

CONNECTION **Commission honor**

In honor of National Women's History Month, Wayne County Commissioner Diane Webb, D-Dearborn Heights, honored Canton resident Diane Saunders for her outstanding service and commitment to community affairs. Saunders joins other honorees throughout Wayne County who were recently recognized by the Wayne County Commission for their significant contributions to the community.



Wayne County Commissioner Diane Webb (left) honors Diane Saunders of Canton.

Saunders initiated her public service for the citizens of Dearborn Heights in 2004 as part of the senior citizen program for the Dearborn Heights Parks and Recreation Department. Her display of enthusiasm, creativity and innovation resulted in recreational opportunities for local residents, as well as participation in special events and the availability of resources in times of need.

Handling duties as senior citizen coordinator for the Berwyn Community Center, Saunders remains dedicated in assisting



Laura Brunett and Joseph Crist hope to walk from Canton to Las Vegas to marry before trudging on to see friends in Los Angeles.

Plymouth-Canton students top state on MEAP scores

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The Michigan Department of Education released the fall 2010 MEAP scores Thursday, and Plymouth-**Canton Community Schools** students were the same place they've been for years.

Well above state averages. Plymouth-Canton students performed in the testing largely as they have the last several years, with gains and drops ranging from 2 to 3 percent.

"We're very proud," said Mike Bender, Plymouth-Canton's director of secondary education. "It was very, very hard work by the students, and hard work by the staff, and that combination has resulted in some really strong scores."

Bender said district officials believe reading scores continue to remain strong, with students in grades 4 and 5 making gains over the previous year. Math scores increased in grade 3 and a significant increase took place in grade 8 over the scores from fall 2009.

Scores in science and social studies continue to remain strong.

The toughest part of the

Last year, the state shifted the test to only fourth- and seventh-graders, rather than grades 3-8, then didn't release the 2009-10 results. Statewide, fewer than half the students passed the new writing test.

In Plymouth-Canton, scores for fourth-graders were up four points from two years ago (the last year from which results were available); scores for seventh-graders dropped significantly.

Bender said it's not a fair comparison either way.

"It's a brand-new test," Bender said. "It's not a fair comparison to look at results from two years ago." Overall scores for

Plymouth-Canton students (with state averages in parentheses):

• Third-graders - 92 (86.8) in reading, 98 (95.3) in math.

• Fourth-graders - 90 (84.1) in reading, 61 in writing, 96 (91.5) in math.

• Fifth-graders - 93 (85.1) in reading, 92 (79.9) in math, 89 (78.1) in science.

• Sixth-graders - 93 (84) in reading, 95 (84.5) in math, 88 (75.3) in social studies. Seventh-graders — 90

Please see MEAP, A5

seniors and their families. Her care and compassion is forever evident as these recipients applaud her efforts and continue to be important contributors in their community.

Planners meet

Canton's Planning Commission meets at 7 p.m. Monday, April 4,

Planners are expected to conduct public hearings for the Hamptons Estates Condominiums, a development on the south side of Cherry Hill between Sheldon and Morton Taylor, and for a proposed Kroger fuel station on property north of Michigan Avenue and west of Canton Center.

It's also to consider a preliminary site plan for the Torrey Hill condominiums, on the south side of Salts, east of Beck.

The planning commission meets on the first floor of Canton's Administration. Building at 1150 Canton Center.

Slavens coffee

State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, hosts a coffee hour for residents 9-10 a.m. Monday, April 4, at the Canton Big Boy, 45250 Ford Road in Canton.

Slavens hosts regular coffee hours and town hall meetings throughout Canton Township, Belleville and Van Buren Township. Business and organizations interested in hosting an event with Slavens can call her office toll-free at (888) 347-8021 or e-mail her at DianSlavens@house.mi.gov.

Residents also can sign up for Slavens' e-newsletter and take her brief community survey by visiting her website at www.house.mi.gov/dslavens.

Down the ... aisle?

Couple plans wedding walk to Vegas

BY DARRELL CLEM **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Most couples are content to walk down the aisle when they get married. Joseph Crist and Laura Brunett hope to walk from Canton to Las Vegas, stopping to wed before they trudge on to Los Angeles to visit friends.

Toting two backpacks stuffed with clothing, water dispensers, a small tent, lightweight sleeping bags and a miniature gas stove, Crist and Brunett, both 24, intend to start their journey April 15 and follow a path Brunett has estimated at nearly 2,600 miles.

Crossing mountains, rivers, prairies and deserts, they hope to arrive in Las Vegas by late September, marry near Lake Mead, spend a couple of nights at a resort, continue their walk to Los Angeles and return to Michigan - by plane - by late October.

They've pondered a flight from Los Angeles to Hawaii for an adventure-crowning honeymoon, but they're not certain.

Crist, a Canton Public Library page, and Brunett, an Outback Steakhouse employee, plan to quit their jobs. These free spirits have known each other since they were middle school age. They attended Eastern Michigan University and have been a couple for three years.



Laura Brunett and Joseph Crist say they plan to leave Canton on April 15 for a months-long walk to the West Coast, stopping to marry in Las Vegas.

They have saved \$4,500 for their walk, and they expect to spend most of it on food along the way. They say their parents will help them if they need more money.

"We don't like the idea of spending thousands of dollars on one day for a wedding when we can do something like this," Brunett said.

The couple talked about their cross-country trip as they paused from a much shorter walk along the Lower Rouge River Recreation Trail

Please see WEDDING, A5

test to judge was writing.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS 2010 MEAP SCORES

Grade	Reading		Writing		Math		Science		S.Studies	
	State	P/C	State	P/C	State	P/C	State	P/C	State	P/C
3rd	86.8	92.0			95.3	98.0				
4th	84.1	90.0	N/R	61.0	91.5	96.0			1.14	1
5th	85.1	93.0			79.9	92.0	78.1	89.0		1
6th	84.0	93.0			84.5	95.0			75.3	88.0
7th	79.0	90.0	N/R	66.0	84.6	93.0		E.	1	1
8th	81.9	90.0		2.2	78.0	93.0	78.1	89.0	1 Mail	
9th	200								72.8	85.0

SOURCE: Michigan Department of Education

District to present \$18 million in cuts

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

When administrators in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools started looking at the 2011-12 budget a few months ago, they were presented with the challenge of meeting a projected deficit of more than \$17 million.

Administrators believe they've met that challenge, and will present the Board of Education with a plan that slashes some \$18 million, depending on how much of it the board decides to implement.

The recommendations will be presented in a special 6 p.m. budget work-

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shop Tuesday at the E.J. McClendon Education Center.

'We're going to present a plan to balance the budget," said Frank Ruggirello, the district's director of community relations. "With using some of the fund balance, we're presenting about \$18 million worth of cuts."

The cuts include areas defined by the budget committee recently and suggestions made by last year's participatory budget committee. Ruggirello wouldn't comment on any specific cuts, but many of the recommendations have already

Please see CUTS, A5

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LOCAL NEWS

W-W hosts forum on state budget with lawmakers

BY SUE MASON **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Lawmakers whose respective districts include the Wayne-Westland Community Schools will have an opportunity to talk about the crisis in education funding at a legislative forum planned for Thursday, April 7.

The forum, sponsored by the Wayne-Westland school board and the all of the district's bargaining units, will be held at 7 p.m. at the Dver Senior Center at the district's administrative offices, 36745 Marquette, west of Wayne Road, in Westland.

Participating in the forum will be state Sens. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, and Hoon-Yung Hopgood, D-Taylor, and state Reps. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, Bob Constan, D-Dearborn Heights, and Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth, who will "be able to talk to parents and stakeholders in the district about Michigan government and the proposed cuts," Wayne-Westland School Supt. Greg Baracy said.

"We want to let them



express their views and possibly where they believe cuts, reforms and revenue can be, because those three things will be necessary to bail Michigan out of this crisis," Baracy said. "We hope this will enlighten parents, give them an understanding of the problem and a first-hand snapshot of what they're really thinking and how this can be solved."

The forum will be structured with presentations by the lawmakers and questions from the audience that are submitted in writing. Jenny Johnson, the district's media liaison, will serve as the moderator.

Wayne-Westland is facing a loss of \$14 million, if Gov. Rick Snyder's proposed school budget is approved as presented. In addition to the \$470 cut in per pupil school aid, the governor has proposed eliminating

the \$6 million the district receives en lieu of millage disallowed under Proposal A. Adding to the pain is a jump in the retirement rate to almost 25 percent of payroll.

The large number of lawmakers at the meeting is reflective of the size of the Wayne-Westland Community Schools. The district takes in portions of Westland, Dearborn Heights, Romulus, Inkster and Canton, as well as all of the city of Wayne.

There also will be information provided on the governor's budget, as well as one a Senate version. There also will be an updated version of the Legislative Tool Kit that explains the budget crisis and ways parents can let lawmakers know how devastating the cuts would be to the school district.

"We want this forum to be civil and informative. It'll focus on education," Baracy said. "We have to work together to address these draconian cuts.'

For more information about the forum, call the district's administrative offices at (734) 419-2010.

smason@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6751

Canton to start curbisde pickup

Curbside pickup of residential yard waste begins Monday and will continue until Dec. 1. All yard waste should be placed with recyclables separate from trash on regular trash collection days.

Acceptable yard waste items include grass clippings, leaves, yard and garden waste, pruning debris, wood debris, and brush. Unacceptable vard waste items include; food scraps, animal waste, batteries,

chemicals, and sod Twigs, branches, brush, pruning, and wood debris must be tied with heavy twine into bundles no longer than three feet, not exceeding 1.5 inches in diameter, and weighing no more than 50 pounds. Bundles are limited to six bundles a week.

Grass clippings, leaves, and garden waste must be placed in 30-gallon paper yard waste bags or 32-gallon reusable containers with sturdy handles marked "YARD WASTE." Stickers for reusable container are available at the Canton Township treasurer's office. Please note, dirt and clay are unacceptable yard waste items, if either are placed in the yard waste bag or receptacle, CWR will leave the yard waste behind.

For questions or more information on yard waste collection visit www.cantonmi.org or call Canton Waste Recycling at 397-5801.

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

Women's Connection

Date/Time: Monday, April 11, 6-8:30 p.m.

Location: Palermo's Restaurant, 44938 Ford Road, Canton Details: Canton Women's Connection meeting, featuring Canton Township Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin. Bring a friend/neighbor. RSVP by Thursday, April 7. Contact: June Nicholas, (313) 610-2561 or junenicholas@comcast.net

Charter Academy meeting

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Monday, April 4 Location: Canton Charter Academy, 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 guestion and answer period. Tours of the school will be available. Contact: To RSVP for the meeting, call (734) 453-9517.

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.

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

AROUND CANTON



Great oratory

Five students recently competed in the Plymouth Optimist Club's annual Optimist International Oratorical Contest, with a trip to the district level competition and a chance to compete for a \$1,500 scholarship on the line. Optimist bill Baumgartner emceed the event, held at Station 885 in Plymouth's Old Village, while teachers Pat Freye of Plymouth Christian Academy and Mary Thompson of Our Lady of Good Counsel School worked with the students. Competitors included Haikel Haille (left) of Canton, Whitney McDonald of Northville (third place), Angelica Molnar of Livonia (the first-place winner) and Grant Goerke of Canton, all students of Plymouth Christian Academy, and second-place winner Chris Wilder of Plymouth (right), an OLGC student.

All Saints Camp

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to noon, July 18-Aug. 5

Location: All Saints Catholic School, Canton

Details: All Saints Catholic School offers early childhood enrichment summer camps for students entering 4 year-old preschool and kindergarten this fall in the Plymouth-Canton Area. The camps enhance early literacy, math, and science skills while including fun elements of summertime: nature, music, and outdoor games. The cost is \$100.00 per week. Contact: For registration forms and additional information, please visit the school's website at www. allsaintscs.com or e-mail msswiderek@yahoo.com.

Mom 2 Mom

Date/Time: 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 9

Location: Summit on the Park, 46000 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-eat 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.



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LOCAL NEWS

Ron and Dolly Lieberman listen to a presentation on identity theft.

Canton seniors learn to avoid fraud, scams

BY DARRELL CLEM **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

It's a worrisome statistic: Michigan last year had 6,880 complaints of identity theft.

That's an average of 69.6 complaints for every 100,000 people. "It's a huge problem," said

Zlatina Dimova, branch manager of Fidelity Bank on Canton Center Road.

Dimova offered hope and ways to protect against identity theft as she addressed 110 senior citizens Wednesday afternoon during a three-hour forum - Seniors: Safe, Sound & Secure - at Summit on the Park.

Other speakers offered tips on topics such as traveling safely, driving cautiously, avoiding scams and understanding Medicare and Medicaid issues.

Seniors also played a trivia game and practiced a little Latin-inspired Zumba dancing during the event sponsored by Canton Leisure Services, the Canton Public Safety Department and the Canton Senior Safety Coalition.

UPPER TIER

Dimova said an analysis by the Federal Trade Commission ranked Michigan 16th among the 50 states for reports of identity theft in 2010. Florida a state with a large population of retirees – had the worst record with 21,581 complaints, an average of 114.8 for every 100,000 people

According to the FTC, the + top six reasons criminals used



Sgt. Mark Gajeski talks with Bob Koessl.

a stolen identity in Michigan pertained to fraud for government documents or benefits (1,490 complaints), phone or utilities (1,123), credit cards (1,073), banks, including checking and savings accounts and electronic fund transfers, (650), employment (451) and loans (306), among others.

Dimova said identity thieves find the information they need by rummaging through

someone else's trash, swiping a wallet or purse, stealing mail and submitting a change of address, sending fake e-mails, obtaining personal information by phone or taking personnel records from employ-

ers Dimova's advice, based on FTC recommendations:

 Shred financial documents before discarding them.

· Never carry a Social

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Security card; keep it hidden in a safe place.

• Don't divulge personal information by phone, e-mail or other methods to an unsolicited stranger.

· Avoid using obvious passwords on computers. · Monitor financial state-

ments and accounts. • Inspect personal credit

reports. Report any suspicious



Zlatina Dimova talks about identity theft.

activity to authorities.

HELP FOR SENIORS

Ann-Marie Carravallah, Canton Leisure Services recreation coordinator, said Wednesday's forum was intended to help seniors stay on

the forefront of issues involving their safety and security. A quick lesson on Zumba was thrown in for good measure.

"We want to keep the body healthy, too," Carravallah said.

Canton police Community Relations Sgt. Mark Gajeski warned seniors to beware of scams involving suspicious people who may come to their homes purporting to be homeimprovement experts. Before he addressed seniors, Gajeski said elderly people may, at times, be more trusting of others with devious intentions.

"Criminals will exploit that," Gajeski said.

Seniors also made the rounds Wednesday to booths where they learned about home health care, assisted living facilities, diabetes, Medicaid and Medicare, financial institutions and safe traveling.

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Embezzler ordered to repay money

BY DARRELL CLEM **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

A Canton man has been ordered to repay nearly \$350,000 after he embezzled money from two men whose retirement funds he was hired to manage, Michigan Attorney General's Office spokeswoman Joy Yearout said.

Donald Barlow Jr., 44, also



charges against Barlow last year amid allegations he embezzled \$350,000 from two men who hired him to manage their

embezzling

retirement funds. Barlow's decision to plead



has been placed on probation for five years and could avoid prison time as long as he repays the money, she said.

Barlow learned his fate Wednesday when he was sentenced in Wayne County Circuit Court, three weeks after he pleaded guilty in front of Judge Lawrence Talon to a charge of embezzling \$50,000 to \$100,000.

Barlow already has repaid \$50,000 of the money he embezzled, and he has been ordered to continue repaying \$2,000 a month until he has returned \$349,932.66 to the two victims, Yearout said.

"The court stipulated to the amount we requested," said Yearout, spokeswoman for Attorney General Bill Schuette, from her Lansing office.

Barlow could potentially face prison time if he fails to pay the restitution. He pleaded guilty March 8 to an embezzling charge punishable by up to 15 years in prison.

State authorities announced

guilty to embezzling \$50,000 to \$100,000 averted a trial on two higher counts of embezzling more than \$100,000 - though the amount he has been ordered to repay still approaches the \$350,000 mark, Yearout said.

The more serious charges dismissed in return for his plea - carry penalties ranging up to 20 years in prison.

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

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

Cox has said the two men agreed and handed over more than \$350,000.

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EDUCATION hometownlife

Sunday, April 3, 2011

Singers, musicians tops at music festivals

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Competing in the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association District 12 festival at Thurston High School in Redford was nothing new for Plymouth-Canton's concert orchestra.

The results, however, were brand new.

For the first time, the concert orchestra earned a "superior" rating at the festival, which is less a competitive arena than one where groups are judged on what they've learned and how they perform.

"They've worked so hard and improved so much," said orchestra director Cathy DePentu. "It's always good to see them do well and be so happy with their performance.

They weren't the only ones to do well. In fact, six Plymouth-Canton ensembles - four from the band and two orchestras - all received "1" ratings during the festival, judged by a panel of music educators from around the state. In addition to concert orchestra, DePentu's symphony orchestra also scored high.

Band ensembles varsity band, concert band, symphony band and wind ensemble also received first-division ratings.

Both orchestras and all four band groups qualified for the state orchestra/band festival, set for April 28-30, band director David Armbruster said only the Wind Ensemble will take part.

"We haven't been there

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Band members Keith McGuire (left) and Nick Battishill tune up for their performance before the Board of Education.

in awhile, so we're going to test the waters with the Wind Ensemble,' Armbruster said. "With the other three, we're doing different things musically, so we're not going to stress the younger kids in the other three bands this year. We want them to have some fun and focus on the more technical and performance aspects."

Meanwhile, seven groups from the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park choir program traveled to the festival at Northville High School. and all seven of those

groups came away with first-division ratings, as well. Choirs earning firstdivision ratings included the Parksmen, Park Singers, Allegro, Dulcissima, Chamber Singers, Madrigal Singers and Festival Singers.

Assistant Choir Director Valerie Said said the performance was a matter of the student-singers having the bar set high for them, and then meeting the challenge.

'We raise the bar for our choirs, and they meet those challenges," said Said, the assistant to choir director

Jennifer Kopp. "They work very hard, and it shows in the great ratings they earn at festivals."

All seven groups - some 300 singers – qualified for the state festival, scheduled for April 28-29 at Holt High School in Lansing.

Said said she expects the choirs will do well in Lansing, too.

"We expect great things from them," she said. "When

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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

Union: Teacher vote doesn't mean strike

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The leadership of the Michigan Education Association asked its 1,100 locals to pass a vote that will allow them to take "crisis actions," and the members of the Plymouth-Canton Education Association gave it to them.

And despite the fact some critics, including State House Speaker Jase Bolger, R-Marshall, believe the letter sent by MEA President Iris Salters amounted to a call for a strike vote, local union leadership insists that's not the case.

While her local passed the motion that gives the MEA permission for job actions, PCEA President Nancy Wojtowicz said those actions will not include a strike.

"It's a vote to authorize the MEA to initiate crisis activities," said Wojtowicz, who wouldn't disclose how the vote went. "It doesn't necessarily mean a strike."

Wojtowicz said the MEA is "looking at all the legislation that's out there, and the PCEA is looking at all the legislation out there." She said much of the focus on solving the state budget issues amounts to "attacks on school funding" and on collective bargaining.

attacks. The MEA has yet to formulate the crisis plan, according to Wojtowicz.

In her letter to union members dated March 18, Salters told teachers to "make appropriate plans to ensure you and your family's financial security, including delaying major expenses and saving funds to cover your household expenses for as much as two months."

It's another sentiment that has been interpreted by some as a threat to strike, but again Wojtowicz denied that's what it means. And, in a dis-" trict where the Board of Education may be considering cutting teachers, she said it's just sound advice.

"Any financial planner will tell you, you need six months of your household finances saved up," Wojtowicz said.

Wojtowicz said the fight against school cuts is of paramount importance to the teachers, which may have driven the vote.

"Every person has their own reasons for supporting or not supporting (the action)," she said. "But a \$470 cut to per-pupil spending ... that's going to be huge. These are things that are going to affect the quality of the education in Plymouth-Canton, and we've always been supportive of our public schools."

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Tuesday, April 12, 2011 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm Redford Community Center 12121 Hemingway Redford, 48239

Tuesday, May 3, 2011 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm Summit on the Park 46000 Summit Pkwy Canton, 48188

Saturday, May 7, 2011 12:00 pm - 3:30 pm **Booker Dozier Recreation Center** 2025 Middlebelt Rd. Inkster, 48141

Wednesday, May 18, 2011 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm Flat Rock Community Center 1 Maguire St. Flat Rock, 48134

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

www.ssdfighter.com



LOCAL NEWS

FROM PAGE A1

in Canton. Placing their large backpacks on the ground, they ate apples and nuts as Crist held a book, The Lost Art of Walking by Geoff Nicholson, he has been reading.

Crist and Brunett have walked as far as Warren, but they've never tried a journey like their wedding walk. They plan to set out from Cherry Hill Village, where Brunett lives with her mother and stepfather, Ann and Tom Beard. Crist also lives in Canton, with parents Doug and Deborah Crist.

Crist and Brunett already had discussed walking across the nation before they decided to cement their three-year relationship with marriage - a decision that put Vegas on their must-see list.

"Vegas is where people get married," Crist said.

The couple has a portable shower bag they can fill with water, heat with the sun and use along the way - obviously in the more rural areas. They also plan to pare down by shaving their heads, and Crist said he is cutting off his beard.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Holding hands, Joseph Crist and Laura Brunett walk along the Lower Rouge River Recreation Trail, a much shorter walk than the one they plan across the country.

Brunett already has mapped out their trip. After leaving Michigan, the couple plans to walk through Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico and Arizona before reaching their marriage destination in Nevada. Along the way, they intend to visit Crist's aunt,

10,000 Plymouth-Canton stu-

dents took the tests. MEAP

tests are administered to

grades 3-8 in reading and

math; science in grades 5 and

and 9; and writing in grades 4

In a letter to the Board of

Education, Bender lauded the

remain strong and students

in grades 4 and 5 made gains

"Reading scores continue to

8; social studies in grades 6

and 7.

Karen Gilbert, who lives in Broken Arrow, Okla.

In what is certain to be a welcome relief from the road, the couple plans to spend a couple of nights after their wedding in a timeshare resort arranged by Brunett's stepfather. During their travels, they say they will see places such as

over the previous year," he

in grade 3 and a significant

Scores in science and social

studies continue to remain

While teachers and

strong.

wrote. "Math scores increased

increase took place in grade 8

over the scores from fall 2009.

St. Louis, the Grand Canyon and the Mojave Desert.

And they hope to find that perfect place where, after their travels have ended and they have decided to settle down, they might call home.

'We're looking for a place where we might want to live," Crist said.

"We're not at 100 percent yet for all of our students, but we're proud of where we're at and we're absolutely headed in the right direction," he said. "We're very fortunate. People really commit themselves to this work, we get great support from parents and the administration. That combination of factors has really led to our

Center in Canton will participate in Mathematics Awareness Month. Started in 1986, Mathematics Awareness Month is prohearing on the budget some moted each year by the Joint

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-8899 Mathematical Society, the

Ypsi man faces trial in fatal crash

BY DARRELL CLEM **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

An Ypsilanti man is facing trial on charges he drove drunk and caused an accident that killed a 32-yearold Canton mother of two, Stephanie Joyce Stone.

Bradley Wayne Howard, 35, faces trial in Washtenaw County Circuit Court on multiple felony charges including second-degree murder for an accident that occurred last Oct. 26.

Howard was ordered to stand trial after his preliminary exam ended Wednesday in Ann Arbor District Court. The hearing had been delayed on more than one occasion but finally ended after it spanned several days over a period of weeks.

Howard, a repeat drunken driver, could face penalties ranging up to life in prison if he is convicted of killing Stone and injuring her son Brandon, 13, and daughter Savannah, 11

Washtenaw County authorities have said it appears Howard was driving 70-80 mph in a Ford Mustang when he allegedly ran a red light at Ecorse and Harris roads in Ypsilanti Township, crashing into Stone's Ford Taurus and pushing it into three other

During the month of April

2011, Huntington Learning

Policy Board for Mathematics,

which includes the American

vehicles. Howard

Stone died at the scene. Her son was critically injured as a front-seat passenger. Her daughter, sitting in the back seat, suffered

(C) A5

only minor injuries.

The family was wearing seat belts. Stone's mother, Pamela Stone, has said Stone "was very strict about seat belts."

Howard is accused of being a third-time drunken driver with a suspended license. He has been charged with second-degree murder; operating while intoxicated causing a death; operating while intoxicated causing serious injury; a third drunken driving offense; failing to stop at an accident causing a death; failing to stop at an accident causing serious injury; driving with a suspended license causing death; driving with a suspended license second offense; and having an open alcohol container in his car.

Stone worked for a Dairy Queen in Canton and has been described by her mother as "a good mother" who did the best she could for her children.

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

Huntington celebrates math month

American Statistical Association, the Mathematical Association of America and the Society for Industrial Applied Mathematics.

For more information about Huntington Learning Center in Canton, families can contact Wie Pan at (734) 207-7930. To learn more about Mathematics Awareness Month, visit www. mathaware.org.



FROM PAGE A1

(79) in reading, 66 in writing, 93 (84.6) in math.

• Eighth-graders — 90 (81.9) in reading, 93 (78) in math, 89 (78.1) in science.

• Ninth-graders - 85 (72.8) percent in social studies.

The tests were administered in October, when more than



been made public. The district is expected, for instance, to close an elementary school and move the Starkweather Education Center, the district's alternative education facility, into whichever elementary

is closed. The move would save the district an estimated \$700,000.

students' performance.

Other options to be discussed likely will include the possibility of privatizing services, extending class sizes and eliminating some bus runs, all of which have been talked about at previous budget sessions

While Ruggirello wouldn't

comment, the district is also expected to use some of its projected \$11.6 million fund balance and perhaps lay off some of the district's 1,100 teachers.

"Some of the things that have been presented (in previous sessions) are in there, and there are additional things, as well," Ruggirello said. "It will be up to the board what they

satisfied with progress being made.

said district officials are

administrators continue to analyze the scores, Bender success." bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-8899

> want to accept." The board must pass its budget by June 30, and is expected to conduct a public

time in June.

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A6

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Canton soldier takes part in nuclear exercise

BY STAFF SGT. CHRISTOPHER HOLMES **VIBRANT RESPONSE**

CAMP ATTERBURY, Ind. - It was a peaceful, calm Friday morning near this isolated training area amid the farm belt region of rural south central Indiana. Peaceful, at least until the region was rocked by a 10-kiloton nuclear explosion, causing destruction and death in the wake of the blast and impending nuclear fallout.

Shortly after the explosion, the son of a Canton woman was called upon to provide recovery support in the surrounding area. He played a vital role in getting a devastated community through the aftermath of destruction that was once unthinkable.

The attack was a mock one, but it gave Army Sgt. Richard I. Baumgardner, son of Shirley Baumgardner of Canton, vital training for possible future attacks in as realistic an environment as possible.

Baumgardner was one of more than 3,300 people from 17 states participating in "Vibrant Response," a U.S. Northern Command-held chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear attack response exercise in southern Indiana that brought together active duty Army, Air Force, Marine, Navy, National Guard and Reserve units, along with numerous federal and state agencies in an effort to coordinate response actions in the aftermath of possible attacks and disasters.

Every person involved in the training had a specific job to do to ensure the post-attack effort was a success, and order could be brought to the attack zone.

"I am here to provide voice and data communications in support of the 193rd Brigade Support Battalion," said Baumgardner, a headquarters platoon sergeant assigned to the 94th Signal Company, Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

In order to make the training as realistic as possible, the 180-acre Muscatatuck Urban



Army Sqt. Richard I. Baumgardner of Canton recently participated in exercise Vibrant Response at Camp Atterbury, Ind. Vibrant Response is a multi-service chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear response exercise held to coordinate response actions in the aftermath of a possible nuclear attack.



An Army medical team splints the leg of a victim while her family keeps her calm after a simulated nuclear attack during exercise Vibrant Response. A total of 160 role players were made up with a variety of simulated injuries to provide a more realistic environment to response personnel.

Training Center was littered with wrecked vehicles, buildings were built to simulate heavy damage, roads were lined with rubble and debris, controlled fires and smoke dotted the environment, and mannequins representing dead victims were scattered throughout the training area. A group of 160 role players covered in moulage simulated victims with various wounds and radiation burns to



Army National Guard members try to convince a woman to leave her dog to get medical help following a simulated nuclear attack during Vibrant Response, a U.S. Army North exercise intended to coordinate post attack efforts between various military services and federal agencies.



A victim of a simulated nuclear attack lies on a litter as a member of the Army administers first aid for his wounds.

round out the scenario as survivors of the attack.

"This exercise shows how the U.S. Army can react to, and overcome any type of attack, foreign or domestic," said Baumgardner. Having the training and knowledge to react quickly and effectively to a disaster is something

Baumgardner practices, not only during Vibrant Response, but throughout the year. "I receive continual chemi-

cal, biological, radiological and nuclear training, voice and data training, react to contact training, and driver's training throughout the year," said Baumgardner.

It's almost impossible to predict something as catastrophic as a nuclear blast, but Baumgardner and his fellow responders have a plan that will go far in helping pick up the pieces and give survivors a chance to regain some sense of normalcy.

Vibrant Response trains us to react quickly and efficiently to a homeland attack," said Baumgardner, who has completed three years of military service.



Army National Guard troops load a manneguin onto a helicopter during Vibrant Response, an exercise intended to help different military services and government agencies coordinate response actions in the aftermath after a possible nuclear attack.



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Dearborn Jewelers employee Beth Pizzo (left), Plymouth jewelry designer Biba Stewart (with glasses) and shop owner Teri Allen (back to camera) confer during the jewelry store's Spring Bridal Trunk Show. The show, which showcased local businesses, grew out of the Bridal Walk that Allen organized in 2008 and 2009

Jewelry store's Bridal Trunk Show called a success

BY MATT JACHMAN **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

About 50 visitors stopped by Dearborn Jewelers in Plymouth on March 19 for the store's first Spring Bridal Trunk Show.

In addition to the jewelry store, the event showcased five Plymouth businesses that serve brides and wedding-goers, providing everything from dresses and photography packages to flowers and - popcorn.

"This is one of the newest things they are doing for wedding receptions" - the popcorn bar, said Teri Allen, the jewelry store owner. Popcorn bars sometimes replace more traditional reception features like the dessert table or candy bar, she said.

In addition to the Plymouth Popcorn Co., businesses that participated in the show were Bella Mia Dressed Up, which sells bridesmaids and motherof-the-bride dresses; Special Moments Photography; Magnolia, a flower market; and Biba Design Jewelry.

"It was a fun event. Very well-received," Allen said. "Definitely, we would do this again."

The show, she said, grew out of the outdoor Bridal Walk she organized in 2008 and 2009, involving about 40 businesses and even a mock wedding in Kellogg Park.

But participants this year liked the smaller, more intimate setting, telling Allen it helped them better connect with potential customers, she said.



A display of jewelry designed by Biba Stewart of Plymouth at the Spring Bridal Trunk Show at Dearborn Jewelers in Plymouth. The store carries Stewart's works.

Rescue league looking for pet foster homes

Spring has sprung, and with the change in weather comes puppy season.

Homeward Bound Rescue League (HBRL) of Canton, a non-profit, no-kill, foster home-based animal rescue group, has a great need for foster homes, primarily for dogs.

HBRL typically has an abundance of smaller breeds, but officials say the most urgent need right now is for a few experienced handlers to foster young, physically and mentally strong breeds over 40 pounds

In particular need, officials say, are: Curley, an English Bulldog/Shar Pei mix; Lyric, a Staffordshire Terrier; Chelsea, a (possibly pregnant) Chesapeake Bay Retriever; and Isabell, an American Bulldog/Brittany Spaniel mix are all in desperate need of a foster home where they can get lots of daily exercise and structure.

Saber and Galliath, 5-month-old Miniature Pinscher/Doberman mix puppies, are also in need of new foster homes.

"Dogs of all sizes, ages, and breeds are taken in by HBRL, but we rely on foster families to provide the love and care needed to rehabilitate these unwanted dogs until they are adopted," said Jenna Marcum, a Homeward Bound volunteer. "Because many of our furry friends are puppy mill survivors, we strongly believe that fostering them in a home, rather than a kennel, is the most beneficial way to help, but because of the overwhelming number of homeless animals, our rescue is at capacity and is in danger of having to board dogs at a kennel facility, which will cost us

money typically spent on the many day-to-day costs of caring for our animals."

Fostering is "an incredibly rewarding experience," Marcum said, and is almost entirely funded by HBRL. Requirements to become a foster home are similar to those necessary to adopt: Current animals in the home must be spayed or neutered, up to date on vaccines, and on heart worm preventative. If there are no current or recent pets in the home, a non-invasive home visit may be necessary to determine what kind of environment you have to offer to ensure the best foster dog to place.

HBRL pays for all vet care, food and necessary grooming. The group also loans out crates, collars, leashes, and puppy playpens. As other items, including blankets, towels, beds, toys, and treats, are donated, they are distributed among foster homes.

Adoption events are held on the first and third Saturdays of each month at Pet Supplies Plus on Ford Road in Canton from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Homeward Bound asks that foster dogs get to as many of these events as possible; however, foster parents do not need to stay for the whole event and, in some cases, arrangements can be made to transport dogs to events.

More information about Homeward Bound Rescue League can be found by e-mailing homewardboundmi@yahoo.com or at the group's website at www. HBRLMI.org.

Anyone interested in providing a loving foster home or who would like more information can e-mail HBRL.Fosters@gmail.com.

American Red Cross awards St. Mary Mercy

The American Red Cross and Trinity Health gathered at Laurel Manor Banquet & Conference Center on March



NEWS BRIEF

Old Village set for annual yard sale

Looking to turn old toys, spare clothing, gently used electronics or other household goods into cash?

The annual yard sale in Plymouth's Old Village neighborhood offers a low-cost way to do just that.

14 to celebrate the success of their 2010 blood drive campaign. St. Mary Mercy was recognized as the top Trinity Health facility with the highest number of units collected, 423 pints from its five blood drives.

"We had the biggest increase in donations out of any of the health systems in Michigan, said David Spivey, president and CEO, St. Mary Mercy. "It's important for us to take a leadership role in this initiative."

"It was wonderful not only what you were able to accomplish as a team in 2010, but the rippling effect you had on other health systems," added Carol Furlong, donor recruitment director, American Red Cross Southeastern Michigan Blood Services Region. The 2011 blood drive goal for St. Mary Mercy is to increase donations by 20 percent.

The St. Mary Mercy Red Cross team (from left): Trudy Smith, American Red Cross; David Spivey, president and CEO, St. Mary Mercy; Janet Searight, senior HR consultant, OTE/HR and Red Cross team lead; Jim Aldrich, performance improvement specialist; Jeannie Cox, administrative assistant, Marketing/PR; Cyndi Niva, HRIS coordinator, OTE/HR; Sally Santoni, operations manager, Radiology; and Diane Ward, CEO, American Red Cross Southeastern Michigan Blood Services Region. Not pictured is Marianne Simancek, director, Community Outreach.

St. Mary Mercy will be hosting blood drives from 6 a.m.-6 p.m. on June 2, Aug. 11, Oct. 27 and Dec. 27 in the Auditorium. The American Red Cross encourages area residents to

join St. Mary Mercy Hospital employees and volunteers to donate blood. It takes approximately one hour to donate.

To make an appointment, please call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or visit redcrossblood.org, click on "Enter a Sponsor Code" and enter "stmarymercy." An appointment sign-up sheet is also available in the St. Mary Mercy cafeteria.

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This year's sale is Saturday, April 16, and organizers are looking for sellers to rent space for the "trunk sale," a flea market in the south parking lot at the Station 885 restaurant on Starkweather. The trunk-sale feature was added to the yard sale last year; proceeds benefit the Old Village Association.

Sellers can rent two parking spaces for \$15, bring their wares and set up shop. Maps of the neighborhood will be available that highlight Old Village households participating in the yard sale, and trunk-sale sellers are welcome to explore the neighborhood, and see what the competition has, during breaks.

The event runs from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. For information on renting space for the trunk sale, call the OVA's yard-sale chairman, Mark Oppat, at (734) 207-2346.



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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

ON PROPOSED 2011-12 BUDGET

In compliance with "Act No. 43," State of Michigan Public Act of 1963, and "Act No. 2," State of Michigan Public Acts of 1968 ("Section 16" of the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act), Schoolcraft College publishes this notification of a public hearing on the proposed 2011-2012 College budget. This hearing is to take place at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 27, 2011, at the Grote Administration Center, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, Michigan. A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection at the above address during normal business hours

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

Glenn Cerny Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Publish: March 31 & April 3, 2011



Canton woman extols virtues of helping others

Nearly 170 Holmes Middle School students were honored during a special assembly March 25 for completing at least two hours of volunteer work each.

A10

Eric Stromberg, principal of the Livonia school, told the group he was extremely proud of their accomplishments. "Collectively, you have performed more than 1,500 hours of community service work helping others," he said. "You have delivered food baskets for the hungry, raked leaves for the elderly, helped at various schools in the district, made Christmas stockings for disadvantaged children and the list goes on. Your efforts have truly made a difference.

Students were treated to snacks and beverages provided by the PTSA, and they had the opportunity to hear a presentation by Sue Norton of Canton, who is training a puppy named Hudson for Leader Dogs for the Blind.

Norton talked about her experience as a volunteer with Leader Dogs and what a difference volunteering for others makes in everyone's lives. She told the students she

must return Hudson to Leader



Sue Norton talks about raising a puppy for Leader Dogs. Hudson is the second dog Norton, a Canton resident, has raised.

Dogs in May when he is 13 months old.

Asked if it is difficult to give up a dog after caring for it for a year, she said, "As a volunteer puppy raiser, I understand Hudson is not my pet, but my family and I are pleased to share this part of his journey in becoming a Leader Dog.

"Even though this will be a sad day for us, we are satisfied with the thought that he will go on to a life of service, providing independence for

the visually impaired person he will serve and we are grateful to have taken part in that service."

Eighth-grader Stephen Moening was among the students honored. He worked with the Peanut Butter and Jelly Ministries in Detroit, an organization that feeds the homeless every Saturday morning. "I learned that I should appreciate everything I have because it could be gone in an instant," he said of his volunteer experience.



During their spring break, Madonna University students Karie Altman, Amanda Bagain, Sean Sciba, Cassie Joiner and Janos Uzonyi lay mulch on a trail cut by Madonna University students in 2009. The trail runs around The Gulf Coast Research Laboratory in Mississippi.

Madonna students continue Hurricane Katrina cleanup

Students from Madonna University spent their spring break in the bayou, helping to restore and maintain wetlands and coastal areas in Mississippi still recovering from hurricane Katrina.

"It's so incredible, that almost six years after the storm there is so much left to be cleaned," said Veronica Riha, biology professor at Madonna University.

"For the first hour we were on the site and picking up stuff, no one talked. We were stunned. It was very surreal. We were picking up stuffed animals, baby shoes, microwaves, just everything ... there was a deck in the woods so big we couldn't even move it. It was an eye-opener for the students on just how devastating

CANTON CINEMA

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Madonna University student Cassie Joiner holds up a stuffed animal found during post-Katrina cleanup efforts in Mississippi. Joiner, and nine other Madonna students, spent spring break in the South, working to restore and rebuild areas hit by Hurricane Katrina.

the storm was and how much work is still left to be done."

Madonna sent a team of 10 biology and environmental science students and three advisors to the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory (GCRL) in Ocean Springs, Miss. GCRL is a marine and coastal research and education enterprise site that is a unit of the University of Southern Mississippi. Madonna has been working with GCRL since immediately after Katrina in an ongoing effort to lend a hand while exposing its students to the realities and scope of a disaster like Katrina. "I don't think that any of us were prepared for the mental strain of cleaning up others' belongings," said Janos Uzonyi, a Madonna junior and Warren resident. "Seeing so much debris over such a large area was overwhelming. There were stuffed animals and TVs, a water heater, a jet ski – all of which had been dragged miles from their homes. It was unfathomable. I really felt Post-Katrina cleanup efforts

were only a portion of the group's goals for the week. Madonna University students also worked to clear and to lay mulch on a 1.5-mile path around GCRL, a project they started in 2009.

Officials from GCRL estimate that 10,000 public school children have used the trail for educational tours every year since it was cut.

"Working the trail required teamwork and a lot of physical labor," Uzonyi said. "There were some students who just weren't prepared for this amount of work. However, we all pitched in to give breaks and encouragement when needed. I really believe this was physically the hardest of the work days.

The team also spent time building "water bars" in the area, which help prevent soil erosion during times of heavy rain and flooding. During the evening hours, the students had a chance to listen and meet with local experts, who lectured about aspects of biology and science as they relate to the coast, and to both Katrina and the oil spills. "This trip really causes the students to think about the relationship between what we do in class and what's going on in the real word. They see just how harsh many of the realities are, especially in areas dealing with manmade or natural disasters," Riha said. Those who went on the trip learned a lot about the ecosystem in the area, but through all the physical and mental labor, they all agreed the biggest lesson learned came from the people they met. "No one seemed to be defeated by Katrina. This made me feel even prouder of the work we, as a whole, contributed to the GCRL," Uzonyi said. "I made some really great friends. I felt like we had all grown up together in that short week of volunteer work."

Calling all bug hunters for Rouge spring bug hunt

Volunteers are needed for Friends of the Rouge's annual Spring Bug Hunt on Saturday April 30. Interested volunteers must pre-register by April 15. Children are welcome when accompanied by a participating adult.

The event begins at 9 a.m. at the University of Michigan-Dearborn's Environmental Interpretive Center. Volunteers are assigned to teams of 4-8 people that each travel to two sites where they look for living things in samples collected from the river.

The number and type of bugs found is used to assess each site and data are submitted to the MDNRE and Rouge communities.

The Spring Bug Hunt is part of a long-term monitoring program that was created in 1998 to train local residents to collect information about the health of Rouge streams. It is coordinated by Friends of the Rouge and supported by the Erb Family Foundation. For more information or to sign up, visit

www.therouge.org.



These bug hunters worked on the Tonquish Creek last year.







LOCAL NEWS

Both parties liable for any errors on joint tax return

Q: Dear Rick: My divorce was finalized in February 2009. When it came to filing our 2008 tax return in April 2009, my ex-husband convinced me we should file a joint return because it would save us money in taxes. I figured it was a good thing to do. I just received a letter from the IRS saying that because of mistakes on the return, I owed taxes, interest and penalties. All the additional tax is due to my ex-husband's business and not mine. At this point I have no contact with my ex and I don't know where he is. I contacted the IRS and they said it doesn't matter. They are threatening to garnish my wages if I don't pay. Can the IRS do this and can I fight them on my own?

A: I wish I could give you good news, but I can't. The fact that you signed a joint return makes you liable for any additional tax liability.

When someone signs a joint return, the general rule is that

Money Mattersthey are fully
liable for any
additional
taxes, penal-
ties or inter-
est. However,
as is typical
with our tax
laws, there are

Rick Bloom

the IRS that the unreported income was your ex-husband's and that you were totally innocent and had no involvement in the additional tax, avoiding liability may be possible. However, this is a difficult burden to prove. There is no doubt you need a professional, someone who is experienced in dealing with the IRS, to assist you in this matter.

exceptions to

can prove to

the rule. If you

Many couples who are separated or divorced have tax issues that are not always addressed. They must be. From the IRS standpoint, if you sign a tax return, you are liable for any additional taxes, penalties or interest. They don't necessarily have to go after both spouses. They can go after just one. Unless a spouse can prove they are an innocent spouse, there is liability.

In most situations where a divorce or a separation occurs, I recommend filing individual returns. I recognize that there could be an additional tax liability; however, I never want to let the tax tail wag the dog. What I factor into the equation is what additional risk my client is assuming by signing a joint return.

If all the deductions are straightforward and all the income comes from W-2s and 1099s, there certainly is less of a risk associated with filing a joint return. However, before you sign a joint return — in a situation of divorce or separation — seek professional advice from someone who is independent from your spouse.

Many people are under the mistaken belief that if someone prepares taxes profession-

Workshops offer caregiver assistance

Experts agree providing care to an older adult or someone with a disability is challenging. The 10th annual Partners in Family Caregiving Conferences provide the information and resources caregivers need to take care of both themselves and their care recipients. Events will feature informational displays, workshops, giveaways and a variety of professionals to help caregivers find the information and resources they need.

"We're finding the number of older adults needing help is increasing every year" said Christine Goldberg of Adult Well-Being Services. "Caretaking requires more than just good intentions, as caregivers are also responsible for providing care to the physical and mental well-being of a recipient." Local conferences have been scheduled for 5:30-9 p.m. Tuesday, April 12, at the Redford Community Center (12121 Hemingway) in Redford, and 5:30-9 p.m. Tuesday, May 3, at Summit on the Park (46000 Summit Parkway) in Canton. Free health and hearing screenings will be provided throughout the conferences. Glucose testing and Cholesterol screenings will be provided for \$4 each.

Conferences are free to attend and are funded by The Senior Alliance and a collaborative between Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency, Adult Well-Being Services and Neighborhood Legal Services Michigan. Sponsors for the event also include AARP, Humana, United Healthcare, Oakwood and Visiting Physicians Association.

All events are free; however, those interested in attending are asked to pre-register by calling (734) 246-2280, Ext. 156 for the conference of their choice. You may also pre-register by visiting www.waynemetro.org/caregiver.html.

Service professionals will discuss a variety of topics, Alzheimer's/Dementia disease progression, legal issues and alternative living options.

In addition, information on in-home help, adult day care, prescription assistance, handling stress and respite programs will be available. Free refreshments and door prizes will also be provided.

For more information or to pre-register to attend a conference, please visit www.waynemetro.org/caregiver.html or call (734) 246-2280, ext. 156. ally, they must be competent to deal with the IRS. That is just not the case. Preparing returns and dealing with the IRS are two different things. When dealing with the IRS,

never ignore them and never assume that they are correct. As a taxpayer, you do have rights. It's just sometimes hard for the average individual to know exactly what those rights are. That is why in most cases, when you get a notice from the IRS, it pays to have someone on your side to protect you. Good luck!

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

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SECTION B (CP)

SPORTS hometownlifemcom

GIRLS LACROSSE TEAMS OFF TO GOOD START PAGE B4

SIDELINES

of closing out their firstround series against the host

Kitchener Rangers.

Kitchener tops Whalers The Plymouth Whalers were on the cusp Friday night

Plymouth took a 3-2 lead just 34 seconds into the third period on forward Robbie

Czarnik's second goal of the

But the Rangers netted

three unanswered goals and

hung on for a 6-4 victory in

Game 5 - setting up Saturday

Results from Saturday's

game at Compuware Arena

Plymouth, now up 3-2 in

will be available at www.

the best-of-seven series,

could not stop Kitchener's

Jason Akeson, who scored

Tyler Brown had four

assists in a losing cause,

native Alex Aleardi scored

at 19:28 of the third period

(with Whalers goalie Scott

Wedgewood pulled for an

extra man) to cut the deficit

But Akeson iced the win

with an empty netter at 19:65.

goalie Mike Morrison were busy. Wedgewood stopped

41 of 46 shots; Morrison

turned aside 39 Plymouth

Plymouth won Game 4

Wednesday at Compuware,

rallying for goals late in

the third period by James Livingston and Jamie Devane

to force overtime.

game-winner.

Wedgewood and Kitchener

while Farmington Hills

hometownlife.com.

three times.

to 5-4.

shots.

night's potential series clincher for the Whalers.

OHL Western Conference

quarterfinal.

SUNDAY, April 3, 2011

'Cats want to claw to the top

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

With a roster full of guys who love to play baseball, Plymouth varsity coach Bryan Boyd can't wait to see how that go-get-'em attitude translates to the diamond

The guys have come in, they're working their tails off right now," said Boyd, starting his second season with the Wildcats. "It's a somewhat young team again, but they really seem to be bonding.

"They're going hard day-in and day-out. We have 16 kids that love baseball."

It remains to be seen if Plymouth (18-15 in 2010) can challenge perennial contender Canton, however.

'Canton is still the gold standard," Boyd said. "They have (won) three straight districts, regional champs, quarterfinals last year.

"Mark (Blomshield) does a great job over there. That's what we're aspiring to get to right now.

THAT'S THE QUESTION

Whether the Wildcats can get to the division pinnacle remains to be seen. But the team's unofficial slogan - "How good do we want to be?" - suggests that hard work and

Please see WILDCATS, B2



2011 BASEBALL PREVIEW Pt. 2

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Eagles to bring thump to lineup

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

PCA could very well stand for "Power Comin' Atcha" this baseball season.

Plymouth Christian Academy head coach Joe Bottorff likes the long-ball potential of his 2011 Eagles as they embark on the Michigan Independent Athletics Conference season.

"In our first outdoor practice, six players cleared the fence and four others hit the wall," Bottorff said.

Senior shortstop Matt Dodson led last



year's team in batting average and slugging percentage, so he likely will be one of the fence busters.

Dodson will bat third ahead of cleanup hitter Jon Slater, the team's No. 1 pitcher and All-MIAC first teamer (as was Dodson).

Starting catcher Daniel Slater and firstyear center fielder Dillon Rahill also will do some extra-base damage.

'This is his (Rahill's) first year playing baseball," Bottorff said. "But he has a great first step getting to the ball in the outfield and (has) a lot of power."

Daniel Slater, meanwhile, will be PCA's No. 2 pitcher (with an 80 mph fastball) and starting catcher when not on the mound.

"Behind the plate, he shuts down an opponent's running game," the coach said.

Also new to the team is Caleb York, who will play third base and pitch.

improved this season

"Caleb is a great kid with a lively arm and a lot of power," Bottorff said.

The top of Plymouth's starting rotation will feature seniors Harrison Michels (above, from a 2010 game) and Mike Nadratowski. Please see EAGLES, B2 Rodgers' five goals key Canton romp Salem could be much

MU baseball sweeps

Stefan Noesen then scored at 13:23 of overtime for the

Madonna University pened Wolverine-Hoosie

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

If a team scores 12 goals and its coach still sees plenty room for offensive improvement, that could be a sign that it could be a long season for the opponents of Canton's varsity boys lacrosse squad.

Canton trounced Huron Valley 12-7 Thursday night at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, sparked by a five-goal performance from senior allstate attacker Matt Rodgers.

Adding three goals and a couple of helpers was sophomore midfielder Tim Popp, while senior midfielder Jordan Smith scored twice.

"Our defense played real well, our goalie (Dan Blanchard) played real well, we cleared the ball real well,' Chiefs head coach Kevin Riley said following the season opener. "Offensively, we stumbled a little bit

"But we'll pick it up, it's our first game and we did pretty good."

Both teams took a while to get going, playing to a 1-1 tie after one quarter.

Huron Valley's Doyle Williams opened the scoring, but Popp evened things up on an assist from midfielder Brandon Grillo.

An outstanding individual effort by Smith broke the tie at 4:02 of the see-saw second

After scoring one of his five goals Thursday, Canton's Matt Rodgers (No. 10) celebrates with teammate Trevor Moore (No. 22).

quarter. Smith took a pass from Rodgers, then carried the ball up the field. He moved in on Titans goalie Chris Reid and flung a shot into the top right corner.

Williams scored again for Huron Valley to make it 2-2 and the teams traded goals

again.

First, Rodgers took a centering feed from Moore and beat Reid, for a 3-2 Canton edge with 7:08 remaining in the half. The Titans tied it up at 8:46 on a goal by Chris Ross

Please see CANTON, B4

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The 2011 Salem boys lacrosse team's mission is splashed prominently on the squad's web site.

Words such as speed, strength, determination and drive are up-front and certainly will be what head coach Eric Hoffman would like to see from the team. With a number of seniors

back for their final kick at the KLAA can,

they undoubt-

edly will keep

those words

in mind as

they try to

improve on

Last sea-

what hap-

pened in

2010.

1-5 in the KLAA Kensington

third of the way toward at

least equaling the 2010 mark

thanks to Tuesday's 6-2 vic-

tory over Howell to improve

to 1-1 (the Rocks lost 13-5 to

Saline on Monday in the sea-

"We played a good, com-

Already, the Rocks are one-



BOYS LACROSSE PREVIEW

with a 'W' (against Howell)," Hoffman said.

LEADING THE ATTACK

The Salem attack should be a strength, particularly from the top three scorers from 2010 - midfielder Connor Berlin and attackmen Dylan Hatcher and Garrett Berg, all seniors.

"He's good offensively, defensively, he does it all," Hoffman said about Berlin.

And Hoffman said Hatcher and Berg are players "that we're looking for numbers from this year.'

Two other Salem seniors who will be counted on to hit the back of opponents' nets with regularity are Wes Carr and Nicholas Hayes.

Salem's offense could get a boost from junior attackers Mason Amin and Kody Duhl and sophomore attacker Patrick Kretschmer.

Besides Berlin, helping orchestrate that offensive thrust will be solid senior midfielders Brandon Ciciotti, Kyle Stokfisz, Luke Johnson, Andres Ferro, Drew Hisey, Jon Homrich, Max Mills and Nick Troher.

Please see SALEM, B4

Athletic Conference baseball action Wednesday by sweeping visiting Davenport University in a twinbill, 6-0 and 4-1.

The Crusaders, playing in their home opener at llitch Ballpark, improved to 16-9 overall and 5-1 in the WHAC.

Jeremy Gooding (Livonia) pitched a complete-game, three-hit shutout in the opener to improve to 4-0. The Dearborn Divine Child grad struck out seven and walked only one.

Alex Charles paced MU's six-hit attack going 3-for-3 with an RBI, while Jeff **Bultinck and Steve Pelletier** (Farmington Harrison) also knocked in runs.

MU took the nightcap as well as lefty Tom Hansen (3-2) allowed just four hits in 8% innings. Hansen walked only two and gave up just one run, while Travis Schuba came on to get the final out and his third save of the year.

MU collected eight hits, with shortstop Mike Gansser going 2-for-3 with three RBI.

Bultinck and Drew Adamiec each added two hits, while Victor Barron also had an RBI. Dan Brown went 2-for-4 with an RBI for the Panthers (16-9, 4-2).



Bera son, Salem finished a disappointing 3-14 overall and

Conference.

son opener).

B2

(CP)



WILDCATS

desire might begin to answer that query. "This team has a chance to be very

good," Boyd said. "It'll be up to them." The first test will be a 4 p.m. home

doubleheader Tuesday against Milan. Boyd said he likes his pitching depth, batting lineup and defense entering the schedule.

"We're a lot deeper," he said. "Our pitching is deeper, our lineup is deeper, there's no holes in our lineup."

And his starting outfield of left fielder (and leadoff hitter) Jamarl Eiland, center fielder Mike Nadratowski and right fielder Phil Emminger "might be our biggest strength ... those three can fly."

Boyd sees plenty of offensive potential in Emminger, a converted catcher with a strong arm who hit .434 during the second half of last season.

Nadratowski also can hit, surpassing the .400 mark in 2010, and chew up innings as a left-handed starting pitcher when not in the outfield.

He will be the No. 2 pitcher in Boyd's rotation, behind senior righty Harrison Michels. Nadratowski and Michels are the only returning varsity pitchers for the Wildcats.

"Harrison has a lot of moxie on the mound," the coach said. "Harrison has a positive pitcher's attitude, he really believes he's going to win the battle every single time."

It also helps that Michels has command and good movement on all three of his pitches. "We expect him to hit the ground running and really have a fantastic season."

CAREER QUEST

Circling the bases after hitting a home run last year against Livonia Churchill is Plymouth's Mike Nadratowski, who once again will pitch and play center field in 2011. Nadratowski, meanwhile, needs five wins to reach 14 for his prep career and become Plymouth's all-time win-

EAGLES

The second baseman and leadoff hitter will be Daniel Jipping, who could also pitch if needed.

"Daniel comes in with much more experience than your typical freshman and is ready to step right into a starting role," Bottorff said. "Daniel has a strong arm and a lot of power at the plate."

Several players will see innings at first base. They include sophomore Matt Read and AJ Smith, the latter who will start regularly in right field.

"AJ had a breakout year last year and I am expecting him to build on that this year," Bottorff said.

As for Read, he is showing plenty of promise in batting practice "and I expect him to continue to improve all season."

PLENTY OF VERSATILITY

And Bottorff could use him at third base or the outfield if needed at those positions. In addition to Rahill and Smith, the Eagles' outfield often will feature versatile Matt Hagelin in left. According to Bottorff, he could also pencil Hagelin in at second base or shortstop if

needed. The contact hitter probably

will bat ninth in the lineup. "We like to bat Matt ninth as he hits for a high average and has speed," he said. "So we may use him as a second leadoff batter.

"Matt has sneaky power and is an excellent base-runner." The Eagles' roster also

includes juniors Kurtis

Pt. 3: The Salem baseball preview will run in the Thursday, April 7 Observer.

ningest pitcher.

"Mike's in his third year pitching on varsity. He has nine wins over the past two years," Boyd said. "He has a chance to be the all-time leader in wins at Plymouth.

"He throws hard and he has good offspeed stuff."

Boyd said he has a handful of pitchers who have the potential to be successful at the varsity level, giving the Wildcats plenty of depth on the mound.

Junior Justin Thompson so far has the inside track on the No. 3 spot in the rotation. "Justin's done a nice job, he's worked his tail off," Boyd said.

Eiland, a sophomore, also is in the mix. So are juniors Andrew Page and Austin Ebeling.

Junior James Willey probably will be the closer, while southpaw Chad Schroeder could see some innings.

Handling the pitching staff will be junior catcher Rich Guglielmi, a returning starter who will bat cleanup.

"He can mash," Boyd said. "He's going to hit in the four-hole and he's going to protect Mike (Nadratowski)."

Guglielmi has worked tirelessly since last season to hone his defensive skills. But Boyd pointed to another asset he brings to the team — having the perfect personality to be a catcher.

"He does a nice job with the guys, getting to know each of his pitchers," he said. "He's got a really good rapport with all of the guys. That's what we want."

First-year varsity player Brandon Congdon, a junior, will spell Guglielmi.

"We feel he (Congdon) could start on a lot of teams in the area," Boyd said.

"He's a very strong defensive catcher." Boyd said Guglielmi will see some atbats at designated hitter, as will several others: "This team is loaded with guys who can DH."

INFIELD STANDOUTS

One of the team's hard-hitting players will be junior first baseman Tyler Goble.

"He's worked hard on his swing and we feel he'll be a 'thunder cat' this year," Boyd said. "He really hits the ball hard."

Goble also is a "fantastic energy guy and a good leader on the field," which is why Boyd moved him from outfield to first base.

Schroeder also will play some first base, bringing power and good defense.

Handling the hot corner will be Michels (on non-pitching days) and varsity newcomer Nick Sandberg, a junior who is solid with the glove.

Michels can swing the bat well, too. "Harrison's got a good stick, he's got some pop," Boyd said.

The Wildcats also have a defensive standout in senior shortstop Ben Wohl, "one of the best defensive shortstops in the area," the coach said.

Wohl will be the anchor of the infield defense, teaming with junior second baseman Johnny Etienne (or sophomore Brendan Swanson).

"Anybody around him (Wohl) is better based on the things that he does" on defense, Boyd said.

Meanwhile, Wohl could provide a bonus with his batting. "He's really put his time in with his swing, he hit in the basement every day this winter," Boyd said.

Etienne was the top hitter on the 2010 Plymouth junior varsity, while versatile Swanson (on the freshman team last year) made the team out of tryouts. "Swanny's a five-tool guy."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

McKenzie and Jon Beauchemin, sophomores Trevor Gogola and Drew Cobb

and freshmen Jared Cobb, John Lauch and Ben Cockrum. PCA opens the season at 4 p.m. Thursday at home,

against Melvindale Academy. "The team is very focused and we have outstanding leadership and a ton of experience," Bottorff said. "We finished second in the MIAC Red Division last year and our seniors feel that we have unfinished business there."

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One of Plymouth Christian's heavy hitting returnees is Matt Dodson, shown here from a game in 2010.









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LOCAL SPORTS

Net appraisal of All-Area cagers: outstanding

FIRST TEAM

Kari Schmitt, Sr., F, Canton: For the second straight season, the Chiefs reached the Final Four and the outstanding allaround play of Schmitt had plenty to do with that.

Schmitt scored 12.4 points per game and contributed 6.5 rebounds per contest, along with three steals and assists.

The All-KLAA South Division selection helped spark Canton to a record of 24-3, including championships in the division, conference, district and regional.

"Kari had an outstanding vear," Canton coach Brian Samulski said about the 6-0 senior. "The thing that makes Kari so good is she does everything well. She did everything for us: scored, rebounded, guarded the post or perimeter and she was a great leader."

Kari and twin sister Sara will play Division I women's hockey next year at Ohio State University.

Kayla Bridges, Sr., F, Canton: Another key component of Canton's juggernaut of recent seasons is the 6-0 senior forward

Bridges was strong in the paint and could knock down outside shots when called upon. She finished with 12.8 points and 5.8 rebounds per game.

"Kayla's ability to score around the rim is outstanding," Samulski said. "She was relentless when it came to offensive rebounding. Kayla also did a great job of guarding opponents' inside players."

Also on the All-KLAA South Division team, Bridges will continue her basketball career at Wayne State University.

She currently is playing for Canton's varsity girls soccer team as a goalkeeper.

Janelle McQueen, Sr., G, Farm. Hills Mercy: The senior guard led the Marlins to an 18-6 record, the Catholic League championship and a Class A regional final

She averaged 13 points per game, as well as three rebounds, two assists and three steals. McQueen, who is going to Texas Southern University to play basketball, was frequently on the finishing end of the fast break and played a key role in the Mercy defense.

2010-11 ALL-OBSERVER **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

FIRST-TEAM Kari Schmitt, Sr., F. Canton Kayla Bridges, Sr., F. Canton Janelle McQueen, Sr., G, Farm. Hills Mercy Chelsea Williams, Sr., PG, Liv. Franklin Erica Covile, Jr., G-F, Westland Glenn

Andie Anastos, Soph., PG, Liv. Ladywoo

SECOND-TEAM Jasmine Harris, Jr., G, N. Farmington Sara Schmitt, Sr., F, Canton

Heidi Schmidt, Sr., G, Salem Teresa Wojnarowski, Sr., F. Liv. Ladywood

Bri'janae Durrough, Fresh., G, Red. Thurston Joslyn Massey, Jr., F. Westland Glenn

THIRD-TEAM Robyn Mack, Jr., G, Canton Cherrish Willis, Jr., G, Farmington

Eman Hubbard, Jr., C, Farm. Harrison Sam Fischer, Sr., G, Garden City Kate Watson, Jr., G. Plymouth Jorden York, Jr., G. Liv. Stevenson

FOURTH-TEAM Candice Leatherwood, Fr., G. Mercy

Brianna Harris, Sr., G. Ply. Christian Aaron Howell, Soph. G, Farmington Andrea Gordon-McClain, Sr., F. Westland Glenn

Amanda Borieo, Sr., F, Liv. Franklin Molly Knopf, Jr., G. Liv. Stevenson Melanie Pickert, Sr., G. Canton **CO-COACHES OF YEAR**

Dave Browne, Farmington Gary Morris, Farm, Hills Mercy HONORABLE MENTION

Canton: CarolAnn Sexauer Plymouth: Alex Roberts, Kylie Robb. Alyssa Dillon; Salem: Katelynn Krause, Breanne Beaver; Plymouth Christian: Emily Gerulis, Karen Windle, Bethany Hale, Jenny Malcolm; Farmington: Lida Baur, Tamera Anthony, Raven Williams; Harrison: Marissa Cotton. Joslyn Wilcox, Emma Williams, Lisa McFarland; Thurston: Taylor Hunt, Ariele Paris; Redford Union: Jordan Hebner; Garden City: Carley Shattleroe Hillarie Werda; Mercy: Alexa Bahoura, Lauren Reinhold, Abbey Lovat, Sarah Benson, Elena Vlachos, LaRae' Prater, Sam Bauer; North Farmington: Emily Ancona, Hallee Kansman, Stevie Jones, Kaitlyn Kendall; Churchill: Erin Menard, Sydney Anderson; Franklin: Jessica Emery: Stevenson: Kristen Balhorn Charlesann Roy, Monika Rudis; John Glenn: Kaira Barnes, Shakeva Graves; Wayne Memorial: Holland Boertie. Ashley Bland: Ladywood: Alyssa Anastos, Briana Combs; Kiley Gorski, Clarenceville: Jenna Burgess, Brittany Tallman: Lutheran Westland: Amanda Terranella, Aldreanna Fikes; Huron Valley Lutheran: Katie Nell.

and three blocks per game her senior year en route to All-KLAA honors.

"Chelsea is a real good athlete and can play any one of five positions on the floor," Franklin coach Bob Ostrowski said. "She was used primarily as a point guard this year and

Covile, an All-KLAA selection, is already a coveted college recruit.

'Eric is a smart and unselfish player," Glenn coach Mark Anderson said. "She can do it all on the court and has a great understanding how to play basketball. She's a quiet leader that gets things done. She led our team in scoring.'

Andie Anastos, Soph., PG, Liv. Ladywood: The 5-9 sophomore point guard led the Blazers to a Class A district crown and a share of the Catholic League's Central Division regular season title after averaging 14.3 points, 4.8 rebounds, 4.5 assists and two steals per game.

"In my opinion, she was the best player on the floor in every game she played in and we played an extremely tough schedule," Ladywood coach Anthony Coratti said. "Andie is a true 'gamer' as she shine in the biggest games we played in.

Anastos, an all-Catholic League selection, also carries a 3.87 grade-point average.

"Some of the performances she put on throughout the year just left me smiling and saying, 'Wow,'" Coratti added. "Andie's high level of natural talent, coupled with her unrelenting passion to compete and get better, will provide for a very fun couple of years to coach.'

SECOND TEAM Sara Schmitt, Sr., F, Canton: The 5-11 senior provided superb defense and leadership for the Division 1 semifinalist Chiefs.

Schmitt chipped in on offense, with 8.2 points per game. She averaged 5.5 rebounds and 4.3 assists, plus 2.2 steals nightly.

But the All-KLAA South Division choice really was a thorn in the side of opponents' top offensive players, helping Canton keep scores low and thus roll through the schedule and postseason.

"Sara's defense and vision on the floor was huge for us this year," Samulski said. "Sara did a great job of defending some of the state's best players. Her ability to find the open player and get them the ball was terrific.

Schmitt will play D-I women's hockey at Ohio State University with twin sister



Kayla Bridges Canton





Chelsea

Williams

Franklin

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 3, 2011



Erica Covile John Glenn

Andie Anastos Livonia Ladywood



Woinarowski Ladywood

Jasmine Harris North Farmington

looked for her to be more of a scorer and leader, and I think she stepped into those roles nicely.

Brl'janae Durrough, Fr. G, Red. Thurston: The freshman guard played well beyond her years, earning the Eagles' starting point guard duties from Day 1 and not disappointing. She led her team in scoring (15 points per game), assists (7.0) and steals (3.0).

"It took a while for the rest of the team to adjust to having a freshman point guard, but once they did, we went 8-2 at the end of the season," Thurston head coach Marvin Essix said. "She was never fazed by playing against bigger, older girls. The older she gets, the better she'll get.'

Joslyn Massey, Jr., F, Westland Glenn: The 6-0 junior forward became eligible midway through the season after transferring from Detroit Renaissance, where she played on the Class A state runner-up team as a sophomore.

Massey wasted little time, averaging 10 points, 13 rebounds, three assists and two blocks per game for the Rockets.

"She joined the team late and started to contributed right away," Anderson said of the All-KLAA choice. "She's very athletic with so much potential. Joslyn works hard every day at making herself into a better player. She loves to defend and rebound."



Bri'janae Durrough Thurston **Joslyn Massey** John Glenn

district champs and regional finalists for the fourth time in six years, division champs and league finalists for the second time in five years.

"We've been able to achieve all of this and build a solid program because of many hardworking, coachable players and dedicated parents," Morris said. "I've been fortunate to have an outstanding coaching staff, too."

Dennis Janer (varsity), Bob Uhrin (JV) and Rich Mardeusz (freshman) have been on staff for the seven years Morris has been at Mercy. Varsity assistants Jim Lovat and Nuverre Naami have been with the program four years. Kristin Porubsky and Kaitlyn Mardeusz, both former Mercy players like Naami, joined the staff for the 2010-11 season.

"These coaches are talented and so very committed to our program and players," Morris said.

Dave Browne, Farmington: In his second season at Farmington, . Browne guided the Falcons to the OAA Blue Division championship with a 14-0 record. They also set a school record for single-season victories with a 17-4 overall record.

Farmington finished the regular season with an 11game winning streak. "I had a good feeling going



B3

Canton

Heidi Schmidt Salem



lete who truly was the leader of our club this year. As the only senior on our club, she

really gave us the leadership

we needed to be competitive in

many of the games we played."

She led the Rocks (9-12) in

scoring with an average of 12.3

rebounds per game (second on

Schmidt's third year on the

Teresa Wojnarowski, Sr., F, Liv.

Ladywood: The 5-10 senior for-

ward averaged 12.2 points, 7.1

rebounds and 1.7 assists as the

'She was a rock of consis-

tency throughout the year with

ends of the floor," Coratti said

of the all-Catholic League pick.

her relentless effort on both

"She was asked to play basi-

cally every position for us and

shine in every role she played

often times shutting down

an opposing team's best player.

She is the epitome of my ideal

basketball player - a high-

character kid that has a tire-

less desire to compete. There

was never a player on the floor

that played harder than her."

Jasmine Harris, Jr. G, N.

Farmington: The 5-foot-10

junior guard averaged 19.1

points and eight rebounds

while competing against top

competition in the OAA Red

Harris, a three-year var-

sity player, also averaged 2.2

Division.

Blazers finished 18-6 overall.

Salem varsity and second as

a starter was rewarded with

selection to the All-KLAA

Central Division team.

points, and contributed 5.4

the team).

"Janelle really became a complete, consistent player this year," coach Gary Morris said. "She had shown flashes last year, but really took her overall game to another level. She was a better shooter, driver and defender. Janelle was our go-to player on offense, and she was a big part of our tremendously successful season this year."

Chelsea Williams, Sr., PG, Liv. Franklin: The three-year starter and team captain averaged 22 points, eight assists, five steals

started every game. She definitely was our go-to person.'

The 5-foot-11 Williams earned first-team all-area honors last year and second-teamer as a sophomore after helping the Patriots to the 2009 Class A state championship game.

Erica Covile, Jr. G-F, Westland Glenn: The 6-foot junior transfer from Detroit Cody paid immediate dividends for the Rockets (19-4), averaging 13 points, 10 rebounds, seven assists and three steals per game.

Kari. Both also were varsity swimmers at Canton.

Heidi Schmidt, Sr., G, Salem: Veteran Salem head coach Fred Thomann can't stop praising the sweet-shooting 5-8 guard, and for good reason.

Schmidt tried to jump-start the Rocks in the districts against Plymouth, scoring 11 fourth-quarter points - although her veoman efforts weren't quite enough.

"She just had a wonderful senior season," Thomann said. "She's just an outstanding athsteals and one block. She has 840 points in her prep career. Harris had a career-high 34 against Pontiac, surpassing her previous best of 29 vs. OAA Blue Division champion Farmington.

"For her to have the season she had statistically, considering most teams knew about her and put their best defender against her, it was a great year for her in our division," coach Tim Carruthers said. "Her role had to change this year with the kids we lost last year. We

CO-COACHES OF YEAR

Gary Morris, Farm. Hills Mercy: The Marlins played well down the stretch, winning seven straight games to claim their

League cham-

pionship since

1983. Mercy

first Catholic defeated Class B state champion Divine Child in the semis and Ladywood

Gary Morris in the final. The Mercy coach Marlins were

into th **Dave Browne** son," Browne Farmington said. "I didn't coach know we were going to be

17-3. That was a result of the girls working hard. It's a great group of girls, and it was great to see their efforts pay off.

"We thought we had a chance to be in (contention for the title). We thought we could be good, but a lot of things needed to go our way. The girls dug in and did a good job. They worked hard in practice and made my job easy."

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Smith, tsmith@hometownlife. com.

Combine training

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

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

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

YMCA spring leagues

The YMCA spring soccer and girls volleyball leagues are now forming.

The soccer leagues are for children ages 4-10 and will run from April 11 through June 11. There will be one practice and one game per week, on Saturdays.

Volleyball is for girls ages 9-10 and 11-12, also to run from April 11 through June 11. There will be one practice and one game per week, on Friday evenings.

Both the soccer and volleyball leagues are filled on a first-come, first-served basis and the registration deadline is April 1. For more information about these leagues, or other YMCA programs, go to www.ymcadetroit.org or call

the office at (734) 453-2904.

Father's Day Run

The Plymouth YMCA Fathers Day Run has again been recognized as a quality physical activity by the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness

This year's run, by the way, is set to begin at 7:30 a.m. Sunday, June 19 in downtown Plymouth.

The Governor's Council endorses local, regional and state events to acknowledge an organization's ability to plan and carry out a quality event that significantly contributes to the health and well-being of Michigan residents. The Fathers Day Run exemplifies this core value and is endorsed by the Governor's Council.

"By endorsing local events all across the state, we hope to. bring attention to the importance of physical activity and encourage our citizens to take responsibility for their health," said Marilyn Lieber, president and CEO of the council. "These local events can have a tremendous impact on health care costs that present a significant challenge for our state's economy.

For more information about the Governor's Council endorsement program, go to www.michiganfitness.org. For more info on the Fathers Day Run, contact cmorency@ ymcametrodetroit.org.

MICHIGIN HIGH SCHOOL HYMPIONSH

CHEZ MAGALDI

Members of the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Figure Skating Level B team took part in the individual state competition held March 26 at the Ann Arbor Ice Arena. Participants included: (front row, from left) Lindsay Magaldi, Danielle Cecil, Rose Vowler, Stephanie Lyle, Allison Morrison and Alexa Macari; (back row, from left) Melanie Elliott, Lauren Taylor, Madison Smith, Alex Feschenko, Amanda Pinko and Allison Schendel.

P-CEP Level B figure skaters solid at states

The Plymouth-Canton **Educational Park Figure** Skating Level B team competed last weekend in the state championships held at Ann 'Arbor Ice Arena

P-CEP, coached by Barb Miller and Suzi Smith, finished in a tie for fourth place among 15 qualifying teams.

There were many individual highlights from team members, including first-place finishes by Aileen Peer (beginner test track free skating) and India Johnson (Pre-Silver Solo Dance)

Victoria Massey had an impressive performance. She took second place in the Novice/Senior Showcase and followed up with third place in intermediate test track free skating.

Taking second place in the beginner test track free skating category was Audrey Reding.

In third in the Bronze Solo Dance was Melanie Elliott, with Alex Feschenko finishing fourth in the pre-preliminary test track free skating event.

Allison Schendel took fifth in preliminary test track free skating while Taylor Jaaska and Madison Smith finished with sixth-place finishes.

Jaaska's was in juvenile test track free skating; Smith's was in pre-preliminary test track free skating.

Wildcat baseball clinic

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

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

Sessions, at the high school's baseball complex (gymnasium if inclement weather) and limited to 100 participants, are slated for 9 a.m. to noon (grades 1-4) and 12:30-3:30 p.m. (grades 5-8).

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

For more information, contact Plymouth varsity baseball coach Bryan Boyd at Bryan. Boyd@pccsmail.net.

Captain's Corner

If you know of a senior varsity captain at Canton, Plymouth, Salem or Plymouth Christian who is worthy of recognition, please submit candidates for "Captain's Corner" to Observer sports editor Tim



Salem, Plymouth garner first-ever wins CANTON

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

B4

On the third try, Salem's varsity girls lacrosse team tasted victory for the first time as a solo entity.

The Rocks knocked off host Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard 9-6 on Wednesday night, improving to 1-2 on the young season.

Salem, Canton and Plymouth are in their first seasons following the splintering of the former Lady Warriors combined team. Plymouth also broke into the win column this week (see below).

According to Salem head coach Dave Medley, his team was determined to bounce back from Tuesday's 13-3 loss at Saline.

"Although it was not something I was happy about," Medley said, "losing at Saline the night before you could see this squad was toughened up."

Salem led at halftime, which Medley did not dismiss as important.

We were up 5-2 at the half, which allowed this young team some time to play a little prevent (defense) and strategize about getting better as a team," he stressed

But the Irish came back with two goals to close the gap to 5-4, "pushing us to respond and shortening our relaxation period."

The Rocks hung on, with goalie Meaghan Eldridge solid with five saves (she also picked up two ground balls).

Another player who wreaked havoc on the Irish was Katie Meagher. She collected four ground balls and caused five turnovers

On the offensive end, Alissa Amell scored three goals, while Breanne Beaver and Lexie O'Connor added two each. Rounding out the scoring with single tallies were Kiersten Valla and Sarah Edgecomb.

Meanwhile, O'Connor and Rose Krasofsky (two goals) provided Salem's scoring Tuesday against Saline, a game where the Rocks fell behind 7-



JOHN KEMSK

Salem's Alexis O'Connor (No. 24) goes for the ball during Wednesday night's game against Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard. Moving in on the action for the Rocks are Jessica Hodge (No. 35) and Alissa Amell (No. 2).

1 at the intermission. **PLYMOUTH 14, UNITED** FARMINGTON 3: The first-ever victory for Plymouth's varsity girls lacrosse team Thursday night featured eight goals and two assists from Katie Hill, with two markers each from Taylor Birman and Jill Sparchu. Chipping in with one goal

each were Sophia Flesch and Haley Swanson. The Wildcats' offense also was bolstered by the play of junior Shannon Lubin (three assists, four draw controls) and Nicole Natelborg (one assist), who tallied seven ground balls and caused seven turnovers.

Plymouth goalkeeper Sarah Messer gave up three goals on 10 shots to post the victory. "Our team worked hard to pass the ball quickly and played aggressive defense," Plymouth head coach Bob Hill said.

"We are coming together as a team (and) it is great to see the hard work the girls have been putting in coming through in their play."

(from Corey Roberto) during a manpower advantage.

THREE IN A ROW

But Canton broke it open with a three-goal blitz during the final two minutes before intermission. Huron Valley never could catch the Chiefs the rest of the match.

Rodgers, Smith and Popp scored in succession for a 6-3 halftime lead.

Huron Valley (0-2) changed goalies (to Teddy Jones) to open the third quarter, and the Titans responded with two goals in the opening minute (from Williams and Ross).

Riley, however, switched up his defense at that point and Canton rebounded.

"I moved my defense around," Riley said. "We went to a man-to-man instead of a zone and it worked.'

Popp found the back of the net on a sharp-angle shot from the right post at 6:52 of the third. About two minutes later, he set up a goal scored by his older brother, senior midfielder Ben Popp.

The Chiefs (1-0) worked a pretty passing play with less than 90 seconds left in the

quarter to score again and take a 9-6 advantage into the fourth.

Rodgers circled the back of Huron Valley's goal and sent a pass to senior midfielder Trevor Moore stationed at the left of the goal. Moore made no mistake with his shot.

SPECIAL PLAYER

That play by Rodgers epitomized what has made him so special at Canton.

"You're not going to get it away from him once he gets it," Riley said.

Rodgers kept hitting the target in the fourth, scoring all three Canton goals in the quarter.

For his fifth of the night (at 7:54), he carried the ball from behind the Huron Valley net, found his way to the left post and stuffed it from close range.

The Chiefs then worked the clock over the final four minutes to close out the victory.

"We didn't throw the ball away that much," Riley said. "We held on to the ball as best we could. We lost a few ground balls, but other than that we did pretty good.'

Canton is idle until 7 p.m. Thursday, April 7, when Grosse Ile will visit P-CEP.

tsmith@hometownlife.com



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHE

Canton sophomore attacker Tim Popp (No. 18) snares the ball despite close attention from Huron Valley's Tyler Shubitowski (No. 24) during Thursday night's boys lacrosse matchup.



But Hoffman expects solid showings from junior midfielder Nick Giannini and sopho-

more midfielder Brandon Lee. "We're looking for him (Lee) the 'D' will be sophomore Philip Sutfin.

Gravlin has started every game during his four-year Salem career, and Hoffman likes how he's started the season.

"He stepped up real big the first two games for us," said Hoffman, an all-state goalie for Novi in the mid-1990s. "We're hoping for him to keep the ball out of the net this year. So far, he's up for the challenge." The Rocks also have sophomore goalie Justin Oldani available to team with Gravlin. The bottom line is that opponents had better not think the 2011 Salem team will be as beatable as last year's was. "I think we're a much improved lacrosse team," the coach said. "I'm expecting a lot more wins this year. I think we're going to be real competitive in the KLAA. If any team looks past us, they're going to learn that they shouldn't have."

Chiefs bounce back with win over Saline

Saline goal to make it a 2-0 game

SALEM 1. WALLED LAKE NORTH-

BA IIW 2WILH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Canton scored in each half and goaltenders Kayla Bridges and Danielle Schendel were perfect as the Chiefs blanked Saline 2-0 Thursday night at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's varsity soccer stadium.

Head coach Jeannine Reddy said playing defending state champion Novi tough Monday (a 3-2 loss) probably sharpened the Chiefs up for the non-conference matchup against the Hornets.

"Losing to the state champs from last year in our first game and coming here, playing and winning," Reddy said. "That (Novi) game didn't do anything. I think it just made them stronger."

Schendel, a junior, preserved the shutout with about one minute remaining.

The Hornets were buzzing around, trying to get on the board, and junior Brittney Brown hammered an indirect

GIRLS SOCCER

kick that looked to be targeted for the top-left corner.

But Schendel (six saves) jumped up and deflected the ball with her hands.

"We played much better defense (than against Novi)," Reddy said. "Danielle played awesome. Kayla (three saves) played great in the beginning."

Reddy said she stayed with the defensive lineup she switched to during the opener, with freshman Rachel Winters moving from midfield to defense.

"I put Rachel in the back, just for the speed," Reddy said. "She's a little faster."

Canton (1-1-0) opened the scoring in the first half, on a goal from Kaitlyn Murphy. She took a feed from Megan Trapp and found the target.

Then Ally Krause gave the Chiefs some breathing room with about 13 minutes to play. She ripped a 15-yard drive from directly in front of the

"Saline is a very physical team," Reddy said. "We're not that type of team, but (we) played well and kept up with how physical they were.'

The Chiefs will next host Northville at 7 p.m. Tuesday.

PLYMOUTH O, ANN ARBOR HURON 0: The visiting Wildcats battled Ann Arbor Huron to a scoreless tie Thursday, behind the second straight shutout posted by senior goalkeeper Marissa Williams and Plymouth's tough defense.

Plymouth head coach Jeff Neschich said his team had a number of excellent scoring chances, but could not cash in. He cited Megan Peplinski, McKenzie Hengesh, Alyssa Dillon and Stephanie Dillon as all having "quality scoring chances, but they just couldn't finish."

The Wildcats are now 1-0-1 and will next Northville at 7 p.m. Thursday in a KLAA Central tilt.

ERN 1: Also playing to a tie Thursday was Salem, which nearly won the game in the final seconds.

"It was a physical, fast-paced game and I thought we played well," Rocks head coach Joe Nora said. "Their keeper made saves on two chances with the ball right on the goal line, the second with five seconds left in the game.

The Knights opened the scoring midway through the first half on a deflection. But Salem (1-0-1) fought back to tie it up with 10 minutes remaining in the half.

Kristina Klusek's corner kick was flicked by Nancy Krutty to Katelynn Krause, who put it home.

Splitting Salem's goalkeeping were Ali Eggenberger and Jamie Hunley.

The Rocks will visit Livonia Churchill at 7 p.m. Monday in a KLAA crossover.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

to step up," he said. "He should have a big year this year."

Experience is thinner on the defensive side of the field, however.

There only are two senior defenders (Anthony Portelli and Mike Zimmerman) and one senior goalie in Alex Gravlin.

Of course, Portelli is a returning player who was allstate honorable mention in 2010.

"We're going to lean on him this year," Hoffman said. "We have a whole new defense."

Looking to help shore things up will be junior defenders Kody Hutchinson, Chris Contos and Jack Vida. Rounding out

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Many golf programs at Hickory Creek

Young golfers have something for them this spring and summer at Hickory Creek Golf Course just west of Canton in Superior Township.

With classes taught by PGA professional Tami Bealert, there is a long list of available classes for junior golfers to choose from. Some of the offerings are as follows:

Junior classes

• Juniors (ages 8-17): The four-week program (Fee \$80) is for 4-8 students with up to two years of golfing experience. They will work on: fundamentals of the golf swing and short game; life skills/etiquette; easy practice drills and fun training tools for each phase of the swing.

Schedule: Saturdays 11 a.m. to 12 noon, from April 17 through May 7

 3-Day, Mini-Youth Camp: This program runs for three consecutive half-days for 6-9 students. Juniors will learn golf fundamentals covering all areas of the game, including set up of putting, chipping, pitching and the full swing. Practice drills and teaching tools/aids will be tailored for each student.

Golf rules, etiquette and course management will be applied. The \$95 fee includes a gift bag, and daily snack. One year of golfing experience is required.

Schedule: Ages 8-17, Tuesday, April 19 through Thursday, April 21 from 1-3 p.m.; ages 8-12, Monday, Aug. 15 through Wednesday, Aug. 17, 9-11 a.m.; ages 13-17, Monday, Aug. 15 through Wednesday, Aug. 17, 1-3 p.m.

• Drop In Clinics (ages 8-17): The eight-week offering (\$95; drop in rate: \$20) is a one hour clinic for all skill levels. Depending on class size weekly, students will be divided into age groups. Each week, topics will vary, covering all aspects of the game. There will be games and contests.

Schedule: Wednesdays, 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. from June 22 through Aug. 10.

Hickory Creek Golf Course is located at 3625 Napier Road off of Ford Road. Call (734) 731-0238 or send an e-mail to TrainwithTami@ Yahoo.com.

Also, Bealert said private lessons are available. Go to www.HickoryCreekgolf.com for more information.



Kudos for Plymouth gridders

The Division 1 state finalist Plymouth Wildcats varsity football team recently was honored at a Plymouth-Canton Board of Education meeting. From left are DeAngelo Barrow, board of education secretary Adrienne Davis, Brennen Beyer, head coach Mike Sawchuk, Tony Rhodes, Tyler Goble and Phil Emminger. Not pictured: Kyle Brindza (at Notre Dame).

COMMUNITY LIFE

Meaningful gift

Sunday, April 3, 2011

hometownlife



Kathryn Rusak of Farmington Hills says donating breast milk is the most meaningful donation she has ever made. Here, the bagged milk awaits shipping.

DONATED BREAST MILK

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Comment online at hometownlife.com

Contact Editor, Sharon Dargay

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

> Jasmine Sovel-Charnesky's advice for recipients: Trust your instincts. "We didn't ask (the donor) to get tested or anything. She wasn't asking for compensation and we went to her house and met her and her daughter. If I had felt suspicious about anything, I wouldn't have given the milk to Jenavieve."

Kathryn Rusak's advice to donors: Do your homework. Visit online sites and decide if you prefer a milk bank or more personal experience. Be honest about your diet, lifestyle habits, health and medication. Rusak is willing to answer questions from other potential donors at karusak@hotmail. com

Kate Dunham's experience: "I

learned that there are so many deserving families and babies out there that need breast milk. And that you don't have to donate to a milk bank to help them. In fact, I think the way I donated is better. I would never want a family to have to pay thousands of dollars for breast milk when there are people like myself and Katie (Rusak) out there to help them. We just need to get more education out there to new mothers." Helpful Web sites: Eats on Feets Facebook page; Milkshare.birthingforlife.org; thebump.com (pregnancy,

forlife.org; thebump.com (pregnanc new moms); hmbana.org (Human Milk Banking Association of North America); bronsonhealth.com

Moms bond by giving, receiving breast milk for adopted babies

BY SHARON DARGAY O&E STAFF WRITER

Allie and Jenavieve are "sisters," but they are related by breast milk rather than by blood.

Allie's mom, Kathryn Rusak of Farmington Hills, was among the donors who gave breast milk to Jasmine Sovel-Charnesky's adopted daughter, Jenavieve, two years ago.

"In Islamic law, children who share the same breast milk are considered siblings. Even though we aren't Islamic, we consider all of the donors' babies Jenavieve's milk siblings and are very grateful to them, because without them, we wouldn't have the milk," said Sovel-Charnesky, also of Farmington Hills.

She and her husband are now in the process of adopting two children, age 3 and 1, from Ethiopia. They won't need breast milk, but if they adopt an infant in the future, they'll "definitely seek donated breast milk again."

"I know that breast milk is so much better than formula. It is natural and has more health benefits. I didn't want my daughter to miss out on that just because I couldn't produce milk for her."

Sovel-Charnesky found donors through Milkshare.birthingforlife.org, a Web site that educates women about donating and receiving breast milk. It serves as a more personal alternative to milk banks, allowing women to post their needs and share information at an online forum.

One of Sovel-Charnesky's donors led her to Rusak, who had donated twice — a total of 490 ounces of breast milk — to Bronson Mother's Milk Bank in Kalamazoo while she was nursing

Please see BREAST MILK, B6



Kathryn Rusak of Farmington Hills meets "Claire," a baby she nourished with breast milk



COMMUNITY LIFE



Kathryn Rusak and her own children, Tessa, (left) who is almost 8 months and Allie, 21/2.

BREAST MILK

her first child, Allie in 2009.

"It was the most meaningful donation I've ever made in my life," said Rusak, recalling her first contact with the milk bank.

"What compelled me to donate was that I've been blessed with a good supply of breast milk and I've been disciplined about what I need to do to maintain supply. I understand some women can do everything under the sun to maintain or establish a good supply and despite their efforts it doesn't work out. For me, all the stars aligned. I felt this is something I could do for other people."

FIRST DONATION

Rusak maintained a disciplined schedule of both feeding her daughter in person and pumping breast milk for later use by her child's caretakers while she was at Wayne State University, where she works as a development director. She built up a frozen stash of milk during the months before Allie was weaned in November 2009 and figured the milk bank was a better alternative to simply dumping the liquid down the drain.

The bank required a blood test and information about her health and lifestyle before she shipped frozen milk twice during the summer of 2009. According to the Human Milk Banking Association of North America, its 11 member banks, including Bronson, distributes milk throughout the U.S. and Canada.

But as Rusak learned more about the costs involved with pasteurizing and distribution, she began to search out local recipients through online forums.

"Milk banks are a good source for people who want to do it that way. It's right for some people and it was right for me for two donations," she said, describing the experience as a "transac-

tion" compared to the personal relationships that can arise from online forum posts.

"I didn't realize that they (milk banks) could charge parents up to \$4 an ounce. If a baby is taking in 25 ounces a day, that is extremely expensive. I felt, I'm giving it freely — and I understand there are costs involved in pasteurizing it for really sick babies — but it made me look into it locally."

Online forums connect donors and recipients, but its up to participants to decide if blood tests are needed and who pays for them. The websites encourage moms to ask donors about their diets, lifestyle and medications.

Rusak said both she and Sovel-Charnesky had done their research on milk donating. She invited the couple to pick up the frozen milk at her home.

"That was a special experience for me. It was in person. I got to see the baby benefitting from my gift of breast milk. I was hooked after I did that," Rusak said.

ANOTHER BABY

Now nursing her second daughter, Tessa, Rusak donated to a couple in New York who adopted their daughter from a birth mother in Toledo, Ohio. She had blood work done at the adoptive mother's request and expense, shipped frozen milk to New York last month and delivered 90 ounces of fresh milk to the baby, Claire, while she was in the hospital earlier this year.

Rusak has posted her experiences on a blog that she shares with family and friends, influencing others to donate. Kate Dunham, a college friend from Bay City, is nursing her daughter, Harper, and also sent excess milk to Baby Claire.

Dunham encourages nursing moms to get the word out about donating breast milk.

"The more people who know about it the more healthy happy babies there will be, because we all know breast milk is best."

Kathryn Rusak

packages her

breast milk in

a cooler for shipping.

Arthritis Today

JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY 18829 Farmington Road Livonia, Michigan 48152 Phone: (248) 478-7860



STOPPING A MEDICATION, THEN STARTING IT AGAIN

There are several reasons why a person would stop an arthritis medicine and then want to restart it again. The most common is that the person while on the medicine experienced a resolution of arthritis and over time stopped taking any arthritis medicine. But after months or even years free of the condition, the arthritis returned. Another reason that causes a patient to stop an arthritis drug is cost. An employer

Another reason that causes a patient to stop an arthritis drug is cost. An employer changes health insurance carriers, and the patient, an employee, finds that under the new insurance, the medication is no longer covered or raised to a higher titer requiring more co-pay than the patient can afford. The patient stops the drug, and for several months the concentration of medication in the patient's body suffices to hold off a flare of the arthritis. However, in time, the arthritis breaks through. Finally, there is the patient who had a rash or abdominal pain that he thought

Finally, there is the patient who had a rash or abdominal pain that he thought represented an allergic reaction to the arthritis medication, and stopped the drug. Later evaluation revealed another medicine, not the arthritis medication, was the culprit.

Can these patients return to the arthritis drug and expect the same results previously achieved? The answer is not a clear yes. The arthritis does not become immune to the medication, but molecular changes that lead to inflammation, have the opportunity to develop alternative pathways that can circumvent the inhibitory effects of the arthritis medication.

The doctor always needs to know when a patient stops a medicine as the physician must decide to observe the effect of cessation or initiate another drug immediately.



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COMMUNITY LIFE

Bugs offer clues about river water quality

Registration deadline for Friends of the Rouge's Spring Bug Hunt is Friday, April 15.

The Spring Bug Hunt is part of a long-term monitoring program that enlists the help of local residents to collect information about the health of Rouge streams. Volunteers who register for the hunt will look for bugs in samples taken from the river on Saturday, April 30. Children are welcome when accompanied by a participating adult.

The event will begin at 9 a.m. at the University of Michigan-Dearborn's

Environmental Interpretive Center. Volunteers are assigned to teams of 4-8 individuals and will travel to two sites along the Rouge. The number and type of bugs found is used to assess each site and data are submitted to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources & Environment and Rouge communities.

It is coordinated by Friends of the Rouge and supported by the Erb Family Foundation.

For more information or to sign up, visit www.therouge. org.

Restaurant helps hunger initiatives

"Las Palapas Authentic Mexican Restaurant," one of Livonia's newest eateries, will donate half of its net proceeds from food and beverage sales on Tuesday, April 5 to United Way for Southeastern Michigan's food programs.

"The community has shown us tremendous support in the weeks since we opened," stated proprietor Cesar Ochoa. "This is a family business, and we serve food to patrons as if they were members of our own family. We also know we have a responsibility to support people in the community who are struggling to get enough food. With this fundraiser, we are eager to support United Way's food work."

The restaurant, which opened in February, serves authentic Mexican cuisine, including dishes made from Ochoa family recipes.

The fundraiser will include prizes, lively music and other specials. "Las Palapas" is open seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. and is located at 33308 Plymouth Road, Livonia. (734) 762-7003.

Jump and raise autism awareness

Pump It Up of Canton will offer two special jump programs April 7 to raise awareness of autism.

Sensory Jump Time, developed in conjunction with Autism Speaks, will run from 3-5 p.m. for children with autism and their families.

The Great Open Jump, designed to raise money for Autism Speaks, will run from 6-9 p.m., and give families a chance to play on giant, inflatable structures while donating to a good cause.

During Sensory Jump Time, Pump It Up's trained staff will lead games that have been deemed appropriate for children with autism. The facility's lights, music and procedures will be altered to provide the most safe and fun sensory environment for guests on the spectrum. The debut event is free to children with autism and their families.

Pump It Up, located at 46090 Michigan Ave., offers indoor, gigantic inflatable-filled arenas and private party rooms. (734) 495-1222



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VII

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Class of 1971

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O Thai Food

Planning 40th reunion in 2011. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail BHS.1971@yahoo.com. If on Facebook join the group by searching BHS reunion 1971 40th

sign up site; also on CLASSMATES/REUNIONS. **Dearborn Fordson**

Class of 1971

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

Dearborn Heights Robichaud

Class of 1961

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

Detroit Cody

Class of 1961

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

Class of 1971

The 40th reunion, with a "Back to the Bahamas" theme, is scheduled for Aug. 20, at Bahama Breeze Restaurant, 19600 Haggerty, Livonia. The organizers are trying to reach approximately 1,000 graduates from the January and June classes, as well as any other alumni interested in attending the event. Tickets are \$50. Call Barb Blum Douglas at (313) 804-1282, or Marilyn Ogilvy Twa at (616) 802-0305, or e-mail to hfhs1971reunion@vahoo.com.

Detroit Mackenzie

June Class of 1961

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

Class of 1962

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

Garden City East & West Classes of 1966-67

A casual, joint reunion is planned for Oct. 8. The organizing

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

Ladywood High School Class of 1961

REUNION CALENDAR

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

Livonia Bentley

Class of 1961

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

Class of 1981

30th reunion planned for Aug. 6, at One Under Banquet Facility 35789 Five Mile, Livonia. Visit http://www.freewebs.com/bentley81 for more details.

Livonia Franklin Class of 1966

45th high school reunion, Oct.8 at Laurel Park Marriott. Seeking classmates and contact info. E-mail contact info to Larry Ruzsas at Lruzsas187264mi@comcast.net or call him at (810) 599-3506.

Rosary High School

Class of 1966

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

Class of 1981

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

Wayne High Schools

All Classes

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



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> RSPV by April 18th (734) 335-1821

*In Assisted Living only

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

APRIL 3-6

Eggstravaganza

Time/Date: 6:30-8:15 p.m. Location: In the fellowship hall at First United Methodist Church of Wayne-Westland, 3 Town Square, Wayne

Details: Eggstravaganza features stories, crafts, games, and snacks Contact: (734) 721-4801

Guest speaker

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

presentation Contact: (248) 359-4488

Lenten program

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. dinner with program following, April 6 Location: First United Methodist Church of Wayne-Westland, 3 Town Square, Wayne

Details: Performances by Wayne-Westland and Brighton UMC choirs. The church provides the meat for the dinner and participants bring a dish to pass, along with their own table service

Contact: (734) 721-4801

Lenten program Time/Date: 7 p.m. April 6 and April

13 Location: St. Aidan, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia Details: David J. Conrad presents the series. Each session reflects on passage's from John's Gospel. Themes are "The Man Born Blind" on April 6 and "The Restoration of Lazarus" on April 13. A light reception is held after each session Contact: Don Esler, St. Aidan Education Commission, at (248) 477-3362

Vespers

RELIGION CALENDAR

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

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

APRIL 7-13

Breakfast Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.- noon,

Sunday, April 10 Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland Details: Pancakes; French toast; ham; sausage; scrambled eggs, applesauce, tea, coffee, milk, juice. Cost is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children, ages 2-10. Sponsored by St. Theodore Men's Club Contact: (734) 425-4421

Clothing bank

Time/Date: 5-6:30 p.m., April 9 and 10 a.m.-1 p.m., April 23

Location: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 41920 Joy, Canton

Details: Free clothing and shoes to anyone in need Contact: (734) 404-2480 or (734)

927-6686

Learning

Time/Date: 7:30-9 p.m. Thursday, April 7

Location: Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington, at 25301 Halsted, Farmington Details: Free programs include "Drumming for Healing" with

Sandy Mabery; "Implementing Sustainability Projects in Local Churches," with Brianna Sprague; and "Action Science - A Rational Approach to Improved Communication," with the Rev. Alexander Riegel. Refreshments served at 7 p.m. A \$5 donation is suggested.

Contact: www.uufarmington.org

Lenten program

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. dinner with program following, April 13 Location: First United Methodist Church of Wayne-Westland, 3 Town Square, Wayne Details: Performance by

Celebration Singers from New Beginnings UMC. The church provides the meat for the dinner and participants bring a dish to pass, along with their own table service Contact: (734) 721-4801

Rummage sale

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday, April 8 and 9:30 a.m.-noon Saturday, April 9

Location: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, between Newburgh and Haggerty, Livonia Details: \$2 bag sale on Saturday Contact: (734) 464-0211

Rummage sale

Time/Date: 6-9 p.m. Thursday, April 7, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Friday, April 8 and 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, April 9

Location: Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Highway, Southfield Details: \$5 per bag on Saturday Contact: (248) 359-4488

B9

Vespers

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

Contact: Robert A. Mitchell, at

Notice of Public Sale of Liened Property

Notice is hereby given that a closed bid sale will be held on April 21, 2011 at 1:00 PM at 40671 Joy Road Canton MI 48187 County of Wayne. AMERICA'S BUDGET STORAGE will sell to satisfy the lien on property stored at 40671 Joy Rd Canton MI 48187, by the following persons. The inventories listed below were notated by the tenants at the time of rental. AMERICA'S BUDGET STORAGE makes no representation or warranty that the units contain said inventories. Unit D 14 Mullen Household Goods: Unit D 40 Stacey, Household Goods: Unit F 21 Monroe, Household Goods: Unit J 03 Mitchell, Household Goods: Unit J 15 Haynes, Household Goods: Unit J 41 St. Amour, Household Goods: Unit K 09 Ray, Household Goods: Unit C 210 Bunt, Household Goods Publish: April 3 & 10, 2011



COMMUNITY LIFE

Guardian Angel Animal Rescue nursed this cat back to health after her leg was caught in a snare trap and subsequently amputated. She's ready for adoption.





Volunteers at Guardian Angel Animal Rescue in Westland have helped "Bear" through a sad start in life. He's now ready for adoption.

Rescue features special needs cat, puppy for local adoption

BY SHARON DARGAY O&E STAFF WRITER

Prayers and lots of TLC helped Baby Girl and Bear overcome lifethreatening injuries to become the featured adoptable animals this week from Guardian Angel Animal Rescue (GAAR) in Westland.

Baby Girl was caught in a snare trap and Sandra Mezza, president of GAAR, suspects she suffered for a week before a neighbor alerted them. The neighbor told GAAR that the cat had roamed her Commerce Township neighborhood and lived outside for about two years.

"One of the residents did not want her around anymore so they sent a trap, a snare. She was able to wiggle her way out of it before they could get to her. By the time we were called it was too late. — the leg was infected and damaged beyond repair so we had to have it amputated," Mezza said, noting that Jeffrey Vet in Livonia performed the surgery. "She was so frightened and in so much pain. I can't imagine how horrible that was for her."

PETS OF THE WEEK

Mezza said the cat is learning to walk on three legs and is doing well. She uses a litter box with no problems.

"She is so loving and purrs the loudest when you are rubbing her tummy. She is looking for a family to love her and show her what it is like to be a spoiled indoor princess kitty."

Bear was only 3 weeks old when GAAR rescued him. He had a hole in his stomach and his outlook was grim, but vet tech Joan Hawkins and volunteer Brittney Shute nursed him back to health and now, at 8 weeks, he is ready for adoption.

Mezza said Bear came from a Detroit home, where his mother delivered a litter of puppies in a backyard doghouse.

"The mom had chewed the belly cord off too close to the skin of the tummy and it became infected, the man (owner) started pouring straight peroxide on the injury, and the peroxide ate right through the skin so you could see his insides," Mezza said. "When the man realized that this puppy was going to die — at this time the pup was only 3 weeks old and fit into the palm of my hand — the man somehow found our number and told us if we did not come get him asap, he would kill the puppy."

GAAR works with a family in Detroit that rescues pets from some of the worst circumstances in the city. The family retrieved Bear for Mezza's organization and tried to convince the owner to give up the mom and her puppies.

Mezza said he declined "because that was how he made his living, on selling the puppies."

"We did leave our number with him just in case."

Bear, whose body temperature was so low that Mezza didn't think he'd survive, now is up to date on his baby vaccines and is microchipped.

"He is a German Shepherd and is going to be a big boy."

Potential adopters can make an appointment to meet Baby Girl or Bear by calling (734) 516-2171, emailing to info@gaarmichigan.org or visiting www.gaarmichigan.org.

Cat show, animal welfare brunch planned

ALL ABOUT CATS

The Cat Fanciers' Association (CFA) will hold an all breed, specialty and household pet cat show, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. April 9-10, at the Allen Park Community Center, 15800 White Street Allen Park.

The show will feature two days of judged competition. Visitors also will get a chance to ask exhibitors and breeders questions about their cats and they'll see cats close up, including Persians, Maine Coons, Orientals, Birmans, Tonkinese, Ragdolls, Siamese, Bombays and more.

The show is sponsored by the Just Cat-In-Around Cat Fanciers, a local non-profit cat club. Internationally qualified CFA judges will evaluate the cats.

Admission is \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors, \$4 for children, 6-12 and free for children, 5 and under. Parking is free.

For more information visit www. cfa.org or e-mail to cihawley@comcast.net or hodos@aol.com.

BOW WOW BRUNCH

Eight of metro Detroit's prominent community members have volunteered to be in the "doghouse," to raise funds for the Michigan Humane Society (MHS). Each will try to raise \$5,000 in donations to get out of the "dog house" and earn the title "Top Dog" at MHS's upcoming Bow Wow Brunch, April 10 at the Dearborn Inn.

Participants include Patrick Eaves, Detroit Red Wings right wing; Robert A. Ficano, Wayne County executive; Carol Hutchins, University of Michigan softball coach; Jean Jennings, editor-in-chief and president of *Automobile Magazine*; Peter Karmanos, Compuware chairman and CEO; Bob Lutz, former vice chairman, General Motors; James Peabody, a physician with Henry Ford Health Systems; and Jay Towers, morning show host on 100.3 WNIC and weekend anchor on Fox 2 Detroit.

Donations are accepted through their fundraising pages at www. michiganhumane.org.



MHS' 22nd annual Bow Wow Brunch begins at 11:30 a.m. on April 10 with a champagne reception, silent auction, and the opportunity to mingle with adoptable animals. A gourmet brunch and live auction will follow. The live auction will feature a variety of exclusive items, including a trip to Chicago; a Detroit Tigers package that includes 4 tickets, a chance to take batting practice and throw the first pitch out at Comerica Park; Breakfast with the Giraffes at the Detroit Zoo and more.

Tickets to the Bow Wow Brunch begin at \$200 and seating is limited. To reserve tickets, call (866) MHUMANE, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday or buy tickets online at www. michiganhumane.org.

Proceeds from this year's Bow Wow Brunch will assist MHS in finding homes for all adoptable animals, furthering innovative community outreach efforts, and supporting critical sterilization programs.

HSHV EARNS KUDOS

The Humane Society of Huron Valley (HSHV) was honored for its innovative animal welfare programs and its efforts to reduce euthanasia of homeless animals, at the Michigan Pet Fund Alliance conference, "Getting to the Goal," Friday, March 25 in Ann Arbor. HSHV serves Washtenaw County, Plymouth and Canton.

Representatives from the organization joined staff and volunteers from other animal shelters and rescues from around the state at the event, which included workshops on a variety of animal welfare topics.

Exhibit focuses on artwork showing Michigan's beauty



See a new exhibit, meet the artists and attend an arts fundraiser this week at the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

The fun begins Monday, April 4, with the Council's open exhibition, Pure Art Michigan, which drew almost 100 submissions from approximately 50 artists from metro Detroit. The Council invited artists to submit work that highlights the unique beauty of the state. It received photography, oil paintings, watercolors, acrylics, pastels, colored pencil art, mixed media and wood block prints. Themes ranged from recognizable Michigan landmarks to more personal perceptions of the state's beauty around us. Most of the pieces will be for sale. A reception for the artists is planned from 3-5 p.m. Saturday, April 9. Refreshments will be served and visitors can vote for their favorite piece to receive the People's Choice Award, which will be announced at the end of the month.



ders may view auction items at www.plymoutharts.com. The highlight of the evening will be the raffle of a new iPad valued at more than \$800. Guests also may enter to win a painting by PCAC artist and instructor Pam Grossmann, or purchase limited, one-of a kind pottery plates by PCAC artist and instructor Jeff Burda. The PCAC hopes to raise \$20,000 to continue its community art programs, such as Music in the Park, the Art Volunteer Program in conjunction with Plymouth Schools, Saturdays@the Penn, art classes and summer art camps, children's theater, concerts, art exhibits and more. Admission cost is a free-will donation of any amount. To RSVP, donate or sponsor the event, call the PCAC at (734) 416-4278 or email to amy@plymoutharts. com by April 5. The "Pure Art of Michigan" exhibit runs through April 28. It's open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, in Plymouth. Call (734) 455-4681 for more information.

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313.535.3030 www.fisherfuneral.net The Council's annual gala reception, "Its Arts - Pure &

"Da Yooper Mobile," an infrared digital photo by Allen Brooks, is on display at the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

Simple," runs 6:30-10 p.m. Friday, April 8. In addition to viewing the "Pure Art of Michigan" exhibit, visitors will enjoy cocktails and desserts from the PCEP culinary program. Local musicians will perform, and items from Plymouth-area merchants and artists will be available through raffles, door prizes and auctions. Potential bid-

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Attorney J.B. Bieske can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary Bieske has won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

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

Attorney Bleske has represented only Social Security Disability clients for over 27 years. That is the **only** type of law he practices. And, he personally meets with all clients and appears himself at all court hearings.



Many large firms assign clients to young associate attorneys with much less experience; and often these firms aren't even based in Michigan.

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

Bieske's office staff consists of paralegals and secretaries who are extremely helpful in answering questions with regard to the status of client's cases and administrative procedure.

Attorney Bieske welcomes you to

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

In a recent radio interview attorney Bieske explained that many people are not even aware that they are eligible for Social Security Disability

Social Security Disability benefits. You may be eligible even if you have retired and are receiving a pension. If you have an illness or injury (whether or not related to your work), are under 65 and unable to work full-time you may be eligible. Social Security Disability benefits are based on your work record or your deceased spouse's work record (Widow's/ Widower's benefits).

Call attorney J.B. Bieske at **1-800-331-3530** for a FREE consultation if you are considering applying for Social Security Disability Benefits or if you have been denied. His Livonia office is located on Six Mile Road just West of 1-275 and his Novi office is on Haggerty just North of 12 Mile Road.

www.ssdfighter.com





Remember the mother you have lost by placing a Special Remembrance Tribute.

The Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Weekly Newspapers will be publishing a special "In Remembrance" page for Mother's Day 2011. Here's the perfect opportunity to honor the memory and celebrate the life of your beloved mother who holds a special place in your heart.

> Prices start at \$15.00 for a photo "In Remembrance" ad

Publication Dates:

Thursday, May 5th...in the Hometown Weekly Newspapers Sunday, May 8th...in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Deadline for both issues: Thursday, April 28th Please specify in which group of newspapers you would like your "In Remembrance" to appear:

Group 1: Observer & Eccentric Newspapers serving the Canton, Farmington, Garden City, Livonia, Plymouth, Redford, Westland, Birmingham, Royal Oak, Clawson, Berkley, Ferndale, Huntington Woods, Pleasant Ridge and Southfield communities. Group 2: Hometown Weekly Newspapers serving the Milford, Northville,

Novi and South Lyon communities.



COMMUNITY LIFE

2012 WEDDING PLANNED



Rogg-Ramas

Brian and Erin Rogg of Novi are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Rachael Rogg to Kevin Ramas, son of Linda and Tim Ramas of Farmington Hills.

The bride-to-be is a 2009 Michigan State University graduate with a degree in advertising. She works as a business development representative doing sales and marketing.

Her fiancé is a 2008 Michigan State University graduate with a bachelor's degree in finance. He works as a law clerk and is scheduled to graduate from Wayne State University Law School next month.

The couple met more than three years ago inside the MSU library.

A February 2012 wedding is planned at The Townsend in Birmingham.

OCTOBER WEDDING PLANNED



Debby Auld of Clio, is pleased to announce the engagement of her daughter, Sarah Auld, to Anthony Carignan, son of Dan and Daisy Carignan of Redford.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of University of Michigan-Flint and Central Michigan University. She is a physician assistant for Independent Emergency Physicians, P.C. in Southfield.

The groom is a graduate of Schoolcraft Community College and is a public safety officer for Oak Park as well as a member of Oak Park's Special Response Team. An October 2011 wedding is planned.



Geverink-Miller

OCTOBER WEDDING

Laura Christine Geverink and Lee Henry Miller were married Oct. 2, 2010 at St. John's Chapel, in Plymouth. Deacon Ric Misiak officiated at the ceremony.

The bride, daughter of Todd and Diane Geverink of Livonia, is a speech therapist at Children's Therapy Corner, in Midland.

The groom, son of Kimberly Miller of Lansing and Paul Kennon of Holt, is a graduate student in recreation and parks administration at Central Michigan University. He also is employed at Greater Midland Community Center.

Emily Ketterer served as Maid of Honor. Bridesmaids were Erin Welch, Jackie Coch, Sarah Mathews, Lenore Bank, and Natalie Bank.

Best man was Nick Dunkle. His attendants were Brian Psenski, Scott Pocan, and Jeff Egeland.

Ushers were John Geverink and Scott Geverink

A reception was held at the Italian American Club. The couple plans a honeymoon to Jamaica this spring.

They plan to make their home in Midland.



THELMA J. deMONTIGNY

Age 77, of Redford Twp. March 31, 2011. Beloved wife of Phillip L. Dearest mother of Jan deMontigny, Phillip Mark (Cindy) deMontigny, Herald Joseph deMontigny. Loving grandma of four & great-grandma of three. Funeral service Tuesday 11:30 am at the Fisher Funeral Home, 24501 Five Mile (btw Beech Daly & Telegraph), Redford Twp. (313)535-3030. Visiting Monday 3pm until 8pm.

ROBERT NORMAN ELLIOTT, M.D.

March 21, 2011, Age 89. Resident of Troy, formerly of Birmingham, MI. He was Captain in the US Army, and did two year tour of duty during Korean War. He was a psychiatrist in the Detroit area, and practiced about 40 years. He pioneered use of psychotropic medication at Pontiac State Hospital. Beloved husband of Blanche for 66 years. Dear father of Laurel and Robert (Luanne). Caring grandfather of Jack and Nicky. Memorial service will be held at a later date. Memorial tributes to Beaumont Foundation.

DORIS ELIZABETH



JOHN H. HAGEMAN M.D. Of Toledo, Ohio, passed into God's hands March 30, 2011. He cared deeply for his wife and family, his patients, his church, community and his profession. Dr. Hageman was born January 25, 1935 in Gloversville, NY to Nancy Ramona (Downer) and Dr. Herbert Hageman. He graduated from Gloversville High School, and received his BA at Rochester University majoring in chemistry. Dr. Hageman went on to earn his MS in Physical Chemistry and his MD at Yale University, New Haven, CT in 1962. From 1962 to 1968, he completed a general surgery residency and cardiovascular fellowship at Yale-New Haven Community Hospital. During

this time, Dr. Hageman practiced at



IVA JUNE MYNATT

Age 90, of Redford, died Friday, April 1, 2011 at Genesys Health Park. Services will be held 11 AM Monday, April 4, 2011 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 W. Silver Lake Rd. with Rev. Dale Swihart officiating. Interment will be held at Grand Lawn Cemetery in Detroit. Visitation will be held 2-9 PM Sunday at the funeral home. Those desiring may make memorial contributions to First Presbyterian Church of Fenton. Mrs. Mynatt was born June 25, 1920 in Detroit the daughter of William and Mrs. Mynatt was very close with her

Martha Elizabeth (McGarity) Havens She married Robert O. Mynatt in 1942 and he preceded her in death in 2001 Mrs. Mynatt was a Girl Scout Leader for many years. She enjoyed reading gardening, playing cards and fishing. friends and was the caretaker of her family. Surviving are: daughter, Jacqueline L. (Lawrence) Arrol of Fenton; two grandsons, Lawrence (Melissa) Arrol, Jr. and Matthew (Brandy) Arrol; four great-grandchildren, Brynna, Jackson, Sydney and Lauryn Arrol; niece, Linda Wilson; "adopted" daughter, Jade Smith. Her brother, William Havens, also preceded her in death. Friends may share an online tribute on the obituary page of:

Auld-Carignan

MATTHEW ARRIVES

Matthew Earle Layman was born March 4, 2011 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor.

He joins his parents, Timothy and Michelle Layman and brother Benjamin, 2, at home in Canton.

Grandparents are Fred and Catharine Layman of Northville and William and Marjory Sherburn of Ludington.

GARDEN CITY

• 4-7 p.m. all Fridays of Lent, at Saint Dunstan Catholic Church, 1515 Belton, west of Inkster Road and south of Ford Road. Fish may be ordered fried or baked. Dinners cost from \$5.25-\$8. Dessert and pop also are available. (734) 425-6720

• 4:30-7 p.m. or until sold out Fridays, at St. Raphael, 31530 Beechwood, west of Merriman, north of Ford Road. Good Friday hours are 3-7 p.m. or until sold out. Prices are \$8.50 for dinners. A la carte items available. (734) 427-1533

LIVONIA

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

• 4:30-7 p.m. Fridays of Lent except for Good Friday at St. Michael the Archangel, 11441 Hubbard. All-you-caneat fried or baked fish dinners. Prices are \$8 for adults, \$7 for

LENTEN FISH DINNERS

seniors and take-out orders, and \$4 for kids, 3-11. Children under 3 eat for free. (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200, or visit www. livoniastmichael.org.

REDFORD

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

• 4-7 p.m. or until dinners run out, every Friday during Lent, at St. Robert Bellarmine, located at W. Chicago Road and Inkster Road. All-you-can eat baked or fried fish dinners cost \$8. Seniors, 60 and older pay

e Center

\$7 and children under 12 pay \$4. Weekly specials are \$10. A la carte items available. Carry-out dinners don't include a beverage. (313) 937-1655

WESTLAND

• 5-8 p.m. every Friday in March and April, at Sts. Constantine & Helen Church's Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy, west of Wayne Road. The buffet dinner costs \$8.95 for adults and \$4.95 for children under 10. (734) 525-3550

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



KANGAS

Unexpectedly passed away on March 20, 2011. She was born in Detroit in 1927, the daughter of Charles and Anna (Hakala) Kangas and is sur-vived by her brother Charles of Glendale, AZ, sister-in-law Lana Heinonen of Laurium, seven neices and nephews, 28 great and great-great nieces and nephews and many cousins and friends. Preceding her in death were her parents, brother Donald, sis-ter-in-law Phyllis, and nephews Eric and Glen Kangas. Doris earned her Master's in English from the University of Michigan and spent most of her career teaching English at Franklin High School in Livonia. She was the founder and sponsor of Amos, Franklin High School's student literary magazine; a task which gave her great joy and pride. For many years Doris had a petting zoo with which she would delight youngsters of all ages at various community functions. Many neighborhood children gained an education not available from books by helping Doris at the "Kangas Bioplat" in Farmington Hills. A lover of animals, Doris rescued her fair share. She was an avid reader and her interests covered an amazing range of topics. Doris read Emily Dickinson every day of her adult life. When circumstances dictated that she give up her zoo, Doris turned to writing poetry. She has left us with a wonderful collection of poems, again on a wide variety of subjects. Doris was a member of The Detroit Finnish Summer Camp Association, Ridge Writers of Farmington, and a member of Hobby Greenhouse for many years. A memo rial Service will be held at Unity Church of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile Road, http://www.unityoflivonia.org/, on May 7, 2011 at 1 pm. Please join the family in celebrating her life. Memorial gifts may be made to any of these charities that were near to Doris's heart: D.F.S.C.S.A. (Finn Camp) 2524 Loon Lake Rd, Wixom MI 48393, Turtle Creek Farm 6205 Cooley Lake Rd, Waterford MI 48327, Farmington Hills Public Library, National Public Radio or Library, Nationa Public Television.

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

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the Hospital Albert Schweitzer in Haiti for a three month period. The people of Haiti and the hospital remained very special to him throughout his professional life. In 1968 Dr. Hageman completed a Peripheral Vascular Surgery Clinical Fellowship at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, MI. For the next 18 years, he served as a member of the Vascular Surgery Division in the Department of Surgery at Henry Ford Hospital. In 1984, he accepted a position at the Medical College of Ohio (now known as The University of Toledo College of Medicine) as Chief of Peripheral Vascular Surgery in the Department of Surgery. In 2003, he became a partner in Gorman, Afridi, and Hageman, Inc. where he continued to practice until his retirement at the of age 73 years. For over 40 years, Dr. Hageman has been an influence in the practice, education and advancement of Vascular Surgery. A caring physician, Dr. Hageman emphasized the value and respect of each human being to medical students, medical residents and vascular surgery fellows. A lifelong learner and teacher, he also mentored high school and college students in their pursuit of health care careers. Dr. Hageman dedicated his life to taking care of people both professionally and personally. His was a He was a spirit of selfless service. loving son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, friend and physician who will be missed greatly. Dr. Hageman was preceded in death by his parents, his sister, Margaret L. Hageman and his former wife, Suzanne Hageman (Volgyesi). Dr. Hageman is survived by his loving wife, Dr. Patricia Donahue; his four daughters, Margaret Petrovich (Edward), Dr. Martha Hageman (Dr. Donald Kirk), Diane Wickeliff (Richard), Dr. Kimberly Hageman (David Felcan); eight grandchildren, sister Nancy Ullom (James) and several nieces and nephews. Funeral services for Dr. Hageman will be held on Tuesday April 5, 2011 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. The Coyle Funeral Home is assisting the family with services. Please view and sign the on-line guest registry at CoyleFuneralHome.com. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to: Hospital Albert Schweitzer, PO Box 81046 Pittsburgh, PA 15217; Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 2255 Central Grove, Toledo OH 43614 or charity of choice.

Paying

Tribute

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RICHARD C. WELLS

Age 68, of West Bloomfield, passed away on March 19, 2011. Born in Detroit to parents Lauren and Myra Wells. Richard graduated from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. He would become a marketing manager for I.B.M. Richard became an accom plished author and was able to have four of his books published. An avid U of M football fan and golfer. His greatest love in life was his family. Survived by his loving wife Joan (Briegel) of 46 years. Together they were blessed with two loving children: David Wells and his wife Mary Campbell and Anne Steinhauer and her husband Matthew Proud "Grampa Nutt" of Eric and Mia. A memorial reception will be held at the Edgewood Country Club, 8399 Commerce Rd, Commerce Twp, MI 48382 on Sunday, April 10, 2011. There will be an open house from 1:00pm 5:00pm, with a service at 3:00pm Family and friends are invited to attend any part of the afternoon. Memorials may be made to the Special Days Camp 2232 S. Main SL, Suite 161 Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

www.specialdays.org or Forgotten Harvest 21800 Greenfield Rd. Oak Park, MI 48237. www.forgottenharvest.org Arrangements entrusted to the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth, MI. Share memories at schrader-howell.com

HEALTH

Sunday, April 3, 2011

hometownlife



E-mail alerts notify family of patient's mood changes

A new program at the University of Michigan aims to help patients with depression manage their symptoms by making a caring friend or family member a part of their treatment.

Patients enroll with a partner – a best friend, grown child or any trusted person from outside of the home. Each week, after the patient completes a short, automated telephone assessment, the partner receives an e-mail with updates about how the patient is doing. It includes specific suggestions for how the partner can help.

If the patient is feeling down or not taking medication regularly, the partner can encourage them to stick to their treatment plan. Patients and partners are encouraged to establish a routine and talk for 10-15 minutes on the same day each week. Spouses are allowed to be partners, but it's discouraged because they're often already involved in the patient's care.

"The program gives patients an opportunity to talk about feelings that they wouldn't have otherwise shared," says John D. Piette, professor of internal medicine at the U-M Medical School. "It gives the partners an opportunity to show the patient that someone does care about them and is paying attention to how they're doing.

In addition to keeping their partner updated, the automated system gives patients immediate feedback about changes in their depressive symptoms, enabling them to access additional support tools.

If a patient reports an urgent health problem, their doctor also is notified.

Initial results have been positive, with a strong majority of patients reporting improve-

ment in managing their depression symptoms, taking their medication and staying active, says Piette, who is also a senior research scientist with the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System. Patients also reported the program had strengthened their relationship with their partner.

The CarePartner Program is an initiative by the Quality Improvement for Complex Chronic Conditions group, which is directed by Piette and supported by the VA and U-M. The group's mission is to improve health outcomes and lower costs by finding ways technology can be used to help patients self-manage chronic diseases. The group's other programs have addressed management of diabetes, heart failure and cancer.

Potential patients can call Liz Kaselitz at (734) 845-3673 or e-mail emaccorm@med. umich.edu.

Dan Cornwell, KC Crain and Jay Farner are new members of the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute's Board of **Directors and Buzz Thomas** has been appointed to the Karmanos Cancer Center's Board of Directors.

Each are serving a threeyear term to help support the ongoing work and mission of Karmanos. They'll provide strategic direction to help move the organization toward becoming one of the nation's top 10 National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer centers.

Cornwell is president of Cambridge Consulting Group, one of Michigan's largest independently owned insurance agencies in Michigan. A graduate of Walsh College of Accounting and Business Administration with a Bachelor of Science degree in finance, Cornwell is a long-standing member of the Karmanos Cancer Institutes' Partners Group and recently completed his second year commitment as executive co-chair for Partners.

Crain is the vice president of Crain Communications, Inc. and a graduate of Denison University, where he earned a

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Bariatric surgery

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

Teens and drugs

"Teens Using Drugs: What To Know and What To Do," a free, ongoing, two-part

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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

NEW FACES

Bachelors of Art degree in

communications. He also

mentors students through

Cornerstone Schools, serves

on the steering committee of the Detroit Historical Society,

and is a member of the Young

marketing officer of Quicken

Loans. He also lends support

to Bizdom U, serving on the

entrepreneurial boot camp's

appropriations board which

determines funding for pro-

ed within the city of Detroit.

He has a bachelor's degree in

finance from Michigan State

the State Senate and six years

and co-chaired the 2008

Michigan campaign for

in the House of Representatives

President Barack Obama. He is

workshop series, will be presented in

two parts next month in the St. Joseph

Thomas served eight years in

University.

posed startup businesses locat-

Farmer is president and chief

Presidents Organization.

the partner program of







president of the Thomas Group Consulting, offering public relations, strategic planning,

Male Urinary Incontinence: An **Embarrassing Problem** (No Longer)

Springtime has many men thinking about golf. Consistent errant golf shots on the course may not be the only reason some men hang up the clubs. Many men may silently experience the frustration and embarrassment of leaking urine upon exertion with simple activities such as laughing, coughing, walking, swinging a golf club, etc.

The inability to control urine is a The inability to control urine is a common problem affecting many men in America. When looking specifically at men over 60, 17% reported having an incontinent episode. There are many potential causes of incontinence in men but most stem from the gland associated with the schemenduring entries when the with the male reproductive system-the prostate. As many as 30% of men who have undergone treatments for prostate cancer report some incontinence The positive news—male

urinary incontinence is a treatable problem. Although pads to collect urine are an option some medications or a minimally-invasive procedure can provide a permanent resolution to most individual's problems. Now's the time to

seek the answers and treatment you need. Believe it or not, an right around

John F. Harb, MD Marian Professional Bldg. 14555 Levan • Suite 308 Livonia 734.462.5858

Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti. Part one, "What To Know," runs 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesday April 5. It will provide information on understanding and recognizing teen substance abuse problems. Part two, "What To Do," runs 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesday April 12. It will provide information on what should and should not be done when a teen substance abuse problem is suspected or identified, and will include a recovering teen speaker. The programs are free and open to the public. (734) 973-7892; www.teensusingdrugs.org

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Compassionate, quality care at Four Seasons begins with education

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UUN JLAJUNJ AND NURSING

Meet Evangeline Pescasio. It's her job to give nursing staff the tools they need to provide quality care. As In-Service Director, she trains RNs and Certified Nursing Assistants by presenting educational sessions 6 to 10 times a month in small groups. CNAs require 12 hours annually of in-service training.

"I talk about attitude and sensitivity, compassionate care and how to motivate staff to be exceptional in our care," said

Pescasio, a Registered Nurse. "It's very important to give proper care. Employees need to be trained. Knowledge is not enough. We have to be conscientious, dedicated, diligent and always willing to learn, and to help others." Pescasio invites dietitians, physical, occupational and speech therapists, physicians, and psychologists to share the latest information.

Much has changed since she became a nurse in 1992. Today, more than ever, infection control, safety and fall prevention, abuse,

communication and confidentiality make the list of important training in the facility. "I believe in continuing learning," said Pescasio. "Nursing changes based on research."

....I talk about attitude and sensitivity ... how to motivate staff to be exceptional in our care ... ??

Before coming to Four Seasons Pescasio worked as an RN for transplant and the surgical medical floor at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. Her manager called her an ambassador for safety at Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital. Everyone called her 'Angel' for a reason.

"I got the inspiration from nursing and caring for the whole person, not just the physical being, but spiritual and emotional. I go and spend time with residents, eye to eye, give them a hug. I don't look at nursing as a job but a calling. We're caring not only for residents, but families and co-workers."

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Sunday, April 3, 2011

15 Jobs That Pay Well, No Degree Required

Anthony Balderrama, CareerBuilder.com Writer

Conventional wisdom states that college-educated workers earn higher salaries because the their jobs require more education and advanced skills. In addition, fewer workers have college degrees, so they are harder to find in relation to workers without degrees. Indeed, according to the most recent U.S. Census Bureau data, 19 percent of Americans hold a bachelor's degree, while approximately 31 percent have a high school diploma.

Census data also shows that the mean income for a college graduate is \$58,613, a significant difference from the \$31,283 mean income for a high school graduate. You might reason, then, that to bring home a sizeable paycheck, you need to go to college. Although that's often true, there are exceptions. Many jobs pay workers well because their daily tasks are dangerous, difficult or extremely specialized. Experience also factors into the equation because many employers value years of experience more than their years of education. These jobs not requiring a degree aren't necessarily easy to perform nor they easy to land.

short-term, consider these 15 professions that don't require a college degree but pay well: 1. Aides supervisor \$63,231*. Aides supervisors supervise home-

health aides, which involves setting their work schedules and monitoring their performance to ensure quality care for patients.

2. Air traffic controller \$139,314. In order to ensure the safety of all flights, air traffic controllers monitor

planes coming to and leave from an airport so that there are no collisions. They also monitor conditions to keep flights free of delays.

3. Assembly Supervisor \$66,034. In assembling and manufacturing plants,

these supervisors oversee the flow of production work. Depending on the

industry, assembly workers can produce anything from large mechanical and aviation components to small, technology devices.

4. Cable supervisor \$76,739. Cable supervisors monitor workers who install, maintain and repair cables. Because these cables can be buried underground or overhead on telephone poles the process can be dangerous for workers and difficult to perform.

6. Construction equipment operator \$53,543. Construction equipment operators are charge of the large-scale tools and equipment used on construction sites. They are also responsible for inspecting the equipment for safety and performance issues when necessary. 7. Credit and collection supervisor \$66.847. Credit and collection workers calculate credit risks and collections information for

> consumers who apply for loans. Their supervisors monitor their performance and sometimes review client credit history to grant or deny extensions of credit.

8. Data control supervisor \$66,554. Data control supervisors oversee

the daily operations of data entry workers and are responsible for the completion and accuracy of their work.

9. Electrical repairer \$58,960. Electrical repairers disassemble and fix problematic electrical equipment and any related components. Depending on the particular job, the equipment can range from small mechanisms to large technological systems.

10. Elevator repair worker \$67,538 Elevator repair workers performance routine maintenance on elevators and escalators and also respond to any reported problems. 11. Home care aide supervisor \$69,061. Home care aides visit homebound patients in order to

assist with daily activities and some rehabilitation exercises. The supervisor ensures that all patients are being taken care of properly by their aides according to legal regulations and quality standards. 12. Illustrator \$60,060. Illustrators work in advertisement agencies or as freelancers to design fonts and images for a variety of media, from websites to print campaigns and video. 13. Lead carpenter \$73,055. Lead

carpenters act as the head for carpentry workers on a specific task in order to keep the project on time and meet quality standards.

14. Payroll supervisor \$72,951. Payroll supervisors oversee the process of calculating compensation based on workers' hours, reviewing timecards, distributing pay and adhering to government regulations for payroll.

15. Real estate broker \$79,494. Real estate brokers maintain their own real estate businesses that help home buyers look for houses or condominiums. They research neighborhoods, find available homes, and assist buyers through the financial and legal aspects of the purchase process.

*Salary data based on figures from CBSalary.com.

Anthony Balderrama is a writer and blogger for CareerBuilder.com and its job blog, The Work Buzz ww.theworkbuzz.com . He researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.



That's not to say you shouldn't earn a college or graduate degree if you want. However, if college isn't the right option for you or if it's not a plausible option in the

5. Chemical supervisor \$73,955.

Chemical supervisors oversee workers who make chemical products, a careful process that involves handling dangerous substances and following strict safety guidelines.



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