







Canton Police are asking for help identifying the person in this surveillance photo.

Suspect ID

The Canton Police Department is asking for assistance with identifying the suspect pictured in surveillance photos. This suspect is wanted for identity theft and fraudulent bank transactions in

Anyone with information on the identity of the suspect is asked to contact the Canton Police Department at (734) 394-5400. Anonymous tips can also be called in to Crime Stoppers at (800) SPEAK UP, or online to www.1800speakup.org.

Crime Stoppers will pay up to \$1,000 for a tip that leads an arrest.

Ballot return

Canton Township Clerk Terry Bennett is reminding voters intending to cast a ballot in the 2011 Plymouth-Canton Board of Education election to "take time to vote their ballot" and return it to her office.

At press time, Bennett said, only 37 percent of the absentee ballots had been returned

"It would greatly help out our staff if voters would not wait until the last minute to return their ballot," Bennett said.

Bennett's office Township Hall, 1150 S. Canton Center in

Goodfellow help

Friendly, adult Canton residents are needed for morning and afternoon shifts on Saturday Dec. 3, to distribute Canton Goodfellows "No Canton child without a Christmas" newspapers for donations at locally secured businesses.

Goodfellows note the "reward' for this one-time commitment is "knowing you provided a Canton family toys, gifts and their Christmas meal.

Additional volunteer opportunities will be available that day. For more information or to sign up, call Noreen at (734) 981-0486 or e-mail nrybar@yahoo.

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Canton eyes water limit

By Darrell Clem Observer Staff Writer

In an effort to curtail water rate hikes, Canton leaders are pondering mandatory wateruse restrictions that would force local residents and businesses to alter their lawn-watering and land-irrigation habits.

The potential measures could come as early as next spring as township officials strike back against Canton water rates that spiked 32 percent during the last five years - an increase that, while startling, was below the 40percent average for all Detroit Water and Sewerage Department customers.

The new rules mirror efforts that Vyto Kaunelis, a waterresources consultant with Livonia-based OHM, said already have shown success in Troy and Novi. The debate over water-use restrictions comes as a growing number of Canton residents have complained of difficulties paying soaring water bills.

The new ordinance would force consumers using automated sprinklers and irrigation systems — those on timers - to refrain from watering during peak usage hours such as 6-9 a.m. and 5-8 p.m. Rather, they could be forced to shift their usage to midnight to 6 a.m.

Potential penalty

Consumers would be warned if they ignore the rules - and potentially fined if they refuse to

Robert Belair, Canton public works manager, indicated the water-use changes could become effective by April if the township board supports a new ordinance and rolls out a marketing

campaign and public forums to educate consumers.

'We want to have this in effect before next year's watering season," Belair said Tuesday, during a township board study session he led with Kaunelis and Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas.

Faas said the change would ease the local burden on Detroit's vast water system and, ideally, soften the blow of water rate hikes - even if it doesn't lead to a hoped-for rate

Please see WATER, A6



'I wish the family peace'



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Brent Maupin, husband of the late Elizabeth Maupin (top), comforts his mother-in-law, Jane Graham, in court Friday.

Driver gets probation in death of Canton mom

By Darrell Clem Observer Staff Writer

Avoiding jail time during her sentencing Friday, a Canton driver described herself as "very deeply sorry" for hitting and killing Elizabeth Maupin, a 27year-old Canton mother of four, while Maupin was pushing her bicycle across Haggerty Road the evening of July 21.

"I wish the family peace," defendant Davida Marlene Rentie, 49, said

in 35th District Court. Though Maupin's family didn't ask that Rentie - the mother of a special-needs daughter receive a jail sentence, statements they made in court indicated they are far from finding peace.

"We don't hold hate toward (Rentie) or anything like that," Maupin's mother, Jane Graham,

Still, Graham questioned why Rentie, after hitting Maupin and dragging her 300 feet at Haggerty Road and Michigan Avenue, didn't go to talk

to her as she lay dying. Graham, who wiped tears in the courtroom, said Maupin left behind four children "who ask about her every day." They were ages four months to four years at

the time of her death. Graham said Maupin's survivors didn't seek jail time against Rentie because Maupin wouldn't have wanted it.

"My daughter would never have wanted a mother to be taken from her child," Graham said.

Rentie was placed on two years probation Friday by 35th District Judge Michael Gerou after she earlier pleaded no contest to a moving violation causing a death, a misdemeanor. Her driver's license also has been revoked by the state of Michigan for at least one

Gerou ordered Rentie to perform 30 days of community service and to work at a school crossing in the Plymouth-Canton school district so she can witness firsthand how drivers act recklessly in

dangerous situations. Gerou suspended a 180day jail sentence, but warned Rentie that she could face time behind bars if she fails to comply with the terms of her pro-

Please see DRIVER, A2

GOP foray into school race sparks some ire

By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer

When the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education started talking four years ago about moving their traditional May election to November, one of the arguments raised against the move was it might draw partisan political involvement to what is a nonpartisan race.

While that suggestion was played down at the time, it seems more relevant now with the emergence of the local Republican party in the campaign for the Nov. 8 general election.

The Wayne 11th Congressional District Republican Committee has put out at least four pieces of campaign literature in recent weeks, urging voters not to back what they call the "current MEA School Board," and backing four candidates for the four open seats.

Mark Hutchins, communications director for the Wayne 11th, said the Republicans are simply trying to get conservatives elected.

"The MEA has poured money into school board elections for ages," said Hutchins. "It's basically like putting the fox in charge of the henhouse. The people negotiating for teachers are also controlling the board. We didn't feel that was fair.'

Financial four

In its literature, the Wayne 11th backs former board presidents Mark Horvath and Mike Maloney and newcomers Matt Dame and Mike Andro, who

some have referred to as the "Financial Four" or the "Fiscal Four." Indeed, Maloney and Horvath in particular have been strident at board meetings about the board's handling of the district's budget and financial issues.

'Our focus is to get good conservatives into all elected offices, whether it's partisan or nonpartisan," Hutchins said. "The Livonia City Council is a nonpartisan, and we've been active in that

Please see SCHOOLS, A7

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

FINANCE SEMINAR Date/Time: Tuesday, Oct.

25, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Location: Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, 47650 N. Territorial in Plymouth

Details: Catholic Vantage Financial hosts a free financial seminar where participants will learn from industry experts on the hottest financial topics. Plus, get your legal questions answered about wills and trusts. Topics include easy-tolisten-to summary of how the events of this year are affecting your finances; looking at companies you invest in - Do they practice morally responsible choices? and answers on how to properly use a trust in your

estate planning. Contact: RSVP to (734) 4320212, Ext 301.

BEANS AND BARBECUE SAUCE

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, October 23, 2011

Date/Time: Nov. 5-12 Location: Plymouth and Canton Neighborhoods

Details: The annual Scouting for Food Can Do Food Drive is coming. Starting Nov. 5, Cub Scouts from all over the Canton and Plymouth area will distribute bags to homeowners on door knobs and mailboxes. Load up the bag with unexpired, unbreakable and imperishable containers of food. Everything from beans, barbecue sauce and baby formula is needed. Simply put the bag on your front porch anytime during the week. It will be picked back up by cub scouts on Saturday, Nov. 12. The food will be redistributed to local pantries in time for

the holidays. Contact: Boy Scout Troop 743 by e-mailing Miguel Lopez at Miglopezb@sbcglobal. net or call (734) 844-3151.

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DRIVER

Continued from page A1

bation. He also ordered her to pay hundreds of dollars in court costs and

Rentie's sentencing agreement was reached by prosecutor Eric Sterbis and defense attorney Jonathan Jones, and Maupin's family agreed to it even though they continue to grieve over their loss. Rentie could have faced one year in jail.

Maupin's younger sister, Shelby Graham, said in court that Rentie took the life of a caring mother who, on the day she was killed, had taken cookies to Canton firefighters.

"My sister got a life sentence," Shelby Gra-ham said. "She's not coming back. She's not spending the rest of her life with her children.'

Shelby Graham said she hopes Rentie never forgets what happened, even though she was spared jail. "When you take a life, I

think you should remember for life," she said.

She also said she wouldn't feel safe with



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Davida Rentie, who hit and killed Elizabeth Maupin, described herself as "very deeply sorry" in court.

Rentie on the road, considering how far the defendant dragged Maupin.

"That's a football field," Shelby Graham said. Maupin's husband.

Brent Maupin, sat in the courtroom with other family members. He chose not to speak Friday. but after the accident he had described Elizabeth Maupin as "a wonderful mother and a wonderful

Cemetery

wife" who was "my rock." Canton Detective Tim Wright has said Rentie stopped for a traffic light on southbound Haggerty at Michigan Avenue and that she didn't see Maupin when she turned right on

red in her Jeep. Maupin

she was struck shortly

after 8 p.m. July 21.

had the right-of-way when

Before her death, Elizabeth Maupin was training to race in a triathlon with her brother, Stephen Graham, and their father, Dennis Graham. Stephen Graham said Friday he

plans to run in a race next

year in his sister's honor.

Friday's sentencing brought to a close one chapter of the case for Maupin's family, though their attorney, Barry LaKritz, said a civil lawsuit already has been filed against Rentie seek-

ing unlimited damages. LaKritz said the four Maupin children have a long road ahead as they and their father, a selfemployed painting contractor, try to cope with the loss

of a stay-at-home mom. The oldest child, Connor, had turned 4 just two days before his mother's death. The other children - Carter, Christian and Katelyn — ranged in age from four months to three years when she was killed.

Anyone who wants to help the family still may donate to a fund established through Chase Bank at the branch at Ford and Canton Center roads.

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Summit offers nonprofit groups advice

LOCAL NEWS

By Darrell Clem Observer Staff Writer

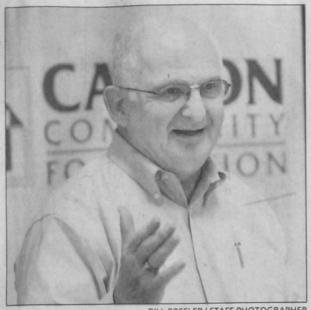
Pete Christ tells a folksy story to illustrate the problem-solving skills he said nonprofit groups need to thrive.

A man driving during a thunderstorm passes a bus stop and notices three people - an elderly woman who desperately needs medical help, an old friend who once saved his life and, in Christ's words, "the girl of his dreams."

The driver only has room for one passenger in his car, so what should

Correct answer: Give the old friend the car keys to drive the ailing woman to a hospital, then stay behind at the bus stop with the woman who

caught his eye. Christ, a former nonprofit CEO who is now a consultant with the Council of Michigan



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Pete Christ speaks at the Foundation seminar.

Foundations, was the keynote speaker Thursday afternoon as representatives of nonprofit and community groups gathered for the Canton Community Foundation's

third annual Philanthropy Summit.

"We're supposed to be doing something that is a value to the community," Christ said. "If we don't meet that criteria, then

we're not doing our job."

Nonprofits often start as "a clump of zealots" who see a need and want to help, he said. As they grow, however, Christ said they need a blueprint, a vision, for how to best serve the people they are trying to assist. And though nonprofits get tax breaks, he said they still have to operate like a for-profit busi-

"When you forget you are a business, it's the first step to going out of business," he said.

Christ addressed an audience of about 25 people from diverse groups such as the Partnership for the Arts & Humanities, the Canton Public Library, the Detroit Area Diaper Bank and the Canton Chamber of Com-

merce. Nonprofits can become embroiled in problems such as boards that try to

micromanage designated leaders or that simply rubber-stamp every decision, rather than taking time to seek creative ways to further an organization's vision, Christ

When such problems arise, he said, nonprofits need to reassess the way they are doing business or risk becoming irrelevant to the very people they had hoped to help.

Christ offered practical advice for how nonprofit and community group leaders can engage their boards of directors. He also advised nonprofits to focus on issues or needs

that stir passion in the community, rather than focusing on what can become the narrow inter-

ests of individuals. Canton Community Foundation President Joan Noricks said Christ's message can apply to most any community organization. She said it's critical, especially amid a tough economy, for members of nonprofits and other groups to understand their individual roles — and how those play a part in the larger mission.

"In today's economy," Noricks said, "we all know we need to work together to accomplish our missions."

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Police part of drug give-back program

The Canton Police Department will take part in the third national collaborative effort with the Drug Enforcement Agency to remove potentially dangerous prescription drugs from homes in the community 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 29.

This national giveback initiative will provide a unified opportunity for the public to turn in expired, unused and unwanted prescription medications to law enforcement for destruc-

Prescription drugs may be placed in a drop box located in the lobby of the Canton Police Department, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, between the

hours of 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 29

Drop-offs are free and anonymous, no questions asked. Restrictions include pills only; liquids and needles will not be accepted.

Last April, Americans turned in 376,593 pounds - 188 tons - of prescription drugs at nearly 8,400 sites operated by the DEA and their state and local law enforcement partners

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Unused medicines in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs.

Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash — both pose potential safety and health hazards.

For questions on this program contact Sgt. Mark Gajeski by phone at (734) 394-5400 or e-mail to mgajeski@cantonmi.org.

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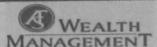
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What are the three biggest issues facing Plymouth-Canton Schools?

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, October 23, 2011

There has been a great deal of dissension on the school board over the last year or so. What will you do to heal the division?

What quality will you bring to the board that will help the district going forward?

The current board came within one vote of closing an elementary school this year. Does the district need to take a look at its facility usage, and how would you go about it?

One of the biggest decisions to face the new board will be the selection of a new superintendent. What qualities do you think the board should be looking for?

Name: Angie Williams-Chehmani Hometown: Canton Family: Married with two children

Education: Ph.D, Higher Education Administration; master's



in English. bachelor's in communications and English Occupa-tion: Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences/Hu-

manities **Community Involvement:** P-CCS Dynamic Planning Committee; P-CCS parent volunteer; Cavalier Village Homeowners' Association secretary (2007)

The three biggest issues are 1) accepting that the federal and state governments are no longer fully vested in public education and how this new perspective changes how public education has to operate financially, 2) curriculum, and 3) diversity (special needs, religion, income, race, gender,

P-CCS is a great school system with dedicated and passionate employees. The board needs to embrace this and move forward. There is too much on the negative and not enough on the potential of P-CCS. In meetings, take care of business and move on. The posturing at meeting has to stop.

As an associate dean at a community college, I understand the challenges facing state-funded education. I will bring fresh ideas and the skills to find financial resources and materials (books, computers, etc.) that will benefit the students.

P-CCS prides itself in being a community school system so that students have access within their neighborhoods. The Board should try to maintain this aspect. It is a plus. The Board also needs to meet with city council to discuss the role and future of public education within the city. Closing schools leaves big, empty buildings around town. When a building is left empty, people assume the city and school district is not prosperous.

P-CCS needs a superintendent who will move the district to a higher level of quality and financial stability. It should be someone who thinks outside of the box and who can make the hard decisions even when they are not popular.

Name: Steven Sneideman Hometown: Canton Family: Wife, Kelli; daughters, Maggie and Emily Education: Bachelor's degree



master's in business from NYU Occupa-tion: Global Project Manager for AT&T Community Involve-

ment: School Board Trustee (Secretary, Treasurer, President) since 2006; Member PCCS housing, school improvement, arts and alumni committees

School finance first. As Treasurer and President, we balanced the budget the last three years. This year I led the effort for no class size increases. We need more innovation. delivering curriculum at lower costs. Explore national best practices, improving achievement while spending less. Second change the board's culture. Board members inappropriately slipped into micromanagement. Finally, focus on our growing diversity. Complete Courageous Conversations and ensure we value and deliver for every citizen in our schools.

Whoever is on the board, appropriate behavior ground rules must be set. Back room deals which have occurred recently only leave some trustees out of the process, fostering dissension. It's important we complete the board governance work that was started during my term as president. Trustees must agree to board operating guidelines and ethical practices that ensure decisions are appropriately made in public. The current majority makes decisions without collaboration. The majority must compromise with the minority on decisions that both can live with.

Five-plus years' board experience and I believe I have made sound logical decisions. I don't play politics or make emotional choices. I roll up my sleeves and do real work As secretary, treasurer and president, I successfully led efforts for advertising rev enue, alumni, adding Chinese classes, adding counselors, eliminating class-size increases, energy program, food services in-house, strategic plan, community inclusion and online payments.

I expressed my disappointment when the housing committee was disbanded. I started my district volunteerism on that committee and know the importance of carefully analyzing the numbers and the shifts in school populations before making any decisions. The community must be included in the process. That's our policy and these are their schools. We shouldn't make rushed decisions that aren't been based on numbers and other factors. We discussed bringing in a consultant to help us analyze the numbers. I am in favor of doing that in this complex environment, as long as we include the community in the

process.

Before making any hiring decision the board needs to show it knows its role in its relationship with the superintendent. No executive of quality will want to work in a district that micromanages and plays politics. We need to complete our work on governance to show we have a good working environment. Once complete, we should hire someone who is honest, moral, has a good financial mind and has experience managing a large organization. The next superintendent should also be comfortable getting out into the schools and greater community, speaking to large groups and have a gregarious personality.

Name: Mark Horvath Hometown: Canton Family: Wife, Kathy; son and daughter are graduates of Education: Bachelor's from

gan Tech master's



University; from Oakland Univer-Occupa-

tion: Global Quality Director for

Lightweight Technologies Community Involvement: Past PCCS Board member 1994-98, president 1996-97 and 1997-98.

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The relationship must be one of mutual respect based on open, honest and public discussion of the facts. I delivered this relationship during my years on the board from 1994-98. I will eliminate the overuse of board committees where only three board members meet to discuss issues such as curriculum, finance, policy, etc. I will return these key discussions to public discussions of the entire seven-member board; focus the board on attacking our problems and not each other; lead by example to show the community and board how to publicly disagree without becoming personally disagreeable.

My proven leadership of the board and my extensive knowledge of and proven solutions for the fiscal crisis that the current board has created.

This decision was the result of the current board trying to "cut its way to success' instead of focusing our resources on the classroom and budgeting for our core business, student education. The use of our facilities must become a regular process rather than a "special event" and will return to the process of yearly optimization of our facilities.

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Local Civil War vet honored in graveside service

By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer

A ceremony Wednesday at Plymouth's Riverside Cemetery gave public recognition to a soldier whose service in the Civil War may otherwise have been a historical footnote.

Civil War re-enactors and relatives of Albert Nelson Stevens, who fought for the Union in two different units of Michigan volunteers, took part in a headstone dedication Wednesday at Riverside, nearly a century after Stevens was buried there in an unmarked grave.

"Fascinating," Gerald St. Charles of Whitmore Lake, a great-grandson of Stevens, said after the service. "Being a veteran myself, it just moved me." A retired autoworker, St. Charles served in Vietnam in 1965-66 as part of the U.S. Army.

He attended with his mother, Juanita, 88, whose father, Charles, was Stevens' youngest

"It was wonderful," Juanita St. Charles said later during a phone interview. "It was awe-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Helen Stevens DeWolf, Laurelyn Clement and Juanita Stevens scatter rose petals on the grave of their ancestor.

some."

The graveside ceremony, which took place on an overcast, misty afternoon, was patterned after a Grand Army of the Republic service from the era of Stevens' death, said Jerry Jacobs, the master of ceremonies. The GAR was a fraternal and support organization for Union veterans for

decades after the war.

Re-enactor Mike Gillett, a museum volunteer, played the role of a chaplain for the service. He recognized not only Stevens, but all from the era who served, and those who gave their lives.

"As they were then, they are still: In the hands of the heavenly Father," Gillett said.

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The ceremony included the playing of Taps by a uniformed bugler and a rifle salute by three other re-enactors.

"Doing these, I just get choked up each time," Jacobs said afterward.

Gerald St. Charles and his mother said they knew very little about Albert Stevens, other than he fought in the war. They weren't even aware of where he was buried until recently, they said.

This is just so neat. I had no idea," Gerald St. Charles said.

Albert Stevens, whose family had moved to the area from New Jersey, was not quite 20 when he enlisted in Company D of the 4th Michigan Volunteer Infantry in June 1861, soon after the war started. He was discharged in December of that year because of rheumatism brought on by poor camp conditions, according to Liz Kerstens, executive director of the Plymouth Historical Museum. But he re-enlisted three years later in Company A of the 30th Michigan Volunteer Infantry and was discharged in June of the following year, about three months after the war ended.

Stevens returned to the area after the war and, with his wife, had eight children, four of whom survived into adulthood. He had been a wagonmaker before the war; afterward, he worked in a sawmill. He died in March 1916.

It was during planning

for Riverside's upcoming Cemetery Walk, Kerstens said, that it was found Stevens' grave was unmarked. The cemetery walk, scheduled for Saturday, is a portrayal by actors of people from Plymouth's history who are buried at Riverside.

The museum, along with the Sgt. John S. Cosbey Camp 427 chapter of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, then applied to the Veterans Administration for a headstone. Plymouth Department of Municipal Services employees installed the stone at no charge to either group.

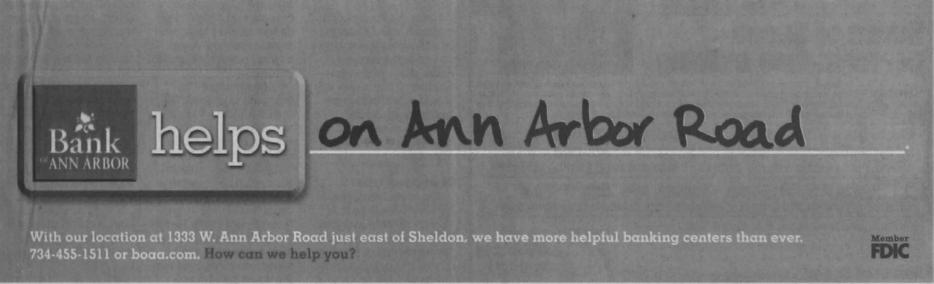
Not only did Gerald St. Charles, with his Army service, follow in Albert Stevens' footsteps, but his son Jay and grandson Mitchell did likewise, serving, respectively, in the 1991 Gulf War and in the current conflict in Afghanistan, St. Charles said. Mitchell St. Charles is currently on his third tour of Afghanistan, his grandfather said.

"Hopefully, someday, won't none of 'em have to go," he said.

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Former Canton woman reaches milestone birthday

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Bessie Shannon was the guest of honor at a birthday party celebrating her 100th birthday Saturday — a birthday the Westland resident never expected to see.

"When my husband died at 83, I said that I won't be long behind. We were both healthy until a couple of months before he passed away," said Shannon, who has lived at American House for nearly four years. "The Lord took care of me and helped me through everything. I've had a lot of falls."

Born in Illinois, Shannon moved to Michigan at 11 with her widowed mother, brother and sister to join an older sis-



Bessie Shannon turned 100 Oct. 22 and celebrated with a party attended by family and friends.

ter who was married and already living in the area.

Employed 14 years by Michigan Bell, first as a switchboard operator and later as a clerical worker, Shannon was 27 when she met her future husband Larry at church. Married 56 years before Larry died, the couple has two sons, Richard and David.

An Army corporal during World War II, Larry Shannon ran a canteen for the Ford Motor Company and also farmed a five-acre parcel when the family lived in Canton.

"I was expecting my youngest son when we lived in Canton. My husband farmed just for the family," Shannon said. With a husband and two boys, Shannon said she considers the washing machine the greatest invention ever — at the time she was trading up from a washboard to a ringer washing machine.

The Shannon family loved to camp and travel, something Bessie and Larry continued over the years traveling by motor home.

"We traveled to all but three or four states. We didn't make it to Hawaii, Oregon and Washington," said Shannon, whose favorite state was Ari-

Following Larry Shannon's retirement, the couple moved to Evart and divided their time between there and Texas. Shannon moved back the Detroit Metro area after her husband died.

Over the years, Shannon carved and painted along with other crafts but said she no longer does those hobbies.

"I read my Bible and pray. I sing hymns to myself - I can't sing (aloud) - but I sing the hymns in my mind," she said.

At 100, Shannon doesn't offer a prescription for longevity.

"I exercise each morning, otherwise I couldn't get out of bed. If I miss a day I really feel weak. I do it on my own," she said. "I feel good - I don't have any pain."

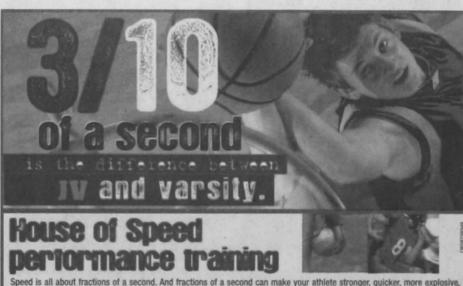
Shannon stretches her fingers, hands, legs and feet to get moving in the morning. Her son David moved back to the area to help care for his mother and visits her at American House each day. Older son Richard lives in Virginia but will join other family members -

sons and five greatgrandsons - and friends at her birthday party.

Describing Shannon as a remarkable woman, great-nephew Phil Snell noted her devotion to the Detroit Tigers. "She follows the Tigers close enough to tell Jim Leyland a thing or two about how to run the ball club, pretty funny really," Snell said, adding Shannon was also known for her cooking. "Her brownies are legendary within the family."

The day before her birthday, Shannon was being honored with cake and a party for her American House neighbors. She said she was looking forward to seeing her extended family at her

Looking back over her life, Shannon said, "A lot of times I think of things but I guess I wouldn't do anything different."



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HOUSEOF SPEED.

WATER

Continued from page A1

decrease. He said Canton, within a year, will be negotiating new contract language with Detroit.

"We need to get a handle on our peak usage before that time," Faas said.

Water consumers with odd-numbered addresses still would water lawns on odd-numbered calendar days, while evennumbered addresses still would conform to evennumbered calendar days.

"We have had some success (with that plan)," Faas said.

Non-peak use

The latest measures, however, would go further by shifting irrigation-related water usage away from peak usage hours. The ordinance also would forestall, for now, talks of building multimillion-dollar water storage tanks.

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Local officials said Van Buren Township spent \$11 million on a storage system.

Shannon has three grand-

Kaunelis said Canton typically uses about 8 million gallons of water a day, though usage can spike dramatically or dip lower depending on the time of year and weather factors. The new program's success, he said, would hinge on how eagerly local consumers embrace it and how aggressively Canton enforces it.

Faas estimated Canton could save \$640,000 to \$1.5 million a year in what it pays Detroit — savings that could help rein in water rate hikes.

Township board members appeared receptive to the proposal, which could be decided by early next year. Clerk Terry Bennett said she believes local consumers would cooperate in hopes of easing water rate hikes.

"I actually have great faith in our Canton residents," she said, noting that residents earlier responded with enthusiasm to a curbside recycling program.

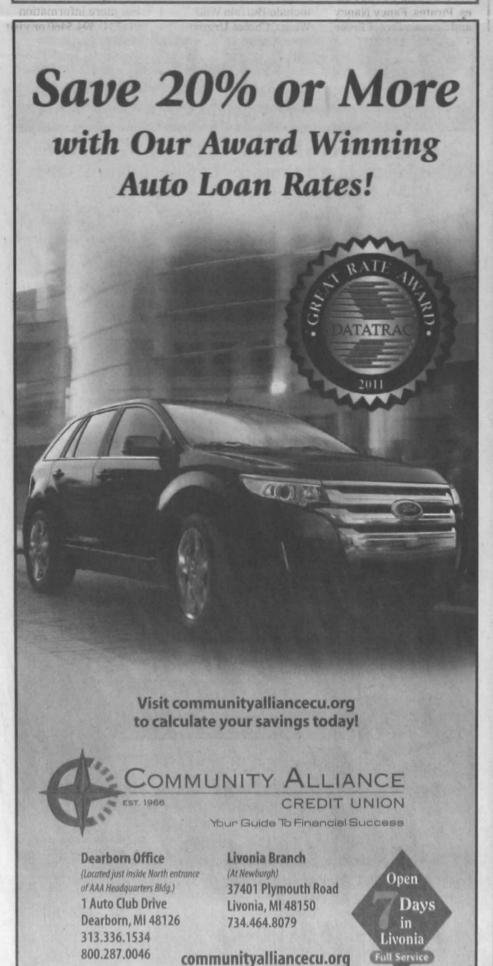
Others, such as Trustee Pat Williams, remain concerned that Detroit could change its own rules and leave local communities still facing hefty rate hikes, regardless of efforts to reduce water use during peak hours.

"I don't have a lot of faith in Detroit Water and Sewer," he said.

Officials indicated that Novi has the ability to fine consumers \$150 for first-time ordinance violations and up to \$500 for repeat offenses. However, Kaunelis said he wasn't aware of any fines being imposed.

If Canton adopts the plan, local officials indicated they will evaluate the level of success in late 2012.

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SCHOOLS

Continued from page A1

race for years. The idea is to be able to look at things objectively, and we haven't seen that (in Plymouth-Canton), and that's why we chose to get involved."

Kurt Heise, who ran an unsuccessful campaign for a seat on the school board a few years ago and has since been elected to the state House of Representatives in the 20th District, which includes Plymouth and part of Canton, posted Horvath's news release about his entry into the race on his Facebook page shortly after Horvath announced his candidacy.

Heise said he's got no problem with political involvement in the school board race.

"I posted (Horvath's) release on my Facebook page because Mark is a friend, and he helped me when I ran in 2007," Heise said. "I think (political parties) should get involved. If the Democrats want to endorse someone, that's fine with me. The more the merrier. I don't think there's a problem with that. People want information and guidance, and they're looking to the political parties for that kind of

Disputed claims

The Wavne 11th's literature makes most of the same claims Horvath and Maloney have been making for months, and attacks the current board on several other issues. The literature claims the district is deficit spending and has a projected \$26 million budget deficit for the 2012-13 school year.

But opponents call the claims in the Wayne 11th's literature "lies." A sampling of claims, for instance:

· The current board has left the district with either a \$26 million or \$28 million deficit, depending on which piece you read. The footnote refers to the board's financial projections from June 2011. Opponents say it fails to point out that later projections reduced the potential deficit to between \$4 million and \$10 million.

• The district enacted a "diversity program" that promoted hiring teachers based on race rather than qualifications in an effort to hire more minority teachers. Administrators say at no time were they looking for anything other

than qualified teachers. · The current board failed to properly screen teachers, which has resulted in a teacher that lied several times on his application bringing a gun to school. Critics point out that teacher, the since-fired Ray Schepan-

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313.535.3030 www.fisherfuneral.net sky, taught in the district since his hiring in 2000 without issue and never actually made it to the school with the gun. He pleaded guilty to carrying a concealed weapon, but a charge of bringing a gun onto school property was dismissed in court.

LOCAL NEWS

Dianne Gonzalez, the current board vice president, isn't seeking reelection this year. She said she's appalled by the tone of the rhetoric she says has been introduced by Republicans.

"It's amazing to me that people would tear down a district they say they're trying to help," Gonzalez said. "Tearing it down isn't the way to help, especially using the kinds of lies in those pieces. It's frightening.'

Wayne 11th officials obviously dispute that claim, saying the facts and figures they used in their literature, particularly pertaining to the budget, were from the district's own preliminary study in June.

"No other information has really come out that states differently ... It's still all pie in the sky figures," Hutchins said. "There are still things to look at, and the focus of the people we're supporting is to go in there and take an objective look at what the budget is, then plan more than one year at a time. I know you can't project, because you've got a fluid population, but there are things you can look at and plan for to take care of getting the money into the classroom."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com

OTHE THREE MUSKETEERS (PG-13)

/SAT LS 12:00

1:55, 6:55 FRI/SAT LS 11:50 OTHE THING (R) 12:20, 2:40, 5:00,

REAL STEEL (PG-13) 11:00, 1:40,

7:20, 9:45 FRI/SAT LS 12:0 OTHE BIG YEAR (PG) FRI-WED 11:50, 4:30, 6:50

OFOOTLOOSE (PG-13)



Canton brings back trick-or-treat parade

Ghosts, goblins, and all things spooky are invited to Canton Leisure Services' 11th annual Trick or Treat Parade 4-7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 28 at the Sum-

mit on the Park. Parade participants will enjoy seeing the Summit decked out for the event, as well as over a dozen themed stations which will be set up for ages 11 and under. Two "path" options will again be offered giving trick-or-treaters even more age-appropriate themed stations to choose from.

Younger trick-or-treaters will enjoy visiting with characters including the Disney Princess-. es, Pirates, Fancy Nancy and Sesame Street favorites. Those who dare can visit the spooky trail, where they may just spot a wicked witch along the way or a zombie on the prowl.

Once again, parade participants will be able to take advantage of "Fast Passes," in order to limit time spent standing in line. Pick one up at the Summit on the Park Front Desk starting Monday, Oct. 24. These passes will be stamped with times to let participants know what time slot they should arrive in order to minimize their wait. Fast passes are limited and will be available on a first-come, first-served

basis. This year's sponsors include Buffalo Wild Wings, Choice Urgent Care, Community Financial, and The Goddard School, Maybury of Canton Preschool; and McCully's Educational Resource Center.

Additional supporters of this annual Canton tradition include D&M Art Studio, Dancin' Feet, Forever After Productions,

and Home Depot. Officials are reminding parents they're responsible for the direct supervision of their children during this special event. There is a suggested resident donation of \$5 per family (please provide proof of residency). The non-resident fee is \$10 per family. The Summit is located at 46000 Summit

Parkway. For more information call (734) 394-5460 or visit Cantonfun.org.



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A8

Farrand students spruce up garden

By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer

Lynn Barlow saw how the butterfly garden planted at Farrand Elementary School a few years ago had been grown over with weeds, and wanted to do something about it.

Barlow, a science teacher at the school, was in the midst of teaching a life-cycle portion of her curriculum and thought reinvigorating the garden would help her students learn about the interdependence between plants and insects.

Her plan: Have her students weed the garden and plant some milkweed.

"We're studying plants in science, and there's an issue right now because only Monarch



Students are Farrand Elementary, with some help from parent volunteers, recently refurbished the butterfly garden that had been planted at the school a few years ago.

butterflies will lay their eggs on milkweed," Barlow said. "I wanted to clear it out, plant some milkweed and teach the kids about interdependence. I thought it would be a good learning experience for my kids.'

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, October 23, 2011

Barlow knew the kids would be excited by the idea - "Every time they walk by it now, they say, 'Oh, there's our garden," she said - and sent a hopeful e-mail home to parents, offering them the chance to help, and figuring any help she got would be a



The butterfly garden at Farrand Elementary School, which had become overgrown with weeds, was recently refurbished by students and parents.

It turned out to be quite a bonus. Parents donated time, but also materials, including a birdbath, lilies, hostas and spring bulbs. "Several came up and helped with the project," Barlow said. "The parents really jumped on board."

Barlow was right

about one thing: The students were "very excited" by the project.

'The kids loved it, they really had a good time with it," Barlow said. "It was a good group project for the class. They're really proud of it."

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

Key Club food drive helps Army pantry

By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer

The shelves of the food pantry at the Plymouth Salvation Army are getting a boost from the P-CEP Key Club.

The student subsidiary of the Plymouth Kiwanis Club is running a food drive to benefit the Plymouth Salvation Army's food assistance program.

The food drive is being conducted at the district's three high schools - Canton, Plymouth and Salem. Students are being asked to bring in some type of canned or dry good for donation.

Key Club adviser Lesnie Osborn, a Salem High School teacher, urged staffers to encourage students to participate.

"As you know, with these tough economic times, people are struggling to make ends meet," Osborn wrote. "As a result, some of the people who may once have been able to give are now those who are in need. "Despite the sacrifices we have been asked to make, we are still blessed with a decent job, health care, a place to live, and plenty of food to eat every day. The same is not true of many others - adults and children - living in our own community."

Gary and Elise Walley, who own Fitness Things on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth, have sweetened the deal. Not only will Gary Walley, a member of the Kiwanis Club, donate \$500 to the food drive - a check the Key Club will turn over to the Plymouth Salvation Army - but he's also added an interesting prize to the competition.

Walley will also adorn the "Muscle Man" sign outside his business which has sported designs such as Detroit Tiger and Red Wing apparel - with the logo and school colors of the school donating the most food.

Walley has agreed to leave the colors on the "Muscle Man" until spring - unless the Detroit Lions win the Super Bowl.

"Gary's been in Kiwanis since he opened the store ... the Key Club is one of his favorite things," Elise Walley said. "We've been talking for awhile about doing something with the schools and the 'Muscle Man,' and we thought it would be better to do something for the community.'

The food drive runs through Oct. 28.

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Notice is hereby given that the City of Plymouth, Michigan will accept sealed bids up until 2:00 p.m., October 31, 2011. The bid opening will be at 2:00 p.m., October 31, 2011 for the following:

FIRE STATION #2 - ADDITION/MODIFICATION

The City of Plymouth reserves the right to accept or

Publish: October 23, 2011

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC City Clerk

Specifications and bid documents are available at the City Hall during normal business hours. Plans can b picked up from the City Manager's Office located at 201 S. Main, Plymouth, MI 48170.

reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, and to waive any irregularities.

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PUBLIC NOTICE

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



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SP 11-04

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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:

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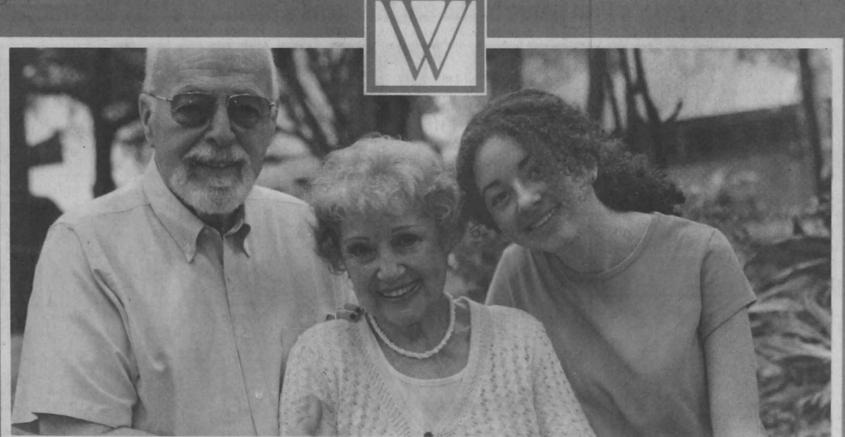
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Plymouth-Canton schools are safe, secure

By Jeremy Hughes **Guest Columnist**

This is my first column in the Observer, so it seems appropriate that I introduce myself. My name is Jeremy Hughes and I am the superintendent of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

As I planned for this first column, I intended to talk to you about our budget and exactly what we have planned as a result of the reduced funds coming from Lansing these days. I'm afraid that message will have to wait. I feel it is more important for me to address the lockdowns that took place at PCEP earlier this month.

I am pleased that the threatening notes that caused our administrators to implement safety procedures during that week turned out to be nothing more than just threats. As you probably have heard, a 15-year-old student turned himself into police and has been charged with this very serious crime.

First of all, I want to extend my thanks and gratitude to the Canton Township Department of Public Safety and Director Pat Nemecek. The officers did an outstanding job of securing our campus in a very short time and supervised a very orderly and safe release of our students after the first note was discovered. Canton PD then committed a tremendous amount of resources to ultimately apprehend the student responsible. They are outstanding public servants and we are fortunate to have them as partners in educating the children of our community.

I also want to compliment our students and staff

Jeremy Hughes

downs. Nobody panicked, and everybody understood the seriousness of the situation and

actions

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acted appropriately. Keeping our students and staff safe each day is the district's top priority. We did our best to communicate with parents and the community as soon as it was possible to do so. This was difficult because the media seemed to be tipped off every time a note was discovered. We barely had our buildings locked down

ing that we had a problem. Please understand that we are limited in what we can say and when we can say it during these situations. We coordinate our messages with the police to ensure we are not jeopardizing their investigation.

and the media were report-

I was so pleased to be able to send the message at the end of the week telling everyone that the person responsible was in custody. With the big football game that night and the Homecoming Dance the next evening, I wanted to be sure parents felt comfortable that this situation was resolved and everything was safe and secure.

We are currently working with the police to review the situation and make adjustments to our procedures and facilities that will help us make our campus even safer. Ultimately, safety and security aren't just the responsibility of the police, the teachers, and administrators of the district. It is the responsibility of each student and parent as well. In fact, the entire community must play a role in keeping our children safe while they are in school. We must remain aware and vigilant each day and report anything that looks or feels inappropriate.

When the 305-acre Plymouth-Canton Educational Park was designed decades ago, the vision was to create a learning environment that offered students the best opportunities to prepare for college or careers. It is not likely our founders worried about situations like the ones that took place this month. I think we all can agree that the good outweighs the bad at PCEP, but we must work hard to protect this wonderful place of learning for the students.

We did hear from some people who threatened to take their children out of our schools because they were so frightened by this situation. While I understand that sentiment, I think it is wrong. At the risk of sounding dramatic, this was a case of terrorism. This young man wanted to create mayhem and fear and he will have succeeded if people follow through with removing their students from our schools.

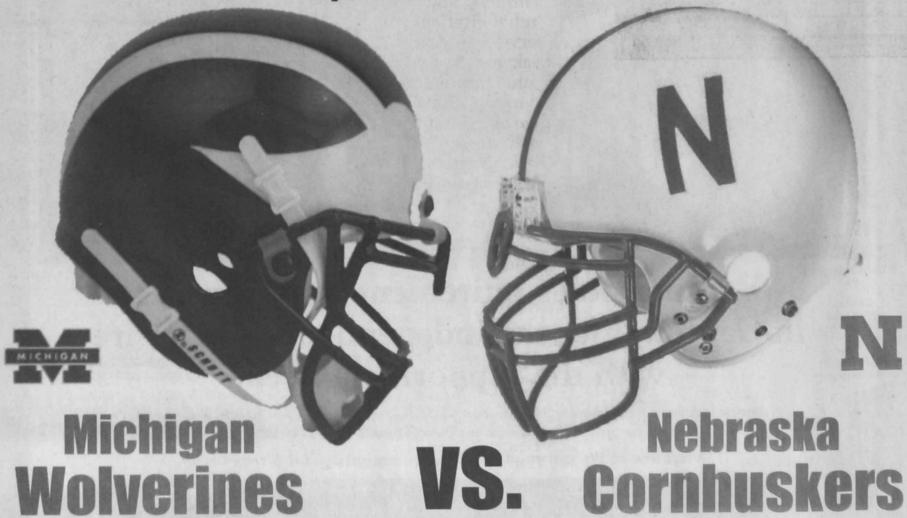
This is a societal problem, not a Plymouth-Canton problem alone and until we stand up and say "no more," the terrorists will win. Please join me in telling those that wish to scare us that this will not happen in our schools. Let's work together to protect our wonderful district.

Jeremy Hughes is superintendent of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools

This is Nebraska's first game in the Big House as a member of the Big Ten

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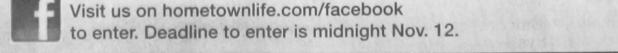
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parents and voting com-

Treats, activities for kids at Zoo Boo

The Detroit Zoo's annual "merry-not-scary" Zoo Boo celebration returns this Halloween season, featuring a festively decorated half-mile trickor-treat trail through the front of the Zoo. Presented by Meijer, Zoo Boo will be held from 6-8 p.m. on Oct. 23 and 28-30. The events will be held, rain or shine.

Elaborate pumpkin displays will line the treat trail, where greeters will pass out goodies to costume-clad children at treat stations along the route. But that's not all. A trail of eerie fog will lead through a spooky graveyard to the Haunted Reptile House, where friendly witches, vampires and other monsters will take up residence for the Halloween season.

The popular live minimusical, "Zoo Boo Revue," will be performed in the Main Picnic Grove. The Ghouly Games Tent will feature Halloweenthemed games, prizes, arts and crafts and a hay maze. Meanwhile, the Zombie Zone will feature ghastly games, spooky activities and pumpkin-

carving demonstrations. New to Zoo Boo is the Detroit Zoo's Carousel, located near the Arctic Café. The 36-foot woodand-brass ride is decorated with 33 handcarved and hand-painted figures, including traditional horses and a colorful collection of exotic mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and insects. Carousel tickets are an additional \$2 per person; children under 2 are free.



A friendly witch delights visitors to a Zoo Boo at the Detroit Zoo, located in Royal Oak.

Returning this year is the limited-release pirate adventure, "The Curse of Skull Rock," at the Wild Adventure 3-D/4-D Theater in the Ford Education Center. The 3-D/4-D tickets are an additional \$4 per person; children under 2 are free.

Advance tickets for Zoo Boo can be purchased at Booth One at the front of the Detroit Zoo or online at www.detroitzoo.org/ zooboo. Tickets are \$7 per person for ages 2 and up. Time slots for the Zoo Boo are 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. If a date and time slot is not sold out, a limited number of tickets may be available at the gate that day after 5 p.m. for \$10.

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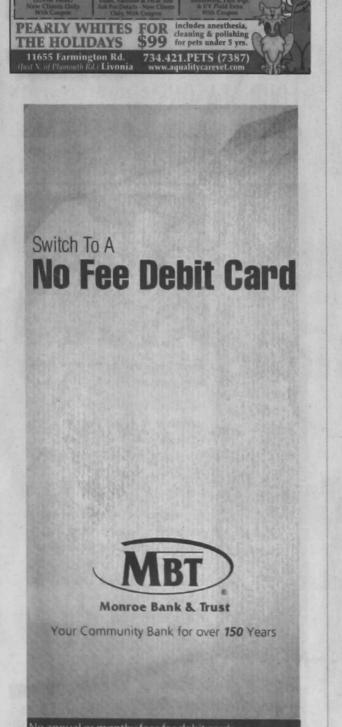
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New citizens find opportunity, freedom

By Steve Kowalski **Eccentric Staff Writer**

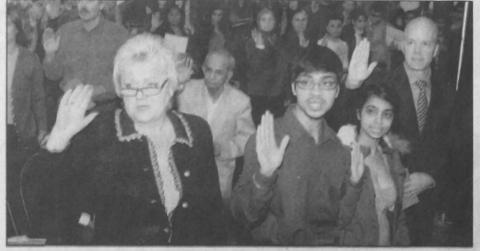
After being sworn in as a U.S. citizen with more than 200 others during Friday's Naturalization Ceremony of New Citizens at the Southfield Pavilion, 29-yearold native African Sogbe Toure had no parties she planned to attend.

She figured she'd be too busy pursuing the American Dream.

"Right after this (ceremony), I go back to school," said Toure, a second-year nursing student at Davenport University.

Toure said she and her parents came to the U.S. in 1997, seeking "opportunities and freedom," fleeing Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), which she remembers for "no opportunities, no jobs" and is now locked in a civil war.

For more than 10 years, she lived in Atlanta, Ga., before coming north to attend college, settling in Southfield the last two years with her 4-year-old son, Gabriel. The application process, which



Lilia Klimaszewski, native of Poland, now of Hamtramck; Guruveer Chawla, 20, and sister Namarata, 21, of Canton, natives of India, and James Gingell, 39, of Royal Oak and a native of the United Kingdom, take their oaths.

requires immigrants to pass the U.S. Citizenship Test & Interview given by the American Immigration Center, was months long,

but worth it, she said. "It took a while," Toure said. "I'm glad it's all over

The ceremony began with the presentation of colors by the Southfield Police and Firemen Honor Guards with bagpiper Frank Stasa. The national anthem followed, sung by Rubik Mailiam, music director at St. John's Armenian Church in Southfield.

'The next time you sing that song, you'll be Americans. It will be a whole different song for you," emcee Joe Dzenowagis of the International Institute said to the about-tobe new citizens.

Livonia resident Ashok Kumar Singh, 29, took the day off from his job as a PCB manufacturer for Saturn Electronics Corp. to become a U.S. citizen. Singh, who has been in the U.S. for five years, two months, said he "hardly slept" the night before because he was "too happy."

The swearing-in ceremony also planted seeds for some spectators who are not currently U.S. cit-

Southfield resident Pablo Paulino, a native of the Dominican Republic who never pursued U.S. citizenship, came to the ceremony with his daughter, Lathrup Village resident Jocelyn Paulino, who was selling jewelry at one of dozens of vending booths.

Turns out, Pablo Paulino also was sold - on the benefits of becoming a U.S. citizen. Pablo, 68, took a seat beside his daughter to watch the swearing-in ceremony, but not before he talked to immigration officials about how to start the citizenship process.

Better late than never, his daughter said.

"He just spoke to (immigration officials) about becoming a citizen," Jocelyn said, selling jewelry for her friend, Sharon Brumfield, owner of Louisiana Opal, LLC, in Southfield. "He's taking his sweet time going about it."

Pablo Paulino said he came to the U.S. in 1965, earned a college degree at the University of Detroit and worked for more than 20 years as a financial adviser. He married Bettye, an American citizen, and Jocelyn is their only child.

"I've been thinking about (becoming a U.S. citizen) for a long time. I might as well do it," he

One of the guest speakers, Mick Dedvukaj, district director for immigration in District 12 in Michigan, talked of the merits and responsibilities of being a new U.S. citizen. Just as he is "very proud of my Albanian roots," Dedvukaj said the new citizens can feel free to retain their heritage while embracing their

American citizenship. "The United States is the only country in the world that has the 'whole world' living in it," he said. "Almost every American, if they reach back far enough in the past, has an immigration story. You are from a different culture, language, have a different way of dress, but you are American, loyal to the country and commit-

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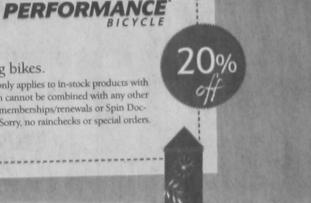
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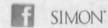
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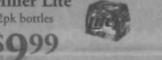


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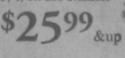


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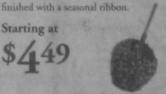
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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Scampering down the field Friday night is Canton's Malcolm Hollingsworth (No. 10), getting some blocking help from sophomore teammate Daoud Roberts (No. 34). Closing in for Salem is senior Jack Vida (No. 59).

Canton's depth sinks Rocks

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

In a playoff tuneup, Canton rolled up nearly 500 yards of offense against injury depleted Salem, winning 49-22 in Friday's regular season finale.

The Chiefs showed their outstanding depth, because the onslaught took place on a night where top players such as seniors Kevin Buford, Ryan Jones, Zac Merillat and Demetre Lopez were nursing injuries or resting up for the postseason, which begins next Friday.

'We've got to check out a couple more kids we'll see tomorrow (Saturday) to see how they're doing," Chiefs head

coach Tim Baechler said. "But we had five starters out that got much needed rest this week.

Hopefully they recover and they're full strength next week."

Please see CANTON, B2

Wildcats finally have blemish on record, playoffs next

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

The chance for a perfect regular season fell apart in the fourth quarter Friday afternoon, as Plymouth lost 28-25 to Warren DeLaSalle.

The Pilots (7-2) trailed 19-7 entering the fourth. But quar-27-yard touchdown pass to wide- a 58-yard run, a big chunk of the passes for 301 yards, six to Mike

out Nick Ciaramitaro to give the visitors hope at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park

6:21 left in the quarter, this time a 65-yarder to put the Pilots ahead 20-19.

Plymouth, finishing the regular season 8-1, regained the lead just 20 seconds later. Senior runback Donte Fox scored on

214 yards he amassed in 22 carries (nearly 10 yards per run).

But with 1:26 remaining, DeLaSalle got it back. Morris connected on a 13-yard pass to Gino Rescigno and Morris ran

outgained the Pilots by a 509-344 margin.

Plymouth's attack featured Fox (who also caught four passes for 53 yards) and wide-out Matt Janke — three receptions for 84 yards.

Quarterback Shaun Austin connected on 17-of-30 passes for 225 yards.

Both teams now gear up for

Please see WILDCATS, B3

Eagles clipped in final

By Tim Smith

For nearly a full half Friday, upstart Plymouth Christian Academy hung tough against the No. 1 team in Division 4, visiting Allen Park Inter-City Baptist.

But with 4:15 left in the first half on the chilly afternoon, the Chargers broke the ice with a goal by sophomore forward Adam Fiema. Inter-City Baptist tacked on a pair of goals in the second half to win 3-0 and advance to the D4 regionals.

'He (Fiema) got behind the D, squeaked in there and made a good play and they got a good goal on that," said Eagles interim head coach Nathan Yates, whose team ended the year with a 13-8-1 overall

PCA's senior-laden team trailed 2-0 with 34:12 left in regulation, and senior forward Steven Fiema was in the middle of things. He headed the ball in from the right post, re-directing it past PCA freshman goalie Phillip Jayme Putney.

Adam Fiema scored again for the Chargers (21-2) and that was plenty as goalkeeper Nate Packwood held off some late PCA surges. A hard shot taken by junior Dan Ross was nabbed by Packwood and a nice three-way play from senior Chris Scagnetti to Alex Chapman to Jacob Bailey ended in another stop.

"I felt we played as well as we could," Scagnetti said. "The first game

Please see EAGLES, B3



Canton volleyball players (back row, from left) Erica den Boer, Alaina Turner, Kristen Muir and (front row, from left) Maggie Deloy and Lauren Martin are all smiles about this season - on and off the court.

That combo worked again with

in the two-point conversion.

Despite the loss, Plymouth

Fierce focus

Canton spikers united in bid to carry success into districts

By Tim Smith

Observer Staff Writer

All for one, one for all. And don't let the ball hit the floor. Those are the buzz words this season for Canton's varsity volley-

ball team - rolling along with team camaraderie and hard work merging with a pretty high talent level. We all get along and encourage each other," said senior setter Lauren Martin, one of three co-cap-

tains for the Chiefs. "It's not just one person saying 'This is all me.' "It's everyone contributing and everyone cheering and everyone

getting that dig or that hit." Martin epitomizes the never-giveup attitude of the 2011 team, which Tuesday rallied to defeat Novi for the Kensington Conference champi-

onship and 33rd win in 40 matches. During a recent KLAA South Division triumph against Plymouth, the host Wildcats looked poised to finally knock off Canton

in a regular season tilt. But Martin dove along the sidelines to get to a ball and keep a rally going; she then tumbled over the row of

chairs, unscathed. Canton won that point, eventually defeating Plymouth in five games, and Martin earned nothing but praise and high fives for her extraordinary effort.

The best feeling

'That's what we have to show people," Martin said, smiling about the play. "Go for every ball, no matter what."

She gets no argument from her teammates, many with club volleyball experience. Those include senior outside hitters Alaina Turner and Kristen Muir (also co-captains); senior right-side hitter Maggie Deloy; and junior outside hitter Erica den Boer.

"When there's a really long rally and we end up getting a point at the end, that always feels really

good," Deloy said. "Because I know that we're all working really hard to never let the ball touch the floor and always play it smart and get the point.'

According to den Boer, most satisfying to her is "when everyone gets excited, when we all execute and do what we're supposed to do."

Oh, and get a point at the end. All five Chiefs form the nucleus of a team that will look to follow division and conference titles with a long run in the state tournament. Canton plays in the Novi-hosted district, which begins next week.

But they point to the total team concept as key to why they wear practice T-shirts with "Protect Our House" on the back and won't let any game situation dampen their spirit.

All hands on deck

On any night, players such as seniors Jordan Tubaro, Alex

Please see SPIKERS, B2

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CANTON

Continued from page B1

Looking ahead

Speaking of next week, the Chiefs — 7-2 for the regular season — await Selection Sunday (7 p.m. on Fox Sports Detroit) to find out who their opponent will be in the first round of the Division 1 state playoffs.

"Coaches will be at my house watching it and we'll find out who we're playing," Baechler said. "We'll get on the phone, get film and get to work. ... Now it gets a little bit more fun."

For Salem, a season of hope unraveled due to key injuries (seniors Marcus Houston, Evian Pardo and Ryan Jankowski) and the Rocks finished with a 3-6 record.

"We had quite a few (injuries)," Salem head coach Kurt Britnell said. "I can't remember a time, especially at key positions. But that's the way it goes. All three of them are excellent athletes that would have helped us."

Britnell, however, finishing his third season at the Salem helm, said the "culture" with the football program needs to continue to improve.

"Until that happens," he stressed, "we're going to play third fiddle to Plymouth and Canton."

The Rocks did push the Chiefs at times. But emblematic of how the teams are faring, Salem moved the ball 87 yards during the third quarter only to lose the ball on downs.

On Canton's second ensuing play, senior quarterback Kyle Adams connected with senior tight end Evan Rinke for an 86-yard touchdown. It was the carbon copy of an 85-yarder to Rinke in the second quarter.

On both TDs, Adams threw medium-depth passes to the left flank that Rinke caught and motored about 60 yards unscathed into the Salem end zone.

In the first quarter, the Chiefs opened the scoring on a three-yard plunge by sophomore running back Daoud Roberts, a callup from the JV. A 39-yard burst by junior Malcolm Hollingsworth (7-



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton senior defensive back Michael Boes (No. 7) is in full pursuit of Salem junior running back Kyle Cameron during Friday's regular season finale.



During Friday's first half, Salem running back Gu'woin Ingram (No. 27) plows ahead for a gain, eluding the grasp of Canton junior Matt McKay (No. 4). Putting a hit on McKay for the Rocks is offensive lineman Eric Matthews (No. 73).

92) helped set up the scoring play.

But the Rocks answered when junior tailback Kyle Cameron, who ran 14 times for 165 yards, broke a tackle and raced up the middle for a 76-yard

The game resembled a track meet during that stretch. Canton's firstdown on the next series also went to the house on an 89-yard TD run by junior Kendall Scott (11-

Momentum changer

Britnell lamented what happened next. The Rocks had a first down near their 30 when Cameron fumbled.

Scooping up the pigskin and dashing in for a



Canton quarterback Kyle Adams (No. 11) finds himself in a jam Friday night as Salem's Ivan Rhodes (No. 24) approaches.

33-yard fumble return to make it 21-7 was junior tight end Matt McKoy, the Chiefs' top tackler for the game with nine.

Canton seniors Michael Boes and Zachary Smilo tallied eight and seven tackles, respectively.

"The one fumble that they returned cost us," Britnell noted. "If we score there, we were getting three, four yards a pop. and I thought we could have done that.

"We were moving the ball, if we don't make a mistake there it's a 14point swing."

Salem did bounce back to make it a 21-14 game before the end of the quarter.

A 57-yard carry by Cameron was the key play in an 80-yard scoring drive. Finishing it off with a oneyard plunge was sophomore Justin Sydlowski, who played the first half at quarterback.

Canton added three more TDs in the second quarter to take a 42-14 advantage into halftime.

Those were tallied by Adams (a 33-yard carry), Rinke (his first TD catchand-run) and Scott's zigzag touchdown run of 26 yards in the final minute of the half.

Rinke's second big score of the night made it 49-14 (with junior kicker Scott Piwowar nailing his seventh extra point) and Salem capped the scoring

in the fourth quarter.
Salem junior quarterback Jacob Deprez, who
took over in the third,
fired a 21-yard scoring
strike to junior tight end
Cameron Werner, who
was all alone in the end

zone.
The Rocks added a twopoint pass when Andrew
Kelty connected with
Youssef Barakat.

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SPIKERS

Continued from page B1

Bryden and Jackie Waite and juniors Jordan Diedrick and Becca Middleton can make their presence known.

"I feel like every single person has a spot, a role on the team," said Turner, one of the team's power hitters. "Even at practice, there may be a starting lineup, but the other side of the court that's playing the starters has to be just as good so they can challenge each other and make each other better."

Turner, however, said there's a positive spin being put on that ultracompetitive spirit at

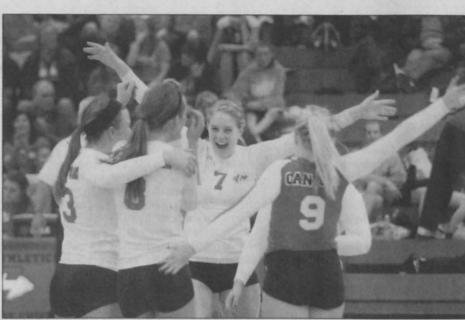
Chiefs practices.

"It's so competitive, everyone's competing for the same spot," Turner said. "Everyone's so good this year, but we're such close friends at the same time. It's a sweet atmosphere. I love it."

As another example of the team concept taking root, Kryska's mantra to her team has been for inclusiveness. For example, setters Martin and Waite can distribute their sets to anybody at any time.

"Just to keep teams not knowing what we're doing all the time," said Muir, another tough-to-stop player in Canton's front row. "We're spreading it out to mix it up and try and confuse the other team. Not be too predictable."

Deloy said Kryska "usually wants us to ... count on everybody on the court as well as on the bench and all the coaches. She always wants the setters to mix up the set.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton players (from left) Erica den Boer (No. 13), Alaina Turner (No. 3), Maggie Deloy (No. 7) and Becca Middleton (No. 9) celebrate another hard-earned point during the Chiefs conference final victory against Novi.

lately."

Lots of heart

Nobody is complaining about not seeing their personal stats grow when the Chiefs collect yet another win.

It's been working out a lot

Success is building, too. As of Tuesday, Canton was 33-7 and 9-1 to win the conference and division, respectively. The Chiefs' conference crown is their first since 1979.

"I don't think there's ever been that sort of selfishness on our team anyway," Martin said. "It's always been like, 'Hey, set me the ball so I can do this for my team.'

"It's always been all on the team, it's never been selfish. That's one of the reasons why I love playing for this program. ... It takes a whole team to win, not just one or two players."

Muir stressed that having a number of weapons on the floor "definitely takes pressure off of individuals" and keeps the squad sharper.

"I think she wants us to progress as a team, continue to escalate," Muir said. "Working as a team is one of the things she always talked about. Playing with heart and stuff like that."

Kryska said one of this year's tests came early in the season, trying to integrate five new players.

"The juniors came in very quiet, didn't talk much," said Kryska, who is a Canton volleyball alum. "Now it's gotten to be where you can't quiet down the juniors. Now, it's more of a team atmosphere.

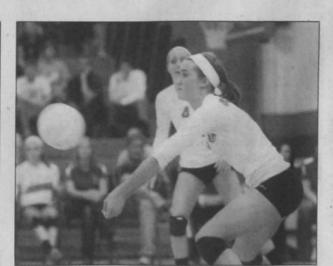
"They now know how each other plays and the little things about each other. It's been a lot better"

Full-speed ahead One of the juniors with previous varsity experience, den Boer, said team unity and attitude has definitely strengthened since then. With that there's been a certain team resilience.

"I think I've improved all the way around as a player and my mental game has gotten better, too," the 15-year-old den Boer said. "We try to focus on our mental game, because (before) when we'd get down it's hard to get back up. But we've done really well with that this year."

They soon will have the chance to make a post-season push and, whatever happens on the scoreboard, they know they'll give it everything they have.

"We are focusing on working more together as a team and keeping our eyes on the prize," Muir said. "We don't want to get too caught up in the rankings, or the divisions



Shown from a game earlier this season, Canton senior co-captains Alaina Turner (No. 3) and Kristen Muir (No. 4) keep a rally alive. Both players are instrumental to the team's titles in the KLAA South Division and Kensington Conference.

INSIDE LOOK

Lauren Martin, setter: A senior co-captain, Martin carries a 3.4 grade-point average. The 17-year-old has club

experience with High Velocity in Canton.

Kristen Muir, outside hitter: Also a senior co-captain, the 17-year-old Muir owns a 3.5 GPA. She has played club volleyball for Legacy in Rochester Hills.

Alaina Turner, outside hitter/middle blocker: Another senior co-captain who is 17 years old, Turner has a 3.4 GPA. She has experience with Premiere Volleyball Academy in Ohio and has verbally committed to

play the sport at the University of Dayton.

Maggie Deloy, right-side hitter: Although Deloy, 17, is not a co-captain, the senior is one of the Chiefs' key players and leaders. She carries a 3.5 GPA and has played for the Ann Arbor-based M Juniors club team.

Erica den Boer, outside hitter: Like Deloy, den Boer is a team leader even though she isn't a co-captain. The 15-year-old junior has a 3.8 GPA and experience with the High Velocity Hurricanes club team.

Coach's take: "The job of the captain, they've definitely been my leaders on the court and off the court. They pretty much glue the team together. ... They're very smart players. They can go out there and do their own thing without a lot of direction" — Canton head coach Mary Kryska.

or awards or anything like that.

"We still try to prove ourselves every day and come out every single game ready to play. ... Any team can win on any given day. We know we're a bigger target now."

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BOYS SOCCER DISTRICTS

Plymouth knocked out by Novi, weather

LOCAL SPORTS

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

It hardly seemed fair for the high school soccer careers of Plymouth seniors such as goalkeeper Rene Mejia to end on such a cold, wet, miserable night when umbrellas in the stands were blown inside-out by relentless wind gusts.

But Wednesday night at Meadows Stadium in Novi, that's what happened as the visiting Wildcats lost 2-1 to the host Wildcats (yep, that's no misprint) in a Division 1 state district semifinal matchup.

With Novi's win, along with Canton's 3-0 victory over Northville Wednesday night, the district final between Novi and the Chiefs will take place 1 p.m. Saturday (also at Meadows).

Driving rain could be seen moving sideways in the lights and - with each goalie standing for one half of the match inside a wind tunnel goal-punts by Mejia and Novi counterpart Andy Netter looked as though they hit a brick wall.

"This weather was horrible to play in," Mejia



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's lone goal Wednesday was scored by senior Mike Shackleford (No. 13), shown in an Oct. 10 game with Salem's Brady Cole (No. 6). This photo ran in the Oct. 13 Observer with the players misindentified.

said. "But you can't do too much about it. You have to fight it out and do your best. It was slippery out here, (with) any shot you could give up a rebound and give up a goal."

Plymouth, which ended the season with an 8-8-4 record, benefited from such a situation to tie the game at 1-1 with 9:05 left in the first half.

Novi (16-3-0) had taken an early 1-0 lead off a direct kick, with senior midfielder Aaron Quinley chipping a short shot past Mejia.

Senior forward Chris Park's direct kick was a low boot to the right of Plymouth's defensive wall, and Quinley re-directed the ball inside the far post.

On the board

But Plymouth came back to even things up. A sizzling, one-hop direct kick by junior forward Chandler Olah was snagged by Netter, diving to his left. But the wet ball slipped out of his grasp as he hit the ground, and senior midfielder Mike Shackleford was there to nudge the rebound into the cage.

It looked as though the teams would be taking the 1-1 tie into halftime, but then came the eventual winning goal by Novi senior defender Sean Hazen.

Junior midfielder Matt Wilson streaked up the middle of the waterlogged pitch and sent a perfect through ball to Hazen, racing down the right flank. He buried a hard, 10-yard shot into the Plymouth net.

'They had a nice giveand-go play, they got the guy behind us," Plymouth head coach Jeff Neschich said. "Then in the second half, we were going against the wind. The ball held up on us quite a bit. But all in all I thought our boys played very hard and very well.'

Novi head coach Brian O'Leary said getting the goal late in the first half stopped any momentum Plymouth might have

been enjoying following the Shackleford tally.

But O'Leary said he wanted his team to approach the second half the same way whether the game was 1-1 or 2-1. He wasn't sure if his players followed the script, however.

"You got to get another goal," O'Leary noted. "That would be my biggest concern. With my team in that game we really needed to get another goal and we didn't seem hungry enough to get that goal.

We seemed happy to be leading 2-1. And that's how you get knocked out of the state tournament, when you let the other team hang around."

In the second half, with footing even more precarious because of the field conditions, top-notch scoring chances were few and far between.

Tough ending

Mejia did block a shot taken inside the box by senior forward Dan Lumley midway through the half.

At the other end, Plymouth junior forward Theodore Phillips eluded Novi's defense but hit the side of the goal.

With less than 15 minutes left, Olah sent a feed up to senior defender Zach D'Agostino, but Novi's defense did a good job of thwarting that play without even a shot on goal.

When the game ended, Plymouth's seniors (Mejia, Shackleford, D'Agostino, midfielder Mike Himmelspach, defender Kevin Hoffman, midfielder Chris Bryden, defenders Mike Ambrose and Brian Eggenberger) were disappointed but proud of how they played against a state-ranked opponent.

"It is sad that my last game was against all that (weather, etc.)," Mejia said. "But we played a helluva game. I'm proud of all my teammates.'

O'Leary, meanwhile, said the weather was a challenge but not the overriding factor in how the game played out.

"Obviously, both teams had to deal with it and I don't think it played that big of a difference," he stressed. "Both teams kind of put the ball on the ground with a lot of skill."

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Chiefs advance to district final

Second-ranked Canton avenged its only loss of 2011, defeating host Northville 3-0 Wednesday in a second-round Division 1 boys soccer district semifinal played in a driving rainstorm.

Strong gusts came from north to south, and the Mustangs had it at their backs in the first half - using the wind to their advantage, with constant pressure forcing the Chiefs (19-1-2) to play a tight defensive game.

Although the Mustangs had a series of corner kicks, senior goalkeeper Steven Murphy as outstanding, grad bing everything that managed to get through a sturdy Chief defense that was led by senior co-captain Connor Furgason, seniors Tyler Winningham, Neil Zech and Conner Hicks and junior Connor Shennan.

Northville also held the fort, until late in the first half when senior Nathan

Bergeson scored. Northville's goalkeeper



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Battling for a 50/50 ball during Wednesday's district matchup are Canton's Daniel Ovesea (No. 9) and Northville's Mike Bojovic (No. 3).

was called for handling the ball outside of the 18-

yard box and Canton was awarded a free kick.

Senior co-captain Mitch Posuniak lofted a ball towards the goal, where Bergeson outjumped a pair of Mustangs to redirect it with his head into the upper corner.

With the wind at their backs in the second half, Canton began consistently pressuring Northville's defense.

Finally, just after the midway point, junior Dan Ovesea slipped a beautiful pass up the middle of the field and Posuniak took it in stride and beat the charging Northville keeper to give Canton a 2-0 lead.

with a little more than four minutes left in the match, when sophomore Ken Krolicki pounced on a loose ball and chipped a shot home.

With the victory, Canton advanced to play Novi 1 p.m. Saturday in the final of what many considered the state's toughest district. The contest will be at Novi's Meadows Stadium.

EAGLES

Continued from page B1

against them (Chargers) we didn't do well and the second game we were up 1-0 and they got two goals

"That kind of fueled the flame to beat them this time. But obviously, we couldn't get it done. But I'm glad we showed as much passion as we

Despite the loss, Yates said there is promise for the future, especially with Ross up front and freshman defender Ryan Machonga anchoring the

"(Machonga) is only a freshman, and he's been giving seniors and juniors on other teams fits,' Yates said.

PCA 7, LUTHERAN WEST-LAND 2: On Wednesday, in the D4 semifinals, PCA won 7-2 to spoil the final game coached by Lutheran High Westland's Rich

Block. "I would have liked to go out on a better note," Block said. "We played good for a half."

The Eagles broke open a close match with five second-half goals after leading 2-1 at intermission against the Warriors.

Dan Ross got it started for PCA with a goal in the fourth minute off a feed from Chris Scagnetti, but Lutheran Westland's Nick Andrzejewski tied it in the 25th minute. With only 1:29 left in the

half, Ross drilled a shot off the crossbar that was deflected by Warriors keeper Taurrek Fikes. The rebound went right to the foot of Alexander Chapman, who made no mistake to make it 2-1.

In the second half, reshman Lucas Albre scored three consecutive times with Jacob Bailey and Ross completing the PCA scoring. (Ross has 15 goals on the year.)

- Staff writer Brad Emons

WILDCATS

Continued from page B1

the start of the playoffs. Plymouth, winner of the KLAA South Division and Kensington Conference (5-0, 8-0), looks to go on another successful postseason march. In 2010,

the Wildcats reached the D1 finals.

Head coach Mike Sawchuk's team will find out during Selection Sunday's television show (7 p.m., Fox Sports Detroit) which opponent is first on the docket.

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Chiefs still perfect in KLAA South

The Canton varsity girls swimming and diving team won another big dual meet with Thursday's triumph over Livo-

nia Churchill. Canton, now 5-0 in the KLAA South Division, is in position to clinch the division.

The Chiefs will face Plymouth on Oct. 29 in the division meet and both squads are hopeful of coming away with the crown. Plymouth had just one loss in the KLAA South entering Thursday's matchup against

Livonia Franklin. Whoever emerges will compete Nov. 4-5 for the conference champion-

Other details of the Canton and Plymouth meets were not available as of press time.

SOCIAL SECURIT

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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.

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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 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. www.ssdfighter.com



Mustangs gallop away to boys title

By Brad Emons Observer Staff Writer

Only six points separated the top two teams in the race for first place in Thursday's KLAA Kensington Conference boys cross country meet held at Huron Meadows Metropark.

Northville, led by individual winner Dan Sims, held off Plymouth for the team title, 48-54, to repeat as team champion.

Canton was third with 78 points followed by Livonia Churchill (125), Salem (137), Livonia Stevenson (170), Novi (175), South Lyon (228), Livonia Franklin (281), Westland John Glenn (285), Wayne Memorial (295) and South Lyon East

Sims, a sophomore, captured the 5,000-meter race in 16 minutes, 03.53 seconds.

'Dan's really emerged this year as one of the area's top runners," Northville coach Chris Cronin said. "He had a breakthrough race at Michigan State (Invitational) this year

where he went 15:57. And since then, I think it's given him great confidence to run with anybody in the state."

Only one can win

Wayne County Invitational champion Derek Gielarowski was runner-up in 16:08.8.

"Derek used essentially, the strategy Dan that used today to beat him at Wayne County, and kind of reversed the tables today, and hung on," Cronin said. "Dan outkicked him at the end. I thought it was a great tactical race. Both kids are great runners, but Dan had a great race today and only one guy can win."

Senior Ed Clifton was third (16:25.87) and freshman Nick Noles placed fourth (16:27.17) for Northville.

The Mustangs' other two top scorers included senior Neson Nesmith (16th, 17:02.63) and Jason Lerner (24th, 17:15.37).

"We had three guys that were all-conference," Cronin said. "Those two guys (Clifton and Noles) came up big for us. That's the decision right there. I've never had three finish allconference on a team like that. I'm excited about those guys.

"Tell you what, they've worked hard for it all year. And to see it pay off on a tough day like this, I think they're proud of themselves and they're accomplishments. They certainly did the Northville end proud today."

Plymouth's other top four runners included sophomore Zane Berlanga, sixth (16:33.11); junior Brandon Dalton, 11th (16:56.98); senior James Maciag, 13th (17:01.13); and sophomore Liam Cardenas, 22nd (17:09.24).

"They did great," Plymouth coach Jon Mikosz said. "At the beginning of the season we were kind of a little bit in a slump. We kind of sat down and had a team meeting after Wayne County and we got everybody back in order, so it was great for them to come back after that showing we

had. We finished fifth there and come back and finish second in the conference ... we're happy with that.'

Berlanga's sixth-place showing proved to be an added bonus for the Wildcats.

'Zane really didn't shock me because that's where he should have been all year," Mikosz said. "He runs great here (at Huron Meadows). He ran 16:45 at the Coaching Legends Classic that we had here earlier this year. So he's been coming on. He went out a little quicker today and had a great run."

Plymouth will be headed to the Division 1 regional next Saturday at Willow Metropark in New Boston.

"You've got Pinckney, you've got Dexter and Ann Arbor Huron in that region, so it's going to be tough," Mikosz said. "We beat (Ann Arbor) Pioneer on Saturday, although they may have been missing a guy, so it's going to be close and we're going to give it our all. We'll give it good shot to be competitive and that's what we'll do. and try and shoot for our fourth straight state meet appearance as a team."

Other top finishers

Other individual finishers in the top 15 included Miles Felton (Canton), fifth (16:32.63); Steve McEvilly (Salem), seventh (16:33.63); Mitch Clinton (Canton), eighth (16:37.61); Ryan Wise (Churchill), 16:40.01); Stephen Fenech (Stevenson), 10th (16:50.79); Jake Colley (Stevenson), 12th (16:59.03); Bradon Conley (Canton), 14th (17:01.68); and Ben Yates (Churchill), 15th (17:02.08).

'We ran smart and confident and ran well as a result," Salem head coach Steve Aspinall said. "Every single guy in the varsity race ran a personal best or season best, some by over 20 seconds.

I thought we could finish anywhere from fourth to eighth, and we finished fifth, so

Northville girls harriers dominate field

By Brad Emons Observer Staff Writer

Northville's showing in the KLAA Kensington Conference girls cross country meet was nothing short of dominating.

The Mustangs, scoring 27 points, placed six of their top seven runners in the top 10 to repeat as champion Thursday afternoon at cold and blustery Huron Meadows Metropark in Brighton.

Livonia Churchill was runner-up with 68 followed by Salem (105),

Novi (123), Livonia Stevenson (154), South Lyon (158), Plymouth (181), Canton (183), Livonia Franklin (249), South Lyon East (278), Westland John Glenn (333) and Wayne Memorial (400).

Novi's Jackie Mullins emerged the individual winner as the junior covered the 5,000-meter course in 18 minutes, 48.33 seconds.

Churchill's Kerigan Riley, also a junior, was second in 18:55.43.

Then, it was the Northville show as the Mus-

tangs took six of the next seven places led by sophomore Rachel Coleman (18:55.74), sophomore Erin Zimmer (18:56.11) and junior Erin Dunne (19:01.82)

Plymouth's Mariana DiBiasi placed sixth in 19:08.88 followed by Northville sophomores Alison Robinson (19:12.84) and Taleen Shahrigian (19:19.77), along with senior Gina McNamara (10:22.29).

Livonia Stevenson freshman Lindsey Gallagher rounded out the top 10 (19:25.92).

"Our performance was right on tact," Northville coach Nancy Smith said. "Our goal was to bring our pack closer together and not separate - and we ran it to a 'T,' because we went (places) three, four, five, seven, eight and nine. We ran tactically as far as what we wanted to do going into next week (the regional).

'We had two girls in the 18s, which would be P.R.'s for the season, but not for their careers. I think everybody improved from our previous two meets."

In addition to Riley, Churchill placed five others in the top 25 led by junior Sydney Anderson, 11th (19:28.11); freshman Erin Emmanuel, 16th (19:47.9); senior Bethany Pilat, 17th (19:49.27); sophomore Megan McFarlane, 22nd (19:57.91); and junior Michelle Azar, 25th (20:11.4).

"We knew that it was going to be tough to overhaul a talented Northville team, but we were hoping to close the gap some-

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what," Churchill coach Sue Tatro said. "Kerigan (Riley) really ran an efficient race and is always a tough competitor. Sydney (Anderson) really stepped it up today and is beginning to realize that she is capable of running with some top-notch runners. Erin (Emmanuel), Bethany (Pilat), Megan (McFarlane), and Michelle (Azar) were also solid in their efforts."

Churchill will head to the Division 1 regional Saturday at Willow Metropark in New Boston.

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More than a fan club

Star Wars group prides itself on authentic costumes, charity work

By Sharon Dargay O&E Staff Writer

Mike Lica can summon up the Dark Side on a

Most weekends he dons his Imperial Stormtrooper armor and springs into action — greeting fans and posing for photos — at various events throughout Southeastern Michigan.

"It's almost like a second job for us. We've had some great opportunities," said Lica, 43. "T've been on stage with Weird Al Yankovic and Sugarland. We do local comic-cons and fundraisers."

The Garden City man, who is married and has two grown children, is a member of the Great Lakes Garrison, a chapter of the 501st Legion, an international Star Wars-themed organization that focuses on "bad guys" Darth Vader and his crew. It was founded in 1997

Legion villains, including the Garrison's 94 active members, make their own Imperial costumes and then wear them to various events, including charity fundraisers, private parties, parades, hospitals visits, concerts, comic conventions, and athletic meets. The group's mission is to entertain, serve the community and bring Star Wars to life through

authentic-looking costumes.

"We're not really actors.
We're more characters,"
Lica said. "The major stipulation is that we make our own costumes. We don't sell costumes and we don't profit in any way."

Attention to detail

Lica, who runs his own carpet cleaning business, spent six months assembling his Stormtrooper costume, trimming plastic and fitting the body-hugging pieces.

Costumes can cost several hundred to a few thousand dollars, depending on the character and materials.

Eric Alexander, 34, of Livonia, started his Storm-trooper costume in October 2008, after his oldest daughter announced her plans to trick or treat as Princess Leia for Halloween that year. Alexander, who works in office services at a Detroit law firm, figured he would accompany her, but the Stormtrooper garb wasn't finished and approved until April the following year.

"Locally we have armor parties where we get together and work on costumes," Alexander said, adding that members trade tips and help each other with construction. He recalls attending a session in January 2009 where he spent "eight hours straight

trimming plastic."

"It was the first time I sat down and used a dremel," he said.

Alexander also created a costume for an X-Wing Fighter, one of the "good guy" characters in the Star Wars universe. He wears it when he attends Rebel Legion events. He's also a member of the Michigan Base chapter of the Rebels, which often works arm in arm with the Great Lakes Garrison.

Starting young

Both Alexander and Lica first became interested in Star Wars when they were kids. Alexander was born the same year the film debuted. He remembers watching it when he was five years old.

"I still have all my (Star Wars) toys from when I was a little kid," Lica said. "Most of us in the group still collect toys. We're nerds. We get to be giant action figures when we put the costumes on."

Alexander took a bit of teasing from family members and co-workers when he first told them about his hobby, but when they saw the handmade costume and heard about the group's charity work, "it changed their tune."

His first event was at a comic book store on free comics day, the first



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Halloween? No, it's just members of the Great Lakes Garrison on their way to an appearance at a home in Livonia. That's Darth Vader, (Michael Parent), in the lead followed by a Stormtrooper, (Craig Provine), Tusken Raider (Jerry Russell) and Jawa (Zane Russell).



A Stormtrooper (Craig Provine of Canton) chats with Mason Reiter, a big Star Wars fan, during a visit to the boy's home. Members of Great Lakes Garrison became aware of Mason, who suffers from an extremely rare genetic disease, and offered to brighten his day with a surprise appearance.

Saturday in May. But he also remembers as "special" the time he visited a youngster with cerebral palsy and the boy "lit up" when he saw the Stormtroopers.

"You don't see our faces under our helmets. We're either smiling or crying. They are all special," Alexander said.

All volunteers

The Great Lakes Garrison makes appearances at fundraisers, nonprofit events and in hospitals for free. Recently, a handful of members surprised a Livonia youngster, who suffers from a rare genetic disease, at his home.

At private gatherings, such as birthday parties, the

group suggests that the party hosts make a monetary donation to their charity of their choosing.

"They hand us a check and we turn it in," Lica said. "We have a running tally and since 2010 \$3.4 million was raised. It does have an impact."

Requests for appearances are handled through the Garrison's Web site at www.greatlakesgarrison. com. Potential members can learn more about costume requirements at the site.

"As long as you have a costume and a love of Star Wars you'll fit right in with us," Alexander said. "Tve learned a lot of neat things being in the group and met a lot of amazing people.

"We have engineers, volunteer fire fighters, veterinarian technicians. Some people work in computer graphics. Some work in grade schools. The only thing we have in common is Star Wars It's been a very interesting 2½ years for me and nothing but fun."







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Cemetery, Summit set for Halloween fun

Listen to tantalizing tales of Plymouth's ghosts from Civil War soldiers Calvin Crosby and Charles Westfall during the Plymouth Characters Cemetery Walk beginning at 4 p.m. Oct. 29 in Riverside Cemetery.

The tours run 60-90 minutes and start at the Don Massey Field parking lot, east of the 35th District

Court at 660 Plymouth Road. The head Refreshments, courtesy of Courtyard Grille, will be served after the walk.

Guests are encouraged to wear sensible walking shoes and to bring a flashlight for lat-

Tickets for the Plymouth Characters Cemetery Walk are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the cemetery. Buy or renew a membership and get up to two free tickets. Buy tickets at the Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main, or at www.plymouthhistory.org. Riverside Cemetery is on Plymouth Road, near the 35th District Court. For more information call the museum at (734) 455-8940.

Costume parade

Canton Leisure Services' 11th annual Trick or Treat Parade will run 4 - 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 28, at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton.

Youngsters, age 11 and under, will trick or treat in costume to more than a dozen themed sta-



Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, October 23, 2011

tions and choose one of two paths through the Summitone a little scary and the

other simply fun. Participants can limit their time standing in line by picking up a "Fast Pass," available beginning Monday, Oct. 24 at the Summit on the Park's front desk. The pass indicates the time they should arrive at the event. The number of passes is limited.

The suggested donation for admission is \$5 per family with proof of Canton residency. The non-resident fee is \$10. For more information call (734) 394-5460 or visit Cantonfun.org.

Smashing pumpkins

Visitors to the Detroit Zoo can watch animals eat special Halloween treats Wednesday, Oct.

The environmental enrichment - in the form of pumpkins, gourds and cornstalks are hidden throughout the animals' habitats or prepared and placed in a unique manner to stimulate natural behaviors. Many animals push, play with,

smash and devour their treats. Here's the enrichment sched-



Youngsters visit the Home Depot station at a previous Trick or Treat Parade in Canton.

- 10 a.m. vultures, treatfilled pumpkins
- 10:30 a.m. gorillas and chimps, spaghetti-filled pump-
- 11 a.m. snow monkeys, Halloween treats
- 11:30 a.m. rhinos, pumpkins and cornstalks
- Noon zebras, corn stalks

• 1 p.m. – bison, pumpkins and

- 12:30 p.m. wolverines, piñata, pumpkins and spaghetti
- cornstalks 1:30 p.m. – polar bears,
- pumpkins 2 p.m. – den bears, Halloween treats
- · 2:30 p.m. anteaters, Hal-

loween treats

The Detroit Zoo is located at 10 Mile and Woodward Avenue, just off I-696, in Royal Oak. Admission is \$12 for adults, 15-61, \$10 for senior citizens, 62 and older, and \$8 for children, 2-14. Children under 2 are admitted free; (248) 541-5717 or visit www.detroitzoo.org.

LIVONIA FAMILY YMCA Admission is FREE ...to anyone brave enough to show up! Saturday October 29th 6:00-9:00 pm Families are invited to visit the Livonia Family YMCA to enjoy a Halloween Party! Activities include: • Haunted Locker Room (minimal charge) • Games & Prizes Costume Contest Trick or Treat Inside and many more Spooktacular Halloween Activities ..ALL INSIDE! VOT required so Fall 2 Session Begins Week of October 31st...SIGN UP NOW! Joining Fee for all new members that sign a 12 month contract Tennis; lessons and leagues available · Swimming; swim lessons for all ages, Livonia Blue Racers Swim Team · Gymnastics; classes, Livonia Twistres Gymnastics Team Fitness; group exercise classes, free work out with a personal trainer · Youth sports: basketball. volleyball skill clinic, martial arts 14255 Stark Road • Livonia • 734-261-2161

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Doctor goes shopping

n my little home office sits a Royal typewriter dated back to the early 1950s. It is the very typewriter my father brought home from the police station in Canada to type out his daily reports. He brought me a book that described how to type using

the home

rule and

when I

entered

school, I

was pret-

ty quick.

That type-

still works

today but

it needs a

new rib-

bon and

writer

high



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

I'm sure it will sit idle for the rest of its years.

For the past 30 years I have been using a computer without knowing too much about the internal workings. I know how to type. I've written two books on a computer. I know how to send and receive e-mails, how to search out information, how to save and do a few of the other simple things. A few weeks ago, my computer started acting like a refrigerator with hiccups. It would freeze up, thaw out, make all sorts of noises and cause a serious stress condition in my life.

How was I going to write my column for this newspaper? Thanks to my darling Valorie, I'm using her com-

puter and I don't dare try to send it to my editor for I'm sure I will hit the wrong button and erase it all. Valorie will be doing the sending for me just like she helped me shop for a new com-

Names will not be used in this article because it's not meant to be a venue for advertising, but I visited two stores that sold computers and didn't have any inventory of the model I selected. It would take seven-21 days to receive the product I wanted, and that wouldn't do, because I was in a state of panic. I had

almost 200 e-mails. While shopping another store I went strolling into the appliance department. I followed a few people who were looking at refrigerators and listened to their conversations while playing the role of an unsuspecting spy. I was surprised to learn that a sliding basket in the bottom of the freezer section of a side by side is so important. I didn't see too much interest in who makes the product or what country it comes from as long as it looks nice. You can't help but notice the price tags, which made me feel fortunate that I'm not just starting out in life. These things cost more than Henry Ford's first new cars.

While Valorie was paying the cashier for the computer I selected, I took a stroll into the washer and dryer section of the store. I can tell you that these products

have never looked more futuristic. I escaped this store feeling pretty good about my deal, my appliance shopping, and not being identified.

Now the real fun begins because you don't bring home a computer, unplug the old one and just plug in the new one. You have to remove all the stuff from the old one and feed it into the new one and that's not as easy as changing the belt on a clothes dryer. Thanks to my neighbor Allen, who has been to our house five times in the last few weeks trying so hard to fix my old computer. He knows how to do all this work - and wait until you hear how I messed

it all up. Allen works on computers for a living and he told me that when I suspected a virus and installed a new anti-virus program, I should have removed the current anti-virus program already running in the computer. Two of these programs in the same computer can adversely affect the operation of a computer. Years ago when I made a mistake fixing an appliance, it didn't cost this much to learn a lesson. Stay tuned.

PS. By the time you read this column I will have answered every e-mail sent to me.

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



Six tips for a healthier Halloween

Halloween is about more than just a competition to see who brings home the most candy. Instead of focusing on the sugary side of this scarefest, try working with your kids to build lasting memories that focus on healthier Halloween staples like pumpkins, creative costumes and haunted houses. Below are six strategies from the Alliance for a Healthier Generation, to keep your Halloween focused on building lasting memories and away from unhealthy candy binges.

1. Trick or post-dinner treat-Trick or treat after eating a wholesome dinner. Children who are full may be less likely to snack on the treats they accumulate.

2. Pillow cases are for pillows - give the kids smaller treat containers like recycled grocery bags or small, plastic jack o' lanterns so they won't bring home too many sweets. Use your pillow cases to create ghostly costumes instead.

3. Scare 'em with vitamin E - Instead of handing out candy corn, hand out prepackaged servings of carrots or dried fruit that has no added sugar. Both are great sources of vitamins that can help your children stay

4. Use your pumpkins-Pumpkins are for more than just pumpkin pie and jack o' lanterns. Use the flesh and seeds from your pumpkins to make delicious, healthy treats as a replacement for can-

5. Give 'em treasures for treats — Hand out boxes of crayons, stickers, colored pencils, erasers, Halloween tattoos (the removable kind), or rubber spiders.

6. Patrol those sweets The best way to limit the amount of candy your children eat is to limit the number of treats they can eat. After inspecting

all treats to make sure they're safe, set a limit on how many they can keep. Then remind them to eat in moderation so they last longer. Store the bag in a high but public place so you won't be tempted to snack on the candy either.

The Alliance for a **Healthier Generation** works to address one of the nation's leading public health threats - childhood obesity. The goal of the Alliance is to reduce the prevalence of childhood obesity by 2015, and to empower kids to make healthy lifestyle choices. For more information visit HealthierGenera-

Festive tasting offers meatless holiday fare

Learn about and taste vegetarian foods at the 24th Annual Vegetarian Holiday Tasting Extravaganza, Sunday, Nov. 6, at Metropolitan Adventist School Gymnasium, located on Haggerty just north of Five Mile, in Plym-

The event will feature recipes that use a plant base for the main dish on the holiday dinner table. Presenters also will offer ideas on ways to serve the holiday recipes. More than 50 non-meat dishes will be available to see and taste. Creative cooks. will be on hand to talk about vegetarian family favorites for special

Cookbooks of the sample dishes that are presented will be available for purchase. A CD with 20 years of recipes from the event also will be available.

The festive event demonstrates how great holidays can taste without meat.

Detailed information and ticket order forms are available at www. veggieholiday.com or call the hotline at (248) 446-9176.

Adult tickets are \$14; children, 6-12 pay \$6.

The ticket order must include a first, second and third choice of seating times - 11 a.m., 12:45 a.m. or 2:30 p.m. - and the total number of tickets



A colorful plate of asparagus, stuffed squash and a meatless loaf are among the tastings at a previous Vegetarian Holiday Tasting Extravaganza in Plymouth.

ordered. Make checks payable to Metro SDA School. Send to "Holiday Tasting," 695 N. Ridge Road, Canton, MI 48187-4635.

REUNIONS

Send information on local class reunions to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

BELLEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1971 Planning 40th reunion in 2011. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail BHS.1971@yahoo. com. If on Facebook join the group by searching BHS reunion 19/1 40th sign up site; also on

CLASSMATES/REUNIONS. **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.

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. **REDFORD HIGH**

SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1971 40th reunion, 7 p.m. to midnight, Saturday, Nov. 5, at the Livonia Marriott. Cost is \$45 per person and includes strolling dinner and DJ. Cash Bar. Contact Susan (Brock) Pfeiffer at (248) 360-8437 or Susan (Matheson) Plaine at (248) 752-3618 for more information and address to send check. Also listed on Facebook.

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

GARDEN & NATURE

Send garden and nature announcements to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.

Members of the Metro Detroit Hosta Society will see a photo recap of the 2011 National Hosta Convention at their next meeting, 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 24, at First United Methodist Church, 1589 W. Maple, Birmingham. Jan Everson will present the program. Light refreshments will be served. Guests are welcome. For more information e-mail to Hgold2843@comcast.net.

Livonia Garden Club · Angie Wilkie, a club member, Master Gardener and flower show judge, will explain the

basics needed for entering a flower show at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 1 at the Livonia Senior Center, located at Five Mile and Farmington Road, Livonia. Visitors are welcome to club meet-

• The annual Fresh Greens Workshop is set for 9:30-11:30 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 3, at the Livonia Senior Cente located at Five Mile and Farmington Road, Livonia. To register, send check for \$24 payable to Livonia Garden Club to Diane Bergendahl, 7841 Oak Knoll Drive, Northville, MI 48168. Participants should bring a box and clippers to the workshop. No refunds after Nov. 1. Questions? Call (248) 486-9676 or e-mail rb@rc.net.

Travel Talk by TRAFALGAR FREE EVENT An insider's guide to Europe

Join Trafalgar's Chrysan Mutchler and an expert European Travel Director for amazing insights into how to get an insider's view of Europe and be the first to learn what's new and what's hot in travel.

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Venue: Walsh College 41500 Gardenbrook Rd. Novi, MI 48375



RSVP today - seats are limited! Call 248-553-3700 or RSVP online at www.AAA.com/Trafalgar

*Conditions apply. Details at show. CST#2077132-20

Delicious holidays start with your cookie recipes

Do you have a favorite holiday cookie? Maybe it's from a prized family recipe that has been passed along from generation to generation. Or a sweet new tradition you whipped up from scratch. Perhaps you've perfected a gluten-free, wheatfree, sugar-free vegan cookie that actually tastes good. Or you simply like to indulge in sprinkle-decorated decadence.

Whether it's cut out, rolled, or baked in brownie-sized squares, we'd love to get the recipe.

Send us the reci-

pe, your name, community and an e-mail address or phone number. Tell us why the cookie is a family favorite or musthave at the holidays. Include a photo of yourself, if you'd like. We'll publish it all in

an upcoming issue. Send to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Photos must be in jpg form attached - not embedded — to the e-mail. Or mail to Dargay at Observer & Eccentric, 615 W. Lafayette, level 2, Detroit, MI 48226. Deadline for submissions is Nov. 11.

Raffle proceeds help pay tuition

Glenn Kremer of Plymouth won first place - a year's worth of paid tuition — in the recent Catholic Central Dads' Club Tuition Assistance Raffle for Catholic Central High School.

Other winners were Jeff Doyle, who received a halfyear of paid tuition, Grayson Arnold, with a quarter year of tuition and Charles Widmaier and Kevin Ford, each wining \$1,000.

Catholic Central Dads' Club raised more than \$45,000 with net proceeds of \$23,300 going to tuition assistance needs at the school. The Rev. Richard Ranalletti, school principal, said the money will help students whose families are financially struggling with tuition

Kremer said he was excited to win and that he had 'never won anything before."

Catholic Central High School is a private Roman Catholic school for boys in Novi. The school embodies the educational tradition of the Basilian Fathers and is dedicated to fostering an environment that nurtures the whole person. Catholic Central students are encouraged to think critically, develop student initiative, attain self-discipline, act responsibly, and cultivate a positive self-image.



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TIMING IN ARTHRITIS

Most arthritis comes on over time. Patients with rheumatoid arthritis experience a period of increased fatigue and aching in the hands and fee that over weeks worsens. Osteoarthritis of the knee or shoulder may take years before an ache in the joint that comes and goes, becomes continuous.

Other arthritic conditions are identified by their swift appearance. The arthritis most prominent for this characteristic is gout. The usual history is that the individual with gout is sitting or sleeping and on standing up or rolling over in bed, is hit by n intense pain. Another example is the condition polymyalgia rheumatica. A person can go to bed as usual on Wednesday night and awake Thursday morning unable to move because of penetrating stiffness in the shoulders and thighs.

In gout, the quick onset is equaled by its quick end. If there is no doctor available to treat the attack, the pain will resolve in four or five days. Unfortunately, the pain and impairment during that 4-5 day period is so great, most people seek assistance as

Doctors take advantage of the timing of arthritis to identify the joint problem they are dealing with. A person suspected of having an arthritic problem can expect the physician to ask specific questions on when aching began when swelling started, how long the swelling lasted, how long did the pain linger

The same pattern does not seem to exist for flares. With almost any arthritis, flares have the features of being unexpected, coming in crops and being prolonged for reasons

that remain unclear

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send calendar items to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@ hometownlife.com. Or mail items to Dargay, Observer, 615 Lafayette, Level 2, Detroit; MI 48226.

Oct. 23-26

PUMPKIN PATCH

Time/Date: noon-6 p.m. Oct. 23, 10 a.m.-dark, Oct. 24-29 and noon-dark, Oct. 30

Location: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia Details: The church is partnering with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans to raise money for N.O.A.H. Project that helps the

homeless in Detroit Contact: (734) 464-0211

SEMINAR

Time/Date: 2 p.m., Oct. 23 Location: Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Paul L. Maier, author, historian and fifth vice president of the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod, will present "How We Got the Bible." The seminar considers the vast assemblage of documents forming the 66 books of the Bible. Topics include "The World's Most Important Book," "Can We Be Confident in the Bible?" "Silencing the Old Testament Critics," "Did the Church Make Jesus Divine?" and "The High Price of an English Bible." Admission is free

Contact: (734) 522-6830; www. christoursavior.org

Oct. 27-Nov. 2

BLOOD DRIVE

Time/Date: 1-7 p.m. Oct. 28 Location: Faith Bible Church, 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills Details: Call the American Red Cross to make an appointment Contact: (800) 733-2767

COAT EXCHANGE

Time/Date: 4-6 p.m. Oct. 29 Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, located on Five Mile one block west of Inkster Road, in Livonia

Details: The coat exchange will take place during the Fall Fun Festival. Participants who need a coat can take one. Coat donations will be accepted in the church office during business hours

Contact: (734) 422-1470

FALL FESTIVAL

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m., Oct. 29 Location: Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia

Details: Family-oriented event with games, face painting, henna tattoos, bouncies, bake sale, and free cider and doughnuts. Participants may wear their costumes. Rain or shine Contact: Pastor R. Wright at (313) 682-7491

FUN FEST, BARBECUE

Time/Date: 4-6 p.m. Saturday,

Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, located on Five Mile one block west of Inkster Road, in Livonia

Details: Fall Fun Festival for children through 6th grade. There will be games, treats, fall activities and more. Church members will be in the parking lot to pass out treats as the children "Trunk or Treat" from car to car. The church encourages youngsters wear costumes for the event. Parents or guardians must accompany all children.

Also happening: A barbecue from 4-7 p.m. on Oct. 29 will include North Carolina Pulled Pork Shoulder, Southern Bar-B-Q Chicken, baked beans, cole slaw, red-skinned potatoes and beverages. Proceeds will go to the church's "Feed the Hungry" ministries. Advance tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children. At the door, tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children while sup-

Contact: (734) 422-1470

HALLELUJAH FESTIVAL Time/Date: 5-8 p.m. Satur-

day, Oct. 29 Location: Canton Christian Fellowship, 8775 Ronda

Drive, Canton Details: 10th annual festival includes fun, food, games and fellowship

Contact: (734) 404-2480; www.cantoncf.org

HARVEST SUPPER

Time/Date: 5:30-6:30 p.m. dinner, 5-7 p.m. bake sale, Thursday, Nov. 3

Location: Atonement Lutheran Church, 6961 Mead, Dearborn

Details: Adult admission is \$8. Grade school children pay \$3.50, pre-schoolers pay \$1.50. Tickets may be ordered in advance or purchased at the door. Carry outs must be ordered by Nov. 2

Contact: (313) 421-8036 or (313) 581-2525

TRUNK OR TREAT

Time/Date: 5:15-7 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 30

Location: Connection Church, 3855 Sheldon,

Details: Trick or treat from car trunk to car trunk in the church parking lot; contest for best costume and best decorated car

Contact: (734) 397-1777

Nov. 3-9

LUNCHEON, FASHIONS Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday,

Nov. 6 Location: Sacred Heart Ban-

quet and Conference Center,

29125 West Six Mile, Livonia Details: The Ladies of Sacred Heart holds its annual Ladies' Luncheon and Fashion Show. Reservations are accepted for tables of eight. Teens and adults only. Gourmet luncheon is catered by Thomas's Catering of Livonia and fashions are provided by The Clothing Cove of Milford. Doors open at noon for basket and auction preview.

Contact: (734) 522-3166, or www.shbyzantine.com/ #events

Nov. 10-16

Tickets are \$30

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 13

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

Details: Daniel Rodriguez, a former police officer from New York City, N.Y. who sang at many memorials after the 9-11 terrorist attack, will perform with the Jesse Lynch Trio. Placido Domingo mentored Rodriguez through the Young Artist Program in Washington D.C. Rodriguez and the trio will give classic song a jazz twist at the Nardin Park show. Tickets are \$20, available from the church office

Contact: (248) 476-8860

SHARE THE BOUNTY Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 11

Location: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: The evening will include decadent sweets and opportunities to win handmade items and gift baskets. Tickets are \$15. The event raises funds to provide food, clothing and gifts for needy families this Christmas. The church and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans are working together on the charitable cause

Contact: (734) 464-0211



Plymale-Hall

Cassie L. Plymale and Brandon Hall announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Tim and Jeanine Plymale of Plymouth. Her fiancé's parents are Tamra VandenBerg of Novi and Charles Hall of Wayne.

A June 2012 wedding is planned in White Lake.



Belch-Szymanski

Sherry Belch and Keith Szymanski announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Vince and Sandi Belch of Canton, is a 2002 graduate of Divine Child High School. She teaches first grade at St. Damian School, in Westland.

Her fiancé, son of Rich and Judy Szymanski of Redford, graduated in 2002 from Catholic Central High School. He is a CPA at Plante & Moran.

A December 2011 wedding is planned at St. Damian Church, in Westland.



Robertson-Bailey

Shelly Robertson and Andrew Bailey announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Kathy and John Robertson of Farmington Hills, attended Farmington Hills Harrison High School and Schoolcraft College. She works at McAlister's Deli and Cracker Barrel.

Her fiancé, son of Lynn and Byron Bailey of Farmington Hills, attended Farmington Hills Harrison High School, Western Michigan University, and the Conservatory of Recording Arts and Sciences. He works as a freelance audio engineer at MD Records and part time at Electronic Express

An April 2012 wedding is planned in Detroit.

Milestones



Charles and Marietta Ferrell of Livonia

50th wedding anniversary

Charles and Marietta Ferrell of Livonia were married Sept. 16, 1961.

They have three children: Charles M. Ferrell, Michele (Dean) Langley, and Christopher M. Ferrell. Their grandchildren are Chandler and Spencer Lang-

Charles worked at Ford Transmission Plant in Livonia for 39 years and retired in 2002. The couple enjoys mission work, volunteering, and travel, as well as spending winters in Arizona.

They celebrated their 50th anniversary at Alpha Baptist Church in Livonia.



Pete and Doreen Walkuski of Livonia on their wedding day in 1961

50th wedding anniversary

Peter and Doreen Walkuski were married Oct. 14, 1961, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Dearborn. They celebrated their milestone anniversary recentheir children, Linda Millard, Lori and Taube, Lisa and George Platz and Larry and Andrea Walkuski, along with their grandchildren, Lauren Millard, Sara and Amy Taube, George-Stephan, Joseph



Dick and Jean Hofmann of Plymouth

50th wedding anniversary

Dick and Delores "Jean" (Litchney) Hofmann of Plymouth marked their 50th wedding anniversary Oct. 7. The couple married in 1961 at St. Linus Church, in Dearborn Heights.

Their children are the late Michelle Hofmann, Christy (Wayne) Holliday of Plymouth and Nancy (Nino) Cercone of Canton. They also have four grandchildren. Both Dick and Jean are

with the Plymouth Knights of Columbus and enjoy gardening, traveling, and spending time with their family. The couple celebrat-

retired. They're involved

ed their milestone anniversary with friends and family at dinner. They also plan a second honeymoon in Las Vegas, Nev.



Jean and Dick Hofmann on their wedding day in 1961

Passages

View Online www.hometownlife.com

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

BORTHWICK,

VICTORIA MARY ANN Age 80, passed away September 21, 2011. Visitation was held at home. A memorial service will be planned at a later date. Staffan-Mitchell Funeral Home, Chelsea. www.mitchellfuneral.com

DINGELDEY, PHILIP R. "BUD"

October 19, 2011, age 76. Born on his family's farm in Canton Township in 1935. Beloved husband of Karen. Dear father of Jeff (Amy) McIntosh, Dennis (Judy) Dingeldey, Lori (Dan) Mayer and Kevin (Emily) Dingeldey. Also leaves seven grandchildren. Brother of James, Jake, George, William, Karen, Richard, Diane and Bill. Visitation Sunday 3pm-9pm at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth where funeral services will be conducted on Monday 11am. Share your special thoughts and memories at www.schrader-howell.com



FENOGLIO, MARY

Age 106, October 19, 2011 Beloved wife of the late Ansel Loving mother of the late Charles Fenoglio. Grandmother of Stephen (Stephanie) Fenoglio, Carol (Robert) Skinner and Melissa Rojas. Great-grandmother of Melanie and Travis Fenoglio and Jakob and Ryan Rojas. Mother-in-law of Diane Fenoglio. Aunt of Gene Becco. Kay Martin and Kathryn Manitz. Memorial service 11 am Monday, October 24th at Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 25450 Plymouth Rd., in Redford. Contributions may be made to His Church Anglican, 36163 Plymouth Rd., Livonia, 48150

PACE, CRAIG J.

Passed away in Toledo, Ohio on Sunday. October 16, 2011 at the age of 45. Beloved son of Nancy (Jim) Magyar and the late Dennis Pace. Stepson of Wanda Pace. Dear father of Sidnee. Brother of Mark (Deborah) Pace, Danny Pace and Tony Magyar. Nephew of Carol (William) Burger, Joe Barham and Martha (Lewis) Geiers. Also leaves behind his former wife Gina and numerous cousins. Beloved friend of Kenny and Faye McFarland. Visitation will be held on Friday from noon until the time of the Memorial services at 1pm at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth

TURBETT,

NELLA MARIAN October 17, 2011, age 78. Beloved wife of 57 years of William. Loving mother of Robert (Vi), Andrew (Tracey) and Gavin (Paula). Devoted grandmother of James, Matthew, William, Alexandria, Katherine, Scott, Margaret and Deirdre. Cherished "My Marian" of Allison (Dan) Palmer. Also survived by her sister Wanda (the late Rene) Boutin and sister-in-law Eleanor Davis. Aunt of Roger Boutin, Michelle Boutin and Raymond Davis. Memorial Gathering Saturday, October 29th 11:00 am to 7:00 pm and Sunday, October 30th 1:00 pm until memorial Service at 3:00 pm at the Dearborn Chapel of the Howe-Peterson Funeral Home, 22546 Michigan Ave. Memorial contributions in lieu of flowers may be made to the American Cancer Society or to Cleveland Clinic Foundation.

howepeterson.com

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.

THOMAS, JOHN G.

Age 94 of South Lyon,

formerly of Farmington

Hills passed away October 20, 2011. He was born in Newcastle Pennsylvania on February 11, Newcastle 1917 to Griffith and Margaret (Davies) Thomas. John received a Bachelor of Science Engineering from University of Pittsburgh in 1939. He was united in marriage to Ruth H. Manns on July 26, 1941 and they spent 70 loving years together until his death. He proudly served in the Navy during WWII, in the Pacific Theater, and also served during

the Korean War. He worked for steel companies as a metallurgist and salesman his entire career. John was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Farmington and the Masonic Lodge #275. An innovative man, he enjoyed making things such as clocks and stained glass. He was an avid bridge player, who also enjoyed electronics and computers. John was very handy and could fix anything around the house. He is survived by his beloved wife Ruth H. Thomas; his children Susan (Donald) Lyons, David (Kathy) Thomas, and Nancy (Scott) Kistler; his grand-children Michael Lyons, Gethin (Amanda) Thomas, Boo Hee Thomas, and Margred Thomas; and his great granddaughter Zoe Kelly. He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Margaret Miller. A memorial service will be held today, October 23, 2011 at 3 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 26165 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48334. The Reverend Dr. Sue Ellis Melrose will officitate the service. The family would ate the service. The family would appreciate memorial contribu-tions to Salvation Army, 9451 S. Main St., Plymouth, MI 48170 or

First Presbyterian Church of Farmington. Arrangements

entrusted to Casterline Funeral

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Family meals contribute to good health

October is National Eat Better, Eat Together Month, an opportunity for families to start new traditions, make time for one another, and eat healthy.

TOPS Club, Inc. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), the nonprofit weight loss support organization, offers these ideas to make time for family meals and reap healthful rewards:

Enjoy the benefits

· Family dinners promote healthy eating habits and are an ideal time for parents to teach their children about nutrition and to demonstrate healthy practices. Kids who regularly eat with their families tend to consume more fruits and vegetables rather than junk food.

• Time together can open the lines of communication between parents and children and help form stronger, healthier relationships. Family members have a chance to share details about their day, plan, learn about one another, and more. Table talk also allows children to express ideas and learn new vocabulary from adults' conversations.

· Studies show that eating together can contribute to higher academic performance and improved well-being. The stability of family meals and conversation are essential for kids as they

develop and learn. · Food dollars can go further with large, homemade meals, rather than fast food or individual dishes. Cooking one meal and preparing food in advance also saves time in the kitchen.



Prepare meals ahead

To avoid falling into the common excuse that everyone's schedule is too hectic, make meals ahead of time. Weekends are a great opportunity to compile a shopping list, purchase groceries, and prepare weekday meals. If you have extra time, cook double servings and put the extra food in the freezer, to be used as a backup for busy nights.

Put it on the calendar

The calendar fills up

quickly, especially as kids get older. It's important to make family time a priority and set a schedule that will work for everyone. If there is only one day that works for each person, make it a weekly habit and work up to two or three times each week, if you can. Breakfast and lunch count as meals, so don't limit family time to dinner.

Get the children involved

It's important to engage the kids and have them participate. Give them the opportunity to pro-

() at Plante & Moran

vide input on what is served or assign tasks setting the table, washing the produce, pouring beverages, and mixing ingredients. Teenagers could even cook one of the meals.

Make it fun

Want to make meals more interesting? There are many creative ideas that can keep family time exciting.

 Move it outdoors and have a picnic.

• Turn off the television, cell phones, and the computer and have a conversation. Go around the table and talk about the

highs and lows of everyone's day and ask each other questions.

· Plan a theme for different meals — fiesta, dinner and a movie, fondue party, build your own burger or pizza, "favor-ites meal" (making each family member's preferred dish), and more.

 Take turns planning the meals. One night parents can arrange dinner, and the kids can prepare breakfast another day. This will get everyone involved with meal planning, and it will give family members an opportu-

nity to be creative. Dress up the dinner

table, making the occasion seem special. Use candles, table clothes, fancy dishes, or props for a themed dinner.

TOPS Club Inc., is a nonprofit weight-loss support and wellness education organization founded more than 63 years ago. TOPS has nearly 10,000 chapters throughout the United States and Can-

Visitors may attend their first TOPS meeting free of charge. Membership is \$26 per year, along with nominal chapter fees. To find a local chapter, visit www.tops.org or call (800) 932-8677.



St. Mary Mercy Hospital's UPCOMING HEALTH INFORMATION PRESENTATIONS

 Center for Joint Replacement Seminar Guest speaker David Mendelson, MD Thursday, October 27, 6 p.m. Call 734-655-2345 to register or for more information.

Michigan Bariatric Institute Seminar Guest speaker Tallal Zeni, MD Thursday, November 3, 6 p.m. Call 877-WHY-WEIGHT to register or for more information.

 Center for Joint Replacement Seminar Guest speaker Ryan Molli, DO Thursday, November 10, 6 p.m. Call 734-655-2345 to register or for more information.

 Stress Free Holidays Guest speaker Cynthia Rochon, RN, PMHN, MBA Wednesday, November 16, 7 p.m. Call 734-655-8950 to register or for more information.

Women's Health Series: Healthy Living. Healthy Woman. Speakers from Gynecology and Urogynecology Thursday, November 17, 6-8 p.m. Call 734-655-2281 to register or for more information.

 Center for Joint Replacement Seminar Guest speaker Jeffrey Mendelson, MD Wednesday, November 30, 6 p.m. Call 734-655-2345 to register or for more information.

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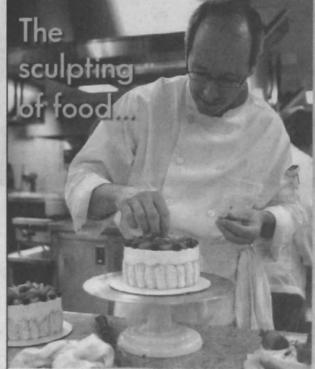
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Career Lessons From The Recession

If the recent recession left a bad taste in your mouth -and chances are it did -remember that every cloud has a silver lining. As painful as it may have been, the downturn gave workers insights into how to stay marketable and maintain professional momentum, even during the worst of times. Here are a several key takeaways from the recession and how they can help your career:

Expect change

Employees were forced to adapt quickly during the downturn. Many took on new responsibilities, learned how to solve problems with fewer resources and began to work more efficiently.

The lesson? Flexibility can be a career-saver and will only

benefit you going forward. After all, change is inevitable. Although you can't control whether the economy shifts into high or low gear, you can control your reaction to it. Keep a positive outlook as business conditions or priorities evolve and, to the extent possible, try to adapt to new and different ways of doing things.

Keep your skills current Many professionals have

assumed new roles and larger workloads over the last few years. Doing so successfully has required learning new skills. Along with updating their technical abilities, the savviest professionals strengthened their soft skills. For example, many people have become better negotiators as they've had to do more with less.

But much like the foreign language you studied in high school only to forget once you graduated, your skills will atrophy unless you continually strengthen them. Continue to use your new abilities and understand that different skills sets will continually come into vogue. Remain alert to emerging trends and look for opportunities to build sought-after skills.

Don't ignore your network Think back to the jobs you've landed throughout your career, especially if you were forced to look for a new position during the downturn. Because many companies weren't advertising open jobs over the past couple of years, professionals often had to know someone just to get an

interview. Whether identifying job leads. providing referrals or simply offering advice, your network has probably been an invaluable resource.

Even as business conditions pick up, remember that the people you know will continue to serve as a career safety net. Keep in touch with them, both online and in person.

Also, look for opportunities to pay it forward. Let members of your network know of job leads you uncover and express your willingness to serve as a referral. Helping others will keep your network strong and increase the likelihood that your contacts will offer assistance the next time you're in need.

Always be ready

Whether you lost your job or someone you know did, this recession showed workers that very few are immune to the whims of the economy. Almost any job can disappear with little or no warning.

During the downturn, those who were ready with updated application materials and a solid network of professional contacts were often able to rebound and find employment the quickest. The lesson here: You can't control the job market or the likelihood of a layoff, but you can be ready to launch an immediate job search.

Even if you are currently employed, make sure your résumé is current and continue to update it as you learn new skills, earn certifications or professional designations, and accomplish noteworthy goals. Also, make sure you know whom you would tap for professional references. If you haven't talked with those in your network over the past few months, reach out to key contacts to keep your relationships active.

As philosopher George Santayana famously said, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." This recession is still fresh in most people's minds, but as conditions improve, don't forget the knowledge you've gleaned. These learnings can help you prepare for and overcome any bump -- or pothole -- that may appear in the road of your career.

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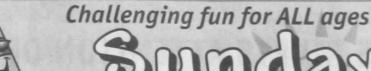
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- situation
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- 53 Famous last word
- 54 Popular family vehicle 55 Designer

Schlaparelli DOWN

- 1 Picket-line
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Answer to Previous Puzzle

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- 23 FBI agent 17 Fight for honor
 - 24 Counting-out word 25 101 and I-95
 - Roll tightly
 - 27 Melange 28 Annoying
 - insect 29 Card game
 - for two 32 Boggy ground 33 Like instant
 - cocoa
 - 35 Itinerant 36 Chinese "way"
 - 38 Peer Gynt
 - creator 39 Mop up 41 Bean used
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Word Search — October

J.	S	T	Н	G	В	В	F	C	Р	0	Z	A	٧	Q
Q	٧	U	K	A	1	S	Н	0	R	L	0	0	C	0
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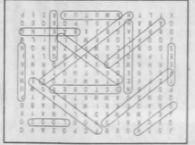
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Car Report

Advertising Feature

LEXUS RIVETS ATTENTION OF LUXURY BUYERS ONCE AGAIN

By Dale Buss

BMW and Mercedes-Benz are slugging it out for highest-volume U.S. luxury sales for the year, and stock-market swings and economic doldrums remain vexing problems for upscale sales. But the fourth quarter is going to be all about Lexus:

what the Tovota luxury brand now can do - and still not do. Lexus

executives say the brand is finally back to **Dale Buss** full strength and ready to fight its

way up to No. 1 in the segment again, and their robust fourthquarter production and marketing schedules reflect that conviction.

While Lexus has had fewer cars to sell over the last six months, it wasn't sitting still. The brand intensified its already-robust schedule of dealership training in new hightech features of Lexus vehicles, a focus on "customer satisfaction" that executives believed had slipped over time. They intensified the rollout of special editions and of new colors, wheels, equipment and other options, which "for many of our customers was enough to tide them over," said Brian Smith, vice president of marketing for Lexus.

And once Lexus executives realized the extent to which their vehicle supplies would be constrained for most of 2011, they "prioritized our loyal owner base," he said. "We didn't advertise it and it wasn't widely known," but Lexus dealers' authorized gambits included extending expiring vehicle leases for two or three months and offering "thank-you" gifts such as a free extra year of Sirius XM Radio service or Toyota's Safety Connect system.

"Our inventory was at a low point, of course, so we knew we couldn't compete with huge



RX 350 is Lexus's segment-leading crossover, and soon will be in more ample supply.

offers that competitors were making," Smith said. "We were successful in retaining the vast majority" of existing Lexus owners.

Now, the question is how many lost Lexus owners the brand can get back as it begins what might be a long climb back out of its hole. The fourth quarter is always important for the brand, Smith said, what with its archetypal "December to Remember" promotion, the granddaddy of the industry's flurry of winter-holiday discount programs.

"But beyond that," he said, "we really have our first opportunity to bring production back to normal." That means a 20-percent increase for the Lexus lineup over year-ago fourth-quarter production, a number that be 40 percent higher for the RX. "RX is our bread and butter, and its production was the last to come back to full speed for us," Smith

Overall, Smith is counting on pent-up demand, current owners coming off of extended leases, and replenished inventories to add up to an outsized fourth quarter for Lexus – although the brand has run out of time to come anywhere close to reclaiming its annual luxury-sales title for this

But when 2012 rolls around, Smith said, "We'll have one of the most robust years ever for new-product introductions." If instead some important launches had been scheduled for this year and then disrupted by the natural disaster in March, he said, they would have had to be rescheduled. "It will work out fine," Smith concluded.

Yet, German brands are arrayed firmly against such intentions, having taken biggest advantage of Lexus's relative absence over the last six months. And an amply supplied Infiniti has been rising; Cadillac

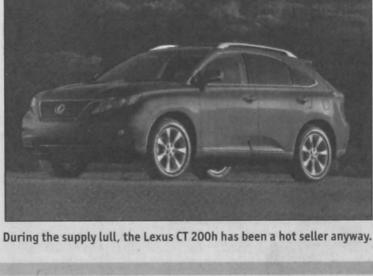
and Buick are newly emboldened; and the start of Lincoln's revival timetable gets more and more imminent. Even Hyundai has grabbed a piece of what used to be Lexus turf.

So while Lexus is shifting into reclamation mode, it likely will be 2012 before anyone can determine the extent of the brand's long-term U.S. share losses and its chances for recouping them. Lexus was the segment's clear volume leader in the United States for 11 years until the natural disaster in Japan ordained that title would be ripped from Lexus's grasp this year.

In its place, BMW has taken a clear lead over Mercedes-Benz for this year's segment title, with about 177,000 sales through September compared with Benz's 170,000 sales. Buick is in fourth place with 140,000 sales, and Lexus lingers next, with about 136,000 sales -26,000 fewer, or about 12 percent, than it had notched through September 2010.

It isn't just supply disruptions that have felled Lexus for the time being, however. The luxury marque was dented by some recalls of its own a couple of years ago when the Toyota Division was being overwhelmed by safety-recall issues. Probably more important, Lexus is only now reaching the end of an admitted lull in its slate of new-product introductions - and it's new products that drive sales increases more reliably than anything else, especially among upscale buyers.

So, as important as the fourth quarter is to Lexus, 2012 will be even bigger.



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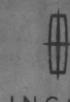
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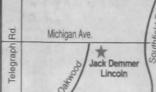


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