

RARE CHANCE

HIGH SCHOOL PLAYERS TAKE ON
U.S. WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM, B1

SUPERFOOD: WALNUTS
MORE THAN A SNACK
FOOD, B7

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THURSDAY

April 14, 2011

The Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers

Volume 36
Number 84

\$1.00

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Have you checked out our newly redesigned website? It's chock full of local news from the Canton community and is updated often. There are several cool features at www.hometownlife.com that allow you to browse through the latest news and features from



your neighboring communities, too; allow you to chime in with your opinion on our stories, editorials and letters to the editor; check out our amazing photo galleries and videos that are captured daily by our reporters and photographers.

Readers can also find garage sale listings — with a map! — each week from Wednesday through Sunday.

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Bollywood concert

Members of the Michigan Philharmonic (formerly the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra), under the direction of Nan Washburn and with Indian percussionists and soloists, perform the music of the Indian film industry known as "Bollywood" 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 6, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

The high-energy, multimedia performance is the culminating event of Canton Culture Week, May 1-6, sponsored by the Canton Commission for Cultural, Arts and Heritage celebrating the arts and diversity of the Canton community.

Tickets are \$25 and include a pre-concert reception at 6:30 p.m. sponsored by the Partnership for the Arts & Humanities in Canton and Plymouth restaurant Station 885.

For tickets and information for the Bollywood concert call (734) 451-2112 or online www.michiganphil.org.

Mother knows best

Time is running out for local women and girls hoping to send us (in 50 words or less) the best advice you received from your mom.

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

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

Police: Teen shooting 'grim reminder'

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton police call it a grim reminder of why teens should stay away from guns.

A Canton teen, shot at home Friday evening after another teen brought a handgun to his apartment, remained paralyzed but in stable condition from a single gunshot wound that damaged his spinal cord, police said.

"He's paralyzed from the chest down," police Sgt. Mark Gajeski said.

The 17-year-old victim was shot once

by a 9mm semiautomatic handgun brought to Carriage Cove, an apartment complex near Warren and Lilley, by a 15-year-old boy who lives nearby, Gajeski said.

Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner has indicated it appears the suspect accidentally fired the gun. The suspect is expected to face a hearing in juvenile court as early as this week as authorities weigh charges against him.

Detective Tim Wright said the suspect is accused of taking the gun from his home without permission. A police investigation indicated he managed

to get the gun even though it was in a locked gun case in a locked bedroom, Wright said.

UNUSUAL LENGTHS

The suspect lives with his mother. Wright said an investigation revealed the gun belongs to the suspect's father, who is divorced from the mother and who doesn't live with the family.

"The suspect went to unusual lengths to get his hands on the weapon," Gajeski said. "Before he took the gun out of the house, he ejected the magazine thinking the gun was then

unloaded."

The victim, who lives at Carriage Cove with his aunt, was shot by a single bullet that entered his neck, damaged his spinal cord and lodged in his shoulder, Wright said.

"It's tragic," he said.

The investigation continued early this week as the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office was looking into all aspects of the incident, Wright said.

Within hours after the shooting occurred, Schreiner issued a statement

Please see **SHOOTING, A6**



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley didn't stray from Gov. Rick Snyder's message during a speech to the Canton Economic Club.

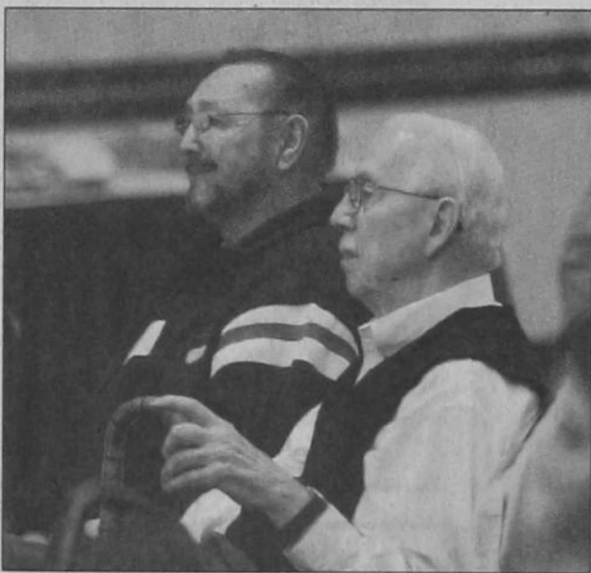
Calley pitches Snyder's message

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, addressing a Canton crowd Monday afternoon, championed a new bridge to Canada, a controversial pension tax, state budget-cutting measures and less business taxes and regulations as critical to reinventing Michigan and creating jobs.

Calley didn't stray from the message Gov. Rick Snyder has pitched since he began leading an economically wounded state clamoring for jobs and a more promising future. Even though some polls have indicated Snyder's approval rating has dipped, Calley said it's imperative to stay the course rather than bow to political pressure and protests in Lansing.

Please see **CALLEY, A2**



Mel Morris and Ron Lieberman listen to Michigan Lt. Gov. Brian Calley during a meeting of the Canton Economic Club Monday.

Board approves water rate hike

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As expected, Canton residents on average will face a 7-percent increase in water-sewer rates starting May 1 — a spike that will cost a typical household an additional \$23 every three-month billing cycle, or \$92 a year.

The rate hike, following lengthy public talks, was formally approved Tuesday night by the Canton Township Board of Trustees, and a second vote to finalize the latest increase is expected April 26.

An average household using 32,283 gallons of water every three-month billing cycle would see quarterly bills jump from \$328 to \$351 — substantially less than the 16.9 percent increase local residents paid last year and far less than the double-digit rate hikes some communities are facing this year.

Still, township officials concede they are upset that water-sewer rates continue to spike, largely because of cost increases imposed by a Detroit Water and Sewerage Department that has come under fire amid allegations of mismanagement.

BAD BUSINESS

Trustee Pat Williams said Canton and other communities have long paid for what he and others have called the bad business practices of DWSD.

Trustee John Anthony, a longtime critic of DWSD, said he is encouraged by

Detroit Mayor Dave Bing's leadership and a new regional water board that gives suburban communities in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties a greater say in water-sewer issues.

"At least there's some hope," Anthony said.

Although Detroit had imposed double-digit water and sewer rate hikes for Canton, Municipal Services Director Tim Faas cited several measures that allowed township officials to soften the blow this year:

- Canton employees accepted concessions this year totaling 5 percent, and the Municipal Services Department has gradually trimmed its workforce from 90 people to 66 — all efforts to reduce internal costs.

- Canton received a 5.4-percent reduction in sewer rates from the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority, which handles three-fourths of the township's sewage treatment. That helped offset the Detroit rate hike.

- The township has scaled back the number of water meters it is replacing — another move that cut expenses.

COST TO MAINTAIN

Still, Finance Director Rick Eva said Canton had to impose rate hikes to continue maintaining a system that has a 338-mile sewer system and 427 miles of water mains.

"We can't allow the system to become unsafe," Eva said.

Please see **WATER, A2**

District offers teachers early severance

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

With the elimination of some 80 teacher positions among the budget proposals being considered by the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education, district administrators are again offering an early severance incentive.

Hoping to attract between 40-80 teachers, the incentive offers a \$15,000 lump-sum payment to eligible teachers who choose to resign by the end of the school year.

District officials reached the agreement during recently completed contract talks with the Plymouth-Canton Education Association.

According to human resources chief Ray Bihun, teachers must resign at the end of the 2010-11 school year and be at the top step of their respective salary schedule, or be employed in either the Starkweather Alternative Education program or the English Language Learning program with 15 years of service, to be eligible.

Employees who are less

than full time would be eligible for a pro-rated package.

Full participation would save the district some \$1 million.

The school board Tuesday passed the plan 6-1, with Trustee Nancy Eggenberger casting the lone nay vote.

"I just didn't think the savings we would get were what we were looking for," Eggenberger said.

Teachers have until May 6 to apply for the program; they can revoke their request until May 13.

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CALLEY

FROM PAGE A1

"We decided to disregard the political ramifications of fixing these problems and go ahead and do it anyway," Calley told nearly 100 people during a Canton Economic Club luncheon at Summit on the Park.

"There will be protests. There's only one way to avoid protests — and that's to do nothing," he said later. "We're also not willing to govern thinking toward the next election."

Calley received a warm welcome at the Summit. After his speech, he was approached by local resident Phyllis Hampton, who told him, "I think you're on the right track."

VITAL NEEDS

Calley touted a new bridge to Canada, two miles south of the Ambassador Bridge, as vital to boosting Michigan exports. He said he is hopeful the state can seek bids next year from the private sector to design and build the estimated \$950 million bridge, finance it and operate it, with Canada shelling out money for a new interchange on the U.S. side.

Calley said Canada receives some 60 percent of Michigan's exports.

"If we're going to operate the state like a business," he said, "it's time we start thinking of who our customers are."

After his speech, Calley said the bridge construction would create 10,000 jobs. Moreover, he said one in eight jobs in southeast Michigan are dependent on trade with Canada.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

After Lt. Gov. Brian Calley's speech to the Canton Economic Club, Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy, who earlier in his career served with Calley in the state Legislature, said Calley had been "Cantonized."

Calley bemoaned statistics indicating Michigan has amassed nearly \$50 billion in debt, saying the state has to stop borrowing its future and trim spending. He said Snyder proposed slashing most government departments by 5 percent, though some sectors, such as higher education, fared even worse.

Calley said critical areas such as Medicaid, early childhood education and mental health services were mostly spared, though he said Michigan, despite opposition, should join other states in taxing pensions and ushering in what he called a more equitable system.

"Think opportunity for the next generation," Calley said.

CAN'T IGNORE

By 2032, he said, retirees are expected to account for 20 percent of the population, and he said pension-taxing revenues can't be ignored.

In a compromise announced after Calley's speech, retirees who will be at least 67 come Jan. 1 would continue to be exempt from pension taxes, while people 60-66 would keep a smaller exemption but pay some taxes. Pensions would be taxable for younger retirees.

Calley also sounded a familiar theme of eliminating the Michigan Business Tax for small businesses, saying they also pay an individual income tax.

"Double-taxing the home

team is a bad strategy," he said.

Calley called for easing certain business regulations he said have made it difficult to compete. He cited what he considers overly burdensome licensing rules for day care, saying "neighbors can be good neighbors without interference from the state."

He also hailed an end to item-pricing in places such as grocery stores, saying the measure should reduce what consumers pay.

SHARED SACRIFICE

Calley acknowledged that some changes proposed by Snyder's administration are painful and require shared sacrifice, yet he said the goal is to boost the state's image and create jobs.

"We've had our heads down for a long time in the state of Michigan," he said.

On a personal note, Calley, 34, became Michigan's second youngest lieutenant governor. Only former Lt. Gov. John Swainson in 1959 was younger. Before his speech Monday, Calley was greeted by township officials who, hopeful of eventually snagging a larger share of state-shared revenue, schooled him on how Canton has adopted "best practices" and shared services with other communities.

Calley also saw a video filmed last year in Canton by *Inside Business Report*, a national show hosted by actor-politician Fred Thompson to showcase communities that have shown economic success.

Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy, who formerly served in the state House with Calley, welcomed his visit.

"I think it will be good for Canton," LaJoy said. "He has been 'Cantonized.'"

Bowling for Heroes
benefits Stiggy's DogsBY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

About a month ago, Westland resident Terran Frye was matched with Hershey, a Labrador mix, but the dog isn't a family pet.

Hershey is a Psychiatric Service Dog provided through Stiggy's Dogs, an organization serving military veterans suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Having served in the U.S. Marine Corps until 2005, Frye and Hershey will be on hand at Bowling for Heroes, along with other veterans and their PSDs, 6-10 p.m. Saturday, April 16, at the Super Bowl, 45100 Ford in Canton.

"We've not done a fundraiser in this area before," said Michelle Frye, Terran's wife. "We made the mistake of not asking people to sign up in advance. I think we have about 75 people signed up with friends and family. A lot of people have said they would try to come and we put out a lot of flyers."

There is room for about 150 bowlers for the event, which costs \$25 per person, includ-

ing three games of bowling, shoes, a slice of pizza and a soft drink.

Based in Northville, Stiggy's Dogs is a non-profit organization formed in honor of fallen Corpsman Ben "Doc Stiggy" Castiglione. The group pairs rescued trained PSDs with returning military veterans suffering from PTSD. The group's motto is "Rescuing One to Rescue Another."

Like guide dogs for the blind, PSDs aid people with mental illnesses, from anxiety disorder, Traumatic Brain Injury and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). The dogs are taught specific tasks ranging from reminding veterans to take their medicine, waking them up from a nightmare or alarm clock ringing, to directing them through a crowd.

For more information about the bowling fund-raiser, contact Rachel Cullen at (248) 330-9707 or fidhingflygirl@gmail.com. People interested in helping Stiggy's Dogs or a veteran interested in a dog, can send an e-mail to jennifer@stiggysdogs.org.

lrogers@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-5428

WATER

FROM PAGE A1

Township officials for months have studied water-sewer issues to arrive at an increase they have touted as the lowest they could realistically set for a one-year period starting May 1.

"A tremendous amount of work goes into calculating the rates every year," Faas said. Meanwhile, Canton has begun

to study other ways to possibly help local consumers cope with rising water-sewer rates.

Faas said Canton is studying the potential for a budget-based billing system — similar to what Detroit Edison offers — allowing local consumers to pay the same amount every three months based on an average of their past water-sewer bills.

Canton also is weighing a measure to let local consumers have their water-sewer bills automatically deducted from their bank accounts.

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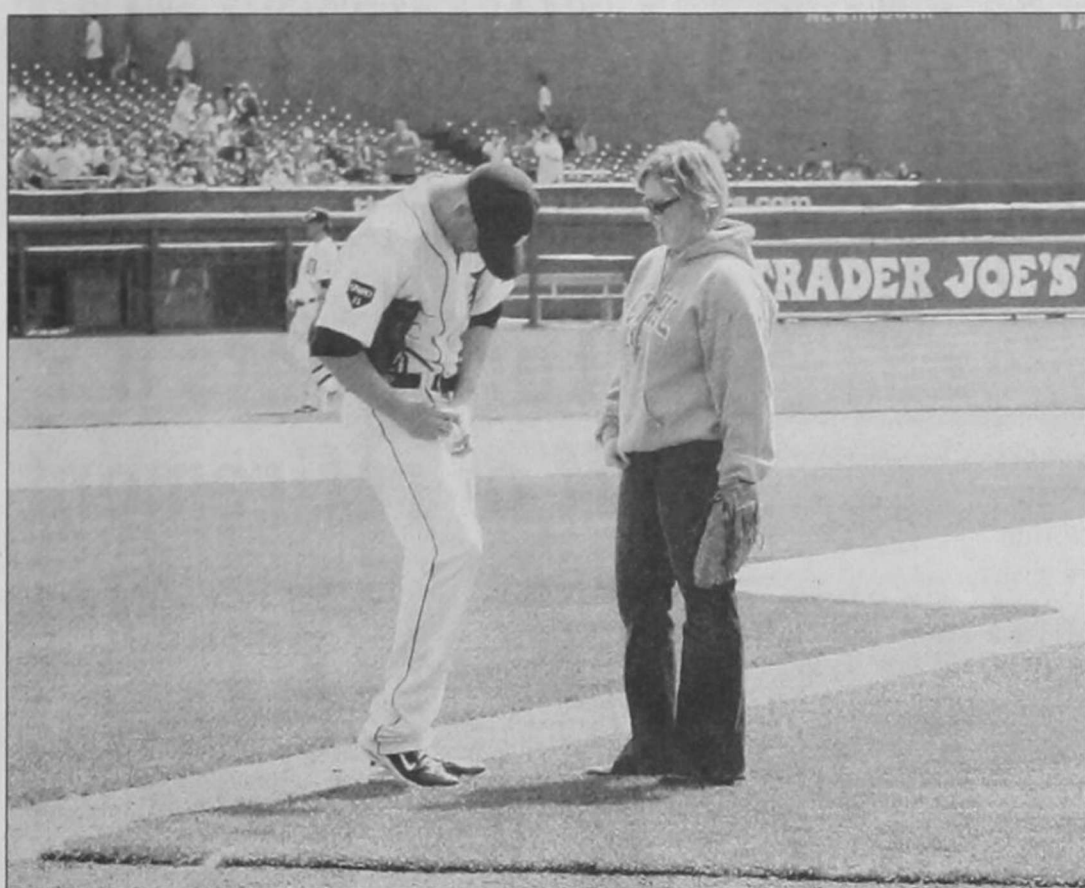
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BOB BEGUELIN

Detroit Tigers pitcher Robbie Weinhardt signs the baseball after catching Laurie Golden's first pitch at Sunday's game against the Kansas City Royals.

Local woman a hit with first pitch

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's not Laurie Golden's fault the Detroit Tigers lost 9-5 Sunday to the Kansas City Royals.

She only threw the first, ceremonial pitch, before the teams took the field at Comerica Park.

Even though the Tigers lost, Golden — a Plymouth resident and the Canton Public Library's marketing and communications manager — felt like a winner on this warm, sunny, spring day.

"I'm a huge baseball fan," she said. "For me this was really cool because I've been a Tigers fan since I was a tiny kid."

Golden and her husband, John Birchler, even had their first date at a Tigers game.

Golden was chosen to throw the first pitch as a volunteer for the operations board of

the Little Caesars Amateur Hockey League — sponsored by the same pizza company owner, the Ilitch family, that owns the Tigers.

It's the largest amateur youth hockey league in North America with over 650 teams, and its players, coaches and board representatives get invited twice a year to a Tigers game.

"They honored our league that day, and I was there to help with the kids," Golden said.

She was drafted for the ceremonial pitch she threw to Tigers relief pitcher Robbie Weinhardt, who came to Detroit from the Toledo Mud Hens and who played during part of Sunday's game.

How'd Golden's pitch go? "It was a tiny bit short, but it was right down the middle," she said. "It might have hit the plate."

She had been tutored on her

two-seam fastball grip by sons Zane Birchler, a Henry Ford Community College sophomore who's on the baseball team, and Vaughn Birchler, a Canton High School junior who plays varsity baseball.

"I had some coaching from them," Golden said.

Her sons and her daughter Bryn Birchler, a Canton High freshman who plays softball, joined her on the Comerica Park field.

"That was so much fun," Golden said.

Never did she dream she would ever throw the first pitch at a Tigers game, even if her love of baseball perhaps rivals her history as a hockey mom, coach and player.

And, she got to keep the baseball she pitched.

"Robbie Weinhardt autographed it for me," she said.

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

Board OKs sporting goods site plan

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

In what signals an economic boost to the Michigan Avenue corridor in Canton, Dick's Sporting Goods moved closer Tuesday to building a 50,200-square-foot store west of Canton Center Road.

Amid fanfare, the company received site plan approval from the Canton Township Board of Trustees for a store it intends to build between Home Depot and Office Depot in the Premier Center.

"It's good news for Michigan Avenue, and it's good news for Canton," Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said.

Local officials have said an additional 8,500 square feet of retail space will be built

between Dick's Sporting Goods and Home Depot, though no tenant has been named.

Local attorney Bryan Amann, representing the company Tuesday, said corporate officials chose Canton after they visited the community and received a strong sales pitch by township Supervisor Phil LaJoy.

"They intend to be open before the end of October," Amann said.

Dick's could have chosen other communities for its newest store, but the decision to locate in the Premier Center marked what Amann called "a tremendous validation" for Canton and what it has to offer.

Local officials have said the location puts the sporting goods store near sports facilities such as the Arctic

Edge Ice Arena and the High Velocity Sports facility, which offers activities such as basketball, soccer, volleyball, dodgeball and flag football.

Amann also said Canton edged other communities because it has the annual soccer Canton Cup, a cricket field and a wide array of sports-related amenities.

Dick's plans to open its store along a Michigan Avenue corridor where retail giant Walmart in October opened its second location in Canton.

Angela Wolosiewicz, township planner, has said the latest Premier Center project amounts to a \$3.2 million investment on the site.

The township board's approval followed an earlier supportive vote by the Canton Planning Commission.

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CRIME WATCH

Fusion stolen

A man who lives in the 230 block of Roosevelt, northeast of Cherry Hill and Ridge, told police his 2009 Ford Fusion was stolen after he dropped his keys outside his residence.

The incident happened between 8 p.m. and 9 p.m. April 5.

The man said he came home, was carrying his cat into his apartment, had his hands full and apparently dropped his keys. He said he went outside to look for them but couldn't find them.

He told police he went inside, watched a television show, went back outside and noticed his car was missing. He said his key ring also had keys to his apartment, mailbox and motorcycle. He also said his passport and a GPS unit were inside the stolen vehicle.

Taking custody

Canton police went to the Westland Police Department to take custody of a man who was wanted in Canton for several warrants including domestic violence, retail fraud, a seatbelt violation, having no proof of insurance, failing to display a license, driving with a suspended license having an improper license plate. The suspect also was wanted in Washtenaw County for being behind on child support.

The man was taken into custody by Canton police around 3 p.m. last Thursday.

Disorderly conduct

Canton police arrested a man for being

disorderly following an incident that happened shortly before 2 a.m. April 6 in the Sherwood Village mobile home park, off Old Michigan southeast of Michigan Avenue and Haggerty.

Police on patrol near Main and J streets heard yelling and arguing, and an officer made contact with a man who was pounding on a door. He was bleeding from his right ear, prompting police to call paramedics.

The man, who was highly intoxicated, told police he had been assaulted by another man. Police also spoke with a female resident who said the drunken man had pounded on the window of her home, prompting her to tell him to leave.

She said he then went into the street and argued with the second man.

Police said the suspect went into his mother's house and then came back outside and began pounding on another resident's door again, prompting them to arrest him for being disorderly.

While taking the suspect to the police station, he was kicking the door of the patrol car and pounding his head against the prisoner screen between the front and back seats, a police report said.

Drugs in jail

A woman who was in the Canton jail, on Canton Center south of Cherry Hill, on an unrelated charge was cited for having drugs after it was noticed that she had several prescription pills in her possession yet didn't have any proof she was supposed to be taking them.

Police learned of the pills about 9:40 p.m. April 5.

The woman had been brought to jail on an unrelated warrant.

Good Samaritan

A Canton woman turned out to be a Good Samaritan after she found property that had been lost in the 5200 block of Sheldon, south of Ford, near her property.

The woman found the property shortly before 5 p.m. April 7 and brought it to the police station. She said she had found a driver's license, credit cards, business cards and a AAA insurance card in the road.

A police report indicated the items were being returned to the owner.

House damaged

Police went to Buckingham Road, southeast of Cherry Hill and Lotz, following reports a house had been damaged.

The damage occurred between 1:30 p.m. last Thursday and 4:15 p.m. Friday.

The landlord indicated that a man had been evicted two days earlier from the house for not paying rent. The house was later found to have been damaged.

A police report indicated the door had several dents near one lock and that another lock had been broken. Nothing appeared missing inside the home, though a door wall was found to be open.

- Compiled by Darrell Clem from Canton Police Department reports.

'Lefty' gets a sniff of retirement

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

He's loved by children and feared by drug dealers.

He's just as comfortable sniffing out criminals in hiding as he is glowing in the attention he receives during events such as Liberty Fest.

He's the consummate Snoop Dog, this German shepherd police K9 named Lefty.

And he's retiring after eight years on the job as Canton Police Officer Dan Traylor's crime-fighting partner.

Public Safety Director Patrick Nemecek confirmed Lefty's retirement Tuesday night as the Canton Township Board of Trustees voted to buy a new police dog, Thor, from the Wayne-based K9 Academy.

"We think we have a very good dog picked out," Nemecek said, promising board trustees they will get to meet Thor, a 14-month-old German shepherd, when he is sworn in.

The board voted to spend \$6,800 for Thor, who's trained to find drugs, track suspects,

find missing people, locate evidence and property, prevent crimes and engage in public relations.

Nemecek conceded K9s are a tough act to follow at speaking engagements. Just try keeping a child's attention after they've been introduced to a police dog.

Despite Thor's \$6,800 cost, Nemecek said the money will be gradually offset by the drug forfeiture dollars the newest K9 helps rake in by solving drug-related crimes.

Canton's K9 unit has been part of the police department's patrol division for over 20 years. In their time off, police dogs go home to stay with their officer partners and their families.

To that end, retiring Lefty will stay with Traylor.

Local officials say Canton's emphasis with police dogs has been on obedience and tracking suspects rather than on aggression and biting, though they can hold their own in a tough crime-fighting task.

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

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STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, April 14, 2011

hometownlife.com

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Brad Kadrich

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8899

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Comment online at hometownlife.com

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



Consign and Design in Canton offers fresh, affordable inventory every day with consigned furniture and décor accessories as well as monthly decorating classes, workshops, and events.

Canton store helps make consignment shopping cool

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

Consign and Design: Consign and Design is committed to offer fresh, exciting, and affordable inventory every day with consigned furniture and décor accessories as well as monthly decorating classes, workshops, and events. Our expert decorators can help you coordinate all the pieces of your home from furniture to custom window treatments, art, to accessories.

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

Consign and Design: I've been decorating my whole life it's my passion. I started a decorating business 6 years ago, Remixed Rooms. As a budget decorator I like to give my clients quality choices that they may not otherwise have a chance to own. Opening an upscale furnishings and decor consignment boutique was the next step in offering my clients budget decorating. It just made sense. Anyone can have the home of their dreams it's just knowing where to look and then putting it all together.

Observer: Why did you choose Canton?

Consign and Design: Canton is my home. I searched for six months all over metro Detroit looking for just the right location. Canton has a lot to offer for shopping home décor, with IKEA, HomeGoods, Hobby Lobby, and others and I wanted to be included in this list of destinations. Also Canton has a lot of class and style and it's often overlooked. We need more chic shops here close to home.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Consign and Design: It's a win-win for everyone. Many people are familiar with consignment stores as being thrifty. However, Consign and Design will not only look like a showroom with current and

CONSIGN AND DESIGN

Business name and address:

Consign and Design, 6517 N. Canton Center, Canton

Your name and title: Marleen Prater, owner

Your hometown: Canton

Business opened: April 12, 2011

Number of Employees: 1-4

Hours of operation: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday; noon-4 p.m. Sunday; open until 8 p.m. on Thursdays.

Your business specialty: We are an upscale consignment furniture and home decor boutique. We make shopping consignment cool!

Business phone and/or website: (734) 254-0705 | www.consignanddesigncanton.com

stylish home furnishings, also teach how to decorate and solve decorating issues, and sell unloved furnishings and home decor that is still worth some money. Not everyone wants to sell on Craigslist, eBay or have time for garage sells then what do you do? We solve several issues.

Where do people go to find out how to accessorize a bookshelf, ask does this color really go, or does this pattern really mix well with what I already have? They end up calling decorators or designers and charged a lot of money. Consign and Design will conduct classes and workshops or answer these questions as all the staff are professional decorators that have successful decorating businesses. We are on hand to answer your decorating questions to help solve decorating solutions. We will still offer our very popular in-home consultations for extra guidance, suggestions and advice.

Observer: How has it changed since you opened?

Consign and Design: We know that there will be changes as we find our niche in Canton. We are different

from most consignment stores so it may take people a step back before they fully understand what we offer.

Observer: How has the recent economy affected your business?

Consign and Design: Decorating is changing. We are the next generation. Since the downfall of the economy people have become more resourceful and this includes decorating their homes. Our clients started asking us how can "we" do this on our own, and where do "we" shop to save money. We decided to not hold anything back and tell them. It's been great and we are busier than ever.

Observer: Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share with our readers about your experience so far as a small business owner?

Consign and Design: When you are a small business owner, we've learned to have a sense of humor and expect the unexpected. Be flexible. We make changes and adjustments daily to reflect what our clients and customers want. We've had a lot of unexpected surprises working in people's homes and sometimes you just have to laugh and go on no matter how shocking. Oh, the stories we could tell about how people really live.

Observer: Any advice for other business owners?

Consign and Design: My best advice to other business owners is stay true to yourself. We can get caught up in bad news, bad press, bad advice and in the end it's what you decide to do. Someone told me a long time ago that people will step in your blood to walk over you, no-one cares but you. It's harsh, but I do remind myself of this that it's my business and my responsibility to take it where it needs to go.

Observer: What's in store for the future of your business?

Consign and Design: Consign and Design hopes to be on everyone's go-to list as a place to shop for home décor and furnishings.

Expanded hours

Dr. Angela Lawrence has expanded her office hours at the Canton Center Chiropractic Clinic, 6231 N. Canton Center in Canton.

Lawrence will be taking appointments on Monday from 3-7 p.m. beginning April 18. Additionally, Lawrence is available on Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3-7 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. to noon.

For more information, call (734) 455-6767.

Financial adviser

Kristina Wittner has been named to take over the local Edward Jones office located at 4061 S. Canton Center Road, the firm announced today.

Wittner will be working with Scott Wirgau, Bryan Regner and David Spirl to serve investors throughout Canton.

Wittner has four years of experience in the financial services industry.

"Edward Jones prides itself on providing the best service possible to those investors who choose to do business with us," Wirgau said. "Kristina will help provide the high level of service investors in Canton have come to expect from us as well as extend our services to new investors."

Edward Jones provides financial services for individual investors in the United States and, through its affiliate, in Canada.

Edward Jones, which ranked No. 11 on FORTUNE magazine's "100 Best Companies



Wittner

to Work For" in 2011, is headquartered in St. Louis. The Edward Jones website is located at www.edwardjones.com, and its recruiting web site is www.careers.edwardjones.com. Member SIPC.

Bright Side scholarships

Bright Side Dental group has established the Bright Future Scholarship Program to assist deserving high school students in obtaining a college education. Applicants must be a graduating senior with a 3.0 cumulative grade point average or higher and be involved in extracurricular activities. Qualified applicants must live within the Bright Side Dental service areas: Brightside has dentists in Sterling Heights, Royal Oak, Livonia, and Canton.

"We understand the importance of education and giving back to the community, and we are proud to offer the Bright Future Scholarship to deserving students," said Josh Gershonowicz, Vice President of Public Relations & Marketing for Bright Side Dental.

Each applicant is required to complete a one page essay in response to the topic: Explain the importance of maintaining good dental hygiene and how poor dental hygiene can affect your overall health. Essays will be judged by a panel of dental health experts. Two students will be selected to receive a \$500 scholarship that can be used toward college expenses. Essays must be submitted by April 15th 2011.

To apply for the Bright Future College Scholarship, please e-mail a word document to BrightFuture@BrightSideDental.com or mail to Bright Side Dental,

Attn: Scholarship Panel, 3213 Rochester Rd, Royal Oak, MI 48073

Stopping ID theft

Your local Better Business Bureau along with GreenPath Debt Solutions are encouraging residents and small businesses to take an important step in helping prevent identity theft and protecting the environment by attending BBB's SECURE YOUR ID DAY Community Shred and Hard Drive Destruction event on Saturday, April 30, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the BBB Office parking lot in Southfield.

Over the past two years, more than 19 million Americans became victims of ID theft, resulting in the loss of \$93 billion to criminal activity, according to a 2011 report from Javelin Strategy and Research.

Bringing up to three normal sized boxes or bags of sensitive paper documents to be shredded on the spot for free by event partner Cintas. \$10 per box/bag exceeding the free promotion will be charged with proceeds supporting the BBB Educational Foundation. All shredded paper and destroyed hard drives from this event will be recycled to protect the environment in participation of Earth Day 2011.

Understanding that computers are also targeted by identity thieves, event partner Cintas will provide consumers the ability to have their computer hard drives, detached from the PC, printer, copier or scanner, destroyed on the spot for just \$10 dollars per unit.

For more information visit <http://detroit.bbb.org/secure-your-id/> or call Patrick Bennett at (248) 799-0326.

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CHAMBER CHAT

Extreme After Hours

The Canton Chamber of Commerce and the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce team up for "Extreme After Hours," a networking event from 5-7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 28, at the Plymouth Roc, 1020 Ann Arbor Road (at the corner of Harvey) in Plymouth.

There is no cost to attend the event, which features two chambers in one great event. Host for the evening is the Plymouth ROC who will provide hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. There will be door prize drawings and you can join us any time throughout the evening.

Contact admin@cantonchamber.com or call (734) 453-4040 for reservations.

Lawrence Tech camps

This summer Lawrence Technological University will hold a dozen enrichment summer camps to introduce high school stu-

dents to topics that could lead to a college major or a career. The camps are designed for high school sophomores, juniors and seniors interested in technology, science and design. For information and the registration form, contact Lisa Kujawa at kujawa@ltu.edu or go to ltu.edu/community_k12/summer_camps.asp. The registration deadline is June 1.

Appreciation luncheon

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts its Staff Appreciation Luncheon 11:45 a.m. Wednesday, April 27, at Carrabba's Italian Grill, 1900 N. Haggerty, in Canton.

Cost is \$20 in advance for members, \$30 for non-members, and seating is limited. The luncheon is sponsored by Huntington Bank and Yazaki North America, Inc.

Reservations are required; call the chamber office at (734) 453-4040 or e-mail admin@cantonchamber.com. No walk-ins please.

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Hospice volunteer finds 'gift' in service to the dying

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A nurse's thoughtless remark decades ago prompted Marie Beaghan toward a career of care and compassion.

Though retired — Beaghan became a nurse herself, and later raised five children — it's a career she's continued for the last 24 years as a volunteer at Angela Hospice in Livonia.

Beaghan, of Plymouth Township, has logged nearly 5,000 hours at Angela, where she visits patients, turns them and rubs their backs, helps them brush their teeth and make phone calls and generally keeps them comfortable. She also mentors new patient care volunteers during their training, which lasts for eight weeks.

It's not easy building relationships with people who are in the final stage of their lives, helping them come to terms with death and listening to stories they may not even have shared with their families. But Beaghan says she's devoted to the work, and that its rewards outweigh what she gives.

"It's very difficult," Beaghan said at Angela Hospice Tuesday during National Volunteer Week, which runs through Saturday. "The way I cope with it is, I have helped them deal with the last days of their lives."

It's even tougher, she added, when the dying person is a young parent, she said — or a child. "I don't do well dealing with the young children," she said.

EARLY MOTIVATION

One nurse's comment during a time of grieving in her own family, when she was about 9 years old, deeply affected Beaghan.

Her maternal grandfather, a man with whom she'd shared many good times, was seriously ill, and had asked for a drink of water with a nurse and young Marie's father in the room. She later heard her father tell her mother the story, and she remembers the scene vividly.

"He doesn't need a drink of water. He's dying," the nurse said.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Volunteer Marie Beaghan visits with hospice resident Bernice Kus.

As a girl, she reacted strongly to the nurse's "cruel" words, she said.

"Right then and there, I decided I was going to be a nurse," she said. "It upset me."

Beaghan became a nurse, working at area hospitals and doing private-duty nursing, working part time after having children and eventually quitting to raise her family.

She had volunteered at Hospice of Southeastern Michigan before joining Angela. An Angela Hospice volunteer since 1987 — she started out doing home visits, before the hospice run by the Felician Sisters had an in-patient facility — her nursing skills gave her an advantage.

Injuries suffered in a traffic accident nearly three years ago limited her ability to be involved in some aspects of hand-on patient care, but she likes being there for the patients. That she can do such work, she said, is a "gift" from God.

For some patients, without family or other visitors, "it's just somebody to hold their hand so they don't die by themselves," Beaghan said.

'YOU CRY WITH THEM'

She gets to know patients' family members, too. "You cry with them sometimes," she said.

Beaghan knows what grieving families are going through, having lost her husband, Dan, who had been an Internal Revenue Service agent, eight years ago.

Dan Beaghan benefited from hospice care during his last days, and had previously been an Angela Hospice volunteer for years, shoveling snow, visiting male patients and setting up the altar for Mass.

"Now we have a lot of men volunteers, which is fantastic," Beaghan said.

Hospice care relies heavily on volunteers, said Robert Alexander, Angela Hospice's business development manager, and volunteers there are treated like staff members. In addition to patient care, volunteers provide other support for the hospice, such as doing clerical work or planning events.

"We always have as many volunteers as we want," Alexander said. The hospice sponsored a banquet Tuesday evening for its more than 400 volunteers.

ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS

Beaghan also used to manage the first-aid station for the Wayne County Special Olympics, another task she found rewarding. At the same time, her husband ran the Special Olympics' wheelchair games. Participants got to know her, she said, and would stop by the aid station just to visit.

After about eight years, she had to give up that assignment. "I couldn't run out on the field any more with those kids," she said.

Alexander said he finds that many Angela volunteers donate their time to more than one organization.

"It's the cloth they're cut from, I think," he said.

mjachman@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2405

AROUND CANTON

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

Good Friday breakfast

Date/Time: Friday, April 22, 8 a.m.

Location: St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 N. Sheldon in Canton.

Details: Chris Shepherd, chaplain of the U-M football team and character coach, will be the guest speaker at this community outreach event. All men and boys are invited to the breakfast. **Contact:** Tickets may be obtained by calling the church at (734) 459-3333 and are \$6 for men and \$3 for boys 10 and under.

Achieve Academy

Date/Time: Thursday, April 28, 6 p.m.

Location: Achieve Academy, 3250 Denton in Canton.

Details: Achieve Academy hosts a

middle school information meeting for prospective parents' Thursday. Principal Claudia Williamson, teachers and staff will be on hand to present information and answer questions about the school. Tours of the school will also be available. **Contact:** To RSVP for the meetings, call 866-NHA-ENROLL.

Fish fries

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. 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.

SHOOTING

FROM PAGE A1

saying the incident occurred just after 6 p.m. inside the apartment where the victim lives.

The victim was shot once and was bleeding from his neck when authorities arrived.

POSSIBLE CHARGES

The wounded teen was taken by Canton paramedics to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ypsilanti, where he remained in stable condition.

"He stated that a friend was playing with a gun, the gun discharged and a bullet hit him in the neck," Gajeski said.

Schreiner has indicated the injured teen was "conscious and alert" when police arrived at the scene.

Gajeski indicated that four teens and a younger child were in the apartment at the time.

Schreiner has said the suspect apparently brought a gun to the apartment and was showing it off when it acciden-

tally fired.

"The teen believed to have fired the shot ran from the location to his residence in a nearby neighborhood," Schreiner's statement said.

Police went to the alleged shooter's residence, where he walked out and turned himself over to Canton officers as he mother watched, Schreiner said. He was turned over to Wayne County authorities to await possible charges.

Authorities indicated that police found the injured teen in a bedroom of the Carriage Cove apartment. A preliminary investigation indicated there had been no altercation.

"Officers questioned two teenage males at the scene who indicated another teen that was over visiting had produced a handgun, and while showing it off, the gun accidentally fired," Schreiner's statement said. "The teen believed to have fired the shot ran from the location to his residence in a nearby neighborhood."

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Spinning yarn



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Madeline Gutta, Sarah Fugate and Nour Kazbour work on their knitting.

Knitting circle weaves bond of friendship

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When Bird Elementary School parapro Julie Sheehan invited her daughter to make a presentation on colonial life, during which she used a spinning wheel, she had no idea the kind of spark she was setting off.

For some of the fifth-graders in the school, though, that's exactly what happened. Now, a group of them — "The Knitting Club" — meets every Friday in the school library to knit hats, scarves, and other crafts to benefit premature infants at the NICU at Beaumont Hospital.

To 11-year-old Nour Kazbour, it was like a previously closed door had finally opened. "I'd tried knitting in the past, but it didn't work out," said Nour, a fifth-grader from Plymouth. "When I found out Mrs. Sheehan was big on it, I thought I could learn from her."

The group has been a happy place for fifth-grader Allison Andrews, as well. Born in 2000 15 weeks premature with Cerebral Palsy, Allison took to the knitting group like a fish to water. Because she's wheelchair-bound, Allison has a tough time getting out for recess during the winter.



Bird Elementary parapro Julie Sheehan works with student Nour Kazbour.

She's made a lot of friends spinning yarn. "Some of us were friends before we started the club, and some of us are starting to have more friends," Allison said. "Normally, you wouldn't learn that much about knit-

ting, but we've learned how to do a lot. I think it's quite interesting."

It also pleases Allison to know the club, which started out making hats for their American Girl dolls and graduated to

working for charity, is donating the hats to Beaumont, and particularly the NICU. Allison was born at Beaumont and spent a lot of time in that unit.

"We decided to start making baby hats because the babies at the hospital should get something nice," Allison said. "Now, when they come home, they have a nice hat."

The group has spawned a sub-group of knitters who have sort of "graduate" to using a loom. The loom is perfect, the knitters say, for making the baby hats. The "Loom-A-Tics" were born.

"In the beginning, I was really bad knitting with the needles," said Sarah Fugate, a 10-year-old from Plymouth who founded the Loom-A-Tics. "I went and asked Mrs. Sheehan what I could do, and she showed me the loom."

The girls have even moved on from just being an in-school club to hanging out a little outside the classroom.

"It's been fun for Allison, in particular, and it has sort of blossomed to where they might go to a movie or hang out," Sheehan said. "It'll be nice when they move to middle school next year and they have each other there."

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Madeline Gutta checks the length of her scarf.



Aarti Ajmani makes sure the number of stitches is correct.



Emma Reeves looks over the finished hats and scarves.



Lily Griffiths begins a scarf.

Bishop brings message of peace, justice to Canton

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Bishop Thomas Gumbleton is no advocate of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Gumbleton, 81, spoke Tuesday evening at St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church in Canton, after celebrating Mass.

"Our task in this world is to transform this world," said Gumbleton, a bishop for nearly 43 years and a priest for nearly 55 years.

Gumbleton, who does extensive traveling to Haiti, noted that country has been poor and exploited for many years before the 2010 earthquake. Free trade pacts of the 1980s destroyed Haiti's farm economy, he told his audience, sending farmers to live in Port au Prince, Haiti's crowded capital.

Gumbleton described how Haiti must now import much more rice, as well as building materials, than it did before free trade pacts. His Canton appearance was presented by the church's Justice and Peace Committee.

The bishop's talk focused on globalization and the poor. He described a Catholic parish in Port au Prince, which now serves some 3,000 kids a hot meal daily, up from about 800 before the quake.

Gumbleton and others have also established a medical clinic in Haiti. He welcomes donations by check payable to FONKOZE USA, Kay Lasante in the memo line, and sent to Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, 4800 Grand River Ave., Detroit, MI 48208. For Haiti updates, see www.bishopgumbleton.org.

Gumbleton based part of his talk on a book by a former elected Haiti president, the Rev. Jean-Bertrand Aristide, *Eyes of the Heart*. Aristide was a parish priest in Port au



PHOTO BY KIRSTE MOLINE

Bishop Thomas Gumbleton (right) visits with the Rev. Pat Casey, pastor of St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church in Canton.

Prince at the time of its writing.

GAP GROWING

Gumbleton described the last 30-40 years in which rich people and nations have gotten richer at the poor's expense. "It continues to grow ever wider, that gap," he said.

The three richest people in the world have more assets than the 48 poorest countries, "which is 25 percent of the world's countries. The poor are being robbed," Gumbleton said.

He blamed the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

He blasted General Electric for paying no taxes on profits over \$14 billion. "They didn't pay a penny," he said. "We don't get away with that, no taxes."

Gumbleton said there are 45 million people in the U.S. living below poverty, and that one in four children goes to bed hungry at times.

"We have a very extensive body of social teaching," the bishop said, noting modern teaching's at least 100 years old. He cited Pope Paul VI's 1967 encyclical after a heart-wrenching trip to Calcutta, India, to see slums.

"You could tell he was just overwhelmed by it," Gumbleton said. "He just stands there and weeps. He just felt so helpless."

The encyclical that fol-

lowed emphasized God made the world for all people who deserve such things as food, education, housing and health care. Those rights supersede private property and commerce, the pontiff wrote.

Gumbleton talked briefly about the work of Mother Teresa and her fellow nuns in Calcutta, tending those dying in gutters covered with their own excrement.

"Obviously that's wrong, that's evil and that has to be changed," he said.

VISIT WELCOMED

Nancy Blasch of Superior Township heads the Peace and Justice Committee at St. Thomas a'Becket. "I thought it was great," Blasch said afterward. "He does a lot, he knows a lot. He knows it firsthand and that's why he can tell us about it."

Parish priest the Rev. Pat Casey was honored to celebrate Mass with Gumbleton Tuesday.

"Oh, I love having Bishop Gumbleton here," Casey said. "He's always an inspiration and challenges us."

Manny Colon of Canton was lector for the Tuesday Mass. "Usually I'm the lector at every Tuesday Mass just about," Colon said. "It was an honor, of course, for Bishop Gumbleton."

The longtime peace and human rights advocate was with Colon, who works in circulation for the Detroit Media Partnership, during the 1995 newspaper strike. "He was out there on the picket lines with us," Colon said. "He encouraged us to be peaceful. I think he's great because he's a man of peace and justice."

Gumbleton was pleased to be asked to come to the Canton church and meet parishioners. "Hard to believe," he said of his long tenure as a priest and bishop. "I don't feel like it."

jcbrown@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6755

Monitoring spending helps save for retirement

BY RICK BLOOM
GUEST COLUMNIST

I recently saw a new survey that deals with retirement

for the baby boomer generation. The baby boomer generation, born between 1946 and 1964 and nearly 80 million strong, are now beginning to turn 65. The generation, which changed all the rules in America, is now facing retirement and the results of the poll show there are problems on the horizon.

According to the poll, 24 percent of baby boomers say they have no retirement savings other than their home. In addition, of the individuals who have saved something for retirement, on average they have about \$100,000 in savings and only one in 10 have put away the at least one-half million dollars needed for their retirement.

The bottom line, the results of the survey clearly show that the baby boomer generation will face some extraordinary problems in the near future.

When you read that 44 percent of the members of the baby boomer generation have little or no faith that they will have the money necessary to retire,



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

the question I have is why they aren't doing something now to correct the problem?

The results of this survey should not surprise many people. There have been many surveys and polls done in the past that show the same thing, that people are not saving nearly enough for their retirement. Yet they are not doing anything to correct the problem. We need to look at our situation and ask the question: What can I do to assure myself a quality of life in retirement?

Just as state and federal governments have to tighten their belts and reduce spending, you and I need to do the same thing. For the baby boomer generation, one of the best things to better improve retirement is to get expenses under control now. There is no time to delay. Look for opportunities to reduce your cost of living.

The best way to start the process is to analyze where your money is going today. It is so important to do a cash flow statement, a listing of what's coming into the family and what's going out. It is what's going out that you and I need to focus on. We may not be able to control our income but we can control our expenses.

Every family situation is different. Therefore, it's hard to tell exactly how to reduce expenses. However, there are some general themes. Too many Americans are still paying excessive rates

of interest on charge cards and other types of debt. Reducing debt and refinancing under low interest rates are both options to explore. It's amazing that I see people with money in the bank getting virtually no interest and, at the same time they have substantial charge card balances with 18.5 percent interest. It makes sense to use the savings to pay off the charge cards.

When people start looking at expenses they find ways of reducing their cost of living while not affecting their quality of life. However, sometimes people do have to reduce their lifestyle in order to protect their future. Whether that's keeping your car longer before you get a new one, or not going out to eat as much, the bottom line is the baby boomer generation needs to face the reality of what happens if the money runs out.

We live in the greatest country in the world. However, America is not a great place if you're old and poor. Don't delay, start getting a hold of your expenses today, and don't forget to take the money that you're saving and begin an investment program.

Good luck!

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

Folk society set for April concert

The BaseLine Folk Society will bring its April coffee-house-style concert to the Plymouth Community Arts Council on Saturday.

BaseLine, which is in its second season in Plymouth, is a group of musicians and fans dedicated to preserving and performing traditional acoustic and folk music. Concerts are at 7 p.m. on the third Saturday of each month from September through May.

This Saturday's guest host

is Jeff London. The Pairadocs trio, known for their covers of songs by Peter, Paul and Mary, the Beatles and Paul Simon, will be the featured act.

There were also an open-microphone segment of the concert, with up to eight people or groups performing two songs each. Signup for the open-mic spots is between 6:15 p.m. and 6:45 p.m.; if more than eight performers or

groups show up, a lottery will be held to determine who gets to play.

Concert admission is \$5 a person. Refreshments will be served.

The Plymouth Community Arts Council building is at 774 North Sheldon, at Junction, south of M-14, Plymouth. For more information, call BaseLine founder Mike Mullen at (248) 347-6881.

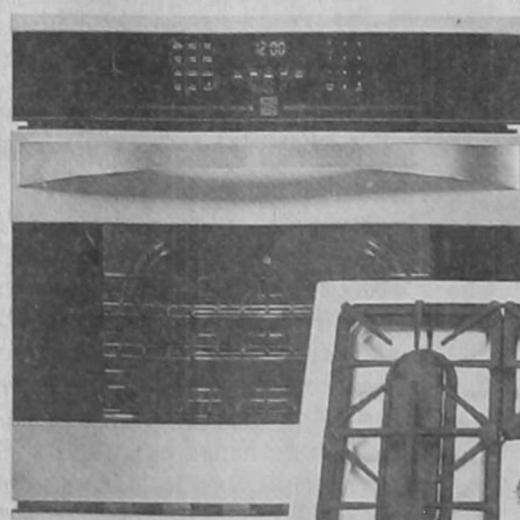
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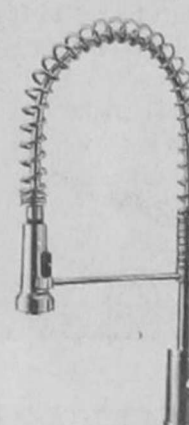


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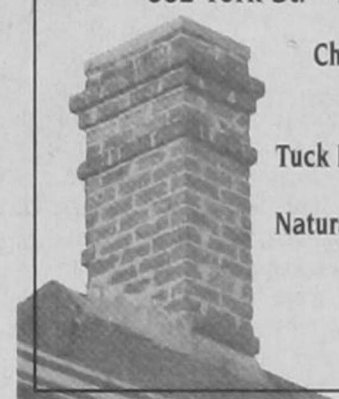
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OUR VIEWS

Filter the rhetoric Take a rational look at teachers

In the attack mentality that seems to be gripping this nation these day, teachers have become villains.

They are portrayed as greedy minions of the National — or here — the Michigan Education Association — which itself is seen as some sort of evil empire. They are inflexible drains on the revenue streams solely interested in shielding their incompetent members from righteous condemnation and pay cuts.

They are denounced for being overpaid and ineffective as America drifts lower among the nations of the world in terms of educational standards.

Sorting out the absurd rhetoric from the kernels of truth isn't easy, especially now as our nation takes a schizophrenic approach to education. We hear that education is the savior of our state, if not the nation, then proceed to slash funding for it. We decry our declining level of education among nations of the world, then saddle the system with absurdities as the Michigan Educational Assessment Program and even No Child Left Behind, which may have had good intentions at one time but have since been reduced to tools of coercion that have forced schools to "teach to the test" at the expense of real academics.

And they have given the perennial critics of the schools and teachers valuable weapons to decry our failures in the classroom, such as they are.

Teachers bear the brunt of the criticism, and no doubt they should share some of the blame for the academic mess we are in. Getting rid of a bad teacher is incredibly hard, thanks to tenure.

And yes, they are costly. So are police officers and firefighters and the other public service sector employees we regard as underpinnings of our society.

The fact is they all perform a valuable service, perhaps more valuable than we appreciate.

What brings this to mind now is the upcoming Academic All-Star selection the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* runs annually highlighting the best and brightest local students.

One section of the nomination form asks the students to name the teachers who have had the most influence on them. The responses are encouraging. The students consistently cite teachers for their support and skills in directing their studies and even their futures. Only parents have a greater influence on the young people of our country.

Our country as a whole needs to re-evaluate our educational system and determine just what it means to us and what value we are willing to place in it. Its failures are not just the fault of teachers or administrators. It is the product of all of us.

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS



The following are excerpts from readers participating in our online forum for discussing issues. In Your Voices. Find more comments or join the discussion on the Web at hometownlife.com.

• In response to "School, teachers are on list of Plymouth-Canton cuts,"

"When are you going to start eliminating administrators? They don't provide any 'direct instruction.' Actually, you'd be amazed at how well a building runs when they're not around to screw things up. Think of the money you'd save there!"

MrWrightWing

"It is easy to see where the power lies in this situation. The district has framed the choice as between laying off teachers and other cuts or getting more money from the state. There was no mention of reducing costs by having teachers pay twenty percent of their health insurance premiums, privatizing some services, and making other efficiencies. The teachers profess their deep concern for the students, but when it comes to a choice of larger class sizes or making personal sacrifices, it becomes clear where their priorities lie. No one objects to paying teachers enough to attract the quality of employees desired, but it may be the case that we are paying more than that. In a state that ranks 37th in personal income, but whose teachers are the ninth best paid in the country, it is more than likely that that is the case. Paying people what they 'deserve' is not, and cannot be, the criteria. Certainly, paying people on the basis of seniority and certification rather than their effectiveness is not acceptable. Bill Gates has recognized that paying people on the basis of seniority rather than merit is unwise."

Charlescons

"There was no mention of reducing costs by having teachers pay twenty percent of their health insurance premiums, privatizing some services, and making other efficiencies. Snyder's plan for education will provide incentives for districts to do just that."

bow_wow

COMMUNITY VOICE

Have you done your income taxes yet? When? How'd you do?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



"Yes, in February. I came out ahead."

Nakisha Terry
Canton



"Yes, about a month ago. We did very well."

Kristin Sullivan
Canton



"Yes, in March. I'm paying about \$200."

Joyce Holmes
Plymouth Township



"I gave all the documents to my accountant, and he took care of it."

Mahadev Desai
Canton

LETTERS

Setting record straight

I attended a coffee hour with state Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, and one of the big concerns addressed was that of school funding and the cuts Gov. Snyder is proposing.

Plymouth-Canton school board member Steven Sneiderman spoke briefly on the financial circumstances of the district, and answered a few questions. However, I believe in not answering my question completely or correctly it may have misled the people who were in attendance.

I had asked why the board had not requested an across-the-board percentage pay cut from all employees, from the superintendent down to the lowest position which would seem to be the fairest way to ask employees to make financial concessions to the district i.e. an equal percentage based on what they earn. He said he couldn't get into all the details, but that bargaining groups had made various concessions as it pertained to their membership.

He also said the superintendent either "did" or "offered" to return 4 percent of his salary, which he quoted at approximately \$190,000 (I apologize for not remembering his exact words, however, I could find nothing on the district website to confirm this).

I responded that the \$190,000 was nowhere near the superintendent's total compensation, which I said was nearly \$300,000, which he corrected me by saying "Oh, it's not that much, it's more like \$240,000, but I'm not really sure." Well, Mr. Sneiderman, we were both wrong. The superintendent's total compensation based on the reported W2 wages of 2009, which can be found on the district's website (pccs.k12.mi.us) was wages of \$231,058.06, retirement contribution of \$34,658.76, insurance contribution of \$16,952.12, FICA/Medicare contribution of \$9,971.94, Board Paid Annuity of \$17,550.00 — for a grand total compensation of \$310,190.88.

As an astute board member, Mr. Sneiderman, I would have thought you would know the correct dollar value of the superintendent's total compensation or at least come closer in your assumption rather than put a number out there that was more than \$70,000 short of the actual cost and could very well confuse the public.

Wages and benefits account for the largest piece of the budget pie, so it would seem logical that this is where substantial cuts must be made. As I looked over the district website at the 2009 Salary and Benefits of administrators alone, 10% of only their base salary which totals \$4,927,523.60, would equate to \$492,752.36 ... nearly a half a million dollars that could go back to the district fund. I think if they had done so, as a good faith gesture, I'm quite confident the rest of the district's employees would be agreeable to follow suit.

Laying off individual teachers/staff members and increasing class size hardly seems a beneficial move for the district to take. An across-the-board percentage pay cut for all employees might very well keep the status quo of current employees needed to service the district properly, and the medicine an ailing district needs at this time.

Sonia S. Culver
Canton

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com.

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

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

Creative options needed

It is truly unfortunate that the PCCS board has decided that compromising their product (education) provided to their consumers (students) is the only option that was considered. Increased class sizes as well as the elimination of programs that have helped the PCCS graduates excel does not appear to be the solution of conscience. This is one of the few industries that can dilute the quality of their product in the interest of survival and not tank in the process. Manufacturers certainly couldn't do this, nor could the service industries, either. Who wants to go to a hospital that has less nurses or physicians? It's too bad that the students and parents within the PCCS district need do so.

The equation may be simple: less income for the district equals less expenditures. In such a situation, wage and benefit concessions seem to be a necessity. Nowhere in the PCCS board's proposal did one see revised, competitive health care contracting to parallel that of the private sector. Nowhere did we see a proposal of co-worker solidarity in wage concessions to help save the jobs of their friends. These topics are unspoken entities so as not to inflame the union representatives.

Unless action is taken to preserve current class size and programs, PCCS will likely see an exodus of children to charter, parochial as well as neighboring school districts. One only need look at Detroit to realize that the same can happen in our community as well.

The voters of the PCCS district should demand that the PCCS board review more creative options to keep the District viable, not just financially balanced. We need to show our future leaders (the students) that they are the most important part of the equation.

Richard Schubatis
Plymouth

Giving equally

I attended a coffee to hear Sen. Patrick Colbeck and what he was doing in Lansing. People in the group quickly turned the discussion to how much money/benefits teachers are being asked to give up under the governor's budget.

I was overwhelmed by the number and rancor of how the group treated the senator. I spoke up to explain how every private sector citizen/business had given up pay/benefits and employment. I was quickly scoffed at as a "know nothing" about the problem. The group was particularly angry about tax cuts for cor-

porations. As a reminder, it is corporations and businesses full of working people that create the need for schools and teachers. The priority in this state is to create jobs which create revenue to provide for the schools.

I would like teachers to be part of the solution of the problems in this state. And, it is time to run schools like a business; a business which produces the best and brightest students and; the best paid teachers because of it. We need to work with the senator and the governor; these men have great business sense and are trying to right this sinking ship.

As a part of that we all need to give equally. For any group to say "everyone but us" isn't a good place to start.

Andrew Brandt
Canton

Assault on facts

Recent debate over the budget is merely the opening salvo of a broader struggle that may change forever the America many of us know and love. While seeing the Obama administration compromise and agree to the largest cut of an annual budget in history, the Tea Party-pushed Republicans and our own Congressman McCotter disingenuously whined that the most ever is not enough and that the .008 percent of the budget that would fund the non-abortion part of Planned Parenthood may well be the force driving us toward insolvency.

As the debt ceiling deadline approaches and the Ryan budget becomes the central issue in politics, remember that those who claim to be the adults are neither honest nor serious brokers. We as a nation are not on the brink of bankruptcy as the Republicans would have us believe. Bond markets are stable and interest rates remain at historic lows so no run to divest ownership of American debt is looming. And, contrary to Republican claims reducing the deficit will no more increase employment than did the tax cuts for the wealthy that commenced early in the Bush II era. History demonstrates this so we shouldn't fall for it.

What are the real deficit drivers that less than serious conservatives fail to include in policy proposals, things that would make a real difference quickly rather than delaying a balanced budget until 2063 so that the wealthy can first be serviced? Tax cuts to the wealthy that have pushed taxation on the top few percent to historic lows contribute \$70 billion annually. Subsidies to oil companies also contribute several billions to annual unnecessary spending. The defense department chews up 45 percent of the annual discretionary budget but will escape much serious scrutiny under the Ryan proposal. Since we spend more than the next 10 nations on defense combined, can or should we continue to spend at this level? Rising health care expenses that continued improvements on the Affordable Health Care Act would remedy, may be the most powerful of the deficit drivers but conservatives like Ryan and McCotter have voted for repeal rather than offering realistic improvements.

Citizens beware of the coming assault on the facts and on common sense. Our problems can be managed without throwing out the baby with the bath water as conservatives would have you believe.

Mitch Smith
Canton

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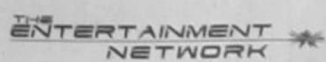
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Annual K-12 art show puts talent on display

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Teachers throughout the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools were given advance notice of just how many pieces of art each grade-level was allotted for the third annual K-12 Student Art Show Saturday at Plymouth High School.

Those recommendations went unheeded, and an enthusiastic crowd of some 4,200 people filed through the exhibits, listening to the music of Plymouth-Canton musicians, tasting the delicacies of the district's culinary students and, best of all, looking at some 2,000 exhibits.

"It was great," said Tim Schoenherr, the district's director of visual and performing arts. "We told the teachers they had a limited number (of exhibits), but they sort of went crazy. They really got into it."

By just about any number, officials counted the show a success. Admission was technically free, though a \$1 donation was suggested. Visitors contributed some \$3,000 in donations.

Faculty members contributed their own works of art for the Silent Auction, and that raised some \$600.

More kids than in the first two years were recognized (the full list of winners can be found on the district's website at www.pccs.k12.mi.us) by a panel of celebrity judges that included Wayne County Executive Bob Ficano, State Rep. Kurt Heise, State Rep. Dian Slavens and her husband, Wayne County Judge Mark Slavens.

Board of Education trustee Steven Sneiderman sang the show's praises at Tuesday's board meeting.

"Our whole arts team, from every aspect, put a lot of heart and soul into it," Sneiderman said. "Our kids just do a great job."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The P-CEP String Quartet entertains the crowd at the art show.



Jonathon Marceau, a freshman at P-CEP, designed and crafted a necklace of stainless steel, glass and polished rock.



Hulsing Elementary fifth-graders taught by Chuck Huhta took a judge's choice award for their Klingit Totem Pole. Jill McEwen is their art teacher.

support," Schoenherr said. "It's a high-impact event. Parents will typically make a beeline toward their own kids' work, but when they see the K-12 display, they're blown away. You get to see some incredible talent."

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Isbister first grader Nicholas Mahy is pretty proud of his painting, titled "House."

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PHOTOS BY JOHN KEMSKI

Austin Sartorius (No. 10) of Salem and Ypsilanti Lincoln player Cory Bastian put the squeeze on U.S. women's national team player Kendall Coyne (No. 26) Monday at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube. Watching are Brianna Decker (No. 14) and Hilary Knight (No. 21).

Global warmups

Prep icers get rare chance to take on U.S. women's hockey team



Coach Paul Fassbender and players on a team composed of area high school players watch Monday's action at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube.

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Talk about a perfect hockey scenario.

The 2011 U.S. women's national hockey team needed a fast-paced tuneup before leaving this week for the International Ice Hockey Federation World Women's Championships in Switzerland.

And a squad of current and recent high school varsity players — most coming from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park teams — couldn't wait to oblige.

In a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, the boys suited up Monday for the second of two up-tempo, no-body-checking practice games against the U.S. women's team at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube.

Although the boys lost 6-2 (following a 4-3 defeat April 6), it was something they'll never forget.

NOTHING BUT SMILES

"I thought it was fun and I thought they had a blast," said now-former Plymouth coach Paul Fassbender, who oversaw the exhibitions. "They were all happy in there (locker room), so it was good for them. It's something they'll

never get to do again, probably."

Goal scorers for the boys were Canton's AJ Rosales in the first period (from Salem's Austin Sartorius) and Salem's Ryan Quigley (from high school teammate Michael Manser) during a 10-minute four-on-four overtime period.

"We were on the power play and we started cycling it," Rosales said, "and Sartorius made a good pass in front and I put it in."

Quigley finished the game's scoring. He took a feed from Manser, broke in on the left wing and went top shelf against U.S. goalie Jessie Vetter (the third used by coach Katey Stone in the contest).

The rapid pace amazed prep players such as Salem's Mark McGee and Plymouth's Zach Gambrell.

'SHOCKING' PACE

"It's really fast-paced, they're really good at passing and you just got to always have your head on a swivel and know what's going on," McGee said. "It's kind of different that you can't (body) check or anything like that. But it's a lot faster paced than I'm used to."

Please see **HOCKEY, B2**

Trio to lead Rocks

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

SOFTBALL PREVIEW

Salem's Big Three will go a long way in determining how its varsity softball team fares in 2011.

Longtime head coach Bonnie Southerland thinks the world of the trio — seniors and fourth-year players Heidi Schmidt, Kelli Janiczek and Lizzy Mazorowicz.

"Those three are for sure the glue that keeps this team together," Southerland said. "These three players know what it takes to be on a winning team and have proven themselves to be three of the best players in the league (KLAA)."

Schmidt, who will play Division I softball in 2012 at Eastern Michigan University, probably will be Salem's No. 1 pitcher. She also is described by Southerland as "by far one of the best athletes I've coached."

Janiczek and Mazorowicz are co-captains who will play in the infield. The former will split time between catcher and first base, while the latter is set for second base.

"Kelli is in her second year as a captain and continues to be a leader on the field and behind the plate as well," Southerland said. "She has the experience and knowledge to catch all four of our

pitchers this season."

In addition to Schmidt, the Rocks have junior Alyssa Meagher and freshmen Kristine Zink and Emily Marcero who can pitch when needed.

"Alyssa has worked extremely hard in the off-season to improve her game and mix up her pitches," Southerland said.

As for Mazorowicz, she has improved her quickness and range to field grounders "and will take away most hits the right side," while remaining a "huge threat" at the plate.

PLENTY OF OPTIONS

Junior catcher, shortstop and third baseman Alexis Powell is another key returnee. She will bring her power bat to the cleanup spot.

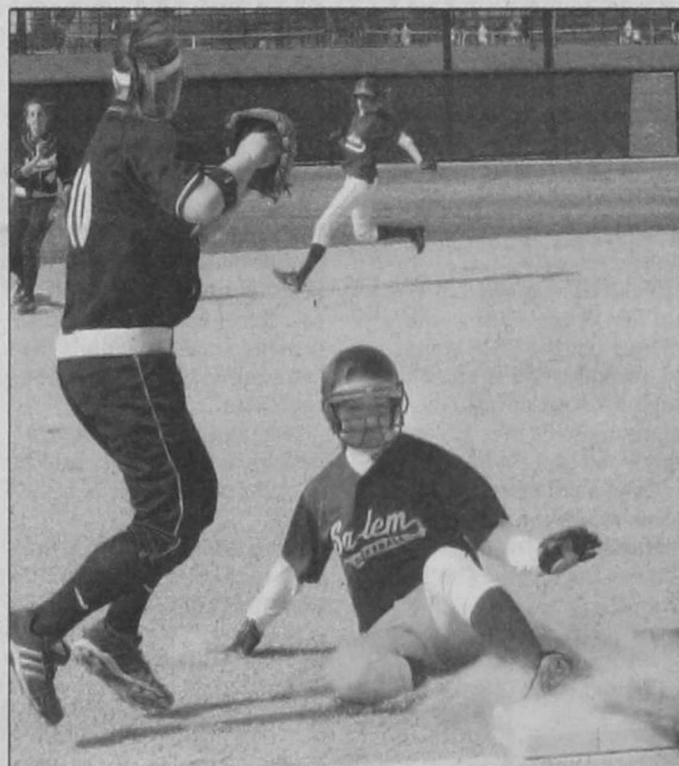
"She's one of the best hitters in the league," Southerland said.

Available for first base and to help fill in at the designated hitter spot is junior Jennifer First, "a lefty who has a strong arm and powerful bat."

Second-year varsity player Brianna Berberet is another versatile junior. She is a contact hitter who is vying for the third base spot.

Also in the mix for the hot

Please see **SOFTBALL, B3**



Back for her fourth season on the Salem varsity softball team is Heidi Schmidt (foreground), shown in this 2010 game sliding into third base against Plymouth.

Chiefs boast deep roster

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton's varsity boys track and field team features plenty of numbers across the board.

And head coach Bob Richardson can't wait to roll the dice to see how it all plays out in the 2011 season.

"We have 100 kids on the varsity," said Richardson, starting his 23rd season at the helm of the Chiefs' boys



Buford

squad. "And competition is stiff."

Richardson noted that there are talented people "in every event," but whether they succeed or fail will have a lot to do with their desire to work hard.

"What I tell them is, just commit to us," he said. "We'll get you there, but you have to be here every day."

There are many athletes on the team who were part of the 2010 squad, which went 2-5 overall but improved as the year progressed.

Richardson said the Chiefs finished sixth out of 12 teams at the Kensington Lakes Activities Association meet in 2010. Then they took third out of 17 at the Division 1 regionals. Nine kids went to the state meet and school records were set.

BOYS TRACK PREVIEW

He sees no reason why that trend of late success can't carry over into this season.

The Chiefs already are off to a good start, finishing third out of 12 teams at Saturday's Pioneer Indoor Invitational at Eastern Michigan University's Bowen Fieldhouse with 63 points.

They followed up with Tuesday's 95-42 victory over Livonia Churchill, where they swept the four relays. Canton is 2-0 in the KLAA South.

"I don't remember the last time we won all four relays," Richardson said. Another test will be Thursday, at the annual city meet at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

LEADING THE CHARGE

Leadership is one of the reasons why Richardson likes the chances of the 2011 Chiefs.

There are six senior captains, including Ben Spreitzer, Austin Golles, Nick Alaniva, Keegan Sullivan, Sapan Patel and Alex Marsh.

A deep coaching staff with assistants Paul Bedford, Matti Kilpelainen, Joe Zugay, Xavier Clais, Josh Hurst, Nick Norville and Paul Rakovitis is another key aspect of the team, he emphasized.

On Saturday, Alaniva set a person-

'We have 100 kids on the varsity. And competition is stiff.'

BOB RICHARDSON, Canton coach

al best in the pole vault with a mark of 14 feet, 1 inch, good for first place.

He also placed second in the long jump (20-3) and joined sophomores Scott Piwowar, Colby Morris and Tony Daniels to finish fourth in the 800-meter relay (1:39.4).

"We had a big day out of Spreitzer, who scored in three events," Richardson said. "And Austin Golles had a big day for us. ... Scott Piwowar and Nick Alaniva also did a good job."

Junior distance runner Miles Felton took second in the 1,600-meter run with a time of 4:32.7, while the 1,600-meter relay team of sophomore Charlie Steslick, Spreitzer, Golles and Piwowar took second with a time of 3:41.2.

Following is a breakdown at how the Chiefs will look by category:

- Throwers: Ben Poirier, senior; Marty Brudzinski, senior;
- High jump/long jump: Matt Schacht, junior; Zach Smilo, junior;
- Pole vault: Ryan Kilgore, junior; Mitch Nickert, junior; Alex Nickert, senior;

Please see **TRACK, B3**

Home-grown talent propels MU

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Despite a depleted pitching staff and down to seven healthy arms, Madonna University team finds itself in good position in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference race — thanks to contributions from several Canton and Plymouth natives.

On Sunday, the Crusaders improved to 25-10 overall and 13-1 in the WHAC by sweeping a twinbill on Senior Day from visiting Indiana Tech at Ilitch Ballpark, 7-4 and 9-6.

Senior second baseman Jeff Bultinck continued his hot hitting going 3-for-3 with an RBI to pace the Crusaders in the opener.

Steve Pelletier added two hits, including a homer and two RBI, while Brad Lineberry (Plymouth) and Mike Gansser also contributed two hits apiece as MU broke a 4-4 deadlock with a run in the sixth and two in the seventh.

Middle reliever Erik Wright (Canton) got his first win and Travis Schuba picked up his fourth save.

MU completed the sweep as Matt Kay (Canton) belted his seventh homer of the season, a three-run blast.

Pelletier added two hits, including his third of the year to go along with four RBI.

The Crusaders used four pitchers with reliever Logan Ryan going three innings. He allowed one earned run on one hit.

Wright, who picked up his first save, went the final 2½ innings allowing just one hit and one walk in

holding Tech scoreless.

MADONNA 1-7, INDIANA TECH 0-4: Jeremy Gooding's first-game gem propelled the Crusaders (23-10, 11-1) to a sweep Saturday against the Warriors (21-13, 4-4) at Ilitch Ballpark. Gooding allowed five hits, walked two and struck out 10.

Senior catcher Tarik Khasawneh (Canton) went 2-for-2 and drove in Dan Harder with the game-winning run in the bottom of the seventh.

Steve Pelletier belted his first homer of the year, while Jeff Bultinck, Matt Kay, Brad Lineberry, and Victor Barron also had an RBI each.

Brandon Alger (3-2), who allowed just five hits and two walks over 6½ innings, took the loss for the Warriors.

In the nightcap, MU scored three times in the top of the eighth inning to beat Tech, 7-4.

Lefty Tom Hansen, who gave up three runs (all unearned) on five hits in six innings, got the victory to improve to 5-2. Reliever Andy Omilian gave up just one earned run in three innings to pick up his first save.

Steve Pelletier belted his first homer of the year, while Jeff Bultinck, Matt Kay, Brad Lineberry, and Victor Barron also had an RBI each.

Third baseman Reinardo Scott went 2-for-3 with two RBI for the Warriors.

Owen Sound nears second-round sweep of Whalers

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Everything seemed to be pointing toward the Plymouth Whalers evening up their OHL Western Conference semifinal series with Owen Sound on Saturday night.

Forward Stefan Noesen scored at 17:02 of the second period to give Plymouth a 2-0 lead before nearly 3,000 fans at Compuware Arena.

Moments later, teammate Robbie Czarnik made a bid for the Whalers' third goal of Game 2.

But Czarnik rang the puck off the goal post, and the loud sound must have awakened the visiting team because within a couple minutes the game suddenly was 2-2.

If that wasn't enough, Owen Sound winger Roman Berdnikov capitalized

on a defensive breakdown early in the third period for the tie-breaking tally and it held up for a 3-2 win — despite late Plymouth pressure.

"We weren't getting the bounces we needed," said Plymouth forward Tyler Brown, whose bid to make it 3-3 in the third period hit more iron. "But we didn't play well enough to get the bounces that we wanted. So hopefully it's a different story in Game 3."

(The Whalers then lost Monday's Game 3 in Owen Sound by a 4-1 score, and faced elimination Wednesday night in Game 4 at Compuware. Go to www.hometownlife.com for late results.)

Brown said the team, although disappointed in Saturday's outcome, will look to draw on the recent experience of defeating Kitchener on the road in Game 7 of the first round.

"Some of the guys were talking about that in the dressing room," Brown added. "We didn't play with the urgency we had to, like we did in Game 7 against Kitchener."

Still, for most of the first two periods, the Whalers were in front — even though they had long stretches in the middle frame where they could not clear their zone.

Plymouth opened the scoring at 13:51 of the first period when a wrist shot by defenseman Colin MacDonald beat screened Attack goalie Scott Stajcer (29 saves).

Whalers goalie Scott Wedgewood (28 saves) subsequently held the fort to protect the slim lead for a long stretch.

TURN OF EVENTS
Then came Noesen's goal, where

he jammed his own rebound past Stajcer, and Czarnik's near-miss.

Given a reprieve, the Attack raced down the ice and Andrew Shaw cashed in a rebound to make it 2-1 at the 18-minute mark (58 seconds after Noesen scored).

Owen Sound struck again at 18:52 when a perfect crease-crossing pass by Matt Petgrave was tapped in at the right post by Liam Heelis.

The Attack finally took the lead at 4:31 of the third period. Garrett Wilson passed the puck from the left corner in front of Plymouth's net, where wide-open Berdnikov had no problem finishing the scoring play.

From that point on, the Whalers turned up the juice and came close several times to getting the equalizer, but the damage had been done.

Czarnik wired a shot that missed

the cage and, with about seven minutes to go, Brown hit the crossbar.

Unfortunately for coach Mike Vellucci's team, there would be no dramatic Compuware comeback this time around.

According to Brown, who entered the game leading the OHL in playoff scoring with 14 points, the Whalers didn't deserve one.

"We weren't getting pucks out," Brown said. "... it's something we definitely got to work on."

"We were lazy on pucks, we got outworked and it came down to effort and the effort wasn't there tonight. But it will be a different story in Game 3."

If it isn't, Plymouth's season will be all but over.

tsmith@hometownlife.com



Undefeated!

The Bulls finished 12-0 to win the Plymouth Canton Community Education Basketball 5th/6th grade league. After going 8-0 during the regular season, the squad won all four games in a hard-fought title tournament. Pictured with their championship trophies are: (front row, from left) Matthew Pelukas, Matt Rockafellow, Andy Lentine, Ben Ludtke, and Rami Alawadi; (back row, from left) coach Brian Ludtke, Mark Peregoy, Noah Brenny, Jason Arnold, Chase Nealey and Derek Goderis. Not pictured is coach Jeff Arnold.

Salem banking on tennis veterans

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

With plenty of experience, the 2011 Salem varsity girls tennis team is expected to be another strong squad.

Rocks head coach Lin Ware said this year's team could repeat what the 2010 squad did, finishing 7-2 in the ultra-tough KLAA Central Division. Following wins over Livonia Ladywood and Plymouth, the Rocks did take a 9-0 loss at the hands of division rival Northville.

According to Ware, a "very strong and experienced"

singles lineup will be Salem's strength.

"Anna Norman claimed the No. 1 spot moving up from No. 2 last year," she said. "Ashley Walker played her way from doubles into the No. 2 (singles) position and Morgan Spencer and Kerry MacDonald both return to their positions from last year where they were very successful."

Norman and Spencer are juniors, while MacDonald is a senior and Walker a sophomore.

In the doubles lineup, the only varsity returnees are seniors Mallory Rojo and

Emily Simmons.

The top doubles unit includes Rojo and junior Sarah Bellaire, while No. 2 doubles includes Simmons and senior Emily Borkowicz.

Remaining tandems are as follows: No. 3, senior Lynne Krutty and junior Narges Pourmandi; No. 4, juniors Sushmitha Diraviam and Megan Barry; No. 5, senior Courtney Godfrey and junior Monica Topolovec.

"The doubles teams are proving themselves" already this season, Ware noted.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Ref makes once-in-lifetime call

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Janine Martinez plays women's hockey and is a referee for various youth leagues in Observerland.

But the 39-year-old Livonia resident looked like a kid in a candy store after officiating a game featuring the U.S. women's national team.

"Oh, my gosh," Martinez said. "As soon as I got the e-mail, I was stoked and figured I'd never have the opportunity to (again) be on the same ice as the women's Olympic team."

That e-mail came from USA Hockey's director of officials, who wanted to know if Martinez was available to help officiate Monday's game at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube.

The women (who would compete in the Olympics if this were an Olympic year) faced a squad of players culled mostly from boys prep teams.

Most of the boys on the Olympic-sized ice sheet Monday were current or past players from Canton, Plymouth and Salem high schools.

Martinez is a pretty accomplished player in her own right, with the Mission senior C hockey team based out of Garden City Ice Arena.

And in recent weeks, she officiated a senior women's national tournament (for play-



JOHN KEMSKI

During Monday's scrimmage game between high school players and the U.S. women's national team, on-ice official Janine Martinez of Livonia gets set to drop the puck between 2010 Plymouth grad Pat Smiatacz and forward Kelli Stack (No. 16). Watching the faceoff are Monique Lamoureux-Kolls (No. 7, left) and Salem's Ryan Quigley (No. 7, right).

ers at least 30 years old) and girls nationals for 12U, 14U, 16U and 19U leagues.

None of that could compare with just one day at the Ice Cube.

"They're quick, they're real fast," Martinez said. "They got speed, excellent skills, it's amazing what they can do on ice. You appreciate it much more when you're on the ice with them, because you appreciate their speed."

From an official's standpoint, she said the speed of the game wasn't a hindrance to

her ability to keep up with the play.

"Because it's a fast pace, you have to react," she said. "It's a little bit easier to react the faster they go."

She then smiled once more about what she had just been a part of.

"To have them fly by you and just watching their puck-handling skills, it's amazing," Martinez said. "And they constantly keep moving their feet and never stop skating."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

HOCKEY

FROM PAGE B1

McGee — who scored twice in the first contest — added that the games will help when he graduates and moves on either to play on a junior or college team.

"It's almost like to see what it takes to get to that level," he said. "How much quicker everything is, how much less time you have to make decisions."

Gambrell said it was "really fun, competitive" to face the U.S. women, who would be competing in the Olympics if this were an Olympic year.

And he'll leave the scrimmages with a newfound respect for them.

"They're really fast, that's what's shocking us," he said. "They're just amazingly fast."

It was by design that there was no letup from the U.S. women, according to Stone.

"That's the point, be consistent," Stone said. "You can't take a shift off, you've got to keep playing no matter who you're playing against. That's the way our team plays."

Both scrimmages book-ended two U.S.-Canada exhibitions, which the teams split.

"These guys are a perfect match," said Stone, who whittled 30 college and minor professional players down to the final 21-player roster following a week-long training camp.

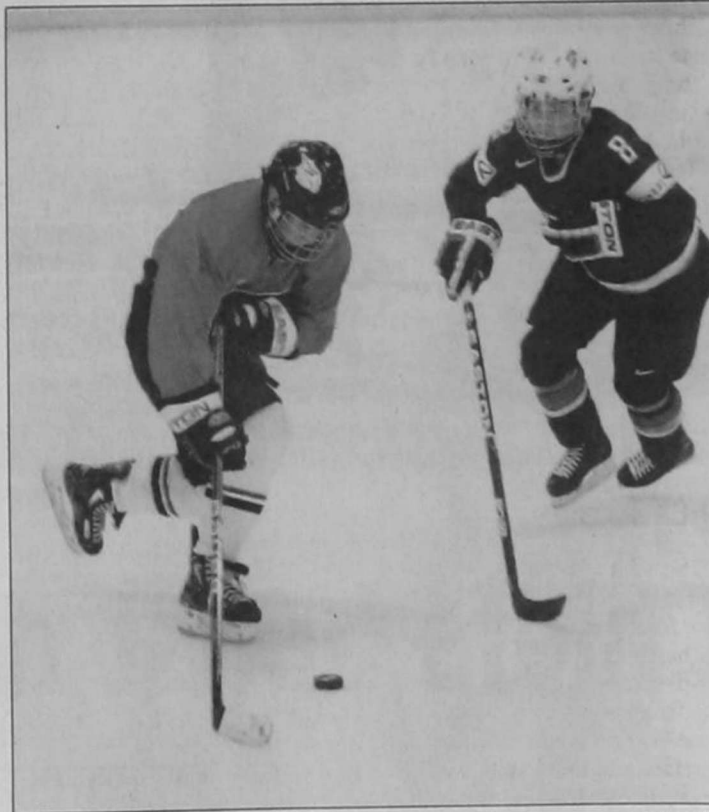
"It's quick, it's physical, you've got to be on your toes and the goaltending's good."

"If we want to be successful, we have to work for everything we are going to get and they make us work, and that's what is so great about it."

UNFORGETTABLY FUN

Stone said the games were scheduled following similar games at a December training camp in Minnesota because "the tempo and pace" of contests against high school boys teams was a good fit.

After Ann Arbor high school



JOHN KEMSKI

Plymouth's Cody Staub goes head-to-head against defenseman Caitlyn Cahow of the U.S. women's national team.

teams did not show enough interest in putting a squad together, Fassbender (who is an employee at the Ice Cube) received a surprise e-mail from the U.S. women's director asking if he'd step in.

He sprang into action, contacting other Park coaches Jeremy Majszak (Canton) and Ryan Ossennmacher (Salem), who in turn got in touch with their players.

Other districts in the area were invited to send players, including Howell, Saline and schools from Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti.

Players from the Park didn't waste a second to sign up.

"My coach (Fassbender) just asked me and it sounded fun, so I thought I'd do it," Gambrell said.

Also thrilled with the invitation were parents such as Marilyn Smiatacz, who had two sons on the team (2010 Plymouth grad Pat and Sean).

"It's just awesome," she said. "They'll never experience this ever again, to play against the

women's national hockey team.

"They're leaving for Switzerland (Tuesday) to go and play in worlds, so this would be an Olympic team if we were in the Olympics this year."

P-CEP players who participated included Plymouth's Gambrell, Pat Smiatacz (1 assist April 6), Sean Smiatacz (1 assist April 6), Cody Staub, Cameron Nadell and Ryan Brown (1 goal April 6); Canton's Rosales (1 goal Monday) and Jimmy LaFontaine; and Salem's McGee, Sartorius (1 assist Monday), Quigley (1 assist April 6 in addition to his goal Monday) and Manser (1 assist Monday).

Note: On Tuesday, Fassbender announced that he resigned his position as Plymouth's head coach. He works at the Ice Cube in Ann Arbor and said he wanted to find a coaching job closer to the rink. He is an Ypsilanti resident.

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Canton bests Salem in first match TRACK

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When the Canton and Salem varsity girls lacrosse teams met up on April 6, not only was it the first time in history that the squads faced each other.

It also gave Canton assistant coach (and 2006 Salem grad) Lauren Medley the chance to coach against her dad — Salem head coach Dave Medley.

“It was a great feeling to be a former player and now be on the sidelines coaching the team,” Lauren Medley said. “I knew that my dad would have his girls ready.”

The Chiefs were victorious, however, earning a 7-3 win at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park on a miserable night weather-wise.

According to Canton head coach Dave Bower, the Chiefs “played a strong game despite horrific weather conditions that cancelled every other high school sporting event in the area.

“The girls did an excellent

Blazers blitz Wildcats for road win

Hat tricks by Livonia Ladywood seniors Alexa Burns and Erin Barnes cost Plymouth, as the visiting Blazers won 14-8 in Saturday's non-division girls lacrosse matchup.

Burns also collected five assists, while senior Niki Jacobs and junior Emma Ellswood each added two goals.

Other Ladywood goal scorers included junior Kylie Birney, junior Mary Maslak, senior Courtney Smith and junior Alyssa Day.

Katie Hill and Taylor Birman led Plymouth with three and two goals, respectively.

Junior goalie Rana Freij had 20 saves for the Blazers, while Plymouth's Sarah Misser had eight.

SALEM 9, REGINA 8: The visiting Rocks responded to their April 6 loss to Canton with this resounding victory Friday.

Freshman Rose Krasofsky came off the bench for a six-goal performance to pace the Rocks.

Three of Krasofsky's goals came in the final two minutes of the game, including the game-winner with 47 seconds to play.

Regina then made a bid to force overtime, but Salem goalie Meghan Eldridge made her last of 12 stops to ensure the win.

Helping the offense were Lexie O'Connor's two goals and one by Breanne Beaver.

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.ymcadowetroit.org or call the office at (734) 453-2904.

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 Smith, tsmith@hometownlife.com.

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.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

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@ymcadowetroit.org.

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

GIRLS LACROSSE

job passing the ball up the field, despite the cold, wet conditions.”

Spearheading Canton's offense were Stephanie Bower (three goals) and Annelise Neirmann (two goals), with Lauren Allard and Jordan Richter also scoring. Julia Beard added an assist.

Co-captains Allard and Sarah Coleman made a number of smart plays to help the Chiefs.

Bower added that defenders Laura Murphy, CJ Saylor, Rebecca Majsak and Kristin Larsen worked well as a unit, allowing just nine shots on goal.

The Chiefs also won with freshman Melissa Neal in goal. She was called up from the junior varsity because of an injury to Becky Lough and played well, making six saves.

“For the returning girls, this was the first time they went up against former teammates from last season's (now-defunct) United team,” Bower



Livonia Ladywood's Courtney Smith (left) tries to maneuver past Plymouth defender Jill Sparschu (11) during Saturday's non-division girls lacrosse match.

Boys lacrosse

CANTON 15, SALEM 12: In a seesaw contest Monday, the Chiefs' varsity boys lacrosse team parlayed Matt Rodgers' five goals and three assists and four goals from Trevor Moore into a victory.

Contributing three goals for the Chiefs was Tim

Popp, with Jordan Smith (one goal, nine ground balls) and goalie Collin Smith (13 saves) also helping the cause.

Canton head coach Kevin Riley said it was a hard-fought matchup between campus rivals, but his team took too many penalties that led to Salem scoring chances.

added.

Dave Medley, meanwhile, said his young Salem team “moved the ball well, fought hard for ground balls and never gave up,” although inexperience did result in some miscues.

Sophomore Shannon Fitzpatrick tallied her first-ever varsity goal and Lexi O'Connor added two more for the Rocks.

On defense, he lauded the efforts of Kate Meagher, Breanne Beaver and goaltender Meghan Eldridge, who teamed up to “keep us in the game.”

Canton's Bower tipped his cap to Eldridge, saying she “played an especially strong game, coming up with a number of big saves to keep Salem in the game.”

Next up for Salem are games Wednesday at Northville and Friday at South Lyon.

Canton will have another campus rivalry game, taking on Plymouth 8 p.m. Friday at P-CEP.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Distance runners: Felton, Bradon Conley, junior; Shean Krolicki, junior; Sullivan, Alex Krul, senior; Jeff Molchan, junior; Zach Cox, junior; Kurt Kowalski, junior;

Hurdlers: Spreitzer, Mitch Pepper, junior; Drake Hogan, sophomore; Davon Hill, sophomore; Jamal Dixon,

BOYS DUAL MEET RESULTS
CANTON 95
LIVONIA CHURCHILL 42
April 12 at Canton
Shot put: 1. Paddel (LC), 46 feet, 1.25 inches; 2. Alex Marsh (C), 45-15; 3. Marty Brudzinski (C), 42-2.75.
Discus: 1. Alkins (LC), 127-3; 2. Hall (LC), 125-3; 3. Ben Poirier (C), 117-11.
High jump: 1. (3-way tie) Ben Spreitzer (C), Matt Schacht (C), Zach Smilo (C), 5-8.
Long jump: 1. Nick Alaniva (C), 19-11; 2. Rayford (LC), 18-2; 3. Jamal Dixon (C), 18-0.
Pole vault: 1. Alaniva (C), 13-0; 2. Rayford (LC), 13-0; 3. Ryhtarsyk (LC), 11-0.
110-meter hurdles: 1. Spreitzer (C), 15-5; 2. Jefferson (LC), 17-6; 3. Zolowski (LC), 17-7.
300 hurdles: 1. Spreitzer (C), 43-0; 2. Zolowski (LC), 46-5; 3. Szuba (LC), 47-0.
100 dash: 1. Ryan Jones (C), 11-2; 2. Kevin Buford (C), 11-3; 3. Charlie Steslick (C), 11-7.
200: 1. Buford (C), 23-2; 2. Alaniva (C), 23-5; 3. Colby Morris (C), 23-8.
400: 1. Buford (C), 52-8; 2. Sapan Patel (C), 55-3; 3. Steslick (C), 55-4.
800: 1. Wise (LC), 2:09.7; 2. Tyler Winningham (C), 2:10-8; 3. Hage (LC), 2:12-5.
1,600: 1. Miles Felton (C), 4:43.7; 2. Wise (LC), 4:47-0; 3. Bradon Conley (C), 4:55-5.
3,200: 1. Windle (LC), 10:33-4; 2. Conley (C), 10:35-9; 3. Jeff Molchan (C), 10:44-1.
400 relay: 1. Canton (Josh Nolen, Alaniva, Morris, Jones), 45-9; 2. Churchill, 49-1; **800 relay:** 1. Canton (Nolen, Patel, Morris, Buford), 1:36-9; 2. Churchill, 1:40-3; **1,600 relay:** 1. Canton (Patel, Keegan Sullivan, Tony Daniels, Steslick), 3:44-8; 2. Churchill, 3:47-9; **3,200 relay:** 1. Canton (Felton, Shean Krolicki, Andrew Stephens, Austin Gollies), 8:47-1; 2. Churchill, 8:47-9.
Dual meet records: Canton, 2-0 KLAAS South Division; Churchill, 1-1 KLAAS South.
LIVONIA FRANKLIN 84
PLYMOUTH 53
April 11 at Franklin
Shot put: 1. Adam Clay (LF), 51 feet, 6 inches; 2. Jay Woolfork (LF), 47-7; 3. Alex Forde (LF), 38-9.
Discus: 1. Woolfork (LF), 117-2; 2. Clay (LF), 115-5; 3. Harrington (P), 92-7.
High jump: 1. Smith (P), 5-6; 2. (tie) Woolfork (LF) and Tom Brokaw (LF), 5-3 each.

SOFTBALL

FROM PAGE B1

corner is sophomore returnee Megan Johnson.

Salem's outfield figures to be solid with returning sophomores Katy Meade and Lexi Epley.

“Both Meade and Epley have improved their batting and I expect them to produce more runs,” the coach said.

Salem will plug in utility players such as sophomore Elliott Mitchem and freshman

Plymouth Christian batters spark sweep

Plymouth Christian continued playing torrid early season baseball.

PCA hosted Summit Academy of Romulus on Monday and came away with a wild, 13-10 victory to improve to 4-0.

Pitcher Matt Dodson earned his second win of the young season, going 6 2/3 innings.

The Eagles built a 13-4 lead entering the fifth, but the visitors combined some hits with sloppy PCA defense to get back into the game.

Top hitters included Daniel Slater (3-for-3, double, two

freshman;

• Middle distances: Patel, Tyler Winningham, junior;

• Sprinters: Kevin Buford, junior; Josh Nolen, senior; Ryan Jones, junior; Piwowar, Morris, Daniels, Avery Sims, sophomore; Ryan Darish, sophomore.

Wildcats also at EMU

Although the flu bug kept many varsity runners home Saturday, several Plymouth Wildcats had solid perfor-

PREP TRACK AND FIELD RESULTS

Long jump: 1. Andy Bihn (P), 19-9.5; 2. Brett Gutowski (LF), 18-11.5; 3. Jordan Bickham (LF), 18-8.
Pole vault: 1. Bihn (P), 11-6; 2. Chadd Chisholm (LF), 11-6; 3. Zuzo (P), 11-0.
110-meter hurdles: 1. Brokaw (LF), 16.76; 2. Edgerton (P), 17.62; 3. Chisholm (LF), 18.48.
300 hurdles: 1. Andrew Crechiolo (LF), 45.44; 2. Brokaw (LF), 45.73; 3. Chisholm (LF), 46.04.
100 dash: 1. William Askew (P), 11.49; 2. Ryan Hurt (LF), 11.7; 3. Alex Perelli (LF), 11.75.
200: 1. Askew (P), 22.66; 2. Perelli (LF), 24.43; 3. Pinard (LF), 25.12.
400: 1. Askew (P), 52.19; 2. Dave Koponen (LF), 54.26; 3. Gutowski (LF), 54.68.
800: 1. Rogowski (P), 2:08.55; 2. Balaze (P), 2:10.16; 3. Gabe Edwards (LF), 2:10.76.
1,600: 1. Austin Jones (LF), 4:42.93; 2. Eiben (P), 4:45.0; 3. Dalton (P), 4:59.06.
3,200: 1. Derek Gielarowski (P), 10:28.11; 2. Jones (LF), 10:47.22; 3. Cardenas (P), 10:49.63.
400 relay: 1. Franklin (Perelli, Jake Pinard, Cameron Pogorel, Hurt), 45.76; 2. Plymouth, 48.41; **800 relay:** 1. Franklin (Gutowski, Pinard, Woolfork, Hurt), 1:34.12; 2. Plymouth, 1:40.71; **1,600 relay:** 1. Franklin (Hurt, Gutowski, Crechiolo, Koponen), 3:45.37; 2. Plymouth, 3:59.28; **3,200 relay:** 1. Franklin (Bobby Wilson, Jones, Edwards, Koponen), 8:30.89; 2. Plymouth, 8:35.14.
Dual meet records: Franklin, 2-0 overall, 2-0 KLAAS South Division; Plymouth, 0-2 overall, 0-2 KLAAS South.
GIRLS DUAL MEET RESULTS
LIVONIA CHURCHILL 78
CANTON 59
April 12 at Canton
Shot put: 1. Mahogany Miller (LC), 33 feet, 1.5 inches; 2. Megan Ling (LC), 28.5-5; 3. Allison Murray (LC), 27-8.75.
Discus: 1. Emily Norscia (LC), 99-8; 2. Ling (LC), 87-5; 3. Lobb (Canton), 75-10.
High jump: 1. Senclair McDonnell (LC), 5-2; 2. Lipa (Canton), 5-0; 3. Ashley Cochran (LC), 4-6.
Long jump: 1. Clark (Canton), 11-5-2; 2. Lu (Canton), 11-3-5; 3. Leah Heinzelman (LC), 15-0.
Pole vault: 1. Long (Canton), 8-9; 2. Lindsey Kreutzman (LC), 8-3; 3. Amanda Fox (LC), 6-3.
100-meter hurdles: 1. Dayna Esper (LC), 16-9; 2. Williams (Canton), 17-97; 3. Sharon McCall (LC), 18-12.
300 hurdles: 1. Molly Jarvis (LC), 49-85; 2. Williams (Canton), 50-81; 3. Milad (Canton), 52-16.

Maddison Koval.

“(Mitchem) covers a lot of ground and has a strong bat,” the coach said. “Right now I can put Elliott on either side of the infield.”

Meanwhile, Zink and Marcero also can play outfield when not pitching.

THEY'RE READY

After a 10-8 record in 2010 (4-6 in the KLAAS Central), the Rocks opened the season Wednesday with a doubleheader against South Lyon.

They won't play again until April 25, when they play

mances at the Pioneer Indoor Invite at EMU.

Plymouth head coach Jon Mikosz said junior William Askew II finished third in the 60-meter dash with a time of 7.33 seconds.

Taking fourth in the 800 run was senior Stephen Balaze (2:09.01), while senior Andy Bihn's mark of 12 feet even earned him fourth in the pole vault.

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100 dash: 1. Clark (Canton), 11.91; 2. Heinzelman (LC), 12.97; 3. Valetti (Canton), 13.22.
200: 1. Clark (Canton), 25.16; 2. Heinzelman (LC), 27.28; 3. Piwowar (Canton), 27.79.
400: 1. Clark (Canton), 1:01.8; 2. Lipa (Canton), 1:04.44; 3. Julia Szuba (LC), 1:06.85.
800: 1. Bethany Pilat (LC), 2:29.35; 2. Bianca Kubicki (Canton), 2:32.59; 3. Grimes (Canton), 2:38.1.
1,600: 1. Pilat (LC), 5:24.47; 2. Kubicki (Canton), 5:27.43; 3. Kerigan Riley (LC), 5:48.54.
3,200: 1. Kubicki (Canton), 11:47.97; 2. Siegler (Canton), 12:46.62; 3. Vivien Okechukwu (LC), 12:46.78.
400 relay: 1. Churchill (Jamie Rowland, Cochran, Alpha Jackson, Smalls), 53.82; 2. Canton, 56.63; **800 relay:** 1. Churchill (Heinzelman, Sydney Anderson, Jarvis, Smalls), 1:50.66; 2. Canton, 1:52.72; **1,600 relay:** 1. Churchill (Anderson, Jarvis, Szuba, Lindsay Davidson), 4:28.0; 2. Canton, 4:30.63; **3,200 relay:** 1. Churchill (Anderson, Pilat, Riley, Michelle Azar), 10:38.15; 2. Canton, 13:00.8.
Dual meet records: Churchill, 1-1 overall, 1-1 KLAAS South Division; Canton, 0-2 overall, 0-2 KLAAS South.
PLYMOUTH 69
LIVONIA FRANKLIN 68
April 12 at Franklin
Shot put: 1. Nicole Price (LF), 30 feet, 2 inches; **discus:** 1. Plymouth, 89-9.5; 2. Price, 84.6-5; 3. Grace Modes (LF), 73-3; **high jump:** 1. Kelly O'Brien (LF), 4-10; 2. Pia Klein (LF), 4-10; **long jump:** 1. Klein (LF), 17-5.5 (breaks own school record); **pole vault:** 1. Meghan Lark (LF), 9-6; **100-meter hurdles:** 1. Jen Mueller (LF), 16.7; 2. O'Brien (LF), 17.3; **300 hurdles:** 1. Klein (LF), 49.0; 2. O'Brien (LF), 50.4; **100 dash:** 1. Maddie Lewis (P), 12.8; 2. Klein (LF), 13.4; 3. Natalie Modes (LF), 14.1; **200:** 1. Lewis (P), 27.0; 400: 1. Lewis (P), 1:00.0; **800:** 1. Megan McPherson (LF), 2:27.0; 3. Megan Wickens (LF), 2:35.0; **1,600:** 1. McPherson (LF), 5:23.5; **3,200:** 1. McPherson (LF), 11:56.6; **400 relay:** 1. Franklin (Franklin Agnew, Mueller, N. Modes, Kathryn Chinavare), 53.3; **800 relay:** 1. Plymouth, 1:56.5; **1,600 relay:** 1. Plymouth, 4:23.6; **3,200 relay:** 1. Plymouth, 10:15.0.
Dual meet records: Plymouth, 2-0 overall, 2-0 KLAAS South Division; Franklin, 1-1 overall, 1-1 KLAAS South.

Farmington. In the meantime, the team embarks on its annual spring training trip.

“I still think we have one of the hardest divisions, but I am confident these young ladies are up for the challenge,” Southerland said.

A promising group of pitchers is one of the reasons she thinks the Rocks will be heard from this season.

“We have more depth than we've had in years,” she added. “And the pitching will certainly keep this team at the top.”

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Jipping again swung a hot bat, going 3-for-4 with a double, and drove in two. Dodson (2-for-5) and York (2-for-3, three RBI) chipped in.

CANTON 5-5, GROSSE POINTE NORTH 1-2: On Saturday, the Chiefs improved to 4-0 with this doubleheader sweep.

In Game 1, pitcher Ryan Bazner went five innings, striking out nine and earning the victory.

Canton's second win of the twinbill featured solid pitching from Jason Lynch, who worked two innings of relief.

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BARBARA LEWIS

Age 76, of Belleville, died Thursday, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor. She was born May 10, 1934 in PA, daughter of the late Dean Luther Kaylor & Dorothea Eleanor (Nagle) Hildebrandt. Preceded in death by husband James F. Lewis, also daughter Carolyn Lynn Kissau. Survived by daughter Linda Cox of Canton, 3 grandchildren Jennifer (Philip) Denbo, Bradley Tait and Shannon Kissau, 2 great-grandchildren Dylan Dunlop and Lukas Denbo, 2 sisters Sandra (Charles) Rowlett-Wayne and Sharon Brokenshire, both of Belleville, also two nieces, a nephew, and many great-nieces & nephews. Visitation was held at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. A Memorial Service was held at Connection Church, Canton. www.davidcbrownfh.com

ALBERT V. PAGNANI

Age 95, of Farmington, MI. Passed away April 8, 2011. Arrangements by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI.

ROBERT EDWARD SINCLAIR



Age 64, of Big Rapids, passed away Saturday, April 9, 2011 at Spectrum Health Butterworth. He was born September 19, 1946 in Providence, Rhode Island, the son of Robert and Jessie Anne (LaLonde) Sinclair, and was raised in Garden City, MI. Following his graduation from Garden City High School in 1964, Bob was a musician in the U. S. Navy. After being honorably discharged, Bob earned his B.S. Degree in Education from Eastern Michigan University, and his Master of Education degree from Ohio University. He worked at SUNY College in Brockport, NY as Director of Intramural Sports, until moving to Big Rapids in 1995, where he was Director of Student Recreation at Ferris State University until retiring in February, 2008. Bob was a member of the Mid-Michigan Officials Association, and for many years officiated high school football and softball games. He was active in the Big Rapids Rotary Club, and in 2009 began the Rotary program to provide Thanksgiving meals for area needy families. Bob was also a champion skeet shooter, and enjoyed deer hunting. On October 10, 2008, he married Sandy Jacobsen, who survives. Also surviving are two step-sons, Eric (Amy) Jacobsen of Kirkwood, PA, Pete (Brandy) Jacobsen of Fairbanks, AK; two grandchildren, Avery and Evelyn; his brother Daniel (Karen) of Wayne; four sisters, Peggy (Jim) Burklow of Garden City, Kathi Sinclair (Steve Platt) of Carson City, NV, Eileen White of Warren, and Linda Sinclair of Garden City; dear friends Mike Haas, Ed and Bonnie Dorman, Bob and Bonnie Meadows, Marty Kelley, Donna and Norm Lyttle, and Barb and Jim Dyer; and several nieces and nephews. Bob was preceded in death by his parents, his brother-in-law Noel White, and dear friend Dan Kelley. Memorial services for Bob will be 11:00 a.m., Saturday, April 23, 2011 at the Mohnke Funeral Home in Big Rapids, with friend Ed Dorman officiating. Following cremation, burial will be in the Cadillac Memorial Gardens West in Garden City later this Spring. Memorial contributions can be made in his name to the Rotary Club in Big Rapids, MI to help continue community projects. Contributions can be left at the funeral home or mailed directly to the Big Rapids Rotary Club at PO Box 521, Big Rapids, MI 49307. Bob's family will greet friends at the funeral home after 10:00 a.m. on Saturday until time of services. Share a memory or express condolences at: www.mohnkefuneralhome.com

SHANE STORM

Age 24, of Belleville, died Friday at Oakwood Annapolis, Wayne. He was born May 18, 1986 in Garden City, son of David Stephenson Storm & Esther Marie Degillio. Shane spent many days at Childrens Hospital, Detroit and taught staff how to treat Juvenile Diabetes and give Insulin. Throughout his life, Shane kept a positive attitude and was a happy person who will be missed greatly. Survived by his companion Opal Allen, daughter Julianna Esperanza Storm, and a son on-the-way Shane Teddy Marshall Storm, all of Belleville, his mother Esther Degillio of Garden City, father Dave Storm of Riverview, step-father Harold Eugene "Bud" James of Romulus, grandfather Fred Degillio of Garden City, grandparents Florence & Emil Dragosits of Romulus, a brother Jacob Degillio, step-sister Lynn (Chris) Howe, step-brother Harold Eugene James, Jr., step-nephew Cody Howe, also numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Preceded in death by his grandmother Esperanza Degillio, also his dog Buster. Visitation 1-4PM & 6-8PM Wednesday at Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. Prayers 10:15AM Thursday, April 14, 2011 at the funeral home, processing to St. Anthony Catholic Church, Belleville for an 11AM Funeral Mass. Memorials to Children's Hospital, Detroit would be appreciated. www.davidcbrownfh.com



RUTH A. VENTURA

Age 95, April 12, 2011. Beloved wife of the late Peter A. Ventura. Loving mother of Peter H. (Cindi) Ventura, Ruth J. (Jim) Frazier and David A. Ventura. Dear grandmother of Jeffrey and Heather, Madison and Olivia, Michelle and Melissa and Alexander and Philip. Proud great grandmother of Marc, John, Adam, Ella, Laiken, Gralon, Maya and Isaac. Ruth is also survived by her loving caregivers, Carole Chimelak and Denise DiBiase. A Funeral Service will be held at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Friday at 10 AM. Visitation will be held on Thursday from 1 - 9 PM. Memorial contributions may be directed to Angela Hospice. Please share a memory at www.rgharris.com.



MARK W. VECELLIO

43, of Livonia, died suddenly April 7, 2011. Mark is the devoted and cherished husband of over 10 years to Lisa; beloved father of Alison; and the dearest son of Joanne and the late Roger (d. 1993). In addition to his father, Mark was preceded in death by his sister, Cynthia, in 2004. Funeral Mass was Wednesday, April 13th at St. Edith Catholic Church, Livonia. Visitation was held at the Heeneey-Sundquist Funeral Home, downtown Farmington (248-474-5200). Prayer Service was Tuesday 7:00 PM. Interment Holy Sepulchre, Southfield. Memorial tributes suggested to American Heart Association., americanheart.org, heeneey-sundquist.com



Musician to highlight Prayer Breakfast

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Worship and music go together, and Matthew Landry is pleased to perform at the Livonia Prayer Breakfast.

Landry, a December 2010 University of Michigan graduate, is teaching elementary music in Van Buren Public Schools as a substitute while looking for a permanent post. Landry, 22, is also assistant conductor of instrumental music at Ward Presbyterian Church in Northville Township.

He will perform *Beautiful Colorado* by Joseph DeLuca and *It Is Well With My Soul*, arranged by Brent Olstad, at the May 12 event.

"The first is obviously secular, but is a beautiful piece that highlights the instrumentalist's technique as well," said Jerry Smith, a member of the Prayer Breakfast committee who plans music for the event.

"The second is an arrangement of the gospel hymn written by Horatio Spafford when he lost his daughters in a shipwreck — a very moving story."

"I am very excited about Matt sharing his musical talent with us at the breakfast."

Smith said he sought out Landry "because of his reputation, not only as a fantastic musician, but as a strong believer whose faith is very evident in his lifestyle."

Landry is a member of The Akropolis Reed Quintet, a new take on the traditional woodwind quintet, incorporating saxophone and bass clarinet to add a new timbre to the chamber music world.

Akropolis was formed at the University of Michigan in 2009. Its goal is to commission new works and help to establish the reed quintet as a canonized part of the chamber music world.

Landry will perform as a soloist for the Prayer Breakfast. "I have three members of my quintet in China with the University of Michigan Symphony Band," he said. A similar U-M band went to the Soviet Union 50 years ago, and the current China visit is to mark that anniversary.

"We've had a lot of great work with churches in the past. Unfortunately, we're just not available. I wasn't going to tell them not to go to China." Musicians had to be U-M students to go, so graduate Landry's no longer eligible.

Landry, who lives in Ann Arbor, grew up in Livonia. He commutes to Ward Presbyterian in Northville Township.



Musician Matthew Landry, a recent University of Michigan graduate, will perform on piano Thursday, May 12, at the Livonia Prayer Breakfast.

"If I'm not conducting than I'm playing saxophone or the piano." Landry lived in New Orleans before his family moved to Livonia. "Music's everywhere down there." At age 5-6, he started piano, and began saxophone study in eighth grade.

His parents, Scott and Marlene Landry of Livonia, "definitely fostered in me how much I love it today. I think my No. 1 supporter has always been my parents. They're the best. Never told me I couldn't do anything I wanted to."

Akropolis performs at U-M and throughout the Midwest, was a featured performer on the university's collage concert in January 2010 and 2011 and was a semifinalist at the Plowman International Chamber Music Competition in March 2010. The quintet finished in the top six of the 2010 Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition.

Landry played tuba with the Plymouth Symphony for several years and has performed frequently on clarinet and saxophone with the Plymouth Symphony, Orchestra Canton and Dearborn Symphony. He can also be heard on two U-M Symphony Band records.

Landry enjoys writing, reading essays, playing Chopin, running despite bad knees (he jokes about running more when he gets lost — often — in Ann Arbor), and trying to emulate the Southern cooking of his parents.

The 37th annual Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast will be held 7-8:45 a.m. Thursday, May 12, in St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100 Merriman, Livonia. The theme is "Weathering the Storms of Life," with keynote speaker Chuck Gaidica, meteorologist for WDIV Channel 4. For ticket information, visit: <http://livoniaprayer-breakfast.org/ticket-information/>

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ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, April 14, 2011

hometownlife.com

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Livonia club encourages all members to exhibit their art

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Sherry Eid's first place winner in the annual Artifacts Art Club exhibit in Livonia keeps viewers guessing — Is it a painting or pencil sketch? Is it an ocean wave or stampede of horses?

Take a closer look and you'll notice it's a bit of both.

"As a child I always liked to read Greek myths," said Eid, president of the art club and a Livonia resident. "I remembered there was the one about the horses coming from a wave. All of a sudden I'm seeing horses. I decided to picture them."

She sketched four horses into the ocean waves that make up the subject of the piece, and used both colored pencil and solvents to give the work a fluid appearance.

"That makes the pigment dissolve. Then you take a brush and it's almost like painting."

In addition to first place for "Metamorphoses," Eid won third place for her colored pencil drawing, "Red-Tailed Hawk". Second place went to Roberta McDonell of Livonia for "Juvy Woodstork" and Lorelei Christy of Farmington Hills, earned a fourth place for "Les Sucettes."

Merit Awards went to Jim Goodman for "Pals," Christine Pegg for "Look," Mary Kehoe for "Field of Amaryllis," and Eid for "Kuna Indian."

INDEPENDENT JUDGE

Tim Marsh, who creates nature paintings in oil, judged the 42 art works in the show, which runs this month at Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive.

"We have just one show a year," said Eid, who joined the club after taking art classes with Dave Messing, a former art store owner in Livonia.

Messing started Artifacts Art Club in 1986 as a way for artists of all skill levels to meet, mingle and learn together. The group meets at 7:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month, September-October and February-May, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile. Meetings often include a hands-on workshop, demonstration or guest speaker. Next month, Norma Gray will show techniques in acrylic painting.

"That's the advantage of being small. You can join in," Eid said, adding that the group numbers about 25 artists.

EVERYONE EXHIBITS

"One of our members lives in Cadillac but he drives down to bring his pictures



Sherry Eid used solvents on her pencil drawing, "Metamorphoses" giving it a fluid, paint-like quality.

to the show. What's nice about our group is we're a small group and we feel every member should have a chance to show their work. There's no jurying. Everyone can put their work on the wall. And what's nice is there's almost 100 percent participation."

Eid, who teaches colored pencil art at Schoolcraft College, said she is thrilled when judges select her work for a prize or honorable mention.

"It's a thrill just to get into a show. Some of them, when you consider the talent

there and how many people have entered, you've just got to pat yourself on the back for even getting in. Last year at the Livonia Fine Arts exhibit I entered four pieces. They rejected three and the one that got in won a prize."

She said prize money helps pay for the entry fee.

Interested in joining Artifacts Art Club? Simply drop by a meeting. Annual dues are \$20. Send checks, payable to the Artifacts Art Club, to Connie Goodman, 9622 Sarasota, Redford, MI 48239.



Rusty Frentner shows his painting, "Over the River," which won first place in the Farmington Art Foundation's spring show.

Check out art shows in Plymouth, Farmington Hills

Winners in the annual Farmington Art Foundation's spring exhibit will accept their awards during a reception, Thursday, April 14 at the Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, in Farmington Hills.

Rusty Frentner won first place for his piece, "Over the River," and second place for "Pretty in Pink." Billie Swelstad took a third place award for "Flower Market" and Fran Seilkay won fourth place for "Cheryl."

The reception will start at 6 p.m. and artists will be honored at 6:30 p.m.

The exhibit and sale runs 10 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Thursday, April 14; 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Friday, April 15 and 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, April 16.

"The Farmington Arts Foundation has an annual art show each year in conjunction with the 'Art After Dark' wine tasting and party sponsored by Whole Foods," said FAF publicity chair Linda Shewbridge. "Also, the Farmington Public Schools will have the elementary, middle school and senior high school students art work on exhibit. The Senior Group of artists who take classes at

the Costick Center will also have their work on display."

Art After Dark starts at 7 p.m. Friday, April 15 at the Costick Center. Tickets are \$20 in advance, and \$25 at the door. They're available online at recreg.fhgov.com or can be ordered by phone at (248) 473-1848.

The event pairs a wine tasting of more than 30 varieties of wine, with the exhibit and live jazz.

Lotus Arts Gallery in Plymouth also features artists from throughout southeastern Michigan this month at its 4th Annual Local Artist Exhibit.

The show includes works by Namrata Bajaj, Richard Emrich, Kim Ensich, Patrice Erickson, Patricia Izzo, Vic Leo, Nancy Paton, Rose Paulus, Ron Rolling, Wendy Soots, and Priyank Vora.

Contemporary glass, watercolor paintings, oil paintings, pen and ink, photography, lithography, and experimental media are on display. The gallery is open 11 a.m.-6 p.m. through April 30, at 995 W. Ann Arbor Trail. (734) 453-5400.

ONLINE PHOTO GALLERIES
hometownlife.com

Exhibit celebrates Glass Month at Village Theater

Artists from the Furnace Design Studio and The Glass Academy of Dearborn are showing their works through April 29 at the Gallery@VT, located in The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

The exhibit celebrates Glass Month in Michigan and shows glass in many forms — from objects and vessels to its use in mixed media.

Artists at the Furnace Design Studio combine silica and heat, powdered pigments, metal dusts and added color to create pieces of exquisite beauty.

The Furnace Design Studio is the collaboration of internationally-acclaimed glass artists, Chris Nordin and Michelle Plucinsky. This Dearborn-based glass studio is known for custom commission and site-specific installations for homes, commercial spaces and hospitality interiors. The artists also are known for their classic Venetian-style craftsmanship, modern flair and versatility in creating signature molten glass pieces that range in style from organic and minimalist pieces to works with elaborate detail. The Furnace

Design Studio shares a 14,000 square foot working studio with The Glass Academy.

Works are on display 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday at the theater gallery, located at 50400 Cherry Hill, in Canton. The gallery also is open during public performances at the theater and by appointment. For more information about this latest exhibition in the Gallery@VT, call (734) 394-5300 or visit cantonvillagetheater.org. For more information about The Glass Academy visit www.glassacademy.com.

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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.

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April 15 - 8:00pm
April 16 - 2:00pm & 8:00pm
April 17 - 2:00pm

TICKETS
\$15-\$18
www.SpotlightPlayersMi.org

LOCATION
The Village Theater at Cherry Hill
50400 Cherry Hill Road
Canton, MI 48187

See Grammy-nominated musician in Livonia

Trumpeter Wayne Bergeron will perform at Schoolcraft College's "Up Jumped Spring" concert, 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 18, in the VisTaTech Center. The concert will also feature performances by the college's Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Improvisation Combo, and Synthesizer Ensemble. "We are thrilled to have such a talent like Mr. Bergeron come to our campus," said Riccardo Selva, director of jazz studies, the Jazz Ensemble and the Jazz Improvisation Combo. "Our students are very excited to have this opportunity to play with one of the best jazz musicians of our time."

Bergeron is one of the most active trumpet players in the world, busy with studio dates, international touring, jazz concerts, guest soloist appearances and clinics. In 1986, Bergeron landed the lead trumpet position with the Maynard Ferguson Band. As a sideman, Bergeron's list of CD credits reads like a who's who in contemporary jazz and pop, running the stylistic gamut from Ray Charles to Green Day, Beyoncé to Michael Buble, Josh Groban to Natalie Cole and more. Bergeron also has worked on more than 300 television and motion picture soundtracks including recent hits like *South Park*, *Toy Story 3*, and *Despicable Me*.

After being behind the scenes for so many years, Bergeron stepped out on his own with his first solo effort, *You Call This a Living?*, which earned him a Grammy nomination in 2004 and received rave reviews from fans and press worldwide. Bergeron's latest recording is *Plays Well with Others*.

Bergeron is also a National Artist for the Yamaha Corporation of America and is co-designer of the YTR-8335LA trumpet and YFH-8315G Flugelhorn.

In addition to the concert on April 18, he will conduct a special artist clinic at 2 p.m. with students in the college's credit and continuing education music programs.

"The clinic will take our program and our students to the next level," Selva said.



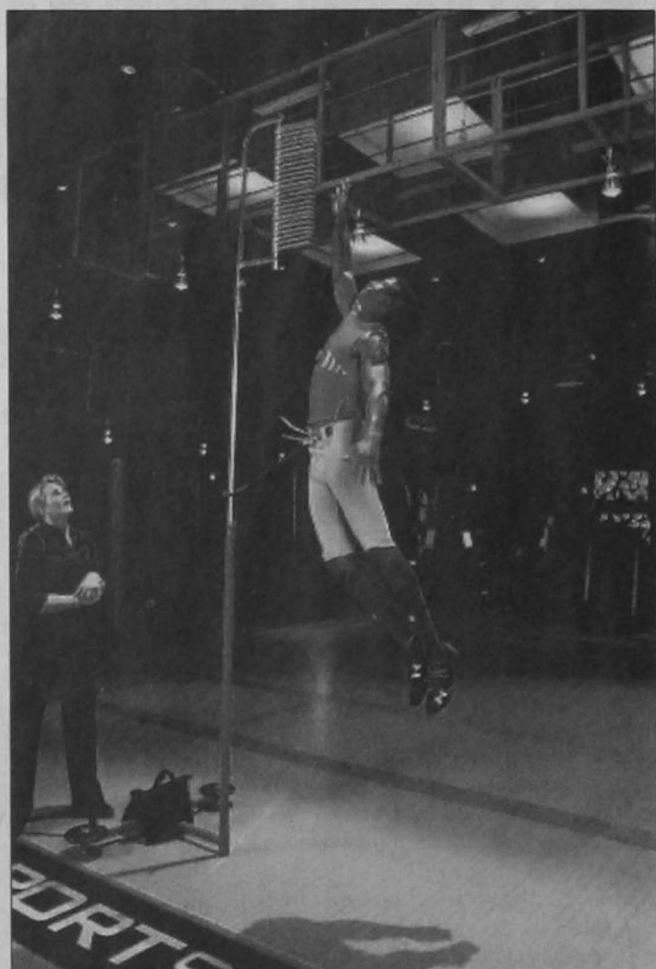
Wayne Bergeron will perform April 18 at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

The clinic will be held in the Presentation Room of the VisTaTech Center and is open to the public.

"We feel this is not only a great opportunity for the public to see a great jazz musician like Wayne Bergeron, but to also see him in action with our students," said Cheryl Hawkins, dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences. "It is going to be a great experience for everyone."

Tickets for the concert are \$15 for general admission, \$10 for students (with identification) and seniors, and \$5 for children under 12. They're available at www.scboxoffice.com or at the Schoolcraft College Bookstore. For more information call (734) 462-4403.

Schoolcraft College is located on Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile in Livonia.



Nominated for Emmys

Titus Young performs a vertical leap test using what are commonly known as slap sticks during "Sport Science" the television series that features Cynthia Bir (left) a Wayne State University professor of biomedical engineering. The show was nominated for two awards at the 32nd annual Sports Emmys, which will be held Monday, May 2 in New York. The "Sport Science" team is nominated for Outstanding Graphic Design and Outstanding New Approaches - Sports Programming - Short Format. The show's first two seasons earned a total of six nominations and three wins at the Sports Emmys. The series uncovers sports' biggest myths and mysteries by using cutting-edge technology to measure momentum, friction and the laws of gravity. Bir, who is the show's lead scientist, helps viewers understand the internal and external forces sustained and generated by the body during high-level athletic activities. The show airs in short segments at various times on ESPN.

The Michigan Philharmonic, formerly the Plymouth Symphony, performs the music of the Indian film industry with guest artists. This year's "Bollywood" show is set for May 6 at the Village Theatre in Canton.



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ART

City Gallery

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, April 14, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, April 15 and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 16

Location: In the Costick Center at 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Farmington Art Foundation holds its Spring Exhibit and Sale. Opening reception, 6 p.m., followed by awards at 6:30 p.m., April 14

Contact: (248) 473-1856

Northville Art House

Time/Date: Entry deadline April 27 for June 3-25 exhibit

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: Call for entries into its "West of Center" all media show. Entry fee is \$25 for up to three entries. Check the Web site for entry form and guidelines

Contact: www.northvillearts.com; (248) 344-0497

COMEDY

Go Comedy!

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays

Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale

Details: Improv most nights. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays

Contact: (248) 327-0575; www.gocomedy.net

JD's House of Comedy

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings

Location: 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield

Details: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday

Contact: (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com

Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia

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

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Floyd J. Phillips, April 13-16; Mark Poolos, April 20-23; Claude Stewart, April 27-30; Mike Green, May 4-7; Rob Little, May 11-14

Benefit event: "Comedy for a Cause," runs 8-10 p.m. Monday, April 19 to benefit the Zonta Club of Northwest Wayne County's scholarship fund. The event features nine female comedians. Tickets are \$15 each, with a \$5 minimum food and drink order required at the show; (735) 464-3728 or www.zonta15.org

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

GET OUT!



See "Tarzan's Secret Treasure" and "Tarzan's New York Adventure" on the big screen April 29-30 at the Redford Theatre.



Shape note singer, Tim Eriksen, will perform April 16 at Trinity House Theatre in Livonia.



Angie Stone will perform April 23 at Music Hall in downtown Detroit.

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle

Time/Date: Michael Somerville, April 14-16; T.J. Miller, April 21-23; Don Friesen, April 28-30; Kathleen Madigan, May 5-7; John Pinette, May 12-14

Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak

Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.edycastle.com

CONCERTS

The Ark

Time/Date: Breathe Owl Breathe & The Photographers, April 14; The Johnny Clegg Band, April 15; Anais Mitchell, April 16; Shape Note Singing, April 17; Peter Yarrow, April 17; Candye Kane, April 19; The Guggenheim Grotto, April 20; Crooked Still & Mike & Ruthy, April 21; The Paper Raincoat, April 22; Brian Vander Ark, April 23; Old Sledge, April 26; William Fitzsimmons & Slow Runner, April 27; Colin Hay & Chris Trapper, April 28-29; Uncle Bonsai, April 30; A Night of Ann Arbor's Best!, May 1; David Roth & Anne Hills, May 2; For Pete's Sake: A Birthday Tribute to Pete Seeger, May 3; Marshall Cranshaw & Freedy Johnston, May 4; Natalia Zukerman, May 5

Location: 316 South Main, Ann Arbor

Contact: (734) 763-8587; www.theark.org

Baseline Folk Society

Time/Date: Third Saturday of the month

Location: The JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: Eight "open-mic" performances plus a featured group. Sign up for open mic from 6:15-6:45 p.m.; show starts at 7 p.m. Open mic performers may sing two songs. If more than eight performers sign up, a lottery will be held for the eight spots. Individual membership is \$25 and includes monthly concerts from September through May. Otherwise, admission to each concert is \$5 at the door. Family memberships are \$50 and include monthly concerts. The next concert, April 16, features Pairadocs Trio, a group known for their renditions of PP&M, Paul Simon and the Beatles. **Contact:** (248) 719-3464 or mjmmullen@yahoo.com

Jazz @ The Elks

Time/Date: 7-10:30 p.m., every fourth Tuesday


Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780 at 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: Jazz musicians perform; no cover, but donations accepted. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres. Naima Shambourger will sing, Sven Anderson will play keyboard, Marion Hayden will be on bass and George Davidson on drums at the next concert on April 26

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

FOOD

Thursday, April 14, 2011

hometownlife  com

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor Sharon Dargay

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883

E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com

Comment online at hometownlife.com

Use walnuts in recipes,
as a snack or topping

Superfood

If you're looking for an easy-to-eat snack food that packs in protein, or a tasty ingredient that adds fiber to your diet, consider walnuts.

Walnuts are unique among nuts because they contain the highest amount of alpha-linolenic acid (ALA), the plant-based omega-3 essential fatty acid, required by the human body. In addition to essential ALA/omega-3 fatty acids, walnuts rank high in antioxidants and offer a convenient source of protein (4 grams) and fiber (2 grams). Walnuts are also a good source of magnesium (44.79 mg/ounce) and phosphorus (98.09 mg/ounce) — both important minerals involved in the body's processes and necessary for achieving optimal wellness.

It's no wonder walnuts are included on numerous "superfood" lists. They've also earned the first approved health claim by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration for a whole food.

To get more walnuts into your diet, try these fast, easy ideas from the California Walnut Board:

- In a smoothie! Cherries, skim milk, walnuts, cinnamon, Greek yogurt, brown sugar ... a cherry crumb pie without the guilt!
- Chicken breasts coated with Dijon mustard, then dredged with fresh breadcrumbs mixed with chopped walnuts and parsley. Sauté in a mixture of butter and oil
- Spread cream cheese on a bagel, top with walnuts that have been chopped and toasted. Sprinkle with cinnamon if desired
- Throw some in a macaroni salad.

All recipes courtesy of Mollie Katzen for the California Walnut Board.

SPINACH LASAGNA WITH WALNUT PESTO

This easy version of lasagna uses the rich taste of spinach and pesto instead of a heavy Bolognese sauce.

A little olive oil for the pan
2 pounds fresh spinach, washed (or 2 10-ounce packages fresh baby spinach leaves, or 2
10-ounce packages frozen, chopped spinach, defrosted)
2 pounds nonfat ricotta cheese or nonfat cottage cheese
1 cup Walnut Pesto (recipe follows)
4 large cloves garlic, minced
½ teaspoon salt
Freshly ground black pepper to taste
½ cup grated Parmesan cheese
½ cup minced walnuts, lightly toasted
124-ounce jar low-sugar tomato sauce (or about 2½ cups of your favorite sauce)
16 fresh, uncooked green (spinach) lasagna noodles or, if using dried, 16 no-boil noodles
½ pound low-fat mozzarella cheese, grated

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Lightly oil a 9- by 13-inch baking pan. If using fresh spinach, chop it fine. If using frozen, chopped spinach, make sure it thoroughly defrosted and squeeze out all the excess water.

Place the ricotta or cottage cheese in a large bowl. Stir in the spinach, pesto, garlic, salt, pepper, half the Parmesan, and the walnuts. Mix well. Spread half the tomato sauce in the bottom of the pan. Place a layer of uncooked noodles over the sauce. Spoon about ½ of the ricotta or cottage filling in dabs over the noodles (you can spread it a little, but not too much) and sprinkle with ½ of the grated mozzarella. Follow with another layer of sauce, then noodles, followed by another ½ of the filling, and another ½ of the mozzarella. Repeat one more time, and then finish up with a final layer of noodles. You will have some Parmesan left over.

If you are using fresh noodles, bake uncovered. If you are using dried noodles, cover the pan tightly with foil.

Bake for 50 minutes, uncovering the pan (if applicable) during the last 15 minutes, during which time you can sprinkle on the reserved Parmesan. (In the case of the uncovered pan, if the top of the lasagna becomes as brown as you like it before the full baking time is up, cover loosely with foil and continue baking, so it won't get too dark.) Remove from the oven and let rest for about 10 minutes before serving.

Serves 8

WALNUT PESTO

3 packed cups fresh basil leaves
3 large cloves garlic
½ cup lightly toasted walnuts
½ cup extra virgin olive oil
½ cup grated Parmesan
Salt and pepper to taste
Optional: additional extra virgin olive oil (for storage)

Place the basil leaves and garlic in a food processor or blender, and mix well.

Add the walnuts, and continue to blend until the nuts are finely ground.

Keep the machine running as you drizzle in the olive oil. When you have a smooth paste, transfer to a bowl, and stir in the Parmesan. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

If you are not going to use the pesto right away, place in a container that has a tight-fitting lid. Smooth out the top surface of the pesto, and pour on enough olive oil to cover it completely. This creates an air-proof seal that helps preserve it well. Cover tightly and store in the refrigerator.

Yields 1 cup.

Nutrition information per lasagna serving: 560 calories, 24g total fat, 6g saturated fat, 9g monounsaturated fat, 6g polyunsaturated fat, 0g trans fat, 34mg cholesterol, 583mg sodium, 54g total carbohydrate, 12g dietary fiber, 38g protein.



Spring Couscous with Green Onions, Walnuts & Peas



Spinach Lasagna with Walnut Pesto

SWEET-SOUR STIR-FRY WITH WALNUTS

Stir-fry is all about very high heat and cooking things quickly in a specific order so that it all ends up at just the right degree of doneness at the same time. First, have all of your ingredients prepped and close at hand. Second, read the recipe carefully and really get it in your head before you start. The idea is that once you start cooking, it's continuous—you should never have to stop to search for something or read about what to do next. Once the cutting is done, the actual cooking time is just a matter of minutes.

A nice, large wok and a metal wok spatula are best for stir-frying, but a large skillet and a serving spoon will work well, too. You can substitute cooked chicken breast, cut into thin strips for the tofu if you wish. Start some rice before you begin, so it's ready at the same time as the stir-fry.

The Glaze:
½ cup orange juice (from 1 medium orange)
2 tablespoons cider vinegar
1 tablespoon soy sauce
1 tablespoon brown sugar or honey
1 tablespoon minced fresh ginger
2 teaspoons minced garlic (2 good-sized cloves)
1 teaspoon toasted sesame oil
½ teaspoon red pepper flakes
1 tablespoon cornstarch
The Stir-Fry:
2 tablespoons canola oil
1 medium onion, cut into large (1½-inch) squares
½ teaspoon salt
2 medium carrots, sliced on the diagonal (1/4-inch thick)
½ a medium head cauliflower, in 1-inch florets (about 3 cups)
½ a medium head broccoli, chopped (about 3 cups)
About 15 mushrooms — stems trimmed, wiped clean, and quartered
1 pound very firm tofu, cut into ¾-inch cubes
2 small zucchini (one yellow, one green), chopped or diced
1 medium red bell pepper, cut into 1-inch squares
1½ cups lightly toasted walnut pieces
Green onions, thinly sliced, for garnish
Orange zest, for garnish

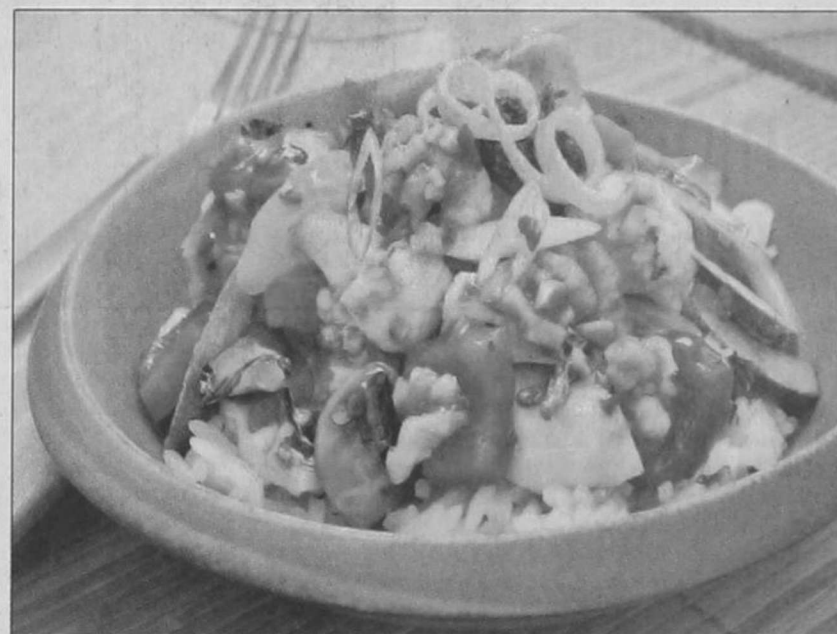
Combine all the glaze ingredients (except the cornstarch) in a liquid measuring cup with a spout, and whisk until blended. Place the cornstarch in a small bowl, and drizzle in about ¼ cup of the glaze, whisking constantly until the cornstarch is dissolved. The mixture will be cloudy. Pour this solution back into the measuring cup, whisking it in. Set aside, leaving the whisk in the cup.

Have all the vegetables and the tofu cut and in bowls or containers near the stove. Place a wok or large, deep skillet over medium heat and wait about a minute. Pour in 1 tablespoon of the oil, and swirl to coat the pan (or just push the oil around with a wok spatula or serving spoon). Turn the heat to high, add the onion and ¼ teaspoon of the salt, and stir-fry for 1 minute. Add the other tablespoon of oil, plus the carrot, cauliflower, and broccoli — and another ½ teaspoon of the salt. Keep the heat high and the vegetables moving, and stir-fry for approximately 2 minutes, or until the broccoli turns bright green and shiny.

Add the mushrooms and tofu or chicken and the remaining ¼ teaspoon of salt. Keep the heat high, and continue to stir-fry for another minute, mixing all the vegetables up from the bottom of the pan. Add the zucchini and bell pepper, and cook one more minute.

Whisk the glaze to reincorporate the cornstarch (it will have settled to the bottom) then quickly pour the whole cupful into the wok or skillet. Cook and stir for just about a minute more, adding in the walnuts at the very last second. The glaze will coat everything and thicken a little. Serve immediately, over rice.

Makes 4 servings. Nutrition information per serving: 454 calories, 22g protein, 28g carbohydrate, 8g fiber, 32g total fat, 3g saturated fat, 7g monounsaturated fat, 20g polyunsaturated fat, 0mg cholesterol, 455mg sodium



Sweet-Sour Stir-Fry with Walnuts

WALNUT BUTTER-RHUBARB-GOAT CHEESE CROSTINI

A blissful appetizer for an early spring party! You can make both the Walnut Butter and Rhubarb Sauce several days ahead of time. Store in the refrigerator until use. Assemble the crostini just before serving. If you can't find rhubarb you can use your favorite recipe of cranberry sauce.

1 fresh high-quality baguette (unseeded; not sourdough)
3 ounces very fresh goat cheese
Honey to taste (optional)
Walnut Butter (recipe follows)
Rhubarb Sauce (recipe follows)

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Cut the baguette on the diagonal into ½-inch slices, and spread them in a single layer on a baking tray. Bake in the center of the oven until lightly toasted. Cool just slightly.

In a small bowl, mash the goat cheese until spread-ably soft, and sweeten (slightly) to taste, if desired, with a little honey.

To serve: Spread each little toast with a little goat cheese, keeping the layer even so the other toppings won't fall off. Add a little Walnut Butter, pushing it down with the back of a spoon. Top each piece with a small spoonful of Rhubarb Sauce. Arrange on an attractive platter and serve to your delighted guests. Yield: 8 to 10 appetizer servings.

WALNUT BUTTER

2 cups very fresh walnuts
¼ teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons walnut or vegetable oil
Optional: A little honey and a little cinnamon

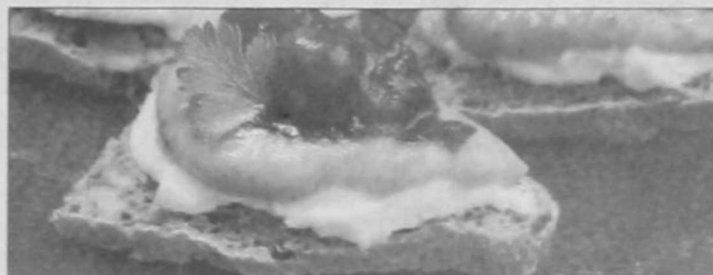
Soak walnuts overnight. Drain; discard water and then toast them, spread out in a single layer on a tray, in a toaster oven or oven at 250 degrees for about 20 minutes, or until aromatic. Don't let them get dark. Cool, then transfer to the small work bowl of a food processor and grind as far as you can before adding salt and as much oil as needed to bind it together. If you like add small touches of honey and/or cinnamon to taste. Yield: about 1 cup

RHUBARB SAUCE

2 heaping cups chopped rhubarb (fresh or frozen)
2 tablespoons agave nectar
Small pinch of salt

Place the rhubarb in a medium-small saucepan, cover, and cook over medium-low heat (nothing added!) for about 10 minutes, or until "saucy." Remove from heat, and stir in agave and salt. Let cool to room temperature. Yield: About ½ cups

Variation: If you can't find rhubarb you can substitute the tart-sweetness of cranberries.



Walnut Butter-Rhubarb-Goat Cheese Crostini

REAL ESTATE

PAGE B8 (*) Thursday, April 14, 2011

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Julie Brown, editor, (313) 222-6755
jcbrown@hometownlife.com

Storm damage?

Make sure repairs are done right and on time

Severe weather can cause damage that prompts homeowners to seek repairs in a hurry. The Better Business Bureau (BBB) advises consumers to take a deep breath and check contractors out before signing a contract.

"When homeowners need repairs due to storm damage, they often consider it an emergency that must be fixed immediately," said Patrick Bennett, BBB director of Community Relations. "However, a quick decision may cause regrets. Consumers need to make sure that the contractors they hire are qualified and reliable before they sign a contract or pay any money."

The BBB recommends that consumers ask contractors for local references and check with those customers to see whether they were satisfied with the work. If possible, inspect completed projects as well. If customers are pleased with the jobs, they'll probably be proud to show off the results.

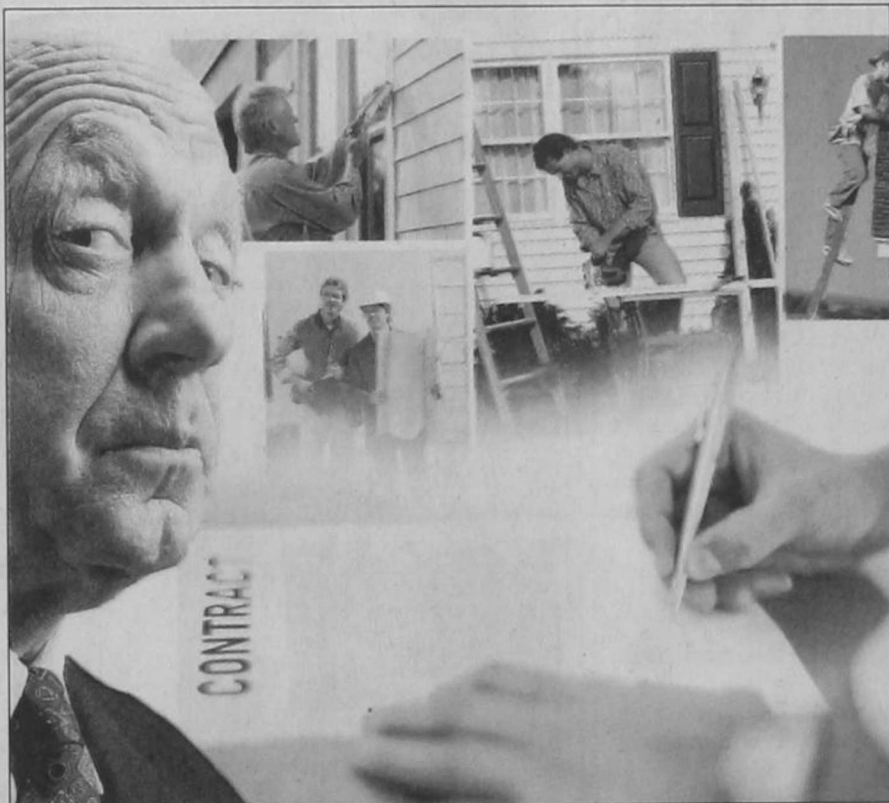
Consumers can check contractors' Reliability Reports on the BBB website, www.bbb.org. The reports give a letter grade from A+ down to F that indicates a company's performance on 16 weighted factors, including its response to any complaints. The reports also give general information, such as the company's phone number, length of time in business and owner's name.

On the Eastern Michigan and Upper Peninsula's BBB's website, easternmichigan.bbb.org, our "Request a Quote" feature can connect you with contractors that are BBB Accredited Businesses. These businesses have pledged to comply with BBB standards, such as advertising honestly, honoring promises and responding to customer complaints.

When you click on the "Request a Quote" button, you can select the type of business you are searching for and narrow your search to businesses within a specified distance from your home. (You can click on any business name to get a Reliability Report.) At that point, you may either contact the businesses directly or ask them to contact you. "Request a Quote" has a contact form that allows you to describe your project and ask contractors to contact you about it in the way you want to be contacted — by phone, e-mail, mail or fax.

The BBB has the following tips for hiring contractors:

- Be cautious of door-to-door salespeople who use high-pressure sales tactics.
- Seek at least three bids from prospective contractors based on the same specifications, materials and labor needed to complete the project. Homeowners should discuss bids in detail with each contractor and ask questions about variations in pricing.



ing. The lowest-priced contractor may not be the best.

• Consumers should ask whether the company is insured against claims covering workers' compensation, property damage and personal liability in case of accidents. Consumers should obtain the name of the insurance carrier and call to verify coverage.

• Ask whether the contractor meets licensing and bonding requirements set by the state, county or city.

• Check with local authorities to find out whether permits are needed before proceeding with the work. The contractor also should be aware of any required permits.

• Ask whether the contractor will

provide a lien waiver upon completion of the job. A lien waiver is a statement by the contractor that all suppliers and subcontractors have been paid for their work.

• Read and understand the contract before signing. Get any verbal promises in writing. Include start and completion dates in the contract.

• Remember the rule of thirds. Pay one-third at the start of the project, one-third when work is 50 percent completed and one-third after completion.

For more information to help you make smart, informed decisions about projects around your home, check with the BBB by going online to www.bbb.org or by calling (248) 223-9400.

Approach building ban with care

BY ROBERT MEISNER
GUEST COLUMNIST

Q: I am a member of the board of a commercial medical office condominium. We are thinking about banning drug and alcohol treatment facilities from operating within any unit where the drug or alcohol treatment facility either dispenses or prescribes drugs for treatments with opiods such as methadone or Suboxone. Do you have any comments?

A: This is a very difficult question as it may involve issues concerning public policy and/or discrimination such as the ADA. More than likely there is no fair housing issue because it is not a residential condominium. While it may



Robert Meisner

well be an unsettled issue, I think there is a good argument that you can legally ban such a commercial operation, but I would

try to tie the ban to some operation or interest of the other unit owners such as loitering, trash or other negative factor more common to such a treatment facility, if at all possible. You should get an opinion from legal counsel as to how you can do this so that the board is protected in the event that there is future litigation. You might also consider banning "pill mills" in the documents. You should also look into whether this activity is preempted by zoning. Also, is this a prohibited business use, when the operation is creating increased risk, i.e., an increase in insurance costs, etc.

Q: Should we make our attorney or our managing agent the resident agent for purposes of service of process?

A: In this litigious world, it would be my recommendation that you have the attorney for the association be the registered agent and have his office as the registered office for the Association so that any and all legal notices including service of process and other requirements for reporting, etc. be sent to your attorney so that there is no question as to the receipt of same on behalf of the association as well as advising the board in a dispassionate way as to the consequence of any legal proceedings initiated against the association.

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

SENIOR LIVING

Seniors: Consider costs, choice of lifestyle in move

BY NANCY AUSTIN
SENIORS REAL ESTATE SPECIALIST

How do I know if you can afford to move? What are my options?

These questions are intertwined with and also take into consideration your financial position. The majority of people will want to know what the equity is in their home. This will help determine the kind of move you make.

In almost every case, you will be downsizing. Here is a sampling of choices available.

Condo living: If you are presently in a house and merely wish to escape the outdoor maintenance, consider condo living. There are many choices within this category. It makes the most sense to purchase a one-story condo, ground

floor unit. Be careful here. A one-floor condo could be on the second floor of a building. Basements, garages and carports are all considerations.



Nancy Austin

Active Adult Community: This is for the totally independent person. Several floor plans are available for purchase including attached and detached condos. Described as "carefree living," the village is built on several-hundred tranquil acres, offering a club house, often elaborate, indoor and outdoor pool, entertainment facilities, nature preserve, business center to name a

few. Activities abound. No medical facilities are within the "village" but are usually close by. They are for the seniors who remain very active, but desire the amenities of senior living. In southeast Michigan there are two such communities. Bridgewater in Brownstown and Grand Reserve in Grand Blanc.

Senior Retirement Living: In other parts of the country it may be referred to as a Senior Retirement Hotel, which describes the kind of building you frequently see. Some may be single story. Most of them are apartments you rent, but occasionally you may invest into the apartment. Commonalities include different levels of care including independent living, assisted living, and may include an

Alzheimer's unit. The more care and assistance you need, the higher the cost. All provide even the minimum assistance such as help with medications. At least one meal a day is provided and often laundry. Most have dining rooms, activity rooms, and bus transportation. Pull cords are in every apartment for emergencies. Nurses may be on staff or on call. Ages range from 62+ with the average being in the 80s. These proliferate all over the metro Detroit area and in most areas in the country both small and large cities.

To be continued ...

Seniors Real Estate Specialist **Nancy Austin** may be reached at nancyaustin@gmail.com or by calling her at (734) 718-8900.

HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 27-31, 2010, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

1129 Whittier Dr	\$90,000
Garden City	
28529 Dawson St	\$23,000
33614 Leona St	\$83,000
29000 Marquette St	\$67,000
32543 Windsor St	\$70,000
Livonia	
34925 Six Mile Rd	\$128,000
34145 Dover St	\$70,000
18563 Gillman St	\$72,000
20375 Hubbard St	\$138,000
11786 Hunters Park Ct	\$50,000
18360 Lathers St	\$23,000
32841 Middleboro St	\$156,000
30990 Orangelawn St	\$110,000

15148 Paderewski St	\$110,000
35195 Parkdale St	\$127,000
35940 Parkdale St	\$105,000
16782 Penn Dr	\$180,000
33039 Perth St	\$155,000
32200 Schoolcraft Rd	\$341,000
33016 Scone St	\$160,000
18276 University Park Dr	\$103,000
Northville	
19063 Angell Blvd	\$596,000
48237 Binghamton Ct	\$90,000
16477 Brook Trout Ln	\$460,000
429 Covington Ct	\$180,000
50305 Cressnut Ct	\$20,000
16010 Jupiter Hills Dr	\$50,000

17278 Maple Hill Dr	\$302,000
46592 Pinehurst Cir	\$548,000
15349 Prestwick Cir N	\$506,000
39481 Springwater Dr	\$134,000
42482 Steepleview St	\$225,000
39567 Village Run Dr	\$240,000
16131 Westminster Dr	\$20,000
Plymouth	
11900 E Hills Dr	\$330,000
1112 Hartsough St	\$93,000
48655 Harvest Dr	\$250,000
570 Jener Pl	\$175,000
42217 Old Pond Cir	\$78,000
48967 Tuscan Hills Dr	\$400,000
Redford	

9065 Arnold	\$60,000
18474 Centralia	\$32,000
9127 Virgil	\$55,000
Westland	
7351 Arcola St	\$55,000
33515 Birchlawn	\$155,000
841 Fairlane St	\$77,000
30607 Hivley St	\$70,000
33248 Hivley St	\$50,000
39229 Maes St	\$120,000
2630 Muirfield Dr	\$123,000
8220 Parkside Dr	\$180,000
6036 Wilmer St	\$34,000

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 27-31, 2010, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

2026 Hazel St	\$330,000
1278 Lakeside Dr	\$485,000
2478 Pembroke Rd	\$402,000
1858 S Bates St	\$215,000
Commerce Township	
1926 Applebrook Dr	\$50,000
3388 Circle Dr	\$515,000
3989 Loch Bend Dr	\$285,000
1806 Portlock Ave	\$125,000
Farmington Hills	
22268 Albion Ave	\$20,000
22269 Albion Ave	\$20,000
38356 Churchill Ln	\$120,000
21735 Colgate St	\$15,000
29208 Creek Bend Dr	\$195,000
28625 Grand River Ave	\$205,000

33496 Kirby St	\$21,000
29629 Monterey Cir	\$85,000
29010 Oak Point Dr	\$225,000
39311 Silverthorne Bnd	\$240,000
32011 Tareyton St	\$119,000
23135 Tuck Rd	\$86,000
Lathrup Village	
18785 Glenwood Blvd	\$106,000
Milford	
1384 Rowe Rd	\$140,000
Novi	
50985 Almati Ct	\$50,000
50986 Almati Ct	\$50,000
24537 Bashian Dr	\$53,000
24748 Fairway Hills Dr	\$180,000
South Lyon	

25405 Collingwood Dr	\$30,000
61282 Greenwood Dr	\$46,000
24579 King Post Ct	\$61,000
23907 Prescott Ct	\$61,000
23459 Prescott Ln E	\$61,000
Southfield	
28049 Everett St	\$19,000
17244 Jeanette St	\$95,000
27416 Marshall St	\$116,000
29416 Marshall St	\$39,000
17671 New Hampshire Dr	\$50,000
16482 W 11 Mile Rd	\$37,000
29070 Wellington Rd W	\$85,000
29323 Westbrook Pkwy	\$27,000
White Lake	
9095 Huron Bluffs Dr	\$280,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Career Seminar

A Real Estate Career Seminar will be held 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 21, at Keller Williams Realty, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. You can learn about the free pre-licensure course. For more information, contact Lesley Aiello at (734) 459-4700 or laiello@kw.com.

BIA

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

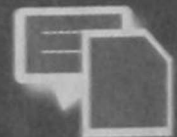
Kathleen Mabie of Ann Arbor-based Success On Site will provide guidelines to increase occupancy immediately. Topics to be presented include Competitive Analysis, Closing from Start to Finish, Secure Contacts when they call, hit websites, or send e-mail, Meet and Greet Interface, Follow-up and more. The entire leasing process will be covered. Registration fees are \$69 for PMC members, \$79 for AAM or Building Industry Association members and \$99 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at: www.builders.org/events.php.

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

The seminars will be presented by Dawn Drozd, business coach and CEO of ClearVision Business Coaching.

Part One, to be presented on April 19 is "Measure Twice, Cut Once." Part Two is "Your Master Blueprint" and will be held on June 15. Part Three is "Project Review" and will be held on Oct. 19. The April 19 program will begin at 12:30 p.m. with lunch followed by the seminar from 1-2:30 p.m. It will be held at the Ford Conference & Event Center at 1151 Village Road in Dearborn in conjunction with the Pella Pro Expo being held at that location. The June 15 and Oct. 19 programs will each run from noon to 2 p.m., including lunch, at Association Offices, 2075 Walnut Lake Road in West Bloomfield. Registration fees for members or guests are \$40 per person for each seminar or \$80 per person, if you register for all three seminars. For information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at: www.builders.org/events.php.

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Fischer Body Refinishing of Farmington Hills is seeking a full time porter. Must have good driving record. We offer Health, Dental, Life, Disability and 401K. Apply within only: 34600 Grand River Ave. (between Farmington & Drake).

BINDERY PERSON

Livonia based commercial off-set printing company is seeking a full time bindery person for our day shift. Must be experienced with Stahl/Baum folders & programmable cutters. Health & Retirement offered. Email or fax resume: 734-953-9648 angelo@vtecpint.com

Wendy's

CREW MEMBERS:

Now hiring at our Detroit Metro Airport location. Looking for crew members willing to start as early as 4am. Apply online at: pleaseapplyonline.com/stanton

DIRECT CARE STAFF

Work with developmentally disabled adults. Canton. (734) 722-4580 x9

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PT positions available. Positive attitudes a must. Must have clean driving record. Starting \$7.61/hr. (734) 341-1629

Pictures Can Make A Difference!

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OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS

Help Wanted-General 5000

DONATION CENTER ASSOCIATE/DRIVER FOR WESTLAND/ MADISON HEIGHTS AREA
Drive route vehicle, collect donations, unloading trucks, trailers and carts, lift and carry objects, weight loads, stack, store product, complete reports, able to work independently without direct supervision. Must pass drug test. MVR/criminal background check and basic training. Email resume to: mhubbard@noh.east-seals.com or fax to: 419-841-1534

DRIVER/SALES

\$575-\$975/per wk. Training Provided. Valid Driver's License required. Call between 10am-2pm. (248) 471-5200

DRIVERS/ CREW MEMBERS

Quality driven Moving Company looking for self-motivated, teamwork oriented individuals with moving experience a plus (will train). Excellent benefits, profit sharing, 401K, bonus program and room for advancement. Call Brenden at: 734-573-2632 or fax resume to 734-485-8748

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Call 313-292-9300 \$-15/Hr Distributes/delivers products products. Maintain equipment. E1 \$185 \$199 Use Co truck.

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Visit www.schoolcraft.edu/hr to view our exceptional benefits!

Full-time Staff & Administrative Opportunities

•Data Analyst

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Full-time Faculty Opportunities starting in the Fall 2011 semester in the areas of:

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•Medical Assisting

•Biology

•Emergency Medical Technology

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Continuing Education & Professional Development. Kids on Campus Summer 2011- Robotics and Web Design Instructors needed!

Visit <http://jobs.schoolcraft.edu> to view and apply to these postings.

Deadlines are approaching so apply now!

EOE

Help Wanted-General 5000

EMAGINE
THE QUALITY OF SERVICE & WORK

Imagine Theatres & Star Lanes at Imagine Royal Oak

Accepting applications for the following:

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Imagine offers a competitive starting pay, annual merit incentives, flexible schedule and more.

Accepting applications Monday-Saturday 10am-6pm

EMAGINE Royal Oak
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Seeking candidates looking for career oppy. Weekly salary + comm + full benefits. Tony 248-379-9006 EOE/M/F/D/V/AA

GROUNDKEEPER/ POOL ATTENDANT

Apt. Community in Livonia seeking groundskeeper/pool attendant. Apply in person: FRANKLIN SQUARE 28940 Lancaster, Livonia No Phone Calls. Please

INDUSTRIAL MACHINIST

10 + yrs. exp. Needed in Redford. Candidate must be able to operate Mill, Boring Mill, Lathe, Horizontal Saw. Must be able to read prints, use precision equip, machine parts from samples. Exc. benefits & wages commensurate w/exp. Resume: PO Box 525 Dearborn, MI 48120

JOB FAIR - SEARS LIVONIA

29500 W. 7 Mile Rd. April 21, 2011, 10am-5pm. Now Hiring - Cashiers, Home Appliances, Lawn and Garden, Receiving. Come apply within or go to: Sears.com/apply, EOE

LAWN CARE LABORERS

\$440/wk + bonuses + full benefits. Must have good driving record. Call Chris 313-218-8634 EOE/M/F/D/V/AA

LAWN CUTTING & LANDSCAPE HELP

Full-time. Plymouth area. 734-564-1273

LAWN MAINTENANCE

A Livonia based lawn co. seeking full-time employees. Exp. & valid drivers license required. Call: (734) 522-4121

LEASING CONSULTANT

For retirement community in Westland. Enthusiastic, pleasant, energetic, a real go-getter. Training provided. Full-time with Sat's. Compensation includes benefits and 401K. Fax resume: 734-729-9840 E.O.E.

Help Wanted-General 5000

Manufacturing

US FARATHANE CORPORATION
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Compression Molding/ Thermofom/ Vactorm Technician

Candidates must meet the following requirements:

- Have 2-3 years of experience with compression molding, thermoforming and vactorming equipment in the automotive industry
- Ability to trouble shoot/fix molds and equipment
- Ability to perform tool changes and operate a Hilo and overhead crane
- Must be able to work all 3 shifts and able to work daily and weekend overtime.

RESUMES MAY BE FAXED TO: (734) 844-0638 OR EMAILED TO: westlandjobpostings@usfarathane.com No phone calls please

Check out our website: www.usfarathane.com

USF is an equal opportunity employer. We take pride in our diverse workforce.

MARKETING/ SALES POSITION

For assisted living facility in Livonia. Candidate should have proven outside sales abilities while also working in a team environment. Minimum 2/3 years experience in health-care with related contacts a plus. Must have strong communication skills, attention to detail and desire to work with aging population. Please fax resumes to: 734-332-8922

MECHANIC/WELDER

Must have exp with Mig Welder and vehicle with 12-volt wiring. Send resume to: PO Box 39179 Redford MI 48239 Fax: 313-837-5374 Email: cep1934@aol.com

OPERATIONS MANAGER

\$35K + Benefits, full-time, 2nd shift, managing contract cleaning in greater Detroit area. Duties include customer service, employee relations, supply & labor coordination. Must be computer literate, organized, effective writer, results oriented. Visit our website at: www.grbsinc.com Send cover letter & resume to: bwalburn@grbsinc.com or fax: 616-451-2201 EOE

PARKING ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANT

Part Time The City of Birmingham

The City of Birmingham is seeking qualified candidates to assist the Police Dept. in enforcing parking ordinances up to 20 hrs/wk. Duties include patrolling by foot & vehicle, issuing parking citations, & assisting in other dept. activities. Applicants must possess HS diploma or equivalent, valid MI driver's license, and 1-2 yrs of work exp. involving substantial public contact. Some college coursework in Crim. Justice or a related field preferred. Starting at \$13/hour. Accepting applications until Monday, April 25, 2011. More information at: www.bhamgov.org/jobs EOE

Help Wanted-General 5000

Part Time Position
LOC Federal Credit Union has an opening for an exp'd. Financial Services Representative. Excellent sales skills are a must. Email current resume with salary requirements to: resume@locfederal.com

Remodeling Contractors

Rapidly expanding remodeling company seeking contractors to install kitchens, bathrooms, additions basements and any type home improvements. Must have references and be reliable. We have a complete showroom and 21 years exp. Fax: 248-437-0526 Email: jim@segni.net Call 248-974-6369 440 N M-F 3-6pm South Lyon, MI

Siding Installers

Exp. siding installers and sub contract crews. Must have a valid drivers license & dependable transportation. Experience helpful, but will train the right candidates. Drug Free Workplace. Apply at: FiberClass Contracting 47220 Cartier Drive Wixom, MI 48393

SYSTEM MODULAR FURNITURE INSTALLER

Quality driven Office Installation Co. looking for self-motivated, teamwork oriented individuals. Knowledge of multiple systems and systems furniture reconfiguration required/ Warehouse exp a plus. Excel benefits, profit sharing, 401K, bonus program & room for advancement. Call Brenden 734-573-2632 to schedule an interview appl.

TECHNICIAN/ RELIEF DRIVER

Full-time for a national vending machine company. Responsibilities include: repairs on vending machines, parts, inventory, machine installation, covering routes, warehouse work & service calls. Use own vehicle, some travel & overnights involved. Territory is mostly southern MI, warehouse is in Westland. Salary, mileage, benefits & 401K. Call: 734-326-0300, ext. 115 or email resumes to: jmcled@winstuff.com, EOE

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OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

EOE06049612

Help Wanted-General 5000

Whse (ASSEMBLY) NO EXP NEEDED \$-13/hr Benefits! Call 313-292-9300
Assembly, Box, Label on line Local Company Hiring NOW! E1 \$185 J#158 PERMANENT

Help Wanted-Office Clerical

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Farmington Hills based real estate development firm seeking an energetic self-starting individual with excellent phone skills for multiple-line phone system. Must be highly organized as well as proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel. Transcription from dictation required. This position offers competitive salary and benefits package. Please forward resume via email to: jdemetriou@grandsakwa.com

Help Wanted-Dental

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Part-Time Includes Saturday for periodontal office. Must have surgical exp, radiology certified. Farmington Hills area. Call Karen: 248-851-1034

Help Wanted-Medical

FRONT DESK RECEPTIONIST
Min. 2 - 3 yrs. exp. with check-in, check-out and appointment scheduling, strong interpersonal/communication skills, team player w/h ability to multitask. Full-time, competitive salary, excellent benefit pkg & 401k plan. Email resume to: JMarquedant@heartdts.com

MEDICAL ASSISTANT

For pediatric office in Livonia. Exp. preferred. Approx. 20 hrs/week. Call: 734-591-0220

NURSE, RN/LPN

Afternoon Shift. Apply in person: Plymouth Inn Assisted Living 205 Haggerty Rd.

OPTICAL ASSISTANT, FT

Must be exp'd. Belleville location. Great hours. Call: 734-284-2020

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

RECOVERY NURSE
Experienced. Must be willing to work flexible hours and Saturdays. Position is contingent. Please email resume: office@gowdand.com or fax: 248-305-5880

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RN's, Scrub Techs, Biller/Coder and Clerical Staff needed.
FT, PT, Contingent positions available at single specialty surgery center due to open in May in Livonia. State of the art facility offering quality patient care in a team oriented fast-paced environment. Exp'd. applicants only. Please inquire via email: surgerycenter33@gmail.com

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Golf Course Now Hiring: Part & Full Time • Line Cooks • Apply in person: Links of Novi, 50395 10 Mile, Novi.

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Thursday
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ACROSS

1 Listener's need
4 Remains
8 — my words!
12 Paris street
13 Bombay nanny
14 State without doubt
15 Spiky flowers
17 Ugh!
18 Most peculiar
19 Wane
21 Rumor, perhaps
22 Swerved
26 Dye for wood
29 Membership dues
30 Forfeited ender
31 Major conflicts
32 Get — of that junk!
33 Treadmill unit
34 Retiree's kitty
35 Kyoto honorific
36 Puts an edge on
37 Mean elf

DOWN

39 — Paulo, Brazil
40 Loop trains
41 Chess pieces
45 Merry king of rhyme
48 South Pole conqueror
50 Love, to Claudius
51 Apply paint
52 NFL player
53 Sugar amts.
54 Youngsters
55 Head, slangily

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

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Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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Check your answers here

Sudoku

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PICK-UP 2008
Gray, Auto. \$24,995
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BUICK, GMC
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CHEVY BLAZER 2004
Burgundy, 4x4, 44K, \$10,495
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2008
Extra clean, 32k miles.
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Artic White, 51k, and ABS!
Great condition!
Only \$9,235!
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1500LT CREW CAB 2009
Extra clean, one owner,
15,152 miles. \$23,875
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Diesel, crew cab: \$38,495
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2008
Extra extra clean, only 26k
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Dodge Dakota Quad Cab
Pickup 2000 4x4, remote
start, new tires & brakes, will
main/good cond. 98,800
miles. \$5500. 734-261-5618

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Desert Sand, XLT, 4WD, and
power options! Rides like
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XLT and 4 wheel drive!
Muscle to tow! Call For Price!
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XLT and 4 wheel drive!
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power! Just \$22,995!
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AWD, Leather, more! \$21,495
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Blue Lagoon, LT, 4WD and
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Safe and reliable SUV!
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GMC ENVY XL 2004
4x4, Black. Only \$8,995
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GMC JIMMY 2001
4x4, burgundy, \$4,995
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Extra Clean, Non-Smoker, a
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AWD, silver, \$21,995
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2008
Navigation, loaded, super
clean, great miles.
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4x4, white, \$17,395
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4x4, moon, 29K, \$18,995
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PREMIER 2007
Leather, loaded, extra clean.
\$22,980 Stk #P21254
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Certified, extra clean, only
28k miles. \$23,995
Stk #11T1076A
DEALER
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Blue, only \$16,995
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Extra extra clean, low miles.
\$6,995 Stk #10T4004A
DEALER
734-402-8774

FORD EXPLORER 2006
Midnight Black, Eddie Bauer,
37K and leather! Ride with
confidence! Just \$16,995!
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FORD EXPLORER 2007
Extra clean, loaded, low
miles. \$16,995 Stk #P21223
DEALER
734-402-8774

FORD EXPLORER 2007
Extra clean, V-6, low miles.
\$14,995 Stk #10T13828
DEALER
734-402-8774

FORD FLEX SEL 2009
Extra clean, 20K miles, one
owner, Ford certified.
\$25,995 Stk #11T5003A
DEALER
734-402-8774

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Silver, navigation, DVD.
\$42,995
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GMC ENVY 2002
SLT, 62k, \$11,495
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GMC ENVY 2005
Black, 43K, \$12,995
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Black, 43K, \$12,995
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Black, 43K, \$12,995
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Black, 43K, \$12,995
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GMC ENVY 2009
Black, 43K, \$12,995
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Buick 8360

LA SABRE LIMITED 2005
Tan, leather. Only \$9995
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BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

LASABRE 2000
Silver, 43K, \$6995
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LUCERNE 2006
Silver Shine, CXL, chrome &
heated seats! Royal comfort!
Call for Price!
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LUCERNE CXL 2006
Burgundy, leather. \$8995
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REGAL 1998
Burgundy, Sharp! \$6495.
BOB JEANNOTTE
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CTS 2008- Silver, 27,000
miles, sunroof, showroom
cond., never known winter.
\$24,000. 810-417-0842

STS 2006
LTH, moon, p. white. \$17,995
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AVEO 2009
Blue Moon, LT, 12k, and
OnStar! Fun comes in all
sizes! Just \$11,795!
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CAMARO 2000
Very clean, Only 68k miles.
\$4,995 Stk #P21287
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**Welcome
Boys and Girls!
Celebrate Earth Day!
Friday, April 22, 2011**

Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights!

Hey kids!

How do you celebrate Earth Day?

What kinds of things do you do for the Earth every day? Write an essay, no more than 150 words, on what you do for the Earth?

Do you plant trees? Do you recycle?

Scoop will pick 5 random winners.

**Winners will receive 2 Glow
in the Dark Mini Golf passes
to the Novi Putting Edge!**

Send your essay **PLUS** your photo
for the Earth Day Contest to:

Scoop the Newshound

c/o: Michele Austin

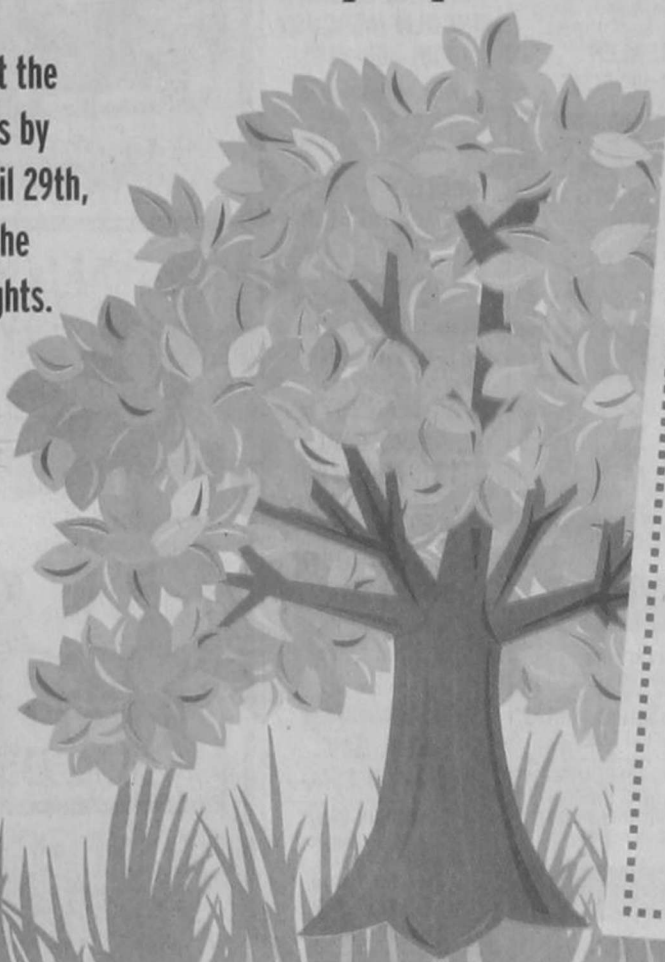
41304 Concept Drive

Plymouth, MI 48170

Deadline for submissions: 4/29/11

All entries need to be received at the
Observer & Eccentric Newspapers by
close of the business day on April 29th,
for winners to be announced in the
May's Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.

**Prizes
sponsored by:**



**Win Fun
Prizes!**



Earth Day Contest

Youth Name: _____

Youth Age: _____

Youth Community: _____

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

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

Lucky winners from last month's contest



Molly Berry
Age: 6
Northville



Parker Howard
Age: 5
Garden City

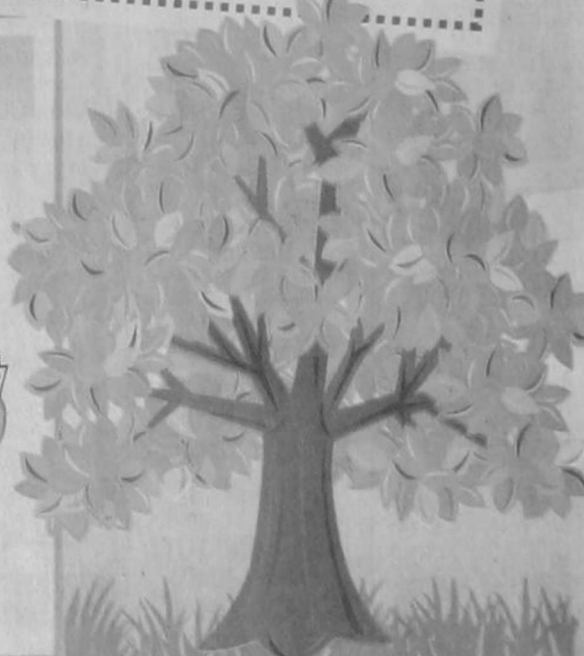


Merida Roperti
Age: 9
Livonia

Maverick Roperti
Age: 7
Livonia



Edén Messner
Age: 11
Garden City



Scoop, the newshound, will be offering contests on a monthly basis. Look for Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights page monthly in this newspaper!