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Enter our Facebook contest for a chance to win two tickets to see the North American International Auto Show in Detroit. We are giving away a pair of tickets every day until Jan. 18. Share the contest link with a Facebook friend and get an extra five chances to win if they also enter the contest. A winner will be randomly selected every day until the contest ends.

To enter, go to hometownlife.com and see "Auto Show Ticket Contest" under the "Don't Miss" section on our home page. Good luck!

By **Darrell Clem**
Observer Staff Writer

Hundreds of often-irate residents complained after Canton began the new year by finally enforcing a longtime garbage-pickup rule that curbside trash containers cannot exceed 32-gallon and 50-pound limits.

"We've documented 350 complaints since Jan. 1," Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said. "Normally we don't get a lot of complaints."

While that's a small fraction of the

24,000 customers served by Canton Waste Recycling — the township's trash hauler — it's enough for local officials to suspend enforcement until the week of March 5 and give residents more time to buy proper-size containers.

After that, households that continue to ignore trash-collection rules will find their garbage left inside oversized containers by the curb.

Rules violations

For years, thousands of Canton households every week violat-

ed the township's rules by wheeling out oversized or overweight garbage containers — a problem CWR has virtually ignored since it became the local trash hauler in 1992.

Township officials and CWR made a joint decision to start enforcing the rule amid rising insurance costs and burgeoning worker-safety concerns.

Canton early last year began an education campaign that many residents apparently missed or ignored, even though notification of the changes had been made

in the *Focus* newsletter sent to all households, on the township's website, cable station and Facebook page, in the *Canton Observer* and on warning tags placed on oversized trash containers.

Faas said local officials and CWR "extend our sincere thanks to all our solid waste customers that got into compliance with the collection guidelines on or before the Jan. 1 deadline."

Some customers using garbage containers as large as 96

Please see **TRASH, A6**

Eagle awards

National Heritage Academies recently honored Achieve Charter Academy and Canton Charter Academy in Canton with 2010-11 Eagle Awards. Achieve Academy received Academic Growth and Parent Loyalty Awards, while Canton Academy was honored with Employee Engagement and Parent Loyalty Awards.

In order to receive an Academic Growth Award, NHA requires the school to rank in the 90th percentile or above nationally in terms of the percentage of students meeting typical RIT growth targets in reading and mathematics.

To be selected for the Parent Loyalty Award, NHA requires 60 percent or more of a school's parents be "very satisfied" with their child's school — a statistic measured by an internally-generated parent survey.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross sponsors upcoming blood drives at a variety of locations in the Plymouth-Canton area:

- Sunday, Jan. 15, 8:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., St. Kenneth Church, on Haggerty between Schoolcraft and Five Mile in Plymouth Township.

- Monday, Jan. 23, 1:30-7:15 p.m., Trinity Presbyterian Church, 10101 W. Ann Arbor Road west of Plymouth.

Donors interested can call Diane Risko at (313) 549-7052 or e-mail her at riskod@usa.redcross.org.

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U.S. Sen. Carl Levin greets juniors Cassie Misiolek and Jineet Gandhi as he arrives at Canton High School for his speaking engagement before some 200 government students Friday.

Levin talks politics with area students

By **Brad Kadrach**
Observer Staff Writer

U.S. Sen. Carl Levin got several letters from Plymouth-Canton juniors inviting him to speak to them, so he did what the kids were hoping he'd do.

He accepted their invitation. That's why Levin, the long-serving Democrat, was on stage Friday morning at the Canton DuBois Little Theater, talking about the political climate and answering questions for more than 200 social studies students from the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

"I got invitations from several students, and they were very persuasive," Levin said of his speaking engagement. "I like to get a flavor of (students') interests, what they view as the challenges and their goals."

Social studies teacher Ricky Styes said one of the assignments students get in government class is to correspond with politicians. Some chose Levin, others chose Sen. Debbie Stabenow and still others wrote to state legislators such as Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth (Heise is scheduled to speak to students next week).

Styes said having the politicians actually come to the



U.S. Sen. Carl Levin speaks to some 200 government students during an appearance at Canton High School Friday.

school is good for the students.

"It makes it real for them," Styes said. "I tell them I've never met a U.S. senator, so this isn't an opportunity that comes along every day. This is significant, especially with a guy like (Levin), who's been in Congress for so long and is pretty well-respected."

Junior Ashleigh Morton, a 16-year-old from Canton, originally wrote Levin to ask him if she could shadow him for a day at some point. Morton, who has an intense interest in politics, said she was looking forward

to seeing Levin — she actually got to spend a few minutes with him before his speech — to get a view on what political life is like.

"I really want to share my views with the rest of the world," Morton said. "I really want to make a difference."

Salem High School junior Jineet Gandhi, a 16-year-old from Canton, said he hoped to hear Levin talk about recent bills that have made their way (or are about to) to the Senate,

Please see **LEVIN, A6**

Canton uses furlough days to save cash

By **Darrell Clem**
Observer Staff Writer

Amid another round of cost-cutting measures, certain Canton Township buildings will be closed for business for 12 days this year due to employee concessions that ushered in unpaid furlough days.

Police and fire emergency services will remain intact, as will Canton Leisure Services programs at places such as Summit on the Park, the Arctic Edge ice arena and the High Velocity Sports complex that are outside the township administration offices on Canton Center.

Township administration offices, the Canton Public Safety records bureau, police and fire offices and the ordinance enforcement unit will be closed for the furlough days — part of an earlier-approved, three-pronged budget-slashing effort that included a 1.75-mill public safety tax increase and spending reductions across all departments.

Furlough days began Friday and will return Feb. 17, March 16, April 9, May 25, June 22, July 6 and 27, Aug. 31, Sept. 21, Oct. 5 and Nov. 9.

Employees affected by furlough days also will take eight floating furlough hours, essentially absorbing 13 unpaid days during the year.

Employees such as police officers and firefighters accepted other concessions rather than furlough days to keep emergency services intact.

Though some residents may accidentally show up at closed offices on furlough days, township Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin said most people have appeared to adapt.

"We really haven't had any problems that I'm aware of," she said.

Residents who want to pay their taxes or water bills on furlough days may use a drop box outside the administration building, on Canton Center between Cherry Hill and Palmer, McLaughlin said.

Clerk Terry Bennett said her office, which handles Canton's records, voter issues, licenses and other matters, also hasn't noticed an outpouring of complaints due to furlough days.

Bennett said careful attention was paid not to close on days immediately leading up to important dates such as the Nov. 6 general election.

"That's been helpful," she said.

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

Change coming to online water bill pay

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

Canton residents who pay their water bills online through their bank's website need to change the address for their payments to avoid any glitches after Jan. 31, Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin said.

Water consumers should change the address to Canton Township Water Department, P.O. Box 87680, Canton, MI, 48187.

The change comes as Canton, in a move to save \$50,000, has started handling the payments in-house rather than using Chase bank in Detroit, McLaughlin said.

"We have changed our post office box for billing," she said. "Instead of having a bank do it, we decided we would try to do it in-house."

The change actually began Jan. 1, though payments made to the old address have been forwarded to the new post office box.

However, McLaughlin warned there could be snags after Jan. 31 for water customers who don't change the online address.

"We are closing that box as of Jan. 31," she said.

The change comes as the Canton Treasurer's Office and other departments are seeking ways to trim spending amid ongoing budget challenges.

For more information, contact the township's water billing department at (734) 394-5240.

dclem@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2238

Heise files for re-election

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

Freshman state Rep. Kurt Heise, a Plymouth Township Republican, has filed the paperwork for a 2012 re-election bid.

Heise, 45, will run in a redrawn 20th District that will no longer include the city of Wayne, but will include more of Canton Township — a portion of the township west of I-275. The new district will continue to include Plymouth Township, Plymouth, Northville Township and the portion of Northville that sits in Wayne County.

Heise said he's proud to have been a part of setting the stage for what he called the state's economic turnaround.

"I think there's still a lot of business to do in Lansing," said Heise, who cited "historic progress" under Republican Gov. Rick Snyder. "I think we're going to continue that in 2012."

Heise said the Legislature's focus since he joined has been on "reinventing Michigan" and creating an environment that leads to job growth, work that he said is showing results.

"It's a very exciting, dynamic time to be in the state Legislature," he said.

The Legislature's biggest accomplishment last year, Heise said, was a successful budget process, which included cutting costs, replacing the Michigan Business Tax with a 6-percent flat tax and wrapping up the budget on time, which gave officials in school district and municipalities time to plan their finances.

The process also included a two-year spending plan, a "fiscal road map," living within the state's means and having a budget surplus that Heise estimates will be around \$400 million.

"That would've been unheard of a year ago, and that's a reflection of that hard work we've had to do," he said.

Heise said his biggest personal legislative accomplishment was the bill, signed into law by Snyder, that moved public school elections to November



Citing "more work to do" in Lansing, freshman state Rep. Kurt Heise, a Plymouth Township Republican, has filed the paperwork for a 2012 re-election bid.

of even-numbered years. The move is seen as a way to cut election costs and increase voter participation in school elections.

But he also mentioned his House Bill 4112, which would put the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department under the control of a regional authority, as an important accomplishment. The bill remains in committee, but Heise said it gives communities that buy water from Detroit leverage in U.S. District Court Judge Sean Cox's oversight of the department.

"A lot of those principles that were in that bill are now being implemented at the federal court level," Heise said.

Heise is an attorney who has worked for several local municipalities, and is the former director of the Wayne County Department of Environment. He had a perfect attendance record in the House last year, making all 619 votes.

Heise said he plans a door-to-door re-election campaign beginning this spring. Heise and his wife, Catherine, have two daughters, Katie and Claire.

No one has yet filed to challenge Heise; the filing deadline for the August primary is Tuesday, May 15.

mjachman@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2405

CORRECTION


The H&R Block office at 2771 S. Wayne Road in Westland is open, contrary to a Dec. 29 *Observer* story, "On deadly blast's anniversary, store's future uncertain."

The story was about William C. Franks Furniture, which was destroyed in a December 2010 explosion that killed

two employees, and it mentioned several neighboring businesses.

The furniture store, in the city of Wayne, was a block south of H&R Block, which is a seasonal office that opened Jan. 3 and remains open through Tuesday, April 17.

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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

CANTON NEWCOMERS

Date/Time: Wednesday, Feb. 1, 7:15 p.m.

Location: Sunflower Clubhouse, 45800 Hanford in Canton

Details: The public is invited to an informative evening to discuss the risk factors, disease prevention, the symptoms of a heart attack and much more. In addition, Dr. Jyothi Nichana will offer tips for living a healthy life, the club will host a raffle to benefit a local charity, Curves of Canton has a special offer, and all can enjoy a tasty treat from the Newcomers and Neighbors Salad and Fruit bar. Attendees are encouraged to wear red for heart health awareness month.

Contact: To RSVP e-mail Noreen at nrybar@yahoo.com or call (734) 981-0486. For more information about the club, including requesting a February newsletter, visit www.cantonnewcomersandneighbors.org.

SOCKS AND UNDIES

Date/Time: Monday, Jan. 16, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main in Plymouth

Details: A clothing drive to benefit the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Clothing Bank, is looking for new men's, women's and children's socks and underwear, along with other new or gently used clothing.

Contact: For more information, e-mail mbartek09@comcast.net

PAYING FOR COLLEGE

Date/Time: Tuesday, Jan. 31, 6:30 p.m.

Location: Canton Public Library, 1200 S. Canton Center, Canton

Details: Parents of college-bound students are invited to a free event on paying for college. The seminar will deal with out-of-pocket costs, reducing expected family contributions, and filing for financial aid.

Contact: To make a reservation, call (800) 390-5896.

GRIEF SUPPORT

Date/Time: Saturday, Jan. 21, 10 a.m. to noon

**Veteran assistance**

As part of their ongoing dedication to public service efforts, Plymouth-Canton High School Girl Scouts from Troop 40501 helped wrap 850 Christmas packages, destined for military veterans in three VA hospitals in the Detroit area and across southeast Michigan, as well as three shelters for veterans. The Ambassador Girl Scouts helped members of Elks Lodge #1780 bring some holiday cheer to these homeless and hospitalized veterans. These gift packages focus on personal care and comfort items, such as soap, toothpaste, socks, lotion, tissue, shampoo, playing cards, and much more.

Location: Compassionate Care Hospice, 5730 Lilley Road in Canton

Details: Compassionate Care Hospice conducts a grief support seminar, "When a Parent Dies: Understanding changes in family roles, traditions and practices." A light breakfast will be provided. The program is free of charge and is open to any adult grieving the loss of a parent.

Contact: To register, contact Ann Christensen, Compassionate Care Hospice Bereavement Coordinator at 888-983-9050, or e-mail achristensen@chcnet.net.

MOM2MOM SALE

Time/Date: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., March 10

Location: Hillside Elementary School, 36801 W. 11 Mile Rd, Farmington Hills.

Details: \$2 early admission, \$1 general admission. About 100 tables of gently used baby, maternity and children's clothing, toys, equipment and furniture. A great opportunity to get items you need and save money off of retail prices. Proceeds of the sale will benefit Hillside Elementary and its students. Now accepting resale table registrations.

Contact: E-mail hillside-mom2mom@gmail.com

MOPS MEETINGS

Date/Time: First-third Fridays, 9:15-11:30 a.m.

Location: St. Kenneth

Catholic Church, 14951 Hagerty, Plymouth

Details: The St. Edith/St. Kenneth Catholic Parishes' Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) group invites all mothers with children aged newborn through kindergarten to join. The group provides the encouragement, nurturing, and support and features a schedule of activities that include speakers, crafts, and group discussions.

Contact: Heather at (734) 437-9517 or e-mail stekmops@gmail.com, or visit www.stekmops.org

HEALING HEARTS

Date/Time: Second and

fourth Monday, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Location: Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, Westland

Details: Grief support group for adults who have lost a loved one to the prison system. Hope 4 Healing Hearts, Inc., provides a safe environment allowing members to share in a non-judgmental atmosphere. Individuals share ideas, resources and experiences that are helpful to one another.

Contact: For more information, contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237, bonnie@hope4healinghearts.com or visit www.hope4healinghearts.com.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A Canton family escaped injury early Thursday when fire swept through a single-family home on Denton Road between Michigan Avenue and Geddes.

Family escapes house fire

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

A Canton couple, their three children and another relative escaped injury early Thursday when fire swept through a single-family home on Denton Road between Michigan Avenue and Geddes, Fire Chief Tim Dunn said.

The fire erupted about 1 a.m. and caused widespread damage to the home, but Dunn said the situation could have had a far worse outcome if the father of the family hadn't acted quickly.

"The guy did a phenomenal job getting his family out," Dunn said.

Fire investigators remained on the scene about nine hours. Dunn said the fire was ruled accidental, though its exact cause wasn't released.

The blaze occurred in a rural area of Canton's west side that lacks fire

hydrants, forcing firefighters to haul in water from Canton's three fire stations and from Van Buren and Superior townships.

"We had to bring water with us," Dunn said.

Laurie Aren, director of family and community ministries for the Plymouth-based Salvation Army, said the organization had arranged for temporary lodging for the family.

Dunn described the house as mostly a one-story structure with a two-story attached area.

"There's significant damage to it," he said, and though the structure was still standing, officials believe the house is "a total loss."

Fire officials also had called in off-duty firefighters to battle the blaze.

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At times, patients come to doctors requesting cortisone. The patient will tell the doctor about a past episode or several experiences with intense pain for which another practitioner gave a steroid dose and each time the pain disappeared.

When the patient learns that the doctor he is seeing that day will not give a dose pack, the patient becomes both alarmed and angered. The patient has reason for that reaction, as facing pain and being denied a medicine that gave such relief is sufficient cause for upset.

However, the doctor is on even better grounds; his stand makes more medical sense. First, giving a medicine without a diagnosis is not good medicine. Giving steroids with no diagnosis is particularly dangerous as steroid has a euphoric affect and on that ground alone can make a patient feel better. At the same time the underlying process causing the pain continues unabated. When the steroid dose drops, the pain will return forcing the practitioner to give more steroid, or face the task of finding the cause of the pain; a task that should have begun before giving steroid dose pack.

Secondly, steroids in doses over 7-10 milligrams cause a myriad of side effects including glaucoma, cataracts, increased susceptibility to infection, hypertension, diabetes, osteoporosis and thinning/bruising of the skin. Also steroids taken over weeks to months cause a bloating of the face and body and thinning of the hair, making the person appear fat and ungainly.

Prednisone when properly used is lifesaving. But when given just to treat pain, it is more a threat than a therapy to well being.

District replaces finance team

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools officials dipped into the private sector this week to fill two of their more important public-sector jobs.

Brodie Killian, a former University of Michigan football player who for the last five years was a financial advisor for Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, was hired to be the district's executive director of business services. He replaces former assistant superintendent for business services James Larson-Shidler.

Victoria Amore, the manager of the Government Accounting Professionals team at Plante & Moran, was hired to be the district's director of finance. She replaces Dave Kaumeyer.

Larson-Shidler and Kaumeyer left the district for positions in the Wayne-Westland district last month.

At Morgan Stanley, Killian — who holds a masters in public policy and a bachelor of business administration from U-M — has worked with high net-worth clients, helping with investments, including public pensions. He also serves as the vice chair of the Dearborn Pension Board of Trustees.

Before that, he spent five years as an investment banker underwriting school bonds, experience he believes will help him in his new position.

"My knowledge of school finance, investments and overall operations comes from my time as an investment banker," said Killian, who lives in Dearborn with wife Ellen, nearly 3-year-old daughter Maureen and 8-month-old twin daughters Devin and Mallory. "What's really unique about our hires is we're coming from the private sector. They were filling these positions looking for complementary talents."

Amore had been with Plante & Moran for 17 years, the last nine in the firm's GAP team after eight years as an auditor (though Plante & Moran is Plymouth-Canton's auditor, Amore said she never got involved in that process). Among



Brodie Killian is Plymouth-Canton's new executive director for business services, while Victoria Amore is the district's new director of finance.

her most recent duties was providing accounting and financial consulting to municipalities and school districts.

"The majority of my experience is with government bodies," said Amore, who lives in Canton with her husband, Mike, their 8-year-old son Dominick and 2½ year-old daughter Mia. "I have a thorough knowledge of bonds and taxes, inside and out. And I have contacts in lots of school districts, so if there is a topic I'm not familiar with, I have plenty of resources."

Killian and Amore agree the district's finances were "left in good order," and don't seem to mind the challenge of taking on a district budget that surpasses \$150 million and expects a deficit of between \$8 million and \$10 million.

"I'm not intimidated by large budgets," said Amore, a certified public accountant with a bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Michigan-Dearborn. "The biggest challenge is the funding, which is out of our hands. We have to be cognizant of the changes at the state level, and we have to react to that."

Both are "excited" to be joining the administrative team.

"You can see a great team of administrators has been put together," Killian said. "We're both looking forward to working alongside them."

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SCHOOL BRIEFS

Great ideas

This year, three Canton High School graduates were awarded \$1000 each for their entries in one of nine categories in the annual "1000 Pitches" competition at the University of Michigan.

Catherine Huang, a 2011 graduate, entered a parking space locator application called ParkMe in the Mobile Apps category. Michael Gleba, a 2009 grad, won in the Health category for his Lancet Devive Diabetic App. Nicholas Turnbull, also a 2009 graduate, won the Consumer Products Category with Paul Schrems for Torsion, a smartphone case with retractable headphones to keep cords from getting tangled.

The competition, now in its third year, is hosted by MPowered Entrepreneurship, a student-run organization. More information about 1000 Pitches can be found at <http://www.1000pitches.com/>

Article honored

Plymouth High School junior Shannon Shaver's article on P-CEP's proactive approach to anti-bullying was featured in the National Edition of the My High School Journalism website. The story had originally run in the Dec. 16 edition of the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Perspective, the student newspaper at P-CEP.

Kevin Epling, the father of the young man for whom "Matt's Safe School Law" is named, commented on the article and complimented Shannon on her work. The online article may be viewed at <http://pcep.pccs.k12.mi.us/node/2527>

Registration open

Registration for enrichment classes through Plymouth-Canton Community Education is now open. With hundreds of courses to pick from, there is something for all ages and interests. Online registration is a quick and easy way to get started, go to <http://pcceregister.com/>.

Whalers fundraiser

The Plymouth Whalers and the Educational Excellence Foundation (P-CCS' foundation) have joined forces to raise money for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. EEF will receive \$4 from every ticket (tickets cost \$12) sold for the Monday, Jan. 16 Whalers game, which starts at 2 p.m.

If the game sells out, EEF could earn as much as \$10,000 to support programs at P-CCS. Students have the day off for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. The Whalers will face off against the Windsor Spitfires in this Ontario Hockey League regular season game.

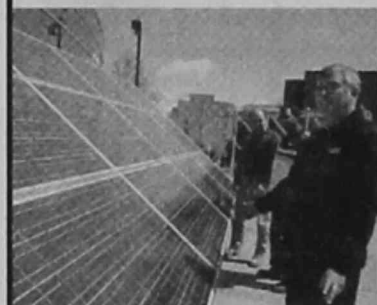


Holiday helping

Kiwanis Club president Mark Ott (from left), UAW Local 845 president Alison M. Hug and Patty Russo, Plymouth-Canton's assistant director of food & nutrition services, box up food boxes as the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools teamed up with members of UAW Local 845, Canton Kiwanis Club and local merchants to give families to have a happy holiday. The boxes were packed with donations from Kroger and CVS at Ann Arbor Road and Sheldon in Plymouth, CVS at Canton Center and Hanford in Canton and Aldi of Canton on Ford Road.

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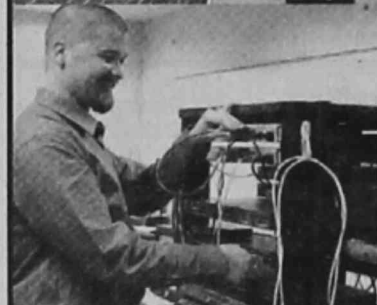
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'Beloved' gets its day in court

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

The decision about whether Toni Morrison's *Beloved* remains in Plymouth-Canton's advanced placement English curriculum could come as early as Tuesday after a lengthy hearing Wednesday night to determine its appropriateness for high school students.

The committee convened to determine the book's fate heard from parents complaining about its use and teachers who brought it into the curriculum, and had a chance to question both sides.

The committee will meet again Tuesday to consider a decision.

Though Wednesday's meeting was public, Tuesday's will not be as the committee debates the issue.

"I think it went very well," said Erin MacGregor, the district's director of secondary education who facilitated the committee. "It was an intellectual conversation. The committee members did their research and came with great questions."

The hearing was scheduled after a complaint was filed by Canton resident Matt Dame and his wife, Barb, alleging passages in the book were obscene and inappropriate for high school students. They made the same complaint about Graham Swift's *Water-*

land, a complaint that prompted Dr. Jeremy Hughes, Plymouth-Canton superintendent, to pull the book from the curriculum.

Waterland will also be reviewed by a committee, though that review process has yet to be scheduled.

The committee members — English teacher Leola Gee, social studies teacher Casey Swanson, Salem High School media specialist Mary McCarthy, Canton Public Library director Eva Davis, parent/school council president Kimberly Benjamin, parent/school council member David Larson, University of Michigan professor Dr. Klotylda Philippi, Assistant Principal

Jay Blaylock and English and science curriculum coordinator Kay Elastor — were required to read the book as part of the process.

In addition to questioning Dame, the panel also had questions for AP English teachers Gretchen Miller and Brian Read. It was Read who introduced *Beloved* into the curriculum 10 years ago.

Dame declined to comment on Wednesday's hearing.

"Both sides were heard," he said, declining to say more.

Read didn't return a phone call seeking comment.

MacGregor said under district guidelines, the meeting generally would not have been public. However, because the

issue has drawn such interest recently, district officials decided to open the meeting.

"We had a process in which the public has clearly shown an interest," MacGregor said. "We wanted this to be transparent, and I was happy to let the public see that."

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Ms. Ashley

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TRASH

Continued from page A1

gallons have complained, but Canton and CWR are firm in their decision to begin enforcing the rules in March.

Trimming costs

CWR owner Paul Denski Jr. has said the company has trimmed costs and used tax dollars wisely by typically placing just one worker on the back of a garbage truck to pick up trash.

"One guy can only lift up so much weight in one day," Denski has said. "The larger containers are too bulky and heavy to lift, and reaching down in them presents a huge health risk from things like broken glass. Nobody wants to get injured by

what's inside a garbage can."

Faas said the longtime rule had been set aside while Canton focused on other measures, such as initiating a curbside recycling program that has proven highly popular among residents.

Faas said officials have delayed enforcement until March 5, partly because local retailers that carry garbage containers had sold out of the smaller versions — though most places have since received new supplies.

Faas said some families may need to use more than one garbage container to comply with the 32-gallon or 50-pound limit. Moreover, households may choose to keep the larger bins and simply set their bags of trash by the

curb, though some fear that practice could draw animals rummaging for food.

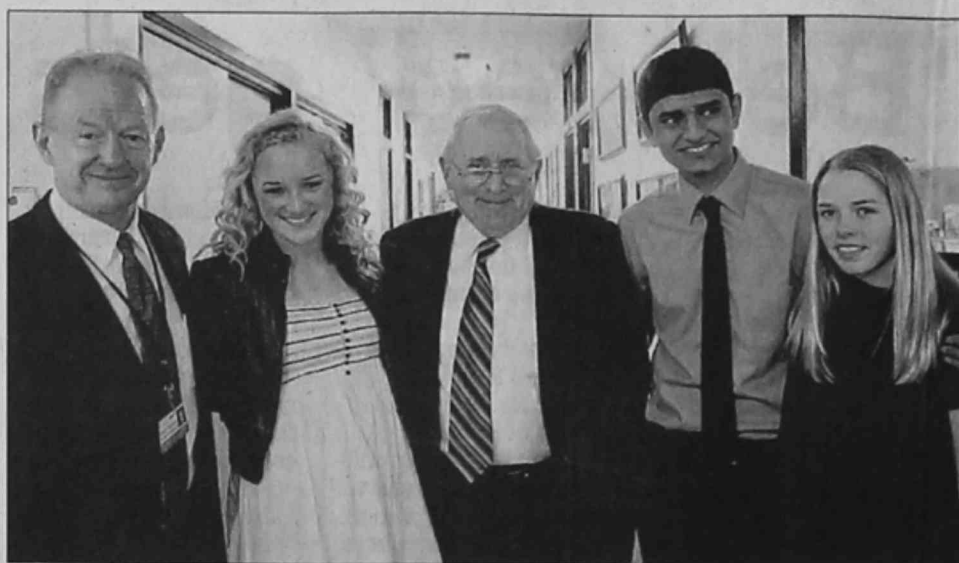
Local residents have been given months to prepare to comply with the garbage-collection rules, which CWR plans to enforce once the extension has expired.

Then, unless residents comply, their garbage "is going to be left at the curb," Faas said.

CWR has suggested that residents might want to spread word of the new rules in their neighborhoods.

Anyone who has questions may call Canton's Public Works Department at (734) 397-1011 or Canton Waste Recycling at (734) 397-5801.

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U.S. Sen. Carl Levin (center) poses with Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Principal Bill Zolkowski (left) and the three juniors who invited him to speak: Ashleigh Morton, Jineet Gandhi and Cassie Misiolek.

LEVIN

Continued from page A1

about what he'd still like to accomplish and about what Washington is like.

"After I took civics, I got more interested in politics," Gandhi said. "I want to learn more about it."

Levin talked to the kids a little about himself and how he got into politics, and how he views the cur-

rent political climate in Washington.

"It's much more divisive than it's ever been," Levin said. "I think the economy has something to do with it; it's harder in tough times. And the 24/7 news cycle demands people say something in a sharper, more simplistic way. That forces people into more extreme positions in order to get into the news cycle."

Salem junior Cassie

Misiolek wrote to Levin about the lack of jobs, particularly in Michigan, and was excited to hear what the senator had to say on the subject.

"I didn't think anyone would come to talk to high school kids, so I thought it was cool he came," Misiolek said. "I'm excited he came."

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W-W counsel asks Goci to 'disavow' comments

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Wayne-Westland's legal counsel has put a school board member on notice that he does not appreciate comments that were made during an Aug. 16 committee meeting.

Attorney Robert Lusk, who has represented the school district for more than 20 years, has asked board Vice President John Goci to "publicly disavow" comments he made about the type of legal counsel he would like to see the district hire.

Lusk said the comments, which were reported in a story in the Jan. 8 *Observer*,

unfairly made an issue of his integrity.

"Never in my entire career has anyone accused me of not being accountable to my clients or of putting my personal interests before those of my clients," Lusk wrote in a letter sent Monday to Goci. "Never has anyone met reason to make such an accusation."

The comments were taken from minutes of an Aug. 16 committee meeting in which Goci, board President Carol Middel and Trustee Thomas Buckalew met with school officials to begin developing a request for proposal for legal services. It was Goci who had recom-

mended that the board not approve the firm of Lusk and Albertson as the district's general legal counsel, but rather seek RFPs "to see what the market has to offer."

The *Observer* obtained the copies of the minutes for the Aug. 16 and Oct. 13 committee meetings, as well as the RFP, as part of a Freedom of Information Act request it filed with the district.

Goci responded to Lusk in a letter Tuesday, telling him that he doesn't know why he "should disavow those statements" and reiterated all of the items he wanted in a law firm that were included in the meeting minutes.



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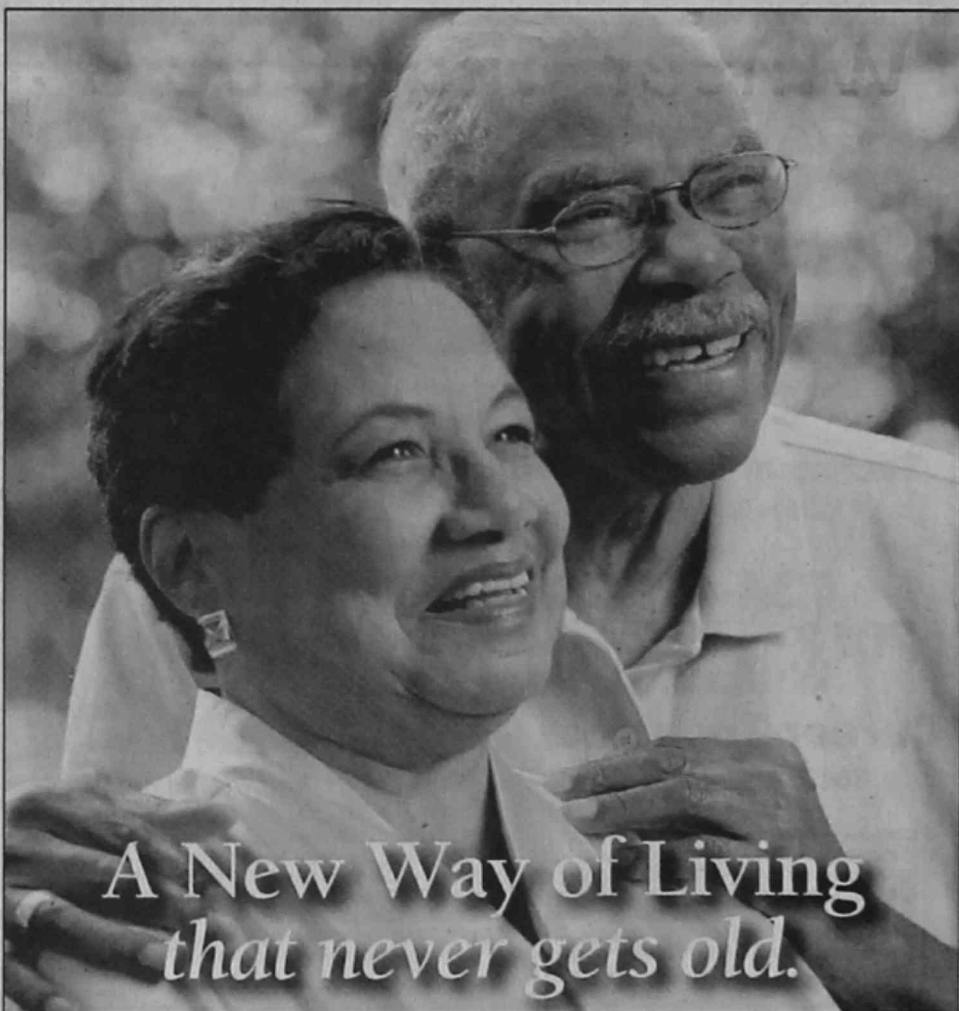
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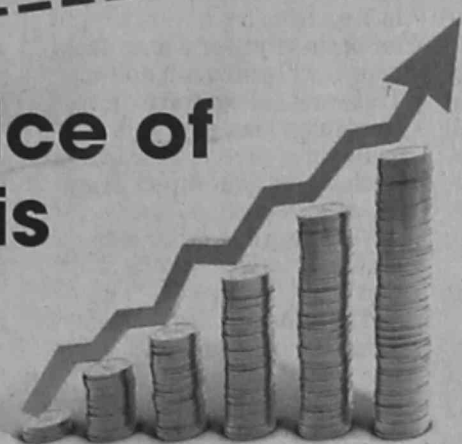
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Move to Texas means some changes are needed

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Q: Dear Rick: I am retired and receive a pension and Social Security. Partly because of the changes to Michigan's tax law, I've decided to move to Texas. I sold my home and I plan on renting in Texas for at least a couple of years and then I may buy something. I have several questions regarding my move. Do I need to do anything with my estate plan? I have a will and a trust and powers of attorney. Secondly, currently for all my banking needs I use a credit union here in Michigan. Can I continue to use that when I go to Texas? And do I need to change the registration of my car to Texas?

A: I want to wish you good luck on your move to Texas. Texas' gain is Michigan's loss. First, with regards to your estate plan, you typically do not have to change your will and trust. More likely than not when your will and trust were drafted there was a pro-



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

vision included stating that if there were any disputes they would be governed by Michigan law. Therefore, even though you're in Texas, Michigan law would still govern. Therefore, if you're happy with your estate plan and it is up to date, then you really do not have to change your will and trust. However, it is a different story when we talk about powers of attorney.

When someone moves to a different state, I generally recommend that they draft new medical durable powers of attorney and general durable powers of attorney. I believe it is better to redo your powers of attorney based upon the laws of the state where you will reside. In that

regard, you may find that you don't necessarily have to see an attorney. There are many free fill-in-the-blank forms, particularly when it comes to medical durable powers of attorney. For example, in Michigan we have the Michigan Patient Advocate form, which is a free medical durable power of attorney available on my website (www.bloomassetmanagement.com). Other states, including Texas, also have forms that you can use that work just as well as any document an attorney can draft.

With regards to using your same credit union for such things as your direct deposit or Social Security and your pension, there are no problems. However, you will want to verify whether the credit union is geared to handle out-of-state customers. For example, when you need cash, will you be able to visit any ATM machine, and what about the fees involved? If you find that the credit union

is not geared for out-of-state clients, to avoid the hassle of resetting up your direct deposits, you may want to open an account at a local credit union in Texas and have it, on a regular basis, transfer money from your Michigan credit union. This would allow you to have something local and, at the same time, save you the hassle of changing your direct deposits and direct transfers.

With regards to your automobile, I definitely believe that once you move to Texas and become a Texas resident, your car should be retitled and you should obtain new automobile insurance. Auto insurance is not standard throughout the country and policies differ. What I want to prevent is if you are in an accident in Texas, your current insurance trying to renege on their obligations. You and I both know insurance companies conveniently look for ways not to pay claims,

therefore, it makes sense, since you will be a Texas resident, to retitle your car and obtain new insurance in Texas.

One last note and that is to invest the money from the proceeds of your home wisely. If you are going to buy something in Texas over the next couple of years, CDs may be your best bet. On the other hand, if the money is for more long-term goals, don't forget that even in Texas you're going to need a rising income. You want to make sure that you have a portfolio that has some equities.

Good luck in Texas and never forget, if things don't work out, you can always come home. Good luck!

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



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Deadline nears for Sagear award

The Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. is striving to recognize a Plymouth-Canton school district high school senior who has overcome adversity with its annual Sandra Sagear Scholarship.

Club officials are looking for students who have displayed cour-

age, perseverance, spirit, and creativity in succeeding in achieving an education, despite a physical, mental or emotional barrier. Applicants will have also shown an appreciation of others and a commitment to their community.

The recipient of this award will receive a \$500 scholarship. This award is named after Sandra Sagear, a 1969 graduate of the original Plymouth High School who imagined and believed she could succeed as she lived every day with polio.

The scholarship is being funded by Critter Catchers, Inc., of Ortonville (www.Crittercatchersinc.com), and Sandra Sagear's family: Tim and Donna Sagear, Jimmy and Vonnie Bench, Tiffany and James Lambert and Joshua and Lisa Bench.

Applications are available at school counselor's offices or by e-mailing Deb Madonna (Debra@miracleleagueplymouth.org). Application deadline is March 23; the award will be announced April 1.

Send applications to Deb Madonna, Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M., 40200 Pinetree, Plymouth, MI 48170.

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FRI/SAT LS 11:20

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST (G)
11:40 AM

CONTRABAND (R)
11:30, 2:00, 4:35, 7:00, 9:35
FRI/SAT LS 12:00

THE DEVIL INSIDE (R)
12:00, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:25
FRI/SAT LS 11:30

WE BOUGHT A ZOO (PG)
11:05, 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45

SHERLOCK HOLMES: A GAME OF SHADOWS (PG-13)
11:00, 1:40, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
FRI/SAT LS 11:25

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: CHIPWRECKED (G)
12:10, 2:25, 4:40, 6:50, 9:00

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2012 6:00 P.M.

PLEASE NOTE that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, February 2, 2012 commencing at 6:00 p.m., to consider:

- o Application 1487: The applicant is in the ARC zoning district and is requesting one variance to add a bathroom addition of 189 square feet. The required rear yard setback is 20 feet, the requested rear yard setback would be 11 feet 8 inches, and the requested variance is 8 foot 4 inches.

The meeting will be held at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

For further information contact Plymouth Township Building Department 734 354-3210.

Publish: January 15, 2012

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HGTV's Cucksey turns old into new at warehouse

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Whether it's furniture from the 1950s, an antique sewing machine or an old record player, there is probably something for everyone at the Re-Purpose Estate Services warehouse in Westland.

"Believe it or not, taxidermy is hot right now. There is a collector for everything," said Cari Cucksey, owner of Re-Purpose and host of HGTV's *Cash and Cari* program.

The company's location on Commerce Drive will be the site of a silent auction event 6-10:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 27, and warehouse sale 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28. The silent auction will include some art sculptures and high-end items along with some midrange items.

"We've been having monthly warehouse sales. It seems to be catching on. People come from all over — Tennessee and Ohio — which is great," said Cucksey, who also has a 1,700-square-foot store in downtown Northville.

Old to new

The warehouse space houses an office, storage and also creative space for Cucksey who, as the company's name indicates, repurposes old items into new uses.

An estate liquidator for about 12 years, Cucksey's business has been in the warehouse for four years. The store opened in conjunction with the television show, which started filming just over a year ago.

"We opened the store as a result of the television show. Northville is small town America. We live there, so it made sense," said Cucksey, whose business partner is her husband, Vince Iafano. "The show and the shop have been fantastic. It has definitely been a blessing for business, especially in this economy."

Growing up in the 1908 Sears and Roebuck house, Cucksey said her family was always into antiques.

"I love a little bit of everything. I love mid-century modern, Art Nouveau," she said. "I have a little knowledge about a lot of things. That's good for a liquidator. You learn



Cari Cucksey, host of HGTV's 'Cash and Cari' program, is based out of a Westland warehouse.



An antique sewing machine at the Re-Purpose Estate Services warehouse in Westland.

a lot on the job."

With about 20 employees, Cucksey's firm handles estate sales which have a minimum \$10,000 value and also will buy all or some of a home's contents when an estate sale isn't possible or wanted by the owners. It's not

always a sale after the owners have died.

"It's really a mixed bag. There are a lot of people who are downsizing. They get caught up with buy-



This is only some of the items that will be available during a warehouse sale coming up at Re-Purpose Estate Services in Westland.



Toy trains are on display at Re-Purpose Estate Services.

ing too much or maybe they've been bequeathed an estate and don't know

what to do with it," said Cucksey. "We don't take a lot on consignment and

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Phone: (248) 735-0500

we don't take a lot of collectibles, like Hummels (figurines)."

Positive trend

Estates are becoming more popular, which Cucksey sees as a positive trend.

"I hope that people are more conscious and not so quick to throw away things," she said. "If you buy more vintage and antiques, you'll be more green. But you're also sharing stories and traditions. I think I help facilitate that."

To that end, Cucksey has an affiliate business training people to start estate sale business.

As filming gets under way for a new series of *Cash and Cari*, Cucksey filmed at the Northville store on Thursday. She was joined by three other appraisers to give opinions on the value of items brought into the store by the public.

The warehouse is located at 5930 Commerce Drive in Westland. The store is located at 133 W. Main St., Northville.

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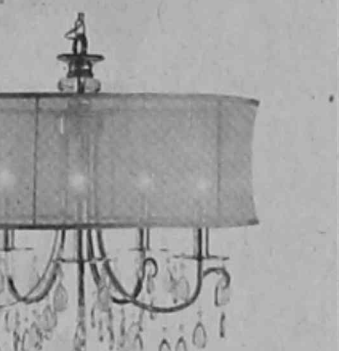
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Rachel graduates, as family and friends cheer

By Ken Abramczyk
Observer Staff Writer

Everyone rose for the graduate.

Wearing Livonia Churchill's red graduation cap and gown, Rachel Collett stood up out of her wheelchair and walked to Steven Archibald, director of secondary programs and facilities for the Livonia Public Schools, who presented Rachel her diploma at a special graduation ceremony Friday afternoon to a chorus of cheers and a few hoots and hollers from the crowd.

Churchill Principal Joe Anderson said it was "with great honor" to present the diploma, then choked up with emotion as he said: "Please move your tassel from right to left as a symbol of your graduation from Churchill High School."

Rachel then removed her cap and tossed it into the air as the crowd of family, friends and fellow students cheered for her.

It was a triumphant moment for Rachel, who's been battling a rare form of osteosarcoma, a bone cancer, for six years and is currently under hospice care.

Courage, hard work

During the ceremony, Anderson spoke of Rachel's courage and perseverance in achieving one of her goals: graduating. "It's because of students like you that we appreciate what we're able to do at Churchill," Anderson said. "You've shown the phenomenal



ROY COLLETT PUSHES DAUGHTER RACHEL COLLETT TO THE ENTRANCE OF CHURCHILL HIGH SCHOOL. RACHEL HOLDS THE BAG CONTAINING HER CAP AND GOWN.

ability to rise time and time again, to face the challenges and receive your high school diploma."

Janet Haas, principal at the Livonia Career Technical Center, spoke about Rachel's hard work in her studies and personal character of honesty and honor in receiving a Livonia Rotary vocational service award for her vocational skills and awareness. Rachel had earned some college

credit through the medical assistance program at the Livonia Career Technical Center.

Mary Trotter, a medical assistance instructor, called Rachel a courageous young woman and an exemplary student in her medical assistance studies. Rachel also practiced on the school's cheerleading team and still had time to coach seventh- and eighth-grade cheerleaders, Trotter said. Rachel also

assisted with a Rouge River cleanup and United Way projects.

"Her work ethic is amazing and she sets the standards for other students," Trotter said.

Emotional ceremony

Rachel stepped forward to accept her diploma and hugged Trotter. Seated next to her were her best friends at Churchill: seniors Angela Bannoura, Renee Johnstone, Amber Prong and Lindsay Willey, who also walked and assisted Rachel in her wheelchair as she entered and exited the auditorium stage.

Before the ceremony, Anderson said school officials were "thrilled" to be able to grant one of her wishes.

"She's been so courageous in coming to school when things have been difficult," Anderson said.

Anderson called the event "bittersweet" and one of the most emotional for him in the 21 years he has been an administrator.

"One of the biggest things about her is she never complained about things," he said. "She has managed to work her life around the treatment, and she would tell doctors, 'We can't do this right now, I have cheerleading,' or she would have some other activity."

"For her to have that mindset is phenomenal."

Mary Lennox, a teacher consultant who taught Rachel while Rachel was homebound, repeated what other school officials said about her.

"I have never met a kid as hardworking as her," Lennox said. "When she was so sick, she was still doing her math. She was worried about her algebra."

'Thank you, everybody'

After the ceremony, Rachel was given flowers and graduation cards and greeted with applause.

"Thank you, everybody!" she said to the small crowd outside Anderson's office.

A reception took place in Anderson's office for family and friends.

Rachel's father Roy Collett held a giant bear and greeted visitors, while Audrey, Rachel's mother, sat next to Rachel as she accepted congratulations.

Roy said he didn't have words to describe the day's ceremony.

"It was great," Roy said. "The staff of all the schools have been great, at Johnson, Frost and Churchill, the teachers and staff have all been a big deal. They have helped us a lot with everything."



STEVE KING AND THE DITTILIES, HERE PERFORMING A SHOW IN LAS VEGAS OVER THE HOLIDAYS, HEADLINE THE FEB. 10 FUNDRAISER FOR THE CANTON PARTNERSHIP FOR THE ARTS & HUMANITIES.

King headlines arts fundraiser

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Fresh off a fall fundraiser that raised more than twice what it brought in last year, the Canton Partnership for the Arts and Humanities will try it again this spring.

And this time, the partnership is turning to a local favorite to raise both funds and exposure for the arts in Canton and surrounding communities.

Steve King and the Dittilies, playing their brand of rock favorites from the 1930s on, headlines "Rock-n-Roll Valentine's," a Feb. 10 concert at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton. The event starts with a 7 p.m. reception, followed by the 8 p.m. concert.

"The wonderful thing about Steve King is they play rock-and-roll hits from the '30s on, spiced with comedy," said Jill Breen Engel, director of the Partnership. "He plays classic music that appeals to you if you're 20, or if you're 80. People can sing it, they can dance to it, they can relate to it."

The Partnership is flushed with the success of their October fundraiser, which featured Rod Stewart tribute act Danny Dee. That event raised \$6,350, more than double the \$2,999 raised at the 2010 fundraiser.

Engel said they tried to make the Danny Dee appearance "more of an event" that just a concert, including a reception and an afterglow at Hayden's in Canton.

"We've done a lot more marketing with the Partnership and the Village Theater," Engel said of the event's success. "Rod Stewart's music covers a larger age range, so it appealed to a wider age group."

The idea behind this new fundraiser — the first February fundraiser the Partnership has tried — is to bring even more exposure not only to the arts in general, but to the Village Theater, which draws its biggest audiences from Plymouth, Canton, Livonia, Westland and surrounding communities.

"If I have an opportunity to gain more exposure for the Partnership and the theater, and to raise another \$10,000, why wouldn't I?" Engel said. "People want to see concerts like that at the Village Theater."

Engel and her husband, Frank, are among the sponsors of this event; other sponsors are Glenn and Patty Shaw and Don and Colleen Soenen.

Appetizers will be provided at the reception by PF Changs of Northville and Station 885 in Plymouth, while the dessert comes from The Chop House in Ann Arbor.

Showroom of Elegance and Indigo Salon and Day Spa will be conducting Valentine's Day promotions. Hayden's Grill & Bar is the site of the afterglow following the event.

"Our event is about having fun, and promoting the Village Theater," Engel said. "If we can bring in new theater patrons to an event like this, and then they get a look at the schedule for the rest of the year, they're going to be back."

ARTS CENTER STAGE

What: "Rock-n-roll Valentine's" concert

Why: To benefit the Canton Partnership for the Arts and Humanities

When: Friday, Feb. 10; reception at 7 p.m.; concert at 8

Who: Features local favorite Steve King and the Dittilies

Where: Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton

Highlights: Reception features food from Station 885, PF Changs of Northville and The Chop House; Showroom of Elegance and Indigo Salon & Day Spa with Valentine's promotions

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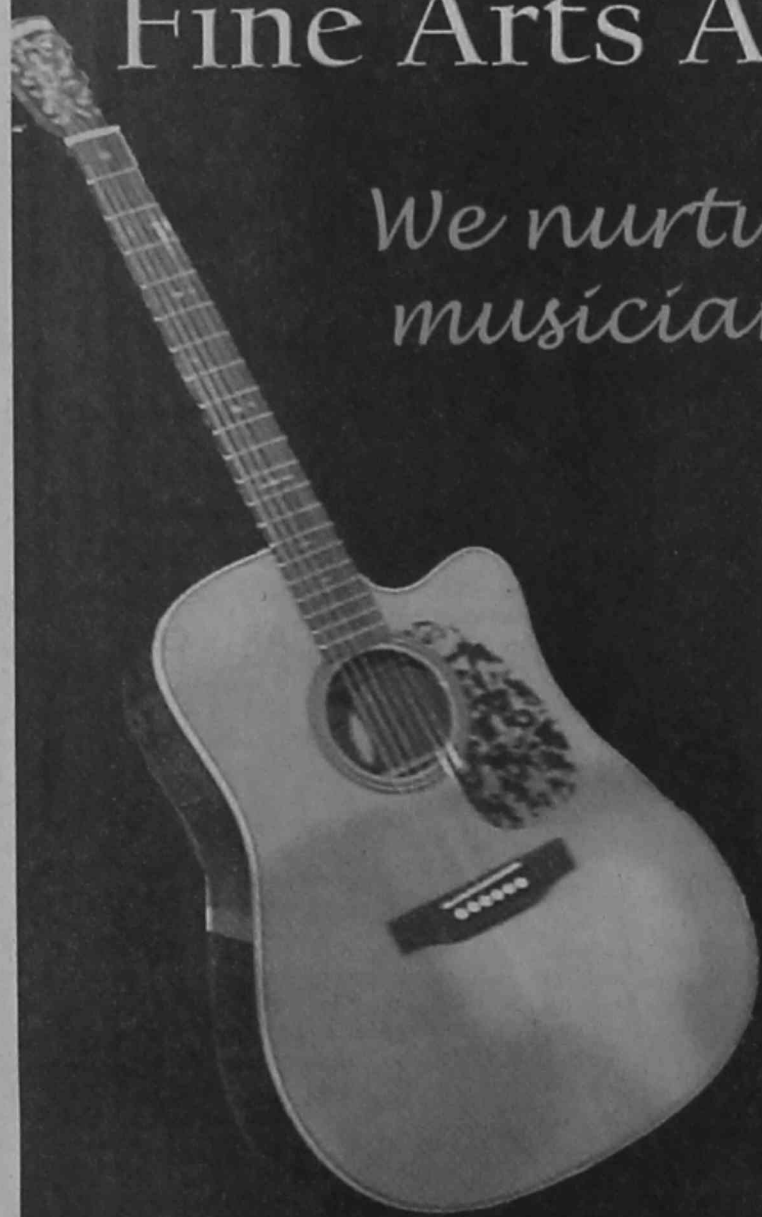
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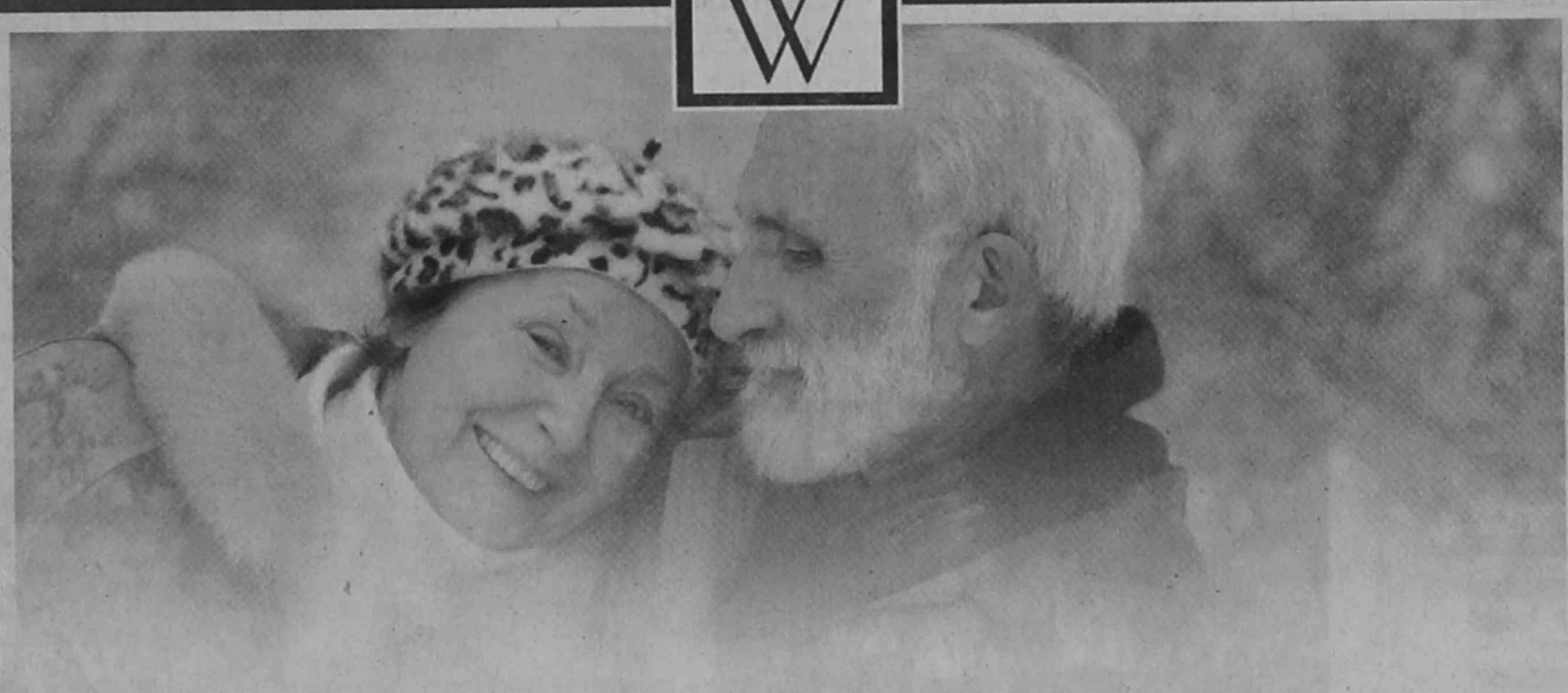
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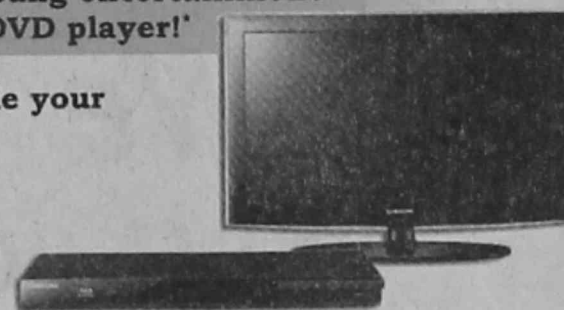
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ADVERTISING FEATURE

Premier Athletics in nearby Plymouth encourages youths to jump in for fun

By Dennis Zelazny
Contributing Writer

January is always an exciting time of the year and after talking with Lisa Hemmie, Director of Premier Athletics you can't help but to want to step it up! Hemmie makes sure that everyone that she talks to is aware that they are there to help educate and teach kids of all ages to be self confident and to do their best, while incorporating a huge fun factor. That's what the most important part of being involved is, having fun. Weather you are a beginner or an elite athlete, this is the place to experience cheerleading, hip-hop and the gymnastic industry.

Premier Athletics is the place where girls and boys of all ages can come and participate! There are no tryouts; all youths will be placed in groups that are age and level appropriate. They have room for everyone; there is even a Parent Cheerleader Team.

They are the home of Michigan Xtreme, which offers classes for full and limited travel Cheerleading and Hip Hop teams. If you are looking for an opportunity for unlimited fun and excitement this is the place. They also have opportunities for special needs participants.

They offer classes at various levels from the beginner to the elite athletes that include tumbling, cheerleading and hip-hop. If you have a little one, you can start them off early in a pre-school program that they call "Little Explorers." Premier Athletics also offer open gym time as well.

All the classes are geared to help your child explore new opportunities and expand their horizons. This is a great opportunity to get the skills they might desire that will help them land

that spot on your schools athletic team. They work with many of the schools in the area and are aware of the requirements needed to be part those teams. If your not sure you want to be part of a team, that's okay they also offer tumbling, cheerleading and dance classes that do not require a team commitment as well.

"Premier Athletics is a place for everyone," says Hemmie, "Anyone can do this and have fun doing it."

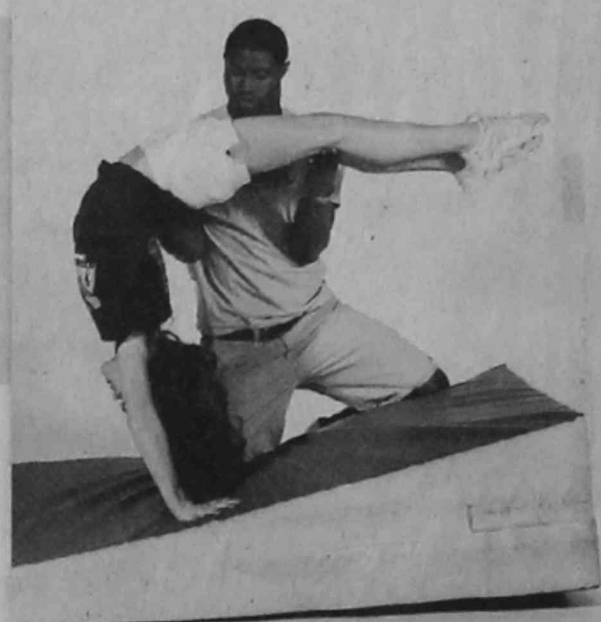
If you like the cheer team environment, with a cheerleading team that is performance based, similar to what you would see on "ESPN" for example, Hemmie says, "Bring it on!" And the best part is that they are friendly to everyone, this means everyone can join in on the fun and participate "There are no side benches or asking students to sit this one out."

You will find 100% enthusiasm and equal excitement on a whole new level in this gym. They even take that same enthusiasm to the streets when they are involved with community support groups such as Breast Cancer Awareness programs, The Children's Hospital and coat drives for local churches to name a few. They believe in sharing the fun that they experience and produce.

Michigan Xtreme has been in business for 5 years before they merged with Premier Athletics in 2006 and became a subsidiary of Varsity Brands (VBI Ventures) the largest cheerleading organization in the world. That makes this location a Varsity Exclusive, a title no one else in Michigan has.

The benefits of being part of Premier Athletics, is that it brings in the best trainers that have the "latest and greatest"

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SUBMITTED PHOTOS

While building skills, safety is a key feature in all of the programs offered at Premier Athletics.



Premier Athletics offers a state of the art facility, conveniently located in Plymouth. A fun place to learn Cheerleading and Hip Hop skills from the professionals.

techniques available anywhere. Trainers like Steve Butcher, a member of the USA gymnastics board of Directors/Executive committee and one of two USA men's judges worldwide for the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, China. All of the local instructors are nationally certified in technical and safety and in CPR/First aid. They are proud of their highly credentialed organization that scores way above average for training their athletes.

You will find many local celebrities have attended classes here. Miley Cyrus is a fan of the cheerleading industry and was a participant in at the Knoxville Premier Athletics sister gym. Recently Premier partnered with an Ann Arbor group in support of

the Anti-Bullying program, it resulted with a spot appearance on the popular Ariel & Zoey and Eli, too Show.

Hemmie likes the idea of putting together a positive message and having fun, because it makes everything worth all the effort. Everyone can be a cheerleader or participate in Hip Hop because she feels anyone can be trained to be a participant. The atmosphere at the gym is similar to a theater at times, having spotlights, cameras and all the action for dancing, stunts and fun times. Best of all there is always something to learn. Students love being there and it gives them a chance to do their best and be with their friends while having lots of fun.

Hemmie has more energy than most and

is always adding new programs that appeal to everyone. The driven ones, the ones that didn't make the team and those that would like to try and perhaps take it to the next level. Premier Athletics works with kids and their families, helping them understand what it's like to be in a team environment and that every individual contributes to the greater goal.

Premier Athletics Michigan Xtreme-Headquarters, is located at 9229 General Drive, they are just south of Ann Arbor Rd. and north of Joy Rd., minutes off of 275, in Plymouth, Michigan. They can be reached at 734-737-0560 or visit their web site at: www.mixcheer.com. Their email contact is: mixcheer@premierathletics.com



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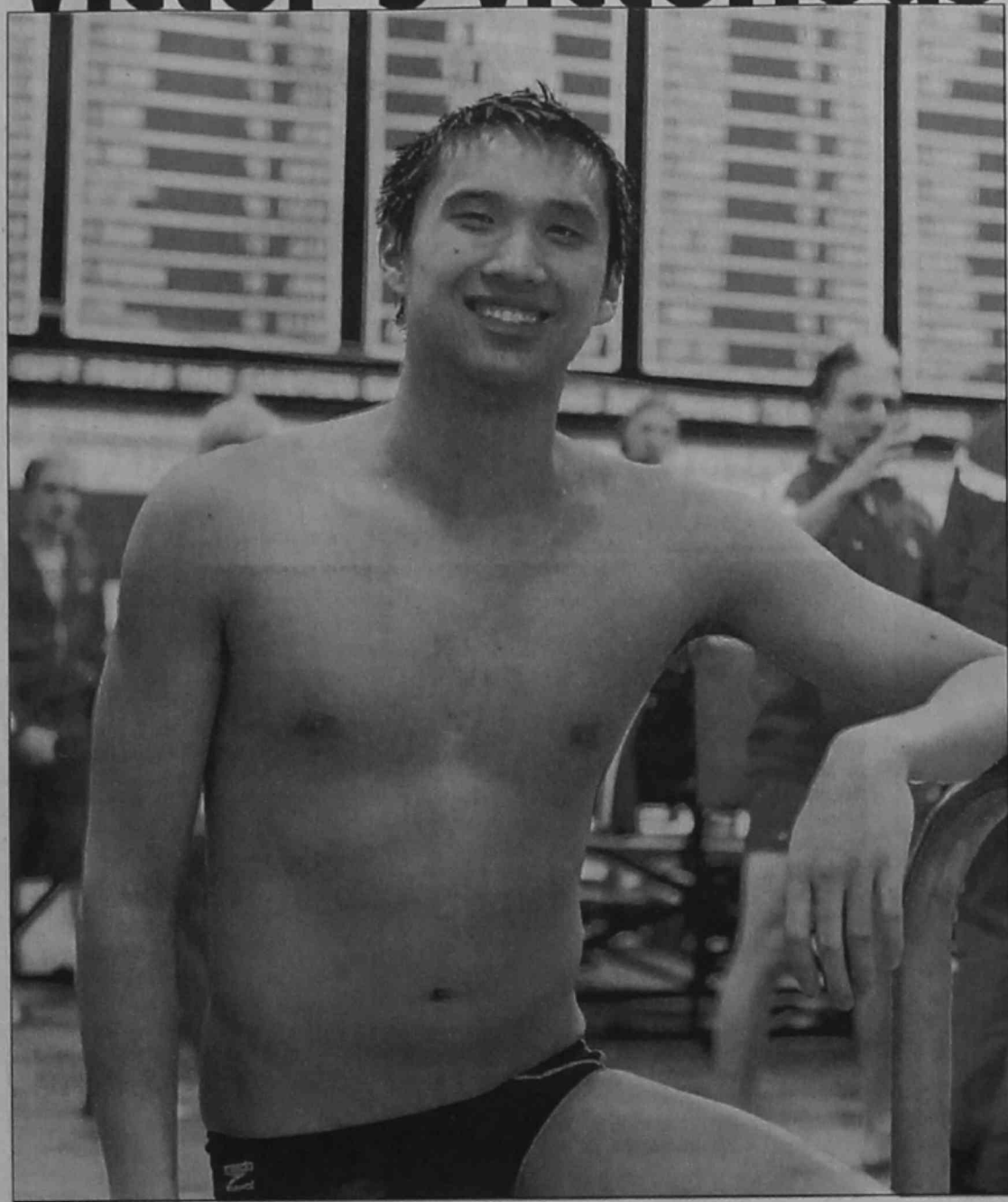
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Victor's victorious



JOHN KEMSKI

After setting three Canton pool records Thursday, Victor Zhang of the Chiefs proudly poses in front of the leader board his name will be prominently displayed on.

Talented, tireless Zhang sets three Canton pool records

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Canton senior swimmer Victor Zhang had just set new records in three events Thursday night, yet there he was almost by himself getting in a few extra laps.

That kind of desire to keep pushing himself — instead of savoring his big night and a team victory — is what Zhang said is key to the success he continues to have with the Chiefs.

"I just finished the training over winter break where we do two practices a day," Zhang said. "Coming back from that to single practices, it really gets you ready for stuff like this."

"And I'm also extremely pumped for this meet because it's the Park rivalry."

Told about Zhang's post-meet efforts Thursday, following the Chiefs 110-76 win over visiting Plymouth, Canton varsity boys swimming and diving coach Dave Le merely nodded his head.

"He has drive and determination," Le said. "He won the state meet last year in the 100 backstroke and he wants to repeat as champion again this year."

"He's focused on trying to do the best he can, both for himself and for Canton. He's also looking towards the future, his collegiate career. It's been very impressive to watch his self-motivation."

Zhang, who was both all-state and All-American in 2010-11, broke Canton's team record in the 500-yard free-style with a time of 4:40.19. That bested the previous mark of 4:44.01 set in 1993 by Michael Orris.

It also was the fastest time for that event in the Canton pool.

The Chiefs' co-captain added venue records in the 50 free (a personal best of 21.41, breaking Jeff Clark's 18-year mark of 22.26) and 100 free (47.84).

The latter actually came in the opening leg of the 400 free relay. Because Zhang opened the race, it is consid-

Please see ZHANG, B3

BOYS BASKETBALL

Canton D-feats Wildcats

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

When Canton senior forward Paul Baumgart dunked the basketball in the closing seconds Friday night, he pumped his fist almost in relief.

The Chiefs — and Baumgart, especially early — struggled against campus rival Plymouth, but came out of the KLAA South Division boys basketball tilt with a 40-29 victory.

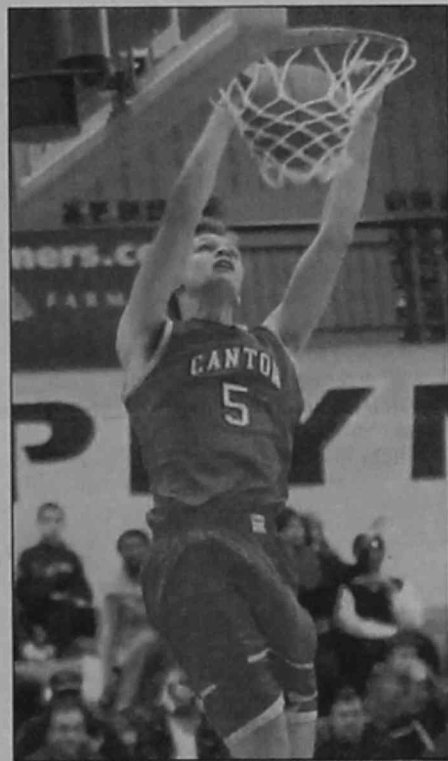
"We got the lead, we just had to pick it up and play good defense and we got the 'W,'" said Baumgart, who scored eight of his 10 points in the fourth, when the Chiefs finally pulled away. "I love these kind of games and my teammates do, too. It was a great environment."

Plymouth (4-4, 2-1) made just 28 percent of its shots from the floor, but still kept it close, trailing just 30-27 with 3:32 left following a layup by Brendan Swanson.

But the Wildcats missed a string of shots around the basket and the Chiefs (7-2, 2-1) made them pay with a 10-2 run to close out the proceedings.

Baumgart shared scoring honors for the Chiefs with Kyle Adams and he

Please see HOOP, B2



Paul Baumgart's closing slam Friday night put an exclamation point on Canton's win over Plymouth.

Cranes stop Penguins

The Division 1 Cranbrook Kingswood Cranes had too much depth for the Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins, winning 2-0 in Tuesday's girls hockey matchup at Arctic Edge Arena in Canton.

Despite a 40-save effort from PCS goalie Kaitlyn Allard, the Penguins were not able to solve Cranes netminder and 2010-11 Miss Hockey Colleen Jacoby.

Both goals were scored in the second period by Sydney Sawka.

The Penguins dropped to 4-2 overall and 4-0 in Division 2 of the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League. Cranbrook is 5-1 overall and 4-1 in D1 of the league.

"We had a hard time in the second period with getting stuck in our own end and not being able to make quick changes," PCS head coach Mary Beth Johnson said. "Without the quick changes, we started to get tired. We only have two lines where Cranbrook was rolling three or four lines on us."

"Both goals against us were scored in the second period as our lines just couldn't seem to break the puck out of the zone."

PCS will host Grosse Pointe South at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, at Arctic Edge.

Call in results

Coaches are reminded to call or e-mail sports editor Tim Smith with results of games, matches and meets. He can be reached at (734) 469-4128 or via e-mail at tsmith@hometownlife.com.

1st pitch for MU baseball

Terry Foster of WXYT-FM (97.1) and The Detroit News will be the featured speaker as the Madonna University baseball team will stage its annual 1st Pitch banquet beginning at 5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28, at the Italian American Club in Livonia.

Tickets, which are tax-deductible, are \$60 each or \$110 per pair. Youth tickets are \$30 (12 and under).

For more information, call Bill Hardin at (734) 560-0820 or e-mail bjhwolves@aol.com.

Table sponsorships are also available and reservations must be received by Jan. 20.

Raffle items are also needed as donations.

Churchill slams Salem

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

High-flying Livonia Churchill on Friday gave Salem an up-close look at why they're near the top of the Division 1 boys hockey rankings.

The No. 3 Chargers dominated their KLAA South Division opponent for most of the contest at Eddie Edgar Arena in Livonia, rolling to a 6-1 victory.

Leading the rout with two goals and two assists each were senior forwards Jake Otto and Devin Smythe, while senior forward Nick Proben and junior forward Thomas Carey each collected two helpers.

"If you were to ask them if they

gave their best effort tonight the answer would be no," said Salem head coach Ryan Ossenmacher, whose team had battled tough Brighton to a 3-3 tie two nights earlier. "I think there's a lot more in the tank to give. But a lot of that has to do with the team we faced tonight."

"I don't think we've played a team as fast as they are yet, so decisions that are made in other games that worked, they don't work out here."

Scoring for the Rocks (5-6-1-1, 3-3-1-1) was sophomore forward Jack Driscoll, from sophomore forward Jake Sealy and senior defenseman Michael Manser.

Please see HOCKEY, B4



Salem goalie Parker Godfrey (No. 30) holds his ground Friday night, stopping an in-close scoring attempt by Brad Milks (No. 23) of Livonia Churchill.



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BOYS WRESTLING RESULTS

DUAL MEET RESULTS WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 36 CANTON 24 Jan. 11 at John Glenn 103 pounds: Kyle Gillies (WJG) pinned Bobbi Kincaid, 1:14; 112: Ben Griffin (C) p. Rod Watts (WJG), 1:23; 119: Richard DeMa-rois (C) decisioned Austin Hart-ford, 7-2; 125: Austin Pillmar (C) dec. Quinn DuPraw, 10-8; 130: Keshav Patel (C) won by major dec. over Brett Quinn, 11-2; 135: Jesse O'Neal (WJG) dec. Mark Pryz, 3-1; 140: Alec Pantaleo (C) won by technical fall over DeAndré Moore, 18-2; 145: Zach Marsh (C) dec. Keven Wacker, 12-8; 152: Anthony Long (WJG) p. Dylan DeClue, 0:26; 160: Travis Mann (WJG) p. Ryan Morelli, 0:48; 171: Danny Croft (WJG) p. Pat Murphy, 0:44; 189: Chris McCowan (WJG) p. Alex Cole, 1:00; 215: Jordan Brandon (WJG) p. Scott O'Brecht, 0:31;	285: Dylan Morantes (WJG) dec. K.J. Wooley, 6-3. STEVENSON 42 SALEM 36 Jan. 11 at Novi 103 pounds: Marco Lytwyn (LS) pinned Joey Taylor, 1:30; 112: Alex Arble (Salem) p. Em-manuel Austin, 1:03; 119: Caleb McCabe (Salem) won by void; 125: Cody Korpus (Salem) won by void; 130: Darren Tran (LS) won by void; 135: Jacob Tennis (LS) won by void; 140: Corey Da-vid (LS) p. Justin Cook, 1:10; 145: Kody Roy (LS) p. Riley Duxtader, 0:51; 152: Samer Shebak (LS) p. Connor Thornburgh, 0:36; 160: Tyler Grosse (Salem) p. Joe Carroll, 3:56; 171: Alex Brown (Salem) p. Jacob Kelley, 2:35; 189: Joe Scott (LS) decisioned Mitch Gross, 7-5; 215: Jacob Range (LS) dec. Jake McCabe, 12-7; 285: Ali Alamo (Salem) p. Ricky Roy, 5:13.	WAYNE MEMORIAL 47 PLYMOUTH 28 Jan. 11 at Wayne Memorial 103 pounds: Jeffery Harris (P) pinned Jake Preiss, 0:46; 112: Tyler Mulligan (WM) p. Daniel Ahern, 4:11; 119: Trey Berry (P) decisioned Tim Way, 6-4; 125: Chase Kallil (P) dec. Tristan Jarosic-wicz, 6-2; 130: Jon Conn (P) p. Michael Gossett, 2:54; 135: Devon Adams (WM) p. Hussian Youssef, 4:54; 140: Said Youssef (P) won by major dec. over Michael Nicholson, 10-1; 145: Allen Parker (WM) p. Samuel Campbell, 1:31; 152: Sharif Hegazi (WM) p. Terek Tamimi, 1:12; 160: Matt Walsh (P) p. Sam Ekanem, 2:45; 171: Lucas Hofbauer (WM) won by technical fall over Joseph Sharer, 17-1; 189: Devin Korzetki (WM) p. Matt Ayoub, 0:30; 215: Aaron Mauldin (WM) p. Faris Abraham, 1:23; 285: Dimitrus Renfroe (WM) p. Adam Dulong, 0:37.
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SYLVIES PHOTOGRAPHY

Detroit Moose captain Derek Fowler (No. 14) and Red Wings alum Darren McCarty (No. 25) take part in a ceremonial opening puck drop before Saturday's charity hockey game at Arctic Edge Arena. Also pictured is Joe Kocur of the Wings alums and the family of Joe Hradil, who died of complications from diabetes.

HOOP

Continued from page B1

led the team with nine rebounds. Scott Gring scored six.

Leading the Wildcats were Josh Priebe and Sid Acharya, with eight and seven points, respectively.

"The cross-campus rivalry, it's always going to be close games, highly contested," Canton head coach Jimmy Reddy said. "The atmosphere was great tonight. Plymouth's got some really skilled guys, they're well-coached and play hard.

"I just think in the fourth quarter we were outstanding defensively. We made a few more plays than them."

According to Plymouth head coach Mike Soukup, his team just couldn't bounce back from the middle quarters.

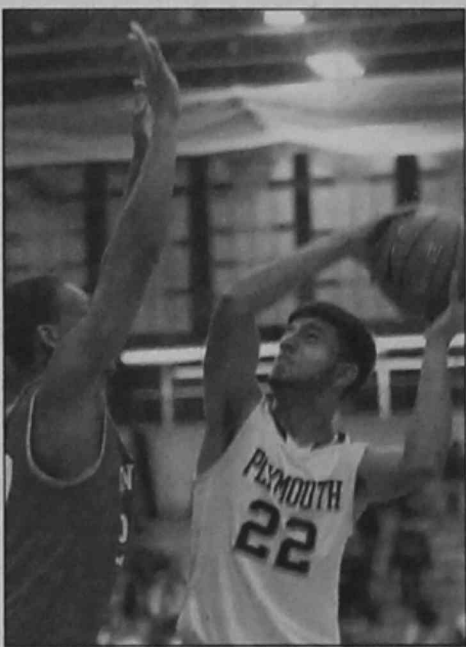
The Wildcats scored just two points in the second and three in the third. Canton outscored Plymouth 9-3 in that quarter to go up 25-17.

"When we have a bad third quarter like we did, just couldn't hit a bucket, it really stymies us," Soukup said. "We can't have a three-point quarter, not at the varsity level, and expect to get anything positive accomplished."

Although Soukup credited the Chiefs for playing solid 'D,' "I thought we got some open looks and we just weren't able to knock them in."

STEVENSON 67, SALEM 57: Host Livonia Stevenson became the first team to defeat Salem with this Friday night KLAA Central Division win.

Scoring 11 points each for the Rocks



Plymouth's Sid Acharya (No 22) eyes the basket over the outstretched arms of Canton's Terrell Sewell (No. 20) on Friday night.

(8-1, 2-1) were Tyler Stewart and Chris Dierker, while Josh Peterson added 10. Salem got behind the eight-ball early, trailing 25-9 after the first quarter.

LIGGETT 64, PCA 59: Grosse Pointe Woods University Liggett defeated Plymouth Christian Academy (3-4) in this Friday night MIAC boys basketball game. Leading the host Eagles (3-4) with 35 points and 17 rebounds was Eric Jipping, while Mick Noel scored 19.

Moose, Wings alums score big for diabetes research

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

It was a great time for a great cause Saturday as at Canton Arctic Edge Arena.

More than 1,800 people jammed the arena for the charity game between the Canton-based Detroit Moose and Detroit Red Wings Alumni, and those folks were in a giving mood. About \$33,000 was raised for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

The game was dedicated to the memory of Joe Hradil, who died of complications from diabetes. The Hradil family participated in the ceremonial opening face-off.

"It was wonderful," said Moose captain Derek Fowler, a Canton resident who heads up the philanthropic-minded adult hockey team. "We sold just over 1,800

tickets, the place was packed. It was overwhelming and it was wonderful. ... And the Red Wings Alumni were pretty great."

Players such as Igor Larionov, Petr Klima, John Ogrodnick, Joe Kocur, Shawn Burr and Darren McCarty all skated and showed their still-considerable hockey skills as the Wings routed the Moose by a 10-3 score. Tallying two goals for the Moose was Joe McDonald, with D.J. Looney also scoring.

"Larionov was just phenomenal, Klima was outstanding, everyone was," Fowler said. "They were just passing the puck like the Harlem Globetrotters out there."

"It was entertaining for the fans, which is most important," Fowler emphasized. "... It was just an honor to be out there with them for a great cause."

Hockey was only part of the fun as there also was a well-attended post-game dinner (complete with door prizes) at Kickers, just across the parking lot from Arctic Edge.

Meanwhile, Fowler gave a shout out to local sponsors Cellular & More (Plymouth), Ameriprise Financial (Livonia) and Coldwell Banker (Plymouth).

He added that the event received another boost from the Detroit Red Wings organization, which sent out an e-mail to some 50,000 current and past season ticket holders to inform them about the event.

For more information about the game or future community events that the Moose will be involved in, Fowler invited people to go to www.detroitmoose.org.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
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GIRLS BASKETBALL

Defense lifts Canton to victory

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Canton senior point guard Robyn Mack scored 17 points to lift the visiting Chiefs to a 40-31 win over Plymouth in a KLAA South Division girls basketball matchup.

In the first game of a Canton-Plymouth girls-boys basketball twinbill, the Chiefs (7-2, 2-1) held the Wildcats (6-3, 2-1) to one point in the second quarter to go up 21-11 at halftime.

Plymouth came back somewhat in the third, but the Chiefs held off any late comeback hopes.

"We thought the game was going to come down to defending and rebounding," Canton head coach Brian Samul-

ski said. "I don't think we rebounded the ball great, but I do think we defended really well. To hold those guys to 31 points is a solid defensive effort."

Plymouth head coach Bob de Bear lamented several untimely defensive breakdowns and a disparity of foul shots. The Wildcats made just eight of 19 from the charity stripe; Canton sank 22 of 35 tries.

"Our kids played so hard, they played smart," de Bear said. "We had a couple breakdowns. Canton likes to get up the floor in a hurry and we didn't match up."

In addition to Mack, the Chiefs were sparked by Paige Aresco and Rachel Winters with six and five points, respec-

tively. Taylor Hunley grabbed five rebounds.

"Robyn Mack is having an outstanding senior season, not just her play but her leadership," Samulski said. "We got all these young kids playing that don't have a lot of playing experience. So Robyn's been real good with them."

No individual stats for Plymouth were available as of press time.

STEVENSON 42, SALEM 22: Livonia Stevenson (6-2, 2-1) used a balanced scoring attack Friday to earn a KLAA Central Division victory against the host Rocks (1-7, 0-3).

Sophomore center Charlesann Roy finished with 11 points, while senior guards Molly Knoph and Jordan York added 10 and eight, respectively.

Breanne Beaver led Salem with nine points and pulled down eight rebounds.

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Even on a night where he set three records, Canton senior Victor Zhang finds time between events to get in some practice.

ZHANG

Continued from page B1

ered acceptable to use that split as a new record in the 100 free.

Simply amazing

“Some of those records have been up there for almost 20 years,” Le said. “The 500 (pool) record’s been up there for 10.

“Being able to do the shortest race and the longest race, both in the same meet, and setting pool records in both of them and a team record in the 500, it’s an impressive feat.”

Le added that what Zhang did Thursday isn’t “something you’re going to see every day. It’s definitely been fun to watch

him race.”

The coach said Orris and Clark “were successful, all-state Canton swimmers. Their pictures are on the wall. Victor’s will be up there with them soon.”

Zhang said the most rewarding record of the night was the 50 free, “because it’s a personal best for me by at least 6/10ths of a second.”

Continuously topping himself is the thing about competitive swimming that Zhang relishes.

“Just whenever I get a personal best,” Zhang said. “I’m not too worried about winning or losing, I always try to race myself.

“I can’t do it every time, but I try to. You can’t always be perfect.”

Working to improve

That’s OK with Le, because it means Zhang is driven to finish first in every event he races. That means more points for the team.

“He is a tremendous asset to the team,” Le said. “Some of his teammates try to emulate him and his work ethic. They may not have the natural ability that he has, but they certainly have his drive and determination.”

Swimming is a lifelong passion for Zhang, whose mom and dad are Meilan and Houshun Zhang of Canton.

He began in the sport at age 8 with the Plymouth-Canton Cruisers before moving on to the Ann Arbor-based Club Wolverine.

After high school, he intends to swim at the collegiate level. Yale University is a strong possibility, Le said.

But wherever he goes, he’ll continue the work needed to build his strength and stamina — with the payoff of zipping through pools at record clips.

“I’ve been able to go a lot faster than I did last season,” Zhang said. “And I feel like I’m getting stronger. I should at least get the 100 back state championship again.”

From the sounds of it, he might very well be setting a record in the self-confidence department, too.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
(734) 469-4128

Chiefs outswim Wildcats, 110-76

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

It might have been Victor Zhang’s night.

But campus rivals Canton and Plymouth still got after it Thursday in a KLAA South Division varsity boys swimming and diving dual meet.

The Chiefs, spearheaded by Zhang’s setting of three Canton High School pool records, earned a 110-76 victory over Plymouth in the division openers for both squads.

“We swam well, we were very focused and determined,” said Canton head coach Dave Le. “Swimming Plymouth’s always a tough task for us. Being cross-campus rivals, we always seem to bring out the best out in each other.

“They (Wildcats) had some great swims, we just swam a little better.”

Plymouth head coach Doug Schade had high praise for Zhang, who set pool standards in the 50 free (21.41), 500 free (4:40.19, also a Canton team record) and 100 free (47.84, in the first leg of the 400 free relay).

“We’re just young,” Schade said. “Victor Zhang had a great swim in the 500, that’s what this meet’s all about.”

Schade did say the Wildcats had an encouraging meet, with 40 personal bests.

“We’re just going to be getting better all the time and trying to be competitive,” Schade added. “We’re not yet, so it is



Plymouth’s Nick Weber competes in the 100 butterfly Thursday. He won the event.

what it is.”

Plymouth did capture the 200 freestyle relay, with the combo of Ryan Heinze, Alex Wilson, Adam Liakos and Cameron Earls finishing first with a time of 1:39.41.

And Nick Weber won the lone individual event for the Wildcats, with a mark of 1:05.62 in the 100 butterfly.

The Chiefs grabbed two relays with the lineup of Zhang, Adrian Simion, Jay Jin and Mike Carlson.

That unit won the 200 medley relay and 400 free relays with times of 1:41.84 and 3:22.34, respectively.

Also victorious in two individual events for Canton was Jin (200 IM, 2:02.38; 100 backstroke, 56.25).

Single-event winners

were Simion (200 free, 1:56.95), Carlson (100 free, 51.64), Alex Bourdreau (100 breaststroke, 1:12.71) and Ryan Kilgore (1-meter diving, 214.85 points).

DUAL MEET RESULTS
CANTON 110
PLYMOUTH 76

Jan. 12 at Canton

200-yard medley relay: 1. Canton (Adrian Simion, Victor Zhang, Jay Jin, Mike Carlson), 1:41.84; 2. Plymouth (Ben Yang, Todd Maslyk, Alex Johnson, Ryan Heinze), 1:56.38; 3. Canton (Kyle Bindas, Alex Bourdreau, Nathan Albin, Chris Jenner), 1:58.74.

500 freestyle: 1. Simion (C), 1:56.95; 2. Cameron Earls (P), 1:59.11; 3. Michael Wilyard (C), 2:07.27.

200 individual medley: 1. Jin (C), 2:02.08; 2. Yang (P), 2:21.22; 3. Maslyk (P), 2:31.13.

50 freestyle: 1. V. Zhang (C), 21.41; 2. Carlson (C), 22.76; Adam Liakos (P), 23.36.

1-meter diving: 1. Ryan Kilgore (C), 214.85 points; 2.

Connor McManus (P), 170.20; 3. Jay Krebs (C), 168.50.

100 butterfly: 1. Nick Weber (P), 1:05.62; 2. Johnson (P), 1:08.30; 3. Albin (C), 1:11.01.

100 freestyle: 1. Carlson (C), 51.64; 2. Liakos (P), 53.43; 3. Alex Wilson (P), 55.67.

500 freestyle: 1. V. Zhang (C), 4:40.19; 2. Simion (C), 5:22.52; 3. Earls (P), 5:35.91.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Plymouth (Heinze, Wilson, Liakos, Earls), 1:39.41; 2. Canton (Travis Alber, Josh Joy, Bourdreau, Jenner), 1:49.42; 3. Canton (John Everitt, Jack Chaney, Matt Gran, Ryan Sheeler), 1:50.19.

100 backstroke: 1. Jin (C), 56.25; 2. Yang (P), 1:02.68; 3. Bindas (C), 1:12.30.

100 breaststroke: 1. Bourdreau (C), 1:12.71; 2. Maslyk (P), 1:13.71; 3. Weber (P), 1:14.49.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Canton (V. Zhang, Simion, Carlson, Jin), 3:22.34; 2. Plymouth (Yang, Liakos, Earls, Weber), 3:46.73; 3. Canton (Joy, Alber, Bindas, Gran), 4:04.88.

Dual meet records: Canton, 2-0 overall, 1-0 KLAA South Division; Plymouth, 0-1 overall, 0-1 KLAA South.

(* Canton pool record; ** Canton pool and varsity record.)

Dragons win
2nd tourney

The St. John Neumann Catholic School eighth grade varsity boys basketball team made it two tournament titles so far this season, winning the recent Catholic Youth Organization Mt. Carmel Christmas Tournament. In the clincher, the Canton-based team won 36-24 over previously unbeaten Cabrini, improving to 9-0 overall and 3-0 in league play. Pictured in the front row (from left) are Jace Kochan, Jacob Donnelly, Trevor Nowaske, Pete Carravallah, Aaron Kosmyrna and Evan Voyles. In the back row (from left) are head coach Mike Marek, Trevor Molenda, Kenny Topolovec and assistant coach Jim Nowaske. Not pictured are Cody Zidzik and Matt Hughes.



BOYS SWIMMING

Salem drops
1st dual meet

Thursday’s dual meet continued the road to improvement that Salem varsity boys swim coach Chuck Olson expects his team to take.

The Rocks dropped a 112-74 decision to host South Lyon to fall to 0-1 in the KLAA Central Division.

“This was our first dual meet, and coming out of the Rock Kilgore Invitational (Jan. 7) it showed us some areas where we showed improvement and some places where we need to improve,” Olson said.

Several members of the team already are well on their way. Olson cited Jason Zhang, Jerry Bai, Matt Pairitz, Jason Basanese and Turner Solterman as those who swam well for the Rocks Thursday.

Salem’s next test is 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at Canton.

DUAL MEET RESULTS
SOUTH LYON 112
SALEM 74

Jan. 12 at South Lyon

200-yard medley relay: 1. Salem (Jeremy Wellman, Turner Solterman, Jerry Bai, Jason Basanese), 1:46.61; 2. South Lyon, 1:46.91; 4. Salem (Brenden

Wellman, Sahil Rafai, Smaran Bhaktawara, William Long), 1:55.99.

200 freestyle: 1. Jason Zhang (S), 1:50.59; 4. Matthew Pairitz (S), 1:58.33; 6. Brian Kuang (S), 2:05.39.

200 individual medley: 1. Travis Burgess (SL), 2:13.12; 2. Bhaktawara (S), 2:13.93; 3. Solterman (S), 2:14.62.

50 freestyle: 1. Evan Faletti (SL), 22.60; 2. Bai (S), 23.58; 5. Basanese (S), 24.83.

1-meter diving: 1. Dan Gironza (SL), 262.00 points; 3. Nick Griwicki (S), 219.50; 5. Charlie Dillon (S), 200.50.

100 butterfly: 1. Burgess (SL), 56.78; 2. J. Wellman (S), 1:00.43; 3. Bhaktawara (S), 1:01.12.

100 freestyle: 1. Faletti (SL), 50.59; 2. Bai (S), 51.81; 5. Pairitz (S), 54.26.

500 freestyle: 1. Max Wilkinson (SL), 5:05.80; 2. J. Zhang (S), 5:06.52; 5. Brian Kuang (S), 5:40.69.

200 freestyle relay: 1. South Lyon (Joel Bischoff, Eric Weiss, Faletti, Spencer Ruggerio), 1:34.60; 2. Salem (Wellman, Pairitz, Solterman, J. Zhang), 1:36.98; 4. Salem (Alex Smith, Kuang, Basanese, Long), 1:42.13.

100 backstroke: 1. J. Wellman (S), 1:01.79; 6. Gregory Payne (S), 1:10.99; 7. B. Wellman (S), 1:11.04.

100 breaststroke: 1. John Dunnuck (SL), 1:03.89; 2. Solterman (S), 1:05.76; 6. Rafai (S), 1:17.44.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Salem (Bai, Pairitz, Basanese, J. Zhang), 3:29.43; 2. South Lyon, 3:29.61; 4. Salem (Kenny McManimon, B. Kuang, Bhaktawara, Patrick Casey), 3:51.85.

BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING
RESULTS

ROCK KILGORE INVITATIONAL
Jan. 7 at Salem H.S.

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 298 points; 2. Northville, 241; 3. Zeeland, 222; 4. Livonia Stevenson, 178; 5. Salem, 123; 6. Canton, 102.

200-yard medley relay (Heat 1): 1. Pioneer (Peter Doyle, Reizo Osawa, Dante Schmitter Sanchez, Brendan Vorobiev), 1:50.61; 5. Salem (Brenden Wellman, Brandin Yee, William Lu, Russell Sharpe), 2:08.42; 6. Canton (Josh Joy, Michael Fluegemann, Jay Akolkar, Noah Adams), 2:22.91; **(Heat 2):** 1. Pioneer (Matthew Erickson, Jiaming Shen, Kai Williams, Ruohao Li), 1:45.70; 5. Salem (Patrick Huls, Calvin Kahler, William Long, Robert Basanese), 1:55.02; 6. Canton (Kyle Bindas, Alex Bourdreau, Jonathan Marceau, Chris Jenner), 1:57.63; **(Heat 3):** 1. Stevenson (John Ferrara, Jake McNamara, Bradley Bielicki, Brandon Bielicki), 1:42.31; 2. Salem (Jeremy Wellman, Turner Solterman, Jerry Bai, Jason Zhang), 1:43.28; 5. Canton (Jay Jin, Mike Carlson, Victor Zhang, Adrian Simion), 1:45.32.

200 freestyle (Heat 1): 1. Sergio Reyes (N), 1:58.85; 5. Patrick Casey (S), 2:09.22; 6. Bryan Tolinski (C), 2:25.23; **(Heat 2):** 1. Isaac Perez (Z), 1:54.14; 5. Brian Kuang (S), 2:08.29; 6. Nathan Benjamin (C), 2:24.00; **(Heat 3):** 1. Matthew DeJonge (Z), 1:51.65; 5. Matthew Pairitz (S), 2:01.09; 6. Michael Wilyard (C), 2:09.41; **(Heat 4):** 1. Seiji Osawa (P), 1:45.25; 5. Adrian Simion (C), 1:55.81; 6. Long (S), 2:11.30.

200 IM (Heat 1): 1. Jiaming Shen (P), 2:07.96; 5. Bourdreau (C), 2:33.72; 6. Sahil Rafai (S), 2:40.87; **(Heat 2):** 1. Daniel Wu (P), 2:08.55; 4. Smaran Bhaktawara (S), 2:17.76; 6. Bindas (C), 2:33.81; **(Heat 3):** 1. Jin (C), 2:04.68; 6. Solterman (S), 2:16.19; **(Heat 4):** 1. V. Zhang (C), 1:56.49; 4. J. Zhang (S), 2:05.29.

50 freestyle (Heat 1): 1. Doyle (P), 24.52; 5. Michael SanMillan (S), 27.15; 6. John Everitt (C), 28.91; **(Heat 2):** 1. Williams (P), 24.46; 4. Alex Smith (S), 26.16; 6. Jenner (C), 27.84; **(Heat 3):** 1. Sam Boyea (N), 23.07; 4. Basanese (S), 25.30; 5. Lee (LS), 26.15; **(Heat 4):** 1. Zach Zylstra (Z), 23.20; 3. Carlson (C), 23.55; 6. Bai (S), 24.13.

1-meter diving (Heat 1): 1. Chas Eisenhardt (LS), 189.80 points; **(Heat 2):** 1. Brian Atiyeh (LS), 235.55 points; 3. Jay Krebs (C), 210.90; 4. Patrick Casey (S), 156.00; **(Heat 3):** 1. Charlie Dillon (S), 347.00; **(Heat 4):** 1. Daniel Goldstein (P), 380.80; 2. Nick Griwicki (S), 372.10; 3. Ryan Kilgore (C), 334.20.

100 butterfly (Heat 1): 1. Frank Zhang (N), 1:00.61; 5. B. Wellman (S), 1:07.99; 6. Souvik Roy (C), 1:26.44; **(Heat 2):** 1. Williams (P), 57.60; 3. Huls (S), 1:03.15; 6. Akolkar (C), 1:21.43; **(Heat 3):** 1. Schmitter Sanchez (P), 57.55; 2. Bai (S), 58.34; 6. Nathan Albin (C), 1:11.93; **(Heat 4):** 1. Christian Otteman (Z), 57.33; 4. J. Wellman (S), 59.50; 6. Marceau (C), 1:05.29.

100 freestyle (Heat 1): 1. Fillippo Miavaldi (N), 52.93; 4. Sharpe (S), 1:04.17; 5. Jack Chaney (C), 1:05.35; **(Heat 2):** 1. Chris Kim (N), 51.39; 4. Smith (S), 59.34; 6. Joy (C), 1:00.31; **(Heat 3):** 1. Wu (P), 51.33; 4. Basanese (S), 56.49; 6. Travis Alber (C), 1:02.64.

100 freestyle (Heat 4): 1. S. Osawa (P), 48.15; 4. Carlson (C), 51.89; 6. Matthew Pairitz (S), 53.97.

500 freestyle (Heat 1): 1. Finn Magoon (P), 5:23.42; 2. Michael Chen (LS), 5:34.21; 5. Calvin Kahler (S), 6:05.02; 6. Tolinski (C), 6:33.08; **(Heat 2):** 1. Danny Teng (N), 5:12.71; 5. Kuang (S), 5:45.04; 6. Benjamin (C), 6:24.51; **(Heat 3):** 1. Schmitter Sanchez (P), 5:02.12; 5. Long (S), 6:06.53; **(Heat 4):** 1. DeJonge (Z), 4:55.10; 3. Jin (C), 5:05.45; 6. Bhaktawara (S), 5:54.85.

200 free relay (Heat 1): 1. Pioneer (Magoon, John Antonetti, John McCormack, Nicholas Lopez), 1:40.51; 5. Salem (Kenny McManimon, SanMillan, Roger Xia, Greg Payne), 1:48.38; 6. Canton (Roy, Anthony Garbarino, Marcus Stojcevic, Travis Wiggins), 2:15.05; **(Heat 2):** 1. Pioneer (Klein, Williams, Jiaming Shen, Li), 1:34.24; 5. Salem (Kuang, Bhaktawara, Stephen Pietron, Sharpe), 1:48.22; 6. Canton (Chaney, Everitt, Nick Valli, Adams), 1:56.48; **(Heat 3):** 1. Pioneer (Thad Stalmack, Wu, Davis Argersinger, S. Osawa), 1:32.00; 5. Canton (Ryan Sheeler, Jenner, Bourdreau, Alber), 1:49.42.

100 backstroke (Heat 1): 1. Nick Hayes (N), 1:01.27; 5. B. Wellman (S), 1:11.77; 6. Joy (C), 1:18.85; **(Heat 2):** 1. Vorobiev (P), 1:02.03; 5. Huls (S), 1:02.99; 6. Bindas (C), 1:11.89; **(Heat 3):** 1. Otteman (Z), 56.43; 2. Simion (C), 59.52; 5. J. Wellman (S), 1:01.90.

100 backstroke (Heat 4): 1. V. Zhang (C), 53.80; 5. J. Zhang (S), 57.27.

100 breaststroke (Heat 1): 1. R. Osawa (P), 1:10.31; 5. Lu (S), 1:19.21; 6. Fluegemann (C), 1:30.08; **(Heat 2):** 1. Shen (P), 1:04.69; 5. Yee (S), 1:16.93; 6. Albin (C), 1:25.61.

100 breaststroke (Heat 3): 1. Stalmack (P), 1:05.97; 5. Bourdreau (C), 1:15.25; 6. Kahler (S), 1:15.43; **(Heat 4):** 1. Klein (P), 1:02.93; 3. Solterman (S), 1:05.84; 6. Wilyard (C), 1:16.01.

400 free relay (Heat 1): 1. Northville (Aaron Zalewski, Mike Miller, Danny Teng, Sergio Reyes), 3:40.52; 5. Salem (Pietron, SanMillan, Casey, B. Wellman), 4:06.34; 6. Canton (Woodard, Garbarino, Wiggins, Adams), 4:38.74; **(Heat 2):** 1. Northville (Adam Curry, Dawson Laabs, Scott Wang, Miavaldi), 3:34.23; 5. Salem (Kuang, Bhaktawara, J. Wellman, Huls), 3:44.95; 6. Canton (Alber, Benjamin, Wilyard, Tolinski), 4:20.88; **(Heat 3):** 1. Pioneer (Argersinger, Wu, Benson, S. Osawa), 3:21.81; 2. Canton (V. Zhang, Simion, Carlson, Jin), 3:22.01; 6. Salem (Bai, Pairitz, Solterman, J. Zhang), 3:31.14.

Road trip unites Rocks

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Take a boys hockey team struggling to hold leads or score goals, take them on a road trip to Traverse City and *voila*. It's been tough to stop the Salem Rocks ever since they returned from their late December trip to and from a holiday tournament some 240 miles from Plymouth Cultural Center.

That was the case in their first two games of 2012. The Rocks followed a 6-2 win over Livonia Franklin on Jan. 6 with an 8-2 rout of visiting Big Rapids the next night.

Besides having time to work on their game and get in some games, going to Traverse City helped the Rocks enhance team camaraderie.

"It's important, it helps build team morale," said senior forward and team captain Mark McGee about the trip. "It gets the guys closer together. It also helps some of the guys get better looks from scouts and teams up there."

"And it also helps the team become more sound. I feel since we came back we've been playing better hockey, scoring a lot more goals."

Fun and friendship

There was plenty to like about the trek besides hockey. The Rocks took the Plymouth Whalers' team bus on four-hour trips to and from northern Michigan, enjoying wi-fi as well as the chance



Salem's varsity boys hockey team enjoyed traveling in style, riding the Plymouth Whalers' team bus to and from Traverse City in late December. There were plush seats and wireless Internet, not to mention TVs.

to watch a Detroit Red Wings game on TV.

"It was fun, it was a really nice bus, a really nice tournament," said senior forward and assistant captain Austin Sartorius, with a grin. "They got TVs and everything."

But more importantly, players were able to move around and talk to teammates they might not gravitate to otherwise.

"When you do things like go to Traverse City you spend a lot of time on the bus together," said Ossennmacher at the start of this season. "You run out of things to say in every day conversations, when you sit next to each other for four or five hours that's when you really get to



Forget school buses. When the Rocks went to Traverse City for a holiday hockey tournament, they enjoyed the comfort of the Plymouth Whalers' team bus.

know your teammates and hang out with them, trust them and respect them."

In addition, McGee said players had no say

in who they roomed with at the hotel.

"Room assignments are random," McGee noted. "So you get to be with different guys that you nor-



Here's proof the trip north was fun for Salem's boys hockey team.



Besides playing three hockey games in Traverse City, there was plenty of time for the Rocks to hang out with each other and cruise the city streets for fun. They also bowled, went to an arcade and saw the movie "Sherlock Holmes" during the team-bonding trip.

mally wouldn't talk to in the locker room."

Of course, hockey was the focal point of the trek, mostly paid for in players' season fees (augmented by fundraisers). Meanwhile, Canton's and Plymouth's boys hockey teams are taking similar road trips this weekend to Sault Ste. Marie.

On the ice, the Rocks went 1-2 during the Scott Miller Memorial Hockey Tournament at Centre Ice Arena.

Diversions

When the team left the arena, there was time to go the mall, watch the movie "Sherlock Holmes" at a multiplex, go bowling and do what McGee said was the best part — visit an arcade.

"We went to an arcade place up there," McGee added. "We all combined all of our tickets and we bought a snow cone machine and a cotton candy machine for our locker room. So we got that in there now."

Sartorius said the Rocks "did a lot of team bonding, hung out in the hotel. Our coach wanted us to hang out a lot. So we just kept busy with like being out with each other and stuff. It was fun."

So is carrying that team unity into the January games.

"We've won every game since then, so we're doing a lot better," Sartorius said.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
(734) 469-4128

Chiefs hit road on high note

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Early offense sparked Canton's varsity boys hockey team to a 4-1 win over Allen Park on Wednesday night at Arctic Edge Arena.

The victory snapped a three-game losing streak and sent the Chiefs off to the Upper Peninsula in a jovial mood. Once they get to Sault Ste. Marie, it will be a week-end of games in the second annual "North-vs-South Hockey Classic."

"Plymouth also is going up and playing both the UP teams (Escanaba and Sault Ste. Marie) and so are we," said Canton head coach Jeremy Majszak following the non-conference victory over the Jaguars. "Hopefully us and Plymouth can represent the south pretty well."

The two campus rivals are taking separate buses on six-hour trips to the tournament.

"We're leaving Thursday (Jan. 12) so they're only going to miss a day of school," Majszak said. "It's a good experience for them, a lot of these guys want to play hockey at the next level so it's kind of like that."

Although the trip north probably was on the minds of the Canton players, they stormed out of the gate to take care of the first order of business — defeating Allen Park and getting back on the winning side of the ledger.

Just 1:59 into the opening frame, senior defenseman Zach Cox took a pass from junior forward Ian Fagan and blasted a shot high over the trapper of Allen Park starting goalie Jake Stoddard.

Just over a minute later, however, the Jags made it 1-1 on what Majszak said was an own goal knocked past Canton sophomore netminder Robbie Beydoun. It was credited to Aaron Porter.

But the Chiefs (6-4-0) quickly answered in turn, when the line of senior forwards Duggan Tear, Taylor Baker and Brandon Grillo

teamed up for a goal to make it 2-1 with 11:17 left in the stanza. Tear scored it, with assists to Baker and Grillo.

"They're definitely our go-to guys," Majszak said.

Canton added a goal with 4:50 left in the period, with Grillo jamming the puck past Stoddard. Assisting on the tally was Baker.

Stepping up

"We had a three-game losing streak, we only played three games (recently) because of the break," Majszak noted. "So we went out hard this game and said we were going to go for it right from the face-off. ... Everybody stepped up and played well."

At 2:53 of the second period, the Chiefs took 4-1 edge on Tear's second of the game (and sixth of the season). Baker centered the puck in front to Tear who snapped a shot inside the left post. Also collecting a helper was junior defenseman Taylor Greenshields.

That goal marked the end of the night for Stoddard, as senior goalie Blake Martin took over. Martin was stellar, not allowing a goal the rest of the game. Canton had plenty of pressure, too, totalling 44 shots on goal for the contest.

At the other end of the rink, Beydoun (17 saves) settled down following the early goal and played a strong game. He was particularly excellent in the second. His best stop was kicking out a pad to stone Porter's bid from point-blank range.

"In the second and third periods he really stepped up and did well," said Majszak, about Beydoun. "He definitely showed the team that he can play."

Canton will return from the trip to the Soo with a game set for 6:15 p.m. Wednesday Jan. 18 against Livonia Franklin at Eddie Edgar Arena.

tsmith@hometownlife.com | (734) 469-4128

HOCKEY

Continued from page B1

But by that time, the Chargers (9-1, 5-1) had a commanding 4-0 lead and wide edge in territorial play.

Pretty special

And Churchill needed just 80 seconds for Smythe to answer the Driscoll goal with a short-handed marker, opening up a 5-1 edge and chasing Salem sophomore netminder Parker Godfrey.

Churchill also scored on the power play, in the first period on a goal by senior forward Kevin Louwers. Chargers head coach Pete Mazzoni said special teams has been a main focal point early this season.

"We've worked really hard on our penalty kill and our power play," Mazzoni said. "Last year, it's what cost us the game in the quarters. We made a deal with ourselves that we weren't going to lose a game to special teams this year. Knock on wood, we've been pretty good so far."

Mazzoni said he made sure his squad came out prepared to face a Salem team that had been playing strong hockey since January began.

"They were playing really well as of late," Mazzoni said. "The tie



Salem senior forward Mark McGee (No. 9) carries the puck away from Livonia Churchill's Luke Otto (No. 14) during Friday night action at Eddie Edgar Arena.

against Brighton was probably huge for them. We tried to use our speed, I think we moved the puck pretty good.

"And we're able to wear teams down a lot with our depth. We got a couple early, and sometimes when things start rolling the other way it's tough to stop it. But they (Rocks) competed, I'm sure they will bounce back from it."

Fast start

Churchill needed just 2:12 to get on the scoreboard.

On an early power play, Proben took a slap shot from the right point that Godfrey stopped with a pad. But Louwers knocked in the rebound.

Salem senior forward Mark McGee was tripped up on a subsequent rush into Churchill territory, drawing a penalty.

But the Chargers had

all the dangerous chances, particularly on a chance by senior forward Mike Gambino in the low slot.

Churchill broke it open with two more goals late in the stanza.

Smythe followed his own rebound at the Salem crease to beat Godfrey with 3:43 to go. Assisting were Otto and Proben.

Then with just 1:13 remaining, junior forward Matt Sinclair took a centering pass from Carrey and slipped a low shot inside the right post.

It could have been an ever wider gap if not for Godfrey's goaltending. He faced wave after wave of Churchill pressure, with 22 shots directed his way in the opening 15 minutes alone.

Churchill made it 4-0 at 1:01 of the second period, when a shot by Otto hit a

Salem player and trickled over the line.

The Rocks responded with extended pressure on Churchill goalie Alex Estes and cut the lead to 4-1 with 11:28 left.

A slapshot from inside the blue line by junior forward Jack Driscoll caromed in off a Churchill player past Estes, who stopped 22 of 23 Salem shots for the night.

Any spike in momentum was shortlived as Churchill chased Godfrey just over a minute later. Smythe converted a pass from Otto to open up a 5-1 lead.

With Anthony Veresan taking over in goal for Salem, Otto's wrister from the left circle found the back of the cage for a 6-1 edge entering the second intermission.

The teams played a scoreless third, with Churchill outshooting the Rocks by a 9-6 margin (and by 46-23 for the game).

"Jake (Otto), he brings energy every night," Mazzoni said. "He's been with us four years, and so he's obviously one of our leaders. It's good to see him rewarded for all his hard work."

On Wednesday, the Rocks tied KLAA Central Division leading Brighton. Scoring twice was McGee, with junior forward Alek Zultowski netting the other goal.

PREP BOWLING RESULTS

LIVONIA LADYWOOD HOLIDAY TOURNAMENT BOWLING RESULTS		
Jan. 7 at Super Bowl		
BOYS TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Flat Rock, 2,739 (3 games)-708 (4 Bakers)-3,447 (total); 2. South Lyon East, 2,678-754-3,432; 3. Salem, 2,790-630-3,420; 4. Canton, 2,654-736-3,390; 5. Westland John Glenn, 2,582-789-3,371; 6. South Lyon, 2,599-717-3,316; 7. St. Clair Shores Lakeview, 2,718-592-3,310; 8. Farmington Harrison, 2,602-684-3,286; 9. Ferndale, 2,568-660-3,228; 10. North Farmington, 2,536-674-3,210; 11. Novi Detroit Catholic Central, 2,580-625-3,205; 12. Plymouth, 2,457-669-3,126; 13. Warren DeLaSalle, 2,395-680-3,075; 14. Waterford Kettering, 2,439-630-3,069; 15. Livonia Clarenceville, 2,337-669-3,006; 16. Berkley, 2,386-613-2,999; 17. Dearborn Divine Child, 2,412-565-2,977; 18. Birmingham Brother Rice, 2,206-656-2,862; 19. Madison Heights Bishop Foley, 2,210-594-2,804.		
High games: 1. Aaron Radner (N. Farm.), 262; 2. David Nikkila (Salem), 257; 3. Juwayn Teamer (FH), 243; 4. Brandon Zurawsk (Flate Rock) and Steven Cadwell (Salem), 227 each; 6. Nick Krause (Kettering), 226.		
High series: 1. Radner (N. Farm.), 628; 2. Nikkila (Salem), 618; 3. Andrew Stanney (S.L. East), 610; 4. Daniel Wrobel (Flat Rock), 589; 5. Donovan Williams (Ferndale), 587; Alex Franz (S.L. East), 583.		
John Glenn scorers: Jordan Hornes, 171-184-199-554; Tommy Ruark, 170-216-386; Daniel Ammons, 189-160-349; Steven White, 174-151-325; Steven Wrone, 203; Mitch Dean, 173.		
GIRLS TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Flat Rock, 2,335 (3 games)-698(4 Bakers)-3,053 (total); 2. Plymouth, 2,312-599-2,911; 3. South Lyon, 2,274-594-2,868; 4. Waterford Kettering, 2,261-585-2,846; 5. North Farmington, 2,184-656-2,840; 6. Westland John Glenn, 2,291-535-2,826; 7. Warren Regina, 2,208-600-2,808; 8. Salem, 2,209-588-2,797; 9. St. Clair Shores Lakeview, 2,177-597-2,734; 10. South Lyon East,		
2,149-603-2,752; 11. Livonia Ladywood (Blue), 2,200-541-2,741; 12. Farmington Hills Mercy, 2,105-634-2,739; 13. Canton, 2,104-577-2,681; 14. Farmington Harrison, 2,063-559-2,622; 15. Ferndale, 2,083-489-2,572; 16. Dearborn Divine Child, 2,066-477-2,543; 17. Madison Heights Bishop Foley, 1,964-541-2,505; 18. Livonia Ladywood (White), 1,822-599-2,421; 19. Berkley, 1,911-465-2,376.		
High games: 1. Ella Kearney (Harrison), 243; 2. Brittney Antonelli (Kettering), 225; 3. Bridget Maul (Salem), 222; 4. Carissa Gadson (Ferndale), 210; 5. Lindsay Ridsen (Flat Rock), 206; 6. Briana Blaska (S. Lyon), 202.		
High series: 1. Antonelli (Kettering), 607; 2. Maul (Salem), 583; 3. Jessica Pate (John Glenn), 558; 4. Gadson (Ferndale), 550; 5. Ridsen (Flat Rock), 548; 6. Toni Cadena (S. Lyon), 537.		
John Glenn scorers: Jessica Pate, 166-192-200-558; Olivia Cabillo, 166-174-191-531; Yvette Ayers, 138-173-138-449; Caitly Lenard, 127-156-283; Sara Aulidge, 138.		

2012 NORTH AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL AUTO SHOW



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Dodge Challenger gets the once-over from industry people.

Auto dealers gearing up for tremendous year

By Jay M. Grossman
O&E Staff Writer

"The sky's the limit." That's how Jim Bechtell, owner of the Somerset Buick/GMC dealership, sums up his outlook for the upcoming year. With the 2012 North American International Auto Show in full swing this week, Bechtell and other auto dealers around southeast Michigan are eager to capitalize on the success the industry enjoyed in 2011.

"General Motors for Buick and GMC, they've got a nice little niche with the premium vehicle market," Bechtell said. "They're not luxury cars like Cadillac, but they're not Chevys either. The price point is right in the sweet spot for these world-class cars."

He then pointed to the all-new Verano and the launch of the Encore as examples of how General Motors is gearing up for the year.

"It's all about the product," Bechtell said. "We can now offer vehicles that get 32 mpg or 36 mpg and you don't have to feel like you're crammed inside. They've got capacity and they offer great performance."

Dick Scott, owner of Dick Scott Dodge in Plymouth, shares the enthusiasm.

"We've got great products to start with," he said Friday. "We've got the 2013 Dart coming in June — it's just a phenomenal car. The banks are really concentrating on auto loans, there are strides in the economy and it's an election year, which is always good for retail."

He estimates a 15- to 20-percent increase in sales across the board.

"We had a great 2011," he said. "We finished December with a flurry and everything is pointed in the right direction, which is good for the entire economy."

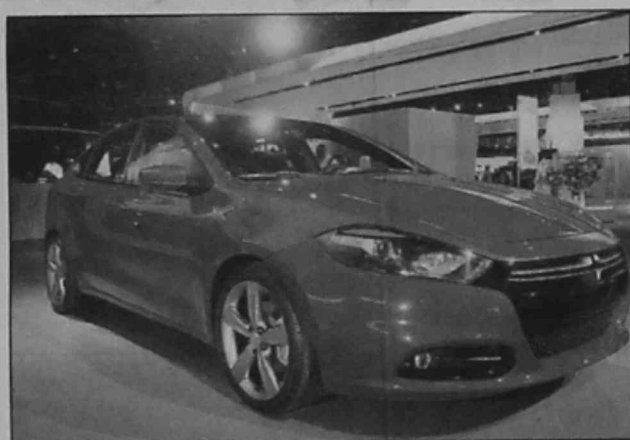
Mike Schrieber, general manager of Bill Brown Ford in Livonia, said the newly-designed 2013 Escape and Fusion are sure to capture the public's attention.

"Bill Brown Ford is in a unique position," he said. "We sell more Escapes and Fusions than any dealer in the United States. We'll be the ones who get the inventory, especially in the beginning, when they're hard to get."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Teri Arbenowske, Economic Development Director for Farmington Hills, admires a Ford Focus.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Dart resurrects a famous old Dodge model nameplate, and replaces the Caliber.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The 2013 Ford Escape.

At the same time, Schrieber said leasing deals on 2012 Fusions and Escapes have been sweetened to move the inventory.

"It really is all about the customer," he said.

Roy Williams, sales manager at Avis Ford in Southfield, adds the stylishly revamped 2013 Tau-

rus to his list of hot-selling products for the coming year.

"We've got quite a bit of momentum going right now, and to add to that momentum we've got the new Fusion, the new Escape and the new Taurus," Williams said. "Anyone heading down to the auto show

will get a chance to see just how great these cars look."

Williams added that Ford plans to continue with its aggressive incentive programs to keep people heading into the showrooms.

"Ford is committed to staying aggressive," he said. "We are always striving to being the best."

Scott LaRiche, vice president of Lou LaRiche Chevrolet in Plymouth Township, expects the public to be pleasantly surprised by the number of new vehicles being introduced at this year's car show, not to mention the quality.

"I think the number one thing in 2012 is every manufacturer across the globe has excellent products that people can see at the auto show," he said. "I spoke to some of the manufacturers at the show and they're anticipating 14.2 million to 15 million in car sales across the globe this year. That's a nice uptick from last year's number, which I think was around 13.5 million."

Along with better cars, LaRiche said many of the GM dealerships are getting face-lifts to offer nicer showrooms and customer lounges. He also touted the 2013 Malibu that's expected to arrive in his showroom in the next several weeks.

"They took it to a whole new level," LaRiche said. "They're taking cues from the Camaro and Corvette in terms of styling — and it gets up to 38 mpg on the highway. For a mid-sized vehicle, that's incredible."

grossman@hometownlife.com
(586) 826-7030

At the auto show

Hot Wheels

A favorite toy of young boys everywhere was brought to life by Chevrolet, with the making of a Hot Wheels Camaro Concept. The car features 20-inch wheels and tires and a black aluminum hood insert with milled extractors.

"Guys of all ages have played with Hot Wheels Custom Camaros since 1968, imagining what it would be like to drive those cars for real. We are thrilled to bring that dream to life with such a stunning concept, the very embodiment of Hot Wheels," said Felix Holst, vice president Hot Wheels design manager.

Dancing with hamsters

Kia Motors has a display where people can dance with the Korean car company's famous hamster, digitally speaking.

Fans walk onto a sprawling white dance floor with a gigantic TV screen above. The interactive system can read a person's location and movements and then insert a funky hamster into the display as if were out on the dance floor, too. Ford has a similar display, minus the hamster.

Fast lane

A number of race cars are on display at the auto show, including the No. 18 Mars/Interstate Toyota Camry that Kyle Busch drives in the Sprint Cup Series. For a more historic perspective, check out the 1952 Mercedes Benz 300 SL race car that roared around the track at a top speed of 142 mph.

BILL BRESLER
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ford interactive video screen display.

Into the clouds

Ford has a massive mechanical interactive display that reaches for the clouds. Called the Ford Living Connected Experience, the display takes 12 people roughly 20 feet into the air, where they can check out a 360-degree film that highlights Ford's upcoming in-car technology. It's a show-stopper by all accounts, one that is sure to attract large crowds.

Star watch

Former Detroit Red Wings defenseman Chris Chelios was seen at the auto show industry day Thursday, hanging out as the special guest in the Comcast area on the main show floor. Chelios, who owns a bar in Detroit and is a spokesman for Comcast, also took some time to pose for pictures and sign autographs.

NASCAR Nationwide driver Kenny Wallace will be at the Toyota display at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. today (Jan. 15) posing for pictures and greeting fans.

Mobility center debuts

Not all the action at the NAIAS is on the main show floor.

For the first time, the auto show features a mobility center, highlighting adaptive vehicles and products for people with disabilities. The exhibitors and display vehicles are located in the Michigan Hall, which is in the basement.

The Michigan Hall also is where the Michigan Economic Development Corp. will host the Pure Michigan Ride and Drive Track — a quarter-mile, indoor ride-and-drive test track surrounded by landscaped and forested terrain, where visitors can ride along in electric and hybrid vehicles provided by more than 30 auto manufacturers.

Building blocks

Ford has its own safety table, complete with interactive screens for adults and a production table where kids can make wooden model cars out of automoblox. Ford will display them throughout the car show.

"This whole table is about driving safely," said spokeswoman Michelle Jackson, who lives in Metamora.

— By Jay Grossman and Nathan Mueller



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kia invites attendees to dance with giant hamsters.

2012 NORTH AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL AUTO SHOW



This is a 360 degree panoramic view of the Auto Show, made from seven photos, stitched together in Adobe Photoshop.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Reporter Jay Grossman looks for his favorite cars at the auto show.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A red Audi looks pretty good.

Family man looks for perfect ride

By Jay Grossman
O&E Staff Writer

Of course, I wanted a Porsche. Or perhaps a Bentley.

Heck, I'd gladly settle for a really nice Cadillac. But my mission at this year's auto show was to find a perfect ride for a family of four, plus a dog. The scenario just happens to mirror my life: A lovely soulmate, two boys that were genetically engineered to destroy all household appliances and a large dog that sheds.

Sorry, but I am not ready for a traditional minivan. I know minivans are perfect for my lifestyle. I know it's OK for dad to drive a minivan. I'm sure Brad Pitt owns one. It's just not me.

I stopped at the Toyota display and chatted with Sam Butto, a communications specialist who lives in California and has his own family. He recommended a Venza cross-over wagon.

"It's very refined," Butto said. "It has all the bells and whistles that parents can still enjoy if they want to go out on the town without the kids."

A night on the town? Is he talking about McDonald's and the video store? I started wondering if Butto exaggerated a bit when he claimed he was a parent.

He continued. The Venza is built on a Camry platform. It's roomy and efficient, has lots of trunk space and even carries a line of separate pet accessories made especially for this vehicle.

"We want to make sure your dog is comfortable," he said.

Here's the best part: For the kids you can get a rear audio or video entertainment system. Butto said it's the perfect way to keep them preoccupied so they take a break from destroying things.

In other words, a bribe. Turns out Butto really is a parent.

Ford Motor Co. marketing manager Amy Maren-

tic, who lives in Plymouth and is married with three kids, wanted to fit me into the all-new Escape, which I later learned is named the Ford Kuga in China and Europe.

Why anyone would want to go from Kuga to Escape baffles me. Kuga is a cool name for a vehicle. Say it a few times and you feel like a chieftain.

As a backup plan, Marentic also mentioned the Ford Edge. I like the vehicle because it won numerous awards from pet associations. If it's good enough for my mutt, it's good enough for the two boys.

I like the name, too, because it reminds me of the ultra-cool guitarist in U2, who happens to call himself The Edge. At the same time I'm wondering if he ever considered the name Kuga.

Finally I met up with Jon Brancheau, vice president of marketing for Nissan North America. He recommends the Nissan Quest because of its great cargo capacity and steady handling.

One feature in particular caught my attention: air scrubbers.

"If one of the kids should happen to lose a couple of French fries under the seat, the Quest has a filter system that will actually refresh the air inside the vehicle," Brancheau said. "An air scrubber if you ... the technical guys would prefer a better term, but I call it the air scrubber."

The perfect solution to what I call gas, something my two boys love to pass.

For now, I'll keep trying to squeeze everyone into my Ford Fusion. It's a great car and still has a lot of miles under the hood. Hopefully the boys won't get too much bigger before my next vehicle.

As for the smell of French fries, I'll just ignore it.

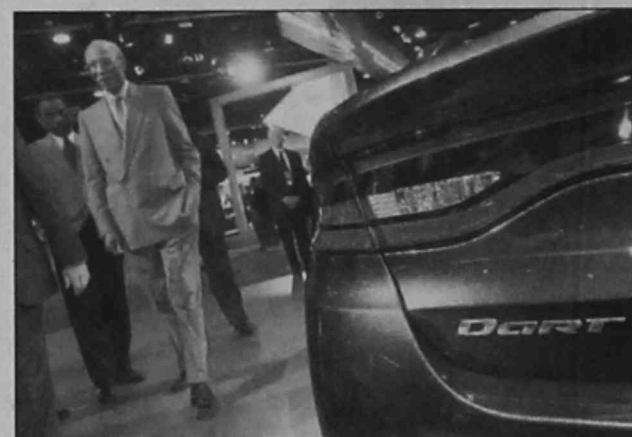
Jay Grossman writes for the Birmingham Eccentric and loves to look at new cars.

VIEW FROM THE FLOOR



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bold video graphics at the BMW exhibit.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Detroit Mayor Dave Bing checks out the Chrysler display at the auto show.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Nissan Juke, a small crossover SUV.



Laurent Haloy, of Le Automotive magazine, takes photos at the Hyundai exhibit on Jan. 11.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Flashy car can make average guy enticing

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

The average guy has to stand out somehow, and honestly his vehicle can do wonders for his luck with the ladies.

Sure, being good-looking and being able to carry on a conversation helps. But if you have a nice ride, women tend to overlook those minor details.

That was my daunting task at the North American International Auto Show last week — find practical cars that make the average guy intriguing.

For example, I have a close friend who drives a Chevy Cavalier that sounds like a dying sports car because the muffler fell off. It also has a driver's side door so dented in that if he slams it too hard he has to climb out the window like a NASCAR driver.

Needless to say, he hasn't had a date in a few years.

Put him in an Audi A8 and that drought will quickly come to an end.

Of course, the auto show featured plenty of options, but not all are realistic. Sure, Mr. Average would love a Bentley, Shelby Mustang, Porsche or Maserati, but remember, he's average, not a millionaire.

To get the best perspective, I figured I would do some research with the help of the many attractive models on the show-room floor. They are the ones getting in Mr. Average's car, right?

Tifarah Brumback, a product specialist for Chevrolet, tried selling me on the company's new cars the Sonic and the Spark. The are small, sporty and big into technology, which means a girl would want to drive her own, not get into his.

Finally, she gave in by offering up the Camaro.

"It's all-American muscle," she said. "And it's an attention grabber."

Sounds like we have a taker!

Sure, being good-looking and being able to carry on a conversation helps. But if you have a nice ride, women tend to overlook those minor details.

Samantha, who was working at the Ford display, said her car would be the 2013 Ford Focus ST. I thought, "Ford Focus not Mustang, really?"

But with the help of Lisa Schoder, Ford Focus ST brand manager, I was sold. It was something Mr. Average could afford and look good in.

"It brings together a fun to drive car with dynamic performance," Schoder said. "It's a hot little car."

There's room for two!

After all my research, I soon realized Mr. Average would have a tough time getting a date regardless of what he drove.

So I went to my most reliable source — my own intuition. I can almost guarantee if a guy pulls up in a Dodge Challenger or Charger, he is going to get a second look.

Hey, a Cadillac wouldn't hurt either. "For single folks, there is nothing more fun than the V series," said Hampden Tener, a Bloomfield Township resident and U.S. product director for the company.

And speaking from experience, there is always the 2007 Ford Fusion.

You may laugh and think "yeah right, chief." But it's what I picked up my lovely girlfriend in nearly two years ago.

Then again, I guess I didn't need a sweet car to catch her attention because I'm not Mr. Average.

Nathan Mueller is not your average 28-year-old, but he does dream of driving a new car someday.

Former Livonia resident brings British trio to town

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Ken and Michele Cisccon will welcome their son, Scott, home to Livonia next weekend, as the singer wraps up his first U.S. tour.

He and fellow Tenors Un Limited members, Jem Sharples and Paul Martin — all are based in London, England — will perform their Michigan debut concert on Saturday, Jan. 21 at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church.

The couple is promoting the concert in Livonia and says about 400 tickets have been sold, with approximately 100 still available.

"I'm just pleased they are doing so well and that they are here," said Michele Cisccon. "I'm probably their number one fan. I'm not saying that as a mom. I really think they are really good."

The trio, which came together about nine years ago, performs in the classical crossover genre. They sing classical standards and opera, combined with elements of pop music, as well as their original compositions. They'll add a few religious songs into the mix for their performance in Livonia.

"We've done stadiums. We have done a dining room in

Classical tenors



Scott Cisccon, (right) former Livonia resident, will return home with other members of his England-based trio, Tenors Un Limited, to perform Jan. 21 at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Livonia. Fellow singers are Paul Martin, (center) and Jem Sharples. The photo was taken at the Thames River.

a castle and everything in between," said Scott Cisccon, during a phone interview Thursday from Casper, Wyo., the group's first concert stop. "For us, the size of the audience doesn't matter. Every time we get to perform ... that is what matters most."

Cisccon can't remember a time that he wasn't singing. Neither can his mom.

"Scott's been singing since he was 2. It's like breathing for him," she said. "He'd sing around the house. My neighbor next door would say 'I love when he sings the *Star Spangled Banner*.' I have those kinds of memories."

Cisccon, 38, sang in choir and school musicals while in high school in Illinois, where the family lived before

moving to Livonia. He was accepted into an a cappella singing group as a freshman at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he planned to study engineering. He lived "off and on" in Livonia for about six years during and after college.

Change in direction

"The engineering became part time and singing became full time, much to my parents' dismay," Cisccon said. "It was one of those things. I was enjoying (singing) so much."

When he graduated in 1996, he was determined to turn his musical talent into a profession. He worked on a cruise ship after college and then auditioned for roles in New York. He landed a lead

part in *Grease* that took him to Germany for three years. After that came roles in the West End, London's theater district.

"After 911, the tourism trade tapered off and some of the shows closed," Cisccon said.

It was time to try something new.

"I had the opportunity to meet up with the guys, (Martin and Sharples) and said let's try to put our own take on the whole three tenors type of genre. But let's do it our way, writing, recording, traveling and working as a group."

International success

Since then, they've opened for Sting, sung with the Royal Philharmonic Orches-

AN EVENING WITH THE RAT PACK OF OPERA

What: Tenors Un Limited perform original compositions and favorites such as "O Sole Mio," "Nessun Dorma," "You Raise Me Up," "Volare," and more

When: 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21

Where: Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Tickets: \$20 for adults, \$10 for children and students, \$50 for a family of two adults and two students or children;

Contact: Michele at (734) 464-8513 or e-mail to tenorstickets@yahoo.com

tra and performed alongside celebrities such as Lionel Richie and Beyoncé. They've entertained celebrities, statesmen and royalty, sung for stadium crowds and intimate gatherings.

Their first major CD, *Brand New Day*, was released in 2007. *The Rat Pack of Opera*, their current album, will be distributed worldwide.

"The Rat Pack of Opera is our tag line. In terms of the group, it's who we are and what we are. We take the music seriously, but not ourselves. We like to have fun with the repertoire and with the audience."

They'll entertain audiences in England, Scotland, Wales and Australia after their U.S. tour wraps up in Livonia.

Michele and Ken Cisccon have seen their son perform in musicals, as well as with Tenors Un Limited. They try to visit England once a year to see Scott, their daughter-in-law, and the couple's two children.

"We've never done a gig in Livonia before," Cisccon said. "It will be a nice thing for my parents to have me home."

Visit the trio's Web site at www.tenorsunlimited.com.

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

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

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

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Thawing and preventing frozen pipes in your home

don't care if you have a cold heart, but if your pipes freeze there is a way to thaw them to reduce damage — that I do care about.

If one of your plumbing pipes freeze this winter, it's important to thaw it



Lon Grossman

out before the ice expands and splits the pipe. But, it's possible that doing it, with let's say a propane torch, could actually make matters worse.

First, obviously if you're not careful you could burn your house down using a torch. On a lot lesser scale, if you are working on a section of frozen pipe not near a faucet that can be opened, thawing the pipe out too quickly can produce steam. The steam will, of course, expand, exploding the pipe. Wasn't that what you were trying to avoid? If you can open a faucet close to where you're thawing the pipe, you'll have a release for the steam and you only have to worry about not burning the house down.

Safety first

A few successful ways to thaw frozen pipes include using a hair dryer, heat lamp, or an electric space heater. But you should be concerned about using any electrical device around plumbing. Especially if it's frozen and split. What if water shoots out? You could get electrocuted. So if you use either of those, plug them into an outlet

How about just wrapping the pipes with rags and pouring boiling water on them, being careful not to scald yourself. No steam is created and there's no chance for electrocuting yourself.

with a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI). If you don't have one, buy a portable one, and it'll protect you from electrocution.

My least favorite recommendation is to wrap the pipes with heating tape and plug them in. You'll find heating tape at hardware stores. It is a solution, but heat tapes should be inspected annually to make sure they are not cracked or brittle. If not installed properly, they could cause a fire and finally, if they stop working, you won't know until the pipes freeze.

If you have a kerosene heater, put it in the room with the frozen pipes to slowly thaw them out. But, don't put it too close to the wall where it could start a fire.

Water method

How about just wrapping the pipes with rags and pouring boiling water on them, being careful not to scald yourself. No steam is created and there's no chance for electrocuting yourself.

Now don't go getting all hot under the collar, but if you don't provide heat to that area, it will just freeze again.

Often kitchen sinks are on an outside wall. The pipes run up and along that wall and in older houses the insulation is

either non-existent or at best, inadequate.

Regardless, if it is plumbing to a kitchen sink or a bathroom, having insulation blown into the wall cavity should correct the problem or at least reduce the possibility of the pipes freezing.

If you can, have a plumber relocate the pipes from within the wall to the interior of the cabinet.

Another solution is to cut an opening in the cabinet or vanity doors and install decorative louvers to allow warm air in to keep the pipes from freezing.

If you have a crawlspace and the plumbing runs in the crawl, make sure the area is properly insulated. I also would insulate all pipes that run in a crawlspace or attic, with pipe-wrap.

Finally, learn where the main water shut-off is and make sure all family members know how to turn off the water to reduce any damage.

Lon Grossman is president of Technihouse Inspections Inc., a southeast Michigan residential and commercial inspection company. E-mail your questions to him at drdiy@comcast.net. Call (248) 855-5566. Visit his Web site www.technihouse.com. Follow Lon's Blog at <http://drdiy.wordpress.com/>.



Fresh produce can be found at the Canton Winter Farmers.

Buy local at winter market in Canton

Canton Farmers Market will hold its first of three winter markets, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12, at the Cady-Boyer Barn, 500 N. Ridge Road, at Preservation Park.

Additional winter markets are set for March 18 and April 22.

Eighteen vendors will sell their goods, including these local businesses:

- Jam by Hand, with jams and jellies
 - Day Dream Café, Canton, with pastries, pierogies, pasties, coffee, tea and more
 - Bobilin Honey, with honey and bees wax
 - Cellar Door Soap, with hand-crafted, vegan-friendly soaps
 - Boyer's Meat Processing, with farm eggs, sausage, seasonings and meat
 - JKM Soy Candles, Westland, with soy candles and soy tarts
 - Farmington Soap Works, Farmington Hills, with natural hand-cast, cold-process soaps
- Other vendors include Zingerman's Creamery, Ann Arbor, with artisan cheese, bread, salami, pastries and gelato; Pro-



Bobilin honey will be among the locally-produced foods sold at three winter markets in Canton. The first is Feb. 12.

chaska Farms, Tecumseh, with sauerkraut, spinach, radishes, artisan cheese, winter squash, and hand crafted chocolate; Hand Sown Farm, Manchester, with spinach, swiss chard, carrots; Kapnick Orchards, Britton, with apples, cider, frozen blueberries, apple butter, pastries; Captain John's Smokehouse, Bad Axe, with hand-cut jerky, meat sticks and smoked fish; Joe Sansonetti's Kitchen, Holly, with pasta and barbecue sauces, mustards and marinades; Sunbears Just Bones, Gibraltar, with dog treats and dog-

friendly soap; Nicky's Family Recipes, Royal Oak, with seasoning packets for pasta sauce, Sicilian salsa, salad dressings and flavored butters.

"We are thrilled this season to have hoop house produce at our winter markets," stated Tina Lloyd, market manager, in a press release. "Both Hand Sown Farm and Prochaska Farms are growing spinach in their hoop houses, which are a type of green house that uses solar energy to heat the ground during winter months. These farmers are able to bring a little bit of fresh produce to our winter markets which is a plus for market-goers."

First Grade Daisy Troop 40726 will coordinate a pasta collection at each winter market to benefit the pantry at Open Door Ministry, a Canton-based non-profit organization. They'll also sell boxes of pasta for \$1 for those who want to donate on the spot.

Canton Farmers Market will reopen for its regular season May 13 at Preservation Park.

REUNIONS

Send reunion information to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Feel free to include a relevant photo as a jpg attachment.

DETROIT MACKENZIE CLASS OF 1962

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

FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1967

Organizers of the 45th reunion on July 21 are looking for classmates. Send

your e-mail address to Susan (Himmelsbach) Whittaker at S_whittaker@comcast.net or Fred Gregg at fredge1@comcast.net to receive a reunion packet.

NORTHVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1971-75

The classes are joining together to celebrate with a reunion on Aug. 4. Reunion organizers are searching for classmates from those years. Send your name, address, phone and e-mail to nhs40ye-arreunion@gmail.com. The organizers will send more details after receiving your information.

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(L to R) Four Seasons Clinical Dietary Manager Laura Cervi, MS, CDM with Lenie Manigula, Registered Dietician



"(my mother's) meals are so good every day ... the name is Four Seasons but it should be 'Four Stars'..."

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With input from Four Seasons residents, Laura Cervi, MS, CDM fashions nutritious and flavorful meals for diabetes, heart and renal disease, and hypertension diets. Cervi, who holds a masters degree in nutrition, knows the importance of healthy food. Residents on dialysis or with wounds need additional protein. Diabetics may require six small meals a day. "We use fresh fruits and vegetables, and try to stay away from canned and processed foods," said Cervi. "One of our cooks is from Schoolcraft College's culinary arts program. She is very creative and interactive with residents during meals." Cervi observes meals as well. "Our goal is to provide for residents as if it's their home," said Cervi. "One of our residents is a vegan; we get meals for anyone who requests kosher or halal."

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Rescues offer dog training, valentine show, networking

Better obedience

Better Life Canine Center, the rescue organization that trains dogs before finding them new homes, is offering a series of dog obedience sessions for its volunteers, as well as members of other animal rescues.

The January session is full, but registration is open for the six-week series that starts Saturday, Feb. 25. Participants attend the first session without their dogs and learn how to build leadership skills and strengthen the canine-human bond. They will learn how dogs learn, why dogs misbehave and how they can improve their behavior. Other topics include new dog orientation in the home and managing a multiple dog household.

Sessions 2-6 include both humans and dogs and stress basic obedience using positive reinforcement. Each dog in class will receive a basic obedience certificate.

"It has really started to gain popularity, so we cannot currently offer it to the public — our classes fill up quick," e-mailed Amanda Balcazar, Center member. "This is a future goal though. Training is one of our top priorities. We offer it to other rescues as a low-cost option."

Jen Guthrie of Pro-K9 In-Home Training Professionals leads the sessions. Classes are held in Westland. E-mail Better Life Canine Center founder Brenda Woody for more



information at brenda@betterlifecaninecenter.org. Sign up for the organization's e-mail list at www.BetterLifeCanineCenter.org. Visit Guthrie's Web site at www.ProK9Training.com.

Valentine's Day

Guardians for Animals has lined up 11 comedians for its annual Comedy for the Love of Animals fundraiser on Feb. 14 at Joey's Comedy Club in the Kicker's Complex, 36072 Plymouth Road, in Livonia. Laugh the night away while benefitting the nonprofit organization's work with homeless animals.

The show will start at 8 p.m. and feature local favorites Connie Ettinger, Julie Lyons, Russ Brown, Bob Phillips, Mike Bobbitt, Tim Zajkowski, Jeff Dwoskin, Steve Lind, Dave McDonald, Kate Brindle and Bill Bushart.

Tickets are \$10 per person. For more information or to buy tickets call Sandy at (734) 788-6857.

Coming together
The Michigan Humane



Connie Ettinger is among 11 comedians who will perform Feb. 14 at a fundraiser for Guardian Angels Animal Rescue.

Society plans a meeting for animal rescue organizations to showcase their work, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19 at the Southfield Public Library, 26300 Evergreen.

During "PETCONNECT," animal welfare groups will make a five-minute presentation showing their work in the community. DVDs may be included. Refreshments will be served.

Marie Skladd, director of community outreach for the Michigan Humane Society, said the meeting is intended to help groups establish relationships with each other, open lines of communication and create a basis for them to collaborate for the benefit of animals.

For more information about PETCONNECT or the Michigan Humane Society, www.michiganhumane.org, or call (866) MHUMANE.

— Compiled by Sharon Dargay

Schoolcraft College marks Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Participate in a discussion about social justice or see an art exhibit about civil rights Monday, Jan. 16 at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Day activities will be held in the VisTaTech Center on campus, located on Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile.

The student art exhibit runs from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. One student will receive a \$100 Schoolcraft College gift card for use on tuition, books, food in Henry's Food Court, or items in the college's Bookstore.

At 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Rita Crooks and Thomas Costello from Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion will lead discussions based on

King's speech, "Where Do We Go from Here?" delivered at the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in August 1967. Crooks and Costello will focus on social justice and equity, its evolution since 1968, and the opportunities for and benefits of ongoing efforts.

From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. student volunteers, coordinated through the college's Americorp VISTA initiative, will read multi-culturally diverse books, participate in games, and make crafts with school-age children to increase their understanding and appreciation for King's work.

For more information visit www.schoolcraft.edu.

Event helps plan graduation parties

Franklin High School's Senior All Night Party organizers will present an event Thursday, Feb. 2, to help parent and students plan graduation parties.

"Destination Graduation" from 5-8 p.m. in the cafe at Franklin High School, 31000 Joy Road, Livonia, will bring event planners and party vendors together under one roof.

Parents and students

will get a chance to sample food from local caterers and bakers, arrange party rentals such as tents, tables, chairs, ice cream carts, popcorn machines and other items, arrange for a DJ, select decorations and meet with an event planner.

Advance tickets are \$5 for students and \$7 for adults or \$7 for students and \$9 for adults at the door.

Buy or reserve tickets by calling Sharon Culbertson at (734) 261-3264, e-mail to celebration-storemember@yahoo.com or return payment, name and phone number in an envelope marked 'Destination Graduation' to the Franklin High School main office or by mail to Culbertson at 27815 Oakley, Livonia, MI 48154. Checks should be made out to Franklin SANP.

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to clean hallways in apartment complexes. Day work. Located in Livonia. Starting pay \$8.48/hr. Call Mon-Thurs. 8:30-2:30pm. 734-427-4343

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Bob Jeannotte Buick-GMC has an opening for an Auto Body & Frame Repair Technician. Must be State or Icar certified in frame and auto body repair. This is a full time position with a full benefit package available. We offer a great work environment with a freshly renovated facility. Please reply to service@jeannotte.com with resume or work history to set up an interview.

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for area homes. \$10/hr. start. No nights/weekends. Car req. Plymouth. 734-812-5683

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Milestones



Oliver Joseph Swelstad

Oliver Joseph Swelstad was born Nov. 16, 2011 in Kaiser Permanente Hospital, Walnut Creek, Calif. He joins his parents, Michael and Kate (Kwapisz) Swelstad, and his brother, Roman Michael Swelstad, 2, at home in Martinez, Calif. Grandparents are Ron and Billie Swelstad of Farmington Hills. Great-grandparents are Joe and Bogi Kwapisz of Farmington Hills.



Falk-Wrisley

Falk-Wrisley

Jessica Falk and Thomas Wrisley announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of Larry and Mary Falk of Livonia, is a 2003 graduate of Livonia Churchill High School. She earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Central Michigan University. She is a kindergarten teacher in Lincoln Park. Her fiancé, son of Richard and Joyce Wrisley of Vesta-burg, attends Schoolcraft College and is working toward a degree in criminal justice. A November 2012 wedding is planned in Farmington Hills.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday

BEASLEY, LINDA K.

Age 52, passed away on January 6, 2012. Beloved daughter of the late Arthur Beasley. Survived by mother Keiko Beasley, brother Doug Beasley, sister Peggy (Bill) Clink and nieces Rachel, Jessie, Kumara and nephew Brian. Also remembered by many other loving friends. Please view and share memories at: www.virtual-memorials.com



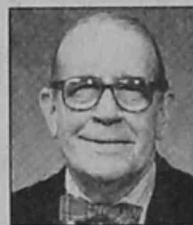
KENNY, JULIA L.

January 8, 2012, age 93, of Plymouth. Loving wife of the late Roland. Beloved mother of Guy (Susan). Proud grandmother of Ellen (David) Lukach, Julie (Bernie) Johnsen, Guy (Christa), Emily and Ellie. Beloved great-grandmother of Lenora and Daniel Lukach and Hannah Johnsen. Dear sister of the late Fay (Tom) Keys, the late Mary Freeman and the late Betty MacDonell. Also survived by numerous nieces and nephews. Funeral Service was held Friday at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Road (btwn Sheldon & Beck), Plymouth. Visitation was held Thursday. Interment Acacia Park Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Shriners Hospital for Children. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com



FUSCO, JUDE T.

Of Birmingham, and Colorado, passed away on December 18, 2011 at the age of 76. He succumbed to the rare progressive neurological disease of MSA, multiple system atrophy. Jude graduated from the University of Toronto in Architecture and founded the architecture firm Fusco, Shaffer, Pappas, in Southfield. He served on many boards including Guest House, Sobriety House, and Saint Jude's Home. Jude was also a friend of Bill W. for 31 years. Jude is survived by his wife of 50 years, Anna, and daughters, Julie (Eugene) Nagle, Jana (Matt) Morgan, Kristin Fusco, and grandchildren, Jack and Grace Morgan. Memorial gifts for MSA research can be sent to Mayo Clinic, Dept. of Development Research: Multiple System Atrophy, 200 First St. W., Rochester, MN. 55906. A celebration of Jude's life is planned for Saturday, June 23rd, 2012 in Petoskey.



JOHNSON, M.D. J. FREDERIC

Age 91 of Dearborn, formerly of Birmingham, died Wednesday, January 11, 2012, at Henry Ford Village, Dearborn. Born January 10, 1921, in Grand Rapids to Adrian and Anna Johnson, he grew up in Birmingham and Evanston, Illinois, and earned Bachelors and MD degrees from Northwestern University. Dr. Johnson-Fred to family, friends, and colleagues-wore many hats. He was a devoted family doctor, a gifted artist, a lover of British sports cars, Italian food, and the English language. He and his wife, Carolyn, were former members of the First Presbyterian Church, Royal Oak. He is survived by his children, Ann Louise Johnson Locniskar (Roger John) of Amesbury, MA, Ellen Marie Johnson of Ann Arbor, David Adrian Johnson (Sue) of Franklin, and Paul Frederic Johnson (Linda) of Midland; sister, Helen (Eugene) Martz of Evanston, IL, and grandchildren, Jessica and Amanda. His wife, Carolyn Louise, whom he married December 27, 1947 in Moline, IL, preceded him in death in 2004. Visitation will be held Sunday, January 15 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the home of David and Sue Johnson. A memorial service will be held on Monday, January 16, at 11 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 529 Hendrie Blvd., Royal Oak, 48067, with visitation one hour prior and a luncheon immediately following. Memorial gifts suggested to Henry Ford Hospice, 655 W. 13 Mile Rd, First Floor, Madison Heights, MI, 48071, or to the First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak Instrument Fund. www.kinsey-garrett.com

PETROSKA, GERTRUDE GISELA

Age 82, died January 5, 2012. Gertrude was preceded in death by her husband, Kasys. She remains in the hearts of her children, Sue (Larry) Riley, Rita McGladdery, Loretta Hannah, and Al (Tina) Petroska; grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Mother enjoyed her life and friends at Silver Village in Livonia. She will be deeply missed by her family here, loved ones in Germany, and friends made along life's way. According to Gertrude and her family's wishes, cremation has taken place. No visitation or memorial service has been arranged. The family is very grateful to the staff at Angela Hospice for seeing to mother's comfort and the high level of care. Also, to Theresa Perez for her kindness and compassion. For those who wish, please consider a memorial contribution to Angela Hospice in memory of Gertrude. Share a memory www.mannsfuneralhome.com

RUCINSKI, DAVE

10/7/1964-1/4/2012. David was a great guy and a great friend but most of all a husband to Eileen Rucinski for 26 years, dad to Rebecca and Raymond, son to Ray & Jan, brother to Linda and Gayle.

WEBSTER, MURL H.

Age 77, of Warsaw, Indiana, died Jan. 8, 2012, at his residence. He was born Aug. 25 1934, in Ann Arbor, Mich. to Murl Ranney and Dorothy Eleanor (Rettenmier) Webster. He graduated from Birmingham (Mich.) High School in 1952. He graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering in 1958 and a Master of Science in Civil Engineering in 1959. He was a member of Chi Epsilon Civil Engineering Honor Fraternity as well as a student member of the American Society of Civil Engineering. After graduation, he began his civil engineering career in Birmingham, Michigan. He worked in both civil engineering and construction throughout Michigan, New York, and the U.S. Virgin Islands for over 45 years. He is survived by his wife LaVerna (Spilak); a daughter, Rebecca (and spouse Nicholas) Hayes; two grandchildren, Alexander and Madison Hayes; brother, Lee N. (and spouse Sandra) Webster; nephew, Patrick Webster; niece, Amy Webster; stepdaughter, Kimberley Lord; step-grandchildren, Erin and Paul Curley, and Brandon Lord; stepson, Mark (and spouse Teri) Skibowski; step-grandchildren, Amanda and Brittany Skibowski; stepdaughter, Jennifer (and spouse Christopher) Voss; step-grandchildren, Katrina and Justin Jadzinski; great-grandson, Gavin Bodrie; cousin, Kathleen (and spouse James) Eubank; and father-in-law, Fred Spilak. Private memorial service was held at McHattton-Sadler Funeral Chapel in Warsaw, with Sister Nora Frost of Goshen Center for Cancer Care officiating, followed by cremation. Burial and memorial service will be held at a later date at White Chapel Cemetery, Troy, Mich. In memory of Murl Webster, contribution is to be made to Goshen Center for Cancer Care, 200 High Park, Goshen Indiana 46580. Attn: Jan VanCuren. To sign the guestbook or to send condolences, electronically, go to: mchatttonsadlerfuneralchapels.com



PAQUETTE, BERNADINE T. (nee Beil)

Jan 7, 2012 Age 81. Beloved wife of Charles E. for 60 years. Loving mother of Charles K. Rosemarie (Edward) Vincent and Sandra Dolores (Joseph) Haffey. Dear grandmother of Jacob Joseph Haffey. Sister of J Walter Beil and the late Dolores Kern. Numerous nieces and nephews. She was an avid tap dancer and gardener. She was also the financial secretary for St. Priscilla's Bingo. There was a Visitation on Mon and Tues with a Rosary at Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Livonia Chapel. The Funeral Mass was 10:00am Wed at St. Priscilla Catholic Church 19120 Purlingbrook, Livonia, MI 48152. Please go to www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com to leave a message of condolence or to share a treasured memory.

GARDEN & NATURE

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

Butterfly enthusiasts

Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association (SEMBA), will present "The Pollinator Pyramid," at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 18, at Nankin Mills Nature Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. Learn how butterfly host and nectar plants are pollinated to assure an abundant crop that will attract lots of butterflies to your yard. Parking is on Hines Drive or Ann Arbor Trail. \$3 for non-members. Questions? Call (734) 326-0578 or visit www.sembabutterfly.com

Winter hike

Learn how to recognize winter trees and shrubs by bard and buds and explore other signs of nature during a naturalist-led hike, 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Jan. 21, through Holliday Nature Preserve, Ellsworth Section, in Westland. Pre-register at Nankin Mills Nature Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. Participants will warm up first with cocoa and coffee and then hike. Trails can be muddy and slippery. Dress for the weather. Fee is \$4 for adult for Wayne County residents and \$5 per adults for non-residents. Questions? Call (734) 261-1850.

Native trees

Tom O'Dell, collections and natural areas specialist at the Nichols Arboretum in Ann Arbor, will talk about "Native Alternatives to Invasive Trees and Shrubs," from 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2, at the Costick Center, 28600 West 11 Mile, in Farmington Hills. The seminar also will feature a case history of native plant restoration at Heritage Park in Farmington Hills, presented by Ashlie Simons, nature center supervisor, and Randy Lovett, supervisor of parks, Farmington Hills. Attendees will receive a packet of information and suggestions for "next steps" in their home landscape projects. The seminar is free, but advance registration is requested. Call Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority at (248) 288-5150 or e-mail to LFDean@aol.com.

Gardening seminars

The Master Gardener Association of Western Wayne Country will present four seminars for the gardening public, 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, 14, 21, and 28, in the Wayne County Extension Office auditorium, 5454 Venoy, a quarter mile north of Van Born, Wayne. Cost is \$10 per session or \$30 for all if registered in advance. For more information visit mgw-wc.org. To register, e-mail mgwwcorg@gmail.com or call (313) 719-1181.

Master gardeners will teach each session:

- All About Herbs kicks off the series on Feb. 7. Learn how to choose plant and harvest herbs for culinary and other uses culinary and other uses. Taught by Pat Mann herb specialist from the Greenfield Village Herb Associates.
- Composting/Hoop Houses, on Feb.

14, will teach the basics of backyard composting. Bruce Forrest, Advanced Master Gardener and community garden expert, will explain what should and shouldn't be composted and will describe different types of compost containers. He'll also talk about building a hoop house to extend the growing season.

- Urban Chicken Farming, on Feb. 21, will be taught by an urban chicken farmer. Local ordinances will be discussed as well as coop design and construction.
- Square Foot/High Yield Gardening, on Feb. 28, will teach techniques, fertilization and space saving tips, including how to grow lots of vegetables in a small space and in a bale of straw. Taught by Paul Rodman, Advanced Master Gardener, and garden writer.

English Gardens

- Make a spring floral arrangement for \$24.99 at a workshop, at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21. The store will supply everything needed to design a fresh flower arrangement. Not available at the Ann Arbor store.
- Find out which plants will attract birds to your garden at a free presentation, 1

p.m., Saturday, Jan. 28. • Youngsters can make a project to feed the birds and learn how to attract more feathered friends to the garden at a "make it and take it" workshop, 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28. They'll choose between making a pine cone feeder or orange cup feeder. Fee is \$5. Sign up online. • Get a basic overview of the best varieties of orchids to grow and tips for year-round care at a free in-store presentation, 1 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 4. • Create an orchid garden at a "make it and take it" workshop, 2:20 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 4. Cost is \$49.99. The store will supply everything needed for the project. • Learn tricks to get orchids to bloom in your home at a free presentation, 1 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 11. • Learn how to re-pot orchids and make them thrive at a free presentation, 2:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 11. Area stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, (734) 332-7900; 22650 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, (313) 278-4433; 4901 Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak, (248) 280-9500; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, in West Bloomfield; (248) 851-7506. For information, log onto www.EnglishGardens.com.



Make a spring floral arrangement at a workshop on Jan. 21 at English Gardens.

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. If including a photo, it must be in jpg format, attached to the e-mail.

Jan. 15-31

BETHANY

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 21

Location: Leon's, 30149 Ford Road, Garden City

Details: Friends of Bethany Monthly Breakfast with Kathy and Pat

Contact: Kathy at (734) 956-0715

BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 15

Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: All you can eat pancakes, French toast, ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, coffee, tea, milk, juice; \$3 adults; \$1.50 children, 2-10. Sponsored by St. Theodore Men's Club

Contact: (734) 425-4421

CATHOLICISM SERIES

Time/Date: 7:30-9 p.m. Sunday, beginning Jan. 15

Location: St. Michael the Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: The 10-week series examines the new adult study series by theologian the Rev. Robert Barron, on which the PBS program, "Catholicism," is based. There is a \$40 charge for the study guide and workbook; registration is required. A children's ministry is available by prior arrangement

Contact: (734) 261-1455, ext. 207, e-mail swilliams@livoniastmichael.org, or see the Web site at www.livoniastmichael.org.

May you find
comfort
in Family and
Friends

Survey finds unhealthy stress levels in metro Detroit area

The economy and work are significant causes of stress for residents of metro Detroit, according to a survey released this week by the American Psychological Association. The survey was conducted online by Harris Interactive among 223 residents locally and 1,226 adults nationally over two months last year.

Although reported stress levels have dipped in the Detroit area since last year, residents still experience high stress levels. They reported an average stress level of 5.2 on a 10-point scale. A 3.6 on a 10-point scale is considered healthy.

Even with lowered reported stress levels, 75 percent of local residents surveyed said the economy is a significant cause of stress and 73 percent said work is a significant cause of stress. More than one-third — 38 percent — expressed dissatisfaction with their work. Nationally, 25 percent of those surveyed said they were dissatisfied with their jobs.

More than half of area residents — 59 percent — recognized the importance of managing stress, but less than half said they are doing a very good job managing it. Twenty-two percent said they have no strategies to manage their stress.

According to the survey, Detroit-area residents are more likely to report using yoga and meditation to help manage stress than others nationwide. Other frequently named ways to reduce stress include exercise or walking, listening to



music, spending time with family or friends, reading and praying.

Detroit residents reported more physical activity in 2011. Nearly 60 percent of adults surveyed said they exercise at least a few times a week, compared to 50 percent in 2010. And among those who tried, 41 percent of Detroit-area residents said they were successful at losing weight, compared to 30 percent nationally.

Yet stress is a enough of a problem for people in metro Detroit that it is a barrier to making positive lifestyle change. One in six adults who wanted to make a lifestyle change said they were too stressed to do so.

"While overall stress levels in Detroit are lower than last year, the numbers of Detroit residents

who are stressed about the economy and work is alarming," said Josephine Johnson, a Detroit-area psychologist and a member of the Michigan Psychological Association. "And although stress levels are lower than in previous years, they are still higher than what is considered healthy. It's important people pay attention to this because stress can affect your physical and emotional health, especially if not managed properly."

The national survey found that reported stress levels have stabilized from the highs of the economic crisis; however, they remain higher than what is considered healthy. Americans who serve as caregivers — providing care to both the aging and chronically ill — for their family mem-

bers report higher levels of stress, poorer health and a greater tendency to engage in unhealthy behaviors to alleviate that stress than the population at large.

To read the full report on Detroit and the United States, visit www.stressinamerica.org.

Stress in America is part of the American Psychological Association's Mind/Body Health public education campaign. For additional information on stress and lifestyle and behavior, visit www.apa.org/helpcenter and read the campaign blog www.yourmindyourbody.org.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

January

GARDEN CITY HOSPITAL

• Get Up and Move, an invigorating exercise program, aims to help you to make an easy transition back to an exercise program or get you started for the first time. It meets at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 17, 24 and 31 and Thursday, Jan. 19, and 26. Fee is \$30 per month; for more information call (734) 458-3242.

• Learn how to relax, stretch and breathe while creating balance, strength and flexibility for both the body and mind through yoga, 4 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 17, 24 and 31 and 6:30 p.m., Wednesday-Thursday, Jan. 18-19 and 25-26. Wednesday-Thursday classes are held at the Westland Specialty Center, 35600 Central City Parkway, Westland. Tuesday classes meet at the hospital in Garden City.

• Eating Disorders Support Group meets 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 18 and 25 at the hospital. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information.

• Diabetes Self-Management series meets at 9 a.m., Tuesday, Jan. 17, 24 and 31. Learn self-care skills of nutrition, exercise, medication management, monitoring of blood sugar levels, foot and skin care, prevention of problems and psychosocial issues. Call (734) 458-4330 to register.

Garden City Hospital is located at 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City.

NUTRITION CLASS

Gail Posner, a registered dietician, will lead a tour of the grocery aisles at Hiller's Market, 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 18, at the

Commerce Township store at 14 Mile and Haggerty and 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1, in the West Bloomfield store at Orchard Lake Road and Maple. Gail will explain how to determine the nutritional value of thousands of products and ingredients, and teach participants how to interpret health claims. They'll learn which fish are healthiest, why it's important to buy organic milk, and why extra-virgin olive oil gives a better "bang for your nutritional buck" than regular olive oil. Participants will go home with recipes and handouts that help them solve the inevitable "what's for dinner?" dilemma. Cost is \$20 per person. A reservation and prepayment is required. Space is limited; www.GailPosner.com or (248) 855-4558.

SENSORY-FRIENDLY FILMS

AMC Theatres and the Autism Society will host a screening of the film, "The Secret World of Arrietty," at 10 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 25, at the AMC Livonia 20, 19500 Haggerty, Livonia. During this sensory-friendly screening, the movie auditoriums will have their lights brought up and the sound turned down, families will be able to bring in their own gluten-free, casein-free snacks, and no previews or advertisements will be shown before the movie. Audience members may get up and dance, walk, shout or sing. The theater's "Silence is Golden" policy will not be enforced unless the safety of the audience is questioned. For more information visit www.autism-society.org/sensoryfilms.

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Friday, February 3, 2012 • 10 am – 12 Noon

Garden City Hospital, Medical Office Building Classrooms
6245 Inkster Road • Garden City, MI 48135

National Wear Red Day. Cardiologist Dr. Karen Wiarda will be available to answer all your heart healthy questions. Afterwards, we'll get our hearts pumping in a Polynesian aerobics class - the latest exercise sensation. Bring or wear your red work out clothing and GO RED! Guests can also enjoy a fabulous prize drawing, giveaway items and lunch.

HEALTHY HEARTS 101

Thursday, February 16, 2012 • 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Village of Redford
25300 Six Mile Road • Redford, MI 48240

GCH Cardiologist Nizam Habhab, DO, FACC, FACP will discuss heart health. An exercise physiologist will be on hand to teach simple exercise techniques that can easily be done at home or in the office. A heart healthy dinner will be served.

GCH HEART WALK 2012

Saturday, February 25, 2012 • 9 am – 12 Noon

Westland Mall
35000 Warren Road • Westland, MI 48185

Dress comfortable and bring all your heart related questions for our panel of experts. A GCH pharmacist will be on hand to answer medication questions, free health screening on site, and our Pulse EMS will be on hand for support.

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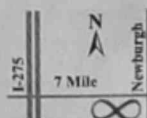
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America's 20 Fastest-growing Salaries

Justin Thompson,
CareerBuilder Writer

Let's face it -- money talks. And for some jobs in 2011, there was a little more talking going on. We took a look at the top 20 jobs in 2011 that had the largest year-over-year salary growth. All of the positions had salary growth of at least 5 percent since last year.

Many factors influence compensation, including location, educational background, experience and skill level. And while a higher salary doesn't always mean happier people, it does affect workers who are looking to switch careers or re-evaluate their current skills to see if these positions are worth investigating.

Here's a glance at the top 20 jobs with the highest salary growth in 2011 versus 2010:

1. Network engineer: Provides analytical, technical and administrative support in the planning, design and installation of new and existing voice and data communication systems and

services.

Annual salary: \$78,000

Increase: 7 percent

2. Staffing manager: Oversees and manages an organization's recruitment and staffing functions.

Annual salary: \$55,000

Increase: 7 percent

3. Customer account representative: Manages orders primarily for large and repeat customers. Provides service and support to customers, providing information on products, orders in process and other information.

Annual salary: \$25,000

Increase: 7 percent

4. Recruiting coordinator: Coordinates recruitment methods to attract quality candidates appropriate to the position and the organization's needs.

Annual salary: \$38,000

Increase: 6 percent

5. Health-care recruiter: Performs resource and recruitment functions to fill health-care job openings, including candidate sourcing,

screening, interviewing, reference checking and extending of job offers.

Annual salary: \$53,000

Increase: 6 percent

6. Purchasing supervisor: Supervises buyers and purchasing staff involved in the procurement of raw materials, parts, equipment, supplies and services for an organization at minimal cost, consistent with delivery requirements and quality specifications.

Annual salary: \$71,000

Increase: 6 percent

7. Customer service manager: Directs and coordinates customer service staff.

Annual salary: \$74,000

Increase: 6 percent

8. Mortgage loan processor: Processes mortgage loans by verifying, compiling and typing application information.

Annual salary: \$36,000

Increase: 6 percent

9. Customer service adviser: Handles and resolves complex customer queries, complaints, special orders or in-store returns

via email, telephone and/or in-person contact.

Annual salary: \$26,000

Increase: 6 percent

10. Operations manager: Manages and coordinates organization, branch, plant or department operation strategies and activities.

Annual salary: \$88,000

Increase: 6 percent

11. Top information technology officer: Directs, develops, administers and coordinates all phases of an organization's computer department, including systems design, programming, installation and operation.

Annual salary: \$160,000

Increase: 6 percent

12. Home health aide: Assists in providing simple or uncomplicated patient care in caring for elderly, convalescent or disabled people in a patient's home.

Annual salary: \$25,000

Increase: 5 percent

13. Marketing associate: Assists in creating and managing long-term marketing plans, including advertising, public relations, promotions and collateral.

Annual salary: \$51,000

Increase: 5 percent

14. Banking credit analyst: Assesses credit information to determine risk involved in lending money to customers, and prepares reports of findings.

Annual salary: \$52,000

Increase: 5 percent

15. Tax preparer: Prepares income-tax return forms for individuals and small businesses. Reviews financial records to determine needed tax forms.

Annual salary: \$42,000

Increase: 5 percent

16. Occupational therapist: Facilitates development and rehabilitation of mentally, physically or emotionally disabled.

Annual salary: \$66,000

Increase: 5 percent

17. Physical therapy technician: Performs physical therapy

treatments on patients, working under the direction of, and as an assistant to, a physical therapist.

Annual salary: \$45,000

Increase: 5 percent

18. Electronics engineer: Researches, develops, designs, tests and analyzes electronic components, products and systems for commercial, industrial, medical, military and scientific applications, applying principles and techniques of electronic engineering.

Annual salary: \$79,000

Increase: 5 percent

19. Accounting clerk: Prepares and keeps financial and business transaction data up-to-date and prepares reports to ensure accurate accounting records.

Annual salary: \$33,000

Increase: 5 percent

20. Legal secretary: Assists attorneys by performing secretarial work such as typing and handling papers. Also includes legal correspondence, such as contracts, briefs, warrants, summonses, complaints, indictments, motions, subpoenas and papers for filing and serving.

Annual salary: \$48,000

Increase: 5 percent

The list above is compiled from data provided by CBSalary, powered by SalaryExpert.com. The percentage listed for each occupation is the amount the salary increased compared with last year's salary. The list is based on an analysis of data from the Occupational Employment Statistics provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and ongoing surveys conducted by Salary Expert.

Justin Thompson is a writer and blogger for CareerBuilder.com and its job blog, The Work Buzz. He researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.

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at Courtyard Livonia 17200 N. Laurel Park Dr. Livonia, MI 48152 on January 25 from 9-11.

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WAREHOUSE HELP

For Hydraulic component distributor. Responsibilities include: Fill and ship customer orders, stock shelves, deliver customer orders, clean warehouse.

Full-Time. \$9/hr. Email resume to: tkalts@hydra-flex.com

WOLVERINE PACKING JOB FAIR

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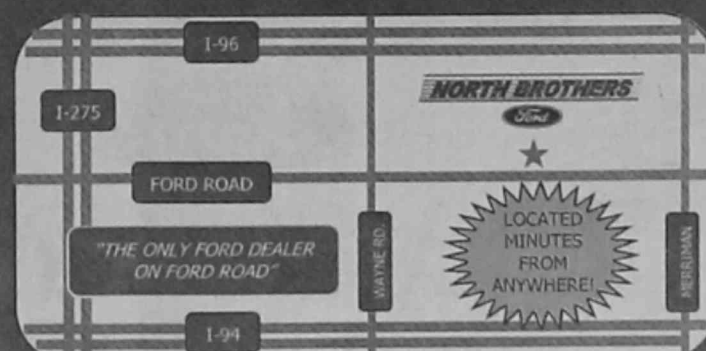
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NEW/2012 Ford Fusion SEL

EPA estimated 23 city / 33 hwy mpg
Loaded, Leather, Moonroof

Buy for **\$19,938+**
MSRP \$29,085

Featuring: Sync, Automatic, Power Windows, Locks, Mirrors, Keyless Entry, Satellite Radio, BLIS, Rearview Camera, Reverse Sensing. 27 at this price - 258 available

24 month lease

Security deposit waived, plus tax and license, includes acquisition fee.

\$1000 DOWN **SIGN & DRIVE**
\$172* **\$227***
\$1347 due at signing \$0 due at signing



NEW/2012 Ford Escape Limited

EPA estimated 21 city / 28 hwy mpg
Sun & Sync Package

Buy for **\$21,589+**
MSRP \$29,940

Featuring: 302A Package, Chrome Wheels, Luxury Package, Moonroof, Premium Sound. 3 at this price - 416 available



24 month lease

Security deposit waived, plus tax and license, includes acquisition fee.

\$1000 DOWN **SIGN & DRIVE**
\$183* **\$241***
\$1404 due at signing \$0 due at signing

NEW/2012 Ford Edge SE

EPA estimated 19 city / 26 hwy mpg

Buy for **\$21,777+**
MSRP \$28,835

Featuring: Tilt Wheel, Cruise Control, Power Windows, Seats, Locks. 7 at this price - 127 available

24 month lease

Security deposit waived, plus tax and license, includes acquisition fee.

\$1000 DOWN **SIGN & DRIVE**
\$239* **\$297***
\$1403 due at signing \$0 due at signing



NEW/2012 Ford Focus SE

EPA estimated 28 city / 38 hwy mpg
Sport Package

Buy for **\$17,242+**
MSRP \$22,375

Featuring: Automatic, Cruise Control, Rear Spoiler, Power Windows. 34 at this price - 234 available



24 month lease

Security deposit waived, plus tax and license, includes acquisition fee.

\$1000 DOWN **SIGN & DRIVE**
\$189* **\$242***
\$1290 due at signing \$0 due at signing

NEW/2012 Ford Explorer XLT

EPA estimated 17 city / 23 hwy mpg

Buy for **\$27,217+**
MSRP \$32,995

Featuring: Sync, Reverse sensing, keyless entry, power windows, power locks. 4 at this price - 75 available

24 month lease

Security deposit waived, plus tax and license, includes acquisition fee.

\$1000 DOWN **SIGN & DRIVE**
\$322* **\$381***
\$1431 due at signing \$0 due at signing



NEW/2011 Ford F150 Super Crew 4x4 XLT

EPA estimated 15 city / 21 hwy mpg

Buy for **\$28,957+**
MSRP 42,535

Featuring: Ecoboost 3.5 L V6 Engine, XLT Convenience Package, Keyless Entry, Trailer Tow, XLT Chrome Pkg., Limited Slip. 3 At This Price - 103 Available.



24 month lease

Security deposit waived, plus tax and license, includes acquisition fee.

\$1000 DOWN **SIGN & DRIVE**
\$311* **\$374***
\$1525 due at signing \$0 due at signing

NEW/2012 Ford Fiesta SE

EPA estimated 29 city / 38 hwy mpg

Buy for **\$14,718+**
MSRP \$18,040

Featuring: Sport Appearance Pkg., SYNC and Sound, Automatic, Ambient Lighting, Satellite Radio, Heated Seats, Keyless Entry Key Pad. 3 at this price - 62 available

24 month lease

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\$1000 DOWN **SIGN & DRIVE**
\$178* **\$230***
\$1263 due at signing \$0 due at signing



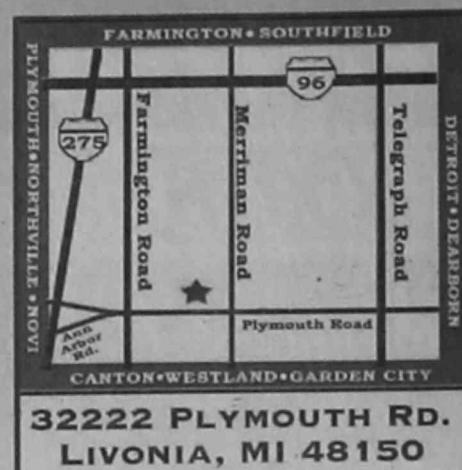
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& Friday
9 AM to 6 PM



*All payments and prices are for qualifying A/Z planners. For qualifying, non A/Z planners an additional \$800 to \$1500 would be required to keep the payments or price the same. 10,500 miles per year. To Buy For Price add tax, title, doc and destination fee. All factory rebates assigned to dealer including owner loyalty or previous lease and may require Ford Credit financing. Not all buyers will qualify for lowest payments. Pictures may not represent actual vehicle. Subject to availability. Payments and prices per program in effect at publication and are subject to change. *MGP-EPA estimated when equipped as show. All offers expire 2/1/12.