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INSIDE



Munchkin finalist

Otis Graham Hull, the son of Rachel Hull of Canton, is a finalist in the national search for the Munchkin Inc. brand's 20th anniversary contest



Otis Hull

With the finalists selected, the public has the chance to decide on the Top Five who will win entry into "The Munchkin Bunch." Voting closes Sept. 30, and Facebook users can vote up to five times daily.

Voters can find more information on Otis' Facebook fan page at www.facebook. com/pages/Munchkin-Bunch-Finalist-Otis-Graham-Hull or at the Munchkin voting fan page at www.facebook. com/MunchkinInc.

RSEI

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Canton goes electronic at polls

By Darrell Clem Observer Staff Writer

For the first time ever, Canton will use electronic poll books when voters go to their precincts Nov. 8 to cast ballots in the Plymouth-Canton and Van Buren school elections.

The new technology is expected to streamline the process because election workers, rather than manually writing a name in a paper poll book, can simply swipe a Michigan driver's

license across a scan bar - and a voter's information appears on a laptop computer screen, Clerk Terry Bennett said.

"Then a ballot is issued," she

The paper ballot itself isn't changing.

Other than a voter briefly filling out an application to cast a ballot, the check-in process will be electronic. Even if a voter uses a state identification card other than a driver's license, election workers will enter the

information into a computer.

The old poll books are obsolete," Bennett said. "The old method of writing your name on a list is obsolete.'

Canton decided to test the time-saving system during school elections that typically have a lower turnout. That way, officials can work out any glitches prior to heavy-voting elections such as next year's presidential and township races.

Plymouth and Northville townships are among the communities that already use the electronic poll books.

Plymouth Township Deputy Clerk Eric Bacyinski said the electronic polling books have worked well in that community, which used them during last year's primary and general elec-

"It has worked out great for us," he said. "There was an initial learning curve for our election inspectors, but everybody

Please see POLLS, A10

Education panel

Gov. Rick Snyder has appointed Canton resident Don Leclair to the Michigan Education Trust Board of Directors.

The board provides families a flexible way to save for higher education expenses through a range of investment options.

Leclair previously served as chief financial officer of Ford Motor Co., where he was responsible for treasury, the controller's office, planning and analysis, corporate development and investor relations. He also supervised Ford's Motor Credit Co.

and Hertz Corp. Leclair will serve the remainder of a threeyear term expiring Dec. 31 and fill a vacancy created by the resignation of John Hale.

Food drive

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the beneficiaries of the

Goodfellows will be

"Skate On Your Can"

food drive at Skatin'

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Wednesday, Sept. 28.

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Community Life.

Crossword Puzzle.

The Observer & Eccentric

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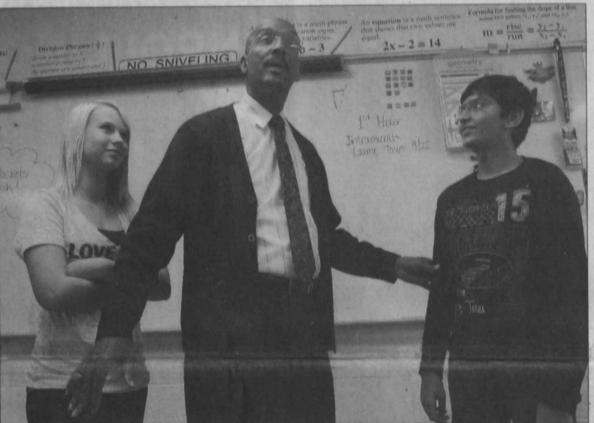
Admission is three

cans of food or nonper-

Skatin' Station is at 8011

Ronda. For more informa-

tion, call (734) 459-6401.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Will Burgess conducts a simulation involving a conflict between Natalie Conroy and Akash Patel.

Prescription for trouble

Seminar an effort to combat growing drug problem

By Brad Kadrich **Observer Staff Writer**

Five years ago, perhaps 20 percent of young people dealing with the folks at Growth Works who needed treatment had experimented with either over-the-counter or prescription

Now, that number has ballooned to nearly 50 percent, a huge leap officials attribute to doctors' quickness to medicate problems and the easy access youngsters have to their parents' medicine cabinets.

And, as with most things dealing with young people these days, technology is starting to play a role in the problem. Social media sites such as MySpace and Facebook are being used, officials contend, to arrange for the sale or transfer of illicit drugs.

Frank Ruggirello, Plymouth-Canton's director of community relations, said the problem hasn't grown that much within the district. However, in an effort to get out in front of it, Plymouth-Canton Communi-

Please see DRUGS, A10



Bria Baker and Jennifer Ruiz listen to the discussion with Growth Works' Will Burgess.

SECOND IN A SERIES

What: "Prescription Drugs and Your Child," the second in a series of PCCS-sponsored seminars on social media, this one on its impact on drug

When: Wednesday, Sept. 28, 7 p.m. Where: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth

Panel: Brian Spitsbergen of Growth Works; Plymouth Police Chief Al Cox; Canton Police Officer Brian DeYoung, the department's school resource officer; and West Middle School Principal Clint Smiley

Teachers endorse Jackson and three others

By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer

Citing a desire to see a "new direction" for the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education, a 20-member panel representing the Plymouth-Canton Education Association has endorsed only one of three incumbents in the Nov. 8 school board election.

Board President John Jackson is the only current member of the board to get the nod from the union, which represents some 1,000

teachers in the district. Trustees Nancy Eggenberger and Steven Sneideman are also running, but did not earn an MEA endorsement.



The panel, which officials said represented teachers, custodians, para-pros, food service and retirees, also endorsed newcomers Sheila Paton, John Barrett and Abdul Muhiuddin, at 22 the youngest candidate in the field.

PCEA President Ken Fistler said Jackson earned the endorsement because of his "willingness to listen" to bargaining units.

"John comes across with his experience within the board and his willingness to listen to all of the units," Fistler said. "He's been open to all of our MEA units. That's our biggest reason."

Jackson, in his first term as board president, called the endorsement "huge."

'I think with all the concessions they gave the idea they would still honor me with their endorsement and understand we're working together to solve this problem is great," Jackson said. "I was particularly satisfied with the interview ... I told them

Please see TEACHERS, A7



39895 FORD RD. IN CANTON Hayden's Grill and Bar 2011

Shooter gets two years in plea deal

By Darrell Clem Observer Staff Writer

Canton gunman Tyler John Gower, who shot a 15-yearold boy visiting his home and claimed it was accidental, will spend two years in prison after he accepted a plea bargain that averted a trial and a potentially longer sentence.

Gower, 18, wept and voiced remorse Monday when he was sentenced for firing a single shot from a .22-caliber revolver and wounding 15-year-old Joey Curcuru, who had gone to the Meadowwood Townhomes the night of June 14 to study for school finals with Gower's younger brother.

Gower, appearing before Wayne County Circuit Judge



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Tyler John Gower was sentenced to two years in jail in the shooting of a 15-year-old boy.

Lawrence Talon, was sentenced to two years in prison for a felony firearm charge. He received time he already served for discharge of a firearm causing

injury and five years probation for felonious assault.

He could have faced up to 10 years in prison if he had been convicted of a now-dismissed charge of assault with intent to do great bodily harm, less than murder. A charge of making a false police report also has been dropped.

Gower has told authorities he only meant to scare Curcuru when the gun fired, though prosecuting attorney Eric Sterbis said during a July 1 preliminary hearing in 35th District Court that Gower had bought the gun off the street and "knew there were rounds in the chamber, and he pulled the trigger."

Curcuru's mother, Laurie Kelly, told the judge during Monday's sentencing that her son, who narrowly survived the shooting, will never feel that the world is as safe as he once

"He will never be the same,"

Gower had hoped to qualify for the Holmes Youthful Trainee Act, or HYTA, which allows someone who commits a criminal offense prior to their 21st birthday to keep it off their record as long as they comply

Talon refused the request, even though Curcuru had said he was willing to go along with

with certain court orders.

During Gower's preliminary exam, defense attorney Kristin Pell had described him as a Plymouth High School graduate who has a supportive family and no criminal history. She said he wanted to attend

Schoolcraft College. The shooting occurred just before 11 p.m. Tuesday, June 14. Gower, his younger brother, Curcuru and a fourth teen were inside the town home, near

Haggerty and Palmer.

A single bullet entered Curcuru's right shoulder area, pierced his lung and lodged near his abdomen. Canton paramedics took him to Oakwood Annapolis Hospital, where he was rushed to the University of Michigan Mott Children's Hospital. He lost a large amount of blood and narrowly survived the wound.

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AROUND CANTON

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

FASHION FOR JOBS Date/Time: Saturday, Oct.

1, 11 a.m. to noon Location: Goodwill Flagship Upscale Resale Store,

41937 Ford Road in Canton Details: Models of all ages will showcase fashions from the Goodwill flagship upscale resale store. The Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit Fall Fashion show will feature local models from ages 6 to 26 donning outfits consisting of items donated to the upscale resale store. Proceeds from Goodwill's Fall Fashion Show support Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit employment education, training and placement programs that help unemployed Metro Detroiters

earn jobs. Contact: For information, visit http://www.goodwilldetroit.org

HOMEWORK WORKSHOP

Date/Time: Tuesday, Sept. 27, 7 p.m. Location: Huntington Learn-

ing Center, 44630 Ford Road in Canton Details: With step-by-step solutions to some of the

Partner gala

The theme of the 18th Annual Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute's Partners Gala was 'Detroit Cool' as a tribute to honoree Kid Rock and the Kid Rock Foundation at Ford Field. Guests dressed in Detroit Chic and sampled many local favorites including Faygo pop, Vernor's Floats, Better Made potato chips, Sanders Hot Fudge Cream Puffs and elephant ears — which were enjoyed by (left) Francesca Pierzecki of Canton and Karmanos Committee member Michelle Adamczyk of Bloomfield Hills.

most common "homework hassles," a free workshop will be presented to offer local parents practical advice on how to ensure their children have the right

environment and skills for completing assignments to the very best of their abilities. "Homework: A Parent's Survival Guide," is designed to be presented at schools and community centers. Contact: Call (734) 207-7930 or online at www.huntingtonlearning.com.

ART EXHIBIT

Date/Time: Through Nov. 12; reception Sunday, Sept. 18, 1-4 p.m.

Location: D & M Art Studio, Golden Gate Shopping Center, 8691 Lilley in

Details: Mark Alpers (photography) and Ronald Warunek (pastels) present a collection of their work. Warunek is a retired architect who, after high school, discovered he had an interest and aptitude for art. In 2009 he became a member of Three Cities Art Club which sparked his desire to continually create new works of art. Alpers has had an interest in photography and painting for over 30 years. He concentrated more on his painting until recently when he realized that photography was becoming more important in his artistic expression.

Contact: For further information, call (734) 453-3710, e-mail dmartist1@aol.com or visit www.dmartstudio.



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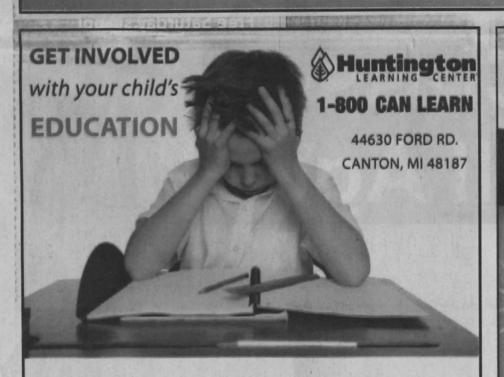
email: hcshows@yahoo.com For a complete artist list, visit: hcshows.com



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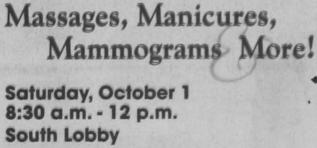
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Canton event celebrates Gandhi's life

A special Gandhi Jayanti Celebration takes place Sunday, Oct. 2, at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

Doors are set to open at 1:15 p.m. with the performance scheduled to start at 2 p.m. This popular annual event is presented by the Canton Cultural Commission Multicultural Committee in association with The Village Theater, located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton.

The presentation honors the life and legacy of Mahatma Gandhi by celebrating the values that he lived every day. "In a gentle way, you can shake the world," said Mahatma Gandhi.

Canton Township Trustee Dr. Syed Taj will provide the program's welcome and introduction to an afternoon of songs,



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER **Canton Township Trustee** Dr. Syed Taj provides the welcome and introduction for the Gandhi Jayanti celebration Oct. 2 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

dances, sitar, and a skit. The program will also feature members of Canton's Multicultural Committee speaking about Gandhi's life and legacy.

The Canton Cultural **Commission Multicultural** Committee's mission continues to focus on getting to know our neighbors and their culture through the arts. This diverse group of volunteers has presented numerous cultural offerings throughout the com-

LOCAL NEWS

In addition to Gandhi Jayanti, subcommittees continue to host many special events, including an International Festival annual event at The Village Theater (Jan. 21) and a celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (Jan. 16).

Admission to this Gandhi Jayanti Celebration is a \$2 donation at the door and includes a punch and cookies pre-show reception starting at 1:15 p.m.

For more information on "Gandhi Jayanti" and other upcoming cultural events and performances at The Village Theater, please visit Cantonvillagetheater.org or call (734) 394-5300.

Goodwill hosts fashions for jobs

Models of all ages will showcase fashions from the Goodwill flagship upscale resale store in Canton 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 1.

The Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit Fall Fashion show will feature local models from ages 6 to 26 donning outfits consisting of items donated to the upscale resale store.

Partnering with Goodwill for the show is Cari Cucksey of HGTV's "Cash & Cari," who is also donating her repurposed furniture and home accessories for the event.

Cucksey and a Goodwill representative will be emceeing the

Fashion Show, with music from acclaimed local DJ Raheim D'Andre and model hair services provided by Kris Endreszl of Novi's Sweet and Sassy Salon. After the show, Cucksey will be available to meet attendees and sign autographs.

The store also will have a "Fashion Show Special" Oct. 1 with all red-tagged items on sale for 99 cents.

Proceeds from Goodwill's Fall Fashion Show support Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit employment education, training and placement programs that help unemployed Metro Detroiters earn

Since its opening in December 2010, the store has created training opportunities that allow participants in Goodwill programs to gain real-world experience as they work to earn permanent positions at the store, or with one of Goodwill's more than 700 partner employers around Southeast Michigan. With every donation event Goodwill hosts, only the highest quality donated items will sold to at the upscale resale

The Goodwill Flagship Upscale Resale Store is located at 41937 Ford Road in Canton. For information, visit http://www. goodwilldetroit.org.



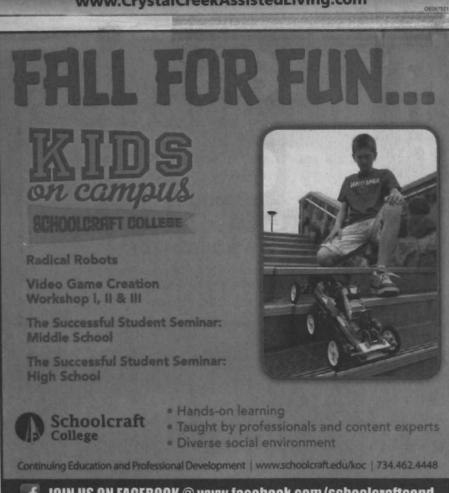
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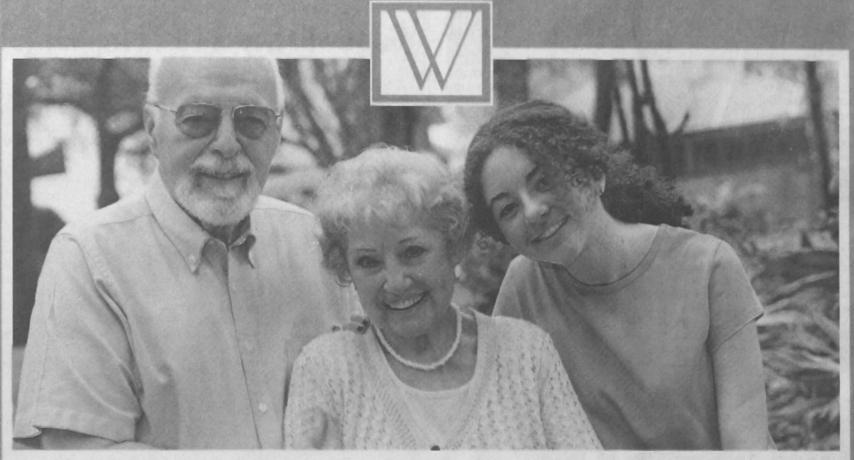
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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Rachel Shockey and Matt Wright are with the Axis Music Academy in Canton.

Expo gives visitors one-stop shopping

By Darrell Clem Observer Staff Writer

It almost seemed like a small town tucked inside one large room.

Potential shoppers walked by makeshift storefronts where merchants hawked banking services, bicycles, jewelry, insurance policies, hockey games, senior housing, music lessons, health care, home decorations - even the kitchen sink wasn't exactly forgotten as personal chef Paula Woods marketed meals she delivers or cooks in customer homes.

It was time for Consumer Expo, a twice-a-year Canton Chamber of Commerce event that brought 35 businesses to Summit on the Park.

Canton resident Teresa Neino strolled around the event Thursday evening, just as she has for five years.

"I like to see what the community has to offer," she said. "They seem to have a lot of different, new things this time."

Woods, owner of Heaven Sent Chef, brought samples of cookies and muffins as she made a pitch for customers. She even does the shopping before she prepares meals for her customers.

"I sit down with them and figure out their likes and dislikes," she said. "I cook healthy meals made from scratch."

Denise Saylor, customer relations director of Livonia-based Molly Maid, said the home-cleaning business hasn't suffered despite a tough economy. She said the company works with customers who are on a budget.

"We've been busy with school starting. People are busy, and they would rather spend their spare time with their family instead of cleaning



Cheryl Messer of KoKo FitClub tries a stationary bike with a little advice from Jeff Carek of Sweet Bikes.



Josh Cohen of the Mobile Tire Company says he never gets "tired" of wearing this necklace.

house," Saylor said. It's not the first time

Molly Maid has participated in chamber events. "We're here to get our

name out to residents in the area who might not know about us," Saylor said.

A few Consumer Expo visitors looked over the jewelry samples Showroom of Elegance owner Linda Robin brought with her.

"This brings us out into the community where we meet everyday people who live in the neighborhood, so we can get our name out to them," Robin said.

Consumer Expo visitor Ingrid James said she enjoyed herself. "I just wanted to see what businesses are in the area and what they have to offer."

Sweet Bikes, the Plymouth Whalers, Axis Music and numerous other businesses had representatives. Chamber President Tracey Rettig said Consumer Expo is another way to promote the local community's Shop Canton

campaign. "It's Shop Canton in one room," she said with a smile.

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

Chili festival spices up downtown Plymouth

By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer

LOCAL NEWS

Chiliheads, motorcycle fans and those with a passion for both should circle Sunday, Oct. 9, on their calendars.

That's the date of the 16th annual Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff in downtown Plymouth, which will offer live music and dance, a motorcycle show with hundreds of entries, an International Chili Society-sanctioned competition among some of the world's best chili cooks, and samples from ICS competitors as well as local restaurants and people's choice contenders.

The event, dubbed the chili festival, is a fundraiser for the Plymouth-based Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County and the Penrickton Center for Blind Children in Taylor. Held at Kellogg Park, The Gathering and the center of town, the festival runs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Mixing it up

'It's such a great cookoff: The vast amount of people, the bikes coming through, the vast amount of personalities coming through," said Gary Ray of Livonia, a seasoned ICS chili cook whose wife, Lauren, won the worldwide ICS title for her chili verde (green chili) in 2008.

"It's just a nice mix and a very nice time. Ultimately, it gets to be quite the madhouse in there," Ray added.

'It's a great event," said David Pawlowski, who racked up seven firstplace trophies in non ICScompetitions at past chili festivals. "It's a great



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Red chili judge Tara Truax braved some spoonfuls of chili as she made the rounds of the contestants during the 2010 Great Lakes Regional Chili Cook in Plymouth. This year's event is set for Oct. 9.

marketing tool." Pawlowski was for years with Plymouth's Omelette and Waffle Cafe, and now cooks for, and is part-owner of, the Moonlight Diner in Plymouth Township, one of the 18 restaurants participat-

ing in this year's restau-

rant chili challenge.

Past cookoffs have netted more than \$220,000 for Great Lakes Regional Chili Inc., the nonprofit that organizes the festivals, and the money has been donated to area service organizations. Habitat for Humanity is a longtime beneficiary, while Penrickton was added for this year.

Penrickton is a longtime festival supporter that annually raffles off

prevale at the event

Title defenders In addition to the Rays and Pawlowski, other

this y

returning chili champions will include Pete Skwiers, the 2009 winner for red chili; Gail Kyle, last year's winner for red chili; and Richard Chauvin, the chili verde winner in both 2009 and 2010.

The festival draws thousands of motorcycle enthusiasts, and a motorcycle show is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Ann Arbor Trail between Main and Union streets.

As usual, two-ounce chili samples are \$1 each, while bowls of chili are \$4 each. Proceeds from chili sales will benefit Habitat for Humanity.

Music, dance, dogs

The festival will also feature performances by seven local dance companies, live music by Steve King and the Dittilies beginning at noon, an activities area for children, and the Hottest Dog in the Coolest City competition, near the Kellogg Park fountain, with judging at 2 p.m. The ontest is a benefit for the Humane Society of Huron Valley.

For more information on the Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff, including information on entering one of the chili competitions, the motorcycle show, the motorcycle rides or the Hottest Dog in the Coolest City contest, visit the website www.greatlakeschili.com.

TEACHERS

Continued from page A1

the truth, where I stand on things. I didn't cater to what they would like to hear, I told them the things that had to be done. (The endorsement) shows me they understood and are willing to continue to work together."

Fistler said Sneideman and Eggenberger, along with the other eight candidates who didn't earn an endorsement, made the choice tough with the quality of their interviews.

"It was a tough choice," Fistler said. "All 10 came to our interview process and participated very well. We were looking overall at a new direction for the board. It was extremely tough to narrow it down."

The union settled on

three other candidates for endorsement:

· Sheila Paton of Plymouth — Founder of the district's Legislative Action Network and a frequent participant in legislative discussions, along with a variety of other work within the district. "Her Legislative Action Network and continual work within the schools over a long period of time has been absolutely impressive."

· John Barrett of Plymouth - A Plymouth city commissioner who opted not to seek re-election so he could run for the school board, Barrett spent 40-plus years in education, lastly as a principal in the Farmington district. "His experience (in Farmington) and with our community ... he's done some work in our schools," Fistler said. "He's worked to build

relationships between the community and our students, including kids at Starkweather."

· Abdul Muhiuddin of Canton — He's a 2003 graduate of Salem High School. "He's the youngest one in the field, but we liked his young energy," Fistler said. "We liked his work with nonprofits and his interest in diversity. Our community is changing, we see that in our schools all the time."

Fistler said the union's participation in the campaigns of their endorsed candidates will be left up to the candidates themselves.

"We are sending out information to MEA members, and we'll work with each individual candidate as they see fit," he

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District offers ACT practice test

By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer

One of the big college-prep tests high school students worry about being ready for every year is the ACT.

On Tuesday, Plymouth-Canton students have a chance to find out how close they are.

The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Community Education department offers a free practice ACT test from 3-7 p.m. in the Canton High School (students whose names start with A-L) and Salem High School (students M-Z) cafete-

For Betty Bloch, the district's

community education supervisor, the free test is one thing the district can offer the students to help them get ready for the next step in their education.

"The test is a good opportunity to find out what their level of expertise is and the areas where they need improvement," Bloch said.

On an Oct. 4 parents' night at the high school park, parents and students will find out how they did, with analysts available to go over test results and point out areas of need.

Armed with that information, students then can take the department's comprehensive ACT course. That course, normally offered by the national firm Princeton Review, has been brought inhouse as a way for the district to drum up some revenue. The 25-day courses start Oct. 17, and are offered either right after school (2:30-4:30 p.m.) Mondays and Wednesdays, or there is a 7-9 p.m. course Tuesdays and Thursdays. Cost is \$995, money that used to go to Princeton Review but now will help the cash-starved district.

"It's an opportunity Princeton Review has been offering here for a number of years," Bloch said. "We think this is a great

SCHOOL BRIEFS

opportunity for our students, and we felt we should be offering it."

Bloch is excited about the Community Education lineup. Adult courses will include arts and cooking, dance, computer classes, finance, health and first aid, language, music, self-improvement, sewing and needlework, swim, and classes about using the web.

The youth classes will now include new language classes in Chinese and Spanish. Preschool/youth programs will include arts and crafts, dance, exercise and sports, music and swim.

Bloch wanted to make sure

parents knew about one big change: The paper flyers that used to be distributed announcing after-school class schedules, costs, etc., will not be sent this year, The district, she said, will go to an entirely on-line announcement system, posting class schedules, availability, cost, etc., on the district's website (www.pccs.k12.mi.us).

"Parents can go on-line to the district's website and find out everything they need to know," Bloch said. "It saves time, it saves money, it's faster and easier, and it takes advantage of technology."

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Teen Mr. Dance

Reid Conlon, a junior at Canton High School, was named Teen Mr. Dance of America 2012 at the 127th Dance Masters of America National Scholarship competition in Orlando,

The Dance Masters of America is a professional, certified membership organization of artists and educators committed to the elevation of the art of dance and has been certifying and setting the standards in dance education since 1884.

Conlon competed against 40 other soloists from around the United States and Canada in classes that covered ballet, jazz, tap and acrobatics. In addition, Conlon was interviewed by industry professionals and performed a contemporary solo for an audience of more than 1,000 people.

During his reign as

Teen Mr. Dance, Conlon will be invited to perform at various DMA chapters around the country as part of their regional scholarship competitions.

Army band

Plymouth-Canton Educational Park student
Jason Jakary has been
selected as a member of
the U.S. Army All-American Marching Band. This
honor celebrates the values and strengths these
standouts share with
Army Strong soldiers.

Jakary, a Salem High School senior who plays baritone, was selected to join a group of elite marching musicians who will perform in the U.S. Army All-American Bowl halftime show at the Alamodome in San Antonio, Texas, in January.

The U.S. Army All-American Marching Band recognizes the top 125 high school senior marching musicians from across the country and



Teacher awards

In honor of the opening of the new Walmart store on Michigan Avenue in Canton Township, the giant discount chain made 10 Field Elementary teachers very happy. The company gave each teacher a \$100 gift card to the store to purchase school supplies. The donation is part of the Walmart Cares Teacher Award Program. Pictured are (from left) Field Elementary teachers Aimee Conn (first grade), Alison Collicott (fifth grade), Monica Singer (resource room teacher), Kim Tews (second grade), Dawn Cummings (fourth grade), Kelly Howell (kindergarten), Lee Anne Shaheen (interventionist) and Michelle Rushlow (third grade), showing off their Walmart gift cards with Field Principal Denise Lilly and Walmart Zone Manage Ryan Liedel. Not pictured is music teacher Charlie Dentel.

showcases their talents during the largest celebration of high school football in America, the U.S. Army All-American Bowl.

Teen workshop

The Michigan Department of Education will host the nationally recognized Talk Early & Talk Often parent workshop 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6, at Discovery Middle School. The two-hour workshop is free of charge and will help parents and caregivers of middle school youth recognize and use opportunities to open the door for conversation and to listen and respond with greater confidence and skill.

Parents are the prime educators of their children. Continued communication at home is vital in helping unprepared youth avoid serious consequences of pregnancy, HIV and sexually transmitted diseases. Talk Early & Talk Often has, since 2005, consistently received high praises from parents, educators and community lead-

ers. The workshop is a state sponsored initiative, developed with support from several state agencies working in the area of teen pregnancy prevention.

Alumni event

If you attended Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, school officials want you to join them for the second annual alumni event.

"Gathering at the Gridiron" takes place Friday, Oct. 21, when the Canton Chiefs take on the Salem Rocks in football at 7 p.m. All alumni are invited to attend a tailgate party, which will feature food and entertainment before the game. The alumni festivities will begin at 5:30 p.m. just outside the Varsity Football Stadium at the Park.

Tickets are just \$5 each and can be purchased online at www.give-2schools.org/cat.asp?id=8 662BF89DAD54B029F719 C18D164B8A5.



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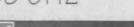
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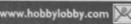
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DRUGS

Continued from page A1

ty Schools officials have teamed with Growth Works, the Plymouthbased youth assistance organization, will present the second in its series of social media seminars this week.

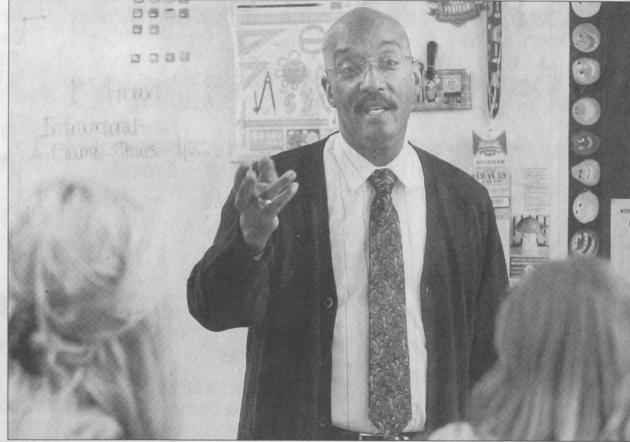
"Is it our biggest problem? No, it isn't," said Ruggirello. "But we'd be naive to think it's not a problem at all."

To do that, the district has convened a panel of experts to talk to parents in a 7 p.m. seminar, "Prescription Drugs and Your Child," Wednesday at the Plymouth District Library. While Growth Works currently has people in the middle schools talking to every sixthgrader in the district about drugs, this seminar is designed to help parents primarily understand the issue of prescription and over-thecounter drug use and the impact of social media on drug use among students.

"Kids are selling drugs using social media," Ruggirello said. "It's very often a communications device for kids that isn't necessarily closely supervised by parents."

According to statistics provided by Growth Works, over-the-counter and prescription drugs have become the third most-common drug of choice for young people (behind marijuana and alcohol). For many kids, they're easily accessible. Parents have some surgery or other medical issue and doctors prescribe drugs for it.

Parents frequently don't take all of the doses, and the leftovers wind up first in the medicine cabinet, then in the hands of children. Those drugs are often peddled on social media and wind up in schools.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Will Burgess speaks to the East Middle School class.



Allison Hodge listens to the presentation.

"It's pretty much customary for some sort of prescription or overthe-counter drugs to be part of the menu of drugs kids will take ... the accessibility of it is unbelievable now," said Brian Spitsbergen, director of treat-

ment services at Growth Works. "It's clean, it's hard to detect. It's tough for folks to understand the nature of the problem."

Spitsbergen said he often sees kids in treatment talk about "the best high" they've had, and more and more those highs are including prescription and over-the-counter medications.

The problem, he said, is that, while "there's a predictability" to the effects and behavior of a drug user who has, say, smoked marijuana, the effects of prescription drugs is far less predictable.

"It becomes an irritant to other social problems in kids who are already having a hard time making smart decisions," Spitsbergen said. "It irritates other problems that already exist. (Prescription drug use) lends itself to making a bad

YOUTH IN TREATMENT FOR SUBSTANCE USE

120%

100%

80%

60%

40%

2008

2009

2010

Alcohol Marijuana OpiolodyDXM Other

urce: Growth Works

situation worse."
In addition to heightening awareness of

ening awareness of the prescription drug problem and the part social media plays in it, Wednesday's seminar is designed to show parents what police see in their schools, ways kids can harm themselves, behaviors parents should look for and who to call.

"When we see something that could be a potential problem, we want to make sure our parents and our students are aware of it," Ruggirello said. "Sticking your head in the sand is never the solution."

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POLLS

Continued from page A1

performed great during the elections, and every-

thing has been smooth."
Plymouth Township
also had "no complaints"
from the voters, Bacyinski said.

In another move to streamline the Nov. 8 election, Canton has again combined voting precincts for school elections. Rather than voters going to three polling precincts inside St. John Neumann Catholic Church, for example, they will cast their ballots in one spot inside the church.

"We're not changing anyone's location," Bennett said. "They will go to the same building they have always gone to. We're not trying to confuse anyone."

By reducing the number of precincts from 42 to 25 in November, local officials expect to streamline the process and save money. Local officials may combine precincts as long as a precinct serves no more than 5,000 registered voters.

The electronic poll books and combined precincts will allow Canton to test new methods during a slower election.

"It will give us a great opportunity to learn with the fewer number of precincts," Bennett said. "We will learn to work out the bugs with our process and training (while) getting ready for 2012."

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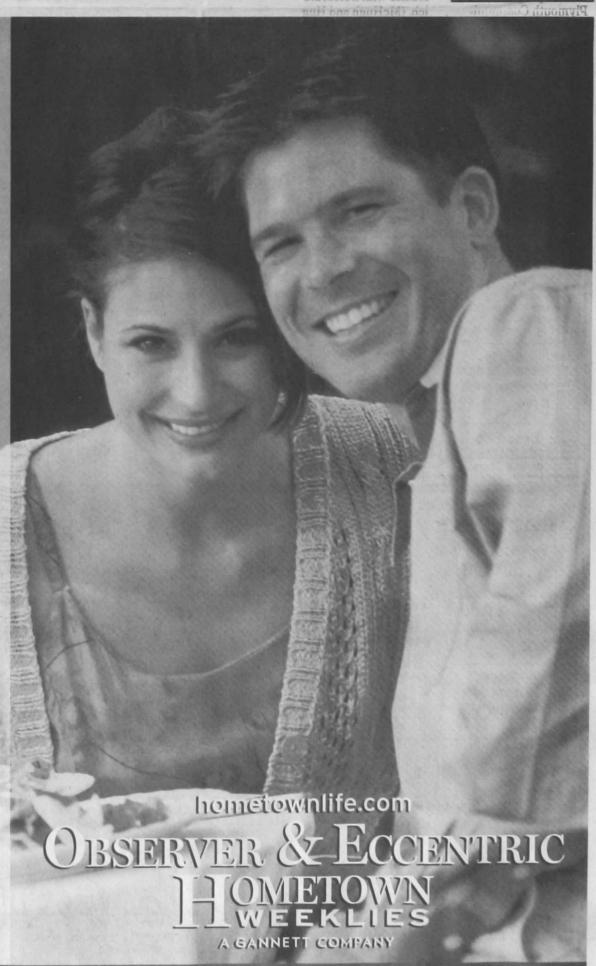
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With wave of support, director launches new youth theater

By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer

Theater studies benefit children whether they're acting on the stage or playing their roles in the

drama of life. That's the philosophy with which Sharon Belobraidich, a longtime drama instructor and retired elementary school teacher, is starting a children's theater company, Belo's Caught in the Act Youth Theater.

'This is an opportunity for children of any age to express themselves dramatically," said Belobraidich, who lives in Plymouth Township, during a recent interview. "It carries over into every aspect of their lives."

Drama can help build confidence and public speaking skills, teach children the use and meaning of big words, show them how to speak with feeling, help with memorization skills and even give them a place where they can find acceptance and a creative outlet, Belobraidich said.

Parents whose children Belobraidich has directed second her view - and say it's Belobraidich's skills with the children, as much as anything, that make the difference.

'She knows them very well," said Robin McHugh, who has two daughters, Elizabeth, 6, and Jessica, 11, in Belobraidich's new project. "She interacts with those little kids very well."

McHugh was among the parents who stood by Belobraidich this spring, when she was replaced as director of the youth theater program at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, where



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sandra lannucci and Sharon Belobraidich work on the business end of the theater troupe.

she had worked since 2002. Belobraidich, who taught first and second grade in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools for about 40 years, has been involved in theater for years, an outgrowth, she said, of her teaching.

Parents of children in the PCAC program, McHugh said, began emailing each other in the spring about their support for Belobraidich. That snowballed into a August meeting of parents at McHugh's house.

'The definite conclusion among the parents was, 'We want'our kids to continue with her," said Andrea Hug, whose 11year-old daughter, Kara, studies with Belobraidich. (McHugh and Hug each have a daughter in

high school who aged out of the program.)

Belobraidich, who said she was crushed when PCAC let her go, was swept up in the, well, dra-

"I'm just amazed at these parents," she said. "I never called anybody."

Thus was born Belo's Caught in the Act Youth Theater. About 50 children are now involved. and they began rehearsing for their December shows on Sept. 17.

The troupe is without a theater so far (the children rehearse at the Plymouth Historical Museum), but Belobraidich says she's close to landing one; she'd like to stay in the Plymouth area if possible.

Parents have stepped up to help out with planning, marketing, costumes, sets and the like; one actor's grandfather, for example, is building a bridge for the play in rehearsal by the 5-, 6- and 7-year-olds, a dad is building a company website, and a mom is sewing cos-

PCAC drama alums Cara Gross and Brandon Waldemeyer, who are both in high school, are assisting Belobraidich.

The three shows in rehearsal now are scheduled to take the stage the first weekend in December: The Three Bully Goats Griff (for 5-, 6- and 7-year-olds), King Midas

and the Touch of Gold (for the 8-, 9- and 10-year-olds) and The Frog Prince of Spamalot (for the 11-, 12and 13-year-olds).

"We will perform if I have to build a building," said Belobraidich.

Belobraidich said she tends to pick children's plays that aren't widely known, and that have a lot of good speaking parts. The word "audition" is used loosely, she said, and no child who participates is turned away.

"She really matches the parts well to the kids," said Sandra Iannucci, who has a 9-year-old daughter, Abigail, in the program.

miachman@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2405



Director Sharon Belobraidich and some local moms, like Sandra lannucci, started a new children's theater troupe.



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11:15, 4:15, 9:15 FRI/SAT LS 11:40 FRI/SAT LS 11:40 O KILLER ELITE (R) 11:10, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30 FRI/SAT LS 12:00 FRI/SAT LS 12:00 **O DRIVE** (R) 11:45, 2:10, 4:50, 7:25, 9:45 FRI/SAT LS 12:00 **Q 3D LION KING** (G) \$2.50 PREMIUM PER 3D TICKET 12:00, 2:15, 4:40, 6:50, 9:00

FRI/SAT LS 11:10

O I DON'T KNOW HOW SHE DOES IT (PG-13) 12:15, 2:30, 5:00, 7:10, FRI/SAT LS 11:30 CONTAGION (PG-13) 1:35, 2:00, 4:30, 7:05, 9:35 RI/SAT LS 11:55

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To all residents and other interested parties: Agenda's and Minutes for the Charter Township of Plymouth Board of Trustees Meetings are available for review under the Reference Desk Page of the Township Website: www.plymouthtwp.org. They are also posted in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N Haggerty Road Plymouth, Michigan for public perusal.

Meeting dates: July 12, August 9, September 13 & 27, October 11 & 25, November 15, and December 13

The public is invited and encouraged to attend the Board of Trustees Meetings.

> Joe Bridgman, MMC Township Clerk

Publish: September 11, September 25, October 9, October 23, November 13 & December 11, 2011

CITY OF PLYMOUTH

CLOSE OF VOTER REGISTRATION

GENERAL ELECTION, TUESDAY, **NOVEMBER 8, 2011**

Notice is hereby given that registration of Qualified Electors for the General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2011, will be taken at the Office of the City Clerk during regular business hours as enumerated below. The office is located at City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170, on the first floor.

MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:00 A.M. - until 4:30 P.M.

Registration will close on Tuesday, October 11, 2011 and no further voter registrations will be accepted for said election. Any interested person may also register at any Secretary of State Branch Office during their regular business hours. Qualifications of an elector for registering to vote are as follows:

- 1. Citizen of the United States
- At least 18 years of Age Resident of the State of Michigan for thirty (30)
- 4. Resident of the City of Plymouth on or before thirty (30) days prior to the day of the election.

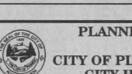
Qualified electors who are currently registered with the City Clerk will not have to re-register. If you have a physical problem and cannot come into City Hall, please call and make other arrangements. The telephone number is 734-453-1234, ext. 234 or 225.

> Linda J. Langmesser, CMC City Clerk

Publish: September 25, 2011

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SITE PLAN AND CHANGE OF USE APPROVAL:

510 W. Ann Arbor Road Zoned: ARC, Ann Arbor Road Corridor Applicant: Enterprise Rental

All interested persons are invited to attend.

In accordance with the Americans with disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

> Maureen Brodie, ADA Coordinator 201 S. Main Street Plymouth, MI 48170 (734) 453-1234, Ext. 206

A regular meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on Thursday, October 6, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. in the

Commission Chambers of the City Hall, 201 S. Main

Street, Plymouth, MI, to consider the following:

Non-Use Variance Requested

All interested persons are invited to attend.

In accordance with the Americans with disabilities Act,

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auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the

hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials

being considered at the meeting/hearing, to individuals

with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services

Maureen Brodie, ADA Coordinator

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Applicant: Jason Dodge

Zoned: R-1, Single Family Residential

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Fence Height

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

MEETING NOTICE

CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN

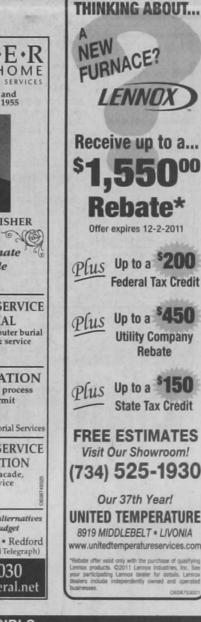
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Publish: September 25, 2011

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McCotter to run for Congress instead of president

By Ken Abramczyk Observer Staff Writer

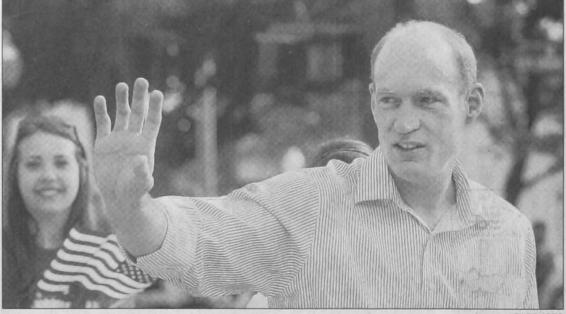
Thaddeus McCotter withdrew his candidacy for the Republican presidential nomination Thursday and announced that he is running for re-election in the 11th Congressional District.

McCotter also threw his support behind Mitt Romney in the GOP presidential race.

"It was becoming clear that the debate criteria made it difficult to get your message out there," McCotter said Friday. By not being on the air, McCotter could not discuss what he felt were the real issues, among them the restructuring of government and Social Security reform.

McCotter now supports Romney, just a few months after saying that Romney and President Barack Obama are "less rivals than running mates."

McCotter said Romney "has the business credentials to do the job." He also cited Romney's Michigan and Midwestern roots that will give him an understanding of the issues



U.S. Rep. and then-presidential hopeful Thaddeus McCotter walked Plymouth's Good Morning USA parade on the morning of the Fourth of July.

facing the region.

"He also won't be doing some of the things that he did as governor of Massachusetts," McCotter said. Romney has

been criticized by some conservatives, including McCotter, for his health care plan enacted while he was governor of Mas-

Romney currently appears to be a front-runner for the GOP presidential nomination, along with Texas Gov. Rick Perry. McCotter expressed disap-

pointment that the candidates did not discuss Social Security reform, only what it should be called. (Perry called it a Ponzi scheme.)

McCotter introduced a bill on reforming Social Security, which called for personal savings accounts and cuts in other programs to continue the program and keep it solvent. "Nobody seemed to notice," McCotter said of the other can-

McCotter announced Thursday that he will seek re-election, pushing his platform of 'principled conservatism."

"I've got a job to do," McCotter said. "We need to restructure government, reform of Social Security. Communist China is a strategic threat, and we have housing issues.

"We're still a country at war. We have numerous issues, and we have a primary responsibility to the men and women who serve this country."

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Scary things afoot at Plymouth museum

Halloween is just around the corner, and things at the Plymouth Historical Museum are starting to get spooky.

On Oct. 16, the museum will host "Mourning Mat-ters Tea," full of chilling details of mourning rituals of the past. Guest speaker Kim Parr, director of the Crocker House Muse-

um and Macomb County Historical Society in Mount Clemens, will discuss these morbid details dressed in full mourning attire, along with a display of various mourning and funeral artifacts.

Anyone looking for something a little creepier can spend some time in the graveyard on Oct.

29 during the Plymouth Characters Cemetery Walk at Riverside Cemetery. Participants will listen to tantalizing tales of Plymouth's ghosts from Civil War soldiers Calvin Crosby and Charles Westfall and others that haunt the city at night. Walks begin at 4 p.m. and last 60-90 minutes. The tour starts at the Don Massey Field Parking lot, east of the 35th District Court on Plymouth Road, with refreshments served afterward, provided by sponsor The Courtyard Grille of Plymouth. Guests are encouraged to wear sensible walking shoes, and to bring a flashlight for later tours.

Tickets for the Mourning Matters Tea are \$20 for Friends of the Plymouth Historical Museum members and \$25 for non-members if purchased by Sept. 30 (add \$5 after that). Tickets for the Plymouth Characters Cemetery Walk are

\$10 in advance or \$15 at the cemetery, or purchase or renew a membership and receive up to two free

Tickets for both events can be purchased at the Plymouth Historical Museum during open hours or on its website at www. plymouthhistory.org.









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Miss Wayne County 2010 Sarah Suydam crowns **Shelby Gardiner as Miss** Wayne County 2011.

OU student named Miss Wayne County

A 19-year-old Oakland University student and DTE Energy Squad member from St. Clair Shores has been chosen as the new Miss Wayne County.

"I am already looking forward to my duties this year - traveling, meeting new people and getting the word out about my platform, which is Date Rape Education and Prevention," said Shelby Gardiner just moments

after being crowned Miss Wayne County.

As Miss Wayne County, Gardiner receives a \$1,100 scholarship and the opportunity to compete for the Miss Michigan title in Muskegon on June 16, 2012. Gardiner is majoring in elementary education and hopes to obtain a master's degree in elementary education, specializing in language arts.

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During her year as Miss Wayne County, Gardiner will travel throughout the state advocating her platform issue. She will talk to various government representatives, business leaders, community groups and citizens-atlarge, urging them to get involved promoting date rape education and prevention.

"Shelby Gardiner

embodies the qualities a role model for young women and girls should have," said Sheila Sigro, executive director of the Miss Wayne County Scholarship Program. "She's talented, ambitious and accomplished. We are excited about working with her this year."

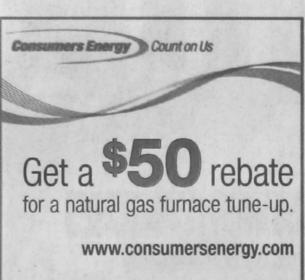
The Miss Wayne County Competition was held at Churchill High School in Livonia on Sept. 17 and featured 12 contestants from around the Wayne County area.

Receiving awards were Sydney Learman of Linwood, first runner-up; Jasmine Jones of Detroit,

second runner-up and swimsuit award; Paula Langley of Novi, third runner-up, talent award and community service award; Jenae George of Harper Woods, fourth runner-up and Miss Congeniality; Da'Stanza Murphy of Taylor, Non-Finalist Talent Award, and Sarah Bermudez-White of Dearborn Heights, People's Choice Winner. Rounding out the contestants were Olivia Trocchio of St. Clair Shores, Nicole Marie Johnson of Detroit, Erin Hall of Dearborn, Jessica Jackson of Detroit and Ashley Welch of Livonia.

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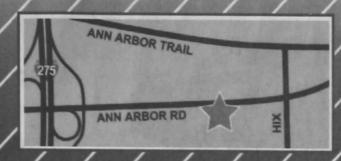
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FOOTBALL NIGHT IN CANTON

Red-hot Chiefs rout Rockets

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Talk about a blowout with a capital 'B.'

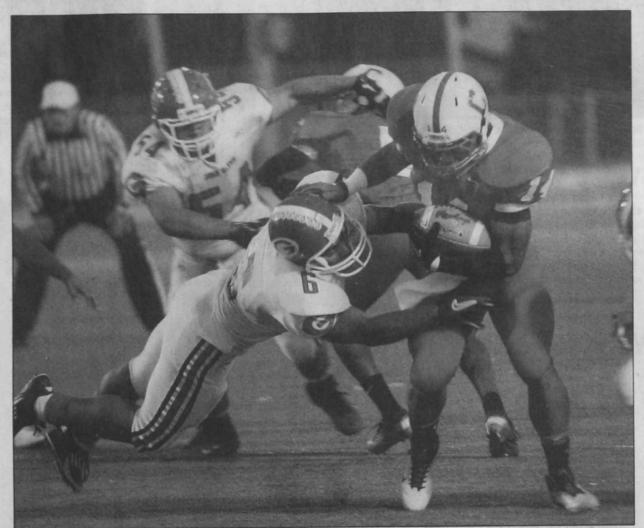
The fans at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park were barely in their seats when Canton 5-7 junior running back Kendall Scott blew through Westland John Glenn's defensive line, sprinting untouched for a 24-yard touchdown.

That was just the start of Canton's 66-13 onslaught in Friday's KLAA South Division contest. The Rockets saw plenty of red in the stands (on Canton's Homecoming Night) as well as on the field, thanks to the barrage of big-play TDs.

"Our offensive line executed, our backs ran hard, we threw the ball, caught the ball well," Canton head coach Tim Baechler said. "Offensively it was an awesome first half. And defensively we were much more physical."

Some might wonder why any tweaking was required. The Chiefs, already ranked No. 7 in

Please see RED-HOT, B4



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Westland John Glenn's Duron Govantes (No. 6) tries in vain to stop Canton senior running back Ryan Jones Friday night. Jones finished with 59 yards in nine rushes.

Whalers drop opener

The Owen Sound Attack scored three quick goals in the second period Wednesday and went on to defeat the visiting Plymouth Whalers, 6-2, in the opening game of the 2011-12 season.

A thorn in the Whalers side was Brnedan Childerley, with two goals. Scoring for the Whalers were Mitchell Heard — just back from the Toronto Maple Leafs training camp — and Andy Bathgate.

After falling behind 1-0 in the first period, the Whalers turned up he heat trying for the equalizer. Plymouth outshot Owen Sound 7-0 during a stretch early in the second stanza, but could not score.

The Attack then took control of matters with their three-goal surge before the midway point of the frame.

Plymouth finally got on the board when Heard scored at 18:07 of the second period, from Stefan Noesen.

Owen Sound tacked on two more goals before Bathgate finished the scoring in the third. He scored his first-ever Plymouth goal on a partial breakaway.

Making 25 saves in the defeat was Whalers netminder Matt Mahalak.

Wildcats pounce on Franklin

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Livonia Franklin tried to throw everything but the kitchen sink at state-ranked Plymouth Friday night — midfield fourth-down gambles, blitz packages and a no-huddle offense.

The host Wildcats, however, had an answer for everything the Patriots attempted and rolled to a 47-7 KLAA South Division football victory.

Senior quarterback Shaun Austin trumped the Patriots' defense hitting 14-of-23 passes on the night for 233 yards and four touchdowns.

He was particularly good in

the second quarter going 9-for-11 for 122 yards and two TDs as Plymouth (5-0, 3-0) turned a 14-7 first-period advantage into a 34-7 halftime lead.

"Shaun (Austin) is a very intelligent, composed kid, and we're lucky to have him," Plymouth coach Mike Sawchuk said. "When they start bringing a bunch of people in the box and play us man-to-man, we think we have some weapons outside. Our offensive coordinator and our offensive staff do a great job of blitz protection and give Shaun a lot of time in there."

Senior running back Donte Fox was the Wildcats top rusher with 145 yards on 20 carries. He got Plymouth off on the right foot with a 54-yard TD run on his team's first possession.

Franklin came back and answered with Joe McRobb's 84-yard TD run with 3:32 left in the first period to knot the game at 7-all (following Ryan Tikey's extra point).

"When they (Franklin) scored, that was when we went for it on fourth down and didn't get it, and our tight end missed a block," Sawchuk said. "Our offensive coach was talking to him and they (Franklin) came back out, and we only had 10 people on the field when they

Please see WILDCATS, B4



Plymouth's powerful senior tailback Donte Fox (No. 5) leaves Livonia Franklin wouldbe tackler De'Angelo Peete (No. 44) in his wake Friday evening. Trying to block for Fox is Jared Davis (No. 40).

MU upsets Spring Arbor

Behind the strength of goals from freshmen Mo DeGrandis and Ashley Parent, the Madonna University women's soccer team pulled off its biggest upset in recent memory Wednesday with a come-from-behind 2-1 win over No. 7-ranked Spring Arbor.

Spring Arbor (7-1-1) got on the board first in the fourth minute when Maegan Smith finished off a pass from Olivia Clark to put the Cougars on top 1-0.

The Crusaders (3-3)
pulled even just over
eight minutes later when
senior Diana Brda (Livonia Franklin) controlled
a pass from sophomore
Amanda Jenaway off of
a corner kick and found
DeGrandis who fired in a
header and beat Cougar
goalkeeper Brooklyn
Morgan.

Brda had the assist on the game-winning goal as well, chipping her pass over the defense to Parent, who sent her shot past Morgan for what held up as the winner.

The Cougars peppered Crusader keeper Chelsea Gregg (Livonia Clarenceville) with shots throughout the remainder of the match. but the senior keeper was up to the task, turning away all seven shots to earn her third win of the season.

MU returns the pitch at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 28, against Rochester College at Canton's Independence Park.

Hang 10: Canton kickers keep winning streak alive

The hot streak continues for Canton's varsity boys soccer team.

Thursday's 3-1 win over Livonia Churchill marked Canton's 10th victory in a row. The Chiefs, ranked No. 4 in Class A, improved to 12-1-1 overall and 6-0-0 in the KLAA South Division.

Opening the scoring early in the contest was Canton senior Mitch Posuniak, converting a feed from sophomore Griffin Parks. Posuniak also assisted on a goal by senior Mitch Pepper, making it a 2-0 game.

Churchill carried play for most of the second half, but Canton senior goalkeeper Steven Murphy repeatedly came up big to keep the Chiefs on top.

He dove on a ball that was bouncing around in front of the net in the half's 12th minute to keep Churchill off the scoreboard.

But just past the half's

But just past the half's midway point, Churchill junior Mike Murphy jumped on a loose ball in the Canton goal box and scored to bring the Chargers within a goal.

A few minutes later, Churchill was awarded a penalty shot, but Steven Murphy pushed the shot over his crossbar, and then punched out the resulting corner kick to swing momentum back Canton's way.

The Chiefs put the game away with two minutes to play, when senior Connor Furgason redirected Parks' corner kick with a header.

STEVENSON 2, SALEM 1: John D'Agostino picked up a goal and assist Thursday to power host Livonia Stevenson (8-2, 4-2) to a KLAA Central Division triumph over the Rocks (4-6-3, 3-3).

D'Agostino's first-half goal from Christian Gajor staked the Spartans to a 1-0 lead.

Zack Atwood's goal from D'Agostino with

only two minutes left gave Stevenson a twogoal cushion before Salem's Chris Dierker answered in the final 30 seconds from Blake Townes.

Zach Verant went all the way in goal for the Spartans.

"In the end you can say it was a typical, hard-fought game with Salem," Stevenson coach Lars Richters said. "It was a gutsy performance and a big win for our program."

PLYMOUTH 3, FRANKLIN
1: On Wednesday, secondhalf goals by Chris Lebioda, Brian Eggenberger and Chandler Olah carried the host Wildcats (66-2, 4-2) to a KLAA South Division victory over Livonia Franklin (5-4-2, 3-3).

Jake Talerek's unassisted goal cut the deficit to 2-1 for Franklin, but Olah's goal with only eight seconds remaining sealed it for Plymouth.

"We were great through the middle of the field, but finishing was a problem," Franklin coach Vic Rodopoulos said. "We got our share of opportunities, but didn't capitalize."

Ryan Tikey made 11 saves in goal for the Patriots, while Mario Gruszczynski went all the way in goal for the Wildcats.



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On the ball!



Players of the Plymouth Reign '98 Green girls soccer team enjoyed a rare treat on Aug. 26. They served as ball kids at the Michigan Invitational held at the University of Michigan Soccer Stadium. Team manager Amy McGrath said the U-M team selected several teams to help collect soccer balls during games. But the girls also were able to say the Pledge of Allegiance and get autographs. "It's a really fun thing for the girls," McGrath said. "It's great for the kids to see college soccer up close, right on the field. It was a great event for them to be part of. To watch them on the field was pretty cool." The girls, all from Canton and Plymouth, include (front row, from left) Camilla Brown, Ally Malee, Hailey Katulski, Pamela Beas, Sydney Sullivan, Kara Hutchison, Kelly Heitzman; (back row, from left) Jordan Anheuser, Isabella Sabellico, Kayla Ross, Abby Lindbloom, Emily Raymo, Erin Heitzman, Miranda VanDerRoest, Samantha McGrath, Anna DeBiasi and Murphy Wong.

Winning week for Salem netters

The Salem varsity boys tennis team swept Walled Lake Western 9-0 on Tuesday in a KLAA crossover matchup.

On Thursday, the Rocks followed up with a 6-3 triumph over Pinckney.

Salem's singles lineup is paced by junior co-captain Jacob Scott at No. 1, followed by senior Mike Keum, junior co-captain

Alek Zultowski and sophomore Jake Sealy in the

In doubles play, the No. 1 tandem is comprised of junior David Bloxsum and sophomore John Clark while senior Kyle Latak and junior Kartik Rajeev are the No. 2 doubles team.

Rounding out the lineup for Salem are senior Sam

Cloutier and freshman Rohan Thanedar at No. 3, junior Nick Ortiz and sophomore Amol Carvalho at No. 4 and junior Shaheer Rabbaig and sophomore Shivan Patel at No. 5.

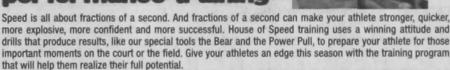
The Rocks will face Westland John Glenn on Tuesday and then host a conference match on Saturday, Oct. 1.

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Eagles nearly hang on against top team

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

For 73 minutes Thursday, it looked as though Plymouth Christian Academy would get some payback against Allen Park Inter-City Baptist.

The host Eagles led 1-0 against the Chargers in a Michigan Independent Athletics Conference varsity boys soccer game. A penalty-kick goal in the first half by Danny Ross had some staying power.

But the deeper Chargers, who mercied PCA 8-0 earlier this season, finally broke through with 7:24 to go and finished off a come-from-behind 2-1 win with a tally in the final three minutes.

They (Chargers) are the No. 1 team in the state (in Class D) as of the rankings from last week," said Eagles head coach Larry Machonga, following the contest. "Last time we played them we came in and played terribly on their home field. They demolished us, picked us apart and we lost 8-0.

"So to come back from a loss like that and play as well as we did for 75 minutes, ... but again it takes 80 minutes, and play two good halves to win a

On Ross' goal, with 9:57 left in the first half, he drilled a low shot inside the left post past Inter-City Baptist goalkeeper Nathanial Packwood.

The Eagles (5-3, 3-3 in the MIAC) had a couple subsequent rushes but could not pad their lead. Packwood dove to deny a bid from Chris Scagnelli (from Jacob Bailey) and Kurtis McKenzie sent a feed over to Bailey, whose header just missed the



Putting a strong foot into one during Thursday's game is Plymouth Christian Academy's Dan Mullett (No. 10). At right for the Eagles are Josh Middleton (No. 17) and Ryan Machonga (No. 4). In the background for Allen Park Inter-City Baptist is Steven Fiema (No. 9).

And early in the second half, the Eagles had some pressure

Ross rushed down the right wing and cut inside toward Packwood, but could not find the net with his shot.

With about 25 minutes left, off a corner kick, another point-blank header by Bailey just failed to

Losing steam

But the Chargers (11-1) started gaining an edge in territorial play, and won more 50/50 balls as the second half progressed.

Still the Eagles hung on to their precarious lead — thanks to some clutch saves by PCA goalie Jamie Putney (he dove to rob a scoring chance by Steven Fiema midway through the second half), along with a hustling defense (particularly Dan Mullett, Ryan Machonga and Matt Read) that helped cut off several potential rushes.

Then, the Chargers got on the board on a goal by Evan Kratz at 32:36. Kratz broke free inside the box and sent a low, sizzling shot inside the right post.

Fiema followed up with the game-winning marker with 2:47 to go.

He broke in and beat Putney on another low shot to the right corner.

"It takes two 40-minute halves to finish a game," Machonga said. "When our guys our getting gassed and they're not on target, we just need a little bit more depth to push us over the edge.

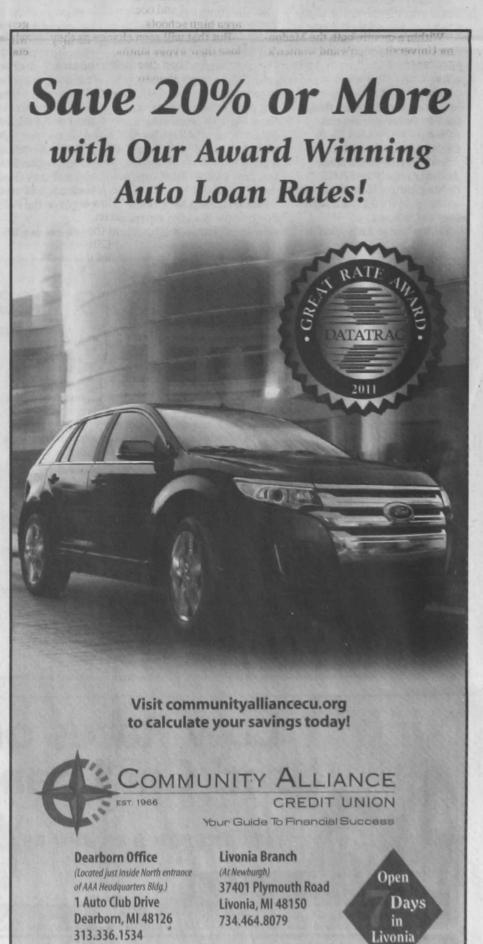
"It was a good, physical match. The thing I love about our guys is they'll never quit, ever.'

Machonga, however, added that the team needs a few reserve players to step up and provide the kind of depth PCA needs to improve against top competition.

"We continue to want to develop our guys, especially our bench players, so we just don't have our starting 11 that can contribute to the attack," he said. "We need other players and we're getting

"... It'd be nice to get there sooner, because that way we win games like this and not lose."

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Friendly rivalry on upswing for 'Cats, Chiefs

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

Before campus girls golf rivals Canton and Plymouth squared off for the second time in less than a week, there was time for players from both teams to mingle and catch up on life at Plymouth-Canton

Educational Park. Then the host Chiefs and Wildcats put the smiles away, put in some practice cuts and went to work Thursday at Hilltop Golf Course. That's where the young and improving Canton squad tried to even the score for a previous loss to state-ranked Plym-

But Plymouth - led by medalist Kelsey Murphy, who registered 36 for nine holes - prevailed yet again, this time 166-198 to improve to 6-0 for the season.

Canton's only two losses have been to the Wildcats.

"We're glad that it's competitive now, so the girls know they have to come out ready to play and it's not an easy win," Plymouth head coach Chris Moore said. "It's great because they all know each other, but it's still competitive.

Concurring was Tom Alles, head coach for the Chiefs, who said his team is much-improved from 2010

"I think the work they did over the winter and the play they did in tournaments over the summer, a lot of them took lessons and just improved," Alles said.



PHOTOS BY JOHN KEMSKI

Plymouth's Sarah Thompson gets in a practice swing before Thursday's dual meet against Canton. Watching and waiting for their turn are (from left) Plymouth's Kelsey Murphy, Canton's Paige Osler and Kaylie Lobb.

"Almost everyone's average has come down from last year."

On Thursday, Murphy and Sarah Thompson (39) led the way for the Wildcats. According to Moore, both have a shot at All-State honors this season.

Finishing with 45 was Kelsey Murphy's freshman sister, Sydney Murphy, while Lindsay Dean tallied 46.

The top golfers for Canton were senior captain Paige Osler (43) and Kelsey McDougall (49), followed by Chloe Luy-

The Wildcats currently are in the top 10 among Class A teams and Moore would like that ranking to be elevated several notches — perhaps into the top five.



Golfers for Plymouth and Canton are friends as well as rivals, walking together down the fairway at Hilltop.

Friendly rivals

But there's something special going on when Canton and Plymouth get together for a match, whether at Hilltop (with the tricky, sloped greens) or Fox Hills.

"They've still got that competitive edge when they're putting and they want to win," Moore said. "But walking between shots, they're just talking



Lining up a putt is Canton's Paige Osler, while teammate Kaylie Lobb (far right) and Plymouth's Sarah Thompson (far left) and Kelsey Murphy watch.

about what's going on." Players from both

squads said the fact Canton has upped the ante and is a strong team in its own right is ramping up the friendly competition to a heightened level.

That intensifies it a little bit more, but it's always a good thing," Plymouth's Thompson said. "We know almost everyone on the other team. We share the same schools."

Canton's Lobb said the Chiefs are "getting more evenly matched with Plymouth now, we're getting our scores down now. So it should be a good rivalry, a good couple matches with them in the future."

Agreeing that the rivalry is stronger now was the Chiefs' McDougall.

"But it's almost more fun and not as intense because we go to the same Park and we're kind of friends," she said. "It makes it fun."

According to Osler, the Chiefs "want to beat them, but it's all in fun."

Meanwhile, the rivalry takes a back seat when individuals are trying to

figure out how to navigate the course itself.

'Many times we don't look at our competitors, we're looking at the course," Moore said. "Don't let the course beat you."

And the bottom line, as far as Kelsey Murphy is concerned, is doing well at driving, chipping and put-

"We just got to play our game and we'll do good." she said. "Have our short game ready and go out and play some golf."

> PLYMOUTH 166 CANTON 198 Sept. 22 at Hilltop GC

Plymouth scorers: Kelsey Murphy, 36 (medalist); Sarah phy, 45; Lindsay Dean, 46; Danielle Allen, 55; Carly Curvin,

Canton scorers: Paige Osler, 43; Kelsey McDougall, 49; Chloe Luyet, 51; Rachel Pisano, 55; Kaylie Lobb, 63; Kayla Lagola, 67.

Dual match records: Plymouth, 5-0 overall, 5-0 KLAA South Division; Canton, 4-2 overall, 4-2 KLAA South.

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New MU soccer home in the works

By Brad Emons Observer Staff Writer

Within a month, both the Madonna University men's and women's soccer teams will enjoy a place they can permanently call a real

Construction began Aug. 22 on a new soccer and lacrosse facility, which is located off Newburgh Road just south of Five Mile.

The target date to open the new facility is Saturday, Oct. 15 when the Crusaders host Cornerstone University in a scheduled men's and women's Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference double-header.

Since MU launched its men's and women's soccer programs, matches were played at Livonia's Greenmead Field and occasionally at area high schools.

But that will soon change as they lose their gypsy status.

'We've been discussing the idea of a soccer field for the better part of six years," Madonna athletic director Bryan Rizzo said. "The biggest obstacle we faced was land. We didn't have a place to put it. It wasn't until wasn't until a yearand-a-half ago that we got some land that we could finally put it on. Then, it took some time, and can we obviously afford this? How are we going to do this? And so on.

'We began planning at the beginning of last school year (2010-11) and then got serious about it in February and March."

Frank Rewold and Son, Inc., is the general construction contractor, while Grissim Metz Andriese Associates is the designated architectural design company.

The 115 x.75-yard field will feature a synthetic surface provided by AstroTurf GameDay Grass XPe of Rochester Hills.

"The (team) benches will be up against the creek, which is east side of the field," Rizzo said, "The bleachers will be at midfield two sets, home and away - on the Newburgh side. It will seat about 200 (100 each). Soccer is a sport where people tend to bring their own chairs anyway, so we want to encourage a little bit of that.

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RED-HOT

Continued from page B1

Division 1, improved to 5-0 overall and 3-0 in the KLAA South with the win.

Right from the start it was a night to forget for the Rockets, who dropped to 2-3 overall and 1-2 in the division.

"They're a good football team and right now we're not," John Glenn head coach Tim Hardin said. "That's it. I think our guys played hard, they have hearts. But we executed horribly and they executed perfectly."

Canton outgained John Glenn 446-211 and only the play of senior running back Terrance James — 12 carries for 106 yards, including a 49-yard TD run — provided any kind of highlight for the Rockets. "He's a tough kid, he plays hard," Hardin said.

Strong from the start

The outcome of the game was pretty much known by the end of the first quarter, when Canton busted out to a 28-0 lead

An early spark was lit by Canton's revamped defense. Baechler said he thought his defense was "getting pushed around too much, so we switched some things up this week."

Changes included moving 6-4, 285-pound junior Cameron Dillard from offensive tackle to the defensive line.

Senior Zac Merillat moved from outside linebacker to inside linebacker and 6-4 senior defensive end John Chadwick took over at outside linebacker "and those changes made a huge difference."

That defense forced a
John Glenn fumble right
out of the gate, with the
pigskin scooped up by
Chadwick at the Rockets'

24-yard line.
On the first Canton snap

WILDCATS

Continued from page B1

scored that last touchdown. So there

The Wildcats, however, played

flawless during the second quarter

after stopping Franklin on a fourth-

and-4 on the Plymouth 47 leading to

Franklin quarterback Justin For-

yards on the night, threw an incom-

"We told the kids today that we

we got," Franklin coach Chris Kel-

bert said. "If we got past the 50

and it didn't work out.

were going to go for it every chance

(yard-line) we were going for it. That

was kind of a way to challenge them

"They (Plymouth) have a real-

every single year. They took away

the whole running game. The only

running play we had was a coun-

ter play. That was the only thing

we could score on. We only hit that

ly good defense. They play us tough

plete pass on the pivotal fourth-down

restall, who was 10-of-15 for 175

was a mistake there.'

a 27-point run.

Shut-down defense



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

It was a scene repeated throughout Friday night's game. An official signals that Canton senior Zac Merillat (No. 21) scored a touchdown. Merillat scored three TDs as the Chiefs won 63-13.

of the night, Scott (206 all-purpose yards) zipped through the defense for his first of four TDs.

"The coach emphasized defense today," Scott said. "He said if you get the stops, offense will take care of it. O-line did a great job blocking, (it) couldn't have been any better.

"The backs hit the holes and we just took care of business today."

Then following another John Glenn three-andout, the Chiefs made it 13-0 when Merillat sliced through the defense for a 55-yard touchdown run.

Merillat rushed five times for 85 yards and added two other TDs in the half (on runs of 8 and 15 yards).

The beat went on as Canton's hard-hitting senior defensive back Demetre Lopez intercepted a Jeff Kuhary pass.

Scott scored on the next play, this time scooting around right end for a 25-yard touchdown.

In the final minute of the quarter, Merillat capped off an 80-yards drive with his 8-yard TD run off right tackle. Following Scott's two-point conversion run it was a 28-0 game.

On target

Setting up the score was a 38-yard pass from quarterback Kyle Adams (5-for-5, 168 yards, three TDs) to senior tight end Evan Rinke.

In the second quarter, the Adams-to-Scott connection worked to the tune of TD passes of 62 and 42 yards.

On the latter, with 2:11 to go in the half, south-paw Adams faked a handoff into the line, dropped back and fired a pass over the middle to the wide-open Scott.

There were no defenders anywhere near the speedster, who easily scored to give the Chiefs a 49-6 lead (James had scored on a 49-yard run the previous series for John Glenn).

"The pass up the middle," Scott said. "That was a nice pass by Kyle, he threw it nice all game."

Before the intermission, it was 56-6 after
Adams threw a 19-yard
touchdown pass to senior
Kevin Buford.

During halftime, the Rockets listened to their coach try to put things in perspective.

"What I told them was this is a great game," Hardin said. "All we can do is keep on playing football and enjoy playing it. Just try to enjoy it."

Over in the Canton locker room, meanwhile, Baechler was getting his backups geared up to play the second half.

"It's just excitement for the kids who haven't been playing much to play a lot," Baechler said. "Get your first-stringers out so they don't get hurt. ... They get their shot, it's nice for them."

Canton scored a ninth time with junior quarterback Ryan Darish at the controls. Darish scored on a 25-yard keeper, which followed an 8-yard run. (Following the TD with his seventh extra-point of the night was junior kicker Scott Piwowar.)

Baechler noted he had to convince Darish that

he could run the play.

"I said, 'You can run
this play' and so I walked
him through it," Baechler
said. "And so he ran it
twice in a row, he executed, the line blocked great
on it and it worked out for
him. I asked if he liked
that play now and he said,
'Oh yeah."

Rocks fall to 1-4

Visiting Salem took a 42-14 drubbing Friday at the hands of Northville in a matchup of KLAA Central Division football teams.

But Rocks head coach Kurt Britnell praised the performances of Nick Troher (77 yards rushing, two TDs) and Tyler Schultz (seven tackles, one interception, one forced fumble, four tackles for losses).

Salem's record dipped to 1-4 and 0-3 in the Central with the defeat, while the Mustangs improved to 5-0, 3-0.

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ferent occasions, but came up empty. One drive was halted by a Tyler

'I got all the respect for Franklin

and (coach) Kelbert does a good job,"

Sawchuk said. "They're very, very scrappy, tough team. We preached

all week you've got to be tough and

Plymouth, meanwhile, got a pair

of fourth-quarter TDs including an

Austin-to-Jared Davis 40-yard pass

up, but overall I loved the effort of

our kids," Sawchuk said. "I like the

way our kids are flying around and

holding each other accountable and

a short memory. Like I said, you

can't look ahead. You just got to get

Meanwhile, the loss drops to the

Patriots to 2-3 overall and 1-2 in the

'It's not very good right now," said

Kelbert, whose team was outgained

get better. That's all there is to it.'

395-360 in total yards. "We just got to

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"But it's one game at a time - have

followed by a 4-yard run by Michael

There's still some things to clean

Goble interception.

you've got to play fast."

playing for each other.

better every week.'

KLAA South.

Kennedy.

PREP CROSS COUNTRY

Canton girls outpace Pats

The young Canton girls cross country team scored a significant win Tuesday over Livonia Franklin at Cass Benton Park.

Canton earned a 22-33 victory, with individual winner Emily Southern (20-minutes, 50-seconds) sparking the Chiefs to their second straight dual meet win.

"The girls ran well despite being pretty tired from a tough week prior to the meet," Chiefs head coach Eric Pahl said. "Franklin is a good young team and to beat them is something to be proud of."

Canton also took the 2-3 spots, with Jessica Siegler (21:12) and Anna Gorzalski (21:36). Finishing sixth was Paige Calvert (22:20), followed by Katie Grimes (10th, 23:02), Ellen Grimes (11th, 23:13) and Laura Murphy (12th, 23:16).

Rocks fall short

Salem's varsity girls cross country team lost 16-46 to Northville on Tuesday, also at Cass Benton, to drop to 1-1 in the KLAA Central Division.

Finishing fifth with a time of 20:56 was Autumn Burin, while Emily Bizon took eighth with a mark of 21:02.

Other Rocks to finish the meet were Alejandra Beltran (12th, 21:09), Amanda Beyer (14th, 21:30), Natasha Stevenson (15th, 21:31), Shannon Flynn (16th, 21:31) and Adrianna Beltran (17th, 21:32).

Wildcats victorious

Sparked by individual winner marina DeBiasi, the Plymouth varsity girls cross country team defeated Westland John Glenn 22-35 Tuesday at Cass Benton.

DeBiasi paced the Wildcats with a mark of 21:34.9.

Other Plymouth finishers were Nicole Traitses (2nd, 21:34.95), Elyse Gryniewicz (4th, 23:11.1), Morgan Henson (6th, 23:15), Alexa Cichon (9th, 23:44.6), Jordyn Strahm (10th, 23:45.9) and Renae DeBrito (11th, 23:47.5). Plymouth improved to 2-0 with the win.

PCA solid at Invite

Plymouth Christian Academy's coed cross country team finished fourth at Tuesday's Oakland Christian Small School Invitational.

The Eagles tallied 71 points, trailing Royal Oak Shrine (19), Auburn Hills Oakland Christian (51) and Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes (64).

Placing 13th for PCA was Jimmy Parks, who earned a medal with his time of 19:52.09.

Right behind him were PCA's Ian Rose (18th, 20:44.3) Jacob Nichols (19th, 20:47.22) and Trevor Baloga (21st, 20:49.78).

Terra Crown of the Eagles was first in the girls division, with a time of 21:05.8 while teammate Megan McHugh finished 26th (25:57.3).

PCA spikers come up big

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

For the first time, Plymouth Christian Academy's volleyball team can boast of winning a game at the home of conference rival Oakland Christian.

That happened Thursday, but it wasn't easy. The Eagles needed five sets to notch the Michigan Independent Athletics Conference triumph (25-17, 17-25, 25-21, 24-26, 15-10).

"We can attribute our win to the team effort we put forth on the court," PCA head coach Kelly Blackney said. "A lot of girls stepped up and did great things.

"We didn't have to rely on one or two girls to do the job for us."

She cited players such as outside hitter Amy Zinn (10 kills, 7 digs, 5 aces), libero Jessica Rich (14 digs) and Rachael Fuller (3 aces, 3 digs). Zinn "really shined and led our team in kills in the first set. Jessica Rich refused to let balls hit the floor. She was all over the court, often sacrificing her body to keep the ball in play," Blackney noted. As for Fuller, the coach

said the player "served fearlessly in tight situations and made it difficult for Oakland to set up their offense."

Of course, senior middle hitter Kristin Malcolm played her usual strong match, leading PCA in kills (29) and blocks (4).

"This is the kind of team we are and need to be," said Blackney, already looking forward to the Oct. 11 rematch against Oakland.

Other solid contributors included Jenny Malcolm (33 assists) and Sarah Howard (9 kills).

Next up for the Eagles is a home game Tuesday night against Lutheran Westland.

Home opener's a winner for 'Cats

Plymouth lineman Sean Preston (No.

79) protects quarterback Shaun Aus-

tin as Austin eyes a receiver down

the field on Friday against Livonia

Austin hit Jamarl Eiland on a 70-

Wildcats on top for good, 14-7 (fol-

The Wildcats then scored three

times without a Franklin answer in

the second quarter - Austin on a 40-

yard screen pass to Fox; Fox again

off tackle for 10 yards; and Austin

to Eiland again on a 15-yard TD pass

with only 46.9 seconds remaining in

ball inside the Wildcats' 10 three dif-

In the second half, Franklin had the

lowing Bobby Deeg's PAT).

yard first-quarter TD pass to put the

Franklin.

Plymouth's spikers finally played their home opener Thursday and it was worth the wait.

The Wildcats knocked off another KLAA South Division opponent with their '3-0 win over Wayne Memorial (25-14, 25-12, 25-14).

That victory came just two

That victory came just two nights after a four-set triumph over Westland John Glenn. "The girls played a solid game

overall," Plymouth head girls volleyball coach Sarah Marody said.
"We stuck to our game plan and pushed every point.

"We were able to try out a couple different lineups and combinations of people playing together in preparation for our up-coming rematch against (Livonia) Churchill."

The Wildcats (20-4-0, 3-2 in the KLAA South) and Chargers will play 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in Plymouth's "Dig Pink" game.

The teams are participating as part of the Side-Out Foundation's Dig Pink National Breast Cancer Awareness Rally. Against the Zebras, Madelyn Betts and Emilee Beyer each tallied nine kills with Olivia Beyer chiming in with eight. Jessica Scott and Shayla Smalls

chipped in with 16 and 13 assists, respectively.

On defense, top contributors included libera Lindsey Stem.

included libero Lindsey Stemberger (19 digs), Scott (16 digs) and Smalls (12 digs). Olivia Beyer helped the cause

with five blocks while Rachael Hille served up three aces. On Tuesday, Plymouth won 3-1

over John Glenn, by scores of 25-16, 25-17, 20-25 and 25-23. Marody said sophomore Haylee Weber was a key factor to

lee Weber was a key factor to the victory, coming up big after replacing Emilee Beyer late in the fourth game after Beyer sustained a minor leg injury. "She dug balls that could easily

have been points for Glenn to help preserve the win for us, arody added. "She showed great maturity and focus when the game was on the line."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth senior Rachael Hille keeps a volley going during a recent contest. She was among the players who contributed to the Wildcats win Thursday against Wayne Memorial.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Dropping the (foot)ball The "3rd Annual Football Drop" will take place

at halftime of the Friday, Oct. 21 varsity game between Canton and Salem. The tosser of the football that lands closest to the center of the field will win \$500. Second place will earn \$100.

Proceeds will be donated to the American Can-

Proceeds will be donated to the American Cancer Society, Making Strides Against Breast Cancer.

Those who are interested may purchase a football "number" at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park stadium prior to each varsity football game, or they may contact Sue Heinzmann at the PCS Athletic office in Salem High School or at: suzanne.heinzmann@pccsmail.net.

There will only be 250 footballs, sold at \$10 each. Please make checks payable to The American Cancer Society.

Meanwhile, there will be the auctioning off of a seat to ride in the helicopter for the football drop. Bidding starts at \$20. E-mail Heinzmann if interested.

Livonia Catholics join nationwide rosary campaign

By Sharon Dargay O&E staff writer

Ron Danowski and Paul Daniel are praying for a big turnout at their "rosary rally" next month at Madonna University in Livonia.

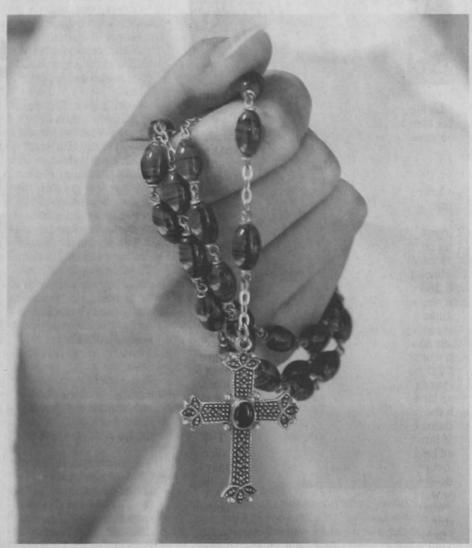
"My vision is to look down the road and say, could we fill Comerica Park," said Daniel, who is helping Danowski with publicity for the outdoor rosary recitation on Saturday, Oct. 15. "This year our goal is to fill this parking lot at Madonna."

"Or maybe have the largest rosary rally in Michigan," Danowski

The Livonia residents, both members of the **Thomas Dooley Council** of the Knights of Columbus at St. Colette Parish, have enlisted the help of the organization and Madonna University to present one hour of outdoor, public prayer, using the rosary, a Catholic devotion.

Their rally, from noon to 1 p.m., will be among more than 7,000 nationwide scheduled at the same time and on the same day through a nonprofit campaign called America Needs Fatima. Rally captains, like Danowski, can register their rallies through the organization's Web site, which promotes public prayer through the rosa-

Participants may bring chairs. The Rev. Alex Kratz, a Francis-



can priest, will lead the session, although other members of the Catholic clergy will take turns reciting portions of the rosary, with the crowd following along. It is open to the public.

"I think nowadays our country certainly needs prayer. Pray for peace. I think everyone will agree with that," Danowski said.

"Hopefully people will see all of us praying you don't have to be Catholic to pray — and they will come and join

Starting small

Danowski said he'd be pleased to draw at least 300 worshippers to the event, but won't be disappointed if attendance is smaller. He's used to it.

"I started it four years ago with just four people," Danowski explained. He, his wife, Bernadine, daughter, Janet, and a friend from church, held their first rally in 2008 at Rotary Park in Livonia. He felt compelled to join the America Needs Fatima Public Square Rosary Crusade after learning that his sister-in-law's

ROSARY RALLY

What: A one-hour public recitation of the rosary When: Noon to 1 p.m.; participants gather in the parking lot between 11-11:45 a.m.

Where: Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft, Livonia Details: Bring a rosary or just follow along; led by the Rev. Alex Kratz. Chairs are permitted and restrooms are

Contact: (734) 591-0360

Other rallies: Noon to 1 p.m., Oct. 15, Lourdes grotto at Our Lady of Good Counsel, 47650 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth Township; noon to 1 p.m., Oct. 15, on the baseball diamond at St. Fabian, 32200 W. 12 Mile in Farmington Hills

Rosary Rally website: www.americaneedsfatima.org

son had been diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma, a form of cancer.

"I promised the blessed Virgin I would do this as long as I could," Danowski recalled.

But after her son died and Danowski considered the low turnout at his rally, he didn't plan to organize a second rosary

"I changed my mind. I figured I shouldn't give up. It was meant to be a challenge to me. Nothing

comes easy," he recalled.
"I said to Father Alex (Kratz) that I had been praying but my prayers weren't answered. He said, 'think of it this way, he probably went to heaven sooner because of you."

Growing interest

The second annual rally picked up approximately 40 more participants; last year it drew 94 worshippers.

Daniel attended the

rally at the park for the first time last year.

"I showed up without the intent of anything but seeing what it was like and saying the rosary out in public," he said. "I like doing something different, seeing what else is out there, and I had never prayed in public before. So, I figured I would try it."

He enjoyed the experience and offered to help Danowski with the event this year. They moved the rally from the park to the Madonna parking lot hoping to increase visibility and attract more participants.

Daniel also invited 26 churches in the Northwest Wayne Vicariate. The pair also created a Facebook page for Rosary Rally 2011, Livonia.

"We want to make public prayer less unusual," Daniel said.

The rally will be held rain or shine.

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Breathe, stretch for good cause

Certified yoga instructor Mark J. Price will lead a two-hour yoga class Saturday, Oct. 8, at Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills to benefit Gilda's Club Metro Detroit.

He'll guide a large group class, suitable for all levels, from 2-4 p.m. in the community room of the Zieger Building on the east side of Botsford's campus, 28050 Grand River Ave. Cost is \$10. Yoga class participants should bring an exercise mat to the session.

Price teaches a weekly yoga workshop that is part of Gilda's Club programs at Botsford Cancer Center. His Tuesdays@Botsford workshop participants have formed

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JOINT INJECTIONS-MEDICINE OR ELIXIR?

all over. They believe that the steroid medicine injected into

the joint, got into the circulation and bathed all their tissues

with cortisone. Patients are pleased with the effect of the

medication, but concerned the steroid may damage them.

What is actually happening is far different from what patients imagine. For instance, the steroid injection does not

course through the body. When a knee injection succeeds, it clears away inflammation that caused pain to interfere with a

normal gait. Since people walk not just with their legs but with

a rhythm that includes the arms, shoulders, neck and back,

relieving knee strain, relieves stress on the rest of the body. After a successful injection, the patient feels better all over

not because of more steroids but as a result of less strain.

shoulder or swollen ankle. The return of well-being occurs

The notion is correct that one should take steroids in as

The same effect results from injection into a painful

because the body can again act in a coordinated way

small an amount as needed, and for as short a time as

possible. But this rule of thumb mainly applies to steroids

Often, a day or two after a joint injection, patients feel good

a walking team that has registered for the Gilda's Club Family Walk and Health Fair later in October. The yoga session will help the team raise its fundraising goal for the

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, September 25, 2011

Gilda's Club Metro Detroit offers emotional and social support to individuals with cancer, their families and friends through networking groups, education lectures, workshops, specialized children's programs and social events in a nonresidential and homelike setting. The nonprofit organization is located in Royal Oak.

To register for the yoga class, e-mail Price at markprice6@gmail.com.

Vying for the crown



Jaclyn Graham, 23, of Livonia will compete for the title of Miss Michigan USA 2012 during a pageant, Sept. 30-Oct. 1 at the McMorran Entertainment Center in Port Huron. Graham holds the current title of Miss Livonia USA. She graduated in 2006 from Livonia Franklin High School and studies adolescent psychology at Eastern Michigan University. She'll be among more than 100 women from throughout Michigan competing for the title and prizes that include travel, wardrobe and college scholarships. Contestants are judged in evening gown, fitness/swimsuit and question categories. The winner will represent Michigan at the Miss USA competition. Tickets for the show in Port Huron are available by calling (810) 985-6166.

Get pets blessed, vaccinated, walked

Many churches including Good Hope Lutheran Church in Garden City and St. Aidan in Livonia — hold pet blessings in early October to coincide with the feast of St. Frances of Assisi.

Congregation members acknowledge the presence of animals in their lives and offer blessings for a long life, good health and happy

Good Hope's "Blessing of Animals" starts at 10 a.m. Oct. 8, at the church, 28680 Cherry Hill Road. The church welcomes all animals including dogs, cats, turtles, goldfish, lizards, and hamsters. Prizes will be awarded in several categories and treats will be served to animals and their human friends. The church asks all owners to be responsible for "little accidents" that might occur while their furry or feathered friends are on hand. For more information call (734) 427-

St. Aidan's starts at 1 p.m. Oct. 8, at the Marian Shrine at the church, located at 17500 Farmington Road. (734) 425-5950.

Vaccinations, bowling Tail Wagger's 1990 of Livonia will wrap up its monthly low cost clinic from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Sunday, Sept. 25 at Premier Pet Supplies, 31215 Southfield Road, in Beverly Hills. Rabies, distemper and bordetella for dogs will cost \$30 for all three vaccines or \$12 individually. Rabies and distemper vaccines for cats will be \$12 each.

The nonprofit organization, dedicated to helping animals by offering low-cost vaccination clinics, spay/neuter services, a food pantry and emer-



gency medical assistance, is gearing up for its annual bowling event on Nov. 5 at Woodland Lanes in Livonia. It's accepting registration now online at www. tailwaggers1990.org. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for youth and includes three games of bowling, shoe rental, lunch or dinner and a commemorative gift for \$25. Adults bowl at 9:30 a.m., 1 p.m., 4:30 p.m. or 8 p.m. Youth bowlers are scheduled at 9:30 a.m. Grand prizes will be awarded to the highest donations collected per bowling squad. For more informa-

MHS walk

tion call (734) 560-4660.

There's still time to sign up for the Michigan Humane Society's annual Mega March for Animals at Hart Plaza in downtown Detroit. The two-mile walk runs 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 2, and will include humans and animals alike. Walk check-in starts at 9 a.m. The route stretches from Hart Plaza up Woodward Ave. to Campus Martius Park, along E. Lafayette to Rivard and down to the Detroit RiverWalk. A shorter route also will be available on walk day. Water will be provided for people and pets at several points along the event or online at www. michiganhumane.org.

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Appliance industry news is useful

any of the rebates given homeowners last year have expired, but it looks like New York is reinstating theirs when it comes to the purchase of a refrigerator or washing machine. Beginning Sept. 2, New York consumers began receiving a rebate of \$350 when buying a refrigerator and \$250 for a clothes washer. Naturally they have to purchase the high efficiency models in order to qualify.

In Michigan it would be nice to see us follow suit. I think we are more in need of a kick in the pants than the state of New York. As it stands now, our utilities are giving us money for our old refrigerators and they will even pick them up.

Speaking of labels on appliances stating the product is rated energy efficient (Energy Star), things are about to

change. Under an agreement between the E.P.A. and the Department of Energy you will soon see a label that says, "most efficient". The Consumer Reports magazine has commented and is playing a role in this change. It stated that "When more than 35 percent of all products sold in any category qualify for Energy Star, that should signal that the technology and economies of scale have reached a point where achieving an Energy Star is too easy and that the bar needs to be raised."

Doctor

Joe Gagnon

Now I'm no different than the next guy who wants to save energy, but if you ask a service technician who services these products you may get a very negative response. The advancement of technology leads us into more sensitive components and electronics which take the savings right out of your pocket due to the cost of increased service calls to repair them. The foreign brands are leaders in energy savings and will this new policy allow more sales of products not manufactured in this country. I wish that government had the ability to look past its nose and picture the after affect of its thinking.

I recently read an article that pointed out a Federal law that has been in the books since the year 1956. It's called the Refrigerator Safety Act which prohibits leaving old refrigerator and freezers laying about where they can be dangerous to the safety of children. It reminds me of the two little kids in Ann Arbor a few years back who climbed into a chest freezer and perished so needlessly. The federal law can fine a person \$200,000 if a death occurs and the homeowner is held responsible. I would ask everyone who observes a refrigerator or freezer without the doors removed to contact the local police department and report this accident waiting to happen.

There is a big appliance out there called a self-start generator which is being sold in increasing numbers. I had an expert in this field tell me that in years it will be compared to the advent of color television. Think of how many power outages that occur all across this country and how important electricity has become for so many homeowners and I agree with my expert's viewpoint. This is an up and coming business venture which means that you as a consumer should check out a generator business to the best of your ability. Know who you're dealing with, especially in this business. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twmi.rr.com.

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SOCIAL SECURITY

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

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.

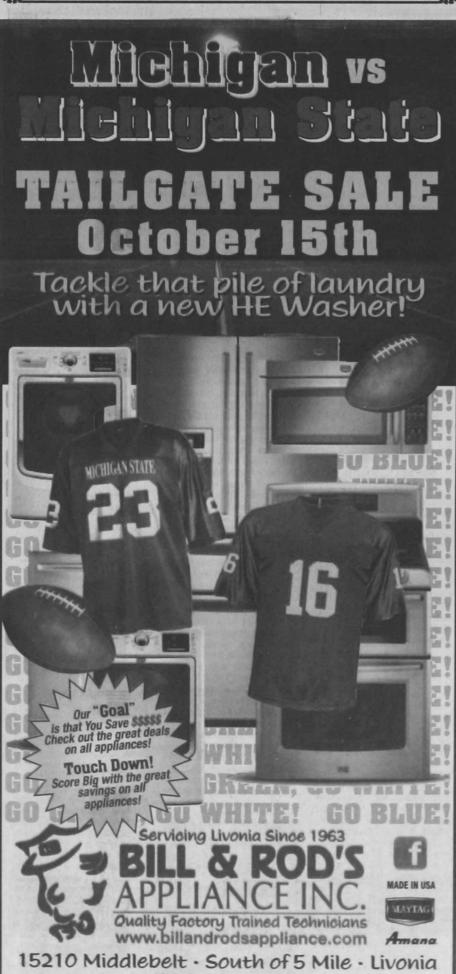
Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road Just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road Just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking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

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REUNIONS

Send information to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.

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.

DETROIT MACKENZIE

JUNE CLASS OF 1961 50th reunion will be Saturday, Oct. 29. For more information e-mail Ivanerian@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.

GARDEN CITY EAST & WEST

CLASSES OF 1966-67

Contact Karen Covard-Domanski at (734) 427-7012 or Dennis Russell at russ027@comcast.net to attend the reunion of Garden City East and West high schools on Oct. 15 at Saints Peter and Paul Banquet Center in Dearborn Heights. Cost is \$40 per person. There also will be a get together at 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14 at Albert's on the Alley in Garden City and noon on Sunday, Oct. 16, at Beaver Creek Tavern in Westland.

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 WEST

CLASS OF 1981

30-year reunion, 6 p.m. to 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

LADYWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1961 Planning a 50th reunion in 2011. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail sandymacg@aol. com or call Sandy Phillips O'Leary (734) 453-0783 and leave a message if voice mail picks up.

LIVONIA FRANKLIN

CLASS OF 1966

45th high school reunion, Oct. 8 at Laurel Park Marriott. Seeking classmates and contact info. E-mail contact info to Larry Ruzsas at Lruzsas187264mi@comcast.net or call him at (810) 599-3509.

REDFORD UNION

CLASS OF 1962

Looking for classmates for 50th class reunion on Oct. 13, 2012 E-mail Linda (Horning) Tracy at lindatracy100@gmail.com or call her at (231) 882-7268 or e-mail Madeline Rice at paddlinmadeline@gmail.com.

ST. PHILOMENA GRADE SCHOOL Class of 1961 50th reunion, Saturday, Oct. 8. Call Phil Ventura at 586 263-4909 or

E-mail amvpav@aol.com WAYNE MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1962 Looking for classmates for 50th class reunion on May 19, 2012. E-mail to Judy (Ramsey) Oleson at joleson@sbcglobal.net or call her at (586) 268-1663 or e-mail to Kathy (Quinn) Hayes at bustchr@aol.com

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Road at Outer Drive, in

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(248) 280-9500; and 6370

Orchard Lake Road, at

Maple, in West Bloom-

field; (248) 851-7506.

for winter on Saturday,

Get tips on holiday

decorating and trends on

Oct. 8

Oct. 22

Milestones



Joseph and Lauren (Galorneau) Giaimo of Canton with their children, Elizabeth and David.

25th wedding anniversary

Joseph and Lauren (Galorneau) Giaimo, residents of Canton for 25 years, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary Sept. 20.

The couple met at the wedding of Lauren's sister. Lauren was a bridesmaid, and Joe was a groomsman and fraternity brother of the groom.

Joe and Lauren were married in 1986 at Holy Family Catholic Church in Joseph and Lauren Giaimo of Can-Detroit.

Joe is a graduate of Trenton High

School, Western Michigan University and the Univer-

sity of Michigan Dearborn. He has worked in the automotive industry for more than 30 years and is currently employed at TRW Automotive. Lauren is a graduate of Livonia Bentley High School,

ton on their wedding day.

Central Michigan University and Eastern Michigan University. She has been employed with Beaumont Health Systems for 27 years.

The couple has two children, David and Elizabeth. David is a graduate of Father Gabriel Richard High School in Ann Arbor and currently attends the University of Michigan Dearborn. Elizabeth is a senior at Father Gabriel Richard.

The family loves to travel and in celebration of their anniversary they all spent 10 days in Paris, France, in

GARDEN & NATURE

Metro Detroit Hosta Society

Sandy Wilkins presents "Gardening for the Sense of It - your five senses and maybe some you didn't know you had" at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 26 at First United Methodist Church of Birmingham, 1589 W. Maple, Birmingham. Sandy and Jim Wilkins have created a nationally-recognized shade garden in the Jackson area. The

program will also feature a silent plant auction. Light refreshments served. Guests welcome. For more information email to Hgold2843@comcast.net.

Livonia Garden Club

Penrith Goff, steward of the bromeliad collection at Matthaei Botanical Gardens and president of the Southeastern Michigan Bromeliad Society, will talk about bromeliads at the club's next meet-

ing, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 4, at the Livonia Senior Center, Five Mile and Farmington Road in Livonia. Visit the club's Web site at www.orgsites.com/ mi/livoniagardenclub/

English Gardens

These free in-store demonstrations start at 10

- Get tips on pruning and dividing plants at Saturday, Oct. 1.
- Find out which plants are best for clearing the

THOR, DONALD R.

Steve) Guibord and Diane (Dave)

Mullins. Proud grandpa of Danny,

Kristin, Ryan and Shawn. Dearest

brother of Jack (Joyce). Preceded

in death by his dear son Paul.

Also survived by many other lov-

ing family and friends. Honorably

retired from Livonia Police

Department July 1985. Proud owner of Don Thor and Son

Contractors. Visitation will be

held at Fred Wood Funeral

Home-Rice Chapel 36100 5 Mile

Rd. Livonia. Tuesday 2-9pm, 7pm Military Honors. Funeral

Service Wednesday 11am at Funeral Home. Memorial

Contributions may be made to MI

Humane Society.

Age 76 of Livonia.

Cherished husband of the late Nancy. Loving

father of Terri (the late

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

assages Les Memories & Remembrances

BOSSMANN, LAWRENCE K.

Age 79 of Farmington, died September 19, 2011. Arrangements by Thayer-Rock Funeral thaver-rock.com

FEINGOLD, IRENE LILLIAN

Age 89 of Hollywood, Florida and formerly of Teaneck, NJ. Beloved wife of the late Hugo, mother of David Feingold and Beth Grossman, mother-in-law of Sandra, loving grandmother of Jacob Feingold. Fahren Feingold and Jeffrey Grossman and dear sister of Rhoda Seligson. Graveside service will take place at Beth El Cemetery, 735 Forest Avenue, Paramus, NJ Monday at 1 PM.



NIEMAN, FRED P.

Age 85, September 16, 2011. Beloved husband of Lucille. Loving father of Rick (Cindy) and Kathy Nieman. Dear grandfather of Matthew and Molly. Brother of Helen (Chuck) Scott. Visitation at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Sunday, September 25th, from 2 PM until Memorial Service at 3 PM. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Yankee Air Museum. Please share a memory at www.rggrharris.com.

SPURR,

WILLIAM C. "BILL"

Of Commerce Twp, MI for 44 years and recently of Redford, MI, died in his sleep September 18 2011; at 83 years of age. Married for 62 years, he is survived by wife Virginia, brother John (Diane), 3 children William (Deborah), Patricia (Wesley) Babian, James (Deborah), 6 grandchildren, and 6 great grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews -- he will be greatly missed. Born in Oglesby, IL on 6/27,1928, worked at American-Standard from 1949 to 1990. Long time member of the choir at First Presbyterian Church. The Memorial Service will be Saturday, Oct. 1, 2 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church at 1669 W Maple Road, in Birmingham,MI 48009. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the music fund at First Presbyterian Church in Birmingham, MI.

HRIGORA (KOSS), EVELYN M.

Passed away peacefully on September 17th, 2011 at the age of 90. Born in Detroit, MI graduated from Denby High School, married the former Carl Hrigora and worked at Par-Screw Products as an officer and countant while residing in Active in Detroit. Cootiettes and volunteering at VA hospitals, Evelyn traveled the state doing charity and volunteer work. She held several high positions within these organizations through the many years she was involved. Upon retiring in 1983 they moved to Brighton and Evelyn quickly became active in the community. She joined several of the local Senior Centers and vas a daily face and voice at the Brighton Senior Center for decades. Their home on Woodland Lake was thoroughly enjoyed through the years. A smiling and out-going person Evelyn enjoyed a good laugh and was great company, creating many warm friendships. Many miles were traveled within the state and outside while she was on senior or family trips. Evelyn visited AZ for many winters visiting with her daughter's family. Volunteer work for the Senior Center, St Patrick church, and local community was still dear to her heart. For several years Evelyn worked part time for the UAW at their local office and then 'retired' for good. Evelyn is survived by her children Mike (Nancy) of Howell and Mary Lynn (Rob) of Valley Village, CA along with five grandchildren Jason (Chrissy), Jarret (Carrie), Derek, Jessica (Mike) and Aaron. Evelyn also boasted of 3 greatgrand children Maegan, Joseph and Kyley. A Memorial Mass, in Evelyn's honor will occur on Thursday, Sept. 22 at 10:30 AM at St Patrick's Catholic Church, 711 Rickett Rd in Brighton. A greeting and celebration of life will be held prior to the mass at 10 AM, followed by a friends and family reception after the service. Memorial contributions in Evelyn

Hrigora's name may be made to:

The Brighton Senior Center 850

Spencer Rd. Brighton, MI 48116.

May

you find

comfort

in Family

and

Friends



Age 85, September 18, 2011, of Bingham Farms. Wife of the late Robert. Loving mother of Craig (Karen) and Sarah Michael (Jack). Dear grandmother of Amy Tarnowski (Matt) and Gary Michael. Longtime Equestrian with a passion for Dressage. Founder of the Midwest Dressage Association and one of the founders of United States Dressage Federation. Memorials may be made in Lillian's name to United States Dressage Federation. A service will be held Great Lakes National Cemetery at a future date. A. J. Desmond & Sons, 248-362-2500. View obituary, share memories, and confirm service time at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

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 Detroit, MI 48226.

Through Sept. 30

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Time/Date: 1:30 p.m. Sept. 25

Location: Nardin Park Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Samaritan Counseling Center of Southeastern Michigan celebrates its 25th anniversary with a \$25 per person plated dinner, speaker and awards. Dr. Wesley Brun is the guest speaker. RSVP via phone, mail or Paypal Contact: (248) 474-4701 or visit www.samaritancounselingmichigan.com

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

GRIEF RECOVERY

Coins

Time/Date: 1:30 p.m. beginning Sunday, Sept. 25 Location: Our Lady of

Sorrows, 23815 Power Road, Farmington

Details: "Living with Loss" is a 16-week series dealing with loneliness and other issues related to the loss of a spouse. Facilitated by trained peer members. Cost is \$20

Contact: Gail at 248-477-

JOURNEY THROUGH PROPHECY

Time/Date: 7 p.m. or 12:30 p.m. Friday-Wednesday, Sept. 30-Oct. 15

Location: Metropolitan Junior Academy Gymnasium, 15585 Haggerty, Plymouth

Details: The book of Revelation will be explained. These illustrated presentations aim to make Bible prophecy clear and easy to understand. Learn why many who have attended these seminars have said they learned more about the Bible in a few weeks than they had previously Contact: (734) 420-3131

PRAY FOR NATION Time/Date: 6 p.m. Sunday,

Sept. 25

Location: New Life Church, 33111 Ford Road, Garden City

Details: The special service will include prayer for the nation Contact: (248) 766-5977

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: Pre-sale is 5-8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 29; sale is 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Sept. 30 and 9 a.m.noon Saturday, Oct. 1 Location: Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail,

Details: Admission for

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Jewelry

pre-sale is \$2. Admission free Friday-Saturday. Saturday everything is half

Contact: (734) 422-0149 SPAGHETTI DINNER

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m., Friday, Sept. 30 Location: Good Hope

Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill Road, Garden Details: Dinner and silent auction. Tickets are \$7 for

adults; \$3.50 for children, 3-11, and free for children under 3. Buy tickets in advance at the church or at the door the day of the event

Contact: (734) 427-3660 WIDOWED FRIENDS Time/Date: 2:30 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 25 Location: St. Kenneth Church, 14951 N. Hag-

gerty, Plymouth Details: Mass with social time and refreshments afterward. Check-in starts

at 2:15 p.m. Contact: Pat at (734) 895-

Oct. 1-15

FAMILY FUN FEST Time/Date: Noon-9 p.m. Oct. 2

Location: St. Dunstan, 1515 Belton, two blocks west of Inkster, two blocks south of Ford Road, Garden City

Details: Gordo the magician, Legend the band, dancing, 50/50 and other raffles. Bingo starts at 1 p.m. Chicken dinners and other refreshments will be available. Big Money Raffle at 8 p.m.

Contact: (734) 425-6720

GRIEF RECOVERY Time/Date: 2 p.m. starting

Sunday, Oct. 2 Location: St. Edith, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia

Details: "Living with Loss" is a 16-week series dealing with loneliness and other issues related to the loss

of a spouse. Facilitated by

trained peer members.Cost

is \$20 Contact: Priscilla at (734)

591-7879

10 tips to consider in cancer care

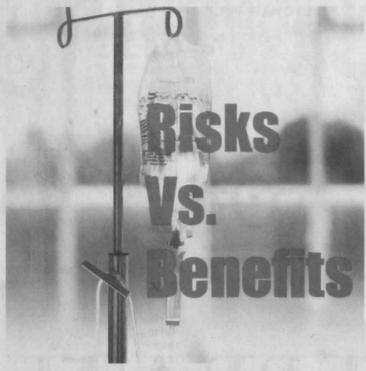
Talking with doctors about cancer and cancer treatments can feel like learning a new language. Angela Fagerlin, associate professor of internal medicine at the University of Michigan Medical School and her colleagues hope to improve the way health care professionals communicate information to patients.

"People are making life and death decisions that may affect their survival and they need to know what they're getting themselves into. Cancer treatments and tests can be serious. Patients need to know what kind of side effects they might experience as a result of the treatment they undergo," said Fagerlin, a U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center research-

Fagerlin and her colleagues have published a commentary in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute that outlines 10 things health care professionals can do to improve the way they explain treatment risks to patients. Patients can tap into these same best practices to become fluent in the language of cancer care and better understand their options. Here are their tips:

1. Insist on plain language. If you don't understand something your doctor says, ask him or her to explain it better. "Doctors don't know when patients don't understand them. They want patients to stop them and ask

questions," Fagerlin said.
2. Focus on the absolute risk. The most important statistic to consider is the chance that something will happen to you. "It's important that patients and doctors know how to communicate these numbers, and patients need to have the courage to ask their doctor to present it so they can understand,"



Fagerlin said. Sometimes, the effect of cancer treatments is described using language like "this drug will cut your risk in half." But, such risk statements don't tell you anything about how likely this is. Research has shown that using relative risk makes both patients and doctors more likely to favor a treatment, because they believe it to be more beneficial than it actually may be.

If, instead, your doctor told you that "the drug will lower your risk of cancer from 4 percent to 2 percent,' you'll know the exact benefit you'd get from taking the drug. Fagerlin suggests asking doctors for this absolute risk information for a truer picture.

3. Visualize your risk. Instead of just thinking about risk numbers, try drawing out 100 boxes and coloring in one box for each percentage point of risk. So, if your risk of a side effect is 10 percent, you'd color in

10 boxes. This kind of visual representation, called a pictograph, can help people understand the meaning behind the numbers. Ask your doctor to draw it out for you, or do it yourself.

4. Thinking of risk in terms of groups of people can make statistics easier to understand. What does it mean to say 60 percent of men who have a radical prostatectomy will experience impotence? Imagine a roomful of 100 people: 60 of them will have this side effect and 40

5. Focus on the additional risk. You may be told the risk of a certain side effect occurring is 7 percent. But if you didn't take the drug, is there a chance you'd still experience it? Ask what the additional or incremental risk of a treatment is. "You want to make sure the risk number you're being presented is the risk due to the treatment and not a risk you would face no matter what," Fagerlin said.

6. The order of information matters. Studies have shown that the last thing you hear is most likely to stick. When making a treatment decision, don't forget to consider all of the information and statistics you've learned.

7. Write it down. You may be presented with a lot of information. At the end of the discussion, ask your doctor if a written summary of the risks and benefits is available. Or ask your doctor to help you summarize all the information in writing.

8. Don't get hung up on averages. Some studies have found that learning the average risk of a disease does not help patients make good decisions about what's best for them. Your risk is what matters - not anyone else's. Focus on the information that applies specifically to

9. Less may be more. Don't get overwhelmed by too much information. In some cases, there may be many different treatment options but only a few may be relevant to you. Ask your doctor to narrow it down and only discuss with you the options and facts most relevant for

10. Consider your risk over time. Your risk may change over time. "What seems like a small risk over the next year or two may look a lot larger when considered over your lifetime," said study author Brian Zikmund-Fisher, assistant professor of health behavior and health education at the U-M School of Public Health.

If you're told the five-year risk of your cancer returning after a certain treatment, ask what the 10-year or 20-year risk is. In some cases, this data might not be available, but always be aware of the timeframe involved.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

September

WEIGHT LOSS SUPPORT

One Step Aweigh, a free weight loss support group, kicks off at 7 p.m. Sept. 27, in the Farmington Hills municipal offices, 31555 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. For more information e-mail group founder Jeffrey Weiss at OneStepAweight@yahoo.com.

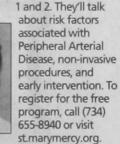
October

ST. MARY MERCY

 "Massages, Manicures, Mammograms & More," runs 9 a.m.-noon in the hospital's south lobby, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. Participants can learn about breast health, the latest in breast screening detection, cancer prevention, and heart health, as well as pamper themselves with a manicure or massage. The event includes health screenings, cooking and Zumba demonstrations, food, refreshments and giveaways. It's free but registration is recommended. Mammograms must be scheduled in advance and include a doctor's order. To RSVP or for information call (734) 655-1182.

• The Michigan Bariatric Institute at St. Mary Mercy Hospital offers free monthly educational seminars, 6-7:30 p.m. in the hospital's auditorium. Dr. Tallal Zeni, director of minimally invasive and bariatric surgery and Dr. Jacob Roberts, bariatric surgeon, present information about laparoscopic bariatric surgery. Sessions are Oct. 6, Nov. 3 and Dec. 1. For information, call the Michigan Bariatric Institute at (877) Why-Weight. It's located at 14555 Levan, Suite 311, in the Marian Professional Building, Livonia.

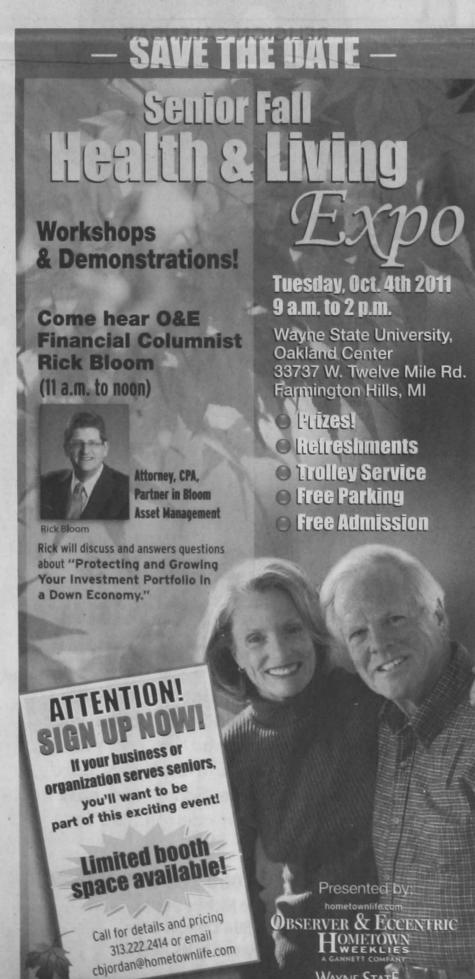
 Delair Gardi, a cardiologist, and Peter Galea, a podiatrist, will speak at a seminar called "Feet, Circulation & How They Affect Your Heart," 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6, in the Marian Professional Building at the hospital, classrooms





Gardi







St. Mary Mercy Hospital's UPCOMING HEALTH INFORMATION PRESENTATIONS

Michigan Bariatric Institute Seminar

Guest speaker Tallal Zeni, MD Thursday, September 8, 6 p.m. Call 877-WHY-WEIGHT to register or for more information.

Healthy Living. Healthy Woman. **Robotics in Women's Health**

Speakers from Gynecology and Urogynecology Thursday, September 15, 6-8 p.m. Call 734-655-2281 to register or for more information.

The Center for Joint Replacement Seminars

Guest speaker Ryan Molli, DO Thursday, September 15, 6-8 p.m. Guest speaker David Mendelson, MD Wednesday, September 28, 6-8 p.m. Call 734-655-2400 to register or for more information.

911-Act in Time: When to go to the ER

Guest speakers Michelle Moccia, RN, MSN, ANP-BC and Andrew Gough, DO Wednesday, September 21, 6 p.m. Call 734-655-8950 to register or for more information.

REGISTER NOW!

Presentations are free, but registration is required. Visit stmarymercy.org and click on Classes & Events or call designated number above.

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2011 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC**

Top 10 Health Care Careers In Demand Now And In The Future

There are many different careers in health care, but these top 10 health care careers are the best choices of the moment. Considering factors such as job outlook, requirements for entry level positions, salary and benefits, this list includes the top 10 health care careers that are in demand.

There are many different careers in health care, but these top 10 health care careers are the best choices of the moment. Considering factors such as job outlook, requirements for entry level positions, salary and benefits, this list includes the top 10 health care careers that are in demand today and will be around in the future:

- 1. Physician assistants
- 2. Medical records technicians
- 3 Social workers

- 4. Clinical laboratory technicians
- 5. Mental health counselor 6. Medical scientists
- 7. Pharmacists
- 8. Physical therapists
- 9. Medical transcriptionists 10. Medical and health service managers.

Physician assistants are high on the list of the top 10 healthcare jobs because they provide very important services such as diagnostic, therapeutic and preventive healthcare services as delegated by a physician. The requirements include two-year accredited education programs and the passage of a national exam, and the pay is typically around \$63,000/year. Medical-records technicians also have very important jobs, as they are in charge of maintaining and

evaluating the accuracy of patient medical records. This job requires an associate's degree, and the average annual salary is roughly \$32,000/ year before benefits and bonuses. The medical transcription job is another position that requires an associate's degree and pays an annual salary in the \$30,000s. Social workers and mental health counselors deal more with the mental health and well-being of patients. These jobs require fouryear degrees or master's degrees and pay \$40,000-\$58,000/year. Clinical laboratory technicians and medical scientists are involved in tests that result in the detection, diagnosis and treatment of disease, and research to provide information to develop solutions to human health problems. Lab techs need bachelor's degrees and earn \$27,000-\$32,000/ year, while scientists need at least a doctorate in a biological science and can earn \$88,000-\$103,000/year. Physical therapists help restore function, improve mobility and relieve pain for patients suffering from injuries and ailments. It requires at least a master's degree and state licensing. They earn \$53,000-\$67,000 a year, while pharmacists can earn \$100,000 annual salaries with bachelor's degrees. The last job on the list, medical and health service manager. often requires a master's degree in health sciences or administration, and pays \$55,000-\$68,000/year.

Find top health care schools and top allied healthcare degrees programs on HealthDegreesU.com .This is an online allied healthcare education resource for all those students who want to make their career in allied health science. Browse site for more information on allied health care education.

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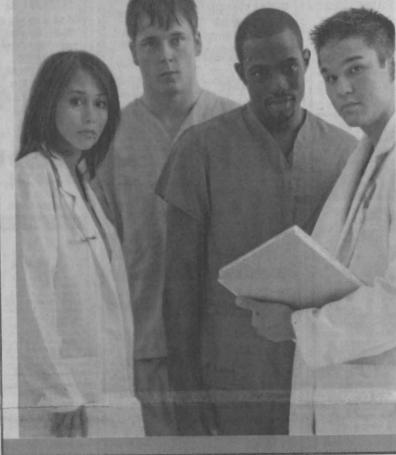
Current, unencumbered State of Michigan license to practice as a RN or LPN. Minimum two (2) yrs. of nursing exp. required. Ventilator, Trach and G-Tube Care experience preferred. Excellent Pay!

Email resume to:

HC-HR@healthcall homecare.com
or visit:

(800) 991-9933 x505

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scientious individuals who can demonstrate a strong work ethic and positive attitude. Entry level, full-time, day-shift positions are available. High school diploma required. Our modern manufacturing facility is very clean and houses the latest in innovative equipment. Competitive wages and a generous benefit package including 401(k). EOE Email resume to:

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Please list salary
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ACROSS

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- monk 5 Tie up
- the phone 8 Leatherworker's
- hole maker Kind of raise
- 12 Wanted-poster
- abbr. 13 Pester
- 14 Organic acid
- 15 Distance
- step further
- 18 Coated with
- metal 20 Technical sch.
- 22 Gotchal 23 Four Corners
- state
- 27 Bear in a constellation
- 29 Diver's gear
- Lead-ins
- 33 Sighed loudly

14

34 Doorbell 35 Struggle for air

- Bumstead's neighbor Grads-to-be
- 38 Countess's spouse
- Arctic people
- 45 Spend 46 Diner freebies
- Kind of squash 51 Ait, on the
- Seine 52 S&L offerings
- 53 Khartoum's
- 54 Wetlands
- 55 Thing on a ring 56 Scoundrel

DOWN

- 1 Seafood garnish
- Tunes for divas 3 Max opposite
- Upon 5 Harley
- competitor 6 Curly-tailed dog
- 11 Astrologers 16 Teach 19 Glasgow girl
- 8 Literary miscellany
- Witty one

- 10 Not sm. or med.
 - - 26 Once owned
 - Tommy
 - Heir, often

 - Canucks org.
 - Conway
 - 35 Prim and
 - proper
 - 37 Glove leather
 - place
 - 41 Vanessa's

 - 46 Derrick arm
 - Tight" performers
 - 50 Stage signal
- Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

Answer to Previous Puzzle



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- 7 Green vegetable

- Uproar 24 Winery cask 25 Lincoln nickname
 - "Sheila" singer

 - 30 Driving hazard
 - 32 Robbins or
 - 33 Marina sight

 - 39 Dwelling
 - 40 In the country
 - sister 43 Gouge
 - 44 Obi
 - "Hold On
 - Chicken piece

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puzzle will have

you hooked from

the moment you

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Word Search: Sleep Awareness

N	S	В	H	Z	S	D	S	1	S	W	1	S	T	S
E	X	S	E	A	P	N	N	M	0	Z	V	H	L	J
E	G	C	E	D	E	S	0	J	M	Z	X	E	F	R
U	٧	0	G	L	0	N	V	R	D	Q	E	E	X	X
Q	U	N	E	M	T	S	P	T	1	P	Z	T	U	U
Q	1	R		C	W	S	٧	A	0	N	X	S	U	W
K	G	1	N	0	E	V	E	N	-1	N	G	C	T	N
D	A	Z	L	T	W	1	N	R	T	H	G	1	N	В
Z	Z	L	U	S	H	D	M	Q	R	S	F	E	W	K
K	1	В	E	X	X	A	D	R	0	A	T	A	T	J
P	W	M	Q	N	H	U	E	Q	F	В	E	A	0	J
S	T	E	K	N	A	L	В	P	M	E	Z	M	1	X
C	L	P	R	H	T	K	N	D	0	D	R	T	T	Y
R	0	D	0	R	H	D	В	T	C	R	K	E	A	L
P	L	Z	D	W	W	G	E	U	J	F	E	G	V	L

apnea bed blanket

comfort evening insomnia

king night pillows

queen restless sheets

sleep snorin twin

	CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE									
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- 4	9	3	7	9	1	2	8	6	1	
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PLYMOUTH- Multi-family! Lots of Partylite, furnishings Oct 1. Thurs & Fri, 8-6pm; Sat. 8-noon. 664 Coolidge, btwn Lilley & Main St.

REDFORD: 15949 Denby. N. of 5 Mile, E. of Inkster. Antique dealer overstock! Vintage items, many smalls, some household. Dealers & All Welcome. Thurs-Sat. Sept. 29-Oct. 1, 9-4pm. WESTLAND - Estate Sale

38292 Saint Joe Dr., W of Newburg, off Avondale, Sept. 25th-Oct. 1st, 9am-3pm. Appliances, Oak curio & tools. WESTLAND

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Call Roz for further details: 734-812-9962 WESTLAND HUNTER'S POINTE CONDO COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

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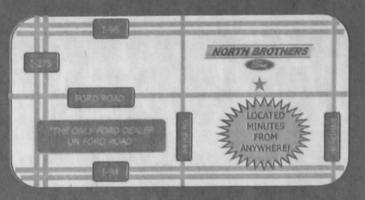


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