

# SUNDAY March 27, 2011

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

> Volume 36 Number 79

> > \$1.00

# CANTON BSFRVFR

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# CONNECTION

Colbeck coffee

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck. R-Canton, hosts a coffee hour for constituents 8-9 a.m. Monday, April 4, at the Canton Coney, 8533 Lilley, Canton.

The coffee hour is designed to allow Colbeck to meet with local constituents and discuss issues facing the local com-



the state. facing difficult economic times in Michigan and there

munity and

will be tough decisions that we'll need to make in order to return opportunity and prosperity to our state and our residents,' Colbeck said. "I encourage district residents to join me so that all voices can be heard and we can discuss some of the options before us."

Due to budget cuts to the Legislature, Colbeck said he doesn't have the funds to staff and maintain a district office, as has been the practice of legislators in the past. Colbeck said he hopes the coffee hours will provide residents another opportunity to meet with their state senator and share their thoughts or concerns.

Residents can also contact Colbeck by calling his office at (517) 373-7350 or toll-free at (866) 262-7307, by e-mail at senpcolbeck@senate.michigan.gov, on his website at www.senatorPatrickColbeck. com or on Facebook at Senator Patrick Colbeck.

# Trivia night

The Plymouth-Canton Branch, American Association of University Women, will host its first Trivia Night Friday, April 1, at the Barn at Colony Farms, on Colony Farms Drive in Plymouth.

Games begin 7 p.m., with the doors open at 6:15 p.m.

Participants will use knowledge of facts and factoids to have fun with family and friends while benefiting AAUW's scholarship fund. Tickets are \$20 per person or \$160 for a team of eight. Money prizes will be awarded for first and second place.

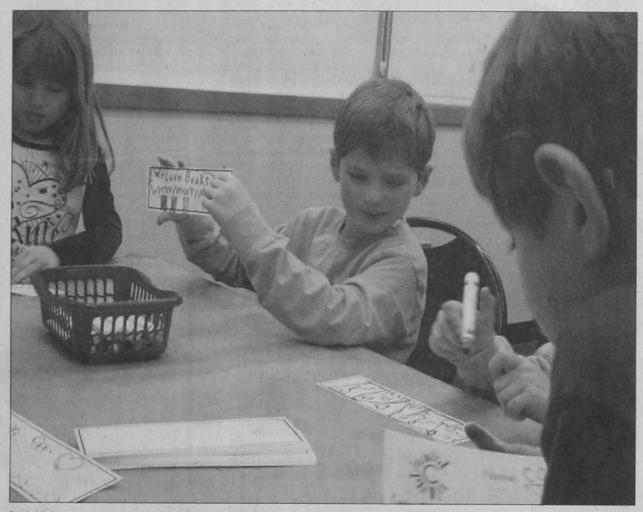
Limited space is available. For ticket information, call Sharon at (734) 453-5009 or e-mail aauw\_plymouthcanton@yahoo.com.

# Mother knows best

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

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

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



Daniel Schoenherr, 6, works on a bookmark during the Canton Public Library's First-Grade Roundup program.

# Readin' roundup

# Western theme helps energize kids about reading

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Calamity Jane they're not, but children's librarians Ruth Millard and Marianne Brooks donned their Old West-style hats as they stood near the Canton Public Library's front door and waited for a herd of first-graders to arrive from the field. Field Elementary, that is.

Library program specialist Kristen Kostielney couldn't wear her cowgirl hat - it was too big - as 100 students arrived not on horses, but by school bus, for First-Grade Roundup. The children didn't even have to pony up their money as they enjoyed a morning listening to stories, watching puppet shows, making bookmarks, getting their own library cards and checking out

Field youngsters were among 900 first-graders from Plymouth-Canton public and private schools who visited the library in March - National Reading Month - as First-Grade Roundup marked its



Library program specialist Kristen Kostielney talks with students during a first-grade field trip during National Reading Month.

20th year.

"It shows them the library in a fun

way," Kostielney said.

Some students had never visited the Canton Public Library — a place that revealed a new world complete with a children's room, Horrible Harry books, video games, com-

puter stations, audio books for family vacations and friendly employees who made the youngsters feel wel-

"I hope the children see that the library can be as cool as play-

Please see ROUNDUP, A2

# **Canton residents** facing 7-percent water rate hike

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton residents would see their watersewer rates increase an average 7 percent on May 1 under a final draft proposal confirmed by township administration

An average household using 32,283 gallons of water every three-month billing cycle would see quarterly costs jump by \$23, from \$328 to \$351, Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said

The increase would amount to \$92 for

Officials will formally roll out the latest proposed rate hikes - less than what might have been expected based on figures from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department - during a pair of community forums set for 5-8 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at township hall, on Canton Center between Cherry Hill and Palmer.

Officials also will explain how they tabulate rates and provide a few examples of what households can expect to pay, based on usage.

The average 7-percent increases — far less than the double-digit rate hikes facing some communities — would take effect May 1 if approved by the Canton Township Board of Trustees.

"Compared to a lot of communities, that's a great number," Finance Director Rick Eva said.

Detroit Water and Sewerage Department officials earlier had indicated they would propose a 10.3-percent water rate hike on Canton, while communities such as Plymouth Township fared worse with costs spiking as much as 40 percent.

But, Faas and Eva cited several reasons why Canton residents on average are likely to face the lesser 7-percent rate hike: · Township employees this year took

concessions amounting to 5 percent, reducing the costs of workers involved in water-sewer services. · Canton trimmed the number of water

meters it is replacing.

"We're controlling our internal costs better this year," Faas said.

· Canton saw a decrease in water-sewer costs from the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority, which serves part of the township.

All those measures have helped to offset some of the impact of Detroit-imposed rate hikes, though local officials realize that a 7-percent increase still could be a burden to certain residents who may have

Please see WATER, A6

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Robert Bojaj, convicted of second degree murder and driving while intoxicated causing death, watches a video montage of photos of Shelby Gunn.

# Driver gets 15 years in fatal crash

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When Shelby Gunn was a little girl, her dad gave her a nickname, Sassafrass," that seemed to capture her personality: bubbly, positive with an infectious laugh and a sense of adventure.

Growing up, she developed a love of music and a "terrific voice," her mom said, and showed support of several friends who had local bands by just "being there to support them.

By the time she was 24, she'd graduated from Schoolcraft College with an associate's degree in science and was finalizing plans to join that school's nursing program.

And, on Aug. 15, Robert Bojaj took all of that away from her, away from her family, when he crashed his Lexus into the Dodge Intrepid being driven by Gunn, a Westland

resident, on northbound I-275 near Koppernick in Canton, killing Gunn and devastating a family.

Bojaj was convicted earlier this month of second-degree murder and operating a vehicle under the influence causing death. On Thursday, Wayne County Circuit Court Judge David Allen sentenced Bojaj, a 28year-old Farmington Hills resident, to 15-25 years in prison on the murder charge, and 10-15 years on the OUIL charge.

JUSTICE SERVED? "We have been hoping and praying for justice," said Teri Gunn, Shelby's mother. "Thanks to the prosecutor, Athina Siringas, and the jury, (Bojaj) was found guilty of second-degree murder. We were happy and relieved with the verdict. We feel the sentencing should have been the maximum of what the law would allow. Although that didn't happen, we will

have to live with the judge's decision, and so will Robert Bojaj.

The one person who won't live with the decision, obviously, is Shelby Gunn. The daughter of Teri and Rob Gunn of Westland, Shelby's sense of adventure got her to sky-dive with her brother, Mark, who was preparing for a one-year deployment to Iraq. According to her mom, Shelby loved "racing down the slopes with her brother, Dan, on their snowboards to see who got there first." She had taken the hunter's safety course in preparation for hunting trips with her dad and

"She was always helping others," Teri Gunn said. "Shelby was only 24 years young with a whole life of helping others ahead of her.'

According to testimony in the trial, Bojaj had a blood-alcohol level

Please see CRASH, A6

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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 27, 2011

Field Elementary first-graders crowd the library on a day they listened to stories, made bookmarks, saw a puppet show and learned about the Canton Public Library.

ing Super Mario Brothers," first-grade teacher Angela Wlosinski said.

Students split into groups for library tours that offered surprise activities at every turn. In one room, 6-year-old Daniel Schoenherr used crayons to color a bookmark he

made that included the words, 'We Love Books."

Daniel was among the youngsters who already had

visited the library.
"It's really cool," he said. "I love checking out books here, and I like that it has comput-

So what if computers and other library amenities didn't exactly fit the Old West roundup theme. The children had a galloping good time as they explored this educational playground.

"It's a really good way for them to get familiar with the library," said Laurie Golden, the facility's marketing and communications manager. "They can see it's not an intimidating place, and it has a children's area that's just for them.'

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

# Forum to help fight cyber-bullying

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Internet threats and cyber-bullying have become hot-button topics within the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools this year, more so even than previous years.

In their continuing efforts to battle the problem and keep kids safe, PCCS officials have partnered with the Canton Public Library, the Canton Police Department and other organizations to put together a public forum designed to help parents learn how to deal with the issue.

"Cyber-Parenting: It's 10 p.m. Do You Know Where Your Children Are Online?" takes place 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 30, at the Canton Public Library. Moderated by the school district's director of community relations, Frank Ruggirello, and library marketing and communications manager Laurie Golden, the forum will feature a variety of panelists all talking about one thing: Keeping children safe.

"This has always been an

What: Panel discussion on Internet threats and cyber-bullying

Where: Canton Public Library, 1200 S. Canton Center, Canton Who: Presented by the Canton Public Library and Plymouth-Canton Community Schools When: 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday,

March 30 Info: Call (734) 416-2755 or (734) 397-0999

issue in schools, but it's been a much bigger issue this year than ever before," Ruggirello said. "We're lucky enough to have partners like the library and the Canton Police and the parents of our students to be able to put together this kind of forum for people to learn about the issue.

Panelists will help parents answer several questions. Most children today have better technical abilities than their parents. How is a parent to keep up in this dangerous, unregulated environment of cyberspace? Do you know the lingo your kids are communicating in? What kinds of issues and pitfalls do they face every day online? How do we keep them safe from bullies, stalkers, or exposing impor-

tant information? How do we prevent them from behaving online in ways they wouldn't in

Panelists will include Erin MacGregor, associate principal at Plymouth High School; Sara Boritzki, the school resource officer from the Canton Police Department; Ellen Pare, the library's adult services librarian and the mother of two teenagers; and a representative from Growth Works.

"We have so many users at the library who are affected by this," said Golden, the mother of three teens. "A large percentage of our users are either teens or parents of teens. We thought it was a good tie-in. It's part of our mission, to help people learn and help people get to know each other."

Ruggirello said parents and students attending the forum will reap the benefit of a group of organizations working together.

This is an example of the school district, its parents and its partners getting together to tackle something that is becoming a huge issue in our community," Ruggirello said. "We're going to work together to find solutions that do what we're supposed to do: Help kids.

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# SEASONS REHABILITATION **GREAT STAFF. GREAT CARE.**



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"We keep up with the latest as far as infection control and hand washing," said Turnipseed, an R.N. "It's a daily job infection control education about disease, viruses, bacteria. They have

to have so many hours of infection control training."

Turnipseed continuously tracks resident care through inspections.

"I do a surprise attack on nurses as far as hand washing to see if they

enter a room and are washing. I watch procedures, anything to do with resident care. Infection is the leading reason residents have to go back to the hospital. Good infection control will keep our residents here and healthy."

...we keep up with the latest as far as infection control and hand washing ... it's a daily job ... ??

Being proactive with preventive measures keeps residents safe from falls. When a resident is admitted their history is an important part of coming up with a Care Plan.

"The family is often the best resource to tell us they fell at home to give a good idea of how to stay safe," said Turnipseed. "We want to make sure people are safe on a daily basis. We want residents to have as normal an environment as they can. Four Seasons is a very homelike place. We know all of our residents which allows our staff to decide the best way to keep them safe."

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# Exam delayed for ex-coach in porn case Police nab suspects

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A Canton man and former Plymouth High School girls lacrosse coach will have to wait until May 13 to learn whether he will face trial on charges he kept child pornography on his home computer and distributed it on the Internet.

As 64-year-old defendant Stephen Jay Nyquist awaits his new preliminary exam date - adjourned from Friday - new details emerged about his past.

Long before he faced charges involving child pornography, Nyquist attended the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, was a Vietnam-era member of the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division, retired from Ford Motor Co. and served in the Army

Nyquist's defense attorney, John McWilliams, confirmed Nyquist has a history of achievements but, for now, said he preferred not to discuss the matter.

The Wayne County Prosecutor's Office confirmed that Nyquist's court hearing has been delayed to give McWilliams time to review evidence authorities say they have to support criminal charges against the defendant.

Nyquist, a divorcee and grandfather, was arraigned March 17 on six counts of using his computer to communicate with another to commit a crime, which carries a 10-year term upon conviction; three counts of distributing child sexually abusive material, a seven-year felony; and three counts of possession of child sexually abusive material; a four-year felony.

Michigan State Police Sgt. William Liczbinski of the Michigan Internet Crimes



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stephen J. Nyquist and his attorney, John McWilliams, make their way into Judge Michael Gerou's courtroom for Nyquist's arraignment in 35th District Court.

Against Children Task Force has said Nyquist has no known criminal history.

Nyquist was charged following allegations he committed crimes online while he was communicating with an undercover officer in Burlington, Wisc.

Authorities searched his Canton home and seized a computer that, according to Liczbinski, had numerous images of child pornography.

His arrest surprised Plymouth-Canton school officials, who said in a statement he had "a spotless record" when they performed a background check on him.

Nyquist had coached the Plymouth Canton/Salem high school girls unified lacrosse team last year and had one practice this year with the Plymouth team. He also had supervised the Community Education Girls Basketball League for girls in grades three through eight since 2007.

Nyquist has been released after McWilliams said \$5,000 would be posted toward a \$50,000/10 percent bond. He no longer has his school district job and has been ordered to stay off school property.

Judge Michael Gerou of 35th District Court also has ordered him not to use a computer or the Internet and to seek psychiatric help as conditions of his bond.

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# in vehicle break-ins

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Two men caught breaking into cars in Westland are facing additional charges in Canton amid allegations they stole car stereos. tools and other items from vehicles parked at two apartment complexes on the township's north side, Canton Detective Tim Wright said.

The men are suspected of larcenies that occurred during the early morning hours Monday at Stonybrooke and Canton Gardens.

Stonybrooke is located on Joy Road west of I-275, and Canton Gardens is on Joy east of the interstate.

Authorities were hoping to return the stolen items to their owners, Wright said.

The incidents in Canton are believed to have started around 4 a.m. Monday. Police say some of the vehicles apparently hadn't been locked by their owners, but in other cases the suspects are accused of punching out the door locks to get to

car stereos and other items,

The suspects are described as 22 years old - one from Highland Park, the other from Detroit.

The men are suspected of six separate incidents at Stonybrooke and Canton Gardens, alone. Authorities believe the men then moved to Westland, where police nabbed them while they were engaged in similar incidents at Scotsdale Apartments on Newburgh Road, Wright said.

The latest incidents came after Canton police nabbed three other suspects accused of stealing from vehicles early Sunday on Wyndchase, southeast of Cherry Hill and Haggerty. Those suspects — juveniles - are accused of taking a pair of \$1,200 Cartier glasses, a GPS unit and a laptop computer.

Canton police Sgt. Mark Gajeski, whose job includes serving as a liaison between the police department and the public, has repeatedly urged vehicle owners to lock their vehicles and not leave valuables in them.



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Sadly, SOS announces another loss to the ranks of the MDSO...adding to the recent loss of the ENTIRE MDSO Precussion Section, Principle Flutist Philip Dikeman is leaving for another position. SOS fears that this is just the beginning!

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www.SaveOurSymphony.info



Dear DSO Board Members and Citizens of Southeast Michigan,

The musicians of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra are not just striking. They are leaving.

The DSO is suffering historic losses to the ranks of its musicians. The entire percussion section is gone -- the members having left to continue their careers elsewhere. Philip Dikeman, our highly respected and world renowned Acting Principal Flutist, on stage with the DSO for over 18 years, is also gone. Our musicians are auditioning all over the country and around the world. They are winning jobs and they are leaving. Our orchestra is being

Save Our Symphony is working tirelessly to end to this devastating labor impasse and staunch the losses. As Detroiters and Michiganders we are proud of THESE musicians, their incredible talents, their passion for their art, and their dedication to maintaining the artistic

We recognize that board members, management, donors, and subscribers all make the DSO possible. As donors and subscribers ourselves, we commend the board for its commitment to ensuring the financial viability and future of the orchestra. Although at an impasse, both parties care deeply about the institution and have much respect for each other. Both sides are working diligently toward an end to the strike and a return of the music.

Unfortunately, DSO leadership recently rejected the musicians' proposal to allow the season to resume and submit all unresolved issues to binding arbitration. SOS strongly supported that proposal which would have enabled ticket sales to resume, rescued the popular summer concerts and cleared any hurdles for the scheduling of next season. Its rejection was a great

# The next DSO board meeting will take place on March 30th. Time is running out.

We ask the board members to consider all available options to resolve the impasse and put the orchestra back on stage immediately. We are confident a solution which satisfies both the financial concerns of the board and the artistic concerns of the musicians is possible. The fate of the DSO is at stake.

Once the musicians return to the stage of Orchestra Hall, the life of the DSO rests on the shoulders of the community. With a membership of 5,000 after just a few short months, SOS is solid evidence of the wide-spread community support for the musicians and the DSO.

Through the participation of its members, SOS will work to ensure that the community is present in all ways possible to fill the seats when the season resumes, applaud the musicians, build a solid small and mid-donor base and help heal the rifts that have crippled this magnificent, century-old institution. If the DSO can survive the Great Depression, World War II and the many other challenges Detroit has faced over the years, then it can survive

A joyous return of the concerts to Orchestra Hall accompanying the return of spring would

Judy Doyle, President Denise Neville, Vice President David Assemany, Secretary David Kuziemko, Treasurer

www.SaveOurSymphony.info

Sunday, March 27, 2011

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# HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8899
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Garage sale to benefit

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

what it's like to deal with autis-

Paulette Wyman knows

tic children, since two of her

Canton resident, is willing to

cash-strapped autism program

at Central Middle School raise

Wyman will host a garage

sale at her home March 31-

April 2 and again April 7-9,

\$1,000 and \$2,000 to fund

field trips for the 14 students

in two autism classrooms at

"I'm just a person driven

by the fact there's nothing

for these kids," Wyman said.

Schools just don't have the

money, insurance doesn't pay

for it. One skill I have is run-

ning a good garage sale, and

Phyllis Kownacki, for 16

Middle School's center-based

years a teacher in Central

program for students with

autism, knows the kinds of

trips that would be helped by

such a fundraiser are essen-

tial to teaching students with

autism some generalized life

Autistic students, she said,

do better when they can take

what they learn and apply it

to the actual environments

about which they're learning.

Examples include how to sit at

a movie theater, how to act at a

museum and how to behave in

"We try to extend our learn-

a restaurant.

I'm happy to do it.'

hoping to raise between

Central Middle School.

money to help offer effective

do what she can to help the

That's why Wyman, a

three are autistic.

programming.

Central's autism program

# Etched in Bronze Dodson earns marks in fitness challenge

**EDUCATION** 

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Teachers, students, parents and everyone else in the Dodson Elementary School "family" has been working hard at affecting healthier eating habits and lifestyles.

On Wednesday, the effort paid off.

Representatives of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service were on hand Wednesday to present the HealthierUS School Challenge Bronze Award to Dodson. Dodson thus becomes one of what USDA officials said is a "small but growing number of Michigan schools" to achieve the challenge, a national initiative to promote healthier school meals, physical activity and fitness opportunities and nutrition education. Dodson is the third elementary school in the state to achieve Bronze level status.

"This is a really big deal," said Kristen Hennessey, Plymouth-Canton's director of food & nutrition services. "It recognizes the fact students are balancing nutrition and fitness, which we all know fosters a better learning environment. The folks at Dodson worked really hard on this."

According to USDA statistics, childhood obesity rates have tripled in the last 30 years, and now nearly 1-in-3 children is overweight and obese. The HealthierUS School Challenge is a key component



MARY HOLALY

Students react to their surprise visitor at the USDA HealthierUS Schools event, Rory, the Detroit Lions mascot.

of the First Lady Michelle Obama's LetsMove! initiative to combat the childhood obesity epidemic through a comprehensive approach with schools, families and communities that helps children become more active, eat better, and get healthier.

"Dodson's Bronze Award reflects the school's commitment to student nutrition and physical fitness, cornerstones of Let's Move!" said Julie Mikkelson, USDA Food and Nutrition Service Regional Director for Special Nutrition Programs.

The school celebrated the milestone with an all-school assembly Wednesday that featured Chef Paul Penney, Plymouth High School head football coach Mike Sawchuk and player Brennen Byer, and Zumba instructor Veronica

"Kids came and we had a giant picnic setting, we walked around, and the kids got to try things," Hennessey said. "Kids who don't usually even buy lunch got to sample some things. Coaches were pulling kids out of the audience and doing football

drills. We had 150 kids and staff doing Zumba in the cafeteria. It was crazy nuts fun."

Officials also got to announce a bit of news: They got another grant for "Fuel Up to Play 60," a pledge that says you'll have physical activity for 60 minutes a day, as well as continuing to eat healthy.

"It was a really great day," Hennessey said. "The kids took the pledge, so we're keeping the (fitness) momentum going."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-8899 ing beyond the classroom

# GARAGE SALE

What: Garage sale to benefit the autism program at Central Middle School

When: March 31-April 2, April 7-9 Where: Paulette Wyman's house, 6933 Carriage Hills in Canton More info: (734) 844-3133

walls," Kownacki said. "People with autism are challenged with learning how to generalize skills in different environments. To teach them, we have to get them out into those environments."

what the garage sale will provide is crucial as school programs deal with skyrocketing costs, such as gas and transportation costs to and from off-campus sites.

"It's crucial because we try to offset the costs," Kownacki said. "It's hard for us to go places because we just can't afford it. You try to charge parents, but they're limited in their funds, as well. We really appreciate what (Wyman) has done."

Wyman said she's looking for donations for the sale, as well as volunteers to help during the sale. She's hoping to make \$2,000, but will gladly take

"Hey, more would be nice, but I'll be happy if we hit that goal," Wyman said. "(And) if there are some volunteers willing to donate their time, to come over and fold towels on a table or whatever, we'd be delighted."

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Canton West Center 49650 Cherry Hill Rd, Ste 230 Canton, MI 48187 T: (734) 495-3725 F: (734) 495-3734

Commerce Center 8896 Commerce Rd. Suite 1 Commerce Township, MI 48382 T: (248) 363-2115 F: (248) 363-2308 F: (734) 422-0873

Northville Center
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# AROUND CANTON



# Bon voyage

The Canton Rotary Club recently hosted a 'bon voyage' party for clubsponsored Global Scholar Jim Leddy, who gets a two-year scholarship to Buenos Aires, Argentina, that will help Leddy study international relations. The scholarship program is paid for by funds from Rotary International and Rotary District 6400, of which the Canton club is a member. Pictured at the party are Dr. Donna Schmidt (from left), District Governor Nominee, Mary Kehoe, District Governor Nominee, Leddy, and Canton Rotarian Wayne Titus. For Information on the Canton Rotary Club, visit www. cantonrotary.com.

Location: Summit on the Park

Banquet Center, 46000 Summit

Details: Fish Fry Fridays are in full

swing. All-you-can-eat fish buffet

Encrusted Tilapia; Seafood Cakes;

Fries; Coleslaw; Soft Drinks, Coffee

and Tea. Adults can dine for \$11.95

per person and children under 12

years of age are just \$4.95 each.

available at an additional cost.

visit www.Cantonfun.org.

MOPS sale

Saturday, April 2

S. Sheldon, Canton

a.m. \$1 admission.

Rockette show

Contact: Call (734) 394-5460 or

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.,

Location: Connection Church, 3855

Details: Connection Church MOPS

are sold out to capacity with over

100 tables rented. Strollers after 10

Location: Salem auditorium, Salem

High School on Joy Road in Canton.

Details: Show will feature the Salem

Rockettes, a National Dance Teams

Time/Date: 7 p.m. April 8-9

Championships finalist.

annual spring mom to mom sale. We

Desserts and a full-service bar are

Pasta; Fresh Vegetables; French

includes Battered Atlantic Cod; Herb

Parkway, 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

## Prom dress sale

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 9

Location: Plymouth High School, 8400 Beck Road, Canton

Details: A sale of donated new and used prom dresses at Plymouth High School. No dress will be priced over \$20 and all of the dresses are in great shape. Donations of dresses. formal sandals, shoes, purses, jewelry, etc. are still being accepted in the general office at Plymouth High School. Proceeds from the sale will benefit some of the programs in the Life Management Department.

Contact: Lisa.Benages@pccsmail.net

## Variety show

Time/Date: 7 p.m. April 1-2 Location: Gloria Logan Auditorium, Salem High School on Joy road in

Details: It's the Plymouth Saberettes annual variety show. Tickets are \$7 at the door.

# Fish frys

Time/Date: 5-9 p.m. Fridays, through April 22

# Canton eyes 1,000 homes in sidewalk program

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Hundreds of Canton homeowners will have to shell out money this summer to repair damaged sidewalks along their properties, though the township also will face a share of the price tag.

An estimated 1,000 homes in 11 subdivisions are targeted for sidewalk repairs as Canton embarks on the program's 13th

Property owners face repairs if sidewalks are buckled, cracked, sloped or otherwise damaged and could cause injuries to pedestrians. Work also may be ordered around sewer-system manhole covers or areas that hamper the mobility of disabled people.

Local officials began a systematic repair of sidewalks in 1999 after the Michigan Supreme Court ruled that Canton had responsibility to protect the public, after the township battled a flurry of lawsuits filed by people who claimed they fell and suffered injuries.

However, Canton has the ability to force homeowners to pay for the repairs if, for instance, a damaged sidewalk slab fronts their property. The township has responsibility for certain work, such as along county property or areas that don't comply with the Americans with Disabilities

## WHY NOT WAYNE?

Township board Trustee Todd Caccamo, during a public hearing Tuesday, described himself as "livid" that Wayne County doesn't pay for sidewalk repairs on its property.

Trustee Pat Williams agreed and suggested a potential challenge against the county.

"I think we owe it to our residents to do battle when it makes sense," he said.

However, Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin said the township has been held accountable for the program because Canton - not the county - decided

years ago to require local sidewalks.

Residents such as Betty Wu have continued to question certain rules. She said Tuesday she has been billed \$465 for sidewalk repairs around a sewer-system manhole near her home. Although the township and her neighborhood, specifically, relies on the sewer system, she faces the price tag.

"It's really unfair," she said. **Municipal Services Director** Tim Faas said residents may ask the township to review a targeted repair to reassess whether it is truly needed or whether the township should possibly share the cost. With so many neighborhoods reviewed every year, he said, mistakes can be made.

## SAME LIABILITY

Faas said the repairs are important because anyone who is hurt due to a damaged sidewalk can sue a homeowner and the township. He said the program has continued despite a tough economy that has strained the pocketbooks of residents and the govern-

'The liability doesn't change whether the economic times are good or bad," he said.

McLaughlin said sidewalkrelated lawsuits cost everyone in Canton.

"Every time someone sues Canton Township, they sue 90,000 residents," she said.

This year's repairs had been projected to cost \$340,000, with residents shelling out \$200,000 and Canton paying \$140,000. But, Faas said those costs will be lower after the township board Tuesday chose a company, Hardrock Concrete Inc., to do the work for no more than \$279,028.

The work is expected to start dclem@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2238

AN EXCEPTIONAL HOME-LIKE SETTING FOR

in late May and be finished by late August.

Residents may choose their own contractor as long as the work is done properly. However, property owners who refuse to make repairs

will have the work done for

them - and be billed by the township.

Faas said neighborhoods where sidewalks are fixed likely will not be studied for another round of repairs for 20 years. Subdivisions on this year's list are Bridgemont Park, Buckingham Place, Fellows Creek Estates, Fox Run subdivision Nos. 1 and 2, Heritage Farms, North Pointe, Royal Pointe, Royal Pointe West, Sunflower Village subdivision No. 12 and Whispering Meadows, among other miscellaneous locations.







three times the legal limit. The toxicology report showed traces of Vicodin and he was driving on a suspended license. He wasn't wearing a seat belt the night of the crash, and he was driving at speeds in excess

Teri Gunn feels those things, which some might consider minor, show a pattern of behavior for Bojaj.

"I see a pattern here," she said. "He doesn't learn from his mistakes very quickly. Maybe 15 years will be enough time for him to sit and think about the turmoil he has caused with his selfish, reckless actions. We can only hope."

## LIGHTING A CANDLE

Teri Gunn said Bojaj isn't the only one who has something to learn here. She thinks her daughter's death could teach the legal system a thing or two, if anyone's listening.

"Let's stop the behavior before it gets to this," she said. "Perhaps this will be a turning point for how the legal system

views other excessively drunk drivers acting recklessly, who have no business being behind the wheel of a car."

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 27, 2011

Bojaj's defense attorney, Paul Bernier, sympathizes with the Gunns' pain and, while not trying to minimize it, he did say, following Bojaj's conviction, the case caused a lot of pain for 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.

That's not much comfort for Teri Gunn, whose birthday fell on the same day her daughter died. She said the verdict and the sentencing have "lifted the weight of having this person held accountable," but the awful sense of loss is still very much there.

"We can't even envision how our lives are going to be," she said. "We love and miss Shelby very much. If Shelby is looking in on us down here, I hope she is satisfied with the outcome. I light a candle every night for her."

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



Shelby Gunn's family and friends



Robert Bojaj stands before Judge David Allen at sentencing.



Teri and Rob Gunn, parents of the late Shelby Gunn, read a statement in court about the impact of their daughter's death.



Robert Bojaj after reading a statement at his sentencing.



Judge David Allen asked for the wisdom of Solomon in passing sentence on Robert Bojaj.

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# FROM PAGE A1

lost their jobs, taken a pay cut or who are getting by on a fixed income.

Faas, Eva and other offi-

cials have said repeatedly that Canton tries to impose a rate hike that only reflects the township's "true cost" of water-sewer services.

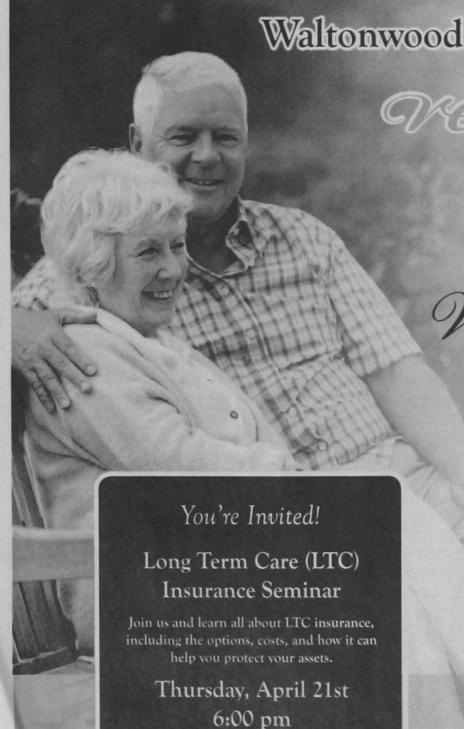
The latest rate hike is the lowest Canton consumers have had since 2007, when Faas said the township approved a

6.7-percent rate hike.

The latest increase is far less than last year's 16.9-percent rate hike, which cost an average household an additional \$47.41 every three months, or nearly \$190 a year.

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# Former Canton VFW chief was decorated vet

Erwin H. Neuhart, former post commander of Canton VFW Post 6967, which was consolidated into Mayflower Lt. Gamble Post 6695 in the mid-1990s, died Tuesday, March 22, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor.

He was 99.

Mr. Neuhart, of Ypsilanti, was born December 6, 1911. He served his country in the U.S. Army in World War II from Sept. 17, 1943, to Dec. 12, 1945.

Mr. Neuhart received a theater ribbon with four bronze stars and a victory medal. He was also a proud member of Faith Lutheran Church of Ypsilanti for over 60 years.

Mr. Neuhart is survived by a son Thomas R. Neuhart (Carol) of Augusta Township; two daughters, Ruth Annette (Fred) Sattler and Carol K. (Donald A.) Smith, both of Belleville; and seven grandchildren, James D. Sattler of Belleville, Virginia L. (Ron) Huggins of Flat Rock, Eric A. Sattler of Romulus, Thomas R. (Barbie) Neuhart Jr. of Canton, Bradley S. (Jill) Neuhart of Milan, Angela N. Smith of Belleville and Stephen A. (Lindsey) Smith of Waterford; seven great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 57 years, Ruth Louise, and a brother, Vernon Neuhart.

Visitation was at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. Service was Friday at Faith Lutheran Church in Ypsilanti. The Rev. Paul Wolff officiated. Interment with military honors was in Cherry Hill Cemetery, Canton.

The family has requested donations in Mr. Neuhart's name be made to Faith Lutheran Church Ladies Society, 1255 E. Forest Ave., Ypsilanti, MI, 48197 or Angela Hospice, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor.



St. Michael's Parish presents

# Tiffin University

Brothers Alexander and Steven Watts, the sons of Dar and Cindy Watts of Plymouth, were chosen for the 2010-11 Fall Dean's List at Tiffen (Ohio) University.

Alex is enrolled in the school of Criminal Justice as a freshman. Steven, also a freshman, plans to major in criminal justice. To be eligible for the Dean's List, students need a semester grade-point average of 3.50 with a minimum of 12 semester hours.

## Central Michigan

Eleven students from Canton and four from Plymouth were among the December 2010 graduates from Central Michigan University.

Canton graduates included Karen Brzezinski, Kyle Culps, Jordan Franke, Kathleen Hale, Kelli Harper, Jessica Pavelka, Allison Poremba, Steven Slayton, Nicole

Stack, Santino Toia and Karen Wiza. Plymouth students included Kristin Porubsky, Nicholas Saia, Angela Schommer and Matt Schultz.

## Grove City College

Jessica Heck, a freshman psychology major at Grove City College, has been named to the Dean's List with High Distinction for the fall 2010 semester.

Heck is a 2010 graduate of Plymouth High School and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Manfred Heck of Canton.

in the past,

I believe the

true. If you

look at the

world today,

particularly

the unemploy-

ment numbers

among college

graduates

opposite to be

Students eligible for the Dean's List

# ON CAMPUS

have a GPA of 3.40 to 3.59; for the Dean's List with Distinction a GPA of 3.60 to 3.84 and for the Dean's List with High Distinction a GPA of 3.85

## **Boston University**

Kaley C. Ronayne, a resident of Plymouth, has recently been named to the Dean's List at Boston University for the fall semester.

Boston University is the fourth largest independent university in the United States, with an enrollment of more than 29,000 students in its 17 schools and colleges.

## Berklee College of Music

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Ameya Kalamdani and Antonio Solis of Canton were among students who earned placement on the Dean's List for the fall semester of the 2010 academic year at Berklee College of

To be eligible for this honor, a fulltime student must achieve a grade point average of 3.4 or above; a parttime student must achieve a grade point average of 3.6 or above.

The Berklee curriculum focuses on practical career preparation for today's music industry. Four-year degrees are offered in Performance, Jazz Composition, Music Production & Engineering, Film Scoring, Music Business/Management, Composition. Music Synthesis, Contemporary Writing & Production, Music Education, Songwriting, Music Therapy, and Professional Music.

# Starting early is one of keys to investment success

Q: Dear Rick: I'm a recent graduate of Michigan State and I have \$2,000 that I want to invest in a Roth IRA. This will be my first investment so, obviously, I'm looking long term. Any suggestions?

A: Congratulations on graduating from MSU. I am an MSU alumni and there is no investment recommendation I can give you that will match that you made in yourself by graduating from Michigan State.

I've always been a believer that one of the best investments anyone can make is in a good college education. It is an investment that will pay dividends years and years from now. While I recognize that in today's economic environment it may not look like a college education is as valuable as it was

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**Money Matters** 

Rick Bloom

vs. non-college graduates, you will see the benefit of a college education.

Unemployment for non-college graduates is substantially higher than college graduates That being said, I think

a great investment for your \$2,000 would be the T. Rowe Price Spectrum Growth Fund, a mutual fund that invests in other T. Rowe Price mutual funds.

It provides exposure to large and small companies, both foreign and domestic. Consequently, just one fund allows you to start building a diversified growth portfolio.

I believe for your first Roth IRA investment, the T. Rowe Price Spectrum Growth Fund would be an excellent choice. (www.troweprice. com; 1-800-638-5660).

Target funds have become popular over the last few years. These funds are geared for retirement, the key being that you select the year that you are going to retire, and then invest in that fund. Theoretically, the portfolio manager invests the money based upon the year you plan to enter retirement. Although this sounds great in theory, it hasn't worked as advertised. The

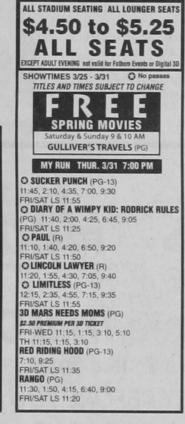
performance of these funds has underperformed, and at the same time they tend to have higher costs. Another problem is that just because you're planning to retire in a certain year doesn't mean it is the year you'll need income. You may be investing in a portfolio that doesn't match your situation. These types of funds, known as target funds, were set up to make investing a little easier. Although I'm in favor of anything that makes investing easier, I don't want to sacrifice performance. I choose to stay away from target funds.

One last note: I love that you have decided to use a Roth IRA. Particularly for people in their 20s and 30s, it's as close to a slam dunk as you can get. I know many accountants will tell you that

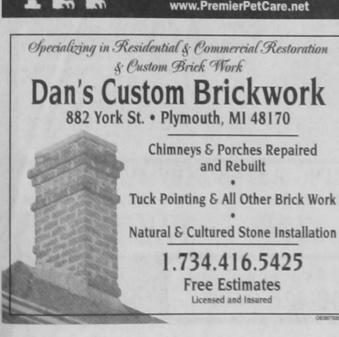
going into a traditional IRA allows you to write off your contribution, providing you with some current tax savings. They are correct over the short run, but not when your focus is long term.

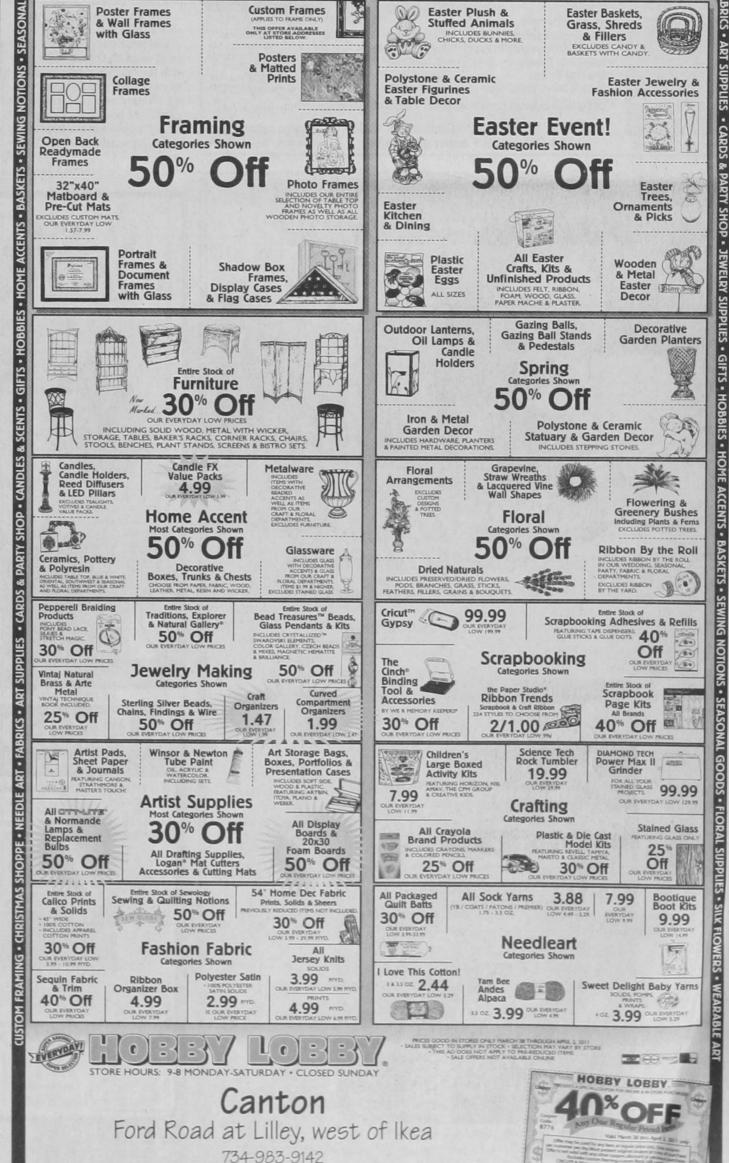
The benefits of growing tax-free vs. tax-deferred are dramatic, particularly when you consider that for someone in their 20s or 30s, money will be growing for 40 or 50 years, if not longer. The longer the time period you have to achieve your goals, the more beneficial Roth IRAs become. Good luck!

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









# Civil War historian: Artifacts tell how they fought, but not why

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 27, 2011

Bob Zaetta is a Civil War buff who doesn't want to see history repeat itself.

On Monday, he was at Greenmead Historical Park in Livonia showing members of the Livonia Historical Society and guests a "knork, a combination knife and fork used by Civil War soldiers who had to have one of their arms amputated because of injuries they had suffered in

The knork is shaped like a C, with the outer curve sharpened "so you could rock it through the meat."

He said the fact that such a utensil was developed shows how many soldiers lost an arm in the war. Yet those amputees were the lucky ones. Another 620,000 soldiers lost their lives, including 52,000 in just three days at the Battle of Gettysburg. That compares with 58,000 deaths over the nine- to 10year span of the Vietnam

"That's what makes the Civil War such a mystery; why did they feel so strongly (that they were willing to die for what they believed)?" said the former Redford Union history teacher who's collected several

Thomas J. Gerou, DC



The Livonia Historical Society listens to Bob Zaetta.

hundred books on the Civil

He said while slavery was the main issue that caused the war, Confederate and Union soldiers enlisted voluntarily for many reasons. For the South, those reasons included fighting for the right to self-government and preserving a cultural and economic way of life. For the North, they included saving the Union that their ancestors just four generations earlier had fought and died for in the American Revolution.

## 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF WAR

Zaetta was invited to speak by the Livonia Historical Society on "The Life and Times of a Civil War Soldier" to commemorate the 150th anniversary of



Bob Zaetta talks about the rifled muzzle-loader.

the Civil War. The Plymouth Township resident also speaks at schools.

The message he hopes to get across to audiences, though he said it's more subtle with adults, is "that we should never ever have another Civil War; we need to compromise and learn to work things out.

"Unfortunately I see it going more the other way, with the cruel and very strong language (used in politics today)," he said. "It's kind of

Zaetta brought authentic Civil War artifacts as well as reproductions to show the well-received by the audience, audience, including a muswhich numbered about 25. ket, saber, shackles, cannon "People kept asking quesballs and a bone saw and tions," he said. The topic brought some new flesh blade used for amputapeople to the historical society

of hitting something as far

of North Carolina spent

80 percent of its budget in

1866-67 on prosthetics, he

Bob Legel, president of

the historical society, said Zaetta's presentation was

as 300 yards away. The state

He said the reason there meeting, he said, though it were so many injuries and was still more lightly attended casualties is that they used than normal. Napoleon-era tactics of A lot of historical society shooting from 50 yards away members are in their 80s, and they don't venture out when when their "modern" muskets at the time were capable it's too cold, he said.

> The group would like to get more young people involved, but that remains a challenge.

HOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

"In general (a love for) history comes on you a little later in life," Legal said.

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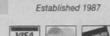
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# Guv drums up support for budget, tax plans

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Gov. Rick Snyder used a sold-out luncheon crowd Friday at the Farmington Hills Manor of the Greater Farmington Area and Livonia chambers of commerce to drum up support for his tax and budget plans for Michigan.

Snyder told the audience of 700, mainly business owners and employees of businesses in the two communities, to contact state lawmakers and write letters to newspapers to show support for his proposals.

"I need your help," Snyder said. "I need you to speak up."

He was greeted by the audience with applause when he reminded them that he was doing what he said he was going to do.

"This isn't about politics; this is about doing the right thing," Snyder said.

Snyder said his proposals weren't about individual issues, but the reinvention of the state, namely the need for more and better jobs in Michigan and the need for keeping young people in the

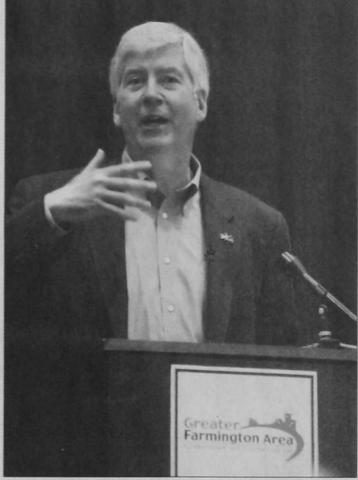
"We need to create an environment for success and do it in a way that young people can say this is the place to stay because of the quality of life and job opportunities," Snyder

## SNYDER PUSHES 'FAIRNESS'

Snyder reiterated his message of a "simple, fair and efficient" tax system for local businesses. Snyder believes his changes in the tax system will bring more fairness to the overall system between individuals and for businesses.

"We have many people who are in this room who are struggling to pay the Michigan Business Tax," Snyder said. That tax does not help with job

creation, he said. Snyder said the state has run up "credit card" pension and health liabilities to the



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder was the guest speaker at Friday's luncheon attended by 700 people in Farmington Hills.

tune of \$47 billion. "That's a pretty good credit card balance, folks, and we weren't even paying on the minimum balance.

Snyder said he was proud to be a certified public accountant. "I think it's about time we had a CPA show up in Lansing," Snyder said, a comment that drew applause from the audience.

Snyder wants the state to be "fiscally sound and making minimum payments on the \$47 billion," he said. "You create an environment in which business knows the culture and climate.

Snyder relayed stories about his first few weeks in office and meeting with groups. Snyder did not identify the groups or individuals, but said they met with him earlier this

"After they would say 'hello,' they would say 'we need funding," Snyder said. "Have you ever thought about that?" he asked the crowd. "How would that work in the private sector, if someone just walked up and said 'we need funding'?'

Snyder suggested that those groups should use a more cooperative approach with the state. "Here's what we can do together; here's what we can deliver," Snyder said. "Then you can talk about the resources available to do that."

Farmington Hills Mayor Jerry Ellis welcomed the crowd, highlighting the city's base of 6,000 businesses with 79,000 employees and 150 international firms from 20



The governor's comments drew appreciative applause.



Protesters picket the governor's tax and budget proposals.

countries

Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey introduced Snyder.

Kirksey, a former state legislator, said the state's system was broken, and needed change to "move people from where they are."

"Unless you have a change, unless you have a strategy, it's not going to happen unless everyone pitches in," Kirksey said. In a lighter moment before the governor's speech, Kirksey also gave Snyder a lottery ticket for that evening's jackpot of \$312 million, presumably to help balance the budget.

# 'WE'RE NOT WISCONSIN'

Snyder also took questions offered by the audience, presented to him by Mary Engelman, executive director of the Greater Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce, and Dan West, president of the Livonia Chamber of

Snyder was asked how Michigan could avoid becoming another Wisconsin and a battleground over collective

bargaining rights.

Snyder responded: "We're not Wisconsin. I'm here to solve problems, I'm not here to pick fights. I'm happy to work through the collective bargaining process."

Snyder plans a special message in April on education. Snyder said he has spoken with some community college officials in Michigan, again he did not identify them, but said that 50 percent of their stu-

dents require remedial classes. 'That's a travesty," Snyder

Snyder believes that jobs will rebound the housing market.

Snyder, who was the state's first director of the Michigan Economic Development Corp. under former Gov. John Engler, said the MEDC needs to be implemented correctly.

Snyder believes the manufacturing sectors and businesses need to link their sales and marketing divisions to other industries, namely automotive to aircraft, he cited as one example.

Snyder said supply analysis would help the manufacturing sector, too. "If we can frame this discussion, there are economic opportunities here," Snyder said.

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# Madonna presents 'Children of Eden'

The public is invited to attend Madonna University's spring musical, Children of Eden, a frank, heartfelt and often-humorous examination of the age-old conflict between parents and children, based loosely on the Bible story of Genesis.

"Most people know Adam and Eve, Cain, Abel, Noah and their roles in the Bible, but Children of Eden brings forth elements that are not usually part of their stories," said Barbara Wiltsie,

734-414-0722

assistant professor of voice and director of Madonna University's Lyric Theatre.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 27, 2011

The show examines the type of personal relationships these characters had with the Father who created them and explores how they interacted with each other.

Were their family lives no different from yours or mine? Do we humans continue to repeat the mistakes made by our forefathers of many centuries ago? These questions are brought forth

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through the script and the incredible musical score by Stephen Schwartz," Wiltsie

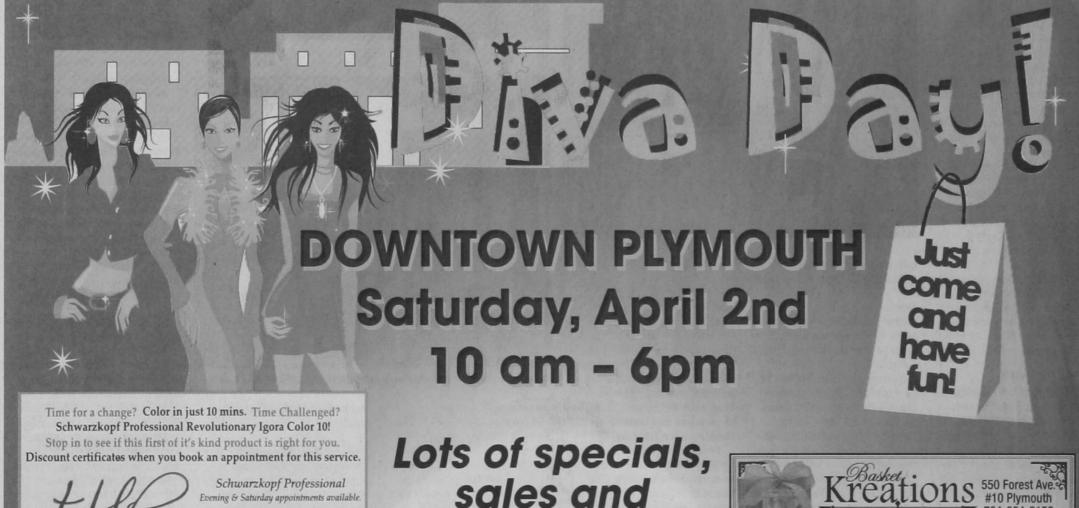
Featured in the show are Lawrence Matthews as Father, Andrew St. John as Adam, Madonna University students Megan Heath as Eve and Neal Card as Noah. They are joined by other students from Madonna University, area elementary, middle and senior high schools, community colleges and residents of Livonia and the surrounding communi-

Show times are 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, April 2, and 4 p.m. Sunday, April 3, at Madonna University's Kresge Hall, 36600

Schoolcraft Road, Livonia. Tickets are \$12 for general admission and \$10 for seniors and students and can be purchased at the door or at the front reception desk on Madonna's campus. Call (734) 432-5543 for more



Andrew St. John plays Adam and Megan Heath portrays Eve in Madonna University's musical, Children of Eden.



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SECTION B

# SPORTS

SUNDAY, March 27, 2011

hometownlife (m) com





COMMUNITY LIFE, B5

# Chiefs, Wildcats aiming high in '11

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

After each posting a .500 record last spring, the Canton and Plymouth varsity boys lacrosse teams will be looking to take the next step toward the top of the KLAA Kensington Conference this time around.

Canton went 8-8 in 2010 and senior allstate attackman Matt Rodgers returns to lead a younger Chiefs squad in which head coach Kevin Riley sees much promise.

And Plymouth is going to take a defensefirst approach in hopes of improving on last season's record of 9-9 overall and 6-4 in the conference for the team's best-ever finish. "Overall, I expect our team to win with

defense early on BOYS LACROSSE PREVIEW while the offense

gels," Wildcats head coach Brian Walsh said. "This year

could be a very special year for Plymouth." With both teams now swinging into action, here is a look at the Chiefs and Wildcats. (A preview for Salem's boys lacrosse team will be featured in an upcoming issue of the

# **CANTON OVERVIEW**

A lot will ride on the play of Rodgers, called by Riley "an extremely talented player who can score against the best defenses.

Rodgers is a co-captain, as are senior attackman Trevor Moore and senior midfielder Jordan Smith. Both Moore and Smith will be key players again this season.

Riley said Smith is a quick and very skilled player who "will lead the transition offense and ball possession this season."

A key to whether Canton's offense clicks is senior midfielder Ben Popp, who could lead the KLAA in faceoff wins.

Looking to chip in on offense are senior midfielder Parker Pakula, junior midfielders Brandon Grillo, Lucas Carpenter, Zach McCardle and sophomore midfielder Dillon

"All are looked to assist the offense this season with their speed and skill," Riley said. On defense, the Chiefs will bank on senior

Please see LACROSSE, B3



The Canton girls basketball team is all smiles before playing their recent Class A semifinal at Breslin Center, Standing together are senior stalwarts CarolAnn Sexauer (21), Sara Schmitt (40), Kari Schmitt (25), Kayla Bridges (33) and Melanie Pickert (15, far right).

# Five of a kind

# Canton seniors always about being classy competitors

couldn't ask any-

thing more than

program for four

years. That's why I

come here (to the

interview room)."

had all five of them

what they gave this

heir team had just lost a heartbreaker to Inkster in the Class A girls basketball finals on March 18.

With moistened, red-rimmed eyes, the heart and soul of Canton's superb girls basketball team marched together as one into the media interview room under the stands at Breslin Center.

Sitting at the podium were seniors Kari Schmitt, Sara Schmitt, Kayla Bridges, Melanie Pickert and CarolAnn Sexauer.

Usually, the coach is front and center. But this time, Canton head coach Brian Samulski stood off to the side, answering questions without the benefit of a microphone.

They're awesome, I love them to death," said Samulski, about the quintet. "I couldn't ask for more. I



Tim Smith

Samulski then talked about how the five players had really put Canton girls basketball on the map.

"When people talk about girls basketball, I think Canton's somewhere in the conversation." Samulski emphasized. "And these five right here, they've got everything to do with that.

"It was just an honor for me to be part of what they've five have

That nucleus, along with junior

point guard Robyn Mack, led the Chiefs to Breslin for two years in a

They won 21 straight games from mid-December until the fateful afternoon at Breslin, finishing 24-3 overall. Two of those losses were to Inkster.

## LOFTY LEGACY

They garnered trophies and plaques for winning the division, conference, association, districts and regionals. These resilient Chiefs might have reached the finals if not for a half-court prayer of a triple at the end of the first half by their opponent that turned a Canton lead into a deficit.

(By the way, there actually was

Please see SMITH, B3

# State champs share winning path

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

They go to different high schools and compete against each other every winter. But Salem's Adam Seroka and Canton's Victor Zhang have more in common than winning state swimming championships.

Seroka, a senior, won the Division 1 championship in the 500 freestyle with a time of 4 minutes, 32.90 seconds. Also earning All-State honors from Salem were seniors Matt Collingwood, Max Mills and junior Jason Zhang (no relation to Victor)

Canton junior counterpart Zhang prevailed at the state meet in the 100 backstroke,

with a winning time of 51.55. But as a bit of a twist both swimmers are good friends and training pals.

"We've been training partners for a very, very long time," said Seroka, whose older sister Lauren also was an outstanding swimmer for Salem. "He's been able to push me at practice and at meets and we always have great races.

"But more importantly, he



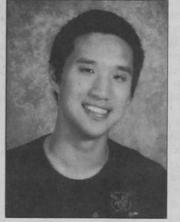
State-champion swimmers Adam Seroka of Salem (above) and Victor Zhang of Canton are friends and training partners.

has been a great friend of mine for countless years."

Seroka, a third-year captain and fourth-year varsity swimmer for veteran coach Chuck Olson, won't get to train with Zhang during the latter's senior year, unfortu-

That's because Seroka will be going to Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri to swim for a Division 3 program.

But they'll always have their friendship and common achievement to look back on.



"There was an unbelievable feeling when I stood atop the podium,' said Canton swimmer Victor Zhang.

# JUST UNBELIEVABLE

"There was an unbelievable feeling when I stood atop the podium," Zhang emphasized. "Showing that my years of hard work have paid off.

"You get a feeling like this a few times in your entire life, so everything I put forth to my training was worth it."

According to Seroka, winning the championship meant countless hours swimming laps and sweating in the

Please see SWIMMING, B4

# Salem kickers should be strong despite injuries

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Despite some injuries, the Salem varsity girls soccer team should be competitive as always in the KLAA Central Division.

Veteran head coach Joe Nora, entering his 12th season at the helm, welcomes returning senior co-captains Kristina Klusek (midfield) and Victoria Kaye (defense) and junior co-captain Katelynn

Krause, also a midfielder. Nine other players who were part of last year's 12-6-3 squad are back for another season.

"We have a good mix of experienced varsity players and young talented newcomers," Nora said. "We're working hard and will build upon each situation we find ourselves in throughout the season, learn from it, and prepare to hit our stride for the state playoffs."

Also returning are seniors Lily Burnstein (midfield), Jenna Coon (defense), Mackenzie Rogers (mid-

# **GIRLS SOCCER PREVIEW**

field), Lauren Aschermann (midfield), Lauren Jones (midfield), Jamie Hunley (goalkeeper) and Madeleine Vala (midfield) and juniors Claire Huddas (midfield) and Megan McCormack (defense). Unfortunately for the Rocks, two of the top scorers from 2010 are out for the season after undergoing knee surgeries over the winter.

They are junior Emily Lundh and sophomore Gina Goble.

Meanwhile, senior defender Lindsey Roy will miss the season because of multiple concussions.

"Emily and Gina scored 70 percent of our goals last season and Lindsey was our defensive leader," Nora said.

He is hopeful that some of the additions to the roster will help offset those losses.

Sophomores Emily Barfuss and Emma Tardiff are slated to play up front and will be called upon for offense.

Please see SOCCER, B3

# SIDELINES

# Whalers win Game 1

The Plymouth Whalers broke a 4-4 tie in the third period Friday night and held on for a 6-5 victory over host Kitchener in Game 1 of their first-round OHL Western Conference quarterfinal

Dario Trutmann's tie-breaker (assisted by Jamie Devane and James Livingston) was followed up by an unassisted goal by forward Tyler Brown (one goal, two assists).

Brown roofed a shot behind Kitchener goalie Brandon Maxwell with 9:27 remaining in regulation for a 6-4 edge and that proved to be the game-winner due to a power-play goal by Gabriel Landeskog with 7:35

The Whalers then hung on as goalkeeper Scott Wedgewood kept the Rangers from sending the game into overtime. He stopped 47 of 52 shots

Also scoring for Plymouth were Devane (one goal, two assists), Beau Schmitz, Stefan Noesen and Garrett Meurs.

# Wildcat baseball clinic

Circle Saturday, April 9, on your calendar if you are a young, aspiring baseball player looking to improve skills for this season and beyond.

The Plymouth Wildcat Youth Baseball Clinic is designed to do just that. It will focus on age-appropriate skill development in a positive, fun, learning environment. Clinic attendees will receive instruction from the Plymouth Wildcats baseball staff and 2011 Plymouth Wildcats players.

Sessions, at the high school's baseball complex (gymnasium if inclement weather) and limited to 100 participants, are slated for 9 a.m. to noon (grades 1-4) and 12:30-3:30 p.m. (grades

Boys and girls currently in grades 1-8 are invited to attend. Cost is \$20 per player if pre-registered and \$25 the day of the clinic. That fee includes a snack. T-shirts will be available for \$8.

For more information, contact Plymouth varsity baseball coach Bryan Boyd at weaver3602@hotmail.com.

# College lacrosse

Farmington High School will be the host for a men's lacrosse game between Michigan State and Colorado State universities at 6 p.m. Saturday, April 2.

The game is a fundraiser for the Farmington High School boys lacrosse team.

Tickets are \$5 per adult, \$10 per family, \$3 per student. Players wearing high school team jerseys gain admittance for \$1. Concessions will be available.

The school is located at 32000 Shiawassee, just west of Orchard Lake Road between Grand River Avenue and 10 Mile Road.

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PLYMOUTH

# Area matmen prove to be Palace worthy

**FIRST-TEAM SELECTIONS** Kyle Gillies, Soph., Westland Glenn (103): Gillies placed fourth in Division 1 state finals at the Palace of Auburn Hills and was the first sophomore ever at Glenn to notch his 100th vic-

He also placed fourth at the Saline regional, second at the Temperance Bedford district and third in the KLAA tournament while finishing 53-9 overall

"Kyle was our most consistent performer the entire season," Glenn coach Bill Polk said. "He is an example of what hard work can do for you. He also is an outstanding student with a 3.8

"He has already started training to be the next state champion in our program. I am confident that he can accomplish all of his goals before he graduates from our program.

Ben Griffin, Fr., Canton (103): The freshman made quite an impact right off the bat, racking up an outstanding 57-3 record - advancing all the way to the Division 1 state finals at The Palace of Auburn Hills, where he finished seventh.

"Ben was a freshman phenom this season," Canton coach Cory Mancuso said. "He is a real technician on the mat. He has an exciting and bright future for the Chiefs.

Griffin went 3-2 at the finals, including a 10-0 major decision over Caledonia's John Leark.

He also scored key victories in the D1 individual district finals and regional finals against Evan Toth of Novi-Detroit Catholic Central.

Alec Pantaleo, Fr., Canton (112): The freshman also had a stellar rookie campaign for the Chiefs, capturing the Wayne County

He finished with a 49-4 mark, also winning the Division 1 individual district finals with a pin in 1:27 of Livonia Franklin's Danny Martinez.

Pantaleo made it to the second round of the individual regional finals.

He also came up big late in the regular season. At the KLAA team tournament,

Pantaleo earned a 10-3 decision over Hartland's Keith Boldt. He followed that up at the conference quad meet, with a major decision over Hartland's Justin

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 27, 2011

"Alec is one of the best wrestlers in the area from the neutral position," Mancuso said. "He is very explosive on his feet which makes him a constant threat to his opponent."

Jake Meadows, Sr., Liv. Churchill (119): The senior finished the year with a 48-7 record and a sixth-place finish in the

Division 1 finals. "Jake was an unbelievable competitor," Churchill coach Marty Altounian said. "When his or the teams' back was up against it, he was the one to change the tide. He was the one the team counted on to always come through with an outstand-

ing performance." Meadows also captured the Garden City district crown and added a third place at the Plymouth regional. He was also a KLAA and Livonia City cham-

"His work ethic in the practice room was nonstop," Altounian added. "His leadership with the other guys on the team was greatly appreciated by the coaches. He would direct the team to do a drill or something like that just before the coaches would say it. His performance at the KLAA was deserving of the MVP vote. Every loss he had during the season, he had the opportunity to wrestle again, he beat. He is definitely one of

Cody Korpus, Soph., Salem (119): The sophomore posted a 23-13 record and earned All-State honors after having reached the Division 1 individual state finals, where he won two of three matches.

Korpus made it that far thanks to a fourth-place showing at the Division 1 individual district finals and a second place finish at the individual regional finals.

At the latter, he earned a major decision over Farmington's Kevin Kennerly to reach the finals - and then lost to Livonia Franklin's Gabe 2010-11 ALL-OBSERVER WRESTLING TEAMS

103 pounds: 1. Kyle Gillies, Soph., Westland John Glenn; and Ben Griffin, Fr., Canton; 2. Zachary Francis, Fr., Lutheran High Westland; 3. Mo Youssel, Fr., Plymouth; Jon Locklean Soph., Livonia Churchill; Alex Arble, Soph., Salem.

112: 1. Alec Pantaleo, Fr., Canton; 2. Dan Martinez, Soph., Livonia Franklin; 3. Richard DeMarois, Soph., Canton; Trey Berry, Soph., Plymouth.

119: 1. Jake Meadows, Sr., Churchill; Cody Korpus, Soph., Salem; Gabe Martinez, Jr., Franklin; 2. Kevin Kennerly, Sr., Farmington; Evan Doyle, Sr., Farmington Hills Harrison. 125: 1. Andre Sanders, Sr., Harrison: 2. Said Youssef, Jr., Plymouth; 3. Jordan Atienza,

130: 1. Alec Breckenridge, Soph., Plymouth; Steve Tuyo, Sr., Franklin; 2. Kienuwa Davis, Jr., Farmington; 3. Austin Rohn, Jr., Salem.

135: 1. James Roberts, Sr., Harrison; 2. Josh Hall, Sr., Redford Union; 3. Zach Schulz, Sr.,

140: 1. Jonny Bannoura, Sr., Churchill; 2. Zach Marsh, Jr., Canton; 3. Josh Hatfield, Sr., Franklin 145: 1. Nick Tomski, Sr., Farmington; 2. Jalen Jones, Sr., Wayne Memorial; 3. Avery

Opperman, Jr., Franklin,

152: 1, Kevin Newborn, Sr., Wayne; Anthony Long, Jr., John Glenn; 2. Kyle Lake, Jr., Harrison: 3. Josh Marhoffer, Sr., Salem 160: 1. Matt Roos, Sr., Franklin; 2. Collin Rankin, Soph., RU; 3. John Davis, Sr., North

Farmington: Danny Croft, Jr., John Glenn. 171: 1. Kameron Jones, Sr., John Glenn; Sultan Hubbard, Jr., Harrison; 2. Braden Price,

Sr., Canton; Kevin Miller, Jr., North Farmington. 189: 1. Anthony Abro, Sr., Canton; 2. Courtney Drew, Sr., North Farmington; 3. Joe

Scott, Jr., Livonia Stevenson; Reggie Timmons, Jr., John Glenn. 215: 1. Dimitrus Renfroe, Jr., Wayne; 2. Justin Roe, Sr., Farmington; Dylan Morantes,

285: 1. Ben Poirier, Sr., Canton; 2. Jacob Range, Jr., Stevenson; 3. Majd Mokbel, Jr. North Farmington; Omar Haymour, Jr., Franklin; Derrick Campbell, Sr., John Glenn. COACH OF THE YEAR

HONORABLE MENTION

Churchill: James Locklear, Mike Harp, Justin Baker; Franklin: Alex O'Connor, Bret Thrushman, Allen Steele, Chase Semonick; Stevenson: Kody Roy, Samer Shebak; John Glenn: Quinn Dupraw, David Isaacs, Donavan Reilly, Keven Wacker, Justin Powers, D'Vonteono Anderson, Jon Mayes, Chris Donaldson, Zach Bower, Charles Crawford Wayne: Devon Adams, Nate Cavanaugh, Sam Ekanem, Darryl Ison, Devin Korzetki, Tyler Mulligan, Tim Way, Allen Parker, Doug Rutan; Canton: Robbie Lincoln, Marc Przyblyski; Salem: Jacob McCabe, Tyler Gross, Jordan Zhou, Riley Doxtader, Kyle Sugg; Plymouth: James Ahern, Shadi Jammoul, Jon conn, Chase Kallil, Jackson Chalmers; Redford Union: Chris Colon; Farmington: Nimantha Herath, Mannie Govantes, Mike Rankin, Ryan Southerland, Derek Southerland; Harrison: Andrew Fialka, Marcus Shepherd; North Farmington: Jordan Russell: Mike Williams: Lutheran Westland: Martin Kemp, Jacob Richter, Alex Reardon, Brad Muma; Clarenceville: Michael Weiss, Anthony Giordano, Aaron Bibik, Coy Sillanpaa, Brendan Groves; Garden City: DJ Giese.

Martinez in the championship

"Cody now sees what he is capable of and it has motivated him even more," Salem head coach Pete Israel said. "I am looking forward to the next two years with Cody as he continues to grow as a young man and as a wrestler."

Gabe Martinez, Jr., Liv. Franklin (119): The junior was a state qualifier and finished the year at 55-10 overall.

Martinez captured the regional title and was third at the district.

He also earned titles at Franklin, Livonia City and Rochester Adams tournaments. His career record is 114-31.

"Gabe is one of the more

intense wrestlers on the team, and led the team in wins this year." Franklin coach Dave Chiola said. "He has excellent balance and is very tenacious in his matches. Gabe is one of the hardest workers in the room, and is always willing to help out his teammates.

"The younger wrestlers learn a lot from his work ethic. He is very team-oriented guy and is a pleasure to coach.

Andre Sanders, Sr., Farm. Harrison (125): The senior earned all-state status with a seventhplace finish in the Division 2 tournament. Sanders posted an impressive 47-8 season record.

He was first at his weight in the Grand Blanc, Lakeland and district tourneys, and he was second at the Observerland, OAA White and regional meets. He also was unbeaten at the Harrison (5-0) and Alma (4-0) team dual events.

"Andre was a jayvee wrestler for two years, and then he started working in the off season, wrestling and training," coach Jim Stuef said. "Putting in the extra time and work has made the difference.

"I truly believe our kids match up with anyone, athletically, but need the extra mat time to make us competitive. Andre has proven this to be true.

Alec Breckenridge, Soph., Plymouth (130): The sophomore co-captain enjoyed a 35-13 season, qualifying for the Division 1 state finals. He already has a 69-17 record under his belt.

He finished third at the D1 individual district finals and advanced to the championship bout at the regional finals, where Novi-Detroit Catholic Central's Logan Marcicki pre-

vailed. Other big matches included wins over Steve Tuyo of Livonia Franklin in the KLAA South meet and individual regionals and over Andrew Napieraj of Birmingham Brother Rice during the season. Both were ranked No. 1 in the state at that

"Alec is the type of wrestler who is willing to wrestle anyone for the sake of the team," said Plymouth head coach Quin Guernsey about the Wildcats' co-MVP. "A number of his losses this year were from early in the season where he would wrestle up at 140 or 145 because the team needed him to.

"He is an excellent leader who always can be found helping his teammates get better.

Steve Tuyo, Sr., Liv. Franklin (130): The senior was a state qualifier and wound up 54-8 in his final season as a Patriot.

"He's an extremely smart wrestler, and has always done whatever the team needed to win a meet," Chiola said. "Steve has been like having another coach in the room, and he will be missed.'

Tuyo also captured individual titles at the regional, district, KLAA, Livonia City, Franklin and Rochester Adams tourneys. "Steve is one of the finest

individuals I've ever coached," Chiola added. "While at Franklin he broke the school record for most wins in a career (187). He has been a great team leader, a very hard worker, and a tremendous role model for the younger wrestlers. Steve placed in state as a junior, and I



Kyle Gillies

John Glenn

Canton





Alec Pantaleo Canton



Jacob Meadows Churchill



Andre Sanders Harrison



Alec Breckenridge Plymouth

Nick Tomski

Farmington

Kameron Jones



Cody Korpus

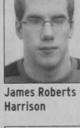
Salem

Steve Tuyo Franklin

Kevin Newborn

Sultan Hubbard

year.



**Gabe Martinez** 

Franklin



Anthony Long



John Glenn

Anthony Abro

Canton

think a late season injury hurt

James Roberts, Sr., Farm.

Harrison (135): The senior is a

three-time regional qualifier

and two-time, All-Observer

record the past season and was

Harrison's first Oakland County

Roberts was the OAA White

Observerland and district tour-

naments. He has more than 100

career wins and led the Hawks

"James is a great leader, a

hard worker and a great exam-

ple of the kind of student-ath-

lete others can strive to be like,"

coach Stuef said. "He has shown

great character and discipline

over the years here, and he will

do great things in life because of

what he has accomplished as an

(140): The senior was a Division

1 state qualifier and ended the

Bannoura was runner-up at

the Plymouth regional and third

and was runner-up at 135 in the

than last year," Altounian said.

mined all year. A great leader,

he showed what hard work and

sweat could do for someone. He

oriented wrestler. Never did the

that he did not come through for

the team. He will be an asset to

whatever he decides to do after

Nick Tomski, Sr., Farmington

(145): The senior ends his prep

career as the winningest wres-

tler in school history (134-40).

years at the high school level,

had 123 wins. Tomski also has

the career record for takedowns

He was 46-7 this year, the

two-time OAA White Division

"He has that never-give-up

successful in wrestling," coach

the standard for hard work and

Kevin Newborn, Sr., Wayne (152):

dedication for all future wres-

The senior closed out his final

including a third in the Bedford

'He is one of the hardest

working kids I've had the plea-

sure of working with, on the mat

season with a 41-12 record

tlers at Farmington.'

district.

Al Beyar said. "I think he set

Observerland champion and

a state qualifier. Tomski is a

champ, and he also won the

Lakeland and Grand Blanc

attitude that you need to be

Former state champ Mark Churella, who wrestled three

school.

(367)

coaches ask him of something

became an all-around team-

"He was focused and deter-

"Jon was a 100 percent better

at the Garden City district. He

also captured the KLAA title

Livonia City tournament.

year with a 38-10 record.

Jonny Bannoura, Sr., Liv. Churchill

athlete and a person.'

Division champion and run-

ner-up at the Grand Blanc,

selection. He had a 39-10

champion since 1979.

with 28 pins this year.

his chances of winning it all this





Jonny Bannoura

Churchill

Matt Roos



Franklin

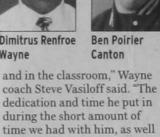




**Dimitrus Renfroe** 



Wayne



earned, and I wish I had a room full of kids like him." Newborn was also Observerland and Berkley Invitational runner-up to go

along with third at Wayne

as all of his accomplishments,

is nothing short of admirable.

Everything he got this season he

County. "If only we had this one as a freshman." Vasiloff added. "Kevin decided to join the team as a junior, and in 16 months that we got to coach him, he was able to qualify for regionals and was one period away from making the state meet. In his first year he won a handful of matches, but because of his hard work and dedication throughout the entire offseason, he was able

matches. Anthony Long, Jr., Westland Glenn (152): The junior finished 38-13 overall and carries a 3.6 G.P.A

to come back and win over 40

in the classroom. "Anthony was our workhorse this season," Polk said. "He wrestled any spot we asked him to all year, while giving every match is all. He spent numerous hours after practice drilling and

working on his conditioning. "He was clearly in better shape then any of his opponents and wrestled every match until the final buzzer went off. He is a sponge soaking up all the knowledge he can from all the coaches every day in practice. I am confident he will be a medal

winner next year as a senior.' Matt Roos, Sr., Liv. Franklin (160): The senior placed fourth in Division 1 after winning both the Garden City district and Plymouth regional.

Roos, 52-6 overall, also captured titles at Wayne County, the KLAA, Livonia City and

Rochester Adams tournaments. His career record is 133-29. "Matt has turned himself into a great wrestler over the

years," Chiola said. "He set his goals high this year, and worked very hard to achieve them. Matt wrestled well out of his weight class all year to help the team out, and then had an outstanding state tournament. Matt has a great passion for the sport, and his passion rubbed off on his teammates.

Kameron Jones, Sr., Westland Glenn (171): The senior finished 49-12 overall and earned a spot in the Division 1 state finals after taking second at the Bedford district and fourth at the Saline regional.

"He was always the guy we could count on for a win in a clutch situation and would also go for the pin when his team

Please see ALL-AREA, B3

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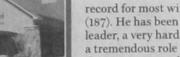
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needed it," Polk said. "Because of all his dedication to our program he made it all the way to the state tournament individu-

Jones also added fifth in the

KLAA tournament. "We'll miss having Kameron in our lineup," Polk added. "He was an intricate part of our team state run in 2009 and 2010. When he was a sophomore he came up with a key overtime win to get to Battle Creek and as a junior the dual meet came down to him to go to the show again. Both times Kameron came up big for his team. When he was younger he bumped up one or even two weight classes to fill whatever spot we needed him at.

Sultan Hubbard, Jr., Harrison (171): The junior earned all-state recognition with a seventh-place finish in the Division 2 tournament. Hubbard compiled a 39-15 season record.

He was the OAA White Division runner-up; he was second at the district and third in the regional. Hubbard was first at the Lakeland Invite and 4-0 in the Alma dual tourney.

"Sultan was the most improved wrestler for us this year, and the biggest change was his confidence," coach Stuef said. "Sultan is a great young man. His desire to do his best always comes through in his work ethic and his attitude. We're looking forward to a great senior season.

Anthony Abro, Sr., Canton (189): The senior capped off a brilliant four-year career by winning the Division 1 state championship, defeating Novi-Detroit Catholic Central's Miles Trealout for the title. Abro also went 60-0 this season and finished with 200 career victories.

"Anthony was a great wrestler and leader for the Chiefs and one of the hardest working wrestlers you will ever find," Mancuso said. "He plans to attend Eastern Michigan University next season and join the Eagles wrestling program."

Along the way to the championship, Abro bested Trealout in the D1 individual regional finals and then won all four bouts during the finals at The Palace.

Abro sparked Canton to a 24-5 record, enough for the program to win the KLAA South, Kensington Conference and Division 1 team district — the latter for the seventh consecutive year.

Dimitrus Renfroe, Jr., Wayne (215): The junior finished 52-11 overall and wound up sixth in Division 1 after fourths at both the district and regional.

"He lost first round to the eventual (state) runner-up, but stormed back and won three matches in a row and finished sixth," Vasiloff. "He defeated a wrestler who had beaten him at both districts and regionals by using the moves we had worked on. That's the kind of wrestler he is. And that is why he will be competing for a state championship next year."

Renfroe was also runner-up in the KLAA, third at Wayne County and champion at the Salem Elks, Wyandotte and

Jordan Filipowski and juniors

Brandon Schlieger and Ryan

Schwinke, while junior goal-

keeper Daniel Blanchard gets

Duggan Tear and Jason Bohl

and freshman goalie Collin

Smith, who could make key

High School, the Wildcats

talented, balanced lineup.

Walsh really likes his

defense, however. Seniors

Ben Burkman, Alex Miller,

Ethan Christensen and Kenny

Durham "will be the strength

of the team. All of them throw

great checks and can move the

If they have any trouble,

standout hockey goalie Mike

Justus (a senior) will handle

netminding duties and could

have an all-state-type season,

PLYMOUTH OVERVIEW

Joining the squad are juniors

Across The Park at Plymouth

very well could cause plenty of

trouble for KLAA rivals with a

the starting nod.

contributions.

Observerland invitationals.

"Dimitrus is everything you want in a wrestler," Vasiloff. "Never have I had a wrestler listen to everything we have coached him and execute the moves we show like he does. We can show him a move or takedown that we want him to use a day or two specific match, and he will use it effectively. We switched up some of his takedowns before the state meet, as we knew he would see some of the same opponents that he faced a districts and regionals.'

Ben Poirier, Sr., Canton (285): The senior went 51-5, finishing his Canton career with a flour-

After winning decisions over Dearborn's Gerald Moore and Grosse Pointe South's Reggie Lewis in the D1 district and regional finals, respectively, Poirier advanced to the state finals for the second straight

In the first round, he defeated Kyle Knapp of Portage Central. But his season ended with a tough 2-1 overtime loss to Flint Carman-Ainsworth's Mark

"Poirier was one of the best heavyweights in Canton wrestling history," Mancuso said. "He plans to attend college and play

COACH OF THE YEAR Al Beyar, Farmington: The veteran coach guided the Falcons to their first OAA championship, winning the White Division dual-meet crown and tournament. Farmington was 18-7 and the Observerland runner-up.

The Falcons also won the Fenton tour-

Coach of Year

nament and their first city championship since 2005. Farmington sent six wrestlers to the regional and four to state.

"We knew we had some talent in the room,"

Beyar said. "We had some rough spells at the beginning of January. Then, we started putting things together and finished the season strong.

Beyar began his coaching career at Power Middle School in 1972. He moved to the high school in 1981 as an assistant and became head coach in 1986-

His teams won two WLAA Lakes Division titles, and his 1992 team captured a Western Lakes championship and the inaugural Observerland

Beyar's Falcons have won seven team district tourna-

"It's been a pleasure all these years," Beyar said. "The athletes and students have been remarkable. You wish every year was like this year, and you wish it lasted a little longer.

"I think all the Farmington schools were down on the sport for a period of time." With the resurgence of the North Farmington and Harrison programs, "the Farmington schools are starting to make a mark in wrestling once again."

Beyar also credited assistant coaches Dave Hall and Josh Gaskill for the team's success.

according to Walsh. "He has

quick hands and excellent

Elsewhere on the field, Shaun Austin and Charlie

Miller "are the key to our mid-

field defense. They each are

great cover poles along with

being ground ball machines."

fielders Conor Downey and

to be strong offensive forces." And there will be plenty

of midfield depth with play-

ers such as Gabe Osrio, Tyler

Zalewski, Chris Jones and Kyle

Durham, who Walsh said "are

going to play a lot of key mid-

The Wildcats will be look-

ing to help offset the loss of

Renault and Pat Smiatacz,

who graduated last year.

high-scoring attackmen Ryan

Last year's third-best scorer,

Phil Flesch, is back and ready

to take on more of the scoring

Another attackman who

ing goalkeepers is promising

could be a threat to oppos-

field minutes.'

responsibility.

Kenny Fanelli.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

They will be joined by mid-

Drew Leist, who "are expected

reflexes.'

# Plymouth girls embrace fresh start

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

One door closes and another

For girls lacrosse players at Plymouth High School, that's exactly the case with formation of the new girls varsity and junior varsity teams.

The PCS Lady Warriors folded after the 2010 season, but Plymouth, Canton and Salem all are eager for the start of a new era.

"Everyone is looking forward to playing the cross-campus rivalries," said Wildcats team spokesperson Michele Hill, whose husband Bob Hill is the interim varsity head coach.

"Splitting the teams on campus this year goes a long way to furthering the sport by providing more teams on which

GIRLS LACROSSE PREVIEW

girls can participate." Joining the coaching staff are assistants Tony Messerr, Jake Wieloch and Edra Burris (who

played on the Lady Warriors before graduating in 2009). Those coaches — who took over after former Lady

Warriors head coach Stephen J. Nyquist was removed from the position due to felony charges against him - got their first look at the new team Friday against South Lyon.

Plymouth will next host Northville on Wednesday, March 30.

# SENIOR LEADERS

Senior captains Taylor Birman (midfield), Lauren Manner (defense) and Taylor upon "to lead the team this year both on and off the field," Michele Hill said.

Another senior co-captain, Rhianna Fleisher, will have to sit out the season due to a torn

The Wildcats will feature Megan Birdwell, Jill Sparchu, Cindy Bradford, Sam Aresnault, Grace Stover and Lindsay Hirshman on the attack.

Augmenting Birman in the midfield will be high-scoring Katie Hill, who registered a whopping 66 goals last season for the Lady Warriors. Other midfielders are Sophia Flesch, Shannon Lubin and Nicole Natelborg.

Along with Manner and Martin in the back will be defenders Jessica Gaskin and Nicole Brodzik, while Sarah

Martin (defense) will be called Messer is the goalkeeper.

Rounding out the roster are Amber Beattie, Avalon Dewaele, Amanda Kne, Emily Lehr, Janie Roberts, Shelby Crosier, Libby Gamble, Ali Holmquist, Julie Hahn, Jillian LaRoy, Justine Barnes, Elisabeth DeClaire, Piper Gasaway and Megan Wieloch.

According to Hill, a number of players starting the season on the JV probably will see some minutes on the varsity at some point.

She listed Haley Swanson, Ashley Saunders and Jordyn Burdick in that group.

We want to take the team to the next level this year as we work on more passing and moving the ball up the field quickly," she added.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

a photo circulating at Breslin that showed zeros on the clock while the basketball appeared to still be on the fingertips of Inkster's Crystal Bradford.)

They would have faced Detroit Renaissance, the same team that eliminated them in their 2010 semifinal appear-

But the Canton group is too classy to complain about something like that. Instead, Kari Schmitt talked about how happy and proud they were to get as far as they did.

"We just didn't make as many plays as they did down the stretch," she said.

She actually wore a smile of pride, fully aware of what they had been a part of since 2007-

And although these incomparable players were not able to cap the deal with a state championship, their words and actions demonstrated what Samulski and anybody associated with the Canton program already knew.

They are champions in every other way, polished studentathletes leaving their alma mater with college careers in front of them - albeit in hockey for the Schmitts, soccer for Pickert and softball for Sexauer. (Bridges is the only one who will continue basketball at the collegiate level.)

# NOW WHAT?

They also left a standard that will be tough to match in the next couple years.

But with Samulski, veteran coach Bob Blohm and the rest of the staff, don't bet on too steep of a drop-off.

There still is Mack, and promising freshman guard Rachel Winters.

Oh yeah, Canton's freshman and junior varsity teams went a combined 34-3 in 2010-11.

Think there might be at least a few players on those teams to spearhead the next wave of

standouts? The future indeed looks as sweet as one of Sexauer's patented rainbow treys.

Tim Smith is sports editor for the Plymouth-Canton Observers. He can be reached at tsmith@hometownlife.com.

# SPORTS ROUNDUP

# 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.

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

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

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

# Combine training

Combine training for high school football to prepare for the 2011 season takes place on Sundays at the Auburn Hills Sports Dome.

Players will be taught drills and techniques used to prepare college seniors for the NFL Combine and use SPARQ, Michigan Preps and NUC testing protocols.

To register, visit www.coachjacksonspeed.com; or call coach Jaime Jackson at (248) 535-7404.



Yelling out instructions to his players during the Class A girls basketball semifinal on March 18 is Chiefs head coach Brian Samulski. In the background, a group of enthusiastic Canton students show support for their team.

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ball in transition.

Junior Gusty Kummer, Jamie Olson and sophomore Nancy Krutty will join the

midfield corps, while new defenders include sophomore Madie Kummer and freshman Olivia Kaye.

Backing up Hunley will be sophomore Ali Eggenberger. Salem will host Walled Lake

Central at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday.

training room had a tangible

"It's just incredible that I finally have something to show for it," Seroka said. " ... seeing our team records up on our wall by the pool every day for the last four years (has) been a driving force in pushing me as well as through my teammates.

Both said there were no shortcuts to the kind of success they enjoyed in high school swimming. It took dedication, extra effort and perseverance to keep on pushing.

"One of the few things that probably helped me was my determination to succeed," Zhang said. "Along with my passion for swimming. I have also received much support from my friends and family."

Seroka added that so-called "shenanigans" at practices along with going for a common goal with teammates - helped reduce stress and lighten the mood to get through the toughest practices.

"Swimming for me is an outlet for stress and allows me to channel my focus into something," Seroka said. "Being able to give something my all every day leaves me with a sense of satisfaction I cannot achieve with anything else."

**BLUEPRINT FOR LIFE** They concurred that the

sport has helped them in ways that will stay with them throughout life.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 27, 2011

"I believe that swimming has helped me to build character, especially in maintaining discipline when things get tough," Zhang said.

Their coaches also have the highest praise for them.

What a great way to wind it up, with a state championship," said Olson about Seroka's grand finale.

Canton head coach Dave Le, who said Zhang was the school's first state champion in boys swimming since 1979, talked about how the junior stayed sharp despite being asked to swim in multiple events at the state meet.

"He dropped time in the IM, he finished fourth and got out of the pool," Le said. "He was able to get his focus back for the 100 backstroke and really got after it."

It's just their makeup that they get after it in the pool and in everything else they

Both are outstanding students, for example. Zhang wants to tackle a medical career while Seroka is looking forward to the academically challenging Washington University.

And the same way they perform at a high level as swimmers, both undoubtedly will keep pushing toward whatever goal is in front of them.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

# THE WEEK AHEAD

GIRLS SOCCER Monday, March 28 Canton at Novi, 7 p.m. New Boston Huron at Wayne, 4 p.m. Churchill at Northville, 7 p.m. Franklin at Stevenson, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, March 29 Luth. Westland at Rom. Summit, 4:30 p.m W.L. Central at Salem, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 30 Ladywood vs. Birm. Marian at Ultimate Soccer (Pontiac), 3:30 p.m.

Thurston at Franklin, 5:30 p.m. Clarenceville at Garden City, 6 p.m. Thursday, March 31 Salem at W.L. Northern, 7 p.m. Waterford Mott at John Glenn, 4 p.m. Redford Union at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.

Stevenson at Churchill, 7 p.m. Friday, April 1 A.P. Cabrini at Luth. Westland, 4;30 p.m. Ladywood at Trenton, 7 p.m. Saturday, April 2 BOYS & GIRLS TRACK & FIFLD Saturday, April 2

Patriot Relays at Franklin, 9 a.m. GIRLS TENNIS Tuesday, March 29 John Glenn at S. Lyon East, 4 p.m. Ladywood vs. Milan at Schoolcraft College, 4 p.m. Thursday, March 31 Ladywood at Plymouth, 4 p.m. Taylor Truman at John Glenn, 4 p.m. Friday, April 1

Wayne at Garden City, 4 p.m

Saturday, April 2 Taylor Kennedy Invitational, 8:30 a.m. Grosse Pte. South Invitational, 9 a.m. BOYS LACROSSE Monday, March 28

Saline at Salem, 6 p.m. A.A. Greenbills at Plymouth, 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 29 Wednesday, March 30 Grand Blanc at Plymouth, 6 p.m. Thursday, March 31

Friday, April 1 Salem at W.L. Northern, 7 p.m. Clarkston at Plymouth, 8 p.m. GIRLS LACROSSE

Monday, March 28 Ladywood at A.A. Skyline, 5:30 p.m Tuesday, March 29

Wednesday, March 30 Thursday, March 31 Plymouth at Harrison, TBD Friday, April 1

Salem at Saline, 6 p.n

Monday, March 28 (Game 3) Plymouth at Kitchener, 7 p.m Wednesday, March 30 (Game 4)

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE (Round 1 Playoffs, Best 4 of 7)

at Compuware Arena, 7 p.m.

## BID ADVERTISEMENT

Detroit Service Learning Academy (DSLA) at 21605 W Seven Mile, Detroit MI 48219 will receive sealed bid proposals until 2:00 p.m. on April 7, 2011 for the following bid package: "Asbestos Abatement at Detroit Service Learning Academy - Annex". Bids will be opened publicly and read aloud at the DSLA at this time. Bids received after this time will be rejected. Bidding Documents may be obtained after March 30, 2011, from Nova Environmental, Inc., 5340 Plymouth Rd. Suite 210 Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105 Tel. 734.930.0995 and at the pre-bid examination. A mandatory pre-bid examination of the building will be held at 10:00 a.m. on March 31, 2011 at DSLA parking lot, south entrance to 21755 W Seven Mile Road. All bidders must provide familial disclosure in compliance with MCL 380.1267 and attach this information to the bid. The bid must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner or any employee of the bidder and any member of the DSLA Board of Education or the Chief Financial Officer of the DSLA. Proposals must include a bid bond or certified check made payable to Detroit Service Learning Academy for not less than 5% of the contract and must be submitted on the bid proposal form furnished with the specifications. These projects are subject to prevailing wages. All proposals will remain firm for a period of 60 days and provide performance/labor and material bonds upon award. DSLA reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.

Publish: March 24 & 27, 2011

## STOW & GO SELF STORAGE **AUCTION NOTICE**

Pursuant to state law, Notice is hereby given that a public auction will be held at STOW & GO SELF STORAGE, 41999 ANN ARBOR ROAD, PLYMOUTH, MI on April 2, 2011 at 10:00 am, on past due tenants listed below. The entire contents of the following units will be auctioned and sold to the highest bidder on each individual unit. CASH ONLY! DESCRIPTION IS BRIEF SUMMARY OF ITEMS, MAY OR MAY NOT CONTAIN MORE OR LESS ITEMS.

Unit #339 - JAMES ALTER, P.O. BOX 512, DEARBORN HTS., MI 48127

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Unit #362 - BARBARA CHOMA, 33836 LYNDON, LIVONIA, MI

Kitchen table, end tables, entertainment center, floor lamp, desk, dresser, china cabinet, bookcase, wood chairs, rocking chair, fan, mattress, couch, recliner chair, many boxes, and other misc. items.

Unit #422 - LARRY HELLE, 5620 DUDLEY, DEARBORN HTS., MI 48125

Bedroom dressers, bed frame, skill saw, vacuum, golf clubs, desk, wires, grinder, misc. tools, "Dish" Satellite Dishs, and other misc, items.

Unit #448- MARILYN PAUL, 11532 MORGAN, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170

Stove, (2) couches, chairs, skis, ski boots, desk, bed frame, misc. boxes, and other misc. items.

Unit #518/ - ELIZABETH SISK, 985 HARDING, PLYMOUTH, 519 MI 48170 MI 48170

Copy machine, exam tables, (2) file cabinets, wooden cabinet, computer equipment, folding metal chairs, swivel chair, misc. boxes, and other misc. items.

Unit #525 - DANIEL SHEMON, 8098 TILBURY CT., CANTON, MI 48187

> Medical equipment, cabinets, stools, exam tables, coffee tables, luggage, bed sheets, misc. boxes, and other misc. items

Unit #581 - MARGARET RYAN, 32600 W. CHICAGO, LIVONIA, Household goods, baby toys, xmas decorations, folding

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BOOKKEEPER/SECRETARY, PT 1 person office. AP/AR, taxes. Quickbooks. Exp'd.

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5120

# COMMUNITY LIFE

Sunday, March 27, 2011

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# estra-special art



Donna Casaceli and Instructor Ulana Kushner carefully place an egg into dye.

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# Wax, dye, steady hand needed to create designs

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

Ulana Kushner and Suzan Marzec are on the same wavelength when it comes to Easter

eggs. Kushner comes from a Ukrainian heritage and Marzec is of Polish decent, but both believe in passing along ethnic traditions. And if they're talking eggs, that means teaching the next generation the art of batik-style egg decorating — pysanky in Ukrainian, pisanki in Polish.

"In the culture that worshipped the sun, the moon, the egg was a symbol of life. Within that culture, the egg became magical. You could write on it what you wished for another. They were treated like Hallmark cards and given to friends. That was the pagan tradition," said Kushner, a Lathrup Village resident who taught two egg-decorating workshops this month at Marzec's Garden City store, Simply Polish.

"When Christianity came in, the legend was that when Mary was crying, her tears formed beautiful decorations on eggs. Pisac means write. Another legend goes that as long as eggs were written, then God promised to keep evil out of the earth. Because of that the egg decorating as been passed on as tradition, from grandmother to daughter to granddaughter. It was taught to the next generation. Eggs are written by most Slavic groups. They are a wax resist process."

Artists use a stylus, called a kistka, to draw - or write - wax designs that protect the egg shell when it's submerged

Please see DESIGNS, B7



Instructor Ulana Kushner uses heated wax from candles to mark her egg.



Creating a pisanka starts with an egg and a pencil.



Egg patterns often show symmetrical designs.



# LENTEN FISH DINNERS

## **GARDEN CITY** • 4-7 p.m. all Fridays of Lent, at Saint Dunstan Catholic Church, 1515 Belton, west of Inkster Road and south of Ford Road. Fish may be ordered fried or baked. Dinners cost from \$5.25-\$8.

Dessert and pop also are available. (734) 425-6720

• 4:30-7 p.m. or until sold out Fridays, at St. Raphael, 31530 Beechwood, west of Merriman, north of Ford Road. Good Friday hours are 3-7 p.m. or until sold out. Prices are \$8.50 for dinners. A la carte items available. (734)

• 4:30-5 p.m. is senior early bird; 5-7 p.m. is regular serving time, every Friday before Good Friday, at St. Genevieve Church, 28933 Jamison Ave. All-you-can-eat baked or fried fish dinners. Prices are \$6 for the senior early bird; \$10 for weekly specials; \$8 for all-youcan-eat fish for adults; \$7 for seniors; \$5 for children, 12 and under. A la carte items available. (734) 425-4420

• 4:30-7 p.m. Fridays of Leht except for Good Friday at St. Michael the Archangel, 11441 Hubbard. All-you-can-eat fried or baked fish dinners. Prices are \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors and take-out orders, and \$4 for kids, 3-11. Children under 3 eat for free. (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200, or visit www. livoniastmichael.org.

# REDFORD

• 4-7 p.m. every Friday during Lent, Our Lady of Loretto Catholic Church, corner of Six Mile and Beech Daly. Seven different dinners ranging from \$4 for macaroni and cheese to \$8.50 for shrimp. A la carte menu, side orders and beverages are available. (313) 534-9000

• 4-7 p.m.

or until dinners run out, every Friday during Lent, at St. Robert Bellarmine, located at W. Chicago Road and Inkster Road. All-you-can eat baked or fried fish dinners cost \$8. Seniors, 60 and older pay \$7 and children under 12 pay \$4. Weekly specials are \$10. A la carte items available. Carryout dinners don't include a beverage. (313) 937-1655

# WESTLAND

• 5-8 p.m. every Friday in March and April, at Sts. Constantine & Helen Church's Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy, west of Wayne Road. The buffet dinner costs \$8.95 for adults and \$4.95 for children under 10. (734) 525-

· 4:30-7 p.m. every Friday through April 15 at The First United Methodist Church of Wayne-Westland, 3 Town Square, in Wayne. Baked and fried fish available, served with sides. Pop and dessert available. (734) 721-4801

• 4:30-7 p.m. Fridays of Lent excluding Good Friday, at Ss. Simon and Jude Parish, 32500 Palmer. The menu includes baked or fried fish or shrimp diners. Adults pay \$7, children under 10 pay \$5. A la carte items also available. (734) 722-1343

# Seminar on sexual assault set for Wednesday, April 6

Giving Hope Women's Giving Circle will present an educational seminar on sexual assault at 6:30 p.m. April 6 — just in time for prom season — at the Plymouth Arts Council, 774 North Sheldon, Plymouth.

The panel of experts for "Sexual Assault: Does it Happen Here?" include Charise Anderson, Wayne County assistant prosecuting attorney, Judith Bar, associate director of First Step, Sara Boritzki, a Canton ce officer, Nancy Laws, associate principal of Salem High School and Lisa Diebel, life management educator at Plymouth High School.

The group encourages individuals 21 and younger to participate in the seminar for free. Giving Hope members and anyone over 21 will pay

RSVP deadline is March 30. Call (734) 495-1200.

The event's "Pass the Purse" beneficiary is the Detroit Area Diaper Bank, a Canton-based organization that gives diapers to low-income mothers. Giving Hope members may bring a package of diapers or cash donation for the Detroit Area Diaper Bank.

Seminar sponsors are Community Financial, a federally chartered credit union with local branches in Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Novi; Post, Smythe, Lutz and Ziel of Plymouth LLP, Certified Public Accountants in Plymouth; St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor; Vercruysse Murray & Calzone, a law firm in Bingham Farms; and the LaJoy Group of Plymouth.



## **Canton Animal Hospital** Full service medical, surgical, dental care, grooming & boarding. 43439 Michigan Ave. Open 7 Days! Mon.-Fri. 8am-Midnight Sal.-Sun. 9am-9pm www.CantonVets.com 15% OFF FREE EXAM 20% OFF Blood Work, X-rays, Spay, Neuter, De-claw or Dental. New Clients Only I Vaccine Packages (a \$29 value)

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# RELIGION CALENDAR

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

# **MARCH 27-30**

Time/Date: 4:30 p.m. Sunday, March 27

Location: St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth Details: Julie Ford, minister of music at the church, plays the organ; admission is suggested donation of \$5 for individuals and

Contact: (734) 453-0190, Ext. 16, or visit the church Web site at www. stjohnsplymouth.org

# Concert

\$15 for families

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, March

Location: St. John Lutheran Church, located on Gill, between Grand River Ave., and Freedom, in Farmington

**Details**: Vespers Concert features local pianist Nensi Bakin performing works by Chopin, Haydn and Beethoven. The performance is combined with a Vespers service. The program and service last roughly an hour

Contact: (248) 474-0584

## Concert

Time/Date: 5 p.m. Sunday, March

Location: Farmington Hills Church of God, 25717 Power Road, Farmington Hills

Details: The Sweet Adeline quartet "Overture," along with the Harrison High School Madrigal Choir will perform during a "FUNdraising" missions dinner at the church Contact: (248) 477-8144

# Lenten dinner program

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. March 30 Location: First United Methodist Church of Wayne-Westland, 3 Town Square, Wayne

Details: Children's and youth plays and music are on the agenda. The church provides the meat and participants are asked to bring a dish to pass and their own table service Contact: (734) 721-4801

# Lenten program

Time/Date: 7 p.m. March 30, April 6 and April 13

Location: St. Aidan, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

**Details**: David J. Conrad presents the series. Each session reflects on passage's from John's Gospel. The first is "The Woman at the Well." Themes are "The Man Born Blind" on April 6 and "The Restoration of Lazarus" on April 13. A light reception is held after each session Contact: Don Esler, St. Aidan

Education Commission, at (248) 477-3362

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 25-26 Location: Sacred Heart Major

Seminary, 2701 Chicago Blvd., Detroit Details: Seminarians will perform the comedy "Room Service. Admission is free but donations will go to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen in Detroit

Contact: (313) 883-8533

## Vespers

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Sunday, March 27 Location: St. Lazarus Serbian Orthodox Cathedral Ravanica, 5675 E. Outer Drive, Detroit

Details: The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit (COCC) presents the third service in its 2011 series of five Sunday Lenten Vespers. The Very Rev. Roman Star, pastor of St. Innocent of Irkutsk Orthodox Church, Redford, will preside at the service. Contact: Robert A. Mitchell, at (313) 204-5103 or rmitc02@ameritech.net.

# Veterans

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, March 24 Location: St. Joseph Parish, 830

South Lafayette, South Lyon **Details**: Shawn Dowling, homeless program coordinator and Beverly Leneski, volunteer program coordinator, from the VA Hospital in Ann Arbor; and Gene Pisha, Korean War veteran and VA Hospital volunteer, from the John Dingell VA Hospital, will present "How Veterans Can Get Into the System at the VA Hospitals." There will be time for questions and answers after the presentations. Refreshments will be served

Contact: (248) 719-6855 or e-mail to elainyoung@hotmail.com

# 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

# Guest speaker

Time/Date: 10 a.m. April 3 Location: Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Highway, Southfield Details: Lois B. Robbins, author of "Lawn Wars: The Struggle for a New Lawn Ethic," will talk about living more harmoniously with the natural world. Robbins chairs North Oakland Headwaters Land Conservancy's Brandon Preservation Committee in Oakland County. Discussion will follow her presentation

Contact: (248) 359-4488

# Learning series

Time/Date: Refreshments at 7 p.m.; learning sessions 7:30-9 p.m. Thursday, March 31

Location: Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington, 25301

# Halsted Road in Farmington Details: "Quantum Traces of the

Divine," will introduce a few scientific ideas that have emerged from quantum physics and how those ideas might point to the possibility of God. In another class, "Quigon g+Reiki=Meditation on Steroids," participants will learn simple exercises such as meditations for grounding and cultivating energy for personal power and healing. In "Manufactured Consent - How Public Opinion is Created," Noam Chomsky's teaching "Manufactured Consent" will be explored and participants will learn how the ruling elite shape public opinion and manipulate society by induced apathy and use "divide and conquer"

# Spaghetti dinner

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m. Friday, April 1 Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, in Garden City

tactics. \$5 donation suggested

Contact: www.uufarmington.org

Details: Dinner and silent auction. Cost is \$7 for adults, \$3.50 for children, 3-11, and free for children under 3

Contact: (734) 427-3660

## Vespers

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Sunday, April 3 Location: St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church, 26355 W. Chicago Road, Redford

Details: The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit (COCC) presents the fourth service in its 2011 series of five Sunday Lenten Vespers. The Very Rev. Roman Star, pastor of St. Innocent of Irkutsk Orthodox Church, Redford, will preside at the service. Contact: Robert A. Mitchell, at (313) 204-5103 or rmitc02@ameritech.net.

# APRIL 7-13

# Rummage sale

Time/Date: 6-9 p.m. Thursday, April 7, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Friday, April 8 and 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, April 9 Location: Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Highway, Southfield Details: \$5 per bag on Saturday Contact: (248) 359-4488

# Vespers

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Sunday, April 10 Location: Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, 20500 Anglin, Detroit Details: The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit (COCC) presents the last service in its 2011 series of five Sunday Lenten Vespers. The Very Rev. Roman Star, pastor of St. Innocent of Irkutsk Orthodox Church, Redford, will preside at the service. Contact: Robert A. Mitchell, at (313) 204-5103 or rmitc02@ameritech.net.

# **ONGOING**

# AWANA

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m., Wednesdays Location: Faith Bible Church, 23414 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 pas-

## torscott@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

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 (men, women and children)

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

# Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills Area workshop provides advice for authors

A writer's workshop, "You Wrote It, Now Promote It," will be held noon to 5:30 p.m. Saturday, April 2 at the Ann Arbor Holiday Inn, 3600 Plymouth Road, in Ann Arbor.

Sponsored by the Michigan Press

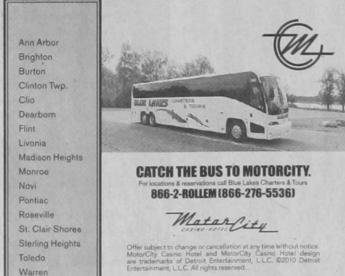
Ypsilanti

Women, the cost is \$65 and includes takehome materials and refreshments.

Speakers include Joan Wendland, an award-winning author, Christy Minnis, a marketing director, Beth Tobin, a digital services specialist and Mike Steger, a social media expert. Reservations can be made through Patrice Johnson, vice president of Michigan Press Women, at 392 Fields Rd., Dansville, MI 48819. Or call Johnson at (517) 420-7978.

cantoncf.org

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



Arthritis Today JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY

18829 Farmington Road Livonia, Michigan 48152 Phone: (248) 478-7860



Today, technology provides physicians investigating arthritic conditions with CT (Computed Axial Scanning), MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) and Nuclear Bone Scanning. New laboratory tests such as the anti-CCP (cyclic citrullinated peptide) antibody aid physicians in making a speedy diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis. However, the information this new technology brings has limits. First, while a physician orders an MRI after speaking with a patient and examining him, the person reading and interpreting the MRI is a radiologist who has not seen the patient and only knows what is on a one line inquiry: reason for the examination. Therefore at times what the radiologist reports, does not provide all the information the physician wanted. Second, not technology is perfect. If a CT scan or MRI reports no abnormality, the physician cannot conclude that nothing is wrong, it may be that the imaging equipment was not sufficiently sensitive to reveal the problem. Just because the scan did not pick up anything, it does not mean that nothing is there.

Third, the physician ordering the test cannot always be sure that the test is appropriate. The pace of technology is swift. Where once an MRI was considered best to reveal a shoulder tendon tear, now a musculoskeletal ultrasound is the preferred imaging.

appropriate. The pace of teathnoogy is swith the order and with the preferred imaging. If the advance is new, the physician may not be aware of it.

In arthritis, hardly a test exists that by itself will give a diagnosis. Testing either confirms what the physician thought, or brings him to return to the patient to obtain further history.

undertake an additional examination.

# Quality control: Washington ruined your washing machine

n my travels around, especially these past weeks at the home shows, I have met and talked with a few hundred readers of this column. I must thank all of you for your comments and information you give back to me.

The front load washer is

right on the

head. Please

allow me to

quote some of

his story. "It

might not have been the most

top-loading laundry machine

was the most affordable and

dependable. Now it's ruined

and Americans have politics

"In 1996, top-loaders were

pretty much the only type of

washer around, and they were

uniformly high quality. When

models, 13 were "excellent" and

five were "very good." By 2007,

though, not one was excellent

and seven out of 21 were "fair"

or "poor." This month came the

death knell: Consumer Reports

simply dismissed all conven-

tional top-loaders as "often

Consumer Reports tested 18

stylish, but for decades the



Doctor

Joe Gagnon

to thank.

mediocre or worse." How's that for progress?"

Up to this point Sam Kazman has cast a dark shadow on how Consumer Report magazine evaluates products. How can they say that products are excellent and later say they are mediocre? People ask me all the time what I think of Consumer Reports and I have a standard answer. "They do some great studies on products but don't believe everything you read." There is even a strong rumor out there that they are paid for the mention of products but I'm sure that would be difficult to prove.

On the subject of energy standards which are responsible for the development of the new front-loaders Kazman writes: "Front-loaders meet federal standards more easily than top-loaders. Because they don't fully immerse their laundry loads, they use less hot water and therefore less energy. But, as Americans are increasingly learning, frontloaders are expensive, often have mold problems, and don't let you toss in a wayward sock after they've started. When the Department of Energy began raising the standard, it promised that 'consumers will have the same range of clothes washers as they have today' and cleaning ability wouldn't be changed. That's not how it turned out."

I take this last paragraph

written by Kazman very seriously. Let me reiterate a few viewpoints I've shared in the past. Life span on past top loaders was 15 to 30 years and now that is reduced to 10 years. Front-loaders are very prone to defective drum bearings which cost on the average of over \$500 for repairs. Electronic failures are also very expensive to correct and wash ability in my wife Valorie's front-loader is not worth prunes. It's a touchy subject at my house. She is still upset over her old 35-year-old Maytag top-loader being taken to appliance heaven. What makes it even worse is that the old machine had nothing wrong with it.

I personally never believed that a front-loader would do the job like your old fashioned top-loader. I've heard from so many consumers who aren't very happy with them and I feel very ashamed at what the industry has taken away and forced down the pocket book of American homeowners. One last point for today-it sure makes it hard for old-timers to bend down to put in and take out the clothes. Stay tuned.

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



Gwen Sajewski draws a design in wax on her egg during a class at Simply Polish in Garden City.



Suzan Marzec (left), owner of Simply Polish in Garden City, and Susan Biegalski sketch out their egg designs.

# Experience arts and nature at Girl Scout camp this summer

Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan, (GSHOM) which includes troops in this area, is offering arts programming this summer at Camp Linden, a 400-acre camp in Linden.

It will offer sessions in painting, drawing, sketching and sculpting, along with jewelry craft and art from nature. Campers will also enjoy swimming, hiking, boating and archery. No prior membership in Girl Scouting is required.

"We know that arts education enhances all learning," said Julie Yeager, GSHOM outdoor program promotions specialist. "This summer, Camp Linden offers girls the unbeatable combination of arts exploration in a non-competitive natural set-

According to the Michigan Council on Arts and Cultural Affairs, public funding for school art projects in Michigan went from \$26 million in 2006 to \$2 million this year, despite research on the positive impact of arts education.

A 2004 UNESCO report found that training in piano and singing improved students' abstract reasoning skills better than computer instruction did.

Research conducted on fourth graders in 24 elementary schools showed that children exposed to arts education experienced test score increases of 7 percent in reading in humanities, 10 percent in social studies, 25 percent in math, and 7 percent in sci-

"Girl Scout camp is an affordable, easily accessible way to give your daughter what



Camp Linden will offer arts programming this summer.

she may be missing in school - experience in the arts, which fosters creativity and imagination," Yeager said.

Families may learn more about all of the GSHOM summer camp offerings at a free camp fair, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 2, at the GSHOM Ann Arbor Regional Center, 1900 Manchester Road, Ann Arbor. Open houses will be held 1-4 p.m. Sunday, May 15 at Camp Crawford and Sunday, May 22 at Camp Linden. For more information and locations, call (800) 49-SCOUT or visit www.girlscoutcamp.org for a complete 2011 GSHOM Camp Guide.

in a color dye. Kushner's family business sells an electric stylus that was invented by her late father, but the wax writing tools also can be as simple as a small metal funnel, used to hold the warm wax, attached to the end of a

The colors and designs of egg folk art vary according to ethnic tradition. Ukrainian egg tend to sport geometric designs with colorful lines against black or brown. Polish, Hungarian, Czech and Slovak eggs show more floral and religious symbols, with burgundy, deep purple or green backdrops.

"I love the fact that you preserve the culture," Marzec said, adding that she suggests students date and initial their handmade eggs. "That is something someone can keep and pass on. That is the whole beauty of doing this. We're so caught up in electronics and being plugged in, what a neat thing it is to get together and talk and dye eggs together."

Marzec sells pisanki kits that contain a stylus and dyes. They range in price from \$8.95-\$39. A single stylus runs from \$2.95-\$9.95 and dyes costs from \$1 each to \$10 for a pack.

# PRACTICE PATIENCE

She suggests that beginners spend time getting used to writing in pencil on an uncooked egg before switching to the wax drawing tool.

The biggest challenge is that people today want their eggs to look like they've been doing it for 25 years. The challenge is to be patient and remember it's their first egg," she said.

Marzec will offer one more pisanki class at imply Polish before Palm Sunday, although she hasn't finalized the date and isn't sure who will teach the session. She'll also schedule a class before Christmas this year, giving students plenty of time over the winter to practice and perfect their art.

"There are a lot of artists out there that use this process to create amazing art," Kushner said. "There's a gal who puts oriental rug motifs on eggs. One woman sells her eggs for \$500 plus. It's a tradition for many Slavic people and

for artists, it's an art form." In addition to chicken eggs, artists use duck and ostrich eggs, Kushner said.

"Some even use robin and quail eggs."

For more information about pisanki classes, tools or finished eggs, call Simply Polish at (734) 525-2880 or e-mail to simplypolish@yahoo.com or visit www.simplypolishusa. com. The store is located at 6201 Middlebelt. For more about Kushner's family business see www.folkimpres-



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# KNOW THE **SCORE**

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 27, 2011

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org.

michiganhumane.

check out the numbers in today's

section

# MHS has low-cost microchipping

Michigan Humane Society (MHS) sees a dramatic rise in the number of lost and missing pets when the weather starts to warm. To help pet companions prevent the pain and heartache of losing a furry friend, the organization

is holding a low-cost pet microchip-For more ping clinic 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, March 27, at the MHS Berman Center information about for Animal Care, 900 N. Newburgh, in the event, call Westland. (734) 721-4195

Microchipping costs \$18, discounted from the regular cost of approximately \$50. Microchipping gives pets a safe and permanent form of identification that nearly every veterinarian, humane organization and local animal control recognizes. When combined with an ID tag, it's the best way to ensure that if a pet

becomes lost, they will always have a ticket home. Supplies of microchips are limited to 400, which will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. All dogs and cats must be on leashes or in appropriate carriers. To register their microchips, pet owners should have on hand their home address and telephone number, name and phone number of the pet's veterinarian and an alternate contact person's phone number.

For more information about the event, call (734) 721-4195 or visit www.michiganhumane.org.

# REUNION CALENDAR

## Belleville High School Class of 1971

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

## Dearborn Fordson Class of 1971

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

## Dearborn Heights Robichaud Class of 1961

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

### **Detroit Cody** Class of 1961

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

## **Detroit Henry Ford** Class of 1971

The 40th reunion, with a "Back to the Bahamas" theme, is scheduled for Aug. 20, at Bahama Breeze Restaurant, 19600 Haggerty, Livonia.

LIVONIA GARDEN CLUB

Barbara Folden, a mem-

ber of the Greater Detroit

Arrangers Guild will show

table arrangements in various

designs at the club's next meet-

ing, 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 5, at

the Livonia Senior Center, Five

Livonia. For more information

call Susan Rakay at (734) 464-

Mile and Farmington Road,

The organizers are trying to reach approximately 1,000 graduates from the January and June classes, as well as any other alumni interested in attending the event. Tickets are \$50. Call Barb Blum Douglas at (313) 804-1282, or Marilyn Ogilvy Twa at (616) 802-0305, or e-mail to hfhs1971reunion@yahoo.com.

### **Detroit Mackenzie** June Class of 1961

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

## Class of 1962

Planning class reunion in 2012. Seeking classmates and contact information. Email the committee at mackenzie1962@ omail.com.

## Garden City East & West Classes of 1966-67

A casual, joint reunion is planned for Oct. 8. The organizing committee needs addresses of class members. Call Dale Bowes (Whiting) '66W at (734) 427-7148, Carol Gantt Fenner '67W at (734) 326-8467, Karen Colvard (Domanski) '66E at (734) 427-7012, Cheryl Gibbs '67E at (734) 340-9916/(313) 670-2402, or e-mail Dennis Russell at russ027@ comcast.net.

### Ladywood High School Class of 1961

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

## Livonia Bentley Class of 1961

Holding a 50th class reunion Sept. 16-17. To register, call Donald Bruner, (734)

524-0979 or e-mail dbruner@twmi. rr.com

# Livonia Franklin

# Class of 1966

45th high school reunion, Oct. 7-9. Contact Larry Ruzsas at Iruzsas187264mi@comcast.net or Diane Kujath-Pishalski at dianepishalski@ bex.net.

## Rosary High School Class of 1966

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

## Southfield High School Class of 1981

The 30th reunion is planned for 7 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 6, at Doc's Sport Retreat in Livonia. Tickets are \$20 per person for appetizers. There will be a cash bar. The group is looking for classmates. For more information go to Facebook Southfield High Class of 1981 or e-mail Terri Jarvi O'Brien at terri@streetmktg. com.

## Wayne High Schools All Classes

Wayne High Schools Alumni Association 27th Annual All Class Reunion Banquet for alumni of Wayne High School and Wayne Memorial High School, 5-10 p.m. Friday, May 13, at Wayne Tree Manor, 35100 Van Born, Wayne. Dinner starts at 6 p.m. The class of 1961 will be honored. Tickets are \$29 before May 1 and \$34 after. For more information call Wanda Boice at (734) 326-7767. The Alumni Association's annual meeting is 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 6, at Wayne Cafe, 3709 Mero Mall Street, Wayne, Call (734) 729-6023 before March 30. www. waynehighalumni.com

# **GARDEN & NATURE**

Send garden information 7915. and photos to Sharon Dargay AT ENGLISH GARDENS at sdargay@hometownlife.

The store celebrates spring with its annual Garden Party Weekend, April 2-3 at all Here's the lineup of events:

· Year-round Garden-tainment with Melinda Myers will show how to put containers to work year-round at 1 p.m. in West Bloomfield and 4 p.m. in Royal Oak, both on April 2; and noon April 3 in Ann Arbor.

· Nancy Szerlag will pres-

ent Garden Success: Veggies, Flowers & Shrubs, offering tips for a successful garden and bountiful harvest at 4 p.m. April 2 in Dearborn Heights; noon in West Bloomfield and 3 p.m. in Royal Oak, both on April 3.

· Aston Ritchie from the Scotts Company will talk about caring for your lawn and answer questions about weeds, spots, shade and other lawn problems at 10 a.m. April 2 in Dearborn Heights; noon in Royal Oak and 3 p.m. in West Bloomfield, both on April 3.

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# SOCIAL SECURITY

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

**NOW OPEN** 

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

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

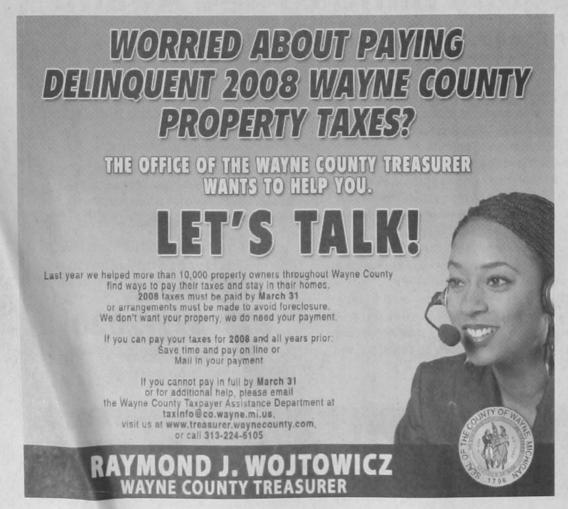
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# MILESTONES

# **MARTIN-LIPSKY**

Emily Christine Martin and Matthew Charles Lipsky

announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Richard and Linda Martin of Farmington Hills, is a 2002 graduate of Farmington High School and a 2007 graduate of Central Michigan University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in interpersonal communi-

Her fiancé, son of Kurt and Kimberly Lipsky of Livonia, is a 2006 graduate of Stevenson High School and a 2010 graduate of Grand Valley State University, where he earned a bachelor's

An August 2011 wedding is planned at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville.



Martin-Lipsky

# **JULY WEDDING PLANNED**

Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Prost of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Kathleen, to Michael Gibson, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Gibson of Brighton.

Katie is a secondary special education teacher. Mike works as a corporate security representative.

A July wedding in Livonia is planned.



Prost-Gibson

# **2012 WEDDING PLANNED**

Lauren Troher and Jonathan Pearn announce their engage-

The bride-to-be, daughter of Dan and Julie Troher of Novi, is a 2006 graduate of Novi High School, where she was a 2005 and 2006 state varsity soccer champion. She is a registered nurse at

Her fiancé, son of Greg and Nancy Pearn of Farmington Hills, is a 2002 graduate of Orchard Lake St Mary's. He graduated from the University of Detroit Mercy with a master's degree in architecture and is a certified fire fighter and EMT.

An autumn 2012 wedding is planned at Orchard Lake St.



Troher-Pearn

# Recognition: Metropark website garners Marketing Award

It's been nearly a year since the Huron-Clinton Metroparks launched their all-new website, www. metroparks.com <a href="http://www.">http://www.</a> metroparks.com>, and the popular site has now won the Michigan Recreation and Park Association's Marketing Award for excellence in website design. The award was announced at the MRPA's Annual Conference on February 8, and was officially presented at their formal Awards Banquet on February

In 2009, the Huron-Clinton Metroparks contracted with Basso Design Group, of Troy, to create an entirely new website that was easy to use and geared toward meeting the specific needs of park visitors. Launched in February of 2010, the new website features real-time weather, facility conditions and picnic shelter

availability at each park, along with an online store. The goal of the new design was to bring patrons closer to the parks they love, and give them effortless access to the parks' inner workings. Blogs, posted by interpreters, and an extensive natural resource section with information about park ecosystems, plants and animals create an outlet for park staff to spread their extensive knowledge to visitors. Educating the community on southeast Michigan's natural splendors is paramount to the Metroparks, and the website is a valuable tool in engaging individuals who may not have been as involved in the parks in the past, and those who had been seeking further enrich-

"We've received tremendous feedback from park patrons who really appreciate our efforts to deliver a high quality, user-friendly website," said David Moilanen, director of the Huron-Clinton Metroparks.

The Huron-Clinton Metroparks are proud to have received this prestigious award and will continue to strive to make southeast Lower Michigan's natural treasures accessible to all.

Located along the Huron and Clinton rivers, the Metroparks provide a natural oasis from urban and suburban life as well as year-round recreational activities and events. A regional park system, the Metroparks consist of 13 beautiful parks covering 24,000 acres, ten spectacular public golf courses and two marinas on Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair, respectively. The parks also offer scenic nature trails, breathtaking beaches, educational activities and exciting winter sports.

# Researcher studies cancer cell's ability to spread in the body

A Wayne State University researcher has found that the dense, fibrous matrix surrounding cancer cells is the key to understanding what makes malignant tumors spread to other

Karen A. Beningo, assistant professor of biology in WSU's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and a resident of Plymouth, has discovered that continuous restructuring of the extracellular matrix upholding the weight of a tumor is one of the reasons highly invasive, malignant tumors are mechanically able to spread to other parts of the body. "This study has identified a novel physical parameter and a new conceptual framework in which to assess the process of invasion, not just of cancer cells but other invasive cell types as well," Beningo

Beningo simulated the tugging and pulling forces by embedding magnetic microbeads in the collagen matrix of a three-dimensional, cell-based testing procedure. She was able to examine the physical mechanisms "without the complication of secreted biochemical factors," she said.

"Surprisingly, we found that cancer cells were two to four times more likely to invade if the matrix was magnetically stimulated than if the

culture was not stimulated," said Beningo. She also found that less invasive tumors were not as stimulated by the tugging and pulling forces of the extracellular matrix as highly invasive tumors. The absence of fibronectin, a component of the extracellular matrix, and cofilin, a cellular protein, removed the tumor's sensitivity to the mechanical stimulus.

"We can conclusively state that fibronectin and cofilin are required for this mechanical response," said Beningo.

Beningo is working toward defining the mechanism of mechanically-enhanced invasion and hopes to identify therapeutic targets.

"If we can prevent the invasive movement of cancer cells from the primary tumor, a large battle in the war on cancer will have been won."





EDWARD W. CONNER

Age 81, of Farmington Hills, MI. Passed away March 23, 2011. Arrangements by Thayer-Rock

Funeral Home, Farmington.

### NADINE T. BERTINI

Livonia, MI resident, passed away in New Port Richey FL 03/11/11. Born 09/29/24 in Sand Springs, OK. Children Paul Bertini, Jonathan Bertini, Gilda Kemp, Lisa Vanderhoof. Grandchild Adrian Bertini.



Radio personality HENRY (Hank) BURDICK a/k/a Hank O'Neal

A Memorial Service is set for April 10th, at 2:00 P.M. at the Traverse City VFW Post 2780, 3400 Veterans Drive, Traverse City, Michigan. Please join us in honoring the memory of Henry (Hank) Burdick.

## VICKI JO CARVER

Age 47, died March 20, 2011 after a courageous battle with cancer. Wife of Bob for 25 years. Loving mother of Tyler, Marc, Cody and Adam. Daughter of Carolyn and Mike Todd. Daughter-in-law of Minnie and Dennis Carver. Sister of Lori (Donald) Anderson, Shari (Rob) Davidek and Michael (Chonne). Sister-in-law of Cindy Schroeder. Fantastic aunt of Randy, Eric, Jack, Sam, Liam, Max, Gavin, Charlie and Lily. A memorial service was held Saturday at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia. In lieu of flowers, please make a contribution to the Bob Carver family. Please share a memory at: www.rggrharris.com.



FRANCES CONDON

Beloved wife of the late John; loving mother of Carol DeMario, John Condon, Marcia Merando and Marty Condon. View obituary, family pictures and share memories at: www.WalkerFuneralHomes.com

# WADE JOHN HANSON

Passed away peacefully on March 16, 2011, in West Palm Beach. Wade was born March 1, 1962, in Detroit, MI and raised in Birmingham, MI. He was the son of Mary and Richard Hanson, and had one brother, Mark. He was also the caretaker of the family cat, Spotty

Throughout his youth, Wade perfected his unique sense of humor and was always the "go-to" guy for a laugh or prank ideas. Wade was also an excellent musician and preformed his guitar in school talent shows at Groves High School. His band "Refuse" crafted such popular tunes as "Drop the Course," and Heinz Baked Beans." Upon graduation, Wade decided to pursue college in a warmer climate and moved to Miami to attend Biscayne College. After a year, he decided Miami was not hot enough so he moved to Phoenix to attend and finish College at Arizona State University where he graduated with a degree in Communications, minoring in fraterni-

ty life. Thereafter, he returned to south Florida and settled in Palm Beach County where he resided until his passing Wade never forgot his Detroit roots. He was a die hard Tigers and Red wings fan...not so much the Lions. He loved the Detroit style Coney Dogs, and always dropped by the Hunter House in Birmingham whenever he visited. Professionally Wade specialized in sales. He could sell ice to the Eskimos, and was well respected and liked at every place he worked. A few years Wade became a Mason and belonged to the Masonic Lodge in Palm Beach Gardens. He was very proud of his lodge, and especially enjoyed helping with their pancake breakfasts. He was beloved, respected

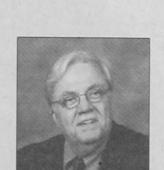
ing lodge brother. Wade's greatest accomplishments were his three children: Kristen, Erik, and Akexis. All of whom he loved, and was very proud of. He recently married Linda Klein-Scarnato, and became a father figure to her son, Anthony. Wade is also survived by his father Richard, brother Mark, sister-in-law Wendy (Flynn), and niece and nephew, Jillian and Matthew. Wade was an especially cool uncle to Jillian and Matt. They loved him very much, and would always jump at the chance for a visit with Uncle Wade

and thought of as a caring, hard work-

Wade made a great deal of friends over the years, all of whom he treasured. He was nationwide. Two of his best friends helped him greatly in his last days, famous Michigan attorney Erik Naslund and yet to be discovered and almost famous Hollywood screenwriter, producer and director Calvin

Wade was a great guy who lived by the rules he made and followed his own code. Generous, loving and funnier than hell; Wade will be missed by all those lives he touched. He will be waiting for us all on the other side with a big hug, a firm handshake, a kind word and a big smile

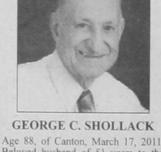
Happy Trails. In lieu of cards or flowers; donations in Wade's name would be appreciated by Vitas Innovative Hospice Care, or the Hanley Center in West Palm Beach.



GENE E. LEVENGOOD

Age 74, March 15, 2011. Beloved husband of Barbara. Loving father of Mark (Jenny). Proud grandfather of Christian Edward Levengood. Dear brother of John Levengood. Preceded in death by son Michael L. Levengood. Visitation Sunday 12-6 PM and Monday 4-8 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd, (between Sheldon & Beck) Plymouth, MI. Memorial Gathering Tuesday 2-3 PM followed by a Memorial Service at 3:00 PM at First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial Rd, Plymouth, MI. Memorial Contributions may be made to either of the following; Boy Scout Troop 417, c/o Brookside United Methodist Church; 4000 Francis St, Jackson, MI 49203 or Plymouth First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial Rd., Plymouth, MI 48170.

To share memories please visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com



Beloved husband of 51 years to the late Elaine. Loving father of Ron, Cyndee (Bryan) Prieskom, and Steve (Christina). Dear grandfather of Dawn (Aaron) Zapata, Aaron (Tangie) Prieskorn, Nicholas, Brandon, and Justin Shollack. Dear great grandfather of Levi and Malachi Zapata, Jordan Emily, and Asher Prieskorn. Visitation Wednesday 3-9 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbon Rd., (btwn. Sheldon & Beck) Plymouth. In State Thursday, 10:30AM until the 11AM Funeral Service at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 10101 Ann Arbor Road (at Gotfredson), Plymouth. To share a

memory, please visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com

## JEAN I. TUJAKA

Age 86, of Livonia, passed away on March 19, 2011. Loving wife of the late Sigmund. Beloved mother of Judi (Mark) Rippee and Donald Tujaka. Proud grandmother of Dawn (Mark) Bostwick and Alexandra Willey Great-grandmother of Cole Bostwick. Jean was a devoted homemaker, she also loved traveling, sewing and gar-dening. Funeral service Thursday 11:00am from the Schrader-Howel Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St. Plymouth. Interment Riverside Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Angela Hospice 14100 Newburgh Rd, Livonia, Mi 48154. Share memories at schrader-howell.com

## ANN JULIA (PETRINI) LINDAMOOD Sept. 16, 1935 ~ Mar. 21, 2011

Ann was born September 16, 1935 to Aloysius and Mary Petrini in Sharon PA. She graduated from Sharon High School in 1953 and was an Honors graduate from Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, in 1957, and earned a Masters Degree in Management from Madonna University in Livonia, MI. Ann married Benton Lindamood September 7 1963 and together raised four daughters: Mary, of Howell, Julia (Daniel) Argonis of Novi, Jane of New York, and Kit of Detroit. She has two grandchildren, Riley and Zachary Argonis, and many nieces and nephews. Ann was an Associate to the Adrian Dominican Sisters and a Spiritual Director. Visitation at MacDonald's Funeral Home, 315 North Michigan Avenue, Howell (517-546-2800) from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, March 24 and from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Friday, March 25 at St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church, 2201 South Old US 23 HWY, Brighton, MI. Funeral Mass at 11:00 a.m. Friday, March 25, at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Pax Christie USA or to the Adrian Dominican Sisters, 1257 East Siena Heights Drive, Adrian, MI 49221 or to the Church. Please visit

the family's online guestbook at: www.macdonaldsfuneralhome.com

Garden City. Beloved hus-band of Peggie. Loving father of Michael (Debbie)

Murray and Audie (David) Wacker.

Proud grandfather of Brandon, Corey

and Shannon. Dear brother of Patricia

Hann. Visitation was held Mon., March 21 at Vermeulen Funeral

Home, 980 N Newburgh Rd (btwn

Ford & Cherry Hill), Westland, Funeral Mass held Wed, at St.

Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church,

555 S. Lilley Rd (corner of Cherry

Hill), Canton. Memorial Contributions to the Disabled American

Veterans would be appreciated. To

share a memory, please visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com



CHARLES VARKOLY

Age 63, March 18, 2011. (the late Joseph) Varkoly. Loving brother of Stephen (Kathy) and Barbara (the late Steve) Smith. Loving uncle of Kathryn Christine and Matthew Nephew of Charles (Mary Lou) Rowe. Charles proudly served his country as Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps in Viet Nam and in the Navy. He had a lifelong interest in journalism and was a former editor of the Redford Observer Newspaper Visitation and services were held at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster Rd., (between Ford Rd. and Cherry Hill). Interment took place at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, MI. Memorials suggested to the American Legion, Pos 396, Garden City or NARSAD

# In Memory Of

www.santeiufuneralhome.com

IN LOVING MEMORY NORM ZAWISLAK July 14, 1946-March 28, 2006

It has been 5 years since you left us Not a day goes by that we don't think of you, you are gone but not forgot ten! Love your family Joanie, Jeff (Sharon), Andrea (Matt),

Michelle (Biff), Brian (JoAnne) & grandchildren



# 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.)

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# HEALTH

Sunday, March 27, 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

# Weight support group deciphers marketing gimmicks

Supermarket shelves abound with "value-added" foods, offering innovative twists on traditional products. Cereals claim to make you lose weight, yogurt eases digestion, and chocolate calcium chews replace milk - the options can seem endless and overwhelming.

Much of the time, value-added foods aren't all that valuable, according to TOPS Club, Inc. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), the nonprofit weight-loss support organization.

'You may find yourself purchasing foods that offer a very slight nutritional advantage that's not worth the extra money or indulging in a perceived health benefit that has not proven to be effective," says Katie Clark, assistant clinical professor of nutrition at the University of California-San Francisco and nutrition expert for TOPS.

Here are a few value-added food industry favorites and what they do or don't do:

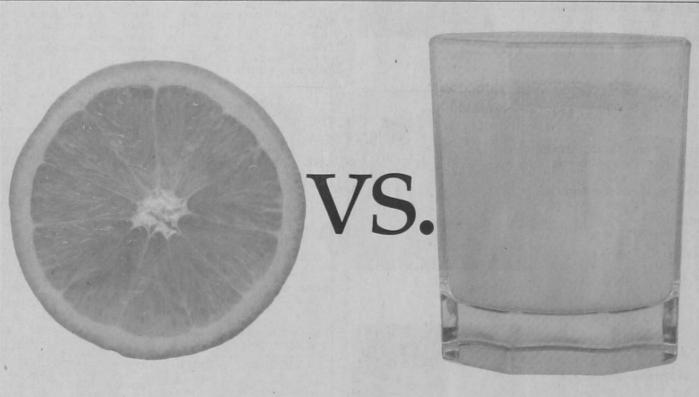
## JUICE WITH ADDED FIBER

While whole fruit is a great low-calorie source of fiber and nutrients, fruit juice packs in the calories and forgets the fiber in the discarded pulp. Fiber-enhanced fruit juice is essentially pulverized fruit with its fiber removed, with a different type of fiber added back in. One cup of orange juice with fiber can boast three grams of dietary fiber per 120 calorie serving. But one orange has four grams of fiber and only 70 calories - a lower-calorie, cheaper option with no processing needed

## **DRINKS WITH VITAMINS**

In 2008, the most popular diet soda in the U.S. released its "plus" product, a diet cola with a small amount of watersoluble vitamins added.

Other vitamin-enhanced drink and waters have taken off in recent years, although, according to Clark, "Many are merely overpriced, sugar-sweetened waters with a tad of vitamins thrown in for good measure. Despite



the fact that you can get 100 percent of all the vitamins and minerals you need in a well-balanced diet, a generic multivitamin only costs about four cents a day. Why spend nearly \$3 on a special vitamin drink when water is free and a more comprehensive multi-vitamin is substantially cheaper?"

## **IMMUNITY-BOOSTING FOODS**

Lately, there has been a wealth of foods on the market touting "immune enhancing" or "pro-immunity" benefits from yogurts to cereals, drinks, and even frozen vegetable blends. While there is ample data to support the notion that a diet with insufficient nutrients compromises immunity, the opposite does not hold true: eating more nutrient-laden foods has not been proven to increase immunity.

Clark notes, "By eating a well-balanced diet and exercising regularly, you are already maximizing your immuneenhancing behavior!"

## OMEGA-3-ENHANCED

Omega-3 fatty acids are found primarily in fish, fish oil, and, to a lesser degree, in flax and flaxseed oil, canola and soybean oils, and walnuts. Omega-3s have numerous heart-health benefits, including reducing cardiovascular disease risk, lowering blood triglycerides, and lowering blood pressure. The American Heart Association recommends a daily intake of 1,000 mg of EPA plus DHA (two types of omega-3 fatty acids) for people with documented heart disease, equivalent to eating two to three servings of fish per week. Because many people don't eat as much fish as they should, omega-3-fortified foods, like eggs and butter, can seem appealing.

"These foods contain such small amounts of the beneficial fatty acid that you'd have to ingest many portions per day to get the recommended amount," cautions Clark. "You actually end up losing, calorically."

The Nutrition Facts panel on one such enhanced omega-3 butter spread reveals it contains only 32 mg of EPA plus DHA per each one tablespoon

"If you were to get all of your recommended 1,000 mg EPA plus DHA omega-3s from this butter, you would have to eat 31 tablespoons of butter per day (one entire tub), consuming 2,480 calories," says Clark. "Incorporate more fish into your diet for an effective, comprehensive way to consume more omega-3s."

TOPS Club Inc. was established more than 63 years ago to champion weight-loss support and success. Visitors may attend their first TOPS meeting free of charge. To find a local chapter, visit www.tops.org or call (800) 932-8677.

# Check out the numbers in

# Diabetes and **Erectile Dysfunction: Take Control**

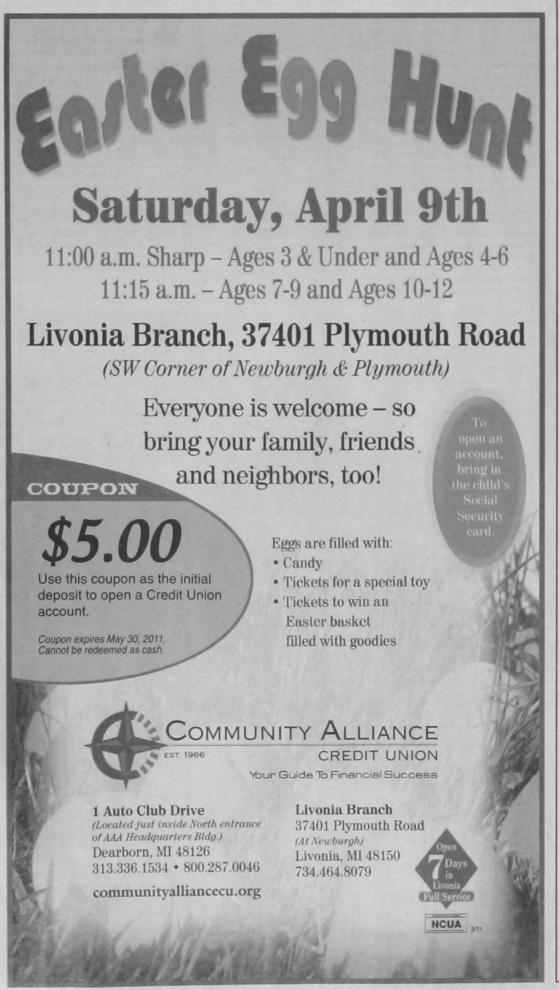
Erectile Dysfunction (ED) may be the most important diagnostic tool when it comes to general health in the baby-boomer population! Often times, it's the first symptom that men may notice and the one that leads them to the doctor. If a man is experiencing E.D., it is suggested that he be screened for more serious health conditions such as heart disease

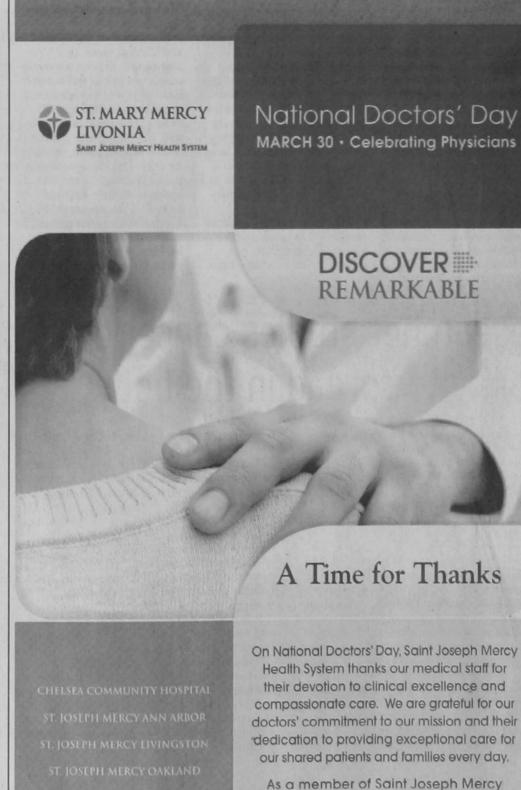
pertension, and diabetes. Erectile dysfunction is a commor complication of diabetes. Up to 85 percent of men who have diabetes may experience E.D. The longer you've had diabetes and the more severe it is, the more likely you are to have trouble with erections. High blood sugar can permanently damage the nerves and blood vessels responsible for erection Recent advances and treatment

methods have changed the way both diabetes and E.D. are now treated. With regard to E.D., a temporary solution; others provide a more permanent way to resolve the problem. As urologist specializing in the treatment of E.D., my goal is to provide men with the information they need to find the solution that's most satisfying for them-and their

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