



HEARTY, HEALTHY COMFORT FOOD, B8

SPECIAL INSERT INSIDE

Winter Values

## Head Smart

The Plymouth Whalers team with the Brain Injury Association of Michigan in the first "Head Smart Night" Saturday at 7:05 p.m. at Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township. While the Whalers are playing the Sudbury Wolves, the activity around the game involves increased education and awareness of BIAMI for fans and the organization's expertise toward head trauma.

Brain Injury Association of Michigan is a nonprofit group that brings together people with brain injury, their families, friends and concerned professionals to improve the quality of life that people experience after brain injuries.

For every \$12 ticket sold on Saturday, \$4 will be donated toward BIAMI's Concussion Awareness and Education programs. For tickets and more information, visit [www.plymouthwhalers.com/buytickets](http://www.plymouthwhalers.com/buytickets).

## Public forum

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools hosts a public forum on its facilities study 6:30 p.m. Monday at Discovery Middle School, 45083 Hanford in Canton.

The meeting provides an opportunity for residents to ask questions about what schools may close, how other schools might be redistricted and what the districts plans are for the near future.

District officials and a representative from Plante & Moran CRESA, the firm that conducted the study, will be on hand to answer questions.

## Tax town hall

State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, hosted a town hall Monday on Michigan's new tax laws, focusing on the new three-tiered pension tax, and credits that will no longer be available or reduced for the 2012 tax year.

Residents were given the opportunity to ask questions on the recent changes to the state tax structure.

Slavens was joined by panelists Lois Beerbaum, Ph.D., senior tax adviser at H&R Block, and Kay Diggs of AARP Michigan.

### INDEX

Business.....A9  
Crossword Puzzle.....B10  
Entertainment.....B5  
Food.....B8  
Homes.....B10  
Jobs.....B11  
Obituaries.....B4  
Opinion.....A10  
Services.....B10  
Sports.....B1  
Wheels.....B12

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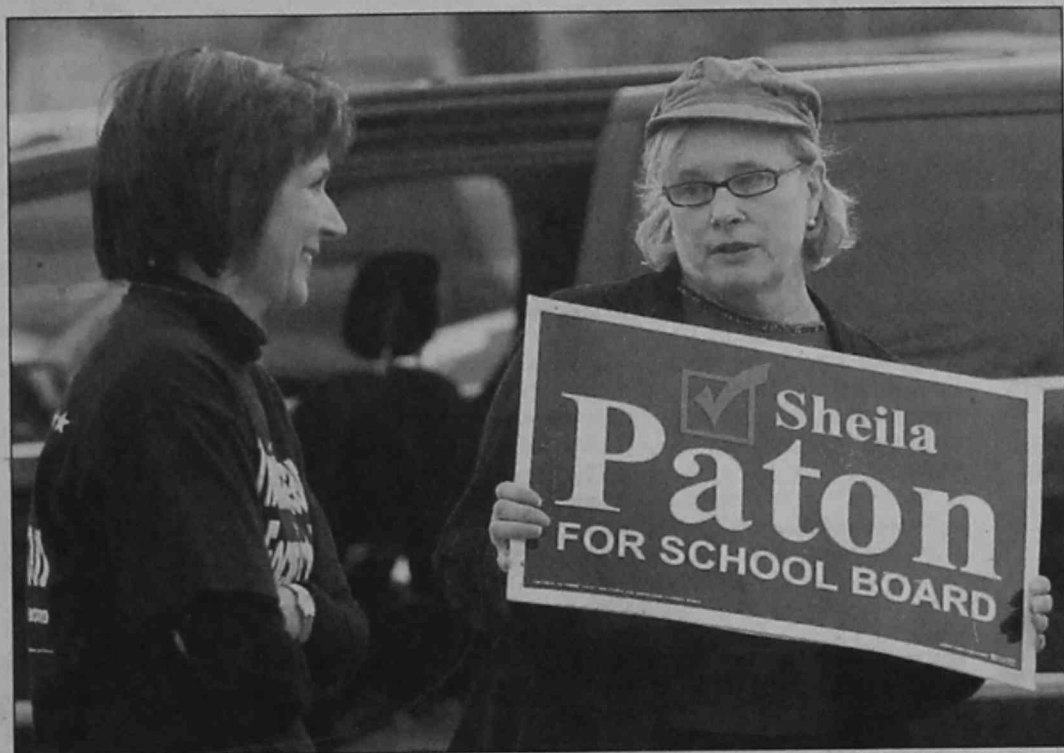
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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sheila Paton (left), with volunteer Sue Egleston at the Plymouth Cultural Center on election day, spent some \$5,100 on the Board of Education election, most among the 14 active candidates.

## Cash and carry

### Money flowed in 2011 school board race

By Brad Kadrich  
Observer Staff Writer

Money may not buy love, but it came in handy for at least some of the candidates who ran for the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education in November.

On the other hand, the second-biggest spender in the November election — Abdul Muhiuddin — finished 10th in the 14-person race, leaving open the question of how much money helped or hurt in the campaign.

One thing is certain, though — cash flowed freely.

"Initially, I wondered if I was even going to spend \$1,000," said Sheila Paton, who wound up spending \$5,100. "I had no intention of spending that much. (But) when you start looking at what (campaign) signs cost, and then if you do a mailing ... it all adds up, and it adds up quickly. I didn't know what I was getting into."

Money became a big issue in the race when it appeared as though the Republican Party, through the Wayne 11th Congressional District Committee, was spending vaultfuls of it. Down the stretch, three mailings

### WHO SPENT WHAT

Here's what campaign finance reports show candidates spent in the November 2011 Plymouth-Canton Board of Education race and where they finished in the 14-candidate field (includes only those who spent enough to have to file a report):

Candidate	Spent	Finish
Sheila Paton	\$5,100	1
Abdul Muhiuddin	\$4,810	10
Mike Andro	\$3,305	6
John Jackson	\$2,528	8
John Barrett	\$2,400	2
Mark Horvath	\$2,300	3
Mike Maloney	\$2,143	4
Matt Dame	\$1,100	7
Stephanie Goecke	\$828	11

appeared with the traditional "paid for by" mark of the Wayne 11th, including one that used pictures of President Barack Obama and former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

### Warning signs?

The mailings were signs, critics said, the Republicans were getting heavily involved in what is a non-partisan race in an effort to get their candidates — former board presidents Mike Maloney and Mark Horvath, along with political newcomers Mike Andro and Matt Dame — onto the board.

According to Bob Kerrigan, owner of Alpha Graphics

in Canton, a popular campaign printing destination, 5,000 copies of a fairly standard (5.5- x 8.5-inch) postcard would cost some \$300, or about 60 cents per 100 copies. With a mailing list of some 7,000 voters who cast absentee ballots in the November 2009 election (the usual target for candidate mailings), the three mailers would have cost the Wayne 11th some \$1,000.

While the Wayne 11th isn't required to file its final campaign finance report with the state until mid-April, earlier reports on file show payments to Alpha Graph-

Please see MONEY, A5

## Relay for Life kicks off with high hopes

By Darrell Clem  
Observer Staff Writer

Canton Relay for Life organizers hope to top the \$275,000 mark as the American Cancer Society fundraiser returns to Heritage Park for a 24-hour event May 19-20.

"Canton is actually one of our bigger events in southeast Michigan," ACS staff partner Rachael Cook said.

A kickoff party for this year's Relay for Life is set for 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28, at Dodson Elementary School, 205 N. Beck Road at Cherry Hill in Canton. Anyone interested in becoming involved is welcome.

Mia Gocaj, who chairs the event's promotions efforts, said dozens of families, caregivers, cancer survivors, school representatives and local groups are expected to usher in the new Relay season with Tuesday's rally to spark enthusiasm for the fundraiser.

### 'Fun event'

"It's a fun event," Gocaj said. "It's where we get the ball rolling for the Relay."

Organizers said this year's Canton Relay starts at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 19, and marks the 14th season for the local fundraiser.

Canton has earned a reputation for sponsoring one of the area's most successful Relay events, Cook said.

Last year, 1,300 participants on 67 teams raised nearly \$273,000, she said. That marked a slight increase over the \$271,000 raised in 2010 and was well above the \$239,000 from 2009.

Canton's goal this year is to form 77 teams and raise \$275,020. Organizers also hope to draw 250 cancer survivors to the event.

"As the years go on we have a lot of new teams, but we also have a lot of returning teams," Cook said.

### Teamwork

Relay is an overnight community celebration where teams camp out, picnic, dance, play games and take turns circling a relay-

Please see RELAY, A2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton Relay for Life officials hope to form 77 teams and draw some 250 cancer survivors to this year's event. Their fundraising goal is \$275,000.

## Canton fills finance chief's job

By Darrell Clem  
Observer Staff Writer

Wendy Trumbull, a Plan-te Moran auditing firm associate who already has experience dissecting Canton's budget, has been named the successor to departing Finance Director Rick Eva.

Trumbull, touted by local offi-

cials as a seasoned finance expert, assumes her \$98,243-a-year post March 7, one week after Eva retires and ends a three-decade career that spanned just over five years in Canton.

Supervisor Phil LaJoy chose Trumbull from among three finalists selected by the local Merit Commission, and his deci-

sion was supported Tuesday by the full Canton Township Board of Trustees.

Eva lauded the board's choice and said he leaves the finance director's post in capable hands.

"I believe she's a good choice and that the township is in good hands as it moves forward in the years to come," he said.

Trumbull, a Canton resi-

dent, was among 14 people who applied for the position. Her starting salary is nearly \$26,000 less than Eva's \$124,000 — a move that dovetails with a decision by township officials to trim expenses when possible.

To that end, the township board Tuesday set newly hired Human

Please see FINANCE, A3



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## RELAY

Continued from page A1

style track to raise funds and fight cancer. It opens as those who have fought cancer lead a survivor's lap around the track, followed at sunset by hundreds of luminaria lighting the area in a silent, emotional ceremony.

Each luminary bag represents a loved one who has beaten cancer or who lost a battle, though they are not forgotten. Relay also is meant to show support for those who still face cancer, in hopes the disease will one day be eliminated.

Canton has continued to raise large amounts of money for Relay despite



Relay for Life Luminaries represent a loved one who has beaten cancer or who lost a battle, though they are not forgotten.

an economic downturn that has increased requests for help. Some need help for treatment, others need resources such as transportation to doctor appointments.

"The number of people who come to us for help has doubled (in recent

years)," Cook said.

For more on this year's event, go to [www.relay-for-life.org/cantonmi](http://www.relay-for-life.org/cantonmi). Cook also may be reached by sending an e-mail to [rachael.cook@cancer.org](mailto:rachael.cook@cancer.org) or by calling (248) 663-3430.

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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](mailto:bkadrich@hometownlife.com)

### FOOD DRIVE

**Date/Time:** Through Feb. 24

**Location:** Muslim Community of Western Suburbs Building Entrance, 40440 Palmer in Canton

**Details:** The "Feed Detroit" food drive will benefit needy neighbors in Detroit, where organizers say more than 50 percent of children under age 18 live in poverty. Collection boxes can be found at the Muslim Community of Western Suburbs Building Entrance (non-perishable foods only, please).

### MOM2MOM SALE

**Date/Time:** Saturday, April 21, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Location:** Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton

**Details:** Children's clothes, toys, books, videos, maternity clothes, and more will be sold at 30+ tables when the Canton Newcomers and Neighbors Club hosts its public Mom-2Mom sale. A "large item" area, the group's motto of "where neighbors become friends", sales that benefit Vista Maria, committed to ending the debilitating cycle of poverty in Southeastern Michigan creates an extra

special sale atmosphere. Admission is \$1.

**Contact:** For more information Jessica at (734) 331-3201 or e-mail [themirolands@yahoo.com](mailto:themirolands@yahoo.com).

### CHICKS 4 CHARITY

**Date/Time:** Thursday, March 29, 5-8:30 p.m.

**Location:** Plymouth Elks Club, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

**Details:** Join Woman's Life Chapter 827-Chicks 4 Charity at their "Quartermadness" fundraiser to benefit New Hope Center for Grief Support, a non-profit 501c3 bereavement outreach center in Northville. This event will include auctions and lots of fun. Bidders may buy up to three paddles to win great prizes and all donated items will be available to bid on with Quarters.

**Contact:** For more information on "Quartermadness," contact Tammy Brown, (734) 844-9180.

### BENTLEY SALE

**Date/Time:** Saturday, March 3, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Location:** Bentley Elementary School, 1100 S. Sheldon, Canton

**Details:** Bentley Elementary School hosts its PTO Mom-to-Mom sale, featuring some 50 tables and a big-item room. There's a \$1 entry fee; strollers are welcome after 11 a.m.

**Contact:** For information, e-mail [rcwe-grzyn@gmail.com](mailto:rcwe-grzyn@gmail.com)

## CORRECTION

The Sunday, Feb. 19, story about the Wayne County Family Center should have identified

the parent organization as Lutheran Social Services of Michigan. The agency operates the cen-

ter for the county for Wayne County, providing shelter for homeless families.

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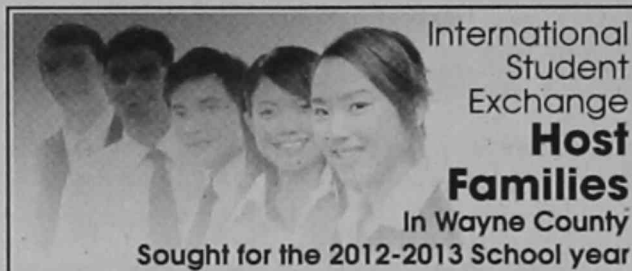
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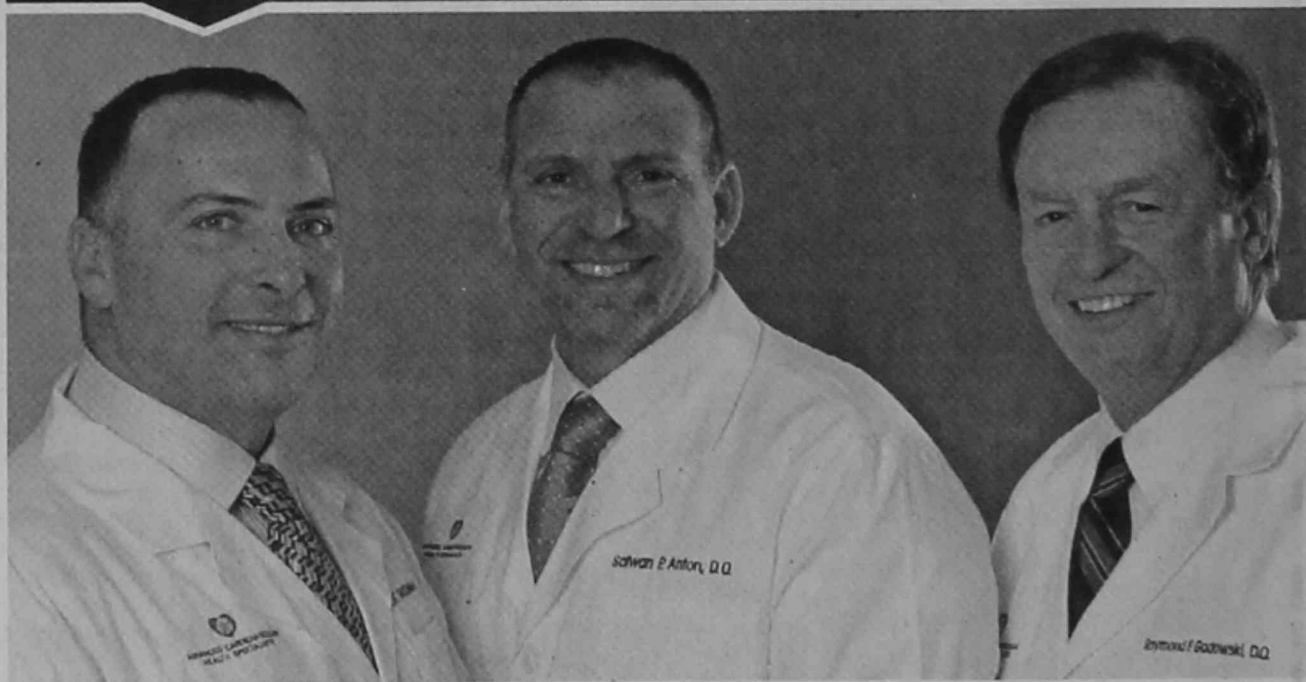
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# Rubber meets road for mobile tire firm

By Darrell Clem  
Observer Staff Writer

Tire repair expert Brian Roddy has driven to Hell and back for his customers.

That's a little outside the typical 25-mile radius of Canton where Roddy drives a rigged-out cube van to replace, balance, rotate or repair tires and wheels. He can even diagnose and fix a faulty tire-pressure monitoring system sensor.

Roddy works for Mobile Tire Company, a company started last June after owner Josh Cohen created a tire shop on wheels for busy customers who need service brought to their home, workplace, school — pretty much anywhere.

"We've done a mom's tires while she was at soccer practice with her kids," Cohen said.

Mobile Tire has taken off faster than a car burning rubber. Roddy works full time, while Cohen — who has another job with a local freight company — markets the business.

Roddy, 29, and Cohen, 38, are proud of their mobile tire shop, tucked in a 14-by-8-foot area equipped with a generator that powers a high-speed tire balancer and a compressor for the tire changer.

"This is my second home," Roddy said.

He had worked for tire companies for a decade before Cohen hired him for Mobile Tire. As for Cohen, his new business seemed a perfect venture. "I've always loved tin-



Brian Roddy will drive his truck to your car and install new tires.



Mobile Tire owner Josh Cohen said his business makes tire work easy for people who have busy schedules.

kering with cars," Cohen said. "I've always been a car guy."

Mobile Tire plans to have a spot at this year's AutoRama, Feb. 24-26 at Cobo Center. Cohen also has marketed his Belleville-based business by forging ties with chambers of commerce in Canton, Plymouth, Ann Arbor and Belleville.

Customers can choose a wide array of tire serv-

es, though a roadside flat isn't among them. Clients also can select a new set of tires from more than 20 brands, listed on the company's website at [www.mobiletirecompany.com](http://www.mobiletirecompany.com).

"We'll beat anyone's price," Cohen said. "Our tire machine has no metal — it's rubber and urethane — so if you have a nice set of wheels, you don't have to worry about us damaging it."

Mobile Tire's work comes with a warranty, and Roddy even performs work such as switching out winter and summer tires.

Cohen's wife, Karen, helps with Mobile Tire's paperwork, and Roddy has no competition as the company's only full-time repair guy.

"Brian's our star employee," Cohen said with a smile.

Cohen estimated Mobile Tire has had nearly 300

customers, including vehicle fleets for landscaping, construction and snow-plowing companies. Already, the company is branching out to replace windshield wiper blades.

For a little fun on Facebook.com/mobiletirecompany, Cohen said if the company gets 229 "likes" by Feb. 29, one winner will get a \$229 prepaid Visa gift card.

Standing outside his cube van, Cohen admits there are differences between his mobile business and a regular tire shop.

"We provide the same service," he said, "without the bad coffee, uncomfortable chairs, three-year-old magazines and TV soap operas."

For more information, call (734) 506-8473 or send an e-mail to [sales@mobiletirecompany.com](mailto:sales@mobiletirecompany.com).

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## Baracy to retire at end of pact

The Wayne-Westland school board will have a few years to decide who will replace Greg Baracy as superintendent of the Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

The board recently approved a notification from Baracy indicating that he will retire when his current three-year expires June 30, 2015.

Baracy moved to Wayne in 1952 and is a graduate of Wayne Memorial High School. He has spent almost his entire educational career with the Wayne-Westland school district. He began his career as a full-time teacher in 1974. He joined the W-W district as assistant principal at the William D. Ford Career-Technical Center from 1988 to 1990



Baracy

and its principal from 1990 to 1992.

Baracy also served as an

assistant superintendent from 1992 to 1997 when he was tapped by the school board to become superintendent.

He stressed to the board that he will work "as hard as I can in the years that are left" and that "I will be here three more years."

Vice President John Goci had wanted the notification voted on separately because it "was a significant event in the history of Wayne-Westland." His fellow trustees, however, voted no.

## FINANCE

Continued from page A1

Resources Manager Gwyn Belcher's salary at \$95,524 — less than the \$101,260 her predecessor, David Medley, was making.

LaJoy chose Trumbull as Canton's finance director due to her vast background analyzing municipal budgets as a Plante Moran associate and certified public accountant. He said she also has supervisory experience.

"She's just got a wealth of experience on budgets and all that financial stuff," LaJoy said.

He said Trumbull also had been assigned by Plante Moran as a financial analyst for the city of Detroit, giving her insight into a major city that has had much more challenging money woes than Canton.

LaJoy said Canton received several top-notch candidates for Eva's post.

"It was a very difficult decision for me," he said, but Trumbull's experience examining Canton's budget means "it will take very little training to get her going."

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Smoke billows from second-floor windows as Canton firefighters battle a fire in a home in the 7200 block of Wadebridge Saturday.

## Home damaged, no one hurt in blaze

By Darrell Clem  
Observer Staff Writer

Canton firefighters are being credited with doing "a phenomenal job" Saturday afternoon while battling a fire that swept through a large home in the 7200 block of Wadebridge, northwest of Warren and Beck.

It marked the second fire at the house within the last few years, and fire officials said the investigation was continuing.

During the latest incident, large flames could be seen coming from the house after a neighbor reported the blaze about 2:15 p.m., Deputy Fire Chief Joshua Meier said.

No one was at home when the fire started inside the two-story home, estimated at 3,600 square feet in size.

"It was heavily damaged," Meier said, though no cost estimates of damage were yet known.

Fire officials hadn't determined the cause of the blaze, and Meier said "the investigation is ongoing."

Firefighters from all three Canton fire stations fought the fire, and Meier said off-duty firefighters were called in to staff the stations.

The fire occurred across the street from where Canton Township Trustee Pat Williams and his family live. He and others saw the fire, and he lauded the job of local firefighters who battled it.

"I thought they did a phenomenal job," Williams said. "They certainly saved the homes on either side of the property due to their quick response."

Meier said no other homes sustained any damage.

Williams lauded the dedication of firefighters who, he said, remained on the scene into the early hours of the next morning as they continued their investigation and boarded up portions of the house.

The fire marked the fourth significant house fire Canton firefighters have doused since Jan. 12.

Fire Chief Tim Dunn has said the other fires happened in the 47000 block of Ford west of Beck; in the 2000 block of Roundtable East, southeast of Palmer and Morton Taylor; and on Denton between Michigan Avenue and Geddes.

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## CRIME WATCH

### Arson suspected

A Tuesday evening fire at a Canton Crossings apartment near Joy Road and I-275 was deliberately set, fire officials said. Fire Chief Tim Dunn said Wednesday afternoon investigators have a potential lead on the case.

The fire happened about 6:20 p.m. in the 8500 block of Honeycomb. Firefighters arrived, found a smoke-filled hallway and a smoldering fire in front of an occupied apartment unit door.

They doused the blaze and reported minor fire damage, confined to an apartment door and floor. Smoke damage was limited to the hallway. One person was inside the apartment but was not injured.

### Market fire

Canton firefighters doused a fire that started about 10:40 p.m. Monday inside Eastern Market, a business in the 39400 block of Joy road between Canton Center and Sheldon.

Damage from the fire was contained to a back corner area of the building, though heavy smoke damage occurred throughout the building and to its contents.

The fire occurred after business hours, and Canton Public Safety's dispatch center received a call from an alarm company. Police initially responded and found smoke coming from inside the business.

Firefighters entered the single-story business and doused the fire, which was ruled accidental.

### Suspect nabbed

Police arrested one suspect accused of stealing televisions from the Walmart store on Michigan Avenue just west of Belleville Road.

The incident happened about 2:30 p.m. Saturday and led to the arrest of a 51-year-old Ypsilanti man.

Police went to the store following a 9-1-1 call reporting that loss prevention employees were trying to stop a retail fraud in progress. A police report said one suspect had pushed a cart with TVs out to the garden center area of the store and was throwing them over a wall to a suspect in a waiting vehicle.

The suspect in the getaway vehicle had fled, but store employees had captured the other suspect inside the store and had him in custody.

A police report indicated the driver fled the scene with two televisions. The suspect who was left behind was taken into custody, and he told police he was a drug addict. He said he had just met the other suspect that same day. The sus-

pect who was captured had a criminal history including retail fraud in Canton.

### Teen crashes car

A 15-year-old Canton boy was turned over to Wayne County juvenile authorities after he took the keys to his mother's car, drove it and crashed into a van on Willow Creek, northeast of Ford and Morton Taylor.

The incident happened about 4:10 a.m. Feb. 16, according to a police report.

Police received a report of a gray Ford Focus that had struck a parked white van, and the driver had fled the scene. The Focus had heavy front-end damage and also had hit a nearby mailbox.

An investigation led police to the boy's mother, who told police her son had taken her car without her permission. She said he had stolen the keys from a hiding place where she had put them.

The mother reported the boy had been causing problems, and he was turned over to a youth home. The Focus was impounded.

### Warrant arrest

Canton police arrested a driver wanted for a felony marijuana warrant out of Ann Arbor.

Police stopped a silver Lincoln Continental after noticing it change lanes without using a turn signal around 9:35 p.m. Saturday along Haggerty between Michigan Avenue and Van Born.

Police learned the driver had a warrant out of Ann Arbor, arrested him and arranged to turn him over to Washtenaw County authorities.

### Family trouble

A man was advised to leave his ex-wife's home on Stanton, east of Denton between Cherry Hill and Geddes, after a family dispute that occurred about 4:25 p.m. Friday.

Police had been sent to the home on reports of a felonious assault. The man had come from out of town to visit his children but was confronted by his ex-wife, who told him he couldn't take the children because she already had planned a birthday party.

The woman has custody but sometimes allows the ex-husband to take the children for weekend visits.

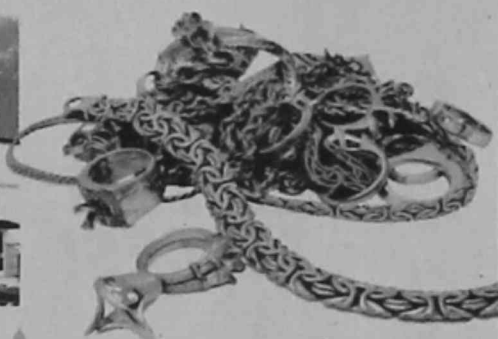
The man accused the woman of hitting him, kicking him and pulling a kitchen knife on him during the dispute, but the mother and the daughters disputed his account of what had happened.

Police advised the man to leave.

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

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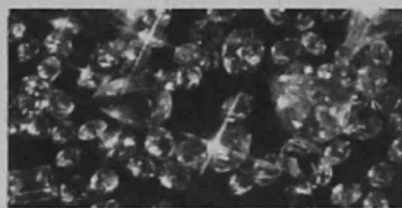
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Attorneys J.B. Bleske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear themselves at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced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



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

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

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney 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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## MONEY

Continued from page A1

ics totalling about that amount in the weeks leading up to the Nov. 8 election.

And while the final report isn't in and the Wayne 11th treasurer didn't return a call seeking comment, the committee reportedly spent in the \$4,000 to \$7,000 range on the campaign.

Wayne 11th spokesperson Mark Hutchins said he didn't know the actual total, but said a number in that range wouldn't be inordinate.

"We spent most of our money for mailings, basically," Hutchins said. "That's not really a lot of money. It depends on whether we've had a good fundraising year or not, but that's not an exorbitant amount of money."

### Others do it

Hutchins downplayed the involvement of the political parties, pointing out the Michigan Edu-

*"You can look at it as a lot of money, or you can say only people who are really serious about it are going to run ... You have to be serious. You have to really want the job."*

MIKE MALONEY



cation Association has for years spent money backing its candidates. Indeed, the MEA made \$500 contributions to each of the four candidates it backed: Paton, former board President John Jackson, former Plymouth City Commissioner John Barrett and political newcomer Abdul Muhiuddin.

It was the MEA influence that caused the Wayne 11th to get involved, according to Hutchins.

"In this particular race, we saw a lot of dynamics where the MEA was controlling, and has been controlling, the direction of the school board

race," Hutchins said. "We felt that was like the fox guarding the henhouse. We felt it was necessary to get some other voices on the school board to represent other than MEA-backed individuals."

Two of the Wayne 11th's candidates — former presidents Horvath and Maloney — were among the four new members chosen to the board Nov. 8. It marked the first school board campaign for either since the late 1990s. Times have changed in terms of how much money it takes to get elected.

Maloney said he spent "within some spare change" of \$1,000 in his

last campaign, when he was beaten by Mark Slavens in 1999. Still, the \$2,100 he spent last year, he said, isn't all that much money.

"There are two ways of looking at it. You can look at it as a lot of money, or you can say only people who are really serious about it are going to run," Maloney said. "You have to be serious. You have to really want the job."

### Tougher time

Critics, though, say people who "really" want the job are going to have a tough time fighting the money if political parties continue to get this involved. Former Plymouth-Canton Trustee Steven Sneiderman fears it will get worse since the state forced districts to shift elections to even-year Novembers to coincide with presidential

election years in what Republicans hailed as a cost-saving move.

What it could do, Sneiderman argued, is provide a huge advantage to candidates backed by political parties.

"With elections in even-year Novembers, when there are 75,000 people voting, versus 12,000 in an odd-year election, the dollars spent mean even more," Sneiderman said. "If you can reach even a fraction of those voters, you can win a seat. It takes money to do that, and the (political) parties are the only ones with that kind of money. So now you've taken what are supposed to be non-partisan seats and made them partisan."

"I just think what happened in this last election, in an odd year, the money spent bought them two seats," he added. "In an

even-year (election), that money would have bought them all four seats. I'm convinced of that."

Maloney disagrees, and said spending the money is part of a candidate getting his message out. With the numbers of outlets people have to get information these days, spending money to reach people is a necessary evil.

"If your message doesn't resonate with people, you don't get in," Maloney said. "Nobody likes to spend money. I would rather have gone on vacation. For people who are really committed to try and help the school district, it's worth it. It's very important to me that we address some of the problems in the school district. For me, it's worth it."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com  
(313) 222-8899

## W-W gets perfect score in bus checks

By Sue Mason  
Observer Staff Writer

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools transportation department has something to hang on the wall, a certificate showing that its bus fleet earned a 100 percent approval rating during the 2011 State Police inspection.

"This is the third time in the past 11 years that the bus fleet has received 100 percent," said Jim Larson-Shidler, deputy superintendent for administrative and business services.

"The inspections are very thorough and check some 200 items on a bus."

Some 8,300 Wayne-Westland students ride a school bus each day, and the fleet of 88 bus-

ses amasses some 1.5 million miles a year. According to Larson-Shidler, the district's buses have an average age of 7 1/2 years, ranging from 1996 to 2010 models.

"The drivers do inspections and the mechanics keep them running," Larson-Shidler said.

"I want to thank everybody," said Scherice Roark, transportation director. "A big part of passing the inspections is because of (Supervisor) Jason (Tamer). He takes care of the garage, he supervises the garage."

State law requires school buses to be inspected and certified annually by members of the MSP Motor Carrier Division. Schools and school

bus owners cannot legally operate or permit the operation of school buses that have not been inspected.

The inspections cover all areas of the busses, both exterior and interior. Those buses with a defect preventing them from transporting students to school or extracurricular activities receive a red tag, while those requiring repairs within 60 days receive a yellow tag.

"This is one of our points of pride," said board President Carol Middel. "You transport 75 percent of our students every day. You show the pride you have in the job and the pride you have for the job and you do it for the school district. Congratulations for a job well done."

## Spring Celebration ARTS & CRAFT SHOW



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# Beware of tax scams

By Rick Bloom  
Guest Columnist

Every year about this time, the Internal Revenue Service issues its annual dirty dozen ranking of tax scams.

Some of these scams occur most frequently during this time of year as people prepare their tax returns while others occur throughout the year.

Taxpayers don't have to fall for any of these scams. Don't forget that ultimately we are responsible for our own tax return.

Falling for one of the scams can cost money and cause significant stress. The IRS can also assess interest and penalties. Therefore, it behooves us all to protect ourselves.

### Identity theft

Identity theft is the number one item on this year's dirty dozen list.

The identity thieves have been filing false tax returns on behalf of their victims. Typically, these false tax returns are seeking refunds in the name of their victims.

The IRS recognizes that this is a huge problem and is taking steps to clamp down on the crooks.

This is the type of tax scam that a taxpayer can do very little about. However, if you have your identity stolen, you need to notify the IRS.

In addition, it is important not to ignore any correspondence from the IRS because it may assist you in dealing with the identity theft.

The second item on the list is what's known

as phishing - when you receive an unsolicited e-mail that looks legitimate and requires some sort of response on your part. Typically, when it comes to tax scams, the e-mail appears to be from the IRS and it asks for sensitive, personal and financial information.

Always remember that the IRS never sends an unsolicited e-mail. If you receive one, you should know it is bogus.

### Preparer fraud

Next item on the list was return preparer fraud.

The majority of taxpayers now use professional preparers and the majority of them are competent. However, there are those who are out and out crooks. It is important to deal with a competent tax preparer.

You know something is wrong if the tax preparer has not signed the return or put his/her Tax ID number where indicated. Other signs that you may be dealing with the wrong person is when he/she encourages you to put false information on your return such as inflated expenses, or they charge you a percentage of the refund as part of the preparation fee.

Another scam on the IRS list, and one that I received an e-mail about, is hiding income offshore. The e-mail I received talked about how it is legal to invest money offshore and avoid paying U.S. taxes.

### Offshore scam

There are legitimate reasons to place money outside of the United States, however, they are few and far between. For the great majority of taxpayers, offshore investments are not applicable. In addition, it is important to recognize that just because the money is outside the border of the

United States it doesn't mean that taxpayers are not required to report the income.

The e-mail I received said for a small fee they could show me how to avoid U.S. taxes. No doubt this is just another scam.

There are many more scams on the IRS dirty dozen list but space does not allow me to mention them all. However, you can go to the IRS website and read more.

One thing many tax scams have in common is that they tend to promote things that sound too good to be true.

For example, a few years ago one of the popular tax scams dealt with the idea that paying taxes was voluntary and not mandatory.

People were told that by putting certain language down on your tax return, the IRS could not tax you. Of course part of the scam was that you had to pay a certain amount of money in order to get the necessary form and language. Another scam but, unfortunately, too many people fell for it.

### Bottom line

The bottom line is if something sounds too good to be true, particularly when it comes to taxes, walk away.

Don't assume that tax scams only occur to the rich because they don't. There are many scams that prey on low-income individuals, senior citizens and others. Tax scams can happen to anyone at any time.

When it comes to taxes, always remain vigilant. Good luck!

**Rick Bloom** is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at [moneymatters@hometownlife.com](mailto:moneymatters@hometownlife.com). For more information, visit his website at [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com).

## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF HEARING ASSESSMENT BOARD OF REVIEW

**NOTICE OF HEARING** given that the Plymouth Township Board of Review will meet on the following dates and times:

Hearings are by appointment, please call 354-3269, between 8 am and 4:30 pm for an appointment.

<b>Tuesday, March 6</b>	<b>9 am - Noon</b>	<b>Organizational Meeting</b>
<b>Monday, March 12</b>	<b>2 pm - 5 pm 6 pm - 9 pm</b>	<b>Hearings by Appointment Hearings by Appointment</b>
<b>Wednesday, March 14</b>	<b>9 am - Noon 2 pm - 5 pm</b>	<b>Hearings by Appointment Hearings by Appointment</b>
<b>Thursday, March 15</b>	<b>9 am - Noon</b>	<b>Hearings by Appointment</b>
<b>Saturday, March 17</b>	<b>9 am - 11 am</b>	<b>First Come - First Served</b>

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed.

All persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions prior to appearing before the Board. A personal appearance is not required. Written protests to the Board of Review must be received by mail or delivered in person to the Assessing office by the close of business on Friday, March 23, 2012 at 4:30 pm.

The Board of Review will be held in the Board Meeting Room of Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170.

Please come prepared as a ten (10) minute time limit before the Board of Review will be strictly adhered to.

Publish: February 16, 19 and 23, 2012

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## CITY OF PLYMOUTH 2012 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

The City of Plymouth Board of Review will be conducting the 2012 March Board of Review and will convene in the City Commission Conference Room, 201 S Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

The regular Board of Review schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, March 6, 2012 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING 3:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, March 7, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Thursday, March 8, 2012 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, March 13, 2012 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
Monday, March 19, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed. Hearings are by appointments only. COMPLETED 2012 BOARD OF REVIEW PETITIONS ARE NECESSARY, and must be submitted to the Front Office located on the First Floor of City Hall prior to your appointment. The "Deadline" for submitting petitions for all persons wishing to appeal in person before the Board of Review is Monday, March 19, 2012.

A resident or non-resident taxpayer may file a petition with the Board of Review without the requirement of a personal appearance by the taxpayer or a representative. An agent must have written authority to represent the owner. Written petitions must be received by Monday, March 19, 2012 by 3:00 p.m. Postmarks are not accepted.

Copies of the notices stating the dates and times of the meetings will be posted and published in the local newspaper.

All Board of Review Meetings are open meetings in compliance with the "Open Meetings Act".

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Assessor's Office at (734) 453-1234, ext 253.

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC  
City Clerk

Publish: February 16, 19 & 23, 2012

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# Romney opens campaign headquarters in Livonia

By Ken Abramczyk  
Observer Staff Writer

The campaign of Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney has opened its Michigan campaign headquarters in Livonia.

Located at 33300 Five Mile, the headquarters was opened during an open house Saturday as the campaign continues to step up its work in Michigan and recruit campaign volunteers in the final days before Tuesday's presidential primary, and, supporters hope, all the way until the November election.

"We just think it was a great place to set up the campaign office," said Amanda Henneberg, regional press secretary for the Romney campaign. "A lot of people who support the candidate live in the area, and it's close to where his staffers are in Michi-

gan. We've already had a bunch of volunteers who have come in and helped with signs and making phone calls."

Henneberg said the decision to open the headquarters was made prior to Romney's speech last week before the Livonia and Farmington chambers of commerce. "We just felt it was a great location because of the proximity to the freeways, and all the neighboring towns. It's easy to get to them."

State Rep. John Walsh, a Romney supporter, said the headquarters puts Romney in the center of America and the southeastern Michigan area. "This is kind of middle America," Walsh said. "Livonia voters generally are conservative, but reasonable ones who want to hear the issues and not just emotion."

"His headquarters is close to Washtenaw and

Macomb counties," Walsh said, allowing for easier accessibility for those campaign workers to reach communities there.

Henneberg said 50 volunteers assisted the campaign by making phone calls and helping make signs on Saturday. Members of the public who want information on Romney or are interested in volunteering can visit the office as the campaign continues with its grassroots efforts, Henneberg said. Romney was planning more stops this week in between traveling to Arizona for

Wednesday's presidential debate.

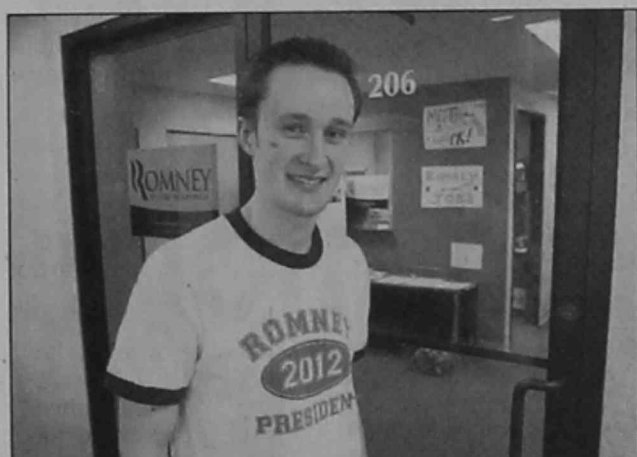
"The Romneys always look forward to being in Michigan and make the case in the final days up to the primary that he's the best to win the presidential election in November," Henneberg said. "With his track record as a businessman, governor and the Olympics, he'll make the case that he is the best to move the economy forward."

kabramcz@hometownlife.com |  
(313) 222-2591 | Twitter: @Ken-Abramcz



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Carter Bundy makes sure the banner is hanging securely. He's a Romney volunteer, from Flushing.



Ross Abraham, of Northville, is a volunteer at the new Romney headquarters in Livonia.

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## Plymouth-Canton Community Schools

Technology Department  
1036 S. Haggerty Road  
Canton, MI 48188  
Telephone: 734-416-2711

### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

**RFP-USF FORM 470/FY2012** - The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools will accept bids for Internal Connections services for FY2012 of the Universal Services Fund (USF) E-rate Program. Specifications are available from the following web site: [triple-r.us/erate/RFP2-PCCSFY12.pdf](http://triple-r.us/erate/RFP2-PCCSFY12.pdf). You may also obtain a copy of the RFP at the Truesdell Building 1036 S Haggerty Rd, Canton, MI 48188. All questions regarding this RFP should be directed to James Casteel at 734-416.2708. RFP's will be received in the Technology Department until 2:00P.M. on March 1, 2012. The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education reserves the right to reject or decline all bids.

#### Statement of Assurance of Compliance with Federal Law

*It is the policy of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, height, weight, disability, religion or marital status in any of its programs, activities or employment.*

**Address Inquiries To:**  
James Casteel, Director of Technology  
Truesdell Building  
1036 S. Haggerty Road  
Canton, MI 48188  
734-416-2708  
Website: <http://tech.pccs.k12.mi.us>

Interpreter services available upon request to Technology Dept, 734-416-2708

Publish: February 19, 23 & 26, 2012

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## Plymouth-Canton Community Schools

Technology Department  
1036 S. Haggerty Road  
Canton, MI 48188  
Telephone: 734-416-2711

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**RFP-USF FORM 470/FY2012** - The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools will accept bids for telecommunication and Internet Access services for FY2012 of the Universal Services Fund (USF) E-rate Program. Specifications are available from the following web site: [triple-r.us/erate/RFP-PCCSFY12.pdf](http://triple-r.us/erate/RFP-PCCSFY12.pdf). You may also obtain a copy of the RFP at the Truesdell Building 1036 S Haggerty Rd, Canton, MI 48188. All questions regarding this RFP should be directed to James Casteel at 734-416.2708. RFP's will be received in the Technology Department until 2:00P.M. on February 28, 2012. The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education reserves the right to reject or decline all bids.

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Daily light housekeeping	We make the bed and take out trash everyday
Nutritious meals*	Continental breakfast and choice of lunch or dinner are included
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Full cleaning service	We vacuum, mop, dust and change linens every week
Transportation	Scheduled chauffeured transportation for doctors appointments, dinner and casino trips
Security	We provide 24-hour staffing, medical monitoring and the reassurance of a full facility generator
Professional care	Medicare certified services, physician visits, physical therapy, podiatry, hair salon available
Warm & friendly caregivers	From morning housekeeping to evening dinner service, your parents are attended by our caring staff
An active social life	Full time activity directors offer trips, games, and entertainment
Friendship	A vibrant community of seniors enjoy ice cream socials, movies, Happy Hour and live entertainment

**For more information, please call:**

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Volunteers Judy Hanson of Farmington Hills and Rita Howell of Livonia assemble Braille books.

# 25th bowl-athon to put more braille books in hands of kids

By Karen Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

When Debra Bonde took a braille transcription class years ago, she met a woman whose blind daughter owned only two braille books because they were so expensive.

At the time, a Hardy Boys book in braille cost \$100. "I didn't think that was right," she said.

Today, Bonde is director of Seedlings Braille Books for Children in Livonia, a nonprofit that sells braille books for an average of \$10 each.

Seedlings is able to sell its books at a fraction of the cost of most other organizations because of a broad base of support from individuals, philanthropic groups, corporations and private foundations as well as the efforts of 100 volunteers.

Its largest fundraiser of the year, Bowling for Braille Books, will be Saturday, March 24, at Plaza Lanes, 42001 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. The deadline to sign up is March 9.

The 25th annual event is expected to raise more than \$32,000, enough for 3,200 more books.

To celebrate the bowl-athon's silver anniversary, the first 25 bowlers who turn in \$250 or more in pledges will be entered in a drawing to win a Kindle Fire, courtesy of city of Livonia Treasurer Dennis Wright. Those who raise \$100 or more can have a braille book inscribed in their name. The minimum to participate is \$60.

Vicky Opie, who works in community outreach for Seedlings, said the bowl-athon is "a really fun Saturday afternoon" that draws not only Seedlings' core group of benefactors, volunteers and customers, but community members as well. "People tend to bring a friend," she said.

The idea for the bowl-athon came from a long-time bowler and friend of Bonde's, Earnest Sanders of Eastpointe, who continues to emcee the event. "I think the very first one raised about \$3,000, and it was huge," Bonde said, adding it was way more than she expected.

## The early years

Back then, Bonde was still running Seedlings out of her basement in



Debra Bonde is the founder of Seedlings Braille Books For Children.



Ann Christenson of Livonia keeps watch over one of the two Braillo printer/embossers.

Detroit.

A "really, really shy" woman, Bonde took the braille transcription class because she wanted to help other people. She thought she could make braille books at home and send them off without having to talk to people on the phone or in person.

But she quickly discovered that the painstaking method she had learned in class — using a slate and stylus by hand — was too labor-intensive to achieve her goal of lowering the cost of braille books and getting them into the hands of children quickly.

"I found I had to go out and make speeches and call people," she said. "So it's been obviously good for me and good for kids along the way."

Bonde started Seedlings

in 1984 after her father, a retired engineer, made her a braille embosser that allowed her to print out multiple copies of books she had transcribed and stored on a computer. He also donated the money for her to purchase a binding machine.

With his help, she was able to produce 221 books in 1985. "If you consider where we came from, that was a lot of books to make in a year," she said.

By 1990, with newer and more advanced equipment, Seedlings was producing 5,000 books per year, which necessitated its move out of Bonde's basement into the Bentley Center in Livonia and eventually to its current location on Farmington Road in Livonia.

Seedlings now produces

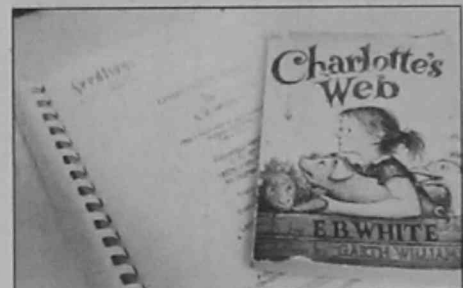
22,000 books a year, which it sends to 75 countries. Its catalog has grown from 12 to 1,200 titles. It employs a staff of eight, all part time except for Bonde.

Seedlings is the only organization that specializes in producing braille books for children. The handful of other braille publishers still charge considerably more. *Charlotte's Web*, for example, costs \$63, the same it did in the 1980s. Seedlings offers it for \$17.50.

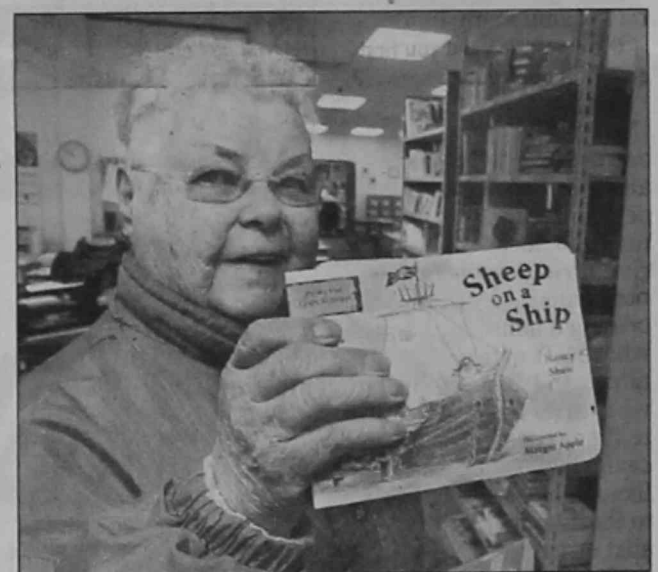
## Helping others helped her

Seedlings has been a labor of love for Bonde. "I feel really fortunate I have something I like to do," she said. "It's very rewarding."

The nonprofit has helped



Seedlings makes children's literature available to blind children.



Longtime Seedlings volunteer Shirley Brown shows one of the print and braille-style books.

her get through her darkest days, she said. In 2001, the oldest of Bonde's two daughters, Anna, was killed by a drunken driver on St. Patrick's Day. She was 19. "It's true what they say — helping other people helps you," Bonde said.

Seedlings' Book Angel Program was started in Anna's memory. Blind children in the United States and Canada can receive two free braille books per year simply by registering for them.

Katelyn Kelel, 20, of Redford, a sophomore in the James Madison College at Michigan State University, is one of the many people Bonde has helped.

Kelel was able to see colors and large print until about age 5 when her vision deteriorated to its current state. Now all she can see is light.

Kelel wants to be a civil court judge. Most of her textbooks are audio because they cost less. A braille textbook costs \$2,000 to \$3,000.

## Promoting braille literacy

But Kelel is glad she had access to inexpensive braille books as a child so she could learn spelling,

grammar and punctuation to help her with writing, something that can't be learned from audio books. "Promoting braille literacy is very important," she said, adding people don't realize how crucial that is to a well-rounded education.

Kelel, who's also done volunteer work for Seedlings including serving on its advisory board, said the organization has helped her to grow personally. "The people at Seedlings work so hard," she said. "They've shown me how dedication, hard work and continued advocacy really make a difference."

Sue Kelel, Katelyn's mother, can't imagine not having had Seedlings in their lives. Not only did the organization supply Katelyn with braille books — she didn't have the option like sighted children of checking out books to read from the library or finding them at school — it provided her with a network of advocates who have become like family, her mother said.

"To me it's priceless what they've done," she said. "It's been a wonderful experience."

ksmith@hometownlife.com  
(313) 222-2098



## IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



Consign & Design officials call the store an "upscale resale furniture and home decor consignment boutique for today's buyer."

## Store makes it cool to go consignment shopping

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

**Consign and Design:** We make shopping consignment cool, by providing shoppers a quality unlike anything you've experienced in our industry. We are an upscale resale furniture and home decor consignment boutique for today's buyer. We select the best of the best for our shoppers and the best prices for our consignors who come from all over greater Detroit. We consign top-of-the-line name brand furnishings and home decor, in excellent condition and style, for 50-75 percent below the retail price. We also consign some vintage antiques, and the unique to appeal to all shoppers and budgets. Also being offered are decorating classes such as Your Personal Home Style, Space Planning, Holiday Decorating, and many more.

**Observer:** How did you first decide to open your business?

**Consign and Design:** I've been a budget decorator for many years and there was always a need to find great furniture and decor accessories at reasonable prices, not to mention, after decorating a home my clients were left with great furniture and didn't know what to do with it. I would tell them consignment or craigslist. Not everyone likes to have people come to their home from craigslist or haggle with prices. It just made sense to open a consignment store that suites everyone's needs from a decorator's point of view.

**Observer:** Why did you choose Canton?

**Consign and Design:** I searched all over metro Detroit and I kept coming back to Canton. It's my home. I want Canton to be a destination people talk about visiting to shop, and contribute to

### CONSIGN AND DESIGN

**Business name and address:** Consign and Design, 6517 N. Canton Center, Canton

**Your name:** Marleen Prater, owner

**Your hometown:** Canton

**Business opened:** April 12, 2011

**Number of employees:** 4, including myself

**Hours of operation:** Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; closed Sunday

**Your business specialty:** Consign and Design specializes in upscale consignment furnishings and decor accessories.

**Phone and website:** (734) 254-0705; www.consignand-designcanton.com



**Consign & Design consigns top-of-the-line name brand furnishings and home decor, in excellent condition and style, for 50-75 percent below the retail price.**

their surprise when they realize what this community has to offer.

**Observer:** What makes your business unique?

**Consign and Design:** We are the next generation of interior decorating. Everyone that works here has a great eye for decorating and has had a decorating business or is being trained to be a decorator. We offer free decorating advice in the store, or in-home consultations for a fee. We are not afraid to tell you all our decorating secrets. Not to mention the great consignors we get that bring us the merchandise to appeal to all shoppers and budgets.

**Observer:** How has it

changed since you opened?

**Consign and Design:** Being a small business owner, we can make a change on the fly if it's needed to make us better. We learn something new everyday. However, externally, not much has changed since we first opened in April. We have done some internal changes to make the consignment process smoother with intakes being done at the back of the store.

**Observer:** How has the recent economy affected your business?

**Consign and Design:** We opened with the economy still in a downswing, so we didn't know any better. Now we get really excited when we see it picking up and the potential we didn't know we had.

**Observer:** Any advice for other business owners?

**Consign and Design:** Be ready, be calm, and think. I've learned to water my business and let it grow.

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

**Consign and Design:** Besides the special events we hold, we have gift bags in our future. We've already started creating them to see where they land. We've taken interesting bowls and items that come to us, and create these fun one-of-a-kind definitely unique gift baskets at all price points.

## Find your new dream home online

By Jon Gunnells  
Guest Columnist

The ease of online shopping has created a society of more well-informed, savvy consumers. Whether you are buying a birthday gift, electronics, or even a house – the Internet is the ideal place to start researching and shopping.

Follow these tips to save time, money and effort in your next home search.

- Sign up for daily listings - Even if you're not ready to hire a real estate agent, you can find one on the internet and have them send you daily e-mails about new listings that meet your search criteria. You can find a real estate agent in your area with ease by using HomeFinder.com

- Research the property - Before you waste time driving all around town for showings, you can find out more facts about the home from real estate sites and Google searches. If your e-mail listing doesn't have necessary info, visit other websites to fill in the gaps. Again, a site like HomeFinder.com will have all sorts of information from square footage to estimated mortgage costs.

- Get more pictures - Real estate agents may try and fool you with pictures of homes that appear more charming



Tech Savvy

Jon Gunnells

then they actually are. To get a better view, try running a Google image search for the property address.

There's a good chance more photos will appear. And if your house was recently renovated, you might also find what the property looked like before.

- Locate the house on Google Maps - Type any address into Google and it will show you the location on a map. Zoom in close enough and the map will show you the address in relation to railroad tracks, airports, schools, bodies of water, or any other landmark that you may have otherwise overlooked.

- Get a street view - Google Maps also offers street views for many properties in suburban areas. When you have located your property on the map, see if Google has a street view option available. This tool is helpful in identifying what is around your house. A street view can show you how the neighborhood looks, or if you can park on your street. You can rotate the street view angle, to uncover additional details about homes that weren't pro-

vided in the listing. Street view can help you spot things like cracked driveways, or distressed backyards that might change your decision to look at a property.

- Learn about the market - If it is 3 a.m., or you are at work and can't make a phone call, it is easier to research your property online than it is to call your agent. Again, a site like HomeFinder.com has buying and selling resources and can help you calculate mortgages and taxes. The site is also enabled to search through foreclosures, find upcoming open houses and more. You can even locate moving vans if you need.

Between HomeFinder.com and a little creativity on Google, you can use the Internet to cut down on stress and save valuable time during your home search. Most importantly, you can start using HomeFinder.com right away. The site is easy to use and accessible from hometownlife.com.

**Jon Gunnells**, a Northville Township resident, is a social media planner at a Detroit-based advertising agency. A 2007 graduate of Michigan State University, he holds a B.A. in journalism. When he's not working, Gunnells enjoys college sports, social media and playing basketball. He can be reached at jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @GunnSh0w.

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## OUR VIEWS

# Battle plan

## Academies give schools something to market

The ghost of "Shoeless" Joe Jackson told Kevin Costner in *Field of Dreams*, "If you build it, he will come."

Administrators in Plymouth-Canton hope the same premise will work here. With 2,000 empty seats in the district and increasing competition from private and charter schools, administrators are developing a series of academies with a more-challenging curriculum that studies seem to show parents want.

It's a good idea whose time has come.

This fall, PCCS officials plan to offer four academies to freshmen and sophomores, including STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), business, arts and international academies. It's a response to a couple of different stimuli: An EPIC/MRA survey of some 400 people (including parents of students already attending PCCS schools and parents whose children go to other schools) which shows a combined 14 percent think the quality of the education and the strength of the curriculum are key components of the decision where to educate their children.

Plymouth-Canton has long been a destination district for parents who choose their hometowns based on quality of schools, and that's *without* these programs. But with the continuing challenge from charter and private schools, and a declining enrollment picture, it's up to administrators to come up with programs that bring former students back and draw new students into the district.

It's tough to argue against the academies, particularly the international academy. Some 50 percent of respondents said they'd definitely enroll and another 44 percent saying they'd consider it if an International Baccalaureate Academy program was offered. An IB program requires students to earn a high school diploma and an International Baccalaureate (an academically challenging and balanced course of study).

The numbers also are high for the other three, including 93 percent for the STEM academy, 77 percent (although only 27 percent were "definite") for the business academy and 75 percent (32 percent "definitely") for the arts academy.

In addition to the academies, the district is going to expand the Talented and Gifted Program. Just how big depends on the number of students who pass the test given to TAG applicants.

There are those who doubt the veracity of the numbers, but EPIC/MRA and the district stand behind them. There are also those who doubt the desire actually exists for these kinds of programs. But already nearly 800 students have applied to the TAG program, a clear indication the need exists.

The survey also asked parents for reasons they might choose not to send their children to Plymouth-Canton schools, and the biggest percentage answers included size of schools (14 percent), class size (12 percent) and a desire for a more religious education (11 percent).

The school size issue reflects a discomfort with the size of the high school park, but with more than 6,000 students in the three high schools, there's not much that can be done about that. And there's nothing the district can do to recapture the 11 percent who want a religious education for their children.

But the Board of Education is determined to keep its class size manageable. The addition of these academies, and the expansion of the TAG program, should expand the curriculum enough to draw students into the district who may not have considered it before.

Of course, the academies aren't the answer for the entire district population. But, as administrators point out, it's not like the current programming is going away. For instance, all 19 of the current Advanced Placement programs will still be offered.

Board members and others have been clamoring for the district to do a better job marketing itself, and these programs give administrators something to market. The curriculum plan likely needs board consensus, if not outright approval. It'll be interesting to see how much board members (and remember, it's a new board) want to trust the professionals.

If they build it, perhaps the students will come. The academies appear to be a good way to test the hypothesis.

## COMMUNITY VOICE

### Are you voting in Tuesday's presidential preference primary and, if so, which candidate are you supporting?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



"Mitt Romney. I like his business ideas."

**Damon Conner**  
Canton



"I'm still undecided, but I do plan to vote."

**Jeff Price**  
Canton



"I will probably vote for Mitt Romney."

**Heather Kubacki**  
Canton



"I wasn't planning on voting on Tuesday, but I plan to vote in the general election."

**Lydia Cacace**  
Canton

## LETTERS

### It's about majority rule

To me, the right to work discussion is all about democracy and majority rule. If we choose to live in a community, we must legally support that community and all that it offers because the majority of our fellow citizens have voted in favor of it. It does not matter that we may be opposed to a library, road construction or public safety — if the majority of our neighbors vote for it, we are obligated to pay our share to support it.

In other words, if a person is opposed to union representation, but a majority of fellow workers vote in favor of it, the union must still be supported financially. That's what majority rule and democracy is all about.

I am opposed to right to work legislation because I expect each of us to pay our fair share to support the benefits we enjoy.

**William Berry**  
Northville

### Transit should be private

How many millions of dollars and years of committee studies, task forces, presentations and promises will it take to learn our lesson? SMART isn't smart. And if you thought that SMART was unresponsive, expensive and steeped in politics, wait until you see a Regional Transit Authority. A better solution is to allow entrepreneurs to offer unrestricted transportation services (shuttle, van, taxi, jitney).

Social media will very quickly spread the word about who is good and who is not. Low income and seniors can be given vouchers or a Bridge type of card. It's worked elsewhere and is well worth a two-year test. Put the brakes on a Regional Transit Authority before entwining three or four counties with their layers of politicians into an even bigger SMART type of mess. Tell Lansing and local government to unshackle the free market; you'll be surprised at how quickly two good things happen: much better service for customers and much lower cost for taxpayers!

**Bob Cowen**  
Farmington Hills

### Anti-life agenda

I plead with you fellow residents and all who read this opinion to understand the agenda of our president.

What President Obama did in his attempt to coerce the Catholic Church to provide birth control, sterilizations and even the morning-after pill to its employees must be understood as part of a terrible anti-life stance he holds true and dear. He is the same man that as a state senator in Illinois was the only politician to oppose the Born-Alive Infant Protection Act. This was a law that none opposed in our national body of Congress; but there he was, a then-state senator, showing the world that even a baby born alive due to a botched abortion, he would not afford a right to life.

His current "accommodation" to the church is that they do not directly have to pay for contraceptives, but who does? Their insurance company will provide this "right for all women" free. (I don't recall learning about this right in civics class!) It is not free, though. How stupid do you think we

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

**We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats:**

**Web:** [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)

**Mail:** Letters to the Editor, Canton Observer, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226  
**Fax:** (313) 223-3318

**E-mail:** [bkadrich@hometownlife.com](mailto:bkadrich@hometownlife.com)

**Deadline:** Letters should be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

are, Mr. President?

My church and I do not want to pay for others' contraception, something we hold to be morally wrong. Your obsession is with pro-abortion and reproduction issues; your best allies are the liberal feminists who define themselves not as nurturers and protectors of the weak, but people who will do anything to advance their anti-life agenda. We cannot re-elect this president — he does not seek to uphold our freedoms. The only reason he backed down slightly was because he had even one too many Democrats not supporting his radical plan.

**Claudia Taffe**  
Farmington Hills

### Santorum wrong on 'Obamacare'

Rick Santorum is vociferous in his call to repeal "Obamacare." But what if the candidate happened to be one of the millions of Americans who have little or no health insurance, as opposed to the Cadillac of policies available to members of Congress?

Santorum's 3-year-old daughter Bella, a child not expected to live more than a couple of weeks after birth, has made yet another "miraculous turnaround" given the help of the best the medical care this country has to offer. Santorum doesn't seem to realize that other Americans who work as hard as he does to make ends meet never have the opportunity to obtain health insurance, either because it isn't offered or they aren't eligible due to a pre-existing condition.

I'm glad Bella has survived and likewise believe all children should have access to such medical resources — but that cannot happen without a health care mandate.

What's good for the goose's child is good for the gander's.

**Joy Kind**  
Livonia

### Looking for a Model T

I am reaching out to you because you are involved in retaining the history of the early Ford automobile. I represent Friends of Nankin Mills.

One of the first in the Ford Motor Company Village Industry, the building has been restored and is in operation in a multiple services. The mill is an interpretive center, we have thousands of school children that enter the building every year. We have a speaker program that is growing. We even have a program

to restore Thomas Edison's generator in the building so that kids can see how electricity was distributed in the area back in the '20s.

We feel that one thing that is lacking is an opportunity for children to be able to climb in and touch an early model car, specifically a Model T. We feel that having a car in the building that helped build parts for both the Model T and Model A that kids could climb in and feel the joy and excitement of what we all feel when we climb into our old cars. This would help spark interest in the next generation and help keep the history flowing.

We don't require a working engine, or even a perfect body and tires. This car will be cleaned up and painted and used as a hands-on display in the museum. We do have some money, but we are also a 501(c)(3) and are happy to accept donations.

Please feel free to contact me via e-mail at [don@donnicholson.net](mailto:don@donnicholson.net).

**Don Nicholson**  
president

Don Nicholson Enterprises, LLC

### Be prepared

The thought of a breakdown, an engine not starting or otherwise being stranded is scary as it is, but those things happening in freezing winter weather add another level of fear. So, when the weather outside is frightful, a little advance preparation can make winter driving more delightful. An investment of an hour or so to have your vehicle checked can help you avoid being stranded in severe winter weather:

- Check the battery and charging system for optimum performance. Cold weather is hard on batteries.
- Clean, flush and put new anti-freeze in the cooling system. As a general rule of thumb, this should be done every two years.
- Make sure heaters, defrosters and wipers work properly. Consider winter wiper blades and use cold weather washer fluid. Typically, wiper blades should be replaced every six months.
- If you're due for a tune-up, have it done before winter sets in.
- Check the tire tread depth and tire pressure. If snow and ice are a problem in your area, consider special tires designed to grip slick roads. During winter, tire pressure should be checked weekly.
- Check the brakes.
- Inspect the exhaust system for carbon monoxide leaks, which can be especially dangerous during cold weather driving when windows are closed.
- Check to see that exterior and interior lights work and headlights are properly aimed.
- Be diligent about changing the oil at recommended interval.

Drivers should also check the tire pressure of the spare in the trunk and stock an emergency kit with an ice scraper and snow brush, jumper cables, flashlight, flares, blanket, extra clothes, candles/matches, bottled water, dry food snacks and needed medication.

For more helpful information, visit [www.carcare.org](http://www.carcare.org) and check out the free digital Car Care Guide.

**Rich White**  
executive director  
Car Care Council



# Hundreds of People Cash In at the Treasure Hunters Event Yesterday!

By Jason Delong

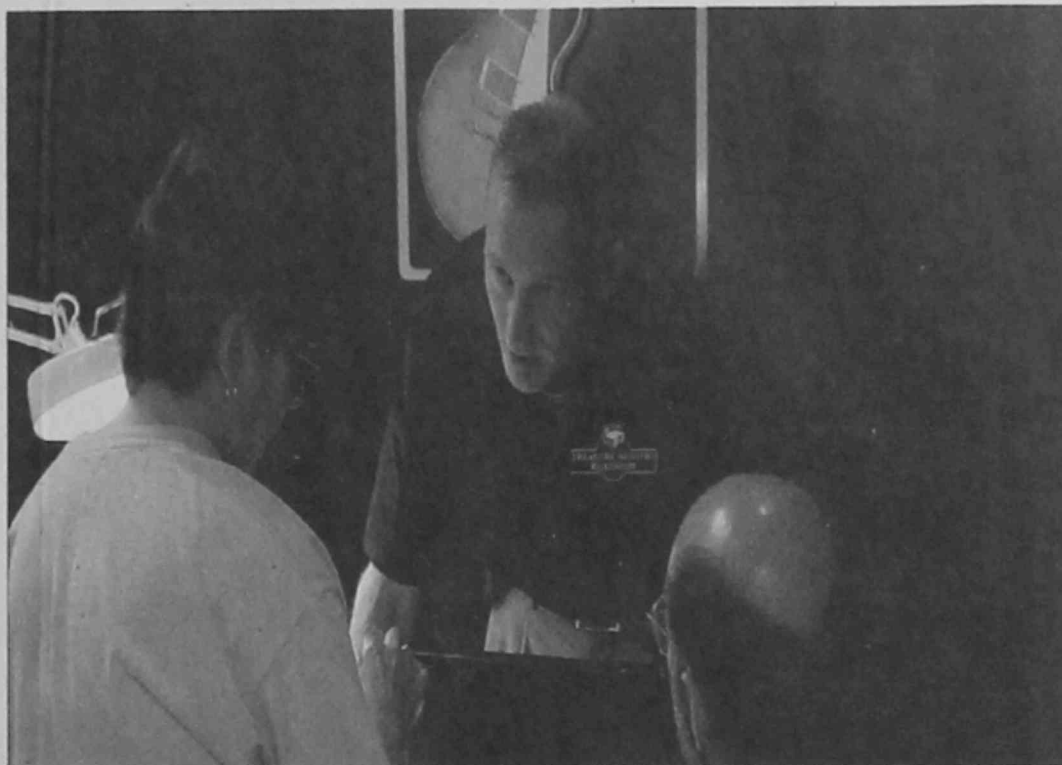
THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow  
STAFF WRITER

Yesterday at the **Holiday Inn**, hundreds lined up to cash antiques, collectibles, gold and jewelry in at the THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow. The free event is in **Livonia** all week buying gold, silver antiques and collectibles. One visitor I spoke with

*"It is unbelievable, I brought in some old coins that had been in a little cigar box for years and some old herringbone necklaces and in less than fifteen minutes I left with a check for \$712.37."*

yesterday said "It's unbelievable, I brought in some old coins that had been in a little cigar box for years and some old herringbone necklaces and in less than fifteen minutes I left with a check for \$712.37. That stuff has been in my jewelry box and dresser for at least 20 years." Another gentlemen brought an old Fender guitar his father bought years ago. "Dad had less than fifty bucks in that guitar." The THR specialist that assisted him, made a few phone calls and a veterinarian in Seattle, Washington bought the guitar for \$5700.00. The seller continued, "I got another \$150.00 for a broken necklace and an old class ring. It's not every day that someone brings six thousand dollars to town with your name on it."

*Gold and Silver pour into yesterday's THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow due to highest prices in 40 years.*



Above • A couple waits with anticipation while a THR specialist examines their antiques and gold items. The Treasure Hunters are at the Holiday Inn this week.

Jeff Parsons, President of THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow commented, "Lots of people have items that they know are valuable but just don't know where to sell them. Old toys, trains, swords, guitars, pocket watches or just about anything old is valuable to collectors. These collectors are willing to pay big money

for those items they are looking for." This week the Treasure Hunter's Event is the place to get connected with those collectors. The process is free and anyone can bring items down to the event. If the Treasure Hunter's specialists find items their collectors are interested in, offers will be made to purchase those items.

About 80% of the guests that attend the show end up selling one or more items at the event.

Antiques and collectibles are not the only items the Treasure Hunters are buying. "Gold and silver markets are soaring," says Archie Davis, a Treasure Hunters representative. "Broken jewelry and gold or silver

THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow is not affiliated with or related to the Antiques Roadshow television series, PBS or WGBH

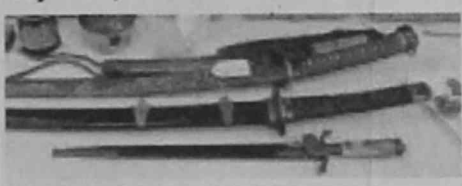
coins add up very quickly. I just finished working with a gentleman that had an old class ring, two bracelets, and handful of silver dollars,... his check was for over \$650.00. I would say that there were well over 100 people in here yesterday that sold their scrap gold."

*"If you go to the event you can cash-in your items for competitive prices. THR's representatives will be available to assess and purchase your items at the Holiday Inn through Saturday in Livonia."*

One gentleman holding his check for over \$1250.00 in the lobby of the event yesterday had this comment, "I am so happy I decided to come to the THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow. I saw the newspaper ad for the event and brought in an old German sword I brought back from World War II and some old coins and here is my check. What a great thing for our community. I am heading home now to see what else I have they might be interested in."

The THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow continues today starting at 9am. The event is free and no appointment is needed.

Collectors desire vintage military items, items from both U.S. and foreign origins from the Civil War, World War I, World War II, Spanish-American War, Revolutionary War and Calvary times have great value. Items such as swords, daggers, medals, hardware bayonets, etc.



All sports memorabilia is in high demand including: Pre 1970's baseball cards; autographed baseballs, footballs & basketballs; jerseys; signed photos; etc...



THR Coin and gold specialist Paul Dichraff examines a large presentation of coins, gold and collectibles.



## Here is how it works:

- Gather items of interest from your attic, garage, basement, etc There is no limit to the amount of items you can bring
- No appointment necessary
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- The offer is made on the spot on behalf of our collectors making the offer
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THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow event continues through Saturday in Livonia.

[www.treasurehuntersroadshow.com](http://www.treasurehuntersroadshow.com)

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- **JEWELRY** - Gold, Silver, Platinum, diamonds, rubies, sapphires and all types of stones, metals, etc. Rings, bracelets, necklaces, all others including broken jewelry. Early costume jewelry wanted.
- **WATCHES & POCKET WATCHES** - Rolex, Tiffany, Hublot, Omega, Chopard, Cartier, Philippe, Ebel, Waltham, Swatch, Chopard, Elgin, Bunn Special, Railroad, Illinois, Hamilton, all others.
- **TOYS, TRAINS & DOLLS** - All types of toys made before 1965 including: Hot Wheels, Tonka, Buddy L, Smith Miller, Nylint, Robots, battery toys, Mickey Mouse, train sets, all gauges, accessories, individual cars, Marklin, American Flyer, Lionel, Hafner, all other trains, Barbie Dolls, GI Joe, Shirley Temple, Characters, German, all makers accepted.
- **MILITARY ITEMS, SWORDS** - Civil War, Revolutionary War, WWI, WWII, etc. Items of interest include swords, badges, clothes, photos, medals, knives, gear and letters. The older the swords, the better. All types wanted.
- **ADVERTISING ITEMS** - Metal and Porcelain signs, gas companies, beer and liquor makers, automobile, implements, etc.



## Silver and Gold Coin Prices Up During Poor Economy.

Collectors and Enthusiasts in Livonia with \$200,000 to Purchase Yours! Got Coin? It might be just the time to cash in. This week, through Saturday, the International Collectors Association in conjunction with THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow will be purchasing all types of silver and gold coins direct from the public. All are welcome and the event is free.

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## KLAA HOOPS TOURNNEY

# Rocks stave off collapse

By Tim Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

A rollicking first half for Salem morphed into a sweat-inducing slide down the stretch of Tuesday's KLAA Kensington Conference boys basketball semifinal against South Lyon.

And it took a game-saving play by senior guard Grant Bettner to enable the host Rocks to survive 59-58 — a finish nobody could have envisioned earlier, when Salem bounced out to a 24-point lead midway during the second stanza.

"I knew something needed to happen," said Bettner, following the white-knuckle finish.

Bettner (nine points) stole a South Lyon pass in Salem's zone during the final minute — stopping the Lions from possibly tying the game at 57-57. He then took it down the floor for a huge layup, opening up a 59-55 lead.

That proved enough of a cushion when South Lyon's Joe Remstad hit a trey at the horn.

"We had a bunch of turnovers," Bettner said. "They were starting to take control of the game and we needed something to kind of flip the tempo."

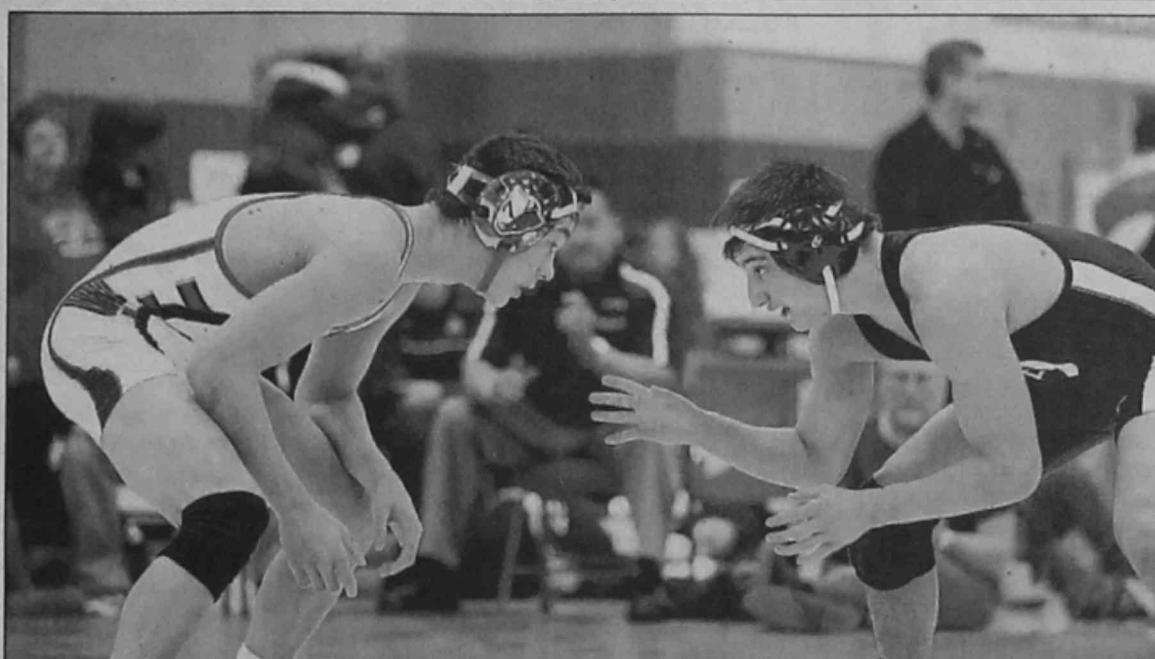
Salem (16-2) will host Northville 7 p.m. Friday in the conference championship match. The Mustangs (12-6) scored at the buzzer Tuesday to upset KLAA South Division champion Westland John Glenn (14-4).

### Hanging on

"Sometimes everything seems pretty easy and all of a sudden you start to let up a little bit," Salem head coach Bob Brodie said. "Then you lose your focus, you lose your intensity and drive. And the other team's really cranked up. You become the hunted instead of the

Please see HOOPS, B2

## INDIVIDUAL REGIONALS



Livonia Franklin's Jordan Atienza (left) and Plymouth's Said Youssef, shown facing each other in the individual state districts, had a rematch at Saturday's Division 1 individual regionals. Youssef won the regional championship at 140 with a 7-4 decision.

# Next stop: the Palace

By Tim Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

Eight of 15 wrestlers from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park who made the trip to Saturday's Saline-hosted Division 1 individual regionals had their tickets punched for the state meet by finishing in the top four of their respective weight classes.

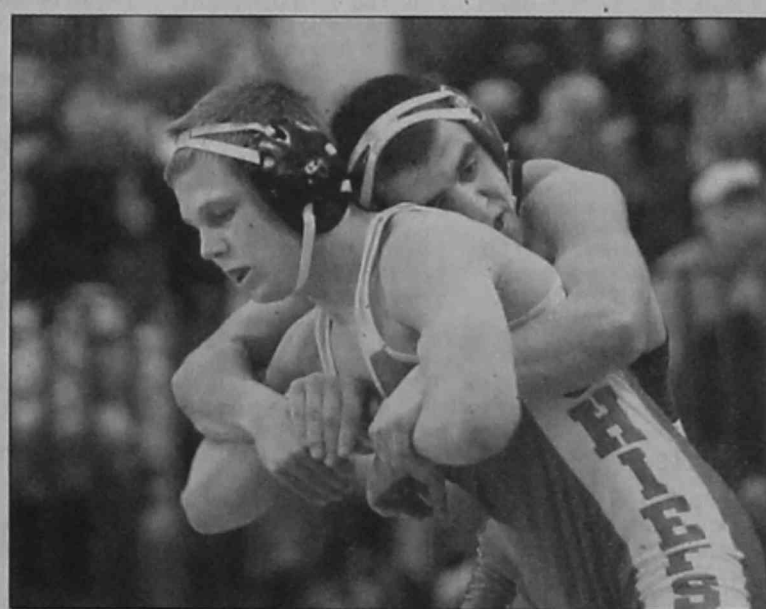
Three each from Canton and Plymouth will compete March 1-3 at the Palace of Auburn Hills in the D1 finals — as will two Salem wrestlers.

Highlighting the day were regional championships by Plymouth's Said Youssef and Canton's Zach Marsh at 140 and 145, respectively.

"We got a whole bunch of firsts today," Plymouth head coach Quinn Guernsey said. "First regional champ at Plymouth (Youssef), most kids going to regionals and states (three), first freshman to be a state qualifier (Brandon Harris at 103)."

Youssef took first at 140 over Livonia Franklin's Jordan Atienza by a 7-4 score.

It was the fifth time the pair faced each other this season, with Youssef winning four times. The duo matched up at



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Shown in this file photo is Canton's Zach Marsh (left), who by virtue of winning a regional championship Saturday at 145 qualified for the Division 1 state meet for a second straight season.

the previous weekend's individual districts, with the same outcome.

"I feel really good about that, first district champ, too," Youssef said. "It feels good that all the hard work I put in all four years, all the practices (paid off)."

Youssef is returning to the state finals for the second

straight year. Last season, he lost one of the early rounds.

"I got caught up in the excitement," Youssef said. "But now I'm going to go back this year and it will be like, I'm more prepared now."

An early 4-1 lead against Atienza helped set the tone for

Please see WRESTLING, B3

## It's D-II for Davon White

Plymouth senior defensive lineman Davon White will be playing Division-II college football at William Penn University — not D-III as was incorrectly stated in an article and accompanying infobox in Sunday's Observer.



White

White is one of six Wildcats who recently signed national letters of intent to play football.

William Penn University is located near Des Moines, Iowa.

## Canton cheer eyes regionals

Canton is moving on to the MHSAA Competitive Cheer regionals following a runner-up finish at the recent Division 1 district competition at Southgate.

The host Titans (793.388) captured first followed by additional regional qualifiers Canton (311.900), Saline (308.100) and Livonia Churchill (302.400).

All four are headed Saturday to Lake Orion regional beginning at 11 a.m.

Other area teams included Livonia Stevenson, fifth (296.100); Livonia Franklin, seventh (289.400); Wayne Memorial, ninth (294.000); and Westland John Glenn, 11th (284.100).

In the Division 3 District at Grosse Ile, the host Red Devils (732.2256) placed first followed by Brooklyn Columbia Central (703.3306), Clarenceville (683.3432) and Monroe Jefferson (678.0228). Livonia Ladywood was seventh with 664.840.

Clarenceville moves to the Yale regional beginning at 1 p.m. Saturday.

# Three-peat

Lewis sparks Chiefs to another KLAA tournament victory

By Tim Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

## GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Outstanding talent and depth sparked Canton to win the KLAA girls gymnastics meet for the third consecutive season.

The Chiefs topped the 12-team field Saturday at Euro Stars Gymnastics in Plymouth with 148.625 points. Finishing second was Milford/Lakeland (143.075), followed by third-place

Howell (143.000) and fourth-place Salem (142.075).

Plymouth placed sixth, with 138.500 points.

"I thought it was going to be a little tighter than that," Canton head coach John Cunningham said. "It turned out that the girls came together on floor, we had six

Please see GYM, B2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth bowlers (from left) Matt Bracey, Burhan Yaish and Evan Grimme discuss game strategy with coach Tammy Thompson recently during practice. Grimme has been on the varsity this season, while Bracey and Yaish have divided time between the JV and varsity.

# Plymouth JVs make most of opportunity

By Tim Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

Tammy Thompson can breathe a sigh of relief about the future of Plymouth's still-growing bowling program.

Although the coach is losing six members of Plymouth's boys bowling squad to graduation (four from the varsity), she is taking solace knowing the JV-to-varsity pipeline is overflowing with talent and success.

Consider that the 2011-

12 junior varsity Wildcats sport a 13-1 record as the season draws to a close — one of the best marks around of any of the so-called B teams.

Those pesky young Wildcats also captured the Wayne County and Plymouth-Canton-Salem tournaments.

"I'm trying to develop it so we'll still have a strong team," Thompson explained. "We're going to lose six players next year with the boys team. ... It's important to build them

up so they're ready to step up next year."

The JV bowlers are "getting the experience, they're getting playing time. That's better than being up on varsity and not playing at all," she added.

Meshing to form a very successful JV have been seniors Matt Bracey, Joe Langell, Nathan Purcell, sophomores Charlie Anderson and Burhan Yaish and freshman Jor-

Please see BOWLING, B3

## Canton girls lax meeting

All girls interested in trying out for the 2012 Canton girls lacrosse team are invited to attend a player/parent meeting from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 1, in the Canton High School Media Center.

This meeting is mandatory for all returning players. Tryouts begin Monday, March 12, from 5-7 p.m. at Discovery Middle School. Canton will field both a varsity and JV team this season. No previous lacrosse experience is required. For more information, contact head coach David Bower, (734) 634-8797, cantongirlslacrosse@pccsmail.net.

## WHAC salutes MU's Herring

Madonna University junior guard Shantelle Herring was named Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Women's Basketball Player of the Week (Feb. 13) after leading the Crusaders to a pair of road victories, including an upset of No. 3-ranked Davenport University.

It was the first award Herring's career and marks the first time this season that a Crusader has earned the WHAC honor.

Canton's Ayana Lewis, shown from earlier this season, set two new school records at Saturday's KLAA girls gymnastics meet.





# Crusaders march by Saints, 52-48

On Senior Day, the Madonna University men's basketball team rallied from a 12-point first-half deficit Saturday afternoon to beat visiting Aquinas College, 52-48, in a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference season finale.

The Crusaders, who improved to 18-12 overall and 12-6 in the WHAC, also locked up a home playoff berth to face Concordia University (7:30 p.m. Wednesday at home).

Sophomore guard Travis Schuba paced MU with 14 points while sophomore forward Derek Lenzen added nine points off of the bench as the Crusaders' bench outscored the Saints' reserves 29-0.

A rebound putback by Eoghann Stephens with 2:05 left gave MU the

**MEN'S HOOPS**

lead for keeps, 48-48, and three free throws by Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson) during the final 13 seconds sealed the victory.

Prior to the game, the Crusaders honored the senior trio of Tyler Coker, Mike Clark and Mitch Cieslak.

"I could not be more proud of the way our team played today," MU coach Noel Emenhiser said. "After fighting through a slow start, we battled back and played solid defense. It was a great team win with everyone contributing in one way or another. I'm very happy to send our seniors out with a win and the opportunity to play another game on our home court."

Aquinas (15-5, 11-7), which led 24-21 at halftime, added 22 points, while Joe Powers added 17.

**S'CRAFT 92, ALPENA 72:** Karl Moore's 26 points and 12 rebounds propelled Schoolcraft College (16-10, 8-7) to an MCCA Eastern Conference victory Saturday night at Alpena Community College (8-17, 3-12).

The Ocelots, who moved into fourth place all alone, also got 15 points from LenDerrick Witche, while Daniel Hill (Wayne Memorial) and Lydell Mason (Westland John Glenn) added 14 apiece.

Point-guard Mohamed Elhaj chipped in with a season-high 10 points, including a three-quarter court shot to end the first half to give the Ocelots a 40-36 cushion.

Schoolcraft made 26-of-42 free throws on the night, while Alpena hit 13-of-19.

Lauren Jones paced the Lumberjacks with 17 points, while Devon Elder and Jimmy Davis added 15 and 14, respectively. Derek Hearn, Jr. contributed 10.



Salem's Mark McGee (No. 9), shown from earlier this season, is now second in all-time goal scoring for the Rocks. At right is Plymouth's Kyle Bauer (No. 24).

# Salem's McGee on record pace

Salem senior center and captain Mark McGee put his name toward the top of the record books with Saturday's three-goal performance against Waterford Kettering.

McGee became the second all-time leading goal scorer in Salem boys hockey history with goals 56-58 of his career. He also is third all-time in career points with 102.

"Mark is a great example of what can be earned

with hard work, both on and off the ice," Rocks head coach Ryan Ossenschlager said.

Two of McGee's goals were of the shorthanded variety.

The Rocks also benefitted from a two-goal night from defenseman Michael Manser, while Jake Sealy and Alek Zultowski netted single tallies. Zultowski was back in the lineup after missing four games due to injury.

Goalie George Veresan stopped 10 of 12 Kettering shots for the victory.

"It was a good effort by our players," Ossenschlager said. "And hopefully we can build some momentum from this win heading into our final regular season game on Wednesday and playoffs next Monday."

Salem, along with Canton and Plymouth, will compete at Livonia's Eddie Edgar Arena in the pre-regionals.

## GIRLS GYMNASTICS RESULTS

**KLAA GYMNASTICS MEET Feb. 18 at Euro Stars in Plymouth**

**TEAM STANDINGS:** 1. Canton, 148.625; 2. Milford/Lakeland, 143.075; 3. Howell, 143.000; 4. Salem, 142.075; 5. Brighton, 139.100; 6. Plymouth, 138.500; 7. Livonia Blue, 138.000; 8. Livonia Red, 137.800; 9. Northville, 137.350; 10. Walled Lake Central, 97.725; 11. Walled Lake North/West, 74.550; 12. Pinckney, 36.350.

**DIVISION 1**

**Vault:** 1. Daisy Ference (N), 9.55; 2. Ayana Lewis (C), 9.50; 3. Catrina Malysz (ML), 9.40; 4. (tie) Chloe Presley (ML), 9.30; Melissa Green (C), 9.30; 8. Jocelyn Moraw (C), 8.95; 12. Nicole Lasecki (C), 8.40.

**Bars:** 1. Lewis (C), 9.45; 2. Daisy Ference (N), 9.40; 3. Green (C), 9.275; 4. Presley (ML), 9.25; 5. Amanda Pompius (H), 8.775; 8. Lasecki (C), 8.70; 9. Moraw (C), 8.675.

**Beam:** 1. Paige Blythe (H), 9.80; 2. Lewis (C), 9.75; 3. Presley (ML), 9.65; 4. Meredith

Robinson (B), 9.475; 5. Green (C), 9.45; 8. Lasecki (C), 9.10; 10. (tie) Moraw (C), 8.95; Malysz (ML), 8.95.

**Floor:** 1. Presley (ML), 9.825; 2. Moraw (C), 9.75; 3. Lewis (C), 9.575; 4. Ference (N), 9.55; 5. Lasecki (C), 9.50; 7. Green (C), 9.30.

**All-around:** 1. Lewis (C), 38.275; 2. Presley (ML), 38.025; 3. Ference (N), 37.500; 4. Green (C), 37.325; 5. Pompius (H), 36.450; 6. Moraw (C), 36.325; 9. Lasecki (C), 35.700.

**DIVISION 2**

**Vault:** 1. Erica Lucas (C), 9.40; 2. (tie) Ashley Hextall (Pinc.), 9.05; Nicole Jacobs (S), 9.05; 4. (tie) Andrea Melotti (S), 8.95; Brooke Allgeyer (S), 8.95; 6. (tie) Reagan Engstrom (Ply.), 8.90; Alex Kitz (LB), 8.90; 9. (tie) Sydney Grenier (LR), 8.80; Maggie McGowan (LR), 8.80; Megan McKeenan (Ply.), 8.80; Haley Olson (LB), 8.80.

**Bars:** 1. Kitz (LB), 9.40; 2. Shannon Diaz (LR), 8.95; 3. Ade Jepperson (S), 8.875; 4. Brittany Ramirez (S), 8.85; 5. Jacobs (S), 8.70; 6. Melotti

(S), 8.60; 7. Hextall (Pinc.), 8.50; 8. Emily Gucciardo (B), 8.45; 9. (tie) Lucas (C), Molly McSweeney (Ply.), 8.35.

**Beam:** 1. Sarah Uhlian (Ply.), 9.55; 2. Diaz (LR), 9.40; 3. Rose Perebola (LR), 9.275; 4. Hextall (Pinc.), 9.20; 5. (tie) Engstrom (Ply.), 9.10; Marisa Decamp (H), 9.10; 7. (tie) Ramirez (S), 9.00; Melotti (S), 9.00; 9. Lucas (C), 8.95; 10. Morgan Soper (S), 8.90.

**Floor:** 1. Hextall (Pinc.), 9.60; 2. (tie) Amber Talaski (ML), 9.575; Jacobs (S), 9.575; 4. Kitz (LB), 9.55; 5. Jane McCurry (Ply.), 9.325; 6. (tie) Lucas (C), 9.125; Soper (S), 9.125; 8. Engstrom (Ply.), 9.10; 9. (tie) Gucciardo (B), 9.05; Diaz (LR), 9.05.

**All-around:** 1. Hextall (Pinc.), 36.350; 2. Lucas (C), 35.825; 3. Kitz (LB), 35.800; 4. Jacobs (S), 35.450; 5. Engstrom (Ply.), 35.200; 6. Ramirez (S), 35.075; 7. Talaski (ML), 35.025; 8. Jepperson (S), 34.550; 9. Melotti (S), 34.375; 10. Soper (S), 34.325; 11. Uhlian (Ply.), 34.200; 12. McGowan (LR), 34.125.

## GYM

Continued from page B1

nines. It was a situation of which nines do we throw out.

"When you have situations like that you're going to do well."

Four of those six were in Division 1, led by freshman Jocelyn Moraw (second, 9.750) and Ayana Lewis, finishing third with 9.575.

Lewis was brilliant, finishing first in D1 all-around with a Canton-record 38.275. She also set a new mark with her second-place tally of 9.75 on balance beam.

Also faring well in D1 all-around competition for the Chiefs were Moraw (sixth, 36.325), Melissa Green (fourth, 37.325) and Nicole Lasecki (ninth, 35.700).

In Division 2, Erica Lucas won the championship on vault with a 9.40. She finished ahead of Salem's Nicole Jacobs — who tied for second with a 9.05 score.

Lucas was second in the all-around standings (35.825).

Salem and Plymouth did well in the D2 meet,



Plymouth's Jane McCurry is shown from earlier this season. She had a solid showing at the conference meet.



Salem's Nicole Jacobs, shown from earlier this season, had reason to smile thanks to her performance at Saturday's conference meet.

with the Wildcats' Sarah Uhlian taking first on balance beam (9.55).

Jacobs also earned a portion of second place on floor with a 9.575 and was fourth in all-around (35.450).

Salem's Ade Jepperson (third on uneven parallel bars, 8.875).

Plymouth's Reagan Engstrom (sixth on vault, 8.90; fifth on beam, 9.10; fifth in all-around, 35.200) and Jane McCurry (fifth on floor, 9.325) were strong for the Wildcats.

Scoring plenty of points for the Rocks were

Megan Soper (tied with Lucas for sixth on floor with a 9.125), Andrea Melotti and Brooke Allgeyer (tied for fourth on vault, 8.95) and Brittany Ramirez (fourth on bars, 8.85; sixth in all-around, 35.075).

Meanwhile, Cunningham said the KLAA title is continuing to point his team in the right direction with the D1 regionals on Saturday, March 3, at Plymouth High School.

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## HOOPS

Continued from page B1

hunter.

"They were coming after us hard and we were back on our heels. Fortunately, we got a nice steal at the end."

Plagued by turnovers (24, including 16 in the second half) and foul trouble, the Rocks could not sustain their first-half attack — which gave the team leads of 19-5 after one frame and 36-19 at halftime.

Ten Salem players got onto the scoresheet in

that first half, when Brodie said "we were really team-oriented, focused and played hard together."

Still, despite being outplayed in the third by the hungry Lions and their relentless defense, the Rocks managed to carry a 48-34 edge into the fourth.

The third ended well for the home team, with back-to-back buckets by senior guard Tyler Stewart (nine points, six assists) and senior center Josh Peterson (seven points, 14 rebounds) momentarily stopping South Lyon's momentum.

Then came eight minutes that couldn't end soon enough for Salem.

**They'll remember**

Trailing 56-44 with about three minutes to go, the Lions turned up the energy even more.

They forced a string of Salem turnovers and went on an 11-1 run to make it a 57-55 contest with under a minute to go.

"Their pressure was great," Brodie said. "We made some crazy passes we shouldn't have made. "We got away with them in the first half, and in the second half we

were still trying to make those long passes. ... We just tried to do too much instead of just taking care of the basketball."

Thankfully for the Rocks, Bettner had a clutch play in his arsenal.

Brodie said the team won't forget coming so close to letting a chance to play for the conference title slip away.

"I just told them every game's a championship game from here on out," he emphasized. "You're playing districts, you're playing conference, you're playing association, every game's important."

Also scoring nine points for Salem was senior guard Markus Olind, who connected on three triples in the first half to spark Salem's fast start.

Junior forward Chris Dierker chipped in with six rebounds along with his four points.

Besides Remstad, South Lyon players reaching double figures in scoring included Luke Short and Bill Harrison, with 11 and 10 points, respectively.

**HOWELL 42, CANTON 40:** Tuesday night in a KLAA consolation bracket contest, the Highlanders' Brandon Nazione (20 points) scored a 15-footer at the buzzer to

nip the host Chiefs.

Canton had fought back to tie the game when Kyle Adams connected on trey with six seconds left in the fourth.

"Their ability to hit the offensive glass really hurt us tonight," lamented Canton head coach Jimmy Reddy. "And (so did) our inability to hit open shots."

The Chiefs (13-5) hit only 10 of 29 field-goal tries from two-point range and were out rebounded by a 34-17 margin.

Canton senior forward Paul Baumgart scored 20 points and pulled down nine rebounds. Chipping in with seven points was freshman guard Greg Williams.

Howell improved to 11-7 with the victory.

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# Chiefs, 'Cats finish 2-3

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

Coach Bob Harding will to make good on a promise after his Westland John Glenn team captured its first boys swimming and diving championship in school history on Saturday.

After going undefeated during the dual meet season, the host Rockets scored 554 points to clinch the KLAA South Division meet and outright title over Canton (503) and Plymouth (486). Rounding out the six-school field was Livonia Churchill (288.5), Wayne Memorial (265) and Livonia Franklin (108.5).

"The team bet me last year if we went undefeated and won the division, they could dye my hair," the sixth-year coach said. "I agreed, and we renewed the bet this year. So on Monday, I'll be getting a salon treatment."

John Glenn's depth was able to override the sterling individual effort turned in by Canton's

## BOYS SWIMMING

Victor Zhang, who figured in four first-place finishes while setting meet records in the 200-yard individual medley (1:58.79) and 100 breaststroke (1:00.12).

Zhang also helped the Chiefs win the 200- and 400 freestyle relays in 1:31.32 (meet record) and 3:27.66, respectively.

Also on both Canton relays were Jay Jin and Adrian Simion, with Mike Carlson (200 relay) and Michael Wilyard (400 relay) rounding out the respective units.

Other Canton individual firsts were scored by Jay Jin in the 200 freestyle (1:49.31) and Ryan Kilgore with a meet-record 357.60 points in 1-meter diving.

It was a record day for Plymouth's Adam Liakos, too. He set new marks in the 50- and 100-free with times of 22.59 and 49.91, respectively.

Liakos also joined Cameron Earls, Todd Maslyk and Alex Wilson to estab-

lish a new standard in the 200 medley relay (1:43.29).

**Salem struggles**  
In the Novi-hosted KLAA Central Division meet, Salem finished fifth out of five teams with 312 points.

Jeremy Wellman was one of the bright spots for the Rocks, who were beset by illness according to head coach Chuck Olson.

Wellman took second in the 100 butterfly (55.47) and fourth in the 100 backstroke (57.30).

Placing third in the 200 IM was Jason Zhang (2:06.54) while divers Charlie Dillon and Nick Griwicki finished 4-5 with scores of 373.65 and 373.20 points, respectively.

"I think under the circumstances, with a few guys ill, we didn't do so bad," Olson said. "Hopefully next weekend everyone will be feeling better."

- Staff writer Tim Smith contributed to this report.

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## WRESTLING

Continued from page B1

the regional championship match.

"My strategy always is to get the first takedown, in the first period," Youssef added. "That's because it helps me a lot in my matches."

**Marsh rallies**  
Also winning a weight class was Marsh, who rallied late to earn an 8-6 decision at 145 over Franklin's Ryan Derry.

Marsh — also a state qualifier in 2011 — trailed 6-5 with under one minute left.

"Basically I just toughed it out," Marsh said. "There were a couple tough positions and fortunately I won the last one."

"It (being a regional champion) is pretty awesome," he went on. "It's a pretty good feeling."

Canton head coach Cory Mancuso said Marsh won with a mix of determination and savvy.

"Technically, he's as good as anybody, but he finds ways to make matches closer than they need to be," Mancuso said. "He just toughed it out, and got the win, that's the most important thing."

In the 135 finals, Canton sophomore Alec Pantaleo — who bested Novi-Detroit Catholic Central's Malik Amine in the individual districts — lost 8-6 in the rematch.

Pantaleo, whose record is 49-3 going into the state finals, earned a 6-0 decision over Temperance Bedford's Jacob Lohr to make it to the first-place bout.

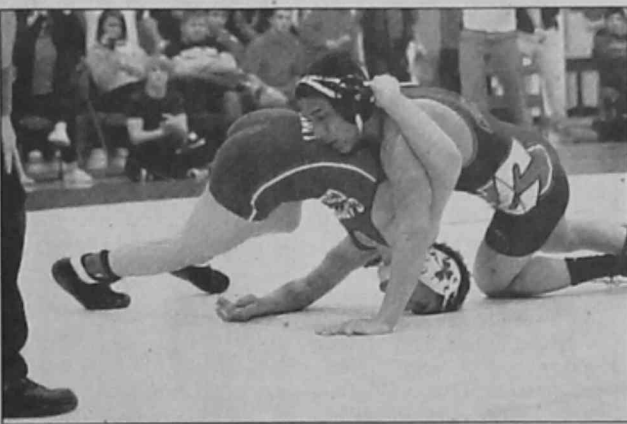
After taking a 2-1 lead into the second period, Amine jumped ahead 6-3 entering the third and Pantaleo could not recover.

"He just got out of position, and got caught on his back, got down 6-2," Mancuso stressed. "But he showed a lot of composure to battle back. He just came up a little bit short."

The coach said he expects Pantaleo to "work on finishing his takedowns" in preparation for the Palace.

"I look for those two to meet again," Mancuso said. "I'm thinking a rematch at the state finals."

**Gutty effort**  
Canton sophomore Ben Griffin, who collected the 100th victory of his prep career in a blood-round victory over Plymouth's Trey Berry, followed up with a decisive 4-1 win



JOHN KEMSKI  
Canton 135-pounder Alec Pantaleo (right) is shown during his win over Novi-Detroit Catholic Central's Malik Amine at the Division 1 individual districts on Feb. 11. But Pantaleo fell short to Amine in Saturday's individual regionals at Saline. Both qualified for the upcoming state meet.

at 112 over CC's Myles Amine in the third-place matchup.

Quick and intense, Griffin attacked Amine with the fervor of a pit bull going after a pork chop.

"He's tough, he's one tough kid," said Mancuso about Griffin, who also qualified as a freshman.

"He's wrestling with a torn groin muscle right now and he's out there giving it his all."

Another third-place victory was scored by Plymouth's Chase Kallil at 125. He pinned Farmington's Immanuel Govantes in 2:31.

He advanced to the final four (which carries an automatic berth in the state meet) with a come-from-behind 3-2 win over Southgate Anderson's Raven Schmitt in the do-or-die blood round (quarterfinals).

"Yeah, it was a great win for him (Kallil), he was down one with about 30 seconds left to get that takedown to go ahead," Guernsey said. "That's what you expect in that round, there's a lot of good matches in the blood round and it's nice when you win them. Nothing to lose and you got to score."

Taking fourths from PCEP teams were Plymouth's Harris and Salem's Tyler Gross (160) and Jacob McCabe (189).

Harris reached the final four thanks to a 4-1 decision over Woodhaven's Devin McClain.

"Brandon's been looking good all year," Guernsey said. "He just goes out and wrestles anybody, he doesn't care if he's the state champion. He's going to go out and approach the match the same."

**Tough region**  
Gross battled Bedford's David Lijewski in the blood round, eking out a 10-7 decision. He then lost to CC's Nick Mason in the third-place bout.

"It's a good feeling for him (Gross) because the Bedford kid is pret-

ty tough, knowing that he can pull the trigger and hit the shot when he needs to," Salem head coach Pete Israel said. "That's a good confidence-builder going into the state meet."

McCabe took down Livonia Stevenson's Joe Scott in 2:56 to make it to the third-place matchup against Bedford's Brandon Sunday. The Salem senior lost via pin in 1:48.

"It's good that he (McCabe) came through," Israel said. "He's starting to peak at the right time."

According to Israel, getting wrestlers through to the state meet is no small accomplishment, given the quality of the region. Last year's state qualifier, Cody Korpis, was defeated in the blood round.

Another PCEP state qualifier from last year not advancing this time around was Plymouth's Alec Breckenridge. He was defeated 7-6 by Westland John Glenn's Jesse O'Neal at 130.

"This is probably the toughest region," Israel said. "I saw a stat out there that said 43 of the state-ranked kids come from this region, that's a pretty high number."

Catholic Central had a stellar showing, with seven regional champions. In addition to Malik Amine, those included Trevor Zdebski (103), Malik Amine (135), T.J. Fagan (125), Ken Bade (130), Alec Mooradian (152), Drew Garcia (171) and Kevin Beazley (189).

But in perhaps the biggest upset of the day, CC's Logan Marcicki (who won a state title at 130 in 2011) lost a 10-8 decision at 145 to Ypsilanti Lincoln's Ed Nuttall in a hotly contested blood-round matchup.

Nuttall's rousing victory prompted a huge ovation inside the packed gymnasium at Saline High School.

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## BOYS SWIM RESULTS

**KLAA SOUTH DIVISION BOYS SWIM MEET**  
**Feb. 17-18**  
**at Westland John Glenn**  
**TEAM STANDINGS:** 1. Westland John Glenn, 554 points; 2. Canton, 503; 3. Plymouth, 486; 4. Livonia Churchill, 288.5; 5. Wayne Memorial, 265; 6. Livonia Franklin, 108.5.

**FINAL HEAT RESULTS**  
**200-yard medley relay:** 1. Plymouth (Cameron Earls, Todd Maslyk, Adam Liakos, Alex Wilson), 1:43.29 (meet record); 2. John Glenn (John Kukulka, Tim Moran, Jake Ferguson, Nick Stone), 1:50.33; 3. Wayne (Zach Williamson, Nick Williams, Clint Smith, Devin Gibson), 1:53.99; 4. Churchill, 1:55.19; 5. Canton, 1:58.29; 6. John Glenn, 1:58.5.

**200 freestyle:** 1. Jay Jin (Canton), 1:49.31; 2. Josh Wakeford (WJG), 1:51.04; 3. Mike Stover (WM), 1:53.47; 4. Nick Weber (P), 1:54.54; 5. Derek Atzinger (LC), 2:01.03; 6. Ben Yang (P), 2:01.53.

**200 individual medley:** 1. Victor Zhang (Canton), 1:58.79 (meet record); 2. Jake Ferguson (WJG), 2:10.04; 3. Adrian Simion (Canton), 2:11.32; 4. Ryan Heinze (P), 2:16.52; 5. Franklin Qiu (LC), 2:21.79; 6. Moran (WJG), 2:23.51.

**50 freestyle:** 1. Liakos (P), 22.59 (meet record); 2. Mike Carlson (Canton), 23.12; 3. Williamson (WM), 23.26; 4. Dave Vader (WJG), 24.02; 5. Cody Hodges (WJG), 24.13; 6. Wilson (P), 24.17.

**1-meter diving:** 1. Ryan Kilgore (Canton), 357.60 points (meet record); 2. Ainsworth Orr (WJG), 270.65; 3. Sean Taylor (WJG), 267.85; 4. Connor McManus (P), 266.90; 5. Jay Krebs (Canton), 264.95; 6. William Harrington (P), 221.10.

**100 freestyle:** 1. Liakos (P), 49.91 (meet record); 2. Joey Wakeford (WJG), 50.69; 3. Carlson (Canton), 51.04; 4. Wilson (P), 53.21; 5. Vader (WJG), 53.25; 6. Qiu (LC), 53.7.

**500 freestyle:** 1. Jake Ferguson (WJG), 5:02.0; 2. Stover (WM), 5:08.4; 3. Weber (P), 5:14.67; 4. Atzinger (LC), 5:30.73; 5. Aaron Alholinna (WJG), 5:31.75; 6. Mike Pool (P), 5:34.8.

**200 freestyle relay:** 1. Canton (Zhang, Jin, Simion, Carlson), 1:31.32 (meet record); 2. John Glenn (Hodges, Vader, Josh Wakeford, Joey Wakeford), 1:32.82; 3. Plymouth (Earls, Maslyk, Wilson, Liakos), 1:33.57; 4. John Glenn, 1:39.53; 5. Plymouth, 1:42.42; 6. Wayne, 1:42.17.

**100 backstroke:** 1. Joey Wakeford (WJG), 55.51; 2. Earls (P), 57.77; 3. Simion (Canton), 58.99; 4. Williamson (WM), 59.09; 5. Yang (P), 1:00.86; 6. Bradley Johns (LC), 1:03.92.

**100 breaststroke:** 1. Zhang (Canton), 1:00.12 (meet record); 2. Maslyk (P), 1:09.15; 3. Nick Stevens (WJG), 1:09.96; 4. Alex Bourdreau (Canton), 1:11.38; 5. Moran (WJG), 1:11.58; 6. Michael Wilyard (Canton), 1:14.21.

**400 freestyle relay:** 1. Canton (Zhang, Simion, Wilyard, Jin), 3:27.66; 2. John Glenn (Josh Wakeford, Vader, Jake Ferguson, Joey Wakeford), 3:29.61; 3. Plymouth (Weber, Yang, Johnson, Pool), 3:42.1; 4. Canton, 3:43.57; 5. Wayne, 3:44.0; 6. Churchill, 3:44.95.

**KLAA CENTRAL DIVISION BOYS SWIM MEET**  
**Feb. 17-18 at Novi**  
**TEAM STANDINGS:** 1. Northville, 613.5 points; 2. Livonia Stevenson, 466.5; 3. Novi, 433; 4. South Lyon, 373; 5. Salem, 312.

**FINAL HEAT RESULTS**  
**200-yard medley relay:** 1. Novi (Gucci Onimura, Jong Min Kim, Tanner Vincent, Eugene Song), 1:40.96; 2. Stevenson (John Ferrara, Jake McNamara, David Ptashnik, Brandon Bielicki), 1:41.24; 3. South Lyon (Max Wilkinson, John Dunnuck, Travis Burgess, Evan Faletti), 1:43.52; 4. Salem, 1:43.97; 5. Northville, 1:44.79.

**200-yard freestyle:** 1. Andrew Ao (Novi), 1:48.73; 2. Chris Kim (N'ville), 1:49.32; 3. Spencer Ruggiero (SL), 1:50.70; 4. Grant McNamara (LS), 1:54.91; 5. Dennis Kim (N'ville), 1:55.21.

**200 individual medley:** 1. JM Kim (Novi), 2:02.47; 2. J. McNamara (LS), 2:05.11; 3. Jason Zhang (Salem), 2:06.54; 4. Andrew Westfall (N'ville), 2:06.82; 5. Nick Hayes (N'ville), 2:07.03; 6.

Wang (N'ville), 2:07.41.

**50 freestyle:** 1. Evan Faletti (SL), 22.36; 2. Sam Boyea (N'ville), 22.72; 3. Bielicki (LS), 22.73; 4. Spencer Miller (N'ville), 22.81; 5. Song (Novi), 23.25; 6. Eric Weiss (SL), 23.27.

**1-meter diving:** 1. Brendan O'Shea (SL), 448.35 points; 2. Dan Gironza (SL), 428.45; 3. Derek Kim (Novi), 393.70; 4. Charlie Dillon (S), 373.65; 5. Nick Griwicki (S), 373.20; 6. Alex Canadi (SL), 332.30.

**100 butterfly:** 1. Vincent (Novi), 55.08; 2. Jeremy Wellman (Sam), 55.47; 3. Dennis Kim (N'ville), 57.05; 4. Bai (Salem), 57.70; 5. Frank Zhang (N'ville), 58.19; 6. Akbar Ariswala (N'ville), 58.48; 7. (tie) Wang (N'ville) and Ptashnik (LS), 58.64 each.

**100 freestyle:** 1. Westphal (N'ville), 49.72; 2. Ao (Novi), 49.78; 3. Boyea (N'ville), 50.07; 4. C. Kim (N'ville), 50.13; 5. Bielicki (LS), 50.43; 6. S. Millier (N'ville), 50.75.

**500 freestyle:** 1. J. Ferrara (LS), 4:54.34; 2. Ruggiero (SL), 5:01.58; 3. Vincent (Novi), 5:02.81; 4. G. McNamara (LS), 5:06.67; 5. J. Zhang (Salem), 5:08.17; 6. Dennis Kim (N'ville), 5:09.12.

**200 free relay:** 1. Northville (Westphal, S. Miller, Laabs, C. Kim), 1:31.19; 2. South Lyon (Weiss, Cutajar, Stone, Ruggiero), 1:34.45; 3. Stevenson (J. McNamara, Bielicki, Alex Lee, G. McNamara), 1:35.77; 4. Salem, 1:37.07; 5. Northville, 1:37.43.

**100 backstroke:** 1. J. Ferrara (LS), 54.08; 2. Onimura (Novi), 56.29; 3. Miavaldi (N'ville), 57.29; 4. J. Wellman (Salem), 57.30; 5. Faletti (SL), 58.17; 6. Jacob Goedde (LS), 58.32.

**100 breaststroke:** 1. JM Kim (Novi), 1:01.84; 2. J. McNamara (LS), 1:02.02; 3. Reed (Novi), 1:03.11; 4. Dunnuck (SL), 1:03.89; 5. Turner Solterman (Salem), 1:04.52; 6. Ruan (N'ville), 1:06.68.

**400 free relay:** 1. Northville (Westphal, Boyea, Miller, C. Kim), 3:18.69; 2. Novi (Ao, Vincent, Dennis Kim, JM Kim), 3:23.78; 3. Stevenson (J. Ferrara, Belmore, G. McNamara, Bielicki), 3:25.67; 4. Salem, 3:27.70; 5. South Lyon, 3:40.31.

# Wayne outlasts Chiefs, Rocks

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

Wayne Memorial, which reached the Final Four in the MHSAA Division 1 Team boys bowling finals last year, could be headed for another strong tournament run again in 2012.

The Zebras captured last weekend's Kensington Lakes Activities Association title at Waterford's 300 Bowl by unseating rival Westland John Glenn, the two-time defending Association

## PREP BOWLING

champion and 2011 Division 1 state runner-up.

Wayne defeated South Lyon East in the elimination finals, two games to one, after ousting Grand Blanc in a semifinal rolloff, 2-1, and Salem, 2-1, in the quarterfinals.

The KLAA qualifying format, which pared the field to the final eight, featured two match games and six Baker games (alternating shots).

Wayne posted scores

of 1,136 and 993 in the match games followed by a Baker set of 193, 172, 173, 190, 237 and 216 for a total of 3,310, good enough for second place behind Canton (3,468).

Rounding out the top eight were Grand Blanc (3,241), John Glenn (3,187), South Lyon East (3,142), Waterford Mott (3,133), Salem (3,104) and Waterford Kettering.

Wayne moves on to the Division 1-Region 5 tournament Friday and Saturday at Westland Bowl.

## BOWLING

Continued from page B1

dan Orzech. Bracey, Yaish and Orzech have all spent time with the varsity, too.

"They've progressed really well," Thompson said. "And I think it helps them out because I move them back and forth between JV and varsity."

**On the rise**  
When next season begins, this year's JVs

can move up a rung to the big team and relate to the youngsters that arrive on the scene.

There already is a built-in conduit for 2012-13 in Yaish and Orzech since they've experienced both sides of the coin.

"Varsity is a little more pressure, because you have people who are really good," said Yaish, averaging 185 with the JV and 184 on varsity (albeit in limited experience). "On JV it's kind of a lower level of bowling and more for

fun. Varsity's more competitive."

Yaish noted that he is "kind of the captain on JV, I'm anchor so I bowl the more important parts of the game. On varsity, I'm kind of a substitute."

It's been a little bit different for Orzech, who has been a varsity regular at times this season. He rolled a 233 game against Westland John Glenn.

A bowler on school leagues since grade school, Orzech arrived with plenty of confidence

in his ability for being a ninth grader.

"When I came in, I thought I'd be on varsity, but then I saw a lot of good bowlers so I was worried," Orzech said. "But the first game I bowled varsity and I've been bowling varsity the majority of the time."

He agreed there is less pressure on the junior varsity bowlers, but the bottom line is the same for everybody. "Just bowl good."

Senior Matt Bracey is

another bowler who has divided time between the JV and varsity, although he's spent the majority of his season with the latter.

"Varsity everyone kind of sits there quiet, it's a lot more competitive and stuff like that. But when I'm on JV, I'm usually the anchor. I substitute on varsity."

"I mean, they all know they have to bowl well under pressure and stuff like that, even though JV's a little bit more fun," Bracey said. "But it's usu-

ally more about the people you're around. If you have good camaraderie, it's easier to bowl better."

The junior varsity indeed has had plenty of good team chemistry, especially as the victories kept piling up.

"We have good bowlers and a strong team," Bracey noted. "It's not one guy leading the team every single time. And they like to have fun with it."

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## BEANE MARY "PAT"

Age 79 of Livonia. Beloved wife of the late Robert "Bob". Loving mother of Mary "Sue" Sobocinski, Robert Jr. (Virginia) Beane, and Connie (Rick) Fletcher. Dear grandmother of Sarah and Sheila Sobocinski, Rebecca (Greg) Perdue, and Robert III (Cassandra) Beane, and Ricky Fletcher. Dearest great grandmother of 8. Please call Fred Wood Funeral Home for service times (734)464-8060. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association. Please share your memories at [fredwoodfuneralhome.com](http://fredwoodfuneralhome.com)



## HOLZHETER, DOROTHY ANN

Dorothy took her final journey on Monday, January 9, 2012 at home in Virginia Beach, VA. She was born in Pennsylvania on July 16, 1926 and lived in Livonia the majority of her life, she was 85 years young. She is reunited with her husband Herbert Holzheter, daughter Laura and son Louis Heller. She is survived by her loving children, Denean Evans, Herbert Holzheter Jr. and son-in-law Jim. She took immense pleasure in, and loved, her grandchildren, Rick, Laurie, Heather, Michael, Ryan and Kim and her great grandchildren, Evan, Ayden, Dillon, Emma and Hailey, along with many nieces and nephews. Mom had many longtime friends who will miss her. She was a great mother, wife, friend and neighbor, and above all, kind to everyone. Mom always thought of others first and did not know a stranger. She was also an avid bowler and card player. Her Celebration of Life open house will be held at her Grandson's home at 34009 Edmonton Ave, Farmington Hills, Michigan on Saturday, February 25, 2012, from 1-6pm.

## JONES, JACK

February 19, 2012, age 77 of Livonia. Beloved husband of Maureen. Dear father of Karen (Don) Taulby and John (Kim) Jones. Loving grandpa of Alec Jones. Mr. Jones is survived by 2 brothers and 1 sister. A memorial gathering will be held at Fred Wood Funeral Home 36100 Five Mile Road (E. of Levan) Livonia, Sunday February 26 from 2-4PM. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the American Heart Association. Please share your memories at [fredwoodfuneralhome.com](http://fredwoodfuneralhome.com)

## ROBISON, ALBERT R.

Age 83, February 20, 2012. Beloved husband of Bernice. Father of Diana (Greg) Cowling, Al (Dee), Rod (Michele) and the late Richard. Grandfather of Meredith (Shawn) Galdeen, Andrea, AJ (Jen), Ashley, Ryan, Kyle and Tyler. Great grandfather of Melody and Evangelene. Visitation Thursday 3-8pm at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster Rd., Garden City (between Ford Rd. & Cherry Hill). In state Friday 10am until 11am funeral service at Garden City Community Baptist Church, 28237 W. Warren Rd. (Between Inkster Rd. & Middlebelt). [www.santeiufuneralhome.com](http://www.santeiufuneralhome.com) Family suggestions memorials to the Alzheimer's Association.

## VILLENEUVE SMOCK, FRANCES

Age 88, of Plymouth, passed away peacefully Feb. 20, 2012. Beloved mother, grandmother, and friend. [www.casterlinefuneralhome.com](http://www.casterlinefuneralhome.com)

## BURNS, GEORGE E.

Age 79, of Farmington Hills. Passed away Feb. 18, 2012. Arrangements by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington.

## ERICKSON, KENNETH HENRY

Age 80, of Holland, passed away, Friday, February 17, 2012 at Holland Hospital following a courageous battle with cancer. Ken was born on March 22, 1931 in Brooklyn, NY to Henry and Isabel Erickson. He received a bachelor's degree from Hope College and master's and doctorate degrees from the University of Michigan. Ken was employed by the Redford Union School District, where he served as school superintendent before retiring in 1992. Ken was also president of the Redford Township Chamber of Commerce. He served in the United States Army with distinction, earning the Bronze Star Medal with Valor in Korea. He was preceded in death by his wife of 52 years, Betty in 2008. He is survived by his children; Jeffrey (Rosemary) Erickson of Holland, Brent (Marcia) Erickson of Williamston, and Bradley (Fiona) Erickson of Clarkston; eight grandchildren, Bryan, Michael, Jason, Nicole, Kelsey, Colin, Aidan, and Regan; sisters, Lois (David) Brenner of Oneonta, NY and Carol MacKenzie (Richard Lane) of Williamsburg, VA; in-laws, Joyce Martinus of Muskegon, Roger (Ruth) Borr of Holland, and Marsha (Paul) Northuis of Holland. Funeral services were held Monday, February 20, 2012 at Grace Episcopal Church, 555 Michigan Avenue, with the Rev. Jennifer Adams officiating. Burial was in Pilgrim Home Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society or Grace Episcopal Church. Arrangements were by the Dykstra Funeral Homes-Northwood Chapel in Holland, MI. For more information and an online registry, visit: [www.dykstrafuneralhome.com](http://www.dykstrafuneralhome.com)

## JOHNSON, GARY RAY

Age 60 of Bancroft/formerly of Howell passed away on Monday, February 20, 2012 at his home. A funeral service will be held in Livonia on Monday. Family will meet with friends on Friday from 1-8 p.m. at Watkins Brothers Funeral Home, Bancroft Chapel. Gary was born on February 15, 1952 in Detroit, the son of Raymond V. and Marcia A. (Kokones) Johnson. He was a graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School, Class of 1970. Gary was a Iron Worker. He is survived by his Fiancée Myrna Wintermote, daughter Stacey (Richard) Griffin, grandchildren, James and Brianna, brother, Darrell D. (Donna) Johnson, step-brother, Nicholas Kokones, mother, Marcia (George) Kokones and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his father Raymond and brother Kevin. Memorials can be made to Bancroft Lions Club or Durand Eagles. Online condolences can be sent to: [www.watkinsfuneralhomes.com](http://www.watkinsfuneralhomes.com)

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Volunteers from Farmington First United Methodist Church work on drywall in a home in Moss Point, Miss.

# Church team returns to Mississippi site

Eleven volunteers from the Farmington First United Methodist Church spent a week last month helping to rebuild the homes of two families in Moss Point, Miss.

Farmington First has sent six teams to Mississippi since 2007 through the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission program. The work gave volunteers an important lesson in the value of service to others and has drawn appreciation from homeowners and the local community.

The team split into two groups, to work on two homes. In both homes, volunteers spent the week applying drywall mud and sanding it. One group worked on a completely new home. The original home had been inundated by approximately 15 feet of storm surge, causing the roof to collapse and necessitating condemnation of the structure. The second home was subjected to sewage-contaminated flood waters. When earlier volunteers stripped out the interior, they discovered termite damage, so the house had



The Rev. Robert Brenner of Farmington First United Methodist Church works on a house in Mississippi.

to be rebuilt from the inside out.

Moss Point is located several miles inland from the Gulf Coast, which was devastated by Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

While Farmington First's teams have worked in the Pascagoula/Moss Point areas over the past six years, they've met volunteers from around the country. On their latest trip, the team met a man from near Bowling Green, Ky., who has volunteered at the nearby Vancleave Methodist Church's camp 23 times since 2005.

Since approximately a month after Hurri-

cane Katrina hit in 2005, about half of the combined memberships of the Vancleave and Mt. Pleasant Methodist churches have welcomed more than 10,000 volunteers, including the Farmington teams, from all over the

country. Volunteers provided meals, bunks and clean bed linen for seven days a week, between 2005 and 2007, and five days a week since then. Before the Mississippi Conference of the Methodist Church constructed Camp Hope at the Vancleave Church in 2007, the church hosted nearly 130 volunteers a week on its own, with women sleeping in the Sunday school rooms and men in a stripped-out house trailer.

A blog, recording the accomplishments of Farmington First United Methodist Church's team, are at <http://farmington-fumc.org/ministries/missions/>.

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**Fellowship Presbyterian Church**  
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website: [www.stpaulslivonia.org](http://www.stpaulslivonia.org)

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regarding this Directory,  
please call Karen Marzolf  
at 313-222-2214 or e-mail:  
[kmarzolf@hometownlife.com](mailto:kmarzolf@hometownlife.com)

**North Congregational Church**  
36520 12 Mile Rd.  
Farmington Hills  
(bet. Drake & Halsted)  
(248) 848-1750  
10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School  
Faith - Freedom - Fellowship  
Rev. Mary E. Biedron  
Senior Minister



## Local expert, collectibles enhance classic movie screening

By Sharon Dargay  
O&E Staff Writer

Which Detroit sports casting legend delivered newspapers to author Margaret Mitchell while he was growing up in Atlanta, Ga.?

And why did *Gone with the Wind* make its Detroit debut at both United Artists and Wilson movie theaters?

Kathleen Marcaccio, the "Gone with the Wind Answer Lady," will shed light on local connections to the famous movie and novel before the film's screenings, March 2-4 at the Redford Theater, in Detroit.

She'll be on hand to answer questions afterward and will display some of her *Gone with the Wind* collectibles, books, and ephemera.

"When you look at Margaret Mitchell and her background, at how she came to write the book and how it was published and made into a movie — with ground-breaking technology in the movie industry — how the story has endured and now how it has two authorized sequels, it's all so terribly interesting," said Marcaccio, whose favorite character is Scarlett O'Hara. "There are an awful lot of angles to explore and there are new books being written about it."

The Royal Oak resident has spent the last 22 years collecting as much information as she could about both the film and the book, filling file cabinets full of newspaper clippings and scholarly articles, stocking



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kathleen Marcaccio has one room crammed with "Gone With The Wind" memorabilia, but it's just the tip of the iceberg. It's everywhere.

bookcases with biographies, historical texts and multiple copies of the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, and showing off plates, figurines, accessories, toys

and other collectible items in curio cabinets and on shelves. A room just off the front door in her home is a shrine to all things *Gone with the Wind*.

### First edition

"We moved into this house in 1994 and from the very beginning I said, this is the *Gone with the Wind* room," noted Marcaccio, who is married



Statues, ornaments, and snow globes all celebrate "Gone With The Wind."



Kathleen Marcaccio received this Oscar-style statue when she attended an Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences event honoring Olivia de Havilland, who played Melanie in the movie, "Gone with the Wind."

those, I have about 120. I do have a first edition. And then I've got paperbacks and some special editions. I've got books about the movie and Hollywood in the '30s. I've got books about Margaret Mitchell, about the book and its place in publishing history."

She saw the movie in 1969 as a sixth grader, growing up on Detroit's east side and borrowed the book from the library the next day.

"I grew more and more interested as time went on. I started buying books, biographies of all the actors and of Margaret Mitchell. I started a nice book collection."

### Making connections

With a master's degree in library science from Wayne State University, Marcaccio, who is an information services data analyst for Gale, a part of Cengage Learning in Farmington Hills, was adept at researching and combing through data bases for informa-

Please see COLLECT, B7

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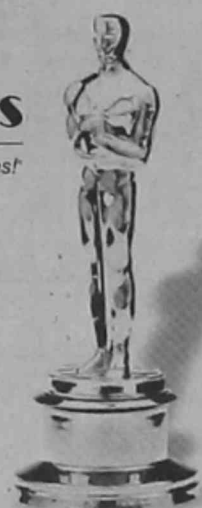
- Best Picture
- Actor in Leading Role
- Actress in a Leading Role
- Animated Feature Film
- Actor in a Supporting Role
- Actress in a Supporting Role
- Director
- Tie Breaker Categories
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- Documentary Feature

All entries must be received by Saturday, February 25, 2012 11:59 p.m. to be considered.

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Art

**DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS**  
**Time/Dates:** 2 p.m. Sundays  
**Location:** 5200 Woodward, Detroit  
**Details:** Target Family Sundays, storytelling, performances, free with admission  
**Exhibits:** Detroit Revealed: Photographs 2000-2010, an exhibit of 50 photos through April 8; Gift of a Lifetime: The James Pearson Duffy Collection of drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures and photographs through March 18  
**Contact:** (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

**FARMINGTON HILLS CITY GALLERY**  
**Time/Date:** 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, through Feb. 24  
**Location:** Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** The work of Patrice Erickson, all original oils, is on exhibit. Erickson is inspired by nature and strives for landscapes that are rich in color  
**Contact:** (248) 473-1856

**NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE**  
**Time/Date:** Opening sale and reception is 6-9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24; public art sale is 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25 and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26.  
**Location:** 215 W. Cady, Northville  
**Details:** Buy art, including an original lithograph by Alexander Calder and a South American painting on copper, at this annual fundraiser, "Art from the Attic." All art was donated to Northville Art House. Opening reception tickets are \$10; public sale is free admission  
**Contact:** (248) 344-0497

**UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN**  
**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 25-May 20  
**Location:** University of Michigan Museum of Art, 525 S. State, Ann Arbor  
**Details:** "Fluxus and the Essential Questions of Life," includes more than 100 works by major artists, such as Yoko Ono, Nam June Paik and George Maciunas; admission is free  
**Contact:** (734) 764-0395

**VILLAGE THEATER**  
**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday through Feb. 24



**Benjamin Grosvenor performs for the Pro Musica Society of Detroit, March 16 at the Max M. Fisher Music Center.**  
**Location:** 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton  
**Details:** "Lest We Forget: Legends of Detroit Gospel," celebrates the history of Gospel music in Detroit  
**Contact:** (734) 394-5300 or visit cantonvillagetheater.org.

**Comedy**  
**COMEDY JAM**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Saturday, March 24  
**Location:** Michigan Firehouse Museum, 110 W. Cross, Ypsilanti  
**Details:** Fifth annual jam features Rex Havens in his one-man comedy, "Bidding You A fond I Do" and benefits the museum. Tickets are \$25 for general seating and \$35 for premium seating  
**Contact:** (734) 547-0663

**GO COMEDY!**  
**Time/Date:** Various show times Wednesdays through Sundays  
**Location:** 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale  
**Details:** Improv most nights. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays  
**Contact:** (248) 327-0575; gocomey.net

**JD'S HOUSE OF COMEDY**  
**Time/Date:** Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings  
**Location:** 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield  
**Details:** Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday  
**Contact:** (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com

**JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB OF LIVONIA**  
**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Mondays, open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays  
**Location:** 36071 Plymouth

**charity**  
**Contact:** American Legion at (248) 478-9174

**MOON DUSTERS**  
**Time/Date:** 8:30-11:30 p.m. every Saturday; dance lessons 7-8 p.m.  
**Location:** Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia  
**Details:** Singles and couples dance to music of the '30s, '40s and '50s; free refreshments. Dance lessons cost \$6; dance and lessons are \$11; dance only is \$7 for guests, \$6.50 for associates and \$6 for Moon Dusters members  
**Contact:** Joe Castrodale, club president, (248) 968-5197

**Film**  
**MARQUIS THEATRE**  
**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Feb. 25  
**Location:** 135 E. Main, Northville  
**Details:** "Bye, Bye, Birdie," tickets \$3  
**Contact:** (248) 349-8110

**PENN THEATRE**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24; 4:15 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 25-26 and 7 p.m. Thursday, March 1  
**Location:** 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth  
**Details:** "Hugo," \$3  
**Contact:** (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

**REDFORD THEATRE**  
**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. March 2-3 and 2 p.m. March 4  
**Location:** 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit  
**Details:** "Gone with the Wind," tickets \$4  
**Coming up:** Includes an



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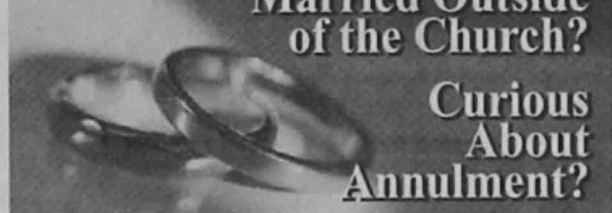
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## COLLECT

Continued from page B5

tion. She also spent many hours looking at newspaper and magazine articles on microfilm in local libraries.

The book and movie celebrated 50th anniversaries in the mid-1980s, spawning *Gone with the Wind* events across the country and driving movie and book collectible sales.

Marcaccio began making annual visits to Atlanta, Ga., home to several Margaret Mitchell museums, and attending events that would introduce her to movie cast and crew members.

"I started looking at all the credits of the movie and trying to locate addresses. I was successful in getting in touch with some. I sent them questionnaires and they sent them back. Through the years I've had an opportunity to become friends with the remaining cast members."

In the early 1990s the Livonia Historical Society invited her to make a presentation to the group, which led to speaking engagements at other clubs. Marcaccio sometimes also opens her home to collectors and friends.

Her day-long open house last June, in honor of the book's 75th anniversary, drew friends from as far as Pittsburgh, Pa., and Lansing. The event included a show and tell, documentary screening and browsing in the *Gone with the Wind* room.

Movie programs, old magazines, scrapbooks, vintage fabric — including a framed piece of the dress Vivien Leigh wore in a barbecue scene from the movie — covered tables in Marcaccio's living room earlier this week as she tried to decide what she'll take to the theater next weekend.

At least one item — her favorite line from the movie — is a given.

"It's on my car license," she explained. "Fiddle-dee-dee."

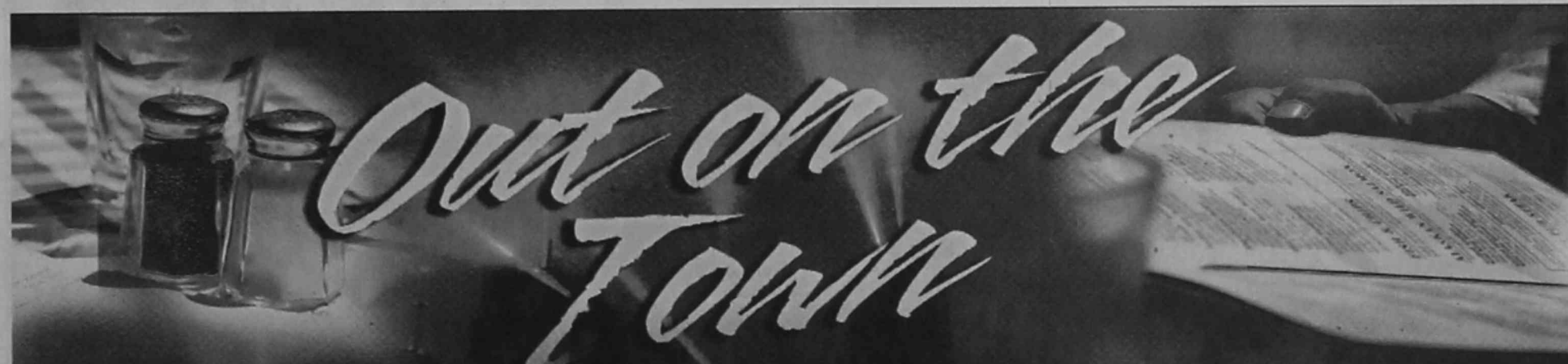


PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kathleen Marcaccio is an expert on "Gone With The Wind" lore. She'll bring some of her vintage movie ephemera to the Redford Theater for its March 2-4 screenings of the film.



Shelves are filled with different editions of the book that inspired the film..

A corner of the *Gone with the Wind* room at Kathleen Marcaccio's house looks like a shrine to Scarlett O'Hara and Rhett Butler.

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**FRIED SHRIMP BASKET**  
 Includes 2 sides  
**\$8.99**

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Baked Whitefish.....	\$9.99
Grilled Salmon.....	\$10.99

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• Full Dinners • Carry-out Available  
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 Adults: \$8 • Seniors: \$7 • Kids 3-11: \$4 • 3 & Under: FREE

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[www.facebook.com/bubbleberry1](http://www.facebook.com/bubbleberry1)

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 a tea based drink with flavor additives and tapioca "bubbles"

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 We feature a variety of  
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 regular priced entree, and  
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**1/2 off**  
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----------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------

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Healthful, hearty,

# comfort food

During the short days and cold nights of winter, many of us crave comfort foods. Unfortunately, the rich dishes we usually think of tend to be low in nutrition and packed with fat and calories. Well, take heart. It's possible to enjoy satisfying dishes that are tasty, hearty and nutritious.

Dry peas, lentils and chickpeas (garbanzo beans), all part of the legume family, are one way to make comfort foods more healthful. These ingredients pack a nutritional punch while adding flavor to recipes: just one cup of dry peas, lentils or chickpeas gives you more than half the recommended daily dosage of fiber and up to 18 grams of protein. They also contain little to no fat, making them a healthy meat alternative.

Chef Tracy O'Grady, from Willow Restaurant in Arlington, Va., knows how to make the most of these versatile ingredients. "You may already love lentil soup," she says. "But lentils have a wide range of uses, and are a great addition to hearty fare like enchiladas, veggie burgers — even chocolate cake."

And while chickpeas are best known as the key ingredient in hummus, they also appear in rich-tasting foods like Willow's Chickpea Fries.

For more recipes and information from the USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council, visit [www.pea-lentil.com](http://www.pea-lentil.com).

## Willow's Chickpea Fries

Serves: 8 (6 per person)

2½ cups water  
1 garlic clove, minced fine  
2 cups whole milk  
2 teaspoons kosher salt  
¼ teaspoon cayenne pepper  
¼ teaspoon smoked paprika  
3 cups chickpea flour; reserve 1 cup for dusting  
1 cup cooked chickpeas, roughly chopped  
2 cups Parmesan cheese, finely grated  
½ cup extra virgin olive oil  
1 gallon canola oil

Place water, garlic, milk, salt, cayenne and paprika in a non-reactive sauce pot and heat until it boils.

Lower heat to gentle simmer and whisk in chickpea flour. Whisk just until smooth and then use a high heat spatula to finish the process. Cook mixture for about 5 minutes, constantly stirring to make sure there is no scorching.

Once flour is nearly cooked, fold in chopped chickpeas, Parmesan cheese and extra virgin olive oil. Stir until well incorporated and hot. This should take about 3 additional minutes.

Place in a plastic wrap lined 10- by 12-inch tray. Cover with plastic wrap and push down so it is even. Chill for at least 2 hours in the refrigerator or until completely chilled.

After well chilled, turn the chickpea mold onto a cutting board. Cut fries 12 times in 1-inch pieces and then cut each strip into 4 pieces, forming 48 pieces.

Heat canola oil in a large stainless steel fry pot to 350°F. Dust fries with remaining chickpea flour and fry in 4 batches until hot and golden brown.

Drain in paper towels to remove excess oil. Serve immediately with Orange Preserved Lemon Dipping Sauce.

## Orange Preserved Lemon Dipping Sauce

Makes: About 1 cup

2 oranges, juiced and zested with a microplane zester  
2 preserved lemons juiced, the peel minced fine  
1 tablespoon red wine vinegar  
¼ cup extra virgin olive oil  
Kosher salt to taste  
If preserved lemons are unavailable, can be substituted with 2 fresh lemons, juiced and zested.



## COOKING TIPS

- Dry peas and lentils don't require soaking. Soak dried chickpeas in cold water for 12 hours before cooking (or you can buy pre-cooked, canned chickpeas).
- Spread dry peas and lentils in a single layer on a baking sheet. Check for and discard any debris. Rinse under cold water.
- To cook lentils, use 1 1/2 cups of water to 1 cup of lentils. Bring water to boil and add lentils. Boil for 2 or 3 minutes and reduce heat to a simmer. Cook until tender. Green or brown lentils take approximately 30 minutes and red lentils about 8 to 10 minutes.

## Savory Chickpea Pancakes

Makes: 36 2½-inch pancakes

8 ounces chickpea flour (about 2 cups)  
2 teaspoons baking powder  
2 teaspoons kosher salt  
1 teaspoon sugar  
1½ cup buttermilk  
2 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted  
2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil  
2 egg yolks, beaten  
3 egg whites, whipped to soft peaks  
Zest of one lemon; use a microplane zester  
Additional butter to cook the pancakes  
Mix all dry ingredients together in one bowl.  
In a separate bowl, combine buttermilk, melted butter, olive oil and egg yolks.

In third bowl, whip egg whites until soft peaks form.

Fold dry ingredients into buttermilk mixture gently (do not over mix or pancakes will be tough).

Let batter stand for 5 minutes. After 5 minutes, gently fold half of the egg whites into batter, then fold remaining egg whites in.

Heat a non-stick skillet over medium heat until moderately hot. Add in a pinch of butter and spoon a heaping tablespoon batter into pan. Cook each pancake until golden brown; flip; cook for another minute or two and keep warm.

To serve, place two chickpea pancakes on individual plates and spoon ragu (recipe follows) on top.

## Chickpea, Shrimp and Caper Ragu

Serves: 6

1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil  
2 cloves fresh garlic, finely sliced  
1 cup cooked chickpeas  
2 tablespoons capers  
Peel of ½ a preserved lemon  
1 teaspoon esepette or smoked paprika  
½ cup water, plus more if needed  
18 peeled and deveined shrimp  
Kosher salt, to taste  
1 tablespoon unsalted butter  
Heat large stainless steel pan until moderately hot. Add olive oil and sliced garlic. Once garlic starts to soften and just brown, add chickpeas and cook for about 2 minutes.  
Add capers, lemon peel, esepette/smoked paprika and water. Bring to a boil, then add butter.  
Reduce heat and add shrimp; stew gently until just cooked, about 4 minutes. If water evaporates too quickly, add a little more. Season with salt to taste.



## Red Lentil Crusted Goat Cheese with Three Lentil Salad and Ruby Red Grapefruit Vinaigrette

Serves: 6

1 cup cooked red lentils, al dente  
1 cup brown lentils, cooked  
1 cup green lentils, cooked  
5 spears Broccolini, cooked and roughly chopped  
1 head endive, sliced  
½ cup, plus 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil  
1 tablespoon red wine vinegar  
Kosher salt, to taste  
Cracked black pepper, to taste  
9 ounces goat cheese, sliced into 6 2-inch slices  
½ ruby red grapefruit, peeled and seeded and remaining juice squeezed into a bowl  
1 lime, juiced

Combine the three varieties of lentils in a glass or Pyrex bowl, reserving ¼ cup of red lentils to crust the goat cheese. Add Broccolini, endive, 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil, red wine vinegar, salt and pepper and mix well. Set aside for ½ hour to 1 hour to allow flavors to meld.

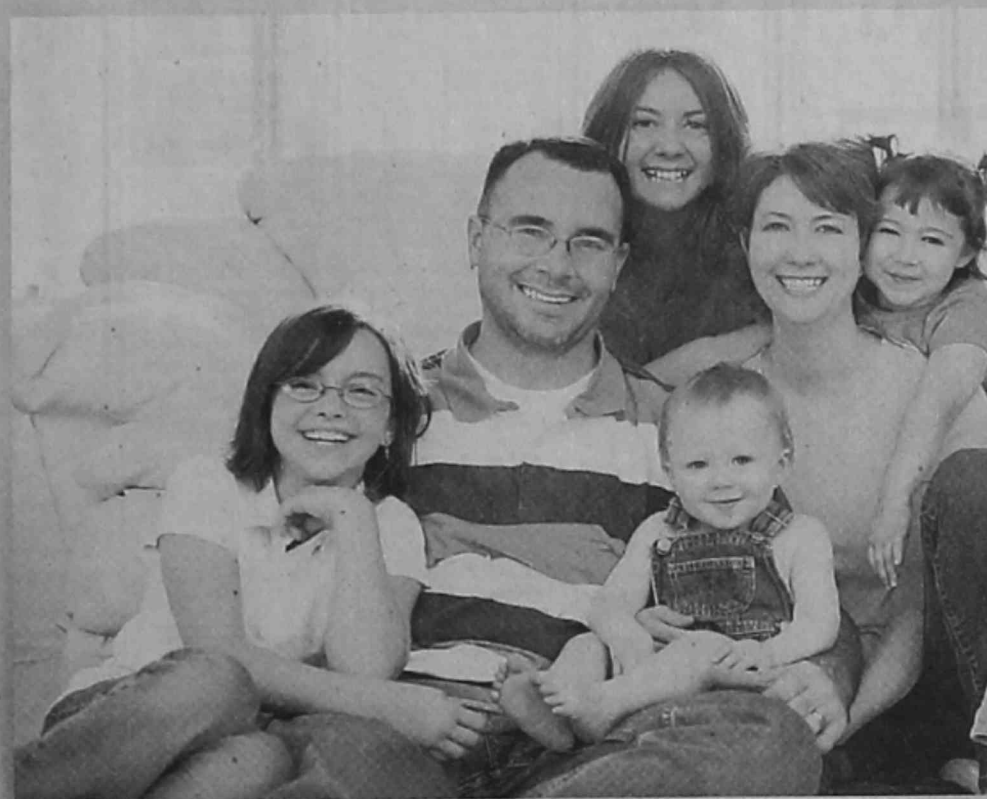
Place remaining red lentils on a shallow tray and roll goat cheese slices in lentils until coated. Place lentil slices into a baking pan.

For vinaigrette, combine, grapefruit juice, lime juice, and ¼ cup extra virgin olive oil and whisk until emulsified. Add grapefruit segments; season with salt to taste.

Just before serving, heat goat cheese slices for 3 to 5 minutes in a 350°F oven until warm, but not melting apart. Distribute lentils onto six plates, place goat cheese slices on lentils and drizzle with vinaigrette.

Courtesy of Family Features





## Guard against home heating fires this winter

In 2009, heating equipment was involved in an estimated 58,900 reported U.S. home structure fires, with associated losses of 480 civilian deaths, 1,520 civilian injuries, and \$1.1 billion in direct property damage. These fires accounted for 18 percent of all reported home fires, according to the National Fire Protection Association.

Based on 2005-09 annual averages:

- Heating equipment fires accounted for 18 percent of all reported home fires in 2009 (second behind cooking) and 22 percent of home fire deaths.

- Space heaters, whether portable or stationary, accounted for one-third (32 percent) of home heating fires and four out of five (79 percent) of home heating fire deaths.

- The leading factor contributing to home heating fires (26 percent) was failure to clean, principally creosote from solid-fueled heating equipment, primarily chimneys.

- Placing things that can burn too close to heating equipment or placing heating equipment too close to things that can burn, such as upholstered furniture, clothing, mattress, or bedding, was the leading factor contributing to ignition in fatal home heating fires and accounted for more than half (53 percent) of home heating fire deaths.

- Half (49 percent) of all home heating fires occurred in December, January and

February.

The United States Fire Administration's Winter Residential Building Fires report shows that each winter an estimated 108,400 residential building fires occur in the United States, resulting in 945 deaths, 3,825 injuries, and \$1.7 billion in property loss. Cooking is the leading cause of winter residential building fires at 36 percent followed by heating at 23 percent. Winter residential building fires occur mainly in the early evening hours, peaking from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

"The winter season brings the highest number of home fires, more than at any other time of year," said USFA's Deputy Fire Administrator Glenn Gaines. "Home fires increase in part due to cooking and heating. Winter storms can also interrupt electrical service and cause people to turn to alternative heating sources that contribute to the increased risk of fire during the winter months."

The NFPA and USFA recommend following these safety tips to prevent winter home fires:

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period, turn off the stove.

- Space heaters need space; keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from each heater.

- Check electrical cords often and

replace cracked or damaged electrical or extension cords. Do not try to repair them.

- Never use your oven or stovetop to heat your home. They are not designed for this purpose and can be a fire hazard. In addition, carbon monoxide (CO) gas might kill people and pets.

- Avoid using lighted candles. If you must use candles, place them in sturdy candleholders that won't burn.

- If you smoke, use only fire-safe cigarettes and smoke outside.

For more information about the causes of winter fires, winter storm fire safety, and tips that will help prevent the incidence of fire in the home, visit the USFA website at [www.usfa.fema.gov/winter](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/winter) and the NFPA website at [www.nfpa.org/winter](http://www.nfpa.org/winter).

## Security cameras: Get pro advice

By Robert Meisner  
Guest Columnist



Robert Meisner

**Q:** We are thinking about installing security cameras in the common areas. What do you think of that idea?

**A:** You and your association's Board of Directors should review and update your community's security measures at regular intervals. With respect to installing security cameras, you might consider installing them in parking lots and common areas on the property. Like any security measure, there are pros and cons to using security cameras to see suspicious activity before a crime is committed or using footage after the crime is committed to identify perpetrators and aid police in finding them. Before installing and using security cameras to monitor the community association, you should weigh the benefits and downsides to doing so and consult with a security expert as well as your attorney.

**Q:** I was planning to invest in New Orleans and I am wondering if you have had any experience recently with respect to the business and/or real estate climate?

**A:** While New Orleans has made a vibrant recovery, there are still remnants of many blocks of vacant property as a result of Hurricane Katrina and, unfortunately, a very tall building near the Super Dome, which apparently became mold infested and, is totally unoccupied and an eyesore. The St. Charles trolley line proceeds almost to where it used to end and tourism seems to be picking up. The business climate has still not reached the level it was prior to the hurricane. There may be opportunities in terms of revitalization monies, and the Police Department has made strides in terms of taking care of what was a great deal of corruption and crime. You are best advised to consult with a knowledgeable real estate person in the area as well as a real estate attorney before making any business investments or real estate purchases.

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

### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 7-11, 2011, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

**CANTON**  
2358 Arcadia Dr \$64,000  
2430 Arcadia Dr \$70,000  
1957 Bellingham St \$140,000  
8370 Brewster Ln \$245,000  
48276 Central Park Dr \$395,000  
8588 Congress Dr \$193,000

1263 E Crystal Cir \$195,000  
1291 E Crystal Cir \$205,000  
44618 Forest Trail Dr \$169,000  
41546 Haggerty Woods Ct \$131,000  
7325 Heron Way \$380,000  
39909 Hillary Dr \$114,000  
7265 Lyndhurst Dr \$280,000  
8180 N Ridge Rd \$400,000  
43913 Palisades Dr \$104,000  
6004 River Run Ct \$300,000  
45310 Rudgate Rd \$150,000  
1452 S Lotz Rd \$150,000  
42657 Somerset Dr \$145,000  
47111 Woodlong Dr \$257,000  
**LIVONIA**  
33158 Allen St \$115,000  
15161 Auburndale St \$79,000

14406 Blackburn St \$115,000  
15056 Blue Skies St \$132,000  
15067 Blue Skies St \$130,000  
14122 Cardwell St \$88,000  
16243 Country Club Dr \$182,000  
14154 Denne St \$130,000  
14908 Ellen Dr \$113,000  
18968 Floral St \$15,000  
8982 Fremont St \$62,000  
14212 Hubbard St \$135,000  
28140 Lyndon St \$138,000  
11307 Mayfield St \$120,000  
28731 Minton Ct \$55,000  
36902 Munger St \$53,000  
28143 N Clements Cir \$75,000  
33813 Oakdale St \$212,000  
17311 Oporto Ave \$110,000  
18768 Southampton St \$220,000

31023 W Chicago St \$106,000  
14405 Westmore St \$146,000  
16771 Yorkshire St \$255,000  
**NORTHVILLE**  
45849 Fermanagh Dr \$446,000  
18842 Heather Ridge Dr \$518,000  
20145 Silver Spring Dr \$52,000  
20181 Valley St \$160,000  
**PLYMOUTH**  
12937 Andover Dr \$247,000  
8811 Briarwood Dr \$102,000  
15102 Lakewood Dr \$210,000  
9639 McClumpha Rd \$293,000  
685 McKinley St \$365,000

261 N Evergreen St \$273,000  
305 N Evergreen St \$221,000  
11872 Talltree Dr \$238,000  
1064 William St \$525,000  
**REDFORD**  
8890 Appleton- \$55,000  
25356 Ivanhoe \$27,000  
20566 Negaunee \$12,000  
9027 Riverview \$62,000  
14834 Seminole \$90,000  
**WESTLAND**  
7352 Arcola St \$39,000  
7777 Carrousel Blvd \$94,000  
31637 Conway Dr \$52,000  
7350 Gilman St \$49,000  
8561 Haller St \$65,000  
8241 N Henry Ruff Rd \$65,000  
1801 S John Hix St \$70,000  
2152 Wilshire St \$112,000

### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Oct. 31 to Nov. 4, 2011, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

**BEVERLY HILLS**  
16954 Wetherby St \$149,000  
**BIRMINGHAM**  
1380 Bird Ave \$475,000  
1482 Bowers St \$175,000  
1964 Cole St \$152,000  
1403 Hazel St \$558,000  
630 Henrietta St \$390,000  
964 Pierce St \$245,000  
**BLOOMFIELD HILLS**  
2330 Heronwood Dr \$570,000  
88 Marlborough Dr \$127,000  
3960 Far Hill Dr \$175,000  
1750 Trailwood Path # D \$66,000  
32 Vaughan Ridge Rd \$292,000  
**BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP**  
4730 Avondale Ter \$627,000  
5253 Fairmont Hill Ct \$263,000

5568 Fieldston Ct \$318,000  
375 N Cranbrook Cross Rd \$487,000  
825 N Pemberton Rd \$102,000  
1583 Old Chatham Dr \$174,000  
**COMMERCE TOWNSHIP**  
650 Candela \$115,000  
1720 Carriage Hl \$310,000  
1849 Carriage Hl \$282,000  
4888 Greenview Ct \$200,000  
8543 Hummingbird \$230,000  
9125 Marilyn Ter \$98,000  
5904 Strawberry Cir \$318,000  
5928 Strawberry Cir \$334,000  
6042 Strawberry Cir \$280,000  
2920 Windwood Ct \$300,000  
**FARMINGTON**  
33750 Alta Loma Dr \$180,000  
23061 Farmington Rd \$163,000  
33928 Grand River Ave \$230,000  
**FARMINGTON HILLS**  
25170 Appleton Dr \$160,000  
27273 Arden Park Cir \$105,000  
29721 Beacontree St \$119,000  
27920 Berrywood Ln Unit 40 \$35,000  
30184 Briarton St \$125,000  
28872 Glenarden St \$163,000  
34030 Hillside Ct \$125,000

22377 Inkster Rd \$56,000  
33723 Kirby St \$106,000  
28026 Statler Ln \$152,000  
29880 W 12 Mile Rd \$30,000  
22042 W Brandon St \$57,000  
36212 W Lyman Rd \$135,000  
32022 Wayburn St \$115,000  
**FRANKLIN**  
30065 Hickory Ln \$150,000  
32259 Scenic Ln \$633,000  
**MILFORD**  
720 E Maple Rd \$140,000  
912 Queen St \$80,000  
1575 S Hickory Ridge Rd \$115,000  
1940 Scenic Dr \$365,000  
590 Tower Ridge Ct \$235,000  
**NOVI**  
21855 Arbor Ln \$180,000  
22049 Barclay Dr \$430,000  
23053 Brookforest \$198,000  
23651 Dunston Rd \$216,000  
43029 Emerson Way \$220,000  
27113 Maxwell Ct \$195,000  
22636 Mondavi Dr \$50,000  
23650 N Rockledge \$37,000  
24501 Park Ridge Ct \$184,000  
22139 Shadybrook Dr \$220,000  
1127 South Lake Dr \$55,000

25671 Strath Haven Dr \$215,000  
27171 Victoria Rd \$281,000  
30224 Viewcrest Ct \$239,000  
42762 Wimbeldon Way \$280,000  
**SOUTH LYON**  
60587 Gary Ct \$240,000  
54771 Grenelefe Cir E \$320,000  
753 Knollwood Cir \$130,000  
**SOUTHFIELD**  
27220 Bradford Ln \$125,000  
20880 Duns Scotus St \$62,000  
23389 Grayson Dr \$28,000  
18556 Hilton Dr \$55,000  
24050 Lee Baker Dr \$43,000  
18501 Mount Vernon St # 9-5 \$37,000  
20100 Secluded Ln \$14,000  
27349 Selkirk St \$96,000  
30453 Shoreham St \$82,000  
28266 Tapert Dr \$80,000  
26918 W 12 Mile Rd \$29,000  
21280 Wallace Dr \$8,000  
29460 Woodhaven Ln \$130,000  
**WHITE LAKE**  
8815 Glasgow Dr \$150,000  
1971 Kingston St \$101,000  
35 N Hulbert St \$178,000  
325 Shotwell Ct \$135,000

### REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

#### BIA courses

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will present all three courses needed for Certified Aging-in-Place designation by the National Association of Home Builders. Don Pratt, CAPS, CGB, CGR of CECS of Michigan, LLC will be the instructor for all three courses. He will cover the technical, business management and

customer service skills essential for competing in this fast growing segment of residential construction.

CAPS I, Marketing and Communication Strategies for Aging and Accessibility, will be held on Monday, March 12. CAPS II, Design/Build Solutions for Aging and Accessibility, will be held on Tuesday, March 13. Business Management, the third course

required for this designation, will be held on Wednesday, March 14. Each session runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Association Offices, 2075 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield.

Registration for each course is \$195 per person for BIA members and \$225 per person for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at [www.builders.org](http://www.builders.org).



# Challenging fun for ALL ages

## Thursday

### PUZZLE CORNER

#### CROSSWORD PUZZLER

#### ACROSS

- 1 Weight  
5 Actor Cronyn  
9 Fall mo.  
12 Fencer's blade  
13 Big — elephant  
14 Oath  
15 Tiny insect  
16 Monster-hunter's loch  
17 Snake River loc.  
18 RV stops  
21 Blue  
22 Prefix meaning "recent"  
23 Cakelike cookie  
26 Period  
28 Took the car  
32 Length x width  
34 B-movie pistol  
36 Parroted  
37 Money drawers  
39 Mass-transit vehicle  
41 Fair-hiring letters
- 42 Prune back  
44 Decent grade  
46 Increased rapidly  
51 Golly!  
52 Pre-college  
53 Al the trumpet-peter  
55 "Diamond Lil"  
56 Potato jacket  
57 Two-piece cookie  
58 A Turner net-work  
59 Lemon taste  
60 In stitches

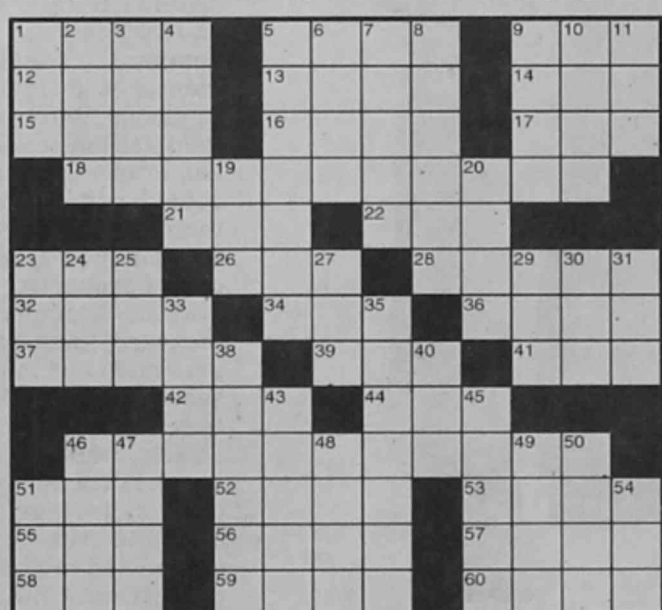
#### DOWN

- 1 Finish a dress  
2 Hero's tale  
3 Goat cheese  
4 Becomes filled to overflowing  
5 Kind of look  
6 PC owner  
7 Stoneworker  
8 Happened next

#### Answer to Previous Puzzle

LBS PUMA NERD  
ORE AMAH ECHO  
PATA CAKE HOOT  
ENSUE OMAR  
GDS BUNCO  
ITCH EVES MID  
BAIT MAD YETI  
INN MILD OXEN  
SKEET YEW  
USED ALACK  
YEAR WINGSPAN  
OTTO OVAL PRE  
METS KATE TAE

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Want more puzzles?  
Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books  
at QuillDriverBooks.com

## SUDOKU



Level: Beginner

#### Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

#### Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

#### Word Search — Cherrylicious

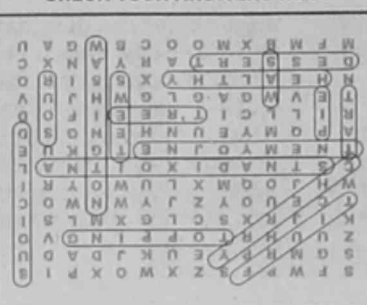
S F W P F S Z X W O X P I S  
S G M R P Y E U K J D A D U  
Z U U H R T O P P I N G V O  
K I J R X S C L G X M L S I  
T C E U O Y Z J Y W N W O C  
W H J O Q M X L U W O Y R I  
C S T N A D I X O I T N A L  
T N E M Y O J N E T G K U E  
A P Q M Y E U N H E N G S D  
R I L L C I T R E E I F O D  
T E V W G A G L G W H J U V  
N H E A L T H Y X S S I R O  
D E S S E R T A R Y A N X C  
M F M B X M O O C B W G A U

Antioxidants Dessert Healthy Sour Topping  
Cherry Enjoyment Pie Sweet Tree  
Delicious Fruit Saw Tart Washington

#### CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE



#### CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE



## HOMES

apartments.com  
HomeFinder

#### Homes

REDFORD- 1650 sq ft w/bsmt, 2 bath brick tri-level. 2.5 car garage. Very nice neighborhood. 14264 Lenore. \$55,000, make offer. (313) 792-8256

#### Manufactured Homes

**BUY NOW!**

OWN YOUR HOME FOR AS LOW AS  
**\$3,900\***  
2 BEDROOM / 1 BATH  
NEARLY 1,000 SQ. FT.

#### CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING

SPECIAL FINANCING AVAILABLE

SUN HOMES AT  
COLLEGE PARK ESTATES  
CANTON, MI

(888) 265-9858

EXPIRES 2/29/12 • EHO • WAC

www.4collegepark.com

#### LIVE IN PLYMOUTH

for less than  
**\$600 per month !!!**  
2 br, 2 bath homes !!!  
Stephen @ AJR Homes  
Sales 734-414-9760  
WAC. 12% for 144 months  
Call for details

#### Northern Property

LEWISTON AREA:  
Over 22 wooded acres,  
2 adjacent parcels,  
780 ft. frontage, county  
maintained paved road,  
over 400 ft. frontage on  
private road. 28X44  
2 bdrm house, 28X40  
garage/workshop, fully  
furnished, modern alarm  
system in both buildings,  
natural gas, C/A, 97 Chevy  
4X4 pick-up plus 14ft flat  
bottom boat, 15HP motor  
incl trailer plus many  
extras, \$175,000 firm.  
Call: 989-786-4623

#### Apartments

GARDEN CITY -  
1 Bdrms only \$579  
2 Bdrms only \$619  
Newly updated  
Winter Specials!  
New Management  
Bentley Square  
(734) 367-1087, EHO

LIVONIA: Farming 5Mile.  
1+ bdrm, 1 bath, 1,000 sq.  
ft. \$700/mo. incl heat/water,  
no pets. 2+ bdrm, 2 bath,  
1400 sq. ft., \$1,000/mo.  
incl heat/water.  
By appt only. 734-416-9608

WESTLAND  
Hickory Woods Apts.  
**\$224 MOVE IN!**  
1 Month Rent Free  
(for qualified applicants)  
1 Bdrm-\$550  
2 Bdrm-\$625  
**FREE GAS & WATER**  
(734) 729-6520  
\*Short term leases  
available.

#### Condos/Townhouses

NORTHVILLE- 7 Mile &  
Northridge condo. 1200 sq  
ft. 2 bdrm/2 bath, carport,  
C/A, refrigerator & stove incl.  
Small dogs & cats welcome!  
\$825/mo. +sec. 248-465-0262

#### Duplexes

FARMINGTON HILLS: 2 bdrm,  
stove, refrigerator, washer,  
dryer, newly remodeled.  
\$650/mo. Call: (248) 348-4740

hometownlife.com

#### Homes For Rent

DEARBORN HEIGHTS: 3 bdrm  
brick ranch, 1.5 bath, finished  
bsmt, 2 car gar, wheel chair  
accessible, appli incl. sec 8  
ok, \$1,000/mo. 313-820-9711

GARDEN CITY: Block St. Cute,  
clean 2 bdrm, all appli. incl, 2  
car gar. Fenced. \$800/mo.  
Immed Occ. 734-261-2475

GARDEN CITY: Remodeled 3  
bdrm, bsmt, garage, 28417  
Barton, \$800 + sec. No pets.  
Immed occup. (734) 421-5194

Livonia/Farmington area- 3  
bdrm, 1 full bath, 1000 sq. ft.,  
updated kit w/appl. Lg. back-  
yard. \$980/mo. 248-342-0314

WESTLAND - Economical 2  
Bdrm, updated, C/A, bsmt,  
new furnace. Stove, fridge,  
W/D \$700/mo Sect 8 wel-  
come! Agent: (734) 646-4957

WESTLAND: Clean + Attractive  
2 Bdrm duplex. Appliances  
Included. Immed. Occupancy.  
\$525/mo + Security. No Pets.  
Agent: (734) 522-2429

#### Mobile Home Rentals

FARMINGTON HILLS  
SENIOR 55+ COMMUNITY  
**\$594<sup>75</sup>/mo Or Less**  
• 3 BDRM • 2 BATHS • 1140 SF  
• LARGER AND LESS EXPENSIVE  
THAN COMPARABLE APARTMENTS  
**little Valley**  
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www.LVHomes.net

#### Mobile Home Rentals

FARMINGTON HILLS  
OWN OR LEASE  
**\$575/mo Or Less**

• 3 BDRM • 2 BATHS  
• ALL APPLS • WE FINANCE  
• NEW & PRE OWNED AVAIL.  
**little Valley**  
248-231-0801  
www.LVHomes.net

#### Rooms For Rent

CANTON: Extra lg rm w/ pri-  
vate bath. Carriage Hills sub.  
references, no smoking.  
\$425/mo. Call: 248-437-7520

LIVONIA: Furnished, kitchen  
privileges, cable, washer/  
dryer, all utilities. Retired male  
preferred. \$360/mo. + \$100  
deposit. (734) 469-4902

LUXURY HOTELS - Low Rates,  
Fairlane 248-347-9999, Royal  
248-544-1575, Days 734-427-  
1300, Comfort 248-504-5080,  
Best Western 248-583-7000

#### Office/Retail Space For Rent/Lease

REDFORD TWP.  
OFFICE SUITES  
2 Locations  
Beautifully redecorated.  
Great rates incl utilities.  
CERTIFIED REALTY INC.  
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### MANUFACTURED HOMES FOR RENT

3 bed/2 bath homes  
starting at \$599

College Park Estates Sun Homes

Apply at: 4collegepark.com

Hurry won't last!

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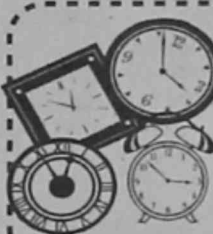
SUN HOMES

\*Some restrictions apply, call for details.

Exp. 2/29/12 EHO

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Even in these  
trying times,  
we still have  
the best prices!

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Designed with  
ROOMMATES  
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#### Plymouth

##### Carriage House

Move-In  
Specials!

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Corner of  
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SPACIOUS!!

2 Bdrms,  
1000 sq. ft.  
CARPETS  
POOL  
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inside unit

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Bathrooms  
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## Classifieds Work!

#### THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MORTGAGE MONITOR

		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.	Other
1st Choice Mortgage Lending	(734) 459-0782	3.625	0	3.125	0	J/A
Accurate Mortgage Solutions	(800) 593-1912	3.625	0	3.125	0	J/A
AFI Financial	(877) 234-0600	3.625	0	3.125	0	J/A/F
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	3.875	0	3	0.25	J/A
BRINKS Financial Group	(800) 785-4755	3.5	0.5	3	0.375	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	3.5	1.625	2.875	0.75	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	4	0.25	3.25	0	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	4.125	0	3.375	0	A
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	4	0	3.25	0	J/A/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage	(800) 991-9922	3.625	0.375	2.9	0.5	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	4	0	3.5	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	3.5	1.5	2.875	0.5	J/A/V/F
Talmer Bank & Trust	(800) 462-2786	4	0	3.375	0	J/A/V/F

Above information available as of 2/17/12 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculation & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at [www.rmcreport.com](http://www.rmcreport.com). Key to "Other" column - J = Jumbo, A = Arm, V = VA, F = FHA & NR = Not Reported. All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders. Lenders to participate call (734) 922-3032 © 2012 Residential Mortgage Consultants, Inc., All Rights Reserved



## SERVICES

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### Electrical

ALL YOUR ELECTRICAL NEEDS  
obeyerelectric@hotmail.com  
Mike: (734) 502-4271

FAMILY ELECTRICAL  
City cert. Violations corrected.  
Service changes or any small job. Free est. 734-422-8080

### Hauling/Clean Up

### A-1 HAULING

Move scrap metal, clean basements, garages, stores, etc. Lowest prices in town. Quick service. Free est. Wayne/Oakland. Central location. 248-547-2764, 248-559-8138

### Housecleaning

### Affordable Housecleaning

10 yrs exp. Reliable. Dependable. Free Est. Senior Dis. 734-355-4164

### ELEGANT TOUCH CLEANING SERVICES

Apartments & Office Cleaning. (248) 929-4285

### Moving/Storage

### A1 Movers & Service

Lic. & Insured-Efficient 3 men. \$75/hr. 866-633-7953

### Painting/Decorating Paperhangers

### PAINTING BY ROBERT

Wallpaper Removal • Int • Ext • Plaster/Drywall Repair • Staining. 25 yrs exp. Free est. 248-349-7499, 734-464-8147

### Roofing

### BEST CHIMNEY CO.

Free Est. Lic. & Ins. 248-557-5595, 313-292-7722

### LEAK SPECIALIST

Flashings, Valleys, Chimneys, etc. Warr. Member BBB. 30 yrs. exp. Call / Ins. Call: (248) 346-4321

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### HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

### Answer an ad:

### 1. Note the # number listed in the ad

### 2. Call 1-800-950-3785

It's only \$2.39/minute. Must be 18+, or,

Call 1-800-510-4786, and use a major credit or debit card

### 3. Follow the instructions to listen to the advertiser's voicemail greeting

### 4. Leave a personal message for the advertiser

### Place your own ad:

### 1. Call 1-800-508-5115

### 2. Answer some simple questions to create your ad

### 3. Record a voicemail greeting

### 4. Learn how to pick up your messages

— we'll let you know when new messages have arrived!

### Get more:

### ♦ Chat with local singles right now.

Call 248-397-0123 to learn more

### ♦ Need help? Go to help@People2People.com

Call 1-800-508-5115

### Free Ads:

Free Ads: Free ads placed in this section are not guaranteed to run every week. We will review your ad frequently to keep it fresh. Subscribers: Persons are for adults 18 or over seeking monogamous relationships. To ensure your safety, carefully screen all responses and have first meetings in a public place. This publication reserves the right to edit, remove, or reject any advertisement at any time at its sole discretion and assumes no responsibility for the content of or replies to any ad. All ads have corresponding voice messages. To review our complete guidelines, call 800-579-7355.

### Meet Someone NOW!

### CALL 248.397.0123

### 248.397.0123

### 248.397.0123

### 248.397.0123

### 248.397.0123

### 248.397.0123

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### Cards Of Thanks

### May the Sacred Heart of Jesus

by adored, glorified, loved & preserved throughout the world now & forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus Prayer for Us. St. Jude Worker of Miracles Pray for Us. St. Jude Helper of the Hopeless Pray for Us. Say this prayer 9 times a day by the 8th day your prayer will be answered. Publication must be promissed G.B.

### THANK YOU ST. JUDE

For favors received. E.S.

### Auction Sales

### ESTATE AUCTION Sat., Feb. 25, 7pm

Cultural Center  
1525 Farmer  
Plymouth MI  
Furniture, Glassware  
Collectibles & Antiques  
Electronics, Tools  
Household Items  
Outdoor Items  
Cash/MC/Visa  
Bank Debit Cards  
No Checks  
Doors Open 6pm  
Joe Carl, Professional  
Auction Service  
734.451.7444  
jcauctionservices.com

### Estate Sales

### BLOOMFIELD ESTATE SALE

Sat & Sun, Feb 25 & 26, 10-4pm. 4459 Chamberlain, Bloomfield, MI 48301. Antique Glassware, Furniture, Household Goods!

### Estate Sale

Filming for HGTV's Cash & Cari Season 3  
GREAT FINDS incl. Antique Furniture, Fiesta Ware & Hall Tree  
115 Berkley St.  
Dearborn MI 48128  
Feb 24-25th, 10-5pm  
http://repurposestate.com  
248.719.8332

### LIVONIA ESTATE SALE:

2/23-2/25, 9:30-5:30. 18407 University Park Dr, behind Laurel Park Pl. -Antique furniture & smalls, books, crafts, doll accessories, LOTS of items. No early birds.

### Garage/Moving Sales

### GARDEN CITY MOVING SALE

Thurs, Fri. & Sat. 9am-4pm. 30021 Leona at Clair. Off Cherry Hill, btwn Middlebelt & Merriman. 1 blk. E. of Henry Ruff. Furniture, some lawn tools, misc.

### PLYMOUTH: BIG SALE!

Attention All Auto Dealers, Handyman, Detailers, Crafters, Hobbyist, Car Repair. End of the year excess inventory blow out sale! Tapes, Acrylic foam tapes, Felt, Velcro, Tyvek, Foam, Adhesives, Vinyl, Fabric, & much, much, more. Various thicknesses and colors. Full or partial rolls available. CASH ONLY! Pre-sale Friday, Feb. 24, 4:30-6:30pm, Sat Feb 25, 8-5pm, Sun. Feb 26, 9-3pm. 41016 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170. Email: tp123mac.com for more info.

### HOUSEHOLD GOODS

ARMOIRE-THOMASVILLE: (Dark cherry), Ethan Allen, Pennsylvania House, dining room set, Hitchcock chairs & antique furniture. Call: 248-563-1689

### BEDROOM SET

Attractive, oak 4 piece set. \$490. (586) 264-5524

### BUFFET CHINA CABINET

with Mirrors, pine with wine rack, 2 glass shelves. Very good cond. Moving 1st \$225 takes. Will deliver & set up. Westland: 734-467-8352

### DRYER - MAYTAG

Heavy duty, white, works great, brand new motor. \$150. Call: (248) 921-0848

### Farm Equipment

### SNOWBLOWER: 7ft. wide

for rear power take off, manufactured by White. Requires min of 45 HP to operate, garage kept, good cond. \$999. Call: (248) 921-0848

### Musical Instruments

### UPRIGHT Metropolitan Piano

& Bench. Exp. cond. \$500. Call for viewing appt. if interested. 313-533-5603

### Wanted to Buy

### INSTANT CASH

For anything old I can carry! Any quantity! Professional. Courteous. Call Richard 248-795-0362

### WANTED - COLLECTIBLES:

Fire arms & knives  
Call Richard 248-767-1579

### WANTED: Old Fishing Tackle

& related items. Also old boat motors. Call Bill: (734) 890-1047

### Birds & Fish

### BIRD SHOW Sat., Feb. 25, 9-4pm

Livonia Elks Lodge #2246. 31117 Plymouth Rd., Livonia. Adults \$3, Children under 12 FREE. Birds & related items for sale. Vendor table & space Avail \$35 ea. For more information call: 313-247-5900

### Cats

### CATS - TWO:

9 & 11 months, fixed males, need to stay together. Call: (248) 738-4901

### Dogs

### BEAGLE LAB MIX PUPS

Adorable, 1st shots & dewormed. \$90/leg. to loving stable homes. (313) 740-9118

### ENGLISH BULL DOG PUPS

Adorable, Champion Blood. Line 10 weeks old. Male & Female, AKC registered, health guarantee with complete shots. \$700 Email: perezsamuel90@live.com (734) 525-2884

### MASTIFF - NEO AKC PUPS

3 females, 2 colors, vet checked, declawed, wormed, & shots. 734-671-5324

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### WOMEN SEEKING MEN

### LOOKING FOR THE RIGHT GUY

### Household Goods

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## HELP WANTED-GENERAL

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### Help Wanted-General

### APPLICATION CONSULTANT:

Conduct on-site clinical evals for customers to demonstrate products and services. Increase income. Guided Surgery (IGS) product usage, direct CT and radiology staff in performing scans prior to surgery; provide on-site guidance and assistance to physicians and OR personnel during surgery; educate/train physicians, dental hospital personnel on the use of IGS products and services; develop and conduct training; repair system hardware/software; provide telephone "hotline" support; maintain timely site visits and customer contact; recommend product modifications. Req'd: Bach degree in Nursing, Biomed Sci or Biomed Engng field (foreign degree acceptable if eq to comparable U.S. degree); 1 yr exp in a technical support role preferably for a healthcare company or provider; and perm US work authorization. Job opportunity involves various client locations in the Detroit (Wayne County) MI metropolitan area. Send cover letter and resume to N. Bandukwala, HR, Brainlab, Inc., 3 Westbrook Corporate Center, Ste 400, Westchester, IL 60154.

### Help Wanted-General

### APPOINTMENT SETTER

Ideal for anyone who can't get out of town. Work from home PT, schedule pick-ups for Purple Heart. Call Mon-Fri 9-5: 734-728-4572 or email: phoneworkin@aol.com

### Help Wanted-General

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### Help Wanted-General

### ASSEMBLER

### Ability to stand for long periods of time. Ability to lift and/or move 35 lbs.

### Rate of pay is \$9.10 per hour, with full benefits.

### Located near 10 Mile and Grand River.

### EOE

### Fax (248)



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