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### THURSDAY March 10, 2011

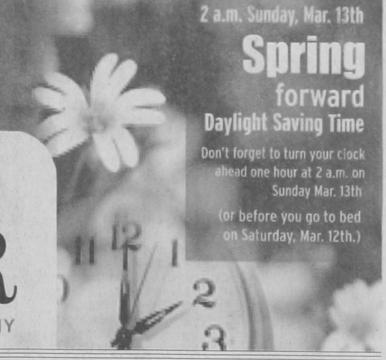
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### CANTON BSERVER hometownlife m com

A GANNETT COMPANY



### CONNECTION

Question of the week

Should the Canton Township administration find a way to pay the \$10,000 to maintain the Liberty Fest

E-mail your opinions to bkadrich@hometownlife.com.



The Liberty Fest parade may be cut this year.

#### Coffee time

State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, invites residents to join her for a cup of coffee and conversation at one of her upcoming coffee hours.

She'll host constituents 5-6 p.m. Monday, March 21, at the Brown Bag Deli, 562 Main in Belleville, and again 9-10 a.m. Monday, April 4, at the Big Boy, 45250 Ford Road in Canton.

Slavens hosts regular coffee hours and town hall meetings throughout Canton Township, Belleville and Van Buren Township. Businesses or organizations interested in hosting an event with Slavens can call her office toll-free at (888) 347-8021 or e-mail her at DianSlavens@house.mi.gov. for Slavens' e-newsletter and take her brief community survey by visiting her website at www.house.mi.gov/dslavens.

 State Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township, sponsors 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 7:30-9 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 (855) REPKURT or e-mail kurtheise@house.mi.gov to schedule an appointment.

#### Volunteer rakers

The Plymouth Community United Way is seeking volunteers for the spring "Rake-N-Go" event scheduled April 30.

Volunteers are invited to help clean yards and provide light labor for senior citizens in the Plymouth, Plymouth Township and Canton communities.

The day of the event, volunteers will meet at The Salvation Army Plymouth Corps at 9451 S. Main Street at 8 a.m. to check in. The PCUW will supply a continental breakfast and yard waste bags, but volunteers are asked to bring rakes, garden tools, hedge trimmers and gloves.

To help out the day of the event, respond by April 16 to Krista at kstrobel@ameritech. net or call (734) 453-6879, Ext.6. Please indicate when signing up if you would be willing to clean gutters.

# Liberty Fest parade faces budget ax

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton's Liberty Fest parade has become the latest casualty as local officials continue to swing a budget ax that already slashed employee wages and ushered in \$1.8 million in spending cuts across township departments.

Supervisor Phil LaJoy dropped the bombshell Tuesday night during a Canton Township Board of Trustees meeting, saying the community's milestone, 20th Liberty Fest will happen June 15-18 without the usual

parade along Ford Road.

Abandoning the parade - a decision that appears likely to upset some residents - will save Canton an estimated \$10,000 as officials continue to chip away at a budget deficit that once threatened to swell to \$15 million by next year.

After Tuesday's meeting, Trustee John Anthony said the parade, while popular with many residents, involves a large commitment of time and expense for local police, firefighters and other employees.

The announcement signaled

another reminder that Canton, after losing \$8.6, million in revenues since 2007, continues to face difficult budget decisions even after securing employee concessions, slashing spending and imposing a 1.75-mill tax increase for police and fire ser-

Outside auditors last year had warned that Canton's money woes could mushroom into a \$15 million deficit by 2012 unless local officials took decisive action to push back a wave of red ink.

Please see PARADE, A3



Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy announced Tuesday the Liberty Festival parade will likely be the victim of budget cuts this year.

# Member of the 'bar'

### Bartender 'flips' way to world competition

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton bartender Andy Hool wows his fans inside the T.G.I. Friday's on Ford Road as he easily juggles liquor bottles and tin mixers, tossing them high in the air and sometimes catching them behind his back.

'I can flip three or four, no problem," said Hool, 31, better known by his customers as Andy Bro.

Hool's skills have earned him an expenses-paid trip to Dallas, where he and nine other bartenders from the United States, Hungary, Sweden, Peru and Japan will compete Monday in T.G.I. Friday's World Bartender Championship.

It's a sport called flairing, and Hool certainly does it with flair.

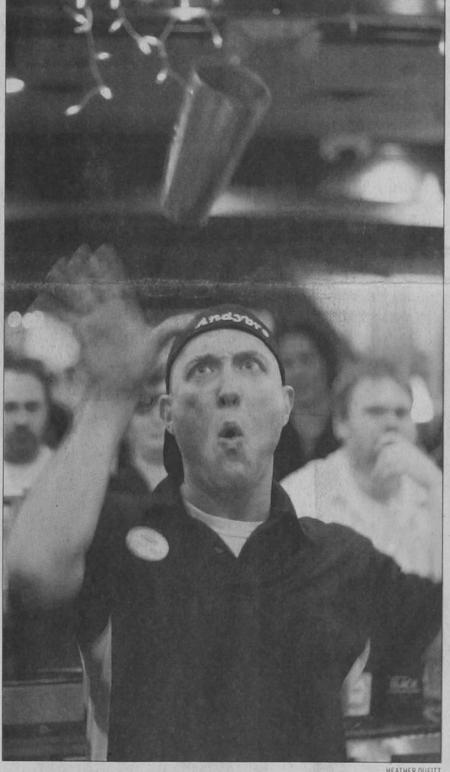
"He's amazing," said friend and customer Angie Kauffman, who plans a trip to Dallas with her husband, Andy, to support her favorite bar-

#### MIDWEST CONTENDER

Hool, a former Livonia resident and the only Midwest contender in the contest, will compete in categories such as flairing, a speed round for mixing drinks and a knowledge test that draws from 150 cocktail recipes.

Hool earned one of 10 spots in the world competition after he advanced from a contest at the Canton bar

Please see BARTENDER, A3



Andy Hool, alias "Andy Bro," competed against seven other contestants in the Divisional Bartending Championship last month in Minneapolis.

## Fire veteran named new deputy chief

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

After twice earning the title of Canton Firefighter of the Year, veteran firefighter paramedic Joshua Meier achieved yet another career milestone Monday by being named the fire department's new deputy

Meier, 35, scored the highest among four internal candidates on job-testing procedures handled by an independent,

outside firm, Career Directions of Ann Arbor.

"It's a great accomplishment for me, and I'm looking forward to taking on the new responsibility," Meier said. "I'm ready to take on the challenge, move forward and hope-

fully succeed in the position.'

Meier becomes Canton's new deputy fire chief — a position that replaces the former fire marshal post and adds more duties to it without changing the \$83,533-a-year salary. Meier will continue fire marshal

duties of supervising fire-prevention efforts, but officials have added department training responsibilities formerly handled by command officers who also work as shift supervisors. Meier also will help Fire Chief Tim Dunn with administrative tasks and projects.

"In a time of constant internal

Please see DEPUTY, A4

### Board to meet on transition process

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Nearly six months after voting not to renew the contract of Supt. Dr. Craig Fiegel, the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education will meet to start the process to find his replacement.

Board members will meet with consultants from the Michigan Association of School Boards after their Tuesday, March 22, meeting

to start fleshing out ideas of what their "ideal" candidate will look like, school board President John Jackson said. The regular meeting starts at 6 p.m.; the workshop will follow.

Fiegel's original three-year contract expires June 30. The board voted on a controversial 4-3 ballot in September not to renew Fiegel's deal. In November, members voted — on the same 4-3 ballot - to strip Fiegel of most of his duties and install Deputy

Supt. Ken Jacobs as the district's chief operating officer. But, to date, the board had

done nothing to start the process of finding Fiegel's replacement. After being elected board president in January, Jackson said he thought such decisions should wait until "things have stabilized" after a tumultuous few months for board members. Apparently, that time has

Please see TRANSITION, A3



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# Rains force Winter Market to move

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 10, 2011

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Recent heavy rains that soaked the land around Canton's historic Cady-Boyer Barn have prompted organizers to move the season's second Winter Market to a new location

The market, set for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, has been moved slightly south to the historic Cherry Hill School, situated on the northwest corner of Cherry Hill and Ridge roads.

"Cherry Hill School is a heated facility, and there is plenty of parking for patrons," Tina Lloyd, market manager, said.

Organizers will evaluate conditions near the Cady-Boyer Barn in Preservation Park before deciding where to have the season's last Winter Market, set for April 10, Lloyd said.

Sunday's market comes after 550 shoppers set a oneday record Feb. 13 for people who visited a market inside the barn, and organizers are optimistic for a large turnout Sunday.

Market organizers also plan

Sunday to have a second dried pasta collection to benefit the Open Door Ministry, a Canton-based food pantry that serves residents across much of western Wayne County.

Lloyd said Winter Market shoppers in February donated a bin full of pasta for Open Door Ministry, which last year had a 30-percent spike in requests for help. Open Door volunteers provided food for 65,000 people in 2010.

Winter Market has been billed as a way to support local farmers and businesses while giving shoppers a place to find their favorite fresh food, grown or made locally.

Sunday shoppers can find apples, cider, farm eggs, winter squash, smoked fish, honey, grass-fed and antibiotic-free meats, cheeses, pasties, flavored butter, yogurt, frozen blueberries, summer sausage and baked goods, among many other items.

For more information, visit www.cantonfun.org or www. facebook.com/cantonfarmers-market.

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

#### AROUND CANTON

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

#### 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

#### Grief support

Compassionate Care Hospice is conducting a grief education series for anyone grieving the loss of a loved one.

The goal of the program is to provide support and education on the grief process. The third program of the series, "Moving from Pain into Power," will be held Thursday, March 24, at the Compassionate Care Hospice office located at 5730 Lilley Rd., Ste. A, in Canton, from 6-7:30 p.m. There is no charge.

For information or to register, contact Ann Christensen, Compassionate Care Hospice Bereavement Coordinator at (888) 983-9050.

#### All Saints fundraiser

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

DAVID L. MALHALAB | M NEWS SERVICE

### Paper money

John Dembinski (left) of Garden City and president of the Wayne Coin Club, with Gary Kelly of Canton, president of the NW Detroit Coin Club, show off some very valuable and collectible U.S. paper dollars to collector Keith Bauman at the 50th anniversary Coin Show of the Wayne Coin Club at the Wayne Rec Center Sunday. More than 44 coin, stamp and collectible dealers showed their items to a large turnout of collectors, looking to add to their collections.

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.

#### 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 (734-981-4938).

#### 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-metrode-troit.org or you can call Bob, (248) 689-6110, or Nancy, (734) 536-3457.

# OBSERVER NEWSPAPERS WHERE HOMETOWN STORIES UNFOLD GANNETT

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### Marching band looking for new members

The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band is looking for new members to join their ranks of marchers, color guard and percussionists for the upcoming 2011 season.

Throughout the 2011 season, the high school students will perform and compete in front of thousands of people and finish on the streets of New York City marching in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. The PCMB will be the first band from Michigan to participate in this historic and holiday tradition in the last 40-50 years.

Current PCMB members and staff will be hosting informational meetings in the upcoming months for students and parents interested in finding out more about the band program. The meetings will take place Wednesday, March 16; Tuesday, April 5; and Tuesday, May 17, at 7 p.m. in the Plymouth High School band room (near the big yellow semi-trailer).

Interested students only need to attend one of the three meetings. Parents will learn about all the efforts being done to send these kids to New York with little or no money due to corporate sponsors and fundraising efforts.

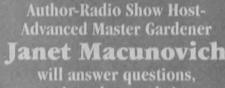
Current eighth graders and other incoming student musicians and dancers interested in joining the PCMB are encouraged to attend one of these informational meetings.

For more information, visit www.pcmb.net.



Open House Saturday, March 12th 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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# Canton Super Saturday Camp Fair • Open House Seasonal Job Info All Under One Roof







Join Canton Leisure Services for Super Saturday, March 12, 2011 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

**Plus**, kids activities, refreshments and a chance to win great prizes, including special-themed gift baskets!

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For more information, call Summit Membership Services at 734/394-5460

46000 Summit Parkway • Canton, MI 48188
www.cantonfun.org

# Summit hosts 'Super' Saturday PARADE

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Summit on the Park will offer one-stop shopping this Saturday for people who want the inside scoop on children's summer camps, part-time seasonal recreation jobs and Canton Leisure Services programs.

It's called Super Saturday at the Summit, it's free and it happens 10 a.m. to noon Saturday at Canton's premier indoor recreational facility, located at 46000 Summit Parkway, northwest of Canton Center and Palmer.

Super Saturday reflects an effort to streamline events and make it easier for Summit visitors to get information they

"We decided that if we combine several events into one, people coming to check out a summer camp might find out about a Summit membership or personal training or whatever," said Sean Fletcher, recreation and facilities operations supervisor.

Parents and their children can get the lowdown on numerous camps offered this coming season for children typically ranging from elementary-school age to teens.

"Some kids will go on a trip to different places, but most of the camps are at the Summit," Fletcher said.

Youngsters can get signed up Saturday while slots are available early for a wide array of summer camps.

Super Saturday attendees also can learn about part-time, seasonal job opportunities at Canton's playgrounds, camps, parks, golf courses and other recreational amenities.

One such summer program involves taking activities to community parks, near neigh-

borhoods where children live. "We go into community parks and host different activities for kids in that area, so they have a place to go in their back yard, if you will," Fletcher said.



Steve Lafayette works out at the Summit. He received a new hip three months ago and his regular visits to the facility are part of his physical therapy and recovery.

Super Saturday also will offer a wide array of information about the Summit, The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, Pheasant Run Golf Club, the Canton Sports Center, The B.L.O.C.K. Youth and Teen Center, the Canton Farmers Market and the Canton Senior Center, among other programs and services.

The event also includes children's activities, refreshments and prizes including specialtheme gift baskets showcasing the local arts, health and wellness, sports, camps and summer programs, golf and the farmers market, among others.

Summit visitors are encouraged to stop by the Canton Senior Center to learn more about a center that serves people 55 and older. Seniors can

try their hand at Wii bowling or reserve at spot at the annual St Patrick's party, set for noon to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 16.

Super Saturday visitors also can find a special deal by purchasing an annual Summit membership, excluding special matinee rates, and getting an extra month free.

Fletcher said Summit memberships are \$300 a year for Canton residents and \$600 for non-residents and include amenities such as the fitness and aquatic center, dance and aerobics studio, the gymnasium, racquetball court, indoor track, steam room, sauna and fitness classes, among others.

For more information visit www.cantonfun.org or call (734) 394-5460.

Canton Leisure Services Director Debbie Bilbrey-Honsowetz called the decision not to have a parade "very difficult" but added, "we are cognizant of our current economic challenges, and this is just one example of reducing a service when appropriate without negatively impacting Canton's identity."

Those involved in past parades are encouraged to contact event planners at (734) 394-5460 for information on alternate Liberty Fest group participation options.

In a welcome reprieve from festival budget-cutting, the township board approved a five-year agreement with Pennsylvania-based Zambelli

Fireworks to continue providing the festival-crowning fireworks show that erupts over Heritage Park.

The fireworks show costs about \$25,000 a year, but officials say some of the expense will be paid with a 5-percent pay cut accepted this year by the seven-member township

Zambelli — one of several companies that bid for the fireworks show - was rated higher based on the number and size of fireworks shells set off during the show.

Trustee Todd Caccamo noted that an alternate company, Wolverine Fireworks Display Inc., could have saved the township about 7 percent - a savings he said was appealing on the surface. Yet, he voted alongside his colleagues because Zambelli

offered a larger fireworks show that officials say residents have come to expect.

"It's a signature event for Canton," Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin said.

Canton's agreement with Zambelli gives the township an opportunity to opt out of the contract if budget woes persist and local officials are forced to reevaluate the fireworks show.

In other festival news, township leaders appeared encouraged that Liberty Fest showed a sharp increase in revenues in 2010 - \$84,960 compared to \$57,481 in 2009, mostly because of an expanded carnival and increased crowds.

If the trend continues, McLaughlin said, "we could in a few years be close to a zero cost."

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### FROM PAGE A1

to capture a regional title in Dearborn and a divisional championship at the Friday's

Bloomington, Minn. "It's pretty cool. I'm pretty proud of it," he said Tuesday. "I love doing this. It's just like a

at the Mall of the Americas in

sport. It takes practice. As a child, Hool recalls being the boy on the sidelines while other athletes excelled at

football and baseball. "I was never the star," he said. Now he has found himself in the spotlight for a sport that T.G.I. Friday's is lobbying to have included as an Olympics event. And he's on places such

Hool attended St. Michael School in Livonia and is a graduate of Catholic Central, then in Redford. His parents, Gerald and Elizabeth Hool, still live in Livonia.

#### **FAN FAVORITE**

Hool now lives in Canton with his longtime girlfriend, Erica, and their 2-year-old daughter, Payton. He has worked for Friday's for four years and has been a bartender for two years and six months.

For the last few weeks, fans of Hool and other world championship contenders have been voting for their favorite bartenders online at www.worldbtc. com/finalists. And while Hool hasn't garnered the most votes, it won't matter Monday as a panel of judges independently decides the world champion.

Bartenders are competing for a top prize of \$10,000 and an airplane propeller, often used in Friday's decor, with their name on it. At his employer's expense, Hool plans to catch a flight to Dallas along with his general manager, Tony Sieczkowski, and co-worker Vanessa Boatright.

Hool admits he has broken more than a few bottles, mostly at home, as he perfected his flairing skills. But now he's a pro - this Andy Bro - and he's ready to take the D, as in Detroit, to Dallas for a contest he said is supposed to air Monday evening on Direct TV.

"I'm very excited about going," Hool said. "I've been practicing my flairing, and I'm ready."

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### FROM PAGE A1

as YouTube.

The MASB consultants are being brought in, Jackson said, to help board members define the qualities they want to see in their next superintendent.

They're going to help us decide the qualities and the

competencies we want to look for," Jackson said. "We also have to decide if we want to use an interim superintendent or hire a new person."

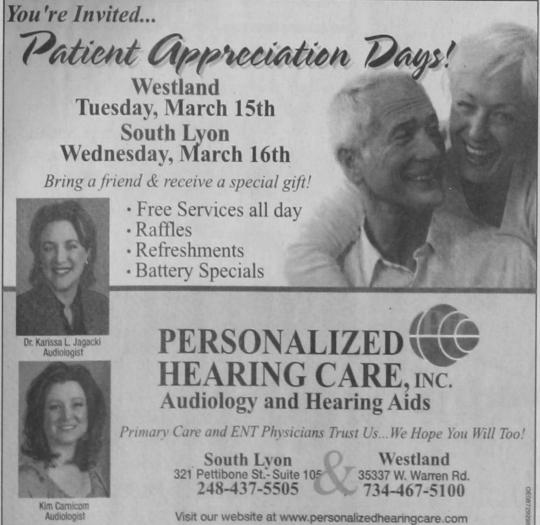
Those decisions are crucial to the district because, in addition to replacing Fiegel, board members are going to have to replace several key administrators, including Jacobs, Dr. Cindy Swift, the assistant

superintendent for instructional services, and human resources chief Ray Bihun.

Board members will have to decide if they want to replace those key administrators first, or bring in the new superintendent and let that person have a voice in hiring those replacements.

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# PUBLIC SAFETY

Thursday, March 10, 2011

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### HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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

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

# Canton man pleads guilty to embezzling

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A Canton man accused of bilking money from two men whose retirement funds he was hired to manage has pleaded guilty to a reduced charge of embezzling \$50,000 to

Donald Barlow Jr.'s plea Tuesday in front of Wayne County Circuit Judge Lawrence Talon averted his trial on two more-serious counts of embezzling more than \$100,000.

Barlow, 44, faces sentencing March 30 for a charge that carries penalties ranging up to 15 years in prison, following earlier accusations by state authorities he embezzled more than \$350,000 from the two victims.

However, Barlow's sentencing guidelines, if accepted by Talon, suggest five to 17 months in prison, said Joy Yearout, spokeswoman for



Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette.

Moreover, Barlow, who has been free on bond, has been ordered to pay \$50,000

in restitution at his sentencing, plus an additional \$2,000 every month until he reaches a total that will be set by the judge, Yearout said.

The latest developments came after Barlow in October was ordered to stand trial on two counts of embezzling more than \$100,000 - charges that could have landed him in prison for 20 years had he not accepted a plea agreement that included paying back money.

Schuette's office confirmed Barlow's plea after former Attorney General Mike Cox last summer announced embezzling charges stemming from an investigation conducted by the Plymouth Police Department.

Barlow was charged amid accusations he prepared tax returns for years for the two victims and advised them in 2007 that he could manage their retirement funds.

According to the Attorney General's Office, the two men agreed and handed over more than \$350,000 to the defendant.

Cox had accused Barlow of depositing the victims' money into a bank account for a bogus company, CapQuest Investments LLC, and occasionally sending falsified investment reports to the men.

An investigation began in December of 2009 after a victim contacted authorities, who said the man had received an anonymous note claiming his funds hadn't been properly invested.

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

#### Walmart theft

A man accused of stealing merchandise at knifepoint from the Walmart on Michigan Avenue west of Belleville Road in Canton was facing criminal charges after he was captured by township police.

The incident happened about 9:55 p.m. March 1 and was reported in a 9-1-1 call to Canton police.

A store loss prevention associate said a man walked out of the store pushing a desktop computer and paper towels in a cart, though he hadn't paid for the merchandise, according to a police report.

The female employee said she confronted the man but retreated after he pulled a knife on her. She said he left in a

dark-colored Chevrolet Impala. Canton police spotted the vehicle nearby and tried to stop it, but the driver continued and turned into a storage facility.

The Walmart employee said the man, while in the store, was wearing a Walmart name badge and was apparently trying to pass as an employee. The worker said the man was armed with what appeared to be a kitchen steak knife.

After police arrested the man, he complained of chest pains and was taken to Oakwood Annapolis Hospital, where he was cleared of any serious medical condition.

According to a police report, the man finally admitted he

#### CRIME WATCH

had gotten the Walmart name tag from a friend and that he intended to sell the computer online to help pay his rent and the cost of outstanding warrants against him.

Police took the man into custody. He was facing possible charges for armed robbery, fleeing and eluding police, and driving with a suspended license.

#### Window smashed

A resident of Holiday Estates, a mobile home park on Geddes west of Canton Center, notified police to report that a hooded man broke a window of his home after the resident refused to let him use the telephone. The incident happened about 6:30 p.m. Sunday.

The resident said the man, who smelled of intoxicants, broke the window and then walked elsewhere in the neighborhood. The resident said he got in his truck and found the man, who denied breaking the window.

The resident said the man got into a Ford Taurus driven by a white female. He described the suspect as a black male, 25-30 years old, 5-foot-10, 160-170 pounds with a medium length afro hairstyle and wearing dark pants and a black Detroit Lions hooded shirt.

#### Gassed and gone

An employee of the Mobile station at Warren and Sheldon contacted police after she said a white female in her 40s pumped gasoline, swiped a

card that didn't register at the pump and then drove off without paying.

The incident happened about 8:20 a.m. last Thursday.

The employee said the woman drove off without paying for \$54 in gasoline. She said the woman drove north on Sheldon. The suspect was described as a white female wearing all black clothing and white shoes.

#### False report

A female driver was facing possible charges for filing a false police report following an incident that happened about 11:35 a.m. Saturday at Ford and Haggerty.

The woman notified police and reported that another driver in an older model Lincoln had hit her vehicle and then fled the scene while she was stopped at the intersection. However, a police investigation indicated that the damage to the woman's car had been done earlier.

Police also noticed the scent of marijuana coming from the car, and officers found what was described as cigar trimmings and flakes of a leafy, green substance that appeared to be marijuana, though no significant amounts were found.

It wasn't clear why the woman may have filed a false police report, although police advised her they would be seeking charges.

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

### Driver convicted in fatal crash

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Teri Gunn said she's seen many drunken driving cases where the driver gets nothing more than a slap on the wrist, so she could have been pardoned for worrying that might be what happened in the case of Robert Bojaj, the Farmington Hills man accused of killing Gunn's daughter, Shelby, in an Aug. 25 car crash on I-275 in

She needn't have worried. On Monday, a Wayne County jury convicted Bojaj of second-degree murder and of operating under the influence of liquor causing death.

Bojaj, 28, faces sentencing before Wayne County Circuit Judge David Allen at 9 a.m. Thursday, March 24. According to Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Athina Siringas, sentencing guidelines allow Allen to start with a minimum of anywhere from 18.5 to 31 years; the maximum is life.

"I guess it was relief in one

way," said Teri Gunn, who sat with husband Rob through the trial. "The weight is lifted, but the loss is still there. I feel like somebody's going to pay now. So many times in drunk driving cases the driver gets a slap on the wrist. That didn't happen here, and my husband and I are grateful for that."

So is Siringas, who insisted all along her case warranted the second-degree murder charge. Siringas didn't want to discuss specific aspects of the case pending the sentencing hearing, but she acknowledged her delight with the verdict.

"We're absolutely satisfied with the jury's verdict," said Siringas. "From the beginning we believed this was a murder two, and we're satisfied the jury saw it the way we saw it."

Bojaj was convicted of killing 25-year-old Shelby Gunn when he rear-ended her in a crash that ended after Bojaj reportedly reached speeds of nearly 100 mph on northbound I-275 in Canton around 1:30 a.m. Aug. 15.

Witnesses testified to the high-rate of speed at which Bojaj was allegedly traveling in the dark-colored Lexus he was driving. Testimony also indicated Bojaj had a bloodalcohol content more than three times the legal limit.

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, its rear end smashed and Gunn slumped over the wheel.

Defense attorney Paul Bernier said "it's way too early to talk about any appeal, because we have to deal with the sentencing hearing." But he said the incident carried a cost to everyone involved.

"The case is a tragedy for everybody concerned," said Bernier. "Everybody involved in this case has lost something. It's a tragedy for the Gunn family, as well as for the Bojaj family."

evaluation for cost savings and methods of doing business more effectively, we decided to take advantage of the opportunity to combine the fire marshal duties with some additional adminis-

with this new position," Dunn assessment center identified the best candidate to get the job done."

working II years as a firefighter paramedic. Before that, he worked several years as a public safety service officer. Meier has been active in the Canton **Professional Fire Fighters** Association of Fire Fighters.

"I am eager to break ground added, "and I am confident the

Meier rose through the ranks

He currently is president of Canton's IAFF Local 2289. bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-8899 will remain in the union, but

trative duties," Dunn said.

to become deputy fire chief after Union, part of the International

The deputy fire chief's position

it will be up to the local union to decide if Meier continues as president.

Meier has been involved as a member of the fire department's training committee, which will give him insight as he assumes duties overseeing both internal and outside training programs. He also has been a member of the Western Wayne Urban Search and

Meier replaces former Fire Marshal Frank Barrett, who retired last year along with former Fire Chief Michael Rorabacher, who was replaced by Dunn.

Rescue Team.

Meier lives in Canton and has been married to wife Lisa for nine years. They have two sons, Jacob, 6, and Joey, 4.

In a ceremony last spring at The Village Theater at Cherry

Firefighter of the Year for 2009, and the crowd gave him a standing ovation. Before he accepted his award, he humbly gave credit to his fellow firefighter paramedics.

Hill, Meier was named Canton

'I couldn't have done it without the other guys on my shift," he said. "We work as a team."

Meier received the honor for the second time in his career, chosen among 61 firefighters in the Canton department.

Meier has said he had contemplated a public safety career even in high school.

"I really like it, and I really have a passion for it," he said. "I enjoy going to work every day. I like the camaraderie, and I like being able to go out every day and help people."

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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 10, 2011



Heather Warren of Granite Transformations for kitchens and baths talks with Pradeep Krishnan of Canton.

PHOTOS BY ANN ESPINOZA



Ken Bowerman from DTE Energy, and Micheal Hinz of Plymouth talk about energy efficient light bulbs.

# Home expo senses spring is coming

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

With spring approaching and people starting to think about home improvements, Mary and Joseph Doher of Redford made their way to the Canton Home Improvement Expo at the Summit on the Park Sunday to see if they could get a handle on what projects might cost.

They were joined by thousands of other people over the 10th annual two-day event, which featured some 122 vendors for everything from roofing and landscaping to windows and energy-efficient

"We came by to see what's up and get an idea how expensive things are these days," said Joseph Doher, who said he's thinking about a furnace, roof and windows. "I find (the expo) very informative. It gives me a chance to talk to several contractors and to get a ballpark number on how much money

I'm going to need." For contractors, home expo

events like Canton's are an ideal way to keep their names out there. The folks at Canton Construction know how word of mouth from events like this can eventually lead to increased customer traffic. Owner John Sarnecky tells the story of a bench his crew built for contest won by a local woman. The woman told Sarnecky the bench "comes up in every conversation."

"She loves (the bench)," said Sarnecky. "It comes up in conversation, and we get calls on it. Any little thing helps."

Renee DeVos of the Canton Township building department said the 10th expo drew some 3,000 people the first day (numbers weren't available for the second day) despite an approaching storm that hit Saturday afternoon.

"It's a popular show," DeVos said. "A lot of people in March are ready to do something. They come to get ideas, because they're ready to start again."



bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-8899 Angela Stambersky of Belleville getting information from Rolland Cement.



Scoop the Newshound hung out for a bit with some of the cast of the Spotlight on Youth production of Tom Sawyer, including (front, from left) Ashyln McCann, 12, Canton, Roman Bonacorsi, 9, Plymouth, Madison McCann, 9, Canton, and (back) Danielle Paul, 13, Plymouth, Clare Shortal, 15, Plymouth,



Canton building inspector Alex Mano answers questions about permits and inspections.



Jasmine Torres, 3, and sister Jessica, 8, get help form their Dad at the Kid's Corner hands-on project center, sponsored by Home Depot.



Three-year-old Akaash Vitla tries out a piano from Evola Music.



Jason Bruce of Livonia is the new director of operations for Velvet Peanut Butter, which is available in both smooth and crunchy. He said the feedback from customers at Busch's Market in Livonia, where this photo was taken, and other stores has all been positive. "When I'm stocking the stores, I get a lot of, 'Oh I remember that as a kid!" he said.

### **Velvet Peanut Butter spreads** to some 500 grocery stores

BY KAREN SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Like many in Metro Detroit, Eric and Jason Bruce grew up eating Velvet Peanut Butter, made in Livonia for 30 years.

Then the company was sold in 1985 and after a series of acquisitions, the brand disappeared off store shelves.

"I thought that was criminal," said Eric, 44, adding that local brands are part of an area's identity.

So Eric bought the recipe and the rights to the Velvet label and found a manufacturer in Georgia to make it. His wife Kim took it to the senior buyer at Hiller's Market, Larry

Hiller's bought 1,300 jars, their entire inventory, and the peanut butter sold out in two weeks. That was in 2009.

Today, Velvet Peanut Butter is available in more than 500 Michigan grocery stores, including Kroger. Meijer, Hiller's, Spartan and Busch's. The business is doing well enough that Eric recently hired his brother Jason, 41, who lives in Livonia, as director of operations. Jason is overseeing the expansion and distribution of Velvet Peanut Butter.

#### **EMOTIONAL CONNECTION**

Eric, who has a master's degree in business administration from Eastern Michigan University and works in Atlanta in marketing for an ABC affiliate, said he expected the brand to do well, but he didn't expect the emotional connection people would have with it.

"Their grandma or their mom would serve it to them," he said, explaining the appeal of Velvet Peanut Butter, with its trademark boys, "Fresh," "Pure" and "Delicious."

Eric's favorite part of the business is getting e-mails from customers who are glad the product is available again.

"Velvet Peanut Butter takes me back to the late '60s when I rode with my mother in the car to pick my dad up from

work," wrote a customer from Rochester. "As we would approach the Velvet Peanut Butter facility (on Schoolcraft Road), mom would say, 'OK, roll the window down!' and I would crank the window down and inhale the wonderful aroma of roasting peanuts!"

Wrote a customer from Center Line whose grandparents served him Velvet peanut butter sandwiches every weekend for lunch, "It has brought back memories of simpler times and family long gone and I will be a customer as long as you make it.

Some of the e-mails come with suggestions of how to eat it - like with oatmeal or jalapeños.

#### **WONDER BREAD**

The Bruce boys, who grew up in Garden City, prefer Velvet Peanut Butter on white bread, preferably Wonder

That's how they ate it in their school lunches - Eric with grape jelly, Jason just plain - and that's how they still eat it today.

"When you bite into it, it actually feels like you're tasting a peanut, and that's the thing I like about it," Jason

Their kids love it. Eric's daughter, Emily, 4, screams' for peanut butter as soon as she sees the jar. Jason's son, Benjamin, 9, won't let anyone he knows have any brand other than Velvet in their kitchen cupboard. "From the get-go, he's been my No. 1 supporter," Eric said.

Velvet Peanut Butter was started in 1937 in Detroit by an Eastern Market truck driver who saw used peanut butter making equipment advertised for sale. The boys on the jar were drawn in the likeness of

Eric's goal is to preserve the Velvet brand so it never disappears from store shelves again, and for Velvet to become the No. 1 peanut butter sold.

He's got a long ways to go Velvet is just starting to be sold in other states — but he's unwilling to take any shortcuts to get there.

#### 10 PERCENT TO CHARITY

For example, he won't reduce the amount of peanut butter in the jar from 18 ounces. That goes against his company's values. And he pledges to give 10 percent of the company's annual profits to charitable efforts. Last summer, Velvet donated 10 cases of peanut butter to Lighthouse of Oakland County to help feed kids from low-income families who normally get lunch for free at school.

The company now has five part-time employees, includ-, ing Eric's wife, Kim.

Jason also works as rink manager and a Zamboni driver for the Livonia Hockey Association.

Eric and Kim moved to Atlanta in 1999 because of Eric's job, but they want to move back to the Detroit area to be near both their families. Eric and Jason's parents, Dominic and Claudia Bruce, are Livonia residents.

Eric hopes to grow the Velvet company to a point where he can leave Atlanta and return to Michigan to run the company full-time.

He said being in Georgia, where peanuts are grown, put him in contact with the right people to help him revive the Velvet brand and start manufacturing it.

Now he hopes the brand he brought back to Michigan brings him back here as well.

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## Brick by brick: LEGO fan builds his dream town

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Steve Grant doesn't keep track of how many bricks he's used to build his city. He knows it's a lot, but it doesn't matter as he pursues his dream of creating a New York City-style of town made completely out of LEGOs.

"I've been building with LEGOs since I was a kid, but I got serious about it as a grownup in 2007," the Garden City resident said. "I used to build sets and stuff, now I build buildings.

Grant is a member of the Michigan LEGOs User Group, which meets the second Saturday of every other month at the Izakaya Sanpei Japanese restaurant in Canton. The 25 members from Redford, Garden City, Wayne, Livonia and Royal Oak and even as far away as Bay City come together to talk about displays and show off what they're working

They've done displays at the National Model Railroad Show at Cobo Hall - that was Grant's first ever show - at libraries in Livonia and at Brick Bashes, public handson LEGO Building exhibits like the one from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, March 19, at the Morris Lawrence Building on the campus of Washtenaw Community College in Ann

For Grant, it was getting a computer that lead him to discover LUG and other adults who shared his love of building with LEGOs. The town he has been working on includes hotels, a McDonald's restaurant and even a town square filled with people walking and kids on skateboards. It's a work in progress, its expansion limited to the size of his base-

"I'd like to have it get pretty big, but this is what I've come up with so far," Grant said about his display. "Eventually, I planned to get a bigger house



A member of the Michigan LEGO Users Group, Steve Grant has been building his own city one LEGO brick at a time in his basement of his Garden City home.

with a bigger basement. I have a small one right now and this has pretty much maxed it out."

#### **BRICK BY BRICK**

Grant's town is built on four 10-inch by 10-inch mounting plates attached to plywood. Built mostly of one- by twoinch bricks, he has come to realize that the brick is the thickness of plywood and by layering the latter, he'll be able to add such details as rivers and bridges.

Grant doesn't patterning buildings after existing structures, although some LUG members like Jim Garnett of Redford go online to research specific structures. Garrett recreated the Penobscott Building and the block it sits on in Detroit. Garrett's Penobscott Building stands a whopping 11 feet tall.

With LUGs around the world, the LEGO aficionados have found that the Internet's BrickLink.com is a place to find needed pieces rather than having to buy entire sets.

BrickLink bills itself as a venue for individuals and businesses from all around the world to buy and sell new, used and vintage LEGO through fixed price services. The site, created by the late Daniel Jezek, boasts 110,622,950 items in 3,741,078 lots in 4,726 stores as of Tuesday.

#### REALISTIC COLORS

The one-inch by two-inch brick is the piece Grant uses the most and he tries to use the more realistic colors. A standard white brick can be had for as little as 4 cents on BrickLink, but the rarer colored bricks like the sand red brick, which was only produced for one year, can cost more than \$1 each.

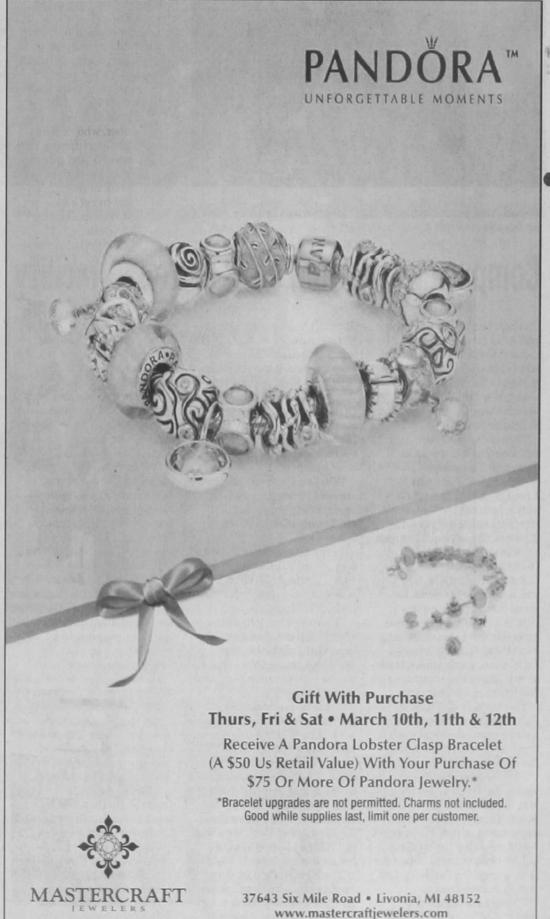
"BrickLink is like the eBay for LEGO users," Grant said. "My hobby wouldn't be possible without it. Before BrickLink, you had to buy the pieces you needed as part of packages."

Of course, there's also the LEGO store in Troy that, according to Grant, "is amazing."

"I love going there," he said. For the shows, members will move their LEGO projects on the road. Sometimes there's a "catastrophe," with pieces breaking apart. According to Grant, in the world of LEGO "nothing can be painted or

People interested in getting more information about the Michigan LUG can stop by the Izakaya Sanpei Japanese restaurant at 43327 Joy Road, west of Lilley Road. For more information about the group, visit its website at www. michlug.org.

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# STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, March 10, 2011

hometownlife (iii) com

#### HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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

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#### IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

# Eatery still serving strong at 30

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

Palermo: Palermo's is a full service Restaurant. We also offer pick-up and delivery service. Our menu has pizza, pasta, subs, burgers, chicken and fish. We also have a variety of salads. Beer and wine is available.

Observer: How did you first decide to open your business?

Palermo: As a teenager. Paul worked in a family owned restaurant. He loved his job there and had always had a dream to own a restaurant.

Observer: Why did you choose Canton?

Palermo: In Paul's early 20s he worked construction in the Canton area. He fell in love with the town. He saw great potential in this growing community. One morning he decided to go forth with his dream and make it a reality.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Palermo: We are family owned and operated. From day one, we maintained high quality and consistency. Observer: How has it changed since you opened?

Palermo: In 1981, when we opened we sat 30 people. In 1987 we doubled our seating capacity and now we seat 100.

Observer: Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share? Palermo: One thing



Marina Maniaci (left), Manny Maniaci and Rosetta Palazzolo all work in the family owned and operated Palermo Restaurant.

Observer: Any advice for other

Palermo: When you start

think long-term. Each and

every day is a challenge. A

lot of physical and mental

work is involved. All the

sacrificing will pay off in

Observer: What's in store for

the future of your business?

Palermo: Hopefully with

the economy getting better,

we will expand again. We

would like to thank all

this anniversary.

our loyal customers, and

a very special "thank you" to all our past and present

employees. Without you we would not be celebrating

a business, you have to

as before.

due time.

business owners?

#### PALERMO RESTAURANT

Business name and address: Palermo Restaurant, 44938 Ford Road, Canton

Your name and title: Paul Palazzolo and John Maniaci, owners

Your hometown: Canton Business opened: March 11, 1981 Number of Employees: 15 Hours of operation: Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m. to midnight; Saturday, 3-11 p.m.; Sunday, 3-10

Your business specialty: The best pizza and pasta around Business phone and/or website: (734) 455-5210 | www.palermopizzacanton.com

#### Referral workshop

The Canton Chamber of Commerce is offers a Referral Success 202 Workshop 12:30-4:30 p.m. Monday, March 14, at the Canton Chamber of Commerce office building. The Chamber office is located at 45525 Hanford Road in Canton, west of Canton Center Road. This workshop is open to Chamber members and to the

CHAMBER CHAT

Cost for the Workshop is \$99 and is presented by Tim Green, President of Referral Institute of Michigan. The Referral Institute is a training, coaching, and consulting company that offers professionals a systematic way to gain more business by referral. Class size is limited; registration will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis.

To register, contact the Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040. Registration deadline is Friday, March 11.

#### Chamber auction

The Canton Chamber of Commerce's annual dinner auction is scheduled for 7 p.m. to midnight Saturday, April 16. Don't miss out on Canton's biggest event of the year. This year's theme is "ChamberOpoly."

Your ticket price of \$75 includes open bar, food stations, Live and Silent Auction, raffles, entertainment and much more. This year's auction includes items such as a vacation condo, Pandora jewelry, sports tickets, golf, restaurant gift certificates, a police car ride-along and other unique

For more information contact the Chamber office at (734) 453-4040.



When Palermo's Restaurant opened in March 1981, it sat little more than 30 people. Today, it seats more than 100.

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in particular that really

after a year-and-a-half, working seven days a week,

14-hour shifts, we were

sticks out in our brain was,

totally exhausted. We slept

through the alarm. We were

supposed to be at Palermo's

at 10 a.m. and didn't wake

up until 1 p.m. Not a proud

other hand, voted best pizza

in Canton is sure something

Observer: How has the recent

Palermo: By the grace

of God, we still do fairly

well. Our customers can

still afford a good pizza.

We still do see our regular

customers, just not as often

economy affected your

moment. But then on the

to be proud of.

business?

Officials at Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township want to get the venue more involved in the concert scene after Girl Talk sold out March 3.

### Compuware growing as year-round facility

When The Crofoot Ballroom and AEG Live promotions discovered that the Girl Talk concert — scheduled for March 3 at Royal Oak Music Theatre - outgrew the venue, they went looking for another place to hold the show.

They chose the 3,500seat Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township.

Although Compuware Arena is known as a sports venue, housing the Ontario Hockey League's Plymouth Whalers, the annual Michigan Boys State High School Hockey semi-final and finals, Compuware youth hockey and other sports events, the arena has forged a reputation as a 12-months-per-year entertainment venue, holding everything from college and high school graduations, trade shows, industrial seminars and full-arena radio programs.

The arena is also home to CJ's Brewing Company, a fullservice restaurant and hosts a three-screen drive-in during the summer months.

Moving Girl Talk to a venue that holds twice the attendance as the Royal Oak Music Theatre made sense to everyone involved. The concert - featuring disc jockey Greg Gillis - sold out at Compuware Arena, much to the delight of everyone involved.

"Compuware Arena is a perfect size for concerts, it has great acoustics, and a location that can't be beat," said Dan McGowan of the Crofoot. "It's 15 minutes from the University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University, it's 30 minutes from Wayne State and downtown Detroit, and it's an easy 45-minute drive from Michigan State. Not to mention the surrounding communities are packed with rabid music fans.

'We (the Crofoot) look forward to bringing more concerts to Compuware," McGowan added. "The facility is top notch."

In the aftermath of the success of Girl Talk, Compuware Arena manager Mike Henry is looking to expand into the concert business.

We're looking to book more shows," admitted Henry. "We hope Girl Talk is the start. We'd like people to see that we are a good venue and more acts start coming.

Not to be overlooked in the success of Girl Talk is the work of the Compuware Arena maintenance staff, who in the span of 48 hours, changed the arena from a hockey venue, to a concert hall and then back for a Plymouth Whalers game the next evening against the Saginaw Spirit. Two nights later, the Whalers hosted Windsor before a sellout crowd of 4,050.

The staff worked long and hard to clean up Compuware Arena for hockey the next evening. The only reminders of the Girl Talk show were some

balloons hanging around in the rafters of the building.

Compuware Arena remains busy this week, with the annual Michigan Boys High School Hockey Semi-Finals Finals going Thursday through Saturday. Compuware Arena has been hosting the state finals since 2003.

"We enjoy our relationship with Compuware Arena," said Randy Allen, Assistant Director of the Michigan High School Athletic Association. "There have been other facilities inquiring about (the availability of) this event, but we don't listen. Compuware Arena is a perfect fit for us. Right now, it's the perfect place, the perfect size - and more than anything else - the people make us feel welcome and go out of their way to make it work for us."

Division Two semi-final games will be played on Thursday at 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Division Three semi-final games will be played on Friday at noon and 2:30 p.m. Division One semifinal games will be played on Friday at 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

Championship Saturday features Division 2 at 10 a.m., Division 3 at 2 p.m. and Division 1 at 6 p.m.

Weekend passes for the entire event are available for \$25. Semi-Finals are available for \$6 per division. Championship games on Saturday are also available for \$7 per game.



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# EEF wines, dines at fundraiser

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Organizers of the **Educational Excellence** Foundation's wine tasting fund-raiser Friday were excited to see some 465 people crowd into the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College Friday, especially knowing they probably could have sold another 100 tickets.

That's what Carole Kody, the EEF's executive director, calls a successful event.

"It was very exciting," said Kody, EEF's director since 2000. "We couldn't have squeezed another person in there. It was wonderful."

The event, which featured food, drink (including wines from seven wineries) and entertainment provided by performing arts students from the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, marked the EEF's 25th anniversary. It was about business, too, so a power-point presentation about the EEF's mission played on half-a-dozen giant video

"I hope people took the time to watch," said Kody. "It told about everything EEF does, what we're involved in, what we need help with."

Totals weren't yet available, but organizers estimated the event raised just under some \$10,000 for EEF. It was designed as a wine-tasting to draw a more rounded set of

"The whole idea of doing a wine-tasting was to attract a



David Winter, of Plymouth Township, pours a glass of wine for Lori Ormsby of Redford Township while other wine pourers look on. Winter, a member of the Education Excellence Foundation Board, was among the sponsors of Friday's event at the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College.

wider audience than our usual set of parents, retired teachers or people who've been involved in some way with the district," Cody said. "We really wanted to broaden our audience to get our message out. I hope we managed to do that, because it's a good message. I hope people heard what we were trying to say, in addition to having a good time."

The event was sponsored by Neville Financial, Community Financial Credit Union, McCarthy-Smith and Mr. and Mrs. David Winter.

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



Mark Fenwick of Canton puts a ticket in the raffle drawing. Looking on are Sharon Belobraidich, secretary of the EEF, and Shelley Enright of the PCEP



Lisa Fiegel, wife of Supt. Craig Fiegel, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Trustee Nancy Eggenberger and Joan Noricks, executive director of the Canton Community Foundation, attended Friday's wine tasting. The EEF provides supplemental funding for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.



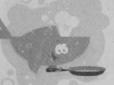
Kim and Dan Brown of Farmington Hills attended the wine tasting.



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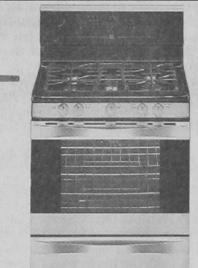
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Brad Kadrich, Community Editor Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor Grace Perry, Director of Advertising

### **OUR VIEWS** Tough stretch

### School board must make hard choices

It's an important stretch for the Plymouth-Canton Community Board of Education.

On Wednesday, trustees continued the process of cutting some \$15 million out of the district's 2011-12 budget, meeting to talk about potential areas of cuts in the face of contract uncertainty and Michigan's continued financial instability.

That deficit was only going to be some \$12.9 million before Gov. Rick Snyder threatened a \$470 per-pupil cut to the state foundation grant. The governor's plan to "fix" Michigan throws a bit of a monkey wrench into the pocketbook for districts across the state, even those who have managed their money as well as Plymouth-Canton's

The first priority ought to be getting a fair and equitable contract for the district's 1,100 teachers. They deserve that. Then, trustees have to decide where cuts are going to be made and how best to keep those cuts out of the classroom.

The board isn't naive enough to believe that, after millions and millions of dollars worth of cuts over several years, they're going to be able to accomplish that goal totally. New President John Jackson, presiding over his first budget process, said Monday the financial picture is "obviously going to have some impact on the classroom. It's up to us to minimize that as much as we possibly can.

Perhaps as important as the budget decisions they'll have to make is the board's decision to begin the transition process to a new school superintendent, no matter how innocuous their first steps into this minefield are. The board was to meet Saturday to begin talking about, as Jackson said, the qualities and competencies of the person they'll hire to replace Craig Fiegel, whose contract expires in June and won't be renewed.

Jackson said among the possibilities to be discussed are whether the board wants to hire an interim superintendent or go right to a search process to find a permanent successor.

We renew our call for the latter. Next to getting a contract for their teachers, hiring Fiegel's replacement needs to be Job One for the Board of Education. An interim superintendent simply delays the inevitable. This is a decision the board must make; there's no sense having to make it twice.

There are a lot of leadership positions to be filled in the administrator either over the summer or, in come cases, shortly after the beginning of the 2011-12 school year. The new, permanent superintendent should be given the chance to bring in his or her own people. That wasn't a choice for Fiegel, who never totally clicked with his team. Bringing in the new superintendent to help with the hiring would be the best way to avoid some of those same missteps.

The new superintendent, whomever it turns out to be, deserves to start with his or her best foot forward.

### Stay safe and sober

It may not be the busiest bar night of the year — that honor, if you could call it that, goes to Thanksgiving Eve - but St. Patrick's Day is right up there. You don't have to be Irish to celebrate the day, but you do need to do it in a way that keeps yourself and others safe.

St. Patrick's Day has become a popular night out to celebrate with friends and family. Unfortunately, due to the large volume of drunken drivers, the night out has also become very dangerous.

The statistic are sobering.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 37 percent of the drivers and motorcyclists involved in fatal crashes had a blood alcohol content (BAC) of .08 or above on St. Patrick's Day 2009. Additionally, there were 103 crash fatalities on St. Patrick's Day 2009 and out of that number, 47 people were killed in traffic crashes that involved at least one driver or motorcyclist with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or higher.

And you don't have to be "falling down drunk" to be too impaired to drive safely. Even a few drinks can impair driving and a buzzed driving crash has the same consequences as a drunken driving crash.

Driving a vehicle or riding a motorcycle while impaired is not worth the risk. The consequences are serious and real. Not only do you risk killing yourself or someone else, but the trauma and financial costs of a crash or an arrest for driving while impaired can be significant.

Drunken driving violators often face jail time, the loss of their driver's license, higher insurance rates, and dozens of other unanticipated expenses ranging from attorney fees, court costs, car towing and repairs, and lost wages due to time off from work.

We all know the slogan, "Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk," and it's true not just St. Patrick's Day, but every day of the year. Go ahead and "Irish," but don't get lost in a sea of green beer. Make sure you have a game plan that includes getting home safely.

The folks at www.StopImpairedDriving.org recommend that if you plan on drinking alcohol, don't drive. Plan a safe way home before the festivities begin or designate a sober driver and leave your car keys at home.

Your Irish eyes can be smiling on St. Patrick's Day 2011, but don't let the haze of alcohol cloud your vision. Designate your sober driver before the St. Patrick's Day parties begin.

#### **COMMUNITY VOICE**

#### Have gas prices affected the amount of driving you're doing?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



"Yes, I go to fewer places."

Jay Chen



"Not me. It affects my sister more. She works in Farmington and lives in Canton."

Sheri Pambin Canton



"No, net yet, but it will when it hits \$5 a gallon." Mark Yancy



"Not yet, but I'm retired so I try to hold back on going places so I can go to a few places when I do go out."

**Beverly Valentine** 

#### **LETTERS**

#### Meaning of freedom

I am a Vietnam veteran, I was away from my home, family and friends for 32 months, fighting to protect every American's freedom. I saw many brothers give the ultimate sacrifice for this right, but I must say hearing of the Supreme Court's ruling for an organization to be able to heckle a hero's funeral brought tears to my eyes.

I wonder what freedom means to these judges. I'm sure it's not the same as every American veteran or soldier

**Robert Denstedt** Canton

#### Great addition

Congratulations on the great addition to your staff in the recent hiring of Ed Wright. In my opinion, Ed is the quintessential sports reporter in this area (second to none!) and I know that Ed will do an absolutely great job of covering sports for Redford and Garden City!

We have missed him (Canton Observer) and will miss him (Plymouth-Canton sports) incredibly, but we are thrilled for our friends "in the area." His professionalism, his knowledge of "the games" (all of them), his relational skills, his experience and expertise, his creativity, his journalistic abilities, and, most importantly, his passion will shine through in

As I have experienced, "hiring the right people" is key to a successful organization AND as Bill Gates once said, "If we weren't still hiring great people, it would be easy to fall behind and become a mediocre company."

To borrow another quote as well as leadership/management principle (from Jim Collins in "Good To Great"), thanks for "putting the right people in the right seats" on the bus!

Though I still won't have the privilege of once again reading Ed's columns about student athletes in my specific community when I pick up my Observer from my porch each Thursday night and Sunday morning. I know a lot of parents and students "in the area" will be getting the best of the best! PLUS, I can always click on my "hometownlife" link and read his articles!

By the way, let's get that "Staff Directory" updated so your Redford and Garden City customers can know how to get in contact with their new "sports editor."

Looking forward to tomorrow night's Observer with great anticipation (even more than my daily USA Today and Detroit Free Press),

> **Kevin Winningham** longtime subscriber

raving fan of Canton Observer

#### New secret weapon

New Republican governors have discovered a new secret campaign weapon in fooling voters during the campaign. First, they promise a "plan" or "blueprint" for resolving their states' financial problems. They provided a long or medium-length list of campaign promises to cut government spending while at the same time increasing state support for "essential public services.'

After winning their elections, the governors then move ahead with the unannounced part of their money-saving plans - shafting the unions representing public employees and working hard to eliminate

#### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com.



Read or comment online: www.hometownlife.com

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

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

or substantially reduce their collective bargaining rights. At the same time, K-12 education and universities are apparently not considered "essential public services." Neither are police or fire protection.

Michigan's new governor, Rick Snyder, didn't follow his counterparts in New Jersey, Ohio, and Wisconsin on the union-bashing campaign, but he did propose in his budget to slash state spending for K-12 schools and public universities as well as revenue sharing for cities and townships.

At the same time, Snyder proposed taxing the retirement pensions of senior citizens for the first time in the state's history.

Why weren't these secret plans known during the campaign. The major daily newspapers in Michigan were in a position to question Snyder during the campaign on how he was going to "reinvent" the state of Michigan by cutting taxes and improving the economy. He also promised to do more for the educational community. But who questioned him about his new version of "voodoo economics?"

It's time that Michigan voters get more savvy about political candidates who promise one thing in the campaign and turn around do the opposite after election day.

**Leonard Poger** 

#### Don't tax pensions

To all my elected officials and anyone else who will listen:

In February of 2007, I took early retirement to "make way for new less expensive employees." After over 38 years with the same city, my decision to retire was based on the fact there was no state tax on pensions, and as retired no Social Security tax. Barring these taxes, I was able to afford retirement.

My story is the same for the early retires of the auto industry and other government jobs. Had not the auto employees took the early buyouts, could the auto companies have survived? I and others could have remained working, but were encouraged to retire, not only for our good, but for the good

To add to the misery, what little money I have been able to save gets less than 1percent interest now. GMC stock became worthless. Pension dollars of 2007 are frozen at that date, never to increase. I can make it now, but tax my pension and I'll be on the dole like so many others. Don't tax my pension, and I can take care of myself without

local state or federal assistance. Please, take all this into consideration.

Don Gould

#### Protect private pensions The anger and fear exhibited by public

employees in Wisconsin about their pensions resembles the fear retirees in private pension plans have experienced for many years. Pensions - public and private - could once be counted on by retirees. Today, they fear the rug will be pulled out from under them.

The resemblance stops there because there is a stark difference between public and private plans. Private sector retirees and older workers have seen companies steadily renege on promises for earned retiree health and pension benefits - with the government doing little to stop the trend.

Millions of retirees in private plans have already had the rug pulled out from under them by companies using pension assets for restructuring purposes at the expense of retirees, all with the full knowledge of the courts and the federal government.

These "back door reversions" leave private pension assets vulnerable to market downturns, and leave taxpayers vulnerable to pick up the tab at the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation. Unlike public plans, once a company goes bankrupt, there are no revenueraising options such as taxation that can help private pensioners recoup their losses.

Retirees in private plans feel as strongly as those in public plans, and are asking Congress to prohibit these reversions unless the plan is sufficiently funded. It's a budgetneutral solution to protect private pension assets that both Republicans and Democrats should enact now before the anger and fear of retirement insecurity spreads from state capitols to the U.S. Capitol.

Tom Gibson Livonia

### Divide and conquer

Gov. Snyder is showing that he is a real Republican in his budget proposal by taxing pensions and cutting school funding. He seeks to divide us and turn us on one another.

Yes, seniors are a strong voting group but not all receive pensions and after the envy of those who don't or won't be getting a pension kicks in, it leaves a smaller group. There are those who think they don't deserve it or didn't earn it anyway.

By cutting school funding, you will have those who have already put their kids through school or don't have kids saying, "that's OK, it's not my problem" or "it won't hurt me, go ahead."

This is similar to what former Gov. Engler did in taxing unemployment payments. After all, most unemployed people choose not to work anyway,

How about having all those who do have a job pay a little more until things get better? That would be shared sacrifice. It's been done before and it worked, oh, wait, that was done by Democrats. The Republican way is to divide and conquer. So let's go ahead and take from retirees, kids and those without

"Look to the least among us and take from them so that WE may have more."

**Chuck Tindall** 



# OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS

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HOMETOWN

Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights!

Gey Kidsy

Search the month of March for Scoop in your

LOCAL NEWSPAPER

List the dates and page number you find Scoop on!



Celebrate by reading about your hometown in this newspaper.

### Win Fun Prizes!

Send your entries including your photo for the Hide & Seek Contest to:

Scoop the Newshound c/o: Michele Austin

41304 Concept Drive Plymouth, MI 48170

Deadline for submissions: 3/31/11

All entries need to be received by close of the business day on March 31st, for winners to be announced in the April Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.



Hide & Seek With Scoop!

Youth Name:

Youth Age:

Youth Community:

I found Scoop on page(s) on date(s)

Parent's information to contact winning entry: (Phone, email, home address)

Selected winners will have their name, age, hometown and photo in the next Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.

### Lucky winners from last month's contest



Brandon Falk
Age: 7 ½
Milford
My dog Gabby guards our
house and lets me lay on her
when I am tired.



Maia Claiborne
Age: 9
Livonia
My dog Ginger makes me
feel safe and plays hide n'
seek with me.



Age: 10
Canton
My dog Benjiman loves
playing catch outside and
greets me with a hug when
I come home.



Natalie Aulicino
Age: 10
South Lyon
My dog Vasco is special
because he is a hospital
therapy dog.



Age: 10
Novi
My dog Juliet is special because she likes to play with me and my other dogs.

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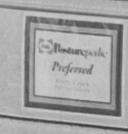
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SECTION B

# SPORTS

THURSDAY, March 10, 2011

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WHALERS ROUT PLAYOFF PREVIEW

# Abro-cadabra

### Canton wrestler finishes magical run with state title at Palace

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A perfect showing at the Division 1 individual state wrestling finals aptly capped off Canton senior Anthony Abro's perfect season and brilliant high school career.

The 189-pounder won the state title with a 3-1 decision Saturday over Novi-Detroit Catholic Central's Miles Trealout at The Palace of Auburn Hills, before an enthusiastic throng of Canton supporters.

After finishing off Trealout, Abro let loose with happy emotion — a look of sheer exaltation on his face as he leaned back and looked toward the Palace rafters. It was a well-deserved celebration for finally having reached the pinnacle.

"That's when I knew I had the title, went undefeated and got all my goals accomplished," said Abro, describing his emotions at the moment of victory. "And that I really brought a title home to Canton. (There was) a lot of pressure off, it felt good."

**NOTHING IN HIS WAY** 

And Abro had quite an impressive list

of goals that he reached.

In addition to the championship, the victory gave Abro a 60-0 record this season and 200 victories over his stellar four-year career with the Chiefs - including 11 in a row without a loss to

With the win, Abro proved he wasn't about to let his title quest come up short.

"He was focused on what he wanted to accomplish and didn't let anyone or anything get in his way," said Canton head coach Cory Mancuso.

During the championship bout, Abro didn't really hear all of his fans going wild and chanting his name.

"Not really," said Abro, during a phone interview Tuesday. "I wasn't hearing anything on the mat, just kind of focusing on trying to score.

Abro did hear what Mancuso and other Canton coaches had to say to help make sure he wasn't too predictable against Trealout.

"Every time we wrestled I had to change things up to score my points or something, to win," Abro noted. "... They (coaches) really helped me a lot with that."

To that end, Saturday's matchup was different than the one on Feb. 19, when Abro defeated Trealout 5-3 at the D1 individual regional finals.

Meanwhile, Mancuso was more than proud about how the senior never wavered throughout the perfect season.

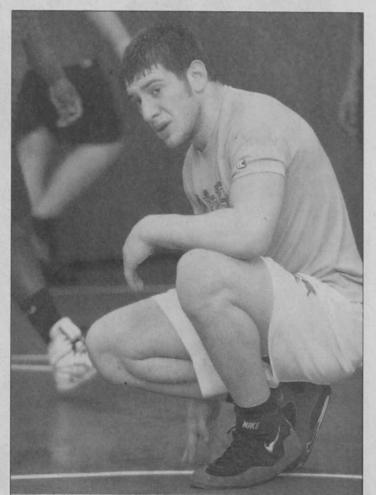
"I am just so proud and happy for Anthony," Mancuso said. "He showed to everyone that hard work always pays off. He was willing to do what most people are not and that's why he won.'

#### OTHER SUCCESSES

Another Canton success story was freshman Ben Griffin, who finished in seventh place at 103 - ending an outstanding rookie year with a record of

"To be a freshman and get a state medal is a great accomplishment," Mancuso said. "I know he is disappointed with a seventh place finish, but now he knows what needs to be done for him to take the next step to reaching his individual goals."

Please see ABRO, B2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHE

Shown taking a breather during a recent workout, all the sweat and toil paid off big-time for Canton 189-pounder Anthony Abro - who won the state title in his weight class Saturday at The Palace of Auburn Hills.

2011 BOYS BASKETBALL DISTRICTS -

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Northville's Bryce Groshek takes on Salem's Grant Bettner during Monday's boys basketball district game. The Rocks held on for a 72-68 victory.

### Rocks cool in crunch time

**OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

Things got hot under the collar late during Monday's Class A boys basketball district quarterfinal between Salem and host Northville.

But in loud, enemy surroundings with Northville's faithful making plenty of noise trying to help the Mustangs stage a comeback - the Rocks stayed cool and secured a 72-68 victory.

Salem (14-7) hosted Novi-Detroit

Catholic Central Wednesday in a semifinal matchup that took place after this issue of the Observer went to press.

"Any time you got the lead and you're the hunted instead of the hunter, there is a little sense of urgency," veteran Salem head coach Bob Brodie said. "... You're going to break down once in a while against such pressure, they're a good defensive team. But we held our composure for the most part."

Please see ROCKS, B3

# Eagles rise up after early woes

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As Eric Jipping goes, so does Plymouth Christian Academy's varsity boys basketball team.

The 6-5 junior center scored 25 points and tallied 10 rebounds Monday to help the Eagles overcome a sluggish start and grab a 59-54 win over Lutheran Westland in a Class D district quarterfinal at PCA.

"He's a big guy with good, quick feet and really great post moves inside," Eagles head coach Keith Anleitner said about Jipping. "That was the difference."

Lutheran Westland head coach Doug Haller said his team effectively defended Jipping for a while.

"I thought we took away at least his initial move to the basket," Haller said. "What hurt us was a few times he was able to get an offensive rebound and a putback.

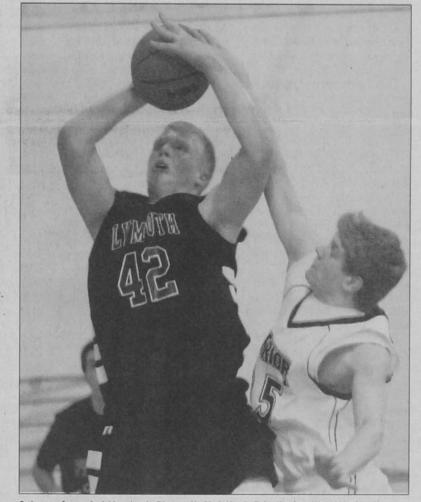
"He's tough to stop, when you get a kid that big (with) good hands and good feet."

#### **REFUSING TO LOSE**

Other factors included PCA's hustle after loose balls and penchant for clutch rebounds, as well as making eight straight free throws in the final minute to salt away the victory. Making four each during that span were junior guards Daniel Mullett (10 points, six assists) and Chris Scagnetti (five points).

We probably would have gone to overtime if we didn't hit those free throws at the end," Anleitner

Jipping and the Eagles took a while to get going, as Lutheran Westland (3-18) jumped out to a



Going up for a shot Monday is Plymouth Christian's Eric Jipping (No. 42), despite defensive pressure from Lutheran Westland's Micah Reum.

16-9 lead after one quarter. The Warriors paid extra attention to Jipping and also forced a spate of early PCA turnovers.

"We wanted to get the ball to Eric, but they were double- and triple-teaming him in the beginning," Anleitner said. "We could not complete passes to him."

The Warriors expanded that

edge to 28-14 with about three minutes left in the half, helped along by hot-shooting senior guard Marc Rosin (two treys in the second quarter). Rosin scored 17 first-half points, but cooled off to finish with 26.

PCA (5-14) subsequently turned

Please see EAGLES, B3



Canton senior Kayla Bridges works her way past Megan Schechtman (No. 15) of Ann Arbor Pioneer on Tuesday night.

## Canton girls cagers ride huge lead to victory

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

In the state tournament, all

wins are equal. That doesn't mean Canton's

varsity girls basketball team is thrilled about how it played in Tuesday's 47-29 victory over Ann Arbor Pioneer in a Class A regional semifinal.

After the regional host Chiefs (22-2) had the game decided midway through the third with an insurmountable 42-14 edge - some sloppy play crept

in. That allowed Pioneer to finish the game outscoring Canton 15-5, including 9-1 in the fourth. You got to keep your focus and continue to concentrate and

keep plugging away," Canton

GIRLS BASKETBALL REGIONALS

head coach Brian Samulski said. "With a senior-led group, I thought we came out and had a nice start to the third quarter.

"And then I thought we sort of lost some concentration as we went on. ... But for the most part, I thought we did OK.

The regional host Chiefs (22-2) broke out early against the Pioneers, going up 17-4 with about 2:30 remaining in the first quarter.

Canton's lead grew to 32-10 late in the first half, following a layup by junior point guard Robyn Mack and a triple by senior forward CarolAnn Sexauer (eight points).

It was 34-14 at halftime and the Chiefs racked up a string of easy buckets - two by senior forward Kari Schmitt (17 points, eight rebounds, six steals) - to go up 42-14.

Although Canton had the game won by that point, senior forward Kayla Bridges (11 points, six boards, two blocks) conceded that "our second half was really ugly. There are some things we need to work on. We got the win, but it definitely wasn't pretty."

Chipping in with seven points and five rebounds was senior forward Sara Schmitt.

For the Pioneers (16-3), Maya Richmond and Emma Braun tallied nine and eight points, respectively.

Now, Canton will welcome 18-5 Farmington Hills Mercy for Thursday's 7 p.m. regional final.

The Marlins rolled to a 52-29 victory over Hartland (20-4) in Tuesday's first game.

Except for the second-half blip, Samulski said he was pleased with his team's performance and doesn't think there will be any lingering worries.

"We're going to have to continue to do what we're doing,' Samulski said. "Defend, rebound and take care of the ball.

"Mercy's a good team, they won the Catholic League and they were impressive tonight. So we're going to have to come out focused and ready to go."

tsmith@hometownlife.com



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 10, 2011

Plymouth Whalers goalie Matt Mahalak is in perfect position to make one of his 50 stops Saturday against Windsor. Here, he stymies Spitfires forward Kerby Rychel.

# Whalers rout Spitfires in first-round preview

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Drop the puck for the OHL playoffs right now, because a first-round dandy is brewing between the Plymouth Whalers and Windsor.

The Whalers blitzed Spitfires emergency goaltender Michael Nishi for three quick goals en route to a 6-2 victory Saturday night before a standing room only crowd of 4,050 at Compuware Arena.

There were several fights, 84 penalty minutes and a total of five game misconducts doled out as the Western Conference rivals got after it in a big way.

Plymouth goalie Matt Mahalak stopped 50 of 52 shots and four Whalers tallied multiple points - led by forward James Livingston's one goal and three assists.

"It's quite possible," said Livingston about a Plymouth-Windsor playoff pairing. "I mean with all the rough stuff it's like a playoff game already. We're happy with the matchup,

whatever way we get it.' Plymouth improved to 35-22-1-4, good for 75 points and fourth place in the Western Conference. The win briefly put the Whalers one point ahead of fifth-place Windsor. (But Plymouth lost 4-1 Sunday at Sault Ste. Marie and the

Spitfires won, to regain fourth.) With just a handful of games left, the two teams are on a collision course for the playoffs. The fourth and fifth place teams in the conference will

face each other in Round 1. Plymouth recently clinched a playoff spot, which makes it 20 seasons in a row with the

Whalers qualifying. "This is our 20th straight year, and I'm pretty sure it's an OHL record," Plymouth head coach Mike Vellucci said. "Our drafting's good and our owner (Peter Karmanos) gives us all the tools to go out and get good players.

In the final regular season game between the longtime rivals, there were plenty of messages delivered.

"We got up and they (Spitfires) started going after our guys and going after our goalie," Vellucci said. "That's kind of typical with them right now. When they're down they're going to go after you. But we got to show more com-

#### **OHL HOCKEY**

posure."

#### **ROUGH AND TUMBLE**

It was a 4-1 Plymouth lead midway through the second period when a melee broke loose in Windsor's end. Plymouth forward Garrett Meurs was roughed up in the corner after he chased down a loose puck and several simultaneous fights ensued.

In fact two players from each side (Windsor's Craig Duininck and Nick Czinder; Plymouth's Beau Schmitz and Mitchell Heard) got into a pair of fights each before the altercation ended. All were given game misconducts.

There was another scrum just before the period ended. Windsor forward Jake Carrick gave Mahalak a nudge while the play was going in the opposite direction, and everybody on the ice quickly retreated for another go-around.

Carrick was whistled for two roughing minors, a fighting major and a 10-minutes misconduct. Meanwhile, Plymouth defenseman Austin Levi (Farmington Hills) was thrown out.

The third period, which began with the Whalers up 6-1, was a relatively calm stanza with four minors and a power play goal by Windsor for the

game's final marker. Of course, the most important number of the night was six — as in the goals scored by the Whalers on just 30 shots against Nishi.

The recent callup from the Ontario Junior A Hockey League goalie was pressed into service because the expected starter, John Cullen, hurt his knee during warmups. Number one goalie Jack Campbell also was out, with the flu.

"We jumped on their young goalie early and that was key, we got up 3-0," Vellucci said.

#### STRONG FROM THE START

Livingston's on-a-tee feed to captain Schmitz resulted in a one-timer from the right circle that beat Nishi high on the glove side.

That power-play goal at 3:17 was followed by another with the extra man just over four minutes later.

Forward Robbie Czarnik

(one goal, two assists) ripped a shot from inside the blue line, midway between the boards.

Both Livingston and forward Jamie Devane converged on the rebound and Devane knocked it in for his first of two in the game.

It was 3-0 with 7:51 to go thanks to a beautiful individual effort by Livingston. He walked the puck out of the left corner, skated in front of Nishi and slid the puck into the Windsor net for an unassisted goal, his 21st of the season.

"We just knew we had a big game playing Windsor here," Livingston said. "We just wanted to come out hard and I felt like I had a little extra jump so I was glad to get a couple points and help out."

Plymouth killed off a 5-on-3 disadvantage for 1:07 early in the second period, further frustrating Windsor.

Then Czarnik broke in for an unassisted, shorthanded goal with 17:16 left in the second to make it 4-0. It was his 32nd

The Spitfires finally got on the board at 5:36 when Zack Kassian knocked in the rebound of Alexander Khokhlachev's scoring bid.

#### **GETTING IT BACK**

But forward Tyler Brown who last week signed an NHL entry level contract with Philadelphia - opened up a 5-I Plymouth lead with 6:25 left.

Defenseman Dario Trutmann's slapper from the left circle was stopped, but the puck bounced into the slot. That's where Brown did a spinarama and ripped a shot past Nishi for his 25th goal of the

Finishing up the Whalers' offensive uprising was Devane, with his one-timer of a Czarnik pass cleanly beating Nishi at 17:09.

Windsor fired 20 shots at Mahalak in the second and another 23 in the third, but only had the Kassian goal and one by Tom Kuhnhacki in the

final frame to show for it. "I thought he (Mahalak) played really well, 50 saves," Vellucci said. "I know most of the shots were from outside, Windsor shoots from everywhere. But he made the big saves when he had to."

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### Double-OT defeat ices Penguins

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth-Canton-Salem's Penguins nearly won the Division 2 state girls hockey title for the second consecutive

But with three key players out with injuries, the shorthanded squad could not keep it going long enough to get past Regina on Saturday in a double-overtime game.

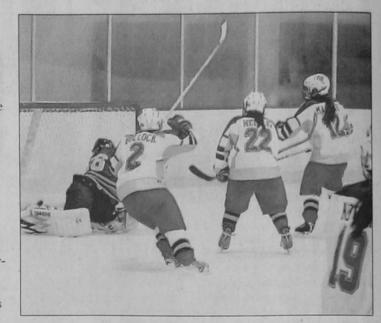
"We simply ran out of steam," Penguins head coach Mary Beth Johnson said. "We were missing three senior players who not only would have helped offensively and defensively, but would have given us three complete lines to allow us to stay stronger longer."

Missing the game were Rhianna Fleisher, Marissa Sullivan and Mallory Rojo.

Meanwhile, Regina (which won the D2 regular season in the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League) had a full bench and plenty of energy as the game continued.

Regina goalie Kelsey Erne (22 saves) outdueled PCS sophomore netminder Cortny McAdoo (17 saves), who backstopped the Penguins to last year's title.

On the winning goal, at 3:38 of the second OT, the puck slithered out of a group of players to the left of McAdoo. It squirted to a wide-open player on the right side for a



The Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins score a goal against Detroit Country Day during the recent playoffs. Registering the tally was Rebecca Majszak (No. 12), with teammates Emily Bullock (No. 2), Amanda Heisler (No. 22) and Alissa Novak (No. 19, foreground) also shown. PCS won that game 5-1 only to fall Saturday in double overtime to Regina in the championship match.

#### **GIRLS HOCKEY**

slam-dunk.

Scoring the PCS goal was Rebecca Majszak on the power play, from Alissa Novak.

"Both teams had a few great opportunities, but both goalies were really playing well," Johnson said.

The Penguins (who finished 9-11), reached the D2 final thanks to a 5-1 victory Friday over Detroit Country Day.

Scoring the game's first four goals were the Penguins. They were tallied by Majszak (from Emily Bullock), Amanda Heisler (from Majszak), Bullock (from Novak and Jennifer Fedon) and Novak (unassisted in the third period).

Heisler later added her second of the game, from Sarah

Stopping 23 shots for the victory was McAdoo, while PCS sent 32 shots toward the Country Day net.



#### More hardware

Canton's own 'Fab Five,' seniors (from left) Melanie Pickert, Kari Schmitt, Sara Schmitt (with trophy), Kayla Bridges and CarolAnn Sexauer celebrate after winning the Class A districts last week. Bridges is shown wearing No. 20 because she had to change her regular No. 33 jersey after sustaining a bloody mouth during the contest against Novi.

### Churchill skates into Elite Eight

BY BRAD EMONS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Livonia Churchill just won't let the boys hockey season come to an end.

Jake Otto's dramatic goal with 4:51 remaining in the first overtime gave the Chargers a 4-3 victory over Ann Arbor Pioneer in the Division 1 regional final Saturday afternoon at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube.

The Chargers, who captured their first regional title since 2007, advanced to the Elite Eight Wednesday at the Ice Cube to face Orchard Lake St. Mary, which also advanced with a 9-3 win Saturday night over Northville.

Churchill, which improved to 15-10-2 overall, carried the play most of game as evidenced by a 40-25 shots-ongoal differential.

Otto's game-winner came as a result of a perfect carom off the boards following a shot from the left point by defenseman Cam Benson.

Ben Proben and Benson drew assists on the game-win-

"Cam (Benson) shot it off the boards and I was waiting back-door for it," said Otto, a junior forward. "I was waiting to tap it in and go celebrate."

Pioneer junior goaltender Spencer Peck was rock-sold all afternoon, stopping 36 Churchill shots, many of which, were quality attempts.

Their goalie was real good," Otto said. "You have to give them a lot of credit. We couldn't put it in, but we got it in overtime.

"It means a lot. Our regular season was up-and-down, and this just means the world now. We can do anything now. We're in the playoffs.'

It was 1-1 after one period as Proben, a junior, scored for Churchill just 2:50 in the game off assists from Otto and Brad

Pioneer's Jaleel Rosemond answered with a power play goal with 11:09 of the same period on assists from Joseph Chronis and Nicholas Michos.

Churchill then dominated the second period, outshooting Pioneer 14-4, but fell behind 2-1 on Thomas Pokorney's goal at 5:25 from Branden Mackellar

and Benjamin Silvers.

Proben's tap-in power play goal at 7:32 of the same period from Otto and Steve Klisz squared the game at 2-all.

With 9:02 remaining in the third period, Churchill defenseman Joe Williams ripped a shot from the left point and scored just under the crossbar from Milks and Proben to make it 3-2.

But Pioneer's Joshua Packard sent the game into overtime with just 8:33 to go with a backhand rebound attempt with Pokorney and Zachary Reinholdt assisting.

"We felt pretty good about the (offensive) looks we were getting," Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni said. "We knew their kid (Spencer Peck) was capable of keeping them in the game. Pioneer plays playoff hockey all season long, and they take advantage when they get stuff.

"It was a struggle, but we needed to see that for sure." Churchill will be a heavy

underdog Wednesday against St. Mary, but the Chargers don't seem to mind.

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Griffin went 3-2 at The Palace, finishing with a 10-0 major decision over Caledonia's John Leark.

Also earning All-State honors among Plymouth-Canton Educational Park wrestlers was Salem sophomore Cody Korpus, eighth place in the 119pound weight class.

Korpus (23-13 for the season)

lost a 17-4 technical fall to Freddie Rodriguez of Grand Ledge on Friday to drop to the consolation bracket. He had pinned John Brown of Sterling Heights Stevenson in 1:35 on Thursday.

The Salem youngster also earned a 4-1 win over Farmington's Kevin

Cody really turned things around at districts," Salem head coach Pete Israel said. "The state meet really motivated him at the end of the year.

... I look forward to Cody work-

back there again." THEY ALSO COMPETED

ing hard during the off-season to get

Among other PCEP wrestlers, Canton senior Ben Poirier lost 2-1 in overtime to Flint Carman-Ainsworth's Mark Byrd in the 285pound quarterfinals on Friday.

Poirier concluded his final season with the Chiefs with an outstanding record of 51-5.

Thursday with a 12-7 decision over

Junior Zach Marsh opened up

Hudsonville's Carl Nystrom to reach

But Marsh was pinned in 5:16 by

Brian Gibbs of Temperance-Bedford in the quarterfinals. He then lost a consolation matchup

to Eddie Nuttall of Ypsilanti-Lincoln, falling by a 3-1 score. That wrapped up his season with a record of 43-10. Canton senior 171-pounder Braden

Price went 0-2 at The Palace to finish 20-9 for the season. Price was pinned by Brighton's

Keith Tkac in 4:42 on Thursday and

lost via disqualification Friday. Meanwhile, Plymouth's Said Youssef (125) and Alec Breckenridge (130) lost their opening bouts Thursday.

Youssef lost his only consolation matchup to finish 46-13.

Breckenridge did earn a win over Ryan Howcroft of Rochester Adams in a consolation matchup but bowed out in his following bout to finish

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The Rocks led for much of the night, jumping out to leads of 11-9 after one quarter, 32-27 at halftime and 52-42 entering the fourth.

It was a 62-55 lead with 3:15 to play after 6-6 sophomore forward Chris Dierker (15 points, eight rebounds) drained a jumper.

Northville (11-10) chipped away and trailed 64-62 following two free throws by junior forward Brett MacDonald (12 points) with just 1:47 remaining in regulation.

Salem turned the ball over and the Mustangs had a chance to tie the score, only to miss the shot. Dierker grabbed the rebound and drew a foul in the process; he then hit two free throws to open up a 66-62 edge.

#### FINISHING THE JOB

The Mustangs got the ball back with about a minute left, still trailing by four. But they were tagged with an offensive foul to end that possession and a traveling violation stopped their next one.

Salem senior forward Ethan Walsh sank two free throws (he made all six foul shots over the final 3:45 and finished with 13 points) and 6-3 junior forward Tyler Stewart (15 points, six rebounds) made three more to pretty much wrap up the victory.

"We knew it was going to come down to the very end, so we knew we were going to have to knock down free throws, said the 6-3, 240-pound Walsh - a football player and no stranger to the kind of physical play he encountered in the paint. Walsh also pulled down

six boards. Concurring was Brodie, whose team hit 30 of 40 foul shots during the game. "We knocked down some free throws when we needed to at

According to Northville's third-year head coach Todd Sander, the late surge only was a reminder of what might have been had the Mustangs played stronger earlier in the contest. He lamented giving Salem 21 points in the second quarter.

'That's really when it got away from us," Sander said. "I thought they were scoring way too easily, I didn't think we were making them make difficult shots, they were getting layups or free throws.'

But Sander did expect nothing less than the war that the game became at crunch time.

Every time we play Salem it's a battle," Sander said. "It's close and whoever's ahead better be ready for a run.

Tonight it was us trying to come from behind. ... I liked how our guys battled, I liked how we fought."

#### HANGING TOUGH

Brodie said it was key that his team got the job done in such a pressure-packed situ-

'That was big, because of late, we've lost some close games this season," Brodie emphasized. "... You kind of wonder about whether or not the kids can keep their composure in a big game like this, in the state tournament. I was proud of the way they reacted."

Salem's balanced attack was led by 6-5 senior forward Zinoviy Pelekh (17 points, seven boards).

Leading Northville in scoring was senior guard Bryce Groshek, who tallied 21 points in the final game of his prep career. When he left the game with eight seconds to go, the Northville fans gave him a nice

Senior forwards Levi Perry and Andrew Baldwin led the Mustangs with 11 and six rebounds, respectively.

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### 'Cats quickly out of state tourney



Plymouth's Jacob Morris (left) fires

the ball off of Novi's Chris Milon to try to get an out-of-bounds call.

**OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

The playoff run didn't last ong for Plymouth's varsity boys basketball team.

But Wildcats' second-year head coach Mike Soukup wasn't about to let a 78-58 loss to Novi in Monday's Class A district quarterfinal dampen a pretty successful season.

"I'm thankful to my seniors," Soukup said. "I'm so proud of them and what they've accomplished this year as far as winning our first division crown

here at Plymouth.

They started, hopefully, what will be a good tradition for us of winning basketball and tough-played basketball."

Those seniors Soukup referred to was the talented trio of guard Mike Nadratowski and forwards Brennen Beyer and Pat Salo. Nadratowski led the KLAA

South champion Wildcats (14-7) with 19 points, while Beyer and Salo chipped in with 18 and 11 points, respectively.

Samer Ozeir led Novi with 18 points, while Rob Laney

contributed 14. The district hosts improved to 18-3 with the victory, going into Wednesday's game against

Canton (the Chiefs drew an opening bye). According to Soukup, Novi shot the basketball extremely well early on, enough to build what turned out to be an

insurmountable lead. "Every time we tried to make a run, they were able to counter with a good run of their own," Soukup said.

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## Canton gymnasts headed for finals

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

On the heels of a nearrecord performance, Canton's girls gymnastics team is pumped up for this week's Division 1 and 2 state meet in Kenowa Hills

Chiefs coach John Cunningham's team won last Saturday's MHSAA Region 3 meet with a tally of 146.925 points - just shy of the team record of 147.1 set in 2007.

Simultaneously taking place at Canton was the Michigan High School Gymnastics Coaches and Judges Association Division 3 championships, for those with event-qualifying scores but less than the four required to compete at regionals.

"With Robyn Piwowar back, ... and Ayana Lewis nearly back to speed, Canton became a monster," beamed Cunningham.

At the state team finals, set for Friday, the Chiefs are vying for their second run-

ner-up finish in school history. Cunningham conceded first place to Grand Ledge, but his squad is in the mix for second along with Farmington, Troy Athens and Kenowa Hills.

Perhaps just as impressively, eight Canton gymnasts qualified for Saturday's individual state finals including senior Piwowar.

She had missed action due to illness and a school trip, but returned in a big way with a first-place showing on balance beam (9.5), finishing second on floor (9.65) and notching a third-place score of 36.375 for D1 all-around.

Also in the D1 meet, sophomore Alex Fideler registered second-place finishes on uneven parallel bars (8.95) and beam (9.325) and a third on floor with a tally of 9.6 points.

In the D2 competition, Lewis was lights out with firsts in four events (vault, 9.25; bars, 9.35; beam, 9.125; all-around, 36.925.

Leading other notable

Canton D2 performers was freshman Melissa Green. She took second on vault (9.2) and all-around (36.5) while registering nines on floor (9.4, fourth) and beam (9.15, fifth).

Senior Kali Pierce chipped in with thirds on beam (8.925) and floor (9.3) while Nicole Lasecki qualified in three events, with her 9.25 on floor (sixth place) her best event. Lasecki also finished with 8.75 on vault (fifth) and 8.725 on beam (seventh).

Meanwhile, Canton freshman Erica Lucas "nailed her vault" with a 9.2 to grab second place and Brooke Granowicz placed second on beam (9.05) and ninth on floor

In Region 3 team standings, Canton's 146.975 led a 10-team pack. In second was Grosse Pointe (138.575) followed by Salem (137.625), Livonia Blue (137.475) and Saline (136.700). Finishing seventh with 133.150 points was Plymouth.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Robyn Piwowar of Canton, shown from a dual meet earlier this season, will represent the Chiefs both as an individual and with the team at this weekend's gymnastics finals.

things around. Baskets by Jipping and sophomore guard Mick Noel (nine points) jumpstarted a 10-0 run to close the half, cutting the gap to 28-24.

The Eagles didn't let intermission stop their momentum. They outscored the Warriors 11-2 over the first 3:30 of the third quarter, taking a 35-30 lead.

Haller said a full-court press by PCA "forced us into a few turnovers that really took us out of our flow offensively."

Lutheran Westland didn't give up, however. Senior guard Kent Krzyske (eight points) hit a basket and a minute later the Warriors regained the lead at 36-35 (with 1:12 left in the third) following a triple and free throw by senior forward Micah Reum (12 points).

Jipping then drove to the bucket for a field goal, giving the Eagles a 37-36 edge after three.

#### **HUSTLE POINTS**

Defensive hustle by the Eagles helped the lead grow to 50-40 with about 3:30 to play.

Sophomore forward Drew Ibach (seven rebounds) assisted on junior guard Josh Middleton's bucket to open the fourth.

Ibach stole the ball near mid-court on the Warriors' next possession and that led to a layup by Jipping.

"(Those were) just hustle plays, diving for loose balls, trying to get into the passing lane," Anleitner said.

Besides Ibach, the coach added the names of Middleton and freshman Daniel Jipping (on JV most of the year) to his list of hard-working defenders. The Eagles kept pouring it



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Trying to take the ball inside for Plymouth Christian Monday is Daniel Mullett (No. 10), although Matt Sylvester of Lutheran Westland is doing his best to thwart the attempt.

on and received some good fortune. Mullett's triple from the right flank bounced up off the rim, but came right back down through the cylinder.

Capping off a 36-12 surge that began in the second, sophomore forward Alex Huber (five points) and Jipping converted back-to-back field

Although ultimately to no avail, Lutheran Westland fought back, forcing the Eagles into some miscues.

Reum cut the deficit to 53-51 with 26 seconds to go on a trey from the right wing and Rosin would add a triple 11 seconds later to make it 57-54.

Scagnetti made sure PCA's lead would not get any slimmer, hitting both foul shots to finish the victory.

Plymouth Christian will face Huron Valley Lutheran at 7 p.m. Wednesday in a district semifinal contest.

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# Rocks gymnasts are solid at regionals

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

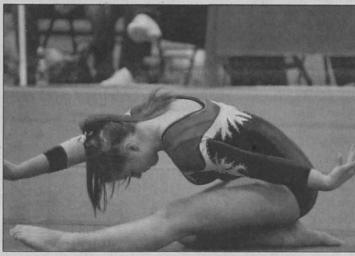
Move over Canton. You'll have company from The Park at this weekend's gymnastics

The Salem Rocks also will be in Kenowa Hills, securing a trip to the team finals with their third-place finish of 137.625 points at Saturday's MHSAA Region 3 meet hosted by the Chiefs.

According to one of Salem's coaches, Amy Driscoll, it will be the program's first time at the finals in a half-decade or so. The team will compete Friday, with several Salem gymnasts also taking part in Saturday's individual finals.

"We are very proud of the girls, turning out one of their best efforts on Saturday to finish third at the regional meet," Driscoll said.

Spearheading Salem were



Demonstrating her technique on floor exercise at the recent KLAA meet is Salem junior Nicole Jacobs, who was Division 2 conference champion in the event. Jacobs qualified for Saturday's individual finals and will compete with her teammates at Friday's team finals.

junior Nicole Jacobs and sophomore Ade Jepperson.

"Nicole qualified individually on all four events, winning the Division 2 floor exercise with a (personal best) 9.475,"

Driscoll noted. "Ade also took second-place honors on the uneven parallel bars (in D2)

> with a 8.95. Meanwhile "a strong freshman core, who have improved

in the D2 individual finals also made a big impact in how Salem performed at the

all season" and qualified

At the top of that list were Morgan Soper (sixth in vault with an 8.85) and Brook Allgeyer (eighth on vault with

"Morgan Soper has been a solid all-around performer all season," Driscoll continued. She also saluted the contributions made by seniors Kristina Klusek, Amanda Rice, Alice Munday, juniors Brianna Cheesman, Hailee Lindberg and freshmen Maddie Burt, Paulette Martino and Nora Akcasu for the third-place team finish.

"Overall, we had 15 individuals qualify for the regional meet this year, which is an amazing number," Driscoll added.

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#### SPORTS ROUNDUP

#### Steelheaders meeting

The Metro-West Steelheaders monthly meeting will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 5 at the Livonia Senior Center, located at the southeast corner of Farmington and Five Mile roads.

Meetings are free and open to the public. No reservations

Captain Jerry Lee will be

one of two featured speakers. He has over 30 years of fishing and guiding experience on the Great Lakes.

Among the topics include use of lead-core, rotators, cut bait, inline boards and the latest downrigger savvy. His presentation also includes tips and tactics to consistently boat limits of fish for his customers on a daily basis.

Captain Chip Cartwright

Just Imagine...

will also unveil the latest from Wolverine Tackle, which produces the world famous Silver Streak lures.

For more information, call Jim Robertson at (734) 383-2790.

#### For girls only

Canton Arctic Edge Arena, at 46615 Michigan near Canton Center Drive, welcomes girls for some informal sticks and pucks, between 8-8:50 a.m. Saturdays.

blank slogan "No Cuts! Boys!" and is just \$5 per participant. Girls must bring their own equipment or use rental equip-

ment available at Arctic Edge on

The program carries the point-

a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, call (734) 487-7777 or go to www. arcticarenas.com.

#### SPORTS ROUNDUP

#### 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 sea-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@clarenceville.k12.mi.us.



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### Mariners' Church service March 13 launches sailing season in region

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 10, 2011

OSE STAFF WRITER

Sailors from ships of all sizes will pray for a safe boating season Sunday at

Mariners' Church in Detroit.
The 47th annual Blessing of the Fleet will be held at the 11 a.m. service, March 13 at the church, located at 170 E. Jefferson Ave., at the entrance to the Windsor Tunnel.

The service is open to boaters and non-boaters alike.
Participants may bring their burgees, colors, pennants and pennons to the church for the blessing

Dr. Irene Tseng, a Livonia resident with a dental practice in Westland, has been a member of the church since infancy. She and her husband, Kenneth Morse, have attended many of the blessings, but this year they'll

bring a flag to the ceremony.

"We have a small speed
boat. We only just bought
a flag last year," Tseng
said. "We don't cruise the
(Detroit) river. We go to
Camp Michigania up north
(Walloon Lake) and we sail at

She said the flag likely will end up in the family's cottage rather than on the boat.

The couple's youngest of two daughters will serve as an acolyte on Sunday.

"It's a nice service and would be something different for someone visiting the church. They do special services every so often to acknowledge maritime groups. In the late fall there's a Great Lakes memorial service," she said.

"Mariners' is a very traditional service. They use an Anglican liturgy but it is an independent church. It does not belong to the Diocese of Michigan."

Tseng grew up in the western suburbs while also attending Mariners' Church. Her late mother started the family tradition while completing a medical residency in Detroit.

Tseng continued her membership as an adult because she enjoys the service with its beautiful music and traditional prayer book.

"It's something special. Even though it's very traditional it's not stodgy in any way. It's beautiful in its own way and I find a lot of comfort in that. I think people are comforted by what they grew up with."

Mariners' Church, a
national historic landmark,
was founded in 1842 as a
mission for sailors. During its
early history it also served as
a stop on the Underground
Railroad and housed the
Detroit post office, a bank
and a grocery store. During
the Great Depression it
became a mission for homeless women.

The church is the oldest structure on the Detroit Riverfront and was moved 880 feet east in 1954 to make way for a new civic center.

"It's one of those gems of the city," Tseng said. "Father (Richard) Ingalls, the minister there, is a wealth of historical information. They do give tours. Call ahead."

Services are at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Free parking is available in the Ford Auditorium garage.



Honor guard members of the International Shipmasters' Association, Detroit Lodge No. 7, and military personnel assemble in the Mariners' Church sanctuary last year for the blessing of the fleet.



Kenneth Morse, Irene Tseng's husband, pilots their pontoon boat. The Livonia couple will get a flag blessed Sunday at the Blessing of the Fleet at Mariners' Church in Detroit.



Grand President Captain Edward J. Morris of the International Shipmasters' Association in Detroit tolls the bell in memory of mariners who died. Lt. Col. James B. Davis, Commander of the United States Army Corps of Engineers stands nearby at last year's blessing of the fleet.

# Your Invitation to Worship

CATHOLIC

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Tridentine Latin Mass

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Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m.
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OF THE NAZARENE

801 W. Ann Arbor Road \* (734) 453-1 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.

Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.

NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196 UNITED METHODIST

ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

30450 Farmington Road • Farmington Hills www.orchardumc.org 248-626-3620 Worship:

9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m. Christian
Education for all ages
Pastors: Carol J. Johns,
Jim Braid, Margo Dexter

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9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, Mi
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(734) 422-0494 Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am

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GREEK ORTHODOX

NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH 39851 West Five Mile, Plymouth Twp., MI Sunday Services Matins 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Rev. Fr, Demetrios Sean Govostes. Parish Office 734-420-0131 Office Hours M-F 10:00 am - 2:00 pm www.nativitygochurch.org **LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD** 

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96

Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional Staffed Nursery Available



Sunday School/Bible Class 9:45 am Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413

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Pastors: Davenport, Bayer, & Creeden
734-522-6830

Risen Christ Lutheran
David W. Martin, Pastor
46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth 1: 700 K of Roads
(734) 453-5252

(734) 453-5252 Worship 8:15 & 10:45 am Sunday School 9:30 • Adult Bible Study 9:30 Jursery Care Available, All are welcome. Come as you an www.risenchrist.info

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Fellowship Presbyterian Church

Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire
Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church
16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road

Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org

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

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN



40000 Six Mile Road Northville, MI 48168 248.374.7400 www.wardchurch.org

Traditional Worship 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m. Contemporary Worship 9:30 & 11 a.m.

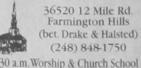
Children's Programs available at 9:30 & 11 a.m.

The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 560 AM LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

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WORSHIP SERVICES
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.
THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M.
website: www.stpaulsilvonia.org

CONGREGATIONAL

North Congregational Church



10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School Faith - Freedom-Fellowship

Ministers
Dr. Mark P. Jensen Rev. Mary E. Biedron

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

Contact: (248) 851-6880 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 baby-sitting

Why be Catholic

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, March

Location: St. Michael the Archangel church, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Sr. John Dominic Rasmussen talks about how God led her from unchurched, teenage basketball star to co-founder of the dynamic and growing community of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist and principal of Spiritus Sanctus Academy in Ann Arbor. All are welcome regardless of religious affiliation

Widowed Friends

Time/Date: 5 p.m. social, 6 p.m. dinner, Friday, March 11

Contact: (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200

Location: American Polish Cultural Center, 2975 E. Maple, Troy Details: Widowed Friends, a peer group in the Archdiocese of Detroit, invites widowed individuals of all ages to a family-style Lenten dinner. Cost is \$14, payable in cash at the door. Bar drinks and desserts extra. Cards, games and conversation

Contact: RSVP by March 9 to Mary Ann at (586) 939-5270 or Sally at (586) 575-9535

#### MARCH 17-23

afterward

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.-noon, Sunday, March 20

Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland Details: All you can eat pancake and French toast breakfast includes pancakes, French toast, ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, tea, coffee, milk and juice for \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children, 2-10. Sponsored by: St. Theodore Men's

Contact: (734) 425-4421

CD signing

Time/Date: 1-2:30 p.m. Saturday, March 19

Location: Rock of Ages, 31015 Ford Road, Garden City Details: Christian rock group, Stryper, signs their new release

Contact: (734) 522-0351

Purim musical Time/Date: 7 p.m., March 19 Location: Temple Shir Shalom, Dave & Joyce Sakwa Family Sanctuary,

3999 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield Details: Jim Harper of Magic 105.1

will guest narrate "Blazing Sandals,"

a musical Purim Shpiel for community members of all ages based on the popular music from "Oklahoma," "Annie Get Your Gun" and "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers." Snacks and drinks will be available starting at 6 p.m. in the social hall. Drink tickets will be \$4 for beer and wine and \$5 for mixed drinks. Admission to the play is free

Contact: (248) 737-8700

Widowed Friends

Time/Date: Check in at 2:15 p.m.; Mass starts at 2:30, Sunday, March 20 Location: St. Thomas a' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley Road, just south of Cherry Hill, in Canton

Details: Widowed Friends, a "peer" support group, sponsors a special Mass for widowed men and women Contact: Pat at (734) 895-6246

#### **MARCH 24-30**

Answer weekend

Time/Date: 5 p.m. Friday, March 25; 6:30 p.m. March 26 and 11 a.m. March 27

Location: Friday events at Clarenceville Junior High, 20210 Middlebelt, Livonia and Saturday-Sunday events at Lighthouse Worship Center, 19827 Middlebelt, Livonia

Details: 12 teams in a 3 on 3 Basketball tournament with \$25.00 entry fee on Friday. Open to all boys and girls 17 and under. Co-ed teams are welcome. Cash prizes of \$100-\$300 will be awarded. Bands will perform and a drama is planned for Saturday; Shae Hughes a youth-orientated speaker, will minister to kids of all ages on Sunday. Immediately after the service, prizes for the basketball tournament will be awarded and a free lunch will be served Contact: Dan Tyson for details on the basketball tournament at (517)

281-8077; Pastor Chuck LaParr at (734) 546-2741 or the church office at (248) 476-7933 for other ques-

#### MARCH 31-APRIL 6

Guest speaker

Time/Date: 8:45 a.m. gathering, 9:15 a.m. opening prayer, 12:45 p.m. dismissal, Thursday, March 31 Location: St. Fabian Church, 32200 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills Details: The Rev. Richard Fragomeni talks about the power of liturgy to transform lives. Cost is \$22 before March 17 and \$27 after. Includes

Contact: Celia St. Charles at (248) 553-4610 or cstcharles@stfabian.org

#### **ONGOING**

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

Classes/study **Emmanuel Lutheran Church** 

Time/Date: 7-8 p.m., second Monday of the month Location: 34567 Seven Mile,

between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia Details: Open Arms Bible class

for adults with developmental disabilities and special needs. Includes songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun. Contact: Pastor Scott Sessier at (734) 673-2485 or e-mail to pastorscott@emmanuel-livonia.org

Faith Bible Church Time/Date: 9:45-10:45 a.m. Sundays through May 8

Location: 34541 5 Mile, Livonia Details: "Four Views of the End Times" adult study Also ongoing: "Life's Healing

Choices" Study Group, 6 p.m., fourth Sunday through September is for men and women who want freedom from hurts, hang-ups and habits Contact: (734) 464-7990

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

21200 Haggerty, Northville Township

Contact: John Shulenberger at (734) 464-9491

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

Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville Contact: (734) 846-4615 Nicole's Revival

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

Location: YWCA Northwest Branch, 25940 Grand River, west of Beech Daly, Redford

Details: KJV Scripture Reading, Communion and Prayer Contact: (313) 531-1234 Our Lady of Loretto

Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford

**Details**: Scripture study Contact: (313) 534-9000

Ward Presbyterian Time/Date: 7 p.m., Mondays Location: Room A101, 40000 W. Six Mile. Northville

Details: Learner's Bible study is held Contact: (248) 374-5920

Clothing bank Canton Christian Fellowship

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., fourth Saturday and 5-6:30 p.m., second Wednesday Location: 41711 Joy, between Lilley

and Haggerty Details: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank offers free clothing

Contact: (734) 404-2480, visit www. CantonCF.org or send e-mail to info@

Food Bank **New Hope Church** 

cantoncf.org

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m., every Friday by appointment only Location: is 44815 Cherry Hill,

Canton Contact: Call pastor Ranay Brown

to schedule an appointment at (734) 270-2528 Moms

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m., second Tuesday, MOPS; 7-8:30 p.m., first and third Thursday, MOPSnext. Both programs run through May

Location: 14175 Farmington Road,

Details: Mothers of Preschoolers is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners; MOPSnext supports mothers of school-aged children. The theme will be "Momology - The Art & Science of Mothering for MOPS and "Boundaries" for

MOPSnext Contact: Rebekah Creeden at 734) 524-0283 for MOPS and Susan

Magner at (248) 478-3643 for MOPS **Dunning Park Bible Chapel** 

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m., first and third Tuesdays Location: 24800 West Chicago Road,

Redford Details: MOPS is a place where

moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope

Contact: Amy at (313) 937-3084 or Kristen at (734) 542-0767

Pet-friendly service Time/Date: 1 p.m., Sunday Location: Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia

**Details**: All Creatures ULC sponsors the service which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service. All Creatures ULC describes the gathering as non-denominational and Christian. Water is available for dogs Contact: (313) 563-0162

Prayer Nardin Park United Methodist Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday Location: 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Participate in an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests

Contact: (248) 476-8860 St. Edith Church Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday Location: 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through the back of the church Details: Music, singing, prayer Contact: Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656, or Geri at

(734) 464-8906 St. Michael Lutheran Church Time/Date: 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday Location: 7000 Sheldon, Canton Details: Praying silently or aloud together; prayer requests welcomed

Contact: (734) 459-3333

St. Michael the Archangel Time/Date: 10-11 a.m. Saturdays Location: In the church rectory conference room, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia Details: St. Monica's Prayer Group is open to all women who want to support one another in praying for their children, regardless of age

Other prayer sessions: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. third Wednesday, includes parish prayer and Eucharistic adoration, with Benediction service following Contact: 734-261-1455, Ext. 200

Senior citizens Riverside Park Church of God Time/Date: 11:30 a.m., third Thursdays

Location: 11771 Newburgh, Livonia Details: Senior adults, age 50 and over, enjoy social interaction and food during time together

Contact: (734) 464-0990

p.m. program

Singles First Presbyterian Church Time/Date: Thursdays 7:30-7:45 p.m. social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9

Location: 200 E. Main St., Northville **Details**: Single Place Ministry; cost is \$5

Contact: (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org

Steve's Family Restaurant Time/Date: 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday Location: 15800 Middlebelt, 1/4 mile

north of Five Mile, Livonia Details: Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet with others who are ready to help cope or become involved in the other social activities offered by Widowed Friends.

Contact: (313) 534-0399 Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m., Sunday Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville Details: Single Point Ministries, for 30 and up, offers fellowship. Coffee, doughnuts, conversation Contact: (248) 374-5920

Song Circle Congregation Beth Ahm Time/Date: Noon to 12:30 p.m., every Shabbat Location: 5075 W. Maple, West

Details: Sing zemirot (traditional Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services. Lyrics are provided in transliteration as well as the original Hebrew. Contact: (248) 737-1931 or e-mail nancyellen879@att.net.

Support

Bloomfield

**Apostolic Christian Church** Time/Date: 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily Location: 29667 Wentworth, Livonia Details: Adult day care program at

the church's Woodhaven Retirement Community, Funding, available from TSA, AAA 1-C Older Americans Act Contact: (734) 261-9000; www. woodhaven-retirement.com

**Detroit World Outreach** Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; room 202

**Details**: Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems, drugs, alcohol, overeating, gambling

Contact: (313) 255-2222, Ext. 244





FLORENCE E. CLIXBY Age 93, lifelong resident of Canton, passed away on March 8, 2011. Only child of William and Annie Avery Retired cafeteria worker for the Wayne School District. Beloved wife of the late Robert T. Loving mother of ludith Cannon. Proud grandmother of James Thomas Cannon, Barbra A. (Brian) Reis and Lydia Hackett. Greatgrandmother of Heather and Sarah and heir extended families. Preceded in death by her children William Clixby Thomas Robert Clixby and Patricia Jo Ann Crossmyer and also by her granddaughter Karen Ann Cannon Mosby Funeral service Friday 10:00am from the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home 280 South Main, Plymouth. Visitation Wednesday and Thursday from 4-8pm. Interment Sheldon Cemetery. Memorials may be made to American Cancer Society Society, or Michigan Humane Society. Share memories at:



schrader-howell.com.

LAURA LEE CURTSINGER

Age 76. Born March 31, 1934 to Mary and Joseph Trappano. Survived by daughter Karen, son-in-law Paul, daughter-in-law Laura and grandson Married to the late Gerald Eugene Curtsinger, had two children, the late Jerry Curtsinger and Karen Curtsinger. Devoted wife, mother and grandmother who always put family first. A vivacious woman with a great sense of humor, extremely independent, feisty and strong. Before leaving work to raise her children, Laura was a bookkeeper at a bank in downtown Detroit. Loved by all who knew her. Visitation will take place on Thursday March 10, 2011 from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Higgerson & Neal Funeral Home, 209 Main St., Belleville (734-697-9400). Funeral service will take place on Friday, March 11, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. at the funeral home. Interment will follow at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Detroit, Michigan. www.hnfhome.com

#### LYNN A. HALL

Age 55 of Plymouth, suddenly March 6, 2011. Loving wife of David. Beloved mother of Lisa (Darrin) Burek, Kristina and Amanda.Dear daughter of Janet (Gordon) Hodson and Angelo Calcaterra. Dear sister of David Calcaterra. Dear sister in law of Susan Hall. Dear daughter in law of Bill Hall. Visitation Wednesday 4-PM and Thursday 1-9 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W Ann Arbor Road, (btwn Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. In state Friday 10 AM until the 10:30 AM Funeral Mass at Our Lady of Good Counsel, 47650 North Territorial, (corner of Beck) Plymouth. Interment St. Hedwig Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Mercy High School, 29300 W Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48336.
To share a memory please visit

vermeulenfuneralhome.com



DOROTHY M KOLODZIEJCZAK

Age 85, March 5, 2011. Beloved wife of the late Anthony for 54 years. Loving mother of Anthony (Sharon), Ramona (George) Barnum, Thomas (Sharon), Charles (Donna), Betty (Dennis) Grim, Patrick (Cary), and Michael (Cherie) Kolodziejczak Cherished grandmother of 24; greatgrandmother of 18. Dorothy was preceded in death by her grandson, Jesse Funeral Service Tuesday at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Downtown Farmington. www.thayer-rock.com



LORETTA N. KUDEK

March 6, 2011 of Westland, Michigan Loving Wife of the late Ronald, Sr. Dear Mother of William Cecil Longerbeam (Theresa), Loretta Gale Armstrong (George), Lawrence Thomas Longerbeam (Patty), & Lawrence Ronald Steven Kudek, Jr. (Shari). 11 Grandchildren & 4 Great Grandchildren. Visiting Friday 3-9pm. Funeral Services Saturday 10am at Harry J. Will Funeral Home 34567 Michigan Ave. Wayne, Michigan. Contributions to Shriners Hospital Appreciated.



THOMAS PATRICK O'ROURKE

Age 75, died peacefully on March 7, 2011, with his family by his side Visitation will be on Thursday, March 10 from 4-9 p.m. and Friday, March 11 from 2-9 p.m. at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main Street, Plymouth. Funeral mass will be at Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, in Plymouth on Saturday, March 12 at :00 p.m: visitation will begin Thomas was the youngest of six children, born on February 1936 to Mary and James O'Rourke. He was a student at both St. Cecilia School and Catholic Central before graduating from St. Cecilia in 1954. On May 3, 1974, Thomas married his love, Mary Ellen Daly. Together, they were tenderly devoted to their four children. Thomas Patrick, in true Irish form, enjoyed conversation and camaraderie as a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Gaelic League. Thomas is survived by his wife of 36 years, Mary Ellen O'Rourke (Daly); years, Mary Erlen O Rourke (Dary), sister, Marge Gilboe; four children and their spouses, Katie and Scott Moore, Molly and Steve Guikema, Tom and Colleen O'Rourke, Erin and Justin Allen; and eight grandchildren, Ella, Aidan, Jack, Megan, Danny, Colleen, Maggie, and James Thomas (due July 2011). He was preceded in death by his parents, James and Mary O'Rourke; brother, James O'Rourke; sisters, Marie O'Rourke, Dorothy Rosso, and Jane Gallagher. Tom's warmth will forever shine on your windowpane, A rainbow is certain to follow this rain, The hand of this great man will always be near you, And fill

### **OBITUARY** POLICY

The first five "billed" lines of an

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

Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

e-mail your obit to

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

OE08658429

or Liz Keiser



your heart with gladness to cheer you.

JOSEPH W. WILLIS, Jr. Age 90. March 6, 2011. Preceded in

death by his beloved wife of 61 years, Louise Willis and his dear son, Joey Willis. Survived by loving daughter Cheryl (Sherry) and Ron Williams. Dearest grandfather of Joe "Buddy Williams (fiancée Gerri McGow) and Cristin Williams (fiancée Steve Gnagey). Dear brother-in-law of Peggy Smith and Vera Weaver. Dear uncle to several nieces and nephews and great uncle of many. Dearest friend of co-caregiver Mike Camilleri. He was owner of C&J Fasteners for 35 years. Also he was a lifetime member of Lola Valley Lodge #583 and life-time member of Eastern Star Kindness Chapter #523. He enjoyed magic, playing cards and collecting many, many things including Santa Clauses and playing cards. Donations may be made to Angela Hospice. Funeral Services were held Wednesday at the Neely-Turowski Funeral Home 30200 Five Mile Rd. Interment Grand Lawn Cemetery, www.neely-turowski.com



# ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, March 10, 2011

hometownlife (m) com

#### HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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

# Celebrate St. Paddy's Day with song, dance

BY SHARON DARGAY O&E STAFF WRITER

St. Patrick's Day is a family affair for Mick Gavin of Redford. The Redford resident and expert fiddler will perform with two sons and a daughter-in-law at the 26th annual St. Patrick's Day Irish Fest in Westland.

He'll also make sure the audience experiences a familyfriendly atmosphere.

"It's not a big booze-up," said Gavin, who claims too many St. Patrick's Day events focus too much on alcohol consumption. "It's cultural. You will see world class Irish musicians performing music that you will find only in Ireland. You will not find that authentic style of music any place else in Michigan unless it's someone on tour.

"We have from babies to 90year-olds. You don't have to be Irish to celebrate the patron saint of the country. We don't have a Mass or service but it's later in the afternoon and kids after school are welcome."

The festival will run from 3 p.m.-midnight Thursday, March 17 at the Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy, east of Newburgh, Westland. Admission is \$10 for adults. Children attend for free.

The family-friendly atmosphere doesn't mean it will be a totally dry event.

"We'll have Guinness of course and Baileys Irish Cream, wine," Gavin said.

Hot dogs, corned beef, pizza and full corned beef dinners round out the menu.

#### MUSIC MENU

The musical fare will include local dancers as well as guest musician Sean Gavin, 24, Mick Gavin's son, who just returned from three years on



Musicians will play authentic Irish party music, folk tunes and ballads at St. Patrick's Day Irish Fest in Westland. That's fiddler Mick Gavin of Redford at left, foreground.

the road, touring with Celtic Legends, an Irish music and dance production, plays whistle, flute and pipes. He's also a member of Nicgaviskey, and of the traditional Irish music ensemble Bua.

The show also will include Sean's brother, Michael on

A New Year's resolution that you can keep!

SHOP LOCAL START H

fiddle, guitar, banjo and vocals; Michael's wife, Colleen Gavin, an All-Ireland champion on flute, whistle and pipes; All-Ireland champions Kelsey Lutz on fiddle, Siobhan McKinney on harp, and Colleen Burke on harp; balladeer Eddie McGlinchey and



Sean Gavin

Mick Gavin on fiddle.

"Sean was enthusiastic about music from day one. When he was 4 years old we'd have to hide our telephone calls about gigs because when he heard me talking on the phone he'd say he'd want to

His son was 4 years old when he began playing at house parties with other family members. Two years later he learned to play fiddle from a college student who was staying with the family. Another student taught him flute and work with the uilleann pipe soon followed.

'The uilleann pipe is a bagpipe. It's a Celtic cousin to the Scottish Highland pipes, but



Kelsey Lutz, (left) on fiddle and Siobhan McKinney on harp will perform at the 26th annual St. Patrick's Day Irish Fest in Westland.

pipes," Gavin said. "The Irish pipe is complicated. There's a bellows and an air bag. You pump the air into the bag with the bellows under one arm, the air bag in the other. Your two elbows work in coordination. The chanter reed is similar to an oboe reed.

it's much quieter than the big

#### **ONLY IRISH**

Gavin tried to steer his son into classical as well as Irish music and enrolled him in one-on-one classes with a classical flute teacher when he was 12.

'One day I said Sean you're doing well. But the Irish folk music had taken root in him.

He said, 'Dad, I don't want to be a classical flute player. I want to play Irish music.

Gavin said his son and many other young American Irish musicians today pursue the purest forms of Irish music and are "digging deep" into its history.

"They're singing songs in Gaelic.

Gavin, his family and other musicians will perform mostly upbeat party songs, favorite folk tunes and ballads during the show in Westland.

"Most of the people who come to us are family people. They bring their children. I think they like a mixture of

Expires 3/26/11







Ashlyn McCann (left) is Joe Harper, Brett Moore is Tom Sawyer and Connor Sherman is Billy Fisher in the Spotlight on Youth production of "Tom Sawyer" March 10-14 at the Village Theater in Canton.

## Theater presents Mark Twain collection, story

Fans of Mark Twain and his work will get two reasons to celebrate this weekend.

Spotlight on Youth will present Tom Sawyer Thursday-Sunday March 10-13 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, in Canton.

A collection of Mark Twain memorabilia, owned by Bob Nelson, a Westland resident, also will be displayed in the art exhibition area of the theater during the run of the

"I began by buying three books at the Dawn Treader Book Shop in Ann Arbor, and things just snowballed from there. My collection

currently includes 170 of these items and continues to grow," Nelson stated. "Part of the collection appeared in the companion book to the Mark Twain PBS documentary by Ken Burns. During the spring of 2005, a significant portion of the collection formed a feature museum exhibit.

The play is designed to appeal to all ages and offers action and adventure for young audience members, as well as a good story to keep adults interested. It runs about 11/2 hours and has an intermission. It's the perfect length of time for small children who can't sit still long.

The cast includes Brett Moore of Plymouth as Tom Sawyer and nearly 40 children from Canton, Plymouth, Belleville, Westland and other local communities.

Curtain is at 7 p.m. Thursday-Friday, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, and at 2 p.m. Sunday.

Tickets are \$13-\$15 each, available by calling the Village Theater Box Office at (734) 394-5300 or (734) 394-5460; online at www. spotlightplayersmi.org or in person at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton or one hour before show time at the the-

### Euchre tournament will award cash prizes

The Canton Lions Club will present the Southeast Michigan Euchre Tournament Saturday, March 12 at the Plymouth Elks Club, 41700 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth.

Doors will open at 6 p.m. with registration ending at 7 p.m. and games beginning at 7:15 p.m. The ante is \$20 if pre-registered by Thursday,

March 10 and \$25 afterward. Walk-ins are welcome.

The total of the antes col-Canton Lions Club and winning players.

The group also plans to give away an additional \$1,900 in prizes through a raffle ticket sale and a free door prize draw-

Free bar snacks and free pizza slices will be available during the tournament. The lected will be split between the cash bar will feature low prices for soft drinks, beer, wine and cocktails.

> For more information call Linda Obrec at (734) 945-6685 or e-mail questions or new registrations to lionsclubeuchre@ yahoo.com.

#### ART

City Gallery

Time/Date: Through April 8; gallery hours are 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

Location: In the Costick Center at 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills Details: Work by Stephen Deeb, head of the art department at North Farmington High School Contact: (248) 473-1856

Northville Art House

Time/Date: Through March 26. Hours are 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday

Location: 215 W. Cady in downtown Northville

Details: Beyond The Blueprint: Architects' Other Art, showcases the works of Metro Detroit artistarchitects, including Dennis Michael Jones, a visual artist and educator in Plymouth who continues to balance his architectural work with his

Contact: (248) 344-0497

Village Theater at Cherry Hill Time/Date: Through March 29; gallery hours are 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton Details: Pressed flower artwork of Shelley Xie, a self-taught artist and resident of Canton Contact: (734) 394-5300

#### COMEDY

Go Comedy!

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

JD's House of Comedy Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings

ticketmaster.com

Location: 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield Details: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday Contact: (248) 348-2420 or www.

Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays, open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.

Fridays, Saturdays Location: 36071 Plymouth Road,

Details: LA Hardy, March 9-12; Mo Mandel, March 16-19; Mark Sweeney, March 23-26; Chili Challis, March 30-

#### **GET OUT!**



#### **Canton concert**

Jazz singer Kathy Kosins will perform Friday, March 18, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

April 2

Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex.com

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle Time/Date: Sean Patton, March 10-12; Lowell Sanders, March 17-19; Erik Griffin, March 24-26; Lynne Koplitz, March 31-April 2

Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

### **CONCERTS**

The Ark

Time/Date: Corey Harris and the Rasta Blues Experience, March 10; Theo Katzman, March 11; Ellen Jewell, March 12; Blackthorn fundraiser for the American Cancer Action Network, March 13; Peter Karp & Sue Foley as He Said, She Said, March 14; Abigail Stauffer, March 15; Richard Shindell, March 16; Sonya Kitchell, March 17; Scythian, March 18; The Victor Wooten Band & The Clarke Band, March 19; The California Guitar Trio & Fareen Haque, March 20; The Juliets; March 22; Po' Girl & Peter Mulvey, March 23; May Erlewine & Seth Bernard, March 24; The Spring Standards, March 25; NewFound Road, March 26; Madcat, Kane & Maxwell Street, March 27; Steve Poltz, March 28; Dala, March 30; Matt Wertz, March 31

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

#### Barn Theatre

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. March 10-12 Location: Farmington Hills Players' Barn Theatre, 32332 12 Mile in Farmington Hills

Details: Blackthorn performs Celtic music; tickets are \$19 for adults and \$17 for seniors and students

#### Contact: (248) 473-1848 Baseline Folk Society

Time/Date: Third Saturday of the

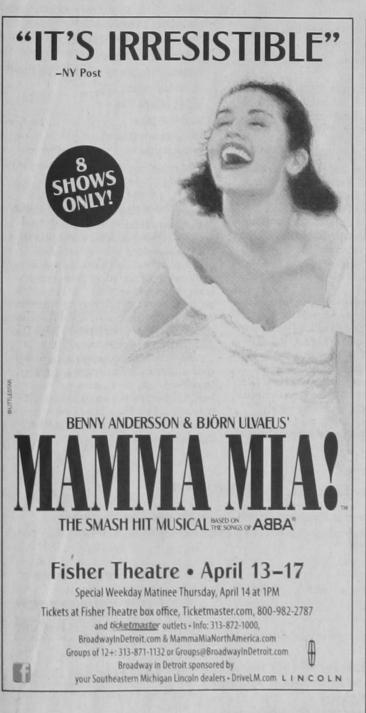
Location: The JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth Details: Eight "Open-Mic" performances plus a featured group perform. Sign up for open mic from 6:15-6:45 p.m.; show starts at 7 p.m. Individual membership is \$25 and includes monthly concerts from September through May. Otherwise, admission to each concert is \$5 at the door. Family memberships are \$50 and include monthly concerts Contact: (248) 719-3464 or mjmmullen@yahoo.com

Chamber Music Society of Detroit Time/Date: Pre-concert talk, 6:45 p.m., concert at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 26

Location: Seligman Performing Arts Center, located on the campus of Detroit Country Day School, 22305 W. 13 Mile, Beverly Hills

Details: This concert marks the debuts of both cellist Zuill Bailey and pianist Piers Lane in metro Detroit and on the Chamber Music Society of Detroit series. They'll play music by Mendelssohn, Schumann, Rachmaninoff and Roberto Sierra. Single tickets range from \$43-75;

\$25 for students Contact: (248) 855-6070



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# FOOD

Thursday, March 10, 2011

hometownlife (iii) com

#### HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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

Comment online at hometownlife.com



# from IRISH pastures comes a pot of gold

es, there's a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. It's found in each blade of grass growing in Ireland's lush pastures. Small herds of cows graze freely, and the milk, rich in beta-carotene from the grass, produces butter and cheeses of an exceptionally golden hue. Thousands of years before the Irish discovered potatoes, dairy cows, milk and butter were being woven into the fabric of Irish society, according to the Cork Butter Museum in Cork City, Ireland. The Cork Butter Exchange, a market created by the merchants of Cork City in 1769, was in its time, the largest butter market in the world, exporting as far away as

Europe and America. Today, dairy products continue to play an important role in Irish cooking. Cooperatives of farmers, creameries and cheesemakers provide delicious Irish butter and cheeses throughout the U.S. under the Kerrygold label.

Here are some iconic recipes from some stars of Irish cooking, using Kerrygold cheeses and butter. To learn more about Kerrygold, and for where-to-buy information, visit www.kerrygold. com/usa.

#### ROASTED ROOT VEGETABLE SOUP

"You can substitute pumpkin, turnip or celeriac for the swede (rutabaga), or just use a mixture - this is a very flex-

- Neven Maguire, chef/owner of the renowned MacNean House and Restaurant in Blacklion, County Cavan, Ireland; popular TV cooking star and cookbook author

1 small swede (rutabaga) cut into cubes

2 carrots, cut into cubes

1 parsnip, cut into cubes

3 tablespoons olive oil

4 tablespoons (1/4 cup) Kerrygold Irish Butter

1 onion, finely chopped

2 celery stalks, finely chopped

1 garlic clove, crushed

1 teaspoon chopped fresh thyme

1 quart (4 cups) vegetable stock

Salt and freshly ground black pepper Preheat oven to 400°F. Place swede, carrots and parsnip on baking sheet and drizzle with 2

1/2 cup single cream (or substitute half and half)

tablespoons olive oil. Season generously and roast for 25 to 30 minutes until golden brown and tender, shaking baking sheet occasionally to ensure even cooking. Meanwhile, heat remaining tablespoon olive

oil and butter in large heavy-based pot, and add onion, celery, garlic and thyme. Cook for 4 to 5 minutes until softened but not browned, stirring

Add roasted root vegetables to pan and then pour in stock. Bring gently to boil, then reduce heat, cover and simmer for 25 to 30 minutes until completely tender, stirring occasionally. Purée with a hand blender until completely smooth.

To serve, stir cream into soup. Gently heat through and season to taste, then ladle into warmed bowls.

Note: You don't have to add the cream if you're watching the calories, but you might need a little extra stock to thin the soup.

#### CHEESE TOASTIES

Serves 4 to 6

4 tablespoons (1/4 cup) Kerrygold Irish Butter

8 slices firm, country-style white bread

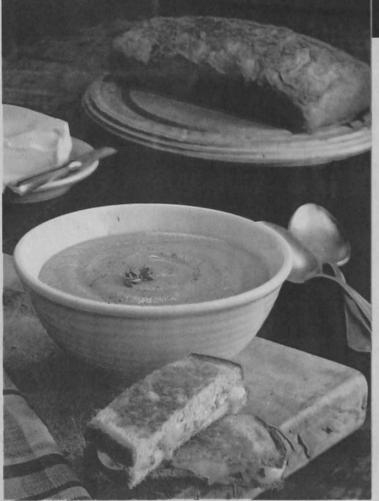
1 package (7 ounces) Kerrygold Dubliner Cheese, grated 1 tablespoon snipped fresh chives

Salt and freshly ground black Pepper

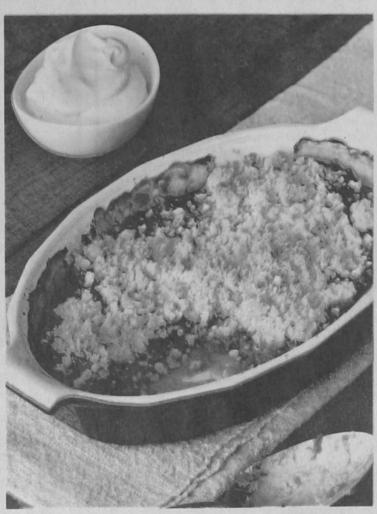
Butter bread and arrange cheese over half of the slices, buttered side down. Sprinkle with chives and cover with remaining slices, buttered

Preheat a griddle or large non-stick frying pan and cook sandwiches two at a time 2 minutes each side until golden brown and cheese has

melted. Keep hot. To serve, cut the cheese toasts into fingers.



Brown Soda Bread, Roasted Root Vegetable Soup and Cheese Toasties.



Rhubarb Crumble.

#### BROWN SODA BREAD

Makes 2 loaves

"This is an all-purpose and relatively foolproof recipe based on several I collected while researching 'The Country Cooking

- author Colman Andrews, whose Irish cookbook won the 2010 James Beard Foundation award for Best International Cookbook and Cookbook of the Year

3½ cups stone-ground whole wheat flour, preferably Irish or Irish-style

1½ cups unbleached white flour, preferably Irish, or pastry flour, plus more for dusting

¼ teaspoon baking soda

1 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon softened Kerrygold Irish Butter, plus more for greasing

11/4 to 2 cups room-temperature But-

Preheat oven to 375°F. Mix wheat flour, white flour, baking soda and salt together in a medium bowl. Work butter into mixture with your

Form a well in the middle of flour mixture and pour buttermilk into the well. Form your hand into a rigid claw and stir dough slowly but steadily in a spiral motion, starting in the middle and working outwards. Dough should be soft but not too wet or sticky. (Start with 13/4

if necessary, to achieve the right consistency. Turn dough out onto a floured board. Flour your hands lightly, then shape dough into a flat rectangle about 2 inches high. Cut dough in half lengthwise with a wet knife, then gently push each half into a lightly greased glass or foil loaf pan.

cups buttermilk, gradually adding,

the tops of the loaves are nicely Serve this bread with plenty of Kerrygold

Bake for 50 to 60 minutes, or until

#### DUBLINER SHEPHERD'S PIE

Dubliner Shepherd's Pie.

Makes 4 to 6 servings

"Our family loves a hearty shepherd's pie after a long day working on the farm. Because our cows produce milk to make Kerrygold Dubliner Cheese, we like to add some shredded Dubliner to the

- Donal Murphy, Kerrygold dairy farmer, Bandon, County Cork, Ireland

Potato Topping:

11/4 pounds russet potatoes, peeled and cubed

2 tablespoons Kerrygold Irish Butter

1 cup shredded Kerrygold Dubliner Cheese

½ teaspoon salt

Filling:

1 pound lean ground beef 2 tablespoons Kerrygold Irish Butter

1 medium onion, chopped

4 small carrots, peeled and sliced 1/2-inch thick

2 tablespoons flour % cup Guinness Stout

1/4 cup beef stock

1 teaspoon dried thyme

1/2 teaspoon salt 1/2 cup frozen peas, thawed

Preheat oven to 375°F and lightly butter an 11- x 7-inch baking dish. Cook potatoes in boiling water for 15 minutes or until very tender; drain well. Mash with butter and milk until smooth, then stir in cheese and salt and set aside. Crumble beef into a medium skillet

and cook until no longer pink; remove from skillet and set aside. In same skillet, melt butter. Add onion and carrots; cook for 10 minutes over medium heat to soften, stirring occasionally. Stir in flour and cook for 1 minute more.

Add Guinness, stock, thyme and salt; cook and stir until mixture is slightly thickened then stir in peas and cooked beef. Spoon into prepared baking dish then spread potato mixture over the top. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes or until top is lightly browned.

#### RHUBARB CRUMBLE

Irish Butter.

"Crumbles are the ultimate comfort food. Vary the fruit according to the season."

- Darina Allen, founder of the world-famous Ballymaloe Cookery School in Shanagarry, County

Filling:

1½ pounds rhubarb, cut in ½-inch slices

1/2 cup sugar

4 tablespoons (1/4 cup) Kerrygold Irish But-

4 ounces (scant 1 cup) white flour, preferably unbleached

4 cup superfine sugar

Preheat oven to 350°F. In bowl, mix filling ingredients; turn into a 1-quart (4 cups) capacity pie dish.

Rub butter into flour just until mix-

ture resembles coarse breadcrumbs, then stir in sugar.

Sprinkle this mixture over rhubarb in the pie dish. Bake for 30 to 45 minutes until topping is cooked and golden. Serve with whipped cream and soft brown sugar, or try stirring a little Amaretto into your cream.

Recipe adapted from the "Ballymaloe Cookery Course Book" published by

- Courtesy Family Features

# REAL ESTATE

PAGE B9 (\*) Thursday, March 10, 2011

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### Contact Us

PHONE: (800) 579-SELL (7355) FAX: (313)496-4968 E-MAIL: oeads@hometownlife.com BILLING QUESTIONS? (313) 222-8748 HOME DELIVERY: (866) 887-2737

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES: SUNDAY EDITION, 4:30 P.M. FRIDAY THURSDAY EDITION, 4:30 P.M. TUESDAY

Julie Brown, editor . (313) 222-6755

## Red Cross: Be prepared for a power outage

Preparing for a power outage is important any time of year, but especially in colder weather. The American Red Cross Southeastern Michigan Chapter offers these tips on preparing for a power outage.

To help preserve your good, keep the following supplies in your home:

One or more coolers — inexpensive Styrofoam coolers work well.

•Ice - Surrounding your food with ice in a cooler or in the refrigerator will keep food colder for a longer period of time during a prolonged power

·A digital quick-response thermometer — With these thermometers you can quickly check the internal temperatures of food to ensure they are cold enough to use safely.

The American Red Cross recommends you put together an emergency preparedness kit with these supplies in case of a prolonged or widespread power outage.

•Water — one gallon per person, per day (three-day supply for evacuation, two-weekly supply for home).

•Food - nonperishable, easy-toprepare items (three-day supply for evacuation, two-week supply for

•Flashlight - Do not use candles during a power outage due to the extreme risk of fire.

·Battery-powered or hand-crank radio (NOAA Weather Radio, if pos-

·Extra batteries.

·First aid kit.

·Medications (seven-day supply) and medical items.

 Multipurpose tool. ·Sanitation and personal hygiene

 Copies of personal documents (medication list and pertinent medical information, deed/lease to home, birth certificates, insurance policies).

 Cell phone with chargers. ·Family and emergency contact

information.

·If someone in your home is dependent on electric-powered, life-sustaining equipment, remember to include backup power in your evacuation plan.
•Keep a noncordless telephone in

your home. It is likely to work even when the power is out.

•Keep your car's gas tank full.

#### **FOOD SAFETY** Keep refrigerator and freezer doors

closed as much as possible. First use perishable food from the refrigerator.

An unopened refrigerator will keep foods cold for about four hours.

Then use food from the freezer. A full freezer will keep the temperature for about 48 hours (24 hours if it is half full) if the door remains closed.

Use your nonperishable foods and staples after using food from the refrigerator and freezer.

If it looks like the power outage will continue beyond a day, prepare a cooler with ice for your freezer items.

Keep food in a dry, cool spot and keep it covered at all times.

#### **ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT**

Turn off and unplug all unnecessary

electrical equipment, including sensitive electronics.

Turn off or disconnect any appliances (like stoves), equipment or electronics you were using when the power went out. When power comes back on, surges or spikes can damage equip-

Leave one light turned on so you'll know when the power comes back on.

Eliminate unnecessary travel, espeially by car. Traffic lights will be out and roads will be congested.

#### SAFE GENERATOR USE

When using a portable generator, connect the equipment you want to

power directly to the outlets on the generator. Do not connect a portable generator to a home's electrical sys-

If you are considering getting a generator, get advice from a professional, such as an electrician. Make sure that the generator you buy is rated for the power that you think you

Additional information on power outage safety can be found on the local Red Cross website, semredcross. org, including what to do when power comes back on. Throwing out unsafe food and avoiding carbon monoxide dangers are both key.

### Be well aware of insurance needs

Q: Does the Michigan Condominium Act have any requirements for insurance in the documents?

A: Although the statute does not specifically require any insurance, the bylaws certainly should and can



maintain provisions for insuring the association and/or owners against risks affecting the project. It

is generally recommended by our firm

that the association have the best directors and officers liability insurance as well as, of course, liability insurance covering all potential exposure to the association. It is also important that you retain a knowledgeable community association insurance agent to help you with your insurance needs. Q: Before hiring a contractor to do any work at a community association's facilities, why should the association make sure that the contractor is covered by an insurance policy that also protects the association?

A: It is not uncommon for property to be damaged or someone to be injured during installation or renovation of projects. Such damage or injury could result in a lawsuit not only against the contractor, but against the association, board of directors and manager. To protect themselves against any lawsuit, a manager should be sure to get a copy of the contractor's insurance policy before work starts.

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

#### HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 22-24, 2010, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales

	Canton	
2442 Amber Dr		\$160,000
6949 Bunkerhill Ln		\$195,000
439 Filmore St		\$255,000

2272 Hogan Way 425 N Corrine Blvd 51084 Sleepy Hollow Ln 1856 Wentworth Ct	\$141,000 \$135,000 \$130,000 \$230,000	45995 Tournament Dr Plymouth 570 Blunk St 44420 Charnwood Dr	\$712,000 \$288,000 \$239,000	19961 Kinloch 24946 N Sylbert Dr 24830 Ross Dr 11436 Seminole		\$4 \$4 \$6 \$6
18014 Country Club Dr 33668 Hathaway St 20401 Milburn St 37505 Newburgh Park Cir 37569 Newburgh Park Cir	\$245,000 \$190,000 \$45,000 \$155,000 \$100,000	616 Jener Pl 10306 N Canton Center Rd 40867 Newport Dr 1199 S Sheldon Rd 11783 Sycamore Dr Redford	\$186,000 \$238,000 \$67,000 \$28,000 \$60,000	2089 Second St 421 Dover Crescent Ct 8290 Gray St	Westland	\$6 \$9 \$23
16812 Woodside St. Northville 50115 Teton Ridge Rd	\$160,000	9180 Centralia 26029 Elsinore 18822 Garfield	\$70,000 \$60,000 \$17,000	35807 Somerset St 407 Summerfield Dr		\$7 \$15

#### HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 22-24, 2010, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales

Beverly Hills	
21671 Meadow Ln	\$250,000
Bingham Farms	
32425 Bingham Rd	\$1,425,000
Birmingham	
1504 Birmingham Blvd	\$185,000
2493 Buckingham Ave	\$232,000
1653 Taunton Rd	\$155,000
Bloomfield Hills	
2230 Cameo Lake Ct	\$180,000
25 Martell Dr	\$530,000
2835 S Woodward Ave #D-2	\$53,000

2208 Sudbury Way  Bloomfield Township  354 Dalebrook Ln 5007 Echo Rd 892 Foxhall Rd 777 Kensington Ln 1351 Kirkway Rd 2755 Lamplighter Ln 3707 Lincoln Rd	\$280,000 \$249,000 \$280,000 \$140,000 \$720,000 \$650,000 \$210,000 \$138,000	39172 Kennedy Dr 25345 Lyncastle St 21615 Mayfield St 23604 N Stockton Ave 32044 Olde Franklin Dr 28855 Rockledge Dr 37764 Stableview Dr 32035 Tareyton St 32111 W 12 Mile Rd # 4A		\$226,000 \$145,000 \$75,000 \$95,000 \$240,000 \$225,000 \$226,000 \$130,000 \$45,000	24489 Olde Orchard St 20887 Veranda Dr South Lyon 61141 Fairland Dr 24320 Healtherwood Dr 622 Maple Dr Southfield 27450 Arlington Dr 21405 Constitution St	\$37,000 \$400,000 \$87,000 \$140,000 \$155,000 \$145,000 \$94,000
4731 Pickering Rd	\$172,000	28426 W Eight Mile Rd		\$17,000	29760 Farmbrook Villa Ln	\$34,000
4113 Telegraph Rd 1050 Trailwood Path # A	\$25,000 \$69,000	31719 Wayburn St 30263 Westfield St		\$115,000	26780 Franklin Pointe Dr	\$43,000
Commerce Township	307,000	20202 Mestheld St	Milford	\$190,000	29750 Guy St 29894 Marshall St	\$49,000 \$75,000
5573 Leafwood Ct	\$320,000	2323 Charms Rd		\$165,000	20110 Rodeo Ct	\$63,000
4969 Parkgate Dr	\$300,000	41000 1 9	Novi		25516 Saint James	\$44,000
5615 Plantation Dr Farmington	\$335,000	41959 Aspen Dr 41467 Burroughs Ave		\$330,000 \$375,000	30216 Vernon Dr	\$278,000
36228 Smithfield Rd	\$155,000	22549 Cranbrooke Dr		\$65,000	30550 Woodstock St White Lake	\$94,000
Farmington Hills 29208 Augusta	\$303,000	22681 Heatherwoode 39580 Kartar Ln		\$128,000 \$70,000	821 Round Lake Rd	\$77,000

#### **REAL ESTATE BRIEFS**

#### Investors

The Real Estate Investor Association of Wayne County holds monthly meetings the first Tuesday of each month at the Holiday Inn, 17201 Northline Road, Southgate. Entrance fee is \$20 for nonmembers to be applied to annual membership. For information, call (313) 819-0919 or visit www.reiawaynecounty.org.

#### Oakland Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland will meet 5:30/9:30 p.m. Thursday, March 10, at Club Venetian, 29310 John R, north of 12 Mile in Madison Heights. Greg Pinneo will speak on how to capitalize on current economic conditions using private and seller financing. He has been a real estate entrepreneur for 33 years. Seminar free to members,

\$20 nonmembers. Pinneo will also be teaching a one-day seminar on Saturday, March 12. Call (800) 747 6742. (www.REIAofOakland.com)

#### Career Seminar

Keller Williams Realty will offer a Real Estate Career Seminar 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 17, at 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. Those attending will learn about the \$50,000 income guarantee and the free prelicensing course.

For information, contact Lesley Aiello at (734)

459-4700 or laiello@kw.com. Real Estate Sales and Appraising

Learn about a career in residential real estate. Attend a free one-hour seminar, or shadow a top agent to get an inside feel of the business. Seminars are at noon or 6 p.m. Wednesdays.

To reserve a spot, contact Keller Williams Realty International, at (248) 893-2500, 27555 Executive Drive, Suite 100, Farmington Hills 48331.

#### Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No obligation. Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

#### Free Foreclosure Tours

Free Foreclosure Tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. Email Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.





### CROSSWORD PUZZLER

#### **ACROSS**

- Say please
- 4 Learning method
- 8 Janitors' tools 12 Get the point
- 13 Salchow relative
- 14 Pinch reaction
- 15 Stack-blowing
- state 16 Dingy
- 18 Bird of prey 20 NNW opposite
- 21 Andreas
- Fault
- 22 Proverb 26 Maltese remark
- 28 Flat-fixer's tool 31 Concert ticket
- information 32 Dune buggy kin
- 33 Agave
- 34 Scottish river

- wood

- 37 Rumple
- 35 kwon do
- 36 Dries out, as

- 46 Oriental soup 50 Dolphin habitat 52 Monsieur's pate 53 Do-over at Wimbledon 54 Dole out 55 Evening in 56 Birthday no.

#### DOWN 1 Get real!

Cannes

38 Toss here and

40 Road show org.

41 Double helix

43 Bring into har-

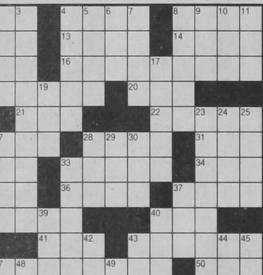
there

mony

51 Jai -

(hyph.)

- (2 wds.) 2 Inoculants
- 3 Faints (2 wds.) 4 Man-made fiber 5 Draft animals
- 6 Util. bill
- 7 Plumber's rightangled joints



#### **Answer to Previous Puzzle**



1-11 © 2011 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

TSPS

- 8 Tended the
- lawn 9 Si, to Maurice
- 10 Desktops or laptops
- 11 Quiet!
- - - Coup d'-28 Cooler
    - 29 Excellent 30 Shot meas.

17 City near

Kyoto 19 Harsh cry

23 With difficulty

25 Wool sources

24 Pushes off

26 Shower accessories

EONS

- 33 Gapes open 37 Billings hrs.
- 39 Arsenio's buddy 40 Say
- 42 Diligent insects
- 43 Italian wine city
- 44 -do-well
- 45 Refreshments 46 Loud thud
- 47 Ait, on the Seine
- 48 Informer

Fun By The

Like puzzles?

sudoku. This

mind-bending

Then you'll love

puzzle will have

you hooked from

the moment you

square off, so

sharpen your

pencil and put

your sudoku

savvy to the test!

Numbers

- 49 Want-ad
- letters



Level: Beainne

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

#### Word Search — Getting Crafty

					NV.									
S	Y	G	U	E	N	C	N	L	P	X	G	G	G	X
Y	Y	R	N	A	0	F	Н	A	A	L	F	N	U	Q
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N	U	S	T	D	T	0	E	R	E	T	Y	0	A	G
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Building Coins

Cooking

Craft Crocheting Decoupage

Hobby Knitting Model

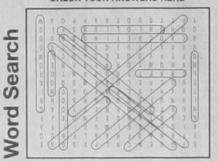
Painting Photography Pottery

Scrapbooki Sewing Woodworki

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7160

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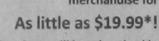
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