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TWENTYSOMETHINGS
COMMUNITY LIFE, B5

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CLASSIFIED, SECTION C

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USA WEEKEND



Opening Day ticket contest

Enter our Facebook contest for a chance to win two tickets to Opening Day to watch the Detroit Tigers and the Boston Red Sox Thursday, April 5 at Comerica Park. Our website, Hometownlife.com, is giving away two prime tickets but you must act fast. Share the contest link with a Facebook friend and get five extra chances to win if they also enter the contest. The winner will be selected at random April 2.



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/OEHometown>.

Bee-autiful

Ryan Teevens, an eighth grader at New Morning School in Plymouth, has qualified as a semi-finalist to represent New Morning School and participate at the state level of the 2012 Michigan National Geographic Bee.



The bee takes place Friday, March 30 at Western Michigan University. The state winner will continue on to compete at the national level in May.

The contest is designed to encourage teachers to include geography in their classrooms, spark student interest in the subject, and increase public awareness about geography.

Voices heard

The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education meets 7 p.m. Tuesday in Discovery Middle School to hear public comment about its facilities study and the plan to right-size the district.

The entire meeting will be devoted to public input on the plan, which includes the possible closing of two elementary schools and redistricting of all 16 elementary boundaries.

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CANTON OBSERVER

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Chiefs coach headed to Hall

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Canton football coach Tim Baechler is getting into "the Hall," but he isn't ready to become a museum piece anytime soon.

The 44-year-old Baechler will be inducted into the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame on Saturday at the Ann Arbor Sheraton. His career record of 173-67 includes a stellar mark of 120-37 since taking over the Chiefs for the 1998 season.

When the Plymouth resident and physical education teacher at Canton High School found out he would be in the Class of 2012, "I was extremely excited and a little

More on Baechler, B1.

bit shocked because I'm not that old of a guy."

When he took over as Hudson High School's head coach at age 24, his first captain was Casey Randolph — who later was on Baechler's coaching staff at Canton and instrumental in developing the Chiefs' top-notch wrestling program.

"I was only seven years older than him, which was crazy," Baechler said. "So yeah, I was excited but a little shocked that it happened so early."

To earn induction into the MHSFCA Hall of Fame, coaches must either have 100 victories or 20 years on the sidelines.

"To me, obviously I want to get in on merit, which I've done, with the win-loss record," he noted. "But some guys get in on longevity."

Other stops along Baechler's career trail included Onsted, his hometown White Pigeon and Dexter. Since taking over a 1-8 team at Canton, the Chiefs have won 10 games seven times and have gone to the Division 1 finals (in 2005).

The MHSFCA also named him its Coach of the Year eight times.

According to Sue Heinzman, co-athletic director at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, Baechler's pending honor is well-deserved.

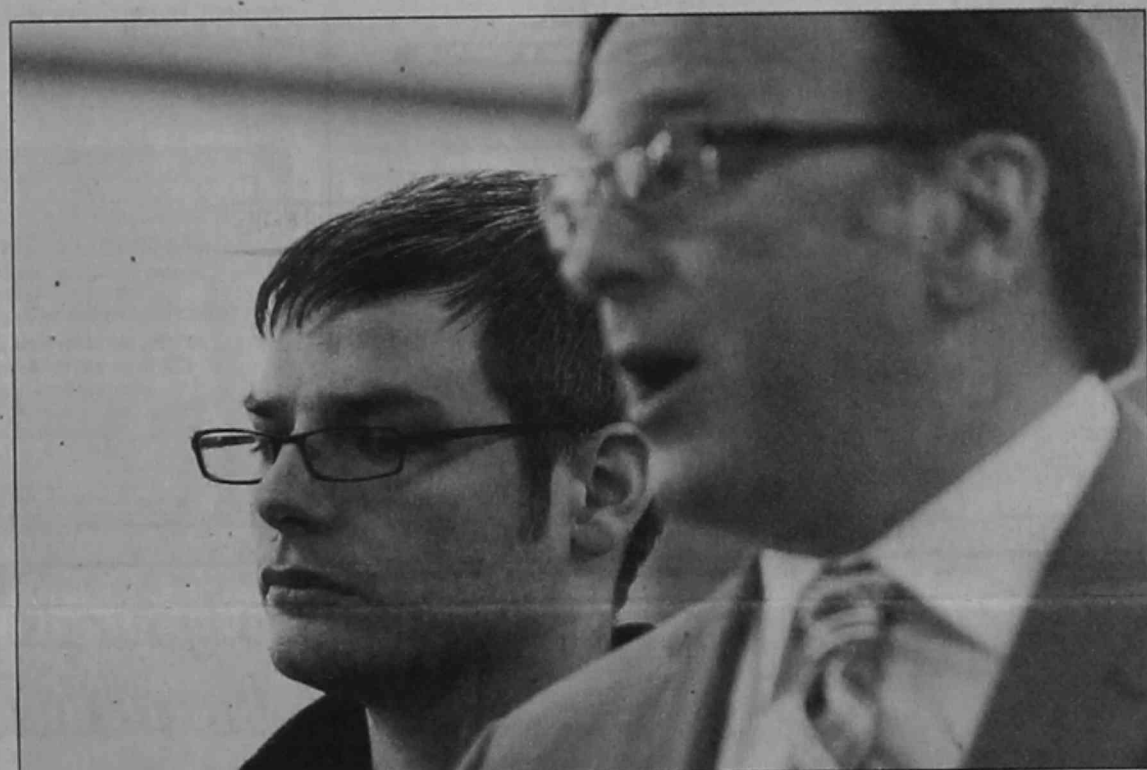
"Tim Baechler is an outstand-



BILL BRESLER
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Tim Baechler has reason to smile as he is being inducted March 24 into the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Please see COACH, A6



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Brandon Tomblin appears in court with defense attorney Robert Mullen.

Hearing adjourned in sex case

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

As other potential criminal charges still loom against former Wayne-Westland school teacher Brandon Lee Tomblin of Canton, he appeared Friday in 35th District Court following allegations he was involved in inappropriate behavior toward a 16-year-old boy.

Tomblin's preliminary hearing was adjourned until March 30, however, after 35th District Judge Michael Ger-

ou recused himself and said another judge will have to conduct the proceedings because Tomblin, 26, is the son of Gerou's sister-in-law.

Tomblin could face 20 years in jail if he is convicted of one count of child sexually abusive activity, two counts of using a computer to commit a crime and two counts of distributing sexually explicit material to children.

Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Brian Surma declined to comment Friday on other potential charges

against Tomblin.

"I can't speak to that," Surma said.

Defense attorney Robert Mullen also declined to comment on Tomblin's case.

Wayne-Westland Community Schools Supt. Greg Baracy has said Tomblin had partial teaching assignments at Wayne Memorial High School, where he taught vocal music, and at Franklin Middle School, St. Michael's Lutheran School and Hicks Elementary School.

Please see HEARING, A6

Parents push for half-day option

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Karin Young of Plymouth doesn't believe every child is ready for all-day kindergarten.

And she's found dozens of parents who agree with her.

That's why Young, the mother of twins, presented the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education with a petition signed by more than 80 people who think the district's decision to switch to an all-day kindergarten format — with-

out a half-day option — is the wrong way to go.

"Many parents want to be offered half-day kindergarten," Young said. "Certainly, (the petition) should give (the board) a strong indication that all-day kindergarten is not the answer for all parents."

District officials plan to move to all-day kindergarten at all 16 elementary schools, beginning with the 2012-13 school year, because the state plans to cut funding for half-day kindergarten students in half.

Please see HALF-DAY, A5



Board of Education trustees Judy Mardigian, Barry Simescu and John Barrett (right), along with Supt. Jeremy Hughes at last week's school board meeting.

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

Canton hopes to rally area residents to support a major lobbying blitz intended to help secure \$18 million in federal dollars to reshape the traffic-snarled, accident-prone I-275/Ford Road area.

Amid support from neighbors such as Westland, Canton has created a website where area motorists fed up with Ford Road traffic congestion can find ways to contact key federal and state officials who can potentially influence the bipartisan effort.

Disappointed yet undeterred by three rejections, area officials believe residents can help sway federal officials to approve a fourth-round grant dubbed TIGER, or Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery, intended to spur jobs and fix road problems.

"The residents are going to be key to making this happen," state Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, said. "That's going to be critical."

Website help

The website, www.tiger4canton.

Please see TIGER, A7

Canton goes viral for TIGER support



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May 14-June 4 MT,WTH 6-8 p.m.
June 11-28* MT,WTH 9-11 a.m.
(*June 11 class held 2:30-4:30 p.m. /
June 12 class held 1/2 hour after school)
July 9-26 MT,WTH 9-11 a.m.
July 30-August 16 MT,WTH 9-11 a.m.
August 13-30 MT,WTH 4-6 p.m.

SEGMENT II: 6 Hrs Lecture Defensive Driving
April 30, May 4, 7 MFM 6-8 p.m.
June 18, 19, 21 MT,TH 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
July 16, 17, 19 MT,TH 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
August 13, 14, 16 MT,TH 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

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April 17-May 10 MT,WTH 3-5 p.m.
May 14-June 7 MT,WTH 3-5 p.m.
June 4-28* MT,WTH 8-10 a.m.
(*No classes exam week, week of June 11 /
June 4, 5, 6 classes held 5-7 p.m.)
July 9-26 MT,WTH 8-10 a.m.
August 6-23 MT,WTH 8-10 a.m.

SEGMENT II: 6 Hrs Lecture Defensive Driving

April 24, 25, May 1 T,TH,T 3-5 p.m.
May 22, 24, 29 T,TH,T 3-5 p.m.
June 18, 19, 21 MT,TH 10 a.m.-12 noon
August 20, 21, 23 MT,TH 10 a.m.-12 noon

GO SPARTANS!

Canton teen gets ‘Hunger Games’ gig

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

If you need a question answered about the movie, *Hunger Games*, which opens Friday, chances are Montgomery Jones can answer it.

So when talk show host Wendy Williams was looking for young correspondents to cover its opening, and asked for videos to audition, Jones was right there.

With two videos — the first of which she did in one take — Jones earned herself one of the two spots Williams was giving away. On a recent airing of Williams' show, Jones got the news she'd been chosen. "I love *Hunger Games* and Wendy Williams," said Jones, the daughter of Kerry and Theo Jones



Wendy Williams (left) lets Kara Murphy of Georgia and Montgomery Jones of Canton know they won the slots as "Hunger Games" correspondents.

of Canton. "What sets me apart from other fans is that I know a lot about the movie franchise. I've been following Lionsgate's decisions regarding casting, product endorsements, and the unique way that they have marketed the movie for over a year."

Jones found out about Williams' contest while making her normal rounds of *Hunger Games* sites. She did her first

video in a single sitting, and put together a second, higher-energy video based on what producers requested. The show paid for Jones trip to New York for the announcement (Jones and Georgia native Kara Murphy were chosen), then sent both girls to Los Angeles to interview the movie's stars.

The movie is based on Suzanne Collins' *Hunger Games* trilogy, which follows a nation called Panem, which rose from the ashes of civil war. *Hunger Games* follows lead protagonist Katniss Everdeen into a fight-to-the-death challenge against "tributes"

from Panem's 12 districts.

Jones, who returns to the Williams show Wednesday for the airing of her coverage, loves the books because its about more than one person, and more than one theme.

"(Katniss) is a symbol for a movement bigger than herself," said Jones, who first read *Hunger Games* in 2008 and figures she's converted some 25 people to *Hunger Games* fans. "There's more at stake then her happiness, people are dying. I have found more and more parallels between the citizens of Panem and some people

in our world today."

Kerry Jones isn't surprised her daughter won the right to cover the movie for Williams' show. She said Montgomery fights for causes she believes in and has passion and drive.

"Once she makes up her mind, step aside and watch her go," Kerry Jones said. "I'm absolutely thrilled for her. She has been such a huge fan ... she always wants to travel and she adores meeting new people and experiencing new things so this amazing opportunity beautifully merges many of her passions."

Officers cleared in shooting incidents

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

Two Canton police officers have been cleared of any wrongdoing after a suspect was shot and injured during a Dec. 13 incident at Stonybrooke Apartments near I-275 and Joy Road.

The Wayne County Prosecutor's Office has

ruled that the officers acted appropriately after responding to reports of a suicidal man who made what Canton Public Safety Director Patrick Nemecek has said was "an aggressive, offensive move" toward the officers.

Officials have said the officers fired, striking the man once in the side,

amid fears he may be going for a weapon.

The incident also involved a second-floor fire, and local officials said the 31-year-old suspect jumped out a window when police entered the apartment to try to help any occupants.

Michigan State Police conducted an investigation and turned findings over to Wayne County authorities. The suspect had several charges against him following the incident, but officers will not be charged.

"I'm very pleased with the outcome," Nemecek said Thursday. "We feel it's a relief not only for the officers but also not to have this (investigation) lingering. It brings a little bit of closure for us. We're happy with how it turned out."

After the incident, the officers initially had been taken off the road and placed on administrative duty. They have since returned to full duty.

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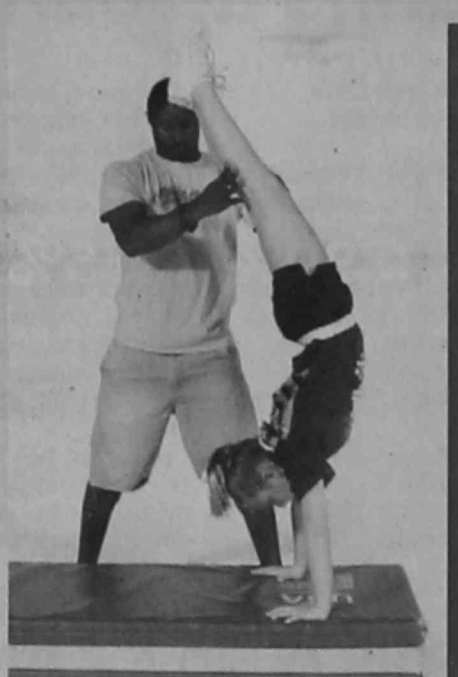
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AROUND CANTON

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

MOVIE PREMIERE

Date/Time: Saturday, March 24, 12:45 p.m.

Location: Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward, Detroit

Details: Unity Productions Foundation presents a documentary film from executive producers Michael Wolfe and Alex Kronemer. Narrated by Academy Award-winning performer Susan Sarandon, "Islamic Art: Mirror of the Invisible World" explores themes such as the word, space, ornament, color, and water, and takes audiences on a global journey to present the stories behind the masterworks of Islamic art and architecture.

Contact: For more information, visit www.IslamicArt-Detroit.eventbrite.com.

SLAVENS COFFEE

Date/Time: Friday, March 23, 5-6 p.m.

Location: Daydream Cafe, 47192 Michigan Ave., in Canton

Details: State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, invites residents to join her for a cup of coffee and conversation at one of her upcoming coffee hours (she'll also do one 8-9 a.m. at the Belleville Charhouse, 524 Main in Belleville). **Contact:** Toll free at (888) 347-8021 or send an e-mail to DianSlavens@house.mi.gov with any questions or concerns.

HOMEWORK WORKSHOP

Date/Time: Saturday, March 24, 2-4 p.m.

Location: Huntington Learning Center, 44630 Ford Road in Canton

Details: The Huntington



Bunny fun

Canton Leisure Services hosts its annual Easter Bunny Breakfast and Easter Eggstravaganza events beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, March 31. The morning starts with a two hour-long buffet of breakfast favorites in the Summit on the Park Grand Ballroom, located at 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton. Pre-registration is required and ends at 8 p.m. on Sunday, March 25. Tickets are \$15 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 4 to 12, and \$4 for ages 3 and under. Children must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, visit www.cantonfun.org or call (734) 394-5460.

Learning Center and Canton Public Library present a free workshop offering step-by-step solutions to some of the most common homework hassles. The workshop offers advice on how to tackle everyday homework problems. The event features a photo session with Plymouth Whalers mascot Shooter from 2-2:30 p.m.

Contact: Register online at www.cantonpl.org.

BUNNY BRUNCH

Date/Time: Saturday, March 31

Location: Plymouth Salvation Army Corps, Main Street just south of Ann Arbor Road

Details: The Salvation Army Plymouth Corps hosts a Bunny Brunch, an event that will help provide additional awareness to the community about ministry programs such as: Men's and Women's Ministry, Summer Day Camp, Tiny Tots Pre-School, Youth

Programming, Emergency Disaster Services, and Tae Kwon Do. The Great Lakes Rabbit Sanctuary will also be on hand with their residents. Youth will receive an Easter basket they can fill with some treats and their completed crafts. There will also be a photographer available to take a family picture that can be taken home as an additional memory of the Easter holiday.

Contact: Call (734) 453-5464 by March 26.

PET-A-PET

Date/Time: Third Saturday of the month, 10 a.m.

Location: Woodhaven Retirement Center in Livonia

Details: PET-A-PET, Inc. is looking for enthusiastic, friendly pets and their owners to visit facilities one hour a month. Pets must be up to date with vaccinations, proof required.

Contact: Laurie Patterson at (734) 953-0438.

Canton closes in on new radio system

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

A long-awaited move to beef up the Canton Public Safety Department's radio communication and 9-1-1 emergency system has made a huge stride after township officials endorsed a way to pay the \$2 million price tag.

The sweeping decision came Tuesday evening as the Canton Township Board of Trustees settled on funding for a new 800-MHz system to improve radio communications for police officers, firefighters and dispatchers. The new Motorola system also carves a path linking Canton to a statewide network, and it dovetails with new federal mandates that take effect Jan. 1, 2013.

Public Safety Director Patrick Nemecek has said the new system will improve the department's communications and ease the potential move to consolidating 9-1-1 dispatch services with one or more nearby communities, if the long-debated change occurs.

Nemecek welcomed the township board's decision to move forward with the system. "We're absolute-

ly pleased with the support."

Canton Finance Director Wendy Trumbull confirmed that \$1 million of the \$2 million price tag will come from cash reserves, while the remaining \$1 million will be paid by issuing and selling \$1 million in bonds.

Of the cash amount, township officials agreed to draw \$500,000 from the fire department budget and take the other half from emergency 9-1-1 funds, which come from sources such as cell phone fees.

"We've been saving our 9-1-1 money for a number of years," Nemecek said.

Officials also settled on a \$1 million bond issue they plan to repay over a seven-year period with a 3.7 percent interest rate.

The new system pushes Canton away from aging VHF radio equipment to a far-superior system Fire Chief Tim Dunn has said will link the township to "the largest system of its kind in North America." It will provide seamless, statewide coverage via the Michigan Public Safety Communications System.

The \$2 million cost diminishes some of the

township's fund balances, though local officials hope to replenish the accounts over time.

As of Tuesday, Trumbull said the fund balances stood at \$1.9 million for the 9-1-1 fund, \$1.6 million for the police budget and \$2.4 million for the fire department.

She said local officials had weighed a decision to issue bonds for the entire cost of the Motorola system, but that option was scrapped amid concerns it would severely deplete the 9-1-1 fund.

The new system is expected to enhance the ability of police officers and firefighters to effectively communicate during emergencies, including those that spill over to other communities. Nemecek has said the current system has encountered occasional snags during such incidents.

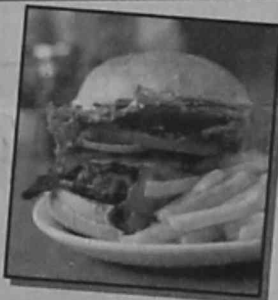
As Canton moves toward implementing the new system, Nemecek has said the change "should not affect the residents at all" — meaning 9-1-1 calls are expected to result in the same level of service amid the transition.

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Friday, April 13

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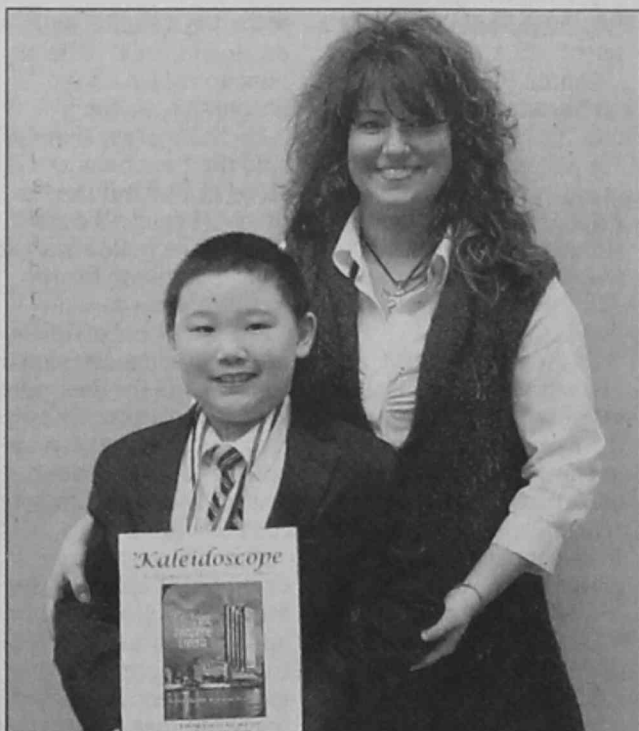
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Aaron Peng with first-grade teacher Kimberly Sparks at the Young Authors Luncheon.

Dodson student honored at Young Author Luncheon

Aaron Peng, a second-grader from Dodson Elementary School in Canton, was awarded a medal at the "Write, Right from the Heart" Young Authors Luncheon last week at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids.

Aaron's poem, *The Beautiful Seasons*, was selected among hundreds of submissions from across Michigan and was published in the 2012 Kaleidoscope, a publication by the Michigan Reading Association.

Aaron wrote *The Beautiful Seasons* last year as part of a lesson taught by first-grade teacher Kimberly Sparks.

"The stories, poetry

and artwork submitted to this edition of Kaleidoscope," MRA's President, Sue Sharma, Ph.D. said, "represent the hard work and creative minds of talented young individuals and their supportive teachers." Sharma added teachers "play an important role in nurturing the expressive voices of young writers."

Aaron and his family were joined at the luncheon by Sparks and Dodson's Intervention Specialist, Bonnie Goodrich. The luncheon also featured special guests Karen and Darrin Brege, author and illustrator of the best-selling Mick Morris Myth Solver series.

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Emma Distel of Plymouth is busy these days, trying to teach English to school teachers and students during a Peace Corps assignment to Kyrgyzstan.

One problem she's run into, according to friends, is a lack of teaching materials.

So her friend, Laura Murphy, is trying to do something to help her.

Murphy, a junior at Canton High School, is conducting a book drive to try and get some textbooks and other English-language books to Distel in Kyrgyzstan.

"About all she's got right now are Clifford (the Big Red Dog) books and some Dr. Seuss," said Murphy, a 17-year-old Plymouth resident. "She said, 'Try teaching English with Dr. Seuss. It's not easy.'"

So Murphy wants to help her. She's looking for books suitable for students in first grade through 12th grade.

Books such as dictionaries, thesauruses, children's books and even some fiction, would be welcome donations.

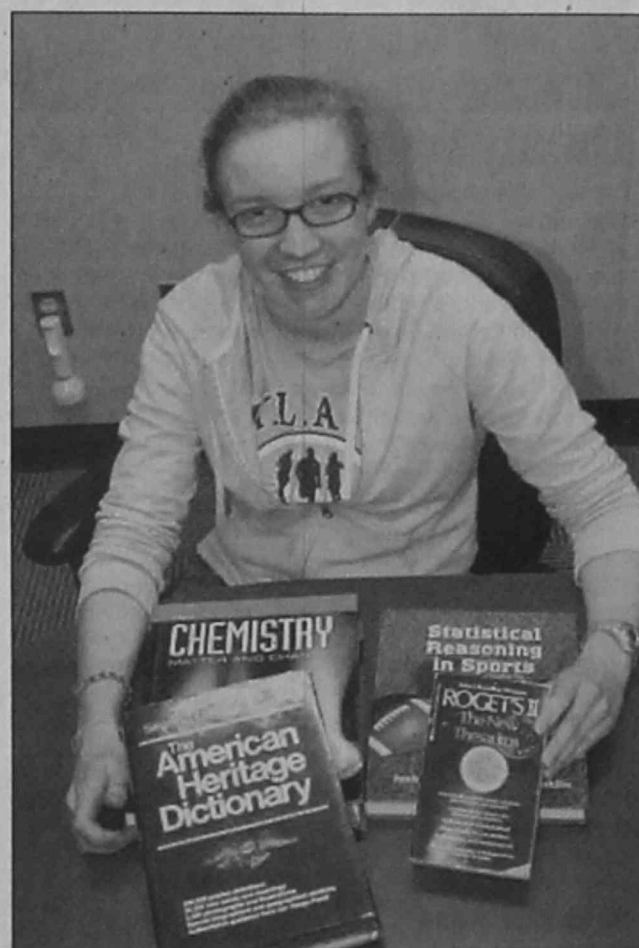
She's already gotten some donations, and hopes to get more, from students through Plymouth-Canton's National Honor Society.

While developing the

project, Murphy learned one important fact: It's going to be expensive.

She said her research shows shipping 500 books to Kyrgyzstan via the U.S. Postal Service could cost \$1,600 or more.

That's why, in addition to book donations, she's certainly willing to accept monetary gifts.



Canton High School junior Laura Murphy is collecting books to help her friend, a Peace Corps worker, teach English to students in Kyrgyzstan.

While collecting books is the main thing, "Obviously, I'm always open to (money)," she said with a smile.

How to raise it was the question. Murphy talked to several people, among them Don Dignan of the Vietnam Veterans Chapter 528, who made suggestions as to how best to

raise the money. Dignan even wrangled donations from the VVA and the VFW.

raise the money.

Dignan even wrangled donations from the VVA and the VFW.

"I told her to check with the various (civic) organizations, and even go shop-to-shop," Dignan said. "Businesses are usually willing to help. It's a worthwhile project. The Peace Corps has always, since its inception, been a noble cause."

Murphy believes the project will be worthwhile not only in the short term, but also as a long-range program.

"The books will help not only students there now, it'll affect the whole infrastructure," Murphy said. "It's not just for students now, but for students to come who will be able to communicate better with the rest of the world."

Murphy hopes, if donations go well, to be able to ship the books in June.

"I'd like to get them there as soon as I can," she said. "That way Emma can introduce them to as many kids as possible."

Anyone wishing to help Murphy can contact her at lmurphy318@gmail.com (make checks payable to PCEP National Honor Society, with "Book Drive" on the memo line).

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HALF-DAY

Continued from page A1

But Young, and the others who signed the petition, believe many parents don't want the all-day option. An attorney by trade, Young said she'd made arrangements to be home more for her children as they transitioned into kindergarten.

The decision to move to the all-day option takes away time Young thought she'd have with her kids.

"I have made a sacrifice, and I sort of feel like it's all for naught now," Young said. "I'm losing a year I had planned on spending with the kids."

Young and the others who signed her petition said they believe some kindergarten-age children are "just not ready" for five full days of school and that half-day kindergarten is "a good transition for these students."

While there is no stated plan to offer a half-day option to every parent, district administrators may have at least a partial solution.

Superintendent Dr. Jeremy Hughes said Thursday administrators are considering a plan — to be recommended to the board — to use one of the elementary schools to be closed under the district's right-sizing plan for a "Young Fives" program. The program would cater to students who are old enough to begin kindergarten, but whose parents don't believe they're ready.

The district would offer four sections (of 20-25 seats each) of Young Fives, but don't believe they'd fill all of those openings. They could fill open seats with half-day kindergarten students.

"It's an idea being considered," said Hughes, who stressed such a plan would need Board of Education approval. "We're probably not going to offer (half-day kindergarten). We'd be losing money, because of the state funding."

While saying they understand state funding is a concern for the district, they also think there's a bigger picture.

"We're already rushing our children," said Jennifer D'Angelo, a Bird Elementary School parent from Plymouth. "Once they grow up, they're grown up."

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Ciena cuts ribbon on new home

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Mohammad Qazi had a vision of what he wanted the \$8.5 million, state-of-the-art skilled nursing facility his company was building in Canton to look like.

On Thursday, he finally got to see it officially.

Qazi, president of Ciena Healthcare, presided over the official ribbon-cutting at Regency at Canton, the 113-bed facility Ciena built on Geddes. Qazi believes the new Canton facility is far more advanced than programs senior citizens have had available in the past.

"This model is a departure from how things were done, and are still being done to some extent," Qazi said. "This facility is what we'd like not only short-term care, but long-term care, to be. These are alternatives now that (seniors) will have. These are the kinds of facilities we'll start seeing across the state."

Regency at Canton features a living area designed to care for the needs of residents requiring a short-term rehabilitation stay and contains a separate living area



Ciena President Mohammad Qazi (from left), Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy, chamber president Dianne Cojei and Canton Township trustee Syed Taj cut the ribbon at the grand opening Thursday of Regency at Canton.

designed to meet the needs of traditional, long-term care geriatric residents.

"We are honored to have the opportunity to provide high quality care in this new state-of-the-art facility in Canton," Qazi said. "Regency at Canton has a home-like environment with all the latest safety features plus an easy to navigate floor plan for both residents and staff."

Services offered at Regency at Canton include physical therapy

and occupational therapy. The community is expected to create more than 100 full- and part-time jobs.

"We are very pleased to have Regency at Canton become a part of our community," Canton Township supervisor Phil LaJoy said. "Providing high quality care for both short- and long-term residents is a great asset to Canton, along with employment opportunities with a stable, Michigan-based company."

The 59,000-square-foot facility also features a state-of-the-art rehabilitation gym, wireless Internet with Internet Café, library with fireplace, private dining room for family gatherings, individualized heating and cooling units with controls in each room, lounge and a spa.

Canton Chamber of Commerce president Dianne Cojei said high-end facilities like Regency are necessary for the township's success.

"Canton really has moved from a bedroom community to a full-service community," Cojei said. "We need facilities like this that are top of the line so we can grow."

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Pat Lyden, RN and Four Seasons' Administrator said, "You typically find people with respiratory therapy credentials in a hospital. Four Seasons is on the cutting edge."

"Most facilities don't offer in-wall oxygen," said Roger Fox. It's a luxury not offered everywhere and why we're able to care for some pretty special patients."

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COACH

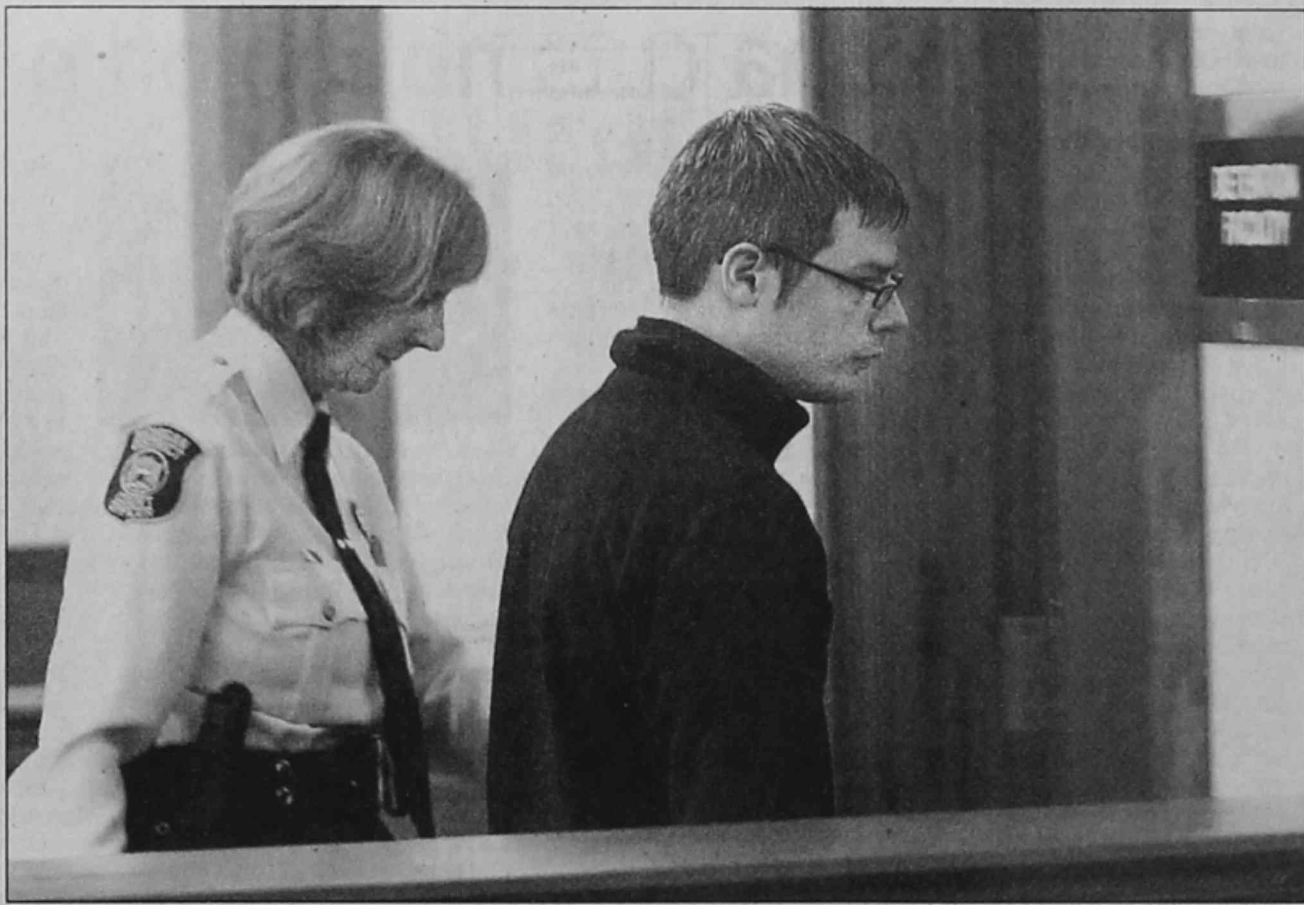
Continued from page A1

ing coach and mentor," wrote Heinzman in an e-mail to the Observer. "He is constantly thinking, talking and researching what will make his players better at football. He also holds all his players accountable for their actions and character."

"Tim's presence can be intimidating which is part of being a good football coach. He is in charge and student-athletes respect him. But the Tim I know, is very caring and sensitive."

"I am proud and honored to be able to work with Tim and to witness the transformation of Canton Football going from a (1-8) team when he took over to a state powerhouse."

tsmith@hometownlife.com
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Brandon Tomblin returns to the holding area after the hearing.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

HEARING

Continued from page A1

Tomblin remains jailed with a \$75,000/10 percent bond, though he could be released with \$7,500. Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Maria Miller has said that, even if Tomblin is released, he would be placed under house arrest with an electronic tether.

With his family members watching, Tomblin appeared briefly in court Friday only to learn that his preliminary examination would be delayed.

Few details have emerged about the case, though Miller released a statement in early March saying the charges arose after "a mother reported a complaint alleging inappropriate behavior of Tomblin toward her 16-year-old son."

Baracy has said Tomblin has resigned and is no longer affiliated with Wayne-Westland schools. Moreover, Baracy asked parents, students and district employees not to speculate on rumors until the investigation has been completed.

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FRI/SAT LS 11:40
○ 3D JOHN CARTER (PG-13)
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12:20, 6:50, 9:40
○ JOHN CARTER (PG-13) 4:00
FRI/SAT LS 11:30
PROJECT X (R) 12:30, 2:50, 5:05,
7:35, 9:50 FRI/SAT LS 11:55
○ 3D DR. SEUSS' THE LORAX (PG)
\$2.50 PREMIUM PER 3D TICKET
11:35, 2:00, 6:40
○ DR. SEUSS' THE LORAX (PG)
4:15, 9:00 FRI/SAT LS 11:20
ACT OF VALOR (R)
11:20, 1:50, 4:20, 7:05, 9:35
FRI/SAT LS 12:00
THIS MEANS WAR (PG-13)
FRI-TUE/TH 11:50, 2:20, 4:50, 7:10,
9:20 WED 11:50, 2:20, 4:50

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TIGER

Continued from page A1

com, charts 2,378 crashes that occurred during the last six years along Ford from Canton Center to east of I-275. It also contains videos showing a proposal to ease traffic problems.

Area officials such as Westland Mayor William Wild strongly support efforts by Canton and the Michigan Department of Transportation to secure the federal grant.

"A lot of our folks use that interchange every day on their way to work in the morning and on their way back," Wild said.

The most-touted fix involves adding two new ramps, or slips, from the southbound I-275 exit to allow motorists to access Haggerty Road, either northbound or southbound, without traveling on Ford. The same plan calls for a northbound service drive, just east of the interstate, from Cherry Hill to north of Ford Road.

MDOT already has initiated a new study to further explore that proposal and others.

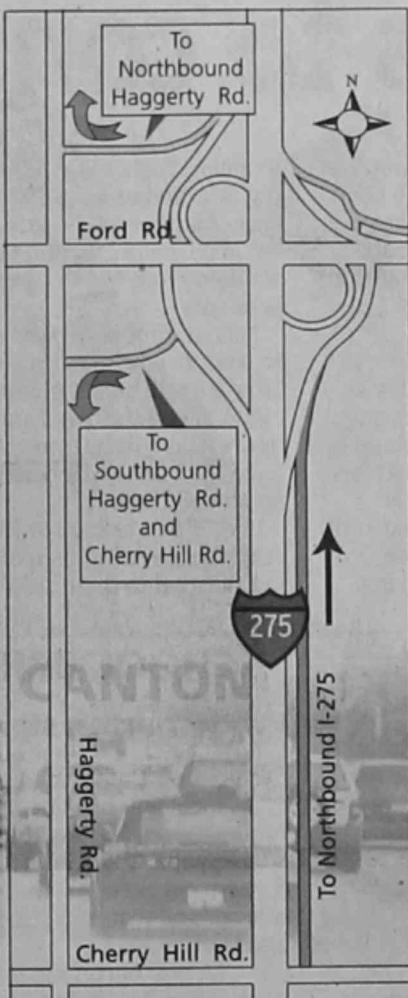
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- Access from Southbound I-275 to NB Haggerty Rd. without use of the Ford/Haggerty intersection.
- Potential for improved access to development parcels east of I-275, relieving congestion at Ford/Lotz intersection.



New / Realigned Ramp
New Service Drive Roadway



"We don't care how they fix it," Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said. "But they've got to fix it."

Officials from the Plymouths, Livonia, Van Buren Township and other communities have previously endorsed efforts

to fix the troubled interchange.

Wild said the northbound service drive would greatly benefit

residents who live in the Cherry Hill Road area.

"We have a big residential component down there," he said, and a new service drive "would definitely help our traffic patterns a lot."

Safety issue

Colbeck has said efforts to steer commuters away from Ford Road would improve access to the Ford commercial strip by people who want to shop there — but who may avoid the area due to traffic bottlenecks.

Not only is traffic congestion a safety issue, he said, "it's an economic issue."

Wild said efforts to reshape the I-275/Ford area would be far less costly than building a new interchange at Warren or Cherry Hill. Much like Canton, he said, traffic crashes have increased over the years at Westland intersections such as Ford-Hix and Ford-Newburgh.

"Those are high-accident intersections," Wild said, "and they have been for years."

MDOT officials and the Michigan Legislature have supported efforts to fix the I-275 interchange but, amid state budget

woes, they would prefer to secure federal dollars to pay the bulk of the cost.

However, Colbeck said he has been told the state will pay the project's remaining \$4 million tab if the TIGER grant is approved.

"Once we get the approval from the federal government, we should be good to go," he said.

LaJoy, Colbeck, Wild and others have said they will promote www.tiger-4canton.com as a way for area residents to make their voices heard. The website even offers a sample letter and provides the following contacts:

- Secretary Raymond H. LaHood, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE, Washington, DC, 20590.
- U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Michigan, (202) 225-8171.
- U.S. Sen. Carl Levin, D-Michigan, (313) 226-6020.
- U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Michigan, (313) 961-4330.
- MDOT Director Kirk Steudle, (517) 373-2090.

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Board meets to consider academies

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Last month, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools administrators revealed plans for a number of academies they'd like to offer to freshmen and sophomores in everything from science and engineering to an international program.

On Monday, they could find out whether they actually get to offer them.

The P-CCS Board of Education meets Monday in a special

meeting to discuss the proposal for the academies, which need board approval before they can be implemented. The meeting takes place at 7 p.m. at the board meeting room, 454 Harvey, in Plymouth.

Supt. Dr. Jeremy Hughes asked for the meeting after an internal study showed not only students, but teachers, would be interested in signing up to learn, and teach, in the academies.

In a survey of ninth- and 10th-grade students, more than 200 said they'd be interested in a

Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) academy. Another 181 showed interest in a fine/performing arts academy and 104 in a business academy.

"The numbers give us reason to want to continue this plan," Hughes told board members. "We believe there are more students who will be interested once they know the board has approved them."

In addition to the students, teachers have begun expressing interest in the academies, Hughes said. An internal inquiry showed 35 teachers expressed interest in knowing more about the academies and possibly teaching in them.

The idea for the academies came about as a result of an EPIC/MRA survey that showed local residents wanted better, more challenging programs offered as part of the district's curriculum.

"(The academies) give us more options for our students," said Tim Schoenherr, the district's director of innovative

programs. "We want to make the world bigger for our kids. We don't want any of our students to be left out."

Hughes said budget numbers for the various academies were still being worked out, but should be in board members' hands prior to Monday's meeting.

"I think it's a bold step," board president John Barrett said. "They have a chance to vastly improve our graduates' competitiveness."

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Culinary contest

The PCEP Culinary Team (a team of four students) is taking part in the state championship competition in Lansing today (Sunday) and Monday.

Coach/teacher Diana Woodward and her students will be given a 10 foot area, two folding tables, and two camp stoves to complete their task. They must do a drill of butchery and knife skill tasks. They are then given an hour to create a three-course meal presentation with no running water, refrigeration, electricity or other heat sources of any kind.

In addition to the meal and advanced skill presentation, students also must create standardized recipes for every component on every dish, as well as a cost calculation (down to the fraction of a cent) and determine menu price. The team includes Canton High School Seniors Cayla Phillips and Tessa Warner and Salem High School seniors Hannah DeAngelis and Haley Chynoweth and alternate Meagan Gaedtke.

National honor

East Middle School eighth graders, Paige Bimberg and Brigid Cummings, received honorable mention in a national contest.

The students entered the 2012 C-SPAN Student Cam Video Project. More than 2,000 students



East Middle School eighth-graders Paige Bimberg and Brigid Cummings.

from 43 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico submitted videos. There were a total of 1,203 videos in the competition this year. Seventy-five videos were chosen as winners, one of which was Brigid and Paige's video about the Electoral College.

The video can be viewed at <http://www.studentcam.org/>

Reading month

The Plymouth-Canton Schools love the month of March because March is Reading Month.

Each District Elementary School will celebrate with guest readers, author visits, reading competitions and themed decorations, all designed to help children discover the joy of reading. District teachers and administrators believe that reading is the key to academic success, and that's why they spend so much time and energy emphasizing reading during the month of March.

SCHOOL BRIEFS

Kindergarten sign-up

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools will provide all-day kindergarten for the 2012-2013 school year. Children who are 5 years old before Dec. 1 can attend kindergarten starting in September 2012.

P-CCS will enroll kindergartners online beginning March 19, 2012 by clicking on the kindergarten enrollment link at www.pccs.k12.mi.us

Residents also can enroll from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at one of the following locations:

- Monday, March 19 at Workman Elementary, 250 Denton Road, Canton
- Tuesday, March 20 at Allen Elementary, 11100 Haggerty Road, Plymouth
- Wednesday, March 21 at Tonda Elementary, 46501 Warren Road, Canton

Prior to May 7, the District will notify families which elementary school their child will attend. During the week of May 7, enrolled families will visit their child's school with these important documents: birth certificate, immunization and vision screening documentation and proofs of residency. To find out more about All Day Kindergarten, visit the District website or contact any elementary school. The Community Relations Department also can provide support at (734) 416-2757.



Energy excellence

Tom Diliberti of Energy Education Inc., presents an award to Plymouth-Canton Board of Education president John Barrett and district energy specialist Melvin Latnie. Energy Education presented the district with its 'ENERGY STAR Leader' award for demonstrating environmental leadership by significantly reducing its greenhouse emissions by 20 percent in 2012.

Chamber scholars

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools and the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce are accepting applications for the Student Citizenship Award scholarship. Nominations from all employees, parents and friends of high school seniors from the Plymouth and Canton area will be accepted before 4 p.m. on Friday, April 13.

The \$1,000 scholarship is based on community service only. Grade point average does not play a role in the committee's decision.

The selection committee will pick one student each from Canton, Plymouth, Salem, Starkweather and a non-P-CCS high school for the award. The scholarship application, which is available at the Board of Education office, requires the student to give a one paragraph description of what community service means to them, a one page bulleted list of the student's community service and a one page testimonial by the person nominating the student for the award. Inquires should be directed to the P-CCS Community Relations office at (734) 416-2757.



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Author Zina Kramer presents
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6:30 pm
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The Plymouth Community United Way recognized contributors at its recent awards presentation.

United Way honors contributors

Over 100 business and community leaders attended the Plymouth Community United Way Annual Meeting and Awards Presentation earlier this month at Comcast in Plymouth. The event is a way to thank those who contributed to the 2011 campaign. It also serves as a showcase for several of the agencies funded by PCUW.

The morning began with a continental breakfast followed by the meeting that included reports on the nonprofit's 2011 finances and programs.

Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze awards were then presented by 2011 Campaign Chairman, Jeff Bell.

Among the many recipients were Johnson Controls, Comcast, General Motors, DTE Energy, UPS, Robert Bosch LLC, Automotive Components Holdings, Burroughs Payment Systems, Visteon, UAW Local 845 (Ford), and Community Financial.

Community Service Awards went to Bird and Hulsing elementary schools for collecting

nearly 10,000 cans of food for local pantries. Home Depot, at Five Mile and Beck, was recognized for donating supplies to raking events in spring and fall 2011. Panera Bread and Einstein Bros Bagels received awards for providing food for special events held during the year. One of those was last fall when 350 volunteers cleaned the yards of senior citizens and people with disabilities.

For information about giving and volunteering, visit www.plymouthunit-edway.org.

Authority offers lawn-care workshop

The Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority (SOCWA) is offering a free Healthy Lawn Care Workshop on Monday, March 19 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Bloomfield Township Public Library, located at 1099 Lone Pine Road. Participants at the

workshop will learn cutting edge ways to establish and maintain a green, earth-friendly lawn. Topics covered will include; composting, soil testing, lawn care basics, weed and drought management, and a demonstration by SOCWA Master Composters.

This free event is sponsored by SOCWA in cooperation with the Bloomfield Township Public Library and is funded by a donation from the Fair Random Garden Endowment Fund. To register for the seminar please call (248) 288-5150 or visit www.btpl.org.

Gardener: Taking out trees, plants can improve look

By Julie Brown
Observer Staff Writer

Residents are eager to get out in their gardens, judging by attendance at a recent gardening program sponsored by the Northville District Library.

Master gardener Janet Macunovich shared tips on gardening and landscaping the evening of Monday, March 5, drawing some 125 to the Northville Community Senior Center.

"It just says something nice about what people are doing for the world around them," Macunovich said of the impressive turnout.

She and husband Steve Nikkila, a photographer,

started work together in the early 1980s. "I don't believe in pie in the sky stuff," the practical Macunovich said, showing photos of a garden at The Detroit Zoo, their family gardens and those of clients.

Macunovich, author of books including "Designing Your Gardens and Landscapes," stressed the importance of clearing out trees and plants to make room for the new.

"People don't actually do it," she said. "They talk about it." It takes discipline for a gardener to give something up.

She recommends thinking about eliminating plants when they're not visible in all their glory. One needs to assess a

plant's health, too, in freeing up space.

"We didn't change the bones, we just changed the things that went in them," she said of their family gardens.

Gardeners should consider species, health and location when planting.

"Things just get all overgrown, and that's difficult for us to deal with," she said.

Macunovich emphasized that perennials can be moved. "They need to go to new soil," she said, and often thrive there.

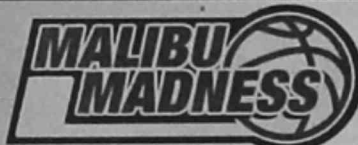
The couple has a free weekly newsletter and a website, www.GardenAtoZ.com. Their e-mail is info@GardenAtoZ.com.

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County committee to get public's input on ethics ordinance

The Wayne County Commission's Special Committee on Ethics will hold a public hearing in connection with the newly proposed Ethics Ordinance at 10 a.m. Thursday inside the auditorium of Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive.

The Special Committee on Ethics, chaired by Wayne County Commissioner Joan Gebhardt (D-District 12), has been preparing the county's first comprehensive ethics ordinance since the continuation of the Ethics Task Force. In addition to Gebhardt, that membership included Vice Chair Alisha Bell (D-Detroit) and commissioners Diane Webb (D-Garden City), Tim Killeen (D-Detroit) and Ilona Varga (D-Lincoln Park).

Present members of the Special Committee on Ethics include Gebhardt, Bell, Commission Chairman Gary Woronchak (D-Dearborn), Vice Chair Pro Temp Laura Cox (R-Livonia) and Commissioner Irma Clark-

Coleman (D-Detroit).

"By conducting this public hearing we will receive public input and hear many of the concerns coming from our constituents," Gebhardt said. "This will allow the committee to process this information and continue to take the necessary steps in resolving many of the issues that have generated a recent fury in Wayne County."

Controversy has surrounded the county since late September when it was revealed that its former economic development director received a severance payment of \$200,000 when she left her county job to become CEO of Metro Airport.

The furor that followed resulted in the termination or resignation of high-ranking appointees in the administration of County Executive Robert Ficano. The new airport CEO returned the money and later was fired from the airport position.

Art exhibit features work of high school friends reunited after retirement

The Livonia Arts Commission is presenting "Double Vision," an exhibit featuring the artwork of Mary Ann Relyea of Plymouth and Mary Kehoe of Farmington, two high school friends who rekindled their friendship after retirement and found that they had remarkably similar careers.

"Double Vision" is on display in the Fine Arts Gallery at the Livonia Civic Center Library on Five Mile east of Farmington Road. A meet-the-artists reception will take place 2-4 p.m. Sunday in the gallery. The exhibit is open during library hours through March 24.

The two artists attended Our Lady of Mercy High School, their shared interest in art making them fast friends. For four years they practiced painting, drawing and other art forms under the guidance of Sister Ignatius in her fine arts class. Upon graduation, they went their separate ways to further their educations. They both majored in fine art, with Relyea attending Mount Mary College in Milwaukee and Kehoe attending Marygrove College in Detroit.

Over the ensuing years, the two lost track of



'Hines Park 5' is by Mary Ann Relyea, a pastel artist who enjoys creating landscapes and other scenes from locations in Michigan.



Gracie the cat is the subject of this piece by Mary Ann Relyea.

were grown, she returned to teach in Detroit. She was named art teacher of the year in 2006.

After retirement, both women continued creating artwork, enjoying the friendship of fellow artists, whom they found by joining local art clubs. It was at the meeting of one such club, decades after high school, that the two found themselves sitting next to each other. In conversation, they surprisingly discovered that they were the same "girls" that years ago had become friends in Sister Ignatius' art class. They resumed their close friendship and continue to share their interest in the arts, taking classes and going to meetings together.

In addition to working on their art, the two enjoy traveling. Each has taken many trips to foreign countries where they find inspiration for much of their work. In their work, the women have different techniques. Kehoe is known for brilliant-colored watercolor paintings. Relyea primarily is a pastel artist, creating landscapes and other scenes from locations in Michigan. She also works in colored pencil. One such work, *Three Images of Bruce*, won an award of excellence at the 2011 Colored Pencil Society of America national convention in Dallas.

each other while following remarkably similar career paths. Relyea taught art at Mount Mary College, then in Michigan at Benedictine, St. Paul's on the Lake and Bishop

Gallagher. She spent the last 15 years of her teaching career at Gabriel Richard. She was named teacher of the year in 1999.

Concurrently, Kehoe taught art in the Detroit Public Schools for a time before leaving to raise a family. After her children



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Women of Ravensbruck: Portraits of Courage

A new exhibit is on display at the Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus in Farmington Hills.

The exhibit, "Women of Ravensbruck: Portraits of Courage," which opened on Sunday, details the lives of those imprisoned at Ravensbruck, the Nazi's major concentration camp for women, with a special focus on the few survivors with ties to southeast Michigan. It will be on display through June 24.

The exhibit features the stories of local women, other survivors researched by the late artist Julia Terwilliger, and those who did not survive Ravensbruck. The local women included in the exhibit are:

- Lola Taubman of Ann Arbor
- Agi Rubin of Farmington Hills
- Irene Zuckerman-Snitchler of Southfield
- Paula Barton-Marks of West Bloomfield
- Elizabeth Wees of Novi

Terwilliger's artwork has immortalized the faces of the women of Ravensbruck in one of the newest exhibits of Holocaust art to emerge. The exhibit centers around seven large wood-panel with mixed media and photo transfer images of Ravensbruck women, young and old, those who survived and those who did not.

The collection contains original artifacts from the camp, including a handmade recipe book and gifts secretly exchanged by the women.

Holocaust Memorial Center Executive Director Stephen M. Goldman conceived the idea for the



Visitors stopped to read the stories of the women featured in the 'Women of Ravensbruck: Portraits of Courage,' a new exhibit at the Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills.

exhibit in collaboration with guest curator Dr. Rochelle G. Saidel in 2001 while he was the director of the Florida Holocaust Museum.

"This is a long overdue testament to these women who survived deplorable conditions and inhumane treatment," said Goldman. "We wanted to honor the local survivors of Ravensbruck and pay homage to all those who were imprisoned against their will—many of whom did not survive to see the camp liberated."

Art, history

The exhibit, on loan from the Florida Holocaust Museum, features both art and history. In addition to Terwilliger's artwork, the exhibit includes historical photographs, documents, and other informational materials plus rare artifacts. The exhibit is supported by Lauren and Sam Bienstock in honor of their family members imprisoned at Ravensbruck, who are featured in the exhibit.

Florine Mark, of Farmington Hills, president and CEO of Weight

Watchers Group, was the keynote speaker at the opening ceremony on Sunday, March 11. Her speech, "The Courageous Woman Inside Each of Us," honored the women of Ravensbruck and acknowledge all women as part of National Women's History Month.

"We are very honored to have Florine Mark speak at the opening ceremony," said Goldman. "Her leadership role in the community and business expertise is an inspiration not only to women, but to all of us."

The Holocaust Memorial Center is located at 28123 Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills. Hours are Sunday through Thursday from 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. (last admission at 3:30 p.m.); and Friday from 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. (last admission at 1:30 p.m.). The museum is closed on Saturday and public holidays. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors and college students and \$5 for children.

For more information, call (248) 553-2400, or visit www.holocaustcenter.org.



PHOTOS BY JASON LOUDERMILK | BRETT MOUNTAIN PHOTOGRAPHY

Agi Rubin of Farmington Hills points to some of the artifacts included in the exhibit. She is one of the women featured.

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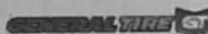
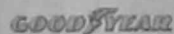
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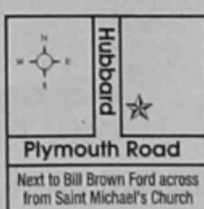
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Filing for an extension can solve tax problem

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Q: Dear Rick: I have a tax problem. I've always filed my returns on time and I've never had an extension. Last year, a friend of mine was having trouble in his business and asked if I was interested in investing in it. It wasn't that much money and I wanted to help my friend, so I did. As I was getting ready to file my tax return, I find out the business, which actually made money last year, had received an extension to file a tax return. I was told that I shouldn't file my return until I get the documentation (K-1) from the business. Unfortunately, I'm not going to get the K-1 until April 15. I am beside myself and not sure what I should do. My tax



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

amend my return. I don't want to do either. I want to file my return on time. I do not want to get in trouble with the IRS. What should I do?

A: Don't worry. These things happen all the time. It's not unusual for a business to need extra time to file a return, even though it does cause issues for individual owners of the business.

preparer, who is not a CPA, told me I can either file for an extension or file my return without the business information and then

I recommend filing for an extension. I recognize that you've never filed for an extension before and it's not something you would prefer to do. However, I believe it is the best option for you.

Filing an amended return causes more scrutiny by the IRS and it's also more costly.

Filing an extension is no big deal. It does not increase your audit risk, nor will it bring you unnecessary IRS scrutiny.

As the deadline nears to file tax returns, it is not unusual for taxpayers to either not have the necessary information they need to file or not have time to do it. In those situations, I always recommend an extension. In fact,

extensions are so common these days that you don't even need the IRS's permission to get an extension. By filing Form 4868, you automatically receive a six-month extension. In addition, when you apply for an extension from the federal government it automatically applies to the state of Michigan. It is preferable to file for an extension than to either file an incorrect or sloppy tax return.

One caveat

There is, however, one caveat. It is an extension of time to file your return, not an extension to pay your taxes. In other words, your taxes are still due by the April tax deadline so you are required to guesstimate your tax liability. If you estimate you are going to owe money to the state or federal government, you still have to pay that by the April deadline.

In your case, since this is the first year you are

receiving a K-1 for business income, you can ask the business to give you a guesstimate as to what your income will be for tax purposes.

When it comes to taxes, I constantly hear all sorts of misinformation. Generally, it comes from people who hear something from one of their friends. People forget that not every return is audited and that as crazy as it sounds, most of our tax laws are self-enforcing. The great majority of Americans are law-abiding citizens. They follow the law when it comes to filing returns. Just because someone got away with something, doesn't make it legal.

More reporting

Everyone should be aware that there are more reporting requirements than ever before. In the past, there were certain income items that weren't reported on forms such as 1099 and,

thus, some people chose not to report that income. In today's world, businesses are under more of an obligation to report different types of income.

If you don't report income when you should, not only will you be assessed the taxes, but you could be hit with interest and penalties.

In addition, keep in mind that the interest the IRS assesses is more than the interest you'll get at the bank and penalties can be severe — upward of 50 percent of the amount of tax that is owed. Therefore, filing a correct tax return is the right thing to do and financially the smart thing to do.

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.

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Bill would penalize 'swatters'

People who make false calls to Michigan emergency response centers could face felony charges under legislation unveiled by Rep. Kurt Heise to help combat a disturbing national trend known as "swatting."

"Swatting" usually entails using the Internet to make false emergency phone calls to 911 centers, in the hopes of getting a SWAT team or similar first responders to show up at an innocent person's address. House Bill 5431, introduced by Heise, makes the crime a felony punishable by up to four years in prison.

"Swatting" is a reckless and wanton act that endangers people's lives and drains our already limited taxpayer resources," said Heise, R-Plymouth. "Calling a 911 center with the sole intention of getting multiple first responders to show up is abhorrent, and we should prosecute these offenders to the fullest extent of the law."

By using "spoofing technology," swatters can make it look like calls are actually coming from the supposed victims of violent crimes such as kidnappings or hostage situations.

"The innocent victims of swatting have literally been woken up in the middle of night to find SWAT teams, with guns drawn, at their window or doorstep," Heise said. "Our emergency first responders don't have the time or resources to respond to false crisis events. We need to take a strong stand against swatting before an innocent victim or emergency first responder is killed, or resources are misdirected."

HB 5431 is now under consideration by the House Judiciary Committee.

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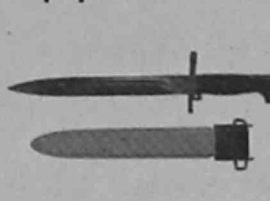
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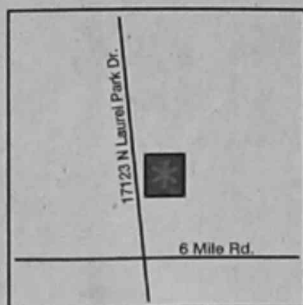


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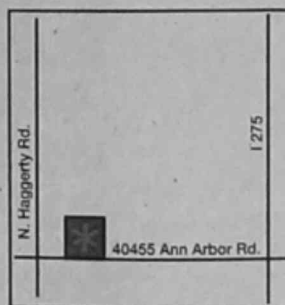
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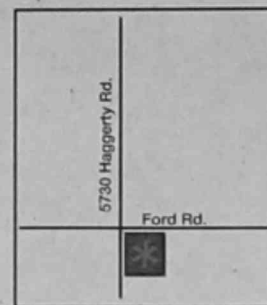
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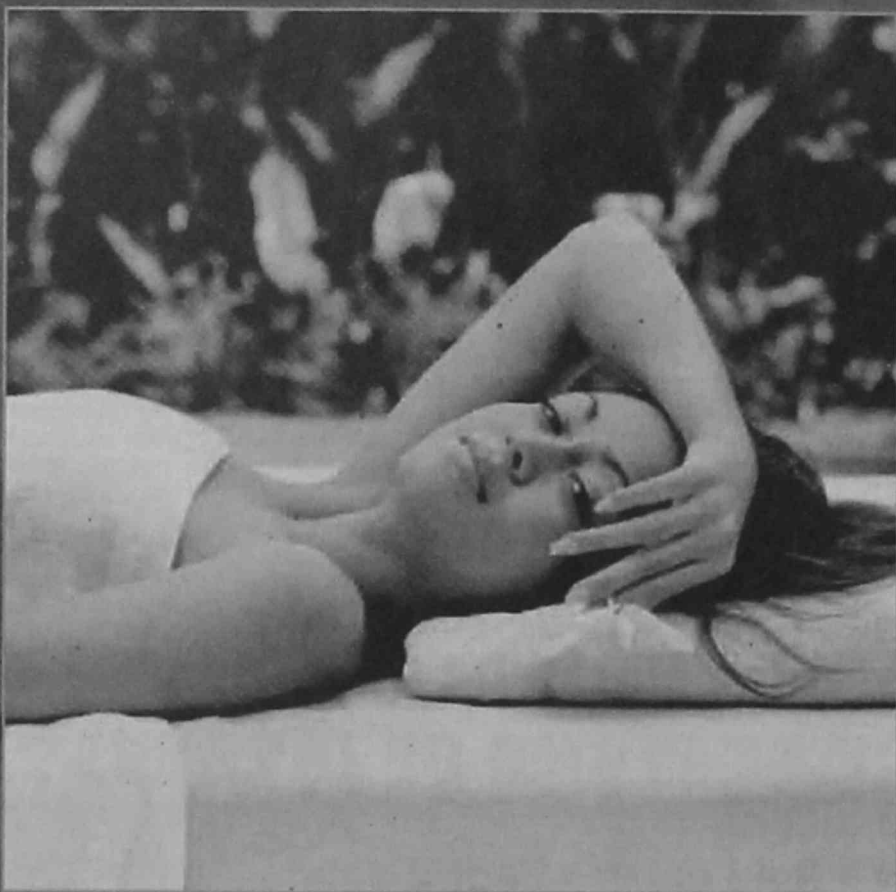


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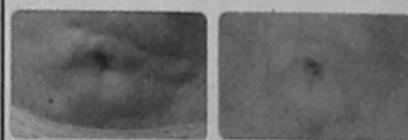
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GIRLS LACROSSE PREVIEW

Year 2 on tap for girls lacrosse

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Believe it or not, the spring sports season is getting started — even as state tournaments for winter sports continue.

First up is lacrosse. The Plymouth-Canton Educational Park girls and boys lacrosse teams officially begin the 2012 season this week.

And Saturday's "Black and Blue" tournament gave the PCEP boys players the chance to get in some scrimmages against other squads.

Today, it's time to take a look at how girls lacrosse teams are taking shape as they embark on their second season as standalone varsity squads:

Canton

The March weather is hot, and that's how Canton head coach Dave Bower hopes his team will be when it opens up at 7 p.m. Friday at Farmington.

But Canton, 6-13-1 overall and 4-6 in the KLAA Lakes Division in 2011, will open up without top scorer Stephanie Bower.

The senior co-captain and attacker is recovering from knee surgery and will probably miss the first half of the season. Bower scored 47 goals last year, earning a second-team all-state selection.

Without the scoring threat, coach Bower looks to get more offense out of senior attacker/co-captain Kaitlyn Allard (23 goals, 30 points), sophomore attacker Sara Davenport, senior midfielders Annelise Niermann (24 goals, 26 points) and Julie Podorsek (23 caused turnovers) and junior midfielder/defender Cassidy Tucker.

"We're working to build more balance into the attack this year with more scoring off passes rather relying so heavily on individual skill to get to goal," Bower said.

Senior leadership will be another key to the season, especially until

Please see LACROSSE, B3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

On Saturday, Tim Baechler will be welcomed into the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame. But the football field at the Park is his favorite place to be.

Driven to lead

Hall of Fame-bound Baechler loves football, working with kids

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Tim Baechler was consumed by football as a youngster in White Pigeon, Michigan.

"It's a small town," Baechler said. "... There's nothing else to do but play sports."

Now age 44, he hasn't changed. Exhibit A is his outstanding record since taking over in 1998 as Canton High School's head football coach — 120-37 and a trip to the Division 1 state finals in 2005. His overall record in 23 years is 173-67.

Exhibit B is around the corner. Baechler will be inducted into the prestigious Michigan High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame. This Saturday at the Ann Arbor Sheraton.

But for Baechler, he'd rather focus on Exhibit C. Perhaps a letter or chance interaction with a former player maybe a decade or more after high

THE BAECHLER FILE

Who: Tim Baechler, 44, veteran head football coach at Canton High School. He also is a physical education teacher there.

What: He is being inducted into the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame. Fourteen inductees are being honored for 20 years of coaching and/or 100 wins. Baechler is a 23-year coach with a record of 173-67 at five schools (Onsted, White Pigeon, Hudson, Dexter, Canton).

Ceremony: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 24 at the Ann Arbor Sheraton. The guest speaker is University of Michigan head coach Brady Hoke.

Misc: Baechler is an eight-time winner of the MHSFCA Coach of the Year Award. He led the 2005 Canton squad to the Division 1 state finals.

Mentors: Sports-loving father David Baechler (deceased), mother, Marlynn; his former coaches, including White Pigeon High School's Marv Schneider, Pat West and Adrian College's Ron Labadie.

Family: He and wife Julie live in Plymouth. Their children are Broc, 14 (a Canton High School freshman) and Lou, 12 (All Saints Catholic School). He has two living older siblings (Jeff, Jodi). Another older brother, David Jr., is deceased.

school ended.

"What you really take pride in is when kids write you a letter, parents write you a letter," he emphasized. "Those

feel better than a paycheck or a win does. Or when they come back when they're 30, and they

Please see BAECHLER, B3

Canton's Pletsch soaks in college hockey spotlight

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Ted Pletsch's dad is commissioner of the CCHA, but the 21-year old Bowling Green University hockey player isn't calling his parents in Canton to ask for any special favors.



Pletsch

That's because the Falcons are flying on their own — shocking the college hockey world by upsetting then-No. 1 Ferris State and advancing to this weekend's big stage, the CCHA Championship at Joe Louis Arena.

"Growing up in Canton, I think I played one or two minor hockey games there (JLA) when I was younger," said Pletsch, a



Bowling Green freshman forward Ted Pletsch (No. 21, left) competes during a recent game. The Canton High School alum and his Falcons teammates played the University of Michigan in Friday night's CCHA Championship semifinals.

2008 graduate of Canton High School. "That was really fun and now to play a Division I hockey game there in front of thousands of fans is going to

be unbelievable."

Of course Fred and Kelly Pletsch must be riding high themselves, with the way Pletsch and his teammates have shown their

exceptional mettle during the CCHA Tournament, which continued through this weekend. (Bowling Green and Michigan were tied 2-2 and headed into

a second overtime when this issue of the *Observer* went to press.)

"It's been very exciting," said Pletsch, a freshman checking forward at Bowling Green who cut his formative teeth as a hockey player at Arctic Pond in Plymouth with teams such as the Ice Dogs and Penguins. "First to beat Northern (Michigan). They were ranked and people thought we were going to lose that weekend and we proved them wrong."

"Then against Ferris (on Sunday in Big Rapids), down 3-0 going into the second period and just fighting our way back. Yeah, it's been a really great run."

No time to quit

Pletsch said Bowling Green needed to rally in Game 2 against North-

Please see PLETSCHE, B2

Tee it up

Golfers who can't wait to swing their clubs have just the place to go.

Beginning Friday, Pheasant Run Golf Club opened up for business. There are 18 holes available to play.

This spring's unusually warm weather prompted the early opening. For more information, or to book a tee time, please call the Pheasant Run Pro Shop (734-397-6460) or visit www.golfprgc.org.

ShamRock 'n Run Sunday

More than 3,100 runners and their families will go to Kellogg Park in Plymouth for Sunday's inaugural ShamRock 'n Roll Run. There will be 10K and mile-long runs and a 5K run/walk all slated for the event, which begins 8:15 a.m.

Runners should wear a "rocker" costume or anything green to celebrate the Rock 'n Roll theme and St. Patrick's Day all rolled up into one fun, festive day. Organizing the event is the Kona Running Co.

For more information, call Alicia Douglas (734-231-7172) or e-mail her at aliciadoug@aol.com.

Coaching clinic set

The Michigan Youth Athletic Association will be hosting its fourth annual football coaching clinic March 23-24 at St. Mary's Cultural Center, which is located at 18100 Merriam Road in Livonia.

Among the invited speakers are University of Michigan head coach Brady Hoke and Detroit Catholic Central head coach Tom Mach.

The registration fee for the two-day event is \$50. A staff of 10 will receive a discounted rate of \$400.

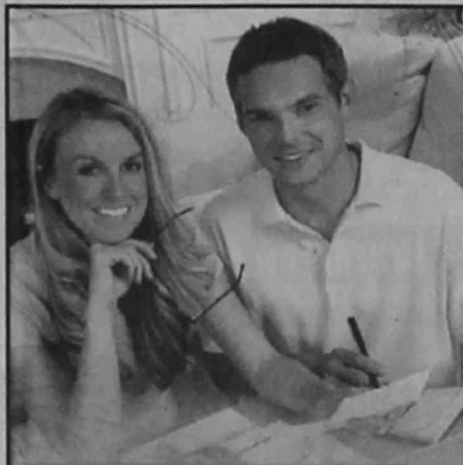
The clinic will be held 5-9 p.m. March 23 and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 24. A social event will be hosted by the MYAA immediately following Friday's session.

For more information, visit www.miyaa.org.

MU's Naubert lauded

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics announced the 2011-12 Division II Men's Basketball All-America teams and Madonna University sophomore Bobby Naubert was selected to the honorable mention team.

A 5-10 guard, Naubert averaged 15.0 points, 6.41 assists and 3.9 rebounds per game in leading MU to an 18-13 overall record and a 12-6 mark in the WHAC, good for third place.



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Battling for a puck along the boards are Bowling Green's Ted Pletsch (No. 21) and an unidentified opponent.

PLETSCH

Continued from page B1

ern Michigan in the first round just to have a chance to win that series. The squad's resilience was really ramped up against Ferris State in the deciding game of the best-of-three quarterfinal. "Every guy had the opportunity to quit and just throw in the towel," he continued. "But guys kept fighting and we eventually got the job done. No one wanted to have our season end." No matter what happened at JLA, Pletsch is optimistic that the Bowling Green tourney run might help players get closer looks from professional scouts.

"Bowling Green's never made it this far since 2001," he continued. "So I'm sure there will be a lot of scouts there from every league you can imagine. I think it's definitely going to open up some doors for everyone on the team, myself included." After this weekend's games, it will be back to Bowling Green for more classes and training for his sophomore season. If he needs advice, he knows where to get it. While playing in AAA leagues in the Plymouth-Canton and Farmington areas during high school, he wasn't sure how far he wanted to go in the sport. Enter Fred Pletsch to prop up his spirits. "He's helped me a lot throughout my hock-

ey days," Ted noted. "Through high school I was kind of iffy if I wanted to continue playing or not. He would just encourage me a lot to keep playing, keep working toward my goal of eventually getting to play Division I hockey." The Canton native took his dad's advice to heart and moved up to Ottawa, Ontario, Canada to play for the Pembroke Lumber Kings, a junior team in the CJHL/CJHL. "It was tough for a few years," Pletsch said. "But eventually it worked out for the best." There's no denying that fact, as he revels playing under the bright lights.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
(734) 469-4128

Salem slugger Powell signs with Davenport

Although Alexis Powell has one more season on Salem's varsity girls softball team, she is looking ahead, too. The Salem senior recently signed to play softball at Davenport University, where she will be coached by Ronda Varnesdeel. Rocks head coach Bonnie Southerland and Plymouth-Canton Educational Park co-athletic director Tom Willette were on hand for Powell's signing ceremony, along with Alexis' mom, Mary Powell. In an e-mail to the Observer, Southerland raved about the talent and versatility the three-year starter brings to the Salem program — and will bring to Davenport. "Alexis is on pace to set some serious hitting records (in) her senior year," Southerland noted. "Alexis' primary position is catcher, but she has also



Salem varsity softball player Alexis Powell recently signed to play college softball at Davenport University. Pictured (from left) are Mary Powell (Alexis's mom), Alexis Powell, athletic director Tom Willette and Salem coach Bonnie Southerland.

seen some time at first, third and even shortstop. With this kind of versatility, it makes her a very valuable player." In 2011, Powell led the Rocks with 13 home runs and earned all-conference, all-Observer, all-district and Salem Offensive MVP honors. "We are very excited to get this season going with Alexis leading the way," Southerland continued. "Alexis by far has probably (one of) the hottest bats in the KLAA going into this season." Salem's official game schedule begins Monday, April 16, when the Rocks host Dearborn Edsel Ford in a doubleheader.

Whalers' bid for OHL title comes down to finale

The Plymouth Whalers defeated host Sault Ste. Marie 5-3 on Wednesday and entered their final game with a chance to at least grab a share of the Ontario Hockey League overall and Western Conference titles. Plymouth (47-17-2-1, 97 points) received an assist in the championship quest when Windsor defeated London 2-0 on Thursday. The Knights defeated Sarnia 3-2 on Friday and also have 97 points entering Satur-

day's game against Erie. The Whalers, meanwhile finished the regular season with Saturday night's home game against Sarnia. Whoever wins the Western Conference will be the top seed for the OHL playoffs. Plymouth already is champion of the West Division. In the win at Sault Ste. Marie, the Whalers were sparked by forward and Farmington Hills product Alex Aleardi's three-goal hat

trick. The performance gave Aleardi 36 goals, second on the team to forward Stefan Noesen, who has 37. Plymouth built a 5-0 lead after two periods and managed to ward off a late rally by the Greyhounds. Other goal scorers for the Whalers were forwards Mitchell Heard (29th) and Jamie Devane (23rd). Making 27 saves to pick up the win was Plymouth goalie Scott Wedgewood.

Crusaders double up CMU

By Ed Wright
Observer Staff Writer

The Madonna University baseball team "Cook"-ed up a noteworthy road victory Tuesday afternoon in Mount Pleasant. Led by junior Matt Cook, the Crusaders spoiled Central Michigan University's home opener by posting a 6-3 triumph at Theunissen Stadium. Cook shined on the mound and at the plate, shutting out the Chipewas for five innings after relieving starter Jeremy Gooding in the bottom of the fifth — while reaching base five times in a hitter's role. The Crusaders, who improved to 15-9, scored all of their runs with two outs.

"I'm very proud of our team today," said Madonna head coach Greg Haeger. "We played hard and were shorthanded, missing a few key starters. Our pitchers did a good job keeping us in the game and we got some key two-out hits at the plate." Sparked by Jordan Dean's solo home run, CMU (6-10) chalked up a three-spot in the first inning off Gooding, who yielded three hits, two walks and one earned run while striking out two in four innings. The Crusaders sliced their deficit to 3-1 in the third when Josh Deeg singled with two outs and scored on Dan Harder's double. Madonna tied it at 3-3 in the top of the fifth.

After the first two batters were retired, Deeg singled before Harder and Cbok walked. Billy Hardin III then delivered a clutch two-run double. The Crusaders scored three in the seventh to seize the lead for good. Harder singled with one out, but was picked off. Cook and Hardin drew back-to-back walks before Spencer Sarel plated Cook with a single. Drew Adamiec brought home a pair of insurance runs with a two-out single. The first two CMU batters reached in the ninth, but Cook worked out of the jam, striking out the final batter. Harder continued his torrid hitting with three hits. Deeg was 2-for-5 with a pair of runs scored.

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LACROSSE

Continued from page B1

Stephanie Bower returns. Besides Allard, Niermann and Podersek, the Chiefs will be led by senior attacker/co-captain Julia Beard (who will attend Robert Morris University along with Allard, both on lacrosse scholarships), senior midfielder/co-captain Jenny Nyberg and senior defender Kristin Larsen.

Larsen will have support on defense, namely by Tucker and junior Kelly Harris.

"Both (Tucker, Harris) are second-year players with a ton of potential on both ends of the field," Bower said.

Laura Murphy, a junior, brings speed and defensive savvy to the back and junior newcomer Nicole Farley adds depth. Sophomore Melissa Neal, who made 128 saves last year, returns as Canton's starting goaltender.

"Melissa has worked very hard in the off-season to improve her skills in goal," Bower said. "We expect her to continue her strong development."

The Chiefs also boast several promising newcomers. Those include sophomore attackers Sara Davenport and Megan Bis, sophomore midfielder Annika Nuler and junior midfielder Amanda Nowicki.

"We are continuing to develop and grow the program," Bower said, "expanding from 32 to 36 girls in the program from last year. I anticipate that we will build on our record from last year."

Plymouth

Led by a dozen seniors eager to leave their mark on Plymouth's girls lacrosse program, the Wildcats are eager to open the season at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at PCEP against Ann Arbor Huron.

"Our goal this year is to compete with some of



The Canton girls lacrosse team is gearing up for Wednesday's start of the regular season. From left are Chiefs head coach Dave Bower, team co-captains Jenny Nyberg, Kaitlyn Allard, Stephanie Bower, Julia Beard and assistant coach Sara Tiderrington.



JOHN KEMSKI

Shown from this 2011 game is Salem scoring threat Rose Krasofsky (No. 96). She is one of the team's key returnees.

the more elite teams in the state and make a run in the playoffs," Plymouth head coach Bob Hill said. "In order to do that, we have to go through some very talented teams here at the Park, as well as Northville and South Lyon."

Senior co-captains

Katie Hill, Shannon Lubin and Grace Stover will be called upon to grab the leadership reins after the team lost seven girls to graduation.

Hill scored 90 goals along with 127 draw controls last year, while Lubin tallied 14. Chipping in with 21 draw controls

was Stover.

But the Wildcats will look for contributions from other seniors — Samantha Arseneault, Emily Lehr, Jordyn Burdick, Janie Roberts, Nicole Brodzik, Amber Beattie, Avalon Dewaele, Amanda Kne and Dori-
enne Sherrod.

Minus senior Nicole Natelborg to open the season (due to a hockey injury), the Wildcats' offense will rely on juniors Haley Swanson (26 assists), Clare Cox, Shelby Crosier, Jillian LaRoy, Ali Holmquist, Julia Hahn, Jamie Dottavio and Mariah Lax.

Returning goalkeepers are junior Sarah Messer and sophomore Megan Wieloch.

Coach Hill added that the program is starting to grow.

"We have several girls who have never played the game before, so our future prospects look very bright," he said.

The future will be very bright if some of the promising freshmen and sophomores make an impact.

He listed Justine Barnes, Carly Clark, Elisabeth DeClaire, Chaelyn Ewing, Piper Gasaway, Carly Gustafson, Hannah Riley, Michelle Burke, Andra and Jessica Cristiu, Rachel Kelly, Sophie Miller, Elizabeth O'Donahue and Gretch-

en Schoen as being in that group.

Salem

When the Rocks take the field for Friday's season opener against Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard, they will look to parlay varsity experience into improved results.

Head coach Dave Medley lost some key players to graduation (goalie Meghan Eldridge, defenders Katie Meagher, Allie Carter and attacker Alexis O'Connor) but is optimistic that with 14 returnees in the fold things will improve from last year's 4-14 record.

Some of the players who Medley will lean on are junior Shannon Fitzpatrick and sophomores Kiersten Vala, Jenna Carter and Rose Krasofsky — last year's top scorer.

"There is a core group with stick skills and speed that spent time as starters last season," Medley said.

What might determine how quickly the improvement takes hold will be how newcomers mesh with the veterans, Medley noted.

Salem will rely heavily on returning seniors Alex Godre and Lauren Harber "to mentor the newcomers" as well as for supplying on-field talent.

Junior co-captains Leah Schrauben and Alissa Amell and Bridget Maul each begin their third season.

Other returnees such as junior Sarah Bowerman and sophomores Laura Britton, Sarah Edgecomb and Bridget Kerwin have continued making progress from what they showed late last season.

In goal will be freshman Samantha Howe.

Medley said the young team remains a work in progress: "I believe player confidence will grow should we have early success."

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BAECHLER

Continued from page B1

tell you how the memories were so awesome.

"They don't forget things that you did or things that you said."

Although Garrett Bryden isn't 30, he's another example of the football brotherhood that Baechler relishes. Bryden graduated from Canton in 2011 and the football player is entering his sophomore year at Northwood University.

But last week, Bryden visited Baechler and other coaches while on his spring break.

"I was just proud of him," said Bryden, about his reaction upon hearing of Baechler's award. "I was glad that I was here to be a part of it with him, he worked hard his whole career and I'm just glad he got it."

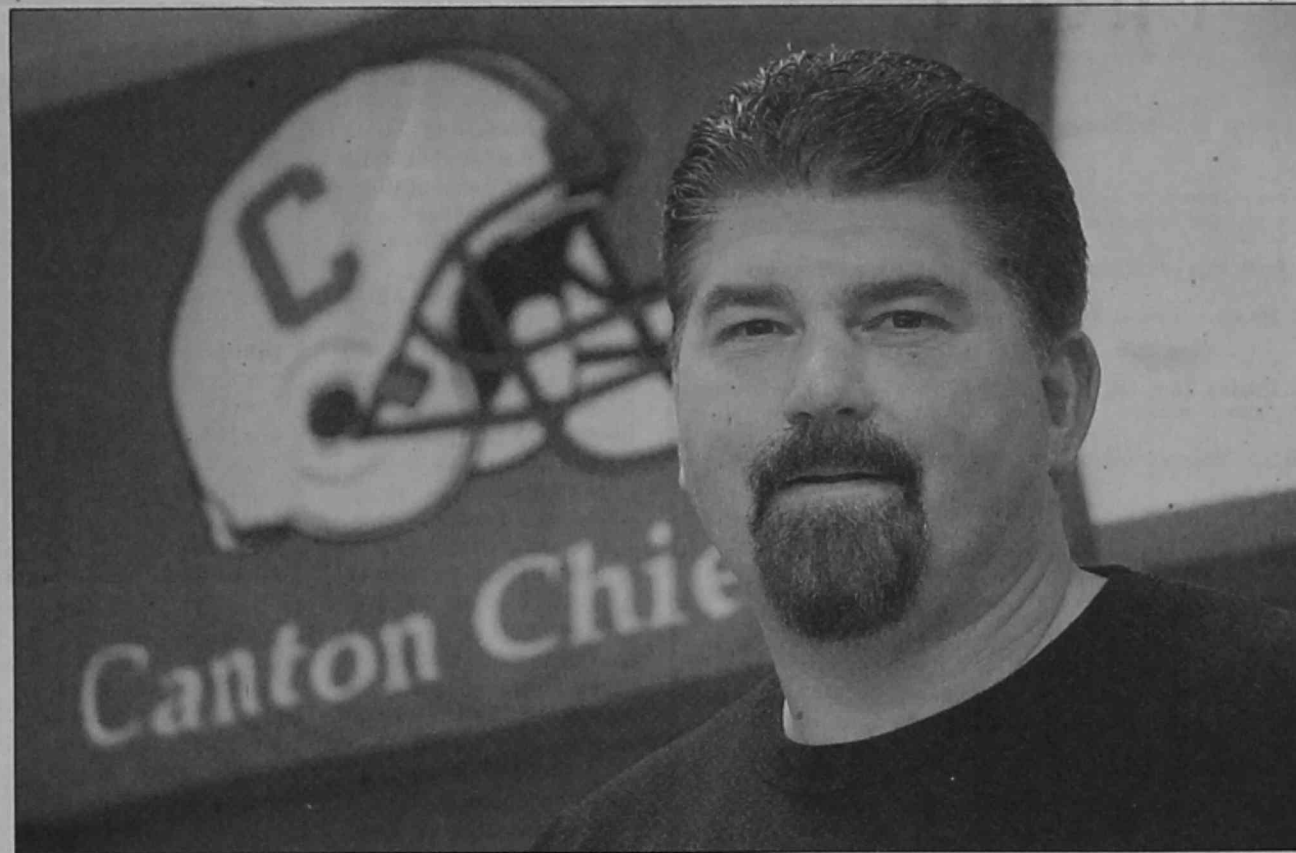
"He got me to where I am today, the football player I am, the man I am, just a role model of my life. I couldn't ask for anything more as a high school football coach."

Learning to compete

Baechler doesn't forget any of the people who molded him into the successful man and coach he is today.

He points to his roots, his earliest role models such as his father (the late David Baechler) and older brothers David Jr. (deceased) and Jeff.

"You have to love it to do it (coach)," Baechler said. "Who first really put that in me was my dad and my brothers. I was the youngest in my fami-



During 14 seasons coaching the Canton Chiefs, Tim Baechler's record is outstanding. But he also points with pride to helping young men learn lessons that can help them throughout life.

ly. I had one brother nine years older than me and another seven years older.

"They were great brothers to me. We fought like anybody else, but they played sports with me. They taught me."

Baechler's self-described "ferocious" manner on a football field also goes back to those days.

"Growing up with older brothers makes you learn how to compete," he stressed. "At White Pigeon where I grew up you were expected to win football games. We had a really good football program and you were just expected to win."

"I think growing up there has helped me be

THROUGH THE YEARS

Following is Tim Baechler's win-loss record since taking over the Canton varsity football team:

1998, 3-6; **1999**, 4-5; **2000**, 8-4; **2001**, 9-2; **2002**, 9-2; **2003**, 11-1; **2004**, 10-1; **2005**, 11-3; **2006**, 12-1; **2007**, 5-4; **2008**, 10-2; **2009**, 10-2; **2010**, 10-1; **2011**, 8-3. (Total: 120-37)

the kind of coach I am. I love the game, expect to win, fierce competitor and love working with kids."

Team benefits

To that end, Baechler has a no-cut policy on his football team. Yes, he wants to win — badly. But he sees his role as being there for all kids, regardless of talent levels.

"We don't cut here. there's a lot of kids that...

will probably never get on the field or not very often," he explained. "But football's good for them, it's good for them to be around us, and my coaches are good role models."

If Baechler had anything to say about it, those very coaches would have their names inscribed along with his on the Hall of Fame plaque.

He wrote down names of coaches on a sheet of

yellow legal paper, those with him from 1998 until now: Tony Boucher, Bob Williams, Dave Smilo, Rich Mui, Bob Smedley, Jake Houser, Scott Dickey (through 2011, he's moving over to Dearborn Divine Child).

He also listed other coaches, such as Mike Tomasaitis, Nick Stonerook, Tracy Scott, Jeff Richards, Tom Garrett, Andy Lafata, Tom Dixon, John Wright, Kyle Lasko, Craig Hratuk, Pat Schneider and Mark Kersten.

"That's another thing I'm going to say," Baechler said. "I'm getting the honor, but I'm here tonight to thank the great people that made this happen."

"My assistant coaches, especially in 1998 when I first took over, the previous year they'd only won one game. So there was nowhere but up to go with this."

Despite struggles, such as records of 3-6 and 4-5 the first two years, those assistants continued to encourage Baechler.

"We'd get back after a loss, put the film in and ... you just question everything you do," he recalled. "And they're like 'No, stay with it, stay with this.'"

"I hired the right guys because they saw improvement, they saw where we were headed and I needed that."

Where Canton's football program was headed was a string of 10-victory seasons and playoff success.

Time to teach

And when 2012's training camp rolls around, Baechler and his staff will once again demand excellence and superior work ethic. It will be time to get after it and try to keep raising the bar.

But Baechler emphasized there's another component to being a Hall of Fame-worthy coach that has nothing to do with the team's record.

"I think every coach uses football as a learning tool to teach kids lifelong lessons," Baechler said. "Football is so like life. In football sometimes things are good, sometimes they're not and the only way to get through it is to keep working hard, and that's life."

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

AAU openings

The LaZers AAU 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 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).

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 salemrocksbasketball@gmail.com.

All-American frosh

Canton grad Lipa wastes no time making mark at Cornerstone

What a rookie season it's been for 2011 Canton High School grad Lindsay Lipa.

She just concluded her freshman indoor track and field season at Cornerstone University with a pair of freshman records and an All-American honor to her name.

Lipa competed as a sprinter and jumper for the Chiefs throughout her high school career and upon entering Cornerstone she was turned into a multi-event athlete which combines the sprints, hurdles, throws, jumps and middle distance events.

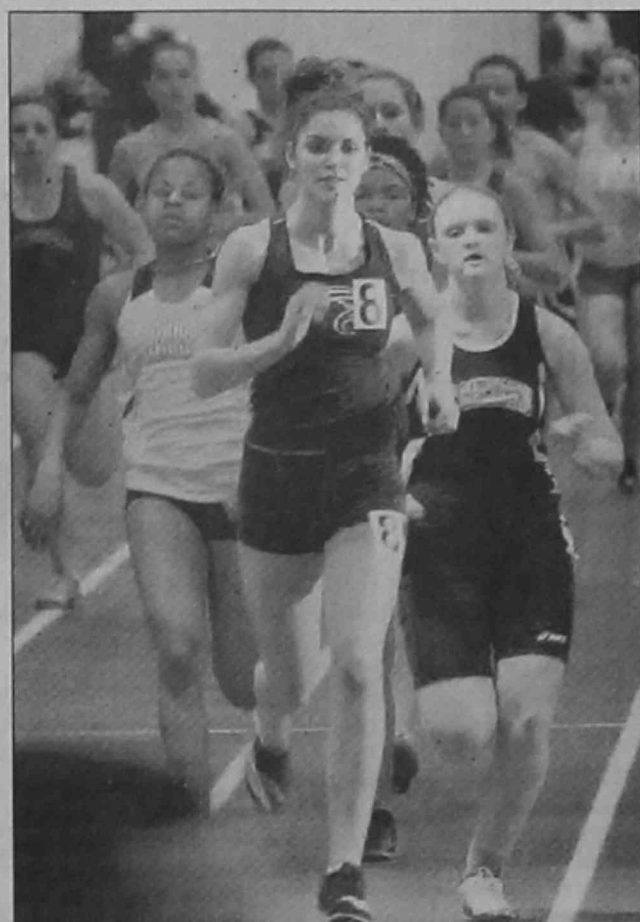
She broke the freshman mark in the long jump (18-foot, 0.5-inches) early in the season only to see her mark get topped by her teammate (and roommate) Brittany Green of Monclova, Ohio.

Lipa did however manage to hang on to two freshman records by season's end which included the triple jump (35-1.75) and pentathlon (3,144 points).

"Both the triple jump and pentathlon were new events to Lindsay this year, which speaks to her athleticism," said Cornerstone coach Paul Koutz.

The pentathlon (60-meter hurdles, high jump, shot put, long jump, and 800 meters) was where Lindsay earned her All-American plaque.

Competing at the NAIA



Cornerstone's Lindsay Lipa (No. 8) leads the pack during a recent indoor track and field meet. Lipa graduated in 2011 from Canton High School.

National Championships in Geneva, Ohio, Lipa entered the competition with the eighth best mark, and her rank held true to form as she snagged the final All-American slot with her eighth place finish scoring 3,101 points.

Throughout the five-event competition, Lipa only managed to secure

one personal best performance which was in the 800 meters where she clocked a time of 2:24.87.

Lipa and the rest of the Cornerstone University Golden Eagles will transition to the outdoor track season with the Grand Rapids Open, hosted by Aquinas College, on March 31st.

GC's Williamson steps away from boys hoop job

By Ed Wright

Observer Staff Writer

The final 32 minutes of Greg Williamson's long and illustrious high school basketball coaching career unfolded Friday night a lot like the past 20 years had: with the veteran Garden City mentor and former Canton resident guiding a team of big-hearted, undersized players who battled to the final buzzer.

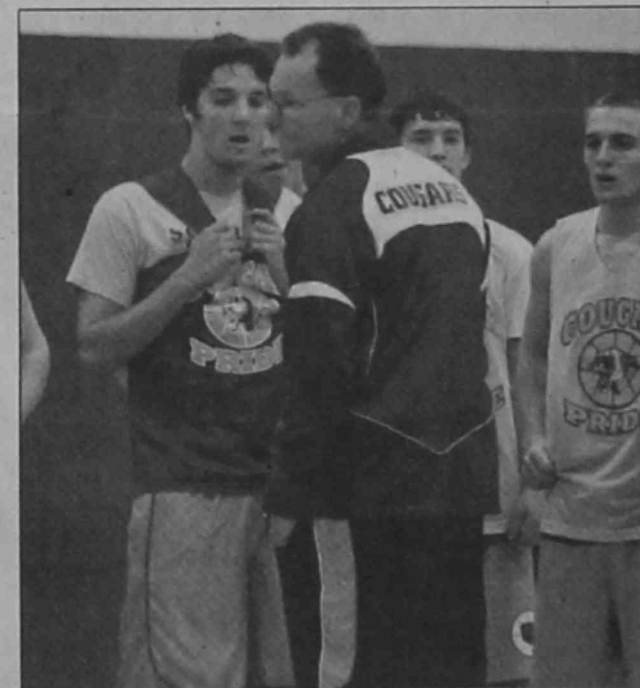
Not long after Williamson's Cougars' 53-51 down-to-the-wire setback to Redford Thurston in a Class A district final — with his players scrapping to the very end — the highly-respected coach officially announced his retirement from the profession, bringing the curtain down on 30 years of positively shaping young men's lives.

Williamson's brother and longtime assistant coach Mike also stepped down.

"My brother and I weren't real sure if we were going to coach this year, but my fiancée' (Carol Collins) encouraged me to come back for one more year," Williamson said Tuesday night, not long after his final team banquet had wrapped up. "I'm glad I came back."

Williamson said he kept his plans to retire from coaching "low profile" most of the season.

"But at our final home game (on March 2) against Southgate, they held a little ceremony for me, so the players found out then, if they didn't



Garden City boys basketball coach and former Canton resident Greg Williamson, pictured during a November practice, resigned last week after 20 years at the school.

know already," he said. "The thing I'll remember most about coaching here are all the players and people I've come to know. It always made me feel good when another team's coach would comment on how hard we played."

Williamson's teams captured back-to-back Class A district championships in 2000 and 2001.

"It always helps to get a 6-10 big guy who can play," Williamson said, smiling, referring to Justin Ockerman.

Williamson's steady leadership qualities and knowledge of the game will be missed, Garden City athletic director Rob Phillips emphasized.

"As a coach and as a person, Greg is near the top of the list when

it comes to people I respect," said Phillips. "Greg got everything he could get out of the players. And he treated everyone equally — whether you were the best player on the team or the 12th player on the team."

Williamson, who retired as a counselor at Garden City High School two years ago, said he and Collins plan to spend more time in Florida.

"Although I'll still be attending a lot of Garden City games," he said. "It's in my blood."

Prior to taking over at Garden City, Williamson coached at Detroit Catholic Central and Allen Park Cabrini.

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STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF WAYNE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NUMBER C-2011-09

AMENDMENT TO SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NUMBER C-91-19, THE SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR PURPOSE AND FINDINGS; PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING FOR ADMINISTRATION; PROVIDING FOR RECYCLING OF SOLID WASTE; PROVIDING FOR SOLID WASTE HAULER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES; PROVIDING FOR OWNER RESPONSIBILITY; PROVIDING FOR HOURS OF COLLECTION AND STORAGE OF SOLID WASTE; PROVIDING FOR PROHIBITIONS; PROVIDING FOR LICENSE PROCEDURE; PROVIDING FOR REGULATIONS AND DUTIES OF LICENSEES; PROVIDING FOR REFUSAL OR REVOCATION OF LICENSE; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE.

Ordinance Number C-91-19, the Solid Waste Disposal Ordinance is hereby amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 72
SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

72.005. Purpose and Findings. This section provides for the purpose and findings of solid waste collection.

72.010. Definitions. This section provides for the definitions of terms used in this Chapter.

72.015. Administration. This section provides for the operation and administration of this Ordinance under the direction of the Township Board.

72.020. This section provides for license requirements and interference with collection.

72.025. Recycling of Solid Waste. This section provides for the recycling of solid waste.

72.027. Solid Waste Hauler Duties and Responsibilities. This section provides for solid waste hauler duties and responsibilities.

72.030. Owner Responsibility. This section provides for owner responsibility

72.040. Hours of Collection. This section provides for hours of collection.

72.050. Storage of Solid Waste. This section provides for storage of solid waste.

72.060. Weekly Collection. This section provides for weekly collection.

72.065. Prohibitions. This section provides for prohibitions.

72.070. License Procedure. This section provides licensing procedures for solid waste haulers.

72.075. Regulations and Duties of Licensees. This section provides for regulations and duties of solid waste hauler licensees.

72.080. Refusal or Revocation of License. This section provides for refusal or revocation of a license.

72.090. Penalty. This section provides for penalties and fines.

SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY.

This section provides that any unenforceable section can be severed from the resot of the Ordinance.

SECTION 3. REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES.

This section provides that all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

SECTION 4. SAVINGS CLAUSE.

This section provides that adoption of this Ordinance does not affect proceedings, prosecutions for violation of law, penalties and matured rights and duties in effect before the effective date of this Ordinance.

SECTION 5. PUBLICATION.

This section provides that the Clerk for the Charter Township of Plymouth shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This section provides that this Ordinance, as amended, shall take full force and effect upon publication as required by law.

Copies of the complete text of this Ordinance are available at the office of the Charter Township of Plymouth, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, during regular business hours.

Joe Bridgman, MMC
Township Clerk

Introduced: February 7, 2012
Adopted: March 6, 2012
Effective: March 18, 2012

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Growing with God: Catalyst ministry sparks faith of twentysomethings



Members of the Northville Christian Assembly's Catalyst Young Adult Ministries meet in the home of Art Thomas in Plymouth Township.

By Julie Brown
O&E Staff Writer

James Loruss, 21, of Novi is a senior at Madonna University, studying film music scoring. He's a regular with Catalyst Young Adult Ministries of Northville Christian Assembly.

"The Holy Spirit," Loruss said of his attendance at the 7:30-9 p.m. Thursday sessions at evangelist Art Thomas' home in Plymouth Township. "It's just good communion and good fellowship."

At parties, he's offered drugs and alcohol, and finds attending Catalyst helpful with handling that. "It's where I connect mostly with my church friends. It makes it easy to say no," Loruss, who is single, said.

Thomas is an evangelist with the church on Six Mile as his home church. He earned an associate's degree in early childhood development from Schoolcraft College.

"That's why I work with young adults," joked Thomas, 27, who has ministerial credentials through Assembly of God. He's married to Robin, who's active in the ministry, and the couple has a 1-year-old son Josiah and another child due in late September.

Reaching out

Catalyst has met about two and a half years at their home, as well as other homes, the church and restaurants. It's aimed at those post-high school through their 20s, with the oldest an early 30s. "The high schoolers

all have youth groups," Thomas said. "The young adults tend to drift off."

A recent Thursday session included a time of prayer and Scripture reading from Isaiah. "It's kind of structured and kind of free-flowing," Thomas said.

He likes to begin by asking, "What's God been doing in your life?"

They've had music but don't usually.

"We've got people in all stages," Thomas said. "It's a very volatile time for people," he said of that stage of life, when career, relationships and faith questions often dominate.

Rebecca Hunt, 27, of South Lyon is single and works as a secretary at the church, which about three-quarters of the group attends. "We've



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

As pastor Art Thomas (left), speaks, Michael Kimling Jr. gives a friendly pat on the head to Thomas' wandering tyke, Josiah, during a meeting of Northville Christian Assembly's Catalyst Young Adult Ministries.

known Rebecca since we were all in youth group together as teenagers," Thomas said.

She agreed it's a great experience. "It really just encourages me to stay committed in my walk with Christ. It helps me grow in my walk with Christ."

She learns more about the Bible, adding "There's always more to learn." She's interested in cre-

dentials for writing spiritual books.

"I just really like the diversity of our group, the age differences," said Hunt, who also appreciates the openness.

'Grown so much'

Marie Quaranto, 30, of Canton is single and works as a nanny. She's a longtimer like Hunt.

"I love this group," Quaranto said. "I feel like

I've grown so much since I started coming here." She finds she's grown in knowledge, boldness and more.

"The way I perceive events has changed," said Quaranto, who sees "more of God's hand in my life."

Jeff Holloway, 29, of Westland is recently married and a security offi-

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Mozart Symphony No. 38, "Prague"

In Southfield
Thu., Mar. 22 at 7:30 p.m.
At Congregation Shaarey Zedek,
27375 Bell Rd.

In Dearborn
Fri., Mar. 23 at 10:45 a.m.
At Ford Community & Performing Arts
Center, 15801 Michigan Ave.

In Beverly Hills
Sun., Mar. 25 at 3 p.m.
At Seligman Performing Arts Center,
Detroit Country Day School,
22305 W. 13 Mile

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At MHS

Own a bully breed or plan to adopt one? You may be eligible to take your furry companion to one of Michigan Humane Society's (MHS) veterinary clinics for free spay and neuter services, rabies and distemper vaccinations, heartworm testing and pre-surgical blood work.

MHS is distributing certificates that are redeemable at its Westland, Detroit or Rochester Hills clinics for the health services, valued at \$220-\$335. There are no pet owner eligibility restrictions based on income or residence, but the dogs

must be a pit bull-type dog, such as an American Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, Cane Corso and Presa Canario.

"There are definite challenges facing the breed," said Kevin Hatman, public relations coordinator. "Every single rescue out there is seeing a large number of Pit Bulls. And with the stigma about the breed, there are adoption challenges. We're trying to target the problem at the source."

Pit Bull-type dogs make up about 35 percent of MHS' canine intake. Hat-

man said the organization finds homes for about 100 every year.

Certificates are available by calling MHS at (248) 283-1000, Ext. 127. MHS' Cruelty Investigation and Rescue teams that operate in Detroit, Hamtramck and Highland Park also will distribute them.

Hatman said MHS hopes to expand the program's reach by giving certificates to several animal rescues that will in turn distribute them to others. Those groups include Animal Care Network, the Buster Foundation, C.H.A.I.N.E.D., Detroit Bully Crew and

the Friends of the Dearborn Animal Shelter.

For information about other MHS programs, visit www.michiganhumane.org.

Chili dogs

If you love eating chili, helping dogs and playing hoops, you'll want to reserve Saturday, March 31 for the annual Chili Hoops and Hounds event presented by Tail Waggers' 1990, a Livonia-based animal welfare group.

The fun (and eating) runs from 1-5 p.m. at UAW Local 182, 35603 Plymouth Road, located next to Kickers/Joey's

Comedy Club, in Livonia.

Taste samples for \$1 each or buy an all-you-can-eat chili wristband for \$15 and help determine the "People's Choice Award." Honors also will go to the "Best Tasting Chili" and "Best Table Decoration."

This family event will include an inflatable, interactive basketball challenge, face-painting, magic, entertainment and more.

For more information about Tail Waggers' 1990 visit www.tailwaggers1990.org.

By Sharon Dargay



Screening program adds gluten, food allergy testing to its schedule

United Health Organization (UHO), the non-profit group that coordinates community-wide health screenings, will kick off an expanded schedule of tests on March 23.

Its screening program at 45 sites in Michigan runs through May 12.

"This year we're encouraging participants to begin anew. It's never too late to make a fresh start in pursuit of a healthier lifestyle," stated Ifetayo B. Johnson, executive director of UHO and Project Healthy Living, in a press release.

Many of the basic screenings for fitness, obesity, hypertension, vision and hearing remain free of charge. New blood screenings include a cereal allergy panel for \$20, food allergy panel for \$20 and Michigan region respiratory allergy panel for \$30. A four-hour fast is recom-

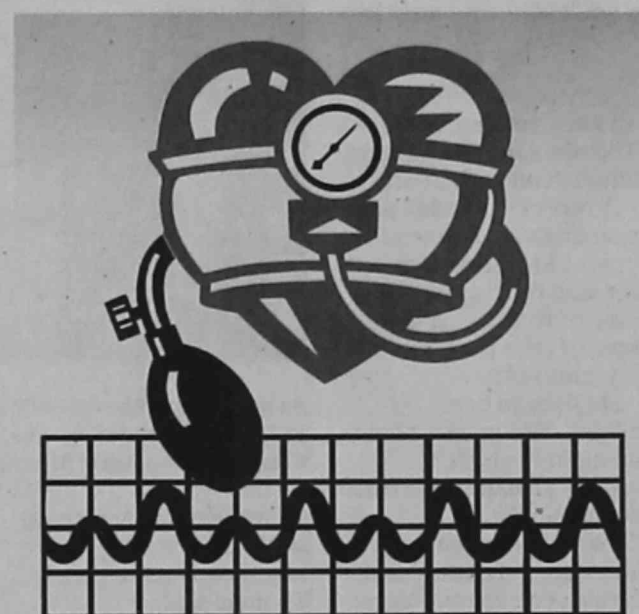
mended before testing.

Individuals can pre-register to be screened at their preferred location using Fast Track, UHO's online registration system. All Project Healthy Living events are free and open to the public. Participants must be at least 18 years or accompanied by a guardian.

Telemedicine, a personalized healthcare service via audio/video teleconferencing, will be tested at selected sites in the metro-Detroit area during Project Healthy Living.

For more information about UHO, Project Healthy Living, its events, fee schedules, screenings, locations and times, call the hotline at (313) 531-9108 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Friday, or visit the website at www.projecthealthyliving.net.

UHO will kick off the program from 10 a.m. to



4 p.m. March 23 at Baker College in Allen Park.

Local testing sites include:

- 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 30 at the Costic Center, 28600 11 Mile, Farmington Hills
- Noon to 6 p.m. April 2

and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 3-4, at Westland Shopping Center, 35000 W. Warren, Westland

- 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., April 11 at the Livonia Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia

GARDEN & NATURE

Library series

The Redford Township District Library, 25320 W. Six Mile, offers a free series of gardening classes, 6:45 p.m. Monday, through March 26. Topics are trellises, arches and vertical plantings, March 19; and spring gardening — do it the right way, March 26. Advanced Master Gardener LeRoy Wolff is the instructor. Register at adult reference desk, or call (313) 531-5960, Ext. 103.

Butterflies

"Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association (SEMBA) celebrates its 5th anniversary, 7 p.m., Wednesday, March 21, at Nankin Mills Nature Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. Includes refreshments and a program to highlight the events and growth of this local group of butterfly gardeners. Parking on Hines Dr. or Ann Arbor Trail. \$3 for non-members.

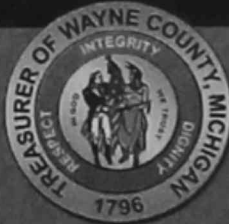
The group also meets at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 18 at Nankin Mills. The meeting topic is "Butterfly Garden Enhancements." Participants will learn how to create and install accessories and enhancements for their butterfly gardens. Admission for non-members is \$3. Questions? Call (734) 326-0578 or visit www.sembabutterfly.com.

English Gardens

- Get tips on landscape design at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 24.
- Kick off spring with a look at what's new for the garden at the annual Garden Party Weekend, Saturday-Sunday, March 31-April 1.

Area stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, (734) 332-7900; 22650 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, (313) 278-4433; 4901 Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak, (248) 280-9500; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, in West Bloomfield, (248) 851-7506. For information, log onto www.EnglishGardens.com.

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SOCIAL SECURITY

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 themselves at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys 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 Bieske 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.

www.ssdfighter.com

Popular event sells out, but raffle sale continues

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Ann Peczynski of Livonia, her sister and friends will get together Thursday for a "girl's night out."

They'll share their time together with more than 900 other women at an annual event that celebrates laughter and raises money for Angela Hospice's bereavement programs.

"It's a fun event. It's a woman's event. It's a positive event," said Peczynski, who has attended "Laughter Lifts You Up," since it began five years ago. She initially attended the gathering, which includes a comedian, food and raffles at Laurel Manor, because she works in the business office at Angela Hospice in Livonia and wanted to support the nonprofit organization. Since then the outing has become a girl's night out tradition for herself, her sibling and friends.

"I think word of mouth has spread through the years," Peczynski said. "I look at it as everyone could use a little laughter in their life."

She's not surprised tickets sold out a week before the event.

"We had to add more tables. We're at capacity," said Barbara Iovan, Angela Hospice events director. "It has grown considerably over the years. This is 100 more (tickets) than last year."

Iovan said "save the date" reminders went out to past attendees in January. The majority of women who attend the March 22 event will arrive in groups, although individuals are welcome, too.

Although event tickets are gone, supporters can buy raffle tickets through Wednesday, March 21, for baskets of gift certificates that offer their own "night out" or "day on the town" experiences.

Tickets cost \$5 each or \$10 for three. Winners



Enjoying "Laughter Lifts You Up" last year are Deborah Marvay (left front row) of Canton, Rozanne Fleszar of Novi, Toni Clark of Commerce Township, Kelly Thomas (left back row) of Livonia, Sandy Minidis of Wyandotte, and Marge Aramian of Northville.

don't have to be present to win the "Girls on the Go" gifts, valued at a total \$2,300; the "Girls Goin' Shopping" basket, worth \$1,964; or the "Girls in the Groove," package, valued at \$1,680.

"They are wonderful packages. We have all kinds of experiences ... Meadow Brook Theatre, Westland shopping center, many wonderful restaurants, salons," Iovan said. "We have a wonderful package from Laurel Manor, Silver Tree Yoga, The Henry, which is a nice hotel in Dearborn, and Henry Ford Museum."

Raffle proceeds also

go toward bereavement programs that are available for free to the general public. That includes group and one-on-one counseling.

"We have programs for children and loss of spouse support groups. We have a group for loss due to suicide. We have a quilters group. We have heartstrings, for the loss of a child under 25."

Raffle ticket forms — and a complete list of businesses that have donated to the gift baskets — are available from the Angela Hospice website at www.angelahospice.org. Or call Iovan at (734) 953-6045.

Although Laughter Lifts You Up has become Angela Hospice's largest fundraiser, Iovan said it's not just about fundraising.

"It really is kind of a thank you to people in a way," she said, adding, "It's a great event."

Save the date for Angela Hospice's next fundraiser, its 24th annual golf outing, 9:30 a.m. Monday, May 14 at Fox Hills in Plymouth. Cost is \$185 per person and includes a continental breakfast, use of the driving range, a barbecue lunch, golf with a shotgun start at 11 a.m., silent auction, raffles, and dinner.

BOWLING NIGHT BENEFITS SCHOLARSHIPS

Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. is offering a way for you to have fun, while benefiting students at the same time.

Its scholarship fundraiser, Bowling for Dollars for Scholars, will begin with registration at 6 p.m. Friday, March 23, at Plaza Lanes, 42001 Ann Arbor Road East, Plymouth. Cost is \$20 and includes two games, shoes and pizza.

Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. meets at 7 a.m. Tuesdays at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, (PCAC), 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth. It awards six to seven scholarships annually.

Buy tickets in advance by calling the PCAC at (734) 416-4278 or by calling the Rev. Dorian McGlannan at St. John's Episcopal Church, at (734) 453-0190. Tickets are available at both the arts center and the church.

Arthritis Today

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EXERCISE

When a doctor talks to a patient with arthritis about activity the patient should undertake, the instructions are different from what a cardiologist would advise a heart patient or an internist suggest to a diabetic.

A cardiologist wants his patient to engage in vigorous activity that puts a slight strain on the heart. The idea is that the effort should both challenge and strengthen the heart to pump with more power and for an extended period.

An internist needs the diabetic to take on an activity program throughout the day. Then the body can utilize insulin at a low but continuous level that replaces the highs or lows of blood sugar that occur with long periods of sitting and intermittent eating.

In contrast, a physician on advising exercise to a person with osteoarthritis of the knee will concentrate not on power but on constancy. The rule is: keep walking. How far a person walks or how long he or she stays on the trail or treadmill does not matter. What counts is to keep going in a steady manner. This type of ongoing and mild strain is what joints can handle best and muscles adapt to readily. The result is an increase in strength and endurance.

For patients with Fibromyalgia instructions are the same as for individuals with arthritis, with one exception: persistence. For a patient without Fibromyalgia, daily exercise means four to five times a week. For a patient with Fibromyalgia daily exercise means seven days a week. The patients with Fibromyalgia need more because the activity is not just to build muscles but is the medication that treats the condition itself.

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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 dianaschofield@sbcglobal.net or (313) 363-0523; Jim Linaras at godofouzo@yahoo.com; or John Zadikian at zman6754@aol.com.

DETROIT MACKENZIE

CLASS OF 1962

50th reunion, Friday, June 1. For more information e-mail mackenzie1962@gmail.com or phone Mavis (Higgins) Farrand at (734) 675-5675 or Sandy (Turnbull) Dillaha at (734) 281-8595.

FARMINGTON HIGH
SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1967

Organizers of the 45th reunion on July 21 are looking for classmates. Send your e-mail address to Susan (Himmelsbach) Whittaker at s.whittaker@comcast.net or Fred Gregg at fredge1@comcast.net to receive a reunion packet.

GARDEN CITY HIGH
SCHOOL EAST

CLASSES OF 1968-1973

Reunion Sept. 22. Looking 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, Suzie Wright Rogiero at suzierogiero@yahoo.com, Jackie Kalifut at jackiede-son@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@Marilyn-JSnyder.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.

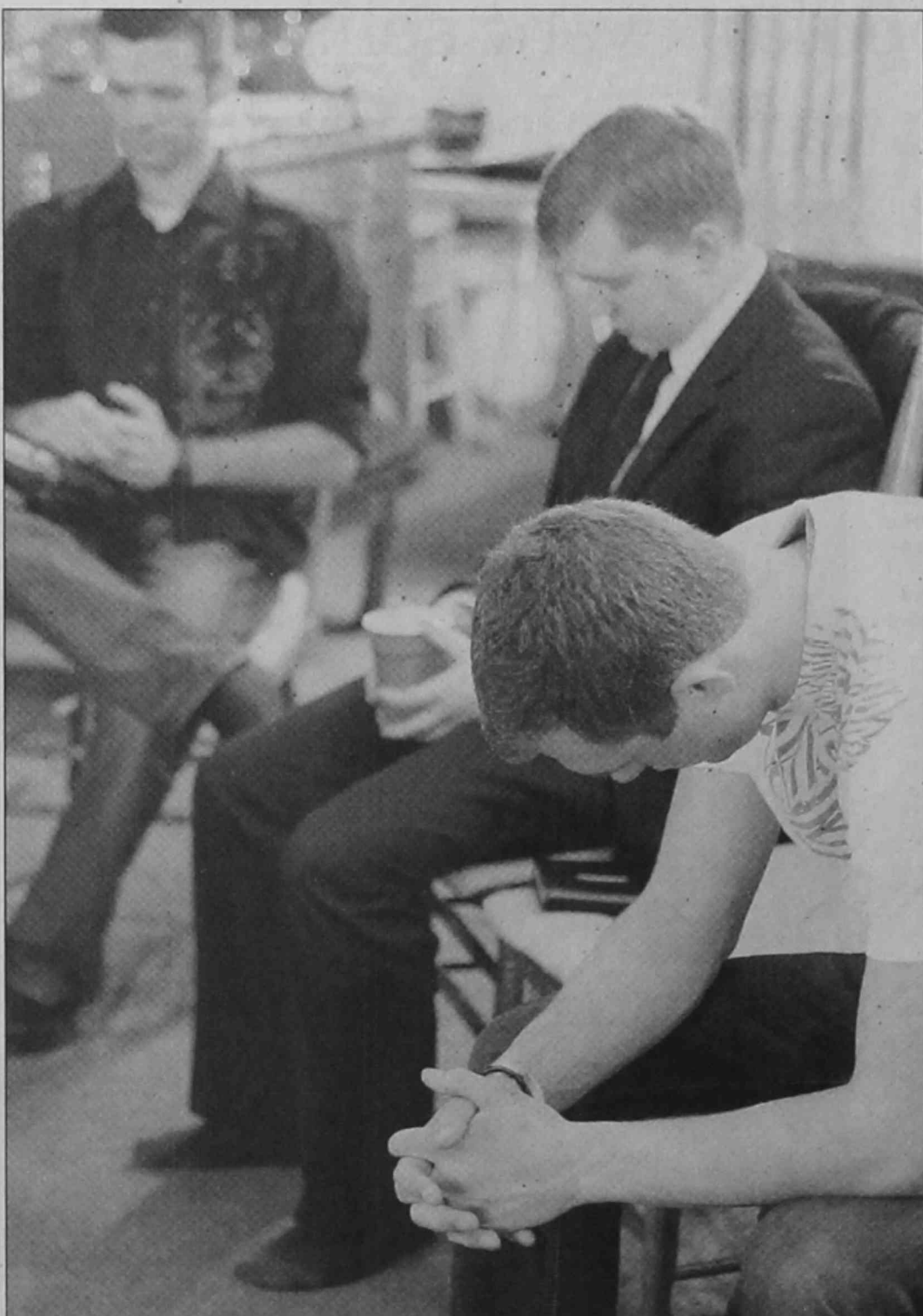
WAYNE MEMORIAL HIGH
SCHOOL

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.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Alex O'Connor, (right) prays with other members of the Northville Christian Assembly Catalyst Young Adult Ministries.

GOD

Continued from page B5

cer for Domino Farms. He'd like to be a pastor and is working on a master's degree in pastoral ministry at Madonna.

"I would probably say encouragement," Hollo-way said. "It challenges me to have a deeper relationship with God."

Jared Dietrich, 28, of Livonia will teach English overseas, and is married. "We're here to support each other," he said. "For me, it's great just to be with other like-minded people."

Also joining in the discussion that recent Thursday was Annisa McElhenny, 18, an Oakland Community College student who wishes to become a nurse, and is the daughter of the Northville Christian Assembly pastor. The young adults were joined by Art Thomas' parents, Gaylord and Linda Thomas, formerly of Plymouth Township and now living in Wears Valley, Tenn.

The senior Thomases were in town for a celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary, and joined in the discussion with the younger Christians.

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Fax: 734-454-1091
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REPRESENTATIVE

Southfield, MI - Construction Federal Credit Union is accepting resumes for the position of Member Service Representative. Position is full time with paid benefits. Interviewing on Mon - Fri. Qualified candidates will have not less than 3 years experience as a teller and skills in lending and collections. Submit resume and cover letter of introduction to: JFinn@ccuonline.com or by facsimile to (248) 358-2452. No phone calls please.

PHONE SALES

For active business financial lender in Farmington Hills. Fax resume: 248-737-3679 Call: 248-855-1200

PHOTOGRAPHERS

To photograph Spring/Fall youth sports programs. Saturday work, mid April-May & Aug-Sept. Professionals, students, serious amateurs. All equip. supplied. 734-416-1516

PLANT WORKER:

Able to lift 50 lb. Apply within: Guernsey Dairy Processing Plant: 21300 Novi Rd. Northville, MI 48167

PLUMBER

Lic or min 3 yrs exp. Own tools & transportation. Service & new construction. Physical & drug test. Call 248-474-8620. Or email: marc@mcplumbinginc.com

Help Wanted-General

PRODUCTION HELP

Needed Full-Time for a family owned chemical company. Primary duties to include packaging, labeling, shipping and receiving, and inventory control. Hi-lo experience is a plus.
Email resume to:
submit.productions@comcast.net

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Knowledge with ISO 9001: 2008. Exp in quality control. Fax resume 734-453-6295
Or within:
543 Amelia St
Plymouth MI 48170

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For more information call: 313-387-2761 or visit our website at: **redfordtw.com/dept/hr** EOE.

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Position. Must have exp. Apply in person: **Holiday Market**
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ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT

Demolition Company is looking for a PT Administrative Assistant. Must have excellent computer, communication and organizational skills. Answer phones, copying, filing, scheduling, ordering supplies, prepare and maintain spreadsheets, prepare bids and contracts, house-keeping, and run errands if needed. Prior accounting experience is a plus.

Apply in person at:
601 Beaufort St.
Detroit, MI 48207,
karenla@farrowgroupinc.com
No Phone Calls Please

CNA's

Full or Part-Time Also hiring RN who inspires to be an ADON. Exp. preferred in long term care.

Interested applicants may apply in person at: **Medillage of Plymouth**
395 W. Ann Arbor Trail,
Plymouth

Help Wanted-General

TEACHER

Country Hills Montessori located in Farmington Hills, MI is seeking an Asst Teacher for our preschool program. Candidate must have 2 yrs exp. working with preschool children in a school setting. Please send letter of intent and resume to fax 248-477-5304.
tanyadallo@yahoo.com
No phone calls, please.

TELEMARKETING

In Farmington Hills. 6-8pm. 2 days a week. \$10/hr. + bonus equals average \$20 per hr. (248) 895-0999

Title Co

Livonia based Title Company looking for an experienced:
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Please fax resume to 888-710-3211

TRAVELING
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Must have reliable transportation within 90 miles of home. \$11/hr plus paid travel time, bonuses mileage. Second shift Mon-Fri. Apply online at: **www.grbsinc.com** EOE

• CASHIER, FT or PT.

Good pay! For carry out deli. Southfield Call Sid: 248-860-4499

• OPERATORS &
LABORERS

-Direction Drilling, Underground, Sewer and Water Work
Hard working individuals need only apply.
Call (734) 481-1555

Help Wanted-Office
ClericalAccounting
Assistant

Must have 2 years experience in Quickbooks, Data Entry, Good speaking voice. Full-Time position, Medical, dental, optical and 401K.
Please apply within:
Marygrove Awning Co
12700 Merriman Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150

ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT

Demolition Company is looking for a PT Administrative Assistant. Must have excellent computer, communication and organizational skills. Answer phones, copying, filing, scheduling, ordering supplies, prepare and maintain spreadsheets, prepare bids and contracts, house-keeping, and run errands if needed. Prior accounting experience is a plus.

Apply in person at:
601 Beaufort St.
Detroit, MI 48207,
karenla@farrowgroupinc.com
No Phone Calls Please

CNA's

Full or Part-Time Also hiring RN who inspires to be an ADON. Exp. preferred in long term care.

Interested applicants may apply in person at: **Medillage of Plymouth**
395 W. Ann Arbor Trail,
Plymouth

Help Wanted-Office
Clerical

ASSISTANT TO CFO

Of large Healthcare Provider. Strong background in accounting, report presentation and extensive computer knowledge using excel. Competitive wages and benefits. Send resume to: **ajenkins@glasserpc.com**

LEGAL SECRETARY/
RECEPTIONIST:

Immediate opening in Novi. Must have legal experience, be proficient in Microsoft Word and "Timeslips" billing program. Family law experience a plus. Email resume to: **s.bugar@yahoo.com**

Help Wanted-Dental

DENTAL HYGIENIST

For top dentist in metro Detroit. Fax resume: 248-473-9286 or email: **tayy22@yahoo.com**

DENTAL
RECEPTIONIST

Are you dependable, personable, organized, and a good communicator with strong telephone and computer skills? If you also have dental experience, a high quality specialty office is waiting for you to call: (248) 357-3100

OFFICE MGR/
HYGIENIST/ASSISTANT

is needed for busy dental practice. MUST HAVE DENTAL EXPERIENCE, exceptional customer service skills and attention to detail a must. Fax resume to 248-542-9702.

Help Wanted-Medical

RN - Full Time

Previous nursing experience in an outpatient setting is preferred. Minimum of 2 years experience required. Must be willing to travel between Livonia & Novi. Please send resumes to: **asutphen@procaresystems.com**

CNA's

Full or Part-Time Also hiring RN who inspires to be an ADON. Exp. preferred in long term care.

Interested applicants may

apply in person at: **Medillage of Plymouth**
395 W. Ann Arbor Trail,
Plymouth

Help Wanted-Medical

CNAs

Entech Medical Staffing is looking for Certified Nursing Assistants for 12 hour private duty shifts with our client in Canton. Candidates MUST have experience with TB/SCI, hands on female straight catheterization, clean driving record, reliable transportation, and CPR certification. Must not be allergic to cats and cannot be a smoker. Pay starts at \$12.00/hour. Please send resume to: **jvonherrmann@teamentech.com**

GROOMER: Must be reliable,
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exc. people & animal skills.

Fax resume: 734-326-3234

HEALTH CARE
MANAGER, Exp'd.

For senior living community in Wayne County needed. Must have experience in supervisory/management of staff, problem solving, time management and daily operation in assisted living. Fax resume: 248-735-1010 or email: **lmkilloran@gmail.com**

LIFE ENRICHMENT
COORDINATOR

Milestones

Filip Joseph Avery

Filip Joseph Avery was born Feb. 26, 2012, at Providence Hospital, Novi.

He joins his parents, Michael and Marta, and brother, Dominik, 2 1/2, at home in Northville.

Grandparents are Jeni and Lyle Avery of Salem Township and Barbara Solak of Poland.



Great-grandmother is Aurilla B. Steele of Plymouth.

Vaughn Walden Brodie

Vaughn Walden Brodie was born at 8:20 a.m., March 8, 2012, in Kirkland, Wash., to proud, first-time parents, Scott and Kate Brodie.

Scott is a 2002 graduate of Livonia Stevenson and a 2006 graduate of Michigan State University. His parents are Mark and Theresa Brodie of Livonia.

Other grandparents are



Mike and Marie McPhee of Pottsville.

Vaughn weighed 6 pounds 14 ounces and measured 21 1/2 inches long.



Richard and Margo Panko of Canton with their daughter, Kim, and her fiancé, David Grevell, celebrate their 45th wedding anniversary in Brisbane, Australia.

45th wedding anniversary

Richard and Margo Panko of Canton celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary Feb. 4 with their daughter, Kim, and her fiancé, David Grevell, in Brisbane, Australia. The Pankos were married in 1967 at St. Mary's Cathedral in Saginaw. The couple met on a blind date in 1966 at Central Michigan University's homecoming. Margo, a Central Michigan graduate, had just returned from teaching in Germany for two years. It was love at first sight and they were married four months later. Both of them received their master's degrees from Eastern Michigan University.

Richard taught in Dearborn Heights as a secondary school vocation teacher and retired early

in 1988. After retirement he ran his own auto business until Margo retired from Central Middle School in 1999 after 38 years of teaching in California, Germany, Livonia, Saginaw, Brighton, and Plymouth.

The couple enjoys traveling in their motorhome across Canada and the U.S. and spending two months every winter in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

Margo participates in water aerobics, yoga, and Bible study when she is home. Richard is a pilot and instructor.

Their children are Jeff, Cathy, and Kim. They also have two grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

Richard and Margo have been involved in Marriage Encounter and say the secret to their long marriage is communication.

McDonald-Neher

Kelly McDonald and Jonathan Neher announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Bret and Sandy McDonald of South Lyon, is a 2003 graduate of South Lyon High School. She graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a bachelor's degree in elementary education and early education. She teaches kindergarten at the Global Educational Excellence Academies in Ypsilanti.

Her fiancé, son of Daniel and Debra Neher of Canton, graduated in 1999 from Plymouth Canton High School. He earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from East-



ern Michigan University and is employed as a substitute teacher as well as a food broker for Neher Sales Marketing.

A June 2012 wedding is planned at St. Joseph Church, in South Lyon, with a reception to follow in the Diamond Room at The Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

Jensen-Gruin

Jennifer Jensen and Alex Gruin announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Al and Fern Jensen of Livonia, graduated from Stevenson High School in Livonia and Michigan Technological University. She works for Life Time Fitness in Centennial, Colo.

Her fiancé, son of Alexandra Gruin of Warren, graduated from De La Salle Collegiate in Warren and California University of Penn-



sylvania. He works for Life Time Fitness in Colorado Springs, Colo.

A September 2012 wedding is planned in the Environmental Discovery Center at Indian Springs Metropark, in White Lake.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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



ADAMS,
JOHN "JACK" H.

From Dennis, MA, age 71, died peacefully at home on March 4, 2012, surrounded by loved ones. Born August 25, 1940 to John W. Adams and Eleanor Adams (Fairbanks), he grew up in Grafton, MA and attended University of Massachusetts. He spent most of his career as the President and CEO of Clark Sales, LLC, a manufacturers' representatives company based out of Farmington Hills. He is survived by three daughters; Jean-Michelle Adams of Huntington Beach, CA, Abigail Perry Adams and Jennifer Dixon Adams-Mundy and her husband, Kevin, all of Boston. He is also survived by his brother, David Adams and his wife, Beverly, and two sisters; Abigail Adams and her husband, R. Brian Hennessy, and Elizabeth Adams. Jack enjoyed the outdoors often finding time for gardening, fishing, and the Cape Cod Bay in Massachusetts. He had a long standing connection to Cape Cod, where he spent many summers throughout his life. He returned full time to be near family and friends in the last year of his life. Among many other attributes, he will be remembered for his jokes, storytelling, and adaptations of favorite quotes including, "Life is a journey, not a destination." He was a strong, resilient, and personable man who will be deeply missed. A private memorial service will be held this summer. Contributions in Jack's memory can be made to Hospice of Cape Cod, 765 Attucks Ln., Hyannis, MA 02601.

BELSLEY, LOIS

Passed away on March 10, 2012 at age 87. She was the beloved wife of the late Benjamin Belsley for 56 years. He predeceased her February 20, 2002. Loving mother of Larry (Elaine) Belsley, Linda (John) Reardon, Jeanie (Patrick) Allen, Steven (Patti) Belsley, and Sally (Ron) Blaszczyk. Dear grandmother and Great-grandmother of many adoring grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Funeral service will be held today at the Apostolic Christian Church of Livonia Thursday March 15, 2012 at 11:00AM. Memorial donations may be made in her name to the Woodhaven Retirement Community, 29667 Wentworth, Livonia MI 48154.



BOSTON
ROBERT (BOB)
CHARLES

Of Naperville, IL (formerly of Farmington, MI), passed away on Friday, March 2, 2012. Bob was born April 26, 1955, in Oak Park, Illinois. He grew up in Farmington and graduated from FHS in 1973. He graduated Grand Valley State in 1986 with a degree in Communications. Bob was employed by Canteen Coffee and was Regional Sales Manager for Wells Bloomfield Coffee Equipment Company. He had a passion for Formula One Racing and Bruce Springsteen. He wanted to be remembered as a kind soul which he was. Robert was preceded in death by his dad Charles E. Boston, Jr. and brother Thomas E. Boston. Bob is survived by his daughter Keli; grandson Charlie; mother Jean M. Boston; sister Sue (Robert) Hutry; brother Jim Boston and sister-in-law Karen (Rick) Boston Wright. His nieces Kelly, Sara, Megan and Anna, as well as his nephews Keith, David, Boen and Jacob, will miss his unique perspective on life. So, too, will Bob's cousin Terri Maddox and her family and dear friends Phil and Lou Ann Jaime. A memorial service will be held at a later date.



COLEMAN, Thomas M.

Age 67, of Westland, MI, passed away March 13th, son of Malcolm and Margaret Coleman. He married Paula Coleman (Taylor) Sept. 24th, 1967 and she survives. He is also survived by two sons, Donald Thomas (Michelle) Coleman and Sean Patrick (Angela) Coleman; his grandchildren: Kyle Thomas, Thomas Paul, Carrie Ann; one sister: Sharon (Orval) Flick, many nieces, nephews and his faithful dog Buba. He was preceded in death by his parents and one son Ronald. Arrangements at Purse Funeral Home, Adrian, MI. Viewing and funeral service will be held at St. Simon & Jude Catholic Church, Westland, MI. Donations may be made to the American Cancer Society.



ELLIS,
KATHRYN JEAN

1924 - 2012. Jean would have been 88 years old on March 25. She was a sweet, caring woman who raised five children; a very kind and loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt and friend. She was the loving wife of more than 40 years of Russell W. Ellis, who predeceased her in 1986. She passed away peacefully on March 12, 2012, surrounded by family. Born in Detroit, Jean was the daughter of Allan and Mabel Hedley, who both had emigrated from Ontario, Canada. She graduated from Farmington High School in Michigan and attended nursing school in Barrie, Ontario. While there, she met Russ at Wasaga Beach, Ontario, as he was serving in the Canadian Army and based nearby. They married in Stayner, Ontario, in 1943. As the war ended, they lived for a short time in Windsor, Ontario, before moving to the Farmington area where they settled and raised their children. Jean was primarily a homemaker, though she worked for a short time as a nurse and later as a bookkeeper in Russ's real estate business. She was also a member of First United Methodist Church of Farmington since 1947. She loved spending time with family, grandchildren and friends, traveling, music and reading. She believed in the power of faith and positive thinking, as well as the value of tolerance. For more than 40 years, she enjoyed many happy and peaceful times at the family cottage at Belmont Lake, Ontario. Jean is survived by her children, Joan, Judith, William (Theresa), Robert (Lisa) and David (Eileen); sisters, Margaret Schlack and Patricia Eisenlord; 11 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; six nieces and nephews. A Memorial Service will be held 11:00 a.m. Friday, March 16th, at the First United Methodist Church of Farmington, 33112 Grand River Ave., Farmington, MI 48336. The family will receive friends for visiting from 9:30 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. in the Markham Room of the church. In lieu of flowers, donations are suggested to First Step, firststepmi.org. Arrangements by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington. www.thayer-rock.com



GARRIS,
GORDON G.

March 11, 2012. Age 85. Loving companion of Peggy Vella. Loving father of Gordy, Susan Irish, Gregory (Donna), Gerylann, Nancy (Bill) Wilcox, Geoff (Ashley) and Gary (Charisse). Also survived by 14 grandchildren and 10 Great-grandchildren. He worked at Otis Elevator. Funeral Saturday 10 a.m. from the Chapel of L. J. Griffin Funeral Home, 7707 Middlebelt Road, (at Ann Arbor Trail). Family will be receiving visitors Thursday 6-9 p.m. and Friday 12-9 p.m. Share a "Memorial Tribute" with the family at griffinfuneralhome.com



Happy 31st Birthday,
Brian
March 16, 1981

We love and miss you very much. Love, Your family.



HOOVER,
ADA ILENE
"ADALENE"

Age 96, March 9, 2012. Beloved wife of the late William Hoover. Loving mother of Vickie (Sam) Smoker and Joyce (Doug) Wells. Dear grandmother of Jeremy (April), Joe (Nicole) and Daniel (Jennifer). Great-grandmother of Lucas, Ella and Zoe. Interment was held at Parkview Memorial Cemetery. A Celebration of Life will be held. Contact Joyce for details. Memorial donations may be directed to Samaritan's Purse International Relief. Please share a memory at www.rgrgharris.com

JACOBS, BETTY J.

Of Wayne March 10, 2012 age 90. Beloved wife of the late George K. Loving mother of Doreen (the late William) Roe, John (Marilyn) and Deborah Gillette. Dearest grandmother of Stacy Gillette and Mark Thurer. Dear great-grandmother of Anabelle Davis. A memorial gathering will be held Saturday, March 17th from 1:00 until 3:00 at the Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood St. Westland. Please visit and sign a tribute at www.uhtfh.com.



KLEKNER, MALVINA

Age 91 of Livonia. Beloved wife of the late Roland S. Loving mother of Roland S. (Olga), and Thomas. Dear grandmother of Carolyn, Christina, Danielle, and their mother Catherine. Preceded in death by her two brothers in Hungary. Malvina enjoyed friends, sewing, gardening, baking, world travel, and her cherished cat. Visitation will be held at Fred Wood Funeral Home-Rice Chapel 36100 5 Mile Rd. Livonia (E. of Levan) Thursday from 1-9PM with a 7PM Rosary. Funeral Friday at Holy Cross Hungarian Roman Catholic Church, Detroit, MI. In-State 10:00AM, Mass 10:30AM. Interment Holy Sepulchre Catholic Cemetery. Please share memories at Fredwoodfuneralhome.com



PEABODY,
CONSTANCE (Connie)
JOSEPHINE (McCABE)

Age 89, died on March 16, 2012. A funeral mass will be celebrated at 1:30 PM Monday, March 19, 2012 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 600 N. Adelaide Street, Fenton with Rev. Fr. David Harvey celebrant. Interment will be at a family ceremony at a later date. Visitation will be at St. John's Church 12:30 PM until the funeral mass. Connie was born in Windsor, Ontario October 13, 1922 daughter of Dr. L.G. and Teresa (Roesler) McCabe. She had 3 brothers and 2 sisters. Connie attended St. Mary's Academy and Holy Name College in Windsor and trained and worked as a medical technician at Grace Hospital, Detroit, Michigan. In 1944 she married Bob Peabody of Birmingham Michigan where they lived and operated the family fruit orchard. In 1960 they moved to Fenton to continue the orchard business. Connie loved the fruit business which she co-owned with her husband. Connie was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, St. Ann's Guild, the Fenton Art Guild and Bayview. She is survived by nine children: Mary Soper, Rob Peabody, Janet (Paul Perrault) Koehs, Katherine/Kitty Hendrick, Connie (Dan) Cobley, Bill Peabody, Paul (Pam Merrill-Myers) Peabody, Rachel Peabody, Jim (Patty Smith) Peabody; 19 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren. Connie and her family led an active life including camping, downhill and cross country skiing. She was a Girl Scout leader and participated in the St. John's resettlement group, the Befrienders and was a member of the Holy Name church choir in Birmingham and the St. John's choir in Fenton. She was a member of Fenton Art Guild, the Garden Club and Bayview. Activities that continued throughout her life include her love of reading, travel and painting. Led and nurtured by Connie, the Peabody home was a place of pulsating exuberance, challenging discussion and lively activity. There was always room at the table for one more person. Her family and friends were touched by Connie's graciousness and her love of life. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that you support your local museums, farm stands and farmers' markets. Arrangements by Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 W. Silver Lake Rd., Fenton.

Friends may share an online tribute on the obituary page of: www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

MACKENZIE, GORDON

Best friend and loving husband for 60 years to his dearly departed wife Marion, father to three boys, Blair, John, and David, and grandfather to beautiful granddaughter Erin, died peacefully at his home in Naples Florida. A Visitation was held at Fuller Funeral Home, 1625 Pine Ridge Road, Naples, FL 34109 on Wednesday, March 14, 2012 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. A Service took place at the Bower Chapel at Moorings Park on Thursday, March 15, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. Committal to Naples Memorial Gardens for entombment was held after the Service. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions in honor of Gordon can be made to the Founders Fund Inc at The Club at Pelican Bay, 707 Gulf Park Drive, Naples, FL 34108. For online condolences, please visit www.fullerfuneralhome.com

PERRY, ELIZABETH

Age 80, died March 9, 2012. Visitation was on March 12 at Phillips Funeral Home. Funeral March 13 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, South Lyon. www.phillipsfuneral.com

STEINLAUF, EDWARD

79 of Bartow, FL passed away on Saturday, March 10, 2012. A native of Michigan he moved to Bartow in 1997 after retiring. Edward was a Army Korean War Veteran. He was preceded in death by his wife Margaret and he is survived by Debra Medland (Thomas) and Elaine Jennings (John). Three grandchildren Jason Claypoole (Jessica), Brian Jennings and Lindsay Jennings. The remains of Edward and his wife Margaret are being placed at rest at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.whiddenmcleaunfuneralhome.com



TATUM, JOANNE MAE

March 10, 2012 age 81 of Canton. Loving wife of the late William Edward. Dear mother of Diane (Bill) Dowlin, Scott (Gail) and Randy (Tammy). Proud grandmother of Erin, Jordan and Erika. Funeral service Friday 1 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 West Ann Arbor Road (btwn Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. Visitation Thursday 3-9 PM at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to Arbor Hospice, American Cancer Society or The Michigan Humane Society. To share memories please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com.

WRIGHT, PEARL R.

Age 89, of Hillsdale, passed away Sunday, March 11, 2012, at the McGuire Skilled Nursing Facility in Hillsdale. She was born on July 14, 1922 in Hilham, Tennessee to William & Ova (Dale) Bilyeu. She was married August 7, 1948 to Gerald L. Wright and he preceded her in death Nov. 11, 1993. Pearl retired in 1949 from the Ford Motor Company. She was a graduate of Dearborn High School. She was one of the original, "Rosie the Riveters". In her younger years she enjoyed swimming, dancing and bowling with her sisters. In her later years Pearl enjoyed bingo, gardening, painting and talking politics. Surviving are three children, Pamela (Gregory) Podsiad of Osseo and Sandra (Michael) Gee of Lavonia and Gerald (Glenna) Wright Jr. of Merkle, Texas; 13 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren and 1 great great-grandchild also survive. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, a son James and a daughter Patricia Diane, 3 sisters and 2 brothers. Funeral services for Pearl Wright will be Wednesday, March 14, 2012, at 10:00 a.m., at the VanHorn-Eagle Funeral Home in Hillsdale with Dr. Daniel Pann officiating. Interment will take place at South Lyon Cemetery in South Lyon, Michigan Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. The family will receive friends for visitation Tuesday evening from 6-8 p.m., at the funeral home. Memorial contributions are suggested to the American Cancer Society. www.eaglefuneralhomes.com.

May
you find
comfort
in Family
and
Friends

Trade couch for court during March Madness

Consumed by March Madness? The Society of Vascular Surgery suggest that arm chair hoopsters put their tournament brackets aside and pick up a basketball between now and the national collegiate men's basketball championship on April 2. "Instead of simply cheering, try some fancy footwork," said David H. Stone, M.D., a member of the Society for Vascular Surgery. "Participate in March Madness by shooting a few hoops."

For a person weighing 150 pounds, 30 minutes of basketball can burn off:

- 153 calories shooting hoops solo
- 204 calories during an informal game
- 272 calories during a five-on-five game of basketball

"Your vascular system will have a great work out," Stone said. "Vigorous exercise such as basketball pumps your blood and lowers your blood pressure. This helps to keep your

weight down. These are all positive health benefits." For the slam-dunk of vascular health:

- Participate in 30 minutes of exercise daily. This may reduce the risk of stroke, the fourth leading cause of death in America according to the United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention's 2010 National Vital Statistics Report. In 2010, 137,000 Americans died of stroke.
- Eat healthy.

- Don't smoke.
- Maintain a healthy body weight.

The lack of regular physical activity results in 250,000 deaths annually according to a report in the medical journal, Circulation. Least physically fit individuals have a mortality risk 4.5 times higher than physically fit persons. Non-invasive vascular disease screening tests and medications are available. For vascular health information, visit: VascularWeb.org.



Partnership promotes home medical monitoring

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Huron Valley Ambulance has expanded its in-home health monitoring service, HVA LifeLink to St. Mary Mercy Hospital, which is offering the program as "Mercy LifeLink" to its patients.

"This is our first partnership with a hospital," said Joyce Williams, public affairs manager for the Ann Arbor-based ambulance provider. "It is new for St. Mary Mercy and the partnership is new. St. Mary Mercy has a senior ER and this is a value-added service. They can talk to seniors about it while they are in the ER."

Individuals who buy the service pay a one-time \$25 set-up fee and \$27.90 monthly. They receive a pendant or bracelet that includes a call button and a communications console that includes a powerful speaker. When patients press the button after experiencing an accident or medical emergency, the system, which is tied into the home phone line and an electrical outlet, dials a preprogrammed responder, such as a neighbor, friend, family member or the Mercy LifeLink call center.

Nicole Karbac, program coordinator, said the monitoring device has a 300- to 400-foot range. A patient can be outside of their home and successfully activate the system if they are in range.

"If they are inside the house and they press the button, they typically are able to communicate back and forth with the dispatchers," Karbac said. "The value added to our system is that it's a 911 dispatch center. The people who answer the phones are medically trained. They know what questions to ask."

The call center can dispatch an ambulance if necessary. If the call comes from a customer in Plymouth, Plymouth Township or one of the other communities that HVA serves, it sends one of its ambulances. If it comes from another city, such as Livonia, that HVA doesn't serve, it can dispatch the appropriate ambulance provider.

Williams views Mercy LifeLink as an extension of the "buy local" concept because its call center is local. Bigger services with a national reach typically send calls out of state, she said.

"We're customer service oriented," added Karbac, noting that a LifeLink representative installs the monitoring console in the home. "We want to make sure they understand what the buttons are on the panel, what the benefits are. We want to make them comfortable with it."

David Spivey, president and CEO of St. Mary Mercy Hospital said in a press release, that the new Mercy LifeLink system is designed to "keep patients safe, healthy and living independently."

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

March

GARDEN CITY HOSPITAL

• Get Up and Move, an invigorating exercise program, aims to help you to make an easy transition back to an exercise program or get you started for the first time. It meets at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 20, 27 and Thursday, March 22, and 29. Fee is \$30 per month; for more information call (734) 458-3242.

• Learn how to relax, stretch and breathe while creating balance, strength and flexibility for both the body and mind through yoga, 4 p.m. Tuesday, March 20 and 27 and 6:30 p.m., Wednesday-Thursday, March 21-22 and 28-29. Wednesday-Thursday classes are held at the Westland Specialty Center, 35600 Central City Parkway, Westland. Tuesday classes meet at the hospital in Garden City. Garden City Hospital is located at 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City.

PAP TESTS

The University of Michigan Health System will offer free Pap tests from 1-4 p.m., Saturday March 24 at the Briarwood Building 2, Suite B, 400 E. Eisenhower Pkwy., Ann Arbor. Women over 21 who have not had a Pap test in the last two years, and who do not have health insurance that covers such tests, may register by calling the U-M Cancer Answer Line at (800) 865-1125.

HEART WALK KICK-OFF

Anyone interested in becoming a team captain for the American Heart Association's 2012 Metro Detroit Heart Walk on May 12, at Ford Field in Detroit, may attend the Team Captain Kick-off, 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 22 at the American Heart Association office, 40 Oak Hollow, suite 220, Southfield. RSVP or get more information by calling Kathryn Brennan at (248) 936-9508 or e-mail her at Kathryn.Brennan@heart.org.

April

April

MICHIGAN BARIATRIC INSTITUTE

The Michigan Bariatric Institute offers a free educational seminar, from 6-7:30 p.m., April 5 at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, located at 36475 Five Mile in Livonia. For more information call (877) 949-9344.

Ongoing

AQUATIC CLASSES

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Arthritis Foundation have partnered to offer aquatic classes designed to ease the pain of arthritis. Classes are held 11 a.m.-noon Tuesday and Thursday at the Farmington branch; 1-1:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Livonia branch; and 2-3 p.m. Wednesday and Friday, at the Birmingham branch. All classes are offered to members and nonmembers of every age and participants do not need to know how to swim to participate. To join, interested individuals can contact their local YMCA branch or visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

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Saturday, March 31st

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Course	Start Date	Days	Location
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• EMT Day Class	3/13/12	T-Th	Southfield
• EMT	4/10/12	T-Th	Southfield
• Paramedic Day Class	4/10/12	T-Th	Taylor

Late Registrants Accepted

Things you can negotiate for at work (and didn't know it)

Patrick Erwin,
CareerBuilder.com

For most job seekers, the art of negotiation comes into play at two specific times in their careers: during an initial job negotiation and at their performance evaluation. Some negotiations operate on a grand scale, with discussion about company cars and relocation allowances. But most of us focus on one thing in our negotiations: salary.

There are, however, a number of possible negotiation points for new and existing workers. And with many employers delaying or deferring raises because of tough economic challenges, hiring managers are more open to discussions about alternatives. Here are just a few of the possibilities that many workers are not aware of.

Time off. For many of us, time off is as important (if not more important) as monetary compensation. But workers may not be aware that they can negotiate for time off.

• Paid vacation time is an extra benefit that is often negotiated at the time a job offer is made. Companies often use extra vacation with pay as an incentive to bring new talent onboard. They may also use it as a retention tool if an employee is considering leaving. You can negotiate for a few more days or even weeks than you were originally offered.

• Companies may be also open to allowing workers who are seeking more time away from the office an option to take unpaid time. Some employees may be able to negotiate an extended unpaid leave, which allows them more time to spend with family, take an extended trip, do volunteer work or take a class.

• If extended time out of the office is not available, consider negotiating for time off on specific days that are important to you, such as a birthday or anniversary. Let your company know how important time out of the office is to you, and develop a plan for how work will be done in your absence.

Dress code. Many workplaces have casual Fridays, but you may be able to negotiate a more relaxed dress code for every day of the week.

Your company may be open to talking about this perk, but their willingness to

change the dress code may depend on how much you and your co-workers interact with the public.

Education and career enhancement. Many workplaces have programs in place for tuition reimbursement if employees are attending a college or university. But those programs do not always automatically cover classes, workshops and seminars that are not part of an undergraduate or graduate program.

Discuss your interest in career-enhancing courses. This may include continuing courses in your field or in a related field. They may also be willing to pay for attendance at seminars on time management and organization. Remind your company that they will reap the benefits of what you learn.

Environmental friendliness. You may also be able to negotiate for perks or rebates for adhering to a company's

"green" guidelines or for developing more environmentally friendly ideas. Employees might receive a bonus for giving up a parking space, biking to work, or carpooling with co-workers.

Companies are eager to explore ideas on how to be green at work, so approach your company with your ideas. They may coordinate a meeting with the buildings and grounds manager to review your ideas.

Flexible schedules. Many employees have successfully negotiated this perk at work. Employers are more open to providing flexible schedules to retain the worker. And employees have been seeking out this benefit for several reasons, including a desire to commute less and a need for work/life balance. Among the possible options:

• Compressed scheduling, where employees work their allotted hours in a

work week or pay period in a compressed time frame.

• Family-friendly flexible time, which allows workers to come in late or leave early to attend activities with their child.

• Working from home, either as one of several scheduling options or as a full-time location for work.

It's important that any scheduling changes take place without impacting productivity, so work with your manager to ensure that your department has appropriate coverage when you're not there.

Wellness. One concept that companies have focused on in recent years is employee wellness. Many companies offer information and resources about wellness programs at the office. Management and HR may be open to working with employees and negotiating additional perks that are wellness-related. Those perks could include:

• Paying for a portion of your gym membership, or offering employees discounts and rebates when they purchase fitness equipment.

• Supplying employees with pedometers, water bottles and other items that support wellness initiatives. In addition to providing a perk to employees, companies can emblazon those items with the company logo.

• Changing or improving on-site vending machines and providing filtered water or access to a water cooler with filtered water.

• Having a massage therapist or yoga instructor come to the workplace to lead programs that reduce stress.

• Providing on-site access to fitness equipment, and scheduling flexibility to exercise during the day.

Like environmental benefits, many companies are actively trying to find ways to incorporate wellness initiatives into the workplace, so be proactive about your ideas and a possible plan of action.

Patrick Erwin is a writer and blogger for CareerBuilder.com. He researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.

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LEGAL SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST:

Immediate opening in Novi. Must have legal experience, be proficient in Microsoft Word and "Timeslips" billing program. Family law experience a plus. Email resume to: s.bugar@yahoo.com

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ACROSS

- 1 Frost victim
- 4 Dolly and her clones
- 8 Nuisance
- 12 Not sm. or med.
- 13 Magazine part
- 14 Baba au —
- 15 Ait, on the Seine
- 16 Musicians like Bach
- 18 Brand of overware
- 20 Stick up
- 21 Workout locales
- 24 Snake juice
- 28 Test-drive vehicle
- 31 Big shot
- 33 Copenhagen resident
- 34 Mimic
- 35 Baltimore bard
- 36 Mr. Brynner
- 37 Man of the haus
- 39 California's

Big —

- 40 Type of prof
- 41 River embankment
- 43 Comic-book heroes (hyph.)
- 45 Rookie reporter
- 47 Sweater style (hyph.)
- 51 Respect
- 56 Baron — Richthofen
- 57 Freeway
- 58 Make a salary
- 59 Here, in Le Havre
- 60 Leap at the ballet
- 61 Kebab holder
- 62 Fortune

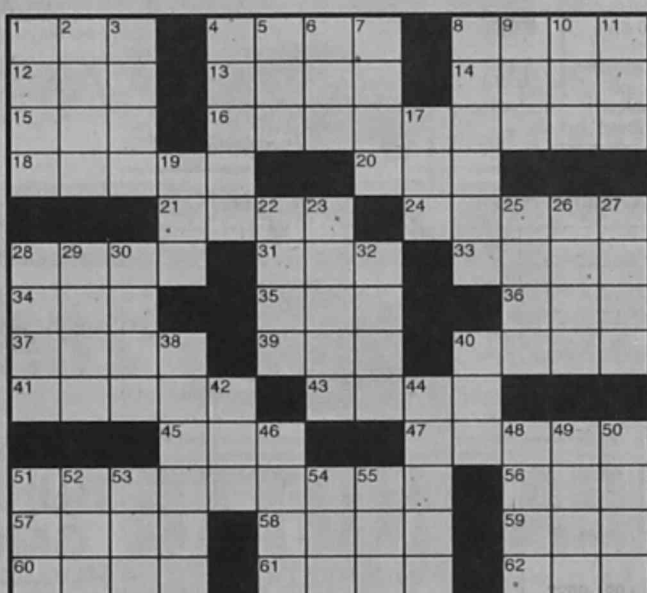
DOWN

- 1 Radar screen image
- 2 Unsightly
- 3 Antler wearer
- 4 Super glue
- 5 Tolstoy title

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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Want more puzzles?
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SUDOKU

7				8			2	
8				6		9	4	
	6		9					
6	5	3	2				4	
9	1							
	3	8		1	9			6
	4			6	5		7	
	8		2		1	4		9
3	6						1	

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

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

Word Search — SIDS Awareness

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

Animals	Comforter	Infant	Respiration	Stuffed
Asleep	Death	Mattress	Safety	Sudden
Back	Firm	Recline	SIDS	Syndrome

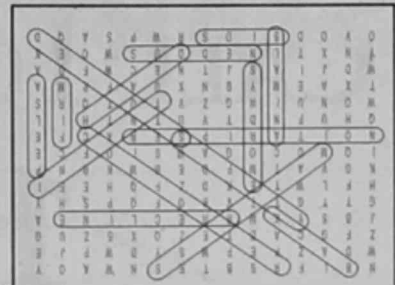
CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Sudoku

2	1	8	5	7	4	9	6	3
6	9	4	1	3	2	7	8	5
7	3	9	9	6	8	2	4	1
9	7	2	6	1	5	8	3	4
8	5	3	4	9	1	2	6	
4	6	1	8	2	3	9	7	9
1	8	7	3	5	6	4	9	2
5	4	6	2	9	7	3	1	8
3	2	9	4	8	1	6	5	7

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12C9283 auto, air, full power \$7,988
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P21448 White, 6 cylinder, full power, alloy wheels \$10,988
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MUSTANG GT 2008
P21458 California Special 15K, 1 owner, certified PreOwned \$19,988
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12C1020A 6100 miles, moonroof, Certified PreOwned
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TAURUS SHO 2010
P21431A 4 dr sedan, AWD, red, moon, nav, 20's \$27,888
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13T1003A 4WD, 4DR, 6 cylinder, auto, full power, 2 tops, priced to move \$25,988
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Lexus

ES300
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Mazda

MAZDA 3 2010
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Pontiac

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PONTIAC G6
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BUICK, GMC
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Car Report

Advertising Feature

BUICK, INFINITI GET SANE ABOUT MARCH MADNESS

By Dale Buss

March Madness is upon us, and that means tens of millions of potential car buyers are going to get heavy marketing doses of at least a couple of automotive brands: Buick and Infiniti.

So far this young year, American consumers already have

been treated to dogs barking out a Star Wars theme, by Volkswagen, a look at how pick-up trucks will fare when the world "ends" later this year, in a Chevrolet pick-up truck ad - both of them during the Super Bowl - and multiple gazes during the Oscars telecast at the new Azera, by Hyundai.

Auto brands keep stepping up to these "big platforms" with more and more ambitious marketing programs built around their TV

advertising but also extending across media channels, especially to social media and other digital forums. Audi, Chrysler, Fiat, Honda, Kia and Toyota also launched big advertising efforts around Super Bowl XLVI, while Mercedes-Benz also provided a big presence during the Oscars telecast on ABC.

Now that March Madness has launched, Buick and Infiniti, each in its second full year of participation as the official automotive "corporate sponsors" of the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament - a spot that used to be held solely by Pontiac -- are taking advantage. With the full participation of American consumers, March Madness has become a multifaceted, extended marketing "season" much like the Super Bowl.

In fact, in some ways, March Madness arguably has become an even more effective "tentpole" marketing platform than the Super Bowl. Fan demographics are more purely favorable, for



Infiniti is introducing the JX with a big NCAA campaign.

instance, because they rely so heavily on college alumni, who tend to have higher incomes than non-college graduates. Consumer engagement is high, with millions of Americans filling out tournament brackets even if they don't know a thing about college basketball.

And with 68 teams in the hunt for a championship, at least at the beginning, there are that many more people and markets who might be enthusiastic about the tourney - and who will be exposed to Infiniti and Buick's marketing - than about the two-team Super Bowl.

"It's an alumni audience, not a kid audience," said Craig Bierley, director of advertising and promotions for Buick. In fact, Bierley partially credits the brand's March Madness relationship for dropping the average age of Buick buyers to 59 from around 62 years old just two years ago.

This year, Buick will be focusing its March Madness efforts on its new Verano.

subcompact, an important entry by the brand in a new segment, with sponsorship of March Madness on Demand video streaming by CBS Sports and Turner Sports, in-game advertising, and expansion of its popular Human Highlight Reel online-video and TV campaign, which features the altruistic exploits of former NCAA athletes.

Verano delivers key luxury features and characteristics found in the Buick LaCrosse, in an efficiently packaged, right-sized vehicle for the compact luxury market. It is the brand's third all-new model in the past two years and the first in the compact luxury segment.

Verano is the latest model in a Buick product renaissance that began with the Enclave and continued with the LaCrosse and Regal. Like them, Verano is distinguished by luxury and technology, including 10 standard air bags, an available heated steering wheel and a Buick IntelliLink radio system.

For example, Verano's interior is marked by exceptional seat comfort and support, design and craftsmanship, as well as premium soft-touch materials, including ice blue ambient lighting inspired by the LaCrosse. Rich leathers, warm woods, metallic accents and soft ambient lighting make the cabin an inviting environment.

Meanwhile, Infiniti also is tapping into the "cultural engagement that takes place beginning on selection Sunday and carries through the tournament" that makes March Madness a unique marketing property, said Jim DeTrude, Infiniti's director of marketing.

His brand will be attempting to leverage that uniqueness to get attention for the all-new Infiniti JX crossover. Infiniti's campaign will include traditional TV advertising, online promotions in and around bracket selection, and, for the first time, heavy involvement in on-site marketing at the Final 4 in New Orleans.

Infiniti expects the JX to shake up the status quo when the innovative 7-passenger luxury crossover joins the Infiniti lineup this spring. As a fresh, bold alternative to the many flavors of vanilla currently dominating the luxury crossover segment, the all-new Infiniti JX is designed to excel in the areas that luxury crossover buyers desire most - interior flexibility and roominess, safety, and advanced hospitality features.

The JX offers real 3-row utility, plus all the premium features, performance and innovations that Infiniti has become known for worldwide.

So let the Madness begin.



The new compact Verano will be the emphasis of Buick's March Madness marketing.





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\$166*
per month

VIN 1FCKC05038

*10,500 miles per year, 24 month lease. \$2,352 due at signing, A/Z Plan eligible, with approved credit, All Ford Factory rebates and conquest incentives to dealer. Security Deposit Waived. Plus tax, title, license, doc, cvr fees. Offer Ends 03/31/12

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per month

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ONLY



\$169*
per month

VIN 3FCR285898

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NEW 2012 Ford Edge FWD-SE 24 Month Lease

ONLY



\$176*
per month

VIN 2FCBA02832

*10,500 miles per year, 24 month lease. \$2,378 due at signing, A/Z Plan eligible, with approved credit, All Ford Factory rebates and trade assistance incentives to dealer. Security Deposit Waived. Plus tax, title, license, doc, cvr fees. Offer Ends 03/31/12

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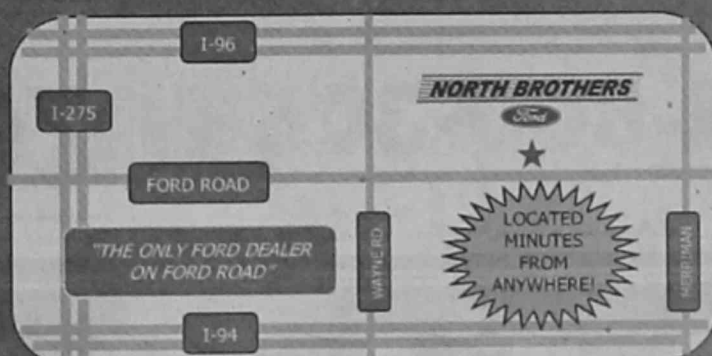
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EPA estimated 19 city / 26 hwy mpg*



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MSRP \$28,540

24 month lease

\$1000 DOWN
\$237*
\$1451 due at signing.

SIGN AND DRIVE
\$294*
\$0 due at signing.

Featuring: T11 Wheel, Cruise Control, Power Windows, Seats, Locks. 4 at this price \$0 available.

NEW 2012 Ford Escape Limited

EPA estimated 21 city / 28 hwy mpg*



Buy for \$22,589+
MSRP \$29,940

24 month lease

\$1000 DOWN
\$204*
\$1434 due at signing.

SIGN AND DRIVE
\$261*
\$0 due at signing.

SUN & SYNC Package
Featuring: 302A Package, Chrome Wheels, Luxury Package, Moonroof, Premium Sound. 10 at this price \$00 available.

NEW 2012 Ford Explorer XLT

EPA estimated 17 city / 23 hwy mpg*



Buy for \$29,916+
MSRP \$37,010

24 month lease

\$1000 DOWN
\$325*
\$1434 due at signing.

SIGN AND DRIVE
\$383*
\$0 due at signing.

Featuring: Sync, Reverse Sensing, Keyless Entry, Power Windows, Power Locks, Power Liftgate. 3 at this price \$0 available.

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EPA estimated 15 city/21 hwy mpg*

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Featuring: 3.7 V6, XLT Chrome Package, XLT Plus and Convenience Package, Sirius Satellite Radio, Limited Slip, Keyless Entry. 5 At This Price. 112 Available.



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\$1000 DOWN
\$279*
\$1438 due at signing

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NEW 2012 Ford Fusion SEL

EPA Estimated 23 city/33 hwy*
Buy for \$19,938+
MSRP \$29,085

Loaded, Leather, Moonroof
Featuring: Sync, automatic, power windows, locks, mirrors, keyless entry, satellite Radio, BLIS, rearview camera, reverse sensing. 10 at this price 293 available

24 month lease

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

\$1000 DOWN
\$172*
\$1347 due at signing

SIGN & DRIVE
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\$0 due at signing



NEW 2012 Ford Fiesta SE

EPA Estimated 29 city/38 hwy*
Buy for \$14,718+
MSRP \$18,040

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\$178*
\$1263 due at signing

SIGN & DRIVE
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NEW 2012 Ford Focus SE

EPA Estimated 28 city/38 hwy*
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MSRP \$22,475

Sport Package.

Featuring: Automatic, cruise control, rear spoiler, power windows, heated seats. 5 at this price 200 available

24 month lease

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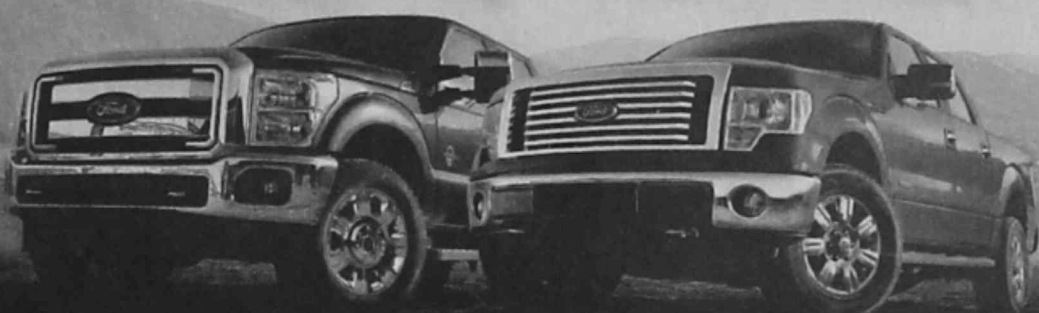


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24-Month A/Z Plan Lease

\$169*
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\$1992 due @ signing



2012 Edge SE FWD

19 City/27 Highway MPG!

24-Month A/Z Plan Lease

\$199*
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GET INTO THE NEW



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\$1654 due @ signing



2012 Focus SE FWD

Up to 40 MPG Highway!

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2012 Taurus SEL FWD

24-Month A/Z Plan Lease

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\$2507 due @ signing



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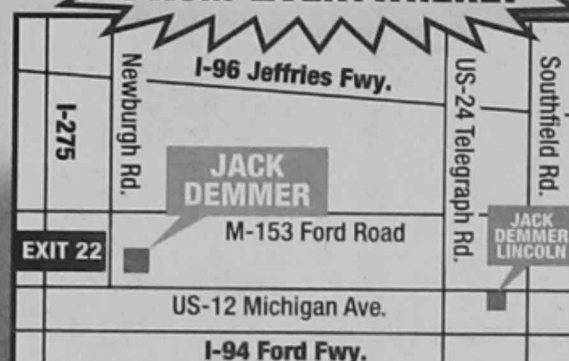
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