner Solterman, Eric Li, Jerry Bai), 1:44.18

200 freestyle: 1. Clay Youngquist (Battle Creek Lakeview), 1:38.56; 2. Adam Seroka (Salem), 1:42.56; 23. Jason Zhang (Salem), 1:51.27

200 individual medley: 1. Justin Glanda (Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook), 1:54.62; 7. Max Mills (Salem), 2:00.41; 20. Jin (Canton), 2:03.48; 21. Li (Salem), 2:03.58; 29. Jouney (Plymouth), 2:05.37.

50 freestyle: 1. Austin Fathman (Hamilton), 21.93; 3. Matt Collingwood (Salem), 22.15; 45. Liakos (Plymouth), 23.23.

100 butterfly: 1. Youngquist (Lakeview), 49.79; 38. Bai (Salem), 56.52; 26. Christensen (Plymouth), 55.82; 60. Wellman (Salem), 58.68. 100 freestyle: 1. Stephen Sobczak (Dexter), 47.37; 46. Liakos (Plymouth), 51.63.

500 freestyle: 1. Glanda (Cranbrook),

4:38.53; 2. Seroka (Salem), 4:38.65; 3. Collingwood (Salem), 4:45.11; 7. Mills (Salem), 4:50.11; 44. Zach Koch (Plymouth), 5:10.54.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Saline (David Boland, Brad Frost, Andrew Krieber, Adam Whitener), 1:27.71; 10. Salem (Collingwood Li, Mills, Seroka), 1:31.47; 17. Canton (Mike Carlson, Dillion, Adrian Simion, Champine) 1:33.45

100 backstroke: 1. Sobczak (Dexter), 52.63; 10. Jin (Canton), 55.96; 13. J. Zhang (Salem), 56.39; 17. Li (Salem), 56.64; 41.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Frost, Josh Ehrman, Andy Jensen), 3:14.02;

Seroka), 3:16.56; 31. Plymouth (Jouney, Koch

3. Salem (Collingwood, J. Zhang, Mills,

Christensen, Liakos), 3:29.91; 34. Canton

Arbor Pioneer), 180.00 points; 27. Nick

Griwicki (Salem), 118.65 points.

1

(Carlson, Krebs, Dillon, Champine), 3:30.98.

1-meter diving: 1. Nick Nemetz (Ann

Salem swimmer Turner Solterman, shown from earlier this season, was part of the 200-yard medley relay team that finished 17th at the MISCA meet.

Simion (Canton), 58.49; 49. Wellman (Salem), 59.01; 56. Earls (Plymouth), 1:00.24; 63. Christopher Krebs (Canton), 1:00.84.

100 breaststroke: 1. Mike Fisher (Saline), 59.02; 41. Jouney (Plymouth), 1:04.76: 44. Solterman (Salem), 1:05.16: 57. Smaran Bhaktawara (Salem), 1:06.85. 400 freestyle relay: 1. Saline (Whitener,

## Kretschmer said. "It's like you're bowling as one person, so you have one person bowl the first and sixth frame and another bowls the second and fifth. It's a team effort."

Kowalski summed them up

Concurring was Kowalski, owner of a 215 average. "I've been bowling about 12 years. .. My whole family's athletic, Any sport they threw us into all of them just to see which one we were the best at."

Thompson said he started bowling seriously only a few years ago, but he also grew up

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WALT DMOCH

# Seguin's in the house

Plymouth Whalers alum Tyler Seguin (second from left) participated in a ceremonial faceoff with Janine Krolikowski (third from left) of the American Heart Association's Go Red For Women campaign before Saturday's Plymouth-Owen Sound game at Compuware Arena. Participating in the faceoff were Whalers captain Beau Schmitz (left) and Owen Sound captain Garrett Wilson (right). Plymouth lost 2-1. Seguin was in town with his current team, the NHL's Boston Bruins, for a game the next afternoon against Detroit. Seguin scored his ninth goal of the season in that game.

# SPORTS ROUNDUP

# For girls only

Looking to boost the profile of girls hockey, Canton Arctic Edge hosted the recent "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 pointblank 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.

# Stevenson baseball clinic

Learn the basics of throwing, pitching, hitting, infield-outfield play at a youth baseball clinic (grades 2-6) from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26 at the Livonia Stevenson High School fieldhouse. The cost is \$30 for the first 60 enrolled. For more information, call Stevenson baseball coach Rick Berryman at (734) 455-8623.

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# online at hometownlife.com

# LOCAL SPORTS

# Canton girls grab KLAA tourney opener BASKETBALL

Canton opened up the **KLAA Kensington Conference** girls basketball playoffs with a 40-17 victory Tuesday over host Salem.

The Chiefs (15-2) carved out leads of 6-5 after one quarter and 16-9 at halftime before breaking things open in the third thanks to a 15-4 scoring margin over the Rocks.

"We were in it for a half." Salem head coach Fred Thomann said. "But Canton took over in the third quarter. We're getting better, we're going to keep working at it.'

Top scorers for Canton were seniors Kayla Bridges and CarolAnn Sexauer, with 11 and 10 points, respectively.

For Salem (6-11), Brianna Berberet tallied six points, with Katelyn Krause (5 points) and Heidi Schmidt (4 points) chipping in. The top rebounder for the Rocks was Breanne Beaver, with six.

Canton will now move on to a second round game Friday night at home.

PCA 35, LENAWEE CHRISTIAN

25: In a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference girls basketball tilt on Saturday, Plymouth Christian Academy parlayed solid defense and a patient offensive game into a 10-point victory.

Brianna Harris scored 14 points for the Eagles (13-3, 8-1) while Bethany Hale (9 points), Jenny Malcolm (6 points, 8 rebounds), Karen Windle (5 steals) and Emily Gerulis (9 boards) made key contributions.

PCA head coach Carol Gerulis said her team, playing its third game of the week despite several players hit by illness, conserved energy by playing at a slower tempo than usual.

Meanwhile, PCA defeated Southfield Christian 43-29 last Thursday (Bethany Hale and Harris, 10 points each) and Bloomfield Hills Roeper 45-32 on Feb. 8.

In the Roeper game, Harris scored 13 while Emily Gerulis (8 points, 7 boards), Jenna Abraham and Malcolm (7 points each) helped the cause.

JOHN KEMSKI Salem senior point guard Heidi Schmidt (left) attempts to dribble past Canton

senior forward Sara Schmitt during Tuesday night's KLAA tourney opener.

# FROM PAGE B1

Samar Ozeir scored 24 points to pace Novi (13-3, 8-2).

## SCORING SLUMP

Salem's offensive struggles also hampered the Rocks last week, in a 53-50 loss to South Lyon on Feb. 8 and a 61-55 victory Friday against Northville.

"Again, we had a nice lead. we only scored one basket in the fourth quarter, but we held on to win," Brodie said. "When you only score one basket in the fourth quarter, you're fortunate to come out with a victory.'

Dierker (17 points), Bettner (15 points) and Perrin (10 points) did provide some offensive spark, however.

Scoring woes aside, Brodie now is optimistic that Monday's all-out war against an excellent Novi team will help the Rocks gear up for the start of the KLAA Tournament (7 p.m. Thursday at Canton).

"Last night, the double overtime game against a good

**BOYS BASKETBALL** 

Thursday, Feb. 17

(KLAA Playoffs-1st Round)

Salem at Canton, 7 p.m Northville at Plymouth, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 18

Ply. Christian at University Liggett, 8:30 p.m.

**GIRLS BASKETBALL** 

Friday, Feb. 18

Franklin Road at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m.

Luth. Westland at Luth. N'west, 5:30 p.m.

Salem at Franklin, 7 p.m.

Ply. Christian at University Liggett, 7 p.m.

(KLAA Playoffs-Semifinals)

Novi at John Glenn, 7 p.m.

Stevenson at Canton, 7 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 20

(Catholic League A-B Finals

at U-D Mercy's Calihan Hall)

Ladywood vs. F.H. Mercy, 3 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY

Saturday, Feb. 19

Catholic League Championship

at O.L. St. Mary Rink, TBA.

KLAA Crossovers at Arctic Edge, TBA

PREP WRESTLING

MHSAA INDIVIDUAL REGIONALS

(all Saturday, Feb. 19)

Division 1 at Plymouth, 8 a.m.

Division 1 at Saline, 9:30 p.m.

Division 4 at Manchester, 9:30 a.m.

Division 3 at Goodrich, noon

**BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING** 

Friday, Feb. 18

**KLAA South Division Diving** 

at John Glenn, 5:30 p.m.

team," he said. "I don't know if it gives us experience or it's going to shatter our confidence or give us a little more hope that 'Hey, we can hang in with anyone now.' We're going to find out against Canton."

INTER-CITY BAPTIST 49, PCA 43: Plymouth Christian Academy's boys basketball team dropped this Michigan Independent Athletic Conference matchup Tuesday night despite 17 points and six rebounds from Eric Jipping and 12 points from Mick Noel.

The Eagles trailed 38-25 after three before turning on the jets in a fourth-quarter comeback that fell just short.

PCA head coach Keith Anleitner, whose team fell to 3-11 overall and 3-8 in the MIAC, said the rally came about when his team started adhering to the offensive system and making some shots. It was 43-43 with about three minutes to play, but the Eagles turned the ball over twice to enable Allen Park Inter-city Baptist to take the lead.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

# THE WEEK AHEAD

KLAA Central Division Diving at South Lyon East, 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 19 KLAA South Division meet at John Glenn, noon, **KLAA** Central Division meet at South Lyon East, noon GIRLS GYMNASTICS Saturday, Feb. 19 KLAA Meet at W.L. Central, 9 a.m. PREP BOWLING Thursday, Feb. 17 Canton vs. Clarenceville, John Glenn vs. Wayne at Town 'N Country Lanes, 3:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 18 KLAA Tourney at Century Bowl, 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 19 Catholic League Championships at Drakeshire Lanes, 3:30 p.n MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Saturday, Feb. 19 Madonna at Aquinas, 3 p.m. Macomb CC at Schoolcraft, 3 p.m WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Saturday, Feb. 19 Aquinas at Madonna, 1 p.m. Macomb CC at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m. **ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE** Friday, Feb. 18 Plymouth Whalers at Windsor, 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 19 Windsor vs. Plymouth Whalers at Compuware Arena, 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 20 Plymouth Whalers at Saginaw, 4 p.m.

# Plymouth nearly upsets Livonia Stevenson

#### BY BRAD EMONS **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Playoff intensity basketball - KLAA style - kicked off Tuesday night when host Livonia Stevenson pulled out a first-round 50-47 triumph over an up-and-coming Plymouth team.

Stevenson (12-5), getting some clutch plays late from junior guard Molly Knoph (12 points) and senior forward Monika Rudis (10 points) remains in the winners bracket of the tournament.

But now the Spartans have the daunting task of facing state-ranked Canton (15-2) in the Kensington Conference semifinals beginning at 7 p.m. Friday on the Chiefs' home floor.

Meanwhile, even Plymouth coach Bob deBear gained solace despite the setback as his team fell to 7-10 overall.

"That's a great high school

basketball game," he said. "Two good teams battling down to the wire. It could have gone either way. Unfortunately it went their way."

# TAKING THE LEAD

The Wildcats trailed 24-16 at halftime, but took a 38-33 advantage heading into the final period thanks to a pair of triples during the final 51.4 seconds by freshman pointguard Kylie Robb, who led all scorers with 16 points (including a perfect 6-of-6 from the line)

"When we came out in the second half, I felt we were just kind of flat," Stevenson coach Jen Knoph said. "Everybody was kind of falling back on their heels and nobody was getting around. They (Plymouth) started getting good shot opportunities from the outside.

Plymouth maintained its slim lead, 45-42, with 3:33 to go on a layup by Kate Watson. But that's when the Spartans went to work as Rachel Wilkinson started an 8-2 run with a pair of free throws just 26 seconds later.

Rudis found Knoph on a back-door cut for a layup with 2:16 remaining to give the Spartans a 46-45 advantage.

Rudis then came up with a steal and scored again with 1:20 left to up the lead to 48-45 before Plymouth's Chyna Williams scooped up a rebound off a blocked shot and scored with 28.71 seconds left.

Down one, the Wildcats tried to foul, but gave up almost 17 precious seconds as Knoph broke the press and scored with only 10.4 remaining to make it 50-47.

"We fouled her," deBear said. "Both our kids said they grabbed her. Alex (Roberts) hacked her, but they just didn't give us a foul. Looking at it - who knows?"

After Molly Knoph's hoop, Plymouth's last-ditch threepoint attempt during waning seconds missed the mark and Stevenson escaped with the three-point victory.

Watson, a junior, added 12 points, while senior Alex Roberts had 10 for Plymouth.

The Wildcats controlled the boards during the third quarter and shot 9-of-23 during the period to take the lead

by five. 'Our kids play with so much heart," deBear said. "They find a way. They never feel like

they're down-and-out. "I just think we're really becoming a good team that plays smart and really well on the road. I just see us our confidence growing and growing."

bemons@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6851



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 17, 2011

**B**3 (CP)

**)**BSERVER & ECCENTRIC

Canton looks to get healthy for big meet

In a tuneup for the KLAA gymnastics championship meet, Canton finished 1-1 in a tri-meet last Thursday.

The Chiefs lost a close 143.925-143.15 decision to always-tough Brighton and handed Howell (137.9) a defeat to improve to 10-1 overall and 8-1 in the KLAA.

"With Ayana Lewis and Marina Milad out with injuries and Robyn Piwowar recovering from illness," Canton head coach John Cunningham said, "I (was) actually pleased with our score.

"If everyone gets back in the lineup, look out.'

Piwowar did return to finish third on uneven bars (8.75) and fifth on vault (9.0).

But several other Chiefs were outstanding.

Collecting firsts for Canton were Erica Lucas (with a personal best 9.5 on vault) and Kali Pierce, with a 9.075 to win balance beam. Pierce also scored a 9.05 on floor exercise.

Brooke Granowicz placed second on balance beam with a 9.05 and also had a 9.05 on floor exercise to match Pierce.

Cunningham lauded the fourth-place showing by Alex Fideler in floor exercise, calling her 9.5 score "great."

Meanwhile, Melissa Green chipped in with a third on vault (9.15), fifth on floor (9.3) and sixth on beam (8.625).

Although Canton is getting set for Saturday's KLAA championship meet in Walled Lake, the Chiefs were slated to face Livonia Blue on Wednesday.



One of Canton's top performers against Brighton and Howell, senior Kali Pierce, won balance beam with a mark of 9.075.

# Blazers reach Catholic League title game

Livonia Ladywood earned a spot in the Catholic League A-B Division girls basketball championship with a 43-31 victory Saturday over Birmingham Marian in a semifinal game played at the Madonna University Activities Center.

Sophomore point-guard Andie Anastos paced a balanced scoring attack with 13

points as the Blazers improved to 14-3 overall and will face Farmington Hills Mercy (13-4) for the title at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 20, at the University of Detroit's Calihan Hall. (The two teams split during the Central Division season.)

Sophomore forward Kiley Gorski added 11 points and five rebounds, while seniors Teresa Wojnarowski and

Alyssa Anastos contributed seven points and six rebounds apiece

Alyssa Anastos also dished out seven assists.

Marian led 17-16 at halftime, but Ladywood went on an 18-7 third-quarter run to take command.

Maura Mulroy paced the Mustangs (12-5) with nine points.



Since 1946

# The Observer & Eccentric and Buddy's Pizza presents **Good News, Good Chews!**

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).

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and Buddy's Pizza are partnering to make sure good news is recognized and rewarded! We want you to share good news stories - from your school, your business, your place of work, your neighborhood, your family.

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.



Shauna, Joy, Kevin, Heather, Holly, Jason, Emma, Trevor and Eddie. Dearest sister of Joseph (Pat) Schutz Visitation will be held at Fred Wood Funeral Home-Rice Chapel 36100 5 Mile Rd, Livonia (E. of Levan) Friday 2-9pm Scripture Friday :00pm. Funeral Service will be Saturday at St. Edith Catholic Church 15089 Newburgh Rd. Livonia Instate 10:00am Mass 10:30am. Memorial contributions may be made to Angela Hospice. Please visit on-line guestbook fredwoodfuneralhome.com

**B4** 

## MICHAEL E. CANDELA

February 12, 2011. Age 39. Beloved son of Frank (Chris) Candela and Cindy Candela. Loving grandson of Dolores Felice. Dear brother of (David) Smelewski. Marianne Beloved uncle of Joy, Evan, Nico. Pearson, Jade, Madison, Lia, Desmond and Rosa. Nephew of Vincent (Nancy) Candela, Janice (the late John) Felice, Ken (Ann) Felice and loving cousin to many. Michael was an active member of the Livonia Jaycees. Visitation will be Wednesday February 16, 2011 from 4-9pm at Harry J. Will Funeral Home located at 37000 Six Mile Rd., Livonia and Thursday February 17, 2011 from 1-9 pm with Scripture Service at 7pm. Funeral Service will be Friday February 18 at Our Lady of Victory, 770 Thayer Blvd., Northville. Instate begins at 9:30 am; Mass will follow at 10am. Donations can be made to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Foundation of Michigan or to the family to set up a trust in honor of Michael. www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com

MARJORIE "MAGGIE" DUDRA

She will be missed. Age 84, February 14, 2011. Loving wife of Benedict Dudra and the late Merritt Peck. Beloved mother of Donna Jones and Mabel (Bob) Buckholz. Stepmother of Carol (John) Schuman and Kathy (Tom) Jones. Grandmother of Joshua Jones and Merritt (Bree) Buckholz. Great grandmother of two loving families. Visitation Friday 4-9pm and funeral service Saturday 11am at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 W. Six Mile, Livonia. Memorials may be made to the Penrickton Center for

www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com.





## LAURA GERHARD

Was born 8/2/1911 and passed away on 2/11/2011. She was a resident of Livonia, Mi. Laura is survived by her children: Rudolph Gerhard and Roland Gerhard (Maxine), 6 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. Laura was preceded in death by her husband Carl W. Gerhard in 1958. A memorial service in Laura's memory will be held at a later date.

#### LOUISE I. HAYMAKER

Age 99, of Farmington Hills, MI Passed away February 14, 2011. Arrangements by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington.

#### JAMES HINEY

February 12, 2011. Age 87. Loving husband of the late Betty. Beloved brother of Catherine Mitchell. Uncle of Patrick (Lynne) and Maureen (Robert) Grant. Dear friend of Larry Smith. "Uncle Jimmie, we will miss you and your sharp wit." Memorial Service will be held on Saturday

February 19, 2011 at 11am at Harry J. Will Funeral Home 37000 W. Six Mile Rd., Livonia. www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com



46 of Monroe, formerly of the Plymouth and Canton area died on February 10, 2011 in Monroe. Surviving are his parents David and Elisabeth Sickels of Loudon, TN and sister Wendy E. (Anthony) Blaas of Coppell, TX. Online condolences to: www.ruppfuneralhomeinc.com.

#### GAIL L. WELCH

Age 61 of Howell, passed away at her home Sunday, February 13, 2011. She was born September 14, 1949 in Detroit, MI, the daughter of Richard J. and Joanne L. (Luers) Hennessy. Beloved wife of John whom she married in 1968 in Livonia. Dear mother of John (Dawn) Welch, Jr. of Cumming, GA, and Brian (Becky) Welch of Howell. Dear grandmother of six; also survived by her mother, Joanne of Howell and siblings, Rick (Denise) Hennessy of Grand Rapids, Christina (Tom) Rose of Livonia, Joanie (Tom) Econom of Howell, Paul Hennessy of Howell and Mark (Tara) Hennessy of Midland. Memorial services will be Saturday, February 26 at 11 a.m. (visitation 10 - 11 a.m.) at St John Catholic Church, 2099 Hacker Road, Howell. Memorial contributions may be made to St. John Catholic Church Building Fund. Arrangements by MacDonald's Funeral Home, Howell (517-546-2800). Please visit the family's online guestbook at www.macdonaldsfuneralhome.com



Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)

#### Deadlines: Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday

Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

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

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Char Wilson 313-496-4968

# 'Mrs. Coach's Closet' auction aids rehab work of Salvation Army

#### **BY SHARON DARGAY O&E STAFF WRITER**

Rita Rodriguez has given up the Maize & Blue for a good cause.

She took a cue from her husband, former University of Michigan football coach Rich Rodriguez and donated 170 items of clothing to The Salvation Army.

"Last month Rich donated stuff to our Wayne store. When I went to their house to say thank you, Rita said 'I've got more." I said, I've got my truck," said Maj. John Aren, administrator of The Salvation Army's Adult Rehabilitation Center in Romulus. "All of it is U of M stuff."

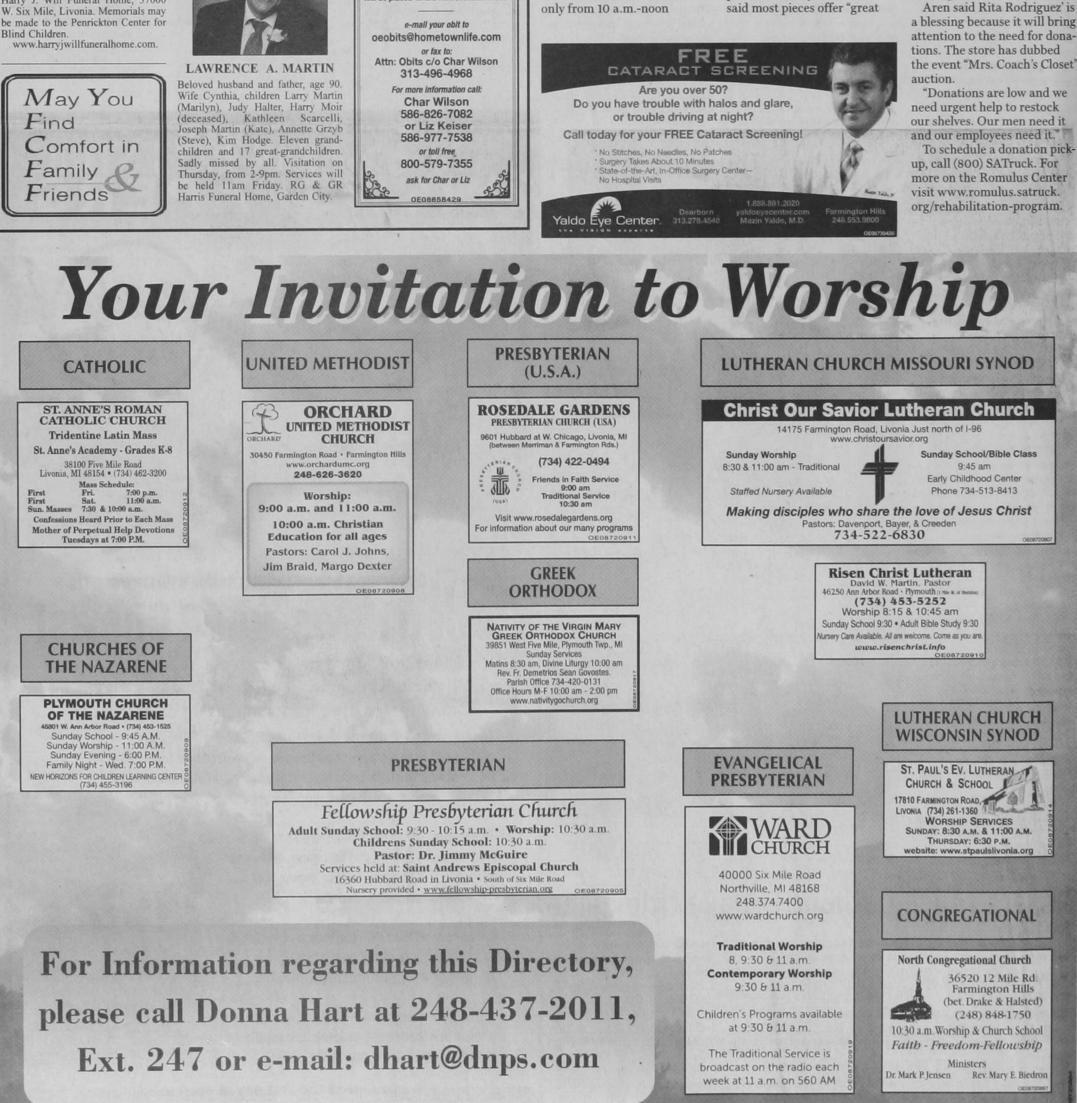
The former coach unloaded sportswear and memorabilia at the store, which auctioned most of the donated goods and raised \$12,600 for the rehab center in Romulus. Another \$3.600 came from sale of the items.

"The Adult Rehabilitation Center is funded 100 percent by the resale of gently-used items. We take no outside funding for all of the services we provide," Aren said. "We have 100 men in residence in Romulus. They're good guys. The men receive counseling and three hot meals, hot showers, Bible study and counseling.

The Salvation Army's Adult Rehabilitation Centers give spiritual, social and emotional assistance to men and women who can't cope with their problems and care for themselves.

The Salvation Army thrift stores in Romulus, Wayne, Garden City, Lincoln Park, Dearborn, Canton and Livonia help fund the Romulus Center.

Aren said Rita Rodriguez' donations will be auctioned only from 10 a.m.-noon





Auction items include embellished U-M shirts.



The auction will include lots of shirts and other sportswear.

Saturday, Feb. 19, at the Canton Township store, 43404 Joy Road at Morton Taylor.

The list includes hoodies, sweatshirts, sweat suits, pullovers, T-shirts, a few purses, a duffle bag, winter hat and a hockey puck. Aren said they range in size but most items are small to medium. He described the "bedazzled" pieces as "nicely done" and

unused quality." "This is a little different than Rich's donation. Rich delivered his to the Wayne Store. Since Rita called us for pickup, we thought we'd do it at the new (Canton) store and show the new spirit of upscale resale - high end fashion at a frac-

tion of the original cost." The 40,000-square-foot

store opened Nov. 1, 2010.

a blessing because it will bring attention to the need for donathe event "Mrs. Coach's Closet"

"Donations are low and we

ENTERTAINMENT hometownlife

Thursday, February 17, 2011

# See lively steps, beautiful costumes at Polish dance show

BY SHARON DARGA **O&E STAFF WRITER** 

The PNA Centennial Dancers will take on a new look at a new location for their 31st Dance Extravaganza Show.

After four years in Canton - and various communities before that - the showcase of Polish folk dancing moves to the Weber Performing Arts Center at Thurston High School in Redford.

"We're proud to be there. It's a bigger theater and we're able to fit more people in," said Kristal Wioncek, a former director who has two daughters in the show.

The PNA Centennial Dancers will take the stage at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, March 5, at the school, 26255 Schoolcraft. Admission is \$5 and tickets are available by calling Diane Dudek at (734) 775-3272 or Suzan Marzec at Simply Polish in Garden City, (734) 525-2880.

Five graduating seniors - Allison Bielski of Garden City, Courtny Delonis of Farmington Hills, Randy Favot of Livonia, Margaux Zanetti of Northville, and Joseph Zabawski of Canton - will be honored at the show. They'll wear white gowns or tuxedos during a waltz to Strauss' Blue Danube, in addition to performing in several of the folk dances in ethnic costume.

"This year we are showcasing new costumes. They came from Poland and we did a lot of fundraising for them. Each dancer has at least three," Wioncek said, adding that the outfits are decorated with lots of ribbons and hand embroidery.

## AUTHENTIC COSTUMES

Marzec, who teaches dance and choreographs the shows, bought fabric in Poland and had the costumes made in the U.S.

"We're very excited about the new costumes. Our new costume for the polonez is Kontusz, with sashes and fur and hats with feathers," she said



Elena Wioncek and Sam Sebastian dance their way across the stage, wearing Lubelski costumes.

"We always officially open an event with the polonez."

Dancers, grouped according to age from 3 to 18, will perform a selection of national dances, like Polonez, regional dances with corresponding costumes and polka.

"I Americanize the second half of the show with the polka. That's where the creativity comes in," she said. "Last year they danced to a Gilligan's Island polka version. The youngest group dances to Kiss Me I'm Polish."

#### **MORE THAN DANCE**

Students enrolled in Marzec's dance classes learn about culture, costumes, the stories and traditions behind each dance, in addition to movement and footsteps. She also owns Simply Polish, a store in Garden City that sells Polish pottery, ornaments, jewelry and teaches Polish art and language classes.

Marzec earned a degree in 1992 from Marie Currie Slowdoska University in Lublin, Poland and

began teaching authentic dances in western Wayne County.

'My father was born in Poland. He was a survivor of World War ll and fought in the Polish army. He and my mom met in Canada. They married and he taught me to dance at a young age. That desire has always been with me.'

She said dance is a great way to pass on ethnic traditions and a fun activity for youngsters and teens. Several of the PNA Centennial Dancers will accompany her to Poland this summer for a festival and parade. They also give back to the community through performances in senior centers, churches and the Plymouth Fall Festival.

"Parents want the traditions passed on and using dance is a way to get them hooked," Marzec noted. "Folk dancing is a dying art. The world is becoming smaller. We all have beautiful cultures and it's important to keep them alive in the melting pot."



hometownlife in com

**BECOME A FAN TODAY** 

Elizabeth Bartley, (left) Jonathon Bartley, Cazzi Smith, Ryan Beier, Kailee Arm, Andrew Wozniak, Evelyn Deren, and Daniel Cooper perform in Rzeszowskie.



Graduates of the PNC Centennial Dancers wear white gowns or tuxedos and will waltz at the 31st Dance Extravaganza Show in Redford.



# Music, song and dance

The Dolowy Sisters, Ella (left) and Brigid, are among the musicians set to perform at 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 19 at Monaghan K of C Hall, 19801 Farmington Road, between Seven Mile and Eight Mile, in Livonia. The benefit for Doctors Without Borders, will feature continuous entertainment by Finvara's Wren, Crossroads Ceili, Charlie Taylor, Colin Page, Terry Bradley, Frank Kennedy, Ray Maguire, Brendan McNulty, Eddie McGlinchey, Tommy MacNeil, Siobhan and Terence McKinney, Kelsey Lutz, The Gavin Family, The Perkins Family and the Conor O'Neil's Session Band with emcee Cyndy Canty from Magic 105.1 radio. There will be dancing, step-dancing, piping, music and song in a family-friendly atmosphere. A cash bar and food will be available. Donations should be made payable to Doctors Without Borders. For more information call Kathleen O'Neill at (313) 96-IRISH, Chris Murray at (313) 563-2078, Mick Gavin at (313) 537-3489 or Peggy Gray at (734) 891-4871.





For reservations & further info, call 313-963-9393

GET OUT!

# ART **City Gallery**

Time/Date: Through Feb. 23 Location: At the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills Details: Nature photography by artist Cassandra Medley Contact: (248) 473-1856

# **Dirty Show**

Time/Date: 7 p.m.-2 a.m. Friday-Saturday Feb. 18-19 and Saturday, Feb. 26

Location: Bert's Warehouse Theatre, 2739 Russell Street, Detroit Details: Erotic art, performance art; tickets \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door

Contact: dirtydetroit.com or call (313) 393-3233

## Northville Art House

Time/Date: Through Feb. 19; gallery hours are 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday.

Location: 215 W. Cady in downtown Northville

Details: 5th Annual Member Exhibition will showcase styles and mediums of more than 50 artist members

Contact: (248) 344-0497

# COMEDY

# Go Comedy!

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

# JD's House of Comedy

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings Location: 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield

The Plymouth Symphony

will wrap up its regular sea-

son with a performance of

Mussorgsky's masterpiece,

7:30 p.m. Saturday, March

5, at the Village Theater at

Cherry Hill, in Canton.

Pictures at an Exhibition, at

Mussorgsky's music was

his friend, Viktor Hartmann.

Great Gates of Kiev, a move-

ment of the suite, was based

on Hartmann's paintings of

inspired by the art work of



Yehonatan Berick on violin and Pauline Martin on piano perform Feb. 25 at Schoolcraft College.

Details: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday Contact: (248) 348-2420 or www. ticketmaster.com

# Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays, open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Louis Katz, Feb. 16-19; Shane Moss, Feb. 23-26; Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex.com

# Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle

Time/Date: Rachel Feinstein, Feb. 17-19; Ian Bagg, Feb. 24-26 Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

# CONCERTS The Ark

Time/Date: The Good Lovelies, Feb.

18; Cheryl Wheeler, Feb. 20; Bobby Long, Feb. 21; Open Stage, Feb. 23; The Asylum Street Spankers, Feb. 24; BreakFest, Feb. 25; Susan Werner, Feb. 26; The Jeremy Kittel Band, Feb. 27; Studebaker John & the Hawks, Feb. 28

Location: 316 South Main, Ann Arbor Contact: (734) 763-8587; www. theark.org

## **Barn Theatre**

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. March 10-12 Location: Farmington Hills Players' Barn Theatre, 32332 12 Mile in **Farmington Hills** Details: Blackthorn performs Celtic music: tickets are \$19 for adults and

\$17 for seniors and students Contact: (248) 473-1848

# **Baseline Folk Society**

Time/Date: Third Saturday of the month

Location: The JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth Details: Eight "Open-Mic" performances plus a featured group perform. Sign up for open mic from



Blackthorn performs March 10-12 in Farmington Hills.

6:15-6:45 p.m.; show starts at 7 p.m. Individual membership is \$25 and includes monthly concerts from September through May. Otherwise, admission to each concert is \$5 at the door. Family memberships are \$50 and include monthly concerts Contact: (248) 719-3464 or mjmmullen@yahoo.com

# Dick O'Dow's

Time/Date: 9 p.m. March 5 Location: 160 W. Maple, Birmingham Details: The Terry Murphy Band plays progressive folk music from the U.S., Canada, Ireland and the British Isles Contact: (248) 642-1135

# Hard Rock Cafe

Time/Date: 9 p.m. Feb. 24 Location: 45 Monroe Street, Detroit Details: Christian rockers, Sweet Crystal and MediSin Wheel; \$5 cover Contact: (313) 964-7625

## Jazz @ The Elks

Time/Date: 7-10:30 p.m., every fourth Tuesday

Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780 at 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth Details: Jazz musicians perform; no

Dan Pliskow on bass, and Cliff Monear oeuvres

PlymouthElks1780.com

# Schoolcraft College

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 25 Location: The Presentation Room at the VisTaTech Center on campus, located at 18600 Haggerty, Livonia Details: Yehonatan Berick on violin and Pauline Martin on piano; \$20 general admission, \$10 for students. Get tickets online at www.scboxoffice.com; in person at the Schoolcraft College Bookstore, 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday; and by calling (734) 462-4409

# Contact: (734) 462-4403

Time/Date: Drew Nelson, Feb. 18; Michael Smith, Feb. 19; Blue Water Ramblers, Feb. 26; The Waymores, March 4

Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia Contact: (734) 464-6302, www.trinityhouse.org

# DANCE

Polka Booster Club of America Time/Date: Doors open 1 p.m., dancing from 2-6 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 20 Location: Msgr. Hunt K of C Hall, 7080 Garling Dr., Dearborn Heights Details: Freddie Ziwich and his International Sound Machine and Band: admission is \$13 and includes wine, beer and pop. Snacks are allowed but no BYOB. Tickets available at the door or in advance Contact: Terry at (734) 422-1901 or

Concert combines art, music the on-stage presentation

> Hoover in New York, where she Hoover attended the



The Plymouth Symphony, under the direction of Nan Washburn, will conclude its regular season March 5 with music by Mussorgsky and contemporary composer Katherine Hoover.

cover, but donations accepted. The show on Feb. 22 features the George (Sax) Benson Quartet with George Benson on sax, Tom Brown on drums, on keyboard. Complimentary hors d'

Contact: (734) 453-1780 www.

# **Trinity House Theatre**

Joanna at (313) 561-8389

# MUSEUMS

Charles H. Wright Time/Date: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday Location: 315 E. Warren Road, Detroit Details: Exhibitions include Art of the Masters: A Survey of African American Images, 1980-2000 through Feb. 28; The Test: Tuskegee Airmen Project through June 19; Framed

Stories: The Art of Carmen Cartiness Johnson and Jerome Wright through April 11. Museum Admission is \$8 for adults, 13-61; and \$5 for youth, 3-12, and seniors, 62 and over. Members and children 2 and under are admit ted free

Contact: (313) 494-5800

# Cranbrook

Time/Date: 2 p.m., Thursday-Sunday Location: 39221 Woodward, **Bloomfield Hills** 

Details: Docent-guided public tours of Saarinen House, a rare integration of art, architecture, design and nature, depart from Cranbrook Institute of Science front desk. The tours are about 90 minutes long and take place rain or shine. Contact: (248) 645-3200 for house

tours; http://science.cranbrook.edu

# **Plymouth Historical Museum**

Time/Date: Through Oct. 23 Location: 155 S. Main, just north of downtown Plymouth Details: Rediscovering the Civil War Contact: (734) 455-8940

# SOMETHING DIFFERENT

**Cottage and Lakefront Living** 

Time/Date: 2-9:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Feb. 24-25; 10 a.m.- 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26; and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27

Location: Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave., Novi

Details: Exhibits include log, timber frame and cedar homes; cottage rental; architects; cottage furnishings; lakefront homebuilders and realtors; lakeshore maintenance; boats and docks; outdoor recreational equipment; non-profit environmental organizations; government agencies; financing and other products and services. Youngsters and adults can play in "The Beach," a giant sandbox complete with sand and carving tools for creative building. Other activities include photo classes, a wildlife encounter and photo contest display. Admission is \$10: \$4 for children, 6-14: children 5 and under admitted free. Free admission to concurrent show, Outdorama Contact: www.NoviCottageShow. com or call (800) 328-6550

with Nan Washburn, symphony conductor, before the concert Hoover lives

maintains an active career as composer, conductor, and flutist. She is the recipient of a National Endowment Composer's Fellowship and many other awards, including an Academy of Arts and Letters Academy Award in Composition. Eastman School of Music and holds a Masters in Music Theory from the Manhattan School, where she taught for years. The commissioning, rehearsing, and premiere of

the facade of the entrance to Kiev.

Continuing the artist theme of the concert, the orchestra also will perform a world premier of Katherine Hoover's work, J.M.W. Turner; Impressions, based on the lush landscapes of English painter, J. M.W. Turner. Hoover will attend the world premier of her work and will be a part of

her Dances and Variations at Kennedy Center are the subject of an Emmy-winning documentary, called New Music, by Deborah Novak.

The art work by Turner and Hartmann will be illuminated on the scrim as the orchestra performs the music

each painting inspired.

Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors, and \$10 for students. Call (734) 451-2112 or visit www.plymouthsymphony.com.

The theater is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road.

# FAMILY

## **Bakers Keyboard Lounge**

Time/Dates: 2-5 p.m. Sundays Details: Jazz for Kids Program Location: 20510 Livernois Ave., Detroit

Contact: (313) 345-6300. www.bakerskeyboardlounge.com

## Detroit Institute of Arts

Time/Dates: 2 p.m. Sundays Details: Target Family Sundays, storytelling, performances, free with admission

Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

# Detroit Zoo

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. daily Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak Details: Admission is \$11 for adults 15 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 14; children under 2 are free Contact: (248) 541-5717

# FILM

## Movies at the Marquis

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., Feb. 19 Location: Marguis Theatre, 135 E. Main, Northville Details: "Love Story." Tickets are \$3 Contact: (248) 349-8110

## Penn Theater

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 18-19; 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 20 and 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 24

Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "Unstoppable," all seats \$3 Contact: (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

## **Redford Theatre**

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Feb. 25 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Feb. 26 Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit Details: "The Harvey Girls." Tickets are \$4 Contact: (313) 537-2560

## **Detroit Boat Show**

Time/Date: 3-9 p.m. Thursday, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday-Saturdy, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, through Feb. 20 Location: Cobo Center in downtown Detroit

Details: Hundreds of boats for fishing, skiing, wakeboarding and cruising. Special activities include a live shark encounter show, diver pool, classic and antique boats and boating safety classes. Admission is \$12 for adults; free for children 12 and under with an adult Contact: (800) 932-2628

# Lipizzaner Stallions

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., Tuesday-Wednesday, Feb. 22-23 Location: Eastern Michigan University Convocation Center, 799 N Hewitt, Ypsilanti

Details: 41st anniversary production, "Dancing White Stallions," is an equestrian work of art and equine ballet. Tickets from \$22.50-\$17.50 for adults, \$11.25 for senior citizens over 60 and children 12 and under Contact: (734) 487-2282

## Outdoorama

Time/Date: 2-9:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Feb. 24-25; 10 a.m.- 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26; and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27 Location: Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave., Novi

Details: Pellet shooting range, trout pond, virtual fishing simulator, Ultimate Air Dogs performances, along with 75 scheduled seminars on fishing, hunting, dog training, growing food plots for wildlife and more. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$4 for children, 6-12; children 5 and under admitted without charge. Free admission to concurrent show, Cottage and Lakefront Living Contact: (800) 328-6550

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25th ANNIVERSAR

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Groups of 12+: 313-871-1132 r Groups@BroadwayInDetroit.com Info: 313-872-1000 & BroadwayInDetroit.com

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# **CHECK US OUT DAILY ONLINE** hometownlifemcom



# FOOD

Thursday, February 17, 2011

hometownlife

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

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

# Give yourself a vitamin C boost NFRUIT alifornia Kiwifruit, harvested from October-May, packs a lot of nutrition into a small, fuzzy package. Each fruit is loaded with nutrients that can help fight off disease, lower blood pressure and cholesterol, and boost energy. Kiwifruit is fat-free, contains more fiber than a bowl of bran cereal, more potassium

than a banana, and two and a half times the recommended daily allowance of vitamin C. It's among a handful of fat-free sources of vitamin E, contains zinc, folate, magnesium and lutein. There are more than 40 known kiwifruit varieties in production around the world, but California, which

produces 98 percent of the kiwifruit grown in the United States, grows the Hayward variety. It's known for its large size and high sugar content. When selecting kiwifruit, look for unblemished, firm

fruits. Press the outside of the fruit with your thumb. If it gives to slight pressure, the kiwifruit is ripe. If it doesn't give to pressure, it's not ready.

Kiwifruit can be eaten fresh or used in cooking. Slice the kiwifruit lengthwise to create two identical halves and use a spoon to scoop out the sweet meat. Looking for maximum fiber and nutrition? Rinse off the skin and bite right in.

Or use kiwifruit in recipes. Here's a sampling:

#### MEDITERRANEAN KIWI COUSCOUS

% cup water ½ cup couscous Salt 3 California kiwifruit 1 yellow or orange pepper 1 cup colorful cherry tomatoes ¼ cup Kalamata olives, preferably spicy 3 green onions, thinly sliced 1 tablespoon red wine vinegar 3 tablespoons olive oil 1 garlic clove, minced 1 teaspoon dried oregano leaves Pepper ½ cup crumbled feta cheese % cup shredded fresh basil

1. In a small saucepan, lightly salt water then bring to a boil. Add couscous, stir, cover and remove from heat. Let stand until water is absorbed, about 5 minutes. Meanwhile, peel kiwifruit and cut into bite-size chunks. Dice pepper and slice large cherry tomatoes in half. Pit olives if needed and thinly slice green onions. Place all in a medium bowl.

2. Whisk vinegar with oil, garlic, oregano and generous pinches salt and pepper. When couscous has cooled, gently stir with kiwifruit mixture. Toss with as much dressing as needed to just coat. Stir in feta and basil. Salad will keep well refrigerated for 1 to 2 days. Serves 4 to 6



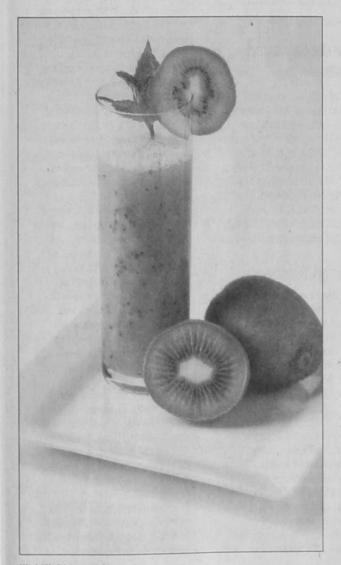
#### KIWI MINT LEMONADE

1 cup water h cup granulated sugar % cup packed fresh mint leaves 3 California kiwifruit 2 to 3 lemons Sparkling water

1. In a medium saucepan, heat water with sugar over medium-high heat, stirring occasionally until sugar is dissolved. Simmer, uncovered, 5 minutes. Remove from heat and stir in mint leaves. Let stand 20 minutes

2. Meanwhile, peel kiwifruit and cut into chunks. Puree in a food processor. Place puree in a pitcher. Strain cooled syrup into pitcher, pressing on mint, then discard leaves. Refrigerate until cold. Squeeze juice from 2 lemons. Stir into kiwifruit mixture. Taste, squeeze in juice from remaining lemon for a tarter lemonade.

3. Pour into glasses. Top with sparkling water. Serve garnished with a slice of kiwifruit. Makes about 2¼ cups without sparkling water, enough for 4 drinks.



Kiwi Mint Lemonade



California Kiwifruit season runs from October-May.

#### CALIFORNIA KIWI SANDWICH

Makes one sandwich 1 California kiwi or pear

2 strips home-roasted or store-bought roasted red peppers

2 slices grainy sandwich bread

4 teaspoons olive paste or tapenade

3 tablespoons goat or Boursin cheese, at room temperature Sprouts to taste

Peel kiwi, then thinly slice. If using pear, peel if you wish, core and thinly slice.

Wash and pat pepper dry. Spread 1 side of each bread slice with olive paste, then spread with cheese. Top 1 side with red pepper, then kiwi and some sprouts. Top with other bread slice, cheese side down.

#### KIWI WALNUT BREAD

2 cups sifted flour

a cup sugar

2 teaspoons baking powder

1 teaspoon baking soda

h teaspoon salt

1% cups kiwifruit, drained and chopped

4 cups walnuts, chopped

1 egg, beaten

¼ cup butter or margarine, melted

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Sift flour with sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt into a large bowl. Add kiwifruit and walnuts, and mix well. Add egg, butter and vanilla. Stir until just blended. Pour mixture into a greased and floured 9- by 5- by 3-inch loaf pan. Bake in a preheated oven at 350 degrees for one hour or until a wooden toothpick inserted near the center of the loaf comes out clean. Let the bread cool in the pan five minutes, then place it on a rack to complete cooling. Serve in thin slices spread with softened cream cheese.

Recipes and photos courtesy the California Kiwifruit Commission

# KIWIFRUIT SWEET OMELETTE

3 to 4 California kiwifruit, pared and sliced Powdered sugar

Ground cinnamon

4 eggs, separated

1/2 teaspoon salt

½ teaspoon grated lemon peel

2 tablespoons butter or margarine

Sprinkle kiwifruit with 1 or 2 tablespoons powdered sugar and a dash of cinnamon in shallow dish. Let stand 20 minutes; turn occasionally. Beat egg whites and salt until soft peaks form. Gradually add 2 tablespoons powdered sugar; beat until stiff. Beat egg yolks until thick; add lemon peel. Fold into whites. Heat butter in 10-inch over-proof skillet. Stir in 1 tablespoon powdered sugar and dash cinnamon. Pour in egg mixture; smooth surface. Cook over medium heat 3 to 5 minutes or until eggs are puffed and set and bottom is golden brown. Bake at 325 degrees 10 minutes or until knife inserted near center comes out clean. Loosen edge of omelette. Make a shallow cut, slightly off center, through top of omelette. Arrange kiwifruit mixture over larger section. Fold smaller portion over kiwifruit. Serve on warm platter. Sprinkle with powdered sugar. Serve hot. Makes 4 servings. Recipe can be halved; cook in smaller pan.

#### HOT DIPPING SAUCE

This hot and tangy sauce can add flavor and color to almost any dish. Try it as a dip for chicken skewers, buffalo wings, or fried calamari. It also makes a fantastic glaze for baked or grilled chicken, fish, or vegetables. And it can be used as a dip for chips, crackers, and other snacks.

2 tablespoons red bell pepper, chopped

¼ bunch fresh cilantro

% small sweet onion

% jalapeno pepper, seeded (wear rubber gloves when seeding)

2 tomatillos, husks removed and cut up

1 teaspoon fresh lime juice

Dash salt

2 tablespoons brown sugar

2 tablespoons green jalapeno pepper jelly

1-2 kiwifruits, peeled and mashed with a fork

Place the bell pepper, cilantro, onion, jalapeno pepper (seeded), tomatillos, lime juice, salt, brown sugar, and jalapeno pepper in a blender or the bowl of a food processor fitted with a steel blade. Blend until the ingredients are smooth. Pour the blended mixture into a bowl and add the mashed kiwifruit. Stir until well combined. Serve as desired.

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> Julie Brown, editor . (313) 222-6755 jcbrown@hometownlife.com

# Real estate associations give merger thumbs up

hometownlifemcom

**BY JULIE BROWN O&E STAFF WRITER** 

PAGE B8 (\*) Thursday, February 17, 2011

Kathy Coon is excited about the merger of the Western Wayne Oakland **County Association of Realtors** and the Metropolitan Consolidated Association of Realtors.

"That merger has been voted on and approved," said Coon, who will serve as president of the new association this year. Voting was completed Jan. 31 with over 95 percent of WWOCAR members giving the merger the nod and over 92 percent of MCAR members.

Farmington Hills-based WWOCAR has long served western Wayne and parts of Oakland County, with Troybased MCAR focused on Oakland and Macomb counties. Coon said the formal name of the new association will likely be unveiled in March and is already in place.

She's broker/owner of Real Living Great Lakes Real Estate with offices in Rochester Hills, Clarkston and West Bloomfield. Coon said the MCAR office on Butterfield in Troy will remain open until August 2012.

The site in Farmington Hills, owned by WWOCAR, is at Drake and Grand River. "That will remain open for now," she said. "We're very excited. We're looking at very positive movement forward. We'll be able to offer them (members) so much more.

The combined association has some 6,000 members, mostly Realtors but also those in affiliate fields like banking, inspectors, titles and moving companies. "We reach out to everyone who touches our industry," Coon said.

Asked about staff cuts, she said the



new association leaders are looking at all areas "as to how we can run a stronger organization."

That includes education, training and services members need to succeed.

There have been side discussions on a WWOCAR-MCAR merger for about four years, Coon said. The housing

Liv

2050 Lathers St

29530 Bentley St

35881 Bobrich St

18945 Brentwood St 20362 Brentwood St

32979 Brookside Cir 9151 Cardwell St

20611 Ellen Ct 9796 Farmington Rd

20169 Merriman Rd

16555 Middlebelt Rd

10054 Hartel Ct 11414 Ingram St

17764 Levan Rd 36109 Martin St

19212 Auburndale St

market has taken its toll on the local industry, with membership down to about half what it was six-eight years ago

"Our numbers continue to get smaller," she said. Leaders want to have a greater impact, including at the state level.

"Philosophies have been very much

# along the same lines," Coon said. "It was something that seemed to be the right thing to do.

"I'm very excited. I think that this is wonderful. We've got both associations working hand in hand.'

The two boards will merge, she said: "It should be an exciting time, a very exciting time."

Tony Schippa will be president-elect of the new association. He's a Realtor with Coldwell Banker Preferred in Plymouth who will serve as president for one year beginning in January 2012.

"I'm excited for it," Schippa said. "I think it's going to bring us more value to our members." The new association will have a bigger voice on state, local and national issues affecting homeowners, he said. Working with charities is another area that will improve.

"I am excited," he said. "We'll have our unique challenges, of course. It's all stuff that's been well thought out. We put the vote to our members and our members voted in favor of."

Dale E. Smith, executive vice president at WWOCAR, will remain in that role for the new association. "This is really exciting stuff," Smith said. "Both of the associations are very, very strong."

The new group will be able to do more for members and advocacy for homeowners, Smith said, including affordable housing programs. "This is going to give us a boost up on doing that," said Smith, with WWOCAR since 2001.

"Anytime you get that kind of plurality the members obviously see it as a good thing for them," he added of the voting.

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 1-5, 2010, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Cant	
5926 Fairborn Dr	\$312,000
6625 Raintree Dr	\$166,000
48422 Red Run Dr	\$301,000
48895 Rockefeller Dr	\$340,000
4592 S Willard Rd	\$78,000
49731 Taft Ln	\$40,000
Garder	City
753 Lathers St	\$49,000

HOMES SO	LD-WAYNE	
\$45,000	38458 Northfield Ave	

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

vonia	\$45,000	38458 Northfield Ave	Northville	\$147,000	15961 Denby 25999 Dover		\$43,000 \$82,000
vonia	\$85.000	16560 Cottonwood Ct	Northanie	\$260.000	20019 Garfield		\$55,000
		40539 Deita Dr		\$280,000	9060 Leverne		\$85,000
	\$84,000 \$157,000	19300 Gallant Fox Ln		\$800,000	JOOD Leverne	Westland	303,000
	\$95.000	16765 Lochmoor Cir E		\$208,000	7424 August Ave	mestianu	\$85,000
	\$60,000	39717 Muirfield Ln		\$225,000	33805 Calumet Ct		\$20,000
	\$148,000	18395 Pinebrook Dr		\$365.000	37691 Colonial Dr		\$36,000
	\$105.000	249 Rayson St		\$359,000	8196 Huntington St		\$24,000
	\$335,000	L47 hayson St	Plymouth	4007,000	32581 Judy Dr		\$108,000
	\$80,000	360 Burroughs St		\$84,000	611 N Newburgh Rd		\$43,000
	\$60,000	13351 Drury Ln		\$260,000	29005 Richard St		\$26,000
	\$140.000	12903 Hollywood Dr		\$400,000	1665 Shoemaker Dr		\$44,000
	\$142,000	9144 Muirland Dr		\$248,000	7635 Terri Dr		\$154,000
	\$166,000	9801 N Ridge Rd		\$207,000	7610 Woodview St		\$25,000
	\$135,000	9368 Village Manor Dr		\$275,000			
	\$29,000		Redford				

# Check with lawyer on board actions

Q: Our board will not turn over the board minutes to us to look at and I am concerned about what actions they are taking. They also will not let us sit in on board meetings. What can we do about it?

A: Unless your documents so provide, there is no open meetings act which allows you the right to sit in on board meetings in Michigan. On the other hand, you do have a right to review the books, contracts and records of the association and, presumably, the

nonprivileged minutes would be contained within that right. If the board is to withhold all minutes, I would be concerned about the

wayin

Robert Meisner

which they are operating the association and I would retain an attorney to write a strong letter advising them of the requirements under the Non-Profit Corporation Act, The Condominium Act, and, presumably, your condominium documents allow you to have the right to review the books, records and contracts of the association.

Q: I own a condominium Up North which is now in receivership and the bank seems to be running it although they claim that they are not a successor developer. What can I do about finding out the answers?

A: A number of lending institutions are not willing to assume control of the association or complete the foreclosure because they would be deemed the successor developer. Yet they hire a receiver, generally courtappointed, to collect monies in regard to the sale of the units and/or rental of the units and act as if they are a developer. You need aggressive legal counsel knowledgeable in community association law and these issues to force the lender to assume its responsibilities as it should; otherwise, the coowners will be led down the primrose path to the detriment of the entire project.

#### These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 1-5, 2010, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. below are cities, addresses, and sales pri

Beverly Hills	-	
15526 Kirkshire Ave		\$126,0
32240 Robinhood Dr		\$360,0
Birmingham		
262 Bird Ave		\$405.0
1938 Bradford Rd		\$105.0
660 Dewey St		\$450.0
1625 Graefield Rd		\$63.0
1120 Hillside Dr		\$642.0
1810 Holland St		\$125,0
598 Park St		\$260.0
411 S Old Woodward Ave		\$150.0
Bloomfield Hills		
4293 Ramsgate Ln		\$300,0
The so mannagers and		

Listed ces.	7080 Holiday Dr 1560 Lakewood C 100 N Berkshire R 2395 Rutherford 5082 Sebring Ct
26.000	
0,000	4688 Driftwood D 5980 Turnberry D
5,000	Farmington Hills
5.000	24401 Broadview
0.000	24461 Broadview
53,000	28997 Forest Hill
2.000	21550 Hamilton A
25.000	30658 Knighton D
0.000	21305 Oxford Ave
50,000	21410 Parker St
	30342 Patricia St
	25170 Pulledge Vi

29/

Bloomfield Township	
40 Acorn Rd 52 Augusta Ct 11 Hickory Bark Ln 80 Holiday Dr 10 Lakewood Ct 11 Berkshire Rd 95 Rutherford Rd 82 Sebring Ct	\$160 \$260 \$234 \$225 \$360 \$409 \$78 \$378
Commerce Township	3510
88 Driftwood Dr 80 Turnberry Dr mington Hills	\$430 \$415
Anny Controls 461 Broadview St 461 Broadview St 497 Forest Hill Dr 550 Hamilton Ave 658 Knighton Dr 105 Oxford Ave 110 Parker St 342 Patricia St 70 Rulledge Xing	\$103 \$185 \$215 \$65 \$240 \$90 \$80 \$184 \$235

	25631 Springbrook Dr	\$175,000	21425 Pontiac Trl
60.000	Milford		61541 Richfield St
50,000	1189 Eagle Nest Ct	\$265,000	23531 Sawgrass Ct N
34.000	541 Union St	\$250,000	23482 Spy Glass HI N
25,000	Novi		25346 Stanley Ln
50,000	41635 Borchart Dr	\$130,000	1159 Vassar
09.000	40601 Brenda	\$155,000	896 Village Way
78.000	29131 Eastman Trl	\$320,000	54335 Villagewood Dr
78.000	41576 Hamlet Ln	\$115,000	430 Whipple St
	Z4084 Hickory Grove Ln	\$187,000	21484 Winding Creek Dr
30.000	25898 Island Lake Dr	\$356,000	South
15,000	22757 Mondavi Dr	\$377,000	27160 Bradford Ln
	39812 Village Wood Cir	\$45,000	21227 Eight And Half Mile
03,000	24089 Westmont Dr	\$365.000	20420 Harbor Ln
85,000	South Lyon		18175 Hilton Dr
15.000	1259 Buckboard Cir	\$340,000	White
65,000	717 Cape Cod	\$70,000	10700 Bogie Lake Rd
40,000	26223 Daria Cir W	<ul> <li>\$60,000</li> </ul>	805 Cedar Bay Ct
90.000	61021 Greenwood Dr	\$46,000	11323 Diana Ct
80,000	54844 Grenelefe Cir W	\$360,000	8946 Glasgow Dr
84.000	1168 Horseshoe Dr	\$285,000	8139 Williams Lake Road
35,000	27180 Martindale Rd	\$178,000	

#### \$61,000 \$115,000 \$305,000 \$340,000 \$70,000 \$112,000 \$118,000 \$145,000 \$265,000 hfield \$119,000 \$16,000 \$119,000 \$53,000 e Lake \$550,000 \$235,000 \$124,000 \$128,000 \$308,000

# Joining RE/MAX

The following associates have joined RE/MAX of Detroit since Dec. 31:

Roger Daubenmeyer, RE/ MAX in the Hills, Bloomfield Hills; David Bair, RE/MAX Classic, Milford; Debra Collins, RE/MAX Classic, Milford; Thomas Gammon, RE/MAX Classic, Milford; Cathy Elias, **RE/MAX** Dream Properties, Northville; Delilah Milne, RE/ MAX Classic, Milford; Susan Frazier, RE/MAX Gallery, Livonia; John Calin, RE/MAX Signature, Grosse Pointe Farms; Laurie Reimer, RE/ MAX New Trend, Farmington Hills; and Kathleen Kaltz, RE/ MAX Gallery, Livonia.

# Career Seminar

There will be a Real Estate Career Seminar 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 17, at Keller Williams Realty, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. Learn about a free prelicensing course. For more information, contact Lesley Aiello at (734) 459-4700 or laiello@kw.com.

# Informational time

There will be a "HUD, Foreclosures, and Short Sales" informational session 6-7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 23, at Bridgepointe Realty, 23290 Farmington Road. Limited seating - pre-registration required at (248) 345-1268.

## Kudos

Todd Taliaferro, with RE/ MAX Classic, has recently been presented with the RE/ MAX Hall of Fame Award,

which honors successful agents who have earned more than \$1 million in commissions during their careers with the company.

Taliaferro

soned professional in the real estate industry, his sales experience spans over 25 years including past positions as a regional vice president for a Fortune 500 company. He specializes in residential and condominium sales, luxury homes and lakefront and investment properties in Western Wayne, Washtenaw and Oakland counties. He has also gained accreditation as a Certified **Distressed Property Expert** 

As a sea-

# **REAL ESTATE BRIEFS**

and a Short Sale, Foreclosure and Bank-Owned Property Specialist.

Taliaferro has been an integral member of our team and is more than deserving of this very prestigious award," said Carol Boji, of RE/MAX Classic. "Winning this award is a tremendous accomplishment. Todd continues to raise the bar in real estate, making us and his community proud.

Taliaferro, a Central Michigan University graduate, is a longtime Plymouth resident and actively supports local youth programs and sports.

# Pros on the job

Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel (CBWM) has recently welcomed a number of new sales professionals to the growing company.

They are: Sophie Brun, Hannah Hoppough and Judy Komer - Birmingham/ Bloomfield; office Chris Campbell - Commerce/West Bloomfield office; Tim Krukowski - Northville/Novi office; Wendy Velthoven -Plymouth/Canton office; Chris Bohne - Rochester office; Dianne Gouin and Steven Deblauwe - Troy office.



Velthoven Krukowski

with them diverse business skills and experience and will make great additions to our company," said John North, CBWM COO. "We are very pleased that they've chosen Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel."

Founded in 1950, Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel is a Birmingham, Mich.-based real estate brokerage with 16 offices and more than 425 real estate sales associates in Michigan.

## Investors

org.

The Real Estate Investor Association of Wayne County holds monthly meetings the first Tuesday of each month at the Holiday Inn, 17201 Northline Road, Southgate. Entrance fee is \$20 for nonmembers to be applied to annual membership. For information, call (313) 819-0919 or visit www.reiawaynecounty.

# Real Estate Sales and Appraising

Learn about a career in residential real estate. Attend a free one-hour seminar, or shadow a top agent to get an inside feel of the business. Seminars are at noon or 6 p.m. Wednesdays. To reserve a spot, contact Keller Williams Realty International, at (248) 893-2500, 27555 Executive Drive, Suite 100, Farmington Hills 48331.

# Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No obligation. Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

# Free Foreclosure Tours

Free Foreclosure Tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. E-mail Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com for additional information.

Q: We are unhappy with our Board of Directors and I am wondering if there is a procedure in our condominium documents that can facilitate their removal.

A: Generally speaking, there is a provision in the association bylaws that provides for the removal of a board generally upon the approval of 50 percent of the members of the association and after a petition calling for a special meeting has been signed by one-third of the co-owners. However, your documents may provide a different remedy and there is also a provision in the Non-Profit Corporation Act dealing with the removal of directors which would come into play if your documents do not provide for that type of remedy. You are best advised, however, to retain an attorney to assist you in drafting the petition for a special meeting, as well as appearing at the special meeting for the removal of the board, assuming you get the appropriate number of signatures to call the meeting.

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

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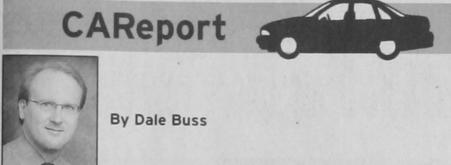
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# CHRYSLER, CHEVROLET EMERGE SUPER BOWL WINNERS

Advertising Feature



Like members of some ancient tribe huddled around a big campfire, the first thought of Michiganders who were watching the second half of the Super Bowl when the Chrysler ad came on was: This is good for our race!

The down-but-not-out depiction of a heroic Detroit in the Eminem spot, "Born of Fire," literally had thousands in this area cheering and clapping by the time the two minutes were over. From shots of local icons such as the Diego Rivera mural at the Detroit Institute of Arts, to an appeal to car buyers to consider luxury "imported from Detroit," the ad was a veritable paean to why people still survive and even thrive in southeast Michigan.

Then, as only a people living in the hyper-connected Twenty-first Century could, we quickly wondered: What did everybody else think? And like a group resigned to perpetually being a national and global underdog, many of us concluded that the commercial was only a parochial feel-good moment, at best.

But we would be wrong.

It won't be clear for a while how much the ad - for the new Chrysler 200 sedan - actually will do for sales of the re-skinned and renamed Chrysler Sebring.

Yet signs have kept surfacing that the rest of the country not only loved the ad but also thought maybe there was something they had been missing in Chrysler's comeback and its new products.

Chrysler even has begun nurturing the ad into a bit of mythology: Executives have said that they won't show the full two-minute spot again, though parts of it may show up in future marketing for the 200 and for the brand. And of course it will live forever on the internet.

So where does Chrysler go from here?

Presumably, only upward. Sales have been recovering more smartly than many industry sages had predicted - and that has occurred even without the benefit of the slew of new and overhauled new products the company is promising for its Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge and Ram brands over the next several months.

Meanwhile, Chevroet emerged as the other big winner in the auto industry with its Super Bowl advertisng.

General Motors global CMO Joel Ewanick had been telling anyone who would listen, for months, that Super



The best line of the Super Bowl: "I didn't even know this town had a volcano," in Chevy's Silverado HD ad.

Bowl XLV was going to be an important stage for expanding and solidifying the new "Chevy Runs Deep" marketing theme for the brand.

And while it's arguable how much the day's body of work for Chevrolet five ads, in total - did for Ewanick's new slogan, it's easy to argue that the spots overall likely moved the needle for the brand in the eyes of American consumers.

The best of the Chevrolet spots arguably was "Status." In it, the brand used true romance to break through the hormonal fog that was a strong factor in much of the night's advertising. What's more, the spot -in which a guy finds out immediately that his first date was a hit -underscored the crucial difference between GM's OnStar, which invites social-media interaction, and Ford's Sync, which does not.

The other one that scored big with this correspondent was Chevy's "Tommy" spot, in which a highly capable Silverado HD played Lassie and saved a precocious little boy from all sorts of trouble, including falling into a well and ending up in the belly The Chrysler 200 reflects the marguee of downtown Detroit's Fox Theater in its Super Bowl ad.



of a whale. It also contained the line of the night: "I didn't even know this town had a volcano!" This ad was an affecting twist on the brute-force genre of pickup-truck ads that held sway in the Super Bowl, and the rest of television advertisng, for several years.

Volkswagen also scored a hit, with its "Little Darth Vader" advertisement, titled "The Force," which proved to be one of the most popular with Super Bowl viewers.

The company had a lot on the line with its continued presence in Super Bowl advertising. With a new U.S.made Passat due on the market this year, a redesigned Beetle debuting as well, and the necessity to fuel CEO Martin Winterkorn's dreams of global domination, Volkswagen had a lot on its plate for the game.

"The Force" didn't do much to highlight the actual attributes of the car. But the ad did give some subliminal young-family positioning to a brand that has always concentrated on single twentysomethings - especially in its previous Super Bowl advertising.





H@METOWN/ife.com

# AUTOMOTIVE



CHOCOLATE TREAT SBF, 60iah, NS, likes the performing arts, golf, working out, dining, travel, movies, dancing, Seeking SM, educated, professional, 50-60, RACE UNMIPORT-ANT, with similar interests, for possible LTR. 12/281197

ARE WE A MATCH? SBF, 49, enjoys watching tv, spending time with family and friends, shopping, jazz and R&B. Looking for SB/HM, 21-42.

CARING AND COMPASSIONATE BF likes jazz/gospel music, going to casinos, bowling, good movies, spend-ing time with my church friends, more, Looking for a single, Christian gentie-man, 63-66. T327557

# MEN SEEKING WOMEN

TALL, ATHLETIC SWM

TALL, ATHLETIC SWM Good looks, good personality, mus-cular, 50, 62°, 205lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, degreed, easygoing. I enjoy exer-cising, the parks, road trips and trying new activities. Seeking single female for fun, friendiship and more. Age and area open. 127531308 FRIENDSHIP FIRST

FRIENDSHIP FIRST SWM, 53, 511\*, 1801bs, NS, like chess, backgammon, coffee houses, going to the gym, comedy clubs. Seeking SWF, 35-55, with similar interests for friendship first leading to possible LTR. 1218827

ONE-WOMAN MAN Italian SWM, 52, brown/brown, in very good shape, seeks AF, 40-65, who likes going out and having fun. 2330127

HANDSOME MALE SBM, 6', HWP, professionally employed, kind, considerate, confident, likes con-certs, travel, dining, seeking WF, 30-58, attractive, passionate, loving and affec-tionate. 3984967

YOU WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED YOU WONT BE DISAPPOINTED SBM 35, NVS, handsome, spontaneous, professional, 5'11", 180lbs, muscular body, DD-Iree, hazel eyes, caramel complexion, short wary hair, down-to-earth, romantic, likes cuddling, cook-outs, movies, dining, shopping, flahing, Seeking SWF, 19-45, for casual dating, possibly more. 17336282

HERE I AM SBM, 35, 62", 1800s, short black hair, NS, very outgoing, kind personality, seeks woman, 25-50, NS, to share fun, go dating leading to possible LTR. TT336508

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