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THURSDAY

May 12, 2011

The Observer & Eccentric
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CONNECTION

School town hall

Parent legislative action groups from a variety of school districts are "Bringing Lansing Home" for a town hall-style meeting on school funding Monday, May 16, from 7-9 p.m. at Walnut Creek Middle School (in the Walled Lake school district).

Join parents, teachers, students and residents from Canton, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Northville, Novi, Plymouth, South Lyon, Walled Lake and West Bloomfield to meet directly with local legislators on topics including an overview of both the state general fund and the school aid fund, proposed K-12 budget and reform legislation, legislator positions on passed and pending bills and a public comment portion. Walnut Creek Middle School is located at 7601 Walnut Lake in West Bloomfield.

Numerous legislators have been invited, including state Reps. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, and Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township, and state Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton.

For more information, call Judy Evola, (248) 956-2018.

Canton Idol

BeckRidge Chorale is holding auditions for their second Canton Idol, which Chorale officials say "promises to be better than ever with a group number, last year's winners perform, and summer coaching for contestants will be made available."



Natalie Rogers competed in the first Canton Idol last year.

Middle school auditions are May 15 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill from 6-9 p.m. and high school auditions May 25 at the same time and place. Audition packets are due May 14.

For a packet and additional information, visit www.BeckRidgeChorale.org.

Artists of distinction

Aaron Scott, a student of trumpet who is home-schooled, has been named a Michigan Youth Arts Distinguished Scholar and invited to participate in the 49th annual Michigan Youth Arts Festival, in Kalamazoo.

Nearly 1,000 high school student artists in Michigan were invited to attend the this year's Michigan Youth Arts Festival. The students, chosen from more than 250,000 across the state, are selected based solely on their artistic merit. While some awards programs select students through a nomination process, Festival invitations are only issued as the result of a rigorous adjudication process adhering to exacting standards. The invited scholars are involved in a wide range of artistic disciplines including creative writing, dance, media arts, instrumental and vocal music, music composition, theater, and visual arts.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Michigan Philharmonic plays the Bollywood concert at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, the event that culminated the first Canton Acts of Culture week.

Weeklong event helps raise cultural awareness in Canton

BY BRAD KADRICH AND DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITERS

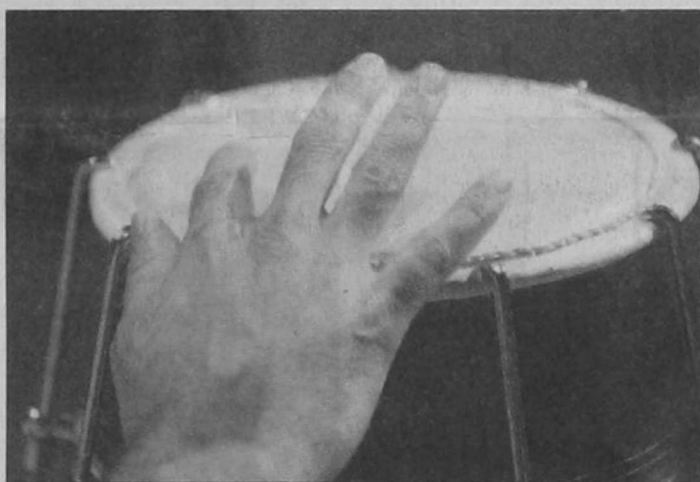
When organizers put together a new event, it's often difficult to gauge how the event will be received.

If Friday's culminating "Bollywood" concert at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill is any indication, the inaugural Canton Acts of Culture week was a huge success.

More than 400 people turned out for the concert, which included performances by the Michigan Philharmonic and the Meetmala Foundation and concluded the first cultural week designed to bring arts and culture together in the community.

The week spotlighted the work of musicians, actors, dancers, writers, painters and other artists surviving a brutal economy and becoming the catalyst to unite a culturally, ethnically diverse community.

"The week in general was a huge success as we were able to bring together and sample a variety of cultural offerings in the community from the tour of the Hindu Temple, to the Detroit Race and Housing Exhibit at Salem High School, to African American and Cinco De Mayo book read-



Percussion on Yeh dosti Hum Nahin.

Concert, auction hit right notes, A10.

ings, a Cuban photo exhibit at the library, to a flash mob in honor of CACW put on by Miller Elementary Student council, to the Building Bridges Panel Discussion and, of course, the Bollywood finale," said ReGina Shamberger, who chairs the Canton Commission for Culture, Arts & Heritage.

In another highlight, the Canton Community Foundation hosted an esteemed panel of arts professionals and an audience of 60 people who gathered Thursday afternoon inside the Canton Human Services Center for a lively forum

titled "Cultural Arts: The Bridge to Building Better Communities."

The two-hour forum featured a diverse group of arts professionals united by a desire to use the arts as a springboard for improving communities.

Oliver Ragsdale, president of the Detroit-based Arts League of Michigan, recalled how the Canton Commission for Culture, Arts and Heritage was a fledgling group in 2004 when the Village Theater at Cherry Hill — the community's 400-seat artistic hub — was being built.

"I see the child has grown

Please see **CULTURE, A2**

Interim chief eager to get job started

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

After nearly 45 years as an educator, one might think Dr. Jeremy Hughes would be ready for retirement.

And he is ... sort of. First, though, he's got at least one more challenge. Hughes, the former deputy superintendent of the Michigan Department of Education, signed a contract this week to become the interim superintendent of schools for the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

The contract, which Hughes and district officials signed this week, puts Hughes in charge through June 30, 2012, unless the district hires a permanent superintendent before then. The contract, which could earn Hughes more than \$170,000 if he stays to the end, contains a 20-day termination clause for both parties.

Board of Education members, who interviewed Hughes and three other candidates last week, unanimously approved the deal Tuesday.

"I've been looking forward to getting started," said Hughes, who interviewed for the post last week. "More than just the job, I have a lot of admiration and respect for the district."

NOT A CARETAKER

Hughes, who earned a

Ph.D. in education administration from the University of Minnesota, is familiar with the district. He has done consulting work, including working with Plymouth-Canton administrators on developing the new park-principal leadership concept at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

He's also familiar with what it's like to be a superintendent. He spent 13 years leading the 18,000-student Dearborn Public Schools and was also superintendent in the much-smaller (2,500 students) Haslett Public Schools through the 1980s.

While those were permanent jobs — and this one is just an interim — Hughes doesn't plan on treating it any differently. He knows his first responsibility is to the Board of Education, but he also knows there are pressing issues that need leadership. Decisions have to be made on cutting the \$18 million deficit in the budget. Key staffers — among them Deputy Superintendent Ken Jacobs, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services Cindy Swift and several building principals — have to be replaced.

"I don't think of myself as a caretaker," Hughes said. "I'm there to make sure things keep running, but I don't

Please see **INTERIM, A4**



PLYMOUTH-CANTON SCHOOLS

Dr. Jeremy Hughes was eager to get started after agreeing to a contract that could run through June 30, 2012, as the interim superintendent of Plymouth-Canton schools.

Senior Expo is May 17: Come join the fun!

If it's spring, it's time for Senior Expo in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

Join hundreds of senior adults, their families and friends from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 17. Learn a lot by viewing the more than 60 exhibitors, listening to a host of experts and have some playing the Senior Feud — new this year.

Best of all *everything* is free — admission, parking, morning refreshments, workshops, presentations and more. (See

the special section inside today's *Canton Observer* for a complete list of speakers, demonstrations and exhibitors).

Sponsored by the *Observer & Eccentric/Hometown Newspapers* and Schoolcraft College, this year's event is better than ever.

The first 25 people in line at 8:55 a.m. will receive a small gift.

Baby boomers turning 65 this year or next are invited to come learn about Medicare and Social Security.

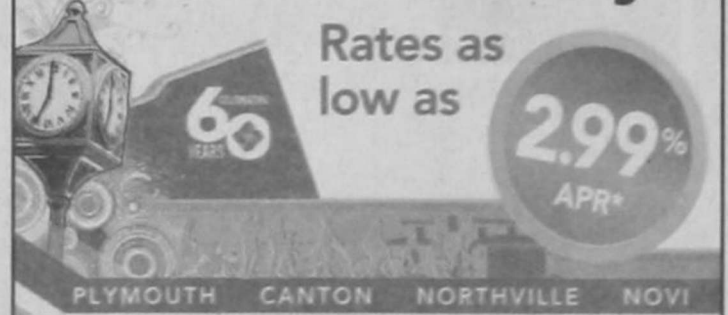
Exhibitors are experts in various areas, including finance, retirement, housing, legal issues, health care, identity theft and more. You can even get a complimentary jewelry consultation from the staff at Orin Jewelers.

Come spend the day being educated and entertained. Check out the fitness demonstrations on Zumba and line dancing, as well as strength training for seniors.

The Entertainment

Please see **EXPO, A4**

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Canton seeks design award nominations

Canton's Committee for Community Excellence is accepting nominations for their annual Design Excellence Awards, a program meant to promote excellence in landscaping, architectural and environmental design.

Judging will take place July through August and awards will be presented in October.

Categories for the Landscape Design Award include neighborhood entryways, residential homes, commercial retail and office buildings, industrial facilities, and public facilities. The award will be based on quality of design, use of plant materials, year round appeal and creativity.

Categories for the Environmental Excellence Award include detention pond maintenance, preservation, and wetland mitigation. The award is intended to highlight projects that preserve or enhance natural features, use native vegetation, and create natural habitats.

Categories for the Architectural Design Award include commercial retail and office buildings, industrial facilities, additions, renovations and remodeling, and public facilities. The award will be based on building design, quality of building materials, and quality of site design.

Nomination forms are available on Canton's website at www.canton-mi.org/committees/cce.aspx, the Summit on the Park, and Canton's Administration Building.

Completed forms must be sent to: Canton Design Excellence Awards, Attn: Amy Colligan, 1150 Canton Center Road South, Canton, MI 48188. Nominations can also be e-mailed to acolligan@canton-mi.org. All e-mail submissions must include an address and picture of the nominated property.

For more information on the Design Excellence Awards please call (734) 394-5164.



Westland artist Durwood Coffey's wildlife paintings are on display at the Cherry Hill Village Theater. Coffey paints, Carol Vallimont handles the business end.

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CULTURE
FROM PAGE A1
up," Ragsdale said, lauding Shamberger and the commission for Canton Acts of Culture. Ragsdale said Canton can only benefit as its culture and arts become woven together to create a local lifestyle that celebrates artistry and diversity. Shamberger called the event successful and said it did what it was intended to do. "The community was very supportive," she said. "We have generated more interest in cultural arts and the commission as well as the theater and Canton in general."
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Canton Relay set to resume cancer battle

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The fight against cancer remains a constant, and the Canton Relay for Life is poised to remain one of the most important warriors. With some 76 teams and more than 1,000 participants registered — and another thousand or so members of the community helping out and providing support — the annual American Cancer Society benefit, which runs 10 a.m. Saturday to 10 a.m. Sunday, figures to retain its position as the largest in the metro Detroit area.

"Our relay is a very important part of this fight," said Sarah Cousineau, the event chairperson, who pointed out last year's relay raised more than \$275,000. "Our goal is \$280,000 this year and I plan to hit and surpass that number."

Much of the event remains the same. It starts with the 10 a.m. opening ceremony and "Survivor Lap," and the traditional Luminary Ceremony takes place at dusk (organizers figure around 9 p.m.) Saturday.

New this year is the Caregiver Lap, scheduled to take place with the Fight Back ceremony at 3:30 p.m. Saturday.

"This is our way to say thank you and recognize the amazing group of people who help our cancer survivors with their fight," Cousineau said.

The event will feature a Silent Auction that will include, among other things, a variety of signed sports memorabilia and other items. Radio station WMGC 105.1-FM will be the event's radio partner, and morning host Jim Harper is scheduled to be on site from 3-5 p.m. and take part in the Fight Back ceremony.

In addition, a variety of entertainment will



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Some 1,200 walkers filled Heritage Park for Canton's Relay for Life last year. Similar crowds are expected when the relay takes place Saturday and Sunday.

be on hand, including Kari Holmes, The Mighty Flood, Swing City Band, Tabasco Cats and Legal Tender.

It all bodes well for a relay event that is traditionally one of the top fundraisers.

"The dollars raised through the efforts of the Relay For Life of Canton help support the mission of the American Cancer Society," said Jamie Mitchell, associate director, Great Lakes Division, Southeast Michigan Area Service Center of the American Cancer Society. "Without this event and others like it the ACS would not be able to provide programs and services to cancer patients and their families. We would not have dollars to support the much needed research programs all across the country and especially right here in our own backyard at the University of Michigan and Wayne State University."

The Canton Relay for Life takes place in Heritage Park, off Heritage Park Drive behind Canton Township Hall.

Radio station set for annual auction

WSDP 88.1-FM presents its 23rd annual radio auction 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, May 14.

The radio auction is the main fundraiser for WSDP each year. Items donated by businesses from the Plymouth-Canton community will be auctioned off every half-hour. WSDP will broadcast the auction and listeners can help support the station by calling in bids throughout the day. There will be great items to bid on, including autographed memorabilia, restaurant gift cards and services from local businesses.

A Dream Board with more unique items will be available for bidding all day.

This year's auction will feature items such as a hockey stick autographed by Red Wing star Henrik Zetterberg, golf for four at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, a day at the state Capitol with state Rep. Kurt Heise, and a half-hour ride in the Monkee Mobile (the original car from the television show).

Last year, the station raised \$9,000 and this year they've set a goal of \$10,000.

Local businesses still have

time to support the student radio station by donating items. Station volunteers are contacting businesses for donations. Businesses that donate can benefit from the exposure they receive on 88.1-FM. Most importantly, they will be helping out a program that has served the Plymouth-Canton community for 39 years.

Anyone with an idea for the auction can contact the station at (734) 416-7732. Businesses interested in sponsoring a half-hour or hour of the auction can e-mail station manager Bill Keith at bill.keith@pcpsmail.net.

Canton to unleash dogs in new park

The gates to the new Canton Dog Park will officially be open on Friday, May 20, starting at 8:30 a.m. This five-acre off-leash dog park is located on Denton Road just north of Cherry Hill Road and across from Canton Fire Station #3.

Although great progress has been made in preparing the Dog Park for its opening, a few projects are still in the works, township officials said. With the soggy spring, installation of the landscaping, permanent driveway and parking lot are still be

finalized. As a result, the grand opening celebration will be postponed until later in the summer.

Dog-lovers are still encouraged to register their four-legged friends and take advantage of the site amenities available starting May 20. A Dog Park Volunteer will be on site from 8:30 a.m. until 6 p.m. to answer any questions.

Canton's new Dog Park features an enclosed space with a double-gated entry which will be kept locked when the park is not open. Hours of operation are from dawn to dusk.

To purchase a Dog park registration, the Canton Clerk's Office is now accepting applications. The cost for registering is \$25 for residents and \$50 for non-residents. These yearly membership fees cover up to three dogs per family. All dogs must be at least four-months-old, licensed and up-to-date on all required shots.

For Dog Park rules and to download a registration and license form, visit Cantonfun.org. For additional information, call (734) 394-5310.

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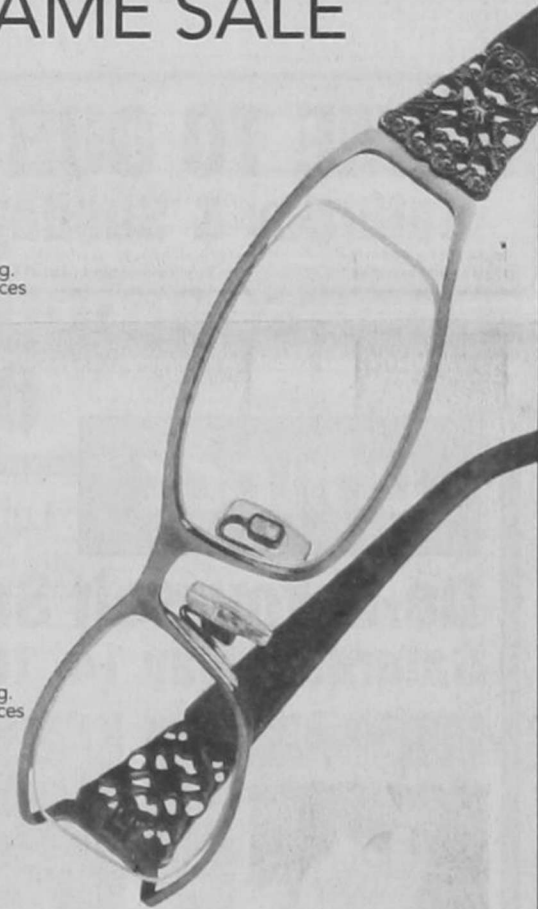
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Canton fire blamed on 'careless' smoking

Canton firefighters are blaming a Sunday fire in a Canton condominium complex on careless smoking.

Canton's emergency dispatch center received a call around 9:30 p.m. Sunday reporting the fire, which occurred at the Bedford Village Condominiums in the 41000 block of Bedford Drive.

When they arrived, firefighters found heavy smoke coming from the doorwall, and smoke and flames coming from the northeast window.

They also found one of the condo occupants, an 84-year-old woman, laying on the lawn. A second occupant, a 53-year-old male, was able to get his mother out of the build-

ing and onto the deck, where police officers carried for into the front yard, according to a release from the Canton Public Safety Department.

According to public safety officials, the 84-year-old woman, complaining of having difficulty breathing from smoke inhalation, was treated and taken to a local hospital

by Canton firefighters, The 53-year-old male was not injured.

Firefighters entered the building and quickly extinguished the fire, which was confined to the room of origin, although smoke had spread throughout the residence.

Fire officials called the fire "accidental" in nature, caused by careless smoking.

INTERIM

FROM PAGE A1

believe the district wants to stay stagnant for a year. They want to move forward. There are initiatives underway, and I need to get in touch with these initiatives so I can become a leader as well as a manager."

Replacing the leadership team will be one of the first challenges for Hughes, according to Board of Education President John Jackson. Hughes and Jackson agree discussions will have to be had with staffers, administrators and board members to determine how to fill those spots.

PICKING A TEAM

"It's one of the first charges he's going to have," said Jackson. "He's coming in with a very balanced approach. He's going to listen to people,

and he's going to consult with people."

After 13 years as Dearborn's superintendent, Hughes went to work with the state's Department of Education. In that position, he helped develop the curriculum requirements the state currently places on local districts. Hughes joked during his interview about having had a hand in making academic life a little more difficult for a district he now hopes to lead.

Hughes downplays the contacts he made in Lansing — "I don't know that that's a big thing ... things have changed so drastically," he said — but his experience and those contacts in Lansing were a big part of the draw for board members.

"What I think we need is a connection to Lansing, and I think that was an asterisk in my thinking on (Hughes)," said Trustee Barry Simescu. "He

gives us that power. When I went through the biographical information, I felt comfortable, and (Hughes' interview) reinforced that."

It's a good start for Hughes that all seven board members approved of his hiring. Hughes knows that's where his first responsibility lies — with the board — but he also knows the board has been fractured for some time now. Several board members pointed to Hughes' hiring as a "chance to heal," and Hughes is OK with that.

He said helping to heal the board "is part of my job."

"I think it will happen naturally," Hughes said. "I would give them credit for a willingness to take a look at themselves in the mirror, to realize they need to be more of a unified board. I have worked with all kinds of boards in my 23 years as a school superintendent. I've been through situations similar to what's

happening in the Plymouth-Canton board.

"I took it as a very positive note that, despite whatever differences existed, they voted 7-0 to offer me the position," he added. "I thought it said something about the board and their willingness to say, 'Whatever has divided us in the past, we need to go forward.'"

Board members have agreed to move ahead with the search for a permanent superintendent once the budget situation is settled. While Hughes' contract runs theoretically until June 30, 2012, it would also be terminated when the new leader is found.

And that's fine with Hughes, who isn't interested in the permanent post.

"I had been retired," Hughes pointed out, "and I intend to go back into retirement."

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

EXPO

FROM PAGE A1

Network of Southfield will host a version of Senior Feud (a fun spoof of the original show *Family Feud*). This realistic, high-tech game show system

has it all — questions, sound effects, real digital scoring and lots of prizes. Throughout the expo, The Entertainment Network will have fun-filled activities available every hour, including name that tune, TV trivia and more. Want to win a prize? Come to the Senior Expo and play.

Relax and take advantage of our special Senior Expo Red Trolley Service scheduled at the following locations:

Canton Leisure Services, 46000 Summit Parkway, pickup at 7:45 a.m. and 9:45 a.m.

Westland Senior Resources Center (the Friendship Center), 1119 Newburgh Road,

pickup at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, pickup at 9 and 11 a.m.

Trolley seats are limited, so RSVP is a must. Call Choya Jordan at (313) 222-2412 or e-mail her at cbjordan@hometownlife.com to reserve a seat.

CRIME WATCH

BB gun blow-up

Canton Police were dispatched to Garden City Hospital on information that a 15-year-old girl had been shot in the face with a BB gun by a 5-year-old boy in the Glen Ridge trailer park on Haggerty.

The teen's mother told police her daughter was "hanging out" with the 5-year-old, and was shot in the lower lip. She told police she was sure the 5-year-old hadn't meant to shoot her daughter. She said another daughter was present when the incident happened.

The boy told police he had just been "shooting things on the ground" and hadn't meant to shoot the girl. The boy's mother said his uncles had purchased the BB gun for the boy.

Police confiscated the gun, but took no further action.

Garage break-in

A Canton Center homeowner told Canton police someone had entered his garage and stolen a power washer.

The victim said he'd last seen the power washer in the garage for sure on Friday, but thought he'd noticed it there on Sunday, as well. When he went into the garage on Monday, the power washer was gone.

The homeowner told police the garage door had been closed, but the side-entry door to his garage suffered from dry-rot and the lock was "not very good."

Larceny from a car

A Vine Way resident called police and reported that he had parked his Chevy Colorado in his apartment complex parking lot around 5:15 p.m. Monday. When he came out Tuesday morning, he found the rear door open, and the passenger-side door partially ajar.

A MTX audio amp was unmounted, though not stolen, and the glove box had obviously been rifled through.

The victim told police nothing had apparently been taken.

Bike stolen

A Princess homeowner told Canton Police someone entered his open garage and stole his daughter's bicycle.

The bike is a 16-inch Murray, dark blue in color with red-and-white trim.

Stolen purse

A Canton woman told Canton Police she had attended a movie Saturday evening at the Emagine Theater in Canton.

She said when she sat down, she set her purse down on the floor, then covered it with her coat. Upon leaving the theater, she grabbed her coat but not, apparently, her purse.

When she called the theater, she told police, staffers told her the purse couldn't be located.

She said the purse contained her identification, some diamond earrings, a necklace, a bracelet and various other items.

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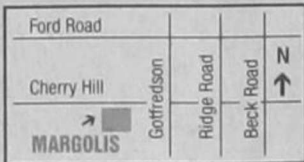
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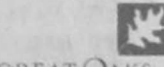
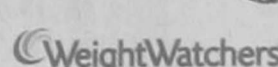
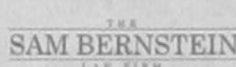
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Haircut.....\$12
Haircut.....\$12
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Gift Certificate.....\$50
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Eight-year-old Jane Cislo and her mom, Jennifer Meagher, use recycled materials to create an addition to the Fort Box project.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

It's a wrap for another 'excellent' Green Street Fair

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Call it the greening of Plymouth.

The Green Street Fair, which had its inaugural event in 2008 as the economy teetered, wrapped up its fourth annual downtown Plymouth event on Sunday with a record number of exhibitors, live music and nice weather on two of its three days.

Organizer Raychel Rork pronounced this year's fair

"excellent."

"We had exhibitors running up to us Sunday evening just ecstatic," proclaiming how much they enjoyed the event, and enjoyed downtown Plymouth, Rork said.

The nonprofit Green Street Fair is a showcase for businesses, exhibitors and organizations that focus on ways of reducing our lifestyles' impact on the environment. There were refreshments, free entertainment, crafts and artwork for sale, and venues to discuss, for example, healthier eating, recycling, energy efficiency or alternative transportation.

Rork said the event brings her an outsider's perspective on Plymouth's downtown charms, charms that aren't found in every city and that those who live in town might take for granted.

"It's refreshing," Rork said. "We all get a little spoiled. Most cities don't have that fun, beautiful downtown setting."

Sunday, which was also Mother's Day, brought good weather for the fair, as did Saturday, Rork said. Friday, on the other hand, was spotty.

"It was kind of like two different days" on Friday, Rork said. "We had a sunny day mixed with a rainy day every other hour." Friday's weather, and the fact that many people are working and children are in school, probably kept Friday's crowds down, she said.

Saturday's performance by Crystal Bowersox, a singer and second-place finisher on television's *American Idol* last year, was one of the highlights of the fair, said Rork. Bowersox was "a perfect fit for this event" and very gracious, she said.

"She didn't have to wait and talk to every person and sign every T-shirt, but she did," said Bowersox.

The major hands-on activities for children — Fort Box and the collage-building project Flip Your Lid — were also popular, Rork said, as were two different booths for the Segway personal transportation device.

Next up for Rork is this weekend's Green Festival in Chicago, a major event that'll spur ideas for next year's Green Street Fair and could provide contacts with future exhibitors.

"We start working on the next show right away," she said. "Our goal is just to be bigger and better every year and offer a wide variety of products and companies."

Rork offered thanks to the roughly 60 volunteers who help her manage the Plymouth event. "They're there at 5:30 in the morning and they're there until midnight," she said.

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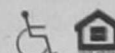
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Former UN ambassador praises, questions Obama's decisions

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

John Bolton believes President Barack Obama deserves credit for "making the courageous decision" in sending in the Navy SEALs to kill terrorist Osama bin Laden April 30.

Still Bolton, the former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations under President George W. Bush and potential Republican presidential candidate in 2012, questioned Obama's leadership abilities and challenged his foreign policy decisions in his remarks at the annual Wayne 11th Congressional District Republican Committee Lincoln Reagan Day Dinner at Laurel Manor in Livonia Monday.

Bolton called the killing of bin Laden "a huge victory" for the United States.

"It was a risky decision," Bolton said, remembering a similar rescue attempt that failed in early 1980 to save hostages in Iran.

'REAL VINDICATION'

Bolton added that the SEALs' killing of bin Laden took a long time in planning with information collected under President George W. Bush to eventually locate bin Laden at his hideout in Pakistan.

"This information came from people who were captured, taken to Guantanamo, and some were subjected to enhanced interrogation techniques," Bolton said, in reference to water boarding. "This is a real vindication to President Bush's war on terrorism."

Bolton later said Obama



Former U.N. Ambassador John Bolton talks with state Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, during the Lincoln Day dinner Monday.

does not list national security at the top of his agenda. "He deals with it when he has to," Bolton said.

Bolton believes Obama isn't tough enough when dealing with Iran and North Korea and their pursuit of nuclear weapons, and criticized Obama for his multilateral approach in attempting to oust Moammar Khadafy from power in Libya, calling that military action a "stalemate." "Khadafy is still in power," Bolton said.

Bolton told the Republican group the military budget should be a top priority and that domestic spending should be cut to pay for a strong military defense. "It's a powerful deterrent to other nations," Bolton said. "When it comes to military capabilities, I don't want the U.S. to be in a fair fight."

Negotiations will not work when the U.S. deals with countries pursuing nuclear weapons, Bolton said. "What are we going to negotiate, that Iran gets small nuclear weapons?" Bolton asked.

CROWD AGREES

Of course, the dinner crowd was a friendly one and receptive to Bolton's ideas.

Melissa McLaughlin, Canton Township treasurer, said she had looked forward to the Bolton speech. "I enjoy seeing him on the news and hearing his views of what America is and our role," McLaughlin said. "We have to lead from the front."

Audrey Robinson, Canton Township's attorney and a



Gathered for the Lincoln dinner were Paul Cusick, CDRC board member; U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-11th District Michigan; Michigan State Sen. John Walsh, 19th District; Michigan Republican Party Chairman Robert Schostak; former U.N. Ambassador John Bolton; state Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton; state Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township; and Joseph Xuereb, chairman of the Wayne 11th CDRC.



State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter and Michigan Republican Party Chairman Robert Schostak chat at the Lincoln dinner.

Plymouth resident, said Bolton helped put foreign policy in perspective.

"His context on foreign policy and spending priorities was new to me and interesting," Robinson said.

State Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth, said Bolton's

discussion was topical with recent international events. "He demonstrated that foreign policy is a critical issue for economic success and a cause for freedom around the world," Heise said.

Steve Kolhoff of Livonia, who learned that the 11th District had named the district's volunteer award after his father, Don, who died last year, called Bolton a "straight shooter."

"If he doesn't run for president, I think that whichever Republican candidate wins would be well-served with him as secretary of state," Kolhoff said.

Kolhoff added that his father "would be very humbled and honored" with the 11th District's award named after him. Don Kolhoff helped with fund-raising and campaign efforts for U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, former Attorney General Mike Cox and others.

The first recipient of that award Monday was Christal Smith.

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Renowned musician appears with Chorale

Composer, arranger and pianist Mark Hayes will be the special guest of the BeckRidge Chorale 8 p.m. Saturday, May 14, and 4 p.m. Sunday, May 15, at Northville High School in Northville, Michigan.

Michael Gross, artistic director of the BeckRidge Chorale, said Hayes is "like a diamond cutter. He sees the beauty in

music, makes all the right cuts to expose the brilliance."

"We have been performing Mark's music for over 30 years," Gross said. "He has such a unique and beautiful gift. We were thrilled when he accepted our invitation to lead the chorale and orchestra through some of his work."

Hayes is known for his



Hayes

winning composer. Audiences will not only experience Hayes at the podium, he is equally as impressive at the piano.

"We have rented two 7-foot Yamaha grand pianos for Mark's appearance," Gross said. "I asked him to play one of his original compositions - *Air in F Major* with cello and his piano duet - *Improvisation on Ode to Joy*."

"American Sound." From jazz and gospel to more traditional settings, Hayes is comfortable in nearly every genre of music. Hayes is a Dove Award

Nancy Whitecar, accompanist and assistant Director of the chorale, will play the second piano in the duet.

"*Air in F Major* is a beautifully simple and a lyrical melding of piano and cello," Gross said. "*Ode to Joy* is rhythmic exuberance and energy."

The program will include sacred and secular compositions. From arrangements of *Over the Rainbow* and *Summertime*, Hayes will also demonstrate his love of gospel music with settings of *O Happy Day* and *Swingin' With the Saints*.

Tickets for An Evening with Mark Hayes are available at www.beckridgechorale.org or by calling (888) 459.4887 (press #1).



Veterans shuttle bus.

Shuttle provides rides to veterans

The VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System has launched a new Veterans Transportation Service, providing shuttle transportation to Veterans living in Livingston and western Wayne counties.

The Veterans Transportation Service (VTS) reaches out to veterans who live in remote areas or who lack a personal or public transportation system. Veterans can be picked up by a shuttle at designated locations and transported to and from their medical appointments at the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System.

Any veteran who is a patient of the VAAAHS and has a scheduled appointment the day of their transportation can ride the shuttles. The Veteran must present valid photo identification. There is no cost to ride the shuttles, however, a reservation is required. The

VTS operates 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday, excluding Federal holidays.

Transportation on the shuttles is on a first-come, first-served basis through the VTS coordinator. The VTS can transport two wheelchairs per shuttle and service animals are welcome. Veterans are also allowed to bring one caregiver with them for assistance, if necessary.

The VTS shuttles can only stop at designated locations. Meijer has agreed to allow the shuttles to use its retail store parking lots for shuttle pickup and drop-off. The locations include Meijer parking lots in Allen Park, Belleville, Brighton, Canton, Hartland, Howell, Livonia, Northville, Taylor, Westland, and Wixom.

For a shuttle schedule and exact locations, or to reserve a seat, call the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System at (800) 361-8387, ext. 27145.

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MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by JOSEPH FARRAH, A MARRIED MAN AND HANNAH FARRAH, A MARRIED WOMAN to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS (MERS), Mortgagee, dated August 11, 2003, and recorded on August 10, 2010 in Liber 48684, Page 686, WAYNE County Records, Michigan, and assigned by mortgagee to BAYVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC by an assignment dated April 11, 2011, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Sixty Two Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Six and 02/100 Dollars (\$162,476.02), including interest at 5.75% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, Notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue in Wayne County Circuit Court Tower in the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center in Detroit in Wayne County, Michigan, at 1:00 p.m. on June 9, 2011.

Said premises are situated in the City of Canton, Wayne County, Michigan and are described as:

LOT 43, GREENBROOK VILLAGE SUBDIVISION NO. 1, RECORDED IN LIBER 98, PAGE 68, WAYNE COUNTY RECORDS

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

DATED: April 21, 2011

ATTORNEY FOR: Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC

Herold and Associates, PLC
4301 Orchard Lake Rd. Ste 180-B193
W. Bloomfield, MI 48323

PROPERTY ADDRESS:
2133 Woodmont
Canton, MI 48188

Publish: May 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2011

OE08739114 - 2x8

NOTICE OF SALE

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The following vehicles will be sold at Public Auction for cash to satisfy lien pursuant to F.S. 713.78 on May 19, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

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2002	Mercury	Sable	1MEFM55S32G638032
1991	Plymouth	Voyager	1P4GH54R5MX545442
1996	Ford	Thunderbird	1FALP6248TH104453
1997	Chrysler	Sebring	4C3AU42NOVE123416
1993	Ford	Aerostar	1FMCA11U9PZA42637
2002	Pontiac	Grand Am	1G2NF52FX2C268675
1999	Ford	Contour	1FAPF66LXXX171773

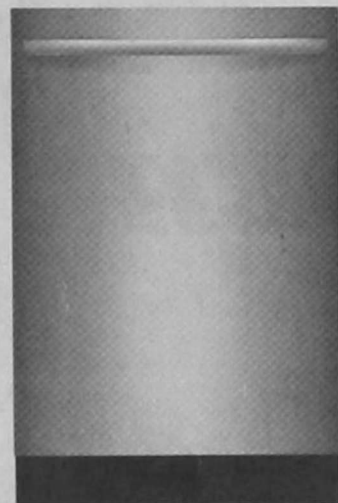
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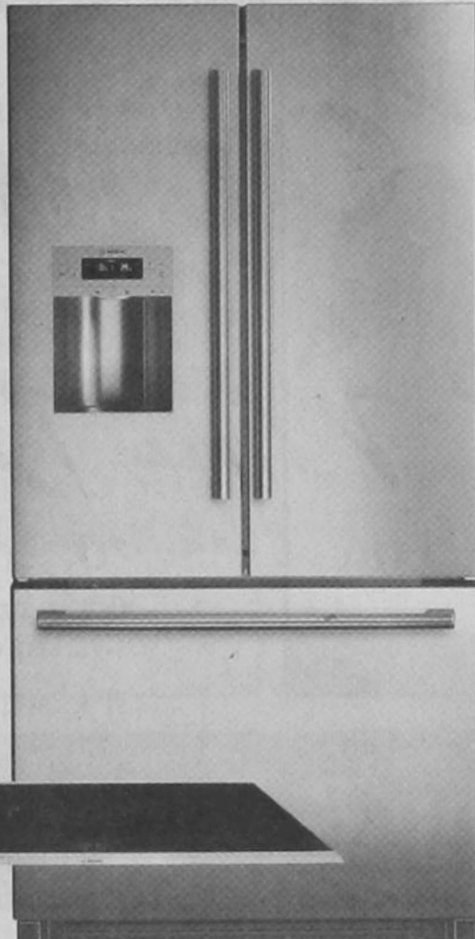
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The Spotlight on Youth cast bringing "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown" to the Village Theater stage features a number of young, local actors.

Spotlight is on Charlie Brown in youth production

Charlie Brown brings his angst, his dog and his friends to the stage tonight (Thursday) through Sunday when Spotlight on Youth presents its production of "You're A Good Man Charlie Brown" at the Village Theater of Cherry Hill in Canton.

Families will enjoy musical numbers such as "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown," "The Doctor is In," and "The Kite," in a 90-minute show designed to keep youngsters interested and engaged.

The audience will spend the time with Charlie Brown as he searches for the true meaning of happiness and what it takes to be "a good man."

"You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" is a show everyone can relate to," said director Barbara Bloom of Novi. "It is the kind of musical written about children yet employing humor and language used by adults. If you know or enjoy 'Peanuts' you will love 'Charlie Brown.'"

The cast is filled with local actors. Charlie Brown is played by Michael Petrillo of Commerce Township;

Andrew Schafer of Canton is Linus; Lexi Fata of Westland is Snoopy; Connor Keliukuli of Northville is Schroeder; Melissa Perry of Walled Lake is Lucy; Andrew Angold-Stephen of Canton is Rerun; Amanda Buchalter of Canton is Patty; Brooke Burket of Canton is Charlotte; Alaysha Chavis of Canton is Violet; Tatum Cho of Canton is Marcie; Drew Degener of Canton is Peppermint Patty; Samantha Mattern of Canton is Sally; Richard McCutcheon of Canton is Sherm; Leslie Miller of South Lyon is Belle; Evan Phillips of Belleville is Franklin; Alex Smith of Canton is Pigpen; Miki Somers of Plymouth is Peggy Jean; Kayla Zhu of Farmington Hills is Woodstock; Kirsti Beaudoi of Canton is Freida and Roman Bonacorsi of Canton is Spike.

The play runs tonight (Thursday) at 7 p.m.; then again at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday; with 2 p.m. matinee performances Saturday and Sunday.

"You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown" originally opened on

Broadway in 1967 and had a successful revival in 1999. Kristin Chenoweth won a Best Actress Tony Award for her performance as Sally.

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton. The Village Theater has free parking, is handicap accessible and has a concession stand.

Tickets are available by phone at the Village Theater Box Office at (734) 394-5300 or (734) 394-5460 or online at www.canton-mi.org/village-theater or www.spotlight-playersmi.org or in person at The Summit on the Park or at the door. Box office opens one hour prior to show-time. Tickets are \$12 each.

Spotlight on Youth Theater (SOY) is a Spotlight Players initiative that exists to create an extraordinary, youth-centered theater experience and to advance theater as a means of educating, challenging and inspiring young people.

For more information about Spotlight on Youth or Spotlight Players call (734) 480-4945 or visit www.spotlightplayersmi.org.

Plymouth photographer in Rochester art show

The charming location of the Village of Rochester Hills shopping center will be transformed into an outdoor art gallery when it hosts the eighth annual Fine Art at the Village of Rochester Hills on Saturday, May 21 and Sunday, May 22.

Some 100 artists from across the United States have been invited to show their work at Fine Art at the Village of Rochester Hills. An outside panel of experts juried the entries and asked artists with the highest scores to participate. Admission to the festival is free and parking is free.

Included among them is Plymouth photographer Brian Hill, whose work organizers called "very clever pieces that are collages of iconic photographic images of cities like Detroit, Chicago, Rochester and Plymouth."

Artwork in every media will be featured including ceramics, glass, painting, drawing, multi-media, sculpture, photography, fiber art, wood, jewelry and more. The juried



The Village of Rochester Hills fine art show will feature the work of, among others, Plymouth photographer Brian Hill.

art festival is sponsored by Creative Arts Council, a non-profit art group. A panel of experts will judge the artwork in the festival and award outstanding entries.

"We believe the beautiful and relaxed atmosphere of the Village of Rochester Hills is the perfect setting to view artwork of this caliber and meet the artists," said Donna Beaubien, executive director of the festival. "Along with enjoying the exciting fine art and fine crafts, patrons can stroll the tree lined streets and visit the over 50 intriguing shop and restaurants. Children can enjoy the playground and participate in the free arts and

crafts activities."

A special feature of this year's event is live artists' demonstrations throughout Saturday and Sunday as well as the special children's activities for the kids both days. There will also be live entertainment throughout the fair and a delicious food court.

The Village of Rochester Hills Shopping Center is located at the northeast corner of Walton and Adams. Hours for the festival are Saturday, May 21, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday, May 22, noon to 6 p.m. For more information call (248) 689-8734 or go to www.FineArtAtTheVillage.com.



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LET'S TALK!

Tax foreclosure can be devastating as people can lose their homes. Understanding the difficulty families face, Treasurer Raymond J. Wojtowicz has worked hard to assist taxpayers in staying in their homes. If you are on a payment plan, the next payment is due May 15. This payment will be accepted on Monday, May 16. To avoid foreclosure you must make your payment on time. Payment can be made online at treasurer.waynecounty.com, by mail or in person with a check or money order to: Raymond J. Wojtowicz, Wayne County Treasurer, 400 Monroe, Fifth Floor, Detroit, MI 48226. If you do owe taxes, help us help you avoid foreclosure by contacting us by email at taxinfo@co.wayne.mi.us or calling our office at 313-224-6105.

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WAYNE COUNTY TREASURER







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Second Course
Crisp Salad tossed with mandarin oranges, pineapple, strawberries and walnuts tossed in raspberry vinaigrette dressing served with Loredona Viognier

Third Course
Smoked Norwegian Salmon lightly topped with a tomato vinaigrette with Irony Pinot Noir

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Concert, auction hit all the right notes

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Michigan Philharmonic and the Geetmala Foundation played to a huge crowd and thunderous applause as more than 400 people crowded the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton for "Bollywood," the Indian-music-themed concert that brought to a close Canton's first Acts of Culture week.

The people came from Plymouth and Canton, to be sure, but also from as far away as Grosse Pointe, Bloomfield Hills, Rochester and Detroit to hear the Michigan Philharmonic team with Indian percussionists in a fusion of musical styles

incorporating classical Indian music, folk, western classical and numerous contemporary pop styles.

"The performances were truly amazing," said ReGina Shamberger, who chairs the Canton Commission for Culture, Arts & Heritage, which sponsored the week-long cultural event. "The crowd was very enthusiastic."

And, while they were at it, the event raised a lot of money for Canton's Partnership for the Arts and Humanities. A Silent Auction was successful enough to sell 33 of the 34 items donated by local businesses. It raised \$2,365 for the Partnership.

"The entire Bollywood

event last night was a huge success," said Jilll Engel, the Partnership's executive director. "It was a true testimonial of how to bring arts and culture together in our community. We created a sense of pride and brought many new patrons to the Village Theater."

Engel said she recently read a quote that said, "Every journey begins with a step." She said she thinks the arts in the local community have taken just that.

"We are making progress in sharing cultural arts with the greater Canton community," Engel said. "We are making a difference in our community."

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



Audience participation during Deewangi Deewangi from Om Shanti Om.



Conductor Nan Wasburn leads the members of the Michigan Philharmonic at Friday's Bollywood concert at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.



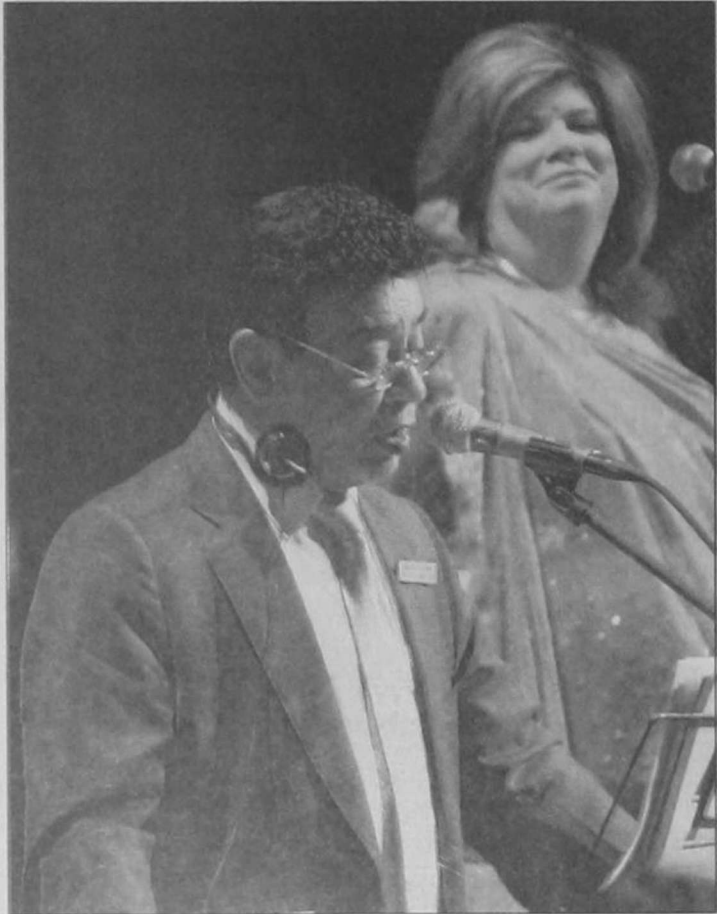
Waiting for the concert to begin.



The Village Theater at Cherry Hill held a sold-out audience to hear the Michigan Philharmonic join with Indian musicians in a celebration of Bollywood music.



The silent auction drew concert-goers who purchased 33 of the 34 items and raised \$2,365.



Narendra Sheth is the announcer, program director and plays keyboards. Michigan Philharmonic Executive Director Beth Stewart joined the harmony singers for the night's program.



Indian music uses a wide range of percussion instruments.



Rujuta Joshi opens the concert with the Gita Shloak, an invocation.

Senior players bring Christie spoof to stage

Agatha Christie lovers have a chance to get their fill when the Still Got It Players present "Murder by Indecision" by Daniel O'Donnell through Saturday, May 14, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

Audiences of all ages will love this clever and well-crafted spoof presented by the all-senior acting ensemble.

Director Debbie Lannen said: "I especially like when grandchildren come to see their grandparents perform," director Debbie Lannen said. "They are such an example for them as well as other seniors. It is as if they are telling the audience, 'Never stop. You can continue to be vibrant as long as you keep active.'"

Lannen said "Murder by Indecision" provides "double the fun and double the suspense with this murder mystery comedy within a comedy!" Age has caught up with Agatha Crispy, the world's best known mystery playwright, as she attempts to crank out her newest and last manuscript. Senility is setting in and the words just

don't flow like they used to.

Ignoring her pestering agent Ruth Less, Agatha sits down to write, wrestling with her characters and babbling to her imaginary friend Typy, the typewriter. As she struggles through the first few pages of her play, Miss Maple, Inspector Dryfus and all her characters come to life on stage, then crumple with every balled-up page tossed into the trash can.

"When she stops typing, her characters take on a life of their own, lamenting how Agatha is ruining their reputation in the literary world with this last flop of a manuscript," Lannen said. "If only they could influence Agatha somehow to help her and themselves. Any fan of classic Agatha Christie mysteries will love this delightful spoof."

The cast is filled with local actors, including: Madeline Carpenter of Wayne as Agatha Crispy; Robin Hoover of Willis as Ruth Less; Jack Galazka of Redford as Victor Greedly; Philip Lukasik of Westland as Ken Steele; Marion Busa of Canton as Gwen Hubbard; Carol Lapinsky of Garden

City as Sophie Greedly; Nana Allen of Plymouth as Victoria Greedly; Jerry Gass of Novi as William Greedly; Tom Strock of Canton as Niles Stern; Beth Brooks of Northville as Mavis Greedly; Dee Merrison of Canton as Miss Maple; Joanna McKay of Canton as Myrna Stern; Shirley Reynolds of Canton as Penelope Biggles; Terry Vivani of Westland as Inspector John Dryfus; Ray Fraser of Dearborn Heights as Officer Bentl; Bernadette Smith of Walled Lake as Jenny Walters and Linda Trygg of Westland as Melissa Hammerstein.

Performances are today (Thursday) at 1 p.m., and Friday-Saturday at 7 p.m. (with a 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday). Ticket prices are \$15 for adults (19-59) and \$13 for seniors and students. Tickets are available by phone at the Village Theater Box Office at (734) 394-5460 or (734) 394-5300 or online at www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater or www.spotlightplayersmi.org.

The Village Theater is located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton.

Don't try to predict how events influence market

BY RICK BLOOM
GUEST COLUMNIST



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

When the announcement came that U.S. Special Forces had brought justice to Osama bin Laden, I was ecstatic like most other red, white and blue, flag-waving Americans. When the initial euphoria died down, I began to think about what the results of taking down bin Laden would have on the stock market the next day. My initial thought was there would be a rally on Wall Street. However, after I thought about it a little, I figured the market might react to the good news in the morning but by the time the markets closed, things would be back to normal. I was not surprised when the death of bin Laden did not affect the market.

As long as I have been following the market, one thing I have always known is that it is nearly impossible to predict how world events will affect things. When certain world

events occur, it may seem obvious how the market will react but that's not the way the market works. What makes following the market frustrating is when the outcome seems obvious

and then the exact opposite happens. What affects the market one day may be irrelevant the next. The bottom line is that investors who think they can outsmart the market generally find that they can't, and the result is that their portfolio underperforms.

It never ceases to amaze me that one day the market may be concerned with inflation while the next day, it's not even an issue. Being a golfer I'll analogize golf. Every round of golf is a new round and there is no carryover from the previous round. It's the same thing with

the stock market. There rarely is any carryover.

In understanding the stock market and how it moves, investors need to remember the market is not rational in the short run. Emotions affect the market. If the bin Laden news had come in the middle of the day, who knows how the market would have reacted. The bottom line is that investors can't get caught up in emotions.

In this ever-changing, fast-paced world we live, there's always another story waiting to dominate our attention.

My advice is, don't get caught up in the game. When you consider that the great majority of people that do play the game lose, why would you even want to get involved?

Good luck!

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

Livonia Public Schools Opens Renowned Academically Talented Program to Out-of-District Students

Twenty seats are open to students entering 1st or 2nd grade in fall 2011.
Limited Registration window: May 9 - May 23, 2011

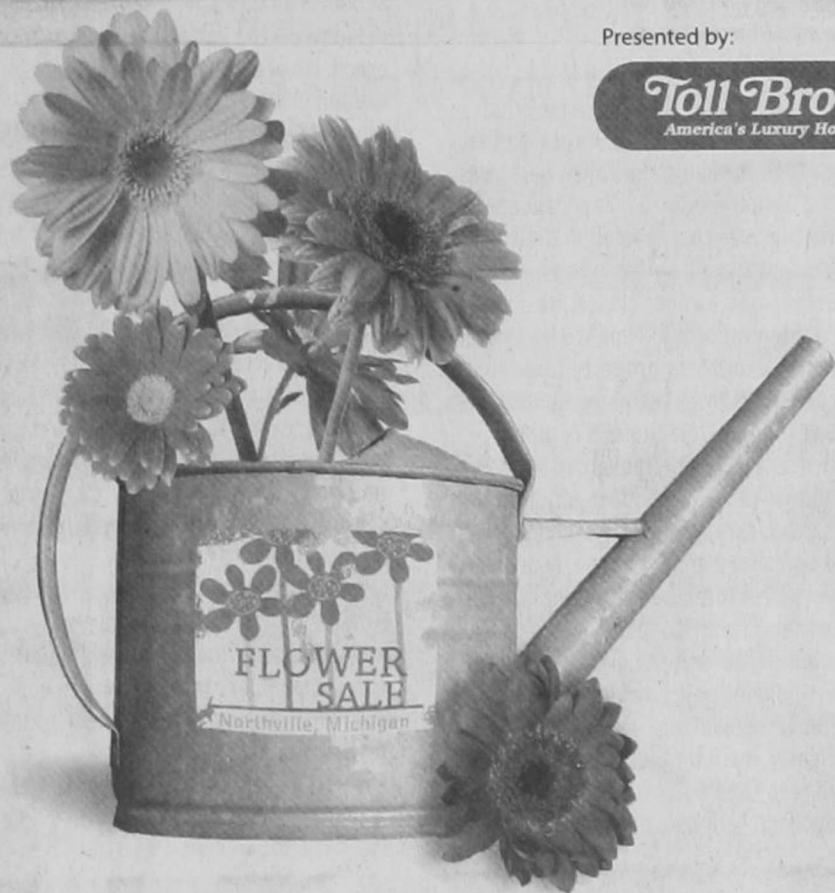
Livonia Public Schools is opening its Alternative Classrooms for the Academically Talented (ACAT) program to Limited Schools of Choice for the 2011-12 school year.

This program is geared toward academically talented students looking for a specialized learning experience.

Registration will be open from May 9-May 23, 2011 at Webster Elementary, 32401 Pembroke, Livonia 48152 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday. All candidates MUST meet the ACAT selection testing criteria.

For complete information on the application process, visit www.livoniapublicschools.org or contact Webster School at 734-744-2795.

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

OUR VIEWS

Our All-Stars

These students represent a bright future

This Sunday, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers will publish a special section in print and online (hometownlife.com) honoring the 2011 Academic All-Star Team.

The 25 students of this year's team and the 53 others who are runners-up represent the most accomplished of local public, private and parochial high school students.

These students are future physicians, scientists, engineers, teachers and political leaders.

Local students named to the team include **Sahithi Gogineni** of Canton High School, **Ishani Shah** of Plymouth High School, **Lynne Krutty** of Salem High School, **Sarah Kang** of Salem High School, **Justin Heck** of Plymouth High School and **Nicholas Alaniva** of Canton High School.

Runners-up include **Rachel Yerke** and **Max Wilkinson**, both of Plymouth Christian Academy

They shine in many ways — in test scores and grades and in their extracurricular and community activities. They are all examples of intelligence, involvement and industry. They have contributed to their schools, their communities and beyond. They will undoubtedly make a difference as they head off to college and new academic adventures.

The All-Stars are selected based solely on academic achievement — grade point and test scores.

The 2011 team marks the 26th year that the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers has honored and celebrated academic excellence. At the core of our mission as a local company is "enhancing the lives of our readers and nurturing the communities we serve."

We can't think of a better way to fulfill this mission than to profile the best and brightest of students in area schools

and show our communities what is good and right with education today.

All of the students profiled in this section have set high goals for themselves. In addition to preparing themselves academically for a career, they also are concerned about helping others. They have great praise for the teachers who have influenced them over the years. Teachers have challenged these students and instilled in them the love of learning. They have given them lessons about life, including doing your best, being responsible citizens and knowing how one person can make a difference. The students have thanked the many teachers who spend countless hours not only teaching but encouraging and listening these young men and women.

Don't miss this special section. It's a good reminder about the good things happening in our schools today. Help us celebrate this awesome group of 2011 graduates.

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 "bin Laden's gone, 'still work to do,'"

All comments are really quite true. My heart breaks for all those that have lost family in this endless fight against an invisible enemy. No amount of gratitude expressed in words can tell how much many of us appreciate the efforts made on behalf of our liberty.

skyhawk63

People returning from the mid-east said he was dead in 2001. Show me the body.

trashfinder

COMMUNITY VOICE

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

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



"Yes, I don't go certain places as much as I used to, places like malls or Costco. I'm making less trips."

William Wilson
Canton



"Yes. It's more expensive so I'm cutting back."

Cheryl Lawrence
Plymouth



"Yes, I'm trying (to drive less). But I was paying \$200 a month before, and now it's probably \$60 every 10 days."

Bhargav Patel
Canton



"Not really, because I just drove to Florida before it went to \$4 a gallon."

Bridgette Lively
Westland

LETTERS

Colbeck is different

On Wednesday, May 4, I was given the privilege to shadow state Sen. Patrick Colbeck. I got to sit in his three committee meetings and a legislative session. I got an inside view of how Lansing works.

But I also got to see how great a person Sen. Colbeck truly is. I'm rather a cynic when it comes to politics, but I can say without a shadow of doubt that Colbeck is different from the typical connotations "politician" brings. His moral character, belief in our creator, his willingness to serve his district, and his friendly demeanor distinguish him as one with honorable character.

So please don't lump Colbeck in with other politicians, even if his political views are the opposite of yours. I truly believe he is doing what he thinks is right, instead of what special interests think or what popular opinion is. I know — I campaigned for him, interviewed him, had lunch with him, I saw the way he conducted himself, and saw the questions and votes he did in committees and in session.

Andrew Montgomery
Plymouth Township

Work collaboratively

Dear Gov. Snyder,

In the spring of 1994, my father invited me to attend a town hall meeting hosted by broadcaster Rich Fisher and Gov. John Engler at a television studio in Southfield. As a second-year teacher in a relatively wealthy school district (and also a renter), I was eager to ask Gov. Engler what I had to gain by voting "yes" on a new way to finance K-12 education in Michigan.

When I was chosen to go on stage to ask Gov. Engler why someone like me should vote for the proposal, he responded that

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.

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

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it was "for young people like me" that Proposal A was designed. He stated that even though my district (Allen Park) was doing well, there were many throughout the state that were not, and ultimately many K-12 students would suffer in the future if the spending gap was not closed. He added that he wanted "people like me" to be shielded from the exorbitant property taxes that precluded us from becoming homeowners.

Satisfied by Gov. Engler's response, and after discussing the situation with my father (a local school superintendent) and his guest (a school board member and financial planner), I eagerly decided to vote "yes" on Proposal A, not for the short-term sacrifice that it would cause me, but because of the greater good. Overwhelmingly, the voters of the State of Michigan agreed.

Clearly, the intention of the School Aid Fund is to fund K-12 education, as prominent Republican sponsors of the law such as Dan

Degrow and Dick Posthumous will attest to.

Now, almost 17 years later, I am about to start my 20th year in the fall. Allen Park is no longer considered a "rich" district. I am grateful to work in a district that has scrimped, saved, consolidated, and cut so many expenses over the course of my career that we are in a position to be solvent if we can manage to cut an additional \$1.6 million by June 2012. We have clearly been utilizing "shared sacrifice" and "best practices" to be in this position, and yet we will still have to cut more.

In addition, I took Gov. Engler's advice and bought a house in Canton. My wife and I based our purchase in large part on our respect for the Plymouth-Canton Public Schools. We now have two children, one in kindergarten and the other in second grade. We are horrified about what could happen in the PCCS district if your budget proposal is accepted. Even though the district has reduced expenses by \$40 million since 2002, your current proposal creates a \$20 million problem for the 2011-12 school year.

I do not live in a bubble. I understand that some cuts may have to be made and additional sacrifices on everybody's part are part of the solution to Michigan's economic recovery. My wife and I also own a small business franchise, and we have an enormous stake in a healthy state economy. However, isn't K-12 public education a major component to that recovery?

Therefore, as a teacher, small-business owner, citizen and, most importantly, a parent, I am asking you to work collaboratively with stakeholders to find a way to appropriately fund our schools. All of our futures depend on it.

Andrew C. Jackson
Canton

Doing the most good: One act can help many live better life

BY MAJ. JOHN TURNER
GUEST COLUMNIST

Doing the Most Good. What does this statement mean to you?

To me, it could be setting time aside to volunteer each week, donating to a local charity or something as simple as flashing a smile to a passerby. But, I challenge you to reflect on these words and create your own meaning. How do you do the most good?



Maj. John Turner

The Salvation Army is asking metro Detroiters this question during our sixth annual "Doing the Most Good" Week from May 9-14. This is a time for people to make a stronger commitment to helping others. It's a time to make "doing good" a priority in our lives.

Maybe you don't have enough time to volunteer in between work, soccer practice and dinner. Or maybe you're not in a position to make a large monetary donation. Each one of us can make "doing the most good" our personal mission; to do the most good for the most people in the

most need with the time and resources that we have. Because after all, doing the most good is much more than making grand overtures of service; it's about the little things too. Things like holding the door open for someone, checking in with an old friend or making a new one.

Each one of us has a personal responsibility to get out and do what we can to help those less fortunate in our community. Opportunities to change someone's life surround us every day, and while we may not have the power to change the world, we can change someone's day with something as simple as a few cans of food, or a \$10 donation. These small donations may not seem like much, but they can mean the world to someone who cannot afford a daily meal — let alone two or three.

Even a kind word of compassion can offer hope for someone feeling like they have nowhere else to turn. We all have time to consciously do one good deed each day. If we all do one good deed, that turns into millions of good deeds and even if just for a moment, brightens someone's day.

We may not all be able to make a monetary donation, or find the time to volunteer each week, but we can still cre-

ate small gifts of our own. Spring is here, and I'm sure a few things in the house could be put to better use by someone else. So, maybe you could take some time to clean out the clutter and donate the items you no longer use. Even better — get your kids involved. There is no greater lesson than to learn selflessness.

The Salvation Army has chosen the phrase "do the most good" as our commitment to doing the most good with every dollar, minute and resource donated. In fact, 85 cents of every dollar donated is directly allocated to services that assist people in need.

"Doing the most good" is a compassionate commitment made to people who are hurting, to help anyone, anytime, anywhere. Our goal is to give them a hand up — not a hand out — to help them see a brighter tomorrow.

So how do we know if we're really "doing the most good"? By asking this question of ourselves daily, it challenges us to make sure that the answer is a positive affirmation that makes us feel good about our contributions to society.

Maj. John Turner is the general secretary of the Salvation Army of Metro Detroit.

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Take Action Now
- **Ways to Manage Neck and Back Pain** - 12:00 p.m. - 12:50 p.m.
- **How to Choose a Skilled Nursing Facility** - 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.
- **911 - Act in Time** When to go to the ER - 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.
- **The ABC Planning Process: A Non-Wall Street Approach to Investment and Retirement Planning** - 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.
- **What You Should Know about Long Term Care** - 12:00 p.m. - 12:50 p.m.
- **Senior Moving Made Easy** - 9:00 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.
- **Identify Theft Protection** - 9:00 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.
- **Making Sense of Medicare** Understanding Medicare Basics
12:00 p.m. - 12:50 p.m.
- **Social Security Updates** - 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.
- **The Truth About Estate Planning** - 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Fitness Demonstrations

- **Zumba Gold** - 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
- **Strength Training for Seniors**
and **Fit as a Fiddle** - 10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
- **Line Dance** - 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

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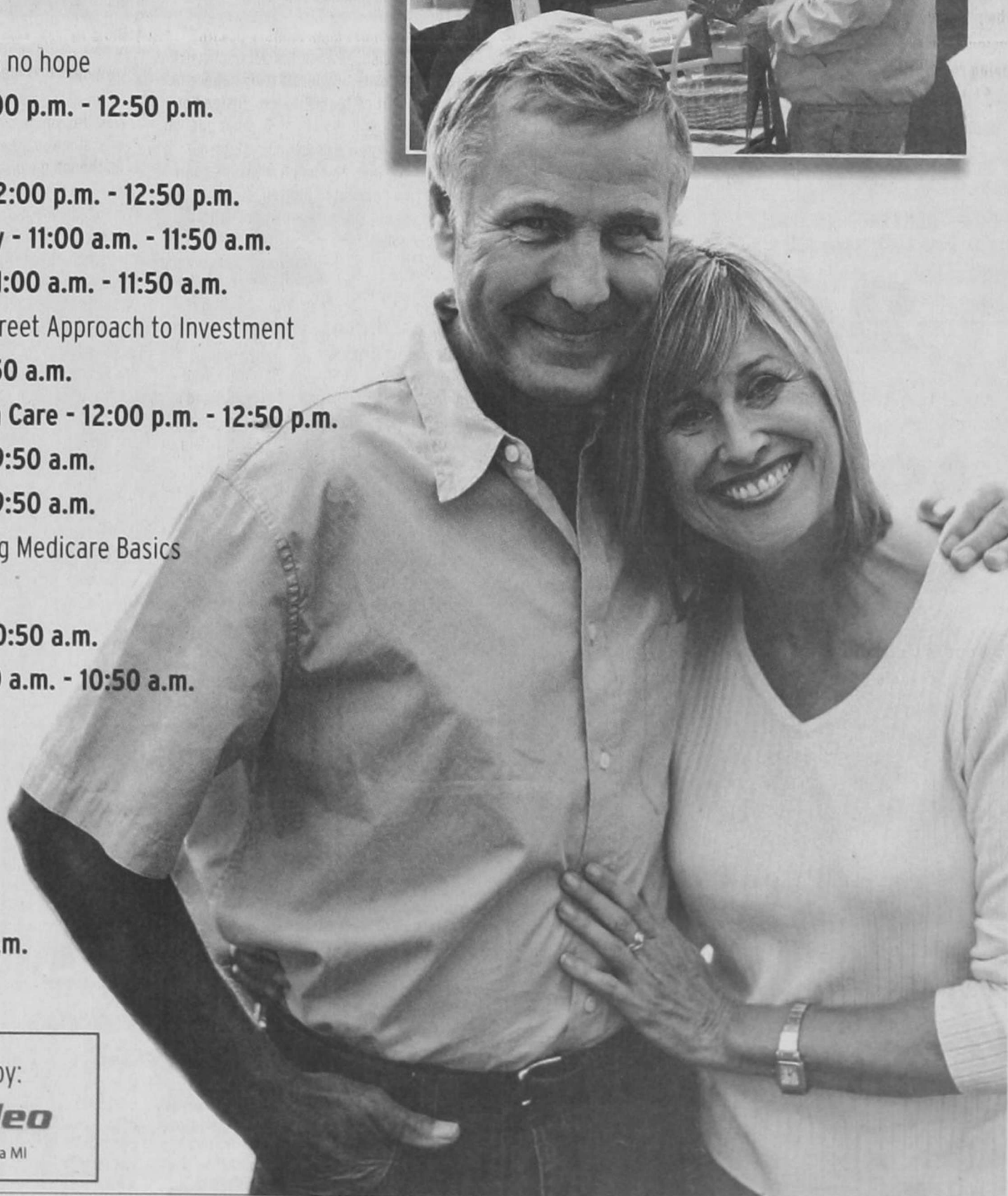
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Rally lifts Wildcats

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Tuesday's varsity girls soccer matchup between Canton and Plymouth turned out to be a game of two halves.

After the Chiefs dominated the first half, carrying a 2-0 lead into halftime, the Wildcats flipped the switch — and the script — after intermission.

Plymouth scored three unanswered goals for a 3-2 KLAA South Division victory. The Wildcats improved to 6-2-3 overall and 4-1-2 in the division.

"It was a huge win for us," Plymouth head coach Jeff Neschich said. "They're a very strong team. I think they might have thought they had us at halftime when we were down 2-0."

With a smile, the coach added "But don't count out the 'Cats."

WANTING IT MORE

Conversely, Canton head coach Jeannine Reddy was wondering what happened to her team (5-4-1, 5-2-0).

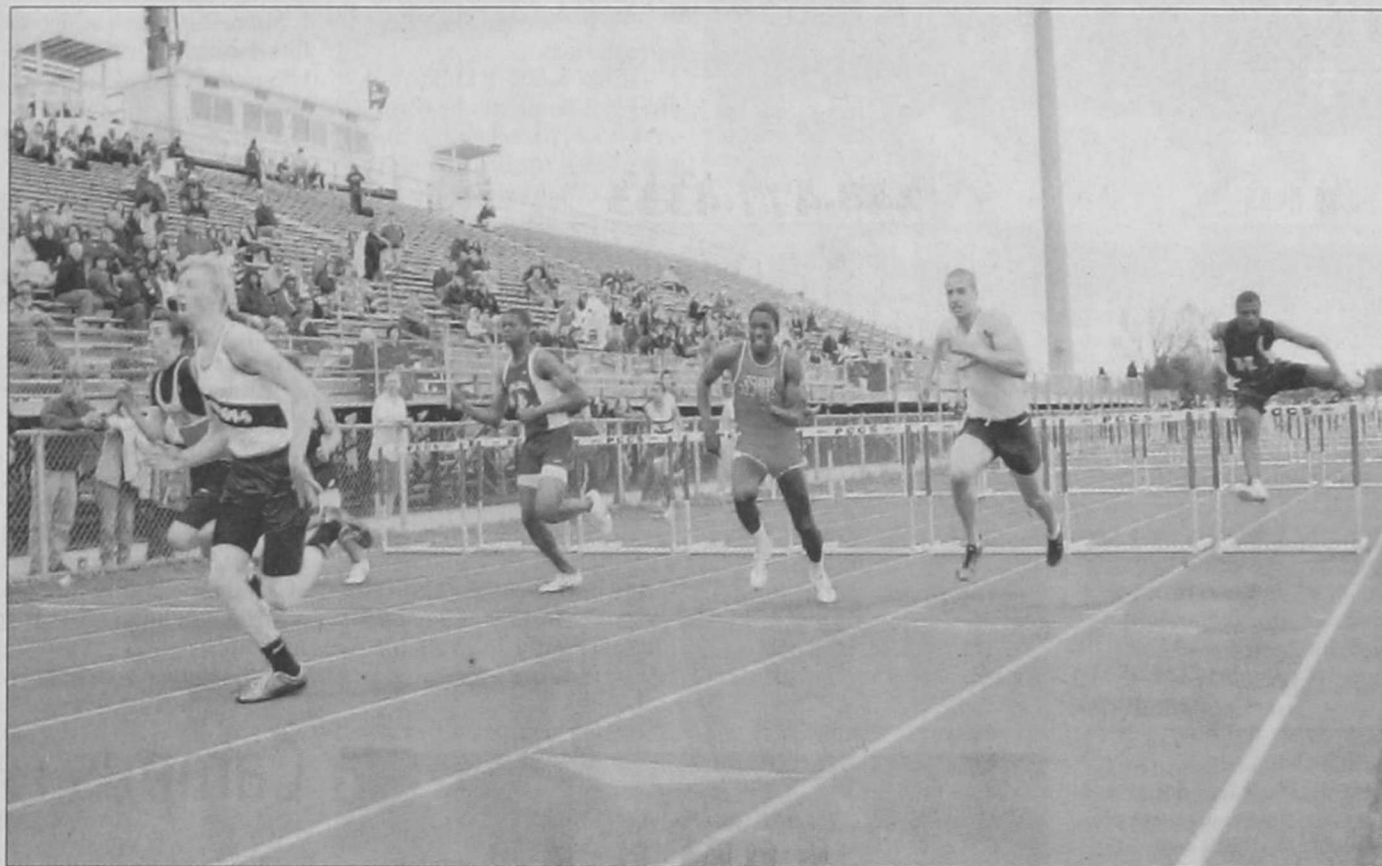
"I told the girls they were going to come out strong, they were down 2-0," Reddy said. "It was still anyone's game, and they (Wildcats) just wanted it more. They tried harder."

Scoring the winning goal, was Plymouth freshman midfielder Alyssa Dillon, who also assisted on the Wildcats' first goal (by senior forward McKenzie Hengesh).

"I just wanted to score really bad and I just kind of figured that I might as well go all out for it," Dillon said, "and if anything happens it happens."

On the play, with just over 11 minutes left in regulation, Dillon's speed enabled her to get to the ball and she dribbled it to

Please see **SOCCER, B3**



PHOTOS BY THOMAS BEAUDOIN

Lutheran High Westland's Zach Musial (second from left) barely edges Canton's Ben Spreitzer (far left) in Saturday's 110-meter hurdles, one of three individual events at the Observerland relays. Salem's Dion Walker placed fifth.

Shamrocks rule Observerland Relays

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER



Canton senior Nick Alaniva sparked the Chiefs' pole vault relay to a second-place finish during Saturday's Observerland relays.

Every year since moving from Redford to Novi in 2005, the Shamrocks of Detroit Catholic Central are invited back to the Observerland Relays.

They wouldn't miss it for the world, or the wins.

"I tell you, I appreciate them inviting us every year," veteran CC boys track and field coach Tony Magni said. "We're out of the Observer area, but they are kind enough to invite us back and we'll come back every year they invite us back."

Other teams from the area might not be thrilled to know that. On Saturday at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, CC won the Observerland championship for the third consecutive year.

This time, the Shamrocks tallied 114 points — taking the honors in eight of 16 events to best 16 other boys track and field teams.

"It (first place) means a lot because it was a total team effort," Magni said. "Everybody contributed tonight, every-

body. We scored in almost every event that we were in.

"So everybody got a medal (awarded to the top-six finishers per event) and everybody did really well."

The highlight for CC was setting a new Observerland record in the 6,400-meter relay with a time of 17-minutes, 56-seconds.

That eclipsed the former mark of 18:05.0, set in 2001 by the Shamrocks.

Winning the runners-up trophy with a late surge was Farmington, with 61 points.

The Falcons, also second place in 2010, edged third-place Canton (57 points) and fourth place Livonia Stevenson (52 points). Observerland-host Salem finished in fifth place, with 42 points.

"We ran extremely well and set a lot of PR's today," Farmington coach Chip Bridges said. "Our 4-x-400 PR'ed. We scored in all the events we entered. We won two and there were three events we didn't enter."

Please see **RELAYS, B3**

SIDELINES

Chief could yet be a Chip

Canton junior Ryan Jones did not turn down a football scholarship offer from Central Michigan University after all.

Although Jones did not accept the offer, which came shortly after he placed first



Jones

out of 610 Michigan athletes at the Michigan Preps Combine, he did not decline it either.

Instead, he is still considering becoming a future Chippewa as well as not closing the door on other offers that might come in.

In the meantime, he still has business to attend to as a Chief, both as an accomplished sprinter with the track and field team and as an offensive/defensive back with the football squad.

Fundraiser on menu

Canton High School alum Chelsea Olson, who is a lacrosse player finishing her sophomore year at Indiana Tech University, has been invited to play this summer with the USA Women's Lacrosse Team in Germany and the Czech Republic.

But Olson is hoping to defray some of those travel costs and a local restaurant is ready to help her do that.

On Tuesday, May 17, Rose's Restaurant & Lounge in Canton is hosting a fundraiser from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Rose's Rich Constantino said anybody who comes in May 17 who mentions Chelsea Olson, or even brings a clipping of this Observer article, will receive 15 percent off the total bill (not including taxes).

"They're customers that come in and they wanted to keep it (fundraiser) local," said Constantino about the Olsons. "We do a lot of things, like donate food, to help out the (prep) sports teams."

Rose's Restaurant & Lounge is located at 201 N. Canton Center Road. For more information, call (734) 981-9904.

Golf for Canton football

Here's a way to combine helping out the Canton High School football program with enjoying a day of golf.

Come out to Salem Hills Golf Club on Saturday, Aug. 6, for the annual golf outing/football fundraiser. Cost is \$100 per golfer. It will be a four-man scramble format. The fee includes 18 holes of golf, cart, free range balls, lunch at the turn, a barbecue chicken and rib dinner, numerous contests and prizes.

For more information and a printable registration form, please go to www.cantonfootball.com. You can also call Lina Williams at (248) 240-1125 or Julie Baechler at (734) 645-7777.

Canton grid camps

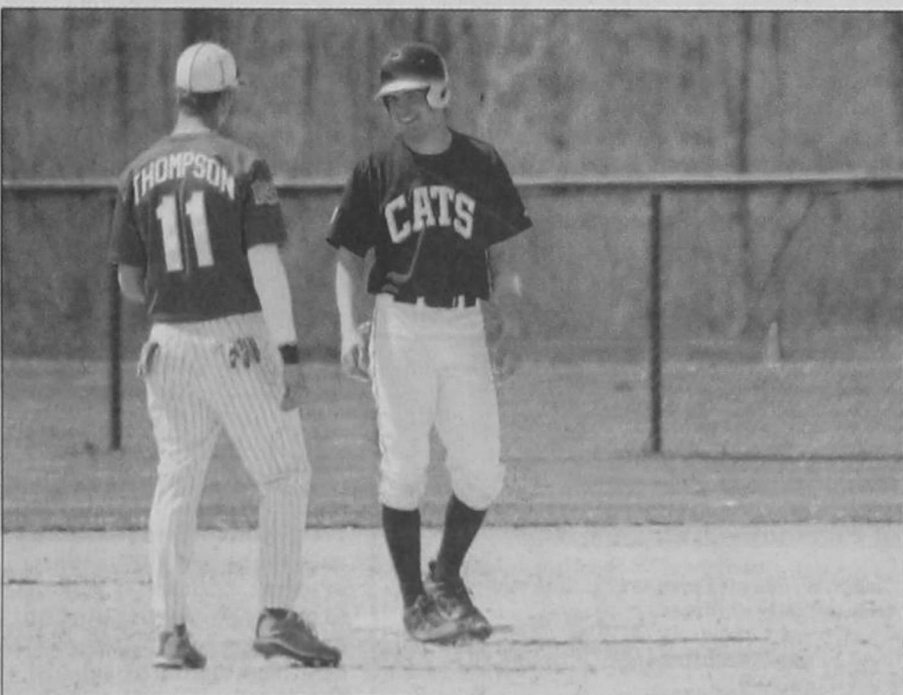
That's not all of the news about Canton football. The Chiefs will be hosting three grid camps this summer.

The first one is for players going into grades seven-nine this fall and is a skills camp, with sessions 5-7:30 p.m. June 13-16. Contact freshman coach Richard Mui at (248) 229-2738 for more information.

After that will be the Wing-T Camp, slated to run 2-5 p.m. on June 20 and 5-8 p.m. on June 21-23. This camp is for players going into grades 10-12. Call varsity coach Tim Baechler at (734) 455-7691 for more information.

The Fundamental Camp for kids entering grades three-six will take place from 9 a.m. to 12 noon June 27-30. Contact Enza Laneva at (313) 300-1173 for more information.

Also, check out www.CantonChiefsfootball.com for forms and further information.



MARY THEISEN

Plymouth's Mike Nadratowski chats with Salem shortstop Drew Thompson (No. 11) during the opener of Saturday's 'Strike Out Prostate Cancer' twinbill.

Park's place for philanthropy

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Whatever the cause, baseball players at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park really stepped up to the plate Saturday with dueling benefit doubleheaders.

The Plymouth and Salem varsity, junior varsity and freshman teams squared off for the second annual "Strike Out Prostate Cancer" event.

Meanwhile, across the Park was a benefit twinbill for disabled Canton sophomore Jesse Lindlbauer, featuring a doubleheader between the varsity Chiefs and Kalamazoo Central.

"We've got a lot of good people around here," Plymouth varsity coach Bryan Boyd said. "Our community is full of good people that are willing to rally around a good cause."

Two of them, actually.

Kicking the philanthropic day off,

the Plymouth and Salem varsity teams divided their doubleheader. Plymouth won 4-3 in the opener at Salem, before the Rocks returned the favor on the Wildcats' home field with a 9-2 win in Game 2.

WANTING TO HELP

But the real winner was the Prostate Cancer Foundation, in association with the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association.

The foundation will receive an estimated \$2,000, raised thanks to the sales of raffle tickets, baked goods and powder blue "awareness" wrist bands, said parent Audrey Rodriguez of the Salem Baseball Boosters.

Players from the teams also wore the wrist bands throughout the day.

"This one is stacking up better than

Please see **BASEBALL, B2**

Late lead slips away

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth literally threw a victory away Monday against Livonia Stevenson, putting a damper on a benefit softball game for the American Cancer Society.

The host Wildcats took a 6-4 lead into the top of the seventh and sophomore pitcher Elaine Gerou retired the first two batters.

Gerou had the win on her fingertips after fielding a comebacker by Allie Koesterling. But the throw to first went awry and the Spartans pounced on that chance to score three runs for a 7-6 victory.

Ashley Avery's single up the middle scored Jackie Johnson with the lead run.

The Wildcats (10-5) then were unable to respond in their last at-bat of the KLAA crossover game against relief pitcher Morgan Copperstone (who picked up the

win).

"Softball is such a fast game, you got to take advantage of the other team's mistakes," Stevenson head coach Rob Witherspoon said. "And fortunately, we had a chance to take advantage."

Witherspoon said it was good to see junior co-captain Avery notch the winning hit.

"Ashley was a little down on herself during the game," he said. "She wasn't hitting the ball like she normally does. I told her 'Your time's going to come,' and it came."

Plymouth head coach Val Canfield had little to say about the disappointing finish to a roller-coaster game.

The Wildcats trailed 3-0 early on, with Johnson accounting for two runs with a homer to left-center in the first off Plymouth starter Lauren Smith.

Please see **SOFTBALL, B3**



Plymouth freshman shortstop Lindsay Lutton tries to tag out Livonia Stevenson baserunner Molly Knoph (No. 9) during Monday's KLAA crossover softball game. Both teams wore pink T-shirts as part of a benefit to raise proceeds and awareness to help fight breast cancer.

Wildcats' bats still cold; Canton sweeps John Glenn

Livonia Stevenson doesn't appear to be losing its stranglehold on first place in the KLAA Central Division baseball race anytime soon.

The state-ranked Spartans, getting a one-hitter from senior Evan Piechota, improved to 16-6 overall and 10-0 in the Central with a 3-0 Kensington Conference crossover victory host Plymouth.

Piechota struck out six and walked only three to earn the complete-game victory.

Tyler Goble had the lone hit for the Wildcats (10-7, 5-5).

Josh DeYonker went 2-for-3 with an RBI for Stevenson.

Mark Wagner also had two hits, while Piechota and Justin Small each knocked in a run.

Losing pitcher Harrison Michels went all seven as well, allowing seven hits and a walk. He struck out three.

CANTON 11-13, JOHN GLENN 2-2: On Tuesday, the host Chiefs (16-3, 9-2) moved into a first place tie in the KLAA South Division by sweeping



Salem junior Scott Theisen delivers a pitch toward the plate during his complete-game win over Livonia Stevenson on May 4.

Westland John Glenn (6-15, 1-9).

Winning pitch Braden Price helped his own cause by going 3-for-3, while Evan Rinke added two hits and an RBI double as Canton took the opener, 11-2.

Shane Anderson went 2-for-4 with an RBI, while Derrick Ammons contributed an RBI sacrifice fly for Rockets.

Glenn starter Rob Schurig took the loss.

In the nightcap, Canton pitchers David Blythe and Art

Chavez combined on a one-hitter in Canton's 13-2 triumph in five innings.

Dirk Willette led the Chiefs eight-hit attack going 2-for-3 with two runs score.

Anderson doubled in a run for Glenn. Starter Jesse Reid took the loss.

CANTON 6, SOUTH LYON EAST 5: A home run by Chris Perkovich, his second in three days, lifted the host Chiefs to this KLAA crossover baseball win on Monday.

Helping the offense with a two-run single was Garrett Bryden.

Earning the win in relief was Mike Stafford, who worked two solid innings after taking over from freshman Nick Hazergian (strong in his first varsity start).

JOHN GLENN 4, SALEM 3: Winning pitcher Kevin Karsnick belted a solo homer in the bottom of the sixth to break a 3-3 tie Monday and host Westland John Glenn (6-13, 1-7) posted a Kensington

Conference crossover triumph over the Rocks (7-6, 5-3).

Karsnick allowed eight hits, walked two and struck out seven over seven innings. He also went 2-for-3.

Shane Anderson added two hits, while Brian Monty contributed an RBI double for the Rockets.

Markus Olind was the losing pitcher in relief for Salem.

Brett Ramirez and Devin Price each had two hits for the Rocks.

STEVENSON 3-6, SALEM 2-10: On May 4 in a KLAA Central doubleheader at Salem, Livonia Stevenson prevailed in a pitching duel in the opener, but the Rocks showed their mettle to bounce back in Game 2.

The Spartans were only able to score in one inning against Salem starting pitcher Matt Rowland. But it was a three-run homer and that held up.

Tallying two hits each

for the Rocks were Scott Devine and Brett Ramirez, while RBIs were collected by Drew Thompson and Brad Trublowksi.

Throwing his first varsity complete game to notch the win in the nightcap was junior pitcher Scott Theisen, while a five-run third inning lifted the Salem offense.

Thompson and Trublowksi drove in two runs each in a five-run third inning.

But after Stevenson fought back to tie the game, Tommy Rodriguez had a huge two-out double to drive in three runs and put the Rocks on top for good.

"I was just focused on my strikes and pitch count," said Theisen, about the complete game. "I had 97 pitches but only 32 balls, so I was really happy with that."

"It's nice because then everyone else is able to be saved for the next game, so we have more pitchers to win in later games."

BASEBALL

FROM PAGE B1

last year I think," Rodriguez said, "because people understand what we're doing. It's a great cause, everyone's coming out."

Concurring was Joanie Spryszak, mom of Plymouth JV player Sawyer Spryszak.

"I'm glad the boys are out here supporting the cause," she said. "We've had a lot of wonderful parents that have worked really hard. And we got beautiful weather and hopefully we'll make a lot of money that will help strike out prostate cancer."

Players such as Salem junior Scott Theisen also was glad to participate, especially since his grandfather (Chuck Theisen) had prostate cancer and died in 2010.

"It's important to me and I think everyone else has a big appreciation," of why such events are needed, Scott Theisen said. "We just want to help raise awareness."

UNITING FOR JESSE

Over at Canton High School was the benefit twinbill for Jesse "Super Jess" Lindlbauer, a Canton sophomore who suffered a brain abscess rupture in December, which impaired his speech and movement.

Through ongoing speech and physical therapy, the 16-year-old is working hard to regain at least some of those

functions back.

Between business donations and raffle-ticket sales, approximately \$1,660 was generated to help Jesse's family deal with mounting medical bills.

Included in that total was a check for \$1,000, donated by John Perkovich (brother of Canton senior shortstop Chris Perkovich), who runs Coyote Logistics in the Chicago area.

Other members of the Perkovich family also went all-out for Jesse, including Chris and his sister, 2005 Canton graduate Erika Perkovich.

Chris Perkovich and teammates pounded the pavement to garner various donations of food, gift cards, 18 holes of golf at area courses, an iPod touch and autographed sports memorabilia from businesses in Plymouth and Canton.

Former Plymouth Whaler and current Montreal Canadien James Wisniewski also chipped in with an autographed hockey stick.

"I think the whole Park has really come together and put together what they can just to really help Jesse out," Erika said. "He was here for the whole first game ... We introduced him and the whole team, varsity, JV and freshmen took a picture with him."

"My brother Chris went to all the restaurants, and brought the flier that talked about what happened to Jesse and about this baseball game. And that any donations would be appreciated."



Following Saturday's benefit varsity baseball doubleheader between Salem and Plymouth, both teams got together for a group photo. All players and coaches wore blue wrist bands for the event, which raised money for the Prostate Cancer Foundation.

GAME BALL

Perhaps the biggest hit of the whole day was by Chris Perkovich, who homered and then presented the ball to a beaming Jesse after the opener (which the Chiefs won 7-5; Canton took Game 2 by a 13-9 score).

In the nightcap, freshman relief pitcher Nick Hazergian (just up from JV) collected his first varsity victory.

"At the beginning of the game the coaches said 'Somebody hit a home run for Jesse today,'" Chris said. "So I went up there, I hit a home run. That was the first one of my high school career."

"It felt really good and I wanted to give it to him because this is for him."

Canton head coach Mark Blomshield said it was a plus for the Chiefs to get the victo-

ries for Jesse.

"That was a big deal," Blomshield said. "It was nice to see Jesse out here. He had his game uni on, there were a lot of friends, food and baseball."

The prevailing sentiment among the 150 to 200 who came to the games between the Chiefs and Giants was expressed by Canton senior Laura Fcasni.

"I didn't know Jesse before, but I met him recently," said Laura, who is a friend of classmate Sarah Lindlbauer, Jesse's sister. "It's a great family, awesome family."

Fcasni also was at the "Run for Super Jess" on May 1 at PCEP. The 5K run, sponsored by the PCEP National Honor Society, drew more than 1,300 participants.

"Everything we've been doing to help him out is cool," Laura said, "just to see the community come together and support him."

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Campus rivals split pair

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When they are teammates with the Michigan Blue Jays 16U baseball travel team, Justin Thompson knows what kind of damage Demetrius Dunlap can create at the plate.

On Saturday, in the opener of a KLAA baseball crossover between Thompson's team (Plymouth) and Dunlap's (Salem), the pitcher was reminded of that twice.

But Thompson, despite serving up two home runs to Dunlap, emerged victorious in a 4-3 victory in the first of two games played at the second annual "Strike Out Prostate Cancer" twinbill.

"Oh yeah, I've seen him hit those a lot," Thompson said. "I knew I made a bad pitch right when I threw it."

According to Dunlap, a sophomore standout who also had a bunt single to go 3-for-4 in the first game, hard work in the batting cage has keyed his recent success.

"I've been working on my swing and I'm hitting the ball a lot better," Dunlap said. "I'm quicker, (but) I have a good team behind me."

Dunlap's homers did not spoil Thompson's seven-inning performance in Game 1.

"It was my first complete game," Thompson said. "I was making good pitches, throwing them low, getting ground balls and having my defense do the work for me."

Plymouth head coach Bryan Boyd tipped his cap to

his pitcher.

"Justin pitched great," Boyd said. "He kept us in the game despite the fact we didn't do a whole lot offensively."

The big hit for the Wildcats in the first game was Tyler Goble's two-run roundtripper.

Salem, meanwhile, avenged the opening loss with a 9-2 trouncing in the second game.

Each high school hosted one of the varsity games; junior varsity and freshman teams from Plymouth and Salem also participated.

Dunlap also sparkled in the second game, only with the leather.

He made identical diving catches in center against the Wildcats' Jamarl Eiland (in the fifth) and Ben Wohl, to end the game.

Both teams traded runs in the first inning and the Rocks went up 3-1 in the second against Plymouth starting pitcher Eiland.

Austin Silletti's single to left drove home Markus Olind (who walked) and Evan Gambino (who doubled).

A four-run third without the benefit of a hit really broke the contest open for Salem.

But for good measure, run-scoring hits by Scott Devine and Brett Ramirez tacked on two more runs for the Rocks.

After the final pitch, both teams gathered for a team photograph to commemorate the special day.

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PCA surges to 9-8 win

Dillon Rahill went 3-for-4 with the game-tying double in the top of the sixth inning to propel Plymouth Christian Academy to a wild, 9-8 comeback victory Monday at Livonia Clarenceville.

Clarenceville led 8-1 through six innings before the Eagles exploded for seven runs in the seventh.

PCA sent 10 batters to the plate in that frame. Rahill got the ball rolling with a hit and then stole second before moving up on a passed ball.

Four straight walks followed and the Eagles scored two runs on a single by Matt Dodson.

Rahill eventually delivered his second hit of the inning (a double) to knot the score up at 8-8.

The Trojans had a chance to win the game in the bottom of the seventh, but Rahill caught a fly ball in center field and threw a strike to catcher Daniel Jipping to cut down the run.

Plymouth Christian broke the tie in the eighth, with Ben Cochrum walking to force in a run. The big hit of the inning was Dodson's double, which followed a bad-hop single by Jared Cobb.

Earning the win with a complete game was Daniel Slater.

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Salem girls battle to tie with Holt

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The sun shined Saturday on Salem's varsity girls lacrosse team, and the senior members of the squad, as the Rocks posted a 10-10 tie against favored Holt.

Although the host Rocks could not prevail at the Senior Day Game, it was a step in the right direction from a competitive standpoint.

"I asked our girls to step up for this game and for their seniors," Salem head coach Dave Medley said. "For the most part, they delivered."

"There's no two ways about it, we've been in a stretch of playing far superior competition. But at times you get an inclination there are much better days to come."

Medley said his team, now 3-10-1, might have stunned Holt (now 7-6-1) by scoring first and holding the lead until midway through the opening half.

Leading Salem with four goals was Rose Krasofsky while Breanne Beaver chipped in with two.

Also scoring were Bridget Maul, Shannon Fitzpatrick,

Kiersten Valla and senior Allie Carter, registering her first varsity goal.

Medley said all but Maul (in her second season) are first-year players.

CANTON 11, PLYMOUTH 8: These two PCEP teams got together for the second time this season, and this time it was the Chiefs to come away victorious.

The Chiefs were able to win despite trailing 6-4 at halftime and then losing top scorer Stephanie Bower to a knee injury while she warmed up before the second half began.

Senior captain Lauren Allard and sophomore Annelise Niermann stepped up by each scoring three goals in the second half (each tallied four for the night).

Rounding out the scoring for Canton were Bower, Kaitlyn Allard and Jordan Richter.

The Chiefs scored five unanswered goals to go up 9-6 and they never gave up the advantage after that.

Taylor Birman and Shannon Lubin scored three and two goals, respectively, for the Wildcats.

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Salem senior Allie Carter (No. 32) checks a Holt player (left) during Saturday's varsity girls lacrosse matchup. Carter scored her first varsity goal during the 10-10 tie.

RELAYS

FROM PAGE B1

Bridges said he was careful not to have his athletes overdo it Saturday, considering the Falcons were coming off the Farmington City Meet.

"We only ran two guys in two events," he said. "So to get second place ... we were surprised and very happy."

TOO MUCH DEPTH

The Shamrocks, meanwhile, were "just deep in every event," Canton coach Bob Richardson said.

"It's like they have no weakness in their armor, so to speak," Richardson said.

For much of the meet, it looked as if the Chiefs would finish second. But Farmington won the second-to-last event (the 1,600-meter relay) to bypass Canton.

"We knew second place was up for grabs," Richardson said. "And there were three or four schools that were all in the hunt. It came down to the 1,600 relay."

In that race, the Falcons finished with a time of 3:28.20 to nip Canton's 3:29.10.

The fourth-place Spartans had an overall solid performance, despite not having top 400 runner Pat Smith in the lineup due to reportedly suffering a concussion playing soccer earlier in the day.

"I thought we did well," Stevenson coach Scott Shaw said. "We had some good times and performances. Jake Colley took second in the mile (1,600), a 4:38, which is a nice surprise to us."

"I think he dropped his personal best by about seven seconds. He ran a nice race."

Shaw added that the long jump relay's second-place showing (57-07.5) was another plus.

"We hung in and did a nice job in the long jump where we took a second, which I wasn't expecting necessarily," Shaw said. "Two guys had their best performances."

Other teams in the top-10 included Livonia Churchill (37), Westland John Glenn (23), Livonia Franklin (22), Redford Union (20) and Farmington Harrison (16).

A unique meet because it features relays of typical individual field events (pole vault, high jump, etc.), Catholic Central also earned wins in the discus and long jump relays with respective marks of 405-feet, 01-inches and 57-10.25.

COMING UP BIG

According to Canton's Richardson, his team "didn't back down from anybody. (Kevin) Buford had a big day, (Ryan) Jones had a big day, (Nick) Alaniva had a big day, (Ben) Spreitzer had a big day. I can't complain."

Buford was part of the winning sprint relay team, with Matt Schacht, Demetre Lopez and Scott Piwowar (2:31.8).

And Jones' 11.0 time in the 100 dash earned second place behind Livonia Clarenceville's Kassius Kelly (10.80).

Spreitzer teamed up with Schacht and Zach Smilo to win

the high jump relay. That team finished in 18-feet even.

Alaniva set a new Canton record with his 14-6 in the pole vault, as part of the second-place pole vault relay with Ryan Kilgore and Mitch Nickert.

Livonia Churchill's trio of Carl Rayford, Alex Rytarsyk and Jacob Hage won that relay with a combined distance of 35-06 (ahead of Canton's 34-00).

In the 110 hurdles, Lutheran Westland's Zach Musial led the way with his 15.30 edging Spreitzer (15.50), Westland John Glenn's Maxwell Kelly and Farmington's Matt Craven (15.70 each).

BRIGHT SPOTS

The lone first-place points of the day for Livonia Franklin came courtesy of the first-place shot put relay team of Adam Clay, Jay Woolfork and Alex Forde. They threw a combined 138-feet, 04.5-inches. That was enough to nip Catholic Central (137-10).

Salem's sprint and shuttle hurdle relays placed second while the long jump relay team (Dan Adsit, Thomas Crawford, Kalon Bond-Jackson) and the pole vault relay team (Andrew Willmer, Riley Voxtader, Avery Bruni) each took third.

"Steve McEvilly (4:46.10) shattered his own personal record in the 1,600 tonight, which is fantastic," said Salem coach Kurt Meteyer.

Salem's other fourth-place finisher was Dan Martin in the 100 dash (11.10).

One of the top teams in the 2010 Observerland, Plymouth's Wildcats, managed just 10 points.

Positives for Plymouth, coach Jon Mikosz said, included respective fourth- and third-place finishes for the 6,400-meter relay and distance medley relay.

"After those guys all ran (Friday, at the Golden Triangle meet in Saline) and all of them set season PR's, to come back today and run I thought was pretty good," Mikosz said.

The rest of Saturday's field included 11th-place Clarenceville (12), Northville (11), Plymouth (10), Lutheran Westland (10), Redford Thurston (7), Wayne Memorial (2) and Garden City (no points).

Divisional nailbiter

On Tuesday, visiting Canton lost a dual meet and the KLAA South Division title by the slimmest of margins — losing 69.66-to-67.33 to Livonia Franklin.

The Patriots clinched the division with a 5-0 mark, while Canton dropped to 6-1 overall and 4-1 in the KLAA South.

But Canton's Richardson praised some of his athletes for having their best efforts of the season.

And the Chiefs, by finishing second, qualified for the May 24 association meet at Novi.

Meanwhile, they will compete Friday at the Kensington Conference meet (as will Plymouth and Salem).

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Mixed results for Wildcats and Rocks

Plymouth's varsity softball team followed up a big 3-1 victory Friday with mixed results at Saturday's Canton Classic.

Although the Wildcats played some excellent softball against Tecumseh, Summerfield and Trenton, they could only eke out two ties and a loss (5-2 to Trenton).

"These teams are ranked teams and they have good pitching," Plymouth head coach Val Canfield said. "I was pleased with the day, actually."

The Wildcats were leading 7-3 against Tecumseh and 2-0 against Summerfield, but couldn't hold down their opponents. Because of time constraints, the games ended up 7-7 and 2-2.

On Friday, however, freshman shortstop Lindsay Lutton hit a two-run home run to spark Plymouth's win over the Mustangs.

"She's strong and consistent," Canfield said. "And we need more players like that."

STEVENSON 6-3, SALEM 4-4: In KLAA Central Division twinbill Wednesday, May 4, Livonia Stevenson (7-5, 2-2) and the host Rocks (2-4, 2-2) settled for a split.

Allie Koestering tripled twice and knocked in three runs as Stevenson took the opener, 6-4.

Ashley Avery also added two hits and two RBI in the victory, while pitcher Jackie Johnson scattered eight hits and struck out five in seven innings.

Losing pitcher Heidi Schmidt and Kelly Janiczek each went 3-for-4 in the loss. Alexis Powell went 2-for-3, including a homer and three RBI.

Salem won the nightcap, 4-3, despite being out-hit 11-6. Kristine Zink was the win-

ning pitcher, while Stevenson's Morgan Copperstone, who gave up four earned runs on six hits, took the loss.

PLYMOUTH 8, NOVI 7: In a KLAA South Division clash on Monday, May 2, Brooke Senkbeil singled home Karen Rebain in the seventh inning for the winning run.

Senkbeil went 3-for-4 in the game, while Brianna Giordano also went 3-for-4, with two runs and two RBI.

Chipping in with two hits and three stolen bases was Jessica Bondy. Winning pitcher Elaine Gerou (2-for-3), Lutton (2-for-4, two stolen bases) and Lauren Smith (2-for-4, one RBI) also had big days at the plate.

SALEM INVITATIONAL: The Wildcats reached the semifinals at the April 30 tournament, but lost 3-2 to eventual champion Flat Rock.

After trailing 3-0, Plymouth scored twice in the seventh. But that comeback bid fell just short.

Earlier in the tournament, the Wildcats racked up 31 hits over two mercy-rule victories — 11-1 over Boston Huron (five innings) and 15-0 over Ann Arbor Pioneer (three innings).

Against Boston Huron, Gerou smacked two doubles among her three hits while Bondy contributed three hits, two RBIs and two stolen bases.

Giordano singled, doubled and drove in three.

In the rout of Pioneer, Senkbeil, Gerou, Bondy, Giordano, Smith, Karen Rebain and Allison Raylean each had two hits.

Meanwhile, the host Rocks went 1-2. They defeated Redford Union but fell to Livonia Franklin and Wyandotte.

SOCCER

FROM PAGE B1

just outside the box where she pitched a high shot over Canton senior goalkeeper Kayla Bridges.

"Honestly, it was just a blind shot," Dillon said. "But it went in."

Reddy absolved Bridges on the winning goal. "There was nothing she could have done. It was a great shot."

The Chiefs were in control during the first half, with senior forward Liz Ferrill (on an assist from junior midfielder Megan Trapp) and junior midfielder Allison Krause (from freshman defender Rachel Winters) scoring past Wildcats' senior goalkeeper Marissa Williams.

"We were in their part of the field at least 75 percent of the first half," Reddy said.

Reddy, as she usually does, changed keepers at the break with junior Danielle Schendel coming in for Bridges.

RALLY TIME

But the Chiefs could not pad their lead and Hengesh put the Wildcats on the board with 29:12 to go.

Dillon made that play happen, too, getting to a 50/50 ball and sending a crisp feed up the middle to Hengesh — who ripped a rising shot in off the middle of the crossbar.

Just 2:48 later it was all even at 2-2. Senior midfielder Katie Moss started the sequence with a restart that bounced in to Hengesh inside the box.

Hengesh redirected the ball on goal but Schendel dove to her left to get in front of it.

But the goalie could not cover it up. The ball trickled away from her and sophomore midfielder Stephanie Dillon chipped it in from close range.

Just past the halfway point of the second half, Reddy switched keepers again, but that didn't stop Plymouth's momentum.

According to Neschich, he made some adjustments at halftime.

"We stacked our forwards and

moved Katie (Moss) into center-mid, to try and win the central-mid areas of the field," Neschich said. "I think that was the difference. But more than any adjustment change, I think we started winning the one-on-one battles and winning the 50/50 balls."

Along with the adjustments, Neschich urged his team to step on the gas.

"I told them we were playing real conservative and backing off and giving them way to much respect going after the ball," he added. "We needed to close that gap."

NOVI 4, SALEM 0: Host Novi scored two goals in each half Tuesday night and Salem had no answer in the KLAA Central Division matchup.

Rocks head coach Joe Nora said his team got off to a flat start and fell behind. Although the team played better in the second half it could not make up for the early deficit.

Salem goalkeepers Ali Eggenberger and Jamie Hunley split time in the cage and performed well. "The mistakes we made left them no chance on Novi's goals."

The loss dropped Salem's record to 5-5-2 overall and 3-3-1 in the KLAA Central.

PCA 3, ROEPER 0: Jenna Abraham scored two goals and Emily Gerulis one on Tuesday as Plymouth Christian blanked Birmingham Roeper.

Brianna Harris made five stops for the shutout, which topped PCA's record to 8-0-1.

PCA 7, CLARENCEVILLE 1: The Eagles had the offense going in Monday's nonconference girls soccer matchup against Livonia Clarenceville.

Sophomore Kendall Groenwood and freshman Martha Mullet each scored two goals while Emily Gerulis, Jenna Abraham and Brittany Baxter also found the back of the Clarenceville net.

PLYMOUTH 3, WLW 1: In a KLAA crossover Saturday, two goals by Zoe Foster sparked the Wildcats to victory.

Also scoring for Plymouth was Katie Moss.

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SOFTBALL

FROM PAGE B1

But Plymouth sent 12 batters to the plate in a six-run fourth against Stevenson starting pitcher Johnson.

Big hits in that frame were doubles off the center-field fence by sophomore Kayla Rebain and freshman Brooke Senkbeil. Freshman Lindsay Lutton collected two singles during the inning, including one to get the surge started.

But Plymouth's bats cooled off for the rest of the day, with just singles by Senkbeil and Karen Rebain.

"I think we just pressed too much at the plate," Canfield said.

The victory improved Stevenson's record to 9-5 overall.

"I tell you what, I told the girls that might be one of the best games I've been associated with ... in my many years of coaching," Witherspoon said.

DOING THEIR PART

Canfield was happy to talk about the benefit for breast cancer awareness. Players from both teams wore pink T-shirts while the Wildcats also wore pink ribbons in their hair.

"I was pleased with the turnout, pleased with all the work that was put into it to make it successful," Canfield emphasized. "And it is so good to acknowledge a disease that's a silent killer like it is."

"Hopefully one day, with research and additional money and funding we'll really get a cure for this."

There were baked goods for the cause as well as a silent auction; the fourth was a "miracle inning." Containers were passed around for spectators to donate dollar bills and coins.

It was estimated that about \$500 was raised at the game.

Getting the ball rolling for the benefit, Canfield said, were mailings from Coaches vs. Cancer.

She added that it was nice that Stevenson agreed to participate.

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OBSERVERLAND RESULTS

41st annual OBSERVERLAND BOYS TRACK & FIELD RELAYS
May 7 at Canton
TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, 114 points; 2. Farmington, 61; 3. Canton, 57; 4. Livonia Stevenson, 52; 5. Salem, 42; 6. Livonia Churchill, 37; 7. Westland John Glenn, 23; 8. Livonia Franklin, 22; 9. Redford Union, 20; 10. Farmington Hills Harrison, 16; 11. Livonia Clarenceville, 12; Northville, 11; 13. Plymouth, 10; 14. Lutheran High Westland, 10; 15. Redford Thurston, 7; 16. Wayne Memorial, 2.
FINAL RELAY RESULTS
Shot put: 1. Franklin (Adam Clay, Jay Woolfork, Alex Forde), 138 feet, 4.5 inches; 2. Catholic Central, 137-10; 3. Farmington, 131-5.5; 4. Churchill, 131-00; 5. Clarenceville, 130-3; 6. Stevenson, 121-3.
Discus: 1. Catholic Central (Steve Monarch, Matthew Godin, George Darany), 405-1; 2. Farmington, 371-10; 3. Churchill, 370-8; 4. Stevenson, 342-6; 5. Franklin, 336-5; 6. Canton, 332-9.
High jump: 1. Canton (Ben Spreitzer, Matt Schacht, Zach Smilo), 18-0; 2. Catholic Central, 17-4; 3. John Glenn, 17-2; 4. Farmington, 17-1; 5. Harrison, 16-10; 6. RU, 16-8.
Long jump: 1. Catholic Central (Ryan Majsak, Joshua Carolin, Steve Wyatt), 57-10.25; 2. Stevenson, 57-7.5; 3. Salem, 57-15; 4. Canton, 57-0; 5. John Glenn, 56-9; 6. RU, 56-4.5.
Pole vault: 1. Churchill (Carl Rayford, Alex Rytarsyk, Jacob Hage), 35-6; 2. Canton, 34-0; 3. Salem, 32-6; 4. Franklin, 32-6; 5. Harrison, 30-6; 6. Northville, 27-0.
6,400-meter: 1. Catholic Central (Andrew Garcia-Garrison, Ryan Boyd, Austin Zebrowski, John-Paul Zebrowski), 17:56.0 (meet record); 2. Stevenson, 18:24.4; 3. Churchill, 18:53.2; 4. Plymouth, 18:57.0; 5. Franklin, 19:36.5; 6. Canton, 19:49.5.
Distance medley: 1. Catholic Central (Carolin, Jack Malinowski, Evan Badge,

Mackenzie Boyd), 10:53.0; 2. Northville, 11:08.7; 3. Plymouth, 11:21.3; 4. RU, 11:24.7; 5. Stevenson, 11:27.8; 6. Churchill, 11:47.5.
3,200: 1. Catholic Central (Carolin, Garcia-Garrison, A. Zebrowski, J.P. Zebrowski), 8:06.1; 2. Stevenson, 8:08.9; 3. Farmington, 8:21.0; 4. Churchill, 8:27.2; 5. Northville, 8:29.7; 6. Franklin, 8:32.2.
Sprint medley: 1. Canton (Matt Schacht, Demetre Lopez, Scott Piwowar, Kevin Buford), 2:31.8; 2. Salem, 2:32.9; 3. Harrison, 2:34.8; 4. Catholic Central, 2:35.2; 5. Farmington, 2:35.4; 6. Thurston, 2:36.6.
Shuttle hurdle: 1. Farmington (D'Marco Mills, Darius Davis, Josh Craven, Matt Craven), 1:01.3; 2. Salem, 1:06.1; 3. Catholic Central, 1:06.8; 4. John Glenn, 1:07.1; 5. Stevenson, 1:08.0; 6. Franklin, 1:08.9.
400 relay: 1. Catholic Central (Michael Shields, Ryan Majsak, Dominic Salinas, Jake Spuller), 44.0; 2. RU, 44.4; 3. Canton, 44.4; 4. John Glenn, 44.5; 5. Thurston, 44.5; 6. Stevenson, 45.2.
1,600: 1. Farmington (Anthony Ward, Wale Edu, James Vincent-Taylor, Anthony Rutledge), 3:28.2; 2. Stevenson, 3:29.1; 3. Harrison, 3:30.6; 4. Salem, 3:30.6; 5. Catholic Central, 3:30.9; 6. Canton, 3:32.6.
INDIVIDUAL EVENTS
110 hurdles: 1. Zach Musial (Lutheran Westland), 15.3; 2. Ben Spreitzer (Canton), 15.5; 3. Kelly Maxwell (John Glenn), 15.7; 4. Matt Craven (Farmington), 15.7; 5. Dion Walker (Salem), 15.8; 6. Tom Brokaw (Franklin), 15.8.
100 dash: 1. Kassius Kelly (Cville), 10.8; 2. Ryan Jones (Canton), 11.0; 3. Jake Spuller (CC), 11.0; 4. Dan Martin (Salem), 11.1; 5. James Vincent-Taylor (Farmington), 11.1; 6. Stefan Anthony (John Glenn), 11.2.
1,600: 1. Jon Malone (CC), 4:31.9; 2. Jake Colley (Stevenson), 4:38.3; 3. Thomas Windle (Churchill), 4:43.9; 4. Stephen McEvilly (Salem), 4:46.1; 5. Daniel Malcolm (Wayne), 4:46.6; 6. Andrew Brown (Farmington), 4:47.1.

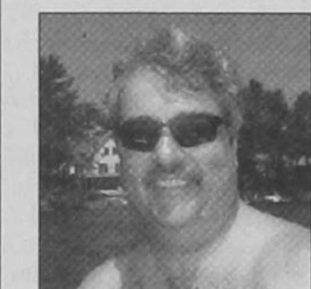
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LIVERMORE, ALFRED H.
Age 50, May 5, 2011 of Livonia. Loving father of Christopher, Jaclyn (Josh) Truax and Scott. Beloved son of Sarah and the late Jerome. Dearest companion of Stephanie Gilliland. Dear brother of Jack, Tim, Barbara Salvatore, Kathy Nakoneczny and the late Norman Muldoon. Also survived by many dear friends. A Memorial Mass was held at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church in Redford on May 10. Visitation was at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, Livonia. Memorial contributions may be directed to the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center or the American Cancer Society. Please share a memory of Doug at www.rgrharris.com.

MULDOON, DOUGLAS J.
Age 50, May 5, 2011 of Livonia. Loving father of Christopher, Jaclyn (Josh) Truax and Scott. Beloved son of Sarah and the late Jerome. Dearest companion of Stephanie Gilliland. Dear brother of Jack, Tim, Barbara Salvatore, Kathy Nakoneczny and the late Norman Muldoon. Also survived by many dear friends. A Memorial Mass was held at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church in Redford on May 10. Visitation was at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, Livonia. Memorial contributions may be directed to the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center or the American Cancer Society. Please share a memory of Doug at www.rgrharris.com.



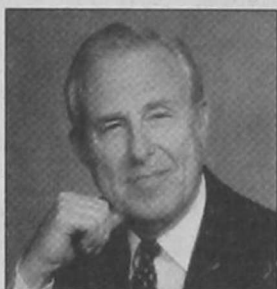
MULDOON, DOUGLAS J.
Age 50, May 5, 2011 of Livonia. Loving father of Christopher, Jaclyn (Josh) Truax and Scott. Beloved son of Sarah and the late Jerome. Dearest companion of Stephanie Gilliland. Dear brother of Jack, Tim, Barbara Salvatore, Kathy Nakoneczny and the late Norman Muldoon. Also survived by many dear friends. A Memorial Mass was held at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church in Redford on May 10. Visitation was at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, Livonia. Memorial contributions may be directed to the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center or the American Cancer Society. Please share a memory of Doug at www.rgrharris.com.



May peace
be with
you in this
time of
sorrow.

STANLEY, JEANE M.

April 10, 2011, age 88. Beloved wife of the late Alan. Loving mother of Karen (Marshall) and Julie (Ed). Dearest grandmother of Tony Atkins, Sara Weingarden, and Alexander Brezinsky. Memorial Service to be held Saturday, May 14 at 1 pm at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard (at the corner of W. Chicago) in Livonia. Arrangements entrusted to the Leonard A. Turowski & Son Funeral Home, 9300 Middlebelt in Livonia. www.neely-turowski.com



YEAGER, WELDON OSBORNE

Retired insurance executive and President of Yeager and Company, Inc., died April 30, 2011 at his home in Palm Beach at the age of 88. He is survived by his wife Beverly White Yeager of Palm Beach and Tallahassee. He was born July 26, 1922, in Hillsboro, Ohio to Carl O. Yeager and Stella McCall Yeager. He graduated from Wayne State University with a B.S. Degree and lived in Bloomfield Hills, Harbor Springs and Birmingham, Michigan. While living in Michigan, he was very active in the Republican Party, holding several positions. He was elected to the Michigan State Legislature and also ran for Secretary of State. Governor George Romney appointed him as Director of the Michigan Workman's Compensation Department where he served for four years prior to starting his own insurance company. He moved to Ocean Ridge, Florida, and later Palm Beach following his retirement. While living in Ocean Ridge he served a term as mayor. Mr. Yeager was a generous philanthropist, supporting many charities; as well as The Royal Poinciana Chapel in Palm Beach, where he was a member. Mr. Yeager was also a member of the Four Arts, Beach Club, Club Colette, Old Guard Society, Palm Beach Yacht Club, and the English Weldon Osborne Yeager, retired insurance executive and President of Yeager and Company, Inc., died on April 30th in his home in Palm Beach, at the age of 88. He is survived by his wife Beverly White Yeager Speaking Union. Mr. Yeager also served in the Army Air Forces during World War II, and left the service with the rank of Captain. He is also survived by his son, Mark Yeager; his stepson David Gilman; his three granddaughters; one great-granddaughter; and his brother, David Yeager. Other survivors include an adopted daughter, Carey Yeager; an adopted son, Skye Yeager; a step-granddaughter Shana Gilman; and a step-grandson, Thomas E. Gilman, V. Mr. Yeager was preceded in death by his son, Richard Yeager; and step-son, Thomas E. Gilman, IV. Services were held earlier in Tallahassee and Palm Beach, Florida. Gifts in memory of Mr. Yeager may be made to The Royal Poinciana Chapel, Sixty Coconut Row, Palm Beach, FL 33480; or to Hospice of Palm Beach County, 5300 East Avenue, West Palm Beach, FL 33407. BEVIS FUNERAL HOME of Tallahassee (850-385-2193 or www.bevisfh.com) assisted the Yeager family.

OBITUARY POLICY

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

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OE08658429

Battle of the Bands raises money, awareness for mission

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

A Bible is just as important as a paintbrush or shovel when Michigan Missions volunteers help paint, garden, spruce up and make repairs for a homeowner in need.

"Our main mission is we want to fix someone's home and fix their heart. We want to be able to show them what love is rather than pay them lip service and just tell them," said Jo Anne Pooley, founder and executive director of the Garden City-based organization.

"We want to help people who have a need. If they have a (home) need they probably have a heart need, too."

The Mission's youth volunteers generally sign a Bible and leave it with the homeowner after they have finished repairing their house. Pooley also encourages young adults and teens to reflect on their mission work by writing in the journals they receive from Michigan Missions.

"We may do a devotion on the lawn and give them questions to think about. At the end of the day we usually go back to the host church and we sometimes have a praise and worship band while we eat or we do more journal questions. It's the beginning of them being missionaries in their own backyard."

Pooley, a single mother of four, created Michigan Missions in 2005 after taking a mission trip to Florida. She realized the money she spent on the trip could have helped needy individuals closer to home. The group became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit last year.

Volunteers have painted houses, planted tulip bulbs, shoveled snow, cleaned, repaired flooring and more at the homes of needy individuals and families. Most volunteers are members of church youth groups, although adults help with organizing behind the scenes.

"It's not a denominational thing. It's a group of people with the same mindset. We're serving God by serving others. This year our goal to help as many people as we can and really expand on being able to share our faith."

The Mission's annual Battle



Volunteers on a Michigan Mission trip take time to write in their journals.



Volunteers on a mission day trip spruce up landscaping.

of the Bands will help raise awareness and money to continue its work. All proceeds will go into the organization's general fund to help pay for supplies used on home repair projects.

Seven bands will perform from 1-7 p.m. Saturday, May 14, at The Community Baptist Church, 28237 W. Warren Road, Garden City. They'll play all kinds of music with Christian lyrics and will include Jonah's Lament and RockHead Company recording

artist, Audio Remedy.

Admission is \$3. Food and T-shirts will be available.

Applications are available on the Michigan Missions Web site for homeowners in need of help, as well as for young adults and teens interested in volunteering through day, weekend and weeklong mission trips. Volunteers all receive food, a T-shirt, and a journal. Weekend and weeklong missions also include lodging, small group sessions, praise and worship time, free time and showers. Visit www.michiganmissions.com

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Ext. 247 or e-mail: dhart@dnps.com

STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, May 12, 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



Schoolcraft College was among the many colleges and high schools using Compuware Arena for their commencement exercises.

Arena moves forward with diverse events

While the Plymouth Whalers are preparing for the upcoming 2011-12 Ontario Hockey League season, Compuware Arena officials say they're gearing up for another busy spring and summer of events.

The arena – located at 14900 Beck Road in Plymouth Township – has become a diverse 12-month-per-year operation.

While the Whalers, who took part in the annual Ontario Hockey League Draft May 7, hold their annual rookie orientation May 21-22, Compuware Arena will house a variety of other events:

The arena has become a popular place for high school and college graduations. Both Schoolcraft College and Madonna University held their commencements at the arena, so to are a variety of high schools planning graduation ceremonies at Compuware. Among them are Mercy, Stevenson, Churchill

and Franklin high schools, all of Livonia; West Bloomfield, Northville, Hartland and the Farmington school system; and Baker College.

The drive-in season is also about to begin at Compuware. The drive-in, housed in Compuware Arena's parking lot and utilizing three screens, starts up for another season with "Sneak Peek" Weekends May 20-21 and May 27-29. The grand opening for the summer is Friday, June 10; the drive-in will go seven nights a week starting Monday, June 13, and run through Sunday, Sept. 4.

The movies for the Sneak Peak Weekends will be announced soon. For more information, call the Compuware Arena Drive-In Movie Hotline at (734) 927-3284 or go online to <http://www.compuwarearena.com/drivein.html>.

Other events at Compuware: • Compuware Arena drive-in seeking classic car shows: The Compuware Arena Drive-in

is looking to host classic cars shows during the season. Any group that is interested is holding a car show can contact Compuware Arena Drive-in Manager Mike Henry at (734) 453-8400.

• Plymouth Township Hazardous Waste Pick-Up: Compuware Arena will be hosting the Plymouth Township hazardous waste pickup in the parking lot on Saturday, May 14, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For a list of acceptable items to drop off, go online to: <http://www.plymouthtp.org/Community/SpecialEvents/HHWD2.htm>.

• Check out CJ's Brewing Company: The restaurant at Compuware Arena draws its own audience. Check out CJ's on Thursday night between 7-9 p.m. for Motor City Trivia for the chance to win cash prizes, gift cards and most of all, have fun. For more information about Motor City Trivia, please go online to <http://motorcity-trivia.com>.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Medical director

United Home Health Services, a home care company in Canton, announced the appointment of Dr. Judith Edge as their new medical director.

"We are honored and privileged to have Dr. Edge join the United team," said UHHS President Penny Rhein. "Together we will focus on achieving positive patient outcomes, maintain our tradition of home health excellence and caring, and enhance physician communication. Dr. Edge is truly an advocate for home care and her patients so it is a perfect fit!"



Edge

After giving a brief lecture to the staff, Edge said she was impressed at what a professional, intelligent and caring group they are.

"It is my goal to improve and bridge the flow of care between doctor, nurse, and patient," said Edge, who is an Internal Medicine Physician affiliated with Garden City Hospital since 1989. She has a special interest in the geriatric population. UHHS thanked Dr. Rosemarie Tolson for her seven years of dedicated service as medical director. Tolson is now pursuing other interests at MSU but will remain on United's board to represent them in the community.

Visit the credit union web site at www.cscu.org or call 800.321.8570.

Bagel fundraiser

Big Apple Bagels will be participating in a national 65 Roses campaign with the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. The campaign continues through May 31.

As "proud members of the Canton community," Big Apple Bagels owners Dennis Griffin and Glenn Nenninger said they're "proud to help find a cure for CF."

"At Big Apple Bagels in Canton, we want to give back to our community which has embraced our business, by helping the search for a cure to this terrible disease," they said. "The children who battle cystic fibrosis are so brave and we are happy to help in any way that we can."

The phrase "65 Roses" was adopted by the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation because it is what "Cystic Fibrosis" sounds like to a small child and has historically been used by children of all ages to describe their disease. Fundraising efforts in select Big Apple Bagels and My Favorite Muffin

restaurants will include sales of \$1 pin-ups and 65 Roses-themed coffee travel mugs.

One hundred percent of the proceeds from the pin-up sales and \$1 per travel mug sold will be donated to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Mower giveaway

RepairClinic.com, the online parts retailer of appliance and outdoor power equipment, is giving away a Toro Recycler 22-inch Self-Propelled Electric-Start Walk-Behind Lawn Mower with a retail value of \$399 to one lucky Facebook fan.

To enter the "Spring into Summer Giveaway" promotion, entrants must "Like" RepairClinic.com on Facebook and submit an entry on the "Giveaway" tab. The giveaway ends at 11:59 p.m. (EST) on May 31, 2011. The winner will be chosen at random on Wednesday, June 1. The winner must be a U.S. resident and be at least 18 years of age.

Twisted Rooster

A new Michigan-owned eatery coming to greater Detroit plans to put a new twist on some old, familiar favorites like mac & cheese, BBQ pulled pork sandwiches, tater tots, burgers and seafood.

Detroit native Mark Nosedo II, corporate executive chef with Grand Rapids-based Meritage Hospitality Group, will open the second and third editions of a new independent restaurant concept called Twisted Rooster in Chesterfield Township and Belleville this April and May.

The "twist" on the menu comes from mixing local ingredients with bold flavors and classic American comfort foods for simply twisted results. It also features a 20-seat bar area, "The Roo," stocked with more than 40 Michigan-made wines, spirits and craft beers, plus other regional favorites.

"As a midized independent operator, we have significant advantages that include the flexibility to support local vendors, freedom of creativity in developing our menus and atmosphere, and the ability to design a restaurant that reflects the interests and demographics of the community. Supporting local vendors and suppliers drives their business and in turn helps them grow along with us. Twisted Rooster is thrilled to include local food and drink vendors and suppliers," says Erik East, director of operations for Meritage.

Twisted Rooster is open Monday-Thursday 11 a.m. to midnight, Friday-Saturday 11 a.m. to 1 a.m., and Sunday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. For more information, visit Twisted Rooster's web site www.twisted-rooster.com or Twisted Rooster's Facebook page www.facebook.com/twistedrooster.

Why you shouldn't pay for text messaging for much longer

BY JON GUNNELLS
GUEST COLUMNIST



Tech Savvy

Jon Gunnells

need. I don't know, maybe talk it out among yourselves.

This is more about how you really don't need texting because of the advancement of technology and the emergence of smartphones with apps that can do just about anything — including texting.

If you own a BlackBerry, you already know that instead of texting contacts in your phone, you can send a BlackBerry message. There are no character limits and the messages are free.

For those who have other types of smart phones there are other free apps that will let you talk to virtually anyone for free. Google offers an app called GoogleTalk and with it, users can message anyone in their e-mail contact list for free. And if you are anything like me — you have more e-mail contacts (including close friends) than you have contacts in your phone.

Want to access even more contacts? Developers have

created a mobile version of Facebook chat. Since most people have more Facebook friends than phone numbers, they can instantly message anyone they are friends with from their handheld device.

Speaking of instant messages, remember AOL Instant Messenger (AIM)? It has a mobile app too.

The apps can be easily downloaded and installed and before you know it you can begin checking your phone bill to see how many less texts you are using each month.

With any luck you can cut down your texting plan without extending your contract, or maybe eliminate your text messaging service completely.

With the savings, you might be able to pay for about 10 percent of your smartphone data plan.

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

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ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, May 12, 2011

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Dennis O'Neill of Farmington Hills creates raku pottery. He'll sell his works at the 30th Annual Art Birmingham festival May 14-15.

Art al fresco

Festival season kicks off this weekend for local artists and shoppers

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Dennis O'Neill of Farmington Hills will view the Art Birmingham festival this weekend the way he's always wanted to — as an exhibiting artist.

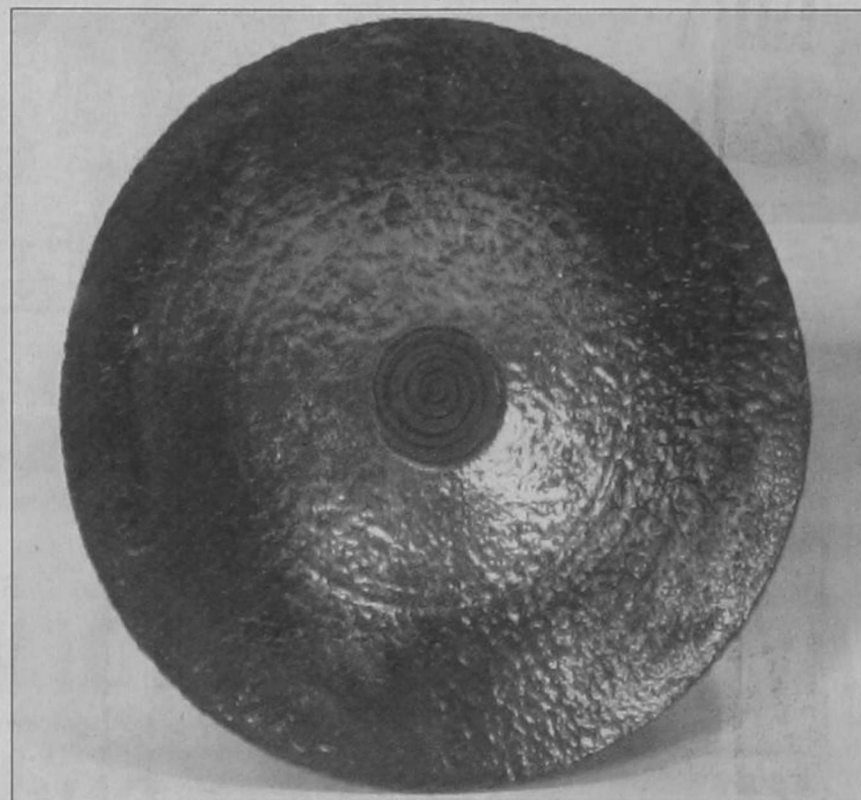
"I've tried to get into this festival for a couple of years and couldn't get in," said O'Neill, who creates raku pottery. "I was in the Ann Arbor fair for five or six years but I wasn't able to get into this one. The reason I wanted to get into this show is that it's very high quality. I'm doing five (spring-summer) shows and they are all in Michigan."

O'Neill, 72, suspects he got into the show in part because The Guild of Artists & Artisans, best known for its Ann Arbor Summer Art Fair, is running the Birmingham event this year. He's a Guild member and has been juried into the Ann Arbor fair in the past. Art Birmingham also is a juried show, which runs 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, May 14 and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, May 15, in Shain Park, located in downtown Birmingham. More than 175 artists will sell their art at the fair, one of the first festivals of the spring-summer outdoor art show season.

ART HOBBY

O'Neill, who owned a home improvement company before retirement, began taking pottery classes at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge campus 25 years ago.

"I did a few shows when I was working, but nothing big time. But



Dennis O'Neill's raku pottery will be on display at several art fairs this summer, including Art on the Grand in Farmington.

once I retired I got into it, doing six or seven a year."

His wife, Denise, helps him set up and take down his booth, which includes vases, plates and other ceramic pieces fired in the Japanese raku style. They no longer travel out of state to fairs and O'Neill has retired from the Ann Arbor fair

because of its tiring four-day schedule.

"When you do something as a hobby, it's a fun avocation. Once it's not fun any more, there's no reason to do it. All the shows I do now are two days and close to my house. I can pick

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Hear gospel, classic rock, Motown music at festival

Jamapalooza II, an all-day musical festival Saturday, May 14, at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, in Livonia, will feature a Michigan music tribute.

Michiga-Musi-Palooza will celebrate the state's contribution to music and will be a part of Jamapalooza II, which benefits Doorway to Recovery, an organization that helps the homeless.

St. Andrew's is located at 16360 Hubbard.

"It's a wonderful coincidence to have two paloozas in one," says Allan Nahajewski, a former Livonia resident and creator of Michiga-Musi-Palooza. "We're delighted to be able to debut our palooza for such a worthy cause."

A trip he and his wife, Donna, took to New Zealand last year inspired the new festival. While there, they heard songs by Bob Seger, Kid Rock, Uncle Kracker and other Michigan-based musicians, in pubs, on the car radio and in hotel lobbies. They also attended a native Maori feast, designed to give tourists a taste of the local culture. Maoris in native attire talked about their native traditions, then sang a couple of songs in their native language.

Nahajewski recognized a familiar tune in one of the songs

— *My Guy* by Mary Wells. The grand finale was sung to the tune of *I Just Called To Say I Love You* by Stevie Wonder.

"It made me wonder how songs can travel across cultures, and it made me realize that we really do provide the soundtrack for the world," he said.

Michiga-Musi-Palooza will include Nahajewski on keyboard and harmonica, Tom Zakarian on vocals, guitar, Kari Holmes on vocals and Marc Hubbel on drums. The group also performs throughout the state under the name "Half-Whacked."

Jamapalooza II will feature four musical acts. Theophilus will open the show at 1 p.m. with an hour of gospel music. Michiga-Musi-Palooza is slated for 2-4 p.m. Devereaux Dawgs will play classic rock from 4-6 p.m., followed by New Fossils and The Heat, also classic rock, from 7-10 p.m.

The all-day benefit includes all-you-can-eat barbeque, 50/50 raffles and a kids' bounce-and-play area. Admission is \$15 for adults. Children under 12 are admitted free. For more information, or to make a donation, call (877) 751-7925 or visit www.TheDoorwayToRecovery.com.

For more information on Michiga-Musi-Palooza, including song samples and a blog, visit www.reverbnation.com/michigamusipalooza.



Nahajewski

ART

Art & Ideas

Time/Date: May 12-July 2; artist reception 5:30-9 p.m. May 14; gallery hours are 1-6:30 p.m. Thursday and 1-7 p.m. Friday-Saturday or by appointment

Location: 15095 Northville Road, Plymouth
Details: "Parts of a Whole," an exhibition of assemblage, includes works by Lynn Krawczyk and Leann Meixner, both of Plymouth, and Joan Potter Thomas, manager of Northville Art House.

Contact: (734) 420-0775 or www.artandideasingallery.com

VAAL

Time/Date: Through May 27

Location: Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive
Details: Visual Arts Association of Livonia (VAAL) presents its spring art exhibit, "Artistic Expressions." The exhibit features the art work of VAAL members in watercolor, acrylic, oil, pastel, mixed media and more. Show juror is Leslie Masters of the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center.

Contact: (734) 838-1204 or vaalart.com

Village Theater

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday and during any public performance, through May 29

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton
Details: Work by Durwood Coffey
Coming up: Photography by John Middlestead, June 1-28

Contact: (734) 394-5300

COMEDY

Go Comedy!

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays

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

JD's House of Comedy

FESTIVALS

FROM PAGE B6

and choose now."

One of his favorites is the Funky Ferndale Art show in September because of its "kooky art" and interesting conversations. He calls Farmington's Art on the Grand show in June "magnificent" and looks forward to participating again this year. Royal Oak Clay, Glass and Metal show, also in June, is "a biggie" and "a very good show." Another Birmingham show, in September, will round out his outdoor festival schedule this year.

WORKING A FESTIVAL

O'Neill displays about 35-40 pieces, ranging in price from \$40-\$110, during an outdoor festival.

"If I were to sell 20 pieces, that would be a big day," he said, recalling only one show at which he made no sales.

"It was two or three years ago. We set up on Friday and it poured rain all day Saturday. I don't think five people walked by my booth. I was going to give them a pot just for showing up," he said. With a forecast for high winds the next day, many of the artists, including O'Neill, began packing it in just an hour after arriving on Sunday.

Windy weather isn't kind to fragile pottery.

"I've broken a few pieces. I did an art show in Southfield a few years ago. It got real windy and the shelves blew back a few inches and blew forward a few inches. A pot fell and landed on the ground but didn't break. It was the second pot that fell on top of it — they both broke — and the third and fourth. These poor ladies were there, watching, their eyes big as saucers. They were backing out as if they were saying 'I didn't do that.' I lost a few pots."

On the rare occasion that his pieces break, O'Neill says he simply makes a few more.

In addition to O'Neill, Plymouth artists Michele Riddell Bagnasco and Donna Williams will sell their works at Shain Park. Bagnasco creates mixed media pieces and Williams is a ceramics artist.

Here's a sampling of other art fairs and festivals through July:

GET OUT!



Pint-sized tribute

Mini Lady Gaga, aka actress Terra Jole', will perform Friday, May 13, at The Liquor Store, a night club at Fountain Walk, 44325 12 Mile, Novi. Doors open at 10 p.m. In her sets, Jole' pays homage to Lady Gaga's top hits, complete with Gaga's iconic choreography and high-end replicas of her edgy costumes. In addition to her live show, also has appeared on television and most recently in the feature film Jack Ass 3-D. For more information about the club, call (248) 305-8135.

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.



Brian Hill of Plymouth spells out city names with photographed letters.

• Brian Hill, a photographer from Plymouth, will show his photographic collages at the Fine Art at the Village of Rochester Hills, May 21-22. Hill spells out city names with sign letters and icons he photographed around town. Other local artists at the show will include painter Barbara Spraul of Livonia, weaver Andrea Anderson of Farmington Hills, Anne Marie Fisher of Farmington Hills with 3D works, and Farmington Hills jewelers Lisa Kull and Kathleen Smith. The show runs 10 a.m.-8 p.m. May 21 and noon-6 p.m. May 22 at the Village of Rochester Hills, located at Adams and Walton in Rochester Hills; (248) 689-8734.

• More than 115 artists, including O'Neill, will sell their paintings, sculpture, photography, pottery, jewelry, and fiber at Art on the Grand, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, June 4 and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, June 5, on Grand River Ave., from Farmington Road to Grove Street in downtown Farmington. The festival will include music, food, a children's area with hands-on art, demonstrations and strolling performers. (248) 473-1848

• Royal Oak Clay, Glass and Metal show, another O'Neill favorite, will run 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, June 11 and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, June 12 on Washington Ave., in downtown Royal Oak. The festival features 125 artists, a children's area, food and music. Music will continue to 11 p.m. Saturday. (248) 547-4000

• Art from the Heart, a family friendly arts and crafts festival, is held in conjunction with Livonia Spree, the city's six-day birthday celebration. The art fair will run 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, June 25 and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, June 26, at Spree, located at

Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays
Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia
Details: Rob Little, Through May 14; Drew Thomas, May 18-21; Jef Brenan, May 25-28; Carlos Mencia, May 31; Bike Bobbit, June 1-4; Steve Lott, June 8-10; Dave Dyer, June 15-18
Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex.com

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle

Time/Date: John Pinette, May 12-14; Harland Williams, May 19-21; Erik Allen, May 26-28; Jessi Campbell, June 2-4; Allan Goodwin, June 9-11; Nathan Timmel, June 16-18; James Johann, June 23-25; Dwayne Gill, June 30-July 2
Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak
Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

CONCERTS

The Ark

Time/Date: Girtyman and Coyote Grace, May 13; The RFD Boys, May 14; Dan Hicks and The Hot Licks, May 15; Raul Malo and Seth Walker, May 17; Lynn Miles, May 18; Eddie from Ohio, May 21; The Greencards and ChessBoxer, May 22; Crash Test Dummies, May 26; Take a Chance Tuesday featuring Dragon Wagon, May 31; Gaelic Storm, June 1; Suzanne Westenhoefer, June 3; Lipbone Redding and the Lipbone Orchestra, June 4; Leo Kottke, June 5; Stacey Earle and Mark Stuart, June 6; Joe Ely, June 7; The Hillbenders, June 8; Eliza Gilkyson and Sunny War, June 9; Bell XI, June 10; The RFD Boys, June 11; Mississippi Heat, June 12; The Hot Club of Cowtown, June 14; The Boxcars, June 15, Ivan & Alyosha, June 16; Paul Thorn, June 17; Christine Lavin and Don White, June 18; The Deanna Bogart Band, June 19; Guitar Shorty, June 20; Jimmie Dale Gilmore and the Wranglers, June 22; Lloyd Cole, June 23; Livingston Taylor, June 24; Annie and Rod Capps and Jason Dennie, June 25; The Waymores, June 26; J.D. Souther and Jill Andrews, June 27; Sara Swenson and Red Tail Ring, June 28; Stewart Francke, June 30
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FOOD

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HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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It's one thing to be hungry right now and wonder where to get a quick bite to eat. But it's quite another to face hunger every day and not know when — or if — food will be available for the next meal.

THE FACE OF HUNGER

— Food-insecure households lack consistent access throughout the year to adequate food for active healthy living for all household members. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's latest annual study measuring food security in the United States, 14.7 percent of households were food insecure in 2009.

— The "Hunger in America 2010" study showed that Feeding America is providing food to 37 million people, including 14 million children each year. That means that one in eight Americans now rely on Feeding America's network of more than 200 food banks for food and groceries.

STAMPING OUT HUNGER

The Stamp Out Hunger drive is a nationwide effort to provide food to local food banks and pantries.

On Saturday, May 14, the nation's 300,000 letter carriers will collect food donations left at the mailboxes of generous Americans in more than 10,000 local communities and deliver them to regional food banks and local hunger relief organizations. The timing is important, because many organizations would otherwise face depleted food stocks during the summer months, which is when demand increases to meet the needs of children no longer being served breakfast and lunch by school programs.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Helping Stamp Out Hunger is as easy as checking your mailbox. Just leave a bag of non-perishable food where your letter carrier normally delivers your mail on Saturday, May 14. Your letter carrier will then pick up and deliver the food to a local food bank. Examples of non-perishable items include:

- Canned soup
- Canned meats and fish
- Canned vegetables, fruits and juices
- Boxed goods (such as cereal)
- Pasta and rice

These items are not expensive and will go a long way toward helping others. For more information about the annual Stamp Out Hunger effort in your community, ask your letter carrier, contact your local post office or visit www.helpstampouthunger.com.

As part of Campbell's commitment to making a positive impact for its consumers and its community, the company is supporting Stamp Out Hunger by donating one can of soup to Feeding America (up to one million pounds) for each Facebook fan (Like) that joins the fight against hunger at www.facebook.com/StampOutHunger.

One Dish Chicken and Rice Bake



GREAT BUDGET MEALS

While not everyone is food insecure, many are looking for ways to stretch their grocery budgets. These recipes let you create a delicious dinner for four — and they cost less than \$10. Find more budget-friendly recipes at www.campbellskitchen.com.

FRENCH ONION BURGERS

Prep: 5 minutes/Cook: 20 minutes

Serves: 4

1 pound ground beef
1 can (10 1/2 ounces) Campbell's Condensed French Onion Soup
4 slices cheese
4 Pepperidge Farm Classic Sandwich Buns with Sesame Seeds, split
Shape beef into 4 (1/2-inch-thick) burgers.
Heat 10-inch skillet over medium-high heat. Add burgers and cook until well browned on both sides. Remove burgers from skillet. Pour off any fat.
Stir soup into skillet and heat to a boil. Return burgers to skillet. Reduce heat to low. Cover and cook for 5 minutes or until burgers are cooked through. Top burgers with cheese and cook until cheese is melted. Serve burgers on buns with soup mixture for dipping.

Serving Suggestion: Serve with romaine salad tossed with fresh basil and Italian salad dressing. For dessert, serve orange slices.

ONE DISH CHICKEN AND RICE BAKE

Prep: 5 minutes/Bake: 45 minutes

Serves: 4

1 can (10 3/4 ounces) Campbell's Condensed Cream of Mushroom Soup (Regular or 98 percent Fat Free)
1 cup water
3/4 cup uncooked regular long-grain white rice
1/4 teaspoon paprika
1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
1 1/4 pounds skinless, boneless chicken breast halves

Stir soup, water, rice, paprika and black pepper in a 2-quart shallow baking dish. Top with chicken. Season with additional paprika and black pepper. Cover baking dish.

Bake at 375°F for 45 minutes or until chicken is cooked through and the rice is tender.

— Courtesy of Family Features

REAL ESTATE

PAGE B10 (*) Thursday, May 12, 2011

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Julie Brown, editor (313) 222-6755
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Bowling benefit mixes fun, giving back for Realtor association

BY JULIE BROWN
 O&E STAFF WRITER

Some 67 bowlers — “Realtors and family and friends” — participated Wednesday, May 4, in a Bowling for Charity event of the Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors.

Proceeds from the event at Merri-Bowl Lanes in Livonia will support the ARC of Northwest Wayne County, which helps developmentally disabled people and their families, and the Warm Hearts organization, which provides scarves, hats, coats and other clothing to needy people. Warm Hearts also provides goodie bags for soldiers.

WWOCAR's Member Services Committee picks the charities each year, said Terrance Baker, tool shop manager. Realtor Kim Hahn has a daughter who uses ARC services, and Realtor Meriem Kadi, a Westland City Council member, had an earlier fundraiser for Warm Hearts.

WWOCAR has held bowling benefits for other nonprofits in the past. “Just for the organization to give back to the community,” said Baker, noting the \$2,300 raised May 4 will be divided equally between the ARC and Warm Hearts.

“Everyone had a good time,” he said. “Everything went like clockwork. Everyone I talked to had a nice time.”



Bowlers from Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel are a happy bunch.

The Realtors, their family and friends liked socializing and networking, Baker said.

“It was an excellent event. We had both of the charities there, so we got a chance to meet them,” said Dale

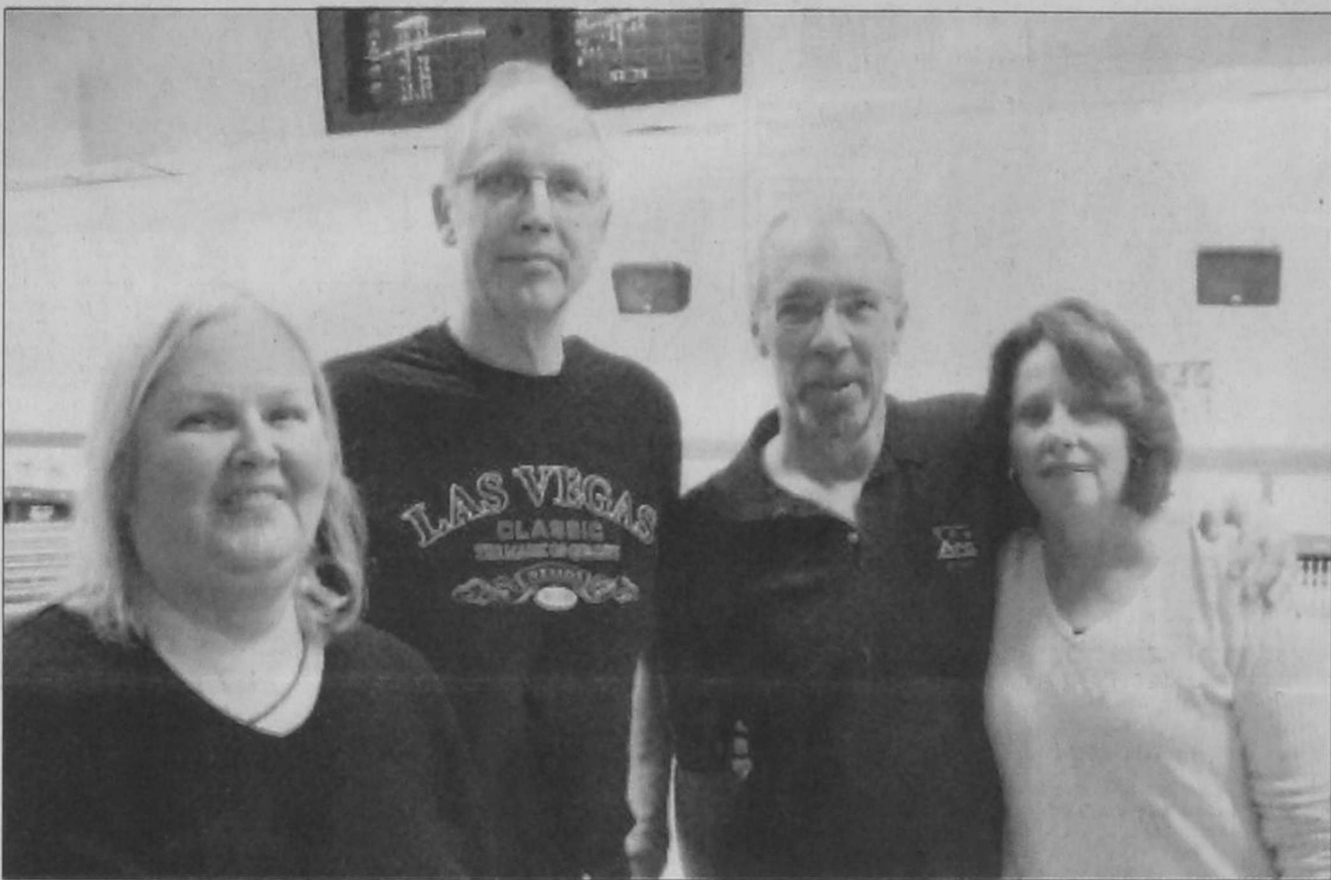


Carol Sharp and friends from the Warm Hearts organization take a break during the bowling benefit May 4.

E. Smith, executive vice president of WWOCAR. Participants enjoyed meeting charity representatives, Smith said, and learning about their work.

This was a WWOCAR benefit. WWOCAR is merging with

the Metropolitan Consolidated Association of Realtors to form the Greater Metropolitan Association of Realtors, a move announced earlier this year. The merger will wrap up in the next couple of months, Smith said.



Christine Lerchen and friends from the ARC Northwest Wayne County enjoy some bowling fun at the benefit.



Tony Schippa, WWOCAR 2011 president, Jamie Jones and Terrance Baker have some fun at the bowling benefit. Jones was the winner of the 50/50 raffle.

State mulls licensing firms that manage

Q: I understand that there is some discussion about the licensure of professional management companies. Do you have any information about it?

A: As I understand it, Michigan is one of four states that are considering the licensing of professional management companies. The Community Association Institute has apparently engaged the legislature



Robert Meisner

to ensure that if a licensure statute is adopted, the requirements for such licenses are based upon industry-developed certifications and designations. Additionally, any administrative body set up to oversee such a program must consist of a majority of professional community association managers. You may wish to let your state legislator know of your desires with respect to the licensure of professional management companies which, in this writer's view, is long overdue.

Q: What do we do about a co-owner who refuses to leave a board meeting that he was invited to?

A: You might consider adopting a policy resolution addressing "Decorum at Association Meetings or Board meetings" that lays out the standard code of conduct for attendees at association meetings and functions. That way, the misbehaving unit owner is, by acting out, breaking the rules. This would also help if you wanted to assess fines and I believe it builds an expectation as to the proper behavior that could also be enforced by the sergeant of arms according to Robert's Rules of Order. Obviously, the association should have the right to a civilized meeting and, hopefully, it will not be necessary to call the police or other security. If that doesn't work, adjourn the meeting and regroup.

Q: Our association is thinking about trying to keep our neighborhood safer and property values from declining by banning sexual predators and offenders from living in our community. Do you think that is possible?

A: I am aware of some cases where a restriction on sexual predators being precluded from living in a condominium has been upheld. Of course, in many jurisdictions, those convicted of the most serious sexual crimes are banned from living within one thousand (1,000) feet of areas where children frequently interact such as schools, day care centers and playgrounds, but, obviously, you would want to take it further. You are best advised to consult with your community association attorney who hopefully can draft it in a fashion which will be enforceable.

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 lifestyle: It's often about staying put

BY NANCY AUSTIN
 SENIORS REAL ESTATE SPECIALIST

Moving isn't always about moving. Sometimes it's about aging in place, which is a rapidly growing, conscious movement in senior living today.

In 2002, AARP, working with the National Association of Home Builders, began offering three-day seminars for builders to earn certification as aging-in-place specialists (CAPS).

To date about 3,000 contractors have completed the program according to Therese Crahan, the executive director of the homebuilders' remodeling division.

I have a close friend who moved from Kansas City to Tennessee where

SENIOR LIVING

she and her husband built their dream retirement home. (Tennessee, along with six other states does not tax have taxes on their personal income and wages. Tennessee does, however, tax interest income and dividends.) Because they were mindful enough of the fact that this was their final purchase, they had installed several aging-in-place options. These include elevated toilets, wheelchair accessible doorways and arches, as well as between the island and cabinets in kitchen, grab bars and a hand-held shower head with long flexible hose in bathroom showers. They also built a first-floor master bedroom.

Another friend has decided to put a shower in her first floor laundry area. She doesn't want to leave her two-story house. She loves her location on a lake and the house itself which is close to

her three children and grandchildren. She is exploring the various kinds of walk-in showers and tubs that are available. The tub with jets is very appealing to her due to her arthritis. Grab bars will be also be installed.

There are many CAPS-certified companies in the local metropolitan areas that will retrofit homes with devices and will make changes to things like lowering countertops and electrical plugs, making bathrooms and kitchens accessible and barrier-free. Barrier-free areas of the home would include widening archways and doorways, leveling entrances to rooms in the house, as well as exterior entrances.

For the bathroom, you may want to consider installing low-level shelves next to the sink and cabinet for additional storage. A hand-held shower may solve bathing problems. I have seen bathtubs with built-in bench seats as well as the ever-necessary

grab bars in the tub and shower.

Change appliances when convenient, to side-by-side refrigerator and electric stove with controls in the front. Garbage disposals can have a button installed on the counter so you don't have to reach to the back of the counter to turn it on.

These are just a few of the many options and suggestions to help you stay in your home.

On May 17, a Senior Expo, which is sponsored by this newspaper will be held at Schoolcraft College. I attended the event last year and will be a participant this year. I can assure you that if aging in place and staying in your own home is a priority, you will find many companies participating who are willing to help you accomplish that goal.

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 Jan. 31 to Feb. 4, 2011, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Canton	
42820 Arlington Rd	\$145,000
43892 Arlington Rd	\$135,000
7945 Charrington Dr	\$137,000
7301 Chichester Rd	\$195,000
46872 Creeks Bnd	\$180,000
1946 Echo Woods Dr	\$260,000
1578 Heritage Dr	\$113,000
45093 Horseshoe Cir	\$136,000
4744 Pond Run	\$165,000
2822 River Meadow Cir	\$166,000
Garden City	
31741 Brown St	\$29,000
32761 Maplewood St	\$40,000
Livonia	
20121 Ellen Dr	\$285,000
15205 Houghton St	\$105,000
28872 Olson St	\$130,000

Northville	
14400 Stonehouse Ave	\$123,000
19605 Cardene Way	\$160,000
16749 Carriage Way	\$100,000
17960 Ridgeview Dr	\$580,000
Plymouth	
804 Arthur St	\$145,000
44424 Brookside Rd	\$287,000
740 Kellogg St	\$46,000
1199 S Sheldon Rd	\$40,000
Redford	
18465 Dalby	\$13,000
12889 Leverne	\$82,000
15001 Lexington	\$85,000
17396 Olympia	\$35,000
24804 Ross Dr	\$40,000
13974 Sarasota	\$45,000
Westland	
1959 Ackley Ave	\$66,000
7698 Cherrywood Dr	\$135,000
38452 Chestnut Ln	\$175,000
4956 Julius Blvd	\$28,000
507 N Wildwood St	\$61,000
32660 Sandra Ln	\$75,000
2289 Stieber St	\$10,000

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Jan. 24-28, 2011, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Birmingham	
1192 Cole St	\$75,000
381 N Old Woodward Ave	\$75,000
2348 Northlawn Blvd	\$228,000
215 Poppleton St	\$240,000
1333 S Cranbrook Rd	\$125,000
819 Sulfied Ave	\$410,000
1965 Webster St	\$395,000
Commerce Township	
8548 Cascade St	\$455,000
3525 E Commerce Rd	\$277,000
5340 Inverry Ln	\$288,000
2140 Sunnybrook Rd	\$256,000
4999 Wavewood Dr	\$250,000
2619 Wixom Rd	\$257,000
Farmington	
33336 Grand River Ave	\$212,000
31740 Lee Ln	\$118,000
23900 Pickett Ave	\$215,000
Farmington Hills	
38275 Fleetwood Dr	\$242,000
29805 Hemlock Ave	\$69,000
29075 Millbrook Rd	\$285,000
21336 Mulberry Ct	\$142,000

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

Novi	
29315 Raleigh Rd	\$124,000
1500 Duff Ln	\$30,000
1430 Hunters Lake Ct	\$524,000
1435 Hunters Lake Dr	\$422,000
Novi	
24333 Bashian Dr	\$54,000
50847 Chesapeake Dr	\$599,000
41620 Monterey Dr	\$134,000
22333 Peachtree	\$99,000
25634 Portico Ln	\$116,000
23127 Sarnia Dr	\$585,000
25800 Sullivan Ln	\$312,000
28305 Wolcott Dr	\$84,000
South Lyon	
54085 Birchwood Dr	\$30,000
21750 Natasha Ln	\$264,000
787 Norchester St	\$99,000
176 Princeton Dr	\$23,000
385 Princeton Dr	\$142,000
61643 Rambling Way	\$145,000
Southfield	
25844 Arrowhead St	\$118,000
17665 George Washington Dr	\$77,000
29515 Heritage Ln	\$132,000
20220 Ledgestone Ln	\$21,000
17223 Louise St	\$38,000
19597 Melrose Ave	\$85,000
17161 New Jersey St	\$111,000
25590 Saint James	\$58,000
5000 Town Ctr	\$65,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Career Seminar

A Real Estate Career Seminar will be held 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 19, at Keller Williams Realty, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. For more information, contact Lesley Aiello at (734) 459-4700 or laiello@kw.com.

REAL ESTATE

HOMETOWNlife.com

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great deal check the
Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!

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Russell Estate/Real Estate Auction
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Pinckney, MI

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Style Home on Cordley Lake on
3.30 Acres! • Built in 1975 • 3
Bedrooms • 1 Full Bathroom
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Partially Finished Basement •
2062 Sq. Ft. • 1 Car Attached
Garage • Wonderful 40x32
Garage Outbuilding.

PRE SALE INSPECTION:
Tuesday, May 10th &
Tuesday, May 17th
5:00 to 7:00pm

Check Website for
more information:
braunandhelmer.com

Braun & Helmer
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Brian Braun
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Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Bored response
- 5 Out of reach
- 8 Chowder morsel
- 12 Buffalo's lake
- 13 Here, in Le Havre
- 14 Ad spiel
- 15 DEA operative
- 16 Stayed put
- 18 Little kids
- 20 Gives personally
- 21 Completely wrecks
- 24 Hindu mystics
- 27 "Road movie" locale
- 28 Hearty laugh
- 31 As to (2 wds.)
- 32 Theorem ender
- 33 MHz part
- 34 Norm
- 35 CEO degree
- 36 Suspicious
- 37 Long-answer exams
- 39 Photo session

- 43 Slicked up
- 46 Cheap roof
- 49 Radiate
- 51 Range in Asia
- 52 Jet —
- 53 Cookie magnate
- 54 Movie part
- 55 Suit — tee
- 56 Unit of force

DOWN

- 1 Hankering
- 2 Smell —
- 3 Lean and sinewy
- 4 Suit accessory
- 5 Low gear
- 6 Top-notch pilot
- 7 Crater edge
- 8 "Wool" on clay sheep
- 9 Singer Loretta
- 10 Imitated
- 11 Docs prescribe them
- 17 Chan rejoinder (2 wds.)

Answer to Previous Puzzle

IRIS	MAST	AWE
FORA	OBIE	ROD
STALK	YULE	LOG
AMPS	LOSE	
EXAM	OSAKA	
ALBINO	BANANA	
RIA	ED	RN BEN
PISTIL	AEGEAN	
KNEAD	OLLA	
XERO	NEST	
MAESTRO	SHACK	
ESP	DADO	IDEA
NEO	SEEK	COLT

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16			17			
18			19			20				
21				22	23					
24	25	26			27			28	29	30
31				32			33			
34			35			36				
37				38						
39	40	41	42			43		44	45	
46				47	48			49		50
51				52				53		
54				55				56		

- 19 Dawn goddess
- 22 Fields of study
- 23 Casserole cover
- 24 Pet shop sound
- 25 — whim
- 26 Dog sound
- 28 Da or ja
- 29 Gross!
- 30 Round Table knight
- 32 Football team mems.
- 33 Play false
- 35 Physics intro
- 36 Memo acronym
- 38 Ventricle neighbor
- 39 Milky Way unit
- 40 Nimbus
- 41 Unwritten test
- 42 Sheriff Andy's kid
- 44 Tube trophy
- 45 Pop's Celine
- 47 Seattle hrs.
- 48 Fair-hiring letters
- 50 Mao — -tung

SUDOKU

				1		6	5
2		7	3		1		
5	6	1	4	8			7
		2		4			3
			6	1	9		
				3		6	5
	4	5	9	6		8	2
3					7		
1	9						

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

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

Word Search — Healthy Vision

C	N	O	I	T	A	T	I	R	R	I	L	H	O	A
O	F	U	K	D	S	H	A	S	O	E	Q	P	H	M
N	D	P	Y	J	N	R	T	B	N	T	T	K	E	O
J	J	X	O	N	S	C	A	S	W	O	R	G	A	C
U	H	V	B	C	A	R	E	E	M	T	L	Y	L	U
N	T	W	I	S	I	R	V	E	T	Q	J	B	T	A
C	C	C	N	S	T	R	W	V	B	Z	L	H	S	A
T	C	O	A	R	I	R	G	L	A	S	S	E	S	G
I	C	L	D	R	I	O	T	H	G	I	S	W	E	M
V	Y	V	F	S	A	D	N	I	G	M	X	L	A	O
I	V	I	T	E	Z	T	B	H	P	Z	M	X	E	T
T	I	D	C	I	V	I	A	P	S	Z	E	I	S	O
I	N	X	I	F	X	U	A	C	S	Q	O	F	E	P
S	Z	J	T	W	D	F	A	C	Z	V	O	I	G	Y
F	Z	P	C	U	V	I	F	V	A	I	T	V	E	A

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(888) 284-9760
*Some restrictions apply call for details.
All applicants subject to credit & criminal check
Exp. 5/31/2011 EHO

A word to the wise,

when looking for a
great deal check the
**Observer & Eccentric
Classifieds!**

Mobile Home Rentals

GARDEN CITY: Furnished rm, cable TV, internet access, a/c, microwave, fridge. No dep. \$100/wk. 734-421-2326

LIVONIA

Furnished room w/laundry privileges. Cable. Near x-way. Call after 3pm. (734) 591-7527

Rooms For Rent

NORTHVILLE or PLYMOUTH
Downtown. 1st week with full deposit. Furnished sleeping rooms. Newly decorated. \$85/wkly. Security deposit. 734-355-6453, 248-305-9944

Office/Retail Space For Rent/Lease

REDFORD TWP.
OFFICE SUITES
From 1-4 rooms.
Beautifully redecorated.
Great rates incl. utilities.
CERTIFIED REALTY INC.
(248) 471-7100

Garage/Mini Storage

Westland/Livonia- 25 x 40 heated storage area w/1x14 office, sec. sys, \$425 + utilities. 1/2 mo free. 313-304-6697

You can put yourself in any of these shoes.

Check Out Today's Jobs & Careers Classified Section

MARKETPLACE

6000-6980

Announcements

LOOK HERE

Announcements & Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE
Paul Tytschkowski Expert Watch Repair, 124 S. Maple, will be closing doors as of June 1, 2011. Please contact at 313.613.4444 (Wolf) regarding merchandise claims. 313-613-4444

"It's All About Results"

Observer & Eccentric
1-800-579-SELL

7000-7980

Merchandise

Antiques/Collectibles

DOLLS FROM GONE WITH THE WIND
Marilyn Monroe from 7 year Itch, Wizard Of Oz Dolls & collectibles.
Westland: 734-467-6352

History of Oakland County

1817-1877, sampler 1808, vintage clothes, colored glass, more. 248-546-0138

RECORD SHOW

May 15, 10-4. \$Cash Prizes \$LS, 45s, CDs. VFW, 25671 Gratiot (N of 10), Roseville. 586-759-5133

Auction Sales

ESTATE AUCTION

Sat., May 14th - 7pm.
Cultural Center
525 Farmer
Plymouth MI
Furniture/Accessories
Collectibles & Antiques
Coins/Gem Stones
Household Items
Cash/MC/Visa
Bank Debit Cards
No Checks
Doors Open 6pm
JCC Auction Service
734.451.7444
www.jcauctionservices.com

When seeking out the best deal check out the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!

1-800-579-7355

Rummage Sale/Flea Market

LIVONIA: ST. ANDREW'S RUMMAGE SALE

May 13, 9-4pm,
May 14th, 9-1pm.
16360 Hubbard
btwn 5 & 6 MI

WALLED LAKE HUGE SALE

Fri. May 13, 9am-4pm, Sat. May 14, 9am-3pm. Stone Crest Building, 207 Liberty, 48390, 1/2 blk. N. of Walled Lake Dr. Front of bldg. faces Liberty St. www.mydems.info

7100 Estate Sales

ANOTHER BERNARD DAVIS ESTATE SALE

313-837-1993
17121 New Jersey, Southfield May 14 -15, 2011, 10am-4pm Mount Vernon to Rutland Ave. and right on New Jersey go to estatesales.net for more info. SEE YOU THERE!

7100 Estate Sales

COMMERCE TWP- Drexel Heritage dining rm, sofas, tables, lamps & chairs, etc.

Leaded glass doors (4), holds up to a 27" TV. Excellent condition. \$300. 734-522-3476

ESTATE SALE: Antiques, yard equip, furniture, clothing, toys, games, many household items, motorcycle, everything must go!

13425 Beacon Hill Dr, Plymouth, 48170, N. Territorial, just W of Sheldon Rd. May 13-15, 11-6pm.

ESTATE SALE, CANTON, MI

Halloween, Christmas & Easter; dishes, tools, collectibles. 5/12-5/14, 9-5pm; 8127 Ward, S of Joy, 1 blk E of Sheldon.

There is something for everyone in our Classifieds!

ESTATE SALE, CANTON, MI

Halloween, Christmas & Easter; dishes, tools, collectibles. 5/12-5/14, 9-5pm; 8127 Ward, S of Joy, 1 blk E of Sheldon.

SOFA: 92" White, with washable cushion covers, \$100. 248-345-2104

Household Goods

BEAUTIFUL Oak Wallunit

75" tall, 55" long, 17" wide. Leaded glass doors (4), holds up to a 27" TV. Excellent condition. \$300. 734-522-3476

CURIO CABINET - Lights up inside, Oak, \$300

Dresser, oak, \$150. Dresser, oak with full length mirror that opens to drawers, \$200. Curio cabinet, all glass with oak on outside, two doors, holds collectibles, \$300. Westland: 734-467-6352

MISC ITEMS- All cedar chest, 2 drawer beige file cabinet, desk chair, 40" Raggedy Anne doll & toddler outdoor swing.

Livonia. Call 734-464-1708

SOFA: 92" White, with washable cushion covers, \$100. 248-345-2104

Farm Produce-Flowers, Plants

PERENNIALS, REASONABLE

Hostas, Ground Cover & misc. Potted or Bare Root. Call: (248) 477-1435

Lawn, Garden & Snow Equipment

LAWN TRACTOR-Craftsman
17 hp, electric start, 42" mower, 6 speed transaxle, \$300/best. (313) 820-9711

Lawn, Garden Material

GARDEN: Hostas, Bare Root

- homegrown in my garden, \$2-\$10. Royal Standard or variegated. Near 11 Mile & Middlebelt, (248) 477-1435

LANDSCAPE ROCKS-

Approximately 1.5 cubic yards w/more available. You haul (loader available). \$50. 248-515-4204

Miscellaneous For Sale

STORAGE SHED - RUBBER MADE

7ft by 7ft, \$550. Call: (313) 577-6306

Wanted to Buy

UNWANTED AUTOS, LLC TOP DOLLAR PAID \$275 & UP!
(248) 872-3012

WANTED - COLLECTIBLES: Fire arms & old knives

Call Richard 248-767-1579

WANTED: Old Fishing Tackle & related items.

Also old boat motors. Call Bill: (734) 728-7313

Dogs

Chocolate Lab Puppies Born March 31, 2011. AKC Champion Bloodlines, 2 males left!

\$700. 517-812-5953

Dogs

LHASA APSO- Cute, 1 yr old. Spayed female. White w/tan spots. CKC reg. \$300/cash. 734-879-0909

PARTI POODLE - AKC

Standard. Female. Part black & white. Obedience trained, microchipped, very sweet & smart. She's a fast learner, 1 year. Call: 989-362-5211

Horses & Equipment

METAL HAY RACK

with feed trough \$200. Newer Spreader \$400. 248-684-8771

Lost - Pels

CAT 4-5 yrs. old. Small & gentle brown Tabby. Named Mick. Missing since 5/7, near 10 Mile/Middlebelt. Reward. 248-477-3339, 248-514-2413

GARAGE SALES

Garage Sales

CANTON

CARRIAGE HILLS SUB SALE, Thurs-Sat, May 12-14, N of Ford Rd., S of Warren btwn Canton Center & Lilley Rds.

CANTON MAYFAIR VILLAGE SUB-WIDE SALE!

Thurs-Sun, May 12-15, 9am-5pm, S. of Joy, E. of Sheldon, W of Morton Taylor.

CANTON MULTI SUBS:

Oakvale, Stonegate & Cherry Hill Orchards. N./Palmer, S./Cherry Hill. E. & W. of Lilley. May 12-15. Look for signs.

CANTON PINWOOD SUB SALE

May 12-14, 9-4pm, E. of Beck, S. of Cherry Hill. Come for great stuff!

CANTON: SUB-WIDE SALE!

Sat, May 14th, 9-4pm, Bedford Villa Condos, enter off Hagerty, S of Ford. Lots of stuff & collectibles.

Garage Sales

CANTON SUB-WIDE SALE!

Thurs-Sat, May 12-14, 9AM-2PM
Cherry Knoll Sub (47 homes). Many great treasures! NE corner of Cherry Hill & Beck.

CANTON SUNFLOWER SUB

Thurs-Sat, May 12-14, 9am-7 W. of Canton Center & N. & S. of Warren. Look for signs & yellow balloons!

CANTON - Wed-Fri, May 11-13, 8-4

Home goods, children's clothing & toys, greeting cards. 2811 Doncaster Dr., E. of Beck, off Newton.

CANTON

Windmere Sub-Wide Garage Sale, Thurs-Sat, May 12-14th, 9am-7 Off Warren, btwn Sheldon & Canton Center.

DAVISBURG

COMMUNITY WIDE SALE May 13-14, 9:30am-3:30pm Millpond Park (In downtown Davisburg)

Garage Sales

FARMINGTON HILLS- House-

hold, tools, toys, new Pella windows, etc! May 13-16th, 9-5pm. 29378 Lake Park Dr. off 13, btwn Farmington & Drake.

FARMINGTON HILLS Neighborhood Sale

Stratton Hill Ct. N. of 13, E. of Drake. May 12-14, 9am-4pm. Household goods, clothes, furniture & a few antiques.

FARMINGTON HILLS

Oxford Estates Subwide Garage Sale. 9-5pm, Fri. May 13 & Sat. May 14, Drake, btwn 12 Mile & Grand River.

LIVONIA-1964 Impala, house-

hold goods, books, mens bike, yard equip, & more! May 12-14th, 9-4pm. 15981 Norwich, 5 Mile & Farmington

LIVONIA: 29809 Pickford, S of 7

W of Middlebelt. Thurs-Sat, 9-5. Huge multi-family. Little bit of everything, new & used. Tons of crafts & children's.

LIVONIA BIG 2 Family Sale

5/12-5/14, 9am-4pm. Quality Camping, Wedding, Party, Baby, Household, Books, more! 18643-79 Constock, S of 7, E of Newburg.

Garage Sales

LIVONIA: Burton Hollow Sub Sale

OVER 60 HOMES! May 14-15, Sat. & Sun, 9am-5pm. S. of 6 Mile, W. of Farmington Rd.

LIVONIA Great Prices & Variety!!!!

8982 Fremont, N of Joy, W of Middlebelt. May 12-13-14, 9-5pm.

LIVONIA: household, crafts, kids' toys & games, Christmas items, hardware

14744 Flamingo, E. of Merriman, S of 5 Mile. May 14 & 15th, 9-4pm

LIVONIA: Household misc, craft supplies and fabric, clothes, toys, etc.

18949 Doris, S of 7, W of Middlebelt. May 12-15, 9-5pm.

LIVONIA-Moving/Garage Sale

Furniture, children's clothes, household items. Fri-Sat, May 13th & 14th, 8-5pm. 34067 Bretton Drive, Windridge Sub, W of Farmington, N of 7 Mile.

Garage Sales

LIVONIA WOODCREEK FARMS SUB - 15-20 HOMES!

May 12, 13 & 14, Thu-Sat, 9

careerbuilder

HOMETOWNlife.com

5000-5980

Employment
Instructional Services

Help Wanted-General 5000

Apartment Residential Manager
Northville/Novi Community seeks person with 3+ yrs. exp. in industry. Marketing & organizational skills required.
Fax/Email Resume:
248-356-3509
hntllc@aol.com

APPOINTMENT SETTER
Ideal for anyone who can't get out to work. Work from home PT. schedule pick-ups for Purple Heart. call 9-5, M-F: 734-728-4572 or email: phoneworkinfo@aol.com

CAREGIVER
For autistic boy in Farmington area. Afternoons, Weekends, \$8.50/hr. (248) 342-6451

It's all here!

1-800-579-SELL
www.hometownlife.com

Clerical Office Assistant (F.T.)
\$-13/hr Entry Lvl Adv Opp
CALL (313) 292-9300
Support office & warehouse staff. Data Entry, Phones, meet & greet visitors. Must be polite! E-1 \$185 J#170 Just last week 27 jobs filled

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

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

DISPATCHER ASSISTANT
Candidate should possess: clerical skills, Microsoft Excel exp., & good phone personality. Full time, BCN health care. Hrs. Monday-Friday day shift. Send resumes to:
Chief's Trucking Co
6580 Inkster Road
Romeulus, MI 48174
Email: jilchief@comcast.net
Call 313-295-2150 ext 105

Help Wanted-General 5000

DISPATCHER

Ground transportation company seeking experienced dispatchers. Knowledge of Metro area and excellent communication skills a must. Experience within a courier or taxi dispatch environment is helpful. Two way radio and computer experience preferred. This position requires flexibility in scheduling as week-ends/holidays/shift work are required. Hard-working, dedicated individuals interested in a challenging opportunity, please apply in person or forward resume with cover letter to:
Metro Cars
Attn: H.R. Dept. - DISP.
24957 Brest Road
Taylor, MI 48180
Fax: (734) 946-7417
No Phone Calls Please. EOE

DRIVER/WAREHOUSE

Roofing & Supply Co. looking for a CDL Driver with Class B License to deliver and load roofing materials. Must have at least 1 yr. commercial driving experience. Must possess a valid Class B CDL, no DWI or DUI convictions within the last 10 years and pass a DOT required drug test. Qualified individuals can call:
(248) 437-6044 Ext. 103

ENGINEERING

Global - Midwest (non-automotive) Manufacturing Company seeks Emerging Leaders: The ideal candidate would have 4-6 years of practical work experience in a multinational manufacturing company; Strong hands-on, site manufacturing experience required and injection and blow molding experience preferred. Qualifications include: ability to travel and relocate globally, Bachelor's degree in electrical, mechanical or industrial engineering required, MBA/Master's preferred and bilingual desired. EOE
Send your resume to:
ENLD@coconfidential.com

Factory WILLING TO TRAIN

Auto Supplier \$-13/hr Benefits
Call 313-292-9300 Help hold maker by bringing supplies & shop clean up E1 \$185 #175 We helped fill 27 Permanent job opening last week!!

Installation of Office Furniture

Business in Wixom is looking for Responsible, Dependable & Presentable individuals. Must be able to travel out of town, work flexible hours, have reliable transportation & a valid driver's license. Tools are necessary. Heavy lifting involved. Pre-employment drug screening & background check.
29988 Anthony Drive
Wixom, MI 48393

Help Wanted-General 5000

Local Rochester Hills Distributor seeking:

MARKETING SUPPORT SPECIALIST

Major duties will include production/maintenance of a Catalog in both print and CD format, creation of monthly electronic newsletters, message on hold, and creation of order forms, packing lists and promotional flyers. This position is also responsible for the maintenance of the company website and for maintaining other company web tools. Additional duties include booth design and coordination of conferences and trade shows. Ideal candidate will be proficient in Adobe Indesign, Photoshop, Illustrator, & Acrobat, Macromedia Dreamweaver, & Microsoft Office Suite & hold a degree in Communications or related field.
Email resumes ONLY to:
norwoodresumes@hki.com

MACHINE OPERATOR

Min. 3 yrs exp req'd.
734-284-2121 EEOC

MUSEUM ASSISTANT Part Time

The City of Birmingham

Seeking applicants for PT Museum Assistant position to assist in operation of the City's Historical Museum. Duties include planning exhibits, tours & events; volunteer coord./training; & collection maintenance. Prior exp. in museum environment highly desired. Must possess Bachelor's Degree in related field & excellent writing, communication, & analytical skills. Exp. w/ office software req. - ability to utilize archival programs (Past Perfect) preferred. Flexible schedule up to 20 hrs/wk; starting @ \$12/hr.
Info & applications at:
www.bhamgov.org/jobs & H.R. Dept., 151 Martin, Birmingham, MI 48009.
Apply by 4 P.M. Tuesday, May 24, 2011.
The City of Birmingham is an equal opportunity employer seeking qualified minority & white applicants, without regard to race or other protected status.

PIPEFITTER

Supervisor and Pitters needed. Weld pipe, copper, tubing, pneum/hydraulic, gasoline, cooling systems. 5 yr. minimum experience. Must have own tools.
Call: 248-208-9500

POOL ATTENDANT SEASONAL

Needed for apartment complex in Walled Lake. No experience required.
Call: 248-624-6600

Help Wanted-General 5000

Screw Machine Operators

Master Automatic is seeking Screw Machine Operators. Potential candidates must have Acme Screw Machine Operator experience.
Please complete application or send resume to:
Master Automatic, Inc.
40485 Schoolcraft Rd.
Plymouth, MI 48170
Fax: 734-459-4598
Attn: Human Resources
hr@masterautomatic.com

STYLISTS WANTED

Canton salon. Rent or commission. 1 mile W of I-275 on Michigan Ave.
Call and ask for Shari 734-397-9895 or 734-355-1996

TELEMARKETING

For a Home Improvement Company. PT. Exc. pay + commission. Exp. preferred.
Call: 734-422-0600
www.cholcew.com/careers
For online application

VETERINARY TECHNICIAN

LVT or equivalent, full-time, benefit package avail.
Please apply in person:
Strong Veterinary Hospital,
29212 S Mile Rd.
Livonia, MI 48154

Women's Locker Room Attendant

Prominent Detroit Athletic Club is seeking an enthusiastic and dependable individual to assist members and maintain cleanliness of beautiful locker room. Applicant must possess excellent customer service skills as well as good communication and computer skills. Part-Time. Secure on-site parking and meals provided.
Submit resume to:
humanresources@thedac.com
or FAX: 313-963-5995

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

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

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Experienced, part-time for busy Plymouth Dental Office. Friendly, outgoing, and dependable a must. Our patients come first and we deliver quality dental care. Must be motivated and a team player. Please email our office with resume & references at:
dental_arts@yahoo.com

DENTAL HYGIENIST

Mon., Tues & Thurs., 1 yr. experience for a general dentist in Northville. Please fax resume: 248-347-4246. See:
NorthvilleDental.com
for more info

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

CHIROPRACTIC OFFICE

Busy, fast paced office looking for dependable, outgoing, self-motivated person for front desk assistant. No experience needed, but would be helpful.
Please fax resume to Lisa at:
(734) 525-5421

MASSAGE THERAPIST

Professional massage therapist for busy chiropractic office. Must have experience.
Please fax resume to Evette at:
(734) 525-5421

NEWSPAPER POLICY

All advertising published in this Newspaper is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the advertising department, Observer and Eccentric Newspapers, 41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170 866-887-2737. We reserve the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Our sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, no credit will be given unless notice of typographical or other errors are given in time for correction before the second insertion. Not responsible for omissions. Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference limitation, or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (PR Doc. 724983 3-31-72) Classified ads may be placed according to the deadlines. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ads the first time it appears and reporting any errors immediately. The Newspaper will not issue credit for errors in ads after THE FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion or national origin. Equal Housing Opportunity slogan: "Equal Housing Opportunity". Table III - Illustration of Publisher's Notice.

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

RESIDENT PLACEMENT SPECIALIST

Livonia assisted living facility. Exp in outside sales with proven closing ability. Healthcare contacts desired. Strong communication skills with attention to detail.
Fax resumes: 734-332-8922

Respiratory Support Technician

Mitchell Home Medical FT position. Ideal candidates will have medical/DME background, be outgoing, independent & caring. Primary responsibility is to assist RT's w/respiratory patient equipment setups & follow ups in our Care Centers & patient homes. Only qualified applicants will be contacted. Competitive wages/benefits.
Email resume to:
hr@mitchellhome-medical.com
or fax to: 734-572-1072
Attn: Human Resources

RN

Will create own part time schedule to do in-home assessments for large non-medical home care agency.
Email: triciacolern@affordablehomecare.org

Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080

COOKS & HOSTESS WANTED
Afternoon/Evening Shifts, Experience Preferred.
DOYLE'S TAVERN
734-207-9656

Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080

PM WAIT STAFF & COOK

Mason's Lounge. Apply in person during the day: 13490 Farmington Rd., at 196.
734-427-0650

WAITSTAFF, COOK & BARTENDER

Full & Part-Time Cook with Pizza Exp. Apply at: Starting Gate 135 N. Center St., Northville.

Help Wanted-Sales 5120

CLOSERS NEEDED!

First year income in excess of 150k. No Cold Calls. Leading company in industry hiring for in home presentations.
Call Mr. MoneyMaker (734) 748-5761

SALES

ADT Authorized Dealer needs self-motivated, energetic individuals to earn \$200-\$500 per day. Part & Full-Time
Call Mr. Morris (248) 477-1212

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

MICH-CAN STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED

ADOPTION

ADOPTION - WANTED: Dirty diapers, sleepless nights & a baby to love. Expenses paid. Lauren & Mark. 1-888-449-0803.

HELP WANTED

CDL DRIVERS - Great Pay! Tons of Texas Frac world Great company! Company paid benefits! Must have bulk pneumatic trailer experience. Call today! 1-800-397-2672.

DRIVERS-NO EXPERIENCE-NO PROBLEM

100% paid CDL training. Immediate benefits. 20/10 program. Trainers earn up to 49 cents per mile! CRST VAN EXPEDITED 800-326-2778 www.joinCRST.com.

TRUCK DRIVERS WANTED! DEDICATED & REGIONAL

Home Weekends. Excellent Benefits. New Equipment. Heartland Express. 1-800-441-4953 www.heartlandexpress.com.

Divorce Services 5610

DIVORCE \$75.00

www.CSRdisability.com
CS&R 734-425-1074

Business Opportunities 5740

Tired of working for someone else? Be your own Boss!!

Lease one of our ice cream trucks at our special price of \$99.00 per week with a refundable deposit and make Great Money while making your own hours.
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(313) 838-1068
(313) 838-7277
(313) 429-7814
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Detroit, MI 48227

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classifieds

www.hometownlife.com

1-800-579-SELL

WANTED!!! KAYAK POOL IS LOOKING FOR DEMO HOMESITES

to display our maintenance-free Kayak pools. Save thousands of \$\$\$ with this Unique Opportunity! Call Now! 800-315-2925 kayakpoolmidwest.com Discount Code: 522L15.

FOR SALE

PIONEER POLE BUILDINGS-FREE ESTIMATES-Licensed and insured-2x6 Trusses-45 Year Warranty Galvalume Steel-19 Colors-Since 1976-#1 in Michigan-Call Today 1-800-292-0679.

WANTED!!! KAYAK POOL IS LOOKING FOR DEMO HOMESITES

to display our maintenance-free Kayak pools. Save thousands of \$\$\$ with this Unique Opportunity! Call Now! 800-315-2925 kayakpoolmidwest.com Discount Code: 522L15.

FISH FOR SPRING STOCKING ALGAE

and weed control, aeration systems, windmill aerators, pond consultation, equipment installation. Free Catalog. Harrietta Hills Trout Farm 1-877-389-2514 or www.harriettahills.com.

POLE BARN

Build Best Barns, Building Pole Barns Since 1963, Family Owned, Licensed and Insured, Spring Specials on all Buildings, 40 year Warranty, 1-877-802-0967.

MISCELLANEOUS

PLACE YOUR STATE-WIDE AD HERE! \$299 buys a 25-word classified ad offering over 1.6 million circulation and 3.6 million readers. Contact mich-can@michiganpress.org.

OE08736901

AUTOMOTIVE

HOMETOWNlife.com

8000-8780

Automotive
Recreational Vehicles

Autos Wanted 8190

UNWANTED AUTOS, LLC
\$275 & up for autos; \$400 & up for full size trucks, vans. Equipment & comm vehicles also wanted. (248) 467-0396

Junk Cars Wanted 8200

Family Owned Business
Buying all vehicles. Any cond. \$300 minimum. Free Pick-Up. Thank You. (248) 579-7488

Trucks for Sale 8220

CHEVROLET AVALANCHE 2006
Silver Birch, Z71, sunroof & heated leather! This is the one! Just \$21,975!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

CHEVROLET SSR PICKUP 2004
Black, auto, V8. \$22,495
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

CHEVY BLAZER 2004
Burgundy, 4x4, 44K. \$10,495
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

CHEVY COLORADO 4DR 2008
Extra clean, 32k miles. \$11,995 Stk.#1176024A
DEALER
734-402-8774

CHEVY G30 1997
Artic White, 51K, and ABS! Great condition!
Only \$7,995!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

CHEVY SILVERADO 1500LT CREW CAB 2009
Extra clean, one owner, 15,152 miles. \$24,875
Stk.#10171364A
DEALER
734-402-8774

Trucks for Sale 8220

DODGE DAKOTA LARAMI 2008
Extra extra clean, only 26k miles. \$22,995 Stk.#P21279
DEALER
734-402-8774

FORD F150 2007
XL, Extended, white. \$16,495
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

GMC 2006 SIERRA SLE 2WD
loaded, 64K mi, warranty, new tires, exc cond., \$15,000. 734-812-9001

GMC EXTENDED CAB 2010
Pickup, 10K. \$20,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

RAN 2006 PICKUP
4x4, Gray, \$18,495
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Mini-Vans 8240

CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY 2008
Scarlet Red, LX, Flex Fuel, and ABS! Family road trip! Only \$12,995!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY 2010
Sharp! \$18,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

FORD WINDSTAR 2003
Forest Green, SE, ABS, and power options! Family budget friendly! Only \$6,997!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

SIENNA 2005
Silver Storm, ABS and power options! Camping trip ready! Just \$13,495!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

FORD F350 2010
12 passenger van, white. \$18,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Sports Utility 8290

BUICK RENDEZVOUS 2002
Loaded, Moon. \$5595
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

CHEVROLET EQUINOX 2006
Porcelain White, Alloys, PL, PW & ABS! Travel in style! Only \$13,495!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

CHEVY EQUINOX 2008
AWD, Leather, more! \$21,495
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

CHEVY EQUINOX XL 2006
Silver, 42K. \$14,495
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
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FORD RIDES FUEL EFFICIENCY TO HIGH DEMAND

Advertising Feature

CAReport



By Dale Buss

U.S. auto makers sold 1.17 million vehicles in April, up 18 percent from their performance a year earlier. And while Ford's 13-percent increase ranked third among the domestic Big Three for the month, it wasn't because its vehicles were less in demand: Ford's Focus and Fiesta, as well as its new Explorer SUV, were among the hottest vehicles in the market.

Ken Czubay, Ford's vice president of U.S. sales and marketing, said, "Obviously, the market has shifted. It's the first month for our new Focus, and dealers were selling them right off the convoy trucks."

Subcompact and compact cars overall accounted for 24 percent of industry sales in April, about the same percentages as March, when fuel prices began taking hold in the consumer consciousness - but three percentage points ahead of a year ago. "If the industry had an unlimited supply of small cars, that percentage may have gotten to 28 percent or 30 percent in April," said George Pipas, Ford's head of U.S. industry analysis.

Ford reported April sales of 189,778 units, up 13 percent from a year earlier. And if it weren't for tight supplies of its small cars, company executives said, they would have sold even more. "The availability of small cars is putting a cap on the segment,"

Pipas said.

So Ford has been able to sell its year-old Fiesta, and its new 2012 Focus, at a breathless clip. Fiesta transaction prices are the highest of any vehicle in its segment, Pipas said, and the model sold more than 9,000 units for the second month in a row. Focus experienced "a ramp-up month" during April, Czubay said. "Availability will continue to be lean because the product is in such high demand."

Combined, Fiesta and Focus - with the new version still in limited supply - accounted for 15 percent of Ford's retail sales in April, six percentage points higher than realized by Fiesta and the previous version of Focus a year ago.

Sales of Ford Fusion, a compact, were 12 percent ahead of a year ago. Taurus, Ford's mid-size sedan, was 2 percent ahead of last year's pace. Even Mustang sold 59 percent more units than a year earlier, largely because of an increase in fleet sales this year compared with last year, Pipas said.

Over half of Mustangs were sold with a V6 engine that yields 305 horsepower and 31mpg on the highway. "People are saying, 'I can get everything in that category I want' with this six-cylinder engine," Czubay said.

The model that propelled Ford sales



The new Ford Explorer boasts about a 25-percent improvement in fuel efficiency.

The 2012 Ford Focus is a hot model, with gas prices rising.



more than any other, however, was the new Explorer, whose 25 mpg on the highway is a 25-percent improvement over the fuel economy of the old version. And Ford won't begin production of a four-cylinder EcoBoost version of Edge until later this year, which promises even better mileage.

Already, "It's the fastest-turning vehicle in the Ford showroom," Czubay said, indicating that Ford also could sell more Explorer - as well as Focus and Fiesta - units if they were available.

Czubay mentioned Ford's overall positioning for the times. "I've never seen a company better positioned" for a market shift than Ford, he said. "No matter where the consumer wants to go, Ford is lined up to give them the fuel efficiency they want."

The best example of that may be what's happened with buyers' approach to the F series trucks. Ford just began in January offering a couple of six-cylinder engine alternatives to its previous offerings of only eight-

cylinder versions of the F150, and in April the two smaller engines accounted already for half of the model's retail sales.

"That's the most startling number" of the month, Czubay said. "That's a high-volume model. What consumers are saying is that they're willing to go with a six-cylinder engine" if it meets their performance standards. Overall, F Series sales were up 11 percent in April.

Lincoln's problems have been much discussed, and that won't stop after the brand registered a 1-percent decline in April sales compared with a year ago.

Ford reduced its incentive spending in April by more than \$600 per vehicle compared with March levels, Pipas said, while the overall industry registered an incentive reduction averaging only about \$300 a vehicle.

Fleet sales in April were 36 percent of the total for Ford, on the high end of its desired range. Year-to-date, the figure was 34 percent.

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