#### **NURSE PRACTITIONER** ROLE EXPANDS IN **TODAY'S HEALTH** CARE SETTING

See Classified Section C



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No purchase required. See Scoop's page for all of the details.

#### Remembering 9/11

With the 10-year anniversary of the terrorist attacks of 9/11 approaching, the Canton Observer is looking for remembrances of that day among its readers. Do you remember where you were or what you were doing that day? Did you have a connection to someone lost in the attacks? Do you have a story to share?

We'd like to hear it. E-mail editor Brad Kadrich at bkadrich@ hometownlife.com, and please include a contact phone number.

#### Flying Pilgrims

The Flying Pilgrim **Radio Control Club** announced the "Fall Phase Out for Fun" air show from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 10-11, at the northwest corner of Geddes and Ridge roads.

The 28th annual show is designed to demonstrate the radio-con-



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7 WAYS TO

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MEMORY

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YOUR

Open Door Ministry Director Steve Darr stands near a sign made by a local youngster earning his Eagle Scout rank. In the background is a new cooler bought by the Canton Community Foundation and anonymous donors.

# **Open Door hits fourth** straight million mark

#### **By Darrell Clem Observer Staff Writer**

Open Door Ministry, a Canton-based food bank that feeds nearly 1,300 people every week, reached a milestone Wednesday when it received a delivery that pushed its food threshold past the onemillion-pound mark for the year.

It's the fourth consecutive year Open Door has surpassed that mark, and Director Steve Darr predicted the food bank will distribute a record-breaking 1.6 million pounds of food by year's end as thousands of area families continue to struggle for basic necessities amid a bruising economy. The latest delivery Wednesday by Gleaners Community Food Bank truck driver Tom Wilson came one day before recipients lined up in cars outside Open Door's warehouse on Lilley south of Michigan Avenue - just as they do every Thursday - to receive food.



"If somebody donates a dollar, that can buy a lot of food. ... It's everybody working together to help their

# Prosecutor wants charges reinstated

7 WAYS TO IMP

A GANNETT COMPANY

**By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer** 

Wayne County prosecutors will try to get three charges, dismissed at the lower court level, reinstated against Plymouth-Canton history teacher Raymond Schepansky

But they're going to have to wait to do it.

A motion hearing on the prosecution's request set for Friday was delayed because witness testimony will need to be taken, and neither side was prepared to do that Friday. The hearing will now take place 9 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 28, before Wayne County Circuit Judge David Allen.

Schepansky faces a lone charge of carrying a concealed weapon stemming from an incident in April on the driveway leading to Plymouth High School.



Three other charges - carrying a weapon with unlawful intent, carrying a weapon in a school zone and possessing a firearm when committing or attempting to commit a felony - were dismissed earlier this year by 35th District Court Judge Mike Gerou. Maria Miller, director of com-

Schepansky

munications for the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, said the reason they're asking Allen to reinstate the charges is simple: They believe Gerou was wrong.

"We believe the lower court made an error," Miller said. "The law allows us to go before the court to ask we be allowed to reinstate the charges based upon the facts and evidence produced at the preliminary hearing.'

So, what errors do prosecutors believe Gerou

trolled airplane hobby to the general public. The Flying Pilgrims are part of the Academy of Model Aeronautics, with a membership of about 200 members from surrounding communities. The airplanes to be displayed and flown are "giant scale" war birds and turbine jets. The models will fly all day during the show, and perform many aerobatic maneuvers during their flights.

A \$5 vehicle parking donation is requested. For more information, call (734) 207-3626.

#### Crafters wanted

St. Thomas a'Becket Church is accepting applications for crafters for their Christmas Craft Show to take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3 All interested crafters e-mail craftshow@ abecket.org

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#### **Fighting hunger**

Wilson brought potatoes, carrots, eggs, cantaloupe, tomatoes and peppers items Open Door volunteers boxed up with meat and canned goods to fight hunger among residents from Canton, Westland, Plymouth, Inkster, Wayne, Garden City, Ypsilanti, Belleville and a few families from Livonia and Redford.

"I think this organization is tops," Wilson said. "They just love everybody."

Open Door, marking its 11th year, is an offshoot of Canton-based Connection Church, though Darr said its volunteers come from other churches, civic orga-



**STEVE DARR Open Door Director** 

nizations, youth groups and other sources. It receives food from places such as Gleaners, Forgotten Harvest and Romulus-based S&F Foods.

As Darr, wife Jackie and other unpaid volunteers celebrated the one-millionpound mark Wednesday, they also paused to thank the Canton Community Foundation and anonymous donors for a new \$9,000, 10-by-14-foot, walk-in cooler that added to Open Door's arsenal of muchneeded storage space.

Foundation President Joan Noricks joined Open Door volunteers for their celebration and said it's important for organizations such as the foundation to support the food pantry.

"It's important because there are so many hungry people in the community, and Open Door Ministry has the capabil-

#### Please see OPEN DOOR, A5

committed?

"We'll argue that in court," Miller said.

Schepansky and his attorney, Richard Convertino, left court without comment Friday.

Schepansky was arrested April 14 after he was found to have an unloaded 9mm Beretta handgun in his Kia. He had pulled over on the driveway leading into Plymouth High School off of Beck Road, a couple of hundred feet away from Beck. Canton police made the arrest after finding the gun beneath the driver's seat.

Gerou dismissed the carrying a weapon with unlawful intent because it was brought based on statements colleagues allegedly heard Schepansky make, but which Gerou felt "no one took seriously" because they were never reported to any authorities. He dismissed the charge of carrying a weapon in a school zone because the spot where Schepansky was stopped, some 200 feet into the drive off Beck, was too far removed from Plymouth High School to meet the state's definition of school property.

And he dismissed the fourth count, possessing a firearm while committing or attempting to commit a felony, because no underlying felony charge in the case could sustain this count.

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

# Experts recommend taking practice ACT/SAT tests



#### **By Linda Ann Chomin** Correspondent

Students will soon be sitting anxiously, No. 2 pencil in hand, to take the ACT. While Michigan requires all high school juniors to take the standardized test, it's especially important if students plan to attend college. Seniors can retake the test to increase their score. The higher the score, the better chance they will be admitted to the university of their choice.

There are actually several tests and strategies college admission officers shared as high school students head back to the classroom. Along with the ACT, students may take the SAT, an aptitude test, and the Preliminary SAT (PSAT) that qualifies them for National Merit Scholarships.

Colleges accept both ACT and SAT scores. Anxiety is common during the timed tests, but can be avoided by heeding counselors' advice and taking a prep course, if necessary. ACT test dates for the 2011-12 school year are Sept. 10, Oct. 22, Dec. 10, Feb. 11, April 14 and June 9

Audrey Telfer, 17, of Plymouth won't be taking the ACT this year. She will be hard at work in her freshman year at Northwestern University in Illinois. The Salem High School graduate increased her score by taking a seven-week ACT prep course in Ann Arbor after a cousin successfully completed the same sessions that consisted of two-hour classes and six hours of practice tests every Saturday and Sunday. Telfer's goal is to go to law school.

"I thought the practice session was cool to know what to expect," she said. "It highlighted my strengths and weaknesses and directed my studying. We went over math that I had forgotten. It was a good refresher. The tests were just perfect."

#### ACT or SAT?

The ACT (American College Testing) assesses knowledge of math, science, reading and English and writing (optional). Some colleges place weight on the writing section. Others test this skill after admission.

The SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) focuses on mathematics, critical reading and writing skills.

Please see PRACTICE TEST, A6

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LOCAL NEWS

# Appeal aims at expanding arts understanding

By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer

Jill Engel believes there are still a great number of people in the southeastern Michigan area who don't even know the Village Theater at Cherry Hill exists.

As the executive director of Canton's Partnership for the Arts and Humanities, Engel hopes to change that, and the partnership will soon be asking for help funding the kinds of programs that keep the theater on the map.

Letters to some 7,000 people in Canton and surrounding areas — statistics show the theater draws patrons from Canton, Plymouth, Westland, Livonia, Farmington and other western Wayne and southeast Michigan communities — will be asking for donations in the partnership's 2011-2012 appeal.

"It's not just for Canton," Engel said. "We say 'greater Canton community,' but the arts draw people from all over southeast Michigan."

The appeal will, in large part, help the partnership continue to hand out annual grants to artistic groups, most of them resident groups at the Village Theater, to make sure the arts are nurtured in the area.

In 2010-2011, according to Engel, the partnership handed out some

\$59,000 in grants. For 2011-2012, Engel said, groups requested nearly \$121,000 in grants. The partnership approved some \$50,000 in grants.

A \$12,000 grant went to Forever After Productions, the theater group that features young children like Amanda and Geoffrey Grimm, who first auditioned for *Wizard of Oz* six years ago. Nearly seven years later, the siblings figure the performing arts have helped them with self-confidence, public speaking and memorization skills.

"Performing has given us so much," the Grimms wrote in a testimonial. "We have had an amazing opportunity to be mentored by older performers and, as we grew older, to mentor younger kids as they learn about theater."

It's not just the youth group that inhabits the theater, though. Other grant recipients include the Michigan Philharmonic, the Canton Concert Band, Spotlight Players, the Beck-Ridge Chorale and Cherry Hill Singers.

"Arts aren't just for one age group, they're for all ages," Engel said. "You've got people buying Mozazrt CDs for their newborns. And you've got older patrons who see the Canton Concert Band and it brings tears to their eyes, because (the music) brings back so many wonderful memories." The appeal offers everyone a chance to sponsor the arts, because there are a wide range of donation options available, ranging from \$25 for a "Rising Star" sponsorship to \$5,000 for "Advocate" level sponsorship.

Rob Bovitz, an actor with the Spotlight Players who last year was also Canton's Business Person of the Year, said having a home stage like the one at the Village Theater is a huge benefit to performing groups.

Bovitz said he likes the idea of sharing the arts with his 6- and 8-year-old daughters.

"After years of performing in middle school auditoriums, it was a breath of fresh air to move to Spotlight Players," Bovitz said. "Being a performer on stage gives me an additional sense of ownership in the theater."

While those kinds of testimonials from people involved in the arts are all well and good, Engel believes there are still plenty of people left for whom the arts have no meaning ... yet.

"I think the arts are important for so many aspects of people's lives, and we want to inspire them," Engel said. "There are still many people out there who the arts haven't touched, and we want to touch them."

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Amanda and Geoffrey Grimm first auditioned for Wizard of Oz six years ago at the Village Theater, and recently appeared in a revival of their first roles.

Danny D brings his Rod Stewart tribute show to the Village Theater Oct. 15, headlining a fundraiser for the Canton Partnership for the Arts and Humanities.



# Stewart tribute raises cash for arts

#### By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer

The next big fundraiser for Canton's Partnership for the Arts and Humanities will be a tribute to Rod Stewart and if all goes according to organizers' plans — collect a tribute to the arts.

Danny D & the Vagabonds, a Rod Stewart tribute band, will play the Village Theater at Cherry Hill 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15, in an effort to raise money that would help the partnership promote the arts in Canton and all its surrounding southeast Michigan communities. Combined with a second planned fundraiser in February (that one will feature popular local entertainer Steve King and the Dittlies), the partnership hopes to raise some \$20,000.

"It's Sweetest Day, and (Stewart's music) is perfect for that," said Jill Engel, executive director of the partnership. "If we can sell the two events out, that puts about \$20,000 extra that we can use toward community arts. That's huge."

A Hamtramck native, Danny D has played private shows, nightclubs and the Michigan State Fair. He has opened for Mitch Ryder, David Lee Roth, Bad Company, Air Supply and The Romantics.

The event will feature a onehour, pre-show reception with appetizers and treats from Main Street Catering, Fat Chef in a Little Coat, Sweet and Savory Caterers, Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe, Showroom of Elegance, Ribar Florist and Indigo Salon & Day Spa.

The event is sponsored by Western Wayne Urgent Care. Tickets are \$30.

For more information, call (734) 765-7061.

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# **Bills would move school elections**

**By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer** 

Judy Mardigian and two of her colleagues on the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education are due to end their terms in 2013

But all three of them could . be forced to serve an additional year, whether they want to or not.

Legislation approved by the state House this week moves school board elections to November of even-numbered years, a move legislators claim saves taxpayer dollars and increases voter turnout. If the legislation becomes law it's on its way to the Senate next - incumbent trustees in Plymouth-Canton would have their terms involuntarily extended until 2014.

Currently, Plymouth-Canton school board elections are done in November of oddnumbered years, one of five dates in the two-year election cycle.

But House Bills 4005 and 4006, sponsored by state Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth, require school board and intermediate school district elections to be held at the same time as the general November elections, which is usually the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in even-numbered years. That would extend the terms of Mardigian, Adrienne Davis and Barry Simescu an extra year.

#### Wide margin

Both bills passed 72-36, with two voters absent.

"This common-sense change puts more money back into the classroom by reducing the costs to school districts and local governments associated with stand-



alone elections," Heise said. "Taxpayers, school students and local government all benefit from this."

In Plymouth-Canton, it doesn't mean much money back in the classrooms. According to James Larson-Shidler, the district's assistant superintendent for business services, the 2009 election cost the district \$1,845 in payments to Washtenaw County and Salem Township, where other election issues were not on the ballot.

This year, the city of Plymouth has a city commission election, which means the election would be of little cost to Plymouth-Canton schools.

Mardigian, the district's longest-serving board member, thinks it's more about Lansing taking local issues out of local hands.

"It's about local control. ... The legislature has shown us they can do whatever they want," Mardigian said. "We're accustomed to having them dictate to us. It will change the dynamics of board elections. Time will tell what effect it will have.'

#### Local control issue

State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, agreed with Mardigian. She voted against both bills because she fears the state is intruding too much into local issues.

"My concern is we're taking so much local control away," Slavens said. "If the schools want to do it, that's fine. But I have a problem with the state mandating they do that."

Heise disagreed, and said many of the changes being enacted or proposed by the Legislature will save districts such as Plymouth-Canton "millions of dollars in the long run."

"The governance of local elections is well within the purview of state law," Heise said. "This has been done a couple times in the past already. Frequently what I

find are many of the changes that are coming from Lansing right now are being encouraged by districts.

"Our current system is con-fusing and costly," he added. "This reform gives us the rare opportunity to save money, increase efficiency and improve voter turnout."

The House bills now go to the Senate, where state Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, introduced similar legislation earlier this year.

At the time, Colbeck called it a "matter of fiscal responsibility."

"By moving school board elections to the same time as general elections, locals will save \$20,000 to \$40,000 that's \$2,000 per precinct, per election," Colbeck said. "As state and local governments struggle to make do with less, it is only common sense to consolidate these elections."

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

# Band boosters seek crafters for show

The Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters hosts its annual Holiday Arts and Crafts Ensemble 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 19. Exhibitors who handcraft their own items are invited to submit an application to exhibit at the fundraising event to be held at Plymouth High School in Canton.

The juried art event is produced twice each year by the PCMB to help support the band and color guard programs at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

Artists and crafters who are interested in applying for consideration to exhibit should visit www.pcmb. net/artcraft to download an application and submit with photos as soon as possible. A limited number of openings are available. Jewelers need not apply; the maximum number of jewelers permitted is set for the Holiday show.

For more details, contact exhibitor coordinator Carol Rosati at (734) 455-0714. Approximately 100-plus exhibitors will be permitted to exhibit at this artistic event. Over the last four years, more than 12,000 attendees have visited the PCMB Arts & Craft Ensembles.

"Our arts and craft ensembles are two of the most successful fundraisers we host each year," said Erin Babcock, president of the 2011 Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters. "The money raised at this event is helping to send the 175-member marching band to the 2011 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York. It's a very exciting time for our non-profit group.'

Plymouth High School is located at 8400 Beck in Canton. In addition to more than 100 exhibits, there will be food, door prizes, a raffle and entertainment by marching and concert band musicians throughout the day. Admission is \$2

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# **Henry Ford Community College**

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Tom Wilson, truck driver for Gleaners Community Food Bank, unloads a pallet that pushes Open Door Ministry's food pantry past the 1-million-pound mark for 2011. He is speaking with Jackie Darr, who operates the pantry with husband Steve.

## **OPEN DOOR**

Continue from page A1

ity to feed these people and help them with jobs," Noricks said. "They're such good people here."

#### It's about jobs

She was referring to a jobs program Open Door sponsors. It goes beyond helping the unemployed look for work, It also provides one-on-one counseling and helps them brush up on their reading and writing skills, develop resumes and work toward goals, such as getting a chauffeur's license, that can bridge the gap from joblessness to employment.

Already this year, Open Door has fed 39,639 people — many of them return recipients. Last year it fed 69,535 people. And while the organization saw a 30percent spike in pleas for help in 2010 compared to 2009, Darr said demand has leveled off this year.

"We hope it's because people are getting jobs," he said. Every week, Open Door has 60-70 volunteers who help out. Some

who can't give their time donate money, which helps because the food pantry does buy some of its food at hugely discounted prices offered by other organizations. On average, Open Door spends 2 cents for each pound of food it distributes.

"If somebody donates a dollar, that can buy a lot of food," Darr said.

Open Door volunteer Ralph Puckett credits the Darrs with making the organization a success, but Darr deflects the praise.

"It's everybody working together to help their neighbors," he said.

To help or for more information, go to www.opendoorfoodministry. org or call (734) 397-1777, Ext. 201.

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# Firefighters to help Canton mom's family

#### By Darrell Clem Observer Staff Writer

Canton firefighters, honoring a local mother of four who used to bring her children and cookies to fire station No. 1 before she was struck by a Jeep and killed, have announced a fundraiser to help her family.

The Canton Firefighters Local 2289 Charity Foundation has organized a bowling event 6-8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16, at Super Bowl, on Ford Road east of Canton Center.

Battalion Chief Mike Caruso said firefighters wanted to help Maupin's family in the aftermath of a tragic accident that occurred July 21, when she was struck and killed while walking her bike across Haggerty Road on the north side of Michigan Avenue.

On the day she was killed, Maupin had gone to fire station No. 1, off Canton Center south of Cherry Hill, to take cookies she had baked for firefighters.

"She used to frequently visit the fire station with her kids," Caruso-said, adding that some of Maupin's family members have visited the station since her death.

The bowling fundraiser costs \$20 per person and includes two games of "cosmic bowling" along with shoe rental, pizza, pop and door prizes. A 50/50 raffle also will be held.

Caruso said anyone who wants to make additional donations may do so the during the fundraiser.

Tickets may be purchased in advance or at the door, and all proceeds will benefit Maupin's family. For further information or to buy tickets, call fire station No. 1 at (734) 398-5262.

Maupin left behind her husband, Brent, and four children who, at the time of her death, ranged in age from 4 months to four years.

Caruso said firefighters are hoping the community will show support for a local family that has been dealt a painful blow.

"I'm hoping people really turn out" for the fundraiser, he said.

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#### LOCAL NEWS

#### PRACTICE TEST **Apply early**

Continue from page A1

The scores are a major part of what Kathryn Orscheln looks at when considering a student's application. Eastern Michigan University received 12,566 applications for the fall semester and admitted about 60 percent.

"We consider the GPA, ACT or SAT score, also curriculum they've taken," said Orscheln, director of EMU's Office of Admis-

sions. "For ACT, we suggest students prepare by being engaged in their learning throughout school, do the work, learn as much as they can. It's an accumulation."

In recent years, Orscheln has noticed scores don't always coincide with GPAs. She appreciates guidance counselors who contact the college and advocate for students when this is the case.

'We've seen a rise in students getting

very anxious," Orscheln said. "We used to assume GPA and test score would match, 4.0 to 28 to 30 on ACT. Now with a 3.8 GPA, they score 20 on ACT or even lower. Counselors say, 'This is a great student, but she does terrible on tests.' We need to listen to high school counselors, teachers. They care about these students and make time to make these calls."

#### Don't wait

One of Lisa Kujawa's sons was not a good test taker and decided to take a prep course for two summers. She tells parents, "Don't wait 'til your kid is a junior." ACT offers a calendar that recommends a path of action beginning as early as the freshman year. As little as a two-point increase could make a difference when it comes to receiving a \$5,000 scholarship.

Kujawa, associate provost for enrollment services at Lawrence Technological University, suggests students familiarize themselves with the ACT and SAT by visiting the websites. Both organizations offer practice tests, books, DVDs and a question of the day. At LTU, the scores count 60 percent toward admission.

"Here's the key," Kujawa said. "If you begin to start taking (the tests) early and get familiar with the format, questions, you might not do as well because you don't have those courses yet, but as a junior or senior you do have the courses and the more familiar you can make yourself with it helps you to understand when you take it again."

Michigan State University recommends taking the test as many times as possible as well and to include all scores. MSU received 28,000 applications for fall. About 70 percent were accepted.

Applying early is important as well. The scholarship deadline is Dec. 15 for U-M Dearborn, which offered \$16 million (154 full-tuition scholarships) to freshmen this year. The university uses GPA and test scores to determine eligibility.

Madonna University offers two advantages for students preparing for the ACT — a free workshop and the opportunity to take the test at an actual site. ACT sites include Novi, Catholic Cen-

tral, Stevenson, "Take out a calendar Churchill, Clarand mark Saturdays. enceville, Thurston, Mercy, Plymouth, Canton and Lutheran High School-Westland Along with attend-

days to work through ing the three-hour workshop and tour Oct. 8 and Nov. 10, to demystify the test and address anxiety, Michael Kenney recommends setting aside the correct answers." seven consecutive Saturdays the summer before to take Madonna University vice president for practice tests. Kenplanning and enrollment management ney, Madonna University vice pres-

ident for planning and enrollment management, has had plenty of practice with this method. The Livonia resident has seven children - one out of college, two in college, one in high school.

Take out a calendar and mark Saturdays. It does take a commitment,' he said. "Set aside a couple of days to work through not only scoring the tests, but studying answers and paying particular attention to explanations for the correct answers.'

Madonna's workshops allow students to take a portion of the test. Kenney sees the ACT as an equalizer, as GPAs differ from school to school. Madonna, like many universities, takes an individualized approach to the admissions process. ACT/SAT scores, GPA, letters of recommendation, an essay describing why they want to come to Madonna and activities in high school all play a part.

"The score is an important component because it is the only aspect of the application process that is completely objective with everyone required to take same test," Kenney said. "We understand ACT is not a perfect measurer of their capacity for success. There's a national discussion about whether or not it's a useful tool.'

#### Sleep can help

As colleges debate the value, Telfer offers advice from someone who's taken the test.

"Sleeping is really your best friend for these for your mind to be sharp," said Telfer, who maintained a 4.18 grade-point average at Salem High School At Western Michigan University, the ACT still counts equally in terms of consideration. Of 14,200 who applied for the fall semester, 10,400 were offered admission. "We feel the tests affirm what we're seeing," said Penny Bundy, director of admissions. "We make our decisions based on the combination of college prep curriculum, GPA and trend of grades. The scores gives a good sense to their ability and readiness to do college level work."

# **Prep courses help** students score higher

#### By Linda Ann Chomin Correspondent

Penny Bundy points out that strategy can make all the difference when taking the ACT and/or SAT. As director of admissions at Western Michigan University, she has been studying the two tests for 25 years.

Questioning whether or not to guess an answer? ACT (American College Testing) encourages students to answer every last one. According to Bundy, there is no penalty for guessing on the multiple-choice tests as scores are based on the number of questions answered correctly.

Be prepared is the advice of Gabe Santi of Michigan State University's office of admissions.

Get a good's night sleep and eat breakfast. Follow directions on the exam," Santi said. "Students who take a challenging high school curriculum are more likely to succeed in a standardized test. Challenge yourself in high school by taking math, science and foreign language.

Prep courses can help by giving tips like these. Schoolcraft College, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools and learning centers throughout the area offer strategies as well as the opportunity to take practice tests.

Prices range from \$85 to \$1,499 for courses lasting one day to several weeks. One-on-one tutoring costs depend on length of time necessary to increase scores. Class sizes vary as well

Schoolcraft College offers instruction on site and online. The course begins with a pretest to determine a student's knowledge. Textbooks and a CD-ROM with practice exams are provided, as well as a packet of correct answers. A final test is given at the end of the course.

"Reading is a big thing," said Heather Rawat, program coordinator for Schoolcraft's continuing education. "They have to be able to read the question and find out what they're looking for.'

Huntington Learning Center offers private tutoring customized to individual students. Wie Pan opened the Canton franchise in June 2009 after working 30 years in corporate America. He has a doctorate in chemistry.

Some students are further ahead than others, some lacking basic skills," Pan said. "Huntington recognized that there are some 67 different skills from English to math, reading and science, and address each one of these skills with the student."

Does your child lack study skills, tend to read passively?

"We teach them to read actively and to retain key facts to draw conclusions," Pan said. "Self-confidence is related to skills. If unsure of how well you know the material, we teach you, help build and rebuild skills leading to higher confidence. In the process, we provide study skills/tools to use in the rest of high school years and college and beyond." Phyllis Katz of Novi founded Test Preparation Workshops in 1982 at the request of the continuing education director for Berkley Schools. The workshops offer ACT, SAT and PSAT (National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) instruction for individuals, as well as school systems.



vears

McCully's Educational Resource Center offers private tutoring and group instruction at its Canton location, as well as through Plymouth-Canton Schools community education. Founded in Plymouth by Mary McCully in 1990, the center provides students with a six-page analysis of areas they need to study after completing a practice test.

"ACT opens doors for colleges," said Bill McCully, co-owner with his wife, a retired special education teacher/consultant for the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. "The better you do, the more college doors you open. We give students tips and teach them

how to approach the test, how to relax, practice. We compare it to a sport where the more you practice, the better you're going to do."

Betty Bloch is excited about McCully providing the course for Plymouth-Canton community education. Another company marketed a one-day version to its students for a number of years. A check of nearby school districts found none, except Plymouth-Canton, offers ACT prep courses. "This is the first year we're

offering the long course," said Bloch, supervisor for Plymouth Canton community education. "There are three different classes and practice classes from one day to several weeks. All students are welcome to come here.'

Horizon Learning Solutions offers ACT, SAT prep courses and one-on-one tutoring at Eastern Michigan University in Livonia, Hindu Temple of Canton and Hartland High School in Howell. Its specialty is 11/2-day classes, as well as help for students filling out college applications and preparing for admission interviews.

"We try to keep it to needs of individuals, small class sizes, eight or less," said owner Neal Maheshwari. who lives in Northville and has two children in medical school and premed. "Both of our children graduated from Northville. We felt we needed to offer something to help the kids and wanted to offer something more reasonably priced and of a shortened duration. Students average a 10-percent improvement." Christopher Tremblay is concerned about students who may not score well on the ACT. He offers hope as executive director of enrollment management at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. "More than a test score defines a college applicant," Tremblay said. "Sometimes as a society, we obsess about testing and certainly there's a place for that, but there's always an opportunity.

"Students who take a challenging high school curriculum are more likely to succeed in a standardized test." **GABE SANTI** 

Michigan State University's office

of admissions

#### **Other factors**

"The ACT/SAT score is one factor in the application review process," said Gabe Santi, director of communication at MSU's Office of Admission. "We do not attach specific weight, but it is a key factor. Along with GPA, trend of grades, increasing or decreasing, and the personal statement, these provide our office with a degree of knowledge about preparation and aptitude of success.

Santi grew up in Pontiac and graduated from high school in 1993. He can remember the score being a significant part of the college application process.

"The college admissions world is more competitive now," he said.

Like MSU, Oakland University factors in a number of considerations. This fall, 10,277 students applied for the fall semester; 6,658 were accepted. The advice is similar. Take the test as many times as possible.

The ACT/SAT score counts about 50 percent toward admissions at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. Christopher Tremblay, executive director of enrollment management, tells parents to encourage their children to take challenging courses as early as middle school, and the ACT as a sophomore. Tremblay wishes he'd scored higher than average on the ACT. The Canton resident believes strongly in higher education and is currently in a doctorate program.

"Every day they are preparing," Tremblay said. "Commitment to their course work plants seeds for success. We want to see as many academic or college prep courses, honors and placement, also trend of their grades. We don't like to see declines in performance. We like to see upward trends.'

Tremblay recommends students and parents visit the state of Michigan's College Access Portal (www. Michigancap.org). Under planning for college is a test preparation section. Use it not only to gain admission, but help finance education.

Bundy suggests students have someone time them and give the fiveminute warning as if they were actually taking the test.

"Prep courses can be beneficial, particularly if a student has a lot of anxiety about taking that test," Bundy said. "I went to the bookstore over the weekend and there are quite a few guide books and some courses have been around a long time (like) Kaplan, Princeton."

Bundy, who's been in admissions 25 years, has advice for parents.

"Enjoy this experience," she said. "It's an exciting time for students and parents. Keep lines of communication open. Parents might want them to go to one college. It can be an overwhelming process whether to choose small, large, close to home, religion or faith-based. Rely on college professionals."

Visit campuses. Ask questions why students chose that certain school.

Prospective applicants will have the opportunity to tour UM-Dearborn from noon to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25, during an open house that allows them to apply in person and meet with an admissions representative.

The ACT test costs \$49.50 with writing section, \$34 without. The test starts at 8 a.m. and finishes 12:15 p.m. (non-writing) or 1 p.m. Deadline for registering is approximately one month earlier. Visit www.act.org or actstudent.org.

The SAT test dates are Oct. 1 and Nov. 5. Cost is \$49. Visit www.collegeboard.com. PSAT testing to qualify for National Merit Scholarships takes place Oct. 12 and Oct. 15. Cost is \$14. Fee waivers available for juniors from low-income families. See SAT website.

"We teach strategy for timing, guessing, how to approach each test, talk about essay and direct them to other materials," said Katz, who taught in the Berkley district 25

#### WHERE TO GO

#### TEST PREP COURSES

 Horizon Learning Solutions, based in Northville, serves southeast Michigan. Contact (248) 974-1898 or horizonlearn@gmail.com. Website is www.horizonlearn. com. Costs range from \$99 to \$395, class size limited to eight students. Courses held at Eastern Michigan University in Livonia, Hindu Temple of Canton, and Hartland High School in Howell. Classes begin late September. Open House with a free ACT diagnostic test is planned for 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, at the Northville Dis-

trict Library. • Huntington Learning Center, 44630 Ford Road, Canton. Call (734) 446-5576 or 207-7930 for SAT/ACT Prep. Call (800) Can-Learn for general information and locations or visit www.huntingtonlearning. com.

 Kaplan offers a session, "Accepted: Getting Into Your First Choice School," 7 p.m. Sept. 22, in Dearborn Heights. Register at www.kaptest.com. Call (800) Kap-TEST or visit www.kaplan.com for information.

 Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft, Livonia. ACT Prep & Tour 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 8, and 4-7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 10, includes free practice test, workshops, and university tour. Registration preferred but walk-ins welcome. Visit www.madonna.edu or call (734) 432-5317

• McCully's Educational Resource Center, 7664 N. Canton Center Roard, Canton (734) 414-7884 offers test prep private tutoring and group instruction, as well as through Plymouth-Canton Schools community education. Call (734) 414-7884 or visit www.merctutoring.com. New Point Learning Center, 2216 S. Main, Ann Arbor. ACT, SAT and PSAT prep. Visit www.newpointlearning.com/ annarbor or call (734) 213-3695 or (877) 895-4008. Plymouth-Canton Community Schools one-day class Nov. 29 and March 1, four-week sessions begin Nov. 2 and January 25, at Canton High. Comprehensive Prep Course begins Oct. 17 (2:30-4:30 p.m. for 25 days) and Oct. 18 (7-9 p.m. for 23 days) at Plymouth High School (\$89 to \$995). Call (734) 416-2937 for information. To register, visit communityeducation.pccs.k12. mi.us. Free practice test for all Plymouth-Canton district juniors 3-7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27, in Canton and Salem high school cafeterias. Presentation and review with parents 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 4 Test Preparation Workshops offers one and two-day sessions at the Livonia Civic

Center Library Oct. 10-11 and Feb. 27-28; Orchard Lake Middle School, West Bloomfield, Sept. 24, or Dec. 3 or Feb. 25; Michigan State University (Troy campus) Oct. 8 or Jan. 28; University of Michigan, Ann Arbor Jan. 14, for ACT, SAT and PSAT (National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test). Cost \$85. Call (248) 552-7209 or visit www. scoremorepoints.com

The Princeton Review

offers sessions Sept. 17 through Oct. 30 and April 21 through May 31, at locations such as the Comfort Inn, Plymouth; Novi Civic Center; Orchard United Methodist Church, Farmington Hills; Ann Arbor; Groves High School, Birmingham, and International Academy, Bloomfield Hills. Call (888) 955-4600 or visit www. princetonreview.com. Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. Online and campus-based American College Testing (ACT) Preparation Workshop. On campus session is for seven weeks 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays beginning Oct. 8 (\$259). Online is nine weeks and starts Oct. 10 (\$229). Call (734) 462-4448 or visit www. schoolcraft.edu for information

 Sylvan Learning Centers, locations in Canton, Livonia, Novi, Ann Arbor, Southfield. Call (800) 244-8547 or visit www.sylvanlearning.com.

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LEARNING CENTER

# Police look into rash of wheel thefts

By Darrell Clem Observer Staff Writer

Canton police are investigating a rash of incidents involving the theft of wheels and rims, Deputy Chief Robert Kerr said Friday.

At least five incidents occurred Tuesday through Thursday involving thefts that ended with vehicles being left on landscaping blocks, he said.

The thieves targeted three Cadillacs, one Lincoln and one Ford Flex. The culprits typically seek the kind of expensive rims that make a car stand out.

The latest incidents mostly occurred in condominium developments in the Palmer-Sheldon and Denton-Geddes areas, Kerr said.

"People may want to be aware this is happening and take some extra precautions," he said. "If they have a garage, they may want to park their car in the garage." Local police also are asking for the public's help in identifying and locating potential suspects.

Anyone who has information is urged to call the Canton Police Department at (734) 394-5400. Anyone who pre-

fers to make an anonymous tip for a possible cash reward may contact Crime Stoppers of Michigan by calling (800) SPEAK-UP, going to www.1800speakup.org or texting CSM and the tip to 274637, or CRIMES.

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

#### **AROUND CANTON**

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

#### CHIEFETTES FUND-RAISER

Date/Time: Aug. 30-Sept. 1, 4-10 p.m.

Location: Jimmy John's, 770 Penniman, Plymouth Details: The Canton Chiefettes are having a fundraiser at Jimmy John's, which is donating a percentage of all sales to Canton Pom Pon.

#### CHEER CLINIC

Date/Time: Saturday, Sept. 10, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Location: Plymouth High School, Beck Road south of Joy

Details: The Plymouth High School cheer teams host a kids cheer clinic for firstthrough eighth-graders. The cost is \$30 per student and includes a PHS cheer T-Shirt, drinks and snacks. All kid clinic participants are invited to cheer in the Friday, Sept. 16 Plymouth vs. Livonia Churchill 7 p.m. varsity football game. The deadline to register is Aug. 30.

**Contact:** The registrationform can be found on the Plymouth cheer website or by contacting Julie Jones at jonesing05@gmail.com



#### Wish you were here ...

Although no one knows where you would have slept. Courtesy Louise Brekke, 14 Canton and Plymouth families just returned from "a wonderful vacation" on Spider Lake near Traverse City. The group stayed in one huge house for four days and "had a blast!" Pictured are (front, from left) Adam Liakos, Kara Applegate and Alyssa Liakos; (second row, from left) Sophie Mekled, Olivia Benintende, Ashley Liakos, Devin Lamoureux and Mikey Collins; (third rown, from left) Grace Brekke, Jack McCormack, Mary-Liz Benintende and Hallie Ott; (fourth row, from left) Chelsea D'Agostino, Jeff Simpson, Devin Slominski, William Benintende, David Russell, Tanis Lamoureux and Sam Ott; (fifth row, from left) Adam Liakos, Jake Brekke, Kirsten Holland, Alex Brekke, Lexie McDiarmid, Courtney Simpson, Emily Bouse, Shelby D'Agostino and Dom Ciantar; (back, from left) Zach D'Agostino, Ryan Huffman, Paige Slominski and Amber Mekled. Not pictured is Jack Applegate.



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# **Program spins 'WEB' of help**

# Mentors help sixth-graders make the move up

#### By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer

Like most kids, Alaina James is nervous about changing schools.

The 11-year-old from Plymouth is making the upward move from Bird Elementary to the sixth-grade confines of West Middle School, along with some 300 other fifth-graders from five different elementary schools in the Plymouth-Canton district.

Understanding their nervousness, and buoyed by the success of last year's Link Crew mentoring program for incoming freshmen at the high school park, district administrators went about finding ways to make the transition easier for the new middle schoolers.

To accomplish it, they turned to the WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) program, a national idea that puts eighthgrade mentors in leadership positions with small groups of sixth-graders to help them ease into their new surroundings. The program is being used at all five of the district's middle schools.

And the new sixth-graders, like Alaina, appreciate it.

"My biggest (concern) is not knowing where the classrooms are," Alaina said. "(WEB) is making me feel a lot more comfortable at West."

Administrators know those are the kinds of fears kids harbor as they move to a new school. Students don't know who their teachers are going to be, where their classrooms are, how the lockers work (an especially big fear for students).

The idea of WEB, according to West Middle School Principal Clint Smiley, is to ease those concerns. The mentors  — all of them members of the National Junior Honor Society
 — work with small groups of sixth-graders, playing games to introduce them to each other and teaching them what life is like at the new level.

Teachers were trained in the program, then came back and trained more than 50 eighthgraders (at West alone) who signed up to be mentors. The mentors help the new kids on the block learn their schedules, show them where classrooms are and how to work their lockers.

"Starting a new school is very stressful, and the biggest stressor is the unknown," Smiley said. "They don't know about their lockers, they don't know where their classrooms are. (WEB) gets them into the school, and when they leave ... they're much more relieved."

That's what eighth-grader Rachel Dunlavy of Canton hopes. She knows what it's like coming into a new school, and she didn't even come from within the district, having done her elementary school years at All Saints Catholic School.

"I came from a Catholic school, and I didn't really know anybody," Rachel said. "I wanted to help the sixth-graders, because I know it was really rough when I came in here."

The program took a schoolwide (and district-wide) effort. West Middle School Counselor Valerie Swift said their teachers took the program and molded it to fit West's needs. For instance, West administrators grouped the incoming students by homeroom, something the WEB model doesn't call for.

"We wanted them to get to know the other students in their homerooms, because they're going to be with them



West Middle School counselor Valerie Swift helps incoming sixth-grader Coby Horden of Plymouth work the combination to his locker.



New sixth-grader Alaina James checks out her new school ID after getting her picture taken as part of WEB training.

SI

in homeroom and the first hour of the day, at least," Swift said. "It's working out pretty well, I think." Emily Chepynoha, and 11year-old sixth-grader from Plymouth, felt more comfortable by day's end. "Going from an elementa-

ry school to a middle school



Darren Krumm, an incoming sixth-grader, takes part in the WEB program at West Middle School, where eighth-graders are mentoring the new sixth-graders.

is a big change," Emily said. "They're teaching us how sixth grade works."

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LOCAL NEWS

# Kiwanis Club flips for kids

It is Plymouth Fall Festival time which means only one thing to the Plymouth Area Kiwanis Clubs: The traditional all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast to benefit the Plymouth Kiwanis Foundation.

The breakfast takes place Saturday, Sept. 10, from 7 a.m. to noon at The Gathering across from Kellogg Park next to the Penn Theater in downtown Plymouth. The menu includes pancakes, sausages, orange juice and coffee.

The tickets are \$6 in advance and \$7 on Saturday morning. Children under 5 years old eat free. Pre-sale tickets can be purchased from any Plymouth Kiwanis member, the Kiwanis Popcorn Wagon in Kellogg Park on Friday evenings, the Charities Ticket Booth on Friday evening during the Fall Festival, Vanessa's Flowers on Ann Arbor Road and the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce office.

This event has as much tradition as does the Plymouth Fall Festival. It draws around 4,000 people each year. Jim Grutza of the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth is the organizer of this annual fundraiser and wants to make the breakfast fun for both the volunteers and the



The pancake breakfast, which draws about 4,000 diners a year, helps fund college scholarships and Kids Against Hunger, among other programs.

families that come out for breakfast. Kiwanis smoothly gets thousands served quickly, but Kiwanis members look forward to helping out each year.

It is all in good fun, members say, with the true focus being raising funds to support Mott Children's Hospital, college scholarships, Kids Against Hunger and many other community causes.

"It is one of our major fundraising efforts each year which assist us in supporting many civic causes in our community," Grutza said. "The needs of the various charities we support have increased in recent years. It would be fantastic if even more folks came out for our great, hot breakfast. We are more than ready to serve everyone that wants to come out '

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# **Consider all** options when donating to charities

#### By Rick Bloom Guest Columnist

Q: Dear Rick: I hope you can help me with a tax issue in relation to charitable contributions. My wife and I are retired and our main source of income is my pension and Social Security. I have an IRA, from which I take minimum required distributions. In addition to my IRA, my wife and I have a joint account. Every year — generally in September - I make charitable contributions. Last year I was going to have my minimum required distribution used as my contribution, but I ran out of time. I was going to do it this year, but a friend told me that since I have stock that has gone up in value, it would be better to donate the stock to the charity as opposed to writing a check or using my minimum required distribution. I don't itemize and I'm in the 15-percent bracket. What would be to my advantage?

A: The proper course of action is to use your minimum required distribution for your contribution. This will be the most tax-sufficient way for you to make your contribution.

From the charity's standpoint, whether you use your minimum required distribution, donate appreciated securities or write them a check, it is all the same. Therefore, in this case the interest of the charity does not enter into the decision-making process

In reviewing the three options, the least beneficial to you is writing a check because you receive no tax advantage. Since



The donation of appreciated securities is a good strategy, but not as good as using your minimum

tax break.

**Money Matters** 

**Rick Bloom** 

required distribution. When you donate appreciated securities, you can deduct the full value of the security. In addition, you avoid any unrecognized tax. For example, if you bought a stock for \$10 a share and it is now selling for \$50 a share, if you donate the stock to a charitable organization, you can deduct \$50 a share. The real benefit is the gain (\$50 - \$10 = \$40) is not subject to tax. Therefore, when they donate appreciated securities, many people will receive a double tax benefit. However, since you are not itemizing your deductions, you lose some of your tax benefits. In addition, since the tax you are avoiding is capital gains tax and your bracket is only 5 percent, the saving is minimal at best.

Using your minimum required distribution gives you the best of both worlds. The main advantage is that by donating your minimum required distribution, you are not paying taxes on that amount. The IRA distribution is taxed at your ordinary tax bracket of 15 percent, thus, you have a significant tax savings. In the other alternative, you would have had to include your minimum required distribution as income. Now, by donating it directly to a charity, you're avoiding that tax liability.



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Volunteers Ken Sullivan and Marge and Wayne Cooper sort through some of the 16,000 items that came in for this year's Back to School Blitz at the Plymouth Salvation Army.

# Blitz sends kids back to school with supplies

**By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer** 

If organizers of the **Plymouth Salvation** Army's annual Back to School Blitz figured 23 heads were better than one, they apparently figured right.

Rather than making Back to School Blitz 4 a primarily Plymouth Salvation Army project this year, PSA officials reached out to 22 other agencies for the annual effort to provide backpacks and other school supplies and clothing to needy students returning to school.

The plan worked like a charm. This week, 85 volunteers spent 674 hours poring through thousands of donated items, packing enough backpacks to help nearly 300 students get ready to hit the classroom with the supplies

"Working together with lar to the Biblical story of the fishes and loaves - we gave our effort to God, He took over and there were plenty of school supplies for all and some

Collections were taken

chipped in some 16,600 items, with an estimated value of more than \$11,500.

Earlier in the week, some 260 youngsters had applied for back-toschool assistance, but the number was expected to climb as the Salvation Army continued to take applications. Aren said some 50-60 students generally seek help once school actually starts.

**Distribution** happened this week, with volunteers greeting families, helping each child pick a backpack stuffed with grade-appropriate supplies and a \$25 gift card. to Payless Shoes. Parents also had a chance to sign their children up for the upcoming Coats 4 Kids program.

Aren said the cooperative effort showed sharing the load might be the way to go.

# **ACLU** appeals medical pot ruling

#### By Ken Abramczyk **Observer Staff Writer**

The American Civil Liberties Union has appealed a Wayne County Circuit Court ruling that supported the city of Livonia's ban on medical marijuana facilities.

The ACLU of Michigan filed an appeal Monday with the Michigan Court of Appeals and the city of Livonia received notice of the claim of appeal Tuesday.

The ACLU is appealing the ruling by Circuit Judge Wendy Baxter, who granted the city's motion for summary disposition last month. "We think that she made a wrong decision," said Dan Korobkin, staff attorney with the ACLU.

#### State law vs. federal law

At the heart of the case is whether the voter-approved state law permitting medical marijuana use or sales pre-empts federal law banning marijuana or whether the federal Controlled Substances Act preempts state law.

The ACLU filed a suit in December on behalf of Linda and Robert Lott of Birmingham against the cities of Livonia, Bloomfield Hills and Birmingham regarding the authority of communities to prohibit medical marijuana use or sales on the grounds that marijuana possession violates federal law. The Lotts own a portion of a property in Livonia where they said they wanted to grow medical marijuana, according to the ACLU. The ACLU argued in court that Livonia could not

enact laws that violate state laws. Michigan voters approved the

use of medical marijuana in 2008. The city of Livonia later enacted an ordinance that did not mention medical marijuana, but prohibited activities that violate federal law.

Linda Lott is a registered medical marijuana patient with multiple sclerosis. She uses medical marijuana to get rid of back spasms. Prescription drugs don't work on the pain, according to her husband Robert

Korobkin said the question was whether local governments had a right to punish people who had the right to use medical marijuana, such as the Lotts.

"The facts and the legal questions speak for themselves," Korobkin said. "The Michigan Medical Marihuana Act says that someone who engages in medical marijuana use can't be arrested, punished or prosecuted in any way.

Korobkin said the Livonia ordinance allows the Lotts to be punished and that state voters did not intend for that to happen when they voted in 2008.

#### **City will defend ordinance**

Don Knapp, Livonia's city attorney, said he expected the appeal. "We intend to vigorously defend the city's zoning ordinance," he said. "The ACLU even agrees that pre-emption is the critical issue and the federal law conflicts with the state law. You can't ask local governments to be complicit in violating a federal law."

Korobkin said there is "no actual conflict" between the laws, but that they "say two different things."

While the pre-emption is a separate issue, attorneys and medical marijuana supporters and opponents are watching other legal developments.

On Wednesday, a three-judge panel of the Michigan Court of Appeals ruled that the law allowed the medical use of marijuana in limited circumstances, but not the sale of it.

The court ordered that a Mt. Pleasant dispensary should be closed. The dispensary was selling marijuana to people certified to buy it for medical purposes.

The court ruled that the facility's operators have no authority under the law to operate a dispensary that "actively engages in and carries out patient-to-patient sales" of marijuana.

The legal discussions and arguments continue in California courts, a state in which voters passed a medical marijuana initiative 15 years ago.

A Superior Court judge in Orange County decided recently that Anaheim's ban on dispensaries does not violate state law. The judge concluded that neither the medical marijuana initiative passed by voters in 1996 nor a state law that followed pre-empted local ordinances intended to regulate the distribution of the drug.

That case is headed to the state Court of Appeal.

> kabramcz@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2591 . Twitter: @KenAbramcz



# Culinary event marks anniversaries Crowd protests McCotter's jobs stance

The Schoolcraft College feature more than 50 Foundation presents its annual Culinary Extravaganza, a premier food and wine event that highlights the culinary talent of metro area restaurants, pastry shops and beverage vendors.

This year's event, 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25, marks two special anniversaries - the 20th year of the food and wine event and the college's 50th.

The extravaganza allows guests to sample a variety of fine food, wine, beverages and desserts in one afternoon, while at the same time support student scholarships. Proceeds from the event provide scholarships and grants for students. Individual tickets are \$50 each and available at the college or online.

This year's event will

food, wine and dessert stations, a silent auction and raffle, along with a wine-tasting seminar led by vintner Lee Hershey and a wholesome healthy foods demonstration by master chef Jeff Gabriel.

#### Featured

Food and beverage vendors include 5ive Restaurant at St. John's Inn in Plymouth Township, Toasted Oak Grill and Market in Novi, Old World Olive Press in Plymouth, McCormick Distilling Co. and many more.

In addition to food, attendees can bid on a variety of gifts cards and baskets, including a VIP wine-tasting at Chateau Chantal, a weekend stay at the Townsend Hotel in downtown Birmingham or sports and entertain-

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ment packages.

Highlight of this year's raffle is a Hearts on Fire Diamond necklace from Orin Jewelers in Garden City and Northville valued at \$3,400. Other raffle prizes include \$500 cash, \$250 cash (two winners) and dinner for two at the American Harvest Restaurant at Schoolcraft (three winners).

Raffle tickets are \$5 each or three for \$10. In addition, each ticket has value even if you don't win a prize. Patrons can redeem the ticket for discounts at the American Harvest, Steve & Rocky's in Novi and the Ironwood Grill in Plymouth. Raffle tickets are available at the college.

For more information or to purchase event tickets, sponsorship packages or raffle tickets go to www.schoolcraft.edu.

**By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer** 

Some 100 people gathered in front of U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter's Plymouth office Friday morning to let McCotter, a candidate for president, know they don't think he's doing enough to bring jobs to his state.

The protesters tooted whistles, chanted and waved American flags, even going so far as to pound on the windows of McCotter's Main Street office. They represented a group called "We Are The People," which organizes people from all around the metro area to ask the question, "Where are the jobs?"

"The protest was about good jobs now ... We had a great turnout," said Natalie Mosher, a Canton resident who lost to McCotter in the 2010 election and attended Friday's protest. "It's unfortunate the staff inside his office didn't even want to come out and acknowledge there were a lot of constituents out there. This guy is running for president, you'd think he'd want to have a conversation with the people he represents."

The group was protesting McCotter's support of a plan to cut 10 percent of the federal workforce, cuts they believe would cost 2,000 jobs in his 11th district, resulting in the loss of \$80 million in revenues. They carried signs with sayings such as "Don't Destroy My Pension and the American Dream" and "You Vote for War and Cut Jobs.'

McCotter, on the campaign trail, shrugged off the protest as a union group wanting to protect 'Big Government.'

This public union protest to prop up Big Government at taxpayers' expense is the failed policy of the 1970s," McCotter said. "As

president, I will lead the fundamental restructuring of the federal government for the 21st Century so the economy can grow and generate jobs, opportunity and prosperity.

Martin Van Valkenburg, who manages McCotter's Plymouth office, also downplayed the protest. "The congressman wants to reduce the size of federal spending and big government," Van Valkenburg said. "He wants to send control back to the states. America knows that prosperity lies with the private sector, not the public sector."

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Plymouth office Friday to complain about his support for a

plan to cut the federal workforce 10 percent.

KRISTEN FARMER Protesters picketed outside U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter's

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# Regional Marketplace=

Advertising Feature

Student efforts are recognized as encouragement abounds throughout the studio Metro Dance Company in Plymouth expands

adult, teen and children's dance programs

By DENNIS ZELAZNY ADVERTORIAL WRITER

Dance is an art form that generally refers to movement of the body, usually rhythmic and it can be used as a form of expression and social interaction. Metro Dance Company has been teaching dance and encouraging students since 1997. They have classes for everyone and right now a good time to go into the studio and watch, listen and become inspired.

Metro Dance in Plymouth has 'expanded its list of offerings this fall with more adult and teen classes and a wider range of times and dates for preschool classes.

"We've added more Ballet, Tap

and Hip Hop for both teens and adults," said Kristie Wyler, owner of Metro Dance Company. "We've really increased the choices of times and dates for preschool age dancers with more morning times." They now offer evening Zumba classes with certified teachers for students 16 years and older.

"We really try to offer something for everyone," Wyler said. "We've had a lot of adults say they can't find classes anywhere else around town." Wyler explains that she wants the studio to be a place that you can be comfortable at any skill level. "Our students are encouraged to interact and help each other. We are building a



Three specially equipped studio's are the perfect place to work out routines that could bring home the trophy.

#### Four things every parent should know before choosing a dance studio

I. What type of dance floor is used? Dance is a very physical activity that requires a lot of jumping that can put a lot of stress on bones and joints, and most dance footwear does not provide any cushioning or support. Metro Dance community that is in a very competitive network, and we would like to be known as a welcoming group that genuinely cares for one another while still being dedicated to our craft."

Registration is now open for fall, with classes running Sept. 10 through June 2012. The studio offers classes in Ballet, Cecchetti, Pointe, Jazz, Tap, Lyrical, Modern, Hip Hop, Breaking, Pom, Ballroom, Pilates and Yoga as well as competitive classes for dancers age 6 and older.

Children ages 2.5-5 are offered a fun introduction to the basics of dance, called Preschool Combo, which combines Ballet, Jazz, Tap and Acro. Combo classes foster creativity, freedom and expression in movement and a love for dance.

"A beginning teen level class is available, so even if a 12- or 13year-old has never danced before, they won't be put in with the 6year-olds," Wyler said.

Each year, experienced dancers are welcome to audition for the Metro Dance Company Competition Team. Members meet September through June, compete at 3-4 regional dance competitions and travel out-of-state for a national competition each summer. Competition classes are available in Jazz, Lyrical, Modern, Tap, Hip Hop, Pom and Ballroom. Solo, duo and trios are also available



in discipline of choice. At this years Karahari National Dance Competition in Ohio, Metro Dance Company positioned themselves with the title of —2nd over all.

In addition to all regular excitement in the studio, they offer a Wedding Program that concentrates on a couples "First Dance". The bride and groom will work on a choreographed showpiece that will make the night even more memorable. Many times the parents like to come in for a refresher course too. It's fun to rehearse the traditional Daddy Daughter and Mother and son dances. It's all about having fun together.

#### Metro Dance Company

54I S. Mill (Lilley) Plymouth, MI 48170 Call 734-207-8970 to start dancing today!

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Company uses a "floating" hardwood sprung floor in each of its three dance rooms that absorbs the shock of jumping, helping to prevent injuries.

#### 2. What is the size of the class?

If the dance class has fewer students, each child will receive more personalized attention, learn more and have more fun. Metro Dance Company classes have smaller sizes to make sure no fundamental concepts are missed and to allow teachers to ensure students are not developing bad habits or improper technique.

#### 3. Can I get immediate assistance and customer service?

In many studios, the teacher or studio owner conducts classes and does the administration. Metro Dance Company has an office staff on hand during all regular class times, so students and parents get immediate assistance.

#### 4. What is the studio environment?

Metro Dance Company is committed to providing safe and quality instruction to children and adults of all ages and skill levels. The studio has a relaxed, friendly atmosphere and offers students a choice of technique, recital and/or competitive dance classes. Students are taught about teamwork, having a positive attitude, healthy eating and setting goals.

## Testimonial

"I was a student at Metro Dance for 9 years. Now that I am a dance minor at EMU, I truly appreciate the excellent dance technique and discipline I learned at Metro. I have many amazing memories from my years at the studio and I will never forget the lessons I learned and all of the inspiring people I met. I still love coming back to take class whenever I can!" — Emily Swanson

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#### **INSIDE: HEALTH, B6 . COMMUNITY LIFE, B7**

SECTION B. (CP) SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, 2011 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM SPORTS

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## PREP FOOTBALL WEEK 1



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

After fielding a Walled Lake Central fumble during Thursday's third quarter, Canton senior Zac Merillat (No. 21) romps down the field for a 50-yard touchdown return. Providing blocking help on the play for the Chiefs is junior Matt McKoy (No. 4), while Central players Andrew Goor (No. 42) and Jared Collins (No. 56) try to catch up.

# Fast out of the gate

Jones, Merillat pace attack as Chiefs hammer Vikings in opener

#### **By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer**

Thursday's opener quickly provided the usual offensive juice that fans have come to expect in recent seasons from Canton's varsity football team.

The Chiefs took the opening kickoff and marched 80 yards in eight plays, capped by a highlight-reel 29yard touchdown run by senior halfback Ryan Jones.

Then came a brief, defensive hiccup in the form of a Walled Lake Central touchdown on the Vikings' first drive

For the rest of the night at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's varsity turf field, the Chiefs clicked on all cylinders en route to a 42-14 shellacking of the Vikings.

#### He likes it

"First games are scary," veteran Canton head coach Tim Baechler said. "That's a very, very good football team over there (Central). I'm very pleased."

From the start, the familiar triple-back set paid dividends for the home team.

Senior halfback Zac Merillat racked up gains of 11



Salem stuns Huron

#### **By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer**

They couldn't have scripted Salem's opening football game any better, at least from a blueand-white standpoint.

The 2011 Rocks showed they are made of a different kind of stuff, pulling out a dramatic 21-20 victory in overtime Friday night against host Ann Arbor Huron.

They grew up a little bit, I hope," said a choked-up Salem head coach Kurt Britnell. "We would have lost that game last year. I'm so proud of them."

Salem rallied to tie the game at 14-14 with 4:51 left in the fourth on a quarterback sneak by Jacob Deprez.

During that drive, Deprez found 6-6 senior receiver Ryan Jankowski for gains of 17 and 25 yards.

The Rocks then nearly scored in the final seconds of regulation following a 60-yard catch-and-run by Jankowski down to the Huron five-yard line — which set up a short, potential game-winning field goal try.

However, sophomore kicker Alex Kenrick hit the left upright and the contest moved into overtime (where both teams each get the opportunity to score from the 10-yard line).

Huron had the first crack in OT, and quarterback Alex Hassan completed a third-down pass to Demetrius Sims to make it a 20-14 game.

#### **Comfort zone**

What came next — a blocked extra point by Salem senior allpurpose back Marcus Houston - indicated that things might start to change for the

#### **MU** spikers win 3 straight

In Wednesday's season opener, host MU hit at an impressive .469 percentage to beat visiting University of St. Francis (Ind.), 25-13, 25-13, 25-16.

Senior NAIA All-America Katie Altman led the way with 15 kills and four blocks while hitting at a sizzling .609 clip.

Nastija Baranovska and Miranda Sechler each added eight kills, while sophomore Emilie Freeman (Lutheran High Westland) added a career-high six.

Sophomore setter Evia Prieditis chipped in with 35 assist-to-kills and eight digs, while senior libero Amanda Koszela finished with a team-high 13 digs.

Julie Murray had seven kills and setter Lindsee Weis 19 assists for St. Francis (0-1).

#### **Plymouth boys** netters prevail

Host Plymouth edged Brighton 5-4 Thursday in the conference opener for both varsity boys tennis teams.

Senior Josh Postel and junior Praveen Loganathon won their singles flights, at No. 2 and No. 4 respectively. Postel needed three sets, but got past Mike Bubiarz 6-4, 3-6, 6-4.

In doubles play, the No. 1 tandem of sophomore Jon Conn and junior Dylan Grant gave the Wildcats a 6-3, 6-3 victory.

Following up with three-set wins at the No. 2 and No. 3 doubles flights for Plymouth were juniors Joe Klots-Akash Yerakola and senior Raleigh Belanger and junior Danny Simmott.

Each time, the Wildcats fell behind only to rally.

Klots-Yerakola won 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 over Jeff Walker-Seth Thomsen. At

Please see CHIEFS, B4

Canton senior Zac Merillat celebrates his 50-yard fumble return touchdown, one of the key plays in the Chiefs 42-14 win over Walled Lake Central.

Please see SALEM, B4



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Pounding the volleyball as usual in a 2010 game is Canton's Kristen Muir (No. 4), now entering her senior season.

# Nucleus back to key Canton hopes

#### **By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer**

With most of last year's versatile team back, Canton varsity girls volleyball coach Mary Kryska is looking forward to the 2011 season

The Chiefs finished last season with a record of 26-8-3 overall and tied for third in the KLAA South Division with an 8-2 mark.

Kryska sees no reason why this year's squad can't improve on that ledger. After tournament tuneups such as Saturday's at Livonia Ladywood, the Chiefs open conference play 6:30 p.m. Thursday against visiting Wayne Memorial.

'I have high hopes for this team," Kryska said. "They have great team dynamics and are very talented.

"We just need to put it all together to make it work.'

#### **2011 VOLLEYBALL** PREVIEW - PT.1

PCA preview, page B4

Only two players from 2010 graduated, she said, "so our returning players have tons of varsity experience. All of my players can play multiple positions so the lineup options seem endless."

Two heavy hitters to lead the offense are seniors Kristen Muir (outside or right-side hitter) and Alaina Turner (outside hitter, middle blocker).

Junior Erica den Boer and senior Maggie Deloy also are slotted for either of the hitting positions

Meanwhile, senior Jordan Tubaro will see action at middle blocker or on the right side. Defensively, seniors Lauren

Martin and Jackie Waite will han-

dle the setting duties while senior Alex Bryden and junior Becca Middleton will contribute to Canton's lineup as defensive specialists

Kryska said there are five newcomers to the roster, to help provide much-needed depth.

Those are juniors Jordan Diedrick (right-side hitter, middle blocker), Alexis Madis (middle blocker), Rebecca Lechevalier (middle blocker), Linsey Palise (outside hitter, middle blocker) and Dia Jackson (defensive specialist).

According to Kryska, one area the team is focusing on is "being more mentally tough" and going strong from start-to-finish of matches

"We will face some great competition this year and we need to be both physically and mentally ready," Kryska said.

No. 3, Belanger-Simmott edged Paul Bennett-Austin Smith by a 3-6, 6-4, 7-5 count.

"Very promising," Plymouth head coach Tom Kimball said. "We won all three of the three-set matches and pulled out the win despite being without three of our top guys."

#### Captain's Corner

The Observer again would like to spotlight top student-athletes in the regular Captain's Corner feature.

Coaches are welcome to recommend captains (one per team, please) for consideration.

Please e-mail Tim Smith, sports editor of the Canton and Plymouth Observers, at tsmith@hometownlife. com.



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Bill Dieter and 43-year-

old Maria Dieter are vet-

erans of the triathlon cir-

crack at the Big Apple's

**Bill Dieter finished** 

of 387 men in the Male

84th overall (and 15th out

40-44 age division) with a

time of 2 hours, 20.56 sec-

He finished the swim-

then needed 5:23 to "tran-

sition" to part two of the

bike ride along the Henry

time for his bike ride and

ming portion in 20:13,

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Following a 1:13.29

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kilometer run in Cen-

40:32 to complete the

er placed 31st out of

143 competitors in the

Female 40-44 age divi-

She tallied an overall

time of 2:57.13 (1,440th)

mark via this breakdown:

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swim, 22:24; first transi-

tion, 9:57; bike, 1:27.52;

second transition, 3:25;

and came about that

final segment.

sion.

run, 53:37.

tion to part three (a 10-

tral Park) he needed just

Meanwhile, Maria Diet-

Hudson Parkway)

cuit, it was their first

biggest race.

onds.

# She recalls big race in the Big Apple Dieters solid at NYC race

Editor's note: Plymouth's Bill and Maria Dieter recently shared an incredible experience. participating in the 11th annual Nautica New York City Triathlon.

And Maria wanted to keep on sharing that experience, this time with the readers of the Observer. Following is her in-depth, first-person account:

Bill and I awoke race morning at 3 a.m., like many of the other 4,000 athletes embarking on the Nautica New York **City Olympic Distance** Triathlon - comprised of a 0.9-mile swim, 25-mile bike ride and 6.2-mile run.

The buses which take you to the race site begin departing the hotel at 4 a.m. The streets of NYC are still buzzing at 4 a.m. with traffic, cabs, etc.

Once we departed the bus we made our way over to what is called the 'transition area.' It is where your bike is racked for the race. You go to your bike and check the tires to make sure you don't have an expected flat tire overnight, put your water bottles on your bike so they are ready for you later and drop off your backpack which has all your bike and running gear inside.

Once we confirmed everything was okay with our bikes we grabbed our goggles, race-provided swim caps, wetsuit and began the 1-mile walk down to the swim start. As we walked along Riverside Park in the dark with the other athletes it began to sprinkle ... then it really started to rain pretty hard.

Even though you are about to jump into the Hudson River to swim 0.9 miles it's still bothersome to stand around getting wet!

There is a lot of nervous energy you can sense from the crowd of participants as you stand around the swim start waiting for the race to begin.

Some athletes are newbies to the sport (literally, this race will be their first experience at a triathlon of any distance), others are veterans. Bill and I would consider ourselves veterans as we've been in the sport both about 10 years now, but we still get nervous too before a swim start. I believe it's a very natural feeling and I've heard pros talk about how they get nervous too waiting around at the start of the swim We huddled under a tree to keep dry until it was time to put on our



PHOTO COURTESY BRIGHTROOM.COM Plymouth residents Bill and Maria Dieter are exhausted

but happy after completing the recent Nautica New York City Triathlon.

#### wetsuits and enter our corrals (based on your age) and await our turn to plunge into the Hudson River.

Race morning is complicated further by the rain for most of us. Me included. Since it was raining it was very overcast and made the morning appear much darker than 'normal.' My goggles were a bit old so they seemed foggy when you looked through them which is really just more annoying than anything.

#### **Tragedy mars** swim race

When it was time to begin the race organizer's had athletes walk onto a long platform that fits maybe 30 athletes across. The race organizer's say 'go" and you jump in and go! This is called a timetrial start and it works quite well. The jump off the platform is several feet so when you enter the water your body goes all the way under water for a brief moment.

When you add in all the swim factors that morning, the rain, overcast

in this triathlon. A 64year old man was pulled from the water having suffered a heart attack. It's hard to know if he had a pre-existing heart condition or if it was stress or anxiety of the swim that triggered something for him.

We also heard about a 40-year mother of three that was pulled from the water alive, but unconscious. I read in the papers the next day that she never regained consciousness and passed away also. She was an athlete growing up and appeared to have a fair amount of swimming experience based on the article I read.

This is never what you want to hear or experience at an event that should be filled with fun and new challenges to accomplish. I wouldn't label this sport as dangerous, but there are more swimming related deaths over the years. I believe the sport is growing by leaps and bounds and many people are wanting to experience what it means to

#### Get on the bike

When you exited the swim it was a rather long run back to where our bikes were racked. Once you get to your bike what you want to do is quickly put on your helmet, sunglasses, shoes and be on your way as quickly as possible. The goal is to not spend a lot of time in this transition area.

Unfortunately, it was still raining which means slick roadways and needing to be cautious.

I could tell a lot of riders were inexperienced based on the bike they were riding or how they were riding. Needless to say I being extra cautious when passing people. The 25-mile bike ride was challenging. I had no idea there would be so many rolling hills in Manhattan!

There were a lot of bike accidents due to the slick roadways. A pro woman who was in contention to win hit a pothole on her bike and somersaulted over the bars. She ended up in the hospital, but was okay. She said she thought it was just a puddle and couldn't tell it was actually a pothole.

Once the bike portion of the race is over you head back into the transition area to rack your bike and put on your running shoes.

#### **Running in Central Park**

By this time it had stopped raining and the sun was actually coming which always can make running a challenge. The tral Park.

It was a great experience for me to run in Central Park as I hadn't been to New York before. Central Park has a lot of rolling hills as well. It was a beautiful park. The run was supported very well with volunteers who pass out water to the runner's at each mile stop

The finish was filled with screaming friends, family, and volunteers. It always feels good to finish and you can stop running and walk! After the race Bill and I had a little post-race food, did some stretching, and headed back to our hotel to enjoy the rest of our vacation in NYC.

#### **By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer**

Triathletes such as Bill and Maria Dieter of Plymouth experienced a taste of everything including salt water courtesy of the Hudson River at the recent Nautica New York City Triathlon.

They swam, biked and ran through rain, humidity and scorching heat and competed strong in their respective divisions.

There also was tragedy as two triathletes, ages 40 and 64, died as the result of the open water swim which opened the 11th annual event on Sunday, Aug. 7.

"The swim was very challenging because it was overcast and rainy," Maria Dieter explained. water so you can't help a mouthful.

"There were very big swells and it caused a lot of undue stress and anxiety on competitors."

The 64-year-old, a New Jersey man, reportedly died early Aug. 7 after sustaining a heart attack shortly after jumping into the Hudson.

Cardiac arrest caused the second death. An Illinois woman was taken to an area hospital where she succumbed on Aug. 8.

There were approximately 3,900 competitors

#### **BOYS SOCCER**

out and it heated up quickly. It was so humid outside entire 10K run was in Cen-

"The Hudson River is salt but to occasionally take in

Canton wins on late goal

After opening the regular season with a disappointing 1-0 loss at Northville, Canton returned to its winning ways on Thursday with a 2-1 victory over Novi at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

The Chiefs fell behind early in the game when Novi senior Chase Jabbori took a through ball in the goal box and slipped it past Canton senior goal-

At one end, Murphy held the fort, stopping a couple Novi chances from point-blank range.

Then with just over 10 minutes to play, Krolicki fought through a couple of tackles and was taken down just outside the Novi box.

Senior co-captain Mitch Posuniak took the free kick and found senior co-captain Connor Furgason on the back post for his third marker of the young season. Furgason elevated above everyone else and headed it in for the winner. For the Chiefs (3-1-1), the victory was the fourth in a row over Novi dating back to last season's KLAA championship game and state regional final. Canton improves to 3-1-1 on the season.

skies, the brown water of the Hudson River, the rather large swells coming toward you and the salt water that you can't help but on occasion take in a mouthful, it was an anxiety filled swim for a lot of people.

I heard people yelling for assistance from the rescue volunteers, kayakers and lifeguards onhand.

Unfortunately, there were two deaths this year

say they are a triathlete.

Swimming in a pool is quite different than an open-water swim. I believe for a lot of new triathletes jumping into the Hudson is a rude awakening and can be startling. There is something very stressful about being in the middle of a river and knowing you can't touch the ground if you feel nervous or tired. Panic sets in for a lot of people.

Overall it would say it was a great event, very well organized, but it is overshadowed by the very sad deaths of two participants.

Maria Dieter of Plymouth is a veteran marathon runner and triathlete.

keeper Steven Murphy.

Canton evened the score a little later in the half, when senior defender Tyler Winningham headed in a shot - finishing a play started by senior Shean Krolicki. It was Winningham's second tally so far this year.

In the second half, the teams played a high-energy, aggressive brand of soccer, trading scoring chances.

Canton hosts Walled Lake Western at 7 p.m. Monday.



#### Keep 'em safe

In a survey conducted by the Mayo Clinic, more than 18,000 youth players are treated annually for hockey-related injuries, with inappropriate and ill-fitting equipment among the leading causes.

In an effort to keep play safe, area Play It Again Sports locations (including Canton) are offering free consultations to ensure all equipment will fully protect the players.

Throughout the month of September, Play It Again

Sports will welcome parents and players into the stores to discuss any concerns they may have about proper fit, function and comfort of equipment.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

"When equipment is too worn to protect, the player is at risk for injury,' said Chuck Jones, Play It Again Sports store owner in Southgate and Canton. "And the same goes for equipment that is too big or too small.

"Our staff here is trained to fit players properly for

the upcoming season."

Play It Again Sports stores will offer the chance for anyone with questions or concerns regarding equipment fitting to come in for the free consultation. Any minor adjustments will be done free of charge.

If needed, parents and players can "trade-in and trade-up" to a larger size or more protective equipment. Or they can purchase new equipment if

Please see ROUNDUP, B4





# Whalers training camp, benefit game on tap

Training camp and the annual benefit game for the Farmington Hills Hockey Association are just a few days away for the Plymouth Whalers.

Players report Wednesday to Compuware Arena for off-ice testing and medical example

The Ontario Hockey League team then will hit the ice in scrimmages from 9-to-11 a.m. and 2-to-4 p.m. both Thursday and Friday. The scrimmages are free and open to the public and media. Rosters will be provided the days of the scrimmages.

National Hockey League drafts J.T. Miller (first round, NY Rangers, 2011), Stefan Noesen (first round, Ottawa, 2011), Rickard Rakell (first round, Anaheim), Scott Wedgewood (3rd round, New Jersey, 2010),



WALT DMOCH

Plymouth Whalers (from left) Stefan Noesen, Scott Wedgewood, Austin Levi and Garrett Meurs — all NHL draft picks — will hit the ice for training camp on September 1 at Compuware Arena.

Austin Levi (3rd round, Carolina, 2010), Garrett Meurs (5th round, Colorado, 2011) and Matt Mahalak (6th round, Carolina, 2011) will all be participating in the scrimmages. In addition, Whaler fans will also get their first look at over-age center Andy Bathgate (over from Belleville in a trade) and get reacquainted with rookies Mitchell Dempsey, Danny Vanderwiel, Matt Mistele, Jake

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Patterson, Chris Lindner and Michael Bunn.

Fans coming to Compuware Arena for the scrimmages should be aware of construction on the CSX railroad crossing on Beck Road just south of the arena.

Northbound and southbound Beck will be closed at the tracks during the project. The construction runs from Monday through Thursday. A potential alternative route is taking Sheldon Road north to Five Mile. Turn west (left) on Five Mile to Beck. Turn south (left) on Beck to Compuware Arena.

#### Farmington 'Faceoff'

Plymouth's first preseason game is 7 p.m. Saturday against Windsor at the Farmington Hills Ice Arena in the "Faceoff in Farmington." The game is sponsored

by Art Moran Buick-GMC-Mitsubishi, with proceeds going to the Farmington Hills Hockey Association.

Before the game, fans can participate in a pregame skate from 5:30to-6:30pm with Whalers mascot Shooter for \$2. After the game, the Whalers will be participating in Meet-and-Greet and Autograph session.

The Farmington Hills Ice Arena is located at

35500 Eight Mile Road. Fans interested in purchasing tickets from the Farmington Hills Hockey Association can contact Marjann Lawson at *secretary@fghhahockey.org.* Tickets are also available at the Whalers Box Office by calling (734) 453-8400. The "Faceoff in Farmington" marks the third straight year Plymouth has played on a neutral site to start the pre-season.

Plymouth continues the preseason by playing in Windsor on Monday, Sept. 5 at 2 p.m. n Windsor; and will complete the preseason on Fri. Sept. 9 in London and Sat. Sept. 10 against London in St. Thomas, ON at Timken Arena.

The Whalers open the regular season on Wednesday, Sept. 21 in Owen Sound against the OHL-champion Attack, with the home opener at 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24 against Erie. Tickets for all Plymouth games are available by contacting the Compuware Arena box office at (734) 453-8400.





# Saturday, September 10th 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Livonia Branch -37401 Plymouth Rd.

#### We are doing this for your safety!

Today we need to be more and more concerned what we put in the trash and it's so important to shred everything with personal information. If you have a lot of paperwork that needs to be shredded and it's just too much for your home shredder, we can help.

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#### LOCAL SPORTS

# Eagles aim to stay in flight

#### **By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer**

**Plymouth Christian** Academy's Malcolm in the middle is back, along with other players who enjoyed last season's ride to the Class D girls volleyball finals.

With senior All-Stater middle blocker Kristin Malcolm back for another crack at a championship, not to mention several others who were key contributors to the team's 30-10-2 mark in 2010, it looks like the Eagles will soar again this autumn.

This group of seniors has really carried us the past few years," PCA head coach Kelly Blackney said. "So this is now their year I feel to really shine and hopefully we'll be able to accomplish what we did last year.'

In addition to Malcolm, other seniors' looking to go out on a high note are outside hitter Amy Zinn, right-side hitter Sarah Howard, defensive specialist Leah Manning, libero Jessica Rich and right-side hitter/middle blocker Katie McCormick.

But because of the graduation of several starters from the '10 team that rolled through the MIAC (10-0, first place), Blackney is retooling her lineup a bit.

One of this year's players to watch is Rich, taking over from 2011 graduate Abby Bartes at the crucial libero position.

"My libero (Bartes) graduated last year, so Jessica Rich, who was a defensive player last year is our libero right now," Malcolm said. "She's been doing a very good job of stepping up and assuming that spot.'

Just as importantly, sophomore Jenny Mal-



Kristin Malcolm (No. 6), shown from a 2010 game, will again be counted on for stellar play at the front row for Plymouth Christian Academy.

#### 2011 VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW — PT.1

colm is taking over the key setter position - filling the void left when Bri Harris graduated.

With 6-0 Kristin up front and 6-0 Jenny in the back, it could often be a Malcolm-to-Malcolm production on the offensive front, the coach noted.

'She's really running our offense to her sister, Kristin, who turned out to be a first-team All-State player last year because of her offense," Blackney said. "Definitely the Malcolms will be a strong presence."

#### Depth up front

With another 2010 starting hitter (Folake Olojo) also graduating, the Eagles are leaning on 6-0 Howard, 5-9 Zinn, 5-9 McCormick and 5-7 junior Mary Anleitner to provide offensive spark from the front row.

"We definitely have a tall team and Sarah (Howard) is another middle for us, and a rightside," Blackney said. "She can just hit the ball where

defenses can never be. So she's really stepped up this year. And Amy Zinn, our outside hitter, hits pretty hard, too.'

One of the players who could make an impact on defense is Manning, who the coach brought up from JV during last year's playoff run.

"She worked so hard in the off-season and she's now a very good player for us in our defense (in) the back row," Blackney said.

Rounding out the roster are sophomore right-side hitter Rachael Fuller and freshman defensive specialist Kelsey Williamson

PCA finished second in the Gold Bracket at the recent Battle Creek St. Philip Carrie Adams Memorial Tournament and took part Saturday in a tourney at Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard.

After that, the Eagles will embark on their conference schedule 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13, against visiting Ann Arbor Greenhills.

> tsmith@hometownlife.com (734) 718-5306



## CHIEFS

Continue from page B1

and 14 yards while senior halfback Kevin Buford also helped out with runs of six and five yards.

The latter gave Canton a second down at the Central 29, and Jones - seven carries for 102 yards and three TDs - did the rest on the next play.

"There's definitely a lot of adrenaline (in an opener)," Jones noted. "At the snap of the ball my heart was pounding so much."

If there was a slip-up at all, it came in Central's first series. The Vikes embarked on a 67-yard scoring march to make it a 7-7 game.

Quarterback Zac Leimbach ran nine times for 55 yards, including a seven-yard TD to cap the drive.

Baechler and his defensive coaches immediately made adjustments to stop Leimbach from that point on, and it mostly worked. Leimbach finished with 83 yards rushing in 15 carries.

Canton regained the lead for good with 9:04 to go in the first half when Buford scored from five vards out.

It was another 80-vard drive and all three starting backs chipped in with gains of at least 10 yards.

Three minutes later came one of the key plays of the contest. A low snap to Central punter Colby Morris bounced inside the 15 where a Canton player pounced on it.

On the very next play, Canton senior quarterback Kyle Adams rolled around right end for a 14yard score.

"That botched snap allowed us to end the punt (attempt) and we capitalized," Baechler said. "It gave us a 14-point lead and definitely was a turning point in the game."

#### **Highlight-reel** worthy

At halftime, the coach emphasized to his players about not letting up and Canton's defense heeded those words. On the third play of the





BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton senior running back Ryan Jones (No. 14) is greeted by senior tight end Nick Tata (No. 88) after Jones scored one of his three opening night touchdowns.

second half, senior defensive lineman Devante Watkins put a big hit on Central running back K.J. Schultz (17-65) and knocked the football loose.

Merillat collected the pigskin near the midfield stripe, spun his way out of traffic and scooted down the right sideline for a 50-yard fumble return touchdown.

"I was in pursuit of the football and one of our players (Watkins) had a nice hit, put his helmet on the ball and popped it out," Merillat recalled. "It was kind of a blur. I saw it on the ground, picked it up and the defense did a nice job of getting people off me in that big pile.

"I just saw green and ran ... It just happened, you know? Just instincts."

Baechler couldn't hold back a smile when talking about Merillat getting rewarded for his usual all-out play.

"That was just what the doctor ordered," Baechler said. "A good hit caused the fumble and Zac just, he's all hustle. He never takes a play off.

"He's the hardest working kid on the team and it was pure poetic justice that he was the one that scooped and scored that, because he's always hustling.

Central's next offensive series was three-and-out and the Chiefs quickly padded their lead.

**Keeping it coming** Adams only threw one

junior tight end Cameron Werner (seven catches pass all night (not including a two-point conversion), but it was a 34yarder over the middle to Buford to move the chains down to the Vikings' 16.

Merillat and Buford (who combined for more than 80 yards rushing) ran for two and six yards, respectively, to give Canton a first down and goal at the nine-yard line.

Following Central's third offsides of the night, Jones bulled his way just inches outside the goal line.

He finished the job on the next play, opening up a 34-7 advantage with five minutes left in the third.

The Chiefs tacked on another TD with 8:02 left in the game, on Jones' third score of the night (this one from 18 yards).

Providing a big spark on the series was 5-5 junior running back Malcolm Hollingsworth with runs of 14, 10 and 39 yards.

Then came Adams' twopoint toss to senior Evan Rinke to give the Chiefs a 35-point spread at 42-7 and start the running scoreboard clock.

Central later scored a meaningless touchdown on a 19-yard pass from Nick Timmons to Tim Tanzillo in the final moments.

Canton next will visit Grand Blanc, with the game slated for 7 p.m. Thursday.

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turned out to be a 98-yard scoring drive.

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Continue from page B1

for the young Rocks. Deprez didn't waste any time when Salem lined up from the 10. He hit Jankowski inside the front-right corner on the first play. Kenrick then won the game anyway, with the subsequent extra point.

"Once we blocked the extra point I was ecstatic because I knew we could pull it off," Deprez said. "The first play I hit my friend Ryan Jankowski in the end zone and I knew it was a wrap from there."

The tandem gave Huron defenders a tough time throughout the game, as Deprez (25-41, 362 yards passing) threw often in Jankowski's direction. Jankowski caught 11

passes for 205 yards. Also coming up big for

the Rocks' offense were Houston (65 yards receiving, 38 yards rushing) and

#### ROUNDUP

Continue from page, B2

anything is missing.

"In many cases, equipment is handed down from a neighbor or sibling, and a lot of times the recipient might not understand how it should be used or fit," Jones said. "What people can do is bring their equipment into the stores anytime.

"We don't care if you bought it from us or not - we're happy to offer this as a free service to determine if it's safe and fitted properly and not worn out."

Play It Again Sports in metro Detroit has a passion and a history of championing the cause for youth sports safety.

The 10 locations have come together before to provide consultations during previous seasons to ensure that children who are pursuing their athletic ambitions will do so with the proper protection to allow for the greatest possible experience.

for 62 yards).

Many of Deprez's completions were made while he scrambled for his life. Having Jankowski at the other end didn't hurt his confidence.

"It's amazing," Deprez said. "I know I can just throw it up to him and he'll get it.'

The River Rats got on the scoreboard first, on a 49-yard TD pass from Hassan to Blaise Stearns.

#### **Early turning point**

Lost in the shuffle was a crucial defensive play that kept Huron from tacking on a second score during the second quar-

Salem junior Andrew Kelty intercepted a pass at the Rocks' two-yard line, with under three minutes to play in the first half.

Big gainers by Houston (an 11-yard run) and Jankowski (a 19-yard catch) sparked what

#### Fall baseball

The 11th annual Total Baseball fall baseball league will be through Sept. 25 at the Madonna University's Ilitch Ballpark, Founders Sports Park in Farmington Hills, Novi-Detroit Catholic Central High School and at Total Baseball-Wixom

The 10-game schedule on Saturday (American) and Sunday (National) includes the following age group divisions: 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, high school JV and high school varsity (wooden bats only on Sunday).

The cost is \$250 per player (jerseys, hats and coaches are provided). Team fees are \$1,200 (ages 9-14) and \$1,500 (JV and varsity) and includes umpires, fields and standings.

For more information, call Total Baseball at (248) 668-0166; or e-mail aaronk@ totalsportscomplex.com.

To register online, visit www.totalsportscomplex.com.

Houston finished it off with a zig-zagging 25yard run, with 32 seconds before intermission.

Huron regained the lead (14-7) when senior tailback Parish Jacobs scampered down the right sideline for a 62yard touchdown.

The River Rats had a chance to go up by 10 points early in the fourth. But Ryan Embree's 27yard field goal attempt like Kenrick's later misfortune --- hit the left goal post.

After the game, the Rocks raced over to trade high fives with the packed visitors bleachers, another sign of good things to come.

"We're definitely over the hump," Deprez said. "Last year this team could not win these kind of games and this year we definitely can."

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**B5** 



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# HEALTH

#### SHARON DARGAY, EDITOR SDARGAY@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM (313) 222-8833 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# Study at Wayne State helps develop cancer treatment

Lori A. Pile, assistant professor of molecular cell biology at Wayne State University, recently received \$1.39 million from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences to study how a DNA-protein structure called chromatin regulates cell division and growth.

Her findings are aimed at supporting the development of cancer treatments that are currently undergoing clinical trials.

Chromatin resembles a long DNA "string" wrapped around pro-tein "beads." When certain molecules, called chromatin modifiers, react with the protein beads, the entire chromatin structure either decompresses or coils up tightly. "Chromatin modification depends on whether the proteins were acetylated or deacetylated - in other words, what kind of modifier reacted with the protein," said Pile.

There are two main types of chromatin modifiers. One loosens the structure and the other tightens it. A balance of both is required for normal cell division and cell multiplication. But when the balance tips in favor of one kind, called histone deacetylases, cells can multiply too much, Pile said. Cancer is often the culprit.

That's why deacetylation is being targeted by researchers looking for a way to treat patients with cancer

"While a number of chromatin modifiers are currently being tested as anti-cancer agents in clinical trials, the molecular mechanisms behind their cancer-killing properties are not well understood," said Pile. "Our study is anticipated to clarify these mechanisms and



Lori A. Pile, WSU researcher

refine the molecular tools designed to target cancer."

For more information about research at Wayne State University, visit http://www.research. wavne.edu.

# Parents, drivers can help walkers stay safe

With the start of the school year quickly approaching, physicians from the University of Michigan C.S. Mott Children's Hospital are urging parents and drivers to do their part to keep kids safe as they walk to school. To avoid potentially fatal accidents, both pedestrians and drivers need to take extra precautions this fall.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 25,000 children, ages 5-14, are injured as pedestrians each year in the United States. Injuries sustained from a pedestrian-related incident, which often includes severe trauma to the brain, are a leading cause of injuries at

C.S. Mott.

"Kids who are struck by cars are among the most severely injured children we see in the Emergency Department. Because of their height, when a car hits a child, the impact is to the head and torso. This puts the brain and internal organs at risk for serious injuries," says Dr. Michelle Macy, M.D., a clinical lecturer of emergency medicine at the U-M Medical School.

To avoid an accident, experts suggest parents familiarize their children with the route to school prior to the first day of classes.

"Parents should be proactive and take the time to talk about safety with their kids

Affordable,

before they head back to school," says Amy Teddy, injury prevention program manager at C.S. Mott. "It's recommended that parents walk the route to school with students before the start of the year to assess hazards and select a course with the least number of traffic crossings.

"It's also important to remember that schoolage children don't have the ability to judge distances or speed, so they are more likely to try to cross a street when a car is too close to stop in time," Teddy says.

Adults can teach and model safety behavior for their children: · Always cross the street with an adult until age 10.

· Cross the street at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks when possible.

· Look left, right and left again when crossing.

· Always walk, never run, when crossing streets.

· Walk on sidewalks or paths. · Walk facing traf-

fic as far to the left as possible if there are no sidewalks.

Many pedestrian-related injuries treated at U-M are caused by distracted drivers. Physicians recommend that drivers who are passing by schools pay particular attention to their surroundings, put their cell phone conversations on hold, and slow down.

#### MEDICAL DATEBOOK

#### **AQUATIC CLASSES**

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Arthritis Foundation have partnered to offer aquatic classes designed to ease the pain of arthritis. Classes are held 10-11 a.m., Tuesday and Thursday at the Farmington branch; 1-1:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Livonia branch; and 2-3 p.m. Wednesday and Friday, at the Birmingham branch. All classes are offered to members and nonmembers of every age and participants do not need to know how to swim to participate. To join, interested individuals can contact their local YMCA branch or visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

#### **ARTHRITIS SUPPORT** GROUP

2-3:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at the Krieger Center, DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Drive, Commerce. Enter the building via the South Garden entrance. Registration not required.

#### **BREAST CANCER SUP-**PORT GROUP

Meets 6:30-8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan Road), Livonia. Call (734) 655-1100, or visit www. stmarymercy.org.

#### **BIPOLAR SUPPORT**

**Depression Bipolar Support** Alliance meets 6:30-8 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesday at Lincoln Behavioral Services Center, 14500 Sheldon Road, Suite 160B, Plymouth. It is accessed through the Plymouth Executive Park driveway north of M-14. It is a self-help group for people suffering from depression and bipolar disorders. Meetings are open also to family members. All DBSA leaders are professionally trained and attend two trainings for every year to update their skills in leading the group. Call Nancy at (734) 536-3457 or Katrina (734) 837-7700 with questions.

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#### **CAREGIVERS SUPPORT** GROUPS

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#### **CPR CLASSES**

Classes range from basic CPR for people who wish to know how to help save a life to certification for those who need CPR for work and state licensure, at DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Drive, Commerce. First aid classes also available. Classes offered weekday evenings and Saturday mornings. Price varies. Pre-registration required at www.hvsh. org/hvsh/calendar or call (248) 937-3314.

#### FITNESS CLASSES

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# **COMMUNITY LIFE**

# Cosmetologist enlists peers to aid at-risk girls overseas

#### **By Sharon Dargay** O&E staff writer

B7. (WGcReLCP) SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, 2011 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC** HOMETOWNLIFE COM

Kayla McCormack spent the last six months travelling from coast to coast, learning the ins and outs of the cosmetology industry.

The 21-year-old Livonia resident took the lessons she learned to heart.

Since returning home Aug. 14 from her tour with the "Spread the Love" program sponsored by Matrix hair products, McCormack has been busy organizing her first benefit, Fashion for Freedom, which will raise money for Rapha House, a Missouri-based nonprofit that rescues children and teens from slavery and sexual exploitation in Southeast Asia. Proceeds from the fashion show and auction on Sept. 9 at the Village Theater in Canton will benefit Rapha House's prevention program for at-risk girls.

"I really wanted to put together an event that would compile the industry - cosmetologists, make up artists, musicians, photographers, fashion designers -- something that would connect all of us, highlight new talent and, of course, benefit the prevention center."

"When we were travelling we had so many opportunities to be involved in (charitable) events. I loved doing



Kayla McCormack is interviewed during the Spread the Love contest sponsored by Matrix.

fashion shows. It was so cool to see how much the beauty industry the external stuff, makeup, hair, nails and skin care - really does change people's lives. I really believe if we can touch people on the outside we'll be able to touch them on the inside. That's always been my personal experience with the industry.'

The 2008 Churchill High School graduate earned a spot on the Spread the Love team after applying for the program online, garnering support from fellow students at L' esprit Academy, and edging out 16 other candidates from across the country in a round of formal interviews in New York. She was one of six recent beau-



Kayla McCormack is organizing a fashion show and silent auction to benefit Rapha House, an organization based in Joplin, Mo., that rescues children and teens from slavery and sexual exploitation in Southeast Asia.



Kayla McCormack's photo is shown on stage at Matrix.

ty school graduates accepted into the program.

'We were in 30 states in six months. I worked with some of the leading artists in the industry. Matrix gave us the opportunity of a lifetime to travel and be

hands-on in our careers as cosmetologists."

**Personal interest** After learning about Rapha House from a stylist she met during her travels, McCormack contacted the organization and

inquired about internships in Cambodia.

"I've always had a heart for girls who have been human trafficked. I became interested in Rapha House because their main goal is to rescue children and rehabilitate and train them in a career. One of the career paths is cosmetology, which I thought was pretty cool.

After months on the road, she decided to finish requirements for an associate's degree at Schoolcraft College this fall and began organizing the charity event in lieu of an internship.

Anyone in attendance will be blessed because they will be a blessing to others. All of the models are awesome and the show will be fun."

McCormack person-

Please see GIRLS, B8



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COMMUNITY LIFE

# Popular flea market returns

#### by Sharon Dargay O&E staff writer

If you like garage sales, you'll love the Livonia Historical Societv's annual flea market on Sunday, Sept. 11.

"You never know what you'll find," said Linda Wiachek, recreation supervisor for the city of Livonia. "One gal I know bought a silver tray. She said 'I paid 75 cents for this.' She cleaned off the tarnish and it looks like a million bucks

"If a person likes going to garage sales and finding treasure, this is a great place.'

Treasure-hunters will shop 160 vendor booths from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Greenmead Historical Park, located at Eight Mile and Newburgh in Livonia.

Admission is \$2. Children under 12 are admitted at no charge. Refreshments will be available

Wiachek expects

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Judy Opiela checks out a tea pot at a previous Livonia Historical Society flea market.

between 3,000-5,000 visitors to attend the show, which includes a mix of collectibles, antiques and garage sale items.

"We don't allow used clothing, which makes it appear a lot better and look neater. Most people bring out household items ... a lot of whatnots from their houses.' Proceeds from the

event benefit preservation of the historic park.

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"Our current huge project is restoration of the Simmons Hill House. That's where the money will be funneled,' Wiachek said. "The entire building (interior) is under restoration. It's going to be absolutely awesome."

Joshua Simmons, a farmer, built the Greek Revival farmhouse in 1841. When Sherwin Hill, an attorney, bought the property in 1920, he modernized the house with indoor plumbing and electricity. The city of Livonia bought the house in 1976 from the Hill estate.

"The Hills changed the staircase. They created a library out of a woodshed. The kitchen looks like it came from the 1950s. It was modernized not just once, but a couple times.'

When restoration is complete, the inside of the house will look "more like Hill than Simmons" and the exterior will maintain its 19th century appearance.

The Simmons Hill house is closed because of architectural work, but other buildings in the village will be open for tours from noon to 3 p.m. during the flea market.

For more information about the flea market or other Greenmead programs, call (248) 477-7375.



Kayla McCormack works on a customer.

## GIRLS

Continued from page B7

ally experienced her profession's healing touch a few years ago while struggling with the aftermath of a sexual assault. She was preparing for the fall semester at the University of Minnesota and hadn't told her parents about the assault when she went to her

"She spun me around in the chair and looked at me in the mirror and put her hands on my shoulder and said, Kayla, you are beautiful and I believe in you. Even if you can't believe in yourself right now there are people who will believe for vou and we know you're going to do great things in your life and that your hands will touch people's lives."

the assault. She went home to her family, Jeff and Katrina McCormack and younger sister, Rebekah, and her church, Northville Christian Assembly.

"I've had a great supportive family and church family. Fortunately the Lord has given me a lot of peace."

She started classes at Schoolcraft College and then switched to L' esprit Academy, realizing her heart was in cosmetology

"I started learning how to feel good about the outside and take care of my skin and hair. I started investing in myself externally and I'm not saying that's what made me better, but it definitely aided in my healing process. It was at that point I remembered what my cosmetologist had said to me. She had touched my life. And I didn't realize it until then what a great impact cosmetologists can have on the life of their clients.'



McCormack cut short her university experience because she was still wrestling with issues stemming from the assault. She went home to her family, Jeff and Katrina McCormack and younger sister, Rebekah, and her church, Northville Christian Assembly.

hair stylist.

McCormack cut short her university experience because she was still wrestling with issues stemming from





ovenant with Kick-Off Speakers, Greg and Julie Alexander Founders & Directors of the **Alexander House Apostolate** Friday Sept. 9th at 7 pm In the School Cafeteria In the School Calcuenta "Covenant of Love" is a marriage ministry founded by Greg and Julie Alexander and dedicated to proclaiming the beauty, goodness, and truth of God's plan for marriage. Married for 24 years and the parents of 7, their program flourishes in more than 70 parishes throughout the U.S. and is beginning at St. Michael's this month. The group will meet on the second Friday of each month to explore the many facets and treasures of Christian Marriage and is open to all married or engaged couples of any religious denomination at no charge. St. Michael the Archangel School 11441 Hubbard Rd. (South of Plymouth Rd.) Livonia 734.261.1455 • www.livoniastmichael.org \* Arthritis Today JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY 18829 Farmington Road Livonia, Michigan 48152

#### **ARTHRITIS IN** COMBINATIONS

In arthritis one condition may make another one appear worse than it really is. The best example is if a person has both a back problem and osteoarthritis of the knees

The knee arthritis causes a loss of normal gait and posture. The person walks slightly bent and favors the side of the good knee. This change in posture strains the back. If the back has previously developed a slight arthritis from aging or past injury, this new strain suffices to cause a persistent back pain.

When evaluating a patient with back strain, the physician, after checking out the back, will next examine the knees. If he finds arthritis of the knee, he will attend to that problem first. If the knee arthritis clears, and back pain remains, then the doctor will start investigating the back problem with X-rays, MRI and possibly a trial of physical therapy.

Experience tells doctors that the best course of action is that treating the knee arthritis often improves the patient's walking and standing sufficiently that stress on the back either disappears or becomes a minor problem

A similar combination of problems exists in the shoulder. A patient with arthritis of the shoulder feels the arthritis is spreading" because pain is now in the neck or down the arm. What has happened is that impaired shoulder motion puts strain on neck muscles and arm tendons causing them to ache from overuse. The physician will treat the shoulder problem. Only if the shoulder pain resolves, and arm or neck pain remains, will the doctor evaluate those problems.

# Rescue groups appeal for donations, foster help

Zena, a mastiff/boxer mix, has had a tough year.

When the Wayne County Sheriff's Department found Zena in January at a house they raided for drugs, she was chained to a fence, emaciated next to her dead canine companion - in the snow.

Livonia-based Tail Wagger's 1990 assisted with her rescue and Debbie Groves of Redford stepped up to foster Zena. Groves, a vet tech, decided to make the arrangement permanent and adopted her.

When Groves recently noticed a lump on the dog's ear, she took her to the vet for a diagnosis and "the results came back confirming it was a mass-cell tumor.'

"After everything Zena had been through and survived I couldn't believe she had to conquer something else as traumatic.'

Zena's ear was amputated and her veterinarian is waiting for lab results to determine the best course of treatment. She will require additional surgeries if more cancerous "bumps and lumps" develop.

Tail Wagger's 1990 runs an emergency assistance program for pet owners who need help paying for veterinary care in an unexpected medical crisis. The organization is accepting donations to help pay for Zena's medical care through Paypal at www.tailwaggers1990. org. Contributions also can be mailed to Sheehy Animal Hospital, 18790 Middlebelt, Livonia, MI 48154

Tail Wagger's 1990 is a nonprofit organization committed to helping individuals help animals. For more information call Laura Zain, Tail

Markets

Services



Zena may need more surgery to stay cancer-free in the future.



Emma Frost, a three-yearold Husky enjoys a belly rub.

Wagger's 1990 founder at (734) 560-4660 or e-mail her at tailwaggers.1990@ yahoo.com.

#### **Foster needed**

Emma Frost beat the odds. The small, blueeyed, white Siberian Husky had been left at the door of a veterinarian's office with instructions from her former owners to euthanize her. They no longer wanted their three-year-old pet. But a member of Guardian Angels Animal Rescue (GAAR) happened to be there on the day the



dog was scheduled to die and intervened. The rescued pup is safe, but the Livonia-based organization is looking for a foster home. Emma Frost gets along with children and other animals, according to Sandy Mezza, GAAR founder.

Anyone interested in fostering Emma Frost can e-mail to guardian\_ angel\_rescue@hotmail. com. GAAR offers dogs and cats for adoption from 1-4 p.m. every Saturday at PetSmart, 385 Haggerty, in Commerce Township. For more information visit its Web site at www.gaarmichigan.org or call its hotline at (734) 516-2171.

- By Sharon Dargay

# Detroit Zoo welcomes educators this week

The Detroit Zoological Society will present its fourth annual open house for school teachers, administrators and superintendents 4-7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 1 at the Detroit Zoo's Ford Education Center. Zoolastic Achievement 2011 will offer educators and youth group leaders the opportunity to enjoy food, fun, fellowship and live entertainment as they learn about science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics offerings at the Detroit Zoo and Belle Isle Nature Zoo.

The free event will give insight into programs that teach important concepts about animals, habitats and ecosystems in alignment with the Michigan curriculum framework, grade level content expectations and high school content expectations. The event will also offer tips on planning and optimizing school group visits with guided tours, self-led tours, scavenger hunts, interactive education presentations and backpack programs. Tram tours of the zoo will highlight animal habitats and exhibits that feature interactive learning options.

Attendees will learn about the Detroit Zoological Society's newest educational opportunities - including Science On a Sphere, the Wild Adventure 3-D/4-D Theater and the Berman Academy for Humane Education as well as the Ford Education Center's Interpretive Studios, DTE Energy Foundation Humane Science Lab and Handelman Discovery Studio. Guests will meet David Gakure, a Kenyan conservationist and Detroit Zoological Society education specialist, who engages students at the zoo and in the classroom with stories of people and wildlife in the African Grasslands.

Online registration for Zoolastic Achievement 2011 is available until Aug. 30, at www.detroitzoo.org/zoolastic/. Walk-ins are also welcome.



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Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear themself at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.



Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

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

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

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

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#### REUNIONS

Send class reunion information to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife. com

#### **BELLEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL**

#### **CLASS OF 1971**

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

#### **DEARBORN FORDSON**

#### **CLASS OF 1954**

A 57-year reunion luncheon is planned for Oct. 6 at the Stitt American Legion Hall, Post 232 in Dearborn Heights. For more information call Nancy Barlow Gaspar at (313) 581-6623 or e-mail to Pat Gaston Chiesa at patc629@aol.com.

#### **CLASSES OF 1943-45**

11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sept. 16, at Park Place, 23400 Park, Dearborn. Luncheon will be served. Cost is \$20 per person. Send a check payable to Class of 1944 to Dolores Dysarz Hausch, 2100 N. Martha, Dearborn, MI 48128. For more information, call Dolores at (313) 278-4707.

#### **DEARBORN HEIGHTS ROBICHAUD**

#### **CLASS OF 1961**

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

#### DEARBORN HEIGHTS CRESTWOOD

#### **CLASS OF 1981**

30-year reunion, 6 p.m. to midnight, Sept. 17 at Crystal Gardens, 5768 Grand River, Howell. Space is limited. Contact Cathy (Mamo) Dedakis at dedakis@chartmi.net, (810) 923-6446 or Sue (Toundaian) Turner at turnercrew@ comcast.net, (734) 812-2937.

#### DETROIT MACKENZIE

#### **CLASSES OF 1950-69**

Noon to 6 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11, the Plymouth-Riverside Recreation Area, just west of Haggerty, in Edward Hines Park. Bring your own lunch and beverage or you can purchase hot dogs, chips, pop, and ice cream at the park. There will be an area reserved for Classic Cars (hot rod or custom), and music with a DJ. For more information, contact www.classcreator.com/Detroit-MI-Mackenzie-1960 or call Janet Cable Lauster at (734) 377-4009 or Dick Jankowski at (248) 685-8031.

#### JUNE CLASS OF 1961

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

#### CLASS OF 1962

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

#### FERNDALE HIGH SCHOOL

#### CLASS OF 1961

4:10-4:25 p.m., Friday, Sept. 9, gathering time at the high school, followed by dinner at 6 p.m. at Rosie O'Grady's, 279 W. Nine Mile, Ferndale. The reunion continues at 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10, at Somerset Inn, 2601 W. Big Beaver, Troy, with a social hour, followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Weekend concludes with a final farewell and snack 12:30-1 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 11, at Dugan's 31501 Woodward Avenue, Royal Oak. Bill Stenbak at (231) 544-6522.

#### GARDEN CITY EAST & WEST

**CLASSES OF 1966-67** 

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

#### **GARDEN CITY HIGH SCHOOL**

#### CLASS OF 1986

25-year reunion, Saturday, Oct. 15. E-mail Trish First (Patty Buggy) for more information at pm2b2005@yahoo.com or contact Kristy Hickson (Roberts) on Facebook.

#### GARDEN CITY EAST

#### **CLASS OF 1981**

30-year reunion, 7 p.m.-5 a.m. Friday, Sept. 16, at the Sheraton of Novi. \$75/person and discount on rooms. Includes entree, beer, wine, soft drinks and many extras. Classmates from other year classes also are invited. Contact Glenn at JudeGT@ wowway.com or (734) 564-0324.

#### GARDEN CITY WEST

#### **CLASS OF 1981**

30-year reunion, 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Oct. 22, at the Hellenic Cultural Center, Livonia. \$45 per person; \$90 per couple. Payment must be received by Sept. 1. No tickets will be sold at the door. Send a check or money order made payable to GC West Class of 1981, 32511 Windsor, Garden City, MI 48135. Questions? Call Erin, (734) 751-2424.

# Girl Scouts lend a hand at state museum

# Local Scouts to help with milestone

Megan McHugh of Plymouth spent a week last month working at the Michigan Historical Museum. She helped create a display to promote a major exhibit that will kick off the Girl Scout centennial next year.

Megan and other Girl Scouts who attended the Historical Museum Day Camp discovered just how much work it takes to assemble a 2,000-square-foot exhibit. Sponsored by the Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan, the exhibit will open to the public on March 10, 2012.

After two intense days in the classroom, the girls toured the Museum's storage facility, learned how to care for Girl Scout artifacts and created three display cases to promote next year's 100th anniversary exhibit, "Follow the Girls! 100 Years of Girl Scouting." Their displays are on view in the museum.

Megan said she has



Megan McHugh (left) and Elisabeth Goetz work with Girl Scout dolls.

"much more appreciation for museum exhibits, now that I know how hard they are to create." Sandra Clark, director of the Michigan Historical Center, was a Girl Scout in the 1960s and attended the national 1962 Girl Scout Roundup in Button Bay, Vt. Clark's mementos of her experience became the basis of one of the girls' displays, complete with scrapbook, newspaper clippings, patches and a jacket.

Susan Cooper, team leader for the Girl Scout exhibit, JoAnn Arasim, educator, and Scott Peters, collections historian, organized the day camp for the Girl Scouts.

"The girls' interest and enthusiasm were just delightful," said Cooper. "It was exciting for all of us to see them succeed at actual historical research," she said, explaining that the girls used old Detroit city directories to verify names of early Girl Scouts in vintage photos.

Volunteers on the Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan "history team" are collecting Girl Scout artifacts for possible use in the museum exhibit, which will run through Aug. 31, 2012. The history team also is looking for Girl Scout alumnae to record their stories. Former and current Girl Scouts who are interested in helping with the museum exhibit, can contact the team at HistoryTeam@gshom.org. To learn more about

Girl Scouts Hearth of Michigan, visit www. gshom.org.



1

1

(CP) B11





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**RELIGION CALENDAR** 

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

#### Aug. 28-31

#### **CRAFTERS NEEDED**

Time/Date: Accepting applications now Location: Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia

Details: Crafters sought for fall craft show, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Oct. 15. Space rental is \$25. \$5 per table or bring your own table. Spots are limited to three crafters per category and one vendor per product

Contact: (734) 464-0990 or e-mail rpoffice@arounddetroit.biz

#### **PROGRAMS OFFERED**

Time/Date: 11 a.m., Sunday, Aug. 28 Location: St. Hilary Church, 23901 Elmira, Redford Details: A short meeting will be held to explain the programs offered by the church for both adults and children Contact: Sr. Marie Miller at (313) 533-1560

#### Sept. 1-14

#### **BIBLE STUDY**

Time/Date: 9:25-11:15 a.m., Tuesdays beginning Sept. 13, through Nov. 15

Location: Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, Northville

Details: W.O.W. Ladies Bible Study will focus on the Book of Acts. Registration fee is \$15. Free program for children through age 5

Contact: (248) 348-7600

#### **CLOTHING BANK**

To

FOUR

FREE

SEASONS

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CITATION

SURVEY!

The Health Care Association

would like to

Four Season

Nursing Center

Time/Date: 5-6:30 p.m. Sept. 14 and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24

Location: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 41920 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty, in Canton Details: Free clothing and shoes are given to anyone in

need

Contact: (734) 927-6686 or (734) 404-2480 **MARRIAGE PROGRAM** 

Please see CALENDAR, B13

GREAT STAFF. GREAT CARE.

In-House Dialysis I Cardiac Rehab I Respiratory Therapy Secured Memory Care Unit I Short & Long- Term Care Medicare and Medicaid Provider I Private Insurance

**Medical Director** of Therapy, Dr. M. David Jackson, oversees patient care and progress

NS REHABILITATION

Four Seasons orthopaedic and trastroke patients are in good hands thanks to Dr. M. David Jackson and his partners at Rehabilitation Physicians. Jackson, a U of M Medical School graduate, is also an assistant clinical professor at Wayne State University's School of

Marycrest

Community amenities: •Chapel

Driven Activities Media Room Lounge Heated



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MarycrestHeights.org



#### Keep the Conversation Going

MONDAY-THURSDAY (3:30, 4:30, 5:00 AND 6:00 PM GROUPS) Social Groups for learners 3-23 targeting social skills, conversation fluency, and social cognition. KTCG groups begin September 5th. Earoll now to hold your space and schedule social intake.

#### FLOURISH



MONDAY-FRIDAY (AM 9 AM-12 PM, AFTERNOON 1 PM-4PM, AFTER SCHOOL 4 PM-7PM)

Our ABA center based program for learners ages 2-10. Lead by BCBA's, ABA Therapists, and SLPs, this program focuses on 1:1 and small group instruction for the preparation and teaching towards success in a typical peer setting. Flourish has rolling admissions, enroll now to reserve your space for fall 2011.

#### ~Other Therapy Programs Available~

#### BEEhavo MONDAY-THURSDAY 3:30, 4:45, 6:00 PM Behavior Coaching for Early Learners and their Caregivers. Groups are taught by ABA Trainers and BCBAs. Play date style for learners 2-6 and their families.

Finicky No More TUESDAY-FRIDAY 2:30, 3:45, 5:00, 6:00 PM Feeding therapy for learners who have food sensitivity challenges. Attention will be placed on sensory, oral motor movement and coordination, and food tactical awareness. **ABA HOME PROGRAMS** 

**READING SUPPORT AND INSTRUCTION** OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY, PHYSICAL THERAPY, AND SPEECH THERAPY

To enroll, please contact our Client Coordinator at clients@sictherapy.com or call us toll free at 866.SLC.0899, Ext. 752 or 734.266.0640

"Our team is another set of professionally trained physicians assessing patients and making sure their rehab is headed in the correct direction," said Jackson. "The goal is to get patients back home; some may be long-term patients that we're getting back to their baseline."

Jackson sees patients individually and makes sure nothing interferes with their treatment plan. "We're frequently in facilities more than any other type of physician. We see where patients are making progress or lagging behind and make suggestions to therapists."

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#### Doctors Weight Loss & Spa 29215 Ford Road • Garden City 734.585.130 www.drsweightlossspa.com

#### RELIGION CALENDAR

## CALENDAR

Continued from page B12

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 9 Location: School cafeteria at St. Michael the Archangel, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Guest speakers

#### The Charter Township of Plymouth **Public Notice**

Greg and Julie Alexander,

founders of the Alexander

House marriage apostolate,

will kick off "Covenant of

Love," a monthly program

marriage. Dennis and Rose

Wingfield of Northville will

that explores Christian

lead the sessions, which

meet the second Friday

of the month. Open to

all couples, married or

engaged, of all religious

OE08751992 - 2x1.5

Beginning 9/6/2011, the Charter Township of Plymouth Department of Public Works will start its fire hydrant winterization program. You may notice a temporary discoloration of your water. This should only be for a short period of time. Any prolonged problems should be reported to the DPW by calling 734-354-3270 x3.

Publish: August 25 & 28, 2011

#### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FIRE STATION #3 PARKING LOT RECONSTRUCTION PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP, MICHIGAN

Sealed proposals will be received for the construction of the Fire Station #3 Parking Lot Reconstruction Project by the Charter Township of Plymouth as Owner, until 10:00 A.M. Local Time on Friday, September 16, 2011 at the Office of the Clerk, Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170 at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read.

Bidders shall review and comply with the Instructions to Bidders, which are incorporated by reference, and carefully review all Contract Documents, as defined in the Instructions to Bidders. Bids submitted after the exact time specified for, receipt will not be considered.

The Contracts will consist of the following principal items of work and appurtenances as specified herein and shown on the Contract Drawings.

#### Description of Work

The project scope consists of constructing a new concrete parking lot and approach at Fire Station #3 located at the northeast corner of Beck Road and North Territorial Road in Plymouth Township. Ancillary items of work included in the project scope are; storm drainage improvements, pavement subgrade improvements, concrete curb lawn restoration.

September 6, 2011.

48302-0360 by making a non-refundable payment of Forty-Five (\$45.00) Dollars, CHECK ONLY, payable to "Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc." Drawings and Specifications can be shipped by U.P.S. ground for a shipping and handling charge of Ten (\$10.00) Dollars, CHECK ONLY, non-refundable, to Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc. The Bidder is advised that to submit a bid on this project, the Bidder must have purchased a set of Plans and Specifications from Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc.

Agency will be rejected.

denominations

10

Contact: The Wingfields at (248) 305-5941 or e-mail to jeremiah2911@comcast.net

**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL** Time/Date: Through Sept.

Location: Congregation Bet Chaverim, P.O. Box 871262 Canton, Mi. 48187 Details: Religious and cultural school open enrollment. Students (K-Bar/Bat Mitzvah) of all kinds of Jewish backgrounds and Interfaith families always welcome. The congregation also holds services, 7 p.m. the third Friday of the month at Cherry Hill United Methodist Church, 321 S. Ridge, Canton. For more information about the school open house, call llene Honiss at (734) 502-5197

Contact: betchaverim@ yahoo.com or visit Bet Chaverim on Facebook

#### WORLD PRAYER DAY

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. meditation, 7-8 p.m. prayer service, Sept. 8

Location: Unity of Livonia Church, 28660 Five Mile, Livonia Details: Unity World Day

of Prayer program "Together We Shine" Contact: (734) 421-1760

Sept. 15-30

#### **BLOOD DRIVE**

Time/Date: 7:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 18 Location: Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia Details: Walk-ins welcome, but appointments also can be made at redcrossblood. org with the sponsor code

"NewburghUM" Contact: (734) 422-0149 WALK/RUN

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24 Location: Milliken State Park, 1900 Atwater, Detroit Details: All funds raised through this "Friends of the Poor Walk" will go to Our Lady of Loretto to be used for the poor in Redford

Contact: Sister Margereta at (313) 534-9000 or Maureen at (313) 402-0074

#### ONGOING

#### **CLASSES/STUDY Church of Christ**

Time/Date: 9:30-11 a.m. Tuesday, beginning Sept. 13 Location: 15431 Merriman, Livonia

Details: Women's Bible study with discussion-based study from the Gospel of Luke; preschool child care provided

Contact: (734) 427-8743 **Emmanuel Lutheran** Church

Time/Date: 7-8 p.m., second Monday of the month Location: 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads,

Livonia Details: Open Arms Bible class for adults with developmental disabilities and special needs. Includes songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks

and fun. Contact: Pastor Scott Sessler at (734) 673-2485 or e-mail to pastorscott@ emmanuel-livonia.org **Faith Bible Church** Time/Date: 9:45-10:45 a.m. Sundays through May 8 Location: 34541 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: "Four Views of the End Times" adult study

Also ongoing: "Life's Healing Choices" Study Group, 6 p.m., fourth Sunday through September, is for men and women who want freedom from hurts, hangups and habits of the past. Contact: (734) 464-7990

Men's Bible study

Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m. Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township Contact: John Shulenberg-

er at (734) 464-9491 **New Life Community** 

#### Church

Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 am. Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m. Sundays.

Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville

Contact: (734) 846-4615 **Nicole's Revival** 

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m., Monday-Friday

Location: YWCA Northwest Branch, 25940 Grand River, west of Beech Daly, Redford

Details: KJV Scripture Reading, Communion and Prayer

#### Contact: (313) 531-1234 **Our Lady of Loretto**

Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday

Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford Details: Scripture study Contact: (313) 534-9000 Ward Presbyterian

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Mondays

Location: Room A101, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville

Details: Learner's Bible study is held

Contact: (248) 374-5920 Way of Life Christian Church

Time/Date: 2-3:30 p.m. third Saturday from October through May

Location: Way of Life Christian Church

9401 General Drive, Lilley Executive Plaza, Suite 100, Plymouth

Details: Women's fellowship is designed for women with a question to know God more in their lives. Contact: (734) 637-7618

#### **CLOTHING BANK**

**Canton Christian Fellow**ship

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. fourth Saturday and 5-6:30 p.m. second Wednesday

Location: 41711 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty Details: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank offers free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need

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

#### **FOOD BANK**

**New Hope Church** 

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m., every Friday by appointment only Location: 44815 Cherry Hill, Canton

Contact: Call Pastor Ranay Brown to schedule an appointment at (734) 270-2528



es per year and are well o





#### **Bahr-Shier**

Megan Danielle Bahr and Frederick Carl Shier, Jr. announce their engagement

The bride-to-be, daughter of Michael and Shelly Bahr of Westland, graduated in 2010, from the Frederik Meijer Honors College at Grand Valley State University, with a bachelors of business administration degree from the School of Accounting. She works as a production coordinator

for Autocam Medical, in Kentwood.

Her fiancé, son of Frederick C. and Anne Shier, Sr. of Traverse City, graduated in 2009 from Grand Valley State University with a degree in hospitality and tourism management. He works for the Gilmore Collection as a general manager at the Big Old Building (the BOB), in downtown Grand Rapids. An October 2011 wed-

ding is planned at Ada Bible Church, at the Kentwood Campus in Caldedonia.



#### 1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • oeobits@hometownlife.com Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday

#### BARBER. **RUTH MARIE**

Age 86. On Monday July 18, 2011 Ruth Marie Barber died peacefully at home when called to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. She was born on May 13, 1925 in Detroit, Michigan, the daughter of the late Owen and Margaret (Dahm) Ivey. She was the second of five children & was raised in Detroit, Michigan. On September 8, 1945 she married Edward Barber (deceased January 1984), husband of 38 years. Settled in Plymouth, Michigan in 1959 & raised a family of five children. She was a long time member of Risen Christ Lutheran Church. She is survived by Dianne Barber, Richard (Virginia) Barber, Margaret Carter, Gayle Nelson, Alecia Barber, 16 grandchildren, & 30 great-grafidchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, four siblings, & a son-in-law. A memorial service was held at Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church in Dexter, Michigan on August 5, 2011 Cremation has taken place & bur-ial of remains will be at Glen Eden Lutheran Memorial Park in Livonia, Michigan.



**BURGESS-BROWN**, SUSAN K.

Age 62, passed away at home surrounded by her loving family. Studied and taught Ikebana and yoga. Loving wife of Brian. Devoted mother of Hillary. Wonderful daughter of Joyce and the late Willard N. Brown. Sister of Bil Brown (Marguerite). A Memorial Service will be planned a later date in Williamston, MI.A.J. Desmond & Sons, (248) 362-2500. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

#### EVICH, STANLEY P.

of Detroit, 8/3/2011; age 82; husband of Charlotte. Father of Gail Raczak, Pamela Evich, Kathleen Kugel, Diane Stege and the late Gary. Arrangements by Simple Funerals (586)777-0555.

#### **GREEN, GEORGE**

Age 73, beloved husband of Barbara, father of Georgette and Joel Green both of Rapid City, Michigan. Also survived by two brothers, 2 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. Celebration of Life Service, was held Sat., Aug. 27 at 11am at the Chapel of L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, 42600 Ford Rd, Canton (W. of Lilly Rd.)



#### HOLDEN, AUDREY J. Died May 3, 2011, age 78 of Plymouth Loving mother of Jeri Lynn (Danny) Holden-Taylor, Ann Ritchison, and Jamie Holden. Proud grandmother of Ben Ritchison, Christian Taylor, Audra Taylor and James Holden. great-grandmother of Dear Patchoulie, Lotus, Willow and Hattie Joe Ritchison. Audrey retired from Hertz after 25 years of service. During her retirement she volunteered at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, The Henry Ford, and the YMCA in Livonia. She was also a very active member of Risen Christ Lutheran Church in Plymouth. Her memorial service will be held Saturday September 3, at 10:30 AM at Risen Christ

#### NESTOROVSKI, MILICA

of Bloomfield, 8/15/2011; age 85; wife of Trpko. Mother of Vince, Jonathon & Mike. Arrangements by Simple Arrangements by Funerals (586)777-0555. Simple

#### POST, BETTY L.

Age 70, of Farmington Hills, MI, formerly of Whitehall, MI, passed into the arms of her savior, Jesus Christ, on August 17th, 2011, after a short but graceful battle with pancreatic cancer. She was born on March 8, 1941, to Peter Hutchinson & Jean Reed Hutchinson at her grandparents' home in Six Lakes, MI. In December 1970, she suffered a spinal cord injury in a motor vehi-cle accident that left her paralyzed from the waist down. Betty was an inspiration to all who met her, they were amazed by her ability to overcome her disability & accomplish more than most with enthu siasm & always with a bright smile & warm heart. She especial ly enjoyed water color & oil paint ing, reading, teaching Bible study & Sunday school, playing Bridge & crafting. Betty was an extraordinarily talented seamstress & created many beautiful outfits for her daughters, grandchildren & others seeking her professional touch. Her greatest joy was spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren. Betty is preceded in death by her parents Pete Hutchinson & Jean Hutchinson Cannon, her brother Donald Hutchinson & her infant son Marc Verplanck. She is survived by he sister Wanda Roach of Tawas, MI & Sharon (Wayne) Cannon-Ariss of Whitehall, MI; her daughters Dr. Marcy (Michael) Verplanck-Kanitz of Traverse City, MI, & Dr. Michelle (Kurt) Verplanck-Michelle (Kurt) Verplanck-Kralovich of Farmington Hills MI; her six grandchildren: Arielle, Marc, & Delin Kanitz, Jon-Luc, Georgia, & Alexis

#### Milestones

#### Golden anniversary



Roger and Jean Schwartz on their wedding day

Roger and Jean (Relyea) Schwartz of Livonia celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 17 with their sons, Paul and Steven - both Churchill High School graduates - and their families at the Great Wolf Lodge near Cincinnati. They were married in 1961 at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Detroit, the same day as their graduation from the University of Michigan, where they met.

Roger is retired from many years with the automotive industry. Jean is a retired piano teacher and a past president of the Livonia Area Piano Teach-



Roger and Jean Schwartz of Livonia

#### ers Forum.

They arrived at their Lodge room to find it completely decorated with streamers and banners. At breakfast the next morning, Roger and Jean looked across the room to see their five grandchildren and their parents all sporting a golden T-shirts with a picture of the anniversary couple on the front and the wedding invitation on the back.

At that evening's banquet, they received a photo album of their life together, and Roger, on bended knee. presented Jean with the diamond ring she'd always wanted.



#### Gibson-Thompson

Cate-Lynn Elizabeth Gibson and Nicolas James Thompson announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Craig and Cathryn Gibson of Garden City, attended Garden City High School and Douglas J. Aveda Institute. She is employed by Lady Jane's Haircuts for Men.

Her fiancé, son of Dale and Teresa Meade of Schoolcraft, attended



Frances Buchan of Livonia. Her fiancé is the son of Carolyn McCurdy of South Lyon and the late Fred (Pat) McCurdy. A September 2011 wedding is planned in Northville.

**Buchan-McCurdy** 

#### **Robertson-Baliey**

Michelle Robertson and Andrew Baliey announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Kathy and John Robertson of Farmington Hills. Her fiancé is the son of Lynn and Byron Baliey of Farmington Hills.

An April 2012 wedding is planned at the Detroit

Yacht Club.





AIDESMOND SONS



#### CONAT, MARION

August 25, 2011, Age 91. Wife of the late Arthur. Dear mother of Christine Herfurth, Karen Carr (Phil), Suzanne Bell, Arthur Conat (Susan) and the late Donna Flannery (James) and Martha Tattan (Michael). Also 15 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. Sister of Elmer Coon, Lloyd Coon and David Coon (Jo Ann). Memorial Service Sunday 1 p.m. at Episcopal Church of the Advent, 3325 Middlebelt, West Bloomfield, MI 48323.

Memorial tributes to the church. A.J. Desmond & Sons, (248) 362-2500. View obituary

and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com



DUMAS, MARY E.

Died August 17, 2011 at the age of 89. Mary served as Wayne County Commissioner for 14 years and was a Schoolcraft College Trustee. She is survived by her husband, Victor and children Cordelia, Charles and Julianne, four grandchildren and one great-grandchild. A Memorial Service was held at 3:30 PM on Saturday, August 27, 2011 at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd. Livonia. Gathering from 1:30 until time of Service. In lieu of flowers, memorials are requested to The Salvation Army Bed & Bread Program or the Michigan Humane Society. Please share a memory at www.rggrharris.com



HOWLAND, FRANK T.

Age 63, of Northville, died unex-pectedly August 23, 2011. Most

cherished and loving husband of

the late Cynthia (Benes). Beloved

dad of Jennifer (George) Linart,

Sarah Anne (Wm. Jason) Lowe,

and Emily (Steve) Morneault. Dear son of Helen Howland

Andrews and the late Robert

Howland. Proud grandpa of Luke and Kelly Linart, Wm. Henry and Charles Lowe, and Stella

Lowe, and

Morneault. Caring brother of John (Kris) Howland and Paul (Karen) Howland. Visitation

Friday 3:30pm-7pm at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd. (btwn Sheldon &

Beck), Plymouth. Funeral service

Monday 11am at First Presbyterian Church of North-

ville, 200 East Main Street, (east

of Center St.), Northville, MI 48167. Memorial contributions

may be made to The Henry Ford.

To share memories, please visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com

Lutheran Church, 46250 Ann Kralovich; as well as many nieces & nephews. Memorial service will Arbor Road (btwn Sheldon and be held on Saturday, September 3 Beck) Plymouth, Memorial con-2011, at 2:00 pm at Faith Covenant Church-35415 West 14 tributions may be made to U of M Cancer Center or American Mile Rd, Farmington Hills, MI Reverend 48331-1300; Larson officiating. In lieu of flowers, consider memorial donations to: Faith Covenant Church, Betty Post Memorial (address as above)

#### SCRIVO, ELLEN T.

Ken

of Harrison Twp., 7/13/2011; age 58; beloved wife of David. Dear mother of Matthew and Mark. Arrangements by Funerals (586)777-0555. Simple

#### SMITH, NORMA L.

of Dearborn Hts., 8/4/2011; age 91; Mother of Susan Brostean, grandmother of Candice Hunter and Lucas. Arrangements by Simple Funerals (313)382-1181.

#### WITT, CAROL

Age 67, of Livonia, MI. August 24, 2011. Beloved sister of Betty, Grace and Stanley. Arrangements entrusted to the Dearborn Chapel of Voran Funeral Home, 23701 Ford Rd., (313) 278-5100. Carol was a long time cook for the Northville Public School District as well as a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church. In lieu of flowers, any monetary donations may be made to the American Kidney Foundation and/or the American Cancer Society.

Obituary/Guestbook at: www.voranfuneralhome.com

#### MCKINNIS, JAMES WILLIAM, Jr.

Age 58, of Belleville, died, Monday, August 22, 2011. Born July 4, 1953 in Dearborn, to the late James & Dorothy (Sims) McKinnis, Sr. Survived by his wife, Renee (Berger) McKinnis, children Amber McKinnis of Adrian, and James McKinnis of Willis, sisters Yvonne Eskie and Pamela (David) McGinnis, both of Canton, MI, in-laws John (Molly), Scott (Kimberly) and Nick Berger. Funeral service was Thursday, August 25, 2011 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville.

www.davidcbrownfh.com



Three Rivers High School and Grand Rapids Community College. He works for Mechanical Energy Systems.

A September 2012 wedding is planned in Farmington Hills.

Alexander-Dubay

Kim Dubay and Todd Alexander were married July 9, 2011, at Good Hope Lutheran Church in Garden City. The Rev. Tim Stotler officiated.

The bride, daughter of Tom and Peggy Dubay of Westland, earned a bachelor of science degree in elementary education in 2001 and a master of science degree in childhood education in 2008. Both degrees are from Eastern Michigan University. She teaches in the Wayne-Westland Community School District and also is a dance instructor at The Dance Academy in Westland.

The groom, son of Carolyn Alexander of Mercer, Pa., and the late Carl Alexander, earned a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering in 1993 from Youngstown University. He is an engineer with Navistar Defense in Madison Heights.

Jennifer Lyons, the bride's cousin, served as Maid of Honor. Bridesmaids were Susan Alexander, the groom's sister and Michelle Chuck, the bride's friend.

Best Man was Larry Verna, the groom's friend. Groomsmen were Ted Huff and Don Nakic, the groom's friends.

A reception was held at Burton Man-



or in Livonia.

The couple took a honeymoon trip to Paradise Island, Bahamas. They reside in Commerce Township.



#### VOICES & VIEWS: COMMENT ONLINE



online at hometownlife.com



# Back Pain? Sciatica? Herniated and/or Bulging Discs? Facet Syndrome?

No back surgery. No neck surgery. No drugs. No Injections.

Just Relief

#### By Shane L Stanley, D.C.

There's good news. Through the combination of proven scientific principles and the latest technological developments, you now have a non-surgical option for your herniated discs or back pain.

You are about to discover the most powerful technology available for: back pain, sciatica, bulging discs (single or multiple), degenerative disc disease, a relapse or failure following surgery or facet syndromes.

#### What is the treatment about?

Patients describe the experience as a gentle, painless, intermittent pulling or gentle stretching of your back... Many patients actually fall asleep during the treatment!

Here's what people who have experienced what you are now going through want you to know..."...my back was so bad that I could not even sleep. If not for Dr. Stanley and the DRX 9000, I would have undergone surgery."

#### -Terry J., Roseville, MI Age: 56

"I was not able to stand for more than five minutes and when I stood up after sitting, my back would lock. As a last resort, I was ready to go in for back surgery, and then my husband saw the ad in the *Free Press* by Dr. Stanley. I thought it could not hurt to try it. (*The best thing I ever did*). I am very agile again, back to my old energetic self. I can not recommend this procedure enough to those who qualify and need it. Thank you very much Dr. Stanley!"

-Iris S., Northville, MI Age: 77

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Call Dr. Stanley's office at 248-476-7775 and mention that you want a FREE back pain/DRX 9000 qualification consultation. It's absolutely free with no strings attached. There is nothing to pay for and you will NOT be pressured to become a

#### FREE CONSULTATION Here is what you will receive:

 A consultation with me, Shane L.
 Stanley, D.C., to discuss your problem and answer ALL the questions you may have about back pain and the DRX 9000.

• A DRX 9000 demonstration so you can see for yourself how it works!

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insurance companies may not be telling you.



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# JOBS

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# Nurse Practitioner Role Expands In Today's Health Care Setting

A nurse practitioner can do more than a traditional registered nurse, but his or her job is not quite the same as that of a doctor.

So what does a nurse practitioner do? This career has existed since the mid 1960s when there was a shortage of qualified physicians around the country. Thus, nurse practitioners can be considered as professionals who are capable of providing more acute care than other nurses in order to meet the health care needs of most patients. Individuals with more specialized needs will have to see a doctor, but these professionals can meet most basic needs.

There are many career options for nurse practitioners. The career information generally varies by state and by each health care facility, but a registered nurse must always undergo advanced education and clinical training before they can embark on this career. Usually, these professionals have master's degree in

nursing www.nursingschoolsu.com before they begin providing preventive and acute health-care services. Some work independently and some work as part of a team, with a specialty ranging from obstetrics and gynecology to geriatric care.

In some common jobs these nurses are responsible for providing complete physical examinations, recording health histories, interpreting laboratory results and x-rays, diagnosing and treating acute and chronic problems, and prescribing medications or therapies. At times, they also counsel patients on ways to prevent illness and live healthier lifestyles when necessary. This is an important nursing position as it offers health care institutions a way to provide high-quality, cost-effective, and individualized care for their patients.

These days, there are numerous job opportunities for nurse practitioners in

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every city and state with more than two million jobs in this field overall. The demand is on rise. In fact, even The American Nurses Association reports that between 60 and 80 percent of primary and preventative care is performed by nurse practitioners. If you choose this career, you can expect to make approximately \$86,000 per year or even more with additional experience and work in certain specializations. It is one of the best jobs that a health care professional could currently choose in terms of career outlook, salary, and personal satisfaction. Visit the site NursingSchoolsU.com to know more about the top nursing schools that offers degree programs in practical nursing.

Find the best nursing schools www.nursingschoolsu.com and practical nursing degree www.nursingschoolsu.com programs and start your nursing career as a nurse practitioner. Choose the best nursing college for you and start your path to a rewarding career.

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