



CHIEFS ARE SOCCER STATE MPIONS SPORTS, B1

A GANNETT COMPANY

Music money

The Michigan Philharmonic announced that it received a \$40,000 grant from the John S. and James L. **Knight Foundation for** a multicultural Bollywood Music Festival to be performed at the Music Hall



Center for the Performing Arts in Detroit on May 19-20.

The

grant will help fund a large Bollywood Music Festival which will feature the Michigan Philharmonic under the direction of Music Director and Conductor Nan Washburn, along with professional Indian musicians, vocalists and instrumentalists. The two-day festival will also include workshops on Indian music and dance.

Youth grant

The B.L.O.C.K. Youth and Teen Center is the recent recipient of a Youth Advisory Council Grant awarded by the **Canton Community** Foundation. Members of The B.L.O.C.K.'s Junior Advisory Council, a teen group which provides opportunities for middle school and high school students to build lifelong leadership skills, actively sought out and applied for the Community Foundations' grant in spring 2011.

This award has enabled the JAC to purchase a new printer for The B.L.O.C.K.'s computer lab, as well as toner, paper and additional networking supplies. Canton's Information Technology Department provided installation and network configuration support for this project.

"Technology plays a large role in the lives of

PRICE: \$1 • THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2011 • hometownlife.com Voters put four new faces on P-C board

ANTON

BSFRVE

By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer

Food, B8

Local Republicans took some heat for getting involved in the nonpartisan Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education election.

But if Tuesday's election results were any indication, Republicans apparently had a message that resonated.

Two of the four so-called "M&M" candidates - former board Presidents Mark Horvath and Mike Maloney were among four new trustees elected to four-year terms Tuesday, along with Plymouth City Commissioner John Complete election results, A2.

Barrett and political newcomer Sheila Paton, co-founder of the district's Legislative Action Network.

Those four supplanted three incumbents - current board President John Jackson and Trustees Steven Sneideman and Nancy Eggenberger (the fourth incumbent, Vice President Dianne Gonzalez, opted not to seek re-election). The incumbents fell well behind the top four vote-getters.

"It's what I've been saying the last

Please see ELECTION, A2



Board of Education winner Sheila Paton got a thumbs-up from her son, Jacob, and a smile from her husband, Brian, when results were announced Tuesday.

A warm welcome home

Veterans Day finds couple ready to honor son's memory

By Darrell Clem Observer Staff Writer

A Canton couple is nearing the end of a long journey to honor their late son, U.S. Army Sgt. Trevor Blumberg, by offering war-on-terror veterans - and those still serving - a peaceful, woods-shrouded vacation spot near Lake Huron



Mother sues district over alleged assault

By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer

A Plymouth woman is suing Plymouth-Canton Community Schools and several of its employees after charging in Wayne County Circuit Court her 14year-old daughter was sexually assaulted during at least three incidents at Discovery Middle School in March.

The suit claims the woman's daughter, who has Down syn-

teens," said recreation specialist Stephanie Pavlo. "By providing teens access to updated technology, we are not only helping them to succeed with school projects, but we're helping to keep them on a level playing field with their peers."

The B.L.O.C.K. (Building Leaders Out of Canton's Kids) Youth and Teen Center is located at 44237 W. Michigan Ave. in Canton. For more information about this destination, call (734) 398-5570 or visit Cantonfun.org.

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C The Observer & Eccentric Volume 37 * Number 40

Home Deliver (866) 887-2737 im Address 41304 Concept Dr. Plymouth MI 48170 where they can find refuge.

Yet in many ways, Terry and Janet Blumberg's journey has just begun.

The retired couple by Christmas expects to complete their move to Blum's Landing, a 3,500-squarefoot, bed-and-breakfast getaway near Rogers City, in the northern Lower Peninsula, where they hope to begin welcoming veterans and troops for no-cost visits as early as this winter. They want to help military personnel, especially those who have endured the physical or mental wounds of war.

"It's a little scary that we're going to finally make it happen," Janet Blumberg, a retired Garden City school principal, said, sitting in the couple's Canton home. "It feels wonderful."

Favors granted

Blum's Landing evolved after the Blumbergs took seriously two favors Trevor Blumberg, 22, asked before he was killed Sept. 14, 2003, in Fallujah, Iraq, after earlier serving in Korea and Afghanistan. If he didn't come home, he told them, he wanted his parents to care for his dog Scrappy, a friendly Staffordshire bull terrier, and to help other troops.

As Scrappy prances around their Canton kitchen, the Blumbergs talked of a dream that began years ago to build Blum's Landing. They used about \$400,000 of their own money - much of it from their son's death benefits - and started

Please see HOME, A9



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Terry and Jan Blumberg, with grandson Logan Marshall, made two promises to their son: Take care of his dog, Scrappy, and do something for veterans.



Blum's Landing provides a peaceful resting spot for veterans.

drome and is part of a Mild Cognitively Impaired Program at the school, was assaulted by a male student in the same program.

The suit names the district along with Julie Woodhams, the district's director for special services; Joslyn Clark, the supervisor for secondary special services; and Discovery teacher Amy Carns, as well as Principal Roche LaVictor and Assistant Principal Terry Sawchuck.

District officials declined to comment, but released a written statement.

"As of noon on Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2011, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools has not been formally served with a lawsuit," the statement read. "We are aware of the situation, and have contacted our legal counsel. We are cognizant of state and federal laws that protect our students' rights. Accordingly, it would be inappropriate to comment further at this time."

According to the suit, filed by Royal Oak attorney Michael Dor-fman, the boy admitted to at least three incidents:

According to the suit the boy, who is described in the suit as "much larger" than the girl, admitted to forcing the girl to have anal sex with him, though when asked if he "fully penetrated" her, the boy allegedly said, "Not all the way."

The suit claims the boy admitted to twice forcing the girl to

Please see SUIT, A2





Sheila Paton and John Barrett finished as the top two finishers in Tuesday's Plymouth-Canton Board of Education election. The pair will take their seats in January.

ELECTION

A2

(C)

Continued from page A1

three years ... people are fed up with the way the board has been operating," said Maloney, who served on the board from 1995-99, including a stint as president from 1998-99. "They aren't operating in a cohesive manner and they haven't focused on the important priorities of the district. To me it's a clear mandate (from voters) to change the way they operate."

Paton, an active parent whose LAN kept tabs on funding issues coming out of Lansing, roared to an easy victory, grabbing more than 7,000 votes. She was followed by Barrett, a Plymouth resident and 40-year educator, who finished with 5,87 Horvath and Maloney finished third and fourth, respectively.

Eggenberger, in the top three as early returns came in, eventually slid to fifth, about 600 votes out of the running. Sneideman and Jackson



Horvath Maloney

finished eighth and ninth, respectively. Votes were cast in Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Canton, and Northville, Salem and Superior townships. Results weren't available from Superior Township at press time.

The four new board members join incumbents Judy Mardigian, Barry Simescu and Adrienne Davis at the table in January.

"I'm really pleased," Paton said. "I'm eager to get to work and continue to focus on the kids. This is going to be great. We're going to move forward in a positive direction."

Barrett, who gave up his seat on the Plymouth City Commission to run for the school board, said the results came at the end of what he called "a long journey." Like Paton,

Care & Love are the greatest things we provide

Barrett said he's ready to get to work.

"First and foremost, we have to make sure Plymouth-Canton is offering the best possible education," Barrett said. "We need to motivate our students to achieve at as high a level as possible. We need to make sure we have the best curriculum package, regardless of the budget.' Horvath said the focus

needs to be on the district's priorities, including what he believes is a dire financial picture that's only going to get worse if the district doesn't attack it.

"I think the fact the incumbents lost shows people don't like the direction (of the board), said Horvath, who previously served on the board from 1994-98, including two years as president. "I think we have some big financial issues we've been hiding, and we have to get them out in the light of day and spend a lot of time with them. Without keeping the doors open

HOW THEY VOTED

Here are the vote totals in the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education Election (totals reflect votes in the city of Plymouth and Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Salem townships; results from Superior Township were not available at press time): Sheila Paton 7,101 John Barrett 5,877 Mark Horvath 5,525 Mike Maloney 5,292 N. Eggenberger 4,693 Mike Andro 3,983 Matt Dame 3,850 John Jackson 3,457 Steven Sneideman 3,039 Abdul Muhiuddin 2,913 Stephanie Goecke 2,799 Michael Redman 1,386 1,103 John Nichols A. Williams-Chehmani 939

Clifton Nealey 429

and the lights on, it's going to be hard for the teachers to do what they do best.'

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SUIT

Continued from page A1

touch his penis, once outside his clothing and once by forcing her hand inside his open zipper. The suit claims the

defendants, among other things, failed to properly supervise the boy and didn't administer a Functional Behavioral Assessment despite the fact the boy had been moved from Pioneer Middle School for similar behavior. The suit points out the district's Student Handbook "specifically prohibits harassment and is required to 'provide a physically and psychologically safe learning environment (where) harassment will not be tolerated.'

Instead, the suit claims, the special education classroom at Discovery is "no more than a student warehouse where students repeatedly sexually assault other students while purportedly under the supervision of the teacher."

'Rather than instruct the students on sexual education and physical boundaries as required by state law," the suit alleges, "the Defendants would rather show the students Alvin and the

Chipmunks films and have them eat popcorn." The mother, whose name is being withheld to protect the daughter, declined comment, referring inquiries to Dorfman.

In a release, Dorfman chastised the district and its employees for allowing the incidents, and others like them, to happen.

"(The victim) is a sweet and vulnerable girl who, because of her cognitive impairments, was repeatedly targeted for sexual assault by another student," Dorfman said in a release Wednesday. "Had Plymouth-Canton Community Schools properly monitored these students and delivered them the services they needed, rather than warehousing them like cattle, these repeated sexual assaults would have never occurred."

Dorfman's release said the boy who allegedly assaulted the girl has been charged by the Wayne County Prosecutor's office.

The lawsuit seeks unspecified damages on behalf of the mother. The case is pending before Judge Jeanne Stempien.

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AROUND CANTON

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

HEISE HOURS

Date/Time: Monday, Nov. 14 Location: Northville District Library (10-11 a.m.), 212 W. Cady in Northville; Wayne Community Center (1-2 p.m.), 4635 Howe in Wayne; and Plymouth District Library (3-4 p.m.), 223 S. Main in Plymouth.

Details: State Rep. Kurt Heise invites residents to meet with him locally during district office hours. Heise is also available to meet with constituents by appointment either in the district or at his Lansing office.

Contact: Toll free 1-855-REP-KURT or e-mail kurtheise@house.mi.gov to schedule an appointment.

CRAFTERS WANTED

Date/Time: Saturday, Dec. 3, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Location: St. Thomas a'Becket Church, Canton Contact: All interested crafters e-mail craftshow@ abecket.org



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PUBLIC SAFETY

Pair ordered to trial for assaulting woman

By Darrell Clem Observer Staff Writer

A Canton teen admitted in a statement to police that he and two other men had sex with a 24-year-old neighbor who had fallen unconscious after she took an anti-anxiety drug and drank beer.

Though 17-year-old defendant Ryan Daniel Orr's statement wasn't read aloud Monday during a court hearing, prosecuting attorney Danielle Hagaman-Clark said Orr gave a written statement indicating the three men "all took separate turns" with the victim.

Orr was ordered by 35th District Judge Ronald Lowe to stand trial in Wayne County



Circuit Court on three counts each of first-degree and thirddegree criminal sexual conduct for an incident the victim says happened after 2 a.m. Aug. 12 in Orr's bedroom in Sherwood Village, a mobile home park on Canton's southeast side.

A second defendant, 50-yearold Steven Arthur Nausley, is facing his preliminary examination on Nov. 18 on the same

charges, along with additional counts of assault with intent to commit sexual penetration and being a fourth-time habitual offender.

Hagaman-Clark said authorities still are searching for a third suspect.

The victim quietly testified Monday that the last thing she remembers before she was raped is walking to a store with the suspects, though they didn't buy more beer because it was after 2 a.m. She said she already had taken Xanax and drank two 24-ounce cans of malt liquor.

She said she awoke in Orr's bedroom and her sweat pants had been untied, with Nausley standing over her.

"I was raped," she testified.

CRIME WATCH

She said she heard Orr and the third suspect telling Nausley that "you can't do that that's rape. That's sick."

The victim said she grabbed her purse and ran home. She lives near Orr.

The victim later went to a hospital and notified police.

Defense attorney Kristen Pell, saying the victim's testimony alone didn't implicate Orr in the rape, argued that his written statement to police shouldn't be admitted as evidence, but Lowe disagreed and accepted it. Lowe read the statement, but not aloud.

Canton Detective Andrew Colthurst referred in court to conflicting statements Orr made to police - one denying the allegations and one supporting them.

Hagaman-Clark indicated during her arguments that Nausley took off the victim's clothing and asked the other men if they wanted to have sex with her, though she was unconscious. After Monday's hearing had ended, Hagaman-Clark offered words of comfort to the victim outside the courtroom.

If convicted as charged, the defendants could face penalties ranging up to life in prison.

Orr remains jailed with a \$50,000/10 percent bond. Nausley, who has a criminal history, is behind bars with a \$250,000 cash bond.

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Purse snatched

A Canton woman told police she was robbed of her purse when she arrived at her apartment in the 1400 block of Stacy, northeast of Palmer and Haggerty, and got out of her car.

The incident happened shortly before 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The woman told police she was returning home from classes she is taking, and she had books in her hand when the incident occurred. She said she got out of her car, placed her purse over her shoulder and was getting items out of her trunk when she was robbed.

No weapon was indicated in the police report.

The woman reported she was approached from behind by a black male in his early 20s wearing a light blue shirt and jeans. She said he had short hair

The woman said the suspect had been standing in a courtyard between two buildings before the incident happened. She said he approached her from behind, pushed her up against the car, seized her purse and fled.

The woman said her purse contained a calculator, her wallet, driver's license, school identification, two debit cards and other personal items.

Bottle blast

A student accused of exploding a plastic bottle in a metal trash container at Plymouth High School was released to his parents as Canton police forwarded details of the incident to Wayne County authorities for review.

The incident happened about 1:40 p.m. last Friday. A police report indicated the student placed ingredients in a clear plastic bottle that caused it to

explode in a trash can. No one was injured.

School employees summoned police after the incident. One witness told police the suspect placed something in the bottle, shook it up and put it in the garbage can.

Police took the student into custody but later released him to his parents.

Home invasion

A couple's residence in the 8000 block of Warfield, southeast of Joy and Sheldon, was entered sometime prior to 4:30 a.m. Nov. 1 while they were sleeping, a police report indicated.

A man said his wife woke him up a few hours earlier and said she heard a loud noise, but the man didn't think it was cause for alarm.

When he woke up for work, he found the door leading to his kitchen from the garage had

been kicked in. One or more intruders had opened cabinets through the house and had gone to the basement, where a computer was stolen.

The man also reported that \$100 was taken from a wallet in the kitchen.

Bike/car crash

A male riding a motorized mountain bike was struck by a car but not seriously injured during an incident that happened about 9:45 p.m. Nov. 1 at Ford and Morrison, east of Morton Taylor, a police report said.

Police arrived to find the biker on the ground, though he was conscious and alert.

The vehicle driver was making a turn and apparently didn't see the biker, who apparently didn't have his lights on, according to a police report.

The driver was cited for failing to use due care and caution. A warrant was being sought against the biker for reckless driving.

Retail fraud

Canton police cited a woman for retail fraud following an incident that happened about 10:20 a.m. Friday at the Walmart on Michigan Avenue near Belleville Road.

Police went to Walmart following reports that a woman placed makeup items and vitamins in her purse, then continued to shop. According to a police report, she paid for some items but not those she had placed in her purse.

An employee said the suspect refused to stop when she was confronted, but the suspect was still there when police arrived and cited her for retail fraud.

- Compiled by Staff Writer Darrell Clem from Canton Police Department reports.

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Canton man ordered to trial on sex charges

By Darrell Clem Observer Staff Writer

A 10-year-old girl testified in a closed courtroom Monday that she was sexually molested by Canton resident Robert Carl Kahler, 56, when she formerly lived near him.

The girl's testimony came after 35th District Judge Michael Gerou emptied his courtroom of spectators to help ease the emotional trauma the child faced during Kahler's preliminary examination.

Authorities confirmed that the girl's testimony led to Kahler being ordered to stand trial in Wayne **County Circuit Court** on three counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct and one count of seconddegree CSC

Kahler, jailed with a \$150,000 cash bond, could face penalties ranging up to life in prison if he is convicted as charged.

Gerou emptied the courtroom - except for the girl, Kahler, attorneys and essential court employees - after prosecuting attorney Angela Povilaitis cited a state law that allowed it.

Kahler is facing trial following allegations he sexually assaulted the girl when she was 7 to 10 years old. Canton police have said Kahler became friends with the girl's family when she lived near him.

During his Oct. 25 arraignment, Kahler had been charged with



nal sexual conduct. However, police said the girl's testimony led to two additional counts of first-degree CSC.

A not-guilty plea has been entered for the defendant as he awaits trial.

Statements made during Kahler's arraignment in front of 35th District Judge James Plakas indicated the accusations stem from incidents that occurred between 2007 and earlier this year.

Canton Detective Tim Wright asked during the arraignment for "a significant cash bond" due to the potential for Kahler to have contact with other children.

Wright also said Kahler may be losing his Canton home and was trying to get a job in Georgia, raising concerns he might flee Michigan if released.

Kahler had rejected implications me might flee. Plakas acknowledged that Kahler hasn't been convicted, but he set bond at \$150,000, citing what he called "very disturbing charges" and his duty to protect the community.

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Thristmas 👁

Senate vote urges quick action on I-275/Ford

By Darrell Clem Observer Staff Writer

A push to improve the I-275/Ford Road interchange and ease the area's traffic congestion gained more support Tuesday as the Michigan Senate passed a pair of resolutions introduced by state Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton.

The actions came one week after the Senate Transportation Committee approved the same measures during a public hearing attended by 125-150 people at Canton's Summit on the Park.

Both resolutions urge prioritization of proposals to reshape the I-275/ Ford interchange amid hopes of easing traffic

along stretches of Ford Road deemed as among the most accident-prone in Michigan.

Colbeck, Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy and other supporters also say the project could create some 200 jobs and boost the area's economy.

Senate-approved Resolution 93, adopted Tuesday, now goes to Washington, D.C., where Colbeck, LaJoy and others hope it will help convince federal authorities to grant \$20.3 million from a program dubbed TIGER, or Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery

Senate Concurrent Resolution 19, meanwhile, goes to the state

House for consideration, though copies will be forwarded to leaders in the U.S. Senate and House, members of the Michigan congressional delegation and the U.S. Department of Transportation.

LaJoy has said the nine-year push to improve the I-275/Ford area needs federal and state attention.

The proposal calls for two new ramps, or slips, allowing motorists on the southbound I-275 exit ramp to access either northbound or southbound Haggerty without traveling on Ford Road. It also suggests a service drive along the east side of the interstate, from Cherry Hill to north of Ford

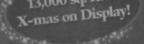
Road.

"The I-275/Ford Road interchange area is the most dangerous stretch of road in our state,' Colbeck said Tuesday in a statement. "It's important to note, though, that the merits of this project go well beyond increased safety. This project is critical to the continued economic development of western Wayne County and will benefit the entire region, including Aerotropolis."

His last remark refers to efforts to spur economic development near and around Detroit Metro and Willow Run airports.

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PCEP marchers fall just short of state crown

By Diane Hanson Correspondent

By a mere eight-tenths of a point, the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band missed the Flight I top spot at Saturday's 32nd annual Michigan Competing Band Association State Finals at Ford Field.

After a stellar competition season, the 180 hometown marchers captured the Flight I second-place trophy with a score of 89.97 along with the caption for Best Music at the daylong high school marching band championships. Flight I first place went to Walled Lake Central with a score of 90.77

"That was a fantastic performance," said David Armbruster, director of bands at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. "That was the best one of the year. This band has progressed forward the entire year and there has never been a step back. They peaked at the right moment."

All three drum majors agreed with their director's assessment.

"I was really excited about our show," said Canton senior Grace Wine. "It was a spectacular run-through and I'm so proud of everyone in the band.'

"This show was full of passion," noted Plymouth senior Ali Johnson.

Shelbie Torok, a Salem junior, added, "I think it was the best show we've had all season and there was the most energy put into this show today.

The show, "Ancient Gardens of Babylon," was comprised of some eight-and-a-half minutes of intriguing music, incredibly fast-paced marching, creative choreography and colorful props including vine-covered horns — depicting one of the Seven Wonders of the World.

Saturday's performance at Ford Field was the final staging of this year's competition show for the hometown marchers. They have opted not to travel to Indianapolis this year for the Bands of America Grand National Championships.

Instead, the nationally acclaimed band (winner of three national championships) will be gearing up for their first-time appearance in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York.

"We're very excited about Macy's and we have five rehearsals left," said Armbruster. He recommended band fans set their DVRs. Plymouth-Canton's performance during the nationally televised event will be a full minute and 15 seconds.

For Armbruster, this will be the pinnacle of an already incredible year.

"This has been a phenomenal group of students to work with this year," he said. "I couldn't ask for a better group. I am always amazed and impressed with the dedication that they have to the activity. The parents and staff have been unbelievably supportive and dedicated to the program. I am truly blessed to be a part of such a wonderful program."



PHOTOS BY DIANE HANSON

Center drum major Grace Wine signals the judges her 180-member band is ready to begin their nearly 10-minute show, "Ancient Gardens of Babylon," at the MCBA State Finals Saturday at Ford Field.



Loyal and enthusiastic band boosters cheer on the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band as they enter Ford Field Saturday for their award-winning State Finals performance.



Clarinetists Caili Johnson (from left), Gena Adler, Maddie Battishill, and Kevin Melcher add choreographed moves as part of the overall general effect of the P-CMB's dynamic state finals performance on Saturday.



Plymouth-Canton band director David Armbruster, also the vice president of the MCBA, had the honor of presenting his own drum majors, (from left), Shelbie Torok, Grace Wine and Ali Johnson, with the Flight I second-place trophy during the awards ceremony. The hometown marchers also captured the Flight I caption award for Best Music.









Percussionists Namratha Mallya, front, and Claire McManus are nestled amid props of greenery and flowers for the Plymouth-Canton State Finals performance of their show, "Ancient Gardens of Babylon," Saturday.

Color guard member Sarah Schmidt stretches to intercept her airborne flag at the Michigan Competing Band Association State Finals Saturday at Ford Field.

State band finals: Marchers put on musical mastery display

By Diane Hanson Correspondent

Forty-eight of Michigan's top high school marching bands converged on Ford Field Saturday for a spectacular display of marching prowess and musical mastery that reverberated from the rafters at the 32nd Annual Michigan Competing Band Association State Finals.

The 12 highest scoring bands during the fall competition season in each of Flights I, II, III, and IV (flights are determined by the school's enrollment, not band size, with the largest schools in Flight I) qualified for the prestigious finals show.

Mack Pittard, in his 20th year as the executive director of the MCBA, took a few minutes out of his busy schedule on Saturday to talk about the nature of today's high school bands, and the daylong State Finals contest.

"A lot of people equate marching bands with the halftime shows they see at their local games which is one part of it," said Pittard. "But these people take it to a little higher level in terms of the design of the show, the thought put into it, and the demands placed on the kids. It's very challenging and it's very time consuming. It takes a lot of practice hours to do this and it takes a pretty competent staff that has the knowledge to design a good show and teach it to the students.

More than 5,000 teens comprised the finalist bands and some 18,000 to 20,000 spectators cheered them on. The competition began at 8:15 a.m. and wrapped up with the final awards in Flight IV presented at 10:30 p.m.

Here's a recap of the championship results:

Flight I

1. Walled Lake Central 90.77 2. Plymouth-Canton 89.97 3. Rockford 87.59 4. West Bloomfield 86.99 5. Lake Orion 84.93 6. L'Anse Creuse 84.87 7. Troy Athens 83.27 8. Lakeland 81.07 9. Grand Blanc 79.97 10. Grandville 79.64 11. Novi 78.08 12. Clarkston 77.57 **Caption Awards:** Best Music: Plymouth-Canton Best Marching: Walled Lake Central Best General Effect: Walled Lake Central Flight II

1. Jenison	91.23
2. Reeths-Puffer	90.83
3. South Lyon	84.51
4. Farmington Harrison	83.36
5. Southgate Anderson	82.66

6. Flushing	81.94
7. Carman-Ainsworth	78.65
8. Woodhaven	76.77
9. Farmington	75.07
10. Wyandotte Roosevelt	74.88
11. Lakeview	
(St. Clair Shores)	73.55
12. Milford	69.74
Caption Awards:	
Best Music: Reeths-Puffe	er
Best Marching: Jenison	
Best General Effect: Jen	ison

Flight III

r ngne m	
1. Ferndale	86.34
2. Byron C enter	85.51
3. DeWitt	84.58
4. Stevensville Lakeshore	82.92
5. Northview	
(Grand Rapids)	82.46
6. Redford Thurston	81.00
7. Cedar Springs	76.86
8. Linden	75.59
9. Mt. Pleasant	74.28
10. Lamphere	73.53
11. Fruitport	73.36

12. Marysville	71.78
Caption Awards:	
Best Music: Ferndale	
Best Marching: Fernda	ale
Best General Effect: B	
Center	

Flight IV

1. Godwin Heights	86.37
2. Newaygo	84.79
3. Grant	82.20
4. Parchment	80.73
5. Belding	78.97
6. Allegan	76.21
7. Watervliet	75.75
8. Durand	75.22
9. Edwardsburg	72.67
10. Brooklyn Columbia	
Central	70.78
11. Comstock Park	68.56
12. St. Clair Shores	
South Lake	67.52
Caption Awards:	
Best Music: Godwin Hei	
Best Marching: Godwi	
Best General Effect: No	ewaygo

(CP)

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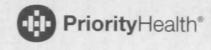
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LOCAL NEWS

Hundreds pitch in to Make a Difference

By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer

Scouts and soccer moms, church ladies (men, too) and club members and volunteers from a host of other organizations turned out Saturday to make a difference in the lives of the elderly and people with disabilities.

About 350 volunteers, working through the Plymouth Community United Way, did leaf-raking, shrub-trimming, general cleanup and other outdoor chores on Saturday at homes in Plymouth and Plymouth and Canton townships. It was the United Way's Make a Difference Day, an event that matches those in need with those who want to help.

They did a wonderful job for me," said Joan Brady, who had a crew of volunteers at her home in Plymouth Township's Lake Pointe subdivision.

\$5.00 Admission \$2.00 Student (with I.D.)



Brenda Garrett and son Troy Garrett rake leaves.

The workers raked and bagged leaves, Brady said, and trimmed bushes, work she finds difficult because of osteoporosis. "I appreciate what they do. They're wonderful," she said.

"It was a fabulous experience," said Marnie Holdefer of Canton, who joined five others from Plymouth First United Methodist Church to clean up the yard at

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another home in Plymouth Township. The homeowner couldn't

have done the work on her own, Holdefer said, but came out to thank and chat with volunteers.

The recipient was "humbled and a little overwhelmed that six people would show up to do her yard work," Holdefer said, but had a positive attitude and was "extremely grateful."

"It was just a real special time," she said.

Saturday was Holdefer's first time as a Make a Difference Day volunteer, and marked her church's return to participating in the program after a hiatus of several years. Other church members, she said, volunteered as members of other groups, in addition to the six on her team.

"We will make this an ongoing project of the church," Holdefer said.

Mary Bartek of Plymouth Township was on a team of Plymouth Democratic Club members; the group was sent to two different houses, also in Plymouth Township. Volunteers gathered at the Salvation Army's



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Key Club from P-CEP raked a few leaves. Volunteers are: Yanisa Godard, Ariba Khan, Lindsay Davis, Abby Klemetson, Audrey Halim, Olivia Schaefer, Rachel Amodio, Oleseun Oladipo, Allison Fries, Amanda Kilgore and Josh Johnson.



Sue Mendenhall, of Westland, rakes along with sisters Morgan, Elise and Ashlyn Gardner.

Plymouth Corps before fanning out to their assignments, and Bartek said she saw many other volunteers there whom she knew from other organizations. "It's a great experience," Bartek said. "We love doing it." The PDC is a regular participant in Make a Difference Day. It's all about giving

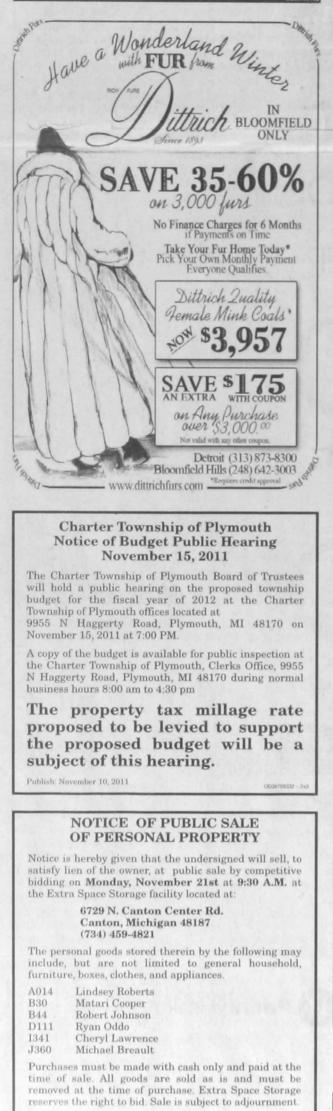
back, Bartek said: "That's just part of what I personally, and many people

in our club, like." According to Linda Chomin, a United Way spokeswoman, 48 yards in the three communities were cleaned up in Saturday's effort. Participating groups included local Girl Scouts, church groups, the Plymouth High School hockey team and the Key Club (a branch of the Kiwanis for young people) at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

Volunteers were treated to a continental breakfast supplied by Panera Bread, Einstein Bagels, Dunkin' Donuts and the Hiller's and Busch's supermarkets. They brought their own rakes and tools, and yard-waste bags were donated by Home Depot and Lowe's.

mjachman@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2405

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HOME

Continued from page A1

a nonprofit organization. They also received monetary donations and volunteer labor from people such as the congregation of St. Michael Lutheran Church of Canton.

They still need money for amenities such as a wheelchair-accessible pontoon boat, a king-size guest bed and, eventually, two guest cabins to complement the main lodging. They also are reaching out to those who can afford to sponsor war-on-terror military personnel who may need travel money or other aid to make the trip to Blum's Landing.

To learn how to help or to nominate military personnel for a visit, go to www.blumslanding.org or call (734) 812-1500.

Terry Blumberg, a retired independent housing inspector, has poured his skills into Blum's Landing, persevering for years on a place where some of his son's military friends — and their families already have visited.

"I just do the best I can and let God figure out how I'm going to do it," Terry Blumberg, 65, said, adding that those who have visited Blum's Landing "love it, and they find a little bit of peace that they need to reconnect" with nature.

Creature comforts

The lodging offers two guest bedrooms one large enough to sleep a small family, one for a couple. It also has amenities such as a big kitchen and dining area, a fireplace, a large social room the Blumbergs call "the great room," a 1,600-squarefoot porch where visitors can sit and enjoy the outdoors, an office, and a room above a garage that the couple hop to transform into a game room for their



Terry Blumberg shares time with 6-year-old grandson Logan Marshall.

guests.

Janet Blumberg plans to cook the food. "She's a great cook," her husband said.

Working with sponsors and local businesses near Blum's Landing, the Blumbergs hope to use their nonprofit organization to offer military personnel and their families a no-cost getaway where they can go fishing, kayaking, hiking, skiing, snowmobiling and visit nearby places such as Ocqueoc Falls, Orchard Lake, Lake Huron and Mackinac Island.

Trevor Blumberg, who loved nature, wasn't the couple's only child. They have a daughter, Amanda Marshall, who has ties to veterans through her nursing job at the VA Hospital in Ann Arbor. Marshall has two children of her own, Logan, 6, and Griffin, 13 months. Terry Blumberg

described the family as close-knit, and he still recalls his son's dedication to serving in the U.S. Army. "He always said he had the best job in the world because he got to go get the bad guys and make them pay."

Now, the Blumbergs hope to keep their son's memory alive with Blum's Landing. They pause to remember him — and not just on Veterans Day and Memorial Day.

"I think about him every day," Janet Blumberg said, tears filling her eyes.

As for Blum's Landing, she said, "It's our way to say 'thank you' to all these lovely peo-



Janet Blumberg

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Terry Blumberg

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Terry Blumberg built the fireplace, as well as much of the rest of the structure.



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6.

Paddling down the Rouge wasn't easy but definitely encouraging

ell, we did it. It took us pretty much most of the daylight hours over a three-day period, but we were able to canoe the Rouge River from Canton all the way to Dearborn - a journey



Kurt Kuban

over, or trudge around well over a hundred logjams of varying size. But we did it.

And I'm happy to report that nobody in our group of about a dozen foolhardy souls died or was seriously injured during our exploratory venture.

The group - which included myself, members of Friends of the Rouge, and some officials from Wayne County, Canton Township and the city of Wayne shoved off on a Friday morning at Beck Road in the western portion of Canton. On Sunday evening, just as the sun was setting in the west, we pulled up near Fairlane, Henry Ford's historic estate in Dearborn. Ford's estate, located on the campus of U-of-M Dearborn, sits majestically on the main branch of the Rouge River, near



Livonia's Bill Craig paddles his canoe along the Lower Rouge River.

its confluence with the Lower Rouge River, which is the branch we floated on. Our trip took us through most of Canton, Wayne, a portion of Westland, Inkster, Dearborn Heights and finally Dearborn.

Day one was perhaps the most grueling. The river is smaller in western Canton, and it winds quite a bit. As a result, it is just littered with fallen timber that has created dozens and dozens of logjams. That meant us finding any means necessary to get past each one - many had to be portaged around. By the end of the day, we had only

made it to Lilley Road. Day two began at Lilley and we made our way east, traveling under I-275 and towards Hannan Road and into Wayne. There weren't as many logjams as the previous day. By the end of the day, we had reached Wayne Road, where we pulled out at Goudy Park - the site of a dam, which was appropriate because this dam (under Wayne Road) was the reason for our trip in the first place.

After years of efforts to find the money for the project, it was recently announced that the National Oceanic and

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Believe it or not the Rouge River and the natural corridor along it supports lots of wildlife. Here is a giant snapping turtle living in Dearborn.

Atmospheric Administration and the Great Lake Restoration Initiative would provide grant money to remove the dam, most likely in 2012.

Friends of the Rouge, a group with a long history of trying to save the Rouge, saw the dam removal project as a way to also promote the recreational opportunities of the river, especially fishing and canoeing. That's when the idea for our trip was hatched.

Day three was by far the most rewarding. Because of the work volunteers have been doing over the last decade or so, most of the river is open through the city of Wayne, east of Wayne Road. We actually got to paddle continuously for very long stretches, making it to Inkster Road by lunch. We paddled on into Dearborn Heights. At Telegraph Road, we had a debate. It was about 4:30 p.m. The plan had been to take out there, and finish the trip on a fourth day. Some of us wanted to complete the journey that day though - Fairlane



Sue Thompson and Bill Craig canoe in Canton Township.



Sally Petrella, Bill Craig and Kurt Kuban got out of the canoes to check out the man-made wetlands in Inkster, which is home to more frog and toad species than anywhere in the Rouge River watershed, according to Petrella.

was only a couple miles away. We took a vote, and we decided to finish the trip that day. It was a great decision, because as we pulled up at Henry Ford's elegant home next to a large waterfall he built on the river, there was a perfect sunset. It was an appropriate end of our journey.

This was all about letting the public know of the potential of the Rouge River - and its recreational possibilities. I can say without any hesitation, this long forgotten and ill-treated river is on its way back. It could be a great resource and add to the quality of life of our area, especially in the communities it passes through. The Rouge River is never going to the be the AuSable or the Manistee, two of the most beau-

tiful and popular rivers in the state. Or even the Huron for that matter. The Rouge River watershed is home to more than a million people. And that many people cause lots of problems for a river like the Rouge - storm water runoff, garbage, and even dumping of raw sewage. But the Lower Rouge could be a real nice canoe route, especially from Canton to Inkster Road. It is something that Canton, Wayne, Westland and Inkster should really try to promote, not to mention Wayne County, which owns most of the land along the river.

al the Holidays

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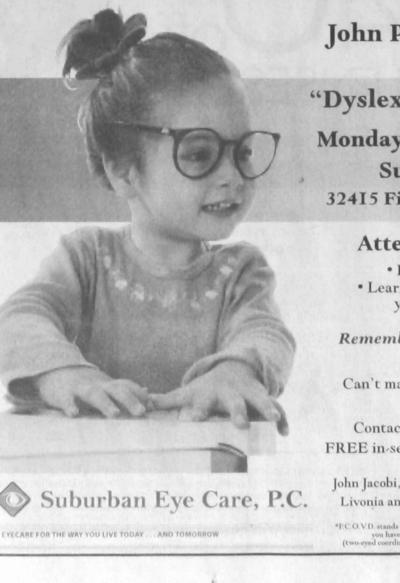
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*RC.O.V.D. stands for a Fellow in College of Optometric Vision Development. In order to be a RC.O.V.D. you have to complete post-graduate work and receive endorsements in + hinocularity (two-eyed coordination) + perceptual issues + work with stroke and other closed head injury patients.

Candidates' cocky putdowns ignore social, economic realities

ost of the presidential candidates appear to be hopelessly out of touch with the way a sizeable number of their fellow citizens live.

That's not an original observation, and it's likely to be repeat-



or gives the current one another

term.

In a time when the income gap between the rich in the U.S. and most of the rest of us is as wide as it's ever been - the widest in the developed world, by some accounts - the statement isn't a surprising one, either. One has to be quite well off, if not fabulously wealthy, even to mount a half-credible presidential campaign, and we need look no further than today's headlines to see how

money buys political influence.

But the point was brought home, again, for me personally in Plymouth a few weeks ago, when I spoke with Starkweather Education Center students for a news feature about their work to spruce up a park across the street from their school in the Old Village neighborhood.

These are students who are making the most of second chances, and their determination to work hard and overcome obstacles in their young lives to get through the alternative high school demonstrates they're setting their goals higher than Starkweather. I greatly admire them.

One young man told me he puts in 47 hours a week at a local Hungry Howie's in addition to attending Starkweather five days a week. Add homework and that sounds like two full-time jobs or more - and it sounds like too much for anyone, let along someone who may to care for when she's not in school or at work, had worked until 4 a.m., then had come to school a few hours later. She appeared to be motivated, and a teacher told me she admired the student's drive and smarts.

Meanwhile, Republican presidential candidates are in a contest to see who can take the toughest stance, the harshest line, who can best boost his or her standing by pushing down on people thought to be at the margins, from Mitt Romney's "corporations-are-peopletoo" remark to Herman Cain's broad-brush admonishment that the unemployed should blame themselves for their predicament.

And their "debate" audiences so far - which represent, I submit, an extremely narrow segment of public opinion - are rewarding this behavior, with some of them sometimes cheering on such mean-spiritedness.

What would those candidates say to the student I spoke with if his restaurant closes and he finds himself unemployed, or if time pressures force him to drop out in order to earn his keep at a low-wage job? What would they say to the young mom who finds the triple demands of school, parenting and earning a livelihood too much, and leaves school in order to stay afloat in a take-noprisoners economy?

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, November 10, 2011

of millions are unemployed or underemployed, and tens of millions more are hanging on in low-wage jobs, no-benefit jobs, trying to improve their lot, as these Starkweather students are, is that an adequate answer? No wonder so many drop out of the economy - and how convenient for the people running things, and the people who benefit most from the way things are run, that those socalled "discouraged workers" aren't counted in the official unemployment rate.

One need not go just to Starkweather to see people making the best of a situation in which

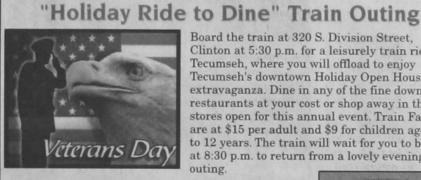
the odds are stacked against them, in contrast to politicians who deliver crowd-pleasing lines while ignoring basic realities.

These candidates could visit any urban high school, or a devastated neighborhood where people are rebuilding houses. or simply struggling to hang on with few prospects for jobs or improved services. They could ride the bus with Detroit commuters whose pay is so low they can't afford cars, and whose bus service has been atrocious for years, or with suburbanites who are trying to help the environment and their budgets by using mass transit, and whose service is soon to be cut. Or they could talk to people at job fairs and the unemployment lines - and see if they still think it's right to tell them to "blame yourself."

Matt Jachman is a reporter for the Plymouth Observer. He can be reached at (313) 222-2405 or via e-mail at mjachman@hometownlife. com.

Blame yourself? When tens

not even be old enough to vote. Another student, with a baby Friday, November 11



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BUSINESS

BRAD KADRICH, EDITOR Bkadrich@hometownlife.com (313) 222-8899 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

CANTON BUSINESS BRIEFS

Dick's opens

Dick's Sporting Goods, the largest U.S. based full-line sporting goods retailer, opened its Canton location over the weekend at the retailer's new location at Premier Center, 45700 Michigan Ave., in Canton

"Dick's Sporting Goods is excited to become a member of the Canton community with the opening of our newest location," said Lauren Hobart, Dick's Sporting Goods Chief Marketing Officer. "Unsurpassed customer service and the best products in the industry are the hallmarks of our stores and we're excited to bring these traditions to Canton. We look forward to becoming an integrated member of the Canton community.

The Canton location is the retailer's 18th store in Michigan and their 475th nationwide. Throughout the weekend, customers can sign up for the \$1,000 ScoreCard® Shopping Spree, earn triple points all weekend by signing up for the ScoreCard® Rewards Program, and register to win great prizes from The North Face, SofSole, Crosman, or Michael Mauro. Additionally, there will be activities throughout the store including product demonstrations by industry experts from Crocs, Mizuno Remington, Superfeet, Moving Comfort, Brooks, and SofSole, among others.

Visit www.dickssportinggoodsonline.com/Grand_Open/Canton/ for more grand opening details and directions.

OneMain appreciation

During its Customer Appreciation Days in November, OneMain Financial will provide its customers and area residents the opportunity to support their local community. For the entire month of November, the OneMain Financial branch at 41812 Ford Road in Canton will be collecting non-perishable food to help feed those in need throughout the community.

The collected food will be donated to in time to be distributed to St. Mary's Outreach Community Center in time to be distributed to local residents before the holidays.

"In the spirit of the upcoming holiday season, OneMain Financial is committed to making the neighborhoods where we do business better places to live and work," said Laura Hamlin, OneMain Financial Branch Manager.

As part of their Customer Apprecia-



BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Seven-year-old Brayden Russ of Canton may be a soccer player, but after his Saturday afternoon game he raced over to the new Dick's Sporting Goods grand opening. Detroit Lion running back Jahvid Best was on hand to meet people, pose for photos and sign autographs.

tion Days, everyone who visits the One-Main Financial branch Nov. 17-30 can enter a sweepstakes to win a digital picture frame and pick up a complimentary 2012 wall calendar.

For more information, call (734) 844-3885.

Beaujolais party

Vintner's Canton Winery begins their Holiday Celebrations with a Beaujolais Nuveau Party 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17.

Join in the Celebration of Beaujolais 2011 with the opening of the first wine of the vintage year. Beaujolais, traditionally opened the third Thursday in November, is a young, party wine that will be served with French Cheese Fondue, Gougeres (cheese puffs) and fruity desserts.

The complimentary tasting and hors d'oeuvres begin at 6 p.m. Beaujolais will be available for purchase by the bottle or case.

Vintner's Canton Winery, celebrating their eighth year in business, has been awarded 19 medals in WineMaker Magazine Competition. The full service winery is located at 8515 N. Lilley in Canton.

Other upcoming events at the Winery include a "A Taste of the Season" annual open house 1-4 p.m. Dec. 4; "A Holiday Soiree," Dec. 9 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Banquet Center in Plymouth and will feature the OLGC Children's Bell Choir; and the continued partnership of Vintner's with Barefoot Productions as they present "A Christmas Carole," Dec. 10 at 240 N. Main Street (former Walker/ Buzenberg building) in Plymouth.

For further information call (734) 354-9463 or visit www.vintnerscanton.com.

module and nor contraction



IT'S YOUR BUSINESS O&A Business grows in indoor market

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

Hydro Helper: We are an indoor garden shop and hydroponic supply store. We offer a full line of hydroponic supplies including: lighting, nutrients, soil, organics and a variety of soil-less media. We carry everything that you would need to successfully grow herbs, fruits and vegetables indoors hydroponically.

Observer: How did you first decide to open your business? Hydro Helper: Being an indoor grower, I saw how quickly this industry was beginning to expand. So I began paying attention to other indoor grow supply stores, and realized that there was a market for a knowledgeable, friendly and helpful store. Observer: Why did you

choose Canton? Hydro Helper: Our

company selected Canton because there were no other hydroponic stores in the area. Canton is a very strong retail district, having worked in and around the community for the past three to four years, I believed it would be a great area to operate a specialty retail store.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Hydro Helper: It is our willingness to go above and beyond to help our customers. We strive to assist our customers by having a vast inventory of supplies on-hand backed by expert grow E84 ers capable of answering all customers questionregarding indoor gardening.

Observer: How has it



General Manager Eric Judd cuts the ribbon on Hydro Helper, located at 6445 Canton Center in Canton. The store opened earlier this year.

HYDRO HELPER

Business name and address: Hydro Helper, 6445 Canton Center, Canton Your name: Eric Judd, General Manager Your hometown: Chelsea Business opened: May 5, 2011 Number of employees: 3 Hours of operation: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday; 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday; noon to 5 p.m. Sunday

Your business specialty: Indoor gardening, grow supply. Phone and website: (734) 354-3900, Hydrohelper.net

changed since it opened?

Hydro Helper: We have continued to expand our inventory to keep current with the demands of customers. We are committed to having the best stocked hydroponic retail outlet in the Canton area.

Observer: How has the recent economy affected your business?

Hydro Helper: Our industry is actually growing due to the economic situation; people are more concerned than ever about food safety, economizing and personal self sufficiency. Today having access to food that you can grow yourself, in the safety of your home, makes more sense now than ever.

Observer: Any advice for

other business owners?

Hydro Helper: Here at Hydro Helper we believe in community service. I think it is important that as a local business to become active in the community. Practicing good corporate citizenship benefits everyone.

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

Hydro Helper: We plan to grow with both the industry and the times. Hydroponics is rapidly expanding technology. In the future it will be common for homes to have a devoted grow room for personal use. More and more food is being produced hydroponically around the world. We plan to be part of that trend.

CANTON CHAMBER CHAT



Live Racing! **Every Friday** & Saturday Now through Nov 19th Post Time 7pm



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Great Food & Drink Specials on Sundays! \$2 Beer • \$1 Hot Dogs • \$1 Popcorn

10% OFF **Your Dining Room Purchase** during Live Racing!

Valid on Friday and Saturdays during live racing only. Limit 2 per coupon. Valid on dining room purchase only. Expires on 11/19/11.

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Join us for Royal Flush Fridays, Plays That **Play and the Pro Football Challenge!**

FREE Parking & Admission At the corner of Seven Mile and Sheldon in Northville.

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Holiday luncheon

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts its December Holiday Luncheon 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7, at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton.

The cost for lunch is \$20 (advance member registration) \$30 (Non-member) and includes a full buffet lunch, beverages and dessert. This luncheon is open to the public.

December's Holiday Luncheon will feature Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Madrigal Singers and Chamber Choir. We will be collecting toys and gifts for Canton Goodfellows "No Child without a Christmas program." Each guest is asked to bring an unwrapped toy or gift.

December's Holiday Luncheon is hosted by the Canton Chamber of Commerce and is sponsored by Saint Joseph Mercy Health Systems. Seating is limited and reservations are needed. To make your reservation, contact the Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040.

Business moves

Effective September 2011, Kennedy Nemier Insurance Agency, Inc., has relocated to the beautiful and historic AMDG Financial Building located in downtown Plymouth at 218 S. Main, Ste. C.

Hating Hamlet

It's a love story, a ghost story and a comedy as Spotlight Players presents "I Hate Hamlet" Nov. 11-13 and Nov. 18-20 in the Biltmore Studio at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. Tickets are going fast. The 2 p.m. matinee Saturday, Nov. 19, will feature two sign language interpreters for the hearing impaired community.

Performances are 8 p.m. Fridays, 2 and 8 p.m. Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton.

For tickets or more information, call (734) 394-5300 or (734) 394-5460 or online at www.spotlightplayersmi.org. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$13 for seniors and students under 19.

CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA

OPEN HOUSE WEEKEND 35% OFF All Trim-a-tree and decorations

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY SEMINARS NOVEMBER 12 AND 13 FROM 1-3pm. No charge.

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PLYMOUTH

NURSERY

Westland business finds room in CMA gift bags

By LeAnne Rogers Observer Staff Writer

When artists received their gift bags at the Country Music Awards Wednesday, inside they found a product with a local connection.

Included in the bags were Face Flair, self-adhering decorative pieces designed by Kim Torres, a Canton resident who bases her business in Westland.

"They're all my own designs. They're kid-safe and you can reuse them," said Torres, who started Face Flair about 18 months ago with husband Patrick and her brother and sister in-law, Ken and Karen Pomaranski, who live in Sacramento, Calif. "We're trying to make it worldwide." A company called Distinctive Accents saw the Face Flair website and made the connection to the CMA gift bags. Each gift bag included a full-size classic flair along with a smaller mini flair four-pack.

"We included a postcard and sticker with our website information. Also a note that you can use Face Flair on your face but also on instruments and other objects," said Torres, who works fulltime managing three groups homes for developmentally disabled residents.

Not able to afford to attend art school, Torres said she draws pictures for clients at the group homes. A past president of the Westland Jaycees, Torres said she came up with the idea for Face Flair after she used cell phone bling to make a design on her face at a Jaycees fund-raiser.

"Some random guys stopped me and asked where they could buy the design for their girlfriends," said Torres, who also added facepainting to her services.

"I really love the facepainting and it gets the Face Flair out there," said Torres, who donates 20 percent of her face-painting booth proceeds when working at fundraisers.

Starting this week, Torres will be offering Face Flair at the Friday night Glow Skates at Westland's Mike Modano Arena.

> Irogers@hometownlife.com (313) 222-5428



Local company Face Flair provided decorations like this for gift bags at the Country Music Awards.

VETERANS:

The Men and Women Who Help Keep America FREE!

Show Your Support on Veterans Day by Saying "Thank You" to All the Veterans You Know or Meet on November 11th.

The Following Businesses Want to Show Their Support to All Veterans on Their Special Day!

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400 McMunn South Lyon, MI 48178 (248) 486-0100

> COMFORT KEEPERS 995 N. Mill St. Plymouth, MI (734) 397-1111

COUNTRY COLLISION 57245 Travis Rd. New Hudson, MI 48165 (248) 437-1320

SUNRISE GARAGE BUILDERS 28726 Plymouth Rd. Livonia, MI 48150 (734) 425-0000

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> ABC CAB 13420 Wayne Rd. Livonia, MI 48150 (800) 563-4222 www.rideabc.com

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OPINION

Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

OUR VIEWS



Paying back a debt Veterans deserve more than pat on back

President Barack Obama recently announced the war in Iraq will come to an end at the end of the year, and that all our troops will be coming home.

It seems Americans should have applauded the president's announcement that he was bringing the U.S. mission in Iraq to a conclusion and ending one of nation's longest wars. But the reaction to the speech seemed to be mixed at best. Those on the right said Obama's announcement was a political ploy in an attempt to boost his low popularity numbers, even though it was George W. Bush who signed the agreement to bring the troops home by the end of December 2011 (it was announced at the shoe-throwing press conference). Those on the left also decried the announcement as something that should have been done much sooner.

One group of people you can bet cheered the news, however, are those in the military and their families. Let's be honest, while the war to date has cost the country more than an estimated \$800 billion, they are the people who paid and continue to pay the real cost. More than 4,400 troops have been killed, and another 32,000 wounded - some suffering devastating, life-changing injuries. The Iraq War may have been one of the longest wars in our history, yet it has been fought completely by a volunteer force. As a result many of our troops have had to serve multiple tours in a nontraditional, but very dangerous theater of war. In the end, historians will have to debate the merits of this war and its impact on the nation. Regardless how any of us individually feel about the war, however, we as a nation have a responsibility to pay our military families back - including those who are and have served in Afghanistan (and elsewhere in our battle against global terrorism). Because the end of combat doesn't end the war for our troops - in some ways it is really just beginning. Many of them will have ongoing medical and psychological issues from their war experiences. And to make matters worse, they are coming home to a landscape scarred with unemployment and bitter partisan politics. We must make sure that we are providing them with the tools to succeed in their post-war lives. That means more than just tending to their medical needs. They should have full access to a college education, vocational training and even a job. If that means giving them government jobs re-building our nation's infrastructure then that's what we should do. Oddly enough, over in Washington, the socalled congressional "super committee" has a couple more weeks to decide on a deficitreduction plan. According to reports, committee members are discussing major cuts to the defense department, which will most likely mean reductions in veterans' benefits. This is not the time to be cutting aid to our veterans. We have a moral obligation to help them as they reintegrate back into society. We owe these people - these warriors and defenders of our freedom - more than just a pat on the back once a year in November. They didn't let us down, and we can't let them down.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What is the one thing you don't mind splurging on?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



"Eating out." Marilyn Hawkins Canton

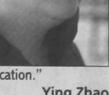


"My kids." Kelly Fifield Canton



" "Education.' Mark Edens

Canton



Ying Zhao Canton

LETTERS

Pay more, get less

Funding for schools has been largely reduced over the last few years. As a result, sports teams have suffered. As a high school cross country runner, I have experienced this first hand. Fees for schools' athletics have gone up recently, something not all families can afford. Most teams fundraise, yet it is not enough — fewer students will join a sports team if costs continue to rise.

All summer, my cross country team practices and fundraises, trying to help our parents cut down fees on clothing, "pay-to-play" and camp — all of which adds up to a costly total. Other sports do fundraise as well, and some are more or less expensive than others — but one thing they all have in common are rising totals (per child) who participate in a school sport.

While we are paying more for sports, we are getting less. With the slow economy, some families are finding it difficult to pay for sports. Busing for sport events on the weekends has been eliminated. Parents are expected to transport athletes to and from weekend events. Some teams are participating in fewer invites, and equipment and uniforms are sometimes inadequate. This creates a stressful and unfair situation for coaches, players, and families. This is a problem.

If "pay-to-play" fees for school athletes were cut even slightly, and benefits were returned, more athletes would be inclined to join teams. With additional athletes, schools would receive more revenue. Our community would also receive a boost as children participating in sports are more likely to stay out of trouble and earn better grades. Scholarships are also available to those student-athletes who do well academically and perform well in their respective sport(s). The benefits for schools, students, and the community would be healthier, better performing students and future successful citizens. Isn't that best for everyone?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com.

Read or comment online: www.hometownlife.com

Corruption is corruption

There were many a newspaper sold during the Kwame Kilpatrick fiasco. This was by both of the local dailies. So much so that one could have wallpapered all the towers of the Ren Cen after they were done reading. Now there is a new public enemy No. 1 and the media should not treat him any different than the way they treated the former mayor of Detroit. This sordid tale that paid an employee that voluntarily left a job to go to another one is just as ridiculous as the "Red" Navigator incident that captivated an electorate and media some years ago.

I applaud Heather Cattalo and the investigative team over at Channel 7 for keeping the public abreast of the "Turkiagate." And for the rest of the media that chooses to not want to make this the story that it is, shame on you.

The blame for this mess does not fall solely on the back of the airport CEO, Turkia Mullin, but the elected official who is responsible consequences. Positive and modest behavior should begin at home and be reinforced at school. If your child breaks a rule at school, there should be a consequence to suffer at home as well.

Parents, administrators, families, neighbors, friends — we need to support each other. Let's quit the excuses, turn off the cell phones, computers and televisions and, above all, remove the blinders. Commit to creating an ethical, accountable and productive next generation.

"Train a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not turn from it." (Prov. 22:6)

> Nancy Truan Canton

Harassment at PCEP

I want to applaud Mr. Waldrep for his letter bringing to light the deplorable sexually explicit dancing administrators allow at school dances.

I have had four children who attended PCEP, who stopped going to school dances because they were so offensive. Allowing this behavior to take place at a school function is completely irresponsible. They have an obligation to provide a safe environment for our children.

.... Policies are being watered down and/or ignored by PCEP school officials. The dress code policies were watered down this year. An article in the school newspaper written by a student states that in the past there was a policy of a five-finger limit on neckline and required fingertip length for shorts and skirts. The student went on to say "Now, the dress code is simply worded as "modesty." I thought she has to be wrong; "modesty" is so ambiguous that could not be the policy. In the 2009-10 handbook the code read "Skirts and/or shorts MUST be fingertip length or longer (even worn with leggings); in the 2010-11 handbook this was changed to "Skirts and/or shorts must be modest (even worn with leggings) the rule of thumb is that they should be fingertip length." What was a MUST in 2009 becomes a rule of thumb in 2010. There was also a policy change for shirts. The 2009-10 handbook states "Shirts must meet the following standard: Must extend past the tops of pants. Cannot have revealing necklines. No tank tops or spaghetti straps. No bare shoulders or off-the shoulder shirts. No tube tops." There were pictures that showed exactly what was acceptable and what was not acceptable. What does the 2010-11 handbook say? "Shirts must completely cover shoulders" and "no bare midriffs" You can wear a shirt with your breasts hanging out, but you must completely cover your shoulders. What is the result of this ambiguous dress code? The student writer from the school newspaper tells us, "certain girls seemed to understand modesty as "wear anything you want."... While picking up my son at Salem, a girl walked past my car with an elastic band around her hips that was to pass for a skirt. The skirt barely covered her buttocks. What is wrong with our school officials? To allow students to dance so sexually explicit, that if they were in a public place they would be arrested, and to tolerate scantily dressed girls walking the halls of the school is irresponsible. It is time for our school officials to step up and provide a wholesome learning environment.

Think about that as we commemorate Veterans Day tomorrow.



Brad Kadrich, Community Editor Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor **Grace Perry,** Director of Advertising

Emily Bizon junior, Salem High School

Colbeck recall

Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, is actively pushing for a law to make Michigan a "right to work state."

It is apparent that the good senator is the poster boy for the so-called tea party, whose leadership, by the way, is no more than the extreme right wing of the Republican Party, the same people wearing two different hats.

These people have two main issues they expect the minions they sent to Lansing and Washington D.C., to accomplish; Make sure the rich get richer at the expense of working people and inflict their religious views on every one else.

Let's look at who has been harmed: the poor, the unemployed, the underemployed, the elderly, lower-level public workers, union members and the issues of women's rights.

Now who has benefited? No surprise, the rich and religious zealots. It looks like these extremists got exactly what they paid for in last year's state and federal elections.

I have never been a believer in recall elections, but with the devastation that Mr. Colbert could inflict on my people (the above named harmed) in the next three years, I would surely make an exception in his case.

> James Huddleston Canton

for knowing what is going on under his watch. Robert Ficano does not deserve a pass on this mess and the media owe it to their base to get to the bottom of this. He needs to be called on the carpet in the same way that Kwame Kilpatrick was raked over the coals (rightfully so).

This is not the time for any doublestandard grandstanding on the part of the media. In the same fashion that the media failed to expose the current mayor for not being this great businessman that he was made out to be, dropping the ball on this latest scandal encompassing the Wayne County executive is not an option. The media should be going after him with the same vigor and venomous zeal that they went after Kwame.

For anyone that has been reading my posts over the years, you will know that I am in no way a fan of the former mayor. However, fair is fair and the media owes it to the public to expose what appears to be some wrongdoing in the county seat of Wayne. There is too much of a story being told that just does not add up and the media needs to get to the bottom of this in the same way that they got to the bottom of the Kwame soap opera.

Whatever "golden boy" perception that many had of Robert Ficano, it appears that the glow has been tarnished. If there is a culture of corruption over there, then what was good for the Kilpatrick goose is just as good for the Ficano gander. Media; do your job and unwrap

this gift that has been handed to you. Eric Brown

Canton

Uphold school policies

I thank Ken Waldrep for caring and join him in demanding school policies be upheld not just at "dances" but every single day of the school year. Rules are rules and they are not without purpose. Either the student follows them or suffers the

Denise Newland Canton

(CP) A15

Join Westland Shopping Center and 100.3 as we celebrate

Jantas Grand Arrival

Santa will be arriving by helicopter on Saturday, November 12th at 10am! Exclusive

Meet and Greet MOSIN MINIMER who plays Gibby on

icary in East Court at 11 am

Be sure to mark your calendar and join us for some other exclusive holiday fun... Ride Santa's Polar Express Train Have Breakfast With Santa

lus!

See www.westlandcenter.com for more details, dates, and times.

SHOPPING CENTER



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INSIDE: RELIGION, B4 . ENTERTAINMENT, B5 . FOOD, B8

SECTION B . (CP) THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2011 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWNLIFE.COM SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR tsmith@hometownlife.com

(734) 718-5306

DIVISION 1 BOYS SOCCER FINAL

Goal-den!

Ovesea's late tally gives Chiefs Division 1 boys soccer championship

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

All it took was one shot to determine a state champion.

And it was Canton junior forward Daniel Ovesea who made good on it. He scored with 3:55 remaining in the second half Saturday to give Canton a 1-0 victory over Grand Haven in the Division 1 state final at East Kentwood Crestwood Middle School.

On the winner, Ovesea lofted a floating direct kick from inside the midfield stripe and it drifted over a scrum of players into the top left corner.

The sun was in the eyes of Buccaneers goalkeeper Ethan Beswick, and so was Canton senior defender Connor Furgason — looking to distract Beswick amid the chaos in the goal-mouth area.

"We just tried to cause confusion in the box," Canton head coach George Tomasso said. "I thought Connor Furgason did a great job to cause that confusion for the goalkeeper, he went straight up.

"He didn't touch him at all and the ball floated right in over him and we got the goal."

One of the Grand Haven players involved in the play, sophomore midfielder William Bennick, said the sun "was right in line with the ball, it was definitely in the keeper's eyes. He's played every one of those all year, so something must have happened."

On the money Tomasso said it was



Canton senior Connor Furgason (No. 11) screens the Grand Haven goalie as the championship-winning shot by Daniel Ovesea finds its place inside the left post. The goal gave the Chiefs a 1-0 victory and their first Division 1 title in 17 years.

he knew Furgason would be causing havoc for the Grand Haven goalie and that his job was simple make sure his kick was on target.

"I knew Connor was going to be right in front of the goalie so I had to put it right on net," Ovesea said. "... I give all the credit to Connor, that was amazing how he got position in front of the goalie."

The strong play of Chiefs senior goalkeeper Steven Murphy had a lot



The action is intense as Grand Haven's William Bennick (No. 9, left) and Canton junior forward Daniel Ovesea (No. 9, right) go for a 50/50 ball. Also shown are Canton's Neil Zech (No. 4), Griffin

Salem euchre tournament

Salem Wrestling Boosters is hosting a euchre tournament at 6 p.m. Saturday, at the Plymouth Elks Club, 41700 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth.

Doors open at 6 p.m. and the games begin at 7 p.m. The annual fundraiser is for ages 21 and over. It costs \$25 per player. Fees include cash prizes, 50/50 and raffles. Complimentary food will be available, along with cash bar.

Contact Rich Rohn at richrohn@gmail.com or the Salem wrestling website (www.wrestling.salemrocks.com) for more information.

MU harrier rules WHAC

Freshman Bianca Kubicki (Canton) made Madonna University cross country history on Saturday as the rookie became the first MU runner to ever win the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference's individual championship held on the 5-kilometer course at Riverside Park in Grand Rapids.

Kubicki won the race by a full six seconds (18:37) over Aquinas' Catie Rietsema to earn WHAC Runner of the Year honors and become the second Crusader (Sarah Sherwood - 2008, 2009, 2010) to earn first-team All-WHAC honors and join Sherwood in earning a bid to the NAIA National Championships, Saturday, Nov. 19 at the Fort Vancouver (Wash.) Historical Site.

Fellow freshman Jaclyn Sawasky and sophomore Karli Kuchka (Livonia Stevenson) earned All-WHAC second-team honors by placing 11th and 13th with times of 19:25 and 19:31, respectively. Other MU finishers included senior Kari Saarela (Livonia Franklin), 29th (20:39); senior Cassie Yarnall, 32nd (20:49); freshman Shannon Dusute, 42nd+ (21:43); and senior Emily Bambach (Livonia Ladywood), 54th (22:29). As a team, the Crusaders placed third overall.

"fitting" that Ovesea scored, since he's been the team's go-to scorer all season.

According to Ovesea,

to do with Canton even getting to that point. He made 10 stops, including

Please see CHAMPS, B3



Parks (No. 23) and Grand Haven's Chad Buitenhuis (No. 7).

MU pitcher All-America

Madonna University junior pitcher Jeremy Gooding (Livonia) has been named to the Preseason All-America team by the NAIA Baseball Coaches Association All-America Selection Committee.

The Dearborn Divine Child grad earned NAIA All-America first team honors in 2011, posted a 9-0 record as a starting pitcher to help guide the Crusaders to the program's fourth straight and sixth Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference (WHAC) championship in the last seven years.

Gooding, a two-time All-WHAC selection with a 19-1 career record, is the only conference player to garner preseason All-America honors from the NAIA for this upcoming season.

The Crusaders begin their 2012 campaign at Point Loma Nazarene on Feb. 10 in San Diego, Calif.

VOLLEYBALL REGIONALS

Chiefs crank it up in time

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

It took almost the entire first game Tuesday for Canton's girls volleyball team to get up to speed against White Lake Lakeland.

The Eagles led 20-14 in the Class A regional semifinal at Brighton High School, but the Chiefs turned

'Our team starts off slow every single time. And it's starting to become a habit and it's not good.' MARY KRYSKA, Canton coach it around in the late stages of Game 1 thanks to an eightpoint run at the service stripe by senior Maggie Deloy to prevail 25-22. Canton then fin-

ished off the 3-0 victory with wins of 25-22 and 26-24 to advance to Thursday's regional final against No. 1-ranked Farmington Hills Mercy (63-3) with the first game set to start at 6 p.m.

"Our team starts off slow every single time," Canton head coach Mary Kryska said. "And it's starting to become a habit and it's not good, because the next teams that we play from here on out aren't going to care

Please see SPIKERS, B2

CC nips Canton in old-school battle

By Ed Wright Observer Staff Writer

Given the opportunity, Bronko Nagurski would have strapped on his leather helmet and jumped into the mix during Saturday afternoon's Division 1 district championship tilt between Canton and host Novi Detroit Catholic Central.

Playing 1930s-style football when passes (nine combined) were scarce and brute force in the trenches was vital, the 10-1 Shamrocks edged the Chiefs, 21-14, to advance to this weekend's regional round of playoffs against Ann Arbor Pioneer (9-2).

In the end, CC won the game by a foot — the distance Canton running back Kevin Buford's fourth-and-4 run deep in Shamrock territory, deep in the fourth quarter, fell short and an arm: CC quarterback Kyle Cooper's right one, which delivered a game-tying 62-yard scoring strike to Jon Malone and a key fourth-and-8 laser early in the fourth to Matt Doneth to keep the Shamrocks' game-winning drive alive.

Canton, which led 14-7 at the half, finished 9-2.

Not enough

"We just didn't make quite enough plays," said Canton head coach Tim Baechler.



Catholic Central's David Houle muscles his way toward the end zone despite efforts from Canton's Demetre Lopez (No. 6) and Zachary Smilo (No. 20) to stop him.

"That third quarter just kind of melted away — I think we ran three plays — and we couldn't get them off the field. We had a good drive going in the fourth quarter, but they made just

Please see FOOTBALL, B2

Canton's Alaina Turner (No. 3) elevates to knock the ball over the net during **Tuesday's Division 1** regional girls volleyball match against White Lake Lakeland. Also shown are Canton players Erica den Boer (No. 13) and Lauren Martin (No. 2) and Lakeland's Mary Armstrong (No. 8). JOHN KEMSKI

SPIKERS

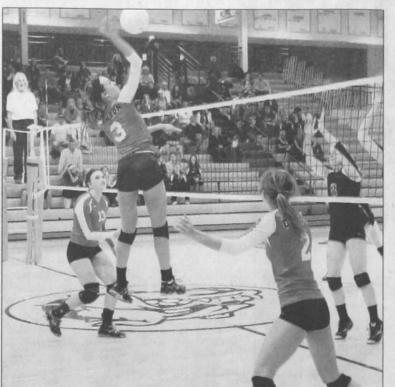
Continued from page B1

about letting us back in." Kryska said the Chiefs will have to "play like we did today, times 10" to prevail against Mercy.

Against the Eagles, Canton "picked it up on defense and on servereceive" in the final two games.

Leading the way for Canton (41-9) were seniors Alaina Turner (14 kills, 15 digs), Kristen Muir (seven kills, 11 digs), Deloy (10 digs, two aces), Lauren Martin (34 assists), Jordan Tubaro (10 kills) and juniors Erica den Boer (11 kills, 10 digs) and Becca Middleton (five digs).

Lakeland head coach Jen Cottrill, whose team finished the season 36-13-1, lamented how the early



advantage evaporated. "I think we thought we had it in the bag," Cottrill noted. "We just sat back, our serve-receive broke down, gave Canton a couple easy points and they were right back in the game.

"... I really think that momentum swing in the first game determined the match. It was unfortunate, but that's the game of volleyball."

Better start

The Chiefs came out much stronger in Game 2, leading virtually the entire way and finishing off the win one Turner's line-drive ace — which hit the top of the net and slipped over to the other side.

Lakeland fell behind in the third game when Turner rolled off five service points, with den Boer and Deloy strong with a mix of tips and spikes. That gave Canton a 9-4 edge and the lead held until Eagles' sophomore Amanda Breitenbach reeled off three points to make it a 23-23 game.

The teams exchanged sideouts before the Chiefs finally clinched it. First, Martin set up Muir for a kill and Muir followed up with an ace to complete the job.

According to Cottrill, it will be tough to lose her five seniors, including middle blockers Mary Armstrong, Brittany Leonard, setter Clara Schultz, libero Lindsey Hansard and right-side hitter Caitlin Wojichowski.

"Both my middles, Brittany Leonard and Mary Armstrong, were great all season," she said. "My seniors were awesome."

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P-C Steelers sweep into WSJFL Super Bowls

Sunday's Western Suburban Junior Football League playoffs were coated with a black-and-

YOUTH FOOTBALL gold tint as the Plymouth-Canton Steel-

ers advanced three teams to this weekend's Super Bowls. The varsity Steelers

improved to 9-0 with an impressive 33-21 victory over Ypsilanti. The Steelers will take on the Westland Comets Sunday at 3 p.m. in the varsity WSJFL Super Bowl at Westland John Glenn High School.

The junior varsity Steelers upended the Dearborn Heights Redskins, 26-16, to improve to 8-1. Nick Polydorus, Joseph Vespaziani and Bryce Lynn all played well for the defending Super Bowl champions.

Ben Kandah was having an excellent game before leaving the contest early due to an injury.

The Steelers' high-powered offense was led by Dylan Stackhouse, who scored twice on punishing runs up the middle. Lou Baechler anchored the Steelers' defense, recovering a pair of fumbles.

The JV Steelers will battle the Redford Rangers in Sunday's 1 p.m. JV Super Bowl at John Glenn.



JON VESPAZIANI

Plymouth Canton Steelers junior varsity running back AJ Brazelton fights for extra yardage during his team's 26-16 victory over Dearborn Heights.

The freshmen Steelers improved to 7-2 with a dramatic 6-0 victory over the Redskins. Following a scoreless first half, the Steelers' Ben Bennett scored the game's lone TD with a 4-yard thirdquarter run. The Steelers' defense was paced by Charles Shreve, who picked off a pass in the first half and made a touchdown-saving tackle in the fourth quarter. The Steelers will take on the unbeaten Canton Lions in Sunday's 11 a.m. freshmen Super Bowl at John Glenn.

Eagles roll into regionals

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

After Plymouth Christian Academy earned a ninth straight Class D girls volleyball district championship, the Eagles got right back to work Tuesday toward the next goal in their postseason march. (PCA's) performance from start to finish." The win moved the

The win moved the Eagles into Thursday's regional final against North Adams-Jerome with the first game beginning at 7 p.m. Spearheading the Eagles

with 16 kills, along with six digs and four blocks, was senior Kristin Malthing, and that shook up our hitters.

"We made some hitting errors, service errors and our passing was off target."

After the first game, the Eagles opted to control the pace and the adjustment worked wonders. "We started both sets stronger and cut down on



The Eagles got stronger as the night progressed, defeating Lansing Christian 3-0 in a regional semifinal contest at Adrian Lenawee Christian.

PCA (42-6-4) rolled to a 25-21, 25-19, 25-12 victory over the Pilgrims, who could not handle the Eagles' potent offense.

"Our team played with confidence and really took control of the game," PCA head coach Kelly Blackney said. "The coaching staff was proud with colm. Chipping in were Jen-

ny Malcolm (24 assists), Jessica Rich (eight digs), Amy Zinn (six digs) and Sarah Howard (five kills). Meanwhile, PCA swept

past Saline Washtenaw Christian on Friday night for the district championship, winning 25-22, 25-13, 25-7.

"Washtenaw came out strong," Blackney said. "Their defense gave our offense trouble — they were picking up everyour errors," Blackney noted. "By adding more complexity to our offense, we were able to find holes in their defense."

In the district final, Kristin Malcolm led PCA with 25 kills while Jenny Malcolm (38 assists), Zinn (seven kills, 12 digs), Howard (nine kills) and Rich (three aces, 12 digs) also contributed to the clinching victory.

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Blazers take care of C'ville

By Ed Wright Observer Staff Writer

Upstart Livonia Clarenceville showed some serious spunk during the early stages of Tuesday night's Class B regional semifinal volleyball match against perennial power Livonia Ladywood.

But at the end of the day, the Blazers' nucleus of formidable seniors led them to a 25-17, 25-9, 25-15 at Carleton Airport High School.

Ladywood (39-17) advanced to Thursday's 6 p.m. regional final against host Airport, which dispatched University Detroit Prep in three sets.

"I thought we played really well," Ladywood coach Erin Craggs said. "Our seniors are really stepping up in the postseason and refusing to lose. We have a senior libero, a senior setter and a couple of our top hitters are seniors, which really helps.

"I thought Clarenceville was much improved from last year. Their coach has done a phenomenal job. They're better trained and'a better team. They gave us a good match."

Ladywood senior setter Alex Hines did a stellar job of mixing up the Blazers' attack as she dished out 27 assist-tokills. Senior outside hitters Jennifer Rhodes and Kenzie Kettner both finished with 10 kills.

Rhodes and Kettner also topped the Blazers in digs, racking up 11 and 10, respectively.

Playing in its first regional tournament since 1997, Clarenceville rocketed to a 9-5 lead in the opening set thanks in large part to the play of sophomore middle hitter Ayanna Buckley, who had a hand (literally) in five of the nine Trojan points. But Kettner and Rhodes soon established themselves at the net, leading Ladywood to an eightpoint win.

"I told the girls, 'Don't let the name 'Ladywood' intimidate you'," Clarenceville coach Wendy Merschman said. "I told them they had to go out and play their game, and they did. We started strong; the girls were playing with confidence, but in the end, they outplayed us."

Clarenceville senior Angela McAlpine was in the middle of the action most of the night, both at the net and as a defuser for the Trojans' defense.

"I hated to take her off the floor," Merschman said of McAlpine. "When she wasn't out there, we struggled."

Ladywood bolted to an 11-2 lead in set two and never looked back. Senior libero Kristine Aurand, who was a defensive sparkplug all night, along with Izabella Porada, both reeled off impressive service runs in the 18-point rout.

Hines launched three consecutive aces midway through the set to give the Blazers complete control.

The third set was tight for awhile — Ladywood led just 7-6 early on — but the Blazers' offense started clicking big-time from there on out.

ewright@hometownlife.com (734) 578-2767 Canton senior running back Zac Merillat broke free for a 42-yard touchdown on the Chiefs' first drive in Saturday's 21-14 loss to Novi Catholic Central.

FOOTBALL Continued from page B1

enough stops.

"That's our offense. That's what we do. I thought we left a couple things out there; we missed a couple passes. It just wasn't in the cards, I guess."

CC outgained Canton, 284-277, in total yardage. Of the 103 plays run from scrimmage, only nine gained more than eight yards.

"We told the boys all week that it was going to be a 48-minute game and that it was going to come down to the fourth quarter," said CC head coach Tom Mach. "We knew they were a very good team that comes after you hard. I'm proud of the way the kids came through in the fourth quarter. They played with a lot of heart and soul."

Canton grabbed a 7-0 lead on its first drive when senior running back Zac Merillat did a Shamrock shake at the line of scrimmage and outsprinted the CC secondary to the end zone for a 42-yard TD.

The Shamrocks countered on their first possession, manufacturing a seven-play, 60-yard scoring drive that ended with David Houle's 10-yard TD run up the gut. Alex Kozlowski tacked on the first of his three extra points and the game was deadlocked at 7-7.

The Chiefs marched to the CC 12 on its next drive, but came away empty when Anthony Darkangelo recovered a fumble on a first-and-10 play.

Canton finally broke the deadlock on the last play of the first half when Buford bulled into the end zone from 1 yard out to give the Chiefs a 14-7 advantage. The TD was set up four plays earlier when Michael Boes recovered a fumble at the CC 10. Kyle Adams had pinned the Shamrocks deep with a booming 66yard punt.

CC's game-tying play — the 62-yard Cooper-to-Malone hook-up — was sandwiched in between a pair of Canton three-andouts.

The game-winning drive — a 13-play, 55-yard monster that chewed up close to seven minutes — was capped by a 2-yard scoring plunge by Houle, who gave the Shamrocks a 21-14 lead. The TD came three plays after Cooper hit Doneth with a 20-yard connection on a crossing pattern on fourth-and-8 from the Canton 25.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Catholic Central's Jon Malone (foreground) somehow caught this pass from quarterback Kyle Cooper even though Canton's Kevin Buford (No. 1) got his hand on it.

ED WRIGHT PHOTO



LOCAL SPORTS

CHIEFS WIN DIVISION 1 CHAMPIONSHIP



PHOTOS BY STEVE KAHRS

The 2011 Division 1 champion Canton Chiefs enjoy their moment in the sun after defeating Grand Haven in the boys soccer final Saturday at East Kentwood Crestwood Middle School.

CHAMPS

Continued from page B1

a key one just 90 seconds into the second half.

Grand Haven forward Nathan Rose made a dash into the Canton 18-yard box where he was met by the sliding Murphy, making the toughest stop he had to make on the crisp, windy afternoon in the Grand Rapids suburb. "The first half they

were dangerous because the wind was coming at us," Murphy noted. "So any long ball was a dangerous ball. We did a great job defending.

"So to come out in the second half, we had to come out strong and I just did what I had to do to keep the ball out of the net."

Gaining momentum

After that, the Chiefs (24-1-2) began taking more control of the play, with a string of corner kicks around the 10-minute mark.

In the 33rd minute of the half Canton seniors Shean Krolicki and Mitch Posumak worked a play that resulted in a Posuniak bid from inside the box, but it trickled wide of the left post.

Just before Ovesea's title-winning goal, Krolicki injured his foot making a second effort to kick the ball from a Grand Haven forward. But Krolicki remained in the game for the subsequent direct kick that somehow found enough of an opening to give the Chiefs their first state championship since 1994 - when Tomasso was the goalkeeper. After the trophy presentation, where Tomasso hoisted the trophy toward the sunny, blue sky, he smiled and said the 2011 championship was sweeter.

to stop one. With about 37:20 to go, a Grand Haven corner kick resulted in Murphy punching the ball over the crossbar.

About 10 minutes later, Murphy ranged out to the top of the box to cut off a potentially dangerous rush by Rose and he got in front of two attempts by Bennick.\

Canton started to get something going on offense in the final 10 minutes. Oversea collected a feed from Shean Krolicki at the top of the Buccaneers' 18-yard box, spun and sent a shot that missed the right post.

With under two minutes left in the half, Posuniak's slicing drive from the left flank was stopped by Beswick.

Despite the loss, Bennick said the Buccaneers succeeded in making a name for themselves all over the state.

"We had a great season," Bennick noted. "Especially since we're from the small town of Grand Haven where nobody knows about us, we're so far west. "We've been playing" together since like first or second grade, we had an excellent season, an excellent run. I'm very proud of the boys."

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One of the key reasons for Canton's championship was the play of senior goalkeeper Steven Murphy, shown punching the ball out of trouble while Grand Haven's Chad Buitenhuis tries to get in his way. At left for the Chiefs is senior defender Tyler Winningham (No. 6).



Canton senior forward Mitch Posuniak (No. 12) closes in on Grand Haven's Austin Schild (No. 2) during Saturday's championship game. At left for the Buccaneers is Nicholas Kline (No. 20).

PREP CROSS COUNTRY FINALS

Harriers close it out at MIS

By Brad Emons Observer Staff Writer

Livonia Churchill girls cross country coach Sue Tatro had no real complaints about her team's showing during Saturday's MHSAA Division 1 Lower Peninsula finals held at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn.

'Our performance at the state meet capped off a very solid season for us," said Tatro, whose team finished 14th in the 28-team field. "I expected to place in the top 15 because we have been consistent in all of our meets. I was relaxed going into the final stretch of the season because I sensed their confidence and determination, and I knew that they would accomplish their team goals.' **Grosse Pointe South**

edged Saline for the team title by five points, 106-111.

Rounding out the top 10 was Grand Haven (163), Birmingham Seaholm (185), Rockford (232), Rochester Adams (232), Traverse City West (235), Northville (259), Hudsonville (286) and Grand Ledge (293).

West Bloomfield junior Erin Finn led all runners with a 5-kilometer time of 17 minutes, 22.6 seconds.

The Chargers' top finisher was junior Kerigan Riley, who placed 20th overall in 18:40.8.

"It was exciting to watch Kerigan (Riley) achieve All-State honors as she is a very talented and determined young lady," Tatro said of the regional champion. "She ran a flawless race from start-to-finish. Tm extremely proud of the ""

Rounding out Churchill's top five was junior Sydney Anderson, 92nd (19:35.2); senior Bethany Pilat, 106th (19:43.0); sophomore Megan McFarlane, 120th (19:51.2); and junior Michelle Azar, 166th (20:19.4). Plymouth and Salem each had two finishers in the individual finals. For the Wildcats, Nicole Traitses placed 87th overall with a time of 19:32.5 while Marina DeBiasi came in 173rd (20:30.8). Salem's Adrianna Beltran was 140th (20:00.2) while Amanda Beyer came in 150th (20:07.2).

to win the Division 1 boys team title with 128 points with Hartland and Waterford Mott placing second and third, respectively, with 172 and 177.

White Lake Lakeland's Garret Zuk was the 5K individual winner in 15:21.2.

Plymouth senior Derek Gielarowski had an outstanding showing, placing 12th with a time of 15:50.9.

Finishing 117th overall with a time of 16:45.6 was Canton senior Miles Felton.

Division 4 girls

Lutheran High Westland earned 15th place in the team standings in Saturday's Division 4 girls finals held at MIS.

The Warriors, coming off their second straight regional title, scored 422 points with Hesperia taking the team crown with 67.

Lutheran Westland's top finisher was junior Erin Hardin, who placed 42nd overall in 20:27.4. Other scorers for the Warriors included senior Erin Lyle, 64th (20:57.4); senior Jess Rice, 101st (21:36.2); junior Angela Morrison, 194th (23:49.1); and junior Jessica Drife, 196th (23:53.0).

Plymouth Christian sophomore Terra Crown placed 52nd with a time of 20:35.2.

Division 4 boys

Plymouth Christian finished 21st out of 27 teams with 510 points with Lutheran Westland (528) right behind in 22nd at the Division 4 boys state finals at MIS.

Concord, led by individual winner Spencer Nousain (15:55.8), also captured the team title with 64 points.

For PCA, Ethan Levack and Trevor Baloga finished 92nd and 93rd, respectively, with times of 18:28.4 and 18:29.3. Jimmy Parks placed 100th (18:38.7), followed by Ian Rose, 105th (18:46.5); Jacob Nichols, 120th (19:03.5); Steven Zomermaand, 175th (21:06.2) and Nathan

"These guys wrote their own destiny," Tomasso said.

The championship capped four stellar seasons by Canton's group of seniors — Murphy, Furgason, Posuniak, Shean Krolicki, Tyler Winningham, Nathan Bergeson, Mitch Pepper, Conner Hicks, Ryan Kilgore, Bryan Berinti, Neil Zech, Cody Kahrs and Bryan Ren.

"We knew we had to play our best today," Winningham said. "It's the state finals, we knew we had to play our best out there."

Furgason said the end result was a rewarding payoff for all the hard work over his prep career.

"Our whole team played great defensively and I'm glad we won," Furgason said. "It's the greatest feeling in my life, it's worth everything, the last four years of working in varsity soccer."

Tentative start

In the scoreless first half, Grand Haven (18-2-3) had the edge in territorial play as the Chiefs seemed more tentative than usual in pushing the ball up the field and had five shots on Murphy while Beswick only had

Two-sport Chiefs make right call

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

The end of last week was agonizing for Canton juniors Connor Shennan and Scott Piwowar. Both had to decide whether they'd be playing soccer or football for their high school on Saturday afternoon. They ultimately chose soccer

ultimately chose soccer and contributed to the Chiefs' 1-0 victory over Grand Haven for the Division 1 state title.

"It was an extremely tough decision," said Shennan following the game. "I believe it was for both of us. It just came down to a state championship or a district final (football) game and I just had to pick the state championship.

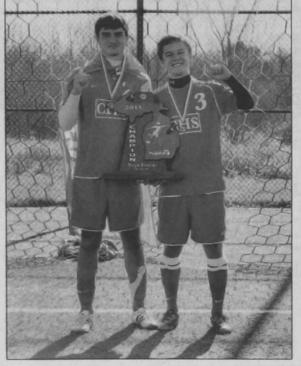
"I've been with the soccer guys for three years, so has Scott, so it was just kind of extremely emotional for both of us. I just hope football's going well right now."

At the time it was, with Canton leading 14-7 in the third quarter against Novi-Detroit Catholic Central.

But the Shamrocks came back to win 21-14, knocking the Chiefs out of the postseason.

Although Shennan and Piwowar had to make tough choices, it helped to get the total blessing of Canton football coach Tim Baechler that it would be okay for them to be at East Kentwood Crestwood Middle School for the Chiefs' soccer final against the Buccaneers.

"I'm ecstatic, I can't



STEVE KAHRS

Canton juniors (from left) Connor Shennan and Scott Piwowar celebrate their soccer team's championship Saturday. Shennan is shown wearing what he called a 'Super Chiefs' cape.

even believe this," said Piwowar about being part of the soccer championship. "Our coach (Baechler) told us 'You won that semifinal (Nov. 2 against Warren DeLa-Salle)," Piwowar said. "You go have a hell of a game on Saturday.' And we did."

Shennan celebrated the title by donning a red "Super Chiefs" cape that obviously mirrored how he was feeling in the moments following the victory.

"It's a Super Chiefs cape," Shennan said. "I just put it on in all my excitement, I was just going crazy." Piwowar added that it would be tough to not be there with the rest of his soccer team for the culmination — win or lose. "We're a family, we're all together," Piwowar stressed. "We're brothers in arms."

Meanwhile, once the splendor of the sunny championship Saturday soaks in a little bit, they'll perhaps realize another bonus remains in store for them.

They'll *still* get to play Canton Chiefs football, albeit in 2012 when they are seniors.

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Division 1 boys

Milford placed three runners in the top 10

Harold, 181st (22:09.3). The Warriors, who had a total of 528, were paced by senior Jake Fairbairn, 70th (17:34.6); junior Eric Smith, 113th (18:08.1); junior Daniel Bunge, 176th (19:05.9); senior Caleb Kempf, 190th (19:25.8); and junior Peter Sillanpaa, 210th (20:56.6).



RELIGION

Passages

1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • htwobits@hometownlife.com Deadline: Tuesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday

KING, ILA Y.

Age 80, of Farmington Hills, MI. Passed away November 4, 2011 Arrangements by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington.



MAXWELL, **JERRY HOLLIS**

Celebrated Civil War historian and North Farmington teacher

passed away October 29 at the age of 69. Jerry spent 32 years teaching various history courses at North Farmington HS, receiving various awards, most notably the DAR National Teacher of the Year in 1995. A historical lecturer and member of the Michigan Regimental Civil War Round Table since 1972. Jerry's passion for the Civil War culminated in The Perfect Lion, his definitive book on Artillerist John Pelham. Jerry was a loving and hilarious husband to Carlene, father to Brent and Holly, grandfather to William and Sofia, and friend and mentor to many more. A celebration of his life will take place on Saturday, November 19th at the Embassy Suites in Livonia, MI from 4-9 pm. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Jerry Maxwell's name to Brandy Station, VA (www.brandystationfoundation.com) or to the Detroit Film Theater at the DIA (http://www.dia.org/support/tributes-memorials.aspx). He will be greatly missed and remembered by all who were touched by him.



NIEMAN, LUCILLE M.,

Age 89, November 2, 2011, former 50 year resident of Livonia. Beloved wife of the late Fred Nieman. Loving mother of Rick (Cindy) and Kathy Nieman, Dear grandmother of Matthew and Molly. Visitation at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Road, Livonia, Sunday, November 13, 2011 from PM until Memorial Service at 3 PM. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Michigan Humane Society. Share a memory of Lucille at ww.rggrharris.com



REDDEMAN, ERNESTINE M. (nee HARTUNG)

November 6, 2011 age 95. Beloved wife of the late Lester Dear mother of Marjorie (William) Taylor, Ernest (Katherine) Reddeman and Robert (Sandra) Reddeman. Also leaves 6 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren. Preceded in death by one grandson. Visitation Friday 2pm- 9pm at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth where funeral services will be held on Saturday 11am. Share your special thoughts and memories at www.schrader-howell.com



View Online www.hometownlife.com

SERVALISH, DIANE

Age 49, Nov 6, 2011 of Livonia. Beloved wife of Craig. Loving mother of Andrew and Sean. Dear sister of Craig (Connie), Lance, Colleen and Scott Tracy Special Aunt to Ryan, Darin, Molly and Chelsea. Daughter-inlaw of Don and Sandy Servalish. In state Thurs 10 AM until 10:30 AM Funeral Mass at St. Theodore of Canturbury Catholic Church 8200 Wayne Rd. Westland. Vermeulen Arrangements by Funeral Home, 980 N Newburgh Rd (btwn Ford and Cherry Hill) Westland, MI. Memorials may be made to Heartland Hospice.

To share a memory, visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com



RUPPEL, PAMELA LOHR 65, of Westland, Michigan passed

away unexpectedly in her home on November 1, 2011. She was born on April 12, 1946 in Detroit to the late John and Edith (Lohr) Ruppel of Wayne. She graduated from Wayne Menaorial High School and attended college at Northern Michigan University Community Schoolcraft College. Pam retired in 2007 from the Wayne-Westland Schools system after more than 30 years of service. She was a member of the First Congregational Church of Wayne. During retirement, she enjoyed spending quality time with her family and many friends. She loved to read and was always adding to her collection of frog memorabilia. She is survived by her brother John (Chris) Ruppel of Midland, her sister Kay (Ron) Bolenbaugh of Rockwood; her nephews, John (Lisa) Ruppel of Bedford, NH and their children Zachery and Nicole; Ken (Dawn) Ruppel of Columbus, OH; and Andy Bolenbaugh of Flat Rock and his daughter Samantha; and her good friend Robin McDougall of Livonia. A memorial service will take place on Saturday, December 3, 2011, 2 p.m., at the First Congregational Church of Wayne, (2 Towne Square, Wayne, MI 48184), officiated by Rev. Daniel Vellinga. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations are suggested for The American Diabetes Association or the National Breast Cancer Foundation.

Send a holiday card, gift that raises money for charity

By Sharon Dargay O&E Staff Writer

Order a chicken or goat for an overseas family in honor of a loved one. Buy handcrafted goods

and help local missions. Stock up on artisan breads and food mixes and feed the hungry.

Shoppers will find hundreds of ways to make gift-giving meaningful this holiday season through "alternative" fairs this weekend in Farmington Hills and next weekend in Plymouth.

More than 50 nonprofit organizations, including local charities, social service agencies and international fair trade groups, will sell goods and raise awareness and funds for their causes, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 12 at St. Fabian Catholic Church, 32200 W. 12 Mile, west of Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills. Hope Lutheran Church, in Farmington Hills, created the Alternative Christmas Fair 11 years ago and moved the event to roomier St. Fabian last year.

"We do have several new charities. We probably have 12-15," said Joy DeFranco, event chair. "We have the Kirsten Haglund Foundation this year. She was Miss America in 2008 and has a foundation for eating disorders. Another one we're excited to have this year is On the Rise Bakery from the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. They help men that have been in jail or involved in substance abuse. They're given an opportunity to be bakers. Their bakery items are fabulous.'

Local vendors will offer everything from creative craft kits — from Arts & Scraps in Ann Arbor to African art from Farmington Hills-based **Touching Hands Helping** Hearts, which supplies a village in Mozambique. Forgotten Harvest and



Shoppers buy homemade cookies last year at the Alternative Christmas Fair in Farmington Hills.

The Pink Fund will have holiday greeting cards on hand. Saints Peter & Paul Warming Center and Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries will sell food mixes. The Salvation Army will offer decorative baskets and bags and Paws With A Cause will sell gifts for furry friends.

Organizations with a global mission will sell handmade gifts from around the world, such as Guatemalan coffee, Afghan bracelets and Palestinian sculptures.

"Everything opens at 10 a.m. We do have a line out the door and we had over 1,000 shoppers last year," DeFranco said.

Plymouth First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth, limits its alternative fair to an hour after Sunday worship on Nov. 20. The fair is open to the public and will start at 11:30 a.m.

Nonprofit organizations, such as Appalachian Service Project, Baldwin Center, Cass Community Social Services, First Step, and Habitat for Humanity, will be on hand with information and opportunities to donate.

"What we encourage people to do is to take literature home and instead of buying a material gift for someone on their gift list, to contribute to one of these organizations." said Rosemary Jones, fair coordinator.

Charities will include church members, such as Pam and Ron Fair, who work with overseas missions. The Fairs have spent time in Africa assisting Rafiki, an organization that helps orphans. Members of the Kappler family also will be on hand to spread the word about Kris and Sarah Kappler's mission in Uzbekistan.

Shoppers can sponsor a child's music lessons locally through the Michigan Fine Arts Academy or take a global approach by buying an animal — or a share of an animal for individuals overseas through Heifer International.

"I've given my grandchildren an animal in their honor. You can give a goat, a heifer, rabbits, honeybees. It could be a pair of sheep, a chicken or rooster. They have a wonderful program. These are concrete things people can give and make a difference." For more information about the fairs, visit www.alternativechristmasfair.org for the Farmington Hills event and www.pfumc.org for the Plymouth event.

Let others know...

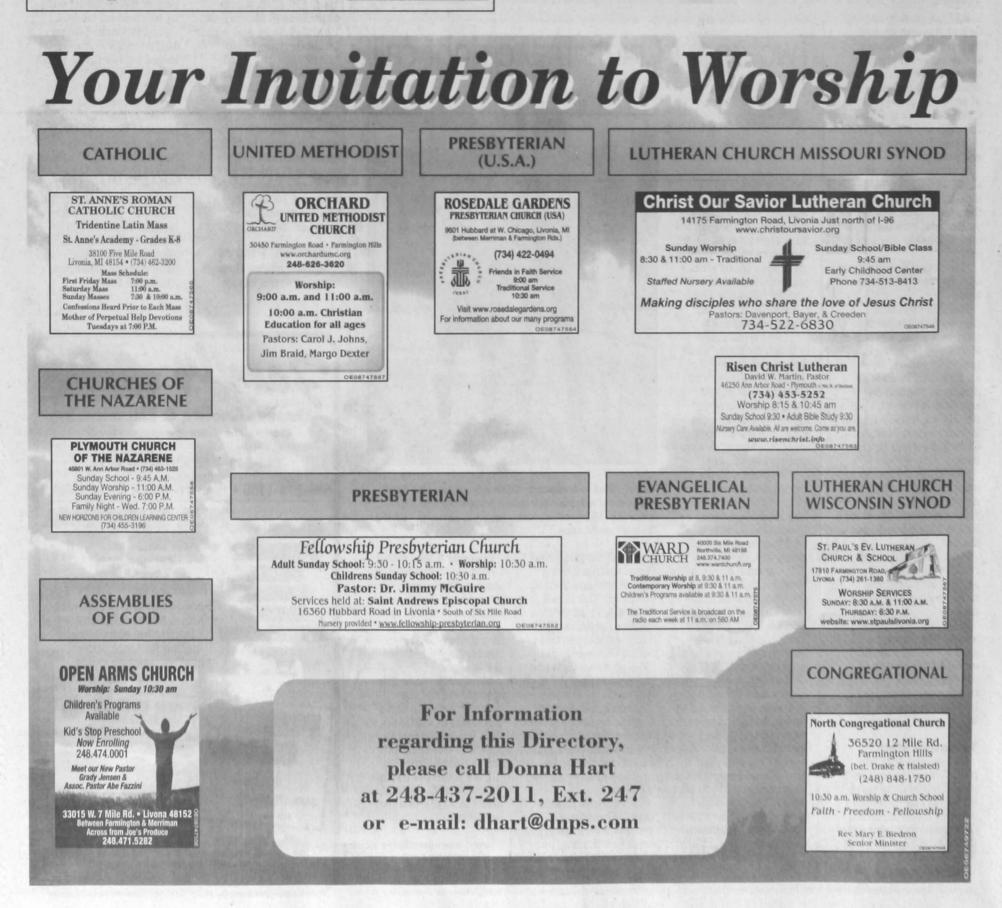
When you've lost a loved one, place your notice on our website and in

"Passages" ... a directory located in every edition of your hometown newspaper.

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWN

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ENTERTAINMENT B5.(*) THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2011 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Performers celebrate art of storytelling

By Sharon Dargay O&E Staff Write

The Detroit Story League's annual fall performance in Livonia is part of a worldwide event for adults — and that's no tall tale.

When the organization's six storytellers take the stage Friday, Nov. 18 in the Livonia Civic Center Library, performers around the globe will be doing the same in their own locales with the same purpose in mind: to foster and preserve the oral tradition of storytelling and build community support for storytelling.

"Tellabration," launched 23 years ago in Connecticut, bonds storytellers in spirit as they weave their yarns the same day, generally the Saturday closest to Thanksgiving Day.

Detroit Story League's event will start with a silent auction at 6 p.m., followed by storytelling at 7 p.m. and refreshments served at 8:45 p.m. All proceeds from the \$5 admission will benefit the Detroit Story League's scholarship fund.

Storytellers this year will include Judy Sima, Barbara Schutzgruber, Nola McDonald, Loretta Vitek, and a duo, The Fabricators. Andrew Feldstein serves as story concert maestro.

"Our group is diverse and that's what we pride ourselves on," said Barbara Shapiro, who co-chairs the event. "Loretta tells dragon stories and she's an expert in Italian stories. Barbara is a weaver. She has a strong background in education and does Scottish and English folk tales, and string stories. Judy is very well-rounded. She has written a book on storytelling."

McDonald is known for poetic stories and The Fabricators, known individually as "Milli P." and "Ami D," bring stories of famous African Americans to life

As maestro, Feldstein will



The Fabricators, a storytelling duo, will bring the stories of African Americans to life at Tellabration.

introduce the storytellers and keep the program moving.

Shapiro hopes Tellabration will inspire attendees to learn more about storytelling by attending a Detroit Story League meeting. The group meets the third Saturday of the month and will gather for stories and a workshop at noon the day after Tellabration, Saturday, Nov. 19, at the Redford Township Library, 25320 West Six Mile, between Beech Daly and Telegraph. Participants bring their own lunch and the organization supplies dessert. Sima will lead a workshop on feedback and critiques. The Fabricators and Jean Gruenwald will tell stories.

The Detroit Story League allows potential members to attend three meetings before

NOVI EQUESTRIAN EXPO

joining the group. Mentors are available to help them hone their storytelling skills and monthly workshops offer advice on a variety of topics.

"You don't read stories, you tell them. It can be scary," Shapiro noted. "We give them tips.'

New members aren't required to tell a story until after they've logged their first year with the group. The organization offers lots of opportunities for public performance.

'Our organization is a service organization and we are available to tell in nursing homes," Shapiro said. "Many of us go to schools and tell in classrooms. We also tell in libraries and at camp sites. We go wherever we're needed.'



Schutzgruber



Judy Sima is among the storytellers at Tellabration, Nov. 18 at the Livonia Civic Center Library.

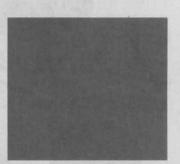


TELLABRATION

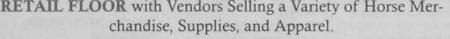
What: The Detroit Story League's annual fall storytelling program When: 7-8:45 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18

Where: Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: Maestro Andrew Feldstein emcees the program that includes Nola McDonald, Barbara Schutzgruber, Judy Sima, Loretta Vitek and The Fabricators. The event includes a silent auction from 6-7 p.m. and refreshments served at 8:45 p.m. The silent auction will include baskets with handmade items, educational materials about storytelling, books and more Admission: \$5 Contact: Barbara Shapiro at (248) 557-6249 or Barbara Clark at (248) 514-6739 or (248) 470-6704; www. detroitstorytelling.org



November 11.12.13, 2011



EXHIBITIONS & CLINICS featuring some of the industry's best.

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Pre-Season Party Suburban Collection Showplace FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11 SUNDAY, NOVEMBER re-Season Party Fri. 11am-midnight Sat. 10am-midnight Sun, noon-8pm Then we close & re-open for the whole season on Friday, November 18th PARKING Family Outings in the Private Ice Parties Compuware garage Mon-Fri 11am-6pm Birthday Parties with skating Field Trips admission Group Rates Skate Rentals Convenient, HOURS: **Adjacent Parking** Mon.-Thurs......11am - 10 pm Open 7 Days Friday.....11am - Midnight Saturday......10 am - Midnight **Including Holidays** Sunday.....Noon - 8 pm CAMPUS

800 Woodward Avenue 3 Blocks North of Jefferson Located in Detroit's Meeting Place, Across from the Compuware Building and Hard Rock Cafe.

For reservations & further info, call 313-963-9393

ENTERTAINMENT

U-M-trained composer to lead orchestra

The Michigan Philharmonic's upcoming concert, "Música de las Américas," will feature music with a Latin flavor, including a composition by University of Michigan-trained Gabriela Lena Frank.

B6

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The concert is at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13, at the Village Theater, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton. The orchestra, conducted by Nan Washburn, will open the show with a concert version of Malaguena by Ernesto Lecuona, the Cuban composer and pianist. Other selections will include Ocho Por Radio by Silvestre Revueltas, the haunting Bachinanas Brasilerias No. 5 by Villa-Lobos, and Varicones Concertantes Opus 23 by Alberto Ginestrera.

One of the highlights of the concert will be Elegia Andina by Gabriela Lena Frank. Her composition draws from her ethnically rich Peruvian/Chinese/Lithuanian/Jewish ancestry.

According to Frank, Elegia Andina for Orchestra, written in 2000, is dedicated to her older brother.

"As children of a multicultural marriage our early days were filled with Oriental stir-fry cuisine, Andean nursery songs and frequent visits from our New York-bred Jewish



Gabriela Lena Frank will discuss her musical compositions at a pre-concert talk, Sunday, Nov. 13 at the Michigan Philharmonic's performance in Canton.

cousins," she stated. "As a young piano student, my repertoire included not only my own compositions that carried overtones from Peruvian folk music, but also rags of Scott Joplin and minuets of Bach. It was probably inevitable then that as a composer and pianist today, I continue to thrive on multiculturalism.

'Elegia Andina is one of my first written-down compositions to explore what it means to be of several different ethnic persuasions, of several minds.'

Frank will discuss her music in a pre-concert talk at 1:15 p.m.

Tickets are \$22, \$18 for seniors, \$10 for students. Call (734) 451-2112 or visit www.michiganphil.org.

Theater Series

CHRISTMAS IN DETROIT

onnv& Marie





Exhibit in Plymouth

'Meadow," an oil painting by Sharon Lee Dillenbeck is on exhibit, along with art by 10 other members of the Three Cities Art Club, through Nov. 29 at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth. The multimedia show features watercolor, acrylic, oil, colored pencil and photography. Many of the pieces are for sale. The Three Cities Art Club, based in Canton, welcomes artists and art lovers to attend monthly events. Club members exhibit new work, participate in workshops, learn new techniques in various forms of art and enter their art in exhibitions for an opportunity to show and sell their work. Annual membership is \$25. The exhibit hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday. (734) 416-4278.

Chorus seeks holiday concert singers

Harmonytown Chorus has opened its rehearsals to men interested in singing with the group at its annual holiday concert on Sunday, Dec. 4, at the Livonia Public Library, 32777 Five Mile.

The group rehearses from 7:30-8:30 p.m., Tuesdays through Nov. 29 at Kirk of our Saviour Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, between Newburgh and Wayne Road, in Westland

Harmonytown is rehearsing

Christmas songs with familiar arrangements in a relaxed atmosphere. The activity is free

For more information, call Keith McDonald at (734) 679-1927 or email him at Keithmac@wideopenwest.com.

The show at 3 p.m. Dec. 4 will feature favorite Christmas songs and an audience sing-a-long, Berkley High School A Capella Choir and the quartet, Impulse.

Tickets are \$6; children 12 and

GET OUT!

under pay \$3. Tickets are by advance sale only. For information or to order tickets, call (734) 743-1764

To order by mail, send a check payable to Wayne Chapter, and send to Frank Adams, 38300 Lana Ct., Farmington Hills MI 48335. Include quantity, kind of tickets, and a phone number or e-mail.

If time allows, tickets will be sent by mail; otherwise they will be held for pickup at the event.

Art

ART & IDEAS

Time/Date: Through Dec. 24; gallery hours are 1-6:30 p.m. Thursday and 1-7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, or by appointment Location: 15095 Northville Road, in Plymouth

Details: "Downtown Foot Art" includes works by the gallery's artist-in-residence, Shage Kalaj. She focused on historical buildings in downtown Plymouth for her series of works which she sketched and painted with her feet in the outdoors over the summer

Contact: (734) 420-0775 MICHIGAN WEAVER'S GUILD

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 19

Location: The City Gallery, at the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Holiday Trunk Sale with an array of handwoven items by members of the Guild. Admission is free Contact: (248) 473-1856



with Robert DuMouchelle of DuMouchelle Art Galleries, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18. The registration fee is \$10 per item with a limit of 3 items per guest. Walk-ins without prior registration will be admitted on the day

Location: 744 N. Sheldon Road, Plymouth Details: Drawings by Marilyn Meredith of Three Cities Art Club

Contact: (734) 416-4278 VILLAGE POTTERS

times Wednesdays thru Sundays Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale Details: Improv most nights.

Time/Date: Various show

Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays

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

JD'S HOUSE OF COMEDY

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings

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

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

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

JOEY'S COMEDY **CLUB OF LIVONIA**

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



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OlympiaEntertainment.com



NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: Through Dec. 10 Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: The seventh annual Northville Holiday Art Market includes hand-crafted work in painting, printmaking, glass, mosaic, fiber, photography, jewelry and mixed media for sale by well-known local artists. Hours for the market are 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday. On "First Fridays" only in November and December hours are 1-9 p.m

Coming up: An Antiques and Fine Arts Appraisal clinic

of the event if time allows. Guests may bring items such as antiques, collectibles, family memorabilia, furniture and artwork. Large or fragile items should be submitted by photograph. Coins, stamps, and jewelry will not be appraised at this event. Register in person, 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday or call Northville Art House Contact: (248) 344-0497

PLYMOUTH COMMU-NITY ARTS COUNCIL

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Thursday in November

Celebrate

Your Holiday

With Us!

GUILD

Time/Date: Opening reception, 5-8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17; 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 19; and noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 20

Location: 340 N. Main, G-11, behind Plymouth Crossing Restaurant, in downtown Plymouth

Details: Holiday sale; refreshments served

Contact: (734) 207-8807

Comedy

Go Comedy!

baturdays

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Tim Kidd, through Nov. 12; Chris Barnes, Nov. 16-19; J. Chris Newberg, Nov. 23, 25-26

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

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: Robb Little, Nov. 10-12; Kathleen Madigan, Nov. 17-19; Dave Landau, Nov. 25-26; Alex Ortiz, Nov. 30-Dec. 3

Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak

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

Dance

MOON DUSTERS

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 p.m. every Saturday; dance lessons 7-8 p.m.

Location: Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Singles and couples dance to music of the '30s, '40s and '50s; free refreshments. Dance lessons cost \$6; dance and lessons are \$11; dance only is \$7 for guests, \$6.50 for associates and \$6 for Moon Dusters members

Contact: Joe Castrodale, club president, (248) 968-5197

SUCCESSFULLY SINGLE

Time/Date: 8-8:30 p.m. dance lesson, 9 a.m.-midnight, Saturday, Nov. 12

Location: Burton Manor Ballroom #8, 27777 Schoolcraft, Livonia

Details: Meet, Mingle, & Dance the night away to Top 40 Music by Professional DJ Pam Hornbeck. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres buffet served from 8:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Pay at the door: \$11 for Successfully Single members and \$14 for non-members. Dressy casual attire. No jeans or sneakers

Contact: (248) 289-6406



Planning a holiday event? Whether it's a Sports event, Christmas party or a New Year's Eve bash bring your celebration to Ironwood Grill.

Our holiday event staff is always on hand to help you plan and run your party. We can provide unforgettable entree or appetizer spread for any taste, Try us after work or shopping for our happy hour drink and appetizer specials, or a holiday dining experience for your closest friends, a family holiday get-together, or the company holiday party.

Invite the people,

we'll do the rest!

Great food, delicious drinks, and the best local entertainment adds up to an irresistible holiday party. At Ironwood Grill, your holiday event will be guaranteed fun.

Reserve your event before Nov 19th and receive 10% off your entire bill.

Our hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 11- Midnight (or game ends) Thursday, Friday, Saturday 11 -2 am and Sunday Noon-Midnight



online at hometownlife.com



B8.(*) THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2011 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

SHARON DARGAY, EDITOR SDARGAY@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM (313) 222-8883 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

A festive party calls for a lively variety of delectable edibles. These recipes give you some sweet and savory choices that will help spread holiday cheer.

Scrumptious bites start with simple, flavorful ingredients — golden Calimyrna and dark purple Mission figs from California and Jarlsberg cheese. They also make great house gifts, wrapped in a colorful box or presented on a pretty serving dish.

Figs are not only packed with great taste, they're full of fiber and essential nutrients, making them as good for you as they are good to eat.

The versatile taste and texture of Jarlsberg cheese is ideal for these appetizers. Jarlsberg's mild, nutty-sweet flavor and buttery creaminess makes it a perfect partner to figs and, along with its excellent melting properties, adaptable to many sweet or savory dishes.

You can combine both ingredients in one easy sure-to-please appetizer: Make a slit in a fig and stuff with a piece of Jarlsberg. Wrap with partially-cooked bacon (it should be a bit limp) and heat at 400°F just until bacon is crispy and cheese begins to melt.

Get more sweet and savory holiday recipes at www.ValleyFig.com and www.JarlsbergUSA.com.

Sweet and savory Holiday Bites



.

Fig Cranberry Bars with Caramel Drizzle Cut into 32 bars

- 1 cup cranberries, fresh or frozen
- 2 tablespoons plus 1/2 cup granulated sugar, divided
- 2½ cups all-purpose flour, divided
- 2 cups old fashioned oats
- 2 cup packed light brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 cup butter, melted
- 1½ cups chopped figs
- % cup chopped, toasted walnuts
- 1 cup caramel ice cream topping

In small bowl combine cranberries and 2 tablespoons granulated sugar; set aside.

FOOD

In medium bowl stir together 2 cups flour, oats, brown sugar, remaining granulated sugar and baking soda. Stir in butter. Reserve 1 cup crumb mixture.

Press remaining crumb-mixture in bottom of 13- by 9-inch baking pan. Bake in 350°F oven for 15 minutes.

Stir figs and walnuts into cranberries and sprinkle evenly over crust. Stir together caramel topping and remaining ½ cup flour; drizzle over fruits and nuts. Sprinkle with reserved crumb mixture.

Bake for additional 20 minutes or until lightly

Chocolate-Dipped Stuffed Figs

Makes 15 figs

- 15 figs
- % cup granulated sugar
- % cup water
- ½ cup brandy (or ½ cup water mixed with 1½ teaspoons vanilla extract) 15 to 30 small pieces candied ginger, toasted nuts or chocolate
- -5 to 6 ounces semisweet, bittersweet or premium white chocolate, chopped
- With sharp knife, cut small slit in bottom of each fig.
- In small saucepan, heat sugar and water over medium heat until sugar dissolves. Stir in brandy and figs. Bring to a boil over high heat then reduce heat and simmer 20 minutes. Drain figs, cool and dry thoroughly.
- Stuff one or two pieces of ginger, nuts and/or chocolate into each fig.
- Place chopped chocolate in 1-cup glass measuring cup or small microwave-safe bowl. Heat on medium/50 percent power until almost melted, stirring after every 1 to 1th minutes. Remove from oven and stir until melted.
- Hold stem of each fig and dip in melted chocolate. Place figs, stems up, on wax paper-lined tray until chocolate sets. Decorate with white chocolate or nuts, as desired.
 - Store in airtight container in refrigerator.

browned. Cool in pan on wire rack.

Savory Jarlsberg Thumbprints with Fig-Pepper Jelly Makes 40 cookies

1 cup butter, softened

2 large egg yolks

2 cups all-purpose flour

3 cups (12 ounces) shredded larlsberg cheese

1 cup grated fresh Parmesan cheese 1½ cups finely chopped, toasted pecans or

unblanched almonds

% cup finely chopped, stemmed figs % cup hot pepper jelly (red or green) Preheat oven to 350°F.

Place butter in large bowl. Beat with electric mixer on medium speed until creamy. Beat in egg yolks. On low speed, gradually beat in flour. Stir in Jarlsberg, Parmesan and nuts.

Divide dough into 4 equal portions. Wrap 3 in wax paper or plastic wrap and chill. On work surface, form remaining portion of dough into 10 (1^t/₂-inch) balls.

Place balls, 1½ inches apart, on ungreased baking sheet. With thumb or back of wooden spoon, make ½-inch indentation in center of each cookie. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes or until light golden brown. If needed, press back of teaspoon into cookies to re-form indentations. Remove cookies to wire rack to cool.

Repeat shaping and baking with remaining dough.

To serve, in small bowl, stir together figs and jelly. Fill each cookie with about 1 teaspoon figpepper jelly.

Make ahead note: Dough can be prepared 1 to 2 days ahead. Form dough into 1½-inch cylinder, wrap airtight and chill or freeze for longer storage. Baked cookies can be stored unfilled, in airtight container for 2 days or frozen. To re-crisp, place on baking sheet in 350°F oven for 2 to 4 minutes.Cool. Fill with fig-pepper jelly as directed.





Jarlsberg, Ham and Herb Swirls

Makes about 26 swirls

- 1 sheet frozen puff pastry (half of 17.3-ounce package), thawed 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 2 teaspoons Dijon mustard (optional)
- 3 tablespoons thinly sliced green onion
- 1 tablespoon dried basil or thyme leaves
- 1 cup (4 ounces) finely shredded Jarlsberg cheese
- 4 ounces thinly sliced Black Forest or other lean ham

Unfold pastry onto lightly floured board; cut in half, lengthwise, to form two pieces. Brush beaten egg on entire surface of each piece.

Leaving a ½-inch border around each pastry, top with the following, dividing evenly: Dijon mustard, green onion, basil and Jarlsberg. Top each with sliced ham, cutting to fit in a single layer within border.

Starting at the long ends, carefully roll up each pastry. Gently pinch ends to seal pastry rolls. Wrap each in plastic wrap. Chill rolls, seam side down, for 2 hours or up to 2 days.

To serve, preheat oven to 400°F. Unwrap rolls and cut each roll crosswise into ½-inch slices. Place, 1 inch apart, on 2 greased baking sheets.

Bake one sheet at a time for 14 to 16 minutes or until golden. Place on wire rack to cool slightly. Serve warm.

- Family Features

B9.(*) THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2011 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

REAL ESTATE

JULIE BROWN, EDITOR JCBROWN@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM (313) 222-6755 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

BBB: Beware of bogus loan offers

The Better Business Bureau Serving Eastern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula has received several complaints over the last few weeks from people across the country inquiring about a company identified as UNITED COM-MERCIAL CREDIT, allegedly located on East Fort Street in Detroit. Consumers are informing the BBB that they have been approved for a secured loan but are required to wire a collateral deposit of \$700-\$1000 to cover insurance on their loan.

Consumers are promised they will receive their loan in 24-48 hours or refunded their deposit. To date, no one has received the promised refund. Two of the complainants who did not receive their loan were told that funds could not be released due to their credit history unless they paid an additional insurance premium at which time the funds would be released. One victim faced this excuse on several occasions and wired the scammers over \$6,000.00 but still has not received a loan.

The Michigan Office of Financial & Insurance Regulation has informed the BBB that UNITED COMMERCIAL CREDIT is not an active Michigan corporation and that it does not have a valid license to provide lending and financial services in Michigan. The BBB report is being revised to reflect the BBB's current investigation.

The BBB reminds consumers that advance fee loans are illegal and advises against wiring money to anyone you don't know. Consumers should also be leery of any websites or e-mails they receive which claim to guarantee loans regardless of credit. Remember, anytime you're asked to pay money upfront to qualify for a loan, the offer is fraudulent.

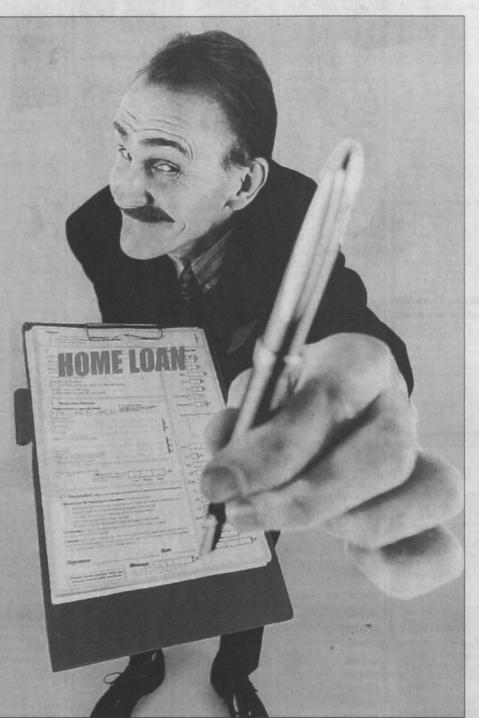
Signs of an advanced fee loan scam: •You are guaranteed a loan even if you have no credit, bad credit or a bankrupt-Cy

•You are guaranteed a loan even if local legitimate lending institutions have refused you.

•Upfront fees are not disclosed. ·You are asked to wire money to the

company to pay an upfront fee for insurance, administration or legal fees.

•The company pressures you to send the money right away.



 Written communications contain typos and grammatical errors. •When you telephone, no one is ever "in"; your calls are not returned, or the voicemail box is always "full." Victims of bogus loan brokers are encouraged to file a complaint with

the BBB (www.bbb.org) or (248) 223-9400 and the Michigan Attorney General's Office at (877) 765-8388. While the chance of recovering the payment fee is minimal, victims can provide information to help BBBs warn consumers and assist government investigations.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

on medi-

HOIVILS	JOLDINLAL	LJIAI	L INANJACI	10143	WATNE		co
These are the area residential real	31476 Bridge St	\$65,000	18217 Norwich Rd	\$79,000	9055 Northern Ave	\$226,000	FH
estate closings recorded the week	31440 Chester St	\$67,000	19341 Norwich Rd	\$180,000	12426 Pinecrest Dr	\$122,000	co
of Aug. 1-5, 2011, at the Wayne	29160 Florence St	\$57,000	14217 Park St	\$123,000	51339 Plymouth Lake	Cir \$575,000	
	32919 John Hauk St	\$60,000	34678 Pembroke Ave	\$215,000	9255 Red Maple Ct	\$318,000	
County Register of Deeds office.	6548 Sharon St	\$69,000	33657 Pondview Cir	\$30,000	1150 S Harvey St	\$415,000	p
Listed below are cities, addresses,	LIVONIA		14693 Riverside St	\$165,000	REDFORD		th
and sales prices.	36300 Six Mile Rd	\$128,000	38347 Roycroft Ct	\$168,000	15836 Lenore	\$24,000	re
CONTRACTOR STATES	9725 Adams St	\$125,000	35954 Scone St	\$128,000	19144 Macarthur	\$40,000	ar
CANTON	38182 Ann Arbor Trl	\$29,000	18819 Shadyside St	\$123,000	11367 Mercedes	\$60,000	B
2249 Ashbourne Dr \$410,000	34480 Capitol St	\$112,000	16943 Yorkshire St	\$270,000	10038 Riverdale	\$22,000	
43118 Avon Rd \$180,000	14950 Cavell St	\$105,000	NORTHVILLE	****	9003 Seminole	\$53,000	m
6862 Carriage Hills Dr \$139,000	28409 Cleveland St	\$98,000	49525 Seven Mile Rd	\$385,000	WESTLAND		fo
39464 Cather St \$110,000	17122 Dolores St	\$85,000	42381 Anchor Ct	\$56,000	30742 Ann Arbor Trl	\$49,000	as
48551 Central Park Dr \$345,000	36240 Dover St	\$90,000	18312 Blue Heron Point	te Dr	34569 Blackfoot St	\$48,000	ha
7072 Copper Creek Cir \$107,000	17522 Edgewood St	\$210,000 \$175,000	\$450,000 41648 Elk Rd	\$100.000	33605 Calumet St	\$12,000	fo
41922 Coventry Way \$127,000	11017 Edington St 14224 Ellen Dr	\$120,000	550 Grace St	\$180,000 \$495,000	38000 Hixford Pl	\$86,000	
1920 E Roundtable Dr \$118,000	14626 Ellen Dr	\$120,000	262 Hutton St	\$180,000	8286 Huntington St	\$10,000	as
8401 Forrest Dr \$125,000	19992 Ellen Dr	\$383,000	42801 Itham Ct	\$51,000	34943 Lewis St 29836 Lonnie Dr	\$63,000 \$85,000	be
46011 Graystone Ln \$168,000	14718 Fairway St	\$115,000	18241 Parkshore Dr	\$550,000	29049 Manchester St	\$23,000	to
3256 Greenwich Ct \$235,000	9915 Farmington Rd	\$215,000	18128 Pinebrook Dr	\$285,000	34425 Marina Ct	\$88,000	as
50048 Hancock St \$129,000	17907 Floral St	\$113,000	18537 Steep Hollow Ct	\$530,000	6143 N Berry St	\$39,000	re
45537 Holmes Dr \$210,000	29436 Grandon St	\$60,000	18885 Stonewater Blvd		6275 N Dowling St	\$42,000	
42501 Majestic Ct \$115,000	15900 Harrison St	\$95,000	710 W Main St	\$828,000	27608 Powers St	\$30,000	m
277 Meadowlake Rd \$160,000	37951 Jamison St	\$105,000	PLYMOUTH		1511 S Sutton St	\$104,000	of
45417 N Stonewood Rd \$110,000	11750 Jarvis St	\$126,000	46701 Barrington Ct	\$269,000	1745 Selma St	\$30,000	h
47742 Pavillon Rd \$320,000 44344 S Umberland Cir \$159,000	36340 Lyndon St	\$169,000	11636 Butternut Ave	\$90,000	570 Van Sull St	\$66,000	th
44344 S Umberland Cir \$159,000 41703 White Tail Ln \$110,000	11300 Mayfield St	\$115,000	14695 Garland Ave	\$70,000	640 Van Sull St	\$80,000	co
GARDEN CITY	14378 Melvin St	\$145,000	44860 Lynn Dr	\$95,000	516 Worchester St	\$112,000	A
	31621 Middleboro St	\$45,000	40441 Newport Dr	\$70,000			-

Finding recourse for a hoarder

By Robert Meisner Guest Columnist

Q: What do we do with someone who is hoarding all kinds of junk in their condominium unit, including a situation which is causing mold, animal waste, vermin and a potential fire hazard?

A: It is, of course, a difficult problem, but most of the time your condominium documents allow for recourse by the association. Obviously you need to identify the problem and the association's obligation, if any, to deal with it. You need to request access with a board representative and an outside expert to scope the problem. You need to deliver the scope to the co-owner and give them a date certain to have the place cleared out or restored, if applicable. Upon the co-owner's failure to remove the stuff and restore it, if applicable by the date certain, after notice



to the co-owner the association's expert should have the stuff removed and the work done, if at all possible, upon the advice of counsel. If you need an **Injunctive** Order from the court,

you will have to start a lawsuit. You may also want to consider contacting local social service agencies to determine whether or not there is a psychological problem with the "co-owner." Obviously, if the owner does not remove the materials, you may have the right under the documents to do so without liability to the association, its managers, directors, etc. On the other hand, you may have to get a Injunctive Order and hopefully recover all costs, expenses and legal fees from the co-owner.

Q: Can you give me some information concerning the insurance requirements which FHA is now requiring of homeowner and condominium associations?

A: For all new and established projects with more than 20 units, he homeowner's association is required to obtain and maintain an Employee Dishonesty-Fidelity Bond Insurance. The association must maintain this insurance for all officers, directors of the association and all other persons handling or are responsible for funds administered by the association. The coverage must be no less than the sum equal to three months aggregate assessments in all units plus reserve funds unless a state law mandates that a greater amount of required insurance. If the nomeowner's association engages the services of a management company, the Homeowner's Association must require the management company to maintain the insurance coverage for its officers, employees and agents handling or are responsible for funds of, or administered on behalf of, the homeowner's association. The required coverage must meet the following requirements: 1. Must name the owner's association as an obligee; 2. Must be an amount not less than the estimated maximum of funds, including reserve funds, in the custody of the owner's association or managing agent at any given time during the term of each bond; 3. In no event may the aggregate amount of such bonds be less than a sum equal to three months aggregate assessments in all units plus reserve funds unless state law requires a maximum amount of required coverage. Obviously, it is important that you review this requirement with your attorney to make sure that your association is in compliance.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real 2744 Yorkshire Rd BLOOMFIELD HILLS \$475,00 estate closings recorded the week 4683 Brightmore Rd \$417,00 of July 25-29, 2011, at the Oak-2142 Coach Way Ct BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP \$240,00 land County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, 2075 Bootmaker Ln \$201,00 addresses, and sales prices. 7022 Cathedral Dr \$285.00 3301 Highmeadow Ct \$175,00 841 Highwood Dr \$1,150,00 **BEVERLY HILLS** 1556 Island Ln \$400,00 31724 Auburn Dr \$160,000 2745 Lahser Rd \$180.00 18300 Beverly Rd \$190,000 1170 Lenox Rd \$385,0 \$162,000 18166 Kinross Ave 7141 Paterese Dr \$165,0 32076 Rosevear St \$251,000 1736 Saint Johns Ct \$250,00 31773 Waltham Ct BINGHAM FARMS \$341,000 4425 Squirrel Rd \$200.0 5245 Wayfind Ln \$890.0 30875 River Crossing St \$186,000 COMMERCE TOWNSHIP BIRMINGHAM 4235 Bluebird Dr \$435,00 1676 Banbury St \$110,000 1723 Carriage HI # 206 \$293,00 532 Bennaville Ave \$224,000 7969 Farrant St \$586.00 748 Chapin Ave \$435,000 7904 Flagstaff St \$470,00 444 Chester St \$150,000 4085 Forest Edge Dr \$251,00 548 Chesterfield Ave \$550,000 2160 Palmetto \$230,00 2435 Devon Ln \$676,000 4983 Parkgate Dr \$343,00 1048 Ridgedale Ave \$275,000 \$111,000

5870 Pickbourne St

340 Polvadera St

FARMINGTON HILLS

00	36986 Dartmoor Dr	\$88,000	24822 Portsmouth Ave	
	23410 Haynes St	\$103,000	47154 Scarlet Dr S	\$187,000
00	39283 Heatherbrook D		23325 W Le Bost	\$124,000
00	28357 Kendallwood Dr		28311 Wolcott Dr	\$84,000
	29040 Oak Point Dr	\$174,000	SOUTH LYON	
00	35746 Old Homestead	Dr	61155 Allen Dr	\$205,000
00	\$225,000		58721 Carriage Ln	\$298,000
00	32777 Raphael Rd	\$85,000	1375 Cartwright Ln	\$287,000
00	35986 W 13 Mile Rd	\$575,000	52073 Copperwood Dr	N \$50,000
00	28341 Westerleigh Rd	\$115,000	495 Eagle Way	\$195,000
00	Lathrup Village		995 Oak Creek Dr	\$140,000
00	27610 Goldengate Dr V	V \$50,000	21001 Pontiac Trl	\$218,000
00	27051 Lathrup Blvd	\$135,000	51847 Red Cedar Ct	\$295,000
00	MILFORD		831 Westbrooke Dr	\$209,000
00	266 E Canyon Dr	\$211,000	302 Whipple St	\$75,000
00	623 Mill Pointe Dr	\$185,000	SOUTHFIELD	
	887 W Maple Rd	\$235,000	21767 Hidden Rivers D	r N \$30,000
00	NOVI		29146 Rambling Rd	\$40,000
00	27453 Albert St	\$237,000	30057 Rambling Rd	\$48,000
00	27355 Benjamins Way	\$45,000	28673 Regent Ct N	\$31,000
00	51195 Brompton	\$205,000	21335 Wallace Dr	\$51,000
00	26226 Fieldstone Dr	\$230,000	WHITE LAKE	
00	27079 Ladbroke St	\$217,000	10746 Bogie Lake Rd	\$155,000
00	41692 Magnolia Ct	\$116,000	979 Suchava Dr	\$336,000
00	41050 N Mcmahon Cir	\$54,000		
00	24559 Olde Orchard St	\$43,000		
	25524 Portico Ln	\$115,000		

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



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