### **25,000 DIAPERS** FORD VOLUNTEERS CLEAN UP PAGE A9

### THURSDAY March 31, 2011

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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# CONNECTION

### Field fundraiser

**Field Elementary School** hosts a fundraiser for one of the school's fifth-grade teachers, Nicole (DeMink) Runyan, recently diagnosed with cancer.

The "Get in the Ring with Runyan" pasta fundraiser takes place 5-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 5, and will feature many other fun activities at the school. Runyan is the mother of four young children and is currently unable to work while undergoing treatments.

Donations can be sent to Field Elementary (Attn: Runyan Fundraiser). Field Elementary School is located at 1000 S. Haggerty in Canton.

### Calley speaks

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will be the guest speaker Monday, April 11, at Canton's Economic Club Luncheon. The luncheon will be held at the Summit on the Park and begins at 11:30 a.m.

Brian Calley is the second youngest lieutenant governor in Michigan's history. Before being elected to this

position,

two terms

Michigan

Legislature

as a state

tative. In

Calley



BY DARRELL CLEM **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

-0

CANTON

**JBSERVER** 

SPORTS, B2

Even though Canton will not face the double-digit water-sewer rate hikes some communities will pay this year, residents and township officials realize that an average 7-percent increase still ushers in difficulties for certain cash-strapped consumers.

hometownlife 🏫 com

But, Canton officials say they have adopted measures to reduce the burden on local residents, and they are weighing new options to further ease the pain.

We're trying to keep the costs as low as we can," Finance Director Rick Eva said Monday evening, during one of two community forums attended by only a few people.

Retiree Ted McCabe, a 75-year-old resident

### Maintaining water system is costly expense, B3.

and Social Security benefits recipient, said rising water-sewer costs have been difficult to absorb.

A GANNETT COMPANY

"I don't think it's fair for those of us who are on a fixed income," McCabe told Eva and Municipal Services Director Tim Faas, who led the water-sewer forums.

### **REINING COSTS**

McCabe and others listened intently as Canton officials explained how they have tried to rein in costs as much as possible and still cover the expense of providing water and sewer services.

Please see WATER, A3

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

NTERTAINMENT BO

Community forums on water rates drew small crowds in Canton.

# Cultural shift

### **Census shows Canton's** burgeoning diversity

BY DARRELL CLEM **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

IT'S STOOGES TIME AT

African Americans and Asians overwhelmingly accounted for Canton's 18.1percent population surge during the last decade - evidence the community has, indeed, become far more diverse as each year further separates the township from its rural past.

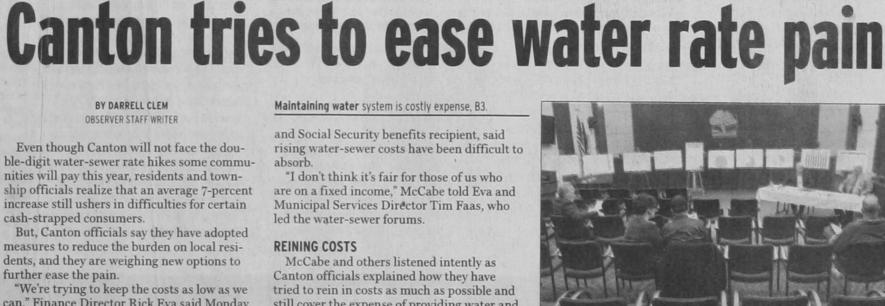
Blacks made up 10.2 percent

### **CHANGING FACE**

The new census figures confirm what many local residents and community leaders have long believed - that the face of Canton has changed as the local population grew from 76,366 to 90,173 during the last decade.

"Diversity is something the township has basically clamored for," said Greg Greene,





that role, Calley served as minority vice chair of the House Tax Policy Committee, where he worked with lawmakers from both sides of the aisle.

The Economic Club hosts semi-annual luncheons with special quest speakers. The luncheons were developed with the purpose of introducing Canton's business and professional sector to leaders in the areas of manufacturing, government, entertainment, health care and economics.

The luncheon is open to anyone who wishes to attend. The cost is \$20.

Reservations are required and can be made by calling (734) 394-5185.

### 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.

# **CANTON'S CHANGING** DEMOGRAPHICS

Population	2010 Population	2000 Population	Percent of Population in 2010	Percent of Population in 2000		
Whites	65,140	64,045	72.2%	83.9%		
Black / African American	9,176	3,466	10.2%	4.5% 8.7% 2.9%		
Asian	12,739	6,664	14.1%			
Other	3,118	2,191	3.5%			
Total:	90,173	76,366	100%	100%		

Source: U.S. Census Bureau - Canton Twp.

of Canton's 90,173 residents in new census figures, a striking increase from a mere 4.5 percent a decade ago. In raw numbers, Canton had an African-American population of 9,176 in 2010, compared to 3,466 just 10 years ago.

Asian residents, including a growing Indian population, accounted for 14.1 percent of the township's population, a large increase from 8.7 percent a decade ago, the latest census revealed. In all, 12,739 Asians lived in Canton in 2010 a number that spiked from 6,664 in 2000.

Other minorities and residents who identified themselves as belonging to two or more races increased in fewer numbers.

And, though 65,140 whites now live in Canton - an increase of 1,095 from a decade ago - their percentage of the overall population dropped from 83.9 percent to 72.2 percent amid impressive gains by African-American and -Asian residents.

an African-American resident who chairs the Canton Planning Commission. "It has been an effort to say to people, 'Come here,' and I think that's part of it."

Greene lauded the township's elected leaders, past and current, for having a vision to market Canton as a diverse community where cultural events have become increasingly popular. He also said amenities such as The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, a thriving business community and quality housing have drawn a diverse group of residents.

"I think we're still on the highly desired list," Greene said. "I feel like I've been part of something that is big.'

TejKiran Singh, a Sikh man and Canton resident, said Canton has drawn an increasingly diverse population because of its image as a safe, affordable, well-kept community that has top-rate amenities such as Summit on

Please see CENSUS, A6

# Parents take district's story to Lansing

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

All kinds of voices - the governor, legislators, state and local school officials have been railing in the wind over the state of public school funding in Michigan.

Two Plymouth women are leading the charge to make sure there's one other voice that gets heard in the argument.

The kids. Denise Zander and Sheila

Paton are Plymouth mothers with skin in the game - they each have two children attending Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. The moms got heavily involved with a committee to maintain low class sizes in PCCS schools, but that committee has morphed into something with a bigger scope as the fight has raged over what's happening to school funding.

Now, the Legislative Action Network is busy letting

Lansing know what parents

think about what's going on, using a voice that doesn't belong to a school official.

"I think hearing from educated, informed and concerned parents who bring the personal perspective - here's what it's doing to my kids not coming from the person holding the purse strings ... makes it a lot harder to just turn it off," said Zander, who has a child at Canton High School and another at Pioneer

Please see LANSING, A6

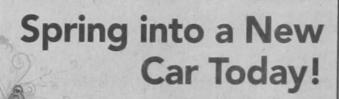


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### Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 31, 2011

### AROUND CANTON

### online at hometownlife.com

"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

### **Rockette show**

Time/Date: 7 p.m. April 8; 6 p.m. April 9 Location: Salem auditorium, Salem High School on Joy Road in Canton. Details: Show will feature the Salem Rockettes, a National Dance Teams Championships finalist.

### Variety show

Time/Date: 7 p.m. April 1-2 Location: Gloria Logan Auditorium, Salem High School on Joy road in Canton. Details: It's the Plymouth Saberettes annual variety show. Tickets are \$7 at the door.

### 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

### Mom 2 Mom ·

Date/Time: 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 9 Location: Summit on the Park, 46000



### Flag day

Ann Manning (left), fifth-grade teacher at Plymouth Christian Academy in Canton, accepts an American flag and a certificate of recognition from treasurer Linda Mentink, past state president Caroline Van Gorder and junior vice president and community chairperson Nancy Dignan of the Mayflower Lt. Gamble Post 6695 Ladies Auxiliary. The flag and certificate were presented as part of the post's Americanism and Community Service initiatives.

### Summit Parkway, Canton

Details: Children's clothes, toys, books, videos, maternity clothes, and more will be sold at 30 tables when the Canton Newcomers a social, civic and charitable group host their public Mom2Mom sale. A "large item" area and the group's motto of "where neighbors become friends" with sales going to the Autism Collaborative Center creates an extra special sale atmosphere. Strollers are welcome. Admission is \$1. **Contact**: For more information about the sale, call Jessica at (616) 780-5592 or e-mail themirolands@yahoo.com.

### Fish frys

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

Location: Summit on the Park Banquet Center, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton Details: Fish Fry Fridays are in full swing. All-you-can-geat fish buffet includes Battered Atlantic Cod; Herb Encrusted Tilapia; Seafood Cakes; Pasta; Fresh Vegetables; French 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. Desserts and a full-service bar are available at an additional cost.

Contact: Call (734) 394-5460 or visit www. Cantonfun.org.

### MOPS sale

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, April 2

Location: Connection Church, 3855 S. Sheldon, Canton

Details: Connection Church MOPS annual spring mom to mom sale. We are sold out to capacity with over 100 tables rented. Strollers after 10 a.m. \$1 admission.

### Farm exhibit

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Tuesdays; 2-5 p.m. Thursdays; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays, April through November

Location: Canton Historical Museum, corner of Canton Center and Heritage Park Drive in Canton

Details: Ever wondered what living in Canton back in the 1800s was like and who lived and worked on the land many now call home? Bring the whole family to experience the Canton Historical Museum's highly anticipated new exhibit, "Whose Farm Do You Live On." Learn the history of this thriving farming community from the 1800s and well into the 1900s before its transformation by land developers in the 1930s. Find out who originally purchased the land and the names of families who lived there. View tools used by these families for farming, personal care, cooking, play and education. **Contact**: For additional information, visit www.cantonhistoricalsociety.org or call (734) 397-0088.

### Charter Academy meeting

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Monday, April 4 Location: Canton Charter Academý, 49100 Ford Road, Canton

Details: Canton Charter Academy has scheduled a middle school information meeting for prospective parents. Principal Cathy Henkenberns, teachers and staff members will be on hand to present information about the school. The meeting will include an informal question and answer period. Tours of the school will be available. Contact: To RSVP for the meeting, call (734) 453-9517.

### CORRECTIONS

• A story in the Thursday, March 24, *Canton Observer* about two new charter schools coming to Canton should not have said the planned high school was being built by National Heritage Academies. NHA is not involved with the project.

• A feature on Canton arts coordinator Jennifer Tobin in the Thursday, March 24, *Canton Observer* should have said the Village Theater was built in 2003, some 40,000 audience members took in plays, concerts and the visual arts last year and should have listed Chad as her stepson.



A2 (C)



Conductor and musical director Nan Washburn and her newly named Michigan Philharmonic are expected to pick up some of the load that would have been borne by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra this summer.

### Symphony changes name, hopes for a higher profile

### BY MATT JACHMAN OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth Symphony Orchestra is now the Michigan Philharmonic, a name orchestra officials say reflects its increased professionalism and broadening reach.

The name change was announced, along with several new concert dates, Wednesday afternoon during a wineand-cheese reception at the Plymouth Community Arts Council building, the orchestra's headquarters.

"We're on the move and I think we're off to bigger and better things," said Don Soenen, president of the Michigan Philharmonic's board of directors. "This is a major chapter, I think, in the 66 years this orchestra has been in place."

"In a time when many orchestras across the country are struggling, we have been successful," said Beth Stewart, the Philharmonic's executive director. "I think it's because we offer something good to people," she continued, adding later that the audience "is the most important part of what we do."

Soenen attributed much of what he called the philharmonic's greater professionalism to the arrival of Nan Washburn, the conductor and music director.

"Today we have a fully professional orchestra, composed of members of the American Federation of Musicians, paid union scale," Soenen said. "These are serious musicians, many making their living performing and providing private "It's very exciting and I could not have done it without collaboration," she said.

The Michigan Philharmonic added four dates to this season, starting with a Friday, May 6, concert at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton Township. The show will feature the music of Bollywood, the nickname for India's movie industry.

The Philharmonic will also play at the Canton Libertyfest in June, at Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth in July and at the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House in Grosse Pointe Shores, for the Fairy Tale Festival, also in July.

The organization also revealed a new website, www. michiganphil.org, that was launched Thursday.

Soenen said the name change and higher profile for the orchestra had been planned for months, before the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's season was lost to a labor dispute. "This was planned last fall, before all of that blew up," he said.

He said the name more accurately reflects the group's talents and scope.

"I think the name finally measures up the abilities that we have," Soenen said.

Faith Demorest, who plays second violin in the Michigan Philharmonic, also credited Washburn for its success. She said she could sense the director's commitment and passion when Washburn hired her about 10 years ago. Demorest is also the Michigan Philharmonic's personnel director.

"She made it our objective that there had to be some

# Maintaining system is costly expense

### BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's a frustrating reality, but Canton officials say the normal supply-and-demand economic model simply doesn't work with water-sewer rates.

Even if local consumers drastically reduce the amount of water they use, their rates are likely to spike even higher.

That's because Canton, the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department and the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority still have to maintain certain revenues to perform water-sewer system maintenance and pay the cost

Administration officials

rate hike that is expected to

become effective May 1, fol-

lowing a vote in April by the

Average households using

32,283 gallons of water every

three-month billing cycle face

would jump from \$328 to \$351

- substantially less than the

average 16.9 percent rate hike

they paid last year, but none-

"We understand that it's a

burden," Faas said. "We're cus-

Canton officials say they

rate hikes charged by the

Detroit Water and Sewerage

township has cited cost-cut-

ting measures that allowed

increases - 10.3 percent for

Canton employees accepted

them to soften this year's

water and 14.9 percent for

concessions this year total-

ing 5 percent, and the town-

ship reduced the number of

sewer - from Detroit.

and aparts with

Department, although the

have little choice but to impose

theless an increase.

tomers, too.'

an increase of \$23, or \$92

a year. Their quarterly bills

Canton Township Board of

have proposed a 7-percent

FROM PAGE A1

**Trustees** 

of doing business.

"As people conserve more, we get less revenue. When we get less revenue, we have to raise the rates even more," Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said.

It's a lesson officials say is tough to learn when local consumers conserve, only to see their rates continue to spiral upward.

To be sure, DWSD has drawn its share of allegations of mismanagement — and efforts have begun to give Detroit's suburban customers a greater say in rates and how DWSD is run.

Yet local officials have said even the most efficiently run water and sewer department will continue to face rising costs associated with providing service and repairing an aging system.

In Canton, where local leaders say they have tried to trim costs when possible, township officials say they expect to have to spend \$500,000 a year through 2035 to improve the water-sewer system, especially in areas where new development occurs.

During the last year, Canton bought some 2.7 billion gallons of water from Detroit to meet the needs of local consumers. Local officials say their estimates of usage have been fairly accurate — or Canton could have faced even higher rate hikes.

(C)

A3

For all the anger directed at Detroit over rising watersewer rates, local officials say Detroit residents are facing larger rate increases than they have in past years as the city's population has dipped — 25 percent in the new Census — meaning fewer consumers still need to generate enough money to pay the tab.

It's the same in Detroit or the suburbs — use less water, pay even higher rates. "That's what I call the

vicious cycle," Faas said.

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

as DTE Energy already offer — allowing local consumers to pay the same amount every month based on an average of their past water-sewer bills.

The budget-based billing system drew support from resident Norm Mackay, a resident of Cherry Hill Pointe condominiums, who said Monday the measure would allow consumers to better plan their budgets for water-sewer costs.

Township officials say there is no panacea for thwarting water-sewer rate hikes in a township that has 427 miles of water mains, 6,000 hydrants, 3,960 water-system valves, five meter pits, a 338-mile sewer system, 5,208 manholes and six sewage pump stations.

It's a vast system, already improved, that is expected to need another \$13 million in improvements by 2035. Moreover, outside auditors have warned local officials that the water-sewer fund balance of just over \$10 million should be built up to \$12 million to remain healthy.

As the cost of doing business continues to increase, officials say, so too will water-sewer rates. The key, officials say, is controlling costs to the extent possible.

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



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton Township hosted a pair of community forums on water rates.

water meters it is replacing. Moreover, Canton received a 5.4 percent reduction in sewer costs from the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority, which provides a portion of local sewer service.

### FEWER PEOPLE

Moreover, Faas said the Municipal Services Department has trimmed its costs in recent years by gradually reducing its employee workforce from 90 people to

"We've trimmed a lot of expenses," he said. To help residents, the township also has reduced the late payment penalty from 10 percent to 5 percent, reversed penalties in certain circumstances and extended the billing cycle payment date by 10 days.

Township officials are considering implementing an automatic debit system allowing residents to have their payments deducted from their checking accounts. And, in a move some residents find promising, Canton is pondering a budget-based billing system — much like utilities such

the great indoors

BILL B

instruction to students." At the time Washburn was

At the time Washburn was hired, he said, the symphony board also wanted to increase the orchestra's presence in local schools, and Washburn has helped accomplish that.

Washburn, in her 12th season, said she was thrilled with the changes, and thanked those involved with the orchestra. changes and there needed to be a higher level of music and players," Demorest said of Washburn. "I think we're where she wanted to go."

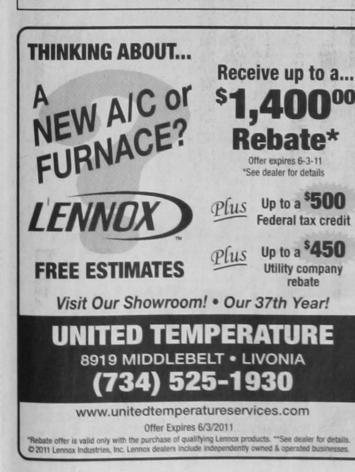
Demorest said fellow musicians "are ecstatic" about the changes in the orchestra and eager for the added concert dates.

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A4 (C)

# **PUBLIC SAFETY** hometownlife

Thursday, March 31, 2011

### **CRIME WATCH**

### Gun stolen

A man told police his .45caliber semiautomatic pistol was stolen from his Chevrolet Silverado sometime prior to 7 p.m. Sunday.

The man lives on Wagon Wheel, northwest of Lilley and Palmer. He said the gun was missing from the center console of his vehicle.

The man told police he had been to Plymouth and Detroit before he noticed the gun was missing, so he wasn't sure when - or where - it had been stolen.

The gun had a loaded magazine containing 12 rounds with one in the chamber, according to police reports. It was in a black holster.

### Jewelry found

**7** A man contacted Canton L police last Thursday after his wife found a blue satchel containing various pieces of gold jewelry.

The man's wife found the satchel outside near a Hallmark store where she works on Lilley south of Cherry Hill. She saw it had been left in the snow behind the building, near a Dumpster.

The bag contained three gold necklaces, four pairs of gold earrings, a bracelet and a pendant, according to a police report.

### Warrant arrest

3 Canton police arrested a man Monday afternoon who had a warrant for his arrest out of Oakland County for child neglect and failing to pay child support.

The man was arrested after police stopped his vehicle about 1:40 p.m. in the area of Michigan Avenue and Beck Road

Local police arranged to

turn the man over to Oakland County authorities at I-696 and Orchard Lake Road.

### Street fight

Canton police took a man 4 into custody for being disorderly following an incident that happened about 11:30 p.m. Sunday in the Sherwood Village mobile home park southeast of Michigan Avenue and Haggerty Road.

Police went to the neighborhood following reports of a fight in the street. The man was reported to be yelling obscenities, and officers saw several neighbors standing outside of their homes.

A woman who lives in Sherwood Village told police the man, an acquaintance of hers, was drunk and became angry when she told him that he needed to leave her home. She said he punched the exterior siding of her home and dented it, then smashed the

window of her vehicle. The woman told police she didn't want to prosecute the man

### **High lights**

Police stopped a man Who was driving north on Belleville Road near Michigan Avenue with the high beams of his headlights turned on, a potentially dangerous situation as he faced oncoming traffic.

The incident happened about 8:45 p.m. Monday. The man was driving a Chevrolet Blazer.

The driver told police he had forgotten his wallet at work, but police found a wallet in his back pocket and learned that he was driving with a suspended license. He was cited for that and for providing false information to police after he originally gave them his brother's name when he was asked to identify himself.

BOARSHEAD

LOW SODIUM

GOLDEN

Police took a female passenger into custody after learning she was wanted in Highland Park for failing to appear for a pretrial hearing. She was turned over to Wayne County.

### Pot possession

Police took a woman into Ocustody and processed her for possession of marijuana and paraphernalia after they found the items in her car while it was parked at Griffin Park, near Cherry Hill and Sheldon, around 9:40 p.m. Sunday.

Police went to the park following reports of a suspicious vehicle in the park, and they found a man and a woman in the car who said they were just sitting and talking.

Police noticed the scent of marijuana and found a pipe in the ashtray along with a small amount of marijuana.

Police issued the man a citation for loitering where drugs were kept and loitering in the park after dark. They took the female into custody for processing, and she was to be given a court date.

### Child neglect

"Police arrested a woman who had a warrant for child neglect out of Oakland County after they saw her walking and stumbling in the Sherwood Village mobile home park, southeast of Michigan Avenue and Haggerty Road.

The woman had been drinking and told police she was walking home. She was to be turned over to Oakland County authorities. She also was wanted for a contempt of court citation for a traffic offense in Westland.

Canton Police Department reports. after that, Gajeski said.

### HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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

# Police shift with changing technology

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

Social media and Internet technology involving crime maps have changed the way Canton police keep residents informed of vandalism, car thefts, home invasions, robberies and other happenings near their homes and in their neighborhoods.

One new tool involves a Web-based crime map, CrimeMapping.com, that allows residents to search by address for certain crimes reported during a specific time frame chosen by the Internet user, police Community Relations Sgt. Mark Gajeski said.

Residents may access the service by visiting www.cantonpublicsafety.org and looking for the CrimeMapping. com link on the main page. It also allows users to receive alerts by e-mail of crimes occurring near their homes or their neighborhoods, Gajeski said. Crimes listed on the map update every 24 hours.

Meanwhile, Canton police also have signed on with Twitter, a social media tool, as a way of communicating information about crimes to residents.

Twitter replaces Nixle, which was started about a year ago and involved sending alerts by e-mail or phone.

Canton dumped Nixle after the service suddenly announced it would charge the township \$1,500 to provide the service for the remainder of 2011 -- Compiled by Darrell Clem from and then \$3,000 for every year

Canton's elected leaders and department heads have sought to trim expenses when possible to continue chipping away at budget woes that had once threatened to mushroom to \$15 million by next year, ushering in employee concessions, cost-cutting measures and a 1.75-mill police and fire tax increase.

"We're trying to save money every way we can," Gajeski said.

Officials say Twitter is free and easy to use. Residents simply need to log on to www.twitter.com, open an account and choose to follow CantonPSD (Public Safety Department) for up-to-date messages ranging from road closures to crime alerts.

As it became necessary to avoid Nixle's price tag, Gajeski said, "Twitter seemed to be the easiest tool for us to use to communicate with the citizens.

Police officials hope CrimeMapping.com and Twitter will continue to help local authorities keep residents informed. Gajeski said even people living outside Canton can use the tools if, for instance, they want to check on crimes near an elderly relative's home or neighborhood.

"We are always looking for new ways of keeping our public informed on important occurrences and crime trends in the community," Gajeski said. "By providing several options for obtaining up-to-date information, everyone is sure to find a method that best fits their needs."

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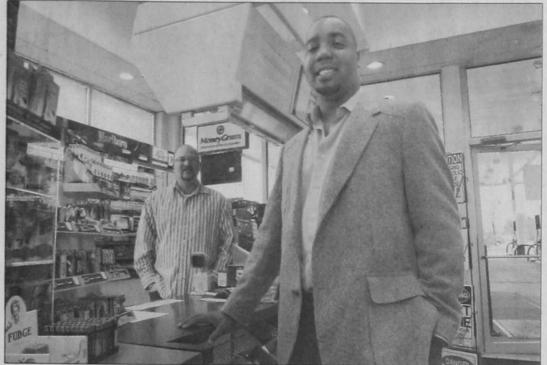


# STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, March 31, 2011

### hometownlife

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



Edward M. Pruett III (right) and client Ken Merrill.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# Service helps bridge economic gaps

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

Unotiks: We provide services that a personal assistant would provide. These services include running errands, project management as well as organizing events. We provide much, much more. Observer: How did you first decide to open your business?

Unotiks: It was time to bridge the economic gap between economic classes. Observer: Why did you choose Canton?

Unotiks: I live in Canton. Observer: What makes your business unique?

Unotiks: My business is unique because there isn't a business out there offering personal assistant services at an affordable price to the

**BUSINESS BRIEFS** 

### **UNOTIKS LLC**

Business name and address: Unotiks LLC, P.O. Box 871390, Canton Your name and title: Edward M. Pruett III, owner Your hometown: Canton Business opened: Dec. 22, 2010 Number of Employees: 1 Hours of operation: By appointment through phone call Your business specialty: Providing personal assistant services on an a la carte basis. Business phone and/or website: (734) 788-1567 | www. UnotiksLLC.com

working middle class. We also allow our clients to negotiate the cost of our services.

### Observer: How has the recent economy affected your business?

Unotiks: The recent economy has increased revenue because clients need someone to help them free up their time. The recent economy has caused our clients to pack more things into the same 24hour day. We work with our clients on pricing so that they can free up their time at an affordable rate. Observer: Any advice for other

business owners? Unotiks: Make sure customers know that you care. Observer: What's in store for the

future of your business? Unotiks: As we expand, we plan to move to a "brickand-mortar" office space. We plan to continue to donate to schools. "The children of today are our tomorrow's leaders.'

### **BY JON GUNNELLS GUEST COLUMNIST**

ven if you aren't a techie or a savvy Internet user, there's a good chance you've heard of social networking - or at least have a good idea about what social networking is.

Maybe you have a Facebook profile to keep up with friends and relatives or maybe you've heard of Twitter because it is all news anchors seem to be talking about these days.

Beyond the well-known social networking sites like video sharing site YouTube that have become mainstream over the last five years, there are a number of niche social networks that you may find helpful, useful, or interesting.

LinkedIn - similar to Twitter, Facebook, and Youtube - has come to life over the past few years. Earlier this year the site surpassed 100 million users. The site. which caters to professionals in any industry helps users build an online profile that showcases work history and experience. It's also a way to gain references, make connections with co-workers and network for jobs. LinkedIn is a must for all working professionals or unemployed job seekers looking to reach out to companies and recruiters. Users can also post status messages to LinkedIn and have them filter to their other social networks like Twitter. StumbleUpon is a professional time waster. With

users create profiles and select topics that interest them (ex: sports, cooking, television) and then

### **Jon Gunnells**

that match their interests. Users can give pages they see a thumbs up or thumbs down to further refine their interests and share their finds with friends within the site - or on Twitter and Facebook.

FourSquare (not the childhood playground game you remember) is Facebook places before Facebook places even existed. With Foursquare, users can check into restaurants, bars, local events and even receive discounts for frequenting certain places. Here's how it works. The Foursquare user who goes to a certain place the most can earn the title of mayor - earning them the opportunity for discounts or special offers. Users can also check Foursquare to locate dinner or drink specials near their location. Lastly, users can Tweet or Facebook their locations to facilitate meet-ups with friends. Or, if they prefer not to let the whole world know when they aren't home — they can just send their whereabouts to their Foursquare friends (usually a smaller network).

Flickr is the YouTube for pictures. People can user flickr to

store and share photos in what is called a stream. Users can link their streams to personal blogs, or share their uploaded pictures on Twitter. I use my flickr stream to store cool photos I snap with my cell phone and so I have a host site for photos I use on my blog. Even if you don't want to share your photos with others, flickr is a beneficial site because it can backup your photos in case you break your computer or external hard drive.

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Digg (similar to StumbleUpon) is a social networking site that allows users to vote on stories, polls and more. The site is practically the easiest-to-use interface on the web. Another social networking site that allows users to vote on stories is called reddit. You can visit reddit.com on your own and decide if it is easier to use than digg.

Of course, reddit, digg, FourSquare, flickr and other niche social niche sites are just a few of the hundreds of social networks available on the Internet. Maybe you can find your niche site by fooling around online — who knows, the site you find may be the next big thing.

Jon Gunnells, a Northville Township resident, is a social media planner at a Detroit-based advertising agency. A 2007 graduate of Michigan State University, he holds a B.A. in journalism. When he's not working, Gunnells enjoys college sports, social media and playing basketball. He can be reached at jonathan.gunnells@ gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @ **GunnShOw** 



# What's new with social networking

StumbleUpon.

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through care-

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web pages



**Tech Savvy** 

### Curves for food

During the month of April, Curves gyms in the Detroit area - including the Canton location - will participate in the 13th annual Curves Food Drive to collect non-perishable food and cash donations to benefit area food banks. Current members who make a \$30 donation or an equivalent donation of food are eligible to receive a Curves reusable Food Drive grocery bag. And, from April 4-17, Curves will waive the membership fee for new members who donate a bag of nonperishable food or make a minimum donation of \$30.

"Our goal is to top the donation that we made last year," said Curves founder Diane Heavin. "This is a great opportunity for the members of our Curves community to help strengthen the Detroit-area community, too. Everything that our members donate at their local clubs will benefit local families in need.

In addition to the food and monetary donations that each gym collects, Curves International is offering gyms the opportunity to win cash prizes for their local food banks. Prizes will be awarded to clubs with the most food collected, clubs who beat their 2010 donation level by the largest amount and to two randomly selected clubs drawn from all the clubs who enter the contest. Curves clubs have donated more than 61 million pounds of food in the U.S. and Canada since 2004.

Curves of Canton is located at 44248 Cherry Hill. Call (734) 844-6741 or e-mail scartelli@comcast.net for more information.

Friends Ball

**Providence** Health



Curves locations in the Detroit area - including the one in Canton - take part in a food drive during the month of April.

Foundation 2011 Friends' Ball will be held 6 p.m. Saturday, April 2, at the Garden Atrium, Southfield Town Center, Southfield. This year, Sister Xavier Ballance, DC, will receive the prestigious Order of Charity award, and Chandrika M. Joshi, MD, and Robert K. Brateman, MD, will be the recipients of this year's Caduceus Society Physician of the Year award.

The evening will feature an art gallery, a chance to have photos taken in a photo booth and dancing to the sounds of The Paul Keller Orchestra. Co-chairs for the event are once again Julie Frost and Charlotte Walker. Tickets are \$250 per person; tables of 10 are available for \$2,000.

To become a corporate sponsor for the event, place an ad in the program book or purchase a ticket, please contact Lorraine Owczarek at (313) 343-7582.

Dental for Gilda's Club Bright Side Dental group

announced it would donate \$5 to Gilda's Club Metro Detroit, for each new dental patient in the month of April. Bright Side Dental group has four locations in the Detroit area; Canton, Livonia, Royal Oak, and Sterling Heights and all four offices will take part in this initiative.

Bright Side Dental has been an active partner with Gilda's Club Metro Detroit in the past, and the company is pleased to make new contributions.

"Our dental practices are all about families," said Josh Gershonowicz, Vice President of Marketing and Public Relations. "We know that Gilda's Club does an extraordinary job supporting cancer patients and their family members."

Gilda's Club Metro Detroit provides programs for people living with cancer, along with family and friends, to build a network of social and emotional support that is an integral part of cancer treatment.

# The Easter Bunny is coming to **Westland Shopping Center!** Saturday, April 2nd at 11am

He'll be here every day until Saturday, April 23rd! Several photo packages available, plus receive a FREE gift when you visit with the Easter Bunny.

Be sure to hop on in that day and enter to win a chance to see a live studio taping of Disney's "Wizards of Waverly Place." Radio Disney will choose one lucky local semi-finalist for a chance to win a trip for four to Los Angeles, CA to see



one of the last studio tapings of "Wizards of Waverly Place" LIVE in person!!

"Like" us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter to be one of the FIRST to know about sales, contests, events and so much more. Between now and April 15th, go to our Facebook page and tell us what your favorite Easter candy is. One lucky post will be randomly selected to win a \$50.00 mall gift card. One entry per person, please.



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### LOCAL NEWS

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Arunpreet Singh, Sunpreet Singh, Rani Mahal and Manpreet Mahal stand inside the Sikh gurdwara, or place of worship, in Canton. The painting in the background depicts the Golden Temple. The sign overhead reminds Sikhs to not stray from the path, no matter what obstacles they may encounter. Sikhs say amenities like the gurdwara help draw people to Canton.



the Park, local walking paths and parks, golf courses and residents who, for the most part, are welcoming.

### **COMMUNITY PLUSES**

Singh also said Canton has a reasonable tax rate and is ideally located for engineers and others who work in the auto industry. And for those dedicated to their religion, he said, the township offers amenities not found in many communities, including a Sikh gurdwara, two Hindu temples and a mosque for Muslims.

"You feel comfortable in Canton," Singh said. "People seem to be more accepting. I have neighbors who are non-Indian who are good friends. The people of Canton have been found to be really accepting of diversity."

To be sure, Canton, like any community, has had occasional incidents of racial or ethnic intimidation, but Canton police responded by forming the Canton Response To Hate Crimes Coalition, intended to help local residents heal from

any such incident. Moreover, Plymouth-Canton Citizens for Diversity and Inclusion has sponsored numerous community events and forums intended to help residents of different cultures and races better understand each other. Jeffery Shamberger, an African-American resident and vice president of PCCDI, said residents from diverse backgrounds have chosen to move to Canton because it is largely perceived as a welcoming place.

"That's definitely a good thing," he said.

PCCDI has worked with **Plymouth-Canton Community** Schools to help increase the number of qualified minority educators in the school district.

"We have made some progress there," Shamberger said.

### **REFLECTIVE WORKFORCE**

PCCDI still hopes the township workforce, such as the police and fire departments, can become more reflective of Canton's population by recruiting qualified minority candidates as jobs become available. He said elected leaders and public safety officials

have had discussions about the issue.

**BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER** 

They've opened the dialogue," Shamberger said. Township Clerk Terry Bennett said local census fig-

ures will provide "invaluable' data as the township plans programs and services for the population it serves.

"It helps us to understand the dynamics of our community," she said. "The 2010 Census assists us in providing the services, including great schools, a safe community, fantastic leisure service programs, a first-class library and other basic services, we count on."

Bennett and others also have said the population growth can be used to market Canton for economic development to companies looking for a vibrant community. She said the township's diversity already has brought in a wide array of restaurants and other businesses.

"New retail will look at the numbers in the 2010 Census," Bennett said. "It will reflect in the variety of new businesses locating in Canton. We are proud to be who we are."

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

# FROM PAGE A1

Middle School. "We're their constituents. We're a different voice. I'm sort of my kids' union representative. I'm their voice, and I want them to be heard. Somebody needs to advocate for them."

### FIX ISN'T LOCAL

Paton said the committee originally formed over concerns about rising class sizes within the district. It wasn't long, she said, before they realized the committee should be broader in scope. She and Zander believe - and school district officials have said for years - the funding problem isn't going to be fixed locally.

They've turned their attention to legislative issues. For instance, there's a House bill circulating now that would cut kindergarten funding in half for districts that offer half-day kindergarten. Since Plymouth-Canton is among those (it would cost the district some \$4 million), that bill caught the committee's attention right away

Paton was in Lansing last week testifying before a House committee.

"I get it," Paton said about the bill. "The proposal makes some sense, but you can't do it this year. I gave them the Plymouth-Canton story."

That story is all too familiar around these parts, with the district facing a projected deficit of between \$17 and \$20 million. But too many people think the entire problem is local. According to Paton, legislators and even some local parents don't understand the millions of dollars of cuts the district has already made.

### TALK TO LANSING

That's where the LAN comes in. They've met with all three local Legislators - Reps. Dian Slavens of Canton and Kurt Heise of Plymouth and state Sen. Patrick Colbeck, whose district covers both - in an effort to push the district's case in Lansing.

They extolled the virtues of the district to Legislators and tried to impress upon them the urgency of the problem, especially locally.

"The teachers in this district do a fabulous job ... I think the administration and the board have done a great job with what they've been given (in funding)," Paton said. "They put out a great product, but I'm concerned with what that product will look like after we cut \$20 million. It can't hurt to be involved with our legislators.'

Of course, they weren't telling Slavens anything she didn't already believe, since she had three children go through Plymouth-Canton schools.

She said Lansing needs to hear from parents, and not just school officials.

"We've been encouraging parents to go to the appropriations committee meetings and talk about it. (Legislators) say it's been quite compelling to hear from parents," said Slavens, who doesn't sit on that committee. "We want to hear from board members and administrators, too ... (colleagues) have said the most compelling stories are when the parents talk about the impact this has had on children."

### GRASSROOTS

The LAN is a "small, grassroots" effort, for now, Zander said, but it's growing. The group has a burgeoning

Facebook following (the Class Size Counts page has nearly 140 followers). The school funding issue has gotten so much press, she said, that parents are starting to pay attention.

"There's a core group of parents who actively approach us wanting to know what's the latest," Zander said. "In the last month, I've seen a lot more unfamiliar people expressing an interest. There are so many different sides to the story, people are asking, 'how do parents get informed?' and people say, 'Well, we have this LAN.' It's word of mouth."

Paton said Plymouth-Canton officials have done a good job of keeping the cuts out of the classroom to this point, so the effect on kids hasn't been as noticeable. That's why, she thinks, parents have been slow to get interested.

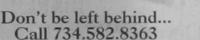
But they're interested now. "You walk into a classroom and everything's fine, so it's hard to get people stirred up," Paton said. "They hear this every year - 'the sky is falling' and some magic solution comes along and fixes it. Well. I don't see that magic fix coming this year."

Paton isn't as concerned for her children - she has a fifthgrader at Isbister Elementary and a seventh-grader at West Middle School - because they're good students. She is worried, however, about how cuts in education funding will affect students who already struggle.

"My concern is for the kids who aren't going to be fine," Paton said. "I really believe in public education, and I'm really concerned with where this is all going."

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# Caregivers offered coping skills, support at program

### **BY JULIE BROWN OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Millie Dallacqua of Redford cares for her husband of 58 years, John.

John, 87, has dementia, but no other physical problems, and lives at Woodhaven Retirement Community in Livonia

"I'm blessed still to have him," she said. "I never think of it as a challenge. I know he would do the same for me."

The couple has six children and 10 grandchildren. "It used to be 24/7," she said of her caregiving. "I do see him (now) every day.

She's pleased with his care, which also includes Angela Hospice although he's not terminally ill. "It's just another set of eyes, another set of hands," Dallacqua said of hospice.

She was among the attendees Thursday, March 24, at a "Candles of Caring" program presented by Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency and Adult Well-Being Services. The afternoon program drew some 40 people to the Redford Township District Library.

"I thought it was wonderful," Dallacqua said of the program, which featured a series of speakers and interludes of harp music by Christa Grix. "Very comforting."

Among the speakers was Dr. Hubert Huebl of Dearborn, a retired Oakwood surgeon who teaches medical students at Wayne State University. He's a past state president and current Dearborn affiliate president of the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

"I have a family member that's had serious mental illness," he said prior to the program.

Professional caregivers can be more emotionally detached, Huebl said, but that's hard for family members. He praised forums like Thursdays, with both sponsoring groups offering support group settings for caregivers.

### **COPING AND CARING**

Huebl reminded caregivers to take care of themselves. He noted dementia and Alzheimer's patients differ from those with physical ailments.

The relationship is hard to sustain," he said. "In some ways, I've thought mental illnesses are among the cruelest of illnesses for that reason." Huebl outlined feelings of guilt, resentment, anger, worry, loneliness, grief and defensiveness among caregivers. Having realistic expectations helps with guilt, he said, as does venting to a confidant,

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· The right to say no. Do what is needed, not all that is wanted.

 The right to feel a full range of emotions.

You have a right to your feelings. Recognize them.

 The right to make mistakes. Your best is good enough.

- The right to "take a break"
- from caregiving. You have to take care of yourself

to take care of others. The right to have fun, laugh and

be happy. It is OK to enjoy yourself. The right to say yes.

When others offer help, just say yes.

• The right to ask guestions. The answers will help you be a better care partner. The right to say "I don't know." You are not expected to have all the answers.

perhaps to deal with resentment over other family members who do less.

"Anger can lead to depression and anxiety," the doctor said, noting seeing humor in daily situations helps. For loneliness, it's good to expand your circle, seek respite care and join a support group.

"Grief can be anticipatory, too," Huebl said. "You should allow yourself to feel sadness and express it.'

Sometimes, another family member has a good idea and you should keep that in mind before becoming defensive, he said: "You need to accept that you have limitations.

If you become irritable or have trouble sleeping, those are signs you need to change. Huebl recommends setting goals: "Use the 'I' word instead of the 'you' word.'

### SPIRITUAL SIDE

Exercise, talking to friends and keeping a journal can all be helpful, he said

Sister Joan Kusak, IHM, of Plymouth Township is retired from campus ministry posts at Oakland Community College and Schoolcraft College. "This is probably the most difficult thing you will do in your life and yet it is the most rewarding," Kusak said

God." Kusak said.

Also emphasizing the spiritual was chaplain Kent Aughe of Royal Oak, who works at The Village of Redford, a senior community. He's cared for parents and in-laws, and focused his comments on gratitude.

"I think one of the big challenges is navigating the health care system, feeling overwhelmed by that," Aughe said. It's hard even to know what questions to ask, said Aughe, from a Lutheran background. He's had 16 years in health care chaplaincy.

He urged attendees to seek help from others, nature or a higher power. "Each person has to define that for themselves." As Aughe tells his kids, "It's not about you. There's a larger perspective that gives us some joy each day."

He described a Village of Redford resident with health problems who nevertheless found joy in sun melting ice patterns on his window. "Often, we emphasize the negative. It's part of human nature, I suppose," Aughe said.

He gave "homework" of noting each day one thing to be grateful for and build on. "No, it won't be what life was before," he said. "You can make progress toward what life will be. You can practice gratefulness in all circumstances.

Nancy Coman, senior services case manager for WMCAA, also spoke, as did co-organizer Christine Goldberg of Adult Well-Being Services. Goldberg, a social worker, lives in Dearborn Heights.

The program, funded in part by The Senior Alliance, featured organizer Coman talking about reminiscing. That can help provide companionship, the Southgate resident said, along with encouraging sociability and healing at the end of life - and even after life ends.

Her dad had early onset Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease, and died of pancreatic cancer. Coman recalled getting through to him with the news she had married.

"So don't give up on your care recipient," she said. "They do understand.'

Greg Lucky of Redford cares for both his parents at home. His mom has advanced



Sister Joan Kusak, IHM, of Plymouth Township speaks during 'Candles of Caring.' She noted a heart full of love is needed to be a caregiver. "Perhaps that is the reason why we got this job," said Sister Kusak, former campus minister at Schoolcraft College and Oakland Community College

PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN

She noted a heart full of love is needed to be a caregiver: "Perhaps that is the reason why we got this job. It's very important to be able to know our boundaries. God can fill in what is difficult for us."

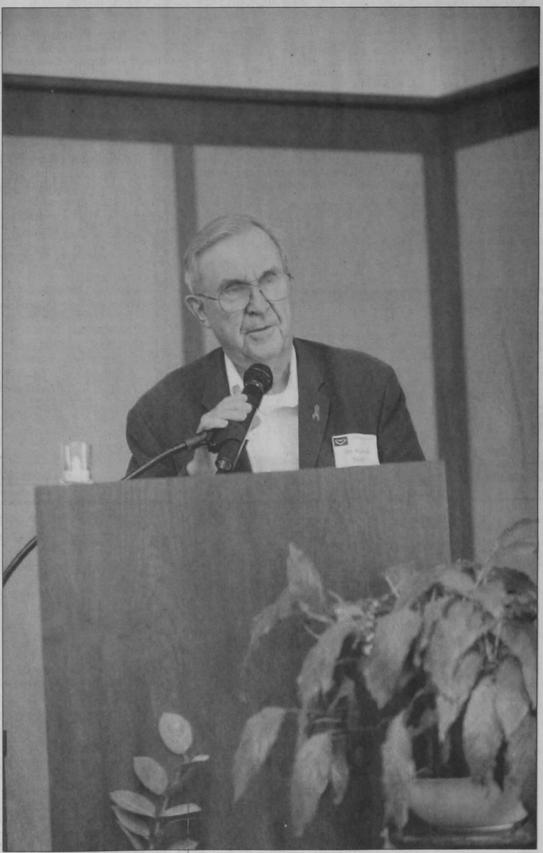
She emphasized flexibility and balance in caregiving: "There's a third person in that relationship and that person is Alzheimer's. Lucky was glad to attend the program, which included extensive printed information on caregiving.

"It was excellent," Lucky said. "The speakers were very in tune with caregivers' stress. It's encouraging and motivational for me. It's a realization that others are doing the same thing."

Candles were used to symbolize light during the 'Candles of Caring' program Thursday afternoon in Redford.



Nancy Coman (left) of Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency and Christine Goldberg of Adult Well-Being Services put the 'Candles of Caring' program together. Both women also spoke Thursday afternoon, with several of Coman's relevant poems read aloud.



Dr. Hubert Huebl of Dearborn, a retired Qakwood surgeon, speaks during 'Candles of Caring.' Huebl, who teaches at Wayne State's medical school, said, "I can't emphasize enough getting into support groups with people who have the same problems you do."



PHOTOS BY ERIC MITCHELL/FORD/AUTOMOTIVE COMPONENTS HOLDINGS

Judy Haggerty of Northville loads diapers into a Transit Connect van last week. Haggerty is a product design engineer at Ford Motor Co.'s Automatic Transmission New Product Center in Livonia

# Ford cleans up in diaper drive

The Ford Volunteer Corps collected 25,000 diapers, 600 containers of baby formula, 900 cases of baby wipes and 10 strollers as part of its focus on children and families for last week's Ford Accelerated Action Day.

Volunteers loaded four Transit Connect vans and distributed the cargo to various nonprofit agencies including The Detroit Area Diaper Bank in Canton. Then they unloaded the vans and went back out and loaded them again.

The essentials will help thousands of needy families in the metro Detroit area. Ford employees brought the much needed items to more than a dozen Ford locations including the Automatic Transmission New Product Center (ATNPC) in Livonia.

Nonprofit agency partners told the auto company that most assistance programs do not provide diapers and Ford the need with their contribu-



employee volunteers helped fill Dave VanHoet of Canton load diapers into the Transit Connect. VanHoet works in Ford Purchasing.

# **IRS** extension's for filing, not paying

### BY RICK BLOOM MONEY MATTERS COLUMNIST

can't believe how fast the first quarter of 2011 has gone. Since the beginning of the year it's been nonstop - one crisis after another. These are the times that we live in and I guess that's just the way it is. However, even though our attention is on international events mostly out of our control, we must never take our eyes off the ball regarding something we can control - our personal financial affairs. This time of year we all have an important deadline to meet and that is the filing our income tax returns.

Some of the recent numbers suggest that not as many people have completed their tax returns as did a year ago at this time. There are many reasons for that, including the passage of tax reform late last year. That being said, it doesn't matter what they do in Washington, you and I have an obligation to make sure that we file something by the April 15 deadline, or this year because of a legal holiday in Washington, D.C., (emancipation day), April 18. It's not imperative that you complete your return by the deadline, however, if your return is not filed, you must file for an extension to avoid penalties and other unwanted problems.

Every year at this time I stress there is no additional audit risk by filing for an extension. People are under the mistaken belief that extensions mean additional scrutiny by the IRS. That's just not the case. Missing information, incorrect Social Security Numbers, mathematical errors and general sloppiness are what increase audit risks

My advice is instead of rushing to complete your return and increasing the risk of mistakes, file for an extension and take your time to ensure an accurate, complete tax return.

Extensions are automatic. The IRS doesn't approve or disapprove extensions. By filing form 4868 with the Internal



**Money Matters** 

**Rick Bloom** 

file an extension. it is an extension of time to file

that when you

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(CP)

your tax return, not to pay your taxes. Your tax liability is due this year on April 18 and the extension of time does not apply to the payment of your taxes. Therefore, even if you file for an extension, you must guesstimate your tax liability and pay the amount owed with your extension.

If you're receiving a refund, then you don't need to make any additional payments with your extension.

Also remember the State of Michigan taxes are different than the federal government. Therefore, if you owe money to the federal government you're required to pay it along with your extension, you must to do the same for state income tax. You're not going to owe any money and, in fact, you receive a refund, then your federal extension is sufficient for the state and no additional forms are required.

The clock is ticking, but there is no reason to panic. If you decide to do an extension, pull out last year's return and use that as a guideline for your extension. Remember, if you underestimate your tax liability, the IRS can assess you with interest and penalties. Therefore, all things being equal I'd overestimate and pay a little, as opposed to acquiring unnecessary penalties and interest.

Good luck!

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

NOTICE OF SALE MAYFLOWER TOWING

tions, said Eric A. Mitchell, public affairs spokesman for Ford/Automotive Components Holdings.

Baby formula is always in demand to nourish the most community's most vulnerable resident, said Mitchell, a Livonia resident.

Diapers are a huge hole in the "safety net." There is no assistance for diapers, they're not paid for or provided by WIC, Food Stamps or Medicare, according to the diaper bank's facebook page.

The diapers, formula and other items were collected over

four days last week (March 21-24) and everything was picked up last Friday for distribution to nonprofits.

The diaper drive was part of last week's Accelerated Action Day in which Ford workers leave the office and head out into the community to renovate facilities that serve families and children.

Several action days are planned throughout the year, each with a special focus.

Ford Motor Company encourages salaried employees to take two work days per year and volunteer in their

local area. Last year, more than 20,000 Ford employees and retirees performed 100,000 hours of work on community projects - the equivalent of \$2 million of inkind corporate contributions, according to the Ford Motor Company website.

The Ford Volunteer Corps, established in 2005, continues Ford's legacy of caring worldwide. On May 13, the Accelerated Action day will focus on the environment by creating nature trails, revitalizing gardens and protecting water resources.

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Lisa Jacobi of Plymouth helps organize the diapers collected at various Ford locations. Jacobi works at the Ford Product Development Center in Dearborn.

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1986	Chevrolet	Monte Carlo	1G1GZ37G8GR142491
1995	Chevrolet	Blazer	1GNCS13W5S2224845
2001	Chevrolet	Impala	2G1WF55E919318449
1995	Honda ·	Civic LX	1HGEG8657SL067975
1994	Chevrolet	S10	1GCCS14Z0R8171948
2000	Dodge	Durango	1B4HS28N4YF117627
1994	Oldsmobile	Cutlass Supreme	1G3WH15M5RD418807
1995	Ford	F150	1FTEF14N2SNB52819
		1179 Starkweather Plymouth, MI 481 734-459-0053	
1994	Honda	Accord Lx/ex	1HGCD5632RA134341
2001	Mazda	Protege Lx/es	JM1BJ225510480094

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that the City of Plymouth, Michigan will accept sealed bids up until 10:00 a.m., April 28, 2011. The bid opening will be at 10:15 a.m., April 28, 2011 for the following:

### Request for Proposal -**Cultural Center Concession Stand Lease**

Specifications and bid documents are available at the City Hall during normal business hours. You may also download a copy of the documentation from the City's web site at: http:// www.ci.plymouth.mi.us

### A bid bond/performance bond in the form of either a certified check or cashier's check, in an amount equal to \$750.00, must accompany each proposal.

The City of Plymouth reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, and to waive any irregularities.

> Linda J. Langmesser, CMC City Clerk City of Plymouth

Publish: March 31, 2011

lid with any other offer present this coupon. Not valid with any other offer Must present this coupon. Expires 4-6-11. Expires 4-6-11.

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Neuter, De-claw or Dental

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, at public sale by competitive bidding on Monday, April 18th, 2011 at 9:00 A.M. at the Extra Space Storage facility located at

> 6729 N. Canton Center Rd. Canton, MI 48187 734-459-4821

The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but are not limited to general household, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances

B30	Matari Cooper -	Household, appliances	furniture,	boxes,
C87	Jennifer Sheridan -	Household, appliances	furniture,	boxes,
D128	Bradd Rigoni -	Household, appliances	furniture,	boxes,
J359	Gary Powers -	Household, appliances	furniture,	boxes,

Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the time of sale. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to bid. Sale is subject to adjournment.

Publish: March 31 & April 7, 2011





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# OPINION

PAGE A10 (C) THURSDAY, March 31, 2011

hometownlife

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



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

### OUR VIEWS

# Way to go! Athletic, academic success tribute to students, teachers

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools officials are struggling mightily right now with huge issues — trying to find a new superintendent, how to deal with a deficit that ranges, depending on how you crunch the numbers, anywhere from \$17 million to \$20 million.

But while the administration and the school board are struggling, the students are having no issues either in the classrooms or on the athletic fields and courts, as evidenced by all the recent successes, both academ-

Earlier this month, 13 high school ensemble teams from the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park took part in adjudicated music festivals sponsored by the Michigan School Vocal Music Association and the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association. ic and athletic. (NOTE: There's no way to name every academic success in the district, so we apologize in advance for the ones we miss). For instance, eight Plymouth-

Canton students made the Observer's Academic All-Star team, including two who had perfect scores (the team will be announced next month).

Earlier this month, 13 high school ensemble teams from the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park took part in adjudicated music festivals sponsored by the Michigan School Vocal Music Association and the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association.

In a remarkable display of talent and achievement, all 13

ensembles received a first-division rating and qualified for state festivals.

That's a testament first of all to the talent of the students, but it's also evidence of the quality of the teaching. The bands are led by director of bands David Armbruster and assistant director Sheldon Frazier. The orchestras are directed by Catherine Depentu.

PCEP choirs rocked it at Northville High School, under the direction of Jennifer Kopp and assistant director Valerie Said.

Even the choirs from the middle schools got in on

### **COMMUNITY VOICE**

With Canton's population increasing 18 percent in the latest Census (reaching the 90,173 mark), do you think it's a good thing or bad?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



"I would say it's probably a good thing." Jennifer Rollins Westland



"It's probably good for the tax base, but it makes me wonder what kind of people are moving here. Are they employed and will they actually add to the tax base? I guess I'd need to know more about the statistics." Brian Gawronski



"I think it's great. I saw that Detroit has lost population, but it's good for this area that we've gained population. I think it bodes well for the township of Canton." Bob Mosher Canton



"It's good and bad. It's good because you want more activities (that bring people), but on the down side it's more traffic on our crummy roads." Jim Mitchell Canton

### LETTERS

### Shirking their duties

The Plymouth-Canton school board needs to cut \$17-\$20 million out of its budget. The administrative executives at the board office have proposed more than 30 budget cuts, including closing an elementary school, moving Starkweather, closing buildings at night, etc. None of the proposals is backed by the financial analysis or data one would expect for initiatives that need to be implemented by September. Why is that?

The fact is, the entire non-salary budget doesn't even add up to \$16 million. This means that if they completely eliminate heat and lights, books and pencils, bus maintenance, cafeteria food, and every single other non-salary cost from the budget, it is still impossible to plug the budget hole.

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Canton

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

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com.

### Read or comment online:

different address and the second but

professional orchestral learning programs to their third-, fourth- and some of their fifth-grade classes.

We have grown up. At the same time, our name has become increasingly confused with a multitude of other Plymouth-Canton area entities. There was nothing distinctive about it. It still sounded like the grassroots community orchestra it started out to be. Marketing experts we had consulted with from the Lincoln Center in Washington, D C., and others urged us to change our name. They insisted the growth of our influence and performance opportunities around southeast Michigan would continue to be limited if we did not. This was a big decision for us. We worried that our faithful supporters would be let down by this, but the more we discussed it and passed the idea. by a few key people, the more essential we decided the move was. Somewhere in the past, I read that cities never stay the same - they either begin to fade or they take the steps needed to grow and thrive. Perhaps the same is true for orchestras, and it is time for us to step up what we are doing in order to continue to grow and thrive in a market with so much competition. Already it has begun to open doors for more performance opportunities than we ever could have had with our original name. Watch for the impressive lineup of performances over this summer alone. Summer used to be a big down time for us. We are convinced we made the right decision. We hope you are as excited about this as we are.

the success, with Pioneer Middle School's sixth- and seventh-graders getting first-division ratings.

Here's how they did on the athletic side:

• Canton's girls basketball team won everything in sight and reached the Class A state semifinals for the second straight year. The performance marked the end of brilliant careers for Canton's Kari and Sara Schmitt, Kayla Bridges, Melanie Pickert and CarolAnn Sexauer.

Meanwhile, Plymouth senior Taylor Birman received the Michigan High School Athletic Association Scholar-Athlete Award.

• In boys basketball, Plymouth and Canton high schools each finished 9-1 in the KLAA South to win a share of the division. It was the first such achievement for the Wildcats.

• In hockey, Canton won the coveted Lash Cup (for Park supremacy) and also captured the KLAA South Division with a record of 7-2-2 (outlasting secondplace Salem, 7-3-1). Canton goalie Spencer Craig registered five shutouts for a new school record. Salem made it to the pre-regional final before bowing out to Northville.

• Anthony Abro (189 pounds) of Canton won a Division 1 state championship in wrestling; he also hit 200 high school career victories. Other wrestlers who reached the individual finals included Canton's Ben Poirier (heavyweight), Ben Griffin (103), Zach Marsh (140) and Braden Price (171); Salem's Cody Korpus (119); Plymouth's Said Youssef (125) and Alec Breckenridge (130).

• Salem senior swimmers Adam Seroka, Matt Collingwood, Max Mills and junior Jason Zhang were Division 1 all-staters.

Canton junior Victor Zhang, likewise, was a D1 allstater. He is Canton's first individual champion since 1979. The Chiefs also won the KLAA South Division and Kensington Conference.

• In bowling, the Plymouth boys team qualified for the Division 1 state meet. In the individual bowling finals, representatives included Plymouth girls Caitlyn Webb and Mackenzie Carlson; Salem senior Ryan Clark; Salem girls Kristin Larkins and Ashley Kretschmer; and Canton's Ross Terrasi.

• The Canton gymnastics team finished second in the state finals. Ayana Lewis won a Division 2 state championship on vault and medaled. Other D2 medalists were Erica Lucas and Kali Pierce. D1 allstate performers included senior Robyn Piwowar, Alex Fideler and Melissa Green (all medalists). Piwowar was named Senior Gymnast of the Year by the Michigan High School Gymnastics Coaches and Judges Association.

Salem's Nicole Jacobs, Ade Jepperson and Plymouth's Reagan Engstrom all took part in the D2 finals.

These and so many other academic successes are attributable to hard work and dedication, not only of the students and the athletes, but of the coaches and, especially the teachers.

Congratulations to all of you.

X

Clearly, nothing short of an across-the-board pay cut, or the layoff of more than 200 employees, will solve this problem. But why, then, did the board and union quickly sign off on the recent teachers contract less than one week before these budget meetings began, without getting a single salary concession? Why are they wasting time on this budget charade? And why did the executives at the board office exempt themselves and all of the board office employees from taking any pay cuts (none of the 30+ suggestions included any wage or benefit concessions for board office employees - two minor positions were eliminated through attrition).

Is it because the top officials are all retiring this year and a pay cut would most certainly reduce their pension payouts?

One thing is crystal clear: Across-the-board wage cuts will be necessary for ALL employee classes. However, if I were a teacher, a principal, a bus driver, a maintenance worker, etc., I wouldn't give a single dime without equal concessions from the board office.

And if the district and unions choose to fire a slew of teachers instead of an across-the-board pay cut, then those of you with school-age children should prepare to either move out of the district or enroll your kids in the nearest private or charter school, because class sizes will go through the roof and the quality of education in this district will be gutted.

We don't expect the board's majority faction, led by a union-entrenched decade-and-a-half school board member, to step up to the task of solving the budget problems, but the six-figuresalaried executives at the board office who undermined their own superintendent for wanting them to follow his lead and take a pay cut, should not be allowed to continue to blatantly shirk their leadership duties.

They should start by restructuring the board office, the pay scales, and the benefit packages. Then they should put out to bid previously "protected" service contracts, starting with the no bid TMP general contractor contract, the legal services contract and the accounting services contract. Once they have taken these steps, then and only then, should they turn to their teachers for help.

And they need to start yesterday. Nancy Conzelman

Plymouth

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

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

### Sharing the news

Finally we can share the news! On March 23, the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society revealed to its supporters that we have officially changed our name to the Michigan Philharmonic.

This comes after much thought, discussion, soul-searching and planning. We can never thank all of our supporters over the past 66 years enough for their work, attendance at our concerts, participation in our programs, loyalty to our cause and financial support. They have made it possible for us to go from a small group of local players meeting in homes, to a community based orchestra made up mostly of volunteers, whose sound was filled out with a few professional players, to what we have today - a fully professional orchestra unafraid of tackling the most difficult pieces put before them.

We now have an orchestra which regularly brings in professional guest performers and composers, sometimes to perform the world premiere of one of a new piece. We have received wide acclaim from Pulitzer-prize winning composers, the League of American Orchestras, radio music hosts and newspaper arts critics and more.

Our conductor, Nan Washburn, whose coming to us from California almost a dozen years ago heralded the beginning of our drive to become a highly respected, all-professional orchestra, has won 17 national awards for her programming. She is recognized by universities, composers, conductors and orchestras across the country as one of the best in the business.

Not long ago, one of our guest composers told me Nan had achieved not only what she had communicated to her that she wanted her music to convey to the listener, but had somehow grasped even what she had been unable to put into words. This was following the first professional performance of the composer's piece.

In addition to all of the above, we have created a Youth Orchestra, which will now be called the Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra. Our Celebration Youth Orchestra grew from just seven string players to four ensembles in just eight years. We have formed a close working relationship with the Plymouth-Canton Community Elementary Schools, building a partnership with their PTO's and music teachers to bring first class

### Jane Libbing, ed. coordinator

Youth Orchestra manager Michigan Philharmonic

### Tough love from tough nerd

Just 48 days into his only term as Michigan's governor, the soft-spoken Rick Snyder has delivered the budget news most informed people were expecting. Proclaiming "we will no longer kick the can down the road" and attempting to address the state's long-ignored structural deficits, he has begun to wield the budget axe to close a \$2 billion shortfall. Michigan is not alone with a deficit budget and collectively the states' deficits exceed \$85 billion. Across the country, austerity is the operative word in every state legislature and most are proposing cuts as a solution.

If anyone had any doubt that Mr. Snyder is not a politician, I believe his first budget, which has angered just about every special-interest group in the state, makes it clear he has no future political ambitions. And his standing in the latest polls bears that out.

While I do not agree with all of his budget recommendations, I do give him credit for delivering the somber news personally, with his usual upbeat manner and not hiding from those who fervently disagree.

Michigan's government has been dysfunctional for many years and it is not Rick Snyder's fault that today as a state fiscally we are between a rock and a hard place.

But it soon will be.

Steve King Livonia

### OPINION

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF COLUMNIST

t's pretty easy for us to sit back and tell legislators how they should be solving Michigan's budget crisis or, even more locally, how Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, Canton and Plymouth Township boards and Plymouth city commissioners how to resolve their financial situations.

I've had more than one board member say to me, "How about giving it a try yourself?" To which I frequently say, "No, thanks. I'd much rather be in my position than yours."

While dealing with stories on the school budget, I had the opportunity to talk to Sheila Paton, a parent and co-chair of the Legislative Action Network, a committee she helped form to deal with legislative issues pertaining particularly to the school budget. She knows everything there is to know about what the state plans and the roadblocks Plymouth-Canton faces financially.

She told me about a tool on The Center for Michigan's website (www.thecenterformichigan.com) that puts you in the budgetary driver's seat. It lays out Gov. Rick Snyder's plans for balancing the budget and lets you make the decisions for him. You can raise taxes, cut revenue sharing, close prisons ... pretty much all the options the governor is considering.

Don't agree with him? Do it yourself. Here's my word of caution: It ain't easy.

The first thing it does is ask if you support the governor's plan to cut business taxes by \$1.2 billion, while admitting that plan increases the budget deficit. I didn't support it, because I'm not sure the best thing to do when you're dealing with a \$1.4 billion deficit

is to increase it. I was on a bit of an island 1000 000 here, because less than 49 percent of the people who took the test **Brad Kadrich** did what I did.

Here's what you've got to consider:

• Education: You can cut funding 15 percent to statefunded universities, which saves you \$222 million but would result in tuition increases. You can also shift funding for community colleges or fund universities out of the school aid fund, but that would cost public schools dearly. I didn't do it. I adopted the first plan because, to me, the other plans put K-12 funding at risk to a greater degree than I would have been willing to do.

• General government: I supported cuts in revenue sharing. It seems like the governor's still going to get money to communities who demonstrate the ability to be creative in sharing expenses and programs. Both Plymouths and Canton Township have shown that inclination and would likely benefit from the governor's plan. I also asked for the 10-percent, across-the-board cuts from each department.

· Prisons and police: I supported a suggestion for prison sentencing reform, which would use various approaches to reduce prison population. I also supported the idea of prison operations reforms, including closing a prison, because if we're going to reform sentencing guidelines and get nonviolent people out of the prisons, perhaps we don't need as many beds.

· Public workforce: I supported the governor's plan for concessions from state workers, because the cuts have to come somewhere, and people in the private sector are making concessions, taking wage cuts, etc.

• Welfare and health care: I had trouble with this one (my liberal instincts probably at work). I don't know if I agree with cutting people off of welfare after 48 months, but there's probably a way to weed out those who abuse the system from those whose very lives depend on it.

• Tax increases: I had no trouble raising the tax on beer and wine; to me, it's the biggest no-brainer in the entire plan. I also supported extending sales tax to personal services because it lowers the sales tax to 5.5 percent overall, and I don't do all that much of the "services" thing. I only go to a couple of Tigers games a year, I don't go to many plays or concerts. With my car, having car maintenance taxed higher could hurt me, but overall it falls under the "something has to be done" category, and this, to me, is the lesser of the evils.

The most popular solution among nearly 10,000 people who had played along at the time I took the plunge was hiking the beer tax for the first time since the 1960s. I wasn't the only one in favor of some sort of tax increase; more than 77 percent of the participants raised some sort of tax.

None of it was easy, and I was playing with "pretend" money. I had no skin in the game, other than trying to understand. My decisions aren't going to impact anyone; when State Reps. Dian Slavens and Kurt Heise, state Sen. Patrick Colbeck and the seven members of the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education wrestle with these decisions, it's for real.

Remember that before you blast them out of hand for their decisions.

Brad Kadrich is community editor of the Plymouth and Canton Observers. He can be reached via e-mail at bkadrich@hometownlife.com or by phone at (313) 222-8899.

House Vineyard Salad

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# Bringing transparency to title insurance costs

BY BERNARD J. YOUNGBLOOD **GUEST COLUMNIST** 

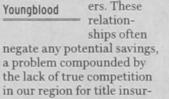
hen it comes to buying auto insurance, health insurance or life insurance, most of us will aggressively shop for the best and most competitive prices.

But when it comes to purchasing a title insurance policy on the most significant expenditure we ever make - our home — we never give the cost a second thought until it's too late.

That's because title insurance is a hidden cost of buying or refinancing a house, one generally presented to us in a slew of paperwork by our real estate broker or loan officer at closing. If we object, we're typically told we are squashing the deal because our interest rate lock is expiring or, when the real market is robust, the seller will entertain other offers

On the purchase of a \$200,000 home, the cost of a title insurance loan policy for a homebuyer can range from \$597 to more than \$1,000. A buyer can cut that rate down to about \$375 if he or she gets a simultaneous loan rate in conjunction with the owner policy the seller is required to obtain.

But if the seller's and buyer's respective real estate agents work for competing



Bernard

ance. Late last year, the Federal Trade Commission cited Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties and the Portland, Ore., area as two places where title where a monopoly exists in title insurance.

The lack of competition drives up the price tri-county residents are forced to pay when they purchase or refinance a house, and contributes to our ranking as one of the country's most distressed real estate markets.

Think back to your last home purchase or refinancing. Wouldn't it have been nice to save a couple of hundred dollars on title insurance that you could have instead spent on other home improvements or put in your bank account?

Since most consumers don't know where or how to

these brokers often have exclusive relationships with different title insurance carri-

brokers,

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 31, 2011

shop for title insurance, my office has introduced a new feature on our website at www.waynecountylandrecords.com.

The site features a title insurance rate calculator, which prompts consumers to enter either their purchasing and financing cost or their selling price. They will then immediately receive pricing information from the title insurance companies that are licensed in Michigan. The information includes website links and phone numbers for the various providers.

This is a great tool for both homebuyers and home sellers. It empowers consumers to make informed decisions and it brings transparency to a purchase that consumers generally have no awareness of or control over.

More importantly, it will help spur competition in a local industry that has been deemed monopolistic. And competition will breed many positives for our local real estate market.

Bernard Youngblood is the Wayne County register of deeds. The Register of Deeds Office is the place where people record documents relating to land transactions. His office is located at 400 Monroe St., Seventh Floor, Detroit. He can be reached at (313) 224-5854 or by email at rodhelp@co.wayne.mi.us.



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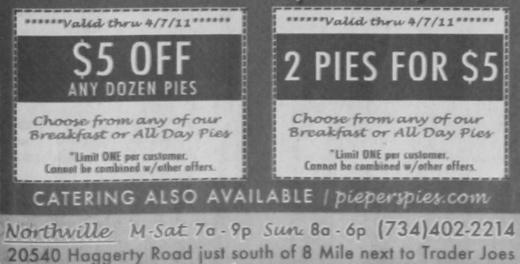
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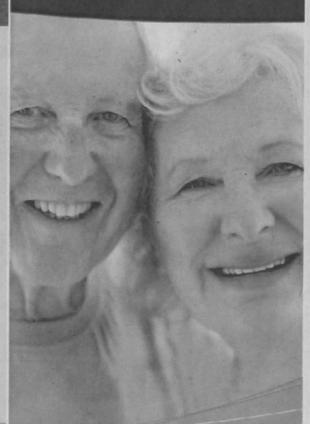
Our staff is specially trained in geriatric medicine and provides personalized care for seniors including, review of pre-existing medical conditions, medication assessments, and evaluation of nutritional needs. We also address the emotional needs of seniors, which can often affect their physical well-being. Our Senior ERs<sup>5M</sup> are uniquely designed to enhance the level of care and comfort for seniors and their caregivers, while providing the most advanced medicine and technology available.

Learn more about our unique approach to senior emergency care<sup>544</sup>

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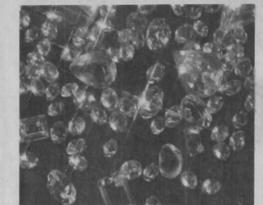
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### ALL-AREA BOYS HOCKEY SQUAD - B2

SECTION B (CP)

# SPORTS hometownlifemcom

# **CLASSIFIED ADS INSIDE** JOBS, B11

AUTOS, B12

THURSDAY, March 31, 2011

# **Chiefs will be** heard from

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

There's no denying Canton's 2010 baseball team was pretty special.

Ranked No. 5 much of the year, the Chiefs finished 28-8 and advanced to the Division 1 quarterfinal - not to mention sporting two all-state pitchers in Kevin Delapaz and Andrew Tidwell

But spring is here again, and the 2011 Chiefs want to keep it going. Canton opens with an 11 a.m. doubleheader Saturday at Dexter.

"Our motto this year is 'Tradition Doesn't Graduate," said fourth-year head coach Mark Blomshield. "That's kind of what we're preaching to our kids.

"We lost a lot, but we say 'You guys are our next tradition, you're going to leave your mark.'

The KLAA South Division squad did lose five key players to graduation, not including a sixth (Alex Dixon) who was injured all last season.

However, Blomshield has 11

### **2011 BASEBALL PREVIEW PT. 1**

seniors back from the team that lost in extra innings to Ann Arbor Pioneer in the quarters.

'They've been a part of a few championship teams," he said. "Obviously (2010) was our best year. But most of those seniors were called up and were part of the '08 districts; we lost in the regional finals to Brother Rice a couple times.

"They definitely know how to win, and that sometimes is the kiss of death, too."

Blomshield stressed that he and assistant coaches John Johnson, Jim Wisniewski and Steve Howard are reminding players not to get complacent, not to expect to win just because they did previously.

"It's hard to win a varsity baseball game and we need to keep our goals in our back pocket and I think we need to stay focused." Blomshield said. "Nothing's going to be easy, I can tell you that.



**BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER** 

Please see BASEBALL, B4

Ryan Bazner lays down a bunt during the 2010 season for Canton. Not only is he one of the team's best all-around players for 2011, he is the No. 1 starting pitcher.



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

Two girls soccer teams from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park got off to excellent starts to the 2011 season. Both Plymouth and Salem registered 1-0 shutouts on Tuesday.

In a contest at Saline, the defending Division



# SIDELINES

From Canton to Greece

PUZZLES, B10

David Foust, 33, of Canton this week is training with Special Olympics Team USA at San Diego State University and nearby venues to gear up for a summer spot on the world stage.

He will compete June 25-July 4 in Greece, at the Special Olympics World Summer Games Athens 2011.

Foust has been involved with Special Olympics Michigan since grade school. He has participated in bowling, poly hockey, aquatics, softball and basketball over the years.

"It is an honor to be chosen to compete at World Games," Foust said. "It will be very interesting and a chance to meet other athletes from around the world."

Special Olympics Team USA is comprised of 317 athletes and 126 coaches.

### Solid lacrosse debut

Plymouth's boys lacrosse team defeated Ann Arbor Greenhills 7-4 on Monday, sparked by a three-goal performance from Phil Flesch. Adding two goals was Jeremy Cigile, with Conor Downey (two assists) the other multipoint player.

Also scoring for the Wildcats was Kenny Fanelli and Alec Drean, with Kyle Durham tallying an assist.

Other standouts included senior goalie Mike Justus (six saves) and Shaun Austin, who had five ground balls (important to retain possession of the ball).

### 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

1 state finalist Plymouth Wildcats came away with a one-goal victory.

Coach Jeff Neschich praised goalkeeper Marissa Williams and his defensive corps for keeping Saline from mounting much of an offense. He also said Stephanie Dillon "did a solid job controlling the center-mid for us."

And all the scoring that Plymouth needed came off the foot of Zoe Foster, who booted in the rebound of a Maria Farmer shot.

The Wildcats will continue being road warriors, with contests slated for Thursday at Ann Arbor Huron and Thursday, April 7, at Northville. The first home game will be 7 p.m. Friday, April 8, against Salem.

Speaking of the Rocks, they also played a defensive gem Tuesday night - likewise winning 1-0, at PCEP against Walled Lake Central.

Scoring for the Rocks was Nancy Krutty, who coach Joe Nora said "scored a hustle goal off a great pass by Madeleine (Vala).

And that was plenty, because of the excellent work turned in by goalkeeper Ali Eggenberger (three saves) when she was called upon along with the back line of Victoria Kaye, Katelynn Krause, Jenna Coon, Madie Kummer and Olivia Kaye - who Nora said "played organized and under control, not allowing many chances on goal.

Next up for Salem is a game 7 p.m. Thursday at Walled Lake Northern.

Canton senior Melanie Pickert (No. 14), shown in Monday's season opener at Novi, remains vital to the Chiefs' 2011 hopes.

# New Canton coach to rely on vets

**GIRLS SOCCER PREVIEW** 

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

### The sour taste from losing in the 2010 regional final might linger awhile for Canton's varsity girls soccer team.

But the Chiefs will soon enough meet up with the team that knocked them out - Division 1 state finalist Plymouth.

By the time of that April 13 game, first-year Canton coach Jeannine Reddy and her squad should be well-entrenched into the task of having a stellar 2011 season, too.

"Overall, (this is a) great team with lots of talent," said Reddy, a veteran Canton junior varsity

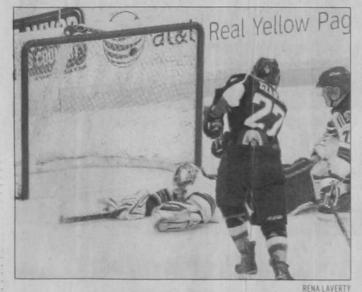
coach who takes over from George Tomasso. "It should be an interesting and exciting season."

Helping her to be so optimistic is the return of several top players from the 2010 Chiefs, particularly on the defensive side of the pitch.

That team went 17-2-3, capturing the KLAA South Division,

Please see SOCCER, B3

# Never too late: Whalers' rally nets overtime playoff win



Robbie Czarnik of the Plymouth Whalers scores the game-winning goal Saturday in overtime of Game 2 at Compuware Arena. Czarnik sends the puck past Kitchener goalie Brandon Maxwell. At far right is Rangers defenseman Jonathan Jasper.

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

For much of Saturday night's Game 2, everything pointed to the Kitchener Rangers evening up their Ontario Hockey League Western Conference quarterfinal with Plymouth. The Rangers — who were on the power play much of the first two periods - had a 2-0 lead midway through the third, and the Whalers' few Grade A scoring chances either were stopped by Kitchener netminder Brandon Maxwell or the goal post.

But Whalers forward Tyler Brown's shorthanded breakaway goal sparked a rally that eventually forced overtime. And in OT, forward Robbie Czarnik scored at 2:30 to give Plymouth a 3-2 victory (and 2-0 series lead) before 2,834 delirious fans at Compuware Arena.

Czarnik, near the bottom rim of the left circle, roofed a centering pass from forward Jamie Devane over Maxwell who was scrambling to get back in position after taking a spill behind his goal.

"I like held on to it, and everyone was talking about it," said Czarnik with a grin. "What took you so long to shoot it?

Please see WHALERS, B4

### WHALERS DROP GAME 3

Plymouth lost 3-1 to Kitchener in Monday's Game 3 of their Ontario Hockey League Western Conference semifinal. With the defeat, the Whalers took a 2-1 series lead into Wednesday's Game 4 at Compuware Arena (go to www.hometownlife.com for late results).

Kitchener goalie Brandon Maxwell made 35 saves, none bigger than on a penalty shot awarded to Tyler Brown in the third, with the Rangers nursing a 2-1 lead

Scoring the lone goal for the Whalers was Farmington Hills native Alex Aleardi, an unassisted tally at 13:30 of the middle frame to tie the game at 1-1.

Playing an outstanding game in a losing cause was Whalers netminder Scott Wedgewood (45 saves, 18 in the first period).

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 (ovmnasium if inclement weather) and limited to 100 participants, are slated for 9 a.m. to noon (grades onefour) and 12:30-3:30 p.m. (grades five-eight).

Boys and girls currently in grades one-eight 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 Bryan.Boyd@pccsmail.net.

### Women's golfers fifth

The Madonna University women's golf team placed fifth out of nine teams in Mount Union Spring Invitational held last weekend at Tannenhauf G.C. in Alliance. Ohio.

Baldwin-Wallace (Ohio) captured the team title with a two-day total of 338-341-679.

Rounding out the top five were: Otterbein (Ohio), 352-339-691; Mercyhurst (Pa.), 349-346-695; Mount Union, 349-350-699; and Madonna, 387-362-749.

Mount Union's Mary Snode was individual medalist with a 76-81-157.

Chelsea Bathurst paced MU in a tie for 13th with a 92-84-176. Other finishers for the Crusaders included: Michelle Hall, 18th (96-87-183); Mariel Meyers, 29th (100-93-193); Megan Fleischer, tied for 33rd (99-99-198); and Caitlin Steele. tied for 33rd (100-98-198).

### LOCAL SPORTS

### online at hometownlife.com

# The puck stops here for all-area icers

### **FIRST TEAM**

Brandon Price, Sr. G, Salem: The senior goaltender fortified Salem's defense with an oftenspectacular and always-reliable season.

B2

(CP)

Price, selected to the Division 1 first-team all-state and all-KLAA squads, tallied a record of 18-5-2, goals-against average of 2.6 and save percentage of .900

The co-MVP for Salem, his play was instrumental in the Rocks reaching the pre-regional finals (he blanked Plymouth in the playoff opener). Salem also finished second in the tough KLAA South with records of 17-6-2 overall and 7-3-1 in the division

"Brandon gave us a chance to win every night and we can honestly say that he never had an off night during the season," Salem coach Ryan Ossenmacher said. "He was called on to play in almost all our games and he was ready for that challenge.

John Mandryk, Sr. Def., Liv. Stevenson: The senior defenseman ranked a plus-19 en route to D1 first-team all-state and all-KLAA honors.

"John had a great season by any measure for a defenseman, but when you take into consideration he was a forward last year makes it almost unreal," Stevenson coach Gerry Vento said. "Because of John's teamfirst attitude - which is why he as an alternate captain - he didn't hesitate to make the move back to the blueline after one week into the season. After a week back there, it looked like he had been there his entire career. John has many strengths which make him so effective, but his ability to play with composure is what separated him from the pack.

Mandryk also had 22 assists to go along with one goal for the 16-6-3 Spartans.

"No matter what the scenario, John approached it with the same sense of calm and determination that rubbed off on all of his teammates," Vento added. "John's leadership both on-andoff the ice will be very difficult to replace next season, but hopefully some of our returners

### 2010-11 ALL-OBSERVER **BOYS HOCKEY FIRST TEAM**

### Brandon Price, Sr. G, Salem John Mandryk, Sr. Def., Liv. Stevenson

Rob Goldi, Sr. Def., Farmington Nick Elliott, Sr. F. Farmington Ryan Urso, Sr. F, Liv. Stevenson Ryan Quigley, Sr., F. Salem SECOND TEAM Tim Rogers, Sr. G. Farmington Jimmy LaFontaine, Sr. Def., Canton Garrett Berg, Sr. Def., Salem Steve Klisz, Sr., F. Liv. Churchill Alex Schmitt, Sr. F. Farmington Andrew Palushaj, Sr. F. Liv. Stevenson THIRD TEAM Connor Humitz, Sr. G. Liv. Stevenson Justin Bauer, Sr. Def., Plymouth Joe Williams, Sr. Def., Liv. Churchill Scott Newel, Sr. F. N. Farm.-Harrison Mark McGee, Jr. F. Salem Jake Otto, Jr. F. Liv. Churchill FOURTH TEAM Michael Justus, Sr. G, Plymouth Spencer Craig, Jr. G. Canton Erick Chamberlain, Sr. Def., Farm Justin Shureb, Sr. F., Liv. Stevenson A.J. Rosales, Sr., F. Canton Zac Massa, Jr. F. Farmington Ryan Murray, Sr. F. N. Farm.-Harrison COACH OF THE YEAR Pete Mazzoni, Livonia Churchill HONORABLE MENTION Churchill: Mike Kutek, Cam Benson, Brad Milks, Ben Proben, Nick Proben, Alex Estes: Franklin: Adam Michael Michael Diaz, Tyler Dewhirst; Stevenson: Max Humitz, Chris McDonald, J.J. Pettersson, Nick Barr; Canton: Garrett Bryden, Matt Rodgers, Jordan Smith, Josh Dickson; Plymouth: Zach Gambrell,

Tyler Sanders, Tyler Lazorka, Mitch Claggett; Salem: Austin Sartorious, Connor Berlin, Nick Hayes, Matt Downey, Michael Hochkins, Michael Manser; Farmington: Ethan Baker, Danny Prokes, Kyle Rea, Austin Cole, Josh Cliff; North Farmington-Harrison: Keith Ladouceur, Peter Kusek, Blake Burnett, Kyle DeMaagd, Reede Burnett, Derek Ried.

learned from him." Rob Goldi, Sr. Def., Farmington: A

former travel player who opted to play for his school as a senior, Goldi was the leader of the Farmington defense. He also scored 29 points with five goals and 24 assists. Goldi, who had two game-winning goals, is an all-state, second-team player.

There wasn't one time either (assistant coach) Bill (Newton) or I had to tell Robbie to work hard," Vellucci said. "I've never seen anything like it. He never took a shift off in practice, and he competed game in and game out. It's something you wish

 $(\circ)$ 

every single hockey player in general, every athlete, could see. He was known more as a defensive defenseman, but he definitely stepped up his game offensively, too.

Nick Elliott, Sr. F, Farmington: A senior forward, Elliott scored 52 points to lead the Falcons to the OAA Division 1 regular-season championship and a 22-4 record. A three-year varsity player, Elliott had 24 goals and 28 assists. He scored on four power plays and twice with his team short-handed; he also had three game-winning goals. Elliott made the all-state first team.

"That's just a great season," coach Mark Vellucci said of Elliott's stats. "He was always a factor, game after game. There are some (Junior A) teams that have shown an interest in him. Hopefully, he can hook on with a team, have a couple good years and maybe play college hockey down the road. He definitely has the talent to play at the next level.'

Ryan Urso, Sr. F, Liv. Stevenson: The senior finished with 13 goals and 32 assists for Spartans.

His plus-15 rating also ranked best among Stevenson forwards.

"Ryan's a very dynamic player that played a key role in all situations for our team," Vento said. "His skill level was only surpassed by his desire to compete, and that is what made him so special. We enjoyed a very successful power play this year, and a lot of that had to do with Ryan's shot from the point, especially his ability to get it off quickly with such velocity and usually on net."

Urso also earned Division 1 first-team all-state along with all-KLAA honors.

"His vision on the ice was made evident by his 32 assists, which helped make players around him better," Vento said. "It will be fun to watch his hockey career in the future.

Ryan Quigley, Sr. F, Salem: A speed demon for opponents, Quigley - who shared team MVP honors with goalie Price — was a prolific scoring machine with 28 goals and 19

RACING

assists, along with registering a plus-25 mark.

Salem's co-captain earned Division 1 first-team all-state and all-KLAA selections as well as plenty of praise from his coach.

"Ryan's stats tell the story, with one of the best single seasons in school history," said Ossenmacher, adding that Quigley was a "dynamic skater who had the ability to change the game with his speed." SECOND TEAM

Tim Rogers, Sr. G, Farmington: A three-year varsity goalie, Rogers was 13-3-0 this year with losses to two state champions and a Division 1 state semifinalist (Lake Orion). His goals-against average was 2.68 and his save percentage .906. He faced 436 shots and stopped 395. "Throughout the season, he

was our steady force," Vellucci said.

"He kept us in a lot of games when we could have been down and out early on. There were a couple games, if it wasn't for him in one period when the other team outshot us, we probably could've had a couple more losses. He did his job. He was rock-solid for us in every game he played. He was a great mentor to Josh Cliff, who will take over the goaltending duties next year.

Jimmy LaFontaine, Sr. Def., Canton: The senior blueliner and team co-captain contributed big-time leadership and on-ice skills to a very successful season.

LaFontaine, an all-KLAA selection, registered 12 goals, 15 assists and a plus-24 rating. That sparked Canton to the KLAA South championship (16-7-2 overall, 7-2-2 in the division) and the coveted Lash Cup - for supremacy among Plymouth-Canton Educational Park teams.

"He was crucial on the ice in every situation," Chiefs coach Jeremy Majszak said. "He led the teams in points and plusminus" while helping keep the team's goals-against average close to the 3.0 mark.

"His hard work and skill made him instrumental to Canton's success this year." Garrett Berg, Sr. Def., Salem: The

senior was strong and steady on the blueline for Salem. He earned honorable mention for the D1 all-state team and made the all-KLAA squad.

Berg, a team-best plus-26, helped the cause on offense, too. He scored seven goals and



**Brandon Price** Salem



**Nick Elliott** Farmington



**Tim Rogers** Farmington



**Steven Klisz** Churchill

honors after scoring 26 goals and adding 20 assists for the regional champions.

A three-year player, Klisz finished with a total of 42 goals and 40 assists.

"Steve is one of our better offensive players we've had the last two years," Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni said of the all-KLAA forward. "Had a great senior year and scored many big

time goals for us."







Ryan Quigley

Salem

Ryan Urso



**Jimmy LaFontaine** Canton





Farmington

game-winning goals. "In the three years he played, he was our most intense player because of his enthusiasm and passion for the game," Vellucci said. "There was rarely a time he wasn't going 100 miles per hour.

Stevenson

Andrew Palushaj

"Alex has a great shot. He liked to shoot the puck from all angles. His pattern was to go top-shelf on the glove side. He scored quite a few goals like that."

Andrew Palushaj, Sr. F, Liv. Stevenson: The senior forward earned first-team all-state honors after scoring a team-high 20 goals to go along with 13 assists. "Andrew was as pure a goal scorer as you could find," Vento

Farmington



Stevenson





added 16 assists

"He was a rock back on defense this year," Ossenmacher said. "He played a tremendous amount of minutes and was vital to our team successes.'

Steve Klisz, Sr. F. Liv, Churchill: The senior captain earned second-team Division 1 all-state

Alex Schmitt, Sr. F, Farmington: Another three-year varsity player, Schmitt was a linemate with Elliott and the team's second-leading scorer with 42 points. The senior center had 22 goals and 20 assists. Schmitt had seven power-play goals, one short-handed goal and six

Please see ALL-AREA, B3



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### LOCAL SPORTS

# Novi spoils Reddy's Canton girls soccer coaching debut

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

The defending state champion girls soccer team had its offense on full display March 28 as Novi defeated Canton 3-2 in the season opener for both teams.

After Ally Krause spurred a quick burst of offense for the Chiefs (0-1-0), Novi's girls' speed wore down the Canton defenders as the Wildcats (1-0-0) set up a string of scoring opportunities.

Novi senior and reigning All-Area Player of the Year Nicki Caruso nearly got the Wildcats on the board 11:50 into the contest when a corner kick from the right side found Caruso at the back post. Her header hit the outside of the left post and bounced out of bounds, but her continued efforts would lead to two Novi goals before the half was over.

With 14:38 left in the half, Caruso laid a through ball off to sophomore Erin Dircks just inside the 18-yard box, but Dircks' quick shot from 15 yards out found the gloves of Canton senior goalkeeper Kayla Bridges (two saves).

Just 36 seconds later, Caruso carried the ball up the left edge of the goal box and crossed it to junior Jessica Jarvis six yards out from the



JOHN KEMSKI

Canton's Robyn Mack (No. 17, left) converges on Novi's Erin Dircks (No. 14) with Ally Krause of the Chiefs (behind Dircks) hot on her heels during Monday's KLAA girls soccer contest.

center of the goal. Jarvis volleyed the cross into the right side of the goal with the outside of her foot to give the Wildcats a 1-0 lead.

Following a long pass from junior Lauren Pollard at the

Both are good bets to continue their soccer careers at the collegiate level, with Krause having verbally committed to Michigan State University and Trapp drawing interest from Eastern Michigan University.

At forward, key contributions can be expected from senior Liz Ferrill and junior Kalyn Berinti. Reddy also has junior goalkeeper Danielle Schendel, to join Bridges to form a potentially strong duo.

Besides Schendel, junior defender Alex Bryden is new to the varsity.

But Reddy already knows what those players can bring to the table, because she coached the Canton junior varsity over the past five seasons.

Meanwhile, Reddy emphasized that the Chiefs must deal with a challenging early season schedule. squad kept pace with the Indians "but we just couldn close the gap as they pulled away in the second half."

The Chiefs already lost 3-2 on Monday to Novi, and have games upcoming against strong teams half line, Caruso would set up her second goal of the game from the left side and Novi carried a 2-0 lead into halftime.

### RALLY TIME

Canton made some adjust-

ments and started to rally early on in the second half, however.

"The comeback from the first half to the second half, I'm just really proud of them," said Jeannine Reddy, after for the Chiefs. "I changed some things in my defensive line. It helped with speed. I had to get some glitches out and figure things out." N However, the Wildcats got one more on the board before Canton's rally.

coaching her first varsity game

Greenhalgh deked to the right to get past Chief defender Jen Learst and then immediately deked to the left to get past a diving Bridges, who nearly collided with Learst just inside the goal box. The miscommunication 8:53 into the half allowed Greenhalgh to tap the ball into an empty net for a 3-0 lead.

"She had great saves and then that third goal was just miscommunication between one of the defenders and her. I'm not upset, but, hey, it happens," Reddy said. "Always scheduling Novi our first game, one of the better teams in the state, we kind of get to work out all our glitches. There's kind of a lot we need to work out in the back defensively and in midfield."

Through a combination of Canton's adjustments and Novi's continued attempts to find good chemistry to replace three of four starting defenders who graduated, the Chiefs found themselves with several opportunities during the final 30 minutes of play.

(CP)

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About 11:10 into the half, Canton's Megan Trapp made a perfect pass through several Novi defenders to Liz Ferrill for a breakaway, but her shot from inside the arch went wide left.

After a huge point-blank save by Bridges on Greenhalgh moments later, Ferrill got the ball up the left sideline and beat the Novi defense before ripping a shot past senior netminder Gabby Gauruder (two saves) into the top right corner with 23:27 remaining.

Getting the Chiefs on the board energized the Canton squad, which continued to press and keep the ball in Novi's half.

Just three minutes after the goal, a corner kick from the right side found Kaitlyn Murphy 10 yards out from the left post, but her shot hit the left post and bounced out into the middle of box before eventually being knocked out for a goal kick.

But after a Canton player was taken to the ground in the box with 8:10 remaining, Ferrill beat Gauruder on the left side with a penalty kick goal to cut the deficit to 3-2.

"Liz is awesome," Reddy said. "She was my best player on the field today, by far."

**Ouch! Debuts no fun for new lax teams** 

### BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Growing pains probably can be expected for the first-year girls lacrosse teams at The Park.

Last week's openers for Salem and Plymouth underscore that point.

The Rocks lost 8-5 on March 23 at Tecumseh while Plymouth suffered a 14-3 drubbing two days later at South Lyon.

About the Salem-Tecumseh contest, Rocks head coach Dave Medley said his young squad kept pace with the Indians "but we just couldn't close the gap as they pulled away in the second half." Senior Alexis O'Connor scored the first Salem goal in history (previous teams were comprised of players from all three Plymouth-Canton Educational Park high schools) to make it a 1-1 contest early on.

It was 4-3 Tecumseh at halftime, with senior goalkeeper Meaghan Eldridge and senior defender Katie Meagher keeping the Rocks in the game.

"Also on the defensive end ... Leah Schrauben and Bridget Maul created turnovers to put us back on the offensive attack," Medley said.

In addition to O'Connor, sophomore Rose Krasofsky scored twice while other markers were collected by sophomores Breanne Beaver and Alissa Amell. "What was encouraging was watching the performance by many of the players taking the field for their very first time in competition," said Medley, citing junior Alexandra Godre, freshmen Hannah Nowaske and Kiersten Valla.

Salem's first-ever varsity home game was canceled Friday night, due to cold weather. The debut now will have to wait until 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 6 against Canton.

### **Debut for Wildcats**

The Plymouth Wildcats lost 14-3 to the host Lions on March 25, although new head coach Bob Hill saw plenty of promise.

"Our team worked hard

to pass quickly and advance the ball," Hill said. "We have already come a long way this season and I am proud of the girls."

Scoring the first goal in Plymouth-only varsity history was Cindy Bradford, assisted by Sam Arsenault.

The trio of Katie Hill, Megan Birdwell and Shannon Lubin accounted for the other two goals. Hill scored both times, with her linemates earning the assists.

The coach said goalkeeper Sarah Messer made 12 shots while Taylor Birman and Nicole Natelborg played well on defense, despite the final score.

### collegiat having v Michiga

Kensington Conference and Association. They also won the districts.

FROM PAGE B1

Christy Balewski, Alyssa Cottrell and Lindsay Winters are some of the players who graduated in 2010.

But senior goaltender Kayla

Bridges is back, as are senior

will play college soccer at the

University of Iowa) and junior

inant force on our team, con-

fully helping in the midfield.

Trapp is a solid enough

player to be on the radar of

coaches, Reddy noted.

Eastern Michigan University

trolling the back line and hope-

Reddy said Pickert is "a dom-

defender Melanie Pickert (who

VETS TO LEAN ON

backliner.

Other outstanding returnees include junior midfielders Ally Krause and Megan Trapp.

# ALL-AREA

said. "He had that touch around the net that you just can't teach, which was evident by his 20 goals."

Palushaj also posted an impressive plus-15 rating.

"He was another player for us that made our power play so effective because of his quick release and accuracy," Vento said. "He had some memorable goals for us this year - in particular, our (4-3) win against (Novi) CC (Catholic Central) and our first game against Churchill when he had a third period hat trick and scored the winner with eight seconds left."

COACH OF THE YEAR Pete Mazzonl, Liv. Churchill: The ninth-year coach guided the Chargers to a 15-11-2 record and a berth in the Division 1 state quarterfinals before losing a heartbreaking 5-4 loss in four overtimes to Orchard Lake St. Mary.

"This season was a great test for the character and resolve of the guys in the locker room," Mazzoni said. "Our seniors kept the team together and demonstrated great poise and leadership. We had a great locker room. It was probably one of the closer groups of kids that we such as Saline, Northville, Livonia Churchill and the rival Wildcats.



Pete Mazzoni Coach of Year we played sol pretty good hockey most

of the year. We had some nights that we felt we played well, and did not get any points."

Churchill's late season run came after a fourth-place finish in the KLAA's South Division.

"I have to give credit to the teams in our league," Mazzoni said. "The KLAA, especially the Kensington side, was extremely tough this year.

"It was definitely a roller coaster of a season, but it is always nice to win a few games in March. Probably sometime early February, we really started to see the big picture and played some of our best hockey of the season. I am fortunate to have a great staff and an extremely supportive administration."

Mazzoni's overall record at Churchill (2001-2011) is 152-78-30 with two regional, four league and five division titles to his credit. He was also 41-6-3 in two seasons at Redford Union (1998-2000) and one league championship.

### 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.

### Steelheaders meeting

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

Meetings are free and open to the public. No reservations needed.

Captain Jerry Lee will be one of two featured speakers. He has over 30 years of fishing and guiding experience on the Great Lakes.

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

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

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

### SPORTS ROUNDUP



### She's a scholar and a lady

Taylor Birman (center) of Plymouth High School was honored as a recipient of the Michigan High School Athletic Association's Scholar-Athlete Award at the 2011 boys basketball finals held March 26 at Breslin Center in East Lansing. Shown with Birman are: (from left) Jim Robinson, executive vice-president of Farm Bureau Insurance; and John E. 'Jack' Roberts, executive director of the MHSAA. Birman will receive a \$1,000 scholarship from Farm Bureau Insurance to be used at the college she attends this fall. Farm Bureau Insurance awarded 32 scholarships, proportionately by school classification to students with 3.50 or higher (on a 4.0 scale) grade point average who have previously lettered in at least one sport in which post-season competition is sponsored by the MHSAA.

4



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# FROM PAGE B1

"But he was diving over and I didn't want to shoot it at him and just waited for him to fall and just put it up."

The rally brought kudos from Plymouth head coach Mike Vellucci.

"I just told them I was proud of them because they respond," Vellucci said. "They don't get down on each other and they stay in it no matter what.

"How many times have we fought back this year and had some big wins? I'm proud of them for doing that."

Everything still looked dire with less than seven minutes remaining and the Rangers on yet another power play.

### **MAKING IT HAPPEN**

But then the Whalers flipped the switch. First, Brown anticipated a Kitchener pass just inside the

Plymouth blue line. He tipped it off the left

half-wall out into neutral ice, scooted around the defender and retrieved his own pass.

Brown then skated in all alone on Maxwell before ripping a shot into the cage at 13:42 to make it a 2-1 game.

"I saw the five-hole was open and I shot it there," Brown said. "It was a big momentum changer for us. I think it got the team going.'

According to Vellucci, he talked to the team after the second period "that if you get the chance to steal it (on the penalty kill) go for it. It was a great shot."

With 4:56 left in regulation, some overdue good luck helped the Whalers even the score at 2-2.

Forward Stefan Noesen kind of muffed a slapper taken inside the Kitchener blue line. But the change-of-pace shot fooled Maxwell, who gave up a juicy rebound in the slot.

Center Mitchell Heard swooped in and beat Maxwell (35 saves) high to the blocker side. Also assisting was defenseman and Farmington Hills native Austin Levi.

### LOTS OF GLOVE

Just 37 seconds later, how-



It's a mob scene at Compuware Arena, with the Plymouth Whalers and their fans celebrating Robbie Czarnik's winning goal in overtime of Game 2.

ever, Plymouth goaltender Scott Wedgewood saved the Whalers' bacon.

The puck hit the referee's skate behind the red line and bounced into the slot where center Michael Catenacci backhanded the disc.

But Wedgewood snared the shot with his lightning-quick trapper.

"I rely on my reactions a lot," said Wedgewood, the game's first star with 29 quality saves. "Being able to do that is probably the best part of my game. "It hit the ref there and came

out in front, but ... you have to make those kinds of saves, especially at this time of the year."

That save reprised the role Wedgewood superbly played earlier.

Throughout the first two periods, the main reason the Whalers were close was the acrobatic play of their goalie.

The Rangers received six power plays to Plymouth's one over the first 27:30 of the contest and the Whalers were just eight seconds away from killing off the sixth.

### **CASHING IN**

But that's when Kitchener finally solved Wedgewood - who all night was sprawling, diving and doing whatever he could to stop the puck. At 9:14, Rangers' defenseman Ryan Murphy circled

behind the Plymouth net and fired a pass across the front of the blue ice to winger Jerry D'Amigo in the right circle.

D'Amigo one-timed the puck home to prompt a loud chorus of boos directed at game officials.

Wedgewood's only mistake was letting a routine shot hit his pads and bounce out to D'Amigo for a rebound goal with about 11 minutes to play in the third.

That made it 2-0, but Plymouth's comeback was about to begin.

The Whalers took the play to Kitchener throughout the final moments of regulation and during overtime. Plymouth outshot the Rangers 6-0 in the extra frame.

"An assistant coach said it's hard to win the game when you don't have a shot in overtime," Vellucci said. "We had six shots to their zero. So it was just a matter of time."

Now, the teams will reconvene at 7 p.m. Monday for Game 3 of the series, at the Kitchener Memorial Auditorium.

"We're happy right now, but we know it's going to be a tough game," Czarnik said. "We're going back to the Aud on Monday so it's going to be a huge game, they're not going to give up.

'We're going to have to come out stronger."

# FROM PAGE B1

### SOLID SENIORS

The Chiefs still have outstanding senior catcher (and third baseman) Seth Tschetter, plus key seniors such as shortstop Chris Perkovich, second baseman Bernabe Salinas, outfielder Garrett Bryden and outfielder-pitcher Mark Main.

Add to the mix another senior (Braden Price) who returned with his family from Alaska last summer. He will patrol center field between Bryden (left field) and Main (right field).

And Tschetter will divide playing time behind the dish with senior Robby Golematis a talented transfer from Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, who also will play plenty at first base.

'Splitting time there, that's going to keep everybody fresh," said Blomshield, noting that Tschetter wore down physically in '10 and ended the season with an injured shoulder.

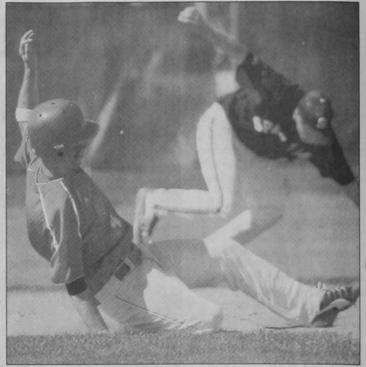
Blomshield said the fourthyear starter will bat third or fourth, and likely will play third base when he's not catching.

"He's a tough kid," the coach said. "... He still wants to play college baseball and so he's got something to fight for.'

Golematis will catch Canton's projected ace, righthanded fireballer Ryan Bazner (also an outstanding allaround player), while Tschetter likely will catch promising lefthanded sophomore Michael Stafford.

some noise with the bat, too.

he's earned everything he has," said Blomshield about example. He's the first one practice and last to leave. Just



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Shown in this 2010 file photo, Canton catcher-third baseman Seth Tschetter (left) will again be a key player for the Chiefs this spring.

a great kid."

And Salinas is "a scrapper, he swings a pretty good bat. I'm challenging him to be more of a situational hitter" from the No. 9 spot in the batting order.

Price, a star three-sport athlete for Canton (also football, wrestling), is extremely fast and sure-handed with the glove.

"You can't teach speed," Blomshield said. "Braden Price can go get it like (Plymouth's Mike) Nadratowski in center."

Bryden "brings intensity and he can flat-out hammer the baseball," Blomshield said.

Main is a hard-nosed player who "single-handedly beat Novi last year (in the regionals) with about two or three diving plays."

He also will be the team's third starting pitcher and second southpaw in the rotation.

### WAIT AND SEE

Other pitching possibilities include senior sidearmer Jason Lynch (also a backup outfielder), senior Art Chavez and juniors Vaughn Birchler and David Blythe. Senior Sean Harte is a knuckleballer who will work out of the bullpen.

Blomshield would like Lynch to be a closer, while the others

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will get early season opportunities to determine the eventual fourth starter.

Stafford will play some outfield and first base in addition to pitching.

"He throws 85 (miles per hour) and right now he's - in my opinion - probably one of the top three lefthanded 16-year-olds in the state," Blomshield said.

Senior third baseman Rocky Willette will see playing time at the hot corner when Tschetter and Bazner either are catching or pitching.

"He didn't play a whole lot last year but he does have a good glove," the coach continued.

Other players include junior utility players Nick Tata and Greg McCurry, third-string junior catcher Evan Rinke, junior outfielder Mitch Clinton (recovering from a broken wrist) and senior utilityman Tyler Sultana (a varsity newcomer).

We're going to be able to hit, we're going to run and we can play good defense," summed up Blomshield, adding that his pitching staff (other than his top guys) will be a work in progress.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

**Attention all Boys, Girls,** 

LEADING THE WAY

The Chiefs will be defensively solid up-the-middle, starting with the catching tandem. The double-play combo of

Saginaw Valley-bound shortstop Perkovich and second sacker Salinas will get the job done in the field and make

"He's really a hard worker, Perkovich. "He leads by done with sprints, first one to

**Teachers and Parents** Soop Dog High

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OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWN





Actors recreate the Last Supper in the "Living Stations of the Cross." Living Faith - Fine Arts Apostolate staged the musical meditation at Our Lady of Sorrows in Farmington for 10 years. The show moves to the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Detroit for 25 performances in April.

# **Experience the Passion of Christ at Detroit Cathedral**

BY SHARON DARGAY O&E STAFF WRITER

Kelly Nieto hopes her show, the Living Stations of the Cross, will become at Lent, what The Nutcracker is at Christmas: A must-see family tradition.

"It's going to be a visual wake-up call, a realization of what Christ did for us on the cross. God wants us to live our faith and not just check the box that says we put in our time on Sunday. I want to inspire people and help them live the Passion," said Nieto, a Catholic convert from Farmington Hills.

The former Miss Michigan, who performed nationwide as a singer, fiddler and comedian, was inspired to create a theatrical Stations of the Cross while praying at a Good Friday service 11 years ago. The mother of five blended her original contemporary songs with Pope John Paul II's text of the Stations of the Cross and began celebrating the devotion as a dramatic presentation 10 years ago at her home parish, Our Lady of Sorrows in Farmington. Although Nieto is assisting parish members with the 11th annual Living Stations on April 15 and 17, she's also taking a new, more elaborate production to the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Detroit for 25 performances, beginning Friday, April 1.

She and songwriter Nick Dalbis of Crossroads Productions in White Lake have created additional music for the new show, which includes a cast of professional performers, sets, costumes, lighting and sound. Her nonprofit corporation, Living Faith – Fine Arts Apostolate,



An actor portrays a blood-covered Jesus during the "Living Stations of the Cross."

### THE LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

When: April 1 and 15 performances are sold out. Tickets are still available for 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. April 5-8 and 12-15; 7:30 p.m. April 2, 8-9 and 16; and 2 p.m. April 3, 10 and 17 Where: The Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament, 9844 Woodward, Detroit Tickets: \$15 with a \$10 discounted price for groups of 50 or more attending matinee shows. Contact: www.livingstations. org; e-mail Kelly@livingstations. org or mail a check to Living Faith Fine Arts Apostolate, P.O. Box 343, Farmington, MI 48332

an organization dedicated to evangelizing through theater and the arts, is producing the show, which Nieto hopes to take on the road to other cities next year.

"At Our Lady of Sorrows, we've never been able to do sets or bring in lighting effects," Nieto said. "We have a \$140,000 price tag on this one. We have \$50,000 in lights and sound. We have \$15,000 worth of sets. We have costuming and paid actors and singers. Our Jesus (Christopher Vaught) is from Michigan Opera Theatre."

### **MUSICAL PRAYER**

Nieto says that although the production has "something for everyone," its contemporary style and rock concert-like lighting and effects will appeal especially to young people. She hopes the visual and dramatic storytelling will draw them in and make an indelible impression.

"It's something they'll never forget and they'll be back," she said. "It rivals what you'll see at the Gem or the Fox. It's a performance, a musical drama, and at the same time it teaches people to pray the prayers in the Stations of the Cross. We're creating a new type of musical prayer."

The production encourages audience participation. In addition to praying aloud at the start of each Station, one audience member is recruited to portray Simon of Cyrene and visitors seated along the main aisle wave palms as Christ arrives in Jerusalem. They sing and see some of the Stations up close as they are played out in the aisle, as well as at the altar.

Mary Tucker, a long-time Plymouth resident who now lives in Auburn Hills, auditioned for the show because "it would be a good way to reflect on the passion of Jesus."

"It would also give me a good opportunity to look at my life and some things that need to change, which is what the Lenten season is all about," she said. Tucker plays a woman in the ensemble cast.

Elizabeth Mihalo of Livonia, who portrays Mary, also sings professionally at Blessed Sacrament, Christ Church Cranbrook and Temple Beth El. The role enables her to "evangelize and spiritually connect" as she does when she cantors, but also brings theater and dramatic intensity into the mix.

"It's a very different role technically than opera or even musical theater," Mihalo said. "I'm partly speaking and singing."

She suspects the role will affect her own faith journey, helping her to understand the historical, human Jesus, in addition to his moral teachings.

"It's a beautiful drama and I think whatever people are coming to find, they will find it, whether that's for spiritual engagement ... a moving theater experience ... a beautiful lyric love story — God and the world — they'll find it and maybe even more."

Living Faith - Fine Arts Apostolate has prepared a production kit for churches interested in staging Nieto's Living Stations of the Cross. Find more information at its Web site, www.livingstations.org.

# Rosedale Gardens calls new pastor

The Rev. Steven Clark will begin a pastorate Monday, April 4 at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, in Livonia.

His first Sunday in the pulpit at Rosedale will be April 10. Clark follows the Rev.

Richard Peters, who retired after 23 years in Nov. 2009 at Rosedale.

Clark was a pastor in Pennsylvania for 12 years and has pastored churches in New Jersey and Washington. He graduated in 1978 from the University of California, San Diego, in 1981 from Princeton Theological Seminary and in 2010 from Fuller Theological Seminary. He holds degrees in history, divinity and theology.

After more than 25 years of pastoring in churches, he went back to seminary to learn how to help churches better cope with the challenges of change. His two-year Th.M. program resulted in a dissertation on "Learning for Leading."

Clark and his wife, Jennie, have two adult children.

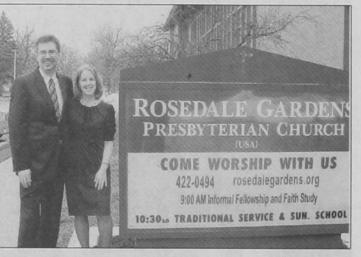
Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church is a congregation of 700 members with a full program of famHe graduated in 1978 from the University of California, San Diego, in 1981 from Princeton Theological Seminary and in 2010 from Fuller Theological Seminary. He holds degrees in history, divinity and theology.

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ily-oriented activities. That includes two Sunday morning worship services: "Friends in Faith" at 9 a.m., and a traditional service at 10:30 a.m. Sunday School at 10:30 is for children and youth from nursery through high school. Adult Bible Studies are conducted in small groups during the year in the fall, winter, and spring seasons.

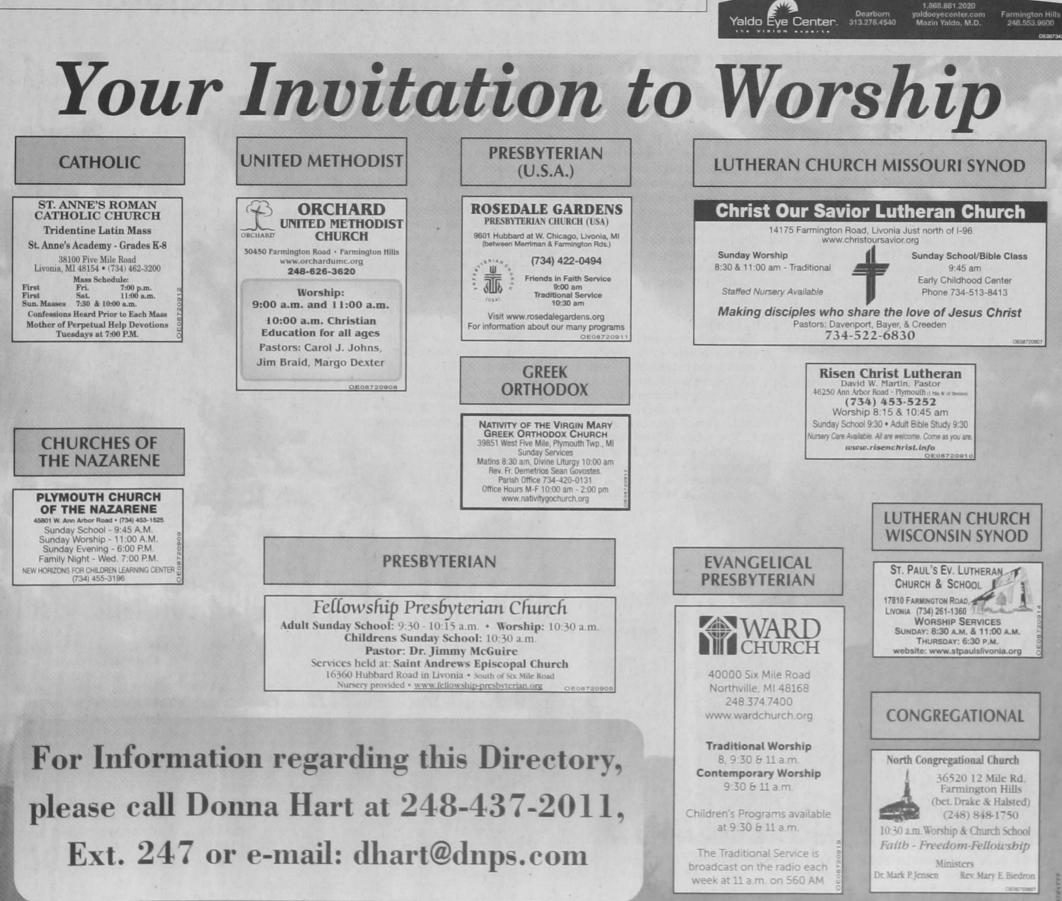
Mission activities are an important part of the church life including several mission field trips each year. An active youth program involves about 70 students in middle school and high school. people.

A full music program provides opportunities for all ages in several vocal and hand-bell choirs as well as in a new orchestra.



The Rev. Steve Clark and his wife, Jennie will begin serving Rosedale Presbyterian Church on April 4.





# ENTERTAINMENT hometownlife

Thursday, March 31, 2011







The Redford Theatre will show six films starring Moe, Larry and Curly, during its Three Stooges Festival April 8-9.

# it's Three Stooges time at the Redford

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

Some arrive wearing ties and Tshirts sporting the words "Nyuk Nyuk Nyuk.'

They can translate the sounds, "smack," and "doink" as a whack to the head, followed by a quick eye poke.

And they can recite lines like "Why I outta..." and "Calling Dr. Howard, Dr. Fine, Dr. Howard," followed by a rousing chorus of "B-A-Bay."

They are, of course, fans of the Three Stooges and they'll get their twice-annual big-screen fix of Larry, Moe and Curly Friday-Saturday, April 8-9 at the Redford Theatre.

The volunteer-driven movie house created the festival more than 10 years ago at the request of patrons.

"It was Stooges, Stooges, Stooges. It was so popular we decided to do it twice a year. I get e-mails in January asking about it," said Linda Sites, a Redford resident who helps out with publicity and at the box office. "One time we had a family of cousins, uncles and brothers come in who all sat on one side of the theater. Everyone would stand up and do a 'whoop, whoop, whoop,' at times dur-

### ing the film."

Not all Stooges fans are as vocal as that family was, but Sites says the fun of watching the Three Stooges - or any other classic film - on the big screen is sharing the experience with others.

"We showed White Christmas in December and we had over 1,600 people. We had a huge crowd. It's because people come in with their family and their neighbors," she said. "I always think it comes down to that communal experience. It's the fun of laughing and crying with others."

The shared experience also includes intermission, 65 varieties of candy and "real butter" on the popcorn.

### **FILM FAVORITES**

A film selection committee considers patron requests - a suggestion box is stationed in the lobby - and chooses each season's series.

Summer programming will include Star Trek in 70 mm, the classic Hitchcock film, Rebecca, and a visit by the Somewhere In Time's international fan club president, Jo Addie. Her appearance will coincide with a screening of the film, which was shot in 1979 mostly on Mackinac Island.

She'll share her experiences as an extra on the set with Christopher Reeve and Jayne Seymour.

'With the passing of Elizabeth Taylor, we want to do something for her in the fall," Sites said. "We're also having our animation festival again. That has become a regular event.

"I tried to get the King and I and called around, but it's not on 35 mm any more. We show 16, 35 and 70 mm films.'

Sites said the Three Stooges appeared in 190 short films, many of which are available for screening. The theater's film selection committee tries to "mix them up" and show different titles each season.

"I think because of the classic theater and the organ the requests I get more often than not are for classic films. I've had a 16-year-old e-mail me and it was for a classic film."

The Motor City Theatre Organ Society owns and operates the Redford Theatre. About 200 members have pitched in at the theatre and 100 of them are frequent volunteers.

For more information about becoming a volunteer or for a schedule of upcoming films, visit redfordtheatre.com

### **THREE STOOGES FESTIVAL**

### What: Six short films

When: 8 p.m. Friday, April 8, and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, April 9. Where: The Redford Theatre, 17360 Lahser, north of Grand River Ave., Detroit

Details: "Whoops! I'm an Indian," "Back to the Woods," "Termites of 1938," Oily to Bed, Oily to Rise," "A Plumbing We Will Go," and "Cactus Makes Perfect." Films range from 1936-1942. Tickets are \$5 Contact: (313) 537-2560



"Whoops! I'm an Indian" is one of six short Three Stooges Films that will screen April 8-9 at the Redford Theatre.



Art on display at a previous "Artwork After Dark" in Farmington Hills.

# Enjoy wine, art at Farmington Hills event

"Art After Dark," a wine tasting with art and music, will run from 7-10 p.m., Friday, April 15, at the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, in Farmington Hills.

Whole Foods Market of West Bloomfield will supply more than 30 varieties of wine for the tasting. Wine experts will be on hand to answer questions and a prize raffle will be held for those who order wine that evening.

Participants will get the chance to browse through more than 200 pieces of artwork for sale from the Farmington Art

Foundation, while listening to live jazz.

"Art After Dark is absolutely one of our favorite events of the year," stated Renee Mahon, marketing and communications director for Whole Foods Market. "We love sharing our excellent wines, working with the City of Farmington Hills and supporting our arts community."

Tickets to the event are \$20 in advance, and \$25 at the door. They're available online at https://recreg.fhgov.com or can be ordered by phone at

(248) 473-1848. They're also available at the Costick Center; Whole Foods Market of West Bloomfield, 7350 Orchard Lake Road; or the Greater Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce 33425 Grand River Ave., suite 101, in downtown Farmington.

Dress for the event is from casual to dressy. For more information on "Art After Dark" and other upcoming events, call the Cultural Arts Division at (248) 473-1856.

### online at hometownlife.com

### ENTERTAINMENT



Diva Dog, Annie, photographer Jill Andra Young's late Basenji. Young will photograph children and dogs in feathers, pearls and tulle Saturday, April 2, at Diva Day in downtown Plymouth.

# Shop, snack and mingle at Diva Day

### BY SHARON DARGAY

Bring on the feathery boas, hors d'oeuvres and shop-till-you-drop bargains — the third annual Diva Day is expected to bring 500-plus moms, daughters, sisters, and girlfriends into downtown Plymouth Saturday, April 2.

Shoppers will find more than 30 participating shops, boutiques, salons and restaurants, offering discounts, refreshments, giveaways and prizes.

"It's kind of a way to break into the spring season and shop for something fun," said Teri Fry, events manager for the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce. "Come in groups. Bring a friend, a sister a mother and daughter and have a good time."

Lime green and purple balloons will identify participating stores and the first 500 Diva Day shoppers will receive a purple boa.

Fry said the boas, which are distributed at each Diva Day, generally are gone by noon.

Razzamatazz, Old World Olive Press, Isabella's Copper Pot and Cupcake Station are new to the event. Maps of Diva Day merchants will be available at participating shops.

Retailers Johanna Ohagan and Kristi Partain opened Razzamatazz at 470 Forest, last fall, just in time for downtown Plymouth's annual Ladies Night Out.

"We had no idea what it was going to be like," said Ohagan, adding that the crowd was bigger than expected. "It was fun."

She said the store will be prepared for Diva Day with appetizers, wine, and a giveaway of light-up wrist bands.

Razzamatazz sells home decorating items and gifts, including jewelry, candles, vases, tools, lighters, and one-of-akind handmade items.

"We have a birthday section and a wedding section. We have seasonal items, so we have a lot of Easter right now."

Shoppers who make a purchase at the store during Diva Day will be entered into a drawing for a bunny house and bunny. Ohagan said the item could be used as a "cute centerpiece."

### **PICTURE PERFECT**

Jill Andra Young can never have too much tulle or too many feather boas and pearls on hand during Diva Day. "We probably did more dogs," said Young, recalling her Diva Day photography session last year.

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Her "Little Diva and Diva Dogs" event on Saturday is aimed at canines and kids. The \$30 package includes a take-home 4by 6-inch photo and a \$20 order worth of photos in various sizes.

She keeps a tiara, "blingy rings," tulle, pearls and boas on hand for both human and canine models at her studio, located at 825 Penniman.

"Dogs like the feather boas. We use the tulle and feather boas and wrap them up in it," she said. "If the dogs don't find it objectionable I have stretchy pearls they can wear. It depends on the pet personality."

Diva Day runs from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 2. Other participants are Basket Kreations, Bella Mia, Creatopia Pottery Studio, Dearborn Jewelers, Eclectic Attic, Genuine Toy Co., GiGi's Mode, Hands on Leather, Haven, Home Sweet Home, Magnolia Fresh Flower Shop, Penniman Gallery, RSVP, sideways, Sun & Snow, That's Awesome, TranquiliTea and Wilcox Consignment.

### ART City Gally

City Gallery

Time/Date: Through April 8; gallery hours are 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday Location: In the Costick Center at 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Work by Stephen Deeb, head of the art department at North Farmington High School Coming up: Farmington Art Foundation holds its Spring Exhibit and Sale, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, April 14, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, April 15 and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 16 at the Costick Center. Opening reception, 6 p.m., followed by awards at 6:30 p.m., April 14 Contact: (248) 473-1856

COMEDY Go Comedy!

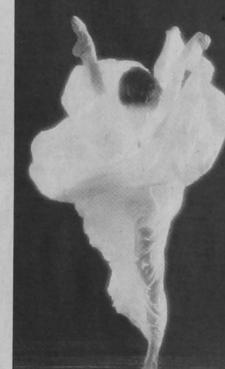
Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays

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

### JD's House of Comedy

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

complex, Southfield Details: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8



**GET OUT!** 

Sharen Bradford performs with the Complexions Contemporary Ballet. The group will dance April 2-3 at Music Hall in Detroit.



Time/Date: 8 p.m. April 2 and 2 p.m. April 3 Location: 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton Details: Comic Opera Guild performs "The Grand Duchess of Gerolstein." Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$17 for seniors and students Contact: (734) 394-5460; cantonvillagetheater. org

### **Vivace Music Series**

Time/Date: 8 p.m., Saturday, April 11 Location: The Birmingham Temple, 28611 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Eugenia Zukerman will share the stage with Russian/American soprano Svetlana Strezeva and her daughter, pianist, Milana Strezeva. The program will feature music by well known Russian and French composers in folk and classical traditions. Tickets are \$23 general admission and \$20 for senior citizens and students

**Contact**: Ann Sipher at (248) 661-1348 or Joyce Cheresh at (248) 788-9338

### DANCE Music Hall

Time/Date: 8 p.m. April 2, 2 p.m. April 3 Location: 350 Madison, Detroit Details: Complexions Contemporary Ballet interprets U2 and The Rolling Stones, along with compositions by many Jazz, Gospel and Blues greats. Tickets are \$30, \$40 and \$50 Contact: (313) 887-8500; www.ticketmaster.com

The BANK PART IN PART



### **Royal fun**

John Boufford of Northville is King Sextimus and Kristi Schwartz of Canton is Queen Aggravain in the Spotlight Players' production of the comedy musical "Once Upon A Mattress," April 8-17 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Friday, April 8 and 15; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, April 9 and 16 and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 10 and 17. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$16 for seniors and students under 19. (734) 480-4945.

p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday **Contact**: (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster. com

### Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia

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

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia Details: Chili Challis, March 30-April 2; Chas Elsner, April 6-9; Floyd J. Phillips, April 13-16; Mark Poolos, April 20-23; Claude Stewart, April 27-30; Mike Green, May 4-7; Rob Little, May 11-14 Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex. com

### Laugh for Life

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., April 1 Location: Knox Hall at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville Details: Fundraiser for AAA Pregnancy Resource Center in Livonia, features Christian comedian, Bob Stromberg. Tickets are \$15 available at www.aaaprc.org. Concessions will be available. School-aged children welcome Contact: (734) 425-8060

### Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle

Time/Date: Lynne Koplitz, March 31-April 2; Steve McGrew, April 7-9; Michael Somerville, April 14-16; T.J. Miller, April 21-23; Don Friesen, April 28-30; Kathleen Madigan, May 5-7; John Pinette, May 12-14 Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak Stand-up classes: A six-week session with comedian Bill Bushart, meets 1-:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday, beginning April 2. Cost is \$175. Call the

Comedy Castle to reserve a spot Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

### CONCERTS The Ark

Time/Date: Matt Wertz, March 31; The Julian Lage Group, April 1; The RFD Boys, April 2; Gemini, April 3; The Civil Wars & White Dress, April 3; Garnet Rogers & Archie Fisher, April 4; Over the Rhine & Lucy Wainwright Roche, April 5; David Bromberg & Angel Band, April 7; Steppin' in it, April 8; Mr. B's Piano Celebration, April 9-10; Brendan James & Matt White & Lauren Pritchard, April 11; Adrian Legg, April 12; Catie Curtis & Amy Speace, April 13; Breathe Owl Breathe & The Photographers, April 14; The Johnny Clegg Band, April 15; Anais Mitchell, April 16; Shape Note Singing, April 17; Peter Yarrow, April 17 Mosaics, such as this piece by artist Wesley Wong, will be on exhibit April 1-27 at Northville Art House.

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

### **Baseline Folk Society**

Time/Date: Third Saturday of the month Location: The JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

**Details:** Eight "open-mic" performances plus a featured group. Sign up for open mic from 6:15-6:45 p.m.; show starts at 7 p.m. Open mic performers may sing two songs. If more than eight performers sign up, a lottery will be held for the eight spots. Individual membership is \$25 and includes monthly concerts from September through May. Otherwise, admission to each concert is \$5 at the door. Family memberships are \$50 and include monthly concerts

Contact: (248) 719-3464 or mjmmullen@yahoo. com

### Jazz @ The Elks

Time/Date: 7-10:30 p.m., every fourth Tuesday Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780 at 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: Jazz musicians perform; no cover, but donations accepted. Complimentary hors d' oeuvres.

Contact: (734) 453-1780 www.PlymouthElks1780. com

### Trinity House Theatre

Time/Date: Trinity House Theatre Benefit Concert, April 1; Empty Chair Night, April 3; Putnam Smith, April 8, Melissa Greener, April 9; The Choir, April 14; Brooks Williams with Mike Vial, April 15; Tim Eriksen with Nick Schillace, April 16; Songwriters Anonymous Showcase, April 29; Craig Cardiff, April 30

Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia Contact: (734) 464-6302, www.trinityhouse.org Village Theater at Cherry Hill

### FAMILY

### Arab American National Museum

Time/Date: 2-5 p.m. Saturday, April 2 Location: 13624 Michigan Ave., Dearborn Details: "Spring into Spring" with live butterflies, spring crafts, kid karaoke, cookie decorating, scavenger hunt and more. A pizza feast and sweet seasonal dessert will be served from 2:30-4 p.m. Themed gift basket raffle will be held during the event. Tickets for the raffle are \$1 each. Admission is \$6 for children ordered in advance at www. arabamericanmuseum.org or \$8 at the door; all activities and refreshments are included. Adults admitted free. Adult food tickets will be available for \$2 during the event

**Contact**: Janice Freij at (313) 624-0203 or jfreij@ accesscommunity.org

### Bakers Keyboard Lounge

Time/Dates: 2-5 p.m. Sundays Details: Jazz for Kids Program Location: 20510 Livernois Ave., Detroit Contact: (313) 345-6300, www.bakerskeyboardlounge.com

### **Detroit Institute of Arts**

Time/Dates: 2 p.m. Sundays Details: Target Family Sundays, storytelling, performances, free with admission Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

### Detroit Zoo

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. daily Location: 1-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak

Details: Admission is \$11 for adults 15 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 14; children under 2 are free Contact: (248) 541-5717

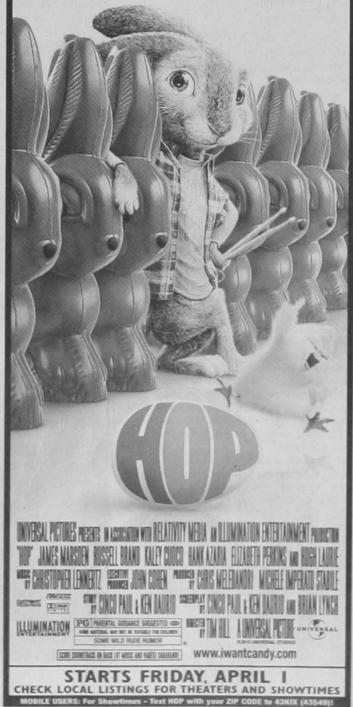
# FILM

### MJR Cinema

Time/Date: Saturday and Sunday through April 3 Location: MJR theaters, including 6601 Allen Road in Allen Park; 15651 Trenton Road in Southgate; and 7501 Highland Road in Waterford Details: Free children's festival wraps up with "Megamind," April 2-3. Free for children, 12 and under; tickets for parents are \$1 each. Call the theater for show times or check online at mjrtheatres.com

Contact: Call the Allen Park theater at (313) 381-1125; the Southgate theater at (734) 284-FILM (3456); and the Waterford theater at (248) 666-7900







### HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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

# FAVORITES REINVENTED WITH FLAVORFUL SURPRISES

ith spice consumption at an all-time high across America, it's an exciting time for flavor. According to the McCormick® Flavor Forecast® 2011, different tastes, textures and colors are mixed and matched to deliver fun and excitement to eating.

"We're seeing a more adventuresome spirit in the kitchen — playful takes on America's favorites that bring both the comfort of familiarity and the energy of the unexpected," says Larry Tong, McCormick chef. "For example, a contemporary combination of mustard seed and vermouth sparks a martini-inspired steak kabob, complete with onion and olive garnishes."

Tong sees this lighthearted approach showing up in every course of the meal — right through to dessert. Taking a cue from the report's Herbes de Provence & Popcorn pairing, a deliciously creamy, nobake cheesecake has a crust of playful and crunchy crushed popcorn accented with savory Herbes de Provence.



### For more recipes and featured flavors, visit www. FlavorForecast.com.

### **DIRTY MARTINI STEAK KABOBS**

Makes 8 servings (2 kabobs and 1 cup salad each) Prep Time: 20 minutes Refrigerate Time: 2 hours Cook Time: 15 minutes 3 tablespoons McCormick Gourmet Collection Yellow Mustard Seed

¾ cup dry vermouth

½ cup olive oil

¼ cup fresh lemon juice

2 tablespoons honey

1½ teaspoons grated lemon peel

2 tablespoons juice from green olives

1½ teaspoons McCormick Gourmet Collection Sicilian Sea Salt

1 teaspoon minced garlic

¼ teaspoon McCormick Gourmet Collection Coarse Grind Black Pepper

2 pounds boneless beef sirloin steak, cut into 1-inch cubes

16 small cippolini onions

16 large pimiento-stuffed green olives

Mixed Greens with Mustard

Vinaigrette (recipe sidebar)

1. Heat large nonstick skillet on medium heat. Add mustard seed; cook and stir 1 minute or until fragrant. Immediately pour out of hot pan to avoid over-toasting. Coarsely crush seeds using a rolling pin or a mortar and pestle. Reserve 1 tablespoon for the Mustard Vinaigrette (recipe sidebar).

2. Mix remaining mustard seed, vermouth, oil, lemon juice, honey, olive juice, lemon peel, sea salt, garlic and pepper in large bowl until well blended. Reserve ¼ cup of the marinade for brushing. Place remaining marinade in large resealable plastic bag or glass dish. Add steak; turn to coat well. Refrigerate 2 hours or longer for extra flavor.

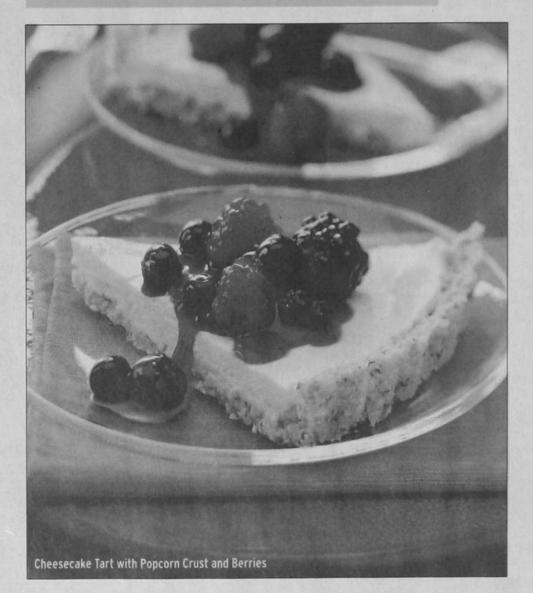
3. Meanwhile, bring water to boil in small saucepan. Add onions; cook 5 minutes. Drain well. Cool onions slightly. Cut off top and bottom ends, then peel onions. Remove steak from marinade. Discard remaining marinade. Alternately thread steak, onions and olives onto 16 skewers.

4. Grill kabobs over medium heat 8 to 10 minutes or until steak is desired doneness, turning occasionally and brushing with reserved marinade. Serve kabobs with Mixed Greens with Mustard Vinaigrette.

Nutritional information per serving: 418 Calories, Fat 24g, Protein 28g, Carbohydrates 19g, Cholesterol 62mg, Sodium 713mg, Fiber 3g Dirty Martini Steak Kabobs

### MIXED GREENS WITH MUSTARD VINAIGRETTE

Mix ½ cup lemon juice, ¼ cup olive oil, 2 tablespoons honey, reserved 1 tablespoon crushed toasted McCormick Gourmet Collection Yellow Mustard Seed, 1 teaspoon dry vermouth, ½ teaspoon McCormick Gourmet Collection Ground Mustard and ¼ teaspoon McCormick Gourmet Collection Sicilian Sea Salt in medium bowl with wire whisk until well blended. Set aside. Toss 8 cups mixed greens, 1 small red onion, thinly sliced, and ½ cup crumbled blue cheese in large bowl. Serve with vinaigrette.



### CHEESECAKE TART WITH POPCORN CRUST AND BERRIES

Makes 8 servings Prep Time: 20 minutes Cook Time: 10 minutes Refrigerate Time: 2 hours Popcorn Crust: 3 cups unsalted popped popcorn % cup sugar 6 tablespoons butter, melted 2 teaspoons McCormick Gourmet Collection Herbes de Provence Cheesecake Tart with Berries: 1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened 1 cup mascarpone cheese 1½ tablespoons honey ¼ cup sugar 1 tablespoon cornstarch 1 teaspoon McCormick Gourmet Collection Herbes de Provence % cup water 1 teaspoon lemon juice 1 cup blueberries

2 cups mixed berries, such as blackberries, raspberries and strawberries

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. For the crust, place popcorn, about 1 cup at a time, in bowl of food processor or blender; cover. Process until finely ground. Mix ground popcorn, ½ cup sugar, butter and 2 teaspoons Herbes de Provence in medium bowl until well blended. Press mixture firmly onto bottom of foil-lined 9-inch tart pan. Bake 8 to 10 minutes or until lightly browned. Cool completely on wire rack.

2. For the tart, mix cream cheese, mascarpone cheese and honey in medium bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until well blended. Spread evenly in prepared crust. Refrigerate at least 2 hours or until ready to serve.

3. Mix ¼ cup sugar, cornstarch and 1 teaspoon Herbes de Provence in medium saucepan. Stir in water and lemon juice until well blended. Stir in blueberries. Stirring constantly, bring to boil on medium heat and boil 1 minute. Pour into medium bowl to cool slightly. Add remaining berries; toss gently to coat well. Refrigerate until ready to serve. Remove tart from foil-lined pan. Cut into slices to serve. Top with berry mixture.

Nutritional information per serving: 406 Calories, Fat 30g, Protein 5g, Carbohydrates 29g, Cholesterol 98mg, Sodium 182mg, Fiber 3g

- Family Features

### **APARTMENTS** AUTOS **CROSSWORD PUZZLE** EMPLOYMENT **Contact Us REAL ESTATE** PHONE: (800) 579-SELL (7355) CLASSIFIED DEADLINES: FAX: (313)496-4968 E-MAIL: oeads@hometownlife.com BILLING OUESTIONS? (313) 222-8748 hometownlifemcom Julie Brown, editor . (313) 222-6755 Thursday, March 31, 2011 PAGE B9 (\*) HOME DELIVERY: (866) 887-2737 icbrown@hometownlife.com

MSU offers 'go green' tips for spring lawns

With spring here, thoughts turn to lush green lawns. Michigan State University Extension has a website offering knowledge on lawn care.

### **MOW HIGH - RECYCLE CLIPPINGS**

- Mow at least 3" high
- Return clippings to recycle nutrients
- · Sweep or blow clippings from walks
- and driveways onto the lawn Taller grass crowds out weeds and
- promotes deeper roots

· Deeper roots help the lawn survive droughts

### **CHOOSE LAWN-TYPE FERTILIZERS**

· Choose lawn fertilizers with low or no phosphorus (the middle number) and follow the directions

· Avoid using "triple" products (e.g. 12-12 - 12)

· Confirm spreader setting before applying

### **CLEAN UP - AVOID SURFACE WATER**

 Maintain a NO APPLICATION zone near lakes, rivers, streams and storm drains

- · Never discharge clippings near lakes, rivers, streams or drains
- · Sweep fertilizer granules from walks and driveways onto the lawn
- · Wash your spreader on the grass

### WATER SMART

 Don't soak your lawn and avoid night watering

· Watering should not produce puddles; lighter, more frequent watering is best

• Brown lawns are OK; dormancy is a natural response to drought, however, some water may be necessary during an extended drought of more than a month

· Following Go Green Lawncare Tips will reduce the amount of water your lawn needs

Soil compaction, soil layering and excessive thatch buildup are common problems on home lawns in Michigan. These conditions do not allow adequate water movement into the soil, drainage of water through the soil profile, adequate oxygen in the soil or easy root growth. The results are shallow rooting, inefficient water use and poor turf health.

Cultivation (also called aerification) is the process of physically modifying the soil by removing plugs from the soil profile. There are several types of specialized equipment designed for this procedure. The most common include those with hollow tines that remove a core of soil. Others have solid tine spikes that punch holes into the soil.



jected to high traffic. This is a common problem where turf is established on subsoils excavated from basements during the house construction process. Soils containing a higher sand content are more resistant to compaction, but heavy traffic can still compact these soils. Soil layering occurs when different soils are stacked one on top of another. This condition results in poor water movement between layers and inhibits root growth into the lower soil layer. This also occurs when subsoils excavated from basements are placed on the surface, then a shallow layer of topsoil is placed on top of the subsoils. This problem is also evident when sod is placed directly on very fine- or very coarse-textured soils.

Under these conditions, cultivation

soil surface and the green top growth. A thatch layer of approximately 1/2 inch is beneficial because it acts as a buffer at the soil surface and protects the plants from weather extremes. Thatch that builds up over 1 inch, however, can inhibit water and air movement and eventually weakens the turf stand. The thatch layer is home to a variety of microorganisms that are responsible for its decomposition. A buildup of thatch occurs when it is being produced faster than it is being decomposed. Some grasses, such as Kentucky bluegrass, accumulate thatch faster than others. Compacted soils and overwatering also encourage thatch formation. Effective thatch control requires an integrated program combining proper grass selection, irrigation, fertilization, and timely cultivation and dethatching.

### CULTIVATION EQUIPMENT

surface area (see table below). Wide tine spacing and small tine diameter have little effect on a turf. For example, compare an aerifier in the table below that has a 2- by 2-inch spacing with one that has a 4- by 6-inch spacing. It would require six passes with the latter to achieve the same number of holes as one pass with the closer spacing.

### DEPTH OF CULTIVATION

Generally, the deeper the cultivation, the better. As a minimum, we suggest 2.5 inches. Let's say a thatch layer of 1.5 inches exists on a site and the tines reach only to a depth of 2 inches - only 1/2 inch of soil will be brought to the surface with each tine. Considering the low percentage of area affected (see table), this activity will have almost no impact on mixing soil with the thatch, regardless of the number of passes.

### CULTIVATION FREQUENCY AND TIMING

For many bluegrass lawns, one cultivation per year is adequate. If there is a significant thatch layer (1 inch or more) or the area is severely compacted, two or more cultivations per year will be beneficial. When it becomes evident that the thatch has been reduced to less than 1 inch and the turf is rooting well into the soil below, the frequency of cultivation can be reduced to annual treatments. The degree of compaction, soil conditions and the use of the turf will determine how frequently cultivation will be needed.

### **CULTIVATION TIPS**

The cultivation process will cause some injury to turf. Fertilizing approximately a week before cultivation will increase the growth rate of the grass and promote quick recovery. Cultivating during spring or fall is most desirable because the turf will recover quickly. Many cores will be left on the lawn after the operation. These cores can be broken up by dragging a mat over the lawn to sift the cores back into the turf. Seeding the lawn after a cultivation procedure is a very effective way to introduce more desirable grasses.

For best results, pay attention to the moisture content in the soil when cultivating. Soil that is too dry will not allow the tines to penetrate adequately. Wet conditions may cause unnecessary damage to the turf. Effect of Tine Diameter and Spacing on Percent of Area Affected

### SUNDAY EDITION, 4:30 P.M. FRIDAY THURSDAY EDITION, 4:30 P.M. TUESDAY

# Energy tax credit a boon

### Q: Can you give me some information about the **Residential Renewal Energy Tax** Credit?

A: Individual taxpayers are eligible for a personal tax credit equal to 30 percent of the cost of qualified

solar-

electric,

water,

solar hot

small wind

energy, and

geothermal

heat pump

property.

The



**Robert Meisner** 

applicability of this credit has been extended until Dec. 31, 2016, and the previous cap of \$2,000 has been eliminated. You are best advised, however, to speak with your tax accountant. Q: I have heard that the **Residential Energy-Efficiency** Tax Credit has been repealed. Could you describe what it was and what is going to happen, if you know, regarding any extension?

A: The federal tax credit was equal to 30 percent of the amount expended for purchasing new, efficient technologies such as water heaters, furnaces, boilers, heat pumps, central air conditioners, insulation, windows, doors, roofs and fans. The maximum amount of this tax credit for all technologies placed in service in 2009 and 2010 was \$1,500. However, this provision expired on December 31, 2010, but there is currently a bill in Congress to extend

### SOIL COMPACTION AND SOIL LAYERING

Soil compaction is the result of soil particles being pushed together. It severely reduces the air spaces in the soil. Maintaining air space in the soil is important for water drainage and oxy-

techniques can improve water infiltration and increase the air space. This procedure will provide for better rooting, which will allow the turf to be more resilient and better tolerate traffic, drought stress, and weed, disease and insect pressure.

### THATCH

603 Suffield Ave

1492 W Lincoln St

2798 Aldrington Ct 1925 Applebrook Dr 8426 Arlis St

Thatch is the accumulation of dead and decomposing turf stems, leaves and roots intermixed with live plant roots. Clippings do not contribute to thatch buildup. Clippings decompose quickly and should be returned to the turf.

There are several types of cultivation tools. MSU research indicates that using a machine that removes a core of soil is more effective than those that slice or push holes into the soil using solid tines. For hollow tine machines, the combination of tine size and spacing will determine the amount of soil that you can remove. Tines at least /2 inch in diameter should be used. Larger tines are suggested for more severe compaction or thatch problems. As a general rule, there should be a hole every 3 inches and you should aerify between 4 and 6 percent of the

Lathrup Village

Milford

Novi

\$160,000

\$150,000 \$226,000

\$76,000

\$77,000

\$340,000

\$104,000

\$116,000

\$45,000 \$385,000

\$195,000

Tine diameter (inches) Tine spacing and percent of area affected

	2" x 2"	2" x 4"	4" x 6"	
	1.2	0.6 .	0.2	
8	2.8	1.4	0.5	
2	4.9	2.5	0.8	
8	7.7	3.8	1.3	
4	11.0	5.5	1.8	
	19.6	9.8	3.3	

40892 Kingsley Ln	\$271.00
25766 Laramie Dr	\$355,00
South Ly	on
118 Woodland Dr	\$31,00
Southfie	eld
28549 Castlegate Dr	\$120,00
18493 Lincoln Dr	\$100,00
17016 Melrose St	\$103,00
29982 Rambling Rd	\$110,00
30220 Southfield Rd # A243	\$22,00
White La	
657 Red Bank Dr	\$254,00

this program, but it has not passed as of yet. You may want to write your legislators in Congress regarding this act.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates. com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

### HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

These are the area residential realestate closings recorded the week of Dec. 13-16, 2010, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Canton	
3921 Cornerstone Dr	\$131,000
3933 Cornerstone Dr	\$125,000
1034 Paddington Rd	\$122,000
Garden City	
IS10 Farmington Rd	\$30,000
4096 Fairway St	\$132,000
11727 Haller St	\$35,000
4900 Harrison St	\$190,000
8682 Lathers St	\$60,000
1027 Melrose St	\$157,000
Northville	
44659 Broadmoor Cir N	\$340,000
Plymouth	
41102 Greenbrook Ln	\$152,000
497 Irvin St	\$345,000
Redford	********
6020 Negaunee	\$35,000
9128 Winston	\$41,000
Westland	
3241 Hugh St	\$45,000



These are the area residential real-estate closings recorded the week of December 13-17, 2010, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Beverly Hills	
18215 Birwood Ave	\$130,000
Birmingham	
1839 Birmingham Blvd 1771 Cole St 1668 Graefield Rd Unit 64 1936 Haynes St	\$236.000 \$185,000 \$55,000 \$99,000

### 8623 War Bonnet Dr Farmington 23011 Farmington Rd 22775 Maple Ave \$105,000 **Farmington Hills** 29947 Beacontree St \$90,000 \$155,000 29472 Juneau Ln 21130 Middlebelt Rd

Commerce Township

### **REAL ESTATE BRIEFS**

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

27560 Royal Crescent Dr

37099 Sandalwood 39248 Silverthorne Bnd

22114 Tulane Ave

17630 Ramsgate Dr

1601 Hidden Valley Dr

28364 Carlton Way Dr

28919 Hearthstone Dr

27473 Cromwell Rd 21029 Dundee Dr

1844 Quendale Lr

219 W Lafayette St

\$735,000

\$220,000 \$50,000

\$83,000

### Career Seminar

A Real Estate Career Seminar will be held 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 21, at Keller Williams Realty, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. You can learn about the free pre-licensure course.

For more information, contact Lesley Aiello at (734) 459-4700 or laiello@kw.com.

### BIA

 Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will sponsor a three-hour Continuing Competency course, required for license renewal for both Builders and Maintenance and Alterations Contractors licenses, on Tuesday, April 12, from 9 a.m. to noon at Association Offices, 2075 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield.

For those with licenses issued prior to Jan. 1, 2009, three hours of continuing competency are required each licensing cycle. The instructor, Don Pratt, CGB, CGR, CGP, CAPS, of CECS of Michigan, LLC, will present

one hour for each of the required subjects: legal issues, codes, and safety issues. Registration fees are \$55 for members or guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at www.builders.org/ events.php.

 Apartment Association of Michigan's (AAM) Property Management Council (PMC) will sponsor a seminar for leasing professionals called Leasing 101: The 2011 Tour on Friday, April 15, from 9 a.m. to noon at Association Offices, 2075 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield.

Kathleen Mabie of Ann Arborbased Success On Site will provide guidelines to increase occupancy immediately. Topics to be presented include Competitive Analysis, Closing from Start to Finish, Secure Contacts when they call, hit websites, or send e-mail, Meet and Greet Interface, Follow-up and more. The entire leasing process will be covered.

Registration fees are \$69 for PMC members, \$79 for AAM or Building Industry Association members and

\$99 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at: www.builders.org/ events.php.

 Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan's (BIA) NAHBR Professional Remodelers Council will hold a three-part seminar series called "Your Master Planned Business" on April 19, June 15 and Oct. 19.

The seminars will be presented by Dawn Drozd, business coach and CEO of ClearVision Business Coaching. Part One, to be presented on April 19 is "Measure Twice, Cut Once." Part Two is "Your Master Blueprint" and will be held on June 15. Part Three is "Project Review" and will be held on Oct. 19.

The April 19 program will begin at 12:30 p.m. with lunch followed by the seminar from 1-2:30 p.m. It will be held at the Ford Conference & Event Center at 1151 Village Road in Dearborn in conjunction with the Pella Pro Expo being held at that location later that day. The June 15

and Oct. 19 programs will each run from noon to 2 p.m., including lunch, at Association Offices, 2075 Walnut Lake Road in West Bloomfield.

Registration fees for members or guests are \$40 per person for each seminar or \$80 per person, if you register for all three seminars. For further information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at: www.builders. org/events.php.

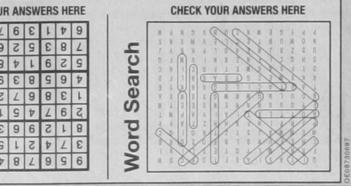
### Investors

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The Real Estate Investor Association of Wayne County holds monthly meetings the first Tuesday of each month at the Holiday Inn, 17201 Northline Road, Southgate. Entrance fee is \$20 for nonmembers to be applied to annual membership. For information, call (313) 819-0919 or visit www.reiawaynecounty.org. At 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 5, the association will host Dennis Priem from Lead Paint Safety Classes LLC. Call (734) 552-3316. He will be speaking on the EPA's lead paint safety standards and liability lawsuits.



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Cannot be used in conjunction with any other coupon or special offer. Coupon will not be available in stores. Must be presented at time of purchase. Duplicates will not be honored. Valid in store or online. Cannot be applied to previous purchases.

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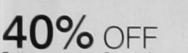
40% OFF Ladies hats, flip flops, hair accessories and neckwear from Basha, Nine West®, Cejon®

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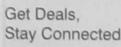
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Amy Byer, Nautica®, Bonnie Jean® and

Rare Editions®. In Infants' and Toddlers'

Get coupons on your phone. Text "offers" to 266866



50-60% OFF Reg. \$260 - \$340, sale 79.99 - 129.99.



-50% Casual dinnerware, drinkware and flatware by Fiesta® Dinnerware, Cambridge, Sango, Libbey Glass, Oneida® and more. Reg. \$5 - \$189, sale 2.50 - 132.30.



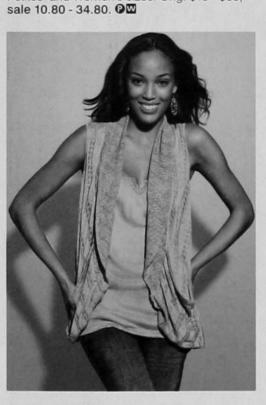
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LivingQuarters Loft, LivingQuarters Estate and LivingQuarters bedding ensembles.

Get offers in your inbox. Sign up @ bonton.com



**40%** OFF Weekend wear from Izod\*, Relativity\*, Bandolino\* and Gloria Vanderbilt\*. Misses' sizes S-XL, 6-16. Similar styles and savings in Petites' and Women's sizes. Orig. \$18 - \$58,



50% OFF Juniors' tops. Save on cardigans, tees and more from Belle du Jour, Grane® and others. Sizes S-XL. Orig. \$38 - \$48, sale \$19 - \$24.





**40%** OFF Selected separates from Notations<sup>®</sup>, Studio Works<sup>®</sup> and Briggs New York<sup>®</sup>. Misses' sizes S-XL, 8-18. Similar styles and savings in Petites' and Women's sizes. Orig. \$34 - \$58, sale 20.40 - 34.80. Im



40% OFF Styles from Ruff Hewn, Oneworld and Jones New York Sport\*. Misses' sizes S-XL, 4-18. Similar styles and savings in Petites' and Women's sizes. Orig. \$24 - \$139, sale 14.40 - 83.40. @

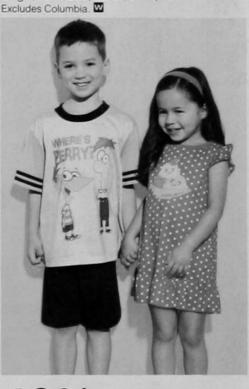


40% OFF Save on entire stock of bras from Bali<sup>®</sup>, Barelythere<sup>®</sup>, Warner's, Vanity Fair<sup>®</sup> and Maidenform<sup>®</sup>. Reg. \$26 - \$38, sale 15.60 - 22.80.





**40%** OFF Entire stock of Ladies' outerwear. Choose from walkers, trenches, casual jackets, faux leather and more. Misses' sizes S-XL. Similar styles and savings in Women's sizes. Orig. \$90 - \$200, sale \$54 - \$120.



**40%** OFF Entire stock of sleep from Carter's<sup>®</sup>, Calvin Klein and their favorite characters. Choose from 2- or 3-pc. sets, gowns and more. Infants' and Toddlers' sizes, Girls 4-16, Boys 4-16. Reg. \$20 - \$34, sale \$12 - 20.40.



Aria

**40%** OFF Save on sleepwear from Aria\*, Miss Elaine\*, Chanteuse\* and Intimate Essentials\*. Misses' sizes S-XL. Similar styles and savings in Women's sizes. Reg. \$28 - \$80, sale 16.80 - \$48.



Aria<sup>®</sup>, Miss Intimate S-XL. Similar en's sizes.

40% OFF Save on entire stock of GAL® handbags. Reg. \$40 - \$90, sale \$24 - \$54.



**40%** OFF Save on a selection of styles from Bare Traps<sup>®</sup>, Aerosoles<sup>®</sup> and White Mountain. Women's sizes 6-10, 11M. Reg. \$59 - \$69, sale 35.40 - 41.40. 40% OFF Fashion jewelry. Save on Erica Lyons\*, Studio Works\*, Relativity\* and more. Reg. \$8 - \$100, sale 4.80 - \$60. 40% OFF Men's suit separates from KENNETH COLE

REACTION<sup>®</sup>, Calvin Klein, Geoffrey Beene<sup>®</sup> and more. As a suit. Reg \$275 - \$525, sale \$165 - \$315. Jacket in sizes 38-44S, 38-50R, 42-50L. Reg. \$200 - \$375, sale \$120 - \$225. Also save on pants. In waist sizes 32-44. Reg. \$75 - \$150, sale \$45 - \$90.



**15-50%** OFF Entire stock of small electrics and health and wellness essentials. Reg. \$12 - \$785, sale 5.99 - 499.99.



25-50% OFF Entire stock of cookware, bakeware, cutlery and gadgets. Reg. \$3 - \$814, sale 1.50 - 610.50.



50% OFF Entire stock of summer shop. Choose from a huge selection outdoor dinner and drinkware, lighting and furniture.

### open an account with us and take an extra 20% off

**0%** OFF

Exclusively ours! Entire stock of sheet

Home\*. In twin-king. Reg. \$35 - \$240, sale 17.50 - \$120. Sheet set includes: Flat sheet, fitted sheet and two cases (one in twin).

sets from LivingQuarters and KN Luxury



### Now through Monday, April 4

Sign up for & use your parisian store card to take an extra 20% off almost everything in the store! Take an extra 10% off fine jewelry and The Sharper Image. Extra savings are available on almost all regular and sale price merchandise; offer good the day you open your account only. Some exclusions apply, subject to credit approval.

### SHOP IN STORE OR ONLINE @ bonton.com

FREE STANDARD SHIPPING FRIDAY, APRIL 1 - MONDAY, APRIL 4 WITH A MINIMUM \$75 ONLINE ORDER.

### To find the store nearest you, call 1-800-233-7626, or shop online at bonton.com.

Sale prices effective Friday, April 1 through Monday, April 4, 2011, unless otherwise indicated. No price adjustments for previously purchased clearance merchandise. Entire Stock offers exclude Clearance, Incredible Value and Web-Exclusive merchandise. Regular and original prices reflect offering prices in effect during the 90 days before or after this sale, but not necessarily during the past 30 days. Savings may not be based on actual sales. Intermediate markdowns may have been taken. Merchandise, style and color availability may vary by store and online. Home Store merchandise available exclusively online. [25619]

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DieHard® workboots Styles shown. #06784994 SureTrack™ soft toe. #06784101 Plain toe. Reg. 90.00 Plus all workboots on sale

*lowestprice* oftheseason 799 \$ sale, twin Cannon<sup>®</sup> Colorstay sheet set Reg. 14.99 All other sizes on sale

Exquisite Form® and Timeless Comfort® Reg. 16.00-33.00 sale 8.00-16.50

lowestprice

oftheseason

**SAVE \$70** 

LED HDTV

RCA 24"/class

. 99

23.6" measured diagonally. Reg. 299.99 #05771911/LED24LA45RQ Recoption is simulated.

24" LED

shop**your**way rewards

1080p

60Hz

All boxed bras from:

Playtex® 18-Hour,®

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of the season

50%f

*lowestprice* of the season 50% Men's and ladies' sunglasses Shown: Dockers. Reg. 22.00-32.00 sale 11.00-16.00

Shown: lab-created sapphire ring in

sterling silver. Reg. 60.00 †See page 6 for fine jewelry details

save on all fitness equipment

*lowestprice* FREE of the season delivery† & 749<sup>99</sup> sale s assembly with purch SAVE \$350 NordicTrack<sup>™</sup> A2550 Pro treadmill 20x55-in. deck 2.5-HP DurX<sup>™</sup> commercial motor. #00624967

Exercise equipment

Exercise equipment requires some assembly. †Free standard delivery, a 69.99 value. Standard delivery includes delivery within the local delivery area Monday through Friday and delivery not requiring additional services or time. Customer pays a charge for non-standard delivery. Excludes Outlet Stores.

lowestprice of the season \$49<sup>99</sup>sale Presto® dual basket deep fryer or Euro-Pro® stainless steel toaster oven Reg. 69.99 & 79.99 #00869294/71739 lowest lowest price price ever of the season 69<sup>88</sup> sale Craftsman® C3® SAVE \$60 19.2-volt 4-pc. combo kit Craftsman Includes drill, recip. saw vac and light. Was 139.99 closeout 79.88 #07138821 #00925777 4-рс. combo



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\$**159**° push mower with Smooth Start

visit www.sears.com/ engineprotection to learn how to protect your investment

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\*Buy More Save More offer excludes Electrolux, Jenn-Air®, Dacor, Fisher & Paykel, floor care, sewing machines, countertop microwaves, water heaters, water heaters, water fibration, all conditioners, air cleaners, humidifiers, dehumidifiers, dehumidifiers, debumidifiers, dehumidifiers, dehumidifiers, dehumidifiers, debumidifiers, debumidifiers, dehumidifiers, dehum

# of the season on items where indicated. All on Sales exclude everyday great price items, Lands' End@ merchandise and Special Purchases. See "The Details" section in this circular for additional All on Sale exclusions.



plus free standard delivery & haul away or no interest if paid in full in 12 months\*\*\* on all appliances over \$399\*\* instant savings. no rebate.









\$39899 WITH COUPON SAVINGS Kenmore Intuition® canister with incorporated bare floor nozzle Reg. 599.99 #02028014

### \$31999 WITH COUPON SAVINGS Kenmore Intuition canister with dirt sensor Reg. 479.99 #02029914

\$23939 final WITH COUPON SAVINGS Kenmore Intuition canister with CrossOver handle Reg. 359.99 #02021614

**BOOGEF** ALL CANISTER VACUUMS WITH THIS COUPON Excludes accessories, closeouts, everyday great price items and floor care on sears.com. Redeemable at Sears stores only. Not valid at Outlet Stores. One coupon per purchase. Void II copied, transferred or obtained through channels not approved by Sears Holdings. Void where prohibited by law. Any other use constitutes fraud. Cash value 17204. In an event of a return, coupon savings may be deducted from your retund. ©/2011 Sears Brands, LLC. Sales Associate: Please collect this coupon. If unable to scan, manually enter the UALD 4/1/11 TO 4/16/11 IN U.S.A. ONLY. Not to be used with any other coupon or associate discount.

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\$**99**99

Kenmore® small room HEPA air cleaner #03285150 20% ALL KENMORE PLASMAWAVE AIR CLEANERS WITH THIS COUPON

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Excludes accessories and closeouts. Redeemable at Sears stores only. Not valid at Sears Hometown Stores, Appliance Showrooms or Sears Dullet stores. One coupon per purchase. Void if copied, transferred or obtained through channels not approved by Sears Holdings. Void where prohibited by law. Any other use constitutes traud. Cash value 1720e. In an event of a return, coupon savings may be deducted from your retund. ©2011 Sears Brands, LLC. Associate: Plasse collect this coupon. If unable to scan, manually enter the coupon number. VALD 4/1/11 T0 4/9/11 N U.S.A. ONLY. Not to be used with any other coupon or associate discount.



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1 CKX003A NS12 - NS12 3



SOME ITEMS AND SIZES BY SPECIAL ORDER ONLY. 'Limited warranty for months/miles specified; see store for details; Tires: Limited treadwear warranty; Shocks: "Lifetime Replacement" refers to as long as you own your vehicle; Ashocks: Standard installation charges are \$20/ea.; prices vary by store and vehicle; Struts: standard installation range from \$50-\$120/ea.; see store for details. Tire installation; Alignment, balancing and valve stems extra. State or local taxes, or surcharges for environmental protection extra a (if applicable). Shop fees may be extra. Purchases may be limited to normal retail quantities. "FLORIDA MOTOR VEHICLE RETAIL SHOPS MV06237 to MV06237." Road/Handler®, Response@, Weatherwise@ and WeatherHandler® are trademarks owned by Sears Brands, LLC. "Card can be used virtually anywhere American Express@ Cards are welcome in the U.S. and Canada; valid 6 months; not redeemable for cash. Card issued in the name submitted on rebate form; cannot be issued to minors and is not transferable. Terms and conditions apply; see emcompasscard.com for details. Tires must be purchased from a participating Bridgestone retailer's inventory between 3/31-4/30/11. Mail-in claim form required. May not be combined with other offers. Certain restrictions apply. See store for details.

# FRIDAY AND SAVE ON ALL TIRES

earn 20,000 points on the purchase of 4 tires: everyday gre price item

BLUE

Excludes

sale

Xtra

‡To be eligible to earn bonus points, you must n and remain opted-in to receiving promotional er a valid email address in your account m Sears Holdings and its affiliates.

RANCHE

SERVICES

Car Care Kit earn 3X points (30 points per \$1 spent) on the purchase of any **WONROE** portable power product *lowestprice* FREE installation of the season on all Monroe® Sensa-Trac®, Rancho \$29<sup>99</sup> sale DieHard and Reflex shocks \$40 value per pair *lowestprice* 50% off installation\* on all Monroe Sensa-Trac oftheseason YOUR CHOICE lowestprice and Reflex struts Reg. \$50-\$120 each. 199 of the season DieHard® 425W Spring maintenance package \$-199 sale Plus buy 3 get the 4th shock FREE sale Power Inverter Includes coolant exchange or fuel system cleaning after mail-in rebate **SAVE \$15** Reg. 39.99 #02871496 conventional oil change, tire rotation, alignment Buy 4 Monroe Reflex, Sensa-Trac shocks or struts or any 4 Rancho shocks, get a rebate for the cost of one Armor All® car DieHard 10/2-amp Shown: DieHard Portable check, tread depth check, air pressure check and care gift kit Power 750 battery charger multi-point vehicle inspection. Reg. 129.98 Most vehicles. Offer good thru 4/30/11. #15435 free. Rebate will be for the lowest cost shock. Excludes sales tax. See store for details. Offer good thru 5/31/11. Reg. 59.99 #02871486 Reg. 13.99 #0281184 Reg. 44.99 #02871221

MORAL

SAVE ON ALL DIEHARD

PORTABLE POWER

3X

THE TOOLS YOU NEED AT INCREDIBLE PRICES



4 NS12 - NS12 CKX004A 1

# of the season during sears days. prices don't get any low Il Purchases. See "The Details" section in this circular for additional All on Sale exclusions





*lowestprice* 

of the season







12.1 megapixels

12X optical zoom

3" LCD

Canon

12×

lowestprice of the season \$279<sup>99</sup>sale SAVE \$20 Toshiba® mini 10.1" netbook 10.1" screen. Atom N455 processor. 1GB memory. 160GB HD. Reg. 299.99 #00318278 TOSHIBA

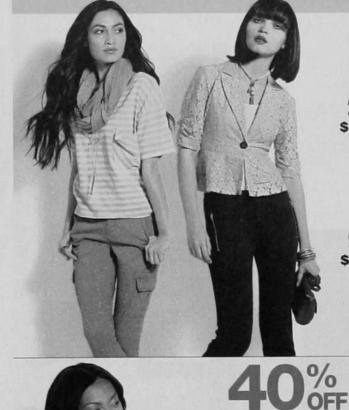


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1 CKX005A NS12 - NS12 5

# cam<sup>2</sup>t wait OWESt



# 40-50% HOT LOOKS FOR HER

*lowestprice* of the season

### 799 \$" sale

Live Life by Sanctuary® striped Love tee for misses Reg. 14.90

Capris Reg. 26.90 sale 15.99 live · life

lowest price of the season

### \$1399 sale

apostrophe® lace jacket for misses Reg. 24.90 apostrophe® ponte inset jean Reg. 29.90 sale 16.99 apostrophe'

of the season 799 sale

*lowestprice* 

Laura Scott<sup>™</sup> pintuck detailed top for misses Reg. 36.00 Tummy control crop pants

Reg. 36.00 sale 17.99 Laura Scott lowest price of the season

\$1799 sale

Covington® striped cozy sweater for misses Reg. 36.00 **Trouser** jeans Reg. 40.00 sale 19.99 COVINCTON

# 40-50% ACCESSORIES AND FRAGRANCE GIFT SETS

BRAS, PANTIES & SHAPEWEAR BY Hanes® Vanity Fair® Maidenform® Bali® Olga® Lily of France® Flexees Dr. Rev DR. REY SHAPEWEAR



### 50% Handbags and wallets

40% off fashion wraps and scarve Reg. 16.00-38.00 sale 9.60-22.80 40% off Studio S fashion jewelry Reg. 6.00-32.00 sale 3.60-19.20



Reg. 26.50 *lowestprice* ofthese 2340 White Diamonds

fragrance set 1.7 oz. spray, 1.7 oz. body lotion & soaps Reg. 39.00

### 50% off all other pillows

Cannon Jumbo SALE \$3.88 Reg. 9.99

**Dream Solutions** Won't Go Flat SALE \$9.88 Reg. 19.99

any size, even king Cannon<sup>®</sup> dobby nent varies by sto





any size, even king

\$39<sup>99</sup> sale Colormate printed bedspread set Includes bedspread and sham(s). Reg. 59.99-69.99

*lowestprice* of the season 99<sup>99</sup> sale, \$2 each

Diamond ring 14k gold over sterling silver Reg. 99.99 #04422901

UP TO

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*lowestprice* 

of the season

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OFF

\$1999 sale, each 1 ct. tw.\* diamond anniversary bands in 10k gold. Each, reg. 799.99 Lab-created gemstone rings in sterling silver Reg. 60.00



bed set Includes comforter, sheet set, sham(s) and bedskirt. Reg. 69.99-119.99

lowestprice of the season

CALA CONTRACTOR

lowest price of the season 4999 sale,

Reg. 18.00-89.00 sale 8.99-44.49

Excludes everyday great price iten

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Whimsey





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Serta® Perfect Sleeper Tranquil Sands, Firm, Plush or EuroTop OR Sealy Posturepedic Cason Bay Premier,

1399.99 Full set 1499.99

Was

2139.99

2999.99

Queen set 2199.99 1099.99

Twin set

Full set

King set

Serta.

699.99 564.88 508.39 749.99 614.88 553.39 799.99 664.88 598.39

1199.99 1064.88 958.39

50% off closeout final

869.88

899.88

1499.99 1299.88 1169.89

Beautyrest

782.89

809.89

1999.99 999.99 799.88 719.89

1069.99

\$4/099

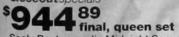
Cushion Firm, Plush or Euro Pillowtop – after an extra \$135	Queen set	1599.99	
savings per set & 10% off event savings While quantities last.	King set	2399.99	1

### closeout specials

### \$809<sup>89</sup> final, queen set

Serta Perfect Sleeper Ocean Whisper Plush or Firm EuroTop OR Sealy Posturepedic Premier Candle Glow Plush, Firm or Euro Pillowtop - after an extra \$200 savings per set & 10% off event savings While quantities last.

### closeout specials



Sealy Posturepedic Midnight Serenade Premier Luxury Cushion Firm or Ultra Plush EuroTop - after an extra \$250 in closeout savings and 10% off event savings per set While quantities last.



### SEARS OPEDIC



Was 50% off closeout final Twin set 2399.99 1199.99 949.88 854.89 2499.99 1249.99 Full set 999.88 899.89 Queen set 2599.99 1299.99 1049.88 944.89 King set 3399.99 1699.99 1449.88 1304.89

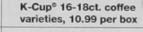
Mattresses available in most larger Sears stores. Excludes crib mattresses. "Extra 10% off all mattress and foundation sets over \$499. Excludes Serta Audrey, Gazelle, Mojave Rose; Sealy Legato, Union, Kamela; Sears-O-Pedic Treasures and Nickelodeon. "Save an additional \$50-\$400 on certain mattress and foundation set purchases. Excludes Stearns & Foster, 10ffer applies to any mattress and/or foundation set purchase over \$499 after discounts and coupons. See "The Details" section in this circular for Important Deferred Interest details. †Ffree standard local delivery and haul-away on any mattress and/or foundation set over \$499 after discounts and coupons. Standard delivery includes delivery within the local delivery area Monday through Friday and delivery not requiring additional services of time. Retail value 79.99. Customer pays a charge for non-standard delivery. Local areas and non-standard delivery charges vary. Free Naul-away excludes waterbeds. See store for details. Offers not valid in Outlet Stores.

CONTRACTOR OF STREET, STREET,

lowest priceever 49<sup>99</sup> sale **SAVE \$30** Farberware® 12-pc. aluminum nonstick set, red Reg. 79.99 #00860310 ailable in black

49 sale SAVE \$20 PLUS **GET INSTANT \$30** SEARS GIFT CARD WITH PURCHASE<sup>‡</sup> Keurig® B60 single serve coffeemaker #00860584 10ffer ends 4/9/11.





\$29<sup>99</sup> sale **SAVE 70%** Forecast® Fiji 3pc. set Reg. 99.99



11 #01494510/99110

 Hous way excludes waterbeds. See store for details. Offers not valid in Outlet Stores.
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# cant wait lowest or

### NO INTEREST IF PAID IN FULL IN 12 MONTHS\* OR 5% INSTANT CASH BACK\*

on total fitness equipment purchases over \$379 when you use a qualifying Sears card

Interest will be charged to your account from the purchase date if the purchase balance is not paid in full within 12 months or if you make a late payment.



### the details cont.

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equipment. Offer valid 4/4/11-4/8/11.

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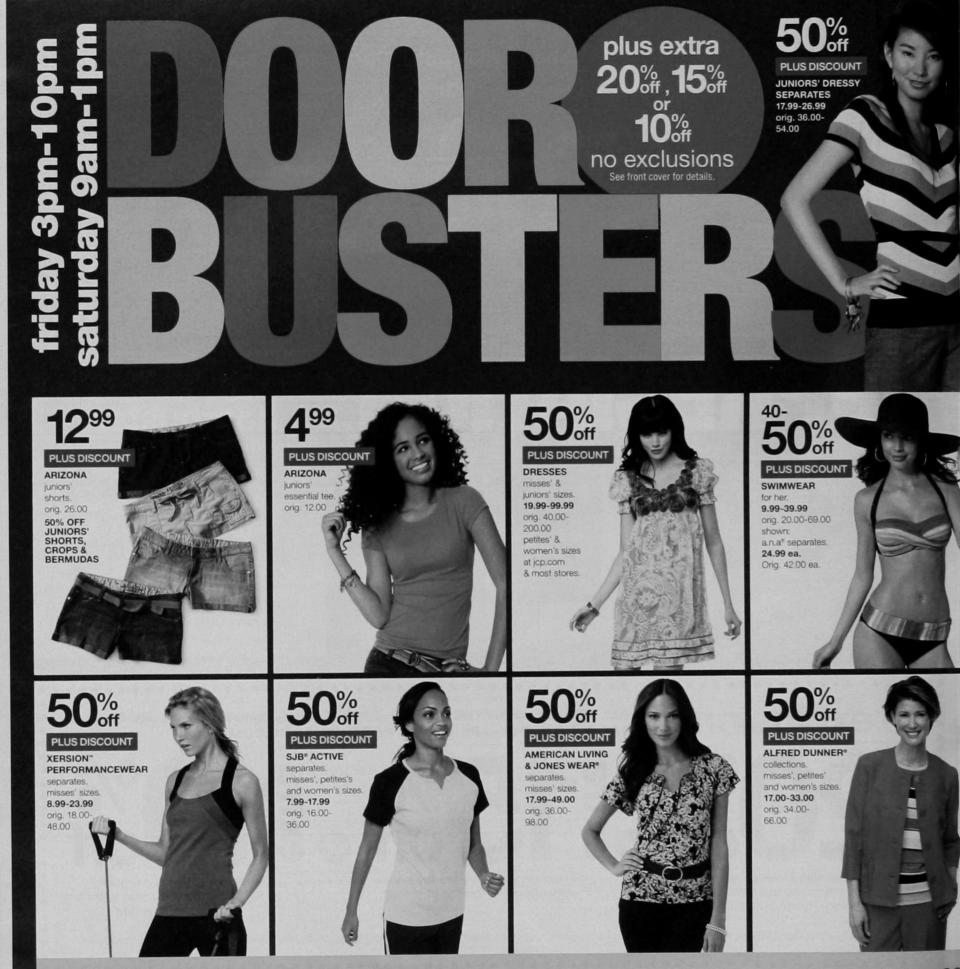
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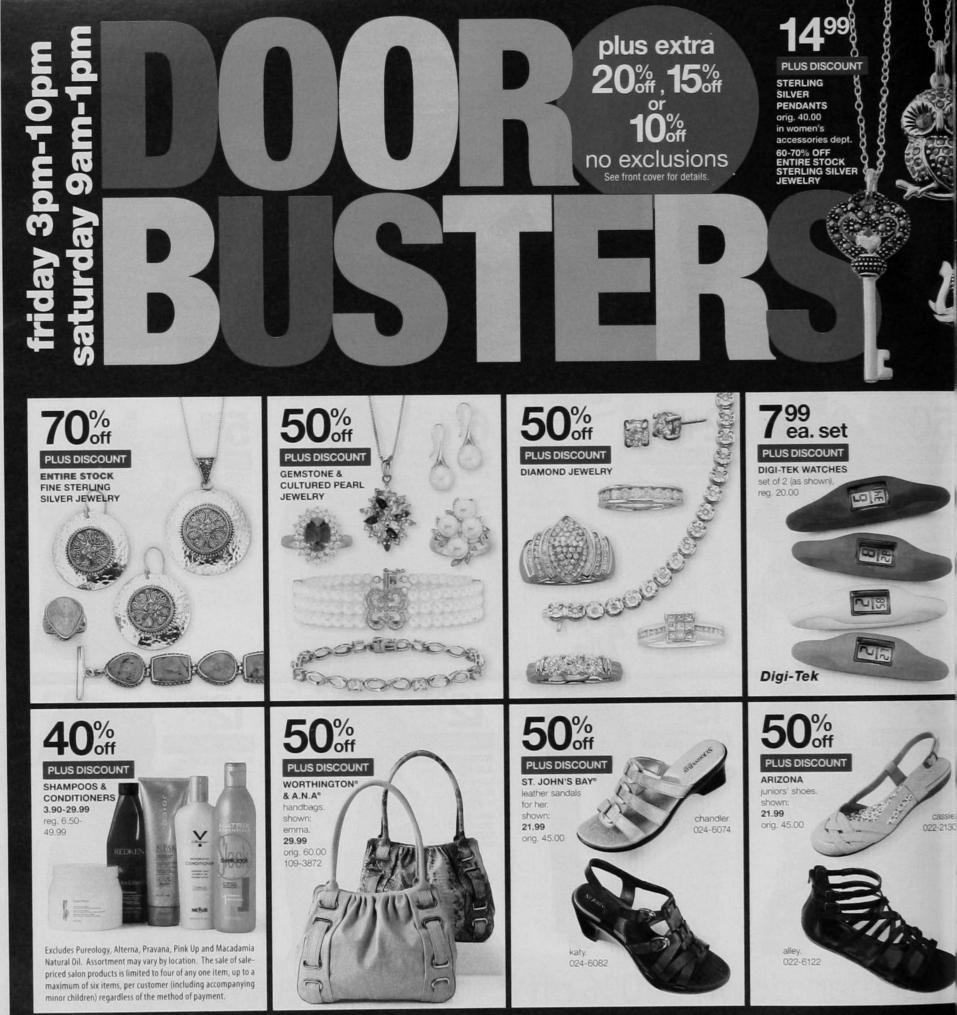
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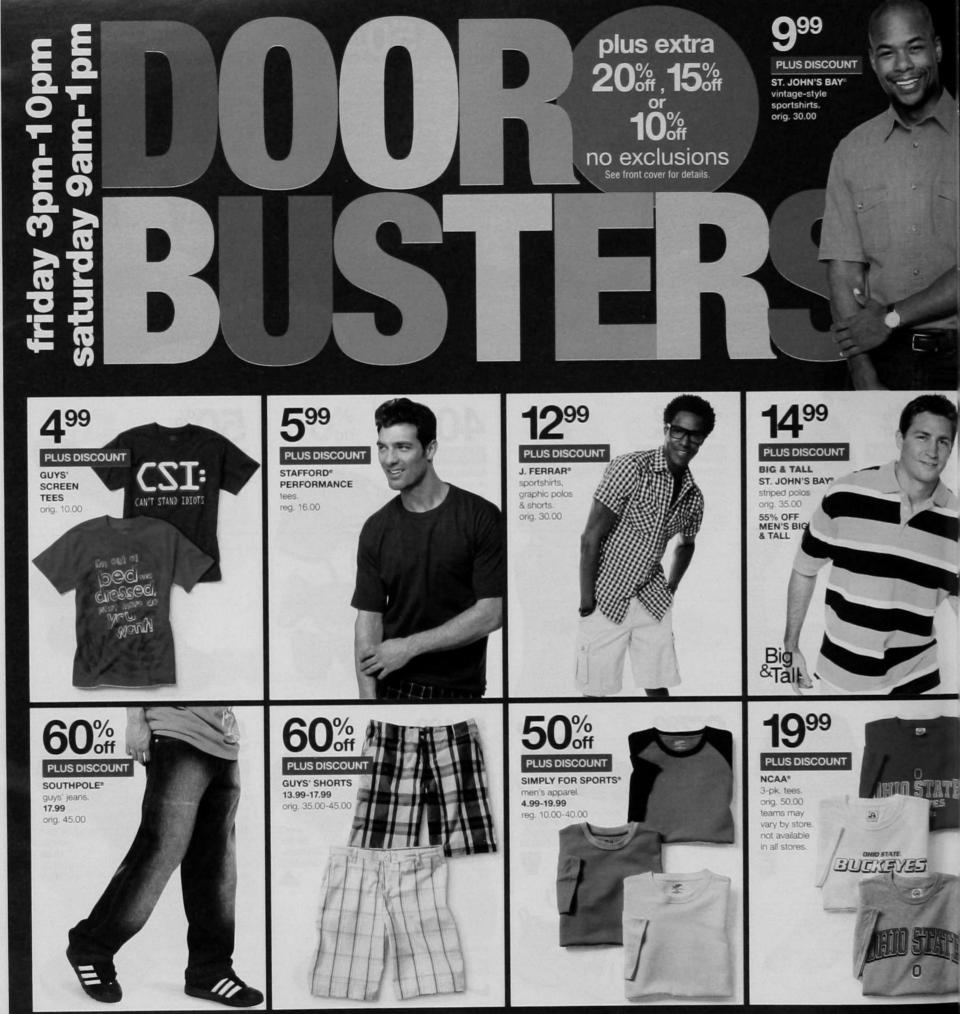


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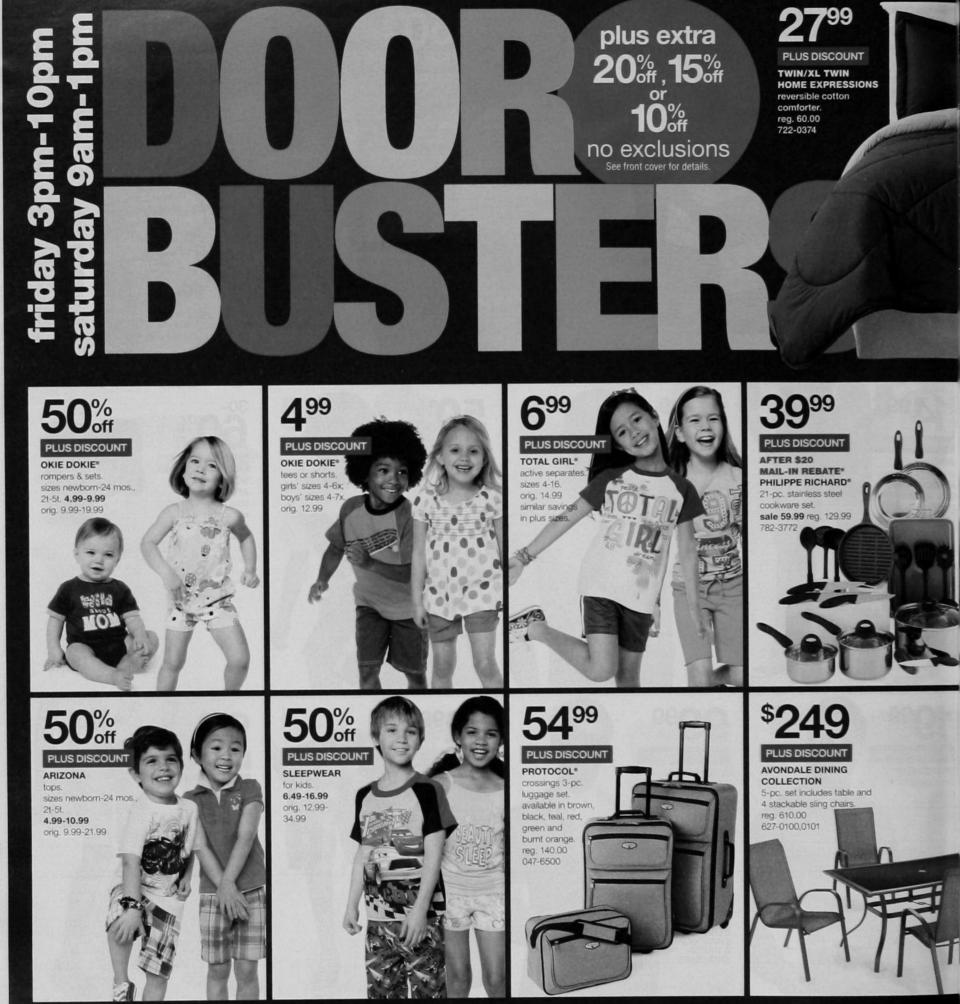














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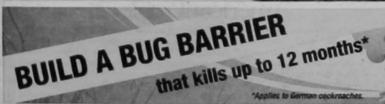
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## ASK AMERICAN PROFILE



We wonder why Harry Smith left the CBS morning show and where he went. We miss him. -Max & Jinny Tavernier, Constantine, Mich.

The decision for Smith, 59, to leave *The Early Show* was made by CBS News, which replaced him, along with Maggie Rodriguez and weatherman Dave Price, with Chris Wragge, Erica Hill, Jeff Glor and Marysol Castro. Of his departure, Smith said he was disappointed that he couldn't stick around to help the third-place morning show pull up its ratings. "It's a tough racket," he says. "There's only so much audience to go around." He now serves as a substitute on the *CBS Evening News*, *Face the Nation* and *CBS Sunday Morning*.

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-Annie Bradley, Oakland, Calif.

That's India Eisley, 17, whose mother, Olivia Hussey, starred at 15 years old as Juliet in the 1968 movie Romeo & Juliet, and whose musician-actor father. David Glen Eisley, played in the 1980s metal band Giuffria. The teen actress enjoys baking and watching movies with her parents and describes herself as shy. "I remember someone once said I was aloof, and I was very, very hurt by that," she says. "I'm not aloof, I'm just quiet." She's very involved in animal causes and has five dogs, three pot-bellied pigs, a cat and a parrot as pets.

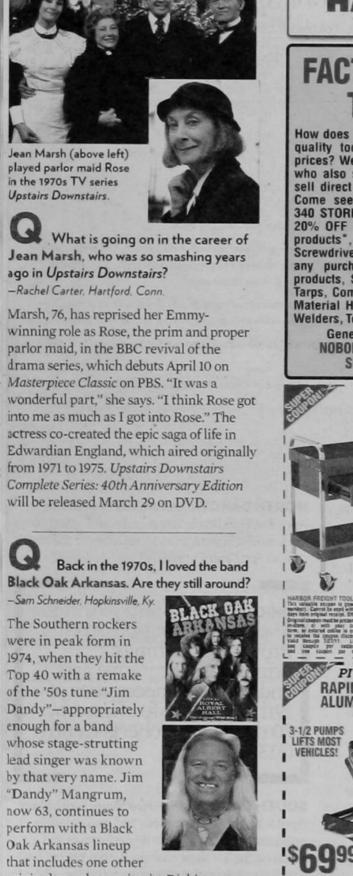
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#### Send us your questions

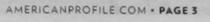
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original member, guitarist Rickie "Ricochet" Reynolds. When he's off the road, Mangrum, who lives in Memphis, Tenn., loves spending downtime with his grandchildren. "They call me 'Granddandy," he says proudly.





## RECIPE

## AmericanProfile



## **Oven-Poached** Eggs in Spinach Nests

This savory egg and spinach dish is perfect for Easter brunch.

#### Spinach:

- Cooking spray
- eggs
- cup all-purpose flour 1/2
- pound small-curd cottage cheese
- (10-ounce) boxes frozen chopped spinach, thawed and squeezed dry
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
  - Freshly ground black pepper

#### Eggs:

- 8 eggs
- cup (4-ounces) shredded Swiss or Parmesan cheese
- English muffins, split and toasted
- cup slivered red bell pepper, optional 1/2
- cup slivered onion, optional 1/2

1. Preheat oven to 350F. Coat a 13-by-9-inch baking dish with cooking spray.

2. To prepare spinach, combine eggs, flour and cottage cheese; stir well. Add spinach, salt and pepper; stir well. (This can be done up to 2 days ahead). Press mixture into prepared dish. Make 8 indentations with the back of a spoon where the eggs will be placed. Bake 25 minutes.

3. Remove from oven, and using a spoon, press the indentations more deeply. Break an egg into each indentation. Bake 15 minutes or until whites are set. Sprinkle with cheese. Return to oven and bake 1 minute.

4. Place 1 egg and spinach nest on English muffin half. Garnish with slivered red pepper and onion. if desired. Serves 8

-Recipe by Crescent Dragonwagon, Saxton's River, Vt.

Nutritional facts per serving: 320 calories, 14g fat, 25g protein, 24g carbohydrates, 4g fiber, 640mg sodium.



## HAPPENINGS

ILLINOIS - "Nothing's Sweeter than a Child" Chocolate Festival-LaSalle, April 3. Savor chocolate delicacies and bid in a silent auction during this LaSalle County Court Appointed Special Advocates event at Celebrations 150. (815) 434-2620.

INDIANA-History Festival & Pow Wow-Bedford, April 15-17. Living history demonstrations and re-enacted battles from the Revolutionary War to World War II, historical speakers, and American Indian stories highlight this event at Bedford North Lawrence High School, (812) 797-7491.

IOWA-International Reel Wheel Film Festival-Knoxville, April 22-24. Watch films celebrating the automobile and auto racing, including Stateline Speedway: The First Ten Years, at the National Sprint Car Hall of Fame & Museum. (641) 842-6176.

KANSAS-Lawrence Public Library Spring Book Sale-Lawrence, April 8-12 and 16-17. Shop for

used books during this benefit for the library at the tent at Seventh and Kentucky streets. (785) 843-3833.

MICHIGAN-Wayne County Parks Marshmallow Drop-Westland, April 22. Some 20,000 marshmallows tumble from a helicopter flying over Nankin Mills Park, and kids trade a marshmallow for a prize from the Easter Bunny. (734) 261-1990.

MINNESOTA-A Galaxy of Quilts-Owatonna, April 3-May 1. Piecemakers Quilt Guild members display their handmade creations during their triennial quilt show at the Owatonna Arts Center. (507) 451-0533.

MISSOURI-Thomas Hart Benton Birthday Celebration-Neosho, April 16. Learn about the artist, who was born April 15, 1889, and his creations, plus enjoy refreshments at Newton County Historic Park. (417) 451-4940.

NEBRASKA-Festival of Quilts-Chadron, April 15-17. Catch a nostalgic glimpse of life on the homefront during World War II at this 17th annual show, which is titled "Victory Quilts of the 1940s," at Assumption Arena. (308) 432-4041.

NORTH DAKOTA-Art & Craft Fair-Minot, April 8-9. Handmade arts & crafts and baked goods are featured in more than 150 exhibits at the North Dakota State Fair Center. (701) 837-6059.

оню-Ohio Country Antique Show-Wilmington, April 2. Browse furnishings, primitives, decorative arts and everyday necessities of 19th-century life offered by 70 dealers at Roberts Centre. (513) 738-7256.

SOUTH DAKOTA-Hee-Haw Show-South Shore, April 9-10. Enjoy this comedy and musical show presented by a cast of 60 to 80 performers and based on the TV show that aired from 1969 to 1993. South Shore School gymnasium. (605) 756-4511.

WISCONSIN-Quilt Show-Sun Prairie, April 3-5. View 250 handmade quilts, and enjoy a luncheon and a vendors mall with quilting supplies at St. Albert's Catholic Church. (608) 837-2298.

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# Beauty on the Beach

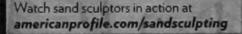
Artists sculpt wondrous works in the sand

// BY MARTI ATTOUN PHOTOS BY DAVID MUDD

**USING A PASTRY KNIFE**, Lucinda Wierenga etches an outline of a cluster of palm trees shading a charming seaside village that she's sculpting from a 10-ton pile of sand on the beach at South Padre Island, Texas (pop. 2,422).

> "I spend months thinking of my sculptures," says Wierenga, 54, a master sand sculptor nicknamed "Sandy Feet" who co-directs Sandcastle Days, an annual fall competition that features the stunning works of two dozen professional sand sculptors from around the world.

Wierenga scrapes a clump of moist sand from between two palm fronds, then uses a plastic drinking straw dangling from her neck to blow away loose grains to make the tropical leaves look crisp and clean. She steps back a few feet to get a better perspective on the masterpiece she's titled "All Roads Lead to the Beach."



Up and down the beach, sun- and surf-loving sculptors shovel and stomp wet sand into easier-to-carve blocks using forms rigged from roofing paper and C-clamps. After they pack and stack the blocks, they scoop, carve and coax the heaps into a gallery of whimsical and wondrous sculptures. The competition is among four qualifying contests in the United States for artists hoping to advance to the World Championship of Sand Sculpting, scheduled Nov. 17-27 in Fort Myers Beach, Fla. (pop. 6,561).

"It's not just sandcastles anymore," says Mark Chapman, 53, a mechanical engineer and photographer from Portland, Ore., who plops handfuls of wet sand above the giant expressive eyes of Neptune, the Roman god of the sea, before carving a set of bushy evebrows.

"I got into this because I really wanted to make faces and figures," says Chapman, who has sculpted about 225 mythological characters, mermaids and sea monsters in sand since 1998.

Wearing an insulated, vented hardhat to protect his head from the searing sun, he works from a rough sketch, reaching into his toolbox now and then for the perfect sand shaper: a fork, paint scraper, steak knife, trowel or metal loop. Occasionally, he sprays the sand with water so it can be sculpted and holds its shape.

A few yards away, Mark Landrum creates a whimsical scene, titled "Mr. and Mrs. Potato Head Go to Brazil," with the portly spuds wading in a stream of vegetarian piranhas. "I

(Continued on page 8)

// Sculptor Lucinda Wierenga creates a masterpiece in South Padre Island, Texas.



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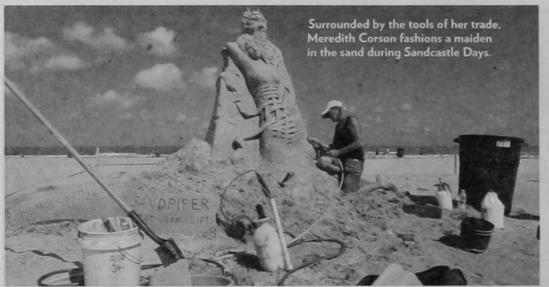
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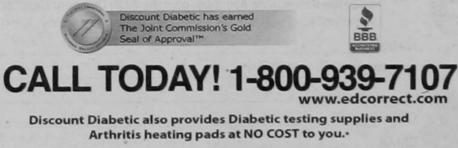
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#### (Continued from page 7)

carved wood when I was younger, and I was just fascinated by it," says Landrum, 54, of Port Aransas, Texas (pop. 3,370).

During a difficult period after his divorce, the former accountant took a sandcastle-building lesson from Wierenga in 1999 and he had so much fun that he never stopped playing in sand. Four years ago, he opened his own business creating sand sculptures for businesses and corporate events, parties and weddings.

"I like how it's not permanent," Landrum says about sand art. "It's there for people to enjoy. You just leave it on the beach and walk away."

### **Friendly competition**

About 70,000 people enjoy watching and photographing the masters of sand during the four-day competition each October. Spectators vote for the People's Choice Award, whereas the master sculptors judge their peers to select the top six winning entries. A \$1,000 prize is awarded for first place.

Ron Duvin, 75, of Williamsburg, Va. (pop. 11,998), who visited South Padre Island for his high school class reunion, marveled at the talent of sculptor Meredith Corson, 53, of Treasure Island, Fla. (pop. 7,450). "It's amazing she can do that much detail with sand," he says.

Corson carves a maiden's gown, which appears to be woven from ribbons. The former fingernail artist, who is married to sand sculptor Dan Doubleday, digs into her backyard sandbox when she needs to relax.

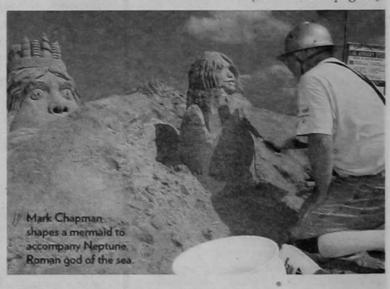
"It's my getaway, my release," she says about creating art in the sand.

Building massive sand sculptures for competitions, however, is hard work.

"We come in as the laborers with wheelbarrows and hauling clay," Corson says. "But we leave as the rock stars."

The artists work steadily from 8 a.m., when the competition's co-director Walter McDonald blows a conch shell to signal the start, until 5 p.m. Though only the first-place winner earns the coveted invitation to the world championship, the competition is friendly.

"We're like one family-one dysfunctional family," jokes McDonald, 70, who is nicknamed "Amazin' Walter" and has (Continued on page 10)



PAGE 8 . AMERICANPROFILE COM



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// Walter McDonald builds an ornamental arch by balancing spheres of wet sand.

made a living building sandcastles since 1985. He and other artists team up to work on big corporate projects around the globe.

The fun and relaxed atmosphere at least until the last frantic few hours of the contest—attracts Mark and Vickye Lambdin of San Marcos, Texas (pop. 34,733), and about 50 family members and friends each year to South Padre Island's Sandcastle Days. They call themselves the "San Marcos Suns" and wear matching T-shirts to the reunion.

Not only do they watch the professionals, who've become good friends through the years, but the San Marcos Suns also compete in the event's amateur sandcastle-building contest.

"This is art in its purest form," says Mark, 60, a retired art teacher. "You can't buy it, you can't sell it, you can't take it with you."

# **Temporary** art

After finishing touches are made, the sand sculptures are judged before being scattered by the wind and the rain.

"We're looking for the 'wow' factor, something that grabs you in any way," says judge and master sculptor Suzanne Altamare, 57, of Daytona Beach, Fla. (pop. 64,112), who helps organize and judge the world championship. Her

late husband, Marc, was one of the first people to make a living as a sand sculptor in the 1960s.

Accurate proportions and consistent detailing throughout the piece are other features that the judges notice, Altamare says.

Last year, the only American to win a solo competition at the world level was Dan Belcher, 42, a landscape architect from St. Louis, who placed fourth.

"I like figurative and whimsical pieces," says Belcher, as he smoothes a giant pair of scissors in his witty "Rock Paper Scissors" monument. "It's freeing because you don't have to create something that has to last. There's nobody telling you it's right or wrong."

Sculptor Kirk Rademaker, 59, a cabinetmaker and draftsman from Oakland, Calif., competed on a fourperson team that placed second at last year's world championship.

"It's been life-changing," he says about discovering sand sculpting in 1996. "It's part building, part art, part engineering. It's everything I like to do." ★

# Sand, Sun, Surf & Sculpture

First-place winners at these contests advance to the World Championship of Sand Sculpting. Visit worldchampionshipofsandsculpting.com for more information.

Texas SandFest, April 15-17 Port Aransas, Texas texassandfest.com

11th annual Master Sand Sculpting Competition, June 18-25 Hampton Beach, N.H. hamptonbeach.org/sandcastle-competition.cfm

The Windermere Sand Sculpture Classic, July 22-24 Port Angeles, Wash.

24th annual Sandcastle Days, Oct. 19-23 South Padre Island, Texas sandcastledays.com

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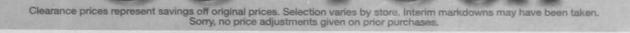
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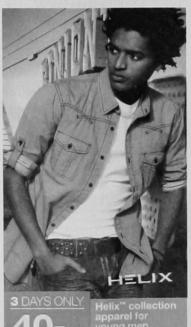






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