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EVENT TO HIGHLIGHT CANTON'S DIVERSITY LOCAL NEWS, A2

THE HOTTEST TRENDS ON WHEELS FOR BUSY MOMS

USA WEEKEND - INSIDE

SUNDAY March 6, 2011

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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CANTON BSERVER hometownlife fin com

CONNECTION

Blood drive

The Red Cross Blood Mobile will be at the Canton Public Library 11 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Friday, March 11.

Across the country, severe storms have resulted in fewer blood donations and collections are the lowest seen in 10 years. Library and Red Cross officials are hoping donors will consider making a blood donation during the library's blood drive.

Appointments are available by calling the library at (734) 397-0999. Walk-ins are welcome.

You balance the state budget

Think you can manage Michigan's public piggy bank better than the politicians?

The Center for Michigan, an Ann Arbor-based think tank, lets you take a crack at balancing the state general fund budget.

Go to www.thecenterformichigan.net and play the budget game.

Mother knows best

Local women and girls are invited to send us (in 50 words or Jess) the best advice you received from your mom.

Include a photo of your mom or better yet you and your mom. E-mail your best submission and photo (jpg format only) to bkadrich@ hometownlife.com.

Include your first and last name and hometown and identify your mother (first and last name, please). Include a daytime phone number or cell phone where you can be reached during business hours. The photos and advice will appear in the Thursday, May 5, Salute To Women edition of Hometown Life Woman. Deadline to submit advice and photo is 5 p.m. Friday, April 15.

Wedding mania

Thanks to a unique and entertaining event hosted by The Showroom of Elegance in Canton, one lucky couple will be able to experience their very own dream wedding.

The "Diamond Wedding

Giveaway" campaign is a way for one couple to receive the help they need through local vendors and businesses to experience their "dream wedding." The search for eight couples began March 1, the kickoff for the "Diamond Wedding Giveaway Scavenger Hunt," hosted by The Showroom of Elegance. One of the "Diamond Wedding Giveaway" campaign's primary sponsors, Observer & Eccentric, will feature the winning couple's engagement photo and story.

To be eligible, couples must complete a registration form and either mail or drop off the completed form at The Showroom of Elegance. A full list of Wedding Giveaway rules and the complete application are available online at www.showroomofelegance. com. Applications must be received no later than 6 p.m.

Firm suggests possible dispatch centers

BY KEN ABRAMCYZK AND DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITERS

A consultant has suggested that the site of the former 16th District Court on Farmington Road in Livonia could serve as a combined emergency dispatch center for Canton Township and

The consultant, Wilborne & Costas of Arlington, Va,, also named the second floor of the Canton police station as another potential site, but that site is not considered a stand-alone location, according to the report.

Neither site is a certainty, though local officials are hopeful they can find a way to share resources and save money while maintaining services.

"It's not a foregone conclusion," Canton Deputy Police Chief Robert Kerr said. "It's got to be the same or better level of service, and it has to be cost-effective.'

The consulting firm pegs a former court "build-out" and renovation to cost in the range of \$1.5 million to \$2.5 million, according to Livonia Police Chief Robert Stevenson, though the actual cost could be adjusted.

CONSOLIDATION PUSH

With Gov. Rick Snyder throwing a carrot to communities that the revenue sharing distributed to them may depend on their efforts to consolidate services, Livonia has checked with other communities to join Canton and Livonia, Stevenson said. Some of them have expressed an interest, but Stevenson would not identify them until he knows that they are serious about joining.

"There always are up-front costs," Stevenson said. "I'm not sure of the

money we will save, but it does depend on how many cities there are in the

consolidated dispatch system." Canton officials are eager to increase consolidation efforts, when feasible, especially after Snyder indicated certain state-shared revenues could be linked to efforts by communities to combine services.

"We're open to the consolidation model," Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said, "but it's got to work." Canton Public Safety Director

Please see DISPATCH, A3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools officials believe social media, such as text-messaging and networking sites like Facebook, are at least partly responsible for a rise in threats and bullying at the high school park.

'Web' of violence

Internet an increasing part of 'threat' assessment

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

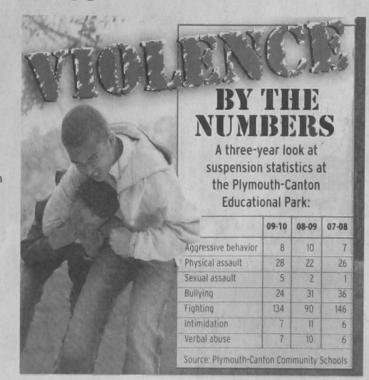
Like any school district - especially the third-largest district in the state - Plymouth-Canton

Community Schools sees its share of fights, arguments and fisticuffs as the district's 6,000-plus high school students make their way through the three-school Plymouth-Canton Educational Park campus.

But increasingly, those fights are starting not in the lunchrooms or locker rooms, but in cyberspace.

The Internet, particularly social media sites such as MySpace or Facebook, has become something of a warmup act for potential violence in the schools. District officials don't have the actual numbers broken down, but clearly they believe a high percentage of the 1,856 incidents that resulted in student suspensions at the high school level in 2009-2010 had some basis in the Internet.

"The Internet is certainly part and parcel of the overwhelming majority of our threats and fights," said Bruce Siegel, an assistant principal at Canton High School who handles discipline in such cases. "The majority of (fights)



have some sort of electronic escalation. Everybody wants to get into the act and stir the

RISING THREAT

Text messaging and social media sites such as Facebook and MySpace are prime portals for the kinds of threats and bullying behavior district officials say are on the rise sharply among students. Kids will be interacting on such sites and use the electronic

component - "I'm gonna kick your (butt) at lunch tomorrow" - to deliver threatening messages.

But it isn't always studenton-student violence that is threatened. The Internet is often used, not only locally but nationwide, to deliver threats of violence against the school itself.

Recently, using a more anonymous social network-

Please see VIOLENCE, A9

Police: Canton man injured by teen driver

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

An 85-year-old Canton man's family was hopeful Friday he would fully recover after he was hit outside his home by a Ford F-150 truck that police say was driven by a 14-year-old Canton boy who has been turned over to Wayne County juvenile authorities.

The victim, Earl Karrick, had undergone a second surgery for a broken femur, or thigh bone, that his son, Bruce Karrick, said was sticking out of his leg after the accident occurred around 4:15 a.m. Thursday.

"He's in good spirits," the son said Friday. "He's a strong person, but he's lucky to be alive."

A 14-year-old Canton boy driving his mother's Ford F-150 truck, apparently without her permission, is accused of crashing into Earl Karrick's house and injuring him as he stood outside his home, as he often does early in the morning.

"His family said he always goes outside early to get a breath of fresh air," Canton Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner said.

Earl Karrick was flown by medical helicopter to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ypsilanti for serious injuries he received when the truck pinned him against his house, police said. He was listed in fair condition Friday, a hospital spokeswoman said.

The driver, accompanied by another 14-year-old boy, had taken his mother's 2009 Ford F-150 when police say he lost control while driving west on Westminister at Gloucester, northeast of Sheldon and Ford roads.

"It appears from the investigation that he took the truck without permission," Schreiner said.

The two boys fled the scene. One was captured a short time later in a nearby commercial area, Schreiner said, and the other teen was brought to authorities by his parents.

The driver was turned over to Wayne County juvenile authorities, and Schreiner said crash-related charges will be sought against him.

The teen who was a passenger in the truck was released to his parents, Schreiner said.

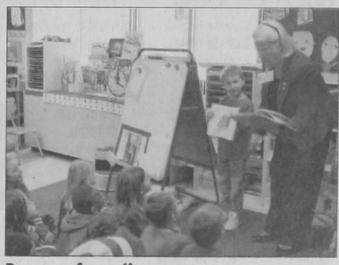
The driver's mother apparently didn't know her son had taken the truck until after the accident happened and police went to her home, police said.

"She has been cooperative with us," Schreiner said.

Both the truck and the house sustained extensive damage, he said. The truck left the roadway and struck the front of the garage before it hit the front of the house.

Police were investigating whether alcohol, drugs or the truck's speed may have played a role in the crash.

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Power of reading

Lake McIntosh, a 6-year-old first-grader from Canton, in Mary Leach's class at Tonda Elementary, assists Michigan Secretary of State Ruth Johnson in reading to her class. Johnson, who took office in January, was at Tonda as part of the school's March is Reading Month observance.



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Premier event to highlight Canton's diversity

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton plans to celebrate its artistic and cultural diversity by debuting a weeklong event intended to showcase a broad spectrum of talent across the community.

To that end, the Canton Commission for Culture, Arts and Heritage has asked artistic-minded organizations and businesses to sign on now for the premier Canton Acts of Culture Week, May 1-7.

Ideally, participants can offer artistic performances, poetry readings, gallery exhibitions and other activities to the public.

"Canton has really evolved into a diverse, cultural community," said ReGina Shamberger, who chairs the commission. "The support for cultural arts is becoming more prevalent, so we

thought it would be a good way to raise the profile of cultural arts in the community and let people know the different kinds of activities we have that are being put on by the businesses and different entities in the Canton community.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 6, 2011

"It could include sculpting to painting to dancing to the performing arts to glassblowing," Shamberger said. "It could be a business that has a barbershop quartet."

Organizers plan to spread the word about the cultural offerings and encourage residents to visit participating sites, eventually by listing a calendar of events online at www.cantonfun.org. Tours of private homes aren't included, Shamberger said.

To get involved or for more information, contact Mary Falzon, a Canton Leisure Services employee, by e-mail at mfalzon@canton-mi.org.

The Canton Commission for Culture, Arts and Heritage is under the umbrella of Canton Leisure Services, which is guided by Director Debbie Bilbrey-Honsowetz.

"By coordinating the Canton Acts of Culture Week for the first time, our hope is to showcase many of the cultural activities and features within the community that service to enrich lives and build bridges to connect individuals and groups, while drawing attention to Canton's Commission for Culture, Arts and Heritage and their mission," Bilbrey-Honsowetz said.

The weeklong event, with the theme "It Takes a Village," is intended to celebrate cultural resources and partnerships, honor Canton's diversity, raise awareness of arts accessibility, instill an appreciation for local arts

organizations and promote arts and heritage.

"We hope it will become an annual event," Shamberger

One event showcased during the week will be a Bollywood performance. led by the Plymouth Canton Symphony Orchestras, that celebrates Indian culture.

"It will be the culminating event for that whole week," Beth Stewart, PCSO executive director, said. "We have a very good relationship with the Indian community."

Tickets aren't yet on sale for the event, which is expected to start at 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 6, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. Stewart suggested checking back with the symphony orchestras or the Village Theater.

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Fatal crash trial goes to jury

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The fate of Robert Bojaj is now in the hands of a jury.

The jury trial for Bojaj, 28, of Farmington wrapped up with closing arguments Thursday in the Wayne County Circuit courtroom of Judge David Allen. Allen then dismissed the jury until Monday, when they will report back to begin deliberations.

Bojaj is accused of killing 25-year-old Shelby Gunn of Westland when he allegedly rear-ended her in an accident that ended after Bojaj reportedly reached speeds of nearly 100 mph on northbound I-275 in Canton around 1:30 a.m.

Bojaj is charged with three counts: murder in the second degree, manslaughter with a motor vehicle and operating under the influence of liquor causing death. A fourth charge, driving with a suspended license, was dismissed at Bojaj's preliminary hearing in 35th District Court. The murder charge carries a sentence of up to life in prison; the other two charges are 15-year

Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Athina Siringas and defense attorney Paul Bernier made their closing

FREE EXAM



Bojaj

arguments Thursday afternoon.

Maria Miller, spokeswoman for the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, said her

office would

have no comment until after the jury reaches a verdict. Bernier told the Observer he,

likewise, would have no com-

Witnesses testified to the high-rate of speed at which Bojaj was allegedly traveling in the dark-colored Lexus he was driving. According to testimony at the preliminary hearing, Bojaj allegedly had a blood-alcohol content more than three times the legal

By the time police arrived at the scene, the Lexus was tangled in the guardrail cords in the median of I-275 just past Koppernick in Canton Township. On the right side of the road sat the Dodge Intrepid, driven by Gunn of Westland, its rear end smashed and Gunn slumped over the wheel.

Gunn, the daughter of Rob and Teri Gunn of Westland, died in the accident.

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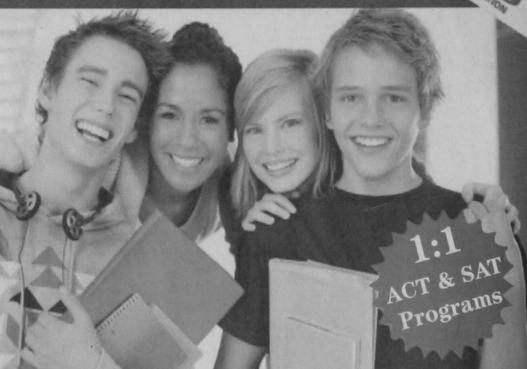
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Former state rep lands new gig

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When former state Rep. Marc Corriveau left the Legislature after his last term in the House, he'd hoped his next job would allow him to use skills and resources

he'd developed as a state legislator. Now Corriveau, who left after two terms representing the 20th House District, which includes Plymouth, Northville and a small slice of Canton, thinks he's found just the thing.

Corriveau joined the Lansingbased government relations firm Kelley Cawthorne, co-founded by former Michigan Attorney General Frank J. Kelley and former House Republican Leader Dennis O. Cawthorne.

While in the Legislature, Corriveau chaired both the Health Policy Committee and the Ethics & Elections Committee. He believes his reputation for being able to work across the aisle to solve complex policy issues such as the bipartisan effort to reform the Individual Health Insurance Market in Michigan will come in handy in the new gig.

"I was motivated to find a balance between what I did serving and what I did in the Legislature," said Corriveau, who served as president of the family law firm before being elected. "I love the public policy aspect, and I love being in a position to try and make Michigan a better place. With



Former state Rep. Marc Corriveau has taken a job with Lansing-based government relations firm Kelley Cawthorne, co-founded by former Michigan Attorney General Frank J. Kelley and former House Republican Leader Dennis O. Cawthorne.

(Kelley Cawthorne's) history and legal background, in combination with the government relations aspect ... it was a good balance."

Kelley said Corriveau's experience and knowledge of health care issues adds some perspective to the firm.

"Michigan faces an unprecedented era of change and nothing is changing more rapidly than health care," Kelley said. "Having last session's Health Policy Committee

chair on our team will help our clients successfully navigate complex issues such as state implementation of federal health care reform."

Corriveau, who lives in
Northville with his wife and two
children, served two terms in the
state House. He left his House
seat to run for the open 7th Senate
seat, then withdrew from that race
to spend more time with his family. Kelley Cawthorne will open a
satellite office in Northville, from
where Corriveau will be based
most of the time.

Corriveau received his undergraduate degree from Michigan State University and his law degree from University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. He is currently enrolled in the University of Michigan's Executive Master's Program specializing in Health Service Administration.

Corriveau thinks his experience in health policy will come in handy for the firm, which has clients around southeast Michigan.

"(Health care) is certainly one of the bigger areas of change Michigan will face in the next decade and beyond," Corriveau said. "(Kelley Cawthorne) has a pretty strong southeast Michigan presence, so some of my role will be make sure those clients' needs are met. The firm is going to allow me to work on things that are centered on my strengths. I'm excited

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DISPATCH

Patrick Nemecek pointed to community surveys in which more than 90 percent of Canton residents gave the local police and fire departments high approval ratings. He and others insist that they want to maintain that level of community sat-

A \$70,000 grant paid for the consultant, and another \$570,000 grant has been received to help pay for certain costs, such as radio equipment, that would be needed.

Officials are moving cautiously toward a potential joint dispatch system, and they have provided more information to consultants as they seek to fine-tune such a plan.

"Now the nitty-gritty work starts,"
Stevenson said. "We need to find out if it is feasible and whether we can come up with the money for it." The consolidation is expected to take two years.

COST SAVINGS

Stevenson expects that the cost savings would take a few years to realize, through attrition.

He said none of Livonia's nine or Canton's 18 dispatchers would lose their jobs. "Both communities have good loyal, dispatchers."

In Canton, dispatchers have dual duties.

"They run the (prisoner) lockup and the dispatch," Kerr said. "They perform both operations."

In 2009 Livonia received 38,128 9-1-1 calls and 114,384 non-emergency calls for 152,512 total calls. Canton's dispatch received 24,277 9-1-1 calls and 73,685 non emergency calls for 97,962 total calls.

"There are times when there are only

ten to fifteen runs, so you have them sitting there for certain time periods," Stevenson said. "In communities all over western Wayne County you may not have 10 runs on a shift, but that is a lot of time (under a combined dispatch) where they could be dispatching vehicles."

Stevenson said his department already supplements the dispatchers with officers, so the dispatchers already are understaffed. That supplemental officer staffing would not continue under the consolidation. The consolidation would offer a possible promotion for a dispatcher to become a supervisor, a duty currently filled by a police sergeant who also supervises the road patrol.

TIME HAS COME

During his State of the Township address Wednesday, LaJoy said Canton has lost \$8.6 million in revenues since 2007, much of it due to declining property tax revenues.

Officials say that, with all communities facing budget problems, the time to strongly consider consolidating services has come

"This is something that needs to happen, this is something that has to happen," Stevenson said. "If it is on our terms, that's better than on someone else's."

Livonia officials have indicated that other communities potentially joining a shared dispatch system could face charges on a pro-rated system, which could be assessed on the number of runs. Once it is known how many communities might join a regional dispatch, officials would have a better Livonia learns how many communities would join the regional dispatch, the city will know the cost benefits of a consolidated system, Stevenson said.

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HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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

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Schoolhouse Montessori Academy has moved into a new, bigger building on Haggerty in Canton.

Montessori Academy moves to new location

Schoolhouse Montessori Academy has relocated to a brand new, larger facility due to what academy officials call "continued growth and success within the Plymouth-Canton community and surrounding

The new, 18,000-squarefoot school is now educating infants and students through sixth grade.

The new school, located at 1669 S. Haggerty, opened this year and has expanded to offer an infant program and upper elementary curriculum. Toddler, preprimary and lower elementary programs are also offered, as well as before and after school Kids Club.

The new school is approximately double the size of its previous location at 6215 N. Canton Center.

"We have belonged to the Canton community for the past 10 years and wanted to invest long-term here," said Lisa Rachwitz, School Director. "Our new school is designed specifically for the children and reflects the beauty, peace and calm of the Schoolhouse Montessori environment."

Kathy Malizewski, preprimary teacher at SMA, said she's proud of how far the school has grown.

"Ten years ago we started off with only two preprimary class rooms and grew over the years to include a toddler program and a lower elementary program," Malizewski said. "With the recent move we have been fortunate to add an infant program and an upper elementary program."

SMA offers monthly tours of the school for parents interested in seeing the school for themselves. During this time parents have the opportunity to ask questions and meet the School Director. Tours take place the second Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. Private tours can also be arranged in advance by calling the school at (734) 405-2345.

Schoolhouse Montessori Academy has served students and families for more than a decade, with additional locations in Troy and a new school in Farmington Hills scheduled to open in September 2011.

Visit http://www. schoohousemontessori.com for further information regarding the schools and programs

Student leaders join jobs fight

Southeast Michigan's fight for local jobs just gained a number of young, dedicated supporters.

Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit this week began a new chapter in its mission of helping metro Detroiters overcome employment challenges and earn jobs. The nonprofit is partnering with Huntington National Bank and Emmy awardwinning high school sports television program STATE CHAMPS! to give student leaders across Southeast Michigan an opportunity to join the fight against local unemployment through the Goodwill Pass it Forward "Dollars for Jobs" High School

Running through April 22, the campaign features envelopes that can be filled with dollar bills and passed from person to person until reaching 25 people. For as little as \$1, any student, parent, teacher or friend of a participating school can contribute to the cause. Each participating school will receive an allotment of envelopes and marketing support from Goodwill.

All three Plymouth-Canton high schools - Plymouth, Salem and Canton - have registered to support the campaign even before its formal launch.

Schools in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw or Livingston counties are eligible to participate.

Young people around Metro Detroit see what is happening in our region and they want to be involved," said Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit Vice President Lindsay Chalmers. "Working with Huntington and STATE CHAMPS!, we've created a

simple program that will help high school students contribute directly to the health of Southeast Michigan's economy by supporting the creation of new jobs and other efforts that can help their parents, friends and neighbors earn employment. 'Dollars for Jobs' will prove that even a small contribution from a large amount of people can make an incredible collective impact on the lives of thousands."

Follow developments in the Goodwill "Dollars for Jobs" campaign on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/ GoodwillDollarsforJobs or Twitter at http://www.twitter. com/GoodwillDET.

SIMPLE CAMPAIGN

Once an envelope contains \$25 or more, a student returns it to the office of his or her athletic director or directly to one of 49 participating Huntington branches in Southeast Michigan. Goodwill Industries then collects the envelopes and uses the "Dollars for Jobs" funds to grow a range of employment education and training programs and to support the creation of new job opportunities that help real people earn real jobs throughout Metro Detroit. The \$25 in each envelope represents the approximate cost for Goodwill Industries to provide one day of job preparedness training and other support to an unemployed Metro Detroit resident.

This minimal amount of money begins the process of rebuilding lives and economies," Chalmers said.

High school sports fans and others around Southeast Michigan can participate in the campaign by picking up an official "Dollars for Jobs" envelope at a local Huntington branch and filling in the name of the school they would like to support in the campaign.

In addition to knowing they have performed a valuable community service impacting an entire region and building their college resumes, participating students can win a number of individual- and school-level prizes.

The three "Dollars for Jobs" schools that raise the most money per student enrolled will win a half-hour STATE CHAMPS! broadcast showcasing the school's athletic program and its involvement in the community.

"High school athletic programs and the student leaders that participate in them should be sources of immense pride for communities throughout Southeast Michigan" said STATE CHAMPS! host Lorne Plant. "STATE CHAMPS! is partnering with Goodwill Industries to help Michigan student athletes at the more than 200 local high schools we cover realize their potential as community leaders and help combat an unemployment crisis that impacts us all."

Top-performing schools also will receive a dance or other event sponsored by "Dollars for Jobs" supporter 98.7 AMP Radio. The individual student leader exhibiting the greatest community spirit in support of the campaign, as chosen by Goodwill and its partners, will win a live one-hour studio sit-in with the hit 98.7 AMP Radio morning show "Puddin's Playhouse." 98.7 AMP radio also will promote the campaign during its on-air programs and across its social media channels.

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RAYMOND J. WOJTOWICZ **WAYNE COUNTY TREASURER**



Rotary club offers 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 www.storytellerdesign.com/Portals/4/ 2011Applicati onScholarRotary.pdf. "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

Coffee with Heise

State Rep. Kurt Heise is sponsoring coffee hours to give residents a convenient opportunity to meet with him locally.

Heise will talk with residents on Friday, March 18, at the Parthenon Coney Island and Restaurant, located at 39910 Ford Road, in Canton, from 7:30 to 9 a.m. No appointment is necessary

In addition, Rep. Heise is also available to meet with constituents by appointment either in the district or at his Lansing office. Residents are invited to call toll free 1-855-REPKURT or e-mail kurtheise@house.mi.gov to schedule an appointment.

Women's connection

Canton Women's Connection (formerly Canton Business & Professional Women) meets 6-8:30 p.m. Monday, March 14, at Palermo's Restaurant, 44938 Ford Road in Canton.

Guests will be The Petticoat Ladies as "Women of the West." Bring a friend or neighbor for this entertaining, informative presentation (no complimentary dinners for first-time guests to this dinner).

To RSVP by March 10 or for more information, contact June Nicholas by calling (313) 610-2561 or e-mail junenicholas@comcast.net

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

AROUND CANTON

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 Canton. To request a registration form or any questions you can contact Hope at ascscropandcraft@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. Accessories such as purses, and jewelry are also welcome. Donations taken through March 31.

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 (734-981-4038)

Bipolar support

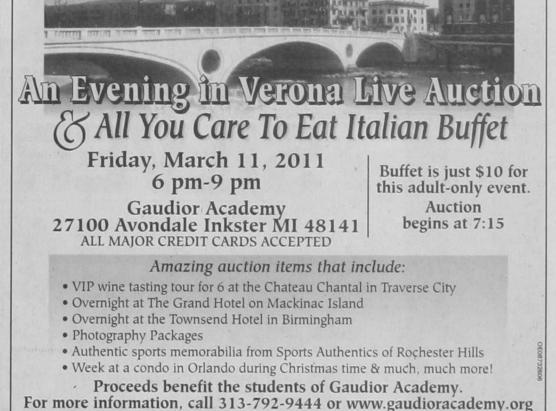
The non-profit Depression Bipolar Support Alliance of Metro Detroit is offering support group meetings by trained leaders twice a month.

The meetings take place the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 6:30-8 p.m. in the Lincoln Behavioral Services Office, 14500 Sheldon Road, Suite 160B, located off Plymouth Executive Park Dr. north of M-14. The DBSA is a self-help group of those diagnosed with bipolar disorder or depression whose mission is to provide support, hope and education to individuals diagnosed with depression and bipolar disorders, their families and friends.

More information is available on the group's website at www.dbsa-metrodetroit. org or you can call Bob, (248) 689-6110, or Nancy, (734) 536-3457.









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County now requires electronic filing of campaign finance reports

The Wayne County
Commission has approved
an ordinance introduced by
Commissioner Laura Cox (RLivonia) to establish an electronic filing and internet disclosure system for campaign
finance reports and statements filed with the Wayne
County Clerk.

The measure was approved at the commission's regular meeting Thursday in Lincoln Park.

The ordinance requires political candidate committees to file reports and statements electronically,



Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 6, 2011

McNam

and enhances transparency in campaign finance reporting by requiring the Wayne County Clerk to provide online access to campaign reports, statements and committee information on the Wayne County website. At the same meeting, the commission approved a fiveyear, \$429,000 contract with PCC Technology Group of Connecticut to design and implement the electronic campaign finance reporting and disclosure system to be used by the Wayne County Clerk's elections division.

Co-sponsors of Cox's ordinance included commissioners Joan Gebhardt (D-Livonia), Kevin McNamara (D-Canton) and Diane Webb (D-Garden City).

"We cannot diminish the importance of elected offi-

cials to be transparent," Cox said. "There is the need to be transparent with political donations and expenditures and this ordinance will allow the citizens of Wayne County to readily access campaign finance reports for elected officials and candidates for office throughout the county."

"Electronic filing is not only a way of providing transparency in campaign finance, but also saves money and trees," Gebhardt said. "As the first commissioner to go paperless, I encourage any "green" and fiscally responsible measures in county government.'

Wayne County Commission Chairman Gary Woronchak praised Cox's ordinance and the county clerk's plans for an electronic campaign finance filing system.

"Commissioner Cox took the lead on providing the necessary legal backup to make the clerk's new campaign finance software a great tool for voters and candidates alike," said Woronchak.

"Wayne County Clerk Cathy Garrett is setting a new standard in campaign finance reporting with this system," Woronchak added. "Commissioner Cox's ordinance requires candidate committees to use the system and the clerk to provide information for public view online."

Woronchak has experience with campaign finance law, having sponsored Public Act 238 of 1999 when he was a state representative. PA 238 requires state-level candidates to file campaign reports electronically, and the Secretary of State to develop the website to display the information online.

Dance studio hosts hip-hop fundraiser

Metro Dance Company is hosting a hip hop benefit "Dance From the Heart" to raise funds for The Miracle League of Plymouth. The event is open for anyone ages 8 to adult, regardless of experience, and will be held at Metro Dance Company in Plymouth 1-4 p.m.

Saturday, March 19.
Registration for the event is underway. Hip hop classes are \$15 per student with 100 percent of the proceeds donated to The Miracle League of Plymouth. Anyone

interested in the event can contact Metro Dance Company at (734) 207-8970 or by e-mail at info@ MetroDanceCompany.com.

"We wanted to hold this fundraiser because it directly benefits some very special children in our community," said Metro Dance director Kristie Wyler. "Our goal is to raise as much money as possible to help these children and their families enjoy good times together."

Metro Dance Company is located at 541 S. Main in Plymouth.

NorthRidge Church offers parenting event

Over-connected. Over-protected. Overwhelmed.

According to Dr. Tim
Elmore, all of these terms
apply to the younger half of
children born since 1990.
Elmore, founder and president of Growing Leaders,
an Atlanta-based non-profit
created to develop emerging
leaders, will share his insights
with parents during a threehour seminar at NorthRidge
Church on March 19.

Elmore is no stranger to
NorthRidge. He touched on
some of the principles during his weekend talk as a
guest speaker at the church
on the weekend of Feb. 26-27.
NorthRidge Senior Pastor Brad
Powell said Elmore has a unique
understanding of the problems
facing those coming of age.

"Tim 'gets them' as much as anybody I know," Powell said.

"At NorthRidge, we believe in and are committed to making a difference in the lives of young people. Tim's seminar is one tool for parents."

Elmore has spoken with more than 300,000 students, faculty and staff on hundreds of campuses across the country. He has also taught courses on leadership and mentoring at nine universities and graduate schools across the U.S. Committed to developing young leaders on every continent of the world, Elmore also has shared his insights in more than 40 countries — including India, Russia, China, and Australia.

He uses principles, images and stories to communicate to his audience. His insight into this generation is mind-boggling. The statistics are clear and sobering. Every parent, teacher, youth leader, coach and influencer should take a hard look at this study of the next generation. The parenting event runs from 9 a.m. to noon on March 19 and is \$10 for singles and \$15 for couples. The session is comprised of four fast-paced sessions.

Aftershock starts the event. Elmore addresses the recent shifts in culture and technology and how they've affected this generation's hearts and minds. The second session, Helicopters and Karaoke, is aimed at adults and discusses eight common parenting styles that have damaged children and left them unprepared.

"They have been conditioned to be a group of me-centered kids with underdeveloped coping skills," Elmore said. In session three, Screenagers, the pastor points out adults have a difficult time understanding this generation and explains their three greatest needs. The seminar concludes with some creative ideas for shaping this generation's future with practical steps for equipping young people to reach their potential.

With its main campus at 49555 N.Territorial Road in Plymouth Township, NorthRidge Church is a nondenominational ministry that serves approximately 20,000 southeastern Michigan residents. Senior Pastor Brad Powell has led the congregation for the past 20 years. NorthRidge offers six services each weekend; four at the Plymouth location and one at each of their satellite locations. For more information or to register, please visit http://northridgechurch.com/ generations.





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site called Formspring.com, a student delivered a threat that could have carried Columbinelike consequences: "I'm gonna bring a gun and shoot up the school.

It happened during the weekend of the Plymouth Ice Festival in January. The threat, delivered against Canton High School, was seen by two female students, who showed it to their parents, who reported it to the Canton Police Department.

Although the student in question thought the threat was being made anonymously, police, who backtracked the IP address from which it was made, were at the student's front door in a matter of minutes.

POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS

The student was known to district officials and had a file of incidents that caused administrators to take the threat seriously. The student no longer attends Plymouth-Canton schools.

"This is maybe the most dangerous thing I've seen," said Frank Ruggirello, the district's director of community relations. "This could have been serious.

While all such comments are taken seriously and investigated, not all of them turn out to be serious, administrators said. For instance, there was a student who posted a comment about being "on a murderous rampage" after being particularly annoyed by teachers. An investigation was convened, the student in question was interrogated, and it was determined the threat was not serious.

But it could have been. "If you take them out of context, it can be very alarming to readers, are someone who hears (the comments),' Siegel said. "When we investigate these threats, we do it on a case-by-case basis. This one was not intended to be a threat. It was just a conversation between kids.

Those seemingly innocent conversations between kids can have long-lasting repercussions. As computers have been more prevalent, and social networking sites more popular, lawmakers are putting regulations into place that make it a crime to use computers and the Internet to communicate threats.

LAWS AGAINST IT

Police point out that, often, kids don't understand the ille-

45.0 40.0 35.0 28.7 30.0 24.2 25.0 21.5 20.8 20.0 15.0 12.0 5.0 June 2009 Feb. 2010 Nov. 2009 June 2009 Number of schools Sample size 4441 356 930 700



gality of what they're doing.

"There are a lot of laws that pertain to Internet threats and using telecommunications and computers to send threatening messages," said Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner, detective bureau supervisor with the Canton Police Department. "It can be a large problem, depending on the kind of situation kids create by what they write and who they send it to. If they send a threatening message they think is anonymous or nameless, and it goes to a wide audience, that creates problems. Kids might send messages thinking it's harmless, or it's an act that's not going to rebound back to them, but it can.

The Internet has become a bastion of intimidation, officials say, largely because its separateness provides a buffer for the tough talk. There is no threat of immediate retaliation — "They don't have to worry about the immediate

consequence of a punch in the mouth," Siegel said - to a 70pound youngster threatening a much larger student, and the smaller student feels more empowered.

"Most kids are bolder with the maliciousness of the threats than they would be in person," said Kim Villarosa, an assistant principal at Plymouth High School. "I've noticed a pattern of parents coming in on Monday because their kids were threatened over the weekend. Sometimes you investigate these things and you find both kids are at fault.'

In 2009-10, the last full year for which statistics are available, 134 high school students were suspended for fighting, 28 were suspended for physical assault and another eight for "aggressive behavior."

THREE'S A THREAT

District officials believe a large percentage of those incidents were sparked by interac-



threats, but police point out it isn't true.

tion among many contributors on social media sites such as Facebook. A kid will post something, the intended victim responds, and then "friends" start commenting on the original posts, sometimes egging on the physical behavior.

"It escalates when other people get involved," Villarosa

Emily Farhat is a 15-yearold Plymouth resident who is a sophomore at Canton High School. She points to incidents like the major fight that happened last year that sent a student to the hospital with a broken hip - "That started on Facebook," she said - as proof social networking sites help incite the violence.

She said she knows of at least one incident where several girls convinced a girl no one thought "fit in" that they actually liked her, and used Facebook to post comments demeaning to the girl.

"I've had cyber-bullying done to me on Formspring, where people will say whatever they want without regard to how it will affect the person getting the hate," said Farhat, who said most of her friends use Facebook, Tumblr, Twitter and Formspring. "Most of the conflicts that come up have to do with all the he-said, shesaid that comes with social networking."

Schreiner couldn't put a number on the hours detectives spend investigating these kinds of threats, but he agrees with school officials

that they're on the rise. Part of the problem, he said, is that all such incidents have to be investigated. What happens if they let one go and that's the one that turns out to be real?

CRYING WOLF?

"You don't really know the legitimacy until you dig into them, so you have to treat them as legitimate until you know," Schreiner said. "It's like crying wolf. If you get 100 threats, and they're all unfounded, do you start to diminish your attention to them? You can't. (Schools) are realizing oftentimes the kids involved in acts of violence at schools often leave (electronic) traces — maybe they have a history of sending messages over the Internet, maybe they keep a journal, maybe e-mails that show they have a history of violence."

Parents can play a huge role



in policing these kinds of incidents, officials agree, though that can sometimes be difficult. Siegel pointed out that in 2006 there were some 650 social networking sites available. Mark Even, who handles all things technology for the district, pointed out Facebook alone has some 174 privacy settings, making it more difficult to determine what's being posted from where.

But without parents' help, they agree, policing it is dif-

"(Parents) have to pay attention to whether their kids are being bullied," Siegel said. "They have to know whether their kids are posting things that could get them in trou-

Schreiner wants students, and their parents, to know there are "serious and severe" penalties for people who distribute harassing communications using the Internet.

His message to parents is more direct.

"If you're going let your kids use the Internet, make sure they aren't using it to send messages that could be interpreted (as threats)," Schreiner said. "Make sure they're not saying something stupid."

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New Morning School holds annual auction

The 35th Annual Auction benefiting New Morning School will be held at 5 p.m. Saturday, April 2, at Laurel Manor in Livonia

The theme is Springtime in Paris. Silent and live auction merchandise will include

an iPad, vacations, an exclusive opportunity to use a professional Boeing 747 flight simulator, and more. Tickets are \$75 per person and include dinner and drinks. Tickets are available at nmsauc-

New Morning School of Plymouth is an independent, private school serving students in preschool through grade 8. For more information about the school, call (734) 420-3331 or visit newmorningschool.com.





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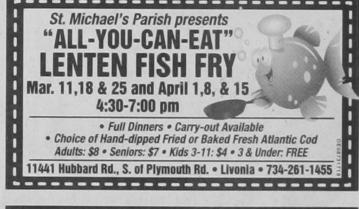
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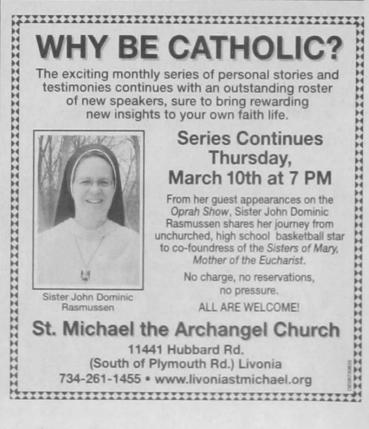
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Video gamers take on Gauntlet for sick kids

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Water ... that's the secret ingredient to playing video games for 48 hours straight, so savs Dan Castle.

More than four hours into a 48-hour Gauntlet - a video game marathon — the Canton Township resident had his game plan firmly in place.

"You have to drink a lot of water to make it through it," said Castle, a Schoolcraft College student participating in his second marathon being sponsored by the new nonprofit Collegiate Gaming Society. "It works, it works really well. One of the big problems of falling asleep is that the body gets dehydrated."

Sitting in front of a flat screen TV in the Game Yard in Garden City, Castle was among 12 video gamers from Schoolcraft, Madonna University, Eastern Michigan University and Washtenaw Community College who were having fun while raising money for the Children's Miracle Network.

This is the third year the gamers have taken over the Game Yard for the marathon event. Linked by a Local Area Network, or LAN, the players formed teams taking on each other, playing games like

Thomas J. Gerou, DC



David Mayne of Redford didn't stop playing to take a break and eat. Instead, he played while eating lunch. Waiting for their turn to eat are fellow gamers Dan Castle (from back to front), Alix Ahlgren and Gary Quillico, all of Canton.

Bulletstorm and Call of Honor Black Ops.

"Bulletstorm is pretty good," said David Maynard of Redford, who planned on holding off hitting the energy drinks until near the end "so I don't crash.'

"I really like Bulletstorm; it's team-based, you have to work together," he said. "It's my first time playing it. It's brand new. I think I'll get it for home."

This is his third year partici-

pating in the Gauntlet. Like Castle, he likes the idea of helping people and having fun at the same time. He planned on keeping a "busy as possible" during the marathon gaming

GOOD TURNOUT

Gauntlet organizers Justin Slanec of Garden City and Antonio Perez of Northville were happy with the turnout. The first year, the event

attracted eight players and raised \$1,200. With 12 players this year, they hope to reach \$1,500.

The players seek donations or pledges for every hour they play. They also line up sponsors to provide the food and beverages. The players were divided into two groups and each get a staggered five-minute break every hour and longer breaks for meals. The rest of the time their hands were on remotes as they play games individually and as teams.

Photographs of the event were taken every hour - "To see the life drain out of us," said Perez — and at 9 p.m. Thursday evening, the event was covered live as a podcast on the society's website at the-cgs.org. People also were encouraged to stop by throughout the day to gem with the group, Slanec said.

"We'll do a video recap of the event and people can watch everything happening online." Slanec said.

This is the third installment of the Gauntlet and the first as a nonprofit. Slanec and Perez see the society as offering college students the opportunity

Bulletstorm in the early hours of the 48-hour Gauntlet at The Game Yard.

Justin Slanec of Garden City works the controller during a game of

to do community service. "Our main objective is to work together for the benefit of the community," said Slanec. "Once we get other chapters going, we'll be able to do Gauntlets all at the same

"Not only do we get the students involved in the community, we give small businesses a boost," said Perez. "The players get community service hours, plus they get out of their comfort zone and engage with other students or businesses."

FOR THE KIDS

Perez and Slanec added that the choice of Children's Miracle Network was an easy one. As individuals they say they take a lot for granted, surrounded by their gadgets and their electronic toys, while children are sick and in the hospital.

"They should be doing things like this," said Perez. Castle agrees.

"I do this mainly because it's for children," he said. "That's the big thing. There's kids in the hospital that are sick and might not make it. This group is here to help them."

Joe Chamie of Livonia is a veteran of Gauntlet, back for a third time. Across the room, Gary Quillico of Canton was making his first try.

"The challenge is to play for that long, it's pretty big," said Chamie. "Playing together helps. You don't want to get too relaxed, that's when you start dozing off. I'll probably drink a lot of energy drinks toward the end."

Alix Ahlgren of Canton, who is in his second year of Gauntlet, has been playing video games since at least age 6. He started out with Super Mario World on Super Nintendo. Castle started at age 3 with Donkey Kong, also on Super Nintendo. And it was Pokémon Red at age 5 for Quillico. Fifteen years later, he's still hooked on it, waiting for the release of Pokémon Black and White this weekend.

"I hope I'm still awake," he

None of the players seemed concern about their thumbs getting sore working the controllers for 48 hours straight.

"I'm so used to using my thumbs, they don't get sore," said Ahlgren.



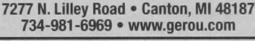
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- 4. SHOCKARMS
- 5. RENEG REBE _____
- 6. DAIRM RAGS
- 7. GEARNIH TTESS
- 8. NEARHIG DIA REAPSIR
- 9. SMOT CRAINNUES ADEPTECC
- 10. SCOME NI KIEL A OILN

11. SOGE TOU LEIK A BALM

- 12. SIDE OF CHARM
 - 13. STABTEERI NI SOCKT
 - 14. LEVRAN NOUIXQE
 - 15. INSPGR WOLFERS
 - 16. LAWK-NI LICCIN

- 17. GRIPNS HORSEWS
- 18. EXTENCLEL RICESEV
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- 20. SMILE FO MESSIL



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To view the word scramble answers, visit www.hughearing.com

Investing or paying down mortgage? There are many factors to consider

Q: Dear Rick: I am in my mid-50s, single with no dependents. I just received the proceeds from a lawsuit. After taxes (I was shocked that I had to pay taxes), I have about \$125,000. I plan to take about \$25,000 to spoil myself. I will do something smart with the rest. I have no debt other than a \$150,000 mortgage at 5 percent for about 13 years. I have some savings, nothing substantial other than my 401(k), which is valued at a quarter of a million dollars. I have a good-paying job and I plan to work for at least another 10-15 years. I am a conservative investor and my inclination with the \$100,000 is to pay down my mortgage. What do you think? Any other suggestions?

A: I guess it shouldn't be surprising that proceeds from some lawsuits are subject to tax. It seems that just about everything else in our society is subject to some sort of tax.

That being said, I think it would be a mistake to use the proceeds from the lawsuit to pay down your mortgage. Even though you are a conservative investor, paying down your mortgage is not a smart move at this time.

Your mortgage, after taxes, is costing you approximately 3.5 percent. Therefore, by paying down your mortgage, you are getting a guaranteed 3.5-percent return. Although in today's market a guaranteed 3.5 percent is a good rate of return, you can't afford just to look at today.

Considering that you won't need this money until you retire and you're not retiring for at least 10-15 years, the real issue



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

be a better investment for you during that time period. Actually, that time period could be much longer, because retiring in 10-15 years doesn't mean that you will need the

is what would

will r money at that time.

The issue is what is a better investment for you when you consider your long-term goal. Over the long run, a well-balanced and diversified portfolio of no-load mutual funds geared for long-term growth is going to provide a much greater rate of return. My belief is you will need a greater rate of return than 3.5 percent to keep up with the increased cost of living when you are retired. I recognize that investing in a diversified portfolio of no-load mutual funds will be a rollercoaster ride that you would not have encountered if you paid down the mortgage. However, you must factor in the risk of not keeping up with the increased cost of living. It's more than just inflation. It's the increased cost of living that we always need to be concerned with.

I recognize that in today's economy many people feel the same way you do. They want to invest in a sure thing. While I believe that the best way to handle the money would be to invest in a well-balanced stock and bond mutual fund portfolio, it may be

something that you, and others, just don't feel comfortable doing.

Therefore, if you do decide to pay down the mortgage, at a minimum, to protect yourself, you need to establish a program in which when the mortgage is finally paid off, the money you were paying on the mortgage is religiously invested every month. That certainly is not as good as setting up more of a growth portfolio, however, it will take some of the steam out of the rising costs you'll experience in the future.

Unfortunately, I have found that when people pay down their mortgage, they find new ways of spending as opposed to taking the extra money and investing it. In your situation, considering your age, it would be a serious mistake for you not to invest the savings.

One of the biggest mistakes investors make is not recognizing that it will cost substantially more to live in the future than it does today. Too many people hide their head under the covers and ignore this. And they do so at their own peril. The only way to have a comfortable retirement is to have a rising income throughout your lifetime. To accomplish that, you're generally going to need more than a 3.5-percent return on your money. Good luck!

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



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PCAC readies for second art exhibition

The Plymouth Community
Arts Council announces its second annual open art exhibition,
Pure Art of Michigan, to be held
in April. Artists are invited to
submit work that highlights the
unique beauty of our state.

Works will be accepted in all media except sculpture.
There will be a \$10 fee for up to

two entries of reasonable size. Paintings must be framed and ready for hanging and clearly identified and priced on the back. Final selections will be made by the exhibition committee.

The drop off day for exhibit consideration is Monday, March 28, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Pure Art of Michigan

runs from April 1-30.

The Plymouth Community Arts Council is located at 774 N. Sheldon Rd. in Plymouth. For further information, contact Nancy Pilon at (734) 455-4681, (nanpilon@yahoo. com) or Tamara Trudelle at the PCAC at (734) 416-4278, tamara@plymoutharts.com.



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SECTION B

SPORTS

SUNDAY, March 6, 2011

hometownlife com

HISTORY **BUFFS DRESS UP TO DRINK** TEA, B5



-2011 GIRLS BASKETBALL DISTRICTS-

TLOCATS

JOHN KEMSKI

Plymouth's Alex Roberts (No. 12) grabs a rebound despite pressure from Novi's Abby Chandler (No. 3). At left is Plymouth's Kate Watson (No. 35).

Young Wildcats tough in defeat

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

There were two points during Wednesday's girls basketball Class A district semifinal where Plymouth could have thrown in the towel being down double digits against

Plymouth ultimately lost 52-42, unable to completely shut down Novi freshman guard Kerri McMahan and senior forward Joanna Beaton.

But the young and scrappy team coached by Bob deBear showed its mettle by staging a couple of in-game comebacks that undoubtedly made Novi coach Bill Kelp just a bit ner-

"This team has more heart than any team that I've ever coached. deBear said. "That's why I love

Led by senior guard Alex Roberts (eight points, 10 rebounds), junior guard Kate Watson (17 points, eight

Please see WILDCATS, B3

Chiefs D-liver in district final 189 final

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Brian Samulski knew his Canton team would have to throw a defensive roadblock against Novi freshman guard Kerri McMahan to have the best chance in Friday's Division 1 girls basketball district final.

On Wednesday, McMahan pretty much ran circles around the Plymouth defense, scoring 16 points in Novi's semifinal victory.

But Friday was a different story altogether, as McMahan managed just four inconsequential fourth-quarter points against Canton defensive stalwarts Melanie Pickert and Robyn Mack.

Canton never trailed at Northville High School, earning a 37-20 victory for the Chiefs' third consecutive district championship.

"Mel (Pickert) and Robyn, who both guarded her the majority of the game, both those kids did an awesome job on her," Samulski said. "She (McMahan) can get in the lane and create so many different things and I think we really did a solid job of not allowing her to do

Pickert, who chipped in with four free throws, said her defensive assignment was pretty straightforward.

"Whenever she started going one way, I made sure I was always in front of her," Pickert said. "That helped a

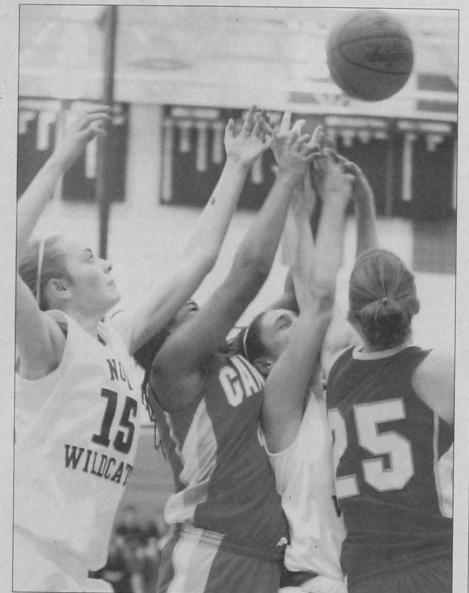
Samulski said the Chiefs (21-2) prepared for a defensive battle, and that's how the game unfolded.

"We expected it to be one of those grind-it-out games, defend, rebound and play," he said. "That's what it was."

Novi head coach Bill Kelp said he thought his team played a strong first half, at least until the final minutes when "we had a couple turnovers under our basket and a no-call at the end before the half. That kind of bumped (Canton's) lead up."

The Chiefs led 18-10 at the intermission, with senior forward Sara Schmitt (17 points) stealing the ball and sinking a layup at the buzzer. She finished with four steals for the game.

For a while in the opening half, the



Scrapping for a rebound are players from Novi and Canton during Friday's physical district final. At left is Novi's Joanna Beaton while right in the middle of things for the Chiefs are Robyn Mack (second from left) and Kari Schmitt (No. 25).

Wildcats (with five points from junior Ally D'Annibale) hung close.

TAKING CONTROL

In the third quarter, however, Canton really got down to business.

Novi (17-5) did not manage a single point as the Chiefs upped their lead to 28-10.

Conducting a clinic on short jumpers from the side of the key were Sara and Kari Schmitt (seven points, seven rebounds), each hitting almost identi-

In the final minute of the third, senior forward Kayla Bridges (four points) blocked a Novi shot and the ball deflected to Mack — who rifled a pass down the floor to Sara Schmitt for a layup to close out Canton's 10-0 quarter.

Please see CHIEFS, B3

Abro in

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton senior 189-pounder Anthony Abro is one win away from a Division 1 state title and 200 career wins in the process, after taking care of two more opponents Friday at The Palace of Auburn Hills.

Abro, who won 4-2 Thursday over Walled Lake Central's Charles Sovel, followed up with wins of 7-3 and 8-4 over Southgate Anderson's Devon Bronson and Port Huron

Northern's Auston Pickering.

That sets up Abro for a rematch against Novi-Detroit Catholic Central's Miles Trealout in the

championship final Saturday. Abro won a tough, 5-3 decision over Trealout in the individual regional finals on Feb. 19.

None of the other Plymouth-Canton Educational Park wrestlers at The Palace got past the quarterfinals, however:

· Canton senior Ben Poirier was stopped Friday in the 285pound quarterfinals. He lost 2-1 in overtime to Flint Carman-Ainsworth wrestler Mark Byrd. Poirier had earned a 7-3 victory Thursday over Kyle Knapp of Portage Central.

• Canton freshman Ben Griffin dropped a 12-6 decision in Friday's opening round, losing to Martin Rodriguez of Grand Ledge. Griffin pinned Caledonia's John Leark in 3:42 Thursday.

· Also in the quarterfinals, Salem's Cody Korpus lost a 17-4 technical fall to Freddie Rodriguez of Grand Ledge. Korpus pinned John Brown of

Please see WRESTLING, B2

Northville firepower snuffs out Salem's season

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It took nearly all of the first two periods for Salem to catch Northville in Thursday's Division 1 boys hockey preregional final.

The Rocks - who fell behind 2-0 early in the contest - tied the game up at 2-2 on a breakaway goal by senior forward and co-captain Nick Hayes with three minutes to go in the second period. But the Mustangs quickly

burst Salem's bubble with a power-play goal in the first minute of the third and Northville went on to post a 6-3 victory at Novi Ice Arena.

"These guys, regardless of who we play they've battled and battled and battled," Salem head coach Ryan Ossenmacher said.

"Unfortunately, it was an uphill climb after that first period. It's just hard because you exert so much effort to come back when you get to



In a game earlier this season, Salem's Austin Sartorius (No. 14) skates past Northville's Brady Marotta. On Thursday night, each player earned an assist in a Division 1 pre-regional final – but Marotta's Mustangs were the ones still standing after a 6-3 victory.

that point, it's all a matter of how much you have left."

GAME OF INCHES

On the tie-breaking goal, scored with just seven seconds remaining on a Salem penalty, the Rocks were inches away from clearing the puck out of their end.

But the puck stayed in the zone and forward Cole Brown's crossing feed to forward Robbie Thornburg

D1 PRE-REGIONALS

was one-timed from the left circle past Salem senior goalie Brandon Price (21 saves).

"It's a game of inches, the puck bounces one way an inch and (it's) probably out," Ossenmacher said. "And they kept it in and capitalized, that's what good teams do."

About two minutes later, forward Alec Debrabander rifled a shot in from between the circles and suddenly it was

Before the Rocks (16-6-2) knew what hit them, a sharpangle blast from the left wing by forward Clay Neal banked in off the right post to open up a three-goal cushion.

"You're not going to beat our goalie with average shots," Ossenmacher continued. "He's shown that all year, that's why he's an all-state caliber goalie. ... They were good shots, they were good opportunities and

Please see HOCKEY, B2

TAYLOR BIRMAN

Who: Taylor Birman, captain for Plymouth's varsity girls basketball team.

Miscellany: The 17-year-old Birman carries a 4.143 gradepoint average and recently was selected as a 2011 MHSAA Scholar Athlete winner for Division A girls. She also is in the National Honor Society and Link Crew. Among other athletic pursuits, Taylor was a 2010 all-conference honorable mention for girls lacrosse and was 2009-10 defensive player of the year for the girls basketball squad.

Captain's job: "The job of a captain is to encourage, support, and lead your teammates through thick and thin, on and off the court."



Leadership style: "My style of leadership is less vocal than most. Instead, I work hard every single day so that others will be motivated to work hard, too." Why her? "My teammates chose me because they look up to me as an older role model. They trust that I'm focused, hard-working, and responsible, and they know that I'm always looking out for the team's best interest.

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Shamrocks shocked by Novi icers in triple OT

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

The crowd got its money's worth Wednesday as Novi's hockey team battled to a triple-overtime regional semifinal victory against host and two-time defending Division 1 state champion Detroit Catholic Central.

Senior Michael Kruse put an end to the seemingly endless 4-3 contest at Compuware Arena in Plymouth with a goal 5:17 into the third overtime.

"We're very excited," Novi coach Todd Krygier said afterward. "It was kind of an odd man rush. Joey (Ferriss) went up the middle and Taylor (Howell) gave it to Kruse."

With Ferriss crashing the center and drawing both CC defenders, the senior captain dropped a pass back to his right side, where Howell slid the puck over to Kruse for a redirection from the left circle after more than 66 minutes of play.

"Someone had to lose this game and, unfortunately, it was our turn," CC coach Todd Johnson said.

HOCKEY HOTBED

Although the contest was between two of the final 32 teams alive in the Division 1 state tournament, it pit the top two ranked teams against one another with No. 1 CC (16-9-1, No. 2 overall) and No. 2 Novi (20-5-1, No. 3 overall) hitting

the ice. This is Novi's first season in Division 1, having played in Division 2 the past

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 6, 2011

"We're a hockey hotbed here," Johnson said. "Our guys played hard, their guys played hard. That's why it's a great tournament. There's a lot of emotions. We had a lot of emotions Monday, beating Brighton. There's a lot of pride in that room."

The triple-overtime contest was two days removed from CC's 3-2 double-overtime victory over No. 7 Brighton (12-10-3, No. 17 overall).

The Wildcats' weapons struck first with a rip by senior Ryan Cordes from the rightside blue line off a Jon Mencer facoff win and Zach Mohr drop pass. The goal, scored with 3:19 left in the first period, gave Novi a 1-0 lead that stood until there was four minutes left in the second period.

During a four-on-three power play, Novi senior netminder Michael Pesendorfer made a pad save on a slap shot, but CC senior Ryan Keller was on his doorstep to put the rebound in the back of the net to tie the game.

After outshooting the Shamrocks 5-3 in the first period, Novi was on the back end of a 15-14 shot difference after two periods.

"Michael played fantastic," Krygier said of Pesendorfer. "It was a career game for him.



Novi senior Nolan Valleau takes the puck out of the Wildcats' zone as Detroit Catholic Central senior Joe Steele pursues during the first overtime of Novi's 4-3 triple-overtime win Wednesday.

It was the best game of is high school career."

The final period of regulation featured three goals in a

After Novi took a tripping penalty and then a too-manymen-on-the-ice penalty 55 seconds later, the Wildcats killed off 1:05 of five-on-three play before CC senior Mitchell Gatt gave the Shamrocks their only lead of the game 4:04 into the third period with a power play

slap shot from the right-side blue line.

Novi answered back 1:32 later when Howell put a topshelf shot into the left corner from the left circle to notch a

Just 38 seconds later, Mohr channeled his inner Alex Ovechkin as he skated up the right boards and deked inward across the crease with a defender on his back. Mohr was able to slide the puck into the left side of the goal past CC senior netminder Connor Pankow before he was taken off his feet.

EXTRA ACTION

When CC junior Tyler Van Norman took a hooking penalty with 3:34 left in regulation, the Wildcats seemed to have a trip to the regional championship secure, but the Shamrocks pulled Pankow for a six-on-five advantage with 1:10 remaining and it paid off.

Keller took the puck along the left boards and behind Novi's net before dumping it into the center. With 5.6 seconds left in regulation, the centering pass ricocheted off the back of All-State Novi senior defender Nolan Valleau's skate at the top of the crease and between the legs of Pesendorfer to tie the game 3-3 and send it into overtime.

Not deterred by the late goal, the Wildcats controlled the first two overtime periods, outshooting the Shamrocks 7-3 with help from three tripping penalties against CC, but could not get the puck past

Dehydration and exhaustion began to affect both teams in the third overtime as they traded three shots apiece before Kruse knocked home

the winning goal. "That was just an unbelievable hockey game. Our guys worked and worked. CC worked and worked," Krygier said. "As a program, we believed. Our program is only

13 years old." The memorable contest last week ended CC's bid for a state title three-peat and pits Novi against No. 3 Howell (21-4-0, No. 9 overall), who was the runner up to CC the past two years and already has two victories over the Wildcats within the past month.

The Highlanders, who defeated Novi 5-1 Feb. 10 at the Public School Showcase and 4-3 Feb. 19 in the KLAA title game, are coming off a 8-0 stomping of No. 38 Jackson (10-12-2, No. 120 overall) in their regional semifinal.

"Our strategy is to get rehydrated and rested," Krygier

Whoever wins that Sweet 16 regional championship match 2:30 p.m. Saturday at Compuware Arena will be the favorite to win the Division I state title.

he didn't have much of a chance on

Salem did cut the lead to 5-3 with goal with Price pulled for the extra

poked the puck past Northville netminder Sean Bretz (29 saves) on assists from sophomore forward Jake Fedel and senior defenseman Garrett Berg (one goal, two assists).

But the Rocks could not get any closer and forward Stephen Champagne bounced a shot from center ice into the open net for his second goal of the night.

EARLY HOLE

Debrabander also scored twice, his first to open the scoring at 11:32 of the opening period. He roofed a shot

It was 2-0 before the end of the

first, when Champagne scored right off a face-off.

Salem struggled on two power plays in the opening frame, something that frustrated Quigley.

"In the first period the puck flipped up on my stick when I went to shoot the puck," Quigley said. "I thought I had a good chance to score."

egg with a power-play tally with about 5:30 to go in the second.

going deep in Northville's zone and Berg crashed the net to stuff the puck

Then came Salem's highlight of the contest. Sophomore forward Alek Zultowski sent an outlet pass from his own blue line that the streaking Hayes corraled with speed into

Hayes skated in on Bretz, faked a forehand shot and slipped a backhander into the cage.

Northville's subsequent surge in the third was a relief for head coach Jeff Hatley, whose team (9-12-4) moves on to face Orchard Lake St. Mary's Saturday night in the regional final at Livonia Eddie Edgar Arena.

"It was on the line for us," Hatley said. "We weathered the storm in that second period. They were throwing everything they had at us for survival and we hung in there and didn't give

"And then it was our turn. We got it done.

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any of them."

2:30 remaining, scoring a power-play

Senior co-captain Ryan Quigley

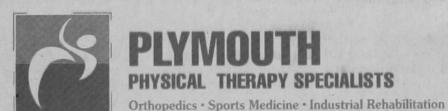
from the right circle past Price.

Northville's end.

The Rocks finally broke the goose

Forwards Austin Sartorius and Connor Berlin battled to keep a play

Late goal lifts Spirit past Whalers



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over host Plymouth, before 2,707 at Compuware Arena. The victory gives West Division-leading Saginaw a record of 38-20-3-1 while the

Josh Shalla's goal late in the

third period Friday night gave

the Saginaw Spirit a key 5-4

Ontario Hockey League win

Whalers dropped to 34-22-1-4, good for 73 points and third place in the division. The Whalers are in fifth place in the Western Conference playoff race. Trailing 4-1 at the start of

the third period, the Whalers staged a comeback to tie the game at 4-4 with goals by James Livingston, Beau Schmitz and Robbie Czarnik (his 31st goal of the season) before the period was seven minutes old.

But Shalla then netted

Saginaw's team-leading 43rd goal at 17:48. Working with linemate Anthony Camara deep in the Plymouth zone, Shalla kept tapping at the puck at the right goal post until it eluded Matt Mahalak (who relieved starter Scott Wedgewood late in the second).

Mahalak was pulled in the final minute, but the Whalers could find the equalizer.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Sterling Heights Stevenson in 1:35 Thursday to move on to Day 2.

Three other PCEP wrestlers did not survive their first bouts, hence moving down to the consolation bracket.

Canton senior Braden Price was pinned in 4:42 by Brighton's Vince Tkac.

Both Plymouth participants lost decisions: Said Youssef was defeated 8-4 at 125 by Kyle Hill of Oxford; Alec Breckenridge lost 5-2 at 130 to Brighton's Chris Brish.

GCYBSA signups

Greater Canton Youth Baseball Softball Association is holding its registration for spring programs for baseball and softball for ages 4-18 girls and boys.

Information and registration can be found at www.gcybsa. com. Registration is open until March 15. Programs include, small ball, T-ball, coach pitch, baseball, softball, competitive and travel leagues.

GCYBSA partners with Plymouth Township, Canton Township and Plymouth Canton Community schools to provide developmental skill building

baseball and softball leagues. Track coach wanted

Livonia Clarenceville High School needs a boys varsity track coach for the 2011 season.

Applicants can mail a resume, letter of interest and references to: Kevin Murphy, athletic director, Clarenceville H.S., 20155 Middlebelt, Livonia, MI 48152. You can also e-mail KMurphy@clar-

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boards) and several freshmen. the Wildcats (9-13) rallied from the early deficit to tie the game up at 27-27 with 4:09 to play in the third quarter.

NEVER SAY DIE

"In the locker room, we talked about how we're never going to give up no matter what the score is," Watson said. "And it showed throughout the season. We came from behind a number of times.

Freshman Alyssa Dillon hit a runner and added a foul shot for a three-point play to complete that rally.

Plymouth's comeback seemed improbable in the first half - especially with Plymouth's trouble scoring from the field (11-of-40 for the game).

Unfortunately, Novi (17-4) immediately pulled it together to go on a 10-0 run to finish the quarter. The speedy McMahan (16 points) had two of the baskets, with her path to the bucket difficult to impede.

"They had easy ones and we fought for almost every one of ours," deBear said. "But we were right there.'

Plymouth trailed 44-31 with less than six minutes to play when another comeback ensued.

This time, junior Alyssa Burris connected on a three-

ball to slice that lead to 44-36. With about two minutes left, Watson stole an in-bounds pass and Roberts drained a jumper from the top of the key to make it 46-40 as the Plymouth faithful roared its approval.

It was 46-42 moments later

With the Chiefs expertly

moving the ball around and

keeping it out of McMahan's

became an ally as the fourth

could compete with them. "I was just happy that we came out, and we competed ... but that first four minutes of the third quarter, we had some

Bridges would leave the game for several minutes after

being injured during a collision in the paint in Novi's end as the

But she re-entered the contest and is expected to be ready for Tuesday's 7:30 p.m. regional opener at Canton against the winner of Friday's Ann Arbor Pioneer-Dexter game. "She's tough, she's fine," Samulski said later.

As for hosting the regionals, Pickert said she was looking

"It will be exciting not to take the bus anywhere," Pickert

said with a laugh. "We just like playing at our own gym, that's

breakdowns.'

quarter ended.

forward to it.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

"Brian does a phenomenal job and that group of seniors is impressive," Kelp said. "That's why they beat everybody. It's not that we didn't think we

hands, the clock quickly

quarter ticked down.



Looking to take the basketball inside against an unidentified Novi defender is Plymouth junior forward Chyna Williams (No. 42).

after Watson scored on a runner through the paint.

But that was it for Plymouth's bid for an upset. Forced to foul, McMahan hit five free throws and Beaton (21 points) hit another to seal the

Although deBear said his team will sorely miss its senior leaders — Roberts and Taylor Birman - there are younger kids ready to take over that role in 2011-12.

He mentioned Watson and junior forward Chyna Williams, who scored five points against Novi.

Plus, Dillon (five points, four rebounds, two steals), Kylie Robb (four points, two assists), Jada Woody and Shelby Cheston will be seasoned sophomores next win-

"I think they're going to take it another step," deBear said. "We have seven returners coming back, that's pretty good. That's big. And hopefully we can add in a couple more

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Canton gets job done in semifinal

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Long postseason marches are comprised of one step at a time, one game at a time.

Although not a game for the ages, Canton's girls basketball team did take another step Wednesday, with a 49-36 win over South Lyon in a Class A district semifinal at Northville High School.

The state-ranked Chiefs overcame a cold-shooting first half (10-for-30 in fieldgoal tries before the break) to improve to 20-2 entering Friday's district final against

Senior forward Kayla Bridges epitomized how the night went for Canton.

She missed a handful of layups to start the contest, but ultimately heated up in time to lead the Chiefs with 13 points along with 12 rebounds, nine at the South Lyon end of the floor.

"You're always have to get a feel for the game," Bridges said. " ... (With) your first shots you get a feel for how the game is going and how they're playing you. Once you get to used to that it's easier to make shots.

Bridges added that she's overcome slow starts throughout her basketball career because they are inevitable at times for all players.

SHORT MEMORY HELPS

That's stuff that's pounded into us when we're kids," she continued. "We're basketball players and (when you) miss a shot you got to take the next one, you know?

"We can't let it get to us like that, or it'll wreck the whole

There also was plenty of hardnosed action, much of it with Canton twins Sara and Kari Schmitt in the middle of it.

The senior forwards and future Ohio State University hockey players combined for 20 points (12 scored by Sara).

They also went hard to the rim or hit the floor, scrambling for the ball among South Lyon players.

"It's nothing new," Sara Schmitt said. "We're always a physical team, so it was fun."

With a smile, she added that's the kind of basketball she likes the most.

I love it, I like it better actually when it's physical," Sara added.

TIDY IT UP

The Chiefs, despite not playing as efficiently as usual, still led 13-5 after one quarter and 23-12 at halftime.

"I thought at the beginning of the game we got great shots, our execution just wasn't great," said Canton head coach Brian Samulski. "We missed

a lot of shots around the rim, which we're going to have to clean up.

They started to do just that in the third, as Canton worked the ball inside on a 12-3 run. Bridges scored three layups to key that surge, which opened up a 35-15 lead midway

through the frame. Senior wing guard CarolAnn Sexauer (nine points) then buried a trey from the left corner followed by two free throws, giving the Chiefs an insurmountable 42-20 edge going into the fourth.

Samulski emptied his bench with about 2:30 remaining, and Canton up 46-28.

South Lyon senior Kristin Short (15 points) ended her career on a high note, making back-to-back treys and another field goal - scoring her team's final eight points.

Adding 11 points for the Lions (12-9) was junior Gabby Williams.

"What we really wanted to focus on was being competitive and fighting for the life of our team," said South Lyon head coach Erica Thomas. "Because at the end of every one of these games a team dies, and you have to look forward to next year but a group of seniors

"And this is a very special group of seniors to me. especially Kristin Short. ... We wanted to honor her by fighting."

Plymouth Christian girls cruise to district title

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Scoring points in bunches, Plymouth Christian Academy clobbered Lutheran Westland 58-36 Friday night, in a Class D girls basketball district final at Huron Valley Lutheran.

The Eagles (17-4) rolled out to a 17-2 lead after one quarter and were up 21-9 at halftime. Then, for good measure, they blitzed the Warriors 22-5 in the third to for all intents and purposes decide the outcome.

"We came out early and

played really well," said PCA head coach Carol Gerulis, whose team won its third straight district crown. "We got a lot of stops defensively and we were getting control of the ball."

Sparking the Eagles was Karen Windle, with 13 points and five steals. Also chipping in were Emily Gerulis and Jenny Malcolm (11 points, four rebounds each). Jenna Abraham "played a great game" with seven points while Brianna Harris collected six points, five assists and four

boards.

Lutheran Westland's Amanda Terranella led all scorers with 22 points. Adding seven was Aldreana Fikes.

PCA's next test will be the Class D regionals at Oakland Christian against the winner of the Birmingham Roeper

PCA 63, DET. HEALTH ACADEMY 20: PCA reached the finals after this lopsided win on Wednesday night. The Eagles had six players with at least six points, led by Harris, Windle and Kristin Lindberg with nine each. Harris also was the top rebounder, with five.



Going up for the basketball are Novi's Ally D'Annibale (No. 20) and Canton's CarolAnn Sexauer (No. 21) during Friday's district final at Northville.

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Lever, Baumgart spark Chiefs' milestone win

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Dietrich Lever II scored 30 points Thursday night as visiting Canton defeated Howell 63-58 in double overtime.

The Chiefs improved to 15-5 with the victory, which is the highest win total since 1995-96.

"I was proud of our perseverance when things were not going our way tonight," Canton varsity boys basketball coach Jimmy Reddy said. "... Dietrich was fantastic all night and all of our starters did a great job of fighting through fatigue with the amount of minutes they had to play especially down the stretch.

Lever also tallied 10 assists and five steals, also connecting on a short jumper to send the game to a second OT.

Junior forward Paul Baumgart also was solid, scoring 17 points

BOYS BASKETBALL

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 6, 2011

- including five in the decisive second overtime - and hauling down eight rebounds.

Reddy also praised the efforts of Terell Sewell (nine points in the second half, five rebounds) and Scott Gring (six boards off the bench).

Howell forced overtime with a last-minute basket to make

The Highlanders (8-10) led 56-54 in the final minute of the first overtime, but Lever kept the game going with a clutch drive from the left wing.

Lever nearly won the game at the buzzer, catching a long in-bounds pass from Kyle Adams and releasing a shot. But the ball bounced in and out of the cylinder.

Baumgart took over in the second OT, scoring five of

Canton's seven points as the Chiefs never trailed again.

Canton goes into the districts on a high note with the victory. The Chiefs will play Wednesday against the winner of Monday's Plymouth-Novi contest.

Rocks nipped

Salem let a double-digit lead slip away in the second half, with a late rally falling just short as the visiting Rocks lost 55-54 to Milford in the regular season finale Thursday night.

A 15-6 third quarter by Milford cost the Rocks, who will face host Northville 7 p.m. Monday in a Class A district opener.

7) with 14 points, along with nine rebounds. Salem head coach Bob

Tyler Stewart led Salem (13-

Brodie said solid efforts were turned in by senior forward Ethan Walsh (who fouled out in the fourth), Josh Perrin (six assists) and Ryan Jankowski.

"We were down by three with eight seconds to go and had the ball but a three-point shot fell short and we tipped in the miss as the buzzer sounded to lose by one," Brodie noted.

'Cats drop finale

In Thursday's final game of the regular season, Plymouth lost 64-61 to Walled Lake Northern to finish with a 14-6 record.

Jared Shenna tallied 23 points to lead the 10-10 Knights.

For the Wildcats, senior forward Brennen Beyer had 19 points and 15 rebounds. Other top performers were senior forward Pat Salo and senior guard Mike Nadratowski, with 15 and 14 points, respectively.

Plymouth will begin district play 7 p.m. Monday at Novi.

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

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

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

CAP Hall of Fame

The Livonia Churchill athletic patrons will stage their ninth annual Hall of Fame induction dinner at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 24, at the Italian American Club, located at 39200 Five Mile

Among the inductees will be former football and track coach Bob Armstrong, baseball and hockey player Ron Griffin (1976) and the 2005 and 2006 varsity gymnastics teams coached by Christa Hinderliter and Kelly Grodzicki.

Tickets are \$35 each (if purchased by March 1) or \$40 (after

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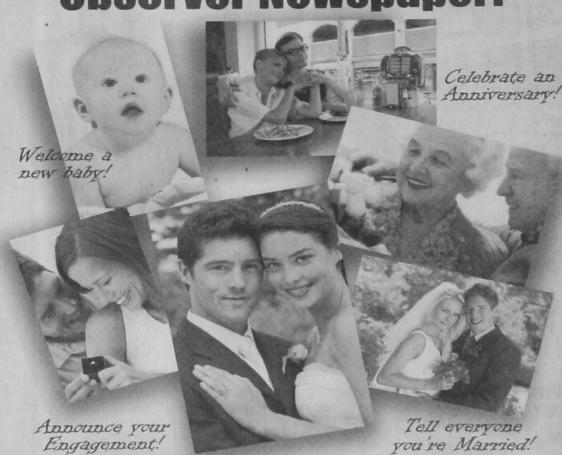
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COMMUNITY LIFE

Sunday, March 6, 2011

hometownlife mcom



Mad for hats

History buffs dress up to sip tea at Historical Museum

BY SHARON DARGAY O&E STAFF WRITER

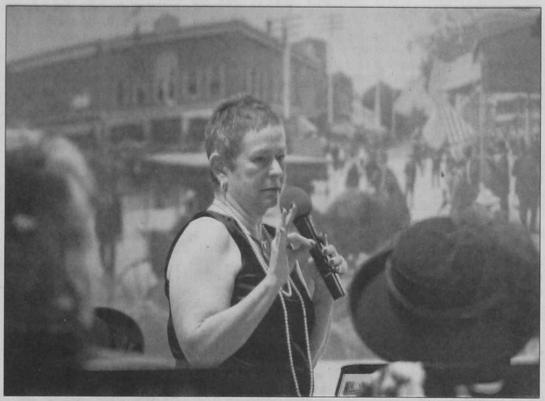
Betty Schuck wore the perfect hat to tea last weekend at the Plymouth Historical Museum.

"This is my tea hat," said the Westland woman, who had decorated the red chapeau's wide brim with play-sized cups, saucers and tea pot and stapled Red Rose tea bags to its crown. "You know when you were a kid and you put on your mother's high heels and purse and you'd stomp around? Well, it's the same feeling.'

Schuck wasn't the only woman in the crowd playing "dress up" at the formal tea, one of several the museum plans this year.

Organizers of the "Mad Hatter Tea" on Sunday, Feb. 27, encouraged participants to wear their favorite, silly, or fashionable hats to the party, which included the museum's signature blend tea, sandwiches, scones and desserts, along with a presentation by Ohio-based historian Jana Sloan Broglin.

Schuck was among several members of the Red Hat Society Frills and Feathers



Guest speaker Jana Broglin presents "Hookers, Crooks, and Kooks: Aunt Merle Didn't Run A Boarding House" during the Mad Hatter Tea at the Plymouth Historical Museum.

chapter who attended the event. Members 50 and older wear red and purple attire on outings and younger women wear lavender and pink. Everyone wears a hat.

Schuck had assembled her tea hat a few years ago for a Society convention but didn't have an opportunity to wear it again until last weekend.

Her daughter-inlaw, Michelle Schuck of Brownstown Township, dusted off one of her convention purchases - a pink cowboy hat with a frothy ring of feathers on its brim - for the tea.

"I like to wear it because it gets a lot of attention and makes people smile. It's got a little of everything on it. That's why it's a such a great hat," she

COMPLETE OUTFIT

Charlotte Austin of Novi, couldn't bear to wear her 1880s-style hat without the wardrobe to match. The former Plymouth resident was decked out in a floor-length 19th century-style dress, shawl, gloves and purse.

"I couldn't wear the shoes because I have a cast," said

Austin, who is a historical re-enactor. "I fell down the

Marie-Louise Capote of Plymouth also loves to wear the vintage clothing she collects. Her Mad Hatter creation combined a head-hugging cap of netting and flowers with some seasonal home decor.

"The nest on top is just part of my Easter stuff that I use to decorate the house," she explained the hat's avian motif. "It has little blue eggs in it and this is the blue bird of happiness. I have a bunch of these I use in the spring. I put

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Michelle Schuck of Brownstown Township wears a cowboy-style hat decorated in a frothy ring of feathers.

them on bare branches on my front porch."

The tea gave Golda Walker of Plymouth a reason to model her collection of jeweled butterflies and bugs in public. She attached the dazzling pins to a pink hat and wore a pink

sweater to match.

"I'm glad there is an occasion where you can do it," she said. "Otherwise they just sit on the shelf. I know people enjoy looking at them. Connie Fitzner, also

Please see HISTORY, B7

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she prefers that families make an appointment, her door is always open to answer questions about paying for their loved one's care.

"They need to know if insurances cover a nursing facility, and what it will cover, " said LaShawn Grose. "I go over it with them."

Few families are aware that Medicare only pays for the first 20 days at 100 percent, then co-pay per day for days 21 to 100. Depending on whether a patient has supplemental insurance, out-of-pocket expenses could be zero. If there is no secondary coverage, LaShawn encourages the patient to apply for Medicaid. LaShawn recommends to families and residents to read the Medicare

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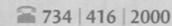
LaShawn assists with all of the paperwork, easing the burden on families and patients.

"It has to be done in a timely fashion or they could miss out on some coverage," said LaShawn.

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(WGcReLCP) Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 6, 2011

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FARMINGTON GARDEN CLUB

Gloria Minnebo will offer a workshop for making miniature designs. She'll have supplies, including containers, on hand at the next meeting of the Farmington Garden Club, noon, March 7, in the Spicer House in Heritage Park, located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile. Guests are welcome. For more information call Joann at (248) 474-0866 or visit www.farmingtongardenclub.com.

AT ENGLISH GARDENS

· Learn the hints for creating an exceptional landscape with tips from the professionals at a free presentation, "The Basics of Landscape Design," 1 p.m. Saturday, March 12.

 "The Grass Can Be Greener," 1 p.m. Saturday, March 19, will offer advice on keeping lawns

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The series continues on March

tive director of Senior Living Services, runs the third Tuesday

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15, and is based on the book BrainFit for Life: A User's Guide

to Life-Long Brain Health and Fitness, by Simon J. Evans, PhD.

and Paul R. Burghardt, PhD.

Discussions for this book will

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June. Evans will be present at

the March 15 session and both

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NOT TAKING MEDICATION

When a patient does not take a medication as prescribed by the doctor, the doctor labels that patient as "non-compliant." Non-compliance in the treatment of gout with

allopurinol illustrates the problems for both patient and doctor when a patient decides anopurino illustrates the problems for both parent and octor when a patient decides to stop a medicine. The role of allopurinol is to prevent a buildup of uric acid in the blood as a high uric acid is the cause of gout. Keep in mind that an attack of gout comes on suddenly with intense pain that prevents the person from moving without great distress. Work, sleep, leisure all come to a half until medicine resolves the pain.

Taking allopurinol daily prevents an attack of gout with its attendant effects. However, for the medicine to work, the person needs to take allopurinol every day.

one stops the drug, the uric acid level rises and inevitably an acute attack of gout

will experience undue pain and be incapacitated and the physician will have to start the process all over again of stopping the acute attack and weaning the patient back

Often patients have good reason to stop a medication: cost, side effects or allergic reactions. But the patient should inform the doctor immediately to allow a therapeutic

ostitution or prevent a rebound of illness from too rapid a discontinuation

What too often happens is that after six or nine months on the medication, and no

The free series hosted by Diane Zide. Botsford Commons' execuhealthy, growing and green.

· Learn the basics of composting and how to recycle rain water with a rain barrel at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 26.

· Store experts will show what to prune and when to prune trees and shrubs at a free presentation 7 p.m. Wednesday,

 Learn the basics of starting a garden free presentation, "Gardening 101" 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 6 and 1 p.m. Saturday, April 9.

• Planting a Raised Vegetable Garden will give you advice to get started growing your own vegetables. The free presentation is at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 13 and 1 p.m. Saturday, April 16.

Registration is required for the fresh flower arranging workshop and kitchen herb session.

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

the series. Reviewing the book

aging can be a time of promise

and productivity; optimizing

spiritual vigor; how faith and

community, purposeful work

and service, healthy eating and

The lecture series is free of

the Botsford Commons Chapel,

located at 21440 Archwood Circle

and Orchard Lake, north of Eight

River. For more information, call

in Farmington Hills. The facility

is located between Middlebelt

Mile, south of M-5 and Grand

(248) 426-6902.

charge and will be 7-8 p.m. in

ful for attendees.

prior to the series would be help-

Discussion topics include: how

and maintaining intellectual and

AGING WITH GRACE SERIES CONTINUES

Belleville High School Class of 1971

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

Dearborn Fordson

Class of 1971

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

Dearborn Heights Robichaud

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

Detroit Cody Class of 1961

50th reunion Aug. 27, 2011, at Hellenic Banquet Center, Westland. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail codycomet61@gmail.com. Or call Connie Callear Majeske at (734) 425-7094 or Bernie Lekki Grudzien at (734) 522-3167

Detroit Mackenzie * June Class of 1961

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

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

Ladywood High School Class of 1961

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

Livonia Bentley Class of 1961

Holding a 50th class reunion Sept. 16-17. To register, call Donald Bruner, (734) 524-0979 or e-mail dbruner@twmi.rr.com.

Livonia Franklin

Class of 1966 45th high school reunion, Oct. 7-9. Contact Larry Ruzsas at Iruzsas-187264mi@comcast.net or Diane Kujath-Pishalski at dianepishalski@bex.

Rosary High School Class of 1966

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

Take a girl's night out at the zoo, have fun

Girls ages 5 and older and their female chaperones 18 and older can celebrate Women's History Month with an overnight stay, from 7 p.m. Friday, March 11 to 10 a.m. Saturday, March 12, at the Detroit Zoo.

The adventure at the Ford Education Center will include a late-night tour of the Zoo, keeper talks, craft project, marshmallow roast, movie and breakfast at an animal habitat. Guests will also meet some of the dedicated women who work at the Zoo, including members of the animal care staff. The cost for "Girls' Night Out" is \$50 per person.

"This overnight event is a wonderful opportunity for fun, facts, fellowship and a shared awareness of the role of women in history, especially relative to conservation and animal welfare," stated Irma J. Hamilton, director of education for the Detroit Zoological Society. The theme of Women's History Month 2011 is "Our History is Our

For more information or to register, call (248) 541-5717, Ext. 3800, or e-mail education@detroitzoo.org.

The Detroit Zoo is located at 10 Mile (1-696 service drive) and Woodward in Royal Oak.

Orthodox churches offer Sunday Vespers for Lent

The Very Rev. Roman Star, pastor of St. Innocent of Irkutsk Orthodox Church, Redford, will preside at the first of five Sunday Vespers presented by the Council of Orthodox Christian Churches.

The first service will start at 6 p.m. Sunday, March 13 at St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church, 11455 Metropolitan Parkway, Sterling Heights.

Fr. Star is president of the Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood of St. John Chrysostom of Metropolitan Detroit, and spiritual advisor to the Council of Orthodox Christian Churches. Other members of the clergy will assist him at the service. The Rev. Nicholas Pathenos, presiding priest at St. George Greek Orthodox Church, Bloomfield Hills, will give the homily and the Orthodox Choir of Metropolitan Detroit, conducted by Vickie Kopistiansky, artistic director, will sing during the

Lenten Vespers is open to the general public, as well as Orthodox Christians. Refreshments will be served afterward and all proceeds will be used for Orthodox Christian charities and the Council's programs.

Robert A. Mitchell, Council of Orthodox Christian Churches president, said Vespers is an evening service that does not include communion.

'It's not the same as Mass because no communion would be served, but it's a service that generally is dedicated to the saint that would be observed the next day," he said.

The first service coincides with the Sunday of Orthodoxy and includes a procession of icons.

"It celebrates when icons were decreed to be lawful and okay for all the churches to use, because there was a long period of time when they were considered idolatry. At that service everyone has an icon. They



The Very Rev. Roman Star, pastor of St. Innocent of Irkutsk Orthodox Church, Redford, will preside at the first of five Sunday Vespers.

go around the church with a grand procession of icons," Mitchell said. "It is a wonderful service to come to because priests do litanies in different languages ... one in Russian, another in Greek, Serbian. It is quite nice and it's the first time in years we're celebrating at a Greek Orthodox church."

The remaining four services this year will be March 20 at the Antiochian Orthodox

Basilica of St. Mary, 18100 Merriman, Livonia, (734) 422-0010; March 27 at St. Lazarus Serbian Orthodox Cathedral Ravanica, 4575 East Outer Dr., Detroit, (313) 893-6025; April 3, at St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church, 26355 West Chicago Road, Redford, (313) 937-2120; and April 10 at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, 20484 Anglin, Detroit, (313) 366-0677.

The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches is a 54year-old clergy and lay association that represents various canonical Orthodox churches in metropolitan Detroit and sponsors a variety of worship, fellowship, and charitable, educational and outreach programs. Visit its Web site e-mail Mitchell at rmitc02@ ameritech.net.

- By Sharon Dargay

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DOGS OF THE WEEK

Oliver and Astro are the featured, adoptable dogs from Guardian Angel Animal Rescue (GAAR) this week.

Here's what Sandy Mezza, president of the Westland-based group says about them:

Oliver (Ollie), a 11/2-year-old puggle was surrendered to Guardian Angel Animal Rescue because his owner's health issues make it difficult to keep up with his high energy level. Ollie is a sweet dog, neutered and up-to-date on his

Astro was left to die after a family chained him to a tree and moved out of the home. He is a very loving and sweet boy. Very well behaved and gets along with other dogs. Astro will make a wonderful addition to any family.

If you're interested in meeting Oliver or Astro, visit www. gaarmichigan.org, call its hotline at (734) 516-2171 or e-mail to info@gaarmichigan.org

The organization also shows adoptable animals from 1-4 p.m. every Saturday at PetSmart in Commerce Township.



Oliver is a sweet-natured puggle.



Astro's family left him chained to a tree. The sweet dog is ready for a loving home.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Get pets vaccinated, meet a Greyhound

ANNUAL SHOTS

Tail Wagger's 1990 kicks off its series of low cost vaccination clinics from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 6 at Sheehy Animal Hospital 18790 Middlebelt, in Livonia.

Distemper and rabies shots for both dogs and cats will cost \$12 each. Dog owners can add Bordetella - for those that frequent dog parks, attend day care or are boarded - and receive the package rate of \$30.

Laura Zain, Tail Wagger's 1990 founder hopes individuals will "take advantage of the Low Cost Vaccination Clinics and get their pets properly vaccinated to avoid further health issues."

"This year, Plymouth, Rochester and Ann Arbor have joined our list of communities which shows there is a need and demand to get animals vaccinated in an affordable manner."



PET PROJECTS

Another local clinic will run 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 26 at Wags to Wiskers, 44707 Five Mile, at Sheldon, in Plymouth.

No appointment is needed but an RSVP will help Zain plan. Pets will be taken on a first-come first-served basis and a minimal wait time is expected. To RSVP call (734) 560-4660 or e-mail vaccinationclinic@yahoo.

MEET AND GREET

Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption will have representatives on hand with dogs from 1-4 p.m. Sunday, March 6, at Canton PetCo, 43435 Ford Road,

The group also will show adoptable dogs from 12:30-4:30 p.m. Sunday, March 13 at Celebrity Pets in Laurel Park Place, 37700 W. Six Mile, Livonia.

For more information visit www.greyheart.org

WADDLING AWAY

Planning to attend this year's annual Great American Basset Waddle for Rescue on May 15? Better gas up and pack a

The 18th annual parade of hounds will move from Woodward Avenue in Birmingham to Canterbury Village in Lake Orion. It raises funds for Michigan

Basset Rescue, a non-profit organization that has rescued nearly 3,000 homeless Basset Hounds since

The event that started with 12 hounds waddling up Woodward Avenue grew to 400 dogs last year. Michigan Basset Rescue expects more than 500 short-legged, long-eared, vertically-challenged, drooly hounds to strut their stuff in support of their less fortunate doggy brothers and sisters this year. Bassets, many of them Wylie Rundell of Royal Oak sports a spring hat. having been rescued themselves, will converge on Lake Orion from 45 states, six Canadian provinces and Ireland. After the parade, the pooches will "hang out" in the park at Canterbury Village. For more information on the parade and its new home, visit www.michiganbassetrescue.org or call

(248) 623-1698.

known as "the button lady" of Plymouth because of her association with an antique button society, tried to affix buttons, flags and daisies to the top hat she found in her basement.

"I kept trying and they kept falling off."

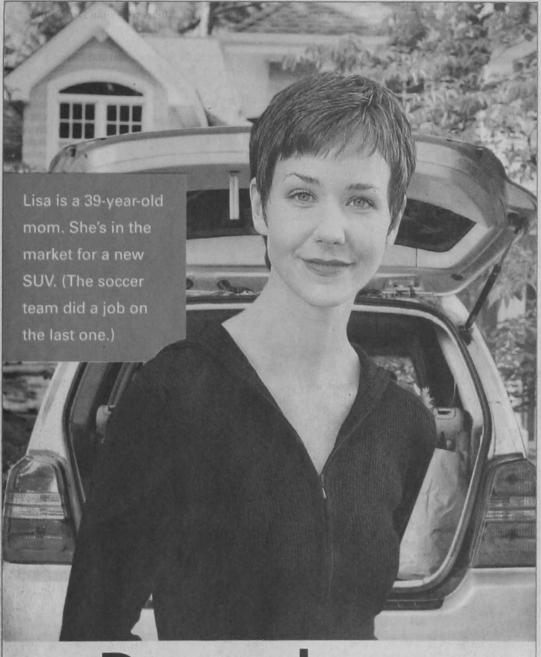
She eventually tied fake flowers to wire on the hat and added curly ribbon in a rainbow of colors that cascaded

down her back.

"I bet I had that hat for 20 years," Fitzner said. "My family said why don't you get rid of it? You know how you collect stuff? But I kept it. I must have kept it for today."

The museum's next tea is a "Faerie Garden" affair from 2-4 p.m. May 1. The guest speaker will explain how to create a faerie garden. Tickets are \$25 for non-members and \$20 for Plymouth Historical Society member by April 20. Add \$5 to the price after that date. (734) 455-8940.

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

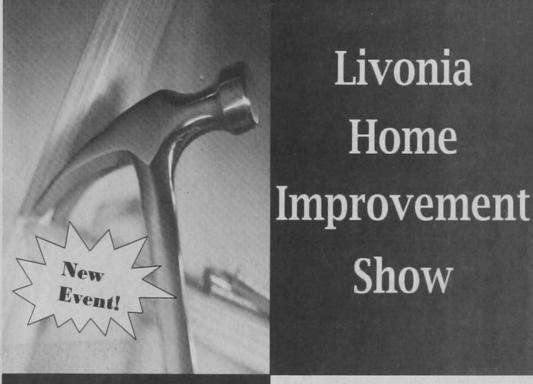


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Livonia

Home

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Churchill High School

Plus, students from the Livonia Career and Tech Center will provide do-it-yourself project tips.

improvement experts.

A few booth spaces remain. For details call the Livonia Chamber, 734.427.2122



Presented by:



Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 6, 2011

This is a story about William...and what a local chiropractor did to him...

Tina Maruszewski, D.C.

Dear Friend,

This is a story about William, whose birth was a difficult one and he was born pre-mature. He stayed in the hospital an extra month, was sick often and by the time he came home he was very colicky.

During one of his visits to the pediatrician, the doctor noticed that the front of his forehead was becoming abnormally shaped

on one side. Almost like one side was growing outward. Of course William's parents were very worried. He was sent to a specialist, who then recommended that William would be fitted for a helmet to "re-shape" his skull.

William's grandmother (Pat) was a tough cookie. She raised a few children mostly on her own and worked hard to pay the bills. She was the sole care taker and provider of her family, so when it came to grandbaby William, she didn't hesitate to seek out some answers or help.

Pat talked to friends, neighbors and other family about this issue with William's abnormally shaped

head. She even consulted her own doctors. Not many new answers came her way. However, on one visit to a *different* doctor, she was intrigued by this doctor's insight. You see, she was just talking about her grandson in passing. Bragging about how cute he was and how she was going to spoil him rotten! This doctor treated her for her problems, why would she ever consider this doctor for her grandson?

The doctor at first asked some basic questions like; how was the birth, any complications, c-section, forceps, suction, doctors hands pulling on Williams head, induced labor, premie, and things like how many hours of labor. Pat went into detail about how William's forehead was bulging only on one side and the process of fitting him for a helmet. Pat thought this doctor was just being curious, wanting to learn something new.

But then the doctor asked "when William is on his back, does his head turn or rotate to one side?" Pat just looked at the doctor blankly and said "I don't know". The doctor replied "next time you see your grandson, look to see if he turns his head to one side and then check to see if it's always the same side". The doctor said William may have torticollis; a condition in the neck where the muscles and vertebrae become locked. It can be uncomfortable to very painful. The doctor also told Pat that this is a condition she has treated before in patients both young and old with very good results.

Pat left feeling hopeful, but also questioning why she didn't even think about this doctor being able to help in the first place. **This doctor** sees many children and it never occurred to her to even

Pat did what the doctor told her to do. She looked for the head turning to one side, which it **repeatedly** did. Both William's parents didn't like the idea of the helmet, but did it anyway because there was no other alternative...they thought. So they agreed to meet this doctor.

Did I mention this doctor is a chiropractor? You won't believe what this doctor did to William.

The doctor examined him, explained, and then of all things...gave him a treatment. It wasn't scary, and it didn't hurt. The doctor made some recommendations and

some recommendations and William's parents gave it a try.

This is the great part!
Four weeks later when the helmet came in...it didn't fit! So they did another fitting. Another month goes by and the new helmet doesn't fit! The specialist

asks the parents... "what are

William"? "His head appears

you doing differently for

to be getting better. They

explained **EVERYTHING**. The specialist said with a smile on her face "keep doing what you're doing".

You should know that the chiropractor is me,
Dr. Tina Maruszewski and I don't heal anyone of
anything. What I do is perform specific and gentle
spinal adjustments to remove nerve pressure and
the body responds by healing itself. We get
tremendous results. It's simple as that!

Our promise to any patient is if we cannot help you we will not accept you as a patient. I am very realistic in my recommendations and have been in this community long enough to have built a solid reputation. I have seen thousands of patients...yes I look young, but I've been in practice eleven plus years and have been able to many children and adults.

Amazing offer- If you are interested at all, call my office and schedule a complimentary consult with me. This will allow me an opportunity to see if I can even help. For people who do not have insurance, we offer affordable plans.

My assistant is Linda and she is a really great person. Our office is both friendly and warm and we try our best to make you feel at home. We offer

a wonderful service. Our office is called **Lakepointe Family Chiropractic** and it is at 42875 Five Mile Rd. (next to the BP gas station). Our phone number is **734-420-1004**. Call Linda or me today for an appointment. We can help you. Thank You!

-Tina Maruszewki D.C.

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Shop breathes in aroma of five-year milestone, success

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Lisa Scheuing of Canton and daughter Caroline, 11, an East Middle School sixth-grader, have their after-dinner ritual. They enjoy tea from the TranquiliTea shop in downtown Plymouth.

"That's our little treat," said Lisa Scheuing, among customers Saturday, Feb. 26, at the shop's five-year anniversary celebration. Her husband's not a tea drinker: "We'll get him converted one of these days," she said with a smile.

"I come up here as often as I can because I love TranquiliTea. It's better to support local," she added.

The Scheuings began drinking loose leaf tea about three months ago. "Every cup of tea is better," she said of the tea bags she's given up in favor of loose tea. "I'll never go back."

There were tea samples, including decanters of green teas like decaffeinated caramel confection green. Glass teapots over warmers on a counter held Vietnam black tea and Hojicha roasted green tea.

There were lots of tasty baked goods to tempt shoppers as well, giving something sweet to go with the tea samples.

"Five years. We're pretty excited," said TranquiliTea owner Colleen Cannon of Livonia, who was working Saturday with husband Patrick and daughter-in-law Jill Cannon.

The Cannons gave 10 percent of Saturday's proceeds to First Step, which supports local victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. There were also canisters for additional donations.

There were 18 door prizes, with the drawing held late afternoon. Prizes included lots of teas, a piece of Polish pottery, and steeping cups and nots.

Jill Cannon flew in from her Los Angeles home, where husband Ryan works for www. NFL.com, the National Football League's website. "They flew me in to help with the weekend," said Jill, who lived in Ann Arbor and helped at the store when it first opened.

Talk was of tea Saturday, but Colleen Cannon noted with pride the couple's son got to attend the Super Bowl in Dallas this year, taking his dad. Ryan's a 2000 Livonia Churchill High School graduate who played football in high school.

"She comes to the World Tea Expo with us," Colleen said of Jill. "We get another generation's perspective on tea products."

Colleen Cannon started five years ago with



UL BRESLER LETACE DUOTOCRARUE

Colleen Cannon holds a teapot, one of a series designed by a group of Canadian artists. These pots are known for their design and beautiful colors.

40 teas in a smaller space on nearby Forest Avenue. "We keep finding cool stuff. Our customers really appreciate it."

Retired jeweler Bill Beitner is her landlord, and operated a family jewelry business on the site for years. "He's a sweetheart," she said. "We feel really privileged to be in his space."

The shop at 904 W. Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth is cozy, with virtually no storage space. Customer Lat Sorensen of Flint was perusing the shelves Saturday.

"I came to Plymouth for a wedding," Sorensen said. He found a delicate china teacup and saucer for his fiancee.

"I think she'll really like that," he said. "I missed Sweetest Day and her birthday. I was just driving around looking for something to do. I need a gift."

He didn't worry about gift wrapping, as Colleen Cannon deftly wrapped the gift in tissue against breakage and put it in a colorful

Before leaving, Sorensen filled out his form for a prize.

"I'm bound to win one of them," he said. "I have really good luck."

A vendor had provided a citrus blend tea which was given to customers on the anniversary celebration day. "A lot of the chocolate teas people like," Colleen Cannon said. Decaf and green teas also do well, as do basket strainers and strainer mugs for making tea.

For information on the shop, visit www.tranquilitea.com online or call (734) 459-9686.



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General: 2011 annual parking and boat launch permits are available at the park office. Vehicle entry permits are \$25; senior citizen \$15. Boat launching permits are \$30; senior citizen \$15. The HCMA and Oakland County Parks permits, valid within both park systems, are \$48. Daily entry fee

KENSINGTON

Note: For more information for registration, call the Kensington Park office at (248) 685-1561 or (800) 477-3178. The Nature Center office phone number is (248) 685-0603. Pre-registration required for programs and a \$2 fee per person unless stated otherwise. Park hours are 6 a.m.-10 p.m. daily.

Nature Center

Webelos: Scientist: Sunday, March 6, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. All requirements for this badge will be met during this indoor/outdoor program. Fee: \$5 per Scout. Preregistration required.

Webelos: Naturalist: Saturday, March 12, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. All requirements for this badge will be met during this indoor/outdoor program. Fee: \$5 per Scout. Preregistration required.

Deer Trailing: Sunday, March 13, 2 p.m. Explore the park's less-traveled game trails that often lead to surprising discoveries. Fee: \$3 per person. For ages 8 and older. Preregistration required.

Leave No Trace Camping for Scouts: Saturday, March 19, 1 p.m. Scouts will learn how to camp without scarring the landscape. Fee: \$5 per Scout. Participants should dress for the weather. Preregistration required.

Bear Scouts: Sharing Your World with Wildlife: Sunday, March 20, 10 am and 2 p.m. All requirements for this badge will be met during this indoor/outdoor program. Fee: \$5 per Scout. Pre-registration required.

Survival Saturday: How to Get Unlost: Saturday, March 26, 1 p.m. Discover the basics of how to find our way out of a sticky situation, with or without a compass. Bring a compass if you have one and your sense of direction. Fee: \$3 per person. For ages 10 and older. Preregistration required.

METROPARK CALENDAR

Return of the Ducks: Sunday, March 27, 2 p.m. Participants will search for migrating waterfowl as they pause to feed and rest before moving north to breed. Bring binoculars. Fee: \$3 per person. For ages 10 and older. Pre-registration required.

Farm Center Horse-Drawn Hayrides or

Sleighrides: weekends, noon - 4 p.m. Take a relaxing horse-drawn hayride or sleighride (snow conditions permitting) past the fields and through the woods. Hayrides are \$3 per child, \$5 per adult. For more information, please call 248-684-8632 or 1-800-477-3178

Maple's Sweet Story: noon-3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays in March. Stop in for a hot breakfast from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Farmhouse Grille, and then head on a guided tour to the sugar bush to see the maple sugaring process, including tapping trees and boiling down the sap. Guided tours begin at noon: the last guided tour will leave at

2:30 p.m. After 4 p.m., the sugar bush will remain open for selfguided visits. A re-enactment of an Algonquin winter camp is also located within the woods noon-4 p.m. Registration is not required for the weekend programs. Fee: \$3 for adults; \$1 for seniors and kids 3 to 12 years. Weekday programs (Tuesday through Friday) during March are available by appointment to schools and organized groups.

Wintertime activities

Winter sports area: the slopes at the winter sports area are ideal for sledding and tobogganing with two toboggan runs and separate beginning, intermediate and advanced sledding hills. A beginner snowboarding hill is located in the Orchard picnic area, and a special bunny hill is designated for young children under 36 inches. A nearby shelter has picnic tables and grills. Hours are 11 a.m. to dusk weekdays and 10 a.m. to dusk weekends and Christmas vacation week, weather permitting. Call the park office at 1-800-477-3178 to confirm when the sledding and

toboggan runs are open. Ice fishing: fishing shanties typically dot Kent Lake during the peak winter months as anglers try to catch bluegills, crappies and

Ice skating: offered at the ice rink located on Kent Lake at the boat rental area, which is lighted evenings. Weather and ice conditions permitting, the ice rink is open weekdays, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. On weekends and during the week of December 27, the ice rink hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Walking, jogging, in-line skating and cycling: the Winter Walk: 5.1 miles of the paved hike/bike trail from the East Boat Launch to the Bay Woods comfort station, is cleared for walking, cycling or inline skating throughout the winter. Helmet use is required for cyclists and in-line skaters. The walking area is open daily during regular park hours, weather conditions permitting.

Park hours: 6 a.m.-10 p.m. For ice and snow conditions, contact Kensington Metropark at (800) 477-3178 or (248) 685-1561.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its regular meeting March 15, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. at the Friends Room on the main level of the Library at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI

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

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

Publish: March 6, 2011

Spring Break Getaway

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE

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

Meeting dates: January 11, February 8, March 8 & 22, April 12,

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

> Joe Bridgman, MMC Township Clerk

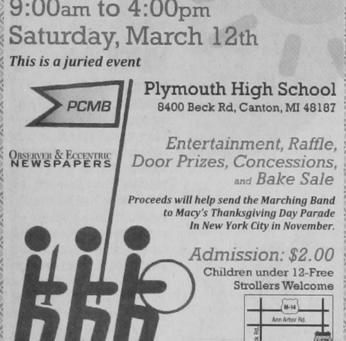
Publish: January 9, February 6, March 6 & 20, April 10, May 8 & 22, June 12, 2011

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, March 22, 2011

Kipco Enterprises, Inc. d.b.a. Allegra Print & Imaging Wixom

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: that a Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, March 22, 2011, during a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth to consider the request of Kipco Enterprises, Inc. d.b.a. Allegra Print & Imaging Wixom for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for the cost of machinery, equipment, furniture, and fixtures located at 47583 Galleon Drive, Metro West-Beck Road Industrial Development Park, Plymouth Township, Wayne County,

The request of Kipco Enterprises, Inc. d.b.a. Allegra Print & Imaging Wixom is on file in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall where it is available for public perusal from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. During the public hearing any resident of Plymouth Township or members of the Legislative Board of any affected taxing unit in the Township shall have the right to appear and be heard. Written comments addressed to the Clerk will be considered.

The public hearing, commencing at 7:00 p.m., will be held in the Town Hall at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N Haggerty Rd, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, on Tuesday, March 22, 2011. Phone Number 734-354-3224. Following the public hearing, the Board may decide on the request by resolution.

> Joe Bridgman, MMC Township Clerk Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: March 6, 2011

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, March 22, 2011

Changan US Research & Development Center, Inc.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: that a Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, March 22, 2011, during a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth to consider the request of Changan US Research & Development Center, Inc. for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for the cost of land and building, machinery, equipment, furniture, and fixtures located at 47799 Halyard Drive, Metro West Technology Park, Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan.

The request of Changan US Research & Development Center, Inc. is on file in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall where it is available for public perusal from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

During the public hearing any resident of Plymouth Township or members of the Legislative Board of any affected taxing unit in the Township shall have the right to appear and be heard. Written comments addressed to the Clerk will be considered.

The public hearing, commencing at 7:00 p.m., will be held in the Town Hall at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N Haggerty Rd, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, on Tuesday, March 22, 2011. Phone Number 734-354-3224. Following the public hearing, the Board may decide on the request by resolution.

> Joe Bridgman, MMC Township Clerk Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: March 6, 2011

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SOCIAL SECURIT

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

The tragedy is that less than half of those persons who are denied benefits file an appeal. Thus, many thousands of people who deserve benefits never receive them.

Those denied can appeal on their own, but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

Attorney J.B. Bieske has represented only Social Security Disability clients for over 20 years. That is the only type of law he practices. And, he personally meets with all clients and appears himself at all court hearings. Many large firms assign clients to young associate attorneys with much less xperience.



In addition to practicing only Social Security Disability law Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject. He also has been interviewed on various radio and television programs and has given speeches to many groups.

Bieske's office staff consists of paralegals and secretaries who are also highly experienced in assisting him with Social Security Disability cases. And they are extremely helpful in answering questions with regard to the status of clients' cases and administrative procedure.

Attorney Bieske welcomes you to call him to determine if you may be

free phone or office consultations. If Bieske represents you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

In a recent radio interview attorney Bieske explained that many people are not even aware that they are eligible for Social Security Disability benefits. These are not the same as Workers' Compensation benefits. It is possible to receive both benefits at the same time. If you have an illness or injury (whether or not related to your work), are under 65 and unable to work full-time you may be eligible. Social Security Disability benefits are based on your work record or your deceased spouse's work record (Widow's/Widower's benefits).

Bieske represents clients from all over the state of Michigan. Call him at 1-800-331-3530 for a FREE consultation if you have been denied. Or if you are thinking of possibly of applying for Social Security benefits call him for FREE advice.

www.ssdfighter.com

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DELORES BROWN

Age 79, went to be with the Lord on February 22nd, 2011. Survived by her husband Dale and family.

JANET LEE BUCY

Age 71, of Westland, MI. Passed away March 2, 2011. Arrangements Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington.

ROSE LOUISE CRENSHAW

Age 83, February 27, 2011. Beloved wife of Paul for 62 years. Loving mother of Nancy (Douglas) Berg and the late Paul, Jr. and Jeff Crenshaw. Sister of Edward Bojas. Grandmother of Angie and Paul. Great grandmother of 5. Visitation Thursday 2-9 PM at Harry J. Will Funeral Home 37000 Mile Rd. in Livonia. Funeral Friday, in state 10am until time of service at 11am at Grace Lutheran Church 25630 Grand River Ave. in Redford. Interment Glen Eden Cemetery in Livonia. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association.



MARION J. FOSTER

of Royal Oak, died Sunday February 27th, 2011. She was born in MI to Nellie and Horace Horsfall. Surviving are her son, Earl Foster, III of New Braunfels, TX, her sister, Dorothy Leech, of Warren MI., her brother Morley Horsfall of Milwaukee, WI'., and her two grandchildren Brianna Foster and Evan Foster of Lansing, MI. A Graduate of Pershing High School, Detroit, MI. Marion was an accountant for Cooney Engineering & Nutri-Foods in Royal Oak. She was involved in charities for the homeless, church activities, Royal Oak and Clawson senior citizens events, Gray Panther peace program and numerous others. A memo rial service will be held at 11:00AM on April 30th, at the Birmingham Unitarian Church at 38651 Woodward Ave., Birmingham, MI.

www.kinsey-garrett.com

ANNE FURMAN

Brighton, MI. Her Legacy...Died February 28, 2011. Anne was born, Anna Linnea Benson, February 23, 1917 in Bridgeport, CT the daughter of Swedish immigrants, Carl Johan August and Olga Juliana (Elg) Benson. In June of 1938 she met her husband of 63 years, Louis Furman of Cleveland at a dude ranch in Lake George, New York. They were married April 9, 1939 in Brooklyn, NY. He precedes her in death. She was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Hamburg and Lakeland Golf and Country Club where she and Lou enjoyed many years of golf and endur-ing friendships. Her Family...Loving mother of Judy (Kevin) Woods of Dexter and beloved grandmother of Abigail, Jonathan and Caitlin. She is preceded in death by her sister, Alice and three brothers, Rudolph, Siegfried and John. Her Farewell...The family will gather with friends on Friday from 5-8 PM at Borek Jennings Funeral Home, Hamburg Chapel. Funeral service will be held at 11 am on Friday March 4, 2011 at St Andrews Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division, Ann Arbor, MI with Fr. Alan Gibson officiating. Burial will take place in Hamburg Cemetery. Memorial contributions are suggested to Arbor Hospice. Please leave a Message of Comfort to Anne's family by calling 877-231-7900 or visit her guestbook at: www.borekjennings.com.

HARRIET CLEGERN MORGAN

With beautiful memories, announce the passing on of Harriet Clegern Morgan on February 26, 2011 at age 90. Born in Oklahoma in 1920 to Wayne Frank Clegern and Katharine McLauchlin Clegern, Harriet had two brothers William and Wayne and a sister, Frances. Her parents, Brother Bill and sister Frances have preceded her in death. Dedicating her life to education and research, Professor Emeritus Harriet C. Morgan taught science at Schoolcraft College from its opening in 1964 to her retirement in 1990. Harriet served as a member of Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church for 40 years. She was preceded her in death by her son Gregory Wayne Morgan. Her memory will be cherished by her daughter Mary Katharine Morgan; daughter-inlaw Lucille Babcock and husband; grand-children, Kyna Morgan-Pearce, Clifford Englehart, Jeffery Englehart and their families; many great-grandchildren; brother Wayne Clegern and wife Nancy; and the Clegern clan. March 5 at Memorial Service: Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard St., Livonia. Visitation is at 1p.m. with service to begin at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Presbyterian

JOHN JAY MYERS

assed away on February

5th, 2011, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Jay was an inspirational teacher and coach at Seaholm High School, Birmingham, Michigan. He taught U.S. history and economics for 36 years. He authored 3 books and countless articles. As the first swim team coach in Birmingham Schools, his teams won many league championships and national honors. After retiring to Santa Fe, he incorporated photography with his writing and was a member of Western Writers of America, Outdoor Writers and Photographers, and held the office Writers and Sheriff of Westerner's International. He continued his love for swimming by competing in the Masters Swimming Program, swimming thousands of miles in New Mexico pools. He also served as an officer in the U.S. Navy during WWII. Jay is survived by his wife, daughters, son, and grandchildren. Private memorial was attended by family.

MARGARET R. NORTON (ROTTSCHAEFER)

Of St. Anne's Mead in Southfield, formerly of Rochester Hills, died February 23, 2011 at the age of 97. She was born August 16, 1913 in South India to Dr. Bernard and Bernice Rottschaefer, Dutch Reformed missionaries. Her early education was at the Kodaikanal International School, which she visited in 1970 and 2001. In 1941, Margaret married James Horace Norton and together they had three daughters; Joan of Birmingham, MI, Nancy Sharpe-Blizard (Ricky) of Los Angeles, CA and Carol Springs of Anacortes, Margaret had 7 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, James and granddaughter, Kathy. earned her B.A. from Hope College and her Masters from Wayne State University. She was a librarian at Mount Clemens High School. Margaret was a long-time member of the Rochester Historical Commission, the Mt. Avon Cemetery Board, the Rochester Hills Historical Society, and a former member of the A.A.U.W.; She was a member of the First Congregational Church of Rochester and more recently the Congregational Church of Birmingham. Her hobbies included reading, writing poetry, hiking, the study of history, and world An important part of Margaret's life after she married Jim, was vacationing at their cottage on Basswood Lake in Canada. Her traveling companion for the last 16 years vas her adored sister, Jean Upjohn of Kalamazoo, MI. The funeral service will be held at the First Congregational Church of Rochester at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 12, 2011. In lieu of Memorial contributions may be made to Amnesty International USA, 322 Eighth Ave., New York, NY 10001. Please leave condolences at www.pixleyfuneralrochester.com

EMILY J. SALVATO

Age 77, February 27, 2011. Beloved wife of 50 years to Thomas and loving mother of Joey, Gina (Dale) Massy, Kathleen (Mark) Demers, Peter, Tom, Michelle (Peter) Napolitan, Vince (Michele). Also survived by 10 grandchildren.

www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com

CHARLES (CHUCK) SPANBERGER

Age 86, of Redford, 2-17-11. Brother of Ethel Grigg, Marilyn Irvine & the late George. Uncle of Kurt Spanberger, Kathy Nichol & others. No services are planned.

ROBERT W. STARNES

Age 84 of Metamora Formerly from Pleasant Ridge and Birmingham passed away at his home. Born-Battle Creek Michigan, Date of Death 3/1/11 He is Pre-Deceased by his wife Margery whom he married July 15. Royal Oak, MI. he is survived by his Children Robert (Cynthia), James (Cynthia), Deborah, (William) Wiley, Virginia (Steven) Taylor, the late Carol Beth . Siblings; Reppard (Helen) Starnes, the late (William) Schultz Grandchildren: Bradley and Katherine Background Graduated Albion 1949 Graduated Wayne State with Masters 1963, Eagle scout, Honarable dis-charge from Navy 8/1946. Worked at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Pontiac Michigan 1950-1969, William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak 1969-1990 Gasow Veteranary Hospital Loved outdoors, traveling, family and friends. Visitation Friday 1-7 at the Wessels & Wilk Funeral Home, 23690 Woodward, Pleasant Ridge Service was Saturday. Private burial Woodlawn Cemetery Donations to Hospice and Parkinson's



until we see you again. Aunt Sherry as well as The Swintek/Vinal family Let others know..

In memory of

CLINT & DEREK SWINTEK

It's been two years boys, and still we

think of you and miss you every single day. And we will love you for always,

When you've lost a loved one, place your notice on our website and in "Passages" ... a directory located in every edition of your hometown newspaper.

Observer & Eccentric Call 1-800-579-7355

MILESTONES

SPRING WEDDING PLANNED

Katie Symanow and Jonathan Davis announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of David Symanow of Plymouth and the late Carolyn Symanow, graduated in 2006 from Divine Child, and in 2010 from Michigan State University with a degree in English. Katie is student teaching in Lansing, while earning her teaching certificate.

Her fiancé, son of Lee and Carolyn Davis of Livonia, graduated from Churchill High School's MSC program in 2003, and from Michigan Technological University in 2007. He earned dual degrees

JULY WEDDING

PLANNED

BARBARA DAVINA STOYE

the Detroit area, passed away Friday, 2011, at her home on Old

Mission Peninsula, with her family by

her side. Barbara was born on May 15, 1923, in Detroit, the daughter of

the late George F. and Barbara W

(Leadbetter) James. Barbara attended

and graduated from Cooley High

School. After attending Wayne State University, Barbara entered Grace Hospital School of Nursing. While at

Grace, she met Frederick Deckert

Stoye. The two were fixed up on a

blind date, which was Valentine's Day

1943. They were married on June 29,

1946, after Frederick graduated from

the University of Detroit Dental

School. After opening his dental prac-

tice in Detroit, their first child was born, Laura C. Stoye. She preceded

Barbara in death on Feb. 15, 1991.

Raising their family (Laura and later

their son, Fred D. Stoye Jr.) in Detroit

and eventually in Lathrup Village, Barbara worked the local election,

belonged to the Lathrup Supper Club

Hospital. Her other joy was spending

summers at the family cottage at

Higgins Lake. She will be greatly

missed by her husband of almost 65

years Frederick D. Stoye, D.D.S.; her son, Fred D. Stoye Jr., D.D.S., and his wife, Deborah; her five grandchildren,

Matthew (Kelly) Cushman, Emily S.

Stoye, Grant E. (Lydia) Stoye,

Jonathan P. Stoye and Ellen E. (Chris)

Phillips; one great-grandchild, Olivia

S. Cushman, with one on the way and

due to arrive to Ellen and Chris

Phillips in April; her sister-in-law,

Mary Stoye; six nieces and nephews;

as well as many other loving family

members and friends. Funeral services

took place on Tuesday, March 1, 2011,

at the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral

Home. Memorial contributions may

be directed to Father Fred Foundation

or the Higgins Lake Foundation.

Please share memories with the fami-

www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com.

The family is being served by the

Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home.

DANIEL LEE VALENTINE

Passed away on Feb 27, 2011, Age 51.

Daniel was an Alumnus of University of Michigan whose passion was food

and music. Daniel could be seen

enjoying himself working in the yard

or improving his household, and

enjoyed getting together with his family. He was a loving husband to Laura

(nee Beaton); caring father to Amber;

step-father to Sarah Jones; step-grand-

father to Allen Szabo; and brother to

Sharon and James. Daniel was prede-

ceased by his father Raymond and

brother Thomas. Visitation for Daniel

will be on Thursday starting at 2PM

until 9PM with the Funeral service starting at 7PM at the Lee-Ellena Funeral Home located at 46530 Romeo Plank Macomb, MI 48044

(South of 21 mile). Share memories at www.Lee-EllenaFuneralHome.com

In Memory Of

ly at Barbara's online guestbook at:

volunteered at Beaumont

of Traverse City and formerly of

Emilie Mae Hannon and Cory James Beadle announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Mark and Doreen Hannon of South Lyon, graduated in 2006 from South Lyon High School and in 2010 from Eastern Michigan University. She earned a bachelor of science degree in elementary education and teaches at Washtenaw County Head

Her fiancé, son of Curt and Julie Beadle of Livonia, graduated in 2004 from Franklin High School, in Livonia, and in 2008 from Eastern Michigan University, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in business administration. He is

MARRIED IN JUNE

Megan Camann and Anuj Minocha were married June 26, 2010. The Rev. Drex Morton presided over the ceremony which took place at Meadowbrook Country Club in Northville.

The bride is the daughter of Rick and Sue Camann of Plymouth. She graduated from Salem High School in 2004 and from Boston University in 2008. She is employed as an actuary with the Hanover Group in Worcester, Mass.

The groom is the son of Subhash and Rakesh Minocha of Durham, N.H. He graduated from Boston University in 2007 and is a student at Harvard University School of Dentistry.

The bride's attendants were Annie Holdsworth as Maid of Honor and bridesmaids Beth Yeakel, Anjuli Timmer, Megan Scotto and Lina Jorneskog.

The groom's attendants were



Symanow-Davis

in computer and electrical engineering.

A spring 2011 wedding is planned in Dearborn.



Hannon-Beadle

employed at Ann Arbor Credit Bureau.

A July 2011 wedding is planned at First United Methodist Church in South Lyon.



Minocha-Camann

John Timmer as Best Man, and Robbie Camann, Matt Smith, Andrew Hill and Alison pay \$6.50 for adults and \$2.50 for Nobil.

Caden Timmer was their ring bearer.

After the ceremony, a recep-

tion was held at Meadowbrook Country Club. The couple took a honey-

moon trip to Costa Rica and currently reside in Brookline,

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send calendar items to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Feel free to include relevant photos as attached jpgs. Or mail items to Sharon Dargay, The Observer, 615 Lafayette, level 2, Detroit, MI 48226.

MARCH 6-9

Ash Wednesday

Time/Date: 6-6:45 p.m. soup supper; 7 p.m. service, March 9 Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

Details: Pastor Gregory Gibbons will preach on the theme "Jesus, Peter and Me." Refreshments follow the service. The church will hold Lenten services and soup suppers every Wednesday through Lent

Contact: (313) 532-8655 or (734) 968-3523

Clothing Bank

Time/Date: 5-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 9 and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 26

Location: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 41920 Joy,

Details: Free clothing will be given to anyone in need

Contact: (734) 404-2480 or (734) 927-6686

Concert

Time/Date: 9:30-10:45 a.m. Sunday, March 6

Location: Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300 Middlebelt Road, near Eight Mile, Livonia Details: The Royalheirs, a southern gospel quartet, will sing at morning

Contact: (248) 474-3444 or e-mail the church at: clarencevilleumc@ att.net

Concert and dinner Time/Date: 4 p.m. concert; 5-7:30 p.m. dinner, March 6

Location: Congregation Bnai Moshe,

6800 Drake, West Bloomfield Details: The Gemini Brothers perform in a free concert Contact: (248) 788-0600

Pancake dinner

Time/Date: 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 8

Location: Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road,

Farmington Hills Details: Chris Cakes will fling all the pancakes you can catch - and eat.

Includes pancakes, sausage, orange drink, milk and coffee. Tickets available in the church Narthex for \$6 per person, \$2 for kids 4 and under. Or kids at the door. Proceeds benefit the annual Youth Mission Trip Contact: (248) 626-3620

MARCH 10-16

Learning Shabbat Time/Date: 6 p.m. service, 7 p.m.

congregational Shabbat dinner, Friday, March 11 and 9:30 a.m. service, with lunch and program following, Saturday, March 12 Location: Congregation Beth Ahm, 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield Details: Dr. Rebecca Schorsch, chair of the Bible Department at the Chicagoland Jewish High-School in Deerfield, III., will teach about the role of women and gender in Jewish life and imagination. Schorsch will analyze the text Eishet Hayil (Woman of Valor; Proverbs chapter 31) in a study session called "Who is the Woman of Valor? A Study of a Friday Night Tradition." There is no charge for the after-dinner talk, and walkins are welcome. Reservations are required for the dinner by 4 p.m. March 9. Cost is \$20 for adults and

Exodus." There is no charge for the Shabbat afternoon learning session, and walk-ins are welcome

Contact: (248) 851-6880

\$8 for children, 6-12. On Saturday,

Schorsch will lead a second study

session, "God as Midwife and Women

as Saviors: The Feminization of the

Lenten series Time/Date: 7-8 p.m. Sundays, beginning March 13

Location: The First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, located on the northwest corner of Farmington Road

and 11 Mile Details: The program, "What Matters Most"? is based on the highly acclaimed book "What's the Least I Can Believe and Still be a Christian? A Guide to What Matters Most" by

Martin Thielen. Dessert will be served Contact: (248) 474-6170 or visit www.farmington-pres.org for more information or to reserve babysitting

LILA ARRIVES Lila Grace

Mosquera was born Feb. 16, 2011, at Providence Hospital, Novi.

She joins parents Jason and Melissa Mosquera and big sister, Mia Love, 20 months, at home in Livonia. Grandparents are

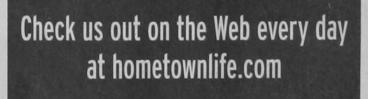
Sharon and Martin Buzenberg of Canton, Gregory and Susan Bias of Dearborn, Sherry and Dave Miller of Westland, and Raymond and Marie Mosquera

of Westland. Great-grandparents are



Lila Grace Mosquera

Pearl and Hiro Tsurui of Wayne, Betty Bias of Redford, Carol Longmire of Garden City, and Alphonse and Dora Mosquera of Westland.





HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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

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

Evening funds research advances in pediatric cancer

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN CORRESPONDENT

Thirty years ago a group of parents vowed to do everything possible to prevent another family from losing a child to pediatric cancer. They met in the waiting room as their sons and daughters received treatment at Children's Hospital of Michigan in Detroit. Their goal'was to find a cure for all pediatric cancers.

Thirty years ago childhood leukemia was nearly always a death sentence with only about a 30-percent survival rate. Today, because of advances in treatment there is a 75- to 80-percent cure rate after five

The work continues as founding parents like Mary Ellen Klein continue to raise money for pediatric cancer research at Children's Hospital of Michigan through the nonprofit Leukemia, Research, Life, Inc., (LRL). On Saturday, March 12, they will present an Evening of Hope at Laurel Manor in Livonia.

LEUKEMIA DIAGNOSIS

Danny Klein was only 2 1/2 years old when Mary Ellen noticed the pea size bruises on his body and took him to the pediatrician. By Monday the toddler was running a low-grade fever. He was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) Dec.

"It was an incredible shock," said Klein who works in Plymouth. "LRL was started 1 1/2 years later by par-



Sarah Lemieux with her big brother, Danny Klein, on the front porch. Taken around 1984 -85. Sarah is married to Dan. They have two children - Alyne and Michael Daniel.

ents who were waiting for their children who were getting chemo and blood tests. Danny was on methotrexate and we were asked to fill out a questionnaire. They were doing a study that was cancelled because (President Ronald) Reagan cut funding. We said, 'we need to raise money to help our children."

Parents formed LRL in September 1981 and started selling T-shirts and candy. That first year they raised \$30,000 to pay for a research physi-

Mary Ellen and Mike Klein sought a bone marrow transplant for Danny in Seattle, Wash., in 1984 because the treatment wasn't available in Michigan at that time. He died in May 1985 before his eighth birthday.

"My prayer is that no parent ever has to feel this pain," said Klein.

Sarah Lemieux was 6 years old when her brother died. She still misses him today and echoes her mother's

"Danny was just always sick," said Lemieux, a Plymouth resident. "At the time it was all I knew, the normal thing, my older brother always in the hospital. It wasn't until after he died I was profoundly affected. He was my best friend. It's still hard. I always wonder what our lives would have been like if he lived."

The Kleins took their children to LRL fundraisers and sent them to Special Days Camp for children living with cancer and their siblings. It was through the camp in Brighton that Lemieux met her future husband, Dan. His sister is a leukemia survivor.

NEED TO UNDERSTAND

"Mom and dad felt it was important for us to understand," said Lemieux, now teen camp coordinator for Special Days. "We've always been taught it was important to give back

Lynn Pischke has childhood cancer on both sides of her family. As LRL executive director she's dedicated to finding a cure. In the last 30 years. the nonprofit has raised nearly \$4 million for childhood cancer research at Children's Hospital of Michigan.

Pischke became involved with LRL in her 20s. She was 18 when Danny died. Mary Ellen Klein is her father's cousin

"Being so closely exposed to the disease and having attended so many funerals and memorial services, I have pediatric cancer very much in the forefront of my mind, " said Pischke of Canton. "Being the largest contributor of cancer research dollars for Children's Hospital, we've funded everything from grassroots research to new treatment protocols and drug therapies for children battling the disease. At one time, bone marrow transplants were something new. Mary Ellen's son was one of 20 kids to receive a bone marrow transplant in the country. Back then children used to spend three months in a plastic bubble and couldn't go to school. The advances come from research 100 percent."

RAISING FUNDS

LRL started with small fundraisers like bakes sales and evolved to major benefits like the Evening of Hope. This year in addition to the dinner auction, LRL is honoring nurses who care for the children.

"They're kind of unsung heroes,"

said Pischke. "They're delivering the care not just to the kids, but the moms and dads, grandparents. Treatments can be very traumatic for the family."

Thirty years have passed and parents, family and friends are as determined today to find a cure through LRL. They meet the second Monday of the month at Children's Hospital and are always looking for volunteers.

They don't have to volunteer hours of time," said Pischke. "It can be something very small, holding a jeans' day at work. Every little bit helps. We're always looking for new ideas or for people to just get on our mailing list. We'd love to have people's input."

HOW TO HELP

A good place to start helping is with the March 12 fundraiser. The gala takes place from 7 p.m. to midnight at Laurel Manor, 39000 Schoolcraft, Livonia. Tickets are \$85, and available by calling Pischke at (734) 309-0908 or visiting www.

Auction items include two tickets to the Detroit Tigers opening day at Comerica Park, a one-hour flight tour over city of Detroit, golf and dinner packages, and jewelry.

"Our goal is within our children's lifetime that all children's cancer will be preventable," said Pischke. "That's the future of the genetics research behind this, to find out precursors of childhood cancer."

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Training classes

The American Red Cross is offering nurse assistant, home health aide and patient care tech training classes at multiple classroom sites including 20319 Middlebelt, Livonia. For more information, as well as class dates and times, call the American Red Cross at (313) 5764130 or (313) 576-4120.

St. Mary Mercy

St. Mary Mercy Hospital offers these pro-

grams in March: · Donate blood from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, March 17 in the auditorium. The hospital's 2011 blood drive theme is "Be an All Star and Donate Blood." Five blood drives will be held over the year. March's theme is, "College Basketball." Donors will receive a basketball-themed digital clock. To schedule an appointment call (800) GIVE-LIFE or visit redcrossblood.org. Walk-ins are accepted, but appointments

are preferred. • The Marian Women's Center at St. Mary Mercy Hospital will offer a Sibling Tour, 10-11:30 a.m., Saturday, March 19. Good sibling preparation can minimize a child's feelings of anxiety and jealousy with the coming of a new baby. Aimed at children, 1-13. There is a \$10 fee per family. Pre-registration is

required. Call (734) 655-1162, • A prenatal breastfeeding class runs 7-9 p.m. March 24 in Classrooms 1 and 2 at the hospital. The class is designed for expectant mothers between the seventh and eighth month of pregnancy. The class will focus on the benefits of breastfeeding for infant, mother, and family. Cost is \$25 per couple. Call (734) 655-1162 or register online at stmarymercy.org and click on "classes and events."

· A class in CPR runs 6-9 p.m. March 29 in

the Community Outreach Department, Classroom 10. The class is being offered through a partnership with the American Heart Association. Instructors will train participants using the American Heart Association's "Family & Friends CPR" course. They'll learn CPR and choking techniques for infants, children, and adults. There is a fee. Call the Community Outreach Department at (734) 655-8950 to register.

The hospital is located at 36475 Five Mile,

Diabetes Caregiver Class

Grandparents, school personnel, baby sitters, stepparents, and others interested in learning about how to care for a child with diabetes will learn about insulin pens, syringes, calculating insulin doses, nutrition, exercise and other topics in this class, 1:30-4:30 p.m. March 21, at the University of Michigan Medical Center Auditorium, 1500 E. Medical Center Drive, Ann Arbor, The class will be an interactive and educational session with plenty of time to practice and time to ask questions. The cost is \$18 per person and covers the handouts that will be given at class, the cost of parking, and light refreshments. Register by calling (734) 764-5175.

Bariatric surgery

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

Blood donations needed for the Red Cross

The American Red Cross urgently needs to bolster blood supplies and is asking

Peyronie's Disease

Peyronie's Disease is characterized by the presence of hardened scar tissue that can be felt just beneath the skin of the penis. It can cause pain as well as a curvature that can make intercourse difficult.

Many p sicians believe that trauma is the largest cause of Peyronie's Disease, which affects some 3 percent of males between the ages of 30 and 80.

Treatment can be divided into two categories: invasive and non-invasive. Invasive treatment could include injections of corticosteroids, verapamil, or interferon directly into the scar tissue, or surgery. Surgery is usually performed as a last resort due to post-surgical complications.

Non-invasive treatments include oral medications such as vitamin E, colchicine or a twice-daily application of verapamil topical compound. For more information or to schedule an appointment call..

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eligible donors to roll up their sleeves and donate.

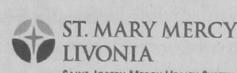
In late January the organization issued a national appeal after winter storms caused a drop in blood donations in much of the country. In south-

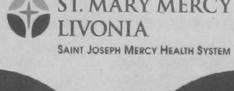
eastern Michigan alone between December 2010 and January severe winter weather was responsible for 2,500 missed opportunities to collect blood

Patients at 43 hospitals in southeastern Michigan are

counting on volunteer blood donations to help them through serious illnesses,

accidents and surgeries. Donors can make an appointment by calling (800) RED CROSS or by visiting redcrossblood.org.





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(1) Includes acquisition fee, waived security deposit, and excludes title, taxes and license fees. Some payments higher, some lower. Not all lessees will qualify for low mileage Ford Credit Red Carpet Lease. Residency restrictions apply. Special lease rates are for eligible A/Z Plan lessees. Payments include \$500 Renewal Bonus Cash on 2011 Focus SE and \$750 Renewal Cash on the other vehicles. You must currently lease a Ford product and fi nance through Ford Credit. \$500 maximum Matching Down Payment on Fusion, Taurus SHO, Edge, Mustang V6 and Fiesta (excludes S model). \$750 maximum Matching Down Payment on Escape and Focus. Take delivery from dealer stock by 4/4/11. See dealer for qualifications and complete details. (2) MPG estimate based on 2011 Focus SE 2.0L 4-speed automatic 25 city/35 highway, 2011 Escape 2.5L I-4 Engine 21 city/28 highway, Fiesta SE 1.6 Engine -29 city/38 highway, Fusion SE 2.5L I-4 Engine with 6-speed automatic 23 city/33 highway, 2011 Edge SE 3.5L V6 engine 19 city/26 highway, Taurus SHO 3.5L EcoBoost V6 engine 17 city/25 highway, Mustang V6 3.7L 4V Ti-VCT V6 engine 19 city/31 Highway and 2011 F-150 Super Cab 5.0L V8 engine 17 city/23 highway. (3) Not all customers will qualify for 0% APR Ford Credit Financing. \$16.67 per month per \$1000 financed for 60 months at special APR of 0% on F-150. Residency restrictions apply. (4) Driving while distracted can result in loss of vehicle control. Only use mobile phones and other devices, even with voice commands, when it is safe to do so. Residency restrictions apply.

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Billing Questions:



Sunday, March 6, 2011

Can Facebook really help you land a job?

Alina Dizik, Special to CareerBuilder

While Facebook can sometimes seem like a way to simply post a few photos or let your friends know about your birthday -- there are ways it can come in handy in your professional career. Facebook lets job seekers tap an informal network of friends or friends of friends who can be instrumental in creating success. "The collection of friends you have through Facebook are the ones most likely to have your back," says Jenny Foss, a job search expert who blogs at JobJenny.com. With so many different options, Facebook is a good place to start if you're job hunting or just seeking to network.

Here's what to do to get started:

Customize your avatar

In an online search, your avatar is typically the first thing a potential employer sees on Facebook. So if you're in job search mode. it's important to have a professional avatar that can help you get hired. "You can create a custom avatar that includes your contact

information and that you are in the job market," says Jessica Miller-Merrell, chief executive of Xceptional HR. Additionally, while your profile should be kept private, include an e-mail address and job history in the visible information so recruiters can reach out to you directly.

Use your status

Find a good way to let your Facebook friends you're looking. For example, refer them to your own site, which showcases samples of your

work and a résumé, or ask them to drop you an e-mail if they know of a lead. Being specific about what type of job or company you're looking for can make it easier for people to help, Foss says. Throughout your job search use your status to update your friends on how it's going. Don't inundate friends with every little detail and make each status conversational and optimistic. "Keep it genuine, make it real," Foss says. "But don't come across as the saddest, most desperate

person alive."

Take out a Facebook ad

When Marian Schembari graduated from college and wanted to land a publishing job, she took out an ad on Facebook to target publishing houses. The ad showed up for Facebook users who listed

> companies like Random House and HarperCollins as their employer. Once they clicked on the ad, users were referred to her personal website that contained her résumé. A person

from each of the publishers e-mailed that he or she passed on her résumé to HR or wanted to meet, she recalls.

After placing her ad, others in the industry wrote about Schembari's pursuits and she was able to get her foot into the publishing world. "Facebook was the easiest and fastest way to network with a huge number of publishing people at once, she says. "It was like a networking event on steroids with an added bonus of never needing to leave my house or get out of my pajamas."

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seeks experienced.

"Like" companies where you'd want to work

Since most companies have a Facebook presence these days, clicking the "like" button on that company's fan page will signal that you're interested in a job there, Foss says. Additionally, it's a simple way to learn the latest company news, which can help during an interview. Additionally, "some companies list their open jobs right on their [Facebook] pages," she says.

Keep it real

Since Facebook is a less formal network, people expect to see a more casual part of your personality so there's no need for a professional tone, points out Craig Fischer, vice president of sales at Ajax Social Media. "I have hired many people through Facebook," he says. "Many of my customers and job candidates are people who I network with [on] there."

Alina Dizik researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues for CareerBuilder.com. Follow @CareerBuilder on Twitter.

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44 They exist

46 Ski event

52 Zap

55 Psyche

(2 wds.)

53 Nah! (hyph.)

component

56 Do deskwork at

a newspaper

thing the matter

57 Designer label

58 Have some-

59 Recipe amts.

60 Billions of years

1 Hummus, e.g.

-- grip!

2 Pack -

(quit)

Batter

51 Grade-schooler

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Archeological sites
- 5 The skinny
- 9 It glistens
- 12 Part of a list
- 13 Twelve, maybe 14 Victorian, e.g.
- 15 Bread served
- with falafel
- 16 Charter
- 17 Joule fraction
- 18 Garden flowers
- 21 Buzz 22 Brownie
- 23 License plate
- 26 Sheep call 28 Game of
- chance
- 32 Eager
- 34 Gridiron div.
- 36 Hang-glide
- 37 Dinero
- 41 Dartboard

- 39 Frat letter
- locale
- 42 Thumbs-down votes
- Heartless Roulette color

DOWN

- Strong point 8 Politician Tip
- 9 View as
- 10 Makes a typo

Answer to Previous Puzzle



ODIE 1-10 @ 2011 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

- 11 Quick-witted one
- 19 Ungainly craft 20 Foreign
 - visitors?
 - 23 Knock politely
 - - preceder Royal symbol
 - 33 Portuguese lady

24 Forum hello

25 Raw recruits

27 Windhoek's

29 Mountaineer's

cont.

goal

30 Upsilon

SST

- 35 A-frames 38 Verse form
- 40 Zoologists'
- mouths 43 Wall uprights
- 45 Avoid capture 46 Chevalier
- musical 47 Goddess's
- statue
- 48 Overlook 49 Cincinnati
- river
- 50 Subatomic
- particle
- Mauna -

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Then you'll love

puzzle will have

you hooked from

the moment you

square off, so

sharpen your

pencil and put

your sudoku

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Numbers

54 PM units



Level: Beginne

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Word Search — When it Rains ...

Z	N	В	S	G	0	D	U	В	D	U	Z	N	A	C	
S	R	0	0	A	٧	G	W	M	F	L	0	D	A	H	
A	E	F	1	0	0	C	L	K	В	1	S	T	P	1	
X	D	E	٧	T	T	A	W	G	T	R	S	S	S	1	
F	N	N	G	٧	U	S	R	A	S	D	E	L	C	Q	
U	U	Н	Q	Z	E	A	T	G	S	E	1	L	L	В	
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1.	T	D	G	A	P	Z	M	D	P	E	T	W	G	A	
H	E	R	X	1	Н	S	S	E	L	D	D	U	P	U	
P	J	Н	C	N	U	P	R	0	K	γ	L	S	E	S	
H	L	E	R	C	N	γ	M	G	D	L	Y	R	В	В	
T	R	В	R	0	K	E	N	U	K	A	H	A	Н	G	
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Н	C	E	G	Н	C	M	Н	1	В	F	Н	D	F	M	

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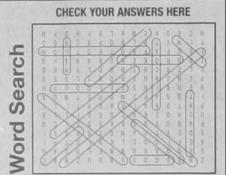
Rain Raincoats Slippery

Thunder Umbrella Wet

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7	1	2	9	Þ	L	6	8	9	3
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0	2	6	Þ	9	1	9	3	L	8
pn	9	1	S	L	8	3	7	2	6
SL	8	L	3	6	2	Þ	9	1	9

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Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	5.125	0	4.375	0	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	5	0	4.5	0	A
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	4.875	0	4.375	0	J/V/F
First Michigan Bank	(248) 498-2824	4.875	0	4.125	0	J/V/F
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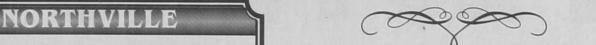
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Bright, spunky, pretty SF, 47, educator, outgoing, pretty eyes, wishing to meet a kind Jewish man, 45-60, who spicoking for commitment, love and laughter.
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PEOPLE-PERSON
DWF, 65, 52°, 107lbs, two grown sons
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SWM, 58-66, NS, who is family-oriented,
easy to communicate with, and fun to be
with. I love concerts, dining out, taking
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SAYIDO Me: Black, short, young, extremely saxy, very sensitive, slightly dominant ways, lives alone. You: not white, un-der 50, tall, 200-300lbs, stable, gentle, mpassionate, handyman, very affec-nate. We are; N/S, N/D, N/Children,

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ing for a non-smoking, non-drinking
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ing a good time. 12332295

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SBF, 60lsh, N/S, likes the performing arts, golf, working out, dining, travel, movies, dancing. Seeking SM, educated, professional, 50-60, RACE UNIMPORTANT, with similar interests, for possible LTR. \$\text{T281197}\$ LTR. 1281197

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HERE I AM SBM, 35, 6°2", 180lbs, short black hair, NS, very outgoing, kind personality, seeks woman, 25-50, NS, to share fun, go dating leading to possible LTR.

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possible LTR. East Side. 2313205

talian SWM, 52, brown/brown, in very good shape, seeks AF, 40-65, who likes going out and having fun. \$\mathbb{T}\$330127

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AdvertisingFeature

CAReport





By Dave Menard For Avanti NewsFeatures Fracassa News Group

There are a lot of companies trying to take a bite out of the crossover SUV pie; it's one of the newer and more lucrative segments in the industry. The folks at Subaru figure they have the experience to fall back on. All their vehicles have been marketed at allwheel drive alternatives for years. While there is a new engine available for the other Foresters, the 2011 Forester 2.5XT Touring is actually a new trim line. It replaces the Limited as the top-of-the-line version of the Forester 2.5XT.

There's a lot to like about the Forester 2.5XT. Re-designed for the 2009 model year, it uses the same platform as the company's highperformance Impreza. The XT Touring features a front hood scoop, front fog lights, roof rails, chrome tailpipes, rear roof spoiler and 17" alloy wheels. The front grille features "hawk eye" headlights and a large contoured front bumper. High-intensity headlights are standard, as is a power moonroof. Ground clearance is 8.9 inches.

The Forester XT Touring is powered by a 2.5-liter turbocharged, DOHC, four-cylinder, intercooled engine. This

die-cast aluminum powerplant is rated at 224 hp and 226 lb.-ft. of torque. It's mated with a four-speed manual transmission with SPORTSHIFT control. It automatic mode the transmission goes smoothly through the gears, but with the SPORTSHIFT control you can do it manually, if you desire. The powertrain is rated at 19 city, and 24 highway.

Like all Subarus, the Forester comes with all-wheel drive. The rear suspension is a double-wishbone independent suspension system. The front suspension features MacPherson struts, lower L-arms, coil springs and stabilizer bar. The ride is very good, more car-like than a lot of similarly sized SUVs.

Handling is very good, as well. The XT comes with stability and traction control, and the rack-and-pinion power steering system makes cornering easy, and the Forester is fairly easy to maneuver and park. The powerassisted ABS brakes, with Electronic Brake-force Distribution, are excellent.

Inside, there's plenty of room, with a cabin that's simple and functional, yet comfortable. The seats are leather-



aims to awe in crossover SUV segment; nice handling and car-like ride make this an impressive vehicle

trimmed with power lumbar support, and are 10-way power-adjustable. The rear seats fold down for extra cargo space; 68.3 cu. ft with the seats down. There's storage in the center console and in the door, as well.

The controls are well laid-out and everything is easy to reach. The XT Touring comes with a host of features, including dual-zone automatic climate control, heated outside mirrors, heated seats, windshield wiper de-icer, leather-wrapped steering wheel and shifter, tilt steering column, power mirrors, windows and locks, and 12volt power outlets in the front cabin and in the rear cargo area.

The standard audio system in the 2.5 XT Touring is an AM/FM/CD audio system with mp3 / WMA capability and auxiliary audio input jacks. Bluetooth capability is standard as are steering-wheel mounted audio controls, and a rear back-up camera. A touch-screen GPS navigation system can be added for \$1600.

The Forester XT Touring comes with a five-star government safety rating

from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Safety systems include front-seat side-impact airbags, side-curtain airbags with rollover sensor, active front head restraints, and a tire pressure monitoring system. There is a security system with engine immobilizer, as well.

The 2011 Subaru Forester 2.5 XT Touring starts at about \$30,000. Add the GPS system, and you're looking at a hair over \$32,000, which is not bad for an all-wheel drive crossover SUV that features good power, a car-like ride, excellent handling characteristics, and plenty of equipment.

So let's see how big a bite of the crossover pie it can handle.

Dave Menard can be reached at Avanti1054@aol.com

2011 Subaru Forester 2.5 XT Touring

Vehicle class: Small SUV. Power: 2.5-liter DOHC four-cylinder engine. Mileage: 19 city / 24 highway. Where built: Ota Gunma, Japan

Base price: \$29,995. Price as tested: \$32,368.

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