DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME Did you remember to set your clock ahead one hour?



UNCONVENTIONAL PLACES TO EXPAND YOUR NETWORK CLASSIFIED, SECTION C

AMAZING DOGS! **USA WEEKEND**

Your. Service

Poet perfection

Madeline Leyden, an eighth-grader at Our Lady of Good Counsel, won third place in the Middle School Division of the 2011-2012 Writing Contest sponsored by The Writing Conference, Inc.

She was the only Michigan student to win an



Leyden

ence, Inc., which provides services to children, young adults and teachers with interests in reading and writing. The goal of this non-profit organization is the improvement of writing and reading skills of young people.

Confer-

Her poem: Change

"Who knew that just one night Could change a country, fill it with

fright With winds and waves one hundred feet tall

Tsunamis took buildings, took lives, took all

"One quake, single quake stole thousands of lives

Separated brothers, sisters, husbands and wives

Changed skyscrapers to rubble, housing to ash

Sent Japan's thriving country down with a crash

"With so much sadness, a good deal of sorrow

What kind of chance is there of a happy tomorrow

But the rest of the world did all that they could

Proving after big rain comes the rainbow, the good"



Your life changes in an instant

By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer

hen Kassi Gilbert found the strange markings on her daughter's face - splotches that appeared with no apparent explanation - she did what any parent might do and got her to the emergency room.

Doctors at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ypsilanti conducted a battery of tests and couldn't find a reason for the markings, either, although they ruled out anything bloodborne. They sent Kassi and her daughter home, with a recommendation to follow up with their pediatrician. That was Sept. 23, 2011

Six days later, 14-year-old Abigaille Giamporcaro was dead.

Abigaille's young, promising life - the Discovery Middle School student was a poet and a songwriter, a creative soul with an eye on a career as an interior designer - was snuffed out the way an increasing number of lives are being ended recently. Abigaille died, alone in the closet of her own Canton bedroom, playing what is euphemistically called the "choking game," a relatively new way young people have begun using while chasing a "high" for which they don't need drugs

Nearly six months later, her family is still reeling.

Thrill seeking?

"It's awful," Kassi Gilbert said of the pain inflicted by the loss. "It's every day. It just doesn't go away.'

The game is played by fashioning a noose around the neck, pulling on it and releasing just before loss of consciousness. Doctors say the idea is to get the same sort of "high" they might get, but without the danger of being caught with illegal drugs or alcohol.

"Thrill seeking is the major reason for participating in this game," said Dr. Michael Butkus, Assistant Professor/ Psychologist, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences at the Wayne State University School of Medicine.



Dad Caleb Gilbert with Kimmy (left), Abigaille and a very young Henry at the cider mill.



Canton water rates likely to decline

By Darrell Clem Observer Staff Writer

In a surprise development, Canton residents are expected to see their water-sewer rates decrease by an average 2.3 percent starting May 1 — the first time local rates have fallen in 28 years, Municipal Services Director Tim Faas confirmed Friday.

New rate hikes imposed by the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department have been offset by other expenses that declined or remained flat for watersystem operations and maintenance, water billing, capital costs and a workforce restructuring, Faas said.

The rate decrease, if approved by the Canton Township Board of Trustees, is expected to shave an estimated \$8.15 off the average quarterly bill of \$351 for a typical household using 32,283 gallons of water. That amounts to \$32.60 a year.

Welcome news

Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin, whose office handles water billing, said any decrease will be welcomed by residents, especially those who have struggled through tough "It's not going to send anybody to Hawaii for a week, but on the other hand it sure beats an increase," McLaughlin said. "It's very, very good news." Faas, McLaughlin and other township officials have routinely advised local water consumers to expect annual rate hikes, due to Detroit's increases and Canton's rising cost of maintaining its watersewer system. "I always tell folks just to plan on rates going up," McLaughlin said. "I've probably said that 10,000 times." Though a 2.3-percent decrease won't exactly fatten local wallets, she said residents "are going to be thrilled" not to get a rate hike. News from Faas of the expected rate decrease comes as he plans to lead a township forum to explain the proposed water-sewer rates and how they are calculated. The public session has been set for 6 p.m. Monday inside the township board meeting room, 1150 S. Canton Center. The latest proposal puts Canton's combined watersewer rate at \$10.13 per 1,000 gallons — down from \$10.39. Township officials are expected to discuss the rates during a March 20 study session before approving them April 10 and allowing them to become effective May 1.

CCHA ticket contest

Enter our Facebook contest for a chance to win a family fourpack of tickets to the CCHA semifinals Friday, March 16, at Joe Louis Arena.



Share the contest link with a Facebook friend

and get an extra five chances to win if they also enter the contest. Prizes will be awarded Tuesday, March 13 and the winners must be able to pick up the tickets on game day.

You can enter by clicking on the contest link in our Don't Miss module at Hometownlife.com or by visiting our facebook page at http://www. facebook.com/OE-Hometown.

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C The Observer & Eccentric Volume 37 • Number 75



"This game is played by all kinds of adolescents, some

high-achieving, some not. It would be attractive to some adolescents who are bored, maybe even a little depressed because their lives may be empty of other sources of pleasure," he said.

It is frequently done in crowds, but is often also done alone, which is how Abigaille played it, at least the last time.

Trying to help

Her parents aren't really sure how long Abigaille had been playing the game, although since her death they've discovered her best friend had known, and had done his best to get her to stop. Kassi and her husband, Caleb, also don't know where she learned it, although there are YouTube videos and websites dedicated to the practice.

Here's what they do know: On the day she died, Abigaille had been planning to go to a friend's

Please see ABIGAILLE, A4

In Loving Memory Abigaille Nicole Giamporcan



CHOKING GAME INCIDENTS **SINCE 2008**

	1 . Same liter	Fatality	Injury	Activity	Total	1
ALL.	United States	416	51	6	473	64
F St	Other Countries	125	4	2	111	-
5	Total	521	55	8	584	
5	Source: Dangerous B	ehaviors Fou	indation, Ind			1

Canton cop clocks save of woman's watch

By Darrell Clem Observer Staff Writer

Call it The Mystery of the Stolen \$5,000 Watch.

Consider it solved due to tenacious work by Canton Detective Tim Wright.

It started when a 25-year-old Canton woman left her Stonybrooke apartment near Joy Road and I-275 for a weekend getaway in late February. She let her teenage cousin stay at her place but

warned her not to have company.

Yet the teen invited over an 18-year-old male from a nearby apartment complex. When the outof-town resident returned, she was missing a \$5,000 Breitling watch.

The younger cousin apparently had no idea what had happened to it, and her male friend had subsequently been arrested by Canton police for an unrelated traffic violation and turned over to Livonia authorities, who sought him for yet another incident.

Livonia sent him off to the Isabella County Jail for a few days, and an investigation by Wright revealed that, sure enough, the suspect had an expensive Breitling watch among his personal property.

Wright traveled to Mount Pleasant and was returning Friday afternoon to Canton with the \$5,000 watch — ready to turn it over to a thankful owner.

Please see WATCH, A2

Rate setter

Canton also benefitted by closely estimating the amount of water it would

Please see WATER, A6

work."

WATCH

A2

Continued from page A1

"She was more upset with her cousin than anything," Wright said.

Canton Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner divulged details of the case because, he said, "that's just good police

The suspect was facing possible charges in Canton. However, Wright said the male denied putting the watch in his pocket and blamed the girl who invited him over.

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Man faces prison in dragging case

By Darrell Clem Observer Staff Writer

A Westland man who drove over a teenager and dragged him along a Canton road is facing a two-year prison term, though his defense attorney said he can keep the crime off his record as long as he stays out of trouble.

Rodney Manning, a 20year-old father of two, was sentenced Thursday by Wayne County Circuit Judge Vonda Evans, but defense attorney Leon Weiss said Evans allowed Manning to remain free until he returns to court April 10 to start serving his time.

Manning learned his fate after he pleaded no contest in January to assault with intent to do great bodily harm (less than murder), a charge that could have landed him in prison for 10 years for severely injuring 19-year-old Jahlil Wilson of Westland during a dispute last July 2 outside a house party near Beck and Woodlong.

"I just believe there are no winners in this case," Weiss said Thursday, though he called the outcome "a fair resolution" for both sides.





BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Rodney Manning of Westland begins serving a two-year prison term April 10 for driving over a teenager and dragging him along a road.

Sentence starts

Manning, who has been free on bond, begins serving his two-year term April 10 inside a Michigan prison for young offenders, Weiss said, but good behavior by Manning can allow him through the state's Holmes Youthful Trainee Act to keep the incident off his record. Manning accepted

a plea agreement that prompted authorities to dismiss earlier charges of assault with intent to murder, reckless driving causing serious injury, felonious assault and operating a vehicle while intoxicated causing seri-

ous injury.

If he had gone to trial and been convicted as charged, he could have faced penalties ranging up to life in prison.

Wilson, saying he still has nightmares after being hit and dragged a considerable distance under a car, gave chilling testimony last November during Manning's preliminary examination in 35th District Court.

Wilson accused Manning of twice running over him and dragging him an estimated quartermile along Beck Road as. Wilson struggled to survive by clinging to hot

pipes underneath the car.

Violent clash

His testimony indicated the assault followed a violent clash between two groups, one of them allegedly affiliated with a gang dubbed Loyalty Before Respect. Wilson denied any gang involvement.

Wilson had testified he was among a crowd of 25-30 people who crossed Beck Road after a car driven by Manning parked across the street and one passenger got out with a baseball bat. Wilson said the house-party crowd, some of them shouting gang letters "LBR," pelted Manning's car with cinder blocks and rocks, shattering some of the windows.

Wilson said Manning then drove toward the party, ran off the road, drove over him and dragged him until his buttocks were seared off and his spine exposed.

During the preliminary hearing, Weiss expressed sympathy for Wilson but also accused him of trying to "sanitize his own behavior" during an attack by "organized gang activity" against Manning and his passengers.

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

W-W board to interview four law firms

By Sue Mason **Observer Staff Writer**

Hom

New

Representatives of four law firms will be in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools Monday and

Tuesday to explain to the school board why they should be the district's. general legal council. After months of developing requests for pro-

posals and review-

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ing the 12 that the district received, the school board will hold two special meetings on Monday and Tuesday, March 12-13, to interview what members determined as the top four law firms during the process.

The board will meet at 5 p.m. each day in the board meeting room in the district's administrative offices on Marquette, east of Newburgh. The interviews will be at 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.

The board last month agreed to interview the top four firms. Selected were Dickson Wright, Collins and Blaha, Clark Hill and Lusk and Albertson.

Since the two meetings are special meetings, a decision won't be made



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until the board's next regular meeting on Monday, March 19.



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LOCAL NEWS

ABIGAILLE Continued from page A1

house, but had been asked by her working parents to help get preparations started for dinner. When Abby's 9-year-old sister, Kimberly, got home and couldn't find Abby, she called her mother.

Gilbert told Kimberly to go through the house, while staying on the phone. Minutes later, the awful discovery had been made.

"She said, 'Mom, I found her in her closet, and she's freaking me out!"' Kassi recalled. "She went outside and started screaming for help."

Caleb Gilbert won't ever forget those moments, either. Hurrying home from the east side and stuck in rushhour expressway traffic, Caleb dialed his home phone and found a neighbor answering. The neighbor said, "You need to get home now." When he called back, a police officer answered. Caleb will never forget that conversation.

Chilling call

"He said, 'Sir, there's been an incident at your house ... They're working on your daughter," Caleb recalled.

Kassi got home first, followed by Caleb. By the time he got there, EMTs had already taken Abby to Annapolis Hospital in Wayne. Doctors at the hospital spoke the words no parent ever wants to hear.

"They told us there was nothing they could do,' Caleb said. "Your life changes in an instant."

In the days following Abby's death, her best friend told police he'd learned Abby was taking part in the game - "If we hadn't found out what she'd been doing, we'd have thought she committed suicide," Kassi said - and tried to talk her out of it.



Kassi Gilbert a few years ago with her daughter, Abby.

To this day, the family doesn't know how long she'd been doing it. She'd spent the summer in West Virginia with her father, and the month following her return was busy getting ready for school. Her mother didn't notice anything wrong. Sure, Abby was tired a lot, and there were those mysterious splotches, but any parent might mistake those. Even the doctors at St. Joe's had no idea. It wasn't until after Abby's death, when Kassi was searching begging, really - for answers, did she find out those things are symptoms of kids playing the game. In fact, this year had been smoother than the year before, when peer pressure and anger issues were raised with Abby, who at one point even told her mother she wanted to move to West Virginia with her dad. But those attitudes were gone when Abby

got back last summer. She was hanging out with friends, getting ready for school, thinking about getting a work permit.

Vague symptoms

"It wasn't until she passed I found out she'd skipped a few days of school," Kassi said. "She'd been tired, and she wasn't feeling well. There wasn't anything that flagged me.'

Not realizing the symptoms is the frustrating thing about what happened to Abby, according to Kassi. There are so many warning signs parents learn to look for in terms of drug use or more extreme behavior such as cutting themselves.

"But with this, the symptoms are so vague," she said. "The one chance we had, the doctors didn't even know. How are we, as parents, supposed to know."

Now that she's done

some research, Kassi does know more about symptoms.

According to Dr. Butkus, the Wayne State University psychologist, "any significant change

in behavior is general-ly a red flag." A happy child who turns irritable, headaches, unexplained behavior, etc. are all symptoms. And parents shouldn't just look at their own children.

"Since the choking game can be played in groups, youth's friends may have signs, too," Butkus said. "As a good rule of thumb, parents should always know what their children are doing and don't hesitate to ask questions and probe in spite of the youth's protestations.'

Experts say the numbers are so fuzzy when trying to determine not only how many kids are participating, but how

Schoolcraft

College

many are dying from it. According to the Dangerous Behaviors Foundation, it's estimated that between 250 and 1,000 children die each year from the practice; however, hard statistics are difficult to come by, they said, since many coroners record such deaths as suicide.

Different intent

Kassi hates the idea of Abby's death being thought of as a suicide, because "it denotes a whole different angle, an intent to it.'

"It makes it look like her whole reason (for playing the game) was she wanted to die," Kassi said. "I don't think that's true."

Abby, whom Caleb called "very artistic, very right-brained ... fun and spunky and very cool," left behind three siblings - 18-year-old, Zachary Giamporcaro; 9-yearold Kimberly Gilbert and 2-year-old Henry Gilbert. They're left to sift through the pain.

"There is often trauma among the loved ones that in itself requires treatment," Butkus said. "Many never get over it and are bothered by the loss for years, and many blame themselves for not being able to prevent the death.'

Preventing deaths is what Kassi and Caleb are now focused on accomplishing. Kassi has poured herself into research and now knows more about what she could have been looking for.

She hopes to help other parents avoid the same pain she feels six months after her daughter's death.

"I want parents to know it's a possibility their kids are doing this ... I want them to talk to their kids about the way they do about safe sex or drugs.

"I think (the pain) gets harder after the initial shock," she added. "For me, the shock wore off about a month ago. (Now) there's no emotional buffer. It's awful."

She's trying to recover, though. The family recently made a memorial gift donation to the Canton Public Library, where Kassi and her daughter often wiled away the hours. The donation is being used to buy four books that would have interested Abby. Kassi still has, and plans to keep, Abby's library card.

"It means a lot to me," said Kassi, who is working toward a master's in library information science at Wayne State. "It makes me very happy to have her name memorialized in a place where we spent time together.'

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Local pubs plan St. Paddy's Day events

By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer

They'll be wearing the green — and eating and drinking it, too — Saturday at pubs and restaurants in the Plymouths and Canton Township.

Saturday is St. Patrick's Day, marking the anniversary of the death of St. Patrick, one of the patron saints of Ireland, who lived during the fifth century. It's a holy day of obligation for Catholics in Ireland and, in many parts of the rest of the world, a day for parades, music and merrymaking.

"Typically it's our busiest day of the year," said Dave Bicknell, a manager at Bennigan's on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth Township. "We throw a big party basically every year."

"It's a great time," said Lindsay Poteracki, an assistant manager and server. "We have a big crowd that comes in."

"A very steady day," said Dena Brotherton, a manager at 4 Friends Bar & Grill on Warren Road in Canton. But, Brotherton also cautioned, "Peo-



Sean O'Callaghan's opens at 7 a.m. for breakfast on St. Patrick's Day. Live music from The Strangers and the Sean Riley Band from 11 a.m. until midnight.

ple don't whoop it up like they used to."

Both Bennigan's and 4 Friends will have Irishthemed menus specials Saturday, plus entertainment and events.

The "Irish" Motown band — Brotherton's words — D Tour will perform Saturday night, with no cover charge. Bennigan's, also with no charge, will have a disc jockey all day, and Bicknell said the DJ will work some Irish-inspired rock 'n' roll and traditional folk tunes into his selections.

There will be beer specials at 4 Friends (they'll serve it green on request), plus a corned beef and cabbage dinner special. "I have the best corned beef in town here," Brotherton said.

At Bennigan's, Bicknell is planning a corned-beefand-cabbage-eating contest, with a \$25 gift cer-

EXPERT MADE EASY.

tificate to the winner. Bennigan's will also host beer pong and beanbagtoss games, and will have a special on draft green beer.

For atmosphere, musicians playing the Irish, or uilleann, pipes are expected to appear at both places at some point (the engagement is tentative at Bennigan's). At 4 Friends, the appearance will be sponsored by product vendors that hire pipers who make a lot of stops every March 17.

"They'll hit all the bars here in the area," Brotherton said.

At Bennigan's, Saturday marks the end of a month-long fundraiser for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, and Bicknell said the goal is \$2,000, enough to send two children afflicted with muscular dystrophy to camp. The restaurant has multiple ways to contribute.

"All of our money is going straight to sending kids to camp," Bicknell said. "It's just a very cool kind of fundraiser."

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Other local pubs and restaurants celebrating St. Patrick's Day with discounts and special menus and events include:

· Sean O'Callaghan's, 821 Penniman, Plymouth: No shamrocks here: with custom-made furniture and stained glass from Galway, co-owner Sam Khashan prides himself on his place's authenticity. O'Callaghan will open at 7 a.m. for breakfast on St. Patrick's Day. Live music from The Strangers and the Sean Riley Band from 11 a.m. until midnight. Cover charge \$10. Traditional Irish menu, plus a special corned beef and cabbage dinner. Promotions and giveaways.

• Sheehan's on the Green, 39450 Five Mile, Northville Township: Open 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. Appearances all day by Irish pipers, and an Irish menu that includes corned beef dinners, Irish stew and corned beef sandwiches. Serving Irish beers and green beer all day. No cover. Sheehan's can provide cab rides home.

• The Wurst Bar, 705 W, Cross Street Ypsilanti: Opening at 8:30 a.m. on St. Patrick's Day. Featuring a special menu for the holiday and special beers all day, including a selection of Michigan beers.

• Doyle's Tavern, 860 Fralick, Plymouth: Opening at 9 a.m. for breakfast. A British Isles menu with bangers and mash (a sausage and potatoes dish), Irish stew, corned beef and cabbage and colcannon (mashed potatoes with kale or cabbage). Bagpipers throughout the day. No cover.

• Bailey's Pub, 1777 N. Canton Center Road: Opening at 9 a.m. for breakfast specials. Later, corned beef and cabbage and green beer, drink specials.

• Hayden's Grill & Bar, 39895 Ford Road, Canton: Beer, wine and food specials, plus "Irish" mixed drinks for the occasion.

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LOCAL NEWS

Locals testify in favor of annexation bill

State Rep. Kurt Heise this week brought western Wayne County officials to Lansing to testify in favor of his legislation to protect large Michigan townships from hostile annexations by neighboring cities.

Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy and Northville Township Trustee Marjorie Banner spoke before the House Local, Governmental and Regional Affairs Committee on House Bill 4007, which would prevent

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the type of annexation attempt that occurred in Northville Township in 2008.

"I'm honored to have the support of our local officials on this important piece of legislation," said Heise, R-Plymouth, whose district includes Plymouth and part of Canton. "The bill is essential in order to encourage economic development in largescale townships through-. out Michigan. The bill allows townships such as Canton, Northville and Plymouth to move forward with potential economic development efforts without having to worry about a hostile takeover by a neighboring city."

Townships must currently meet a set of cri-

WATER

Continued from page A1

buy from Detroit during the last year. Local consumers used just over 2.8 billion gallons of water; local officials had estimated usage at 2.7 billion, Faas said.

"That's favorable for setting the rates this year," Faas said.

Water-sewer rates don't follow the typical supply-and-demand model, and Canton actually would have been penalized if local consumers had used less water than what township officials had projected

had projected. Typically, the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department has imposed higher rate hikes if water usage decreases because DWSD officials say they still need to generate a certain level of revenue to pay for main-

Livonia Franklin



Northville Township Trustee Marjorie Banner testifies in support of legislation introduced by state Rep. Kurt Heise (center) to protect large townships from annexation attempts. Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy (at left) also traveled to Lansing to testify before the committee.

teria in order to be exempt from annexation attempts. Under Heise's HB 4007, townships with a population of more than 20,000 would be added to the list of criteria that must be met.

HB 4007 remains under consideration in the committee.

taining and upgrading an aging system.

Local officials such as township Trustees John Anthony and Pat Williams have repeatedly lashed out at Detroit's rate calculations. In February, Anthony had called it "outrageous" that Detroit had indicated another 8.3-percent water rate hike for Canton.

Fortunately for local consumers, Faas said other cost-saving measures have allowed Canton to propose a rate decrease this year.

Faas said Canton's last water-sewer rate decrease came in 1984. Though the township kept rates flat during a threeyear period during the middle of the last decade, Canton residents on average haven't had an actual decrease in 28 years.

Officials acknowledge a rate decrease isn't likely to happen often.

"Any decrease is going

Annual

to be a rarity," McLaughlin said.

However, local officials still are weighing potential mandatory water-use restrictions that could potentially help curb water rate hikes.

If adopted, the measures would require local consumers who use automated irrigation systems such as timed lawn sprinklers to water their lawns between midnight and 6 a.m. — easing demand during daytime peak usage hours.

The new rules also would force property owners with odd-numbered addresses to water their lawns on odd-numbered days, while consumers with even-numbered addresses would have to comply with even-numbered days. Those measures are currently voluntary.

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LOCAL NEWS

Scots celebrate Tartan Day, March 31



The Raggle Taggle Band, based in Royal Oak, will be among those providing entertainment at the Tartan Day Ceilidh in Livonia. The event will benefit the Scottish American Society of Michigan, which also is based in Royal Oak.

The schedule is set and tickets are now available for Michigan's original state-wide Tartan Day Ceilidh (pronounced Kay-Lee) at Monaghan's Knights of Columbus, 19801 Farmington Road in Livonia. The event is hosted by the Royal Oakbased Scottish American Society of Michigan from 6:30-11 p.m. Saturday, March 31.

The event will feature: • The Alma College Pipe Band

- Detroit Caledonian
- Pipe Band • Raggle Taggle Band of Royal Oak
- Highland Dancers
- Scottish Country
 Dance Demonstration
- Full Meal With Two Meats
- Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for kids



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This is Michigan's "official" Tartan Day Ceilidh, as decreed by the Governor's office in 2010, and funds raised will go to provide a fine arts scholarship for a student at Alma College.

Tartan Day commemorates the signing of the Declaration of Arbroath in 1320, which asserted Scotland's sovereignty over English territorial claims, and which reportedly was an influence on the American Declaration of Independence.

In 1998 National Tartan Day was officially recognized on a permanent basis when the U.S. Senate passed Senate Resolution 155 recognizing April 6 as National Tartan Day. This was followed by companion bill House Resolution 41 which was passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on March 9, 2005.

"People join us from all over the state to celebrate Tartan Day with us," said the group's founder and event organizer, Franklin Dohanyos, of Royal Oak. "The hall only holds 300 and we expect to fill it to the rafters.

"One of our Society's primary missions is to help others and be active in the community. To that end, \$500 raised from this event will go to benefit the newly-created fine arts scholarship named in our honor. The Scots have a long, proud history in Michigan, and we are carrying on that tradition."

On Tartan Day, April 6, 2009, the formation of the Scottish American Society of Michigan was announced with the goal of preserving Scottish heritage as well as to help charitable organizations and individuals in need. The group is a registered 501(c)(7) and holds monthly meetings at The Commonwealth Club of Michigan, located at 30088 Dequindre Road in Warren.

People interested in joining or attending meetings of the Scottish American Society of Michigan, or subscribing to the group's newsletter can visit www. scotsofmichigan.com or www.michiganscots.com.

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

Globe Tech LLC

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: that a Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, March 20, 2012 during a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth. To consider the request of Globe Tech LLC for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for machinery, equipment, furniture, and fixtures located at 40300 Plymouth Road, Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan.

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The request of Globe Tech LLC is on file in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall where it is available for public perusal from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. During the public hearing any resident of Plymouth Township or members of the Legislative Board of any affected taxing unit in the Township shall have the right to appear and be heard. Written comments addressed to the Clerk will be considered.

The public hearing, commencing at 7:00 p.m., will be held in the Town Hall at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N Haggerty Rd, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, on Tuesday, March 20, 2012. Phone Number 734-354-3224. Following the public hearing, the Board may decide on the request by resolution.

> Joe Bridgman, MMC Township Clerk Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: March 11, 2012

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

JAW Trading Company LLC

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: that a Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, March 20, 2012 during a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth. To consider the request of JAW Trading Company LLC for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for the cost of land and building improvements located at 40300 Plymouth Road, Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan.

The request of JAW Trading Company LLC is on file in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall where it is available for public perusal from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. During the public hearing any resident of Plymouth Township or members of the Legislative Board of any affected taxing unit in the Township shall have the right to appear and be heard. Written comments addressed to the Clerk will be considered.

The public hearing, commencing at 7:00 p.m., will be held in the Town Hall at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N Haggerty Rd, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, on Tuesday, March 20, 2012. Phone Number 734-354-3224. Following the public hearing, the Board may decide on the request by resolution.

> Joe Bridgman, MMC Township Clerk Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: March 11, 2012

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Livonia, MI





Canton's Team 862, Lightning Robotics, joined with Team 3322, Eagle Imperium of Ann Arbor, and Team 3601, the Spartan Sprockets of Webberville, to take second place at last weekend's district robotics competition.

Robotics team second at district

A three-team alliance that included Plymouth-Canton's Team 862, Lightning Robotics, combined to take second-place honors as 39 robotics teams competed at Kettering University March 2-3, one of 10 district robotics contests in Michigan this year.

More than 3,000 visitors attended the two-day district competition — making it the single largest robotics event in Kettering history.

Joining Lightning Robotics to claim the silver medal were Team 3322, Eagle Imperium of Ann Arbor; and Team 3601, the Spartan Sprockets of Webberville.

Each team has 12 qualifying games (each game lasts 2 minutes, 15 seconds) where each school is randomly teamed up with two other teams and against three other team. At the end of qualifying the top eight teams are seeded 1-8. "Lightning Robotics was the third seed and then picked the other two team to be on our alliance," said Jay Obsniuk, Lightning Robotics' faculty advisor.

Team 862 beat the sixth seed in the quarterfinals,

la di lini

then swept the 2-of-3 second round match against the second seed. In the finals, Team 862 had a one-game lead and led the second game 30-14 before a communication problem shut down one of the team's robots. The team lost that game 57-50, then fell 80-39 in the final game.

"We thought we had the communication problem fixed," Obsniuk said. "But we didn't."

Team 862 also won the Judges Award with judges, according to Obsniuk, saying things like "Their robot is striking," "their industrial design is well thought out and shows great creativity," and "this team has the power of Zeus with an outstanding plan that told us how a FIRST team should operate as a business."

Team 862 faces a second district competition March 30-31 at Churchill High School in Livonia.

"With the results from this past weekend we are almost assured of qualifying for the state championships," Obsniuk said. That competition takes place April 12-14 at East-

place April 12-14 at Eastern Michigan University.

Top broadcasters

Four sports broadcasters for the New 88.1 were among the state's best in the Michigan Association of Broadcasters Foundation High School and College Broadcast Competition. They joined four other Plymouth-Canton students in receiving awards from the MAB.

Plymouth High School sophomore Joe Zylka and Salem High School sophomore Logan Lazorka received first place in the Sports play-by-play category. Adam Duxter, a Canton High School sophomore, and Salem junior Mason Mills received honorable mention.

"We receive a lot of positive comments when Joe, Logan, Adam and Mason broadcast games," said station manager Bill Keith. "They work hard to deliver their play-byplay with skill and style."

The MAB presents the awards during a conference luncheon in Lansing Tuesday. Broadcasters from throughout the state will be in attendance.

Other Plymouth-Canton students winning awards include Plymouth senior Kyle Linford, a second place for current events and a second place for station activities report; Canton senior Christine Edgerton, a second place for promo announcements; Salem senior Bill Turnau and Plymouth senior Laura Terkelsen,

SCHOOL BRIEFS



Bridge builders

Wes Graff, executive director of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, poses with members of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools administration and Board of Education at a recent chamber event. The chamber honored the P-CCS Board of Education with a Bridge Building Award.

both honorable mentions for public service announcements. "I see the great work

our students do every day," Keith said. "I'm not surprised that they received this recognition."

Graduation marketplace

The New 88.1 hosts Graduation Marketplace 5:30-9 p.m. Wednesday, March 28, at the Salem High School Cafeteria.

Graduation Marketplace is a showcase of all things exciting and essential for planning a successful graduation party. Participating vendors will include everything from caterers to party rentals.

The free event is for the parents of graduating seniors and pre-planning juniors from Plymouth-Canton and throughout metro Detroit. A portion of event proceeds will benefit The New 88.1.

Nykerk competition

Two Hope College students — senior John Lutz and junior Hannah Mielke — served in leadership positions on the Nykerk Committee.

The Nykerk Cup competition, an annual Hope College tradition since 1935, involves freshman and sophomore women competing in the areas of song, oration and drama. Participants practice for three-and-a-half weeks before the competition. The freshman and sophomore teams are coached by juniors and seniors, respectively. Moralers, men of the same graduation class as the women, encourage the teams in their efforts. This year, the freshman class of 2015 won the competition.

Lutz was a 2014 play morale coach. He is the son of John and Michelle Lutz and a graduate of Plymouth Christian Academy.

Mielke was a 2015 play coach. She is the daughter of Bruce and Jennifer Mielke and a graduate of Lutheran High School in Westland.





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LOCAL NEWS

Advice on disinheriting a child

By Rick Bloom Guest Columnist

Q: Dear Rick: My son is gay and lives with his partner. I'm not happy with the arrangement and I've decided to disinherit my son from my estate. I have a will which leaves him everything. I also want to make sure that if something happens to me he can't make decisions on my behalf. I have no other children and I am a widower. What actions should I take to accomplish this? Also, do I have to tell him what I am doing? I prefer at this point not to have any involvement



with him. I should mention that it's just not because he is gay that I'm disinheriting **Money Matters** him; it's for other

Rick Bloom

A: There are some specific things you should do to accomplish your goal. First, you need to amend your will. Under Michigan law, you do not have to leave any inheritance to a child. However, if you do not mention a child in your will, then it's presumed that you have for-

reasons.



gotten about him/her and they can contest the will and potentially receive an inheritance. Therefore, it is important to amend your will and include a provision that mentions his name and the fact that you have chosen to disinherit him.

You don't necessarily have to outline the reasons why you are disinheriting him, just the fact that he is being disinherited. This will prevent him from having any rights to your estate upon death. In addition, it is important to check whether you have named him as beneficiary on a life insurance policy, investments or anything else. Even if you disinherit him through your will, if he is named as a beneficiary, that would take precedent.

With regards to inform-

ing him of your decision. you are under no obligation to do so.

Power of attorney

The items outlined will disinherit your son from your estate. To assure that he is not involved with handling your, affairs during your lifetime, it's important to prepare medical and durable power of attorney documents. In those documents you can name who you want to handle your affairs (if you cannot) and you can also name an alternative. In addition, you can include a paragraph in those documents stating once again, that you do not want your son involved in any of these matters.

Amending your will and preparing medical and durable power of attorney documents will

protect you. Because you are disinheriting a child, I recommend that you have an attorney draft the documents. Wheneyer you disinherit a child, there is a greater possibility that litigation could happen. Therefore, it is important to dot all of the i's and cross all of the t's. Having the documents drafted by an estate planning attorney will greatly reduce the chance of litigation.

Laws, similar to just about everything else in our society, have become much more complex and specialized. Lawyers have become more specialized. It is important to remember that the services of an attorney you would use to handle your estate, is not the same attorney that you would use to handle a personal injury claim. Most reputable and good attorneys won't handle a matter unless they have the expertise. However, like all professions, there are some bad apples that will attempt to handle issues regarding areas of law when they're not fully competent.

It is important that you always keep your guard up and never be afraid to ask questions. Doing your homework ahead of time and making sure that you're dealing with the right professional will save you and your family lots of grief.

Good luck!

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

Healing Hearts hosts VIP's Jerry Dash

Hope 4 Healing Hearts, Inc., a non-profit organization providing group support for adults with an incarcerated loved one, will host a special presentation, "Finding Hope When There Is No Hope" by Jerry Dash from V.I.P. Mentoring in Detroit, Monday, March 26, at Kirk of Our Savior Church in Westland.

Dash is the chief executive officer of volunteers in Prevention, Probation and Prisons, Inc., also known as VIP Mentoring,



Dash

are at high-risk for involvement with the justice system with a special focus on children with incarcerated parents.

Dash is an ex-offender and served time in the federal penitentiary in

Terre Haute, Indiana, in the early 1980s. He uses his experience to talk with inmates and families of inmates and tells about how that experience is now being used to help others affected by incarceration.

He will share his personal story about how he believed all was lost and how he was finally able, even in the darkest of situations, to find hope both in prison and returning home. He will speak from the heart as he shares.

some of the things that he feels might make a difference in the lives of inmates and their families.

The 6:30-8:30 p.m. presentation is open to the public. Kirk of Our Savior at 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, in Westland. For more information, contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237 or go to www.hope4healinghearts. com. To learn more about Jerry Dash and his program, go online to www. vipmentoring.org.

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INSIDE: WHALERS EXTEND WINNING STREAK TO EIGHT GAMES — B3

SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2012 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWNLIFE.COM SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR tsmith@hometownlife.com (734) 469-4128

BOYS BASKETBALL DISTRICTS

Early woes trip up Chiefs

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

When Canton and Novi-Detroit Catholic Central tipped it off to start Wednesday night's Class A boys basketball district semifinal, the Chiefs had hopes of perhaps facing Salem in the district final.

But midway through the opening quarter at Catholic Central, those aspirations proved as off the mark as most of the Chiefs' field-goal opportunities. The Shamrocks led 19-4 with 3:07 remaining in the opening stanza and steamrolled Canton, 62-52.

That 10-point differential at the horn was misleading, however. Only Canton's late 15-2 run with reserves from both teams on the floor made the final score somewhat respectable.

"CC's a really good team, they're rolling right now," Canton head coach Jimmy Reddy said. "They just won the Catholic League and beat Detroit King

Please see CHIEFS, B2



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Novi-Detroit Catholic Central's Jack Dillon (No. 22) eyes the bucket Wednesday night, while Canton's Paul Baumgart (No. 5) tries to thwart the scoring bid.



Salem senior guard Grant Bettner (No. 32) tries to impede Catholic Central's Chase Janer (No. 2) from driving inside Friday night. In the background for the Shamrocks is CC's Kyle Cooper.

Feeling blue

Shamrocks win district final to halt Salem's great season

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

Champions of their respective leagues butted heads Friday night with the Division 1 district championship on the line.

But KLAA champion Salem met the same fate as Park rival Canton did two nights earlier — as Novi-Detroit Catholic Central's boys basketball buzzsaw cut them to the quick.

The host Shamrocks earned the trophy with a 68-53 victory to improve to 17-6. For the Rocks, who fin-

ished 20-3, not even a 26point game by senior guard Tyler Stewart could thwart

the Shamrocks.

Leading Catholic Central with 16 points each were senior forward Kyle Cooper and senior guard Richard Katkic, with senior forward Matt Doneth adding 13.

"They have strength, they have size," Salem head coach Bob Brodie said. "They knocked the shots down they needed to knock down at critical times.

"That's not so much the environment or the pressure of the game. This team's been through a lot of pressure. We just weren't on all cylinders tonight."

Stuck outside The inside game all but Please see SALEM, B2

PCA falls in semis

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

Plymouth Christian Academy rode momentum from a big win in Monday's Class D boys basketball district opener — for a while.

The Eagles hung tough Wednesday against

Detroit Westside Christian at Westland Huron Valley Lutheran in a semifinal matchup, taking a 31-30 lead into halftime. But PCA hit the wall

But PCA hit the wall in the third quarter and dropped a 75-54 decision to end coach Dominique Washington's first season at the helm.

"It went well in the beginning," Washington said. "But in the second half we just lost steam." The loss ended PCA's

season with a 7-15 record. Although Washington

said not having standout senior center Eric Jipping (who was lost for the final month of the season due to a knee injury) hampered the squad, his absence was not why PCA lost.

"The game was an upand-down game," Washington noted. "We got on the break and finished pretty well, they did the same thing.

"In the half-court set in the first half I think we did a better job than they did, as far as scoring and defensively. But in the second half it went to an up-and-down game and we were just gassed."

Also hurting the Eagles were 21 turnovers.

Please see PCA, B2

Chiefs place second in team finals

Once again, Grand Ledge spoiled Canton's bid for a gymnastics team state championship.

Friday at Kenowa Hills, the Chiefs tallied 148.575 points — but still came up short as **GYMNASTICS** the Comets finished with 149.400 points. Fifth with 143.425 was Farmington, while Salem took eighth with a tally of 140.300.

Canton took first on vault with a 37.250, topping Grand Ledge's 37.050 in that event. The teams were very close on the balance beam, with the Comets earning a 36.750-36.700 win.

The Chiefs had a 36.850 on uneven parallel bars (second to Grand Ledge's 37.325) and a 37.775 on floor exercise — again second to the state champions (38.275).

Salem placed six out of 10 teams on vault (35.800) and bars (35.150).



JOHN KEMSKI

Jackie Lough of the PCS Penguins circles in front of Regina's Sarah Hackert (No. 19) during Thursday's playoff game at Arctic Edge Arena.

PCS Pens put hurt on Regina

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

disappeared for Salem, with

junior forward Chris Dierk-

er managing just two points

Without a handful of treys

in the first half, the CC lead

at the break would have

been much bigger than

35-28. But because Salem

needed to rely on perim-

eter shooting, the Rocks

momentum.

were unable to sustain any

"It seemed at the start of

the game we were a little

too nervous, too anxious to

get the game going," Salem senior center Josh Peter-

"It's been like decades since

son (four rebounds) said.

and eight rebounds.

For a little while Thursday night, Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins forward Nicole Natelborg lay injured on the ice at Arctic Edge Arena after a first-period collision with a Regina player.

But Natelborg recovered and delivered the knockout punch with two goals in six seconds during the second period, sparking PCS to a 3-1 win in the Division 2 semifinals of the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League.

Hockey League. Later Thursday, Farmington Hills Mercy rallied from an early 3-0 deficit to post a 6-4 win over Walled Lake. That set up Saturday's final (8 p.m. at Arctic Edge in Canton) between the 15-4 Penguins and Marlins (17-4).

"Yeah, I think the whole team held their breath,

GIRLS HOCKEY

obviously she's a standout player," said PCS head coach Mary Beth Johnson about Natelborg's early injury. "But any player that goes down, you want to make sure they're OK and able to get up and keep going.

"... It was accidental and they both kind of went in the same direction at the last second and collided."

The impact of two players going full speed is what shook up Natelborg more than anything else, and the senior didn't want her high school career to end just yet.

Natelborg had plenty to say about extending the Penguins season when she scored her back-to-back markers midway through the second period.

Please see PENS, B3



Canton boys second in state

By Tim Smith **Observer Staff Writer**

B2

(CP)

Buoyed by the presence of the Park's bowling family, Canton nearly captured a Division 1 championship last weekend at M-66 Bowl in Battle Creek.

Canton's varsity boys team made it to the championship match against defending state champs Macomb Dakota. But the Chiefs then lost 1.305-1,105 for the runnerup spot.

"The oil pattern made scoring high difficult," explained Canton head coach Karl Brubaker. "Making spares during the match was critical.

"The kids did well with staying focused and adapting to the lane con-

ditions. Brubaker said the Chiefs had strong backing from the Salem and Plymouth teams, something that gave Canton a lift

"While we are three separate teams, we support each other as one team," he continued. "While Canton was the only team to make it to the finals, Salem's and Plymouth's teams and supporters were there early to cheer us on as we bowled for the state title.

"We found this crucial to our success. It helps with the mental aspect of the game."

The Chiefs dropped the two Baker games by scores of 198-193 and 189-165 before falling 918-747 in the final match.

Aaron Madsen scored a 162 in the final game, followed by Kurt Kowalski (154), Mikey Richards (152), Alex Champagne (143) and Josh Pozan (136)

Canton reached the finals by defeating regional champion Wayne

PREP BOWLING FINALS

Memorial (1,284-1,232) and Utica (1,314-1,145) in the quarterfinals and semifinals, respectively.

Meanwhile, several Plymouth-Canton Educational Park bowlers made it to the final 16 in the individual boys and girls finals.

At the top of that list was Salem's Steven Cadwell. He made it to the semifinals, bowing out 353-320 to Kevin Yang of Lake Orion. Cadwell had defeat-

ed Brownstown Woodhaven's Dustin Rose (371-359) and Jackson's Drake Csage (360-345) in the round of 16 and quarterfinals, respectively.

Two other Salem bowlers were knocked out in the round of 16, however. Jimmy Bowling dropped a 429-306 decision to Utica's Adam Young while Novi-Detroit Catholic Central's Jeff Conflitti earned a 326-301 win over David Nikkila.

Eliminated in the round of 16 of the girls individual finals were Salem's Bridget Maul and Plymouth's Caitlyn Webb and Emily Fraser.

Maul lost 397-353 to Kelsey Fader of New Baltimore Anchor Bay although the Salem bowler threw a 207 game.

Oxford's Heather Lafnear prevailed 369-349 over Webb while Clinton Twp. Chippewa Valley's Kristen Young won 306-271 over Fraser.

"We, as a whole, are very proud of each and every athlete and look forward to furthering our success next season," Brubaker summarized.

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A large, vocal contingent of Salem fans tries to pump up their basketball team Friday night.

SALEM

Continued from page B1

we've been in this kind of atmosphere, playing this big-time game. It just kind of got to us early.

'We weren't running our sets, we were basically playing street ball out there and throwing up bad shots.'

Brodie emphasized Catholic Central's sturdy defense was the reason.

"Give them credit for their defense," Brodie said. "They're big bodies inside there, and it becomes tough to try to battle that inside all the time.

"I told our players at halftime, 'We have to take the ball to the glass a little tougher.""

Brief glimmer

Salem did get out to an early 5-2 lead, with Stewart scoring all of those points. But the last time the Rocks were in front came when junior forward Cameron Werner nailed a jumper midway through the first to put Salem up 7-6.

The Catholic League champions built an 18-9 lead and only a last-second trey by junior guard Kevin Mack gave Salem's faithful hope.

Mack opened the second with another 3-ball, but the Shamrocks never flinched.

In the final minutes of the first half, consecutive triples by Salem senior guard Markus Olind (seven points) and a trey with 20 seconds left by senior guard Grant Bettner (seven points) shaved the deficit to 35-28

The third quarter was a defensive struggle, with CC's 10-8 edge giving the home team a 45-36 lead with one quarter left.

That's when Stewart tried to take things into his own hands, and he did a remarkable job. The Madonna University recruit scored Salem's final 15 points, featuring two triples, a tip-in and scoop layup

"I just didn't want to go home," Stewart said. "I tried to get to the basket and get other people involved if I could, just make some baskets.'

Brodie said the performance by Stew-



Dribbling around Catholic Central defender Chase Janer (No. 2) on Friday night is Salem senior guard Tyler Stewart (No. 21) who scored the Rocks final 15 points.

laden Shamrocks were able to dominate the low post and draw plenty of fouls.

"We've been pretty consistent this year outshooting people at the free-throw line," Dyer said. "We get to the basket pretty well, and we're pretty tough and physical so I think we feel we draw a lot of fouls sometimes.

"We've been up late in games, too, and people have to foul us. So that's part of the reason.'

Dyer tipped his hat to Brodie and the Rocks, and sounded apologetic about being the team that knocked out Salem.

"I have a lot of respect for him (Brodie)," Dyer said. "I coached against him (at Stevenson) for six years. As far as high school basketball coaches go, there's nobody better. The guy's an absolute gem.

"For me, it's tough to see him lose because I like him so much and I got a lot of respect for him. But on the other hand, I wanted my guys to win, too, so it's kind of a Catch-22 for me."

SALEM 62, NORTHVILLE 58: The Rocks defeated visiting Northville Wednesday night in a district semifinal matchup.

Scoring 24 points for Salem was senior guard Tyler Stewart, while junior forward Chris Dierker tallied 12 points and six rebounds. Also helping out were senior guard Grant Bettner (six points, three assists) and senior forward Josh Peterson (five boards).

Big season brings pride back to Salem

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

One end of the gymnasium at Novi-Detroit Catholic Central was jammed with blue-clad Salem fans Friday night.

They came ready to fight as hard as their basketball team, but the Shamrocks put a pin in their collective bubble in the Class A district final.

Still, the night did not take away from the team's outstanding season - which included 20 victories and championships in the KLAA Central Division, Kensington Conference and association.

"I've got a great feeling about what this team's accomplished," veteran Salem head coach Bob Brodie said. "There's only four teams in the state that end with a victory, you're going to lose somewhere. You always hate to lose.

"But when this team wins 20 games and they win championships like they did, they've got their numerals on the banners in the gym, they've got hardware that goes in the trophy case. They brought a lot of pride back to Salem.'

Concurring was Salem senior guard Tyler Stewart, the star for the road team with 26 points.

"I'm really proud of them (his teammates)," Stewart said. "We had a great season. We haven't done that in a long time. So it feels good.'

Stewart said the team noticed and greatly appreciated how much Salem fans backed the squad all season, including Friday's large contingent.

"It was awesome, it was cool to see them all come out and support us," Stewart added. Meanwhile, Brodie said the 2011-12 season really put Salem's boys basketball team back on the map "We've been down for a little bit, we had a great sendoff, our crowd's been tremendous, the support in the school's been tremendous," Brodie added. "I'm just proud of the way these kids played all year. You win 20 basketball games, you got to be very proud of them. I told them not to hang their heads."

valuable postseason experience.

Going solo

Continued from page B1

PCA

Leading PCA with 19 points was Mick Noel, with Daniel Jipping tallying 13 points, 10 rebounds and five assists.

Adding 11 points was Alex Huber, while senior Chris Scagnetti scored seven points.

"He came in and fought hard," said Washington, about Scagnetti. "He literally left it all out on the court. He was diving for loose balls. He was in the mix for everything.'

According to Washington, most of the team will return next season with

netti and Eric Jipping, everybody will be back," he said. "A lot of guys played this year. So now that they have that taste in their mouth about how to handle some pressure I think next year is going to be a great year for us.

"Outside of Chris Scag-

"They learned how to play in prime-time situations."

Westside Christian advanced to Friday night's district final against Lutheran Westland.

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art was one to remember.

"That's kind of what you expect from a senior leader and captain like he's been," Brodie said. "He's a great player, when the game's on the line he wants to take charge. ... We're going to miss him tremendously next year.'

But unfortunately, the Shamrocks followed just about every Stewart basket with a trip to the charity stripe. Catholic Central sank 24-of-32 from the foul line; Salem made just 6-of-15 chances.

"They went to the line a lot more than us, but most of that's our fault," Brodie said. "We don't go to the line. We take outside shots and don't draw fouls."

Catch-22

According to one of Brodie's longtime coaching colleagues, former Livonia Stevenson coach Bill Dyer, the senior-

Scoring 30 points for the Mustangs was 6-7 sophomore forward Andy Meacham.

"It was a relatively close game the entire way," Salem head coach Bob Bro-die said. "It was a hard-fought game, the same as the other three we've played against them.'

Salem led 13-10 after the first quarter and maintained slim leads of 33-28 at halftime and 49-46 after three.

"It was just a matter of two pretty good basketball teams that were well matched." Brodie said. "Whoever had the ball at the end with the lead was going to win the game and that was fortunately us."

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CHIEFS

Continued from page B1

last week. We knew they were good and that we'd have to play really good.

'The start of the game, wasn't the way we needed it to go. The 19-4 start, I don't think we got any stops. But for the next 12 minutes of that first half I thought we were pretty good."

Tough finales

Scoring 19 points and pulling down seven rebounds in what turned out to be the final game of his excellent high school career was Canton forward Paul Baumgart, one of three seniors in their swan songs.

It also was the final time guards Kyle Adams and Miles Felton would wear the red and white. Adams scored 10 points while Felton chipped in with seven off the bench.

"Paulie and Kyle have won 16 games every year," Reddy said. "So 48 wins in three years for those guys, district finals twice, two division cham-



Canton's Josh Mayberry (No. 2) and Catholic Central's Matt Doneth go one-on-one during Wednesday's district contest.

pionships. Those guys were great, great high school players for Canton and they've been great ambassadors for us:

"They wanted to play Friday night for a championship again, we ran into a good team on their home floor and it was a tough deal.'

After the Chiefs fell far

behind early, they were victimized by a teamwide scoring slump -- Canton (16-6) made just 20 of 60 field-goal tries, including a dismal 5-25 from behind the three-point arc

Conversely, the Catholic League champion Shamrocks (15-6) were on target from the opening tip. Draining two treys in

the first quarter was senior Richard Katkic (16 points) with senior Kyle Cooper scoring nine of his 20 points in the opening frame.

Unable to rally

Doing his best to spark the Chiefs (16-6) was Felton, who connected on a trey in the final minute of

the first to trim CC's lead to 22-9 after one.

"I think Miles' energy and urgency got us back in it," Reddy said. "We fed off that, he was really good tonight.'

But "getting back into it" meant cutting the Shamrocks' lead to 10 points.

It was a 30-18 halftime deficit, and the Chiefs sliced that to 36-26 with 4:30 left in the third.

Canton had a couple possessions to get CC's lead to under 10, but CC responded - going on a 5-0 run to bump it to a 15point spread.

'We outscored them and gave ourselves a chance to be in it at halftime," Reddy said. "We just didn't do a good enough job in the second half to stay in it. I think we got it to 10 but could never get it under 10 and put some pressure on them."

The Shamrocks were up 47-28 entering the fourth, when the Chiefs saved face with 24 points featuring two treys by Adams and one each

by freshman guard Greg Williams (seven points)

and junior guard Ryan Planey.

Not to be

If ever there was a snapshot of what went wrong, it was Baumgart's attempt to score from short range early in the fourth. The ball appeared to be going through only to spin right back out.

"They (shots) just didn't go down tonight," Reddy lamented. "And they (Shamrocks) were lighting the world on fire tonight."

Further hurting any Canton comeback in the second half was a wide disparity in fouls. In the third quarter alone, Canton was called for 10 fouls compared to CC's two.

"We didn't go to the rim hard enough and I guess we were reaching and fouling," Reddy noted. "That's the way it goes, but it's not the reason we lost.'

Chipping in with nine and seven points, respectively, for CC were seniors Jack Dillon and Matt Doneth.

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First-place Whalers blank Spitfires

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

Whenever the Plymouth Whalers needed a timely stop — or even a spectacular one — March 3 against Windsor, goaltender Matt Mahalak was there to oblige.

Although Mahalak is behind Scott Wedgewood on Plymouth's depth chart, he again showed why he could be a No. 1 goalie pretty much anywhere in the Ontario Hockey League. Mahalak stopped 35 shots to lift the Whalers to a 2-0 victory.

"It's great for the playoffs and great for the season," said Plymouth head coach Mike Vellucci about having the Wedgewood-Mahalak tandem. "You can make sure they both stay fresh and it's a huge bonus."

The OHL West Division champion Whalers got off to a quick start in the contest, played before a sellout crowd of 3,933 fans at Compuware Arena.

Thanks to goals by Ste-



RENA LAVERTY

Plymouth Whalers goalie Matt Mahalak (No. 37) kicks out a pad to deny Windsor's Chris Marchese (No. 61) during Saturday's game at Compuware Arena. Back to help Mahalak are Plymouth's Jamie Devane (No. 23) and Andy Bathgate (No. 9).

fan Noesen and Jamie Devane, Plymouth led 2-0 after the first period, outshooting the Spitfires 25-10. But Windsor ramped it up the rest of the way, particularly dangerous on the power play.

The Spitfires sent 10 consecutive shots at Mahalak early in the second, but the Monroe, Mich. native displayed quick legs and a confident glove to ward off the barrage.

It remained a two-goal lead into the third, when Windsor enjoyed a 5-on-3 power play for 1:32 with a chance to cut the Plymouth edge in half.

Windsor's Derek Holden drilled a slapshot targeted for high on Mahalak's glove side. But the goalie flashed his trapper one more time and snapped the puck out of mid-air.

That save took the steam out of any Spitfires comeback, but Mahalak credited his teammates for helping him come up with the stop.

OHL HOCKEY

Helping him out

"They like to set up onetimers a lot on their 5-on-3, it's pretty much their go-to, they just try to get good traffic," Mahalak said. "Luckily our D did a great job all night clearing guys out in front and they just cleared that lane perfectly and I was able to see it all the way in."

Mahalak smiled when told he caught Wedgewood in the shutout department with three each. But again, he said his success is linked to how well his team plays in front of him.

"We had a lot of guys making some great blocks, when they were setting up for their shots up top," he continued. "Guys were clearing out the guys in front and letting me see every puck. That makes it easy on me. It was definitely a game where things were clicking all the way around."

It turned out that the only goal Mahalak needed came on the power play just 8:31 into the contest. Defenseman and Howell product Beau Schmitz sent a pass from the right point right into Noesen's wheelhouse in the left circle. Noesen one-timed the shot over Windsor goalie Jaroslav Pavelka's blocker for his team-leading 32nd goal of the year.

Devane then stuffed a wraparound past Pavelka with 4:30 left in the frame, with assists by Alex Aleardi (Farmington Hills) and Andy Bathgate.

It was Devane's 20th goal of the season, with the Toronto Maple Leafs' prospect becoming Plymouth's six player to reach that plateau.

"That's great, that's why we spread the ice time around and make sure everybody's contributing," Vellucci said. "It's good to be strong from top to bottom."

The Whalers could not add to their lead, but only because of Pavelka, who was stellar the rest of the way.

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Blazers fall in D1 semis

By Brad Emons Observer Staff Writer

Livonia Ladywood jumped out to a 3-0 lead, only to have Grosse Pointe North storm back for eight unanswered goals Wednesday night for a 8-4 victory over the Blazers in the Division 1 state girls hockey semifinals at Edgar Arena.

Ladywood ends its season at 10-14 overall, while North improved to 21-3 and secured a spot in Saturday's state championship final at Edgar.

The Blazers scored twice in the opening minute of play on goals by Rana Freij (from Erin Cronyn) and Cronyn (from Freij).

Lane Kolpacke's goal from Rachel Fradette with 10:26 remaining in the first period put Ladywood up 3-0.

But the Norsewomen' tied it by the end of the first period 3-all on goals by Sara Villani (from Jennifer Cusmano); Cusamano (from Catherine McCarthey); and Julia Henderson (from Melissa Mermiges and Bryn Moody).

North then scored three more times in the second period to take a 6-3 advantage – Katelyn Bowles (from Henderson); McCarthy (from Villani and Cusmano); and Villani (from Cusmano).

Mermiges made it 7-3 from Bowles and Natalie Skorupski to start the third period before Ladywood's Katie Folk scored to stop the bleeding.

Bowles then capped the scoring with her second of the night from Skorupski and Henderson.

Ladywood goalie Sarah Koch stopped 31 shots, while North's Emma Huellmantel made 15 saves. North finished 18-2 in the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League, while the Blazers

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wound up 8-12.

Whalers make it eight straight

The Plymouth Whalers keep winning, but they're running out of time as far as catching London for the No. 1 seed in the OHL's Western Conference.

Plymouth won games 7-8 in a row with Wednesday's 10-6 victory over Erie followed by a 5-2 triumph Friday at Kitchener.

But with three games to go, the Whalers (45-17-2-1, 93 points) need some help because London has 95 points and a game in hand.

Still, the Plymouth offense came to life in the road games. On Wednesday, defenseman Austin Levi (Farmington Hills) scored a pair of goals with forward Alex Aleardi (Farmington Hills) netting his 33rd of the season.

In the win over Kitchener, a three-goal second period broke the game open. Forward Jamie Devane scored two of those markers, with defenseman Curtis Crombeen also scoring.

Also tallying markers for the Whalers were wingers Rickard Rakell and Stefan Noesen, with their 27th and 35th goals of the season, respectively.

Goaltender Scott Wedgewood stopped 30 of 32 Kitchener shots.

Plymouth now will host Owen Sound, with puck drop 2 p.m. Sunday at Compuware Arena.



PENS

Continued from page B1

Instant offense

With about seven minutes left, senior forward Jackie Lough's shot was stopped by Saddlelites freshman goaltender Alex LaRue.

But the rebound caromed to Natelborg near the right post, and she backhanded the puck into the cage.

Six seconds later, off the subsequent faceoff, Natelborg struck again to make it 3-0. Lough won the faceoff at center ice and Natelborg carried the puck into the Regina end, snapping a high shot past LaRue.

"I just wanted to get the puck in the net. I really wanted to play Saturday," Natelborg said. "... It feels good to keep going and trying to win it all the way."

The Penguins first goal came just 3:23 into the contest. Sophomore forward Jenna Carter sent a pass to senior defenseman Emily Bullock inside the blue line and her long shot squeaked through LaRue.

At the other end of the ice, PCS senior goalie Kaitlyn Allard continued her season-long excellence with steady play punctuated by quick legs when needed to thwart the Saddlelites' attack.



JOHN KEMSKI

Goalie Kaitlyn Allard of the PCS Penguins covers up the puck after making a stop Thursday night while defenseman Emily Bullock (No. 2) and an unidentified teammate make sure Regina's Sierra Kett (No. 22) doesn't get any closer to the crease.

It took a late goal to spoil Allard's shutout bid. With just 3:44 remaining, Regina sophomore forward Megan Taylor took a shot and crashed the crease in search of the rebound.

So did sophomore defenseman Sierra Kett, who finally jammed the puck over the goal line.

According to Johnson, the Saddlelites — shorthanded when senior forward Alexis Lastomirsky had to leave the game in the second period after injuring her left shoulder — gave the Penguins a battle.

"We knew it wasn't going to be an easy game," Johnson said. "Well, we thought it might be a little easier because they were down to nine skaters.

"But they definitely fought hard and kept our shots down. We didn't get as many shots on net as we would have liked to have."

In order for PCS to have success Saturday night against Mercy, Johnson said the Penguins will "need to step up our intensity. We didn't come out flat but we didn't come out with our best hockey. We need to play three full periods of hockey in order to win on Saturday."

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AAU openings

The LaZers AAŪ Girls 16U Elite Basketball Club has openings for the spring / summer season.

Varsity level players are sought for the team. Call Coach Z for information at (734) 286-1009 or e-mail him at zgodadominic@sbcglobal.net.

Play GCYBSA ball

Registrations are now under way for the Greater Canton Youth Baseball Softball Association's baseball and softball programs.

The GCYBSA offers progressively developmental recreational baseball and softball programs for players age 4-18 from Plymouth and Canton. GCYBSA is also is home to a Competitive League and travel programs (Boys Cardinals, Girls Pride Fast Pitch). For more information, go to www.gcybsa.com or contact Coralee Ott at (734), 394-5358, via e-mail at cott@canton-mi.org.

Baseball clinics

Baseball fundamentals are on tap for youngsters looking to improve their skills, at the forthcoming Plymouth Wildcats Youth Baseball Clinic.

Participants in grades 1-8 will receive age-appropriate instruction from 2012 Plymouth varsity baseball coaches and players. Stations will include hitting, pitching, infield, outfield, catching and radar gun readings.

Sessions, in the Plymouth High School gymnasium, will take place: 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday March 17 (for those in grades 1-4); Saturday March 31 (for those in grades 5-8).

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

The pre-registration cost, which includes snack, is \$20. The fee is \$25 the day of the clinic. Pre-registration is urged, as the camp is limited to 100. Go to www.baseball.plymouthwildcats.com for more information.

YMCA spring leagues

The Plymouth Family YMCA is accepting registrations for spring co-ed soccer and girls volleyball leagues.

Both leagues run from April 16 through June 9. There will be one practice and one game each week. The cost is \$84 for program members or \$115 for community members. The registration deadline is March 30.

If you are interested in participating or coaching your child's team, please contact the YMCA at (734) 453-2904 or visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

Salem baseball camp

Learn all about baseball from Salem's varsity players and coaching staff.

The annual Salem Varsity Baseball Clinic will take place Saturdays March 24 and 31 in the high school gym.

For a fee of \$28, kids will get three hours of instruction, focusing on pitching, hitting and all phases of fielding, along with a T-shirt.

Each player should bring a baseball glove and hat to one of the following sessions, space permitting:

Session 1: Saturday, March 24, 9 a.m. to noon, ages 11-14; 14; Session 2: Saturday, March 24, 1-4 p.m., ages 7-10; Session 3: Saturday, March 31, 9 a.m. to noon, ages 7-10; Session 4: Saturday, March 31, 1-4 p.m., ages 7-10.

For more information, call

Mary Theisen at (734) 354-9181 or e-mail salemrocksbaseball@ gmail.com.

YMCA starts registration

The Plymouth Family YMCA is registering for its instructional clinics.

The focus of these programs will be on fun, exercise and social interaction through sports instruction. Clinics include Tiny Tikes Sports Sampler (ages 3-5), Preschool Basketball (ages 4-5) and Y Pucks (ages 6-8).

The programs run the weeks of March 6 through April 17. All classes are held in local schools during the week.

For more information, contact the YMCA at (734) 453-2904 or visit www.ymcadetroit. org.

The Senior Alliance, Area Agency on Aging 1-C Notice: Request for Letters of Intent to Apply for FY 2013 Funding

The Senior Alliance (TSA), Area Agency on Aging 1-C, issues this notice describing the conditions under which Letters of Intent will be received for funding for the following programs that serve the 34 communities of Southern and Western Wayne County:

Adult Day Services; Caregiver Education, Training, and Support; Caregiver Legal Services; Caregiver Transportation; Evidence Based Disease Prevention Services; Friendly Reassurance; Kinship Support (Grandparent Caregiver); Long Term Care Ombudsman; Nutrition Services (Congregate and Home Delivered Meals).

All prospective applicants for FY 2013 (October 1, 2012 -September 30, 2013) funding for the above listed programs must submit a "Letter of Intent" prior to submitting a formal application. Final funding levels for FY 2013 have not yet been determined. Letters of Intent must be received in writing no later than **Monday, April 2, 2012 by 5:00 pm** and complete Letter of Intent requirements can be found at www.aaalc.org.

Publish: March 11, 2012





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COMMUNITY LIFE

Hunger project

Many make packing quick, easy

By Sharon Dargay O&E Staff Writer

Susan Magner of Farmington Hills and her three daughters recently donned hair nets and gloves for a lesson in helping others.

"That's what I really liked. It was hands-on. I'm trying to get my girls more involved in community and with church," said Magner, who homeschools her daughters, ages 10, 7 1/2 and 6.

With her husband watching the couple's preschooler at home, Magner and her three oldest daughters joined approximately 100 other volunteers at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Livonia to pack 10,000 meals for needy children.

Wearing plastic gloves, hair nets and aprons, they worked assembly linestyle in small groups, measuring ingredients and filling meal bags for Kids Against Hunger, a Minnesota-based humanitarian food-aid organization, with satellite packing sites throughout the United States, including



the Great Lakes Coalition satellite in Oak Park. The local branch takes packaging supplies and equipment to churches, schools and other venues where volunteers pitch in to pack meals.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church partnered on the recent packaging session in Livonia.

"We have a couple members who work for Thrivent. They introduced us to this organization for helping to feed the needy," said Linda Hollman, church outreach director.

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church first volunteered for Kids Against Hunger last October. Members measured and packaged ingredients for Rice-Soy Casseroles, the meal that Kids Against Hunger distributes locally and abroad. Recipients



Sam Puterbaugh keeps mom Heather company while she fills food bags at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Livonia.

mix the contents of each six-serving bag with boiling water to create a hot, nutritious entree. "It can be prepared in 20 minutes and for families it has been ideal," Hollman said. "In October we made up some bags and had people Volunteers Nora Hollman (left) and Annelisa Lenardon help pack food at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church.



Noah Greiner measures food

sample it. It's good. We thought we might as well understand what people (recipients) are tasting. We have a food pantry at church and we've given out bags to people in need.

"It was a joy this time to know we not only had it for the food pantry at church, but also to help Livonia Goodfellows and Head Start."

Local, global

One-third of the meals packaged at a volunteer event are shared locally. Another third is distributed nationally and the last third is shipped overseas. The local volunteers decide where to send their portion of the meals.

"Our church has gotten involved with the Livonia Cares program — Christian congregations in Livonia coming together to help people from Livonia who are hurting and in need. I had gone to a meeting with other clergy and Bill Heaton (Goodfellows president) was there. He said he had a use for the meals. We were glad to make the connection."

Christ Our Savior Lutheran raised \$2,800 to help may for the meals, which cost 28 cents each. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans also provided funding.

All 10,000 meals were bagged within 90 minutes on Saturday, March 3.

"Once you set it up, it zips along. Kids Against Hunger has it extremely well organized," Hollman said. "For me the joy is seeing kids, from 5 through 105, be able to work together at something so positive and help others in Jesus' name." Magner liked the mix of

ages, too. Adults, two teenagers and several children worked together with Magner at one of 10 mealassembly tables at the church.

"It's a good thing to see older and younger generations together," she said.

The church's next outreach project will be a resource fair, 6:30-8:30 p.m. March 29. Representatives from community agencies, utility companies, religious organizations and groups designed to help individuals in need will be on hand. The church is located at 14175 Farmington Road.

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Livonia couple celebrates 70 years

By Sharon Dargay O&E Staff Writer

Betty Campbell was 10 years old when she first met John Schaar.

His family lived on the third floor of a house on Ferry in Detroit. Her family moved into the first floor apartment.

"We grew up together," said Betty, who relocated to Highland Park four years later. "He came to visit my brother and we kind of hit it off. From then on it was just him and I, and my brother was out of the picture."

After graduating from high school — he attended Northwestern and she was at Highland Park High School — the couple tied the knot, writing the first chapter of a life-long love story.

The Schaars, Livonia residents since 2003, celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on Feb. 3. They were married in 1942 at First



Methodist Church of Highland Park.

John became a district manager in the circulation department of the *Detroit Times* newspaper and Betty took on homemaking, as the couple settled into married life.

Nearly a year later John was drafted into the U.S. Army and began a three-year assignment with the 744th Railway Operating Battalion, serving overseas. Betty got a job working at a pneumatic tool company.

"He was all over Europe on the railroad. He was a fireman on the railroad," she said. He returned to civilian life in early 1946, about six months after the war ended, and went back to work for the *Detroit Times*, where he stayed for 20 years before joining the *Detroit Free Press* circulation-department. He retired from the *Detroit Free Press* in 1988.

"He never missed a day of work because of the weather in 48 years," said Betty, who was a stay-at-home mom.

The couple raised two children, John Jr., who now lives in Pala, Calif., and Julie Skrent, also a Livonia resident. They have four grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

When her husband retired, Betty went to work in the cafeteria at Salem High School in Canton for 12 1/2 years.

The couple had moved to Canton when a relative's riding stable went



John and Betty Schaar of Livonia celebrate 70 years of marriage.

out of business.

"My brother had a ranch and through the years the kids bought their horses. My daughter gave riding lessons at the ranch," Betty said, adding that when the stables closed "we were stuck with all our horses."

"That's why we found five acres in Canton. We had it for about 36 years. Neither one of us rode. We fed and took care of the horses."

These days, John, 90, spends more time with feathered friends than horses. He enjoys feeding backyard birds and stocks a pond with fish every summer.

Betty, who will be 87 in November, enjoys reading murder mysteries.

"We have Friends of the Library in Livonia. They sell paperback books for 50 cents. I go there every month and buy \$5 worth of books and read them," she said. Betty, who has volunteered for Friends, donates the books back to the organization.

The couple also enjoys spending time with family. They celebrated their milestone anniversary at their grandson's home in Pinckney.

"My daughter and grandson gave us a dinner. Julie had a beautiful cake made for us."

Betty said "patience" has helped to make the couple's marriage last for 70 years.

"We stayed married because I was patient and he probably overlooked a lot in me, too," she said. "If more young people had patience they probably would wouldn't run to lawyers."

DEARBORN HEIGHTS AN-NAPOLIS

CLASS OF 1982

For information about the 30-year reunion on Saturday, Oct. 20, at Fr. Patrick O'Kelley Knights of Columbus in Dearborn, visit the "AHS Class of 82" page on Facebook, or contact Diane Goodreau at dianeschofield@sbcglobal. net or (313) 363-0523; Jim Linaras at godofouzo@yahoo.com; or John Zadikian at zman6754@aol.com. DETROIT MACKENZIE

CLASS OF 1962

Planning class reunion in 2012. Seeking classmates

and contact information. E-mail the committee at mackenzie1962@gmail. com.

FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1967

Organizers of the 45th reunion on July 21 are looking for classmates. Send your e-mail address to Susan (Himmelspach) Whittaker at S_whittaker@ comcast.net or Fred Gregg at fredge1@comcast.net to receive a reunion packet. GARDEN CITY HIGH SCHOOL EAST CLASSES OF 1968-1973 Reunion Sept. 22. LookREUNIONS

ing for classmates. Check out the "Garden City High School (East) Reunion 2012" on facebook. Or e-mail to Cindy Eads Frens at irish4200@hotmail.com, Debi Cassidy Haller at debi.haller@ gmail.com, Doris Fugaban Williams at doris1226@ wowway.com, Lee A Gilligan at ee.gilligan@att.net, Sue Cook at stasselmyer@ charter.net, SuzieWright Rogiero at suzierogiero@ yahoo.com, Jackie Kalifut at jackieideson@gmail. com or Jeff Fordell at jeffreyfordell@comcast.net. LINCOLN PARK HIGH **CLASS OF 1962**

Planning for 50-year reunion, set for Sept. 15, is under way.

For more information or to RSVP e-mail Jean Badoud-Riddell at fictionweaver@sbcglobal. net, Marilyn Roy Snyder at Marilyn@MarilynJSnyder.com, Jim Barton at jbarton@genesisfinancial com or Carol Jehle at jehlecarol@yahoo.com NORTHVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1971-75

The classes are joining together to celebrate with a reunion on Aug. 4. Reunion organizers are searching for classmates from those years. Send your name, address, phone and e-mail to nhs40yearreunion@gmail. com. The organizers will send more details after receiving your information. **REDFORD THURSTON**

HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1962 Looking for classmates for reunion on Sept. 8. Contact: nikkiwestberg@yahoo.com or Sue (Hughes) Morman at (734) 414-9941 for more information.

WAYNE MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1957 Looking for classmates for the 55th class reunion to be held May 19. For more information contact Wanda Putman Boice at boice@aol.com or pollygirl219@aol.com. Or call Richard Smith at (248) 747-6817.

CLASS OF 1962

Looking for classmates for 50th class reunion on May 19.

E-mail to Judy (Ramsey) Oleson at joleson@sbcglobal.net or call her at (586) 268-1663 or e-mail to Kathy (Quinn) Hayes at bustchr@aol.com.

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Go blue: Yellow flame should be blue

By Joe Gagnon **Guest Columnist**

eter and Beverly West moved back here to Michigan after spending the past 30 years living in Florida in order to take care of an ailing mother up in her years. They purchased a brand new manufactured home



and settled in Ann Arbor. Not being accustomed to our cold weather and dry humidity conditions they purchased a portable humidifier and locat-

ed it in the hall-

way next to the

furnace room.

This really helped with the dry-

ness that causes stuffy noses

Joe Gagnon

Doctor

and the like.

They have a new gas range in this home and really enjoy the quick response when cooking on the top burners but one day noticed that the flame was more orange than blue. Peter knew that a yellow flame doesn't give you the high heat you desire when cooking and he couldn't find any type of adjustment you could do on the air inlet to the burner.

He agreed with me that on newer ranges of today compared to those of the past there isn't much that a homeowner can do for this kind of problem so he called for factory service as the product was still under warranty. The service technician checked out gas pressures on the manifold and everything was according to factory specifications. He suggested that they move the humidifier away from the range to another location and try it for a few days. but that didn't help. They called me and I suggested that they shut off the humidifier completely, but I couldn't understand how a humidifier could affect the burner flame. This they did and lo and behold the flames on the burners were a nice blue color again. This went on for a week. They turned on the humidifier and the flame became yellow again.

We began to play the game of stump the appliance doctor and I certainly didn't have any answers to this perplexing problem. I had never heard of this before. One day Beverly came home with a couple of jugs of bottled water, dumped out the city water from the bucket and filled it with bottled water. She turned on the humidifier and the flame on the range has been blue ever since. She had the question in

her mind that minerals in regular water might be the cause of their problem and proved her theory correct. They created the solution on their own and I must admit that I wasn't much help but I thought this might be a story that could help one of our readers.

This whole episode brings to mind when I was on big-time radio years ago and announced the gas ranges can create carbon monoxide in the kitchen. A group of engineers in Ohio sent me documentation to prove this fact and I then started telling the listening audience to open a kitchen window when cooking. I had many letters and calls from homemakers who thanked me for that little tip because they no longer felt nauseated or had running eyes or headaches while cooking a family dinner.

The gas utility companies were not too happy with me and

made their feelings known. I still prefer gas over electricity in a kitchen range and if it's only a matter of opening a window while cooking, it's worth it. I recently complained to my darling Valorie that it took a long time for me to boil a pot of water in my attempt at cooking a box of macaroni and cheese. I blamed it on her because she is the one who wanted that nice smooth top electric range in our kitchen. I must say that this smooth top still looks like brand new after four years of use.

If you see Valorie you might ask her how much work is involved in keeping the range top clean. Get ready for a seminar. Stay tuned.

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

Man's best friend: Rescues gain pet food, special needs pups

Filling bellies

Tail Wagger's 1990 received a windfall in the form of kibble, canned food and treats last month.

Three schools and one business collected items for the Livonia-based rescue's Pantry 4 Paws program that assists individuals and families in financial need with food for their pets.

Market Strategies International, a Livoniabased marketing company, donated more than 700 items to the pantry.

St. Genevieve School, Johnson Upper Elementary School and Randolph Elementary, all in Livonia, also held pet food drives.

Barb Johnson, a second grade teacher at Randolph, used the collection process as a math lesson for students, encouraging them to collect 100 items for their classrooms within 100 days.

Nolan Finley, a second grader at St. Gene-



Guardian Angels Animal Rescue found these Shepherd mix puppies - both have deformed feet - with their mother in a Detroit back yard.

vieve and a member of Tail Wagger's 1990 cadet program, sparked a food drive at his school and arranged for a presentation with animals.

Sixth grader and Tail Wagger's 1990 volunteer, Cory Routen, decorated the hallways with posters at Johnson Upper Elementary and set the food



Cory Routen shows some of the pet food his school collected for Tail Wagger's 1990.

drive goal at 1,500 pounds of pet food. The final count from his school was 2,606 pounds of food. Families in need of assistance can contact the Tail Wagger's office at (734) 560-4660 or email to tailwaggers.1990@ yahoo.com.

Surgery needed

Guardian Angels Animal Rescue spent a busy, successful Tuesday night rescuing four dogs from Detroit. At least one of the dogs, a Yorkshire terrier that was found on the street, will face surgery and likely amputation of a damaged back leg. The rescue named the 2year-old pup "Luna.' Volunteers also rescued

a mother dog and her two pups from a yard. One of the shepherd-mix pups has a deformed or broken leg. The other sibling has two front deformed or broken legs. The organization planned to take the pups, "Thelma" and "Louise" to the vet for a closer look at their legs last week.

Anyone interested in helping out with vet costs, fostering or adoption, can e-mail to Sandy Mezza at guardian_angel_ rescue@hotmail.com. Visit the group's Web site at www.gaarmichigan.org. The site includes a PayPal link for donations.

- Compiled by Sharon Dargay



Arthritis Today JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY **18829 Farmington Road** Livonia, Michigan 48152 Phone: (248) 478-7860

a dilemma in fibromyalgia

The dilemma is treatment. Investigators in the field of Fibromyalgia believe that the cause of the condition is a pain center in the midbrain that is like a thermostat set too low. The effect is that usual touches, scrapes, light pushes and even winds that are hardly noted by most of us, are felt by patients with Fibromyalgia as sharp and heavy blows.

Science is working with pharmaceutical companies to develop medicines that would target the midbrain pain center and reset the thermostat to a more realistic pain standard. However, as yet such a medication awaits discovery. Instead, medication at hand goes to treating depression, anxi-

ety, difficulty sleeping and stopping pain. But the individual with experiences depression because of the Fibromyalgia Fibromyalgia; as long as the Fibromyalgia remains so will the depression. It is as if a car got poor gas mileage because of a flat tire. Putting in new spark plugs won't result in a return to gas efficiency; nothing but fixing the tire will do.

The same problem comes with poor sleep. The answer does not come from sleeping pills. The only way to have the patient return to restorative sleep is to successfully treat the Fibromyalgia

The only proven therapy in Fibromyalgia is exercise. The best time for exercise is in the morning, in effect: "get to your muscles before your muscles get to you." Daily exercise for a patient with Fibromyalgia is as much a medication as a daily aspirin is to a patient who suffered a heart attack.

If a patient cannot accept exercise as therapy, there is little left for a physician to offer. OE08770236

SOCIAL SECURIT

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

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



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

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

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the

subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Attorneys 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.

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

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BAKER, MARY

Age 80 of Livonia, Mi. Beloved wife of the late Bruce A. Deneau, Dear friend of Bobbie Cofell for 67 years. Loving mother of Carol A. Baker (Dennis Ollar), Susan P. Proctor (Daniel Taurianinen), Douglas T. Baker (Cathy), William J. Baker, grandmother to (Jon) Cosica, Robert, Amanda, Joe, and Emma Jean, Private services were held. Donations may be made to Angela Hospice of Livonia or Humane Society of Huron Valley. Arrangements entrusted to Fred Wood Funeral Home Rice Chapel.

BOWEN, CARTER M.

March 18, 1921- March 3, 2012 Born in Baltimore MD, Carter was the first in his family to attend college. He received both his BA, with distinction, and MA in economics from George Washington University. He began his career in 1941 at the Bureau of Labor of Statistics, moving quickly through the ranks, until "Whiz Kids" Bob McNamara and Tex Thornton enticed him to joint Ford Motor Co. Carter specialized in the supply and purchasing arena for se eral corporate divisions of Ford, including International, where assignments took him, and his family, to Australia and Mexico. Carter retired from Ford after 30 years of service and spent another eight years working with an English entrepreneurial firm and an independent consultant. In 1942 he married Ruth Bauersfeld 1942 he married Ruth Bauersfeld and began his family of five chil-dren-Lucy (Scott) Wilson, "Bo" Bowen, Anne May, Betsi Thompson, and Lynn (David) Skornia-and four grandchildren-Tiffany Brooke, Jeffrey and Jonathan Thompson, and Katelyn Skornia He was especially proud Skornia. He was especially proud of the accomplishments of all his children; and they believe the values and work ethic he conveyed to them continue to enrich their lives. Always modest about his achievements, Carter served on the Board of Directors of Ford Motor Company of Australia Ltd, was a charter member of St. Andrew Lutheran Church, played an active role in developing the retirement community Maple Village, and was a founding memthe Birmingham Athl Club. He passed away peacefully two weeks short of his 91st birthday. A memorial service will be held Sunday, March 11 at St Andrew's, 6255 Telegraph Rd., Bloomfield Hills. Memorial tributes may be made to the Church or the Alzheimer's Association.



EMIG, RALPH

91, of South Lyon, passed away peacefully on March 7, 2012. Ralph is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Dorothy, and his five children: Tom (Diane) Emig, Nancy (Phil) LaDuke, Mary (Don) Nelson, Joyce (Mike) Areddy, and Paul (Angie) Emig. He was also the proud grandpa of 13 grandchildren and 9 greatgrandchildren. Ralph taught math and engineering at Lawrence Tech University for 10 years before going on to become a respected automotive engineer at GM for more than 30 years. He was an avid tennis player, and he loved spending his summer days at their cottage in Stoney Point, Ontario. He was always the happiest when surrounded by his family. He will be lovingly remembered by all who knew him for his gentle spirit, his humble disposition, his endless patience, and his huge heart. Visitation for Mr. Emig will be held on March 11, Sunday, 2-6pm with a rosary prayed at 5pm at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 West Lake Street, South Lyon, A funeral mass will be held on Monday, March 12, at 11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 830 S. Lafayette, South Lyon. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com



FRANK, GENE N.

Age 67. Beloved husband of Kathy. Dear father of Adam and Matthew. Dear brother of Gay Bennett and the late Roland E. Visitation Thursday 10:00 am until 11:30 am Funeral Service at Charles R. Step Funeral Home, 18425 Beech Daly (Between 6 & 7 Mile). Interment Great Lakes National Cemetery. Contributions to Botsford Cancer Center appreciated.

MILLER, ROBERT H.

Age 86, of Farmington Hills, MI, passed away March 4, 2012. Arrangements by: Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington

KING, RALPH J.

March 3, 2012 age 71 of Plymouth. Beloved husband of Alice. Dear father of Pauline "Wendy" & Howard. Brother of Wendy & Howard, Broner of Leslie (Glenna) & Collen Richards, Memorial Service Thursday 3 pm at the Uht Funeral Home 35400 Glenwood Rd., Westland, MI. Family will receive friends Thursday 12-3 pm. Family requests memorials to the Michigan Humane Society. Please visit and sign a tribute at www.uhtfh.com



MARY HARRIETT LEGGETT

Died March 6th in Vero Beach, Florida. She was born Oct. 8, 1912 in Charleston, Mississippi. Graduated from Memphis Tech in Memphis, Tennessee. She moved to Detroit for employment and met her husband, Samuel Harvey Nicholls, born in London, Ontario, Canada. He preceded her in death on Jan. 24, 1963 four days before their 25th wedding anniversary. Her parents were Charles W. Leggett and Mary Harriett "Hattie" Carter Leggett. She was the sister of Carter and Wyatt Leggett, Barbara Forbes and Frances "Bitsy" Miller, all deceased. She is survived by her two beloved children and their spouses; James W. (Debbi) Nicholls and Suzanne (Douglas) Cote' Gault. Grandmother of Robert (Kristin) Cote', Scott Cote', James (Cindy) Cote', the late Rick (Denise) Cote', 2 step grandchildren and their families. Great-grandmother of Michael, Jessica, Lauren, Nicholas, 4 step great-grandchildren and their families. Aunt of Barbara Forbes Crole, Lawrence Forbes, Donald Leggett and their families. She was dearly loved by all her fami-ly and friends. Mary worked for J.L. Hudsons Dept. Store for many years. She also enjoyed working in Suzanne's flower shop, Johnsons Flower World Florist, during the holiday seasons. Her interests included trav-el, playing her or el, playing her organ, genealogy, and recording her music and pho-tography. She traveled extensively throughout the U.S. and Europe. She moved to Florida from Michigan in 1984 to be near her children. She loved the Lord and belonged to First United Methodist Church of Vero Beach, and formerly the First United Methodist Church of Farmington. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 14th at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, 33603 Grand River Ave. (1 blk. W. of Farmington Rd.), Downtown Farmington. Visitation will be from 12 noon until 2 p.m. service. Burial will follow at Glen Eden Memorial Park in Livonia. Memorials are suggested to the American Heart Association or the American Cancer Society. www.thayer-rock.com



Suddenly March 2, 2012. Age 85 of Beverly Hills. Former Notre Dame Football Star, Detroit Lion, Chicago Cardinal and Past President and founding member of the NFL Alumni Association. He was born in Morristown, New Jersey to Italian immigrant parents where he was the first person to be named All-State on the Morristown High School football team. After a year on scholarship at Cheshire Academy College Prep school in Connecticut where he won the "Mr. Cheshire" award for Athlete, Scholar & Gentleman, he received a scholarship to attend Notre Dame. He played on the 1946 & 1947 National Championship teams at fullback/ linebacker positions, winning the starting spot on the '47 & unde-feated 1948 team . In 1948 he averaged 7.5 yards per carry his Senior Year, and was listed with Emil Sitko in Blue & Gold Illustrated's "Top 10 Notre Dame running Duo's" of all time. Sports Illustrated's Paul Zimmerman argued that those 1946 and 1947 Notre Dame teams in those highly competitive post war years should be considered the two best college football teams ever fielded. Panelli earned the Coffman award for Most Valuable Player in the East-West All-Star Classis in 1949 before becoming a first round draft choice for the Detroit Lions in 1949. John Played for the Lions as defensive linebacker in '49 & '50, then spent the following 3 years with the Chicago Cardinals. He was inducted into the Willie Heston Michigan Sports Hall of Fame in 1968, The Italian American Hall of Fame in 1995 and was awarded the "Unsung Heroes" Award by the All-American Football Foundation in 1997. He left the NFL to start J.R. Panelli Equipment Company, a construction equipment dealer-ship in Southfield ,Michigan , but stayed active in football as President of the Detroit Lions Alumni Association, and was a founding member and President of the National Football League Alumni Association. The NFL Alumni Association worked with NFL franchise owners to create a fund for pre -1960's players who were not pensioned, many of who were in financial difficulty. He was active in Notre Dame clubs serving as President of the Notre Dame Monogram Club, President of the Notre Dame Club of Detroit and was awarded the Notre Dame Club of Detroit's "Man of the Year" award, Golf was a major passion for John who was past president of the Birmingham Country Club and who, with his partner Bud Stevens, won the BCC invitational golf tournament an unprecedented 10 times. He was active in celebrity Golf Tournament fundraisers including the NFL Alumni's "Super Bowl of Golf", and was active with the Saint Lewis Center - a charity for children and adults with physical and developmental disabilities. Those wishing to make a commemorative donation can do so at www.stlouiscenter.org or mail to The Saint Louis Center, 16195 Old U.S. 12, Chelsea, MI 48118. He is survived by his loving wife of 62 years Margaret, his children John, Andrew (Patricia), Peter and Velma Krupnik (Steve), and his sisters Angelina Lombardo and Anna Brockman, and grandchildren Amanda Maurizi, and Juliana, John and Angelina Panelli. A Funeral Mass was held Saturday at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church, Beverly Hills. A.J. Desmond & Sons 248-549-0500. View obituary & share memories: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

Annual dinner benefits scholarships

Schoolcraft College's annual Spaghetti Dinner and Wine Glow is set for Tuesday, March 20, in the DiPonio Room of the VisTaTech Center on campus, located on Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile in Livonia.

The Wine Glow will start at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. and a brief program at 7:30 p.m. The Schoolcraft College Synthesizer Ensemble will perform throughout the evening and there will be a 50/50 raffle drawing.

Tickets are \$35 per person (\$18 is tax deductible). Tables of eight are available for \$210, saving \$70the cost of two tickets. Sponsorship levels range from \$50-\$1,250. Sponsorships offer a variety of benefits including recognition in the event program and in a special digital presentation, complimentary tickets to an upcoming luncheon event, or the opportunity to introduce a student beneficiary at the event.

The Schoolcraft College Transition Center and Advisory Board sponsors the annual Spaghetti Dinner and Wine Glow. The Transition Center incorporates the services of the Women's Resource Center, Adult Student Services, Family Resources and Student Engagement Programs. Proceeds from the event benefit scholarships for students and the Transitions Center. For more information call (734) 462-4443 or visit

www.schoolcraft.edu/transition.

Firm promotes Rouge River work

Shoppers can fish for cosmetic and skin care samples from a Rouge River display at a special party honoring the Friends of the Rouge, 1-7 p.m. Saturday, March 31 at the LUSH Cosmetics store at 12 Oaks Mall in Novi.

The costmetics company chose Friends of the Rouge, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the restoration and stewardship of the Rouge River, as a featured charity in its Charity Pot Program.

Since introducing the Charity Pot program in October 2007, LUSH has donated \$2.4 million dollars to charity with 156 organizations worldwide. As a company,

LUSH is committed to supporting small, grassroots charities and projects working on behalf of the environment and conservation, animal protection, and for human rights.

Friends of the Rouge staff will be on hand at the party to talk about the ways that the public can protect the river. The LUSH staff also will offer foot treatments.

As a partner in the Charity Pot Program, Friends of the Rouge will be featured on pots of lotion that will be available for purchase throughout the year. Proceeds from the sales of the charity pots are donated to the participating charities.



BUTLER, MAX E.

Resident of Lawrenceville, Georgia for the past 20 years passed away on Tuesday, March 6, 2012. Mr. Butler was preceded in death by his wife of 65 years, Lois Butler. He is survived by his children, Douglas Butler, Angela Butler, Virginia Rumberger and her husband Dale, Marcia Evans and her husband Mitch. He is also survived by seven grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. Max Butler grew up in Mercer County, Ohio and was the youngest of four sons raised by the widowed, Mrs. Anna Butler. He graduated from Rockford High School in 1939 where he lettered playing left tackle on the varsity football team. As a WWII veteran, Mr. Butler served in the United States Navy from Nov1942 until Dec1945 and achieved the rank of 1st Class Petty Officer, rated as Aviation Electronics Technician. After military service he worked at Frigidaire/GM designing and making circuit panel schematics for heavy production equipment. At one point he was president of the American Welding Society. He helped integrate and refine resistance welding while in senior plant management with Ford Motor in Hapeville, GA. He retired from Ford Motor while living in Plymouth, MI. He came out of retirement for a couple of years to help set up welding lines for a new Nissan plant in Murfreesboro, TN. But he will be best remembered by and held in high esteem by his children as a dedicated, supportive and trusted father who always put the well being of his family first. Funeral services will be held on Saturday, March 10, 2012 at 11:00 am, at Wages & Sons Gwinnett Chapel, 1031 Lawrenceville Hwy. GA 30046. 770-277-4550. The family will receive friends one hour prior to service. Online condolences may be expressed at www.wagesandsons.com

MOUSA, SHAWKY JAMIL

Age 80, March 4, 2012. Loving husband of 60 years of Jarmette. Beloved father of Noel (David) Bawulski, Patricia Mousa, Sharon (Joe) Keepers, Elizabeth (Thomas) Beter and Michelle Elizabeth (Ann) Mousa. Grandfather of Dylan, Erin, Shannon, Elise, Jameel, Joseph, Benjamin, Elliot, Lauren, Alexander, Tara, Aimee and Rocky and great grandfather of Olivia and Maxwell. He is also survived by his sisters Viola Sackleh and Afaf (Fuad) Foteh. Visitation Tuesday 6-8pm until his Trisagion at 8pm and Wednesday 9am until his funeral service at 10am at the Antiochian Basilica of St. Mary Orthodox Christian Church, 18100 Merriman, Church, Livonia, Michigan 48152. Memorials may be made to the Church Building Fund in his honor. Please visit: www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com

SMITH, THADEUS (Ted)

Long-time resident of Plymouth, died at the age of 92, on March 3, age of 92, on March 3, 2012 at his home in Sebring, Ohio. His wife (Grace Fisher Smith) preceded him in death in 2005. He is survived by son, Lary Smith of Montana, daughters Doris Cook of DeWitt, MI and Mary Jane Sober of Ohio. Surviving siblings are Ed Smith of Plymouth and Dorothy Smith Archer of Maryland. There are numerous nieces and nephews who will miss this kind and caring uncle. Ted was born in GR and moved to Plymouth at an early He attended Plymouth schools and was well known and respected throughout the community. He served in the U.S Marines Merchant Marines during the war years and was deployed to all war theaters. One of his ships (the Horace Bushnell) was torpedoed and sunk near Murmansk, Russia on one the most dangerous assignments of the war, delivering supplies to ally Russia. The surviving seamen received special commendations from the Russian government for this mission. He was also a veteran of service with the U.S Army after the war.

Ted will be missed by all!

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.



STARR, CHARLES AUGUSTINE

96, of Elk Rapids, passed away peacefully on Sunday, Mar 4, 2012 at Grand Traverse Pavilions, surrounded by family and loved ones. Charlie was born December 4, 1915, the son of John and Anna (Kramer) Starr. Charlie grew up in the Philadelphia area and moved to Livonia in 1969. He was a longtime member of St Collette's Catholic Church in Livonia where he served as a Eucharistic minis-ter, lector and sacristan. Charlie moved to Elk Rapids in 2004 and was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Elk Rapids. Charlie is survived by his wife of almost 65 years, Anne (McCabe) almost 65 years, Anne (McCabe) Starr; 5 children, Charles Jr.(Julie) of Surprise, AZ, John (Debra) of Bolivia NC, Thomas (Judy) of Novi, MI. Robert (Marti) of Northville MI and Anne Starr of Williamsburg, MI; 12 grandchil-dren: and 1 great granddauphter dren; and 1 great granddaughter. Preceding Charlie in death is one grandson, and siblings, John, Margaret and Priscilla. Visitation be held at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church on Thursday, March 8 from 6 to 7 PM with a Vigil for the Deceased at 7PM. A Mass from the Order of Christian Funerals will be held at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church on Friday, March 9 at 11 am, with Rev. Robert J. Zuchowski officiating. Burial will take place in the spring at Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, 143 Charles St, Elk Rapids, MI 49629 Please share your condolences at www.CovellElkRapids.com Arrangements have been

entrusted to Covell Funeral Home in Elk Rapids.



SMITH, FRANK L.

Age 77, March 4, 2012, of Garden City, MI. Beloved husband of City, MI. Beloved husband of Doris. Loving father of Kimberly (Ed) Bailey, Kelly (Tom) Mar, Kari (Mike) Hinken, & Kristie (Rich) McLaughlin. Dear grand-father of Christopher, Rachel, Lach Away Scott Saan Bradley Josh, Amy, Scott, Sean, Bradley, Ryan and Nathan. Great-grandfather of Julianna and Aria. Memorial Gathering Thursday 5 pm, until time of Service at 7 pm at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 31551 Ford Rd., Garden City. Please sign the on-line guestbook at: www.rggrharris.com

RELIGION CALENDAR

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

March

BETHANY

Time/Date: 8 p.m. to midnight, Saturday, March 31 Location: Don Hubert VFW Hall, 27345 Schoolcraft, east

of Inkster Road, Redford Details: Bethany Together Dance. Admission is \$12. Wear "proper" attire

Contact: Loretta from Bethany East at (586) 264-0284

BIBLE READING CAM-PAIGN

Time/Date: 11 a.m., Sundays; began March 4

Location: Livonia Church of Christ, 15431 Merriman, in Livonia Details: The Story is a unique way to read the narrative portions of the Bible in chronological order in 31 weeks. Consisting of 31 chapters of carefully-selected scriptures sequenced in chronological order, The Story presents the word of God in an engaging format, reading like a novel

Contact: (734) 427-8743

BIBLE TALK

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, March 11, 18 and 25

Location: Plymouth VFW Hall, 1426 Mill, Plymouth Details: These one-hour meetings will emphasize the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. No collections will be taken. Matthew Jensen and Jason McInally are the ministers leading the sessions Contact: (515) 851-2939

BOWL-O-RAMA

Time/Date: Noon to 12:30 p.m. check-in, with bowling from 1-4 p.m. March 17

Location: Oak Lanes, 1230 Middlebelt, between Joy and Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia

Details: Fundraiser for Mt. Hope Congregational Church's youth group mission this summer to Pittsburgh, Pa. The trip costs \$223 per participant, in addition to transportation costs. The fundraiser will include three games of bowling, shoes, pizza and pop, along with a raffle ticket entry. Cost is \$20 for bowlers, 11 and older; \$15 for children under 10. Bumper bowling will be available. 50/50 raffle tickets also will be available. Register by March 10

Contact: Kathy at (734) 261-4202 or Mt. Hope at (734) 425-7280

BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Sunday, March 18 Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland

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

Contact: (734) 425-4421

CLOTHING BANK

Time/Date: 5-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 14 and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, March 24

Location: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 41920 Joy Road, between Lilley and Haggerty, Canton

Details: Free clothing and shoes given to anyone in need

Contact: (734) 927-6686 or (734) 404-2480

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Sunday, March 18

Location: St. John Lutheran Church, 23225 Gill, Farmington Hills

Details: Detroit Lutheran Singers; tickets are \$10 general admission, \$7 for students and seniors, children under 12 are free. Tickets available online or at the door

B9.(*) SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2012 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWNLIFE.COM SHARON DARGAY, EDITOR SDARGAY@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM (313) 222-8833 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with healthy greens

Thoughts of traditional St. Pat's fare doesn't always conjure up the healthiest of choices. From salty corned beef to sugary scones and cookies to excessive amounts of green beer, this holiday can wreak havoc on a healthy diet. The American Heart Association is offering a few tips to keep your celebrations heart-healthy this year.

"It can be really tempting to over-indulge on St. Patrick's Day, but your body will thank you for celebrating in moderation," says Cindy Conroy, a registered, licensed dietitian. "I advise my clients to add green to their meals in ways that are healthy, yet still fun and festive."

Here are a few things you can to do put your heart first this St. Patrick's Day:

· Get your green on. Add dark green vegetables to each meal for a boost of vitamins and fiber to help you feel full and energized. Try a spinach and egg white omelet at breakfast, a raw cabbage salad for lunch, and a hearty helping of baked kale chips with your fish for dinner. The American Heart Association recommends you eat at least 4.5 servings of vegetables each day. With green being the theme for St. Patrick's Day, March 17, this week is the perfect time to start.

• Stay away from the salt. Traditional treats like corned beef, shepherds' pie and thick stews can contain hidden salts far above and beyond the daily limits recommended by the association. "Try making your own versions of these heartier fares and substituting spices and herbs to add flavor instead of blood pressure-rising salts," Conroy says.

. If alcohol will play a role



in your festivities, limit your intake to one drink. With increased intake of alcohol, there are increased health dangers including high blood pressure, obesity and stroke.

• Butt out. Taverns are smoke-free, but you'll likely see many a-typical smokers outside on St. Patrick's Day. Even if you "only smoke when you drink," it's enough to increase your risk for heart disease and stroke.

• Running of the green. Get active this St. Patrick's Day with a walk around the neighborhood, quick run at the gym or family game of basketball. You'll enjoy our warming weather and reduce your risk for cardiovascular diseases. Research has shown that for every hour of vigorous exercise, life expectancy increases by two hours. For more information on how you can keep your heart healthy year-round, visit www.MyLifeCheck.org. Put a little healthy "green" on your dinner plate this week: Fruited Cabbage Salad

HEALTH

1/2 medium head cabbage, shredded 2 medium bananas, sliced 1/2 cup fat free mayonnaise-type salad dressing 1 tablespoon sugar 3 tablespoons skim milk

Combine dressing, sugar and milk. Pour over cabbage and stir. Chill. Just before serving, slice bananas and stir into cabbage.

Serves 8. Nutrition content per serving: 60 calories, 1 gm fat, 1 gm protein, 14 gm carbohydrate, 134 mg sodium, and 2 gm fiber. Provides 35 percent recommended daily value of Vitamin C.

Move, breathe, do a good deed

Stress affects everyone at some time, but the key is to recognize it and learn how to stay balanced.

"Often, we don't realize that we are locked into a stress response that results in higher levels of stress hormones, increasing blood pressure, muscle tension, headaches and back pain," said Dr. Steven Thiry, a physician with IHA, a group practice with offices in Canton, Plymouth and Ann Arbor. "Stress can definitely affect a person's mood."



Thiry, who has more than 25 years in family medicine, offers practical tips for how to help reduce stress: • Move to help balance out the stress

response in the body. The movement can be as simple as walking indoors or outdoors. During the winter, if it's safe and sidewalks aren't icy, get engaged in your neighborhood and breathe a little fresh air.

"All kinds of movement are good ancing, taking an exercise class, goin

options such as dancing, taking an exercise class, going for a swim, or riding a bike, if weather permits," Thiry said. "Before beginning any exercise program, consider discussing it with your health provider."

• Consider diet, which can have an impact on the effects of stress. Try to eliminate unhealthy food habits and eat a balance of fruits and vegetables. Try eating in a quiet and undistracted way. After eating, notice the effects of what you ate on how you feel.

· Be aware of how you are feeling.

"I encourage people to take five minutes twice a day, sit quietly and turn off stimulation from the radio, television, telephone or computer," Thiry said. "People can let the focus turn softly to something like their breath, a classic way to practice meditating."

Practice sitting quietly and breathe softly.

"I teach people in the office to breathe like a child would breathe with a soft belly," Thiry says. "It really releases a lot of tension in the body and as I'm fond of saying, 'As goes the breath, so goes the body and the mind.' If you can relax your breath, your body will relax and often you can slowly learn to let your mind just float along a little bit so you're not being dragged along by your thoughts."

• Altruism is helpful for stress management. Thiry recommends "reaching out, being kind" and helping others. Such positive actions can help lower stress hormones.

• Stay connected to others. "Many people are somewhat isolated socially or a lot of their interactions are online. They are connecting, but may not experience warmth, support and friendship. We need each other." For more information about Thiry or IHA, visit www. ibacares.com.

DR. STAN'S COACHES EVENT

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the gameplan

Westland Specialty Center March 24 – 9 am to 3 pm

> 35600 Central City Parkway Westland, MI 48185 (Adjacent to Dick's Sporting Goods)

- 9:00 10:00 James M. Moriarity, MD Notre Dame University Head Physician
- 10:00 11:00 Paul Drouillard, DO Upper & Lower Extremity Injuries
- 11: 00 11:30 Marie Sharp, RD Proper nutrition and hydration
- 11:30 12:00 Emmanuel Papasifakis, DO Sudden Cardiac Death Syndrome

12:00 - 1:00 LUNCH

1:00 – 3:00 Taping Workshop

To register or for additional information contact Wendy Fairchild at:

734.458.4259 email: wfairc@gchosp.org

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(1) \$500 Matching Down Payment on 2012 Fusion, Escape, Explorer (purchase only), Mustang V6, Mustang GT (purchase only), Edge, Taurus SEL, Taurus LTD, Taurus SHO, Fiesta (purchase only), Flex, Expedition, \$250 on Fiesta lease. (2) MPG estimate based on 2012 Fusion SEL 2.5L I-4 Engine with 6-speed automatic 23 city/33 hwy mpg, 2012 Taurus SEL 3.5L Duratec V-6 Engine 18 city/28 hwy mpg, 2012 Escape 2.5L I-4 Engine 4x4 20 city/27 hwy mpg, 2012 Focus SE Sedan with SFE package - EPA estimated 29 city/40 highway mpg, and 2012 F-150 Supercab 3.5L V-6 EcoBoost 4x2 16 city/22 highway. (3) Not all customers will qualify for 1.9 % APR Ford Credit Financing, \$19.19 per month per \$1,000 financed for 60 months at APR of 1.9% on the 2012 Ford Focus. (4) Not all lessees will qualify for Ford Credit Red Carpet low mileage lease. Residency restrictions apply. Some payments higher, some lower. Special lease rates are for eligible A/Z Plan lessees. You must currently lease a Ford product through Ford Credit and re-lease through Ford Credit. Payments include \$500 Renewal Bonus Cash on all vehicles with the exception of the Focus (\$250 renewal). (5) MSRP, A-Plan price is for qualified, eligible A-Plan customers and excludes document fee, destination/delivery charge, taxes, title and registration. Optional equipment not included. See dealer for qualifications and complete details. Take retail delivery from dealer stock by 4/2/12.

SECTION C . (*)

SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2012 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC

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JOBS

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A GANNETT COMPANY

Unconventional places to expand your network

Rachel Zupek, CareerBuilder.com writer

Update résumé. Write cover letter. Post résumé online. Apply for jobs. Wait to hear from potential employers. Repeat.

Such was the process back in the days when job seeking was a simple process -simpler than it is now, anyway. Unfortunately, in today's ultra competitive job market, job seekers can't afford to be ordinary. As a result, they are turning to untraditional methods of job searching. Betsy Richards, director of career resources at Kaplan University, an online university, says it's important for job seekers to realize that they shouldn't be using one method or the other but rather, they should use the two strategies together.

"In today's market, you need to reach out to people who could give you access to new networks and employment communities outside of your field and your normal work group," Richards says. "Even effective job seekers may have exhausted their network and have to expand it. It could mean the difference between a successful and unsuccessful job search."

Many job candidates are finding their job searches are taking longer than expected, Richards says. In fact, 70 percent of job searches last four weeks or longer, according to a recent study by CareerBuilder.com. For these people, traditional strategies won't cut it.

"You have to use every strategy that is at your disposal. Each person has to find tactics that are a fit for them," Richards says.

Some job seekers, however, are afraid to step out of their comfort zones to do something different to attract an employer's attention. They're afraid cold-calling a company or standing on the street wearing their résumé as a billboard will be too bold and turn employers away. "You can never be too bold. If you are not bold, you won't get the contact and you won't be taken seriously," Richards says. "Some people walk a fine line between being bold and being obnoxious. For most people, the real issue is that they are shy or uncomfortable. However, some might misconstrue a low-key approach as laziness."

For job seekers who have struck out with the traditional routes to find employment, it's time to take the job search to the streets and use creative ways to get noticed. Here are five nonprofessional places and events to consider as career opportunities, according to Richards:

1. Sporting events. Schmoozing with fellow alumni in a relaxed atmosphere can be a great career move. "At a [Miami] Dolphins football game just last week, a fellow I was sitting next to struck up a conversation with me and introduced himself. This led to a discussion about what each of us did for a living and he let me know that he was looking for a new job. Little did he know that I advised professionals on their career advancement and could help him plot his strategy," Richards says.

2. Social networking sites. Each day, millions of people make connections through Facebook, MySpace, BrightFuse and LinkedIn.

Consider sending out a note to your "friends" and "connections" about your job search. "Job seekers should reach out to their own network to be sure friends and colleagues know what you are looking for [in a job]," Richards says. "You have to research the people in the network and the companies and organizations they are affiliated with. Then, you have to actively ask your contacts to introduce you to the others and follow through."

3. Local farmers markets. These community hubs are great places to trade information and chat it up. "You never know who is picking out peaches next to you! The same is true at the grocery store," Richards says. "These are relaxed environments where job seekers can strike up a conversation with another shopper by talking about their favorite types of apples or kicking around ideas for recipes and preparation. All of this can lead up to an introduction and sharing your career status and experience."

4. Conferences not related to your expertise. For service professionals, attending industry events and seminars that attract experts outside of your traditional industry or peer group is a good way to regenerate your network. "There are a lot of career changers out there. One approach for those seeking to move into a new industry is to attend a conference focused on that professional arena," Richards suggests. "To start building this new network, you may attend conferences about topics outside of your field. Building a new network of



Nail salon, hairdresser, local restaurant or the gym . The places we frequent can be an oversight when it comes to the job search. The opportunities to strike up conversations with people you are already familiar with could be a breeding ground for job opportunities. "The person providing services to you at a salon comes in contact with lots of people who share their personal information," Richards says. "Lots of clients will express frustrations and be very open. While you are in the chair, the situation may even inspire a conversation with the person next to you.'

Here are four ways Richards says you can pitch yourself to prospective network contacts when in nonprofessional situations:

1. Prepare an "elevator speech" of three to four sentences that introduces your most marketable skills. Keep it succinct at no more than 20 seconds.

2. When networking, introduce yourself and ask the people what they do for work. After they tell you, you have the opportunity to let them know that you are searching for a job. Explain what type of position fits your particular background. You should ask if they have heard of anything that could be a match for your skills.

3. Always carry business cards no matter what the circumstance. Keep them in your wallet, handbag or cardholder at all times.

4. Make sure your résumé and/or bio and cover letter are prepared so you can quickly send out the information if a contact is made.

Rachel Zupek is a writer and blogger for CareerBuilder.com. She researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.







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